

News Release



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Labour Market

Accidents at work: Q2/2007

At 1,079, non-fatal accidents at work decreased by 1.4 per cent when compared to the same quarter in the preceding year. There were three fatal accidents at work during the period under review.

Non-Fatal Accidents

This news release looks into the accidents at work that were reported to the Department of Social Security (DSS) as from April to June 2007. The administrative records for the injury benefit of the DSS indicate that 1,079 persons had an accident in the course of their work in the period under review. Accordingly, the number of accidents in the second quarter of this year decreased by 15 (1.4 per cent) over the same period in the preceding year (Table 1).

Many work-related accidents occurred in the economic sectors of manufacturing (33.4 per cent), construction (15.2 per cent), transport, storage, and communication (9.9 per cent), and wholesale and retail trade (9.3 per cent) (Table 2).

Accidents at work mostly concern people employed in elementary occupations and craft/trades work. The given statistics indicate that 545 cases (50.5 per cent) concerned people in elementary occupations, while 221 cases (20.5 per cent) affected people in craft/trades work, as shown in Table 3.

In the period under review, 41.0 per cent of accidents at work occurred to persons who were under 35 years of age. The data indicate that 443 of these accidents occurred to persons in this age cohort (Table 4).

The data also indicate that most work-related injuries occur in the upper extremities of the body. Wounds and superficial injuries are the most common types of injuries. Actually, wounds and superficial injuries featured in 455 (42.2 per cent) of these mishaps (Tables 5 and 6).

Fatal Accidents

The Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA) reported that in April to June 2007 there were three fatalities at work. During the same period in the preceding year, one man died at work ■

Table 1. Accidents at work by sex of victims

Sex	April-June 2006 (Revised)		April-June 2007	
	No	%	No	%
Males	962	87.9	958	88.8
Females	132	12.1	121	11.2
Total	1,094	100.0	1,079	100.0

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Table 2. Accidents at work by economic activity of enterprise

Economic Activity	April-June 2006 (Revised)						April-June 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry	14	1.5	2	1.5	16	1.4	8	0.8	-	-	8	0.7
Fishing	4	0.4	-	-	4	0.4	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2
Mining and Quarrying	12	1.2	-	-	12	1.1	11	1.2	-	-	11	1.0
Manufacturing	327	34.0	24	18.2	351	32.1	328	34.2	33	27.3	361	33.4
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	38	4.0	-	-	38	3.5	45	4.7	2	1.7	47	4.4
Construction	176	18.3	1	0.8	177	16.2	163	17.0	1	0.8	164	15.2
Wholesale and retail trade, repairs	85	8.8	6	4.5	91	8.3	93	9.7	7	5.8	100	9.3
Hotels and Restaurants	74	7.7	16	12.1	90	8.2	62	6.5	12	9.9	74	6.9
Transport, Storage and Communication	80	8.3	11	8.3	91	8.3	102	10.7	5	4.1	107	9.9
Financial Intermediation	1	0.1	1	0.8	2	0.2	3	0.3	1	0.8	4	0.4
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	44	4.6	6	4.5	50	4.6	42	4.4	4	3.3	46	4.3
Public Admin. and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	60	6.2	5	3.8	65	5.9	49	5.1	4	3.3	53	4.9
Education	11	1.1	17	12.9	28	2.5	7	0.7	11	9.1	18	1.7
Health and Social Work	20	2.1	41	31.0	61	5.6	24	2.5	38	31.4	62	5.7
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	13	1.4	1	0.8	14	1.3	6	0.6	1	0.8	7	0.6
Private Households with Employed Persons	-	-	1	0.8	1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extra-territorial Organisations and Bodies	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2	13	1.4	2	1.7	15	1.4
Total	962	100.0	132	100.0	1,094	100.0	958	100.0	121	100.0	1,079	100.0

Table 3. Accidents at work by occupation of victim

Occupations	April-June 2006 (Revised)						April-June 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Armed Forces	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2	9	0.9	-	-	9	0.8
Legislators, senior officials and managers	10	1.0	1	0.8	11	1.0	3	0.3	2	1.7	5	0.5
Professionals	19	2.0	29	22.0	48	4.4	27	2.8	28	23.0	55	5.1
Technicians and associate professionals	31	3.2	5	3.8	36	3.3	33	3.5	-	-	33	3.1
Clerks	31	3.2	11	8.3	42	3.8	21	2.2	6	5.0	27	2.5
Service workers and market and sales workers	79	8.2	12	9.1	91	8.3	68	7.1	10	8.3	78	7.2
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	18	1.9	-	-	18	1.6	10	1.0	-	-	10	0.9
Craft and related trades workers	232	24.1	2	1.5	234	21.4	221	23.1	-	-	221	20.5
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	100	10.4	7	5.3	107	9.8	81	8.5	15	12.4	96	8.9
Elementary occupations	440	45.8	65	49.2	505	46.2	485	50.6	60	49.6	545	50.5
Total	962	100.0	132	100.0	1,094	100.0	958	100.0	121	100.0	1,079	100.0

Table 4. Accidents at work by age group of victim

Age group	April-June 2006 (Revised)						April-June 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
15-24	180	18.7	30	22.7	210	19.2	154	16.1	33	27.3	187	17.3
25-34	270	28.1	34	25.8	304	27.8	224	23.4	32	26.4	256	23.7
35-44	210	21.8	25	18.9	235	21.5	223	23.3	19	15.7	242	22.4
45-54	208	21.6	30	22.7	238	21.7	243	25.3	25	20.7	268	24.9
55+	94	9.8	13	9.9	107	9.8	114	11.9	12	9.9	126	11.7
Total	962	100.0	132	100.0	1,094	100.0	958	100.0	121	100.0	1,079	100.0

Table 5. Part of body injured in accidents at work

Part of body	April-June 2006 (Revised)						April-June 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Part of body injured, not specified	8	0.8	-	-	8	0.7	10	1.0	2	1.7	12	1.1
Head	86	8.9	5	3.8	91	8.3	102	10.6	4	3.3	106	9.8
Neck, inclusive of spine and vertebra in the neck	20	2.1	9	6.8	29	2.6	21	2.2	9	7.4	30	2.8
Back, including spine and vertebra in the back	78	8.1	9	6.8	87	8.0	70	7.3	9	7.4	79	7.3
Torso and Organs	42	4.4	5	3.8	47	4.3	26	2.7	7	5.8	33	3.1
Upper Extremities	445	46.3	64	48.5	509	46.5	427	44.6	59	48.8	486	45.1
Lower Extremities	218	22.7	29	22.0	247	22.6	219	22.9	22	18.2	241	22.3
Wholebody and multiple Sites	62	6.4	11	8.3	73	6.7	81	8.5	9	7.4	90	8.3
Other parts of body injured, not mentioned above	3	0.3	-	-	3	0.3	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2
Total	962	100.0	132	100.0	1,094	100.0	958	100.0	121	100.0	1,079	100.0

Table 6. Accidents at work by type of injury

Type of Injury	April-June 2006 (Revised)						April-June 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Type of injury unknown	78	8.1	12	9.0	90	8.2	67	7.0	12	9.9	79	7.3
Wounds and superficial injuries	438	45.5	50	37.9	488	44.6	401	41.9	54	44.7	455	42.2
Bone fractures	105	10.9	17	12.9	122	11.1	90	9.4	12	9.9	102	9.5
Dislocations, Sprains, and Strains	263	27.4	40	30.3	303	27.7	291	30.4	34	28.1	325	30.1
Traumatic Amputations	5	0.5	-	-	5	0.5	3	0.3	-	-	3	0.3
Concussions and Internal Injuries	8	0.8	2	1.5	10	0.9	8	0.8	-	-	8	0.7
Burns, Scalds and Frostbites	35	3.7	9	6.8	44	4.0	45	4.7	4	3.3	49	4.5
Poisonings and Infections	2	0.2	1	0.8	3	0.3	4	0.4	1	0.8	5	0.5
Drowning and Asphyxiations	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Effects of Sound and Vibration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Effects of temperature extremes, light and radiation	3	0.3	-	-	3	0.3	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1
Shock	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	4	0.4	-	-	4	0.4
Multiple Injuries	23	2.4	1	0.8	24	2.2	44	4.6	4	3.3	48	4.4
Other specified injuries not included under other headings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	962	100.0	132	100.0	1,094	100.0	958	100.0	121	100.0	1,079	100.0

Table 7. Accidents at work by district of enterprise

District	April-June 2006 (Revised)						April-June 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Southern Harbour	421	43.8	67	50.7	488	44.6	426	44.5	54	44.6	480	44.5
Southern Eastern	82	8.5	15	11.4	97	8.9	104	10.8	7	5.8	111	10.3
Northern Harbour	248	25.8	32	24.2	280	25.6	243	25.4	44	36.4	287	26.6
Western	69	7.2	8	6.1	77	7.0	62	6.5	5	4.1	67	6.2
Northern	117	12.1	7	5.3	124	11.3	108	11.3	11	9.1	119	11.0
Gozo and Comino	25	2.6	3	2.3	28	2.6	15	1.5	-	-	15	1.4
Total	962	100.0	132	100.0	1,094	100.0	958	100.0	121	100.0	1,079	100.0

Table 8. Size of enterprise where the accidents occurred

Employment Size	April-June 2006 (Revised)						April-June 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Self-employed without employees	45	4.7	-	-	45	4.1	59	6.2	-	-	59	5.5
1-9 employees	103	10.7	8	6.1	111	10.1	98	10.2	2	1.7	100	9.3
10-49 employees	170	17.7	9	6.8	179	16.4	154	16.1	12	9.9	166	15.4
50-249 employees	218	22.7	44	33.3	262	23.9	215	22.4	42	34.7	257	23.8
250-499 employees	129	13.4	10	7.6	139	12.7	76	7.9	12	9.9	88	8.1
500 employees or more	293	30.4	61	46.2	354	32.4	345	36.0	50	41.3	395	36.6
Unknown size	4	0.4	-	-	4	0.4	11	1.2	3	2.5	14	1.3
Total	962	100.0	132	100.0	1,094	100.0	958	100.0	121	100.0	1,079	100.0

Table 9. Employment Status of the Victims

Employment Status	April-June 2006 (Revised)						April-June 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Self-employed	62	6.4	-	-	62	5.7	86	9.0	2	1.6	88	8.2
Full-time employees	883	91.8	112	84.8	995	90.9	860	89.8	104	86.0	964	89.3
Part-time employees	17	1.8	20	15.2	37	3.4	12	1.2	15	12.4	27	2.5
Total	962	100.0	132	100.0	1,094	100.0	958	100.0	121	100.0	1,079	100.0

Methodological Notes

1. The data in this release were extracted from the administrative records of the Department of Social Security.
2. Revisions to the previous year's data are carried out annually in the first and subsequent quarters of the following year.

NUTS classification

The Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS) is a common classification that is used to provide a single uniform breakdown of territorial units for the production of regional statistics with regard to the European Union. It was adopted on 26 May 2003 by means of a Regulation¹ of the European Parliament and of the Council.

¹ (EC) No. 1059/2003

NUTS levels					
Administrative area	I (National)	II (National)	III (Regional)	IV (District)	V (Locality)
MALTA	x	x	x	x	x
Malta			x		
Gozo & Comino			x		
Southern Harbour				x	
Northern Harbour				x	
South Eastern				x	
Western				x	
Northern				x	
Gozo & Comino				x	

COMPOSITION OF DISTRICTS - NUTS level V

- Southern Harbour:** Valletta, Birgu, Isla, Bormla, Żabbar, Fgura, Floriana, Kalkara, Luqa, Marsa Paola, Santa Luċġja, Tarxien, Xgħajra.
- Northern Harbour:** Qormi, B'Kara, Gżira, Hamrun, Msida, Pembroke, Pieta, San Ġiljan, San Ġwann, Santa Venera, Sliema, Swieqi, Ta' Xbiex.
- South Eastern:** Żejtun, B'Bugia, Gudja, Għaxaq, Kirkop, M'Scala, M'Xlokk, Mqabba, Qrendi, Safi, Żurrieq.
- Western:** Mdina, Żebbuġ, Siġġiewi, Attard, Balzan, Dingli, Iklin, Lija, Rabat, Mtarfa.
- Northern:** Ghargħur, Mellieħa, Mġarr, Mosta, Naxxar, San Pawl il-Baħar.
- Gozo and Comino:** Rabat, Fontana, G'Sielem & Comino, Għarb, Għasri, Kerċem, Munxar, Nadur, Qala, San Lawrenz, Sannat, Xagħra, Xewkija, Żebbuġ.