

In the first quarter of 2017, sea transport between Malta and Gozo registered increases compared to the corresponding quarter of 2016.

Sea transport between Malta and Gozo: Q1/2017

A total of 1,040,188 passengers travelled between Malta and Gozo during the first quarter this year, up by 3.0 per cent when compared to the corresponding quarter in 2016. The highest number of passengers was recorded in March - 406,510 or 39.1 per cent of the total for the quarter. The number of vehicles increased by 4.9 per cent, totalling 320,432 (Tables 1 and 2).

The number of trips amounted to 5,216, an increase of 1.0 per cent over the same period in 2016 (Table 1). The majority of trips took place in March - 1,830 or 35.1 per cent of total trips for the quarter (Table 2).

January-March

During this period, passenger traffic originating from Ċirkewwa was busiest on Friday and Thursday, whereas highest numbers from Mgarr were recorded on Sunday and Monday (Charts 3 and 4) ■

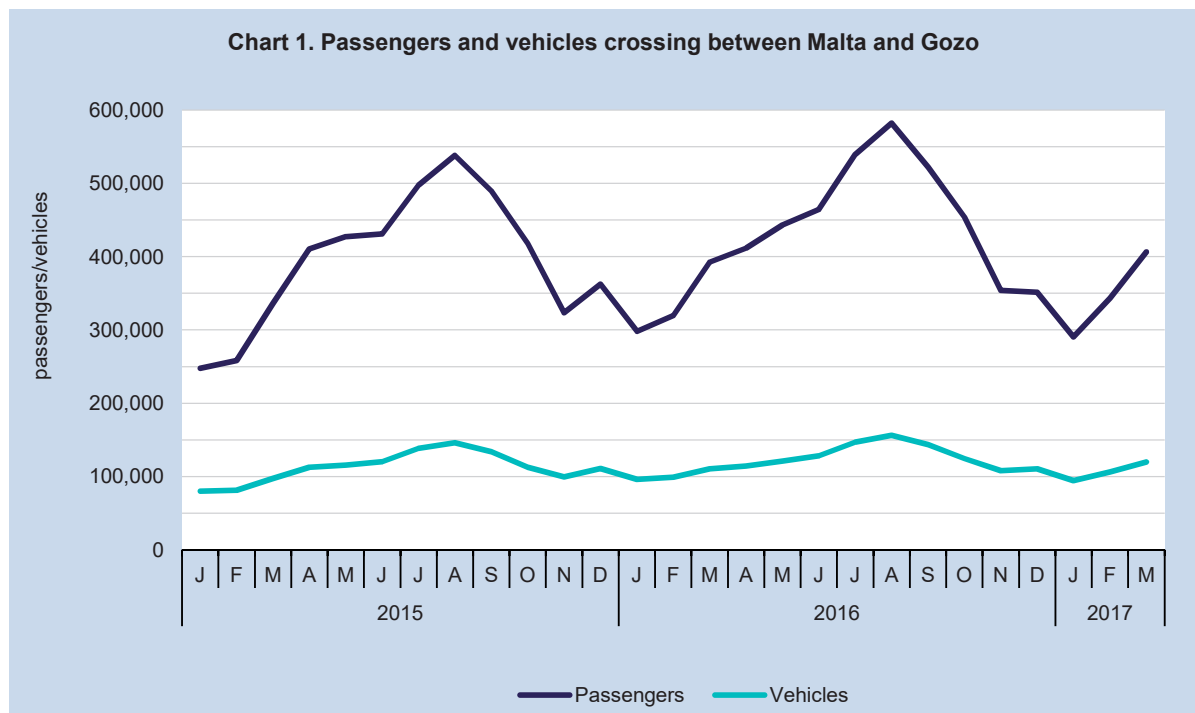


Table 1. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by quarter

Quarter	2015	2016	2017	Change	Percentage change	
				2017/2016	2017/2016	
Trips	Jan-Mar	4,591	5,164	5,216	52	1.0
	Apr-Jun	5,136	5,426			
	Jul-Sep	5,822	6,324			
	Oct-Dec	5,274	5,490			
	Total	20,823	22,404			
Vehicles	Jan-Mar	258,648	305,409	320,432	15,023	4.9
	Apr-Jun	348,456	363,779			
	Jul-Sep	418,190	446,890			
	Oct-Dec	323,208	343,036			
	Total	1,348,502	1,459,114			
Passengers	Jan-Mar	842,193	1,010,213	1,040,188	29,975	3.0
	Apr-Jun	1,268,551	1,319,541			
	Jul-Sep	1,525,143	1,643,898			
	Oct-Dec	1,103,785	1,159,348			
	Total	4,739,672	5,133,000			

Chart 2. Passengers and vehicles to and from Malta and Gozo: Quarter 1

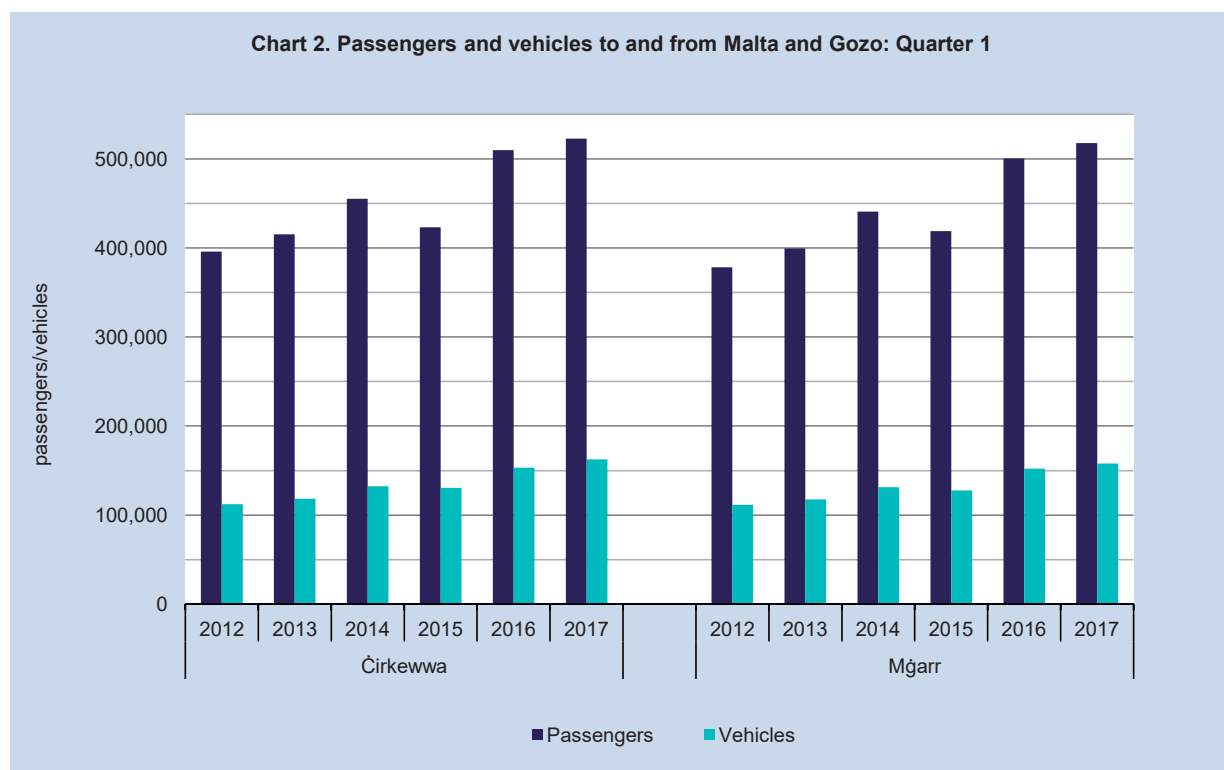


Table 2. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by month

Month	2015	2016	2017	Change	Percentage change	
				2017/2016	2017/2016	
Trips	January	1,543	1,718	1,717	-1	-0.1
	February	1,448	1,658	1,669	11	0.7
	March	1,600	1,788	1,830	42	2.3
	April	1,614	1,730			
	May	1,750	1,788			
	June	1,772	1,908			
	July	1,906	2,082			
	August	2,006	2,178			
	September	1,910	2,064			
	October	1,836	1,956			
	November	1,654	1,756			
	December	1,784	1,778			
	Total	20,823	22,404			
Vehicles	January	80,082	95,996	94,258	-1,738	-1.8
	February	81,210	99,129	106,256	7,127	7.2
	March	97,356	110,284	119,918	9,634	8.7
	April	112,638	114,387			
	May	115,440	120,991			
	June	120,378	128,401			
	July	138,281	146,998			
	August	146,127	156,192			
	September	133,782	143,700			
	October	112,768	124,651			
	November	99,582	107,935			
	December	110,858	110,450			
	Total	1,348,502	1,459,114			
Passengers	January	247,609	298,071	290,357	-7,714	-2.6
	February	258,233	319,560	343,321	23,761	7.4
	March	336,351	392,582	406,510	13,928	3.5
	April	410,096	411,456			
	May	427,338	443,447			
	June	431,117	464,638			
	July	497,596	539,530			
	August	538,016	582,264			
	September	489,531	522,104			
	October	417,869	454,022			
	November	323,322	353,830			
	December	362,594	351,496			
	Total	4,739,672	5,133,000			

Table 3. Sea transport to and from Malta and Gozo by month

Month	Ċirkewwa - Mġarr		Change	Percentage change	Mġarr - Ċirkewwa		Change	Percentage change	
	2016	2017	2017/2016	2017/2016	2016	2017	2017/2016	2017/2016	
Trips	January	859	858	-1	-0.1	859	859	0	0.0
	February	829	834	5	0.6	829	835	6	0.7
	March	894	915	21	2.3	894	915	21	2.3
	April	865				865			
	May	894				894			
	June	954				954			
	July	1,041				1,041			
	August	1,089				1,089			
	September	1,032				1,032			
	October	978				978			
	November	878				878			
	December	889				889			
	Total	11,202				11,202			
Vehicles	January	47,560	46,603	-957	-2.0	48,436	47,655	-781	-1.6
	February	49,795	54,073	4,278	8.6	49,334	52,183	2,849	5.8
	March	56,041	61,906	5,865	10.5	54,243	58,012	3,769	6.9
	April	57,595				56,792			
	May	60,219				60,772			
	June	65,182				63,219			
	July	74,748				72,250			
	August	79,340				76,852			
	September	73,003				70,697			
	October	62,689				61,962			
	November	54,220				53,715			
	December	57,448				53,002			
	Total	737,840				721,274			
Passengers	January	148,318	143,050	-5,268	-3.6	149,753	147,307	-2,446	-1.6
	February	161,957	173,284	11,327	7.0	157,603	170,037	12,434	7.9
	March	199,443	206,317	6,874	3.4	193,139	200,193	7,054	3.7
	April	206,761				204,695			
	May	222,332				221,115			
	June	237,761				226,877			
	July	272,024				267,506			
	August	294,794				287,470			
	September	262,055				260,049			
	October	226,493				227,529			
	November	175,791				178,039			
	December	178,363				173,133			
	Total	2,586,092				2,546,908			

Table 4. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by day of the week

Day of the week		January-March			Change	Percentage change
		2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	2017/2016
Trips	Monday	655	752	749	-3	-0.4
	Tuesday	674	726	713	-13	-1.8
	Wednesday	572	700	702	2	0.3
	Thursday	662	734	758	24	3.3
	Friday	684	738	806	68	9.2
	Saturday	636	716	666	-50	-7.0
	Sunday	708	798	822	24	3.0
	Total	4,591	5,164	5,216	52	1.0
Vehicles	Monday	34,973	40,718	42,773	2,055	5.0
	Tuesday	35,033	40,120	40,451	331	0.8
	Wednesday	32,910	39,320	41,114	1,794	4.6
	Thursday	35,428	41,580	46,810	5,230	12.6
	Friday	43,774	46,545	53,528	6,983	15.0
	Saturday	36,414	45,659	42,732	-2,927	-6.4
	Sunday	40,116	51,467	53,024	1,557	3.0
	Total	258,648	305,409	320,432	15,023	4.9
Passengers	Monday	108,140	130,193	137,412	7,219	5.5
	Tuesday	108,653	128,063	124,140	-3,923	-3.1
	Wednesday	108,675	130,765	134,187	3,422	2.6
	Thursday	113,890	133,642	150,859	17,217	12.9
	Friday	135,657	149,615	174,595	24,980	16.7
	Saturday	129,276	164,907	145,494	-19,413	-11.8
	Sunday	137,902	173,028	173,501	473	0.3
	Total	842,193	1,010,213	1,040,188	29,975	3.0

Chart 3. Vehicles to and from Malta and Gozo by day of the week: January-March

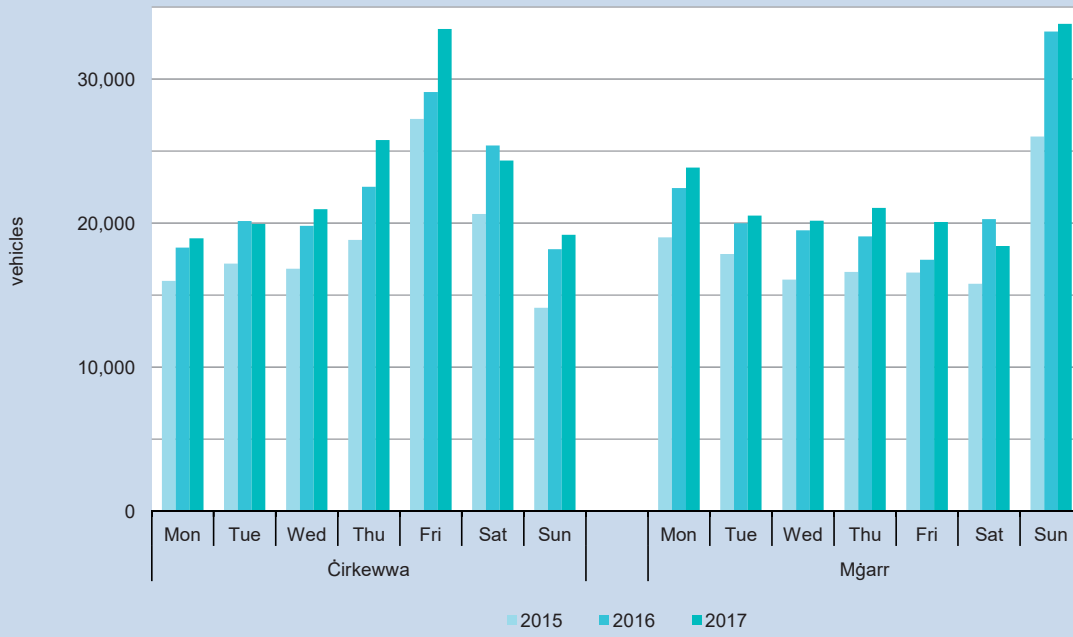
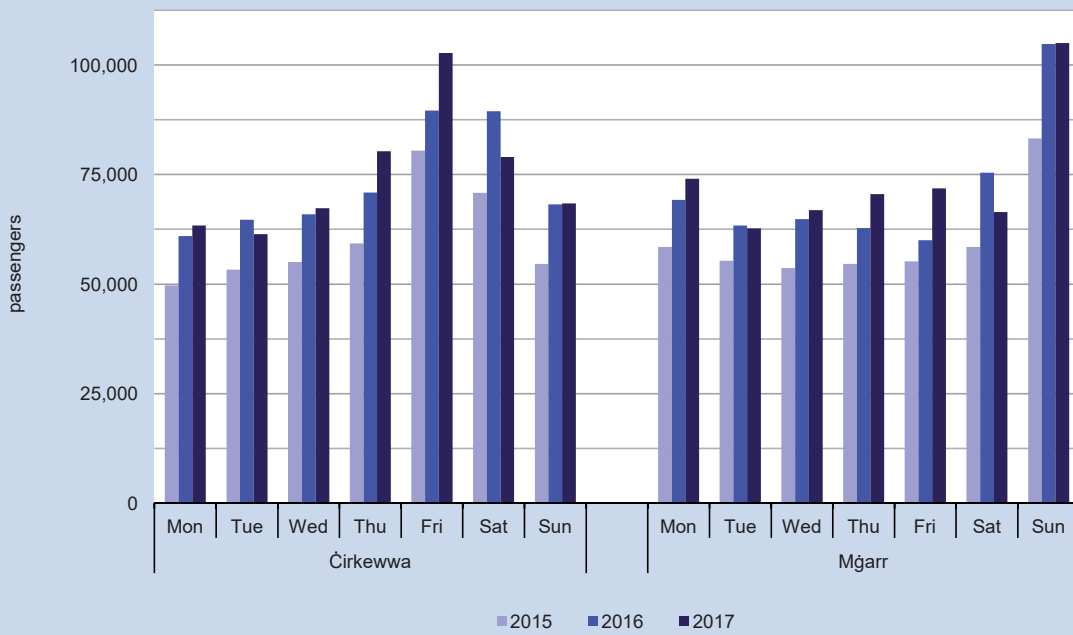


Chart 4. Passengers to and from Malta and Gozo by day of the week: January-March



Methodological Notes

1. The source for the data included in this release is administrative information provided by the Gozo Channel Co. Ltd.
2. The table below illustrates the passenger and vehicle capacity of each Gozo Channel vessel:

Carrying capacity

Vessel	Vehicles	Passengers
MV Gaudos	72	900
MV Malita	138	900
MV Ta' Pinu	138	900

Note: MV Malita was out of service for docking purposes between the 09/01/2017 - 02/02/2017 and 14/02/2017-17/02/2017.

3. Data for passengers comprise: foot and vehicle passengers and vehicle drivers.
4. Different approaches are applied for the collection of data at the Mġarr and Ċirkewwa Harbours, respectively. While the data source for the Mġarr side is the Automated Ticketing System (ATS), data for the Ċirkewwa side is dependent on the manual clicking system.
5. The data are not normally subject to revision.
6. Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.
7. The advanced news release calendar may be accessed at www.nso.gov.mt