

News Release



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Labour Market

Accidents at work: Q3/2007

At 1,179, non-fatal accidents at work decreased by 5.5 per cent when compared to the same quarter in the preceding year. There was one fatal accident 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 July to September 2007. The administrative records for the injury benefit of the DSS indicate that 1,179 persons had an accident in the course of their work in the period under review. Accordingly, the number of accidents in the third quarter of this year decreased by 69 (-5.5 per cent) over the same period in the preceding year (Table 1).

Many work-related accidents occurred in the economic sectors of manufacturing (31.9 per cent), construction (16.1 per cent), transport, storage, and communication (12.6 per cent), and wholesale and retail trade (9.5 per cent) (Table 2).

Accidents at work mostly concern people employed in elementary occupations and craft/trades work. The given statistics indicate that 609 cases (51.6 per cent) concerned people in elementary occupations, while 206 cases (17.5 per cent) affected people in craft/trades work, as shown in Table 3.

In the period under review, 47.8 per cent of accidents at work occurred to persons who were under 35 years of age. The data indicate that 563 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 528 (44.8 per cent) of these mishaps (Tables 5 and 6).

Fatal Accidents

The Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA) reported that in July to September 2007, one man died at work. During the same period in the preceding year, three men died at work ■

Table 1. Accidents at work by sex of victims

Sex	July-September 2006 (Revised)		July-September 2007	
	No	%	No	%
Males	1,097	87.9	1,057	89.7
Females	151	12.1	122	10.3
Total	1,248	100.0	1,179	100.0

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Table 2. Accidents at work by economic activity of enterprise

Economic Activity	July-September 2006 (Revised)						July-September 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry	18	1.6	0	0.0	18	1.4	13	1.2	1	0.8	14	1.2
Fishing	4	0.4	0	0.0	4	0.3	4	0.4	0	0.0	4	0.3
Mining and Quarrying	8	0.7	0	0.0	8	0.6	5	0.5	0	0.0	5	0.4
Manufacturing	402	36.6	41	27.2	443	35.6	355	33.6	21	17.2	376	31.9
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	36	3.3	0	0.0	36	2.9	36	3.4	0	0.0	36	3.0
Construction	187	17.0	1	0.7	188	15.1	188	17.8	2	1.7	190	16.1
Wholesale and retail trade, repairs	87	7.9	8	5.4	95	7.6	104	9.8	8	6.6	112	9.5
Hotels and Restaurants	75	6.8	16	10.6	91	7.3	74	7.0	21	17.2	95	8.1
Transport, Storage and Communication	108	9.8	6	4.0	114	9.1	138	13.0	11	9.0	149	12.6
Financial Intermediation	3	0.3	0	0.0	3	0.2	2	0.2	1	0.8	3	0.3
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	42	3.8	12	7.9	54	4.3	49	4.6	16	13.1	65	5.5
Public Admin. and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	58	5.4	4	2.6	62	5.0	39	3.7	1	0.8	40	3.4
Education	10	0.9	4	2.6	14	1.1	3	0.3	4	3.3	7	0.6
Health and Social Work	38	3.5	52	34.4	90	7.2	19	1.8	30	24.6	49	4.2
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	16	1.5	4	2.6	20	1.6	19	1.8	5	4.1	24	2.0
Private Households with Employed Persons	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Extra-territorial Organisations and Bodies	0	0.0	2	1.3	2	0.2	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1
Unknown	5	0.5	1	0.7	6	0.5	8	0.8	1	0.8	9	0.8
Total	1,097	100.0	151	100.0	1,248	100.0	1,057	100.0	122	100.0	1,179	100.0

Table 3. Accidents at work by occupation of victim

Occupations	July-September 2006 (Revised)						July-September 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Armed Forces	9	0.8	1	0.7	10	0.8	9	0.9	0	0.0	9	0.8
Legislators, senior officials and managers	10	0.9	1	0.7	11	0.9	8	0.8	0	0.0	8	0.7
Professionals	24	2.2	30	19.9	54	4.3	24	2.3	29	23.8	53	4.5
Technicians and associate professionals	33	3.0	3	2.0	36	2.9	47	4.4	1	0.8	48	4.1
Clerks	26	2.4	4	2.6	30	2.4	22	2.1	7	5.7	29	2.4
Service workers and market and sales workers	77	7.0	16	10.6	93	7.4	67	6.3	13	10.7	80	6.8
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	14	1.3	0	0.0	14	1.1	11	1.0	0	0.0	11	0.9
Craft and related trades workers	249	22.7	4	2.6	253	20.3	204	19.3	2	1.6	206	17.5
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	104	9.5	14	9.3	118	9.5	115	10.9	11	9.0	126	10.7
Elementary occupations	551	50.2	78	51.6	629	50.4	550	52.0	59	48.4	609	51.6
Total	1,097	100.0	151	100.0	1,248	100.0	1,057	100.0	122	100.0	1,179	100.0

Table 4. Accidents at work by age group of victim

Age group	July-September 2006 (Revised)						July-September 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
15-24	198	18.0	43	28.5	241	19.3	219	20.7	44	36.1	263	22.3
25-34	334	30.4	45	29.8	379	30.4	267	25.2	33	27.0	300	25.5
35-44	209	19.1	15	9.9	224	18.0	211	20.0	20	16.4	231	19.6
45-54	229	20.9	36	23.8	265	21.2	264	25.0	17	13.9	281	23.8
55+	127	11.6	12	8.0	139	11.1	96	9.1	8	6.6	104	8.8
Total	1,097	100.0	151	100.0	1,248	100.0	1,057	100.0	122	100.0	1,179	100.0

Table 5. Part of body injured in accidents at work

Part of body	July-September 2006 (Revised)						July-September 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Part of body injured, not specified	11	1.0	3	2.0	14	1.1	15	1.4	1	0.8	16	1.4
Head	127	11.6	11	7.3	138	11.1	100	9.5	6	4.9	106	9.0
Neck, inclusive of spine and vertebra in the neck	28	2.5	3	2.0	31	2.5	23	2.2	2	1.6	25	2.1
Back, including spine and vertebra in the back	91	8.3	7	4.6	98	7.9	69	6.5	7	5.7	76	6.4
Torso and Organs	30	2.7	3	2.0	33	2.6	47	4.4	6	4.9	53	4.5
Upper Extremities	494	45.0	79	52.3	573	45.9	473	44.8	58	47.6	531	45.0
Lower Extremities	253	23.1	31	20.5	284	22.7	245	23.2	28	23.0	273	23.2
Wholebody and multiple Sites	61	5.6	14	9.3	75	6.0	84	7.9	14	11.5	98	8.3
Other parts of body injured, not mentioned above	2	0.2	0	0.0	2	0.2	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1
Total	1,097	100.0	151	100.0	1,248	100.0	1,057	100.0	122	100.0	1,179	100.0

Table 6. Accidents at work by type of injury

Type of Injury	July-September 2006 (Revised)						July-September 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Type of injury unknown	83	7.5	23	15.2	106	8.5	64	6.0	7	5.8	71	6.0
Wounds and superficial injuries	512	46.7	64	42.4	576	46.2	473	44.7	55	45.1	528	44.8
Bone fractures	99	9.0	11	7.3	110	8.8	83	7.9	12	9.9	95	8.1
Dislocations, Sprains, and Strains	309	28.2	37	24.5	346	27.7	309	29.2	37	30.3	346	29.3
Traumatic Amputations	3	0.3	0	0.0	3	0.2	3	0.3	1	0.8	4	0.3
Concussions and Internal Injuries	12	1.1	2	1.3	14	1.1	14	1.3	1	0.8	15	1.3
Burns, Scalds and Frostbites	36	3.3	7	4.6	43	3.5	53	5.0	7	5.7	60	5.1
Poisonings and Infections	3	0.3	0	0.0	3	0.2	9	0.9	1	0.8	10	0.8
Drowning and Asphyxiations	2	0.2	0	0.0	2	0.2	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1
Effects of Sound and Vibration	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Effects of temperature extremes, light and radiation	5	0.4	0	0.0	5	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Shock	2	0.2	1	0.7	3	0.2	2	0.2	0	0.0	2	0.2
Multiple Injuries	31	2.8	6	4.0	37	3.0	46	4.4	1	0.8	47	4.0
Other specified injuries not included under other headings	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	1,097	100.0	151	100.0	1,248	100.0	1,057	100.0	122	100.0	1,179	100.0

Table 7. Accidents at work by district of enterprise

District	July-September 2006 (Revised)						July-September 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Southern Harbour	510	46.5	58	38.4	568	45.5	478	45.2	50	41.0	528	44.8
Southern Eastern	99	9.0	16	10.6	115	9.2	118	11.2	12	9.8	130	11.0
Northern Harbour	276	25.2	51	33.8	327	26.2	258	24.4	36	29.5	294	24.9
Western	83	7.6	12	7.9	95	7.6	65	6.1	12	9.9	77	6.5
Northern	112	10.2	10	6.6	122	9.8	117	11.1	11	9.0	128	10.9
Gozo and Comino	17	1.5	4	2.7	21	1.7	21	2.0	1	0.8	22	1.9
Total	1,097	100.0	151	100.0	1,248	100.0	1,057	100.0	122	100.0	1,179	100.0

Table 8. Size of enterprise where the accidents occurred

Employment Size	July-September 2006 (Revised)						July-September 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Self-employed without employees	50	4.6	2	1.3	52	4.2	57	5.4	0	0.0	57	4.8
1-9 employees	97	8.8	9	6.0	106	8.5	105	9.9	8	6.6	113	9.6
10-49 employees	186	17.0	13	8.6	199	15.9	198	18.7	11	9.0	209	17.7
50-249 employees	244	22.2	40	26.5	284	22.7	229	21.7	40	32.8	269	22.8
250-499 employees	119	10.8	28	18.5	147	11.8	105	9.9	24	19.7	129	11.0
500 employees or more	396	36.1	58	38.4	454	36.4	356	33.7	38	31.1	394	33.4
Unknown size	5	0.5	1	0.7	6	0.5	7	0.7	1	0.8	8	0.7
Total	1,097	100.0	151	100.0	1,248	100.0	1,057	100.0	122	100.0	1,179	100.0

Table 9. Employment Status of the Victims

Employment Status	July-September 2006 (Revised)						July-September 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Self-employed	68	6.2	2	1.3	70	5.6	79	7.4	2	1.6	81	6.9
Full-time employees	1,015	92.5	132	87.4	1,147	91.9	952	90.1	100	82.0	1,052	89.2
Part-time employees	14	1.3	17	11.3	31	2.5	26	2.5	20	16.4	46	3.9
Total	1,097	100.0	151	100.0	1,248	100.0	1,057	100.0	122	100.0	1,179	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.