

Directorate Alternative Care



Yearly Statistical Report

February 2026



Report period: January to December 2025

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Introduction

This report provides statistical information regarding the services within Directorate Alternative Care (DAC), which falls under the Foundation for Social Welfare Services (FSWS). This report provides global data on a directorate level followed by data for each service under the directorate.

The data contained in this report is based on information submitted by the services to the FSWS Research Team in mid-January 2026. Where applicable, the report provides data on an individual service user level (i.e., number of individuals) as well as on multiple attendance of service users level (i.e., number of cases). The data includes, but is not limited to, the number of: cases worked with, individuals worked with, referrals, new and re-contact cases, and cases closed. Data regarding cases worked with and opened cases is also stratified by key socio-demographic variables (cases opened data are reported in Appendix A).

All the information provided in this report gives an indication of service users attending the various services and some information about service performance. For this report, the term 'service users' refers to persons using the service from intake or referral until case closure. Service descriptions along with definitions regarding key terms used within this report (e.g., *cases worked with*) can be found in the appendix. For further information regarding the aims and activities of the services, please refer to the website: fsws.gov.mt.

It is important to note that the same individuals may stop and start attending a given service multiple times in the reporting period and/or may be attending one or more services concurrently within the reporting period (i.e., have multiple cases recorded). To demonstrate the difference, consider Person A, who started and stopped attending a service twice in the same year, making it equivalent to 2 cases, but 1 individual worked with. Summing the number of individuals worked with across services will over-estimate the actual number of different persons since individuals can attend several units at the same time. Also, because of rounding, the sum of the percentages within the report may be smaller/greater than 100%.

Over time, there can be changes in what, how and when data is collected (e.g., with the introduction of the new data collection system). Relevant information about aspects which may have impacted the data and influence trends can be found as footnotes throughout the report.

This report would not have been possible without the kind assistance of each worker who provided and keyed the data.

The data contained in this report is subject to revision and modification, as and when the relevant information becomes available.

Executive summary

Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025:

3,124

Out of the 3,124 cases worked with between Jan-Dec 2025:

Gender:



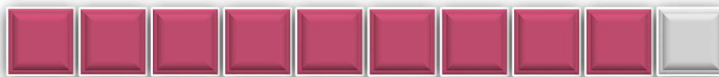
51%
Female

Age category:



37%
17 years
or
younger

Nationality:



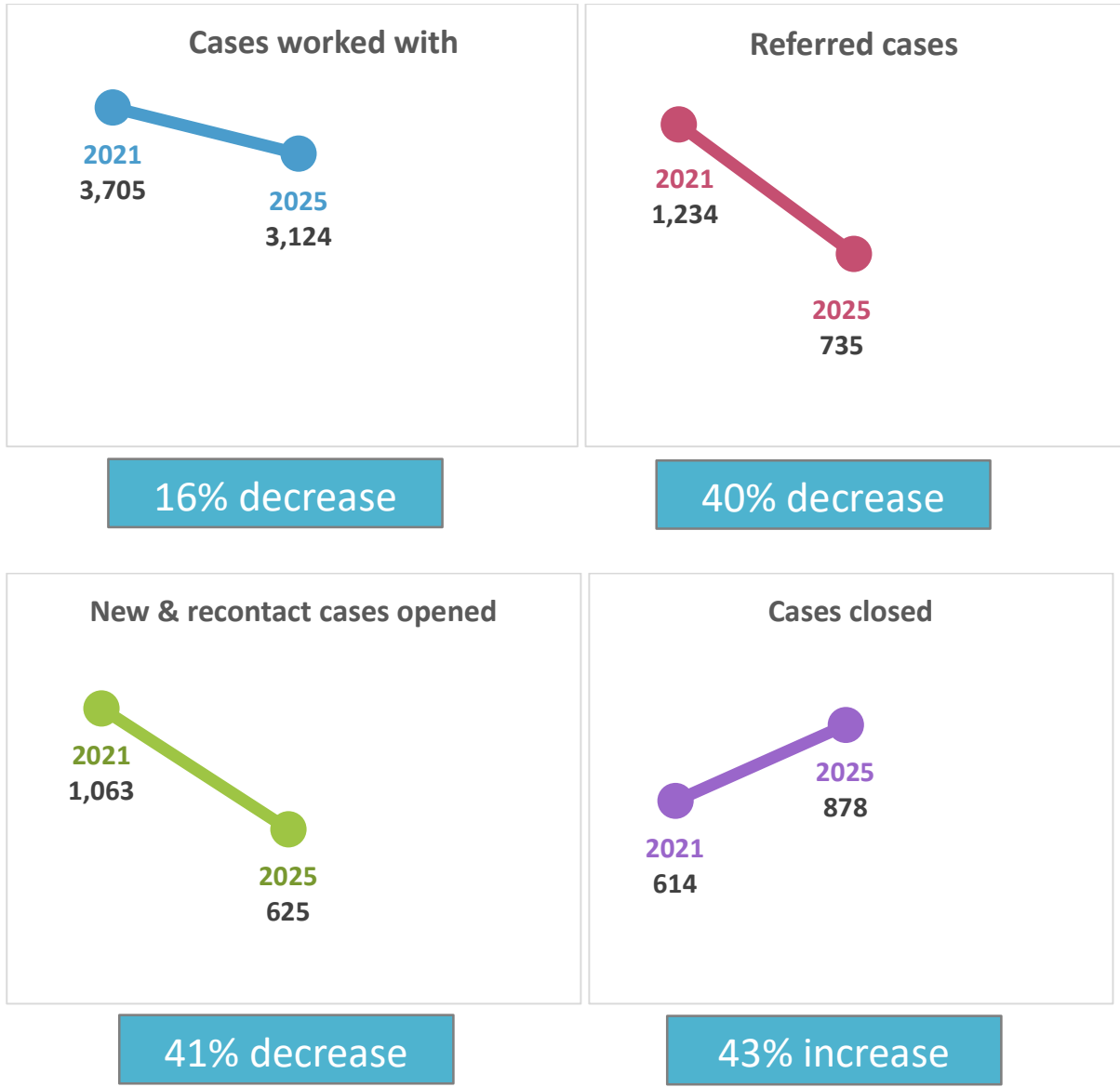
88%
Maltese

District:



24%
Northern
Harbour

5-year comparison of case activity between 2021 and 2025:



Note: data on the number of cases in 2021 and 2025 is presented to display changes over a complete five-year period.

Directorate level data

This section provides information on a Directorate level.

A new online data collection system and reporting format began being introduced in 2020 with further services being added along the years. Information on when the online data collection systems were implemented within the services can be found within the respective service's section.

DAC: Approximate total number of cases and individuals worked with at DAC by year

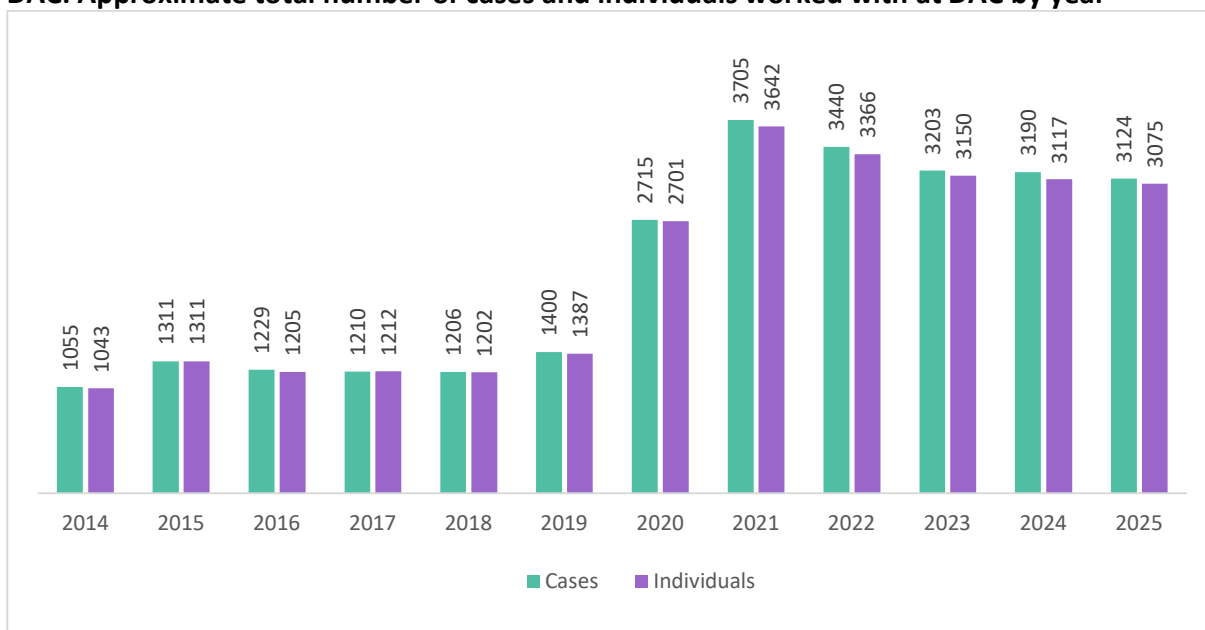


Figure 1: The figure above provides the number of cases worked with and the number of individuals worked with. To demonstrate the difference, consider Person A, who started and stopped attending a service twice in the same year, making it equivalent to 2 cases, but 1 individual worked with. Summing the number of individuals worked with across services will over-estimate the actual number of different persons since individuals can attend several units at the same time. Therefore, the number of individuals across multiple units can only provide an approximation of the number of individuals overall and the figures provided are therefore higher than the real figures. In 2025, 3124 cases and 3075 individuals were worked with compared to 3190 and 3117 respectively in 2024.

Case activity: Jan-Dec 2025

	Total cases worked with	Individuals worked with	Waiting list end of Dec 2025
Looked After Children Service	471	465	2
Aftercare Service	200	196	0
Fostering Service	560	559	0
Adoption Service	590	590	21
High Support Service	3	3	0
Community Homes Service	75	75	57
Homestart - Malta	38	37	0
Youth In Focus Service	285	283	11
Embark for Life	153	153	41
Youth Empowerment Initiatives	209	206	7
Supervised Access Visits	540	508	0
Total	3124	3075	139

Service	Additional information
Looked After Children Healthcare Service	645 visits carried out with 398 children.
Additional DAC Services	24 cases worked with in the re-integration services; 96 children benefited from the Children’s Fund; 1621 children benefited from the Children Dreams; within the Socio-Legal Service, 190 board sitting cases were heard concerning 115 individuals and the Socio-legal office also represented the Directorate for on 86 court cases spread over 246 court hearings.
Alternative Care Placement Records	508 children and youth cases were monitored, and 469 children and youth were allocated within 525 placements.

Figure 2: The figures above summarise the number of cases and individuals worked with reported on a service level. The total number of individuals is only provided if the true number of individuals across services cannot be extracted.

A total of **3,124** cases were worked with between January and December 2025.

DAC: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by gender (no. & %)

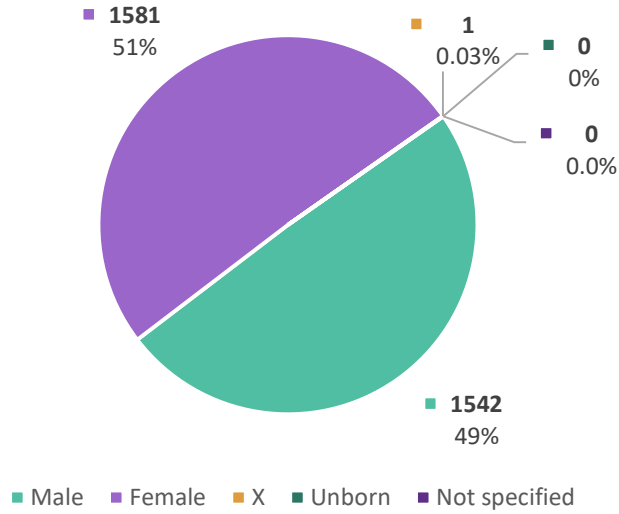


Figure 3: The figure above classifies the gender of the service user. Gender is collected at referral or first contact, but it can be updated throughout the lifetime of the case as required. The gender is collected either through formal documentation and/or the pronouns the person used when referring to themselves. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were female (51%).

DAC: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by age category (no. & %)

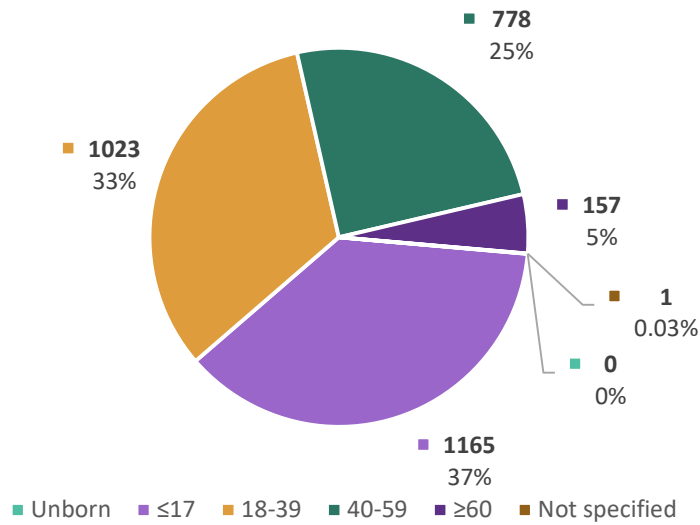


Figure 4: The figure above classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were ages 17 or younger (37%).

DAC: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by nationality (no. & %)

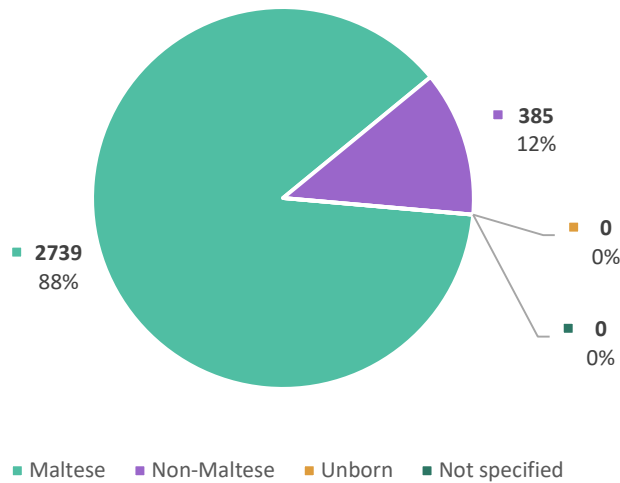
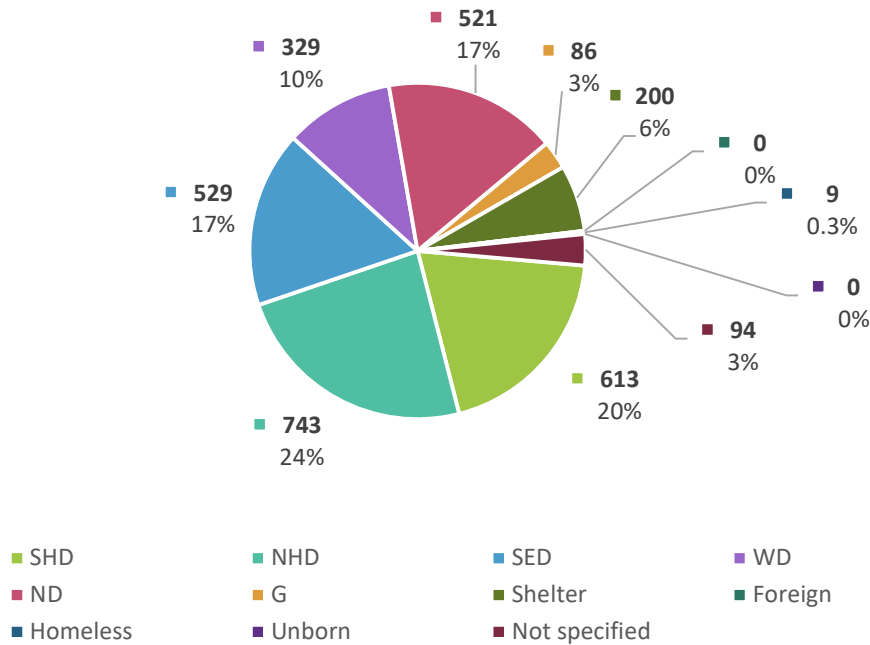


Figure 5: The figure above classifies the nationality as reported by the service user within the reporting year or based on an identity card/document. In 2025, 88% of the cases worked with were Maltese while non-Maltese made up 12% of cases.

DAC: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by district of residence (no. & %)



Graph Key: SHD = Southern Harbour District; NHD = Northern Harbour District; SED = Southeastern District; WD = Western District; ND = Northern District; G = Gozo District; Shelter = shelter/institution; Foreign = Foreign residence.

Figure 6: The figure above classifies the district of residence as reported by the service user within the reporting year. Some service users reside within "shelter/institution" (e.g., residential homes, centre of residential restorative services, or shelters). Some service users are in Malta temporarily and so normally have a foreign residence whilst others are homeless and do not have a fixed residence. Shelter/institution, foreign residence and homeless are reported as separate categories to avoid biasing the data on district. The Northern Harbour District (24%) had the highest percentage of cases worked with in 2025.

DAC: Number of new, re-contact, known and intake cases worked with by year

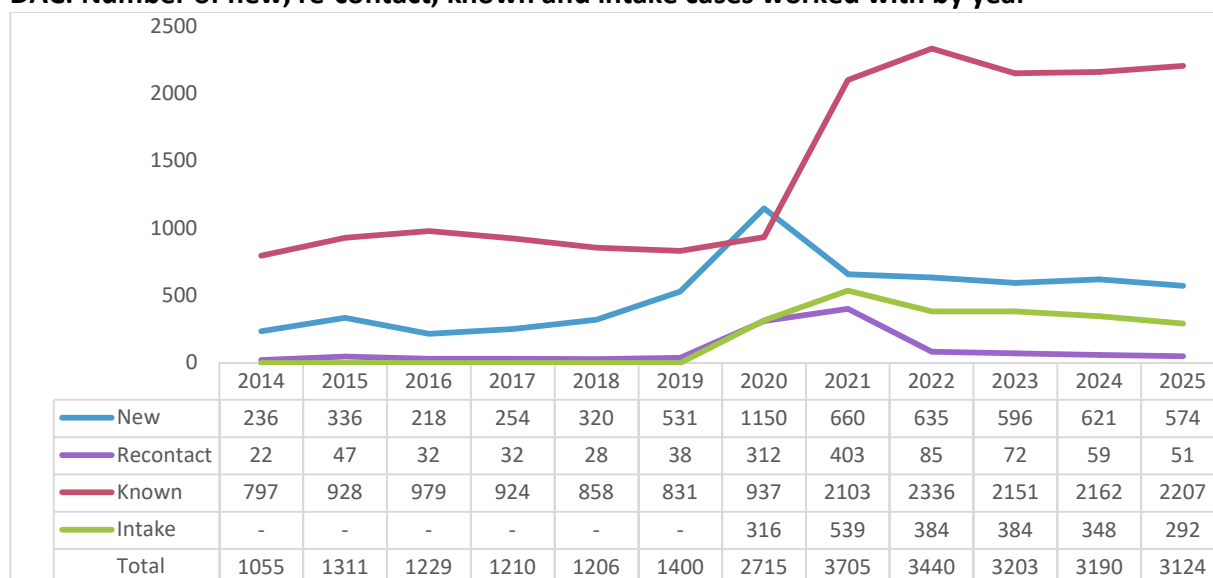


Figure 7: The cases worked with each year can be a new case, recontact case, known case or an intake case (a case starting and ending the year on intake). Further definitions can be found in the glossary. For the above graph, intake began to be reported in 2020 due to the implementation of an online data collection system. A spike in new cases in 2020 was due to the implementation of the online system whereby a number of new services were included on the system and their cases were automatically registered as new cases on the system.

DAC: Case state at the end of the reporting period

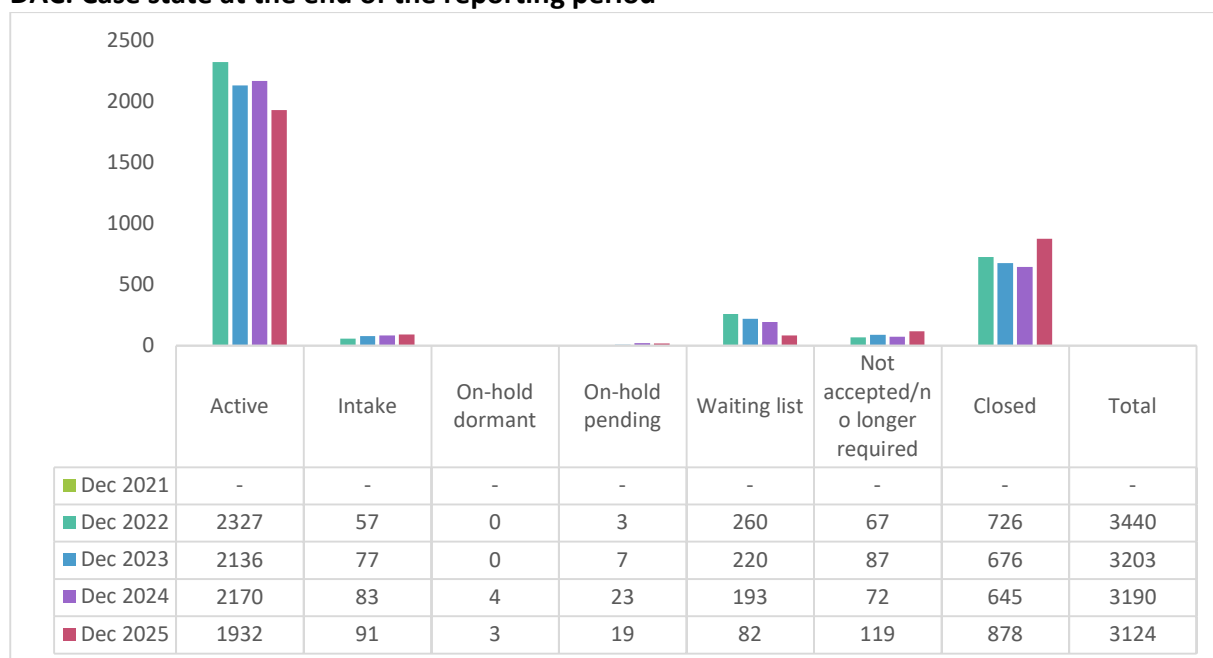


Figure 8: Cases will be handled throughout the year by placing them on intake, adding them to the waiting list, opening them, or closing them (definitions can be found in the glossary). The case state at the end of the reporting year is shown in the figure above. By the end of December 2025, 62% (1932) of the cases worked with were still active. The waiting list¹ provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case. This service has a high number of active cases and low number of closures because cases are worked with over many years (i.e. long term cases).

¹ The waiting list in figure 8 is only reported for cases worked with registered on the online data collection system. The waiting list in figure 9 is the full waiting list of all DAC services.

DAC: Waiting list at the end of the reporting period

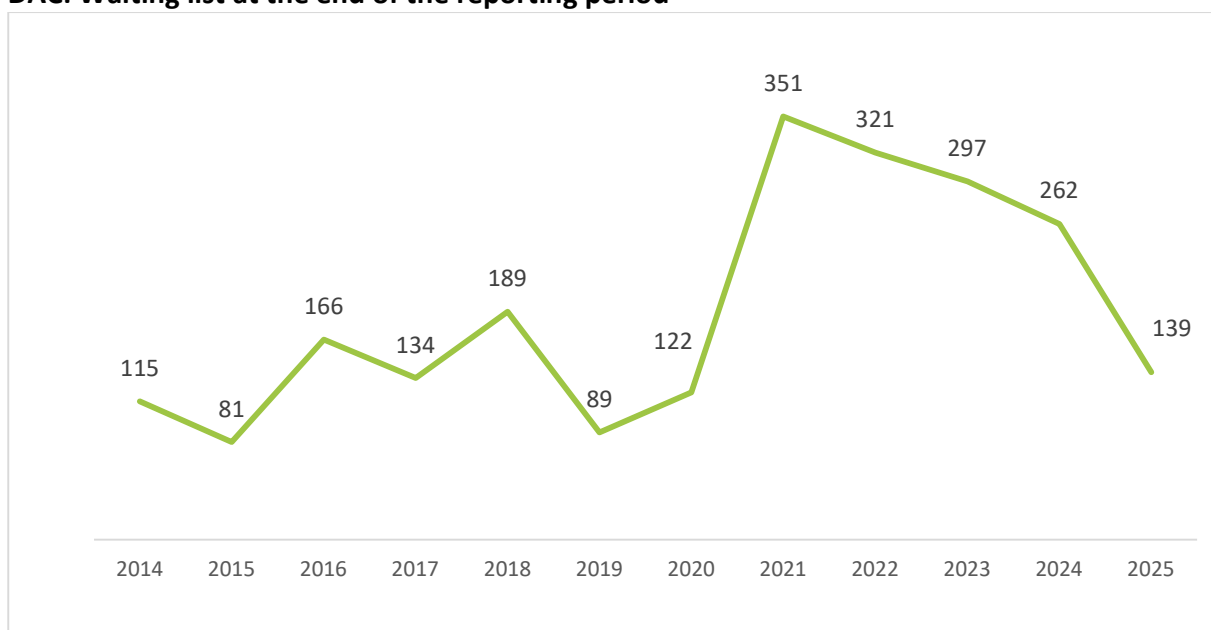


Figure 9: The figure above only reports cases that are still on the waiting list at the end of the reporting period. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

DAC: Number of referred cases, new & re-contact cases opened, and cases closed by DAC by year

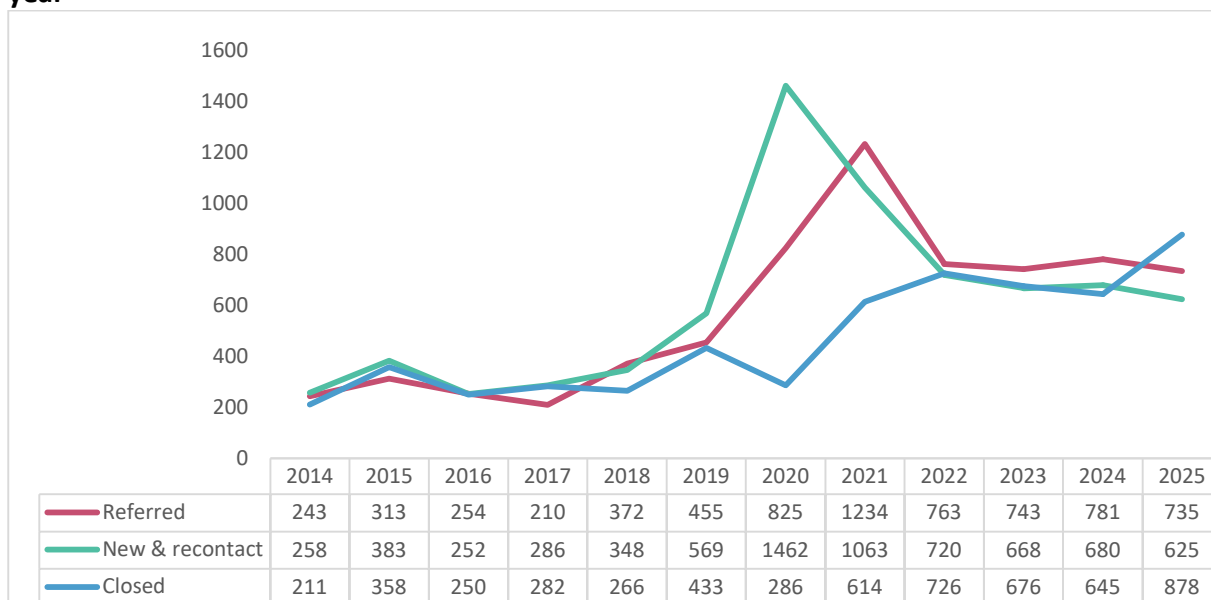


Figure 10: Cases may be referred, opened, or closed throughout the year (definitions can be found in the glossary). Opened cases include both new and recontact cases (see figure 7 for breakdown of new & recontact cases). In 2025, 735 cases were referred, 625 new & recontact cases opened, and 878 cases closed.

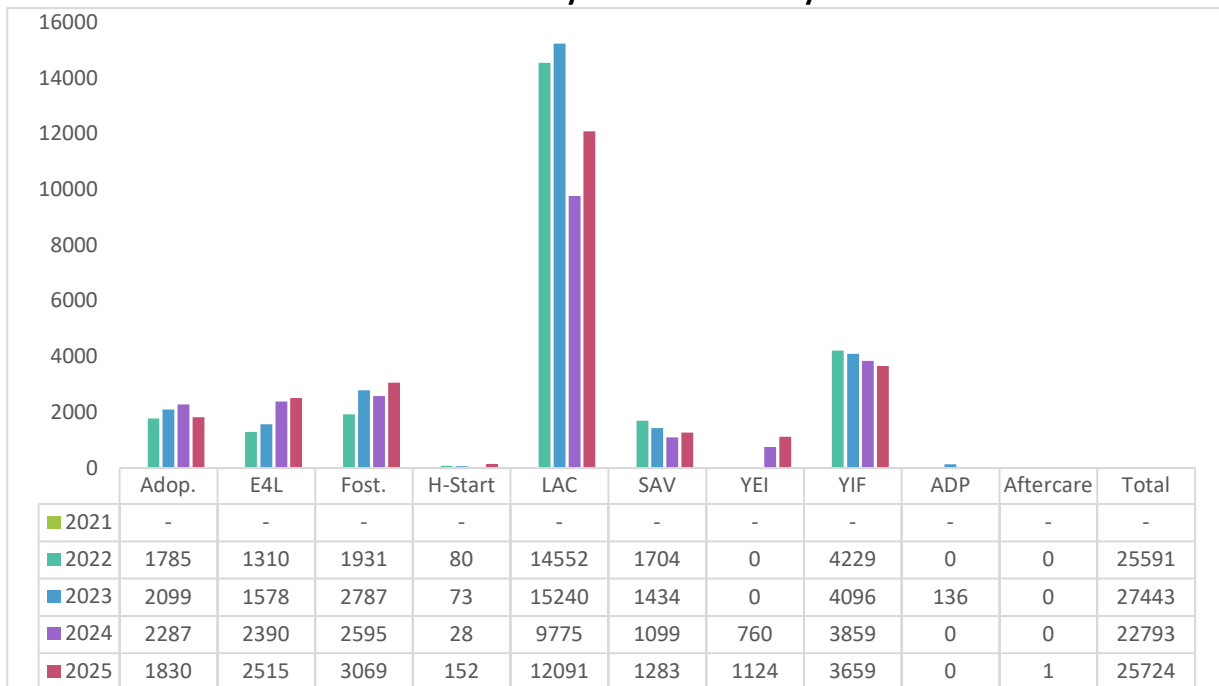
A total of **625** cases were opened between January and December 2025.

Note: Further breakdowns regarding cases opened by demographics can be found in the Appendix A.

DAC: Number of new & re-contact cases opened by age category and gender January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0	0
<1	2	4	0	0	0	6
1-5	13	9	0	0	0	22
6-10	6	5	0	0	0	11
11-15	66	56	0	0	0	122
16-17	53	49	0	0	0	102
18-19	19	20	0	0	0	39
20-24	29	14	1	0	0	44
25-29	13	13	0	0	0	26
30-34	20	23	0	0	0	43
35-39	42	41	0	0	0	83
40-44	27	38	0	0	0	65
45-49	14	14	0	0	0	28
50-54	9	7	0	0	0	16
55-59	5	2	0	0	0	7
≥60	5	6	0	0	0	11
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	323	301	1	0	0	625

Figure 11: The figure above classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. In 2025, the highest number of cases opened were ages 11 to 15 (122).

DAC: Number of interventions conducted by DAC service and year



Graph Key: Adop. = Adoption Service; E4L = Embark for Life Service; Fost. = Fostering Service; H-Start = Home-Start Malta; LAC = Looked After Children Service; SAV = Supervised Access Visits Service; YEI = Youth Empowerment Initiative; YIF = Youth in Focus Service; ADP = Adolescent Day Programme Service; Aftercare = Aftercare Services.

Figure 12: The figure above only provides the number of interventions that have been recorded within the online data collection system as completed or conducted. Interventions are actions taken with, or on behalf of, the service user with the goal to empower and help the person e.g., psychotherapy, assessments, or case conferences.

Service level data

Each service under the Directorate is discussed in the section that follows. Information is provided regarding case activity followed by demographic information for cases worked with and for new & recontact cases opened.

Looked After Children Service (LAC)

A new online data collection system and reporting format were introduced in 2020.

LAC: Number of cases and individuals worked with by year

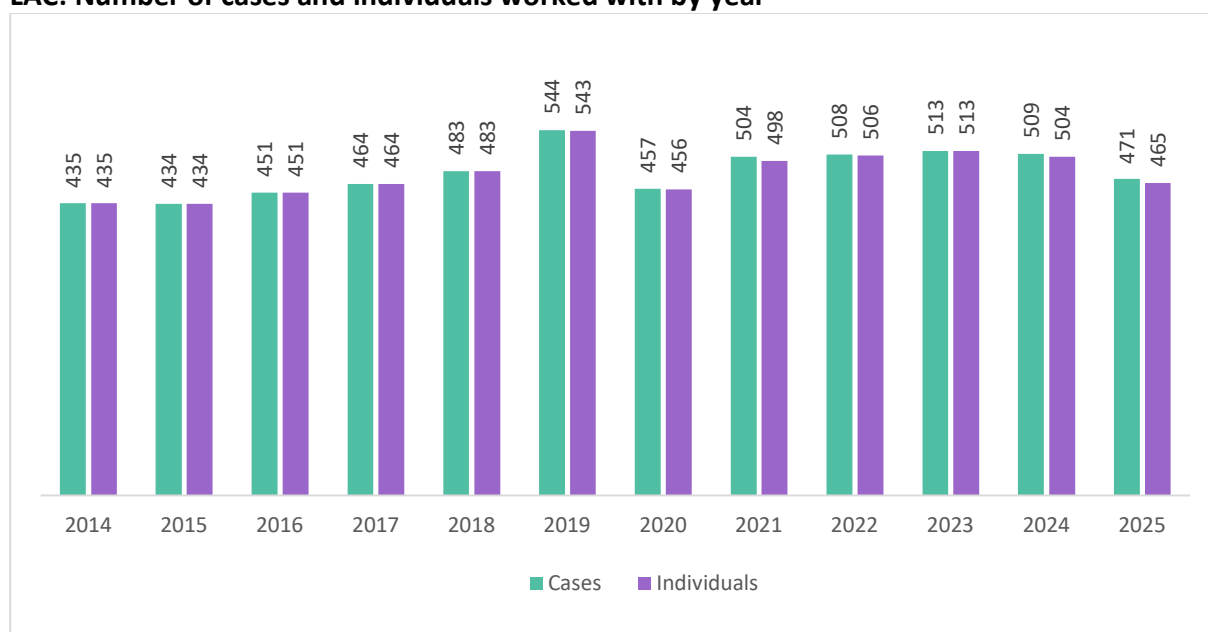


Figure 13: The figure above provides the number of cases worked with and the number of individuals worked with. To demonstrate the difference, consider Person A, who started and stopped attending a service twice in the same year, making it equivalent to 2 cases, but 1 individual worked with. In 2025, 471 cases and 465 individuals were worked with compared to 509 and 504 respectively in 2024.

A total of **471** cases were worked with between January and December 2025.

LAC: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by gender (no. & %)

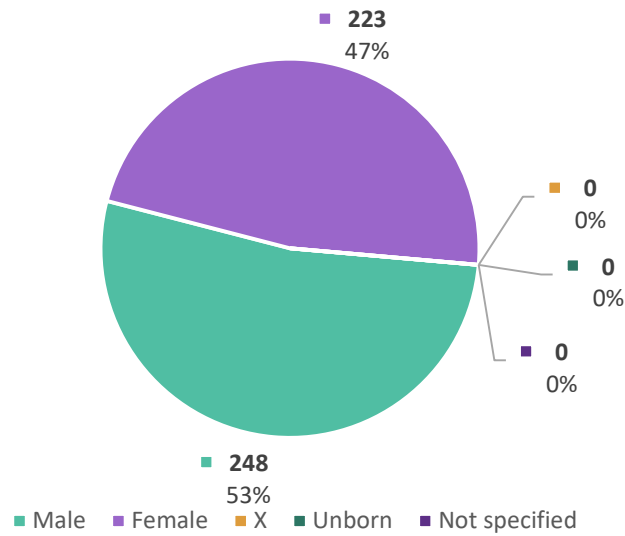


Figure 14: The figure above classifies the gender of the service user. Gender is collected at referral or first contact, but it can be updated throughout the lifetime of the case as required. The gender is collected either through formal documentation and/or the pronouns the person used when referring to themselves. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were male (53%).

LAC: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by age category (no. & %)

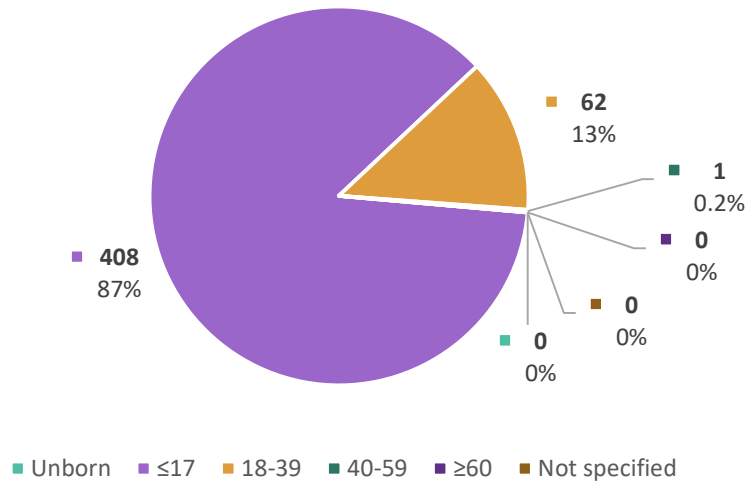


Figure 15: The figure above classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were ages 17 or younger (87%).

LAC: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by nationality (no. & %)

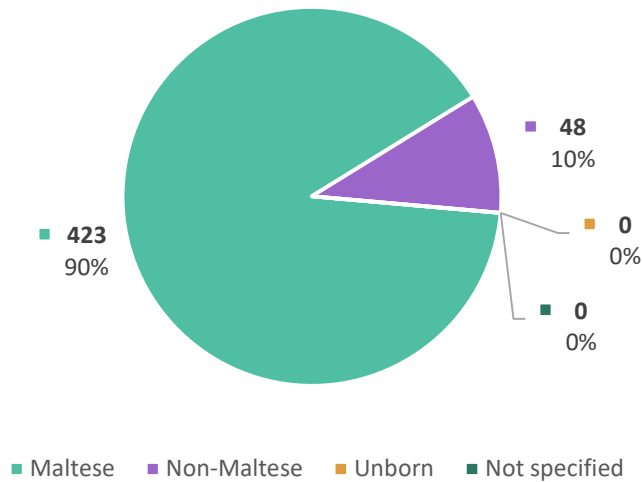
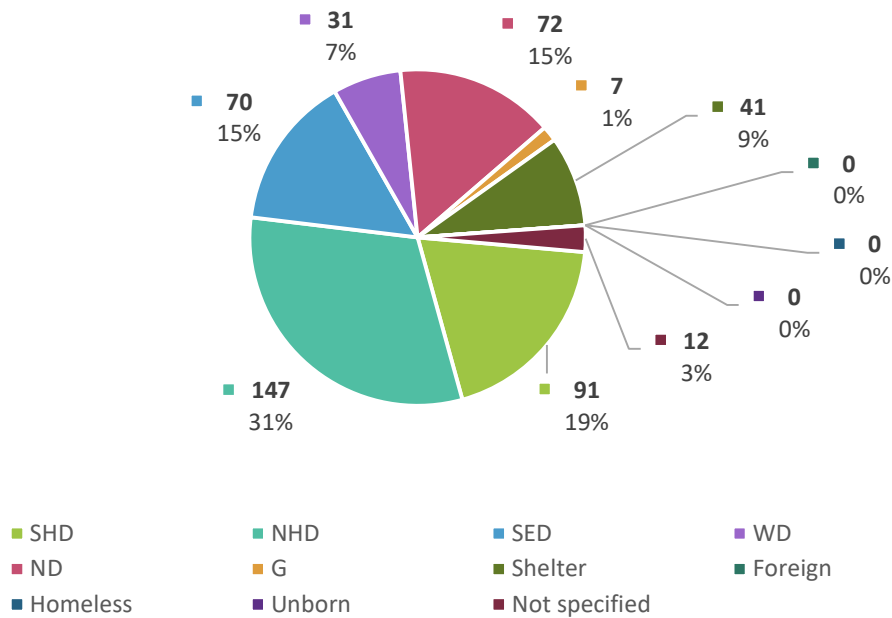


Figure 16: The figure above classifies the nationality as reported by the service user within the reporting year or based on an identity card/document. In 2025, 90% of the cases worked with were Maltese while non-Maltese made up 10% of cases.

LAC: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by district of residence (no. & %)



Graph Key: SHD = Southern Harbour District; NHD = Northern Harbour District; SED = Southeastern District; WD = Western District; ND = Northern District; G = Gozo District; Shelter = shelter/institution; Foreign = Foreign residence.

Figure 17: The figure above classifies the district of residence as reported by the service user within the reporting year. Some service users reside within “shelter/institution” (e.g., residential homes, centre of residential restorative services, or shelters). Some service users are in Malta temporarily and so normally have a foreign residence whilst others are homeless and do not have a fixed residence. Shelter/institution, foreign residence and homeless are reported as separate categories to avoid biasing the data on district. The Northern Harbour District (31%) had the highest percentage of cases worked with in 2025.

LAC: Number of new, re-contact, known and intake cases worked with by year

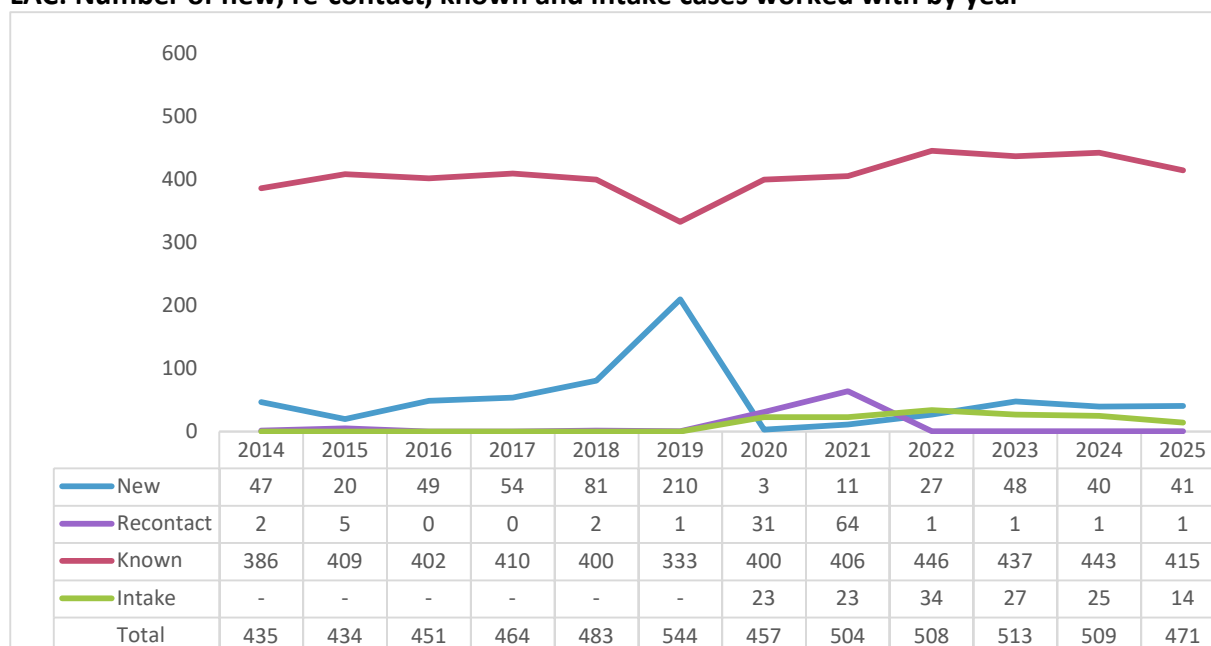


Figure 18: The cases worked with each year can be a new case, recontact case, known case or an intake case (a case starting and ending the year on intake). Further definitions can be found in the glossary. For the above graph, intake began to be reported in 2020 due to the implementation of an online data collection system.

LAC: Case state at the end of the reporting period

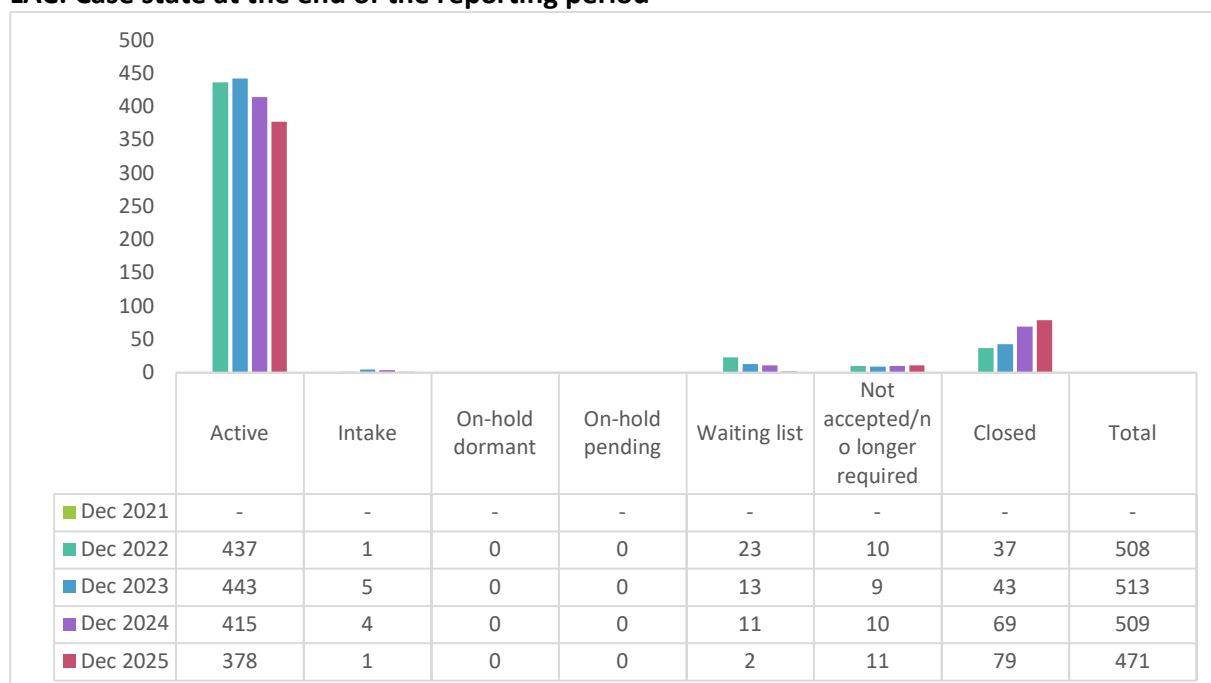


Figure 19: Cases will be handled throughout the year by placing them on intake, adding them to the waiting list, opening them, or closing them (definitions can be found in the glossary). The case state at the end of the reporting year is shown in the figure above. By the end of December 2025, 80% (378) of the cases worked with were still active. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case. This service has a high number of active cases and low number of closures because cases are worked with over many years (i.e. long term cases).

LAC: Waiting list at the end of the reporting period

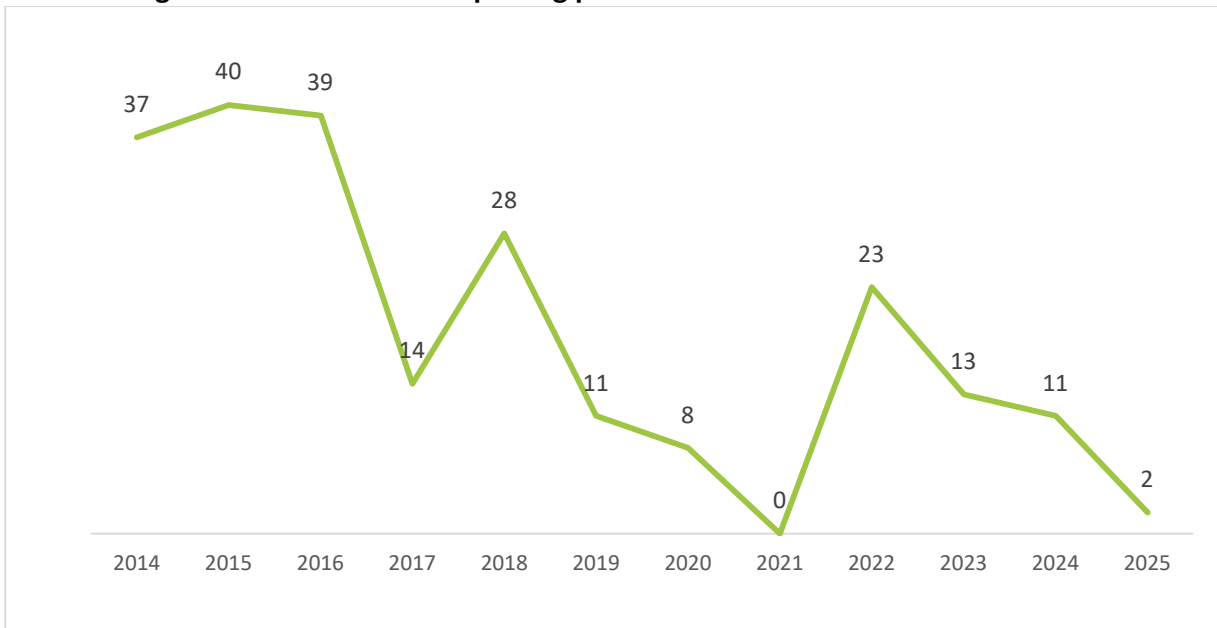


Figure 20: The figure above only reports cases that are still on the waiting list at the end of the reporting period. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

LAC: Number of referred, new & re-contact, and closed cases by year

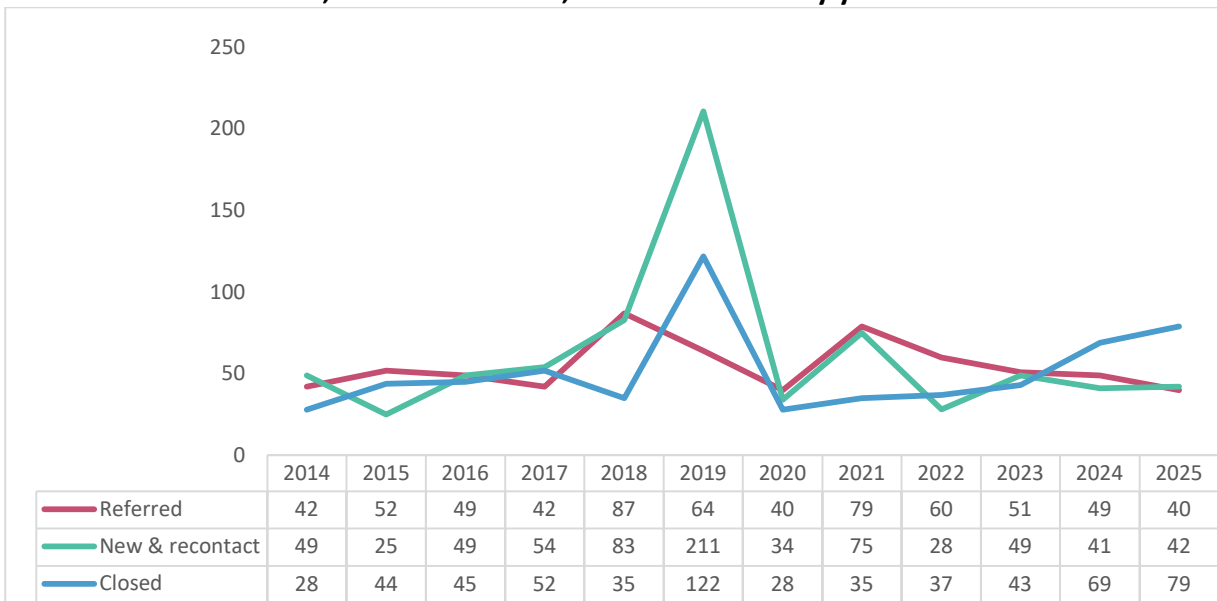


Figure 21: Cases may be referred, opened, or closed throughout the year (definitions can be found in the glossary). Opened cases include both new and recontact cases (see figure 18 for breakdown of new & recontact cases). In 2025, 40 cases were referred, 42 new & recontact cases opened, and 79 cases closed.

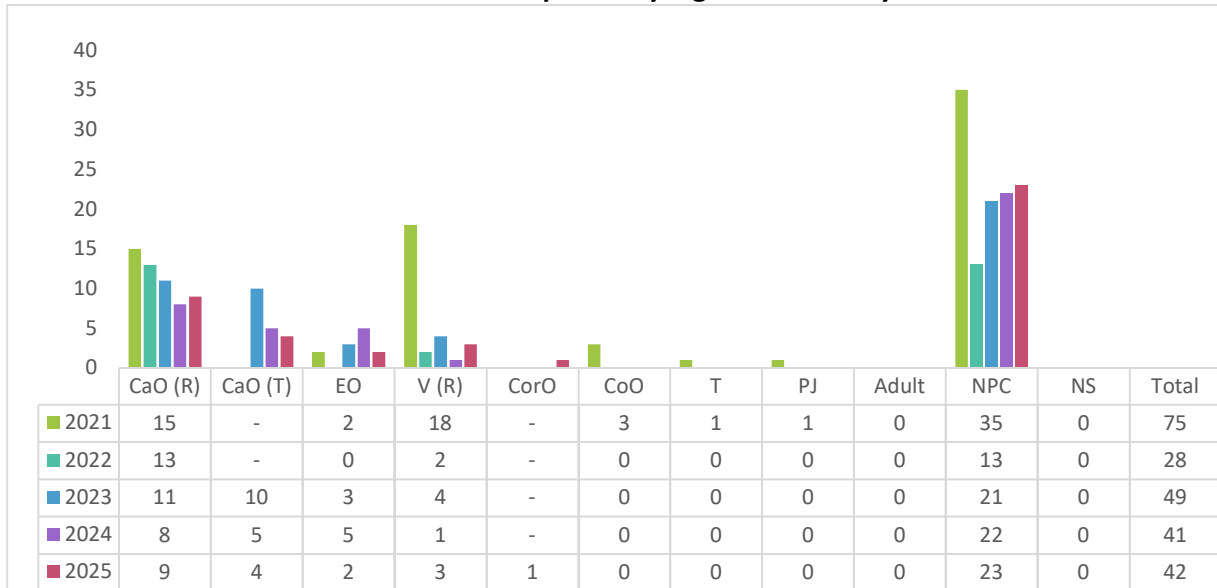
A total of **42** cases were opened between January and December 2025.

Note: Further breakdowns regarding cases opened by demographics can be found in the Appendix A.

LAC: Number of new & re-contact cases opened by age category and gender January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0	0
<1	2	4	0	0	0	6
1-5	10	5	0	0	0	15
6-10	2	2	0	0	0	4
11-15	7	4	0	0	0	11
16-17	4	1	0	0	0	5
≥18	1	0	0	0	0	1
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	26	16	0	0	0	42

Figure 22: The figure above classifies the age and gender of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth and gender. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. In 2025, the highest number of cases opened were ages 1 to 5 (15).

LAC: Number of new & re-contact cases opened by legal status and year



Graph Key: CaO (R) = Care order (regular); CaO (T) = Care order (temporary); EO= Emergency order; V (R)= Voluntary (Regular); CorO = Correctional order; CoO = Court order; T=Tutorship; PJ= Parental joint; Adult = Independent adult; NPC= Normal parental custody; NS = Not specified.

Figure 23: The figure above classifies the legal status, as per legal definitions², within the reporting year. It is the status as reported by the service user, known by the case worker, or based on documentation. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. The variable is reported for children with a special custody status otherwise it is normal parental custody.

² Laws of Malta, chapter 602, Minor Protection (Alternative Care) Act

Looked After Children Healthcare Service (LACHS)

Service was established in 2021 and first reported data within the statistical report in 2022.

LACHS: Number of visits carried out by age category groups and type of assessment January - December 2025							
	Less than 1 year	1 - 5 years	6 - 10 years	11 - 15 years	16 - 17 years	18+ years	Total
Initial health assessment (IHA)- new case	9	12	6	8	2	0	37
Review health assessments (RHA)	13	109	82	115	45	3	367
Ad hoc review	2	32	19	32	9	19	113
Initial health assessment-catch-up	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Educational talk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Telephone follow-up assessment	0	4	38	52	24	0	118
Meeting with biological parents	0	6	1	3	0	0	10
Total	24	163	146	210	80	22	645

Figure 24: Children will be provided with health-related visits consisting of an initial health assessment, a review health assessment, an ad hoc review (e.g., if someone is unwell), an educational talk or telephone follow-up assessment. The figure above breaks down the visit types and the age category of the children attending. For example, in 2025, 115 children aged 11 to 15 years were provided a review health assessment (RHA).

Please note that each child may have been visited more than once within the reporting period. Also, the Initial Health Assessment catch-up are only provided to minors who were already in care when the service started and needed an initial assessment. Educational talks are provided on request from the homes/social workers however, some talks are for adults and those are not included here.

LACHS: Number of children assessed by age category and gender January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Less than 1 years	6	6	0	-	0	12
1 - 5 years	44	41	0	-	0	85
6 - 10 years	49	48	0	-	0	97
11 - 15 years	66	66	0	-	0	132
16 - 17 years	22	38	0	-	0	60
18+ years	9	3	0	-	0	12
Total	196	202	0	-	0	398

Figure 25: The table above provides the ages and gender of the children that attended visits in the reporting year. In 2025 a total of 398 children attended 645 healthcare visits and the majority of the 398 children were ages 11 to 15 (132 children assessed).

LACHS: Number of children assessed by gender of the service user and year

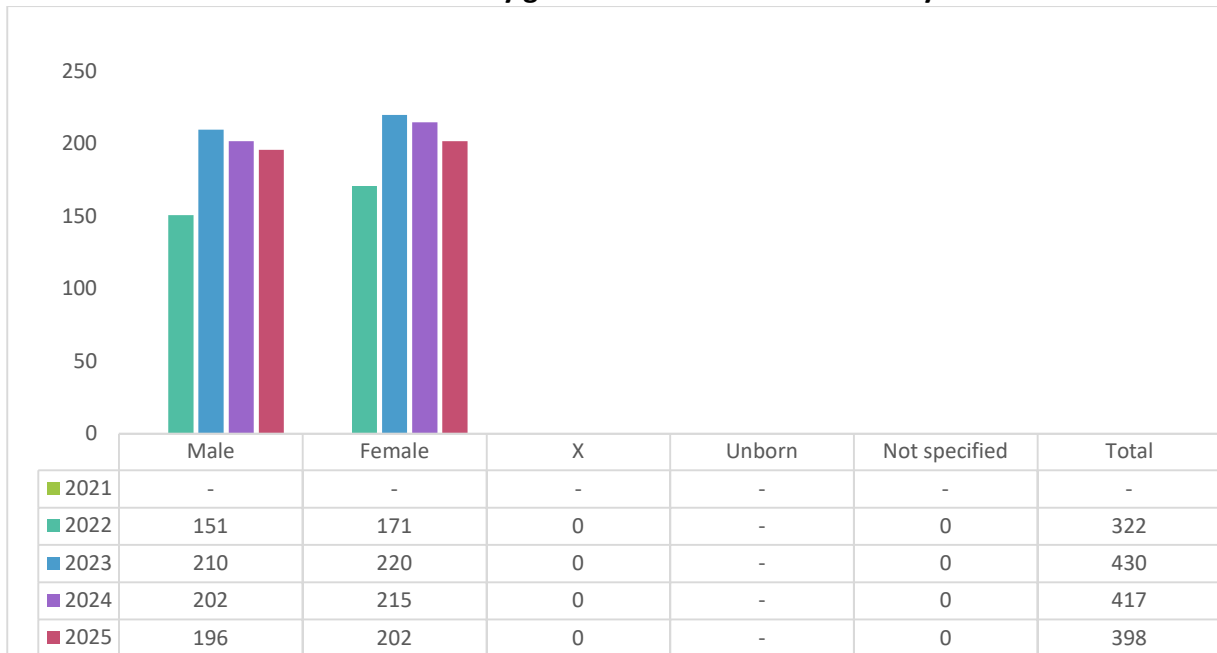


Figure 26: The figure above provides the gender of the children provided with healthcare visits. For example, the majority of children visited in 2025 were female (202). Please note that each child may have been visited more than once within the reporting period.

LACHS: Number of visits by age category of the service user and year

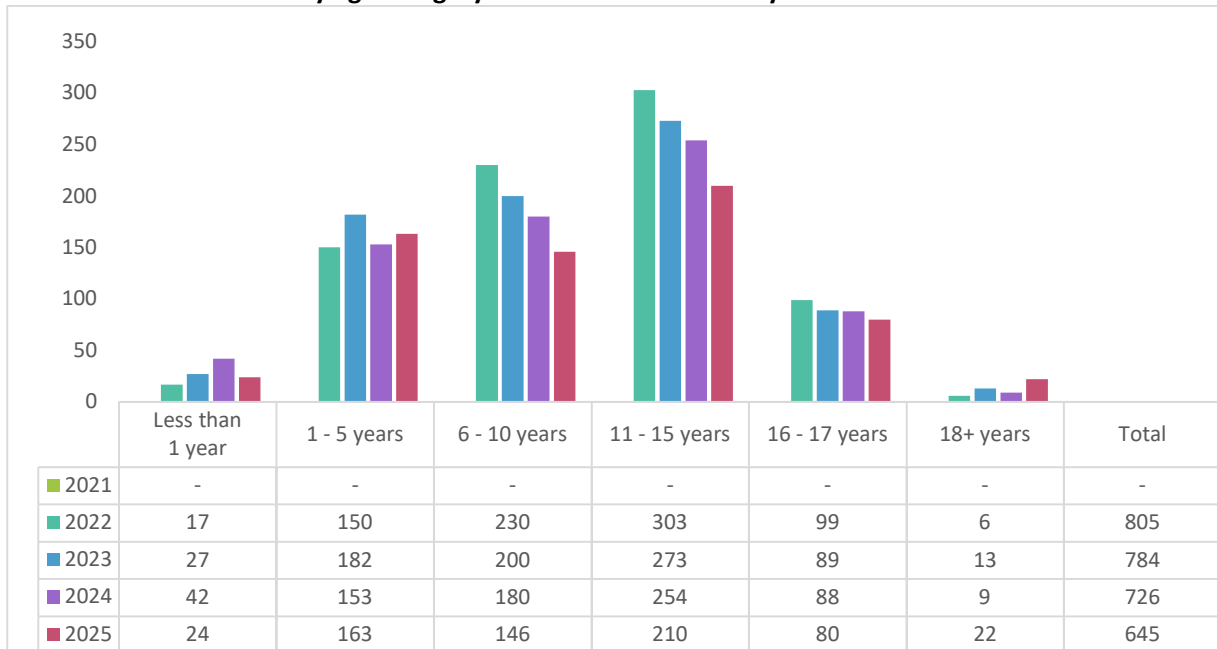


Figure 27: The figure above provides the age category of the children provided with healthcare visits. For example, the majority of children visited in 2025 were ages 11 to 15 (132). Please note that each child may have been visited more than once within the reporting period.

Additional DAC Services

Reintegration Services

Service began reporting data as of 2022.

Reintegration: Number of cases worked with by year



Figure 28: The cases worked with each year can be a new case, recontact case, known case or an intake case (a case starting and ending the year on intake). Further definitions can be found in the glossary. In 2025, 24 cases were worked with compared to 18 cases in 2024.

Reintegration: Number of cases worked with by age category and gender January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0	0
<1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-5	2	8	0	0	0	10
6-10	5	5	0	0	0	10
11-15	3	1	0	0	0	4
16-17	0	0	0	0	0	0
≥18	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	10	14	0	0	0	24

Figure 29: The figure above classifies the age and gender of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth and gender. In 2025, the majority of cases worked with were ages 1 to 5 (10 cases) and 6 to 10 (10 cases).

Children's Fund

Service began reporting data as of 2022.

Children's Fund: Number of children provided with this service

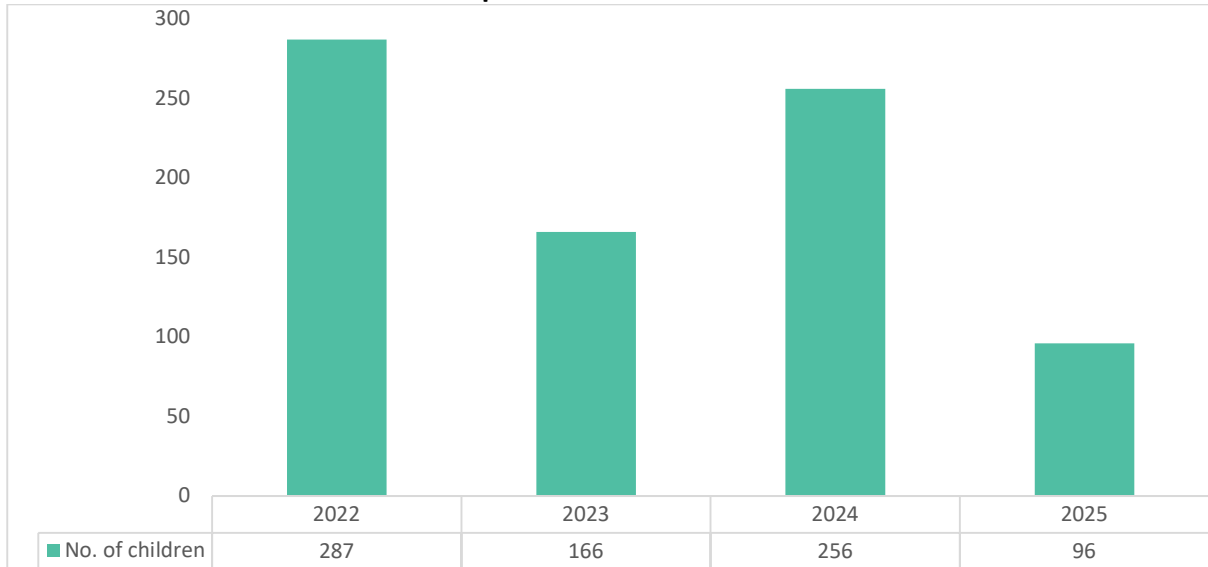


Figure 30: Social workers submit applications for children to be provided basic amenities purchased with funds raised or donated. For example, in 2025, a total of 96 children benefited from this fund.

Children Dreams

Service began reporting data as of January 2022.

Children Dreams: Number of children provided with this service

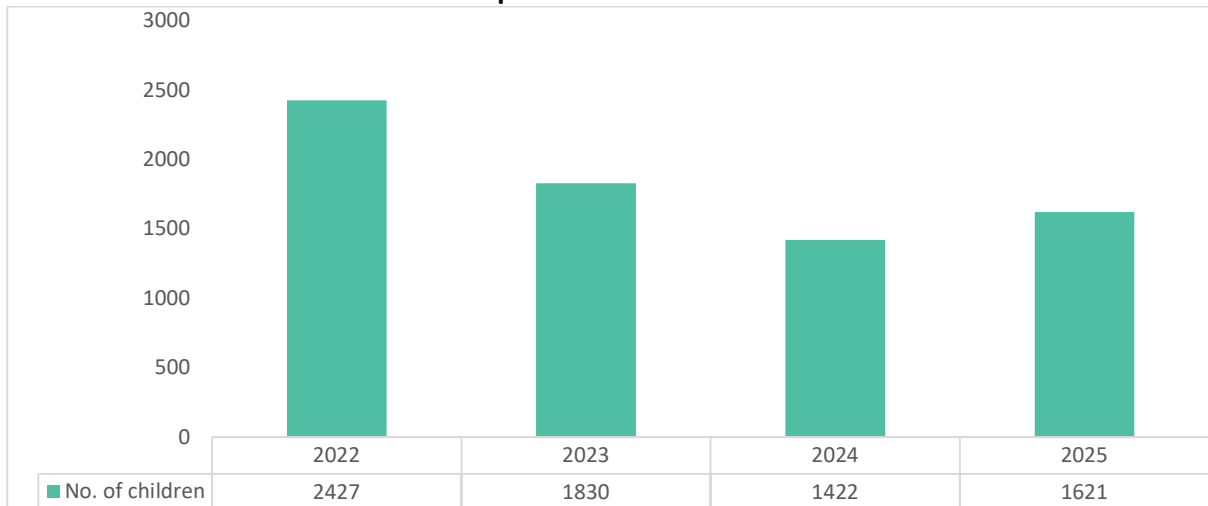


Figure 31: People can help vulnerable children receive the Christmas gift of their dreams (e.g., simple meal, an outing, educational courses etc.) As this is a Christmas related activity, events only occur in the latter half of the year. In 2025, 1621 children were provided with a gift.

Socio-Legal Service

Service began reporting data as of January 2023.

Socio Legal Board Sitting

Socio-Legal: Number of board meetings held, cases heard, and individuals involved by year

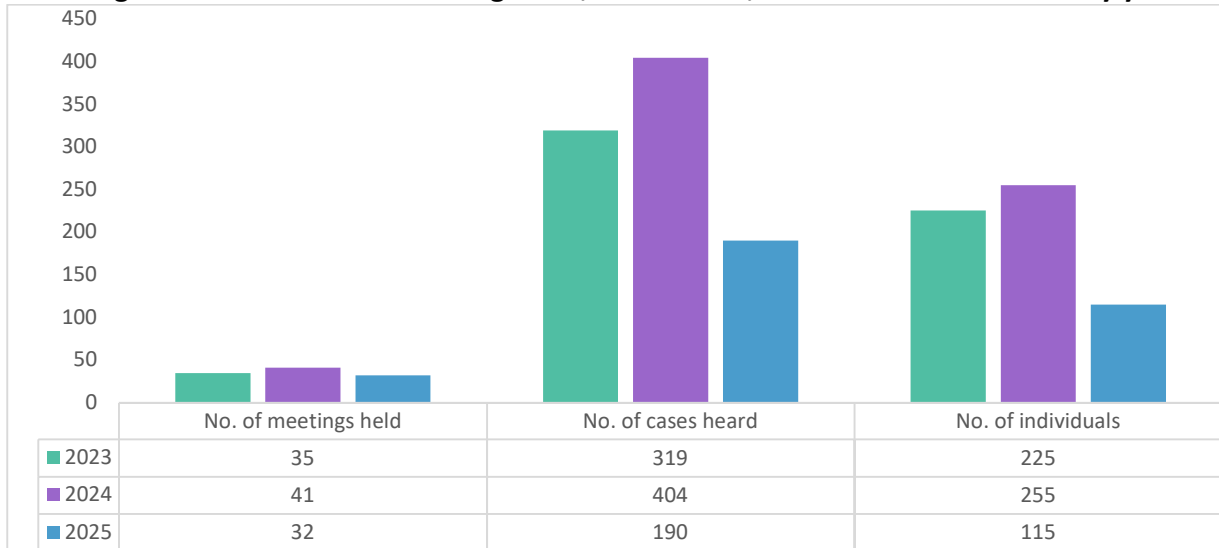
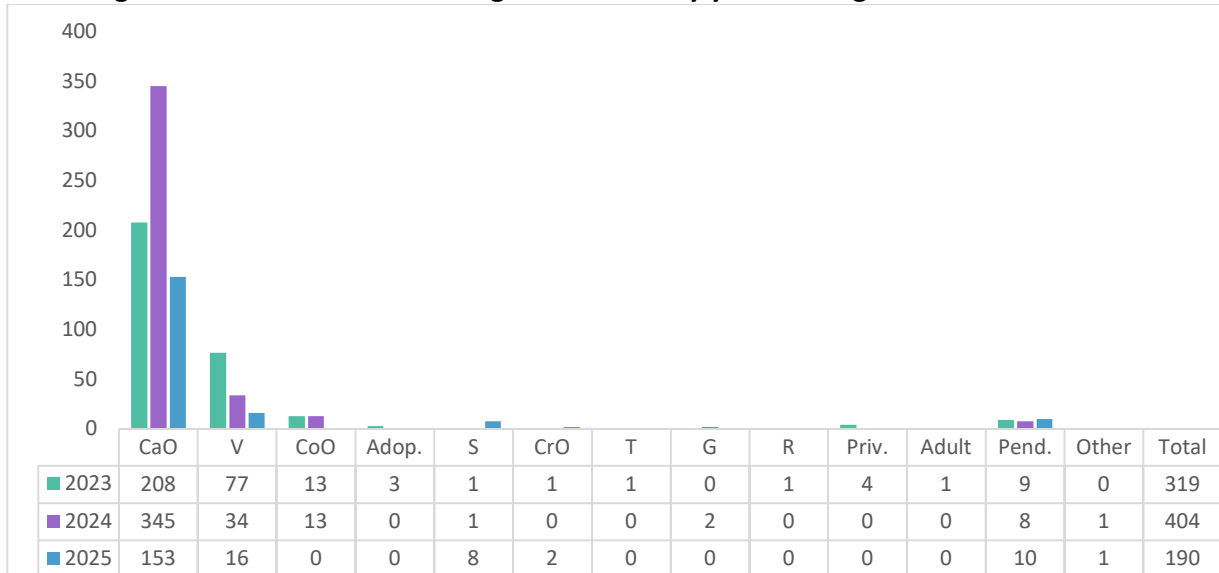


Figure 32: Within this service, meetings are held to hear and discuss cases concerning individuals. Within 1 meeting a number of cases and individuals may be discussed. For example, in 2025, 32 meetings were held regarding 190 cases concerning 115 individuals.

Socio-Legal: Number of board meeting cases heard by year and legal status



Graph Key: CaO = Care order (regular); V = Voluntary (Regular); CoO = Court order; Adopt. = Adoption; S = Supervision order; CrO = Correctional order; T=Tutorship; G = Guardianship; R = Reintegration; Priv. = Other private arrangement; Adult = Independent adult; Pend. = Pendente; Other = Legal custody is not applicable.

Figure 33: The figure above classifies the legal status of the case, as per legal definitions³, within the reporting year. It is the status as reported by the service user, known by the case worker, or based on documentation. In 2025, a total of 190 cases were discussed by this service of which 153 were under a care order.

³ Laws of Malta, chapter 602, Minor Protection (Alternative Care) Act

Legal Representation for minors and Youth in Alternative Care

Between **January and December 2025**:

- Provided court representation to **86** youths and adolescents over **342** court sittings.
- Represented the Directorate on **12** cases tied with threats on employees, over **19** court sittings.
- Assisted **28** youths and adolescents during **51** police interventions.
- Dispensed legal advice to **14** youths and adolescents through **24** meetings both at the office or at Centre of Residential Restorative Services (Corrs).

Directorate's presence in Court Hearings

Between **January and December 2025**, the Socio-legal office also represented the Directorate for alternative care on **86 court cases** spread over **246 court hearings**.

Socio-Legal: Number of court cases by type of representation	
	2025
Permanency appeal	1
Applications for care orders (including conversions of voluntary cases)	62
Applications for correctional orders	4
Applications for freeing children up for adoption	15
Applications of supervision orders	4
Total	86

Figure 34: In 2025, the majority of court case representations involved applications for care orders (including conversions of voluntary cases), with 72% (62) cases.

Alternative Care Placement Records

The service records children and youth who at some point during the year, lived in an alternative care placement and are followed/monitored⁴ by a service within the Directorate for Alternative Care or the Child Protection Service.

Children and Youths who were monitored

Placement: Number of children and families monitored by year				
	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of children and youth cases worked with	569	551	520	487
Number of different families the children and youth came from	362	355	319	285

Figure 35: In 2025, the Directorate for Alternative Care monitored 487 cases of children and youth from 285 different families.

Placement: Number of children and youth cases worked with and monitored in Jan-Dec 2025 by gender

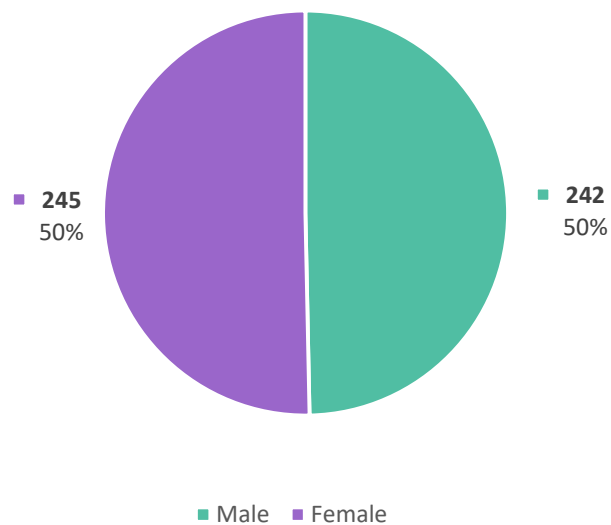


Figure 36: Out of the 487 children or youth cases monitored in 2025, 50% (245) were female and 50% (242) were male.

⁴ The service monitors persons in alternative care, 18+ cases moving towards independent living and persons reintegrated with immediate or extended families.

Placement: Number of children and youth cases worked with and monitored in Jan-Dec 2025 by age category

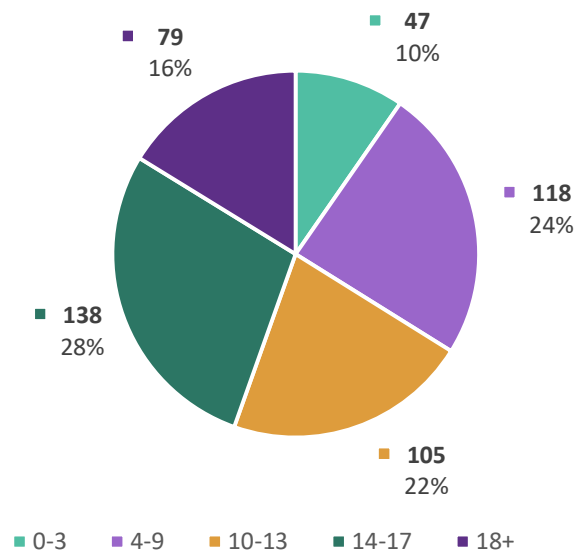
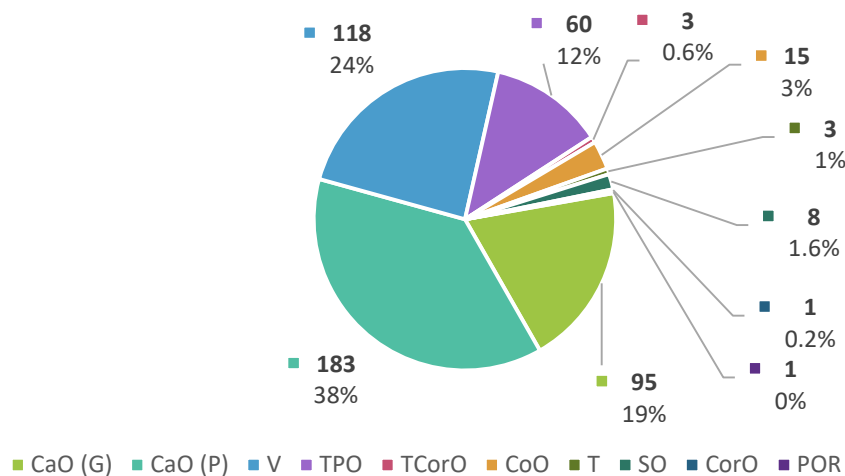


Figure 37: Out of the 487 children or youth cases monitored in 2025, 28% (138) were ages 14 to 17. Although the service targets children up to 17 years of age, they may be required to support a youth beyond the age of 18 in order for the youth to gain full independence e.g., young adult is in tertiary education and cannot afford personal housing at this time.

Placement: Number of children and youth cases worked with and monitored in Jan-Dec 2025 by protection category

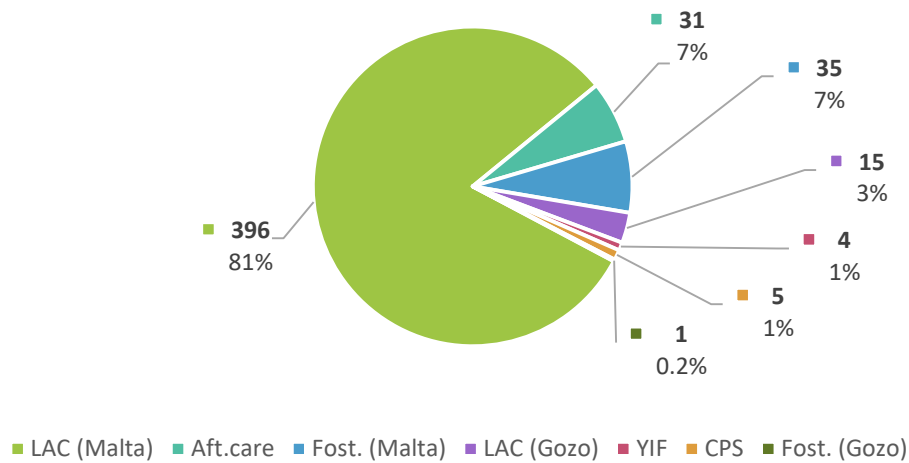


Graph Key: CaO (G) = Care order (general); CaO (P) = Care order (with permanency); V = Voluntary in care; TPO= Temporary protection order; TCorO= Temporary correctional order; CoO = Court order; T=Tutorship; SO = Supervision order; CorO = Correctional order; POR = Protection order revoked (turned 18 years).

Figure 38: The figure above classifies the protection category of the case, as per legal definitions⁵, within the reporting year. It is the status as reported by the service user, known by the case worker, or based on documentation. Some youth will have their protection order revoked once they turn 18 but they will still be provided a placement because they may still require support in order to gain full independence (e.g., young adult is in tertiary education and cannot afford personal housing at this time).

⁵ Laws of Malta, chapter 602, Minor Protection (Alternative Care) Act

Placement: Number of children and youth cases worked with and monitored in Jan-Dec 2025 by main service following the case



Graph Key: LAC (Malta) = Looked After Children Service (Malta); Aft.care = Aftercare Service; Fost. (Malta) = Fostering Service (Malta); LAC (Gozo) = Looked After Children Service (Gozo); YIF = Youth in Focus; CPS = Child Protection Service; Fost. (Gozo) = Fostering Service (Gozo).

Figure 39: The figure above stratifies the children and youth cases worked with by the main service which is responsible for the person. Although a child or youth would be monitored by the Alternative Care, they are still required to have a social worker following their case. For example, of the 487 children and youth cases worked with in 2025, 81% (396) were mainly followed by Looked After Children Service Malta (LAC-Malta).

Placement: Number of children and youth cases worked with and monitored in Jan-Dec 2025 by type of service

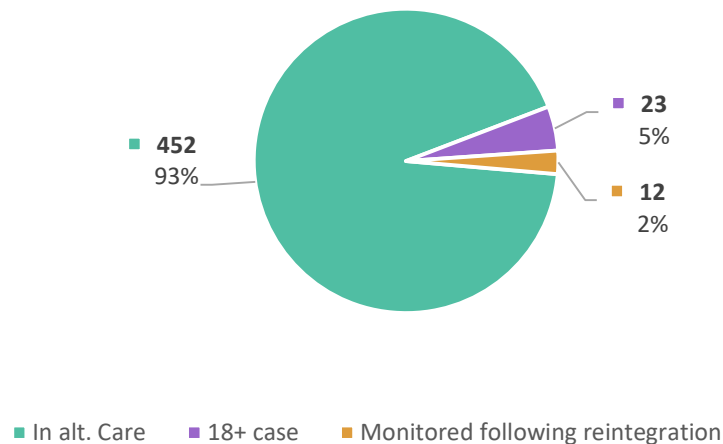
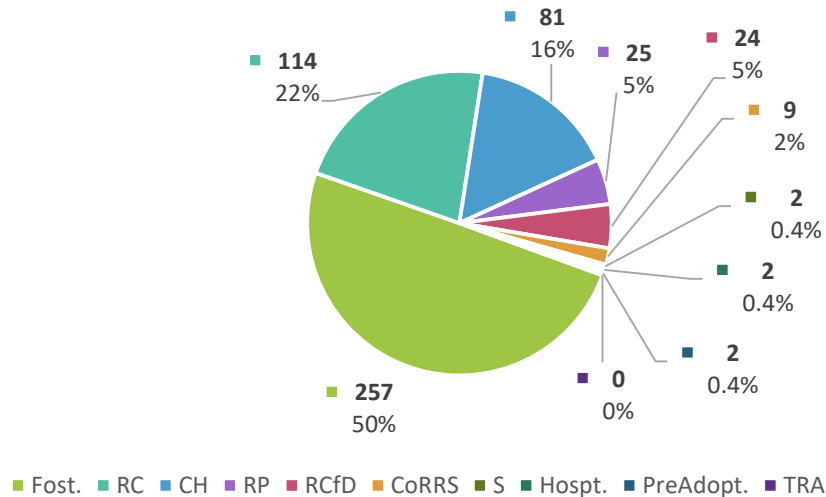


Figure 40: The figure above stratifies the children and youth cases worked with by the type of service provided. For example, of the 487 children and youth cases worked with in 2025, 93% (452) were placed within an alternative care placement.

Active placements

In total there were **467** unique children placed within **516** placements (because some children and youths may have more than one placement during the same year). On 31st December 2025 there were **423** still active placements.

Placement: Number of placements in Jan-Dec 2025 by placement type



Graph Key: Fost. = Fostering; RC = Residential Care; CH = Community Homes; RP = Residential Programmes; RCfD = Residential care for persons with disabilities; CoRRS = Centre of Residential Restorative Services; S = Shelters; Hospt. = Hospital; PreAdopt. = Pre-adoption placement; TRA = Temporary respite agreements.

Figure 41: Children and youth may have more than one placement during the same year. Therefore, the figure above provides the total number of placements stratified by the type of placement. For example, of the 516 placements registered in 2025, 50% (257) were a fostering placement and 22% (114) were a residential care placement.

Placement: Number of unique children placed within an active placement in Jan-Dec 2025 by gender

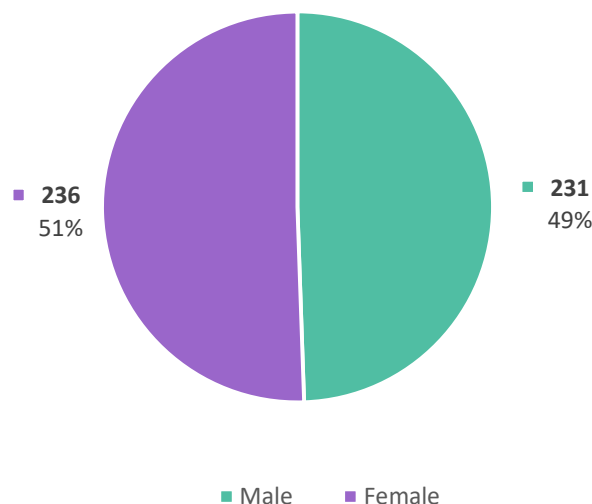


Figure 42: Out of the 467 unique children or youth placed within in a placement in 2025, 51% (236) were female and 49% (231) were male.

Placement: Number of unique children placed within an active placement in Jan-Dec 2025 by age category

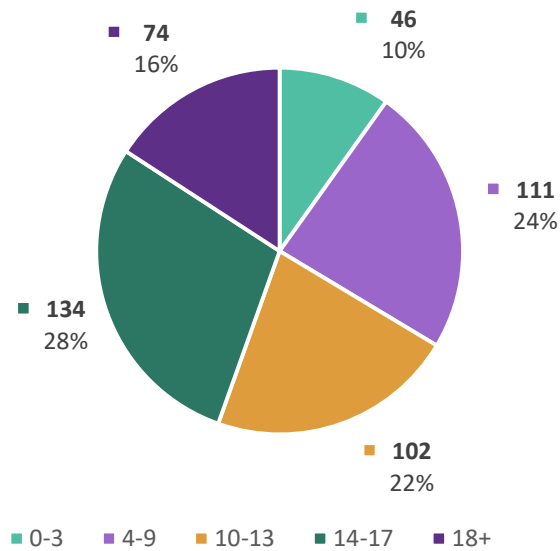
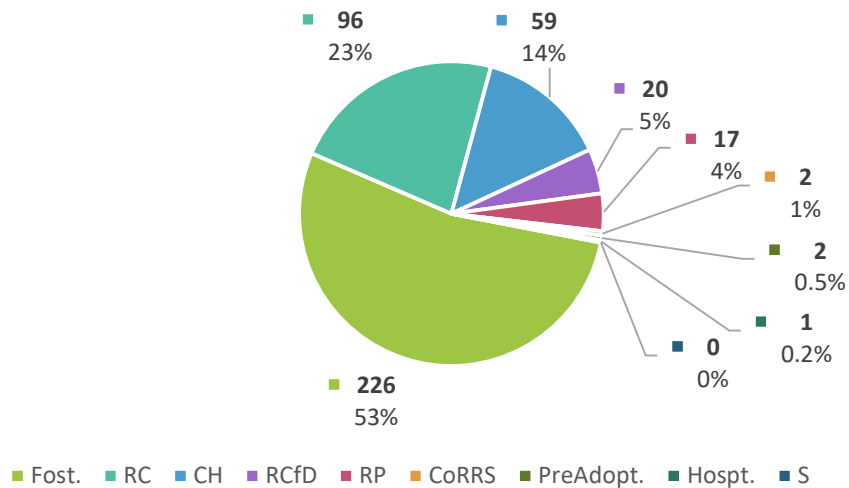


Figure 43: Out of the 467 unique children of youth placed within a placement in 2025, 28% (134) were ages 14 to 17. Although the service targets children up to 17 years of age, they may be required to support a youth beyond the age of 18 in order for the youth to gain full independence e.g., young adult is in tertiary education and cannot afford personal housing at this time.

Placement: Number of active placements on 31st December 2025 by placement type



Graph Key: Fost. = Fostering; RC = Residential Care; CH = Community Homes; RCfD = Residential care for persons with disabilities; RP = Residential Programmes; CoRRS = Centre of Residential Restorative Services; PreAdopt. = Pre-adoption placement; Hospt. = Hospital; S = Shelters.

Figure 44: Children and youth may have more than one placement during the same year. Therefore, the figure above provides the total number of placements stratified by the type of placement. For example, of the 423 still active placements registered on 31st December 2025, 53% (226) were a fostering placement and 23% (96) were a residential care placement.

Aftercare Service

Service began reporting data as of July 2022 and past data from 2021 re-submitted was reanalysed with the new format.

Aftercare: Number of cases and individuals worked with by year

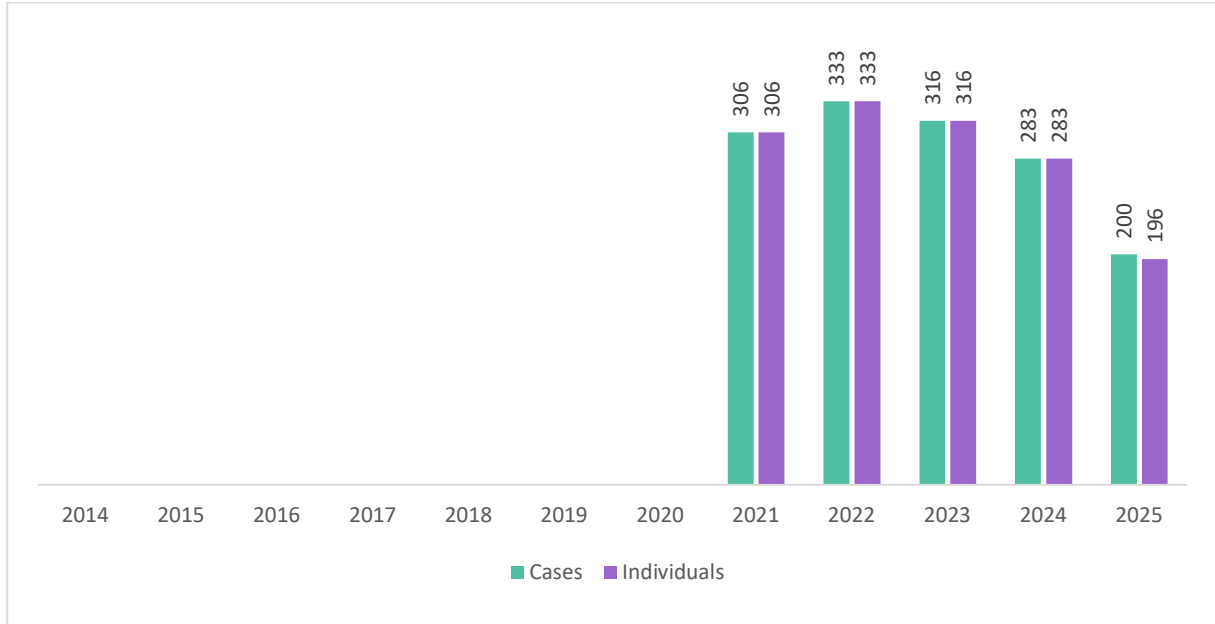


Figure 45: The figure above provides the number of cases worked with and the number of individuals worked with. To demonstrate the difference, consider Person A, who started and stopped attending a service twice in the same year, making it equivalent to 2 cases, but 1 individual worked with. In 2025, 200 cases and 196 individuals were worked with compared to 283 and 283 respectively in 2024.

A total of **200** cases were worked with between January and December 2025.

Aftercare: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by gender (no. & %)

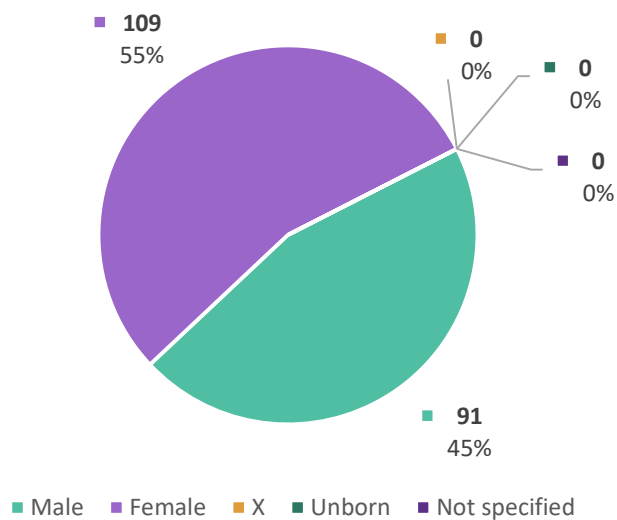


Figure 46: The figure above classifies the gender of the service user. Gender is collected at referral or first contact, but it can be updated throughout the lifetime of the case as required. The gender is collected either through formal documentation and/or the pronouns the person used when referring to themselves. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were female (55%).

Aftercare: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by age category (no. & %)

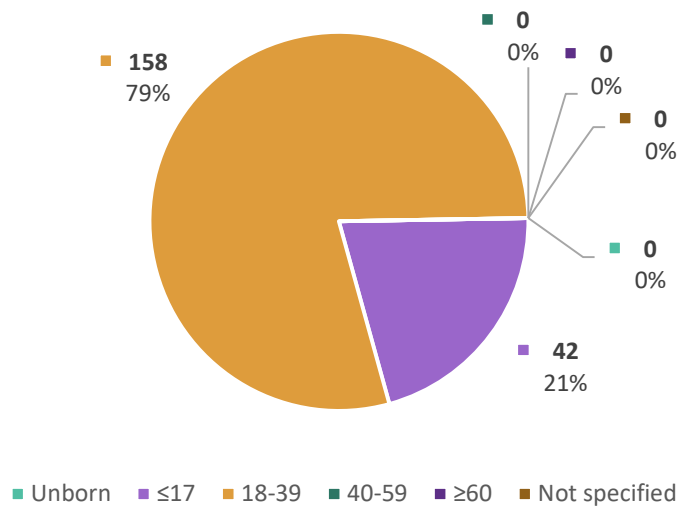


Figure 47: The figure above classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were ages 18 to 39 years (79%).

Aftercare: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by nationality (no. & %)

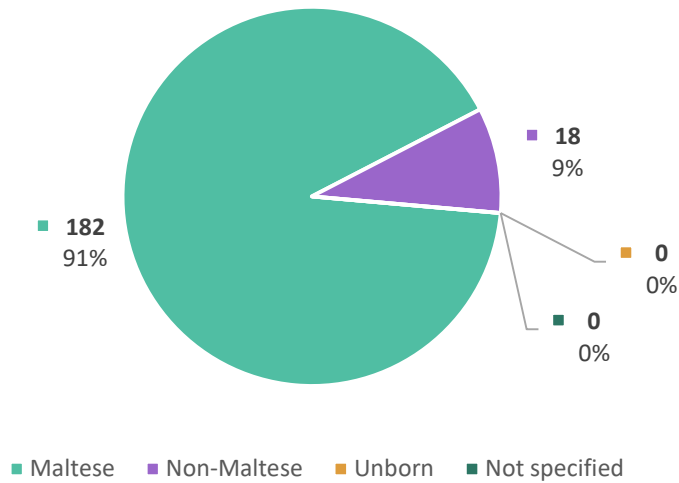
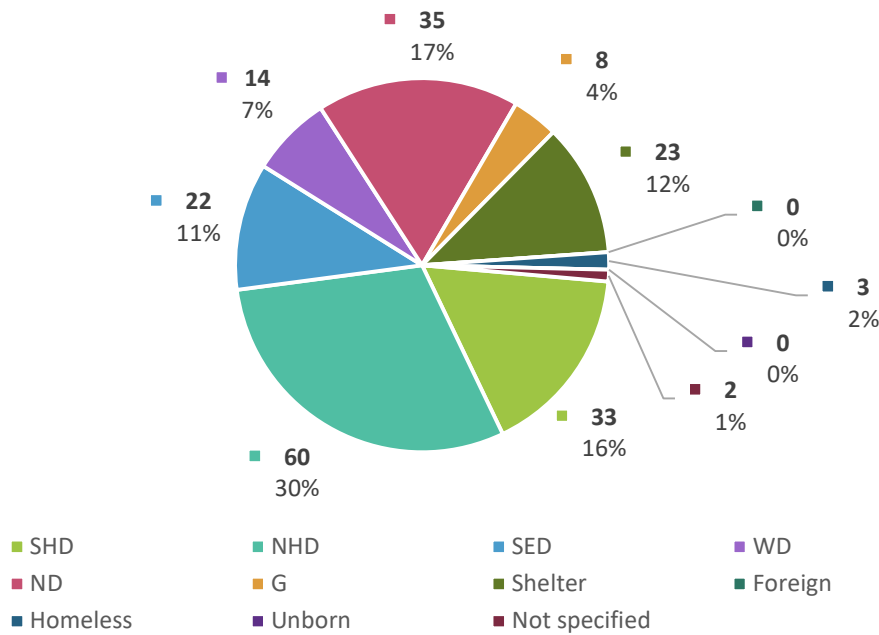


Figure 48: The figure above classifies the nationality as reported by the service user within the reporting year or based on an identity card/document. In 2025, 91% of the cases worked with were Maltese while non-Maltese made up 9% of cases.

Aftercare: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by district of residence (no. & %)



Graph Key: SHD = Southern Harbour District; NHD = Northern Harbour District; SED = Southeastern District; WD = Western District; ND = Northern District; G = Gozo District; Shelter = shelter/institution; Foreign = Foreign residence.

Figure 49: The figure above classifies the district of residence as reported by the service user within the reporting year. Some service users reside within “shelter/institution” (e.g., residential homes, centre of residential restorative services, or shelters). Some service users are in Malta temporarily and so normally have a foreign residence whilst others are homeless and do not have a fixed residence. Shelter/institution, foreign residence and homeless are reported as separate categories to avoid biasing the data on district. The Northern Harbour District (30%) had the highest percentage of cases worked with in 2025.

Aftercare: Number of new, re-contact, known and intake cases worked with by year

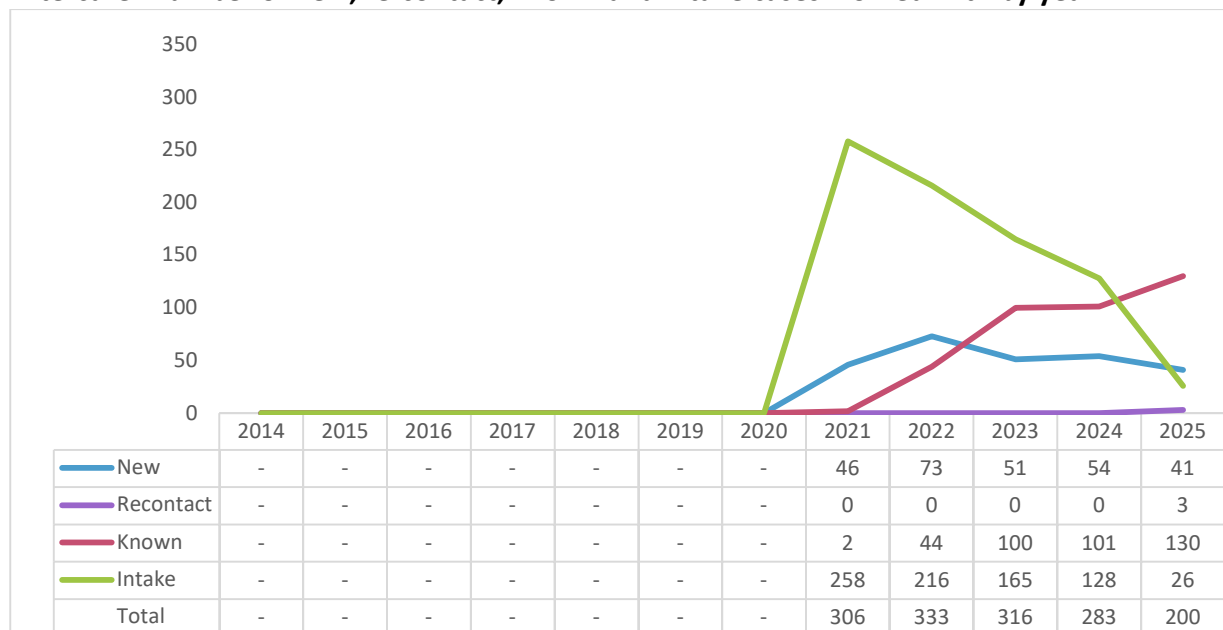


Figure 50: The cases worked with each year can be a new case, recontact case, known case or an intake case (a case starting and ending the year on intake). Further definitions can be found in the glossary.

Aftercare: Case state at the end of the reporting period

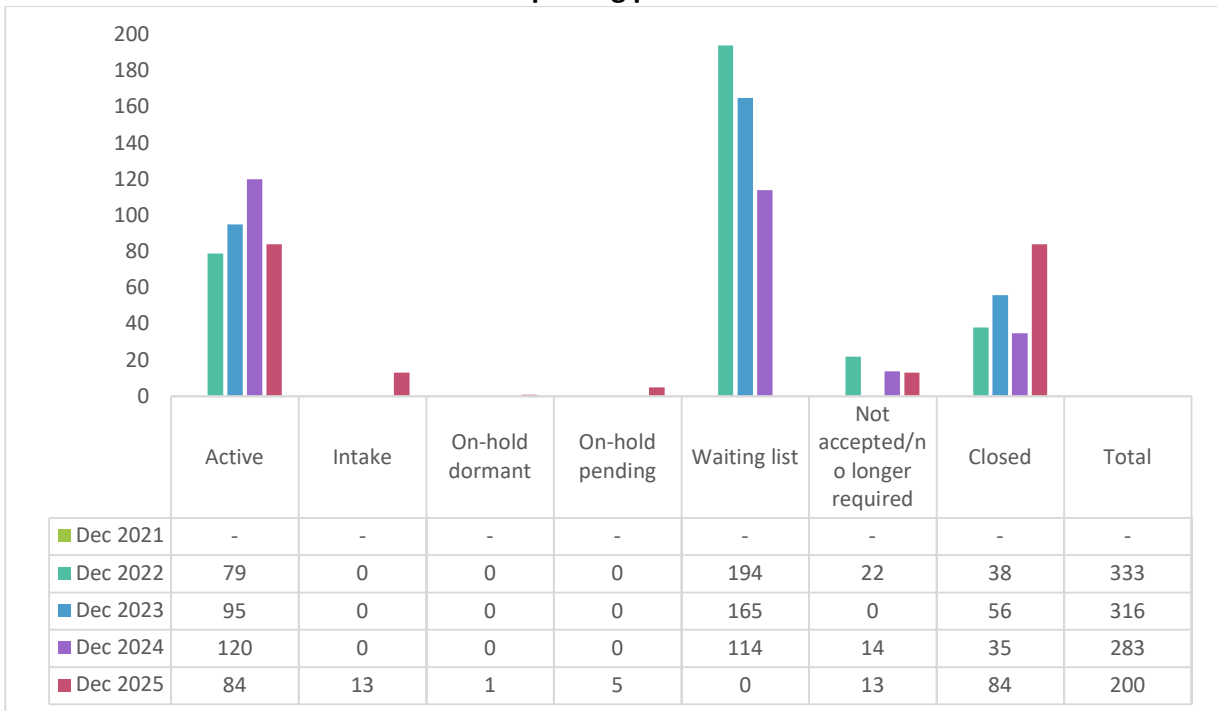


Figure 51: Cases will be handled throughout the year by placing them on intake, adding them to the waiting list, opening them, or closing them (definitions can be found in the glossary). The case state at the end of the reporting year is shown in the figure above. By the end of December 2025, 42% (84) of the cases worked with were still active. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

Aftercare: Waiting list at the end of the reporting period

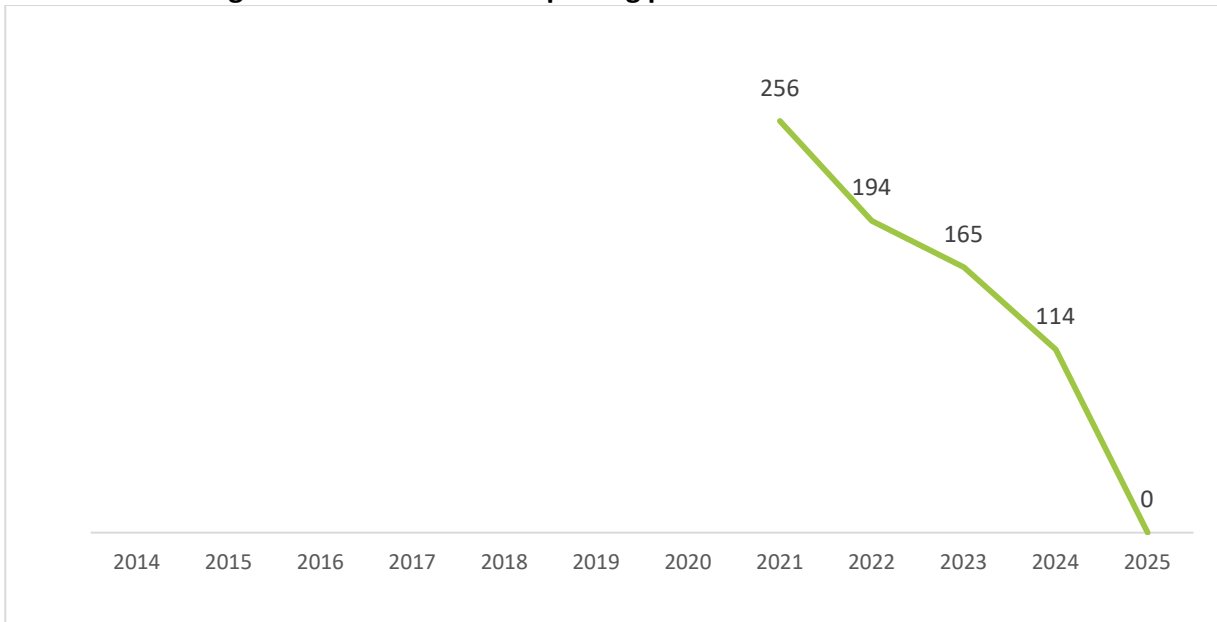


Figure 52: The figure above only reports cases that are still on the waiting list at the end of the reporting period. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

Aftercare: Number of referred, new & re-contact, and closed cases by year

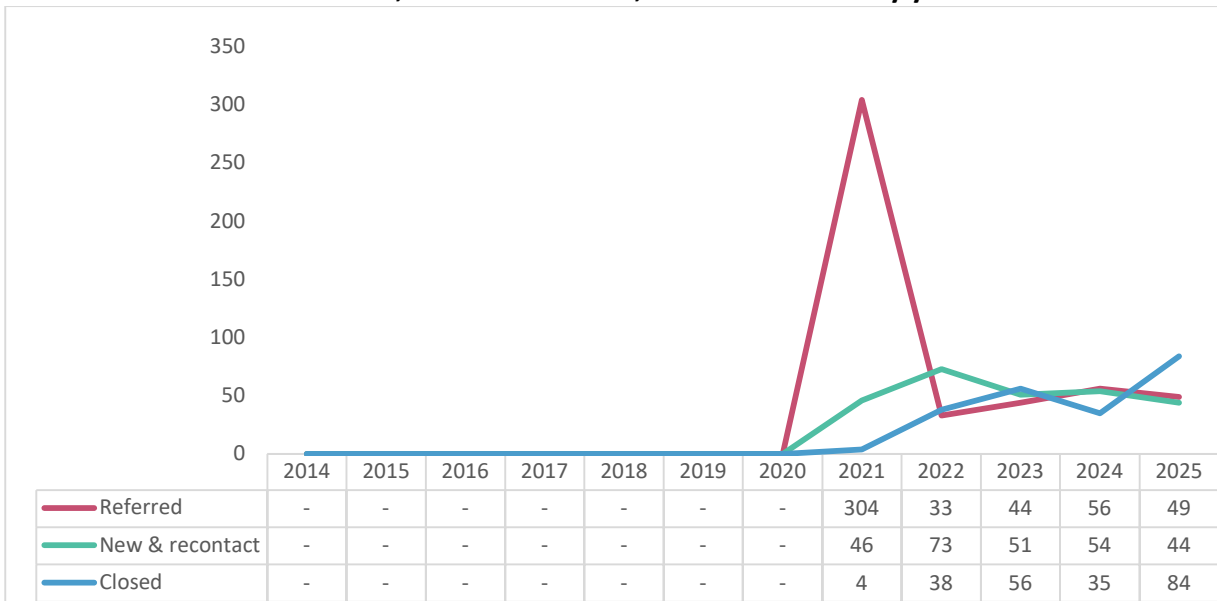


Figure 53: Cases may be referred, opened, or closed throughout the year (definitions can be found in the glossary). Opened cases include both new and recontact cases (see figure 50 for breakdown of new & recontact cases). In 2025, 49 cases were referred, 44 new & recontact cases opened, and 84 cases closed.

A total of **44** cases were opened between January and December 2025.

Note: Further breakdowns regarding cases opened by demographics can be found in the Appendix A.

Aftercare: Number of new & re-contact cases opened by age category and gender January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0	0
<1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6-10	0	0	0	0	0	0
11-15	0	0	0	0	0	0
16-17	5	15	0	0	0	20
≥18	12	12	0	0	0	24
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	17	27	0	0	0	44

Figure 54: The figure above classifies the age and gender of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth and gender. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. In 2025, the highest number of cases opened were ages 18 or over (24).

Fostering Service

Due to the introduction of a new online data collection system and changes in reporting format in 2020, data from 2010 to 2019 is incomparable to data from 2020 onwards. Therefore, data for 2010 up to 2019 is not reported in the current report but can be found within past reports. As of 2020, the data reported on both adults and minor service users accessing the service but as of 2022, the data only reported on adult service users accessing the service.

Fostering: Number of cases and individuals worked with by year

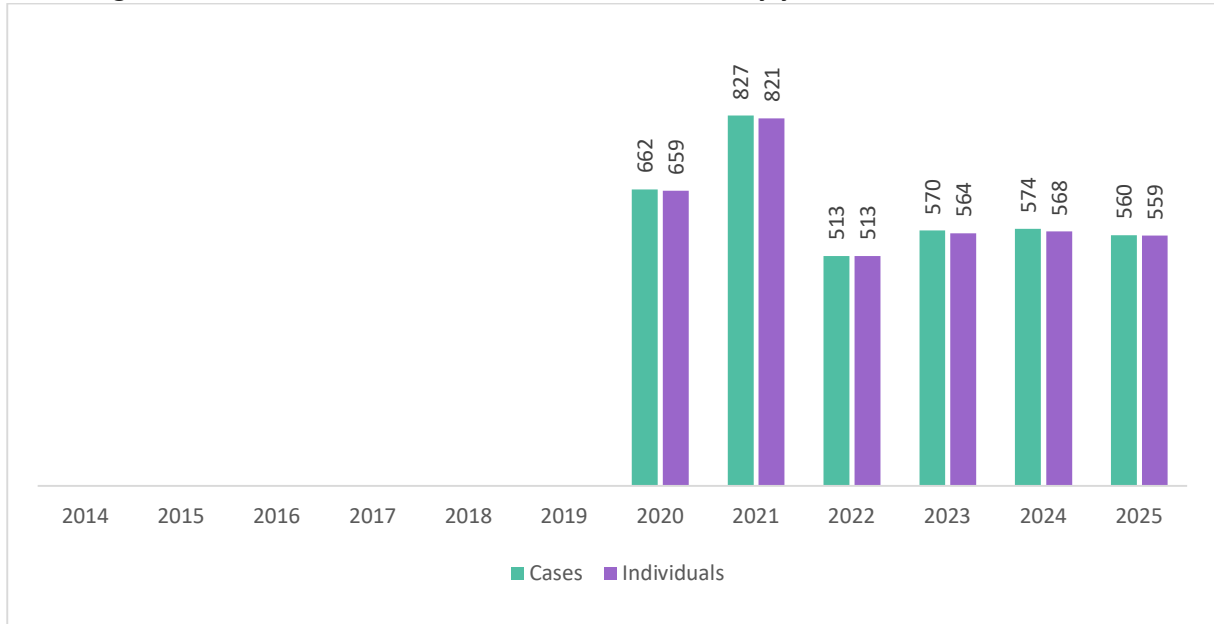


Figure 55: The figure above provides the number of cases worked with and the number of individuals worked with. To demonstrate the difference, consider Person A, who started and stopped attending a service twice in the same year, making it equivalent to 2 cases, but 1 individual worked with. In 2025, 560 cases and 559 individuals were worked with compared to 574 and 568 respectively in 2024.

A total of **560** cases were worked with between January and December 2025.

Fostering: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by gender (no. & %)

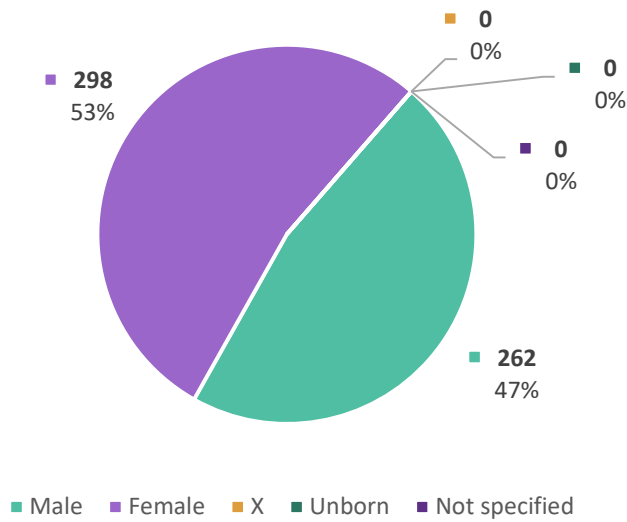


Figure 56: The figure above classifies the gender of the service user. Gender is collected at referral or first contact, but it can be updated throughout the lifetime of the case as required. The gender is collected either through formal documentation and/or the pronouns the person used when referring to themselves. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were female (53%).

Fostering: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by age category (no. & %)

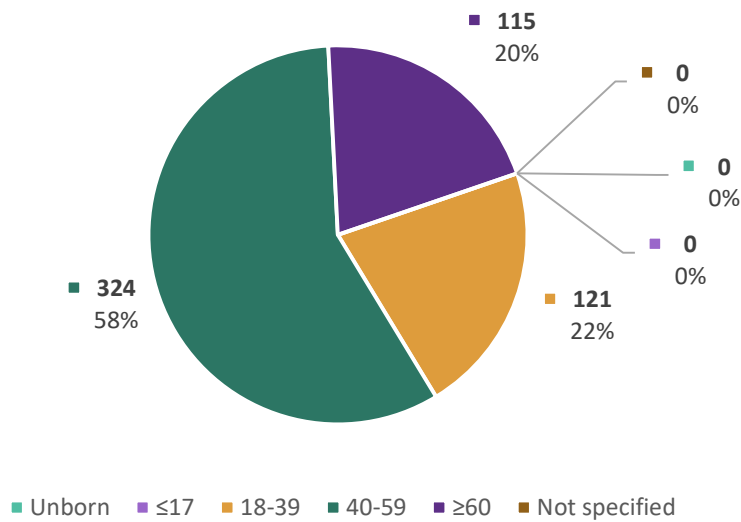


Figure 57: The figure above classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were ages 40 to 59 (58%).

Fostering: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by nationality (no. & %)

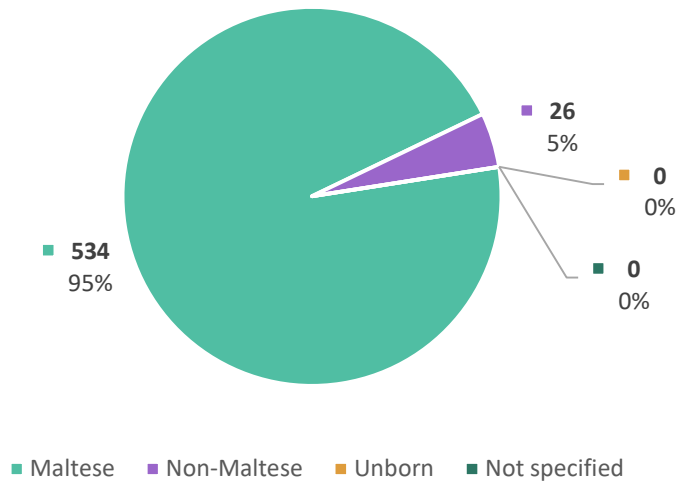
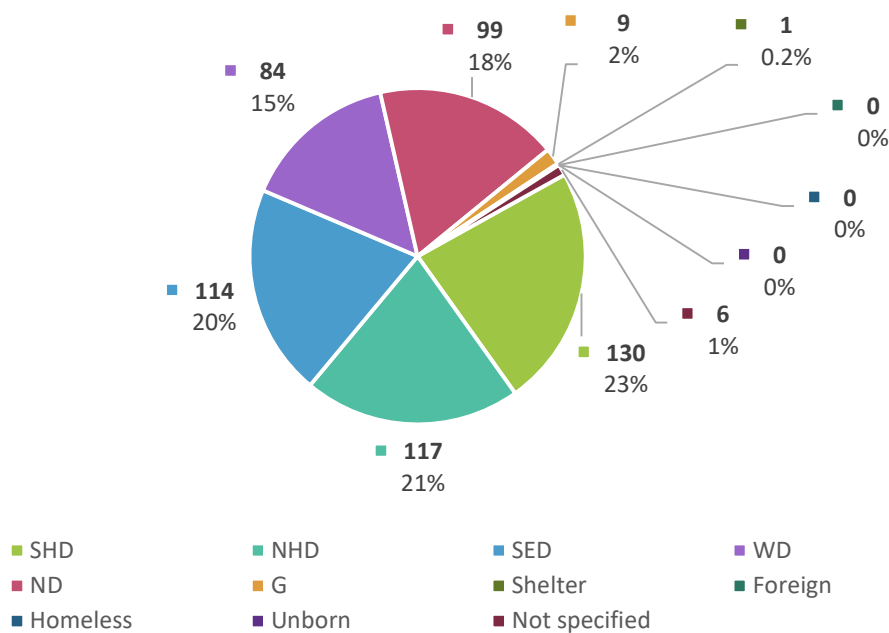


Figure 58: The figure above classifies the nationality as reported by the service user within the reporting year or based on an identity card/document. In 2025, 95% of the cases worked with were Maltese while non-Maltese made up 5% of cases.

Fostering: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by district of residence (no. & %)



Graph Key: SHD = Southern Harbour District; NHD = Northern Harbour District; SED = Southeastern District; WD = Western District; ND = Northern District; G = Gozo District; Shelter = shelter/institution; Foreign = Foreign residence.

Figure 59: The figure above classifies the district of residence as reported by the service user within the reporting year. Some service users reside within “shelter/institution” (e.g., residential homes, centre of residential restorative services, or shelters). Some service users are in Malta temporarily and so normally have a foreign residence whilst others are homeless and do not have a fixed residence. Shelter/institution, foreign residence and homeless are reported as separate categories to avoid biasing the data on district. The Southern Harbour District (23%) had the highest percentage of cases worked with in 2025.

Fostering: Cases worked with by type of service user January - December 2025					
	New	Re-contact	Known	Intake	Total
Foster carer - next of kin	0	1	79	2	82
Foster carer - non-related	8	4	299	1	312
Prospective foster carer	70	0	70	26	166
Total	78	5	448	29	560

Figure 60: The service obtains applications from persons wishing to become foster carers, and these are termed as prospective foster carers. Prospective foster carers go through the service with the aim of becoming a next of kin foster carer (closest living relative by blood or by law) or non-related foster carer. In 2025, 394 foster carers were worked with along with a further 166 prospective foster carers who were in the process of becoming approved carers.

Fostering: Number of new, re-contact, known and intake cases worked with by year

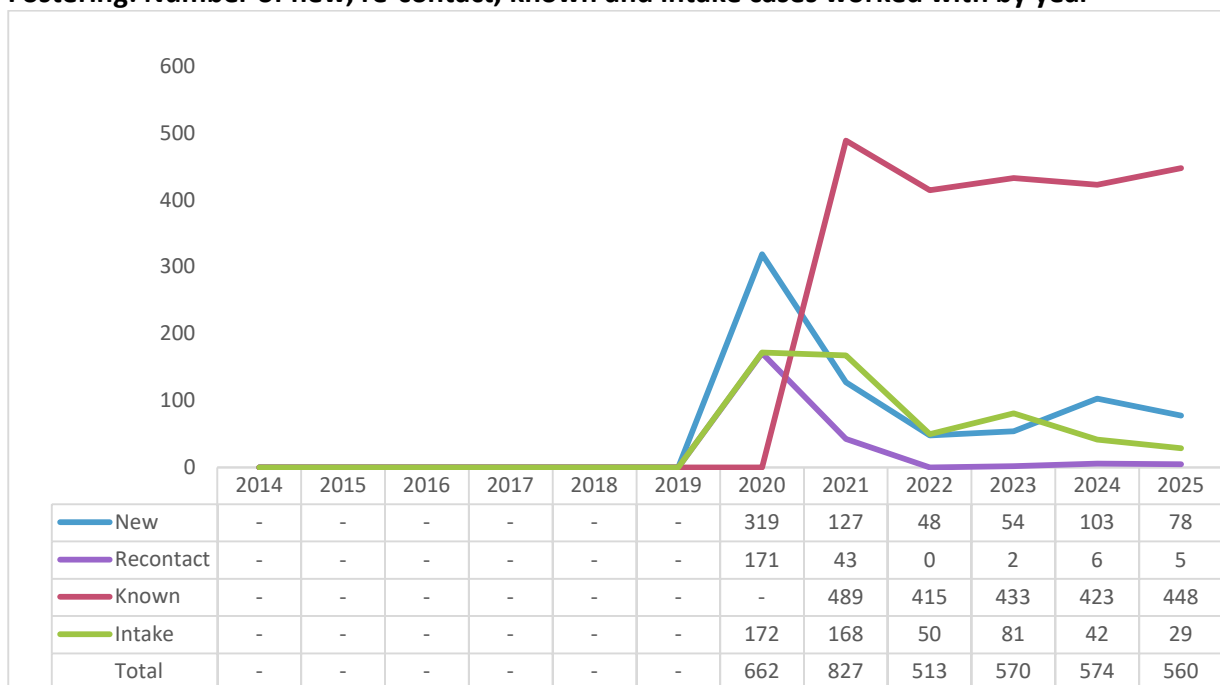


Figure 61: The cases worked with each year can be a new case, recontact case, known case or an intake case (a case starting and ending the year on intake). Further definitions can be found in the glossary. For the above graph, intake began to be reported in 2021 due to the implementation of an online data collection system. With the introduction of a new online system, all known cases had to be re-inputted in 2020, and these were automatically registered as new.

Fostering: Case state at the end of the reporting period

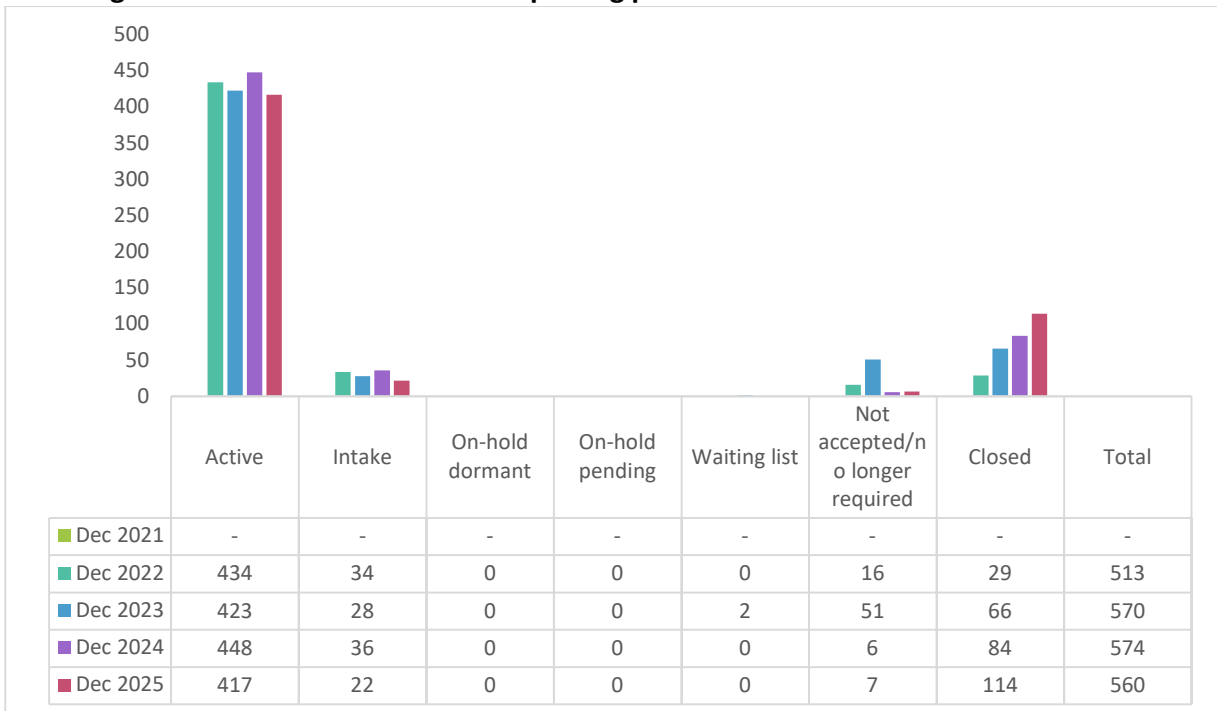


Figure 62: Cases will be handled throughout the year by placing them on intake, adding them to the waiting list, opening them, or closing them (definitions can be found in the glossary). The case state at the end of the reporting year is shown in the figure above. By the end of December 2025, 74% (417) of the cases worked with were still active. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

Fostering: Waiting list at the end of the reporting period

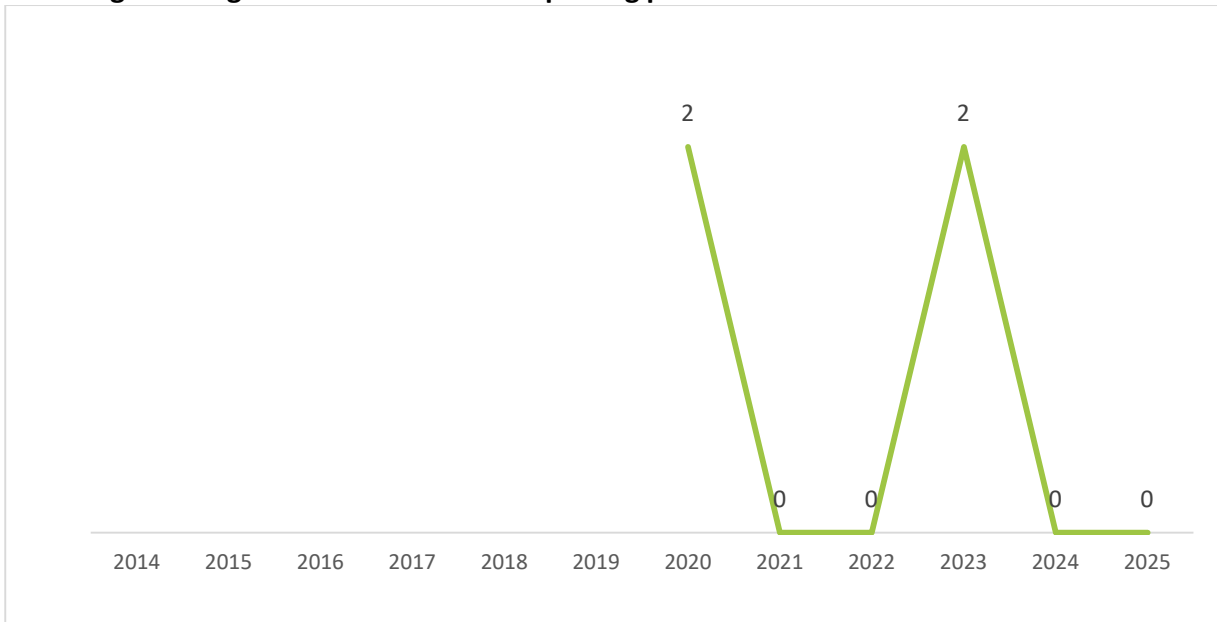


Figure 63: The figure above only reports cases that are still on the waiting list at the end of the reporting period. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

Fostering: Number of referred, new & re-contact, and closed cases by year

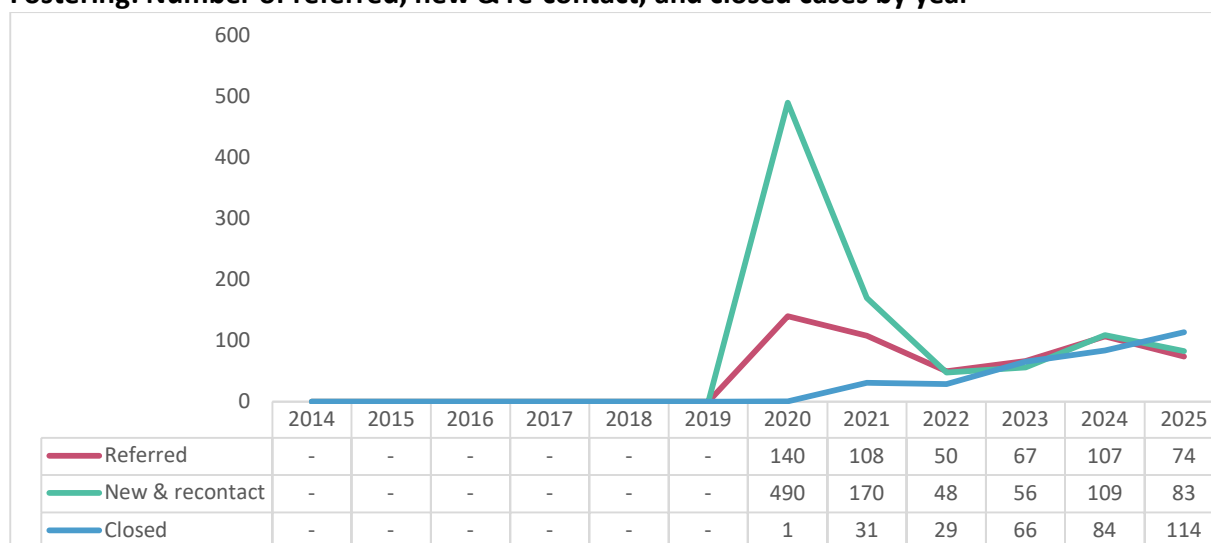


Figure 64: Cases may be referred, opened, or closed throughout the year (definitions can be found in the glossary). Opened cases include both new and recontact cases (see figure 61 for breakdown of new & recontact cases). In 2025, 74 cases were referred, 83 new & recontact cases opened, and 114 cases closed.

A total of **83** cases were opened between January and December 2025.

Note: Further breakdowns regarding cases opened by demographics can be found in the Appendix A.

Fostering: Number of new & re-contact cases opened of foster carers (foster carer and prospective) by age category and gender January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
≤17	0	0	0	0	0	0
18-19	0	0	0	0	0	0
20-24	0	0	0	0	0	0
25-29	2	4	0	0	0	6
30-34	2	3	0	0	0	5
35-39	13	17	0	0	0	30
40-44	8	10	0	0	0	18
45-49	4	8	0	0	0	12
50-54	5	3	0	0	0	8
55-59	3	0	0	0	0	3
≥60	0	1	0	0	0	1
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	37	46	0	0	0	83

Figure 65: The figure above classifies the age and gender of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth and gender. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. In 2025, the highest number of cases opened were ages 35 to 39 (30).

Adoption Service

Due to the introduction of a new online data collection system and changes in reporting format in 2020, data from 2010 to 2019 is incomparable to data from 2020 onwards. Therefore, data for 2010 up to 2019 is not reported in the current report but can be found within past reports. As of 2020, the data reports on both adults and minor service users accessing the service.

Adoption: Number of cases and individuals worked with by year

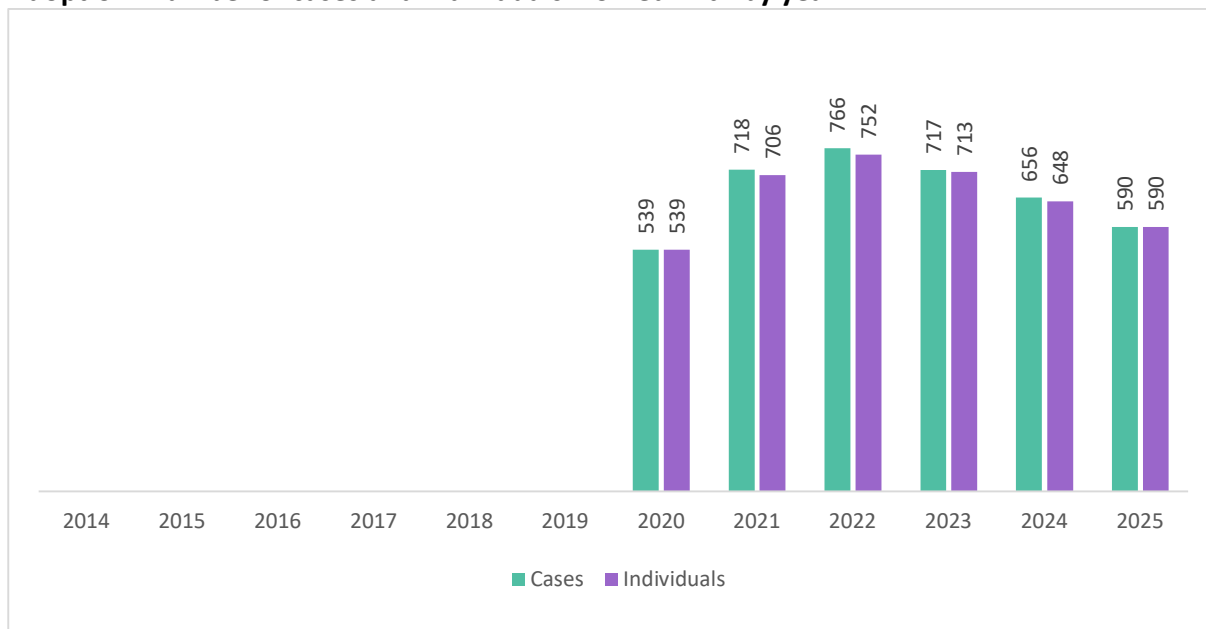


Figure 66: The figure above provides the number of cases worked with and the number of individuals worked with. To demonstrate the difference, consider Person A, who started and stopped attending a service twice in the same year, making it equivalent to 2 cases, but 1 individual worked with. In 2025, 590 cases and 590 individuals were worked with compared to 656 and 648 respectively in 2024.

A total of **590** cases were worked with between January and December 2025.

Adoption: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by gender (no. & %)

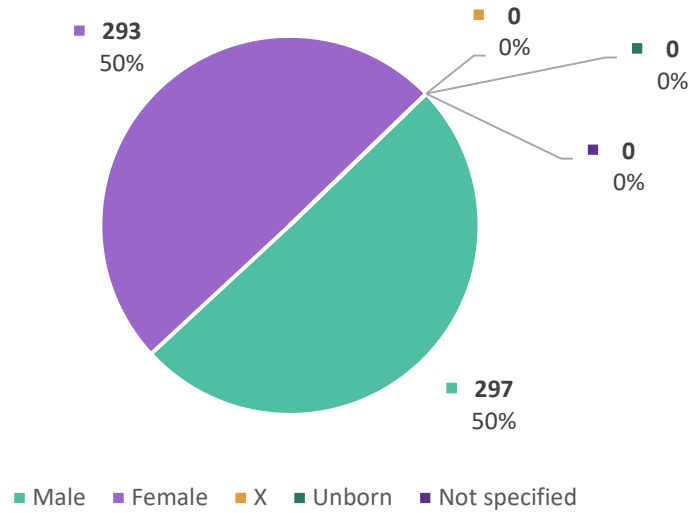


Figure 67: The figure above classifies the gender of the service user. Gender is collected at referral or first contact, but it can be updated throughout the lifetime of the case as required. The gender is collected either through formal documentation and/or the pronouns the person used when referring to themselves. In 2025, an equal percentage of cases worked with were male and female (50% respectively).

Adoption: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by age category (no. & %)

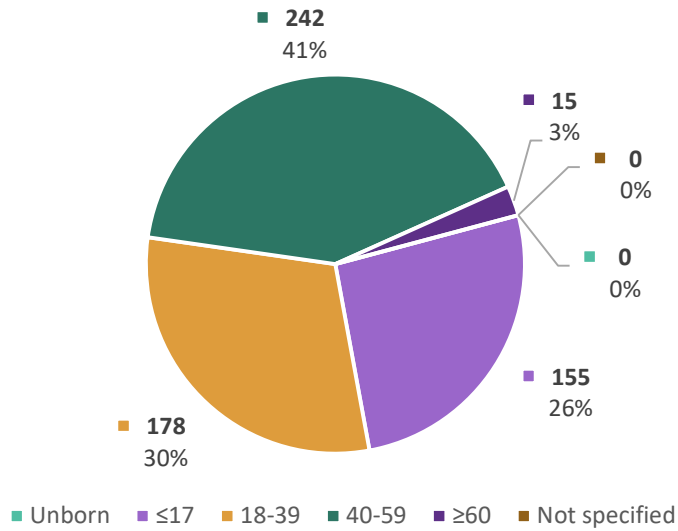


Figure 68: The figure above classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were ages 40 to 59 (41%).

Adoption: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by nationality (no. & %)

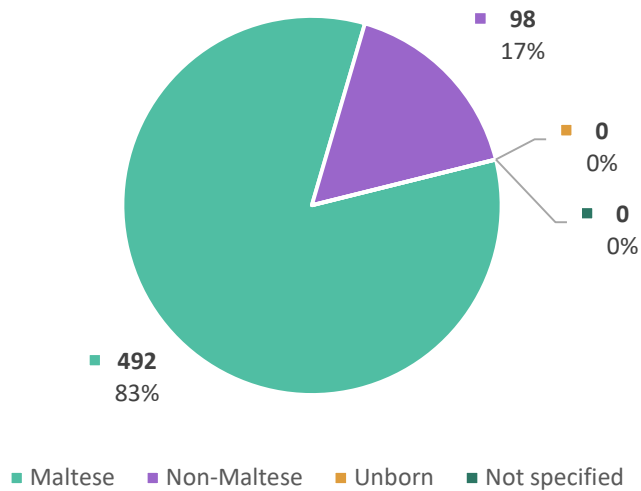
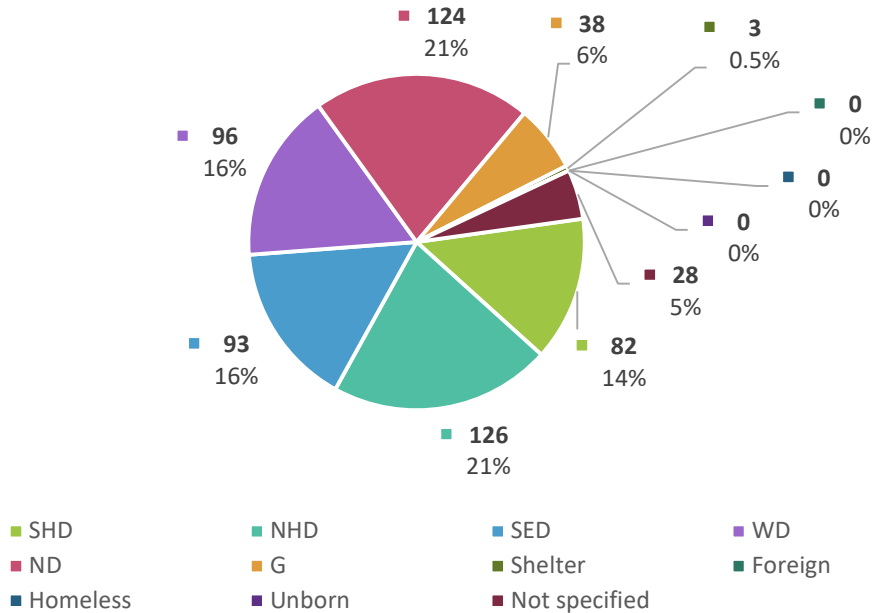


Figure 69: The figure above classifies the nationality as reported by the service user within the reporting year or based on an identity card/document. In 2025, 83% of the cases worked with were Maltese while non-Maltese made up 17% of cases.

Adoption: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by district of residence (no. & %)



Graph Key: SHD = Southern Harbour District; NHD = Northern Harbour District; SED = Southeastern District; WD = Western District; ND = Northern District; G = Gozo District; Shelter = shelter/institution; Foreign = Foreign residence.

Figure 70: The figure above classifies the district of residence as reported by the service user within the reporting year. Some service users reside within “shelter/institution” (e.g., residential homes, centre of residential restorative services, or shelters). Some service users are in Malta temporarily and so normally have a foreign residence whilst others are homeless and do not have a fixed residence. Shelter/institution, foreign residence and homeless are reported as separate categories to avoid biasing the data on district. The Northern Harbour District (21%) and the Northern District (21%) had the highest percentage of cases worked with in 2025.

Adoption: Case worked with by type of service user					
January - December 2025					
	New	Re-contact	Known	Intake	Total
Adopted child	7	0	140	0	147
Adoptive parent	2	0	19	0	21
Prospective parent	95	11	264	27	397
Referred child	3	0	7	15	25
Total	107	11	430	42	590

Figure 71: The service's focus is adults with the aim of being or becoming adoptive parents. Prospective parents go through the service with the aim of becoming an adoptive parent. The service also maintains records on children who are adopted with the service's adoptive parents. They also record "referred child" that is a term for a child that is referred for adoption and is in the process of being matched with an appropriate adoptive family. In 2025, 21 adoptive parents were worked with along with a further 397 prospective adoptive parents who were in the process of becoming approved adoptive parents.

Adoption: Number of new, re-contact, known and intake cases worked with by year

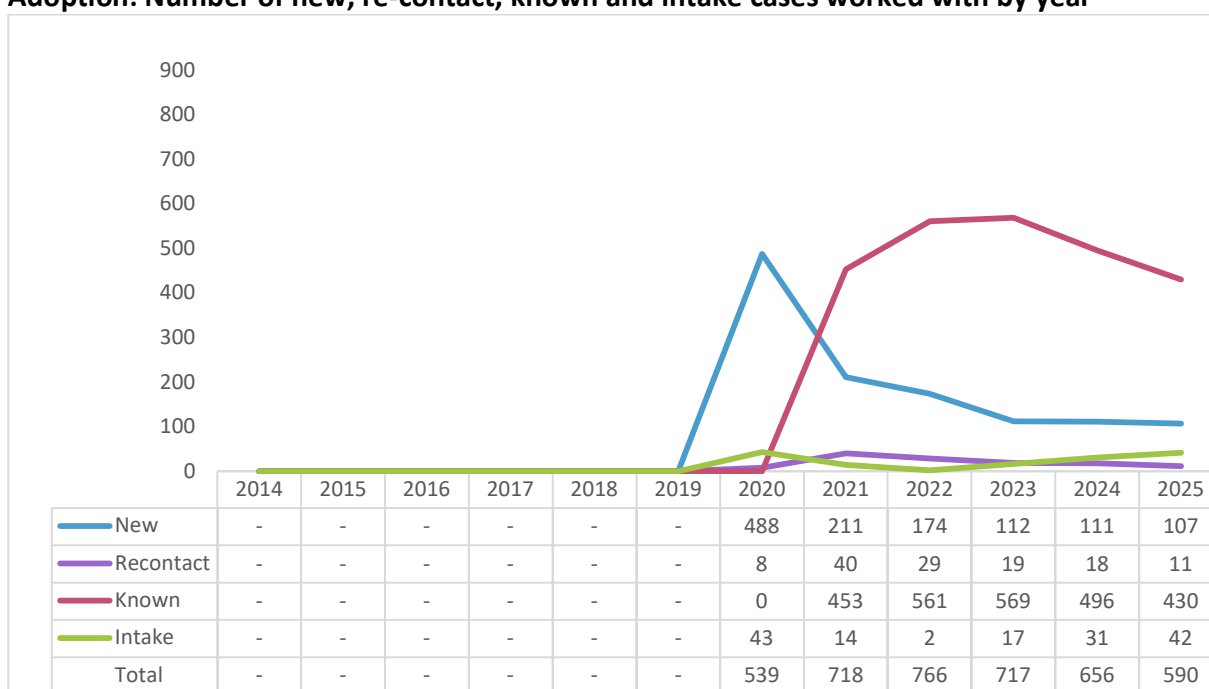


Figure 72: The cases worked with each year can be a new case, recontact case, known case or an intake case (a case starting and ending the year on intake). Further definitions can be found in the glossary. With the introduction of a new online data collection system, all known cases had to be re-inputted in 2020, and these were automatically registered as new.

Adoption: Case state at the end of the reporting period

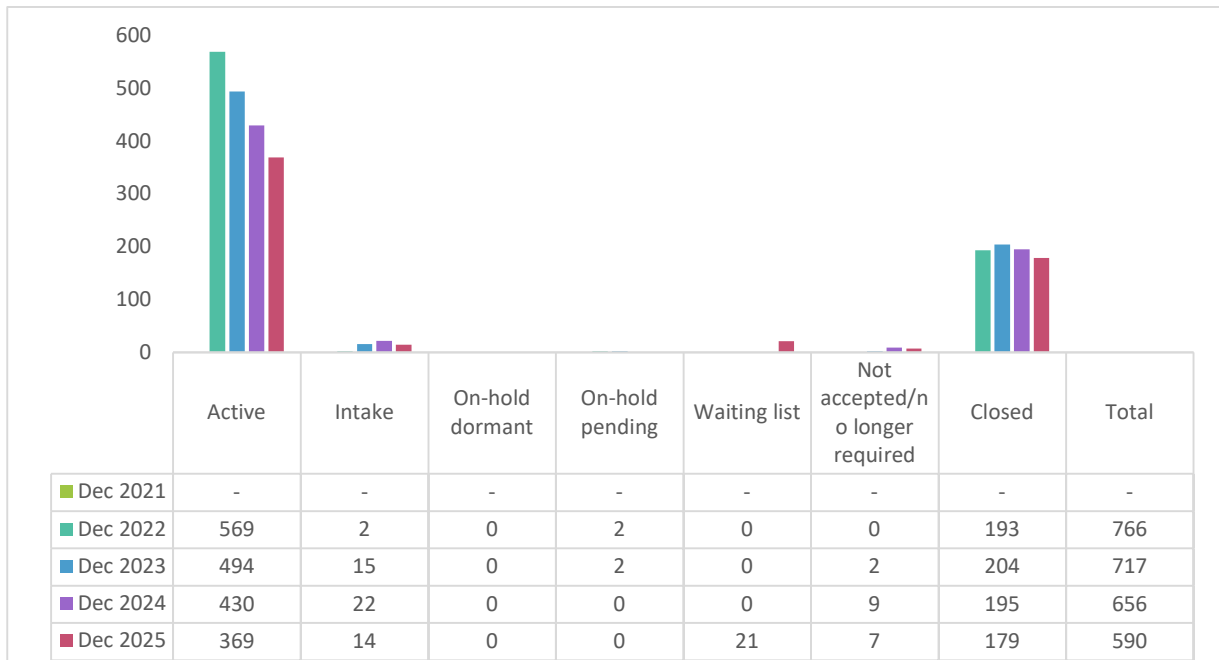


Figure 73: Cases will be handled throughout the year by placing them on intake, adding them to the waiting list, opening them, or closing them (definitions can be found in the glossary). The case state at the end of the reporting year is shown in the figure above. By the end of December 2025, 63% (369) of the cases worked with were still active. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

Adoption: Waiting list at the end of the reporting period

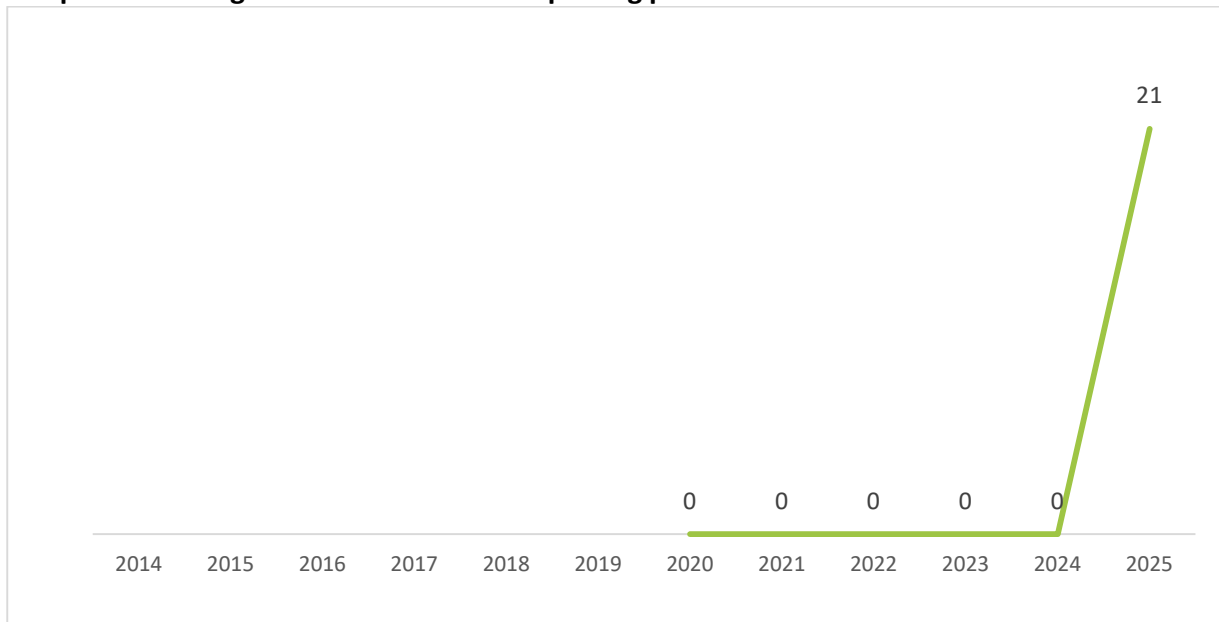


Figure 74: The figure above only reports cases that are still on the waiting list at the end of the reporting period. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

Adoption: Number of referred, new & re-contact, and closed cases by year

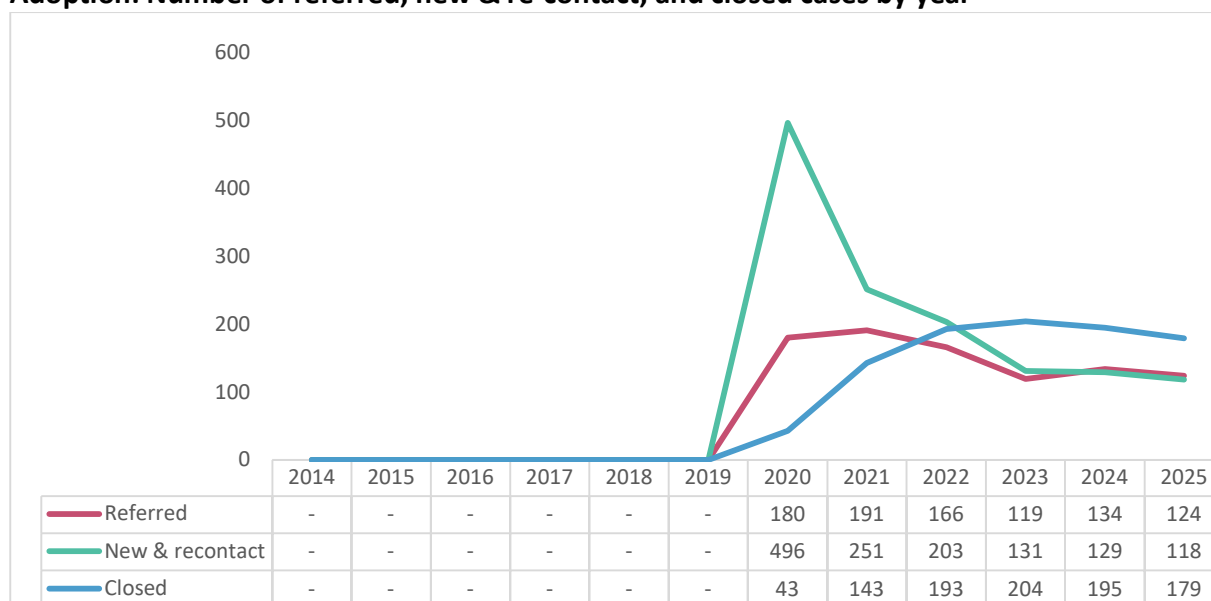


Figure 75: Cases may be referred, opened, or closed throughout the year (definitions can be found in the glossary). Opened cases include both new and recontact cases (see figure 72 for breakdown of new & recontact cases). In 2025, 124 cases were referred, 118 new & recontact cases opened, and 179 cases closed.

Note: Further breakdowns regarding cases opened by demographics can be found in the Appendix A.

A total of **118** cases were opened between January and December 2025 with **10** cases opened for service users who were children⁶, and **108** cases opened who were adoptive or prospective parents.

Adoption: New & re-contact cases by type of service user and year						
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Adopted child ⁵	186	14	4	7	11	7
Referred child ⁵	2	8	0	0	2	3
Adoptive parent	6	4	3	2	6	2
Prospective parent	302	225	196	122	110	106
Total	496	251	203	131	129	118

Figure 76: The figure above stratifies the new and re-contact cases opened in the reported period by service user type, i.e. prospective parents (i.e., in process to become an adoptive parent), adoptive parent, adopted children (i.e., adopted with the service's adoptive parents) and "referred child" (i.e., child that is referred for adoption and is in the process of being matched with an appropriate adoptive family). Child here does not refer to persons aged <1 to 17 but can include adult "children" being followed post adoption. In 2025, 7 cases opened consisted of adopted children, 3 cases opened consisted of a child referred for adoption, 106 cases opened consisted of prospective adoptive parents whilst 2 cases were already adoptive parents.

⁶ The term children or child in this service does not only refer to persons aged <1 to 17 but can also include adult "children" being followed post adoption and who would still be considered as an adopted child of an adoptive parent.

Adoption: Number of new decrees issued by country of birth of the child and year of decree

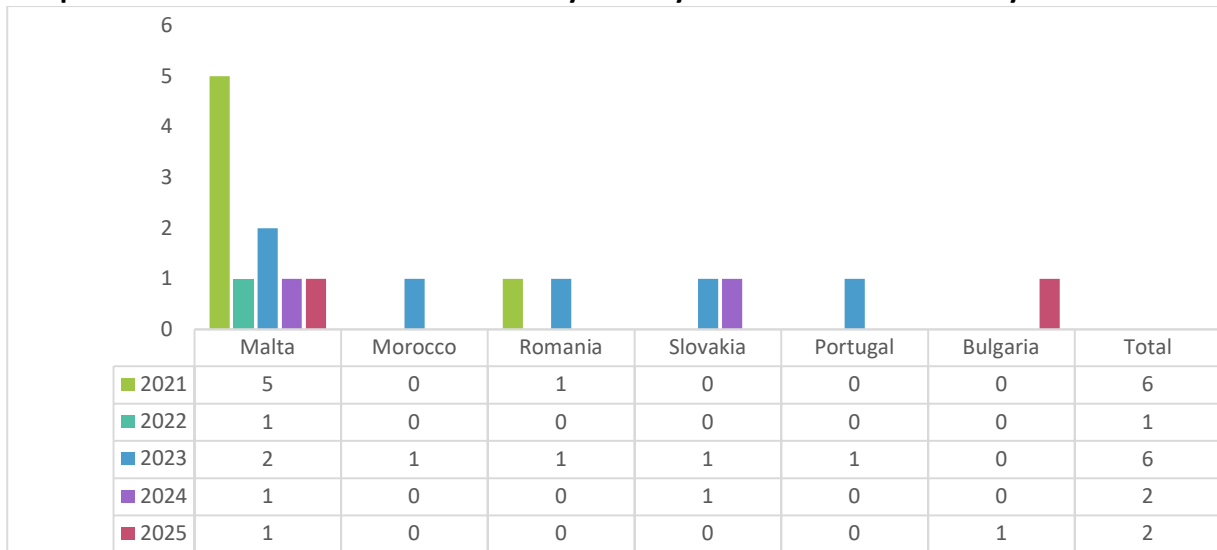


Figure 77: The figure above provides the number of new decrees issued in the year by the countries of birth of the children. The decree date is based on the original country decree date recorded in the database. The data is according to decree dates forwarded to the Adoption Service and inputted at the time of data analysis. In some cases, decree dates may have been forwarded or updated after publication of this report, leading to some discrepancy between later figures and the data in the reports. Furthermore, some of the decrees may not have been issued with the assistance of the FSWS Adoption Service since some service users adopt through private agencies and then they are followed by the Adoption Service for post adoption reports. If being provided post-adoption services, the person becomes a service user within the Appogg Adoption Service.

Children⁷ (adopted and referred to be adopted)

The following section only provides data on the number of new and re-contact cases opened in the reported period which involved adopted children or children referred to be adopted.

Adoption: Number of new & re-contact cases opened of children (adopted and referred to be adopted) by age category and gender January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Unborn	0	0	0	-	0	0
<1	0	0	0	-	0	0
1-5	3	2	0	-	0	5
6-10	1	3	0	-	0	4
11-15	0	1	0	-	0	1
16-17	0	0	0	-	0	0
≥18	0	0	0	-	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	-	0	0
Total	4	6	0	-	0	10

Figure 78: The figure above classifies the age and gender of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth and gender. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. In 2025, the highest number of cases opened were ages 1 to 5 (5).

⁷ The term children or child in this service does not only refer to persons aged <1 to 17 but can also include adult “children” being followed post adoption and who would still be considered as an adopted child of an adoptive parent.

Parents (prospective and adoptive)

The following section only provides data on the number of new and re-contact cases opened in the reported period which involved prospective or adoptive parents.

Adoption: Number of new & re-contact cases opened of parents (prospective and adoptive) by age category and gender January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
≤17	0	0	0	-	0	0
18-19	0	0	0	-	0	0
20-24	0	0	0	-	0	0
25-29	3	1	0	-	0	4
30-34	12	11	0	-	0	23
35-39	21	16	0	-	0	37
40-44	9	17	0	-	0	26
45-49	7	4	0	-	0	11
50-54	2	1	0	-	0	3
55-59	2	1	0	-	0	3
≥60	0	1	0	-	0	1
Not specified	0	0	0	-	0	0
Total	56	52	0	-	0	108

Figure 79: The figure above classifies the age and gender of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth and gender. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. In 2025, the highest number of cases opened were ages 35 to 39 (37).

High Support Service (HSS)

Data started to be reported in 2015. The service started being phased out as of 2024 and was phased out by December 2025.

HSS: Number of cases and individuals worked with by year

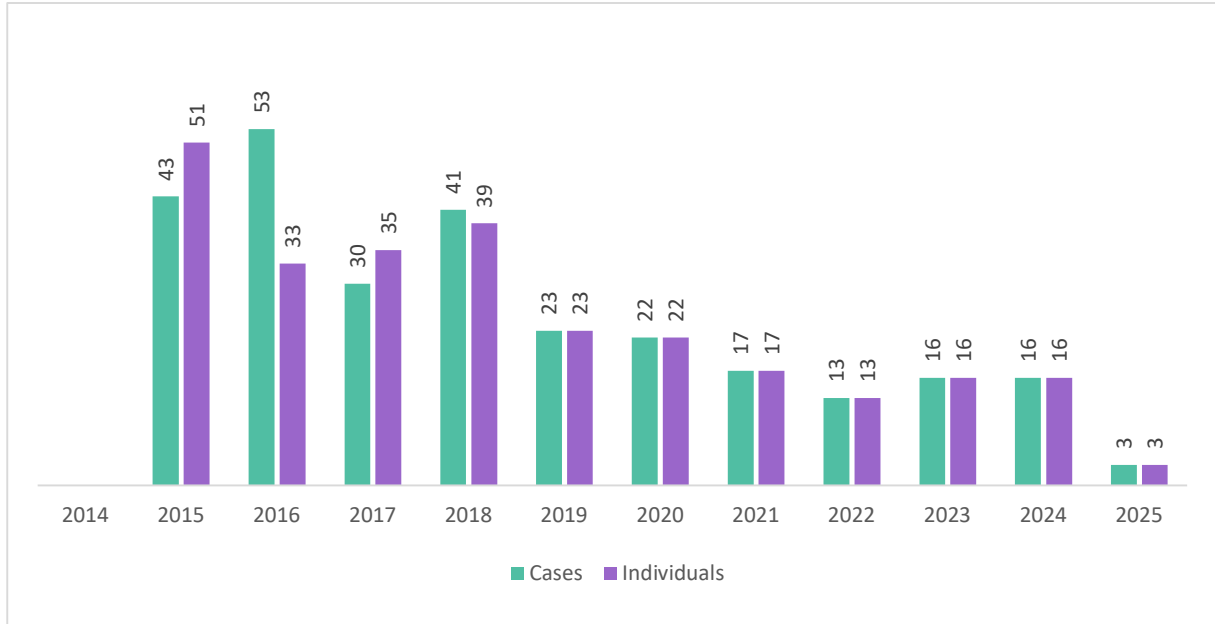


Figure 80: The figure above provides the number of cases worked with and the number of individuals worked with. To demonstrate the difference, consider Person A, who started and stopped attending a service twice in the same year, making it equivalent to 2 cases, but 1 individual worked with. In 2025, 3 cases and 3 individuals were worked with compared to 16 and 16 respectively in 2024.

A total of **3** cases were worked with between January and December 2025.

HSS: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by gender (no. & %)

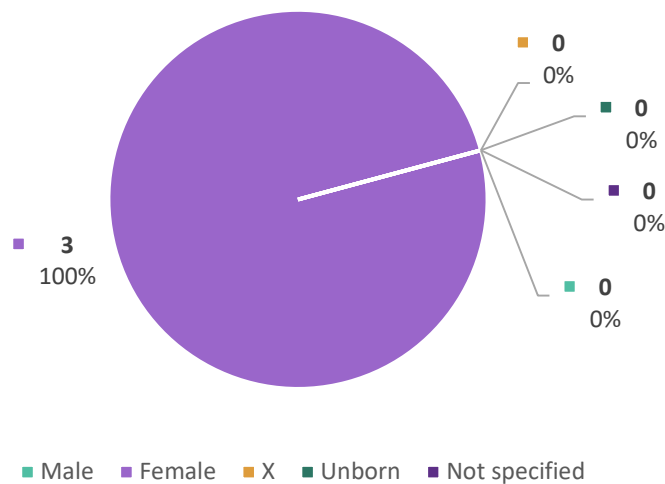


Figure 81: The figure above classifies the gender of the service user. Gender is collected at referral or first contact, but it can be updated throughout the lifetime of the case as required. The gender is collected either through formal documentation and/or the pronouns the person used when referring to themselves. In 2025, all cases worked with were female (100%).

HSS: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by age category (no. & %)

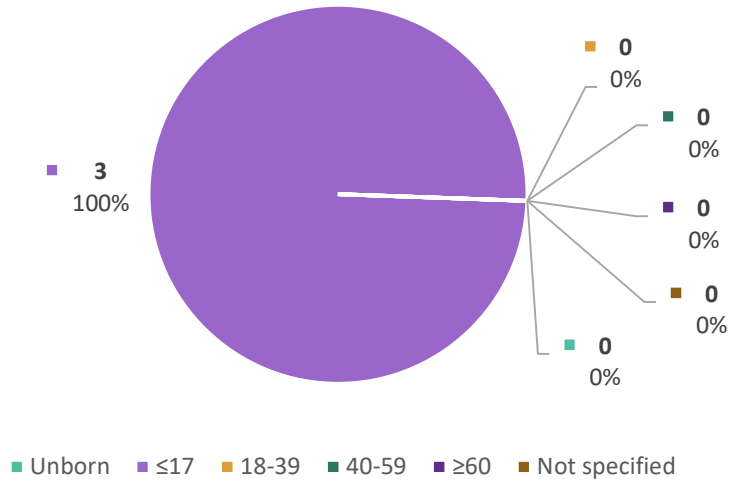


Figure 82: The figure above classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth. In 2025, all cases worked with were ages 17 or younger (100%).

HSS: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by nationality (no. & %)

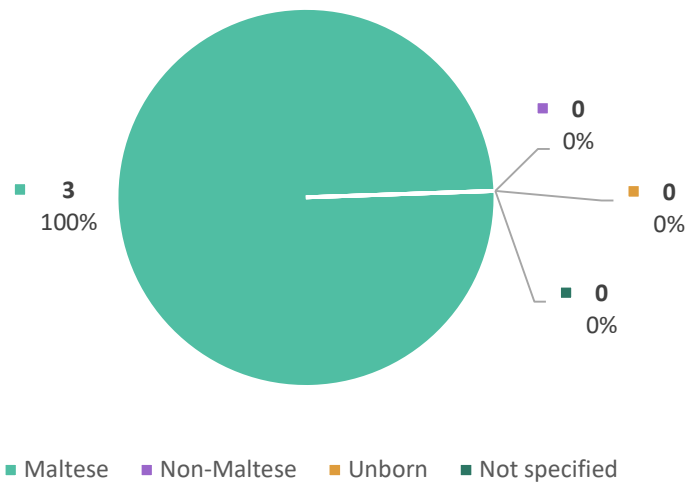
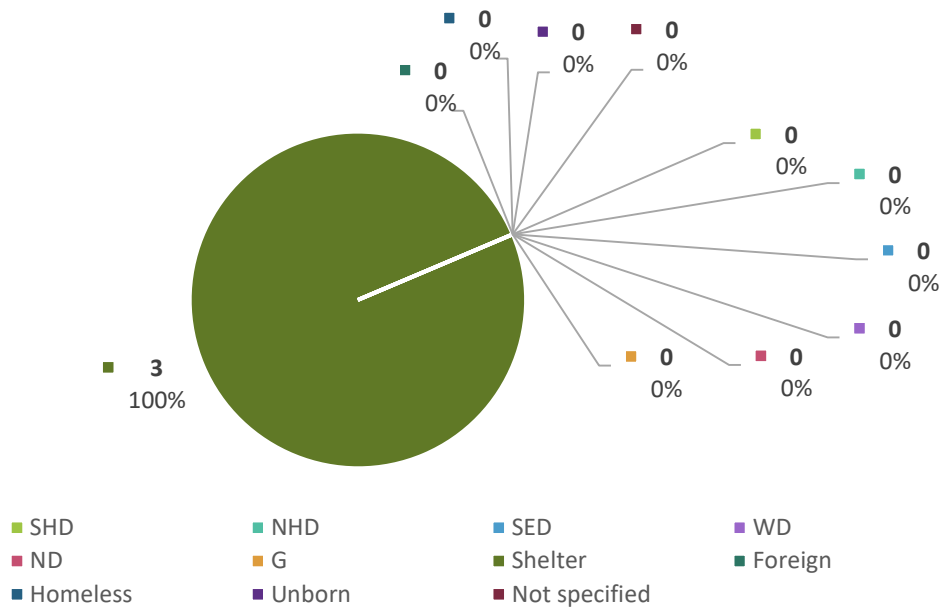


Figure 83: The figure above classifies the nationality as reported by the service user within the reporting year or based on an identity card/document. In 2025, all cases worked with were Maltese (100%).

HSS: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by district of residence (no. & %)



Graph Key: SHD = Southern Harbour District; NHD = Northern Harbour District; SED = Southeastern District; WD = Western District; ND = Northern District; G = Gozo District; Shelter = shelter/institution; Foreign = Foreign residence.

Figure 84: The figure above classifies the district of residence as reported by the service user within the reporting year. Some service users reside within “shelter/institution” (e.g., residential homes, centre of residential restorative services, or shelters). Some service users are in Malta temporarily and so normally have a foreign residence whilst others are homeless and do not have a fixed residence. Shelter/institution, foreign residence and homeless are reported as separate categories to avoid biasing the data on district. All cases worked with in 2025 were within a shelter/institution (100%).

HSS: Number of cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by legal status

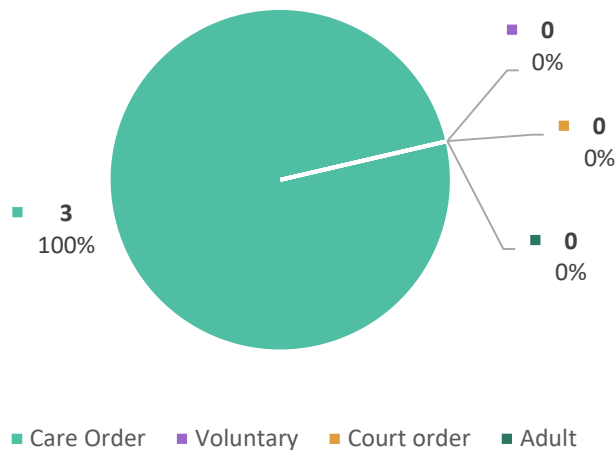


Figure 85: The figure above classifies the legal status of the case, as per legal definitions⁸, within the reporting year. It is the status as reported by the service user, known by the case worker, or based on documentation. In 2025, all cases worked with were under a care order (100%).

⁸ Laws of Malta, chapter 602, Minor Protection (Alternative Care) Act

HSS: Number of new, re-contact and known cases worked with by year

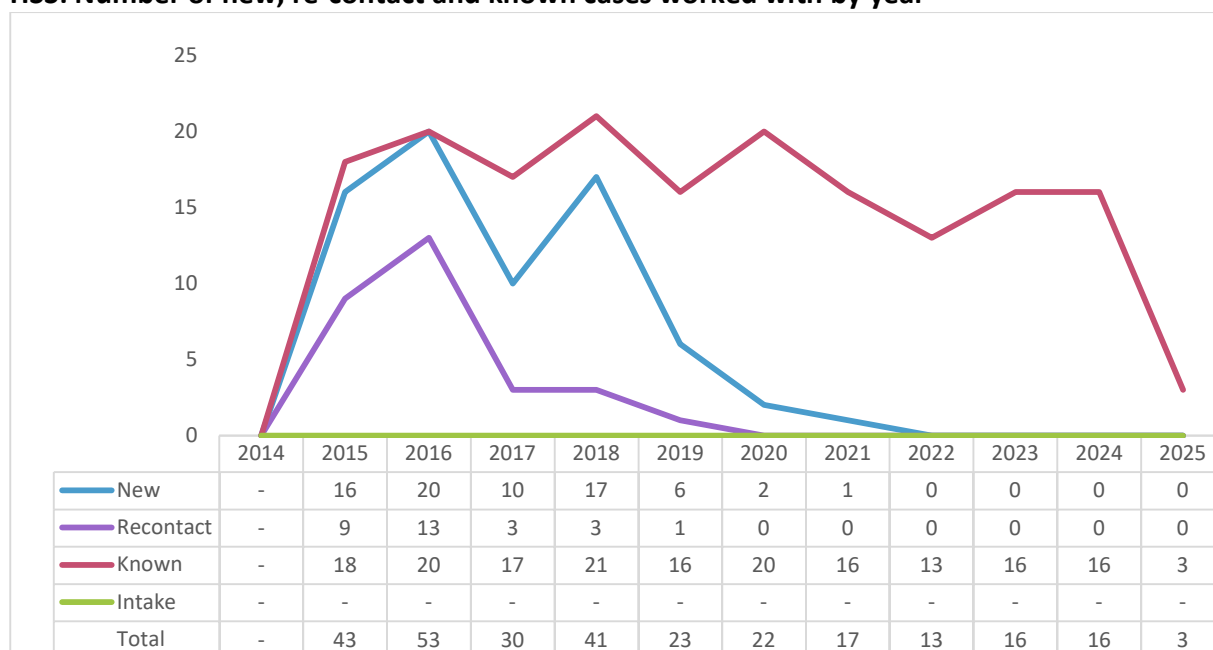


Figure 86: The cases worked with each year can be a new case, recontact case, known case or an intake case (a case starting and ending the year on intake). Further definitions can be found in the glossary.

HSS: Case state at the end of the reporting period

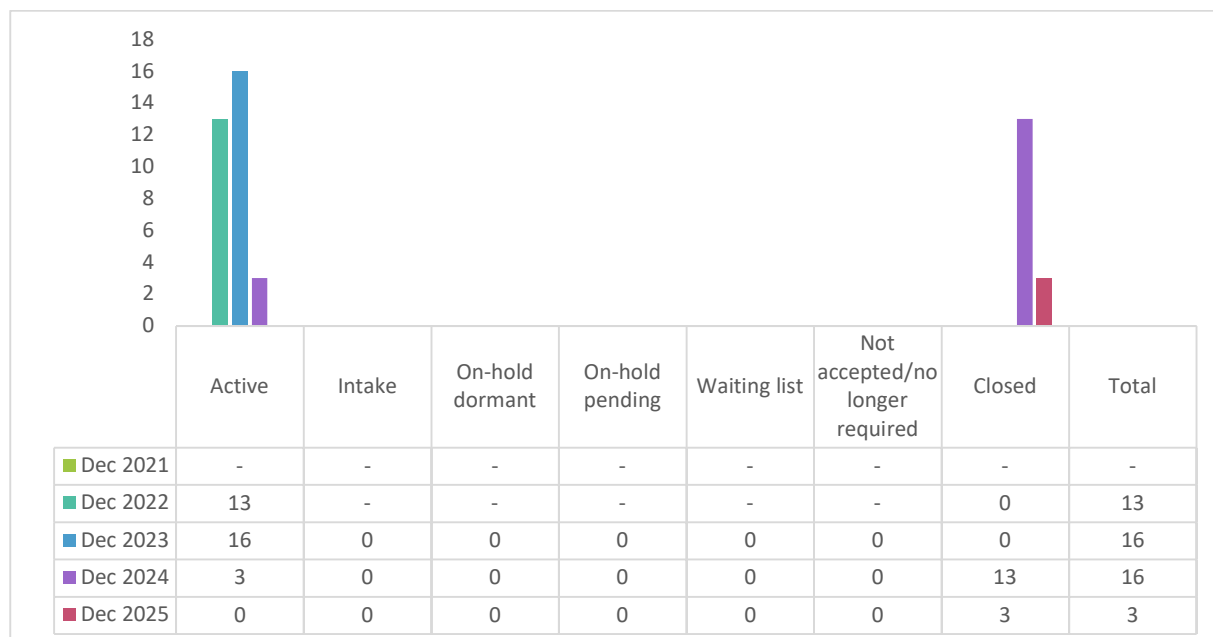


Figure 87: Cases will be handled throughout the year by placing them on intake, adding them to the waiting list, opening them, or closing them (definitions can be found in the glossary). The case state at the end of the reporting year is shown in the figure above. Within HSS, cases can only be active or closed. By the end of December 2025, 100% (3) of the cases worked with were closed. The waiting list⁹ provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

⁹ The waiting list in this figure is only reported for cases worked with registered on the online data collection system. The waiting list in the next figure is the true waiting list reported by the service.

HSS: Waiting list at the end of the reporting period

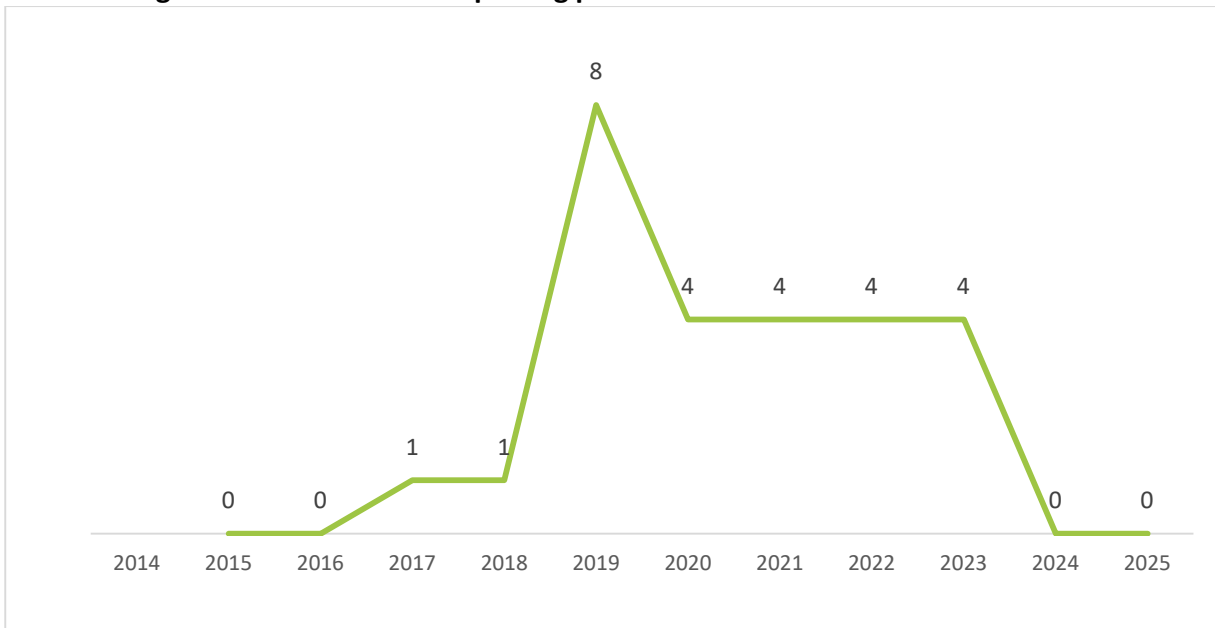


Figure 88: The figure above only reports cases that are still on the waiting list at the end of the reporting period. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

HSS: Number of referred, new & re-contact, and closed cases by year

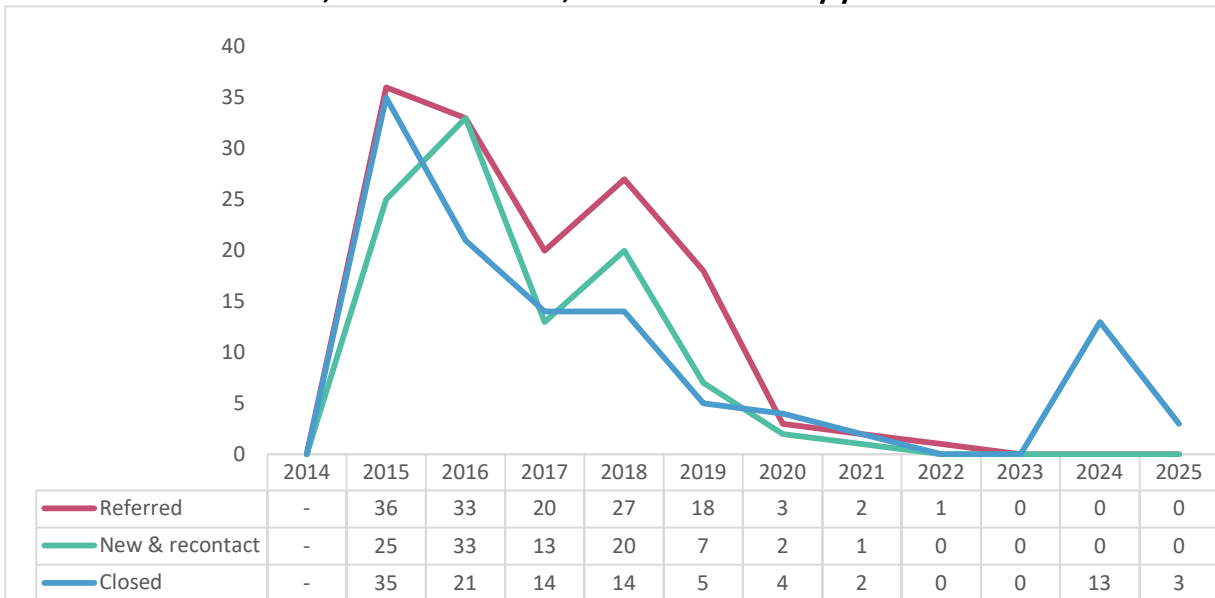


Figure 89: Cases may be referred, opened, or closed throughout the year (definitions can be found in the glossary). Opened cases include both new and recontact cases (see figure 86 for breakdown of new & recontact cases). In 2025, nil (0) cases were referred, nil (0) new & recontact cases opened, and 3 cases closed (this was due to the phasing out of the service).

A total of **0** cases were opened between January and December 2025.
 Since the service was phased out by the end of 2025, no new or re-contact cases were opened.

Note: Further breakdowns regarding cases opened by demographics can be found in the Appendix A.

HSS: Number of new & re-contact cases opened by gender and age January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0	0
<1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6-10	0	0	0	0	0	0
11-15	0	0	0	0	0	0
16-17	0	0	0	0	0	0
≥18	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

Figure 90: The figure above classifies the age and gender of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth and gender. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. In 2025, nil (0) cases were opened.

Community Homes Service (CHS)

The service began reporting data in 2015.

CHS: Number of cases and individuals worked with by year

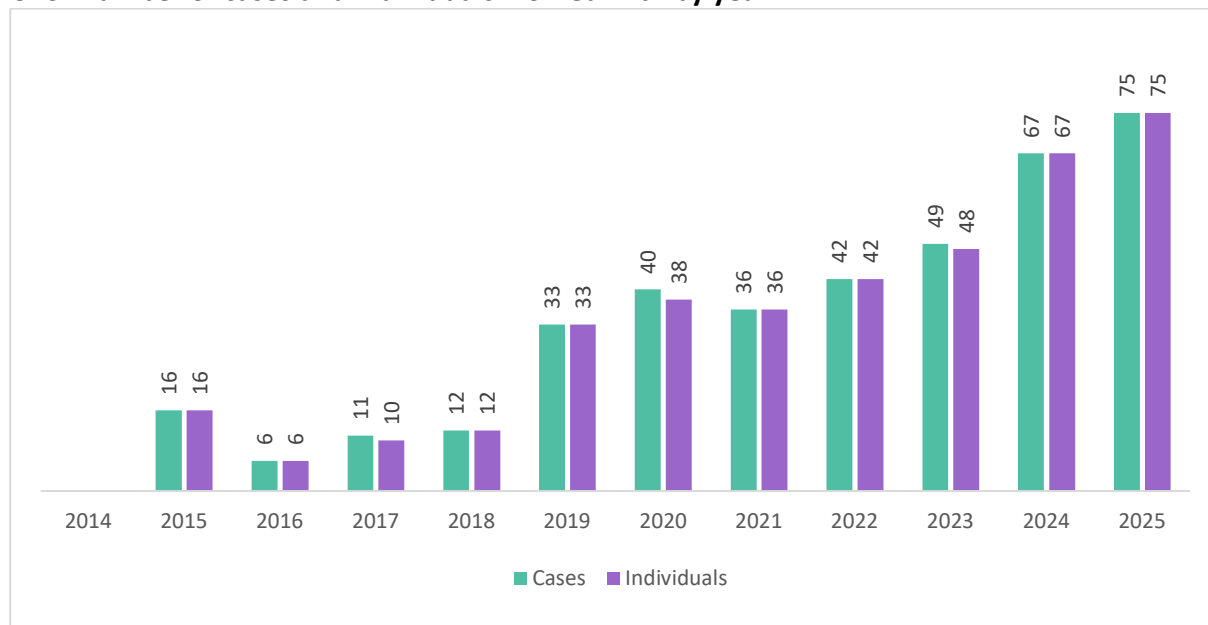


Figure 91: The figure above provides the number of cases worked with and the number of individuals worked with. To demonstrate the difference, consider Person A, who started and stopped attending a service twice in the same year, making it equivalent to 2 cases, but 1 individual worked with. In 2025, 75 cases and 75 individuals were worked with compared to 67 and 67 respectively in 2024.

A total of 75 cases were worked with between January and December 2025.

CHS: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by gender (no. & %)

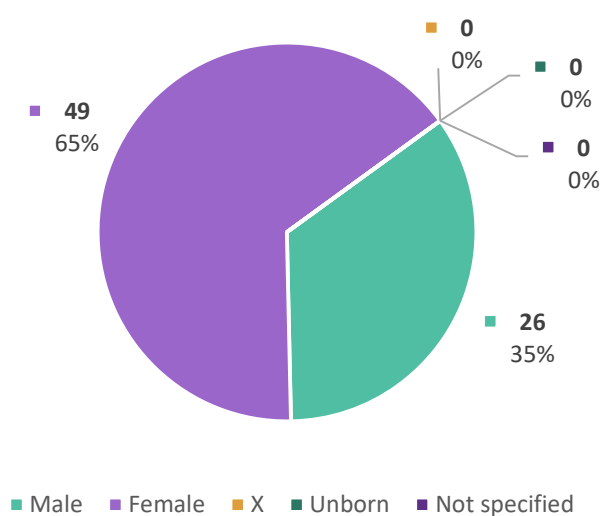


Figure 92: The figure above classifies the gender of the service user. Gender is collected at referral or first contact, but it can be updated throughout the lifetime of the case as required. The gender is collected either through formal documentation and/or the pronouns the person used when referring to themselves. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were female (65%).

CHS: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by age category (no. & %)

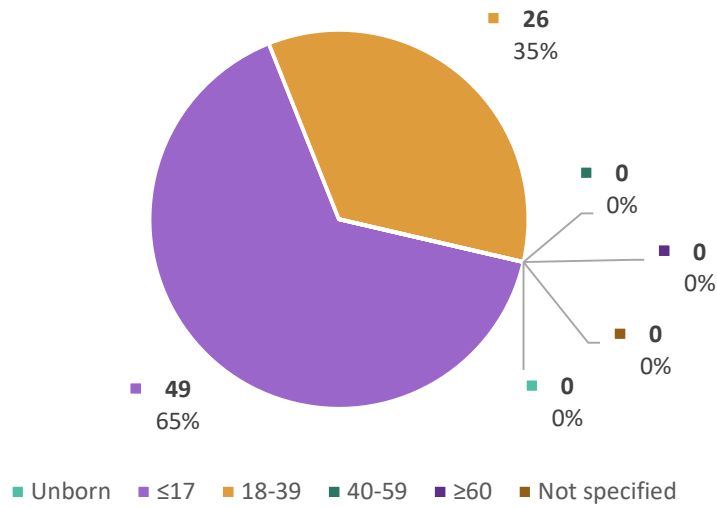


Figure 93: The figure above classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were ages 17 or younger (65%).

CHS: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by nationality (no. & %)

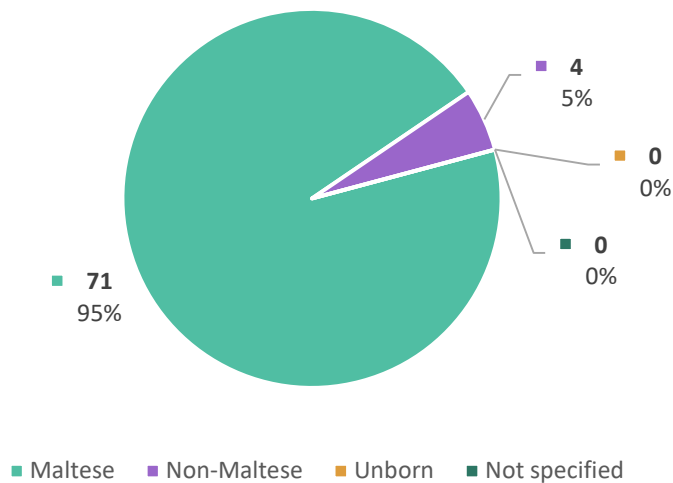
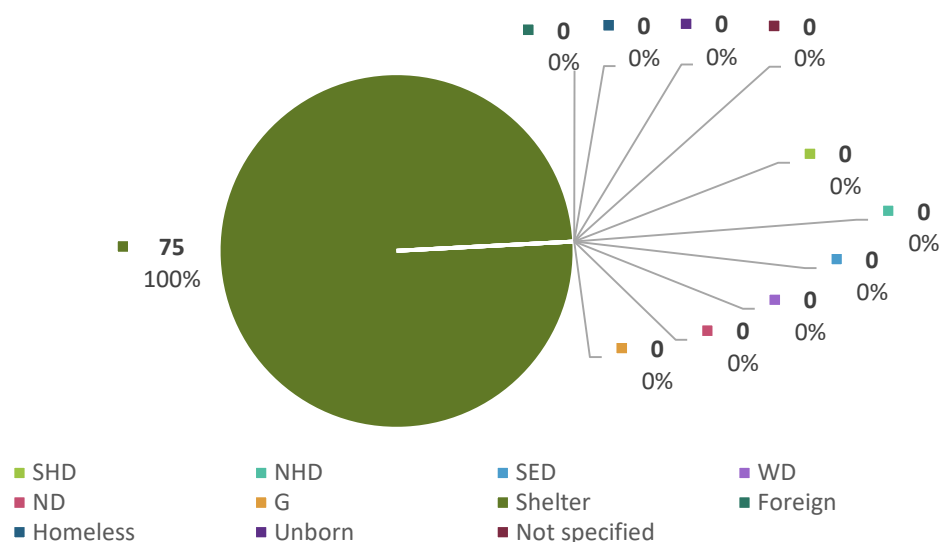


Figure 94: The figure above classifies the nationality as reported by the service user within the reporting year or based on an identity card/document. In 2025, 95% of the cases worked with were Maltese while non-Maltese made up 5% of cases.

CHS: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by district of residence (no. & %)



Graph Key: SHD = Southern Harbour District; NHD = Northern Harbour District; SED = Southeastern District; WD = Western District; ND = Northern District; G = Gozo District; Shelter = shelter/institution; Foreign = Foreign residence.

Figure 95: The figure above classifies the district of residence as reported by the service user within the reporting year. Some service users reside within “shelter/institution” (e.g., residential homes, centre of residential restorative services, or shelters). Some service users are in Malta temporarily and so normally have a foreign residence whilst others are homeless and do not have a fixed residence. Shelter/institution, foreign residence and homeless are reported as separate categories to avoid biasing the data on district. All cases worked with in 2025 were within a shelter/institution (100%).

CHS: Case worked with by service and gender January - December 2025					
	Male	Female	X	Not specified	Total
Dingli Home	9	0	0	0	9
Sta. Marija, Mosta	0	8	0	0	8
Sempreviva, Mosta	0	7	0	0	7
Zejtun Home	5	2	0	0	7
Gzira Home	1	5	0	0	6
Mgarr Home	0	6	0	0	6
Safe Haven, Attard	3	3	0	0	6
Sta. Margherita, Mosta	0	6	0	0	6
Lumina, Gudja	3	2	0	0	5
Warm Haven, Mskala	0	5	0	0	5
Paola Flats	2	2	0	0	4
Hamrun Aftercare	2	1	0	0	3
Valletta Aftercare	0	2	0	0	2
Marsaskala Flat	1	0	0	0	1
Total	26	49	0	0	75

Figure 96: There are various homes accessed through Community Home Service and the figure above stratifies the cases worked with in the reporting period by community home and gender of the service user. In 2025, the majority of cases worked with were housed within Dingli Home (9 cases).

CHS: Number of new, re-contact and known cases worked with by year

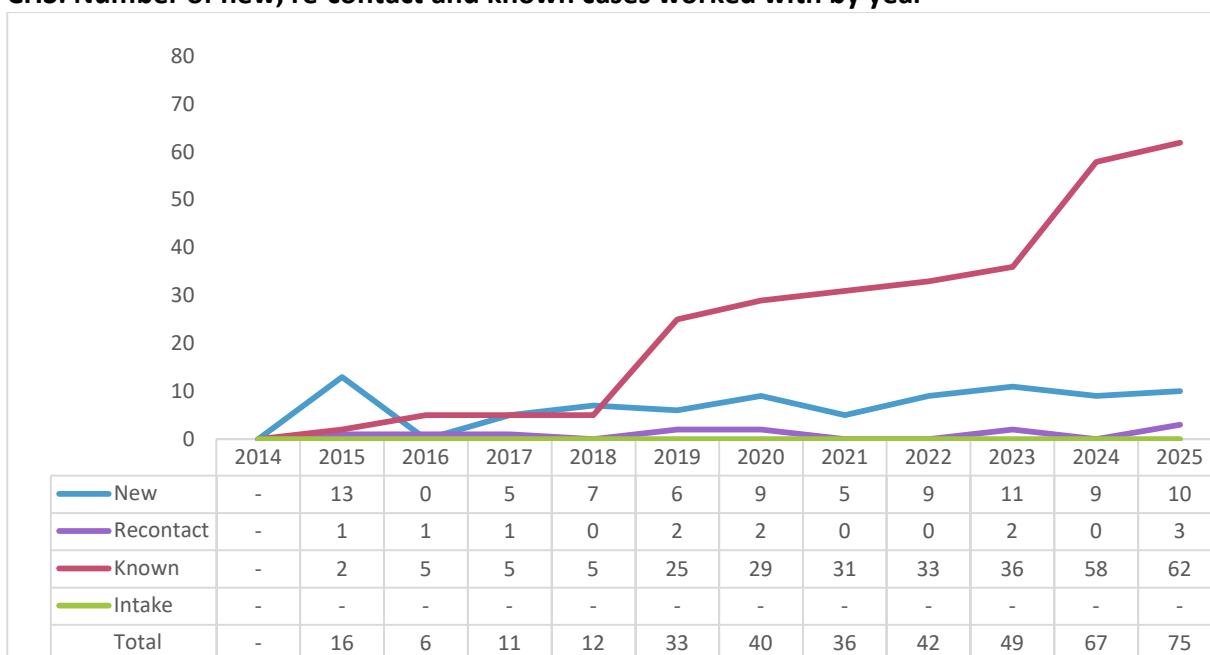


Figure 97: The cases worked with each year can be a new case, recontact case, known case or an intake case (a case starting and ending the year on intake). Further definitions can be found in the glossary.

CHS: Case state at the end of the reporting period

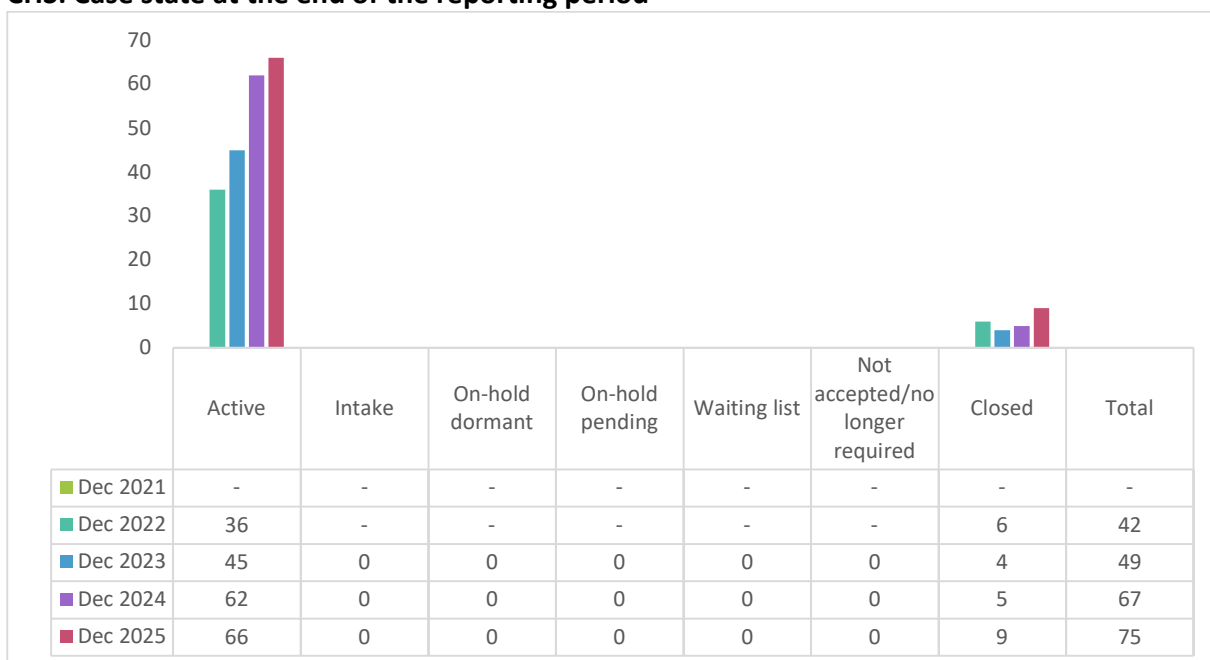


Figure 98: Cases will be handled throughout the year by placing them on intake, adding them to the waiting list, opening them, or closing them (definitions can be found in the glossary). The case state at the end of the reporting year is shown in the figure above. By the end of December 2025, 88% (66) of the cases worked with were still active. The waiting list¹⁰ provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

¹⁰ The waiting list in this figure is only reported for cases worked with registered on the online data collection system. The waiting list in the next figure is the true waiting list reported by the service.

CHS: Waiting list at the end of the reporting period

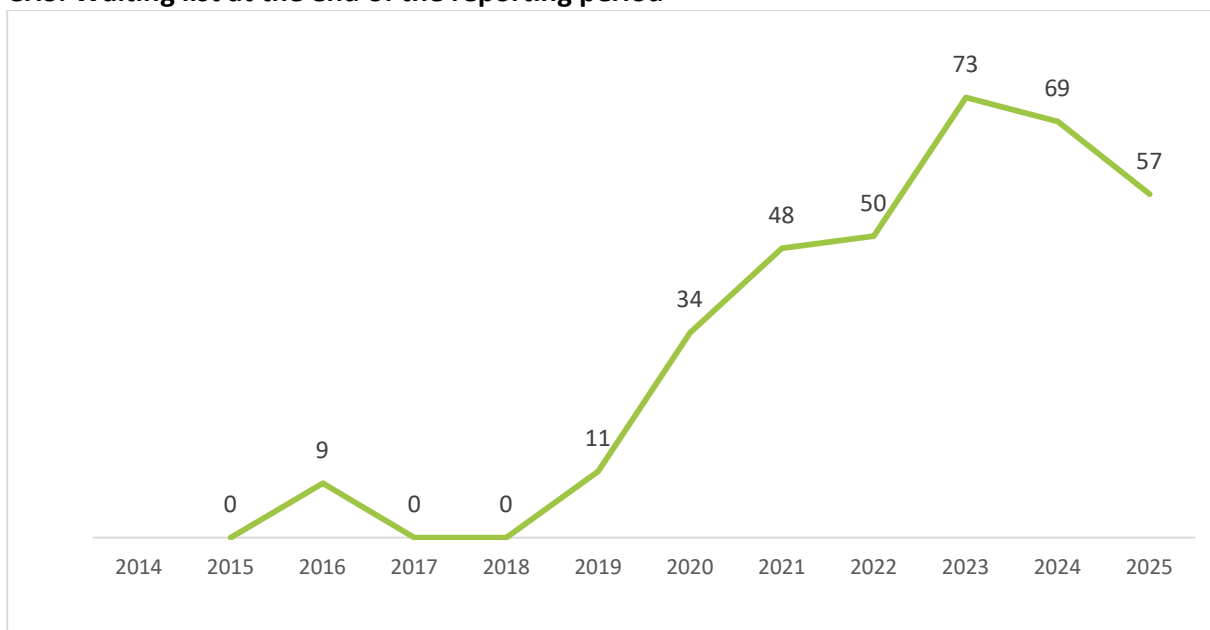


Figure 99: The figure above only reports cases that are still on the waiting list at the end of the reporting period. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

CHS: Number of referred, new & re-contact, and closed cases by year

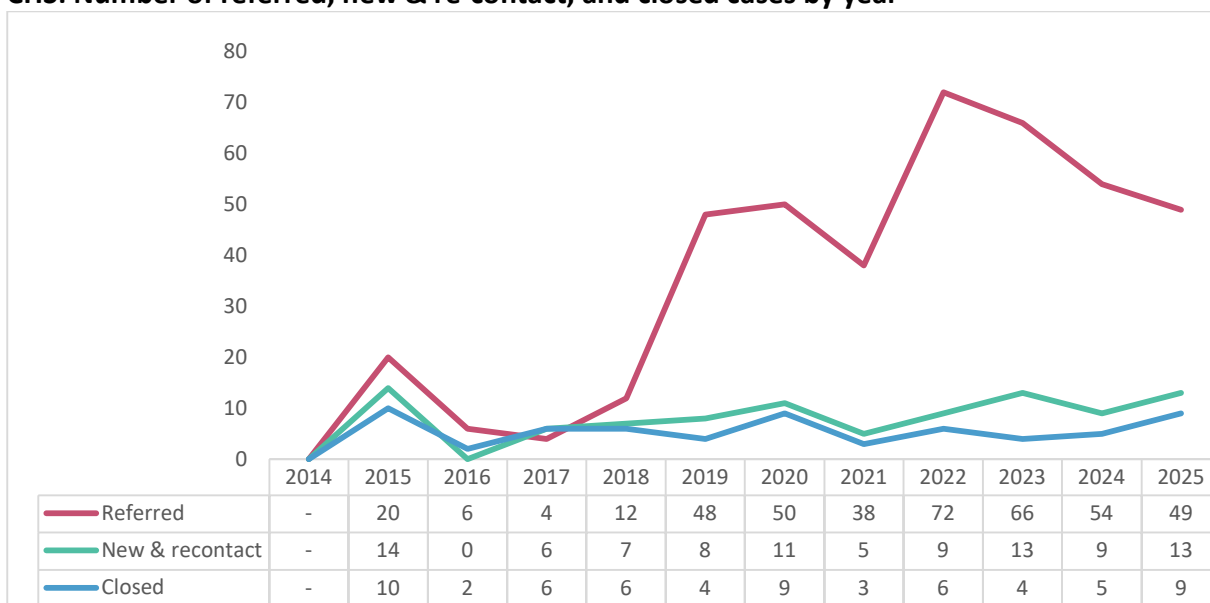


Figure 100: Cases may be referred, opened, or closed throughout the year (definitions can be found in the glossary). Opened cases include both new and recontact cases (see figure 97 for breakdown of new & recontact cases). In 2025, 49 cases were referred, 13 new & recontact cases opened, and 9 cases closed.

A total of **13** cases were opened between January and December 2025.

Note: Further breakdowns regarding cases opened by demographics can be found in the Appendix A.

CHS: Number of new & re-contact cases opened by age category and gender January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0	0
< 1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6-10	2	0	0	0	0	2
11-15	1	5	0	0	0	6
16-17	2	3	0	0	0	5
≥18	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	5	8	0	0	0	13

Figure 101: The figure above classifies the age and gender of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth and gender. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. In some cases, the service is required to support a youth beyond the age of 18 in order for the youth to gain full independence e.g., young adult is in tertiary education and cannot afford personal housing at this time. In 2025, the highest number of cases opened were ages 11-15 (6).

Home-Start Malta

The service began reporting data in 2019. A new online data collection system and reporting format were introduced in 2020. The service moved from Appogg to the Directorate Alternative Care in 2021 and it also expanded its remit to include services that were previously handled by Programme Ulied Darna (PUD), (i.e., volunteers and generic work with children).

Home-start: Number of cases and individuals worked with by year

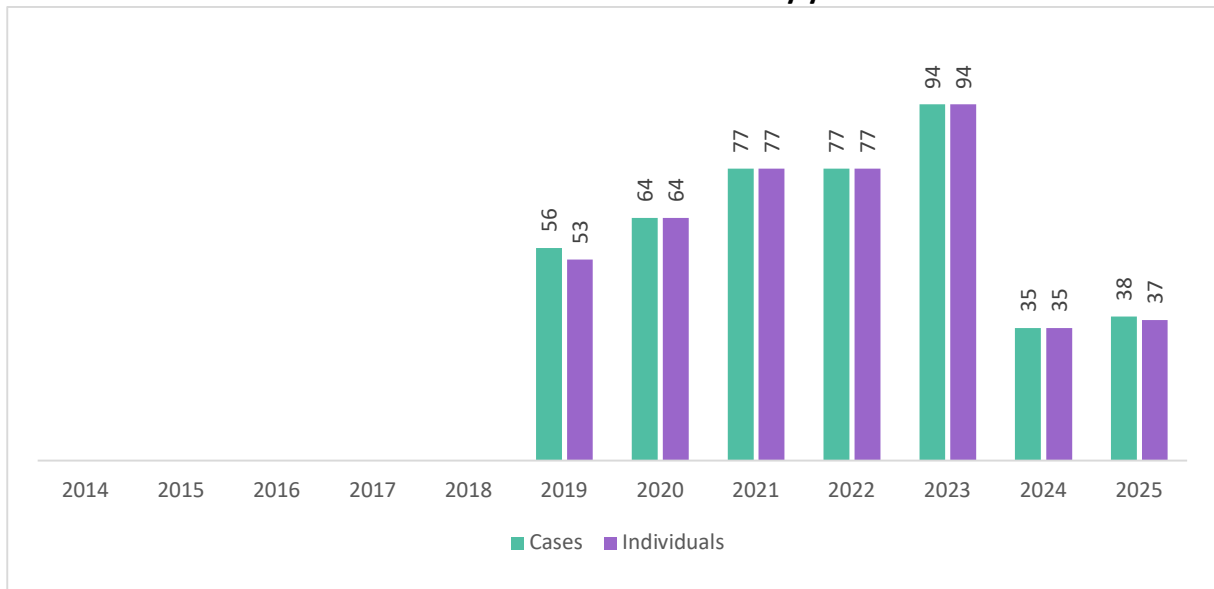


Figure 102: The figure above provides the number of cases worked with and the number of individuals worked with. To demonstrate the difference, consider Person A, who started and stopped attending a service twice in the same year, making it equivalent to 2 cases, but 1 individual worked with. In 2025, 38 cases and 37 individuals were worked with compared to 35 and 35 respectively in 2024.

A total of **38** cases were worked with between January and December 2025.

Home-start: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by gender (no. & %)

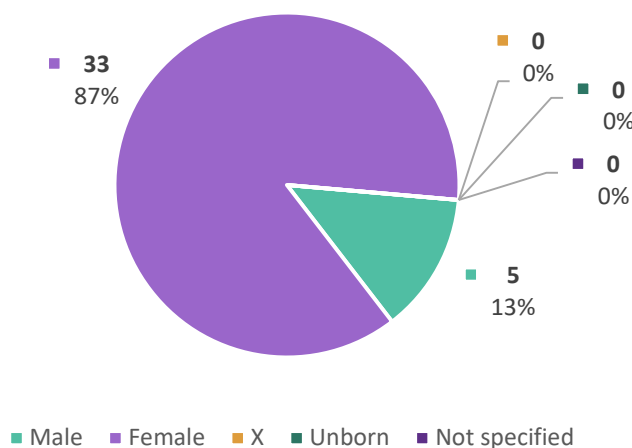


Figure 103: The figure above classifies the gender of the service user. Gender is collected at referral or first contact, but it can be updated throughout the lifetime of the case as required. The gender is collected either through formal documentation and/or the pronouns the person used when referring to themselves. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were female (87%).

Home-start: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by age category (no. & %)

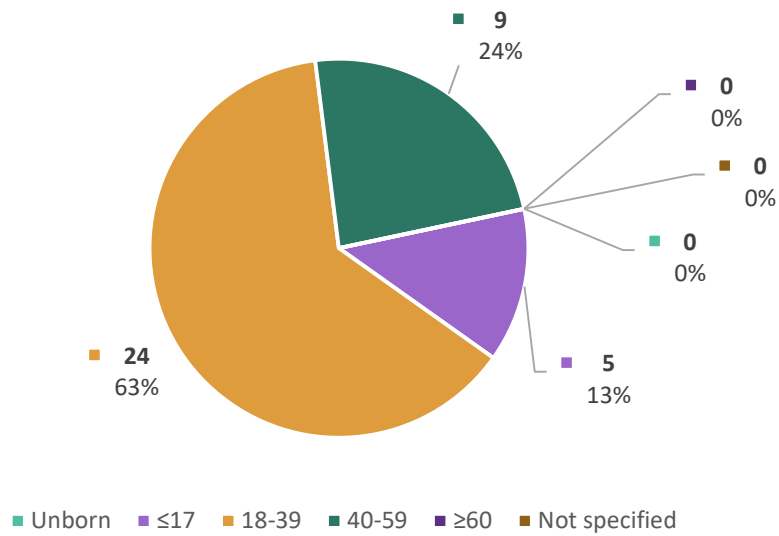


Figure 104: The figure above classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were ages 18 to 39 (63%).

Home-start: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by nationality (no. & %)

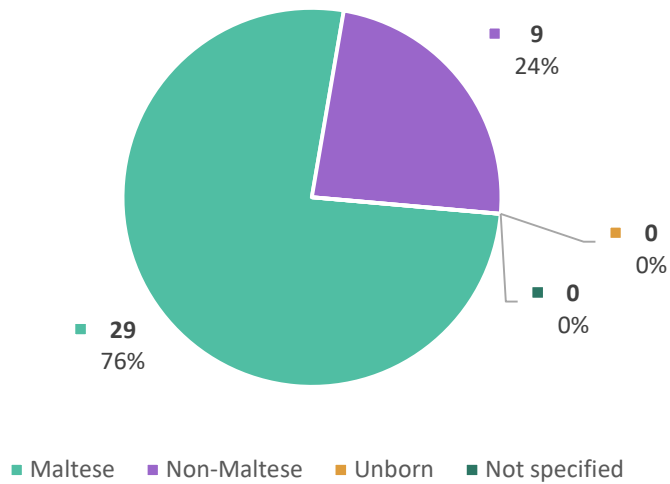
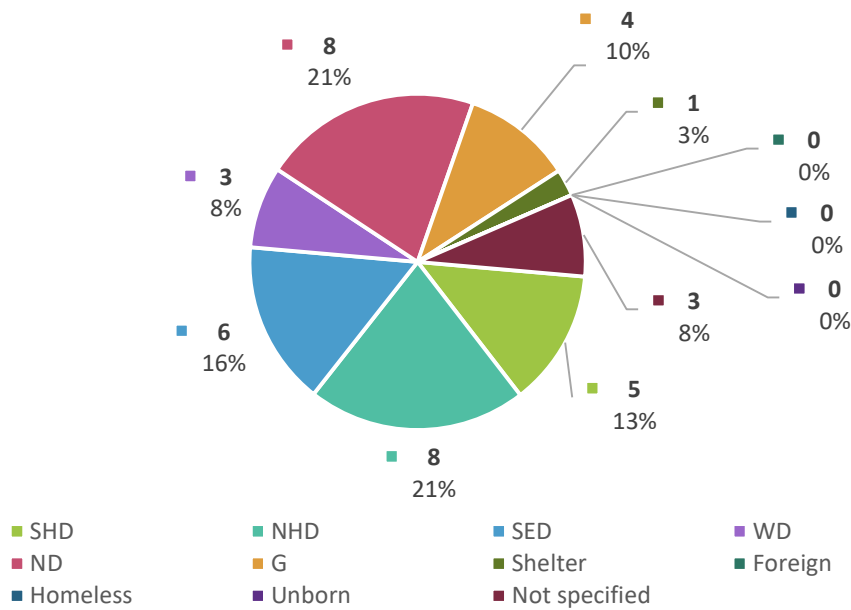


Figure 105: The figure above classifies the nationality as reported by the service user within the reporting year or based on an identity card/document. In 2025, 76% of the cases worked with were Maltese while non-Maltese made up 24% of cases.

Home-start: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by district of residence (no. & %)



Graph Key: SHD = Southern Harbour District; NHD = Northern Harbour District; SED = Southeastern District; WD = Western District; ND = Northern District; G = Gozo District; Shelter = shelter/institution; Foreign = Foreign residence.

Figure 106: The figure above classifies the district of residence as reported by the service user within the reporting year. Some service users reside within “shelter/institution” (e.g., residential homes, centre of residential restorative services, or shelters). Some service users are in Malta temporarily and so normally have a foreign residence whilst others are homeless and do not have a fixed residence. Shelter/institution, foreign residence and homeless are reported as separate categories to avoid biasing the data on district. The Northern Harbour District (21%) and Northern District (21%) had the highest percentage of cases worked with in 2025.

Home-start: Number of new, re-contact, known and intake cases worked with by year

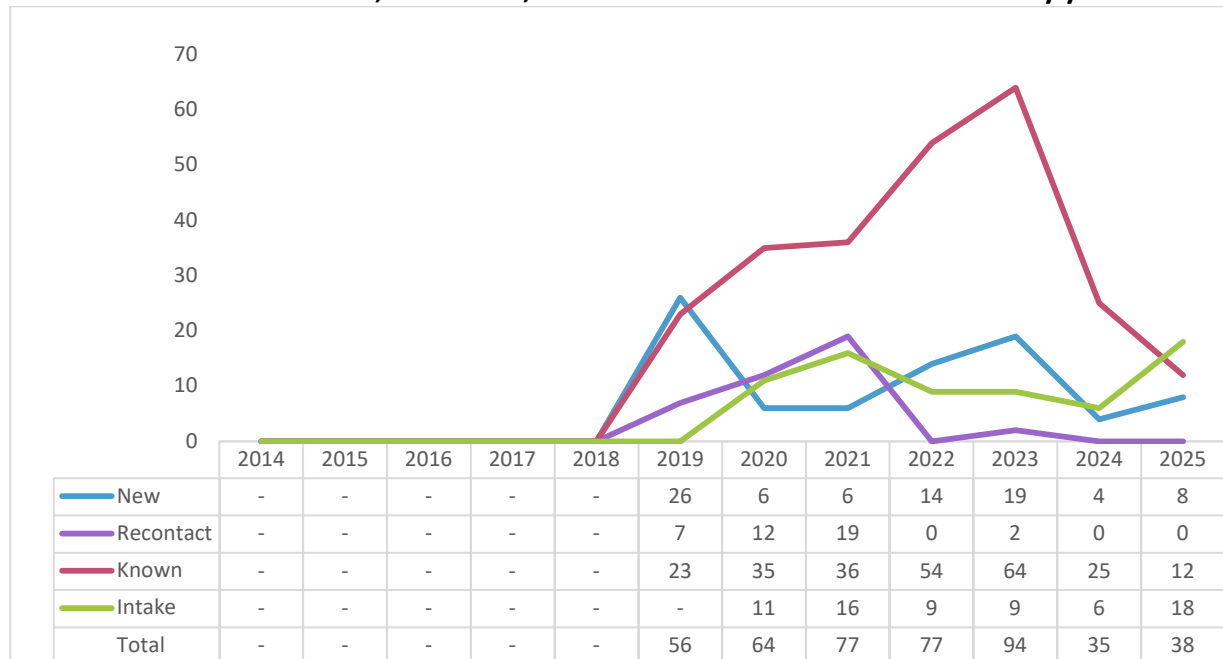


Figure 107: The cases worked with each year can be a new case, recontact case, known case or an intake case (a case starting and ending the year on intake). Further definitions can be found in the glossary. For the above graph, intake began to be reported in 2020 due to the implementation of an online data collection system.

Home-start: Case state at the end of the reporting period

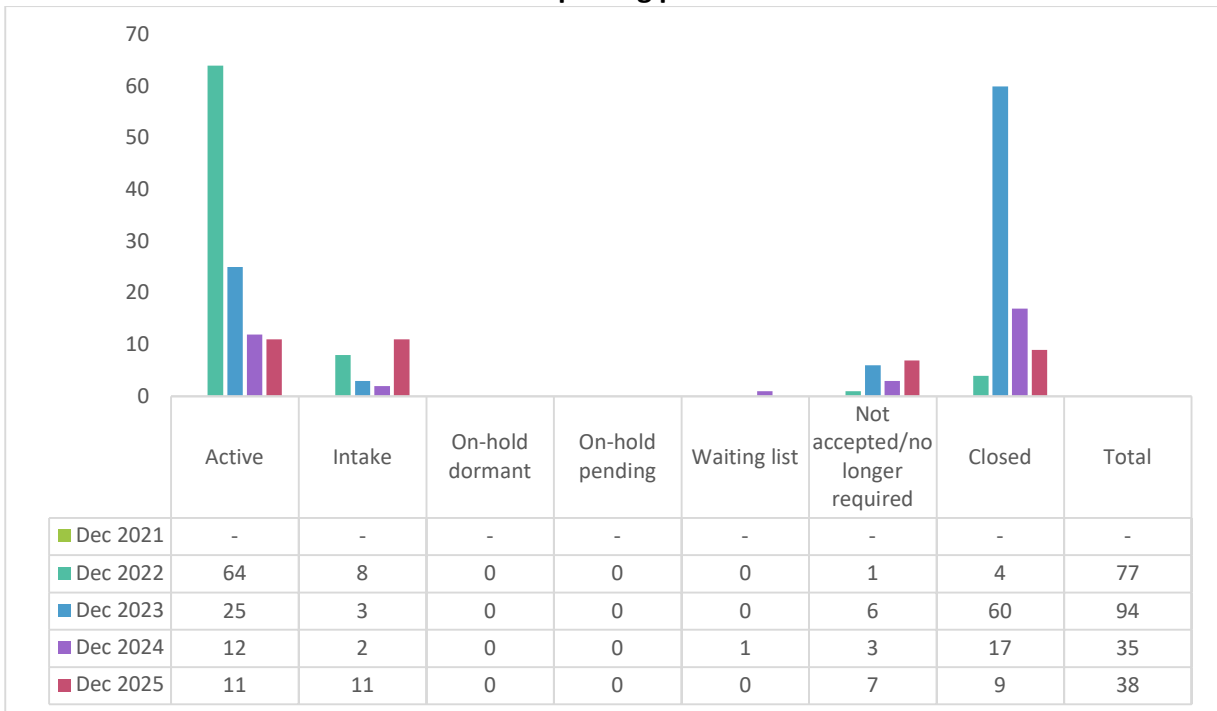


Figure 108: Cases will be handled throughout the year by placing them on intake, adding them to the waiting list, opening them, or closing them (definitions can be found in the glossary). The case state at the end of the reporting year is shown in the figure above. By the end of December 2025, 29% (11) of the cases worked with were still active. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

Home-start: Waiting list at the end of the reporting period

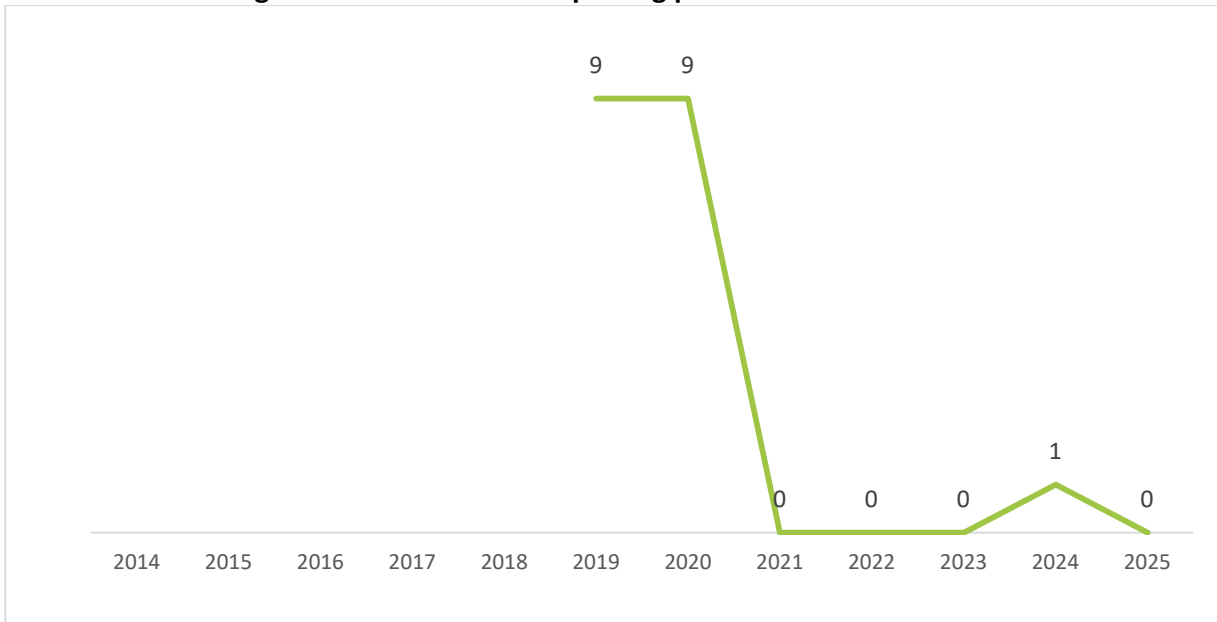


Figure 109: The figure above only reports cases that are still on the waiting list at the end of the reporting period. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

Home-start: Number of referred, new & re-contact, and closed cases by year

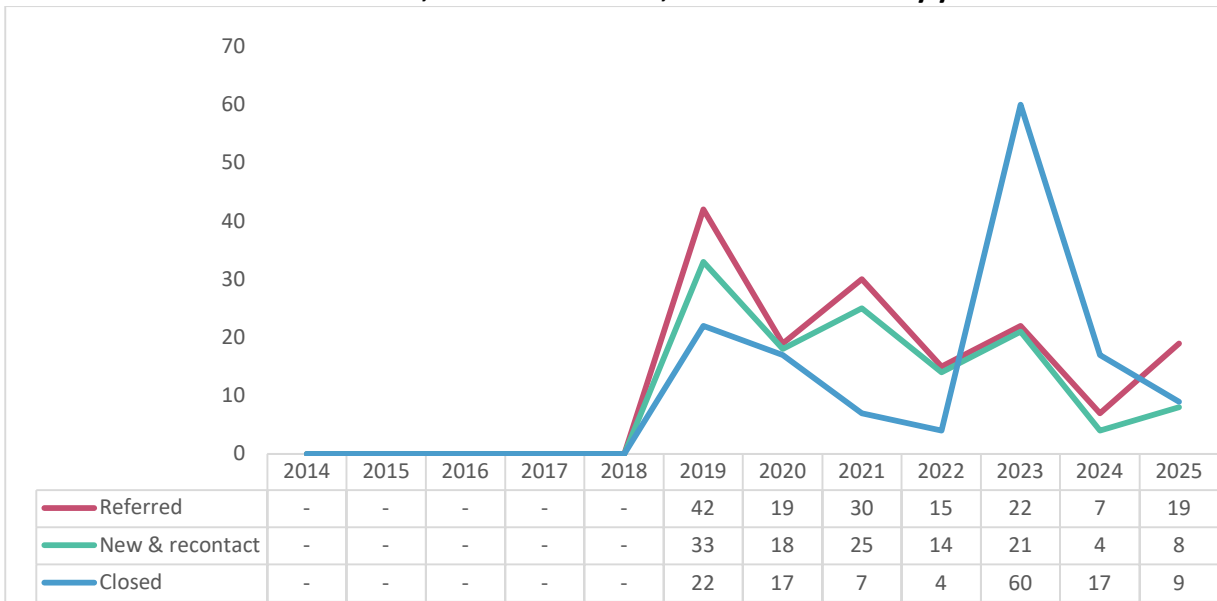


Figure 110: Cases may be referred, opened, or closed throughout the year (definitions can be found in the glossary). Opened cases include both new and recontact cases (see figure 107 for breakdown of new & recontact cases). In 2025, 19 cases were referred, 8 new & recontact cases opened, and 9 cases closed.

A total of **8** cases were opened between January and December 2025.

Note: Further breakdowns regarding cases opened by demographics can be found in the Appendix A.

Home-Start: Number of new & re-contact cases opened by age category and gender						
January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0	0
<1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6-10	0	0	0	0	0	0
11-15	0	0	0	0	0	0
16-17	0	0	0	0	0	0
18-19	0	0	0	0	0	0
20-24	0	2	0	0	0	2
25-29	0	1	0	0	0	1
30-34	0	1	0	0	0	1
35-39	0	2	0	0	0	2
40-44	0	2	0	0	0	2
45-49	0	0	0	0	0	0
50-54	0	0	0	0	0	0
55-59	0	0	0	0	0	0
≥60	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	8	0	0	0	8

Figure 111: The figure above classifies the age and gender of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth and gender. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. In 2025, the cases opened were ages 20 to 24 (2), 35 to 39 (2) and 40 to 44 (2).

Youth in Focus Service (YIF)

A new online data collection system and reporting format were introduced in 2020.

YIF: Number of cases and individuals worked with by year

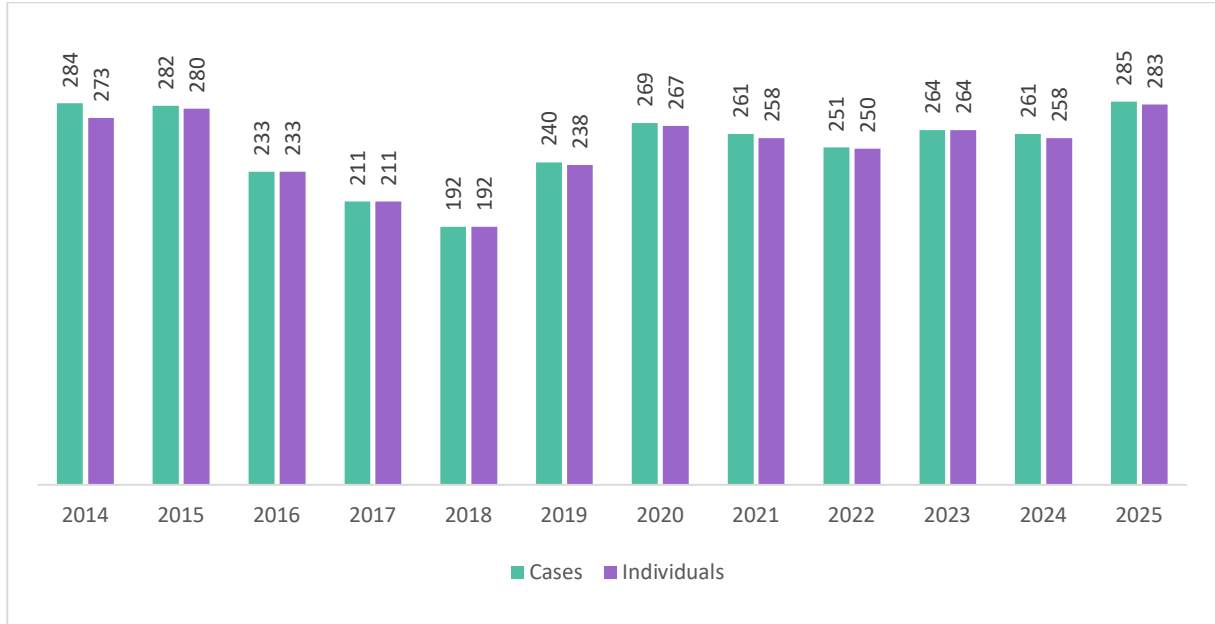


Figure 112: The figure above provides the number of cases worked with and the number of individuals worked with. To demonstrate the difference, consider Person A, who started and stopped attending a service twice in the same year, making it equivalent to 2 cases, but 1 individual worked with. In 2025, 285 cases and 283 individuals were worked with compared to 261 and 258 respectively in 2024.

A total of **285** cases were worked with between January and December 2025.

YIF: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by gender (no. & %)

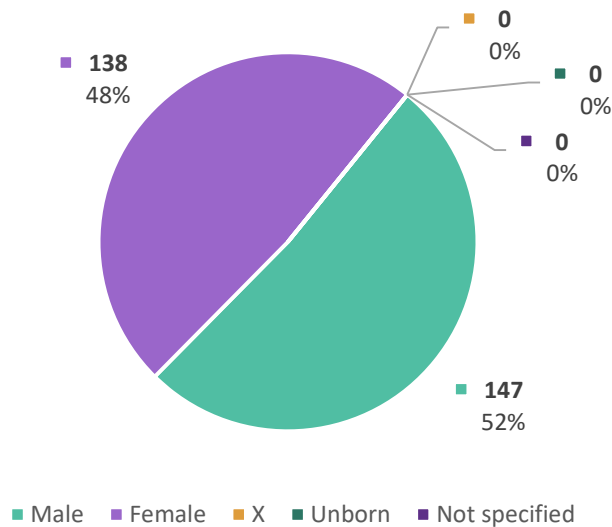


Figure 113: The figure above classifies the gender of the service user. Gender is collected at referral or first contact, but it can be updated throughout the lifetime of the case as required. The gender is collected either through formal documentation and/or the pronouns the person used when referring to themselves. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were male (52%).

YIF: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by age category (no. & %)

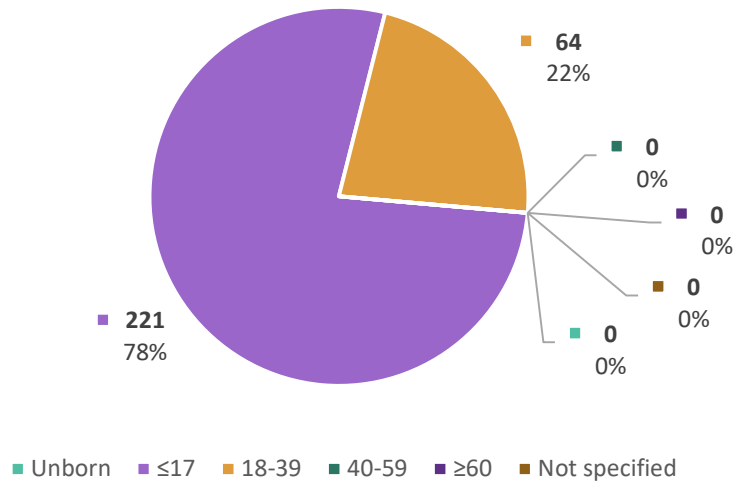


Figure 114: The figure above classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were ages 17 or younger (78%).

YIF: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by nationality (no. & %)

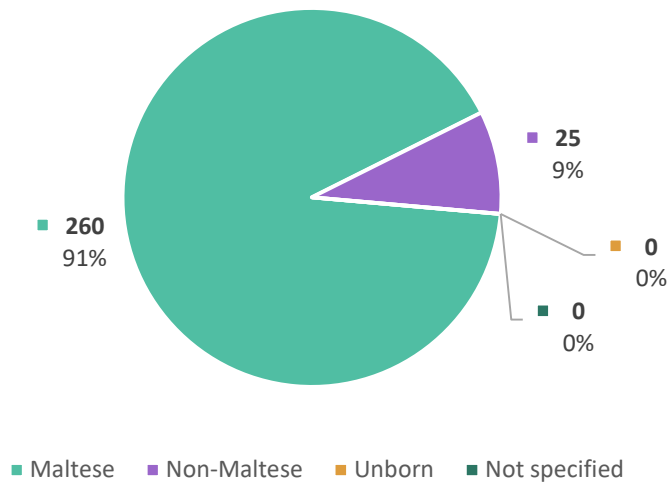
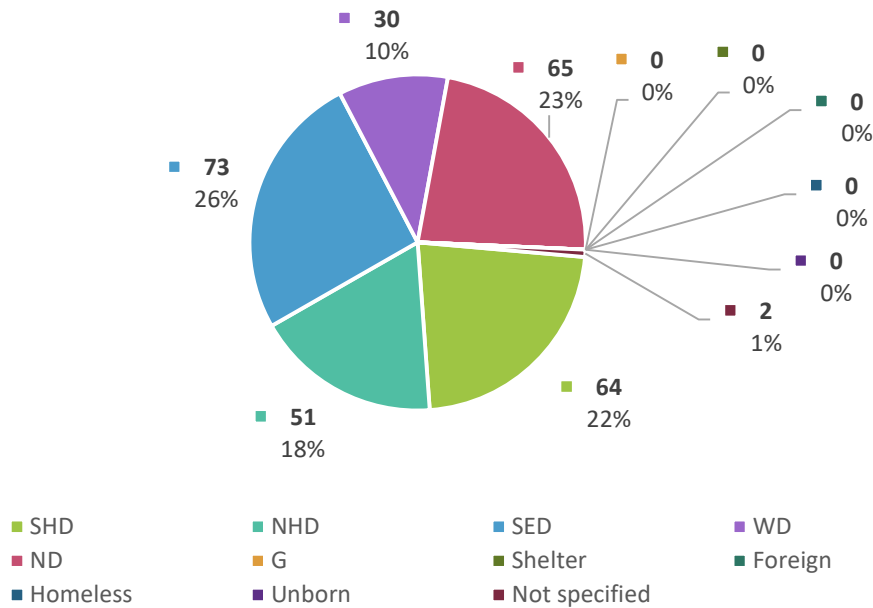


Figure 115: The figure above classifies the nationality as reported by the service user within the reporting year or based on an identity card/document. In 2025, 91% of the cases worked with were Maltese while non-Maltese made up 9% of cases.

YIF: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by district of residence (no. & %)



Graph Key: SHD = Southern Harbour District; NHD = Northern Harbour District; SED = Southeastern District; WD = Western District; ND = Northern District; G = Gozo District; Shelter = shelter/institution; Foreign = Foreign residence.

Figure 116: The figure above classifies the district of residence as reported by the service user within the reporting year. Some service users reside within “shelter/institution” (e.g., residential homes, centre of residential restorative services, or shelters). Some service users are in Malta temporarily and so normally have a foreign residence whilst others are homeless and do not have a fixed residence. Shelter/institution, foreign residence and homeless are reported as separate categories to avoid biasing the data on district. The Southeastern District (26%) had the highest percentage of cases worked with in 2025.

YIF: Number of new, re-contact, known and intake cases worked with by year

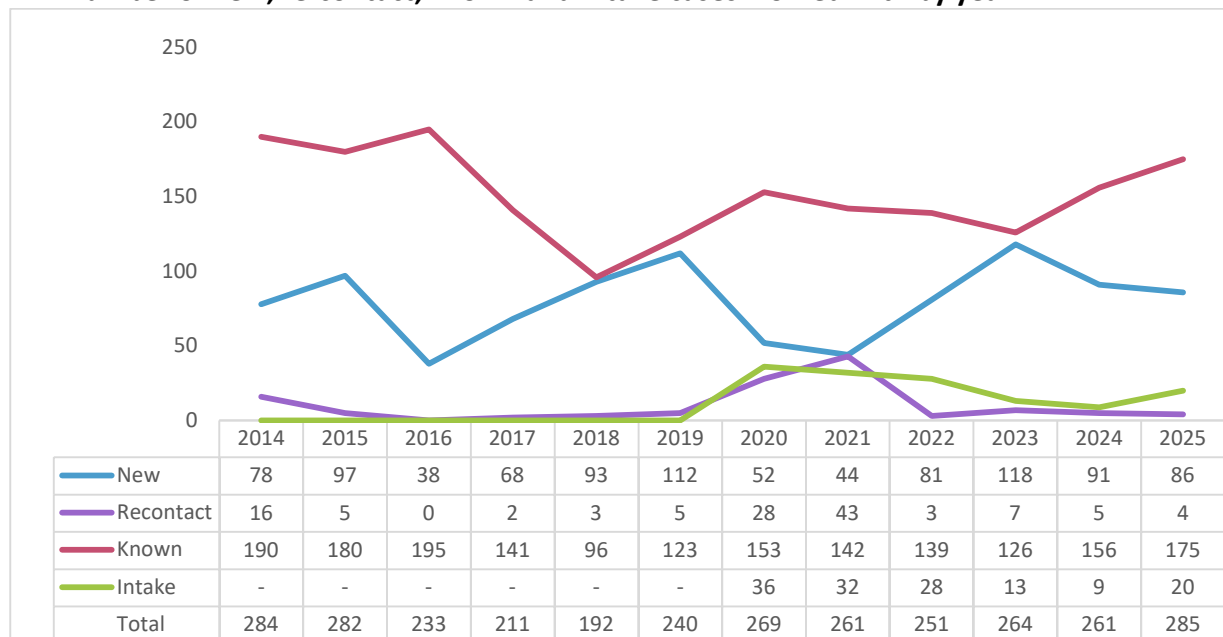


Figure 117: The cases worked with each year can be a new case, recontact case, known case or an intake case (a case starting and ending the year on intake). Further definitions can be found in the glossary. For the above graph, intake began to be reported in 2020 due to the implementation of an online data collection system.

YIF: Case state at the end of the reporting period

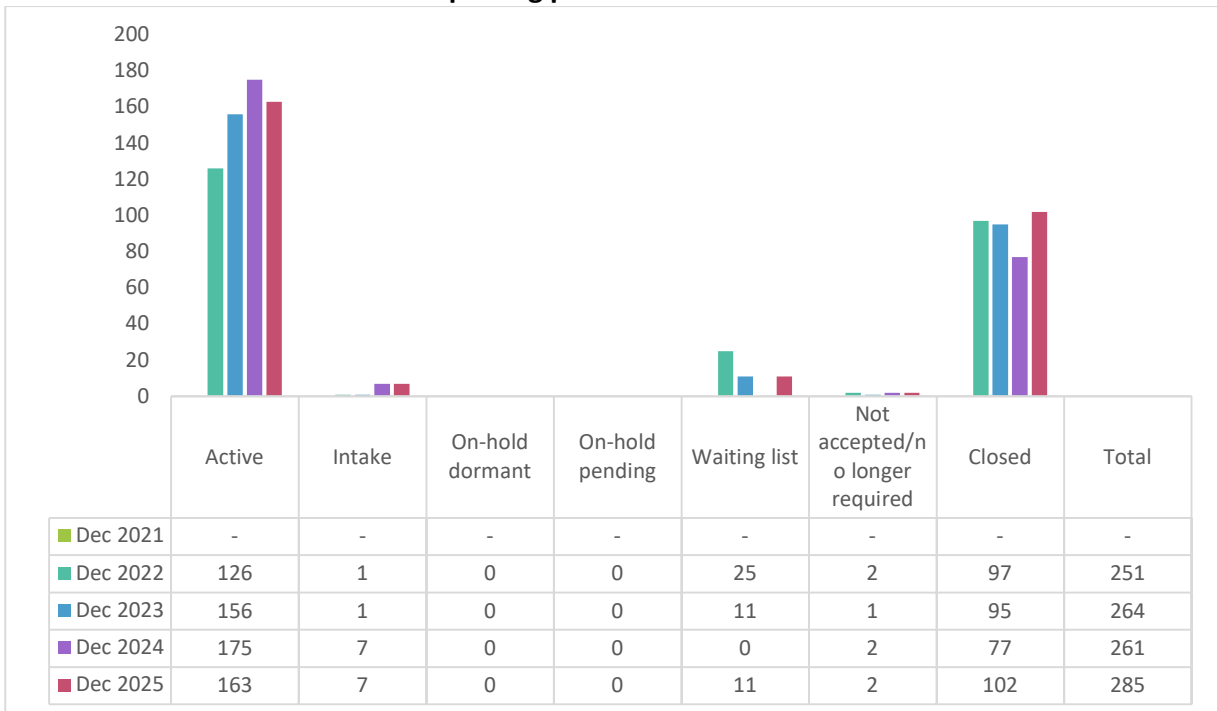


Figure 118: Cases will be handled throughout the year by placing them on intake, adding them to the waiting list, opening them, or closing them (definitions can be found in the glossary). The case state at the end of the reporting year is shown in the figure above. By the end of December 2025, 57% (163) of the cases worked with were still active. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

YIF: Waiting list at the end of the reporting period

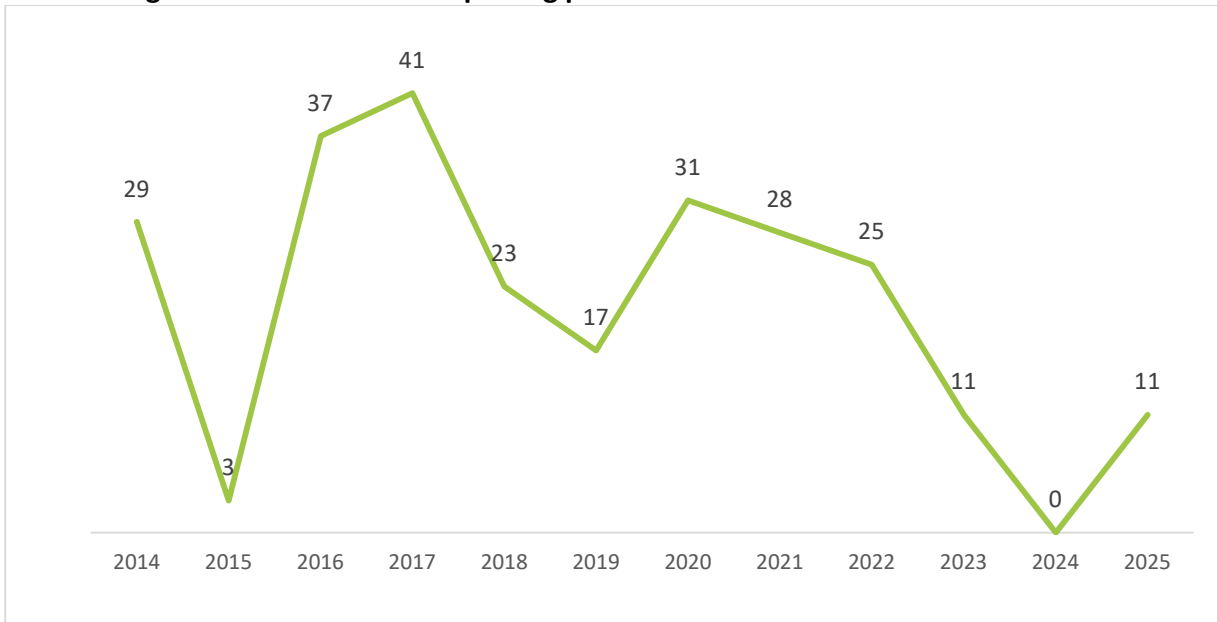


Figure 119: The figure above only reports cases that are still on the waiting list at the end of the reporting period. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

YIF: Number of referred, new & re-contact, and closed cases by year

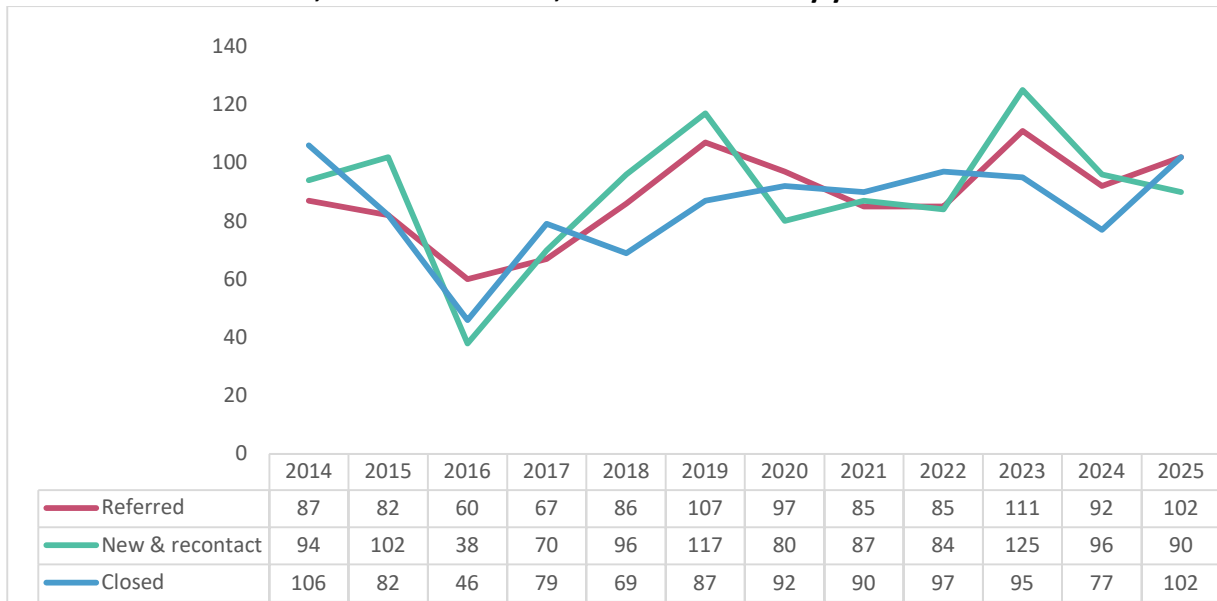


Figure 120: Cases may be referred, opened, or closed throughout the year (definitions can be found in the glossary). Opened cases include both new and recontact cases (see figure 117 for breakdown of new & recontact cases). In 2025, 102 cases were referred, 90 new & recontact cases opened, and 102 cases closed.

YIF: Number of referred cases by primary problem and year				
	2022	2023	2024	2025
Addictive behaviour problems	19	29	20	19
Assault/rape/harassment/sexual abuse	0	0	0	0
Behaviour problems	-	-	-	0
Bereavement	0	0	0	0
Bullying or being bullied	-	-	0	2
Challenging behaviour	-	-	24	30
Child abuse	0	0	0	0
Child care or access	0	0	0	0
Delinquency	1	2	8	6
Disability related issues	0	0	0	0
Domestic violence	0	0	0	0
Eating disorder	0	0	0	0
Elderly needs	0	0	0	0
Employment issues	0	0	0	0
Family relations/relationships	5	11	11	15
Financial difficulties	0	0	0	0
Fostering or adoption	0	0	0	0
Health related issues	0	0	0	0
Homeless	1	1	0	0
Housing problems	0	0	0	0

Human trafficking	0	0	0	0
Identity related issues	0	1	1	0
Lack of support or guidance	2	9	3	4
Legal issues	0	0	0	0
Loneliness	0	0	0	0
Marital problems	0	0	0	0
Mental health issues	0	0	0	0
Migrant related issues	0	0	0	0
Oppositional defiant behaviours	48	47	20	17
Out of home care	-	-	0	0
Parenting skills/child-parent relationship	0	0	0	0
Personality related issues	0	0	0	0
Pregnancy related issues	0	0	0	0
Promiscuous behaviour	-	-	3	1
Psychological assessment	-	-	0	0
Relationship problems	0	0	0	0
School related problems	1	4	2	6
Self-harm or suicide	6	2	0	2
Separation related issues	0	0	0	0
Sex work related issues	0	0	0	0
Significant other for support sessions	-	-	0	0
Other	2	5	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0
Total	85	111	92	102

Figure 121: Service users may mention one or more issues during a referral, and they will designate which one is of the highest importance (primary issue). A list of typical issues is available in the online data collection system for workers to record the issues raised during referral and they also rank the issues. Any issue that is not on the list is noted as 'other' and 'none specified' is reported if no issue is acknowledged or named.

A total of **90** cases were opened between January and December 2025.

Note: Further breakdowns regarding cases opened by demographics can be found in the Appendix A.

YIF: Number of new & re-contact cases opened by age category and gender January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0	0
< 1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6-10	0	0	0	0	0	0
11-15	28	26	0	0	0	54
16-17	24	9	0	0	0	33
≥18	2	1	0	0	0	3
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	54	36	0	0	0	90

Figure 122: The figure above classifies the age and gender of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth and gender. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. In 2025, the highest number of cases opened were ages 11 to 15 (54).

YIF: New & re-contact cases opened by primary addictive behaviour reported and gender January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Technology/gaming/social media	12	5	0	-	0	17
Tobacco/e-cigarettes	7	6	0	-	0	13
Cannabis	3	2	0	-	0	5
Alcohol	1	2	0	-	0	3
Methamphetamines	1	0	0	-	0	1
Inhalants	0	0	0	-	0	0
Other opiates	0	0	0	-	0	0
Eating disorder/food	0	0	0	-	0	0
No addictive behaviour reported	30	20	0	-	0	50
None identified/reported	0	1	0	-	0	1
Total	54	36	0	-	0	90

Figure 123: The primary substance/addiction stated by service users during first contact is recorded in the online data collection system, and it is the primary substance/addiction utilised in the previous 12 months. The term "none identified/reported" describes service users who did not report using a substance/addiction in the previous 12 months, service users who had another issue which was not an addictive behaviour (e.g., school related issues) or significant others who come to the service for support but do not have a primary substance themselves to report. For example, the majority of cases opened in 2025 reported no primary addictive behavioural issues (50 cases) and of these cases, 30 cases were male.

Embark for Life Service (E4L)

Data started being reported in 2014. A new online data collection system and reporting format were introduced in 2023.

E4L: Number of cases and individuals worked with by year

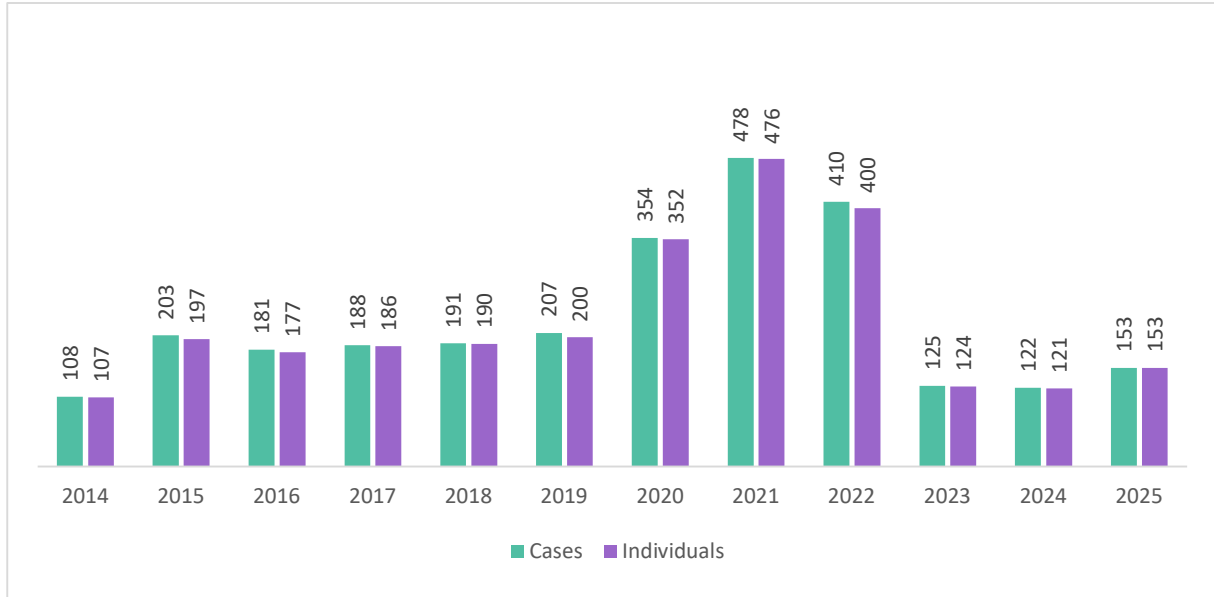


Figure 124: The figure above provides the number of cases worked with and the number of individuals worked with. To demonstrate the difference, consider Person A, who started and stopped attending a service twice in the same year, making it equivalent to 2 cases, but 1 individual worked with. In 2025, 153 cases and 153 individuals were worked with compared to 122 and 121 respectively in 2024.

A total of **153** cases were worked with between January and December 2025.

E4L: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by gender (no. & %)

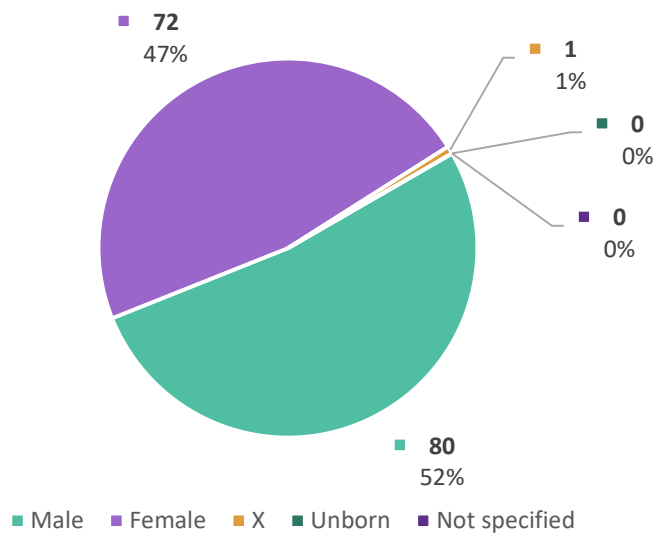


Figure 125: The figure above classifies the gender of the service user. Gender is collected at referral or first contact, but it can be updated throughout the lifetime of the case as required. The gender is collected either through formal documentation and/or the pronouns the person used when referring to themselves. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were male (52%).

E4L: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by age category (no. & %)

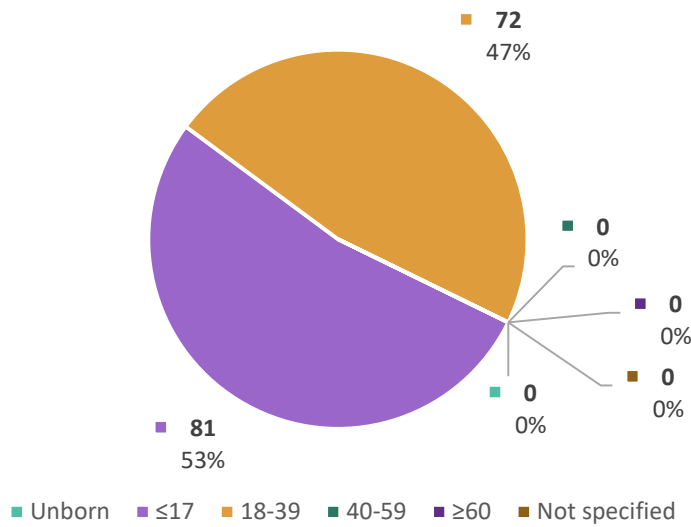


Figure 126: The figure above classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were ages 17 or younger (53%).

E4L: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by nationality (no. & %)

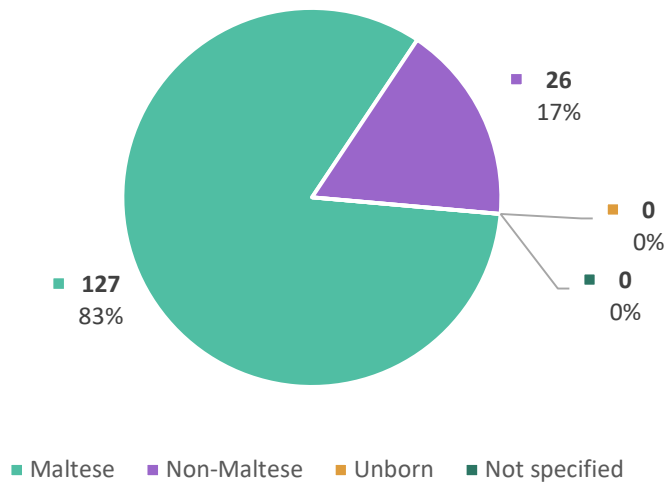
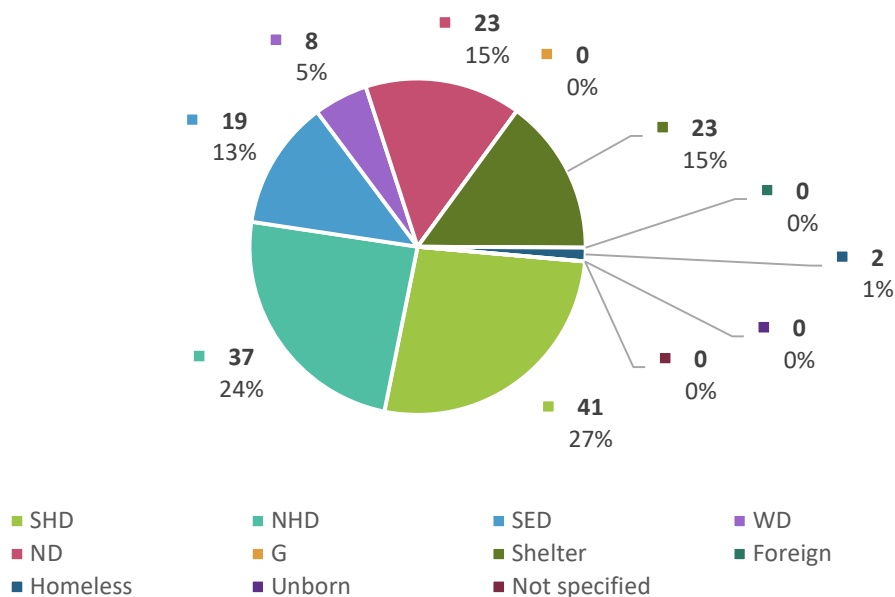


Figure 127: The figure above classifies the nationality as reported by the service user within the reporting year or based on an identity card/document. In 2025, 83% of the cases worked with were Maltese while non-Maltese made up 17% of cases.

E4L: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by district of residence (no. & %)



Graph Key: SHD = Southern Harbour District; NHD = Northern Harbour District; SED = Southeastern District; WD = Western District; ND = Northern District; G = Gozo District; Shelter = shelter/institution; Foreign = Foreign residence.

Figure 128: The figure above classifies the district of residence as reported by the service user within the reporting year. Some service users reside within “shelter/institution” (e.g., residential homes, centre of residential restorative services, or shelters). Some service users are in Malta temporarily and so normally have a foreign residence whilst others are homeless and do not have a fixed residence. Shelter/institution, foreign residence and homeless are reported as separate categories to avoid biasing the data on district. The Southern Harbour District (27%) had the highest percentage of cases worked with in 2025.

E4L: Number of new, re-contact, known and intake cases worked with by year

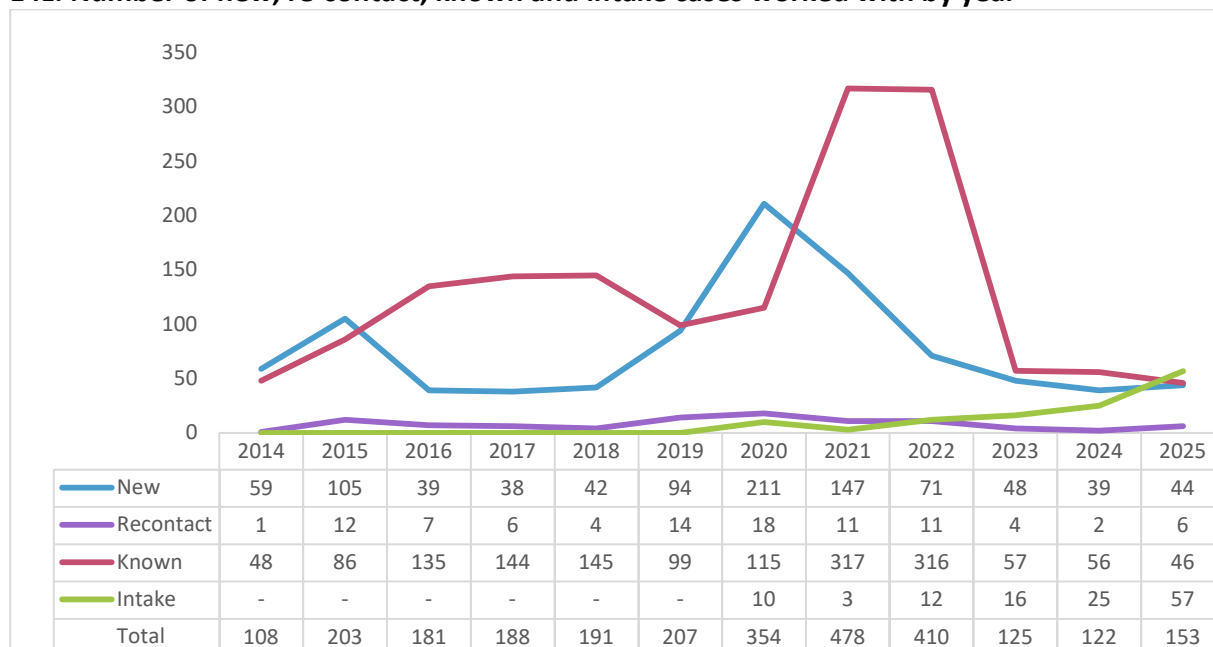


Figure 129: The cases worked with each year can be a new case, recontact case, known case or an intake case (a case starting and ending the year on intake). Further definitions can be found in the glossary. For the above graph, intake began to be reported in 2020 due to the implementation of an online data collection system.

E4L: Case state at the end of the reporting period

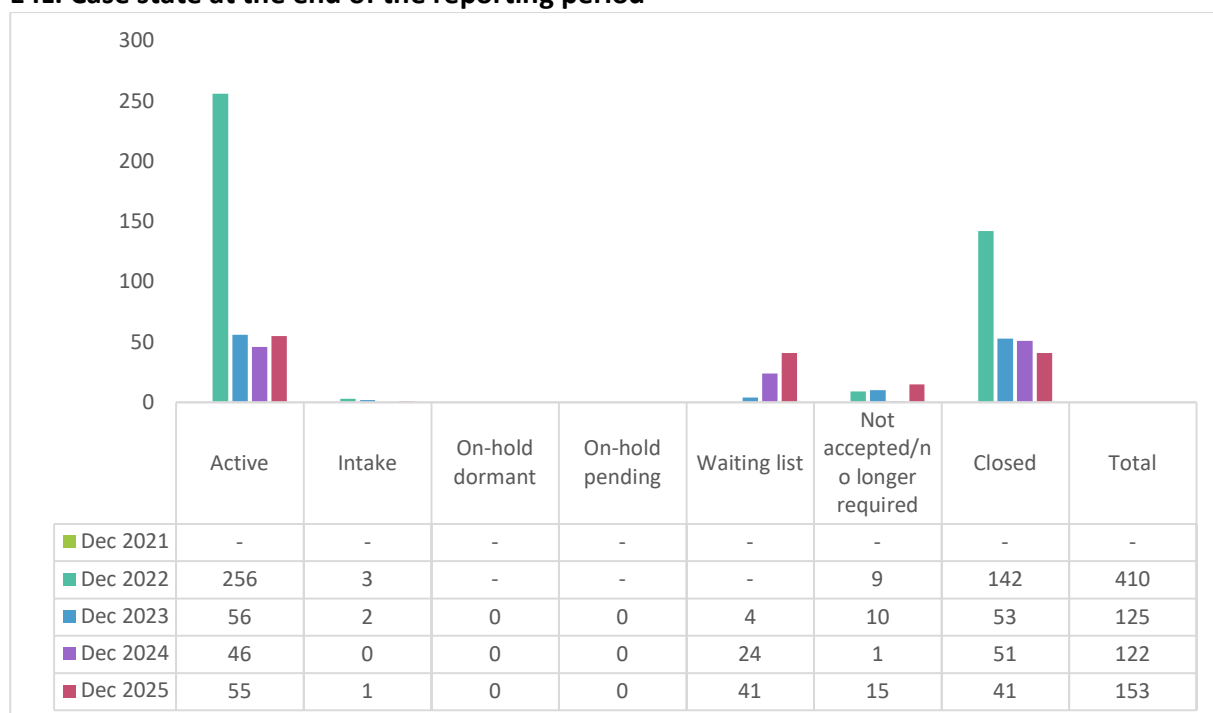


Figure 130: Cases will be handled throughout the year by placing them on intake, adding them to the waiting list, opening them, or closing them (definitions can be found in the glossary). The case state at the end of the reporting year is shown in the figure above. By the end of December 2025, 36% (55) of the cases worked with were still active. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

E4L: Waiting list at the end of the reporting period

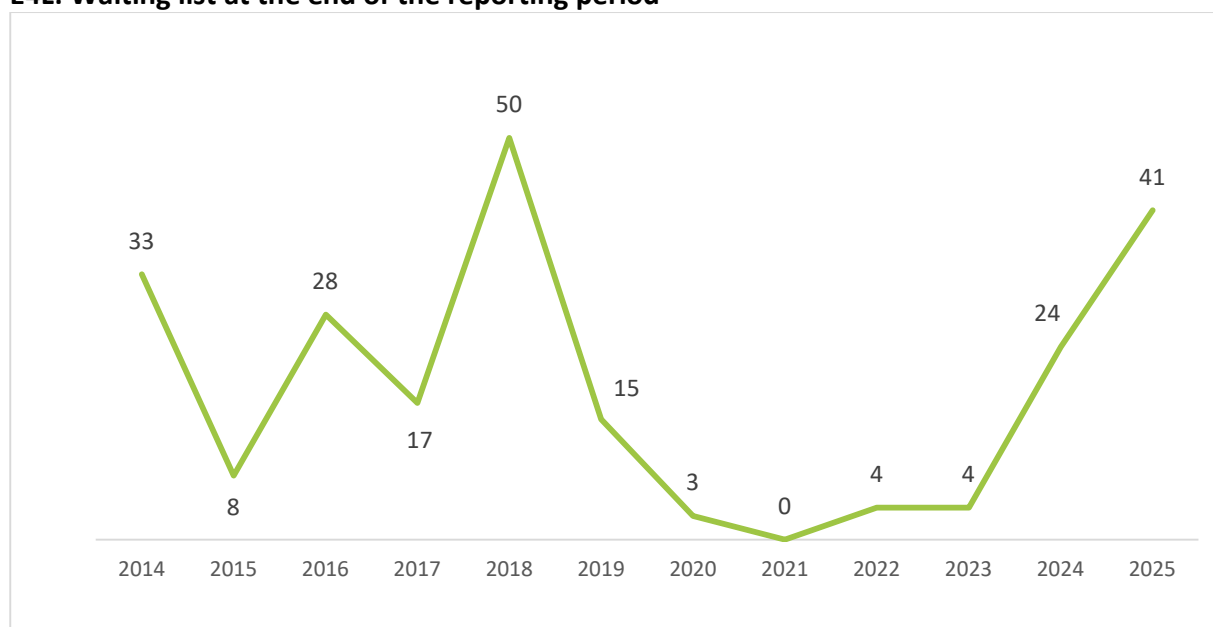


Figure 131: The figure above only reports cases that are still on the waiting list at the end of the reporting period. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

E4L: Number of referred, new & re-contact, and closed cases by year

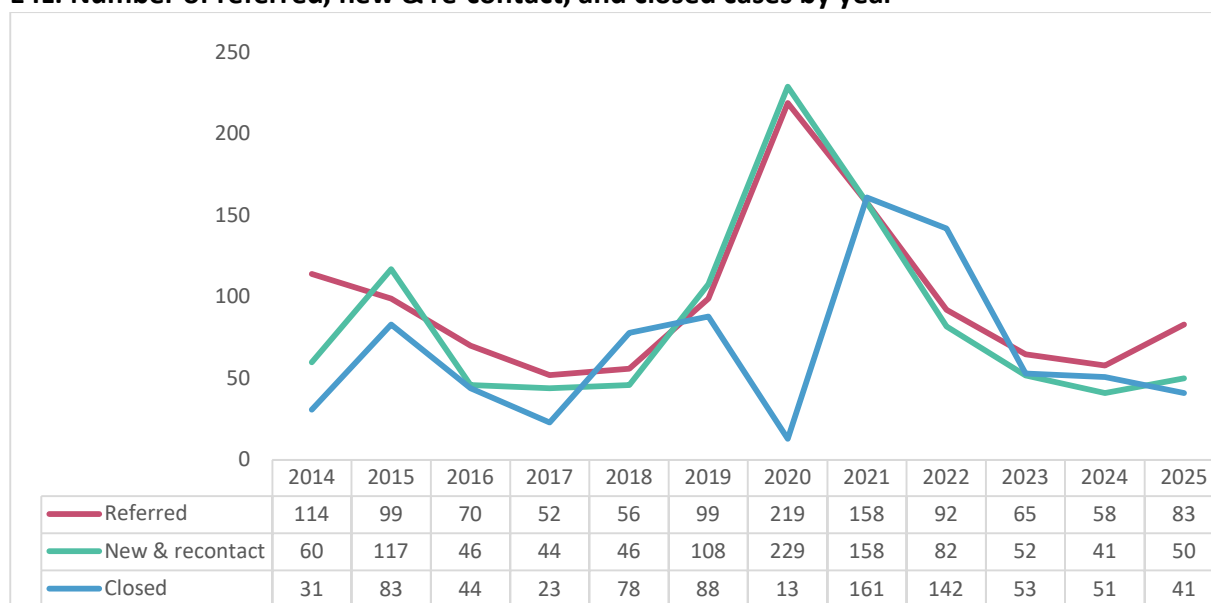


Figure 132: Cases may be referred, opened, or closed throughout the year (definitions can be found in the glossary). Opened cases include both new and recontact cases (see figure 129 for breakdown of new & recontact cases). In 2025, 83 cases were referred, 50 new & recontact cases opened, and 41 cases closed.

A total of **50** cases were opened between January and December 2025.

Note: Further breakdowns regarding cases opened by demographics can be found in the Appendix A.

E4L: Number of new & re-contact cases opened by age category and gender January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Unborn	0	0	0	-	0	0
< 1	0	0	0	-	0	0
1-5	0	0	0	-	0	0
6-10	0	0	0	-	0	0
11-15	1	5	0	-	0	6
16-17	10	14	0	-	0	24
≥18	10	9	1	-	0	20
Not specified	0	0	0	-	0	0
Total	21	28	1	-	0	50

Figure 133: The figure above classifies the age and gender of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth and gender. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. In 2025, the highest number of cases opened were ages 16 to 17 (24).

Youth Empowerment Initiatives (YEI)

The Adolescent Day programme Service (ADP) and Youth Initiatives reported in past reports were incorporated into the Youth Empowerment Service (YEI) in 2024. Due to the change in data collection in 2024, the data for 2013 up to 2023 for ADP is reported in past reports and data from 2024 onwards for Youth Empowerment Service (YEI) is reported in this report. This is because the data from 2013 to 2023 is not comparable to the data from 2024 onwards.

YEI: Number of cases and individuals worked with at YEI by year

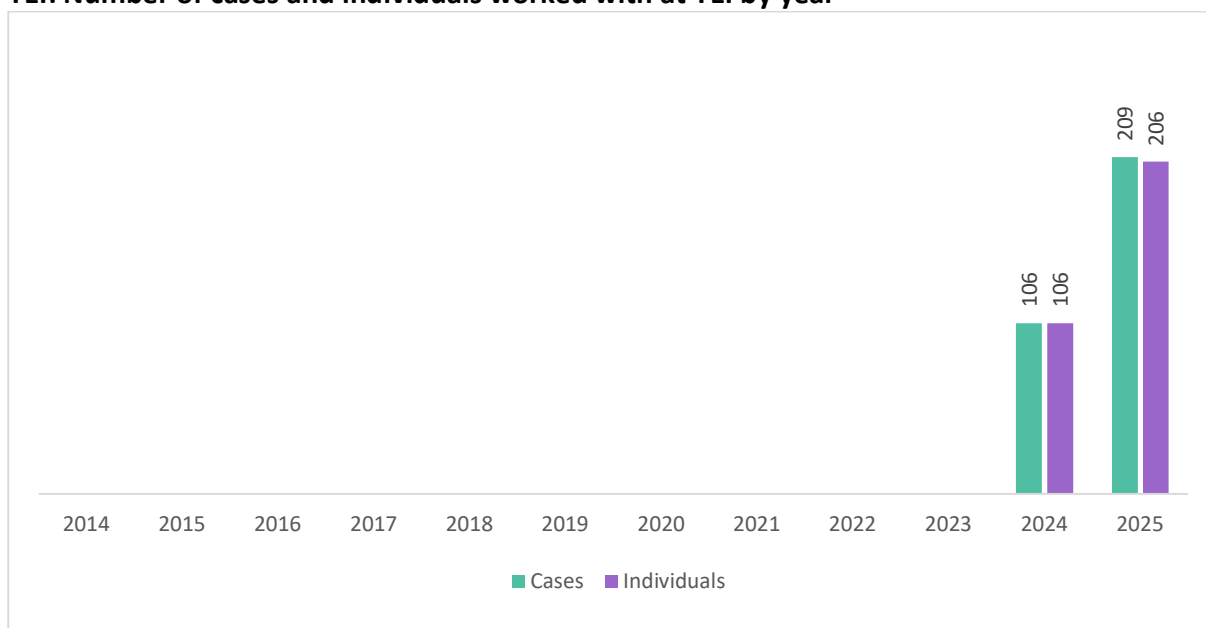


Figure 134: The figure above provides the number of cases worked with and the number of individuals worked with. To demonstrate the difference, consider Person A, who started and stopped attending a service twice in the same year, making it equivalent to 2 cases, but 1 individual worked with. Due to the change in data collection in 2024 mentioned previously, the data for 2013 up to 2024 for ADP is reported in another visual above whilst the data from 2024 onwards is reported here. In 2025, 209 cases and 206 individuals were worked with compared to 106 and 106 respectively in 2024.

A total of **209** cases were worked with between January and December 2025.

YEI: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by gender (no. & %)

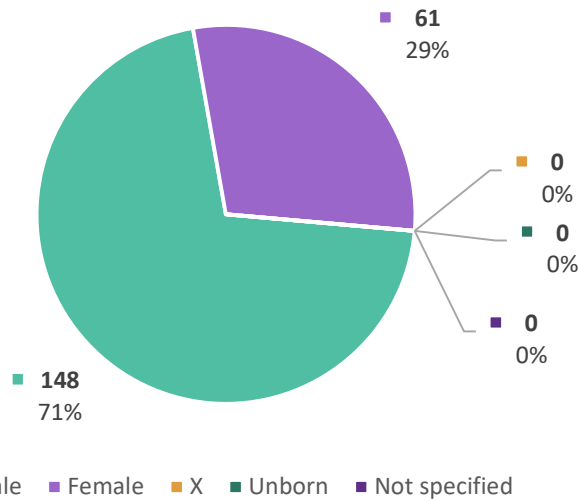


Figure 135: The figure above classifies the gender of the service user. Gender is collected at referral or first contact, but it can be updated throughout the lifetime of the case as required. The gender is collected either through formal documentation and/or the pronouns the person used when referring to themselves. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were male (71%).

YEI: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by age category (no. & %)

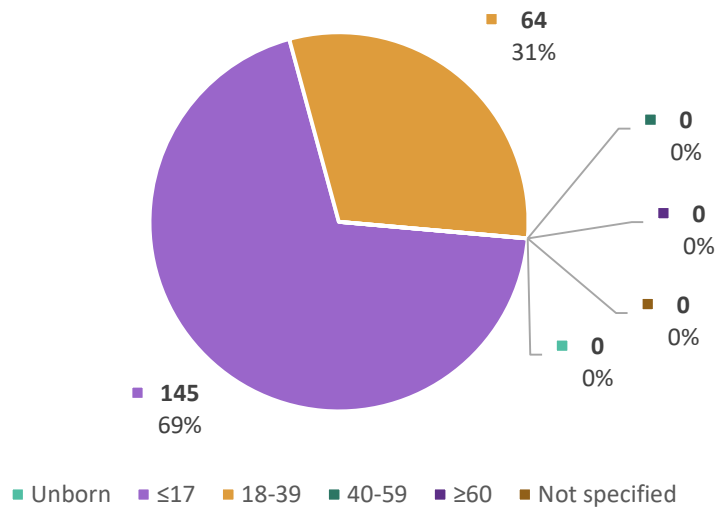


Figure 136: The figure above classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were ages 17 or younger (69%).

YEI: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by nationality (no. & %)

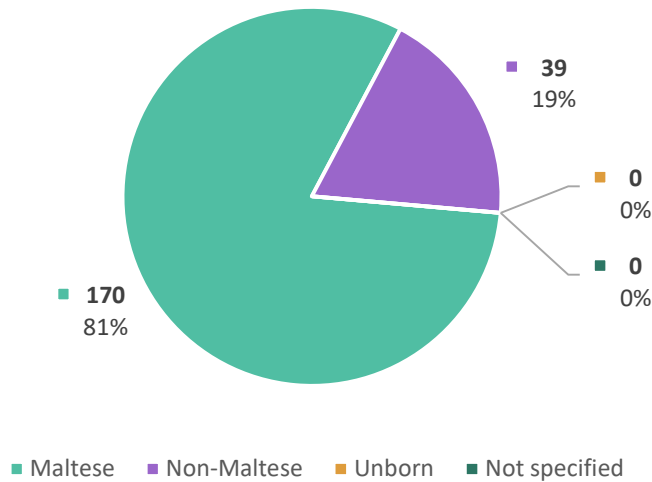
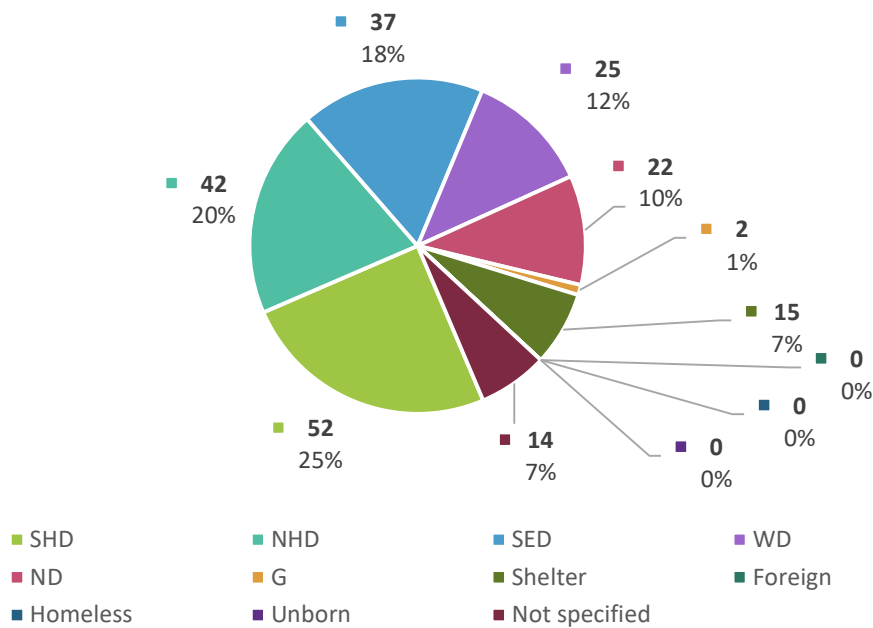


Figure 137: The figure above classifies the nationality as reported by the service user within the reporting year or based on an identity card/document. In 2025, 81% of the cases worked with were Maltese while non-Maltese made up 19% of cases.

YEI: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by district of residence (no. & %)



Graph Key: SHD = Southern Harbour District; NHD = Northern Harbour District; SED = Southeastern District; WD = Western District; ND = Northern District; G = Gozo District; Shelter = shelter/institution; Foreign = Foreign residence.

Figure 138: The figure above classifies the district of residence as reported by the service user within the reporting year. Some service users reside within “shelter/institution” (e.g., residential homes, centre of residential restorative services, or shelters). Some service users are in Malta temporarily and so normally have a foreign residence whilst others are homeless and do not have a fixed residence. Shelter/institution, foreign residence and homeless are reported as separate categories to avoid biasing the data on district. The Southern Harbour District (25%) had the highest percentage of cases worked with in 2025.

YEI: Number of new, re-contact and known cases worked with at YEI by year



Figure 139: The cases worked with each year can be a new case, recontact case, known case or an intake case (a case starting and ending the year on intake). Further definitions can be found in the glossary. For the above graph, intake began to be reported in 2024. Due to the change in data collection in 2024 mentioned previously, the data for 2013 up to 2024 for ADP is reported in another visual above whilst the data from 2024 onwards is reported here.

YEI: Case state at the end of the reporting period

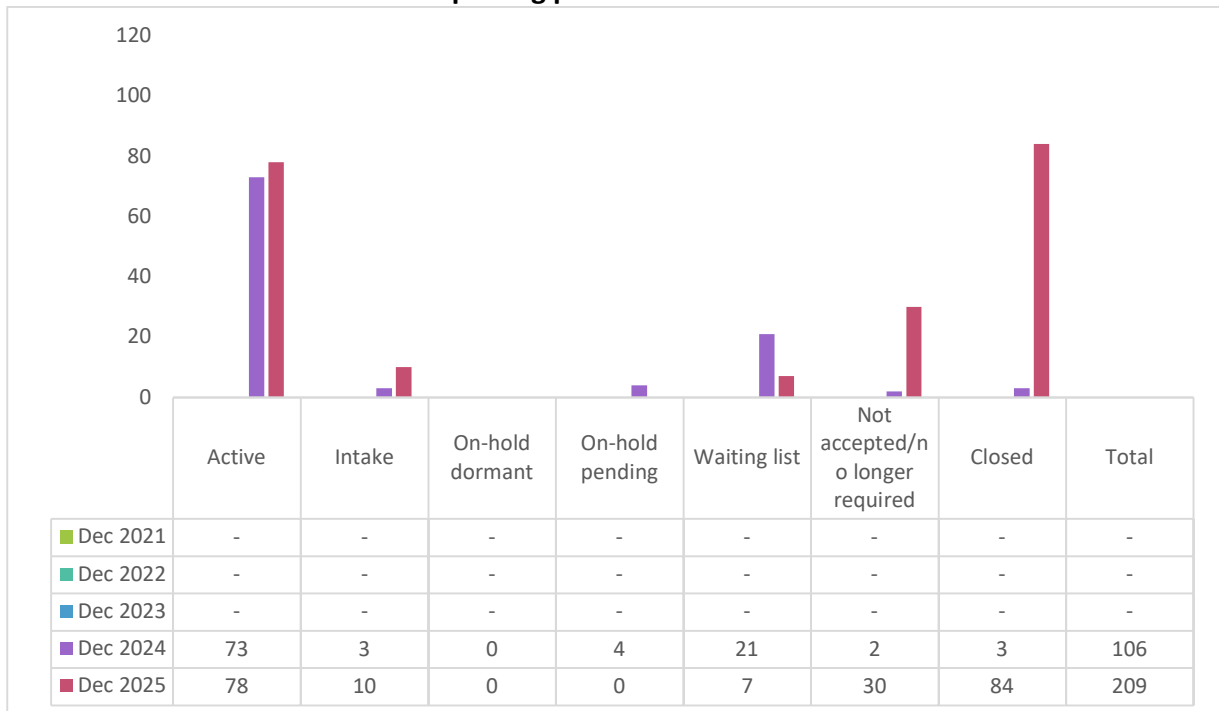


Figure 140: Cases will be handled throughout the year by placing them on intake, adding them to the waiting list, opening them, or closing them (definitions can be found in the glossary). The case state at the end of the reporting year is shown in the figure above. By the end of December 2025, 37% (78) of the cases worked with were still active. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

YEI: Waiting list at the end of the reporting period

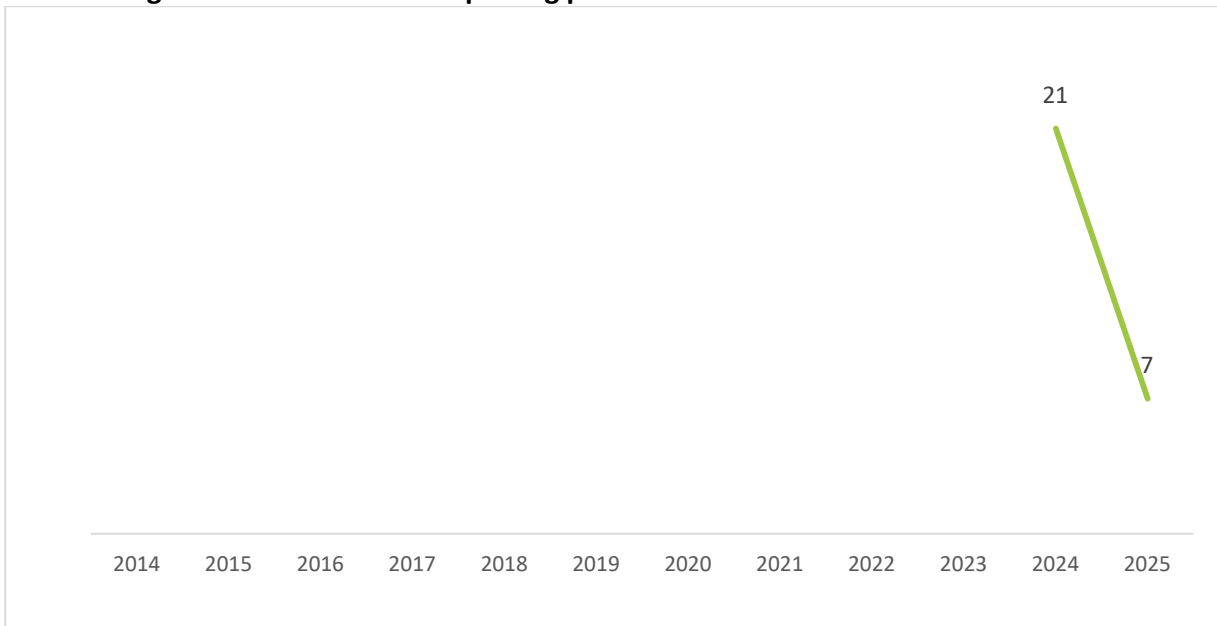


Figure 141: The figure above only reports cases that are still on the waiting list at the end of the reporting period. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

YEI: Number of referred, new & re-contact, and closed cases by year

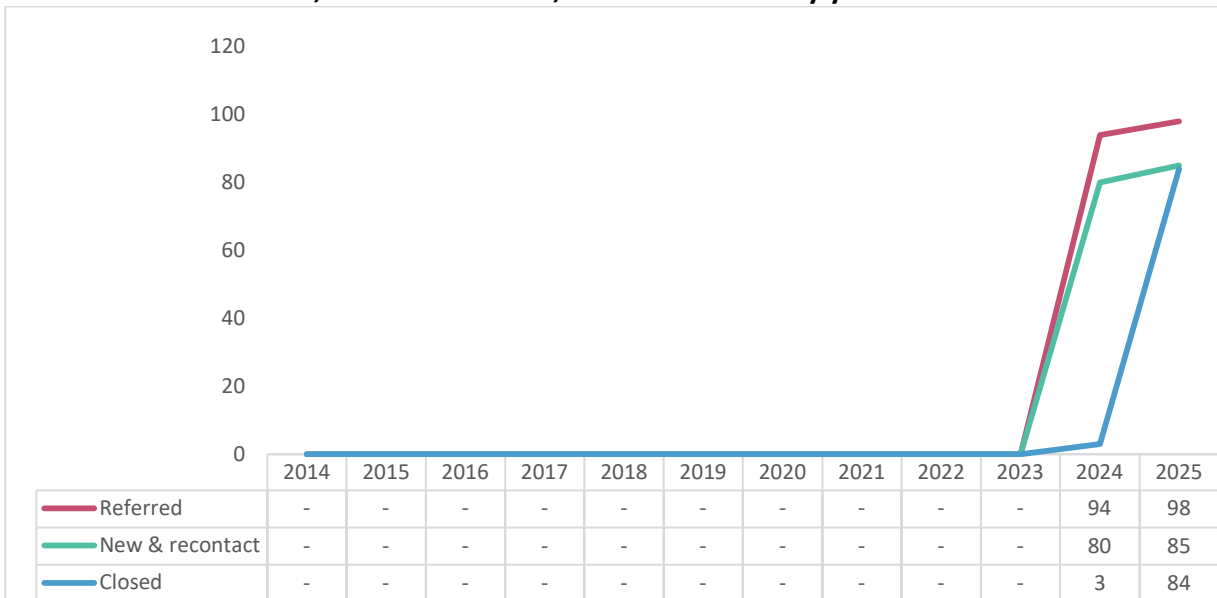


Figure 142: Cases may be referred, opened, or closed throughout the year (definitions can be found in the glossary). Opened cases include both new and recontact cases (see figure 139 for breakdown of new & recontact cases). In 2025, 98 cases were referred, 85 new & recontact cases opened, and 84 cases closed. Due to the change in data collection in 2024 mentioned previously, only the data from 2024 onwards is reported here.

YEI: Number of referred cases by primary problem and year		
	2024	2025
Addictive behaviour problems	2	1
Bullying or being bullied	2	1
Challenging behaviour	10	12
Delinquency	0	32
Employment issues	3	3
Family relations/relationships	15	3
Homeless	1	0
Housing problems	0	0
Identity related issues	2	1
Lack of support or guidance	0	7
Mental health issues	0	0
Migrant related issues	0	0
Oppositional defiant behaviours	18	5
School related problems	40	33
Self-harm or suicide	1	0
Other	0	0
Not specified	0	0
Total	94	98

Figure 143: Service users may mention one or more issues during a referral, and they will designate which one is of the highest importance (primary issue). A list of typical issues is available in the online data collection system for workers to record the issues raised during referral and they also rank the issues. Any issue that is not on the list is noted as 'other' and 'none specified' is reported if no issue is acknowledged or named.

A total of **85** cases were opened between January and December 2025.

Note: Further breakdowns regarding cases opened by demographics can be found in the Appendix A.

YEI: Number of new & re-contact cases opened by age category and gender						
January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Unborn	0	0	0	-	0	0
< 1	0	0	0	-	0	0
1-5	0	0	0	-	0	0
6-10	0	0	0	-	0	0
11-15	29	14	0	-	0	43
16-17	7	5	0	-	0	12
≥18	24	6	0	-	0	30
Not specified	0	0	0	-	0	0
Total	60	25	0	-	0	85

Figure 144: The figure above classifies the age and gender of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth and gender. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. In 2025, the highest number of cases opened were ages 11 to 15 (43).

YEI: Number of interventions provided by type of intervention and year		
	2024	2025
Programme session	438	810
Group Work session	190	146
Case discussion and networking	26	124
Helping or supportive session	16	20
Telephone intervention	0	12
Service feedback session	0	7
Confrontation session	2	2
Accompanying	0	1
Adolescent Treatment Group	58	0
Assessment	23	0
Generic session (e.g. care plan or follow-ups)	3	1
Case Conference/ case review	2	1
Crisis intervention	1	0
Office Note	1	0
Total	760	1124

Figure 145: The service provides various interventions and programmes through the year e.g. the Armed Forces of Malta (AFM) Programme. The majority of interventions held in 2025 consisting of a programme session (810).

Supervised Access Visits Service (SAV)

A new online data collection system and reporting format were introduced in 2020.

SAV: Number of cases and individuals worked with by year



Figure 146: The figure above provides the number of cases worked with and the number of individuals. To demonstrate the difference, consider Person A, who started and stopped attending a service twice in the same year, making it equivalent to 2 cases, but 1 individual worked with. In 2025, 540 cases and 508 individuals were worked with compared to 561 and 511 respectively in 2024.

A total of **540** cases were worked with between January and December 2025.

SAV: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by gender (no. & %)

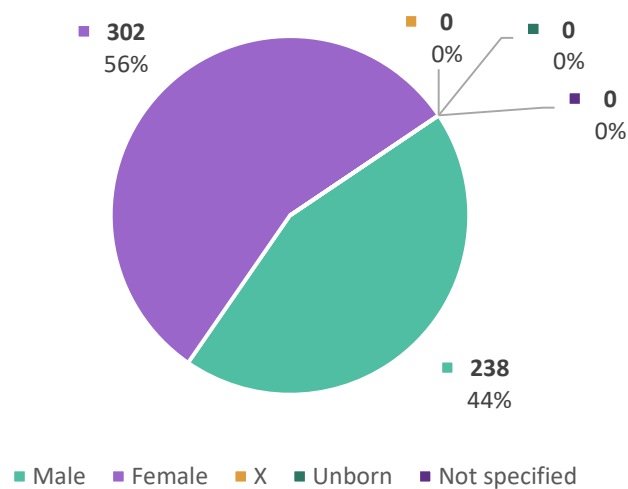


Figure 147: The figure above classifies the gender of the service user. Gender is collected at referral or first contact, but it can be updated throughout the lifetime of the case as required. The gender is collected either through formal documentation and/or the pronouns the person used when referring to themselves. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were female (56%).

SAV: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by age category (no. & %)

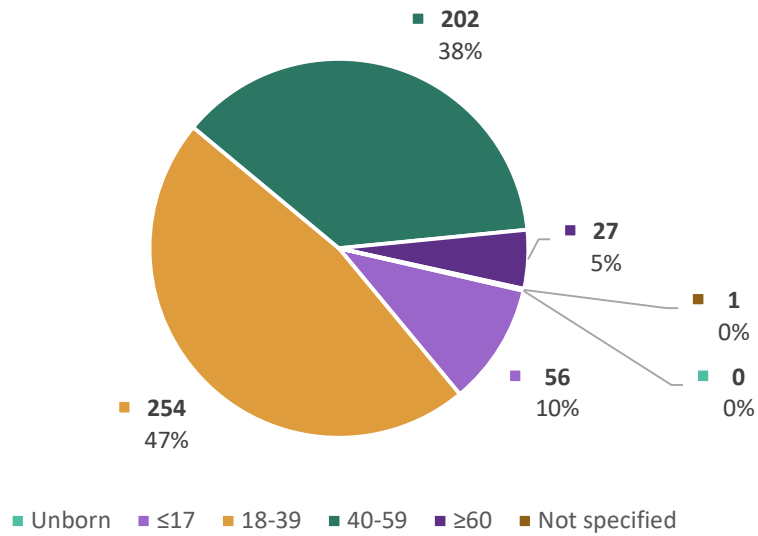


Figure 148: The figure above classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth. In 2025, the highest percentage of cases worked with were ages 18 to 39 (47%).

SAV: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by nationality (no. & %)

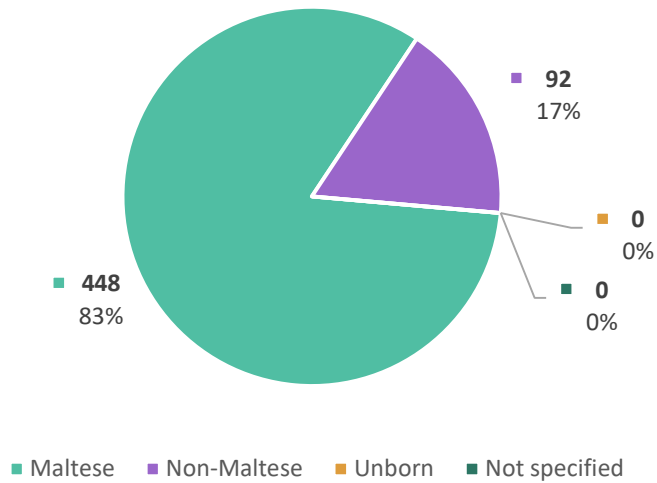
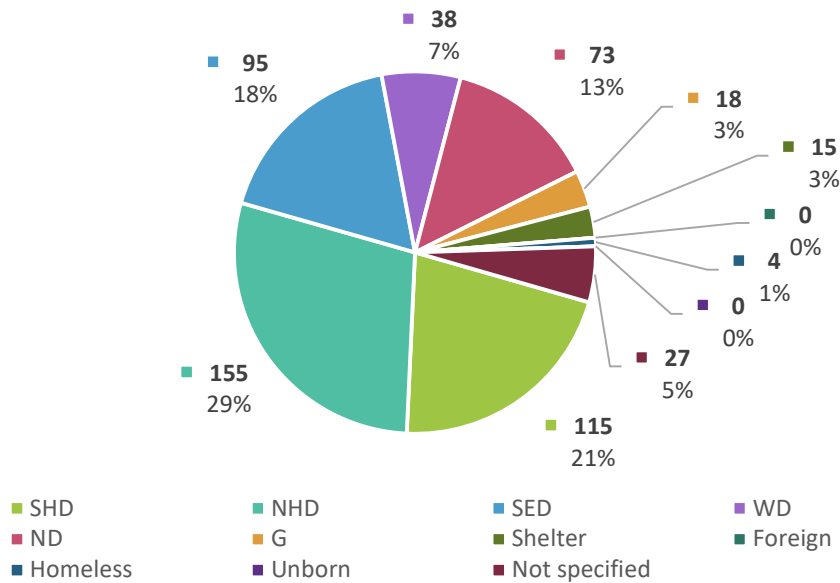


Figure 149: The figure above classifies the nationality as reported by the service user within the reporting year or based on an identity card/document. In 2025, 83% of the cases worked with were Maltese while non-Maltese made up 17% of cases.

SAV: Cases worked with Jan-Dec 2025 by district of residence (no. & %)



Graph Key: SHD = Southern Harbour District; NHD = Northern Harbour District; SED = Southeastern District; WD = Western District; ND = Northern District; G = Gozo District; Shelter = shelter/institution; Foreign = Foreign residence.

Figure 150: The figure above classifies the district of residence as reported by the service user within the reporting year. Some service users reside within “shelter/institution” (e.g., residential homes, centre of residential restorative services, or shelters). Some service users are in Malta temporarily and so normally have a foreign residence whilst others are homeless and do not have a fixed residence. Shelter/institution, foreign residence and homeless are reported as separate categories to avoid biasing the data on district. The Northern Harbour District (29%) had the highest percentage of cases worked with in 2025.

SAV: Number of new, re-contact, known and intake cases worked with by year

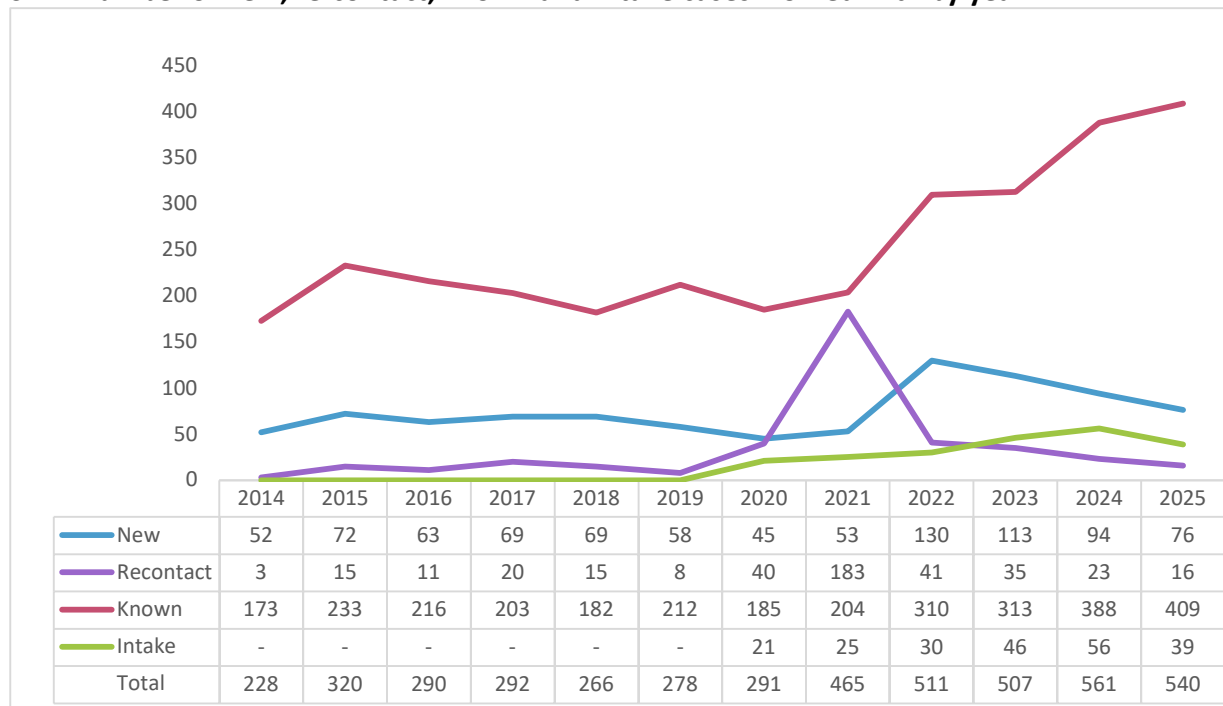


Figure 151: The cases worked with each year can be a new case, recontact case, known case or an intake case (a case starting and ending the year on intake). Further definitions can be found in the glossary. For the above graph, intake began to be reported in 2020 due to the implementation of an online data collection system.

SAV: Case state at the end of the reporting period

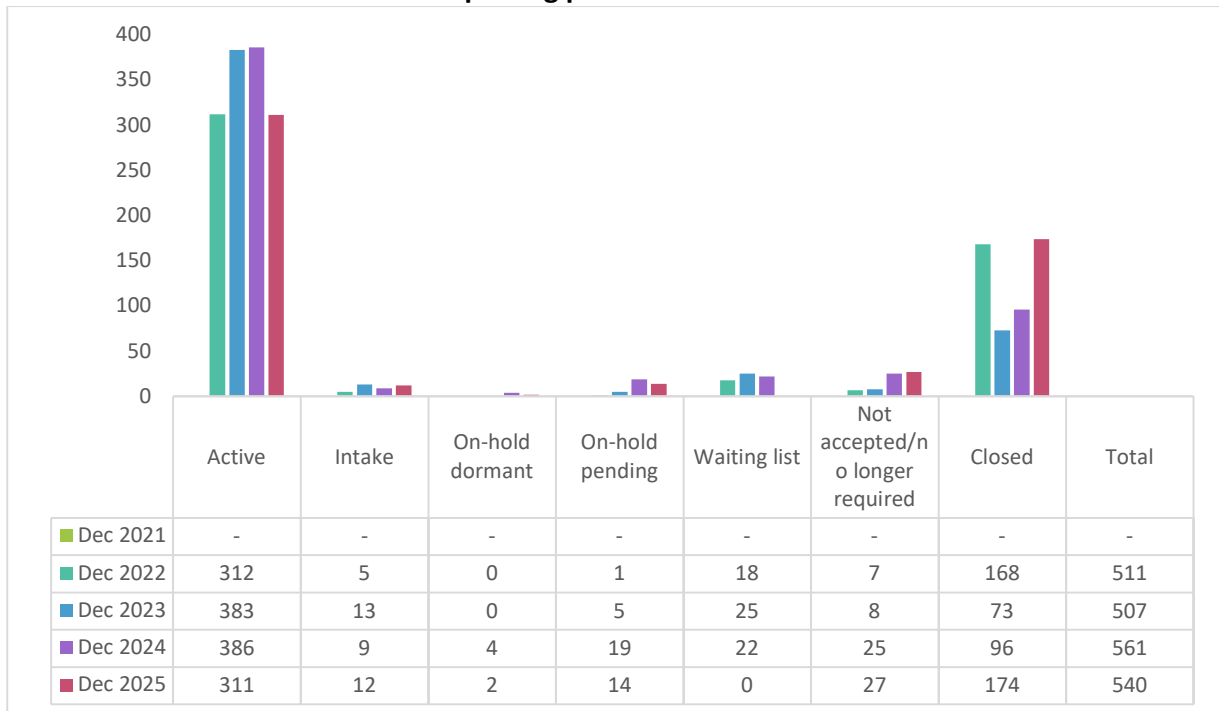


Figure 152: Cases will be handled throughout the year by placing them on intake, adding them to the waiting list, opening them, or closing them (definitions can be found in the glossary). The case state at the end of the reporting year is shown in the figure above. By the end of December 2025, 58% (311) of the cases worked with were still active. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

SAV: Waiting list at the end of the reporting period

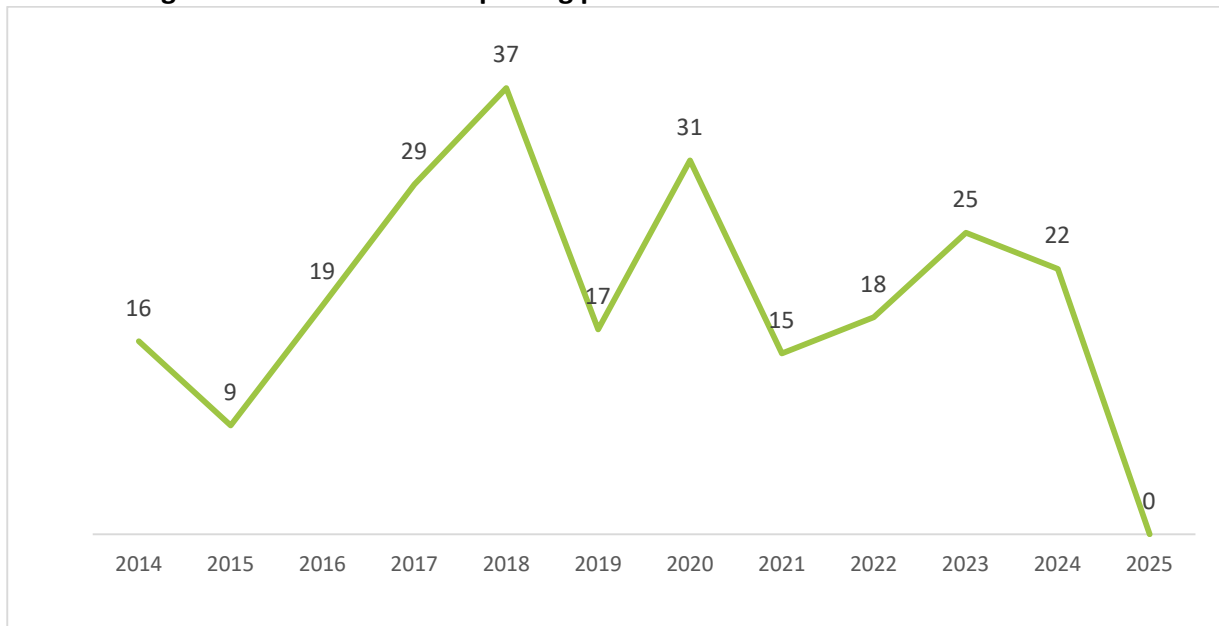


Figure 153: The figure above only reports cases that are still on the waiting list at the end of the reporting period. The waiting list provides the number of service users who have been assessed and determined to be at low risk, do not have any immediate needs, and/or are awaiting the next available appointment/programme. Such cases are still monitored and provided services but at a lower intensity than an active case.

SAV: Number of referred, new & re-contact, and closed cases by year

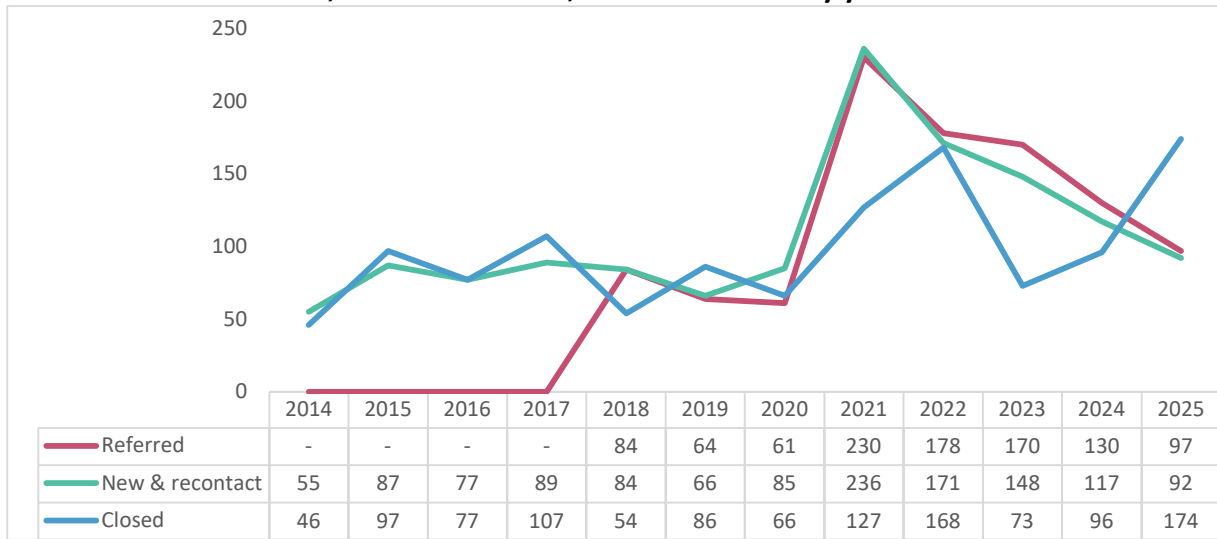


Figure 154: Cases may be referred, opened, or closed throughout the year (definitions can be found in the glossary). Opened cases include both new and recontact cases (see figure 151 for breakdown of new & recontact cases). In 2025, 97 cases were referred, 92 new & recontact cases opened, and 174 cases closed.

A total of **92** cases were opened between January and December 2025.

Note: Further breakdowns regarding cases opened by demographics can be found in the Appendix A.

SAV: Number of new & re-contact cases opened by age category and gender January - December 2025						
	Male	Female	X	Unborn	Not specified	Total
Unborn	-	-	-	-	-	-
<1	0	0	0	-	0	0
1-5	0	2	0	-	0	2
6-10	1	0	0	-	0	1
11-15	0	1	0	-	0	1
16-17	1	2	0	-	0	3
18-19	1	1	0	-	0	2
20-24	0	5	0	-	0	5
25-29	6	5	0	-	0	11
30-34	6	8	0	-	0	14
35-39	8	6	0	-	0	14
40-44	10	9	0	-	0	19
45-49	3	2	0	-	0	5
50-54	2	3	0	-	0	5
55-59	0	1	0	-	0	1
≥60	5	4	0	-	0	9
Not specified	0	0	0	-	0	0
Total	43	49	0	-	0	92

Figure 155: The figure above classifies the age and gender of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth and gender. Only data for new & re-contact cases opened in the reported period are provided. In 2025, the highest number of cases opened were ages 40 to 44 (19).

Appendix A

For comparing yearly trends, instead of using cases worked with, which would include any cases carried over from one year to the next, we use the number of new & recontact cases opened because it excludes the carried over cases and gives us an indication of incidence data.

Percentage of new & re-contact cases opened by gender and year

The table below classifies the gender of the service user whose case was opened in the reported period. Gender is collected at referral or first contact, but it can be updated throughout the lifetime of the case as required. The gender is collected either through formal documentation and/or the pronouns the person used when referring to themselves.

Looked After Children Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Male	44	13	21	21	26
Female	31	15	28	20	16
X	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	75	28	49	41	42

Aftercare Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Male	28	30	26	23	17
Female	18	43	25	31	27
X	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	46	73	51	54	44

Fostering Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Male	82	24	30	57	37
Female	87	24	26	52	46
X	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	1	0	0	0	0
Total	170	48	56	109	83

Adoption Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Male	123	94	60	57	60
Female	128	109	71	72	58
X	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	251	203	131	129	118

High Support Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Male	1	0	0	0	0
Female	0	0	0	0	0
X	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0

Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	0	0	0

Community Homes Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Male	3	3	3	6	5
Female	2	6	10	3	8
X	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	5	9	13	9	13

Home-Start Malta	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Male	6	3	7	0	0
Female	19	11	14	4	8
X	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	25	14	21	4	8

Youth in Focus Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Male	45	43	64	51	54
Female	42	41	61	45	36
X	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	87	84	125	96	90

Embark for Life Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Male	92	38	25	19	21
Female	66	44	27	22	28
X	0	0	0	0	1
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	158	82	52	41	50

Adolescent Day Programme	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Male	7	5	12	-	-
Female	2	3	10	-	-
X	0	0	0	-	-
Unborn	0	0	0	-	-
Not specified	0	0	0	-	-
Total	9	8	22	-	-

Youth Empowerment Initiatives	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Male	-	-	-	52	60

Female	-	-	-	28	25
X	-	-	-	0	0
Unborn	-	-	-	0	0
Not specified	-	-	-	0	0
Total	-	-	-	80	85

Supervised Access Visits Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Male	105	70	75	53	43
Female	131	101	73	64	49
X	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	236	171	148	117	92

Directorate Alternative Care	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Male	536	323	323	339	323
Female	526	397	345	341	301
X	0	0	0	0	1
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	1	0	0	0	0
Total	1063	720	668	680	625

Percentage of new & re-contact cases opened by age category and year

The table below classifies the age of the service user in the reporting year based on the specified date of birth.

Looked After Children Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
<17	75	28	45	41	41
18-19	0	0	4	0	1
20-24	0	0	0	0	0
25-29	0	0	0	0	0
30-34	0	0	0	0	0
35-39	0	0	0	0	0
40-44	0	0	0	0	0
45-49	0	0	0	0	0
50-54	0	0	0	0	0
55-59	0	0	0	0	0
60+	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	75	28	49	41	42

Aftercare Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
<17	18	8	26	34	20
18-19	20	26	20	16	17

20-24	8	36	4	4	4
25-29	0	3	1	0	3
30-34	0	0	0	0	0
35-39	0	0	0	0	0
40-44	0	0	0	0	0
45-49	0	0	0	0	0
50-54	0	0	0	0	0
55-59	0	0	0	0	0
60+	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	46	73	51	54	44

Fostering Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
<17	54	0	0	0	0
18-19	7	0	0	0	0
20-24	1	0	0	0	0
25-29	4	11	4	1	6
30-34	15	8	6	15	5
35-39	20	10	15	20	30
40-44	21	8	15	26	18
45-49	15	3	9	23	12
50-54	10	5	4	10	8
55-59	12	3	3	6	3
60+	11	0	0	8	1
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	170	48	56	109	83

Adoption Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
<17	20	5	7	13	10
18-19	1	0	0	0	0
20-24	1	1	0	0	0
25-29	2	8	3	5	4
30-34	51	45	23	14	23
35-39	57	55	32	36	37
40-44	74	52	33	33	26
45-49	27	24	15	17	11
50-54	11	7	7	8	3
55-59	5	4	8	2	3
60+	2	2	3	1	1
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	251	203	131	129	118

High Support Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0

<17	1	0	0	0	0
18-19	0	0	0	0	0
20-24	0	0	0	0	0
25-29	0	0	0	0	0
30-34	0	0	0	0	0
35-39	0	0	0	0	0
40-44	0	0	0	0	0
45-49	0	0	0	0	0
50-54	0	0	0	0	0
55-59	0	0	0	0	0
60+	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	0	0	0

Community Homes Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
<17	4	9	9	9	13
18-19	1	0	3	0	0
20-24	0	0	1	0	0
25-29	0	0	0	0	0
30-34	0	0	0	0	0
35-39	0	0	0	0	0
40-44	0	0	0	0	0
45-49	0	0	0	0	0
50-54	0	0	0	0	0
55-59	0	0	0	0	0
60+	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	5	9	13	9	13

Home-Start Malta	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
<17	3	4	3	0	0
18-19	0	0	0	0	0
20-24	5	1	2	1	2
25-29	6	1	3	1	1
30-34	3	3	3	1	1
35-39	2	2	3	1	2
40-44	4	2	5	0	2
45-49	0	0	2	0	0
50-54	0	1	0	0	0
55-59	1	0	0	0	0
60+	1	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	25	14	21	4	8

Youth in Focus Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
<17	77	77	121	92	87
18-19	10	7	4	4	3
20-24	0	0	0	0	0
25-29	0	0	0	0	0
30-34	0	0	0	0	0
35-39	0	0	0	0	0
40-44	0	0	0	0	0
45-49	0	0	0	0	0
50-54	0	0	0	0	0
55-59	0	0	0	0	0
60+	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	87	84	125	96	90

Embark for Life Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
<17	43	50	34	31	30
18-19	19	13	13	5	8
20-24	32	12	5	3	11
25-29	11	1	0	2	1
30-34	0	0	0	0	0
35-39	0	0	0	0	0
40-44	0	0	0	0	0
45-49	0	0	0	0	0
50-54	0	0	0	0	0
55-59	0	0	0	0	0
60+	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	53	6	0	0	0
Total	158	82	52	41	50

Adolescent Day Programme	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	-	-
<17	7	7	18	-	-
18-19	1	1	2	-	-
20-24	1	0	2	-	-
25-29	0	0	0	-	-
30-34	0	0	0	-	-
35-39	0	0	0	-	-
40-44	0	0	0	-	-
45-49	0	0	0	-	-
50-54	0	0	0	-	-
55-59	0	0	0	-	-
60+	0	0	0	-	-
Not specified	0	0	0	-	-

Total	9	8	22	-	-
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Youth Empowerment Initiatives	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	-	-	-	0	0
<17	-	-	-	68	55
18-19	-	-	-	7	8
20-24	-	-	-	5	22
25-29	-	-	-	0	0
30-34	-	-	-	0	0
35-39	-	-	-	0	0
40-44	-	-	-	0	0
45-49	-	-	-	0	0
50-54	-	-	-	0	0
55-59	-	-	-	0	0
60+	-	-	-	0	0
Not specified	-	-	-	0	0
Total	-	-	-	80	85

Supervised Access Visits Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
<17	32	8	18	10	7
18-19	0	5	1	1	2
20-24	14	9	10	7	5
25-29	27	18	20	20	11
30-34	38	25	27	18	14
35-39	41	26	19	24	14
40-44	28	31	22	21	19
45-49	30	23	18	6	5
50-54	11	8	6	5	5
55-59	7	3	5	3	1
60+	8	15	2	2	9
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	236	171	148	117	92

Directorate Alternative Care	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
<17	334	196	281	298	263
18-19	59	52	47	33	39
20-24	62	59	24	20	44
25-29	50	42	31	29	26
30-34	107	81	59	48	43
35-39	120	93	69	81	83
40-44	127	93	75	80	65

45-49	72	50	44	46	28
50-54	32	21	17	23	16
55-59	25	10	16	11	7
60+	22	17	5	11	11
Not specified	53	6	0	0	0
Total	1063	720	668	680	625

Percentage of new & re-contact cases opened by nationality and year

The table below classifies the nationality as reported by the service user within the reporting year or based on an identity card/document.

Looked After Children Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Maltese	62	28	37	36	37
Non-Maltese	13	0	12	5	5
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	75	28	49	41	42

Aftercare Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Maltese	41	68	51	50	41
Non-Maltese	3	5	0	4	3
Not specified	2	0	0	0	0
Total	46	73	51	54	44

Fostering Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Maltese	154	42	49	96	78
Non-Maltese	16	6	7	13	5
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	170	48	56	109	83

Adoption Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Maltese	203	172	115	104	86
Non-Maltese	48	31	16	25	32
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	251	203	131	129	118

High Support Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Maltese	1	0	0	0	0
Non-Maltese	0	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	0	0	0

Community Homes Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Maltese	5	4	12	7	12
Non-Maltese	0	5	1	2	1
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	5	9	13	9	13

Home-Start Malta	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Maltese	23	10	12	3	6
Non-Maltese	2	4	9	1	2
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	25	14	21	4	8

Youth in Focus Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Maltese	84	80	118	88	79
Non-Maltese	3	4	7	8	11
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	87	84	125	96	90

Embark for Life Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Maltese	116	78	47	36	42
Non-Maltese	42	4	5	5	8
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	158	82	52	41	50

Adolescent Day Programme	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	-	-	-	-	-
Maltese	8	8	21	-	-
Non-Maltese	1	0	1	-	-
Not specified	0	0	0	-	-
Total	9	8	22	-	-

Youth Empowerment Initiatives	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	-	-	-	0	0
Maltese	-	-	-	65	67
Non-Maltese	-	-	-	15	18
Not specified	-	-	-	0	0
Total	-	-	-	80	85

Supervised Access Visits Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0

Maltese	207	146	118	92	71
Non-Maltese	29	25	30	25	21
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	236	171	148	117	92

Directorate Alternative Care	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Unborn	0	0	0	0	0
Maltese	904	636	580	577	519
Non-Maltese	157	84	88	103	106
Not specified	2	0	0	0	0
Total	1063	720	668	680	625

Percentage of new & re-contact cases opened by district of residence and year

The table below classifies the district of residence as reported by the service user within the reporting year. Some service users reside within "shelter/institution" (e.g., residential homes, centre of residential restorative services, or shelters). Some service users are in Malta temporarily and so normally have a foreign residence whilst others are homeless and do not have a fixed residence. Shelter/institution, foreign residence and homeless are reported as separate categories to avoid biasing the data on district.

Graph Key: SHD = Southern Harbour District; NHD = Northern Harbour District; SED = Southeastern District; WD = Western District; ND = Northern District; G = Gozo District; Shelter = shelter/institution; Foreign = Foreign residence.

Looked After Children Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Northern Harbour District	28	9	17	10	8
Southern Harbour District	13	4	10	18	8
Northern District	8	4	4	3	12
Southeastern District	14	5	8	4	5
Western District	7	3	3	2	2
Gozo district	2	0	2	0	4
Shelter/ institution/ other residence	0	1	1	0	3
Foreign residence	0	0	0	0	0
Homeless	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	-	-	-	-	0
Not specified	3	2	4	4	0
Total	75	28	49	41	42

Aftercare Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Northern Harbour District	3	3	5	2	16
Southern Harbour District	4	9	6	5	8
Northern District	2	2	9	10	7
Southeastern District	4	1	3	3	4
Western District	7	3	1	3	3
Gozo district	0	2	0	3	0
Shelter/ institution/ other residence	21	24	24	27	6
Foreign residence	0	2	0	0	0
Homeless	0	2	0	1	0
Unborn	-	-	-	-	0

Not specified	5	25	3	0	0
Total	46	73	51	54	44

Fostering Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Northern Harbour District	29	8	12	35	16
Southern Harbour District	33	9	12	18	12
Northern District	40	18	6	15	9
Southeastern District	38	8	13	20	23
Western District	23	5	10	18	21
Gozo district	2	0	1	3	0
Shelter/ institution/ other residence	1	0	0	0	0
Foreign residence	0	0	0	0	0
Homeless	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	-	-	-	-	0
Not specified	4	0	2	0	2
Total	170	48	56	109	83

Adoption Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Northern Harbour District	57	52	25	33	23
Southern Harbour District	33	18	30	23	21
Northern District	47	41	22	23	24
Southeastern District	55	52	19	20	11
Western District	44	28	27	17	17
Gozo district	11	8	7	8	12
Shelter/ institution/ other residence	0	0	0	0	0
Foreign residence	0	0	0	0	0
Homeless	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	-	-	-	-	0
Not specified	4	4	1	5	10
Total	251	203	131	129	118

High Support Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Northern Harbour District	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Harbour District	0	0	0	0	0
Northern District	0	0	0	0	0
Southeastern District	0	0	0	0	0
Western District	0	0	0	0	0
Gozo district	0	0	0	0	0
Shelter/ institution/ other residence	1	0	0	0	0
Foreign residence	0	0	0	0	0
Homeless	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	-	-	-	-	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	0	0	0

Community Homes Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
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Northern Harbour District	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Harbour District	0	0	0	0	0
Northern District	0	0	0	0	0
Southeastern District	0	0	0	0	0
Western District	0	0	0	0	0
Gozo district	0	0	0	0	0
Shelter/ institution/ other residence	5	9	13	9	13
Foreign residence	0	0	0	0	0
Homeless	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	-	-	-	-	0
Not specified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	5	9	13	9	13

Home-Start Malta	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Northern Harbour District	8	5	7	0	1
Southern Harbour District	6	2	4	1	2
Northern District	2	1	2	2	1
Southeastern District	7	3	3	1	1
Western District	1	1	1	0	2
Gozo district	0	1	3	0	0
Shelter/ institution/ other residence	0	0	0	0	0
Foreign residence	0	0	0	0	0
Homeless	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	-	-	-	-	0
Not specified	1	1	1	0	1
Total	25	14	21	4	8

Youth in Focus Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Northern Harbour District	25	20	37	20	17
Southern Harbour District	28	21	34	30	16
Northern District	11	13	20	13	24
Southeastern District	11	19	25	24	20
Western District	10	10	7	9	11
Gozo district	1	0	0	0	0
Shelter/ institution/ other residence	0	0	1	0	0
Foreign residence	0	0	0	0	0
Homeless	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	-	-	-	-	0
Not specified	1	1	1	0	2
Total	87	84	125	96	90

Embark for Life Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Northern Harbour District	33	22	10	13	7
Southern Harbour District	40	15	8	10	17
Northern District	15	17	9	6	9
Southeastern District	18	15	7	4	8

Western District	14	5	5	3	0
Gozo district	3	0	0	0	0
Shelter/ institution/ other residence	25	8	13	5	8
Foreign residence	0	0	0	0	0
Homeless	7	0	0	0	1
Unborn	-	-	-	-	0
Not specified	3	0	0	0	0
Total	158	82	52	41	50

Adolescent Day Programme	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Northern Harbour District	3	4	6	-	-
Southern Harbour District	2	1	5	-	-
Northern District	1	0	3	-	-
Southeastern District	0	1	2	-	-
Western District	2	0	2	-	-
Gozo district	0	0	1	-	-
Shelter/ institution/ other residence	1	2	0	-	-
Foreign residence	0	0	0	-	-
Homeless	0	0	0	-	-
Unborn	-	-	-	-	-
Not specified	0	0	3	-	-
Total	9	8	22	-	-

Youth Empowerment Initiatives	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Northern Harbour District	-	-	-	14	20
Southern Harbour District	-	-	-	14	26
Northern District	-	-	-	10	9
Southeastern District	-	-	-	11	12
Western District	-	-	-	13	9
Gozo district	-	-	-	0	2
Shelter/ institution/ other residence	-	-	-	8	3
Foreign residence	-	-	-	0	0
Homeless	-	-	-	0	0
Unborn	-	-	-	-	0
Not specified	-	-	-	10	4
Total	-	-	-	80	85

Supervised Access Visits Service	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Northern Harbour District	75	35	44	26	27
Southern Harbour District	53	31	23	27	22
Northern District	33	41	21	18	11
Southeastern District	38	27	25	18	15
Western District	23	20	14	12	3
Gozo district	3	5	4	4	3
Shelter/ institution/ other residence	1	1	5	3	1
Foreign residence	0	1	0	0	0

Homeless	0	0	0	0	0
Unborn	-	-	-	-	0
Not specified	10	10	12	9	10
Total	236	171	148	117	92

Directorate Alternative Care	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Northern Harbour District	261	158	163	153	135
Southern Harbour District	212	110	132	146	132
Northern District	159	137	96	100	106
Southeastern District	185	131	105	105	99
Western District	131	75	70	77	68
Gozo district	22	16	18	18	21
Shelter/ institution/ other residence	55	45	57	52	34
Foreign residence	0	3	0	0	0
Homeless	7	2	0	1	1
Unborn	-	-	-	-	0
Not specified	31	43	27	28	29
Total	1063	720	668	680	625

Appendix B

Service descriptions

Service	Description
Looked After Children Service	The main objective of the service is to provide social work interventions to children who are in the out-of-home care system, i.e. those in residential and foster care.
Looked After Children Healthcare Service	This service offers holistic health assessments of minors residing in residential care or foster care and aims to improve their health outcomes.
Additional DAC Service	These services are global services for DAC and support many of the other services within this Directorate. They consist of (1) Reintegration Services: supports children to make the transition back to their immediate/extended family or into the community; (2) Children's Fund: collective voluntary effort to raise funds to support children in need who currently use the services provided by the FSWS; (3) Children's Dreams: project that makes Christmas wishes come true for the children from families facing social and financial difficulty, or for children being raised in community homes; (4) Socio-Legal Service: provides legal advice as necessary to minors in DAC, on what are at times, sensitive and impactful situations. (5) Alternative Care Placement Records: records from all DAC services are kept on where children are placed when alternative care is provided.
Aftercare Service	This service prepares minors, reaching the age for care leaving, to live completely independently and/or reach their educational/career goals.
Fostering Service	The aim of this service is to promote fostering, to train and licence potential foster carers and to assist foster carers in their requirements.
Adoption Service	Social workers provide training to and assess the prospective adoptive parent/s' suitability and offer them guidance and support through the adoption process. After children are adopted, post-adoption reports are required by law, and their frequency and duration will depend on the law of the country from where the children were adopted. The Adoption Service is responsible for the submission of these reports.
High Support Service	Provides one-to-one support to children living in out-of-home, who require more in-depth interventions due to the challenging behaviour which they present. The purpose of the service is to foster the child's independence and to nurture the child physically, emotionally, and spiritually, as well as coaching them to develop social and educational skills.
Community Homes Service	The service provides alternative accommodation for children and young adults who cannot live with either their birth families and/or in foster care. As much as possible, it provides a family-like environment throughout the alternative care journey.
Home-Start Malta	Offers support, friendship, and practical help to families with young children under 5 years of age. To help give children the best possible start in life, the service supports parents as they grow in confidence,

	strengthen their relationships with their children and widen their links within the local community.
Youth in Focus Service	Aims to deliver a comprehensive service to promote the physical, emotional, and social well-being of adolescents.
Embark for Life Service	The aim of project is to provide support to young people, aged between 16 and 24 years, who need assistance to integrate better within the workforce and society.
Adolescent Day Programme Service	The service for vulnerable adolescents aged between 14 and 18 aims to provide participants with skills learning experiences and opportunities to help them eventually obtain employment. The Day Programme runs for three to four months and can cater for 8 young people at a time.
Youth Empowerment Initiatives	The service provides youth work interventions in a form of nonformal and informal educational learning. Interventions are carried out through various programmes and initiatives which amongst others include the Adolescent Day Programme. This programme which is also affiliated with the Prince Trust International Programme enables young people to experience a journey where they could learn various social skills.
Supervised Access Visits Service	Provides supervised access visits to non-custodial parents and relatives. These visits are held on a regular basis and are very often regulated by a Court decree or requested by the Children and Young Persons Advisory Board.

Glossary of terms

Variable	Definition
Cases worked with	The total number of service user cases that were new, re-contact or known in the reporting year and intake cases still on intake at the end of the reporting period. This does not indicate the number of individuals as some individuals could have multiple cases in the same reporting year. For example, 1 individual may have re-contacted the service 3 times in the same year and would account for 3 cases worked with in the same year.
Individuals worked with	The total number of unique individual service users who had at least one case worked with in the reporting period. This excludes cases re-opened or re-referred in the same year for the same person.
New case	A case that was opened or activated for the first time ever within the reporting year and that was never previously worked with.
Re-contact case	A case that was worked with and closed in the past and has been re-activated or re-opened within the current reporting year. A case is also considered a re-contact if it is re-opened after a new case was closed in the current reporting year.
Known case	Cases that were activated or opened in the previous reporting years and that are still active in the current reporting year. This may also be referred to as cases carried over from previous years.
Intake case	When a case is referred to the service it is placed on intake (intake is the initial state for every case). At this stage information is gathered to address any immediate needs and to determine whether a case will be assigned to a professional, placed on the waiting list, opened, or closed from intake. If a case is not a known case or opened case within the reporting period it remains an intake case.
Waiting list	Intake cases are placed on the waiting list when it is determined that the person would benefit from accessing the service, but the service cannot be

	provided immediately. This can be due to various factors such as, but not limited to, space limitations, further assessments required or further feedback from the service user is required.
Referred case	A referral is when an individual's details were given to the service by another person or the service users themselves to request assistance. A case may be referred more than once in a year. Some cases may be referred and placed on a waiting list or not taken up because the service was not appropriate for the person's needs.
New & re-contact case	When a case was opened or allocated. This includes new cases (first ever contact with the service) and re-opened cases (cases worked with in the past) An individual may be seen more than once in a year and may be a new case and later a re-contact case in the same reporting year.
Closed case	When a case was closed or terminated. The same case may be closed more than once in a year if the case was re-opened in the same year.
Case state	The state of the case at the end of the reporting period. Cases can be active, closed, intake, on-hold, waiting list or not accepted/no longer required. For example, a case may start the reporting period as a known active case but by the end of the reporting period, the case is closed so the case state is now reported as closed.
Active state	A case state where the case was opened in the year and still open by the end of the reporting period.
Closed state	A case state where the case was opened in the year but closed by the end of the reporting period.
Intake state	A case state where the case was on intake in the year and still on intake by the end of the reporting period.
On-hold state	A case state where the case was opened in the year but put on hold by the end of the reporting period. The reason it is placed on hold can be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pending: cases where all activity stops pending the action of another service. E.g., the case is pending outcomes from the child protection investigations. - Dormant: cases which must remain active but very little to no work is required. This generally occurs when a case is awaiting uptake by another service.
Waiting list state	A case state where the case was on the waiting list in the year and still on the waiting list by the end of the reporting period.
Not accepted/no longer required state	A case state where the case was on intake or the waiting list in the year but closed by the end of the reporting period. Such cases are usually closed because an assessment during intake resulted in the service not being appropriate, the alleged issues were not confirmed, the service user no longer requests the service, or the service user refused to attend.
Global/family cases	Service users' cases may be grouped under a global/family case, particularly when the service works with families. A global/family case may consist of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 service user case: One individual who attends in the year on their own without any other family member, or - 2 or more service users' cases: Several individuals identified as part of the same family attending in the year.
Ghost cases	These are cases where although the case may be registered as active or on intake, the case is actually inactive since the person may not have had contact with the service for a set period of time (no longer actually being worked with). As a result, the case may remain open for some time without any intervention or activities and will skew the actual number of service users worked with. As a result, administrators of the data will conduct exercises to identify these cases and close them administratively as per individuals service policy.
Gender	Gender is reported as male, female, X, unborn or not specified. "X" means a gender that is not exclusively male nor female. Unborn refers to service users still existing in the mother's womb.

Primary problem	Service users often present a complexity of issues. The primary issue is the only, main, or first issue recorded as identified by the service user or the professional.
Not specified	A variable that cannot be specified since the information is not available or the service user was unwilling to provide the information.
Other	Treatment, issue or location not elsewhere specified.

Primary problems

Variable	Definition
Addictive behaviour problems	Behaviours which involve compulsive seeking and taking of a substance or performing of an activity despite negative or harmful consequences. The most common forms of addictive behaviours are drug or alcohol use, gambling, and technology use.
Assault/rape/harassment/sexual abuse	Forms of abuse suffered by an adult which consists of assault, rape and/or sexual abuse as well as forms of harassment (which is unwelcome conduct that is based on race, colour, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, or genetic information).
Behaviour problems	Symptomatic expression of emotional or interpersonal maladjustment especially in children which often manifests in non-person directed behaviours (e.g. damage to property, hyperactivity, stealing, inappropriate sexualised behaviour, destruction of clothing, incontinence, lack of awareness of danger, and withdrawal), aggressive or violent behaviours (e.g. biting and scratching, hitting, pinching, grabbing, hair pulling, throwing objects, verbal abuse, screaming, spitting) and stereotyped behaviours (e.g. repetitive movements, rocking, repetitive speech and repetitive manipulation of objects.)
Bereavement	Bereavement is the period of grief and mourning after a death. Persons may experience grief as a mental, physical, social or emotional reaction.
Child abuse	Child abuse is emotional and/or psychological maltreatment, physical, sexual, or neglect of a child, especially by a parent or a caregiver. This also includes cases where there was abuse in the past and there is a risk of abuse re-occurring.
Child care or access	Involves issues with the current care of a child (e.g. due to admission to hospital, need for care during working hours etc) and also restricted access to a child (e.g. SAV, separation cases, children in state care). Issues can also relate to care during placements or even potential placement breakdown including the need for placement/admission or the quality of the placement provided.
Delinquency	Delinquency is a minor crime, especially one committed by a youth
Disability related issues	A person with a disability is someone who has a physical, visual, intellectual, hearing or psychological impairment that substantially impacts one or more major life activity.
Domestic violence	Domestic abuse violence (also referred to as "intimate partner violence"), can be defined as a pattern of behaviour in any relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner. Abuse is physical, sexual, financial, neglect of needs, emotional or psychological actions (e.g. threats, humiliations and blaming). This also includes cases where there was abuse in the past and there is a risk of abuse re-occurring. The abuse also includes gender based violence and honour based violence.
Eating disorder	Abnormal or disturbed eating habits such as anorexia nervosa and bulimia, to the extent that it is causing impairment to one's own or significant other's life.
Elderly needs	Needs of an elderly person such as care and equipment.
Employment issues	Issues concerning employment (including unemployment) such as harassment, working on black market, discrimination, wage abuse, safety issues etc.
Family relations/relationships	Problems are situations and difficulties that have a negative effect on the short and long term success of a relationships and the family relationships include nuclear, extended and reconstituted (also known as a blended family) families.

Financial difficulties	Issues concerning finances, either lack of (e.g. debt, or insufficient funds) or risk of losing financial security (e.g. lack of social security benefits or risk of losing such benefits).
Fostering or adoption	Fostering is the time when a child is placed under the care of a foster parent. Adoption is a process whereby a person assumes rights and responsibilities of another through legal means. Issues may arise relating to queries about the processes (e.g. how to become a foster parent), or issues regarding the process of becoming an adoptive parent/foster carer or even breakdowns during the fostering or adoption placements.
Health related issues	Issues which arise as a result of having health related concerns (e.g. long-term illness) but it excludes disability and mental health issues. These could be access to medication/medical equipment, access to appropriate carers, hygiene related issues etc.
Homeless	Homelessness is the condition of people without a regular dwelling. The Homeless Service primarily works with individuals experiencing one of the following forms of homelessness: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rooflessness (people living rough - in the streets, abandoned buildings etc); • Houselessness (people in accommodation for the homeless, in accommodation for migrants, people due to be released from institutions and people receiving long-term support due to homelessness); • Couch surfing: (people living temporarily with friends, sharing accommodation with others which is not secure); and • At risk of homelessness/Inadequate housing (people living in insecure tenancies, under threat of eviction or violence, living in unfit housing, non-conventional dwellings or in situations of extreme overcrowding.
Housing problems	Concerns regarding safety issues in the home or else difficulty finding alternative appropriate dwellings.
Human trafficking	The unlawful act of transporting or coercing people in order to benefit from their work or service, typically in the form of forced labour or sexual exploitation.
Identity related issues	Queries or concerns about identity or gender e.g. sexual feelings or attractions and even gender dysphoria (i.e. experiencing of discomfort or distress because there is a mismatch between one's biological sex and one's gender identity).
Lack of support or guidance	Persons who express a general lack of support or guidance with non-specific needs (e.g. lack of significant others to emotionally support the person in day to day stressors)
Legal issues	Issues concerning legal aspects such as finding legal advice, pending court cases, legal fees etc.
Loneliness	Loneliness is the state of distress or discomfort that results when one perceives a gap between one's desires for social connection and actual experiences of it.
Marital problems	Marital problems such as poor communication, lack of intimacy, lack of trust, infidelity issues and growing apart.
Mental health issues	Mental health conditions include mental disorders and psychosocial disabilities as well as other mental states associated with significant distress, impairment in functioning. Issues may arise when these mental health conditions (both diagnosed and undiagnosed) may substantially impact one or more major life activity.
Migrant related issues	Challenges migrants may face such as language/cultural barriers, discrimination, access to services, documentation issues etc.
Oppositional defiant behaviours	Consists of severe disobedient behaviours. They are behaviour problems consisting of severe tantrums, argumentativeness, easily angered, severely critical, impulsiveness, severe disobedience, and hostile behaviour towards authority figures.
Parenting skills/child-parent relationship	Issues or concerns about one's parenting style, parenting techniques, attachment/bonding and fears or concerns regarding current parent skills, disciplinary methods and the need to improve current skills.

Personality related issues	People with personality related issues often have a hard time understanding emotions and tolerating distress, or act impulsively and this makes it hard for them to relate to others, causing serious issues, and affecting their family life, social activities, work and school performance, and overall quality of life.
Pregnancy related issues	Difficulties accessing appropriate care, teenage pregnancy, fears relating to the pregnancy, and lack of preparation for the future child.
Relationship problems	Issues within the romantic relationship such as poor communication, lack of intimacy, lack of trust, or infidelity issues. It may also include conflict and issues between friends.
School related problems	Issues such as poor academic performance, lack of motivation for school, boredom with school work, school absenteeism, loss of interest in school work, or poor relationships with peers or teachers.
Self-harm or suicide	Self-injury behaviours such as cutting, head-banging, scratching, pulling, eye poking, picking, grinding teeth, eating things that aren't food and suicide or attempted suicide
Separation related issues	Separation occurs when couples or married partners stop living together and either put their marriage or relationship on hold or it is a stepping stone for marriage dissolution. A separation can be initiated informally, or there can be a legal separation with a formal separation agreement. Issues (e.g. animosity, conflict, anger, communication issues etc) concerning separation may be at initiation, during and even after the process.
Sex work related issues	Issues raised in relation to the sex work such as safety issues, health concerns, and longevity of career.

Maltese districts

District	Towns
Northern Harbour District	Birkirkara, Gzira, Hamrun, Msida, Pembroke, Pieta, Qormi, San Giljan, San Gwann, Santa Venera, Sliema, Swieqi, Ta Xbiex.
Southern Harbour District	Birgu, Bormla, Fgura, Floriana, Isla, Kalkara, Luqa, Marsa, Paola, Santa Lucija, Tarxien, Valletta, Xaghjra, Zabbar.
Southeastern District	Birzebbugia, Ghaxaq, Gudja, Kirkop, Marsaskala, Marsaxlokk, Mqabba, Qrendi, Safi, Zejtun, Zurrieq.
Western District	Attard, Balzan, Dingli, Iklin, Lija, Mdina, Mtarfa, Rabat, Siggiewi, Zebbug.
Northern District	Gharghur, Mellieha, Mgarr, Mosta, Naxxar, San Pawl il Bahar.
Gozo and Comino	Rabat, Fontana, Ghajnsielem, Gharb, Ghasri, Kercem, Munxar, Nadur, Qala, San Lawrenz, Sannat, Xaghra, Xewkija, Zebbug, Comino.
Homeless	Not residing within any residence.
Shelter/institution	Resides in a residential home (e.g., elderly home), shelter (e.g., Ghabex or YMCA), centre of residential restorative services (CoRRS) or medical facility (e.g., Mount Carmel Hospital).
Foreign residence	Resides in a foreign country and is in Malta for a short stay.



FSWS Research Team

Vision Statement

Research that educates, inspires, and informs quality responses to improve the wellbeing of children, families, and communities.

Mission Statement

To contribute to a knowledge base that informs responses to social needs through high quality research.



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