

Total cruise passenger traffic during the third quarter of 2022 amounted to 223,480.

Cruise Passengers: Q3/2022

There were 97 cruise liner calls during the third quarter of 2022, an increase of 53 when compared to the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Transit passengers accounted for the absolute majority of total traffic, reaching 182,889. On average, every vessel that berthed in Malta carried 2,304 passengers, 815 more when compared to the same period in 2021.

Passengers from EU Member States comprised 63.9 per cent of total traffic. The major markets were Italy, accounting for 22.3 per cent of the total passengers, followed by Germany, with 20.5 per cent. The total number of passengers from Non-EU countries stood at 80,615, of whom 56.7 per cent came from the United Kingdom and 22.1 per cent came from the United States.

On a gender basis, female passengers made up 53.0 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 (Table 1).

January-September 2022

During the first three quarters of the year, total cruise passengers stood at 386,018. Of these, 59.5 per cent came from EU Member States.

The majority of the passengers were females amounting to 205,116 equivalent to 53.1 per cent of the total. Most passengers were between 40 and 59 years old, totalling 137,343. These were followed by passengers aged 60-79 years, reaching 107,654.

There were 222 cruise liner calls in the first three quarters of 2022, with an average of 1,739 passengers per vessel, compared to 72 calls and an average of 1,346 passengers per vessel in the comparative period of 2021 (Table 2) ■

Chart 1. Total cruise passenger traffic

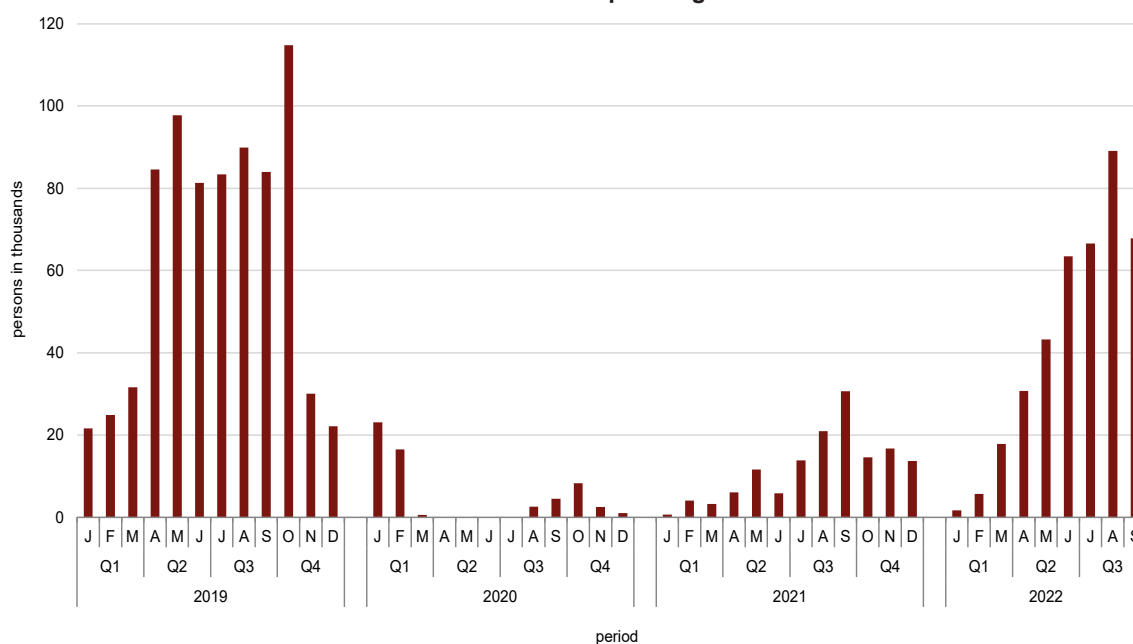


Table 1. Cruise passengers by period and passenger characteristics

Characteristics	July-September				Change
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022/2021
Total traffic¹:	257,178	7,018	65,520	223,480	157,960
Transit	191,469	7,016	58,391	182,889	124,498
Landed	65,709	2	7,129	40,591	33,462
<i>of which:</i>					
Passengers on cruise liners berthed in Gozo	5,588	-	2,857	1,838	-1,019
Passengers staying overnight	4,449	-	5,705	13,146	7,441
Country of Nationality					
EU	169,598	6,802	56,810	142,865	86,055
<i>of which:</i>					
France	8,004	651	6,770	8,988	2,218
Germany	55,929	246	3,199	45,921	42,722
Italy	17,695	5,534	32,691	49,810	17,119
Malta	7,443	-	2,610	8,236	5,626
Spain	16,288	74	6,909	17,965	11,056
United Kingdom	48,128	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Non-EU	87,580	216	8,710	80,615	71,905
<i>of which:</i>					
Australia	8,198	-	3	1,131	1,128
Canada	11,420	-	30	3,476	3,446
Japan	1,163	4	43	210	167
United Kingdom	n/a	14	1,681	45,730	44,049
United States	42,721	3	5,179	17,855	12,676
Sex:					
Males	118,683	3,423	31,560	105,123	73,563
Females	138,495	3,595	33,960	118,357	84,397
Age group:					
0-19	38,643	1,564	13,671	44,500	30,829
20-39	37,302	2,098	15,605	44,030	28,425
40-59	91,805	2,462	20,070	81,238	61,168
60-79	82,909	815	14,919	51,308	36,389
80+	6,519	79	1,255	2,404	1,149
Cruise liner calls²	122	7	44	97	53

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.

Table 2. Cruise passengers by period and passenger characteristics

Characteristics	January-September				Change
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022/2021
Total traffic¹:	598,837	47,193	96,923	386,018	289,095
Transit	479,993	47,132	89,789	320,815	231,026
Landed	118,844	61	7,134	65,203	58,069
<i>of which:</i>					
Passengers on cruise liners berthed in Gozo	8,009	-	2,857	2,656	-201
Passengers staying overnight	12,868	893	6,815	35,951	29,136
Country of Nationality					
EU	393,659	28,314	86,617	229,832	143,215
<i>of which:</i>					
France	31,022	4,934	9,791	21,770	11,979
Germany	115,146	2,760	5,741	77,324	71,583
Italy	64,053	14,713	54,500	72,407	17,907
Malta	10,132	2	2,615	9,909	7,294
Spain	31,289	2,361	7,223	27,070	19,847
United Kingdom	102,893	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Non-EU	205,178	18,879	10,306	156,186	145,880
<i>of which:</i>					
Australia	20,815	507	4	1,727	1,723
Canada	21,333	444	37	4,940	4,903
Japan	6,692	1,854	47	260	213
United Kingdom	n/a	2,893	1,717	93,553	91,836
United States	86,504	2,797	5,276	35,455	30,179
Sex:					
Males	275,543	22,348	46,694	180,902	134,208
Females	323,294	24,845	50,229	205,116	154,887
Age group:					
0-19	79,085	9,071	20,145	65,562	45,417
20-39	82,761	9,859	24,219	69,868	45,649
40-59	195,793	15,450	31,271	137,343	106,072
60-79	221,641	11,505	19,747	107,654	87,907
80+	19,557	1,308	1,541	5,591	4,050
Cruise liner calls²	273	16	72	222	150

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	2019	2020	2021	2022
July-September	65,850	61	5,873	40,384
January-September	117,560	107	5,873	64,502

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