

2 May 2022 | 1100 hrs | 076/2022

Total cruise passenger traffic during the first quarter of 2022 amounted to 25,200.

Cruise Passengers: Q1/2022

There were 23 cruise liner calls during the first quarter of 2022, an increase of 14 when compared to the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Transit passengers accounted for the absolute majority of total traffic, reaching 24,559. On average, every vessel that berthed in Malta carried 1,096 passengers, 211 more than the previous year.

Passengers from EU Member States made up 79.1 per cent of total traffic. The major markets were Germany, accounting for 28.2 per cent of the total passengers, followed by Italy, with 18.3 per cent. The total number of passengers from Non-EU countries stood at 5,276, of whom 38.9 per cent came from the United States and 37.3 per cent came from the United Kingdom.

On a gender basis, female passengers made up 52.5 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) ■

Chart 1. Total cruise passenger traffic

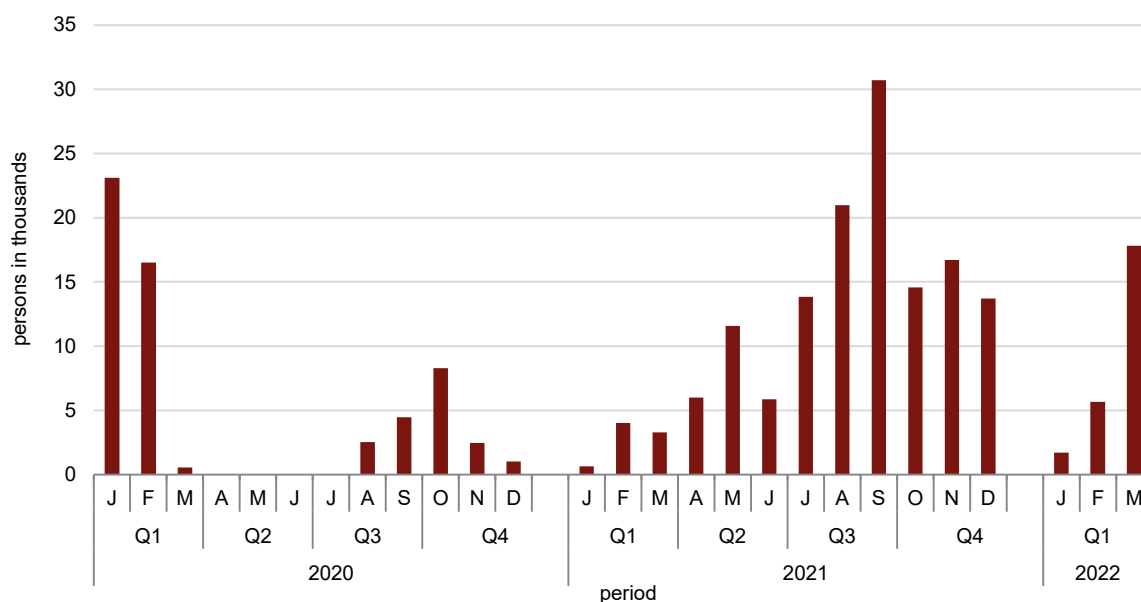


Table 1. Cruise passengers by period and passenger characteristics

Characteristics	January-March			Change
	2020	2021	2022	2022/2021
Total traffic¹:	40,175	7,966	25,200	17,234
Transit	40,116	7,963	24,559	16,596
Landed	59	3	641	638
<i>of which:</i>				
Passengers on cruise liners berthed in Gozo	-	-	-	-
Passengers staying overnight	893	-	1,680	-
Country of Nationality				
EU	21,512	7,545	19,924	12,379
<i>of which:</i>				
France	4,283	859	3,684	2,825
Germany	2,514	435	7,098	6,663
Italy	9,179	5,854	4,609	-1,245
Malta	2	5	146	141
Spain	2,287	73	2,660	2,587
Non-EU	18,663	421	5,276	4,855
<i>of which:</i>				
Australia	507	-	34	-
Canada	444	-	73	-
Japan	1,850	2	17	15
United Kingdom	2,879	4	1,969	1,965
United States	2,794	60	2,051	1,991
Sex:				
Males	18,925	3,864	11,958	8,094
Females	21,250	4,102	13,242	9,140
Age group:				
0-19	7,507	1,334	4,100	2,766
20-39	7,761	2,276	5,222	2,946
40-59	12,988	3,006	8,852	5,846
60-79	10,690	1,292	6,601	5,309
80+	1,229	58	425	367
Cruise liner calls²	9	9	23	14

¹ See methodological note 3.

² Owing to the COVID-19 situation, in 2020 there were no cruise liner calls from 10 March until 21 August.

Methodological Notes

1. The data in this release is compiled on the basis of administrative records supplied 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.
4. For clarity, embarkation figures for the period under review are being provided:

Embarkations	2020	2021	2022
January-March	46	-	1,735

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 in the Maltese Islands, either onboard the cruise ship or on land.
 - **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:
<https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/ConceptDetails.aspx?id=388>
 7. Any quotations from this news release are to be cited and/or referenced accordingly.
 8. A detailed news release calendar is available on:
https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx