6.1. Basic concepts and approximation

Figure 3.1 and 3.2 give the schematic illustration of concepts in tourism statistics by UNWTO and the Eurostat with the concepts defined in the ensuing discussion.

**Figure 3.1** Schematic diagram of concepts in tourism statistics, UNWTO

![UNWTO Schematic Diagram](image)


**Figure 3.2** Schematic diagram of concepts in tourism statistics, Eurostat

![Eurostat Schematic Diagram](image)


**Country of (usual) residence** – the country in which a person spends the majority of the year.

**Country of origin** – in immigration, this term is used to refer to the country a person was born in. In this document, this term is used to refer to a country a person’s SIM card is related to.

**Country of reference** – a country that is linked to the forms (inbound, domestic, outbound) and categories (internal, national, international) of tourism. Outbound tourism from the country of reference to a foreign country is inbound tourism for a foreign country.

**Cross-border workers** – a person who works in the country of reference but does not permanently live there. These people usually live in the neighbouring countries or in the countries with good air services to the country of reference.

**Foreign country** – a country outside the country of reference in respect of the forms (inbound, outbound) and categories (internal, national, international) of tourism. Outbound tourism from a foreign country to the country of reference is inbound tourism to the country of reference.

**Foreign workers and students** – a person who stays at least 30 days (continuously) in the country of reference in order to work and study there and relocates to live there.

**Main destination** – a specific country visited by a visitor where most of his/her time was spent during the trip. In case more than one country has same duration of visitor's spending time in the trip, the country farthest from visitor's country of (usual) residence is the main destination.
**Overnight stay** – the criterion to distinguish tourists (overnight visitor, overnight visits) from same-day visitors. A visitor is considered to have had an overnight stay/visit in a country if the visitor is believed to have stayed there during a change of calendar dates (a country in which a night is spent regardless of the actual rest/resting place). If during a change of dates, a visitor is in the middle of moving between Points A and B within a country of reference, a night might be assigned (depending on the national criteria of the specific country) to Point A, Point B, or it might not be assigned at all. However, from the perspective of country (the place is the country of reference), a visitor spent a night within a country (which differs from the official definition).

**Overnight visitor/visit/trip** – as for a tourist, the term is used to specifically distinguish visits that focus on the duration of the stay at a specific place in a country.

**Same-day visitor/visit/trip (excursionist)** – a visitor whose visit does not include an overnight stay.

**Secondary destination** - as opposed to the main destination, a secondary visit is a place to which a visitor makes a visit (stays) in addition to the main destination for a period longer than the minimum duration of stops to be considered as being tourism visits.

**Tourism** – the activity of visitors who are taking a trip to a main destination which is outside the usual environment, which lasts less than a year, and which is for any main purpose, including business, leisure or other personal purpose, other than being employed by a resident entity at the location that has been visited. The main characteristics are similar to the official definition, although persons who are employed by a resident entity in the location that has been visited cannot be excluded from MPD. Tourism can be in either inbound, domestic or outbound form and can be categorized as internal, national and international. They are described as follows:

**Forms of tourism:**

- **Inbound tourism** - comprises the activities of a non-resident visitor within the country of reference on an inbound trip (similar to the official definition).
- **Domestic tourism** - comprises the activities of a resident visitor within the country of reference either as part of a domestic trip or part of an outbound trip (similar to the official definition).
- **Outbound tourism** (tourism form) - comprises the activities of a resident visitor outside the country of reference, either as part of an outbound trip or as part of a domestic trip (similar to the official definition).

**Categories of tourism:**

- **Internal tourism** (tourism category) - comprises domestic tourism and inbound tourism or in other words, the activities of resident and non-resident visitors within the country of reference as part of domestic or international trips (similar to the official definition).
- **National tourism** (tourism category) - comprises domestic tourism and outbound tourism or in other words, the activities of resident visitors within and outside the country of reference either as a part of domestic or outbound trips (similar to the official definition).
- **International tourism** (tourism category) - comprises inbound tourism and outbound tourism or in other words, the activities of resident visitors outside the country of reference either as a part of domestic or outbound trips and the activities of non-resident visitors within the country of reference on inbound trips (similar to the official definition).

**Tourism trip** – trip taken by visitors.

**Transit pass-through** – as opposed to main destination and secondary destination, a transit pass-through is the place that visitors pass through or stop during a period of time that is less than the minimum duration of stops to be considered as being tourism visits. A transit pass through does not count as a tourism visit. At a country level, transit pass-through or transit trips/visits are considered as being trips for which the purpose is passing through that country on one’s way to or from the country that is their main destination (similar to the official definition).

**Transit visitors** – a person who stays less than a certain number of hours (e.g. Estonia use 2 hours, Indonesia 6 hours, Saudi Arabia use 3 hours) in the country during a trip and presumably spends no money there.

**Traveller** – someone who moves between different geographic locations for any purpose and for any duration (similar to the official definition).

**Trip** – refers to the journey of an individual from the time at which that individual departs from their place of residence until they return and therefore, refers to a round trip. A trip is made up of visits to a specific country. Trips consist of one or more visits during the same round trip (similar to the official definition).

**Usual environment** – each form of tourism has a specific definition and method of defining the place of residence and usual environment. By default, the place of residence and usual environment for mobile phone subscribers in the inbound data is the foreign country of the subscriber unless identified differently. For domestic and outbound tourism, usual environment can be defined with precision regarding country of reference, county, municipality or some other geographical areas or administrative units. For subscribers who are deemed to reside in the country of reference, usual environment can be defined with precision regarding country of reference, province, municipality or some other geographical areas or administrative units. The level of detail used depends on the data available and producers’ needs.
*Visit* – refers to a stay in a place visited during a tourism trip. The stay does not need to be overnight to qualify as a tourism visit. Nevertheless, the notion of stay supposes that there is a stop. Entering a geographical area without stopping there does not qualify as a visit to that area. The concept of a visit depends on the level of the geography in which it is used. It can mean either the whole tourism-related trip or only a part of it.

*Visitor* – a traveller taking a trip to a main and/or secondary destination(s) outside their usual environment, for less than a year