

Total cruise passenger traffic during the third quarter of 2019 amounted to 257,178, an increase of 36.1 per cent over the corresponding period in 2018.

## Cruise Passengers: Q3/2019

There were 122 cruise liner calls during the third quarter of 2019, 27 more than the previous year. At 74.4 per cent, transit passengers accounted for the absolute majority of total traffic, reaching 191,469. A total of 5,588 passengers visited Gozo, while 4,449 passengers spent at least one night on board their berthed cruise liner. On average, every vessel that berthed in Malta carried 2,108 passengers, 119 more than the previous year.

Visitors from EU Member States comprised 65.9 per cent of total traffic, the major markets being Germany, the United Kingdom, Italy and Spain. The total number of passengers from Non-EU countries stood at 87,580, of whom 48.8 per cent came from the United States.

On a gender basis, female passengers made up 53.9 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 years (Table1).

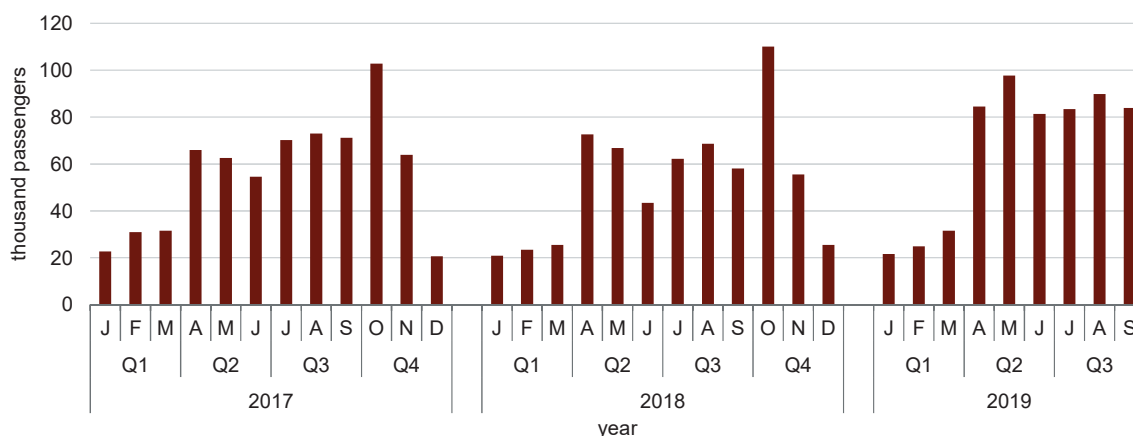
### January-September 2019

During the first nine months of the year, total cruise passengers stood at 598,837, an increase of 35.6 per cent over 2018. Of these, 65.7 per cent came from EU Member States. Significant increases were recorded in the German, American and British markets.

Female passengers numbered 323,294 and were in the majority. Most passengers were between 60 and 79 years old, amounting to 221,641. These were followed by passengers aged 40-59, reaching 195,793.

There were 273 cruise liner calls during the first three quarters of 2019, with an average 2,194 passengers per vessel, compared to 215 calls and an average 2,054 passengers per vessel in comparative period of 2018 (Table 2) ■

**Chart 1. Total cruise passenger traffic**



**Table 1. Cruise passengers: Quarterly 2017-2019**

	July-September			Change
	2017	2018	2019	2019/2018
<b>Total traffic<sup>1</sup>:</b>	<b>214,497</b>	<b>188,943</b>	<b>257,178</b>	<b>68,235</b>
Transit	164,947	151,204	191,469	40,265
Landed	49,550	37,739	65,709	27,970
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers visiting Gozo	7,466	6,819	5,588	-1,231
Passengers staying overnight	14,129	12,044	4,449	-7,595
<b>Nationality:</b>				
EU	154,280	126,303	169,598	43,295
<i>of which:</i>				
French	9,633	8,481	8,004	-477
German	44,541	27,549	55,929	28,380
Italian	22,012	15,647	17,695	2,048
Maltese	7,956	5,463	7,443	1,980
Spanish	11,912	9,575	16,288	6,713
British	44,275	45,855	48,128	2,273
Non-EU	60,217	62,640	87,580	24,940
<i>of which:</i>				
Australian	5,703	7,956	8,198	242
Canadian	8,182	6,981	11,420	4,439
Japanese	1,139	758	1,163	405
American	22,595	27,346	42,721	15,375
<b>Sex:</b>				
Males	101,920	90,437	118,683	28,246
Females	112,577	98,506	138,495	39,989
<b>Age group:</b>				
0-19	34,405	28,213	38,643	10,430
20-39	34,497	27,671	37,302	9,631
40-59	78,016	67,612	91,805	24,193
60-79	62,738	60,528	82,909	22,381
80+	4,841	4,919	6,519	1,600
<b>Cruise liner calls</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>27</b>

<sup>1</sup> See methodological note 3

**Table 2. Cruise passengers: Cumulative 2017-2019**

	January-September			Change
	2017	2018	2019	2019/2018
<b>Total traffic<sup>1</sup>:</b>	<b>482,855</b>	<b>441,547</b>	<b>598,837</b>	<b>157,290</b>
Transit	393,874	374,027	479,993	105,966
Landed	88,981	67,520	118,844	51,324
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers visiting Gozo	11,645	11,309	8,009	-3,300
Passengers staying overnight	28,990	26,616	12,868	-13,748
<b>Nationality:</b>				
EU	347,874	295,891	393,659	97,768
<i>of which:</i>				
French	38,159	34,606	31,022	-3,584
German	86,421	66,860	115,146	48,286
Italian	66,376	52,895	64,053	11,158
Maltese	10,131	7,493	10,132	2,639
Spanish	20,188	19,554	31,289	11,735
British	93,576	84,373	102,893	18,520
Non-EU	134,981	145,656	205,178	59,522
<i>of which:</i>				
Australian	12,978	17,814	20,815	3,001
Canadian	13,977	13,599	21,333	7,734
Japanese	4,478	6,009	6,692	683
American	48,995	53,409	86,504	33,095
<b>Sex:</b>				
Males	226,965	206,614	275,543	68,929
Females	255,890	234,933	323,294	88,361
<b>Age group:</b>				
0-19	64,571	56,034	79,085	23,051
20-39	69,368	59,036	82,761	23,725
40-59	159,584	142,844	195,793	52,949
60-79	173,659	168,830	221,641	52,811
80+	15,673	14,803	19,557	4,754
<b>Cruise liner calls</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>58</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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
July-September	50,799	37,148	65,850
January-September	92,506	66,701	117,560

4. Figures for 'passengers staying overnight' with reference to Q3/2018 have been revised slightly upwards.

### 5. 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.

6. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>

7. Any quotations from this news release are to be cited and/or referenced.

8. A detailed news release calendar is available on: [https://nso.gov.mt/en/News\\_Releases/Release\\_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx)