

28 March 2018

Clarification to statistics as quoted from the Labour Force Survey covering Q4 of 2017 on maltatoday.com.mt

Dear Sir,

Reference is made to the article “Quarter of those employed have tertiary education” as appeared on maltatoday.com.mt on March 26.

The article erroneously states that the public sector workforce increased by almost 3,000 when compared to the same period in 2016.

Please be advised that all segments including “Public administration, defence, education, human health, and social work activities” as represented in the tables of the press release issued on March 26, include both public and private entities.

Furthermore, the article states that “Over 56% of those aged 15 and over **who were in employment** in the last three months of 2017 had a low level of education...” The figure should read 40.4% as indicated in Table 22 of the same press release. As a matter of fact, the same paragraph then correctly quotes that 25.3% had a tertiary education.

The article also states that the “unemployment rate during this period stood at just over 2%, or 7,891 people”. Please be advised that the 2.1% covered unemployed persons, whereas the rate of unemployment stood at 3.7%. As per methodology notes issued along with the press release, the unemployment rate covers the total unemployed persons (15 to 74 years) as a percentage of the labour force (all persons in employment and unemployed persons) covering the same age bracket.

Should there be anything that needs clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the Office.



Silvan Zammit
OBO/Acting Director General