



**FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE  
 BRITISH BEHAVIOUR ABROAD REPORT 2012**

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

	Total Consular assistance cases	Drug Arrests	Arrests (including drug arrests)	Deaths	Hospitalisations	Rapes	Sexual Assaults	Other Assistance	Lost and stolen passports/Emergency travel documents
2008/09	19,387	991	6,919	5,629	3,146	116	154	3,423	29,774
2009/10	19,839	994	6,439	5,930	3,689	132	140	3,509	27,272
2010/11	19,228	799	5,700	5,972	3,752	115	163	3,526	25,969
2011/12	19,874	816	6,015	6,237	3,739	127	154	3,602	28,659

### Top 20 countries where British nationals required the most Consular assistance from 1 April 2011 - 31 March 2012

The following chart is ordered by number of total Consular assistance cases, from highest to lowest. 2010-2011 figures correspond to 1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011.

Country	Number of Visitors*	Number of British Residents**	Drug Arrests		Total Arrests / Detention		Total Deaths		Hospitalisation		Rape		Sexual Assault		Total Other Assistance		Total Assistance	
			11-12	10-11	11-12	10-11	11-12	10-11	11-12	10-11	11-12	10-11	11-12	10-11	11-12	10-11	11-12	10-11
Spain	13,600,000	808,000	141	171	1,909	1,745	1,755	1,639	1,105	1,024	18	19	22	33	596	511	<b>5,405</b>	4,971
USA	5,525,000	829,000	147	100	1,305	1,272	210	142	143	150	1	3	2	0	161	106	<b>1,822</b>	1,673
France	19,300,000	253,000	27	30	142	159	778	674	197	228	6	5	10	9	186	208	<b>1,319</b>	1,283
Thailand	844,224	50,000	38	51	204	200	296	347	217	246	13	5	4	3	244	166	<b>978</b>	967
Greece	1,760,000	35,000	8	15	111	112	147	133	494	452	14	15	12	17	81	68	<b>859</b>	797
Cyprus	1,069,190	59,000	29	31	164	150	237	484	102	113	10	4	3	1	84	78	<b>600</b>	562
Germany	2,054,839	141706	15	4	118	108	366	216	32	31	1	2	0	0	41	45	<b>558</b>	670
Turkey	2,582,054	51,000	6	8	64	79	110	115	115	143	16	17	23	23	76	189	<b>404</b>	454
Portugal	1,925,256	30,000	4	6	19	28	210	211	83	99	0	5	2	4	54	71	<b>368</b>	418
Australia	614,000	1,193,000	12	9	112	125	94	89	42	39	0	0	2	1	111	189	<b>361</b>	443
Egypt	1,034,000	15,000	6	1	66	34	53	78	120	100	8	5	24	20	88	85	<b>359</b>	322
United Arab Emirates	1,000,000	100,000	11	5	201	217	63	75	28	41	0	1	9	1	47	47	<b>348</b>	382
China	939,160	47,000	8	3	149	16	59	50	39	49	0	0	0	1	84	78	<b>331</b>	309
India	787,000	36,000	4	6	39	3	107	125	67	50	1	0	3	2	105	134	<b>322</b>	338
Canada	1,000,000	611,000	21	22	123	100	103	48	17	20	1	0	1	0	63	66	<b>308</b>	234
Italy	2,676,121	28,000	7	2	22	40	135	122	92	118	0	3	3	6	53	60	<b>305</b>	349
Philippines	104,466	15,000	2	0	20	16	89	74	25	25	0	0	0	0	106	56	<b>240</b>	171
Jamaica	184,355	22,000	65	63	88	86	36	24	23	9	0	1	3	1	65	20	<b>215</b>	141
Pakistan	275,351	43,000	1	5	25	28	19	27	6	4	2	0	0	2	153	184	<b>205</b>	245
New Zealand	316,976	257,000	0	0	33	16	127	112	13	9	1	2	0	1	25	21	<b>199</b>	161
<b>Total Worldwide Figures</b>			<b>816</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>6,015</b>	<b>5,700</b>	<b>6,237</b>	<b>5,972</b>	<b>3,739</b>	<b>3,752</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>3,602</b>	<b>3,526</b>	<b>19,874</b>	<b>19,228</b>

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 Visitors*	Number of British Residents**	Visitors and residents combined	Total Assistance
Philippines	104,466	15,000	119,466	<b>240</b>
Thailand	844,224	50,000	894,224	<b>978</b>
Jamaica	184,355	22,000	206,355	<b>215</b>
Pakistan	275,351	43,000	318,351	<b>205</b>
Cyprus	1,069,190	59,000	1,128,190	<b>600</b>
Greece	1,760,000	35,000	1,795,000	<b>859</b>
India	787,000	36,000	823,000	<b>322</b>
Spain	13,600,000	808,000	14,408,000	<b>5,405</b>
New Zealand	316,976	257,000	573,976	<b>199</b>
Egypt	1,034,000	15,000	1,049,000	<b>359</b>
China	939,160	47,000	986,160	<b>331</b>
United Arab Emirates	1,000,000	100,000	1,100,000	<b>348</b>
USA	5,525,000	829,000	6,354,000	<b>1,822</b>
Germany	2,054,839	141,706	2,054,839	<b>558</b>
Australia	614,000	1,193,000	1,807,000	<b>361</b>
Canada	1,000,000	611,000	1,611,000	<b>308</b>
Portugal	1,925,256	30,000	1,955,256	<b>368</b>
Turkey	2,582,054	51,000	2,633,054	<b>404</b>
Italy	2,676,121	28,000	2,704,121	<b>305</b>
France	19,300,000	253,000	19,553,000	<b>1,319</b>

\* 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 Germany which is based on Federal Government statistics, including military and their dependents

#### **Notes:**

**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

## **REPORT FINDINGS AND FOREIGN & COMMONWEALTH OFFICE TRAVEL ADVICE**

### **HOSPITALISATIONS**

#### ***Report findings:***

- *Spain continues to be the country with the highest number of Britons hospitalised (1105 cases). 302 of these cases occurred in Majorca and 239 in Ibiza*
- *Over the last 2 years Majorca has seen a 132% increase in hospitalisations (since 2009/2010) and Ibiza has seen a 40% increase over the same period. Many involve teenage holidaymakers. Common causes include road accidents, balcony incidents and heart attacks.*
- *Proportionally Brits are most likely to be hospitalised in Greece (494 cases) followed by Thailand and the Philippines*

- *Popular holiday hotspots have seen an increase in hospitalisations – such as Spain, Greece and Egypt*

**FCO advice:**

- Research the health risks of the country you are visiting online as soon as possible before travelling, so you can get the right vaccinations and preventative measures (e.g. malaria tablets) if required. Visit <http://www.nhs.uk/livewell/travelhealth/Pages/Travelhealthhome.aspx> for more information
- Ensure your medication is legal in the country you are visiting – contact the Embassy of the country to which you are travelling and visit <http://www.nathnac.org> and [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) for more information
- 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
- Remember most insurers won't pay out if you injure yourself or others when you've been drinking alcohol – check your small print

## DEATHS ABROAD

**Report findings:**

- *1755 British nationals died in Spain, followed by France (778) and Germany (366)*
- *As a proportion, Brits are significantly more likely to die in the Philippines than in any other country - there are significant numbers of elderly British expats who live in the Philippines, which accounts for most of the hospitalisation or death cases – relatively few tourists die or are hospitalised.*

***FCO advice around death abroad:***

- No matter how old or how fit you are, take out comprehensive travel insurance - if an uninsured person dies whilst abroad any treatment they have received and their repatriation to the UK is unlikely to be covered. Bringing a body back 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 FCO 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 FCO can advise you how to do this.
- The FCO 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:***

- *Overall there was a 10% increase in reported rape cases from the previous year*
- *The highest number of reported sexual assaults occurred in Egypt (24) followed by Turkey (23)*

***FCO advice on rape and sexual assault abroad:***

- We encourage anyone who is a victim of rape or sexual assault overseas to contact their nearest Embassy or Consulate for support. There are contact details for Embassies on the FCO website at: <http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/travel-and-living-abroad/find-an-embassy/>  
We can offer support in a number of ways including explaining local procedures, accompanying people to the police station, helping them deal with local authorities and medical staff and contacting friends or family at home if that is wanted.

- We would encourage people to take the same precautions they would at home to avoid putting themselves at risk – for example keeping an eye on their friends; never accepting car rides from strangers, and asking their hotel to recommend a taxi firm; and never leaving food or drinks unattended, so they can't be spiked.

## ARRESTS

Arrest figures were released on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2012

### ***Report findings:***

- We have seen high numbers of alcohol-related arrests across major holiday destinations, particularly among young people. Last year around half of all British nationals arrested overseas were under 34 years of age
- Arrests have increased in key popular holiday destinations – for example cases in Spain and Cyprus are up by 9% (1909 and 164)
- Spain detained the highest number of Brits (1909) followed by the USA (1305) and Thailand (204)
- The USA detained the highest number of Brits for drugs offences (147) followed by Spain (141) and Jamaica (65)

### ***FCO advice:***

- Don't take risks with the law abroad – or you could end up throwing years of your life away in a foreign prison
- Think about what you are doing at all times and trust your instincts – do not take risks that you would not at home. Many countries have a zero-tolerance approach to offences involving drugs and alcohol and sentences can be long
- It is a good idea to research the local laws and customs of the country you are visiting - there may be serious penalties for breaking a law that might seem trivial at home. Country-specific local laws and customs can be found at [www.fco.gov.uk/travel](http://www.fco.gov.uk/travel)

## 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 550 travel industry partners to communicate its messages to help Britons to stay safe and healthy abroad.

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

<p><b>The FCO can:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Issue you with an emergency travel document</li><li>• Give you a list of local lawyers, interpreters, doctors or funeral directors</li><li>• Contact friends and family back home for you if necessary</li><li>• Provide information about transferring funds</li><li>• Visit you in hospital or if you have been arrested</li></ul>	<p><b>The FCO can't:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Help you enter a country if you don't have a valid passport or necessary visas</li><li>• Give you legal advice</li><li>• Get you better treatment in hospital or prison than is given to local people</li><li>• Pay any bills or give you money</li><li>• Make travel arrangements for you</li></ul>
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Before you travel, visit [www.fco.gov.uk/travel](http://www.fco.gov.uk/travel) to get the latest travel advice about your destination, 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.