

Statistics on Tourist Movement on Borders (FRONTUR)

December 2018 and year 2018. Provisional data

Spain received 4.4 million international tourists in December, 9.7% more than in the same month of 2017

For 2018 as a whole, 82.8 million tourists visited Spain, 1.1% more than in the previous year

Spain received in December the visit of 4.4 million international tourists, 9.7% more than in the same month of 2017.

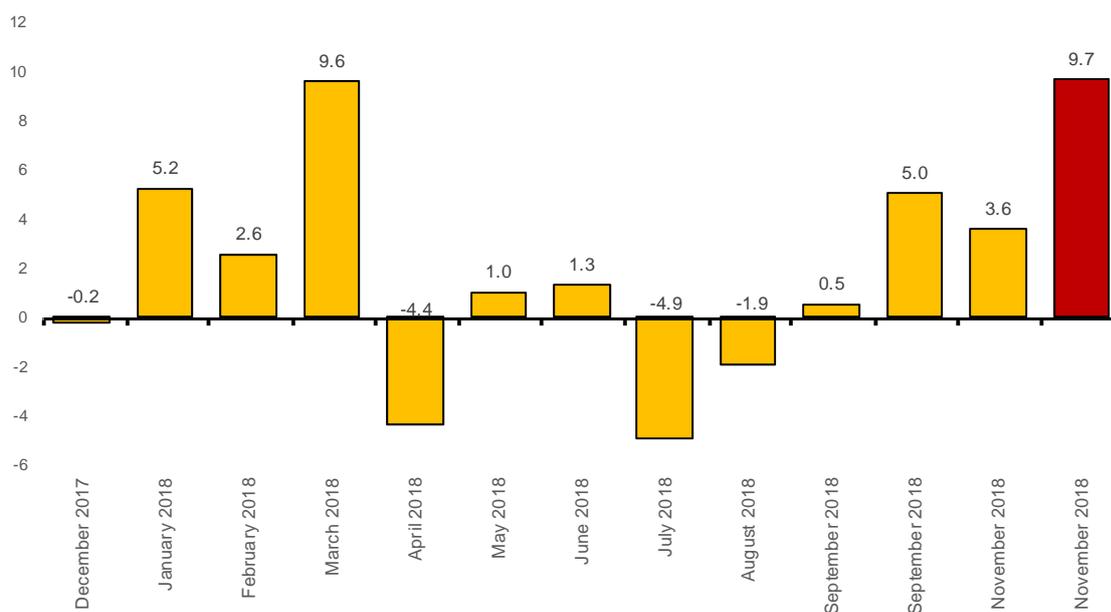
The United Kingdom was the main country of residence, with 861,693 tourists, accounting for 19.7% of the total and an increase of 6.1% as compared to December last year.

France and Germany were the following countries with the most tourists visiting Spain. From France we receive 556,702 tourists (0.8% more in the annual rate) and from Germany 533,454 tourists (10.8% more in the annual rate).

Among the other countries of residence, the annual growth was particularly noteworthy in tourists coming from the United States (30.2%), Russia (17.3%) and Italy (14.9%).

International tourist arrivals

Monthly data. Annual variation



International tourist arrivals (*) by country of residence

December 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,367,277	9.7	82,773,156	1.1
Germany	533,454	10.8	11,414,481	-4.1
Belgium	114,605	-6.7	2,500,278	1.0
France	556,702	0.8	11,343,649	0.7
Ireland	94,029	13.5	2,049,272	0.2
Italy	300,254	14.9	4,382,503	3.8
Netherlands	154,166	14.8	3,848,545	3.9
Portugal	146,404	2.9	2,346,405	9.8
United Kingdom	861,693	6.1	18,502,722	-1.6
Switzerland	95,716	1.0	1,884,783	-8.5
Russia	60,463	17.3	1,222,426	6.3
Nordic Countries	378,309	-4.6	5,783,558	-0.7
Rest of Europe	344,664	35.2	5,980,237	7.9
United States	167,292	30.2	2,949,710	11.8
Rest of America	205,217	7.2	3,418,884	5.9
Rest of the world	354,309	28.7	5,145,702	5.7

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

Main destination Autonomous Communities

Canarias was the main tourist destination in December, with 28.8% of the total. It was followed by Cataluña (22.4%) and Andalucía (12.7%).

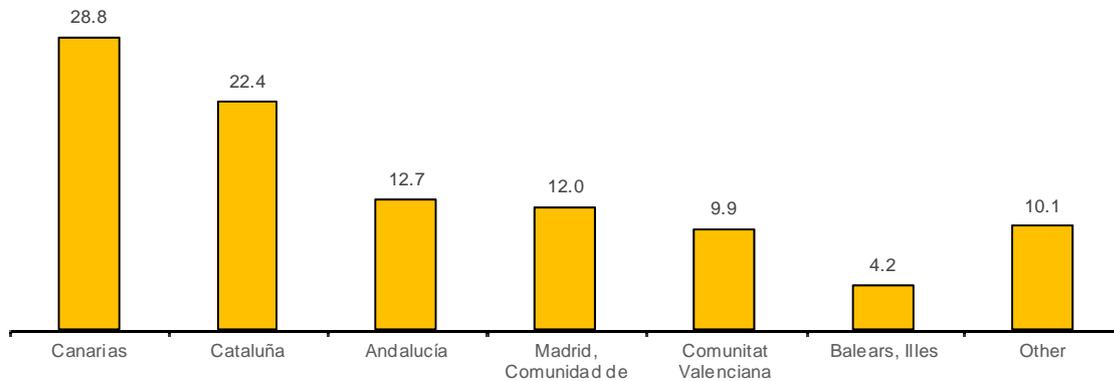
Almost 1.3 million tourists came to Canarias, the same than in December last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were the United Kingdom (33.6% of the total) and Germany (19.8%).

The number of tourists visiting Cataluña increased by 18.8% and stood nearly 1 million. 20.4% of these tourists came from France and 17.3% from rest of the world.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Andalucía, with 553,783 tourists and an annual increase of 8.5%. The United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 20.5% of the total), followed by France (13.1%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities the number of tourists increased, by 84.8% in Illes Balears, by 10.3% in Comunidad de Madrid and by 7.6% in Comunitat Valenciana.

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

December 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,367,277	9.7	82,773,156	1.1
Andalucía	553,783	8.5	11,693,927	1.5
Balears, Illes	183,467	84.8	13,856,456	0.5
Canarias	1,256,248	0.0	13,751,914	-3.3
Cataluña	977,198	18.8	19,123,195	0.0
Comunitat Valenciana	430,939	7.6	9,208,898	3.2
Madrid, Comunidad de	525,408	10.3	7,121,590	6.3
Other	440,234	5.6	8,017,177	5.5

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

December 2018	First	% tourists	Second	% tourists
	outbound country		outbound country	
TOTAL	United Kingdom	19.7	France	12.7
Andalucía	United Kingdom	20.5	France	13.1
Balears, Illes	Germany	52.2	Rest of Europe	11.8
Canarias	United Kingdom	33.6	Germany	19.8
Cataluña	France	20.4	Rest of the world	17.3
Comunitat Valenciana	United Kingdom	28.6	France	15.4
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	18.5	Rest of the world	16.3

Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in December came by air, with more than 3.6 million, representing an annual increase of 11.4%.

Road entries accounted for 1.5% more tourists and port arrivals had an increase of 2.0% and railway access registered a 15.2% increase.

International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

December 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,367,277	9.7	82,773,156	1.1
Air transport	3,616,815	11.4	67,531,290	1.3
Motor vehicle	659,057	1.5	12,933,364	0.3
Train	18,202	15.2	338,418	-9.4
Waterway	73,203	2.0	1,970,083	0.2

In December, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main type of accommodation increased by 11.2% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 11.2%, and rented dwellings grew by 16.4%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation increased by 5.1%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes increased by 12.1% while that of those staying in their own dwelling fell by 8.7%.

International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

December 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,367,277	9.7	82,773,156	1.1
Rented accommodation ^(*)	3,297,886	11.2	66,620,308	2.3
-Hotel accommodation	2,648,801	11.2	52,742,000	2.6
-Rental housing	462,609	16.4	9,740,016	0.2
-Rest rented accommodation	186,476	0.5	4,138,291	2.7
Non-rented accommodation	1,069,391	5.1	16,152,848	-3.4
-Vacation home ownership	282,921	-8.7	4,797,290	-2.3
-Home of family or friends	701,169	12.1	9,928,421	-3.5
-Rest non rented accommodation	85,301	3.9	1,427,136	-6.0

(*): 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* were the main reasons for travelling to Spain for almost 3.6 million tourists, representing an annual increase of 11.3%.

A total of 322.322 tourists arrived for *Business and professional reasons* (6.1% less) and 464.327 arrived for *Other reasons* (10.1% more).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

December 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,367,277	9.7	82,773,156	1.1
Leisure, vacations	3,580,628	11.3	72,100,646	1.4
Business and professional purposes	322,322	-6.1	5,033,648	6.6
Other purposes	464,327	10.1	5,638,861	-7.0

A stay of four to seven nights was the main length among tourists in December, with more than 1.9 million tourists and an annual increase of 7.0%.

The number of visitors decreased by 1.8% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and increased by 3.7% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

December 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	7,269,637	4.8	124,060,336	1.9
no night ^(*)	2,902,360	-1.8	41,287,180	3.6
1 night	281,562	14.6	4,413,428	8.2
2 - 3 nights	1,025,968	16.0	14,595,727	2.5
4 - 7 nights	1,937,256	7.0	38,785,045	1.9
8 - 15 nights	733,981	10.1	19,460,562	-1.2
More than 15 nights	388,510	3.7	5,518,393	-4.9

(*):Excursionists.

In December, almost 3.4 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual increase of 15.7%. Almost 1 million tourists travelled with a tourist package, 6.9% less.

International tourist arrivals by type of organization

December 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,367,277	9.7	82,773,156	1.1
No Tourist Package	3,373,047	15.7	58,475,585	1.1
Tourist Package	994,230	-6.9	24,297,571	1.0

Results for the whole year 2018

During the year 2018, 82.8 million tourists visited Spain, an increase of 1.1% as compared to the previous year.

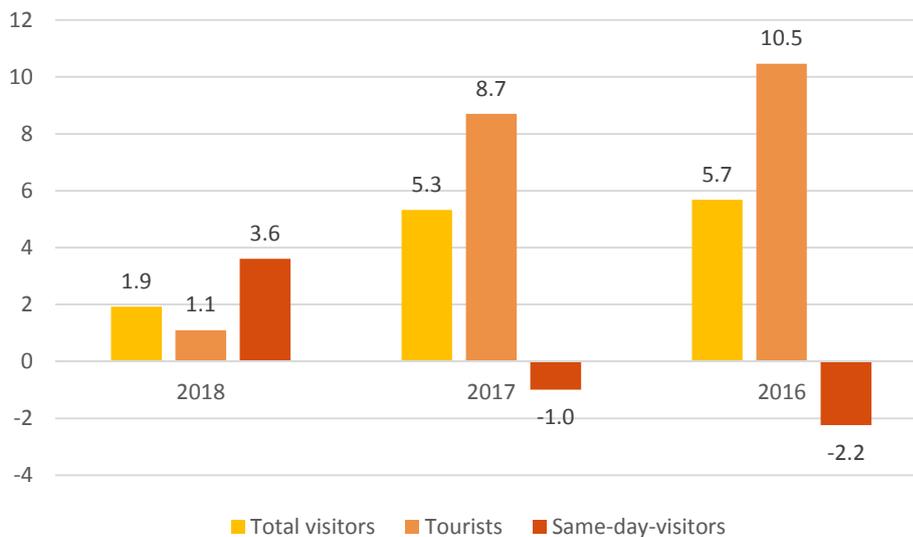
International tourist arrivals by type of visitors

	2018		2017	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	124,060,336	1.9	121,717,286	5.3
Same-day visitor	41,287,180	3.6	39,848,764	-1.0
Tourists	82,773,156	1.1	81,868,522	8.7

On the other hand, 41.2 excursionists came to Spain, 3.6% more than 2017.

International tourist arrivals by type of visitors

Annual variation

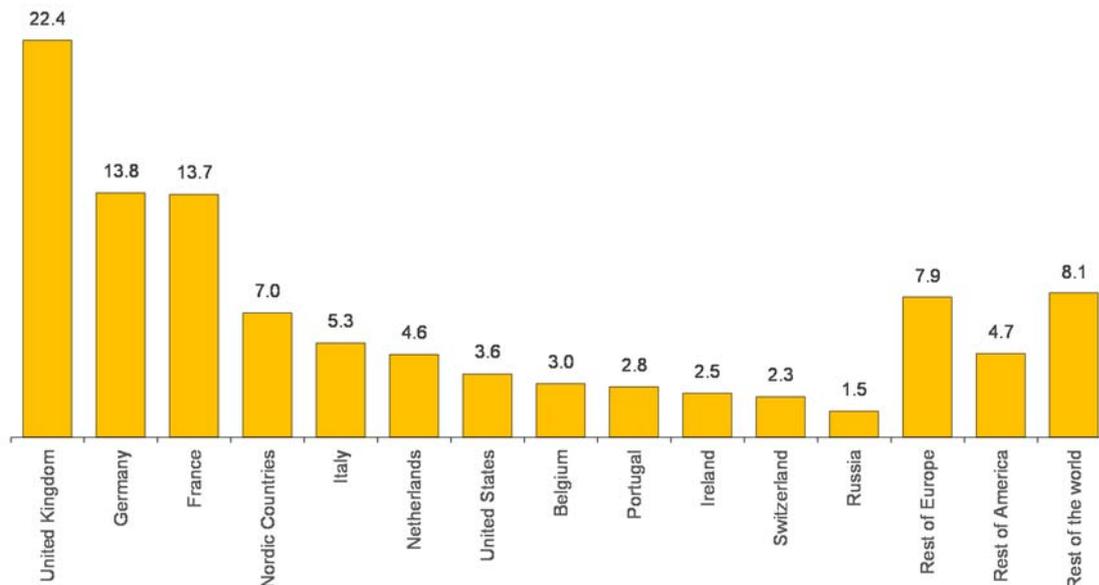


The main countries of residence of tourists were the United Kingdom, Germany and France. The arrival of tourists resident in the United Kingdom decreased by 1.6% and that of German tourists by 4.1%. In turn, the number of tourists coming from France increased by 0.7%.

International tourist arrivals by country of residence

	2018		2017	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	82,773,156	1.1	81,868,522	8.7
Germany	11,414,481	-4.1	11,897,376	6.1
Belgium	2,500,278	1.0	2,474,720	7.5
France	11,343,649	0.7	11,267,269	0.1
Ireland	2,049,272	0.2	2,046,123	13.1
Italy	4,382,503	3.8	4,222,865	6.4
Netherlands	3,848,545	3.9	3,704,549	10.4
Portugal	2,346,405	9.8	2,137,880	7.1
United Kingdom	18,502,722	-1.6	18,806,776	6.4
Switzerland	1,884,783	-8.5	2,059,201	20.9
Russia	1,222,426	6.3	1,150,055	14.5
Nordic Countries	5,783,558	-0.7	5,826,548	13.6
Rest of Europe	5,980,237	7.9	5,543,011	10.3
United States	2,949,710	11.8	2,637,484	31.8
Rest of America	3,418,884	5.9	3,228,531	25.5
Rest of the world	5,145,702	5.7	4,866,135	13.1

International tourist arrivals by country of residence Percentage of the total



Cataluña was the main destination Autonomous Community in 2018, with 23.1% of the total of tourists. It was followed by Illes Balears (with 16.7%) and Canarias (with 16.6%).

More than 19.1 million tourists came to Cataluña, the same than last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were France (21.4% of the total) and the aggregate of rest of the world (12.0%).

The number of tourists visited Illes Balears increased by 0.5% and stood nearly 13.9 million. 33.7% of these tourists came from Germany and 26.7% from the United Kingdom.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Canarias, with almost 13.8 million tourists and an annual decrease of 3.3%. The United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 36.8% of the total), followed by Germany (20.3%).

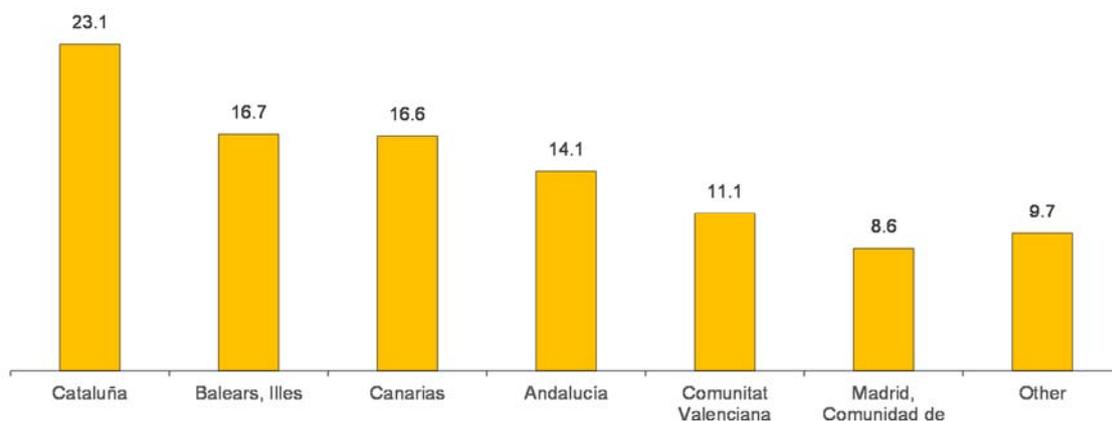
On the other hand, Andalucía received 11.7 million tourists (1.5% more than in 2017), Comunitat Valenciana 9.2 million (3.2% more) and Comunidad de Madrid 7.1 million (with an increase of 6.3%).

International tourist arrivals by main autonomous region of destination

	2018		2017	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	82,773,156	1.1	81,868,522	8.7
Andalucía	11,693,927	1.5	11,518,262	8.8
Balears, Illes	13,856,456	0.5	13,792,296	6.1
Canarias	13,751,914	-3.3	14,214,222	7.2
Cataluña	19,123,195	0.0	19,118,421	5.4
Comunitat Valenciana	9,208,898	3.2	8,925,959	15.4
Madrid, Comunidad de	7,121,590	6.3	6,699,785	15.9
Other	8,017,177	5.5	7,599,577	11.5

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, 67.5 million tourists used the air route, which meant an increase of 1.3%. A total of 12.9 million arrived by road, 0.3% more.

International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

	2018		2017	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	82,773,156	1.1	81,868,522	8.7
Air transport	67,531,290	1.3	66,639,515	10.4
Motor vehicle	12,933,364	0.3	12,889,671	-0.6
Train	338,418	-9.4	373,662	3.0
Waterway	1,970,083	0.2	1,965,673	20.2

By type of accommodation, market accommodation was used by 66.6 million tourists (2.3% more) and non-market accommodation by 16.2 million (3.4% less).

International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

	2018		2017	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	82,773,156	1.1	81,868,522	8.7
Rented accommodation ^(*)	66,620,308	2.3	65,145,901	9.2
-Hotel accommodation	52,742,000	2.6	51,396,818	6.7
-Rental housing	9,740,016	0.2	9,720,123	20.3
-Rest rented accommodation	4,138,291	2.7	4,028,960	17.9
Non-rented accommodation	16,152,848	-3.4	16,722,620	6.9
-Vacation home ownership	4,797,290	-2.3	4,910,634	0.6
-Home of family or friends	9,928,421	-3.5	10,293,403	11.2
-Rest non rented accommodation	1,427,136	-6.0	1,518,584	0.7

(*): 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 2018 was *Leisure, recreation and holidays*. For that reason, 72.1 million arrived, with an annual increase of 1.4%. A total of 5.0 million tourists arrived for *Business and professional purposes* (6.6% more).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

	2018		2017	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	82,773,156	1.1	81,868,522	8.7
Leisure, vacations	72,100,646	1.4	71,087,103	10.5
Business and professional purposes	5,033,648	6.6	4,720,463	0.9
Other purposes	5,638,861	-7.0	6,060,956	-4.2

The main length of stay among tourists in 2018 was four to seven nights, with 38.8 million tourists and an annual increase of 1.9%.

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

	2018		2017	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	124,060,336	1.9	121,717,286	5.3
no night ^(*)	41,287,180	3.6	39,848,764	-1.0
1 night	4,413,428	8.2	4,078,375	15.7
2 - 3 nights	14,595,727	2.5	14,235,659	16.2
4 - 7 nights	38,785,045	1.9	38,057,347	8.8
8 - 15 nights	19,460,562	-1.2	19,697,307	2.5
More than 15 nights	5,518,393	-4.9	5,799,834	8.2

(*):Excursionists.

Regarding the form of organization of the trip, 58.5 million tourists arrived in Spain without a tourist package (1.1% more than in 2017) and 24.3 million with a tourist package (1.0% more).

International tourist arrivals by type of organization

	2018		2017	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	82,773,156	1.1	81,868,522	8.7
No Tourist Package	58,475,585	1.1	57,822,800	10.6
Tourist Package	24,297,571	1.0	24,045,722	4.5

Revision and updating of data

The data published today are provisional and will be revised in the third quarter of this year. 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 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>

For further information see **INEbase**: www.ine.es/en/ Twitter: [@es_ine](https://twitter.com/es_ine)

All press releases at: www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa_en.htm

Press office: Telephone numbers: (+34) 91 583 93 63 /94 08 – gprensa@ine.es

Information Area: Telephone number: (+34) 91 583 91 00 – www.ine.es/infoine/?L=1
