

2 April 2020

Tourist Movement on Borders Survey (FRONTUR)
February 2020. *Provisional data*

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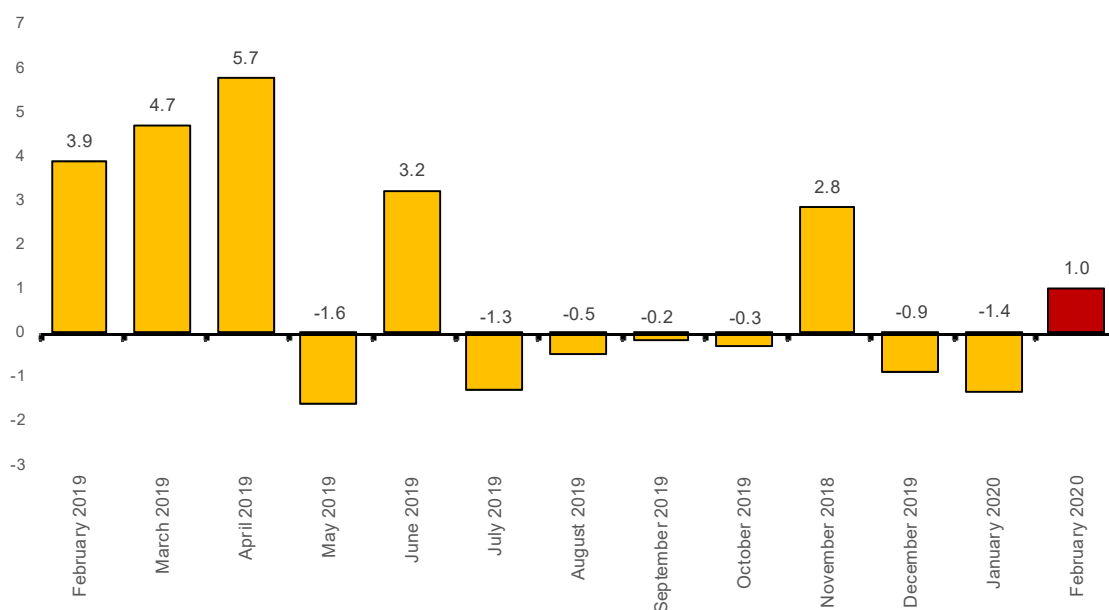
The United Kingdom was the main country of residence, with 907,321 tourist, accounting for 20.5% of the total and an increase of 2.4% as compared to February last year.

France and Germany were the following countries with the most tourists visiting Spain. From France we receive 580,121 tourists (2.3% more in the annual rate) and from Germany 542,495 tourists (1.0% less in the annual rate).

Among the other countries of residence, the annual growth was particularly noteworthy in tourists coming from Portugal (21.1%), Netherlands (19.4%) and Belgium (8.1%). It is also worth noting the decrease in tourists residing in the rest of the world (with a drop of 11.8%) and especially residents of China (59.1% less).

International tourist arrivals.

Monthly data, annual variation



In the first two months of 2020 the number of tourists visiting Spain decreased by 0.2% and reached 8.6 million.

The main sending countries so far this year were the United Kingdom (more than 1.6 million tourists and a decrease of 4.0% as compared to the first two months of 2019), France (with almost 1.1 million, and an increase of 4.7%) and Germany (with more than 1.0 million tourists, 2.8% less).

International tourist arrivals (*) by country of residence

February 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,423,576	1.0	8,561,947	-0.2
Germany	542,495	-1.0	1,036,206	-2.8
Belgium	132,630	8.1	251,618	3.5
France	580,121	2.3	1,060,485	4.7
Ireland	96,032	6.0	181,407	0.7
Italy	249,262	-5.5	482,851	-5.2
Netherlands	201,503	19.4	364,833	13.6
Portugal	175,949	21.1	306,354	6.8
United Kingdom	907,321	2.4	1,625,569	-4.0
Switzerland	85,080	-4.3	161,290	-3.4
Russia	46,502	-6.9	110,764	-5.0
Nordic Countries	393,432	0.1	735,549	-4.6
Rest of Europe	368,760	-6.5	732,499	-4.1
United States	123,694	-8.1	265,974	-6.1
Rest of America	237,255	14.9	543,108	17.7
Rest of the world	283,539	-11.8	703,441	0.4

(*):does not include transit travellers or same-day visitors.

Main destination Autonomous Communities

Canarias was the main tourist destination in February, with 26.5% of the total. It was followed by Cataluña (21.8%) and Andalucía (14.1%).

Almost 1.2 million tourists came to Canarias, 0.8% less than in February last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were the United Kingdom (32.0% of the total) and Nordic Countries (20.2%).

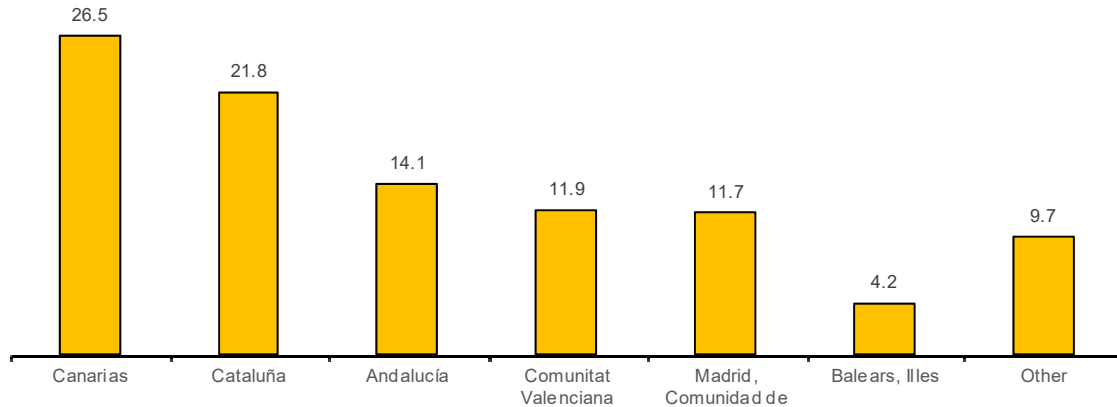
The number of tourists visiting Cataluña decreased by 6.4% and stood nearly 1.0 million. 24.7% of these tourists came from France and 12.8% from Rest of Europe.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Andalucía, with 625,033 tourists and an annual decrease of 0.3%. The United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 25.0% of the total), followed by Nordic Countries (10.5%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities the number of tourists increased, by 15.1% in Comunitat Valenciana, and by 3.8% in Comunidad de Madrid and by 0.7% in Illes Balears.

In the accumulated first two months of 2020, the Autonomous Communities that received the most tourists were Canarias (with nearly 2.3 million and a decrease of 2.8% as compared with the same period in 2019), Cataluña (with over 1.8 million and a decrease of 5.5%) and Andalucía (with more than 1.2 million, and 2.5% more).

International tourist arrivals by main autonomous region of destination.
Percentage of the total



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

February 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,423,576	1.0	8,561,947	-0.2
Andalucía	625,033	-0.3	1,231,223	2.5
Balears, Illes	185,550	0.7	289,452	-11.3
Canarias	1,170,610	-0.8	2,271,833	-2.8
Cataluña	964,706	-6.4	1,833,874	-5.5
Comunitat Valenciana	528,440	15.1	962,645	10.3
Madrid, Comunidad de	518,261	3.8	1,129,682	4.3
Other	430,976	7.6	843,238	3.8

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

February 2020	First outbound country	% tourists	Second outbound country	% tourists
	TOTAL	United Kingdom	20.5	France
Andalucía	United Kingdom	25.0	Nordic Countries	10.5
Balears, Illes	Germany	60.7	United Kingdom	10.4
Canarias	United Kingdom	32.0	Nordic Countries	20.2
Cataluña	France	24.7	Rest of Europe	12.8
Comunitat Valenciana	United Kingdom	31.8	France	14.3
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	19.2	Rest of the world	15.4

Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in February came by air, with more than 3.7 million, representing an annual increase of 1.3%.

Road entries accounted for 2.1% less tourists and port arrivals had an increase of 17.8%. Railway access registered a 12.2% increase.

International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

February 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,423,576	1.0	8,561,947	-0.2
Air transport	3,703,657	1.3	7,146,477	-0.8
Motor vehicle	648,951	-2.1	1,227,039	2.0
Train	18,047	12.2	31,656	5.8
Waterway	52,921	17.8	156,775	15.0

In February, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main type of accommodation increased by 7.0% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 9.1%, while rented dwellings grew by 12.2%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation decreased by 19.5%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes decreased by 18.8% and that of those staying in their own dwelling did so by 17.2%.

International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

February 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,423,576	1.0	8,561,947	-0.2
Rented accommodation ^(*)	3,628,441	7.0	6,783,856	5.9
-Hotel accommodation	2,974,575	9.1	5,567,342	7.5
-Rental housing	474,743	12.2	870,230	9.0
-Rest rented accommodation	179,123	-25.9	346,284	-19.0
Non-rented accommodation	795,135	-19.5	1,778,091	-18.0
-Vacation home ownership	235,767	-17.2	499,162	-16.3
-Home of family or friends	497,667	-18.8	1,154,076	-19.1
-Rest non rented accommodation	61,701	-31.8	124,852	-14.1

(*): 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, length of stay and organisation of the trip

In February, *Leisure, recreation, and holidays* were the main reasons for travelling to Spain for more than 3.6 million tourists, representing an annual increase of 2.7%.

A total of 369,648 tourists arrived for *Business and professional reasons* (13.3% less) and 405,926 arrived for *Other reasons* (0.6% more).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

February 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,423,576	1.0	8,561,947	-0.2
Leisure, vacations	3,648,002	2.7	7,029,622	0.6
Business and professional purposes	369,648	-13.3	739,511	-3.8
Other purposes	405,926	0.6	792,814	-2.9

A stay of four to seven nights was the main length among tourists in February, with more than 2.2 million tourists and an annual increase of 6.1%.

The number of visitors increased by 5.3% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and increased by 0.2% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

February 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	7,166,067	2.6	14,038,323	2.0
no night ^(*)	2,742,491	5.3	5,476,375	5.5
1 night	244,998	-12.1	500,333	1.0
2 - 3 nights	957,946	-3.4	1,727,731	-5.9
4 - 7 nights	2,242,755	6.1	4,061,075	3.8
8 - 15 nights	673,047	-2.8	1,562,428	-3.5
More than 15 nights	304,830	0.2	710,381	-0.4

(*):Excursionists.

In February, more than 3.2 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual decrease of 2.2%. Almost 1.2 million tourists travelled with a tourist package, 10.8% more.

International tourist arrivals by type of organization

February 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,423,576	1.0	8,561,947	-0.2
No Tourist Package	3,230,325	-2.2	6,262,977	-4.2
Tourist Package	1,193,251	10.8	2,298,970	12.6

Revision and updating of data

Coinciding with today's publication, INE has updated the data corresponding to the month of February 2019. The results are available at INEBase.

Methodological note

The main objective of the Tourist Movement on Borders Survey (FRONTUR) is to estimate the number of non-residents visiting Spain on a monthly basis, as well as to know the main characteristics of the trips made by these visitors.

For the preparation of FRONTUR the international definitions and recommendations of the UNWTO and EUROSTAT in this field are followed.

Type of operation: continuous monthly statistics.

Population scope: this refers to non-residents in Spain who enter our country, whether or not they have stayed overnight, as well as those who pass through our country in transit.

Geographical scope: the entire national territory. The sample is collected at the main access points for non-resident travellers, both by road, airport, port and rail.

Reference period of the results: the month.

Sample size: the annual theoretical sample size of FRONTUR exceeds 450,000 surveys, which are distributed throughout the year, taking into account the seasonality of passenger flows.

Type of sampling: the sample design, a series of strata have been defined for each form of entry that group together 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 identified, differentiating between working days, weekends and holidays. Furthermore, in airports 21 air relations are defined (Spanish airport of origin-country of destination airport) which also determine the sample design in this form of access.

Collection method: information is collected by direct interview when the traveller leaves Spain, using a multilingual electronic questionnaire.

A more complete tabulation plan with the main series of aggregates, as well as the microdata file for the reference month, is available on the INE website. For more information you can access the methodology at:

http://www.ine.es/daco/daco42/frontur/frontur_egatur_metodologia.pdf

And the standardized methodological report at:

<http://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/es/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=16028>

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