

Total cruise passenger traffic during the first quarter of 2018 amounted to 69,742, a decrease of 18.2 per cent over the corresponding period in 2017.

## Cruise Passengers: Q1/2018

There were 17 cruise liner calls during the first quarter of 2018, 17 less than the previous year. At 99.8 per cent, transit passengers accounted for the absolute majority of total traffic, reaching 69,624. On average, every vessel that berthed in Malta carried 4,102 passengers, 1,596 more than the previous year.

Visitors from EU Member States comprised 65.7 per cent of total traffic, the major markets being Italy, France, Germany and Spain. The total number of passengers from Non-EU countries stood at 23,932, a decrease of 12.0 per cent over 2017.

On a gender basis, female passengers made up 53.9 per cent of this year's total. Most passengers were aged between 60 and 79 (33.8 per cent), followed by those within the 40-59 age bracket (31.2 per cent) (Table 1) ■

### Total cruise passenger traffic

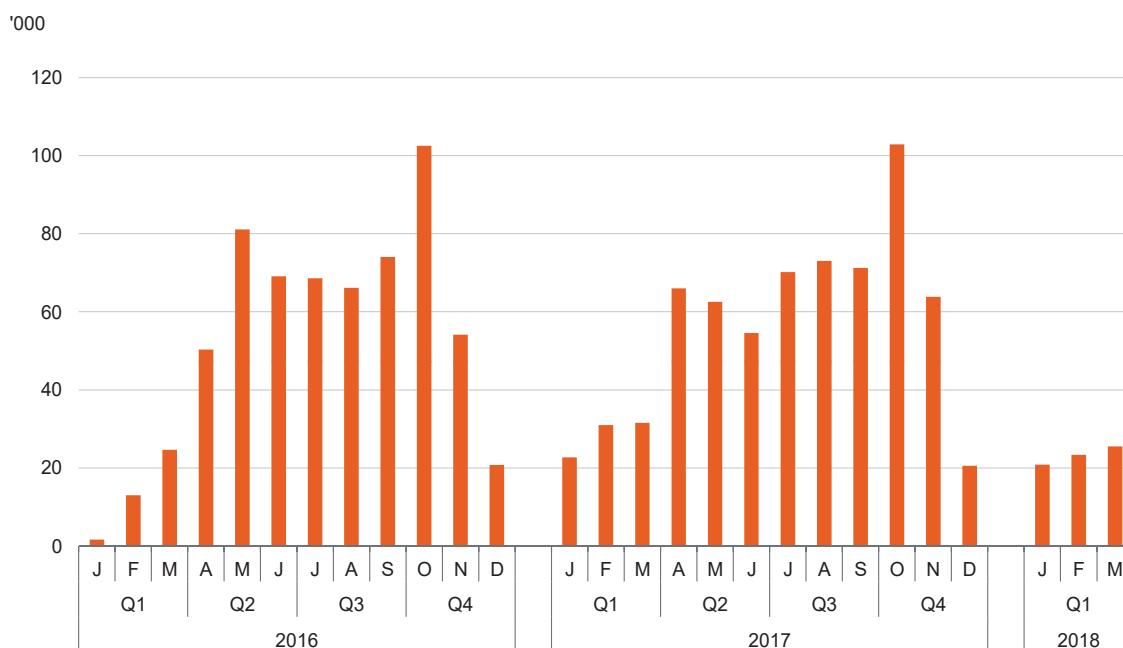


Table 1. Cruise passengers: Quarterly 2016-2018

	January-March (Q1)			Change
	2016	2017	2018	Jan-Mar 2018/ Jan-Mar 2017
<b>Total traffic*:</b>	<b>39,375</b>	<b>85,215</b>	<b>69,742</b>	<b>-15,473</b>
Transit	39,170	85,009	69,624	-15,385
Landed	205	206	118	-88
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers visiting Gozo	-	-	-	-
Passengers staying overnight	1,003	344	-	-344
<b>Nationality:</b>				
EU	25,952	58,031	45,810	-12,221
<i>of which:</i>				
French	4,346	11,060	8,891	-2,169
German	4,878	8,410	8,818	408
Italian	6,884	21,454	15,413	-6,041
Maltese	72	82	17	-65
Spanish	1,465	3,007	4,967	1,960
British	3,814	6,742	2,535	-4,207
Non-EU	13,423	27,184	23,932	-3,252
<i>of which:</i>				
Australian	424	1,365	682	-683
Canadian	600	1,447	1,023	-424
Japanese	794	2,541	3,398	857
American	3,277	7,631	2,749	-4,882
<b>Sex:</b>				
Males	18,373	40,053	32,147	-7,906
Females	21,002	45,162	37,595	-7,567
<b>Age group:</b>				
0-19	6,039	11,863	10,566	-1,297
20-39	6,331	13,789	11,931	-1,858
40-59	11,404	26,205	21,789	-4,416
60-79	14,021	30,717	23,590	-7,127
80+	1,580	2,641	1,866	-775
<b>Cruise liner calls</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>-17</b>

\* See methodological note 3

## Methodological Notes

1. The data in this release is compiled on the basis of administrative records held by Transport Malta.
2. Cruise liners calling at both Malta and Gozo during a single voyage are recorded as one cruise liner call.
3. The majority of passengers embarking on cruise liners from Malta generally end their trip at the same destination. Embarkations are therefore not included in total traffic figures, in order to avoid double counting. This measure was adopted as from News Release no. 079/2013 dated 23 April 2013. The referred news release also includes figures for 2012 and 2011.

For clarity, embarkation figures for the period under review are being provided:

Embarkations	2016	2017	2018
January-March (Q1)	150	137	67

#### 4. Definitions:

- **Cruise passenger traffic:** comprises transit passengers and passengers who land in Malta.
  - **Embarkations:** comprise all cruise passengers who are either Maltese or who are foreigners who arrive in Malta by other means of transport.
  - **Transit passengers:** comprise all cruise passengers who arrive in and leave Malta on the same cruise ship.
  - **Landings:** comprise all cruise passengers who arrive in Malta on a cruise ship and leave by other means of transport, or alternatively, stay in Malta.
  - **Passengers staying overnight:** passengers who spend at least one night on-board their berthed cruise liner.
  - **Average number of passengers per vessel:** computed by dividing total cruise passenger traffic with the number of cruise liner calls.
5. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:  
Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>
  6. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
  7. A detailed news release calendar is available on: [https://nso.gov.mt/en/News\\_Releases/Release\\_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx)