

# News Release



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## Government Finance

### Government expenditure on Social Security Benefits: January - June 2005

Total expenditure on social security benefits during the first six months of 2005 increased by Lm6.6 million or 6.3 per cent over the same period in 2004, and amounted to Lm112.7 million.

The pensions in respect of retirement, the main component of contributory benefits, increased by Lm3.6 million, mainly due to an increase of Lm3.1 million in the two-thirds pension. This increase was brought about by a net increase in the number of beneficiaries. The outlay on the retirement pension also added Lm0.7 million, but this was partly offset by a decline of Lm0.6 million to the increased retirement pension.

Other increases within the contributory benefits category were reported in the national minimum invalidity pension (+Lm0.4 million), and in the survivor's (in respect of widowhood) pension which increased by Lm0.5 million. On the other hand declines were observed in both unemployment benefits (-Lm0.1 million), as well as in the special unemployment benefits (-Lm0.1 million), while the outlay on sickness benefits went up by Lm0.1 million.

During the first six months of 2005, non-contributory benefits increased by Lm1.2 million (Lm0.6 million increase in both Qtr1 and Qtr2), or 4.6 per cent, and amounted to Lm29.8 million. Social assistance, which is made up of money paid to heads of households who are either unemployed or seeking employment, and whose relative financial means falls below the benchmarks established by the Social Security Act, added Lm0.9 million. Increases were also recorded on benefits relating to old-age (+Lm0.3 million), to disability allowance (+Lm0.2 million), and to medical assistance (+Lm0.3 million). These in part compensated for a reduction of Lm0.4 million in children's allowances.

Government's expenditure on social security benefits for the first six months this year made up 53.3 per cent of the annual budgeted forecast of Lm211.6 million. During the same period for 2004, government's outlay amounted to Lm106.1 million, making up 51.1 per cent of the actual total expenditure on social security benefits in 2004.

A glossary at the end of this release defines the major pensions, grants and other benefits ■

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Table 1. Quarterly data on social security benefits ...

Lm

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2002	2003	2004	2005
	Q1				Q2			
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>29,539,151</b>	<b>32,308,781</b>	<b>38,260,778</b>	<b>40,792,762</b>	<b>38,787,419</b>	<b>43,714,757</b>	<b>39,294,203</b>	<b>42,160,630</b>
Pensions in respect of Retirement	18,287,157	19,758,114	24,979,626	26,842,354	23,837,523	24,898,575	20,049,779	21,743,486
Retirement Pension	2,903,252	3,459,190	4,008,877	4,571,305	4,030,165	4,421,470	3,354,330	3,517,420
National Minimum Pension	2,706,459	2,730,558	2,545,497	2,719,077	2,760,947	2,667,765	2,708,698	2,720,882
Increased Retirement Pension	1,906,320	1,870,269	2,227,575	1,698,601	2,614,547	2,165,720	1,323,138	1,291,974
Two-thirds Pension	10,170,064	11,022,536	15,499,623	17,052,830	13,817,081	14,981,300	11,905,502	13,419,213
Increased National Minimum Pension	553,626	631,706	634,871	719,991	554,909	605,689	710,856	736,354
Decreased National Minimum Pension	47,436	43,855	63,183	80,550	59,874	56,631	47,255	57,643
Pensions in respect of Invalidity	2,579,381	3,065,499	3,425,214	3,673,076	2,725,527	3,295,078	3,578,027	3,719,635
Invalidity Pension	382,973	474,813	517,249	565,054	407,519	598,502	559,470	573,843
Increased Invalidity Pension	192,970	191,059	169,829	157,618	188,638	186,297	167,694	153,841
National Minimum Invalidity Pension	1,990,041	2,387,401	2,726,119	2,939,404	2,117,083	2,498,468	2,842,948	2,981,839
Decr. National Min. Invalidity Pension	13,397	12,226	12,017	11,000	12,287	11,811	7,915	10,112
Pensions in respect of Widowhood	6,662,935	7,464,999	7,470,746	7,930,222	6,919,057	9,692,238	10,018,832	10,803,514
Widow's Pension	663,867	1,089,328	830,790	893,455	878,057	1,144,619	1,023,128	1,304,187
Early Survivor's Pension	995,878	1,057,915	1,087,932	1,154,630	1,011,519	1,408,118	1,461,050	1,565,119
Survivor's Pension	1,591,357	1,819,993	2,034,642	2,254,532	1,633,022	2,499,095	2,818,830	3,088,857
National Minimum Widow's Pension	3,411,789	3,497,763	3,517,382	3,627,605	3,396,459	4,640,406	4,715,824	4,845,351
Widow's Special Allowance	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Benefit in Respect of Industrial Injuries	182,326	212,796	162,481	198,399	195,319	243,744	181,841	186,556
Injury Benefit	123,760	138,377	101,587	141,063	131,686	154,214	117,243	120,117
Injury Pension	35,684	35,909	36,012	39,139	35,465	36,109	37,094	36,414
Injury Gratuity	22,882	38,510	24,882	18,197	28,168	53,421	27,504	30,026
Other Benefits	985,840	928,654	1,163,158	992,203	1,095,920	1,299,844	1,028,347	1,077,438
Unemployment Benefit	200,297	152,973	276,207	193,197	205,722	180,748	225,819	182,000
Special Unemployment Benefit	123,150	103,125	148,903	118,384	126,673	116,799	138,861	95,811
Maternity Benefit	144,772	136,565	162,457	165,769	152,803	177,752	151,371	156,800
Sickness Benefit	474,067	486,917	528,967	461,848	543,885	740,726	445,705	575,871
Orphans Allowance	1,756	4,802	3,741	3,133	9,093	5,245	4,940	3,488
Marriage Grant	41,787	39,717	38,661	42,140	55,362	72,343	57,481	63,470
Re-Marriage Gratuity	11	4,555	4,222	7,732	2,382	6,231	4,170	0
Bonus	841,512	878,719	1,059,553	1,156,508	4,014,073	4,285,278	4,437,377	4,630,001
<b>Non-Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>12,183,123</b>	<b>12,445,412</b>	<b>14,003,042</b>	<b>14,647,492</b>	<b>13,875,709</b>	<b>15,085,070</b>	<b>14,539,062</b>	<b>15,132,578</b>
Children's Allowance	4,314,022	3,889,844	3,745,881	3,533,268	4,053,749	3,869,717	3,759,332	3,562,234
Old Age	1,349,924	1,368,342	1,375,710	1,492,388	1,342,793	1,354,650	1,380,071	1,556,765
Disability Pensions/Allowance	707,032	739,172	767,667	843,439	699,637	740,206	766,010	866,262
Social Assistance	3,898,518	4,270,748	5,816,790	6,429,186	4,856,517	5,509,582	4,947,180	5,230,735
Medical Assistance	1,151,037	1,300,838	1,339,431	1,415,813	1,229,725	1,761,578	1,792,548	1,990,986
Supplementary Assistance	496,087	602,977	621,831	620,878	503,727	611,705	642,490	650,432
Bonus	266,503	273,491	335,732	312,520	1,189,561	1,237,632	1,251,431	1,275,163
<b>Total Social Security Benefits</b>	<b>41,722,274</b>	<b>44,754,193</b>	<b>52,263,820</b>	<b>55,440,254</b>	<b>52,663,128</b>	<b>58,799,827</b>	<b>53,833,265</b>	<b>57,293,208</b>

... Table 1. Quarterly data on social security benefits

Lm

	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
	Q3			Q4		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
<b>Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>35,224,519</b>	<b>34,669,895</b>	<b>36,602,901</b>	<b>35,218,987</b>	<b>36,144,997</b>	<b>37,109,828</b>
Pensions in respect of Retirement	19,704,223	20,409,642	21,302,849	19,057,835	19,065,362	20,114,742
Retirement Pension	3,028,011	3,081,136	3,682,505	3,481,227	2,812,384	3,284,694
National Minimum Pension	3,545,828	3,470,848	3,412,257	2,696,108	2,507,607	2,727,012
Increased Retirement Pension	1,583,238	1,617,147	1,175,353	1,514,579	1,707,237	1,161,193
Two-thirds Pension	10,749,438	11,364,921	12,065,487	10,699,648	11,397,537	12,212,907
Increased National Minimum Pension	754,885	829,047	920,333	581,263	594,347	682,640
Decreased National Minimum Pension	42,823	46,543	46,914	85,010	46,250	46,295
Pensions in respect of Invalidity	3,766,312	4,408,363	4,823,696	3,001,513	3,426,833	3,599,015
Invalidity Pension	662,967	772,737	794,506	555,563	607,069	613,892
Increased Invalidity Pension	253,891	240,034	213,156	185,094	173,888	155,326
National Minimum Invalidity Pension	2,834,203	3,380,162	3,801,128	2,247,226	2,633,904	2,815,039
Decr. National Min. Invalidity Pension	15,251	15,430	14,906	13,630	11,972	14,759
Pensions in respect of Widowhood	9,349,563	7,366,801	8,137,869	7,679,601	7,928,981	7,617,216
Widow's Pension	1,243,505	908,875	1,307,075	1,497,482	1,397,809	810,999
Early Survivor's Pension	1,351,743	1,060,656	1,111,306	1,028,823	1,078,869	1,119,476
Survivor's Pension	2,257,310	1,928,341	2,145,939	1,750,907	1,977,094	2,161,135
National Minimum Widow's Pension	4,497,005	3,468,929	3,573,549	3,402,389	3,475,209	3,525,607
Widow's Special Allowance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benefit in Respect of Industrial Injuries	223,564	209,860	203,296	237,776	234,621	197,213
Injury Benefit	155,374	136,328	127,024	167,457	169,689	138,151
Injury Pension	46,759	47,902	48,318	34,599	36,579	36,529
Injury Gratuity	21,431	25,630	27,954	35,720	28,353	22,533
Other Benefits	1,075,262	1,059,399	983,364	1,077,170	1,135,564	1,030,530
Unemployment Benefit	200,332	194,694	199,983	165,274	217,139	192,186
Special Unemployment Benefit	88,191	122,051	94,152	115,738	131,619	103,358
Maternity Benefit	160,978	149,041	144,332	158,808	175,319	168,543
Sickness Benefit	516,935	507,345	433,888	535,449	537,639	481,653
Orphans Allowance	4,752	4,006	5,429	3,267	3,776	3,074
Marriage Grant	104,074	82,262	102,303	97,590	70,072	79,408
Re-Marriage Gratuity	-	-	3,277	1,044	-	2,309
Bonus	1,105,595	1,215,830	1,151,827	4,165,092	4,353,636	4,551,112
<b>Non-Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>12,178,249</b>	<b>12,034,355</b>	<b>12,861,146</b>	<b>13,741,835</b>	<b>14,518,515</b>	<b>14,787,267</b>
Children's Allowance	3,534,965	3,266,067	3,337,849	3,947,754	3,833,003	3,442,014
Old Age	1,351,166	1,350,393	1,535,017	1,786,436	1,813,798	1,977,222
Disability Pensions/Allowance	698,573	744,260	794,977	910,715	997,915	1,048,974
Social Assistance	4,237,049	4,502,190	4,946,273	4,218,187	4,666,587	5,058,700
Medical Assistance	1,622,951	1,318,338	1,332,366	1,200,581	1,322,211	1,323,593
Supplementary Assistance	455,402	572,879	623,475	472,225	626,918	639,820
Bonus	278,143	280,228	291,189	1,205,937	1,258,083	1,296,944
<b>Total Social Security Benefits</b>	<b>47,402,768</b>	<b>46,704,250</b>	<b>49,464,047</b>	<b>48,960,822</b>	<b>50,663,512</b>	<b>51,897,095</b>

Table 2. Annual data on social security benefits

Lm

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>123,262,824</b>	<b>133,450,124</b>	<b>138,770,076</b>	<b>146,838,430</b>	<b>151,267,710</b>
Pensions in respect of Retirement	71,692,385	78,466,583	80,886,738	84,131,693	86,446,996
Retirement Pension	11,659,858	12,965,708	13,442,655	13,774,180	14,330,406
National Minimum Pension	11,958,869	11,695,817	11,709,342	11,376,778	11,393,464
Increased Retirement Pension	7,137,042	8,626,191	7,618,684	7,360,373	5,887,259
Two-thirds Pension	38,582,596	42,493,931	45,436,231	48,766,294	51,683,519
Increased National Minimum Pension	2,248,091	2,494,859	2,444,683	2,660,789	2,948,700
Decreased National Minimum Pension	105,929	190,077	235,143	193,279	203,647
Pensions in respect of Invalidity	9,936,460	10,606,949	12,072,733	14,195,773	15,425,952
Invalidity Pension	1,783,283	1,697,462	2,009,022	2,453,121	2,485,117
Increased Invalidity Pension	1,013,777	942,304	820,593	791,278	706,005
National Minimum Invalidity Pension	7,082,540	7,908,748	9,188,553	10,899,935	12,185,234
Decreased National Minimum Invalidity Pension	56,860	58,435	54,565	51,439	49,597
Pensions in respect of Widowhood	27,495,475	30,134,484	30,611,156	32,453,019	33,244,663
Widow's Pension	4,253,781	4,684,692	4,282,911	4,540,631	3,971,992
Early Survivor's Pension	3,764,409	4,255,684	4,387,963	4,605,558	4,779,764
Survivor's Pension	5,610,446	6,537,847	7,232,596	8,224,523	9,160,546
National Minimum Widow's Pension	13,865,836	14,655,671	14,707,642	15,082,307	15,332,362
Widow's Special Allowance	1,003	590	44	0	0
Benefit in Respect of Industrial Injuries and Gratuities	766,297	736,220	838,985	901,021	744,831
Injury Benefit	506,823	495,672	578,277	598,608	484,005
Injury Pension	149,937	151,429	152,507	156,499	157,953
Injury Gratuity	109,537	89,119	108,201	145,914	102,873
Other Benefits	3,512,696	3,560,751	4,234,192	4,423,461	4,205,399
Unemployment Benefit	480,977	525,188	771,625	745,554	894,195
Special Unemployment Benefit	315,681	329,522	453,752	473,594	485,274
Maternity Benefit	561,387	589,865	617,361	638,677	626,703
Sickness Benefit	1,835,837	1,803,475	2,070,336	2,272,627	1,890,213
Orphans Allowance	10,740	9,856	18,868	17,829	17,184
Marriage Grant	289,120	280,376	298,813	264,394	277,853
Re-Marriage Gratuity	18,954	22,469	3,437	10,786	13,978
Bonus	9,859,511	9,945,137	10,126,272	10,733,463	11,199,869
<b>Non-Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>52,620,620</b>	<b>50,997,449</b>	<b>51,978,916</b>	<b>54,083,352</b>	<b>56,190,517</b>
Children's Allowance	18,430,319	15,851,330	15,850,490	14,858,631	14,285,076
Old Age	5,741,969	6,180,798	5,830,319	5,887,183	6,268,020
Disability Pensions/Allowance	2,764,677	3,103,212	3,015,957	3,221,553	3,377,628
Social Assistance	15,445,918	15,719,079	17,210,271	18,949,107	20,768,943
Medical Assistance	5,081,667	5,166,163	5,204,294	5,702,965	5,787,938
Supplementary Assistance	2,352,606	2,097,779	1,927,441	2,414,479	2,527,616
Bonus	2,803,464	2,879,088	2,940,144	3,049,434	3,175,296
<b>Total Social Security Benefits</b>	<b>175,883,444</b>	<b>184,447,573</b>	<b>190,748,992</b>	<b>200,921,782</b>	<b>207,458,227</b>
<b>GDP AT CURRENT MARKET PRICES (Lm000)</b>	<b>1,665,800</b>	<b>1,688,960</b>	<b>1,740,054</b>	<b>1,793,277</b>	<b>1,847,190</b>
<b>Total Benefits as % of GDP</b>	<b>10.56</b>	<b>10.92</b>	<b>10.96</b>	<b>11.20</b>	<b>11.23</b>

Table 3. Percentage distribution of benefits (quarterly) ...

%

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2002	2003	2004	2005
	Q1				Q2			
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Contributory Benefits</b>								
Pensions in respect of Retirement	61.91	61.15	65.29	65.80	61.46	56.96	51.02	51.57
Retirement Pension	9.83	10.71	10.48	11.21	10.39	10.11	8.54	8.34
National Minimum Pension	9.16	8.45	6.65	6.67	7.12	6.10	6.89	6.45
Increased Retirement Pension	6.45	5.79	5.82	4.16	6.74	4.95	3.37	3.06
Two-thirds Pension	34.43	34.12	40.51	41.80	35.62	34.27	30.30	31.83
Increased National Minimum Pension	1.87	1.96	1.66	1.76	1.43	1.39	1.81	1.75
Decreased National Minimum Pension	0.16	0.14	0.17	0.20	0.15	0.13	0.12	0.14
Pensions in respect of Invalidity	8.73	9.49	8.95	9.00	7.03	7.54	9.11	8.82
Invalidity Pension	1.30	1.47	1.35	1.39	1.05	1.37	1.42	1.36
Increased Invalidity Pension	0.65	0.59	0.44	0.39	0.49	0.43	0.43	0.36
National Minimum Invalidity Pension	6.74	7.39	7.13	7.21	5.46	5.72	7.24	7.07
Decreased National Min. Invalidity Pension	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02
Pensions in respect of Widowhood	22.56	23.11	19.53	19.44	17.84	22.17	25.50	25.62
Widow's Pension	2.25	3.37	2.17	2.19	2.26	2.62	2.60	3.09
Early Survivor's Pension	3.37	3.27	2.84	2.83	2.61	3.22	3.72	3.71
Survivor's Pension	5.39	5.63	5.32	5.53	4.21	5.72	7.17	7.33
National Minimum Widow's Pension	11.55	10.83	9.19	8.89	8.76	10.62	12.00	11.49
Widow's Special Allowance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Benefit in Respect of Industrial Injuries	0.62	0.66	0.42	0.49	0.50	0.56	0.46	0.44
Injury Benefit	0.42	0.43	0.27	0.35	0.34	0.35	0.30	0.28
Injury Pension	0.12	0.11	0.09	0.10	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.09
Injury Gratuity	0.08	0.12	0.07	0.04	0.07	0.12	0.07	0.07
Other Benefits	3.34	2.87	3.04	2.43	2.83	2.97	2.62	2.56
Unemployment Benefit	0.68	0.47	0.72	0.47	0.53	0.41	0.57	0.43
Special Unemployment Benefit	0.42	0.32	0.39	0.29	0.33	0.27	0.35	0.23
Maternity Benefit	0.49	0.42	0.42	0.41	0.39	0.41	0.39	0.37
Sickness Benefit	1.60	1.51	1.38	1.13	1.40	1.69	1.13	1.37
Orphans Allowance	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01
Marriage Grant	0.14	0.12	0.10	0.10	0.14	0.17	0.15	0.15
Re-Marriage Gratuity	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Bonus	2.85	2.72	2.77	2.84	10.35	9.80	11.29	10.98
<b>Non-Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Children's Allowance	35.41	31.26	26.75	24.12	29.21	25.65	25.86	23.54
Old Age	11.08	10.99	9.82	10.19	9.68	8.98	9.49	10.29
Disability Pensions/Allowance	5.80	5.94	5.48	5.76	5.04	4.91	5.27	5.72
Social Assistance	32.00	34.32	41.54	43.89	35.00	36.52	34.03	34.57
Medical Assistance	9.45	10.45	9.57	9.67	8.86	11.68	12.33	13.16
Supplementary Assistance	4.07	4.84	4.44	4.24	3.63	4.06	4.42	4.30
Bonus	2.19	2.20	2.40	2.13	8.57	8.20	8.61	8.43
<b>Total Social Security Benefits</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Contributory Benefits	70.80	72.19	73.21	73.58	73.65	74.35	72.99	73.59
Non-Contributory Benefits	29.20	27.81	26.79	26.42	26.35	25.65	27.01	26.41

... Table 3. Percentage distribution of benefits (quarterly)

	%					
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
	Q3			Q4		
<b>Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Pensions in respect of Retirement	55.94	58.87	58.20	54.11	52.75	54.20
Retirement Pension	8.60	8.89	10.06	9.88	7.78	8.85
National Minimum Pension	10.07	10.01	9.32	7.66	6.94	7.35
Increased Retirement Pension	4.49	4.66	3.21	4.30	4.72	3.13
Two-thirds Pension	30.52	32.78	32.96	30.38	31.53	32.91
Increased National Minimum Pension	2.14	2.39	2.51	1.65	1.64	1.84
Decreased National Minimum Pension	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.24	0.13	0.12
Pensions in respect of Invalidity	10.69	12.72	13.18	8.52	9.48	9.70
Invalidity Pension	1.88	2.23	2.17	1.58	1.68	1.65
Increased Invalidity Pension	0.72	0.69	0.58	0.53	0.48	0.42
National Minimum Invalidity Pension	8.05	9.75	10.38	6.38	7.29	7.59
Decreased National Min. Invalidity Pension	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.04
Pensions in respect of Widowhood	26.54	21.25	22.23	21.81	21.94	20.53
Widow's Pension	3.53	2.62	3.57	4.25	3.87	2.19
Early Survivor's Pension	3.84	3.06	3.04	2.92	2.98	3.02
Survivor's Pension	6.41	5.56	5.86	4.97	5.47	5.82
National Minimum Widow's Pension	12.77	10.01	9.76	9.66	9.61	9.50
Widow's Special Allowance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Benefit in Respect of Industrial Injuries	0.63	0.61	0.56	0.68	0.65	0.53
Injury Benefit	0.44	0.39	0.35	0.48	0.47	0.37
Injury Pension	0.13	0.14	0.13	0.10	0.10	0.10
Injury Gratuity	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.10	0.08	0.06
Other Benefits	3.05	3.06	2.69	3.06	3.14	2.78
Unemployment Benefit	0.57	0.56	0.55	0.47	0.60	0.52
Special Unemployment Benefit	0.25	0.35	0.26	0.33	0.36	0.28
Maternity Benefit	0.46	0.43	0.39	0.45	0.49	0.45
Sickness Benefit	1.47	1.46	1.19	1.52	1.49	1.30
Orphans Allowance	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Marriage Grant	0.30	0.24	0.28	0.28	0.19	0.21
Re-Marriage Gratuity	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
Bonus	3.14	3.51	3.15	11.83	12.04	12.26
<b>Non-Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Children's Allowance	29.03	27.14	25.95	28.73	26.40	23.28
Old Age	11.09	11.22	11.94	13.00	12.49	13.37
Disability Pensions/Allowance	5.74	6.18	6.18	6.63	6.87	7.09
Social Assistance	34.79	37.41	38.46	30.70	32.14	34.21
Medical Assistance	13.33	10.95	10.36	8.74	9.11	8.95
Supplementary Assistance	3.74	4.76	4.85	3.44	4.32	4.33
Bonus	2.28	2.33	2.26	8.78	8.67	8.77
<b>Total Social Security Benefits</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Contributory Benefits	74.31	74.23	74.00	71.93	71.34	71.51
Non-Contributory Benefits	25.69	25.77	26.00	28.07	28.66	28.49

**Table 4. Percentage distribution of benefits (Annual)**

%

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Pensions in respect of Retirement	58.16	58.80	58.29	57.30	57.15
Retirement Pension	9.46	9.72	9.69	9.38	9.47
National Minimum Pension	9.70	8.76	8.44	7.75	7.53
Increased Retirement Pension	5.79	6.46	5.49	5.01	3.89
Two-thirds Pension	31.30	31.84	32.74	33.21	34.17
Increased National Minimum Pension	1.82	1.87	1.76	1.81	1.95
Decreased National Minimum Pension	0.09	0.14	0.17	0.13	0.13
Pensions in respect of Invalidity	8.06	7.95	8.70	9.67	10.20
Invalidity Pension	1.45	1.27	1.45	1.67	1.64
Increased Invalidity Pension	0.82	0.71	0.59	0.54	0.47
National Minimum Invalidity Pension	5.75	5.93	6.62	7.42	8.06
Decreased National Minimum Invalidity Pension	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.03
Pensions in respect of Widowhood	22.31	22.58	22.06	22.10	21.98
Widow's Pension	3.45	3.51	3.09	3.09	2.63
Early Survivor's Pension	3.05	3.19	3.16	3.14	3.16
Survivor's Pension	4.55	4.90	5.21	5.60	6.06
National Minimum Widow's Pension	11.25	10.98	10.60	10.27	10.14
Widow's Special Allowance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Benefit in Respect of Industrial Injuries and Gratuities	0.62	0.55	0.60	0.61	0.49
Injury Benefit	0.41	0.37	0.42	0.41	0.32
Injury Pension	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.10
Injury Gratuity	0.09	0.07	0.08	0.10	0.07
Other Benefits	2.85	2.67	3.05	3.01	2.78
Unemployment Benefit	0.39	0.39	0.56	0.51	0.59
Special Unemployment Benefit	0.26	0.25	0.33	0.32	0.32
Maternity Benefit	0.46	0.44	0.44	0.43	0.41
Sickness Benefit	1.49	1.35	1.49	1.55	1.25
Orphans Allowance	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Marriage Grant	0.23	0.21	0.22	0.18	0.18
Re-Marriage Gratuity	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.01
Bonus	8.00	7.45	7.30	7.31	7.40
<b>Non-Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Children's Allowance	35.02	31.08	30.49	27.47	25.42
Old Age	10.91	12.12	11.22	10.89	11.15
Disability Pensions/Allowance	5.25	6.09	5.80	5.96	6.01
Social Assistance	29.35	30.82	33.11	35.04	36.96
Medical Assistance	9.66	10.13	10.01	10.54	10.30
Supplementary Assistance	4.47	4.11	3.71	4.46	4.50
Bonus	5.33	5.65	5.66	5.64	5.65
<b>Total Social Security Benefits</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Contributory Benefits	70.08	72.35	72.75	73.08	72.91
Non-Contributory Benefits	29.92	27.65	27.25	26.92	27.09

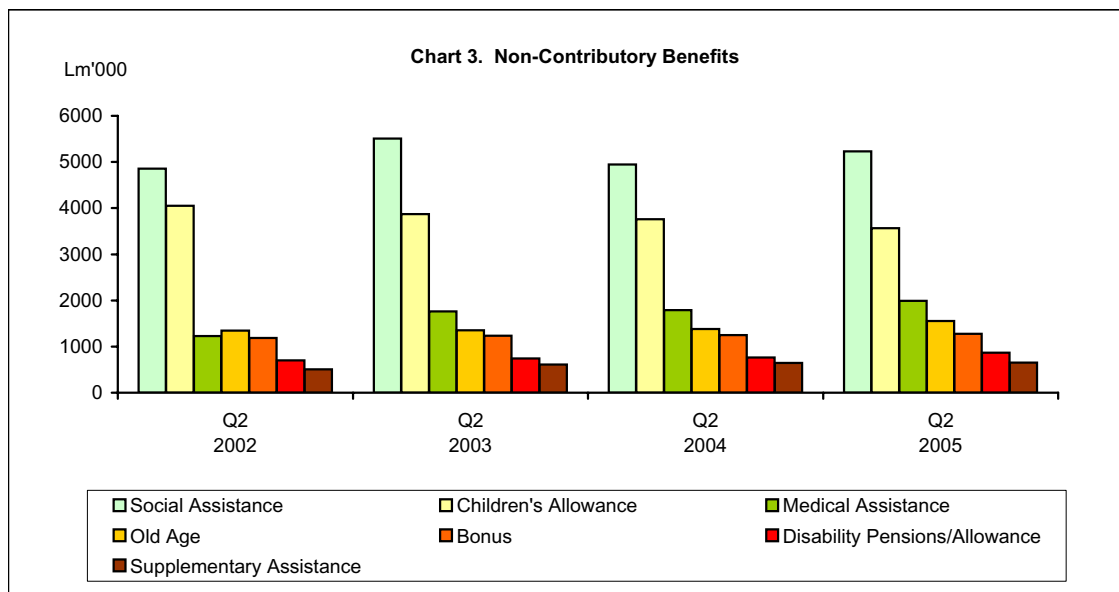
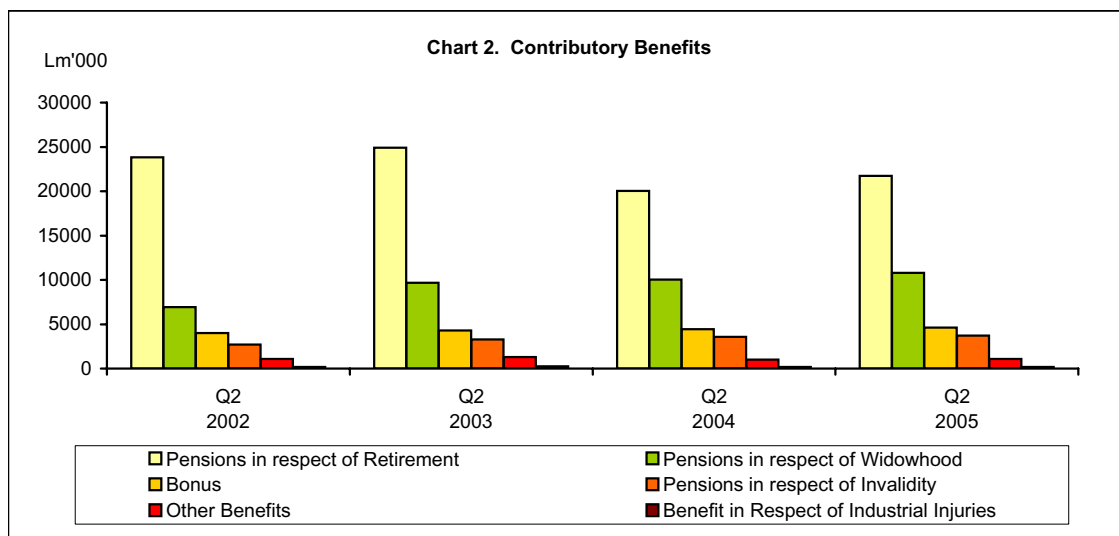
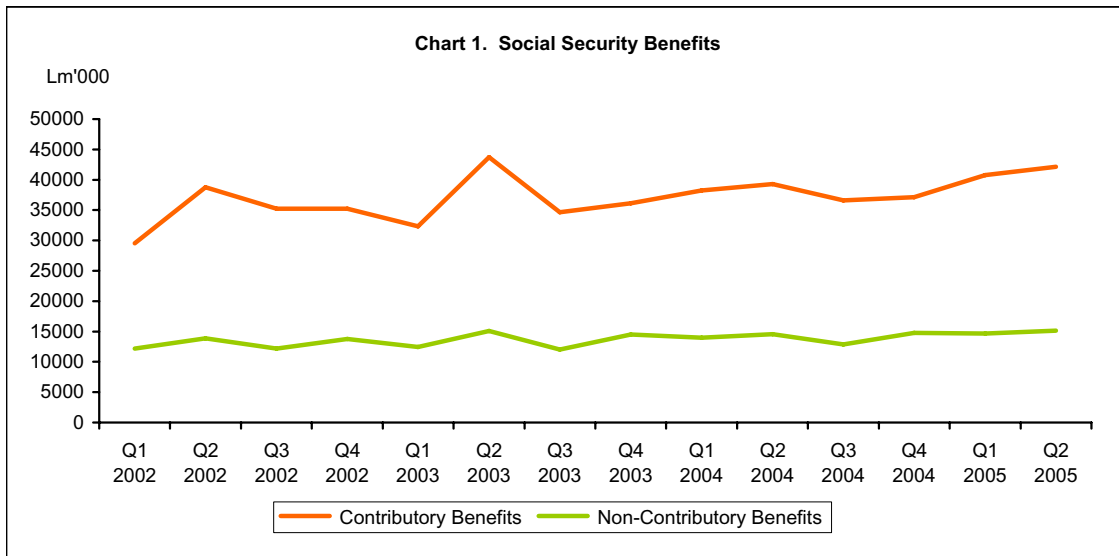
Table 5. Comparative Social Security Benefits (Jan-Jun)

Description	Jan-Jun 2003	Jan-Jun 2004	Jan-Jun 2005	Jan-Jun 2004/ Jan-Jun 2005	
	Lm thousands			Absolute Change	% change
<b>Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>76,024</b>	<b>77,555</b>	<b>82,953</b>	<b>5,398</b>	<b>6.96</b>
Pensions in respect of Retirement	44,657	45,029	48,586	3,556	7.90
Retirement Pension	7,881	7,363	8,089	726	9.85
National Minimum Pension	5,398	5,254	5,440	186	3.54
Increased Retirement Pension	4,036	3,551	2,991	-560	-15.78
Two-thirds Pension	26,004	27,405	30,472	3,067	11.19
Increased National Minimum Pension	1,237	1,346	1,456	111	8.22
Decreased National Minimum Pension	100	110	138	28	25.13
Pensions in respect of Invalidity	6,361	7,003	7,393	389	5.56
Invalidity Pension	1,073	1,077	1,139	62	5.77
Increased Invalidity Pension	377	338	311	-26	-7.72
National Minimum Invalidity Pension	4,886	5,569	5,921	352	6.32
Decreased National Minimum Invalidity Pension	24	20	21	1	5.92
Pensions in respect of Widowhood	17,157	17,490	18,734	1,244	7.11
Widow's Pension	2,234	1,854	2,198	344	18.54
Early Survivor's Pension	2,466	2,549	2,720	171	6.70
Survivor's Pension	4,319	4,853	5,343	490	10.09
National Minimum Widow's Pension	8,138	8,233	8,473	240	2.91
Widow's Special Allowance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Benefit in Respect of Industrial Injuries and Gratuities	457	344	385	41	11.80
Injury Benefit	293	219	261	42	19.35
Injury Pension	72	73	76	2	3.35
Injury Gratuity	92	52	48	-4	-7.95
Other Benefits	2,228	2,192	2,070	-122	-5.56
Unemployment Benefit	334	502	375	-127	-25.26
Special Unemployment Benefit	220	288	214	-74	-25.57
Maternity Benefit	314	314	323	9	2.78
Sickness Benefit	1,228	975	1,038	63	6.47
Orphans Allowance	10	9	7	-2	-23.74
Marriage Grant	112	96	106	9	9.85
Re-Marriage Gratuity	11	8	8	-1	-7.86
Bonus	5,164	5,497	5,787	290	5.27
<b>Non-Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>27,530</b>	<b>28,542</b>	<b>29,780</b>	<b>1,238</b>	<b>4.34</b>
Children's Allowance	7,760	7,505	7,096	-410	-5.46
Old Age	2,723	2,756	3,049	293	10.65
Disability Pensions/Allowance	1,479	1,534	1,710	176	11.48
Social Assistance	9,780	10,764	11,660	896	8.32
Medical Assistance	3,062	3,132	3,407	275	8.77
Supplementary Assistance	1,215	1,264	1,271	7	0.55
Bonus	1,511	1,587	1,588	1	0.03
<b>Total Social Security Benefits</b>	<b>103,554</b>	<b>106,097</b>	<b>112,733</b>	<b>6,636</b>	<b>6.26</b>



**Table 6. Comparative Social Security Benefits (Jan-Jun Indices)**

Description	Jan-Jun 2003	Jan-Jun 2004	Jan-Jun 2005
	Jan-Jun 2003 = 100		
<b>Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>102.01</b>	<b>109.12</b>
Pensions in respect of Retirement	100.00	100.83	108.80
Retirement Pension	100.00	93.43	102.64
National Minimum Pension	100.00	97.33	100.77
Increased Retirement Pension	100.00	87.98	74.10
Two-thirds Pension	100.00	105.39	117.18
Increased National Minimum Pension	100.00	108.75	117.69
Decreased National Minimum Pension	100.00	109.90	137.52
Pensions in respect of Invalidity	100.00	110.10	116.23
Invalidity Pension	100.00	100.32	106.11
Increased Invalidity Pension	100.00	89.44	82.54
National Minimum Invalidity Pension	100.00	113.98	121.19
Decreased National Minimum Invalidity Pension	100.00	82.92	87.83
Pensions in respect of Widowhood	100.00	101.94	109.19
Widow's Pension	100.00	82.99	98.37
Early Survivor's Pension	100.00	103.36	110.29
Survivor's Pension	100.00	112.37	123.72
National Minimum Widow's Pension	100.00	101.17	104.11
Widow's Special Allowance	100.00	0.00	0.00
Benefit in Respect of Industrial Injuries and Gratuities	100.00	75.42	84.32
Injury Benefit	100.00	74.79	89.26
Injury Pension	100.00	101.51	104.91
Injury Gratuity	100.00	56.98	52.46
Other Benefits	100.00	98.34	92.87
Unemployment Benefit	100.00	150.43	112.43
Special Unemployment Benefit	100.00	130.85	97.39
Maternity Benefit	100.00	99.84	102.62
Sickness Benefit	100.00	79.39	84.53
Orphans Allowance	100.00	86.40	65.89
Marriage Grant	100.00	85.80	94.24
Re-Marriage Gratuity	100.00	77.80	71.69
Bonus	100.00	106.45	112.05
<b>Non-Contributory Benefits</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>103.67</b>	<b>108.17</b>
Children's Allowance	100.00	96.72	91.44
Old Age	100.00	101.20	111.98
Disability Pensions/Allowance	100.00	103.67	115.57
Social Assistance	100.00	110.06	119.22
Medical Assistance	100.00	102.27	111.25
Supplementary Assistance	100.00	104.09	104.66
Bonus	100.00	105.03	105.07
<b>Total Social Security Benefits</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>102.46</b>	<b>108.86</b>



## Glossary

**Contributory Benefits:** The local contributory scheme is a system where an employee, self-occupied or self-employed person pays a weekly contribution as laid down in the Social Security Act, through a 'pay as you earn' system. All the pensions and other allowances payable under this scheme are subject to some form of contribution test depending on the type of benefit claimed.

**Non Contributory Benefits:** The non-contributory scheme was originally intended to act as a safety net by catering for those below the 'poverty line'. Unlike the contributory scheme, the benefits within the non-contributory scheme are not based on the contributions, but on a financial means-test of the person claiming the benefit.

**Retirement Pension:** is payable on reaching pension age (61 in the case of males and 60 for females). The rates and types of categories vary according to a range of statutory conditions.

**National Minimum Pension / Increased National Minimum Pension** is payable to a person who is not in receipt of a Service pension from an employer. The rates applicable are four-fifths of the National Minimum Wage in the case of a married man maintaining a wife and two-thirds of the National Minimum Wage in the case of any other person.

**Increased Retirement Pension** applies to cases where the sum total of a person's service pension together with the rate of retirement pension applicable in the case are lower than the two-thirds of the person's pensionable income.

**Decreased National Minimum Pension:** where a person is entitled to a service pension and his service pension together with the rate of retirement pension or increased retirement pension applicable in his case is less than the rate of national minimum pension in his case, such a person shall be entitled to the National minimum pension reduced by his service pension.

**Two-Thirds Pension** is a pension related to earnings, payable to persons who have retired after January 1979. This scheme provides for a pension equivalent to two-thirds of the insured person's pensionable income. Maximum and minimum rates are applicable.

**Invalidity Pension** is payable to persons deemed permanently incapable for suitable full-time or regular part-time employment. There are various rates according to different conditions.

**Widows' Pension** is payable to widows, irrespective of age, who are not gainfully occupied, who are occupied but earning less than the national minimum wage, or who are carrying out gainful activities but have the care and custody of children under 16 years of age. Rates may vary according to conditions outlined in the Social Security Act (Social Security Act, Part IV, and subsequent amendments). Any reference to a widow also means a widower.

**Survivors' Pension** is an earnings related pension payable to a widow whose husband was entitled to a two-thirds pension or whose husband would have been entitled to a pension had he reached retiring age at the time of his death.

**Injury Benefit** This benefit is payable for injury at work or contraction of industrial disease. Maximum entitlement is limited to 12 months.

**Injury Pension:** is payable if injury or disease caused or contracted whilst at work is considered to cause a loss of physical or mental faculty calculated between 20% and 89%. Rates awarded vary according to the degree of disability. Where the degree of disablement is assessed at 90% and over, the person concerned is automatically awarded an Invalidity Pension at the full rate.

**Injury Gratuity** is a lump sum payment payable to a person following injury at work and where the degree of disability is estimated as being between 1% and 19%.

**Unemployment Benefit** is payable to unemployed persons for a period of 156 days. This benefit is considered as a short-term benefit. Subsequently unemployed persons may qualify for long-term benefits under 'Social Assistance'.

**Special Unemployment Benefit:** entitlement is also for 156 days but at a higher rate. This benefit is applicable to persons who would qualify for non-contributory Social Assistance.

**Maternity Benefit** is payable to local residing pregnant citizens of Malta in respect of the last 8 weeks of pregnancy and the first 5 weeks after childbirth. This benefit is only payable if the female is not entitled to maternity leave from her employer, if employed.

**Sickness Benefit:** Entitlement of 156 days but may in certain cases be extended to 312 days. The first three days of each new claim for this benefit are not paid.

**Orphans' Allowance** is a weekly allowance paid to a guardian of a child or children who are under 16 years of age.

**Orphans' Supplementary Allowance** is a further weekly allowance paid to a guardian of a child or children aged between 16 years and 21 years who are not following any gainful occupation the gross earnings of which exceeds the national income wage.

**Marriage Grant** is a one-time payment payable upon marriage to persons ordinarily resident in Malta. To be eligible a person must be employed, self-employed or self-occupied for at least six months at any time prior to his marriage.

**Re-marriage Grant** is payable to a widow who remarries and hence forfeits her right to a widow's pension. The payment is equivalent to one year's widows' pension.

**Children's Allowance** is payable to locally residing female citizens of Malta who have the care of children under 16 years of age, and where the household income does not exceed a stipulated amount.

**Old Age Pension** is payable to citizens of Malta over 60 years of age.

**Pensions in respect of Disability** are payable to citizens of Malta over 16 years of age.

**Social Assistance** is payable to heads of households who are either unemployed or seeking employment and whose relative financial means falls below that established by the Social Security Act. This benefit is also payable to single or widowed females who lack financial resources and who are caring for an elderly or physically/mentally handicapped relative on a full-time basis.

**Supplementary Assistance** is payable to households where the total income of the members falls below the limits outlined by the Social Security Act.

**Medical Assistance** is a benefit payable to persons suffering from a chronic disease or condition that requires special diet.

**Methodological note:**

The data provided in this release is extracted from the cash accounting system of the Consolidated Fund of Government. As such no revisions are envisaged.