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Total cruise passenger traffic during the fourth quarter last year stood at 120,707, a decline of 8.7 per cent over the corresponding period in 2012. There were 92 cruise liner calls during the quarter, up from 84 in the previous year.

Cruise Passengers: Q4/2013

Transit passengers accounted for 93.4 per cent of total traffic, and totalled 112,682. Around 1,085 passengers visited Gozo, while 1,682 passengers spent at least one night on board their berthed cruise liner (Table 1).

Visitors from EU Member States accounted for 77.4 per cent of total traffic, with the major markets being the United Kingdom, Germany and Italy. Total passengers from Non-EU countries numbered 27,242, of which 42.4 per cent came from the United States. Despite the decrease in total traffic, an increase in the British, Australian, Canadian and American markets was recorded.

On a gender basis, female passengers made up 53.1 per cent of the total. The largest share of passengers fell within the 60-79 age bracket, followed by those aged between 40 and 59.

January-December 2013

Cruise passengers for 2013 stood at 431,397, a drop of 23.3 per cent over 2012. Of these, 76.2 per cent came from EU Member States. Almost all EU markets recorded sharp decreases when compared to the previous year, with the exception of the British market, which advanced by 33.9 per cent. Passengers from Non-EU countries declined by 13.5 per cent to 102,680.

The majority of cruise passengers were female, totalling 229,867. Furthermore, most passengers were between 60 and 79 years old, followed by those aged 40-59, totalling 168,385 and 137,789 respectively (Table 2).

There were 286 cruise liner calls during the year, 36 less than the previous year. The average number of passengers per vessel stood at 1,508, as shown in Chart 1 ■

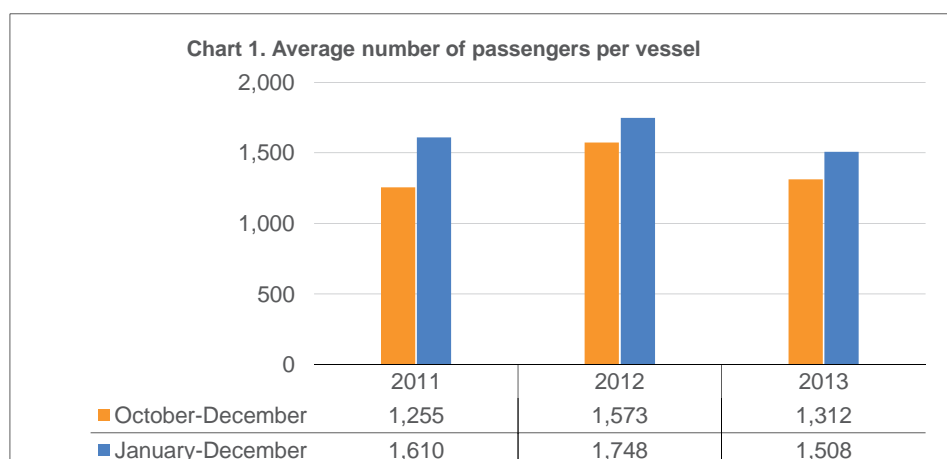
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Table 1. Cruise passengers: Quarterly 2011-2013

	October-December			Absolute change
	2011	2012	2013	2013/2012
Total traffic:	126,707	132,157	120,707	-11,450
Transit	113,408	129,187	112,682	-16,505
Landed	13,299	2,970	8,025	5,055
Passengers visiting Gozo	512	581	1,085	504
Passengers staying overnight	1,834	6,566	1,682	-4,884
Nationality:				
EU	93,483	99,007	93,465	-5,542
<i>of which:</i>				
France	9,759	11,725	10,189	-1,536
Germany	24,736	22,640	22,658	18
Italy	22,296	21,389	18,790	-2,599
Malta	1,083	1,212	1,224	12
Spain	7,604	10,917	8,850	-2,067
United Kingdom	20,778	20,591	24,053	3,462
Non-EU	33,224	33,150	27,242	-5,908
<i>of which:</i>				
Australia	1,204	1,543	2,563	1,020
Canada	3,737	2,812	3,707	895
Japan	1,044	1,466	598	-868
United States	12,937	10,710	11,542	832
Sex:				
Males	59,743	63,961	56,651	-7,310
Females	66,964	68,196	64,056	-4,140
Age group:				
0-19	13,059	12,034	9,751	-2,283
20-39	17,216	18,757	13,837	-4,920
40-59	38,192	38,911	34,163	-4,748
60-79	53,078	57,087	57,189	102
80+	5,162	5,368	5,767	399
Cruise liner calls	101	84	92	8

Table 2. Cruise passengers: Annually 2011-2013

	January-December			Absolute change
	2011	2012	2013	2013/2012
Total traffic:	500,758	562,812	431,397	-131,415
Transit	444,831	516,391	380,277	-136,114
Landed	55,927	46,421	51,120	4,699
Passengers visiting Gozo	1,021	3,544	2,482	-1,062
Passengers staying overnight	7,251	12,201	8,838	-3,363
Nationality:				
EU	382,274	444,039	328,717	-115,322
<i>of which:</i>				
France	41,687	62,743	42,127	-20,616
Germany	109,051	124,420	83,366	-41,054
Italy	109,874	99,602	66,425	-33,177
Malta	7,586	7,132	6,831	-301
Spain	34,900	43,587	21,841	-21,746
United Kingdom	42,708	62,068	83,137	21,069
Non-EU	118,484	118,773	102,680	-16,093
<i>of which:</i>				
Australia	5,424	6,413	8,673	2,260
Canada	12,424	12,318	12,476	158
Japan	2,018	2,757	2,038	-719
United States	48,162	37,843	42,514	4,671
Sex:				
Males	244,667	273,970	201,530	-72,440
Females	256,091	288,842	229,867	-58,975
Age group:				
0-19	79,484	79,730	50,101	-29,629
20-39	88,481	93,092	58,931	-34,161
40-59	169,014	188,336	137,789	-50,547
60-79	150,741	185,010	168,385	-16,625
80+	13,038	16,644	16,191	-453
Cruise liner calls	311	322	286	-36

Methodological Notes

1. The data in this release are 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 cruise liners from Malta generally end their trip at the same destination. Embarkations are therefore not included in total traffic figures to avoid double counting.

Definitions:

- Cruise passenger traffic comprises transit passengers and passengers landing in Malta.
- Embarkations comprise all cruise passengers who are either Maltese who leave Malta on a cruise ship, or alternatively, foreigners who come to Malta by other means of transport and leave on a cruise ship.
- 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.
- Same-day visitors comprise visitors to Malta who do not spend at least one night in collective or private accommodation.
- Overnight visitors (tourists) comprise visitors to Malta who spend at least one night in collective or private accommodation.