

29 September 2016 | 1100 hrs | 157/2016

Total inbound visitors for August were estimated at 256,782, an increase of 3.4 per cent when compared to the corresponding month of 2015.

Inbound Tourism: August 2016

A total of 228,428 inbound tourist trips were carried out for holiday purposes, while a further 7,295 were undertaken for business purposes. Inbound tourists from EU Member States went up by 2.1 per cent to 220,149 when compared to the corresponding month of 2015. The majority of inbound tourists were aged between 25 and 44, followed by those within the 0-24 age bracket (Table 1).

Total nights spent went up by 0.7 per cent when compared to August 2015, amounting to 2,375,917 nights. The largest share of guest nights (50.9 per cent) was spent in collective accommodation establishments (Table 3).

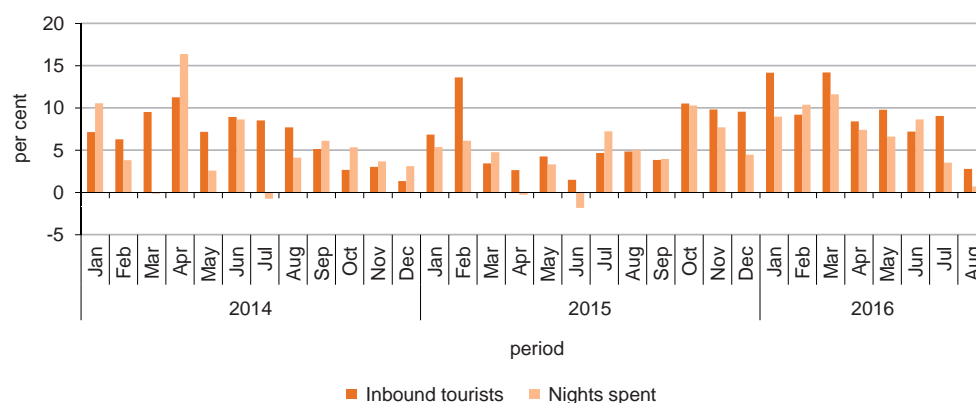
Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €270.9 million, a decrease of 1.9 per cent over the corresponding month of 2015 (Table 4).

January-August 2016

Inbound tourist trips from January to August amounted to 1,308,519, an increase of 8.3 per cent over the same period in 2015 (Table 6). Total nights spent by inbound tourists went up by 5.7 per cent, almost 10.2 million nights (Table 8).

Total tourism expenditure was estimated at €1,156.9 million, 3.6 per cent higher than that recorded for 2015 (Table 9). Total expenditure per capita stood at €884, a decrease of 4.4 per cent when compared to 2015 (Table 11) ■

Chart 1. Inbound tourism: year-on-year percentage changes
(excluding overnight cruise passengers)



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Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists by month of departure

Characteristics	August			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Total inbound visitors	239,343	248,284	256,782	8,498	3.4
Overnight cruise passengers	4,249	1,799	3,452	1,653	91.9
Inbound tourists	235,094	246,485	253,330	6,845	2.8
Mode of travel					
Air	228,454	240,775	247,492	6,717	2.8
Sea	6,640	5,710	5,838	128	2.2
Sex					
Males	120,420	125,966	126,765	799	-
Females	114,674	120,519	126,565	6,046	5.0
Age group					
0-24	80,531	82,169	82,486	317	-
25-44	89,737	94,119	97,030	2,912	3.1
45-64	55,651	60,407	62,926	2,519	4.2
65 or more	9,175	9,790	10,888	1,097	-
Markets					
EU	203,435	215,716	220,149	4,433	2.1
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	119,187	124,052	125,435	1,383	-
Non-EU	31,658	30,769	33,180	2,412	7.8
Purpose of visit					
Holiday	210,916	220,776	228,428	7,652	3.5
Business and professional	5,846	5,682	7,295	1,613	28.4
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	18,331	20,027	17,607	-2,421	-12.1
Organisation of stay					
Package	108,867	103,092	94,736	-8,357	-8.1
Non-package	126,226	143,393	158,594	15,201	10.6
Frequency					
First-time tourists	175,947	183,559	188,617	5,057	2.8
Repeat tourists	59,147	62,926	64,713	1,787	2.8
once a year or less	46,801	48,651	50,902	2,250	4.6
more than once a year	12,346	14,274	13,811	-463	-
Duration of visit					
1-3 nights	16,505	15,045	18,769	3,724	24.8
4-6 nights	41,395	45,131	52,211	7,080	15.7
7 nights or more	177,194	186,310	182,350	-3,960	-2.1
Average length of stay (nights)	9.6	9.6	9.4	-0.2	-

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	August			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	68,662	88,897	95,456	6,558	7.4
Collective accommodation*	166,432	157,588	157,874	286	-
Total tourists	235,094	246,485	253,330	6,845	2.8

* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	August			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	883,097	1,082,217	1,167,714	85,498	7.9
Collective accommodation*	1,363,185	1,277,504	1,208,203	-69,301	-
Total nights	2,246,282	2,359,721	2,375,917	16,197	0.7

* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 4. Total expenditure by inbound tourists by month of departure and expenditure category

€ 000

Expenditure category	August			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Package	88,077	88,603	76,902	-11,701	-13.2
Non-package	71,216	83,533	86,878	3,345	4.0
Air/sea fares	35,274	38,858	39,813	956	2.5
Accommodation	35,941	44,676	47,065	2,389	5.3
Other expenditure	98,233	104,091	107,091	3,000	2.9
Total expenditure	257,525	276,228	270,872	-5,356	-1.9

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 5. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by month of departure and country of residence

Country of residence		August			Change	Percentage change
		2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Tourists	EU	203,435	215,716	220,149	4,433	2.1
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	20,672	20,331	20,815	484	-
	Germany	17,951	15,892	16,364	472	-
	Italy	47,858	51,171	50,845	-327	-
	United Kingdom	59,983	65,680	68,635	2,955	4.5
	Non-EU	31,658	30,769	33,180	2,412	7.8
	Total	235,094	246,485	253,330	6,845	2.8
Nights	EU	1,850,262	1,998,191	2,021,826	23,635	1.2
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	209,250	223,961	234,525	10,563	-
	Germany	189,296	162,788	158,491	-4,297	-
	Italy	388,087	412,289	407,348	-4,941	-
	United Kingdom	565,091	637,232	646,920	9,687	1.5
	Non-EU	396,020	361,530	354,092	-7,438	-2.1
	Total	2,246,282	2,359,721	2,375,917	16,197	0.7
Expenditure (€000)	EU	208,252	229,858	221,520	-8,337	-3.6
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	25,071	24,464	24,751	287	-
	Germany	21,296	18,245	16,816	-1,429	-
	Italy	38,943	43,381	42,376	-1,006	-
	United Kingdom	64,350	78,380	73,723	-4,657	-5.9
	Non-EU	49,273	46,370	49,352	2,982	6.4
	Total	257,525	276,228	270,872	-5,356	-1.9

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6. Profile of inbound tourists by period of departure

Characteristics	January-August			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Total inbound visitors	1,170,721	1,217,413	1,321,536	104,123	8.6
Overnight cruise passengers	13,483	8,900	13,017	4,117	46.3
Inbound tourists	1,157,238	1,208,513	1,308,519	100,006	8.3
Mode of travel					
Air	1,125,713	1,179,127	1,276,179	97,052	8.2
Sea	31,525	29,386	32,340	2,954	10.1
Sex					
Males	602,418	623,452	658,340	34,888	5.6
Females	554,819	585,061	650,179	65,118	11.1
Age group					
0-24	260,332	264,270	284,666	20,396	7.7
25-44	394,255	410,066	459,228	49,162	12.0
45-64	365,542	380,870	403,063	22,192	5.8
65 or more	137,108	153,307	161,563	8,256	5.4
Markets					
EU	964,913	1,040,534	1,126,022	85,487	8.2
<i>of which:</i> Euro area	518,414	563,598	604,260	40,663	7.2
Non-EU	192,324	167,979	182,497	14,519	8.6
Purpose of visit					
Holiday	977,504	1,024,600	1,126,103	101,503	9.9
Business and professional	84,777	78,661	85,361	6,701	8.5
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	94,956	105,253	97,055	-8,198	-7.8
Organisation of stay					
Package	526,441	537,210	515,414	-21,796	-4.1
Non-package	630,797	671,303	793,105	121,802	18.1
Frequency					
First-time tourists	800,953	857,003	927,735	70,733	8.3
Repeat tourists	356,285	351,510	380,784	29,273	8.3
once a year or less	254,064	256,236	276,842	20,607	8.0
more than once a year	102,221	95,275	103,941	8,667	9.1
Duration of visit					
1-3 nights	187,831	177,446	220,881	43,435	24.5
4-6 nights	262,238	294,255	329,865	35,610	12.1
7 nights or more	707,168	736,812	757,773	20,961	2.8
Average length of stay (nights)	8.0	7.9	7.8	-0.1	-

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 7. Inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-August			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	295,739	336,038	404,771	68,733	20.5
Collective accommodation*	861,499	872,475	903,748	31,273	3.6
Total tourists	1,157,238	1,208,513	1,308,519	100,006	8.3

* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 8. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-August			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	3,181,698	3,562,106	4,112,987	550,881	15.5
Collective accommodation*	6,082,104	6,045,434	6,037,695	-7,739	-0.1
Total nights	9,263,802	9,607,540	10,150,682	543,142	5.7

* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 9. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by period of departure and country of residence

Country of residence		January-August			Change	Percentage change
		2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Tourists	Austria	18,786	21,100	17,131	-3,969	-18.8
	Belgium	22,386	25,794	24,835	-959	-
	France	91,867	94,328	100,813	6,485	6.9
	Germany	88,246	90,052	97,477	7,424	8.2
	Ireland	21,037	24,454	22,592	-1,863	-7.6
	Italy	183,955	202,980	215,903	12,923	6.4
	Libya	27,517	5,271	2,122	-3,150	-59.8
	Netherlands	31,705	31,730	36,101	4,370	13.8
	Russia	25,781	15,454	11,148	-4,306	-27.9
	Scandinavia*	76,605	77,135	83,423	6,287	8.2
	Spain	29,819	32,706	38,625	5,919	18.1
	Switzerland	20,584	23,020	25,091	2,071	9.0
	United Kingdom	327,705	349,535	371,044	21,509	6.2
	USA	15,115	14,954	17,689	2,735	18.3
	Other	176,130	199,997	244,527	44,530	22.3
	Total		1,157,238	1,208,513	1,308,519	100,006
Nights	Austria	137,983	157,642	121,953	-35,689	-22.6
	Belgium	174,074	200,034	167,543	-32,491	-
	France	730,043	770,798	824,150	53,353	6.9
	Germany	766,681	759,558	773,136	13,578	1.8
	Ireland	173,821	189,738	171,847	-17,892	-9.4
	Italy	1,103,328	1,328,822	1,375,934	47,111	3.5
	Libya	178,578	41,990	19,228	-22,762	-54.2
	Netherlands	248,367	251,252	276,625	25,373	10.1
	Russia	328,359	183,447	125,822	-57,625	-31.4
	Scandinavia*	595,407	581,550	613,683	32,133	5.5
	Spain	228,749	257,909	282,849	24,941	9.7
	Switzerland	169,649	175,133	192,475	17,342	9.9
	United Kingdom	2,775,410	2,910,567	3,009,479	98,912	3.4
	USA	118,064	122,943	138,923	15,980	13.0
	Other	1,535,290	1,676,158	2,057,036	380,878	22.7
	Total		9,263,802	9,607,540	10,150,682	543,142
Expenditure (€000)	Austria	17,874	19,964	15,329	-4,635	-23.2
	Belgium	22,919	25,033	23,262	-1,771	-
	France	84,930	87,522	91,259	3,737	4.3
	Germany	86,795	86,490	86,106	-384	-0.4
	Ireland	18,409	22,999	20,959	-2,040	-8.9
	Italy	115,799	132,297	138,186	5,890	4.5
	Libya	28,315	7,236	3,239	-3,996	-55.2
	Netherlands	28,049	29,195	31,900	2,705	9.3
	Russia	41,486	23,430	15,305	-8,125	-34.7
	Scandinavia*	73,822	73,773	79,637	5,865	7.9
	Spain	26,189	28,595	32,673	4,078	14.3
	Switzerland	25,662	27,080	30,176	3,096	11.4
	United Kingdom	280,142	328,006	323,023	-4,982	-1.5
	USA	18,639	20,231	21,051	819	4.1
	Other	181,382	205,341	244,804	39,463	19.2
	Total		1,050,412	1,117,191	1,156,910	39,719

* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 10. Total expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence

€ 000

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
January-August 2016					
Austria	7,022	1,541	1,731	5,035	15,329
Belgium	9,796	2,700	3,195	7,571	23,262
France	33,969	10,810	15,567	30,914	91,259
Germany	38,221	9,095	11,892	26,898	86,106
Ireland	4,732	3,075	4,142	9,010	20,959
Italy	33,803	17,306	27,157	59,921	138,186
Libya	193	866	775	1,406	3,239
Netherlands	11,227	3,542	4,326	12,805	31,900
Russia	3,483	2,538	2,570	6,714	15,305
Scandinavia*	27,759	9,827	11,937	30,113	79,637
Spain	8,066	4,491	6,554	13,562	32,673
Switzerland	9,670	3,968	5,133	11,405	30,176
United Kingdom	110,453	43,066	46,485	123,019	323,023
USA	1,417	7,255	4,438	7,941	21,051
Other	48,634	50,292	41,908	103,970	244,804
Total	348,446	170,371	187,810	450,282	1,156,910
January-August 2015					
Austria	9,573	1,773	2,019	6,600	19,964
Belgium	11,003	2,812	3,254	7,964	25,033
France	36,259	10,120	12,866	28,276	87,522
Germany	42,275	8,160	10,514	25,541	86,490
Ireland	5,419	3,197	4,257	10,125	22,999
Italy	36,965	16,270	24,141	54,921	132,297
Libya	294	2,057	1,818	3,067	7,236
Netherlands	10,558	3,368	3,927	11,342	29,195
Russia	6,010	3,740	3,795	9,886	23,430
Scandinavia*	22,891	10,336	11,419	29,126	73,773
Spain	8,767	3,450	4,709	11,669	28,595
Switzerland	9,151	4,057	4,027	9,846	27,080
United Kingdom	124,113	44,126	40,722	119,045	328,006
USA	2,398	6,914	3,793	7,126	20,231
Other	47,714	41,387	32,219	84,021	205,341
Total	373,390	161,766	163,480	418,555	1,117,191
January-August 2014					
Austria	8,149	1,807	1,925	5,991	17,874
Belgium	10,035	2,363	2,840	7,681	22,919
France	37,023	9,651	11,068	27,188	84,930
Germany	42,705	7,802	9,153	27,135	86,795
Ireland	4,566	2,764	3,023	8,056	18,409
Italy	31,912	15,418	19,814	48,655	115,799
Libya	2,109	7,215	5,170	13,820	28,315
Netherlands	10,574	3,334	3,213	10,927	28,049
Russia	13,814	4,930	4,978	17,764	41,486
Scandinavia*	23,319	9,999	10,964	29,539	73,822
Spain	8,356	3,167	3,974	10,692	26,189
Switzerland	10,110	3,285	3,420	8,847	25,662
United Kingdom	102,620	36,886	32,578	108,057	280,142
USA	3,109	5,606	3,683	6,242	18,639
Other	42,992	35,192	27,525	75,673	181,382
Total	351,394	149,420	143,330	406,269	1,050,412

* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 11. Per capita expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence

€

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total expenditure per capita
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
January-August 2016					
Austria	677	228	320	294	895
Belgium	793	216	317	305	937
France	747	195	322	307	905
Germany	729	202	316	276	883
Ireland	601	209	343	399	928
Italy	522	114	227	278	640
Libya	1,093	445	485	663	1,527
Netherlands	657	186	282	355	884
Russia	988	333	386	602	1,373
Scandinavia*	671	234	338	361	955
Spain	651	171	299	351	846
Switzerland	955	265	379	455	1,203
United Kingdom	668	209	326	332	871
USA	871	452	353	449	1,190
Other	689	289	300	425	1,001
Total expenditure per capita	676	215	302	344	884
January-August 2015					
Austria	690	245	346	313	946
Belgium	864	215	349	309	970
France	722	229	343	300	928
Germany	744	245	393	284	960
Ireland	580	212	326	414	940
Italy	514	124	232	271	652
Libya	461	444	474	582	1,373
Netherlands	673	210	305	357	920
Russia	1,099	375	451	640	1,516
Scandinavia*	668	241	318	378	956
Spain	655	179	312	357	874
Switzerland	896	317	373	428	1,176
United Kingdom	725	248	342	341	938
USA	1,341	525	382	477	1,353
Other	686	317	316	420	1,027
Total expenditure per capita	695	241	318	346	924
January-August 2014					
Austria	674	270	333	319	951
Belgium	805	238	365	343	1,024
France	744	229	312	296	924
Germany	741	255	375	307	984
Ireland	554	216	298	383	875
Italy	467	133	211	264	630
Libya	568	303	246	502	1,029
Netherlands	663	212	262	345	885
Russia	1,153	357	409	689	1,609
Scandinavia*	680	236	309	386	964
Spain	655	186	271	359	878
Switzerland	961	326	416	430	1,247
United Kingdom	642	220	301	330	855
USA	940	475	414	413	1,233
Other	657	318	323	430	1,030
Total expenditure per capita	667	237	296	351	908

* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Table 12. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by month of departure

Characteristics	August			Change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015
Total overnight cruise passengers	4,249	1,799	3,452	1,653
Sex:				
Males	2,027	855	1,590	735
Females	2,222	944	1,862	918
Age group:				
0-19	688	80	324	244
20-39	613	84	508	424
40-59	1,637	419	1,171	752
60-79	1,180	1,045	1,345	300
80 or more	131	171	104	-67
Markets:				
EU	4,012	979	1,599	620
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	3,939	549	639	90
Non-EU	237	820	1,853	1,033

Table 13. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by period of departure

Characteristics	January-August			Change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015
Total overnight cruise passengers	13,483	8,900	13,017	4,117
Sex:				
Males	6,285	4,158	6,098	1,940
Females	7,198	4,742	6,919	2,177
Age group:				
0-19	1,368	411	1,093	682
20-39	1,375	534	1,633	1,099
40-59	4,123	2,197	3,903	1,706
60-79	5,907	4,982	5,717	735
80 or more	710	776	671	-105
Markets:				
EU	12,169	4,154	6,570	2,416
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	11,838	2,408	4,252	1,844
Non-EU	1,314	4,746	6,447	1,701

Methodological Notes

1. This release focuses on Inbound Tourism, which comprises the activities of non-resident visitors travelling to Malta (i.e. outside their usual environment), and staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for leisure, business or other (corresponding) purposes.
2. The results in this release are based on the ongoing frontier survey known as Tourstat. Data for tourist air departures is collected by means of personal interviews through a continuous survey at the departure lounge of the Malta International Airport (MIA). A two-stage sampling design is used to survey air passengers. In the first stage alternate days are selected, whereby a sample of passengers is selected systematically within each shift.
3. Tourstat measures the number of tourist trips carried out during a particular reference month. These differ from the number of tourists in that the same person can make more than one trip during the same period.
4. Tourist sea departures are collected through a regular survey, conducted during three separate months every year at the Valletta Cruise Port. A quota sample is used to conduct sea passenger departures in which survey interviewers are guided to select people according to fixed quotas. Survey data is supplemented by administrative data provided by ferry operators.
5. Under-represented figures are indicated where applicable for each table and should be treated with caution. Users should also exercise caution when analysing figures that involve estimates relating to less than 1,500 tourists. Such estimates may be subject to variations attributable to low frequency in the sample (sampling errors). Other limitations may involve non-sampling errors, namely those linked to respondents' willingness to provide proper information and those related to language barriers.
6. Percentage changes for tourists based on counts of less than 1,500 are not presented due to sampling errors.
7. The expenditure data in this release should not be equated to national tourism earnings.
8. The monthly passenger departures data published by the Malta International Airport cannot be equated to the number of inbound tourists because the former is inclusive of departing Maltese and transit passengers.
9. Data on cruise passengers who spent at least one night berthed on board their cruiseship is compiled on the basis of administrative records held by Transport Malta.
10. Arrivals and nights spent in time-share accommodation are being categorised in 'Private Accommodation' instead of 'Collective Accommodation' as per Eurostat recommendation. In this regard, there may be minor differences in these statistics and statistics published in tourism supply due to the fact that hotels report time-share accommodation under 'Collective Accommodation'.
11. 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=37>).
12. **Definitions:**
 - **Traveller:** A person who moves between different geographic locations, for any purpose and any duration.
 - **Visitor:** The three fundamental criteria used to distinguish visitors from travellers are:
 - a. **The trip should be to a place other than that of the usual environment**, which would exclude short-distance local transport and commuting, i.e. more or less regular trips between the place of work/study and the place of residence;
 - b. **The stay in the place visited should not last more than twelve consecutive months**, beyond which the visitor would become a resident of that place (from the statistical standpoint);
 - c. **The main purpose of the visit should be other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited**, which would exclude migratory movements for work purposes.Visitors (domestic/international) comprise tourists and same-day visitors.
 - **Tourist:** A visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
 - **Same-day visitor:** A visitor who does not spend the night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
13. Figures may not add up due to rounding.
14. 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=37>
Statistical Database: <http://nso.gov.mt/statdb/start>