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Jobless Households in Malta

This release presents an analysis of the Maltese population living in jobless households. The definitions and indicators used for this release are based on definitions used by EUROSTAT. Population living in jobless households is calculated by dividing the number of persons aged between 0 and 65 years of age living in households where no one is working, out of the persons living in eligible households. Eligible households are all except those where everybody falls in one of these categories:

- aged less than 18 years old
- aged between 18 and 24 years and are in education or inactive
- aged 65 and over and not working.

This release presents the results from the LFS for four consecutive years starting from December 2000 till December 2003.

General Characteristics

Table 1 illustrates the population living in jobless households. For the past four years, the average number of persons living in jobless households was 43,476 persons or 11.0 per cent of the total population. The average number of females living in jobless households was approximately 24,000 persons. Their number has exceeded the number of males throughout all the four years. The mean household size of jobless households during the past four years was of 2.2 persons.

Most of the persons living in jobless households were older than 45 years. Actually, an average of 45.1 per cent over the four years in between the 45 - 64 age bracket. The indicator in table 4 shows the percentage of the population aged between 18 and 59 years living in jobless household. During December 2003, out of every 100 males between 18 to 59 years, 8 lived in jobless households. The figure for females in the same age bracket was 11.

Table 5 reveals the percentage of the population aged less than 17 years living in jobless households. The average number of children living in jobless households was estimated to be 8163 persons. These made up an average of 8.6 per cent of the total population of children between 0 to 17 years.

From the data available, one can conclude the distribution of the persons living in jobless households is not even within the different regions of the Maltese Islands. From the figures provided in Table 6, one notes that the average number of persons living in jobless households in the South and North Harbour region was 29.9 per cent, whilst the average for the rest of the regions was 10.6 per cent.

Further analysis in table 7 shows the persons living in jobless households (15+ years) classified by education level. It is evident from the data available that those persons with a minimum of post secondary education background are more likely to be employed. In fact, only an average of 7.7 per cent of persons living in jobless households had a post secondary education or higher. By contrast, an average of 92.3 per cent or 33,761 persons were estimated to have a maximum of secondary education, whereas another 56.4 per cent had a primary level of education or less.

Table 8 illustrates that number of persons aged 15 and over living in jobless households classified by labour status. Over the past four years, an average of 10.0 per cent were estimated to be unemployed, of these 56.7 per cent registered with ETC. A further 90.0 per cent were estimated to be inactive. Of the inactive, the majority or 39.1 per cent were housewives, followed by an average of 33.5 per cent that were retired. Additionally, an average of 5.0 per cent of the number of inactive persons were students.

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Table 1. Persons living in jobless households

Year	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
2000	19,997	10.3	24,469	12.3	44,466	11.4
2001	19,697	10.1	23,891	12.0	43,588	11.1
2002	17,900	9.1	23,453	11.7	41,353	10.4
2003	20,920	10.6	23,577	11.7	44,497	11.1

Data refer to the December issues of the Labour Force Survey (LFS)



Table 2. Mean jobless household size

Year	No.
2000	2.2
2001	2.2
2002	2.2
2003	2.3

Data refer to the December issues of the Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Table 3. Age group for persons living in jobless households

Age group	December 2000					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0-14	3,525	17.6	3,125	12.8	6,650	15.0
15-24	1,502 ^u	7.5	1,679 ^u	6.9	3,181	7.1
25-44	3,089	15.5	3,658	14.9	6,747	15.2
45-64	8,104	40.5	13,129	53.6	21,233	47.7
65+	3,777	18.9	2,878	11.8	6,655	15.0
Total	19,997	100.0	24,469	100.0	44,466	100.0
Age group	December 2001					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0-14	4,133	21.0	3,013	12.6	7,146	16.4
15-24	1,924	9.8	1,444 ^u	6.0	3,368	7.7
25-44	2,759	14.0	4,170	17.5	6,929	15.9
45-64	7,060	35.8	12,437	52.1	19,497	44.7
65+	3,821	19.4	2,827	11.8	6,648	15.3
Total	19,697	100.0	23,891	100.0	43,588	100.0
Age group	December 2002					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0-14	2,334	13.0	3,286	14.0	5,620	13.6
15-24	1,513 ^u	8.4	1,114 ^u	4.8	2,627	6.4
25-44	2,787	15.6	3,910	16.7	6,697	16.2
45-64	7,550	42.2	11,527	49.1	19,077	46.1
65+	3,716	20.8	3,616	15.4	7,332	17.7
Total	17,900	100.0	23,453	100.0	41,353	100.0
Age group	December 2003					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0-14	4,609	22.0	3,610	15.3	8,219	18.5
15-24	2,103	10.1	1,865	7.9	3,968	8.9
25-44	3,338	16.0	4,212	17.9	7,550	17.0
45-64	7,576	36.2	11,215	47.6	18,791	42.2
65+	3,294	15.7	2,675	11.3	5,969	13.4
Total	20,920	100.0	23,577	100.0	44,497	100.0

^u - under-represented

Table 4. Indicators for population aged 18 - 59 years living in jobless households

Year	Males aged 18-59 years living in Jobless Households	Men aged 18-59 years in jobless households as a % of the total population of the same age	Females aged 18-59 years living in Jobless Households	Females aged 18-59 years in jobless households as a % of the total population of the same age	Adults aged 18-59 years living in jobless households	Adults aged 18-59 years in jobless households as a % of the total population of the same age
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
2000	7,936	6.9	12,326	10.8	20,262	8.9
2001	7,754	6.5	12,696	10.9	20,450	8.7
2002	6,876	5.8	10,929	9.4	17,805	7.5
2003	9,345	7.6	12,981	11.0	22,326	9.3

Data refer to the December issues of the Labour Force Survey (LFS)

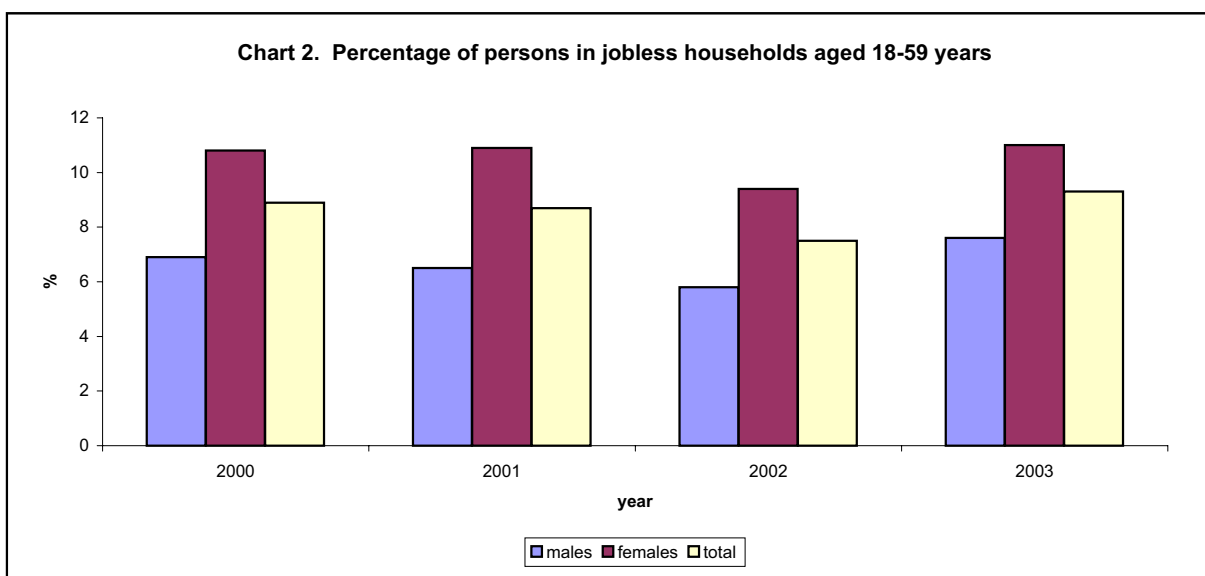


Table 5. Indicators for Population living in jobless households

Year	Children 0-17 years living in Jobless Households	Children 0-17 years living in jobless households as a % of the total population of the same age
	No.	%
2000	7,798	8.2
2001	8,409	8.9
2002	6,941	7.2
2003	9,507	10.0

Data refer to the December issues of the Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Table 6. Distribution by district for persons living in jobless households

District	December 2000					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Southern Harbour	5,805	29.0	6,617	27.1	12,422	27.9
Northern Harbour	6,743	33.7	7,741	31.6	14,484	32.6
South Eastern	1,997	10.0	2,617	10.7	4,614	10.4
West	2,430	12.2	3,196	13.1	5,626	12.6
North	1,881	9.4	1,988	8.1	3,869	8.7
Gozo and Comino	1,141 ^u	5.7	2,310	9.4	3,451	7.8
Total	19,997	100.0	24,469	100.0	44,466	100.0
District	December 2001					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Southern Harbour	5,379	27.3	6,102	25.6	11,481	26.3
Northern Harbour	5,469	27.8	7,379	30.9	12,848	29.5
South Eastern	2,166	11.0	2,593	10.9	4,759	10.9
West	2,250	11.4	2,542	10.6	4,792	11.0
North	2,294	11.6	2,353	9.8	4,647	10.7
Gozo and Comino	2,139	10.9	2,922	12.2	5,061	11.6
Total	19,697	100.0	23,891	100.0	43,588	100.0
District	December 2002					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Southern Harbour	4,221	23.6	5,387	23.0	9,608	23.2
Northern Harbour	6,311	35.2	7,761	33.1	14,072	34.0
South Eastern	2,194	12.3	2,784	11.9	4,978	12.0
West	1,270 ^u	7.1	2,445	10.4	3,715	9.0
North	1,989	11.1	2,578	11.0	4,567	11.1
Gozo and Comino	1,915	10.7	2,498	10.6	4,413	10.7
Total	17,900	100.0	23,453	100.0	41,353	100.0
District	December 2003					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Southern Harbour	5,200	24.9	6,092	25.8	11,292	25.4
Northern Harbour	6,994	33.4	7,212	30.6	14,206	31.9
South Eastern	2,258	10.8	2,622	11.1	4,880	11.0
West	1,819	8.7	2,576	10.9	4,395	9.9
North	2,660	12.7	2,702	11.5	5,362	12.1
Gozo and Comino	1,989	9.5	2,373	10.1	4,362	9.8
Total	20,920	100.0	23,577	100.0	44,497	100.0

^u - under-represented

Table 7. Education level of persons living in jobless households (15+ years)

Education	December 2000					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
No Schooling	991 ^u	6.0	1,232 ^u	5.8	2,224	5.9
Primary	7,983	48.5	12,218	57.2	20,200	53.4
Secondary	6,098	37.0	6,889	32.3	12,987	34.3
Post Secondary and over	1,400 ^u	8.5	1,005 ^u	4.7	2,405	6.4
Total	16,472	100.0	21,344	100.0	37,816	100.0
Education	December 2001					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
No Schooling	1,117 ^u	7.2	1,527 ^u	7.3	2,644	7.3
Primary	6,992	44.9	11,240	53.9	18,232	50.0
Secondary	5,624	36.1	6,584	31.5	12,208	33.5
Post Secondary and over	1,831	11.8	1,527 ^u	7.3	3,358	9.2
Total	15,564	100.0	20,878	100.0	36,442	100.0
Education	December 2002					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
No Schooling	1,018 ^u	6.5	1,216 ^u	6.0	2,234	6.2
Primary	6,942	44.6	11,492	57.0	18,434	51.6
Secondary	5,963	38.3	6,276	31.1	12,239	34.3
Post Secondary and over	1,643 ^u	10.6	1,183 ^u	5.9	2,826	7.9
Total	15,566	100.0	20,167	100.0	35,733	100.0
Education	December 2003					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
No Schooling	674 ^u	4.1	1,511 ^u	7.6	2,185	6.0
Primary	7,390	45.3	9,037	45.3	16,427	45.3
Secondary	6,956	42.7	8,075	40.4	15,031	41.4
Post Secondary and over	1,291 ^u	7.9	1,344 ^u	6.7	2,635	7.3
Total	16,311	100.0	19,967	100.0	36,278	100.0

^u - under-represented

Table 8. Labour Status for persons living in jobless households (15+ years)

Labour status	December 2000					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Unemployed	3,680	22.3	543 ^u	2.5	4,223	11.2
Inactive	12,792	77.7	20,801	97.5	33,593	88.8
Total	16,472	100.0	21,344	100.0	37,816	100.0
Labour status	December 2001					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Unemployed	2,985	19.2	542 ^u	2.6	3,527	9.7
Inactive	12,579	80.8	20,336	97.4	32,915	90.3
Total	15,564	100.0	20,878	100.0	36,442	100.0
Labour status	December 2002					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Unemployed	2,754	17.7	610 ^u	3.0	3,364	9.4
Inactive	12,812	82.3	19,557	97.0	32,369	90.6
Total	15,566	100.0	20,167	100.0	35,733	100.0
Labour status	December 2003					
	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Unemployed	3,589	22.0	804 ^u	4.0	4,393	12.1
Inactive	12,722	78.0	19,163	96.0	31,885	87.9
Total	16,311	100.0	19,967	100.0	36,278	100.0

^u - under-represented

Methodological Notes

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 the results with other EU member states and countries following ILO definitions of employment and unemployment. Occupations are classified according to the ISCO classification (International Standard Classification of Occupations) whilst the economic activity is classified according to the NACE classification (Nomenclature générale des activités économiques dans les Communautés européennes).

EMPLOYMENT: This comprises all persons above 15 years of age 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 employees but were not at work and were: on paid or sick leave, did not work due to bad weather, were undergoing training or education, did not work due to a labour dispute, were absent from work for a period of less than 6 months, were absent from work for a period of more than 6 months and were still receiving some type of payment whilst being absent from work.

self-employed: a person who runs 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.

INACTIVE PERSONS: All persons who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as inactive.

UNEMPLOYMENT: This comprises 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, e.g. includes contacting the ETC, applied 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.

Included with the unemployed are persons who were without work and were not actively seeking work since they had found a job which would start later.

JOBLESS HOUSEHOLD: Population living in jobless households is calculated by dividing the number of persons aged between 0 and 65 years of age living in households where no one is working, out of the persons living in eligible households. Eligible households are all except those where everybody falls in one of these categories:

aged less than 18 years old

aged between 18 and 24 years and are in education or inactive

aged 65 and over and not working.