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Labour Market

Accidents at work: Q1/2007

At 1,032, the non-fatal accidents at work increased by 3.3 per cent when compared to the same quarter in the preceding year. There were no 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 January to March 2007. The administrative records for the injury benefit of the DSS indicate that 1,032 persons had an accident in the course of their work in the period under review. Accordingly, the number of accidents in the first quarter of this year increased by 33 (3.3 per cent) over the same period in the preceding year.

Many of these accidents at work occurred in the economic sectors of manufacturing (34.3 per cent), construction (17.8 per cent), transport, storage, and communications (10.7 per cent), and, wholesale and retail trade (7.4 per cent)

Accidents at work mostly concern people employed in elementary occupations and craft / trades work. In this way, the given statistics indicate that 514 cases (49.8 per cent) concerned people in elementary occupations, while 223 cases (21.6 per cent) affected people in craft / trades work.

In the period under review, 44.1 per cent of the accidents at work occurred to persons who were under 35 years of age. As a result, the data on hand indicate that 455 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 423 (41.0 per cent) of these mishaps.

Fatal Accidents

The Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA) reported that in January to March 2007 there were no fatalities at work. During the same period in the preceding year, three persons died at work.

Revised data for 2006 (whole year) is also being provided in this publication ■

Table 1. Accidents at work by sex of victims

Sex	2006 (Revised)		January-March 2006 (Revised)		January-March 2007	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Males	3,848	88.1	887	88.8	908	88.0
Females	518	11.9	112	11.2	124	12.0
Total	4,366	100.0	999	100.0	1,032	100.0

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Table 2. Accidents at work by economic activity of enterprise

Economic Activity	2006 (Revised)						January-March 2006 (Revised)						January-March 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry	53	1.4	2	0.4	55	1.3	10	1.1	0	0.0	10	1.0	11	1.2	0	0.0	11	1.0
Fishing	15	0.4	0	0.0	15	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.3	0	0.0	3	0.3
Mining and Quarrying	37	1.0	0	0.0	37	0.8	9	1.0	0	0.0	9	0.9	8	0.9	0	0.0	8	0.8
Manufacturing	1,364	35.4	108	20.8	1,472	33.7	311	35.1	18	16.0	329	32.9	332	36.6	22	17.8	354	34.3
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	135	3.4	1	0.2	136	3.1	28	3.2	0	0.0	28	2.8	36	4.0	0	0.0	36	3.5
Construction	696	18.1	2	0.4	698	16.0	175	19.7	0	0.0	175	17.5	184	20.3	0	0.0	184	17.8
Wholesale and retail trade	338	8.8	26	5.0	364	8.3	84	9.5	2	1.8	86	8.6	71	7.8	6	4.8	77	7.4
Hotels and Restaurants	253	6.6	62	12.0	315	7.2	48	5.4	16	14.3	64	6.4	46	5.1	18	14.5	64	6.2
Transport, Storage and Communication	354	9.2	34	6.6	388	8.9	74	8.3	8	7.1	82	8.2	103	11.3	7	5.6	110	10.7
Financial Intermediation	5	0.1	2	0.4	7	0.2	1	0.1	1	0.9	2	0.2	0	0.0	1	0.8	1	0.1
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	168	4.4	30	5.8	198	4.5	44	5.0	6	5.4	50	5.0	34	3.7	9	7.3	43	4.2
Public Administration and Defence	217	5.6	23	4.4	240	5.5	49	5.5	6	5.4	55	5.5	26	2.9	4	3.2	30	2.9
Education	33	0.9	37	7.1	70	1.6	7	0.8	9	8.0	16	1.6	4	0.4	10	8.1	14	1.3
Health and Social Work	111	2.9	174	33.6	285	6.5	30	3.4	44	39.3	74	7.5	28	3.1	45	36.3	73	7.1
Other Community, Social and Personal Social Services	50	1.3	10	1.9	60	1.4	10	1.1	1	0.9	11	1.1	12	1.3	0	0.0	12	1.2
Private Households	0	0.0	1	0.2	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Extraterritorial	1	0.0	2	0.4	3	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1	1	0.8	2	0.2
Unknown	18	0.5	4	0.8	22	0.5	7	0.8	1	0.9	8	0.8	9	1.0	1	0.8	10	1.0
Total	3,848	100.0	518	100.0	4,366	100.0	887	100.0	112	100.0	999	100.0	908	100.0	124	100.0	1,032	100.0

Table 3. Accidents at work by occupation of victim

Occupations	2006 (Revised)						January-March 2006 (Revised)						January-March 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Armed Forces	22	0.6	2	0.4	24	0.5	4	0.5	0	0.0	4	0.4	8	0.9	0	0.0	8	0.8
Legislators, senior officials and managers	38	1.0	3	0.6	41	0.9	9	1.0	0	0.0	9	0.9	11	1.2	1	0.8	12	1.2
Professionals	94	2.4	118	22.8	212	4.9	27	3.0	32	28.6	59	5.9	25	2.7	34	27.4	59	5.7
Technicians and associate professionals	120	3.1	10	1.9	130	3.0	35	4.0	1	0.9	36	3.6	32	3.5	6	4.8	38	3.7
Clerks	101	2.6	29	5.6	130	3.0	13	1.5	9	8.0	22	2.2	26	2.9	4	3.2	30	2.9
Service workers and market and sales workers	294	7.6	52	10.0	346	7.9	79	8.9	10	8.9	89	8.9	38	4.2	13	10.5	51	4.9
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	51	1.3	1	0.2	52	1.2	9	1.0	0	0.0	9	0.9	7	0.8	0	0.0	7	0.7
Craft and related trades workers	930	24.2	8	1.5	938	21.5	239	26.9	1	0.9	240	24.0	223	24.5	0	0.0	223	21.6
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	368	9.6	36	7.0	404	9.3	78	8.8	6	5.4	84	8.4	78	8.6	12	9.7	90	8.7
Elementary occupations	1,830	47.6	259	50.0	2,089	47.8	394	44.4	53	47.3	447	44.8	460	50.7	54	43.6	514	49.8
Total	3,848	100.0	518	100.0	4,366	100.0	887	100.0	112	100.0	999	100.0	908	100.0	124	100.0	1,032	100.0

Table 4. Accidents at work by age group of victim

Age group	2006 (Revised)						January-March 2006 (Revised)						January-March 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
15-24	719	18.7	134	25.9	853	19.5	143	16.1	27	24.1	170	17.0	140	15.4	34	27.4	174	16.9
25-34	1,079	28.0	149	28.8	1,228	28.1	234	26.4	35	31.2	269	27.0	245	27.0	36	29.0	281	27.2
35-44	837	21.8	82	15.8	919	21.1	210	23.7	18	16.1	228	22.8	203	22.4	17	13.7	220	21.3
45-54	815	21.2	104	20.1	919	21.1	205	23.1	18	16.1	223	22.3	202	22.2	23	18.6	225	21.8
55+	398	10.3	49	9.4	447	10.2	95	10.7	14	12.5	109	10.9	118	13.0	14	11.3	132	12.8
Total	3,848	100.0	518	100.0	4,366	100.0	887	100.0	112	100.0	999	100.0	908	100.0	124	100.0	1,032	100.0

Table 5. Part of body injured in accidents at work

Part of body	2006 (Revised)						January-March 2006 (Revised)						January-March 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Part of body injured, not specified	31	0.8	9	1.7	40	0.9	5	0.6	5	4.5	10	1.0	5	0.6	5	4.0	10	1.0
Head	432	11.2	32	6.2	464	10.6	119	13.4	6	5.4	125	12.5	100	11.0	14	11.3	114	11.0
Neck, inclusive of spine and vertebra in the neck	84	2.2	19	3.7	103	2.4	24	2.7	2	1.8	26	2.6	22	2.4	1	0.8	23	2.2
Back, including spine and vertebra in the back	282	7.3	34	6.6	316	7.2	58	6.5	9	8.0	67	6.7	69	7.6	6	4.9	75	7.3
Torso and Organs	148	3.8	17	3.3	165	3.8	42	4.7	5	4.5	47	4.7	40	4.4	4	3.2	44	4.3
Upper Extremities	1,764	45.8	255	49.2	2,019	46.3	416	46.9	55	49.1	471	47.2	399	43.9	50	40.3	449	43.5
Lower Extremities	868	22.6	113	21.8	981	22.5	178	20.1	24	21.3	202	20.2	214	23.6	30	24.2	244	23.6
Wholebody and multiple Sites	233	6.1	39	7.5	272	6.2	45	5.1	6	5.4	51	5.1	59	6.5	13	10.5	72	7.0
Other parts of body injured, not mentioned above	6	0.2	0	0.0	6	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.8	1	0.1
Total	3,848	100.0	518	100.0	4,366	100.0	887	100.0	112	100.0	999	100.0	908	100.0	124	100.0	1,032	100.0

Table 6. Accidents at work by type of injury

Type of Injury	2006 (Revised)						January-March 2006 (Revised)						January-March 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Type of injury unknown	272	7.1	62	12.0	334	7.7	64	7.2	15	13.4	79	7.9	70	7.7	14	11.3	84	8.1
Wounds and superficial injuries	1,755	45.6	217	41.9	1,972	45.2	394	44.4	51	45.5	445	44.5	376	41.4	47	37.9	423	41.0
Bone fractures	391	10.2	47	9.1	438	10.0	97	11.0	10	8.9	107	10.7	82	9.1	14	11.3	96	9.2
Dislocations, Sprains, and Strains	1,121	29.1	144	27.8	1,265	29.0	266	30.0	27	24.1	293	29.4	298	32.8	34	27.5	332	32.2
Traumatic Amputations	21	0.6	1	0.2	22	0.5	6	0.7	1	0.9	7	0.7	3	0.3	0	0.0	3	0.3
Concussions and Internal Injuries	40	1.0	8	1.5	48	1.1	10	1.1	3	2.7	13	1.3	9	1.0	3	2.4	12	1.2
Burns, Scalds and Frostbites	117	3.0	24	4.6	141	3.2	24	2.7	2	1.8	26	2.6	27	3.0	6	4.8	33	3.2
Poisonings and Infections	8	0.2	3	0.6	11	0.3	3	0.3	1	0.9	4	0.4	1	0.1	2	1.6	3	0.3
Drowning and Asphyxiations	6	0.2	0	0.0	6	0.1	3	0.3	0	0.0	3	0.3	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1
Effects of Sound and Vibration	1	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Effects of temperature extremes, light and radiation	10	0.3	0	0.0	10	0.2	2	0.2	0	0.0	2	0.2	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1
Shock	9	0.2	4	0.8	13	0.3	4	0.5	2	1.8	6	0.6	1	0.1	1	0.8	2	0.2
Multiple Injuries	96	2.5	8	1.5	104	2.4	13	1.5	0	0.0	13	1.3	39	4.3	3	2.4	42	4.1
Other specified injuries not included under other headings	1	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	3,848	100.0	518	100.0	4,366	100.0	887	100.0	112	100.0	999	100.0	908	100.0	124	100.0	1,032	100.0

Table 7. Accidents at work by district of enterprise

District	2006 (Revised)						January-March 2006 (Revised)						January-March 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Southern Harbour	1,714	44.5	239	46.2	1,953	44.7	400	45.1	56	50.0	456	45.7	426	46.9	57	46.0	483	46.8
Southern Eastern	372	9.7	53	10.2	425	9.8	79	8.9	9	8.0	88	8.8	95	10.5	11	8.9	106	10.3
Northern Harbour	967	25.1	156	30.1	1,123	25.7	217	24.4	33	29.5	250	25.0	209	23.0	41	33.1	250	24.2
Western	292	7.6	30	5.8	322	7.4	68	7.7	6	5.4	74	7.4	71	7.8	5	4.0	76	7.4
Northern	429	11.2	31	6.0	460	10.5	108	12.2	7	6.2	115	11.5	88	9.7	9	7.2	97	9.4
Gozo and Comino	74	1.9	9	1.7	83	1.9	15	1.7	1	0.9	16	1.6	19	2.1	1	0.8	20	1.9
Total	3,848	100.0	518	100.0	4,366	100.0	887	100.0	112	100.0	999	100.0	908	100.0	124	100.0	1,032	100.0

Table 8. Size of enterprise where the accidents occurred

Employment Size	2006 (Revised)						January-March 2006 (Revised)						January-March 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Self-employed without employees	193	5.0	5	1.0	198	4.5	38	4.3	2	1.8	40	4.0	43	4.7	1	0.8	44	4.3
1-9 employees	408	10.6	26	5.0	434	9.9	105	11.8	5	4.5	110	11.0	87	9.6	4	3.2	91	8.8
10-49 employees	662	17.2	45	8.7	707	16.2	143	16.1	12	10.7	155	15.5	166	18.3	9	7.3	175	16.9
50-249 employees	857	22.3	150	28.9	1,007	23.1	197	22.3	32	28.6	229	22.9	182	20.0	44	35.5	226	21.9
250-499 employees	433	11.2	58	11.2	491	11.3	105	11.8	8	7.1	113	11.3	97	10.7	13	10.5	110	10.7
500 employees or more	1,276	33.2	229	44.2	1,505	34.5	292	32.9	51	45.5	343	34.4	322	35.5	53	42.7	375	36.3
Unknown size	19	0.5	5	1.0	24	0.5	7	0.8	2	1.8	9	0.9	11	1.2	0	0.0	11	1.1
Total	3,848	100.0	518	100.0	4,366	100.0	887	100.0	112	100.0	999	100.0	908	100.0	124	100.0	1,032	100.0

Table 9. Employment Status of the Victims

Employment Status	2006 (Revised)						January-March 2006 (Revised)						January-March 2007					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Self-employed	277	7.2	7	1.4	284	6.5	58	6.5	4	3.6	62	6.2	66	7.3	1	0.8	67	6.5
Full-time employees	3,503	91.0	446	86.1	3,949	90.4	807	91.0	96	85.7	903	90.4	835	91.9	109	87.9	944	91.5
Part-time employees	68	1.8	65	12.5	133	3.1	22	2.5	12	10.7	34	3.4	7	0.8	14	11.3	21	2.0
Total	3,848	100.0	518	100.0	4,366	100.0	887	100.0	112	100.0	999	100.0	908	100.0	124	100.0	1,032	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, Ħamrun, Msida, Pembroke, Pieta, San Ġiljan, San Ġwann, Santa Venera, Sliema, Swieqi, Ta' Xbiex.

South Eastern: Żejtun, B'Bugia, Gudja, Ghaxaq, Kirkop, M'Scala, M'Xlokk, Mqabba, Qrendi, Safi, Żurrieq.

Western: Mdina, Żebbuġ, Siġġiewi, Attard, Balzan, Dingli, Iklin, Lija, Rabat, Mtarfa.

Northern: Għargħur, 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.