

54,000 exposed to road noise?

A European Parliament study, tested against the EEA

THE CLAIM

“...54 000 inhabitants of Malta are being exposed to road noise levels over 55dB (Lden).”

Hjerp and Coffey, study for the EP Petitions Committee, February 2026

Key findings on road and aircraft noise exposure and health burden.

Opinions are the authors', not the Parliament's.

VERDICT

LARGELY SUPPORTED

Figures match the EEA; health numbers outdated.

SUPPORTED

LARGELY
SUPPORTED

NOT
SUBSTANTIATED

MISLEADING

CONTRADICTED

MAIN RESULTS

54,000

Matches the EEA table

Road noise above 55 dB Lden; 11,100 for aircraft. The EEA says such figures likely understate.

30

Fewest deaths in the EU

Premature deaths a year from transport noise; Estonia is next at 80. Study says 20 (outdated).

4th

Low DALYs on END basis

150 per 100,000, tied 4th lowest of 27. Study says 100.

11th

Mid-table on WHO levels

310 DALYs per 100,000, below the EU median of 350.

31.3%

Highest survey noise

People reporting street or neighbour noise, 2023 (EU 18.1%).

FAIR TO SAY

The study's Malta health numbers pre-date an EEA correction of 27 March 2026; the rankings are unchanged. The size of the underestimate for Malta is not known.

WHAT WOULD SETTLE IT

☐ EEA's June 2025 table to confirm the study's figures.

☐ Malta's noise-mapping coverage, Round 4.

☐ Health estimates below the Directive thresholds.