

Press Release

31 August 2017

Statistics on Tourist Movement on Borders (FRONTUR) July 2017 Provisional data

Spain receives 10.5 million international tourists in July, 10.1% more than in the same month of 2016

Spain received in July the visit of 10.5 million international tourists, 10.1% more than in the same month of 2016.

The United Kingdom was the main issuing country with 2,318,788 tourists, accounting for 22.1% of the total and an increase of 7.0% as compared to July last year.

France and Germany were the following most important countries of residence of tourists visiting Spain in July. From France we received 1,555,909 tourists (2.8% more in the annual rate) and from Germany we received 1,409,487 tourists (8.7% more).

Among other countries of residence, the annual growth is particularly noteworthy in tourists coming from Ireland (36,5%), Russia (23,9%) and Switzerland (17,7%).



International tourist arrivals. Monthly data, annual variation

In the first seven months of 2017 the number of tourists visiting Spain increased by 11.3%, accounting for nearly 46.9 million.

The main issuing countries so far this year were the United Kingdom (with more than 10.9 million tourists and an increase of 8.7% as compared to the first seven months of 2016), Germany (with nearly 6.9 million tourists and an increase of 9.4%) and France (with nearly 6.3 million tourists and an increase of 4.3%).

	Monthly data		Accumulated data		
	Absolute	Annual	Absolute	Annual	
	value	change	value	change	
TOTAL	10,510,531	10.1	46,876,541	11.3	
Germany	1,409,487	8.7	6,860,052	9.4	
Belgium	424,133	1.7	1,439,849	5.3	
France	1,555,909	2.8	6,296,954	4.3	
Ireland	304,031	36.5	1,232,991	22.3	
Italy	516,788	15.0	2,367,207	9.4	
Netherlands	565,723	11.3	2,109,710	7.3	
Portugal	266,749	12.4	1,145,064	7.7	
United Kingdom	2,318,788	7.0	10,900,134	8.7	
Switzerland	278,613	17.7	1,193,282	23.3	
Russia	186,244	23.9	640,684	16.4	
Nordic Countries	744,657	13.4	3,478,812	13.5	
Rest of Europe	723,760	20.1	3,160,873	14.0	
United States	321,575	16.8	1,566,059	34.4	
Rest of America	346,495	14.8	1,826,530	30.2	
Rest of the world	547,580	7.3	2,658,339	15.4	

International tourist arrivals ⁽¹⁾ by country of residence

(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 July, with 24.3% of the total. It was followed by Illes Balears (23.6%) and Andalucía (13.0%).

More than 2.5 million tourists came to Cataluña, 6.5% more than in July last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this community were France (23.4% of the total) and the United Kingdom (10.1%).

The number of tourists visiting Illes Balears increased by 5.3% and stood near 2.5 million. 29.0% of these tourists came from Germany and 27.5% from the United Kingdom.

The third main Autonomous Community destination by number of tourists was Andalucía, with almost 1.4 million and an annual growth of 12.5%. The United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 25.6% of the total), followed by Nordic countries (13.0%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities there were increases of 17.1% in Comunitat Valenciana, 14.8% in Comunidad de Madrid and 4.0% in Canarias.

In the accumulated of the first seven months of 2017 the Autonomous Communities that received more tourists were Cataluña (with almost 11.2 million and an increase of 9.4% as compared with the same period of 2016), Canarias (with more than 8.1 million and an increase of 8.8%) and Illes Balears (with nearly 7.9 million and an increase of 7.5%).



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	Annual	Absolute	Annual	
	value	change	value	change	
TOTAL	10,510,531	10.1	46,876,541	11.3	
Andalucía	1,363,115	12.5	6,574,775	10.3	
Balears, Illes	2,484,878	5.3	7,896,543	7.5	
Canarias	1,186,548	4.0	8,130,499	8.8	
Cataluña	2,551,286	6.5	11,195,851	9.4	
Comunitat Valenciana	1,218,863	17.1	5,112,798	18.1	
Madrid, Comunidad de	590,311	14.8	3,888,109	20.0	
Other	1,115,531	26.2	4,077,965	14.9	

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

	First	% tourists	Second	% tourists	
	outbound country		outbound country		
TOTAL	United Kingdom	22.1	France	14.8	
Andalucía	United Kingdom	25.6	Nordic Countries	13.0	
Balears, Illes	Germany	29.0	United Kingdom	27.5	
Canarias	United Kingdom	42.0	Germany	19.6	
Cataluña	France	23.4	United Kingdom	10.1	
Comunitat Valenciana	United Kingdom	29.3	France	19.3	
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	21.4	Rest of the world	14.6	

Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most of the tourists visiting Spain in July came by air, with almost 8.3 million, representing an annual increase of 12.1%.

The number of tourists that came by road increased by 1.6% as compared with July 2016, port arrivals increased by 30.4% and those who came by railway did so by 4.8%.

	Monthly data			Accumulated data		
	Absolute	Annual		Absolute	Annual	
	value	change		value	change	
TOTAL	10,510,531		10.1	46,876,541	11.3	
Air transport	8,256,014		12.1	38,719,136	12.5	
Motor vehicle	2,017,793		1.6	7,159,747	4.1	
Train	63,084		4.8	216,818	4.5	
Waterway	173,640	:	30.4	780,840	25.4	

International tourist arrivals according to form of access to Spain

In July, the number of tourists that chose market accommodation as the main accommodation type increased by 8.2% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 4.1%, and rented properties did so by 23.2%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation increased by 18.5%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes increased by 21.2% and those staying in their own properties did so by 10.4%.

	Monthly data		Accumulated	data
	Absolute	Annual	Absolute	Annual
	value	change	value	change
TOTAL	10,510,531	10.1	46,876,541	11.3
Rented accommodation ⁽²⁾	8,461,568	8.2	37,001,456	10.7
-Hotel accomodation	6,272,601	4.1	29,162,805	6.9
-Rental housing	1,506,088	23.2	5,601,597	30.8
-Rest rented accommodation	682,879	19.4	2,237,054	19.1
Non-rented accommodation	2,048,963	18.5	9,875,085	13.5
-Vacation home ownership	620,390	10.4	2,968,845	8.9
-Home of family or friends	1,228,856	21.2	6,038,463	16.6
-Rest non rented accommodation	199,717	31.2	867,778	9.5

International tourist arrivals by means of accommodation

(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

In July, *leisure, recreation and holidays* were the main reasons for the trip to Spain for more than 9.4 million tourists, representing an annual increase of 9.0%.

355,397 tourists arrived for *Business and professional purposes* (17.1% more) and 713,700 arrived for *Other purposes* (23.6% more).

	Monthly data			Accumulated data		
	Absolute	Annual		Absolute	Annual	
	value	change		value	change	
TOTAL	10,510,531		10.1	46,876,541		11.3
Leisure, vacations	9,441,434		9.0	40,264,828		13.5
Business and personal purposes	355,397		17.1	2,816,537		-1.5
Other purposes	713,700		23.6	3,795,176		0.4

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

In July, a stay of four to seven nights was the main length among tourists, with nearly 4.6 million tourists and an annual increase of 7.1%.

The number of visitors increased by 3.5% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and by 9.0% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

	Monthly data		Accumulated data		
	Absolute	Absolute Annual Al		Annual	
	value	change	value	change	
TOTAL	15,227,586	8.0	69,009,268	6.6	
no night ⁽³⁾	4,717,055	3.5	22,132,727	-2.0	
1 night	524,479	32.0	2,218,384	28.0	
2 - 3 nights	1,349,425	28.0	8,431,905	21.7	
4 - 7 nights	4,596,014	7.1	22,518,087	10.1	
8 - 15 nights	3,274,217	5.6	10,625,240	3.4	
More than 15 nights	766,395	9.0	3,082,926	12.4	

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

(3) Excursionists.

In July, almost 7.6 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual increase of 18.6%. More than 2.9 million came with a tourist package, with a decrease of 7.1%.

International tourist arrivals by purchase a tourist package

	Monthly data		Accumulated	Accumulated data		
	Absolute Annual A		Absolute	Annual		
	value	change	value	change		
TOTAL	10,510,531	10	.1 46,876,541	11.3		
No Tourist Package	7,587,577	18	.6 33,146,207	14.5		
Tourist Package	2,922,954	-7	.1 13,730,334	4.2		

Methodological note

Press Release

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

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