

14 May 2014 | 1100 hrs | 090/2014

A total of 45,955 families received children's allowances last year, while 3,649 families received maternity benefits.

International Day of Families: 2014

The International Day of Families, annually held on May 15, celebrates the importance of families.

Living Conditions

According to the latest Statistics on Income and Living Conditions Survey (SILC), 22.6 per cent of households comprised single person households and 12.4 per cent consisted of households with 2 adults and 2 dependent children (Table 1). Persons found to be mostly at-risk-of-poverty in 2012 were those living in single parent households, with 47.6 per cent of persons in this category being at risk (Table 2). The at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion rate for the same household category stood at 66.3 per cent (Table 3).

A total of 45,955 families were receiving Children Allowances in 2013, while 947 families benefitted from the Disabled Child Allowance. The number of families receiving Maternity Benefits stood at 3,649 (Table 4).

Demography

There were 4,078 registered live births last year: 2,136 boys and 1,942 girls. The majority of babies were born to mothers aged between 30 and 34, while one-fourth were born outside marriage (Table 5).

Education

In 2012, a total of 9,196 children were attending pre-school education, with an average of 26 hours per week. Furthermore, 12,403 children spent an average 6 hours at day care centres during the same year, while 12,056 children spent an average of 17 hours per week being cared for by grandparents or other relatives and friends (Table 6).

Employment

The employment rate in 2013 stood at 60.4 per cent for single persons and 62.0 per cent for persons who were married. The latter rate varied greatly when disaggregated by sex, differing from 82.7 per cent among married men to 42.4 per cent for married women (Table 7).

Information and Communication Technology

Over 80 per cent of households had access to a computer in 2013, with the highest prevalence being in households comprising two adults with children. The same trend was also observed with regard to the percentage of households with internet access at home (Table 10). In addition, while 96.4 per cent of internet users were aged between 16 and 24, the percentage decreased steadily with age, to 22.8 per cent for persons aged 65-74 (Table 11) ■



Compiled by:

Unit C1: Living Conditions and Culture Statistics

Directorate C: Social Statistics

Further information on data:

Ms Nikita ELLUL

T. +356 2599 7525

E. nikita.ellul@gov.mt

Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.

The advance release calendar may be consulted at www.nso.gov.mt

Issued by: **External Cooperation and Communication Unit, National Statistics Office, Lascaris, Valletta VLT 2000, Malta.**

T. +356 2599 7219 F. +356 2599 7205 E. nso@gov.mt

Table 1. Distribution of households by type: 2012

Household type	Number	% total households
Households without dependent children	107,588	70.3
<i>of which:</i>		
One person household, male	16,128	10.5
One person household, female	18,512	12.1
One person household, under 65 years of age	17,758	11.6
One person household, 65 years old and over	16,882	11.0
Two adults, no dependent children, both under 65 years of age	22,779	14.9
Two adults, no dependent children, at least one adult aged 65 or more	18,022	11.8
Other households without dependent children	32,147	21.0
Households with dependent children	45,398	29.7
<i>of which:</i>		
Single parent household, one or more dependent children	4,375	2.9
Two adults, one dependent child	5,863	3.8
Two adults, two dependent children	18,941	12.4
Two adults, three or more dependent children	2,919	1.9
Other households with dependent children	13,300	8.7
Total	152,986	100.0

Source: Statistics on Income and Living Conditions Survey 2012.

Table 2. Persons at-risk-of-poverty by household type: 2012

Household type *	Number	% private household population
Households without dependent children	24,387	11.0
<i>of which:</i>		
One person household, male	3,330	20.6
One person household, female	3,600	19.4
One person household, under 65 years of age	3,879	21.8
One person household, 65 years old and over	3,050	18.1
Two adults, no dependent children, both under 65 years of age	5,183	11.4
Two adults, no dependent children, at least one adult aged 65 or more	7,829	21.7
Other households without dependent children	4,445	4.2
Households with dependent children	37,302	19.9
<i>of which:</i>		
Single parent household, one or more dependent children	5,652	47.6
Two adults, one dependent child	2,220	12.6
Two adults, two dependent children	13,895	18.3
Two adults, three or more dependent children	5,444	35.5
Other households with dependent children	10,092	15.2
Total	61,689	15.1

* Figures comprise of all persons at-risk-of-poverty living in the particular household type

Source: Statistics on Income and Living Conditions Survey 2012.

Table 3. Persons at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion by household type: 2012

Household type *	Number	% private household population
Households without dependent children	42,053	19.0
<i>of which:</i>		
One person household, male	4,855	30.1
One person household, female	5,629	30.4
One person household, under 65 years of age	6,236	35.1
One person household, 65 years old and over	4,248	25.2
Two adults, no dependent children, both under 65 years of age	8,731	19.2
Two adults, no dependent children, at least one adult aged 65 or more	10,149	28.2
Other households without dependent children	12,689	12.0
Households with dependent children	51,730	27.7
<i>of which:</i>		
Single parent household, one or more dependent children	7,865	66.3
Two adults, one dependent child	3,306	18.8
Two adults, two dependent children	16,842	22.2
Two adults, three or more dependent children	5,763	37.6
Other households with dependent children	17,953	27.0
Total	93,783	22.9

* Figures comprise of all persons at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion living in the particular household type

Source: Statistics on Income and Living Conditions Survey 2012.

Table 4. Families receiving child/family benefits: 2008-2013

Type of benefit	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Children's allowance	48,056	47,665	46,808	46,299	45,940	45,955
Disabled child allowance	745	765	819	820	872	947
Maternity benefit	2,687	2,639	2,358	2,481	3,183	3,649*

* From 2012, Maternity Benefit beneficiaries includes also Maternity Leave Benefit beneficiaries

Source: Department of Social Security (DSS) Unique Beneficiaries Report.

Table 5. Registered live births by age of mother/father and births outside marriage: 2013

Ages	Total registered live births				... of which births outside marriage			
	By age of mother		By age of father		By age of mother		By age of father	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
All ages	2,136	1,942	2,136	1,942	528	498	528	498
under 20	78	83	17	19	67	75	14	17
20-24	268	257	139	122	155	151	105	86
25-29	666	570	444	379	147	112	125	110
30-34	758	690	755	675	94	96	98	97
35-39	316	304	474	464	53	56	58	68
40-44	47	38	164	145	10	8	26	18
45-49	3	-	33	36	2	-	7	8
50-54	-	-	18	9	-	-	6	5
55-59	-	-	6	6	-	-	3	2
60 and over	-	-	2	2	-	-	2	2
Unspecified	-	-	84	85	-	-	84	85

Note: Data is provisional.

Source: Public Registry.

Table 6. Childcare by number of children (aged 0-12) availing of this service and average number of hours spent in childcare: 2012

Type of childcare	Number of children availing of service	Number of hours per week	Average hours per child availing of service
Education at pre-school	9,196	237,640	26
Education at compulsory school	35,724	1,114,106	31
Child care at centre-based services/ day-care centres	12,403	71,537	6
Child care by grand-parents, others household members (excluding parents), other relatives, friends or neighbours	12,056	207,804	17

Data on childcare provided by a professional child minder is not being provided since these estimates are not reliable due to very small sample counts.

Source: Statistics on Income and Living Conditions Survey 2012.

Table 7. Activity, employment and unemployment rates of persons by marital status: 2013

Marital status	Activity rates			Employment rates			Unemployment rates		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
	%								
Single	72.2	60.6	67.1	64.2	55.7	60.4	11.1	8.2	9.9
Married	85.5	44.3	64.3	82.7	42.4	62.0	3.2	4.3	3.6
Widowed	53.6	22.0	32.1	51.0	18.5	28.8	[4.4]	[13.0]	[8.7]
Divorced/Legally Separated/Annulled	84.8	48.6	64.1	75.5	43.6	57.3	[10.8]	[10.0]	10.5
Total	79.4	49.8	64.9	74.1	46.6	60.6	6.5	6.4	6.5

Estimates based on less than 30 counts are marked as [].

Source: Labour Force Survey 2013.

Table 8. Average normal hours worked by employed persons (aged 15-64 years) by marital status and age group: 2013

		Average hours worked		
		Males	Females	Total
Marital status	Single	39	36	38
	Married	41	33	39
	Widowed	38	30	34
	Divorced/Legally Separated/Annulled	41	34	38
Age group	15-24	36	34	35
	25-54	42	35	39
	55-64	40	33	38
Total (15-64 years)		41	35	38

Source: Labour Force Survey 2013.

Table 9. Parents aged 15 and over by economic status: 2013

Economic status	All parents			... of which married parents		
	Fathers	Mothers	Total	Fathers	Mothers	Total
Employed	40,474	25,440	65,914	38,194	20,909	59,103
Unemployed	1,253	1,561	2,814	1,158	1,059	2,217
Inactive	1,538	21,494	23,032	1,283	17,565	18,848
Total	43,265	48,495	91,760	40,635	39,533	80,168
% total						
Employed	93.5	52.5	71.8	94.0	52.9	73.7
Unemployed	2.9	3.2	3.1	2.8	2.7	2.8
Inactive	3.6	44.3	25.1	3.2	44.4	23.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Note: Parents refer to persons having children aged 17 years or less.

Source: Labour Force Survey 2013.

Table 10. Households with access to a computer and internet at home: 2013

Household type	Computer ¹		Internet ²	
	Number	% total households	Number	% total households
One adult without children	16,160	62.6	15,373	59.5
Two adults without children	26,727	66.6	26,019	64.8
Two adults with children	19,344	96.1	19,179	95.3
Three or more adults without children	42,422	91.7	42,078	91.0
Three or more adults with children	9,736	94.5	9,781	95.0
Total	115,590	80.3	113,491	78.8

¹Computer includes desktops, laptops and tablets

²Internet includes also all hand-held devices such as mobile phones and smart phones

Data on single parent households is not provided due to small sample counts.

Source: Information and Communication Technology usage in households and by individuals survey 2013.

Table 11. Profile of computer and internet users by age: 2013

Age group	Computer ¹		Internet ²	
	Number	% total population	Number	% total population
16-24	47,446	96.4	47,458	96.4
25-34	56,748	93.8	56,283	93.0
35-44	48,440	86.9	47,883	85.9
45-54	35,072	64.3	33,140	60.7
55-64	28,828	49.1	27,798	47.3
65-74	10,652	24.0	10,142	22.8
Total	227,185	70.3	222,705	68.9

¹includes only persons who used a computer during January-March of the reference year

²includes only persons who used the internet during January-March of the reference year

Source: Information and Communication Technology usage in households and by individuals survey 2013.

Methodological Notes

This news release makes reference to various statistics published by the NSO. Sources are quoted after each table.

Activity Rate: Persons in the labour force (employed and unemployed) aged between 15-64 as a percentage of total population aged 15-64 years.

At-Risk-Of-Poverty Rate: Share of persons with an equivalised disposable income below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold. This is equivalent to 60 per cent of the median national equivalised income of the persons living in households.

At-Risk-of-Poverty or Social Exclusion Rate corresponds to the proportion of persons who fall within at least one of the following three categories:

- persons whose equivalised income falls below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold;
- persons who live in severely materially deprived private households;
- persons who live in private households where the work intensity (WI) is below 20 per cent.

Dependent Child: Dependent children cover two groups. All persons below 18 are considered to be dependent children. Persons aged 18 to 24, living in a household of which at least one of their parents is a member and who are economically inactive, are also considered as dependent children.

Employment: This comprises all persons aged 15 and over who, during the Labour Force Survey 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:** 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 on maternity or parental leave, did not work due to slack work for technical or economic reasons, were absent from work for a period of less than 3 months, or were not working because on layoff and receiving at least 50 per cent of the salary/wage;
- **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 business;
- **Unpaid family workers:** refers to people who worked without pay in a family business or farm. Excluded from this definition are housewives.

Employment Rate: Persons employed aged between 15-64 as a percentage of total population aged 15-64 years.

Inactive Persons: All persons who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as inactive.

Inactivity Rate: Represents all inactive persons aged 15-64 as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64).

Material Deprivation:

The following nine questions were asked to all households in order to determine whether they suffered from material deprivation:

- ability to face unexpected financial expenses;
- ability to pay for one week's annual holiday away from home;
- whether they have been in arrears on mortgage or rent payments, utility bills, hire purchase instalments or other loan payments;
- ability to have a meal with meat, chicken, fish or vegetarian equivalent every second day;
- ability to keep home adequately warm in winter;
- own a washing machine;
- own a colour TV;
- own a telephone (including mobile phone);
- own a car.

Persons living in households who were not able to afford at least **three** of the nine deprivation items, are considered to be **materially deprived**.

Persons living in households who were not able to afford at least **four** of the nine deprivation items, are considered to be **severely materially deprived**.

Total Disposable Income of a household is calculated by deducting:

- regular inter-household cash transfers paid;
- tax on income;
- social insurance contributions;

from the total gross household income.

Total Live Births: Include all babies being born and registered with the Public Authorities in Malta. All still births are excluded. Figures on live births are provisional.

Unemployment: This comprises all persons aged 15 and over 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.

Unemployment Rate: Persons unemployed aged 15 and over as a percentage of total labour force aged 15 and over.

The **Work Intensity (WI)** of the household refers to the number of months that all working-age household members (i.e. persons aged 18-64 who do not fall under the definition of dependent children or retired) have been working during the income reference year (full-time equivalent) as a proportion of the total number of months that could theoretically be worked within the household. Individuals are classified into work intensity categories that range from WI=0 (jobless household) to WI=1 (full work intensity, i.e. all working age household members worked during the whole income reference year).