

11 April 2014 | 1100 hrs | 068/2014

Total graduates at all levels in 2012 stood at 11,399, up by 3.7 per cent over the previous year. Graduates at tertiary level increased by 11.2 per cent.

Graduate Students: 2011-2012

Graduates

During 2012, female graduates surpassed males and accounted for 53.4 per cent of the total. A similar distribution was noted during 2011, as shown in Table 1. The average age of graduates at the post-secondary level stood at 17.2 years in general education and 20.1 years in vocational education. Furthermore, the average age of tertiary (general) graduates, including Masters level, was 25.2 years (Table 2).

The majority of graduates were enrolled on a full-time basis. Part-time graduates in 2012 made up 9.9 per cent of the total. The largest share of part-time graduates achieved a tertiary level of qualification, as shown in Table 3. The average age of graduates in post-secondary vocational courses stood at 18.3 years for full-timers and 28.8 years for part-timers. On the other hand, full-time graduates at a tertiary (general) level were, on average, 22.8 years old, while the average age of part-time students who graduated from this level was 33.4 years (Table 4).

The largest proportion of graduates at ISCED levels 4, 5 and 6 obtained a qualification in the fields of Business and Administration (17.6 per cent) followed by Health (13.9 per cent) and Computing (9.7 per cent). The two most common fields of study among male graduates were Computing and Business and Administration, while females graduated mostly in Business and Administration and Health (Table 5 and Chart 1).

While the majority of graduates were enrolled in academic programmes, 24.1 per cent attained their qualification via vocational or pre-vocational programmes, the latter representing courses which are mostly followed on apprenticeship (Table 7).

In 2012, foreign graduates at ISCED levels 4, 5 and 6 made up 3.7 per cent of total graduates. The largest share came from EU countries (Table 6).

Graduates vs Enrolments

Compiled by:

**Unit C4: Education and
Information Society
Statistics**

**Directorate C: Social
Statistics**

Further information on data:

Ms Sue Ann SCOTT
T. +356 2599 7611
E. sueann.scott@gov.mt

Graduates at post-secondary and further education levels (ISCED 4 -6) accounted for 37.1 per cent of total students enrolled during 2012. In 2011 and 2010, these figures amounted to 36.1 and 34.7 respectively (Chart 3) ■

Table 1. Graduates by ISCED level

ISCED - 1997	Level	Males	Females	Total
2012				
Total		5,309	6,090	11,399
	Secondary (general)	1,393	1,571	2,964
Level 3	Post-secondary (general)	1,059	1,388	2,447
	Post-secondary (vocational)	816	651	1,467
Level 4*	Post-secondary non-tertiary	393	354	747
Level 5 and 6	Tertiary (general)	1,320	1,917	3,237
	Tertiary (vocational)	328	209	537
2011				
Total		5,119	5,869	10,988
	Secondary (general)	1,396	1,580	2,976
Level 3	Post-secondary (general)	1,089	1,452	2,541
	Post-secondary (vocational)	694	584	1,278
Level 4*	Post-secondary non-tertiary	415	385	800
Level 5 and 6	Tertiary (general)	1,190	1,683	2,873
	Tertiary (vocational)	335	185	520
Percentage change - 2012/2011				
Total		3.7	3.8	3.7
	Secondary (general)	-0.2	-0.6	-0.4
Level 3	Post-secondary (general)	-2.8	-4.4	-3.7
	Post-secondary (vocational)	17.6	11.5	14.8
Level 4*	Post-secondary non-tertiary	-5.3	-8.1	-6.6
Level 5 and 6	Tertiary (general)	10.9	13.9	12.7
	Tertiary (vocational)	-2.1	13.0	3.3

* Data for University graduates at this level is not available

Table 2. Graduates' average age by ISCED level

ISCED - 1997	Level	Males	Females	Total
2012				
	Secondary (general)	15.1	15.0	15.1
Level 3	Post-secondary (general)	17.2	17.2	17.2
	Post-secondary (vocational)	19.9	20.4	20.1
Level 4*	Post-secondary non-tertiary	20.3	20.6	20.4
Level 5	Tertiary (general)	25.8	24.8	25.2
	Tertiary (vocational)	22.1	21.5	21.9
Level 6	Tertiary - Ph.D	35.7	36.7	36.2
2011				
	Secondary (general)	15.3	15.2	15.3
Level 3	Post-secondary (general)	18.0	17.8	17.9
	Post-secondary (vocational)	17.7	17.5	17.6
Level 4*	Post-secondary non-tertiary	19.4	19.7	19.5
Level 5	Tertiary (general)	26.8	26.0	26.3
	Tertiary (vocational)	21.2	20.4	20.9
Level 6	Tertiary - Ph.D	43.2	26.5	41.4

* Data for University graduates at this level is not available

Table 3. Graduates by ISCED level and by type of programme

ISCED - 1997	Level	Full-time	Part-time	Total
2012				
Total		10,270	1,129	11,399
	Secondary (general)	2,964	-	2,964
Level 3	Post-secondary (general)	2,447	-	2,447
	Post-secondary (vocational)	1,215	252	1,467
Level 4*	Post-secondary non-tertiary	606	141	747
Level 5 and 6	Tertiary (general)	2,501	736	3,237
	Tertiary (vocational)	537	-	537
2011				
Total		10,134	854	10,988
	Secondary (general)	2,976	-	2,976
Level 3	Post-secondary (general)	2,541	-	2,541
	Post-secondary (vocational)	1,222	56	1,278
Level 4*	Post-secondary non-tertiary	658	142	800
Level 5 and 6	Tertiary (general)	2,239	653	2,892
	Tertiary (vocational)	498	3	501
Percentage change - 2012/2011				
Total		1.3	32.2	3.7
	Secondary (general)	-0.4	-	-0.4
Level 3	Post-secondary (general)	-3.7	-	-3.7
	Post-secondary (vocational)	-0.6	350.0	14.8
Level 4*	Post-secondary non-tertiary	-7.9	-0.7	-6.6
Level 5 and 6	Tertiary (general)	11.7	12.7	11.9
	Tertiary (vocational)	7.8	-	7.2

* Data for University graduates at this level is not available

Table 4. Graduates' average age by ISCED level and by type of programme

ISCED - 1997	Level	Full-time	Part-time	Total
2012				
	Secondary (general)	15.1	-	15.1
Level 3	Post-secondary (general)	17.2	-	17.2
	Post-secondary (vocational)	18.3	28.8	20.1
Level 4*	Post-secondary non-tertiary	20.3	20.9	20.4
Level 5	Tertiary (general)	22.8	33.4	25.2
	Tertiary (vocational)	21.9	-	21.9
Level 6	Tertiary - Ph.D	33.1	39.7	36.2
2011				
	Secondary (general)	15.3	-	15.3
Level 3	Post-secondary (general)	17.9	-	17.9
	Post-secondary (vocational)	17.6	19.6	17.6
Level 4*	Post-secondary non-tertiary	19.5	19.9	19.5
Level 5	Tertiary (general)	23.9	34.9	26.3
	Tertiary (vocational)	20.9	21.0	20.9
Level 6	Tertiary - Ph.D	35.6	45.6	41.4

* Data for University graduates at this level is not available

Table 5. Graduates by field of study and by ISCED level

Field of study	Males		Females		Total		% Total		
	ISCED 1997						Males	Females	Total
	Level 4*	Level 5 and 6	Level 4*	Level 5 and 6	Level 4*	Level 5 and 6			
2012									
Total	393	1,648	354	2,126	747	3,774	100.0	100.0	100.0
Teacher training and education science	-	64	-	228	-	292	3.1	9.2	6.5
Arts	31	129	54	118	85	247	7.8	6.9	7.3
Humanities	-	107	-	185	-	292	5.2	7.5	6.5
Social and behavioural science	-	146	-	198	-	344	7.2	8.0	7.6
Journalism and information	-	21	-	46	-	67	1.0	1.9	1.5
Business and administration	24	292	67	413	91	705	15.5	19.4	17.6
Law	-	133	-	224	-	357	6.5	9.0	7.9
Life science	-	28	-	34	-	62	1.4	1.4	1.4
Physical science	-	38	-	29	-	67	1.9	1.2	1.5
Mathematics and statistics	-	12	-	6	-	18	0.6	0.2	0.4
Computing	173	188	39	39	212	227	17.7	3.1	9.7
Engineering and engineering trade	108	181	10	36	118	217	14.2	1.9	7.4
Manufacturing and processing	-	8	-	4	-	12	0.4	0.2	0.3
Architecture and building	20	52	9	22	29	74	3.5	1.3	2.3
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	11	8	10	7	21	15	0.9	0.7	0.8
Health	7	156	88	377	95	533	8.0	18.8	13.9
Social services	-	35	51	102	51	137	1.7	6.2	4.2
Personal services	15	28	24	50	39	78	2.1	3.0	2.6
Transport services	4	0	2	0	6	-	0.2	0.1	0.1
Environmental protection	-	3	-	2	-	5	0.1	0.1	0.1
Security services	-	19	-	6	-	25	0.9	0.2	0.6

* Data for University graduates at this level is not available

Chart 1. Graduates by main fields of study: 2012

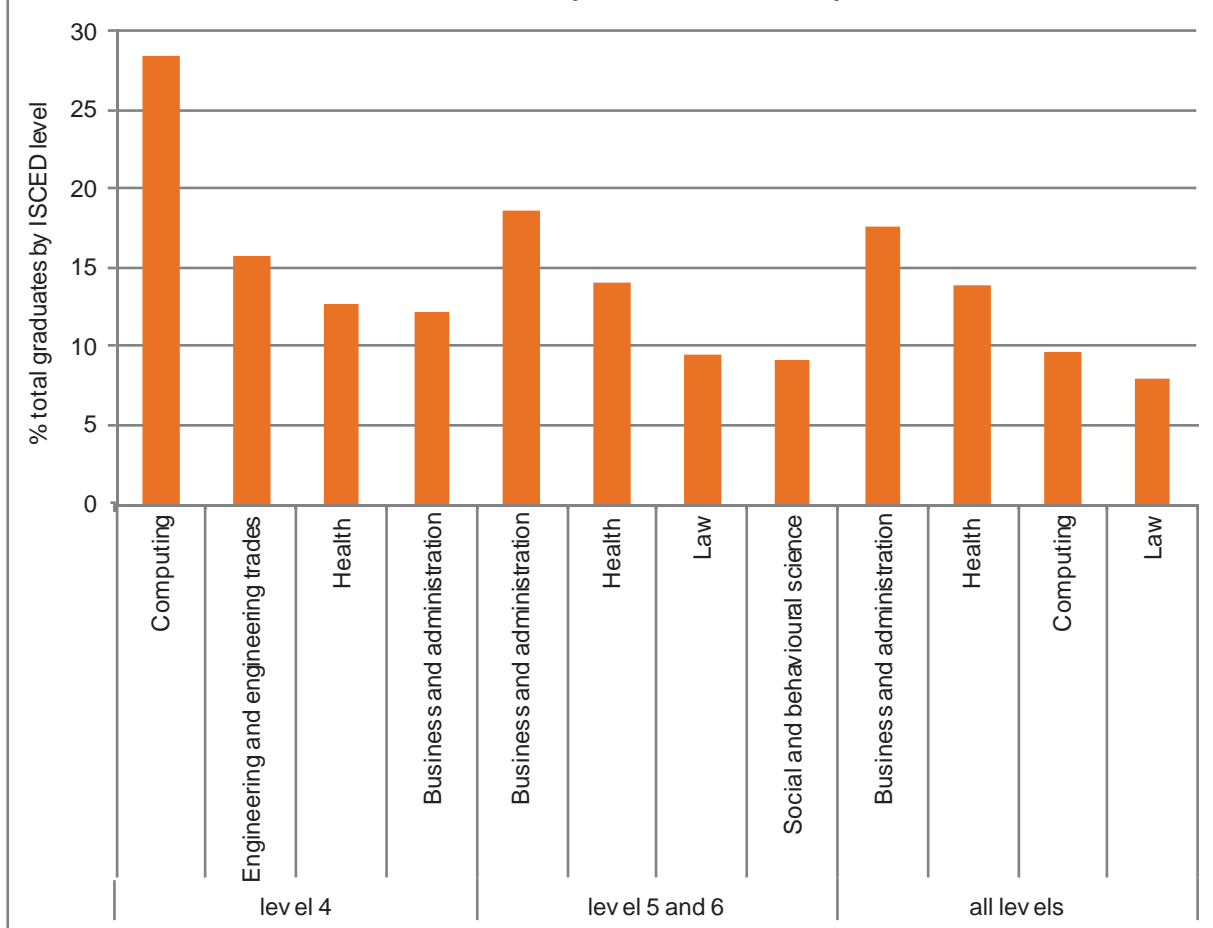


Table 6. Graduates by nationality and ISCED level

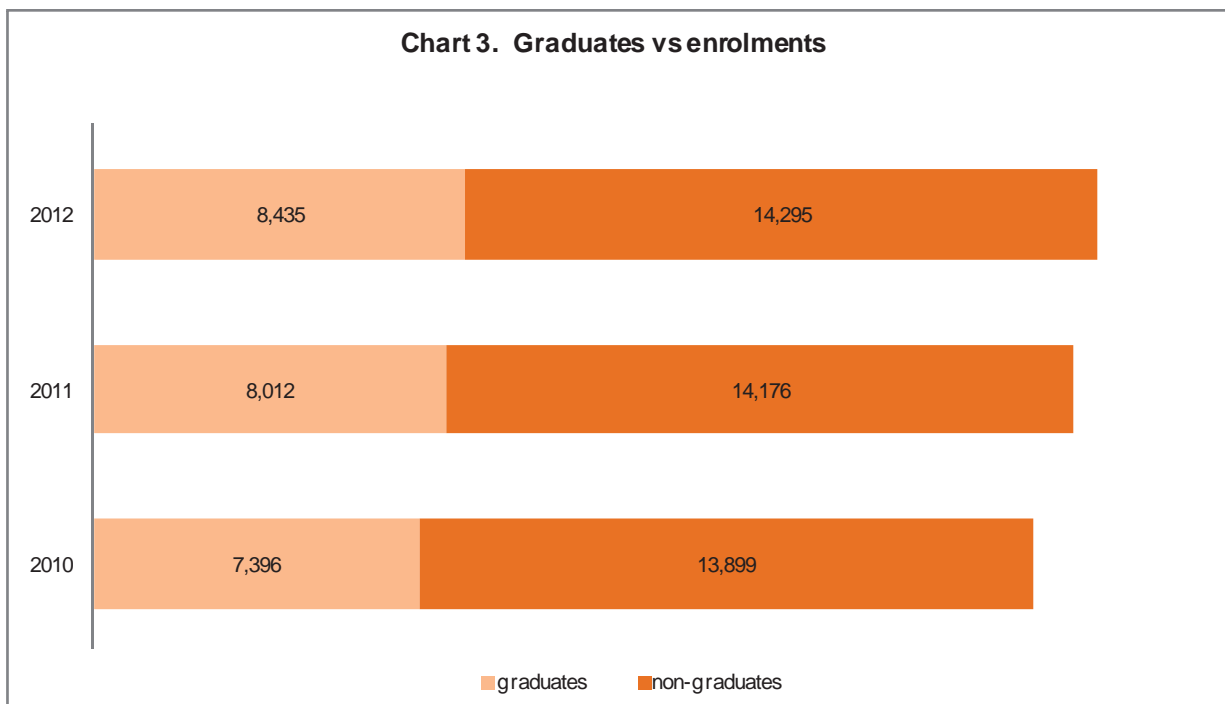
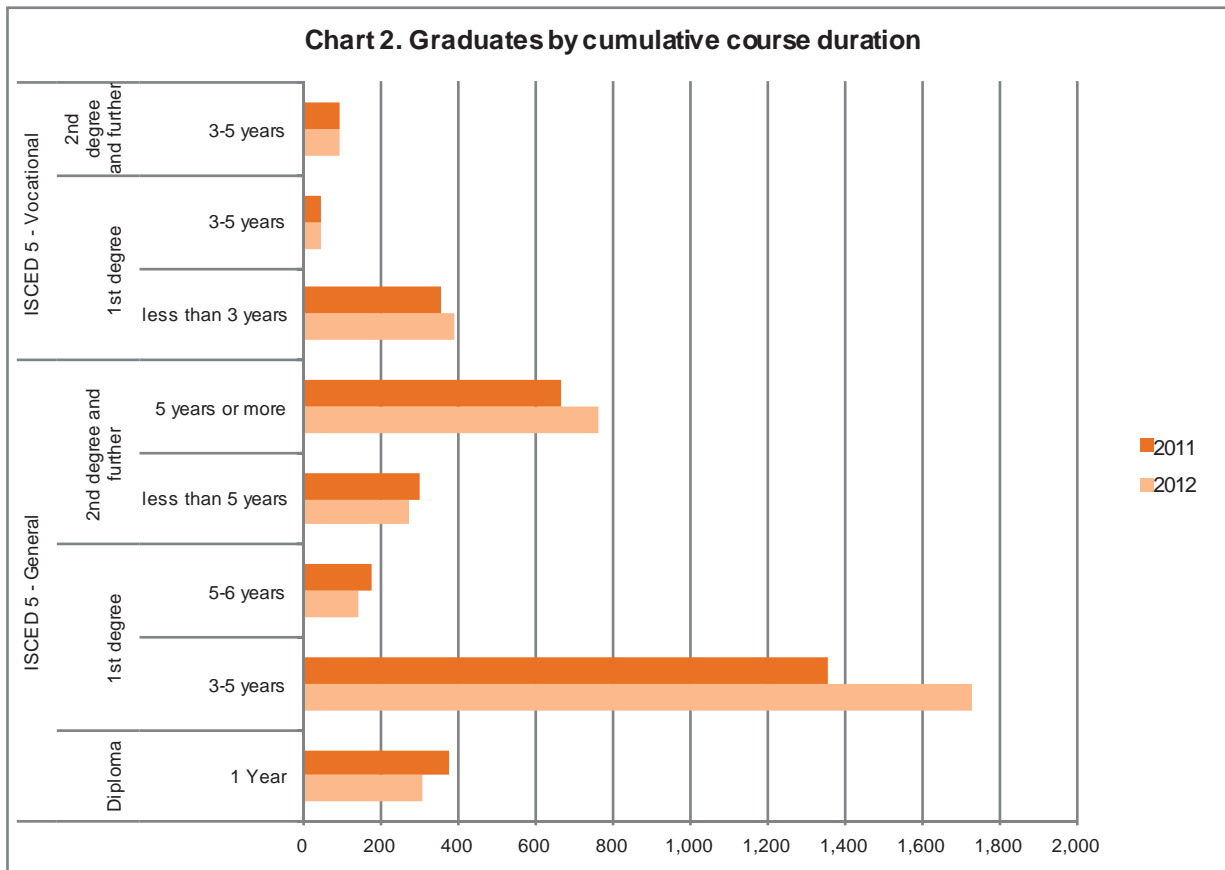
Nationality	Level 4*			Level 5 and 6			Total		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2012									
Total	393	354	747	1,648	2,126	3,774	2,041	2,480	4,521
Europe	392	354	746	1,600	2,093	3,693	1,992	2,447	4,439
... of which									
Malta	390	346	736	1,577	2,040	3,617	1,967	2,386	4,353
Other EU	2	6	8	16	39	55	18	45	63
Non EU	-	2	2	7	14	21	7	16	23
America	1	-	1	14	17	31	15	17	32
Africa	-	-	-	18	7	25	18	7	25
Asia	-	-	-	16	9	25	16	9	25
Australia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

* Data for university graduates at this level is not available

Table 7. Graduates by ISCED level and type of course

ISCED 1997	Males			Females			Total		
	Academic	Vocational	Pre-vocational	Academic	Vocational	Pre-vocational	Academic	Vocational	Pre-vocational
2012									
Total	3,772	1,458	79	4,876	1,204	10	8,648	2,662	89
Level 3	2,452	775	41	2,959	641	10	5,411	1,416	51
Level 4*	-	358	35	-	354	-	-	712	35
Level 5 and 6	1,320	325	3	1,917	209		3,237	534	3
2011									
Total	3,692	1,349	78	4,717	1,142	10	8,409	2,491	88
Level 3	2,485	653	41	3,032	574	10	5,517	1,227	51
Level 4*	-	381	34	-	385	-	-	766	34
Level 5 and 6	1,207	315	3	1,685	183	-	2,892	498	3

* Data for university graduates at this level is not available



Includes students and graduates from post-secondary and further education

Methodological Notes

1. This news release contains information on graduates starting with Form 5 in Secondary Education (upon attainment of at least 5 'O' levels), Post-Secondary general institutions, the Malta College of Arts Science and Technology (MCAST), the Institute of Tourism Studies (ITS) and the University of Malta (UoM).
2. The list of variables collected includes:
 - a. Age, Gender, Nationality, Name of course, Course route, Course duration, NQF level and Type of course (whether on a full-time or part-time basis).

Concepts and Definitions:

3. **Graduates** are those who successfully complete an educational programme during the reference year and are awarded a qualification.

4. **International Standard Classification of Education - ISCED**

The International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED '97) is a harmonised framework adopted by the European Union for assembling, compiling, and analysing cross-nationally comparable statistics on education. In this release ISCED levels are based on ISCED '97 classification:

- ISCED 1 - Primary education or First stage of basic education
- ISCED 2 - Lower Secondary or Second stage of basic education
- ISCED 3 - Upper Secondary education and Post-Secondary general education
- ISCED 4 - Post-Secondary non-Tertiary education, e.g. National/Extended Diploma
- ISCED 5 - First Stage of Tertiary education, e.g. Higher National Diploma, Degree
- ISCED 6 - Second Stage of Tertiary education, e.g. Ph.D.

ISCED 3 to 6 were taken into consideration for this news release.

5. ISCED Level 3 - Secondary (General) is composed of Form 5 students who have obtained at least 5 'O' levels.
6. **Tertiary** students are students graduating from ISCED levels 5 and 6.
7. **Average age** is calculated as at 1 January of the reference year.
8. **Nationality** refers to the country of citizenship of the particular student. In case of dual citizenship, where one of the citizenships is Maltese, the student is counted as a Maltese National.
9. **Fields of Study**
ISCED Fields of Education and Training classify education programmes and related qualifications by fields of study. A field is the 'broad domain, branch or area of content covered by an education programme or qualification'. Fields of education and training and levels of education or educational attainment are cross-classification variables within ISCED and are therefore independent of each other. This news release encompasses fields at the narrow level of education for Tertiary level.
10. **General education**
Programmes that are designed to develop learners' general knowledge, skills and competencies, as well as literacy and numeracy skills, often to prepare students for more advanced education programmes at the same or higher ISCED levels and to lay the foundation for lifelong learning.
11. **Vocational education**
Programmes that are designed for learners to acquire the knowledge, skills and competencies specific to a particular occupation, trade or class of occupations or trades. Vocational education may have work-based components. Successful completion of such programmes leads to labour market-relevant vocational qualifications acknowledged as occupation-oriented by the relevant national authorities and/or the labour market.