

No. 128/2004

9 July 2004

Time of release: 11.00 hrs

DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

World Population Day

The World Population Day was inaugurated in 1988 by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to mark July 11, 1987, when the world's population hit five billion.

The Day seeks to focus attention on the urgency and importance of population issues, particularly in the context of overall development plans and programmes, and the need to find solutions for these issues.

In 2000, world population stood at 6.06 billion, and was growing by 78 million a year. The United Nations estimates there will be between 7.3 billion and 10.7 billion people in 2050, with 8.9 billion the most likely projection.

During the past decade, governments, including the Maltese, exercised their efforts to address population dynamics and movements, to increase access to education and reproductive health services, and to empower women to participate more fully in society, as is their fundamental human right. The broad results are clear: many people now enjoy increased longevity, reduced mortality, and broader life choices and opportunities. Yet too many people have yet to experience such gains. Greater commitment and action are urgently needed, especially when it comes to promoting women's rights and increasing investments in education and health, including reproductive health and family planning.

Malta, with a population of nearly 0.4 million, has an annual growth rate of population of 0.7 per cent and a total fertility rate of 1.46.

Like most countries in Europe, Malta will be experiencing an acceleration of the ageing in the population. This phenomenon, closely connected with the decline of fertility, is strengthened by the progress obtained in the life expectancy at high ages.

From a demographic point of view, Malta is somewhat different compared with the other new EU Member States, as in several aspects it is more similar to the EU-15, than to the Central and Eastern European countries.

Malta's population is still 'young' by European standards. The 0-14 age group represents 18.2 per cent of the population, whereas the 65 plus stands at 13.1 per cent. The number of potential workers for each pensioner stands at 5.27, whereas in the year 2050 it will decline to 2.20, as can be seen from Table 1.

The monthly calendar of NSO News Releases may be consulted on the Office's website at www.nso.gov.mt

National Statistics Office
Library & Information Unit
Lascaris, Valletta CMR 02, Malta
Tel: (+356) 21239225, 25997219
Fax: (+356) 21249841
e-mail: nso@gov.mt
<http://www.nso.gov.mt>

Malta at a glance
End December 2003

Total population:

399,867

Age structure:

0-14 years: 18.2% (male 37,431; female 35,448)

15-64 years: 68.7% (male 138,755; female 136,105)

65 years and over: 13.1% (male 21,913; female 30,215)

Median age:

total: 38 years

male: 36.6 years

female: 39.5 years

Population growth rate:

0.64%

Birth rate:

10.09 births/1,000 population

Death rate:

7.91 deaths/1,000 population

Net migration rate:

2.99 migrant(s)/1,000 population

Sex ratio:

at birth: 0.50124 male(s)/female

total population: 0.49541 male(s)/female

Infant mortality rate:

total: 5.69 deaths/1,000 live births

female: 3.47 deaths/1,000 live births

male: 7.91 deaths/1,000 live births

Life expectancy at birth:

male: 76.39 years

female: 80.43 years

Total fertility rate:

1.46 children born/woman

Literacy:

definition: age 10 and over can read and write

total population: 92.8%

male: 92%

female: 93.6% (2003 est.)

1. Projected Maltese population, 2005 - 2050 analysis by gender and age

000's

Estimates of the Maltese population as at 31 st December 2003		Age	Projected * population at 31 st December													
			2005		2010		2015		2020		2025		2035		2050	
Males	Females		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
192.9	195.9	All ages	193.5	196.5	194.4	197.5	194.4	197.5	192.8	196.1	189.2	192.8	176.2	180.9	152.6	157.7
10.2	9.9	0 - 4	9.9	9.2	9.4	9.1	9.4	9.1	8.9	8.7	8.2	7.9	6.7	6.4	5.7	5.5
12.4	11.5	5 - 9	11.7	11.2	9.6	9.2	9.3	9.1	9.4	9.1	8.9	8.7	7.3	7.1	6.0	5.9
14.1	13.4	10 - 14	13.3	12.5	11.8	11.2	9.6	9.2	9.3	9.1	9.3	9.1	8.1	7.9	6.3	6.1
14.4	13.5	15 - 19	14.3	13.5	13.3	12.5	11.7	11.1	9.6	9.2	9.3	9.1	8.9	8.7	6.6	6.4
15.2	14.4	20 - 24	14.8	14.1	14.3	13.5	13.2	12.5	11.7	11.1	9.6	9.2	9.3	9.1	7.3	7.1
15.0	13.9	25 - 29	15.2	14.2	14.8	14.1	14.3	13.5	13.2	12.4	11.6	11.1	9.3	9.1	8.1	7.9
12.8	12.1	30 - 34	13.8	12.9	15.2	14.2	14.8	14.1	14.2	13.5	13.2	12.5	9.5	9.2	8.8	8.7
12.1	11.7	35 - 39	11.9	11.2	13.8	13.0	15.1	14.2	14.7	14.0	14.8	13.6	11.6	11.1	9.3	9.1
14.3	14.0	40 - 44	13.4	13.0	11.8	11.1	13.7	12.9	15.0	14.1	14.6	14.2	13.0	12.4	9.2	9.1
14.7	14.3	45 - 49	15.0	14.6	13.3	13.0	11.7	11.1	13.6	12.8	14.9	14.3	14.1	13.5	9.4	9.1
14.2	14.1	50 - 54	13.9	13.8	14.6	14.4	13.1	12.8	11.5	11.1	13.3	12.6	14.4	13.9	11.3	11.0
14.5	15.0	55 - 59	14.8	15.1	13.6	13.6	14.2	14.4	12.8	12.6	11.2	10.8	14.3	13.8	12.4	12.1
7.9	8.7	60 - 64	10.0	10.8	14.2	14.7	13.0	13.4	13.8	14.2	12.3	12.4	12.6	12.3	13.1	12.9
7.6	9.0	65 - 69	7.6	9.1	9.3	10.4	13.3	14.1	12.2	12.7	12.6	13.5	10.1	10.3	12.6	12.8
5.6	7.8	70 - 74	5.8	8.1	6.6	8.4	8.2	9.6	11.4	13.2	10.4	11.7	9.9	11.0	11.0	12.0
7.9	12.6	75 & Over	8.1	13.2	8.8	15.1	9.8	16.4	11.5	18.3	15.0	22.1	17.1	25.1	15.4	22.0

* Basis: End 2003 estimates of the maltese population

Assumptive Mortality: Death rates specific to age, by single years, being the average of those recorded during 2001 - 2003

Natality: Average rates specific to age by single years of females between 14 - 49 recorded during 2001 - 2003

Emigration: Nil