

# News Release



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## Tourism

### Outbound Tourism: October 2006

*Outbound tourists during the month of October amounted to 19,276, bringing the total for the period January-October 2006 to 216,866. Of these 86.4 per cent travelled by air, while 13.6 per cent travelled by sea.*

### October 2006

Maltese passengers during the month of October reached a total of 19,276. Over 16,000 outbound tourists left for European destinations, primarily Italy and the UK.

### January-October 2006

During the first ten months of the year, the number of Maltese passengers departing by air and sea amounted to 216,866, a 12.2 per cent increase over the same period a year ago.

In the period under review, the most frequent destination was Italy, accounting for 31.3 per cent of the total number of Maltese travelling abroad by both air and sea.

In the first ten months of the year, male outbound passengers significantly exceeded female ones, the former accounting for 59.8 per cent of the total number of Maltese travellers.

The greatest proportion of outbound passengers - 46.4 per cent - comprise passengers aged between 25 and 44 years, followed by those in the 45-64 age bracket ■

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Table 1. Outbound passengers: October

persons				
	October		Absolute change	Percentage change
	2005	2006	2006/2005	2006/2005
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,669</b>	<b>19,276</b>	<b>5,607</b>	<b>41.0</b>
Transport:				
Air	12,365	17,337	4,972	40.2
Sea	1,304	1,939	635	48.7
Destination:				
EU	11,492	16,115	4,623	40.2
Italy	4,590	6,588	1,998	43.5
UK	3,040	4,069	1,029	33.8
Non-EU	2,177	3,161	984	45.2
Sex:				
Males	8,051	12,457	4,406	54.7
Females	5,618	6,819	1,201	21.4
Age group:				
0-24	1,075	1,440	365	34.0
25-44	7,034	8,614	1,580	22.5
45-64	5,058	8,175	3,117	61.6
65+	502	1,047	545	108.6

Table 2. Outbound passengers: January-October

persons				
	January-October		Absolute change	Percentage change
	2005	2006	2006/2005	2006/2005
	<b>Total</b>	<b>193,238</b>	<b>216,866</b>	<b>23,628</b>
Transport:				
Air	170,085	187,335	17,250	10.1
Sea	23,153	29,531	6,378	27.5
Destination:				
EU	149,346	178,688	29,342	19.6
Italy	59,585	67,882	8,297	13.9
UK	38,143	47,596	9,453	24.8
Non-EU	43,892	38,178	-5,714	-13.0
Sex:				
Males	115,411	129,769	14,358	12.4
Females	77,827	87,097	9,270	11.9
Age group:				
0-24	21,247	18,788	-2,459	-11.6
25-44	86,587	100,545	13,958	16.1
45-64	76,806	88,323	11,517	15.0
65+	8,598	9,210	612	7.1

## Methodological Notes

1. Maltese air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of Malta International Airport. A two-stage sample design is used for this survey. At the first stage alternate days are selected. Then within each shift a sample of passengers is selected systematically. Personal interviews are carried out. Monthly response rates of around 90 per cent are achieved.
2. Maltese sea departures are collected through a regular survey that is carried out at the seaport. Ferry sailings on every alternate day are selected. Departing passengers are interviewed personally. On average a response rate of 93 per cent is recorded for this survey.
3. The survey which is carried out at the seaport commenced in April 2004. No data for Maltese sea departures is available for the period January-March 2004.
4. The variables with respect to Maltese departures that are collected in this survey include the following:  
Age  
Sex  
Destination
5. The surveys carried out at the airport and the seaport are grossed up using the monthly passenger departures data in respect of each port after removing the number of transit passengers from the data sets.
6. Definitions  
  
*Outbound tourism* comprises the activities of residents of a given country travelling to and staying in places outside that country and outside their usual environment.  
  
*Usual environment* consists of the direct vicinity of his/her home and place of work and other places frequently visited.
7. The data in this release are not normally subject revision.