

During the fourth quarter of 2018, sea transport between Malta and Gozo registered increases compared to the corresponding quarter of 2017.

Sea Transport between Malta and Gozo: Q4/2018

A total of 1,321,429 passengers travelled between Malta and Gozo during the fourth quarter of last year, up by 5.4 per cent when compared to the corresponding quarter in 2017. The highest number of passengers was recorded in October – 494,964 or 37.5 per cent of the total for the quarter. The number of vehicles increased by 8.9 per cent, totalling 398,596 (Tables 1 and 2).

The number of trips amounted to 5,820, an increase of 7.0 per cent over the same quarter in 2017 (Table 1). Most trips took place in October – 2,088 or 35.9 per cent of total trips for the quarter (Table 2).

Annual Perspective: 2018

Movements between Malta and Gozo continued to increase. Overall, the number of trips went up by 1,090 or 4.8 per cent, over 2017. Vehicle movements between the islands increased by 115,880 or 7.5 per cent, over the previous year, while the number of passengers went up by 374,478 or 7.0 per cent (Tables 1 and 2).

As in previous years, August recorded the highest number of trips, 2,292 or 9.7 per cent of the total. August also registered the largest share of vehicles and passengers crossing between the two islands, 172,120 and 620,042, respectively (Table 2).

Passenger traffic originating from Ċirkewwa was busiest on Fridays and Saturdays, whereas the highest volumes from Mġarr were recorded on Sundays and Saturdays (Charts 3 and 4) ■

Chart 1. Passengers and vehicles crossing between Malta and Gozo

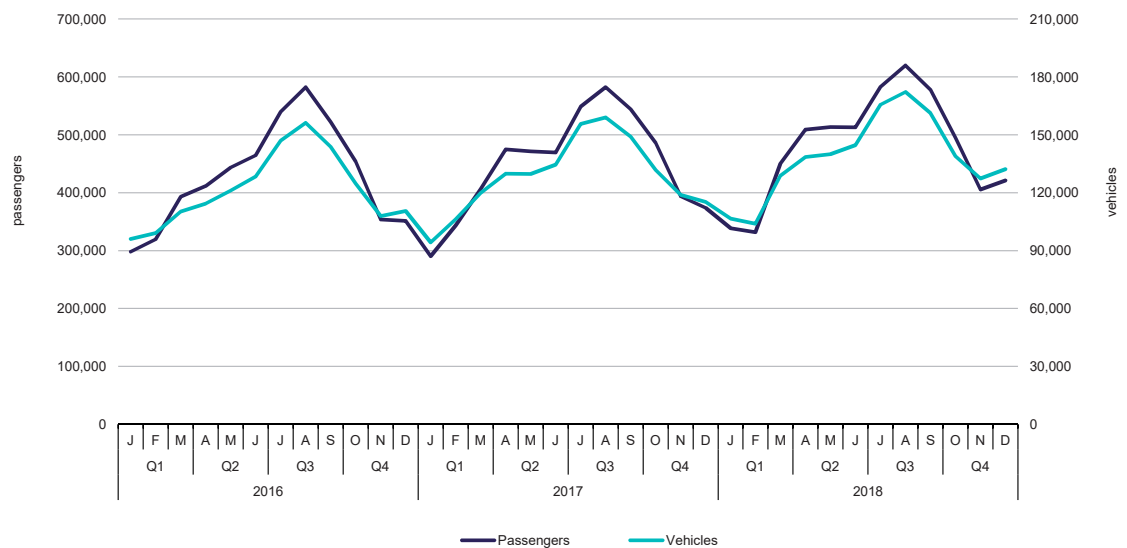


Table 1. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by quarter

Quarter	2016	2017	2018	Change	Percentage change	
				2018/2017	2018/2017	
Trips	Jan-Mar	5,164	5,216	5,259	43	0.8
	Apr-Jun	5,426	5,541	5,776	235	4.2
	Jul-Sep	6,324	6,334	6,764	430	6.8
	Oct-Dec	5,490	5,438	5,820	382	7.0
	Total	22,404	22,529	23,619	1,090	4.8
Vehicles	Jan-Mar	305,409	320,432	339,266	18,834	5.9
	Apr-Jun	363,779	394,106	423,152	29,046	7.4
	Jul-Sep	446,890	463,585	498,888	35,303	7.6
	Oct-Dec	343,036	365,899	398,596	32,697	8.9
	Total	1,459,114	1,544,022	1,659,902	115,880	7.5
Passengers	Jan-Mar	1,010,213	1,040,188	1,121,001	80,813	7.8
	Apr-Jun	1,319,541	1,415,326	1,535,414	120,088	8.5
	Jul-Sep	1,643,898	1,674,618	1,780,474	105,856	6.3
	Oct-Dec	1,159,348	1,253,708	1,321,429	67,721	5.4
	Total	5,133,000	5,383,840	5,758,318	374,478	7.0

Chart 2. Passengers and vehicles to and from Malta and Gozo: October-December

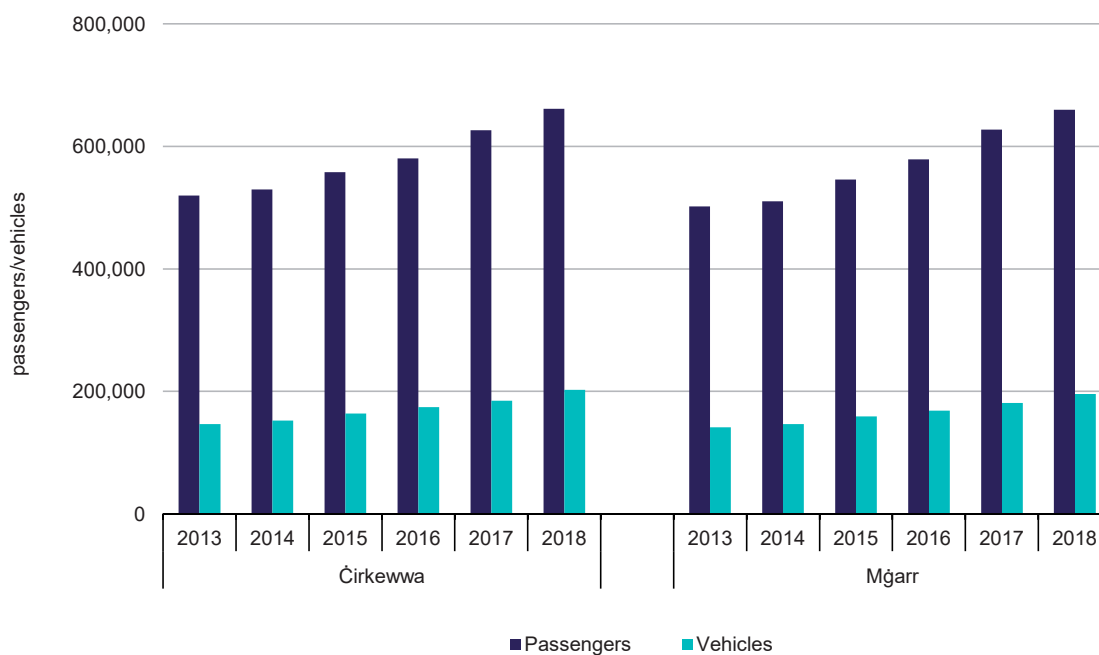


Table 2. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by month

Month	2016	2017	2018	Change	Percentage change	
				2018/2017	2018/2017	
Trips	January	1,718	1,717	1,771	54	3.1
	February	1,658	1,669	1,614	-55	-3.3
	March	1,788	1,830	1,874	44	2.4
	April	1,730	1,834	1,870	36	2.0
	May	1,788	1,821	1,898	77	4.2
	June	1,908	1,886	2,008	122	6.5
	July	2,082	2,098	2,252	154	7.3
	August	2,178	2,158	2,292	134	6.2
	September	2,064	2,078	2,220	142	6.8
	October	1,956	1,964	2,088	124	6.3
	November	1,756	1,729	1,822	93	5.4
	December	1,778	1,745	1,910	165	9.5
	Total	22,404	22,529	23,619	1,090	4.8
Vehicles	January	95,996	94,258	106,556	12,298	13.0
	February	99,129	106,256	103,893	-2,363	-2.2
	March	110,284	119,918	128,817	8,899	7.4
	April	114,387	129,837	138,464	8,627	6.6
	May	120,991	129,726	140,028	10,302	7.9
	June	128,401	134,543	144,660	10,117	7.5
	July	146,998	155,624	165,538	9,914	6.4
	August	156,192	158,981	172,120	13,139	8.3
	September	143,700	148,980	161,230	12,250	8.2
	October	124,651	131,779	138,973	7,194	5.5
	November	107,935	118,862	127,404	8,542	7.2
	December	110,450	115,258	132,219	16,961	14.7
	Total	1,459,114	1,544,022	1,659,902	115,880	7.5
Passengers	January	298,071	290,357	338,780	48,423	16.7
	February	319,560	343,321	331,858	-11,463	-3.3
	March	392,582	406,510	450,363	43,853	10.8
	April	411,456	474,647	508,880	34,233	7.2
	May	443,447	471,397	513,598	42,201	9.0
	June	464,638	469,282	512,936	43,654	9.3
	July	539,530	548,452	582,541	34,089	6.2
	August	582,264	582,199	620,042	37,843	6.5
	September	522,104	543,967	577,891	33,924	6.2
	October	454,022	486,147	494,964	8,817	1.8
	November	353,830	393,745	405,514	11,769	3.0
	December	351,496	373,816	420,951	47,135	12.6
	Total	5,133,000	5,383,840	5,758,318	374,478	7.0

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

Month	Ċirkewwa - Mġarr		Change	Percentage change	Mġarr - Ċirkewwa		Change	Percentage change	
	2017	2018	2018/2017	2018/2017	2017	2018	2018/2017	2018/2017	
Trips	January	858	885	27	3.1	859	886	27	3.1
	February	834	807	-27	-3.2	835	807	-28	-3.4
	March	915	937	22	2.4	915	937	22	2.4
	April	917	935	18	2.0	917	935	18	2.0
	May	910	948	38	4.2	911	950	39	4.3
	June	943	1,004	61	6.5	943	1,004	61	6.5
	July	1,049	1,126	77	7.3	1,049	1,126	77	7.3
	August	1,079	1,146	67	6.2	1,079	1,146	67	6.2
	September	1,039	1,110	71	6.8	1,039	1,110	71	6.8
	October	982	1,044	62	6.3	982	1,044	62	6.3
	November	864	911	47	5.4	865	911	46	5.3
	December	873	955	82	9.4	872	955	83	9.5
	Total	11,263	11,808	545	4.8	11,266	11,811	545	4.8
Vehicles	January	46,603	52,616	6,013	12.9	47,655	53,940	6,285	13.2
	February	54,073	52,372	-1,701	-3.1	52,183	51,521	-662	-1.3
	March	61,906	66,509	4,603	7.4	58,012	62,308	4,296	7.4
	April	65,349	69,252	3,903	6.0	64,488	69,212	4,724	7.3
	May	64,338	70,367	6,029	9.4	65,388	69,661	4,273	6.5
	June	69,380	74,872	5,492	7.9	65,163	69,788	4,625	7.1
	July	78,036	82,479	4,443	5.7	77,588	83,059	5,471	7.1
	August	80,338	88,139	7,801	9.7	78,643	83,981	5,338	6.8
	September	75,830	80,815	4,985	6.6	73,150	80,415	7,265	9.9
	October	65,742	70,311	4,569	6.9	66,037	68,662	2,625	4.0
	November	59,534	64,507	4,973	8.4	59,328	62,897	3,569	6.0
	December	59,416	67,865	8,449	14.2	55,842	64,354	8,512	15.2
	Total	780,545	840,104	59,559	7.6	763,477	819,798	56,321	7.4
Passengers	January	143,050	166,565	23,515	16.4	147,307	172,215	24,908	16.9
	February	173,284	166,056	-7,228	-4.2	170,037	165,802	-4,235	-2.5
	March	206,317	229,062	22,745	11.0	200,193	221,301	21,108	10.5
	April	237,070	253,563	16,493	7.0	237,577	255,317	17,740	7.5
	May	233,975	257,187	23,212	9.9	237,422	256,411	18,989	8.0
	June	239,320	261,798	22,478	9.4	229,962	251,138	21,176	9.2
	July	275,281	290,868	15,587	5.7	273,171	291,673	18,502	6.8
	August	291,236	310,589	19,353	6.6	290,963	309,453	18,490	6.4
	September	274,817	287,560	12,743	4.6	269,150	290,331	21,181	7.9
	October	242,290	247,237	4,947	2.0	243,857	247,727	3,870	1.6
	November	195,268	202,064	6,796	3.5	198,477	203,450	4,973	2.5
	December	188,899	212,027	23,128	12.2	184,917	208,924	24,007	13.0
	Total	2,700,807	2,884,576	183,769	6.8	2,683,033	2,873,742	190,709	7.1

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

Day of the week		January-December			Change	Percentage change
		2016	2017	2018	2018/2017	2018/2017
Trips	Monday	3,174	3,159	3,376	217	6.9
	Tuesday	3,132	3,141	3,267	126	4.0
	Wednesday	3,054	3,078	3,206	128	4.2
	Thursday	3,170	3,202	3,373	171	5.3
	Friday	3,352	3,305	3,523	218	6.6
	Saturday	3,142	3,146	3,267	121	3.8
	Sunday	3,380	3,498	3,607	109	3.1
	Total	22,404	22,529	23,619	1,090	4.8
Vehicles	Monday	196,993	206,095	231,404	25,309	12.3
	Tuesday	192,794	201,343	214,896	13,553	6.7
	Wednesday	194,482	206,835	220,309	13,474	6.5
	Thursday	198,670	216,759	231,519	14,760	6.8
	Friday	232,290	241,782	261,735	19,953	8.3
	Saturday	211,591	227,711	242,922	15,211	6.7
	Sunday	232,294	243,497	257,117	13,620	5.6
	Total	1,459,114	1,544,022	1,659,902	115,880	7.5
Passengers	Monday	677,161	703,378	781,770	78,392	11.1
	Tuesday	663,806	680,752	706,265	25,513	3.7
	Wednesday	699,760	728,110	767,095	38,985	5.4
	Thursday	694,915	751,769	801,414	49,645	6.6
	Friday	776,656	804,055	875,995	71,940	8.9
	Saturday	795,437	843,878	894,372	50,494	6.0
	Sunday	825,265	871,898	931,407	59,509	6.8
	Total	5,133,000	5,383,840	5,758,318	374,478	7.0

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

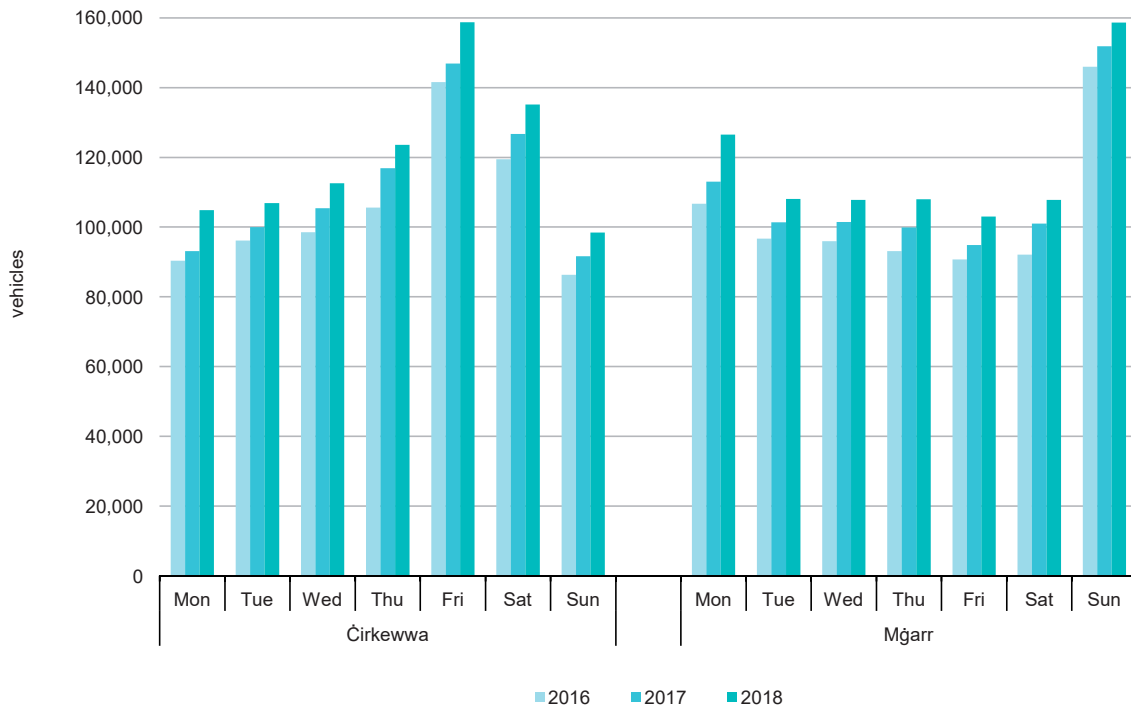
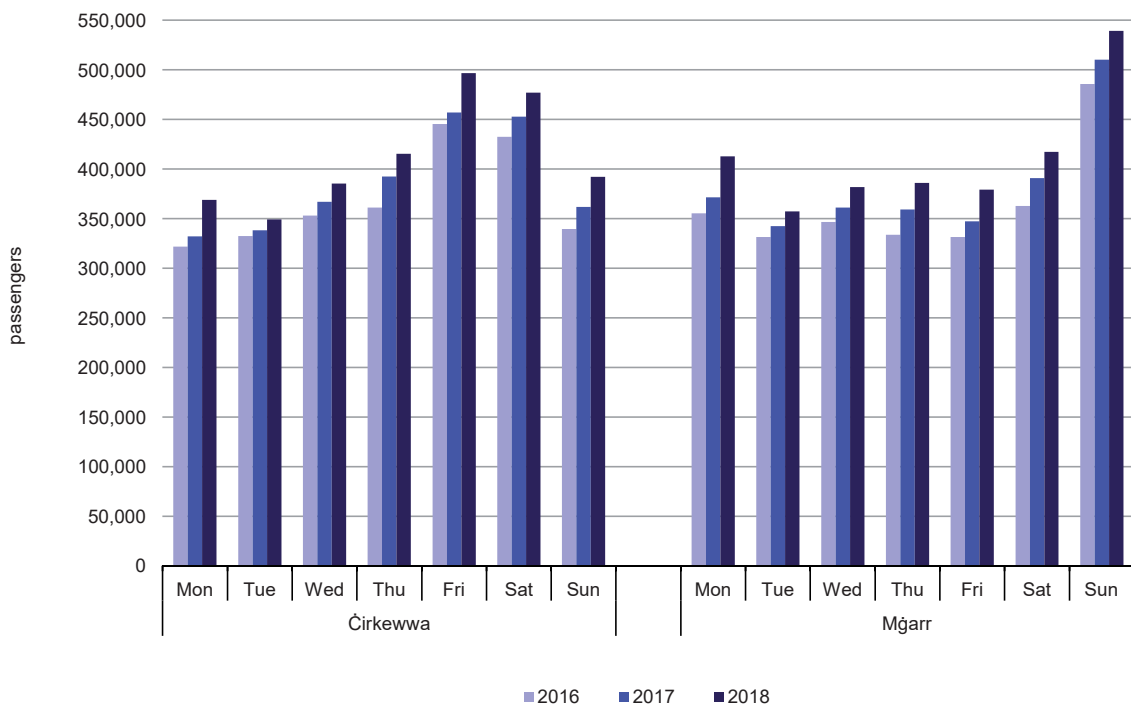


Chart 4. Passengers to and from Malta and Gozo by day of the week: January-December



Methodological Notes

1. The source for the data included in this news 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

Periods when vessels were out of service for docking purposes:

MV Gaudos: 06/01/2016 - 27/01/2016 and 13/11/2017 - 30/11/2017.

MV Malita: 09/01/2017 - 02/02/2017, 14/02/2017 - 17/02/2017, 08/05/2017 - 09/05/2017 and 07/05/2018 - 11/05/2018.

MV Ta' Pinu: 03/10/2017 - 05/10/2017 and 08/01/2018 - 30/01/2018.

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. 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 is not normally subject to revision.
6. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
7. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Sources and Methods:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_02/Regional_and_Geospatial_Statistics/Pages/Sea-Transport-between-Malta-and-Gozo.aspx

8. A detailed news release calendar is available on:
https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx