

# News Release



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## Education

### Teaching English to Foreigners: 2006

*In 2006, 65,983 foreign students attended courses in one of the 36 English-language specialised schools. This denotes an increase of 4,376 students or 7.1 per cent over the preceding year. Participation of both sexes increased in 2006 when compared to previous years, with a higher female proportion - 57.4 per cent of all the student population.*

Students are classified in six age groups. Similar to previous years, the highest number of students was in the 16-17 age group, amounting to 25.6 per cent of the total student population. On the other hand, the lowest number was registered among the 26-30 age group, with 9.7 per cent of the total student population. Furthermore, as illustrated in Table 1, the '15 and under' age bracket demonstrated an increase in students of 15.2 per cent over the previous year.

The highest number of students came from Germany, namely 24.4 per cent of all students. Italy was the second highest with 15.5 per cent, while France, Russia and Austria accounted for 13.2, 10.0 and 8.1 per cent respectively. Trends in incoming students from the mentioned countries have been stable, however, there were also increases from other countries. These included Switzerland, Spain and the Czech Republic.

European students summed up to 96.3 per cent of all foreign English-language students. Among these, 77.1 per cent came from EU Member States, thus implying an increase of 5.2 percentage points over the previous year. As illustrated in Table 3 students coming from countries in Asia, Africa and America accounted for 2.6, 0.4 and 0.4 per cent respectively.

Foreign students garnered 5.9 per cent of the total number of tourists visiting Malta in 2006, slight increase over 2005. The student-tourist ratio in respect of some countries was considerably high: of every 100 tourists coming from Ukraine, 42 were English-language students while this ratio in respect of Slovakia and the Czech Republic stood at 32 and 31 respectively.

The majority of the foreign students studying the English language - 57.1 percent, visited the country in summer in contrast to 43.6 per cent of tourists who visited Malta in the shoulder months. An additional 33.5 per cent came to Malta during the shoulder months. Only 9.4 per cent of students attended English-language courses during the winter season.

Students aged between 21 and 25 years tended to stay longer in Malta with an average stay of 3.5 weeks. By contrast, the shortest stay was recorded among students aged 15 years and under, and also those aged 16-17 years, with an average duration of 2.1 weeks per student. Austrian students had the shortest stay with an average 1.4 weeks per student. Although the figures bear out summer as the most popular season among foreign students, the longest stays tended to be in winter.

In 2006, teaching staff numbered 1,279 persons, an increase of 76 persons or 6.3 per cent over the previous year. The majority of these teachers were working on a part-time basis, 92.2 per cent. Full-time teaching personnel amounted to 7.8 per cent indicating an increase of 18 persons over 2005. At nearly 76 per cent, female teachers comprised the absolute majority of the teaching staff working in these schools ■

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**Table 1. Foreign students following courses in English-language specialised schools classified by country, age group and sex: 2006**

Country	15 & under		16-17		18-20		21-25		26-30		31 & over		Total		
	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	t
Germany	1,293	1,094	1,663	1,050	1,048	680	1,281	1,024	962	771	2,566	2,666	8,813	7,285	16,098
Italy	1,122	912	1,730	1,264	985	719	626	557	445	391	881	567	5,789	4,410	10,199
France	1,155	837	1,750	1,203	813	647	580	499	334	275	346	275	4,978	3,736	8,714
Russian Federation	895	683	807	589	843	404	708	284	406	245	437	322	4,096	2,527	6,623
Austria	661	586	1,319	1,111	463	238	148	109	93	91	266	238	2,950	2,373	5,323
Switzerland	127	91	412	215	431	242	353	212	241	209	429	373	1,993	1,342	3,335
Spain	207	104	530	356	370	276	340	228	212	132	270	235	1,929	1,331	3,260
Czech Republic	145	89	132	80	161	143	146	119	103	128	131	113	818	672	1,490
Turkey	33	56	34	64	44	96	198	270	103	132	72	115	484	733	1,217
Sweden	73	35	583	230	76	27	41	20	16	6	68	27	857	345	1,202
Poland	126	85	168	103	128	91	60	37	86	28	103	83	671	427	1,098
Japan	2	3	28	14	105	44	267	87	204	40	191	41	797	229	1,026
Ukraine	106	100	84	46	76	46	89	156	44	138	52	46	451	532	983
Hungary	49	36	128	88	48	32	50	37	55	25	71	39	401	257	658
Slovakia	39	34	87	50	53	38	35	22	34	20	52	59	300	223	523
Belgium	52	29	134	44	97	47	41	36	7	2	5	8	336	166	502
Netherlands	48	12	118	30	82	32	50	20	5	1	21	5	324	100	424
Korea Republic of (South Korea)	-	1	1	1	49	25	100	114	40	22	11	9	201	172	373
Slovenia	56	36	66	49	29	15	12	9	33	27	20	15	216	151	367
Other countries	184	162	327	193	263	159	186	208	130	96	250	193	1,340	1,011	2,351
World not allocated geographically	26	14	23	16	20	14	16	17	26	10	19	16	130	87	217
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,399</b>	<b>4,999</b>	<b>10,124</b>	<b>6,796</b>	<b>6,184</b>	<b>4,015</b>	<b>5,327</b>	<b>4,065</b>	<b>3,579</b>	<b>2,789</b>	<b>6,261</b>	<b>5,445</b>	<b>37,874</b>	<b>28,109</b>	<b>65,983</b>

Table 2. Comparative figures 2002-2006

Country	2002	% of Year Total	2003	% of Year Total	2004	% of Year Total	2005	% of Year Total	2006	% of Year Total
Germany	15,125	28.0	13,302	25.0	14,591	26.3	15,915	25.8	16,098	24.4
Italy	9,691	17.9	9,325	17.5	8,080	14.5	10,543	17.1	10,199	15.5
France	6,081	11.3	7,196	13.5	7,138	12.8	7,975	12.9	8,714	13.2
Austria	3,385	6.3	4,822	9.1	4,781	8.6	4,672	7.6	5,323	8.1
Russian Federation	4,944	9.2	3,964	7.4	4,500	8.1	5,351	8.7	6,623	10.0
Others	14,749	27.3	14,632	27.5	16,479	29.7	17,151	27.9	19,026	28.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,975</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>53,241</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>55,569</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>61,607</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>65,983</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 3. Student population classified by continent and age group: 2006

Continent	15 & under		16-17		18-20		21-25		26-30		31 & over		Total			%
	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	t			
Europe	6,324	4,917	10,045	6,729	5,923	3,852	4,857	3,684	3,253	2,656	5,960	5,313	36,362	27,151	63,513	96.3
<i>EU-27</i>	5,117	3,948	8,613	5,759	4,470	3,039	3,475	2,741	2,447	1,917	4,918	4,415	29,040	21,819	50,859	77.1
<i>Other European</i>	1,207	969	1,432	970	1,453	813	1,382	943	806	739	1,042	898	7,322	5,332	12,654	19.2
Asia	31	29	45	32	195	93	402	258	258	72	221	60	1,152	544	1,696	2.6
America	4	4	7	6	21	16	30	33	36	23	55	29	153	111	264	0.4
Africa	14	35	4	13	25	40	22	73	6	28	5	27	76	216	292	0.4
Oceania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	0.0
World not allocated geographically	26	14	23	16	20	14	16	17	26	10	19	16	130	87	217	0.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,399</b>	<b>4,999</b>	<b>10,124</b>	<b>6,796</b>	<b>6,184</b>	<b>4,015</b>	<b>5,327</b>	<b>4,065</b>	<b>3,579</b>	<b>2,789</b>	<b>6,261</b>	<b>5,445</b>	<b>37,874</b>	<b>28,109</b>	<b>65,983</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 4. Foreign students as a percentage of all incoming tourists classified by country and sex: 2006

Country of origin	2006								
	Students			Tourists			% of Students over tourists		
	Females	Males	Total	Females	Males	Total	Females	Males	Total
Austria	2,950	2,373	5,323	11,512	12,028	23,540	25.6	19.7	22.6
Belgium	336	166	502	14,268	14,809	29,077	2.4	1.1	1.7
Croatia	36	20	56	355	641	996	10.1	3.1	5.6
Czech Republic	818	672	1,490	2,320	2,434	4,754	35.3	27.6	31.3
Denmark	173	84	257	11,331	12,616	23,947	1.5	0.7	1.1
Finland	142	73	215	6,169	4,436	10,605	2.3	1.6	2.0
France	4,978	3,736	8,714	39,147	34,253	73,400	12.7	10.9	11.9
Germany	8,813	7,285	16,098	61,973	63,838	125,811	14.2	11.4	12.8
Hungary	401	257	658	4,116	5,122	9,238	9.7	5.0	7.1
Italy	5,789	4,410	10,199	42,792	69,757	112,549	13.5	6.3	9.1
Japan	797	229	1,026	4,604	2,759	7,363	17.3	8.3	13.9
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	37	164	201	1,850	7,348	9,198	2.0	2.2	2.2
Netherlands	324	100	424	17,177	20,656	37,833	1.9	0.5	1.1
Norway	112	69	181	6,759	8,408	15,167	1.7	0.8	1.2
Poland	671	427	1,098	2,905	3,667	6,572	23.1	11.6	16.7
Russian Federation	4,096	2,527	6,623	13,347	8,423	21,770	30.7	30.0	30.4
Slovakia	300	223	523	962	665	1,627	31.2	33.5	32.1
Slovenia	216	151	367	1,824	1,503	3,327	11.8	10.0	11.0
Spain	1,929	1,331	3,260	10,710	9,951	20,661	18.0	13.4	15.8
Sweden	857	345	1,202	12,004	11,961	23,965	7.1	2.9	5.0
Switzerland	1,993	1,342	3,335	10,718	10,686	21,404	18.6	12.6	15.6
Ukraine	451	532	983	1,274	1,037	2,311	35.4	51.3	42.5
Others	1,655	1,593	3,248	273,002	266,115	539,117	0.6	0.6	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,874</b>	<b>28,109</b>	<b>65,983</b>	<b>551,119</b>	<b>573,113</b>	<b>1,124,232</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.9</b>

\*including English-speaking countries

**Table 5. Student population classified by seasonal pattern, sex and percentage of all incoming tourists: 2006**

	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Shoulder</b>	<b>Summer</b>	<b>Total</b>
Females	3,401	12,952	21,521	37,874
Males	2,774	9,176	16,159	28,109
<b>Total students</b>	<b>6,175</b>	<b>22,128</b>	<b>37,680</b>	<b>65,983</b>
Females	98,332	238,309	214,478	551,119
Males	117,509	252,020	203,584	573,113
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>215,841</b>	<b>490,329</b>	<b>418,062</b>	<b>1,124,232</b>
Females	3.5	5.4	10.0	6.9
Males	2.4	3.6	7.9	4.9
<b>Students as % of tourists</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>5.9</b>

**Table 6. Student population classified by seasonal pattern and age group: 2006**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Winter</b>		<b>Shoulder</b>		<b>Summer</b>		<b>Total</b>		
	<b>f</b>	<b>m</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>m</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>m</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>m</b>	<b>t</b>
17 & Under	425	334	5,723	3,883	10,375	7,578	16,523	11,795	<b>28,318</b>
18 - 20	571	346	1,869	1,209	3,744	2,460	6,184	4,015	<b>10,199</b>
21 & Over	2,405	2,094	5,360	4,084	7,402	6,121	15,167	12,299	<b>27,466</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,401</b>	<b>2,774</b>	<b>12,952</b>	<b>9,176</b>	<b>21,521</b>	<b>16,159</b>	<b>37,874</b>	<b>28,109</b>	<b>65,983</b>

**Table 7. Total number of weeks spent in Malta by students who followed a course in English-language specialised schools for English language classified by country, age group and sex: 2006**

Country	15 & under		16-17		18-20		21-25		26-30		31 & over		Total		
	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	t
Germany	2,561	2,052	3,731	2,371	2,633	1,587	3,266	2,646	2,251	1,828	4,898	4,905	19,340	15,389	34,729
France	2,588	1,999	3,179	2,615	2,129	1,865	1,534	1,299	737	582	683	550	10,850	8,910	19,760
Italy	1,772	1,592	2,762	2,183	1,627	1,336	1,487	1,364	959	906	1,534	1,283	10,141	8,664	18,805
Russian Federation	2,487	1,686	1,991	1,376	2,462	1,232	2,407	790	1,179	739	1,376	1,025	11,902	6,848	18,750
Switzerland	309	213	1,167	629	1,941	951	1,516	941	648	541	1,163	971	6,744	4,246	10,990
Spain	587	299	1,631	1,100	909	678	1,157	738	573	347	638	625	5,495	3,787	9,282
Turkey	95	213	81	225	333	842	1,100	2,139	759	1,227	545	495	2,913	5,141	8,054
Austria	826	708	1,221	1,024	969	662	322	220	195	195	553	456	4,086	3,265	7,351
Japan	2	5	57	44	441	115	1,152	444	1,180	136	890	187	3,722	931	4,653
Sweden	175	76	1,685	695	535	137	469	193	152	59	210	60	3,226	1,220	4,446
Korea Republic of (South Korea)	-	6	8	2	437	138	1,339	1,187	469	344	115	127	2,368	1,804	4,172
Czech Republic	308	195	321	189	378	300	395	290	249	282	312	265	1,963	1,521	3,484
Poland	329	224	413	264	303	214	146	99	198	82	208	222	1,597	1,105	2,702
Ukraine	261	242	201	120	232	87	311	338	110	256	92	93	1,207	1,136	2,343
Hungary	100	81	334	236	144	80	193	137	165	91	193	103	1,129	728	1,857
Belgium	130	79	386	110	413	158	159	131	20	27	16	23	1,124	528	1,652
Netherlands	129	35	403	98	342	153	214	68	25	5	37	8	1,150	367	1,517
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	58	229	27	72	61	145	19	442	1	144	23	112	189	1,144	1,333
Slovakia	96	78	235	151	120	94	105	66	71	52	126	127	753	568	1,321
Slovenia	111	74	141	105	45	23	32	20	66	57	41	33	436	312	748
Bulgaria	115	49	79	45	60	41	80	55	97	23	46	46	477	259	736
Denmark	62	29	223	95	122	35	26	12	16	8	18	22	467	201	668
Brazil	5	14	22	4	69	26	86	121	48	61	116	81	346	307	653
Finland	6	-	178	63	31	5	18	4	80	55	105	58	418	185	603
Other countries	240	179	546	365	579	449	658	640	443	215	605	343	3,071	2,191	5,262
World not allocated geographically	44	54	41	30	38	31	34	31	45	19	33	35	235	200	435
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,396</b>	<b>10,411</b>	<b>21,063</b>	<b>14,211</b>	<b>17,353</b>	<b>11,384</b>	<b>18,225</b>	<b>14,415</b>	<b>10,736</b>	<b>8,281</b>	<b>14,576</b>	<b>12,255</b>	<b>95,349</b>	<b>70,957</b>	<b>166,306</b>

Table 8. Average number of weeks spent in Malta per student, classified by sex, age and selected country of origin: 2006

Country of origin	15 & under		16-17		18-20		21-25		26-30		31 & over		Total		
	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	t
Austria	1.3	1.2	0.9	0.9	2.1	2.8	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.4	1.4	1.4
Belgium	2.5	2.7	2.9	2.5	4.3	3.4	3.9	3.6	2.9	13.5	3.2	2.9	3.4	3.2	3.3
Croatia	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.3	2.0	2.3	2.0	2.0	2.0	4.9	4.4	2.8	2.9	2.8
Czech Republic	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.1	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3
Denmark	2.4	1.6	2.8	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.4	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.6
Finland	2.0	0.0	3.0	2.5	2.4	1.7	2.6	2.0	5.7	5.5	2.3	1.8	2.9	2.5	2.8
France	2.2	2.4	1.8	2.2	2.6	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.3
Germany	2.0	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.3	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.4	1.9	1.8	2.2	2.1	2.2
Hungary	2.0	2.3	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.5	3.9	3.7	3.0	3.6	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.8
Italy	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.4	2.5	2.2	2.3	1.7	2.3	1.8	2.0	1.8
Japan	1.0	1.7	2.0	3.1	4.2	2.6	4.3	5.1	5.8	3.4	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.1	4.5
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	4.8	6.7	6.8	5.5	6.1	5.4	2.4	8.0	1.0	6.3	11.5	9.3	5.1	7.0	6.6
Netherlands	2.7	2.9	3.4	3.3	4.2	4.8	4.3	3.4	5.0	5.0	1.8	1.6	3.6	3.7	3.6
Norway	2.0	2.0	3.6	3.1	1.8	3.1	2.8	2.8	0.0	0.0	3.8	2.2	3.2	2.9	3.1
Poland	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.7	2.3	2.9	2.0	2.7	2.4	2.6	2.5
Russian Federation	2.8	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.9	3.1	3.4	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.8
Serbia and Montenegro	2.6	2.2	2.0	0.0	3.3	2.6	4.0	2.2	6.0	2.0	2.7	6.1	2.9	2.9	2.9
Slovakia	2.5	2.3	2.7	3.0	2.3	2.5	3.0	3.0	2.1	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.5	2.6	2.5
Slovenia	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.6	1.5	2.7	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.0
Spain	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.1	2.5	2.5	3.4	3.2	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.7	2.9	2.9	2.9
Sweden	2.4	2.2	2.9	3.0	7.0	5.1	11.4	9.7	9.5	9.8	3.1	2.2	3.8	3.5	3.7
Switzerland	2.4	2.3	2.8	2.9	4.5	3.9	4.3	4.4	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.6	3.4	3.2	3.3
Ukraine	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.6	3.1	1.9	3.5	2.2	2.5	1.9	1.8	2.0	2.7	2.1	2.4
Others	2.5	3.0	3.1	3.5	5.3	6.3	7.0	7.8	6.8	8.6	5.1	4.1	5.5	6.1	5.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>

**Table 9. Average number of weeks spent in Malta per student classified by sex and seasonal pattern: 2006**

	Student population			Number of student weeks			Average number of weeks per student		
	f	m	t	f	m	t	f	m	t
Winter	3,401	2,774	6,175	11,941	9,130	21,071	3.5	3.3	3.4
Shoulder	12,952	9,176	22,128	31,997	22,403	54,400	2.5	2.4	2.5
Summer	21,521	16,159	37,680	51,411	39,424	90,835	2.4	2.4	2.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,874</b>	<b>28,109</b>	<b>65,983</b>	<b>95,349</b>	<b>70,957</b>	<b>166,306</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>

**Table 10. Teaching staff engaged in English-language specialised schools: 2006**

Full-time			Part-time			Total			Total Institutes
f	m	t	f	m	t	f	m	t	
65	35	100	906	273	1,179	971	308	1,279	36



## Methodological Notes

1. The data contained in this release was obtained from a census among schools teaching English to foreign students in Malta.

2. **Definitions:**

- **Student:** Refers to persons who attended an English-language course

- **Seasonal pattern:**

Winter	January February	November December
Shoulder	March till June	October
Summer	July till September	

3. The World Geographical Classification is based on the International Organisation for Standardisation country codes (ISO codes).

4. The data in this release are to be considered as final and are not normally subject to revision.