

Total teaching and non-teaching staff in formal education during academic year 2020-2021 amounted to 18,601, an increase of 2.1 per cent when compared to the previous academic year.

Personnel in Education: 2020-2021

Classroom teachers and academic staff

Classroom teachers and academic staff in pre-primary to tertiary education institutions during academic year 2020-2021 increased by 0.6 per cent over the preceding academic year, totalling 9,731. Of these, 26.5 per cent were teachers at the upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary levels, while 21.6 per cent were primary teachers. The largest share of teaching personnel were females, at 66.7 per cent. Full-time teachers accounted for 85.7 per cent of the total (Table 2).

Total tertiary level male academic staff stood at 1,303 or 63.0 per cent (Table 3). During the academic year under review, 16.3 per cent of all teaching staff were aged between 30 and 34 years, followed by the 40 to 44 years age-bracket, at 15.4 per cent (Table 4).

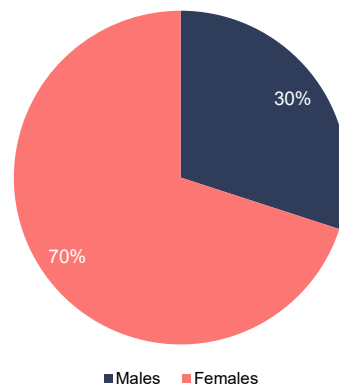
The proportion of teaching staff in state-run institutions corresponded to 74.2 per cent of the total teaching staff. This was followed by church schools at 15.6 per cent, and 10.3 per cent in private schools (Table 5). The overall pupil-teacher ratio stood at 8.9 pupils per teacher during academic year 2020-2021. The highest ratio was recorded in private schools, at 11.5 pupils per teacher, whereas the lowest ratio was in state schools at 8.1 pupils per teacher (Table 6).

Non-teaching staff

During academic year 2020-2021, non-teaching staff in education amounted to 8,870, an increase of 3.8 per cent when compared to the previous academic year. Females represented 73.7 per cent of the total non-teaching staff. More than half of the non-teaching personnel were 'Teacher Aides', totalling 4,518, or 50.9 per cent (Table 7).

The majority of teacher aides were aged between 30 and 39 years, at 37.7 per cent (Table 8). School level management and higher-level management personnel stood at 1,185, registering an increase of 2.4 per cent when compared to academic year 2019-2020 (Table 9) ■

Chart 1. Percentage distribution of total teaching and non-teaching staff by sex



Note: For Teaching and Non-teaching staff grade descriptions refer to methodological note 11.

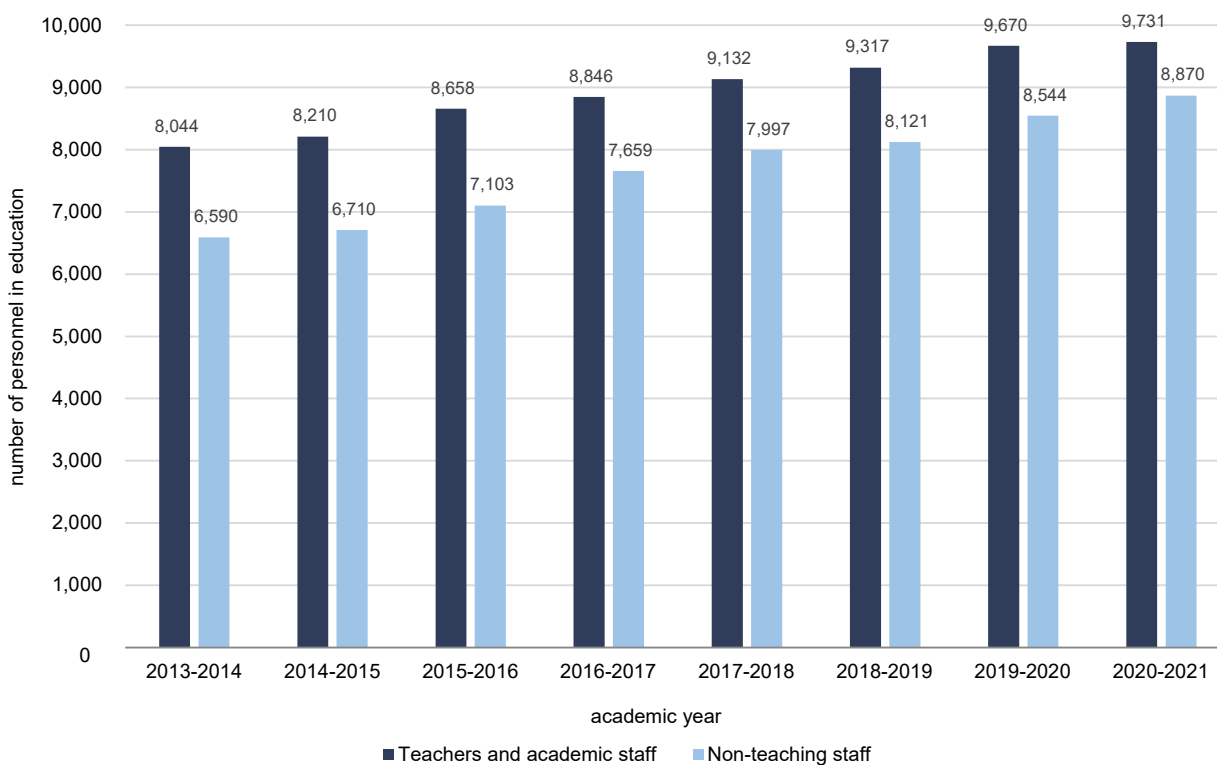
Table 1. Personnel¹ in educational institutions² by academic year and category

Category	Academic year			Change	Percentage change
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021		
Teachers and academic staff	9,317	9,670	9,731	61	0.6
Non-teaching staff	8,121	8,544	8,870	326	3.8
Total	17,438	18,214	18,601	387	2.1

¹ For grade descriptions refer to methodological note 11.

² Refer to methodological note 2.

Chart 2. Teachers and academic staff, and non-teaching staff by academic year



Note: For grade descriptions refer to methodological note 11.

Table 2. Profile of teachers and academic staff¹ by academic year

Characteristics	Academic year			Change	Percentage change
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021		
Sex					
Males	3,091	3,274	3,241	-33	-1.0
Females	6,226	6,396	6,490	94	1.5
Age group					
Less than 29	1,981	1,912	1,809	-103	-5.4
30-39	2,963	3,037	3,069	32	1.1
40-49	2,389	2,660	2,748	88	3.3
50-59	1,464	1,471	1,515	44	3.0
60 and over	520	590	590	-	-
Education level²					
Pre-primary education	876	899	941	42	4.7
Primary education	2,102	2,144	2,103	-41	-1.9
Lower secondary education	1,964	1,960	2,045	85	4.3
Upper secondary and Post-secondary non-tertiary education	2,417	2,582	2,575	-7	-0.3
Tertiary education	1,958	2,085	2,067	-18	-0.9
Type of institution					
State	6,929	7,254	7,218	-36	-0.5
Church	1,528	1,513	1,515	2	0.1
Private	860	903	998	95	10.5
Intensity					
Full-time	8,012	8,158	8,340	182	2.2
Part-time	1,305	1,512	1,391	-121	-8.0
Total classroom teachers and academic staff	9,317	9,670	9,731	61	0.6

¹For grade descriptions refer to methodological note 11.

²Education level refers to the level in which staff are engaged For education classifications refer to methodological note 10.

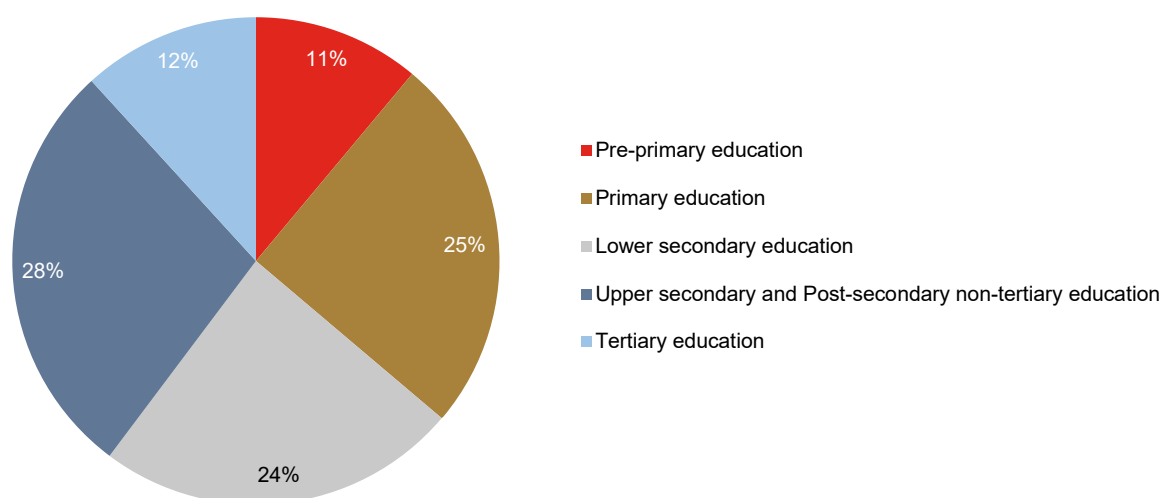
Table 3. Teachers and academic staff¹ by academic year, sex and education level²

Education level	Academic year		
	2018-2019		
	Males	Females	Total
Pre-primary education	4	872	876
Primary education	299	1,803	2,102
Lower secondary education	559	1,405	1,964
Upper secondary and Post-secondary non-tertiary education	978	1,439	2,417
Tertiary education	1,251	707	1,958
Total	3,091	6,226	9,317
	2019-2020		
Pre-primary education	5	894	899
Primary education	296	1,848	2,144
Lower secondary education	572	1,388	1,960
Upper secondary and Post-secondary non-tertiary education	1,081	1,501	2,582
Tertiary education	1,320	765	2,085
Total	3,274	6,396	9,670
	2020-2021		
Pre-primary education	6	935	941
Primary education	291	1,812	2,103
Lower secondary education	612	1,433	2,045
Upper secondary and Post-secondary non-tertiary education	1,029	1,546	2,575
Tertiary education	1,303	764	2,067
Total	3,241	6,490	9,731

¹ For grade descriptions refer to methodological note 11.

² Education level refers to the level in which staff are engaged. For education classification refer to methodological note 10.

Chart 3. Percentage distribution of full-time teachers and academic staff¹ by education level²



¹ For grade descriptions refer to methodological note 11.

² Education level refers to the level in which staff are engaged. For education classification refer to methodological note 10.

Table 4. Teachers and academic staff¹ by academic year, sex and age² group

Age group	Academic year			Change	Percentage change
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2020-2021/2019-2020	
Males					
Less than 25	81	87	72	-15	-17.2
25-29	301	303	298	-5	-1.7
30-34	381	417	405	-12	-2.9
35-39	479	471	466	-5	-1.1
40-44	481	540	511	-29	-5.4
45-49	374	421	441	20	4.8
50-54	346	341	345	4	1.2
55-59	347	346	341	-5	-1.4
60-64	183	204	222	18	8.8
65+	118	144	140	-4	-2.8
Total	3,091	3,274	3,241	-33	-1.0
Females					
Less than 25	388	377	346	-31	-8.2
25-29	1,211	1,145	1,093	-52	-4.5
30-34	1,058	1,123	1,182	59	5.3
35-39	1,045	1,026	1,016	-10	-1.0
40-44	936	989	987	-2	-0.2
45-49	598	710	809	99	13.9
50-54	459	471	478	7	1.5
55-59	312	313	351	38	12.1
60-64	183	204	194	-10	-4.9
65+	36	38	34	-4	-10.5
Total	6,226	6,396	6,490	94	1.5
Total					
Less than 25	469	464	418	-46	-9.9
25-29	1,512	1,448	1,391	-57	-3.9
30-34	1,439	1,540	1,587	47	3.1
35-39	1,524	1,497	1,482	-15	-1.0
40-44	1,417	1,529	1,498	-31	-2.0
45-49	972	1,131	1,250	119	10.5
50-54	805	812	823	11	1.4
55-59	659	659	692	33	5.0
60-64	366	408	416	8	2.0
65+	154	182	174	-8	-4.4
Total	9,317	9,670	9,731	61	0.6

¹ For grade descriptions refer to methodological note 11.

² For age calculation refer to methodological note 9.

Table 5. Teachers and academic staff¹ by academic year, sex and type of institution

Type of institution	Academic year			Change	Percentage change
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2020-2021/2019-2020	
	Males				
State	2,506	2,685	2,592	-93	-3.5
Church	370	354	363	9	2.5
Private	215	235	286	51	21.7
Total	3,091	3,274	3,241	-33	-1.0
	Females				
State	4,423	4,569	4,626	57	1.2
Church	1,158	1,159	1,152	-7	-0.6
Private	645	668	712	44	6.6
Total	6,226	6,396	6,490	94	1.5
	Total				
State	6,929	7,254	7,218	-36	-0.5
Church	1,528	1,513	1,515	2	0.1
Private	860	903	998	95	10.5
Total	9,317	9,670	9,731	61	0.6

¹ For grade descriptions refer to methodological note 11.

Table 6. Pupil-teacher ratio¹ by education level², academic year and type of institution

Type of institution	Education level					Overall average
	Pre-primary education	Primary education	Lower secondary education	Upper secondary and Post-secondary non-tertiary education	Tertiary education	
Academic year						
2018-2019						
State	9.7	11.0	5.4	7.3	8.7	8.3
Church	16.4	16.7	8.2	8.6	-	11.2
Private	18.4	15.4	9.6	7.9	12.2	12.4
Overall average	11.2	12.8	6.5	7.6	9.0	9.2
2019-2020						
State	9.9	10.9	5.7	6.7	8.2	8.1
Church	15.8	17.0	8.7	7.9	-	11.2
Private	16.4	14.4	9.7	7.9	14.4	12.4
Overall average	11.1	12.6	6.8	7.0	8.7	9.0
2020-2021						
State	8.8	11.1	5.5	6.9	8.9	8.1
Church	15.2	16.8	8.7	7.9	-	11.1
Private	15.6	15.0	10.5	6.5	11.6	11.5
Overall average	10.0	12.8	6.7	7.0	9.2	8.9

¹ Refer to methodological note 8.

² Education level refers to the level in which staff are engaged. For education classification refer to methodological note 10.

Table 7. Non-teaching staff by academic year, sex and grade¹

Grade	Academic year			Change	Percentage change
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2020-2021/2019-2020	
	Males				
Teacher Aides	597	610	657	47	7.7
Research Assistants	72	108	127	19	17.6
Pedagogical Support	73	81	78	-3	-3.7
Health and Social Support	41	39	34	-5	-12.8
School Level Management	338	360	361	1	0.3
Higher Level Management	81	92	89	-3	-3.3
School Level Administrative Personnel	192	225	206	-19	-8.4
Higher Level Administrative Personnel	116	144	135	-9	-6.3
Maintenance and Operations Personnel	650	656	642	-14	-2.1
Total	2,160	2,315	2,329	14	0.6
	Females				
Teacher Aides	3,450	3,599	3,861	262	7.3
Research Assistants	65	93	102	9	9.7
Pedagogical Support	162	152	150	-2	-1.3
Health and Social Support	85	92	85	-7	-7.6
School Level Management	576	606	635	29	4.8
Higher Level Management	72	99	100	1	1.0
School Level Administrative Personnel	841	878	881	3	0.3
Higher Level Administrative Personnel	114	129	136	7	5.4
Maintenance and Operations Personnel	596	581	591	10	1.7
Total	5,961	6,229	6,541	312	5.0
	Total				
Teacher Aides	4,047	4,209	4,518	309	7.3
Research Assistants	137	201	229	28	13.9
Pedagogical Support	235	233	228	-5	-2.1
Health and Social Support	126	131	119	-12	-9.2
School Level Management	914	966	996	30	3.1
Higher Level Management	153	191	189	-2	-1.0
School Level Administrative Personnel	1,033	1,103	1,087	-16	-1.5
Higher Level Administrative Personnel	230	273	271	-2	-0.7
Maintenance and Operations Personnel	1,246	1,237	1,233	-4	-0.3
Total	8,121	8,544	8,870	326	3.8

¹ For grade descriptions refer to methodological note 11.

Table 8. Teacher aides¹ by academic year and age² group

Age group	Academic year			Change	Percentage change
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2020-2021/2019-2020	
Less than 29	1,042	1,014	998	-16	-1.6
30-39	1,505	1,570	1,702	132	8.4
40-49	823	913	1,085	172	18.8
50-59	561	576	602	26	4.5
60 and over	116	136	131	-5	-3.7
Total	4,047	4,209	4,518	309	7.3

¹ Includes LSEs, SLSEs, Technical Officers, Technicians amongst other technical grades. For grade descriptions refer to methodological note 11.

² For age calculation refer to methodological note 9.

Table 9. Management personnel¹ by academic year and education level²

Education level	Academic year			Change	Percentage change
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2020-2021/2019-2020	
Pre-primary education	125	133	132	-1	-0.8
Primary education	323	334	343	9	2.7
Lower secondary education	229	244	266	22	9.0
Upper secondary and Post-secondary non-tertiary education	255	278	276	-2	-0.7
Tertiary education	135	168	168	0	0.0
Total	1,067	1,157	1,185	28	2.4

¹ Includes School Level and Higher Level Management. For grade descriptions refer to methodological note 11.

² Education level refers to the level in which staff are engaged. For education classifications refer to methodological note 10.

Methodological Notes

1. Education statistics presented in this news release are processed by the National Statistics Office (NSO) on an annual basis in accordance with European Regulations (EC) 452/2008 and (EU) 912/2013. These regulations establish the basis of information to be collected from educational institutions at all levels of education and all economic sectors. By adhering to these regulations, all education statistics collected and processed by the NSO are comparable to other European countries following the same regulatory standards.
2. This news release includes educational personnel working in institutions providing formal education courses with a minimum duration of one semester of full-time study (or the equivalent in part-time) and that are delivered in Malta. Formal education is an institutionalised, intentional and planned type of education which is provided by public organisations and recognised private bodies. It consists primarily of initial education designed for children and young people before their first entry to the labour market. It also includes other types of education such as vocational, special needs and adult education provided they are recognised as part of the formal education system by the relevant national education authorities.
3. Data is collected as at 31st March of the reference academic year.
4. The Ministry for Education, Sports, Youth, Research and Innovation (MEYR) is the direct source of administrative data for teaching and non-teaching staff in state and church institutions in the pre-primary till the post-secondary levels of education, and for teaching staff of private schools in the pre-primary till the secondary levels of education.
5. Private schools are the direct source of non-teaching staff data from pre-primary to tertiary levels of education. For the post-secondary till the tertiary levels of education, private schools are the source of teaching staff too. State schools are the direct source of teaching and non-teaching staff data for post-secondary to tertiary levels of education. Data is obtained through an electronic questionnaire.
6. Staff members are counted only once in the data collection. If staff are assigned to more than one level or grade, or if they have more than one contract, their numbers are pro-rated according to the contractual hours devoted to each programme based on the intensity, level or grade during the academic year. Where the information is unknown, staff are pro-rated in equal shares to each programme, level or grade to which they are assigned during the reference year.
7. Some institutions do not provide the level of education in which the staff are employed in. For this reason, staff are randomly allocated an ISCED level based on the proportion of students in that particular school.
8. Pupil-teacher ratio is calculated by dividing the number of full-time equivalent pupils and students in each level of education by the number of full-time equivalent teachers at the same level.
9. Age is calculated as at 1st January of the reference academic year.
10. **Classifications:**
 - **Education levels are based on ISCED 2011 classification. For the purpose of this news release:**
 - Pre-primary education:** *ISCED 02* - Kinder 1 and Kinder 2.
 - Primary education:** *ISCED 1* - Year 1 to Year 6.
 - Lower secondary education:** *ISCED 2* - Year 7-Year 9 (Form 1 to Form 3), MCAST, ITS, and public and private institutions at ISCED Level 2.
 - Upper Secondary and Post-secondary non-tertiary education:** *ISCED 3, ISCED 4* - Year 10 and Year 11 (Form 4 and Form 5), Sixth Forms, MCAST, ITS, University of Malta, and public and private institutions offering courses at ISCED Levels 3 and 4.
 - Tertiary education:** *ISCED 5 to ISCED 8* - MCAST, ITS, University of Malta, and public and private institutions offering courses at ISCED Levels 5 to 8.
 - **International Standard Classification of Education - ISCED**

The International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) is a framework for assembling, compiling, and analysing cross-nationally comparable statistics on education. ISCED belongs to the United Nations International Family of Economic and Social Classifications and is the reference classification for organizing education programmes and related qualifications by levels and fields of education. ISCED is designed to serve as a framework to classify educational activities as defined in programmes and the resulting qualifications into internationally agreed categories.

ISCED 2011 manual: <http://uis.unesco.org/en/topic/international-standard-classification-education-isced>
ISCED 2011 classification: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCED%202011>
11. **Grade descriptions:**
 - Teachers and Academic Staff:**
 - **Teachers/Classroom teachers** guide and direct the learning experience of students. Teaching involves planning, organising and conducting group activities whereby students knowledge, skills and competencies develop as stipulated by the educational programme in which they participate. Classroom teachers include kindergarten educators, supply kindergarten educators, supply teachers, activity teachers, support teachers, peripatetic teachers, teachers amongst other grades.
 - **Academic staff** includes personnel at the tertiary level of education whose primary assignment is instruction. Academic staff may hold an academic rank with titles such as professor, assistant professor, instructor, lecturer, assistant lecturer or the equivalent of these academic ranks.

Non-Teaching Staff:

- **Teacher Aides** and other paraprofessional personnel are personnel who support teachers in providing instruction to students. Teacher aides include Learning Support Educators (LSEs), SLSEs, technical officers, technicians amongst other technical grades.
- **Research Assistants** covers personnel whose primary purpose is to conduct research.
- **Pedagogical Support** covers professional staff who provide services to students to support their instructional programme. This classification includes guidance counsellors, career advisors, librarians amongst other grades.
- **Health and Social Support** covers all personnel in educational institutions who provide health and social support services to students. This classification includes health professionals such as nurses, health attendants, psychologists, occupational therapists, social workers amongst others.
- **School Level Management** covers professional personnel who are responsible for school management. This classification includes principals, assistant principals, head of departments, head of school, assistant head teachers, deans, directors amongst others.
- **Higher Level Management** covers personnel whose primary responsibility is quality control and the management of the education system at the higher level. Their work may involve direct administration or other functions that support the operation of education institutions. This category includes directors of planning and evaluation, business development manager, senior executives, service managers amongst other grades.
- **School Level Administrative Personnel** covers all personnel who support the administration of the schools. This category includes receptionists, secretaries, clerks, bookkeepers, assistants amongst other similar grades.
- **Higher Level Administrative Personnel** covers personnel who support the administrative functions of the educational system at the higher level. This category includes grades such as supervisors, managers, consultants amongst other similar grades.
- **Maintenance and Operations Personnel** covers personnel who support the maintenance and operations of the educational institutions. This category includes security guards, cleaning attendants, drivers, handymen, gardeners, general hand, messengers, cooks, food caterers amongst other grades.

12. In this news release, the terms personnel and staff are used interchangeably.

13. Totals or percentages may not add up due to rounding.

14. The data contained in this news release may be revised.

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

Sources and Methods:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_C4/Education_and_Information_Society_Statistics/Pages/Education-Statistics.aspx

Concept and Definitions: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/ConceptDetails.aspx?id=2231>

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

17. A detailed news release calendar is available on:

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

European statistics comparable to data in this News Release are available at:

[EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Statistics Database](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/)

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