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Total cruise passenger traffic during the first quarter of 2019 amounted to 78,051, an increase of 11.9 per cent over the corresponding period in 2018.

Cruise Passengers: Q1/2019

There were 21 cruise liner calls during the first quarter of 2019, four more than the previous year. At 99.7 per cent, transit passengers accounted for the absolute majority of total traffic, reaching 77,853. On average, every vessel that berthed in Malta carried 3,717 passengers, 385 less than the previous year.

Passengers from EU Member States comprised 65.9 per cent of the total traffic, the major markets being Italy, France and Germany. The total number of passengers from Non-EU countries stood at 26,632, of whom 19.0 per cent came from the United States.

On a gender basis, female passengers made up 53.3 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) ■

Chart 1. Total cruise passenger traffic

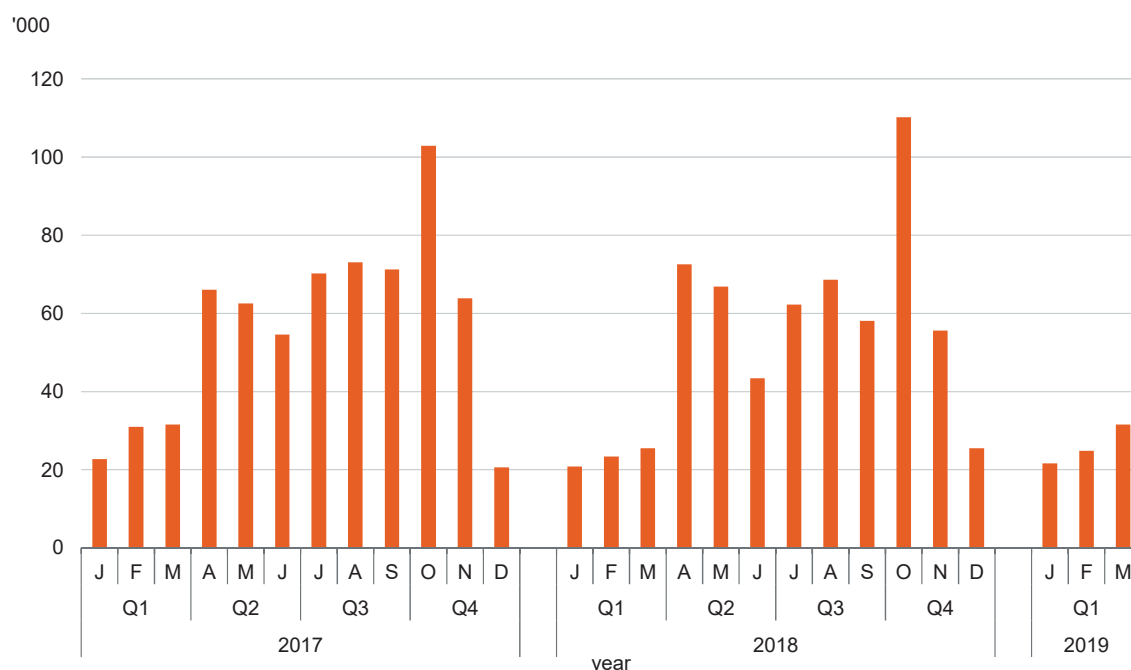


Table 1. Cruise passengers: Quarterly 2017-2019

	January-March			Change
	2017	2018	2019	2019/2018
Total traffic¹:	85,215	69,742	78,051	8,309
Transit	85,009	69,624	77,853	8,229
Landed	206	118	198	80
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers visiting Gozo	-	-	-	-
Passengers staying overnight	344	-	-	-
Nationality:				
EU	58,031	45,810	51,419	5,609
<i>of which:</i>				
French	11,060	8,891	8,946	55
German	8,410	8,818	6,666	-2,152
Italian	21,454	15,413	18,654	3,241
Maltese	82	17	76	59
Spanish	3,007	4,967	5,398	431
British	6,742	2,535	5,610	3,075
Non-EU	27,184	23,932	26,632	2,700
<i>of which:</i>				
Australian	1,365	682	1,558	876
Canadian	1,447	1,023	1,737	714
Japanese	2,541	3,398	2,491	-907
American	7,631	2,749	5,052	2,303
Sex:				
Males	40,053	32,147	36,421	4,274
Females	45,162	37,595	41,630	4,035
Age group:				
0-19	11,863	10,566	12,597	2,031
20-39	13,789	11,931	13,550	1,619
40-59	26,205	21,789	24,499	2,710
60-79	30,717	23,590	25,149	1,559
80+	2,641	1,866	2,256	390
Cruise liner calls	34	17	21	4

⁽¹⁾ 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	2017	2018	2019
January-March	137	67	144

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. 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