

Total cruise passenger traffic during the second quarter of 2018 amounted to 182,862, a decrease of 0.2 per cent over the corresponding period in 2017.

Cruise Passengers: Q2/2018

There were 103 cruise liner calls during the second quarter of 2018, 12 less than the previous year. At 83.8 per cent, transit passengers accounted for the absolute majority of total traffic, reaching 153,199. A total of 4,490 passengers visited Gozo, while 14,572 passengers spent at least one night on board their berthed cruise liner. On average, every vessel that berthed in Malta carried 1,775 passengers, 182 more than the previous year.

Visitors from EU Member States comprised 67.7 per cent of total traffic, the major markets being the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy and France. The total number of passengers from Non-EU countries stood at 59,084, of whom 39.5 per cent came from the United States.

On a gender basis, female passengers made up 54.0 per cent of the total. The largest share of passengers fell within the 60-79 age bracket and were followed by those aged between 40 and 59 (Table1).

January-June

During the first half of the year, total cruise passengers stood at 252,604, a drop of 5.9 per cent over 2017. Of these, 67.1 per cent came from EU Member States. A decrease was recorded in EU nationals of 24,006 passengers, with the main changes occurring in the British and Italian markets. The Non-EU market, on the other hand, registered an increase of 8,252 passengers.

Female passengers numbered 136,427 and were in the majority. Most passengers were between 60 and 79 years old, amounting to 108,302. These were followed by passengers aged 40-59, reaching 75,232.

There were 120 cruise liner calls during the first six months, with an average 2,105 passengers per vessel, compared to 149 calls and an average 1,801 passengers per vessel in January-June 2017 (Table 2) ■

Chart 1. Total cruise passenger traffic

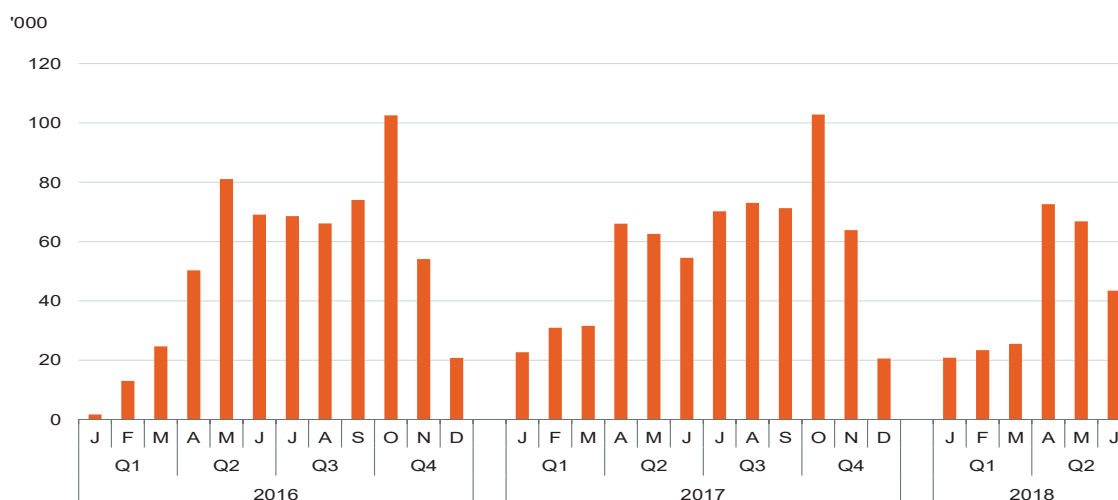


Table 1. Cruise passengers: Quarterly 2016-2018

	April-June (Q2)			Change
	2016	2017	2018	Apr-Jun 2018 / Apr-Jun 2017
Total traffic*:	200,480	183,143	182,862	-281
Transit	182,754	143,918	153,199	9,281
Landed	17,726	39,225	29,663	-9,562
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers visiting Gozo	2,474	4,179	4,490	311
Passengers staying overnight	4,230	14,517	14,572	55
Nationality:				
EU	147,033	135,563	123,778	-11,785
<i>of which:</i>				
French	30,407	17,466	17,234	-232
German	34,826	33,470	30,493	-2,977
Italian	31,360	22,910	21,835	-1,075
Maltese	2,638	2,093	2,013	-80
Spanish	10,324	5,269	5,012	-257
British	19,406	42,559	35,983	-6,576
Non-EU	53,447	47,580	59,084	11,504
<i>of which:</i>				
Australian	4,181	5,910	9,176	3,266
Canadian	4,729	4,348	5,595	1,247
Japanese	867	798	1,853	1,055
American	20,803	18,769	23,314	4,545
Sex:				
Males	93,107	84,992	84,030	-962
Females	107,373	98,151	98,832	681
Age group:				
0-19	22,893	18,303	17,255	-1,048
20-39	28,905	21,082	19,434	-1,648
40-59	62,788	55,363	53,443	-1,920
60-79	78,888	80,204	84,712	4,508
80+	7,006	8,191	8,018	-173
Cruise liner calls	108	115	103	-12

* See methodological note 3

Table 2. Cruise passengers: Cumulative 2016-2018

	January-June			Change
	2016	2017	2018	Jan-Jun 2018/ Jan-Jun 2017
Total traffic*:	239,855	268,358	252,604	-15,754
Transit	221,924	228,927	222,823	-6,104
Landed	17,931	39,431	29,781	-9,650
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers visiting Gozo	2,474	4,179	4,490	311
Passengers staying overnight	5,233	14,861	14,572	-289
Nationality:				
EU	172,985	193,594	169,588	-24,006
<i>of which:</i>				
French	34,753	28,526	26,125	-2,401
German	39,704	41,880	39,311	-2,569
Italian	38,244	44,364	37,248	-7,116
Maltese	2,710	2,175	2,030	-145
Spanish	11,789	8,276	9,979	1,703
British	23,220	49,301	38,518	-10,783
Non-EU	66,870	74,764	83,016	8,252
<i>of which:</i>				
Australian	4,605	7,275	9,858	2,583
Canadian	5,329	5,795	6,618	823
Japanese	1,661	3,339	5,251	1,912
American	24,080	26,400	26,063	-337
Sex:				
Males	111,480	125,045	116,177	-8,868
Females	128,375	143,313	136,427	-6,886
Age group:				
0-19	28,932	30,166	27,821	-2,345
20-39	35,236	34,871	31,365	-3,506
40-59	74,192	81,568	75,232	-6,336
60-79	92,909	110,921	108,302	-2,619
80+	8,586	10,832	9,884	-948
Cruise liner calls	125	149	120	-29

* 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	2016	2017	2018
April-June (Q2)	18,010	41,570	29,486
January-June	18,160	41,707	29,553

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.
 - **Landed passengers:** 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:** comprise passengers who spend at least one night on board their berthed cruise liner.
 - **Average number of passengers per vessel:** computed by dividing total cruise passenger traffic by the number of cruise liner calls.
5. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:
Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>
 6. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
 7. A detailed news release calendar is available on: https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx