

02 July 2018

Statistics on Tourist Movement on Borders (FRONTUR)
May 2018. *Provisional data*

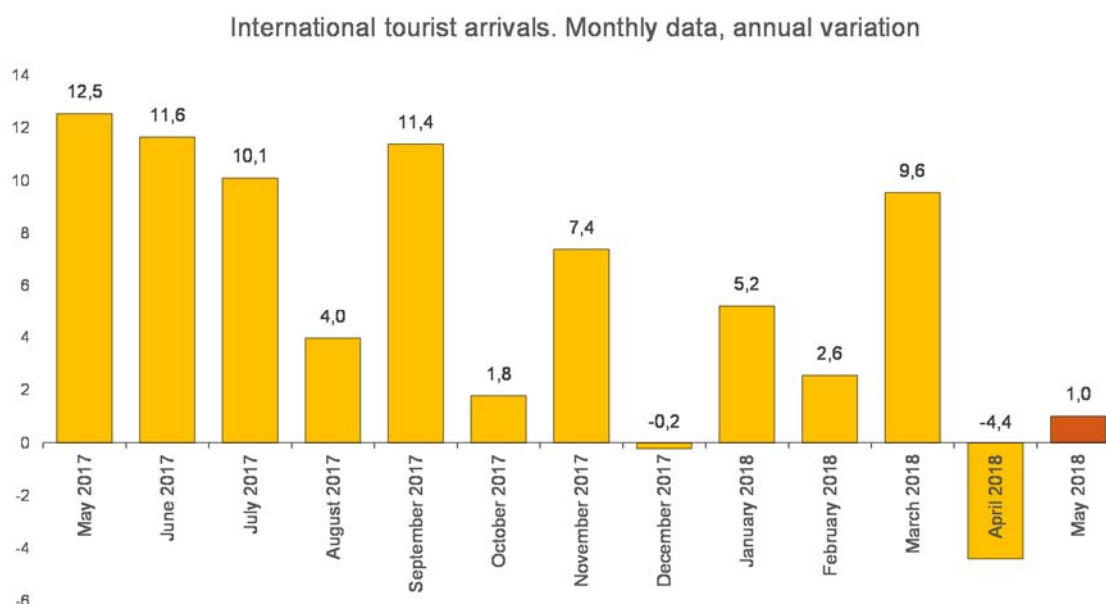
Spain receives 8.1 million international tourists in May, an increase of 1,0% more, compared with the same month of 2017

Spain receives in May the visit of 8.1 million international tourist, 1.0% more than in the same month of 2017.

The United Kingdom was the main issuing country with almost two million tourists, accounting for 24.6% of the total and a decrease of 3.9% compared to May last year.

Germany and France were the following countries with the highest number of tourists visiting Spain. Germany provided 1.2 million tourists (1.8% less in the annual rate) and France also nearly 1.2 million (6.9% more).

Among the other countries of residence, the annual growth was particularly noteworthy for tourists from Portugal (21.6%), the United States (12.3%) and Russia (10.4%).



In the first five months of 2018 the number of tourists visiting Spain increased by 2.0% to around 28.6 million.

The main issuing countries so far this year were the United Kingdom (with nearly 6.3 million tourists and a decrease of 2.3% as compared to the first five months of 2017), Germany (with

more than 3.9 million tourists and a decrease of 2.7%) and France (with more than 3.9 million tourists, 0.6% more).

International tourist arrivals ⁽¹⁾ by country of residence

May 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	8.084.173	1,0	28.573.668	2,0
Germany	1.169.122	-1,8	3.938.619	-2,7
Belgium	213.646	-6,9	869.746	7,5
France	1.155.138	6,9	3.920.981	0,6
Ireland	231.323	0,5	681.780	1,8
Italy	337.163	-7,7	1.455.878	0,9
Netherlands	447.869	6,3	1.327.752	8,9
Portugal	161.098	21,6	775.422	12,8
United Kingdom	1.984.847	-3,9	6.265.227	-2,3
Switzerland	190.741	10,1	652.662	-8,8
Russia	91.112	10,4	335.034	9,1
Nordic Countries	483.001	-2,6	2.294.724	3,4
Rest of Europe	548.630	10,7	2.022.055	6,8
United States	317.814	12,3	986.085	10,8
Rest of America	355.219	9,4	1.298.680	12,4
Rest of the world	397.451	-7,9	1.749.023	5,8

(1) It does not include 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 23.2% of the total. It was followed by Illes Balears (21.1%) and Andalucía (14.8%).

Almost 1.9 million tourists came to Cataluña, 2.4% less than in May last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were France (23.1% of the total) and Rest of Europe (12.1%).

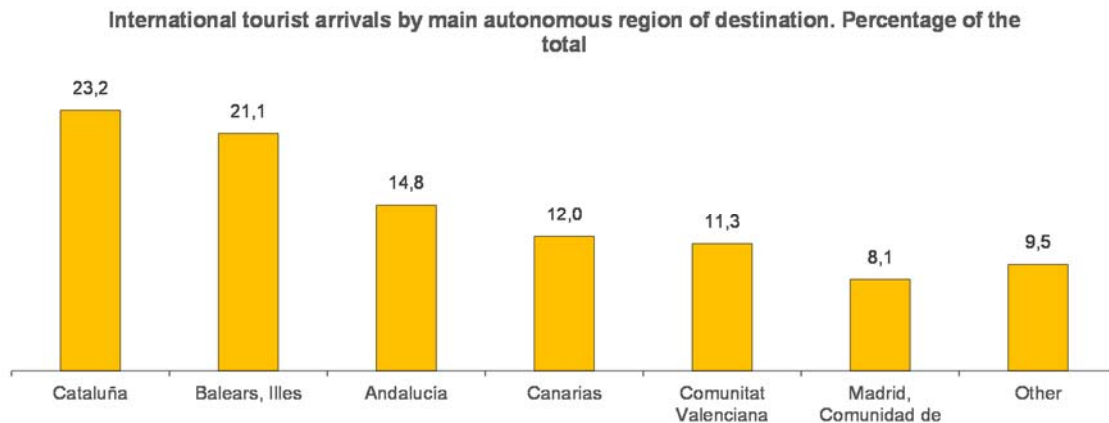
The number of tourists visiting Illes Balears decreased by 0.5% and exceeded 1.7 million. 35.4% of these tourists came from Germany and 27.5% from the United Kingdom.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Andalucía, with almost 1.2 million tourists and an annual growth of 1.8%. United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 30.1% of the total), followed by France (12.0%).

For the remaining Autonomous Communities, the number of tourists increased by 5.3% in Comunidad de Madrid. In turn, they fell by 0.6% in Comunitat Valenciana and by 2.6% in Canarias.

In the first five months of 2018 the Autonomous Communities that received the most tourists were Cataluña (with more than 6.5 million and a decrease of 2.1% as compared to the same

period of 2017), Canarias (with nearly 5.8 million and a decrease of 2.0%) and Andalucía (with more than 4.1 million and an increase of 2.4%).



International tourist arrivals by main Autonomous Community of destination. Monthly and cumulative data

May 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
	TOTAL	8.084.173	1,0	28.573.668
Andalucía	1.197.159	1,8	4.146.675	2,4
Balears, Illes	1.708.008	-0,5	3.311.857	0,0
Canarias	967.162	-2,6	5.794.154	-2,0
Cataluña	1.874.676	-2,4	6.529.377	-2,1
Comunitat Valenciana	913.713	-0,6	3.200.400	5,7
Madrid, Comunidad de	658.319	5,3	2.865.170	5,5
Other	765.135	17,5	2.726.035	16,3

International tourist arrivals by main Autonomous Community of destination. Main country of residence

May 2018	First outbound country	% tourists	Second outbound country	% tourists
	TOTAL	United Kingdom	24,6	Germany
Andalucía	United Kingdom	30,1	France	12,0
Balears, Illes	Germany	35,4	United Kingdom	27,5
Canarias	United Kingdom	44,2	Germany	19,2
Cataluña	France	23,1	Rest of Europe	12,1
Comunitat Valenciana	United Kingdom	35,9	France	12,4
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	22,5	United States	12,6

Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in May came by air, with nearly 6.7 million, representing an annual increase of 1.0%.

Tourists arriving by road increased by 4.0%, while those arriving by rail and by port decreased by 4.1% and 15.3%, respectively.

International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

May 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	8.084.173	1,0	28.573.668	2,0
Air transport	6.679.636	1,0	23.670.508	1,8
Motor vehicle	1.204.768	4,0	4.300.400	6,2
Train	26.314	-4,1	96.009	-16,6
Waterway	173.456	-15,3	506.752	-17,9

In May, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main type of accommodation increased by 2.1% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 0.6%, while rented dwellings fell by 0.4%.

In turn, non-market accommodation decreased by 3.5%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes decreased by 0.9% and those staying in their own property by 5.3%.

International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

May 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	8.084.173	1,0	28.573.668	2,0
Rented accommodation ⁽²⁾	6.564.901	2,1	22.221.627	2,3
-Hotel accommodation	5.277.447	0,6	17.787.556	2,3
-Rental housing	896.273	-0,4	3.065.751	-0,8
-Rest rented accommodation	391.180	38,6	1.368.319	9,2
Non-rented accommodation	1.519.272	-3,5	6.352.041	0,9
-Vacation home ownership	469.847	-5,3	1.907.195	0,8
-Home of family or friends	940.498	-0,9	3.926.086	2,4
-Rest non rented accommodation	108.927	-15,3	518.759	-8,5

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

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

In May, *Leisure, recreation, and holidays* were the main reasons for travelling to Spain for more than 7.1 million tourists, representing an annual increase of 3.6%.

A total of 422,077 tourists arrived for Business and professional reasons (14.6% less) and 515,143 arrived for Other reasons (16.0% less).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

May 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	8.084.173	1,0	28.573.668	2,0
Leisure, vacations	7.146.954	3,6	24.180.150	3,0
Business and personal purposes	422.077	-14,6	2.229.649	13,1
Other purposes	515.143	-16,0	2.163.869	-15,7

In May, the most frequent length of stay was four to seven nights, with almost 4.1 million tourists and an annual increase of 3.3%.

The number of visitors increased by 1.1% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and decreased by 8.4% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

May 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	11.556.409	1,0	43.157.698	1,7
no night ⁽⁴⁾	3.472.236	1,1	14.584.030	1,1
1 night	419.394	11,4	1.531.224	15,0
2 - 3 nights	1.576.410	-8,1	5.644.863	-0,9
4 - 7 nights	4.081.883	3,3	14.015.151	1,5
8 - 15 nights	1.618.661	5,5	5.491.284	2,8
More than 15 nights	387.825	-8,4	1.891.146	2,4

(3) Excursionists.

In May, more than 5.5 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual decrease of 0.5%. Almost 2.5 million visitors came with a tourist package, 4.5% more.

International tourist arrivals by type of organization

May 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	8.084.173	1,0	28.573.668	2,0
No Tourist Package	5.545.867	-0,5	20.367.690	2,0
Tourist Package	2.538.306	4,5	8.205.978	2,0

Methodological note

The main objective of the Tourist Movements on Borders Survey (FRONTUR) is to monthly estimate the number of non-residents 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 length of stay). For the preparation of FRONTUR the international definitions and recommendations of the UNWTO and EUROSTAT in this field are followed.

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 strata have been designed for each form of entry, grouping border points, airports, ports or railway lines, respectively. In the road and airport sample allocation, the day of the week in which the survey has been carried out is also distinguished, differentiating between working days, weekends and holidays. Furthermore, in airports 17 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 seasonal nature of the flow of travellers. Information is collected by direct interviews when the traveller leaves Spain, with an electronic multilingual questionnaire.

It should be noted that FRONTUR estimates are used as the population to which the data of the Tourist Expenditure Survey (EGATUR), also carried out by the INE, is raised and that is compiled as a subsample methodologically included in FRONTUR.

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

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

For further information see **INEbase**: www.ine.es/en/ Twitter: [@es_ine](https://twitter.com/es_ine)

All press releases at: www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa_en.htm

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