

07 April 2020 | 1100 hrs | 056/2020

Total inbound tourists for February were estimated at 145,821, an increase of 16.5 per cent when compared to the corresponding month in 2019.

Inbound Tourism: February 2020

During the month under review, a total of 124,198 inbound tourist trips were undertaken for holiday purposes, while a further 15,074 were made for business purposes. Most inbound tourists were aged between 25 and 44 years (36.8 per cent), followed by those within the 45-64 age bracket (33.4 per cent) (Table 1). Inbound tourists coming from the United Kingdom and Italy remained the most popular, with a joint share of 33.9 per cent of the total inbound tourists (Table 5).

Total nights spent went up by 10.1 per cent when compared to February 2019, amounting to 852,875 nights. The largest share of guest nights (61.1 per cent) was spent in collective accommodation establishments (Table 3).

Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €86.8 million, an increase of 22.0 per cent over the corresponding month in 2019 (Table 4).

January-February 2020

Inbound tourist trips for the first two months of 2020 amounted to 295,059, an increase of 16.7 per cent over the same period in 2019 (Table 6). Total nights spent by inbound tourists went up by 6.5 per cent, reaching nearly 1.8 million nights (Table 8).

Total tourism expenditure was estimated at €181.0 million, 16.1 per cent higher than that recorded in 2019 (Table 9). Total expenditure per capita stood at €613, a decrease of 0.5 per cent when compared to 2019 (Table 11) ■

Chart 1. Year-on-year percentage changes in inbound tourists and nights spent
(excluding overnight cruise passengers)

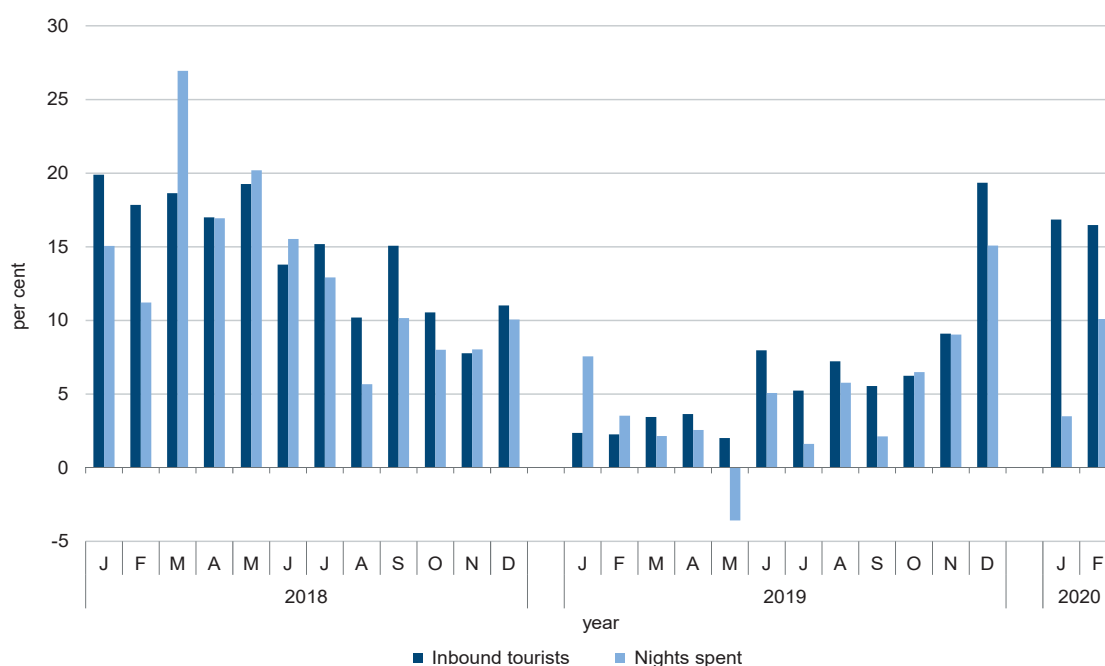


Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists by month of departure

Characteristics	February			Change	Percentage change
	2018	2019	2020	2020/2019	
Total inbound visitors	122,433	125,198	145,821	20,623	16.5
Overnight cruise passengers	-	-	-	-	-
Inbound tourists	122,433	125,198	145,821	20,623	16.5
Mode of travel					
Air	120,292	122,617	143,353	20,736	16.9
Sea	2,141	2,581	2,468	-	-
Sex					
Males	62,958	62,525	72,474	9,949	15.9
Females	59,475	62,674	73,347	10,673	17.0
Age group					
0-24	19,705	22,115	29,339	7,224	32.7
25-44	46,284	51,420	53,626	2,206	4.3
45-64	40,445	39,496	48,757	9,261	23.4
65 or more	15,999	12,166	14,098	1,932	15.9
Markets¹					
EU	105,930	107,744	89,046	-18,697	-17.4
of which: Euro area	58,854	59,751	69,770	10,018	16.8
Non-EU	16,503	17,454	56,774	39,320	225.3
of which: United Kingdom ²	n/a	n/a	33,954	n/a	n/a
Purpose of visit					
Holiday	103,555	103,655	124,198	20,543	19.8
Business and professional	10,876	14,776	15,074	-	-
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	8,001	6,766	6,549	-	-
Organisation of stay					
Package	46,148	38,659	45,423	6,764	17.5
Non-package	76,285	86,540	100,398	13,858	16.0
Frequency					
First-time tourists	91,833	90,414	109,016	18,602	20.6
Repeat tourists	30,600	34,784	36,804	2,020	5.8
once a year or less	21,250	22,471	25,572	3,101	13.8
more than once a year	9,350	12,313	11,232	-	-
Duration of visit					
1-3 nights	35,829	43,277	48,191	4,914	11.4
4-6 nights	40,677	37,703	50,211	12,507	33.2
7 nights or more	45,927	44,218	47,419	3,201	7.2
Average length of stay (nights)	6.1	6.2	5.8	-0.4	-

¹ Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

² For 2018 and 2019 United Kingdom figures refer to the News Release: NR053/2019 (https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Documents/2019/News2019_053.pdf)

Notes:

1. n/a: not applicable
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
3. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

Table 2. Inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	February			Change	Percentage change
	2018	2019	2020	2020/2019	
Rented accommodation	108,261	111,246	131,169	19,923	17.9
Collective	88,823	88,731	102,030	13,300	15.0
Other rented	19,438	22,516	29,139	6,623	29.4
Non-rented accommodation	14,173	13,952	14,652	-	-
Total tourists	122,433	125,198	145,821	20,623	16.5

Notes:

1. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
2. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

Table 3. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	February			Change	Percentage change
	2018	2019	2020	2020/2019	
Rented accommodation	646,531	668,043	742,201	74,158	11.1
Collective	487,406	453,689	521,116	67,427	14.9
Other rented	159,125	214,355	221,085	6,731	3.1
Non-rented accommodation	101,579	106,526	110,674	-	-
Total nights	748,110	774,569	852,875	78,306	10.1

Notes:

1. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
2. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

Table 4. Total expenditure by inbound tourists by month of departure and expenditure category

€ 000

Expenditure category	February			Change	Percentage change
	2018	2019	2020	2020/2019	
Package	21,109	16,488	20,744	4,256	25.8
Non-package	24,652	26,338	32,345	6,007	22.8
Air/sea fares	12,266	11,913	16,685	4,772	40.1
Accommodation	12,386	14,425	15,660	1,235	8.6
Other expenditure	27,441	28,329	33,731	5,401	19.1
Total expenditure	73,202	71,156	86,820	15,664	22.0

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 5. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by month of departure and country of residence

Country of residence ¹		February			Change	Percentage change
		2018	2019	2020	2020/2019	
Tourists	EU	105,930	107,744	89,046	-18,697	-17.4
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	7,704	10,391	13,107	2,716	26.1
	Germany	12,749	9,668	10,622	-	-
	Italy	19,478	18,316	15,445	-2,871	-15.7
	Poland	6,543	8,045	8,956	-	-
	Spain	2,640	5,260	6,567	-	-
	Non-EU	16,503	17,454	56,774	39,320	225.3
<i>of which:</i>						
United Kingdom ²	n/a	n/a	33,954	n/a	n/a	
Total	122,433	125,198	145,821	20,623	16.5	
Nights	EU	613,073	642,038	498,341	-143,697	-22.4
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	49,394	72,765	82,992	10,227	14.1
	Germany	84,174	58,879	63,556	-	-
	Italy	96,407	116,280	88,867	-27,414	-23.6
	Poland	37,323	51,870	53,310	-	-
	Spain	10,422	28,400	28,230	-	-
	Non-EU	135,037	132,531	354,534	222,003	167.5
<i>of which:</i>						
United Kingdom ²	n/a	n/a	201,294	n/a	n/a	
Total	748,110	774,569	852,875	78,306	10.1	
Expenditure (€000)	EU	58,313	56,120	47,621	-8,499	-15.1
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	4,759	5,535	7,986	2,450	44.3
	Germany	8,138	5,464	6,482	-	-
	Italy	8,477	8,540	7,179	-1,361	-15.9
	Poland	3,724	4,050	4,174	-	-
	Spain	1,500	2,061	3,028	-	-
	Non-EU	14,889	15,035	39,199	24,164	160.7
<i>of which:</i>						
United Kingdom ²	n/a	n/a	19,077	n/a	n/a	
Total	73,202	71,156	86,820	15,664	22.0	

¹ Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

² For 2018 and 2019 United Kingdom figures refer to the News Release: NR053/2019 (https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Documents/2019/News2019_053.pdf)

Notes:

1. n/a: not applicable
2. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
3. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
4. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

Table 6. Profile of inbound tourists by period of departure

Characteristics	January-February			Change	Percentage change
	2018	2019	2020	2020/2019	
Total inbound visitors	247,203	252,921	295,952	43,031	17.0
Overnight cruise passengers	-	-	893	893	100.0
Inbound tourists	247,203	252,921	295,059	42,138	16.7
Mode of travel					
Air	242,881	247,775	289,119	41,344	16.7
Sea	4,322	5,146	5,940	-	-
Sex					
Males	130,957	129,359	152,098	22,739	17.6
Females	116,246	123,562	142,961	19,399	15.7
Age group					
0-24	36,167	42,365	52,552	10,187	24.0
25-44	95,196	104,208	114,097	9,889	9.5
45-64	83,466	79,797	99,663	19,866	24.9
65 or more	32,374	26,551	28,747	2,196	8.3
Markets¹					
EU	212,561	214,678	181,983	-32,695	-15.2
of which: Euro area	123,614	124,982	143,129	18,148	14.5
Non-EU	34,642	38,243	113,075	74,833	195.7
of which: United Kingdom ²	n/a	n/a	64,638	n/a	n/a
Purpose of visit					
Holiday	209,670	218,206	256,063	37,857	17.3
Business and professional	25,765	24,237	28,915	4,678	19.3
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	11,768	10,478	10,080	-	-
Organisation of stay					
Package	89,177	76,100	84,019	7,918	10.4
Non-package	158,025	176,821	211,040	34,219	19.4
Frequency					
First-time tourists	178,983	179,896	214,375	34,479	19.2
Repeat tourists	68,220	73,025	80,684	7,658	10.5
once a year or less	45,881	48,107	55,497	7,391	15.4
more than once a year	22,339	24,919	25,186	-	-
Duration of visit					
1-3 nights	70,038	80,217	95,167	14,950	18.6
4-6 nights	77,570	77,925	97,825	19,900	25.5
7 nights or more	99,595	94,780	102,067	7,287	7.7
Average length of stay (nights)	6.5	6.7	6.1	-0.6	-

¹ Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

² For 2018 and 2019 United Kingdom figures refer to the News Release: NR053/2019

(https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Documents/2019/News2019_053.pdf)

Notes:

1. n/a: not applicable
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
3. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

Table 7. Inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-February			Change	Percentage change
	2018	2019	2020	2020/2019	
Rented accommodation	215,522	218,554	258,473	39,920	18.3
Collective	179,189	171,340	200,160	28,820	16.8
Other rented	36,333	47,213	58,313	11,100	23.5
Non-rented accommodation	31,681	34,368	36,586	2,218	6.5
Total tourists	247,203	252,921	295,059	42,138	16.7

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 8. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-February			Change	Percentage change
	2018	2019	2020	2020/2019	
Rented accommodation	1,292,338	1,342,875	1,468,717	125,842	9.4
Collective	989,003	903,000	1,019,864	116,863	12.9
Other rented	303,335	439,875	448,853	8,979	2.0
Non-rented accommodation	304,086	344,134	328,491	-15,643	-4.5
Total nights	1,596,423	1,687,009	1,797,208	110,199	6.5

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 9. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by period of departure and country of residence

Country of residence	January-February			Change	Percentage change	
	2018	2019	2020	2020/2019		
Tourists	Australia	2,400 ^u	2,232 ^u	2,245 ^u	-	-
	Austria	4,160	2,968 ^u	2,564 ^u	-	-
	Belgium	8,350	7,620	8,591	-	-
	France	15,552	18,184	22,500	4,317	23.7
	Germany	27,004	21,130	21,627	-	-
	Hungary	2,208 ^u	3,039 ^u	3,322	-	-
	Ireland	4,682	4,528	6,377	1,849	40.8
	Italy	42,334	40,210	39,318	-	-
	Netherlands	5,239	4,735	7,037	2,302	48.6
	Poland	12,940	14,210	16,918	2,708	19.1
	Scandinavia ¹	8,187	7,174	10,397	3,222	44.9
	Spain	6,434	11,579	14,033	2,454	21.2
	Switzerland	3,013 ^u	3,071 ^u	3,629	-	-
	United Kingdom	59,567	58,445	64,638	6,193	10.6
	USA	3,340	4,680	5,860	-	-
	Other	41,794	49,116	66,002	16,886	34.4
Total	247,203	252,921	295,059	42,138	16.7	
Nights	Australia	49,477 ^u	21,266 ^u	19,939 ^u	-	-
	Austria	24,430	16,465 ^u	15,801 ^u	-	-
	Belgium	42,710	53,348	41,376	-	-
	France	93,887	116,703	134,771	18,068	15.5
	Germany	182,193	135,380	143,275	-	-
	Hungary	11,055 ^u	14,050 ^u	15,784	-	-
	Ireland	30,480	28,976	36,769	7,793	26.9
	Italy	224,347	250,780	224,294	-	-
	Netherlands	29,853	42,121	36,221	-5,901	-14.0
	Poland	76,677	86,377	97,852	11,475	13.3
	Scandinavia ¹	59,712	49,893	69,375	19,482	39.0
	Spain	29,019	57,602	70,142	12,539	21.8
	Switzerland	21,071 ^u	20,552 ^u	19,476	-	-
	United Kingdom	391,952	371,430	403,708	32,278	8.7
	USA	21,328	25,523	30,420	-	-
	Other	308,233	396,542	438,005	41,464	10.5
Total	1,596,423	1,687,009	1,797,208	110,199	6.5	
Expenditure (€000)	Australia	3,246 ^u	3,020 ^u	2,661 ^u	-	-
	Austria	3,180	2,061 ^u	1,696 ^u	-	-
	Belgium	4,321	4,142	4,319	-	-
	France	9,918	10,511	13,843	3,332	31.7
	Germany	17,396	12,855	14,300	-	-
	Hungary	1,007 ^u	1,333 ^u	1,473	-	-
	Ireland	3,022	3,275	4,028	753	23.0
	Italy	20,269	18,384	18,721	-	-
	Netherlands	3,023	3,009	4,027	1,018	33.8
	Poland	6,999	7,097	8,369	1,272	17.9
	Scandinavia ¹	6,240	5,397	7,807	2,410	44.7
	Spain	3,502	4,612	6,459	1,847	40.1
	Switzerland	2,661 ^u	2,475 ^u	2,753	-	-
	United Kingdom	34,740	34,276	37,691	3,415	10.0
	USA	2,972	4,067	5,741	-	-
	Other	32,962	39,328	47,105	7,777	19.8
Total	155,460	155,842	180,991	25,149	16.1	

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

¹ Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
3. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

Table 10. Total expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence

€ 000

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
January-February 2020					
Australia	:	1,118 ^u	407 ^u	889 ^u	2,661 ^u
Austria	706 ^u	:	:	539 ^u	1,696 ^u
Belgium	606 ^u	876	954	1,883	4,319
France	3,904	2,319	2,569	5,051	13,843
Germany	5,108	2,057	2,348	4,786	14,300
Hungary	:	374	365 ^u	662	1,473
Ireland	:	797	979	1,865	4,028
Italy	3,034	3,280	3,520	8,887	18,721
Netherlands	635 ^u	865	740	1,786	4,027
Poland	1,803	1,629	1,836	3,101	8,369
Scandinavia ¹	1,811	1,679	1,354	2,964	7,807
Spain	577 ^u	1,422	1,591	2,869	6,459
Switzerland	:	552 ^u	508 ^u	937	2,753
United Kingdom	12,034	5,594	5,504	14,559	37,691
USA	:	2,349	1,298	1,538	5,741
Other	7,522	12,185	8,659	18,739	47,105
Total	39,757	37,323	32,854	71,057	180,991
January-February 2019					
Australia	:	1,342 ^u	263 ^u	1,043 ^u	3,020 ^u
Austria	:	341 ^u	314 ^u	819 ^u	2,061 ^u
Belgium	695 ^u	631	1,134	1,683	4,142
France	3,077	1,520	2,167	3,747	10,511
Germany	4,866	1,609	1,893	4,488	12,855
Hungary	:	213 ^u	256 ^u	557 ^u	1,333 ^u
Ireland	552 ^u	449	689 ^u	1,585	3,275
Italy	3,085	2,762	3,695	8,842	18,384
Netherlands	:	552	805	1,146	3,009
Poland	1,706	920	1,282	3,189	7,097
Scandinavia ¹	1,410 ^u	1,003	867	2,117	5,397
Spain	579 ^u	662	1,075	2,296	4,612
Switzerland	:	340 ^u	488 ^u	1,085 ^u	2,475 ^u
United Kingdom	10,680	4,002	5,293	14,302	34,276
USA	:	1,208	910	1,457	4,067
Other	7,626	8,805	7,272	15,624	39,328
Total	37,102	26,358	28,402	63,980	155,842
January-February 2018					
Australia	:	1,622 ^u	287 ^u	1,294 ^u	3,246 ^u
Austria	1,388 ^u	429 ^u	396 ^u	967	3,180
Belgium	1,043 ^u	650	970	1,658	4,321
France	3,149	1,492	2,209	3,068	9,918
Germany	7,399	1,821	2,620	5,555	17,396
Hungary	:	185 ^u	247 ^u	354 ^u	1,007 ^u
Ireland	754 ^u	402 ^u	585 ^u	1,281	3,022
Italy	4,177	2,985	4,258	8,849	20,269
Netherlands	891 ^u	505 ^u	472 ^u	1,154	3,023
Poland	1,342	1,082	1,832	2,744	6,999
Scandinavia ¹	1,744	1,222	985	2,290	6,240
Spain	543 ^u	907	768	1,284	3,502
Switzerland	:	551 ^u	694 ^u	990 ^u	2,661 ^u
United Kingdom	11,046	4,233	5,243	14,218	34,740
USA	:	1,081	735 ^u	830	2,972
Other	7,067	7,835	5,829	12,232	32,962
Total	41,560	27,002	28,129	58,769	155,460

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

¹ Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.

2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 11. Per capita expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence

€

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total expenditure per capita
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
January-February 2020					
Australia	:	554 ^u	262 ^u	396 ^u	1,185 ^u
Austria	500 ^u	:	:	210 ^u	661 ^u
Belgium	312 ^u	132	159	219	503
France	471	162	195	224	615
Germany	548	167	216	221	661
Hungary	:	124	131 ^u	199	443
Ireland	:	145	192	292	632
Italy	412	103	151	226	476
Netherlands	339 ^u	168	166	254	572
Poland	365	136	163	183	495
Scandinavia ¹	559	235	226	285	751
Spain	331 ^u	116	146	204	460
Switzerland	:	220 ^u	238 ^u	258	759
United Kingdom	423	154	198	225	583
USA	:	432	265	263	980
Other	607	226	195	284	714
Total expenditure per capita	473	176	187	241	613
January-February 2019					
Australia	:	673 ^u	200 ^u	467 ^u	1,353 ^u
Austria	:	184 ^u	180 ^u	276 ^u	694 ^u
Belgium	464 ^u	102	200	221	544
France	468	131	203	206	578
Germany	472	149	201	212	608
Hungary	:	96 ^u	124 ^u	183 ^u	439 ^u
Ireland	388 ^u	145	250 ^u	350	723
Italy	391	85	151	220	457
Netherlands	:	150	264	242	636
Poland	372	96	143	224	499
Scandinavia ¹	581 ^u	211	240	295	752
Spain	290 ^u	69	126	198	398
Switzerland	:	166 ^u	298 ^u	353 ^u	806 ^u
United Kingdom	457	114	204	245	586
USA	:	288	244	311	869
Other	675	231	234	318	801
Total expenditure per capita	488	148	196	253	616
January-February 2018					
Australia	:	696 ^u	238 ^u	539 ^u	1,352 ^u
Austria	647 ^u	213 ^u	232 ^u	233	765
Belgium	400 ^u	112	200	199	517
France	540	151	242	197	638
Germany	487	152	268	206	644
Hungary	:	124 ^u	173 ^u	160 ^u	456 ^u
Ireland	358 ^u	156 ^u	301 ^u	274	646
Italy	376	95	178	209	479
Netherlands	407 ^u	165 ^u	186 ^u	220	577
Poland	347	118	214	212	541
Scandinavia ¹	514	255	251	280	762
Spain	383 ^u	181	173	199	544
Switzerland	:	243 ^u	431 ^u	329 ^u	883 ^u
United Kingdom	416	127	210	239	583
USA	:	417	333 ^u	249	890
Other	683	248	226	293	789
Total expenditure per capita	466	169	220	238	629

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

¹ Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Table 12. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by period of departure

Characteristics	January-February ³		
	2018	2019	2020
Total overnight cruise passengers	-	-	893
Sex			
Males	-	-	426
Females	-	-	467
Age group			
0-19	-	-	1
20-39	-	-	19
40-59	-	-	31
60-79	-	-	446
80 or more	-	-	396
Markets¹			
EU	-	-	14
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	-	-	11
Non-EU	-	-	879
<i>of which</i> : United Kingdom ²	-	-	874

¹ Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

² For 2018 and 2019 United Kingdom figures refer to the News Release: NR053/2019 (https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Documents/2019/News2019_053.pdf)

³ No overnight cruise passengers were recorded for the month of February for the years under review.

Methodological Notes

1. This release focuses on Inbound Tourism, which comprises of activities of non-resident visitors travelling to Malta (i.e. outside their usual environment) and staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for leisure, business or other (corresponding) purposes.
2. Inbound tourism trips are collected from an ongoing frontier national survey known as Tourstat. Tourist air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of the Malta International Airport. A two-stage sampling design is used to collect data on air passengers. In the first stage, alternate days and nights are selected. In the second stage, within each shift, a sample of air passengers is selected systematically. Every crossing air passenger is counted and respondents are selected using a pre-defined interval of 1:20.
3. Tourstat measures the number of tourist trips carried out during a particular reference month. These differ from the number of tourists in that the same person can make more than one trip during the same period.
4. Tourist sea departures are collected through a regular survey, conducted during three separate months every year at the Valletta Cruise Port. A quota sample is used to conduct sea passenger departures in which survey interviewers are guided to select people according to fixed quotas. Survey data is supplemented by administrative data provided by ferry operators.
5. Absolute and percentage changes between one survey estimate and another based on less than 1,500 tourists should be treated with caution and are represented in this news release by means of the dash symbol (-).
6. Owing to the UK's exit from the European Union (with effect from 1st February 2020), UK data is statistically classified as Non-EU from February 2020 in the tables relating to the specific month (Tables 1 and 5), and from January 2020 in the cumulative tables (Tables 6 and 12). Requests for further clarification may be directed to the Tourism and Education Statistics Unit.
7. Due to the UK's re-classification following exit from the European Union on 1st February 2020, comparability between monthly and cumulative tables and also between comparative periods should be treated with caution.
8. The monthly passenger departures data published by the Malta International Airport cannot be equated to the number of inbound tourists, because the former is inclusive of departing Maltese and transit passengers.
9. Data on cruise passengers who spent at least one night berthed on board their cruise ship in Malta ('Overnight Cruise Passengers') is compiled on the basis of administrative records supplied by Transport Malta.
10. Arrivals and nights spent in time-share accommodation are being categorised in 'Non-rented Accommodation' instead of 'Collective Accommodation' as per Eurostat recommendation. In this regard, there may be minor differences in these statistics and statistics published in tourism supply due to the fact that hotels report time-share accommodation under 'Collective Accommodation'.
11. Prior to comparing and interpreting differences between demand-side (based on Tourstat) and supply-side (based on Accomstat) tourism statistics, users are strongly advised to consult concept 8.3 of the NSO's metadata file (<http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=37>).
12. **Definitions:**
 - **Usual environment:** The geographical area, though not necessarily a contiguous one, within which an individual conducts his regular life routines and shall be determined on the basis of the following criteria: the crossing of administrative borders or the distance from the place of usual residence, the duration of visit, the frequency of visit, the purpose of visit.
 - **Resident:** a person is considered to be a resident of Malta/Gozo if:
 - a. S/he has lived for most of the past 12 months in Malta/Gozo;
 - b. S/he has lived in Malta/Gozo for less than 12 months but intends to return within a year to settle here.
 - **Traveller:** A person who moves between different geographic locations, for any purpose and any duration.
 - **Visitor:** The three fundamental criteria used to distinguish visitors from travellers are:
 - a. **The trip should be to a place other than that of the usual environment**, which would exclude short-distance local transport and commuting, i.e. more or less regular trips between the place of work/study and the place of residence;
 - b. **The stay in the place visited should not last more than twelve consecutive months**, beyond which the visitor would become a resident of that place (from the statistical standpoint);
 - c. **The main purpose of the visit should be other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited**, which would exclude migratory movements for work purposes.
 - **Tourist:** A visitor who stays at least one night in a rented and non-rented accommodation in the place/country visited.
 - **Inbound tourism:** Comprises the activities of non-resident visitors travelling to Malta (i.e. outside their usual environment) and staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for personal, business or other purposes.
 - **Total nights spent:** Nights which a guest actually spends or is registered to spend in a rented accommodation establishment or in a non-rented accommodation.
 - **Average length of stay:** The number of nights spent divided by the number of trips during a specified reference period.
 - **Rented accommodation:** Consists of the following two sub-categories:
 - a. **Collective accommodation:** comprises hotels, guesthouses, hostels, tourist villages, holiday complex, Bed & Breakfast and campsites.
 - b. **Other rented accommodation:** comprises holiday furnished premises (farmhouses, flats and villas), host families, marinas, paid-convents, rented yachts and student dormitories.
 - **Non-rented accommodation:** Comprises own private residence (owned dwellings, owned caravans and yachts), staying with friends or relatives (even if charged - includes also friends' private apartments) and other private accommodation (oil rig, free-convents or timeshare, etc.).

- **Total expenditure:** Refers to the amount that is going to be paid for the acquisition of consumption goods and services, as well as valuables during tourism trips. It includes expenditures by visitors themselves, as well as expenses that are paid for or reimbursed by others. The total expenditure is broken down by the following expenditure items:
 - a. **Package expenditure:** refers to the whole amount of money spent on transport, accommodation and other services such as rental of a car, activities or outings during the trip.
 - b. **Non-Package expenditure:** is the amount of money spent on transport and accommodation reported separately.
 - c. **Other expenditure:** is the amount spent on shopping, souvenirs, tickets for concerts or sports events, entrance to museums or zoos and day excursions during a tourism trip. It also includes durables and valuable goods, that is, the amount spent on cars, computers, paintings, jewellery and works of art.

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

Sources and methods: https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Pages/TOURSTAT-Survey.aspx

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

Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=37>

Statistical database: <http://nso.gov.mt/statdb/start>

14. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.

15. A detailed news release calendar is available on:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx