

Total cruise passenger traffic during the third quarter of 2017 amounted to 214,497, an increase of 2.7 per cent over the corresponding period last year.

Cruise passengers: Q3/2017

There were 99 cruise liner calls during the third quarter of 2017, seven less than last year. At 76.9 per cent, transit passengers accounted for the absolute majority of total traffic, reaching 164,947. A total of 7,466 passengers visited Gozo, while 14,129 passengers spent at least one night on board their berthed cruise liner. On average, every vessel that berthed in Malta carried 2,167 passengers, 197 more than last year.

Visitors from EU Member States comprised 71.9 per cent of total traffic, the major markets being Germany, the United Kingdom and Italy. The total number of passengers from Non-EU countries stood at 60,217, of whom 37.5 per cent came from the United States.

On a gender basis, female passengers made up 52.5 per cent of the total. The largest share of passengers fell within the 40-59 age bracket and were followed by those aged between 60 and 79 (Table1).

January-September 2017

The total number of cruise passengers registered during the first nine months of 2017 stood at 482,855, a rise of 7.6 per cent over 2016. Of these, 72.0 per cent came from EU Member States. The biggest increase was recorded from the British market, which advanced by 51,773 passengers.

Female passengers numbered 255,890 and were in the majority. Most passengers were between 60 and 79 years old, amounting to 173,659. These were followed by passengers aged 40-59, reaching 159,584.

There were 248 cruise liner calls during the first nine months, with an average 1,947 passengers per vessel, compared to 231 calls and an average 1,942 passengers per vessel in January-September 2016 (Table 2) ■

Total cruise passenger traffic

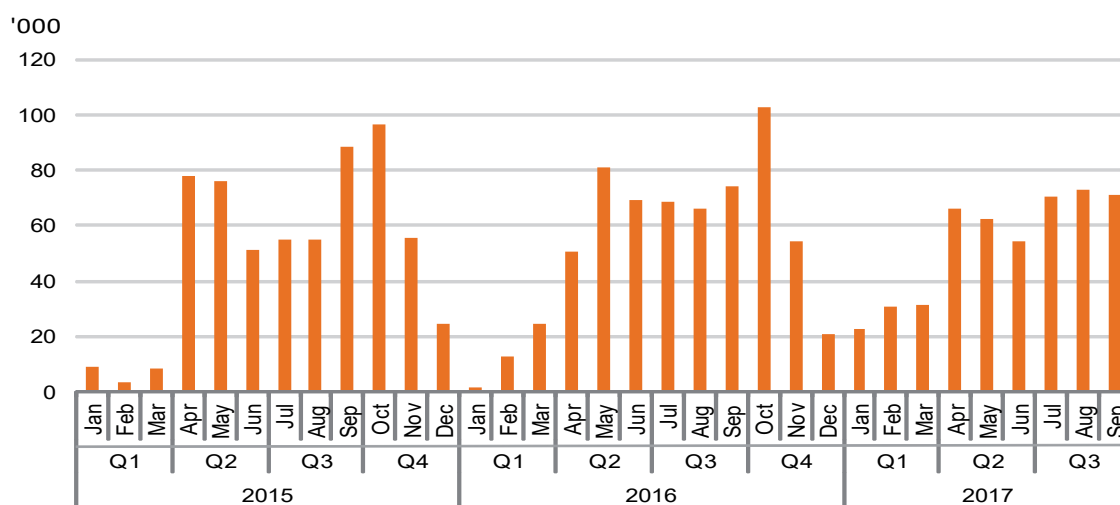


Table 1. Cruise passengers: Quarterly 2015-2017

	July-September			Change
	2015	2016	2017	Jul-Sep 2017/ Jul-Sep 2016
Total traffic*:	197,984	208,786	214,497	5,711
Transit	163,624	178,545	164,947	-13,598
Landed	34,360	30,241	49,550	19,309
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers visiting Gozo	5,256	2,749	7,466	4,717
Passengers staying overnight	4,353	9,185	14,129	4,944
Nationality:				
EU	152,643	167,092	154,280	-12,812
<i>of which:</i>				
French	24,285	29,431	9,633	-19,798
German	38,292	37,242	44,541	7,299
Italian	32,109	37,674	22,012	-15,662
Maltese	5,414	6,552	7,956	1,404
Spanish	9,926	19,813	11,912	-7,901
British	25,656	18,583	44,275	25,692
Non-EU	45,341	41,694	60,217	18,523
<i>of which:</i>				
Australian	6,192	2,994	5,703	2,709
Canadian	5,002	3,603	8,182	4,579
Japanese	684	1,402	1,139	-263
American	13,927	12,816	22,595	9,779
Sex:				
Males	95,007	98,081	101,920	3,839
Females	102,977	110,705	112,577	1,872
Age group:				
0-19	28,856	35,416	34,405	-1,011
20-39	31,049	36,692	34,497	-2,195
40-59	69,891	75,617	78,016	2,399
60-79	62,992	56,078	62,738	6,660
80+	5,196	4,983	4,841	-142
Cruise liner calls	102	106	99	-7

* See methodological note 3

Table 2. Cruise passengers: Cumulative 2015-2017

	January-September			Change
	2015	2016	2017	Jan-Sep 2017/ Jan-Sep 2016
Total traffic*:	423,861	448,641	482,855	34,214
Transit	362,795	400,469	393,874	-6,595
Landed	61,066	48,172	88,981	40,809
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers visiting Gozo	7,642	5,223	11,645	6,422
Passengers staying overnight	10,539	14,418	28,990	14,572
Nationality:				
EU	323,785	340,077	347,874	7,797
<i>of which:</i>				
French	51,515	64,184	38,159	-26,025
German	91,735	76,946	86,421	9,475
Italian	70,726	75,918	66,376	-9,542
Maltese	7,534	9,262	10,131	869
Spanish	19,802	31,602	20,188	-11,414
British	46,646	41,803	93,576	51,773
Non-EU	100,076	108,564	134,981	26,417
<i>of which:</i>				
Australian	13,097	7,599	12,978	5,379
Canadian	8,669	8,932	13,977	5,045
Japanese	2,261	3,063	4,478	1,415
American	28,078	36,896	48,995	12,099
Sex:				
Males	202,429	209,561	226,965	17,404
Females	221,432	239,080	255,890	16,810
Age group:				
0-19	54,848	64,348	64,571	223
20-39	60,507	71,928	69,368	-2,560
40-59	140,462	149,809	159,584	9,775
60-79	153,856	148,987	173,659	24,672
80+	14,188	13,569	15,673	2,104
Cruise liner calls	219	231	248	17

* See methodological note 3

Methodological Notes

1. The data in this release is 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 on cruise liners from Malta generally end their trip at the same destination. Embarkations are therefore not included in total traffic figures, in order to avoid double counting. This measure was adopted as from News Release no. 079/2013 dated 23 April 2013. The referred news release also includes figures for 2012 and 2011.

For clarity, embarkation figures for the period under review are being provided:

Embarkations	2015	2016	2017
July-September (Q3)	34,052	30,009	50,799
January-September	60,759	48,169	92,506

4. Definitions:

- **Cruise passenger traffic:** comprises transit passengers and passengers who land in Malta.
 - **Embarkations:** comprise all cruise passengers who are either Maltese or who are foreigners who arrive in Malta by other means of transport.
 - **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.
 - **Passengers staying overnight:** passengers who spend at least one night on-board their berthed cruise liner.
5. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:
Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>
 6. Any quotations from this news release are to be cited and/or referenced.
 7. A detailed news release calendar is available on: https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx