

News Release



Date: 30 April 2008
No. : 79/2008
Time of release: 11.00 hrs

Transport

Traffic accidents: January-March 2008

There were three fatalities in the first quarter of 2008, all males.

In the first quarter this year, the number of reported traffic accidents reached 3,639, a decrease of 224 cases or 5.8 per cent than the corresponding quarter last year. All Malta regions registered decreases. The highest decrease in such accidents was registered in the Northern Harbour district, down by 83 cases or 5.1 per cent. On the other hand, Gozo and Comino was the only region registering increases, up by 9.6 per cent (see Table 1).

In the period under review, 263 traffic casualties were reported. Of these, 161 drivers sustained injuries: 125 suffered slight injuries, 34 suffered grievous ones, while the injuries to two drivers proved fatal. During the same period, 77 other persons – 53 passengers and 24 pedestrians – suffered slight injuries while 24 – 14 passengers and 10 pedestrians – suffered grievous ones. In addition to the two driver fatalities, one pedestrian sustained fatal injuries (see Tables 4-6).

On a gender basis, slightly-injured persons in the first quarter of 2008 numbered 202: 119 males and 83 females. Grievously-injured persons came up to 58, the majority being males. The three fatalities in this quarter were all males. The largest number in respect of both male and female casualties, was in the 25-39 age group (see Table 7).

Table 9 shows that 76.4 per cent of casualties were caused by passenger cars while 11.4 per cent were caused by motorcycles. In this quarter, the highest rate of traffic casualties was recorded on Mondays, with 20.5 per cent of the total. However, 45.2 per cent of all traffic casualties occurred during weekends, between Friday and Sunday, as shown in Table 8.

In the period under review, Birkirkara was the locality with the highest rate of traffic accidents, with 240 cases. Qormi and Msida were close, with 227 and 214 reported accidents respectively (see Table 10) ■

Theme:
Transport

Compiled by:

Transport Statistics Unit
e-mail: library.nso@gov.mt
Tel: 25997619

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 VLT 2000, Malta
Tel: (+356) 25997219
Fax: (+356) 25997205
e-mail: nso@gov.mt
<http://www.nso.gov.mt>

Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release

Table 1. Total road traffic accidents

Region	1st Quarter			
	2007	2008	Absolute change	Percentage change
Island of Malta	3,707	3,468	-239	-6.4
Southern Harbour	813	778	-35	-4.3
Northern Harbour	1,636	1,553	-83	-5.1
South Eastern	352	296	-56	-15.9
Western	384	357	-27	-7.0
Northern	522	484	-38	-7.3
Gozo and Comino	156	171	15	9.6
Total	3,863	3,639	-224	-5.8

Table 2. Road traffic accidents involving government property

Region	1st Quarter			
	2007	2008	Absolute change	Percentage change
Island of Malta	871	665	-206	-23.7
Southern Harbour	182	143	-39	-21.4
Northern Harbour	412	307	-105	-25.5
South Eastern	78	48	-30	-38.5
Western	72	70	-2	-2.8
Northern	127	97	-30	-23.6
Gozo and Comino	24	21	-3	-12.5
Total	895	686	-209	-23.4

Table 3. Casualties in road traffic accidents

Region	1st Quarter			
	2007	2008	Absolute change	Percentage change
Island of Malta	250	237	-13	-5.2
Southern Harbour	45	58	13	28.9
Northern Harbour	109	98	-11	-10.1
South Eastern	26	20	-6	-23.1
Western	28	21	-7	-25.0
Northern	42	40	-2	-4.8
Gozo and Comino	19	26	7	36.8
Total	269	263	-6	-2.2

Table 4. Injuries sustained by drivers in road traffic accidents

	1st Quarter							
	2007				2008			
	Slight	Grievous	Fatal	Total	Slight	Grievous	Fatal	Total
Island of Malta	114	29	3	146	115	31	2	148
Southern Harbour	22	7	-	29	28	9	1	38
Northern Harbour	52	11	-	63	54	9	1	64
South Eastern	11	2	-	13	9	5	-	14
Western	12	3	1	16	10	3	-	13
Northern	17	6	2	25	14	5	-	19
Gozo and Comino	13	-	-	13	10	3	-	13
Total	127	29	3	159	125	34	2	161

Table 5. Injuries sustained by passengers in road traffic accidents

	1st Quarter							
	2007				2008			
	Slight	Grievous	Fatal	Total	Slight	Grievous	Fatal	Total
Island of Malta	52	9	-	61	47	10	-	57
Southern Harbour	7	3	-	10	10	3	-	13
Northern Harbour	19	5	-	24	19	2	-	21
South Eastern	6	-	-	6	3	2	-	5
Western	10	-	-	10	6	1	-	7
Northern	10	1	-	11	9	2	-	11
Gozo and Comino	3	1	-	4	6	4	-	10
Total	55	10	-	65	53	14	-	67

Table 6. Injuries sustained by pedestrians in road traffic accidents

	1st Quarter							
	2007				2008			
	Slight	Grievous	Fatal	Total	Slight	Grievous	Fatal	Total
Island of Malta	29	14	-	43	22	9	1	32
Southern Harbour	6	-	-	6	4	3	-	7
Northern Harbour	15	7	-	22	11	2	-	13
South Eastern	4	3	-	7	1	-	-	1
Western	2	-	-	2	-	1	-	1
Northern	2	4	-	6	6	3	1	10
Gozo and Comino	1	1	-	2	2	1	-	3
Total	30	15	-	45	24	10	1	35

Table 7. Road traffic casualties by type of injury, age and sex

	1st Quarter							
	2007				2008			
	Slight	Grievous	Fatal	Total	Slight	Grievous	Fatal	Total
Total	212	54	3	269	202	58	3	263
0-14	15	3	-	18	8	5	-	13
15-24	45	19	1	65	48	17	-	65
25-39	76	13	2	91	67	15	1	83
40-59	50	12	-	62	55	12	2	69
60+	22	7	-	29	20	7	-	27
age unknown	4	-	-	4	4	2	-	6
Male	123	36	3	162	119	44	3	166
0-14	8	2	-	10	2	3	-	5
15-24	23	11	1	35	27	14	-	41
25-39	50	10	2	62	44	11	1	56
40-59	29	9	-	38	36	10	2	48
60+	11	4	-	15	8	5	-	13
age unknown	2	-	-	2	2	1	-	3
Female	89	18	-	107	83	14	-	97
0-14	7	1	-	8	6	2	-	8
15-24	22	8	-	30	21	3	-	24
25-39	26	3	-	29	23	4	-	27
40-59	21	3	-	24	19	2	-	21
60+	11	3	-	14	12	2	-	14
age unknown	2	-	-	2	2	1	-	3

Table 8. Road traffic casualties by day of the week

	1st Quarter			
	2007	2008	Absolute change	Percentage change
Total	269	263	-6	-2.2
Monday	49	54	5	10.2
Tuesday	35	29	-6	-17.1
Wednesday	37	27	-10	-27.0
Thursday	33	34	1	3.0
Friday	37	33	-4	-10.8
Saturday	36	44	8	22.2
Sunday	42	42	-	-

Chart 1

Total road traffic casualties by day of the week: 1st Quarter 2008

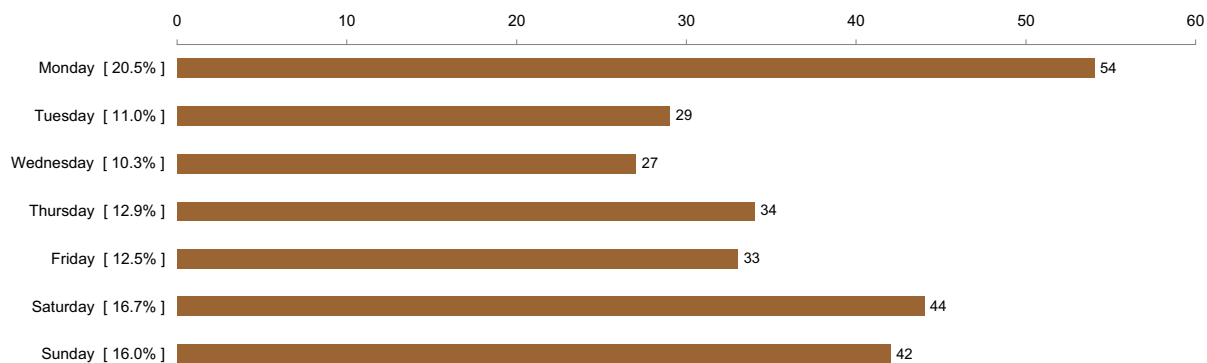


Table 9. Road traffic casualties by type of injury, age and means of transport

	1st Quarter				
	2007	2008			
	Total	Slight	Grievous	Fatal	Total
Total	269	202	58	3	263
Motorcycles	38	15	14	1	30
Passenger cars	205	163	36	2	201
Coaches and buses	2	3	3	-	6
Goods vehicles	24	21	5	-	26
0 - 14	18	8	5	-	13
Motorcycles	1	-	-	-	-
Passenger cars	16	4	2	-	6
Coaches and buses	-	-	-	-	-
Goods vehicles	1	4	3	-	7
15 - 24	65	48	17	-	65
Motorcycles	8	1	2	-	3
Passenger cars	53	41	14	-	55
Coaches and buses	-	1	-	-	1
Goods vehicles	4	5	1	-	6
25 -39	91	67	15	1	83
Motorcycles	16	10	6	1	17
Passenger cars	69	53	8	-	61
Coaches and buses	-	-	1	-	1
Goods vehicles	6	4	-	-	4
40 - 59	62	55	12	2	69
Motorcycles	11	3	5	-	8
Passenger cars	43	46	6	2	54
Coaches and buses	-	-	-	-	-
Goods vehicles	8	6	1	-	7
60+	29	20	7	-	27
Motorcycles	2	1	1	-	2
Passenger cars	20	15	6	-	21
Coaches and buses	2	2	-	-	2
Goods vehicles	5	2	-	-	2
Age unknown	4	4	2	-	6
Motorcycles	-	-	-	-	-
Passenger cars	4	4	-	-	4
Coaches and buses	-	-	2	-	2
Goods vehicles	-	-	-	-	-

Table 10. Road traffic accidents by locality* ...

Locality	1st Quarter		
	2007	2008	Absolute change
Southern Harbour	813	778	-35
Birgu	12	16	4
Bormla	34	39	5
Fgura	68	54	-14
Floriana	67	61	-6
Isla	10	8	-2
Kalkara	12	14	2
Luqa	89	91	2
Marsa	214	204	-10
Paola	106	98	-8
Santa Luċija	16	25	9
Tarxien	63	61	-2
Valetta	59	65	6
Xgħajra	2	4	2
Żabbar	61	38	-23
Northern Harbour	1,636	1,553	-83
Birkirkara	243	240	-3
Gżira	112	134	22
Hamrun	117	106	-11
Msida	187	214	27
Pembroke	19	25	6
Pietà	72	48	-24
Qormi	217	227	10
San Ġiljan	181	139	-42
San Ġwann	128	129	1
Santa Venera	97	71	-26
Sliema	182	137	-45
Swieqi	57	50	-7
Ta' Xbiex	24	33	9
South Eastern	352	296	-56
Birżebbuġia	48	44	-4
Għaxaq	22	10	-12
Gudja	39	33	-6
Kirkop	11	9	-2
Marsascala	53	55	2
Marsaxlokk	14	16	2
Mqabba	9	14	5
Qrendi	11	6	-5
Safi	6	8	2
Żejtun	96	74	-22
Żurrieq	43	27	-16
Western	384	357	-27
Attard	94	73	-21
Balzan	27	27	0
Dingli	10	10	0
Iklin	20	17	-3
Lija	48	37	-11
Mdina	3	5	2
Mtarfa	5	5	0
Rabat	77	74	-3
Sigġiewi	34	42	8
Żebbuġ	66	67	1
Northern	522	484	-38
Għargħur	8	13	5
Mellieħa	74	76	2
Mġarr	28	26	-2
Mosta	141	123	-18
Naxxar	109	100	-9
San Pawl il-Baħar	162	146	-16

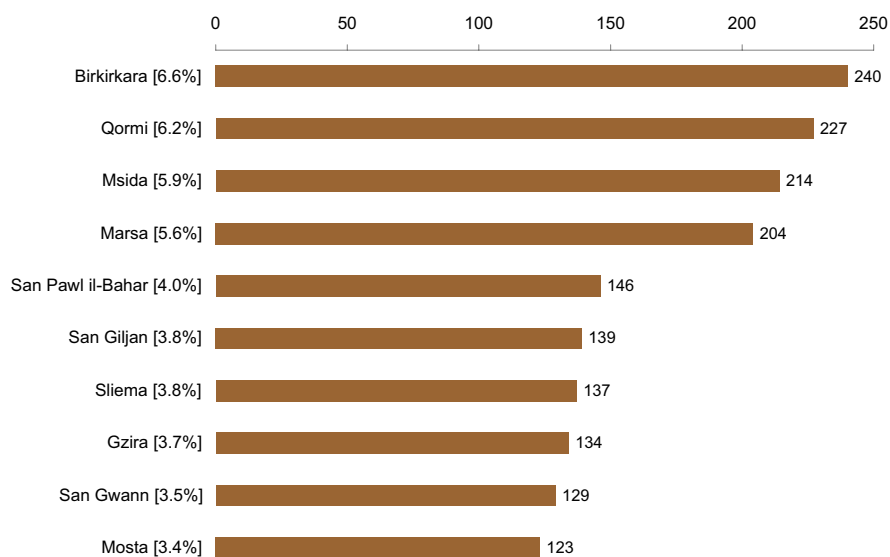
... Table 10. Road traffic accidents by locality*

Locality	1st Quarter		Absolute change
	2007	2008	
Gozo and Comino	156	171	15
Fontana	1	4	3
Għajnsielem	21	14	-7
Għarb	2	6	4
Għasri	3	2	-1
Kerċem	4	5	1
Munxar	6	3	-3
Nadur	13	21	8
Qala	2	3	1
Rabat	51	59	8
San Lawrenz	2	3	1
Sannat	4	4	0
Xagħra	16	13	-3
Xewkija	22	26	4
Żebbuġ	9	8	-1

* Localities not shown imply that no accident was recorded

Chart 2

Top 10 localities for traffic accidents: 1st Quarter 2008



Methodological Notes

1. Owing to a re-evaluation and re-classification of existing datasets from 2005 onwards, data for 2006 shown in this news release, as well as data for the first quarter of 2007, have been revised.
2. Traffic accidents data are compiled from administrative information provided by the Police Department and the Guard and Warden Services Limited.
3. The type of casualty (slight or grievous) is determined by the Health Department. The definitions for deaths caused by road accidents refer to the European Conference for Ministers of Transport (ECMT) and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).
4. UNECE definition of fatal injury: "Any person who was killed outright or who died within 30 days as a result of the accident".
5. Road traffic accidents involving government property (see Table 2), damage caused to government vehicles and to other government property, such as traffic signs, etc.

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 Regulation 1 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, Pietà, 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.