

Total guests and nights spent in collective accommodation establishments during May 2017 advanced by 8.9 and 2.7 per cent respectively when compared to the corresponding month in 2016.

Collective Accommodation Establishments: May 2017

In May, total guests in collective accommodation establishments numbered 166,842, while total nights spent amounted to 848,039. Collective accommodation categories registered increases in total nights spent, except for 4-star hotels. The largest share of guest nights was reported in 4-star hotels, accounting for 384,816 nights, or 45.4 per cent of the total (Tables 1 and 2).

The average length of stay in collective accommodation establishments went down to 5.1 nights in May 2017 from 5.4 nights in the same month of 2016. The net use of bed-places stood at 67.9 per cent, down by 0.5 percentage points when compared to the corresponding month last year (Table 3).

On a national level, there were 176 active collective accommodation establishments during May 2017, with a net capacity of 17,868 bedrooms and 40,349 bed-places (Table 4).

Regional breakdown

Total guests in Malta numbered 158,219, up by 8.8 per cent over May 2016. Additionally, an increase of 2.5 per cent was recorded in the number of nights spent. Total guests and nights spent in Gozo and Comino increased by 11.2 per cent and 7.7 per cent when compared to the comparative month last year, to 8,622 and 31,229 respectively (Tables 1 and 2).

In Malta, the average length of stay went down by 0.3 of a night to 5.2, and that in Gozo and Comino edged down by 0.1 of a night to 3.6, when compared with the same month last year. The net occupancy rate in Malta declined by 0.6 percentage points, reaching 69.0 per cent, and that in Gozo and Comino rose by 2.5 percentage points to 47.9 per cent over the same month of 2016 (Table 3).

January-May

Total guests in the first five months of 2017 amounted to 675,894, an increase of 14.7 per cent over the same period in 2016 (Table 1). Total nights spent went up by 6.7 per cent, surpassing 3.3 million (Table 2). The net use of bed-places advanced by 2.3 percentage points to 57.8 per cent (Table 3) ■

Total guests and nights spent

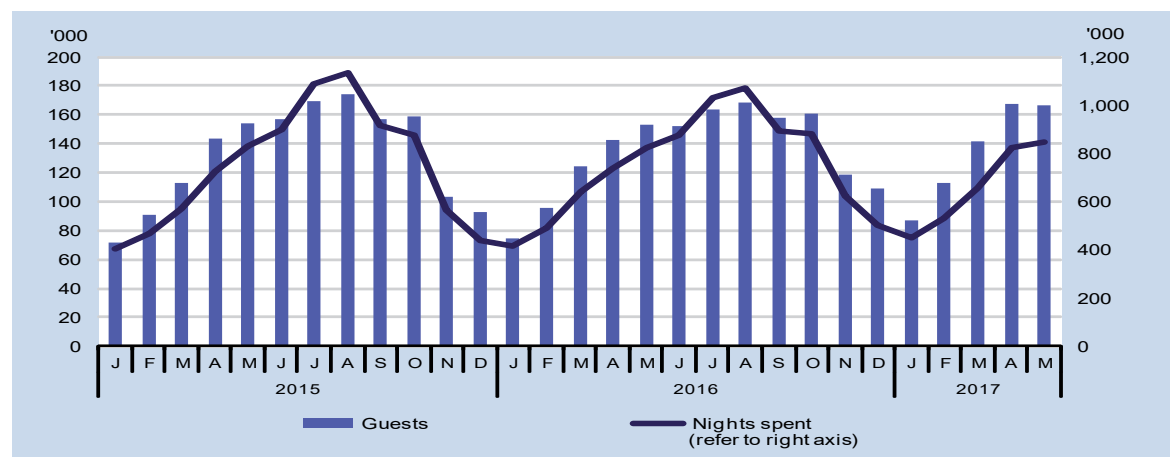


Table 1. Total guests (residents and non-residents) by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	April*	May		January-May	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	MALTA				
Hotel	160,451	146,200	158,603	566,901	648,147
5 Star	38,622	36,308	39,381	141,022	163,018
4 Star	72,545	68,568	67,962	271,105	290,965
3 Star	44,486	36,984	46,149	138,118	175,417
2 Star	4,798	4,340	5,111	16,656	18,748
Other collective accommodation ¹	7,203	6,948	8,238	22,570	27,747
Total	167,654	153,148	166,842	589,472	675,894
	Malta				
Hotel	154,227	138,824	150,971	538,707	620,786
of which:					
5 Star	37,190	34,465	37,824	133,824	156,266
4 Star	69,866	65,220	64,953	257,477	278,974
3 Star	43,022	35,187	43,566	132,647	169,183
Other collective accommodation ¹	6,211	6,568	7,248	21,511	24,203
Total	160,438	145,392	158,219	560,218	644,989
	Gozo and Comino				
Hotel	6,224	7,376	7,632	28,194	27,361
of which:					
5 Star	1,432	1,843	1,557	7,198	6,752
4 Star	2,679	3,348	3,009	13,628	11,991
3 Star	1,464	1,797	2,583	5,471	6,234
Other collective accommodation ¹	992	380	990	1,059	3,544
Total	7,216	7,756	8,622	29,253	30,905

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Total nights spent by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	April*	May		January-May	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	MALTA				
Hotel	782,921	778,411	798,584	2,926,289	3,130,255
5 Star	151,488	148,906	149,903	534,490	580,486
4 Star	397,089	400,856	384,816	1,556,542	1,590,777
3 Star	210,163	207,084	236,809	739,471	856,903
2 Star	24,182	21,566	27,056	95,785	102,089
Other collective accommodation ¹	42,010	47,453	49,455	179,863	182,469
Total	824,931	825,864	848,039	3,106,152	3,312,723
	Malta				
Hotel	761,162	750,552	770,336	2,840,362	3,043,193
of which:					
5 Star	144,160	141,679	143,085	511,823	555,445
4 Star	387,194	388,223	372,515	1,513,782	1,549,177
3 Star	206,963	200,102	228,985	723,818	841,462
Other collective accommodation ¹	39,499	46,310	46,474	176,854	174,101
Total	800,661	796,863	816,810	3,017,216	3,217,294
	Gozo and Comino				
Hotel	21,759	27,859	28,248	85,927	87,062
of which:					
5 Star	7,328	7,227	6,818	22,667	25,041
4 Star	9,895	12,633	12,301	42,760	41,600
3 Star	3,200	6,982	7,824	15,654	15,441
Other collective accommodation ¹	2,511	1,143	2,981	3,009	8,368
Total	24,270	29,002	31,229	88,936	95,430

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Net use of bed-places by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	April*	May		January-May	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	MALTA				
Hotel	72.5	69.9	69.6	56.8	59.5
5 Star	75.2	73.5	71.1	57.6	58.2
4 Star	77.7	74.7	71.9	62.7	64.2
3 Star	64.6	62.4	66.4	48.2	54.3
2 Star	56.9	49.2	60.4	45.2	48.7
Other collective accommodation ¹	44.0	50.6	49.0	40.8	39.0
Total	70.2	68.4	67.9	55.5	57.8
	Malta				
Hotel	73.4	71.1	70.6	57.7	60.4
<i>of which:</i>					
5 Star	76.8	75.2	72.7	59.1	59.2
4 Star	78.6	75.4	72.5	63.7	65.2
3 Star	65.0	63.4	67.2	48.4	54.7
Other collective accommodation ¹	45.6	52.4	50.8	42.3	40.6
Total	71.3	69.6	69.0	56.5	58.9
	Gozo and Comino				
Hotel	50.4	47.7	50.5	36.8	38.7
<i>of which:</i>					
5 Star	53.3	51.1	48.0	37.3	42.1
4 Star	54.6	59.2	57.7	40.9	41.0
3 Star	46.4	44.2	49.5	38.3	40.9
Other collective accommodation ¹	28.1	21.0	32.0	13.7	21.1
Total	46.6	45.4	47.9	34.8	36.1

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Table 4. Establishments with net number of bedrooms and bed-places by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	May					
	Establishments		Bedrooms		Bed-places	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	MALTA					
Hotel	124	124	16,508	16,691	35,988	37,057
5 Star	14	15	3,338	3,475	6,532	6,804
4 Star	44	42	7,823	7,604	17,299	17,267
3 Star	52	52	4,711	4,966	10,743	11,542
2 Star	14	15	636	646	1,414	1,444
Other collective accommodation ¹	44	52	1,084	1,177	3,052	3,292
Total	168	176	17,592	17,868	39,040	40,349
	Malta					
Hotel	110	110	15,654	15,859	34,105	35,253
<i>of which:</i>						
5 Star	12	13	3,123	3,260	6,076	6,346
4 Star	40	38	7,501	7,288	16,611	16,579
3 Star	47	47	4,463	4,718	10,233	11,032
Other collective accommodation ¹	37	41	1,003	1,038	2,875	2,990
Total	147	151	16,657	16,897	36,980	38,243
	Gozo and Comino					
Hotel	14	14	854	832	1,883	1,804
<i>of which:</i>						
5 Star	2	2	215	215	456	458
4 Star	4	4	322	316	688	688
3 Star	5	5	248	248	510	510
Other collective accommodation ¹	7	11	81	139	177	302
Total	21	25	935	971	2,060	2,106

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Methodological Notes

1. The objective of the Survey on Collective Accommodation Establishments is to estimate the utilisation rate of bed-places of all active collective accommodation establishments in Malta and Gozo. The variables collected from the survey include:
 - Number of residents;
 - Number of non-residents;
 - Nights spent by residents;
 - Nights spent by non-residents;
 - Number of room nights sold to foreign residents;
 - Number of room nights sold to Maltese residents;
 - Number of bedrooms;
 - Number of bed-places;
 - Number of days the establishment was closed during the month under review.

The collection of the above variables and the calculation of occupancy levels are in line with Regulation (EU) No. 692/2011.

2. The survey is distributed monthly to all collective accommodation establishments, namely hotels, guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages.

3. Response Rate:

May 2016	89.2%
April 2017	87.8%
May 2017	86.4%

4. In this release figures for April 2017 should be considered as a second estimate while those relating to May 2017 are a first estimate, therefore subject to revision in the ensuing release.
5. The Malta Tourism Authority (MTA) licensing department reclassified all collective accommodation establishments registered as apart-hotels to hotels (refer to Legal Notice 351 of 2012).
6. 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=35>).

7. **Definitions:**

- **Bedroom:** a unit formed by one room or group of rooms constituting an indivisible rental whole in an accommodation establishment or dwelling.
- **Bed-place:** in an establishment, this is determined by the number of persons who can stay overnight in the establishment, not taking into account any extra beds that may be provided to clients on request.
- **Residents:** Maltese/Gozitan residents who check into/out of a collective accommodation establishment. A person is considered to be a Maltese/Gozitan resident if:
 - (a) S/he has lived for most of the past 12 months in Malta/Gozo;
 - (b) S/he has lived in Malta/Gozo for less than 12 months but intends to return within a year to settle here.
- **Non-residents:** foreigners who do not necessarily follow the definition of a tourist and check into/out of a collective accommodation establishment.
- **Total guests:** the number of residents and non-residents altogether.
- **Total nights spent:** nights which a guest actually spends or is registered to spend in a collective accommodation establishment.
- **Net use of bed-places:** the net occupancy rate calculated for all active accommodation establishments, net of seasonal closures and other temporary closures. The occupancy of bed-places is calculated by dividing the total nights during the reference period by the number of bed-places and the number of days when the bed-places are actually available for use during the reference period. The result is then multiplied by 100 to express the occupancy rate as a percentage.
- **Average length of stay:** this is calculated as follows:
$$\frac{\text{total number of nights}}{\text{total number of guests}}$$
- **Tourist:** A visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.

8. 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=35>

Statistical Database: <http://nso.gov.mt/statdb/start>

9. Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.

10. The advanced news release calendar may be accessed at www.nso.gov.mt