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The number of claims in respect of non-fatal accidents at work in the second half of 2019 increased by 68, or 4.3 per cent, when compared to the corresponding period in 2018. During the mentioned period, no fatal accidents were reported.

Accidents at Work: July-December 2019

Non-fatal accidents

Administrative records show that 1,667 persons were involved in a non-fatal accident at work in the last six months of 2019.

The majority of these non-fatal accidents occurred in the manufacturing sector (16.5 per cent). Another 220 or 13.2 per cent of the accidents occurred in the construction sector followed by the transport and storage sector (203 or 12.2 per cent). When compared to the same period in 2018, the number of accidents decreased by 25 in transport and storage and increased by 49 in the human health and social work activities. (Table 1).

The largest share of accidents at work during the reference period involved persons working in elementary occupations followed by craft and related trades workers (Table 2).

Almost half (44.2 per cent) of the injuries at work affected the upper extremities of the body, such as the fingers and hands (Table 4). Wounds and superficial injuries, and dislocations, sprains and strains were the most common types of injuries, amounting to 937 and 395 cases respectively (Table 5).

In the second half of 2019, 30.8 per cent of the accidents at work took place in enterprises with more than 500 employees (Table 7).

In 2019, 1,281 non-fatal accidents per 100,000 employed persons were reported. The highest standardised incidence rate of non-fatal accidents at work was recorded in manufacturing followed by construction and transportation and storage (Table 9).

Fatal accidents

Between July and December 2019, the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA) reported no fatal accident at work. There were three fatalities at work in the corresponding period of 2018.

Data for 2019 (whole year) is also being provided in this news release ■

Table 1. Non-fatal accidents at work by economic activity of enterprise

Economic activity (NACE Rev. 2)	2019						July-December 2018 (Revised)						July-December 2019					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	42	1.7	1	0.1	43	1.3	26	2.0	1	0.3	27	1.7	20	1.5	-	-	20	1.2
Mining and quarrying	7	0.3	-	-	7	0.2	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.1	6	0.5	-	-	6	0.4
Manufacturing	476	19.0	50	7.0	526	16.3	259	20.2	26	8.2	285	17.8	246	18.9	29	7.9	275	16.5
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	6	0.2	-	-	6	0.2	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.1	3	0.2	-	-	3	0.2
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	100	4.0	3	0.4	103	3.2	55	4.3	-	-	55	3.4	58	4.5	1	0.3	59	3.5
Construction	439	17.5	2	0.3	441	13.7	230	17.9	3	0.9	233	14.6	218	16.7	2	0.5	220	13.2
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	268	10.7	52	7.2	320	9.9	124	9.7	32	10.1	156	9.8	139	10.7	31	8.5	170	10.2
Transportation and storage	356	14.2	54	7.5	410	12.7	194	15.1	34	10.7	228	14.3	175	13.4	28	7.7	203	12.2
Accommodation and food service activities	179	7.2	83	11.6	262	8.1	76	5.9	43	13.6	119	7.4	86	6.6	47	12.9	133	8.0
Information and communication	21	0.8	2	0.3	23	0.7	5	0.4	2	0.6	7	0.4	12	0.9	1	0.3	13	0.8
Financial and insurance activities	19	0.8	9	1.3	28	0.9	6	0.5	5	1.6	11	0.7	8	0.6	6	1.6	14	0.8
Real estate activities	6	0.2	4	0.6	10	0.3	9	0.7	1	0.3	10	0.6	4	0.3	4	1.1	8	0.5
Professional, scientific and technical activities	36	1.4	9	1.3	45	1.4	15	1.2	8	2.5	23	1.4	25	1.9	5	1.4	30	1.8
Administrative and support service activities	277	11.1	71	9.9	348	10.8	141	11.0	47	14.8	188	11.8	168	12.9	32	8.8	200	12.0
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	106	4.2	21	2.9	127	3.9	53	4.1	14	4.4	67	4.2	50	3.8	9	2.5	59	3.5
Education	28	1.1	54	7.5	82	2.5	8	0.6	12	3.8	20	1.3	15	1.2	25	6.8	40	2.4
Human health and social work activities	83	3.3	285	39.7	368	11.4	38	3.0	86	27.1	124	7.8	37	2.8	136	37.3	173	10.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation	13	0.5	4	0.6	17	0.5	7	0.5	-	-	7	0.4	6	0.5	-	-	6	0.4
Other service activities	20	0.8	12	1.7	32	1.0	17	1.3	2	0.6	19	1.2	13	1.0	7	1.9	20	1.2
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	-	-	1	0.1	1	0.0	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.3	1	0.1
Not specified	20	0.8	1	0.1	21	0.7	14	1.1	1	0.3	15	0.9	13	1.0	1	0.3	14	0.8
Total	2,502	100.0	718	100.0	3,220	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0	1,302	100.0	365	100.0	1,667	100.0

Table 2. Non-fatal accidents at work by occupation of victim

Occupations (ISCO-08)	2019						July-December 2018 (Revised)						July-December 2019					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed forces	23	0.9	2	0.3	25	0.8	9	0.7	-	-	9	0.6	12	0.9	1	0.3	13	0.8
Managers	19	0.8	6	0.8	25	0.8	11	0.9	4	1.3	15	0.9	10	0.8	5	1.4	15	0.9
Professionals	68	2.7	101	14.1	169	5.2	36	2.8	44	13.9	80	5.0	37	2.8	45	12.3	82	4.9
Technicians and associate professionals	299	12.0	51	7.1	350	10.9	116	9.0	27	8.5	143	8.9	147	11.3	23	6.3	170	10.2
Clerical support workers	124	5.0	65	9.1	189	5.9	51	4.0	29	9.1	80	5.0	52	4.0	33	9.0	85	5.1
Service and sales workers	190	7.6	313	43.6	503	15.6	82	6.4	104	32.8	186	11.6	104	8.0	165	45.2	269	16.1
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	36	1.4	1	0.1	37	1.1	30	2.3	-	-	30	1.9	18	1.4	-	-	18	1.1
Craft and related trades workers	674	26.9	9	1.3	683	21.2	339	26.4	5	1.6	344	21.5	362	27.8	6	1.6	368	22.1
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	342	13.7	31	4.3	373	11.6	178	13.9	17	5.4	195	12.2	179	13.7	15	4.1	194	11.6
Elementary occupations	727	29.1	139	19.4	866	26.9	430	33.5	87	27.4	517	32.3	381	29.3	72	19.7	453	27.2
Total	2,502	100.0	718	100.0	3,220	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0	1,302	100.0	365	100.0	1,667	100.0

Table 3. Non-fatal accidents at work by age group of victim

Age-group	2019						July-December 2018						July-December 2019					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
15-24	219	8.8	95	13.2	314	9.8	131	10.2	49	15.5	180	11.3	112	8.6	60	16.4	172	10.3
25-34	613	24.5	203	28.3	816	25.3	290	22.6	100	31.5	390	24.4	321	24.7	100	27.4	421	25.3
35-44	705	28.2	143	19.9	848	26.3	366	28.5	48	15.1	414	25.9	376	28.9	76	20.8	452	27.1
45-54	544	21.7	153	21.3	697	21.6	266	20.7	72	22.7	338	21.1	286	22.0	69	18.9	355	21.3
55+	421	16.8	124	17.3	545	16.9	229	17.9	48	15.1	277	17.3	207	15.9	60	16.4	267	16.0
Total	2,502	100.0	718	100.0	3,220	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0	1,302	100.0	365	100.0	1,667	100.0

Table 4. Part of body injured in non-fatal accidents at work

Part of body	2019						July-December 2018						July-December 2019					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Head	293	11.7	78	10.9	371	11.5	155	12.1	31	9.8	186	11.6	139	10.7	53	14.5	192	11.5
Neck, including spine and vertebra in the neck	78	3.1	28	3.9	106	3.3	19	1.5	15	4.7	34	2.1	41	3.1	15	4.1	56	3.4
Back, including spine and vertebra in the back	198	7.9	67	9.3	265	8.2	121	9.4	20	6.3	141	8.8	97	7.5	35	9.6	132	7.9
Torso and organs	114	4.6	43	6.0	157	4.9	62	4.8	12	3.8	74	4.6	69	5.3	17	4.7	86	5.2
Upper extremities	1,154	46.1	302	42.1	1,456	45.2	581	45.3	140	44.2	721	45.1	586	45.0	151	41.4	737	44.2
Lower extremities	634	25.3	185	25.8	819	25.4	318	24.8	90	28.4	408	25.5	353	27.1	89	24.4	442	26.5
Wholebody and multiple sites	5	0.2	3	0.4	8	0.2	17	1.3	3	0.9	20	1.3	3	0.2	-	-	3	0.2
Other parts of body injured, not mentioned above	7	0.3	3	0.4	10	0.3	1	0.1	2	0.6	3	0.2	5	0.4	-	-	5	0.3
Not specified	19	0.8	9	1.3	28	0.9	8	0.6	4	1.3	12	0.8	9	0.7	5	1.4	14	0.8
Total	2,502	100.0	718	100.0	3,220	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0	1,302	100.0	365	100.0	1,667	100.0

Table 5. Non-fatal accidents at work by type of injury

Type of injury	2019						July-December 2018						July-December 2019					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Wounds and superficial injuries	1,454	58.1	372	51.8	1,826	56.7	750	58.5	161	50.8	911	57.0	761	58.4	176	48.2	937	56.2
Bone fractures	293	11.7	84	11.7	377	11.7	147	11.5	39	12.3	186	11.6	134	10.3	42	11.5	176	10.6
Dislocations, sprains, and strains	556	22.2	164	22.8	720	22.4	306	23.9	82	25.9	388	24.3	307	23.6	88	24.1	395	23.7
Traumatic amputations	10	0.4	-	-	10	0.3	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	7	0.5	-	-	7	0.4
Concussions and internal injuries	23	0.9	18	2.5	41	1.3	13	1.0	6	1.9	19	1.2	13	1.0	13	3.6	26	1.6
Burns, scalds and frostbites	65	2.6	27	3.8	92	2.9	42	3.3	12	3.8	54	3.4	33	2.5	17	4.7	50	3.0
Poisonings and infections	17	0.7	4	0.6	21	0.7	3	0.2	2	0.6	5	0.3	14	1.1	4	1.1	18	1.1
Drowning and asphyxiations	3	0.1	3	0.4	6	0.2	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.1	3	0.2	1	0.3	4	0.2
Effects of sound and vibration	2	0.1	3	0.4	5	0.2	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.1	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1
Effects of temperature extremes, light and radiation	2	0.1	1	0.1	3	0.1	2	0.2	1	0.3	3	0.2	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1
Shock	11	0.4	9	1.3	20	0.6	5	0.4	7	2.2	12	0.8	5	0.4	8	2.2	13	0.8
Multiple injuries	2	0.1	1	0.1	3	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.1	1	0.3	2	0.1
Other specified injuries not included under other headings	3	0.1	9	1.3	12	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0.2	6	1.6	9	0.5
Not specified	61	2.4	23	3.2	84	2.6	9	0.7	7	2.2	16	1.0	19	1.5	9	2.5	28	1.7
Total	2,502	100.0	718	100.0	3,220	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0	1,302	100.0	365	100.0	1,667	100.0

Table 6. Non-fatal accidents at work by district of enterprise

District	2019						July-December 2018						July-December 2019					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Southern Harbour	889	35.5	256	35.7	1,145	35.6	485	37.8	120	37.9	605	37.8	459	35.3	135	37.0	594	35.6
Northern Harbour	684	27.3	250	34.8	934	29.0	351	27.4	101	31.9	452	28.3	335	25.7	125	34.2	460	27.6
South Eastern	310	12.4	60	8.4	370	11.5	142	11.1	30	9.5	172	10.8	169	13.0	29	7.9	198	11.9
Western	199	8.0	47	6.5	246	7.6	116	9.0	24	7.6	140	8.8	122	9.4	24	6.6	146	8.8
Northern	370	14.8	89	12.4	459	14.3	169	13.2	42	13.2	211	13.2	187	14.4	46	12.6	233	14.0
Gozo and Comino	50	2.0	16	2.2	66	2.0	19	1.5	-	-	19	1.2	30	2.3	6	1.6	36	2.2
Total	2,502	100.0	718	100.0	3,220	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0	1,302	100.0	365	100.0	1,667	100.0

Table 7. Size of enterprise where non-fatal accidents occurred

Employment size	2019						July-December 2018						July-December 2019					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Self-employed without employees	136	5.4	7	1.0	143	4.4	70	5.5	3	0.9	73	4.6	66	5.1	5	1.4	71	4.3
1-9 employees	220	8.8	35	4.9	255	7.9	115	9.0	20	6.3	135	8.4	111	8.5	16	4.4	127	7.6
10-49 employees	432	17.3	87	12.1	519	16.1	207	16.1	28	8.8	235	14.7	233	17.9	67	18.4	300	18.0
50-249 employees	629	25.1	163	22.7	792	24.6	341	26.6	65	20.5	406	25.4	301	23.1	98	26.8	399	23.9
250-499 employees	300	12.0	90	12.5	390	12.1	156	12.2	36	11.4	192	12.0	176	13.5	62	17.0	238	14.3
500 employees or more	763	30.5	333	46.4	1,096	34.0	376	29.3	164	51.7	540	33.8	398	30.6	116	31.8	514	30.8
Not specified	22	0.9	3	0.4	25	0.8	17	1.3	1	0.3	18	1.1	17	1.3	1	0.3	18	1.1
Total	2,502	100.0	718	100.0	3,220	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0	1,302	100.0	365	100.0	1,667	100.0

Table 8. Employment status of victim involved in non-fatal accidents

Employment status	2019						July-December 2018						July-December 2019					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Self-employed	187	7.5	8	1.1	195	6.1	108	8.4	4	1.3	112	7.0	97	7.5	6	1.6	103	6.2
Full-time employee	2,236	89.4	631	87.9	2,867	89.0	1,148	89.5	284	89.6	1,432	89.6	1,162	89.2	315	86.3	1,477	88.6
Part-time employee	79	3.2	79	11.0	158	4.9	26	2.0	29	9.1	55	3.4	43	3.3	44	12.1	87	5.2
Total	2,502	100.0	718	100.0	3,220	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0	1,302	100.0	365	100.0	1,667	100.0

Table 9. Standardised non-fatal accidents at work by economic activity of enterprise¹

Economic activity (NACE Rev. 2)	2019		
	No. of employed persons ²	No. of non-fatal accidents	Standardised Incidence Rate (per 100,000 workers)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,600	43	17
Mining and quarrying	:	7	:
Manufacturing	28,564	526	209
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	:	6	:
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	2,774	103	41
Construction	16,149	441	175
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	36,907	320	127
Transportation and storage	12,976	410	163
Accommodation and food service activities	18,678	262	104
Information and communication	10,086	23	9
Financial and insurance activities	11,332	28	11
Real estate activities	2,642	10	4
Professional, scientific and technical activities	13,256	45	18
Administrative and support service activities	11,734	348	138
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	16,530	127	51
Education	22,553	82	33
Human health and social work activities	23,654	368	146
Arts, entertainment and recreation	13,095	17	7
Other service activities	5,696	32	13
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	1686 ^u	-	-
Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	:	1	:
Not specified	:	21	:
Total	251,398	3,220	1,281

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

² Source: Quarter 1 to quarter 3 Labour Force Survey 2019.

[∴] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Methodological Notes

1. Data on non-fatal accidents at work is provided by the Department of Social Security, while that on fatal accidents at work is given by the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA).
2. The data in this release include all cases for which an injury benefit claim form has been submitted to the Department of Social Security, irrespective of the number of days lost.
3. Revisions to the previous year's data are carried out annually upon publication of the first semester of the following year. Thus data is subject to revisions.
4. District classification:

For aggregation purposes, all localities were grouped into six districts as follows:

A. Southern Harbour

Valletta, Vittoriosa, Senglea, Cospicua, Haż-Żabbar, Fgura, Floriana, Kalkara, Hał Luqa, Marsa, Paola, Santa Luċija, Tarxien, Xghajra.

B. Northern Harbour

Hał Qormi, Birkirkara, Gżira, Hamrun, Msida, Pembroke, Tal-Pieta', St Julian's, San Ġwann, Santa Venera, Tas-Sliema, Swieqi, Ta' Xbiex.

C. South Eastern

Żejtun, Birżebbuġa, Gudja, Hał Ġhaxaq, Hał Kirkop, Marsaskala, Marsaxlokk, Mqabba, Qrendi, Hał Safi, Żurrieq.

D. Western

Mdina, Haż-Żebbuġ, Siġġiewi, H'Attard, Hał Balzan, Hał-Dingli, Iklin, Hał Lija, Rabat, Mtarfa.

E. Northern

Hał Ġhargħur, Mellieħa, Mġarr, Mosta, Naxxar, St Paul's Bay.

F. Gozo and Comino

Victoria, Fontana, Ġhajnsielem, Ġħarb, Ġħasri, Ta' Kerċem, Munxar, Nadur, Qala, San Lawrenz, Ta' Sannat, Xagħra, Xewkija, Żebbuġ.

5. Definitions:
 - An accident at work is defined as a discrete occurrence during the course of work which leads to physical or mental harm.
 - Fatal accidents at work are accidents that lead to death of the victim within 1 year.
 - The standardised incidence rate is defined as the weighted sum of the number of accidents at work per 100, 000 persons in employment.

6. Key:

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

7. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>

Classification: <https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE Rev. 2>
<https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCO 2008>

8. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
9. Percentage totals may not add up due to rounding.
10. A detailed news release calendar is available on:
https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx