

Total cruise passenger traffic during the second quarter of 2021 amounted to 23,437.

Cruise Passengers: Q2/2021

During the second quarter of 2021, there were 19 cruise liner calls in Malta. Transit passengers accounted for the absolute majority of total traffic, reaching 23,435 passengers. On average, every vessel that berthed in Malta carried 1,234 passengers (Table 1).

EU nationals comprised the largest share of total cruise passengers during the period under review, at 95.0 per cent. The major market was Italy with 15,955 passengers, accounting for 68.1 per cent of the total passengers. The total number of cruise passengers from Non-EU countries during the quarter under review stood at 1,175 (Table 1).

Female passengers amounted to 12,167 and comprised 51.9 per cent of the total traffic. The largest share of passengers, or 35.0 per cent, fell within the 40 to 59 age bracket, followed by the 20 to 39 category, at 27.0 per cent (Table 1).

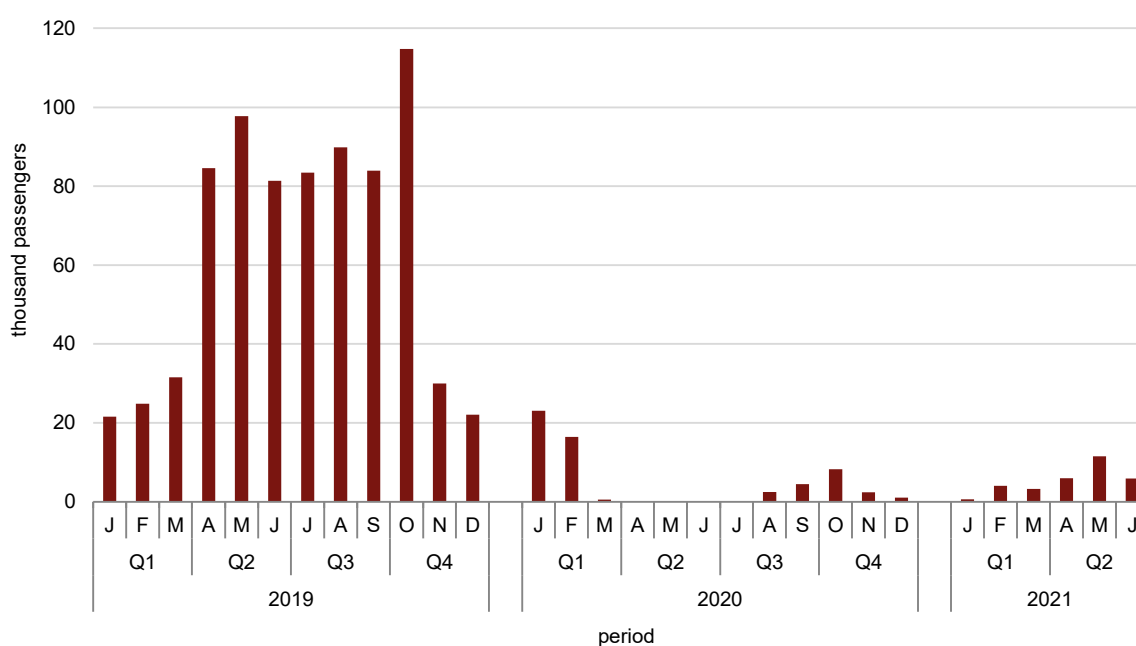


January-June 2021

During the first 6 months of the year, total cruise passengers stood at 31,403, a decrease of 21.8 per cent over 2020. Of these, 94.9 per cent came from EU Member States. The majority of the passengers were females amounting to 16,269 or 51.8 per cent of the total. Most passengers were between 40 and 59 years old, totalling 11,201. These were followed by passengers aged 20-39 years, reaching 8,614.

There were 28 cruise liner calls during the first two quarters of 2021, with an average of 1,122 passengers per vessel, compared to 9 calls and an average of 4,464 passengers per vessel in the comparative period of 2020 (Table 2) ■

Chart 1. Total cruise passenger traffic



Statistics in this News Release should be interpreted in the context of the COVID-19 situation.

Table 1. Cruise passengers by period and passenger characteristics

Characteristics	April-June		
	2019	2020 ¹	2021
Total traffic²	263,608	0	23,437
Transit	210,671	0	23,435
Landed	52,937	0	2
<i>of which:</i>			
Passengers on cruise liners berthed in Gozo	2,421	0	0
Passengers staying overnight	8,419	0	1,110
Country of Nationality			
EU	172,642	0	22,262
<i>of which:</i>			
Belgium	1,622	0	178
Italy	27,704	0	15,955
France	14,072	0	2,162
Germany	52,551	0	2,107
Romania	813	0	396
Spain	9,603	0	241
Non-EU	90,966	0	1,175
<i>of which:</i>			
Brazil	2,168	0	27
Republic of Moldova	49	0	25
Russian Federation	2,742	0	75
Switzerland	3,035	0	650
Ukraine	707	0	85
U.S.A.	38,731	0	37
Sex			
Males	120,439	0	11,270
Females	143,169	0	12,167
Age group			
0-19	27,845	0	5,140
20-39	31,909	0	6,338
40-59	79,489	0	8,195
60-79	113,583	0	3,536
80+	10,782	0	228
Cruise liner calls	130	0	19

¹Owing to the COVID-19 situation, in 2020 there were no cruise liner calls from 10 March until 21 August.

²See methodological note 3.

Table 2. Cruise passengers by period and passenger characteristics: Cumulative 2019-2021

Characteristics	January-June			Change
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2021/2020
Total traffic²:	341,659	40,175	31,403	-8,772
Transit	288,524	40,116	31,398	-8,718
Landed	53,135	59	5	-54
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers on cruise liners berthed in Gozo	2,421	0	0	0
Passengers staying overnight	8,419	893	1,110	217
Country of Nationality				
EU	224,061	21,512	29,807	8,295
<i>of which:</i>				
Belgium	2,071	160	187	27
Italy	46,358	9,179	21,809	12,630
France	23,018	4,283	3,021	-1,262
Germany	59,217	2,514	2,542	28
Romania	1,193	194	506	312
Spain	15,001	2,287	314	-1,973
Non-EU	117,598	18,663	1,596	-17,067
<i>of which:</i>				
Brazil	3,932	1,709	40	-1,669
Republic of Moldova	108	29	32	3
Russian Federation	4,782	1,919	94	-1,825
Switzerland	4,061	361	868	507
Ukraine	1,265	538	128	-410
U.S.A.	43,783	2,794	97	-2,697
Sex:				
Males	156,860	18,925	15,134	-3,791
Females	184,799	21,250	16,269	-4,981
Age group:				
0-19	40,442	7,507	6,474	-1,033
20-39	45,459	7,761	8,614	853
40-59	103,988	12,988	11,201	-1,787
60-79	138,732	10,690	4,828	-5,862
80+	13,038	1,229	286	-943
Cruise liner calls	151	9	28	19

¹Owing to the COVID-19 situation, in 2020 there were no cruise liner calls from 10 March until 21 August.

² See methodological note 3.

Methodological Notes

1. The data in this release is compiled on the basis of administrative records supplied by Transport Malta.
2. Cruise liners calling at both Malta and Gozo during a single voyage are recorded as one cruise liner call.
3. The majority of passengers embarking on cruise liners from Malta generally end their trip at the same destination. Embarkations are therefore not included in total traffic figures, in order to avoid double counting. This measure was adopted as from News Release no. 079/2013, dated 23 April 2013. The referred news release also includes figures for 2011 and 2012.
4. For clarity, embarkation figures for the period under review are being provided:

Embarkations	2019	2020	2021
April-June	51,566	0	0
January-June	51,710	46	0

5. Definitions:

- **Cruise passenger traffic:** comprises transit passengers and passengers who land in Malta.
 - **Embarkations:** comprise all cruise passengers who are either Maltese or who are foreigners who arrive in Malta by other means of transport.
 - **Transit passengers:** comprise all cruise passengers who arrive in and leave Malta on the same cruise ship.
 - **Landed passengers:** comprise all cruise passengers who arrive in Malta on a cruise ship and leave by other means of transport, or alternatively, stay in Malta.
 - **Passengers staying overnight:** comprise passengers who spend at least one night in the Maltese Islands, either onboard the cruise ship or on land.
 - **Average number of passengers per vessel:** computed by dividing total cruise passenger traffic by the number of cruise liner calls.
6. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
 7. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:
<https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/ConceptDetails.aspx?id=388>
 8. A detailed news release calendar is available on:
https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx