Keeping Track of Child and Family Wellbeing
Working hand-in-hand with NSO

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How the story began

Family Poverty and Social Exclusion
with a Special Emphasis on Children

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Research on the Family Series No.1

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• Experienced interviewers who carried out interviews in 460 households
• The setting of the questionnaire used for this study
• The statistical elaboration of data

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5. National Centre For Family (2016) Research Sustaining Relationships; Couples and singles in a changing society
The importance and relevance of statistics

With Malta’s accession to the EU in 2004, we increasingly began to feel that we were turning a new page with regards to statistics in Malta.

For one thing we started having a better picture of what is happening in our country and could compare ourselves with European countries.
Some important family-related trends in Malta and across Europe

- The low birth rate
- The rate of women’s participation in the labour market
- Early school leaving
- Children and families living in poverty
- Maternity Leave/Parental Leave
Some other statistics are particularly relevant to our culture

Making the distinction between civil marriage and wedding tourism

Births outside marriage

Attendance in child care centres
Important News Release following the Free Child Care Scheme launched in April 2014

A total of 13,164 children aged less than five were enrolled in the non-compulsory sector. The number of children attending formal childcare stood at 3,578, while children attending pre-primary education during the scholastic year 2015/2016 totalled to 9,586.

Childcare and Early Years in Malta: 2016

As at end of March 2016, the share of pre-primary students attending state and independent schools amounted to 70 per cent and 19 per cent respectively; the remaining attended church schools. The most popular age in independent and state schools was that of 3 years, whereas in the case of church schools, the majority were 4 years of age (Table 1).

The largest proportion of pre-primary students resided and attended school in the Moderate...
Working hand in hand with other entities
The importance of qualitative research to add depth and answer important questions

*Putting flesh on the bones*
The Legendary “Elephant and The Blind Men” Story

Once upon a time, there lived six blind men in a village. One day the villagers told them, "Hey, there is an elephant in the village today." They had no idea what an elephant was. They decided, "Even though we would not be able to see it, let us go and feel it anyway." All of them went where the elephant was.

Then each one of them touched the elephant...

"Hey, the elephant is like a giant spear," said the first man who touched his tusk.
"Oh, no! it is like a rope," said the second man who touched the tail.
"Oh, no! it is like a pillar," said the third man who touched the trunk of the elephant.
"It is like a big hand fan" said the fourth man who touched the ear of the elephant.
"It is like a huge wall," said the fifth man who touched the belly of the elephant..

They began to argue about the elephant. Every one of them insisted that he was right. It looked like they were getting agitated. A wise man was passing by and he saw this. He stopped and asked them, "What is the matter?" They said, "We cannot agree to what the elephant is like." Each one of them told what he thought the elephant was like.

The wise man calmly explained to them, "All of you are right. The reason every one of you is telling it differently because each one of you touched the different part of the elephant. So, actually the elephant has all those features what you all said."

"Oh!" everyone said. There was no more fight. They felt happy that they were all right.