

News Release



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Tourism

Outbound Tourism: May 2007

Outbound Maltese tourists for May are estimated at 21,201, implying a decrease of 3.1 per cent over the same month last year. Of these 81.7 per cent travelled by air.

May 2007

In the month under review, Maltese residents departing by air and sea are estimated at 21,201. Of these 18,674 travelled to European Union destinations, the most popular being Italy and the UK.

January-May 2007

In the period under review, the number of Maltese passengers departing by air and sea amounted to 86,689, an increase of 4.2 per cent over the same period last year. Almost 86 per cent of the total travelled to European Union destinations; the most visited countries being Italy and the UK.

During this period, male outbound passengers exceeded female ones, the former accounting for 62.6 per cent of the total.

The largest proportion of outbound passengers - 47.3 per cent - comprised passengers aged between 25 and 44 years, followed by those in the 45-64 age bracket who accounted for 38.1 per cent of total Maltese travellers ■

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Table 1. Outbound passengers: monthly

persons

	May		Absolute change	Percentage change
	2006	2007	2007/2006	2007/2006
Total	21,870	21,201	-669	-3.1
Transport:				
Air	17,651	17,319	-332	-1.9
Sea *	4,219	3,882	-337	-8.0
Destination:				
EU	19,006	18,674	-332	-1.7
Italy	7,735	9,912	2,177	28.1
UK	4,141	3,596	-545	-13.2
Non-EU	2,864	2,527	-337	-11.8
Sex:				
Males	12,955	13,273	318	2.5
Females	8,915	7,928	-987	-11.1
Age group:				
0-24	1,533	1,622	89	5.8
25-44	10,085	9,858	-227	-2.3
45-64	9,176	8,826	-350	-3.8
65+	1,076	895	-181	-16.8

* Note: Outbound sea passengers include an element of same-day visitors.

Table 2. Outbound passengers: cumulative

persons				
	January-May		Absolute change	Percentage change
	2006	2007	2007/2006	2007/2006
Total	83,203	86,689	3,486	4.2
Transport:				
Air	75,934	77,419	1,485	2.0
Sea *	7,269	9,270	2,001	27.5
Destination:				
EU	67,735	74,493	6,758	10.0
Italy	23,584	29,956	6,372	27.0
UK	20,937	20,723	-214	-1.0
Non-EU	15,468	12,196	-3,272	-21.2
Sex:				
Males	52,434	54,261	1,827	3.5
Females	30,769	32,428	1,659	5.4
Age group:				
0-24	5,753	9,093	3,340	58.1
25-44	38,570	40,990	2,420	6.3
45-64	35,739	32,989	-2,750	-7.7
65+	3,141	3,617	476	15.2

* Note: Outbound sea passengers include an element of same-day visitors.

Methodological Notes

1. Maltese air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of Malta International Airport. A two-stage sample design is used for this survey. At the first stage alternate days are selected. Then within each shift a sample of passengers is selected systematically. Personal interviews are carried out. Monthly response rates of around 90 per cent are achieved.
2. Maltese sea departures are collected through a regular survey that is carried out at the seaport. Ferry sailings on every alternate day are selected. Departing passengers are interviewed personally. On average a response rate of 93 per cent is recorded for this survey.
3. The survey which is carried out at the seaport commenced in April 2004. No data for Maltese sea departures is available for the period January - March 2004.
4. The variables with respect to Maltese departures that are collected in this survey include the following:
Age
Sex
Destination
5. The surveys carried out at the airport and the seaport are grossed up using the monthly passenger departures data in respect of each port after removing the number of transit passengers from the data sets.
6. Definitions

Outbound tourism comprises the activities of residents of a given country travelling to and staying in places outside that country and outside their usual environment.

Usual environment consists of the direct vicinity of his/her home and place of work and other places frequently visited.
7. The data in this release are not normally subject to revision.