



The number of arrivals in February 2020 increased by 16%!

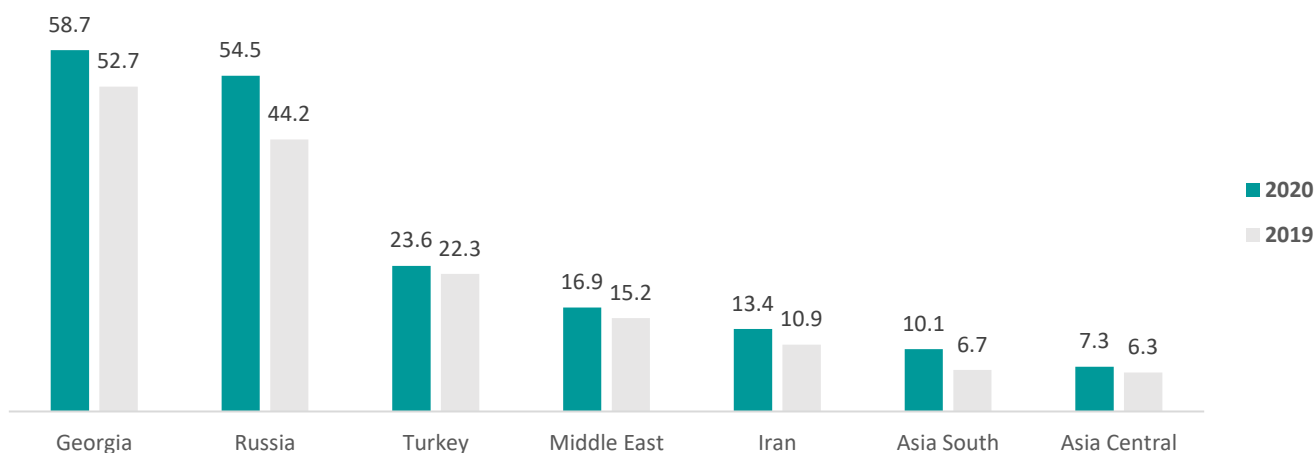
This monthly report of State Tourism Agency provides statistical information below:

- Number of arrivals in February 2020
- 2019 Domestic tourism

Arrivals in February 2020

According to the State Border Service, in February 2020 nearly 200 thousand international travelers visited Azerbaijan, which is 27 thousand or 15.8% more compared to February 2019. The largest numbers of travelers arrived from Georgia and Russia; 6 thousand and 10 thousand more travelers totaling to 59 thousand and 55 thousand in February compared to last year. From Turkey 24 thousand and Middle East 17 thousand guests arrived, 5.9% and 11.2% growth rates respectively. Among Middle East countries, the largest increases, 140.6% or 2 thousand and 31.7% or 770, are observed for Saudi Arabia and Israel, respectively. The number of travelers from Iran increased by 2.5 thousand or 23.5%, in comparison with February 2019, totaling to 13 thousand people. The number of travelers from South and Central Asia having increased by 50% and 14.4% totaled to 10 thousand and 7 thousand. Most of the guests from South Asia arrived from India (6 thousand; 83% growth) and Pakistan (3 thousand; 19.5% growth). Moreover, among Central Asian countries Kazakhstan shows 39.6% increase reaching to 3 thousand arrivals.

Figure 1: Foreign travellers (in thousands) from 7 countries/regions in February 2020 and 2019



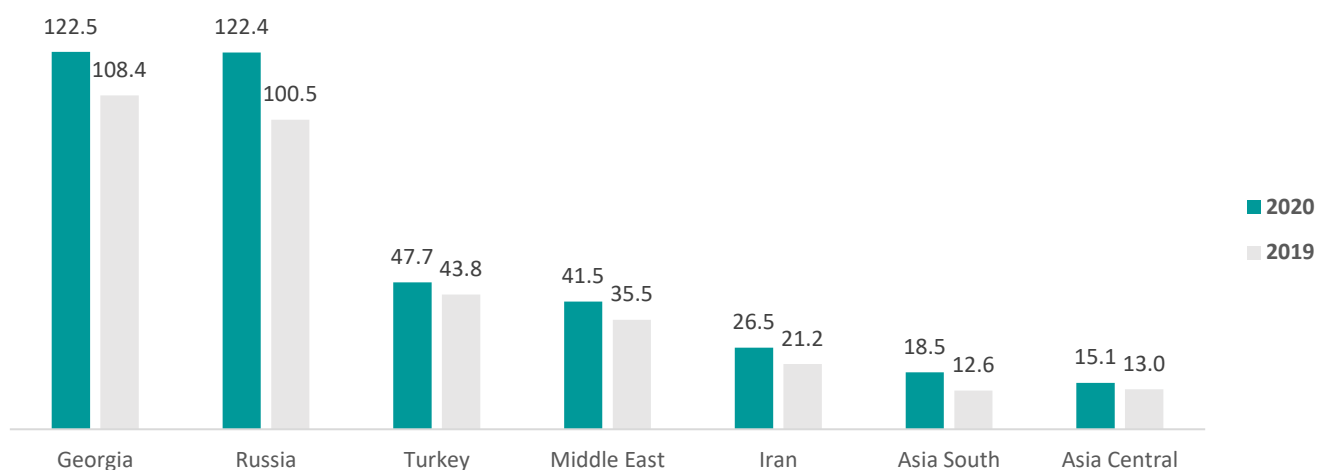
Source: State Border Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan

In February 2020, total of 69 thousand travelers arrived from the countries where Representation Offices have been established (China, India, Russia, Germany, Saudi Arabia, UAE), a growth of 24% compared to 2019. Among them, Russia (23.4% growth), India (83% growth) and Saudi

Arabia (140.6% growth) show substantial increase, while UAE and China experienced decrease in the number of arrivals, 43.3% and 78.3% respectively.

During the period of January to February 2020, the total number of foreign travelers who arrived in Azerbaijan increased by 17%, compared to the same period of 2019, totaling to 426 thousand. Most guests came from Georgia (122.5 thousand) and Russia (122.4 thousand), with 57% share of total number of arrivals. Among Middle East countries, highest percent increase in number of arrivals is observed for Saudi (233.4%) Arabia, Israel (131.4%) and Kuwait (53.5%); totaling to 11 thousand, 3 thousand and 7 thousand travelers respectively. The number of travelers from South Asia increased by 6 thousand or 46.7% and reached to 18.5 thousand. The largest market share among South Asian countries belongs to India with total 11 thousand travelers, an increase of 81.8 %. In Central Asia, the largest number of travelers came from Kazakhstan 6 thousand with an increase of 27.7%. The number of travelers from Turkey and Iran increased by 4 thousand and 5 thousand and totaled to 48 thousand and 26.5 thousand respectively.

Figure 2: Foreign travellers (in thousands) from 7 countries/regions in January-February period of 2020 and 2019



Source: State Border Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Domestic tourism in 2019

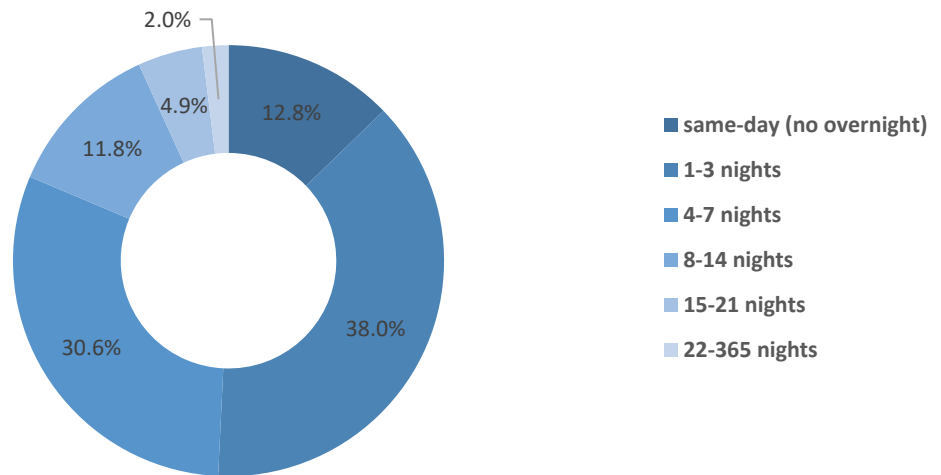
According to the State Statistics Committee, in 2019, the number of domestic travelers was 4.3 million which is 302 thousand or 107.5% more compared to 2018. Among them, 34.7% were traveling within country for visiting relatives and friends, 32.2% for leisure and entertainment, 9.5% for business travel, 9.3% for treatment, and 14.2% for other tourism purposes. Domestic trips were mainly organized by intercity buses (68.8%) and by private cars (22.3%).

In 2019, local visitors spent 3.48 billion AZN for tourism purposes. Domestic tourism expenditures was mainly spent on shopping (827 million AZN or 23.8%), food (704 million AZN or 20.2%), transport (652 million AZN or 18.7%), accommodation (473 million AZN or 13.6%), and other¹ items (825 million AZN or 23.7%).

Majority of the domestic visitors stayed in the regions for 1-3 nights (38%) and 4-7 nights (30.6). Additionally, 12.8% of trips belong to same-day (no-overnight) trippers, out of which 50% recorded in Baku.

¹ Other items include but not limited to car rentals, fuel cost, culture, sport.

Figure 3: Length of stay of local travellers in 2019

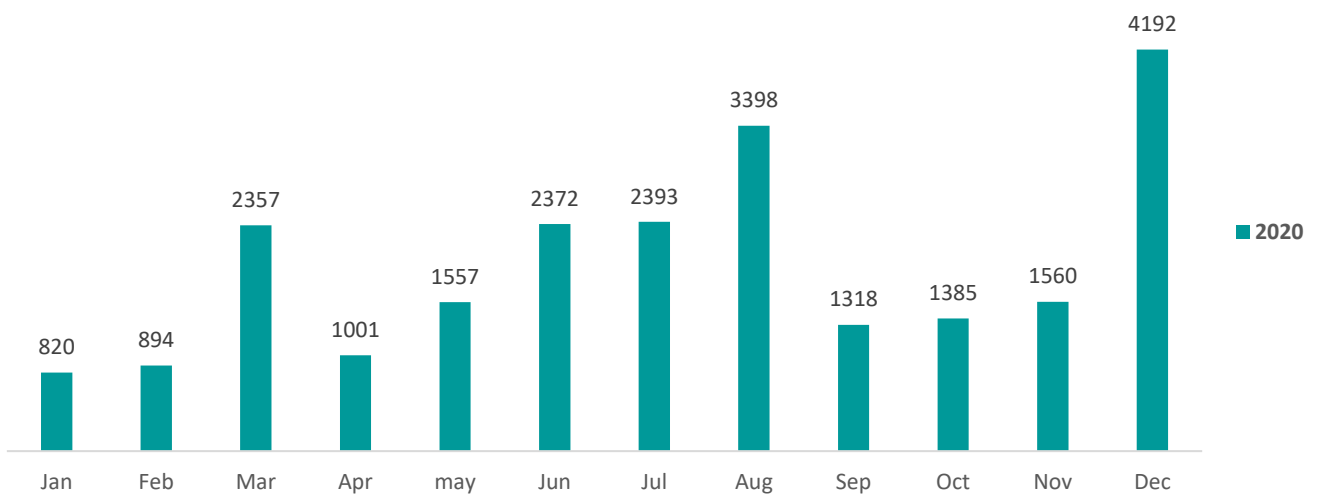


Source: State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan

During the visit, 36.6% of visitors spent the overnight in relatives or friends, 33% in personal apartments and 27.5% in rented apartments. Overnight in hotels has not been so popular for Azerbaijani citizens traveling in 2019 (just 3%).

Citizens of the country traveled more in December 2019; 4 192 thousand visits. The next highest figures were observed in August – 3.4 million and in March, June, July – 2.4 million visits for each (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Number of trips by months of domestic visitors in 2019 (thousand trips)



Source: State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Methodological note: The numbers of foreign travellers (A traveller is someone who moves between different geographic locations, for any purpose and any duration (International Recommendations for Tourism Statistics ([IRTS](#)) 2008, 2.4) are counts of border crossings as registered by the State Border Service. These numbers cover touristic visitors but also other travellers who do not fulfil the definition of being a touristic visitor given by IRTS 2008, such as border workers, long-term workers and students and patients, etc. The number of the local visitors are provided by the State Statistics Committee (SSC).

Table 1: Number of foreign travelers from various countries and regions in February 2020 and 2019.

Region	2020	2019	2020	2019
	February	February	January-February	January-February
Georgia	58 693	52 730	122 517	108 415
Russia	54 515	44 192	122 399	100 531
Turkey	23 642	22 322	47 717	43 803
Middle East	16 872	15 167	41 489	35 542
Iran	13 404	10 855	26 480	21 191
South Asia	10 111	6 742	18 499	12 607
Central Asia	7 251	6 337	15 084	12 952
Eastern Europe	6 338	5 224	12 689	10 575
Western Europe	5 464	5 070	10 674	10 208
America	1 324	1 234	2 715	2 547
North-Eastern Asia	714	1 348	2 479	2 583
Africa	642	516	1 253	1 281
South-Eastern Asia	592	574	1 327	1 145
Other	402	368	803	723
TOTAL	199 964	172 679	426 129	364 103