

During the third quarter of 2020, sea transport between Malta and Gozo registered increases in trips and decreases in passengers and vehicles when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2019.

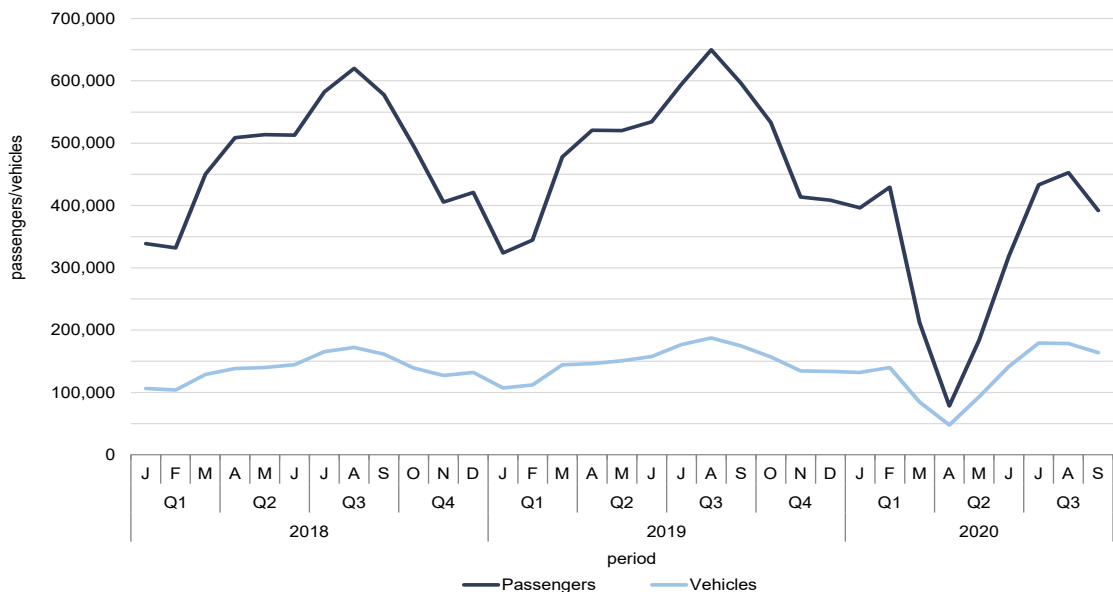
Sea Transport between Malta and Gozo: Q3/2020

A total of 1,278,474 passengers travelled between Malta and Gozo during the third quarter this year, down by 30.5 per cent when compared to the corresponding quarter in 2019. The highest number of passengers was recorded in August - 452,929 or 35.4 per cent of the total for the quarter. When comparing to the previous year, the number of vehicles decreased by 3.1 per cent, totalling 521,914 (Tables 1 and 2, Chart 1).

The number of trips amounted to 8,300, an increase of 0.7 per cent over the same period in 2019 (Table 1). The majority of trips took place in July - 2,790 or 33.6 per cent of total trips for the quarter (Table 2).

During January-September, passenger and vehicle traffic originating from Ċirkewwa was busiest on Fridays and Saturdays, whereas highest numbers from Mġarr were recorded on Sundays and Mondays (Charts 3 and 4) ■

Chart 1. Passengers and vehicles crossing between Malta and Gozo



Statistics in this News Release should be interpreted in context to the unprecedented developments and restrictions related to COVID-19.

Table 1. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by quarter

Quarter	2018	2019	2020	Change	Percentage change	
				2020/2019	2020/2019	
Trips	Jan-Mar	5,259	5,449	7,324	1,875	34.4
	Apr-Jun	5,776	6,289	5,334	-955	-15.2
	Jul-Sep	6,764	8,240	8,300	60	0.7
	Oct-Dec	5,820	7,653			
	Total	23,619	27,631			
Vehicles	Jan-Mar	339,266	363,460	356,997	-6,463	-1.8
	Apr-Jun	423,152	454,818	282,446	-172,372	-37.9
	Jul-Sep	498,888	538,864	521,914	-16,950	-3.1
	Oct-Dec	398,596	425,767			
	Total	1,659,902	1,782,909			
Passengers	Jan-Mar	1,121,001	1,146,490	1,038,142	-108,348	-9.5
	Apr-Jun	1,535,414	1,575,472	581,311	-994,161	-63.1
	Jul-Sep	1,780,474	1,840,575	1,278,474	-562,101	-30.5
	Oct-Dec	1,321,429	1,355,243			
	Total	5,758,318	5,917,780			

Chart 2. Passengers and vehicles to and from Malta and Gozo: July-September

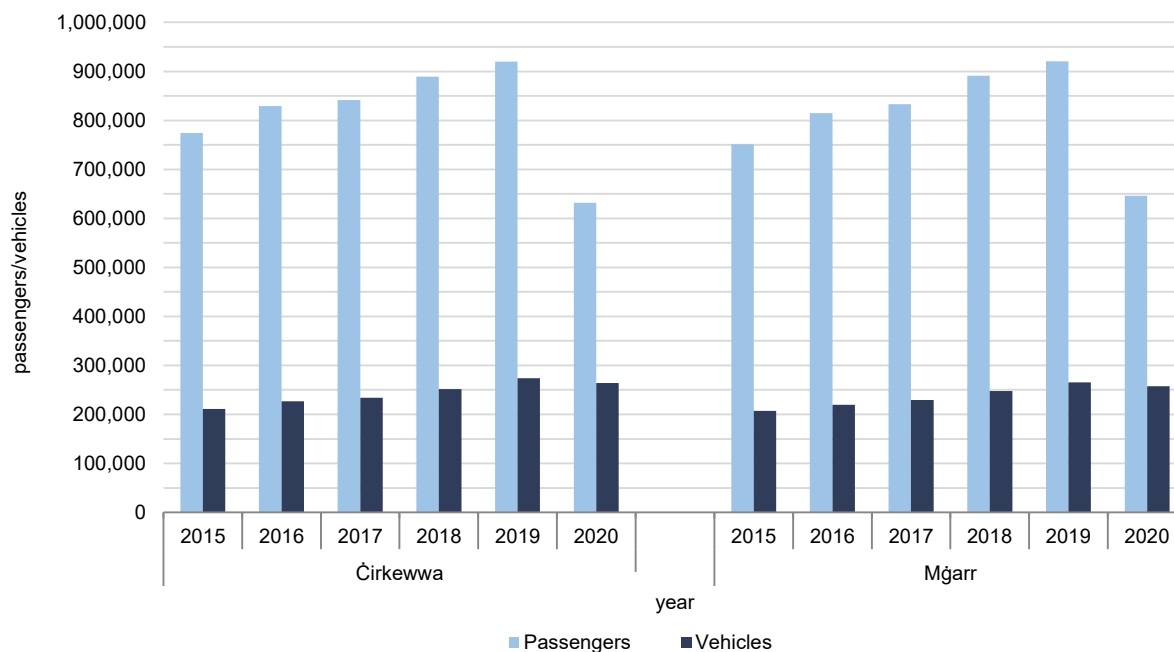


Table 2. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by month

Month	2018	2019	2020	Change	Percentage change	
				2020/2019	2020/2019	
Trips	January	1,771	1,739	2,454	715	41.1
	February	1,614	1,676	2,494	818	48.8
	March	1,874	2,034	2,376	342	16.8
	April	1,870	1,957	1,534	-423	-21.6
	May	1,898	2,014	1,664	-350	-17.4
	June	2,008	2,318	2,136	-182	-7.9
	July	2,252	2,716	2,790	74	2.7
	August	2,292	2,802	2,788	-14	-0.5
	September	2,220	2,722	2,722	0	0.0
	October	2,088	2,712			
	November	1,822	2,421			
	December	1,910	2,520			
	Total	23,619	27,631			
Vehicles	January	106,556	107,174	132,191	25,017	23.3
	February	103,893	112,014	139,905	27,891	24.9
	March	128,817	144,272	84,901	-59,371	-41.2
	April	138,464	146,216	47,805	-98,411	-67.3
	May	140,028	150,984	93,064	-57,920	-38.4
	June	144,660	157,618	141,577	-16,041	-10.2
	July	165,538	176,767	179,425	2,658	1.5
	August	172,120	187,536	178,527	-9,009	-4.8
	September	161,230	174,561	163,962	-10,599	-6.1
	October	138,973	157,109			
	November	127,404	134,764			
	December	132,219	133,894			
	Total	1,659,902	1,782,909			
Passengers	January	338,780	323,772	396,542	72,770	22.5
	February	331,858	344,773	429,259	84,486	24.5
	March	450,363	477,945	212,341	-265,604	-55.6
	April	508,880	520,755	78,407	-442,348	-84.9
	May	513,598	520,284	184,082	-336,202	-64.6
	June	512,936	534,433	318,822	-215,611	-40.3
	July	582,541	594,610	433,455	-161,155	-27.1
	August	620,042	649,878	452,929	-196,949	-30.3
	September	577,891	596,087	392,090	-203,997	-34.2
	October	494,964	533,020			
	November	405,514	413,684			
	December	420,951	408,539			
	Total	5,758,318	5,917,780			

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

Month	Ċirkewwa - Mgarr		Change	Percentage change	Mgarr - Ċirkewwa		Change	Percentage change	
	2019	2020	2020/2019	2020/2019	2019	2020	2020/2019	2020/2019	
Trips	January	869	1,227	358	41.2	870	1,227	357	41.0
	February	838	1,249	411	49.0	838	1,245	407	48.6
	March	1,017	1,187	170	16.7	1,017	1,189	172	16.9
	April	978	766	-212	-21.7	979	768	-211	-21.6
	May	1,007	832	-175	-17.4	1,007	832	-175	-17.4
	June	1,159	1,068	-91	-7.9	1,159	1,068	-91	-7.9
	July	1,358	1,395	37	2.7	1,358	1,395	37	2.7
	August	1,401	1,394	-7	-0.5	1,401	1,394	-7	-0.5
	September	1,362	1,361	-1	-0.1	1,360	1,361	1	0.1
	October	1,356				1,356			
	November	1,210				1,211			
	December	1,261				1,259			
	Total	13,816				13,815			
Vehicles	January	52,901	66,433	13,532	25.6	54,273	65,758	11,485	21.2
	February	57,189	71,525	14,336	25.1	54,825	68,380	13,555	24.7
	March	72,792	42,265	-30,527	-41.9	71,480	42,636	-28,844	-40.4
	April	74,407	24,238	-50,169	-67.4	71,809	23,567	-48,242	-67.2
	May	77,120	47,477	-29,643	-38.4	73,864	45,587	-28,277	-38.3
	June	80,304	71,934	-8,370	-10.4	77,314	69,643	-7,671	-9.9
	July	89,926	93,028	3,102	3.4	86,841	86,397	-444	-0.5
	August	96,782	89,296	-7,486	-7.7	90,754	89,231	-1,523	-1.7
	September	87,007	81,801	-5,206	-6.0	87,554	82,161	-5,393	-6.2
	October	80,150				76,959			
	November	68,681				66,083			
	December	69,015				64,879			
	Total	906,274				876,635			
Passengers	January	158,525	199,295	40,770	25.7	165,247	197,247	32,000	19.4
	February	173,170	217,473	44,303	25.6	171,603	211,786	40,183	23.4
	March	239,360	105,273	-134,087	-56.0	238,585	107,068	-131,517	-55.1
	April	262,868	39,831	-223,037	-84.8	257,887	38,576	-219,311	-85.0
	May	262,079	92,580	-169,499	-64.7	258,205	91,502	-166,703	-64.6
	June	269,203	159,891	-109,312	-40.6	265,230	158,931	-106,299	-40.1
	July	297,849	218,756	-79,093	-26.6	296,761	214,699	-82,062	-27.7
	August	327,485	220,719	-106,766	-32.6	322,393	232,210	-90,183	-28.0
	September	294,770	192,493	-102,277	-34.7	301,317	199,597	-101,720	-33.8
	October	267,441				265,579			
	November	206,789				206,895			
	December	206,125				202,414			
	Total	2,965,664				2,952,116			

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

Day of the week		January-September			Change	Percentage change
		2018	2019	2020	2020/2019	2020/2019
Trips	Monday	2,526	2,751	2,928	177	6.4
	Tuesday	2,477	2,783	2,924	141	5.1
	Wednesday	2,424	2,778	2,949	171	6.2
	Thursday	2,535	2,812	2,991	179	6.4
	Friday	2,639	3,003	3,155	152	5.1
	Saturday	2,463	2,806	2,917	111	4.0
	Sunday	2,735	3,045	3,094	49	1.6
	Total	17,799	19,978	20,958	980	4.9
Vehicles	Monday	176,476	186,066	164,341	-21,725	-11.7
	Tuesday	165,312	180,433	151,582	-28,851	-16.0
	Wednesday	166,710	181,585	159,346	-22,239	-12.2
	Thursday	174,066	186,372	166,369	-20,003	-10.7
	Friday	197,525	212,318	188,870	-23,448	-11.0
	Saturday	184,789	201,947	160,701	-41,246	-20.4
	Sunday	196,428	208,421	170,148	-38,273	-18.4
	Total	1,261,306	1,357,142	1,161,357	-195,785	-14.4
Passengers	Monday	601,487	606,934	400,164	-206,770	-34.1
	Tuesday	556,716	581,304	352,759	-228,545	-39.3
	Wednesday	591,062	613,557	381,635	-231,922	-37.8
	Thursday	609,078	617,563	402,664	-214,899	-34.8
	Friday	667,793	686,489	459,136	-227,353	-33.1
	Saturday	694,812	729,728	423,506	-306,222	-42.0
	Sunday	715,941	726,962	478,063	-248,899	-34.2
	Total	4,436,889	4,562,537	2,897,927	-1,664,610	-36.5

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

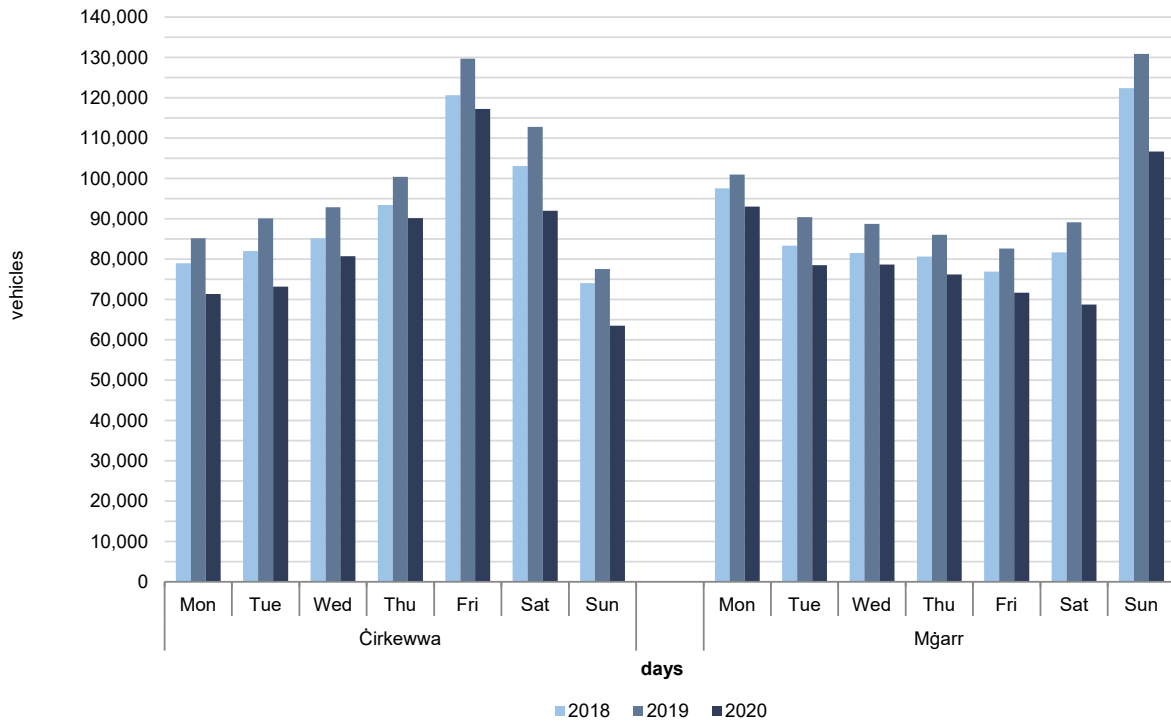
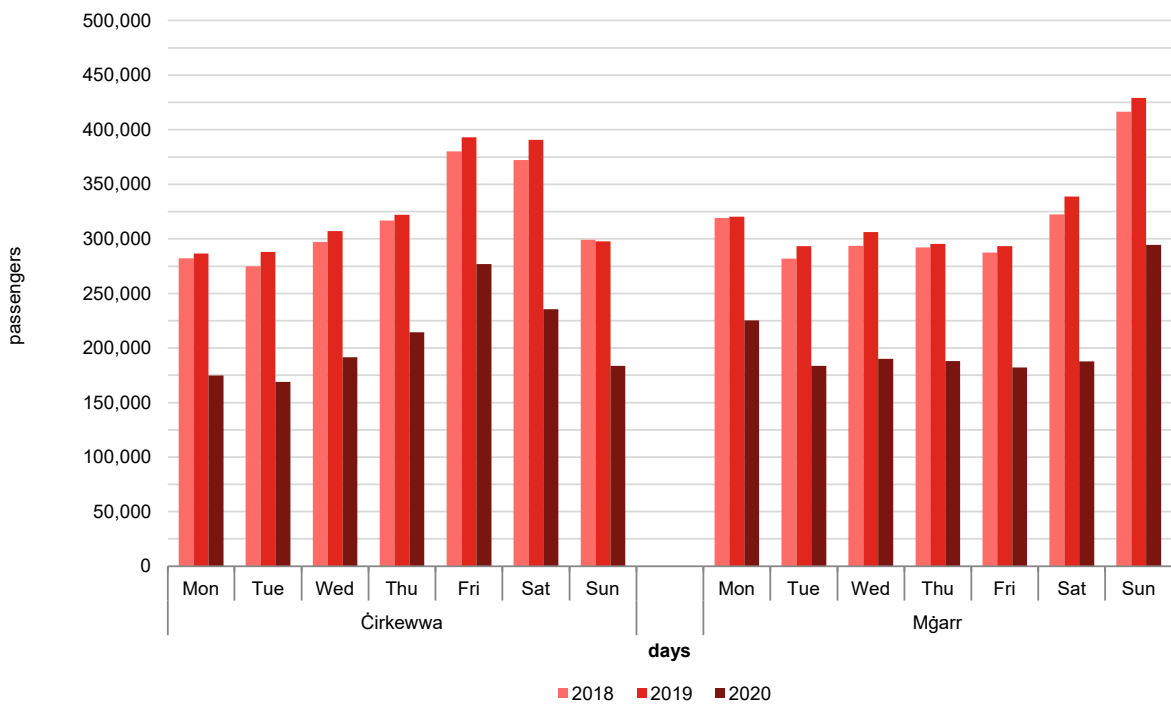


Chart 4. Passengers to and from Malta and Gozo by day of the week: January-September



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 puposes:

MV Malita: 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: 08/01/2018 - 30/01/2018, 06/01/2020-10/02/2020

MV Nikolaos started operating on 13/06/2019

MV Nikolaos was put temporarily out of service as from 27/04/2020 until 02/07/2020

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. 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 is 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

Tables are available on the online version of this news release in Excel format at:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/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