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In the fourth quarter of 2015, sea transport between Malta and Gozo registered increases compared to the corresponding quarter of 2014.

Sea Transport between Malta and Gozo: Q4/2015

A total of 1,103,785 passengers travelled between Malta and Gozo during the fourth quarter, up by 6.1 per cent when compared to the corresponding quarter in 2014. The highest number of passengers was recorded in October - 417,869, or 37.9 per cent of the total for the quarter. The number of vehicles increased by 8.2 per cent, totalling 323,208 (Tables 1 and 2).

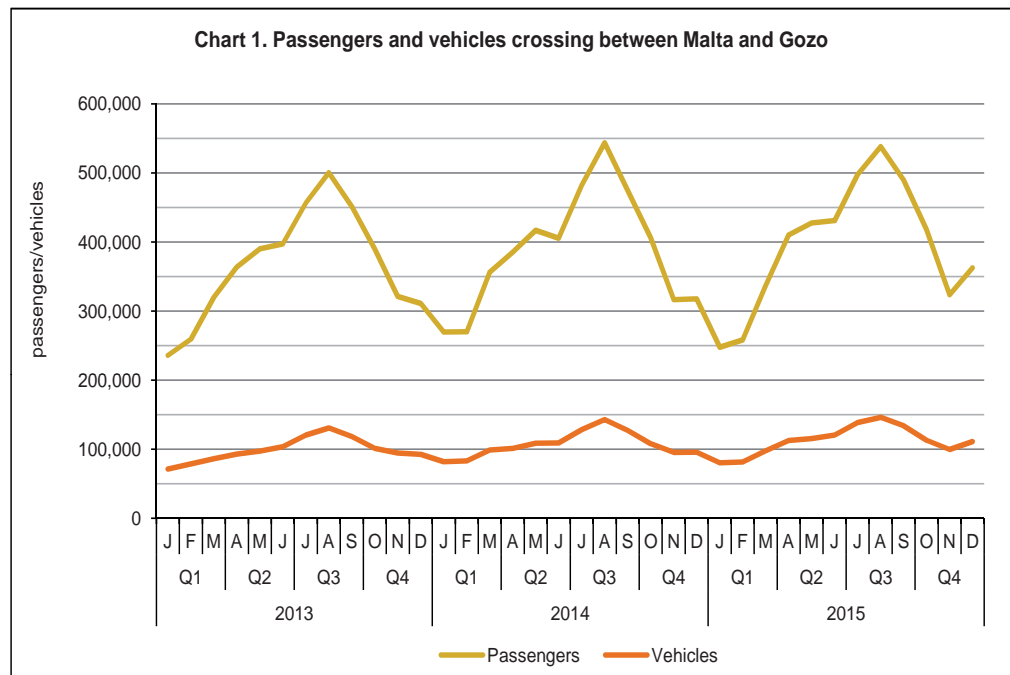
The number of trips amounted to 5,274, an increase of 11.0 per cent over the same period in 2014 (Table 1). This was mainly due to an extension of the summer term schedule throughout the mid-season and additional scheduled trips in the winter timetable (Table 2).

Annual perspective

On an annual basis, 2015 saw increases in the number of vehicles, passengers and trips between Malta and Gozo. Overall the number of trips went up by 963 or 4.8 per cent, over 2014 (Table 2). Passengers increased by 96,631 or 2.1 per cent, over the previous year, while the number of vehicles crossing between Malta and Gozo went up by 69,554 or 5.4 per cent (Table 1).

As in previous years, August recorded the highest number of trips – 2,006 or 9.6 per cent of the total. August also registered the largest share of vehicles and passengers crossing between the two islands – 146,127 and 538,016 respectively (Table 2).

During the year 2015, traffic originating from Ċirkewwa was busiest on Friday and Saturday. On the other hand, from Mġarr the highest demand was recorded on Sunday and Monday (Charts 3 and 4) ■



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Table 1. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by quarter

Quarter	2013	2014	2015	Change	Percentage change	
				2015/2014	2015/2014	
Trips	Jan-Mar	4,582	4,634	4,591	-43	-0.9
	Apr-Jun	4,792	4,822	5,136	314	6.5
	Jul-Sep	5,484	5,654	5,822	168	3.0
	Oct-Dec	4,772	4,750	5,274	524	11.0
	Total	19,630	19,860	20,823	963	4.8
Vehicles	Jan-Mar	236,051	263,680	258,648	-5,032	-1.9
	Apr-Jun	293,446	318,514	348,456	29,942	9.4
	Jul-Sep	369,042	398,059	418,190	20,131	5.1
	Oct-Dec	287,872	298,695	323,208	24,513	8.2
	Total	1,186,411	1,278,948	1,348,502	69,554	5.4
Passengers	Jan-Mar	814,754	895,824	842,193	-53,631	-6.0
	Apr-Jun	1,150,990	1,207,361	1,268,551	61,190	5.1
	Jul-Sep	1,407,746	1,499,734	1,525,143	25,409	1.7
	Oct-Dec	1,021,615	1,040,122	1,103,785	63,663	6.1
	Total	4,395,105	4,643,041	4,739,672	96,631	2.1



Table 2. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by month

Month	2013	2014	2015	Change	Percentage change	
				2015/2014	2015/2014	
Trips	January	1,532	1,578	1,543	-35	-2.2
	February	1,454	1,420	1,448	28	2.0
	March	1,596	1,636	1,600	-36	-2.2
	April	1,532	1,550	1,614	64	4.1
	May	1,600	1,638	1,750	112	6.8
	June	1,660	1,634	1,772	138	8.4
	July	1,846	1,848	1,906	58	3.1
	August	1,872	1,952	2,006	54	2.8
	September	1,766	1,854	1,910	56	3.0
	October	1,590	1,612	1,836	224	13.9
	November	1,598	1,538	1,654	116	7.5
	December	1,584	1,600	1,784	184	11.5
Total	19,630	19,860	20,823	963	4.8	
Vehicles	January	71,310	81,761	80,082	-1,679	-2.1
	February	78,561	83,130	81,210	-1,920	-2.3
	March	86,180	98,789	97,356	-1,433	-1.5
	April	92,780	101,057	112,638	11,581	11.5
	May	97,196	108,427	115,440	7,013	6.5
	June	103,470	109,030	120,378	11,348	10.4
	July	120,555	128,413	138,281	9,868	7.7
	August	130,623	142,631	146,127	3,496	2.5
	September	117,864	127,015	133,782	6,767	5.3
	October	100,959	107,633	112,768	5,135	4.8
	November	94,517	95,308	99,582	4,274	4.5
	December	92,396	95,754	110,858	15,104	15.8
Total	1,186,411	1,278,948	1,348,502	69,554	5.4	
Passengers	January	235,571	269,585	247,609	-21,976	-8.2
	February	259,152	270,031	258,233	-11,798	-4.4
	March	320,031	356,208	336,351	-19,857	-5.6
	April	363,629	385,190	410,096	24,906	6.5
	May	390,095	416,710	427,338	10,628	2.6
	June	397,266	405,461	431,117	25,656	6.3
	July	456,588	482,005	497,596	15,591	3.2
	August	500,226	543,475	538,016	-5,459	-1.0
	September	450,932	474,254	489,531	15,277	3.2
	October	389,513	406,077	417,869	11,792	2.9
	November	321,182	316,365	323,322	6,957	2.2
	December	310,920	317,680	362,594	44,914	14.1
Total	4,395,105	4,643,041	4,739,672	96,631	2.1	

Table 3. Sea transport to and from Malta and Gozo by month

Month	Ċirkewwa - Mġarr		Change	Percentage change	Mġarr - Ċirkewwa		Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2015/2014	2015/2014	2014	2015	2015/2014	2015/2014
Trips								
January	789	771	-18	-2.3	789	772	-17	-2.2
February	710	724	14	2.0	710	724	14	2.0
March	818	800	-18	-2.2	818	800	-18	-2.2
April	775	807	32	4.1	775	807	32	4.1
May	819	875	56	6.8	819	875	56	6.8
June	817	886	69	8.4	817	886	69	8.4
July	924	953	29	3.1	924	953	29	3.1
August	976	1,003	27	2.8	976	1,003	27	2.8
September	927	955	28	3.0	927	955	28	3.0
October	806	918	112	13.9	806	918	112	13.9
November	769	827	58	7.5	769	827	58	7.5
December	800	892	92	11.5	800	892	92	11.5
Total	9,930	10,411	481	4.8	9,930	10,412	482	4.9
Vehicles								
January	40,787	40,319	-468	-1.1	40,974	39,763	-1,211	-3.0
February	43,566	41,320	-2,246	-5.2	39,564	39,890	326	0.8
March	48,147	49,156	1,009	2.1	50,642	48,200	-2,442	-4.8
April	51,378	57,547	6,169	12.0	49,679	55,091	5,412	10.9
May	55,669	58,409	2,740	4.9	52,758	57,031	4,273	8.1
June	55,002	61,232	6,230	11.3	54,028	59,146	5,118	9.5
July	65,795	70,769	4,974	7.6	62,618	67,512	4,894	7.8
August	72,837	73,307	470	0.6	69,794	72,820	3,026	4.3
September	63,727	67,101	3,374	5.3	63,288	66,681	3,393	5.4
October	55,222	57,759	2,537	4.6	52,411	55,009	2,598	5.0
November	47,725	49,369	1,644	3.4	47,583	50,213	2,630	5.5
December	49,386	56,771	7,385	15.0	46,368	54,087	7,719	16.6
Total	649,241	683,059	33,818	5.2	629,707	665,443	35,736	5.7
Passengers								
January	137,461	123,246	-14,215	-10.3	132,124	124,363	-7,761	-5.9
February	141,050	130,284	-10,766	-7.6	128,981	127,949	-1,032	-0.8
March	176,496	169,678	-6,818	-3.9	179,712	166,673	-13,039	-7.3
April	195,841	208,204	12,363	6.3	189,349	201,892	12,543	6.6
May	213,578	215,468	1,890	0.9	203,132	211,870	8,738	4.3
June	206,592	218,654	12,062	5.8	198,869	212,463	13,594	6.8
July	247,579	256,710	9,131	3.7	234,426	240,886	6,460	2.8
August	277,101	270,426	-6,675	-2.4	266,374	267,590	1,216	0.5
September	238,415	246,812	8,397	3.5	235,839	242,719	6,880	2.9
October	206,542	211,824	5,282	2.6	199,535	206,045	6,510	3.3
November	158,079	160,125	2,046	1.3	158,286	163,197	4,911	3.1
December	164,899	185,859	20,960	12.7	152,781	176,735	23,954	15.7
Total	2,363,633	2,397,290	33,657	1.4	2,279,408	2,342,382	62,974	2.8

Table 4. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by day of the week

Day of the week		January-December			Change	Percentage change
		2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	2015/2014
Trips	Monday	2,738	2,829	2,938	109	3.9
	Tuesday	2,848	2,824	2,995	171	6.1
	Wednesday	2,632	2,683	2,778	95	3.5
	Thursday	2,761	2,831	2,988	157	5.5
	Friday	2,898	2,947	3,054	107	3.6
	Saturday	2,705	2,748	2,886	138	5.0
	Sunday	3,048	2,998	3,184	186	6.2
	Total	19,630	19,860	20,823	963	4.8
Vehicles	Monday	158,406	177,765	185,106	7,341	4.1
	Tuesday	153,878	167,435	180,172	12,737	7.6
	Wednesday	152,050	167,860	178,303	10,443	6.2
	Thursday	160,612	175,919	185,244	9,325	5.3
	Friday	193,096	206,046	212,824	6,778	3.3
	Saturday	169,875	184,779	194,161	9,382	5.1
	Sunday	198,494	199,144	212,692	13,548	6.8
	Total	1,186,411	1,278,948	1,348,502	69,554	5.4
Passengers	Monday	576,264	636,083	632,908	-3,175	-0.5
	Tuesday	551,176	578,035	614,197	36,162	6.3
	Wednesday	576,246	619,218	640,705	21,487	3.5
	Thursday	612,907	652,119	647,203	-4,916	-0.8
	Friday	661,037	700,585	705,743	5,158	0.7
	Saturday	685,302	733,166	739,388	6,222	0.8
	Sunday	732,173	723,835	759,528	35,693	4.9
	Total	4,395,105	4,643,041	4,739,672	96,631	2.1

Chart 3. Vehicles to and from Malta and Gozo by day of the week: January-December

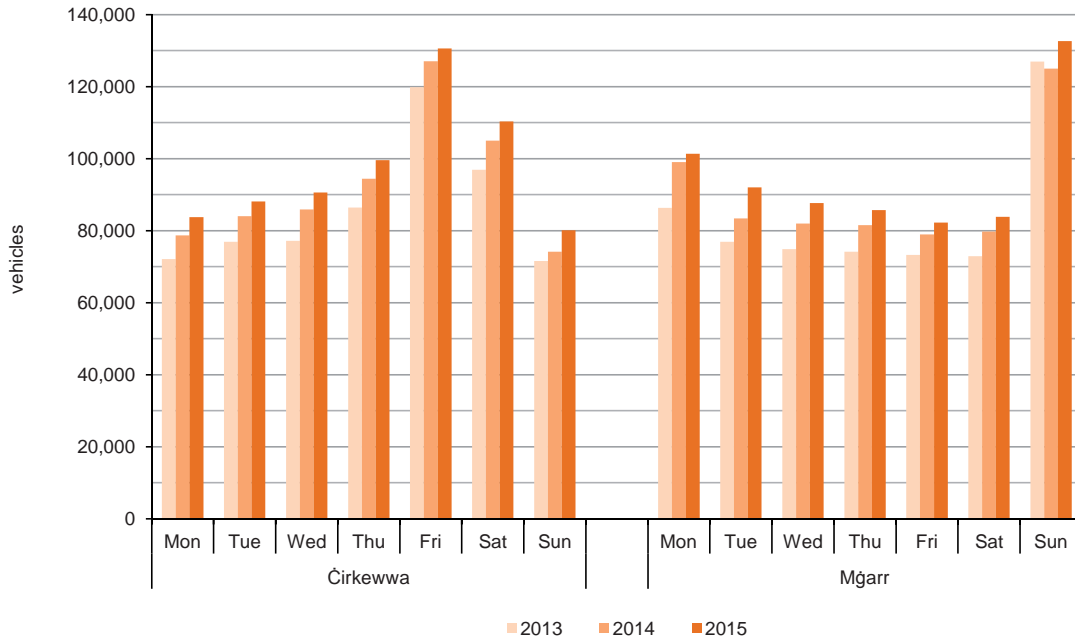
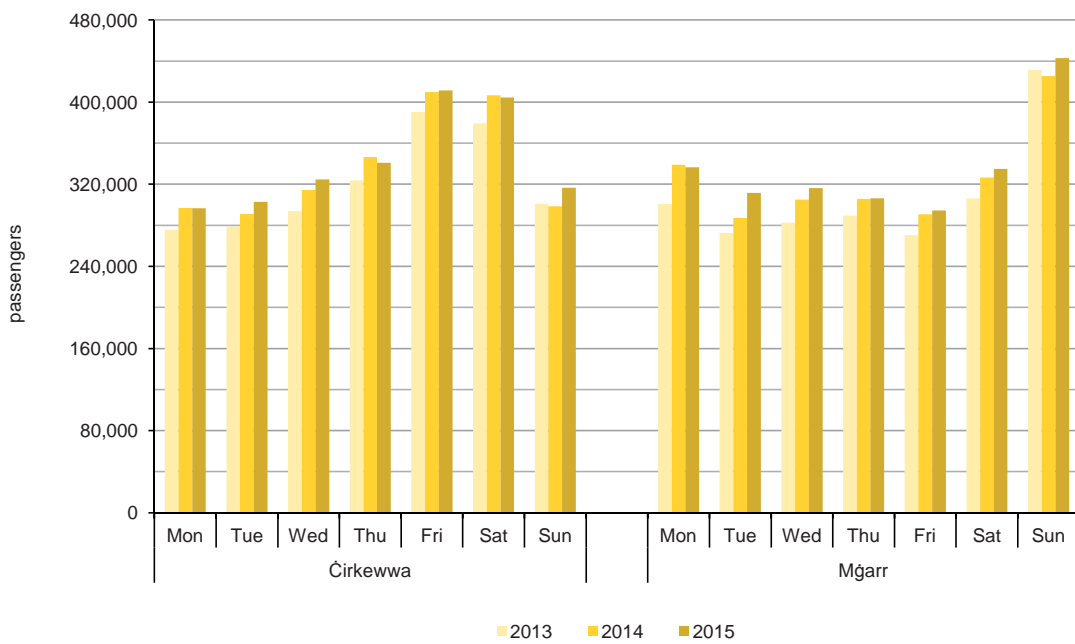


Chart 4. Passengers to and from Malta and Gozo by day of the week: January-December



Methodological Notes

1. The source for the data included in this release is administrative information provided by the Gozo Channel Co. Ltd.
2. The table below illustrates the passenger and vehicle capacity of each Gozo Channel vessel:

Carrying capacity

Vessel	Vehicles	Passengers
MV Gaudos	72	900
MV Malita	138	900
MV Ta' Pinu	138	900

3. Data for passengers comprise: foot and vehicle passengers and vehicle drivers.
4. Different approaches are applied for the collection of data at the Mġarr and Ċirkewwa Harbours, respectively. While the source of the data based in Mġarr is the Automated Ticketing System (ATS), data from the Ċirkewwa side is dependent on the manual clicking system.
5. The data are not normally subject to revision.