

News Releases

[Home](#) » Road Traffic Accidents: Q3/2023



[Salient Points](#)

[News](#)

[Data](#)

[Methodology](#)

[Map Notes](#)

Road Traffic Accidents: Q3/2023

NR196/2023

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During the third quarter of 2023, road traffic accidents increased while casualties decreased when compared to the same quarter of the previous year. Road traffic fatalities amounted to one.



The number of reported traffic accidents during the third quarter of 2023 reached 4,351, up by 7.1 per cent over the same period in 2022. The Northern Harbour district registered the most accidents with 1,514 cases or 34.8 per cent of all accidents (Table 1).

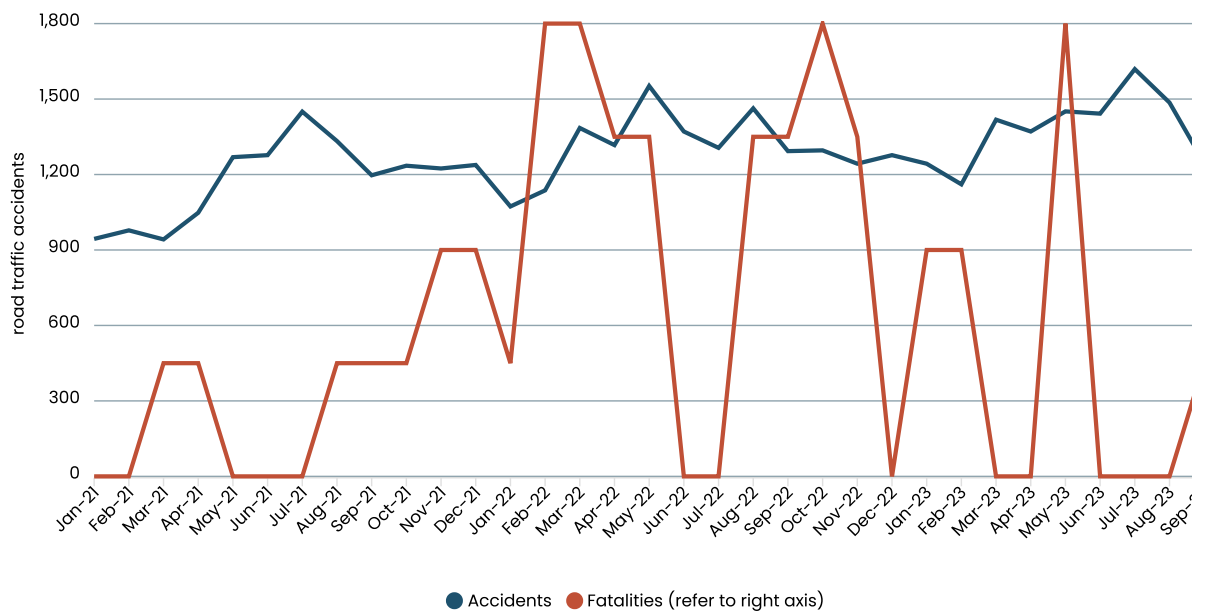
Road traffic casualties decreased by 4.9 per cent to 427 over the same period in 2022. Grievously injured persons amounted to 115, and consisted of 66 drivers, 16 passengers and 33

pedestrians/cyclists/others. The injuries suffered by one driver proved fatal (Tables 4-6). During this quarter, five less fatalities occurred when compared to the same period in 2022 (Chart 1).

The majority of those grievously injured were males (77.4 per cent). Moreover, the fatality that occurred during this quarter involved a male. As regard to age cohorts, the highest amount of casualties involved persons in the 26 to 40 years age bracket (37.2 per cent) (Table 5).

Chart 1. Road traffic accidents and fatalities by period





The largest number of road traffic casualties (52.7 per cent) involved passenger cars, followed by motorcycles (36.8 per cent) and goods-carrying vehicles (5.2 per cent). The fatal accident included a vehicle colliding with another vehicle killing the driver. Cyclists involved in traffic accidents amounted to eight, where two suffered grievous injuries, five suffered slight injuries and one suffered insignificant injuries (Tables 6-7). Road traffic casualties resulting from accidents between vehicles topped the list with 67.2 per cent of all road traffic casualties (Table 7).

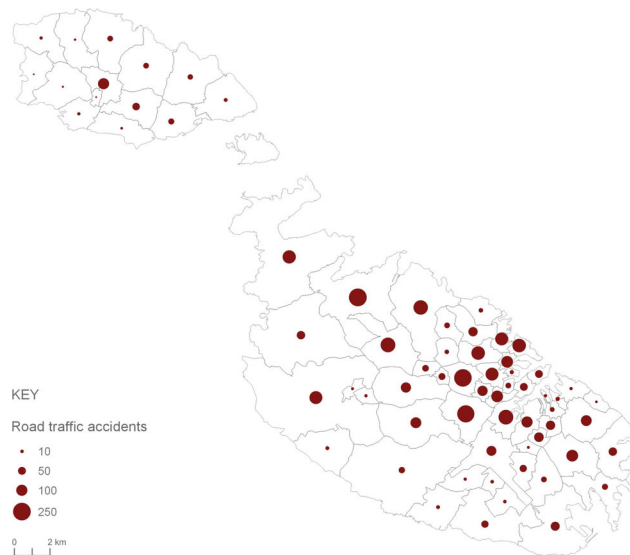
The highest number of road traffic casualties occurred on Fridays with 72 casualties, and the highest number of road traffic accidents occurred on Mondays with 692 cases or 15.9 per cent of the total (Table 8). The time bracket during which most road traffic accidents occurred was between 09:00 – 11:59 with 1,002 cases or 23.0 per cent of the total, followed by the 15:00 – 17:59 time bracket with 914 cases. The least number of accidents occurring daily took place between 03:00 – 05:59 with 63 cases (Table 9).

The highest incidence of road traffic accidents was registered in San Pawl il-Baħar with 254 cases, followed by Birkirkara and Ħal Qormi, with 248 and 245 cases respectively (Table 10, Map 1 and Chart 5).

Ta' Kerċem, il-Fontana and San Lawrenz registered less than five road traffic accidents. (Map 1 and Table 10).

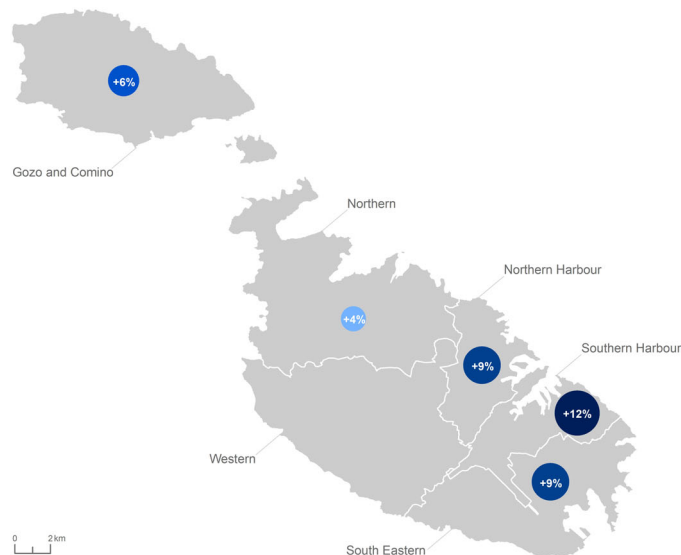
Map 1. Road traffic accidents by locality: July-September 2023





All districts recorded an increase in road traffic accidents except for the Western district, which recorded a slight decrease, when compared to the third quarter of the previous year. The Southern Harbour district registered the highest percentage increase in road traffic accidents at 11.6 per cent, followed by the Northern Harbour district at 9.1 per cent (Table 1 and Map 2).

Map 2. Percentage change in road traffic accidents by district: July-September 2023/2022



Note: In the Western district, the percentage decrease in road traffic accidents was negligible.

Table 1. Total road traffic accidents by period and region/district

Region/District	January-September		July-September			
	2022	2023	2022	2023	Change	Percentage change
MALTA	11,897	12,437	4,062	4,351	289	7.1
Malta	11,099	11,684	3,763	4,033	270	7.2
Southern Harbour	2,186	2,344	696	777	81	11.6
Northern Harbour	4,072	4,437	1,388	1,514	126	9.1
South Eastern	1,208	1,222	397	431	34	8.6
Western	1,457	1,441	480	478	-2	-0.4
Northern	2,176	2,240	802	833	31	3.9
Gozo and Comino	798	753	299	318	19	6.4

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

Region/District	January-September		July-September			
	2022	2023	2022	2023	Change	Percentage change
MALTA	10,877	11,414	3,695	3,990	295	8.0
Malta	10,189	10,770	3,433	3,719	286	8.3
Southern Harbour	1,985	2,132	633	703	70	11.1
Northern Harbour	3,751	4,128	1,264	1,409	145	11.5
South Eastern	1,086	1,103	355	390	35	9.9
Western	1,357	1,344	452	447	-5	-1.1
Northern	2,010	2,063	729	770	41	5.6
Gozo and Comino	688	644	262	271	9	3.4

Table 3. Injury road traffic accidents by period and region/district

Region/District	January-September		July-September			
	2022	2023	2022	2023	Change	Percentage change
MALTA	1,020	1,023	367	361	-6	-1.6
Malta	910	914	330	314	-16	-4.8
Southern Harbour	201	212	63	74	11	17.5
Northern Harbour	321	309	124	105	-19	-15.3
South Eastern	122	119	42	41	-1	-2.4
Western	100	97	28	31	3	10.7
Northern	166	177	73	63	-10	-13.7
Gozo and Comino	110	109	37	47	10	27.0

Table 4. Road traffic casualties by period, injury type, region/district and road traffic unit

Region/District	July-September									
	2022					2023				
	Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total	Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total
DRIVER										
MALTA	-	61	206	12	279	1	66	186	9	262
Malta	-	53	182	9	244	1	53	160	7	221
Southern Harbour	-	11	39	1	51	-	13	44	1	58
Northern Harbour	-	15	64	2	81	-	17	49	2	68
South Eastern	-	5	25	1	31	-	9	19	-	28
Western	-	6	16	1	23	1	5	18	1	25
Northern	-	16	38	4	58	-	9	30	3	42
Gozo and Comino	-	8	24	3	35	-	13	26	2	41
PASSENGER										
MALTA	1	17	50	6	74	-	16	55	3	74
Malta	1	14	44	5	64	-	16	45	3	64
Southern Harbour	-	3	15	1	19	-	2	7	-	9
Northern Harbour	1	3	9	3	16	-	3	16	-	19
South Eastern	-	1	8	-	9	-	2	7	1	10
Western	-	3	1	-	4	-	5	5	-	10
Northern	-	4	11	1	16	-	4	10	2	16
Gozo and Comino	-	3	6	1	10	-	-	10	-	10
PEDESTRIAN/CYCLIST/OTHER										
MALTA	5	38	52	1	96	-	33	51	7	91
Malta	4	37	51	1	93	-	30	48	7	85
Southern Harbour	2	2	4	-	8	-	8	8	1	17
Northern Harbour	1	20	25	1	47	-	10	22	3	35
South Eastern	1	6	9	-	16	-	3	7	-	10
Western	-	3	3	-	6	-	2	2	-	4
Northern	-	6	10	-	16	-	7	9	3	19
Gozo and Comino	1	1	1	-	3	-	3	3	-	6
...of which cyclist (MALTA)	-	6	7	-	13	-	2	5	1	8
TOTAL										
MALTA	6	116	308	19	449	1	115	292	19	427
Malta	5	104	277	15	401	1	99	253	17	370
Southern Harbour	2	16	58	2	78	-	23	59	2	84
Northern Harbour	2	38	98	6	144	-	30	87	5	122
South Eastern	1	12	42	1	56	-	14	33	1	48
Western	-	12	20	1	33	1	12	25	1	39
Northern	-	26	59	5	90	-	20	49	8	77
Gozo and Comino	1	12	31	4	48	-	16	39	2	57

Notes: The category "Other" refers to horse cabs, persons making use of e-kick scooters and any other road traffic units not listed above.

Table 5. Road traffic casualties by period, injury type, gender and age group

Age group	July-September					
	2022	2023				
	Total	Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total
		Males				
0-10	10	-	1	4	2	7
11-17	12	-	4	5	1	10
18-25	61	-	13	24	-	37
26-40	110	-	28	73	6	107
41-59	73	-	22	38	2	62
60-64	10	-	6	9	-	15
65+	27	1	15	28	1	45
Total	303	1	89	181	12	283
		Females				
0-10	8	-	1	4	-	5
11-17	9	-	1	4	-	5
18-25	29	-	1	14	1	16
26-40	46	-	8	40	4	52
41-59	35	-	5	29	2	36
60-64	6	-	1	7	-	8
65+	13	-	9	13	-	22
Total	146	-	26	111	7	144
		Total				
0-10	18	-	2	8	2	12
11-17	21	-	5	9	1	15
18-25	90	-	14	38	1	53
26-40	156	-	36	113	10	159
41-59	108	-	27	67	4	98
60-64	16	-	7	16	-	23
65+	40	1	24	41	1	67
Total	449	1	115	292	19	427

Table 6. Road traffic casualties by period, injury type, road traffic unit and vehicle type

Road traffic unit	Vehicle type	July-September				
		2023				
		Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total
Driver	Minibus	-	-	1	-	1
	Motorcycle	1	43	83	4	131
	E-kick scooter	-	1	2	-	3
	Quad and ATV	-	2	2	-	4
	Passenger car	-	19	87	5	111
	Goods carrying vehicle	-	1	11	-	12
Passenger	Minibus	-	1	-	-	1
	Route Bus	-	-	3	-	3
	Motorcycle	-	6	11	-	17
	Quad and ATV	-	-	2	-	2
	Passenger car	-	9	37	3	49
	Goods carrying vehicle	-	-	2	-	2
Pedestrian	Route Bus	-	-	1	-	1
	Motorcycle	-	3	5	1	9
	Passenger car	-	23	29	3	55
	Goods carrying vehicle	-	1	5	1	7
	Unknown vehicle	-	2	4	-	6
Cyclist	Passenger car	-	1	4	1	6
	Goods carrying vehicle	-	1	-	-	1
	Unknown vehicle	-	-	1	-	1
Other	Passenger car	-	1	2	1	4
	Unknown vehicle	-	1	-	-	1
Total		1	115	292	19	427

Note: The category "Other" refers to horse cabs, persons making use of e-kick scooters and any other road traffic units not listed above.

Table 7. Road traffic casualties by period, injury type, road traffic unit and accident type

Road traffic unit	Accident type	July-September				
		2023				
		Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total
Driver	Vehicle with vehicle	1	56	158	6	221
	Vehicle with pedestrian	-	-	2	-	2
	Vehicle with property	-	10	23	3	36
	Vehicle hit and run	-	-	2	-	2
	Vehicle with bicycle	-	-	1	-	1
Passenger	Vehicle with vehicle	-	12	48	3	63
	Vehicle with property	-	4	6	-	10
	Vehicle hit and run	-	-	1	-	1
Pedestrian	Vehicle with vehicle	-	1	1	-	2
	Vehicle with pedestrian	-	27	41	5	73
	Vehicle hit and run	-	1	2	-	3
Cyclist	Vehicle hit and run	-	-	1	-	1
	Vehicle with bicycle	-	2	4	1	7
Other	Vehicle with vehicle	-	-	1	-	1
	Vehicle with pedestrian	-	-	1	1	2
	Vehicle hit and run	-	1	-	-	1
	Vehicle with bicycle	-	1	-	-	1
Total		1	115	292	19	427

Note: The category "Other" refers to horse cabs, persons making use of e-kick scooters and any other road traffic units not listed above.

Table 8. Road traffic casualties and accidents by day of the week: July-September 2023

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
Road traffic casualties	52	67	59	68	72	55	54	427
Road traffic accidents	692	682	652	647	645	613	420	4,351
Casualties-to-accidents ratio (%)	7.5	9.8	9.0	10.5	11.2	9.0	12.9	9.8

Table 9. Road traffic accidents by day of the week and time bracket: July-September 2023

Time bracket	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
00:00 - 02:59	10	9	9	16	14	27	29	114
03:00 - 05:59	10	7	7	7	6	12	14	63
06:00 - 08:59	89	86	87	74	87	46	25	494
09:00 - 11:59	179	178	142	140	138	145	80	1,002
12:00 - 14:59	120	136	140	143	154	142	77	912
15:00 - 17:59	167	149	146	144	127	107	74	914
18:00 - 20:59	88	90	86	86	84	91	88	613
21:00 - 23:59	29	27	35	37	35	43	33	239
Total	692	682	652	647	645	613	420	4,351

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

District/Locality	January-September		July-September		
	2022	2023	2022	2023	Change
Southern Harbour	2,186	2,344	696	777	81
Bormla	74	65	26	19	-7
Il-Fgura	223	207	79	72	-7
Floriana	135	136	45	50	5
Hal Luqa	293	284	91	83	-8
Hal Tarxien	190	250	58	76	18
Haż-Żabbar	275	277	83	97	14
Il-Kalkara	20	25	6	9	3
Il-Marsa	431	528	116	178	62
Raħal Ġdid	319	306	99	102	3
Santa Luċija	16	18	7	8	1
L-Isla	23	26	9	10	1
Valletta	134	160	59	51	-8
Il-Birgu	37	47	14	16	2
Ix-Xgħajra	16	15	4	6	2
Northern Harbour	4,072	4,437	1,388	1,514	126
Birkirkara	827	797	273	248	-25
Il-Gżira	264	282	100	112	12
Hal Qormi	583	703	179	245	66
Il-Ħamrun	304	329	106	113	7
L-Imsida	380	407	127	135	8
Pembroke	66	70	23	17	-6
San Ġwann	374	413	135	149	14
Santa Venera	288	297	81	86	5
San Ġiljan	343	421	127	139	12
Is-Swieqi	190	213	68	71	3
Ta' Xbiex	54	50	24	16	-8
Tal-Pietà	102	93	34	29	-5
Tas-Sliema	297	362	111	154	43
South Eastern	1,208	1,222	397	431	34
Birżebbuġa	176	185	75	67	-8
Il-Gudja	133	120	43	44	1
Hal Ghaxaq	77	73	21	28	7
Hal Kirkop	59	44	16	11	-5
Hal Safi	46	32	20	11	-9
Marsaskala	153	162	56	58	2
Marsaxlokk	61	64	20	30	10
L-Imqabba	33	34	10	10	0
Il-Qrendi	49	52	20	14	-6
Iż-Żejtun	277	317	76	115	39
Iż-Żurrieq	144	139	40	43	3
Western	1,457	1,441	480	478	-2
Ħad-Dingli	34	52	14	13	-1
Hal Balzan	114	117	40	41	1
Hal Lija	129	125	40	36	-4
Ħ'Attard	296	254	97	87	-10
Haż-Żebbuġ	283	287	98	95	-3
L-Iklin	75	77	29	18	-11
L-Imdina	25	27	9	10	1
L-Imtarfa	24	24	3	8	5
Ir-Rabat	341	359	107	135	28
Is-Siġġiewi	136	119	43	35	-8
Northern	2,176	2,240	802	833	31
Hal Gharghur	94	80	26	29	3
Il-Mellieħa	292	326	128	143	15

L-Imġarr	140	182	56	60	4
Il-Mosta	574	554	210	179	-31
In-Naxxar	503	466	184	168	-16
San Pawl Il-Baħar	573	632	198	254	56
Gozo and Comino	798	753	299	318	19
Il-Fontana	20	8	11	3	-8
Għajnsielem and Comino	87	78	27	31	4
L-Għarb	26	24	3	10	7
L-Għasri	11	14	5	5	0
Il-Munxar	26	22	17	10	-7
In-Nadur	55	53	19	24	5
Il-Qala	37	26	13	13	0
San Lawrenz	7	10	4	3	-1
Ta' Kerċem	20	11	7	4	-3
Ta' Sannat	23	24	12	7	-5
Ir-Rabat	243	256	83	105	22
Ix-Xagħra	76	68	25	29	4
Ix-Xewkija	106	111	35	46	11
Iż-Żebbuġ	61	48	38	28	-10
Total	11,897	12,437	4,062	4,351	289

News Releases

[Home](#) » Road Traffic Accidents: Q3/2023



[Salient Points](#)

[News](#)

[Data](#)

[Methodology](#)

[Map Notes](#)

Methodological Notes

1. Road traffic accidents data is compiled from administrative information provided by the Malta Police Force and the Malta Insurance Association (LESA).

2. Definitions:

a. 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).

b. Non-injury (minor) road traffic accidents refer to accidents assessed by Wardens and/or the Police involving at least one vehicle and in which no persons are injured. 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.

c. 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.

d. The definition of slight injury is as listed in Art. 221 et sequitur of the Criminal Code, [Chapter 9](#) of the Laws of Malta.

e. The definition of grievous injury is as listed in Art. 216 et sequitur of the Criminal Code, [Chapter 9](#) of the Laws of Malta.

f. UNECE defines road fatal injury as: "Any person who was killed outright or who died within 30 days as a result of the accident".

g. Road traffic accident fatalities data may be subject to revisions. For certain cases, the NSO may need to wait for the cause of the fatality to be duly established by the conclusions of Magisterial Inquiry.

3. 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).

4. Data is subject to revision.

5. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

[Sources and Methods](#)

[Statistical Concepts](#)

[LAU Classification](#)

[NUTS Classification](#)

6. Statistics in this News Release should be interpreted in the context of the COVID-19 situation.

7. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.

8. A detailed news release calendar is available [online](#).



9. For further assistance send your request through our [online request form](#).
