

During the fourth quarter of 2019, there were six road traffic fatalities.

Road Traffic Accidents: Q4/2019

The number of reported traffic accidents during the fourth quarter of 2019 amounted to 3,841, an increase of 9.4 per cent over the corresponding period in 2018. The Northern Harbour district registered the largest share of all road traffic accidents with 1,400 cases or 36.4 per cent of all accidents (Table 1).

Road traffic casualties increased by 3.0 per cent to 382 over quarter four in 2018. Grievously injured persons consisted of 35 drivers, 15 passengers and 22 pedestrians/cyclists/other persons. The injuries suffered by two drivers and four pedestrians proved fatal (Table 4). The total number of road traffic fatalities in 2019 amounted to 16.

When classified by gender, the majority of the 72 grievously injured persons were males (70.8 per cent). The fatalities consisted of six males. Moreover, most of the recorded traffic casualties fell in the 26 to 40 year age-bracket (Table 5).

The largest number of road traffic casualties involved passenger cars (59.9 per cent), followed by motorcycles (28.3 per cent) and goods-carrying vehicles (7.1 per cent). The six fatalities comprised of a motorcyclist, a passenger car driver and four pedestrians. Two of the pedestrians were hit by passenger cars and the others by a motorcycle and a goods-carrying vehicle, respectively. Seven cyclists were involved in road traffic accidents, three of whom suffered grievous injuries (Table 6). Road traffic casualties caused by collisions between vehicles topped the entire list with 70.2 per cent of the total (Table 7).

The highest number of road traffic casualties occurred on Saturdays with 67 casualties, while the highest number of road traffic accidents took place on Mondays with 635 accidents (Table 8). The time bracket during which most of the road traffic accidents occurred was between 09:00 and 11:59 with 804 cases or 20.9 per cent of the total, followed closely by the 12:00-14:59 time bracket with 801 cases. The time bracket during which the least number of accidents were recorded was between 00:00 and 02:59 with 71 cases (Table 9).

The highest number of road traffic accidents took place in Birkirkara with 344 cases. Ħal Qormi and Naxxar followed with 221 and 183 reported accidents, respectively (Chart 5).

Chart 1. Road traffic accidents by month

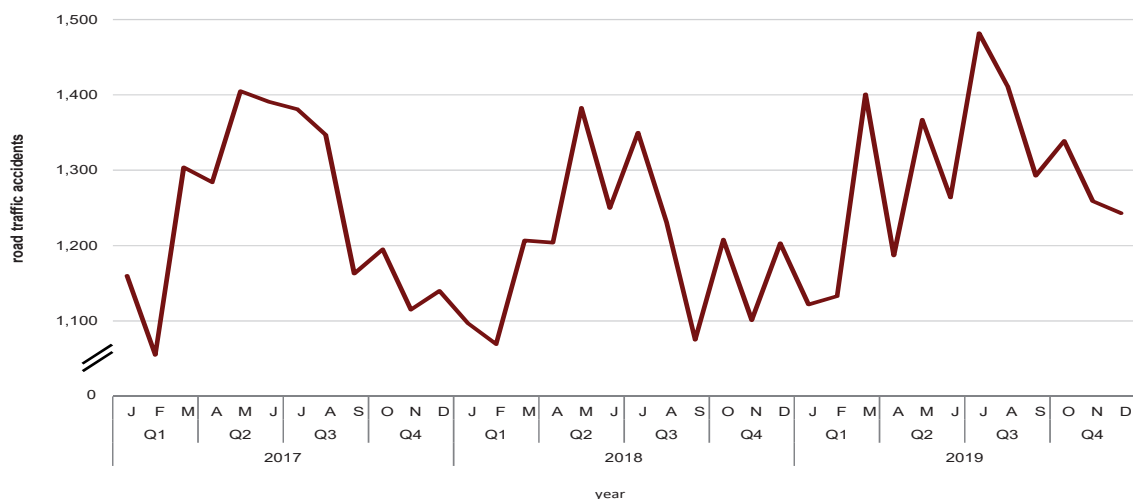


Table 1. Total road traffic accidents by region/district

Region/District	January-December		October-December			
	2018	2019	2018	2019	Change	Percentage change
MALTA	14,378	15,502	3,512	3,841	329	9.4
Malta	13,641	14,586	3,351	3,658	307	9.2
Southern Harbour	2,788	2,939	725	790	65	9.0
Northern Harbour	5,250	5,690	1,305	1,400	95	7.3
South Eastern	1,346	1,484	307	369	62	20.2
Western	1,771	1,846	450	476	26	5.8
Northern	2,486	2,627	564	623	59	10.5
Gozo and Comino	737	916	161	183	22	13.7

Table 2. Non-injury road traffic accidents by region/district

Region/District	January-December		October-December			
	2018	2019	2018	2019	Change	Percentage change
MALTA	13,026	14,146	3,188	3,515	327	10.3
Malta	12,390	13,350	3,052	3,348	296	9.7
Southern Harbour	2,474	2,651	637	701	64	10.0
Northern Harbour	4,853	5,265	1,211	1,311	100	8.3
South Eastern	1,195	1,324	279	341	62	22.2
Western	1,627	1,692	415	427	12	2.9
Northern	2,241	2,418	510	568	58	11.4
Gozo and Comino	636	796	136	167	31	22.8

Table 3. Injury road traffic accidents by region/district

Region/District	January-December		October-December			
	2018	2019	2018	2019	Change	Percentage change
MALTA	1,352	1,356	324	326	2	0.6
Malta	1,251	1,236	299	310	11	3.7
Southern Harbour	314	288	88	89	1	1.1
Northern Harbour	397	425	94	89	-5	-5.3
South Eastern	151	160	28	28	0	0.0
Western	144	154	35	49	14	40.0
Northern	245	209	54	55	1	1.9
Gozo and Comino	101	120	25	16	-9	-36.0

Table 4. Road traffic casualties by road traffic unit, region/district and injury type: October-December

Region/District	2018					2019				
	Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total	Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total
DRIVERS										
MALTA	2	40	193	10	245	2	35	180	9	226
Malta	2	39	175	9	225	2	33	177	6	218
Southern Harbour	2	7	47	1	57	-	7	53	-	60
Northern Harbour	-	16	45	5	66	-	7	51	2	60
South Eastern	-	3	23	1	27	-	4	16	-	20
Western	-	5	26	-	31	1	6	29	3	39
Northern	-	8	34	2	44	1	9	28	1	39
Gozo and Comino	-	1	18	1	20	-	2	3	3	8
PASSENGERS										
MALTA	-	16	43	5	64	-	15	50	10	75
Malta	-	16	40	4	60	-	15	47	8	70
Southern Harbour	-	5	17	2	24	-	2	18	-	20
Northern Harbour	-	6	10	2	18	-	3	5	3	11
South Eastern	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	6	2	9
Western	-	2	1	-	3	-	2	3	2	7
Northern	-	3	11	-	14	-	7	15	1	23
Gozo and Comino	-	-	3	1	4	-	-	3	2	5
PEDESTRIANS/CYCLISTS/OTHERS										
MALTA	-	24	35	3	62	4	22	52	3	81
Malta	-	22	32	2	56	4	20	51	1	76
Southern Harbour	-	7	12	-	19	1	7	17	-	25
Northern Harbour	-	11	11	2	24	1	7	15	1	24
South Eastern	-	-	3	-	3	1	1	2	-	4
Western	-	2	2	-	4	-	2	9	-	11
Northern	-	2	4	-	6	1	3	8	-	12
Gozo and Comino	-	2	3	1	6	-	2	1	2	5
...of which cyclists (MALTA)	-	1	3	1	5	-	3	4	-	7
TOTAL										
MALTA	2	80	271	18	371	6	72	282	22	382
Malta	2	77	247	15	341	6	68	275	15	364
Southern Harbour	2	19	76	3	100	1	16	88	-	105
Northern Harbour	-	33	66	9	108	1	17	71	6	95
South Eastern	-	3	27	1	31	1	6	24	2	33
Western	-	9	29	-	38	1	10	41	5	57
Northern	-	13	49	2	64	2	19	51	2	74
Gozo and Comino	-	3	24	3	30	-	4	7	7	18

Note: The category "Other" refers to horsecabs and any other road traffic unit not described above.

Table 5. Road traffic casualties by type of injury, age group and sex: October-December

Age group	2018	2019				
	Total	Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total
		Males				
0-10	7	-	1	6	-	7
11-17	4	-	1	4	-	5
18-25	47	-	10	21	-	31
26-40	72	-	14	53	6	73
41-59	65	1	9	53	2	65
60-65	13	-	2	11	1	14
66+	24	5	14	14	1	34
Total	232	6	51	162	10	229
		Females				
0-10	2	-	1	4	-	5
11-17	8	-	-	6	1	7
18-25	23	-	4	20	2	26
26-40	41	-	5	41	3	49
41-59	34	-	4	26	2	32
60-65	11	-	1	9	2	12
66+	20	-	6	14	2	22
Total	139	-	21	120	12	153
		Total				
0-10	9	-	2	10	-	12
11-17	12	-	1	10	1	12
18-25	70	-	14	41	2	57
26-40	113	-	19	94	9	122
41-59	99	1	13	79	4	97
60-65	24	-	3	20	3	26
66+	44	5	20	28	3	56
Total	371	6	72	282	22	382

Chart 2. Road traffic casualties by gender and age group: October-December 2019

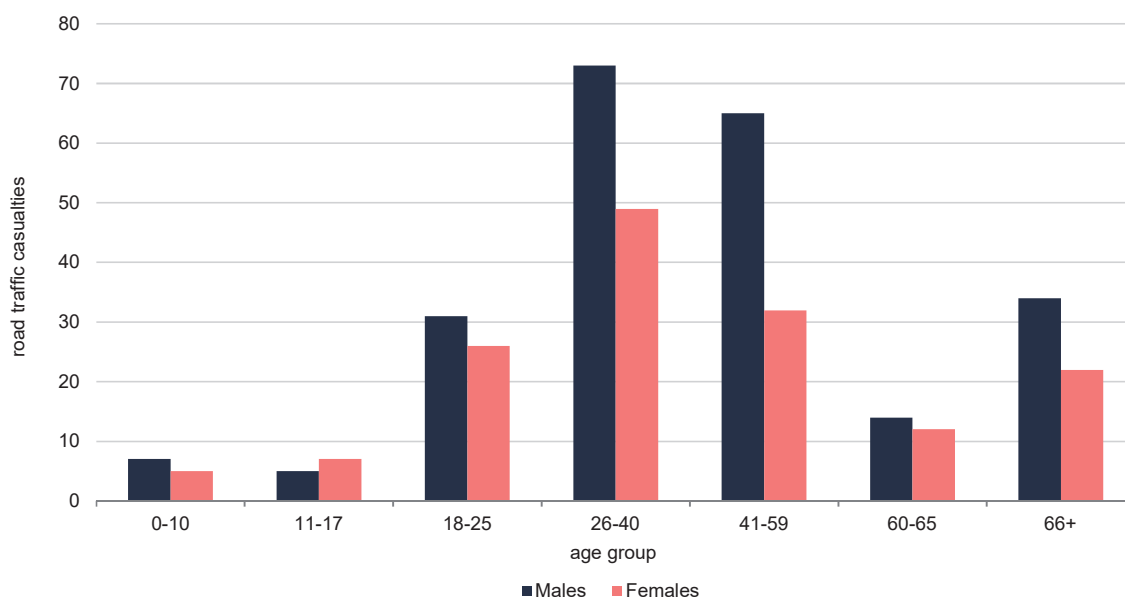


Table 6. Road traffic casualties by road traffic unit, vehicle type and injury: October-December

Road traffic unit	Vehicle type	2019				
		Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total
Driver	Route bus	-	-	6	-	6
	Motorcycle	1	21	67	5	94
	Quad and ATV	-	-	1	-	1
	Passenger car	1	12	98	4	115
	Goods-carrying vehicle	-	2	7	-	9
	Special-purpose vehicle	-	-	1	-	1
Passenger	Route bus	-	-	1	-	1
	Motorcycle	-	2	3	1	6
	Quad and ATV	-	-	1	-	1
	Passenger car	-	13	40	8	61
	Goods-carrying vehicle	-	-	5	1	6
Pedestrian	Mini bus	-	-	1	-	1
	Route bus	-	-	1	-	1
	Motorcycle	1	1	6	-	8
	Passenger car	2	14	30	2	48
	Goods-carrying vehicle	1	2	6	1	10
	Unknown vehicle	-	1	4	-	5
Cyclist	Passenger car	-	2	2	-	4
	Goods-carrying vehicle	-	1	1	-	2
	Unknown vehicle	-	-	1	-	1
Other	Passenger car	-	1	-	-	1
Total		6	72	282	22	382

Table 7. Road traffic casualties by road traffic unit, type of accident and injury: October-December

Road traffic unit	Accident type	2019				
		Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total
Driver	Vehicle with vehicle	1	29	165	8	203
	Vehicle with pedestrian	-	-	2	1	3
	Vehicle with property	1	6	12	-	19
	Vehicle hit and run	-	-	1	-	1
Passenger	Vehicle with vehicle	-	9	48	8	65
	Vehicle with property	-	6	2	2	10
Pedestrian	Vehicle with pedestrian	4	16	48	3	71
	Vehicle hit and run	-	2	-	-	2
Cyclist	Vehicle with bicycle	-	3	4	-	7
Other	Vehicle with animal	-	1	-	-	1
Total		6	72	282	22	382

Table 8. Road traffic casualties and accidents by day of the week: October-December 2019

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
Traffic casualties	57	56	48	54	52	67	48	382
Traffic accidents	635	625	541	587	605	519	329	3,841
Casualties-to-accidents ratio (%)	9.0	9.0	8.9	9.2	8.6	12.9	14.6	9.9

Chart 3. Percentage distribution of Road traffic casualties by day of the week: October-December 2019

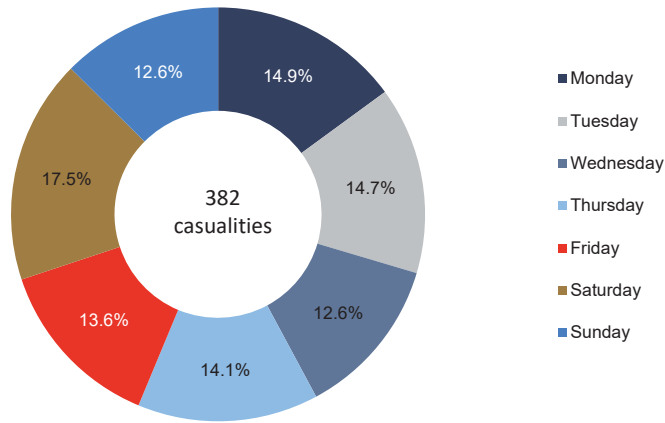


Table 9. Road traffic accidents by day of the week and time bracket: October-December 2019

Time bracket	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
00:00 - 02:59	8	6	9	5	8	20	15	71
03:00 - 05:59	8	5	7	14	12	20	18	84
06:00 - 08:59	120	139	103	114	102	56	34	668
09:00 - 11:59	137	125	106	117	134	122	63	804
12:00 - 14:59	139	123	101	110	133	130	65	801
15:00 - 17:59	134	132	125	120	117	71	61	760
18:00 - 20:59	70	74	67	89	69	66	50	485
21:00 - 23:59	19	21	23	18	30	34	23	168
Total	635	625	541	587	605	519	329	3,841

Chart 4. Casualties-to-accidents ratio by day of the week and time bracket: October-December 2019

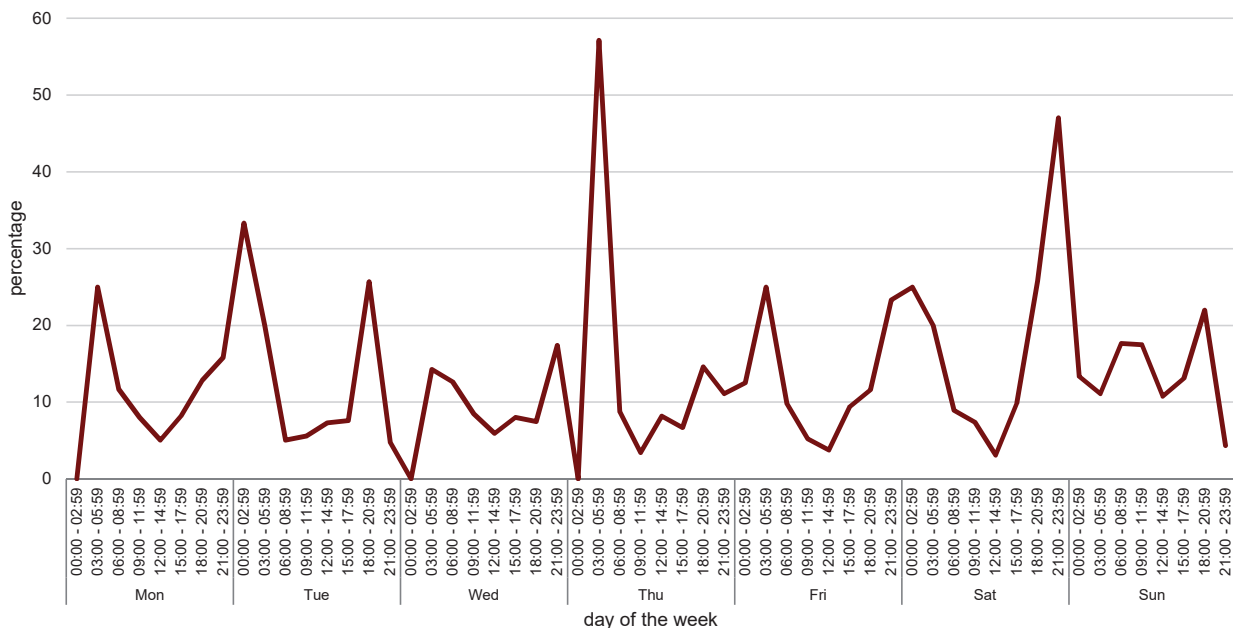


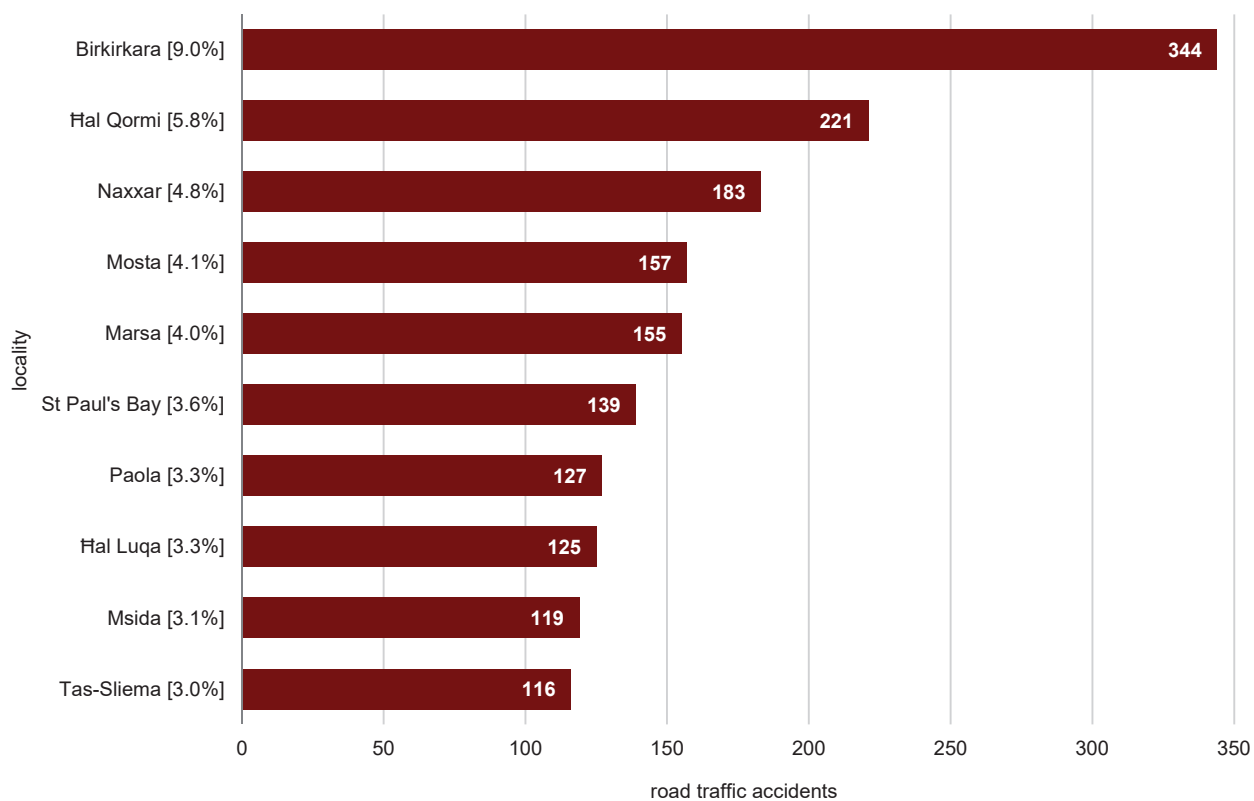
Table 10. Road traffic accidents by district/locality ...

District/Locality	January-December		October-December		Change
	2018	2019	2018	2019	
Malta	14,378	15,502	3,512	3,841	329
Southern Harbour	2,788	2,939	725	790	65
Cospicua	93	100	26	27	1
Fgura	254	283	68	88	20
Floriana	195	177	46	45	-1
Ħal Luqa	396	426	91	125	34
Ħal Tarxien	267	252	66	56	-10
Ħaż-Żabbar	247	315	65	82	17
Kalkara	28	47	6	8	2
Marsa	643	548	186	155	-31
Paola	355	469	105	127	22
Santa Luċija	34	47	9	20	11
Senglea	27	28	2	4	2
Valletta	168	177	39	38	-1
Vittoriosa	53	53	11	13	2
Xgħajra	28	17	5	2	-3
Northern Harbour	5,250	5,690	1,305	1,400	95
Birkirkara	1,261	1,322	354	344	-10
Gżira	326	383	80	87	7
Ħal Qormi	773	862	173	221	48
Ħamrun	340	350	88	76	-12
Msida	452	499	126	119	-7
Pembroke	86	133	19	30	11
San Ġwann	450	478	118	100	-18
Santa Venera	253	327	64	88	24
St Julian's	382	405	88	108	20
Swieqi	248	244	67	57	-10
Ta' Xbiex	71	74	10	15	5
Tal-Pietà	174	181	45	39	-6
Tas-Sliema	434	432	73	116	43
South Eastern	1,346	1,484	307	369	62
Birżebbuġa	220	222	50	53	3
Gudja	208	181	43	55	12
Ħal Għaxaq	73	107	21	35	14
Ħal Kirkop	47	55	15	16	1
Ħal Safi	32	34	7	9	2
Marsaskala	176	209	39	49	10
Marsaxlokk	58	69	12	15	3
Mqabba	40	52	9	11	2
Qrendi	37	36	8	7	-1
Żejtun	309	356	67	80	13
Żurrieq	146	163	36	39	3
Western	1,771	1,846	450	476	26
Ħad-Dingli	44	44	8	15	7
Ħal Balzan	172	177	36	46	10
Ħal Lija	166	188	43	49	6
Ħ'Attard	486	447	132	110	-22
Ħaż-Żebbuġ	309	321	78	74	-4
Iklin	88	102	26	30	4
Mdina	28	16	5	5	-
Mtarfa	84	80	6	4	-2
Rabat	284	328	89	95	6
Sigġiewi	110	143	27	48	21
Northern	2,486	2,627	564	623	59
Ħal Għarghur	103	100	25	24	-1
Mellieħa	373	374	63	80	17
Mġarr	139	163	33	40	7
Mosta	577	656	134	157	23
Naxxar	575	682	149	183	34
St Paul's Bay	719	652	160	139	-21

... Table 10. Road traffic accidents by district/locality

District/Locality	January-December		October-December		
	2018	2019	2018	2019	Change
Gozo and Comino	737	916	161	183	22
Fontana	18	21	4	4	-
Għajnsielem	74	110	15	18	3
Għarb	27	35	6	7	1
Għasri	8	15	2	2	-
Munxar	20	41	1	6	5
Nadur	43	67	7	15	8
Qala	25	33	6	8	2
San Lawrenz	2	4	-	-	1
Ta' Kerċem	7	17	1	4	3
Ta' Sannat	18	25	5	7	2
Victoria	253	290	66	63	-3
Xagħra	65	67	11	16	5
Xewkija	127	123	30	24	-6
Żebbuġ	50	68	7	9	2

Chart 5. Top ten localities in which most road traffic accidents occurred: October-December 2019



Methodological Notes

1. Road traffic accidents data are compiled from administrative information provided by the Police Department and the Malta Insurance Association (Guard and Warden Services Limited).
2. Total road traffic accidents consist of the road traffic accidents involving casualties (Police reports) and the minor road traffic accidents without casualties (Police and Warden reports).
3. Minor (non-injury) road traffic accidents which are either not reported or directly reported to Insurance Agencies by means of the Traffic Accident Form (i.e. where no Police or Wardens are called on the accident scene and are settled by the completion of the relevant form) are not accounted for.
4. Minor (non-injury) road traffic accidents refer to accidents assessed by the Wardens and/or the Police involving at least one vehicle and in which no persons are injured (Table 2).
5. Insignificant injury is determined by the Police as the sustaining of a very minimal injury (e.g. bruise, scratch, etc.) or shock due to accident which, in most cases requires very basic treatment or no treatment at all.
6. The definitions of slight and grievous injuries are as listed in Art. 214 *et sequitur* of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta: <http://www.justiceservices.gov.mt/DownloadDocument.aspx?app=lom&itemid=8574>
7. UNECE defines road fatal injury as: "Any person who was killed outright or who died within 30 days as a result of the accident".
8. The casualty-to-accident ratio indicates the risk level of suffering an injury in an accident. Therefore, a higher percentage rate means that the corresponding accidents were more serious (i.e. more persons were injured).
9. Data is provisional and may be subject to revision.
10. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:
Sources and Methods: https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_B3/Environment_Energy_Transport_and_Agriculture_Statistics/Pages/Road-Traffic-Accidents.aspx
Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>
11. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
12. A detailed news release calendar is available on: https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx