MALTA

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President George VELLA
Head of Government
Prime Minister Robert ABELA
Government Type
parliamentary republic
Capital
Valletta
Legislature
unicameral House of Representatives or Il-Kamra Tad-Deputati, a component of the Parliament of Malta (normally 65 seats but can include at-large members)
Judiciary
Court of Appeal (consists of either 1 or 3 judges); Constitutional Court (consists of 3 judges); Court of Criminal Appeal (consists of either 1 or 3 judges)
Ambassador to US
Ambassador Keith AZZOPARDI
US Ambassador
Charge d’Affaires Mark A. SCHAPIRO

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
free market economy; smallest in euro-zone; relies heavily on trade in goods and services with Europe; dependent on foreign trade, manufacturing, and tourism
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$19.26 billion (2017 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$41,900 (2017 est.)
Exports
$3.27 billion (2017 est.)
partners: Germany 17.3%, France 10.2%, Italy 9.4%, Singapore 5.9%, Hong Kong 5.8%, US 5.7%, Japan 4.9%, Libya 4.5% (2017)
Imports
$4.99 billion (2017 est.)
partners: Italy 23%, Germany 7.9%, UK 7.7%, Spain 5%, Canada 4.5%, US 4.3%, France 4.2% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
457,270 (July 2020 est.)
Population Growth
0.87% (2020 est.)
Ethnicity
Maltese (descendants of ancient Carthaginians and Phoenicians with strong elements of Italian and other Mediterranean stock)
Language
Maltese (official) 90.1%, English (official) 6%, multilingual 3%, other 0.9% (2005 est.)
Religion
Roman Catholic (official) more than 90% (2006 est.)
Urbanization
urban population: 94.7% of total population (2020)
rate of urbanization: .38% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)
Literacy
94.5% (2018)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 316 sq km
Land: 316 sq km
Water: 0 sq km
Climate
Mediterranean; mild, rainy winters; hot, dry summers
Natural Resources
limestone, salt, arable land

as of April 2020