

# AWARD IN PAYROLL FUNDAMENTALS

## Lecture 01: Introduction to Payroll

**Lecturer: Antoine P. Portelli**  
**Date: Monday, 6 October 2025**





## WHAT IS PAYROLL ?

Payroll is the

**art**

of determining

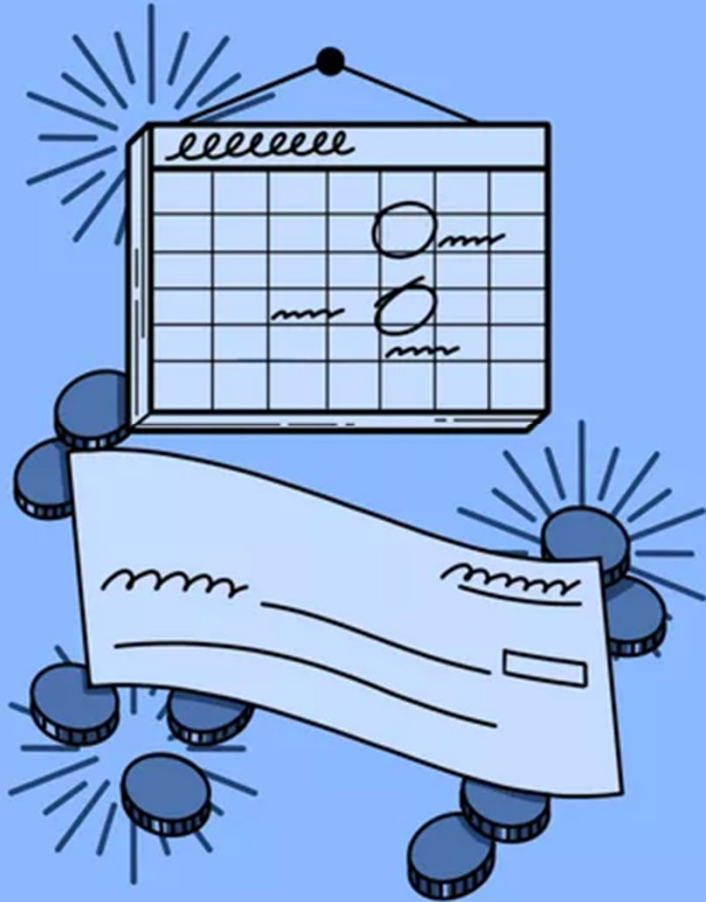
**what**

and

**how much**

is due to

**whom !**



# Payroll

*['pā-,rōl]*

The compensation a business must pay to its employees for a set period or on a given date.

# THE PROCESS... AND ITS DILEMMAS

- When does payroll start ?
- Who is responsible ?  
HR vs. Finance
- Is it worked in a vacuum ?
- What are the actions needed ?
- Who determines the amounts ?
- What are the obligations ?
- And to whom ?
- Can it be outsourced ?
- How is it to be paid ?



# THE IMPACT OF PAYROLL

- **44%** consider Resignation over incorrect pay
- **79%** of Employees with incorrect pay find the error and issues themselves
- Impact of erroneous calculations and settlement:
  - Food on the table issues
  - Missed Loan payment deadlines
  - Unfulfilled commitments
  - Stress and Anxiety
  - Employee strife

• **TRUST**



# TODAY'S AGENDA

- Introduction
- Historical context
- Processing overview
- Payroll systems
- Outsourcing
- Maltese Legislation re: Payroll
- Sources of Information
- Walk through of basic parameters



# HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- Payroll dates back to the 14<sup>th</sup> Century
- Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century – formalised system and business practice
- Late 20<sup>th</sup> Century - Automation



Eternal Tug-of-War: Where does Payroll sit in an organisation ?

# ACCURATE PAYROLL PROCESSING

- Mandatory records
- Documentation of employee's records
- Recording and inputting data - time-sheets / attendance systems
- Weekly and statutory (government) bonuses
- Statutory deductions - Income tax, social security & maternity fund

# ACCURATE PAYROLL PROCESSING

- Processing of terminations
- Processing of changes
- Preparation of payslip
- Gross and Net salaries
- Preparation and submission of FSS statutory forms
- Post Payroll processing
- Access of past data records
- GDPR



## MANTRA

- Never accept anything as is - **question** everything
- Seek advice when in doubt – **double-check**
- Never assume anything – seek **clarification** and authorisation
- Never stop **learning**



# PAYROLL SYSTEMS



## Manual Calculations

Excel; Tabular; Filing Cabinets



## Payroll Software

Automated systems installed in-house or shared platforms



## Outsourcing Systems

Onsite or offsite



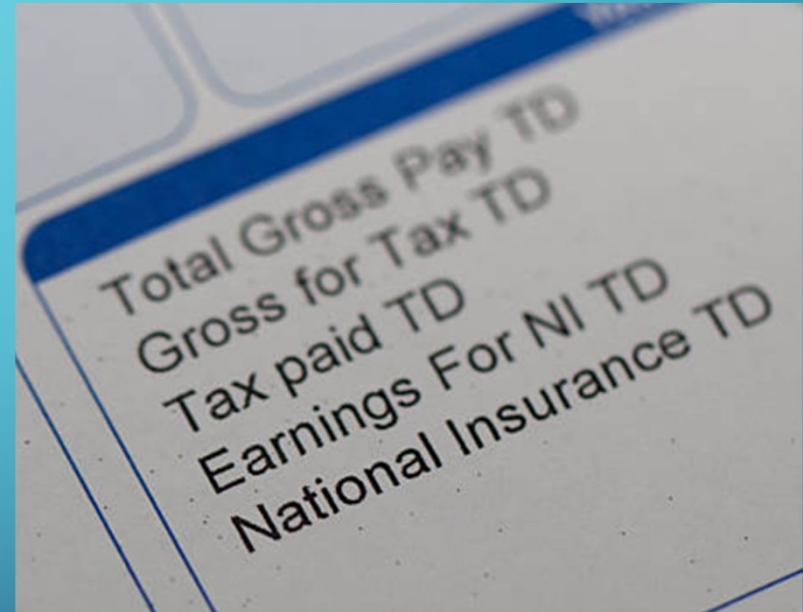
Whichever the system that suits your organisation;  
**ALWAYS** review the outcome **BEFORE** you pay.

# MANUAL CALCULATIONS

| EMPLOYEE  | NAME AND SURNAME |           |              |        | EMPLOYEE ID  |   | 01234567M |        |        |           |          |          |          |           |          |         |        |        |        |       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|------------------|-----------|--------------|--------|--------------|---|-----------|--------|--------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1         | 2                | 3         | 4            | 5      | 6            | 7 | 8         | 9      | 10     | 11        | 12       | 13       | 14       | 15        | 16       | 17      | 18     | 19     | 20     | 21    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MONTH NO. | MONTH            | GROSS     | OVERTIME 1.5 |        | OVERTIME 2.0 |   | FRNG BEN  | BONUS  | OTHERS | TOTAL     | NAT INS  | FSS      | FRNG BEN | NET PAY   | NAT INS  | NO. OF  | WEEKLY | HOURLY | NI CAT | TAX   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|           |                  | €         | HOURS        | €      | HOURS        | € | TAXABLE   |        |        | GROSS     | (EE)     |          | NON-TAX  |           | (ER)     | MONDAYS | RATE   | RATE   |        | CLASS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1         | Jan-23           | 1,459.57  | 3.00         | 37.89  | -            | - | -         | -      | -      | 1,497.46  | 168.41   | 140.00   | -        | 1,189.05  | 168.41   | 5       | 336.82 | 8.42   | C      | S     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2         | Feb-23           | 1,459.57  | 2.00         | 25.26  | -            | - | -         | -      | -      | 1,484.83  | 134.73   | 136.00   | -        | 1,214.10  | 134.73   | 4       | 336.82 | 8.42   | C      | S     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3         | Mar-23           | 1,459.57  | -            | -      | -            | - | -         | 121.13 | -      | 1,580.70  | 134.73   | 161.00   | -        | 1,284.97  | 134.73   | 4       | 336.82 | 8.42   | C      | S     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4         | Apr-23           | 1,459.57  | 5.00         | 63.15  | -            | - | -         | -      | -      | 1,522.72  | 134.73   | 146.00   | -        | 1,241.99  | 134.73   | 4       | 336.82 | 8.42   | C      | S     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5         | May-23           | 1,916.67  | 6.50         | 107.81 | -            | - | -         | -      | 457.10 | 2,481.58  | 221.15   | 423.00   | -        | 1,837.43  | 221.15   | 5       | 442.31 | 11.06  | C      | S     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6         | Jun-23           | 1,916.67  | 8.50         | 140.99 | -            | - | -         | 135.10 | -      | 2,192.76  | 176.92   | 322.00   | -        | 1,693.83  | 176.92   | 4       | 442.31 | 11.06  | C      | S     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7         | Jul-23           | 1,916.67  | 1.00         | 16.59  | -            | - | -         | -      | -      | 1,933.25  | 221.15   | 256.00   | -        | 1,456.10  | 221.15   | 5       | 442.31 | 11.06  | C      | S     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8         | Aug-23           | 1,916.67  | -            | -      | -            | - | -         | -      | -      | 1,916.67  | 176.92   | 252.00   | -        | 1,487.74  | 176.92   | 4       | 442.31 | 11.06  | C      | S     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9         | Sep-23           | 1,916.67  | 5.50         | 91.23  | -            | - | -         | 121.13 | -      | 2,129.02  | 176.92   | 305.00   | -        | 1,647.10  | 176.92   | 4       | 442.31 | 11.06  | C      | S     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10        | Oct-23           | 1,916.67  |              | -      | -            | - | -         | -      | -      | 1,916.67  | 221.15   | 252.00   | -        | 1,443.51  | 221.15   | 5       | 442.31 | 11.06  | C      | S     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11        | Nov-23           | 1,916.67  |              | -      | -            | - | -         | -      | -      | 1,916.67  | 176.92   | 253.00   | -        | 1,486.74  | 176.92   | 4       | 442.31 | 11.06  | C      | S     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12        | Dec-23           | 1,916.67  |              | -      | -            | - | -         | 135.10 | -      | 2,051.77  | 176.92   | 285.00   | -        | 1,589.84  | 176.92   | 4       | 442.31 | 11.06  | C      | S     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|           | JAN - DEC        | 21,171.61 | 31.50        | 482.92 | -            | - | -         | 512.46 | 457.10 | 22,624.09 | 2,120.68 | 2,931.00 | -        | 17,572.42 | 2,120.68 | 52      |        |        |        |       |  |  |  |  |  |  |

# PAYROLL SOFTWARE

- Usually linked to a wider HR system
- Specialised people handling the data integrity
- Formalised process with set timelines
- Accurate data management
- Automatic calculations based on inbuilt rules
- Generation of payslips – emails
- Submission of Direct Credit settlements
- Generation of FSS documentation



# SAMPLE EMPLOYEE RECORD

Employees

Employees

Basic Pays

Pay Items

Tax

Split Payments

Payroll History

Leave Entitlement

Leave History

Previous Employment

Apply On Behalf Of

Employer VOPS

...

Code: Surname: Name:

▲ Personal Details

Code

•

I.D. no.

Title

Surname

•

Name

•

Middle name

Also known as

Sex

Male

▼

Date of birth

dd/mm/yyyy

□

•

Age

0

Nationality

Q

Citizenship

Q

Civil status

Single

▼

Partner I.D. no.

Tax registration no.

Social Security no.

Academic Level

None

▼

▲ Employment Details

Employment date

dd/mm/yyyy

□

i

Termination date

dd/mm/yyyy

□

i

Termination reason

Q

Employment type

Q

Work schedule

Q

?

Tax profile

Q

i

Short term benefits

Q

i

Overtime

☒ Overtime Concession

☐ Opt Out

Default OT pay item

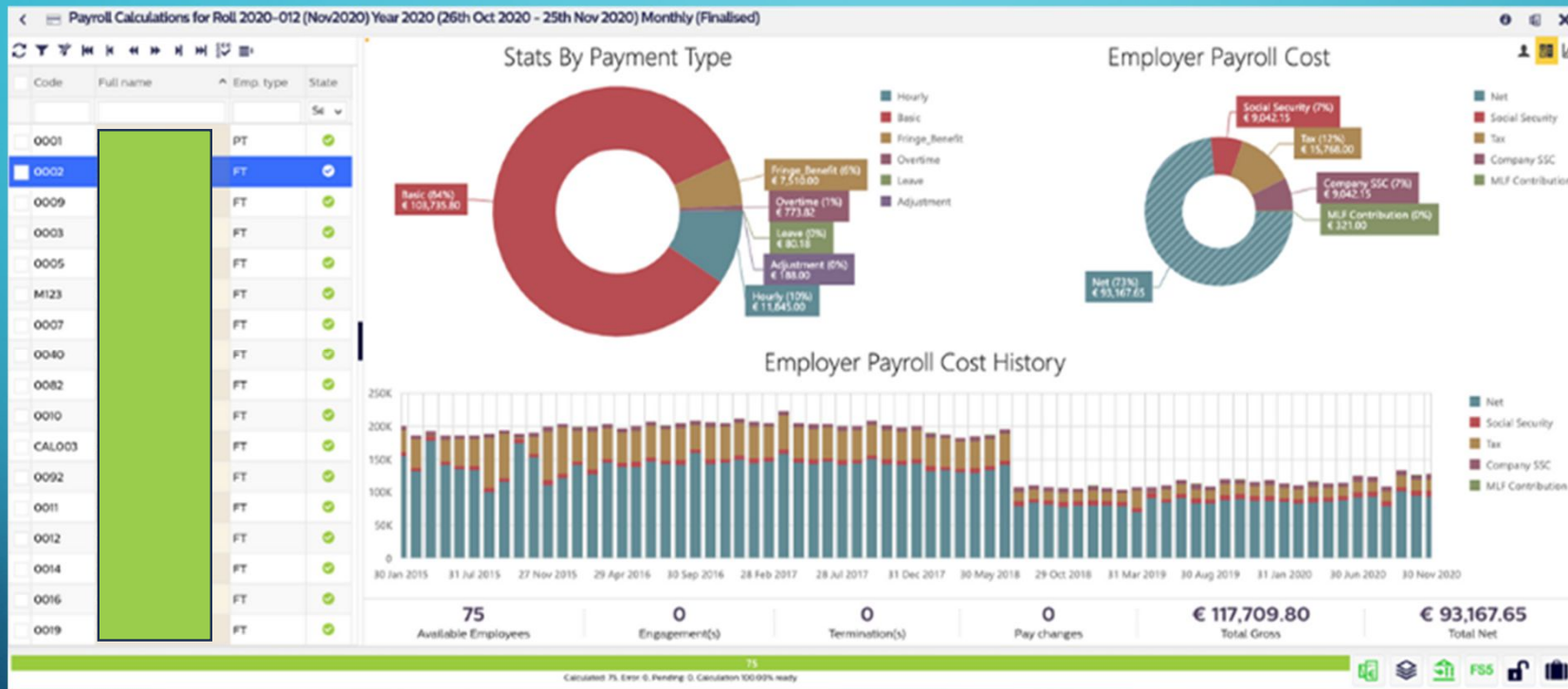
Q

No maternity leave

☐ SSC disability

☐

# SAMPLE PAYROLL CALCULATION REPORT



# PAYROLL OUTSOURCING

- What is outsourcing of payroll ?
- How does it work ?
- What options are available?
- It's not just the payslip !
- The Controller and the Processor (GDPR)



# MALTESE LEGISLATION REGULATING PAYROLL



## Main Legislation



Chapter 452 – Employment and Industrial Relation Act (EIRA)



Chapter 343 – Employment and Training Services Act



Chapter 267 – Employment Commission Act



Chapter 318 – Social Security Act

EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS | CAP. 452. 1

### CHAPTER 452

#### EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ACT

*To consolidate, with amendments, the Conditions of Employment (Regulation) Act (Cap.135) and the Industrial Relations Act (Cap. 266).*

2nd December, 2002  
27th December, 2002

*ACT XXII of 2002, as amended by Acts IX of 2003, III of 2004 and XIX of 2006; Legal Notice 427 of 2007; Acts V of 2009, V of 2011 and XVI of 2012; Legal Notice 426 of 2012; and Acts IV of 2015\* and XXXIII of 2016.*

#### ARRANGEMENT OF ACT

|                                                                 | Articles |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| General                                                         | 1-2      |
| Title I - Employment Relations                                  |          |
| Part I Employment Relations Board                               | 3        |
| Part II Recognised Conditions of Employment                     | 4-10     |
| Part III Protection of Wages                                    | 11-25    |
| Part IV Protection against Discrimination related to Employment | 26-32    |
| Part V Termination of Contracts of Service                      | 33-42    |
| Part VI Enforcement and Non-Compliance related to Employment    | 43-47    |
| Part VII Administration related to Employment                   | 48       |
| Title II - Industrial Relations                                 |          |
| Part I Organization of Workers and Employers                    |          |
| Sub-Part I Status, registration and conduct of trade unions and | 49-62    |

# MALTESE LEGISLATION REGULATING PAYROLL

## Subsidiary Legislation

- SL372.14 - FSS Rules
- SL452.78 - Parental Leave Entitlement Regulations
- SL452.87 - Organisation of Working Time Regulations
- SL452.88 - Urgent Family Leave Regulations
- SL452.101 - Minimum Special Leave Entitlement Regulations
- SL452.110 - Overtime Regulations
- SL452.114 - Leave for Medically Assisted Procreation National Standard Order
- SL452.115 - Annual Leave National Standard Order
- LN201/2022 - Work-Life Balance
- LN267/2022 – Transparent & Predictable Working Conditions
- SL217.17 – Temporary permit for TCNs to reside and work for over 6 months

# INFORMATION GOLDMINES FOR PAYROLL PROCESSING

- Office of the Commissioner for Taxation & Customs
- Department of Industrial and Employment Relations
- Department of Social Security
- Legislation Malta
- Wage Regulation Orders
- Jobsplus
- Identita'
- Malta Employers Association

*Constantly  
Updated !*

# COMMISSIONER FOR TAXATION & CUSTOMS

<https://mtca.gov.mt>

- Tax and Social Security Registrations
- Tax and NI Rates
- Statutory Employer submissions
- Validation of tax numbers and social security numbers



# DEPARTMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

<https://dier.gov.mt>

dier.gov.mt

- Work Conditions
- Work Regulation Orders
- Employee Entitlements
- Dispute resolution
- Change of Conditions
- Transfer of Business Regulations

# DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY

<https://socialsecurity.gov.mt>

- Benefit Rates
- Pensions
- Calculation of Social Security Contributions



# LEGISLATION MALTA – ONLINE PORTAL

<https://legislation.mt>

- Tax Updates and Legal Notices
- Efficient search engine



# WAGE REGULATION ORDERS (WRO)

<https://dier.gov.mt/en/Legislation>

- How many WROs are there currently? – 32 + 6 (LN)
- Who falls under a WRO?



# WAGE REGULATION ORDERS (WRO)

- » S.L. 452.50 - Agriculture and Allied Industries
- » S.L. 452.60 - Beverage Industries
- » S.L. 452.45 - Canning Industry
- » S.L. 452.41 - Cargo Clearance and Forwarding Agents' (Burdnara) Employees
- » S.L. 452.43 - Cinemas and Theatres
- » S.L. 452.49 - Clay and Glass Products
- » S.L. 452.59 - Construction
- » S.L. 452.40 - Domestic Service
- » S.L. 452.46 - Electronics Industry
- » S.L. 452.67 - Food Manufacture Industries
- » S.L. 452.57 - Hire (Cars or Private Buses)
- » S.L. 452.54 - Hospitals and Clinics
- » S.L. 452.66 - Hotels and Clubs
- » S.L. 452.56 - Jewellery and Watches
- » S.L. 452.53 - Laundries
- » S.L. 452.69 - Leather Goods and Shoes Industries
- » S.L. 452.37 - Paper, Plastics , Chemicals and Petroleum
- » S.L. 452.48 - Printing and Publishing
- » S.L. 452.76 - Private Cleaning Services
- » S.L. 452.47 - Private Schools
- » S.L. 452.75 - Private Security Services
- » S.L. 452.39 - Professional Offices
- » S.L. 452.35 - Public Transport
- » S.L. 452.51 - Seamen
- » S.L. 452.72 - Sextons and Custodians
- » S.L. 452.55 - Textiles and Allied Industries
- » S.L. 452.68 - Tobacco Manufacture Industry
- » S.L. 452.52 - Transport Equipment, Metal and Allied Industries
- » S.L. 452.58 - Travel and Insurance Agencies
- » S.L. 452.63 - Wholesale and Retail Trades
- » S.L. 452.44 - Woodworks
- » S.L. 452.127 – Digital Platform Delivery

# WAGE REGULATION ORDERS (WRO)

- » L.N. 351 of 2019 – Adaptation of Laws (Wages Council Wage Regulation Orders) Order (Amendment No.2),2019
- » L.N. 469 of 2020 – Adaptation of Laws (Wages Council Wage Regulation Orders) Order,2020
- » L.N. 464 of 2021 – Adaptation of Laws (Wages Council Wage Regulation Orders) Order,2021
- » L.N. 335 of 2022 – Adaptation of Laws (Wages Council Wage Regulation Orders) Order,2022
- » L.N. 286 of 2023 – Adaptation of Laws (Wages Council Wage Regulation Orders) Order,2023
- » L.N. 341 of 2024 – Adaptation of Laws (Wages Council Wage Regulation Orders) Order,2024

# JOBSPPLUS

<https://jobsplus.gov.mt/>

- Employment Registration Agency
- Depository of all employee movements
- Search for Vacancies
- Employer Portal
- Employee Portal
- Forms

The logo for jobsplus, featuring the word "jobsplus" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font. The "i" in "jobs" has a dot. The logo is set against a green rounded rectangle.

# IDENTITA'

<https://identita.gov.mt/>

- Identity Cards management
- E-ID Cards
- Passports
- E-Passports
- Visas
- Residency Documents
- TCNs
- Single Permits



# identità

# MALTA EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATION

<https://www.maltaemployers.com/>

- Portal of the Malta Employers' Association
- Provides updated legislation , media events and position papers
- HR Handbook
- OHS Regulations
- Whistleblower Act
- Equality

