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Total cruise passenger traffic during the third quarter of 2015 amounted to 197,984, an increase of 26.3 per cent over the corresponding period last year.

Cruise Passengers: Q3/2015

There were 102 cruise liner calls during the third quarter, 11 more than last year. At 82.6 per cent, transit passengers accounted for the vast majority of total traffic, reaching 163,624. Around 5,256 passengers visited Gozo, while 4,353 passengers spent at least one night on board their berthed cruise liner.

Visitors from EU Member States comprised 77.1 per cent of total traffic, the major markets being Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom and France. The total number of passengers from non-EU countries stood at 45,341, of whom 30.7 per cent came from the United States.

On a gender basis, female passengers made up 52.0 per cent of the total. The largest share of passengers were in the 40-59 age bracket and were followed by those aged between 60 and 79 (Table 1).

January-September 2015

During the first nine months, total cruise passengers stood at 423,861, a rise of 33.2 per cent over 2014. Of these, 76.4 per cent came from EU Member States. The biggest increases were recorded from the Italian and German markets, which advanced by 23,503 and 21,258 passengers respectively.

The majority of total passengers were females, amounting to 221,432. Most passengers were between 60 and 79 years old, amounting to 153,856. These were followed by passengers aged 40-59, reaching 140,462.

There were 219 cruise liner calls during the first nine months, with an average of 1,935 passengers per vessel, compared to 203 calls and an average of 1,568 passengers per vessel in January-September 2014 (Table 2) ■

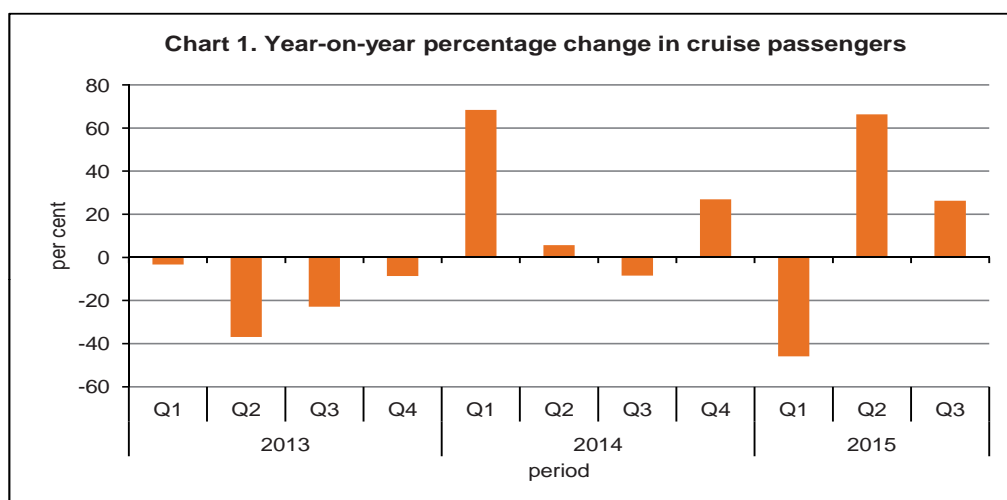
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Table 1. Cruise passengers: Quarterly 2013-2015

	July-September			Change
	2013	2014	2015	Jul-Sep 2015/ Jul-Sep 2014
Total traffic:	171,279	156,801	197,984	41,183
Transit	144,148	125,947	163,624	37,677
Landed	27,131	30,854	34,360	3,506
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers visiting Gozo	993	69	5,256	5,187
Passengers staying overnight	1,739	15,000	4,353	-10,647
Nationality:				
EU	129,529	117,538	152,643	35,105
<i>of which:</i>				
France	15,935	17,675	24,285	6,610
Germany	29,117	41,566	38,292	-3,274
Italy	27,432	21,134	32,109	10,975
Malta	3,468	3,753	5,414	1,661
Spain	8,596	2,757	9,926	7,169
United Kingdom	37,044	20,177	25,656	5,479
Non-EU	41,750	39,263	45,341	6,078
<i>of which:</i>				
Australia	4,363	4,648	6,192	1,544
Canada	5,573	5,508	5,002	-506
Japan	1,054	1,089	684	-405
United States	18,163	15,683	13,927	-1,756
Sex:				
Males	80,239	75,823	95,007	19,184
Females	91,040	80,978	102,977	21,999
Age group:				
0-19	26,544	21,315	28,856	7,541
20-39	26,919	22,010	31,049	9,039
40-59	59,812	55,062	69,891	14,829
60-79	53,062	53,432	62,992	9,560
80 or more	4,942	4,982	5,196	214
Cruise liner calls	101	91	102	11

Table 2. Cruise passengers: Cumulative 2013-2015

	January-September			Change
	2013	2014	2015	Jan-Sep 2015/ Jan-Sep 2014
Total traffic:	310,690	318,303	423,861	105,558
Transit	267,595	283,068	362,795	79,727
Landed	43,095	35,235	61,066	25,831
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers visiting Gozo	1,397	124	7,642	7,518
Passengers staying overnight	7,156	21,183	10,539	-10,644
Nationality:				
EU	235,252	243,788	323,785	79,997
<i>of which:</i>				
France	31,938	47,450	51,515	4,065
Germany	60,708	70,477	91,735	21,258
Italy	47,635	47,223	70,726	23,503
Malta	5,607	5,129	7,534	2,405
Spain	12,991	6,632	19,802	13,170
United Kingdom	59,084	43,798	46,646	2,848
Non-EU	75,438	74,515	100,076	25,561
<i>of which:</i>				
Australia	6,110	8,493	13,097	4,604
Canada	8,769	9,202	8,669	-533
Japan	1,440	1,533	2,261	728
United States	30,972	28,415	28,078	-337
Sex:				
Males	144,879	151,790	202,429	50,639
Females	165,811	166,513	221,432	54,919
Age group:				
0-19	40,350	35,883	54,848	18,965
20-39	45,094	42,174	60,507	18,333
40-59	103,626	101,165	140,462	39,297
60-79	111,196	125,706	153,856	28,150
80 or more	10,424	13,375	14,188	813
Cruise liner calls	194	203	219	16

Methodological Notes

1. The data in this release is based on administrative data provided 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 Quarter 1 of 2013.
4. **Definitions:**
 - **Cruise passenger traffic:** comprises transit passengers and passengers who land in Malta.
 - **Embarkations:** comprise all cruise passengers who are either Maltese or 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.
 - **Landings:** comprise all cruise passengers who arrive in Malta on a cruise ship and leave by other means of transport, or alternatively, stay in Malta.
 - **Same-day visitors:** comprise visitors to Malta who do not spend at least one night in collective or private accommodation.
 - **Overnight visitors:** these are tourists, defined as visitors to Malta who spend at least one night in collective or private accommodation.
5. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:
Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>