

ACCIDENTS AT WORK STATISTICS (2018)

NATIONAL REFERENCE METADATA IN SINGLE INTEGRATED METADATA STRUCTURE (SIMS)

CONCEPT 1 - CONTACT

Sub-Concept 1.1: Contact organisation

National Statistics Office (NSO)

Sub-Concept 1.2: Contact organisation unit

Labour Market Statistics Unit

Sub-Concept 1.3: Contact name

Joslyn Magro Cuschieri

Sub-Concept 1.4: Contact person function

Head of Unit

Sub-Concept 1.5: Contact mail address

National Statistics Office (NSO),
Lascaris, Valletta VLT 2000, Malta.

Sub-Concept 1.6: Contact e-mail address

joslyn.magro@gov.mt

Sub-Concept 1.7: Contact phone number

+356 2599 7662

CONCEPT 2 – METADATA UPDATE

Sub-Concept 2.1: Metadata last certified

19th December 2019.

Sub-Concept 2.2: Metadata last posted

30th September 2020.

Sub-Concept 2.3: Metadata last update

30th September 2020.

CONCEPT 3 – STATISTICAL PRESENTATION

Sub-Concept 3.1: Data description

An accident at work is defined in the ESAW methodology as a discrete occurrence during the course of work which leads to physical or mental harm. Non-fatal and fatal accidents at work in the European Union (EU) are collected within the framework of the European statistics on Accidents at Work (ESAW) administrative data collection. The two types of accidents at work:

1) Fatal accidents: Fatal accidents at work are accidents that lead to the death of the victim within one year. Data on fatal accidents are, on the other hand, provided by the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA).

2) Non-fatal accidents: Non-fatal accidents at work collected using the ESAW methodology are those accidents which result in an absence from work of at least four full calendar days. Data on non-fatal accidents are collected using information passed on to the Department of Social Security via its injury claim benefit system. Claims are made irrespective of the length of absence from work. Variables collected correspond to those listed in the EU metadata.

Sub-Concept 3.2: Classification system

The following classifications according to the ESAW Methodology are used:

1. [NACE Rev. 2](#): 2nd revision of the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities;
2. [ISCO-08](#): International Standard Classification of Occupations managed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) (revision of 2008)
3. [NUTS 2013](#): Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics
4. [ICSE-93](#): International Classification by Status in Employment

Sub-Concept 3.3: Sector coverage

All economic activities except NACE sector T are covered in this data collection.

Sub-Concept 3.4: Statistical concepts and definitions

National information on accidents at work covers any claim for an injury benefit irrespective of the number of days of absence. When providing data at EU level, only accidents resulting in more than three days of absence are transmitted.

Sub-Concept 3.5: Statistical unit

Data are recorded for each accident; hence the same individual may be reported more than once if they had more than one accident during the reference year.

Sub-Concept 3.6: Statistical population

The statistical population is made up of all individuals in employment during the reference year, as provided by the EU Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Sub-Concept 3.7: Reference area

Data are available for Malta (MT001) and Gozo (MT002) according to NUTS 3 classification.

Sub-Concept 3.8: Time coverage

Data are available from 2008 onwards.

Sub-Concept 3.9: Base period

Not Applicable.

CONCEPT 4 – UNIT OF MEASURE

The following measurement units are used in the European Statistics on Accidents at Work (ESAW) data:

- Number of accidents
- Percentage of accidents (in relation to different totals and breakdowns)
- Incidence rates of accidents: number of accidents per 100,000 workers

CONCEPT 5 – REFERENCE PERIOD

The reference period refers to the reference year in which accidents were reported to have taken place.

CONCEPT 6 – INSTITUTIONAL MANDATE

Sub-Concept 6.1: Legal acts and other agreements

[The Malta Statistics Authority Act, 2000.](#) The Act empowers the NSO to collect, compile, extract and release official statistics related to demographic, social, environment, economic and general activities and conditions of Malta.

Sub-Concept 6.2: Data sharing

Microdata concerning Accidents at Work are not made available.

A dedicated News Release is issued twice a year.

CONCEPT 7 - CONFIDENTIALITY

Sub-Concept 7.1: Confidentiality – Policy

At National level:

The NSO requests information for the compilation of official statistics according to the articles of the MSA Act – Cap. 422 and the Data Protection Act – Cap. 586 of the Laws of Malta implementing the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

Article 40 of the MSA Act stipulates the restrictions on the use of information while Article 41 stipulates the prohibition of disclosure of information. Furthermore, Section IX of the Act (Offences and Penalties) lays down the measures to be taken in case of unlawful exercise of any officer of statistics regarding confidentiality of data.

Since its inception, the NSO has always assured that all data collected remains confidential and that it is used for statistical purposes only according to the articles and derogations stipulated in the laws quoted above. The Office is obliged to protect the identify of data providers and refrain from divulging any data to third parties that might lead to the identification of persons or entities.

During 2009, the NSO has set up a Statistical Disclosure Committee to ensure that statistical confidentiality is observed, especially when requests for microdata are received.

Upon employment, all NSO employees are informed of the rules and duties pertaining to confidential information and its treatment. In line with stipulations of the MSA Act, before commencing work, every employee is required to take an oath of secrecy whose text is included in the same Act.

An internal policy on anonymisation and pseudo-anonymisation is in place to ascertain that adequate methods are used for the protection of data which the office collects and shares with the public in its capacity as the National Statistics Office. The policy is meant to safeguard confidentiality of both personal and business data entrusted to the NSO. The document provides guidance for all NSO employees who process data on a daily basis as to how anonymisation and pseudo-anonymisation methods should be applied. The policy applies to all confidential, restricted and internal information, regardless of form (paper or electronic documents, applications and databases) that is received, processed, stored and disseminated by the NSO.

At European level:

[Regulation \(EC\) No 223/2009](#) on European statistics (recital 24 and Article 20(4) of 11 March 2009 (OJ L 87, p. 164), stipulates the need to establish common principles and guidelines ensuring the confidentiality of data used for the production of European statistics and the access to those confidential data with due account for technical developments and the requirements of users in a democratic society.

Sub-Concept 7.2: Confidentiality – Data Treatment

There are no issues relating to confidentiality when it comes to non-fatal accidents. Whenever data on fatalities at work is disseminated at a national level, adherence to confidentiality is made so as not to disclose the identity of victims.

CONCEPT 8 – RELEASE POLICY

Sub-Concept 8.1: Release Calendar

An advance release calendar is maintained by the NSO and published on the NSO website. The calendar projects three months of news releases (including the current and two subsequent months).

Sub-Concept 8.2: Release Calendar access

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

Sub-Concept 8.3: User access

An internal policy on dissemination is in place to govern the dissemination of official statistics in an impartial, independent and timely manner, making them available simultaneously to all users.

The NSO's primary channel for the dissemination of official statistics is the NSO website. Tailored requests for statistical information may also be submitted through the NSO website.

CONCEPT 9 – FREQUENCY OF DISSEMINATION

Data are disseminated semi-annually at a national level and annually at EU level.

CONCEPT 10 – ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY

Sub-Concept 10.1: News release

A news release is published at a national level twice each year; one comprising the first and the second quarter of a particular reference year and the other consisting of the third and the fourth quarter of a particular reference year.

Such releases may be accessed on the NSO's website through:
http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C2/Labour_Market_Statistics/Pages/Accidents-at-Work.aspx

Sub-Concept 10.2: Publications

See NSO website for publications "Malta in Figures" and "Gozo in Figures"
<https://nso.gov.mt/en/publicatons/Pages/Publications-by-Date.aspx>

Sub-Concept 10.3: Online Database

No information is available on the NSO's statistical database. The information can, nonetheless, be accessed through Eurostat's database.

Sub-Concept 10.4: Micro-data access

Not Applicable.

Sub-Concept 10.5: Other

Not Applicable.

Sub-Concept 10.6: Documentation on methodology

ESAW methodology is applied. The EU methodological guidelines for ESAW statistics are followed. These can be accessed online through:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/5926181/KS-RA-12-102-EN.PDF/56cd35ba-1e8a-4af3-9f9a-b3c47611ff1c>

Sub-Concept 10.6.1: Metadata completeness rate

Information about all required metadata concepts (and sub-concepts thereof) are provided.

Sub-Concept 10.7: Quality Documentation

ESAW statistics SIMS reports are available to the public on the [NSO's metadata website including concepts related to metadata and quality](#).

The NSO has developed an internal Quality Management Framework (QMF) which is built on common requirements of the ESS Code of Practice (ESS CoP). A document was prepared to include a set of general quality guidelines spanning over all statistical domains. Assuring methodological soundness is an integral part of the QMF, nonetheless, the document spans also on other areas related to institutional aspects.

CONCEPT 11 – QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Sub-Concept 11.1: Quality Assurance

The NSO ensures the accuracy of data released to the public and prepares clear methodological notes which explain the processes involved in the collection and production of official statistics.

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Every five to seven years, the NSO participates in a Peer Review exercise through which the compliance of its operations with principles of the ESS CoP is assessed by an expert team. Peer Reviews are indeed part of the European Statistical System (ESS) strategy to implement the ESS CoP. Each NSI is expected to provide information as requested by a standard self-assessment questionnaire. Following this an expert team visits the office to meet NSI representatives and main stakeholders. Peer Reviews result in a compliance report and the listing of a set of Improvement Actions which need to be followed up by the NSI. The next round of Peer Reviews is planned to be carried out in 2022.

Sub-Concept 11.2: Quality Assessment

The type of data transmitted to Eurostat as well as their timing and other aspects follow strict rules. Eurostat together with Member States systematically check and validate data transmissions according to the following legal acts and further guidelines:

1. [Commission Regulation \(EU\) No. 349/2011 of 11 April 2011](#) implementing Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work, as regards statistics on accidents at work (text with EEA relevance).
2. [Framework Regulation EC No. 1338/2008](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work.
3. [Commission Decision 2011/231 of 11 April 2011](#) granting derogations to certain Member States with respect to the transmission of statistics pursuant to Commission Regulation (EU) No 349/2011 of 11 April 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work, as regards statistics on accidents at work.

CONCEPT 12 - RELEVANCE

Sub-Concept 12.1: User needs

The main users of accidents at work data are policy makers, researchers and students.

Sub-Concept 12.2: User satisfaction

The last User Satisfaction Survey was held in 2014 with the aim to collect information about key users' satisfaction with statistical output.

The NSO keeps record of the number of News Releases and publications disseminated on its website; the users to whom statistical products are provided; as well as the number of requests that are processed every year.

News Releases and tailor-made statistical outputs were assessed on account of their quality, timeliness, and on their ability to meet users' needs.

Sub-Concept 12.3: Data Completeness

All ESAW compulsory variables are covered in the national data collection.

CONCEPT 13 – ACCURACY AND RELIABILITY

Sub-Concept 13.1: Overall accuracy

As an administrative data collection, the data transmitted to Eurostat are thought to exactly reflect the number of accidents notified to the relevant national authorities. Therefore, ESAW data are considered to have a high level of accuracy in relation to the absolute number of accidents happening in Malta.

Sub-Concept 13.2: Sampling errors

Not applicable. Data are compiled through administrative sources.

Sub-Concept 13.3: Non-sampling error

Not Applicable. Although imputations are carried out at NACE and ISCO levels, the extent of data entry errors cannot be determined.

Sub-Concept 13.3.1: Coverage error

Not Applicable.

Sub-Concept 13.3.1.1: Over Coverage

Not Applicable.

Sub-Concept 13.3.1.2: Common Units Proportion

Not Applicable.

Sub-Concept 13.3.2: Measurement error

Not Applicable.

Sub-Concept 13.3.3: Non-response error

Not Applicable.

Sub-Concept 13.3.3.1: Unit non-response

Not Applicable.

Sub-Concept 13.3.3.2: Item non-response

Not Applicable.

Sub-Concept 13.3.4: Processing error

Not Applicable.

Sub-Concept 13.3.5: Model assumption error

Not Applicable.

CONCEPT 14 – TIMELINESS AND PUNCTUALITY

Sub-Concept 14.1: Timeliness

Data are normally passed to NSI in the first week following the end of the reference quarter. At a national level, this information is disseminated twice a year.

Sub-Concept 14.2: Punctuality

Data are transmitted well ahead of the deadline.

CONCEPT 15 – COHERENCE AND COMPARABILITY

Sub-Concept 15.1: Comparability – Geographical

All data are comparable on a national level.

Sub-Concept 15.2: Comparability – Over Time

Data are comparable from 2008 onwards.

Sub-Concept 15.3: Coherence – Cross Domain

Cross domain comparability is not possible since even though the national Labour Force Survey covers information on accidents at work through ad hoc module, the results from this survey tend to be based on very low sample counts.

Sub-Concept 15.3.1: Coherence – Sub-Annual and Annual statistics

There is coherence between annual and sub-annual results since annual figures are the total of all quarters which are disseminated by this office.

Sub-Concept 15.3.2: Coherence – National Accounts

Not Applicable.

Sub-Concept 15.4: Coherence – Internal

Not Applicable.

CONCEPT 16 – COST AND BURDEN

Not available.

CONCEPT 17 – DATA REVISION

Sub-Concept 17.1: Data revision – Policy

At the NSO, there is currently no internal policy governing revisions that occur for all statistics produced. Nonetheless, a revisions policy is being drafted to safeguard a coordinated revisions system across statistical domains.

This policy will take account of the need and causes for revisions; time and frequency of revisions; data and other statistical products affected by such revisions; and length of periods revised.

Sub-Concept 17.2: Data revision – Practice and Data Revision

At a national level, information is delivered 100% on time whilst a revision of yearly results to the corresponding past year is published in Q1 of every year. Such revisions are necessary given that some claims for injury benefits are received following the provision of micro data to the NSO.

CONCEPT 18 – STATISTICAL PROCESSING

Sub-Concept 18.1: Source data

Accidents at work are collected by two separate entities.

Non-fatal accidents: Are collected using information passed on to the Department of Social Security via its injury claim benefit system. Claims are made irrespective of the length of absence from work.

Fatal accidents: Data are provided by the national authority on health and safety, the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA).

Sub-Concept 18.2: Frequency of data collection

The Social Security department collects information relating to non-fatal accidents through claim forms filled by the claimants for injury benefits. This is done on a continuous basis. This information is then requested by NSO on a quarterly basis.

Sub-Concept 18.3: Data Collection

The national Social Security department collects data through claim forms filled in by claimants for injury benefits. Administrative data are then sent to the NSO following the end of each reference quarter. Fatalities data are sent to the NSO via an excel sheet from the Occupational Health and Safety Authority.

Sub-Concept 18.4: Data Validation

Statistics are compared to previous levels. Consistency checks concerning the economic activity and other variables are also carried out. In addition, through the use of descriptive text provided with the coded variables, checks on the assignment of codes can be made.

Sub-Concept 18.5: Data Compilation

After data are received from the administrative sources, the NSO works out standardised and non-standardised incidents rates using EU methodologies. In addition, some variables are aggregated using ISCO and NACE classifications.

Sub-Concept 18.5.1: Imputation

Imputations namely take place due to misclassification of economic activities assigned to the enterprise with which the injured employee works.

Sub-Concept 18.6: Adjustment

Not applicable.

Sub-Concept 18.6.1: Seasonal Adjustment

Not applicable.

CONCEPT 19 - COMMENT

No further comments.