

18 March 2021

**Statistics of Spaniards Resident Abroad
01 January 2021**

The Spanish population resident abroad increased 1.4% in 2020

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

In 2020, 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 2,654,723 as at 01 January 2021, according to data from the Register of Spaniards Resident Abroad (RSRA). This figure represents an increase of 1.4% (36,131 persons) as compared with the data as at 01 January 2020.

By continent, 59.6% of registered persons had established their residence in America, 36.7% in Europe and 3.7% in the rest of the world.

The largest increases in the number of registered persons in 2020 were in Europe (29,455 more) and America (5,048 more).

In relative terms, the largest increases were recorded in Africa (3.3%) and Europe (3.1%).

Population with Spanish nationality resident abroad by continent

Continent	Data 1 January 2021	Data 1 January 2020	Variation	
			Absolute	Relative
TOTAL	2,654,723	2,618,592	36,131	1.4
Europe	974,482	945,027	29,455	3.1
Africa	27,727	26,838	889	3.3
America	1,581,434	1,576,350	5,084	0.3
Asia	46,484	46,099	385	0.8
Oceania	24,596	24,278	318	1.3

Population with Spanish nationality resident abroad by continent and sex

The number of registrations of women living abroad exceeded that of men by 30,765. 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	2,654,723	1,311,979	1,342,744	30,765
Europe	974,482	483,696	490,786	7,090
Africa	27,727	15,538	12,189	-3,349
America	1,581,434	774,269	807,165	32,896
Asia	46,484	26,183	20,301	-5,882
Oceania	24,596	12,293	12,303	10

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

31.7% of Spanish resident abroad were born in Spain, 58.1% were born in their current country of residence and 10% 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	2,654,723	840,535	31.7	1,542,809	58.1	265,885	10.0	5,494	0.2
Europe	974,482	477,576	49.0	352,905	36.2	141,138	14.5	2,863	0.3
Africa	27,727	8,743	31.5	16,996	61.3	1,958	7.1	30	0.1
America	1,581,434	320,684	20.3	1,145,441	72.4	112,826	7.1	2,483	0.2
Asia	46,484	19,842	42.7	19,426	41.8	7,202	15.5	14	0.0
Oceania	24,596	13,690	55.7	8,041	32.7	2,761	11.2	104	0.4

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad by continent and age Group

15.3% of those registered in the RSRA as at 01 January 2021 were under 16 years of age, 62.6% were between 16 and 64 years of age, and 22.1% were aged 65 or more years old.

By continent, 48.1% of persons under the age of 16 years were residents in Europe and 44.7% in America. In the age group from 16 to 64 years old, 57.9% were resident in America and 38.5% in Europe. With respect to people over 65 years old, 74.4% had established their residence in America and 23.7% 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	2,654,723	405,277	15.3	1,662,105	62.6	587,341	22.1
Europe	974,482	195,028	48.1	640,304	38.5	139,150	23.7
Africa	27,727	12,956	3.2	12,805	0.8	1,966	0.3
America	1,581,434	181,321	44.7	963,150	57.9	436,963	74.4
Asia	46,484	13,095	3.2	29,799	1.8	3,590	0.6
Oceania	24,596	2,877	0.7	16,047	1.0	5,672	1.0

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad registered during 2020 by continent and place of birth

Most of new registrations during 2020 corresponded to residents in Europe (49.5% of the total) and persons born in their current country of residence (47.0%).

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad registered in 2020 by continent and place of birth

Continent	Total		Spain		Country of residence		Other countries		No Data recorded	
	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
TOTAL	103,822	100.0	37,518	36.1	48,779	47.0	17,524	16.9	1	0.0
Europe	51,414	49.5	24,804	23.9	13,819	13.3	12,791	12.3	-	0.0
Africa	3,875	3.7	1,120	1.1	2,586	2.5	169	0.2	-	0.0
America	42,895	41.3	8,574	8.3	30,370	29.3	3,950	3.8	1	0.0
Asia	4,672	4.5	2,371	2.3	1,790	1.7	511	0.5	-	0.0
Oceania	966	0.9	649	0.6	214	0.2	103	0.1	-	0.0

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad registered during 2020 by continent and age group

Most of the new registrations during 2020 corresponded to persons between 16 to 64 years old (58.9% of the total).

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad registered in 2020 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	103,822	100.0	37,880	36.5	61,139	58.9	4,803	4.6
Europe	51,414	49.5	19,763	19.0	30,513	29.4	1,138	1.1
Africa	3,875	3.7	2,455	2.4	1,334	1.3	86	0.1
America	42,895	41.3	13,466	13.0	25,996	25.0	3,433	3.3
Asia	4,672	4.5	1,962	1.9	2,582	2.5	128	0.1
Oceania	966	0.9	234	0.2	714	0.7	18	0.0

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad registered during 2020 born in Spain, by continent and age group

Among the new registrations of people born in Spain during 2020, the majority were residents in Europe (66.1%) and America (22.9%). And by age group from 16 to 64 years old (68.1%).

Population with Spanish Nationality resident abroad born in Spain registered in 2020 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	37,518	100.0	9,997	26.6	25,556	68.1	1,965	5.2
Europe	24,804	66.1	6,888	18.4	17,055	45.5	861	2.3
Africa	1,120	3.0	451	1.2	634	1.7	35	0.1
America	8,574	22.9	2,179	5.8	5,384	14.4	1,011	2.7
Asia	2,371	6.3	434	1.2	1,895	5.1	42	0.1
Oceania	649	1.7	45	0.1	588	1.6	16	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 2021 were Argentina (475,938), France (279,988) and The United States of America (173,136).

Population with Spanish nationality resident abroad by country (*)

Country of residence	Data 1 January 2021	Data 1 January 2020	Variation	
			Absolute	Relative
Argentina	475,938	473,519	2,419	0.5%
France	279,988	273,290	6,698	2.5%
The United States of America	173,136	167,426	5,710	3.4%
Germany	172,107	167,151	4,956	3.0%
United Kingdom	160,641	152,291	8,350	5.5%
Cuba	149,062	147,617	1,445	1.0%
Mexico	144,845	144,553	292	0.2%
Venezuela	139,608	142,302	-2,694	-1.9%
Brazil	133,680	133,188	492	0.4%
Switzerland	127,011	124,414	2,597	2.1%
Belgium	69,800	67,960	1,840	2.7%
Uruguay	66,809	67,414	-605	-0.9%
Chile	65,919	66,399	-480	-0.7%
Ecuador	57,167	58,646	-1,479	-2.5%
Colombia	37,496	37,086	410	1.1%
Netherlands	30,829	29,984	845	2.8%
Peru	28,023	28,425	-402	-1.4%
The Dominican Republic	27,496	27,310	186	0.7%
Andorra	26,586	26,558	28	0.1%
Italy	25,990	25,446	544	2.1%
Australia	22,980	22,785	195	0.9%
Canada	18,431	18,118	313	1.7%
Bolivia	16,434	16,676	-242	-1.5%
Portugal	14,763	14,274	489	3.4%
Panama	14,403	14,503	-100	-0.7%
Sweden	11,649	11,235	414	3.7%
Morocco	11,605	11,342	263	2.3%
Ireland	11,186	10,681	505	4.7%

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

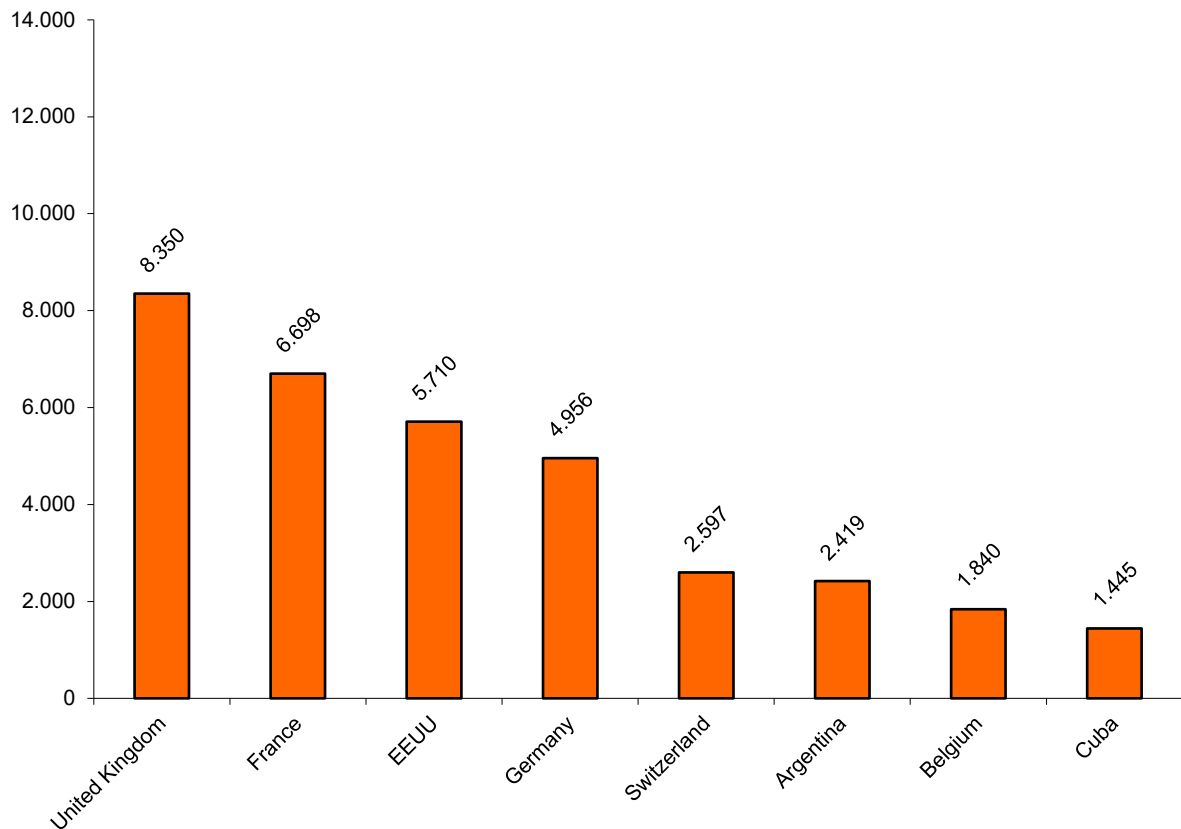
Among the countries with more than 10,000 residents, the largest increases of people with Spanish nationality in relative terms were registered in United Kingdom (5.5%), Ireland (4.7%), Sweden (3.7%) and Portugal (3.4%).

Conversely, the Spanish population registered a decrease in Ecuador (-2.5%), Venezuela (-1.9%), Bolivia (-1.5%) and Peru (-1.4%)

In absolute terms, the highest increases of Spanish population were registered in United Kingdom (8,350 more), France (6,698) and the United States of America (5,710).

On the other hand, the highest decrease of Spanish population were registered in Venezuela (2,694 less) and Ecuador (1,479 less)

Increase of Spanish nationality population resident abroad during 2020 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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