

17 March 2022

**Statistics of Spaniards Resident Abroad (RSRA)
01 January 2022**

The Spanish population resident abroad increased 3.3% in 2021

United Kingdom, France, and Cuba are the countries that register the highest increase of population with Spanish nationality

In 2021, over two out of three new registrations corresponded to persons born outside Spain

Population with Spanish nationality resident abroad by continent

The number of persons with Spanish nationality resident abroad reached 2,742,605 as at 01 January 2022, according to data from the Register of Spaniards Resident Abroad (RSRA). This figure represents an increase of 3.3% (87,882 persons) as compared with the data as at 01 January 2021.

By continent, 59% of registered persons had established their residence in America, 37.2% in Europe and 3.8% in the rest of the world.

The largest increases in the number of registered persons in 2021 were in Europe (45,313 more) and America (36,948 more).

In relative terms, the largest increases were recorded in Africa (8.5%) and Asia (4.8%).

Population with Spanish nationality resident abroad by continent

Continent	Data 1 January 2022	Data 1 January 2021	Variation	
			Absolute	Relative
TOTAL	2,742,605	2,654,723	87,882	3.3
Europe	1,019,795	974,482	45,313	4.6
Africa	30,089	27,727	2,362	8.5
America	1,618,382	1,581,434	36,948	2.3
Asia	48,737	46,484	2,253	4.8
Oceania	25,602	24,596	1,006	4.1

Population with Spanish nationality resident abroad by continent and sex

The number of registrations of women living abroad exceeded that of men by 29,695. By continent, America, Europe and Oceania recorded more women than men registered, while Africa and Asia recorded more men than women registered.

Population with Spanish nationality resident abroad by continent and sex

Continent	Both sexes	Men	Women	Difference
TOTAL	2,742,605	1,356,455	1,386,150	29,695
Europe	1,019,795	507,453	512,342	4,889
Africa	30,089	16,737	13,352	-3,385
America	1,618,382	792,192	826,190	33,998
Asia	48,737	27,348	21,389	-5,959
Oceania	25,602	12,725	12,877	152

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad by continent and place of birth

31.1% of Spanish resident abroad were born in Spain, 58.0% were born in their current country of residence and 10.6% in other countries.

Population with Spanish Nationality by continent and place of birth

Continent	Total	Spain		Country of residence		Other countries		No data recorded	
		Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
TOTAL	2,742,605	853,779	31.1	1,591,586	58.0	291,884	10.6	5,369	0.2
Europe	1,019,795	490,417	48.1	368,526	36.1	158,046	15.5	2,806	0.3
Africa	30,089	9,038	30.0	18,997	63.1	2,023	6.7	31	0.1
America	1,618,382	320,143	19.8	1,174,608	72.6	121,186	7.5	2,445	0.2
Asia	48,737	19,943	40.9	21,199	43.5	7,580	15.6	15	0.0
Oceania	25,602	14,238	55.6	8,256	32.2	3,009	11.8	99	0.4

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad by continent and age Group

15.5% of those registered in the RSRA as at 01 January 2022 were under 16 years of age, 62.3% were between 16 and 64 years of age, and 22.2% were aged 65 or more years old.

By continent, 49.1% of persons under the age of 16 years were residents in Europe and 43.3% in America. In the age group from 16 to 64 years old, 57.3% were resident in America and 39.1% in Europe. With respect to people over 65 years old, 74.6% had established their residence in America and 23.5% in Europe.

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad by continent and age group

Continent	Total	Under the age of 16		From 16 to 64 years of age		65 years of age and older	
		Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
TOTAL	2,742,605	423,979	15.5	1,708,735	62.3	609,891	22.2
Europe	1,019,795	208,260	49.1	668,413	39.1	143,122	23.5
Africa	30,089	14,902	3.5	13,201	0.8	1,986	0.3
America	1,618,382	183,479	43.3	979,857	57.3	455,046	74.6
Asia	48,737	14,374	3.4	30,456	1.8	3,907	0.6
Oceania	25,602	2,964	0.7	16,808	1.0	5,830	1.0

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad registered during 2021 by continent and place of birth

Most of new registrations during 2021 corresponded to residents in Europe (41.8% of the total) and persons born in their current country of residence (54.3%).

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad registered in 2021 by continent and place of birth

Continent	Total		Spain		Country of residence		Other countries		No Data recorded	
	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
TOTAL	162,300	100.0	48,477	29.9	88,135	54.3	25,686	15.8	2	0.0
Europe	67,832	41.8	31,401	19.3	18,695	11.5	17,736	10.9	-	0.0
Africa	5,362	3.3	1,588	1.0	3,577	2.2	196	0.1	1	0.0
America	81,578	50.3	11,816	7.3	62,865	38.7	6,896	4.2	1	0.0
Asia	6,142	3.8	2,702	1.7	2,744	1.7	696	0.4	-	0.0
Oceania	1,386	0.9	970	0.6	254	0.2	162	0.1	-	0.0

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad registered during 2021 by continent and age group

Most of the new registrations during 2021 corresponded to persons between 16 to 64 years old (59.7% of the total).

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad registered in 2021 by continent and age group

Continent	Total		Under the age of 16		From 16 to 64 years of age		65 years of age and older	
	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
TOTAL	162,300	100.0	56,675	34.9	96,839	59.7	8,786	5.4
Europe	67,832	41.8	26,856	16.5	39,359	24.3	1,617	1.0
Africa	5,362	3.3	3,482	2.1	1,765	1.1	115	0.1
America	81,578	50.3	23,357	14.4	51,368	31.7	6,853	4.2
Asia	6,142	3.8	2,682	1.7	3,283	2.0	177	0.1
Oceania	1,386	0.9	298	0.2	1,064	0.7	24	0.0

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad registered during 2021 born in Spain, by continent and age group

Among the new registrations of people born in Spain during 2021, the majority were residents in Europe (64.8%) and America (24.4%). And by age group from 16 to 64 years old (65.3%).

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad born in Spain registered in 2021 by continent and age group

Continent	Total		Under the age of 16		From 16 to 64 years of age		65 years of age and older	
	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
TOTAL	48,477	100.0	14,025	28.9	31,664	65.3	2,788	5.8
Europe	31,401	64.8	9,351	19.3	20,873	43.1	1,177	2.4
Africa	1,588	3.3	811	1.7	730	1.5	47	0.1
America	11,816	24.4	3,239	6.7	7,077	14.6	1,500	3.1
Asia	2,702	5.6	560	1.2	2,101	4.3	41	0.1
Oceania	970	2.0	64	0.1	883	1.8	23	0.0

Population with Spanish nationality resident abroad by country

The foreign countries where the most people of Spanish nationality were resident as at 01 January 2022 were Argentina (480,159), France (290,033) and The United States of America (183,003).

Population with Spanish nationality resident abroad by country (*)

Country of residence	Data 1 January 2022	Data 1 January 2021	Variation	
			Absolute	Relative
Argentina	480,159	475,938	4,221	0.9%
France	290,033	279,988	10,045	3.6%
The United States of America	183,003	173,136	9,867	5.7%
Germany	178,488	172,107	6,381	3.7%
United Kingdom	176,054	160,641	15,413	9.6%
Cuba	158,960	149,062	9,898	6.6%
Mexico	148,421	144,845	3,576	2.5%
Venezuela	140,014	139,608	406	0.3%
Brazil	135,417	133,680	1,737	1.3%
Switzerland	130,276	127,011	3,265	2.6%
Belgium	71,828	69,800	2,028	2.9%
Chile	66,923	65,919	1,004	1.5%
Uruguay	66,545	66,809	-264	-0.4%
Ecuador	56,536	57,167	-631	-1.1%
Colombia	40,987	37,496	3,491	9.3%
Netherlands	31,862	30,829	1,033	3.4%
The Dominican Republic	29,296	27,496	1,800	6.5%
Peru	27,941	28,023	-82	-0.3%
Italy	27,105	25,990	1,115	4.3%
Andorra	27,072	26,586	486	1.8%
Australia	23,855	22,980	875	3.8%
Canada	19,203	18,431	772	4.2%
Bolivia	16,380	16,434	-54	-0.3%
Portugal	15,550	14,763	787	5.3%
Panama	14,942	14,403	539	3.7%
Morocco	12,863	11,605	1,258	10.8%
Sweden	12,328	11,649	679	5.8%
Ireland	11,786	11,186	600	5.4%

(*) The table shows all countries with more than 10,000 residents

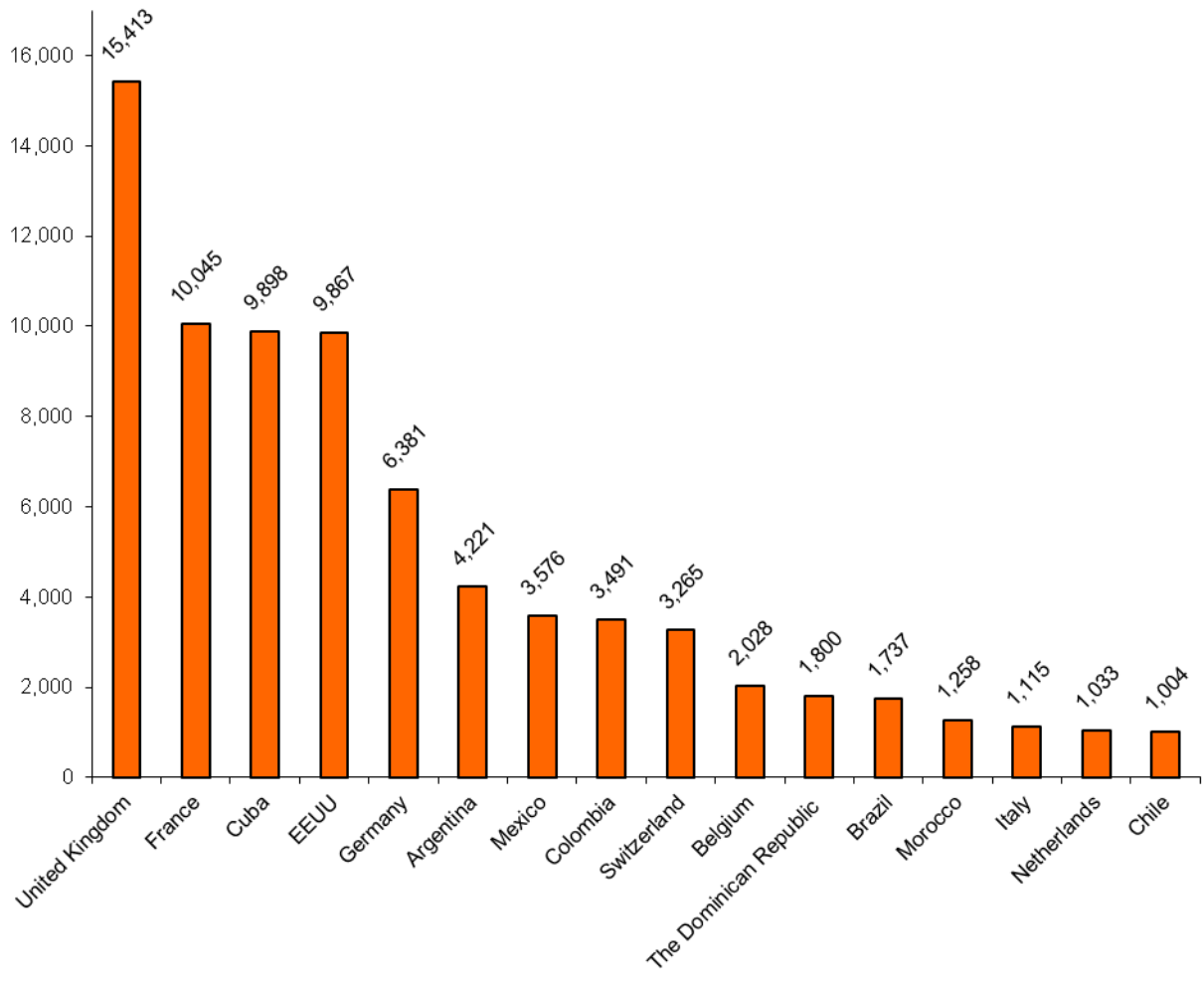
Among the countries with more than 10,000 residents, the largest increases of people with Spanish nationality in relative terms were registered in Morocco (10.8%), United Kingdom (9.6%) and Colombia (9.3%).

The more moderate increases were registered in Venezuela (0.3%), Argentina (0.9%) and Brazil (1.3%). Conversely, the Spanish population registered a decrease in Ecuador (-1.1%), Uruguay (-0.4%), Bolivia and Peru (-0.3% in both countries)

In absolute terms, the highest increases of Spanish population during 2021 were registered in United Kingdom (15,413 more), France (10,045) and Cuba (9,898).

On the other hand, the highest decrease of Spanish population were registered in Uruguay (264 less) and Ecuador (631 less)

Increase of Spanish nationality population resident abroad during 2021 by country (*)



(*) Countries with increases of over 1,000 residents.

Informative annex

The target population analysed in these statistics is the Spanish population residing abroad. It includes all people holding Spanish nationality—whether it is or not their only nationality—who are registered as regular residents in the Consular Office Register of their place of residence. This registration must have been communicated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the INE, as so it can be incorporated to the central file of the RSRA.

The registrations carried out within the year before the 1st January of the reference year correspond to new registers due to any possible reason (birth, nationalization, omission and emigration from Spain abroad).

The statistical mining of the RSRA central file let us only know about the distribution of registered people and the distribution of new registrations by variable on the date of reference, but it does not provide information about the causes of the changes with respect to the previous year.

Type of operation: continuous on an annual basis.

Population scope: all persons with Spanish nationality residing abroad.

Geographical scope: from the point of view of residence abroad, all countries are covered; from the point of view of the municipality of registration for electoral purposes, the entire national territory is covered.

Reference period: on 1 January of each year.

Collection method: comprehensive from an administrative register.

For more information you can access the methodology at:

https://www.ine.es/en/metodologia/t20/t203024509_en.pdf

And the standardized methodological report at:

<https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/en/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=85001>

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