

Transport Statistics – Malta

Challenges, Improvements and Future Projects

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General Overview

What statistics do we compile and publish?...

Sea Transport

- Number and tonnage of vessels entered /cleared classified by type, nationality, country of origin /destination
- Number and tonnage of vessels entered/cleared classified by range of gross tonnage and duration of stay in harbour
- Foreign yachts arriving in Malta and Yacht Marinas berthing capacity
- Stock of fishing vessels by type of vessels, length group, construction material, age group, primary engine fuel, etc
- Cruise passenger transits, embarkations, landings
- Sea transport between Malta and Gozo
- Gross tonnage of cargo loaded and unloaded

Air Transport

- Passenger movements by country and region
- Mail and cargo movements



General Overview

...What statistics do we compile and publish?

Road Transport

- Stock of licensed motor vehicles by vehicle category, engine capacity/GVW and motor energy type
- Average age of motor vehicles
- Transport-related contraventions
- Driving licence holders by sex and age group
- Road Traffic Accidents Injury and Non-Injury
- Road Traffic Casualties by injury type, sex, age group, nationality, road traffic unit and vehicle category
- Public transport commuters by region, type of ticket and route
- Road investment and maintenance conducted by the Government
- Gross inland and road fuel consumption by fuel type
- Estimated vehicle yearly distance travelled by motor energy type, vehicle category, engine capacity/GVW and vehicle age group.



Data Sources

Administrative or Survey-based?

Administrative Data Sources

mostly used

- Transport Malta: regulator
- Malta Police Force
- Malta Insurance Association
- Malta International Airport plc
- Gozo Channel Ltd

Survey

rarely used

 National Household Travel Survey: every 10 years



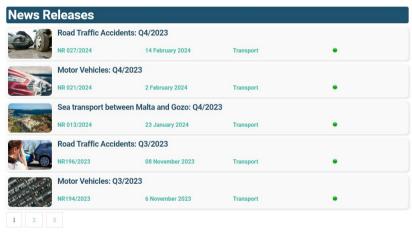
Publication of Transport Statistics

How?

Quarterly News Releases

- Sea Transport between Malta and Gozo
- Motor Vehicles
- Road Traffic Accidents

Published on NSO's website https://nso.gov.mt/transport/





Publication of Transport Statistics

How?

Annual Transport Statistics Publication

https://nso.gov.mt/transport/





Challenges Faced

Which? . . .

Mostly related to our Data Sources: strong as our weakest link

Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure data collection:

- collected transactional data related to only a subset of the EV public charging infrastructure market;
- have been in discussions on the subject matter for over a year, however same status quo;
- as to date, did not manage to collect all the data from one source despite the single national access point specified in the AFIR regulation
- thus, issue of completeness at this stage.

Monitoring of SDGs:

- difficulties relate to the monitoring of indicator 9.1.2 on passenger and freight volumes by mode of transport, in particular with respect to passenger-km.



Challenges Faced

... Which?

Timeliness: Policy makers and users in general are mostly interested in real time statistics. However, most often data is provided at a time lag which makes published statistics irrelevant. Cargo data remains the most challenging in terms of timeliness and quality.

Completeness: Statistics on Vehicle distance travelled is not complete as odometer readings for agricultural motor vehicles, motorcycles, e-bicycles, PA-bicycles, e-kick scooters, quadricycles and ATVs are not available as not required by law to undertake a vehicle road worthiness test.

As to road traffic accidents data, police input the data manually which is prone to manual errors and lacks geo-coordinates.

Response Rate: Low response rates remain an issue for any conducted surveys.



Improvements

What?

Automation: Most statistical processes related to the transport domain have been automated mainly using the R programming language. This also includes the verification and checking of the data.

Timeliness: Improved timeliness in processing and publishing the 3 quarterly news releases which are now published within t+30 days.

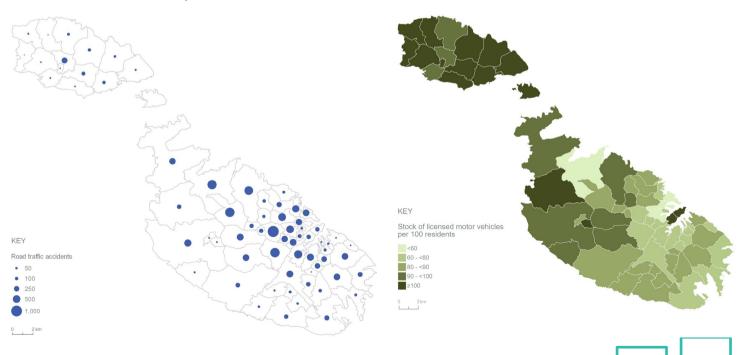
Quality: Strengthened collaboration with our administrative data sources. This resulted in enhanced data quality as early detection of anomalies in the data has led to data sources rectifying the anomalies and/or providing a clear explanation.



Improvements

What?

Introduction of Geospatial statistics:





Future Projects

What?

- Develop more relevant and innovative statistics based on the microdata linking of different administrative databases available at NSO.
- Initiate and maintain the compilation of microdata regarding electric vehicle public charging infrastructure.
- Integrate transport and energy statistics in line with European Green Deal requirements.
- Enhance quality and relevance of transport statistics through more effective presentation and dissemination.



Thank you for your attention