

At 858, the non-fatal claims of accidents at work decreased by 29.1 per cent when compared to the corresponding quarter in the preceding year. There was one fatal accident at work during the period under review.

Accidents at work: Q2/2009

Non-Fatal Accidents

This news release looks into the claims of accidents at work that were reported to the Department of Social Security (DSS) between April and June 2009. The data given herein include all cases for which an injury benefit claim has been submitted to the DSS, irrespective of the number of working days lost. These administrative records indicate that 858 persons had an accident in the course of their work in the period under review. Accordingly, the number of accidents in the second quarter this year decreased by 352 (-29.1 per cent) over the comparative period in 2008.

Many of these accidents at work occurred in the economic sectors of manufacturing (24.6 per cent); construction (18.3 per cent); and wholesale and retail trade (11.1 per cent).

The occupational categories mostly affected were the elementary and trades occupations. The statistics indicate that 428 cases (49.9 per cent) involved people in elementary occupations, while 165 cases (19.2 per cent) affected people in craft/trades work.

In the period under review, 43.4 per cent of accidents at work occurred to persons who were under 35 years of age. As a result, the data indicate that 372 of these accidents occurred to this age cohort.

People at work are mostly affected by injuries in the upper extremities of their body. In fact, 42.7 per cent of accidents at work concerned the upper extremities, including hands and fingers. Wounds and superficial injuries are the most common types of injuries and featured 387 (45.1 per cent) times.

Fatal Accidents

The Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA) reported that between April and June 2009 there was one fatality at work. In the corresponding period of 2008, no fatalities at work were reported ■

Table 1. Accidents at work by sex of victims

| Sex | April-June 2008 (Revised) | | April-June 2009 | |
|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| | No | % | No | % |
| Males | 1,054 | 87.1 | 760 | 88.6 |
| Females | 156 | 12.9 | 98 | 11.4 |
| Total | 1,210 | 100.0 | 858 | 100.0 |

Compiled by:

Unit C2: Labour Market and Education Statistics

Directorate C: Social Statistics and Information Society

Further information on data:

Ms Joslyn MAGRO CUSCHIERI
T. +356 2599 7662
E. joslyn.magro@gov.mt

Table 2. Accidents at work by economic activity of enterprise

| Economic activity | April-June 2008 (Revised) | | | | | | April-June 2009 | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | Men | | Women | | Total | | Men | | Women | | Total | |
| | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % |
| Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry | 17 | 1.6 | - | - | 17 | 1.4 | 14 | 1.8 | - | - | 14 | 1.6 |
| Fishing | 6 | 0.6 | - | - | 6 | 0.5 | 3 | 0.4 | - | - | 3 | 0.4 |
| Mining and Quarrying | 13 | 1.2 | 1 | 0.6 | 14 | 1.2 | 11 | 1.4 | 1 | 1.0 | 12 | 1.4 |
| Manufacturing | 365 | 34.6 | 31 | 19.9 | 396 | 32.7 | 197 | 25.9 | 14 | 14.3 | 211 | 24.6 |
| Electricity, Gas and Water Supply | 44 | 4.2 | - | - | 44 | 3.6 | 24 | 3.1 | - | - | 24 | 2.8 |
| Construction | 188 | 17.8 | 1 | 0.6 | 189 | 15.6 | 157 | 20.6 | - | - | 157 | 18.3 |
| Wholesale and retail trade, repairs | 88 | 8.3 | 8 | 5.1 | 96 | 7.9 | 81 | 10.7 | 14 | 14.3 | 95 | 11.1 |
| Hotels and Restaurants | 74 | 7.0 | 23 | 14.7 | 97 | 8.0 | 46 | 6.1 | 14 | 14.3 | 60 | 7.0 |
| Transport, Storage and Communication | 127 | 12.0 | 11 | 7.1 | 138 | 11.4 | 84 | 11.1 | 10 | 10.2 | 94 | 11.0 |
| Financial Intermediation | 2 | 0.2 | - | - | 2 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.1 | - | - | 1 | 0.1 |
| Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities | 47 | 4.5 | 11 | 7.1 | 58 | 4.8 | 60 | 7.9 | 12 | 12.2 | 72 | 8.4 |
| Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security | 37 | 3.5 | 5 | 3.2 | 42 | 3.5 | 46 | 6.1 | 2 | 2.0 | 48 | 5.6 |
| Education | 6 | 0.6 | 9 | 5.8 | 15 | 1.2 | 3 | 0.4 | 4 | 4.1 | 7 | 0.8 |
| Health and Social Work | 23 | 2.2 | 52 | 33.3 | 75 | 6.2 | 13 | 1.7 | 23 | 23.5 | 36 | 4.2 |
| Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities | 6 | 0.6 | 2 | 1.3 | 8 | 0.7 | 12 | 1.6 | 3 | 3.1 | 15 | 1.7 |
| Private Households with Employed Persons | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Extra-territorial Organisations and Bodies | 2 | 0.2 | - | - | 2 | 0.2 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unknown | 9 | 0.9 | 2 | 1.3 | 11 | 0.9 | 8 | 1.1 | 1 | 1.0 | 9 | 1.0 |
| Total | 1,054 | 100.0 | 156 | 100.0 | 1,210 | 100.0 | 760 | 100.0 | 98 | 100.0 | 858 | 100.0 |

Table 3. Accidents at work by occupation of victim

| Occupations | April-June 2008 (Revised) | | | | | | April-June 2009 | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | Men | | Women | | Total | | Men | | Women | | Total | |
| | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % |
| Armed Forces | 6 | 0.5 | - | - | 6 | 0.5 | 8 | 1.0 | - | - | 8 | 0.9 |
| Legislators, senior officials and managers | 7 | 0.7 | 1 | 0.6 | 8 | 0.7 | 2 | 0.3 | 2 | 2.0 | 4 | 0.5 |
| Professionals | 27 | 2.5 | 47 | 30.1 | 74 | 6.1 | 18 | 2.4 | 12 | 12.2 | 30 | 3.5 |
| Technicians and associate professionals | 33 | 3.1 | 2 | 1.3 | 35 | 2.9 | 34 | 4.5 | 1 | 1.0 | 35 | 4.1 |
| Clerks | 26 | 2.5 | 6 | 3.9 | 32 | 2.6 | 19 | 2.5 | 7 | 7.2 | 26 | 3.0 |
| Service workers and market and sales workers | 60 | 5.7 | 14 | 9.0 | 74 | 6.1 | 59 | 7.8 | 6 | 6.1 | 65 | 7.6 |
| Skilled agricultural and fishery workers | 9 | 0.9 | - | - | 9 | 0.7 | 13 | 1.7 | - | - | 13 | 1.5 |
| Craft and related trades workers | 209 | 19.8 | 1 | 0.6 | 210 | 17.4 | 164 | 21.6 | 1 | 1.0 | 165 | 19.2 |
| Plant and machine operators and assemblers | 104 | 9.9 | 14 | 9.0 | 118 | 9.8 | 77 | 10.1 | 7 | 7.2 | 84 | 9.8 |
| Elementary occupations | 573 | 54.4 | 71 | 45.5 | 644 | 53.2 | 366 | 48.1 | 62 | 63.3 | 428 | 49.9 |
| Total | 1,054 | 100.0 | 156 | 100.0 | 1,210 | 100.0 | 760 | 100.0 | 98 | 100.0 | 858 | 100.0 |

Table 4. Accidents at work by age group of victim

| Age group | April-June 2008 (Revised) | | | | | | April-June 2009 | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | Men | | Women | | Total | | Men | | Women | | Total | |
| | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % |
| 15-24 | 171 | 16.2 | 55 | 35.3 | 226 | 18.7 | 120 | 15.8 | 15 | 15.3 | 135 | 15.7 |
| 25-34 | 279 | 26.5 | 36 | 23.1 | 315 | 26.0 | 204 | 26.8 | 33 | 33.7 | 237 | 27.6 |
| 35-44 | 236 | 22.4 | 23 | 14.7 | 259 | 21.4 | 174 | 22.9 | 17 | 17.3 | 191 | 22.3 |
| 45-54 | 220 | 20.9 | 29 | 18.6 | 249 | 20.6 | 171 | 22.5 | 23 | 23.5 | 194 | 22.6 |
| 55+ | 148 | 14.0 | 13 | 8.3 | 161 | 13.3 | 91 | 12.0 | 10 | 10.2 | 101 | 11.8 |
| Total | 1,054 | 100.0 | 156 | 100.0 | 1,210 | 100.0 | 760 | 100.0 | 98 | 100.0 | 858 | 100.0 |

Table 5. Part of body injured in accidents at work

| Part of body | April-June 2008 (Revised) | | | | | | April-June 2009 | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | Men | | Women | | Total | | Men | | Women | | Total | |
| | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % |
| Part of body injured, not specified | 14 | 1.3 | 3 | 1.9 | 17 | 1.4 | 9 | 1.2 | 5 | 5.1 | 14 | 1.6 |
| Head | 88 | 8.4 | 12 | 7.7 | 100 | 8.2 | 74 | 9.7 | 4 | 4.1 | 78 | 9.1 |
| Neck, inclusive of spine and vertebra in the neck | 41 | 3.9 | 8 | 5.1 | 49 | 4.0 | 14 | 1.9 | 2 | 2.0 | 16 | 1.9 |
| Back, including spine and vertebra in the back | 72 | 6.8 | 8 | 5.1 | 80 | 6.6 | 47 | 6.2 | 4 | 4.1 | 51 | 5.9 |
| Torso and Organs | 38 | 3.6 | 4 | 2.6 | 42 | 3.5 | 19 | 2.5 | 1 | 1.0 | 20 | 2.3 |
| Upper Extremities | 454 | 43.1 | 72 | 46.2 | 526 | 43.5 | 321 | 42.2 | 45 | 45.9 | 366 | 42.7 |
| Lower Extremities | 229 | 21.7 | 32 | 20.5 | 261 | 21.6 | 201 | 26.4 | 20 | 20.4 | 221 | 25.8 |
| Wholebody and multiple Sites | 116 | 11.0 | 17 | 10.9 | 133 | 11.0 | 75 | 9.9 | 17 | 17.4 | 92 | 10.7 |
| Other parts of body injured, not mentioned above | 2 | 0.2 | - | - | 2 | 0.2 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 1,054 | 100.0 | 156 | 100.0 | 1,210 | 100.0 | 760 | 100.0 | 98 | 100.0 | 858 | 100.0 |

Table 6. Accidents at work by type of injury

| Type of injury | April-June 2008 (Revised) | | | | | | April-June 2009 | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | Men | | Women | | Total | | Men | | Women | | Total | |
| | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % |
| Type of injury unknown | 89 | 8.4 | 13 | 8.3 | 102 | 8.4 | 44 | 5.8 | 18 | 18.4 | 62 | 7.2 |
| Wounds and superficial injuries | 422 | 40.0 | 53 | 34.0 | 475 | 39.3 | 351 | 46.2 | 36 | 36.7 | 387 | 45.1 |
| Bone fractures | 108 | 10.2 | 11 | 7.1 | 119 | 9.8 | 86 | 11.3 | 10 | 10.2 | 96 | 11.2 |
| Dislocations, Sprains, and Strains | 328 | 31.1 | 62 | 39.7 | 390 | 32.2 | 207 | 27.2 | 26 | 26.5 | 233 | 27.2 |
| Traumatic Amputations | 2 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.6 | 3 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.3 | - | - | 2 | 0.2 |
| Concussions and Internal Injuries | 9 | 0.9 | 3 | 1.9 | 12 | 1.0 | 5 | 0.7 | 1 | 1.0 | 6 | 0.7 |
| Burns, Scalds and Frostbite | 42 | 4.0 | 7 | 4.5 | 49 | 4.1 | 25 | 3.3 | 5 | 5.1 | 30 | 3.5 |
| Poisonings and Infections | 2 | 0.2 | - | - | 2 | 0.2 | 4 | 0.5 | - | - | 4 | 0.5 |
| Drowning and Asphyxiations | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Effects of Sound and Vibration | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Effects of temperature extremes, light and radiation | 1 | 0.1 | - | - | 1 | 0.1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Shock | 5 | 0.5 | - | - | 5 | 0.4 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Multiple Injuries | 46 | 4.4 | 6 | 3.9 | 52 | 4.3 | 36 | 4.7 | 2 | 2.1 | 38 | 4.4 |
| Other specified injuries not included under other headings | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 1,054 | 100.0 | 156 | 100.0 | 1,210 | 100.0 | 760 | 100.0 | 98 | 100.0 | 858 | 100.0 |

Table 7. Accidents at work by district of enterprise

| District | April-June 2008 (Revised) | | | | | | April-June 2009 | | | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | Men | | Women | | Total | | Men | | Women | | Total | |
| | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % |
| Southern Harbour | 447 | 42.4 | 63 | 40.4 | 510 | 42.2 | 271 | 35.6 | 31 | 31.6 | 302 | 35.2 |
| Southern Eastern | 131 | 12.4 | 19 | 12.2 | 150 | 12.4 | 102 | 13.4 | 15 | 15.3 | 117 | 13.7 |
| Northern Harbour | 259 | 24.6 | 52 | 33.3 | 311 | 25.7 | 195 | 25.7 | 29 | 29.6 | 224 | 26.1 |
| Western | 68 | 6.4 | 5 | 3.2 | 73 | 6.0 | 64 | 8.4 | 9 | 9.2 | 73 | 8.5 |
| Northern | 121 | 11.5 | 15 | 9.6 | 136 | 11.2 | 110 | 14.5 | 12 | 12.3 | 122 | 14.2 |
| Gozo and Comino | 28 | 2.7 | 2 | 1.3 | 30 | 2.5 | 18 | 2.4 | 2 | 2.0 | 20 | 2.3 |
| Total | 1,054 | 100.0 | 156 | 100.0 | 1,210 | 100.0 | 760 | 100.0 | 98 | 100.0 | 858 | 100.0 |

Table 8. Size of enterprise where the accidents occurred

| Employment size | April-June 2008 (Revised) | | | | | | April-June 2009 | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | Men | | Women | | Total | | Men | | Women | | Total | |
| | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % |
| Self-employed without employees | 60 | 5.7 | 1 | 0.6 | 61 | 5.0 | 41 | 5.4 | - | - | 41 | 4.8 |
| 1-9 employees | 124 | 11.8 | 8 | 5.1 | 132 | 10.9 | 83 | 10.9 | 4 | 4.1 | 87 | 10.1 |
| 10-49 employees | 196 | 18.6 | 22 | 14.1 | 218 | 18.0 | 164 | 21.6 | 15 | 15.3 | 179 | 20.9 |
| 50-249 employees | 228 | 21.6 | 32 | 20.5 | 260 | 21.5 | 172 | 22.6 | 29 | 29.6 | 201 | 23.4 |
| 250-499 employees | 90 | 8.5 | 28 | 18.0 | 118 | 9.8 | 83 | 10.9 | 20 | 20.4 | 103 | 12.0 |
| 500 employees or more | 350 | 33.2 | 65 | 41.7 | 415 | 34.3 | 211 | 27.8 | 28 | 28.6 | 239 | 27.9 |
| Unknown size | 6 | 0.6 | - | - | 6 | 0.5 | 6 | 0.8 | 2 | 2.0 | 8 | 0.9 |
| Total | 1,054 | 100.0 | 156 | 100.0 | 1,210 | 100.0 | 760 | 100.0 | 98 | 100.0 | 858 | 100.0 |

Table 9. Employment Status of the Victims

| Employment status | April-June 2008 (Revised) | | | | | | April-June 2009 | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | Men | | Women | | Total | | Men | | Women | | Total | |
| | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % | No | % |
| Self-employed | 91 | 8.6 | 1 | 0.6 | 92 | 7.6 | 64 | 8.4 | - | - | 64 | 7.5 |
| Full-time employees | 946 | 89.8 | 131 | 84.0 | 1,077 | 89.0 | 679 | 89.4 | 88 | 89.8 | 767 | 89.4 |
| Part-time employees | 17 | 1.6 | 24 | 15.4 | 41 | 3.4 | 17 | 2.2 | 10 | 10.2 | 27 | 3.1 |
| Total | 1,054 | 100.0 | 156 | 100.0 | 1,210 | 100.0 | 760 | 100.0 | 98 | 100.0 | 858 | 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. 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.