



CENTRAL OFFICE OF STATISTICS

news release

e-stats service

No 52/99

18 August 1999

Time of Release: 11.00 hrs

TEACHING OF ENGLISH TO FOREIGNERS

Foreign Students coming to Malta to follow an English Language programme at one of the 27 established English Language Institutes, reached a total of 31105 in the course of last year. This accounted for 2.6 per cent of the total number of tourist arrivals during the same period. It also signified an increase of 0.9 per cent over the 1997 figure of 30814.

The number of German students dropped by 8.0 per cent or 1067 from 13328 in 1997 to 12261 students in 1998. While the number of Italian students increased by 71 to 6316, the number of students coming from Austria increased by 37.1 per cent or 556 students to bring their total to 2055. The number of French students remained more or less at the previous year's level, even though their number dropped by 21.

Nationality Distribution of English Language Students: 1996 - 1998

Country	1996	% of Year Total	1997	% of Year Total	1998	% of Year Total
Germany	12641	43.6	13328	43.2	12261	39.4
Italy	7623	26.3	6245	20.3	6316	20.3
France	3487	12.0	3472	11.3	3451	11.1
Russia	947	3.2	1871	6.1	1976	6.4
Austria	1152	4.0	1499	4.8	2055	6.6
Others	3157	10.9	4399	14.3	5046	16.2
Total	29007	100.0	30814	100.0	31105	100.0

Changes in student intakes occurred in the number of students from Switzerland, up by 222 to 797 and from Poland, up by 99 to 641 students. The number of Swedish students increased by 69 and reached a total of 762. The number of students from Slovakia rose from 75 in 1997 to 193 in 1998. In contrast the number of students from Spain dropped by 123 to 268 from 391 in 1997, while the number of students from Libya went down to 53 to 294.



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