

MALTA

Region: Europe and Central Asia

Income group: High income

Summary: Malta has reported 5 metadata sources, which collect information on international labour migration statistics. There are two survey based sources such as *Census of Population and Housing* and *Labour Force Survey*, which are carried out by the National Statistics Office. There are two administrative records, such as *TOURSTAT Survey* held by the National Statistics Office and the *data from the Asylum Office* held by the Office of the Refugee Commissioner. Lastly there is an *estimation of international migrant workers*, which is carried out by the National Statistics Office.

Geographically all the sources cover whole country, however different population groups such as:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country (covered by the Census of Population and Housing, the Labour Force Survey, and the estimation),*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country (covered by the Census of Population and Housing, the Labour Force Survey, and the estimation),*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country (covered by the Census of Population and Housing, the Labour Force Survey, the record from the Asylum Office, and the estimation),*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country (covered by the Census of Population and Housing, the Labour Force Survey, and the estimation),*
- *Refugees (covered by the Census of Population and Housing and the record from the Asylum Office),*
- *Asylum seekers (covered by the Census of Population and Housing and the record from the Asylum Office),*
- *Exit nationals going abroad to live (covered by the TOURSTAT Survey),*
- *Exit nationals leaving for temporary purposes such as for tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc. (covered by the TOURSTAT Survey), and*
- *Foreigners entering country for temporary purposes, such as tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc. (covered by the TOURSTAT Survey).*

Periodicity of data collection varies depending on the type of sources. The *Census of Population and Housing* was last processed in 2011; the *Labour Force Survey* is carried out on continuously basis starting from 2000; the *TOURSTAT Survey* is held continuously since 2003; the *record from the Asylum Office* is held from 2002; and the estimation is carried out irregularly.

All the sources are applied to persons of all ages. The two essential demographic characteristics covered by all the sources are age and sex. Data on marital status, educational attainment, and household size can also be found in the survey based sources and the estimation. The record on marital status is added in the *administrative source from the Asylum Office*.

International migration characteristic covered by all the sources is country of citizenship. The questions on country of birth, nationality, and country of previous residence are also asked in the surveys and administrative records. Other international migration statistics that can be found in the sources include second country of citizenship, country of previous residence for foreigners, immigrants and return migrants, foreign workers in the country, country of residence, country entering from, reason for departure, reason for coming to country, country of destination, country of origin, year of arrival, and year of departure. The *Labour Force Survey* collects information about household members who left to live, work or study abroad.

Labour related characteristics such as employment status, occupation, industry/economic sector, and status in employment are available in all the sources except the administrative records. Additionally, the *Census of Population and Housing* generates data on disability; the *Labour Force Survey* asks questions on individual earnings per month, wage or earnings rate per time period, hours usually worked, and months worked in past year; and the estimation covers individual income.

Definitions of “*international migrant workers*”, “*nationals living abroad*”, “*employment*”, “*overseas visitor*”, and “*country of residence*” are applied in the sources except to the *record from the Asylum Office*, where the concepts are not defined. Definition of “*employment*” used in the *Labour Force Survey* and the estimation is the standard ILO definition.

To classify occupation, industry, and education, all the sources, except to the administrative records where the classifications are not used, apply internationally and nationally adapted classifications.

Micro data is unavailable for research and analysis outside the agency.

Metadata sources:

Type of source	Name of the source	Agency Responsible	Periodicity of data collection	Year the source started	Year of the last source
Q1. Population Census	Census of Population and Housing	National Statistics Office	-	-	2011
Q2. Household Survey	Labour Force Survey	National Statistics Office	Continuously	2000	-
Q3. Border/Admission Statistics	TOURSTAT Survey	National Statistics Office	Continuously	2001	-
Q6. Administrative Sources	Record from the Asylum Office	Office of the Refugee Commissioner	-	2002	-
Q7. Estimation of International Migrant Workers in the Country	Estimation	National Statistics Office	Irregularly	-	-

Findings:

The latest *Census of Population and Housing* was processed in 2011 by the National Statistics Office, Malta, covering the whole country. There are six population groups examined in the Census:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country,*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country,*
- *Refugees, and*
- *Asylum seekers.*

The Census obtains detailed data on demographic characteristics of these population groups, such as age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, and household size. The questions raised in the assessment on the topic of international migration related characteristics are:

- Country of birth,
- Country of citizenship,
- Second country of citizenship,
- Country of previous residence for foreigners, and
- Country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned.

The census contains questions, which help to collect information on immigrants and return migrants such as "Have you ever lived outside the country?" and "when did you arrive in this country?" The ***Census of Population and Housing*** covers labour related characteristics of all current household members of all ages (disability) and 15 years old and over (others), such as:

- Employment status,
- Occupation,
- Industry/economic sector,
- Status in employment, and
- Disability.

In the ***Census of Population and Housing***, "***international migrant workers***" refer to employed non-Maltese nationals who satisfy the 'usual residence' concept. "***Nationals living abroad***" are persons in possession of a Maltese citizenship, who at the time of the census, had lived abroad or had the intention to live abroad for a period of at least 12 months, did not satisfy the enumeration criteria for inclusion among the census population. "***Employment***" covers all persons above the minimum age specified for measurement of the economically active population who during the short reference period of preferably one week: a) Performed some work for pay or profit, in cash or in kind, or b) Were temporarily absent from a job in which they had already worked and to which they maintained a formal attachment, or from a self-employment activity.

To classify occupation, industry, status in employment, and education, both internationally and nationally adapted classifications are applied. For example:

- ISCO-08 (where two digits are used to release the data)
- NACE, NAICS (where two digits are used to release the data)
- National adaptation of ICSE
- ISCED-1997

Micro data is unavailable for research and analysis outside the agency.

The ***Labour Force Survey*** commenced in 2000, and is held continuously by the National Statistics Office. It geographically measures areas of private households and amasses information on the following four population groups of all ages.

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, and*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country.*

The source obtains detailed data on demographic characteristics of each person in a household, such as age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, and household size. Statistics on the following international migration related characteristics are presented through the source:

- Country of birth,
- Country of citizenship,

- Second country of citizenship,
- Country of previous residence for foreigners,
- Country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned,
- Nationality, and
- Foreign workers in the country.

In addition to the characteristics, the survey collects information about household members who left to live, work or study abroad. For the population groups assessed in the ***Labour Force Survey***, the data on labour related characteristics of all current household members aged 15 years and over are available, particularly for:

- Employment status,
- Occupation,
- Industry/economic sector,
- Status in employment,
- Individual earnings per month,
- Wage or earnings rate per time period,
- Hours usually worked, and
- Months worked in past year.

In the ***Labour Force Survey***, "***international migrant workers***" are referred to persons whose last country codes were different from the current resident country and where the person worked and lived for a period of 6 months. "***National living abroad***" is defined as the nationals who are living abroad with no intention of coming back to Malta in the coming 12 months. ILO definition of "***Employment***" is used. To classify occupation, industry, and education, internationally adapted classifications are applied. For example:

- ISCO-08 (where one digit is used to release the data),
- NACE Rev. 2 (where one digit is used to release the data), and
- ISCED-2011.

Micro data is unavailable for research and analysis outside the agency.

Border/Admission Statistics are covered by the ***TOURSTAT Survey*** and obtained from the National Statistics Office (NSO). In 2001, this category of source originated in Malta, where the data collection is carried out continuously. It processes the following three population groups of all ages.

- *Exit nationals going abroad to live;*
- *Exit nationals leaving for temporary purposes such as for tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.; and*
- *Foreigners entering country for temporary purposes, such as tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.*

The Statistics cover data on demographic characteristics such as age and sex. Statistics on the following international migration related characteristics are presented through the source:

- Country of citizenship,
- Country of residence,
- Country entering from,
- Reason for departure,
- Reason for coming to country,
- Country of destination,
- Country of origin, and
- Year of arrival.

In the ***TOURSTAT survey***, "***overseas visitor***" is a traveller taking a trip to a main destination outside his/her usual environment, for less than a year, for any main purpose (business, leisure or other personal purpose) other than to be employed by a resident entity in the country or place visited. These trips taken by visitors qualify as tourism

trips. (Source: IRTS 2008). "**Country of residence**" is 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. "**International migrant workers**" are related to the action by which a person moves to a country other than that of his/her usual residence for a period of at least a year (12 months), so that the country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of usual residence.

Micro data is unavailable for research and analysis outside the agency.

The **data from the Asylum Office** which is carried out by the Office of the Refugee Commissioner and released starting from 2002. The source appraises whole country and collects data on the following three population groups of all ages.

- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country,*
- *Refugees, and*
- *Asylum seekers.*

In the register, data can be found on demographic characteristics such as age, sex, and marital status. International migration related characteristics accessible through the source are:

- Country of birth,
- Year of arrival,
- Reason for departure,
- Destination country,
- Country of citizenship,
- Nationality,
- Country of origin, and
- Year of departure.

Micro data is unavailable for research and analysis outside the agency.

The **estimation of international migrant workers** is made by the National Statistics Office irregularly. It geographically measures the whole country and amasses information on the following four population groups of all ages.

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, and*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country.*

It accumulates data on demographic characteristics of people, such as age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, household size, and household composition. Statistics on international migration related characteristics are also obtained, precisely on:

- Country of birth,
- Country of citizenship,
- Country of previous residence,
- Nationality, and
- Foreign workers in the country.

Labour related characteristics covered in the estimation are:

- Employment status,
- Industry/economic sector,
- Individual income,
- Occupation, and

- Status in employment.

In the estimation, "*migrant workers*" are referred to persons whose last country codes were different from the current resident country and where the person worked and lived for a period of 6 months. "*National living abroad*" is defined as nationals who are living abroad with no intention of coming back to Malt in the coming 12 months. "*Employment*" is standard ILO definition. To classify occupation, industry, and education, internationally adapted classifications are applied. For example:

- ISCO-08 (where one digit is used to release the data),
- NACE Rev 2 (where one digit is used to release the data), and
- ISCED-2011.

Q1. Population Census

SOURCE

Title of source: Census of Population and Housing 2011

Year of last census: 2011

Agency responsible: National Statistics Office, Malta

COVERAGE

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population groups covered: Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country, refugees, asylum seekers, illegal immigrants

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country

TOPIC COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, household size

International migration related characteristics: Country of birth, country of citizenship, second country of citizenship, country of previous residence for foreigners, country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned

- **Coverage for international migration related characteristics:**
 - Country of birth, country of citizenship, and second country of citizenship: all persons
 - Country of previous residence for foreigners and country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned: Not for all
- **Exceptions for international migration related characteristics:**
 - Exceptions for country of previous residence for foreigners and for country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned: Country of previous residence was collected only for those persons (nationals and foreigners) who were living abroad one year before Census date

Information about household members left to live abroad: No

Labour related characteristics of all current household members: Employment status, occupation, industry/economic sector, status in employment, disability

- **Age coverage:** All ages (disability) and 15 years old and over (others)

Remittances related characteristics: N.A.

Information on immigrants and return migrants: Yes (Questions like "Have you ever lived outside the country?" and "when did you arrive in this country?")

- **Information on the situation of the person prior to leaving the household last time is obtained:** N.A.

Data collected and not published/disseminated: No

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: It refers to employed non-Maltese nationals who satisfy the 'usual residence' concept.

Definition of national (citizen) living abroad: The census covers a Maltese national who is resident in possession of a Maltese citizenship, irrespective of the place of birth. Persons in possession of a Maltese citizenship, who at the time of the census, had lived abroad or had the intention to live abroad for a period of at least 12 months, did not satisfy the enumeration criteria for inclusion among the census population.

Definition of employment: Employed persons comprise all persons above the minimum age specified for measurement of the economically active population who during the short reference period of preferably one week: a) Performed some work for pay or profit, in cash or in kind, or b) Were temporarily absent from a job in which they had already worked and to which they maintained a formal attachment, or from a self-employment activity.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: ISCO-08

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** 2

Classification used for industry: NACE, NAICS

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** 2

Classification used for status in employment: National adaptation of ICSE

Classification used for status in education: ISCED-1997

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Face-to-face interview by census enumerator using paper questionnaire (PAPI), self-administered mail questionnaire (household receives census questionnaire by mail, returns by mail)

Compulsory participation of households: Yes

Official estimate of under-coverage rate: Yes

Dissemination of results: Printed publications, others (Multidimensional cross-tabulations (hypercubes) were transmitted to Eurostat)

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: No

Q2. Household Survey

SOURCE

Title of survey: Labour Force Survey

Agency responsible: National Statistics Office

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data collection: Continuously

Year the survey first started: 2000

Geographical coverage: Parts of country

- **Areas covered:** Persons living in private households

Population groups covered: Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country

Age coverage: All ages

TOPIC COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, household size

International migration related characteristics: Country of birth, country of citizenship, second country of citizenship, country of previous residence for foreigners, country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned, nationality, foreign workers in the country

- **Coverage for international migration related characteristics:**
 - Country of birth and country of citizenship: All persons
 - Second country of citizenship and country of previous residence for foreigners, and country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned: Not for all
- **Exceptions for international migration related characteristics:**
 - Exceptions for second country of citizenship and for country of previous residence for foreigners: Not addressed in the questionnaire
 - Exceptions for country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned: Only if returned within the past year

Information about household members left to live abroad: Yes

- **Information refers to the last time the person left:** Yes
- **Limited to certain age or work status:** No
- **Limited to those who left the household abroad within the last X years and have not returned:** No
- **Characteristics of persons who left to live abroad:** N.A.

Labour related characteristics of all current household members: Employment status, occupation, industry/economic sector, status in employment, individual earnings per month, wage or earnings rate per time period, hours usually worked, months worked in past year

Benefits received from the employer: N.A.

Remittances related characteristics: No

Information on immigrants and return migrants: No

- **Information on the situation of the person prior to leaving the household last time is obtained:** N.A.

Data collected and not published/disseminated: No

Information on persons who left to live or work abroad (recruitment, communication, assistance etc.): No

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: It refers to persons whose last country codes were different from the current resident country and where the person worked and lived for a period of 6 months.

Definition of national (citizen) living abroad: National citizen living abroad is defined as the nationals who are living abroad with no intention of coming back to Malt in the coming 12 months.

Definition of employment: ILO definition of employment is used.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: ISCO-08

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** 1

Classification used for industry: NACE Rev. 2

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** 1

Classification used for status in employment: N.A.

Classification used for status in education: ISCED-2011

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Face-to-face interview by census enumerator using paper questionnaire (PAPI), computer assisted telephone interview by enumerator with data recorded on computer (CATI)

Compulsory participation of households: Yes

Dissemination of results: Printed publication, Web site (www.nso.gov.mt), Eurostat website

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: No

SAMPLE DESIGN

Sample frame used: Population census

Completed sample size: Yes

Evaluation of the overall response rate or refusal rate: Yes

Q3. Border/Admission Statistics

SOURCE

Title of source: TOURSTAT survey

Agency responsible: National Statistics Office (NSO)

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data collection: Continuously

Year the statistics started: 2001

Population coverage: Exit nationals going abroad to live; exit nationals leaving for temporary purposes such as for tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.; foreigners entering country for temporary purposes, such as tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Exit nationals going abroad to live; exit nationals leaving for temporary purposes such as for tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.; foreigners entering country for temporary purposes, such as tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.

Age coverage: All ages

CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex

Migration related characteristics: Country of citizenship, country of residence, country entering from, reason for departure, reason for coming to country, country of destination, country of origin, year of arrival

Labour related characteristics: N.A.

Data collected and not published/disseminated: No

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of overseas visitor: A visitor is a traveller taking a trip to a main destination outside his/her usual environment, for less than a year, for any main purpose (business, leisure or other personal purpose) other than to be employed by a resident entity in the country or place visited. These trips taken by visitors qualify as tourism trips. (Source: IRTS 2008)

Definition of country of residence: 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.

Definition of international migrant workers: It refers to a person who moves to a country other than that of his/her usual residence for a period of at least a year (12 months). The country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of usual residence.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: N.A.

- Number of digits used to release occupation data: N.A.

Classification used for industry: N.A.

- Number of digits used to release industry data: N.A.

Classification used for status in employment: N.A.

Classification used for status in education: N.A.

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Face-to-face interview by census enumerator using paper questionnaire (PAPI)

Dissemination of results: Printed publication, Web site

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: No

Q6. Administrative Sources

SOURCE

Title of source: Data from the Asylum Office

Agency responsible: Office of the Refugee Commissioner

Kind of source: Data from government/public employment services (Asylum Office)

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data release: Every month

Year the source first started: 2002

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population coverage: Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, refugees, asylum seekers

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, refugees, asylum seekers

Age coverage: All ages

DATA COLLECTED ON PERSONS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SOURCE

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, marital status

Migration related characteristics: Country of birth, year of arrival, reason for departure, destination country, country of citizenship, nationality, country of origin, year of departure

Labour related characteristics: N.A.

Data collected and not published/disseminated: No

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: N.A.

Definition of short-term migrant workers: N.A.

Definition of a national living abroad: N.A.

Definition of employment: N.A.

Definition of individual earnings: N.A.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: N.A.

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** N.A.

Classification used for industry: N.A.

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** N.A.

Classification used for status in employment: N.A.

Classification used for status in education: N.A.

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Compulsory registration for the population groups covered: Yes

Official estimate of coverage rate: N.A.

Dissemination of results: No

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: N.A.

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: N.A.

Q7. Estimation of International Migrant Workers in the Country

SOURCE

Title of source: Estimation

Reference year: 2014

Agency responsible: National Statistics Office

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data release: Irregularly

Year the source first started: N.A.

Geographical coverage: Part(s) of the country

- **Areas not covered:** Institutional households are excluded

Population coverage: Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** No

Age coverage: All ages

TOPIC COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, household size, household composition

International migration related characteristics: Country of birth, country of citizenship, country of previous residence, nationality, foreign workers in the country

Labour related characteristics: Employment status, industry/economic sector, individual income, occupation, status in employment

Remittances related characteristics: N.A.

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of migrant workers: It refers to persons whose last country codes were different from the current resident country and where the person worked and lived for a period of 6 months.

Definition of short-term migrant workers: N.A.

Definition of a national (citizen) living abroad: It refers to nationals who are living abroad with no intention of coming back to Malt in the coming 12 months.

Definition of employment: ILO definition of employment is applied

Definition of household income: N.A.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: ISCO-08

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** 1

Classification used for industry: NACE Rev 2

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** 1

Classification used for status in employment: N.A.

Classification used for status in education: ISCED-2011

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Dissemination of results: Printed publications (News releases), Web site (www.nso.gov.mt), Eurostat website

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes