

MALTA_CULTUREQ_A_MT_2014_0000

National Reference Metadata in ESS Standard for Quality Reports Structure (ESQRS)

Compiling agency: National Statistics Office (NSO)

Time Dimension: 2014

Data Flow: MALTA_CULTUREQ_A

Concept name	
1. Contact	
1.1. Contact organisation	National Statistics Office (NSO)
1.2. Contact organisation unit	Unit C1: Living Conditions and Culture Statistics Directorate C - Social Statistics
1.3. Contact name	Nikita Ellul
1.4. Contact person function	Unit Coordinator
1.5. Contact mail address	National Statistics Office (NSO), Unit C1: Living Conditions and Culture Statistics, Lascaris, Valletta, VLT 2000, Malta.
1.6. Contact email address	nikita.ellul@gov.mt
1.7. Contact phone number	+356 25997525
1.8. Contact fax number	+356 25997205
2. Introduction	<p>The NSO culture statistics programme started in 2001 with the publication of findings of surveys on theatre productions and patronage; band clubs; museums and historical sites; dance schools; and parish feasts. These early surveys covered activities for the period 1997 - 1999. These surveys continued to be conducted along the years with the last survey on theatres being conducted for reference years 2011 - 2012; band clubs being conducted for reference year 2010; museums and historical sites being conducted for reference year 2011; dance schools being conducted for reference year 2010; parish feasts being conducted for reference year 2011. A survey on local councils' activities was conducted in 2001 and covered the years 1997 - 2000. The latest statistics on cultural events by local councils, covering the years 2012 and 2013, was given by means of the</p>

	administrative records of the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage. A survey on Good Friday Processions was carried out in 2001 and covered the years 1997 - 2001. The latest of such surveys referred to year 2011. Cinema statistics began to be compiled in the years 2010 - 2011 by means of a survey with existing cinemas. In 2012 - 2013, a new survey on the Teaching of Performing Arts was also carried out.
3. Quality management - assessment	During the past years, the NSO has invested considerably in order to ensure the production of high quality statistics on the cultural sector. This work has been done in collaboration with the Creative Economy Working Group, within the Ministry of Finance, who have helped making these statistics more relevant and comprehensive for national needs. Further to collaborating with the Creative Economy, who provide use with feedback on cultural knowledge, two statisticians are focused solely on the production of Culture surveys (including data collection and analysis). Moreover, courses and technical improvement is being provided to these statisticians.
4. Relevance	
4.1. Relevance - User Needs	The Creative Economy Working Group within the Ministry of Finance are the main users of these statistics. Cultural Statistics are also sent to Eurostat, UNESCO and other related institutions. Statistics on employment, income and expenditure generated by cultural Entities is also sent to the Economics Directorate that use this information for the compilation of National Accounts.
4.2. Relevance - User Satisfaction	In 2014, NSO carried out a user satisfaction survey among all those who made use of the NSO online request form or subscribed to the NSO news releases. The survey is in line with similar surveys carried out at a European level. With regards to the Unit responsible for collection and analysis of Culture data, more than 80% of the 2014 USS reported to have been provided feedback. News releases highlighting results from this enquiry can be downloaded from: http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_01/Methodology_and_Research/Pages/User-Satisfaction-Survey.aspx .
4.3. Completeness	It is practically impossible for NSO to collect information on all the Cultural sectors. Still, a large share of information pertaining to cultural activities carried out in Malta is being collected, as explained in concept 2. The data collected to a particular cultural sector is then analysed and published in a news release relevant to the subject. Furthermore, requests based on the data collected are mostly used for policy purposes regarding the sector as well also grant applications.
4.3.1. Data completeness - rate	Not applicable.
5. Accuracy and reliability	
5.1. Accuracy - overall	All cultural surveys deal with very small target populations. In view of this, it is imperative that a full census is taken among these organisations. Because of this, for each culture survey issued, a very small proportion of unit non-response is allowed. On the other hand, a significant amount of data that is collected suffers from a high degree of item non-response which has to be imputed. Although imputation helps in improving the quality of the results, it still does not manage to fully eradicate biases which are generally associated with missing values.
5.2. Sampling error	Not applicable.

5.2.1. Sampling error - indicators	Not applicable.
5.3. Non-sampling error	Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling errors, nevertheless a small element of these errors is inevitable. Non-sampling errors include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recall Bias - Data Entry Errors - Respondent error - Errors during data analysis - Biases associated with imputation and correction for non-response
5.3.1. Coverage error	Full coverage is generally achieved in all cultural surveys. Issues relating to over-coverage are dealt with prior to commencement of the survey and even during the data collection if the case arises.
5.3.1.1. Over-coverage - rate	Minimal (less than 5%).
5.3.2. Measurement error	See 5.4.
5.3.3. Non response error	The most common occurrences whereby data is left missing are for variables income and expenditure data, which highly depends on the particular cultural data that is collected. Imputations helps in improving the quality of the results, however this does not manage to fully eradicate biases which are generally associated with missing values.
5.3.3.1. Unit non-response - rate	Response rates are generally very high, as explained in previous sections. For example, the survey on the Teaching of Performing Arts 2012 - 2013, whose findings were published in March 2014, had a response rate of 75 per cent. The survey on theatres 2011 - 2012, whose findings were published in November 2013, had a response rate of 90 per cent.
5.3.3.2. Item non-response - rate	Item non-response rates vary, between 5 per cent to 25 per cent (in exceptional circumstances, generally involving the collection of income/expenditure data), depending on the survey and the data that is collected.
5.3.4. Processing error	Not applicable.
5.3.4.1. Imputation - rate	Imputation rates vary depending on the level of item non-response, as explained in 5.10.
5.3.4.2. Common units - proportion	Not applicable.
5.3.5. Model assumption error	Not applicable.
5.3.6. Data revision	Published statistics are not normally subject to major revisions.

5.3.6.1. Data revision - policy	The National Statistics Office data revision policy can be found at: http://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/About_NS0/Pages/NSO-Policies.aspx .
5.3.6.2. Data revision - practice	Refer to 5.16.
5.3.6.3. Data revision - average size	Not applicable.
5.3.7. Seasonal adjustment	Not applicable.
6. Timeliness and punctuality	
6.1. Timeliness	For every cultural survey, the data collected generally refers to N-1 and N-2 years from the year of the data being collected, depending on the frequency of the collection. Moreover, results on the data collected are published in the same year as the data collection.
6.1.1. Time lag - first result	Number of days vary depending on the cultural survey and depending on the date when the news release is published. However, this time lag does not normally exceed 9 months for each cultural survey.
6.1.2. Time lag - final result	Same as (6.2) as no provisional results are published.
6.2. Punctuality	Various number of news releases are published at 11.00am throughout the year with regards to Culture statistics. Timeliness of publishing of these news releases is generally punctual. Indeed between 2011 and August 2014, 2 out of 12 news release were late, that is, were released after 11.10am.
6.2.1. Punctuality - delivery and publication	0 days.
7. Accessibility and clarity	
7.1. Dissemination format - News release	Scheduled news release are published regularly with reference to culture statistics on the NSO website. Examples of such news releases include: > Statistics on Band Clubs: http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C1/Living_Conditions_and_Culture_Statistics/Pages/Band-Clubs.aspx > Statistics on Theatres: http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C1/Living_Conditions_and_Culture_Statistics/Pages/Theatres.aspx > Statistics on Museums and Historical Sites:

	<p>http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C1/Living_Conditions_and_Culture_Statistics/Pages/Museums.aspx</p> <p>> Cinema Statistics: http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C1/Living_Conditions_and_Culture_Statistics/Pages/Cinemas.aspx.</p>
7.2. Dissemination format - Publications	The two publications Kultura 2000 and the Culture Participation Survey 2011 were published at a time lag of ten years from each other. These were both based on population surveys. One can find more detail on such publications using the following link: http://nso.gov.mt/en/publicatons/Publications_by_Unit/Pages/C1-Living-Conditions-and-Culture-Statistics.aspx .
7.3. Dissemination format - online database	Cultural Statistics are currently not available on NSO's online database.
7.3.1. Data tables - consultations	Not available.
7.4. Dissemination format - microdata access	Not applicable (micro-data is not disseminated).
7.5. Documentation on methodology	Since each surveyed sector is different from one another, different definitions are adopted and no manual or handbook are adhered to. Such methodological notes can be found in each cultural news release.
7.5.1. Metadata completeness - rate	Not applicable.
7.5.2. Metadata - consultations	Not available.
7.6. Quality management - documentation	Documentation of work processes involved in the compilation of cultural statistics are currently available only to NSO personnel.
7.7. Dissemination format - other	See 7.1.
8. Comparability	

8.1. Comparability - geographical	Data is fully comparable across districts in Malta and Gozo. However no EU guidelines are available, thus not making cultural data for Malta comparable with other EU countries.
8.1.1. Asymmetry for mirror flow statistics - coefficient	Not applicable.
8.2. Comparability - over time	In general, data is fully consistent and therefore comparable and reconcilable over time. However, in 2012, NSO carried out a methodological change in the way by which statistics on cultural events carried out by local councils are being computed. These changes have been highlighted in the methodological notes pertaining to the last news release: http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C1/Living_Conditions_and_Culture_Statistics/Pages/Cultural-Events-by-Local-Councils.aspx .
8.2.1. Length of comparable time series	Since different cultural data is collected, the length of comparability varies according to such cultural event. For example: Theatre statistics goes back to 1997. Data is available until 2012, with the exception of reference year 2010. Statistics on band clubs has a time series from 1998 to 2010. The survey on museums and historical sites covers the years from 1997 to 2011, with the exception of 2002. The last surveys on parish feasts and Good Friday processions were carried out in 2011. Cinema statistics started to be collected for reference years 2010 - 2011. The survey on the Teaching of Performing Arts is also a relatively new survey that began in 2012 - 2013. This survey has continued to collect data from dance schools (which were already collected in previous years) and included also data on the teaching of drama and music.
8.3. Comparability - domain	Such cultural data collected is not comparable with any other statistical domain since no such other data is collected. Cultural statistics are even not comparable with each other since they tackle different themes.
9. Coherence	
9.1. Coherence - cross domain	These surveys are the unique sources of culture statistics at a national level. In view of this, cross domain coherence tests are not possible.
9.1.1. Coherence - sub annual and annual statistics	Not applicable.
9.1.2. Coherence - National Accounts	National Accounts Unit use income/expenditure data obtained from this survey for the compilation of their statistics. Full coherence is therefore expected.
9.2. Coherence - internal	Not applicable.

10. Cost and Burden	<p>The compilation of Cultural Statistics require the employment of one full-time statistician for a whole year. On the other hand, surveys are mostly carried out by post so as to minimise the costs associated with the data collection.</p> <p>Despite all efforts to use administrative registers for the compilation of statistics, a large share of information still needs to be collected from the Cultural Organisations themselves. NSO tries to simplify the questionnaires and to collect only the information which is absolutely necessary for policy making purposes; however full avoidance of response burden on these organisations, remains impossible.</p>
11. Confidentiality	
11.1. Confidentiality - policy	<p>Micro data has never been disseminated, even in anonymised form for cultural events data. The Malta Statistics Authority Act XXIV (2000) bars the dissemination of all data outside the National Statistics Office, which can be found using the following link: http://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/About_NS0/Pages/NSO-Policies.aspx.</p>
11.2. Confidentiality - data treatment	See 11.1.
12. Statistical processing	
12.1. Source data	<p>Raw statistical data is provided to us mostly by the Creative Economy Working Group. This data is updated on a regular basis by both NSO and the Creative Economy Working Group. Whenever possible, other reliable external sources are used to obtain this information.</p> <p>For example: The survey on the Teaching of Performing Arts 2012 - 2013, was based on the population provided by the National Commission for Further and Higher Education. The survey on theatres 2011 - 2012 was based on the population provided by the Creative Economy Working Group.</p>
12.2. Frequency of data collection	<p>Various timeframes are adopted when planning Culture data collections. In order to avoid respondent burden, most of the surveys based on questionnaires are collected every two years, each time covering the previous two years. On the other hand, data which is collected annually by other entities or obtained from computerised systems or registers are collected and published on an annual basis.</p> <p>For example: The survey on the Teaching of Performing Arts 2012 - 2013 was the first survey of it kind and covered drama, dance and music. In the past, only dance schools were surveyed. The frequency of data collection is not annually. On the other hand, data on Public Libraries is based mostly on results obtained through a computerised system and so is collected annually.</p>
12.3. Data collection	<p>Culture surveys mostly rely on paper questionnaires sent out by email or post. On the other hand, register data (such as Libraries data) is obtained through collaboration with the provider.</p> <p>For example: The survey on the Teaching of Performing Arts 2012 - 2013 and the survey on theatres 2011 - 2012 are done by means of questionnaires sent out by email and by post. Data relating Libraries is collected directly from the source.</p>
12.4. Data validation	<p>To minimize processing errors, each questionnaire is thoroughly checked using a number of validations, prior to data entry. More intensive checks are carried out during the analysis stage, and any misleading information is identified and queried with respondents. Should this not be possible, then misleading information is deleted and then imputed using appropriate mathematical methods.</p>

12.5. Data compilation	Not applicable.
12.6. Adjustment	No adjustments are made.
13. Comment	No further comments.