

News Release



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Compiled by:

Labour Statistics Unit
e-mail: labourmarket.nso@gov.mt
Tel: 25997669

Labour Market

Accidents at work: October-December 2006

At 1,014, the non-fatal accidents at work increased by 9.2 per cent when compared to the same quarter in the preceding year. In addition, one man died 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 October to December 2006. The administrative records for the injury benefit of the DSS indicate that 1,014 persons had an accident in the course of their work in the period under review. Accordingly, the number of accidents in the fourth quarter of last year increased by 85 (9.2 per cent) over the same period in the preceding year.

Many of these accidents at work occurred in the economic sectors of manufacturing (34.2 per cent), construction (15.5 per cent), transport, storage, and communications (9.9 per cent), and, wholesale and retail trade (9.1 per cent)

Accidents at work mostly concern people employed in elementary occupations and craft / trades work. In this way, the given statistics indicate that 499 cases (49.2 per cent) concerned people in elementary occupations, while 211 cases (20.8 per cent) affected people in craft / trades work.

In the period October to December 2006, half of the accidents at work occurred to persons who were less than 35 years of age. As a result, the data on hand indicate that 502 (49.5 per cent) of these accidents occurred to this age cohort.

People at work are mostly affected by injuries in the upper extremities of their body. Wounds and superficial injuries are the most common types of injuries. Actually, wounds and superficial injuries featured in 461 (45.5 per cent) of these mishaps.

Fatal Accidents

The Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA) reported that in October to December 2006 one man lost his life at work. During the same period in the preceding year, there were no fatalities at work ■

Table 1. Accidents at work by sex of victims

Sex	October-December 2005 (Revised)		October-December 2006	
	No	%	No	%
Males	812	87.4	891	87.9
Females	117	12.6	123	12.1
Total	929	100.0	1,014	100.0

The monthly calendar of NSO News Releases may be consulted on the Office's website at www.nso.gov.mt

National Statistics Office
Library & Information Unit
Lascaris, Valletta CMR 02, Malta
Tel: (+356) 25997219
Fax: (+356) 25997205
e-mail: nso@gov.mt
<http://www.nso.gov.mt>

Table 2. Accidents at work by economic activity of enterprise

Economic Activity	October-December 2005 (Revised)						October-December 2006					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry	6	0.7	-	-	6	0.7	11	1.2	-	-	11	1.1
Fishing	4	0.5	-	-	4	0.4	7	0.8	-	-	7	0.7
Mining and Quarrying	7	0.9	-	-	7	0.8	8	0.9	-	-	8	0.8
Manufacturing	304	37.5	26	22.2	330	35.5	322	36.1	25	20.3	347	34.2
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	27	3.3	1	0.9	28	3.0	32	3.6	1	0.8	33	3.2
Construction	161	19.8	1	0.9	162	17.4	157	17.6	-	-	157	15.5
Wholesale and retail trade	52	6.4	9	7.7	61	6.6	82	9.2	10	8.1	92	9.1
Hotels and Restaurants	57	7.0	16	13.6	73	7.9	54	6.1	14	11.4	68	6.7
Transport, Storage and Communication	78	9.6	7	6.0	85	9.2	91	10.2	9	7.3	100	9.9
Financial Intermediation	3	0.4	1	0.9	4	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	24	3.0	7	6.0	31	3.3	37	4.2	5	4.1	42	4.1
Public Administration and Defence	40	4.9	3	2.5	43	4.6	49	5.5	8	6.5	57	5.6
Education	9	1.1	10	8.5	19	2.1	5	0.6	7	5.7	12	1.2
Health and Social Work	21	2.6	31	26.5	52	5.6	23	2.6	37	30.1	60	5.9
Other Community, Social and Personal Social Services	14	1.7	4	3.4	18	1.9	9	1.0	5	4.1	14	1.4
Private Households	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extraterritorial	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	4	0.5	1	0.9	5	0.5	4	0.4	2	1.6	6	0.6
Total	812	100.0	117	100.0	929	100.0	891	100.0	123	100.0	1,014	100.0

Table 3. Accidents at work by occupation of victim

Occupations	October-December 2005 (Revised)						October-December 2006					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Armed Forces	11	1.4	-	-	11	1.2	7	0.8	1	0.8	8	0.8
Legislators, senior officials and managers	6	0.7	2	1.7	8	0.9	9	1.0	1	0.8	10	1.0
Professionals	28	3.5	23	19.7	51	5.5	24	2.7	27	22.0	51	5.0
Technicians and associate professionals	32	3.9	-	-	32	3.4	21	2.4	1	0.8	22	2.2
Clerks	17	2.1	13	11.1	30	3.2	30	3.4	5	4.1	35	3.4
Service workers and market and sales workers	66	8.1	11	9.4	77	8.3	58	6.5	14	11.4	72	7.1
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	4	0.5	-	-	4	0.4	10	1.1	1	0.8	11	1.1
Craft and related trades workers	219	27.0	-	-	219	23.6	210	23.6	1	0.8	211	20.8
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	73	9.0	6	5.1	79	8.5	86	9.6	9	7.3	95	9.4
Elementary occupations	356	43.8	62	53.0	418	45.0	436	48.9	63	51.2	499	49.2
Total	812	100.0	117	100.0	929	100.0	891	100.0	123	100.0	1,014	100.0

Table 4. Accidents at work by age group of victim

Age group	October-December 2005 (Revised)						October-December 2006					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
15-24	158	19.5	36	30.8	194	20.9	196	22.0	34	27.6	230	22.7
25-34	208	25.6	26	22.2	234	25.2	237	26.6	35	28.5	272	26.8
35-44	214	26.3	21	17.9	235	25.3	206	23.1	24	19.5	230	22.7
45-54	151	18.6	23	19.7	174	18.7	171	19.2	20	16.3	191	18.8
55+	81	10.0	11	9.4	92	9.9	81	9.1	10	8.1	91	9.0
Total	812	100.0	117	100.0	929	100.0	891	100.0	123	100.0	1,014	100.0

Table 5. Part of body injured in accidents at work

Part of body	October-December 2005 (Revised)						October-December 2006					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Part of body injured, not specified	5	0.6	1	0.9	6	0.6	6	0.7	1	0.8	7	0.7
Head	92	11.3	15	12.8	107	11.5	98	11.0	10	8.1	108	10.6
Neck, inclusive of spine and vertebra in the neck	18	2.2	3	2.6	21	2.3	12	1.3	5	4.1	17	1.7
Back, including spine and vertebra in the back	68	8.4	8	6.8	76	8.2	54	6.1	9	7.3	63	6.2
Torso and Organs	25	3.1	7	6.0	32	3.4	33	3.7	4	3.3	37	3.6
Upper Extremities	374	46.1	55	47.0	429	46.2	407	45.7	57	46.3	464	45.8
Lower Extremities	174	21.4	21	17.9	195	21.0	216	24.2	29	23.6	245	24.2
Wholebody and multiple Sites	54	6.7	7	6.0	61	6.6	64	7.2	8	6.5	72	7.1
Other parts of body injured, not mentioned above	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1
Total	812	100.0	117	100.0	929	100.0	891	100.0	123	100.0	1,014	100.0

Table 6. Accidents at work by type of injury

Type of Injury	October-December 2005 (Revised)						October-December 2006					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Type of injury unknown	65	8.0	11	9.4	76	8.2	44	4.9	12	9.8	56	5.5
Wounds and superficial injuries	351	43.2	47	40.1	398	42.8	409	45.9	52	42.3	461	45.5
Bone fractures	80	9.9	16	13.7	96	10.3	88	9.9	9	7.3	97	9.6
Dislocations, Sprains, and Strains	250	30.8	31	26.5	281	30.3	281	31.5	40	32.5	321	31.6
Traumatic Amputations	2	0.2	4	3.4	6	0.7	7	0.8	-	-	7	0.7
Concussions and Internal Injuries	10	1.3	2	1.7	12	1.3	10	1.1	1	0.8	11	1.1
Burns, Scalds and Frostbites	27	3.3	4	3.4	31	3.3	21	2.4	6	4.9	27	2.7
Poisonings and Infections	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2	-	-	1	0.8	1	0.1
Drowning and Asphyxiations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Effects of Sound and Vibration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Effects of temperature extremes, light and radiation	4	0.5	-	-	4	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shock	-	-	1	0.9	1	0.1	2	0.2	1	0.8	3	0.3
Multiple Injuries	21	2.6	1	0.9	22	2.4	28	3.2	1	0.8	29	2.8
Other specified injuries not included under other headings	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1
Total	812	100.0	117	100.0	929	100.0	891	100.0	123	100.0	1,014	100.0

Table 7. Accidents at work by district of enterprise

District	October-December 2005 (Revised)						October-December 2006					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Southern Harbour	393	48.4	56	47.9	449	48.3	379	42.5	58	47.2	437	43.1
Southern Eastern	70	8.6	10	8.5	80	8.6	111	12.5	13	10.6	124	12.2
Northern Harbour	203	25.0	39	33.3	242	26.1	221	24.8	41	33.3	262	25.8
Western	49	6.0	3	2.6	52	5.6	72	8.1	3	2.4	75	7.4
Northern	86	10.6	7	6.0	93	10.0	91	10.2	7	5.7	98	9.7
Gozo and Comino	11	1.4	2	1.7	13	1.4	17	1.9	1	0.8	18	1.8
Total	812	100.0	117	100.0	929	100.0	891	100.0	123	100.0	1,014	100.0

Table 8. Size of enterprise where the accidents occurred

Employment Size	October-December 2005 (Revised)						October-December 2006					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Self-employed without employees	40	4.9	-	-	40	4.3	59	6.6	1	0.8	60	5.9
1-9 employees	68	8.4	8	6.8	76	8.2	102	11.5	4	3.3	106	10.4
10-49 employees	131	16.1	14	12.0	145	15.6	163	18.3	11	8.9	174	17.2
50-249 employees	192	23.6	44	37.6	236	25.4	195	21.9	34	27.6	229	22.6
250-499 employees	97	12.0	13	11.1	110	11.8	77	8.6	12	9.8	89	8.8
500 employees or more	276	34.0	38	32.5	314	33.8	292	32.8	59	48.0	351	34.6
Unknown size	8	1.0	-	-	8	0.9	3	0.3	2	1.6	5	0.5
Total	812	100.0	117	100.0	929	100.0	891	100.0	123	100.0	1,014	100.0

Table 9. Employment Status of the Victims

Employment Status	October-December 2005 (Revised)						October-December 2006					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Self-employed	55	6.8	-	-	55	5.9	88	9.9	1	0.8	89	8.8
Full-time employees	739	91.0	102	87.2	841	90.5	789	88.5	106	86.2	895	88.2
Part-time employees	18	2.2	15	12.8	33	3.6	14	1.6	16	13.0	30	3.0
Total	812	100.0	117	100.0	929	100.0	891	100.0	123	100.0	1,014	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 Luċija, 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.