

World Population Day: 11 July 2024

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The estimated total population of Malta and Gozo at the end of 2023 stood at 563,443, up by 3.9 per cent when compared to the previous year.



The estimated total population of Malta and Gozo at the end of 2023 stood at 563,443, up by 3.9 per cent when compared to the previous year (Chart 1, Table 1). The population increase in 2023 was mainly driven by a total net migration (immigration less emigration) of 20,960 persons. Non-EU citizens made up 93.1 per cent of the total net migrants in 2023. Males accounted for 65.3 per cent (Table 2). While net migration decreased slightly when compared to 2022 (3.8 per cent), both immigration and emigration increased in 2023 (Chart 2, Table 3).

Chart 1. End-of-year total population estimates

2008 - 2023

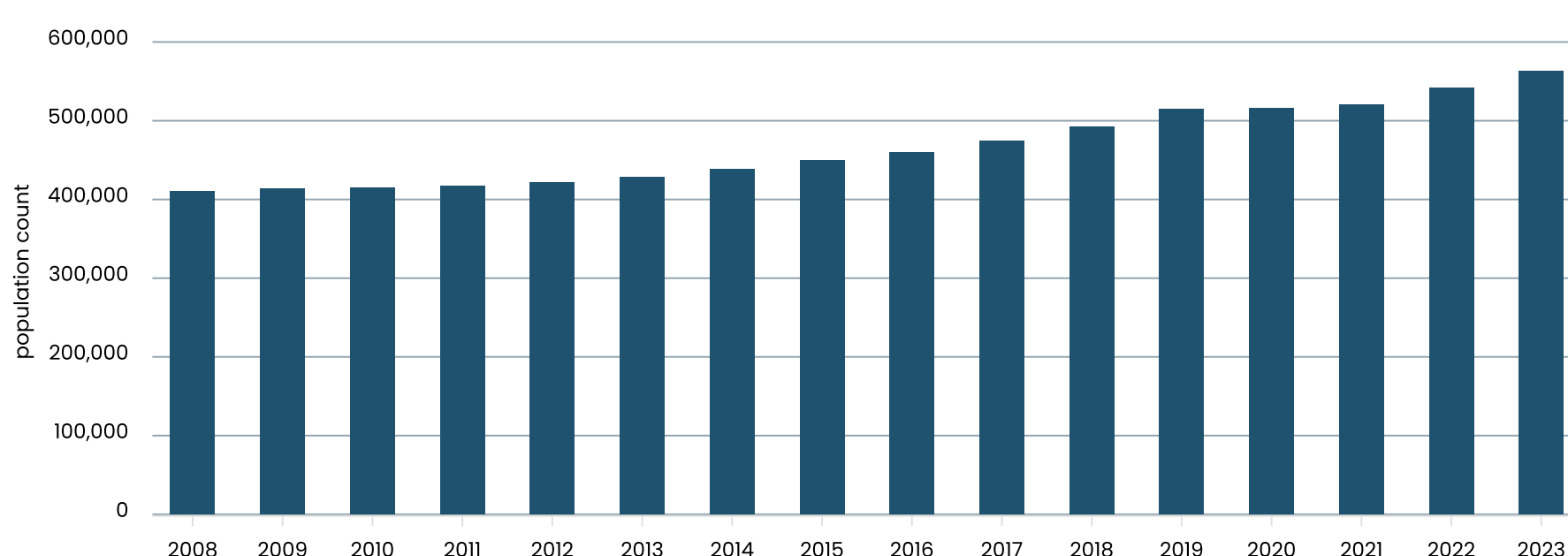
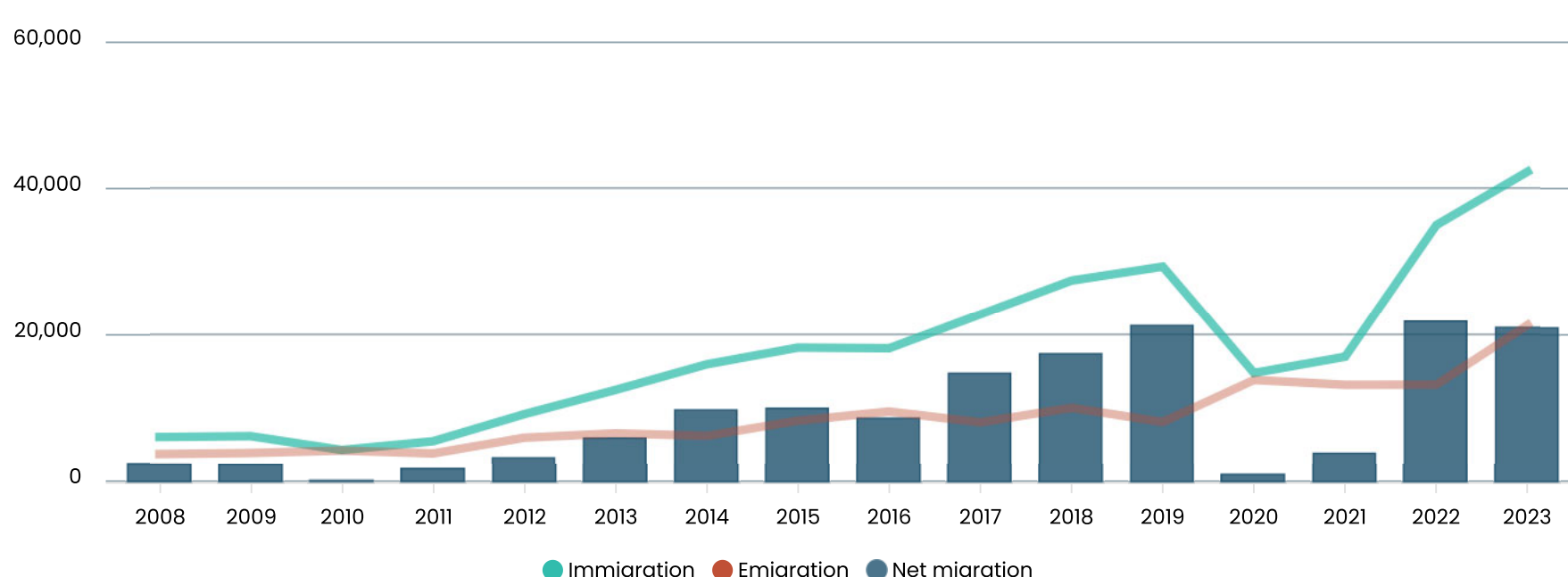


Chart 2. Migration flows

2008 - 2023

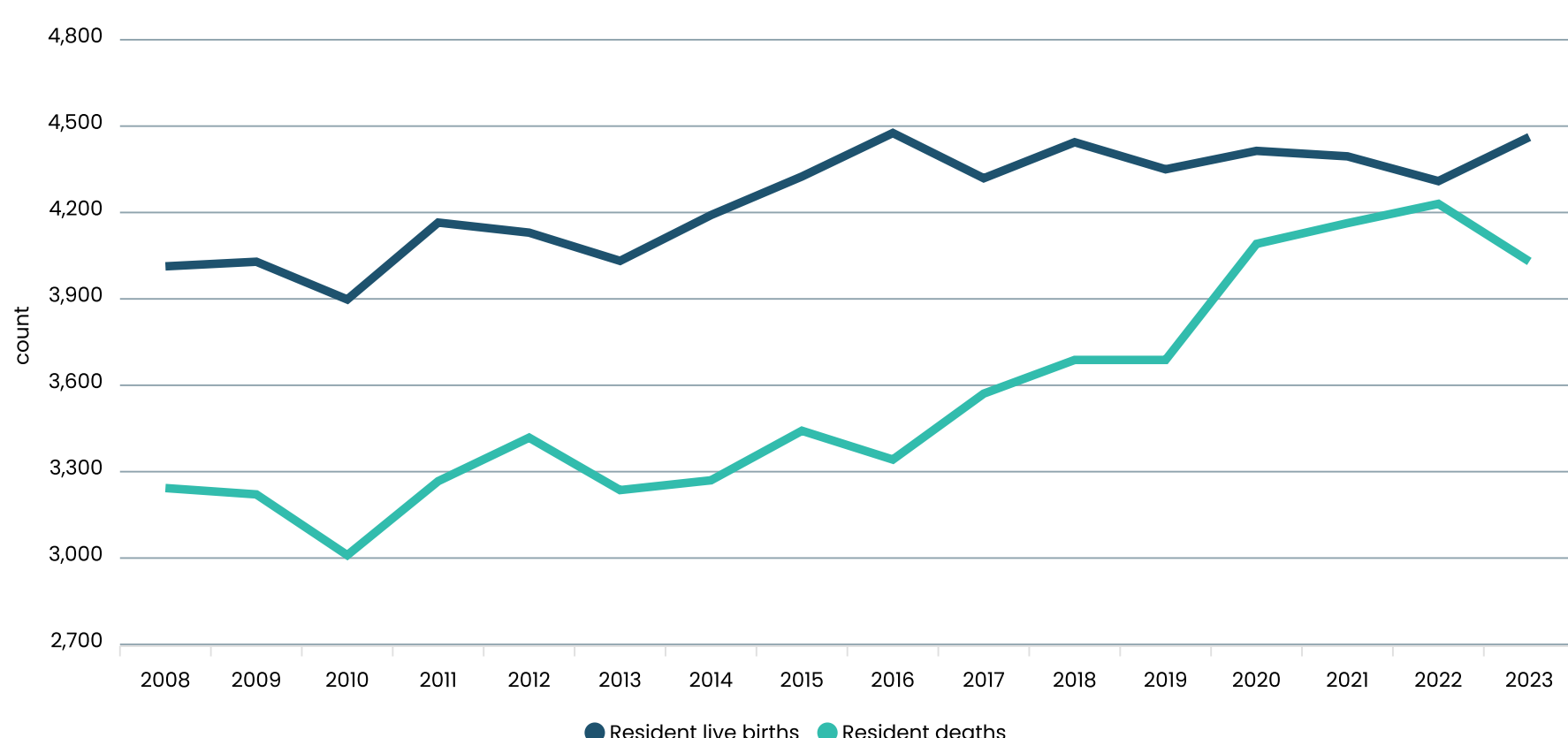


Natural increase was 5.5 times higher when compared to the previous year, from 79 in 2022 to 432 in 2023. This was the highest natural increase recorded since 2019. This increase was due both to a decrease in resident deaths and an increase in resident live births (Chart 3).

Resident live births in 2023 increased by 3.6 per cent when compared to the previous year (Table 4). Of the parents who gave birth in 2023, 40.3 per cent were aged 30 to 34 at the time of birth (Table 5). Resident deaths in 2023 decreased by 4.7 per cent over the previous year (Table 6). Of the 4,030 resident deaths occurring during 2023, 69.4 per cent were persons aged 75 and over at the time of death (Table 7).

Chart 3. Natural increase

2008-2023



As at end 2023, 53 per cent of the total resident population was male. Persons under the age of 18 made up 14.7 per cent of the total population, while 18.4 per cent were aged 65 and over. Of these, 3,611 persons – 2,568 females and 1,043 males – were aged 90 and over (Chart 4, Table 8).

Chart 4. Total population by age group and sex as at 31 December 2023

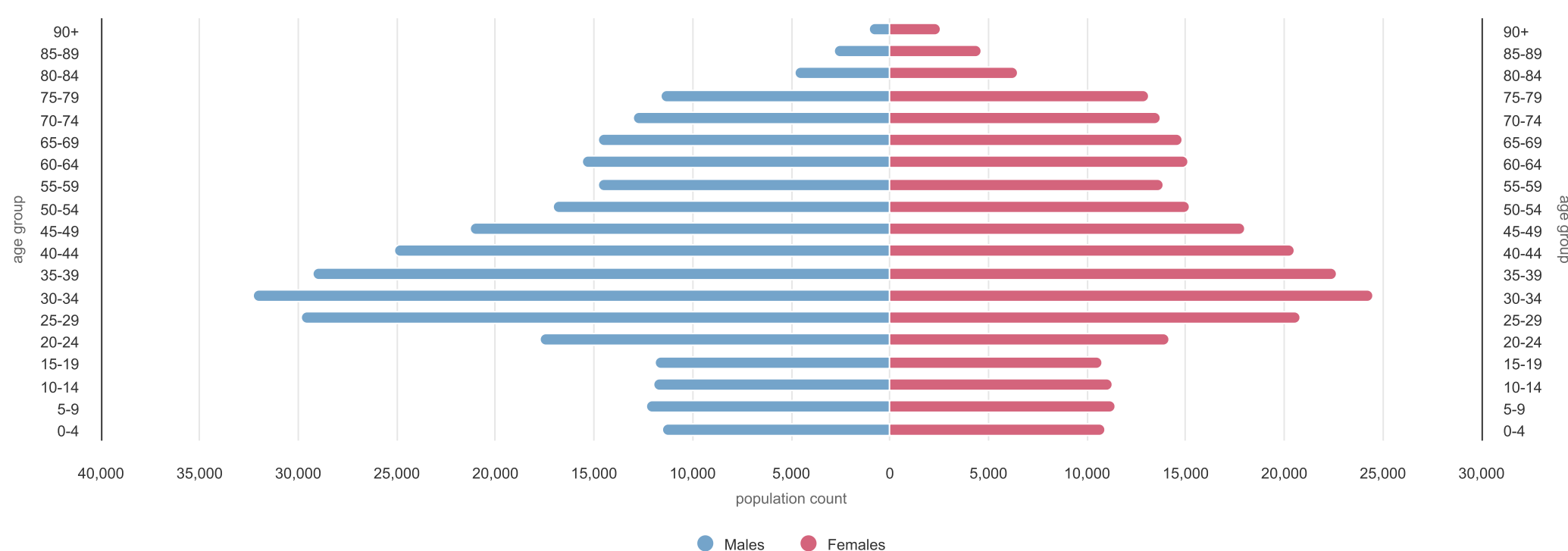


Table 1. End-of-year total population estimates by sex: 2008-2023

Year	Males	Females	Total
2008	204,607	206,319	410,926
2009	206,203	207,824	414,027
2010	206,405	208,584	414,989
2011	207,695	209,851	417,546
2012	210,024	211,440	421,464
2013	214,221	213,935	428,156
2014	220,495	218,310	438,805
2015	226,508	223,127	449,635
2016	231,743	227,632	459,375
2017	240,738	234,099	474,837
2018	252,181	240,787	492,968
2019	266,559	248,296	514,855
2020	267,614	248,511	516,125
2021	270,469	249,705	520,174
2022	284,821	257,230	542,051
2023	298,746	264,697	563,443

Table 2. Composition of population change: 2023

	Males	Females	Total
Population end 2022	284,821	257,230	542,051
Natural increase:			
+ Births ¹	2,279	2,183	4,462
- Deaths ²	2,034	1,996	4,030
Sub-total	285,066	257,417	542,483
Migration flows:			
+ Adoptions (foreign)	30	22	52
+ Immigration of Maltese citizens	1,127	1,129	2,256
- Emigration of Maltese citizens	883	884	1,767
+ Immigration of other EU citizens	3,937	2,919	6,856
- Emigration of other EU citizens	3,503	2,449	5,952
+ Immigration of non-EU citizens ³	22,237	10,838	33,075
- Emigration of non-EU citizens ³	9,265	4,295	13,560
Population end 2023	298,746	264,697	563,443

Notes:

1. Birth figures refer to babies born in Malta whose birth parent(s) was(were) resident in Malta at the time of birth.
2. Death figures refer to registered deaths of persons who were resident in Malta at the time of death.
3. As of reference year 2020, includes citizens of the United Kingdom.

Table 3. Migration flows: 2008-2023

Year	Immigration	Emigration	Net migration
2008	6,043	3,719	2,324
2009	6,161	3,868	2,293
2010	4,275	4,201	74
2011	5,465	3,806	1,659
2012	9,152	5,946	3,206
2013	12,446	6,550	5,896
2014	15,928	6,200	9,728
2015	18,202	8,255	9,947
2016	18,116	9,510	8,606
2017	22,750	8,036	14,714
2018	27,394	10,019	17,375
2019	29,304	8,079	21,225
2020	14,751	13,804	947
2021	16,963	13,146	3,817
2022	34,964	13,166	21,798
2023	42,239	21,279	20,960

Table 4. Resident live births by sex and year

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
2008	2,092	1,921	4,013
2009	2,087	1,942	4,029
2010	2,000	1,898	3,898
2011	2,116	2,049	4,165
2012	2,141	1,989	4,130
2013	2,109	1,923	4,032
2014	2,223	1,968	4,191
2015	2,208	2,117	4,325
2016	2,365	2,111	4,476
2017	2,215	2,104	4,319
2018	2,278	2,166	4,444
2019	2,260	2,090	4,350
2020	2,283	2,131	4,414
2021	2,245	2,150	4,395
2022	2,191	2,118	4,309
2023	2,279	2,183	4,462

Table 5. Resident live births by age group of parents¹ and sex of child: 2023

Age group	Age group of parent who gave birth to child		Age group of other parent	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Under 20	54	49	16	7
20-24	185	150	66	74
25-29	487	511	306	306
30-34	904	894	841	787
35-39	536	477	654	613
40-44	102	98	224	244
45-49	9	4	81	65
50-54	2	-	18	19
55-59	-	-	2	8
60+	-	-	2	2
Unspecified	-	-	69	58
All ages	2,279	2,183	2,279	2,183

¹ In line with the amendment to the Marriage Act 2017, upon registration, parents are denoted as parent who gave birth to child and other parent. Refer to methodological note 3.

Table 6. Resident deaths by sex and year

Year	Males	Females	Total
2008	1,668	1,575	3,243
2009	1,672	1,549	3,221
2010	1,489	1,521	3,010
2011	1,664	1,603	3,267
2012	1,746	1,672	3,418
2013	1,636	1,600	3,236
2014	1,655	1,615	3,270
2015	1,732	1,710	3,442
2016	1,644	1,698	3,342
2017	1,815	1,756	3,571
2018	1,876	1,812	3,688
2019	1,869	1,819	3,688
2020	2,122	1,969	4,091
2021	2,086	2,077	4,163
2022	2,179	2,051	4,230
2023	2,034	1,996	4,030

Table 7. Resident deaths by age group at death, sex and year

Year	Age group												Total
	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	
Males													
2008	22	5	-	2	3	6	29	36	97	260	336	872	1,668
2009	10	2	1	1	6	10	29	27	70	206	351	959	1,672
2010	13	2	-	2	5	9	23	37	77	221	328	772	1,489
2011	13	-	1	-	9	7	22	29	82	219	371	911	1,664
2012	11	1	1	1	1	7	24	37	77	231	364	991	1,746
2013	14	1	-	1	3	10	13	29	72	212	375	906	1,636
2014	11	1	1	3	4	6	22	35	73	195	395	909	1,655
2015	16	3	-	2	4	4	23	26	69	223	374	988	1,732
2016	20	1	1	-	4	3	16	37	88	191	394	889	1,644
2017	19	3	-	-	2	11	22	34	61	203	448	1,012	1,815
2018	16	3	-	-	2	6	23	33	75	209	485	1,024	1,876
2019	9	6	2	1	1	2	22	28	60	190	480	1,068	1,869
2020	8	1	2	2	2	8	23	42	81	224	509	1,220	2,122
2021	6	-	1	3	3	8	15	44	84	225	494	1,203	2,086
2022	14	1	2	-	2	13	16	47	85	208	481	1,310	2,179
2023	9	1	-	1	3	2	26	34	73	187	426	1,272	2,034
Females													
2008	12	1	1	1	1	3	7	11	50	145	251	1,092	1,575
2009	11	2	1	2	1	4	16	9	51	123	216	1,113	1,549
2010	9	2	-	3	1	3	4	11	49	131	235	1,073	1,521
2011	14	3	1	1	2	1	13	19	46	124	228	1,151	1,603
2012	11	2	-	2	2	1	14	18	55	137	233	1,197	1,672
2013	13	1	-	-	2	5	4	10	40	110	217	1,198	1,600
2014	10	1	-	1	2	1	7	17	27	133	249	1,167	1,615
2015	9	1	2	1	2	6	7	13	36	120	261	1,252	1,710
2016	13	1	-	1	4	2	6	20	45	118	279	1,209	1,698
2017	10	2	-	1	2	1	6	16	50	127	273	1,268	1,756
2018	9	1	2	-	-	2	12	27	43	131	279	1,306	1,812
2019	20	1	1	3	2	2	12	17	47	104	295	1,315	1,819
2020	9	1	-	1	3	3	7	21	43	124	291	1,466	1,969
2021	11	1	1	1	2	1	7	21	43	126	324	1,539	2,077
2022	9	1	-	-	1	3	7	15	51	122	299	1,543	2,051
2023	7	1	1	-	1	3	9	24	38	95	291	1,526	1,996
Total													
2008	34	6	1	3	4	9	36	47	147	405	587	1,964	3,243
2009	21	4	2	3	7	14	45	36	121	329	567	2,072	3,221
2010	22	4	-	5	6	12	27	48	126	352	563	1,845	3,010
2011	27	3	2	1	11	8	35	48	128	343	599	2,062	3,267
2012	22	3	1	3	3	8	38	55	132	368	597	2,188	3,418
2013	27	2	-	1	5	15	17	39	112	322	592	2,104	3,236
2014	21	2	1	4	6	7	29	52	100	328	644	2,076	3,270
2015	25	4	2	3	6	10	30	39	105	343	635	2,240	3,442
2016	33	2	1	1	8	5	22	57	133	309	673	2,098	3,342
2017	29	5	-	1	4	12	28	50	111	330	721	2,280	3,571
2018	25	4	2	-	2	8	35	60	118	340	764	2,330	3,688
2019	29	7	3	4	3	4	34	45	107	294	775	2,383	3,688
2020	17	2	2	3	5	11	30	63	124	348	800	2,686	4,091
2021	17	1	2	4	5	9	22	65	127	351	818	2,742	4,163
2022	23	2	2	-	3	16	23	62	136	330	780	2,853	4,230
2023	16	2	1	1	4	5	35	58	111	282	717	2,798	4,030

Table 8. Total population by sex and single years of age as at 31 December 2023

Age group/ Single years	Males	Females	Total	Age group/ Single years	Males	Females	Total
0-9	23,876	22,313	46,189	50-59	31,842	29,097	60,939
Less than 1	2,281	2,185	4,466	50	3,567	3,282	6,849
1	2,236	2,162	4,398	51	3,585	3,191	6,776
2	2,345	2,213	4,558	52	3,471	3,070	6,541
3	2,363	2,186	4,549	53	3,300	2,930	6,230
4	2,304	2,148	4,452	54	3,129	2,732	5,861
5	2,480	2,328	4,808	55	3,065	2,862	5,927
6	2,374	2,241	4,615	56	2,847	2,722	5,569
7	2,552	2,298	4,850	57	2,883	2,668	5,551
8	2,461	2,351	4,812	58	2,952	2,788	5,740
9	2,480	2,201	4,681	59	3,043	2,852	5,895
10-19	23,890	22,035	45,925	60-69	30,375	29,976	60,351
10	2,429	2,167	4,596	60	3,044	2,881	5,925
11	2,460	2,302	4,762	61	3,210	3,023	6,233
12	2,456	2,348	4,804	62	3,155	2,994	6,149
13	2,304	2,227	4,531	63	3,174	3,134	6,308
14	2,359	2,241	4,600	64	3,039	3,119	6,158
15	2,420	2,223	4,643	65	3,035	3,089	6,124
16	2,335	2,058	4,393	66	3,064	3,051	6,115
17	2,295	2,084	4,379	67	2,978	3,022	6,000
18	2,287	2,113	4,400	68	2,937	2,836	5,773
19	2,545	2,272	4,817	69	2,739	2,827	5,566
20-29	47,548	35,007	82,555	70-79	24,600	26,866	51,466
20	2,802	2,530	5,332	70	2,614	2,706	5,320
21	3,091	2,472	5,563	71	2,571	2,726	5,297
22	3,378	2,648	6,026	72	2,557	2,734	5,291
23	4,010	3,202	7,212	73	2,656	2,797	5,453
24	4,423	3,327	7,750	74	2,624	2,751	5,375
25	5,067	3,626	8,693	75	2,603	2,837	5,440
26	5,782	3,959	9,741	76	2,476	2,844	5,320
27	6,196	4,282	10,478	77	2,345	2,654	4,999
28	6,461	4,458	10,919	78	2,067	2,442	4,509
29	6,338	4,503	10,841	79	2,087	2,375	4,462
30-39	61,496	47,169	108,665	80-89	7,654	11,097	18,751
30	6,509	4,745	11,254	80	1,310	1,717	3,027
31	6,564	4,833	11,397	81	920	1,123	2,043
32	6,443	4,916	11,359	82	844	1,165	2,009
33	6,389	4,944	11,333	83	879	1,224	2,103
34	6,353	5,083	11,436	84	851	1,228	2,079
35	6,366	4,917	11,283	85	742	1,161	1,903
36	5,967	4,635	10,602	86	687	1,080	1,767
37	5,747	4,446	10,193	87	580	924	1,504
38	5,620	4,387	10,007	88	490	817	1,307
39	5,538	4,263	9,801	89	351	658	1,009
40-49	46,422	38,569	84,991	90+	1,043	2,568	3,611
40	5,359	4,262	9,621				
41	5,349	4,336	9,685	Total	298,746	264,697	563,443
42	4,867	4,011	8,878				
43	4,854	3,944	8,798				
44	4,686	3,984	8,670				
45	4,531	3,790	8,321				
46	4,454	3,712	8,166				
47	4,192	3,668	7,860				
48	4,216	3,510	7,726				
49	3,914	3,352	7,266				

Note: Figures are compiled based on updates from the 2021 Census of Population and Housing.

Methodological Notes

- All population components are based on definitions provided for in the European Regulation (EU) No. 1260/2013 on European demographic statistics.
- All migration components are based on definitions provided for in the European Regulation (EU) No. 862/2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection.
- Statistics in this release reflect the enactment of the Marriage Act and Other Laws (Amendment) Act, 2017. All provisions of this Act came into force on 1st September 2017 through Legal Notice 212/2017.
- Definitions:
 - **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. This figure is measured by summing up the counts of all employment termination forms which ended during the reference year and residence permit holders who fail to extend their permits during the reference year, together with their dependants; resettled or repatriated asylum seekers who were previously given protection and other Maltese emigrants.
 - **Immigration:** the action by which a natural person establishes his or her usual residence in a territory of a State for a period that is, or is expected to last, a minimum of 12 months. This figure is measured by summing up the count of all new employment engagement forms and residence permit holders, their dependants, asylum seekers granted protection, returned Maltese migrants and adoptions of children from foreign countries.
 - **Natural increase:** the difference between the number of live births and the number of deaths during a reference year.
 - **Total population:** all persons residing in Maltese Islands. 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 babies whose birth parent was resident in Malta during year t ,
 - D_t is the total number of registered deaths of persons resident in Malta 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.
 - **Resident live births:** all babies whose parent(s) is(are) resident in Malta at the time of birth. Therefore the definition excludes babies born to parents who are resident abroad.
 - **Resident deaths:** all registered resident Maltese and foreign deaths in Malta and Gozo. These counts exclude deaths of tourists, but include Maltese residents who die abroad and whose death is subsequently registered in Malta. This definition excludes still births.
 - **Non-EU citizen:** any person who is not a citizen of the European Union. As of reference year 2020, this also includes citizens of the United Kingdom.
 - **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.
 - **Usually resident population:** refers to all persons who have their usual residence in a Member State at the reference time.

5. Sources:

- Demographic data in this release is based on records held by the Public Registry and the Directorate of Health Information and Research.
- Migration data is estimated based on a number of administrative records. These registers are not designed for direct compilation of population statistics in line with the required definitions, therefore complex estimation techniques are used to derive meaningful population statistics from these sources. Moreover, when no appropriate sources are available, auxiliary sources like surveys are used to address data gaps. A list of relevant data sources is provided below:

Entity	Data flows	Data records
National Statistics Office (NSO)	Immigration of Maltese citizens	Decennial Census of Population and Housing
		Ongoing frontier survey: TOURSTAT
	Emigration of Maltese citizens	Ongoing frontier survey: TOURSTAT
Jobsplus	Migration flows of European Union and United Kingdom citizens	Employment engagement and termination forms
International Protection Agency	Migration flows of Non-European Union Citizens excluding the United Kingdom	Asylum records
International Protection Appeals Tribunal		
Ministry for Home Affairs, Security and Employment - Migration Directorate		Resettlements, repatriations and relocations
Identita' - Expatriates Unit		Residence permits database
Identita' - Public Registry	Foreign adoptions	Registration of adoptions

6. Geographical information

- The **European Union** (EU27) includes Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden.

7. Timely population estimates are published in order to meet user needs. These estimates are subject to further quality assurance processes and may be subject to revision in subsequent demographic publications.

8. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

[Statistical concepts](#)
[Metadata \(Demography\)](#)
[Metadata \(Migration\)](#)
[Past releases](#)

9. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.

10. For further assistance send your request through our [online request form](#).

11. A detailed news release calendar is available [online](#).