

# News Release



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## Labour Market

### Accidents at work: Q3/2008

At 1,038, the non-fatal claim of accidents at work decreased by 12.6 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 claims of accidents at work that were reported to the Department of Social Security (DSS) as from July to September 2008. The data given herein include all cases for which an injury benefit claim has been submitted to the DSS, irrespective of the number of days lost. These administrative records indicate that 1,038 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 149 (-12.6 per cent) over the same period in the preceding year.

Many of these accidents at work occurred in the economic sectors of manufacturing (28.5 per cent); construction (15.6 per cent); and transport, storage, and communications (13.0 per cent).

The occupational categories that are mostly affected by accidents are the elementary and trades occupations. In this way, the given statistics indicate that 538 cases (51.8 per cent) concerned people in elementary occupations, while 175 cases (16.9 per cent) affected people in craft / trades work.

In the period under review, 47.0 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 488 of these accidents occurred to this age cohort.

People at work are mostly affected by injuries in the upper extremities of their body. Accordingly, 42.5 per cent of accidents at work concerned the upper extremities of the body, including hands and fingers. Wounds and superficial injuries are the most common types of injuries. In this respect, wounds and superficial injuries featured in 439 (42.3 per cent) of these mishaps.

### Fatal Accidents

The Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA) reported that between July and September 2008 there was one fatality at work. During the same period in the preceding year, there was also one fatality at work ■

Table 1. Accidents at work by sex of victims

Sex	July-September 2007 (Revised)		July-September 2008	
	No	%	No	%
Males	1,062	89.5	906	87.3
Females	125	10.5	132	12.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,187</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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**Table 2. Accidents at work by economic activity of enterprise**

Economic Activity	July-September 2007 (Revised)						July-September 2008					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry	14	1.3	1	0.8	15	1.3	24	2.6	-	-	24	2.3
Fishing	4	0.4	-	-	4	0.3	4	0.4	-	-	4	0.4
Mining and Quarrying	5	0.5	-	-	5	0.4	8	0.9	-	-	8	0.8
Manufacturing	354	33.3	22	17.6	376	31.7	269	29.7	27	20.5	296	28.5
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	36	3.4	-	-	36	3.0	27	3.0	-	-	27	2.6
Construction	190	17.9	2	1.6	192	16.2	162	17.9	-	-	162	15.6
Wholesale and retail trade, repairs	105	9.9	9	7.2	114	9.6	83	9.2	11	8.3	94	9.1
Hotels and Restaurants	75	7.0	21	16.8	96	8.1	69	7.6	27	20.5	96	9.2
Transport, Storage and Communication	138	13.0	11	8.8	149	12.5	126	13.9	9	6.8	135	13.0
Financial Intermediation	2	0.2	1	0.8	3	0.3	2	0.2	2	1.5	4	0.4
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	50	4.7	16	12.8	66	5.6	49	5.4	15	11.4	64	6.2
Public Admin. and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	40	3.8	2	1.6	42	3.5	43	4.7	3	2.2	46	4.4
Education	3	0.3	4	3.2	7	0.6	5	0.6	4	3.0	9	0.9
Health and Social Work	19	1.8	30	24.0	49	4.1	15	1.7	27	20.5	42	4.0
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	19	1.8	5	4.0	24	2.0	10	1.1	5	3.8	15	1.4
Private Households with Employed Persons	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extra-territorial Organisations and Bodies	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	7	0.6	1	0.8	8	0.7	10	1.1	2	1.5	12	1.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,187</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 3. Accidents at work by occupation of victim**

Occupations	July-September 2007 (Revised)						July-September 2008					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Armed Forces	9	0.8	-	-	9	0.8	6	0.7	1	0.8	7	0.7
Legislators, senior officials and managers	8	0.8	-	-	8	0.7	4	0.4	2	1.5	6	0.6
Professionals	24	2.3	29	23.2	53	4.5	22	2.4	23	17.4	45	4.3
Technicians and associate professionals	47	4.4	1	0.8	48	4.0	34	3.8	2	1.5	36	3.5
Clerks	22	2.1	8	6.4	30	2.5	27	3.0	10	7.6	37	3.6
Service workers and market and sales workers	68	6.4	13	10.4	81	6.8	77	8.5	17	12.8	94	9.0
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	12	1.1	-	-	12	1.0	12	1.3	-	-	12	1.1
Craft and related trades workers	204	19.2	2	1.6	206	17.4	174	19.2	1	0.8	175	16.9
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	115	10.8	11	8.8	126	10.6	78	8.6	10	7.6	88	8.5
Elementary occupations	553	52.1	61	48.8	614	51.7	472	52.1	66	50.0	538	51.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,187</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 4. Accidents at work by age group of victim**

Age group	July-September 2007 (Revised)						July-September 2008					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
15-24	220	20.7	44	35.2	264	22.2	159	17.5	42	31.8	201	19.4
25-34	268	25.2	34	27.2	302	25.4	249	27.5	38	28.8	287	27.6
35-44	211	19.9	21	16.8	232	19.6	182	20.1	17	12.9	199	19.2
45-54	266	25.1	18	14.4	284	23.9	222	24.5	25	18.9	247	23.8
55+	97	9.1	8	6.4	105	8.9	94	10.4	10	7.6	104	10.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,187</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 5. Part of body injured in accidents at work**

Part of body	July-September 2007 (Revised)						July-September 2008					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Part of body injured, not specified	15	1.4	1	0.8	16	1.3	6	0.7	3	2.3	9	0.9
Head	100	9.4	6	4.8	106	8.9	77	8.5	10	7.6	87	8.4
Neck, inclusive of spine and vertebra in the neck	23	2.2	2	1.6	25	2.1	28	3.1	2	1.5	30	2.9
Back, including spine and vertebra in the back	69	6.5	7	5.6	76	6.4	66	7.3	5	3.8	71	6.8
Torso and Organs	47	4.4	6	4.8	53	4.5	19	2.1	5	3.8	24	2.3
Upper Extremities	475	44.7	58	46.4	533	44.9	381	42.0	60	45.4	441	42.5
Lower Extremities	246	23.2	30	24.0	276	23.3	235	25.9	25	18.9	260	25.0
Wholebody and multiple Sites	86	8.1	15	12.0	101	8.5	93	10.3	21	15.9	114	11.0
Other parts of body injured, not mentioned above	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	1	0.1	1	0.8	2	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,187</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 6. Accidents at work by type of injury**

Type of Injury	July-September 2007 (Revised)						July-September 2008					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Type of injury unknown	64	6.0	7	5.6	71	6.0	50	5.5	10	7.6	60	5.8
Wounds and superficial injuries	477	44.9	55	44.0	532	44.8	390	43.1	49	37.1	439	42.3
Bone fractures	82	7.7	13	10.4	95	8.0	86	9.5	11	8.3	97	9.3
Dislocations, Sprains, and Strains	311	29.3	39	31.2	350	29.5	262	28.9	47	35.6	309	29.7
Traumatic Amputations	3	0.3	1	0.8	4	0.3	3	0.3	-	-	3	0.3
Concussions and Internal Injuries	14	1.3	1	0.8	15	1.3	7	0.8	2	1.5	9	0.9
Burns, Scalds and Frostbites	53	5.0	7	5.6	60	5.0	56	6.3	9	6.8	65	6.3
Poisonings and Infections	9	0.9	1	0.8	10	0.8	7	0.8	1	0.8	8	0.8
Drowning and Asphyxiations	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Effects of Sound and Vibration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Effects of temperature extremes, light and radiation	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2
Shock	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2	3	0.3	-	-	3	0.3
Multiple Injuries	46	4.3	1	0.8	47	4.0	40	4.3	3	2.3	43	4.1
Other specified injuries not included under other headings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,187</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 7. Accidents at work by district of enterprise**

District	July-September 2007 (Revised)						July-September 2008					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Southern Harbour	478	45.0	51	40.8	529	44.5	344	38.0	42	31.8	386	37.2
Southern Eastern	118	11.1	13	10.4	131	11.0	125	13.8	5	3.8	130	12.5
Northern Harbour	261	24.6	36	28.8	297	25.0	228	25.2	61	46.2	289	27.9
Western	66	6.2	12	9.6	78	6.6	70	7.7	9	6.8	79	7.6
Northern	118	11.1	12	9.6	130	11.0	114	12.6	12	9.1	126	12.1
Gozo and Comino	21	2.0	1	0.8	22	1.9	25	2.7	3	2.3	28	2.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,187</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 8. Size of enterprise where the accidents occurred**

Employment Size	July-September 2007 (Revised)						July-September 2008					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Self-employed without employees	57	5.4	-	-	57	4.8	53	5.8	-	-	53	5.1
1-9 employees	106	10.0	8	6.4	114	9.6	96	10.6	5	3.8	101	9.7
10-49 employees	199	18.7	11	8.8	210	17.7	180	19.9	16	12.1	196	18.9
50-249 employees	232	21.8	43	34.4	275	23.2	172	19.0	37	28.0	209	20.1
250-499 employees	107	10.1	24	19.2	131	11.0	104	11.5	32	24.2	136	13.1
500 employees or more	356	33.5	38	30.4	394	33.2	292	32.2	39	29.6	331	31.9
Unknown size	5	0.5	1	0.8	6	0.5	9	1.0	3	2.3	12	1.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,187</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 9. Employment Status of the Victims**

Employment Status	July-September 2007 (Revised)						July-September 2008					
	Men		Women		Total		Men		Women		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Self-employed	79	7.4	2	1.6	81	6.8	76	8.4	-	-	76	7.3
Full-time employees	957	90.1	103	82.4	1060	89.3	801	88.4	109	82.6	910	87.7
Part-time employees	26	2.5	20	16.0	46	3.9	29	3.2	23	17.4	52	5.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,187</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Methodological Notes**

1. The source of the data on non-fatal accidents at work is the Department of Social Security.
2. The source of the data on fatal accidents at work is the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA).
3. Revisions to the previous year's data are carried out annually in the first and subsequent quarters of the following year.
4. The data in this release include all cases for which an injury benefit claim form has been submitted to the Department of Social Security,

## 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 Regulation<sup>1</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council.

<sup>1</sup> (EC) No. 1059/2003

NUTS levels					
Administrative area	I (National)	II (National)	III (Regional)	IV (District)	V (Locality)
<b>MALTA</b>	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, Għaxaq, 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.