

Total guests and nights spent in collective accommodation establishments during April 2017 advanced by 17.0 and 11.7 per cent respectively when compared to the corresponding month in 2016.

Collective Accommodation Establishments: April 2017

In April, total guests in collective accommodation establishments numbered 166,721, while total nights spent amounted to 824,005. Collective accommodation categories registered increases in total nights spent, with the exception of the 'other' category. The largest share of guest nights was reported in 4-star hotels, accounting for 397,201 nights, or 48.2 per cent of the total (Tables 1 and 2).

The average length of stay in collective accommodation establishments went down to 4.9 nights in April 2017 from 5.2 nights in the same month of 2016. The net use of bed-places stood at 70.1 per cent, up by 4.4 percentage points when compared to the corresponding month last year (Table 3).

On a national level, there were 173 active collective accommodation establishments during April 2017, with a net capacity of 17,622 bedrooms and 39,677 bed-places (Table 4).

Regional breakdown

Total guests in Malta numbered 159,505, up by 17.5 per cent over April 2016. Additionally, an increase of 11.4 per cent was recorded in the number of nights spent. Total guests and nights spent in Gozo and Comino increased by 7.7 per cent and 22.9 per cent when compared to the comparative month last year, to 7,216 and 24,270 respectively (Tables 1 and 2).

In Malta, the average length of stay went down by 0.3 of a night to 5.0, and that in Gozo and Comino edged up by 0.5 of a night to 3.4, when compared with the same month last year. The net occupancy rate in Malta advanced by 4.1 percentage points, reaching 71.2 per cent, and that in Gozo and Comino rose by 8.7 percentage points to 46.6 per cent over the same month of 2016 (Table 3).

January-April

Total guests in the first four months of 2017 amounted to 508,119, an increase of 16.5 per cent over the same period in 2016 (Table 1). Total nights spent went up by 8.0 per cent, reaching almost 2.5 million (Table 2). The net use of bed-places advanced by 3.0 percentage points to 55.0 per cent (Table 3) ■

Total guests and nights spent

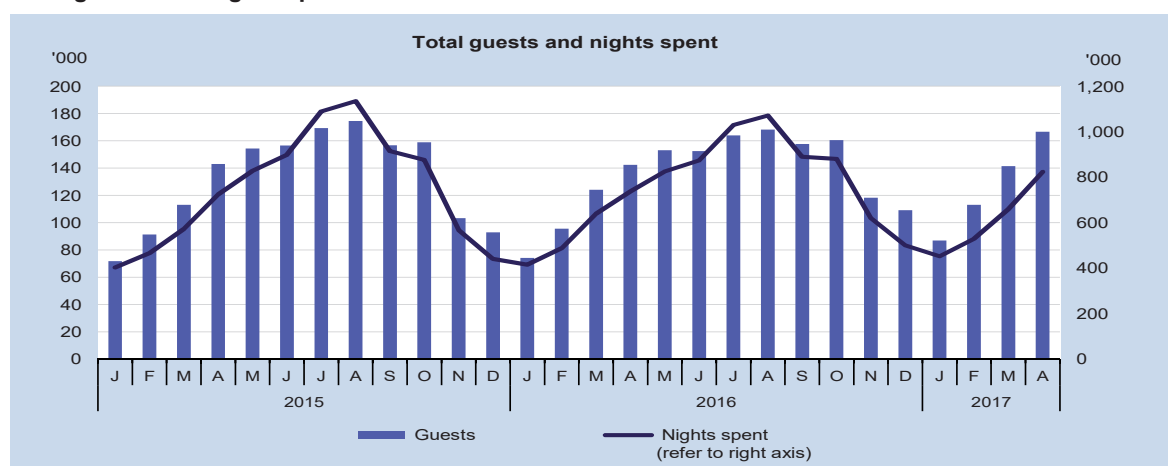


Table 1. Total guests (residents and non-residents) by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	March*	April		January-April	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	MALTA				
Hotel	136,370	136,302	159,643	420,701	488,736
5 Star	34,616	33,465	38,622	104,714	123,637
4 Star	63,438	63,108	71,778	202,537	222,236
3 Star	34,851	35,404	44,240	101,134	129,021
2 Star	3,465	4,324	5,003	12,316	13,842
Other collective accommodation ¹	5,093	6,147	7,078	15,623	19,383
Total	141,463	142,448	166,721	436,324	508,119
	Malta				
Hotel	130,343	129,910	153,419	399,883	469,007
of which:					
5 Star	33,035	31,473	37,190	99,359	118,442
4 Star	60,338	60,265	69,099	192,257	213,254
3 Star	33,958	34,317	42,776	97,460	125,370
Other collective accommodation ¹	4,543	5,839	6,085	14,944	16,829
Total	134,886	135,748	159,505	414,826	485,837
	Gozo and Comino				
Hotel	6,027	6,392	6,224	20,819	19,729
of which:					
5 Star	1,581	1,992	1,432	5,355	5,195
4 Star	3,100	2,843	2,679	10,280	8,982
3 Star	893	1,087	1,464	3,674	3,651
Other collective accommodation ¹	550	308	992	679	2,553
Total	6,577	6,700	7,216	21,498	22,282

* 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	March*	April		January-April	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	MALTA				
Hotel	624,787	694,132	782,131	2,147,877	2,330,881
5 Star	111,897	123,969	151,488	385,584	430,583
4 Star	324,682	364,037	397,201	1,155,686	1,206,073
3 Star	168,784	183,884	209,099	532,388	619,031
2 Star	19,424	22,242	24,343	74,219	75,194
Other collective accommodation ¹	34,302	43,339	41,874	132,410	132,878
Total	659,089	737,471	824,005	2,280,287	2,463,758
	Malta				
Hotel	606,940	675,323	760,372	2,089,810	2,272,067
of which:					
5 Star	106,764	118,253	144,160	370,144	412,360
4 Star	314,914	355,070	387,306	1,125,559	1,176,774
3 Star	166,727	180,874	205,899	523,716	611,414
Other collective accommodation ¹	33,225	42,408	39,363	130,544	127,491
Total	640,165	717,731	799,735	2,220,354	2,399,558
	Gozo and Comino				
Hotel	17,847	18,809	21,759	58,068	58,814
of which:					
5 Star	5,133	5,716	7,328	15,440	18,223
4 Star	9,768	8,967	9,895	30,127	29,299
3 Star	2,057	3,010	3,200	8,672	7,617
Other collective accommodation ¹	1,077	931	2,511	1,866	5,386
Total	18,924	19,740	24,270	59,934	64,200

* 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	March*	April		January-April	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	MALTA				
Hotel	57.2	67.2	72.5	53.1	56.7
5 Star	54.6	67.5	75.2	53.2	54.8
4 Star	62.7	72.7	77.7	59.4	62.1
3 Star	51.6	60.2	64.3	44.2	50.7
2 Star	45.7	52.1	58.7	44.1	45.9
Other collective accommodation ¹	35.8	48.5	43.8	38.2	36.2
Total	55.5	65.7	70.1	52.0	55.0
	Malta				
Hotel	58.1	68.5	73.4	54.1	57.6
<i>of which:</i>					
5 Star	56.0	69.6	76.8	54.6	55.6
4 Star	63.5	74.0	78.6	60.5	63.2
3 Star	51.8	60.6	64.7	44.4	51.0
Other collective accommodation ¹	38.0	50.5	45.4	39.6	37.8
Total	56.5	67.1	71.2	52.9	56.1
	Gozo and Comino				
Hotel	38.4	40.2	50.4	33.1	34.8
<i>of which:</i>					
5 Star	36.2	41.8	53.3	33.1	40.3
4 Star	45.8	43.4	54.6	36.2	36.6
3 Star	40.9	43.6	46.4	34.6	34.7
Other collective accommodation ¹	12.9	17.6	28.1	11.3	17.7
Total	34.5	37.9	46.6	31.2	32.2

* 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	April					
	Establishments		Bedrooms		Bed-places	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	MALTA					
Hotel	121	122	15,938	16,465	34,859	36,429
5 Star	14	15	3,338	3,475	6,532	6,814
4 Star	43	42	7,558	7,573	16,688	17,033
3 Star	49	50	4,380	4,782	10,216	11,192
2 Star	15	15	662	635	1,423	1,390
Other collective accommodation ¹	43	51	1,215	1,157	3,004	3,248
Total	164	173	17,153	17,622	37,863	39,677
	Malta					
Hotel	108	109	15,225	15,774	33,301	34,989
<i>of which:</i>						
5 Star	12	13	3,123	3,260	6,076	6,356
4 Star	39	38	7,236	7,257	16,000	16,429
3 Star	45	46	4,273	4,675	9,986	10,962
Other collective accommodation ¹	36	40	1,134	1,018	2,827	2,950
Total	144	149	16,359	16,792	36,128	37,939
	Gozo and Comino					
Hotel	13	13	713	691	1,558	1,440
<i>of which:</i>						
5 Star	2	2	215	215	456	458
4 Star	4	4	322	316	688	604
3 Star	4	4	107	107	230	230
Other collective accommodation ¹	7	11	81	139	177	298
Total	20	24	794	830	1,735	1,738

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:

April 2016	91.1%
March 2017	87.9%
April 2017	86.2%
4. In this release figures for March 2017 should be considered as a second estimate while those relating to April 2017 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 aparthotels 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:
$$\frac{\text{total number of nights}}{\text{total number of guests}}$$
 - **Tourist:** A visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
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>
9. Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.
10. The advanced news release calendar may be accessed at www.nso.gov.mt