

During the second quarter of 2021, sea transport between Malta and Gozo registered increases in trips, passengers, and vehicles when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2020.

Sea Transport between Malta and Gozo: Q2/2021

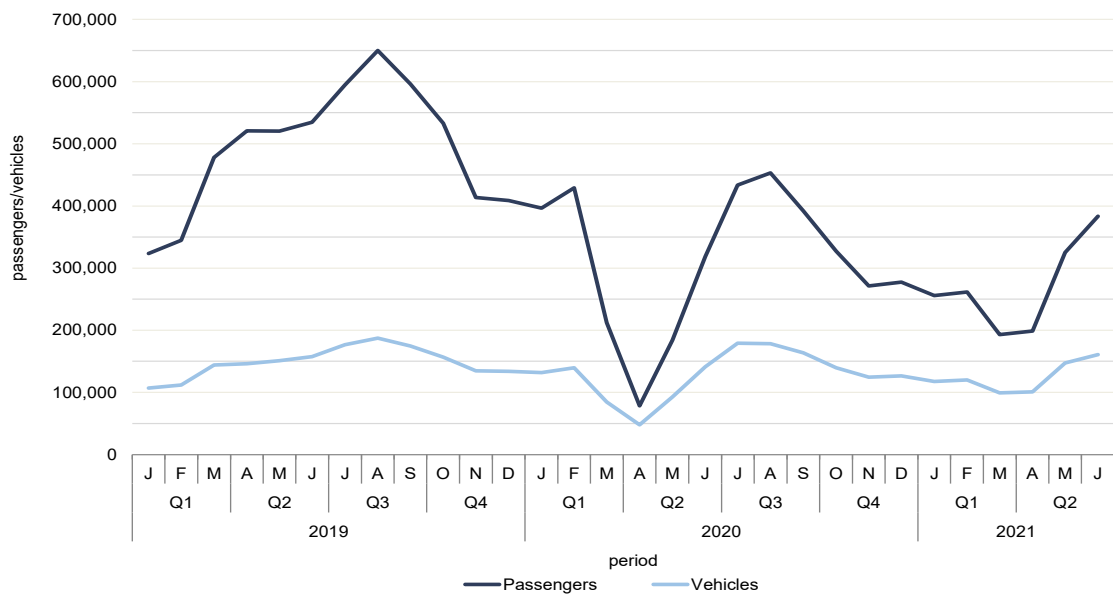
A total of 907,453 passengers travelled between Malta and Gozo during the second quarter of 2021, an increase of 56.1 per cent when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2020. The highest number of passengers was recorded in June - 383,386 or 42.2 per cent of the total for the quarter. When compared to quarter two of 2020, the number of vehicles increased by 45.0 per cent, totalling 409,569 (Tables 1 and 2, Chart 1).

The number of trips amounted to 7,255, an increase of 36.0 per cent over the same period in 2020 (Table 1). The majority of trips took place in June - 2,717 or 37.5 per cent of total trips for the quarter (Table 2).

During January-June, both passenger and vehicle traffic originating from Ċirkewwa was busiest on Fridays and Saturdays. On the other hand, from the Mġarr terminal, passenger and vehicle traffic was highest on Sundays followed by 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.

Data on the fast ferry service which commenced on 1st June 2021 is not included in this News Release. Refer to methodological note 2.

Table 1. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by quarter

Quarter		2019	2020	2021	Change	Percentage change
					2021/2020	2021/2020
Trips	Q1	5,449	7,324	6,139	-1,185	-16.2
	Q2	6,289	5,334	7,255	1,921	36.0
	Q3	8,240	8,300			
	Q4	7,653	8,094			
	Total	27,631	29,052			
Vehicles	Q1	363,460	356,997	336,816	-20,181	-5.7
	Q2	454,818	282,446	409,569	127,123	45.0
	Q3	538,864	521,914			
	Q4	425,767	390,781			
	Total	1,782,909	1,552,138			
Passengers	Q1	1,146,490	1,038,142	710,749	-327,393	-31.5
	Q2	1,575,472	581,311	907,453	326,142	56.1
	Q3	1,840,575	1,278,474			
	Q4	1,355,243	876,054			
	Total	5,917,780	3,773,981			

Chart 2. Passengers and vehicles to and from Malta and Gozo: April-June

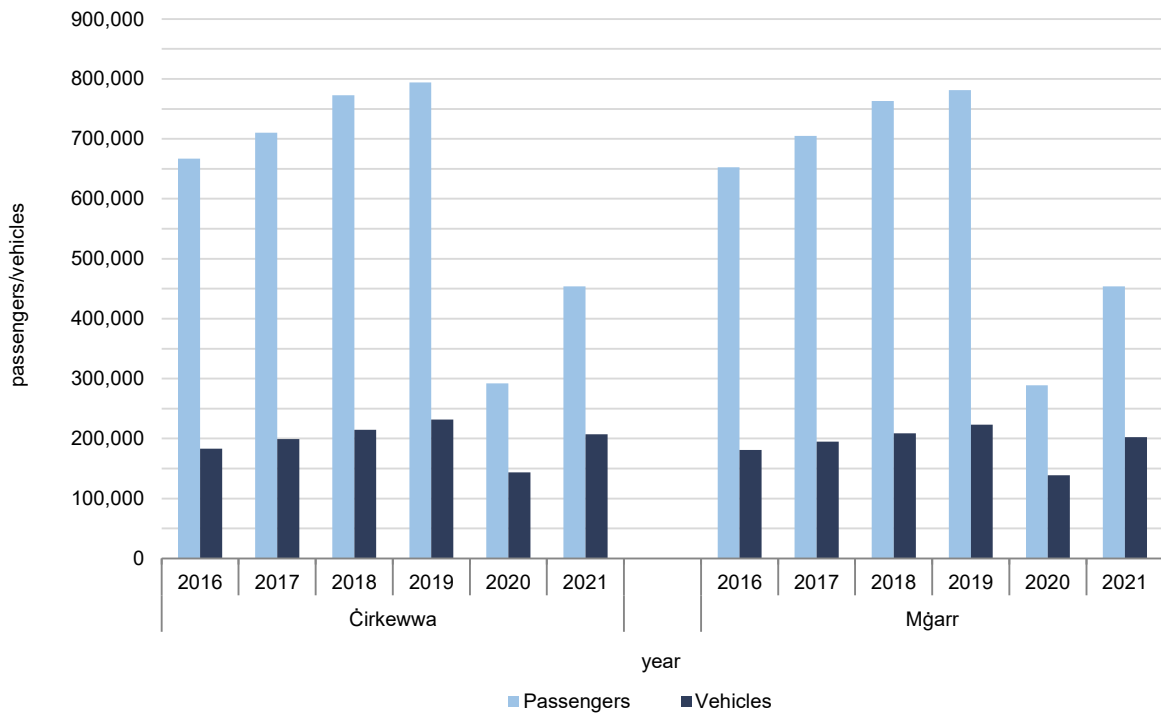


Table 2. Sea transport between Malta and Gozo by month

Month	2019	2020	2021	Change	Percentage change	
				2021/2020	2021/2020	
Trips	January	1,739	2,454	2,090	-364	-14.8
	February	1,676	2,494	1,939	-555	-22.3
	March	2,034	2,376	2,110	-266	-11.2
	April	1,957	1,534	2,034	500	32.6
	May	2,014	1,664	2,504	840	50.5
	June	2,318	2,136	2,717	581	27.2
	July	2,716	2,790			
	August	2,802	2,788			
	September	2,722	2,722			
	October	2,712	2,760			
	November	2,421	2,642			
	December	2,520	2,692			
	Total	27,631	29,052			
Vehicles	January	107,174	132,191	117,519	-14,672	-11.1
	February	112,014	139,905	119,878	-20,027	-14.3
	March	144,272	84,901	99,419	14,518	17.1
	April	146,216	47,805	101,106	53,301	111.5
	May	150,984	93,064	147,322	54,258	58.3
	June	157,618	141,577	161,141	19,564	13.8
	July	176,767	179,425			
	August	187,536	178,527			
	September	174,561	163,962			
	October	157,109	139,860			
	November	134,764	124,499			
	December	133,894	126,422			
	Total	1,782,909	1,552,138			
Passengers	January	323,772	396,542	255,979	-140,563	-35.4
	February	344,773	429,259	261,636	-167,623	-39.0
	March	477,945	212,341	193,134	-19,207	-9.0
	April	520,755	78,407	198,964	120,557	153.8
	May	520,284	184,082	325,103	141,021	76.6
	June	534,433	318,822	383,386	64,564	20.3
	July	594,610	433,455			
	August	649,878	452,929			
	September	596,087	392,090			
	October	533,020	327,214			
	November	413,684	271,499			
	December	408,539	277,341			
	Total	5,917,780	3,773,981			

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

Month	Ċirkewwa - Mġarr		Change Percentage change		Mġarr - Ċirkewwa		Change Percentage change	
	2020	2021	2021/2020	2021/2020	2020	2021	2021/2020	2021/2020
Trips								
January	1,227	1,045	-182	-14.8	1,227	1,045	-182	-14.8
February	1,249	969	-280	-22.4	1,245	970	-275	-22.1
March	1,187	1,055	-132	-11.1	1,189	1,055	-134	-11.3
April	766	1,017	251	32.8	768	1,017	249	32.4
May	832	1,253	421	50.6	832	1,251	419	50.4
June	1,068	1,358	290	27.2	1,068	1,359	291	27.2
July	1,395				1,395			
August	1,394				1,394			
September	1,361				1,361			
October	1,380				1,380			
November	1,321				1,321			
December	1,346				1,346			
Total	14,526				14,526			
Vehicles								
January	66,433	57,777	-8,656	-13.0	65,758	59,742	-6,016	-9.1
February	71,525	60,569	-10,956	-15.3	68,380	59,309	-9,071	-13.3
March	42,265	50,526	8,261	19.5	42,636	48,893	6,257	14.7
April	24,238	51,166	26,928	111.1	23,567	49,940	26,373	111.9
May	47,477	74,198	26,721	56.3	45,587	73,124	27,537	60.4
June	71,934	81,664	9,730	13.5	69,643	79,477	9,834	14.1
July	93,028				86,397			
August	89,296				89,231			
September	81,801				82,161			
October	71,481				68,379			
November	60,877				63,622			
December	65,450				60,972			
Total	785,805				766,333			
Passengers								
January	199,295	124,175	-75,120	-37.7	197,247	131,804	-65,443	-33.2
February	217,473	131,298	-86,175	-39.6	211,786	130,338	-81,448	-38.5
March	105,273	97,122	-8,151	-7.7	107,068	96,012	-11,056	-10.3
April	39,831	101,177	61,346	154.0	38,576	97,787	59,211	153.5
May	92,580	160,611	68,031	73.5	91,502	164,492	72,990	79.8
June	159,891	191,899	32,008	20.0	158,931	191,487	32,556	20.5
July	218,756				214,699			
August	220,719				232,210			
September	192,493				199,597			
October	164,461				162,753			
November	130,497				141,002			
December	140,308				137,033			
Total	1,881,577				1,892,404			

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

Day of the week		January-June			Change	Percentage change
		2019	2020	2021	2021/2020	2021/2020
Trips	Monday	1,538	1,756	1,911	155	8.8
	Tuesday	1,644	1,758	1,895	137	7.8
	Wednesday	1,641	1,725	1,898	173	10.0
	Thursday	1,666	1,821	1,815	-6	-0.3
	Friday	1,766	1,921	2,066	145	7.5
	Saturday	1,665	1,789	1,766	-23	-1.3
	Sunday	1,818	1,888	2,043	155	8.2
	Total	11,738	12,658	13,394	736	5.8
Vehicles	Monday	105,349	89,301	101,082	11,781	13.2
	Tuesday	110,698	83,227	100,525	17,298	20.8
	Wednesday	112,045	85,000	102,940	17,940	21.1
	Thursday	113,413	92,092	101,853	9,761	10.6
	Friday	127,587	104,415	121,132	16,717	16.0
	Saturday	123,115	90,775	110,070	19,295	21.3
	Sunday	126,071	94,633	108,783	14,150	15.0
	Total	818,278	639,443	746,385	106,942	16.7
Passengers	Monday	338,119	218,662	213,365	-5,297	-2.4
	Tuesday	350,860	191,988	209,129	17,141	8.9
	Wednesday	374,916	205,886	216,533	10,647	5.2
	Thursday	368,905	228,380	206,460	-21,920	-9.6
	Friday	413,253	258,860	254,793	-4,067	-1.6
	Saturday	437,458	243,642	250,803	7,161	2.9
	Sunday	438,451	272,035	267,119	-4,916	-1.8
	Total	2,721,962	1,619,453	1,618,202	-1,251	-0.1

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

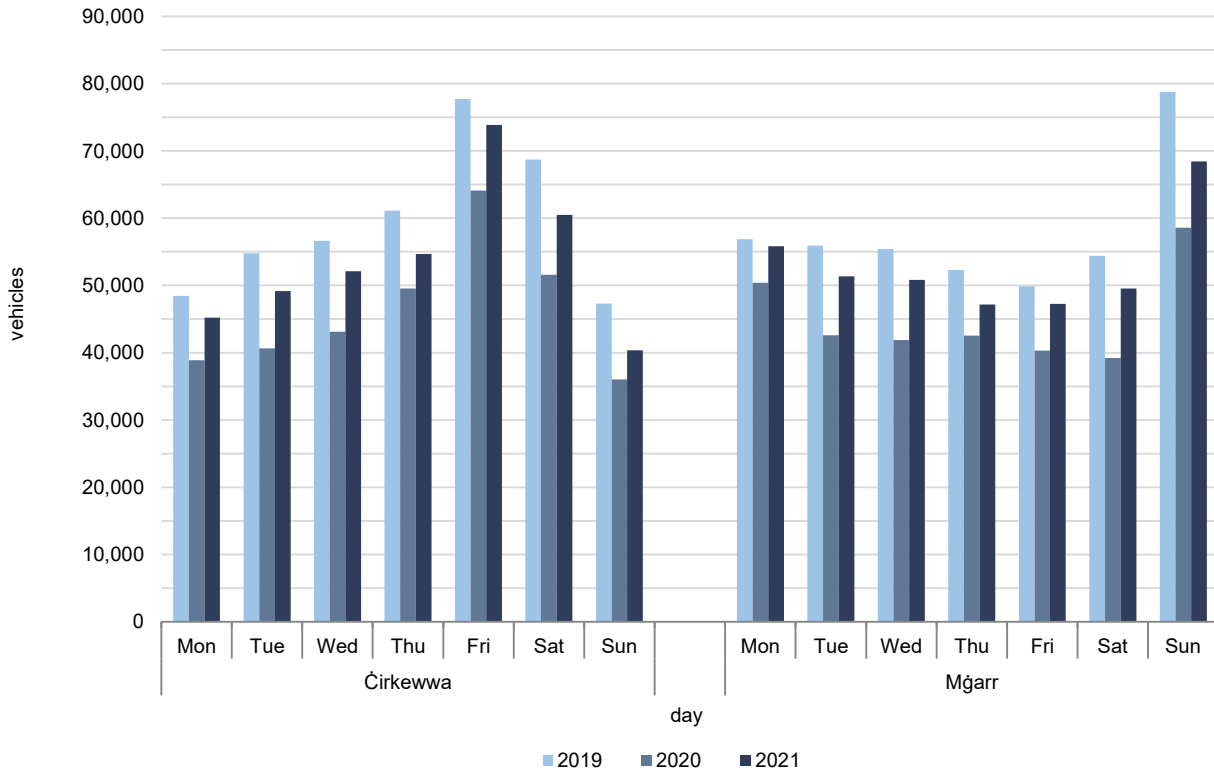
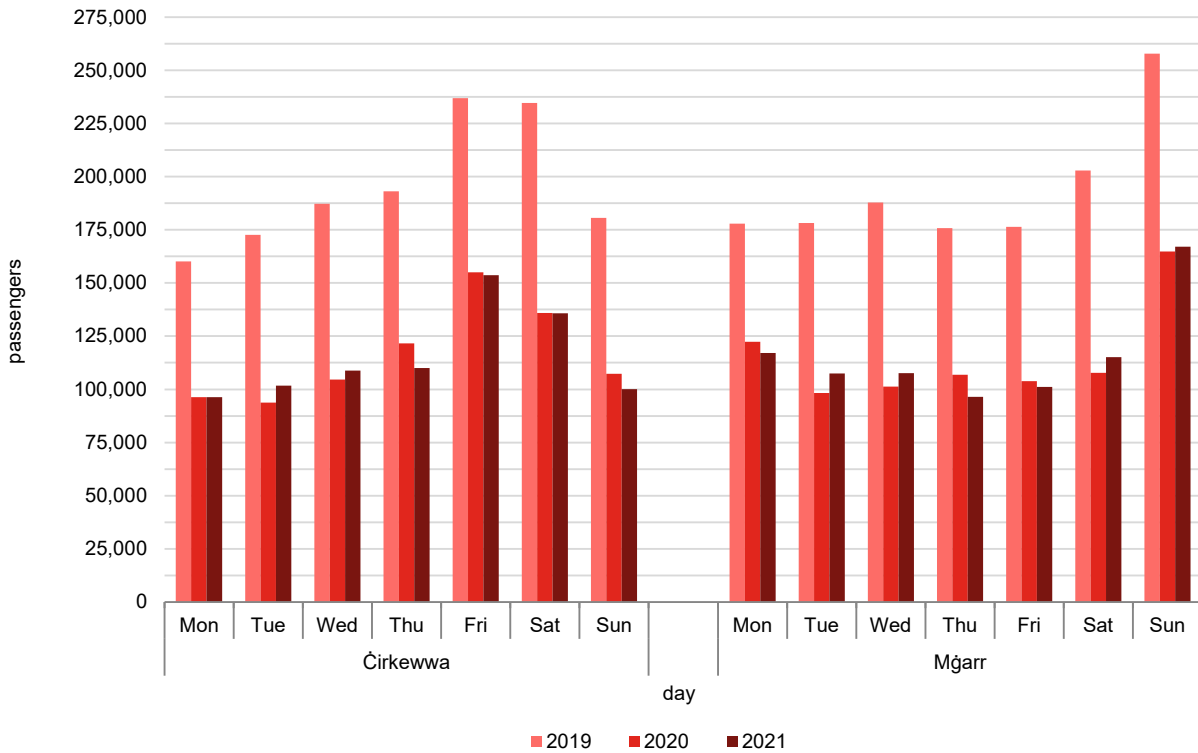


Chart 4. Passengers to and from Malta and Gozo by day of the week: January-June



Methodological Notes

1. The source for the data included in this release is administrative information provided by the Gozo Channel Co. Ltd.
2. This news release only includes data provided by the Gozo Channel Co. Ltd. and data on the fast ferry service which commenced on 1st June 2021 is not included. NSO is currently in discussions with Transport Malta to be provided with the data on the fast ferry service which will be published retrospectively once it will be made available to NSO. Subsequently, NSO will also discuss with the respective operators and will seek their consent or otherwise.
3. The table below illustrates the vehicle and passenger 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: 04/01/2021 - 11/02/2021

MV Malita: 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: 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.

4. Data for passengers comprise: foot and vehicle passengers and vehicle drivers.
5. Different approaches to data collection are being applied at the Mġarr and Ċirkewwa harbours. Data source for the Mġarr side includes Automated Ticketing System (ATS), while on the other hand data for the Ċirkewwa side is dependent on the manual clicking system.
6. The data is not normally subject to revisions.
7. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
8. 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

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