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Special Observances

World Water Day

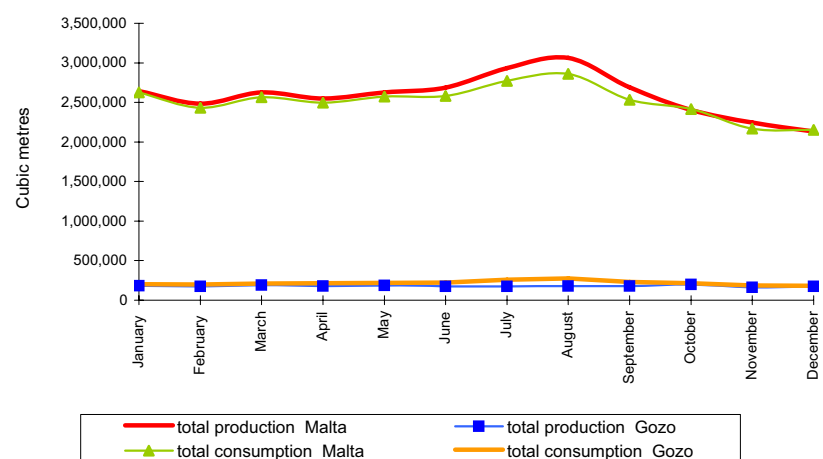
Water in the Maltese Islands is supplied by Reverse Osmosis plants (desalination), pumping stations, boreholes and springs. Tabular data in this release show water production and consumption patterns in 2004 for the Islands of Malta and Gozo.

Desalination plants comprise the main source of water production for the island of Malta, to the tune of nearly 18 million cubic metres in the year under review. Pumping stations supplied the largest volume of water from the mean sea level aquifer, an average of 681,031 cubic metres per month. Borehole production accounted for an average of just over 380,000 cubic metres monthly.

By contrast, in Gozo, an average monthly of 167,369 cubic metres of water was abstracted from boreholes as against some 11,500 cubic metres from pumping stations. This means that, while in Malta water pumped from pumping stations accounted for 26 per cent of the total water supply in the year under review, this proportion stood at 6 per cent for Gozo. In the latter Island, there are no Reverse Osmosis plants. Boreholes are the main source of water, with over 93 per cent of total production for the Island. This translates into some 2 million cubic metres recorded in 2004. A supplement of 450,355 cubic metres, concentrated especially in the summer months, was transferred from Malta throughout the year.

Between them, the two Islands consumed nearly 33 million cubic metres of water in 2004. This translates into an 81-cubic-metre consumption of water per head for this period and into an average daily consumption for Malta of 82,681 cubic metres. For Gozo, this statistic stood at 7,157 cubic metres ■

Chart 1. Monthly patterns of water production and consumption in the Maltese Islands: 2004



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Table 1. Sources of water production and consumption for the Island of Malta: 2004

Month	Pumping station production	Borehole production	Spring production	R.O. plant production	Total production	Transfer to Gozo & Comino	Consumption	End of month reserves
January	770,120	361,083	0	1,509,667	2,642,560	1,690	2,626,273	244,361
February	752,232	353,294	0	1,352,281	2,486,037	28,230	2,431,917	242,020
March	802,895	386,343	0	1,406,369	2,626,207	30,600	2,564,269	242,758
April	744,853	368,136	0	1,404,036	2,548,045	31,020	2,495,898	232,865
May	725,226	413,497	0	1,463,732	2,627,102	24,647	2,572,149	238,524
June	707,075	398,628	0	1,538,743	2,686,716	42,270	2,579,861	260,839
July	673,142	406,415	0	1,766,555	2,932,772	86,660	2,771,481	248,810
August	705,186	433,845	0	1,815,781	3,062,472	107,660	2,862,056	233,906
September	609,360	412,274	0	1,606,065	2,688,894	61,194	2,533,148	267,263
October	630,046	356,625	0	1,413,452	2,405,307	5,184	2,416,747	245,455
November	505,777	312,087	0	1,400,681	2,246,355	27,810	2,170,392	265,798
December	546,460	365,539	0	1,217,221	2,132,610	3,390	2,154,487	237,140
Total	8,172,370	4,567,766	0	17,894,583	31,085,074	450,355	30,178,678	237,140
Average monthly	681,031	380,647	0	1,491,215	2,590,423	37,530	2,514,890	246,645

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Table 2. Sources of water production and consumption for the Island of Gozo: 2004

Month	Pumping station production	Borehole production	Transfer from Malta	Total production	Consumption	End of month reserves
January	0	182,855	1,690	182,855	201,008	34,164
February	4,420	167,940	28,230	172,360	198,976	35,778
March	15,380	173,170	30,600	188,550	211,603	43,325
April	16,700	162,790	31,020	179,490	212,500	41,336
May	16,830	170,270	24,647	187,100	217,663	35,419
June	15,640	159,890	42,270	175,530	221,823	31,396
July	16,770	156,380	86,660	173,150	258,157	33,048
August	17,320	161,715	107,660	179,035	276,349	43,394
September	16,290	162,335	61,194	178,625	232,523	50,691
October	17,140	179,600	5,184	196,740	215,417	37,198
November	1,740	159,300	27,810	161,040	184,162	41,886
December	0	172,185	3,390	172,185	182,278	35,184
Total	138,230	2,008,430	450,355	2,146,660	2,612,458	462,820
Average monthly	11,519	167,369	37,530	178,888	217,705	38,568

Table 3. Total water production and consumption for the Maltese Islands: 2004

Month	Total Production		Total Consumption	
	Malta	Gozo	Malta	Gozo
January	2,642,560	182,855	2,626,273	201,008
February	2,486,037	172,360	2,431,917	198,976
March	2,626,207	188,550	2,564,269	211,603
April	2,548,045	179,490	2,495,898	212,500
May	2,627,102	187,100	2,572,149	217,663
June	2,686,716	175,530	2,579,861	221,823
July	2,932,772	173,150	2,771,481	258,157
August	3,062,472	179,035	2,862,056	276,349
September	2,688,894	178,625	2,533,148	232,523
October	2,405,307	196,740	2,416,747	215,417
November	2,246,355	161,040	2,170,392	184,162
December	2,132,610	172,185	2,154,487	182,278
Total	31,085,074	2,146,660	30,178,678	2,612,458

Note: The source for these data is the Water Services Corporation. Quantities are supplied in volume (cubic metres).