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Total guests and nights spent in collective accommodation establishments during March 2016 increased by 9.7 and 11.6 per cent respectively compared to the corresponding month in 2015.

Collective Accommodation Establishments: March 2016

Cut-off date:
20 May 2016

In March, total guests in collective accommodation establishments numbered 124,061, while total nights spent amounted to 638,949. All collective accommodation categories registered increases in total nights spent. The largest share of guest nights was reported in 4-star hotels, accounting for 331,147 nights, or 51.8 per cent of the total (Tables 1 and 2).

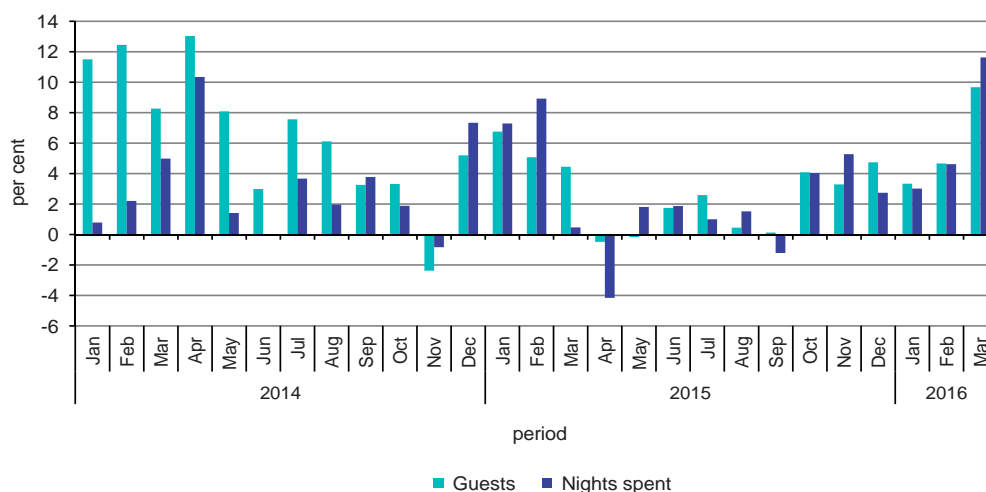
The average length of stay in collective accommodation establishments went up to 5.2 nights in March 2016 from 5.1 nights in the same month of 2015. The net use of bed-places stood at 56.0 per cent, up by 3.4 percentage points when compared to the corresponding month last year (Table 3).

On a national level, there were 158 active collective accommodation establishments during March, with a net capacity of 16,927 bedrooms and 37,714 bed-places (Table 4).

January-March

Total guests during the first three months of 2016 amounted to 293,768, an increase of 6.4 per cent over the same period in 2015 (Table 5). Total nights spent went up by 7.0 per cent, reaching 1.5 million (Table 8). The net use of bed-places advanced by 0.5 percentage points to 47.3 per cent (Table 11) ■

Chart 1. Year-on-year percentage changes



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Table 1. Total guests (residents and non-residents) by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	February*		March	
	2016		2015	2016
	MALTA			
Hotel	92,813	110,011	119,694	
5 Star	23,378	29,561	27,096	
4 Star	45,827	51,063	60,954	
3 Star	21,364	26,956	28,297	
2 Star	2,244	2,431	3,346	
Other collective accommodation ¹	2,705	3,110	4,367	
Total	95,519	113,121	124,061	
	Malta			
Hotel	88,175	104,404	113,463	
of which:				
5 Star	22,108	28,038	25,161	
4 Star	43,520	48,091	58,138	
3 Star	20,609	26,116	27,194	
Other collective accommodation ¹	2,608	2,994	4,147	
Total	90,784	107,398	117,610	
	Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	4,638	5,607	6,230	
of which:				
5 Star	1,270	1,523	1,935	
4 Star	2,307	2,972	2,816	
3 Star	755	840	1,103	
Other collective accommodation ¹	97	116	220	
Total	4,735	5,723	6,450	

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Total nights spent by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	February*		March	
	2016		2015	2016
	MALTA			
Hotel	460,605	542,522	601,950	
5 Star	78,550	99,928	103,267	
4 Star	254,977	289,538	331,147	
3 Star	111,443	137,608	148,100	
2 Star	15,636	15,448	19,436	
Other collective accommodation ¹	27,371	29,899	36,999	
Total	487,976	572,421	638,949	
	Malta			
Hotel	449,560	525,776	582,086	
of which:				
5 Star	75,752	95,002	97,248	
4 Star	249,048	280,526	321,202	
3 Star	109,897	135,507	145,231	
Other collective accommodation ¹	27,126	29,615	36,419	
Total	476,686	555,391	618,505	
	Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	11,045	16,746	19,864	
of which:				
5 Star	2,798	4,926	6,019	
4 Star	5,929	9,012	9,945	
3 Star	1,546	2,101	2,870	
Other collective accommodation ¹	245	284	580	
Total	11,290	17,030	20,444	

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Net use of bed-places by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	February*		March	
	2016		2015	2016
	MALTA			
Hotel	47.8	54.2	57.3	
5 Star	47.2	57.4	58.3	
4 Star	54.9	61.2	64.1	
3 Star	38.1	43.4	47.1	
2 Star	39.6	41.5	45.3	
Other collective accommodation ¹	33.7	34.5	41.4	
Total	46.7	52.6	56.0	
	Malta			
Hotel	48.7	54.9	58.0	
<i>of which:</i>				
5 Star	48.3	59.3	59.7	
4 Star	56.0	62.1	64.8	
3 Star	38.3	43.5	47.3	
Other collective accommodation ¹	34.8	35.9	42.9	
Total	47.6	53.4	56.9	
	Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	28.0	37.4	41.4	
<i>of which:</i>				
5 Star	28.7	35.5	42.6	
4 Star	29.7	42.3	46.6	
3 Star	29.0	36.8	40.2	
Other collective accommodation ¹	7.8	7.1	13.0	
Total	26.5	34.9	39.0	

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Table 4. Establishments with net number of bedrooms and bed-places by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	March					
	Establishments		Bedrooms		Bed-places	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	MALTA					
Hotel	110	117	15,092	15,767	32,790	34,795
5 Star	15	13	3,134	2,928	6,087	5,712
4 Star	41	43	6,931	7,575	15,267	16,792
3 Star	43	47	4,465	4,633	10,234	10,896
2 Star	11	14	562	631	1,202	1,395
Other collective accommodation ¹	37	41	1,141	1,160	2,801	2,919
Total	147	158	16,233	16,927	35,591	37,714
	Malta					
Hotel	100	104	14,420	15,054	31,347	33,237
<i>of which:</i>						
5 Star	13	11	2,919	2,713	5,640	5,256
4 Star	37	39	6,609	7,253	14,579	16,104
3 Star	40	43	4,378	4,526	10,050	10,666
Other collective accommodation ¹	32	34	1,084	1,090	2,672	2,764
Total	132	138	15,504	16,144	34,019	36,001
	Gozo and Comino					
Hotel	10	13	672	713	1,443	1,558
<i>of which:</i>						
5 Star	2	2	215	215	447	456
4 Star	4	4	322	322	688	688
3 Star	3	4	87	107	184	230
Other collective accommodation ¹	5	7	57	70	129	155
Total	15	20	729	783	1,572	1,713

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Table 5. Total guests (residents and non-residents) by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q4/2015*	January-March (Q1)	
		2015	2016
MALTA			
Hotel	342,921	268,504	284,292
5 Star	94,372	68,715	71,249
4 Star	157,088	132,950	139,321
3 Star	81,586	60,920	65,730
2 Star	9,875	5,920	7,992
Other collective accommodation ¹	12,194	7,674	9,476
Total	355,114	276,178	293,768
Malta			
Hotel	324,377	256,586	270,233
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	88,927	66,175	67,886
4 Star	149,644	126,091	132,252
3 Star	77,215	58,939	63,142
Other collective accommodation ¹	11,728	7,397	9,105
Total	336,104	263,983	279,338
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	18,544	11,918	14,059
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	5,445	2,540	3,363
4 Star	7,444	6,859	7,069
3 Star	4,371	1,981	2,587
Other collective accommodation ¹	466	277	371
Total	19,010	12,195	14,430

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6. Non-resident guests by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q4/2015*	January-March (Q1)	
		2015	2016
MALTA			
Hotel	297,748	224,183	241,970
5 Star	76,832	55,529	57,714
4 Star	135,968	105,414	116,313
3 Star	76,406	57,832	60,528
2 Star	8,542	5,408	7,415
Other collective accommodation ¹	11,450	7,199	8,797
Total	309,198	231,381	250,767
Malta			
Hotel	288,447	219,673	236,872
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	74,285	54,420	56,602
4 Star	132,126	102,852	113,697
3 Star	74,005	57,049	59,667
Other collective accommodation ¹	11,093	7,027	8,558
Total	299,541	226,699	245,430
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	9,300	4,510	5,098
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	2,547	1,109	1,112
4 Star	3,842	2,562	2,616
3 Star	2,401	783	861
Other collective accommodation ¹	357	172	239
Total	9,657	4,682	5,337

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 7. Resident guests by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q4/2015*	January-March (Q1)	
		2015	2016
MALTA			
Hotel	45,173	44,322	42,322
5 Star	17,540	13,186	13,535
4 Star	21,120	27,536	23,009
3 Star	5,180	3,088	5,202
2 Star	1,333	512	577
Other collective accommodation ¹	743	475	679
Total	45,916	44,797	43,001
Malta			
Hotel	35,929	36,914	33,362
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	14,642	11,755	11,284
4 Star	17,518	23,239	18,556
3 Star	3,210	1,890	3,475
Other collective accommodation ¹	634	370	547
Total	36,564	37,284	33,908
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	9,244	7,408	8,960
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	2,898	1,431	2,251
4 Star	3,602	4,297	4,453
3 Star	1,970	1,198	1,727
Other collective accommodation ¹	109	105	132
Total	9,353	7,513	9,092

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 8. Total nights spent by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q4/2015*	January-March (Q1)	
		2015	2016
MALTA			
Hotel	1,788,095	1,365,459	1,453,005
5 Star	360,349	237,995	261,615
4 Star	929,835	755,206	790,909
3 Star	438,886	329,438	348,504
2 Star	59,025	42,821	51,977
Other collective accommodation ¹	96,322	76,358	89,071
Total	1,884,417	1,441,817	1,542,076
Malta			
Hotel	1,722,025	1,332,219	1,413,704
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	341,050	230,197	251,891
4 Star	902,139	735,386	769,706
3 Star	424,528	325,352	342,842
Other collective accommodation ¹	94,889	75,743	88,136
Total	1,816,914	1,407,962	1,501,840
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	66,070	33,240	39,302
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	19,299	7,798	9,724
4 Star	27,696	19,820	21,203
3 Star	14,358	4,086	5,662
Other collective accommodation ¹	1,433	615	935
Total	67,503	33,855	40,237

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 9. Non-resident nights spent by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q4/2015*	January-March (Q1)	
		2015	2016
MALTA			
Hotel	1,684,645	1,268,485	1,362,766
5 Star	320,107	208,188	233,884
4 Star	881,544	696,305	742,107
3 Star	427,537	322,493	336,344
2 Star	55,458	41,500	50,431
Other collective accommodation ¹	94,893	75,506	87,918
Total	1,779,538	1,343,991	1,450,685
Malta			
Hotel	1,637,845	1,249,400	1,340,017
of which:			
5 Star	307,315	203,379	228,434
4 Star	860,367	684,481	728,862
3 Star	416,830	320,303	333,538
Other collective accommodation ¹	93,676	75,098	87,232
Total	1,731,521	1,324,498	1,427,250
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	46,800	19,085	22,749
of which:			
5 Star	12,792	4,809	5,450
4 Star	21,177	11,824	13,245
3 Star	10,707	2,190	2,806
Other collective accommodation ¹	1,217	408	686
Total	48,017	19,493	23,435

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 10. Resident nights spent by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q4/2015*	January-March (Q1)	
		2015	2016
MALTA			
Hotel	103,450	96,974	90,239
5 Star	40,242	29,807	27,731
4 Star	48,291	58,901	48,802
3 Star	11,349	6,945	12,159
2 Star	3,568	1,321	1,546
Other collective accommodation ¹	1,429	852	1,152
Total	104,879	97,826	91,391
Malta			
Hotel	84,180	82,819	73,686
of which:			
5 Star	33,735	26,818	23,457
4 Star	41,772	50,905	40,844
3 Star	7,698	5,049	9,304
Other collective accommodation ¹	1,213	645	903
Total	85,393	83,464	74,590
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	19,270	14,155	16,553
of which:			
5 Star	6,507	2,989	4,274
4 Star	6,519	7,996	7,958
3 Star	3,651	1,896	2,856
Other collective accommodation ¹	216	207	249
Total	19,486	14,362	16,802

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 11. Net use of bed-places by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q4/2015*	January-March (Q1)	
		2015	2016
MALTA			
Hotel	54.5	48.2	48.3
5 Star	58.7	49.6	48.3
4 Star	60.5	54.8	54.9
3 Star	43.9	38.1	38.8
2 Star	44.5	38.6	41.4
Other collective accommodation ¹	36.1	30.9	34.6
Total	53.1	46.8	47.3
Malta			
Hotel	54.9	48.9	49.1
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	59.5	50.5	49.6
4 Star	61.2	55.9	55.8
3 Star	43.7	38.3	39.0
Other collective accommodation ¹	37.3	32.2	35.8
Total	53.6	47.6	48.1
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	44.6	29.7	30.6
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	46.9	32.7	29.5
4 Star	43.8	32.0	33.9
3 Star	48.1	27.1	31.2
Other collective accommodation ¹	11.8	5.3	8.3
Total	42.1	27.4	28.8

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Methodological Notes

1. The objective of the Survey on Collective Accommodation Establishments is to estimate the utilisation rate of bed-places of all active collective accommodation establishments in Malta and Gozo. The variables collected from the survey include:
 - Number of residents;
 - Number of non-residents;
 - Nights spent by residents;
 - Nights spent by non-residents;
 - Number of room nights sold to foreign residents;
 - Number of room nights sold to Maltese residents;
 - Number of bedrooms;
 - Number of bed-places;
 - Number of days the establishment was closed during the month under review.

The collection of the above variables and the calculation of occupancy levels are in line with Regulation (EU) No. 692/2011.

2. The survey is distributed monthly to all collective accommodation establishments, namely hotels, guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages.
3. Response Rate:

February 2016	88.9%
March 2016	90.9%

4. In this release figures for February 2016 should be considered as a second estimate while those relating to March 2016 are a first estimate, therefore subject to revision in the ensuing release.
5. The Malta Tourism Authority (MTA) licensing department reclassified all collective accommodation establishments registered as apart-hotels to hotels (refer to Legal Notice 351 of 2012).

6. Prior to comparing and interpreting differences between demand-side (based on Tourstat) and supply-side (based on Accomstat) tourism statistics, users are strongly advised to consult concept 8.3 of the NSO's metadata file (<http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=35>).

7. **Definitions:**

- **Bedroom:** a unit formed by one room or group of rooms constituting an indivisible rental whole in an accommodation establishment or dwelling.
- **Bed-place:** in an establishment, this is determined by the number of persons who can stay overnight in the establishment, not taking into account any extra beds that may be provided to clients on request.
- **Residents:** Maltese/Gozitan residents who check into/out of a collective accommodation establishment. A person is considered to be a Maltese/Gozitan resident if:
 - (a) S/he has lived for most of the past 12 months in Malta/Gozo;
 - (b) S/he has lived in Malta/Gozo for less than 12 months but intends to return within a year to settle here.
- **Non-residents:** foreigners who do not necessarily follow the definition of a tourist and check into/out of a collective accommodation establishment.
- **Total guests:** the number of residents and non-residents altogether.
- **Total nights spent:** nights which a guest actually spends or is registered to spend in a collective accommodation establishment.
- **Net use of bed-places:** the net occupancy rate calculated for all active accommodation establishments, net of seasonal closures and other temporary closures. The occupancy of bed-places is calculated by dividing the total nights during the reference period by the number of bed-places and the number of days when the bed-places are actually available for use during the reference period. The result is then multiplied by 100 to express the occupancy rate as a percentage.
- **Average length of stay:** this is calculated as follows:
$$\frac{\text{total number of nights}}{\text{total number of guests}}$$

8. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>

Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=35>

Statistical Database: <http://nso.gov.mt/statdb/start>