

17 February 2023 | 1100 hrs | 026/2023

The number of claims in respect of non-fatal accidents at work in the second half of 2022 decreased by 24, or 1.9 per cent, compared to the corresponding period in 2021. Seven fatal accidents at work were reported in the second half of 2022.

Accidents at Work: July-December 2022

Non-fatal accidents

Administrative records show that 1,229 persons were involved in a non-fatal accident at work in the second half of 2022.

The majority of these non-fatal accidents occurred in the construction sector (211 or 17.2 per cent). Another 201 or 16.4 per cent of the accidents occurred in the manufacturing sector followed by the transportation and storage sector (173 or 14.1 per cent). When compared to the same period in 2021, the largest increase in the number of accidents was in the construction sector (25 or 13.4 per cent) (Table 1).

The largest share of accidents at work during the reference period involved persons working in elementary occupations followed by craft and related trades workers (Table 2).

Almost half (44.3 per cent) of the injuries at work affected the upper extremities of the body, such as the fingers and hands (Table 4). Wounds and superficial injuries, and dislocations, sprains and strains were the most common types of injuries, amounting to 686 and 354 cases respectively (Table 5).

In the second half of 2022, 29.2 per cent of the accidents at work took place in enterprises with 500 employees or more (Table 7).

In 2022, 852 non-fatal accidents per 100,000 employed persons were reported. The highest standardised incidence rate of non-fatal accidents at work was recorded in manufacturing followed by construction and transportation and storage (Table 9).

Fatal accidents

Between July and December 2022, the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA) reported seven fatal accidents at work. There were three fatal accidents at work in the corresponding period of 2021 ■

Table 1. Non-fatal accidents at work by economic activity of enterprise

Economic activity (NACE Rev. 2)	2022						July-December 2021 (Revised)						July-December 2022					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	24	1.3	1	0.2	25	1.0	20	2.1	2	0.7	22	1.8	10	1.0	-	-	10	0.8
Mining and quarrying	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.0	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Manufacturing	360	19.1	31	6.1	391	16.3	183	18.8	24	8.6	207	16.5	183	18.6	18	7.3	201	16.4
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	6	0.3	-	-	6	0.3	15	1.5	-	-	15	1.2	3	0.3	-	-	3	0.2
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	44	2.3	1	0.2	45	1.9	39	4.0	1	0.4	40	3.2	23	2.3	-	-	23	1.9
Construction	357	18.9	5	1.0	362	15.1	183	18.8	3	1.1	186	14.8	206	20.9	5	2.0	211	17.2
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	187	9.9	51	10.0	238	9.9	82	8.4	32	11.5	114	9.1	106	10.8	22	9.0	128	10.4
Transportation and storage	288	15.3	49	9.6	337	14.1	134	13.7	22	7.9	156	12.5	152	15.4	21	8.6	173	14.1
Accommodation and food service activities	102	5.4	36	7.1	138	5.8	78	8.0	28	10.1	106	8.5	57	5.8	22	9.0	79	6.4
Information and communication	9	0.5	2	0.4	11	0.5	10	1.0	1	0.4	11	0.9	3	0.3	1	0.4	4	0.3
Financial and insurance activities	9	0.5	1	0.2	10	0.4	8	0.8	-	-	8	0.6	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2
Real estate activities	14	0.7	1	0.2	15	0.6	5	0.5	1	0.4	6	0.5	5	0.5	1	0.4	6	0.5
Professional, scientific and technical activities	30	1.6	9	1.8	39	1.6	27	2.8	2	0.7	29	2.3	17	1.7	3	1.2	20	1.6
Administrative and support service activities	219	11.6	57	11.2	276	11.5	101	10.4	29	10.4	130	10.4	108	11.0	26	10.6	134	10.9
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	89	4.7	20	3.9	109	4.6	24	2.5	15	5.4	39	3.1	44	4.5	9	3.7	53	4.3
Education	16	0.8	45	8.8	61	2.5	11	1.1	12	4.3	23	1.8	5	0.5	22	9.0	27	2.2
Human health and social work activities	76	4.0	192	37.7	268	11.2	42	4.3	101	36.3	143	11.4	37	3.8	91	37.1	128	10.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation	8	0.4	3	0.6	11	0.5	3	0.3	-	-	3	0.2	4	0.4	2	0.8	6	0.5
Other service activities	18	1.0	3	0.6	21	0.9	5	0.5	2	0.7	7	0.6	8	0.8	2	0.8	10	0.8
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.4	1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not specified	27	1.4	2	0.4	29	1.2	3	0.3	2	0.7	5	0.4	11	1.1	-	-	11	0.9
Total	1,884	100.0	509	100.0	2,393	100.0	975	100.0	278	100.0	1,253	100.0	984	100.0	245	100.0	1,229	100.0

Table 2. Non-fatal accidents at work by occupation of victim

Occupations (ISCO-08)	2022						July-December 2021 (Revised)						July-December 2022					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed forces	4	0.2	-	-	4	0.2	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2
Managers	22	1.2	7	1.4	29	1.2	7	0.7	3	1.1	10	0.8	13	1.3	1	0.4	14	1.1
Professionals	55	2.9	76	14.9	131	5.5	36	3.7	39	14.0	75	6.0	23	2.3	41	16.7	64	5.2
Technicians and associate professionals	211	11.2	35	6.9	246	10.3	110	11.3	19	6.8	129	10.3	116	11.8	13	5.3	129	10.5
Clerical support workers	62	3.3	45	8.8	107	4.5	41	4.2	21	7.6	62	4.9	33	3.4	25	10.2	58	4.7
Service and sales workers	121	6.4	214	42.0	335	14.0	68	7.0	127	45.7	195	15.6	61	6.2	98	40.0	159	12.9
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	39	2.1	-	-	39	1.6	19	1.9	1	0.4	20	1.6	19	1.9	-	-	19	1.5
Craft and related trades workers	476	25.3	5	1.0	481	20.1	265	27.2	9	3.2	274	21.9	261	26.5	3	1.2	264	21.5
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	282	15.0	13	2.6	295	12.3	127	13.0	10	3.6	137	10.9	132	13.4	8	3.3	140	11.4
Elementary occupations	612	32.5	114	22.4	726	30.3	299	30.7	49	17.6	348	27.8	324	32.9	56	22.9	380	30.9
Not specified	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1,884	100.0	509	100.0	2,393	100.0	975	100.0	278	100.0	1,253	100.0	984	100.0	245	100.0	1,229	100.0

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

Age-group	2022						July-December 2021 (Revised)						July-December 2022					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
15-24	138	7.3	40	7.9	178	7.4	87	8.9	41	14.7	128	10.2	75	7.6	21	8.6	96	7.8
25-34	412	21.9	142	27.9	554	23.2	226	23.2	75	27.0	301	24.0	212	21.5	70	28.6	282	22.9
35-44	541	28.7	110	21.6	651	27.2	254	26.1	60	21.6	314	25.1	301	30.6	58	23.7	359	29.2
45-54	451	23.9	125	24.6	576	24.1	221	22.7	53	19.1	274	21.9	238	24.2	51	20.8	289	23.5
55+	342	18.2	92	18.1	434	18.1	187	19.2	49	17.6	236	18.8	158	16.1	45	18.4	203	16.5
Total	1,884	100.0	509	100.0	2,393	100.0	975	100.0	278	100.0	1,253	100.0	984	100.0	245	100.0	1,229	100.0

Table 4. Part of body injured in non-fatal accidents at work

Part of body	2022						July-December 2021 (Revised)						July-December 2022					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Head	193	10.2	61	12.0	254	10.6	98	10.1	30	10.8	128	10.2	95	9.7	30	12.2	125	10.2
Neck, including spine and vertebra in the neck	31	1.6	22	4.3	53	2.2	17	1.7	9	3.2	26	2.1	18	1.8	12	4.9	30	2.4
Back, including spine and vertebra in the back	170	9.0	37	7.3	207	8.7	77	7.9	28	10.1	105	8.4	93	9.5	17	6.9	110	9.0
Torso and organs	66	3.5	33	6.5	99	4.1	59	6.1	9	3.2	68	5.4	37	3.8	15	6.1	52	4.2
Upper extremities	856	45.4	210	41.3	1,066	44.5	456	46.8	122	43.9	578	46.1	441	44.8	103	42.0	544	44.3
Lower extremities	524	27.8	124	24.4	648	27.1	251	25.7	68	24.5	319	25.5	275	27.9	54	22.0	329	26.8
Whole body and multiple sites	28	1.5	12	2.4	40	1.7	4	0.4	5	1.8	9	0.7	16	1.6	7	2.9	23	1.9
Other parts of body injured, not mentioned above	6	0.3	3	0.6	9	0.4	6	0.6	3	1.1	9	0.7	3	0.3	2	0.8	5	0.4
Not specified	10	0.5	7	1.4	17	0.7	7	0.7	4	1.4	11	0.9	6	0.6	5	2.0	11	0.9
Total	1,884	100.0	509	100.0	2,393	100.0	975	100.0	278	100.0	1,253	100.0	984	100.0	245	100.0	1,229	100.0

Table 5. Non-fatal accidents at work by type of injury

Type of injury	2022						July-December 2021 (Revised)						July-December 2022					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Wounds and superficial injuries	1,030	54.7	271	53.2	1,301	54.4	576	59.1	143	51.4	719	57.4	554	56.3	132	53.9	686	55.8
Bone fractures	230	12.2	53	10.4	283	11.8	109	11.2	31	11.2	140	11.2	80	8.1	25	10.2	105	8.5
Dislocations, sprains and strains	516	27.4	136	26.7	652	27.2	224	23.0	77	27.7	301	24.0	295	30.0	59	24.1	354	28.8
Traumatic amputations	6	0.3	-	-	6	0.3	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2	2	0.2	-	-	2	0.2
Concussions and internal injuries	16	0.8	13	2.6	29	1.2	19	1.9	7	2.5	26	2.1	9	0.9	8	3.3	17	1.4
Burns, scalds and frostbites	62	3.3	22	4.3	84	3.5	29	3.0	7	2.5	36	2.9	34	3.5	11	4.5	45	3.7
Poisonings and infections	1	0.1	1	0.2	2	0.1	5	0.5	3	1.1	8	0.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Drowning and asphyxiations	3	0.2	2	0.4	5	0.2	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	3	0.3	2	0.8	5	0.4
Effects of sound and vibration	1	0.1	1	0.2	2	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.1	1	0.4	2	0.2
Effects of temperature extremes, light and radiation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shock	7	0.4	5	1.0	12	0.5	4	0.4	8	2.9	12	1.0	4	0.4	4	1.6	8	0.7
Multiple injuries	8	0.4	4	0.8	12	0.5	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.1	2	0.2	2	0.8	4	0.3
Other specified injuries not included under other headings	2	0.1	-	-	2	0.1	5	0.5	1	0.4	6	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not specified	2	0.1	1	0.2	3	0.1	-	-	1	0.4	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.4	1	0.1
Total	1,884	100.0	509	100.0	2,393	100.0	975	100.0	278	100.0	1,253	100.0	984	100.0	245	100.0	1,229	100.0

Table 6. Non-fatal accidents at work by district of enterprise

District	2022						July-December 2021 (Revised)						July-December 2022					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Southern Harbour	552	29.3	142	27.9	694	29.0	278	28.5	74	26.6	352	28.1	295	30.0	56	22.9	351	28.6
Northern Harbour	511	27.1	227	44.6	738	30.8	272	27.9	127	45.7	399	31.8	255	25.9	113	46.1	368	29.9
South Eastern	309	16.4	44	8.6	353	14.8	155	15.9	19	6.8	174	13.9	149	15.1	26	10.6	175	14.2
Western	174	9.2	38	7.5	212	8.9	102	10.5	25	9.0	127	10.1	83	8.4	19	7.8	102	8.3
Northern	281	14.9	50	9.8	331	13.8	137	14.1	29	10.4	166	13.2	174	17.7	25	10.2	199	16.2
Gozo and Comino	57	3.0	8	1.6	65	2.7	31	3.2	4	1.4	35	2.8	28	2.8	6	2.4	34	2.8
Total	1,884	100.0	509	100.0	2,393	100.0	975	100.0	278	100.0	1,253	100.0	984	100.0	245	100.0	1,229	100.0

Refer to Methodological Note 4

Table 7. Size of enterprise where non-fatal accidents occurred

Employment size	2022						July-December 2021 (Revised)						July-December 2022					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Self-employed without employees	75	4.0	3	0.6	78	3.3	47	4.8	2	0.7	49	3.9	43	4.4	1	0.4	44	3.6
1-9 employees	166	8.8	20	3.9	186	7.8	82	8.4	11	4.0	93	7.4	93	9.5	13	5.3	106	8.6
10-49 employees	345	18.3	33	6.5	378	15.8	174	17.8	20	7.2	194	15.5	166	16.9	14	5.7	180	14.6
50-249 employees	527	28.0	111	21.8	638	26.7	263	27.0	65	23.4	328	26.2	274	27.8	57	23.3	331	26.9
250-499 employees	255	13.5	60	11.8	315	13.2	135	13.8	41	14.7	176	14.0	147	14.9	31	12.7	178	14.5
500 employees or more	473	25.1	272	53.4	745	31.1	246	25.2	129	46.4	375	29.9	235	23.9	124	50.6	359	29.2
Not specified	43	2.3	10	2.0	53	2.2	28	2.9	10	3.6	38	3.0	26	2.6	5	2.0	31	2.5
Total	1,884	100.0	509	100.0	2,393	100.0	975	100.0	278	100.0	1,253	100.0	984	100.0	245	100.0	1,229	100.0

Table 8. Employment status of victim involved in non-fatal accidents

Employment status	2022						July-December 2021 (Revised)						July-December 2022					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Self-employed	134	7.1	5	1.0	139	5.8	72	7.4	5	1.8	77	6.1	79	8.0	2	0.8	81	6.6
Full-time employee	1,726	91.6	452	88.8	2,178	91.0	877	89.9	248	89.2	1,125	89.8	892	90.7	210	85.7	1,102	89.7
Part-time employee	24	1.3	52	10.2	76	3.2	26	2.7	25	9.0	51	4.1	13	1.3	33	13.5	46	3.7
Total	1,884	100.0	509	100.0	2,393	100.0	975	100.0	278	100.0	1,253	100.0	984	100.0	245	100.0	1,229	100.0

Table 9. Standardised non-fatal accidents at work by economic activity of enterprise¹

Economic activity (NACE Rev. 2)	2022		
	No. of employed persons *	No. of non-fatal accidents	Standardised Incidence Rate (per 100,000 workers)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,278	25	9
Mining and quarrying	:	1	:
Manufacturing	27,699	391	139
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	:	6	:
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	3,212	45	16
Construction	17,309	362	129
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	35,019	238	85
Transportation and storage	15,290	337	120
Accommodation and food service activities	18,781	138	49
Information and communication	12,038	11	4
Financial and insurance activities	17,352	10	4
Real estate activities	3,764	15	5
Professional, scientific and technical activities	15,796	39	14
Administrative and support service activities	15,505	276	98
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	18,745	109	39
Education	24,939	61	22
Human health and social work activities	27,188	268	95
Arts, entertainment and recreation	15,052	11	4
Other service activities	5,763	21	7
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	4,043 ^u	-	0
Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	:	-	:
Not specified	0	29	0
Total	280,705	2,393	852

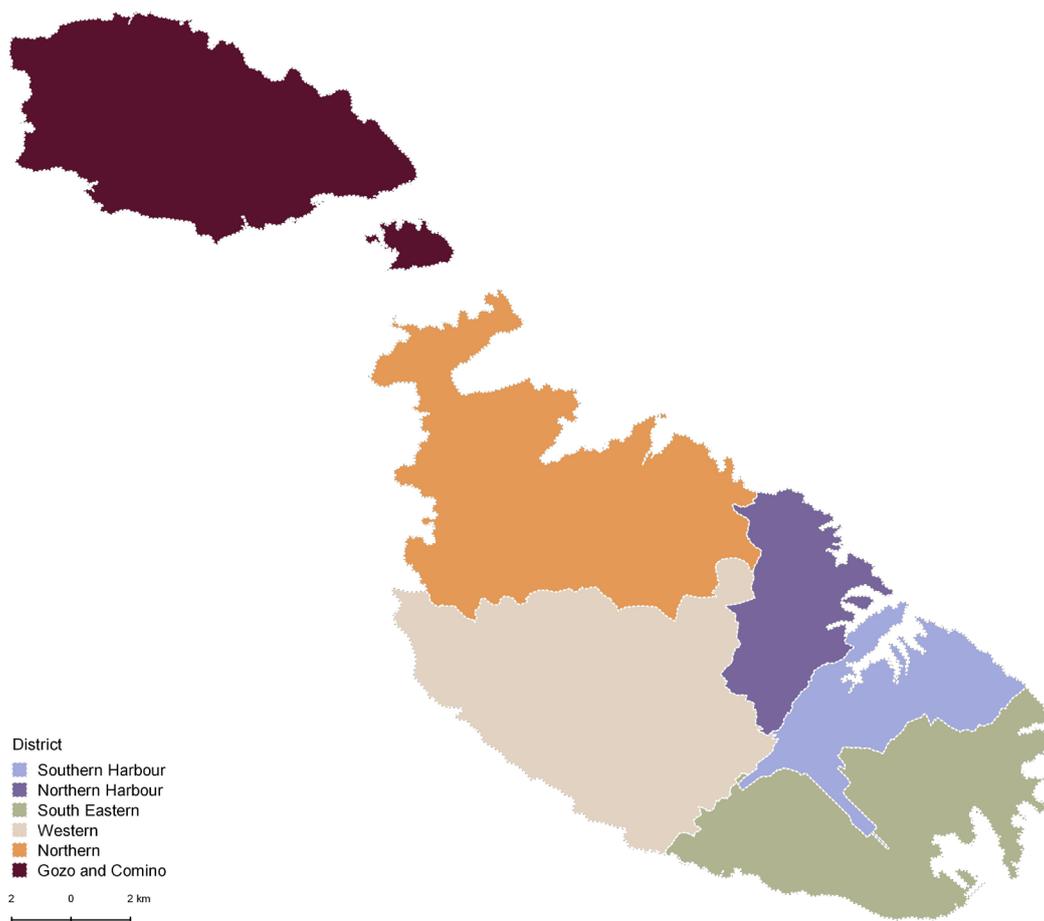
¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

² Source: Labour Force Survey Q1-Q3 2022

[:] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Graphical Illustration of MALTA by NUTS Classification



Districts classification

Southern Harbour

Valletta, Il-Birgu, L-Isla, Bormla, Ғaḥ-Żabbar, Il-Fgura, Il-Furjana, Il-Kalkara, Ғal Luqa, Il-Marsa, RaҒal Ġdid, Santa Luċija, Ғal Tarxien, Ix-XgҒajra.

Northern Harbour

Ғal Qormi, Birkirkara, Il-Gżira, Il-Ғamrun, L-Imsida, Pembroke, Tal-Pieta', San Ġiljan, San Ġwann, Santa Venera, Tas-Sliema, Is-Swieqi, Ta' Xbiex.

South Eastern

Iż-Żejtun, Birżebbuġa, Il-Gudja, Ғal GҒaxaq, Ғal Kirkop, Marsaskala, Marsaxlokk, L-Imqabba, Il-Qrendi, Ғal Safi, Iż-Żurrieq.

Western

L-Imdina, Ғaḥ-Żebbuġ, Is-Siġġiewi, Ғ'Attard, Ғal Balzan, Ғad-Dingli, L-Iklin, Ғal Lija, Ir-Rabat, L-Imtarfa.

Northern

Ғal GҒargħur, Il-Mellieħa, L-Imġarr, Il-Mosta, In-Naxxar, San Pawl il-Baħar.

Gozo and Comino

Ir-Rabat, GҒhawdex, Il-Fontana, GҒhajnsielem and Comino, L-GҒarb, L-GҒhasri, Ta' Kerċem, Il-Munxar, In-Nadur, Il-Qala, San Lawrenz, Ta' Sannat, Ix-Xagħra, Ix-Xewkija, Iż-Żebbuġ.

Methodological Notes

1. Data on non-fatal accidents at work is provided by the Department of Social Security, while that on fatal accidents at work is given by the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA).
2. The data in this release include all cases for which an injury benefit claim form has been submitted to the Department of Social Security, irrespective of the number of days lost.
3. Revisions to the previous year's data are carried out annually upon publication of the first semester of the following year.
4. District classification:

For aggregation purposes, all localities were grouped into six districts as follows:

A. Southern Harbour

Valletta, Il-Birgu, L-Isla, Bormla, Haż-Żabbar, Il-Fgura, Il-Furjana, Il-Kalkara, Hał Luqa, Il-Marsa, Raħal Ġdid, Santa Luċija, Hał Tarxien, Ix-Xgħajra.

B. Northern Harbour

Hał Qormi, Birkirkara, Il-Gżira, Il-Hamrun, L-Imtida, Pembroke, Tal-Pieta', San Ġiljan, San Ġwann, Santa Venera, Tas-Sliema, Is-Swieqi, Ta' Xbiex.

C. South Eastern

Iż-Żejtun, Birżebbuġa, Il-Gudja, Hał Għaxaq, Hał Kirkop, Marsaskala, Marsaxlokk, L-Imqabba, Il-Qrendi, Hał Safi, Iż-Żurrieq.

D. Western

L-Imdina, Haż-Żebbuġ, Is-Siġġewi, F'Attard, Hał Balzan, Hał Dingli, L-Iklin, Hał Lija, Ir-Rabat, L-Imtarfa.

E. Northern

Hał Għargħur, Il-Mellieħa, L-Imġarr, Il-Mosta, In-Naxxar, San Pawl il-Baħar.

F. Gozo and Comino

Ir-Rabat, Għawdex, Il-Fontana, Ghajnsielem and Comino, L-Għarb, L-Għasri, Ta' Kerċem, Il-Munxar, In-Nadur, Il-Qala, San Lawrenz, Ta' Sannat, Ix-Xagħra, Ix-Xewkija, Iż-Żebbuġ.

5. Definitions:
 - An accident at work is defined as a discrete occurrence during the course of work which leads to physical or mental harm.
 - Fatal accidents at work are accidents that lead to death of the victim within one year.
 - The standardised incidence rate is defined as the weighted sum of the number of accidents at work per 100,000 persons in employment.

6. Key:

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

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

Statistical Concepts: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/ConceptDetails.aspx?id=17>

Classification: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE%20Rev.%202008>
<https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCO%202008>

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

9. A detailed news release calendar is available at:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx