

Regional Tourism Demand: 2014-2016

The following are the salient points of a statistical compendium conducted by the National Statistics Office, which sheds light on the regional tourism demand.

Domestic Tourism

In 2016, total domestic trips amounted to 241,216, an increase of 9.8 per cent when compared to 2015. Malta residents who visited the Gozo and Comino region for a duration of at least one night...

- ...accounted for slightly more than half of all tourists visiting this region (53.9 per cent of total tourists).

- ...stayed on average 2.7 nights.

- ...mainly belonged to the 25 to 44 age bracket (43.1 per cent).

- ...travelled for holiday purposes (91.7 per cent).

- ...and stayed in private accommodation establishments (including rented accommodation) increased by 15.5 per cent over 2015, whereas those who stayed in collective accommodation decreased by 7.4 per cent over the same period.

- ...spent 26.8 per cent more when compared to 2015 levels.

Gozo and Comino residents who travelled to Malta region amounted to 19,513, an increase of 15.4 per cent when compared to 2015.

Inbound Tourism

In 2016, inbound tourism stood at 1,965,928, an increase of 10.2 per cent when compared to 2015. Slightly less than half of these tourists came to MALTA using low-cost airlines.

Inbound tourists visiting only Malta region (single centre destination)...

- ...reached almost 1.8 million, an increase of almost 10 per cent when compared to 2015.

- ...were more likely to stay in collective accommodation establishments (over 70 per cent).

- ...on average stayed 7.3 nights - down by 0.3 of a night when compared to 2015.

Inbound tourists visiting only Gozo and Comino region (single centre destination)...

- ...amounted to 84,684, an increase of 13.6 per cent over 2015.

- ...were more likely to stay in private accommodation (68.2 per cent); the majority (63.1 per cent) of those who stayed in the latter, opted for rented accommodation.

- ...on average stayed 9.7 nights, down by 0.3 of a night when compared to 2015.

Inbound tourists visiting both regions during their stay (twin centre destination)...

- ...accounted for 5.3 per cent of the total inbound tourism trips.

- ...totalled 105,174, an increase of 15.5 per cent over 2015.

- ...were more likely to stay in collective accommodation establishments (53.9 per cent).

- ...on average stayed 11.3 nights, down by 0.5 of a night compared to 2015.

Overview

This news release is intended to provide a comprehensive statistical review of regional tourism demand in MALTA at NUTS 3 level. Regional tourism demand comprises of: i) domestic tourist trips; and ii) inbound tourist trips. Users should be aware that domestic same-day visits and overnight stays within the same region of origin, such as, day-trips to Gozo and Comino region and weekend breaks in Malta region by Malta residents, are not included within the scope of this news release. Regional flows of inbound tourism exclude same-day visits across regions and classify trips into two components: single centre destination and twin centre destination.

Statistics in this news release are based on the Tourstat Survey and on the National Tourism Survey. The former sourcing the inbound component whereas the latter was purposely developed to produce tourism statistics related to domestic and outbound trips. The National Tourism Survey was structured in accordance with the Tourism Statistics Regulation (EU) No 692/2011, and follows Eurostat definitions and requirements. Domestic tourism demand figures, along with new profiles on inbound tourism are being presented for the first time in this news release. Definitions and other methodological information can be found at the end of this release.

1. Domestic Tourism

Domestic tourism, as compiled by the National Tourism Survey, comprises the activities of:

- i) Malta residents visiting Gozo and Comino region; or
- ii) Gozo residents visiting Malta region; and

staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for personal, business or other purposes. This news release excludes domestic trips: (i) conducted within same region of residence; and (ii) made routinely by respective residents, at least once a week.

During the period under review, domestic tourism across regions has consistently increased, reaching 241,216 domestic tourist arrivals in 2016.

Chart 1a. Domestic and inbound tourists by region: 2016

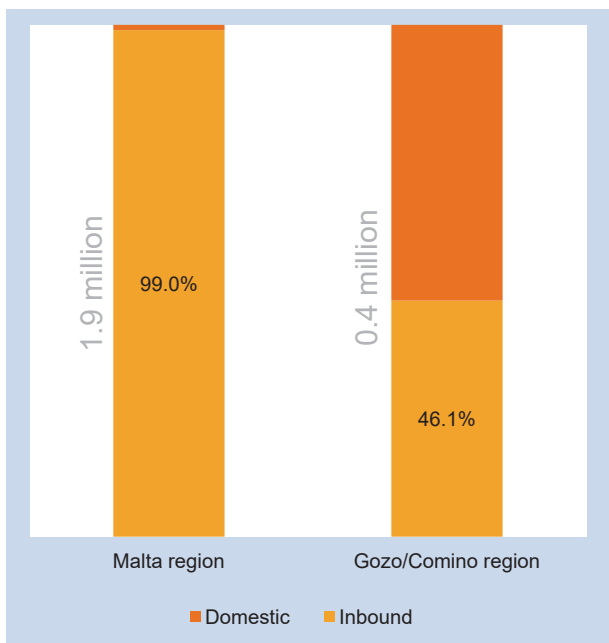
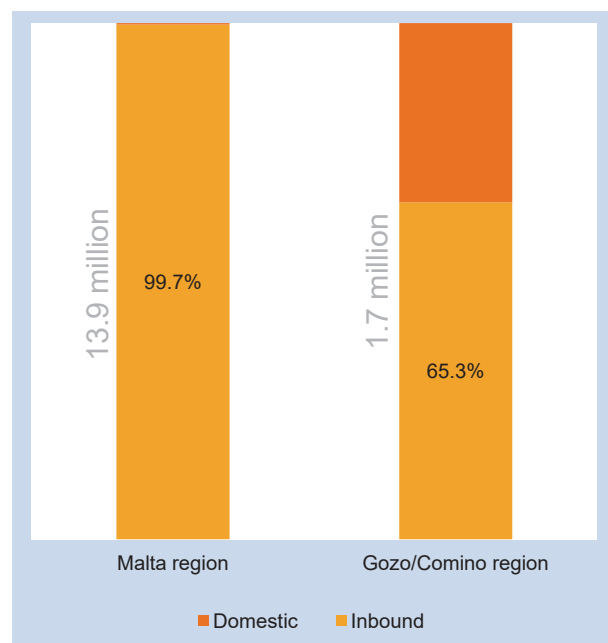


Chart 1b. Nights spent by domestic and inbound tourists by region: 2016

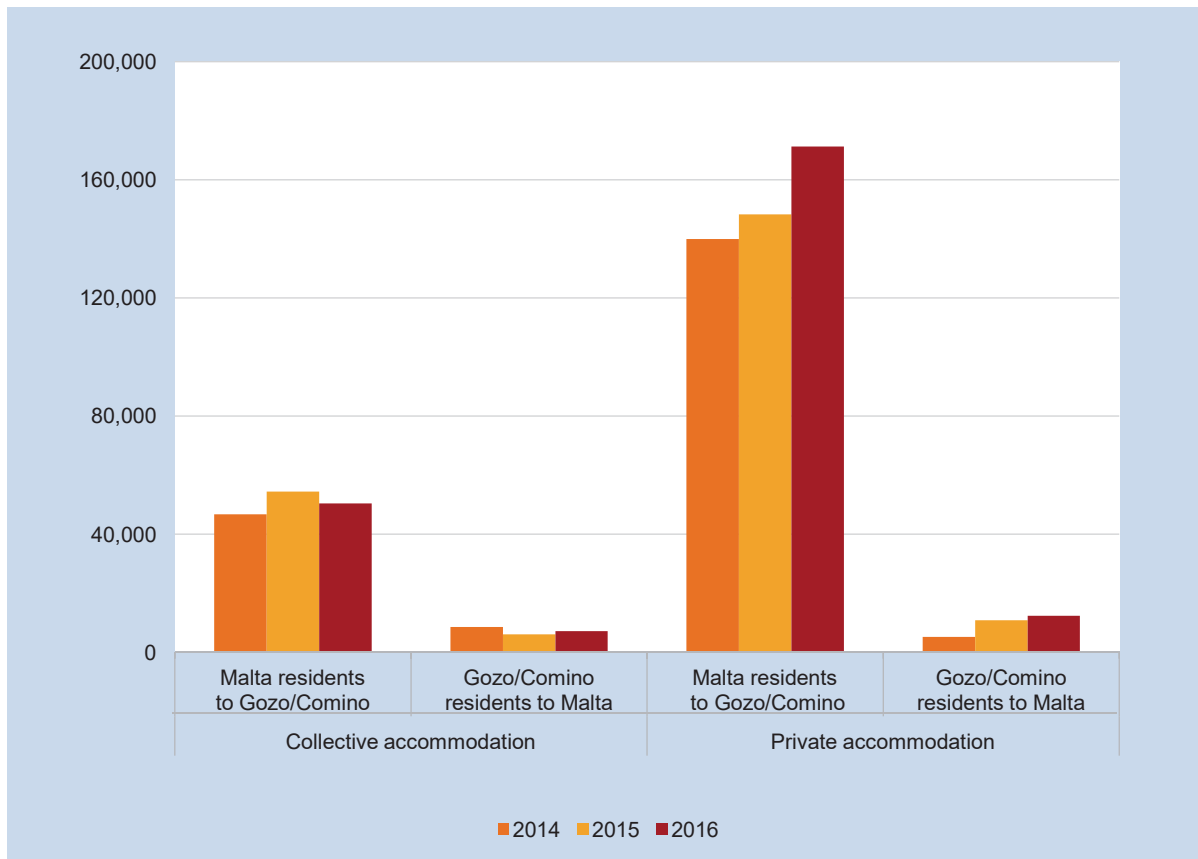


1.1. Domestic tourism to Gozo and Comino region

Domestic tourists to Gozo and Comino region assumed a share of 53.9 per cent of total tourism demand within the same region. In 2016, Gozo and Comino region received a total of 221,703 domestic tourists, an increase of 9.4 per cent over 2015 (Table 1 and Chart 1a).

The largest share of these tourists was in the 25-44 age bracket (43.1 per cent), however the 15-24 bracket accounted for the highest increase over 2015. The majority of domestic tourists travelled for holiday purposes (91.7 per cent) and spent between 1 to 3 nights (85.7 per cent). The largest increase (12.2 per cent) was nevertheless registered in the duration bracket of 4 to 6 nights. The average length of stay of Malta residents in Gozo and Comino region remained unchanged at 2.7 nights per visit (Table 1).

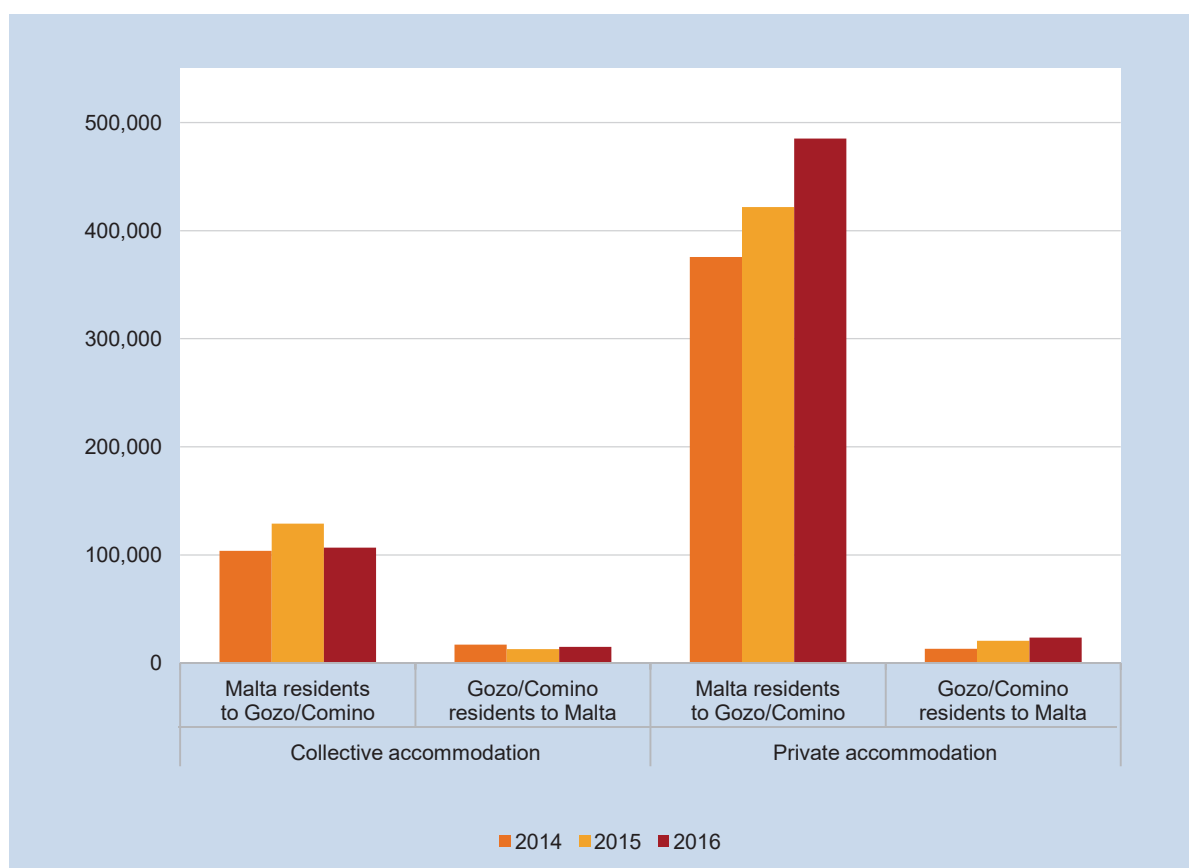
Chart 2a. Domestic tourists by type of accommodation and region



The mainstream of domestic tourists amounting to 171,294 to Gozo and Comino region, stayed in private accommodation establishments, an increase of 15.5 per cent over 2015. More than half of the domestic stays in private accommodation, 54.9 per cent, were spent in rented accommodation establishments. Conversely, domestic tourists who stayed in collective accommodation decreased by 7.4 per cent (Table 3 and Chart 2a).

Domestic tourist nights spent in Gozo and Comino region totalled 591,681, an increase of 7.4 per cent over 2015. This accounted for 34.7 per cent of total nights spent in Gozo and Comino region (Chart 1b). The majority of the nights (82.0 per cent) were spent in private accommodation, of which 57.3 per cent were rented accommodation and 42.7 per cent in non-rented accommodation. In 2016, nights in collective accommodation dropped by 17.3 per cent, when compared to 2015 (Table 4 and Chart 2b).

Chart 2b. Nights spent by domestic tourists by type of accommodation and region



Domestic tourism expenditure in Gozo and Comino region was estimated at €37.1 million, an increase of 26.8 per cent over 2015. The highest increase, 32.9 per cent, was recorded in the 'other expenditure' category (Table 5).

1.2. Domestic tourism to Malta region

Gozo and Comino residents who travelled to Malta region in 2016 as domestic tourists totalled 19,513, an increase of 15.4 per cent over 2015. The share of domestic tourists in age cohorts 25-44 and 45-64 were almost equivalent at 27.9 and 27.8 per cent, respectively. Three-fourths of the domestic tourism trips by Gozo and Comino residents to Malta region were holiday-driven. Furthermore, the mainstream of domestic tourists spent between 1 to 3 nights (95.1 per cent). The average length of stay of domestic tourists in Malta region stood at 2.0 nights, at par with 2015 levels (Table 2).

The largest proportion (63.4 per cent) of the Gozo and Comino residents who travelled to Malta region stayed in private accommodation, of which 90.0 per cent stayed in non-rented accommodation (Table 3 and Chart 2a).

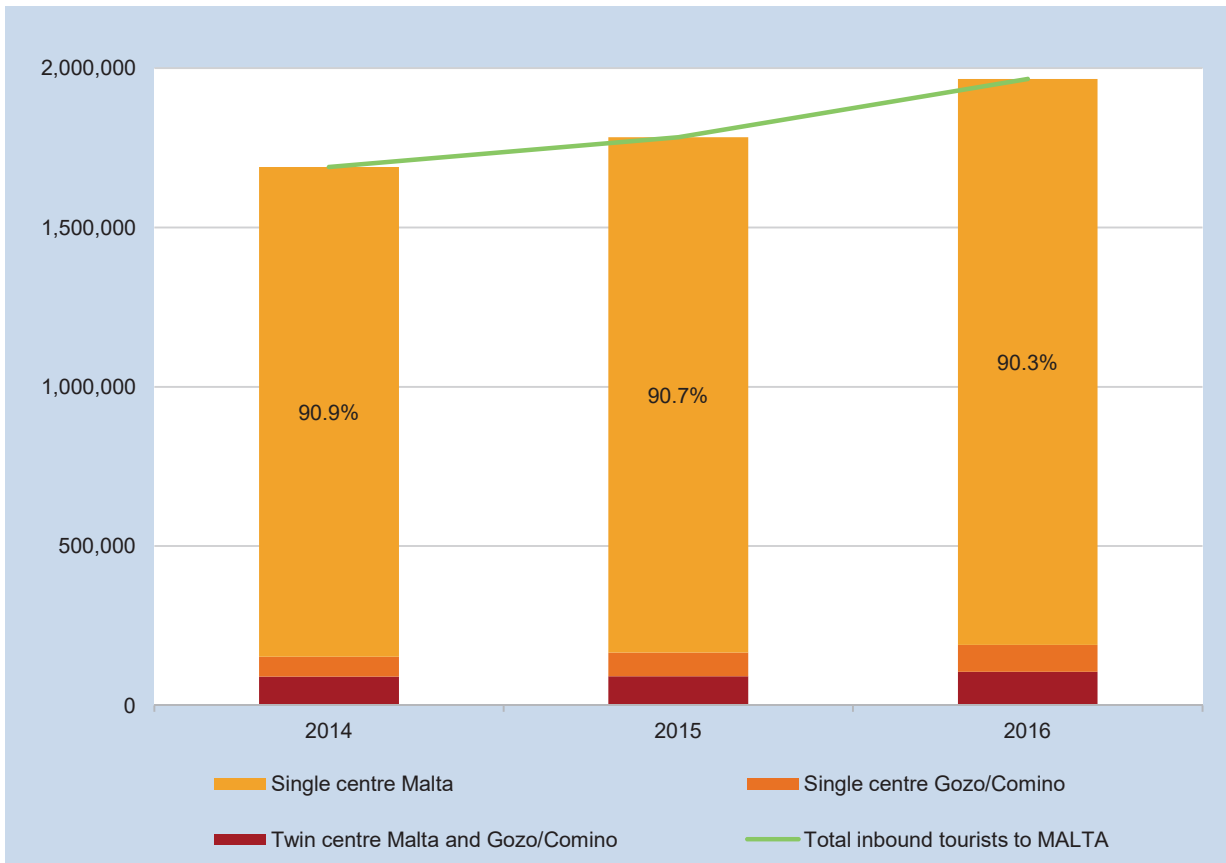
Domestic tourist nights spent in Malta region in 2016 amounted to 38,579 nights, an increase of 14.8 per cent over 2015. Nights spent in private accommodation accounted for 60.9 per cent of total domestic tourist nights. Unlike the situation in the Gozo and Comino region, the majority of stays in private accommodation were spent in non-rented accommodation (Table 4 and Chart 2b).

Domestic tourism expenditure in Malta region was estimated at €2.6 million, an increase of 12.7 per cent over 2015. In 2016, the expenditure category related to accommodation posted the highest increase, 22.9 per cent (Table 5).

2. Inbound tourism

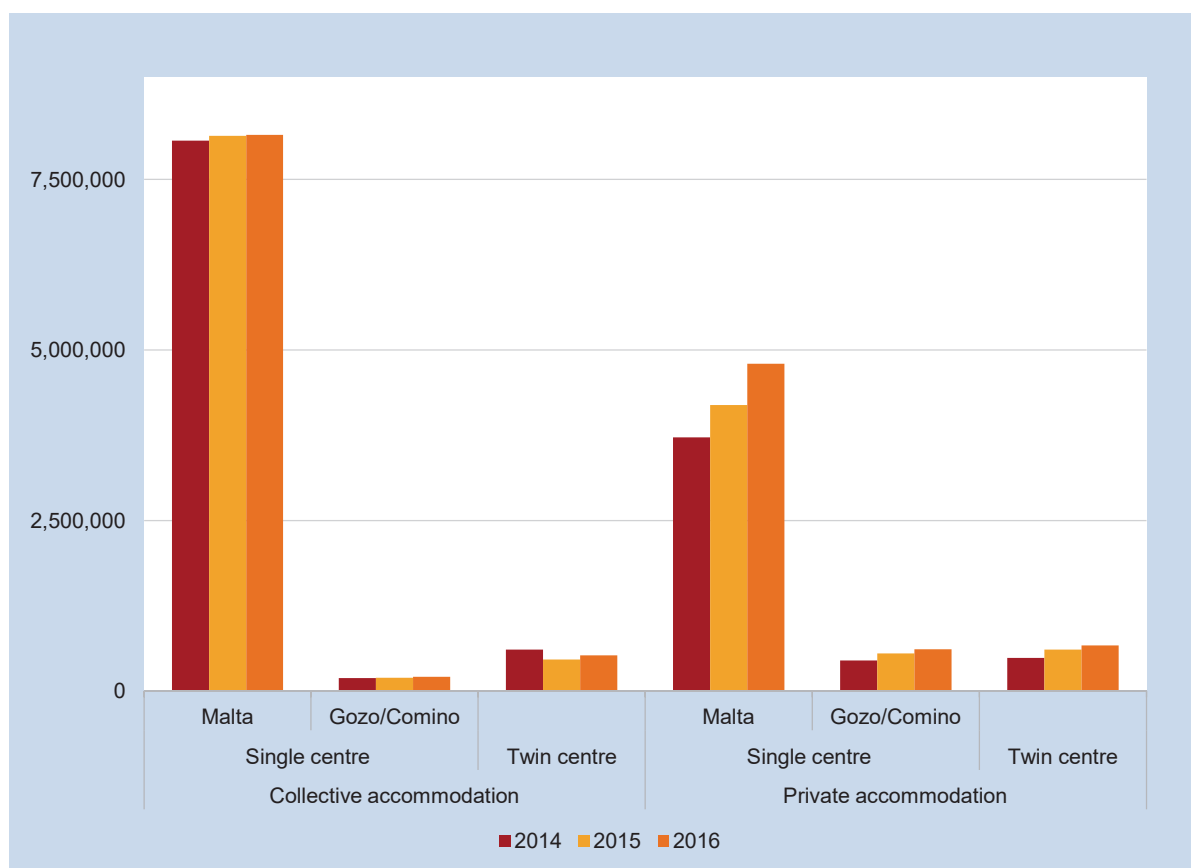
In 2016, inbound tourist arrivals increased by 10.2 per cent, reaching close to 2.0 million tourist arrivals in total. Single centre destination inbound tourism accounted for the majority of the trips, 94.7 per cent, while the rest being twin centre destination trips (Table 6 and Charts 1a, 3).

Chart 3. Inbound tourists by itinerary and region



Total nights spent by inbound tourists to MALTA reached nearly 15.0 million, an increase of 5.7 per cent over 2015. Inbound tourist nights in the Malta region accounted to 92.6 per cent of the total, while the Gozo and Comino region accommodated the remainder. In 2016, Gozo and Comino region registered the highest growth across both regions with a 10.8 per cent increase, exceeding 1.1 million nights. Nights spent by single centre inbound tourists accounted for 92.1 per cent of total nights spent in the country as a whole. The remaining 7.9 per cent were nights spent on twin centre destination trips (Table 6 and Charts 4, 5b).

Chart 4. Nights spent by inbound tourists by type of accommodation, itinerary and region



In 2016, total expenditure by inbound tourists to MALTA reached an estimate of €1.7 billion, an increase of 4.3 per cent over 2015. Package and non-package expenditure constituted 29.6 and 31.3 per cent of the total, respectively. 'Other expenditure' accounted for the remaining 39.1 per cent. Accommodation related expenditure accounted for just over half of the total non-package expenditure at 52.5 per cent. Expenditure by inbound tourists on single centre destination trips accounted for 93.1 per cent of the total. The remaining 6.9 per cent was expenditure of twin centre inbound tourists (Table 12).

2.1. Single centre destination trips, nights and expenditure

2.1.1. Malta region

Malta region recorded the highest demand in terms of inbound tourist arrivals. In 2016, inbound tourists to Malta region as a single centre destination reached almost 1.8 million, resulting in an increase of 9.8 per cent over 2015 (Tables 6, 7 and Charts 3, 5a).

The majority of inbound tourists came from EU Member States (86.2 per cent), with the strongest market being the UK. The largest share of these tourists were aged between 25 and 44 (35.1 per cent). More than three-fourths of single centre trips to Malta region were done for holiday purposes, accounting to nearly 1.4 million trips (Table 7).

Chart 5a. Inbound tourism by itinerary and region: 2016

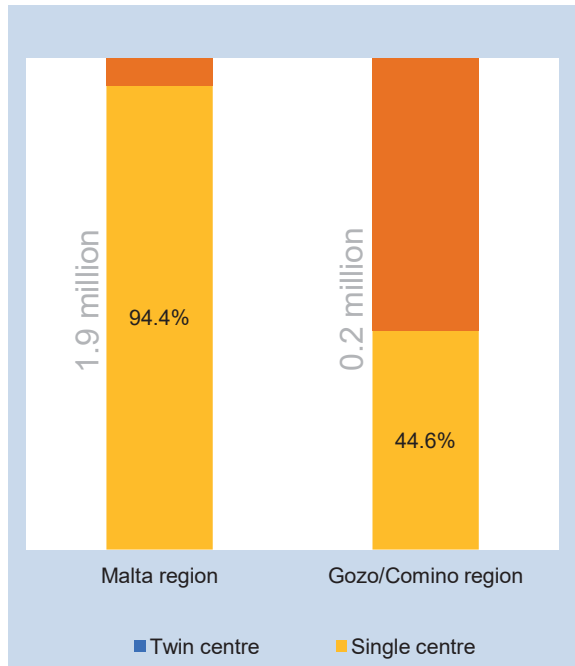
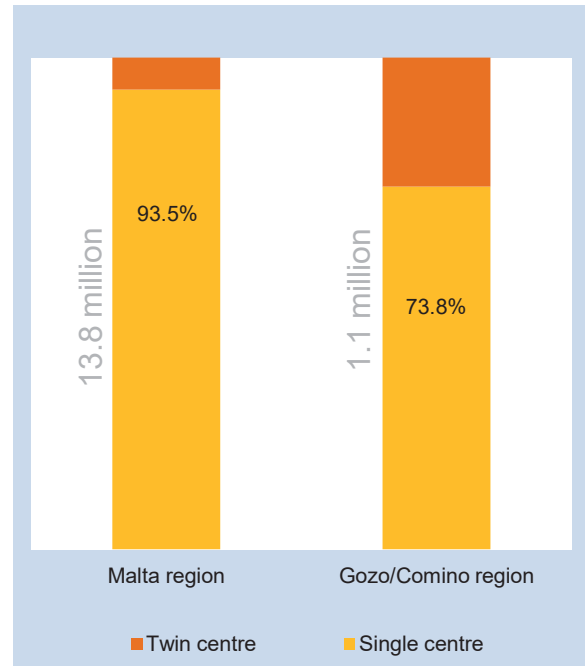


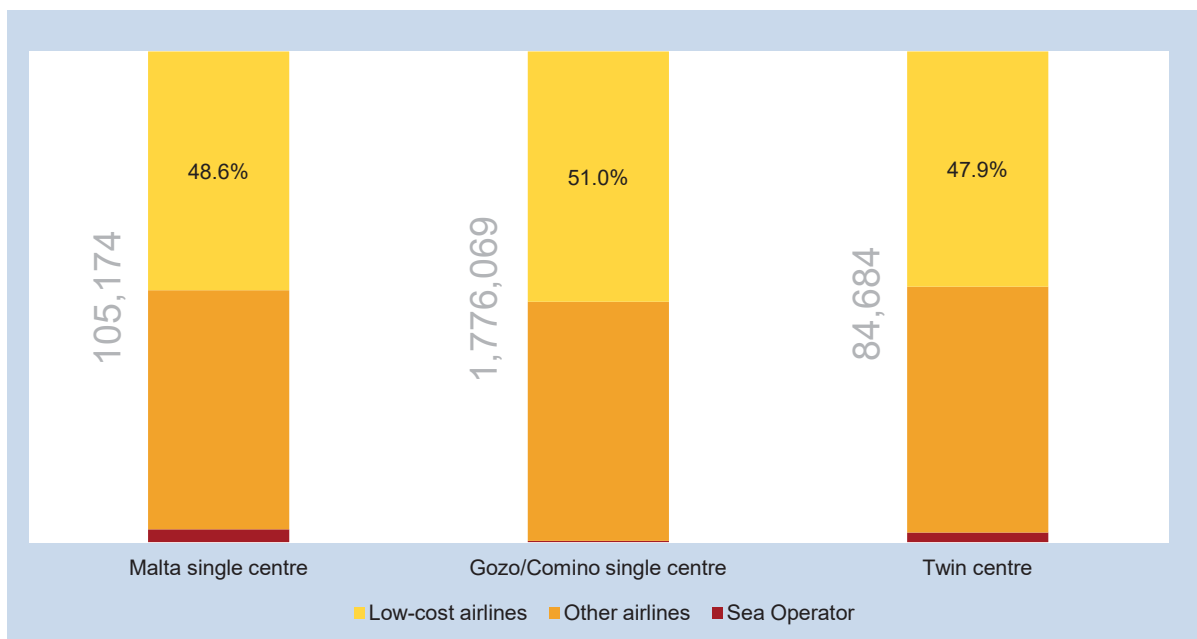
Chart 5b. Nights spent by inbound tourists by itinerary and region: 2016



First-time tourists accounted to 70.3 per cent, while the remainder were repeat tourists. When compared to 2015, non-package trips increased by 21.5 per cent, hence estimating that three out of every five trips were non-package; package trips dropped by 3.9 per cent when compared to 2015 (Table 7).

Slightly less than half of the single centre inbound tourists (48.6 per cent) travelled by low-cost airlines, 48.8 per cent by other airlines. Travelling by low-cost airlines increased by 26.7 per cent, whereas travelling by other airlines declined by 3.0 per cent when compared to 2015 (Table 7 and Chart 6).

Chart 6. Inbound tourists by itinerary, mode of travel and region: 2016



Over 70 per cent of single centre inbound tourists to Malta region, stayed in collective accommodation (almost 1.3 million) while the remaining 28.5 per cent opted to stay in private accommodation. The majority of those staying in the private accommodation, 61.2 per cent, preferred to stay in rented accommodation (Table 10).

In 2016, average length of stay stood at 7.3, down by 0.3 of a night from previous year. The largest percentage increase was registered in the category of single centre inbound tourists to Malta region who spent between 1 to 3 nights (Table 7).

Nights spent by inbound tourists to Malta region as a single centre destination went up by 5.0 per cent when compared to 2015, reaching close to 13.0 million nights (Tables 6, 11 and Chart 5b). Nights spent in collective accommodation amounted to 63.0 per cent of the total. The majority of those opting to stay in private accommodation spent their nights in rented accommodation, accounting to 62.4 per cent (Table 11 and Chart 4).

Total expenditure by inbound tourists to Malta as single centre destination, surpassed €1.5 billion. The largest proportions of total package and non-package expenditure were spent by single centre tourists to Malta region. Despite declining by 6.9 per cent, package expenditure by single centre inbound tourists to Malta region remained higher when compared to the non-package component (Table 12).

2.1.2. Gozo and Comino region

In 2016, the Gozo and Comino region recorded the strongest growth in terms of inbound tourist arrivals (both for single centre and twin centre trips) with an increase of 14.7 per cent over previous year, totalling to 189,859 tourists (Table 6 and Charts 3, 5a).

Inbound tourists who visited Gozo and Comino region as a single centre destination amounted to 84,684, an increase of 13.6 per cent over 2015. This accounted to 44.6 per cent of the total inbound tourists to Gozo and Comino region (Tables 6, 8 and Chart 5a). The majority of these tourists came from EU Member States (86.9 per cent), with strongest market being the UK. Most were aged between 45 and 64 (39.1 per cent). Trips for holiday purposes accounted for 77.8 per cent of the total, while 15.8 per cent were undertaken to visit relatives and friends (Table 8).

Non-package trips accounted for 74.4 per cent or 63,016 inbound tourists to Gozo and Comino region, resulting in an increase of 16.0 per cent over the previous year. The single centre package trips to Gozo and Comino region grew by 7.2 per cent over 2015. More than half of the single centre inbound tourists to Gozo and Comino region (53.4 per cent) were first-time tourists. Slightly over half of the single centre inbound tourists to Gozo and Comino region travelled by low-cost airlines (51.0 per cent), 48.7 per cent by other type of airlines while the remaining travelled by sea. Single centre trips by low-cost airlines posted a growth of 35.5 per cent in 2016, while travelling by other airlines declined by 2.9 per cent (Table 8 and Chart 6).

In contrast to single centre Malta region, the majority of single centre tourists to Gozo and Comino region (68.2 per cent) stayed in private accommodation. From them, 63.1 per cent opted to stay in rented accommodation (Table 10).

Most of the inbound single centre trips to Gozo and Comino region fell within the 7 nights or more brackets. Notwithstanding, the largest percentage increase (49.1 per cent) was reported in the category of 1 to 3 nights, followed by the 4 to 6 nights category. In 2016, the average length of stay of single centre inbound tourists to Gozo and Comino region shortened to 9.7 nights from 10.0 nights in 2015 (Table 8).

Nights spent by inbound tourists to Gozo and Comino region on single centre trips went up by 9.9 per cent when compared to 2015, amounting to 820,718 nights (Table 6, 11 and 5b). The largest share of single centre nights in Gozo and Comino region (74.4 per cent) were spent in private accommodation, with 56.8 per cent of these spent in rented accommodation (Table 11 and Chart 4).

Expenditure by inbound tourists to Gozo and Comino region as single centre destination was estimated at €75.9 million in 2016, an increase of 4.9 per cent when compared to the previous year. Contrary to the situation in Malta region, non-package expenditure by single centre inbound tourists to Gozo and Comino region was 75.4 per cent higher than the package component (Table 12).

2.2. *Twin centre destination trips, nights and expenditure*

In 2016, inbound tourists who visited Malta and Gozo and Comino regions as twin centre destination totalled 105,174, resulting in an increase of 15.5 per cent when compared to 2015 (Tables 6, 9 and Charts 3, 5a).

The majority of inbound tourists on twin centre trips were first-time tourists (76.5 per cent) and came from EU Member States (81.9 per cent), with strongest market being the UK. The largest share of twin centre inbound tourists were in the 25-44 age bracket (38.8 per cent). However, the highest increase was registered in the bracket of those aged 65 or more. Four out of every five twin centre trips were carried out for holiday purposes. Non-package twin centre trips accounted for 85.0 per cent, an increase of 16.1 per cent over 2015. Package twin centre trips also posted a positive increase of 12.3 per cent when compared to 2015. Half of the twin centre inbound tourists travelled by other airlines, whereas 47.9 per cent by low-cost airlines and the remaining by sea. Travelling by low-cost airlines recorded the highest increase, with 36.8 per cent when compared to 2015 (Table 9 and Chart 6).

Over half of the twin centre tourists, 53.9 per cent, stayed in collective accommodation, while the remaining 46.1 per cent stayed in private accommodation. The majority (68.4 per cent) of those opting for the latter chose rented accommodation (Table 10).

Total nights spent by twin centre tourists went up by 11.0 per cent when compared to 2015, amounting to nearly 1.2 million nights (Tables 6, 11 and Chart 4). The majority of inbound twin centre tourist nights (56.1 per cent) were spent in private accommodation, of which 65.4 per cent opted for rented accommodation (Table 11 and Chart 4).

Expenditure spent by twin centre tourists totalled to €117.5 million in 2016. When compared, non-package expenditure by twin centre inbound tourists amounted to three times higher with respect to package expenditure (Table 12).

Table 1. Profile of domestic tourists travelling to Gozo and Comino region

| Characteristics | January-December | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---|------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2016/2015 | |
| Total | 186,717 | 202,737 | 221,703 | 18,967 | 9.4 |
| Sex | | | | | |
| Males | 98,220 | 98,969 | 120,802 | 21,833 | 22.1 |
| Females | 88,496 | 103,767 | 100,902 | -2,866 | -2.8 |
| Age group | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 41,977 | 34,657 | 41,310 | 6,653 | 19.2 |
| 25-44 | 77,869 | 87,827 | 95,649 | 7,822 | 8.9 |
| 45-64 | 46,440 | 58,149 | 60,139 | 1,991 | 3.4 |
| 65 or more | 20,429 | 22,104 | 24,605 | 2,501 | 11.3 |
| Purpose of visit | | | | | |
| Holiday | 167,505 | 182,245 | 203,267 | 21,022 | 11.5 |
| Visiting relatives and friends | 13,616 | 15,048 | 12,575 | -2,473 | -16.4 |
| Other (including business, educational, religious and health tourism) | 5,596 | 5,443 | 5,861 | 418 | - |
| Duration of visit | | | | | |
| 1-3 nights | 157,226 | 172,448 | 190,101 | 17,653 | 10.2 |
| 4-6 nights | 25,305 | 21,550 | 24,186 | 2,636 | 12.2 |
| 7 nights or more | 4,186 | 8,739 | 7,416 | -1,323 | - |
| Average length of stay (nights) | 2.6 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 0.0 | - |

Notes:

1. Figures include residents in Malta region only.
2. Figures exclude individuals aged 0 to 14 years. Please refer to methodological note 1.
3. Data may not add up due to rounding.

Source: National Tourism Survey, NSO

Table 2. Profile of domestic tourists travelling to Malta region

| Characteristics | January-December | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2016/2015 | |
| Total | 13,666 | 16,915 | 19,513 | 2,598 | 15.4 |
| Sex | | | | | |
| Males | 6,739 | 7,755 | 10,534 | 2,779 | 35.8 |
| Females | 6,927 | 9,160 | 8,979 | -181 | - |
| Age group | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 3,073 | 3,321 | 4,757 | 1,437 | - |
| 25-44 | 5,533 | 5,322 | 5,439 | 117 | - |
| 45-64 | 4,060 | 5,763 | 5,425 | -338 | - |
| 65 or more | 1,000 ^u | 2,509 | 3,891 | 1,382 | - |
| Purpose of visit | | | | | |
| Holiday | 10,009 | 10,332 | 14,770 | 4,437 | 42.9 |
| Visiting relatives and friends | 2,700 | 4,619 | 3,322 | -1,297 | - |
| Other (including business, educational, religious and health tourism) | 958 ^u | 1,964 | 1,421 ^u | -543 | - |
| Duration of visit | | | | | |
| 1-3 nights | 12,696 | 16,077 | 18,552 | 2,475 | 15.4 |
| 4-6 nights | : | : | : | : | : |
| 7 nights or more | : | : | : | : | : |
| Average length of stay (nights) | 2.2 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | - |

^u Under-represented due to small sample size. Please note that such data must be interpreted with caution.

⋮ Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

Notes:

1. Figures include residents in Gozo and Comino region only.
2. Figures exclude individuals aged 0 to 14 years. Please refer to methodological note 1.
3. Data may not add up due to rounding.

Source: National Tourism Survey, NSO

Table 3. Domestic tourists by region of destination and type of accommodation

| Type of accommodation | January-December | | | Change | Percentage change |
|--|------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2016/2015 | |
| Malta residents to Gozo/Comino region | 186,717 | 202,737 | 221,703 | 18,967 | 9.4 |
| Collective accommodation | 46,738 | 54,426 | 50,410 | -4,017 | -7.4 |
| Private accommodation | 139,979 | 148,310 | 171,294 | 22,983 | 15.5 |
| Rented | 85,174 | 80,642 | 94,089 | 13,447 | 16.7 |
| Non-rented | 54,805 | 67,668 | 77,205 | 9,537 | 14.1 |
| Gozo/Comino residents to Malta region | 13,666 | 16,915 | 19,513 | 2,598 | 15.4 |
| Collective accommodation | 8,523 | 6,100 | 7,146 | 1,046 | - |
| Private accommodation | 5,144 | 10,815 | 12,367 | 1,551 | 14.3 |
| Rented | : | : | 1,235 ^u | : | : |
| Non-rented | 4,642 | 9,856 | 11,132 | 1,276 | - |

^u Under-represented due to small sample size. Please note that such data must be interpreted with caution.

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

Notes:

1. Figures exclude individuals aged 0 to 14 years. Please refer to methodological note 1.

2. Data may not add up due to rounding.

Source: National Tourism Survey, NSO

Table 4. Total nights spent by domestic tourists by region of destination and type of accommodation

| Type of accommodation | January-December | | | Change | Percentage change |
|--|------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2016/2015 | |
| Malta residents to Gozo/Comino region | 479,501 | 550,718 | 591,681 | 40,962 | 7.4 |
| Collective accommodation | 103,804 | 128,935 | 106,579 | -22,356 | -17.3 |
| Private accommodation | 375,696 | 421,783 | 485,102 | 63,318 | 15.0 |
| Rented | 251,449 | 234,995 | 278,132 | 43,137 | 18.4 |
| Non-rented | 124,248 | 186,788 | 206,969 | 20,181 | 10.8 |
| Gozo/Comino residents to Malta region | 30,375 | 33,596 | 38,579 | 4,983 | 14.8 |
| Collective accommodation | 17,094 | 12,950 | 15,076 | 2,125 | - |
| Private accommodation | 13,281 | 20,646 | 23,504 | 2,858 | 13.8 |
| Rented | : | : | 3,233 ^u | : | : |
| Non-rented | 11,471 | 17,925 | 20,271 | 2,346 | - |

^u Under-represented due to small sample size. Please note that such data must be interpreted with caution.

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

Notes:

1. Figures exclude individuals aged 0 to 14 years. Please refer to methodological note 1.

2. Data may not add up due to rounding.

Source: National Tourism Survey, NSO

Table 5. Total expenditure by domestic tourists by region of destination and expenditure category

€ 000

| Expenditure category | January-December | | | Change | Percentage change |
|--|------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2016/2015 | |
| Malta residents to Gozo/Comino region | 28,849 | 29,226 | 37,070 | 7,844 | 26.8 |
| Travel ticket | 2,077 | 2,092 | 2,425 | 334 | 16.0 |
| Accommodation | 10,411 | 10,173 | 12,103 | 1,929 | 19.0 |
| Other expenditure | 16,361 | 16,961 | 22,542 | 5,581 | 32.9 |
| Gozo/Comino residents to Malta region | 2,273 | 2,318 | 2,611 | 293 | 12.7 |
| Travel ticket | 64 | 92 | 93 | 1 | 0.7 |
| Accommodation | 814 | 688 | 845 | 157 | 22.9 |
| Other expenditure | 1,395 | 1,538 | 1,673 | 135 | 8.8 |

Notes:

1. Figures exclude individuals aged 0 to 14 years. Please refer to methodological note 1.
2. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
3. Data may not add up due to rounding.

Source: National Tourism Survey, NSO

Table 6. General overview of inbound tourism by itinerary, region and year

| | January-December | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2016/2015 | 2016/2015 |
| Inbound tourists: | | | | | |
| MALTA | 1,689,809 | 1,783,366 | 1,965,928 | 182,562 | 10.2 |
| <i>Single centre destination</i> ¹ | 1,599,004 | 1,692,334 | 1,860,754 | 168,419 | 10.0 |
| Malta | 1,536,864 | 1,617,785 | 1,776,069 | 158,285 | 9.8 |
| Gozo/Comino | 62,140 | 74,549 | 84,684 | 10,135 | 13.6 |
| <i>Twin centre destination</i> ² | 90,805 | 91,032 | 105,174 | 14,143 | 15.5 |
| Malta and Gozo/Comino | 90,805 | 91,032 | 105,174 | 14,143 | 15.5 |
| Regional overview ³ | | | | | |
| Malta | 1,627,669 | 1,708,816 | 1,881,244 | 172,427 | 10.1 |
| Gozo/Comino | 152,945 | 165,581 | 189,859 | 24,278 | 14.7 |
| Nights by inbound tourists: | | | | | |
| MALTA | 13,522,112 | 14,151,599 | 14,961,366 | 809,766 | 5.7 |
| <i>Single centre destination</i> ¹ | 12,426,678 | 13,081,628 | 13,774,149 | 692,522 | 5.3 |
| Malta | 11,788,538 | 12,334,748 | 12,953,431 | 618,683 | 5.0 |
| Gozo/Comino | 638,140 | 746,879 | 820,718 | 73,839 | 9.9 |
| <i>Twin centre destination</i> ² | 1,095,434 | 1,069,972 | 1,187,216 | 117,245 | 11.0 |
| Malta | 854,676 | 813,108 | 895,455 | 82,347 | 10.1 |
| Gozo/Comino | 240,758 | 256,863 | 291,761 | 34,898 | 13.6 |
| Regional overview | | | | | |
| Malta | 12,643,214 | 13,147,857 | 13,848,886 | 701,030 | 5.3 |
| Gozo/Comino | 878,898 | 1,003,743 | 1,112,479 | 108,737 | 10.8 |

Notes:

- ¹ Single centre destination includes inbound tourism trips with overnight stays in one region only.
- ² Twin centre destination includes inbound tourism trips with combined overnight stays in both Malta and Gozo and Comino regions.
- ³ The summation of the regions exceeds inbound tourists visiting MALTA, due to double counting of twin centre destination tourists to Malta and Gozo and Comino regions, respectively.
- Data may not add up due to rounding.

Source: Tourstat Survey, NSO

Table 7. Profile of inbound tourists to Malta region: single centre destination

| Characteristics | January-December | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2016/2015 | |
| Total | 1,536,864 | 1,617,785 | 1,776,069 | 158,285 | 9.8 |
| Type and mode of travel | | | | | |
| Air | 1,490,658 | 1,575,143 | 1,730,311 | 155,168 | 9.9 |
| Low-cost airlines | 615,043 | 681,988 | 863,931 | 181,943 | 26.7 |
| Other airlines | 875,614 | 893,155 | 866,380 | -26,775 | -3.0 |
| Sea | 46,207 | 42,642 | 45,758 | 3,116 | 7.3 |
| Sex | | | | | |
| Males | 807,399 | 835,605 | 909,443 | 73,838 | 8.8 |
| Females | 729,465 | 782,180 | 866,627 | 84,447 | 10.8 |
| Age group | | | | | |
| 0-14 | 85,007 | 85,619 | 94,515 | 8,896 | 10.4 |
| 15-24 | 221,055 | 225,132 | 249,260 | 24,128 | 10.7 |
| 25-44 | 517,548 | 541,020 | 622,582 | 81,562 | 15.1 |
| 45-64 | 499,310 | 530,306 | 564,347 | 34,042 | 6.4 |
| 65 or more | 213,944 | 235,709 | 245,366 | 9,658 | 4.1 |
| Markets | | | | | |
| EU | 1,290,193 | 1,386,339 | 1,531,336 | 144,997 | 10.5 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| France | 112,948 | 111,727 | 128,166 | 16,439 | 14.7 |
| Germany | 124,585 | 122,247 | 134,465 | 12,218 | 10.0 |
| Italy | 248,459 | 266,830 | 296,202 | 29,372 | 11.0 |
| Spain | 38,173 | 42,854 | 49,424 | 6,569 | 15.3 |
| United Kingdom | 442,066 | 476,896 | 507,140 | 30,243 | 6.3 |
| Non-EU | 246,671 | 231,445 | 244,733 | 13,288 | 5.7 |
| Purpose of visit | | | | | |
| Holiday | 1,174,983 | 1,216,301 | 1,355,675 | 139,374 | 11.5 |
| Visiting relatives and friends | 115,665 | 144,186 | 159,699 | 15,513 | 10.8 |
| Other (including business, educational, religious and health tourism) | 246,216 | 257,298 | 260,696 | 3,398 | 1.3 |
| Organisation of stay | | | | | |
| Package | 741,895 | 747,435 | 718,289 | -29,146 | -3.9 |
| Non-package | 794,969 | 870,350 | 1,057,780 | 187,431 | 21.5 |
| Frequency | | | | | |
| First-time tourists | 1,061,432 | 1,136,733 | 1,248,646 | 111,913 | 9.8 |
| Repeat tourists | 475,433 | 481,052 | 527,423 | 46,372 | 9.6 |
| once a year or less | 333,816 | 346,075 | 374,135 | 28,060 | 8.1 |
| more than once a year | 141,616 | 134,977 | 153,289 | 18,312 | 13.6 |
| Duration of visit | | | | | |
| 1-3 nights | 272,262 | 267,181 | 342,143 | 74,962 | 28.1 |
| 4-6 nights | 369,935 | 411,583 | 471,948 | 60,364 | 14.7 |
| 7 nights or more | 894,668 | 939,020 | 961,979 | 22,959 | 2.4 |
| Average length of stay (nights) | 7.7 | 7.6 | 7.3 | -0.3 | - |

Notes:

1. Single centre destination includes inbound tourism trips with overnight stays in one region only.
2. Data may not add up due to rounding.

Source: Tourstat Survey, NSO

Table 8. Profile of inbound tourists to Gozo and Comino region: single centre destination

| Characteristics | January-December | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2016/2015 | |
| Total | 62,140 | 74,549 | 84,684 | 10,135 | 13.6 |
| Type and mode of travel | | | | | |
| Air | 61,797 | 74,375 | 84,481 | 10,106 | 13.6 |
| Low-cost airlines | 26,473 | 31,894 | 43,211 | 11,317 | 35.5 |
| Other airlines | 35,325 | 42,481 | 41,270 | -1,211 | - |
| Sea | 343 | 175 | 203 | 29 | 16.3 |
| Sex | | | | | |
| Males | 31,649 | 38,372 | 41,977 | 3,604 | 9.4 |
| Females | 30,491 | 36,177 | 42,707 | 6,531 | 18.1 |
| Age group | | | | | |
| 0-14 | 5,333 | 6,183 | 6,696 | 513 | - |
| 15-24 | 4,837 | 7,312 | 9,191 | 1,878 | 25.7 |
| 25-44 | 19,702 | 23,479 | 26,681 | 3,202 | 13.6 |
| 45-64 | 25,710 | 30,915 | 33,110 | 2,195 | 7.1 |
| 65 or more | 6,559 | 6,660 | 9,006 | 2,346 | 35.2 |
| Markets | | | | | |
| EU | 54,556 | 66,138 | 73,631 | 7,493 | 11.3 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| France | 3,014 | 4,154 | 3,615 | -539 | - |
| Germany | 11,222 | 12,652 | 12,317 | -335 | - |
| Italy | 4,045 | 6,069 | 8,250 | 2,180 | 35.9 |
| Spain | 700 | 733 | 842 | 109 | - |
| United Kingdom | 25,099 | 29,603 | 32,520 | 2,917 | 9.9 |
| Non-EU | 7,584 | 8,411 | 11,053 | 2,642 | 31.4 |
| Purpose of visit | | | | | |
| Holiday | 49,894 | 58,220 | 65,857 | 7,637 | 13.1 |
| Visiting relatives and friends | 8,892 | 11,473 | 13,351 | 1,878 | 16.4 |
| Other (including business, educational, religious and health tourism) | 3,354 | 4,856 | 5,476 | 619 | 12.8 |
| Organisation of stay | | | | | |
| Package | 19,300 | 20,208 | 21,668 | 1,460 | - |
| Non-package | 42,840 | 54,341 | 63,016 | 8,675 | 16.0 |
| Frequency | | | | | |
| First-time tourists | 32,772 | 38,984 | 45,190 | 6,207 | 15.9 |
| Repeat tourists | 29,368 | 35,565 | 39,494 | 3,928 | 11.0 |
| once a year or less | 22,535 | 25,568 | 29,135 | 3,567 | 14.0 |
| more than once a year | 6,833 | 9,998 | 10,359 | 361 | - |
| Duration of visit | | | | | |
| 1-3 nights | 3,037 | 3,641 | 5,427 | 1,786 | 49.1 |
| 4-6 nights | 9,180 | 10,780 | 14,152 | 3,372 | 31.3 |
| 7 nights or more | 49,923 | 60,129 | 65,105 | 4,976 | 8.3 |
| Average length of stay (nights) | 10.3 | 10.0 | 9.7 | -0.3 | - |

Notes:

1. Single centre destination includes inbound tourism trips with overnight stays in one region only.

2. Data may not add up due to rounding.

Source: Tourstat Survey, NSO

Table 9. Profile of inbound tourists to Malta and Gozo and Comino regions: twin centre destination

| Characteristics | January-December | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---|------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2016/2015 | |
| Total | 90,805 | 91,032 | 105,174 | 14,143 | 15.5 |
| Type and mode of travel | | | | | |
| Air | 88,889 | 88,235 | 103,158 | 14,923 | 16.9 |
| Low-cost airlines | 34,820 | 36,856 | 50,418 | 13,562 | 36.8 |
| Other airlines | 54,069 | 51,380 | 52,740 | 1,360 | - |
| Sea | 1,916 | 2,796 | 2,016 | -780 | -27.9 |
| Sex | | | | | |
| Males | 45,244 | 45,312 | 52,349 | 7,037 | 15.5 |
| Females | 45,561 | 45,720 | 52,825 | 7,106 | 15.5 |
| Age group | | | | | |
| 0-14 | 6,397 | 6,424 | 6,952 | 528 | - |
| 15-24 | 12,838 | 13,132 | 16,057 | 2,925 | 22.3 |
| 25-44 | 33,021 | 35,865 | 40,820 | 4,954 | 13.8 |
| 45-64 | 28,380 | 26,505 | 29,993 | 3,488 | 13.2 |
| 65 or more | 10,169 | 9,105 | 11,353 | 2,248 | 24.7 |
| Markets | | | | | |
| EU | 72,488 | 74,436 | 86,088 | 11,652 | 15.7 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| France | 9,550 | 12,072 | 13,023 | 951 | - |
| Germany | 7,246 | 6,957 | 10,004 | 3,047 | 43.8 |
| Italy | 10,126 | 9,916 | 10,772 | 856 | - |
| Spain | 3,412 | 3,649 | 4,758 | 1,109 | - |
| United Kingdom | 20,549 | 19,496 | 20,328 | 832 | - |
| Non-EU | 18,317 | 16,596 | 19,086 | 2,490 | 15.0 |
| Purpose of visit | | | | | |
| Holiday | 75,279 | 69,203 | 84,746 | 15,543 | 22.5 |
| Visiting relatives and friends | 10,341 | 13,054 | 11,865 | -1,190 | - |
| Other (including business, educational, religious and health tourism) | 5,185 | 8,774 | 8,563 | -211 | - |
| Organisation of stay | | | | | |
| Package | 14,996 | 14,082 | 15,812 | 1,729 | 12.3 |
| Non-package | 75,809 | 76,949 | 89,363 | 12,413 | 16.1 |
| Frequency | | | | | |
| First-time tourists | 64,445 | 65,273 | 80,480 | 15,208 | 23.3 |
| Repeat tourists | 26,359 | 25,759 | 24,694 | -1,065 | - |
| once a year or less | 18,377 | 18,572 | 18,109 | -463 | - |
| more than once a year | 7,982 | 7,187 | 6,585 | -602 | - |
| Duration of visit | | | | | |
| 1-3 nights | 1,036 | 1,185 | 1,576 | 391 | - |
| 4-6 nights | 5,975 | 6,824 | 11,309 | 4,485 | 65.7 |
| 7 nights or more | 83,793 | 83,023 | 92,289 | 9,266 | 11.2 |
| Average length of stay (nights) | 12.1 | 11.8 | 11.3 | -0.5 | - |

Notes:

1. Twin centre destination includes inbound tourism trips with combined overnight stays in both Malta and Gozo and Comino regions.

2. Data may not add up due to rounding.

Source: Tourstat Survey, NSO

Table 10. Inbound tourists by itinerary, region and type of accommodation

| Type of accommodation | January-December | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2016/2015 | |
| MALTA | 1,689,809 | 1,783,366 | 1,965,928 | 182,562 | 10.2 |
| <i>Single centre destination</i> ¹ | 1,599,004 | 1,692,334 | 1,860,754 | 168,419 | 10.0 |
| Malta | 1,536,864 | 1,617,785 | 1,776,069 | 158,285 | 9.8 |
| Collective accommodation | 1,182,580 | 1,208,127 | 1,270,508 | 62,381 | 5.2 |
| Private accommodation | 354,285 | 409,658 | 505,562 | 95,903 | 23.4 |
| Rented | 192,602 | 236,637 | 309,446 | 72,809 | 30.8 |
| Non-rented | 161,682 | 173,021 | 196,115 | 23,095 | 13.3 |
| Gozo/Comino | 62,140 | 74,549 | 84,684 | 10,135 | 13.6 |
| Collective accommodation | 22,968 | 24,464 | 26,936 | 2,472 | 10.1 |
| Private accommodation | 39,172 | 50,085 | 57,748 | 7,663 | 15.3 |
| Rented | 23,904 | 30,507 | 36,457 | 5,951 | 19.5 |
| Non-rented | 15,268 | 19,578 | 21,290 | 1,712 | 8.7 |
| <i>Twin centre destination</i> ² | 90,805 | 91,032 | 105,174 | 14,143 | 15.5 |
| Collective accommodation | 55,956 | 47,670 | 56,677 | 9,008 | 18.9 |
| Private accommodation | 34,849 | 43,362 | 48,497 | 5,135 | 11.8 |
| Rented | 18,904 | 27,411 | 33,190 | 5,780 | 21.1 |
| Non-rented | 15,945 | 15,951 | 15,306 | -645 | - |

Notes:

1. ¹ Single centre destination includes inbound tourism trips with overnight stays in one region only.
2. ² Twin centre destination includes inbound tourism trips with combined overnight stays in both Malta and Gozo and Comino regions.
3. Tourists visiting Malta and Gozo and Comino regions as twin centre destination provide information only on the main accommodation used in either one of the regions. No information is provided in respect of the accommodation used for the remaining nights which are spent in the other region. In this regard, the nights of twin centre tourists cannot be segregated by the type of accommodation used in each of the respective regions.
4. Data may not add up due to rounding.

Source: Tourstat Survey, NSO

Table 11. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by itinerary, region and type of accommodation

| Type of accommodation | January-December | | | Change | Percentage change |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2016/2015 | |
| MALTA | 13,522,112 | 14,151,599 | 14,961,366 | 809,766 | 5.7 |
| Single centre destination¹ | 12,426,678 | 13,081,628 | 13,774,149 | 692,522 | 5.3 |
| Malta | 11,788,538 | 12,334,748 | 12,953,431 | 618,683 | 5.0 |
| Collective accommodation | 8,069,725 | 8,142,493 | 8,154,930 | 12,437 | 0.2 |
| Private accommodation | 3,718,813 | 4,192,255 | 4,798,502 | 606,246 | 14.5 |
| Rented | 2,115,179 | 2,519,232 | 2,995,895 | 476,663 | 18.9 |
| Non-rented | 1,603,635 | 1,673,023 | 1,802,606 | 129,583 | 7.7 |
| Gozo/Comino | 638,140 | 746,879 | 820,718 | 73,839 | 9.9 |
| Collective accommodation | 189,133 | 195,718 | 210,158 | 14,440 | 7.4 |
| Private accommodation | 449,007 | 551,161 | 610,560 | 59,399 | 10.8 |
| Rented | 238,128 | 307,546 | 346,531 | 38,985 | 12.7 |
| Non-rented | 210,879 | 243,616 | 264,029 | 20,413 | 8.4 |
| Twin centre destination² | 1,095,434 | 1,069,972 | 1,187,216 | 117,245 | 11.0 |
| Collective accommodation | 608,046 | 462,917 | 521,277 | 58,360 | 12.6 |
| Private accommodation | 487,388 | 607,055 | 665,939 | 58,884 | 9.7 |
| Rented | 257,563 | 352,478 | 435,473 | 82,995 | 23.5 |
| Non-rented | 229,825 | 254,577 | 230,466 | -24,111 | - |

Notes:

1. ¹ Single centre destination includes inbound tourism trips with overnight stays in one region only.
2. ² Twin centre destination includes inbound tourism trips with combined overnight stays in both Malta and Gozo and Comino regions.
3. Tourists visiting Malta and Gozo and Comino regions as twin centre destination provide information only on the main accommodation used in either one of the regions. No information is provided in respect of the accommodation used for the remaining nights which are spent in the other region. In this regard, the nights of twin centre tourists cannot be segregated by the type of accommodation used in each of the respective regions.
4. Data may not add up due to rounding.

Source: Tourstat Survey, NSO

Table 12. Total expenditure by inbound tourists by itinerary, region and expenditure category

€ 000

| Expenditure category | January-December | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2016/2015 | |
| MALTA | 1,528,572 | 1,639,067 | 1,708,952 | 69,885 | 4.3 |
| <i>Single centre destination</i> ¹ | 1,419,291 | 1,531,624 | 1,591,483 | 59,860 | 3.9 |
| Malta | 1,359,943 | 1,459,260 | 1,515,539 | 56,279 | 3.9 |
| Package | 486,991 | 510,085 | 474,838 | -35,247 | -6.9 |
| Non-package | 362,387 | 411,992 | 460,310 | 48,319 | 11.7 |
| Travel ticket | 186,203 | 206,180 | 218,750 | 12,570 | 6.1 |
| Accommodation | 176,184 | 205,812 | 241,561 | 35,749 | 17.4 |
| Other expenditure | 510,566 | 537,184 | 580,391 | 43,208 | 8.0 |
| Gozo/Comino | 59,348 | 72,363 | 75,944 | 3,581 | 4.9 |
| Package | 14,524 | 15,818 | 15,685 | -133 | -0.8 |
| Non-package | 20,095 | 25,887 | 27,510 | 1,623 | 6.3 |
| Travel ticket | 11,669 | 14,846 | 15,301 | 455 | 3.1 |
| Accommodation | 8,426 | 11,041 | 12,208 | 1,167 | 10.6 |
| Other expenditure | 24,729 | 30,658 | 32,749 | 2,091 | 6.8 |
| <i>Twin centre destination</i> ² | 109,281 | 107,444 | 117,469 | 10,025 | 9.3 |
| Package | 14,823 | 15,062 | 15,296 | 234 | 1.6 |
| Non-package | 42,796 | 42,919 | 47,275 | 4,356 | 10.1 |
| Travel ticket | 19,383 | 19,198 | 20,112 | 914 | 4.8 |
| Accommodation | 23,412 | 23,721 | 27,163 | 3,442 | 14.5 |
| Other expenditure | 51,662 | 49,463 | 54,897 | 5,435 | 11.0 |

Notes:

- ¹ Single centre destination includes inbound tourism trips with overnight stays in one region only.
- ² Twin centre destination includes inbound tourism trips with combined overnight stays in both Malta and Gozo and Comino regions.
- Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
- Data may not add up due to rounding.

Source: Tourstat Survey, NSO

Methodological Notes

1. This release focuses on domestic and inbound tourism overnight stays. Domestic tourism excludes individuals aged 0 to 14 years and overnight stays within the same region of origin, such as, weekend breaks in Malta region by Malta residents.
2. Inbound tourism trips are collected from an ongoing frontier national survey known as Tourstat. Tourist air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of the Malta International Airport. A two-stage sampling design is used to collect air passengers. In the first stage, alternate days and nights are selected. In the second stage, within each shift, a sample of passengers is selected systematically. Every crossing passenger is counted and respondents are selected using a pre-defined interval of 1:20 for air. Tourist sea departures data is supplemented by administrative data provided by ferry operators. Tourstat measures the number of tourist trips carried out during a reference period. 'Tourist trips' differs from the 'number of tourists' such that the same person can undertake more than one trip during a reference period.
3. In 2014, the National Statistics Office has introduced a new tool to measure National Tourism to satisfy the concepts and definitions as outlined by Eurostat. The collection consists of tourism demand data on domestic and outbound trips as required by Regulation (EC) No. 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning statistics on tourism statistics. The Regulation aims at giving a complete and comprehensive picture of tourism in Europe and allows the comparability of results with other EU member states. Data is collected via a quarterly Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) survey.
4. **Definitions:**
 - **Usual Environment:** The geographical area, though not necessarily a contiguous one, within which an individual conducts his regular life routines and shall be determined on the basis of the following criteria: the crossing of administrative borders or the distance from the place of usual residence, the duration of visit, the frequency of visit, the purpose of visit.
 - **Residents:** A person is considered to be a resident of Malta/Gozo and Comino if:
 - a. S/he has lived for most of the past 12 months in Malta/Gozo and Comino;
 - b. S/he has lived in Malta/Gozo for less than 12 months but intends to return within a year to settle here.
 - **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.
 - **Tourist:** A visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
 - **Tourist trip:** A visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
 - **Domestic tourism:** comprises the activities of a resident visitor within the country, i.e. Maltese residents visiting Gozo and Comino and vice versa and staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for personal, business or other purposes.
 - **Inbound tourism:** 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 personal, business or other purposes.
 - **Outbound tourism:** comprises the activities of residents of Malta travelling to, and staying in places outside Malta and therefore outside their usual environment.
 - **Single centre destination:** refers to inbound tourism trips with overnight stays in one region only.
 - **Twin centre destination:** refers to inbound tourism trips with combined overnight stays in two regions, i.e., Malta and Gozo and Comino regions.
 - **Total nights spent:** nights which a guest actually spends or is registered to spend in a collective accommodation establishment or in a private accommodation.
 - **Average length of stay:** the number of nights spent divided by the number of trips during a specified reference period.
 - **Collective accommodation:** comprises hotels, guesthouses, hostels, tourist villages, holiday complex, Bed & Breakfast and campsites.
 - **Private accommodation:** comprises holiday furnished premises (farmhouses, flats and villas), rented accommodation (host families, marinas, paid-convents, rented yachts, student dormitories), own private residence (owned dwellings, owned caravans and yachts), staying with friends or relatives (even if charged - includes also friends' private apartments) and other private accommodation (oil rig, free-convents, timeshare, dockyards (Palumbo), ship (used for work)).
 - **Total expenditure:** comprises the total consumption expenditure made by a visitor or on behalf of a visitor for and during the trip and stay at destination. It is broken down by the following expenditure items: Transport, Accommodation and Other (including shopping, food and drinks and excursions during a tourism trip).

5. 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'.
6. Prior to comparing and interpreting differences between demand-side (based on Tourstat and National Tourism surveys) and supply-side (based on Accomstat survey) 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>).
7. Absolute changes between one survey estimate and another must be treated with caution since minor changes (i.e. less than 1,500 trips) might be the result of sampling error. Percentage changes for tourists based on counts of less than 1,500 are not presented due to sampling errors.
8. The expenditure data in this release should not be equated to national tourism earnings.
9. The nomenclature of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) provides a single, uniform breakdown of the economic territory of the European Union. The NUTS is the territorial classification for the compilation of regional statistics. The economic territory of a country can be divided into regional territories and the extra-regio territory. For the purpose of regional analysis, MALTA is divided as follows:

| | NUTS 0 | NUTS 1 | NUTS 2 | NUTS 3 |
|-----------------|-----------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| MALTA | MT | MT0 | MT00 | MT000 |
| Malta | | | | MT001 |
| Gozo and Comino | | | | MT002 |
| Extra-regio | | MTZ | MTZZ | MTZZZ |

The regional territory includes the region that is part of the geographic territory of a country and any free zones, including bonded warehouses and factories under customs control in the region. The extra-regio territory is made up of parts of the economic territory of a country that cannot be attached directly to a single region.

10. More information is available from the NSO upon written request form: <https://nso.gov.mt/en/Services/Pages/Request-for-Information.aspx>
11. Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.
12. The advanced news release calendar may be accessed at www.nso.gov.mt