

01 February 2019 | 1100 hrs | 016/2019

During the second half of 2018, the number of claims in respect of non-fatal accidents at work increased by 10, or 0.6 per cent, when compared to the corresponding period in 2017. Three fatal accidents at work were reported in the same period.

Accidents at Work: July-December 2018

Non-fatal accidents

Administrative records show that 1,599 persons were involved in a non-fatal accident at work in the last six months of 2018.

The majority of these non-fatal accidents occurred in the manufacturing sector and amounted to 282 or 17.6 per cent. Another 233 or 14.6 per cent of the accidents occurred in the construction sector, followed by 228 or 14.3 per cent accidents in the transport and storage sector. When compared to the same period in 2017, the number of accidents decreased by 33 in accommodation and food service activities and increased by 20 in the administration and support service 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 (45.1 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 991 and 388 cases respectively (Table 5).

In the second half of 2018, nearly 34 per cent of the accidents at work took place in enterprises with more than 500 employees (Table 7).

In 2018, 1,400 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 activities (Table 9).

Fatal accidents

Between July and December 2018, the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA) reported three fatal accidents at work. There were no fatalities at work in the corresponding period of 2017.

Data for 2018 (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)	2018						July-December 2017 (Revised)						July-December 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	47	1.8	4	0.6	51	1.6	15	1.2	-	-	15	0.9	27	2.1	1	0.3	28	1.8
Mining and quarrying	5	0.2	-	-	5	0.2	3	0.2	-	-	3	0.2	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.1
Manufacturing	498	19.1	45	7.0	543	16.7	264	20.6	18	5.8	282	17.7	256	20.0	26	8.2	282	17.6
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	15	0.6	-	-	15	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	1.2	-	-	15	0.9
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	95	3.6	-	-	95	2.9	44	3.4	1	0.3	45	2.8	55	4.3	-	-	55	3.4
Construction	478	18.3	4	0.6	482	14.8	241	18.8	2	0.6	243	15.3	230	17.9	3	0.9	233	14.6
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	257	9.9	64	9.9	321	9.9	134	10.5	28	9.0	162	10.2	124	9.7	32	10.1	156	9.8
Transportation and storage	394	15.1	60	9.3	454	14.0	175	13.7	37	11.9	212	13.3	194	15.1	34	10.7	228	14.3
Accommodation and food service activities	185	7.1	71	11.0	256	7.9	114	8.9	38	12.3	152	9.6	76	5.9	43	13.6	119	7.4
Information and communication	19	0.7	4	0.6	23	0.7	13	1.0	1	0.3	14	0.9	5	0.4	2	0.6	7	0.4
Financial and insurance activities	9	0.3	7	1.1	16	0.5	6	0.5	5	1.6	11	0.7	6	0.5	5	1.6	11	0.7
Real estate activities	15	0.6	5	0.8	20	0.6	4	0.3	1	0.3	5	0.3	9	0.7	1	0.3	10	0.6
Professional, scientific and technical activities	44	1.7	14	2.2	58	1.8	20	1.6	5	1.6	25	1.6	15	1.2	8	2.5	23	1.4
Administrative and support service activities	279	10.7	100	15.5	379	11.7	121	9.5	34	11.0	155	9.8	128	10.0	47	14.8	175	10.9
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	119	4.6	54	8.4	173	5.3	54	4.2	27	8.7	81	5.1	55	4.3	14	4.4	69	4.3
Education	13	0.5	40	6.2	53	1.6	14	1.1	22	7.1	36	2.3	8	0.6	12	3.8	20	1.3
Human health and social work activities	69	2.6	160	24.8	229	7.0	43	3.4	86	27.7	129	8.1	38	3.0	86	27.1	124	7.8
Arts, entertainment and recreation	19	0.7	4	0.6	23	0.7	6	0.5	2	0.6	8	0.5	7	0.5	-	-	7	0.4
Other service activities	30	1.2	6	0.9	36	1.1	8	0.6	2	0.6	10	0.6	17	1.3	2	0.6	19	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	0.0	-	-	1	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1
Not specified	15	0.6	4	0.6	19	0.6	-	-	1	0.3	1	0.1	14	1.1	1	0.3	15	0.9
Total	2,606	100.0	646	100.0	3,252	100.0	1,279	100.0	310	100.0	1,589	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0

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

Occupations (ISCO-08)	2018						July-December 2017						July-December 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed forces	21	0.8	1	0.2	22	0.7	5	0.4	1	0.3	6	0.4	9	0.7	-	-	9	0.6
Managers	21	0.8	8	1.2	29	0.9	8	0.6	2	0.6	10	0.6	11	0.9	4	1.3	15	0.9
Professionals	71	2.7	107	16.6	178	5.5	29	2.3	52	16.8	81	5.1	36	2.8	44	13.9	80	5.0
Technicians and associate professionals	273	10.5	49	7.6	322	9.9	167	13.1	29	9.4	196	12.3	116	9.0	27	8.5	143	8.9
Clerical support workers	115	4.4	50	7.7	165	5.1	41	3.2	32	10.3	73	4.6	51	4.0	29	9.1	80	5.0
Service and sales workers	189	7.3	223	34.5	412	12.7	106	8.3	92	29.7	198	12.5	82	6.4	104	32.8	186	11.6
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	53	2.0	1	0.2	54	1.7	20	1.6	-	-	20	1.3	30	2.3	-	-	30	1.9
Craft and related trades workers	668	25.6	12	1.9	680	20.9	329	25.7	5	1.6	334	21.0	339	26.4	5	1.6	344	21.5
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	358	13.7	34	5.3	392	12.1	145	11.3	21	6.8	166	10.4	178	13.9	17	5.4	195	12.2
Elementary occupations	837	32.1	161	24.9	998	30.7	429	33.5	76	24.5	505	31.8	430	33.5	87	27.4	517	32.3
Total	2,606	100.0	646	100.0	3,252	100.0	1,279	100.0	310	100.0	1,589	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0

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

Age-group	2018						July-December 2017						July-December 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
15-24	278	10.7	88	13.6	366	11.3	173	13.5	50	16.1	223	14.0	131	10.2	49	15.5	180	11.3
25-34	591	22.7	180	27.9	771	23.7	328	25.6	77	24.8	405	25.5	290	22.6	100	31.5	390	24.4
35-44	741	28.4	136	21.1	877	27.0	317	24.8	78	25.2	395	24.9	366	28.5	48	15.1	414	25.9
45-54	527	20.2	129	20.0	656	20.2	251	19.6	61	19.7	312	19.6	266	20.7	72	22.7	338	21.1
55+	469	18.0	113	17.5	582	17.9	210	16.4	44	14.2	254	16.0	229	17.9	48	15.1	277	17.3
Total	2,606	100.0	646	100.0	3,252	100.0	1,279	100.0	310	100.0	1,589	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0

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

Part of body	2018						July-December 2017						July-December 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Head	304	11.7	62	9.6	366	11.3	115	9.0	26	8.4	141	8.9	155	12.1	31	9.8	186	11.6
Neck, including spine and vertebra in the neck	62	2.4	30	4.6	92	2.8	39	3.0	9	2.9	48	3.0	19	1.5	15	4.7	34	2.1
Back, including spine and vertebra in the back	220	8.4	56	8.7	276	8.5	119	9.3	24	7.7	143	9.0	121	9.4	20	6.3	141	8.8
Torso and organs	126	4.8	19	2.9	145	4.5	65	5.1	17	5.5	82	5.2	62	4.8	12	3.8	74	4.6
Upper extremities	1,192	45.7	286	44.3	1,478	45.4	606	47.4	136	43.9	742	46.7	581	45.3	140	44.2	721	45.1
Lower extremities	649	24.9	177	27.4	826	25.4	321	25.1	90	29.0	411	25.9	318	24.8	90	28.4	408	25.5
Wholebody and multiple sites	24	0.9	5	0.8	29	0.9	2	0.2	2	0.6	4	0.3	17	1.3	3	0.9	20	1.3
Other parts of body injured, not mentioned above	1	0.0	2	0.3	3	0.1	1	0.1	1	0.3	2	0.1	1	0.1	2.0	0.6	3.0	0.2
Not specified	28	1.1	9	1.4	37	1.1	11	0.9	5	1.6	16	1.0	8	0.6	4	1.3	12	0.8
Total	2,606	100.0	646	100.0	3,252	100.0	1,279	100.0	310	100.0	1,589	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0

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

Type of injury	2018						July-December 2017						July-December 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Wounds and superficial injuries	1,555	59.7	336	52.0	1,891	58.1	755	59.0	166	53.5	921	58.0	750	58.5	161	50.8	911	57.0
Bone fractures	306	11.7	70	10.8	376	11.6	123	9.6	37	11.9	160	10.1	147	11.5	39	12.3	186	11.6
Dislocations, sprains, and strains	589	22.6	173	26.8	762	23.4	319	24.9	80	25.8	399	25.1	306	23.9	82	25.9	388	24.3
Traumatic amputations	2	0.1	-	-	2	0.1	5	0.4	2	0.6	7	0.4	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1
Concussions and internal injuries	30	1.2	12	1.9	42	1.3	10	0.8	5	1.6	15	0.9	13	1.0	6	1.9	19	1.2
Burns, scalds and frostbites	85	3.3	26	4.0	111	3.4	49	3.8	10	3.2	59	3.7	42	3.3	12	3.8	54	3.4
Poisonings and infections	12	0.5	2	0.3	14	0.4	6	0.5	-	-	6	0.4	3	0.2	2	0.6	5	0.3
Drowning and asphyxiations	3	0.1	-	-	3	0.1	2	0.2	2	0.6	4	0.3	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.1
Effects of sound and vibration	2	0.1	-	-	2	0.1	-	-	1	0.3	1	0.1	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.1
Effects of temperature extremes, light and radiation	2	0.1	1	0.2	3	0.1	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.1	2	0.2	1	0.3	3	0.2
Shock	7	0.3	16	2.5	23	0.7	7	0.5	5	1.6	12	0.8	5	0.4	7	2.2	12	0.8
Multiple injuries	1	0.0	1	0.2	2	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other specified injuries not included under other headings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not specified	12	0.5	9	1.4	21	0.6	1	0.1	2	0.6	3	0.2	9	0.7	7	2.2	16	1.0
Total	2,606	100.0	646	100.0	3,252	100.0	1,279	100.0	310	100.0	1,589	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0

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

District	2018						July-December 2017						July-December 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Southern Harbour	967	37.1	230	35.6	1,197	36.8	427	33.4	111	35.8	538	33.9	485	37.8	120	37.9	605	37.8
Northern Harbour	716	27.5	233	36.1	949	29.2	377	29.5	119	38.4	496	31.2	351	27.4	101	31.9	452	28.3
South Eastern	332	12.7	55	8.5	387	11.9	157	12.3	16	5.2	173	10.9	142	11.1	30	9.5	172	10.8
Western	223	8.6	50	7.7	273	8.4	134	10.5	18	5.8	152	9.6	116	9.0	24	7.6	140	8.8
Northern	328	12.6	73	11.3	401	12.3	153	12.0	38	12.3	191	12.0	169	13.2	42	13.2	211	13.2
Gozo and Comino	40	1.5	5	0.8	45	1.4	31	2.4	8	2.6	39	2.5	19	1.5	-	-	19	1.2
Total	2,606	100.0	646	100.0	3,252	100.0	1,279	100.0	310	100.0	1,589	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0

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

Employment size	2018						July-December 2017 (Revised)						July-December 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Self-employed without employees	133	5.1	4	0.6	137	4.2	34	2.7	2	0.6	36	2.3	70	5.5	3	0.9	73	4.6
1-9 employees	217	8.3	33	5.1	250	7.7	129	10.1	9	2.9	138	8.7	115	9.0	20	6.3	135	8.4
10-49 employees	454	17.4	56	8.7	510	15.7	257	20.1	20	6.5	277	17.4	207	16.1	28	8.8	235	14.7
50-249 employees	666	25.6	171	26.5	837	25.7	335	26.2	91	29.4	426	26.8	341	26.6	65	20.5	406	25.4
250-499 employees	323	12.4	78	12.1	401	12.3	141	11.0	46	14.8	187	11.8	156	12.2	36	11.4	192	12.0
500 employees or more	780	29.9	299	46.3	1,079	33.2	363	28.4	140	45.2	503	31.7	376	29.3	164	51.7	540	33.8
Not specified	33	1.3	5	0.8	38	1.2	20	1.6	2	0.6	22	1.4	17	1.3	1	0.3	18	1.1
Total	2,606	100.0	646	100.0	3,252	100.0	1,279	100.0	310	100.0	1,589	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0

Refer to Methodological Note

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

Employment status	2018						July-December 2017						July-December 2018					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Self-employed	208	8.0	9	1.4	217	6.7	100	7.8	5	1.6	105	6.6	108	8.4	4	1.3	112	7.0
Full-time employee	2,332	89.5	580	89.8	2,912	89.5	1,137	88.9	270	87.1	1,407	88.5	1,148	89.5	284	89.6	1,432	89.6
Part-time employee	66	2.5	57	8.8	123	3.8	42	3.3	35	11.3	77	4.8	26	2.0	29	9.1	55	3.4
Total	2,606	100.0	646	100.0	3,252	100.0	1,279	100.0	310	100.0	1,589	100.0	1,282	100.0	317	100.0	1,599	100.0

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

Economic activity (NACE Rev. 2)	2018		
	No. of employed persons ²	No. of non-fatal accidents	Standardised Incidence Rate (per 100,000 workers)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,562	51	22
Mining and quarrying	:	5	:
Manufacturing	26,809	543	234
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	:	15	:
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	1,732	95	41
Construction	14,578	482	207
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	30,867	321	138
Transportation and storage	13,210	454	195
Accommodation and food service activities	16,533	256	110
Information and communication	9,222	23	10
Financial and insurance activities	11,652	16	7
Real estate activities	2,896	20	9
Professional, scientific and technical activities	12,497	58	25
Administrative and support service activities	11,307	379	163
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	16,138	173	74
Education	21,398	53	23
Human health and social work activities	22,144	229	99
Arts, entertainment and recreation	9,993	23	10
Other service activities	5,420	36	15
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	2,085 ^u	-	-
Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	1,060 ^u	1	0.4 ^u
Not specified	:	19	:
Total	232,306	3,252	1,400

⁽¹⁾ Refer to methodological note 5.

⁽²⁾ Source: Quarter 1 to quarter 3 Labour Force Survey 2018.

: 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.
4. District classification:

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

A. Southern Harbour

Valletta, Vittoriosa, Senglea, Cospicua, Ғaḡ-Ḃabbar, Fgura, Floriana, Kalkara, Ғal Luqa, Marsa, Paola, Santa Luċija, Tarxien, Xgħajra.

B. Northern Harbour

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

C. South Eastern

Ḃejtun, Birżebbuġa, Gudja, Ғal Għaxaq, Ғal Kirkop, Marsaskala, Marsaxlokk, Mqabba, Qrendi, Ғal Safi, Żurrieq.

D. Western

Mdina, Ғaḡ-Ḃebbuġ, Siġġiewi, Ғ'Attard, Ғal Balzan, Ғad-Dingli, Iklin, Ғal Lija, Rabat, Mtarfa.

E. Northern

Ғal Għarghur, Mellieħa, Mġarr, Mosta, Naxxar, St Paul's Bay.

F. Gozo and Comino

Victoria, Fontana, Għajnsielem, Għarb, Għasri, 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. A detailed news release calendar is available on:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx