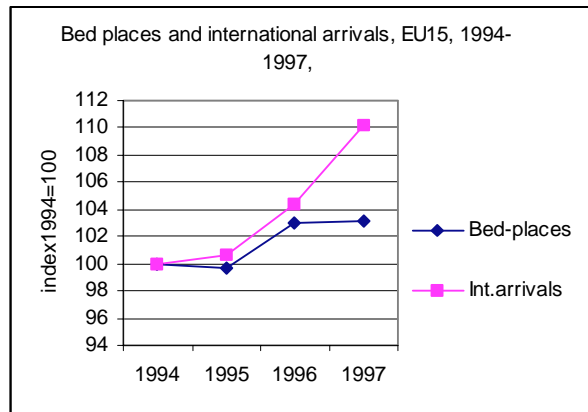




Indicator Fact Sheet Signals 2001 – Chapter Tourism

YIR01TO10 Tourism intensity (beds per capita) - selected countries



Title: Number of beds and international arrivals, EU15, 1994-1997

Source: Eurostat

Key message

⊕ Tourism intensity in terms of number of beds per international tourist in the EU increased by 3 % between 1994 and 1997, leading in some areas to overloading the accommodation capacities of the destinations.

Results and assessment

Relevance of the indicator for describing development in the environment

The number of beds available per international tourist is one of several indicators of the intensity of tourism (associated data definitions and statistical surveys need to be improved). However, 80 to 90 % of tourism trips are within the country of origin and most of the pressure on accommodation and, in turn, on infrastructure, resources and the environment therefore comes from national rather than international tourism.

In many areas where tourism is intense, tourism is the main activity and its intensity has a seasonal character (skiing, marine, camping) depending on the region. The development of outdoors tourist infrastructure, such as trails, passes, ski slopes, and areas cleared of vegetation, draws on land otherwise available for natural or agricultural ecosystems. Tourism-related transport increases demand for land for roads, parking, etc. High tourism intensity may increase pollution, for instance in coastal water resulting from sediment run-off, sewage, solid waste, high nutrient load etc. causing eutrophication and degradation.

Policy relevance and policy references

Tourism intensity is a problem with complex interactions between causes and effects. It requires a complex response with measures relating to spatial and traffic planning, agriculture and forestry, environmental protection, use of resources, and waste management.

The Amendment to Directive 85/337/EEC (*Environmental Impact Assessment*) concerning tourism in skiing areas, marine, holiday villages, camping areas was adopted in March 1997 and ratified by Member States in March 1999. The Commission, in making its proposal to extend the Environment Impact Assessment Directive, Annex II, has included a wider range of potentially damaging tourism projects among those which will have to be covered in future.



The European Community programme of policy and action in relation to the environment and sustainable development (5th EAP) aimed to create buffer zones around sensitive areas and improve control on land use.

Assessment

Tourism intensity in terms of number of beds per international tourist in the EU increased by 3 % between 1994 and 1997. The main holiday hot spots are coastal zones, mountains, and cities that are crowded during peak seasons. In 1999 in France for example, communes at the border of the sea and in high mountains (all together 4,5 % of all the communes in France) represent 48 % of total holiday accommodation capacity. Second homes are particularly important in coastal zones and mountain areas. In Sweden about one third of second homes are located 100 m from the coast or shore. 25 000 km of the 47 000 km of Mediterranean coast have already been developed; for example, tourism intensity, excluding second homes, in the Balearic Islands (Spain) is ten times higher than the average for the whole of the country.

The Mediterranean and the Alps are the regions of Europe with the greatest tourism intensity. There are 59.8 million arrivals per year and a total of 370 million bed nights in the Alps. Communities with high-intensity tourism cover 20 %, medium-intensity 40 %, and no significant tourism 40 % of the Alpine territory.

Real tourism intensity in France is far higher than suggested by the figures for international arrivals because of the large amount of domestic tourism (as in other countries) and the large numbers of second homes - 73 % of all establishments (see YIR01TO09). Areas such as Languedoc-Roussillon, and Corsica are high intensity tourism areas, with 0.8 tourist beds per local inhabitant.

Tourism intensity is seasonal; with people give high priority to both summer and winter holidays (YIR01TO07). Holidays in mountain regions are not only for winter sports, which account for only 40 % of the total number of visitors to these regions. Other sporting activities such as mountain hiking and rock climbing can have more serious impacts than skiing because they are practised during the growing period or during period in which animals breed. The number of climbers in France increased from 250 000 in 1980 to 800 000 in 1998. There were 870 natural climbing sites in 1986 and 1 450 at the end of 1992. Some sports involve considerable energy consumption and waste generation.

The continuing increase in tourist arrivals (see YIRTO0108) suggests that the problem of tourism intensity will remain important and may become critical in some sensitive areas.

**Meta data**

Technical information

1. Data source

Table 1: National data from Austria: <http://www.austria.gv.at/e/> (population, area)
<http://wko.at/bstf/zdf/htm/Seite15.htm> (beds) = OESTAT

Table 2: National data from Spain: Instituto Nacional de Estadística (2000), www.ine.es

Table 3 and 4: National data from France: French State Secretariat of Tourism, Direction of Tourism, Paris, edition 2000. INSEE, France,
<http://wcatinsee.jouve.fr/recens/resultats/resultat1999.htm>

Table 5: Eurostat database: nuts3_97

Profile of the Alpine Region.

2. Description of data

Data from national data sources.

Eurostat definition: The number of bed places in an establishment or dwelling is determined by the number of persons who can stay overnight in the beds set up in the establishment (dwelling), ignoring any extra beds that may be set up by customer request

The term bed place applies to a single bed, double bed being counted as two bed places. The unit serves to measure the capacity of any type of accommodation.

A bed place is also a place on a pitch or in a boat on a mooring to accommodate one person. One camping pitch should equal four bed places if the actual number of bed places is not known.

3. Geographical coverage

4. Temporal coverage

Selected countries

5. Methodology and frequency of data collection

6. Methodology and data manipulation

Alpine classification

High-intensity tourism >0.5 beds per inhabitant

Medium-intensity tourism 0.1 – 0.5 beds per inhabitant

Tourism irrelevant <0.1 beds per inhabitant

7.

8. Strength and weakness (at data level)



Table 1. Tourism in Austria (provinces, population, area, and beds), 1999

Provinces	Population	Area (km ²)	Beds (total) Aug. 1999	Beds per capita	Beds per region	Beds (commercial)	Beds (recreation homes, sanatorium)	Beds (other forms of acc.)	Beds (private)
Vienna	1590000	415	43218	0,0272	104,14	41.410	0	1.526	282
Lower Austria	1520000	19174	68146	0,0448	3,55	43.566	3.226	8.149	13.205
Upper Austria	1390000	11980	83949	0,0604	7,01	44.836	3.502	14.472	21.139
Salzburg	506000	7154	207964	0,4110	29,07	98.064	2.155	33.192	74.553
Carinthia	561000	9533	179936	0,3207	18,88	80.766	1.332	27.618	70.220
Styria	1210000	16388	110308	0,0912	6,73	55.202	2.210	17.002	35.894
Tyrol	658300	12646	379178	0,5760	29,98	193.649	544	43.102	141.883
Burgenland	274300	3965	23277	0,0849	5,87	13.776	803	2.564	6.134
Vorarlberg	343100	2601	75248	0,2193	28,93	32.712	207	8.288	34.041
Sum	8.052.700	83.856	1.171.224			603.981	13.979	155.913	397.351

Table 2. Tourism intensity in Spain, beds per capita (hotels only), 1998

Region	Inhabitants	Hotel beds	Beds/ 1000 inhab.
Andalucia	7236459	180978	25
Aragón	1183234	29429	24,9
Asturias	1081834	18611	17,2
Balears	796483	297325	373,3
Canarias	1630015	141965	87,1
Cantabria	527137	17968	34,1
Castilla-La Mancha	1716152	30186	17,6
Castilla León	2484603	53453	21,5
Catalunya	6147610	218175	35,5
Com. Valenciana	4023441	92845	23,1
Extremadura	1069419	24856	23,2
Galicia	2724544	61649	22,6
Madrid	5091336	63603	12,5
Murcia	1115068	14657	13,1
Navarra (Nafarroa)	530819	10104	19,0
Euskadi	2098628	19662	9,3
Rioja	263644	5094	19,3
Ceuta & Melilla	132225	1453	11,0
TOTAL SPAIN	39852651	1282013	32,2

Table 3. Capacity of accommodation in France, number of beds, 2000

Regions	Hotels	Tourists Residences	Camping-sites	Youth hotels	Holidays villages	Secondary houses (number)	Secondary houses (capacity estimate: 3 beds per house)	Total capacity	Population 2000	beds per capita
Alsace	18.188	1.336	11.630	1.026	1.840	22.624	67.872	101.892	1.734.145	0,059
Aquitaine	30.664	29.713	103.222	526	24.163	177.677	533.031	721.319	2.908.359	0,248
Auvergne	17.904	217	24.141	475	10.566	98.900	296.700	350.003	1.308.878	0,267
Basse-Normandie	13.625	3.820	28.948	521	1.838	118.895	356.685	405.437	1.422.193	0,285
Bourgogne	13.698	671	13.850	160	1.302	88.733	266.199	295.880	1.610.067	0,184
Bretagne	24.522	9.268	87.059	1.869	12.956	198.032	594.096	729.770	2.906.197	0,251
Centre Champagne- Ardenne	19.401 7.946	4.520 n.a.	22.584 7.948	885 346	876 240	98.605 30.353	295.815 91.059	344.081 107.539	2.440.329 1.342.363	0,141 0,080
Corse	10.408	4.286	21.346	162	6.315	60.607	181.821	224.338	260.196	0,862
Franche-Comte	7.818	324	14.353	416	1.573	39.004	117.012	141.496	1.117.059	0,127
Haute-Normandie	8.899	3.964	10.081	133	942	43.820	131.460	155.479	1.780.192	0,087
Ile-de-France	125.038	15.919	15.590	1.166	1.132	164.636	493.908	652.753	10.952.011	0,060
Languedoc- Roussillon	26.168	31.920	116.918	541	22.194	314.103	942.309	1.140.050	2.295.648	0,497
Limousin	5.341	n.a.	13.039	269	5.422	54.316	162.948	187.019	710.939	0,263
Lorraine	12.994	305	16.519	525	270	39.149	117.447	148.060	2.310.376	0,064
Midi-Pyrenees	41.187	2.934	41.562	371	10.450	150.472	451.416	547.920	2.551.687	0,215
Nord-Pas-de-Calais	15.873	1.768	27.181	845	1.227	57.687	173.061	219.955	3.996.588	0,055
Pays-de-la-Loire	19.686	10.996	84.387	488	8.976	198.076	594.228	718.761	3.222.061	0,223
Picardie	7.248	1.528	15.073	184	277	48.268	144.804	169.114	1.857.834	0,091
Poitou-Charentes	16.373	3.741	56.163	719	9.778	104.003	312.009	398.783	1.640.068	0,243
Provence-Alpes- Cote d'Azur	68.405	92.198	95.650	1.630	26.884	436.902	1.310.706	1.595.473	4.506.151	0,354
Rhone-Alpes	72.232	99.279	72.745	1.956	22.743	367.259	1.101.777	1.370.732	5.645.407	0,243

Table 4. Number of establishments in France, 1995-2000

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Number of hotels	1.193.000	1.223.000	1.217.000	1.202.000	1.174.000	1.167.000
Number of campings	2.692.000	2.739.000	2.788.000	2.784.000	2.704.000	2.700.000
Number of holidays villages	242.000	242.000	247.000	253.000	260.000	261.000
Number of Youth Hostels	18.000	13.000	15.000	15.000	14.000	15.000
Number of Tourism residence	248.000	252.000	262.000	265.000	277.000	279.000
Number of bed & breakfast	248.000	248.000	257.000	266.000	269.000	350.000
Number of secondary houses	12.071.000	12.071.000	12.071.000	12.071.000	12.071.000	13.210.000
Total	16.712.000	16.788.000	16.857.000	16.856.000	16.769.000	17.982.000
% of second houses	72	72	72	72	72	73

Table 5. Bed places and international arrivals, EU15 countries, 1994-1997

	Bed-places			
	1994	1995	1996	1997
EU15	8684558	8661497	8941227	8962450
1994=100	100	99,73446	102,9555	103,1998
	Int.arrivals			
	1994	1995	1996	1997
EU15	226988	228512	236875	250102
1994=100	100	100,6714	104,3557	110,1829