

# Winter season tourism trends 2003/2004

## Statistics in focus

### INDUSTRY, TRADE AND SERVICES

1/2005

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### Key facts

In terms of guest flows, tourism in the majority of the European Union and EFTA countries experienced an increase during the winter season 2003/2004<sup>1</sup> compared to the previous season:

- Total nights spent in hotels and similar establishments was higher in the EU and EFTA countries in the winter 2003/2004 than in the preceding season, except for United Kingdom (- 9.3%), Slovenia (- 1.0%), France (-0.9%), Portugal (- 0.4%) and Liechtenstein (-0.3%).
- The highest increase in residents nights in the EU-25 countries was in Spain (+7.1%), followed by Portugal (+ 4.8%), Austria (+ 4.5%) and Germany (+ 2.6%). The highest increases recorded in non-residents nights were for Czech Republic (+ 26.3%), Germany (+ 10.0%) and Denmark (+ 7.7%).
- In general terms, the net rate of occupancy of bed-places in hotels and similar establishments was higher in the winter season 2003/2004 compared to the previous winter season.

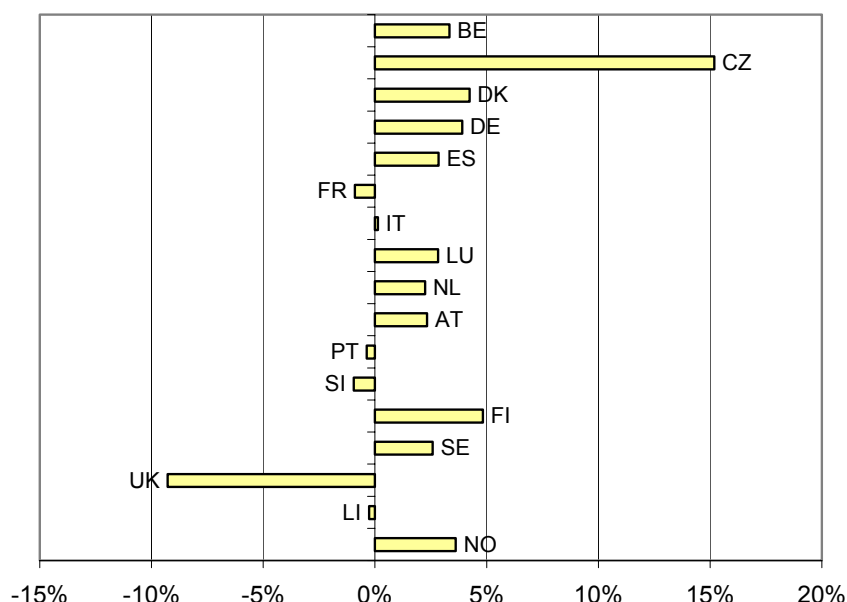


Figure 1: Variations (%) in number of nights spent in hotels, available countries, November 2003 - April 2004 compared to the same period in 2002 - 2003



<sup>1</sup> Winter season comprises November to April of the following year. For example, the winter season 2003/2004 comprises November 2003 to April 2004.

## Nights spent in hotels and similar establishments

('000)	November 2002 - April 2003				November 2003 - April 2004				2003-4 / 2002-3 % Variation		
	Total NR*+R*	NR*	R*	R* % of Total	Total NR*+R*	NR*	R*	R* % of Total	Total	NR*	R*
BE	5960	4347	1612	27.1	6158	4510	1649	26.8	3.3	3.7	2.3
CZ	9534	5221	4313	45.2	10983	6596	4387	39.9	15.2	26.3	1.7
DK	3315	1380	1935	58.4	3455	1486	1969	57.0	4.2	7.7	1.8
DE	73151	13188	59963	82.0	76005	14502	61503	80.9	3.9	10.0	2.6
EE	:	:	:	:	1148	844	303	26.4	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	74734	40953	33781	45.2	76861	40676	36185	47.1	2.8	-0.7	7.1
FR	74646	26307	48339	64.8	73979	25582	48397	65.4	-0.9	-2.8	0.1
IE	:	5586	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IT	71608	29598	42010	58.7	71704	29925	41779	58.3	0.1	1.1	-0.5
CY	3782	3526	256	6.8	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	:	:	:	:	660	321	339	51.4	:	:	:
LT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LU	491	452	39	8.0	505	465	40	7.9	2.8	2.9	2.4
HU	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	11302	5906	5396	47.7	11555	6044	5510	47.7	2.2	2.3	2.1
AT	36101	28041	8060	22.3	36942	28518	8424	22.8	2.3	1.7	4.5
PL	:	:	:	:	6675	1988	4686	70.2	:	:	:
PT	12189	8195	3994	32.8	12143	7959	4184	34.5	-0.4	-2.9	4.8
SI	1957	1152	805	41.1	1938	1149	789	40.7	-1.0	-0.3	-1.9
SK	:	:	:	:	2837	1384	1452	51.2	:	:	:
FI	5697	1531	4166	73.1	5972	1571	4400	73.7	4.8	2.6	5.6
SE	8541	1594	6947	81.3	8761	1678	7083	80.9	2.6	5.3	2.0
UK	73803	20003	53800	72.9	66957	21067	45890	68.5	-9.3	5.3	-14.7
EFTA											
IS	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LI	50	49	1	2.2	50	49	1	2.4	-0.3	-0.4	7.5
NO	6377	1391	4986	78.2	6607	1473	5134	77.7	3.6	5.9	3.0
CH	13955	7574	6381	45.7	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

(\*) NR= non-residents / R=residents

*Table 1: Nights spent in hotels and similar establishments - non-residents and residents, November 2003 - April 2004 compared with November 2002 - April 2003*

When comparing the monthly figures of the winter season 2003/2004 with the previous one, the number of nights spent by residents and non-residents in hotels and similar establishments increased in a majority of EU and EFTA countries. Apart from Spain, France, Austria, Portugal and Finland, in the EU, the number of nights spent by non-residents experienced a more positive trend than the number of nights spent by residents when comparing to the previous period.

During the winter season 2003/2004, residents' nights represented the largest share of total nights spent in hotels and similar establishments in the EU. Germany (80.9%), Sweden (80.9%), Finland (73.7%), Poland (70.2%), the United Kingdom (68.5%) and France (65.4%) recorded the highest rates. The share of residents was particularly low in Luxembourg (7.9%) followed by Austria (22.8%), Estonia (26.4%) and Belgium (26.8%).

## Occupancy rates in hotels and similar establishments

('000)	Winter season 2002/2003						Winter season 2003/2004						% 2003/2002		% 2004/2003			
	2002		2003				2003		2004				m11	m12	m01	m02	m03	m04
	m11	m12	m01	m02	m03	m04	m11	m12	m01	m02	m03	m04						
<b>NET OCCUPANCY OF BED PLACES IN HOTELS AND SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENTS</b>																		
BE	33.0	29.2	22.6	28.4	30.1	34.4	33.2	31.0	20.1	27.8	29.0	35.5	0.5	6.1	-11.2	-2.3	-3.8	3.2
CZ	32.9	30.2	26.8	33.5	30.7	33.4	30.0	27.7	28.7	34.7	35.5	39.9	-8.8	-8.3	7.1	3.6	15.6	19.5
DK	38.1	25.1	23.5	27.6	30.3	32.0	37.6	23.9	23.0	27.9	31.9	33.6	-1.3	-4.8	-2.1	1.1	5.3	5.0
DE	27.3	24.8	22.9	25.9	27.7	30.0	27.8	26.7	23.3	27.5	28.6	31.4	1.8	7.7	1.7	6.2	3.2	4.7
EE	:	:	23.0	31.0	35.0	42.0	39.0	35.0	28.0	35.0	38.0	44.0	:	:	21.7	12.9	8.6	4.8
EL	30.0	32.0	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	45.3	40.0	39.5	44.9	48.8	52.6	44.1	39.2	44.4	52.2	54.1	54.1	-2.6	-2.0	12.4	16.3	10.9	2.9
FR	43.5	39.0	39.3	44.7	47.8	52.2	41.7	38.9	38.9	45.4	48.5	51.9	-4.1	-0.3	-0.9	1.5	1.5	-0.6
IE	41.0	31.0	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IT	22.0	22.4	28.2	34.9	34.6	37.8	24.4	31.5	28.4	36.6	34.4	37.0	10.9	40.6	0.7	4.9	-0.6	-2.1
CY	46.1	33.0	30.8	38.8	39.8	41.6	42.7	29.0	26.5	35.2	41.1	:	-7.4	-12.1	-14.0	-9.3	3.3	:
LV	:	:	21.8	26.8	26.2	29.2	27.3	24.2	21.7	24.5	24.7	28.5	:	:	-0.5	-8.6	-5.7	-2.4
LT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	14.1	16.0	18.7	20.1	:	:	:	:	:	:
LU	24.2	18.6	19.9	20.6	22.8	23.4	24.5	18.7	:	:	:	:	1.2	0.5	:	:	:	:
HU	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	18.2	20.4	26.4	30.8	:	:	:	:	:	:
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	32.7	39.8	40.8	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	39.9	32.4	29.7	34.1	37.8	46.8	39.3	31.9	27.8	34.8	34.4	46.9	-1.5	-1.5	-6.4	2.1	-9.0	0.2
AT	22.6	30.5	51.2	61.2	48.1	30.5	24.5	35.8	:	:	:	:	8.4	17.4	:	:	:	:
PL	:	:	21.9	24.6	24.5	27.9	26.4	23.1	23.2	26.2	27.3	28.7	:	:	5.7	6.7	11.5	2.9
PT	29.5	23.0	23.0	30.0	34.9	41.2	28.1	22.9	23.3	30.3	34.1	41.6	-4.7	-0.4	1.3	1.0	-2.3	1.0
SI	:	:	38.6	42.9	39.6	43.3	34.9	32.0	40.2	43.4	39.3	42.1	:	:	4.1	1.2	-0.8	-2.8
SK	:	:	36.9	44.1	33.8	32.0	31.4	27.9	28.4	36.2	30.0	28.2	:	:	-23.0	-17.9	-11.2	-11.9
FI	33.3	28.7	29.2	36.0	37.2	33.5	32.6	29.0	29.1	35.8	36.7	32.1	-2.1	1.0	-0.3	-0.6	-1.3	-4.2
SE	33.0	25.0	25.0	30.0	32.0	29.0	32.0	25.0	25.0	29.0	32.0	29.0	-3.0	0.0	0.0	-3.3	0.0	0.0
UK	40.0	35.0	28.0	38.0	37.0	43.0	40.0	36.0	31.0	38.0	39.0	45.0	0.0	2.9	10.7	0.0	5.4	4.7
EFTA																		
IS	22.3	14.0	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LI	19.5	21.6	29.3	34.8	30.8	21.6	17.3	21.6	23.3	32.8	24.5	21.4	-11.3	0.0	-20.5	-5.7	-20.5	-0.9
NO	50.2	37.9	26.7	35.6	35.6	28.9	31.1	25.2	28.1	36.9	37.4	30.3	-38.0	-33.5	5.2	3.7	5.1	4.8
CH	28.5	33.4	37.0	44.0	40.4	32.2	27.4	:	:	:	:	:	-3.9	:	:	:	:	:

Table 2: Net occupancy of bed places in hotels and similar establishments

According to the available data, there was no trend in the EU and EFTA countries regarding the net occupancy rate during the winter season 2003/2004

compared to the previous season. April (Easter) was the month with the best occupancy rate for most of the countries.

### ➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

#### CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

##### Tourism

The activities of persons travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than twelve consecutive months, for leisure, business or other purposes.

##### Total overnight stays (by residents and non-residents)

All nights spent by travellers or for which guests have been registered in a collective or private accommodation establishment. The persons concerned need not be physically present.

##### Net occupancy rate

The net occupancy rate of bed places in one month is obtained by dividing total

overnight stays by the product of the bed places on offer and the number of days when the bed places are actually available for use, multiplying the quotient by 100 to express the result as a percentage.

##### Hotels and similar establishments

Hotels, apartment hotels, motels, roadside inns, beach hotels and other similar establishments which provide hotel services including more than bed-making and cleaning of the room and sanitary facilities. Similar establishments are other similar types of accommodation which is let per room and has a limited number of hotel-type services, including bedmaking and cleaning of rooms and sanitary facilities, on a daily basis.

## ***Further information:***

### ➤ **Databases**

[EUROSTAT website/Industry, trade and services/Tourism](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/industry_trade_services_tourism/)

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ORIGINAL TEXT: English