

Trips and holidays in Italy and abroad

Year 2016

In 2016, trips with overnight stays made by residents were 66,055 million. The number of trips increased by 13.7%, compared to 2015 (they were 58,115 million).

The average duration of trips slightly decreased at 5.4 nights (5.6 nights for holiday trips and 3.5 for business trips), corresponding to an amount of 356 million nights.

Between 2015 and 2016, short holidays (29,3 million) increased by 20.7% and long holidays (29,9 million) increased by 11.3%. Business trips (6,7 million) remained stable.

Domestic destinations hosted 82.8% of trips. Trips to foreign countries (17.2%) were mostly directed towards EU destinations (9.8%).

In summer, 12.9% of long domestic holidays were spent in Puglia, 11.4% in Emilia-Romagna, whereas Trentino-Alto Adige was the first destination during winter (24.8%) and autumn (16.3%).

Spain was the main destination for long holidays (12% of long trips abroad), whereas 22.1% of short holidays were spent in France. Germany was the preferred country for business trips (17.4% of business trips abroad).

Among non-European destinations, Usa was the most visited country for long holidays (16.4%) and China for business trips (8.4%).

In 2016, 18.9% of residents made at least one trip in a quarter on average, with a slightly increase with respect to 2015 (the percentage was 17.1%). The share of holidays rose to 32.3% in the summer period, during which the majority of the trips was carried out (42.1%), with an average duration of 7.8 nights for holiday trips (10.3 nights for long holidays).

Private tourist accommodation was chosen in 55.6% of trips (62.1% of nights spent), especially in the case of long holidays (60.8% of trips and 65% of nights spent). Collective tourist accommodation establishments were confirmed to be the preferred for business trips (75.3% of trips and 61.1% of nights).

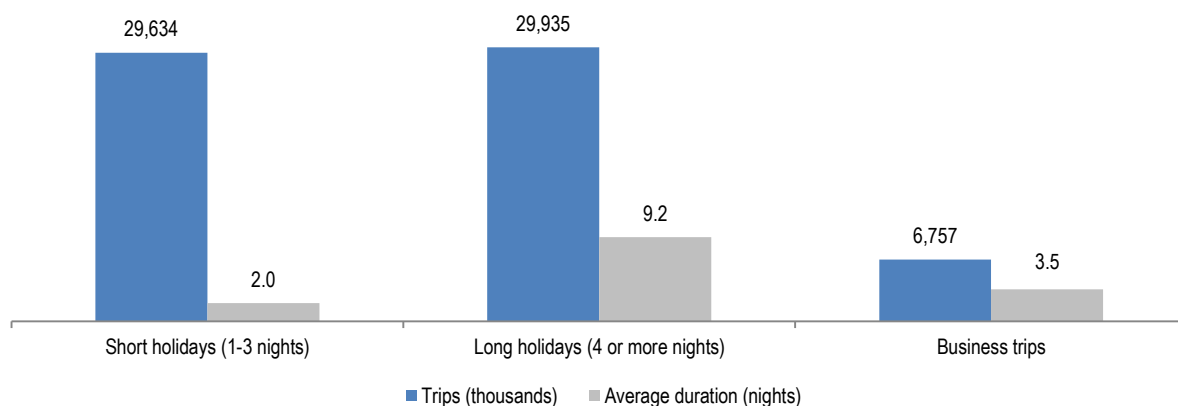
More than half of trips (50.2%) were organized through direct booking, whereas trips made without booking were 42% and trips booked via travel agency/tour operator were only 7%. About 40% of trips were booked using Internet with an increase by 30% of holidays compared to 2015.

Holidays made with the purpose of recreation and relax were mainly directed to Italian destinations (48.9%), whereas holidays made for visiting the artistic, architectural and archaeological heritage were more frequently abroad (30.6%).

Car was the main means of transport (64.2% of trips), especially for short holidays (76.1%, increasing by 33.7% respect to 2015). Air and train were less used (respectively 16.1% and 10.3%).

Compared to 2015, the number of same-day visits (74,133 million) increased by 10.4%. These were mainly directed to Italian destinations (98.7%), with the purpose of recreation and relax (63.3%), but also for visiting relatives and friends (18%).

TRIPS AND AVERAGE DURATION BY TYPE OF TRIP. Year 2016



Provisional data

Glossary

Average duration of trips: ratio between the number of nights spent on trips and the number of trips.

Business trip: trip made for professional reasons, such as work or military missions, participation in congresses, conferences, business meetings, representation/sale activities, didactic activities or other professional reasons other than to be employed by a resident entity in the place visited.

Collective tourist accommodation establishments: hotel, motel, boarding house, religious institution, health establishment, beauty farm, congress and conference center, farm holiday, holiday village, marina (boats moored in ports), volunteer work-camp, holiday camp, place in public transport means (couchettes, sleeping cars, cruise ships), other kind of collective facility not specified.

Destination, means of transport, type of accommodation, holiday and business trip purpose: detected basing on the concept of "prevalence". In particular, the destination of the trip and the accommodation are respectively the location and the type of accommodation in which the greatest number of nights was spent. The main means of transport is the means by which the longest distance has been covered.

Holiday trip: trip made for main purposes of relax, pleasure/leisure, entertainment, visiting relatives and friends, health care, spa treatment, religious reasons, pilgrimages.

Private tourist accommodation: rented room/house, bed&breakfast, personally owned home, timeshare property, home of relatives or friends, other private accommodation.

Same-day visit: trip without overnight stay made for any main purpose (business, leisure or other personal purpose) outside the usual environment of the visitor (municipality where he/she lives), with a minimum duration of three hours spent at the destination.

Type of booking: "Direct booking" is the booking of accommodation/transport directly at the accommodation or at the provider of transport; "booking through agency" is the booking through tour operator/travel agency; "Internet booking" is the use of Internet for booking accommodation/transport directly or through travel agency.

Tourism: the activity of travelling made by visitors to a main destination outside their usual environment. The identification of the usual environment of a visitor allows to distinguish tourism from mobility, as the latest is not included in the domain of demand-side surveys. Tourism includes trips with overnights stay and same-day visits (without overnight stay).

Trip: travel with at least one overnight stay, made for any main purpose (business, leisure or other personal purpose), outside the usual environment of the visitor (municipality where he/she lives) for less than a year. Trips with overnight stays made every week in the same destination are excluded, as in this cases the destination is considered as usual environment of the visitor.

EU: the 28 Member States of the European Union: Italy, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, United Kingdom, Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Hungary.

Methodological note

The estimates of the main aggregates on tourism demand are provided by “Trips and Holidays”, a focus included in the Household Budget Survey (<http://www.istat.it/it/archivio/71980>), that collects expenditure behaviors of households residing in Italy, which are randomly selected from Municipality Population Registers. In 2016 the annual actual sample of the survey was about 15,000 households and about 502 Italian municipalities. The survey is conducted continuously, every month throughout the year, through a computer-assisted face-to-face interview (CAPI).

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According to international standards, tourism trips are classified into business trips and holiday trips, distinguishing short-holidays (1 to 3 overnight stays) from long-holidays (4 or more overnight stays). Holiday trips include those trips made for main purposes of relax, pleasure/leisure, entertainment, visiting relatives and friends, health care, spa treatment, religious reasons, pilgrimages.

The survey is carried out according to the [Eu Regulation 692/2011 concerning European statistics on tourism](#).

The estimates provided by “Trips and Holiday” survey are available at:

- datawarehouse I.Stat (<http://dati.istat.it/?lang=en> theme: “Communications, Culture, leisure and time use”, topic “Trips, holidays and tourism”
- Tourism database on Eurostat website: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/tourism/data/database>.

Information on the survey is available at: <http://www.istat.it/it/archivio/123949>.

For more details please refer to the Italian version

Contact person:

Mascia Di Torrice (maditorr@istat.it)
Istat – National Institute of Statistics
Viale Oceano Pacifico 171 – Rome 00144 Italy
phone +39 06 4673.4655