

25 February 2022 | 1100 hrs | 033/2022

Total guests in collective accommodation establishments during the fourth quarter of 2021 numbered 337,583 while total nights spent amounted to 1,541,728.

Collective Accommodation Establishments: Q4/2021

Cut-off date:
22 February 2022

In the fourth quarter of 2021, the largest share of guest nights was reported in 4-star hotels, with 46.4 per cent of the total (Tables 1 and 2).

The average length of stay, in collective accommodation establishments, went up to 4.6 nights in the fourth quarter of 2021 from the average of 3.9 nights registered during the same quarter of 2020. The net use of bed-places stood at 40.9 per cent, up by 27.4 percentage points when compared to the corresponding quarter of the previous year (Table 3).

On a national level, during December 2021, there were 213 active collective accommodation establishments with a net capacity of 17,468 bedrooms and 40,111 bed-places (Table 4).

Regional breakdown

On a regional level, total guests in Malta numbered 317,854 while number of nights spent stood at 1,487,668. Total guests and nights in Gozo and Comino increased to 19,729 and 54,060 respectively from 13,122 and 28,501 registered in 2020 (Tables 1 and 2).

When compared with the same quarter of the previous year, in Malta, the average length of stay went up by 0.6 of a night to 4.7 nights. In Gozo and Comino the average length of stay increased by 0.6 of a night to 2.7 nights. The net occupancy rate in Malta increased by 28.0 percentage points, reaching 41.2 per cent, and that in Gozo and Comino increased by 14.6 percentage points to 32.9 per cent (Table 3).

January-December 2021

Total guests for 2021 amounted to 981,993, an increase of 39.1 per cent over the same period in 2020 (Table 1). Total nights spent went up by 56.6 per cent, reaching 4,612,905 nights (Table 2). The net use of bed-places went up by 7.8 percentage points to 33.1 per cent (Table 3) ■

Statistics in this News Release should be interpreted in context of the COVID-19 situation.

Chart 1. Total guests and nights spent

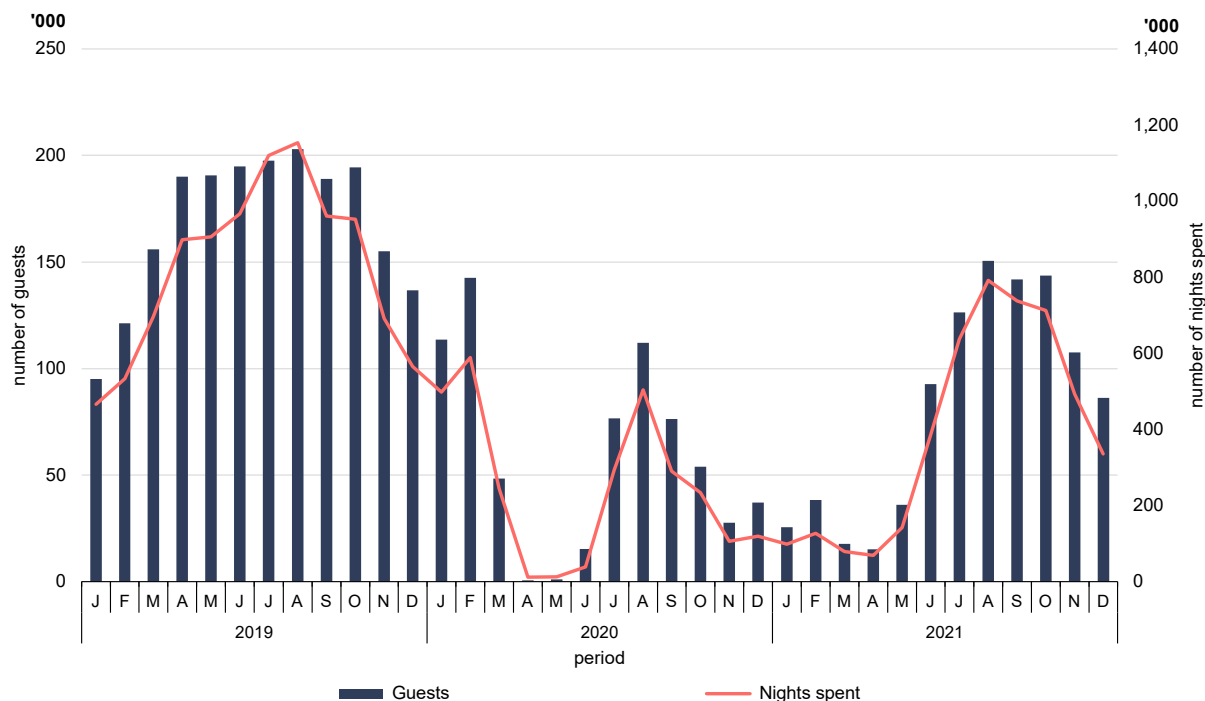


Table 1. Total guests (residents and non-residents) by type of accommodation, period and region

| Type of accommodation | July-September 2021 ¹ | October-December | | January-December | |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| | | 2020 | 2021 | 2020 | 2021 |
| MALTA | | | | | |
| Hotel | 376,941 | 107,521 | 304,498 | 646,624 | 886,248 |
| 5 Star | 82,680 | 26,744 | 69,451 | 137,280 | 205,071 |
| 4 Star | 187,668 | 51,040 | 148,952 | 331,255 | 434,690 |
| 3 Star | 96,573 | 26,639 | 76,411 | 159,886 | 222,557 |
| 2 Star | 10,020 | 3,098 | 9,684 | 18,203 | 23,930 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 41,770 | 11,338 | 33,085 | 59,090 | 95,745 |
| Total | 418,711 | 118,859 | 337,583 | 705,714 | 981,993 |
| Malta | | | | | |
| Hotel | 350,497 | 95,410 | 287,665 | 600,002 | 826,492 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| 5 Star | 74,336 | 22,211 | 64,152 | 121,965 | 185,563 |
| 4 Star | 176,199 | 46,819 | 142,124 | 313,273 | 410,234 |
| 3 Star | 92,081 | 24,411 | 73,154 | 150,483 | 211,841 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 36,800 | 10,327 | 30,189 | 53,518 | 85,857 |
| Total | 387,297 | 105,737 | 317,854 | 653,520 | 912,349 |
| Gozo and Comino | | | | | |
| Hotel | 26,444 | 12,111 | 16,833 | 46,622 | 59,756 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| 5 Star | 8,344 | 4,533 | 5,299 | 15,315 | 19,508 |
| 4 Star | 11,469 | 4,221 | 6,828 | 17,982 | 24,456 |
| 3 Star | 4,492 | 2,228 | 3,257 | 9,403 | 10,716 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 4,970 | 1,011 | 2,896 | 5,572 | 9,888 |
| Total | 31,414 | 13,122 | 19,729 | 52,194 | 69,644 |

¹ Revised.

² Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages.

Note: Monthly tables available on the excel version of this news release (Table 1a).

Table 2. Total nights spent (residents and non-residents) by type of accommodation, period and region

| Type of accommodation | July-September 2021 ¹ | October-December | | January-December | |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | | 2020 | 2021 | 2020 | 2021 |
| MALTA | | | | | |
| Hotel | 2,008,685 | 415,256 | 1,422,621 | 2,704,289 | 4,240,091 |
| 5 Star | 425,003 | 80,447 | 296,960 | 471,366 | 902,007 |
| 4 Star | 1,015,194 | 182,383 | 715,429 | 1,401,308 | 2,062,474 |
| 3 Star | 522,044 | 134,414 | 361,926 | 723,918 | 1,152,377 |
| 2 Star | 46,444 | 18,012 | 48,306 | 107,697 | 123,233 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 159,889 | 44,791 | 119,107 | 240,895 | 372,814 |
| Total | 2,168,574 | 460,047 | 1,541,728 | 2,945,184 | 4,612,905 |
| Malta | | | | | |
| Hotel | 1,922,370 | 389,221 | 1,375,004 | 2,584,951 | 4,069,026 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| 5 Star | 393,543 | 70,544 | 280,329 | 426,628 | 839,368 |
| 4 Star | 975,508 | 172,210 | 694,497 | 1,353,659 | 1,987,759 |
| 3 Star | 511,203 | 130,325 | 354,495 | 704,090 | 1,128,088 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 146,285 | 42,325 | 112,664 | 227,269 | 348,259 |
| Total | 2,068,655 | 431,546 | 1,487,668 | 2,812,220 | 4,417,285 |
| Gozo and Comino | | | | | |
| Hotel | 86,315 | 26,035 | 47,617 | 119,338 | 171,065 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| 5 Star | 31,460 | 9,903 | 16,631 | 44,738 | 62,639 |
| 4 Star | 39,686 | 10,173 | 20,932 | 47,649 | 74,715 |
| 3 Star | 10,841 | 4,089 | 7,431 | 19,828 | 24,289 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 13,604 | 2,466 | 6,443 | 13,626 | 24,555 |
| Total | 99,919 | 28,501 | 54,060 | 132,964 | 195,620 |

¹ Revised.

² Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages.

Note: Monthly tables available on the excel version of this news release ([Table 2a](#)).

Table 3. Net use of bed-places by type of accommodation, period and region

| Type of accommodation | July-September 2021 ¹ | October-December | | January-December | |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| | | | | per cent | |
| | | 2020 | 2021 | 2020 | 2021 |
| MALTA | | | | | |
| Hotel | 56.5 | 13.6 | 42.3 | 26.0 | 34.1 |
| 5 Star | 59.7 | 12.6 | 41.7 | 22.4 | 33.7 |
| 4 Star | 60.8 | 12.8 | 44.8 | 29.8 | 36.5 |
| 3 Star | 49.8 | 15.0 | 38.5 | 22.7 | 31.5 |
| 2 Star | 36.8 | 17.3 | 41.4 | 26.7 | 27.9 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 39.7 | 12.6 | 29.2 | 19.9 | 25.1 |
| Total | 54.8 | 13.5 | 40.9 | 25.4 | 33.1 |
| Malta | | | | | |
| Hotel | 56.1 | 13.3 | 42.5 | 25.9 | 34.0 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| 5 Star | 58.7 | 11.8 | 41.8 | 21.7 | 33.1 |
| 4 Star | 60.9 | 12.7 | 45.4 | 30.2 | 36.7 |
| 3 Star | 49.5 | 14.7 | 38.3 | 22.4 | 31.3 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 39.7 | 12.9 | 30.1 | 20.2 | 25.3 |
| Total | 54.5 | 13.2 | 41.2 | 25.3 | 33.1 |
| Gozo and Comino | | | | | |
| Hotel | 65.4 | 20.1 | 36.1 | 28.5 | 37.2 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| 5 Star | 75.2 | 23.7 | 39.7 | 34.4 | 43.9 |
| 4 Star | 59.6 | 15.3 | 31.4 | 22.3 | 31.9 |
| 3 Star | 69.9 | 31.7 | 48.0 | 38.9 | 46.7 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 40.1 | 9.5 | 19.9 | 15.9 | 23.0 |
| Total | 60.3 | 18.4 | 32.9 | 26.4 | 34.5 |

¹ Revised.

² Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages.

Note: Monthly tables available on the excel version of this news release ([Table 3a](#)).

Table 4. Number of establishments, net bedrooms and net bed-places by type of accommodation, period and region

| Type of accommodation | December | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | Establishments | | Bedrooms | | Bed-places | |
| | 2020 ¹ | 2021 | 2020 ¹ | 2021 | 2020 ¹ | 2021 |
| MALTA | | | | | | |
| Hotel | 101 | 119 | 13,972 | 15,837 | 31,638 | 35,668 |
| 5 Star | 15 | 17 | 3,375 | 3,721 | 7,030 | 7,731 |
| 4 Star | 36 | 40 | 6,247 | 7,245 | 14,244 | 16,638 |
| 3 Star | 38 | 46 | 3,887 | 4,435 | 9,312 | 10,297 |
| 2 Star | 12 | 16 | 463 | 436 | 1,052 | 1,002 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 74 | 94 | 1,341 | 1,631 | 3,773 | 4,443 |
| Total | 175 | 213 | 15,313 | 17,468 | 35,411 | 40,111 |
| Malta | | | | | | |
| Hotel | 89 | 106 | 13,313 | 15,162 | 30,231 | 34,235 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | | |
| 5 Star | 13 | 15 | 3,158 | 3,504 | 6,575 | 7,276 |
| 4 Star | 32 | 36 | 5,910 | 6,908 | 13,520 | 15,914 |
| 3 Star | 35 | 42 | 3,817 | 4,349 | 9,170 | 10,129 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 65 | 83 | 1,224 | 1,482 | 3,513 | 4,114 |
| Total | 154 | 189 | 14,537 | 16,644 | 33,744 | 38,349 |
| Gozo and Comino | | | | | | |
| Hotel | 12 | 13 | 659 | 675 | 1,407 | 1,433 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | | |
| 5 Star | 2 | 2 | 217 | 217 | 455 | 455 |
| 4 Star | 4 | 4 | 337 | 337 | 724 | 724 |
| 3 Star | 3 | 4 | 70 | 86 | 142 | 168 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 9 | 11 | 117 | 149 | 260 | 329 |
| Total | 21 | 24 | 776 | 824 | 1,667 | 1,762 |

¹ Revised.

² Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages.

Table 5. Non-resident guests by type of accommodation, period and region

| Type of accommodation | July-October 2021 ¹ | October-December | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | | 2020 | 2021 |
| MALTA | | | |
| Hotel | 300,970 | 56,550 | 245,733 |
| 5 Star | 58,485 | 10,271 | 50,604 |
| 4 Star | 149,266 | 29,243 | 120,803 |
| 3 Star | 85,545 | 15,474 | 66,645 |
| 2 Star | 7,674 | 1,562 | 7,681 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 34,866 | 6,041 | 28,084 |
| Total | 335,836 | 62,591 | 273,817 |
| Malta | | | |
| Hotel | 293,209 | 54,720 | 239,828 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | |
| 5 Star | 56,114 | 9,820 | 48,807 |
| 4 Star | 146,039 | 28,569 | 118,416 |
| 3 Star | 83,728 | 14,784 | 65,164 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 32,652 | 5,741 | 26,732 |
| Total | 325,861 | 60,461 | 266,560 |
| Gozo and Comino | | | |
| Hotel | 7,761 | 1,830 | 5,905 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | |
| 5 Star | 2,371 | 451 | 1,797 |
| 4 Star | 3,227 | 674 | 2,387 |
| 3 Star | 1,817 | 690 | 1,481 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 2,214 | 300 | 1,352 |
| Total | 9,975 | 2,130 | 7,257 |

¹ Revised.

² Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages.

Table 6. Resident guests by type of accommodation, period and region

| Type of accommodation | July-October 2021 ¹ | October-December | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| | | 2020 | 2021 |
| MALTA | | | |
| Hotel | 75,971 | 50,971 | 58,765 |
| 5 Star | 24,195 | 16,473 | 18,847 |
| 4 Star | 38,402 | 21,797 | 28,149 |
| 3 Star | 11,028 | 11,165 | 9,766 |
| 2 Star | 2,346 | 1,536 | 2,003 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 6,904 | 5,297 | 5,001 |
| Total | 82,875 | 56,268 | 63,766 |
| Malta | | | |
| Hotel | 57,288 | 40,690 | 47,837 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | |
| 5 Star | 18,222 | 12,391 | 15,345 |
| 4 Star | 30,160 | 18,250 | 23,708 |
| 3 Star | 8,353 | 9,627 | 7,990 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 4,148 | 4,586 | 3,457 |
| Total | 61,436 | 45,276 | 51,294 |
| Gozo and Comino | | | |
| Hotel | 18,683 | 10,281 | 10,928 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | |
| 5 Star | 5,973 | 4,082 | 3,502 |
| 4 Star | 8,242 | 3,547 | 4,441 |
| 3 Star | 2,675 | 1,538 | 1,776 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 2,756 | 711 | 1,544 |
| Total | 21,439 | 10,992 | 12,472 |

¹ Revised.

² Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages.

Table 7. Non-resident nights spent by type of accommodation, period and region

| Type of accommodation | July-October 2021 ¹ | October-December | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | | 2020 | 2021 |
| MALTA | | | |
| Hotel | 1,768,627 | 282,964 | 1,260,319 |
| 5 Star | 341,725 | 45,881 | 245,254 |
| 4 Star | 913,793 | 141,547 | 649,163 |
| 3 Star | 474,995 | 83,751 | 325,725 |
| 2 Star | 38,114 | 11,785 | 40,177 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 144,143 | 34,163 | 109,953 |
| Total | 1,912,770 | 317,127 | 1,370,272 |
| Malta | | | |
| Hotel | 1,731,338 | 276,058 | 1,236,116 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | |
| 5 Star | 327,754 | 43,839 | 236,802 |
| 4 Star | 896,695 | 138,326 | 638,168 |
| 3 Star | 469,668 | 82,164 | 321,597 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 136,479 | 33,179 | 106,327 |
| Total | 1,867,817 | 309,237 | 1,342,443 |
| Gozo and Comino | | | |
| Hotel | 37,289 | 6,906 | 24,203 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | |
| 5 Star | 13,971 | 2,042 | 8,452 |
| 4 Star | 17,098 | 3,221 | 10,995 |
| 3 Star | 5,327 | 1,587 | 4,128 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 7,664 | 984 | 3,626 |
| Total | 44,953 | 7,890 | 27,829 |

¹ Revised.

² Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages.

Table 8. Resident nights spent by type of accommodation, period and region

| Type of accommodation | July-October 2021 ¹ | October-December | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | | 2020 | 2021 |
| MALTA | | | |
| Hotel | 240,058 | 132,292 | 162,302 |
| 5 Star | 83,278 | 34,566 | 51,706 |
| 4 Star | 101,401 | 40,836 | 66,266 |
| 3 Star | 47,049 | 50,663 | 36,201 |
| 2 Star | 8,330 | 6,227 | 8,129 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 15,746 | 10,628 | 9,154 |
| Total | 255,804 | 142,920 | 171,456 |
| Malta | | | |
| Hotel | 191,032 | 113,163 | 138,888 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | |
| 5 Star | 65,789 | 26,705 | 43,527 |
| 4 Star | 78,813 | 33,884 | 56,329 |
| 3 Star | 41,535 | 48,161 | 32,898 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 9,806 | 9,146 | 6,337 |
| Total | 200,838 | 122,309 | 145,225 |
| Gozo and Comino | | | |
| Hotel | 49,026 | 19,129 | 23,414 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | |
| 5 Star | 17,489 | 7,861 | 8,179 |
| 4 Star | 22,588 | 6,952 | 9,937 |
| 3 Star | 5,514 | 2,502 | 3,303 |
| Other collective accommodation² | 5,940 | 1,482 | 2,817 |
| Total | 54,966 | 20,611 | 26,231 |

¹ Revised.

² Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages.

Methodological Notes

- The objective of the Survey on Collective Accommodation Establishments is to estimate the utilisation rate of bed-places of all active collective accommodation establishments in Malta and Gozo. The variables collected from the survey include:
 - Number of residents;
 - Number of non-residents;
 - Nights spent by residents;
 - Nights spent by non-residents;
 - Number of room nights sold to non-residents;
 - Number of room nights sold to residents;
 - Number of bedrooms;
 - Number of bed-places;
 - Number of days the establishment was closed during the month under review.

The collection of the above variables and the calculation of occupancy levels are in line with Regulation (EU) No. 692/2011.

- The survey is distributed monthly to all collective accommodation establishments, namely hotels, guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages.
- Response rates:

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| October 2020 | 96.5% | October 2021 | 91.1% |
| November 2020 | 95.9% | November 2021 | 89.8% |
| December 2020 | 94.4% | December 2021 | 90.0% |
- In this release, figures for July-September 2021 should be considered as a second estimate while those relating to October-December 2021 are a first estimate, therefore subject to revision in the ensuing release.
- The Malta Tourism Authority (MTA) classification of all accommodation categories are found in Legal Notice 351 of 2012. <http://justiceservices.gov.mt/DownloadDocument.aspx?app=lp&itemid=23956&l=1>
- Users are advised that comparisons between non-resident arrivals recorded in the Inbound Tourism survey (Tourstat, demand-side) and the Collective Accommodation survey (Accomstat, supply-side), should be undertaken in the knowledge that discrepancies will be found. These are mainly due to differences in definitions and methodologies. For more details, one can consult Concept 15.4 of the NSO's metadata file (<https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/reports.aspx?id=35>).
- In view of the COVID-19 situation, guests accommodated in any collective accommodation establishment, and for which their stay was related to health or safety reasons (not related to tourism purposes), have been considered out-of-scope for tourist accommodation statistics and therefore, not recorded for March 2020 -December 2021.
- Due to the COVID-19 situation the following tourism-related chronology of events happened:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 28th February | People flying in from Italy, China (including Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan, Iran, South Korea) from 26th February onwards needed to stay in quarantine for 14 days upon arrival. |
| 8th March | Flights from/to Milan were suspended. |
| 10th March | Flights from/to Italy were suspended. |
| 10th March | The last Cruise call. |
| 11th March | Flights from/to France, Switzerland, Germany, Spain, were suspended. |
| 11th March | People flying in from France, Switzerland, Germany, Spain, needed to stay in quarantine for 14 days upon arrival. |
| 13th March | All people flying in from all destinations needed to stay in quarantine for 14 days upon arrival. |
| 18th March | The last Virtu' Ferries service for passengers between Malta and Sicily. |
| 21st March | All flights from/to all destinations were suspended. |
| 1st July | Re-opening of Malta International Airport. The first group of destinations that reopened for travel comprised: Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Spain, Poland, Cyprus, Switzerland, Iceland, Slovakia, Norway, Denmark, Hungary, Finland, Ireland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Luxembourg, Czech Republic, Greece and Croatia. |
| 15th July | Restrictions on all other flight destinations were lifted. |
| 21st August | First cruise liner call since March 2020. |

Sources: Malta Tourism Authority, Virtu Ferries and Transport Malta

9. **Definitions:**

- **Bedroom:** a unit formed by one room or group of rooms constituting an indivisible rental whole in an accommodation establishment or dwelling.
- **Bed-place:** in an establishment, this is determined by the number of persons who can stay overnight in the establishment, not taking into account any extra beds that may be provided to clients on request.
- **Residents:** Maltese/Gozitan residents who check into/out of a collective accommodation establishment. A person is considered to be a Maltese/Gozitan resident 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.
- **Non-residents:** foreigners who do not necessarily follow the definition of a tourist and check into/out of a collective accommodation establishment.
- **Total guests:** the total number of residents and non-residents.
- **Total nights spent:** the total number of nights which guests actually spend or are registered to spend in a collective accommodation establishment.
- **Net use of bed-places:** the net occupancy rate calculated for all active accommodation establishments, net of seasonal closures and other temporary closures. The occupancy of bed-places is calculated by dividing the total nights during the reference period by the number of bed-places and the number of days when the bed-places are actually available for use during the reference period. The result is then multiplied by 100 to express the occupancy rate as a percentage.
- **Average length of stay:** this is calculated as follows:
$$\frac{\text{total number of nights}}{\text{total number of guests}}$$
- **Tourist:** a visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.

10. 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/Collective-Accommodation-Establishments.aspx

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

Metadata: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/reports.aspx?id=35>

Statistical Database: <https://statdb.nso.gov.mt/start>

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

12. A detailed news release calendar is available on:

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

European statistics data on collective accommodation by NACE Rev.2 are available at:

[EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Statistics Database](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en)

Data Navigation Tree

>Database by themes

>Industry, trade and services

>Tourism (t_tour)

>Monthly data on tourism industries (t_tour_indm)

>Annual data on tourism industries (t_tour_inda)

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