

2 October 2020

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

Spain received 2.4 million international tourists in August, 75.9% less than in the same month of 2019

In the first eight months of 2020, 15.7 million tourists have visited Spain. Last year 58.1 million had done it

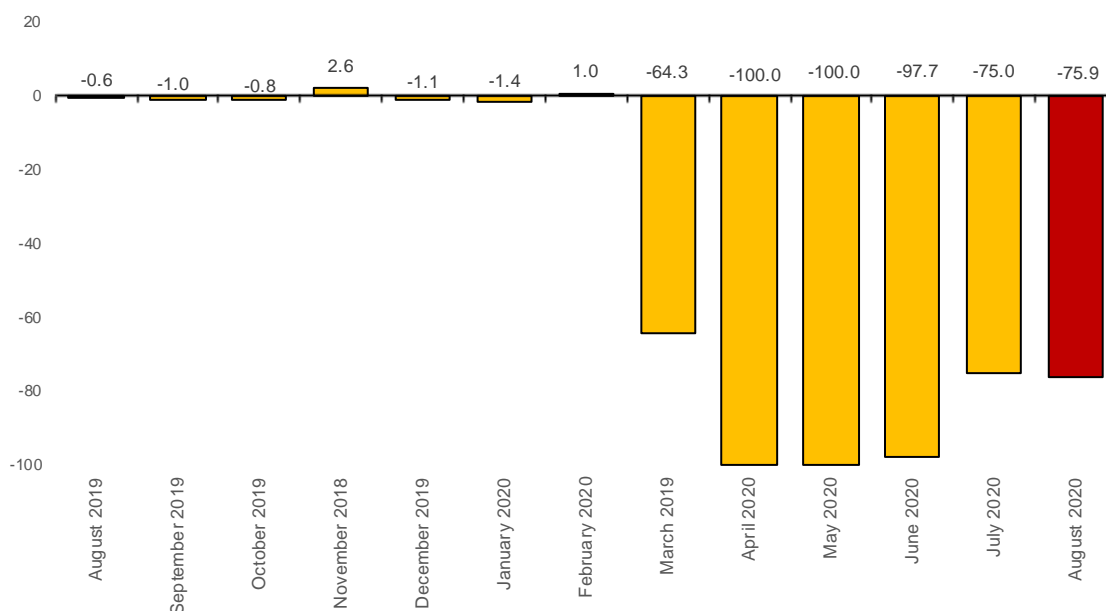
Spain received in August the visit of 2.4 million international tourists, 75.9% less than in the same month of 2019.

The France was the main country of residence, with 863,665 tourist, accounting for 35.4% of the total and a decrease of 57.2% as compared to August last year.

Germany and the United Kingdom were the following countries with the most tourists visiting Spain. From Germany we received 298,217 tourists (73.6% less in the annual rate) and from the United Kingdom almost 256,528 tourists (88.2% less in the annual rate).

International tourist arrivals.

Monthly data, annual variation



In the first eight months of 2020 the number of tourists visiting Spain decreased by 73.0% and reached 15.7 million.

The main sending countries so far this year were France (with nearly 2.9 million tourists and a decrease of 64.7% as compared to the first eight months of 2019), the United Kingdom (with almost 2.7 million, and a decrease of 78.9%) and Germany (with almost 2.1 million tourists, 73.0% less).

International tourist arrivals (*) by country of residence

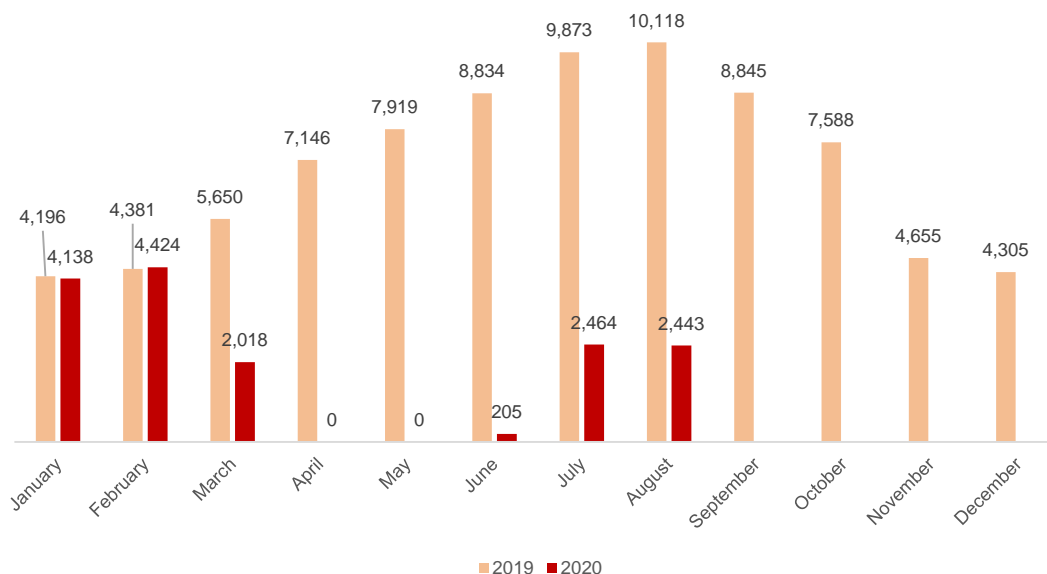
August 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	2,442,999	-75.9	15,692,636	-73.0
Germany	298,217	-73.6	2,078,327	-73.0
Belgium	119,284	-61.0	601,306	-66.7
France	863,665	-57.2	2,875,192	-64.7
Ireland	25,758	-90.4	277,770	-82.1
Italy	137,978	-79.4	804,800	-74.7
Netherlands	151,308	-66.7	813,425	-69.0
Portugal	112,767	-71.1	585,326	-66.3
United Kingdom	256,528	-88.2	2,665,571	-78.9
Switzerland	47,578	-75.8	333,999	-72.7
Nordic Countries	47,990	-87.7	1,046,796	-71.7
Rest of Europe (**)	237,165	-72.5	1,470,311	-72.6
United States	12,498	-95.4	377,487	-83.3
Rest of America	55,385	-84.0	789,977	-68.2
Rest of the world	76,879	-87.9	972,349	-73.9

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

(**) Includes estimate for Russia due to insufficient sample size for that country

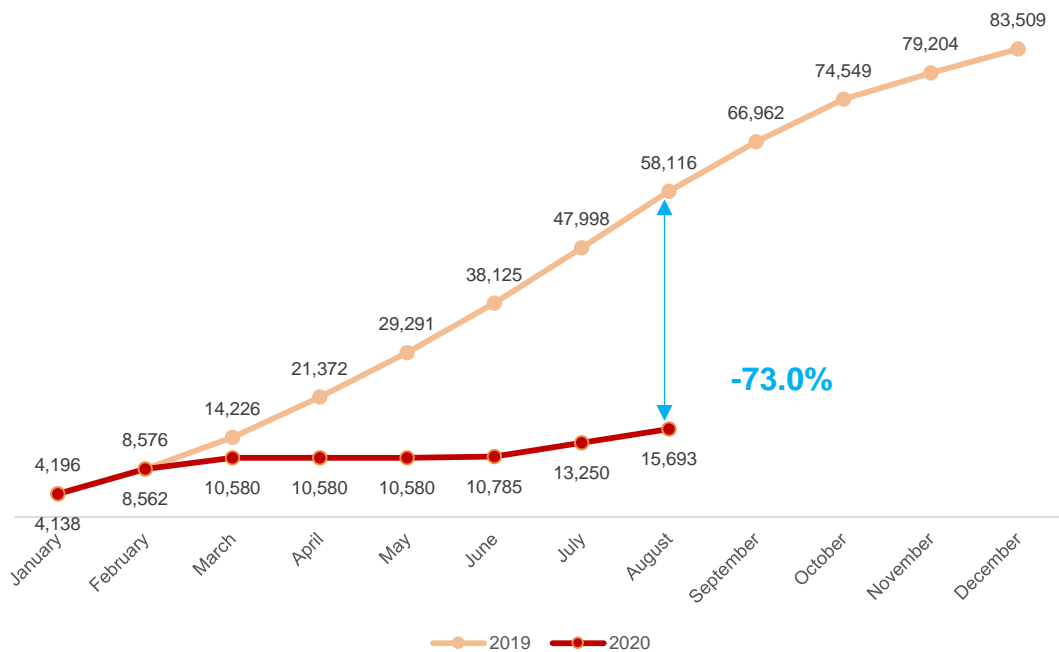
International tourist arrivals. Comparative 2019-2020*

Thousands



(*): Provisional data from January 2020

Accumulated international tourist arrivals. Comparative 2019-2020*
Thousands



(*):Provisional data from January 2020

Main destination Autonomous Communities

Cataluña was the main tourist destination in August, with 18.8% of the total. It was followed by Illes Balears (18.6%) and Comunitat Valenciana (17.6%).

459,271 tourists came to Cataluña, 80.6% less than in August last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were France (55.2% of the total) and Rest of Europe (14.6%).

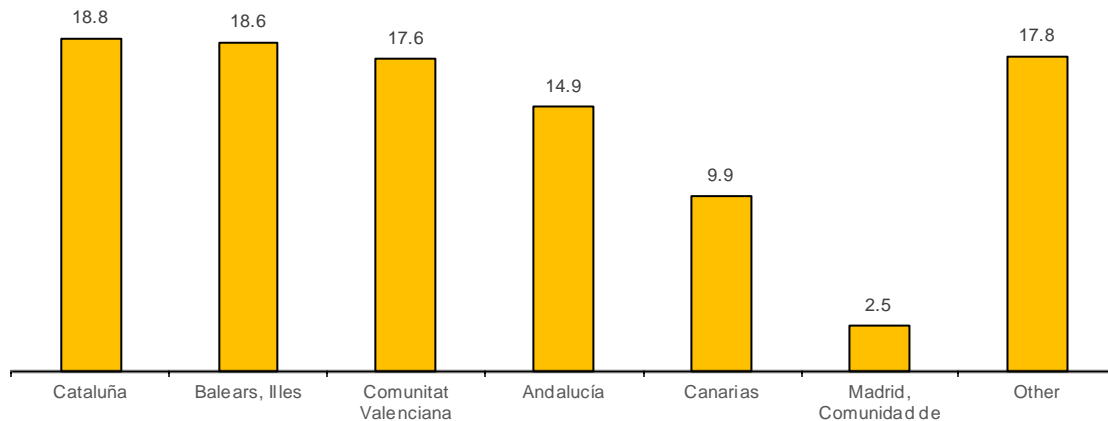
The number of tourists visiting Illes Balears decreased by 79.9% and stood 453,794. 30.9% of these tourists came from Germany and 16.2% from France.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Comunitat Valenciana, with 430,092 tourists and an annual decrease of 66.2%. France was the main country of origin (with 48% of the total), followed by the United Kingdom (11.6%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities the number of tourists decreased, by 74.1% in Andalucía. In turn, it fell by 76.9% in Canarias and by 88.8% in Comunidad de Madrid.

In the accumulated first eight months of 2020, the Autonomous Communities that received the most tourists were Cataluña (with over 3.2 million and a decrease of 76.5% as compared with the same period in 2019), Canarias (with nearly 3.2 million and a decrease of 63.2%) and Andalucía (with nearly 2.3 million, and 72.6% less).

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

August 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	2,442,999	-75.9	15,692,636	-73.0
Andalucía	364,111	-74.1	2,272,170	-72.6
Balears, Illes	453,794	-79.9	1,476,077	-85.4
Canarias	240,666	-76.9	3,190,246	-63.2
Cataluña	459,271	-80.6	3,213,205	-76.5
Comunitat Valenciana	430,092	-66.2	2,060,955	-69.0
Madrid, Comunidad de	60,816	-88.8	1,538,849	-69.4
Other	434,248	-65.0	1,941,135	-65.8

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

August 2020	First	% tourists	Second	% tourists
	outbound country		outbound country	
TOTAL	France	35.4	Germany	12.2
Andalucía	France	23.2	United Kingdom	18.3
Balears, Illes	Germany	30.9	France	16.2
Canarias	Germany	28.0	United Kingdom	18.8
Cataluña	France	55.2	Rest of Europe	14.6
Comunitat Valenciana	France	48.0	United Kingdom	11.6
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	37.4	France	17.0

Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in August came by air, with nearly 1.4 million, representing an annual decrease of 81.5%.

Road entries accounted for 53.4% less tourists and port arrivals had a decrease of 97.0%. Railway access registered a 81.0% decrease.

International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

August 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	2,442,999	-75.9	15,692,636	-73.0
Air transport	1,387,284	-81.5	11,820,440	-75.1
Motor vehicle	1,035,189	-53.4	3,579,730	-61.3
Train	10,992	-81.0	63,074	-75.9
Waterway	9,534	-97.0	229,392	-79.0

In August, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main type of accommodation decreased by 79.9% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation felt by 82%, while rented dwellings felt by 70.9%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation decreased by 55.7%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes decreased by 58.6% and that of those staying in their own dwelling did so by 50.0%.

International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

August 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	2,442,999	-75.9	15,692,636	-73.0
Rented accommodation ^(*)	1,700,456	-79.9	11,832,656	-75.0
-Hotel accommodation	1,189,791	-82.0	9,149,335	-75.9
-Rental housing	345,404	-70.9	1,882,998	-70.8
-Rest rented accommodation	165,262	-74.7	800,323	-73.9
Non-rented accommodation	742,543	-55.7	3,859,981	-63.9
-Vacation home ownership	262,295	-50.0	1,218,048	-64.9
-Home of family or friends	428,371	-58.6	2,364,774	-63.9
-Rest non rented accommodation	51,877	-55.6	277,159	-59.5

(*):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 August, *Leisure, recreation, and holidays* were the main reasons for travelling to Spain for almost 2.2 million tourists, representing an annual decrease of 77%.

A total of 45,725 tourists arrived for *Business and professional reasons* (75.5% less) and 227,973 arrived for *Other reasons* (52.5% less).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

August 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	2,442,999	-75.9	15,692,636	-73.0
Leisure, vacations	2,169,301	-77.0	13,155,724	-74.2
Business and professional purposes	45,725	-75.5	1,033,855	-70.0
Other purposes	227,973	-52.5	1,503,057	-58.5

A stay of four to seven nights was the main length among tourists in August, with 922,098 tourists and an annual decrease of 78.9%.

The number of visitors decreased by 51.7% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and decreased by 57.7% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay¹

August 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	5,357,681	-66.8	28,207,067	-67.8
no night ^(*)	2,914,682	-51.7	12,514,431	-57.4
1 night	157,353	-71.1	923,278	-67.3
2 - 3 nights	240,365	-78.2	2,750,332	-73.7
4 - 7 nights	922,098	-78.9	7,058,489	-74.5
8 - 15 nights	770,621	-76.4	3,454,340	-74.4
More than 15 nights	352,562	-57.7	1,506,197	-59.1

(*):Excursionists.

In August, more than 2.0 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual decrease of 72.8%. 412,091 tourists travelled with a tourist package, 84.4% less.

International tourist arrivals by type of organization

August 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	2,442,999	-75.9	15,692,636	-73.0
No Tourist Package	2,030,908	-72.8	12,129,246	-71.2
Tourist Package	412,091	-84.4	3,563,391	-77.7

Revision and updating of data

Coinciding with today's publication, INE has updated the Tourist Movement on Borders Survey data corresponding to the August-December 2019 period, which becomes final. The results are available at INEBase.

¹ It should be borne in mind that visitors are surveyed at the time of leaving the country, so some of these nights may have been enjoyed in a previous period.

Note regarding COVID-19's impact on the statistical operations FRONTUR and EGATUR in August 2020

The end of the state of alarm in force since March 17, 2020 has not meant the suppression of access controls to Spain through the different routes, so that, although since June 21 it is no longer in force, they have happened different orders that have restricted the free access of travelers to Spain. In the month of August, the current regulations, which to a large extent had already been established in the preceding months, are those collected by Order INT / 657/2020, of July 17, *by which the criteria for the application of a temporary restriction of non-essential trips from third countries to the European Union and Schengen associated countries are modified for reasons of public order and public health due to the health crisis caused by COVID-19.* (BOE n. 196, July 18), modified by Order INT / 734/2020, of July 30, (BOE n. 207, July 31) and Order INT / 805/2020, of August 28, (BOE n. 232, August 29).

These orders establish access restrictions from third countries, establishing a specific list of countries, whose residents are not affected by the restrictions. This list is being updated in different orders depending on the health evolution of the different countries.

Therefore, in determining the number of visitors estimated by the FRONTUR-EGATUR statistics, a series of restrictions consistent with the aforementioned orders have been taken into account.

These restrictions have been limited to the port and airport access routes, where visitors who access Spain from third countries outside the European Schengen area have not been considered, beyond the countries explicitly detailed in the orders mentioned above.

However, both the exceptions established by the aforementioned provisions and the way in which data collection is carried out determine that there are some aspects of the operation that must be taken into account in August, consistent with their treatment in the preceding months.

Citizens of Spanish nationality residing in other countries are allowed access to Spanish territory, even outside the list of countries mentioned above, as well as other travelers with justified cause that could be considered, in some cases, visitors. However, the small volume of these flows and the impossibility of their accurate characterization advise against their accounting.

Throughout the month of August the survey process has continued, despite the new conditions of access to the places where it occurs and the interviewees themselves, derived from the health crisis, have not yet allowed its full development, for what the possible difficulties derived from this fact are being solved with the usual sample complement mechanisms designed by the own methodology of this statistical operation.

Taking all these aspects into account, it has been possible to build, with sufficient guarantee, the usual monthly estimators and, therefore, **the INE considers that the data provided by the statistics of FRONTUR and EGATUR are of sufficient quality to be disseminated and used by regular users of these operations.**

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. It should be borne in mind that visitors are surveyed at the time of leaving the country, so the information collected may refer to a longer period than that of the reference month.

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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