

Total inbound visitors for April were estimated at 166,252, an increase of 8.1 per cent when compared to the corresponding month of 2015.

Inbound Tourism: April 2016

A total of 137,061 inbound tourist trips were carried out for holiday purposes, while a further 12,550 were undertaken for business purposes. Inbound tourists from EU Member States went up by 8.2 per cent to 146,113 when compared to the corresponding month of 2015. The largest proportion of inbound tourists was aged between 25 and 44, followed by those within the 45-64 age bracket (Table 1).

Total nights spent went up by 7.4 per cent when compared to April 2015, amounting to 1,095,753 nights. The largest share of guest nights (64.0 per cent) was spent in collective accommodation establishments (Table 3).

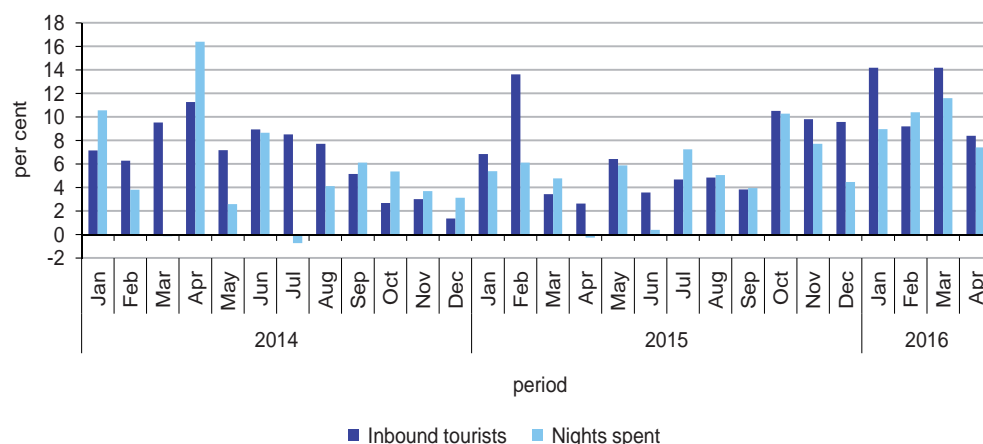
Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €123.1 million, an increase of 3.3 per cent over the corresponding month of 2015 (Table 4).

January-April 2016

Inbound tourist trips from January to April amounted to 446,226, an increase of 11.1 per cent over the same period in 2015 (Table 6). Total nights spent by inbound tourists went up by 9.3 per cent, surpassing 3.1 million nights (Table 8).

Total tourism expenditure was estimated at €332.5 million, 7.0 per cent higher than that recorded for 2015 (Table 9). Total expenditure per capita stood at €745, a decrease of 3.7 per cent when compared to 2015 (Table 11) ■

Chart 1. Inbound tourism: year-on-year percentage changes
(excluding overnight cruise passengers)



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Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists by month of departure

Characteristics	April			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Total inbound visitors	150,030	153,743	166,252	12,508	8.1
Overnight cruise passengers	1,842	1,642	1,367	-275	-16.7
Inbound tourists	148,188	152,101	164,885	12,783	8.4
Mode of travel					
Air	142,991	146,422	160,272	13,849	9.5
Sea (see note 1)	5,197	5,679	4,613	-1,066	-18.8
Sex					
Males	74,632	80,173	79,866	-307	-
Females	73,556	71,928	85,019	13,091	18.2
Age group					
0-24	31,796	31,085	33,892	2,807	9.0
25-44	45,825	49,833	54,730	4,898	9.8
45-64	50,598	47,595	50,590	2,995	6.3
65 or more	19,970	23,589	25,673	2,084	8.8
Markets					
EU	126,682	134,999	146,113	11,114	8.2
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	68,620	74,486	79,000	4,515	6.1
Non-EU	21,506	17,103	18,772	1,669	9.8
Purpose of visit					
Holiday	122,129	125,845	137,061	11,216	8.9
Business and professional	11,103	11,828	12,550	721	-
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	14,956	14,428	15,274	846	-
Organisation of stay					
Package	70,469	66,793	66,029	-764	-
Non-package	77,719	85,308	98,856	13,548	15.9
Frequency					
First-time tourists	102,502	106,474	117,705	11,231	10.5
Repeat tourists	45,686	45,628	47,180	1,552	3.4
once a year or less	32,248	30,268	31,602	1,334	-
more than once a year	13,437	15,359	15,578	218	-
Duration of visit					
1-3 nights	28,498	29,844	31,921	2,077	7.0
4-6 nights	43,101	47,146	50,930	3,785	8.0
7 nights or more	76,588	75,112	82,034	6,922	9.2
Average length of stay (nights)	6.9	6.7	6.6	-0.1	-

Notes:

1. Data on sea passengers for April 2015 has been revised. For more information refer to methodological note 13.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	April			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016		
Private accommodation	33,526	38,234	48,349	10,114	26.5
Collective accommodation*	114,662	113,867	116,536	2,669	2.3
Total tourists	148,188	152,101	164,885	12,783	8.4

* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	April			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016		
Private accommodation	282,160	318,303	394,217	75,914	23.8
Collective accommodation*	740,875	701,949	701,537	-413	-0.1
Total nights	1,023,035	1,020,252	1,095,753	75,501	7.4

* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 4. Total expenditure by inbound tourists by month of departure and expenditure category

Expenditure category	April			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016		
Package	41,062	40,569	37,547	-3,022	-7.4
Non-package	31,200	33,964	37,094	3,130	9.2
Air/sea fares	17,110	18,026	18,673	647	3.6
Accommodation	14,090	15,938	18,421	2,483	15.6
Other expenditure	42,481	44,713	48,487	3,773	8.4
Total expenditure	114,742	119,247	123,128	3,881	3.3

€ 000

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 5. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by month of departure and country of residence

Country of residence		April			Change	Percentage change
		2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Tourists	EU	126,682	134,999	146,113	11,114	8.2
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	11,875	11,945	16,832	4,886	40.9
	Germany	13,532	14,924	13,381	-1,543	-10.3
	Italy	24,687	23,891	25,284	1,393	-
	United Kingdom	43,861	44,621	47,465	2,844	6.4
	Non-EU	21,506	17,103	18,772	1,669	9.8
	Total	148,188	152,101	164,885	12,783	8.4
Nights	EU	873,911	901,426	959,597	58,171	6.5
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	76,578	74,439	109,018	34,579	46.5
	Germany	113,032	114,518	102,814	-11,704	-10.2
	Italy	117,315	126,765	133,164	6,399	-
	United Kingdom	346,979	333,454	346,342	12,888	3.9
	Non-EU	149,124	118,826	136,157	17,331	14.6
	Total	1,023,035	1,020,252	1,095,753	75,501	7.4
Expenditure (€000)	EU	92,856	101,012	104,688	3,676	3.6
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	9,372	9,106	12,978	3,871	42.5
	Germany	12,376	13,417	11,055	-2,361	-17.6
	Italy	13,348	12,383	12,905	522	-
	United Kingdom	33,142	36,617	36,295	-323	-0.9
	Non-EU	21,886	18,235	18,439	205	1.1
	Total	114,742	119,247	123,128	3,881	3.3

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6. Profile of inbound tourists by period of departure

Characteristics	January-April			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Total inbound visitors	382,654	403,373	448,596	45,223	11.2
Overnight cruise passengers	1,842	1,642	2,370	728	44.3
Inbound tourists	380,812	401,731	446,226	44,495	11.1
Mode of travel					
Air	369,022	390,327	432,967	42,640	10.9
Sea (see note 1)	11,790	11,404	13,259	1,855	16.3
Sex					
Males	203,490	214,255	230,677	16,422	7.7
Females	177,322	187,475	215,549	28,073	15.0
Age group					
0-24	65,413	66,523	73,281	6,758	10.2
25-44	119,943	124,835	145,582	20,747	16.6
45-64	135,584	138,342	151,278	12,935	9.4
65 or more	59,872	72,031	76,086	4,055	5.6
Markets					
EU	313,039	346,916	386,163	39,247	11.3
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	167,900	190,487	207,131	16,644	8.7
Non-EU	67,773	54,815	60,062	5,248	9.6
Purpose of visit					
Holiday	303,230	321,531	369,370	47,840	14.9
Business and professional	41,098	40,179	41,625	1,446	-
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	36,484	40,021	35,231	-4,790	-12.0
Organisation of stay					
Package	173,610	186,974	188,222	1,248	-
Non-package	207,202	214,757	258,004	43,247	20.1
Frequency					
First-time tourists	248,158	271,302	306,210	34,908	12.9
Repeat tourists	132,654	130,429	140,015	9,587	7.3
once a year or less	85,557	87,062	93,827	6,765	7.8
more than once a year	47,097	43,366	46,188	2,822	6.5
Duration of visit					
1-3 nights	85,073	82,629	96,942	14,313	17.3
4-6 nights	103,821	117,046	134,027	16,981	14.5
7 nights or more	191,918	202,056	215,257	13,201	6.5
Average length of stay (nights)	7.3	7.1	7.0	-0.1	-

Notes:

1. Data on sea passengers for April 2015 has been revised. For more information refer to methodological note 13.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 7. Inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-April			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	83,245	90,918	115,162	24,244	26.7
Collective accommodation*	297,567	310,813	331,064	20,251	6.5
Total tourists	380,812	401,731	446,226	44,495	11.1

* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 8. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-April			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	832,055	882,805	1,050,448	167,644	19.0
Collective accommodation*	1,945,632	1,985,903	2,085,970	100,067	5.0
Total nights	2,777,687	2,868,708	3,136,419	267,711	9.3

* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 9. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by period of departure and country of residence

Country of residence		January-April			Change	Percentage change
		2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Tourists	Austria	6,400	7,779	6,152	-1,628	-20.9
	Belgium	7,962	8,586	8,546	-40	-
	France	25,535	28,903	32,544	3,641	12.6
	Germany	36,201	39,519	40,350	832	-
	Ireland	7,210	8,466	8,462	-4	-
	Italy	62,252	69,904	76,264	6,360	9.1
	Libya	16,356	2,603	990 ^u	-1,613	-62.0
	Netherlands	7,675	7,545	8,439	894	-
	Russia	6,902	2,996	3,824	829	-
	Scandinavia*	18,403	18,344	24,400	6,056	33.0
	Spain	6,635	8,372	10,764	2,392	28.6
	Switzerland	7,175	7,198	6,231	-966	-
	United Kingdom	116,790	122,027	134,499	12,471	10.2
	USA	5,506	4,895	6,122	1,227	-
	Other	49,811	64,594	78,636	14,043	21.7
Total		380,812	401,731	446,226	44,495	11.1
Nights	Austria	44,732	52,447	40,816	-11,631	-22.2
	Belgium	54,635	56,363	47,796	-8,567	-
	France	163,089	185,840	218,554	32,714	17.6
	Germany	286,121	312,600	304,536	-8,064	-
	Ireland	59,056	59,064	57,979	-1,084	-
	Italy	303,000	390,585	431,189	40,604	10.4
	Libya	110,248	18,786	7,102 ^u	-11,684	-62.2
	Netherlands	49,152	47,349	51,284	3,935	-
	Russia	79,512	26,010	37,222	11,212	-
	Scandinavia*	135,596	135,232	165,838	30,606	22.6
	Spain	40,898	50,697	63,965	13,268	26.2
	Switzerland	46,397	44,942	35,591	-9,351	-
	United Kingdom	983,869	984,465	1,046,569	62,105	6.3
	USA	37,599	34,060	41,345	7,285	-
	Other	383,784	470,267	586,631	116,364	24.7
Total		2,777,687	2,868,708	3,136,419	267,711	9.3
Expenditure (€000)	Austria	5,487	6,254	4,716	-1,538	-24.6
	Belgium	6,932	6,598	6,865	267	-
	France	18,760	21,680	24,688	3,009	13.9
	Germany	31,320	34,433	33,066	-1,367	-
	Ireland	5,533	6,180	6,497	318	-
	Italy	32,027	37,650	39,520	1,870	5.0
	Libya	15,986	2,747	1,325 ^u	-1,422	-51.8
	Netherlands	5,375	5,612	5,364	-249	-
	Russia	8,360	3,208	4,426	1,219	-
	Scandinavia*	15,642	15,248	20,216	4,967	32.6
	Spain	4,416	5,783	7,687	1,905	32.9
	Switzerland	7,483	7,327	5,781	-1,546	-
	United Kingdom	83,943	94,612	96,867	2,255	2.4
	USA	5,630	6,217	6,761	544	-
	Other	44,267	57,200	68,703	11,503	20.1
Total		291,162	310,749	332,483	21,734	7.0

* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

u - under-represented due to small sample size. Please note that these data must be interpreted with caution.

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 10. Total expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence

€ 000

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
January-April 2016					
Austria	2,325	457	381	1,554	4,716
Belgium	2,820	986	845	2,215	6,865
France	10,237	2,916	3,419	8,116	24,688
Germany	15,285	3,321	4,186	10,274	33,066
Ireland	1,656	842	1,088	2,911	6,497
Italy	9,973	4,972	6,936	17,639	39,520
Libya	158	324	273	570	1,325
Netherlands	1,231	937	923	2,273	5,364
Russia	970	818	649	1,990	4,426
Scandinavia*	6,842	2,864	2,978	7,531	20,216
Spain	2,136	1,130	1,221	3,200	7,687
Switzerland	1,616	1,053	999	2,113	5,781
United Kingdom	32,624	12,901	12,397	38,945	96,867
USA	305	2,299	1,782	2,375	6,761
Other	15,448	14,192	11,058	28,005	68,703
Total	103,625	50,013	49,135	129,710	332,483
January-April 2015					
Austria	3,054	674	460	2,066	6,254
Belgium	2,657	1,060	694	2,187	6,598
France	10,025	2,467	2,524	6,663	21,680
Germany	16,660	3,285	3,842	10,646	34,433
Ireland	1,473	875	993	2,839	6,180
Italy	11,985	4,570	5,882	15,213	37,650
Libya	166	894	521	1,166	2,747
Netherlands	1,861	851	734	2,167	5,612
Russia	546	788	531	1,343	3,208
Scandinavia*	4,029	2,684	2,290	6,245	15,248
Spain	1,351	908	979	2,545	5,783
Switzerland	2,689	1,240	745	2,652	7,327
United Kingdom	35,481	12,403	10,978	35,750	94,612
USA	1,115	2,034	1,070	1,998	6,217
Other	13,475	12,603	8,068	23,053	57,200
Total	106,566	47,336	40,314	116,533	310,749
January-April 2014					
Austria	2,606	575	411	1,894	5,487
Belgium	2,763	966	889	2,315	6,932
France	7,789	2,697	2,286	5,988	18,760
Germany	16,107	2,702	2,872	9,639	31,320
Ireland	1,288	841	991	2,413	5,533
Italy	9,023	4,584	4,896	13,525	32,027
Libya	1,088	4,050	2,634	8,213	15,986
Netherlands	1,492	978	805	2,100	5,375
Russia	1,698	1,448	1,313	3,901	8,360
Scandinavia*	4,902	2,535	2,153	6,051	15,642
Spain	746	849	879	1,941	4,416
Switzerland	3,111	1,060	770	2,541	7,483
United Kingdom	31,673	10,687	8,724	32,858	83,943
USA	616	1,937	1,195	1,881	5,630
Other	10,469	9,384	6,772	17,642	44,267
Total	95,374	45,294	37,590	112,904	291,162

* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 11. Per capita expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence

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Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total expenditure per capita
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
January-April 2016					
Austria	573	218	226	253	767
Belgium	695	220	245	259	803
France	593	191	251	249	759
Germany	619	212	306	255	819
Ireland	468	171	266	344	768
Italy	409	96	177	231	518
Libya	1,331	372	381	576	1,338
Netherlands	453	164	208	269	636
Russia	841	306	286	520	1,157
Scandinavia*	550	239	283	309	828
Spain	543	165	239	297	714
Switzerland	680	273	287	339	928
United Kingdom	534	176	239	290	720
USA	719	403	348	388	1,104
Other	595	269	254	356	874
Total expenditure per capita	551	194	242	291	745
January-April 2015					
Austria	578	270	263	266	804
Belgium	706	220	230	255	768
France	580	212	257	231	750
Germany	631	251	360	269	871
Ireland	429	174	234	335	730
Italy	434	108	183	218	539
Libya	476	396	277	448	1,055
Netherlands	554	203	225	287	744
Russia	830	337	279	448	1,071
Scandinavia*	531	250	276	340	831
Spain	456	168	250	304	691
Switzerland	779	331	249	368	1,018
United Kingdom	584	203	263	293	775
USA	1,447	493	323	408	1,270
Other	578	305	244	357	886
Total expenditure per capita	570	220	249	290	774
January-April 2014					
Austria	613	268	240	296	857
Belgium	665	254	311	291	871
France	606	213	224	234	735
Germany	648	238	314	266	865
Ireland	466	189	260	335	767
Italy	362	123	166	217	515
Libya	464	289	218	502	977
Netherlands	515	205	219	274	700
Russia	692	326	347	565	1,211
Scandinavia*	607	245	253	329	850
Spain	420	175	210	293	666
Switzerland	814	316	316	354	1,043
United Kingdom	535	185	234	281	719
USA	576	437	326	342	1,023
Other	575	297	273	354	891
Total expenditure per capita	549	219	238	296	765

* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Table 12. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by month of departure

Characteristics	April			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Total overnight cruise passengers	1,842	1,642	1,367	-275	-16.7
Sex:					
Males	861	764	649	-115	-15.1
Females	981	878	718	-160	-18.2
Age group:					
0-19	104	30	188	158	526.7
20-39	97	59	226	167	283.1
40-59	390	181	567	386	213.3
60-79	1,107	1,101	369	-732	-66.5
80 or more	144	271	17	-254	-93.7
Markets:					
EU	1,753	1,136	1,350	214	18.8
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	1,719	1,094	1,346	252	23.0
Non-EU	89	506	17	-489	-96.6

Table 13. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by period of departure

Characteristics	January-April			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Total overnight cruise passengers	1,842	1,642	2,370	728	44.3
Sex:					
Males	861	764	1,118	354	46.3
Females	981	878	1,252	374	42.6
Age group:					
0-19	104	30	191	161	536.7
20-39	97	59	262	203	344.1
40-59	390	181	656	475	262.4
60-79	1,107	1,101	1,161	60	5.4
80 or more	144	271	100	-171	-63.1
Markets:					
EU	1,753	1,136	1,771	635	55.9
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	1,719	1,094	1,720	626	57.2
Non-EU	89	506	599	93	18.4

Methodological Notes

1. This release focuses on Inbound Tourism, which comprises the activities of non-resident visitors travelling to Malta (i.e. outside their usual environment), and staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for leisure, business or other (corresponding) purposes.
2. The results in this release are based on the ongoing frontier survey known as Tourstat. Data for tourist air departures is collected by means of personal interviews through a continuous survey at the departure lounge of the Malta International Airport (MIA). A two-stage sampling design is used to survey air passengers. In the first stage alternate days are selected, whereby a sample of passengers is selected systematically within each shift.
3. Tourstat measures the number of tourist trips carried out during a particular reference month. These differ from the number of tourists in that the same person can make more than one trip during the same period.
4. Tourist sea departures are collected through a regular survey, conducted during three separate months every year at the Valletta Cruise Port. A quota sample is used to conduct sea passenger departures in which survey interviewers are guided to select people according to fixed quotas. Survey data is supplemented by administrative data provided by ferry operators.
5. Under-represented figures are indicated where applicable for each table and should be treated with caution. Users should also exercise caution when analysing figures that involve estimates relating to less than 1,500 tourists. Such estimates may be subject to variations attributable to low frequency in the sample (sampling errors). Other limitations may involve non-sampling errors, namely those linked to respondents' willingness to provide proper information and those related to language barriers.
6. Percentage changes for tourists based on counts of less than 1,500 are not presented due to sampling errors.
7. The expenditure data in this release should not be equated to national tourism earnings.
8. The monthly passenger departures data published by the Malta International Airport cannot be equated to the number of inbound tourists because the former is inclusive of departing Maltese and transit passengers.
9. Data on cruise passengers who spent at least one night berthed on board their cruiseship is compiled on the basis of administrative records held by Transport Malta.
10. Arrivals and nights spent in time-share accommodation are being categorised in 'Private Accommodation' instead of 'Collective Accommodation' as per Eurostat recommendation. In this regard, there may be minor differences in these statistics and statistics published in tourism supply due to the fact that hotels report time-share accommodation under 'Collective Accommodation'.
11. Prior to comparing and interpreting differences between demand-side (based on Tourstat) and supply-side (based on Accomstat) tourism statistics, users are strongly advised to consult concept 8.3 of the NSO's metadata file (<http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=37>).
12. **Definitions:**
 - **Traveller:** A person who moves between different geographic locations, for any purpose and any duration.
 - **Visitor:** The three fundamental criteria used to distinguish visitors from travellers are:
 - a. **The trip should be to a place other than that of the usual environment**, which would exclude short-distance local transport and commuting, i.e. more or less regular trips between the place of work/study and the place of residence;
 - b. **The stay in the place visited should not last more than twelve consecutive months**, beyond which the visitor would become a resident of that place (from the statistical standpoint);
 - c. **The main purpose of the visit should be other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited**, which would exclude migratory movements for work purposes.Visitors (domestic/international) comprise tourists and same-day visitors.
 - **Tourist:** A visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
 - **Same-day visitor:** A visitor who does not spend the night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
13. Administrative data on sea passengers are provided on a monthly basis by ferry operators. Due to unforeseen circumstances these data were not available for April 2015. In view of this, sea passenger data have been estimated using a first-order autoregression time series model with a seasonal difference of order one. Following the final data received from the source, the data have been revised and can be considered as final.
14. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>
Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=37>
Statistical Database: <http://nso.gov.mt/statdb/start>