

EURONORMS



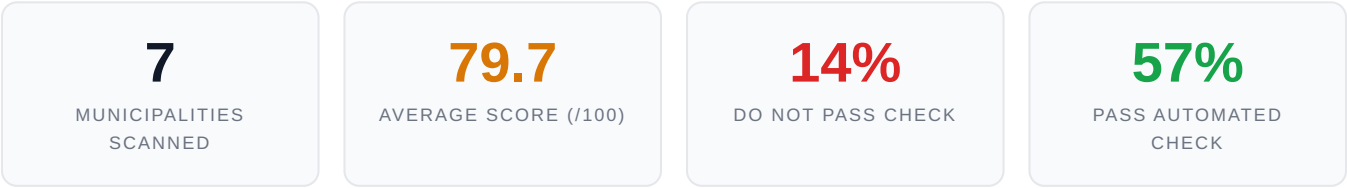
PRESS DOSSIER

Malta

Municipality Web Accessibility

Automated WCAG 2.1 AA Compliance Scan — EU Directive 2016/2102

Malta — Municipality Accessibility at a Glance



14% of Malta municipality websites **do not pass** the automated WCAG accessibility check. Only **57%** of scanned sites pass.

The average compliance score across 7 scanned municipality homepages is **79.7/100**. A total of **44** individual accessibility violations were detected, averaging **6.3** issues per site.

Score Distribution

	4	2	1	9
CATEGORY	COUNT	%	DEFINITION	
PASS	4	57%	Score ≥ 80 — passes automated check	
NEEDS WORK	2	29%	Score 50–79 — partially accessible	
FAIL	1	14%	Score < 50 — does not pass automated check	
NOT SCANNED	9	—	Website unavailable or scan failed	

Most Common Accessibility Violations

The table below lists the 3 most frequent axe-core rule violations found across Malta municipality homepages.

#	RULE	IMPACT	DESCRIPTION	OCCURRENCES	SITES
1	color-contrast	SERIOUS	Ensure the contrast between foreground and background colors meets WCAG 2 AA minimum contrast ratio thresholds	33	2
2	link-name	SERIOUS	Ensure links have discernible text	10	2
3	image-alt	CRITICAL	Ensure elements have alternative text or a role of none or presentation	1	1

Municipality Ranking — Top & Bottom Performers

Top 7 Highest Scores

#	MUNICIPALITY	WEBSITE	SCORE	ISSUES
1	Santa Luċija	santalucija.gov.mt	100.0	0
2	Fontana	lc.gov.mt	100.0	0
3	Munxar	munxar.gov.mt	100.0	0
4	San Lawrenz	sanlawrenz.gov.mt	100.0	0
5	L-Imtarfa	mtarfalc.gov.mt	68.1	5
6	Ta' Xbiex	taxbiex.com	68.1	26
7	Pembroke	pembrokekc.gov.mt	21.5	13

Bottom 7 Lowest Scores

#	MUNICIPALITY	WEBSITE	SCORE	ISSUES
1	Pembroke	pembrokekc.gov.mt	21.5	13
2	L-Imtarfa	mtarfalc.gov.mt	68.1	5
3	Ta' Xbiex	taxbiex.com	68.1	26
4	Santa Luċija	santalucija.gov.mt	100.0	0
5	Fontana	lc.gov.mt	100.0	0
6	Munxar	munxar.gov.mt	100.0	0
7	San Lawrenz	sanlawrenz.gov.mt	100.0	0

Methodology & Limitations

Testing Tool

[axe-core](#), the open-source accessibility testing engine maintained by Deque Systems. It is the most widely used automated accessibility testing library and powers the accessibility checks in Chrome DevTools and Lighthouse.

Standard

WCAG 2.1 Level AA — the standard referenced by EU Directive 2016/2102 (Web Accessibility Directive) and harmonised European standard EN 301 549.

Scope

- Homepage only (crawl depth = 1). Subpages are not scanned.
- One domain per municipality (primary official website).
- Scores range from 0 (worst) to 100 (best).

Important limitation: Automated tools detect approximately 30–50% of WCAG 2.1 criteria. A site that does not pass the automated check is certainly non-compliant. A site that passes may still have accessibility barriers detectable only through manual expert review. These scores represent a **floor**, not a ceiling, of real-world accessibility issues.

Data Collection

Municipality websites were collected from official national registers, Eurostat LAU codes, and Wikidata. Domains were validated via DNS resolution and HTTP checks. Scans were performed using headless Chromium via Playwright + axe-core.

Licence

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