

The International Day of Families is annually observed on May 15, with the aim of highlighting issues families face, also focusing on social, economic and demographic matters.

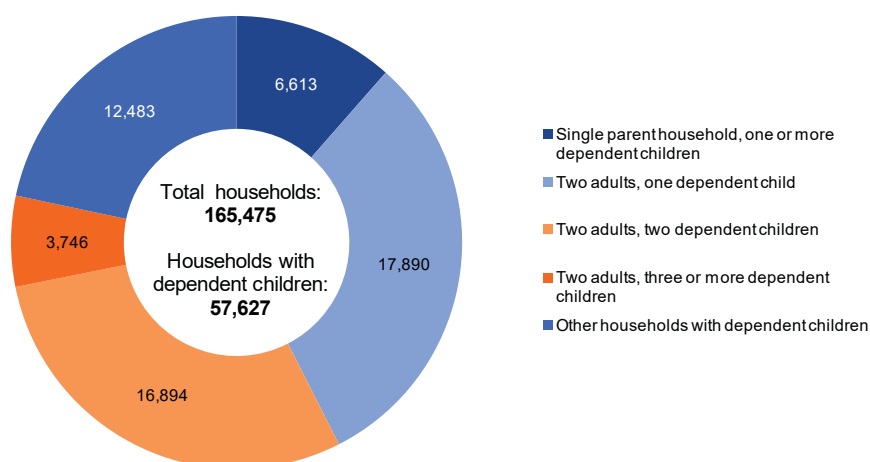
## International Day of Families: 2018

### Household Dynamics

The European Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) Survey for 2016 showed that the total number of households amounted to 165,475. The majority of these – 65.2 per cent – were households without dependent children, while 34.8 per cent had dependent children (Chart 1, Table 7).

Of the 57,627 households with dependent children, 6,613 (4.0 per cent) were single parent households with one or more dependent children. Households that comprised of two adults and one dependent child amounted to 17,890 (10.8 per cent), while those with two adults and two dependent children totalled 16,894 (10.2 per cent).

Chart 1. Household composition: EU-SILC 2016



Data from the Labour Force Survey also showed that as at 2016, there were a total of 86,886 parents living in the same household as their children. Of these, 47,108 were mothers and 39,778 were fathers.

Parents in employment amounted to 64,904 or 74.7 per cent of all parents in 2016, as opposed to 64,968 (74.2 per cent) in 2015.

In 2016, 57.1 per cent of mothers with children aged up to 17 years were in employment, and 39.3 per cent were inactive, while the rest were unemployed. Of the 26,883 employed mothers, 16,616 (61.8 per cent) were in full time employment and 10,267 (38.2 per cent) were in part time employment.

The absolute majority, 38,021 (95.6 per cent) of fathers were in employment during 2016, 3.0 per cent were inactive, while those unemployed were in the minority. Furthermore, the absolute majority of working fathers (97.6 per cent) were employed on a full time basis (Tables 1 and 2).

The average gross annual salary of working parents has been increasing since 2011. The year-on-year increase between 2016 and 2015 was of 2.6 per cent (Table 3). The average gross annual salary of working fathers in 2016 stood at €20,758 as opposed to €15,713 of working mothers.

**Table 1. Number of parents classified by labour status: 2011-2016**

		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Fathers</b>	Employed	38,096	39,914	40,161	38,493	38,356	38,021
	Unemployed	1,508	1,294	1,212	1,328	1,081	581 <sup>u</sup>
	Inactive	1,508	1,510	1,495	1,344	1,222	1,176
	<b>Total</b>	<b>41,112</b>	<b>42,718</b>	<b>42,868</b>	<b>41,165</b>	<b>40,659</b>	<b>39,778</b>
<b>Mothers</b>	Employed	20,630	23,420	24,928	26,207	26,612	26,883
	Unemployed	1,804	1,652	1,504	1,275	1,461	1,710
	Inactive	25,768	23,045	21,286	20,084	18,879	18,515
	<b>Total</b>	<b>48,202</b>	<b>48,117</b>	<b>47,718</b>	<b>47,566</b>	<b>46,952</b>	<b>47,108</b>

Source: Labour Force Survey annual data 2011-2016

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Note: Parents are defined as mothers and fathers having children aged up to 17 years and living in the same household.

**Table 2. Number of working parents classified by type of employment: 2011-2016**

		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Fathers</b>	Full time	37,519	39,016	39,169	37,126	37,299	37,095
	Part time	577 <sup>u</sup>	898 <sup>u</sup>	992 <sup>u</sup>	1,367	1,057 <sup>u</sup>	926 <sup>u</sup>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>38,096</b>	<b>39,914</b>	<b>40,161</b>	<b>38,493</b>	<b>38,356</b>	<b>38,021</b>
<b>Mothers</b>	Full time	12,735	14,190	15,354	15,816	16,026	16,616
	Part time	7,895	9,230	9,574	10,391	10,586	10,267
	<b>Total</b>	<b>20,630</b>	<b>23,420</b>	<b>24,928</b>	<b>26,207</b>	<b>26,612</b>	<b>26,883</b>
<b>Total parents</b>	Full time	50,254	53,206	54,523	52,942	53,325	53,711
	Part time	8,472	10,128	10,566	11,758	11,643	11,193
	<b>Total</b>	<b>58,726</b>	<b>63,334</b>	<b>65,089</b>	<b>64,700</b>	<b>64,968</b>	<b>64,904</b>

Source: Labour Force Survey annual data 2011-2016

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Note: Parents are defined as mothers and fathers having children aged up to 17 years and living in the same household.

**Table 3. Average gross annual salary of parents: 2011-2016**

		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Fathers		17,537	18,607	19,053	19,494	20,358	20,758
Mothers		13,526	13,424	14,249	14,633	15,045	15,713
<b>Total</b>		<b>15,998</b>	<b>16,524</b>	<b>17,045</b>	<b>17,318</b>	<b>17,960</b>	<b>18,431</b>

Source: Labour Force Survey annual data 2011-2016

Note: Parents are defined as mothers and fathers having children aged up to 17 years and living in the same household.

## Births

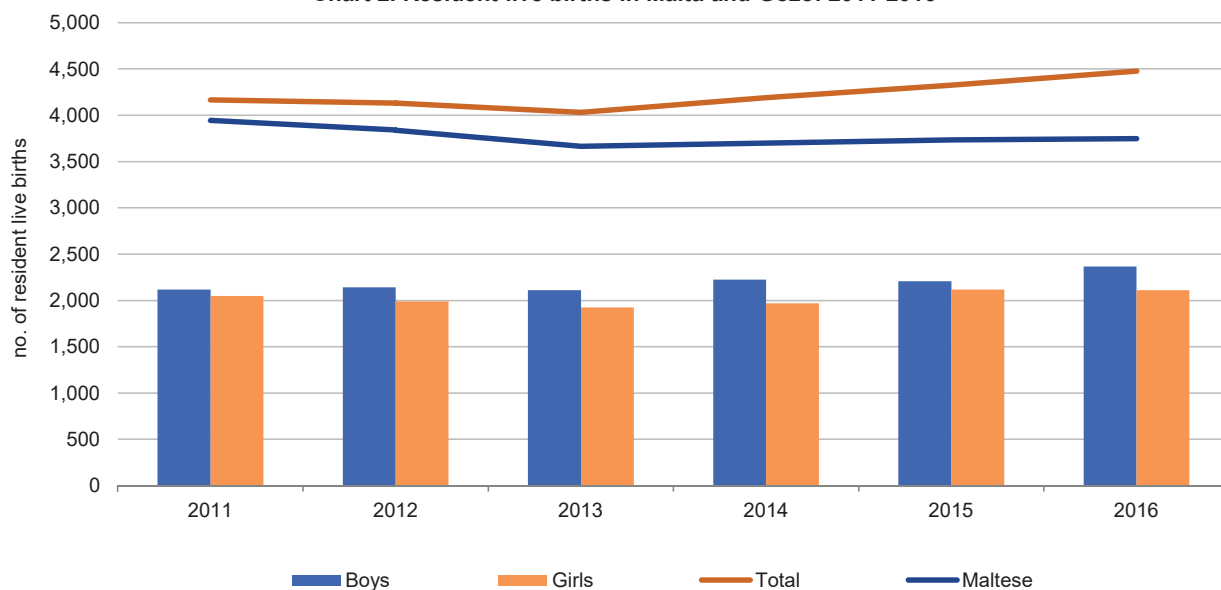
While the total number of resident live births in Malta declined between 2011 and 2013, numbers have been on the increase since 2014, and totalled 4,476 in 2016 (Chart 2, Table 8).

During the same year, Malta's fertility rate stood at 1.37, standing below the EU average of 1.60 (Chart 3).

Of the 4,476 resident live births registered with the Public Authorities in Malta during 2016, 84 per cent were born to Maltese mothers. Slightly more than half of the live births (53 per cent) were boys (Chart 2, Table 8).

The average age of mothers at childbirth increased throughout recent years, standing at 29.3 in 2011 and 30.2 in 2016 (Chart 4, Table 9).

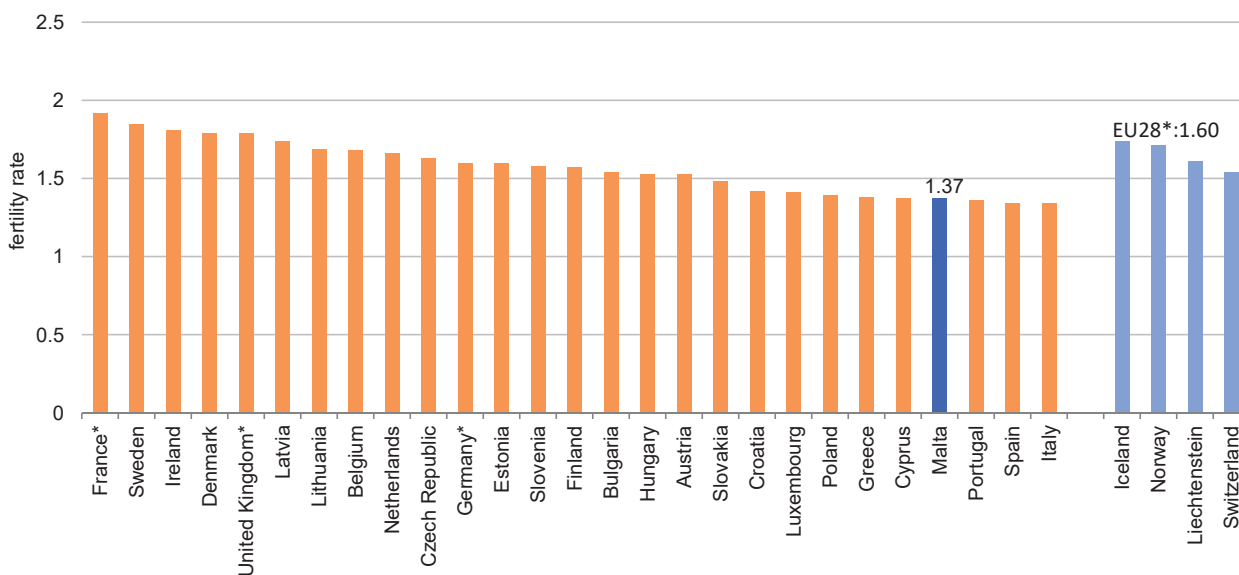
**Chart 2. Resident live births in Malta and Gozo: 2011-2016**



Source: Population and Migration Statistics - NSO

Note: Data includes **resident** live births only. Refer to methodological notes 5 and 6.

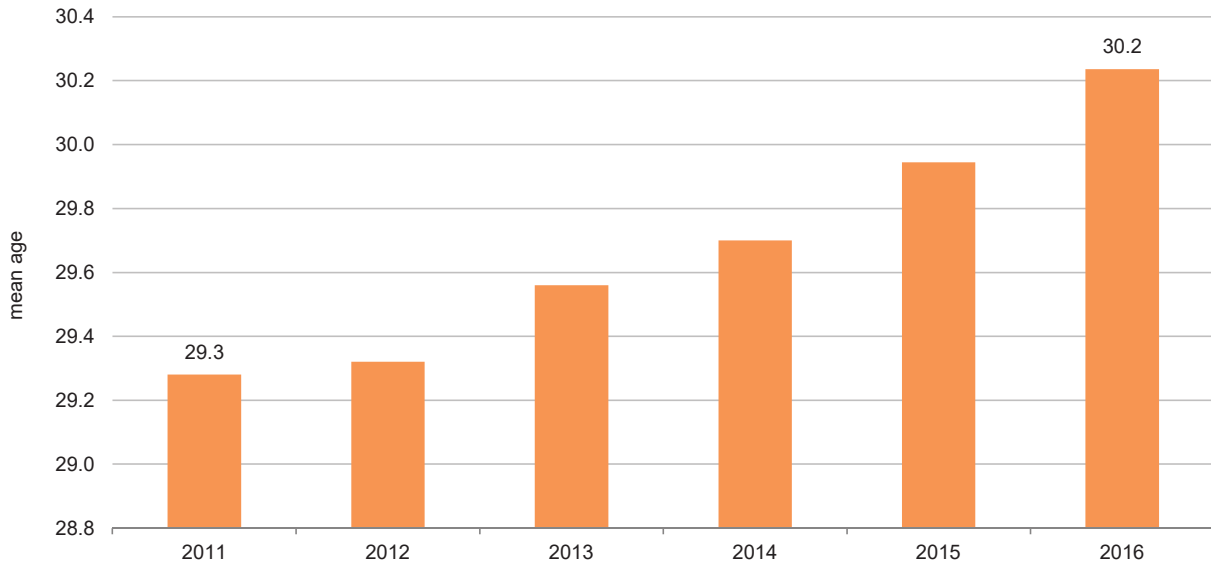
**Chart 3. Fertility rate in the EU 28 and EFTA countries: 2016**



\* Data is provisional

Source: Eurostat

**Chart 4. Mean age of mothers at childbirth: 2011-2016**



Source: Population and Migration Statistics - NSO

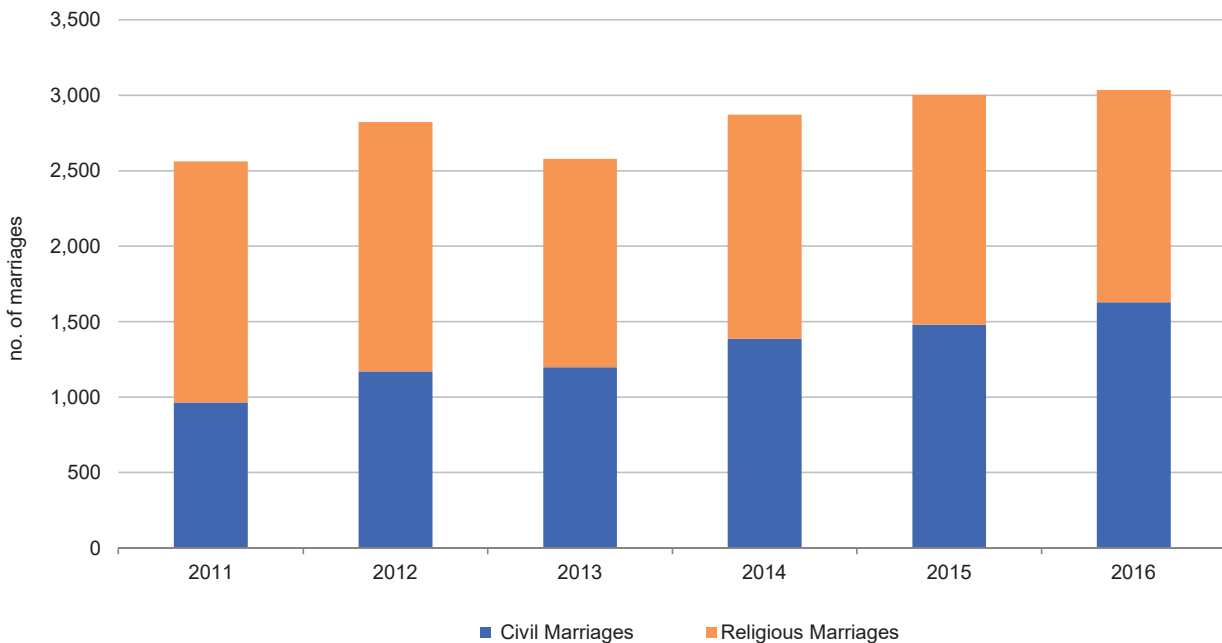
Note: Data includes **resident** live births only. Refer to methodological notes 5 and 6.

### Marriages

In general, the number of marriages registered in Malta and Gozo, increased between 2011 (2,562) and 2016 (3,034). Data shows that while civil marriages have been on a constant increase since 2011 there was a decline in religious ones (Chart 5, Table 10).

Just over half (1,571) of the marriages registered were between Maltese citizens, 115 were between a Maltese bride and a foreign groom, whereas 196 had a Maltese groom and a foreign bride. Marriages registered in 2016 in Malta and Gozo between foreigners totalled 987 (Table 4).

**Chart 5. Marriages registered in Malta and Gozo: 2011-2016**



Source: Population and Migration Statistics - NSO

Note: While data includes marriages between non-resident foreign spouses, it does not reflect the amendments to the Marriage Act that came into force in 2017. Refer to methodological notes 8 and 9.

Table 4. Total marriages by citizenship of spouses: 2016

Citizenship of bride	Citizenship of groom									Total
	Malta	United Kingdom	Other EU Member States	Other European countries	America	Africa	Asia	Oceania	Unspecified	
Malta	1,571	33	42	21	7	7	4	1	66	1,752
United Kingdom	20	477	14	3	-	1	-	-	3	518
Other EU Member States	43	29	305	26	2	5	-	4	15	429
Other European countries	55	3	25	23	-	-	1	-	2	109
America	15	3	9	-	23	1	-	-	-	51
Africa	9	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	14
Asia	50	5	4	1	2	-	8	-	-	70
Oceania	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	8	-	13
Unspecified	54	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	21	78
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,821</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>3,034</b>

Source: Population and Migration Statistics - NSO

Note: While data includes marriages between non-resident foreign spouses, it does not reflect the amendments to the Marriage Act that came into force in 2017. Refer to methodological notes 8 and 9.

Table 5. Civil marriages by citizenship of spouses: 2016

Citizenship of bride	Citizenship of groom									Total
	Malta	United Kingdom	Other EU Member States	Other European countries	America	Africa	Asia	Oceania	Unspecified	
Malta	328	21	21	19	7	7	4	-	64	471
United Kingdom	13	455	12	3	-	1	-	-	3	487
Other EU Member States	26	23	253	26	2	5	-	4	15	354
Other European countries	53	3	25	22	-	-	1	-	2	106
America	12	3	9	-	22	1	-	-	-	47
Africa	8	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	12
Asia	46	5	4	1	2	-	8	-	-	66
Oceania	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	8
Unspecified	54	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	20	77
<b>Total</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>1,628</b>

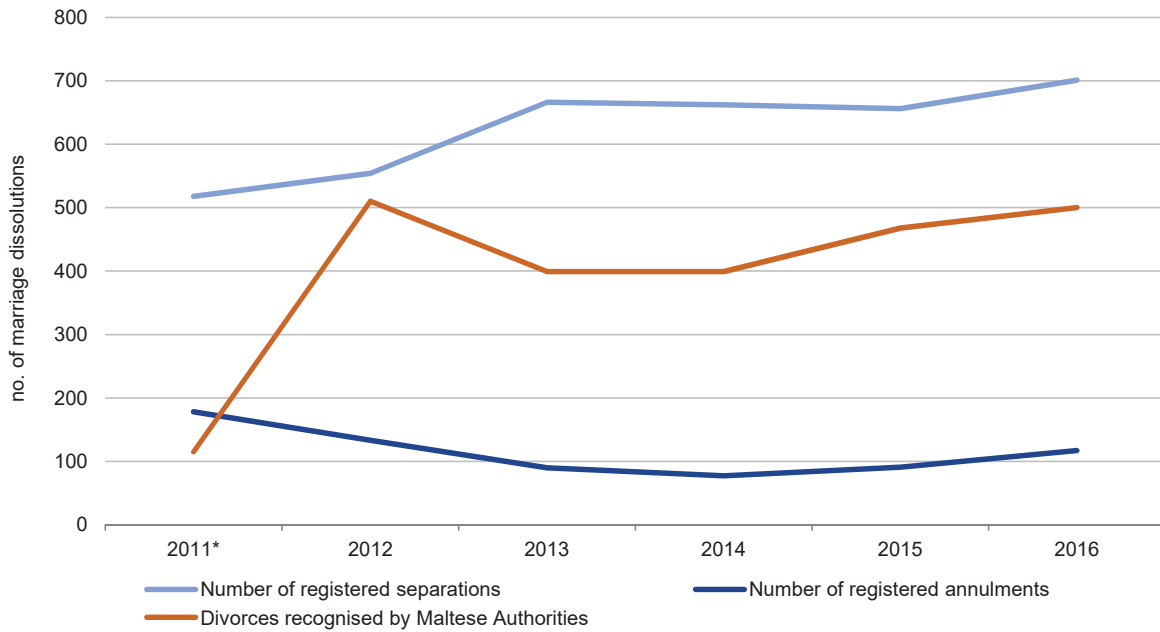
Source: Population and Migration Statistics - NSO

Note: While data includes marriages between non-resident foreign spouses, it does not reflect the amendments to the Marriage Act that came into force in 2017. Refer to methodological notes 8 and 9.

## Marriage Dissolutions

The number of marriage dissolutions also registered an increase between 2011 and 2016. Registered separations increased from 518 in 2011 to 701 in 2016. As one would expect, with the enactment of the divorce law at the end of 2011, the number of divorces recognised by the Maltese Authorities spiked from 115 in 2011 to 510 in 2012. An inverse trend can be noted in the number of registered annulments (Chart 6, Table 11). Out of 500 divorces recognised by the Maltese Authorities in 2016, 371 were obtained locally and 129 were obtained from foreign countries (Table 6).

**Chart 6. Marriage dissolutions in Malta and Gozo: 2011-2016**



\*Divorce law enacted at the end of the year

Source: Population and Migration Statistics - NSO

**Table 6. Marriage dissolutions in Malta and Gozo: 2011-2016**

	2011*	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of registered separations	518	554	666	662	656	701
Number of registered annulments	178	133	90	77	91	117
Divorces recognised by Maltese Authorities	115	510	399	399	468	500
of which:						
Obtained from Malta	42	441	338	323	372	371
Obtained from foreign countries	73	69	61	76	96	129

\*Divorce law enacted at the end of the year

Source: Population and Migration Statistics - NSO

Table 7. Number of households by household type: 2013-2016

Household type	2013		2014		2015		2016	
	Number of households	%	Number of households	%	Number of households	%	Number of households	%
<b>All households</b>	<b>156,147</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>159,407</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>162,807</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>165,475</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Household without dependent children</b>	<b>98,698</b>	<b>63.2</b>	<b>102,347</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>104,772</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>107,848</b>	<b>65.2</b>
of which:								
One person household, under 65 years	16,970	10.9	17,796	11.2	18,383	11.3	18,238	11.0
One person household, 65 years and over	18,564	11.9	19,356	12.1	21,157	13.0	22,264	13.5
2 adults, no dependent children, both under 65 years	19,305	12.4	20,007	12.6	19,223	11.8	19,609	11.8
2 adults, no dependent children, at least one adult 65 years or more	20,560	13.2	21,737	13.6	23,692	14.6	24,734	14.9
Other households without dependent children	23,299	14.9	23,452	14.7	22,317	13.7	23,003	13.9
<b>Household with dependent children</b>	<b>57,449</b>	<b>36.8</b>	<b>57,060</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>58,035</b>	<b>35.6</b>	<b>57,627</b>	<b>34.8</b>
of which:								
Single parent household, one or more dependent children	6,351	4.1	6,604	4.1	6,636	4.1	6,613	4.0
2 adults, one dependent child	14,304	9.2	17,056	10.7	17,783	10.9	17,890	10.8
2 adults, two dependent children	19,315	12.4	17,337	10.9	16,699	10.3	16,894	10.2
2 adults, three or more dependent children	3,378	2.2	3,035	1.9	3,543	2.2	3,746	2.3
Other households with one or more dependent children	14,101	9.0	13,028	8.2	13,375	8.2	12,483	7.5

Source: European Statistics on Income and Living Conditions Survey 2013-2016

**Table 8. Resident live births: 2006-2016**

Year	Total			Maltese*		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
2006	1,983	1,796	3,779	1,948	1,763	3,711
2007	1,980	1,785	3,765	1,934	1,749	3,683
2008	2,092	1,921	4,013	2,028	1,852	3,880
2009	2,087	1,942	4,029	2,007	1,884	3,891
2010	2,000	1,898	3,898	1,936	1,841	3,777
2011	2,116	2,049	4,165	2,011	1,932	3,943
2012	2,141	1,989	4,130	1,999	1,839	3,838
2013	2,109	1,923	4,032	1,909	1,757	3,666
2014	2,223	1,968	4,191	1,964	1,734	3,698
2015	2,208	2,117	4,325	1,914	1,818	3,732
2016	2,365	2,111	4,476	1,983	1,763	3,746

Source: Population and Migration Statistics - NSO

\* Refer to methodological note 6.

**Table 9. Average age of mothers at childbirth\*: 2006-2016**

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
28.3	28.5	28.6	28.6	28.9	29.3	29.3	29.6	29.7	29.9	30.2

Source: Population and Migration Statistics - NSO

\* Figures include **resident** live births only. Refer to methodological notes 5 and 6.



**Table 10. Number of marriages registered in Malta and Gozo: 2006-2016**

Year	Total	Civil Marriages	Religious Marriages
2006	2,536	859	1,677
2007	2,479	867	1,612
2008	2,482	840	1,642
2009	2,353	832	1,521
2010	2,596	847	1,749
2011	2,562	965	1,597
2012	2,823	1,170	1,653
2013	2,578	1,199	1,379
2014	2,871	1,388	1,483
2015	3,002	1,481	1,521
2016	3,034	1,628	1,406

Source: Population and Migration Statistics - NSO

Note: While data includes marriages between non-resident foreign spouses, it does not reflect the amendments to the Marriage Act that came into force in 2017. Refer to methodological notes 8 and 9.

**Table 11. Marriage dissolutions in Malta and Gozo: 2006-2016**

Year	Number of registered separations	Number of registered annulments	Divorces recognised by Maltese Authorities	Obtained from Malta	Obtained from foreign countries
2006	560	200	42	-	42
2007	637	167	35	-	35
2008	535	188	31	-	31
2009	527	166	38	-	38
2010	566	124	47	-	47
2011	518	178	115	42	73
2012	554	133	510	441	69
2013	666	90	399	338	61
2014	662	77	399	323	76
2015	656	91	468	372	96
2016	701	117	500	371	129

Source: Population and Migration Statistics - NSO

Note: While data includes marriages between non-resident foreign spouses, it does not reflect the amendments to the Marriage Act that came into force in 2017. Refer to methodological notes 8 and 9.

## Methodological Notes

### Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (SILC)

1. The Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) survey is an annual enquiry conducted by the National Statistics Office (NSO) among persons residing in private households in Malta and Gozo. This survey was carried out under EU regulation (EU. No. 1177/2003). The main scope of this survey is to enable the compilation of statistics on income distribution and indicators on monetary poverty. SILC also serves to produce reliable quantitative information on social exclusion and material deprivation.
2. 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.

### Labour Force Survey (LFS)

3. The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is carried out on an ongoing basis using a quarterly gross sample of 3,200 private households. The objective is to have a continuous assessment of labour market trends given that the reference weeks are evenly spread throughout the 13 weeks of the quarter. One-fourth of the sample is made up of households who have been selected to participate in the LFS for the first time. Three-fourths of the quarterly sample is made up of households who were selected to participate in the survey in previous instances, either one quarter before, or one year before, or one year and a quarter before (2-(2)-2). Unless otherwise indicated, figures provided in this release refer to persons aged 15 and over and living in private households during the reference period. All criteria used for this survey match international methodologies used by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).
4. The LFS is designed to satisfy the concepts and definitions as outlined by Eurostat, which is the EU Statistical Agency. This allows the comparability of results with other EU member states and countries following ILO definitions of employment and unemployment. Occupations are classified according to the ISCO - 08 classification (International Standard Classification of Occupations) whereas the economic activity is classified according to NACE Rev. 2 (Nomenclature générale des Activités économiques dans les Communautés Européennes). Education attainment is classified according to ISCED 2011.

- **Annual basic salary:** Refers to the annual basic salary received by employees before any social contributions and tax deductions. This amount excludes payments for overtime, allowances and bonuses.
- **Employed persons:** All persons aged 15 and over who, during the reference week, were in one of the following categories:
  - **paid employment:** includes those who during the reference week worked for at least one hour for a wage or salary, in cash or in kind.
  - **were employed but absent from work:** due to sick leave, bad weather, were undergoing training or education, did not work due to a labour dispute, were on maternity or parental leave, did not work due to slack work for technical or economic reasons, were absent from work for a period of less than 3 months, or were not working because on layoff and receiving at least 50 per cent of the salary/wage.
  - **self-employed:** covers persons who run a trade or business, rather than working as an employee for someone else. A person is self-employed if s/he is a sole proprietor or a partner working in a business.
  - **unpaid family workers:** refers to people who worked without pay in a family business or farm. Excluded from this definition are housewives.
- **Employment rate:** Persons in employment (15-64) as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64).
- **Inactive persons:** All persons who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as inactive.
- **Part time employment:** A part-time worker is an employed person whose normal hours are less than those of comparable full-time workers. Persons employed on a full-time with reduced hours basis are included in this category.
- **Unemployed persons:** All persons above 15 years of age who, during the reference week, satisfied the following criteria:
  - **without work**
  - **actively seeking work during the previous 4 weeks:** example of active job search include contacting Jobsplus, applying directly with an employer, contacting a private employment agency, inserting or answering to an advert in a newspaper.
  - **currently available for work:** available to start work within 2 weeks of the reference week.

## Population and Migration

5. **Live births resident in Malta:** includes all babies whose parent(s) is(are) resident in Malta at the time of birth and registered with the Public Authorities in Malta. Therefore the definition excludes babies born to mothers who are resident abroad. Still births are excluded.
6. **Classification of Maltese live births:**
  - **2006-2010:** All babies born and registered with the Public Authorities in Malta, one of whose parents is Maltese.
  - **2011 onwards:**  
All babies born in wedlock and registered with the Public Authorities in Malta, one of whose parents is Maltese.  
All babies born outside wedlock and registered with the Public Authorities in Malta, having a Maltese mother.
7. **Total fertility rate:** the number of children that would be born to a woman if she were to live to the end of her child-bearing years, and bear children in accordance with current age-specific fertility rates.
8. The data quoted in this release does not reflect the amendments to the Marriage Act with respect to marriage equality, which were enacted through the Marriage Act and Other Laws (Amendment) No. XXIII of 2017. All provisions in the amended Act came into force as at 1st September 2017.
9. **Total registered marriages:** all marriages registered in Malta and Gozo. These include marriages between non-resident foreign spouses.
10. **Civil marriages:** non-religious marriages that are recognised by law in Malta.
11. **Separations:** information extracted from records held at the Public Registry in Malta and Gozo. This includes separations that involve Maltese and/or foreign spouses and which have been concluded by a legal contract.
12. **Annulments:** includes annulments of religious and civil marriages between Maltese and/or foreign spouses, extracted from records held at the Public Registry in Malta and Gozo.
13. **Divorces obtained in Malta:** includes divorces that involve both Maltese and foreign spouses. Divorce registration was introduced in Malta at the end of 2011 (Civil Code Amendment Act 2011 (Act XIV of 2011)).
14. **Divorces obtained abroad:** includes divorces that involve both Maltese and foreign spouses. The definition is inclusive of divorces that were accepted by the Laws of Malta in terms of Section 33 of the Marriage Act (1975), for which records are held at the Public Registry in Malta and Gozo.
15. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:  
Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>
16. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
17. A detailed news release calendar is available on [https://nso.gov.mt/en/News\\_Releases/Release\\_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx)