

News Release

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CULTURE STATISTICS

Dance Schools

This is the fourth in the series of news releases on dance schools, launched by the culture statistics programme of the National Statistics Office. It is the result of an enquiry among dance schools, and focuses on issues such as types of dance, gender participation, and finance. It covers data on dance schools for the years 2001 to 2003.

In 2003, the total number of dance students stood at 2,617; an increase of 371, or 16.5 per cent, over 2002. Although not exclusively the domain of women, this activity is certainly dominated by women. Indeed, almost 92 per cent of all dance students in 2003 were female. However, in the years under review, the number of male dance students has been on the increase – rising from 150 in 2002 to 217 in 2003.

With a 42.5 per cent share of the total classical ballet is still the most popular genre among local dance students. This is followed by jazz, with a 12.9 per cent share of all dance students in 2003. In this year, the majority of male dance students were studying Latin American and ballroom dancing, with 38.6 and 30.8 per cent respectively of all male dance students. The least popular form of dance was line dancing, with no students studying this in 2003. However, a new form of dance – Argentine tango – which was previously not taught in the Maltese Islands, has begun to be practiced.

The largest number of students practicing some form of dance are aged between 5 and 9, followed by the age groups 10-14 and 15-19. These three age groups make up 27 per cent, 25 per cent and 16.3 per cent of dancers respectively. Children under the age of 5 are least likely to practice some form of dance – these make up just 8.8 per cent of the total.

In 2003, the amount of time spent in dance lessons averaged 1 hour per week for males and 1.25 hours per week for females. Classical ballet and Argentine tango are the most demanding types of dance, with classical ballet involving 1.25 hours for males and 2 hours for females, and Argentine tango involving 2 hours a week for both males and females. 'Other' types of dance also took up 1.75 hours per week for both sexes. These 'other' types included hip-hop, character, wheelchair, disco and break dance.

Most dance students undertake dance examinations held under the auspices of foreign examining boards. In fact, of the 935 students sitting for an exam in 2003, none of these sat for a local examination.

Dance schools mostly employ part-time staff. In 2003, the dance schools surveyed employed 91 part-timers in contrast to 19 full-timers. The majority of those employed, taking up 69 per cent, were women. Most of these employees were working as dance teachers.

In 2003, the surveyed dance schools had a total income of Lm296,840; up by 1.7 per cent over the Lm291,850 in 2002. The bulk of this, 83.4 per cent, came from tuition fees. On the other hand, dance schools total expenditure amounted to Lm236,868 in 2003; up by 9.6 per cent over 2002 and 19.5 per cent over 2001. Operational costs made up the largest share of expenditure, with 31.8 per cent of the total. This was followed by expenditure on staff (wages & social security contributions), with 30 per cent of the total expenditure for the year 2003.

The monthly calendar of NSO News Releases may be consulted on the Office's website at www.nso.gov.mt

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Table 1. Total dance student population

Sex	2001	2002	2003
Males	130	150	217
Females	1,928	2,096	2,400
Total	2,058	2,246	2,617

Table 2. Dance student population by sex and type of dance

Type of dance	2001						2002						2003					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Classical ballet	15	6.5	1,554	50.3	1,569	47.2	16	6.6	1,605	49.2	1,621	46.2	20	6.2	1,489	46.1	1,509	42.5
Jazz	20	8.6	473	15.3	493	14.8	21	8.7	501	15.3	522	14.9	15	4.7	443	13.7	458	12.9
Modern dance	5	2.2	140	4.6	145	4.4	6	2.5	151	4.6	157	4.5	13	4.0	310	9.6	323	9.1
Contemporary	2	0.9	84	2.7	86	2.6	2	0.8	90	2.8	92	2.6	2	0.6	85	2.6	87	2.5
Spanish / Flamenco	10	4.3	213	6.9	223	6.8	10	4.1	233	7.1	243	7.0	15	4.7	296	9.2	311	8.8
Tap	11	4.7	57	1.8	68	2.0	8	3.3	88	2.7	96	2.7	7	2.2	82	2.5	89	2.5
Salsa	12	5.1	59	1.9	71	2.1	13	5.4	69	2.2	82	2.3	6	1.9	16	0.5	22	0.6
Argentine tango	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	1.9	9	0.3	15	0.4
Ballroom	81	34.9	112	3.6	193	5.9	86	35.5	128	3.9	214	6.1	99	30.8	99	3.1	198	5.6
Latin American	70	30.2	180	5.9	250	7.5	72	29.7	174	5.3	246	7.0	124	38.6	176	5.4	300	8.4
Line dancing	5	2.2	15	0.5	20	0.6	4	1.7	10	0.3	14	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	1	0.4	202	6.5	203	6.1	4	1.7	215	6.6	219	6.2	14	4.4	225	7.0	239	6.7
Total*	232	100.0	3,089	100.0	3,321	100.0	242	100.0	3,264	100.0	3,506	100.0	321	100.0	3,230	100.0	3,551	100.0

*This number is greater than the total specified in table 1 due to the fact that some students participate in more than one type of dance.

Table 3. Dance student population by age, sex and type of dance

Type of dance	2003											
	Under 5		5 - 9		10 - 14		15 - 19		20 - 24		25 and over	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Classical ballet	2	219	10	570	-	361	2	218	2	103	4	18
Jazz	-	-	9	88	1	121	-	109	5	67	-	58
Modern dance	7	73	1	100	2	80	3	44	-	7	-	6
Contemporary	-	-	-	16	-	20	-	22	2	16	-	11
Spanish / Flamenco	-	-	2	57	1	91	2	39	2	46	8	63
Tap	-	5	-	17	-	36	2	10	5	11	-	3
Salsa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	3	11
Argentine tango	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	9
Ballroom	-	-	3	3	10	12	24	22	17	17	45	45
Latin American	-	-	10	26	10	25	27	28	17	18	60	79
Other	1	4	2	43	2	114	1	27	-	19	8	18
Total	10	301	37	920	26	860	61	519	53	309	134	321

Chart 1. Total dance student population by age and sex

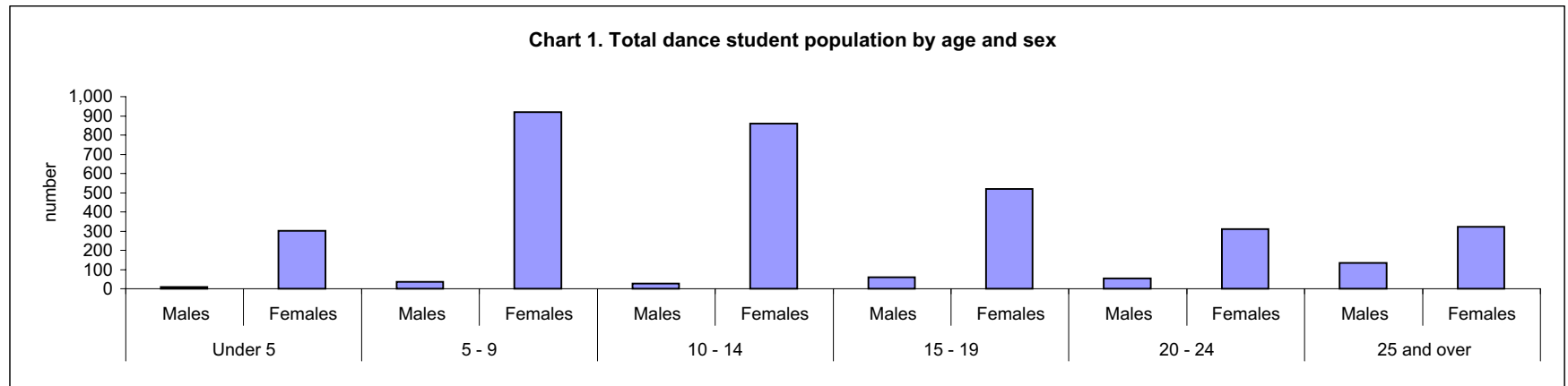


Table 4. Taught dance by type for the year 2003

Type of dance	Number of schools
Classical ballet	17
Jazz	9
Modern dance	6
Contemporary	3
Spanish / Flamenco	8
Tap	3
Salsa	2
Argentine tango	1
Ballroom	6
Latin American	8
Other	9
Total	72

Table 5. Average number of hours spent in dance classes per student per week by type of dance

Type of dance	2003	
	Males	Females
Classical ballet	1.25	2.00
Jazz	1.00	1.25
Modern dance	1.00	1.00
Contemporary	1.00	1.25
Spanish / Flamenco	0.75	1.00
Tap	0.75	0.75
Salsa	1.00	1.00
Argentine tango	2.00	2.00
Ballroom	1.00	1.00
Latin American	1.00	1.00
Other	1.75	1.75
Total	1.00	1.25

Table 6. Number of students taking dance exams

Sex	2001		2002		2003	
	Local exams	Foreign exams	Local exams	Foreign exams	Local exams	Foreign exams
Males	5	26	7	33	-	21
Females	106	1,164	109	1,198	-	914
Total	111	1,190	116	1,231	-	935
Ratio of local to foreign dance examinations	1.0	10.7	1.0	10.6	0.0	100.0

Table 7. Full-time staff employed by dance schools

Type of staff	2001			2002			2003		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Directors	2	6	8	2	7	9	3	5	8
Choreographers	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	1
Dance teachers	-	7	7	-	7	7	2	8	10
Costume designers	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
Light & sound designers	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
Other staff	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	16	18	2	17	19	5	14	19

Table 8. Part-time staff employed by dance schools

Type of staff	2001			2002			2003		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Directors	2	5	7	2	6	8	6	4	10
Choreographers	2	9	11	2	11	13	3	9	12
Dance teachers	7	28	35	7	29	36	15	37	52
Costume designers	4	9	13	5	9	14	2	3	5
Light & sound designers	4	-	4	5	-	5	2	-	2
Other staff	1	11	12	1	11	12	1	9	10
Total	20	62	82	22	66	88	29	62	91

Table 9. Dance school expenditure

Type of expenditure	2001	2002	2003
	Lm		
Staff	55,080	59,861	70,892
Dance programmes	31,738	39,338	32,764
Other operational costs	69,132	71,659	75,384
Total current expenditure	155,950	170,858	179,040
Premises	25,369	25,783	33,237
Equipment	7,481	9,582	10,302
Other	9,361	9,829	14,289
Total capital expenditure	42,211	45,194	57,828
Total	198,161	216,052	236,868

Table 10. Dance school income

Type of income	2001	2002	2003
	Lm		
Tuition fees	230,246	244,476	247,693
Income from dance shows	36,279	43,088	43,834
Other	3,400	4,286	5,313
Total	269,925	291,850	296,840