



**FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
 BRITISH BEHAVIOUR ABROAD REPORT 2011**

Overview of total worldwide figures of Consular assistance over the past three years

	Total Consular assistance cases	Drug Arrests	Arrests (including drug arrests)	Death	Hospitalisation	Rape	Sexual Assault	Other Assistance	Lost and stolen passports
2008/09	19387	991	6919	5629	3146	116	154	3423	29,774
2009/10	19839	994	6439	5930	3689	132	140	3509	27,272
2010/11	19228	799	5700	5972	3752	115	163	3526	25,969

Top 20 countries where British nationals required the most Consular assistance from 1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011

The following chart is ordered by number of total Consular assistance cases, from highest to lowest. 2009-2010 figures correspond to 1 April 2009 – 31 March 2010.

Country	Number of British Visitors*	Number of British Residents**	Total Consular assistance cases***		Drug Arrests		Arrests (inc. drug arrests)		Death****		Hospitalisation		Rape		Sexual Assault		Other Assistance	
			10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10
Spain	12,338,267	808,000	4971	5283	171	179	1745	2012	1639	1786	1024	831	19	25	33	20	511	609
USA	5,525,000	829,000	1673	1778	100	105	1272	1367	142	148	150	126	3	3	0	1	106	133
France	19,300,000	253,000	1283	1094	30	58	159	157	674	527	228	217	5	8	9	5	208	180
Thailand	847,198	50,000	967	957	51	68	200	249	347	292	246	199	5	9	3	5	166	203
Greece	2,335,000	35,000	797	923	15	12	112	222	133	149	452	471	15	27	17	11	68	43
Germany	1,986,891	144,643	670	781	4	5	108	124	484	563	31	45	2	0	0	1	45	48
Cyprus	1,300,000	59,000	562	736	31	39	150	207	216	323	113	112	4	2	1	0	78	92
Turkey	2,673,565	51,000	454	423	8	3	79	63	115	93	143	144	17	19	23	27	77	77
Australia	646,668	1,193,000	443	378	9	16	125	124	89	77	39	42	0	1	1	8	189	126
Portugal	1,685,000	30,000	418	383	6	5	28	8	211	218	99	92	5	6	4	10	71	49
UAE	1,000,000	100,000	382	425	5	24	217	265	75	56	41	31	1	1	1	3	47	69
Italy	2,627,258	28,000	349	286	2	10	40	37	122	106	118	101	3	1	6	0	60	41
India	787,000	36,000	338	393	6	3	27	41	125	148	50	99	0	3	2	3	134	99
Egypt	1,455,906	15,000	322	472	1	0	34	35	78	71	100	235	5	2	20	25	85	104
China	1,173,109	47,000	309	406	3	16	131	120	50	46	49	89	0	1	1	0	78	151
Pakistan	275,351	43,000	245	273	5	5	28	21	27	19	4	7	0	0	2	0	184	226
Canada	724,000	611,000	234	214	22	18	100	125	48	35	20	17	0	0	0	0	66	37
Switzerland	732,050	38,239	191	185	1	2	10	19	170	145	2	2	0	0	0	0	9	19
Philippines	96,925	15,000	171	143	0	1	16	17	74	62	25	22	0	1	0	0	56	41
Sweden	602,307	17,391	167	142	16	17	85	107	59	19	6	8	0	0	0	0	17	8

The following chart is ordered by the country that Britons are most likely to require assistance. The chart has been calculated by taking the number of assistance cases divided by the number of visitors and residents combined.

Country	Number of British Visitors*	Number of British Residents**	Visitors and residents combined	Total Consular assistance cases***
Philippines	96,925	14,000	110925	171
Thailand	847,198	50,000	897198	967
Pakistan	275,351	43,000	318351	245
Cyprus	1,300,000	59,000	1359000	562
India	787,000	36,000	823000	338
Spain	12,338,267	808,000	13146267	4971
UAE	1,000,000	100,000	1100000	382
Greece	2,335,000	35,000	2370000	797
Germany	1,986,891	144,643	2131534	670
Sweden	602,307	17,391	619698	167
USA	5,525,000	829,000	6354000	1673
China	1,173,109	47,000	1220109	309
Switzerland	732,050	38,239	770289	191
Portugal	1,685,000	30,000	1715000	418
Australia	646,668	1,193,000	1839668	443
Egypt	1,455,906	15,000	1470906	322
Canada	724,000	611,000	1335000	234
Turkey	2,673,565	51,000	2724565	454
Italy	2,627,258	28,000	2655258	349
France	19,300,000	253,000	19553000	1283

Top 20 countries in order of most drug arrests

There are many countries with high arrest (and drug arrest) figures which are not included in the top 20 countries for total assistance cases. These countries have been included below to provide a full picture of drug arrests around the world.

Country	Number of British Visitors*	Number of British Residents**	Drug Arrests 2010-2011	Total Arrests	Percentage of arrests for drugs 2010-2011
Spain	12,338,267	808,000	171	1745	9.80%
USA	5,525,000	829,000	100	1272	7.86%
Jamaica	184,355	22,000	63	86	73.26%
Norway	250,000	15,000	55	79	69.62%
Thailand	847,198	50,000	51	200	25.50%
Cyprus	1,300,000	59,000	31	150	20.67%
France	19,300,000	253,000	30	159	18.87%
Canada	724,000	611,000	22	100	22.00%
Serbia	20,000	300	22	29	75.86%
Sweden	602,307	17,391	16	85	18.82%
Greece	2,335,000	35,000	15	112	13.39%
Japan	184,000	22,000	15	51	29.41%
Ireland	3,000,000	299,000	13	39	33.33%
Peru	54,000	4,000	13	17	76.47%
Brazil	167,355	11,000	12	13	92.31%
Argentina	58,000	8,000	11	12	91.67%
Australia	646,668	1,193,000	9	125	7.20%
Turkey	2,673,565	51,000	8	79	10.13%
Barbados	250,000	23,000	8	28	28.57%
Croatia	300,000	900	8	13	61.54%

Notes

*These figures are based on visitor numbers provided by individual country authorities

**Source: IPPR (Institute for Public Policy Research) 2010 Figure based on Brits living in country for a year or longer, with the exception of Australia which is provided by Australian Bureau of Statistics and Serbia which is provided by the Serbian Police

***Total no. assistance cases does not include advice and self-help enquiries

****Deaths: 55% of these deaths were of natural causes as opposed to accidental, murder, suicide

Total Worldwide Figures: includes all countries

Top 20 List: Compiled using total assistance services for all countries decided by the following attributes: Arrest; arrest – drugs; assault – sexual; rape; death; hospitalisation; and other assistance.

Other Assistance includes: Abduction; Assault - General; Child - Access; Child - Abduction; Child - Custody; Forced Marriage; Missing Persons; Mental health; Repatriation; Welfare; missing person reports. 'Other assistance' does not include any advice and self-help enquiries.

Lost and Stolen Passports: Passport issues are now largely being dealt with by regional hubs not individual Consulates, so these cases are no longer reflected in statistics collated by Consulates

Drug arrests: There are 10 countries with high drug arrest figures which are not included in the top 20 countries for total assistance cases.

REPORT FINDINGS AND FOREIGN OFFICE TRAVEL ADVICE

ARRESTS

Report findings

- *The highest number of arrests took place in Spain (1,745)*
- *Proportionally people were most likely to be arrested in Thailand followed by USA*
- *Countries with the majority of arrests for drugs include Jamaica, Argentina, Brazil, Serbia and Peru*

FCO advice:

- Before you travel find out about the local laws and customs of your destination - what might be perfectly appropriate in one country might not be acceptable in another. For example, it is an offence to eat and drink in the immediate vicinity of churches and public buildings in Florence. Visit www.fco.gov.uk/travel to find country-specific travel information.
- Understand the risks you are taking if you get involved with illegal drugs. Many countries outside the UK refuse to grant bail before trial, have harsh prison conditions and keep drugs-related offenders in solitary confinement. In some countries narcotics-offences, including possession, result in the death penalty.
- Note that if you are injured or become ill as a result of using illegal drugs, your travel insurance probably won't be valid and medical bills can be extremely expensive.

HOSPITALISATION

Report findings

- *Hospitalisations have increased in Spain. Spain continues to be the country with the highest number of Britons hospitalised (1024 cases)*

- *Proportionally Brits are most likely to be hospitalised in Thailand (246 cases, made up of a mix of ill expats and visitors falling ill or being involved in accidents – an increase of 24% on the year before)*
- *The number of hospitalisations has decreased significantly in Egypt (by 57%) – a combination of a decrease in visitors at the start of 2011 and the government no longer screening for swine flu*

FCO advice:

- If going mid to long haul, speak to a doctor or visit a travel clinic well in advance of your departure so you can get any necessary vaccinations or anti-malarial medication.
- If you hire a moped or quad bike check the small print of your travel insurance to make sure you are covered and always wear a helmet.
- Take your EHIC if visiting countries in the European Economic Area, but make sure you know where the EHIC isn't valid (e.g. Andorra). You can apply for a free EHIC online at www.ehic.org.uk or by phone on 0845 605 0707.
- Remember most insurers won't pay out if you injure yourself or others if you've been drinking alcohol.

DEATHS ABROAD

Report findings

- *347 Britons died in Thailand last year, 60% of which were of natural causes*
- *As a proportion, Brits are significantly more likely to die in the Philippines than in any other country. 84% of which were of natural causes*

FCO advice around death abroad:

- Take out travel insurance as a precaution - if an uninsured person dies whilst abroad any treatment they have received and their repatriation to the UK is unlikely to be covered. Repatriation of a body to the UK can cost thousands of pounds.
- If you are living in the UK and a relative or friend dies when abroad, then you should contact the Foreign Office on 020 7008 1500. If you are abroad, you should contact the relevant embassy, high commission or consulate.
- It is essential that the death is registered in the country where the person died. The Foreign Office can advise you how to do this.
- The Foreign Office can advise you about bringing a body and personal belongings back to the UK and provide support during a distressing time.

RAPE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

Report findings

- *Cases of rapes reported in Greece have almost halved since 2009-10*
- *Proportionally the highest number of sexual assaults occurred in Egypt, followed by Turkey*

FCO advice on rape and sexual assault abroad:

- Don't tell strangers where you are staying or give out too many details about your travel plans.
- Carefully consider whether you should leave the pub, club or party with someone you have just met.
- If you are sexually assaulted abroad, the Foreign Office can provide you with support. Contact the embassy or nearest consulate as soon as possible. You should also tell the local police as soon as you can and insist on a police report.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO CAMPAIGN

The British Behaviour Abroad figures have been released as part of the Know Before You Go (KBYG) campaign which encourages British nationals to prepare for their foreign travel so they can avoid preventable problems. The campaign works with around 490 travel industry partners to communicate its messages to help Britons to stay safe and healthy abroad.

Know Before You Go advice

Every year thousands of British travellers seriously regret not taking these simple steps:

- Get comprehensive travel insurance to cover costs if things go wrong - remember to declare any pre-existing conditions and check the small print
- Check the FCO's country travel advice at www.fco.gov.uk/travel
- Research your destination – know the local laws and customs
- Sign up to www.facebook.com/fcotravel or www.twitter.com/fcotravel to get up-to-the minute travel advice on the go
- Research the health risks on the [NHS travel health information page](#) as soon as possible before travelling
- Check your passport is valid and you have all necessary visas
- Make copies of important travel documents and/or store them online using a secure data storage site
- Tell someone where you are going and leave emergency contact details with them
- Take enough money and have access to emergency funds

It's important to know how the FCO can help you when you're abroad:

The FCO can: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issue you with an emergency travel document• Give you a list of local lawyers, interpreters, doctors or funeral directors• Contact friends and family back home for you• Provide information about transferring funds• Visit you in hospital or if you have been arrested	The FCO can't: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Help you enter a country if you don't have a valid passport or necessary visas• Give you legal advice• Get you better treatment in hospital or prison than is given to local people• Pay any bills or give you money• Make travel arrangements for you
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Before you travel, visit www.fco.gov.uk/travel and make a note of the number of the nearest British Embassy or Consulate to where you are staying, so you can ask for help if you need it.