

International Women's Day is globally celebrated on March 8, when women are recognised for their achievements over time.

International Women's Day: 2018

Population

At the end of December 2016, the female population in Malta and Gozo stood at 228,634 making up 49.7 per cent of the total population (Table 1). Year on year, there were more male resident births than female ones registered in Malta and Gozo. In 2016, female live births numbered 2,111 compared to 2,365 male live births (Chart 1). In the same year, life expectancy for females at birth stood at 84.4 years while for males it was 80.6 years (Chart 2). This partly explains why population counts for both sexes remain relatively close despite the fact that male births outnumber female ones.

Education

The number of female students enrolled in post-secondary and tertiary education institutions during academic year 2015-2016 stood at 12,645 or 52.4 per cent of total enrolments. Among those enrolled in the 15-24 age bracket, 51.9 per cent were females (Table 2). Moreover, 59.2 per cent of the students who graduated at the tertiary level were females (Table 3).

Technology

In 2017, 95.3 per cent of women used the internet on a daily basis against 92.6 per cent of men (Table 4). Both women and men went online mainly for communication and access to information purposes. However, the female percentages in this regard were higher, for example, 97.1 per cent of women compared to 94.7 per cent of men for communication (Table 5).

Employment

Figures from the Labour Force Survey show that the highest female employment rate (64.3 per cent) was in the 25-54 age bracket (Table 7). On average an employed female worked around 35 hours per week, which is six hours less than her male counterpart (Table 10).

On the other hand, the unemployment rate for women was nearly one percentage point higher than that for men, at five per cent (Table 8). The highest unemployment rate (10.9 per cent) was among females aged between 15 and 24 (Table 9).

Between 2014 and 2016, the overall gender pay gap increased by 0.4 percentage points showing that by 2016, men were paid 11.0 per cent more than women. Table 11 summarises the gender pay gap by age group. As can be seen, the gap is highest for the 65+ cohort (21.1 per cent) followed by the 35-44 cohort (13.1 per cent). Between 2014 and 2016, an overall drop of 4.3 percentage points was recorded in the cohort 35-64.

Living conditions

Despite a decrease in percentage difference since 2014, at risk of poverty or social exclusion rates show that women are more at risk of poverty or social exclusion than men. In 2016, there were an estimated 42,587 women at risk of poverty or social exclusion compared to 51,298 in 2014.

In 2014 and 2015, women in the 0-17 age group were the most at risk of poverty or social exclusion. By 2016, there was a shift whereby women in the 65+ cohort were the most vulnerable, and those who were separated or widowed were at a higher risk of poverty or social exclusion (Table 12).

Expenditure patterns

The Household Budgetary Survey (HBS) 2015, shows that out of the 164,815 households, 36 per cent of the heads of household (breadwinners) were women (Chart 7).

In addition, households with a male breadwinner, on average, spent €4,496 more than households with a female head of household (Chart 8).

An analysis of household expenditure distribution from a gender perspective indicates that households with a female head of household tend to spend bigger shares on Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels, and Food and non-alcoholic beverages. Their male counterparts are more likely to spend a larger proportion of their household expenditure on Transport and Restaurants and hotels (Table 16).

Table 1. Total population by age group and sex at end of year: 2015-2016*

Age group	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
	2015			2016		
Total	226,396	224,019	450,415	231,663	228,634	460,297
0-4	11,500	10,716	22,216	11,848	10,852	22,700
5-9	10,934	10,183	21,117	11,224	10,594	21,818
10-14	10,524	9,970	20,494	10,597	9,969	20,566
15-19	12,503	11,715	24,218	12,007	11,367	23,374
20-24	15,969	14,600	30,569	16,005	14,569	30,574
25-29	18,287	16,865	35,152	19,111	17,829	36,940
30-34	18,284	16,593	34,877	18,994	17,135	36,129
35-39	17,285	15,868	33,153	17,906	16,314	34,220
40-44	15,564	14,486	30,050	16,143	15,157	31,300
45-49	13,483	12,805	26,288	14,037	13,183	27,220
50-54	14,659	14,203	28,862	14,291	13,879	28,170
55-59	15,605	15,674	31,279	15,656	15,621	31,277
60-64	14,381	14,444	28,825	14,732	14,698	29,430
65-69	14,719	15,451	30,170	14,658	15,263	29,921
70-74	9,638	10,738	20,376	11,007	12,147	23,154
75+	13,061	19,708	32,769	13,447	20,057	33,504

*Based on the November 2011 Census

Chart 1. Number of total live births resident in Malta by sex: 2012-2016

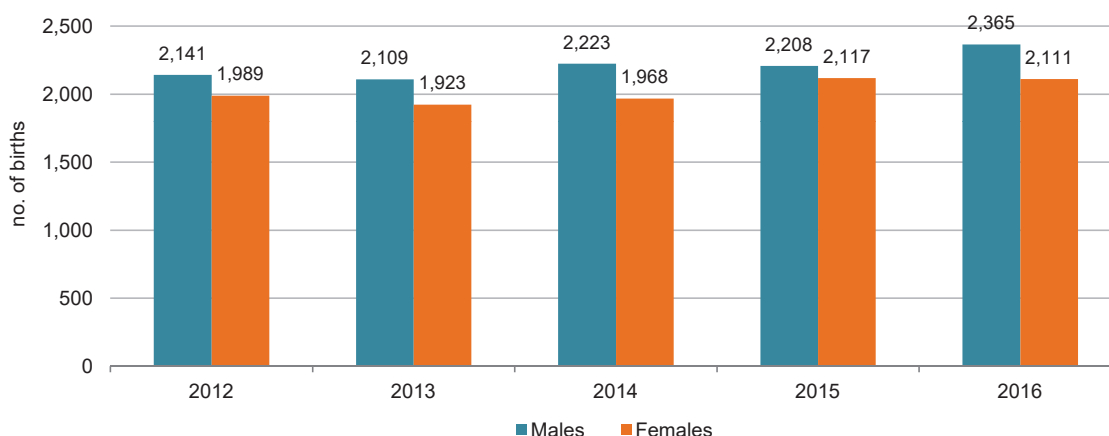


Chart 2. Life expectancy at birth by sex: 2012-2016

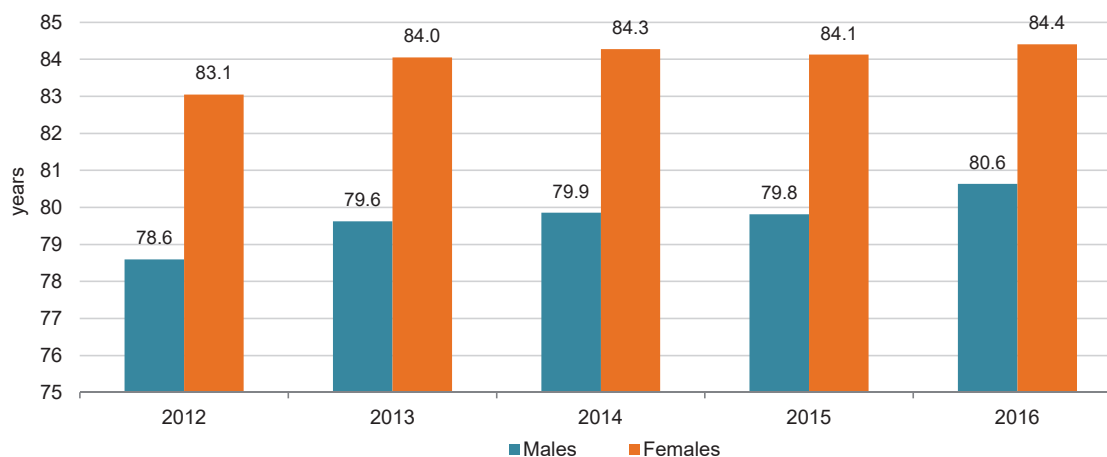


Table 2. Students enrolled in post-secondary and tertiary education institutions by age group and sex: 2015-2016

Age group	Males	Females	Total
Total	11,466	12,645	24,111
15-24	9,634	10,391	20,025
25-34	1,113	1,399	2,512
35-44	450	535	985
45-54	183	248	431
55-64	60	67	127
65+	26	5	31

Note: Data includes post-compulsory formal education, excludes short courses.

Table 3. Graduates in tertiary education by age group and sex: 2015-2016

Age group	Males	Females	Total
Total	1,817	2,637	4,454
15-24	1,243	1,590	2,833
25-34	374	610	984
35-44	133	264	397
45-54	38	137	175
55-64	20	36	56
65+	9	-	9

Note: Graduates in formal tertiary education (ISCED 5-8), excluding short courses.

Table 4. Frequency of internet use: 2017

Frequency	Number*			%		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Total	140,420	131,280	271,699	100.0	100.0	100.0
Every day or almost every day (five days or more)	130,009	125,088	255,097	92.6	95.3	93.9
At least once a week (but not every day)	:	:	:	:	:	:
Less than once a week	:	:	:	:	:	:

* Includes only persons aged 16-74 who used the internet within three months prior to the surveying period

: Data not reliable due to small sample representation

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 5. Activities relating to internet use: 2017

Activity	Number*			% internet users		
	Males	Females	Total**	Males	Females	Total
Communication	133,017	127,495	260,512	94.7	97.1	95.9
Access to information	132,037	126,295	258,332	94.0	96.2	95.1
Civic and political participation	39,463	36,118	75,582	28.1	27.5	27.8
Professional life	48,412	45,213	93,626	34.5	34.4	34.5
Other online services	104,676	100,101	204,778	74.5	76.3	75.4

* Includes only persons aged 16-74 who used the internet within three months prior to the surveying period

** Totals do not reflect total population due to respondents being able to choose more than one activity

Table 6. Employment rate by sex: 2012-2016

Year	Males	Females	Total
2012	73.8	44.0	59.1
2013	74.1	47.0	60.8
2014	74.9	49.5	62.4
2015	76.2	51.0	63.9
2016	78.3	52.7	65.8

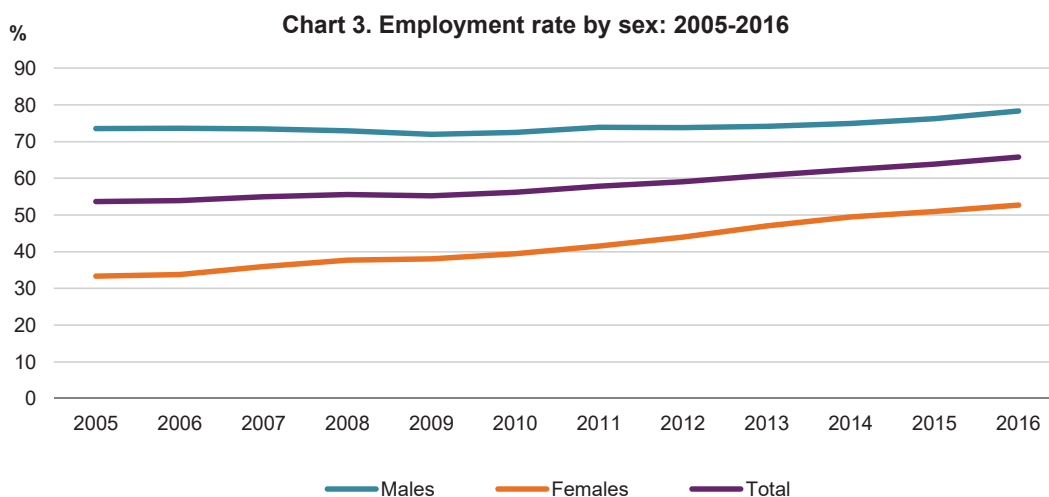


Table 7. Employment rate by sex and age group: 2016

	Males	Females	Total
Total	78.3	52.7	65.8
15-24	48.4	43.8	46.1
25-54	92.5	64.3	78.8
55-64	61.8	26.4	44.1

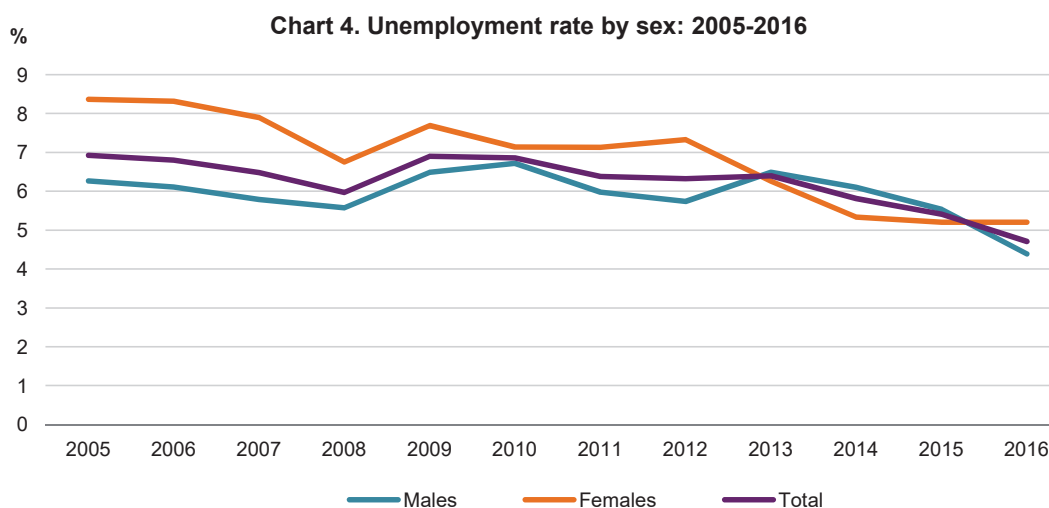


Table 8. Unemployment rate by sex: 2012-2016

%

Year	Males	Females	Total
2012	5.7	7.3	6.3
2013	6.5	6.3	6.4
2014	6.1	5.3	5.8
2015	5.5	5.2	5.4
2016	4.4	5.2	4.7

Table 9. Unemployment rate by sex and age group: 2016

%

Age group	Males	Females	Total
Total	4.4	5.2	4.7
15-24	11.2	10.9	11.1
25-74	3.5	4.1	3.7

Table 10. Average weekly hours worked by employed persons by age group: 2016

Mean hours

Age group	Male	Female	Total
Total	41.2	35.1	38.8
15-24	37.0	34.5	35.8
25-74	41.7	35.2	39.2

Table 11. Gender pay gap by age group: 2014-2016

%

Age group	2014	2015	2016
Total	10.6	10.4	11.0
15-25	-0.1	0.6	2.7
25-34	6.1	8.0	9.0
35-44	14.1	13.3	13.1
45-54	13.8	13.2	11.9
55-64	8.5	8.1	7.1
65+	18.6	19.6	21.1

Table 12. Women at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion by age group: 2014-2016

Age group	2014		2015		2016	
	Number of persons	%	Number of persons	%	Number of persons	%
Total	51,298	24.7	48,220	23.0	42,587	20.1
0-17	10,709	28.9	9,945	26.9	7,730	20.9
18-64	31,261	23.6	28,559	21.6	23,468	17.7
65+	9,328	24.2	9,716	24.2	11,389	27.5

Table 13. Women at-risk-of-poverty by age group: 2014-2016

Age group	2014		2015		2016	
	Number of persons below the threshold	%	Number of persons below the threshold	%	Number of persons below the threshold	%
Total	33,369	16.0	34,800	16.6	34,772	16.4
0-17	7,949	21.4	8,126	22.0	6,831	18.5
18-64	18,797	14.2	18,037	13.6	17,427	13.1
65+	6,623	17.1	8,637	21.6	10,514	25.4

Table 14. Women at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion by civil status: 2014-2016

Civil status	2014		2015		2016	
	Number of persons	%	Number of persons	%	Number of persons	%
Total	41,876	23.9	39,473	22.3	35,685	20.0
Never married	12,620	26.4	10,725	22.4	9,050	18.5
Married	20,766	20.5	19,651	19.5	18,883	18.8
Separated	3,436	43.2	3,706	40.6	3,458	35.0
Widowed	4,746	27.7	4,685	27.2	3,941	22.9
Divorced	308	22.9	706	34.3	353	17.0

Note: These are persons who are 16 years and over

Table 15. Women at-risk-of-poverty by civil status: 2014-2016

Civil status	2014		2015		2016	
	Number of persons below the threshold	%	Number of persons below the threshold	%	Number of persons below the threshold	%
Total	26,260	15.0	27,668	15.6	28,770	16.1
Never married	7,297	15.2	6,496	13.6	6,693	13.7
Married	14,682	14.5	15,318	15.2	15,983	15.9
Separated	1,861	23.4	2,332	25.6	2,452	24.8
Widowed	2,202	12.9	3,032	17.6	3,290	19.1
Divorced	217	16.2	490	23.8	353	17.0

Note: These are persons who are 16 years and over

Chart 5. At-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion by sex: 2014-2016

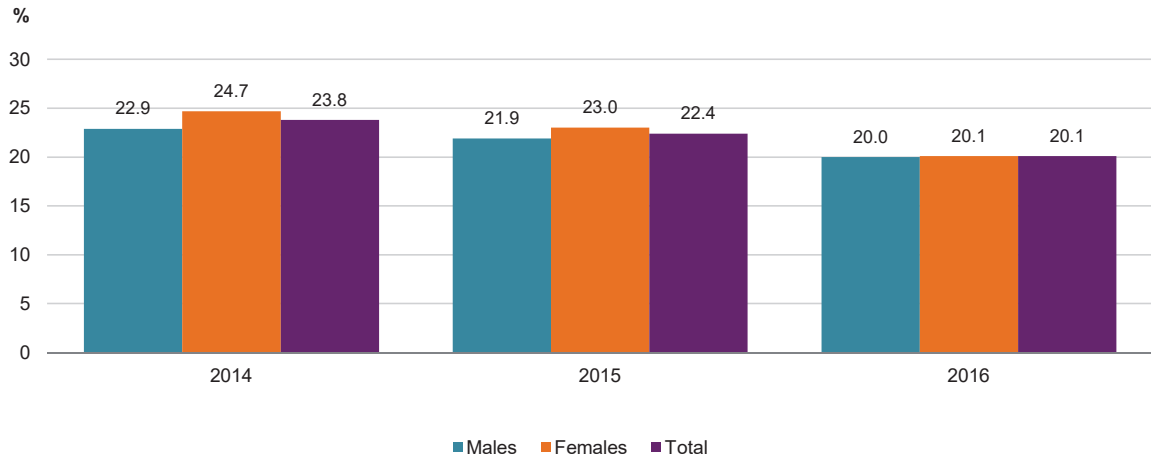


Chart 6. At-risk-of-poverty by sex: 2014-2016

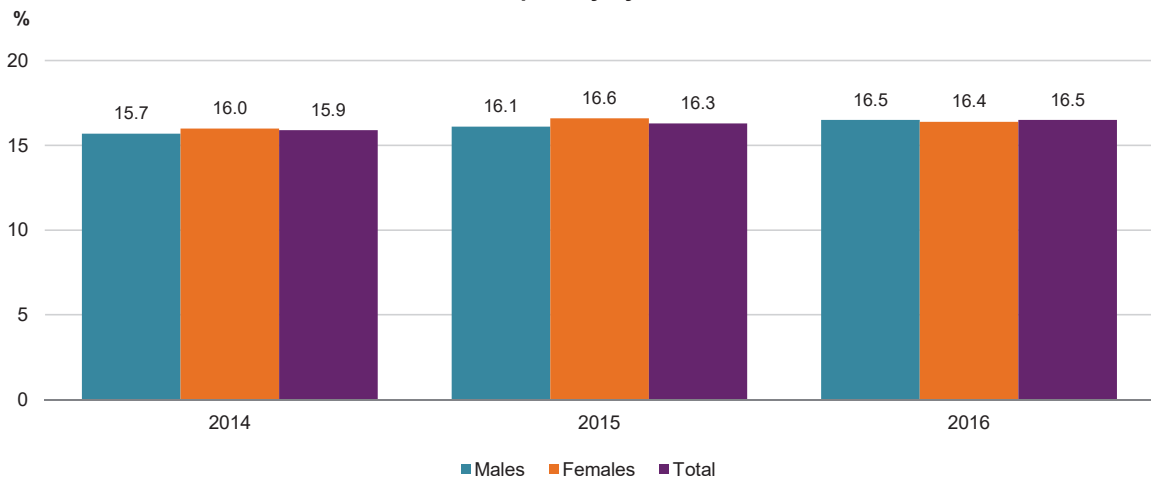


Chart 7. Reference person distribution: 2015

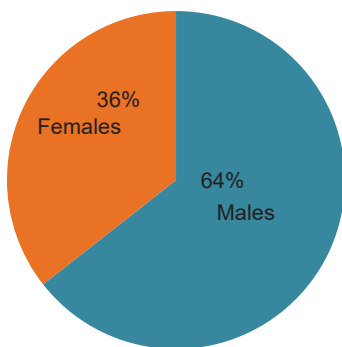


Chart 8. Average expenditure by sex of reference person: 2015

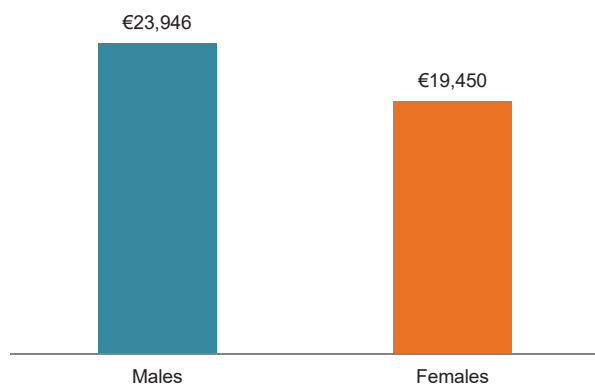
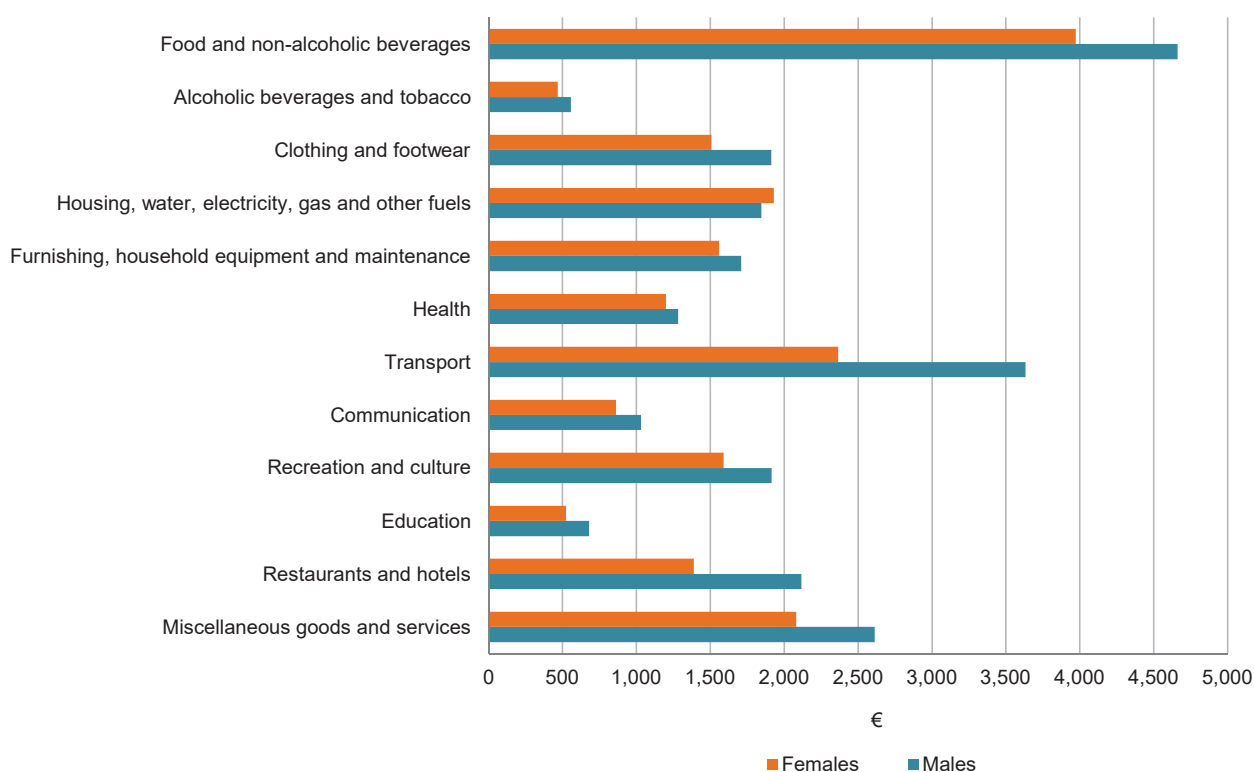


Table 16. Average household expenditure by sex: 2015

	Average expenditure (€)		% expenditure distribution	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	€4,662	€3,973	19.5	20.4
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	€556	€469	2.3	2.4
Clothing and footwear	€1,912	€1,508	8.0	7.8
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	€1,845	€1,930	7.7	9.9
Furnishing, household equipment and maintenance	€1,708	€1,560	7.1	8.0
Health	€1,281	€1,200	5.4	6.2
Transport	€3,632	€2,366	15.2	12.2
Communication	€1,030	€861	4.3	4.4
Recreation and culture	€1,914	€1,590	8.0	8.2
Education	€679	€524	2.8	2.7
Restaurants and hotels	€2,116	€1,388	8.8	7.1
Miscellaneous goods and services	€2,612	€2,081	10.9	10.7

Chart 9. Average expenditure by category and sex of reference person: 2015



Methodological Notes

Population

1. **Total population:** all persons residing in Malta. The total population at the end of year t, is computed using the equation $P_t = P_{t-1} + B_t - D_t + I_t - E_t$, where:
 - P_t is the total resident population at the end of year t,
 - P_{t-1} is the total resident population at the end of year t-1,
 - B_t is the total number of births born to mothers resident in Malta registered during year t,
 - D_t is the total number of deaths of persons resident in Malta registered during year t,
 - I_t is the total immigration of both Maltese and foreign nationals registered during year t who immigrated with the intention to live in Malta for a period of at least 12 months.
 - E_t is the total emigration of both Maltese and foreign nationals resident in Malta registered during year t who leave the country for a period of at least 12 months.
2. **Total registered live births:** all births registered in Malta and Gozo by Maltese and foreign parents. Still births are excluded.
3. **Life expectancy at birth:** the number of years a newborn is expected to live if mortality in the various age groups remains at the level of the period in which the expectation of life is computed.

Employment

4. **Unemployment rate:** the number of unemployed persons aged within a particular age bracket as a percentage of the labour force in the same age bracket (15-24, 25-74 and 15-74).
5. **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 (15-24, 25-54, 55-64, 15-64 and 20-64).
6. **Average weekly number of hours usually worked per week:** the sum of hours usually worked by employed persons divided by the number of employed persons. The average excludes persons working variable hours.
7. **Gender pay gap** refers to the difference between average gross hourly earnings of male paid employees and of female paid employees as a percentage of average gross hourly earnings of male paid employees. The indicator is based on the Structure of Earnings Survey methodology and is worked out on business units employing 10 or more persons and operating in NACE sections B to S excluding O.

Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC)

8. The **at-risk-of-poverty rate** refers to the share of persons with an equivalised disposable income below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold.
9. The **at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion rate** corresponds to the proportion of persons who fall within at least one of the following three categories:
 - persons whose equivalised income falls below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold,
 - persons who live in severely materially deprived private households,
 - persons aged 0-59 who live in private households with very low work intensity (i.e. the adults (aged 18-59) worked less than 20% of their total work potential during the past year.)

Household Budgetary Survey (HBS)

10. The **HBS** is a survey that runs approximately every five years and aims to capture the expenditure patterns of residential private households in Malta and Gozo. Detailed information is also collected on various other sources such as possession of durable goods, cars, basic information on housing and several other demographic and socio-economic characteristics. The survey sample targets private households in the country which, when grossed up, amounted to approximately 164,800 in 2015. All other residential establishments (e.g. hotels, hospitals, convents, prisons, homes for the elderly, etc.) in which people reside collectively, are excluded in the selection of the sample.
11. A **household** comprises of one person living alone or a group of people living at the same address and sharing certain expenses and daily needs. The members of a household are not necessarily related by blood or marriage.

As the survey covers only private households, people living in institutional dwellings (e.g. hotels, hospitals, convents, prisons, homes for the elderly, etc.) are excluded. An individual belongs to a household even if he/she was on holiday or on a business trip during the survey period but at the same time kept household relationships and was still contributing to the household expenses.
12. The reference person is very often identified as the head of household (or 'bread winner'), the member contributing mostly to the total income of the household.
13. Consumption expenditure tables included in this release show the main commodity and service groups of spending at different hierarchical levels based on the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP), which is the basic coding system used in the study of National Accounts: <https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=COICOP%201999>.
14. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:
Statistical concept: <https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>
Classifications: <https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE%20Rev.%202>
15. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
16. A detailed news release calendar is available on:
https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx