

30 June, 2017

**Statistics on Tourist Movement on Borders (FRONTUR)**  
 May 2017. *Provisional data*

**Spain receives 7.9 million international tourists in May, an increase of 11,7% more, compared with the same month in 2016**

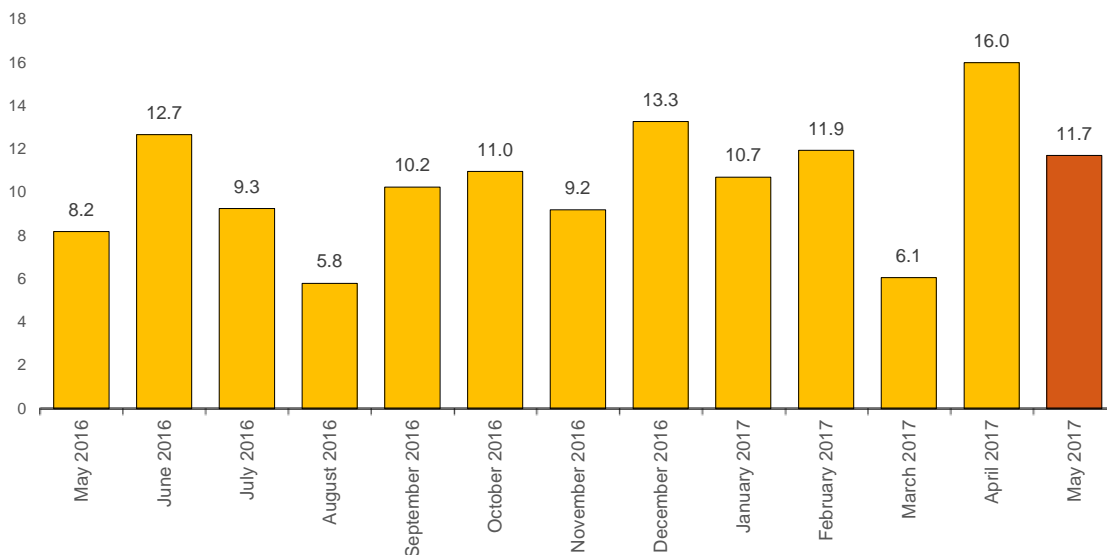
Spain receives in May the visit of 7.9 million international tourist, 11.7% more than in the same month in 2016.

The United Kingdom is the main country of residence, with 2,044,771 tourists, which represent 25.7% of the total and an increment of 14.0% when compared with last year.

France and Germany were the following most important countries of residence of the tourists visiting Spain in May. Germany provided 1,191,212 tourists (0.1% less in the annual rate) and France 1,062,572 (0.2% more).

Among the rest of the countries of residence it is worth pointing out the annual growth of tourist from the United States (43.2%), Ireland (20.1%) and Italy (13.2%).

International tourist arrivals. Monthly data, annual variation



**In the first four months of 2017** the number of tourists visiting Spain increased by 11.6% and is close to 28 million.

The main issuing countries so far this year were the United Kingdom (with nearly 6.4 million tourists and an increase of 10.9% as compared to the first four months of 2016), Germany (with more than 4.0 million tourists and an increase of 7.6%) and France (with more than 3.9 million tourists and an increase of 5.0%).

### International tourist arrivals <sup>(1)</sup> by country of residence

	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,943,825</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>27,933,933</b>	<b>11.6</b>
Germany	1,191,212	-0.1	4,033,691	7.6
Belgium	227,988	12.9	808,473	7.6
France	1,062,572	0.2	3,881,011	5.0
Ireland	226,498	20.1	667,173	18.5
Italy	362,030	13.2	1,440,902	9.2
Netherlands	419,947	10.3	1,193,342	3.7
Portugal	130,567	-5.1	685,969	9.3
United Kingdom	2,044,771	14.0	6,404,960	10.9
Switzerland	172,663	12.5	719,169	28.1
Russia	81,699	4.7	305,084	13.5
Nordic Countries	498,490	38.8	2,220,762	11.1
Rest of Europe	494,838	14.3	1,881,517	13.7
United States	280,377	43.2	894,475	45.2
Rest of America	321,325	28.0	1,155,177	35.9
Rest of the world	428,849	17.4	1,642,229	13.5

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

### Main destination Autonomous Communities

Cataluña was the main destination for the tourists in May, with 23.8% of the total. It was followed by Illes Balears (21.6%) and Andalucía (14.7%).

More than 1.9 million tourists came to Cataluña, 16.2% more than in May last year. The main countries of residence of those visiting this community were France (25.0% of the total) and the United Kingdom (12.8%).

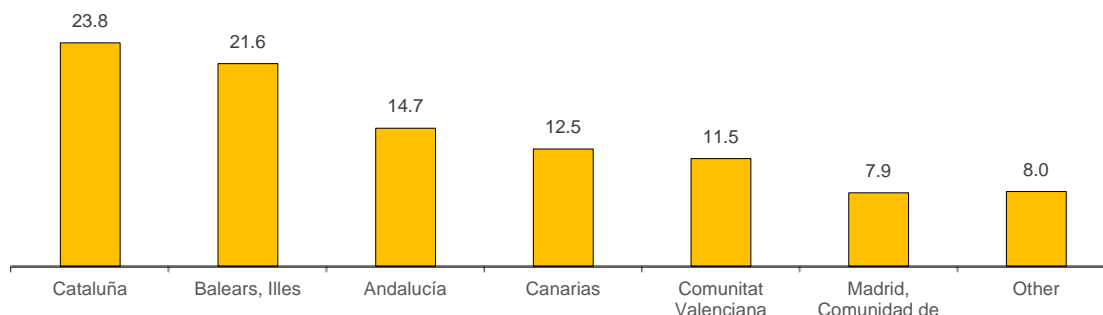
The number of tourists visiting Illes Balears increased by 6.4% and stood above 1.7 million. 35.1% of these tourists came from Germany and 31.6% from the United Kingdom.

The third main Autonomous Community destination by number of tourists was Andalucía, with about 1.2 visitors and an annual growth of 7.1%. The United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 29.4% of the total), followed by Nordic countries (12.3%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities there were increases of 18.9% in Comunitat Valenciana, 11.4% in Comunidad de Madrid and 10.5% in Canarias.

In the accumulated of the first five months of 2017 the Autonomous Communities that received more tourists were Cataluña (more than 6.6 million and an increase of 10.5% when compared with the same period of 2016), Canarias (with more than 5.9 million and an increase of 9.6%) and Andalucía (with more than 4.0 million and an increase of 9.6%).

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
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,943,825</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>27,933,933</b>	<b>11.6</b>
Andalucía	1,169,357	7.1	4,045,527	9.6
Balears, Illes	1,716,631	6.4	3,310,157	8.8
Canarias	993,249	10.5	5,909,300	9.6
Cataluña	1,893,942	16.2	6,614,854	10.5
Comunitat Valenciana	912,121	18.9	3,020,087	18.0
Madrid, Comunidad de	623,637	11.4	2,708,433	19.3
Other	634,888	15.5	2,325,575	11.3

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

	First outbound country	% tourists	Second outbound country	% tourists
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>Germany</b>	<b>15.0</b>
Andalucía	United Kingdom	29.4	Nordic Countries	12.3
Balears, Illes	Germany	35.1	United Kingdom	31.6
Canarias	United Kingdom	44.2	Germany	21.0
Cataluña	France	25.0	United Kingdom	12.8
Comunitat Valenciana	United Kingdom	38.2	France	13.7
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	23.6	Rest of the world	12.9

### Ways of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in May came by air, with more than 6.6 million, representing an annual increase of 12.0%.

The number of tourists that came by road increased by 7.8% as compared with April 2016, port arrivals increased by 41.9%, while those who came by railway decreased by 7.0%.

### International tourist arrivals according to form of access to Spain

	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,943,825</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>27,933,933</b>	<b>11.6</b>
Air transport	6,617,473	12.0	23,245,509	13.0
Motor vehicle	1,155,225	7.8	4,041,806	3.2
Train	27,345	-7.0	115,139	4.1
Waterway	143,782	41.9	531,479	25.2

In May the number of tourists that chose market accommodation as the main accommodation type increased by 9.3% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 7.1%, and rented properties did so by 39.9%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation increased by 23.4%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes increased by 24.2% and those staying in their own properties by 19.0%.

### International tourist arrivals by means of accommodation

	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,943,825</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>27,933,933</b>	<b>11.6</b>
Rented accommodation <sup>(2)</sup>	6,424,745	9.3	21,583,606	11.7
-Hotel accommodation	5,275,802	7.1	17,234,168	7.0
-Rental housing	874,978	39.9	3,112,783	38.5
-Rest rented accommodation	273,965	-16.5	1,236,655	29.3
Non-rented accommodation	1,519,080	23.4	6,350,327	11.1
-Vacation home ownership	477,638	19.0	1,906,895	10.7
-Home of family or friends	919,730	24.2	3,868,529	13.3
-Rest non rented accommodation	121,712	36.2	574,903	-0.6

(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 6.9 million tourists in May, which represented an annual increase of 12.7%.

496,889 tourists arrived for *Business and professional purposes* (3.8% more) and 596,856 arrived for *Other purposes* (7.7% more).

### International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute	Annual	Absolute	Annual
	value	change	value	change
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,943,825</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>27,933,933</b>	<b>11.6</b>
<b>Leisure, vacations</b>	<b>6,850,080</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>23,420,971</b>	<b>15.8</b>
Business and personal purposes	496,889	3.8	1,960,491	-7.3
Other purposes	596,856	7.7	2,552,472	-4.9

A stay of four to seven nights is the main length in May among tourist, with more than 3.9 million tourists and an annual increase of 11.3%.

The number of visitors increased by 1.9% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and by 17.5% 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
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,304,216</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>42,297,024</b>	<b>6.4</b>
no night <sup>(4)</sup>	3,360,391	1.9	14,363,090	-2.3
1 night	370,357	47.4	1,324,393	27.5
2 - 3 nights	1,705,369	16.0	5,661,536	19.7
4 - 7 nights	3,941,951	11.3	13,774,712	9.9
8 - 15 nights	1,522,465	1.1	5,339,509	3.8
More than 15 nights	403,683	17.5	1,833,784	16.1

(3) Excursionists.

In May, almost 5.5 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual increase of 15.8%. More than 2.4 million came with a tourist package, with an increase of 3.5%.

### International tourist arrivals by purchase a tourist package

	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute	Annual	Absolute	Annual
	value	change	value	change
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,943,825</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>27,933,933</b>	<b>11.6</b>
No Tourist Package	5,511,379	15.8	19,958,138	13.2
Tourist Package	2,432,446	3.5	7,975,796	7.7

## 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 sub sample 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 micro data file of the reference month is available to users.