

29 September 2017

Statistics on Tourist Movement on Borders (FRONTUR)

August 2017. *Provisional data*

Spain receives 10.4 million international tourists in August, an increase of 4.0% as compared to the same month of 2016

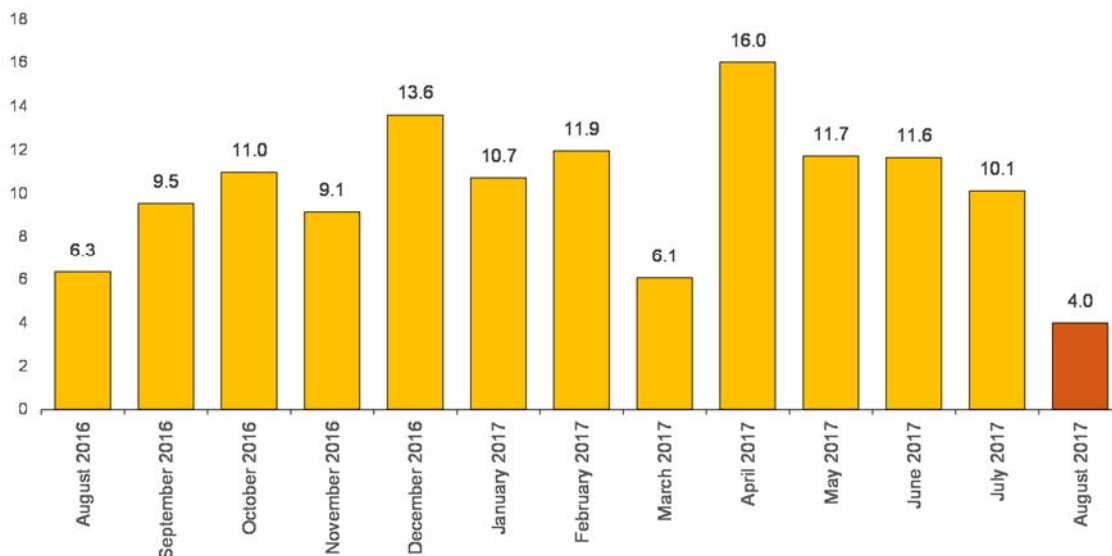
In August, Spain received 10.4 million international tourists, 4.0% more than in the same month of 2016.

The United Kingdom was the main country of residence, with 2,331,504 tourists, which represented 24.6% of the total and an increase of 3.7% as compared with August last year.

France and Germany were the following two countries of residence with the most tourists visiting Spain in August. 2,054,382 tourists came from France (5.4% less in the annual rate) and 1,321,051 tourists from Germany (3.3% less).

Among the other countries of residence, the annual growth was particularly noteworthy in tourists coming from Switzerland (34.0%), Nordic countries (29.2%) and the United States (23.4%).

International tourist arrivals. Monthly data, annual variation



In the first eight months of 2017 the number of tourists visiting Spain increased by 9.9% and exceeded 57.3 million.

The main issuing countries so far this year were the United Kingdom (with more than 13.2 million tourists and an increase of 7.8% as compared with the first eight months of 2016), France (with more than 8.4 million tourists and an increase of 1.8%) and Germany (with nearly 8.2 million tourists and an increase of 7.2%).

International tourist arrivals ⁽¹⁾ by country of residence

| | Monthly data | | Accumulated data | |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | Absolute value | Annual change | Absolute value | Annual change |
| TOTAL | 10,426,029 | 4.0 | 57,302,570 | 9.9 |
| Germany | 1,321,051 | -3.3 | 8,181,103 | 7.2 |
| Belgium | 303,989 | -3.5 | 1,743,838 | 3.6 |
| France | 2,054,382 | -5.4 | 8,351,336 | 1.8 |
| Ireland | 234,302 | 4.3 | 1,467,294 | 19.0 |
| Italy | 650,707 | -2.9 | 3,017,913 | 6.5 |
| Netherlands | 526,349 | 10.2 | 2,636,059 | 7.9 |
| Portugal | 343,592 | 11.4 | 1,488,656 | 8.6 |
| United Kingdom | 2,331,504 | 3.7 | 13,231,638 | 7.8 |
| Switzerland | 219,971 | 34.0 | 1,413,253 | 24.9 |
| Russia | 171,990 | 7.1 | 812,674 | 14.3 |
| Nordic Countries | 451,493 | 29.2 | 3,930,304 | 15.1 |
| Rest of Europe | 646,147 | 13.1 | 3,807,021 | 13.8 |
| United States | 230,231 | 23.4 | 1,796,291 | 32.9 |
| Rest of America | 304,813 | 15.1 | 2,131,343 | 27.8 |
| Rest of the world | 635,507 | 16.1 | 3,293,847 | 15.5 |

(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 tourist destination in August, with 24.6% of the total. It was followed by Illes Balears (22.6%) and Andalucía (13.8%).

Almost 2.6 million tourists came to Cataluña, 2.3% more than in August last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were France (29.4% of the total) and the United Kingdom (13.1%).

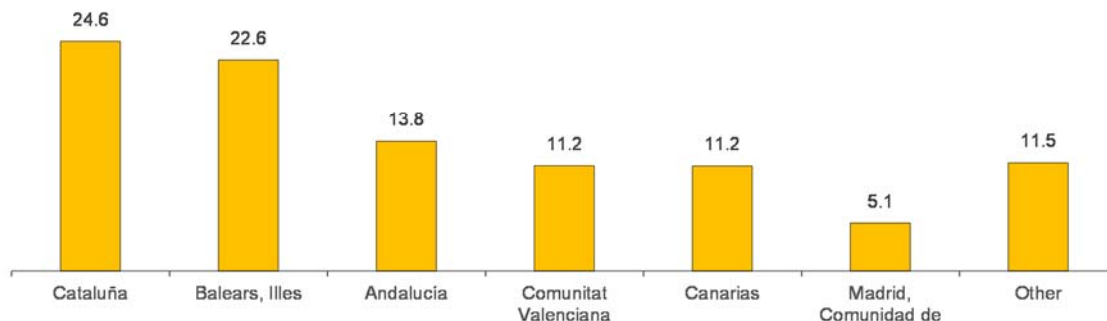
The number of tourists visiting Illes Balears increased by 2.6% and stood near 2.4 million. 27.9% of these tourists came from Germany and 27.2% from the United Kingdom.

The third main Autonomous Community destination by number of tourists was Andalucía, with more than 1.4 million visitors and an annual growth of 5.0%. The United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 25.6% of the total), followed by France (16.3%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities there were increases of 8.4% in Comunidad de Madrid, 4.9% in Canarias and 4.7% in Comunitat Valenciana.

In the accumulated first eight months of 2017 the Autonomous Communities that received more tourists were Cataluña (with almost 13.8 million and an increase of 8.0% as compared with the same period 2016), Illes Balears (with more than 10.2 million and an increase of 6.3%) and Canarias (with almost 9.3 million and a growth of 8.3%).

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 | 10,426,029 | 4.0 | 57,302,570 | 9.9 |
| Andalucía | 1,443,501 | 5.0 | 8,018,276 | 9.3 |
| Balears, Illes | 2,352,365 | 2.6 | 10,248,908 | 6.3 |
| Canarias | 1,165,967 | 4.9 | 9,296,466 | 8.3 |
| Cataluña | 2,559,865 | 2.3 | 13,755,716 | 8.0 |
| Comunitat Valenciana | 1,169,271 | 4.7 | 6,282,069 | 15.3 |
| Madrid, Comunidad de | 532,398 | 8.4 | 4,420,507 | 18.5 |
| Other | 1,202,662 | 5.6 | 5,280,626 | 12.6 |

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

| | First outbound country | % tourists | Second outbound country | % tourists |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| | TOTAL | United Kingdom | 22.4 | France |
| Andalucía | United Kingdom | 25.6 | France | 16.3 |
| Balears, Illes | Germany | 27.9 | United Kingdom | 27.2 |
| Canarias | United Kingdom | 42.7 | Germany | 18.4 |
| Cataluña | France | 29.4 | United Kingdom | 13.1 |
| Comunitat Valenciana | France | 28.3 | United Kingdom | 26.6 |
| Madrid, Comunidad de | Rest of America | 22.6 | Rest of the world | 16.8 |

Means of access and main type of accommodation

Most of the tourists visiting Spain in August came by air, with almost 7.7 million, representing an annual increase of 9.3%.

The number of tourists that came by road decreased by 7.5% as compared with August 2016, and port arrivals decreased by 15.3%. In turn, those who came by railway registered an 8.1% increase.

International tourist arrivals according to form of access to Spain

| | Monthly data | | Accumulated data | |
|---------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | Absolute value | Annual change | Absolute value | Annual change |
| TOTAL | 10,426,029 | 4.0 | 57,302,570 | 9.9 |
| Air transport | 7,658,347 | 9.3 | 46,377,483 | 12.0 |
| Motor vehicle | 2,327,260 | -7.5 | 9,487,006 | 1.0 |
| Train | 59,087 | 8.1 | 275,905 | 5.2 |
| Waterway | 381,336 | -15.3 | 1,162,175 | 8.3 |

In August, the number of tourists choosing rented accommodation as the main accommodation type increased by 5.4% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation increased by 3.3%, and rented properties did so by 5.6%.

In turn, non-rented accommodation decreased by 1.4%. The number of tourists staying with friends or family increased by 12.4% and those staying in their own properties decreased by 19.0%.

International tourist arrivals by means of accommodation

| | Monthly data | | Accumulated data | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | Absolute value | Annual change | Absolute value | Annual change |
| TOTAL | 10,426,029 | 4.0 | 57,302,570 | 9.9 |
| Rented accommodation ⁽²⁾ | 8,324,553 | 5.4 | 45,326,008 | 9.7 |
| -Hotel accommodation | 6,163,220 | 3.3 | 35,326,025 | 6.3 |
| -Rental housing | 1,453,503 | 5.6 | 7,055,100 | 24.7 |
| -Rest rented accommodation | 707,829 | 28.3 | 2,944,884 | 21.2 |
| Non-rented accommodation | 2,101,477 | -1.4 | 11,976,562 | 10.6 |
| -Vacation home ownership | 532,780 | -19.9 | 3,501,625 | 3.2 |
| -Home of family or friends | 1,362,491 | 12.4 | 7,400,954 | 15.8 |
| -Rest non rented accommodation | 206,205 | -19.0 | 1,073,983 | 2.6 |

(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 were the main reasons for travelling to Spain for more than 9.6 million tourists in August, which represented an annual increase of 3.5%.

166,174 tourists arrived for *Business and professional purposes* (35.8% more) and 637,559 arrived for *Other purposes* (4.8% more).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

| | Monthly data | | Accumulated data | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | Absolute value | Annual change | Absolute value | Annual change |
| TOTAL | 10,426,029 | 4.0 | 57,302,570 | 9.9 |
| Leisure, vacations | 9,622,296 | 3.5 | 49,887,125 | 11.4 |
| Business and personal purposes | 166,174 | 35.8 | 2,982,711 | 0.0 |
| Other purposes | 637,559 | 4.8 | 4,432,735 | 1.0 |

In August, a stay of four to seven nights was the main length of stay among tourists, with nearly 4.1 million tourists and an annual increase of 5.8%.

The number of visitors decreased by 3.5% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and increased by 2.3% among tourists with a longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

| | Monthly data | | Accumulated data | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | Absolute value | Annual change | Absolute value | Annual change |
| TOTAL | 15,960,973 | 1.2 | 84,970,241 | 5.6 |
| no night ⁽³⁾ | 5,534,943 | -3.5 | 27,667,671 | -2.3 |
| 1 night | 590,825 | -6.9 | 2,809,209 | 18.6 |
| 2 - 3 nights | 1,195,188 | 21.6 | 9,627,093 | 21.7 |
| 4 - 7 nights | 4,077,031 | 5.8 | 26,595,118 | 9.4 |
| 8 - 15 nights | 3,548,513 | -0.4 | 14,173,753 | 2.4 |
| More than 15 nights | 1,014,471 | 2.3 | 4,097,397 | 9.8 |

(3) Excursionists.

In August, almost 7.6 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual increase of 5.9%. More than 2.8 million came with a tourist package, with a decrease of 1.0%.

International tourist arrivals by purchase a tourist package

| | Monthly data | | Accumulated data | |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | Absolute value | Annual change | Absolute value | Annual change |
| TOTAL | 10,426,029 | 4.0 | 57,302,570 | 9.9 |
| No Tourist Package | 7,606,868 | 5.9 | 40,753,076 | 12.8 |
| Tourist Package | 2,819,161 | -1.0 | 16,549,495 | 3.3 |

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 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.

More information at **INEbase** – www.ine.es

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

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