

During the fourth quarter of 2019, sea transport between Malta and Gozo registered increases compared to the corresponding quarter of 2018.

Sea Transport between Malta and Gozo: Q4/2019

A total of 1,355,243 passengers travelled between Malta and Gozo during the fourth quarter of 2019, up by 2.6 per cent when compared to the corresponding quarter in 2018. The highest number of passengers was recorded in October – 533,020 or 39.3 per cent of the total for the quarter. When comparing to the previous year, the number of vehicles increased by 6.8 per cent, totalling 425,767 (Tables 1 and 2, Chart 1).

The number of trips amounted to 7,653, an increase of 31.5 per cent over the same period in 2018 (Table 1). The majority of trips took place in October – 2,712 or 35.4 per cent of total trips for the quarter (Table 2).

Annual Perspective: 2019

Movements between Malta and Gozo continued to increase. Overall the number of trips went up by 4,012 or 17.0 per cent, over 2018. Vehicle movements between the islands increased by 123,007 or 7.4 per cent over the previous year, while the number of passengers went up by 159,462 or 2.8 per cent (Tables 1 and 2).

As in previous years, August recorded the highest number of trips, 2,802 or 10.1 per cent of the total. August also registered the largest share of vehicles and passengers crossing between the two islands, 187,536 and 649,878, respectively (Table 2).

Passenger and vehicle traffic originating from Ċirkewwa was busiest on Friday and Saturday, whereas the highest numbers from Mġarr were recorded on Sunday and Saturday for passengers and Sunday and Monday for vehicles (Charts 3 and 4) ■

Chart 1. Passengers and vehicles crossing between Malta and Gozo

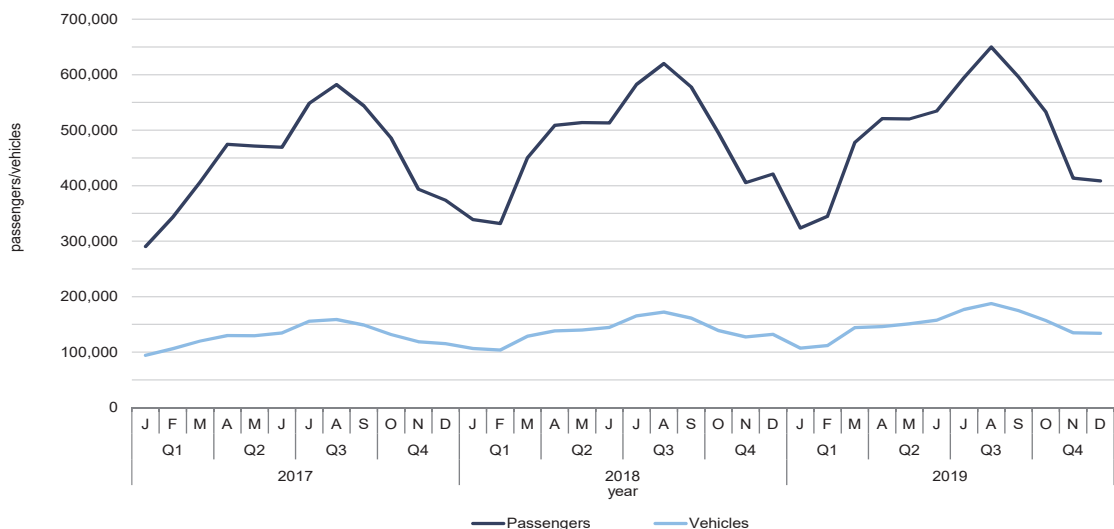


Table 1. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by quarter

Quarter	2017	2018	2019	Change	Percentage change	
				2019/2018	2019/2018	
Trips	Jan-Mar	5,216	5,259	5,449	190	3.6
	Apr-Jun	5,541	5,776	6,289	513	8.9
	Jul-Sep	6,334	6,764	8,240	1,476	21.8
	Oct-Dec	5,438	5,820	7,653	1,833	31.5
	Total	22,529	23,619	27,631	4,012	17.0
Vehicles	Jan-Mar	320,432	339,266	363,460	24,194	7.1
	Apr-Jun	394,106	423,152	454,818	31,666	7.5
	Jul-Sep	463,585	498,888	538,864	39,976	8.0
	Oct-Dec	365,899	398,596	425,767	27,171	6.8
	Total	1,544,022	1,659,902	1,782,909	123,007	7.4
Passengers	Jan-Mar	1,040,188	1,121,001	1,146,490	25,489	2.3
	Apr-Jun	1,415,326	1,535,414	1,575,472	40,058	2.6
	Jul-Sep	1,674,618	1,780,474	1,840,575	60,101	3.4
	Oct-Dec	1,253,708	1,321,429	1,355,243	33,814	2.6
	Total	5,383,840	5,758,318	5,917,780	159,462	2.8

Chart 2. Passengers and vehicles to and from Malta and Gozo: October-December

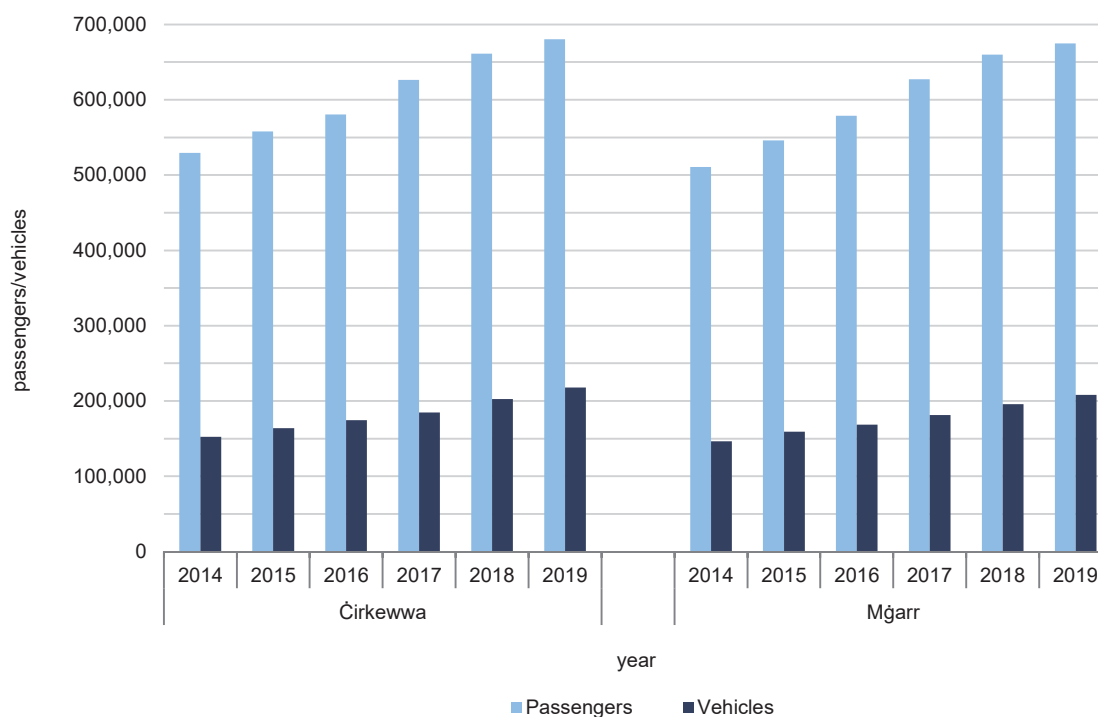


Table 2. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by month

Month	2017	2018	2019	Change	Percentage change	
				2019/2018	2019/2018	
Trips	January	1,717	1,771	1,739	-32	-1.8
	February	1,669	1,614	1,676	62	3.8
	March	1,830	1,874	2,034	160	8.5
	April	1,834	1,870	1,957	87	4.7
	May	1,821	1,898	2,014	116	6.1
	June	1,886	2,008	2,318	310	15.4
	July	2,098	2,252	2,716	464	20.6
	August	2,158	2,292	2,802	510	22.3
	September	2,078	2,220	2,722	502	22.6
	October	1,964	2,088	2,712	624	29.9
	November	1,729	1,822	2,421	599	32.9
	December	1,745	1,910	2,520	610	31.9
	Total	22,529	23,619	27,631	4,012	17.0
Vehicles	January	94,258	106,556	107,174	618	0.6
	February	106,256	103,893	112,014	8,121	7.8
	March	119,918	128,817	144,272	15,455	12.0
	April	129,837	138,464	146,216	7,752	5.6
	May	129,726	140,028	150,984	10,956	7.8
	June	134,543	144,660	157,618	12,958	9.0
	July	155,624	165,538	176,767	11,229	6.8
	August	158,981	172,120	187,536	15,416	9.0
	September	148,980	161,230	174,561	13,331	8.3
	October	131,779	138,973	157,109	18,136	13.1
	November	118,862	127,404	134,764	7,360	5.8
	December	115,258	132,219	133,894	1,675	1.3
	Total	1,544,022	1,659,902	1,782,909	123,007	7.4
Passengers	January	290,357	338,780	323,772	-15,008	-4.4
	February	343,321	331,858	344,773	12,915	3.9
	March	406,510	450,363	477,945	27,582	6.1
	April	474,647	508,880	520,755	11,875	2.3
	May	471,397	513,598	520,284	6,686	1.3
	June	469,282	512,936	534,433	21,497	4.2
	July	548,452	582,541	594,610	12,069	2.1
	August	582,199	620,042	649,878	29,836	4.8
	September	543,967	577,891	596,087	18,196	3.1
	October	486,147	494,964	533,020	38,056	7.7
	November	393,745	405,514	413,684	8,170	2.0
	December	373,816	420,951	408,539	-12,412	-2.9
	Total	5,383,840	5,758,318	5,917,780	159,462	2.8

Table 3. Sea transport to and from Malta and Gozo by month

Month	Ċirkewwa - Mġarr		Change	Percentage change	Mġarr - Ċirkewwa		Change	Percentage change
	2018	2019	2019/2018	2019/2018	2018	2019	2019/2018	2019/2018
Trips								
January	885	869	-16	-1.8	886	870	-16	-1.8
February	807	838	31	3.8	807	838	31	3.8
March	937	1,017	80	8.5	937	1,017	80	8.5
April	935	978	43	4.6	935	979	44	4.7
May	948	1,007	59	6.2	950	1,007	57	6.0
June	1,004	1,159	155	15.4	1,004	1,159	155	15.4
July	1,126	1,358	232	20.6	1,126	1,358	232	20.6
August	1,146	1,401	255	22.3	1,146	1,401	255	22.3
September	1,110	1,362	252	22.7	1,110	1,360	250	22.5
October	1,044	1,356	312	29.9	1,044	1,356	312	29.9
November	911	1,210	299	32.8	911	1,211	300	32.9
December	955	1,261	306	32.0	955	1,259	304	31.8
Total	11,808	13,816	2,008	17.0	11,811	13,815	2,004	17.0
Vehicles								
January	52,616	52,901	285	0.5	53,940	54,273	333	0.6
February	52,372	57,189	4,817	9.2	51,521	54,825	3,304	6.4
March	66,509	72,792	6,283	9.4	62,308	71,480	9,172	14.7
April	69,252	74,407	5,155	7.4	69,212	71,809	2,597	3.8
May	70,367	77,120	6,753	9.6	69,661	73,864	4,203	6.0
June	74,872	80,304	5,432	7.3	69,788	77,314	7,526	10.8
July	82,479	89,926	7,447	9.0	83,059	86,841	3,782	4.6
August	88,139	96,782	8,643	9.8	83,981	90,754	6,773	8.1
September	80,815	87,007	6,192	7.7	80,415	87,554	7,139	8.9
October	70,311	80,150	9,839	14.0	68,662	76,959	8,297	12.1
November	64,507	68,681	4,174	6.5	62,897	66,083	3,186	5.1
December	67,865	69,015	1,150	1.7	64,354	64,879	525	0.8
Total	840,104	906,274	66,170	7.9	819,798	876,635	56,837	6.9
Passengers								
January	166,565	158,525	-8,040	-4.8	172,215	165,247	-6,968	-4.0
February	166,056	173,170	7,114	4.3	165,802	171,603	5,801	3.5
March	229,062	239,360	10,298	4.5	221,301	238,585	17,284	7.8
April	253,563	262,868	9,305	3.7	255,317	257,887	2,570	1.0
May	257,187	262,079	4,892	1.9	256,411	258,205	1,794	0.7
June	261,798	269,203	7,405	2.8	251,138	265,230	14,092	5.6
July	290,868	297,849	6,981	2.4	291,673	296,761	5,088	1.7
August	310,589	327,485	16,896	5.4	309,453	322,393	12,940	4.2
September	287,560	294,770	7,210	2.5	290,331	301,317	10,986	3.8
October	247,237	267,441	20,204	8.2	247,727	265,579	17,852	7.2
November	202,064	206,789	4,725	2.3	203,450	206,895	3,445	1.7
December	212,027	206,125	-5,902	-2.8	208,924	202,414	-6,510	-3.1
Total	2,884,576	2,965,664	81,088	2.8	2,873,742	2,952,116	78,374	2.7

Table 4. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by day of the week

Day of the week		January-December			Change	Percentage change
		2017	2018	2019	2019/2018	2019/2018
Trips	Monday	3,159	3,376	3,797	421	12.5
	Tuesday	3,141	3,267	3,894	627	19.2
	Wednesday	3,078	3,206	3,842	636	19.8
	Thursday	3,202	3,373	3,894	521	15.4
	Friday	3,305	3,523	4,159	636	18.1
	Saturday	3,146	3,267	3,870	603	18.5
	Sunday	3,498	3,607	4,175	568	15.7
	Total	22,529	23,619	27,631	4,012	17.0
Vehicles	Monday	206,095	231,404	241,018	9,614	4.2
	Tuesday	201,343	214,896	235,263	20,367	9.5
	Wednesday	206,835	220,309	235,387	15,078	6.8
	Thursday	216,759	231,519	247,204	15,685	6.8
	Friday	241,782	261,735	281,956	20,221	7.7
	Saturday	227,711	242,922	265,738	22,816	9.4
	Sunday	243,497	257,117	276,343	19,226	7.5
	Total	1,544,022	1,659,902	1,782,909	123,007	7.4
Passengers	Monday	703,378	781,770	778,022	-3,748	-0.5
	Tuesday	680,752	706,265	743,550	37,285	5.3
	Wednesday	728,110	767,095	780,853	13,758	1.8
	Thursday	751,769	801,414	812,549	11,135	1.4
	Friday	804,055	875,995	899,254	23,259	2.7
	Saturday	843,878	894,372	945,482	51,110	5.7
	Sunday	871,898	931,407	958,070	26,663	2.9
	Total	5,383,840	5,758,318	5,917,780	159,462	2.8

Chart 3. Vehicles to and from Malta and Gozo by day of the week: January-December

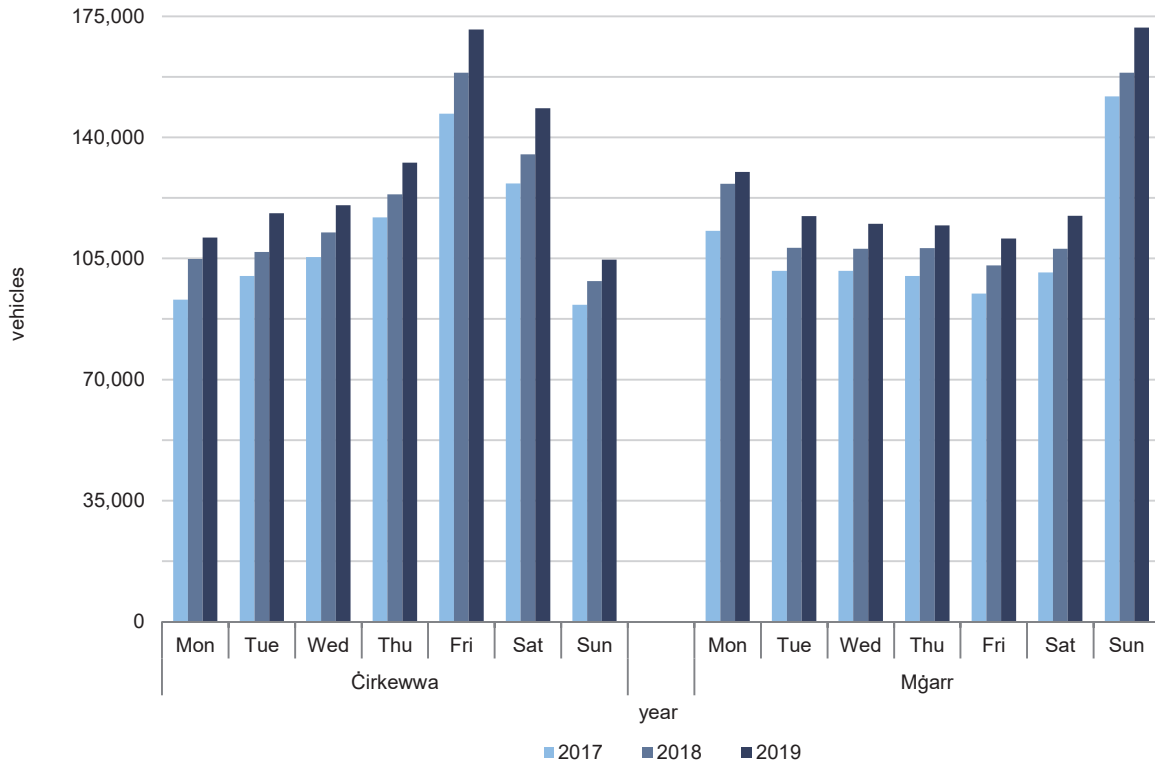
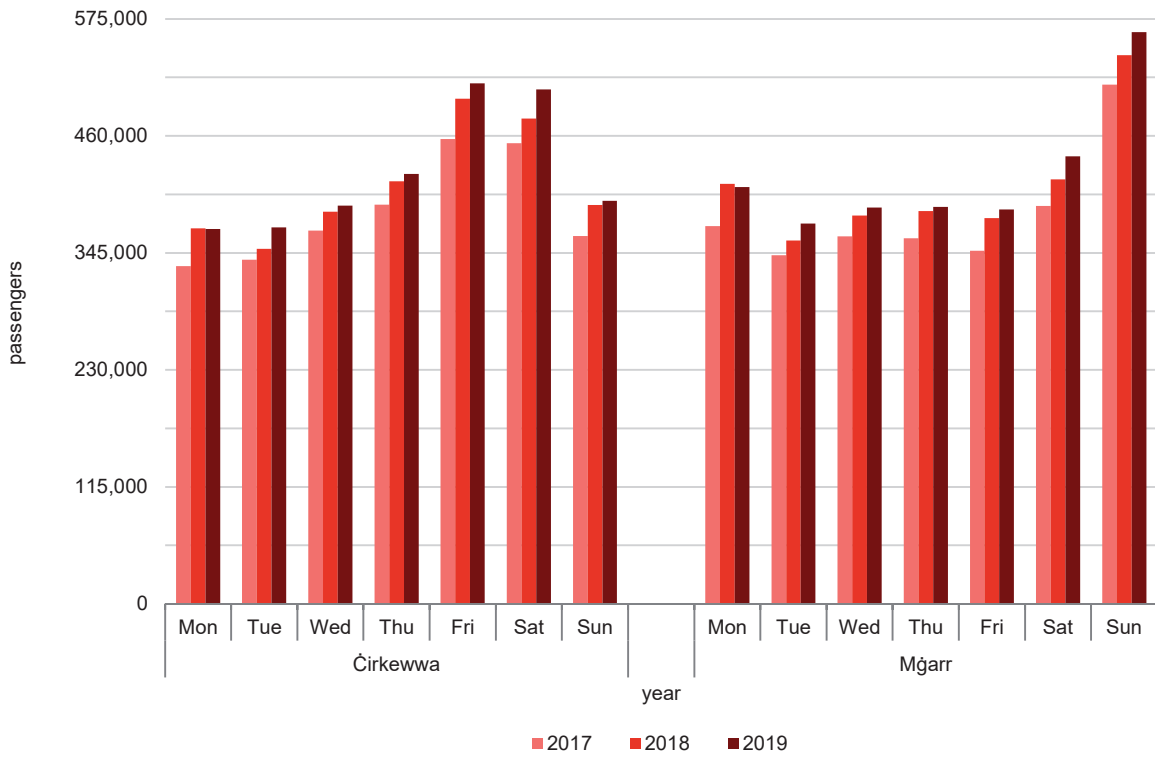


Chart 4. Passengers to and from Malta and Gozo by day of the week: January-December



Methodological Notes

1. The source for the data included in this release is administrative information provided by the Gozo Channel Co. Ltd.
2. The table below illustrates the passenger and vehicle capacity of each Gozo Channel vessel:

Carrying capacity

Vessel	Vehicles	Passengers
MV Gaudos	72	900
MV Malita	138	900
MV Ta' Pinu	138	900
MV Nikolaos	160	650 (Summer)/ 350 (Winter)

Periods when vessels were out of service for docking purposes:

MV Gaudos: 13/11/2017 - 30/11/2017.

MV Malita: 09/01/2017 - 02/02/2017, 14/02/2017 - 17/02/2017, 08/05/2017 - 09/05/2017, 07/05/2018 - 11/05/2018, 09/01/2019 - 31/01/2019, 06/02/2019 - 13/02/2019, 07/03/2019 - 08/03/2019 and 25/11/2019-02/12/2019.

MV Ta' Pinu: 03/10/2017 - 05/10/2017 and 08/01/2018 - 30/01/2018.

MV Nikolaos started operating on 13/06/2019

3. Data for passengers comprise: foot and vehicle passengers and vehicle drivers.
4. Different approaches are applied for the collection of data at the Mġarr and Ċirkewwa Harbours, respectively. While the data source for the Mġarr side is the Automated Ticketing System (ATS), data for the Ċirkewwa side is dependent on the manual clicking system.
5. The data are not normally subject to revision.
6. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
7. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Sources and Methods:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_02/Regional_and_Geospatial_Statistics/Pages/Sea-Transport-between-Malta-and-Gozo.aspx

8. A detailed news release calendar is available on https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx