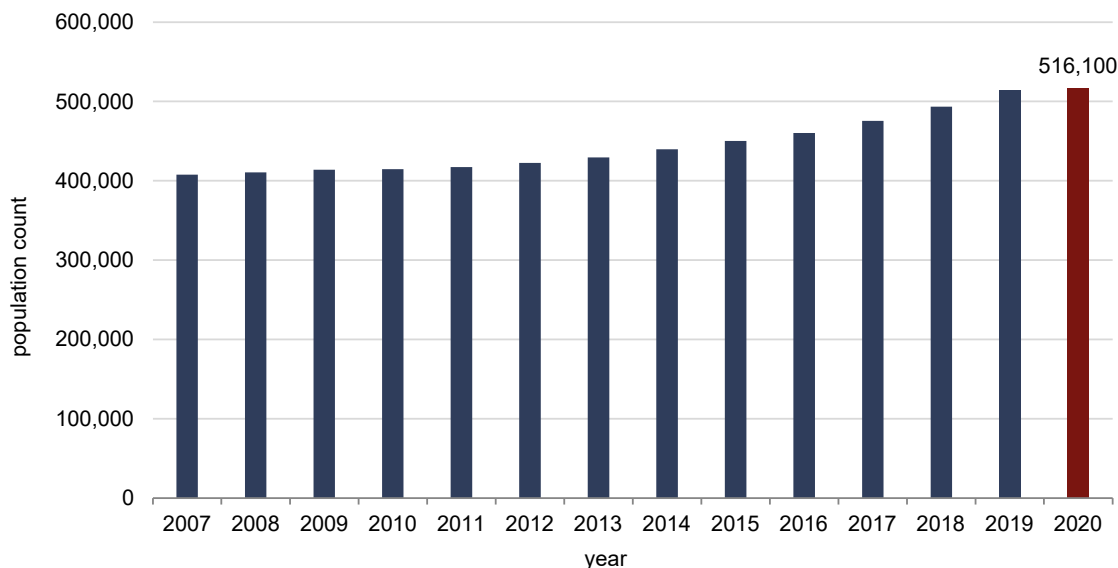


The estimated total population of Malta and Gozo at the end of 2020 stood at 516,100, up by 0.3 per cent when compared to 2019.

World Population Day: 11 July 2021

The increase in the total resident population recorded for Malta and Gozo in 2020, was the lowest since 2010. When considering natural increase and net migration, the population only grew by 1,536 persons, compared to 21,005 in 2019 (Table 1). This slowdown in population growth mirrors the trend exhibited in 2020 across the European Union (EU) - a clear indication of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on demographic shifts within the member states. In 2020, the total population of the EU (excluding the United Kingdom) shrunk by 0.1 per cent or approximately 312,000 persons. Despite this, most of the EU member states did not experience a shrinkage in their population, with only eight of the 27 countries showing a negative balance compared to 2019. Of these countries, six already experienced a negative balance in the previous year. Luxembourg recorded the highest growth at 1.4 per cent, while Latvia experienced the greatest population shrinkage at -0.8 per cent. Malta, on the other hand, was the member state with the largest decline in annual growth when compared to the previous year (Table 2).

Chart 1. End-of-year total population estimates by year

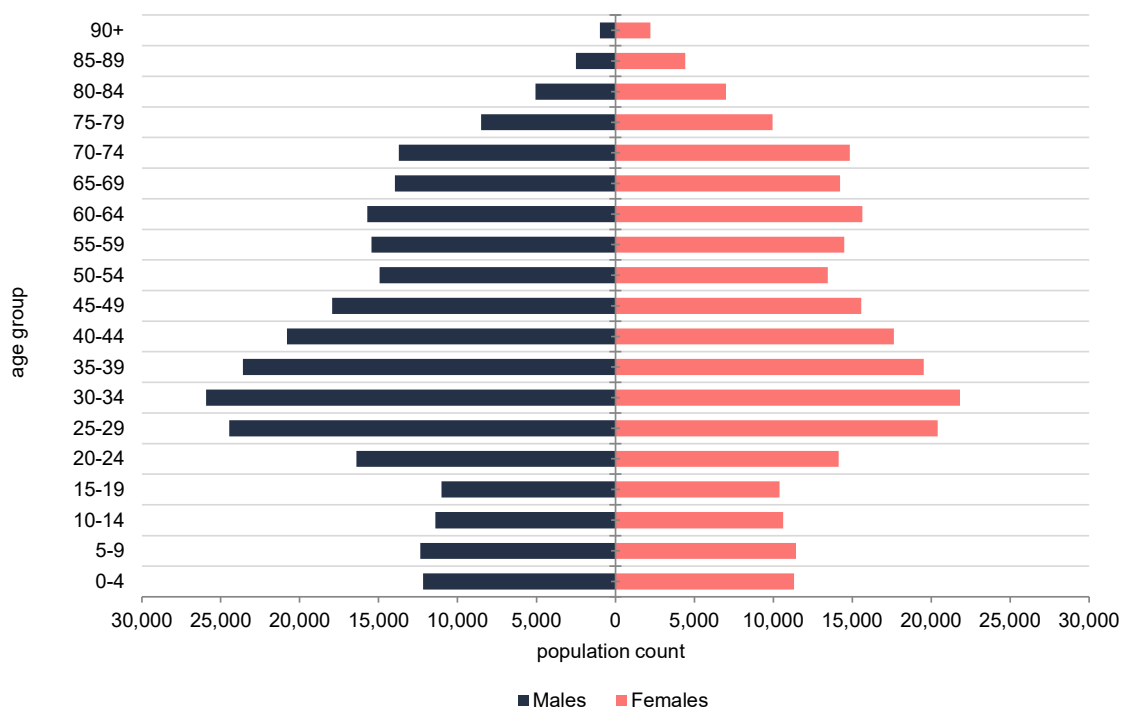


The population increase in 2020 was mainly due to net migration (immigration less emigration), though for the first time since 2010, the net migration for third-country nationals (including the United Kingdom) was negative (-384 persons). Compared to 2019, total net migration (including foreign adoptions) declined by 94.1 per cent, from 20,343 to 1,206 (Table 3).

Statistics in this News Release should be interpreted in the context of the COVID-19 situation.

Persons under the age of 18 made up 15.9 per cent of the total population, while a further 18.9 per cent were aged 65 years and over. Of these, 3,207 persons – 2,223 females and 984 males – were aged 90 years and over (Table 4).

Chart 2. Total population by age group and sex as at 31 December 2020



Resident live births registered during 2020 amounted to 4,414, an increase of 1.5 per cent over the previous year (Table 5). There were approximately nine births for every 1,000 persons in 2020. Despite the slight increase in births in 2020, the total fertility rate remained relatively stable compared to 2019, at 1.13, while the average age of parent who gave birth increased slightly from 30.6 to 30.7 years (Tables 6 and 7).

Total resident deaths increased considerably in 2020, from 3,688 to 4,084, an increase of 10.7 per cent. The excess mortality experienced in 2020 can be explained by the increased risk of death directly and indirectly arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. This large increase in deaths led to the natural increase – difference between births and deaths in the reference year – to decline by half when compared to 2019. In 2020, approximately eight deaths occurred for every 1,000 persons resident in the population (Table 8).

Of the 4,084 resident deaths registered during 2020, 65.6 per cent were persons aged 75 and over. Compared to 2019, deaths in this age group increased by 12.5 per cent (Table 9). The increase in deaths in 2020 has led to a decrease in life expectancy for both men and women. The average life expectancy for those born in 2020 was 82.3 years, down from 83 years in 2019. Males experienced a larger decline in life expectancy at birth, dropping by 0.9 years compared to 0.1 years for females (Table 10).

Table 1. End-of-year total population estimates by sex and year

Year	Males	Females	Total
2007	202,734	205,098	407,832
2008	204,607	206,319	410,926
2009	206,203	207,824	414,027
2010	206,405	208,584	414,989
2011	207,695	209,851	417,546
2012	210,383	212,126	422,509
2013	214,533	214,891	429,424
2014	220,488	219,203	439,691
2015	226,396	224,019	450,415
2016	231,663	228,634	460,297
2017	240,599	235,102	475,701
2018	251,836	241,723	493,559
2019	265,762	248,802	514,564
2020	266,939	249,161	516,100

Note: Figures are compiled based on updates to the Census of Population and Housing and intercensal revisions.

Table 2. End-of-year total population estimates for the EU member states by year

Country	Population count			% annual change	
	2018	2019	2020	2018-2019	2019-2020
European Union - 27 countries (from 2020)	446,446,444 ^{bep}	447,319,829 ^{ep}	447,007,596 ^{ep}	0.2	-0.1
Luxembourg	613,894	626,108	634,730	2.0	1.4
Cyprus	875,899	888,005	896,005 ^p	1.4	0.9
Ireland	4,904,240 ^e	4,964,440	5,006,907	1.2	0.9
Slovenia	2,080,908	2,095,861	2,108,977	0.7	0.6
Sweden	10,230,185	10,327,589	10,379,295	1.0	0.5
Netherlands	17,282,163	17,407,585	17,475,415	0.7	0.4
Belgium	11,455,519	11,522,440	11,566,041 ^p	0.6	0.4
Austria	8,858,775	8,901,064	8,932,664	0.5	0.4
Malta	493,559	514,564	516,100	4.3	0.3
Denmark	5,806,081	5,822,763	5,840,045	0.3	0.3
France	67,177,636 ^p	67,320,216 ^p	67,439,599 ^p	0.2	0.2
Finland	5,517,919	5,525,292	5,533,793	0.1	0.2
Spain	46,937,060	47,332,614	47,394,223 ^p	0.8	0.1
Estonia	1,324,820	1,328,889	1,330,068	0.3	0.1
Czechia	10,649,800	10,693,939	10,701,777	0.4	0.1
Lithuania	2,794,184	2,794,090	2,795,680	0.0	0.1
Slovakia	5,450,421	5,457,873	5,459,781	0.1	0.0
Portugal	10,276,617	10,295,909	10,298,252	0.2	0.0
Germany	83,019,213	83,166,711	83,155,031	0.2	0.0
Poland	37,972,812	37,958,138	37,840,001	0.0	-0.3
Greece	10,724,599	10,718,565	10,682,547 ^e	-0.1	-0.3
Hungary	9,772,756	9,769,526	9,730,772	0.0	-0.4
Bulgaria	7,000,039	6,951,482	6,916,548	-0.7	-0.5
Croatia	4,076,246	4,058,165	4,036,355	-0.4	-0.5
Italy	59816673 ^b	59,641,488	59,257,566 ^p	-0.3	-0.6
Romania	19,414,458	19,328,838 ^e	19,186,201 ^e	-0.4	-0.7
Latvia	1,919,968	1,907,675	1,893,223	-0.6	-0.8

Notes: b - break in time series; p - provisional; e - estimate

Source: Eurostat online database table [TPS00001] - extracted on 05.07.2021

Table 3. Composition of population change: 2020

	Males	Females	Total
Population end 2019	265,762	248,802	514,564
Natural increase:			
+ Births ¹	2,283	2,131	4,414
- Deaths ²	2,116	1,968	4,084
Sub-total	265,929	248,965	514,894
Migration flows:			
+ Adoptions (foreign)	8	9	17
+ Immigration of Maltese citizens	568	538	1,106
- Emigration of Maltese citizens	353	417	770
+ Immigration of other EU citizens	3,192	2,128	5,320
- Emigration of other EU citizens	2,386	1,697	4,083
+ Immigration of third-country citizens ³	4,857	2,585	7,442
- Emigration of third-country citizens ³	4,876	2,950	7,826
Population end 2020	266,939	249,161	516,100

¹ Birth figures refer to babies whose birth parent was a resident of Malta at the time of birth.

² Death figures refer to registered deaths of persons who were resident in Malta at the time of death.

³ As of reference year 2020, includes United Kingdom citizens

Table 4 . Total population by sex and single years of age as at 31 December 2020

Age group/ Single years	Males	Females	Total	Age group/ Single years	Males	Females	Total
0-9	24,532	22,751	47,283	50-59	30,393	27,954	58,347
Less than 1	2,279	2,130	4,409	50	3,170	2,792	5,962
1	2,320	2,133	4,453	51	3,014	2,590	5,604
2	2,470	2,326	4,796	52	3,028	2,763	5,791
3	2,466	2,356	4,822	53	2,865	2,684	5,549
4	2,649	2,372	5,021	54	2,869	2,626	5,495
5	2,510	2,405	4,915	55	2,940	2,754	5,694
6	2,519	2,196	4,715	56	3,078	2,822	5,900
7	2,419	2,210	4,629	57	3,028	2,861	5,889
8	2,478	2,294	4,772	58	3,213	3,065	6,278
9	2,422	2,329	4,751	59	3,188	2,997	6,185
10-19	22,417	21,018	43,435	60-69	29,675	29,885	59,560
10	2,257	2,197	4,454	60	3,254	3,177	6,431
11	2,342	2,240	4,582	61	3,076	3,125	6,201
12	2,368	2,183	4,551	62	3,095	3,151	6,246
13	2,243	2,030	4,273	63	3,182	3,114	6,296
14	2,193	1,976	4,169	64	3,107	3,079	6,186
15	2,184	2,062	4,246	65	2,995	2,906	5,901
16	2,166	2,055	4,221	66	2,869	2,886	5,755
17	2,199	2,152	4,351	67	2,732	2,779	5,511
18	2,183	2,005	4,188	68	2,700	2,844	5,544
19	2,282	2,118	4,400	69	2,665	2,824	5,489
20-29	40,867	34,538	75,405	70-79	22,224	24,811	47,035
20	2,579	2,517	5,096	70	2,843	2,954	5,797
21	2,789	2,607	5,396	71	2,783	2,914	5,697
22	3,257	2,773	6,030	72	2,804	3,017	5,821
23	3,642	2,995	6,637	73	2,717	3,081	5,798
24	4,141	3,237	7,378	74	2,566	2,890	5,456
25	4,364	3,546	7,910	75	2,354	2,657	5,011
26	4,603	3,777	8,380	76	2,415	2,649	5,064
27	4,927	4,186	9,113	77	1,603	1,960	3,563
28	5,267	4,404	9,671	78	1,104	1,302	2,406
29	5,298	4,496	9,794	79	1,035	1,387	2,422
30-39	49,527	41,354	90,881	80-89	7,560	11,416	18,976
30	5,347	4,504	9,851	80	1,116	1,464	2,580
31	5,281	4,668	9,949	81	1,111	1,488	2,599
32	5,290	4,469	9,759	82	1,037	1,451	2,488
33	5,066	4,178	9,244	83	933	1,366	2,299
34	4,946	4,003	8,949	84	868	1,222	2,090
35	4,940	3,969	8,909	85	712	1,147	1,859
36	4,739	3,886	8,625	86	570	944	1,514
37	4,760	3,912	8,672	87	503	901	1,404
38	4,767	4,006	8,773	88	395	771	1,166
39	4,391	3,759	8,150	89	315	662	977
40-49	38,760	33,211	71,971	90+	984	2,223	3,207
40	4,423	3,598	8,021				
41	4,284	3,648	7,932	Total	266,939	249,161	516,100
42	4,104	3,538	7,642				
43	4,090	3,440	7,530				
44	3,909	3,415	7,324				
45	3,977	3,351	7,328				
46	3,734	3,167	6,901				
47	3,455	3,113	6,568				
48	3,449	3,005	6,454				
49	3,335	2,936	6,271				

Note: Figures are compiled based on updates to the Census of Population and Housing 2011.

Table 5. Resident live births by sex and year

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
2007	1,980	1,785	3,765
2008	2,092	1,921	4,013
2009	2,087	1,942	4,029
2010	2,000	1,898	3,898
2011	2,116	2,049	4,165
2012	2,141	1,989	4,130
2013	2,109	1,923	4,032
2014	2,223	1,968	4,191
2015	2,208	2,117	4,325
2016	2,365	2,111	4,476
2017	2,215	2,104	4,319
2018	2,278	2,166	4,444
2019	2,260	2,090	4,350
2020	2,283	2,131	4,414

Chart 3. Resident live births by year

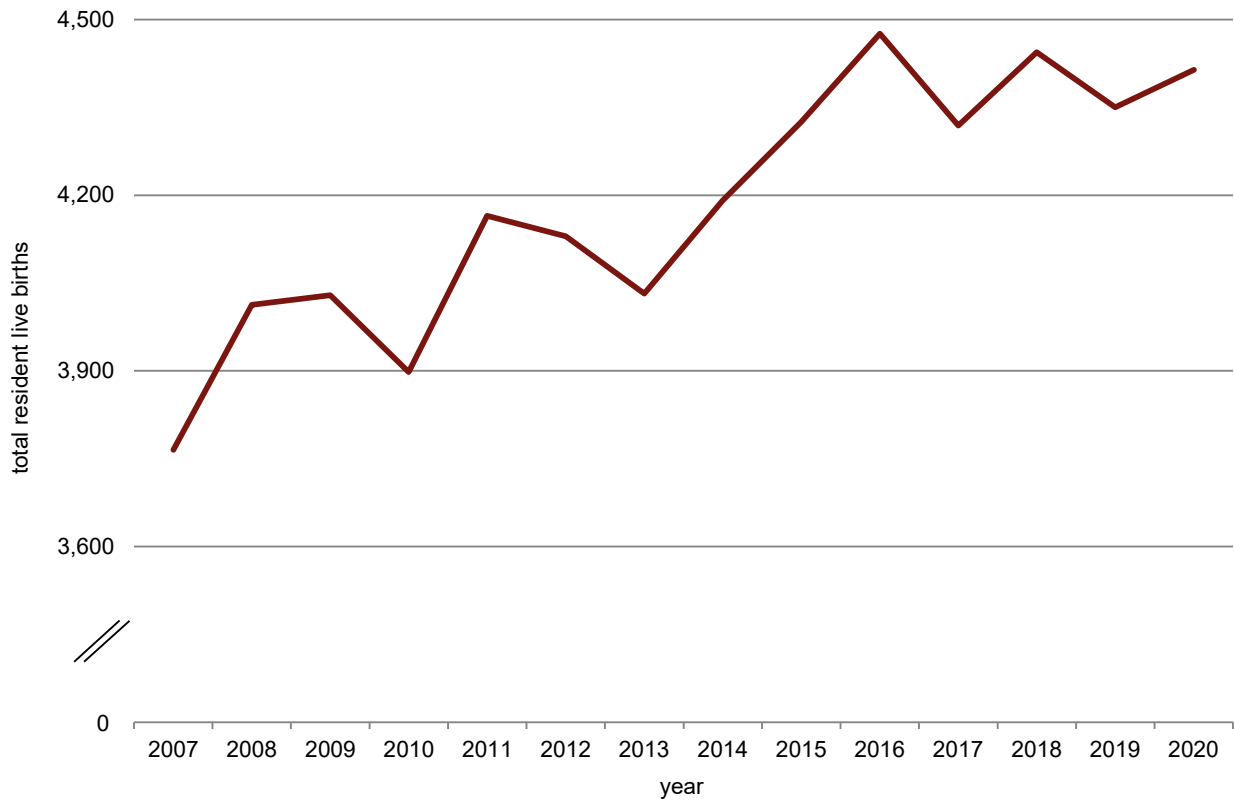


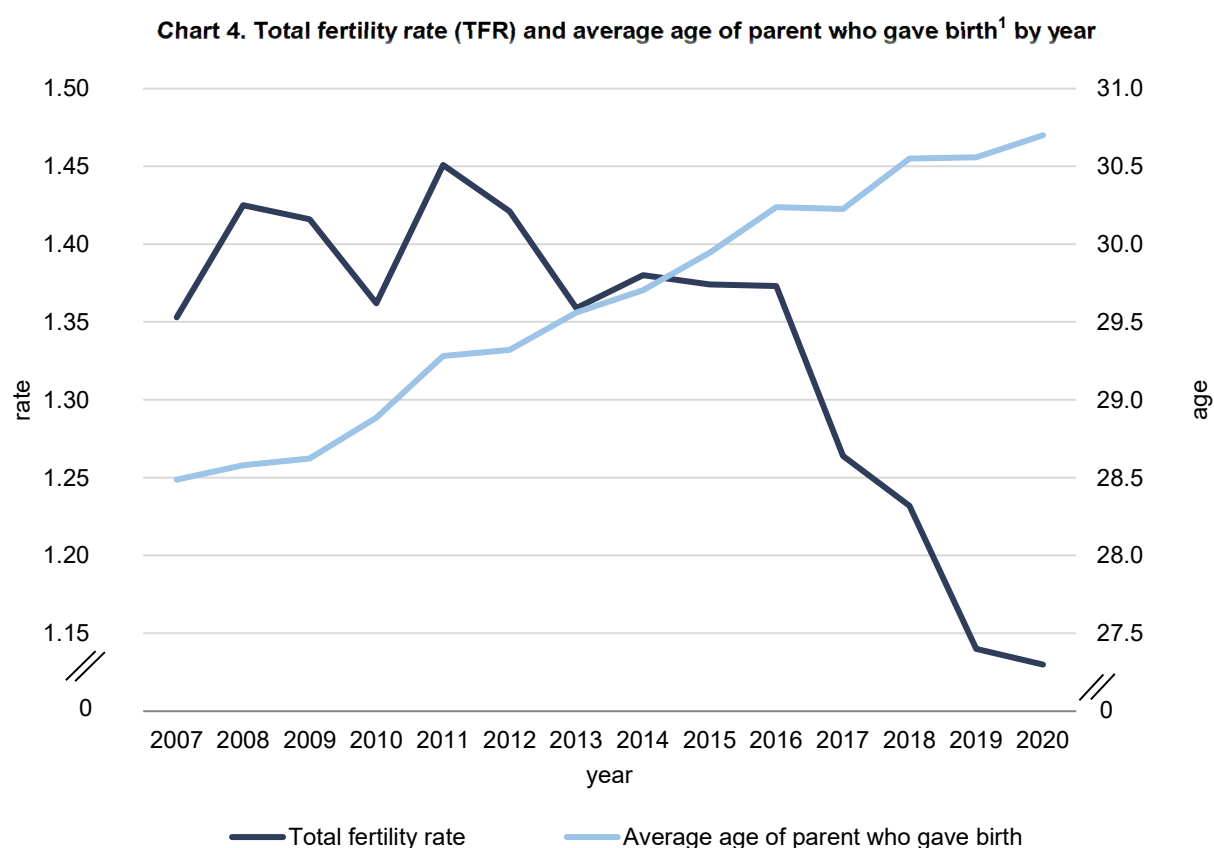
Table 6. Selected fertility indicators by year

Year	Crude birth rate ¹	Total fertility rate ²	Average age of parent who gave birth ³
2007	9.3	1.35	28.5
2008	9.8	1.43	28.6
2009	9.8	1.42	28.6
2010	9.4	1.36	28.9
2011	10.0	1.45	29.3
2012	9.8	1.42	29.3
2013	9.5	1.36	29.6
2014	9.6	1.38	29.7
2015	9.7	1.37	29.9
2016	9.8	1.37	30.2
2017	9.2	1.26	30.2
2018	9.2	1.23	30.5
2019	8.6	1.14	30.6
2020	8.6	1.13	30.7

¹ Number of live births per 1,000 total mid-year population.

² The number of children who would be born to a female if she were to live to the end of her child-bearing years, and bear children in accordance with current age-specific fertility rates.

³ In line with the amendment to the Marriage Act 2017, upon registration, parents are denoted as parent who gave birth to child and other parent. Refer to methodological note 3.



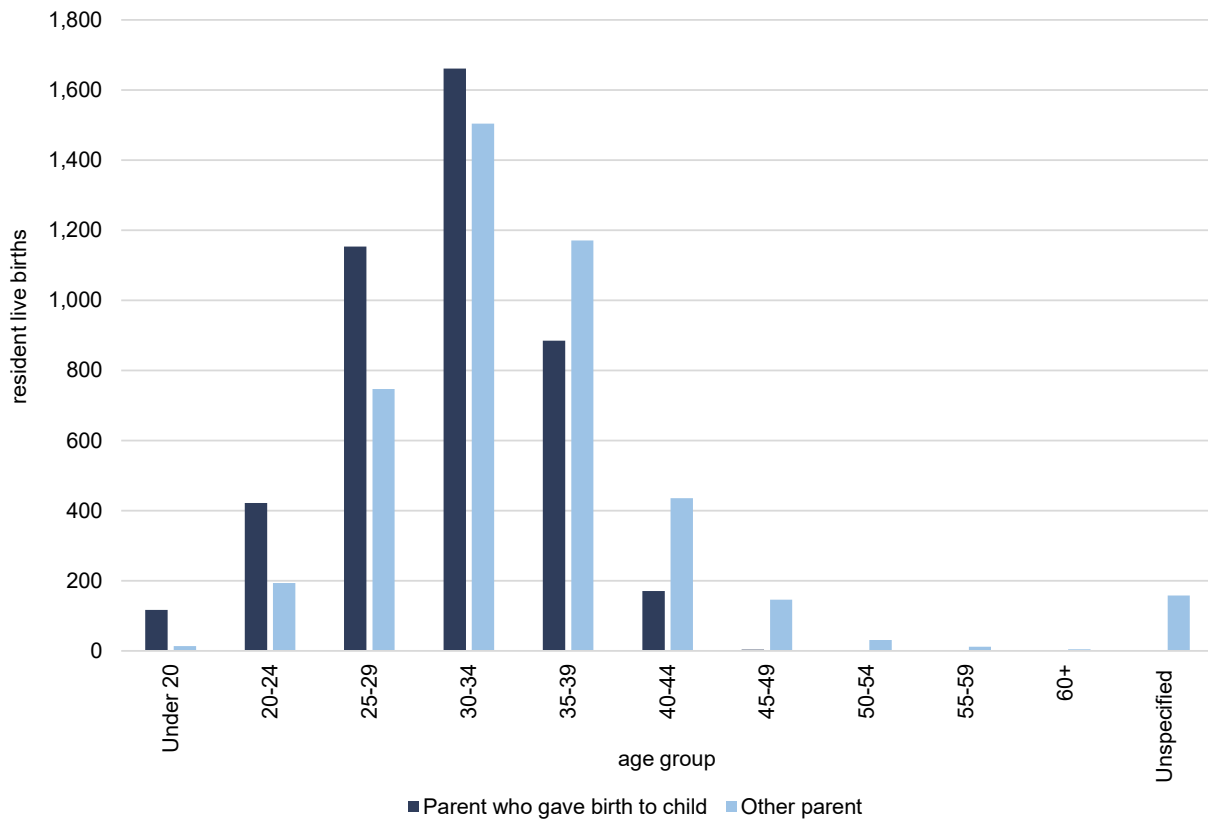
¹ In line with the amendment to the Marriage Act 2017, upon registration, parents are denoted as parent who gave birth to child and other parent. Refer to methodological note 3.

Table 7. Resident live births by age group of parents¹ and sex of child: 2020

Age group	Age group of parent who gave birth to child		Age group of other parent	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Under 20	69	48	6	7
20-24	208	214	99	95
25-29	595	559	397	350
30-34	848	813	757	747
35-39	484	401	592	579
40-44	77	94	253	183
45-49	2	1	80	66
50-54	-	-	11	19
55-59	-	1	2	9
60+	-	-	2	2
Unspecified	-	-	84	74
All ages	2,283	2,131	2,283	2,131

¹ In line with the amendment to the Marriage Act 2017, upon registration, parents are denoted as parent who gave birth to child and other parent. Refer to methodological note 3.

Chart 5. Resident live births by age group of parents¹: 2020



¹ In line with the amendment to the Marriage Act 2017, upon registration, parents are denoted as parent who gave birth to child and other parent. Refer to methodological note 3.

Table 8. Deaths by sex, year and crude death rate

Year	Count			Crude death rate ¹
	Males	Females	Total	
2007	1,610	1,501	3,111	7.6
2008	1,668	1,575	3,243	7.9
2009	1,672	1,549	3,221	7.8
2010	1,489	1,521	3,010	7.3
2011	1,664	1,603	3,267	7.8
2012	1,746	1,672	3,418	8.1
2013	1,636	1,600	3,236	7.6
2014	1,655	1,615	3,270	7.5
2015	1,732	1,710	3,442	7.7
2016	1,644	1,698	3,342	7.3
2017	1,815	1,756	3,571	7.6
2018	1,876	1,812	3,688	7.6
2019	1,869	1,819	3,688	7.3
2020	2,116	1,968	4,084	7.9

¹ Number of resident deaths per 1,000 total mid-year population.

Table 9. Deaths by age group at death, sex and year

Year	Age group												Total
	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	
Males													
2007	8	2	1	3	7	15	27	33	71	219	353	871	1,610
2008	22	5	-	2	3	6	29	36	97	260	336	872	1,668
2009	10	2	1	1	6	10	29	27	70	206	351	959	1,672
2010	13	2	-	2	5	9	23	37	77	221	328	772	1,489
2011	13	-	1	-	9	7	22	29	82	219	371	911	1,664
2012	11	1	1	1	1	7	24	37	77	231	364	991	1,746
2013	14	1	-	1	3	10	13	29	72	212	375	906	1,636
2014	11	1	1	3	4	6	22	35	73	195	395	909	1,655
2015	16	3	-	2	4	4	23	26	69	223	374	988	1,732
2016	20	1	1	-	4	3	16	37	88	191	394	889	1,644
2017	19	3	-	-	2	11	22	34	61	203	448	1,012	1,815
2018	16	3	-	-	2	6	23	33	75	209	485	1,024	1,876
2019	9	6	2	1	1	2	22	28	60	190	480	1,068	1,869
2020	8	1	2	2	2	8	23	42	80	224	508	1,216	2,116
Females													
2007	15	1	1	2	1	1	5	19	48	141	232	1,035	1,501
2008	12	1	1	1	1	3	7	11	50	145	251	1,092	1,575
2009	11	2	1	2	1	4	16	9	51	123	216	1,113	1,549
2010	9	2	-	3	1	3	4	11	49	131	235	1,073	1,521
2011	14	3	1	1	2	1	13	19	46	124	228	1,151	1,603
2012	11	2	-	2	2	1	14	18	55	137	233	1,197	1,672
2013	13	1	-	-	2	5	4	10	40	110	217	1,198	1,600
2014	10	1	-	1	2	1	7	17	27	133	249	1,167	1,615
2015	9	1	2	1	2	6	7	13	36	120	261	1,252	1,710
2016	13	1	-	1	4	2	6	20	45	118	279	1,209	1,698
2017	10	2	-	1	2	1	6	16	50	127	273	1,268	1,756
2018	9	1	2	-	-	2	12	27	43	131	279	1,306	1,812
2019	20	1	1	3	2	2	12	17	47	104	295	1,315	1,819
2020	9	1	-	1	3	3	7	21	43	124	291	1,465	1,968
Total													
2007	23	3	2	5	8	16	32	52	119	360	585	1,906	3,111
2008	34	6	1	3	4	9	36	47	147	405	587	1,964	3,243
2009	21	4	2	3	7	14	45	36	121	329	567	2,072	3,221
2010	22	4	-	5	6	12	27	48	126	352	563	1,845	3,010
2011	27	3	2	1	11	8	35	48	128	343	599	2,062	3,267
2012	22	3	1	3	3	8	38	55	132	368	597	2,188	3,418
2013	27	2	-	1	5	15	17	39	112	322	592	2,104	3,236
2014	21	2	1	4	6	7	29	52	100	328	644	2,076	3,270
2015	25	4	2	3	6	10	30	39	105	343	635	2,240	3,442
2016	33	2	1	1	8	5	22	57	133	309	673	2,098	3,342
2017	29	5	-	1	4	12	28	50	111	330	721	2,280	3,571
2018	25	4	2	-	2	8	35	60	118	340	764	2,330	3,688
2019	29	7	3	4	3	4	34	45	107	294	775	2,383	3,688
2020	17	2	2	3	5	11	30	63	123	348	799	2,681	4,084

Table 10. Life expectancy by sex and year

Year	Life expectancy at age 0			Life expectancy at age 65		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2007	77.6	82.2	79.9	16.7	20.3	18.6
2008	77.1	82.3	79.7	17.1	20.1	18.7
2009	77.9	82.7	80.4	16.8	20.6	18.9
2010	79.3	83.6	81.5	18.5	21.1	20.0
2011	78.7	83.0	80.9	17.7	21.0	19.4
2012	78.6	83.1	80.9	17.6	21.0	19.4
2013	79.6	84.0	81.9	18.4	21.5	20.1
2014	79.9	84.3	82.1	18.7	21.7	20.3
2015	79.8	84.1	82.0	18.8	21.6	20.3
2016	80.6	84.4	82.6	19.7	22.1	21.0
2017	80.2	84.6	82.4	19.0	22.2	20.7
2018	80.4	84.6	82.5	19.2	22.3	20.8
2019	81.2	84.6	83.0	19.4	22.5	21.1
2020	80.3	84.5	82.3	18.9	22.0	20.5

Methodological Notes

1. All population components are based on definitions provided for in the European Regulation (EU) No. 1260/2013 on European demographic statistics.
2. All migration components are based on definitions provided for in the European Regulation (EU) No. 862/2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection.
3. Statistics in this release reflect the enactment of the Marriage Act and Other Laws (Amendment) Act, 2017. All provisions of this Act came into force on 1st September 2017 through Legal Notice 212/2017.

4. Definitions:

- **Crude death rate:** the number of total resident deaths per thousand mid-year population.
- **Crude birth rate:** the number of total live births per thousand mid-year population.
- **Emigration:** the action by which a natural person leaves his or her usual residence in the territory of the Member State for a period that is, or is expected to last, a minimum of 12 months. This figure is measured by summing up the counts of all employment termination forms which ended during the reference year and residence permit holders who fail to extend their permits during the reference year, together with their dependants; resettled or repatriated asylum seekers who were previously given protection and other Maltese emigrants.
- **Immigration:** the action by which a natural person establishes his or her usual residence in a territory of a State for a period that is, or is expected to last, a minimum of 12 months. This figure is measured by summing up the count of all new employment engagement forms and residence permit holders, their dependants, asylum seekers granted protection, returned Maltese migrants and adoptions of children from foreign countries.
- **Life expectancy:** a population based statistical measure of the average number of years a person has before death. Life expectancies can be calculated for any age and give the further number of years a person can on average expect to live given the age they have attained during the reference year.
- **Mid-year population:** total mid-year population is calculated by averaging start-of-year and end-of-year population estimates.
- **Natural increase:** the difference between the number of live births and the number of deaths during a reference year.
- **Total fertility rate:** the number of children that would be born to a female if she were to live to the end of her child-bearing years and bear children in accordance with current age-specific fertility rates.
- **Total population:** all persons residing in Maltese Islands. The total population at the end of year t , is computed using the equation $P_t = P_{t-1} + B_t - D_t + I_t - E_t$, where:
 - i P_t is the total resident population at the end of year t ,
 - ii P_{t-1} is the total resident population at the end of year $t-1$,
 - iii B_t is the total number of babies whose birth parent was resident in Malta during year t ,
 - iv D_t is the total number of registered deaths of persons resident in Malta during year t ,
 - v I_t is the total immigration of both Maltese and foreign nationals registered during year t who immigrated with the intention to live in Malta for a period of at least 12 months,
 - vi E_t is the total emigration of both Maltese and foreign nationals resident in Malta registered during year t who leave the country for a period of at least 12 months.
- **Live births resident in Malta:** all babies whose parent(s) is(are) resident in Malta at the time of birth. Therefore the definition excludes babies born to parents who are resident abroad.
- **Total deaths:** all registered resident Maltese and foreign deaths in Malta and Gozo. These counts exclude deaths of tourists, but include Maltese residents who die abroad and whose death is subsequently registered in Malta. This definition excludes still births.
- **Third Country National:** any person who is not a citizen of the European Union. As of reference year 2020, this also includes UK citizens.
- **Usual residence:** refers to the place where a person normally spends the daily period of rest, regardless of temporary absences for purposes of recreation, holidays, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage. Usual residents of a specific geographical area are:
 - i those who have lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least 12 months before the reference time; or
 - ii those who arrived in their place of usual residence during the 12 months before the reference time with the intention of staying there for at least one year.
- **Usually resident population:** refers to all persons who have their usual residence in a Member State at the reference time.

5. Sources:

- Demographic data in this release is based on records held by the Public Registry and the Directorate of Health Information and Research.
- Migration data is based on relevant administrative records and on estimates based on auxiliary information and access to administrative records as shown in the table below:

Entity	Data flows	Data records
National Statistics Office (NSO)	Immigration of Maltese citizens	Decennial Census of Population and Housing
		Ongoing frontier survey: TOURSTAT
	Emigration of Maltese citizens	Ongoing frontier survey: TOURSTAT
Jobsplus	Migration flows of European Union and United Kingdom citizens	Employment engagement and termination forms
International Protection Agency	Migration flows of Third-Country Nationals excluding the United Kingdom.	Asylum records
Third-Country Nationals Unit		Resettlements and repatriations
Citizenship and Expatriates Affairs		Residence permits database
Public Registry	Foreign adoptions	Registration of adoptions

6. Geographical information:

The European Union includes Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden. As of referene year 2020, the United Kingdom is considered a third country and no longer part of the European Union.

7. Timely population estimates are published in order to meet user needs. These estimates are subject to further quality assurance processes and may be subject to revision in subsequent demographic publications.

8. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Statistical Concepts: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/concepts.aspx>

Metadata (Demography): <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/reports.aspx?id=36>

Metadata (Migration): <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/reports.aspx?id=38>

News Releases for previous years:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C5/Population_and_Migration_Statistics/Pages/World-Population-Day.aspx

9. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.

10. A detailed news release calendar is available on

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx