

Periodical Part

Key figures for Malta / NSO, National Statistics Office, Malta ; 2019

Provided in Cooperation with:

National Statistics Office Malta, Valletta

Reference: Key figures for Malta / NSO, National Statistics Office, Malta ; 2019 (2019).

This Version is available at:

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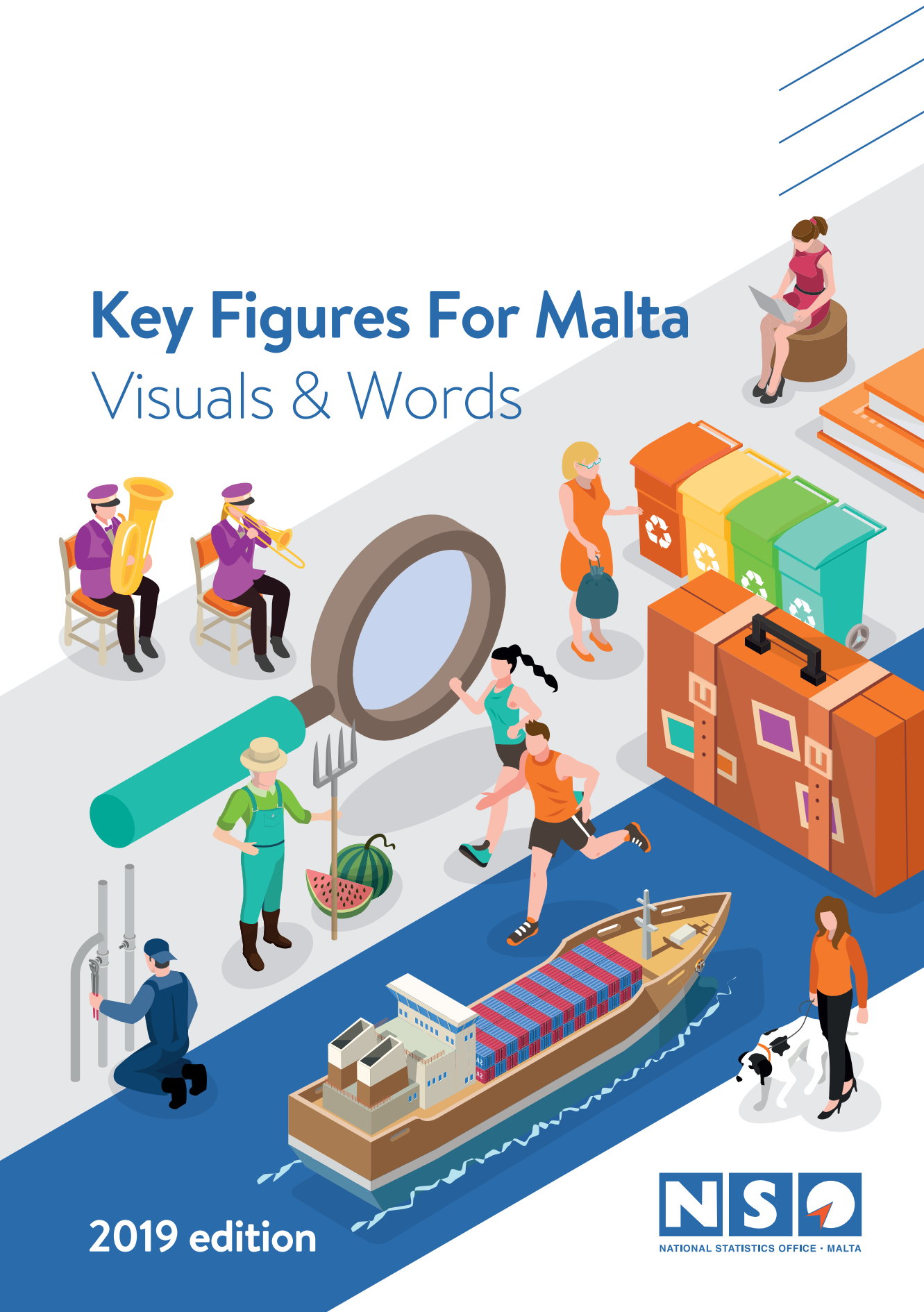
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Key Figures For Malta

Visuals & Words



2019 edition

Key Figures For Malta

Visuals & Words

A careful selection of national statistics that reflect society, the economy and the environment.

2019 edition



NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE • MALTA

Publication General Information

Published by:

National Statistics Office

Lascaris, Valletta

VLT 2000

Malta

Telephone: 2599 7000

Website: www.nso.gov.mt

ISBN: 978-99957-29-82-0

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Design by Beagle-Works.com

Preface

The publication, Key Figures for Malta – Visuals and Words (2019 edition) has become an established feature in the National Statistics Office publication calendar. The publication, previously known as Malta in Figures, has been compiled on a regular basis since 2004.

Key figures on Malta gives an overview of our society through figures. The latest available data is complemented with updated figures for previous years, making this publication a useful point of reference on a wide array of topics which portray Maltese society. The publication is divided into three sections. The first section covers topics related to sociological trends. This is followed by a review of business and economic activities, while the final section provides information on the state of the environment.

This publication benefits from a gradual evolution in the way official statistics are presented to the public. The original publication was a collection of tabular statistics grouped by theme. Thanks to the advancement in computerization and digital printing the publication is now much easier on the eye using graphical visualizations, charts and maps.

On this note I would like to conclude that the National Statistics Office is gradually progressing from the traditional concept of dissemination towards communicating official statistics. While the former objective was limited to the impartial distribution of official statistics, the new concept of communication adds the need for official statistics to be interpretable, persuasive, and actionable to foster an evidence-based society.

I thank the Director General and his team for carrying out this excellent exercise. In the absence of local technical journals this publication makes official statistics better known and accessible to the public.

Prof. Albert Leone Ganado

Chairman
Malta Statistics Authority



Foreword

The Key Figures for Malta – Visuals and Words Publication (2019 edition) displays a selection of relevant statistics that reflect the Maltese society, the economy and the environment. It presents a range of information, from hallmark indicators that define the economic state of the country to statistics on population, health, education and tourism among others.

This is not the first time that the National Statistics Office (NSO) is issuing an omnibus publication such as this one. However, on this occasion, NSO is making an intentional effort to portray its numbers in a more visual and user-friendly manner. For most of the indicators included, a ten-year time-series is presented and all the data which was utilised is being made available to users in excel format on the NSO website.

This publication is designed as a practical and handy guide to users. It does not, however, represent the extent of NSO's output. Readers are therefore invited to use this publication as a starting point to the additional and complementary body of information available through the NSO's website.

My appreciation goes to all the Units at NSO that contributed to the collection and compilation of these statistics. I am also thankful to all NSO's partners and stakeholders who collaborate with NSO in different ways to facilitate the processes of data collection and production, and to improve the quality of our statistical products.



Etienne Caruana

Director General
National Statistics Office

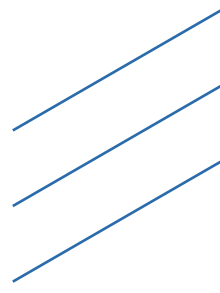


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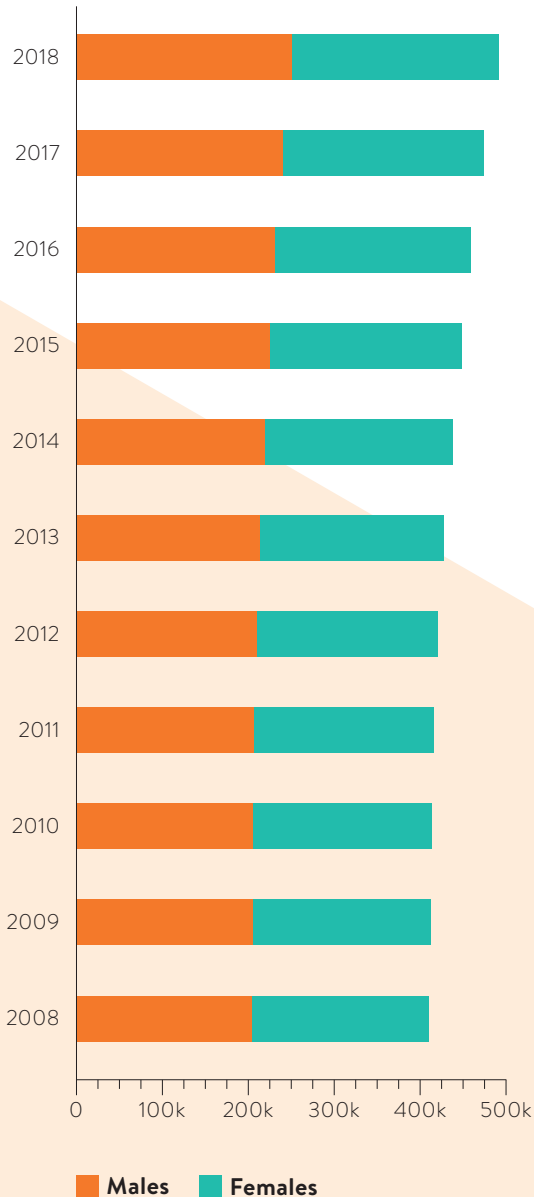
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1 People & Society



Population

End-of-year total population estimates - (2008-2018)



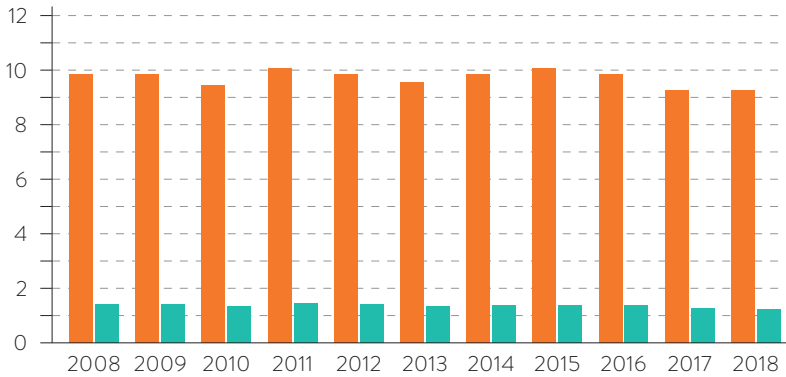
Source: Population statistics, NSO

The total population as at the end of 2018 was 493,559, of which 251,836 were males and 241,723 females. Total population grew by 4 per cent compared to 2017 and by 20 per cent compared to 2008. A contributory factor was the net migration of foreigners. In the 10 year span 2008-2018 the number of foreign nationals in the population grew five times over.



While population numbers are on the increase, the fertility rate continues to decline. One of the reasons is that there has been an influx of foreign women of child-bearing age which has inflated the denominator used to calculate the rate. In 2018, the number of live births per thousand people in the population was 9.2 per cent, while the total fertility rate (TFR) was of 1.2 children per female of child-bearing age. In 2008, the TFR was of 1.4 children per females while the crude birth rate was 9.8.

Selected fertility indicators - (2008-2018)



■ Crude birth rate ■ Total fertility rate Source: Population statistics, NSO

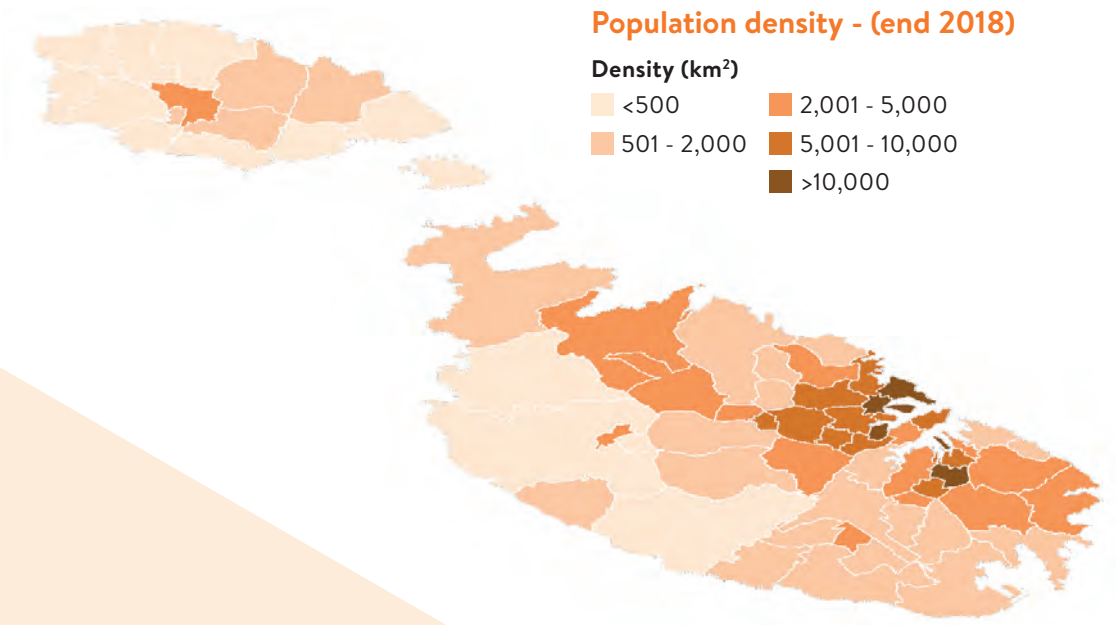
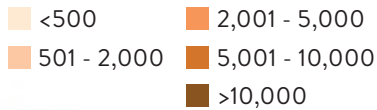


One consequence of the increased population is a higher population density. In Malta region the population density was of 1,867 persons per square kilometre in 2018, contrasting with 486 persons in Gozo region. Tas-Sliema (17,431 persons per Km²), L-Isla (17,019 persons per

Km²) and Il-Gżira (12,002 persons per Km²) are the most densely populated localities. In contrast L-Għasri (85 persons per Km²), San Lawrenz (200 persons per Km²) and L-Mġarr (236 persons per Km²) had the lowest population density.

Population density - (end 2018)

Density (km²)

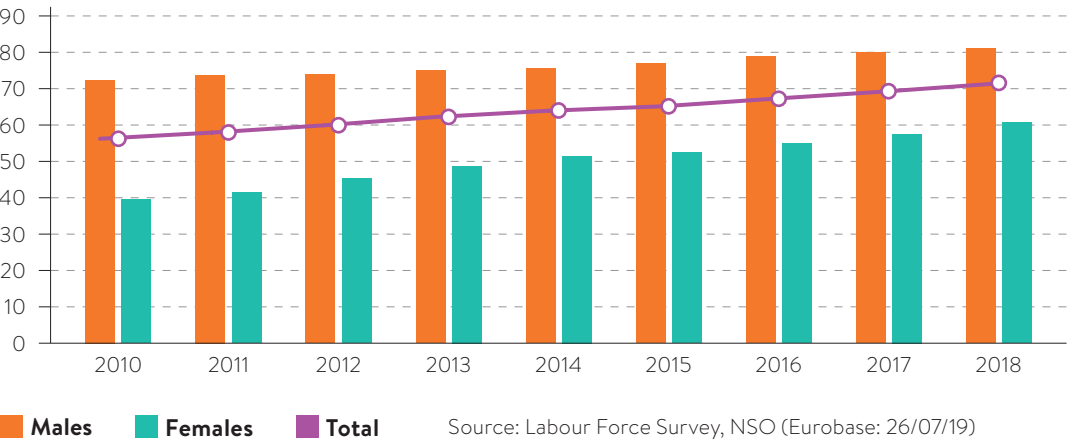


Labour Market

The employment rate for those aged between 15 and 64, stood at 71 per cent during 2018, increasing from 56 per cent in 2008. The employment rate for men stood at 81 per cent, while that for females was of 61 per cent. Since 2008, the employment rate for women increased by 23 percentage points, while that for men went up by 8 percentage points.

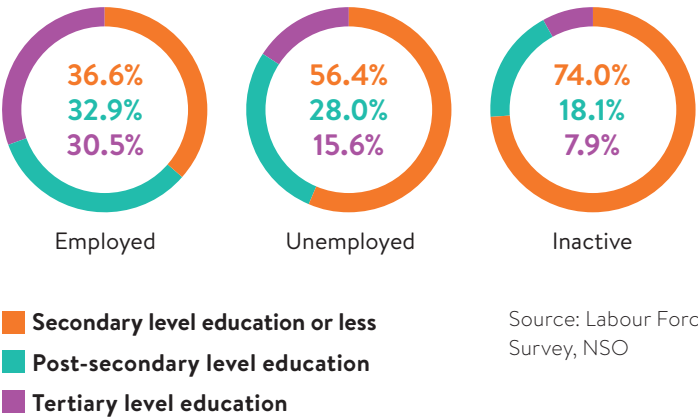


Employment rate by sex (% population age 15-64, 2010-2018)



Persons with a tertiary level of education made up 31 per cent of employed persons during 2018. Unemployment was noted to be highest among those with a low level of education (secondary level or less), at 56 per cent. This group is the most likely to be inactive - 74 per cent of those inactive in 2018. This contrasts with the inactive segment of persons with a post-secondary educational level - 18 per cent of inactive persons.

Individuals' labour status by education level (% population age 15+, 2018)



Employed tertiary level education holders by economic activity - (% total population, 2018)

Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities

Real estate activities

Construction

Source: Labour Force Survey, NSO

Financial and insurance activities

14.7

40.1

Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities

7.3

Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities

6.8

Information and communication

6.3

Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry

11.3

Other services

9.8

Employed persons with a tertiary level of education numbered 71,404 in 2018; of these 36,516 were males and 34,888 were females. Over 28,000 worked in public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities. These economic activities were dominated by female graduates - 64 per cent, against 36 per cent of male graduates. A more equitable gender distribution in graduate employment was observed in Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities, which counted 5,293 men and 5,197 women.



Unemployment

Over time, the unemployment rate for persons aged 25-74 decreased by 1.8 percentage points. On the other hand, youth unemployment (persons aged 15-24) dropped from 12 per cent in 2008 to 9 per cent in 2018.

Education

Student enrolments during academic year 2016-2017 totalled 80,293, almost at par with the previous academic year. During academic year 2016-2017, foreign students numbered 7,247, accounting for 9 per cent of the total student population.

Students aged 15-19 totalled 16,581, and those aged 20-24, 7,662. The latter figure is indicative of the fact that schooling is not mandatory beyond age 16. However, enrolments show a year-on-year increase for all age groups beyond age 25. The increase in the 25-34 age group alone was of almost 10 per cent.

Tertiary level graduates by field of study and sex - (academic year 2016-2017)



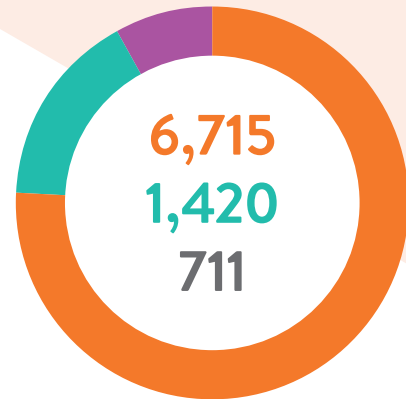
Source: Education statistics, NSO

Tertiary level graduates

Tertiary-level graduates during academic year 2016-2017 totalled 4,580, 11 per cent more than the previous academic year. The majority were females who undertook studies in: Business, administration and law, Health and welfare and Arts and humanities. On the other hand, the top three academic fields for male graduates were: Business, administration and law, Information and communications technology and Engineering, manufacturing and construction.



Teachers and academic staff by economic sector - (2016-2017)



Teachers and academic staff

The total number of teachers and academic staff for academic year 2016-2017 was 8,846. Of these 76 per cent were in the public sector, 16 per cent in government-dependent private institutions, and 8 per cent in independent private institutions. Female teachers and academic staff members were in the absolute majority - 5,872 or 66 per cent of employees in this area of activity.

- Public institutions
- Government dependent private institutions
- Independent private institutions

Source: Education statistics, NSO

Education attainment

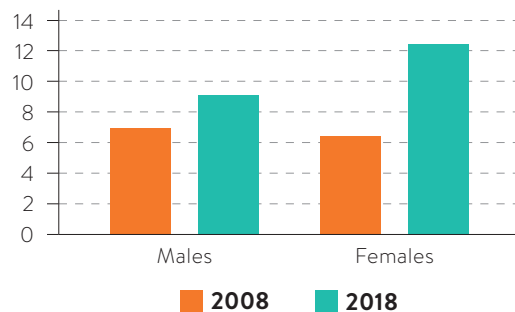
During 2018, early leavers from education and training aged 18-24 were estimated at 18 per cent of this age cohort. This figure has dropped by almost 10 percentage points since 2008. In 2018 the rate varies from 19 per cent for males to 16 per cent for females. In 2008, the rate for males was 31 per cent, while that for females was 23 per cent.

On the other hand, persons aged 15-24 neither in employment nor in education made up 7 per cent of the population during 2018. The figure is slightly higher for females through all the time series, although downward trends are noted for both sexes. In 2008, 10 per cent of females were not in employment or education as opposed to 8 per cent in 2018.

Adult education

In 2018, 12 per cent of females and 9 per cent of males aged 25-64 attended an adult education activity. Participation in learning activities increased by 5 percentage points since 2008.

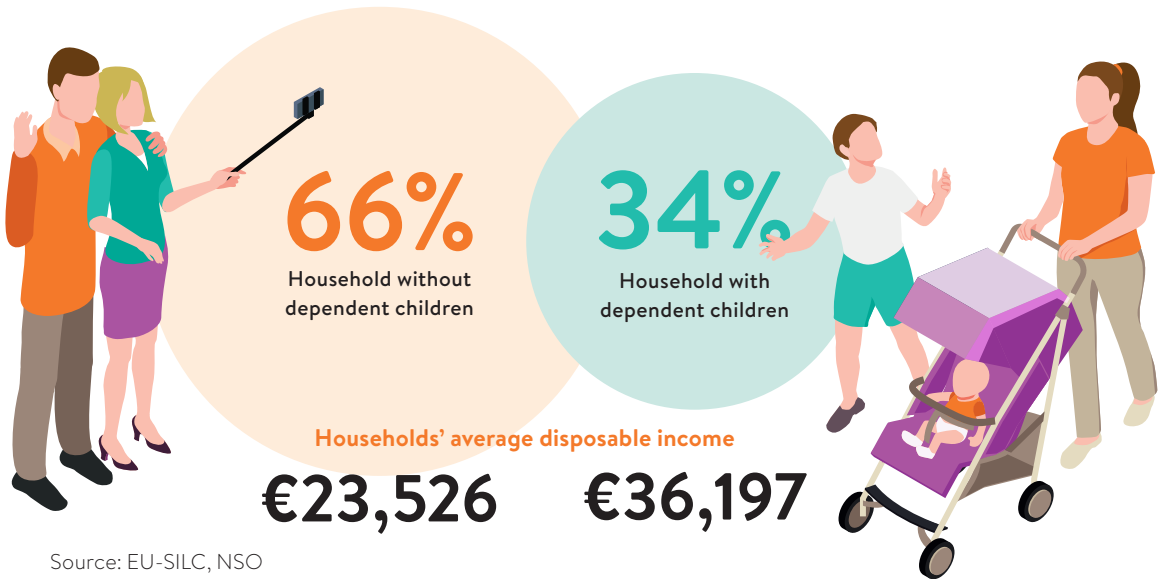
Adult participation in education (% population age 25-64, 2008 & 2018)



Source: Labour Force Survey, NSO (Euro base: 26/07/19)

Living Conditions

Proportion of households with and without dependent children - (2018)



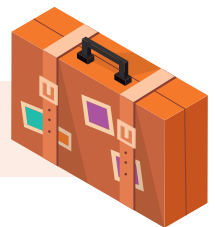
The European survey on income and living conditions (EU-SILC) measures income distribution, relative poverty, material deprivation and social exclusion in private households. Results for 2018 show that there were 187,749 households in Malta and Gozo, of which 34 per cent house dependent children. The average annual disposable income of Maltese households was measured at €27,830.

The Household Budgetary survey conducted in 2015 had shown that on average 20 per cent of the total household expenditure goes towards food and non-alcoholic beverages, an additional 14 per cent is spent on transport while 8 per cent goes towards recreation and culture.

Proportion of persons living in households by perceived capacity to afford specific objects - (2018)

30.6%

Household cannot afford to pay for one week's annual holiday away from home



13.9%

Household cannot afford to face unexpected financial expenses



7.6%

Household not able to keep the home adequately warm in winter



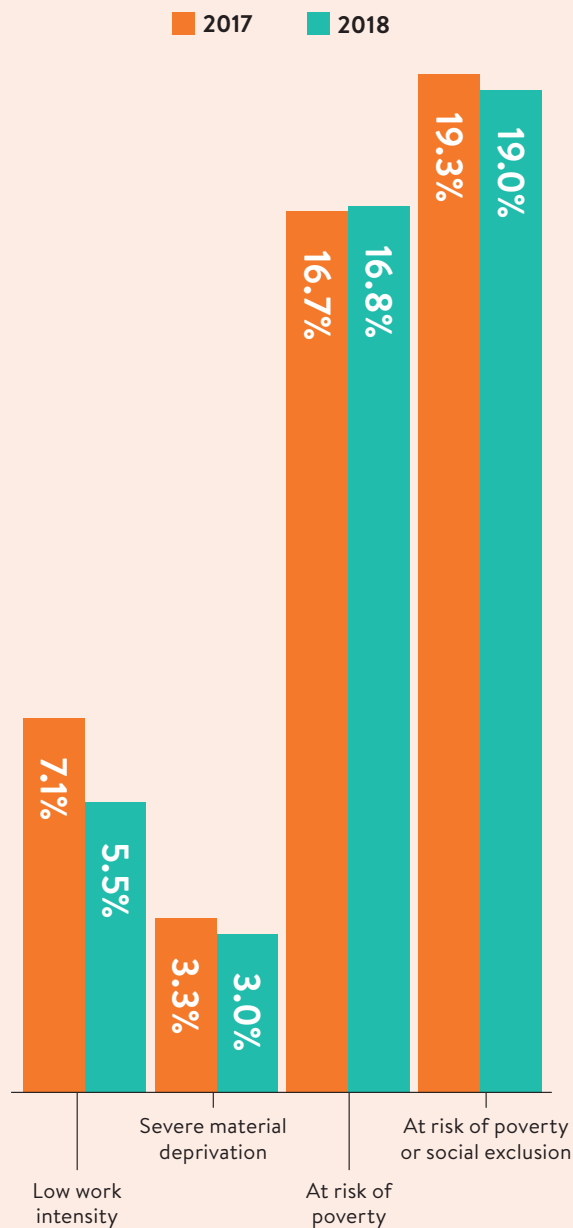
Persons at risk of monetary poverty are defined as those whose income is below 60 per cent of the median National Equivalised Income (NEI). In 2018 these persons numbered 78,685, a 0.1 percentage point increase when compared to 2017. 35,692 persons stated that they could not afford to keep their homes warm in winter and 26,688 persons reported that they could not afford a meal of meat, chicken, fish or vegetarian equivalent every second day of the week. The number of persons who reported arrears on their mortgage or rent payments, utility bills or other loan payments was of 11,933.



The inability to afford four items from a pre-determined list of nine consumables leads to a person being considered as severely materially deprived. Severe material deprivation was estimated at 3.0 per cent of persons living in private households.

A person who is at risk of poverty, or severely materially deprived or living in a household with low work intensity is considered to be at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion. In 2018, this proportion was estimated at 19.0 per cent of the population, 0.3 percentage points lower than the figure for 2017. Persons living in households with a low work intensity were estimated at 5.5 per cent of the population residing in private households.

Number of persons living in households at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion by age group - (% population, 2017 & 2018)



Source: EU-SILC, NSO

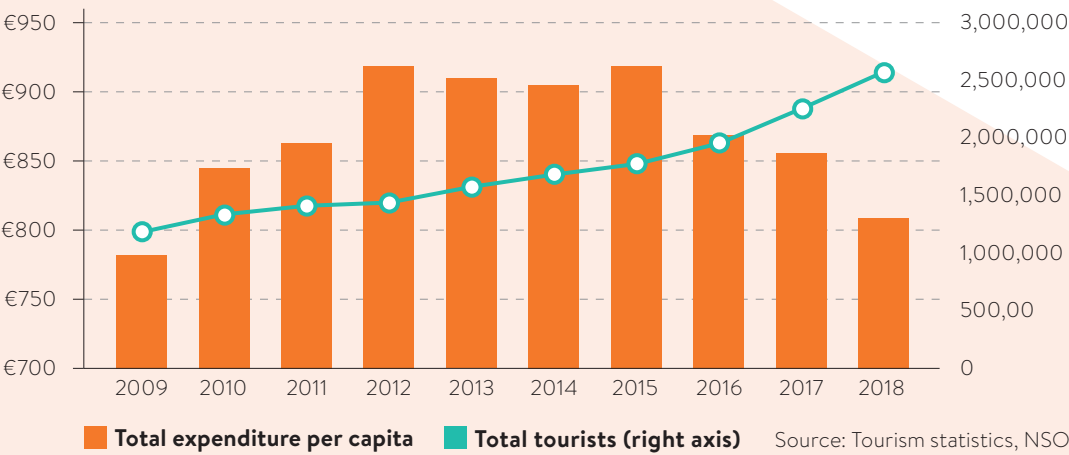
Tourism

Inbound tourism

Results from the NSO tourism survey show that in 2018, over 2.5 million tourists visited Malta, the majority for holiday purposes. Inbound tourism has been increasing steadily over the past years and has more than doubled since 2009. Over one million of the total number of tourists were aged 25-44. As the volume of tourists increased, so did their total expenditure these incurred. In 2018 tourism expenditure totalled over €2 billion, including transport and accommodation. The average tourist spent €809 on their trip. Average expenditure per tourist peaked in 2015 at €919 however at the time, average length of stay was longer than in 2018.

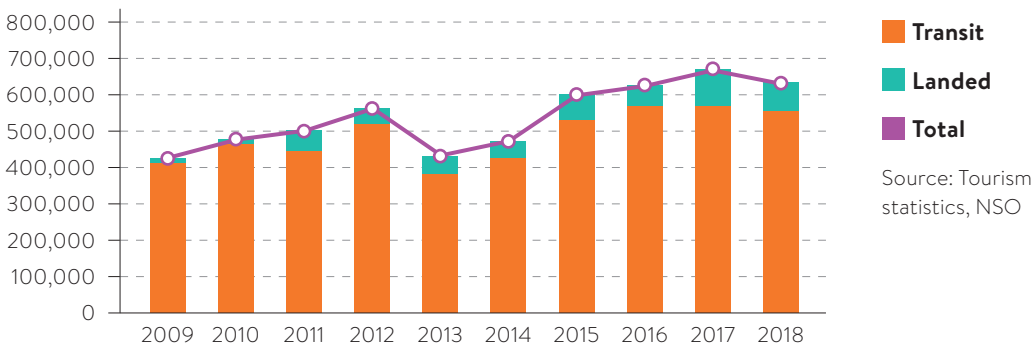


Inbound tourists & per capita expenditure - (2009-2018)



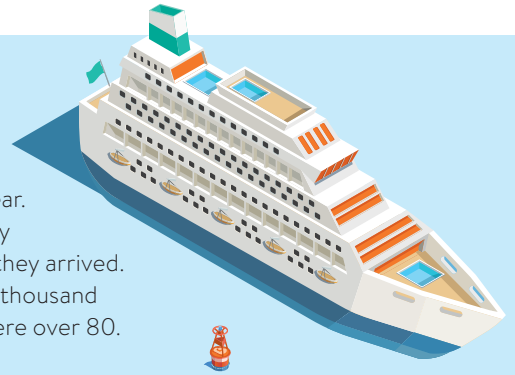
Source: Tourism statistics, NSO

Cruise passengers - (2009-2018)



Cruise passengers

Cruise passenger traffic in 2018 comprised 632,739 passengers, a decrease of 6 per cent over the previous year. Of these, over 500,000 were in transit, meaning that they departed from Malta on board the same vessel on which they arrived. Overall cruises tend to appeal to older people - over 250 thousand passengers were aged 60-79 and another 22 thousand were over 80.



Average length of stay by outbound tourists



Outbound and domestic tourism

Domestic tourism is defined as the number of Maltese residents travelling abroad. In 2018, outbound tourists totalled 667,048 with an average length of stay of 6.7 nights. Maltese residents spent over €563 million in tourism activities over an estimated 4.5 billion nights spent abroad.

Domestic tourism refers to residents of Malta region who visit Gozo for an overnight stay, and vice versa. In 2018, 245,477 such trips took place, the majority by residents of Malta region and directed to Gozo. This figure implies a fall of 6 per cent over 2017.

Culture



Other Members
22,707

Band club membership

Band club membership in Malta and Gozo stood at 27,326 in 2017. 2,242 were resident band players and 1,282 were trainees.

Band club membership is male dominated. The only category evidencing a considerable female presence is that of trainee band players. Here females accounted for 37 per cent of trainees in 2017.

Band clubs' membership by type - (2017)

■ Males ■ Females

Source: Culture statistics, NSO

Committee members

1,095

Trainee band players

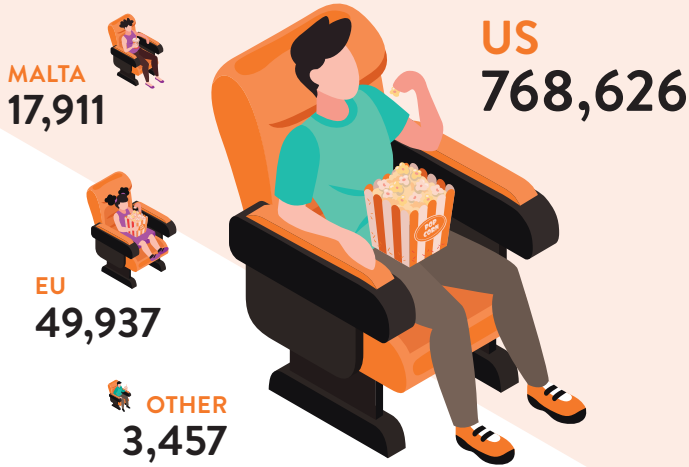
1,282

Resident band players

2,242



Cinema admissions by country of origin of films exhibited - (2018)



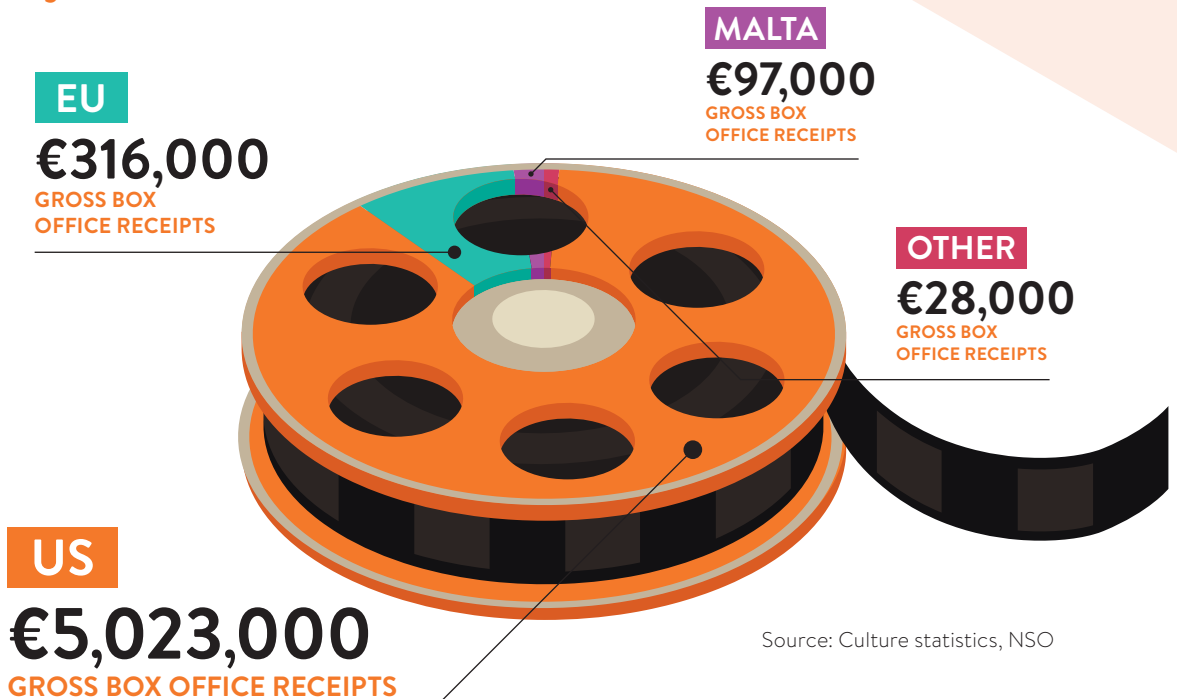
Source: Culture statistics, NSO

Cinema statistics

Cinema admissions in 2018 stood at 839,931, representing almost €5.5 million in gross box office receipts. During this year, cinemas showed 450 titles accounting for 45,011 screenings. Of these 17 were for Maltese productions.

Box office receipts varied significantly depending on the film's country of origin. For example US films brought in an average of €22,936 per title, while receipts for Maltese films were on average €5,706 per title.

Gross box office receipts by country of origin of films exhibited - (2018)

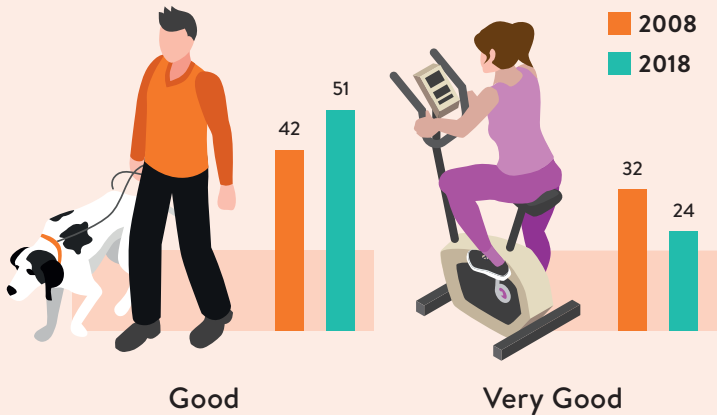


Source: Culture statistics, NSO

Health

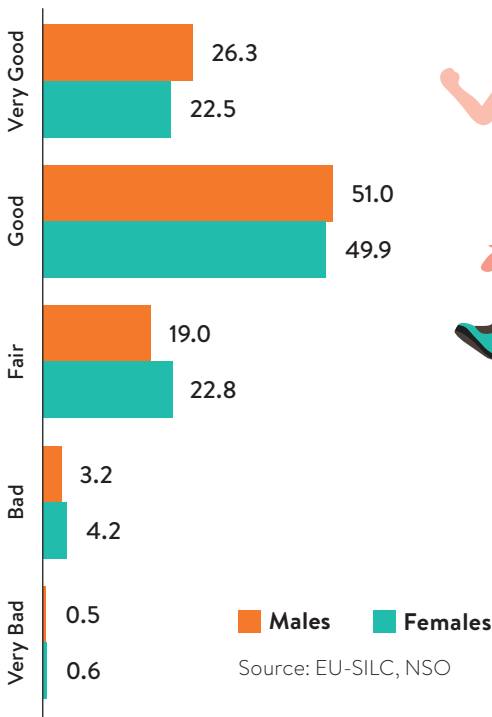
The EU-SILC survey includes some questions on self-perception of health. In 2018 the number of respondents with a self-perception of very good health was 8 percentage points less when compared to 10 years earlier. On the other hand, those with a self-perception of good health increased by 9 percentage points.

Self-perceived health - (% total population, 2008 & 2018)



Source: EU-SILC, NSO

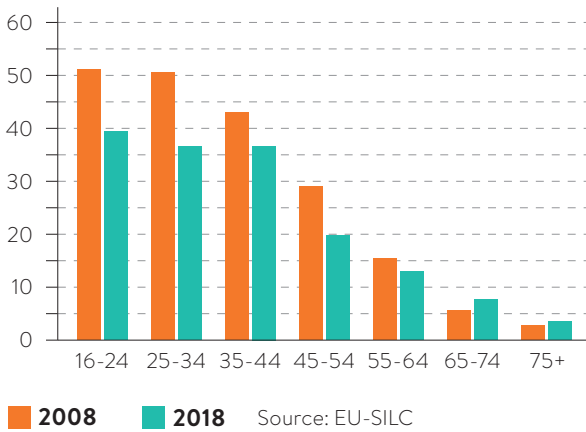
Self perceived health by sex - (% total population, 2018)



Source: EU-SILC, NSO

Females are less likely to be optimistic about their health than males. In 2018 27 per cent of females assessed themselves as having fair or bad health, compared to 22 per cent of males.

Self-perceived very good health by age group (% total population, 2008 & 2018)



Survey results additionally show that over time the younger generation is becoming less optimistic about health. While in 2008 over half of those in both the 16-24 and 25-34 age groups self perceived their health as very good, in 2018 such proportions had fallen by 11 and 14 percentage points respectively.

On the other hand, the older generation comes across as more optimistic. In 2008, 6 per cent of persons aged 65-74 attested to very good health, a proportion which went up to 8 per cent in 2018.

Life expectancy

Data on life expectancy forms part of population statistics and is described as the average number of years which a person is expected to live. It can be calculated for any age. However, this chart illustrates life expectancy at birth. In 2018 the average life expectancy of Malta's resident population was of

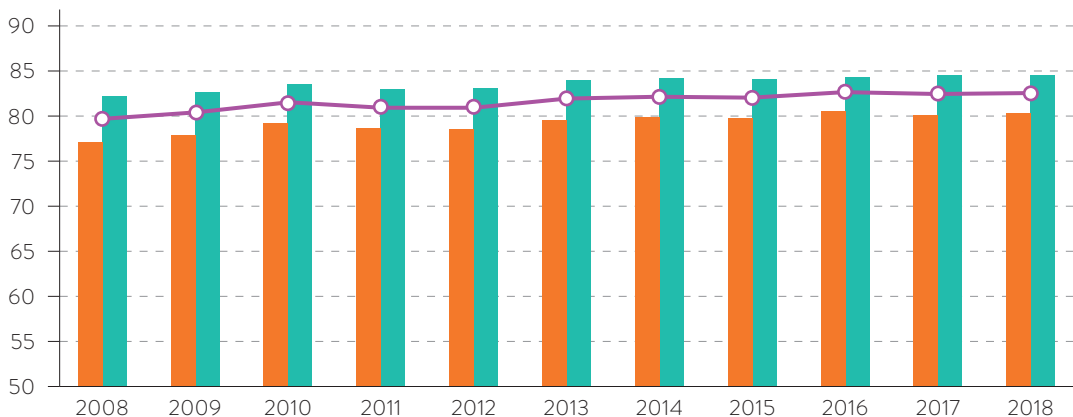
83 years up by three years from 2008. The data consistently shows that the average woman outlives the average man by 4 years.

As life expectancy increases, the crude death rate (CDR) is declining. In 2018, there were 7.6 deaths per 1,000 persons, compared to 7.9 deaths 10 years earlier.

Source: Population statistics, NSO

■ Males
■ Females
■ Total

Life expectancy at birth by sex - (2008-2018)



2 Economy & Business

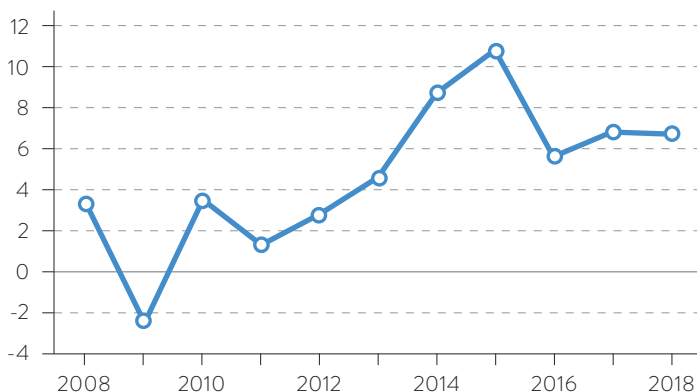


National Accounts

In 2018 the Maltese economy grew by 6.8% in volume terms. In terms of current prices, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for this year was estimated at €12.3 billion.

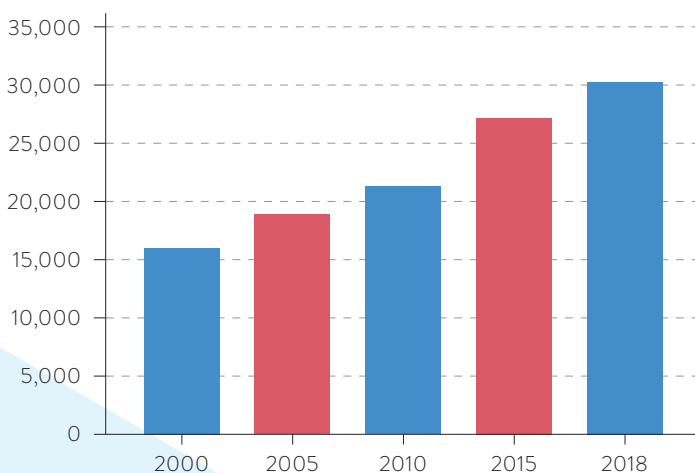
GDP growth was mainly attributable to domestic demand. In volume terms, total final consumption expenditure increased by 8.7 per cent and was mainly drive by an increase in household expenditure (7.4 per cent) and government expenditure (12.6 per cent). Gross capital formation increased by 5.7 per cent. On the other hand, exports increased by 2.6 per cent and imports by 2.6 per cent.

Economic Growth in volume terms - (% , 2008-2018)



Source: National accounts, NSO

GDP per capita in PPS - (EUR, 2000-2018)



Source: Eurostat (extracted on 17.10.19)



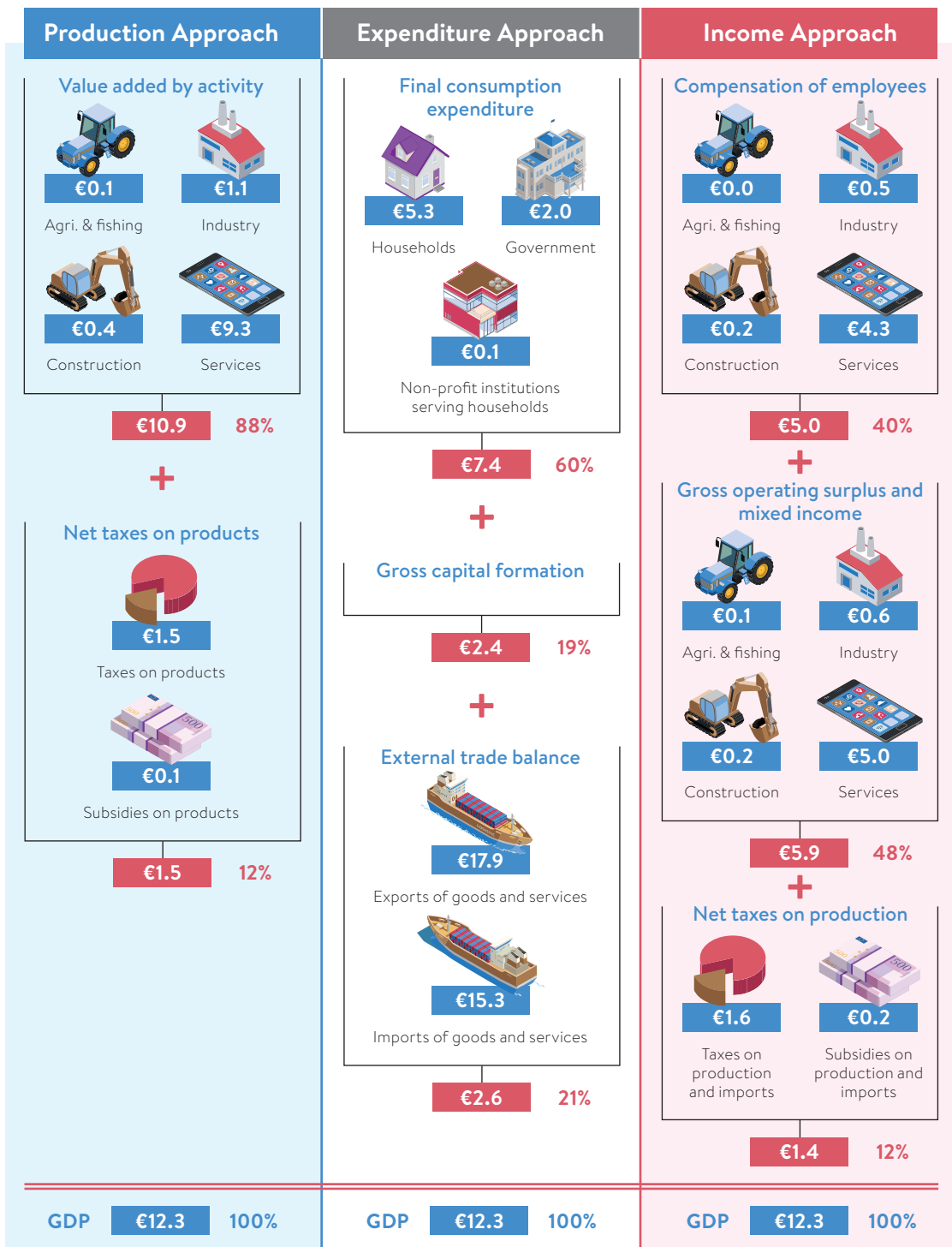
In 2018, the GDP per capita adjusted for Purchasing Power Standards (PPS) was calculated at €30,250 in Malta. This placed Malta in 12th place in

the European Ranking. The EU-28 achieved an average GDP per capita in PPS of €30,850, approximately 102 per cent of the Maltese value.

Malta's ranking has improved considerably, from 17th place in 2000 to 12th place in 2018.

Gross Domestic Product at current prices - (billion EUR, 2018)

Source: National accounts, NSO



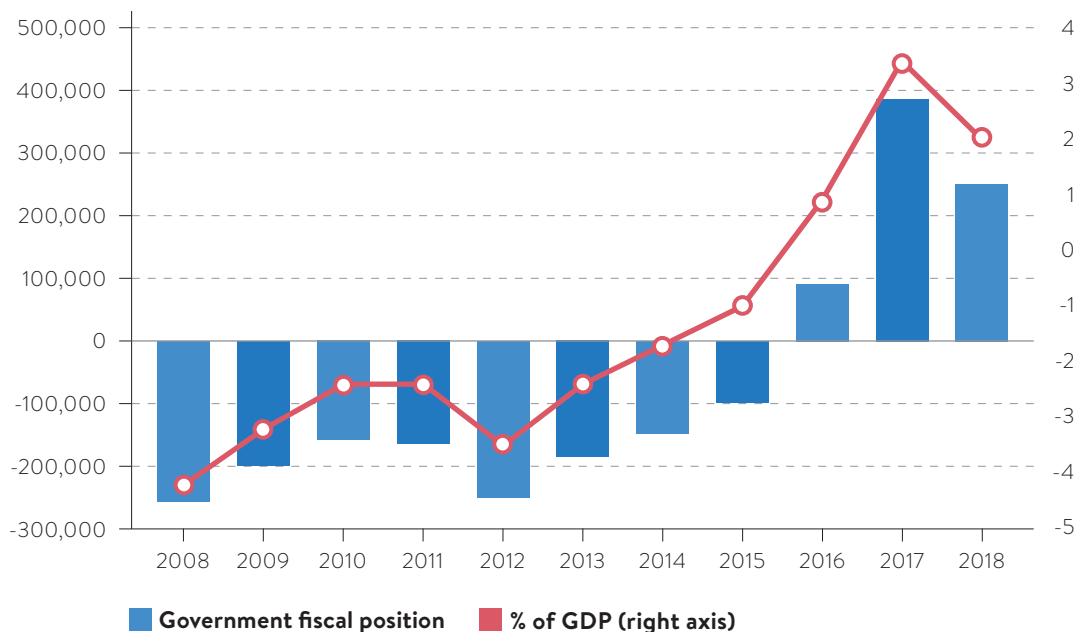
Public Finance

The general government's fiscal position for 2018 showed a positive balance of €236 million, resulting in a surplus equivalent to 2 per cent of the GDP. The government's fiscal position has improved significantly since 2008, when data showed a deficit of €256 million, equivalent to 4 per cent of GDP. Since 2008, the first year in which a surplus was registered was in 2016, to the tune of €94 million .

Government debt has gone from €3.8 billion in 2008 to €5.6 billion in 2018. However, as the economy grows the proportion of GDP represented by such increase varies over time. In 2008: €3.8 billion was equivalent to 63 per cent of GDP for that year, while in 2018, €5.6 billion was equivalent to 46 per cent of GDP.



General Government fiscal position - (thousand EUR, 2008-2018)



Source: Public Finance statistics, NSO

Government Expenditure

In 2017, government expenditure came up to over €4 billion. A breakdown of this amount reveals that 32 per cent was spent on social protection, accounting for €1.3 billion, mostly on old-age and survivors' benefits (€950 million). Government expended another 16 per cent on the general public service - €640 million - of which €283 million went to executive and legislative organs, financial, fiscal and external affairs. A further 15 per cent of government expenditure was spent on health, close to €609 million, of which €398 million was spent on hospital services and €104 million on outpatient services.



**SOCIAL
PROTECTION**
€1.3 Billion

31.7% of Total Expenditure
11.3% of GDP

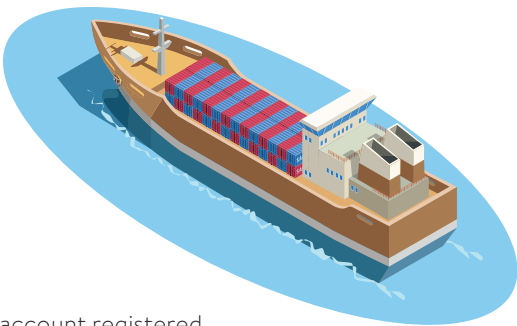
**GENERAL
PUBLIC SERVICES**
€0.64 Billion

15.9% of Total Expenditure
5.7% of GDP

HEALTH
€0.6 Billion

15.1% of Total Expenditure
5.4% of GDP

Balance of Payments



Current account

The current account is a measure of a country’s foreign trade. It is a key component of a country’s balance of payments and is made up of the balance of trade (measured in goods and services) and net income and direct transfers (measured in primary and secondary income).

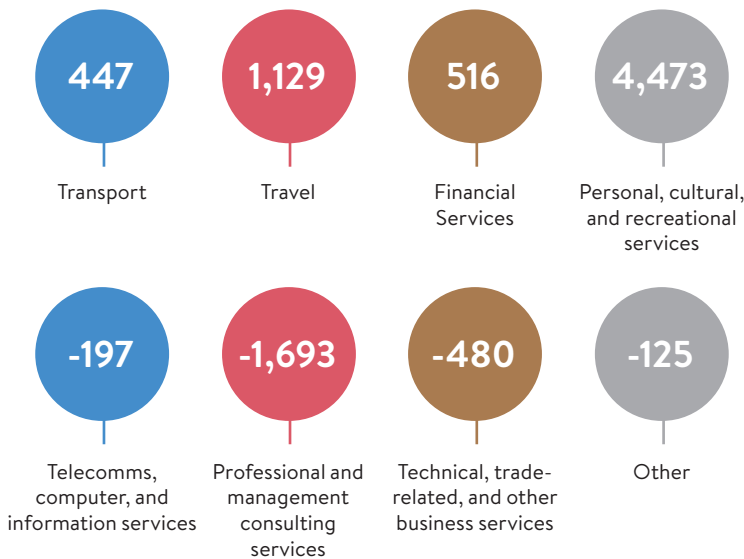
In 2018, Malta registered a current account surplus of €1,212 million. Services activities registered a net positive balance of €4,070 million,

while the goods account registered a negative balance of €1,609 million. Both the primary and secondary income accounts registered a negative net balance.

Overall, the current account balance increased by 2 per cent when compared to 2017 . This is mainly the result of an increase of 5 per cent in the positive balance of the services account. On the other hand, the negative balance in the goods account widened by 7 per cent.

Net services exports by category - (million EUR, 2018)

Services activities

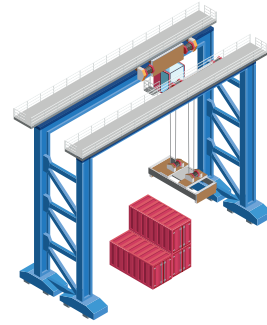


In 2018, Malta exported the equivalent of €4,881 million in personal, cultural and recreational services - the category in which Malta registered its highest net balance (€4,473 million). Technical, trade-related and other business services activities were recorded as the second highest export (€3,071



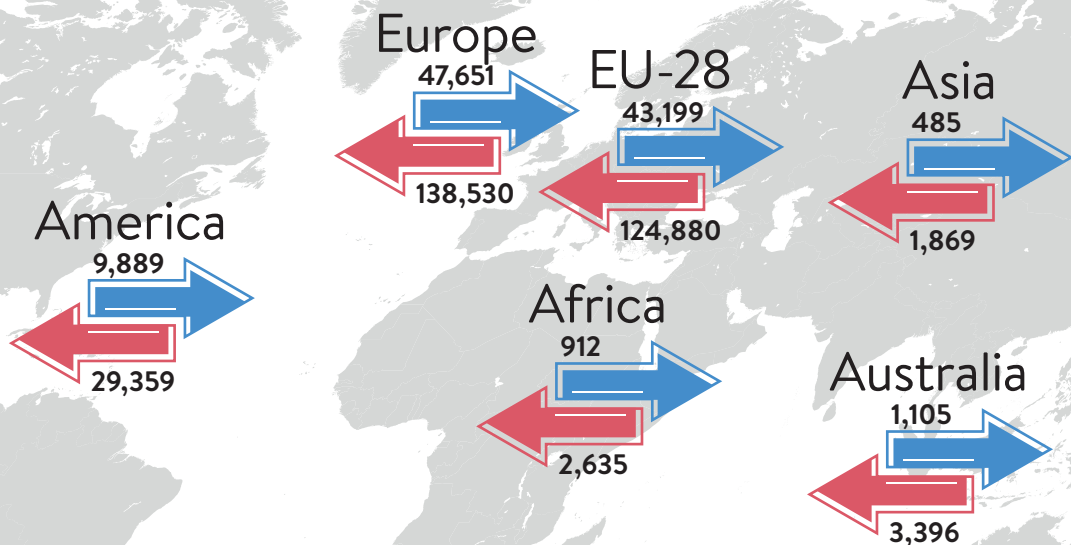
Source: Balance of payments statistics, NSO

million). Imports in this category accounted for €3,551 million, resulting in a negative trade balance of €480 million. Foreigners visiting Malta generated €1,570 million in exported tourism services, while expenditure of Maltese residents on travel abroad was €444 million. Consequently, the balance of trade for the travel sector stood at €1,129 million.



Foreign direct investment to and from Malta - (million EUR, 2018)

- Maltese Investment abroad
- Foreign Investment in Malta



Source: Balance of payments statistics, NSO

Foreign direct investment

As at the end of 2018, foreign investment in Malta amounted to €180.9 billion, most of which originated from other EU countries (€124.9 billion). Other European countries invested €13.7 billion in Malta, thereby making Europe the largest foreign investor. During this year

Malta also benefited from €29.4 billion in foreign investment from America and €3.4 billion from Australia.

Moreover, Malta invested €61.6 billion abroad, of which 70 per cent was focused in other EU countries and 16% in America.

Retail Price Index

The Retail Price Index (RPI) measures price changes using the concept of a representative basket of consumer goods and services. It includes food, transport, medical care and communication. The index is closely associated with the cost of living and with periodic rental payments adjustment.

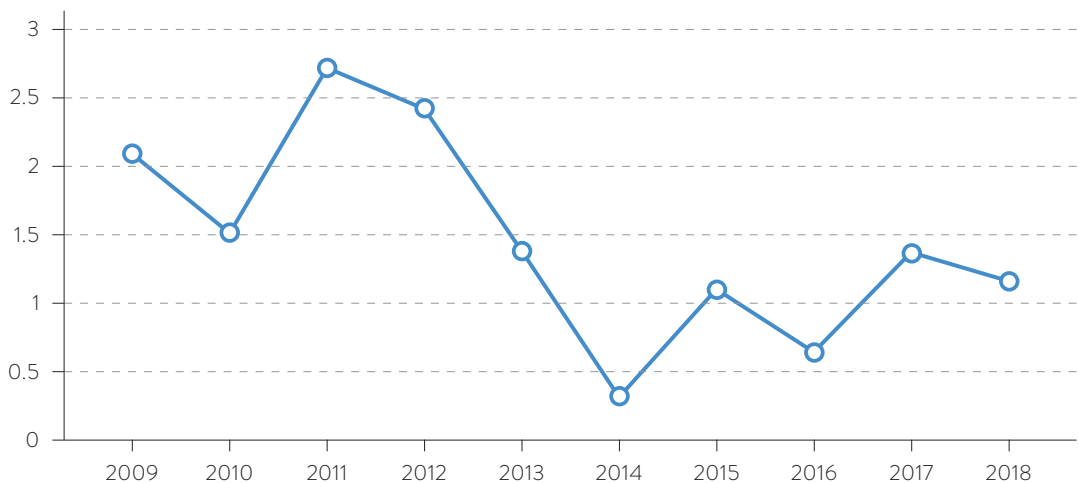
Three rates are used in the RPI. The monthly inflation rate compares price changes between the reference month and the preceding month.

The annual inflation rate measures average price changes between the reference month and the corresponding month of the preceding year.

The 12-month moving average rate compares the average of the most recent 12 indices with the average of the previous twelve. This rate is used for the computation of the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA).



Twelve month moving average rate of inflation - (% , 2009-2018)

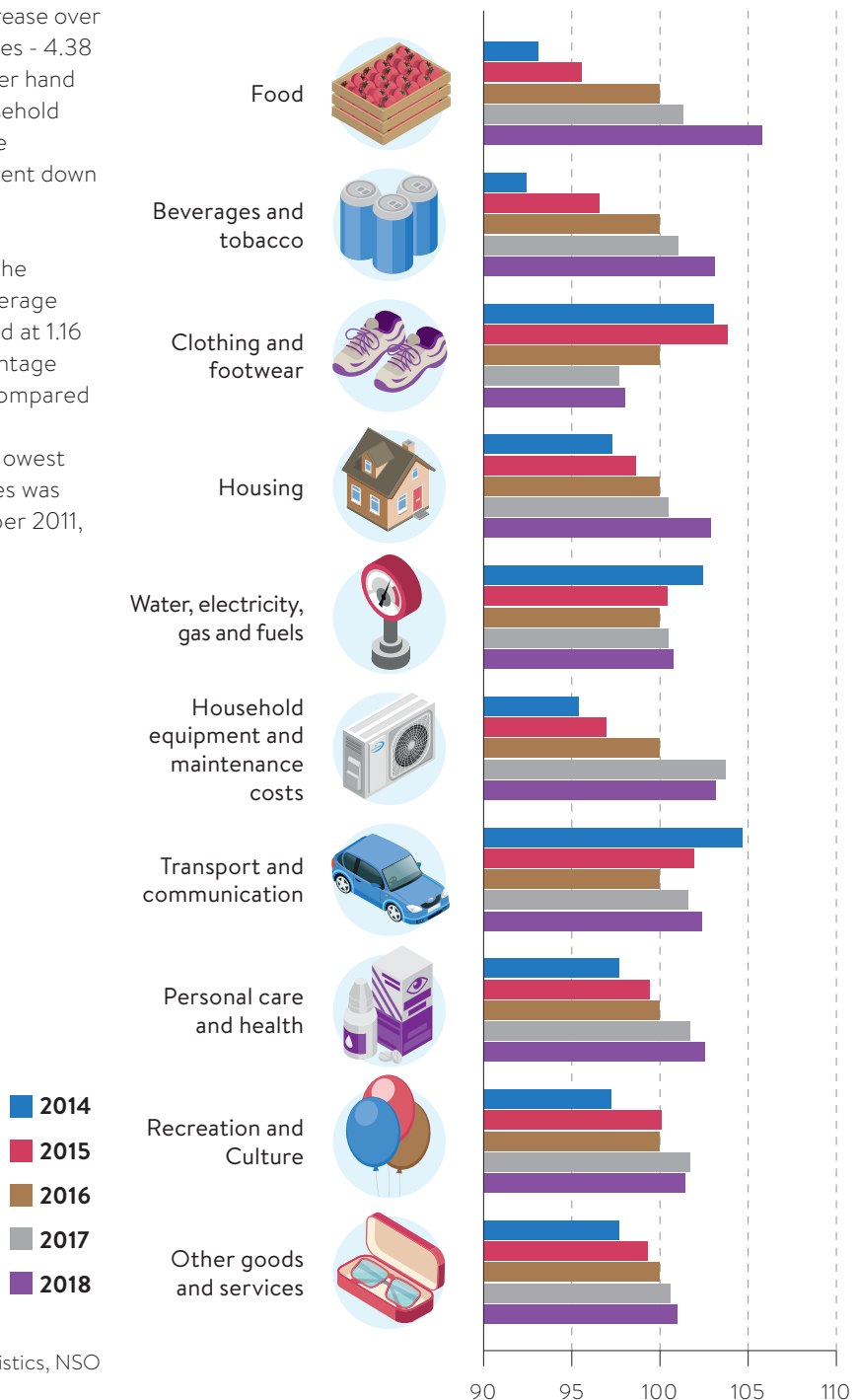


Source: Price statistics, NSO

In December 2018, the annual rate of inflation was 1.49 per cent. The largest increase over 2017 was in food prices - 4.38 per cent. On the other hand the category of household equipment and house maintenance costs went down by 0.58 per cent.

In December 2018, the 12-month moving average rate of inflation stood at 1.16 per cent, 0.21 percentage points lower when compared to December of the preceding year. The lowest rate in this time series was observed in December 2011, at 0.31 per cent.

RPI group indices (2016 = 100)

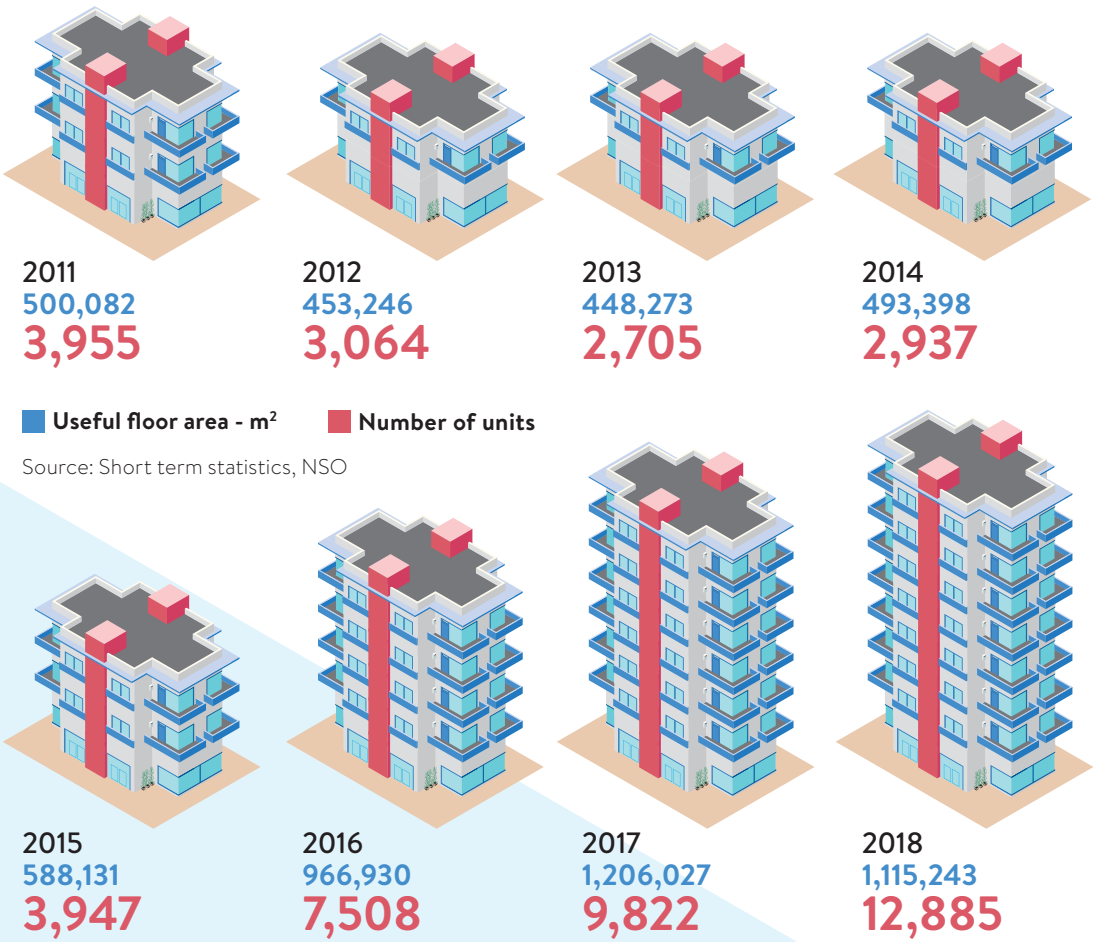


Source: Price statistics, NSO

Short-Term Business Statistics

Short-term business statistics describe recent developments in the economy. The indicators produced in this domain are timely and important tools for national policymakers and stakeholders.

Residential building permits - (2011-2018)



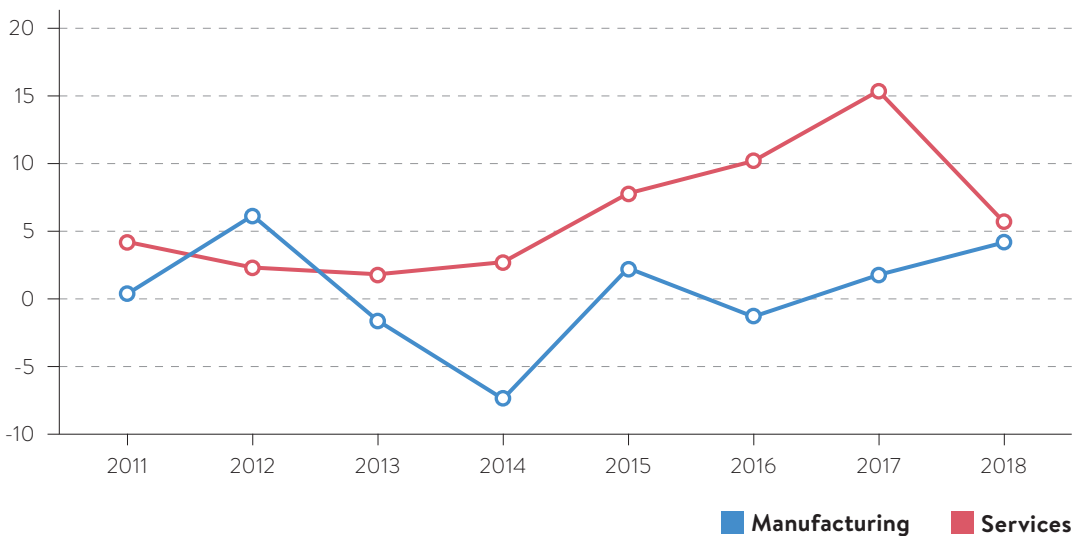
In 2018, residential building permits were issued for 12,885 units, signifying an increase of 31 per cent over 2017. The data indicates however that smaller dwellings are being constructed. Useful floor area per unit went from 120 square metres in 2010 to 87 square metres in 2018.

Index of total turnover

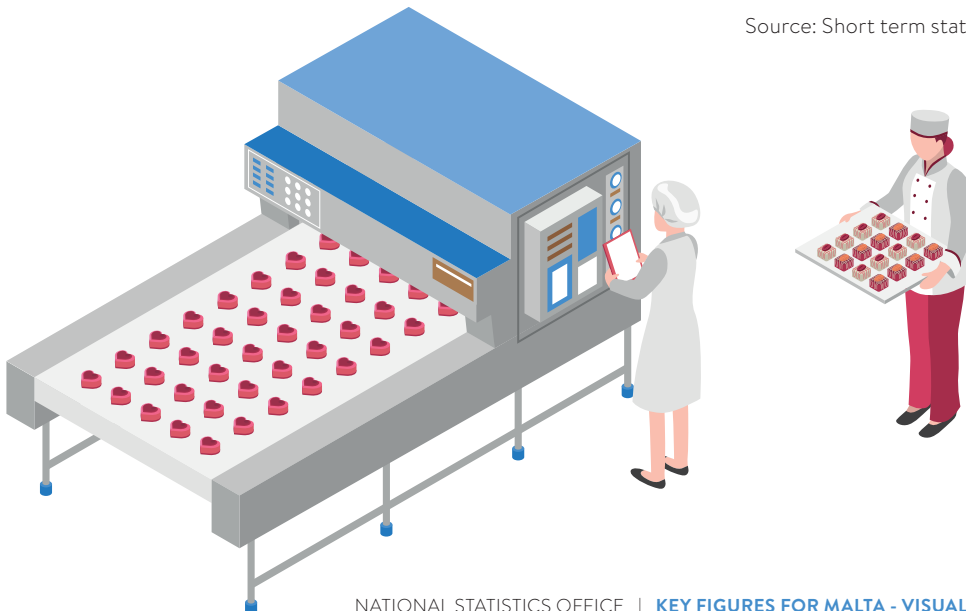
Total turnover in manufacturing industries increased by 4 per cent in 2018, when compared to the previous year. During the same year total turnover in services advanced by almost 6 per cent. Details of the sections in the NACE classification of economic activity that correspond to manufacturing and services activities are provided in the online Excel file.



Total turnover index - (year-on-year % change, 2011-2018)



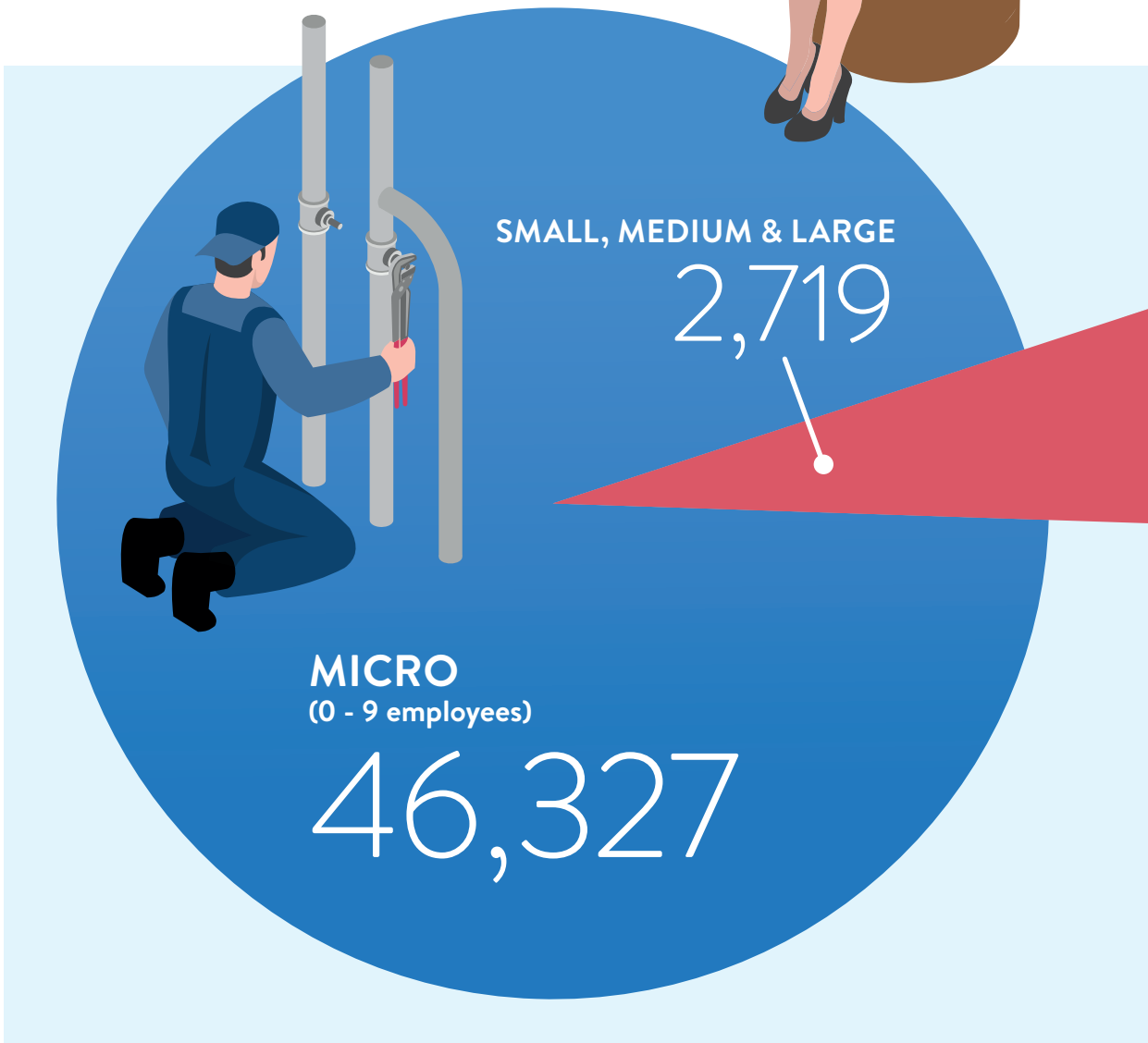
Source: Short term statistics, NSO



Statistical Business Register

The Business Register is made up of the registered business population and entities within General Government. In 2017, 46 per cent of the registered business population comprised active businesses with the remainder made up of non-trading units.

Active business population - (2017)



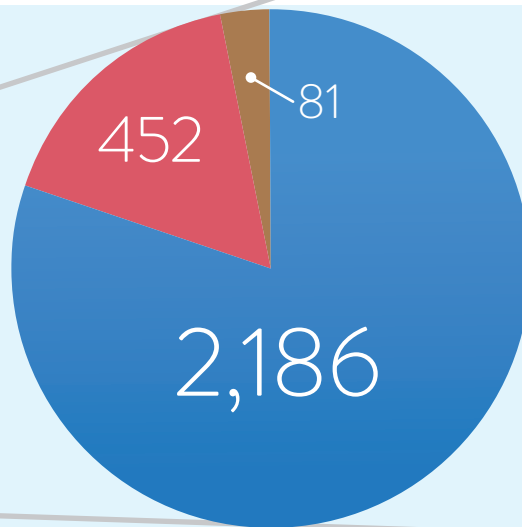
The majority of active business units (94 per cent) were micro enterprises, meaning that they employ between 0 and 9 employees. Together such companies recorded over 68,500 employed persons. Small and medium sized enterprises employing 10-49 and 50-249 employees respectively, constituted 5 per cent of the active business units and between them employed 89,000 persons. Enterprises classified as large, meaning that they employed over 250

persons, made up a very small share of the active business population, nevertheless they employed over 42,000 persons.

Over the 10 year period between 2007 and 2017, the active business population in Malta increased by 20 per cent. The largest increase, of 62 per cent was noted in large enterprises from 50 in 2007 to 81 in 2017.

- Small (10 - 49 employees)
- Medium (50 - 249 employees)
- Large (250 + employees)

Source: Business register, NSO



Structural Business Statistics

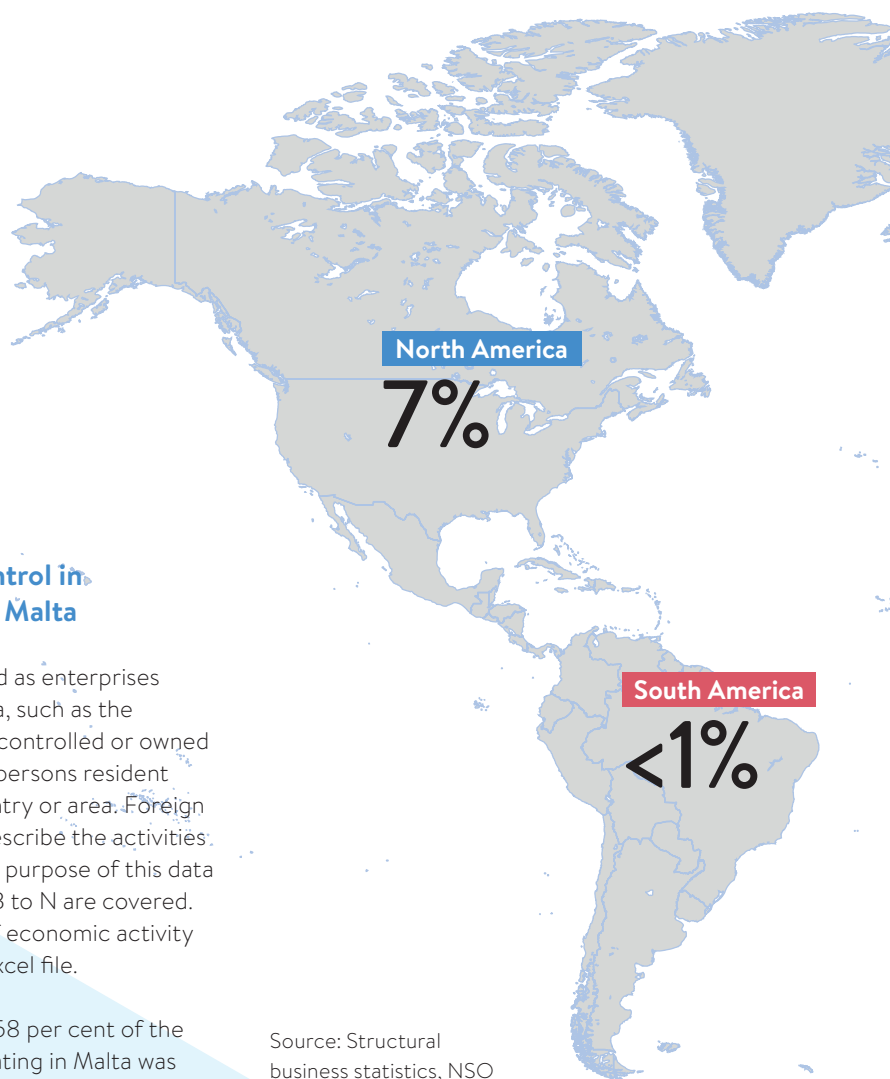
Element of foreign control in enterprises resident in Malta

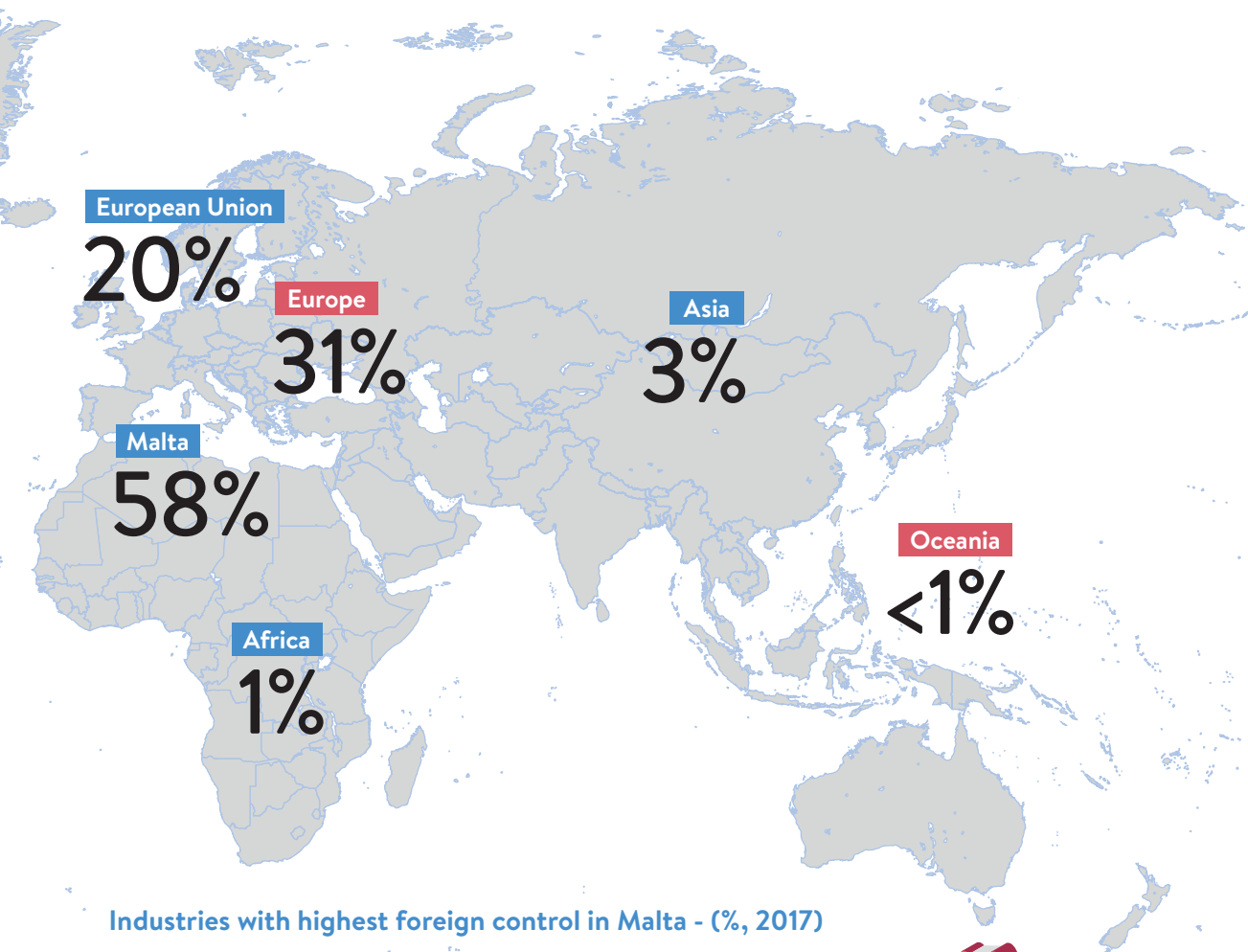
Foreign affiliates are defined as enterprises resident in a country or area, such as the European Union, which are controlled or owned by multinational entities or persons resident outside the respective country or area. Foreign affiliates statistics (FATS) describe the activities of such enterprises. For the purpose of this data collection, NACE sections B to N are covered. Details on these sections of economic activity are available in the online Excel file.

It is estimated that in 2017, 58 per cent of the output by enterprises operating in Malta was controlled by owners resident in Malta and 31 per cent by ownership in the rest of Europe. Additionally, 7 per cent of the control of Maltese enterprises was resident in North America, 3 per cent in Asia and 1 per cent in Africa, bringing the total share of foreign control of the output of Malta-resident companies to 42 per cent.

Source: Structural business statistics, NSO

At the level of the different industries, those with the highest Malta-resident ownership were in Real Estate and Construction. By contrast, the sectors whose output is dominated by foreign ownership emerged as Information and Communication - 73 per cent; Financial and Insurance Activities - 65 per cent; and Manufacturing - 57 per cent.





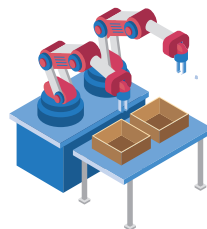
73%

Information and Communication



65%

Financial and Insurance Activities



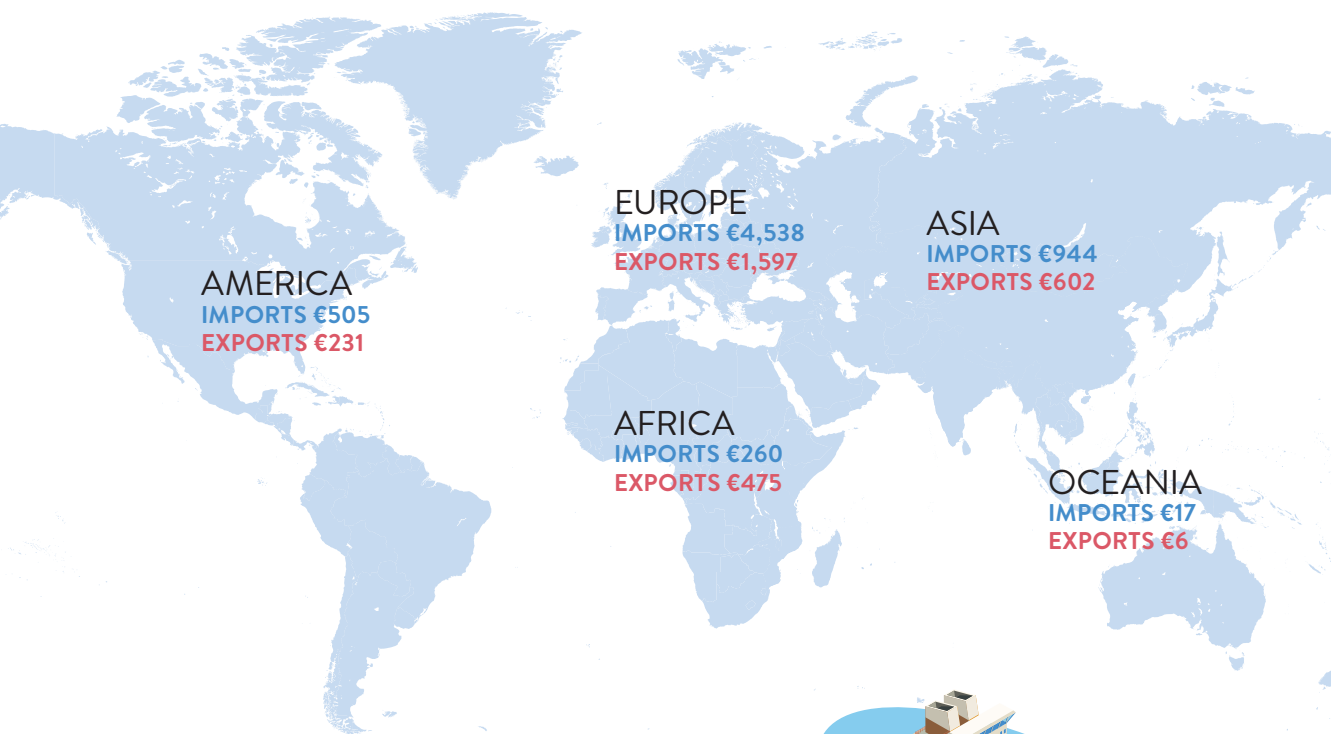
57%

Manufacturing

Source: Structural business statistics, NSO

International Trade in Goods

Imports and Exports of goods by continent - (million EUR, 2018)

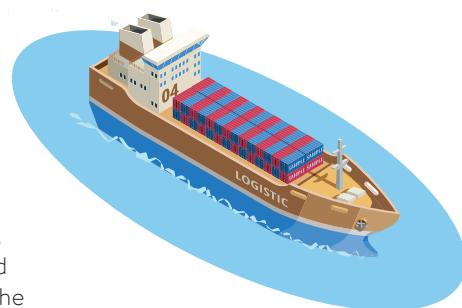


Source: International trade statistics, NSO

In 2018, €6.3 billion worth of goods was imported by Malta. The country's exports totalled €3.3 billion. Between 2009 and 2018, the trade balance widened by an average of 10 per cent yearly.

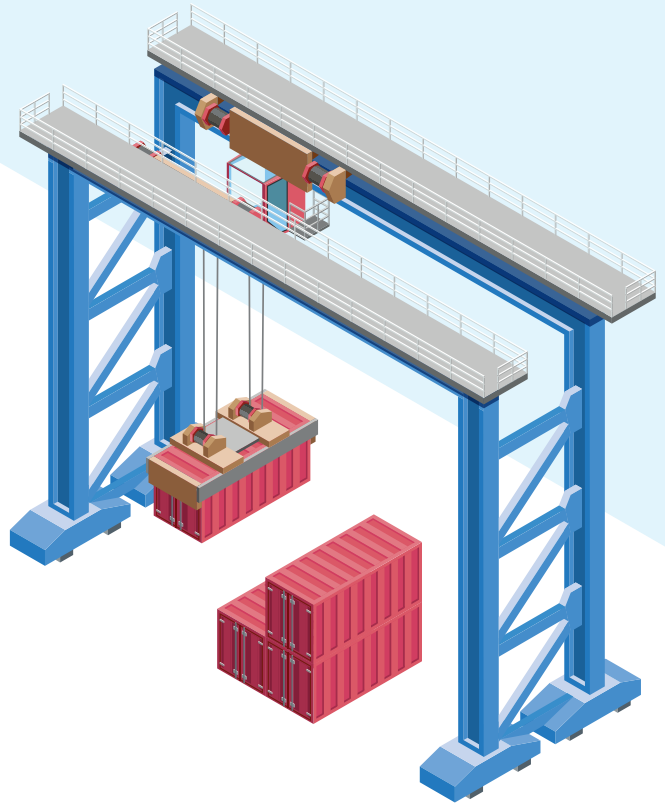
During 2018, Machinery and transport equipment was the largest imported commodity group (€2,003 million), making up almost one-third of total imports. The second

largest import commodity group was that of Minerals, fuels, lubricants and related materials (€1,947 million). The latter was also the largest exported commodity group (€1,055 million), equivalent to 32 per cent of total exports in 2018. During the same year, Food, beverages and tobacco made up 12 per cent of total imports (€740 million) and 9 per cent of total exports (€290 million).

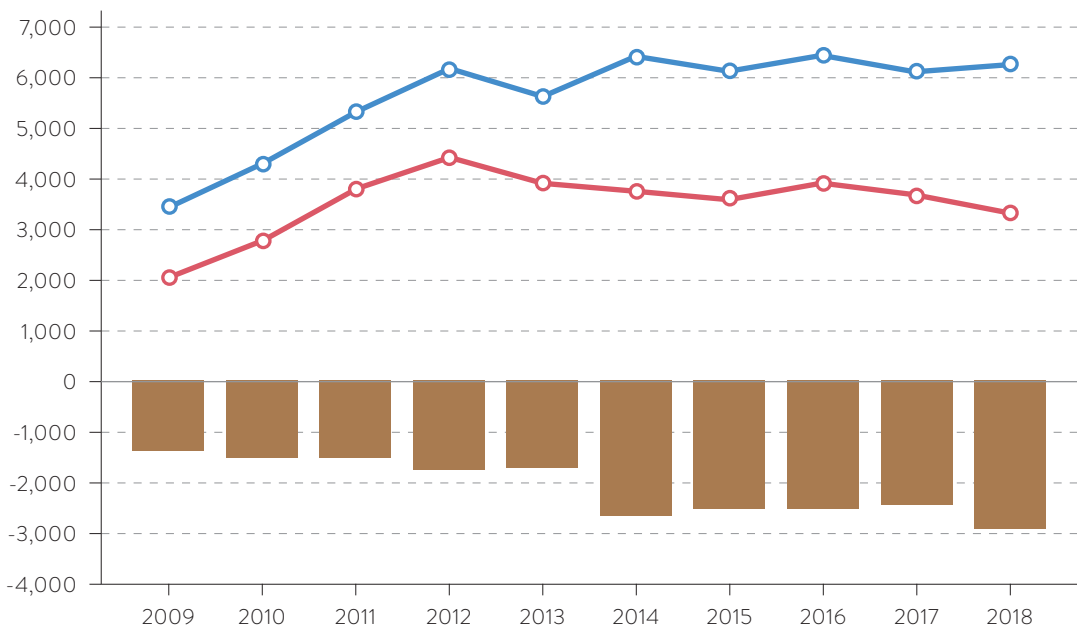


Since 2014, a rise of 28 per cent was observed in imported consumer goods. Industrial supplies increased by 3 per cent over the same period and stood at €1,464 million in 2018.

The European Union is Malta's strongest trading partner, accounting for 66 per cent of total imports and 45 per cent of total exports. The second strongest trading partner in 2018 was Asia.



International trade in goods - (million EUR, 2009-2018)

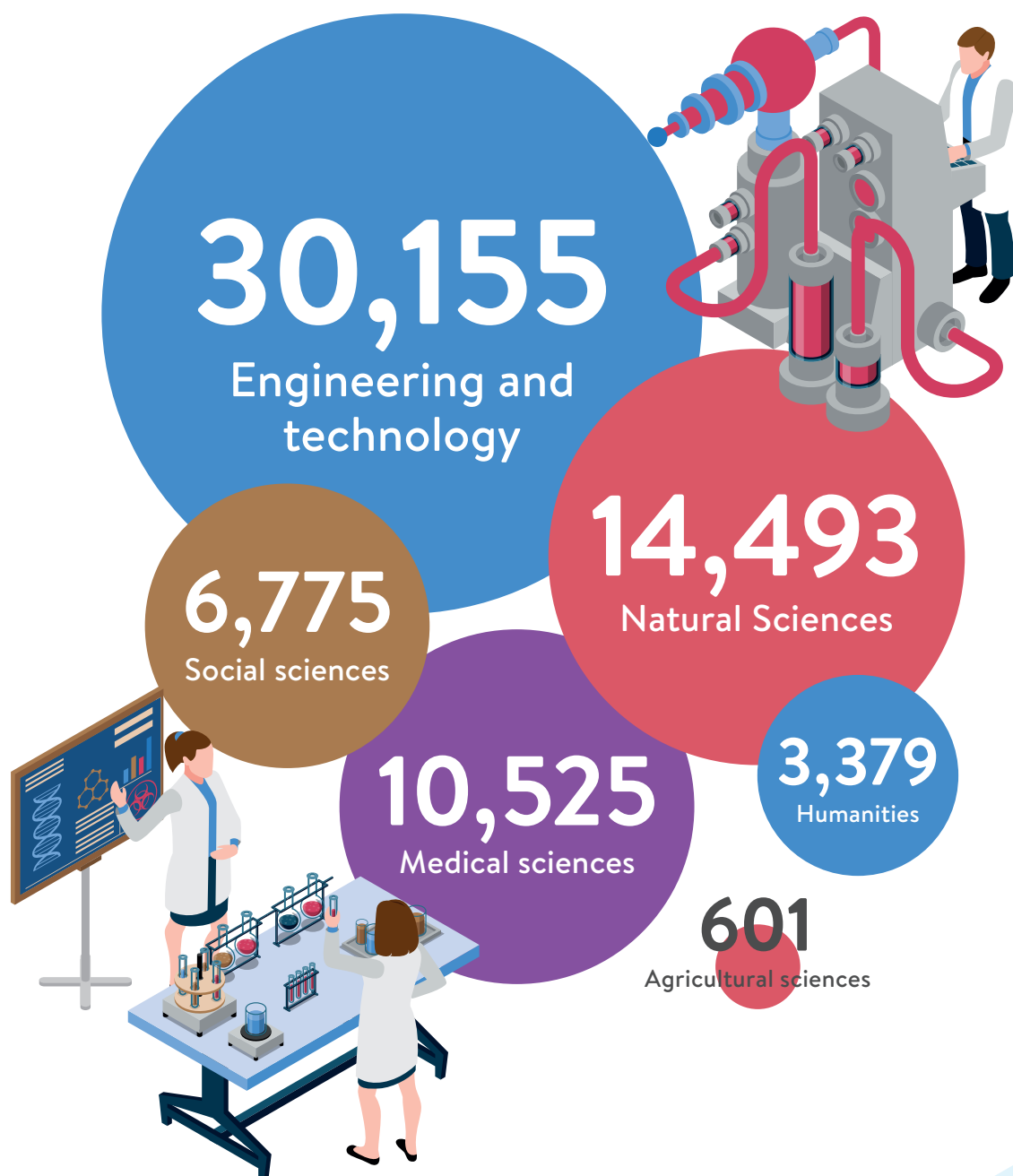


■ Imports ■ Exports ■ Trade balance

Source: International trade statistics, NSO

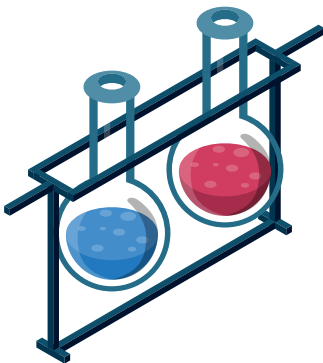
Research and Development

Expenditure on R&D by major field of science - (thousand EUR, 2017)

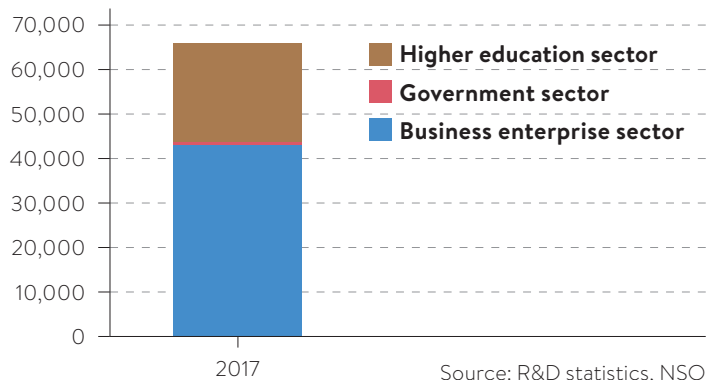


In 2017, outlay on R&D amounted to €66 million, accounting for 0.7 per cent of GDP. The business enterprise sector expended €43 million, the higher education sector €22 million and the government sector €0.6 million. The main areas benefiting from such outlay were engineering and technology - €30 million; natural sciences - €14 million; and medical sciences - €11 million.

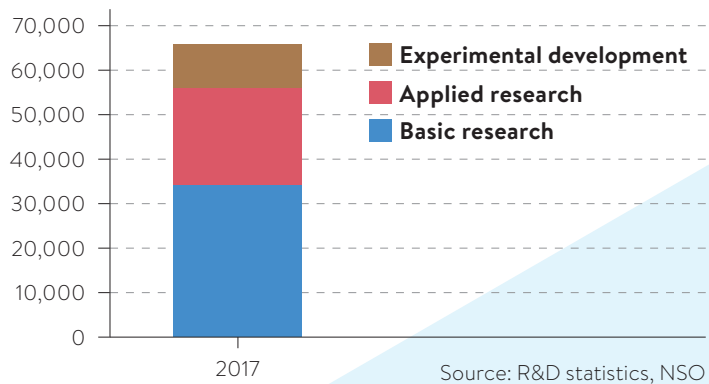
Researchers made up 62 per cent of R&D personnel. The remainder were technicians and support staff.



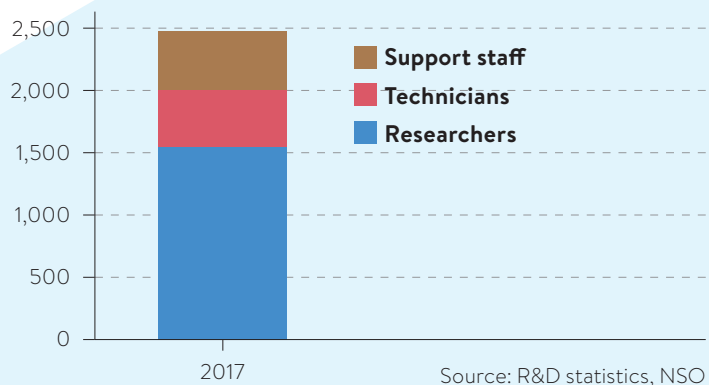
R&D expenditure by provenance - (thousand EUR, 2017)



Expenditure by type of activity - (thousand EUR, 2017)



Employment in R&D by occupation - (2017)

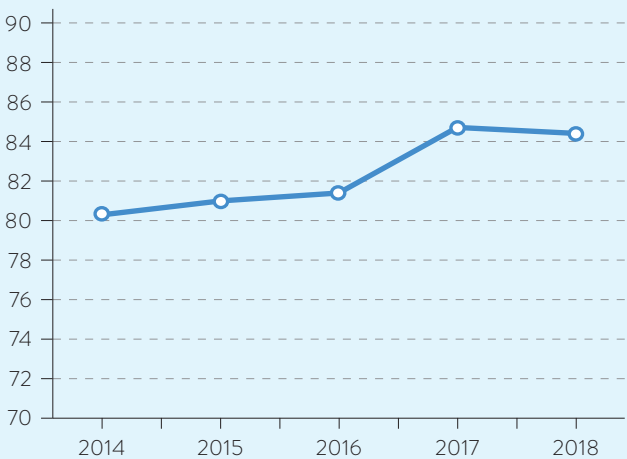


Information Society

NSO conducts an annual survey on ICT usage among households and individuals. Figures from the 2018 edition point to 84 per cent of households with access to the internet. Most had a fixed broadband connection such as ADSL and 48 per cent had a mobile broadband connection such as 3G/4G.

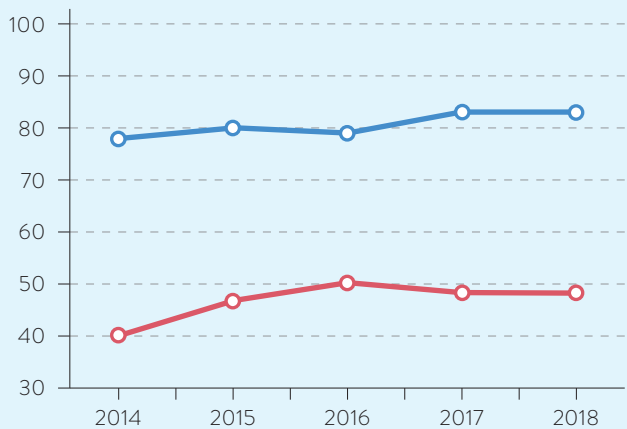


Households with internet access - (% , 2014-2018)



Source: ICT statistics, NSO

Households with broadband internet connection - (% , 2014-2018)

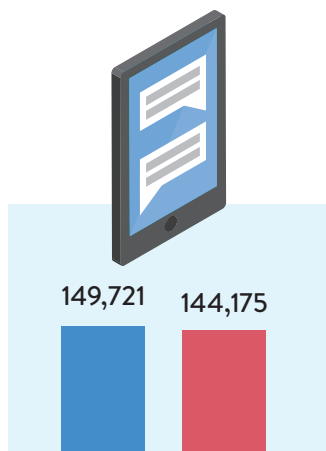


■ Fixed Broadband connection
■ Mobile Broadband connection

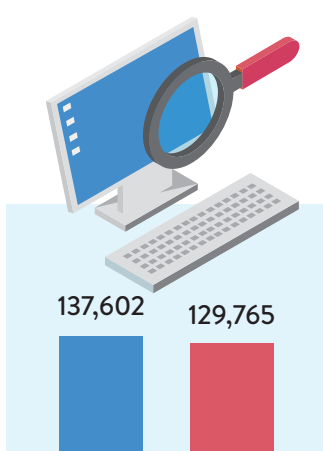
Source: ICT statistics, NSO

Main activities for which individuals made use of the internet - (2018)

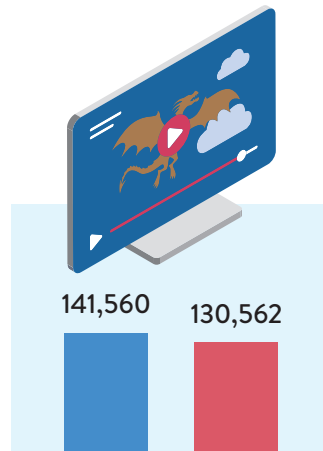
■ Males ■ Females



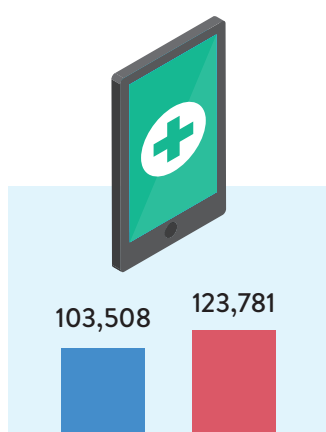
Communication



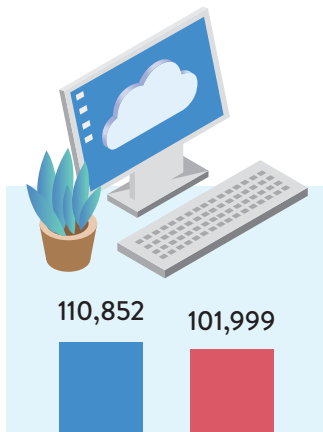
Access to information



Entertainment



eHealth



Other online services

Source: ICT statistics, NSO

The main reason for being online was email, communication and using social media. Other reasons included, listening to music, visual material and game services, as well as finding information about goods and services. An emerging factor for using ICT facilities was health, which includes informing oneself about health services and setting appointments with medical practitioners through websites or apps.



3 Environment



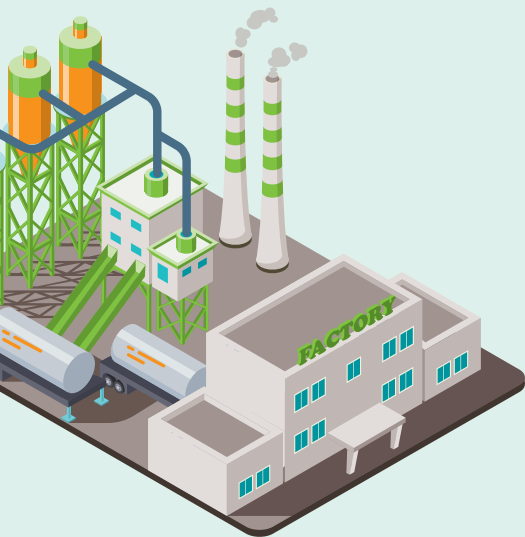
Environment

Air emissions

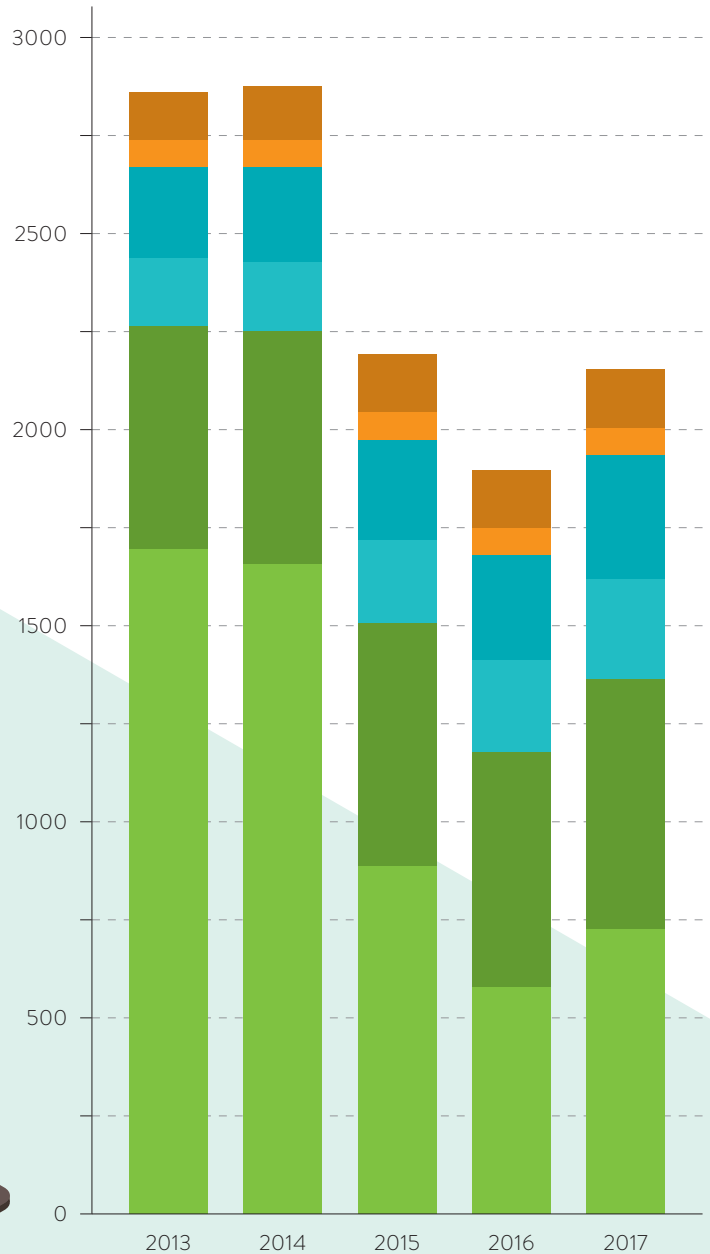
In 2017, greenhouse gas net emissions in CO₂ equivalent were 2,155 kilo tonnes. Over the 10-year period 2007-2017, emissions fluctuated. In 2017 however, a decrease of 21 per cent was noted over the average value for the time series.

From a sectoral perspective, the principal sources of emissions remained constant throughout the series: energy-driven industries and transport.

- Energy industries
- Transport
- Manufacturing industries, construction and other energy sectors
- Industrial processes
- Agriculture and land use
- Waste



Greenhouse gas net emissions - (kilo tonnes, 2013-2017)



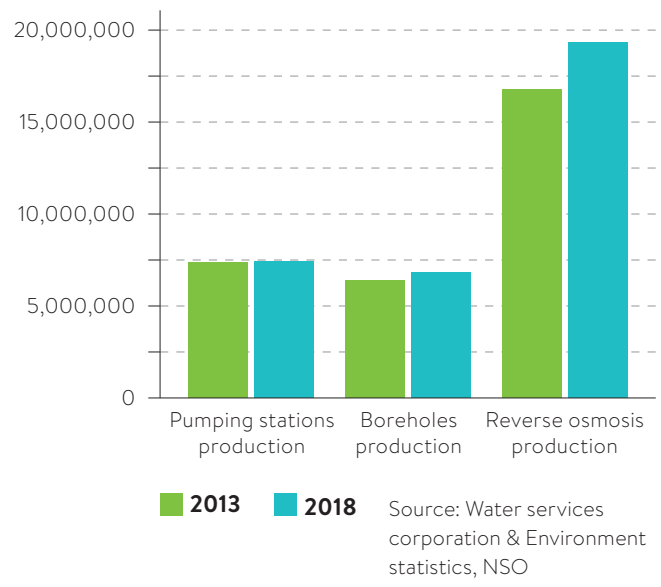
Source: Greenhouse gas inventory 2019 submission v.4

Public water production and consumption

In 2018, net production of water amounted to 33.5 million cubic metres. The bulk of public water was produced through reverse osmosis. Another 22 per cent originated from pumping stations and 20 per cent from boreholes.

Considering leakages from water mains calculated at 3.8 million cubic metres, 29.7 million cubic metres represented the water consumption of end users. Water consumption has seen a steady increase, growing by 12 per cent in the period 2013-2018.

Public water production - (cubic metres, 2013 & 2018)

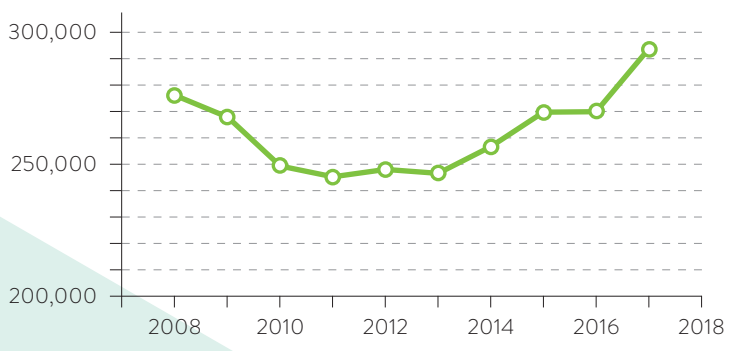


Municipal waste generation and treatment

Municipal waste refers to household waste and waste generated by businesses and institutions which resembles household waste in type and composition. Municipal waste is generally collected on behalf of the local council authorities and disposed of through the waste management system.

In 2017, over 294,000 tonnes of municipal waste were generated, 19 per cent more than in 2013. Mixed waste and bulky waste formed the largest segments. There are various practices for treating waste. The data shows that over a 5-year span to 2017, an average 237,610 tonnes per year were landfilled, 19,518 tonnes were recycled, and 42 tonnes were disposed of by incineration.

Municipal waste generation - (tonnes, 2008-2018)



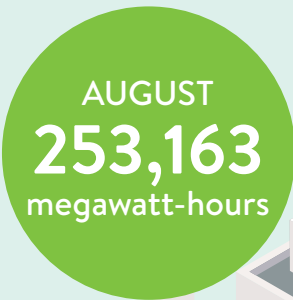
Source: Environment statistics, NSO



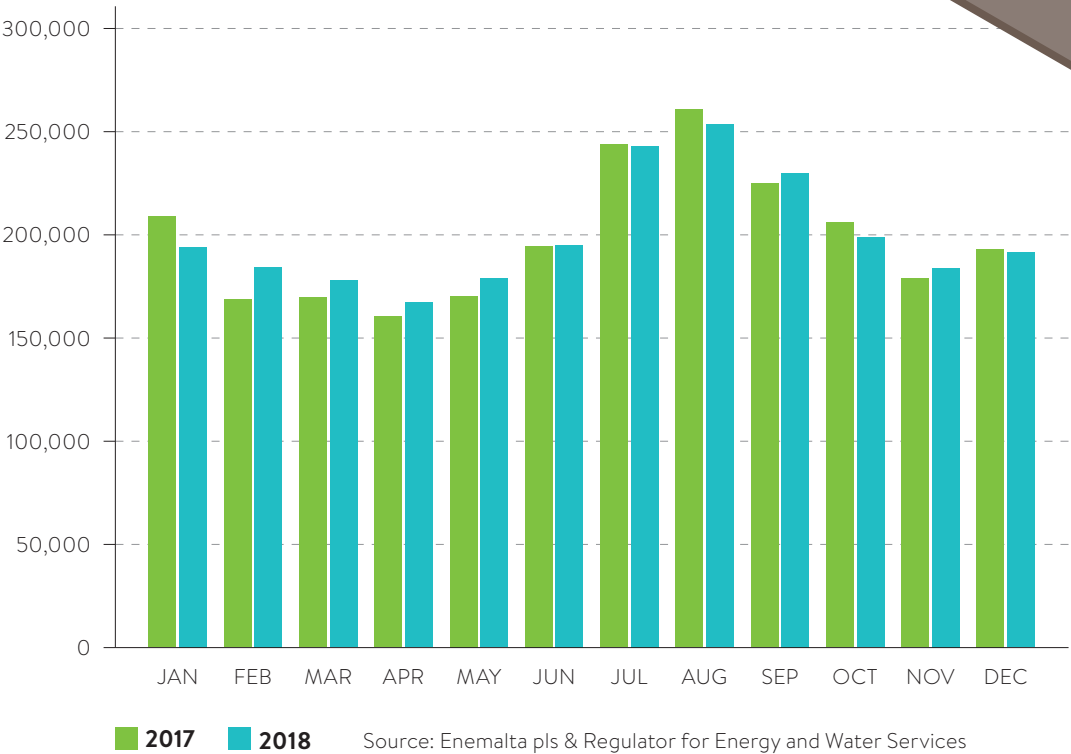
Energy

In the five years 2014-2018, the annual amount of electricity generated from power plants and imported through the interconnector was on the same levels year on year. By contrast, electricity from renewable sources has been on the rise, increasing, year on year by 26 per cent in 2017 and by 15 per cent in 2018. CO₂ equivalised emissions from power plants dropped by 58 per cent in this time span.

Highest and lowest volume of electricity generated in 2018



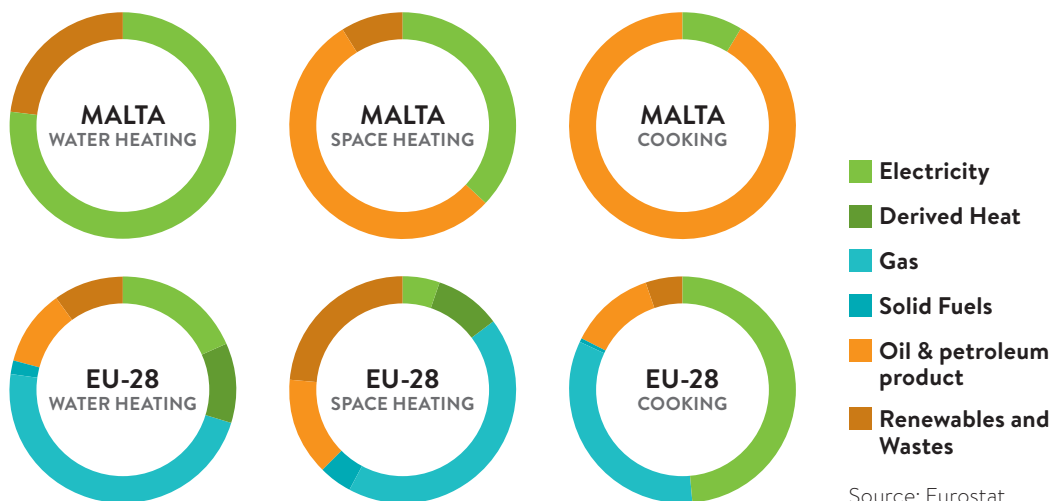
Electricity generation from power plants and importation through the interconnector - (megawatt-hrs, 2017 & 2018)



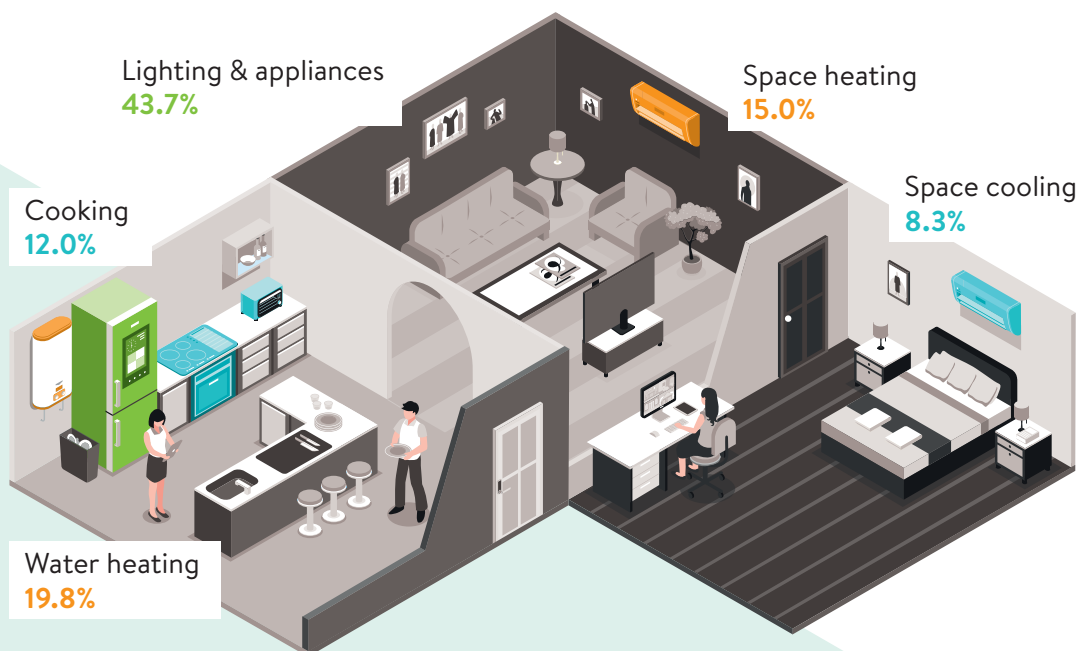
A breakdown of the end use of energy in households reveals that in 2017, 44 per cent was used for lighting and appliances, 20 per cent for heating water and 12 per cent for cooking. Heating and cooling of spaces together took up 23 per cent of end use.



Share of fuel in final energy consumption by use - (%, 2017)



Final energy consumption in the residential sector by end use - (%, 2017)



Transport

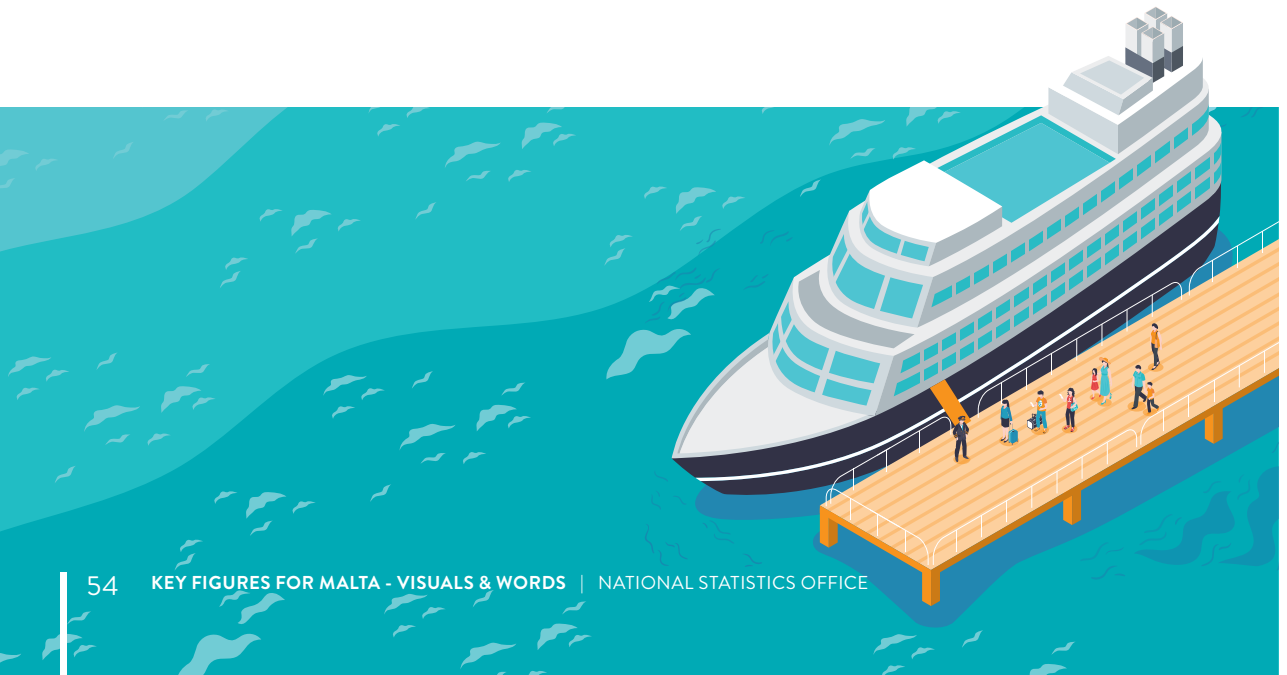
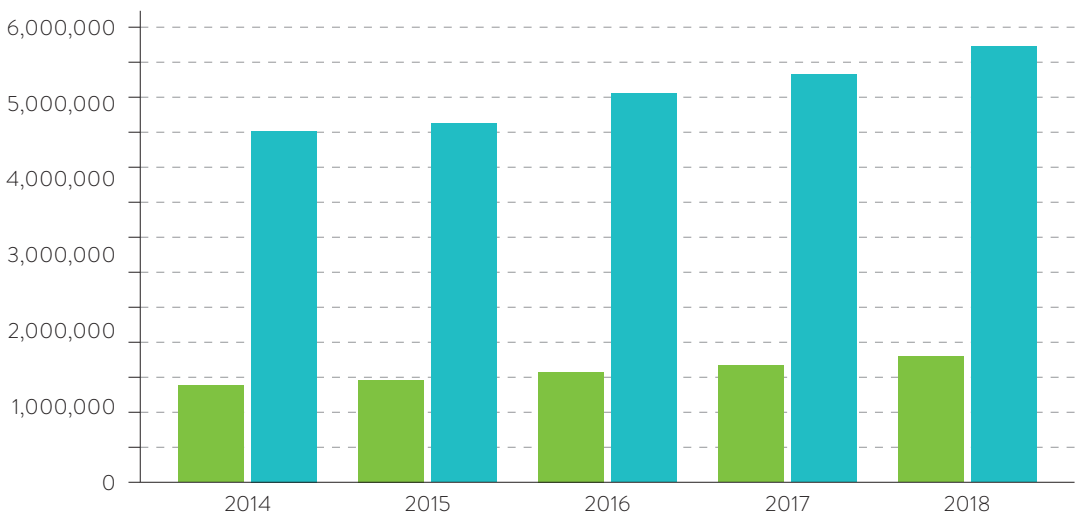
Sea transport between Malta and Gozo

In the course of 2018, the Malta-Gozo ferries carried 5.8 million passengers, nearly one-third of whom crossed over during the summer months. The number of ferried vehicles came up to 1.7 million. Trips went up by 19 per cent over 2014, signifying an average of 244 passengers per trip in 2018. Passenger traffic increased to 260 per trip during the weekend.

Source: Gozo Channel Co. Ltd

Vehicles
Passengers

Sea transport between Malta and Gozo - (2014-2018)

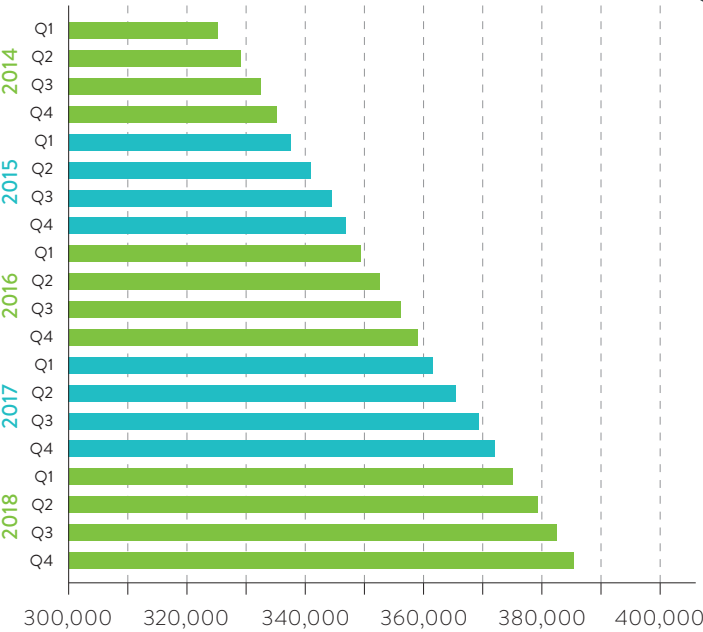


Road transport

As at end 2018, licensed motor vehicle stock stood at over 385,000, a rise of 15 per cent over four years earlier. Apart from the domination by petrol- and diesel-fuelled vehicles, there were 1,407 hybrid and 926 electric-powered vehicles.

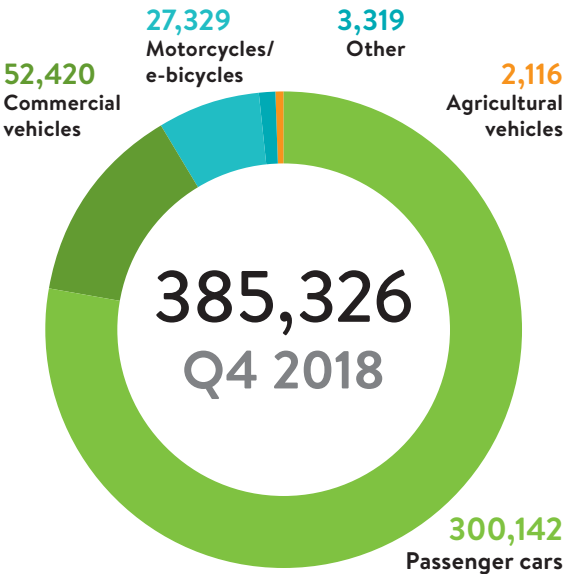
Route buses amassed the longest distances in kilometres, at an annual average of 72,069. Coaches, private buses and minibuses covered an average of between 23,000 and 25,000 kilometres per vehicle. Passenger cars travelled nearly 8,000 kilometres on average in 2018.

Stock of licensed motor vehicles by period - (2014-2018)



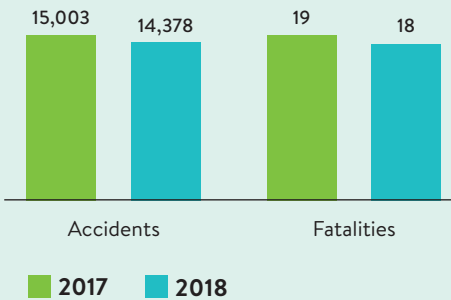
Sources: Transport statistics, NSO

Stock of licensed motor vehicles by vehicle group as at end Q4/2018



Road traffic accidents and fatalities

There were 14,378 road traffic accidents in 2018 from which 18 fatalities ensued. Road accidents dropped slightly over 2017, and there was one less traffic fatality.



Sources: Transport statistics, NSO

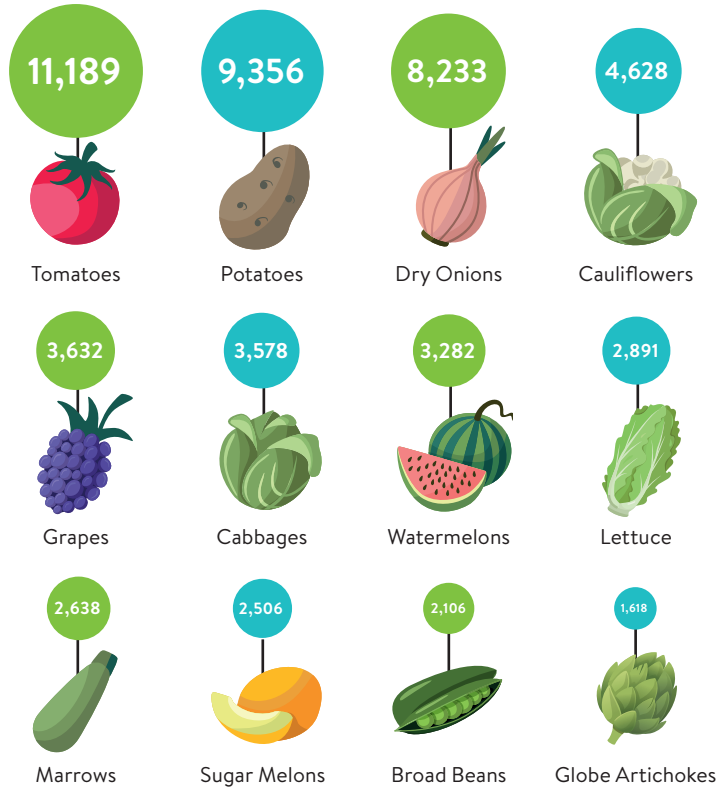
Agriculture and Fisheries

Agriculture

During 2018, the yield of vegetables fell by 6 per cent compared to 2017, generating an estimated producer value of over €34 million, 11 per cent less than the previous year. Fruit production came up to almost 6,000 tonnes - €4.7 million in producer value - signifying an increase of 3 per cent over the previous year. The main decrease in vegetable production was due to the potato yield, while the strawberry crop advanced by 58 per cent.

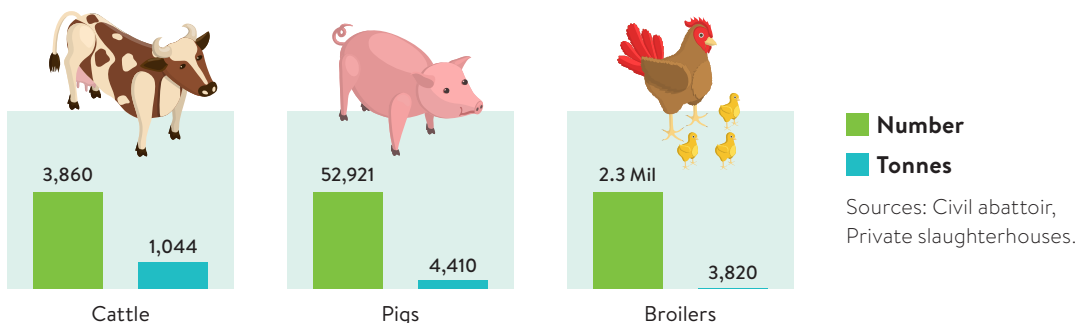
Statistics on animal production cover mainly cattle, pigs and broilers. In 2018, total production amounted to 9,275 tonnes. In volume terms, this was made up of 48 per cent pig meat, 41 per cent broiler meat and the rest, beef. This activity yielded a producer value of €19 million.

Locally grown fruit and vegetables - (tonnes, 2018)



Source: Agriculture statistics, NSO

Slaughtered livestock by type of animal - (2018)





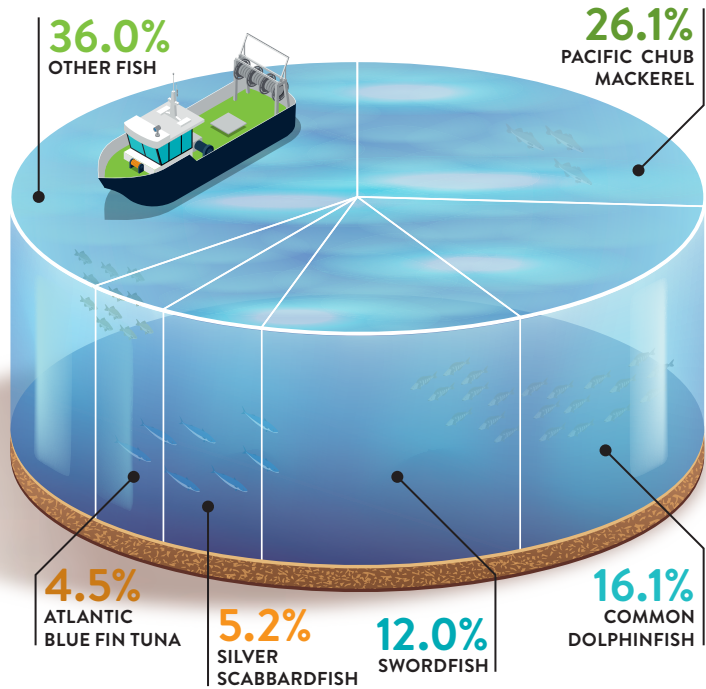
Employment in agriculture

The latest data on agricultural employment refers to 2016. The figures point to an ageing workforce in this sector, with 58 per cent of agricultural workers, both full-time and part-time, aged 55 and over.

Fish landings

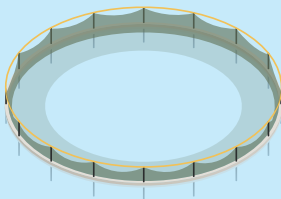
During 2018, 2,564 tonnes of fish were landed. The four main species as regards volume were: Pacific chub mackerel (Kavall ghajnejh kbar), Common dolphinfish (Lampuka), Swordfish (Pixxispad), Silver Scabbardfish (Xabla) and Bluefin tuna (Tonn). From the approach of tonnage compared with wholesale value, significant differences are evident among the species. For example, 115 tonnes of bluefin tuna generated a wholesale value of over €9,790 per tonne, while 670 tonnes of mackerel had a wholesale value of €516 per tonne.

Locally caught fish - (% total catch, 2018)

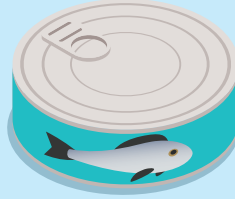


Source: Fisheries statistics, NSO

Fish farming sales and purchases of tuna



13,120 Tonnes



€168 Million

Aquaculture

In the aquaculture industry, 15,721 tonnes of fish were sold, equivalent to around €180 million. Farmed tuna dominated the industry both in volume and value.

Glossary

Aquaculture: the farming of aquatic organisms including fish, molluscs, crustaceans and aquatic plants. Farming implies some sort of intervention in the rearing process to enhance production, such as feeding, protection from predators and so forth.

At-risk-of-poverty rate: the share of persons with an equivalised disposable income below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold.

Balance of Trade: the difference between a country's exports and imports of goods and services. A country has a trade deficit if it imports more than it exports; the opposite scenario gives rise to a trade surplus.

CO₂ equivalent: it is a metric measure used to compare the emissions from various greenhouse gases based on their global-warming potential (GWP).

Crude birth rate: the number of total live births per thousand mid-year population.

Crude mortality rate: the number of deaths per thousand mid-year population.

Domestic tourism: comprises the activities of a resident visitor within the country, i.e. Maltese residents visiting Gozo and Comino and vice versa and staying for at least one night but not more than 12 consecutive months for personal, business or other purposes.

Dwellings' useful floor area (in square metres): the floor space measured within the outer walls but including the inner walls. It excludes internal shafts, stairs, balconies, terraces and open roof areas, non-habitable cellars, and in multi-dwelling, buildings all common spaces.

Early leavers from education and training: the percentage of persons aged 18-24 who achieved secondary education or less (ISCED <= 2) and are not pursuing further education or training.

Emigration: the action by which a natural person leaves his or her usual residence in the territory of the Member State for a period that is, or is expected to last, a minimum of 12 months.

Employment rate: the number of employed persons falling within a particular age bracket as a percentage of the working population in the same age bracket.

Equivalised disposable income: the household's total disposable income divided by its "equivalent household size", taking into account the size and composition of the household.

Foreign Direct Investment: the direct or indirect ownership of 10% or more of the ordinary shares (or voting power) of an enterprise resident in one economy by an investor resident in another (foreign) economy.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP): an estimate of the value of goods and services produced in the economy over a period of time. The GDP is estimated at current prices using the Production Approach, aggregating the output of the various productive sectors net of the cost of intermediate inputs. The Expenditure Approach is reconciled with the Production Approach and is used to derive an estimate of GDP in volume terms. In other words, excluding the effects of price inflation on market prices. The Income Approach shows how GDP at market prices is distributed into compensation of employees, operating surpluses of enterprises and taxes on production and imports net of subsidies.

Immigration: the action by which a natural person establishes his or her usual residence in a territory for a period that is, or is expected to last, a minimum of 12 months.

Inbound tourism: comprises the activities of non-resident visitors travelling to Malta (i.e. outside their usual environment) and staying for at least one night but not more than 12 consecutive months for personal, business or other purposes.

International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED): an instrument for compiling internationally comparable education statistics

Life expectancy: a population based statistical measure of the average number of years a person has before death. Life expectancies can be calculated for any age and give the further number of years a person can on average expect to live given the age they have attained during the reference year.

Megawatt: a unit for measuring power that is equivalent to one million watts.

Megawatt-hour (MWh): is equal to 1,000 kilowatts or one million watts of electricity produced by a power plant that runs continuously for one hour.

Municipal waste: waste that is generated from households and waste generated by businesses and institutions that is similar in nature and composition to household waste. This waste is collected by or on behalf of municipal authorities and disposed of through the waste management system.

Outbound tourism: comprises the activities of the resident population travelling outside Malta (i.e. outside their usual environment) and staying for at least one night but not more than 12 consecutive months for personal, business or other purposes.

Public water supply: water which is supplied to households and businesses by means of the national water distribution network. In Malta the sole entity which is responsible for the collection, purification and distribution of water is the Water Services Corporation.

Severe material deprivation: persons living in households who are unable to afford at least four of the nine deprivation items. The items in question are: ability to face unexpected financial expenses, ability to pay for one week's annual holiday away from home, whether they have been in arrears on mortgage or rent payments, utility bills, hire purchase instalments or other loan payments, ability to have a meal with meat, chicken, fish or vegetarian equivalent every second day, ability to keep home adequately warm in winter, own a washing machine, own a colour TV, own a telephone (including mobile phone) and own a car.

Structural business statistics: describe the structure, activity, competitiveness and performance of economic activities within the business economy down to the detailed level of several hundred sectors.

Total fertility rate: the number of children that would be born to a female if she were to live to the end of her child-bearing years and bear children in accordance with current age-specific fertility rates.

Total population: all persons residing in the Maltese Islands.

Unemployment rate: the number of unemployed persons falling within a particular age bracket as a percentage of the labour force in the same age bracket.

Usual residence: refers to the place where a person normally spends the daily period of rest, regardless of temporary absences for purposes of recreation, holidays, visits to friends

and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage. Usual residents of a specific geographical area are: those who have lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least 12 months before the reference time, or those who arrived in their place of usual residence during the 12 months before the reference time with the intention of staying there for at least one year.

Work Intensity: the ratio of the total number of months that all household members aged between 18 and 59, with the exclusion of students aged between 18 and 24, have worked during the income reference year and the total number of months the same household members theoretically could have worked in the same period.

Users are invited to visit the NSO website and the NSO metadata portal for further information, statistical concepts, quality reports and classifications:

Website: <https://nso.gov.mt/en/Pages/NSO-Home.aspx>

Metadata/ reports/ classifications: <https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/Default.aspx>

Statistical concepts: <https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>

Key Figures For Malta

Visuals & Words

2019 edition

ISBN: 978-99957-29-82-0

www.nso.gov.mt

