

The number of claims in respect of non-fatal accidents at work in the first half of 2018 increased by 60, or 3.8 per cent, compared to the corresponding period in 2017. One fatal accident at work was reported in the first half of 2018.

Accidents at Work: January-June 2018

Non-fatal accidents

Administrative records show that 1,653 persons were involved in a non-fatal accident at work in the first six months of 2018.

The majority of these non-fatal accidents occurred in manufacturing (15.4 per cent). Another 249 or 15.1 per cent of the accidents occurred in construction followed by transportation and storage (226 or 13.7 per cent). When compared to the same period in 2017, the number of accidents decreased by 22 in human health and social work activities and increased by 34 in Administrative and support service activities (Table 1).

The largest share of accidents at work during the reference period involved persons working in elementary occupations (29.1 per cent) followed by craft and related trades workers (20.3 per cent) (Table 2). Slightly more than half of the persons injured in non-fatal accidents were aged between 25 and 44 (Table 3).

Almost half (45.8 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 980 and 374 cases respectively (Table 5).

In the first half of 2018, nearly a third of the accidents at work took place in enterprises with more than 500 employees while a quarter of the accidents took place in enterprises with 50 to 249 employees (Table 7). The majority of persons injured in non-fatal accidents were employed on full-time basis (89.5 per cent) (Table 8).

In 2017, 1,498 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 January and June 2018, the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA) reported one fatal accident at work. There was also one fatality at work in the corresponding period of 2017.

Data for 2017 (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)	2017						January-June 2017						January-June 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	25	1.0	-	-	25	0.8	11	0.9	-	-	11	0.7	16	1.2	2	0.6	18	1.1
Mining and quarrying	5	0.2	-	-	5	0.2	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.1	3	0.2	-	-	3	0.2
Manufacturing	497	19.5	42	6.6	539	16.9	240	19.0	24	7.3	264	16.6	235	17.7	19	5.8	254	15.4
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	2	0.1	-	-	2	0.1	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	84	3.3	2	0.3	86	2.7	40	3.2	1	0.3	41	2.6	40	3.0	-	-	40	2.4
Construction	479	18.8	6	0.9	485	15.2	238	18.8	4	1.2	242	15.2	248	18.7	1	0.3	249	15.1
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	251	9.9	48	7.5	299	9.4	117	9.3	20	6.1	137	8.6	133	10.0	32	9.7	165	10.0
Transportation and storage	370	14.5	79	12.4	449	14.1	195	15.4	42	12.8	237	14.9	200	15.1	26	7.9	226	13.7
Accommodation and food service activities	213	8.4	65	10.2	278	8.7	99	7.8	27	8.2	126	7.9	109	8.2	28	8.5	137	8.3
Information and communication	21	0.8	1	0.2	22	0.7	8	0.6	-	-	8	0.5	14	1.1	2	0.6	16	1.0
Financial and insurance activities	13	0.5	8	1.3	21	0.7	7	0.6	3	0.9	10	0.6	3	0.2	2	0.6	5	0.3
Real estate activities	6	0.2	3	0.5	9	0.3	2	0.2	2	0.6	4	0.3	6	0.5	4	1.2	10	0.6
Professional, scientific and technical activities	41	1.6	9	1.4	50	1.6	21	1.7	4	1.2	25	1.6	29	2.2	6	1.8	35	2.1
Administrative and support service activities	238	9.4	87	13.6	325	10.2	117	9.3	53	16.1	170	10.7	151	11.4	53	16.1	204	12.3
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	138	5.4	43	6.7	181	5.7	76	6.0	16	4.9	92	5.8	75	5.7	41	12.5	116	7.0
Education	30	1.2	53	8.3	83	2.6	16	1.3	31	9.4	47	3.0	5	0.4	28	8.5	33	2.0
Human health and social work activities	77	3.0	179	28.0	256	8.0	34	2.7	93	28.3	127	8.0	31	2.3	74	22.5	105	6.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation	13	0.5	3	0.5	16	0.5	7	0.6	1	0.3	8	0.5	12	0.9	4	1.2	16	1.0
Other service activities	17	0.7	7	1.1	24	0.8	9	0.7	5	1.5	14	0.9	13	1.0	4	1.2	17	1.0
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	1	0.0	-	-	1	0.0	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not specified	22	0.9	4	0.6	26	0.8	22	1.7	3	0.9	25	1.6	1	0.1	3	0.9	4	0.2
Total	2,543	100.0	639	100.0	3,182	100.0	1,264	100.0	329	100.0	1,593	100.0	1,324	100.0	329	100.0	1,653	100.0

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

Occupations (ISCO-08)	2017						January-June 2017 (revised)						January-June 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed forces	11	0.4	1	0.2	12	0.4	6	0.5	-	-	6	0.4	12	0.9	1	0.3	13	0.8
Managers	20	0.8	4	0.6	24	0.8	12	0.9	2	0.6	14	0.9	10	0.8	4	1.2	14	0.8
Professionals	71	2.8	121	18.9	192	6.0	42	3.3	69	21.0	111	7.0	35	2.6	63	19.1	98	5.9
Technicians and associate professionals	306	12.0	50	7.8	356	11.2	139	11.0	21	6.4	160	10.0	157	11.9	22	6.7	179	10.8
Clerical support workers	95	3.7	69	10.8	164	5.2	54	4.3	37	11.2	91	5.7	64	4.8	21	6.4	85	5.1
Service and sales workers	200	7.9	192	30.0	392	12.3	94	7.4	100	30.4	194	12.2	107	8.1	119	36.2	226	13.7
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	42	1.7	-	-	42	1.3	22	1.7	-	-	22	1.4	23	1.7	1	0.3	24	1.5
Craft and related trades workers	680	26.7	8	1.3	688	21.6	351	27.8	3	0.9	354	22.2	329	24.8	7	2.1	336	20.3
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	326	12.8	45	7.0	371	11.7	181	14.3	24	7.3	205	12.9	180	13.6	17	5.2	197	11.9
Elementary occupations	792	31.1	149	23.3	941	29.6	363	28.7	73	22.2	436	27.4	407	30.7	74	22.5	481	29.1
Total	2,543	100.0	639	100.0	3,182	100.0	1,264	100.0	329	100.0	1,593	100.0	1,324	100.0	329	100.0	1,653	100.0

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

Age group	2017						January-June 2017						January-June 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
15-24	301	11.8	95	14.9	396	12.4	128	10.1	45	13.7	173	10.9	147	11.1	39	11.9	186	11.3
25-34	630	24.8	168	26.3	798	25.1	302	23.9	91	27.7	393	24.7	301	22.7	80	24.3	381	23.0
35-44	665	26.2	135	21.1	800	25.1	348	27.5	57	17.3	405	25.4	375	28.3	88	26.7	463	28.0
45-54	510	20.1	146	22.8	656	20.6	259	20.5	85	25.8	344	21.6	261	19.7	57	17.3	318	19.2
55+	437	17.2	95	14.9	532	16.7	227	18.0	51	15.5	278	17.5	240	18.1	65	19.8	305	18.5
Total	2,543	100.0	639	100.0	3,182	100.0	1,264	100.0	329	100.0	1,593	100.0	1,324	100.0	329	100.0	1,653	100.0

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

Part of body	2017						January-June 2017						January-June 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Head	266	10.5	61	9.5	327	10.3	151	11.9	35	10.6	186	11.7	149	11.3	31	9.4	180	10.9
Neck, including spine and vertebra in the neck	64	2.5	28	4.4	92	2.9	25	2.0	19	5.8	44	2.8	43	3.2	15	4.6	58	3.5
Back, including spine and vertebra in the back	231	9.1	54	8.5	285	9.0	112	8.9	30	9.1	142	8.9	99	7.5	36	10.9	135	8.2
Torso and organs	119	4.7	33	5.2	152	4.8	54	4.3	16	4.9	70	4.4	64	4.8	7	2.1	71	4.3
Upper extremities	1,173	46.1	266	41.6	1,439	45.2	567	44.9	130	39.5	697	43.8	611	46.1	146	44.4	757	45.8
Lower extremities	649	25.5	181	28.3	830	26.1	328	25.9	91	27.7	419	26.3	331	25.0	87	26.4	418	25.3
Wholebody and multiple sites	12	0.5	4	0.6	16	0.5	10	0.8	2	0.6	12	0.8	7	0.5	2	0.6	9	0.5
Other parts of body injured, not mentioned above	4	0.2	3	0.5	7	0.2	3	0.2	2	0.6	5	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not specified	25	1.0	9	1.4	34	1.1	14	1.1	4	1.2	18	1.1	20	1.5	5	1.5	25	1.5
Total	2,543	100.0	639	100.0	3,182	100.0	1,264	100.0	329	100.0	1,593	100.0	1,324	100.0	329	100.0	1,653	100.0

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

Type of injury	2017						January-June 2017						January-June 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Wounds and superficial injuries	1,472	57.9	332	52.0	1,804	56.7	717	56.7	166	50.5	883	55.4	805	60.8	175	53.2	980	59.3
Bone fractures	279	11.0	69	10.8	348	10.9	156	12.3	32	9.7	188	11.8	159	12.0	31	9.4	190	11.5
Dislocations, sprains, and strains	630	24.8	176	27.5	806	25.3	311	24.6	96	29.2	407	25.5	283	21.4	91	27.7	374	22.6
Traumatic amputations	7	0.3	2	0.3	9	0.3	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.1	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1
Concussions and internal injuries	21	0.8	11	1.7	32	1.0	11	0.9	6	1.8	17	1.1	17	1.3	6	1.8	23	1.4
Burns, scalds and frostbites	89	3.5	24	3.8	113	3.6	40	3.2	14	4.3	54	3.4	43	3.2	14	4.3	57	3.4
Poisonings and infections	12	0.5	-	-	12	0.4	6	0.5	-	-	6	0.4	9	0.7	-	-	9	0.5
Drowning and asphyxiations	4	0.2	4	0.6	8	0.3	2	0.2	2	0.6	4	0.3	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1
Effects of sound and vibration	1	0.0	1	0.2	2	0.1	1.0	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Effects of temperature extremes, light and radiation	2	0.1	1	0.2	3	0.1	-	-	1	0.3	1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shock	10	0.4	8	1.3	18	0.6	3	0.2	3	0.9	6	0.4	2	0.2	9	2.7	11	0.7
Multiple injuries	2	0.1	1	0.2	3	0.1	2	0.2	1	0.3	3	0.2	1	0.1	1	0.3	2	0.1
Other specified injuries not included under other headings	2	0.1	1	0.2	3	0.1	2	0.2	1	0.3	3	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not specified	12	0.5	9	1.4	21	0.7	11	0.9	7	2.1	18	1.1	3	0.2	2	0.6	5	0.3
Total	2,543	100.0	639	100.0	3,182	100.0	1,264	100.0	329	100.0	1,593	100.0	1,324	100.0	329	100.0	1,653	100.0

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

District	2017						January-June 2017						January-June 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Southern Harbour	841	33.1	226	35.4	1,067	33.5	414	32.8	115	35.0	529	33.2	482	36.4	110	33.4	592	35.8
Northern Harbour	757	29.8	255	39.9	1,012	31.8	380	30.1	136	41.3	516	32.4	365	27.6	132	40.1	497	30.1
South Eastern	340	13.4	40	6.3	380	11.9	183	14.5	24	7.3	207	13.0	190	14.4	25	7.6	215	13.0
Western	246	9.7	37	5.8	283	8.9	112	8.9	19	5.8	131	8.2	107	8.1	26	7.9	133	8.0
Northern	305	12.0	70	11.0	375	11.8	152	12.0	32	9.7	184	11.6	159	12.0	31	9.4	190	11.5
Gozo and Comino	54	2.1	11	1.7	65	2.0	23	1.8	3	0.9	26	1.6	21	1.6	5	1.5	26	1.6
Total	2,543	100.0	639	100.0	3,182	100.0	1,264	100.0	329	100.0	1,593	100.0	1,324	100.0	329	100.0	1,653	100.0

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

Employment size	2017 (Revised)						January-June 2017 (Revised)						January-June 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Self-employed without employees	89	3.5	5	0.8	94	3.0	55	4.4	3	0.9	58	3.6	63	4.8	1	0.3	64	3.9
1-9 employees	229	9.0	15	2.3	244	7.7	100	7.9	6	1.8	106	6.7	102	7.7	13	4.0	115	7.0
10-49 employees	467	18.4	50	7.8	517	16.2	210	16.6	30	9.1	240	15.1	247	18.7	28	8.5	275	16.6
50-249 employees	646	25.4	172	26.9	818	25.7	322	25.5	81	24.6	403	25.3	308	23.3	105	31.9	413	25.0
250-499 employees	327	12.9	91	14.2	418	13.1	175	13.8	45	13.7	220	13.8	184	13.9	43	13.1	227	13.7
500 employees or more	738	29.0	302	47.3	1,040	32.7	375	29.7	162	49.2	537	33.7	404	30.5	135	41.0	539	32.6
Not specified	47	1.8	4	0.6	51	1.6	27	2.1	2	0.6	29	1.8	16	1.2	4	1.2	20	1.2
Total	2,543	100.0	639	100.0	3,182	100.0	1,264	100.0	329	100.0	1,593	100.0	1,324	100.0	329	100.0	1,653	100.0

Note: Refer to methodological note 7.

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

Employment status	2017						January-June 2017						January-June 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Self-employed	186	7.3	10	1.6	196	6.2	86	6.8	5	1.5	91	5.7	100	7.6	5	1.5	105	6.4
Full-time employee	2,265	89.1	565	88.4	2,830	88.9	1,128	89.2	295	89.7	1,423	89.3	1,184	89.4	296	90.0	1,480	89.5
Part-time employee	92	3.6	64	10.0	156	4.9	50	4.0	29	8.8	79	5.0	40	3.0	28	8.5	68	4.1
Total	2,543	100.0	639	100.0	3,182	100.0	1,264	100.0	329	100.0	1,593	100.0	1,324	100.0	329	100.0	1,653	100.0

Table 9. Standardised non-fatal accidents at work by economic activity of enterprise¹: 2017

Economic activity (NACE Rev. 2)	2017		
	No. of employed persons ²	No. of non-fatal accidents	Standardised Incidence Rate (per 100,000 workers)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,154	25	12
Mining and quarrying	:	5	:
Manufacturing	25,448	539	254
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	:	2	:
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	2,091	86	40
Construction	14,255	485	228
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	30,186	299	141
Transportation and storage	12,368	449	211
Accommodation and food service activities	15,542	278	131
Information and communication	7,752	22	10
Financial and insurance activities	11,257	21	10
Real estate activities	2,297	9	4
Professional, scientific and technical activities	10,596	50	24
Administrative and support service activities	10,206	325	153
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	15,549	181	85
Education	19,562	83	39
Human health and social work activities	19,447	256	121
Arts, entertainment and recreation	7,895	16	8
Other service activities	4,024	24	11
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	772 ^u	-	-
Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	683 ^u	1	0.5 ^u
Not specified	:	26	:
Total	212,382	3,182	1,498

¹ Refer to methodological note 4.

² Source: Annual Labour Force Survey 2017

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Methodological Notes

1. An accident at work is defined as a discrete occurrence during the course of work which leads to physical or mental harm.
2. Fatal accidents at work are accidents that lead to death of the victim within 1 year.
3. Data on non-fatal accidents at work is provided by the Department of Social Security, while data on fatal accidents at work is provided by the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA).
4. The standardised incidence rate is defined as the weighted sum of the number of accidents at work per 100,000 persons in employment.
5. Revisions to the previous year's data are carried out annually on publication of the first quarter data and of subsequent quarters of the following year.
6. 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.
7. From 2017, data regarding the size of enterprise has been revised and aligned to information obtained from registered data.
8. District classification:

For aggregation purposes, all localities are 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, Xgħajra.

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, Ġharb, Ġhasri, Ta' Kerċem, Munxar, Nadur, Qala, San Lawrenz, Ta' Sannat, Xagħra, Xewkija, Żebbuġ.

9. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
10. A detailed news release calendar is available on https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx
11. Key:
 - : Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.
 - ^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.