

2 November 2020

Estadística de Movimientos Turísticos en Fronteras (FRONTUR)
September 2020. *Provisional data*

**Spain received 1.1 million international tourists in September,
87.1% less than in the same month of 2019**

**In the first nine months of 2020, 16.8 million tourists have visited
Spain. Last year 67.0 million had done it**

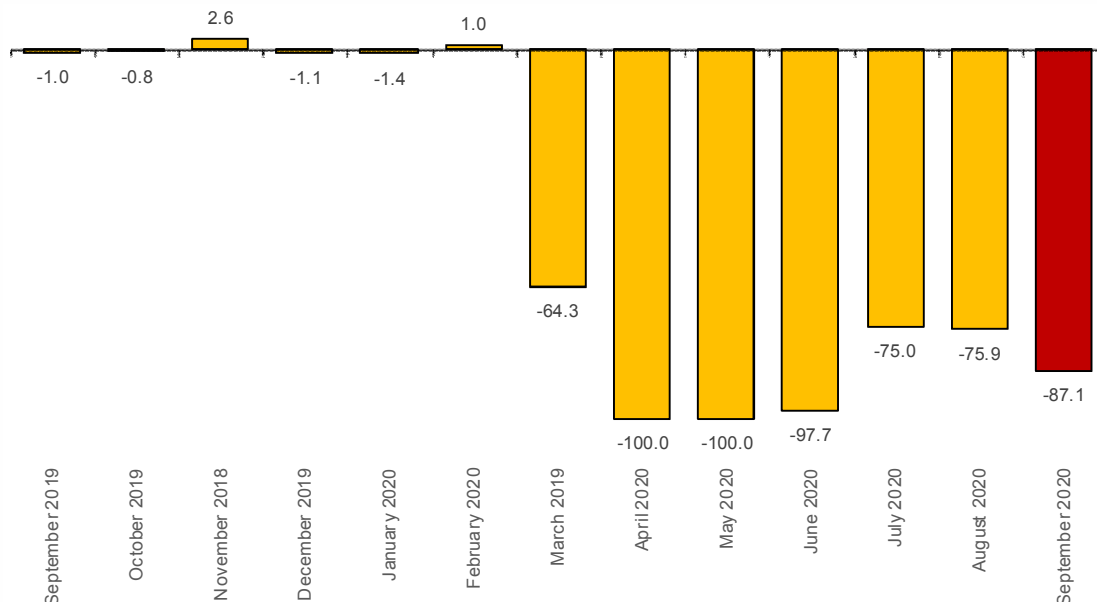
Spain received in September the visit of 1.1 million international tourists, 87.1% less than in the same month of 2019.

France was the main country of residence, with 389,773 tourist, accounting for 34.2% of the total and a decrease of 60.4% as compared to September last year.

The United Kingdom and Germany were the following countries with the most tourists visiting Spain. From the United Kingdom we received 161,899 tourists (92.3% less in the annual rate) and from Germany 90,495 tourists (92.8% less in the annual rate).

International tourist arrivals.

Monthly data, annual variation



In the first nine months of 2020 the number of tourists visiting Spain decreased by 74.9% and exceed 16.8 million.

The main sending countries so far this year were France (with nearly 3.3 million tourists and a decrease of 64.2% as compared to the first nine months of 2019), the United Kingdom (with

more than 2.8 million, and a decrease of 80.8%) and Germany (with almost 2.2 million tourists, 75.8% less).

International tourist arrivals (*) by country of residence

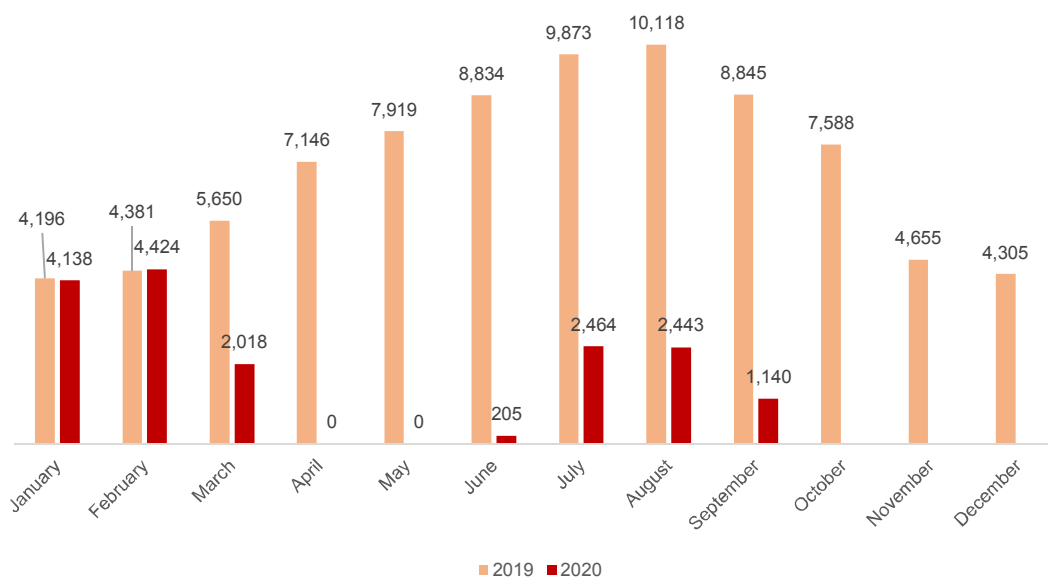
September 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	1.140.186	-87,1	16.832.823	-74,9
Germany	90.495	-92,8	2.168.822	-75,8
Belgium	39.983	-85,1	641.289	-69,1
France	389.773	-60,4	3.264.965	-64,2
Ireland	15.557	-93,9	293.327	-83,7
Italy	59.611	-86,2	864.411	-76,1
Netherlands	33.624	-91,0	847.050	-71,8
Portugal	69.967	-72,7	655.293	-67,1
United Kingdom	161.899	-92,3	2.827.471	-80,8
Switzerland	18.381	-90,8	352.380	-75,2
Nordic Countries	36.095	-92,5	1.082.891	-74,1
Rest of Europe (**)	135.662	-84,0	1.605.973	-74,2
United States	9.709	-97,3	387.197	-85,3
Rest of America	50.971	-88,0	840.949	-71,1
Rest of the world	28.457	-95,3	1.000.806	-76,8

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

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

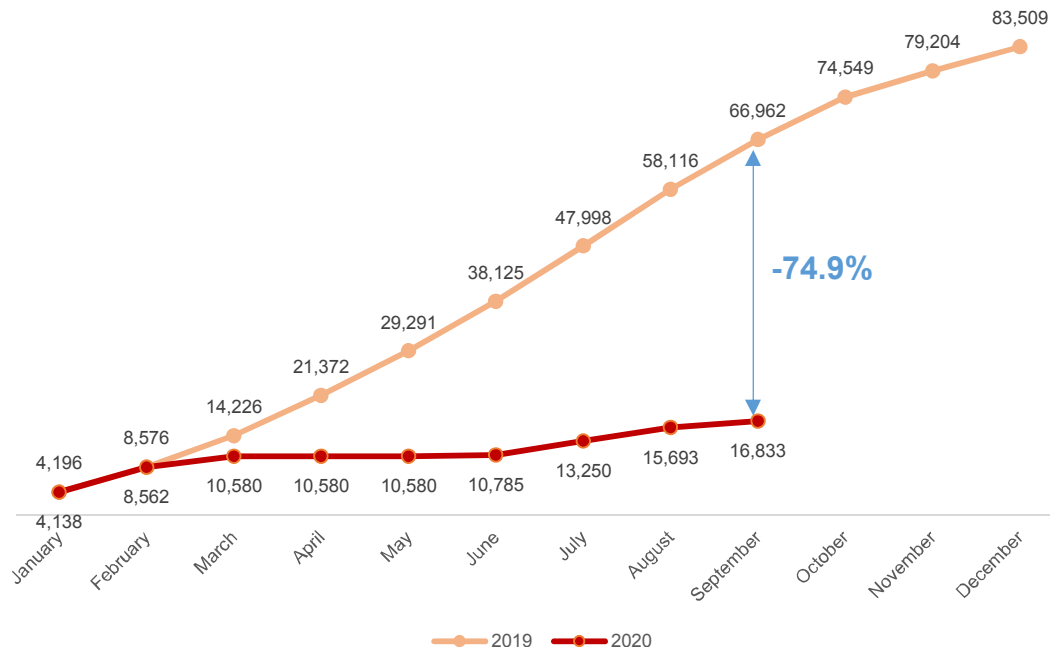
International tourist arrivals. Comparative 2019-2020*

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 September, with 24.2% of the total. It was followed by Comunitat Valenciana (16.2%) and Andalucía (15.7%).

276,064 tourists came to Cataluña, 86.3% less than in September last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were France (44.6% of the total) and Rest of Europe (23.9%).

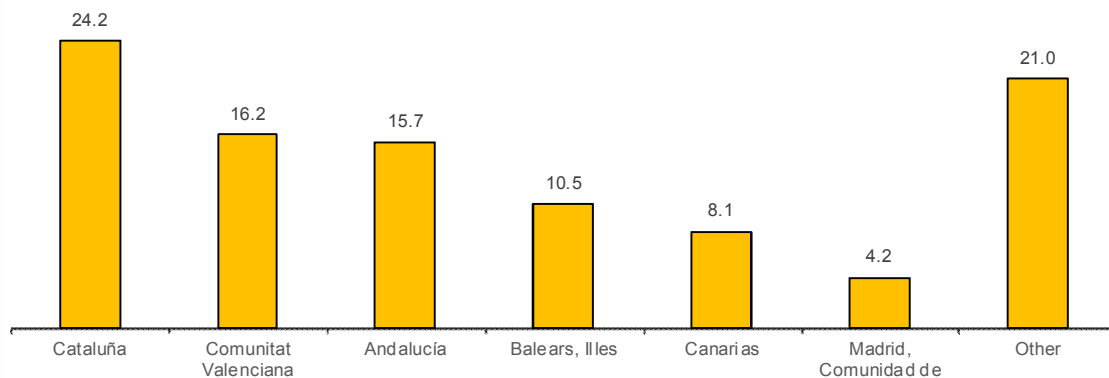
The number of tourists visiting Comunitat Valenciana decreased by 81.7% and stood 185,256. 42.5% of these tourists came from France and 19.5% from the United Kingdom.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Andalucía, with 179,214 tourists and an annual decrease of 87.0%. France was the main country of origin (with 28.5% of the total), followed by the United Kingdom (23.6%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities the number of tourists decreased, by 90.3% in Canarias, by 92.8% in Comunidad de Madrid and by 94.1% in Illes Balears.

In the accumulated first nine months of 2020, the Autonomous Communities that received the most tourists were Cataluña (with nearly 3.5 million and a decrease of 77.7% as compared with the same period in 2019), Canarias (with nearly 3.3 million and a decrease of 65.9%) and Andalucía (with nearly 2.5 million, and 74.6% 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

September 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	1,140,186	-87.1	16,832,823	-74.9
Andalucía	179,214	-87.0	2,451,384	-74.6
Balears, Illes	119,279	-94.1	1,595,355	-86.9
Canarias	92,586	-90.3	3,282,832	-65.9
Cataluña	276,064	-86.3	3,489,269	-77.7
Comunitat Valenciana	185,256	-81.7	2,246,211	-70.7
Madrid, Comunidad de	48,123	-92.8	1,586,972	-72.2
Other	239,664	-70.8	2,180,799	-66.4

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

September 2020	First outbound country	% tourists	Second outbound country	% tourists
TOTAL	France	34.2	United Kingdom	14.2
Andalucía	France	28.5	United Kingdom	23.6
Balears, Illes	Germany	23.8	United Kingdom	19.8
Canarias	United Kingdom	26.1	Rest of Europe	21.9
Cataluña	France	44.6	Rest of Europe	23.9
Comunitat Valenciana	France	42.5	United Kingdom	19.5
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	30.6	France	22.0

Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in September came by air, with 567,364, representing an annual decrease of 92.3%.

Road entries accounted for 52.9% less tourists and port arrivals had a decrease of 96.8%. Railway access registered a 79% decrease.

International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

September 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	1,140,186	-87.1	16,832,823	-74.9
Air transport	567,364	-92.3	12,387,805	-77.4
Motor vehicle	556,372	-52.9	4,136,102	-60.4
Train	7,185	-79.0	70,260	-76.3
Waterway	9,265	-96.8	238,657	-82.7

In September, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main type of accommodation decreased by 89.8% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation fell by 90.1%, while rented dwellings fell by 90.0%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation decreased by 72.2%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes decreased by 75.7% and that of those staying in their own dwelling did so by 66.3%.

International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

September 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	1,140,186	-87.1	16,832,823	-74.9
Rented accommodation ^(*)	762,011	-89.8	12,594,667	-77.1
-Hotel accommodation	602,756	-90.1	9,752,091	-77.8
-Rental housing	107,381	-90.0	1,990,380	-73.5
-Rest rented accommodation	51,874	-85.3	852,196	-75.1
Non-rented accommodation	378,175	-72.2	4,238,156	-64.9
-Vacation home ownership	141,608	-66.3	1,359,655	-65.1
-Home of family or friends	208,673	-75.7	2,573,447	-65.2
-Rest non rented accommodation	27,895	-67.0	305,054	-60.4

(*): 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 September, *Leisure, recreation, and holidays* were the main reasons for travelling to Spain for 902,098 tourists, representing an annual decrease of 88.6%.

A total of 74,545 tourists arrived for *Business and professional reasons* (85.5% less) and 163,543 arrived for *Other reasons* (57.4% less).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

September 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	1,140,186	-87.1	16,832,823	-74.9
Leisure, vacations	902,098	-88.6	14,057,823	-76.2
Business and professional purposes	74,545	-85.5	1,108,400	-72.0
Other purposes	163,543	-57.4	1,666,600	-58.4

A stay of four to seven nights was the main length among tourists in September, with 377,943 tourists and an annual decrease of 91.0%.

The number of visitors decreased by 51.3% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and decreased by 67.8% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay¹

September 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	3,016,661	-76.2	31,223,728	-68.8
no night ^(*)	1,876,475	-51.3	14,390,906	-56.7
1 night	142,633	-66.0	1,065,911	-67.1
2 - 3 nights	204,729	-86.7	2,955,061	-75.3
4 - 7 nights	377,943	-91.0	7,436,432	-76.7
8 - 15 nights	253,587	-88.4	3,707,927	-76.3
More than 15 nights	161,294	-67.8	1,667,491	-60.1

(*):Excursionists.

In September, more than 1.0 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual decrease of 83.5%. 105,904 tourists travelled with a tourist package, 95.9% less.

International tourist arrivals by type of organization

September 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	1,140,186	-87.1	16,832,823	-74.9
No Tourist Package	1,034,283	-83.5	13,163,528	-72.8
Tourist Package	105,904	-95.9	3,669,294	-80.2

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 September 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 September, 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), Order INT / 805/2020, of August 28, (BOE n. 232, August 29) and Order INT / 851/2020, of September 14, (BOE n. 247, September 16).

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 September, 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 September 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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