Employment in tourism and in the rest of the economy, 2009 - 2016

based on the Quarterly Labour Force Survey
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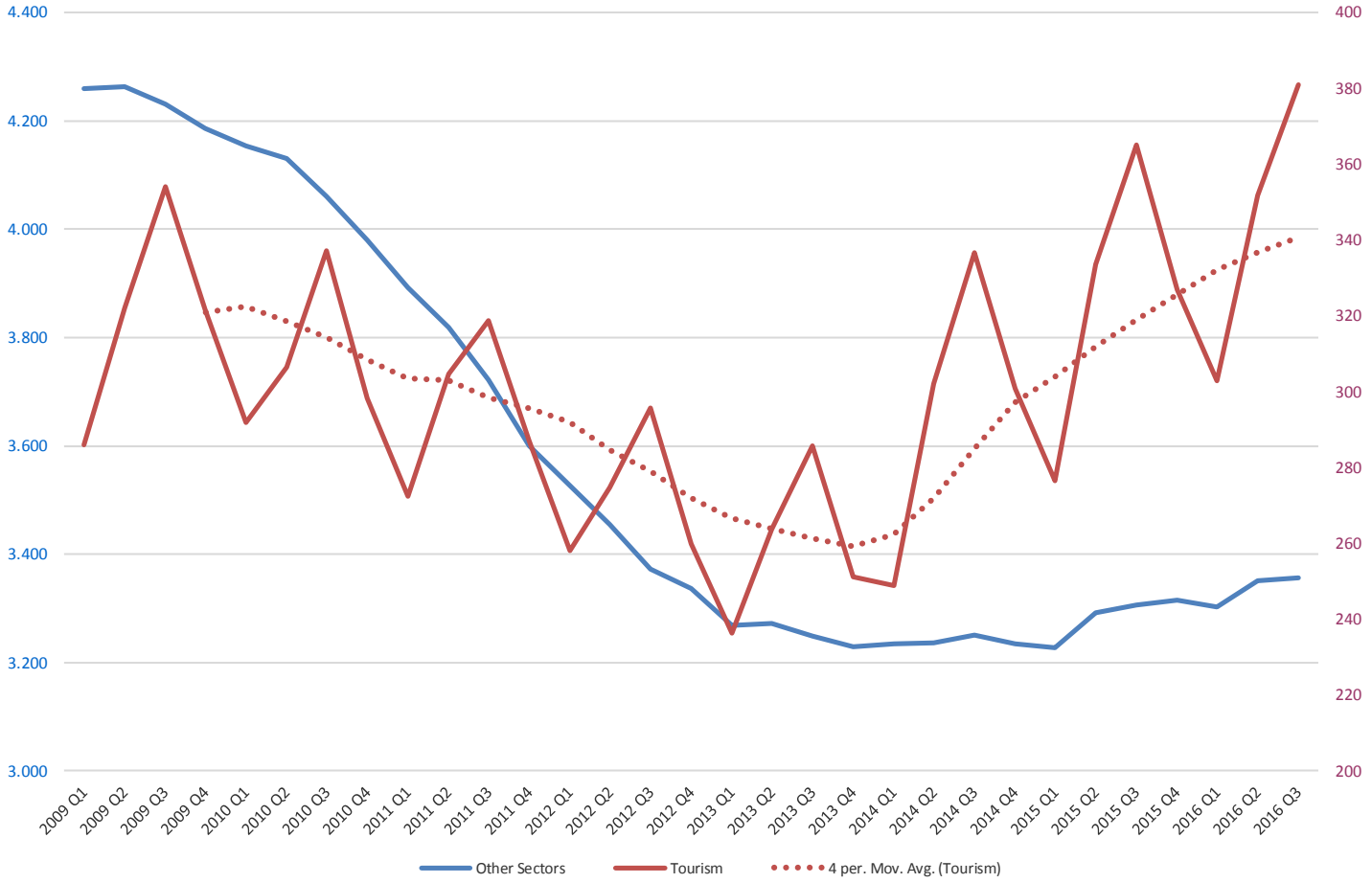
Introduction

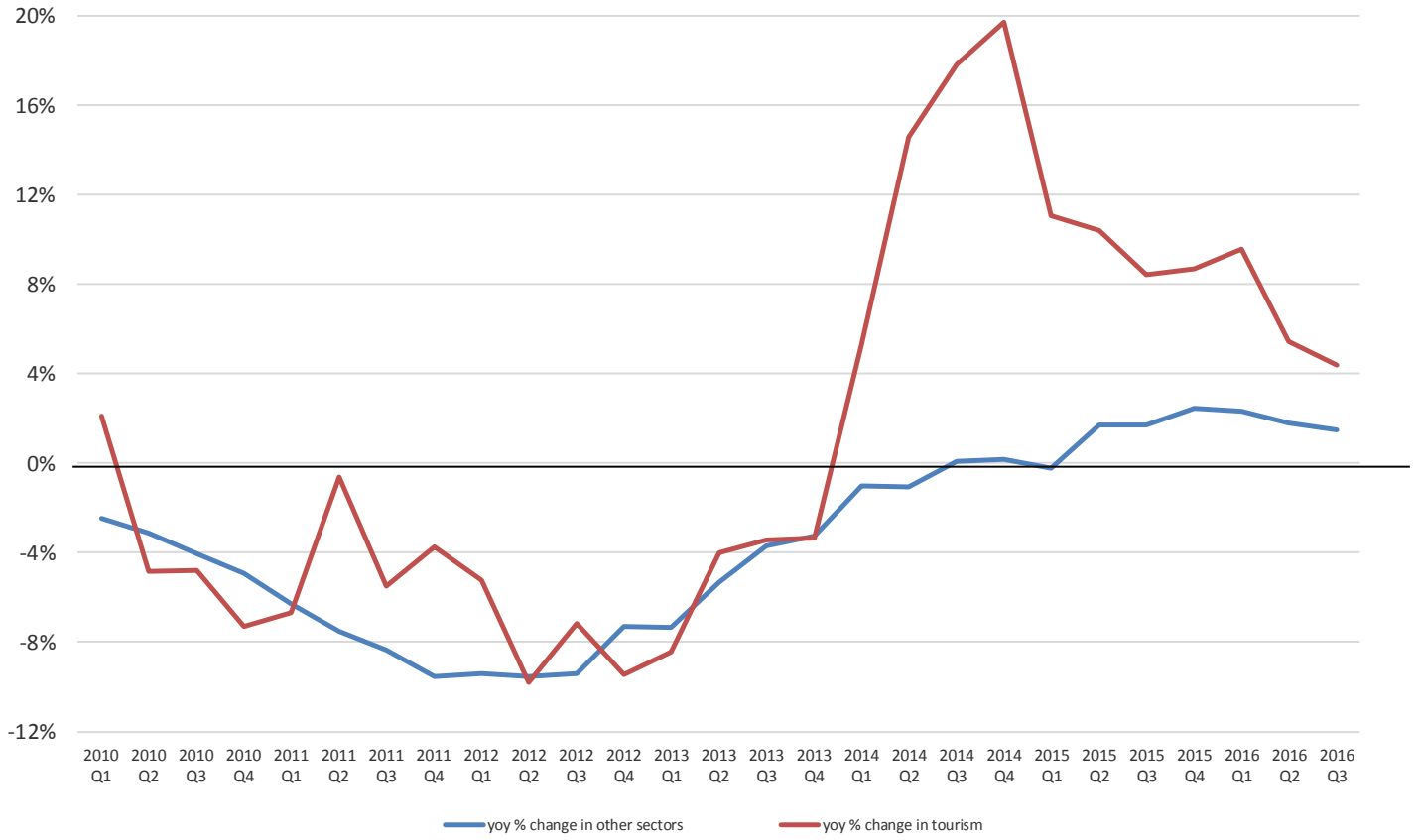
- The Quarterly Labour Force Survey is a sample survey conducted by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) every quarter.
- According to ELSTAT *"employed are persons aged 15 years or older, who during the reference week worked even for just one hour for pay or profit or they were working in the family business, or they were not at work but had a job or business from which they were temporarily absent".*
- Employed in tourism are considered those employed in the category 'Accommodation and Food Service Activities'. Although a part of food services does not relate to tourism, the seasonality demonstrated by employment data in this sector correlates with the seasonality of Greek tourism, and, therefore, justifies including this activity in the tourism sector. On the other hand, other sectors (e.g. transport) are not included. Although these may not be considered as 100% tourism activities, a large part of them relates to tourism.

Employed in tourism and in the other sectors



The drop in tourism employment after 2009 was more contained compared to other sectors, while its recovery came more quickly (2014Q1 as opposed to 2015Q2) and was much steeper (see also next slide).

Employed in tourism and in the other sectors – annual % change

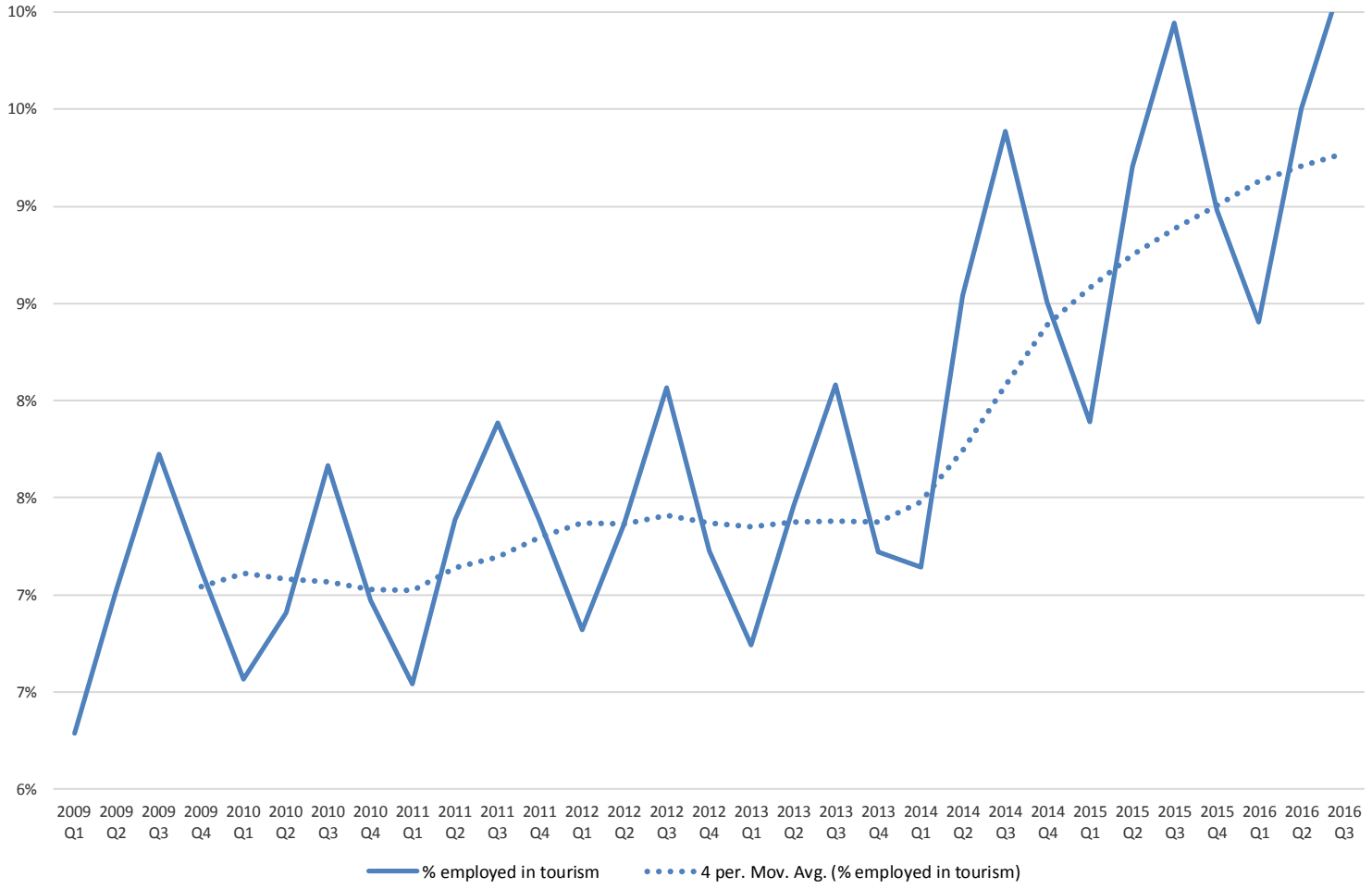


Employment in tourism has been recovering since 2014Q1, with quite high rates in fact, following the high growth rates of incoming tourism:

- 2014: +23.0% in arrivals & +10.2% in revenues
- 2015: +7.6% in arrivals & +5.5% in revenues
- 2016 Jan-Sept: +3.5% in arrivals & -5.5% in revenues

The increase in tourism employment exceeds the increase in revenues and is in step with the increase in arrivals.

10% of employed persons are in tourism



As a result of these developments, the individuals working in tourism are close to 10% of the labour force during the low season and exceed it during the high season.

The gradual increase in tourism employees as a % of total until 2013 was due to the fact that the drop in tourism employment had been lower compared to other sectors. However, the rapid increase of the same % after 2014 is due to the very large increase in tourism employment after 2014Q1.

Tourism is a key pillar for employment

Top 5 Sectors of the Economy based on Employment	2016Q3
Wholesale and Retail Trade; repairs of motor vehicles and motorcycles	17.8%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	12.2%
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	10.2%
Manufacturing	9.5%
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	8.9%

Percentage contribution of tourism in employment in the 3 main island destinations	2016Q3
Ionian Islands	29.8%
South Aegean	27.5%
Crete	18.5%

During peak season, employment in tourism exceeds 10% of the labour force and is the third largest category, after employment in commerce and the primary sector. Manufacturing and the public sector are in 4th and 5th place.

Comparatively, in 2009Q3, tourism was in 6th place with 7.7%, behind the a.m. categories, as well as construction.

In the 3 island regions, which are also the top island destinations (Ionian, South Aegean, Crete), 18%-30% of the labour force are employed in tourism.

In addition, tourism employment averaged 9.3% of total employment over the last 4 quarters, almost as high as manufacturing (9.4%) and higher than the public sector (9%).

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