

Total guests and nights spent in collective accommodation establishments during October 2016 advanced by 0.9 and 0.4 per cent respectively when compared to the corresponding month in 2015.

Collective Accommodation Establishments: October 2016

In October, total guests in collective accommodation establishments numbered 160,431, while total nights spent amounted to 879,690. 4-star and 2-star hotels were the only collective accommodation categories registering increases in total nights spent. The largest share of guest nights was reported in 4-star hotels, accounting for 427,810 nights, or 48.6 per cent of the total (Tables 1 and 2).

The average length of stay in collective accommodation establishments stood at 5.5 nights during the month under review, at par with October 2015. The net use of bed-places stood at 70.0 per cent, up by 0.3 percentage points when compared to the corresponding month of the previous year (Table 3).

On a national level, there were 180 active collective accommodation establishments during October, with a net capacity of 18,187 bedrooms and 40,582 bed-places (Table 4).

Regional breakdown

Total guests in Malta numbered 151,823, up by 1.1 per cent over October 2015. Additionally, an increase of 0.6 per cent was recorded in the number of nights spent (Tables 1 and 2). The average length of stay stood at 5.6 nights, at par with the previous year, while the net occupancy rate advanced from 70.1 per cent to 70.7 per cent (Table 3). Total guests and nights spent in Gozo and Comino decreased by 2.3 and 4.7 per cent when compared to the comparative month of the previous year, to 8,608 and 35,805 respectively (Tables 1 and 2).

January-October

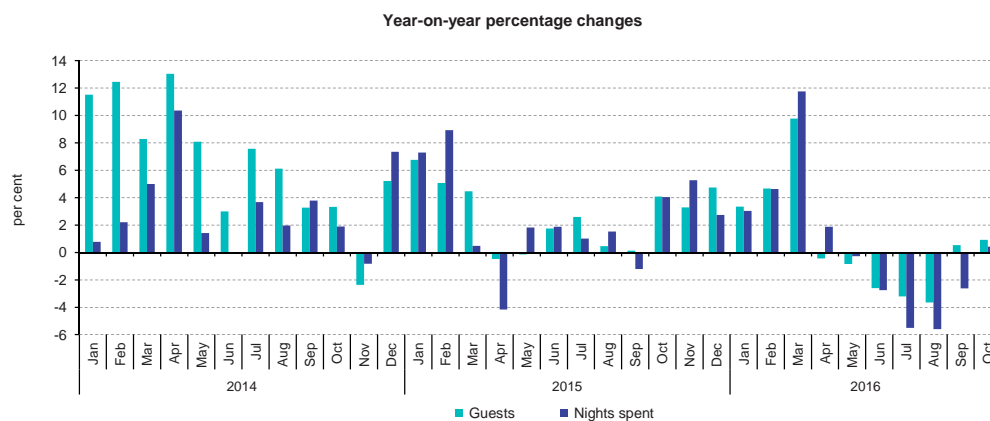
Total guests during the first ten months of 2016 amounted to 1,392,097, an increase of 0.2 per cent over the same period in 2015 (Table 1). Total nights spent went down by 0.7 per cent, reaching nearly 7.9 million (Table 2). The net use of bed-places declined by 0.9 percentage points to 66.4 per cent (Table 3) ■

Compiled by:

**Unit C3: Tourism,
Education and Information
Society Statistics**

Further information on data:

Mr Matthew ZERAFA
T. +356 2599 7630
E. matthew.zerafa@gov.mt



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Issued by: **Dissemination Unit, National Statistics Office, Lascaris, Valletta VLT 2000, Malta.**
T. +356 2599 7219 F. +356 2599 7205 E. nso@gov.mt

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

Type of accommodation	September*	October		January-October	
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	MALTA				
Hotel	150,671	152,254	153,130	1,338,373	1,331,584
5 Star	38,096	40,218	39,659	330,134	335,228
4 Star	65,175	68,376	70,477	588,881	610,830
3 Star	41,995	38,966	37,874	379,519	341,995
2 Star	5,405	4,694	5,120	39,839	43,531
Other collective accommodation ¹	6,943	6,714	7,301	51,549	60,513
Total	157,614	158,969	160,431	1,389,922	1,392,097
	Malta				
Hotel	141,744	143,744	145,061	1,264,720	1,259,022
of which:					
5 Star	35,769	38,075	37,422	310,884	316,055
4 Star	62,074	65,170	67,149	559,352	581,255
3 Star	39,230	36,480	36,052	359,698	323,565
Other collective accommodation ¹	6,370	6,417	6,762	48,455	56,628
Total	148,114	150,162	151,823	1,313,175	1,315,649
	Gozo and Comino				
Hotel	8,927	8,510	8,069	73,653	72,562
of which:					
5 Star	2,327	2,143	2,237	19,250	19,173
4 Star	3,101	3,206	3,328	29,529	29,575
3 Star	2,765	2,486	1,822	19,821	18,430
Other collective accommodation ¹	573	297	539	3,095	3,885
Total	9,500	8,807	8,608	76,748	76,448

* 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	September*	October		January-October	
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	MALTA				
Hotel	844,311	830,854	834,610	7,500,768	7,415,642
5 Star	165,514	171,641	170,829	1,459,591	1,438,139
4 Star	424,914	416,694	427,810	3,708,339	3,821,349
3 Star	226,287	216,731	207,388	2,099,099	1,906,042
2 Star	27,595	25,787	28,583	233,740	250,112
Other collective accommodation ¹	45,849	45,146	45,080	406,111	434,954
Total	890,160	876,000	879,690	7,906,880	7,850,597
	Malta				
Hotel	807,862	794,266	800,555	7,214,897	7,145,077
of which:					
5 Star	157,204	161,974	163,017	1,384,348	1,370,167
4 Star	408,909	402,744	413,362	3,584,966	3,699,245
3 Star	216,217	206,475	197,172	2,029,203	1,840,414
Other collective accommodation ¹	43,722	44,172	43,330	395,681	422,425
Total	851,584	838,439	843,885	7,610,578	7,567,502
	Gozo and Comino				
Hotel	36,449	36,587	34,055	285,871	270,566
of which:					
5 Star	8,310	9,667	7,812	75,243	67,972
4 Star	16,005	13,950	14,448	123,373	122,104
3 Star	10,070	10,256	10,216	69,896	65,628
Other collective accommodation ¹	2,127	974	1,750	10,430	12,529
Total	38,576	37,561	35,805	296,301	283,095

* 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	September*	October		January-October		
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	
	MALTA					
Hotel	74.5	71.4	72.0	69.0	68.0	
5 Star	80.8	81.0	84.3	75.1	73.3	
4 Star	80.6	76.8	78.6	73.7	73.9	
3 Star	64.8	60.3	57.6	61.0	57.9	
2 Star	52.4	51.1	55.4	52.3	52.3	
Other collective accommodation ¹	47.8	48.4	45.8	45.9	47.2	
Total	72.4	69.7	70.0	67.3	66.4	
Type of accommodation	Malta					
	Hotel	74.9	71.6	72.7	69.5	68.8
	<i>of which:</i>					
5 Star	82.3	81.8	86.5	75.9	74.8	
4 Star	80.7	77.3	79.0	74.3	74.6	
3 Star	64.8	60.1	57.2	61.0	58.0	
Other collective accommodation ¹	48.9	50.0	47.2	47.1	48.6	
Total	72.9	70.1	70.7	67.8	67.2	
Type of accommodation	Gozo and Comino					
	Hotel	65.8	65.9	59.2	59.2	52.3
	<i>of which:</i>					
5 Star	60.5	69.8	55.0	63.0	52.0	
4 Star	77.5	65.4	67.7	59.0	58.2	
3 Star	65.8	64.9	65.0	61.8	55.0	
Other collective accommodation ¹	33.2	19.8	26.8	23.4	24.0	
Total	62.4	62.1	55.9	56.2	49.7	

* 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	October						
	Establishments		Bedrooms		Bed-places		
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	
Type of accommodation	MALTA						
	Hotel	128	129	17,093	17,054	37,551	37,392
	5 Star	15	14	3,475	3,338	6,835	6,534
4 Star	44	44	7,855	7,932	17,491	17,568	
3 Star	52	53	5,025	5,068	11,598	11,625	
2 Star	17	18	738	716	1,627	1,665	
Other collective accommodation ¹	45	51	1,234	1,133	3,019	3,190	
Total	173	180	18,327	18,187	40,570	40,582	
Type of accommodation	Malta						
	Hotel	115	115	16,249	16,211	35,760	35,534
	<i>of which:</i>						
5 Star	13	12	3,260	3,123	6,388	6,076	
4 Star	40	40	7,533	7,610	16,803	16,880	
3 Star	47	48	4,777	4,820	11,088	11,115	
Other collective accommodation ¹	38	42	1,164	1,034	2,860	2,979	
Total	153	157	17,413	17,245	38,620	38,513	
Type of accommodation	Gozo and Comino						
	Hotel	13	14	844	843	1,791	1,858
	<i>of which:</i>						
5 Star	2	2	215	215	447	458	
4 Star	4	4	322	322	688	688	
3 Star	5	5	248	248	510	510	
Other collective accommodation ¹	7	9	70	99	159	211	
Total	20	23	914	942	1,950	2,069	

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:

October 2015	91.1%
September 2016	89.1%
October 2016	89.1%

4. In this release figures for September 2016 should be considered as a second estimate while those relating to October 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>