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Claims with respect to non-fatal accidents at work during the fourth quarter last year increased by 80 cases compared to the corresponding period in 2012. One fatal accident at work was recorded.

Accidents at work: Q4/2013

Non-Fatal Accidents

Administrative data provided by the Department of Social Security indicate that between October and December 2013, 772 persons had non-fatal accidents during their course of work. Accordingly, the number of accidents increased by 11.6 per cent compared to the corresponding quarter in 2012. The Manufacturing sector recorded the highest number of accidents, with 24.0 per cent of the total. Other economic activities where accidents were quite common included Construction (13.5 per cent) and Transport and Storage activities (10.9 per cent).

When compared to 2012, non-fatal accidents in Administrative and Support Services activities increased by 39, while a decrease of 10 cases was recorded within the Human Health and Social Work activities. As illustrated in table 3, the largest share of accidents during the fourth quarter last year involved persons in craft and related trades, followed by those working in elementary occupations.

Wounds and superficial injuries, as well as dislocations, sprains and strains, were the most common types of injuries sustained during the fourth quarter, amounting to 334 and 190 respectively. Nearly 44 per cent of all injuries at work affected the upper extremities of the body while 22.0 per cent involved injuries to the lower extremities of the body.

In the quarter under review, 27.1 per cent of injury claims concerned persons aged between 25 and 34. As illustrated in table 7, people working in enterprises located within the Southern Harbour and Northern Harbour districts reported the majority of non-fatal accidents.

Fatal Accidents

During the last quarter of 2013, the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA) reported one fatal accident at work, involving a male ■

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Table 1. Non-fatal accidents at work by sex of victim

Sex	October-December 2012 (revised)		October-December 2013	
	No	%	No	%
Males	563	81.4	630	81.6
Females	129	18.6	142	18.4
Total	692	100.0	772	100.0

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Table 2. Non-fatal accidents at work by economic activity of enterprise

Economic Activity (NACE Rev. 2)	October-December 2012 (Revised)						October-December 2013					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	9	1.6	-	-	9	1.3	6	1.0	-	-	6	0.8
Mining and quarrying	4	0.7	-	-	4	0.6	1	0.2	1	0.7	2	0.3
Manufacturing	152	27.0	6	4.7	158	22.8	168	26.7	17	12.0	185	24.0
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	17	3.0	-	-	17	2.5	19	3.0	-	-	19	2.5
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	19	3.4	1	0.8	20	2.9	18	2.9	1	0.7	19	2.5
Construction	110	19.5	1	0.8	111	16.0	104	16.5	-	-	104	13.5
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	59	10.5	11	8.5	70	10.1	49	7.8	11	7.7	60	7.8
Transportation and storage	60	10.7	18	14.0	78	11.3	77	12.2	7	4.9	84	10.9
Accommodation and food service activities	41	7.3	21	16.3	62	9.0	56	8.9	20	14.1	76	9.8
Information and communication	4	0.7	2	1.6	6	0.9	6	1.0	1	0.7	7	0.9
Financial and insurance activities	7	1.2	3	2.3	10	1.4	1	0.2	1	0.7	2	0.3
Real estate activities	1	0.2	-	-	1	0.1	1	0.2	-	-	1	0.1
Professional, scientific and technical activities	3	0.5	-	-	3	0.4	15	2.4	4	2.8	19	2.5
Administrative and support service activities	16	2.8	5	3.9	21	3.0	51	8.1	9	6.3	60	7.8
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	25	4.4	9	7.0	34	4.9	33	5.2	2	1.4	35	4.5
Education	2	0.4	13	10.1	15	2.2	4	0.6	20	14.1	24	3.1
Human health and social work activities	24	4.3	37	28.7	61	8.8	11	1.7	40	28.2	51	6.6
Arts, entertainment and recreation	5	0.9	1	0.8	6	0.9	5	0.8	4	2.8	9	1.2
Other service activities	4	0.7	1	0.8	5	0.7	5	0.8	3	2.1	8	1.0
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not specified	1	0.2	-	-	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.7	1	0.1
Total	563	100.0	129	100.0	692	100.0	630	100.0	142	100.0	772	100.0

Table 3. Non-fatal accidents at work by occupation of victim

Occupations (ISCO-08)	October-December 2012 (Revised)						October-December 2013					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Armed forces	9	1.6	-	-	9	1.3	2	0.3	-	-	2	0.3
Managers	8	1.4	3	2.3	11	1.6	10	1.6	-	-	10	1.3
Professionals	25	4.4	26	20.2	51	7.4	17	2.7	25	17.6	42	5.4
Technicians and associate professionals	52	9.2	8	6.2	60	8.7	74	11.7	10	7.0	84	10.9
Clerical support workers	18	3.2	22	17.1	40	5.8	21	3.3	11	7.7	32	4.1
Service and sales workers	49	8.7	40	31.0	89	12.9	56	8.9	58	40.8	114	14.8
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	8	1.4	-	-	8	1.2	14	2.2	-	-	14	1.8
Craft and related trades workers	163	29.0	-	-	163	23.6	189	30.0	4	2.8	193	25.0
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	78	13.9	8	6.2	86	12.4	87	13.8	9	6.3	96	12.4
Elementary occupations	153	27.2	22	17.1	175	25.3	160	25.4	25	17.6	185	24.0
Total	563	100.0	129	100.0	692	100.0	630	100.0	142	100.0	772	100.0

Table 4. Non-fatal accidents at work by age group of victim

Age group	October-December 2012 (Revised)						October-December 2013					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
15-24	88	15.6	32	24.8	120	17.3	107	17.0	23	16.2	130	16.8
25-34	158	28.1	34	26.4	192	27.7	170	27.0	39	27.5	209	27.1
35-44	117	20.8	24	18.6	141	20.4	138	21.9	22	15.5	160	20.7
45-54	115	20.4	27	20.9	142	20.5	137	21.7	38	26.8	175	22.7
55+	85	15.1	12	9.3	97	14.0	78	12.4	20	14.1	98	12.7
Total	563	100.0	129	100.0	692	100.0	630	100.0	142	100.0	772	100.0

Table 5. Part of body injured in non-fatal accidents at work

Part of body	October-December 2012 (Revised)						October-December 2013					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Head	57	10.1	13	10.1	70	10.1	67	10.6	13	9.2	80	10.4
Neck, including spine and vertebra in the neck	20	3.6	6	4.7	26	3.8	16	2.5	2	1.4	18	2.3
Back, including spine and vertebra in the back	42	7.5	12	9.3	54	7.8	43	6.8	6	4.2	49	6.3
Torso and organs	14	2.5	2	1.6	16	2.3	25	4.0	9	6.3	34	4.4
Upper extremities	252	44.8	39	30.2	291	42.1	280	44.4	59	41.5	339	43.9
Lower extremities	134	23.8	39	30.2	173	25.0	136	21.6	34	23.9	170	22.0
Whole body and multiple sites	35	6.2	12	9.3	47	6.8	49	7.8	16	11.3	65	8.4
Other parts of body injured, not mentioned above	9	1.6	6	4.7	15	2.2	1	0.2	-	-	1	0.1
Not specified	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	2.1	3	2.1	16	2.1
Total	563	100.0	129	100.0	692	100.0	630	100.0	142	100.0	772	100.0

Table 6. Non-fatal accidents at work by type of injury

Type of Injury	October-December 2012 (Revised)						October-December 2013					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Wounds and superficial injuries	264	46.9	45	34.9	309	44.7	277	44.0	57	40.1	334	43.3
Bone fractures	51	9.1	13	10.1	64	9.2	69	11.0	15	10.6	84	10.9
Dislocations, sprains, and strains	166	29.5	46	35.7	212	30.6	155	24.6	35	24.6	190	24.6
Traumatic amputations	4	0.7	-	-	4	0.6	1	0.2	-	-	1	0.1
Concussions and internal injuries	8	1.4	4	3.1	12	1.7	12	1.9	2	1.4	14	1.8
Burns, scalds and frostbites	19	3.4	8	6.2	27	3.9	26	4.1	10	7.0	36	4.7
Poisonings and infections	2	0.4	-	-	2	0.3	1	0.2	-	-	1	0.1
Drowning and asphyxiations	1	0.2	-	-	1	0.1	3	0.5	1	0.7	4	0.5
Effects of sound and vibration	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.2	-	-	1	0.1
Effects of temperature extremes, light and radiation	1	0.2	-	-	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.7	1	0.1
Shock	2	0.4	-	-	2	0.3	1	0.2	1	0.7	2	0.3
Multiple injuries	12	2.1	2	1.6	14	2.0	18	2.9	3	2.1	21	2.7
Other specified injuries not included under other headings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not specified	33	5.9	11	8.5	44	6.4	66	10.5	17	12.0	83	10.8
Total	563	100.0	129	100.0	692	100.0	630	100.0	142	100.0	772	100.0

Table 7. Non-fatal accidents at work by district of enterprise

District	October-December 2012 (Revised)						October-December 2013					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Southern Harbour	172	30.6	50	38.8	222	32.1	207	32.9	54	38.0	261	33.8
Northern Harbour	181	32.1	45	34.9	226	32.7	199	31.6	47	33.1	246	31.9
South Eastern	81	14.4	12	9.3	93	13.4	73	11.6	19	13.4	92	11.9
Western	37	6.6	9	7.0	46	6.6	58	9.2	8	5.6	66	8.5
Northern	82	14.6	9	7.0	91	13.2	86	13.7	13	9.2	99	12.8
Gozo and Comino	10	1.8	4	3.1	14	2.0	7	1.1	1	0.7	8	1.0
Total	563	100.0	129	100.0	692	100.0	630	100.0	142	100.0	772	100.0

Table 8. Size of enterprise where non-fatal accidents occurred

Employment Size	October-December 2012 (Revised)						October-December 2013					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Self-employed without employees	25	4.4	-	-	25	3.6	28	4.4	5	3.5	33	4.3
1-9 employees	64	11.4	1	0.8	65	9.4	71	11.3	2	1.4	73	9.5
10-49 employees	117	20.8	8	6.2	125	18.1	86	13.7	14	9.9	100	13.0
50-249 employees	135	24.0	27	20.9	162	23.4	179	28.4	38	26.8	217	28.1
250-499 employees	79	14.0	35	27.1	114	16.5	96	15.2	27	19.0	123	15.9
500 employees or more	138	24.5	56	43.4	194	28.0	163	25.9	53	37.3	216	28.0
Not specified	5	0.9	2	1.6	7	1.0	7	1.1	3	2.1	10	1.3
Total	563	100.0	129	100.0	692	100.0	630	100.0	142	100.0	772	100.0

Table 9. Employment status of victim involved in non-fatal accidents

Employment Status	October-December 2012 (Revised)						October-December 2013					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Self-employed	39	6.9	2	1.6	41	5.9	48	7.6	5	3.5	53	6.9
Full-time employees	511	90.8	108	83.7	619	89.5	555	88.1	121	85.2	676	87.6
Part-time employees	13	2.3	19	14.7	32	4.6	27	4.3	16	11.3	43	5.6
Total	563	100.0	129	100.0	692	100.0	630	100.0	142	100.0	772	100.0

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. Data pertaining to accidents at work is based on claims for injury benefit as submitted to the Department of Social Security, irrespective of the number of days lost.
5. Percentages may not add up due to rounding.