

31 May 2017

Tourist Movement on Borders Survey (FRONTUR) April 2017. Provisional data

Spain receives 7.1 million international tourists in April, an increase of 16.0% compared with the same month in 2016¹

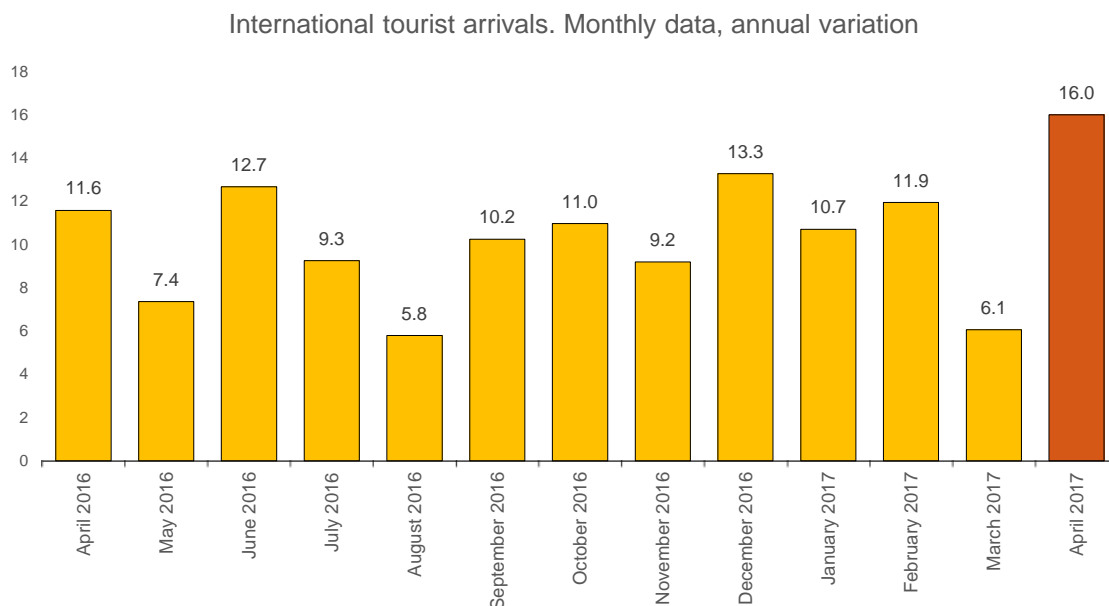
Spain received 7.1 million international tourists in April, 16.0% more than the same month in 2016.

The United Kingdom was the main issuing country with 1,523,135 tourists, accounting for 21.6% of the total and an increase of 7.0% as compared to April last year.

France and Germany were the following most important countries of residence of the tourists visiting Spain in April. From France we received 1,135,710 tourists (4.8% more in the annual rate) and from Germany we receive 1,118,527 tourists (29.1% more).

Of the other countries of residence, the annual growth is particularly noteworthy in tourists coming from the United States (63,4%), Portugal (48,3%) and Ireland (44,0%).

Given that in 2017 Holy Week is celebrated in April, while in 2016 it was held in March, it is convenient to analyse the aggregate period March-April. During that period there was an increase of 11.7% in the number of tourists, as compared with the same two-month period of 2016.



In the first four months of 2017 the number of tourists visiting Spain increased by 11.6% and reached 20.0 million.

¹ Given that in 2017 Holy Week is celebrated in April, while in 2016 it was held in March, it is convenient to analyse both months together.

The main issuing countries so far this year were the United Kingdom (with nearly 4.4 million tourists and an increase of 9.6% as compared to the first four months of 2016), Germany (with more than 2.8 million tourists and an increase of 11.2%) and France (with more than 2.8 million tourists and an increase of 6.9%).

International tourist arrivals ⁽¹⁾ by country of residence

	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	7,060,043	16.0	19,990,109	11.6
Germany	1,118,527	29.1	2,842,480	11.2
Belgium	217,760	24.5	580,486	5.6
France	1,135,710	4.8	2,818,439	6.9
Ireland	181,271	44.0	440,675	17.7
Italy	352,636	15.0	1,078,872	7.9
Netherlands	258,365	-19.6	773,395	0.4
Portugal	215,905	48.3	555,402	13.4
United Kingdom	1,523,135	7.0	4,360,189	9.6
Switzerland	218,488	42.5	546,506	33.9
Russia	67,173	22.5	223,385	17.1
Nordic Countries	478,114	19.5	1,722,272	5.1
Rest of Europe	424,195	13.3	1,386,680	13.5
United States	222,784	63.4	614,098	46.1
Rest of America	258,140	36.1	833,852	39.2
Rest of the world	387,842	17.5	1,213,380	12.2

(1) Not including travellers in transit or visitors staying only one day without overnight stay (excursionists).

Main destination by Autonomous Communities

Cataluña was the main destination for the tourists in April, with 24.5% of the total. It was followed by Canarias (17.8%) and Andalucía (14.8%).

More than 1.7 million tourists came to Cataluña, 16.8% more than in April last year. The main countries of residence of those visiting this community were France (30.3% of the total) and the Rest of the world (10.4%).

The number of tourists visiting Canarias increased by 17.8% standing near 1.3 million. 37.8% of these tourists came from the United Kingdom and 22.0% from Germany.

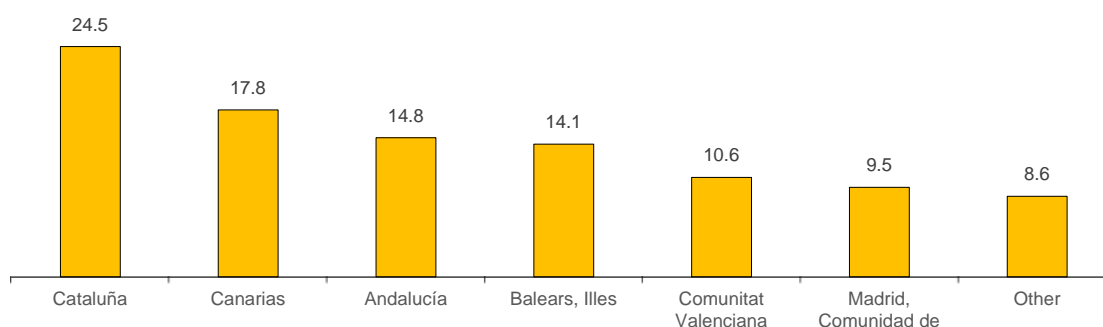
The third main Autonomous Community destination by number of tourists was Andalucía, with more than one million visitors and an annual growth of 8.2%. United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 25.9% of the total), followed by France (13.5%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities there were increases of 29.6% in Illes Balears, 16.4% in Comunitat Valenciana and 12.0% in Comunidad de Madrid.

In the accumulated of the first four months of 2017 the Autonomous Communities that received more tourists were Canarias (with more than 4.9 million and an increase of 9.4% as compared

to the same period of 2016), Cataluña (with more than 4.7 million and an increase of 8.4%) and Andalucía (with 2.9 million and an increase of 10.7%).

International tourist arrivals by main autonomous region of destination. Percentage of the total



International tourist arrivals by main autonomous community region of destination. Monthly and cumulative data

	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	7,060,043	16.0	19,990,109	11.6
Andalucía	1,046,849	8.2	2,876,170	10.7
Balears, Illes	998,425	29.6	1,593,527	11.5
Canarias	1,254,805	17.8	4,916,050	9.4
Cataluña	1,732,674	16.8	4,720,912	8.4
Comunitat Valenciana	748,536	16.4	2,107,966	17.7
Madrid, Comunidad de	673,234	12.0	2,084,797	21.9
Other	605,520	8.8	1,690,687	9.8

International tourist arrivals by main autonomous community of destination. Main country of residence

	First outbound country	% tourists	Second outbound country	% tourists
TOTAL	United Kingdom	21.6	France	16.1
Andalucía	United Kingdom	25.9	France	13.5
Balears, Illes	Germany	45.7	United Kingdom	19.7
Canarias	United Kingdom	37.8	Germany	22.0
Cataluña	France	30.3	Rest of the world	10.4
Comunitat Valenciana	United Kingdom	37.1	France	15.0
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	16.3	Rest of the world	14.3

Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in April came by air, with more than 5.7 million, representing an annual increase of 16.7%.

The number of tourists that came by road increased by 11.2% as compared with April 2016, port arrivals increased by 26.9% and those who came by railway did so by 39.4%.

International tourist arrivals according to form of access to Spain

	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute	Annual	Absolute	Annual
	value	change	value	change
TOTAL	7,060,043	16.0	19,990,109	11.6
Air transport	5,735,346	16.7	16,628,036	13.4
Motor vehicle	1,155,280	11.2	2,886,581	1.5
Train	32,752	39.4	87,794	8.1
Waterway	136,666	26.9	387,697	20.0

In April, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main accommodation type increased by 18.6% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 10.8%, and rented properties did so by 41.5%.

On the other hand Non-market accommodation increased by 7.8%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes increased by 8.4% and those staying in their own properties did so by 13.0%.

International tourist arrivals by means of accommodation

	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute	Annual	Absolute	Annual
	value	change	value	change
TOTAL	7,060,043	16.0	19,990,109	11.6
Rented accommodation ⁽²⁾	5,481,257	18.6	15,158,861	12.8
-Hotel accommodation	4,133,027	10.8	11,958,367	6.9
-Rental housing	943,009	41.5	2,237,804	38.0
-Rest rented accommodation	405,222	80.9	962,690	53.1
Non-rented accommodation	1,578,786	7.8	4,831,248	7.7
-Vacation home ownership	518,594	13.0	1,429,257	8.2
-Home of family or friends	934,902	8.4	2,948,799	10.3
-Rest non rented accommodation	125,290	-12.9	453,192	-7.3

(2) Two principal groups of accommodation are distinguished, depending on whether there has been a monetary transaction: market (paid accommodation; hotels, rented accommodation, camp sites, country houses and other market accommodation) and non-market (own home, relatives or friends' home or other non-market accommodation).

Main reason, duration of the stay and organisation of the trip

Leisure, recreation and holidays are the main reasons for the trip to Spain for almost 6.1 million tourists in April, which represented an annual increase of 23.0%.

353,623 tourists arrived for *Business and professional purposes* (23.0% less) and 655,285 arrived for *Other purposes* (7.2% less).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute	Annual	Absolute	Annual
	value	change	value	change
TOTAL	7,060,043	16.0	19,990,109	11.6
Leisure, vacations	6,051,136	23.0	16,570,891	17.1
Business and personal purposes	353,623	-23.0	1,463,602	-10.5
Other purposes	655,285	-7.2	1,955,616	-8.1

A stay of four to seven nights is the main length in April, with more than 3.8 million tourists and an annual increase of 19.8%.

The number of visitors increased by 12.1% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and by 11.6% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute	Annual	Absolute	Annual
	value	change	value	change
TOTAL	10,610,972	14.7	30,992,808	5.7
no night ⁽³⁾	3,550,929	12.1	11,002,699	-3.6
1 night	316,163	27.6	954,035	21.1
2 - 3 nights	1,183,870	7.2	3,956,167	21.4
4 - 7 nights	3,805,495	19.8	9,832,762	9.3
8 - 15 nights	1,428,715	12.9	3,817,044	4.9
More than 15 nights	325,800	11.6	1,430,101	15.8

(3) Excursionists.

In April, almost 5.1 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual increase of 14.5%. Almost two million visitors came with a tourist package, representing an increase of 20.1%.

International tourist arrivals by purchase a tourist package

	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute	Annual	Absolute	Annual
	value	change	value	change
TOTAL	7,060,043	16.0	19,990,109	11.6
No Tourist Package	5,086,171	14.5	14,446,759	12.3
Tourist Package	1,973,872	20.1	5,543,350	9.7

Methodological note

The main objective of the Survey of Tourist Movements at Borders (FRONTUR) is to monthly estimate the number of non-resident visitors in Spain that arrive to our country, whether tourists (with overnight stay) or excursionist (visitors without overnight stay), distinguishing between the different forms of access (road, airport, port and rail), as well as to know the main features of the trips made by those visitors (country of residence, main destination, type of accommodation and duration of the stay). For the creation of EGATUR the international definitions and recommendations of the UNWTO and EUROSTAT are followed in this matter.

Different administrative sources managed by different bodies and institutions are used as population frame.

The Directorate General of Traffic (DGT) provides information on the number and type of vehicles that cross the border by road. These DGT registers are complemented by a sample operation of Capacity, that allows to estimate the occupation of vehicles, according to the type and the car number plate nationality.

AENA facilitates the register of international flights operated in Spain, including the origin and destination airports, as well as the number of passengers.

State Ports provides information on the number of passengers boarded and landed in each Spanish port coming from a foreign port.

Finally, RENFE provides the complete list of trains that cross the border along with the number of passengers on the different international railway lines.

In the sample design, a series of stratum grouping border points, airports, ports or railway lines, respectively have been designed for each form of entry. In road and airport sample allocation, the day of the week in which the survey has been carried out is distinguished, discriminating between working days, weekends and holiday days. Furthermore, in airports 11 air relations are defined (origin Spanish airport-country of the destination airport) which determine as well the sample design in this form of access. The annual theoretical sample size of FRONTUR overcomes the 450,000 surveys, during the year, taking into account the seasonality of travel flows. Information is collected by direct interviews when the traveller leaves Spain, with an electronic multilingual questionnaire.

It has to be taken into account that estimates of FRONTUR are used as population to which data of the Survey on Touristic Expenditure (EGATUR), carried out by the INE too, is raised and that is compiled as subsample methodologically included in FRONTUR.

A press note is published monthly presenting the main results, along with a series of charts that include variation rates comparing the same month of the previous year.

On the INE web site a more complete tabulation plan, with the main aggregate series, as well as the microdata file of the reference month is available to users.