

23 October 2018 | 1100 hrs | 169/2018

Total cruise passenger traffic during the third quarter of 2018 amounted to 188,943, a decrease of 11.9 per cent over the corresponding period in 2017.

Cruise Passengers: Q3/2018

There were 95 cruise liner calls during the third quarter of 2018, four less than the previous year. At 80.0 per cent, transit passengers accounted for the absolute majority of total traffic, reaching 151,204. A total of 6,819 passengers visited Gozo, while 11,949 passengers spent at least one night on board their berthed cruise liner. On average, every vessel that berthed in Malta carried 1,989 passengers, 178 less than the previous year.

Passengers from EU Member States comprised 66.8 per cent of total traffic, the major markets being the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy and Spain. The total number of passengers from Non-EU countries stood at 62,640, of whom 43.7 per cent came from the United States.

On a gender basis, female passengers made up 52.1 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 2018

During the first nine months of the year, total cruise passengers stood at 441,547, a drop of 8.6 per cent over 2017. Of these, 67.0 per cent came from EU Member States.

Female passengers numbered 234,933 and were in the majority. Most passengers were between 60 and 79 years old, amounting to 168,830. These were followed by passengers aged 40-59, reaching 142,844.

There were 215 cruise liner calls during the first nine months of 2018, with an average 2,054 passengers per vessel, compared to 248 calls and an average 1,947 passengers per vessel in January-September 2017 (Table 2) ■

Chart 1. Total cruise passenger traffic

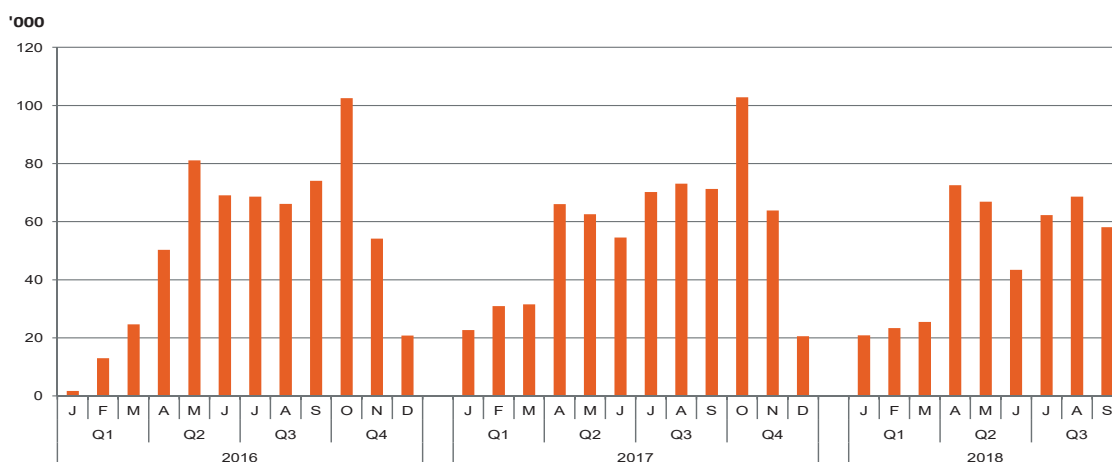


Table 1. Cruise passengers: Quarterly 2016-2018

	July-September (Q3)			Change
	2016	2017	2018	Jul-Sep 2018 / Jul-Sep 2017
Total traffic*:	208,786	214,497	188,943	-25,554
Transit	178,545	164,947	151,204	-13,743
Landed	30,241	49,550	37,739	-11,811
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers visiting Gozo	2,749	7,466	6,819	-647
Passengers staying overnight	9,185	14,129	11,949	-2,180
Nationality:				
EU	167,092	154,280	126,303	-27,977
<i>of which:</i>				
French	29,431	9,633	8,480	-1,153
German	37,242	44,541	27,549	-16,992
Italian	37,674	22,012	15,647	-6,365
Maltese	6,552	7,956	5,463	-2,493
Spanish	19,813	11,912	9,576	-2,336
British	18,583	44,275	45,855	1,580
Non-EU	41,694	60,217	62,640	2,423
<i>of which:</i>				
Australian	2,994	5,703	7,956	2,253
Canadian	3,603	8,182	6,981	-1,201
Japanese	1,402	1,139	758	-381
American	12,816	22,595	27,346	4,751
Sex:				
Males	98,081	101,920	90,437	-11,483
Females	110,705	112,577	98,506	-14,071
Age group:				
0-19	35,416	34,405	28,213	-6,192
20-39	36,692	34,497	27,671	-6,826
40-59	75,617	78,016	67,612	-10,404
60-79	56,078	62,738	60,528	-2,210
80+	4,983	4,841	4,919	78
Cruise liner calls	106	99	95	-4

* See methodological note 3

Table 2. Cruise passengers: Cumulative 2016-2018

	January-September			Change
	2016	2017	2018	Jan-Sep 2018/ Jan-Sep 2017
Total traffic*:	448,641	482,855	441,547	-41,308
Transit	400,469	393,874	374,027	-19,847
Landed	48,172	88,981	67,520	-21,461
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers visiting Gozo	5,223	11,645	11,309	-336
Passengers staying overnight	14,418	28,990	26,521	-2,469
Nationality:				
EU	340,077	347,874	295,891	-51,983
<i>of which:</i>				
French	64,184	38,159	34,605	-3,554
German	76,946	86,421	66,860	-19,561
Italian	75,918	66,376	52,895	-13,481
Maltese	9,262	10,131	7,493	-2,638
Spanish	31,602	20,188	19,555	-633
British	41,803	93,576	84,373	-9,203
Non-EU	108,564	134,981	145,656	10,675
<i>of which:</i>				
Australian	7,599	12,978	17,814	4,836
Canadian	8,932	13,977	13,599	-378
Japanese	3,063	4,478	6,009	1,531
American	36,896	48,995	53,409	4,414
Sex:				
Males	209,561	226,965	206,614	-20,351
Females	239,080	255,890	234,933	-20,957
Age group:				
0-19	64,348	64,571	56,034	-8,537
20-39	71,928	69,368	59,036	-10,332
40-59	149,809	159,584	142,844	-16,740
60-79	148,987	173,659	168,830	-4,829
80+	13,569	15,673	14,803	-870
Cruise liner calls	231	248	215	-33

* 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 2011 and 2012.

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

Embarkations	2016	2017	2018
July-September (Q3)	30,009	50,799	37,148
January-September	48,169	92,506	66,701

4. Definitions:

- **Cruise passenger traffic:** comprises transit passengers and passengers who land in Malta.
 - **Embarkations:** comprise all cruise passengers who start their cruise trip from Malta.
 - **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. 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