

News Release



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Tourism

Outbound Tourism: October 2008

Outbound Maltese residents for October are estimated at 21,090, implying an increase of 21.7 per cent over the corresponding month in 2007. Of these, 92.5 per cent travelled by air.

October 2008

In the month under review, Maltese residents departing by air and sea are estimated at 21,090. Of these, 17,711 travelled to EU destinations, the most popular being Italy and the UK. Maltese residents travelling to destinations outside the European Union are estimated at 3,379. The majority, or 92.5 per cent of total travellers, travelled by air. The largest proportion of outbound tourists fall in the 25-44 age bracket.

January-October 2008

In the period under review, Maltese passengers departing by air and sea are estimated at 250,361, an increase of 6.6 per cent over the corresponding period last year. Of these, 85.6 per cent travelled to EU destinations; the most visited countries were Italy and the UK.

For the cumulative period, male outbound passengers exceeded female ones, the former accounting for 57.5 per cent of the total.

The largest proportion of outbound passengers - 45.4 per cent - comprised passengers aged between 25 and 44, followed by those in the 45 to 64 age bracket who accounted for 37.6 per cent of total Maltese travellers ■

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Table 1. Outbound passengers: monthly

persons				
	October		Absolute change	Percentage change
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2008/2007
	Total	17,330	21,090	3,760
Transport:				
Air	16,080	19,501	3,421	21.3
Sea *	1,250	1,589	339	27.1
Destination:				
EU	14,221	17,711	3,490	24.5
<i>of which:</i>				
France	478	1,021	543	113.6
Germany	1,025	1,084	59	5.8
Italy	5,353	6,207	854	16.0
UK	4,093	5,505	1,412	34.5
Non-EU	3,109	3,379	270	8.7
Sex:				
Males	10,447	13,288	2,841	27.2
Females	6,883	7,802	919	13.4
Age group:				
0-24	1,209	1,353	144	11.9
25-44	7,973	9,639	1,666	20.9
45-64	7,666	9,300	1,634	21.3
65+	482	798	316	65.6

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

Table 2. Outbound passengers: cumulative

persons				
	January - October		Absolute change	Percentage change
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2008/2007
	Total	234,824	250,361	15,537
Transport:				
Air	204,542	221,911	17,369	8.5
Sea *	30,282	28,450	-1,832	-6.0
Destination:				
EU	200,866	214,260	13,394	6.7
<i>of which:</i>				
France	16,746	15,916	-830	-5.0
Germany	11,178	13,764	2,586	23.1
Italy	82,749	76,289	-6,460	-7.8
UK	47,704	57,094	9,390	19.7
Non-EU	33,958	36,101	2,143	6.3
Sex:				
Males	137,085	143,884	6,799	5.0
Females	97,739	106,477	8,738	8.9
Age group:				
0-24	24,779	30,228	5,449	22.0
25-44	106,974	113,760	6,786	6.3
45-64	92,383	94,194	1,811	2.0
65+	10,688	12,179	1,491	14.0

* 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 are 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 refers to 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.