

3 February 2021

Estadística de Movimientos Turísticos en Fronteras (FRONTUR)
December 2020 and 2020 year. *Provisional data*

Spain received 648,669 tourists in December, 84.9% less than in the same month of 2019

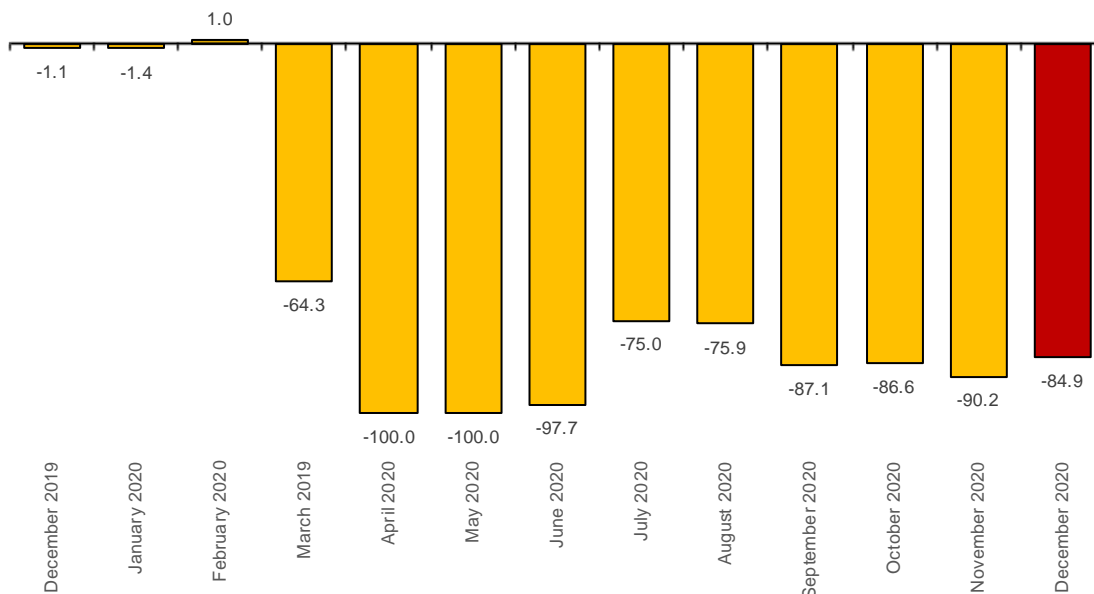
For 2020 as a whole, 19.0 million tourists visited Spain. Last year 83.5 million had done it

Spain received in December the visit of 648,669 international tourists, 84.9% less than in the same month of 2019.

France was the main country of residence, with 164,264 tourists, accounting for 25.3% of the total and a decrease of 70.3% as compared to December last year.

The United Kingdom and Germany were the following countries with the most tourists visiting Spain. From the United Kingdom we received 109,700 tourists (86.0% less in the annual rate) and from Germany 82,840 tourists (83.3% less in the annual rate).

International tourist arrivals.
Monthly data, annual variation



International tourist arrivals (*) by country of residence

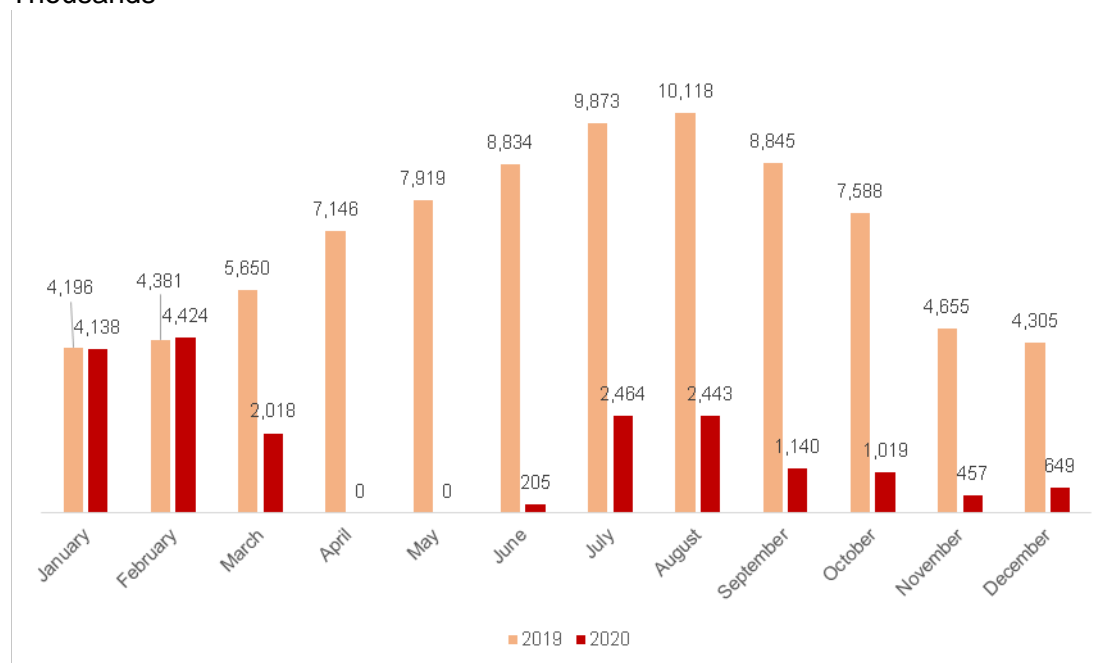
December 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	648,669	-84.9	18,957,856	-77.3
Germany	82,840	-83.3	2,410,492	-78.4
Belgium	37,958	-70.8	747,016	-70.4
France	164,264	-70.3	3,877,619	-65.2
Ireland	12,641	-84.9	329,759	-84.9
Italy	24,933	-91.8	948,389	-79.1
Netherlands	21,399	-86.9	922,797	-75.0
Portugal	32,733	-76.0	762,275	-68.6
United Kingdom	109,700	-86.0	3,173,861	-82.4
Switzerland	17,335	-80.5	398,925	-78.0
Nordic Countries	20,302	-94.4	1,172,711	-78.8
Rest of Europe (**)	71,063	-82.2	1,840,481	-76.3
United States	7,113	-95.9	407,437	-87.7
Rest of America	24,214	-89.8	913,921	-75.7
Rest of the world	22,174	-94.3	1,052,172	-81.4

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

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

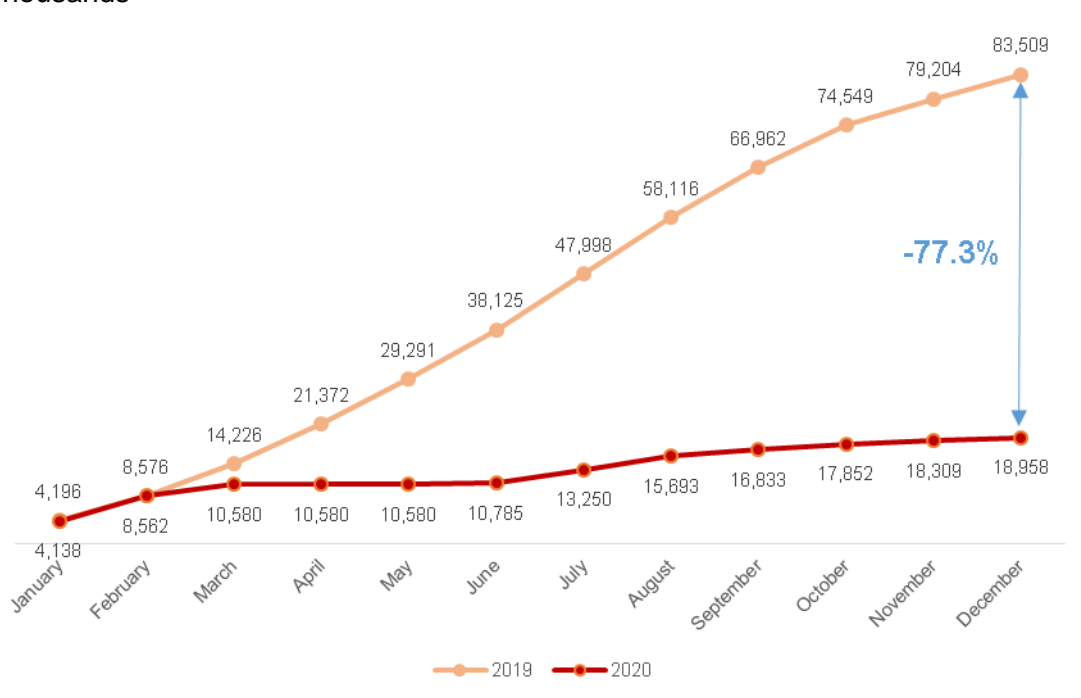
International tourist arrivals. Comparative 2019-2020*

Thousands



(*): Provisional data from January 2020

Accumulated international tourist arrivals. Comparative 2019-2020*
Thousands



(*): Provisional data from January 2020

Main destination Autonomous Communities

Canarias was the main tourist destination in December, with 31.9% of the total. It was followed by Cataluña (15.0%) and Comunitat Valenciana (11.1%).

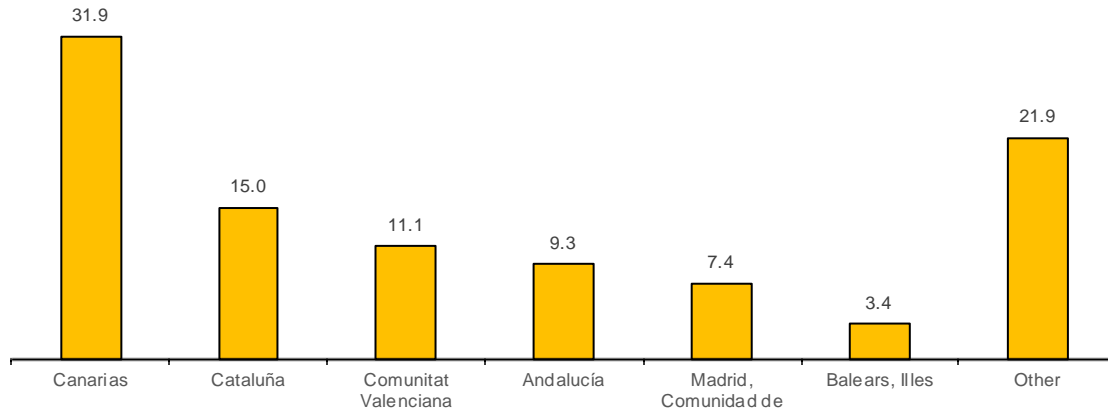
207,064 tourists came to Canarias, 82.8% less than in December last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were the United Kingdom (34.8% of the total) and Germany (24.5%).

The number of tourists visiting Cataluña decreased by 90.2% and stood in 97,305 tourists. 47.2% of these tourists came from France and 15.4% from Rest of Europe.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Comunitat Valenciana, with 71,865 tourists and an annual decrease of 84.2%. France was the main country of origin (with 20.2% of the total), followed by the United Kingdom (17.8%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities the number of tourists decreased, by 82.3% in Illes Balears. In turn, it fell by 89.1% in Andalucía and by 90.9% in Comunidad de Madrid.

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



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

December 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	648,669	-84.9	18,957,856	-77.3
Andalucía	60,577	-89.1	2,704,566	-77.5
Balears, Illes	22,083	-82.3	1,721,680	-87.4
Canarias	207,064	-82.8	3,787,456	-71.2
Cataluña	97,305	-90.2	3,875,947	-80.0
Comunitat Valenciana	71,865	-84.2	2,548,993	-73.3
Madrid, Comunidad de	47,885	-90.9	1,707,231	-77.7
Other	141,891	-68.1	2,611,984	-67.8

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

December 2020	First outbound country	% tourists	Second outbound country	% tourists
	TOTAL	France	25.3	United Kingdom
Andalucía	France	22.8	United Kingdom	12.8
Balears, Illes	Germany	38.5	Rest of Europe	21.2
Canarias	United Kingdom	34.8	Germany	24.5
Cataluña	France	47.2	Rest of Europe	15.4
Comunitat Valenciana	France	20.2	United Kingdom	17.8
Madrid, Comunidad de	France	18.5	Rest of America	15.7

Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in December came by air, with 406,459 tourists, representing an annual decrease of 88.4%.

Railway access registered a 33.3% decrease of tourists, road entries accounted for 68.4% less and port arrivals had a decrease of 96.9%.

International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

December 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	648,669	-84.9	18,957,856	-77.3
Air transport	406,459	-88.4	13,658,789	-80.1
Motor vehicle	230,798	-68.4	4,958,639	-61.1
Train	9,534	-33.3	90,135	-74.0
Waterway	1,878	-96.9	250,293	-85.5

In December, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main type of accommodation decreased by 87.9% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation felt by 87.8%, while rented dwellings felt by 90.8%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation decreased by 74.3%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes decreased by 78.6% and that of those staying in their own dwelling did so by 68.6%.

International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

December 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	648,669	-84.9	18,957,856	-77.3
Rented accommodation ^(*)	407,188	-87.9	13,879,784	-79.7
-Hotel accommodation	334,596	-87.8	10,770,752	-80.4
-Rental housing	39,839	-90.8	2,153,320	-76.9
-Rest rented accommodation	32,752	-83.1	955,712	-76.9
Non-rented accommodation	241,482	-74.3	5,078,072	-66.4
-Vacation home ownership	88,051	-68.6	1,707,210	-64.7
-Home of family or friends	127,175	-78.6	2,989,667	-67.8
-Rest non rented accommodation	26,256	-59.8	381,195	-62.3

(*): 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 December, *Leisure, recreation, and holidays* was the main reasons for travelling to Spain for 384,826 tourists, representing an annual decrease of 89.1%.

A total of 102,227 tourists arrived for *Business and professional reasons* (73.4% less) and 161,616 arrived for *Other reasons* (58.2% less).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

December 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	648,669	-84.9	18,957,856	-77.3
Leisure, vacations	384,826	-89.1	15,541,914	-78.7
Business and professional purposes	102,227	-73.4	1,357,313	-74.9
Other purposes	161,616	-58.2	2,058,629	-59.8

A stay of four to seven nights was the main length among tourists in December, with more than 235,765 tourists and an annual decrease of 88.1%.

The number of visitors decreased by 69.5% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and decreased by 68.6% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

December 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	1,573,694	-78.5	36,478,039	-71.1
no night ^(*)	925,024	-69.5	17,520,183	-58.9
1 night	95,266	-65.4	1,313,199	-68.9
2 - 3 nights	93,428	-90.3	3,288,654	-78.8
4 - 7 nights	235,765	-88.1	8,242,709	-79.2
8 - 15 nights	113,451	-84.4	4,133,264	-78.0
More than 15 nights	110,760	-68.6	1,980,031	-62.6

(*):Excursionists.

In December, 537,291 tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual decrease of 83.0%. 111,319 tourists travelled with a tourist package, 90.2% less.

International tourist arrivals by type of organization

December 2020	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	648,669	-84.9	18,957,856	-77.3
No Tourist Package	537,291	-83.0	14,992,136	-75.0
Tourist Package	111,379	-90.2	3,965,720	-83.2

Results for the whole year 2020

During the year 2020, 19.0 million tourists visited Spain, an decrease of 77.3% as compared to the previous year.

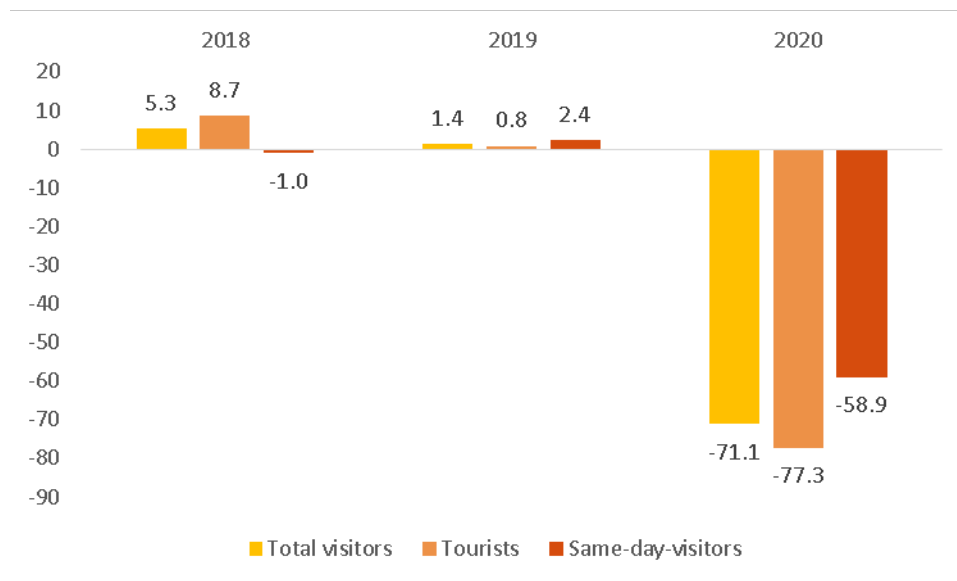
On the other hand, 17.5 excursionists came to Spain, 58.9% less than 2019.

International tourist arrivals by type of visitors

	2020		2019	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	36,478,039	-71.1	126,170,086	1.4
Same-day visitor	17,520,183	-58.9	42,660,933	2.4
Tourists	18,957,856	-77.3	83,509,153	0.8

International tourist arrivals by type of visitors

Annual variation



The main countries of residence of tourists visited Spain in 2020 were France, the United Kingdom and Germany. The arrival of tourists resident in France decreased by 65.2%, the number of tourists coming from the United Kingdom tourists decreased by 82.4%, and the number of tourists coming from Germany decreased by 78.4%.

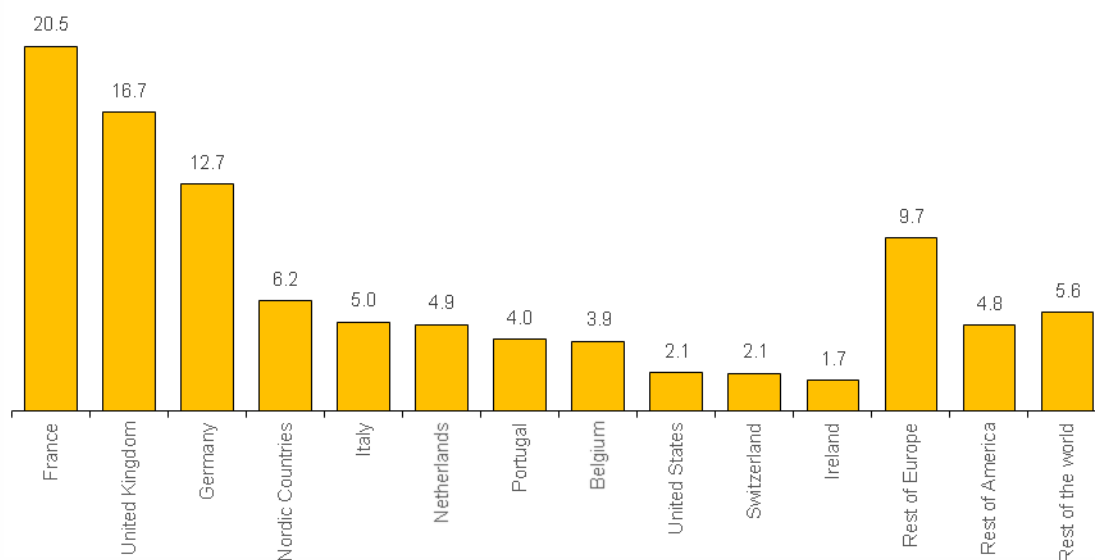
International tourist (*) arrivals by country of residence

	2020		2019	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	18,957,856	-77.3	83,509,153	0.8
Germany	2,410,492	-78.4	11,158,022	-2.3
Belgium	747,016	-70.4	2,525,887	0.8
France	3,877,619	-65.2	11,147,397	-1.3
Ireland	329,759	-84.9	2,177,592	6.0
Italy	948,389	-79.1	4,534,515	3.3
Netherlands	922,797	-75.0	3,684,260	-4.4
Portugal	762,275	-68.6	2,428,790	3.6
United Kingdom	3,173,861	-82.4	18,012,484	-2.8
Switzerland	398,925	-78.0	1,811,865	-3.8
Nordic Countries	1,172,711	-78.8	5,530,112	-4.7
Rest of Europe**	1,840,481	-76.3	7,755,501	7.3
United States	407,437	-87.7	3,324,870	12.3
Rest of America	913,921	-75.7	3,767,277	10.4
Rest of the world	1,052,172	-81.4	5,650,583	9.9

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

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

International tourist arrivals by country of residence Percentage of the total



Cataluña was the main destination Autonomous Community in 2020, with 20.4% of the total of tourists. It was followed by Canarias (with 20.0%) and Andalucía (with 14.3%).

Nearly 3.9 million tourists came to Cataluña and an annual decrease of 80.0%. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were France (33.8% of the total) and the aggregate of rest of the world (14.0%).

The number of tourists visited Canarias decreased by 71.2% and stood nearly 3.8 million. 30.4% of these tourists came from United Kingdom and 21.4% from the Germany.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Andalucía, with more than 2.7 million tourists and an annual decrease of 77.5%. The United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 21.8% of the total), followed by France (13.9%).

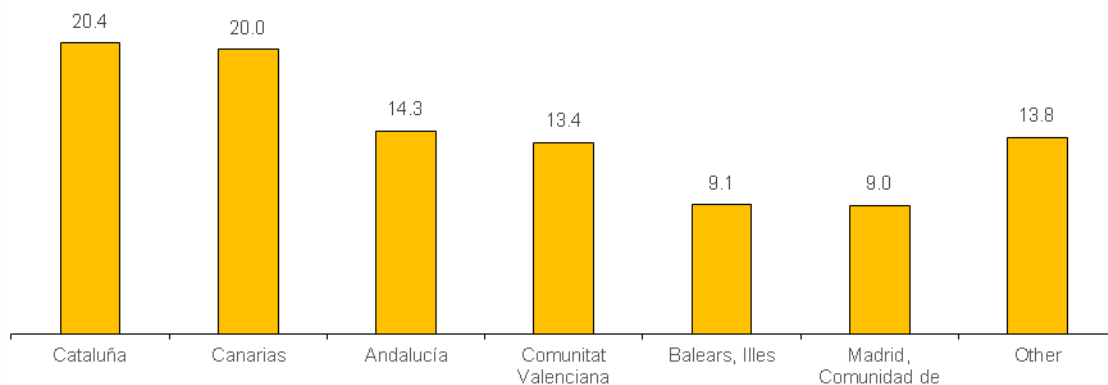
On the other hand, Comunitat Valenciana received 2.5 million tourists (73.3% less than in 2019), Illes Balears 1.7 million (87.4% less) and Comunidad de Madrid 1.7 million (with an decrease of 77.7%).

International tourist arrivals by main autonomous region of destination

	2020		2019	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	18,957,856	-77.3	83,509,153	0.8
Andalucía	2,704,566	-77.5	12,023,153	2.9
Balears, Illes	1,721,680	-87.4	13,679,781	-1.2
Canarias	3,787,456	-71.2	13,146,863	-4.4
Cataluña	3,875,947	-80.0	19,375,152	0.9
Comunitat Valenciana	2,548,993	-73.3	9,535,496	3.6
Madrid, Comunidad de	1,707,231	-77.7	7,640,980	7.0
Other	2,611,984	-67.8	8,107,727	1.6

International tourist arrivals by main autonomous region of destination

Percentage of the total



Forms of access and main means of accommodation

As regards the form of entry into Spain, 13.7 million tourists used the air route, which meant an decrease of 80.1%. A total of 5.0 million arrived by road, 61.1% less.

International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

	2020		2019	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	18,957,856	-77.3	83,509,153	0.8
Air transport	13,658,789	-80.1	68,691,898	1.7
Motor vehicle	4,958,639	-61.1	12,749,717	-1.3
Train	90,135	-74.0	346,756	2.5
Waterway	250,293	-85.5	1,720,782	-14.5

By type of accommodation, market accommodation was used by 13.9 million tourists (79.7% less than in 2019) and non-market accommodation by 5.1 million (66.4% less)

International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

	2020		2019	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	18,957,856	-77.3	83,509,153	0.8
Rented accommodation ^(*)	13,879,784	-79.7	68,376,164	2.5
-Hotel accommodation	10,770,752	-80.4	54,909,689	4.0
-Rental housing	2,153,320	-76.9	9,328,475	-4.1
-Rest rented accommodation	955,712	-76.9	4,138,001	-0.3
Non-rented accommodation	5,078,072	-66.4	15,132,989	-6.1
-Vacation home ownership	1,707,210	-64.7	4,842,256	0.5
-Home of family or friends	2,989,667	-67.8	9,278,965	-6.3
-Rest non rented accommodation	381,195	-62.3	1,011,769	-27.3

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

The main reason for tourists in their trips to Spain during 2020 was *Leisure, recreation and holidays*. For that reason, 15.5 million arrived, with an annual decrease of 78.7%. A total of 1.4 million tourists arrived for *Business and professional purposes* (74.9% less).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

	2020		2019	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	18,957,856	-77.3	83,509,153	0.8
Leisure, vacations	15,541,914	-78.7	72,976,423	1.1
Business and professional purposes	1,357,313	-74.9	5,409,183	7.7
Other purposes	2,058,629	-59.8	5,123,547	-8.7

The main length of stay among tourists in 2020 was four to seven nights, with 8.2 million tourists and an annual decrease of 79.2%.

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

	2020		2019	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	36,478,039	-71.1	126,170,086	1.4
no night ^(*)	17,520,183	-58.9	42,660,933	2.4
1 night	1,313,199	-68.9	4,220,546	-4.4
2 - 3 nights	3,288,654	-78.8	15,486,323	6.0
4 - 7 nights	8,242,709	-79.2	39,692,993	2.3
8 - 15 nights	4,133,264	-78.0	18,819,043	-3.4
More than 15 nights	1,980,031	-62.6	5,290,248	-4.1

(*):Excursionists

Regarding the form of organization of the trip, 15.0 million tourists arrived in Spain without a tourist package (75.0% less than in 2019) and 4.0 million with a tourist package (83.2% less).

International tourist arrivals by type of organization

	2020		2019	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	18,957,856	-77.3	83,509,153	0.8
No Tourist Package	14,992,136	-75.0	59,970,483	2.7
Tourist Package	3,965,720	-83.2	23,538,670	-3.6

Note regarding COVID-19's impact on the statistical operations FRONTUR and EGATUR in December 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 November, 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), Order INT / 851/2020, of September 14, (BOE n. 247, September 16), Order INT / 913/2020, of September 29, (BOE n. 259, September 30), Order INT/1006/2020, of October 29, (BOE n. 287, October 30) and Order INT/1119/2020, of November 27, (BOE n. 312, November 28).

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 October, 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 November 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 20 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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