

News Release



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Education

Adult Education and Lifelong Learning

Today, both education and training are of fundamental concern in a society striving to secure full access to social, economic and political life for all citizens. If this is to be achieved, both have to occur not merely in the earlier stages of life but throughout it, in a way that depends on individual personal and professional needs. As a result, the aims, content, methods and all procedures governing the activity of education and training system has to be thoroughly reappraised. It is against this background that Malta like many other countries in the world, has brought lifelong learning as a goal onto the political agenda. As a member of the European Union, Malta is now actively promoting the idea of lifelong learning and is also participating in programmes initiated by the European Commission in 1996 and consolidated and extended within the Socrates, Leonardo Da Vinci and Youth Programmes. In fact, more than 693,555 Euros have been granted locally in this area during 2003/04.

Yet apart from the participation in such programmes set up by EU, Maltese citizens have lately increased their interest in participating in various other evening courses offered both by Maltese government and the private sector. This news release will concentrate only on some of these courses. It will review participation rates in 63 adult education centres that were available throughout Malta and Gozo in 2003. Of these, 27 were run by the private enterprise, while the remaining 36 centres were run by government. Apart from the evening centres, there are the MCAST part-time courses, the schools for drama, art and music as well as the University of the Third Age.

During 2004, 15,437 persons have received some form of instruction provided by one of the institutions catering for further education and training, mentioned above. 11,611 persons participated in one of the government's centres, whilst 3,826 were participants in one of the 27 private evening classes centres that answered to this survey.

Substantial increases in participation over the previous year, were observed mainly in the Government Evening Classes Centres, where the population increased from 6,600 in 2003 to 6,824 in 2004, an increase of 3.4 per cent. The School of Art and the Drama centres also registered an increase of 389 or 37.3 per cent and 156 participants or 28.4 per cent respectively. Yet all the other centres recorded a slight decrease in their students population in 2003/04. The University of the Third Age registered a minimal decrease of 7 participants whilst the Adult Literacy Classes registered a decrease of 156 participants or 12.2 per cent. The number of participants at the School of Music dropped from 1,094 to 823 - a drop of 24.8 per cent.

The highest number of participants were aged 40 years & over - amounting to 4,346 participants. The next highest number of participants stood at 3,939 within the 0-19 year old age group. Female participation accounted for 52.5 per cent of the total participation.

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Handicraft was the most popular subject amongst those attending Government Evening Classes Centres. In fact 1,383 or 20.3 per cent of those participating in these centres have taken of course related to handicrafts. Computing was on the other hand, the most popular subject amongst those attending Private Evening Classes Centres. 38.2 per cent or 1,460 participants took an evening course related to computers. Overall, the next popular subjects in line were Humanities and Arts (including languages) which amounted to 19.9 cent of the participation in both public and private evening centres around the islands.

This news release provides just an overview of the action taken by Malta to bring about such an ambitious and far reaching objective as lifelong learning. Yet education and training systems are not the only agencies at work in the field of lifelong education. Many relevant initiatives are the result of joint action involving the world of work, economic interests and the social partners. However, the contribution of education as such calls for special attention in the light of the finding that people who become involved in lifelong education are those for whom their earlier education and training was a worthwhile experience. It is under these circumstances that the power of education to provide the great majority of people with both a taste for learning and the core skills needed to develop any subsequent learning activity, assumes its full significance ■

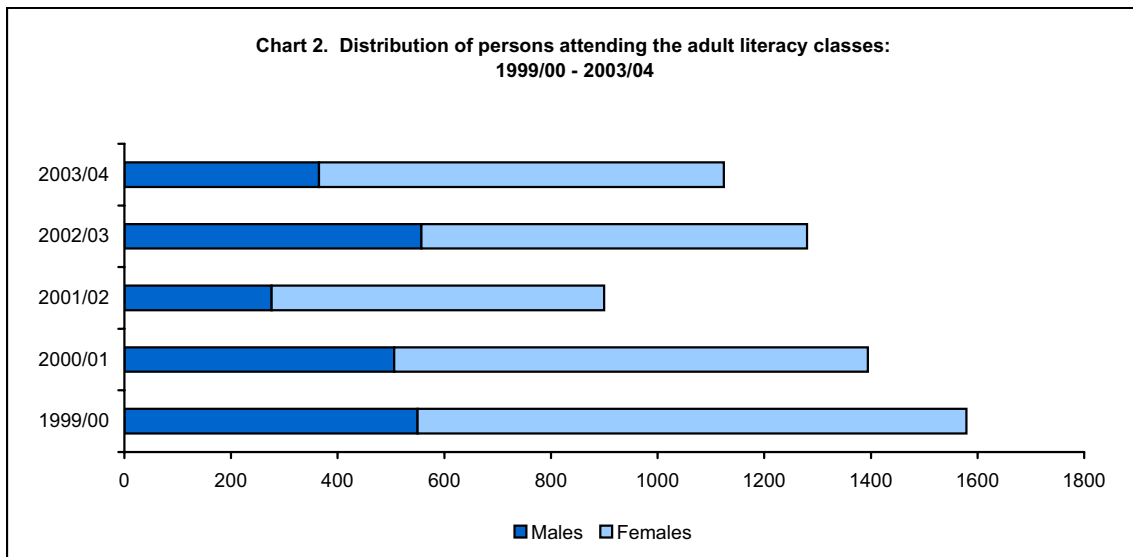
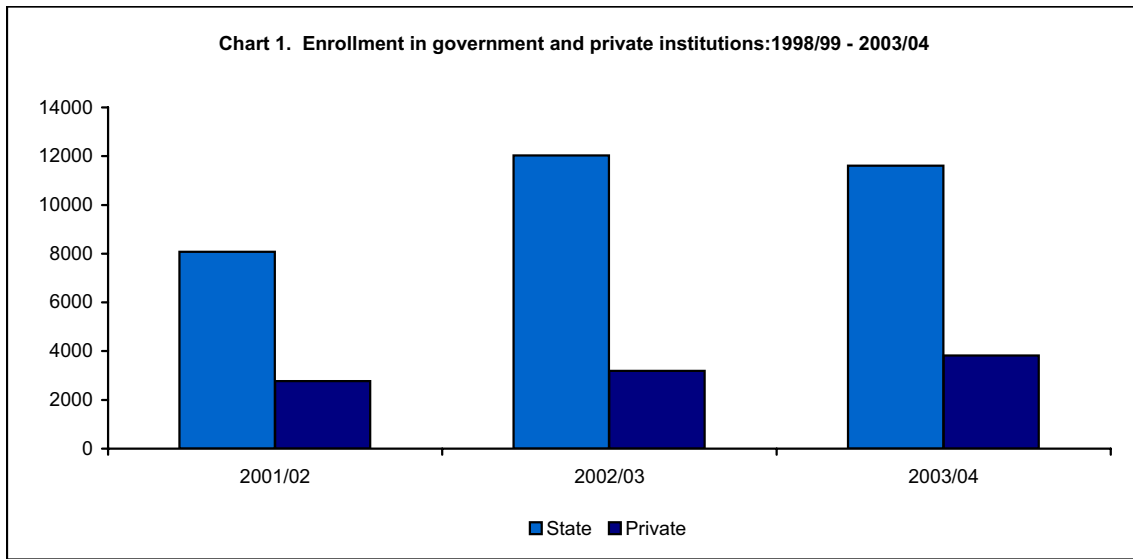


Table 1. Distribution of students attending Government evening classes centres classified by field of study by age group and sex: 2003/2004

Field of Study	0- 20		21 - 30		31 - 39		40 +		Total		
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	t
Total	625	626	864	889	1,303	503	386	1,628	3,178	3,646	6,824
Business & Administration (Isc 34)	29	44	26	37	8	8	9	12	72	101	173
Mathematics & Statistics (Isc 46)	55	66	16	19	5	5	3	3	79	93	172
Computing (Isc 48)	144	101	210	117	146	58	175	195	675	471	1,146
Life /Physical Science (Isc 42 & Isc 44)	41	39	6	6	3	1	-	4	50	50	100
Arts and Humanities (incl. languages) (Isc 21 & Isc 22)	104	231	121	231	149	140	40	93	414	695	1,109
Social & Behavioural Science (Isc 31)	7	9	9	15	7	10	1	4	24	38	62
Environmental Studies (Isc 85)	4	13	1	2	3	-	2	-	10	15	25
Engineering and Engineering Trades (Isc 52)	133	3	171	9	85	1	5	-	394	13	407
Personal Care, nutrition and fitness	8	84	22	201	15	72	133	350	178	707	885
Technical/Trade/Craft Courses	6	1	4		1	-	-	-	11	1	12
Handicraft	4	26	21	199	9	149	17	958	51	1,332	1,383
Building and construction	37	1	57	2	43	1	-	-	137	4	141
Other	53	8	200	51	829	58	1	9	1,083	126	1,209

Table 2. Distribution of students attending Private evening classes centres* classified by field of study age group and sex: 2003/2004

Field of Study	0- 20		21 - 30		31 - 39		40 +		Total		
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	t
Total	493	539	734	578	856	298	163	165	2,246	1,580	3,826
Business & Administration (Isc 34)	20	14	426	242	365	132	38	13	849	401	1,250
Computing (Isc 48)	372	367	178	129	269	67	49	29	868	592	1,460
Arts and Humanities (incl. languages) (Isc 21 & Isc 22)	97	157	120	204	146	90	76	123	439	574	1,013
Personal Care, nutrition and fitness	3	1	-	2	29	7	-	-	32	10	42
Technical/Trade/Craft Courses	1	-	10	1	47	2	-	-	58	3	61

*Please note that a questionnaire was sent to all Private evening classes centres, yet only 27 centres replied. This table covers these 27 centres only.

Table 3. Persons attending Government Adult literacy classes classified by subject, age group and sex: 2003/2004

Subject	0- 20		21 - 30		31 - 39		40 +		Total		
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	t
Total	36	66	122	118	86	144	121	432	365	760	1,125
Basic Maltese	7	8	20	11	19	2	42	72	88	93	181
Basic Maaths	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	-	2	3	5
Basic English (literacy programme)	15	11	35	19	33	20	35	92	118	142	260
Basic Maltese for foreigners	1	3	8	24	5	15	7	16	21	58	79
Basic English for foreigners	6	5	13	10	15	10	20	12	54	37	91
Special Courses for Drug Addicts and Alcoholics	3	1	37	2	5	1	5	-	50	4	54
Secondary Level Subjects	4	38	9	46	8	89	9	170	30	343	373
Handicraft	-	-	-	4	-	6	2	70	2	80	82

Table 4. Persons attending Drama centres, classified by age group and sex: 2003/2004

	0- 20		21 - 30		31 - 39		40 +		Total		
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	t
Total	97	441	20	68	9	30	10	31	136	570	706
Pre-Primary Class	17	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	21	38
Drama (Juniors)	50	132	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	132	182
Drama (Intermediate)	20	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	66	86
Drama (Seniors)	6	19	13	25	1	2	1	1	21	47	68
Drama Stage Management	-	-	2	3	3	2	1	2	6	7	13
Drama Script writing	1	3	3	7	3	2	1	2	8	14	22
Movement	-	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	26
Ballet classes	-	112	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	112	112
Ballroom and Latin American dancing	3	57	2	12	2	14	7	15	14	98	112
Aerobics	-	5	-	21	-	10	-	11	-	47	47

Table 5. Persons attending School of Music classified by type of instrument played, age group and sex: 2003/2004

Type of Instrument	0-20		21 - 30		31 - 39		40 +		Total		
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	t
Althorn	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	3	9
Bassoon	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	3	4
Clarinet	26	15	1	1	-	-	-	-	27	16	43
Double Bass	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Euphonium	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Flute	13	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	25	38
French Horn	8	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	9	8	17
Guitar (Classical)	7	13	3	-	-	-	2	3	12	16	28
Guitar (Modern)	28	13	5	6	5	3	-	-	38	22	60
Guitar (Bass)	6	10	-	1	1	-	-	-	7	11	18
Harp	6	8	-	-	3	-	-	-	9	8	17
Dopuble Organ	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	4
Percussion	11	7	3	-	-	-	-	-	14	7	21
Piano (Classical)	72	64	7	3	1	2	-	-	80	69	149
Jazz (Improvisation)	7	6	-	2	2	1	-	-	9	9	18
Recorder	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5
Saxophone	11	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	7	18
Trombone	4	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	7
Trumpet	27	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	15	42
Tuba	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Viola	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3
Violin	76	57	4	2	-	1	-	-	80	60	140
Violincello	8	5	1	2	2	-	-	-	11	7	18
Voice	22	18	3	2	1	-	-	-	26	20	46
Theory/History of Music	31	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	22	53
Basic Music Year 1	16	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	14	30
Year 2	22	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	8	30
Total	416	330	29	21	15	7	2	3	462	361	823

(1) All students are part-timers and tuition is on an individual basis.

Table 6. Persons attending School of Arts classified by subject, age group and sex: 2003/2004

Subject	0-20		21 - 30		31 - 39		40 +		Total		
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	t
Total	119	151	73	153	67	165	180	523	439	992	1,431
Art Enrichment Course	-	-	8	20	-	3	-	10	8	33	41
Artistic creativity	-	-	-	1	-	6	5	18	5	25	30
Art Attack	42	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	34	76
Basic art	42	48	4	11	3	6	7	10	56	75	131
CAD	5	-	5	2	-	4	4	3	14	9	23
Computer Awareness	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	5	-	10	10
Clay modelling	7	1	2	5	6	2	8	3	23	11	34
Diploma in painting 1st to 3rd years	1	1	8	3	1	1	10	7	20	12	32
Ferrobattuto	3	-	4	1	-	-	4	-	11	1	12
Foundation Course	5	13	12	19	9	13	19	29	45	74	119
Gilding	-	-	7	4	14	8	47	22	68	34	102
Graphic Design	1	1	2		2	2	1	3	6	6	12
History & Appreciation of Art	-	-	1	2	1	4	6	4	8	10	18
Lace making	1	28	-	10	-	27	1	189	2	254	256
Leather Work	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	4	-	9	9
Macrame	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	9	-	12	12
Monastery Work	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	16	-	21	21
Oil/water painting	1	4	1	5	3	4	4	13	9	26	35
Parchment	1	3	-	7		16		17	1	43	44
Post diploma Wood & Stone Sculpture	2	-	4	1	5	3	15	1	26	5	31
Pottery	-	1	1	1	4	3	4	4	9	9	18
Pyrography	3	2	1	3	5	-	3	3	12	8	20
Sculpture 3 D	1	-	4	1	6	-	17	4	28	5	33
Sculpture Gold & Silversmithing	-	1	-	1	-	1	6	6	6	9	15
Silver Filigree work	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	5	-	13	13
Stained Glass	3	5	6	12	5	6	11	14	25	37	62
Thread Filigree work	-	6	-	16	1	28	1	90	2	140	142
Textile Design	-	-	-	13	-	13	-	30	-	56	56
Wood carving	1	2	3	4	2	1	7	4	13	11	24

Table 7. Persons attending the University of the Third Age classified by profession, age group and sex: Academic Year 2003/2004

Profession	60 - 64		65 - 69		70 - 74		75 - 79		80 +		Total		
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	t
All Professions	76	23	144	37	119	59	88	44	77	35	504	198	702
Legislators Senior Officials and Managers	2	3	7	9	-	10	1	5	2	5	12	32	44
Professionals	41	12	66	15	53	22	34	18	22	10	216	77	293
Technicians and Associate Professionals	5	4	7	9	3	13	2	11	6	9	23	46	69
Clerks	8	2	27	2	20	9	12	7	9	4	76	24	100
Skilled Agriculture and Fishery Workers	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Service, Shop & Market Sales Workers	1	-	2	-	3	-	3	1	-	1	9	2	11
Craft and Related Trades Workers	-	1	2	2	2	3	-	1	-	2	4	9	13
Armed Forces	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	5	5
Civil Servants *	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Elementary Occupations	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Housewives	19	-	32	-	37	-	36	-	38	-	162	-	162
Pensioners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1

* All ranks except Directors, Deputy Directors, Principals/Assistant Principals and Clerks

Table 8. Persons attending the University of the Third Age classified by district age group and sex: Academic Year 2003/2004

Districts	60 - 64		65 - 69		70 - 74		75 - 79		80 & over		Total		
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	t
All Regions	76	23	144	37	119	59	88	44	77	35	504	198	702
Southern Harbour	11	5	22	5	19	16	12	10	9	4	73	40	113
South Eastern	3	-	9	2	5	3	4	1	-	-	21	6	27
Northern Harbour	32	9	71	19	74	29	60	25	59	28	296	110	406
Western	12	8	21	8	11	4	8	3	6	2	58	25	83
Northern	10	1	10	1	5	3	3	2	1	-	29	7	36
Gozo and Comino	8	-	11	2	5	4	1	3	2	1	27	10	37

Table 9. Enrolment by age group and sex: 2001-2004

2001/2002											
	0-20		21 - 30		31 - 39		40 +		Total		
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	t
Government Evening Classes Centres	598	501	526	506	165	274	295	1,130	1,584	2,411	3,995
Private Evening Classes Centres (23 centres)	501	490	635	524	174	136	158	159	1,468	1,309	2,777
Adult Literacy Classes	37	18	87	164	74	181	78	261	276	624	900
Drama Centres	61	275	17	51	3	19	16	26	97	371	468
School Of Music	255	303	185	148	14	6	-	1	454	458	912
School Of Art	96	135	56	90	51	116	149	342	352	683	1,035
University of the third Age	-	-	-	-	-	-	202	567	202	567	769
Total	1,671	1,930	1,660	1,625	489	734	901	2,491	4,433	6,423	10,856
2002/2003											
	0-20		21 - 30		31 - 39		40 +		Total		
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	t
Government Evening Classes Centres	741	735	1,038	796	472	390	758	1,670	3,009	3,591	6,600
Private Evening Classes Centres (17 centres)	721	806	470	458	203	162	202	164	1,596	1,590	3,186
Adult Literacy Classes	72	40	187	185	148	170	150	329	557	724	1,281
Drama Centres	106	331	27	32	20	13	15	6	168	382	550
School Of Music	307	407	171	175	19	9	3	3	500	594	1,094
School Of Art	114	95	48	94	53	105	171	362	386	656	1,042
University of the third Age	-	-	-	-	-	-	528	181	528	181	709
Total	2,202	2,608	2,077	1,927	973	871	1,834	2,721	7,086	8,127	15,213
2003/2004											
	0-20		21 - 30		31 - 39		40 +		Total		
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	t
Government Evening Classes Centres	625	626	864	889	1,303	503	386	1,628	3,178	3,646	6,824
Private Evening Classes Centres (27 centres)	493	539	734	578	856	298	163	165	2,246	1,580	3,826
Adult Literacy Classes	36	66	122	118	86	144	121	432	365	760	1,125
Drama Centres	97	441	20	68	9	30	10	31	136	570	706
School Of Music	416	330	29	21	15	7	2	3	462	361	823
School Of Art	119	151	73	153	67	165	180	523	439	992	1,431
University of the third Age	-	-	-	-	-	-	504	198	504	198	702
Total	1,786	2,153	1,842	1,827	2,336	1,147	1,366	2,980	7,330	8,107	15,437

**Chart 3. Student population attending the schools of arts, music and drama:
1999/00 - 2003/04**

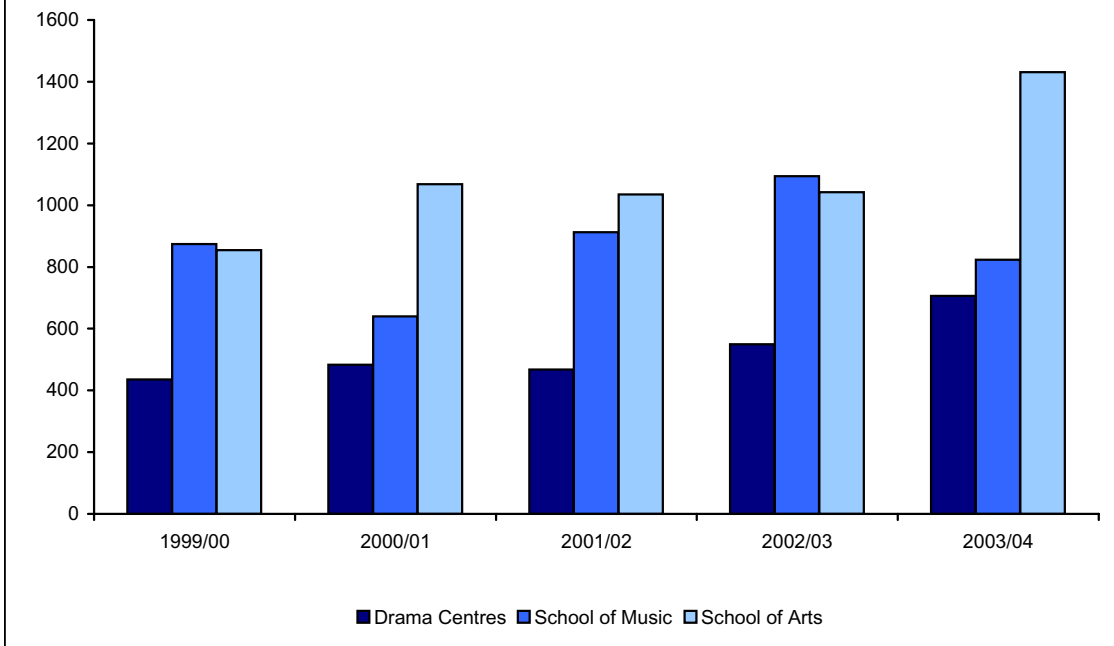
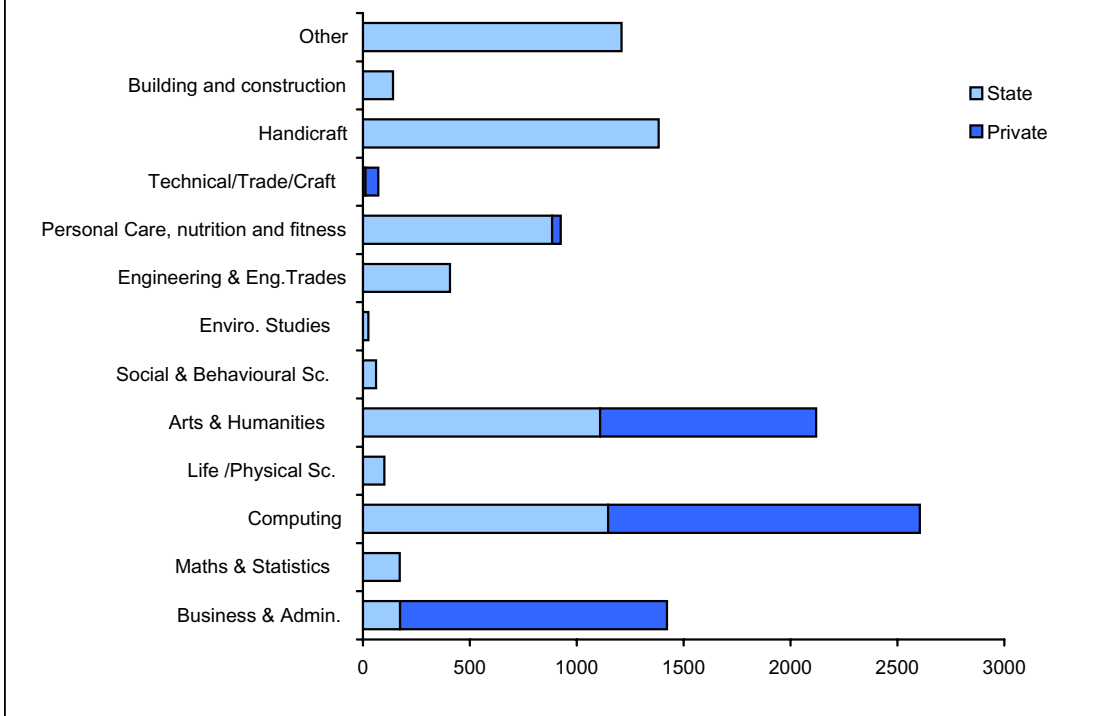


Chart 4. Distribution of student population by sector and field of study: 2003/04



Methodological notes

1. Lifelong learning - "The necessity for each individual to learn throughout his/her life-time. The view of learning embraces individual and social development of all kinds and in all settings - formally, in schools, vocational, tertiary and adult education institutions, and non formally, at home, at work and in the community" (OECD).
2. The data contained in this release were obtained from a census among the adult and evening education centres as listed in the database available at the Government Education Division.
3. All government centres i.e. 36 centres in all responded to our enquiry, while 27 of the 34 questionnaires sent to private centres were received back to this office with the information requested.
4. The data in this release is to be considered as final and is not normally subject to revision.

Districts

Southern Harbour:	Valletta, Birgu, Isla, Bormla, Żabbar, Fgura, Floriana, Kalkara, Luqa, Marsa Paola, Santa Luċija, Tarxien, Xgħajra.
Northern Harbour:	Qormi, B'Kara, Gżira, Hamrun, Msida, Pembroke, Pieta, San Ġiljan, San Ġwann, Santa Venera, Sliema, Swieqi, Ta' Xbiex.
South Eastern:	Żejtun, B'Bugia, Gudja, Għaxaq, Kirkop, M'Scala, M'Xlokk, Mqabba, Qrendi, Safi, Żurrieq.
Western:	Mdina, Żebbuġ, Siġġiewi, Attard, Balzan, Dingli, Iklin, Lija, Rabat, Mtarfa.
Northern:	Għargħur, Mellieħa, Mgarr, Mosta, Naxxar, San Pawl il-Baħar.
Gozo and Comino:	Rabat, Fontana, G'Sielem & Comino, Għarb, Għasri, Kerċem, Munxar, Nadur, Qala, San Lawrenz, Sannat, Xagħra, Xewkija, Żebbuġ.