

**30 November 2015****Survey of Tourist Movements at Borders (FRONTUR)**October 2015. *Preview data***Introduction**

The Royal Decrees 1085/2014, of 19th December, and 265/2015, of 10th April, establish the transfer to the INE throughout 2015 of the statistical operations of the National Statistical Plan conducted under the aegis of Turespaña, Survey of Tourist Movements at Borders (FRONTUR), Tourist Expenditure Survey (EGATUR) and the statistics on Spanish Tourist Movements (FAMILITUR).

This means that for the first time in the history of the national statistical system, the operations that make up the integrated system of tourism statistics will be practically entirely located within the INE, as the system's central body. The system is configured, on the one hand, around the supply statistics block made up of the Hotel and Tourist Accommodation Occupancy Surveys, as well as the set of structural and cyclical statistics from the service sector for typical tourism-related activities. And on the other around the demand operations block, which is currently incorporated within the INE for outbound and domestic tourism, as well as for inbound international tourism. The Tourism Satellite Account, also produced by the INE, provides the synthesis component, integrating the components of supply and demand for the closing balance of the various aggregates and indicators derived from them.

This will mean an improvement in terms of relevance and consistency of the information necessary for monitoring and analysis of this sector, which is vital to Spain's economy and society. In turn, an optimal setting is presented for the adaptation of the various operations to the latest best practice methodologies and international recommendations, and in particular to the EU legislation in this field.

According to the planned schedule, results have already been published for the first six months of 2015 for the FAMILITUR survey, which has been renamed Residents Tourism Survey (ETR/FAMILITUR) ([www.ine.es/en/](http://www.ine.es/en/)).

As regards the FRONTUR and EGATUR statistics, the corresponding results from the reference months up to September 2015 inclusive have been published by Turespaña (<http://estadisticas.tourspain.es/>), with these surveys having passed to the control of the INE, in accordance with the aforementioned Royal Decrees, from the reference month of October this year.

The first complete publication of results of the FRONTUR survey after the transfer of control to the INE will take place on 30th December 2015 and will include the results for the reference months of October and November 2015. Also, the results of EGATUR for the same two reference months will be published on 11th January 2016.

However, in order to provide basic indicators for the continuation of the cyclical statistical series in FRONTUR, a preview of the results is published today with an estimate of the main figures relating to tourist flows observed in the statistics for the reference period in October 2015.

For subsequent monthly periods, the publishing of full results will be performed with a delay relative to the reference month of approximately 30 days for FRONTUR and 36 days for EGATUR.

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### Sending countries

The United Kingdom, with more than 1.6 million (25.3% of the total), was established as the largest country of origin of tourists visiting Spain in October.

Germany ranked as the second-largest sending country (with 16.2% of the total), also providing over a million tourists during this period.

Meanwhile France accounted for about 15% of the total and about one million tourists (958,000), while Italy exceeded a quarter of a million tourists (270,000), representing 4.2%.

The remaining countries of residence exceeded 2.5 million tourists (39.7% of total).

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

#### FRONTUR Preview October 2015

	Monthly data		Cumulative data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,479,786</b>	<b>9.69</b>	<b>60,830,159</b>	<b>4.42</b>
Germany	1,048,281	0.75	9,322,732	-0.66
France	957,593	20.09	10,232,854	8.09
Italy	269,787	7.28	3,458,079	5.70
United Kingdom	1,641,310	12.10	14,324,715	4.05
Rest of the world	2,562,816	3.71	23,491,780	5.05

<sup>1</sup> Does not include transit travellers or visitors for one day

## Methodological note Series link

The INE has carried out an updating of the methodology of the FRONTUR survey, so its results are not directly comparable with the previous series published by Turespaña up to the reference month of September 2015. Consequently, it is necessary to create a statistical link in order to build homogeneous data sets.

The link aims to capture the statistical effects due to changes in design and other methodological changes in order to facilitate the obtaining of rates of change in the current month compared to the same month last year for the main aggregates regarding inbound tourism, as if the results for the two months had been collected using the same methodology.

Moreover, since the results for most of 2015 have been obtained with the old methodology, the main cumulative aggregates within the year, for October, November and December 2015 have been estimated based on this methodology. To this end, the forward rates of variation calculated with the new INE methodology are applied to the results from the same months of 2014 published by Turespaña.

From January 2016, monthly and accumulated monthly data within the year and their backward-chained interannual rates will be disseminated with calculations based on the new operational design run by the INE.

The description of the linking technique, as well as the new general methodology of FRONTUR and EGATUR and the changes with regard to the previous methodology, is available at [www.ine.es/en/](http://www.ine.es/en/).