

News Release



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Tourism

Outbound Tourism: September 2007

Outbound Maltese tourists for September are estimated at 29,331, implying a decrease of 1.4 per cent over the same month last year. Of these 85.9 per cent travelled by air.

September 2007

In the month under review, Maltese residents departing by air and sea are estimated at 29,331. Of these 25,227 travelled to European Union destinations, the most popular being Italy and the UK.

January-September 2007

In the period under review, the number of Maltese passengers departing by air and sea amounted to 217,494, an increase of 10.1 per cent over the same period last year. Of these 85.8 per cent 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 58.2 per cent of the total.

The largest proportion of outbound passengers - 45.5 per cent - comprised passengers aged between 25 and 44 years, followed by those in the 45-64 age bracket who accounted for 39.0 per cent of total Maltese travellers ■

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Table 1. Outbound passengers: monthly

		persons		
	September		Absolute change	Percentage change
	2006	2007	2007/2006	2007/2006
Total	29,738	29,331	-407	-1.4
Transport:				
Air	25,430	25,187	-243	-1.0
Sea *	4,308	4,144	-164	-3.8
Destination:				
EU	24,539	25,227	688	2.8
Italy	9,970	11,237	1,267	12.7
UK	5,796	4,817	-979	-16.9
Non-EU	5,199	4,104	-1,095	-21.1
Sex:				
Males	16,852	16,776	-76	-0.5
Females	12,886	12,555	-331	-2.6
Age group:				
0-24	3,441	3,610	169	4.9
25-44	14,299	13,773	-526	-3.7
45-64	10,752	10,799	47	0.4
65+	1,246	1,149	-97	-7.8

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

Table 2. Outbound passengers: cumulative

		persons		
	January-September		Absolute change	Percentage change
	2006	2007	2007/2006	2007/2006
Total	197,589	217,494	19,905	10.1
Transport:				
Air	169,998	188,462	18,464	10.9
Sea *	27,591	29,032	1,441	5.2
Destination:				
EU	162,573	186,644	24,071	14.8
Italy	61,294	77,396	16,102	26.3
UK	43,527	43,611	84	0.2
Non-EU	35,016	30,850	-4,166	-11.9
Sex:				
Males	117,310	126,638	9,328	8.0
Females	80,279	90,856	10,577	13.2
Age group:				
0-24	17,345	23,570	6,225	35.9
25-44	91,933	99,001	7,068	7.7
45-64	80,148	84,717	4,569	5.7
65+	8,163	10,206	2,043	25.0

* 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.