

4 May 2021 | 1100 hrs | 082/2021

During the first quarter of 2021, road traffic accidents and casualties declined. Road traffic fatalities amounted to one.

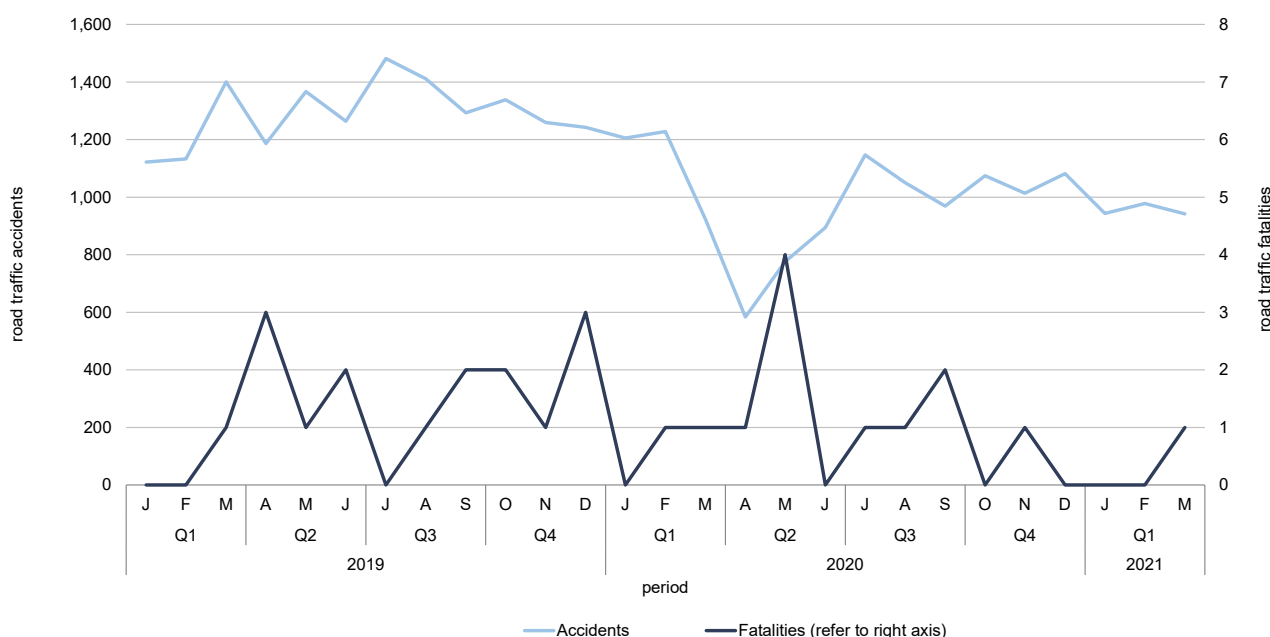
Road Traffic Accidents: Q1/2021

The number of reported traffic accidents during first quarter 2021 reached 2,864, down by 14.7 per cent over the same period in 2020. The Northern Harbour district registered the most accidents with 1,023 cases or 35.7 per cent of all accidents (Table 1).

Road traffic casualties decreased by 0.3 per cent to 305 over the same period in 2020. Grievously injured persons amounted to 81, and consisted of 52 drivers, 13 passengers and 16 pedestrians/cyclists/other. The injuries suffered by one pedestrian proved fatal (Tables 4-7). During this quarter, one less fatality occurred when compared to the same period in 2020 (Chart 1).

The majority of those grievously injured were males (77.8 per cent), whereas the fatality that occurred during this quarter involved a female. Most of the casualties (60.0 per cent) involved persons in the 26 to 59 age-bracket (Table 5).

Chart 1. Road traffic accidents by month



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

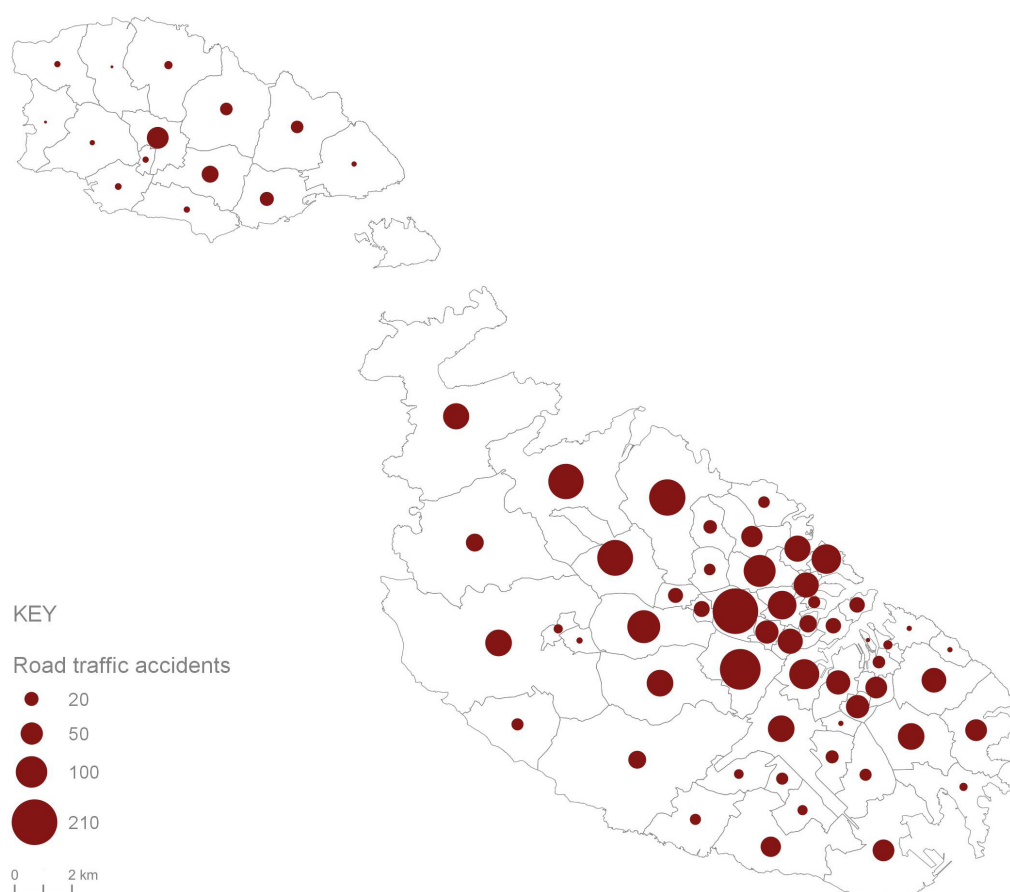
The largest number of road traffic casualties (57.0 per cent) involved passenger cars, followed by motorcycles (33.4 per cent) and goods-carrying vehicles (6.6 per cent). The fatality comprised of a pedestrian hit by a passenger car. Cyclists hit in traffic accidents amounted to 11, of which three suffered grievous injuries (Table 6). Road traffic casualties resulting from accidents between vehicles topped the list with 68.5 per cent of all road traffic casualties (Table 7).

The highest number of road traffic casualties occurred on Tuesday and Wednesday with 50 casualties each, while the highest number of road traffic accidents occurred on Wednesday with 464 cases or 16.2 per cent of the total (Table 8). The time bracket during which most road traffic accidents occurred was between 09:00 and 11:59 with 684 cases or 23.9 per cent of the total, followed by the 12:00-14:59 time bracket with 675 cases. The least number of accidents occurring daily took place between 03:00 and 05:59 with 30 cases (Table 9).

Highest incidence of road traffic accidents was registered in Birkirkara with 211 cases, followed by Ħal Qormi and In-Naxxar, with 169 and 135 cases respectively (Table 10, Map 1 and Chart 5).

Seven localities in the Gozo and Comino district registered less than five road traffic accidents each during the first quarter of 2021. The localities of L-Ghasri and San Lawrenz reported one road traffic accident each, followed by L-Isla where two cases were reported (Map 1 and Table 10).

Map 1. Road traffic accidents by locality: January-March 2021



All districts, except for the Western district, recorded a decrease in road traffic accidents when compared to the first quarter of the previous year. The Southern Harbour District registered the highest percentage decrease of 31.4 per cent in road traffic accidents, followed by the South Eastern District and Northern Harbour District (Table 1, Map 2).

Map 2. Percentage change in road traffic accidents by district: January-March 2020/2021

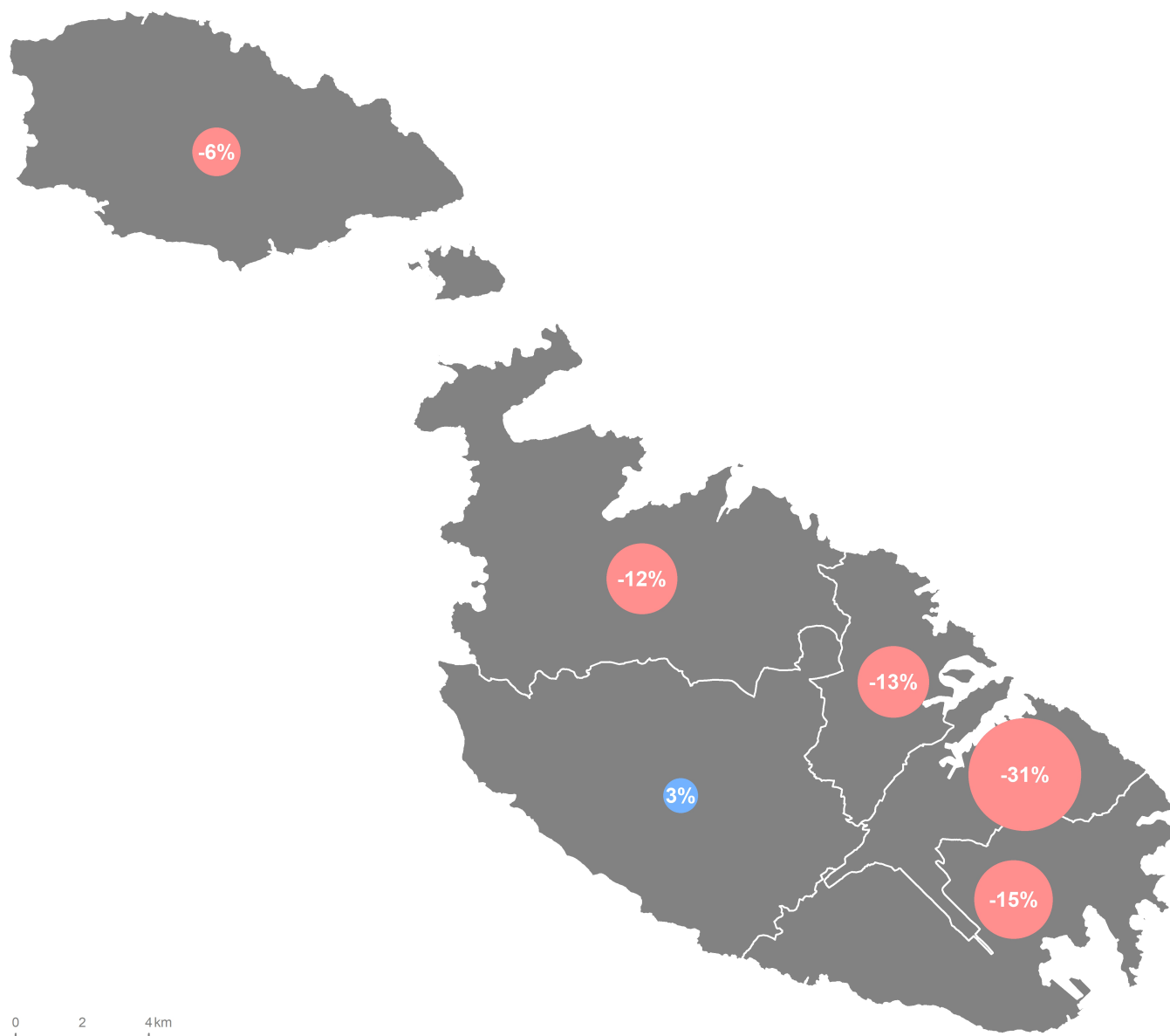


Table 1. Total road traffic accidents by period and region/district

Region/District	January-March			
	2020	2021	Change	Percentage change
MALTA	3,357	2,864	-493	-14.7
Malta	3,184	2,701	-483	-15.2
Southern Harbour	698	479	-219	-31.4
Northern Harbour	1,171	1,023	-148	-12.6
South Eastern	356	302	-54	-15.2
Western	369	380	11	3.0
Northern	590	517	-73	-12.4
Gozo and Comino	173	163	-10	-5.8

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

Region/District	January-March			
	2020	2021	Change	Percentage change
MALTA	3,096	2,614	-482	-15.6
Malta	2,940	2,473	-467	-15.9
Southern Harbour	642	434	-208	-32.4
Northern Harbour	1,087	946	-141	-13.0
South Eastern	324	274	-50	-15.4
Western	346	354	8	2.3
Northern	541	465	-76	-14.0
Gozo and Comino	156	141	-15	-9.6

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

Region/District	January-March			
	2020	2021	Change	Percentage change
MALTA	261	250	-11	-4.2
Malta	244	228	-16	-6.6
Southern Harbour	56	45	-11	-19.6
Northern Harbour	84	77	-7	-8.3
South Eastern	32	28	-4	-12.5
Western	23	26	3	13.0
Northern	49	52	3	6.1
Gozo and Comino	17	22	5	29.4

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

Region/District	2020					2021				
	Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total	Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total
DRIVER										
MALTA	1	36	152	14	203	-	52	136	8	196
Malta	1	33	145	10	189	-	46	125	8	179
Southern Harbour	-	6	44	1	51	-	10	28	1	39
Northern Harbour	-	13	38	6	57	-	12	44	2	58
South Eastern	-	3	17	2	22	-	8	17	-	25
Western	-	4	13	-	17	-	4	13	3	20
Northern	1	7	33	1	42	-	12	23	2	37
Gozo and Comino	-	3	7	4	14	-	6	11	-	17
PASSENGER										
MALTA	-	9	43	4	56	-	13	45	6	64
Malta	-	8	41	4	53	-	11	40	5	56
Southern Harbour	-	5	8	1	14	-	4	5	-	9
Northern Harbour	-	1	14	2	17	-	2	11	3	16
South Eastern	-	-	7	1	8	-	-	7	-	7
Western	-	-	4	-	4	-	3	4	1	8
Northern	-	2	8	-	10	-	2	13	1	16
Gozo and Comino	-	1	2	-	3	-	2	5	1	8
PEDESTRIAN/CYCLIST/OTHER										
MALTA	1	14	29	3	47	1	16	26	2	45
Malta	1	13	29	2	45	1	16	21	2	40
Southern Harbour	1	1	2	-	4	-	3	4	-	7
Northern Harbour	-	6	18	1	25	-	5	8	1	14
South Eastern	-	3	4	-	7	1	1	-	-	2
Western	-	-	2	1	3	-	5	2	1	8
Northern	-	3	3	-	6	-	2	7	-	9
Gozo and Comino	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	5	-	5
...of which cyclist (MALTA)	-	2	6	2	10	-	3	7	1	11
TOTAL										
MALTA	2	59	224	21	306	1	81	207	16	305
Malta	2	54	215	16	287	1	73	186	15	275
Southern Harbour	1	12	54	2	69	-	17	37	1	55
Northern Harbour	-	20	70	9	99	-	19	63	6	88
South Eastern	-	6	28	3	37	1	9	24	-	34
Western	-	4	19	1	24	-	12	19	5	36
Northern	1	12	44	1	58	-	16	43	3	62
Gozo and Comino	-	5	9	5	19	-	8	21	1	30

Note: The category "Other" refers to horse cabs and any other road traffic units not listed above.

Table 5. Road traffic casualties by period, injury type, gender and age group: January-March

Age group	2020	2021				
	Total	Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total
Males						
0-10	3	-	1	6	-	7
11-17	3	-	4	4	-	8
18-25	37	-	10	23	1	34
26-40	57	-	25	45	4	74
41-59	55	-	13	39	3	55
60-65	9	-	5	5	-	10
66+	21	-	5	13	2	20
Total	185	-	63	135	10	208
Females						
0-10	6	-	-	3	-	3
11-17	3	-	-	3	-	3
18-25	24	-	-	13	-	13
26-40	37	-	3	27	3	33
41-59	33	-	6	14	1	21
60-65	4	-	2	3	1	6
66+	13	1	7	9	1	18
unknown	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total	121	1	18	72	6	97
Total						
0-10	9	-	1	9	-	10
11-17	6	-	4	7	-	11
18-25	61	-	10	36	1	47
26-40	94	-	28	72	7	107
41-59	88	-	19	53	4	76
60-65	13	-	7	8	1	16
66+	34	1	12	22	3	38
unknown	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total	306	1	81	207	16	305

Chart 2. Road traffic casualties by age group and gender: January-March 2021

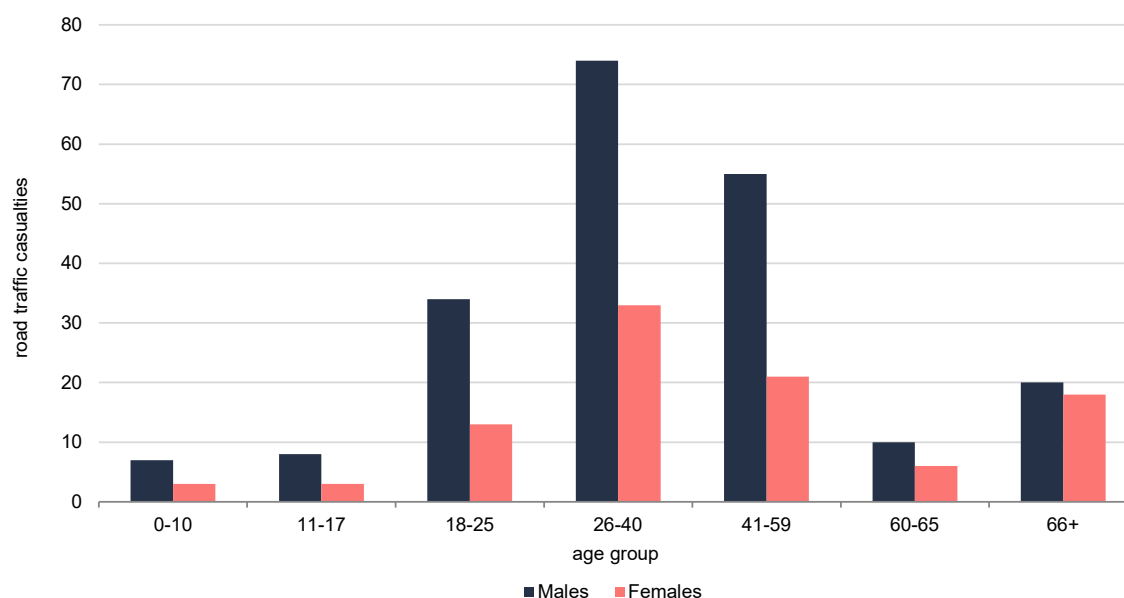


Table 6. Road traffic casualties by period, injury type, road traffic unit and vehicle type: January-March

Road traffic unit	Vehicle type	2021				
		Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total
Driver	Motorcycle	-	34	56	3	93
	Quad & ATV	-	2	2	-	4
	Passenger car	-	13	69	5	87
	Goods-carrying vehicle	-	3	9	-	12
Passenger	Motorcycle	-	3	1	-	4
	Quad & ATV	-	1	1	-	2
	Passenger car	-	9	43	6	58
Pedestrian	Motorcycle	-	2	2	-	4
	Passenger car	1	7	12	1	21
	Goods-carrying vehicle	-	2	2	-	4
	Unknown vehicle	-	-	2	-	2
Cyclist	Passenger car	-	2	4	1	7
	Goods-carrying vehicle	-	1	2	-	3
	Unknown vehicle	-	-	1	-	1
Other	Motorcycle	-	1	-	-	1
	Passenger car	-	-	1	-	1
	Goods-carrying vehicle	-	1	-	-	1
Total		1	81	207	16	305

Note: The category "Other" refers to horse cabs and any other road traffic units not listed above.

Table 7. Road traffic casualties by period, injury type, road traffic unit and accident type: January-March

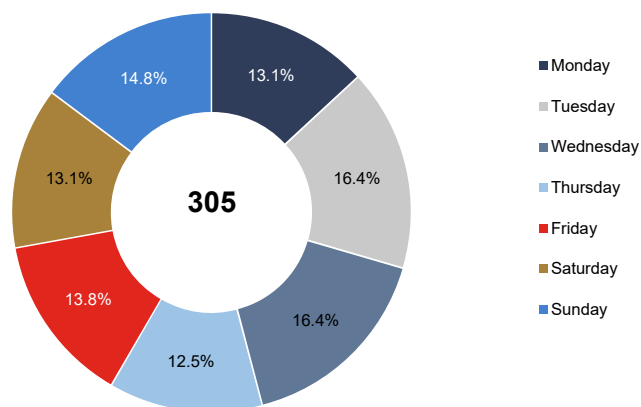
Road traffic unit	Accident type	2021				
		Fatal	Grievous	Slight	Insignificant	Total
Driver	Vehicle with vehicle	-	40	108	8	156
	Vehicle with pedestrian	-	-	3	-	3
	Vehicle with property	-	12	20	-	32
	Vehicle hit and run	-	-	4	-	4
	Vehicle with bicycle	-	-	1	-	1
Passenger	Vehicle with vehicle	-	5	40	5	50
	Vehicle with property	-	8	5	1	14
Pedestrian	Vehicle with vehicle	-	-	2	-	2
	Vehicle with pedestrian	1	11	16	1	29
Cyclist	Vehicle hit and run	-	-	1	-	1
	Vehicle with bicycle	-	3	6	1	10
Other	Vehicle with vehicle	-	1	-	-	1
	Vehicle with bicycle	-	1	1	-	2
Total		1	81	207	16	305

Note: The category "Other" refers to horse cabs and any other road traffic units not listed above.

Table 8. Road traffic casualties and accidents by day of the week: January-March 2021

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
Road traffic casualties	40	50	50	38	42	40	45	305
Road traffic accidents	425	462	464	407	429	393	284	2,864
Casualties-to-accidents ratio (%)	9.4	10.8	10.8	9.3	9.8	10.2	15.8	10.6

Chart 3. Percentage distribution of road traffic casualties by day of the week: January-March 2021



Note: Percentages may not add up due to rounding.

Table 9. Road traffic accidents by day of the week and time bracket: January-March 2021

Time bracket	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
00:00 - 02:59	6	2	4	2	4	11	12	41
03:00 - 05:59	3	4	7	3	4	4	5	30
06:00 - 08:59	82	87	72	59	60	41	17	418
09:00 - 11:59	95	117	94	98	100	117	63	684
12:00 - 14:59	102	103	108	93	103	106	60	675
15:00 - 17:59	85	93	116	95	91	52	61	593
18:00 - 20:59	43	46	49	40	47	42	51	318
21:00 - 23:59	9	10	14	17	20	20	15	105
Total	425	462	464	407	429	393	284	2,864

Chart 4. Road traffic accidents by time bracket and day of the week: January-March 2021

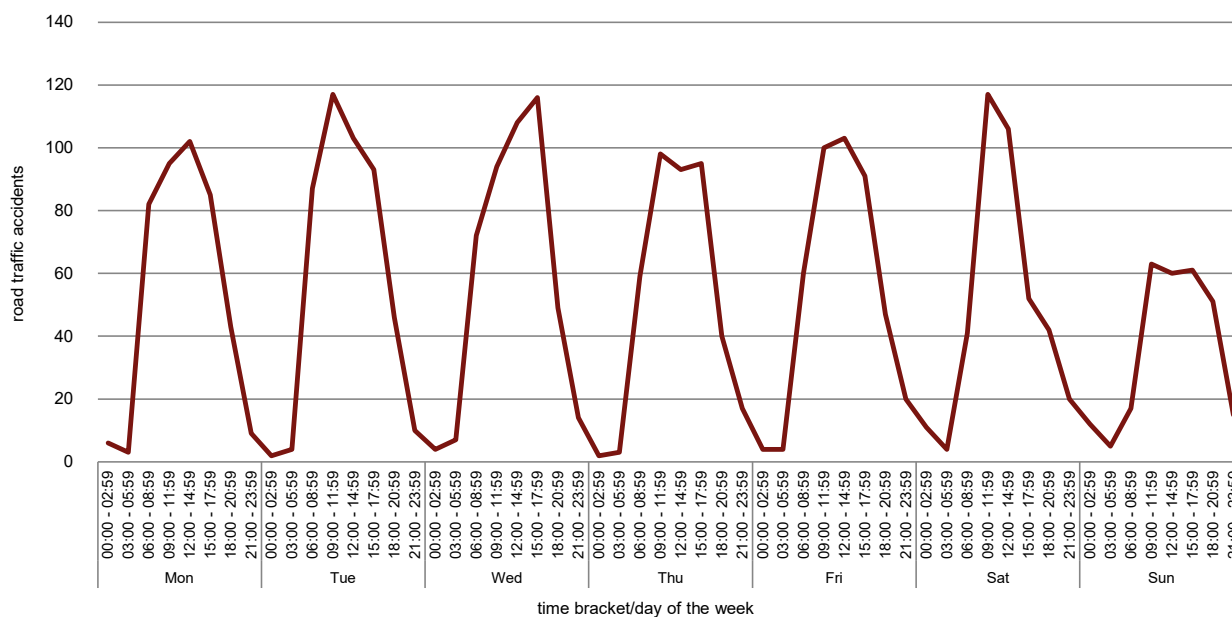


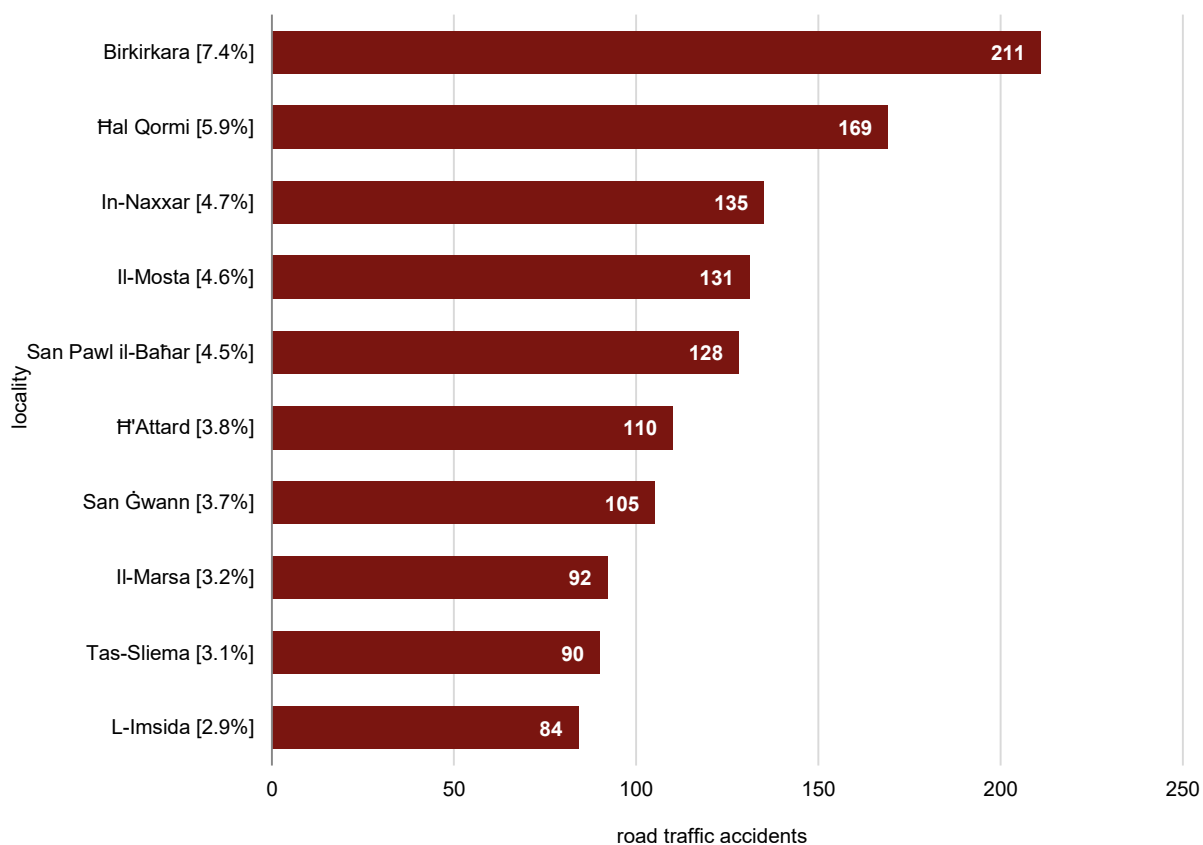
Table 10. Road traffic accidents by period and district/locality ...

District/Locality	January-March		
	2020	2021	Change
Southern Harbour	698	479	-219
Bormla	22	16	-6
Il-Fgura	64	49	-15
Floriana	39	25	-14
Hal Luqa	102	74	-28
Hal Tarxien	65	55	-10
Haż-Żabbar	71	62	-9
Il-Kalkara	11	3	-8
Il-Marsa	132	92	-40
Raħal Ġdid	106	61	-45
Santa Luċija	22	3	-19
L-Isla	7	2	-5
Valletta	34	25	-9
Il-Birgu	16	9	-7
Ix-Xgħajra	7	3	-4
Northern Harbour	1,171	1,023	-148
Birkirkara	277	211	-66
Il-Gżira	77	66	-11
Hal Qormi	180	169	-11
Il-Ħamrun	86	64	-22
L-Imsida	90	84	-6
Pembroke	26	14	-12
San Ġwann	112	105	-7
Santa Venera	63	55	-8
San Ġiljan	81	71	-10
Is-Swieqi	37	47	10
Ta' Xbiex	12	15	3
Tal-Pietà	44	32	-12
Tas-Sliema	86	90	4
South Eastern	356	302	-54
Birżebbuġa	54	49	-5
Il-Gudja	48	18	-30
Hal Għaxaq	27	15	-12
Hal Kirkop	12	15	3
Hal Safi	7	11	4
Marsaskala	47	48	1
Marsaxlokk	10	7	-3
L-Imqabba	13	10	-3
Il-Qrendi	15	13	-2
Iż-Żejtun	85	74	-11
Iż-Żurrieq	38	42	4
Western	369	380	11
Ħad-Dingli	10	15	5
Hal Balzan	36	26	-10
Hal Lija	29	23	-6
Ħ'Attard	106	110	4
Haż-Żebbuġ	60	72	12
L-Iklin	22	14	-8
L-Imdina	1	4	3
L-Imtarfa	10	9	-1
Ir-Rabat	59	73	14
Is-Siġġiewi	36	34	-2

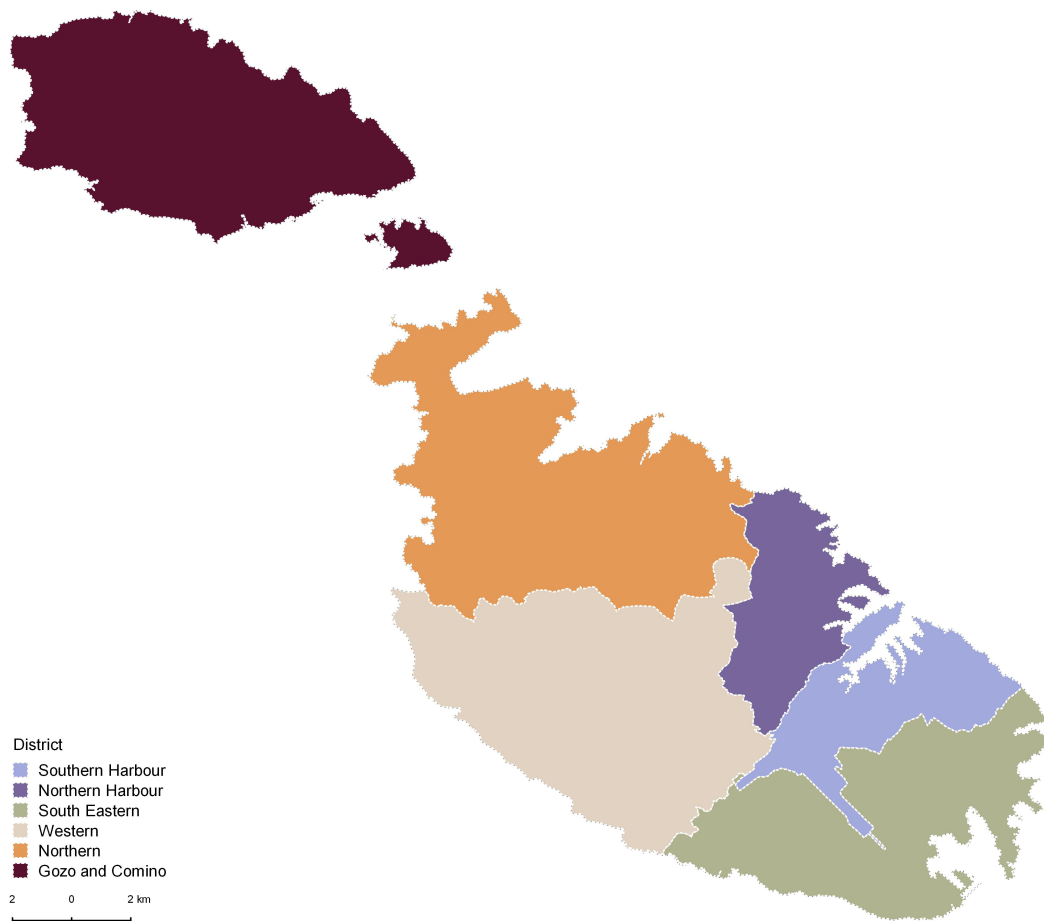
... Table 10. Road traffic accidents by period and district/locality

District/Locality	January-March		
	2020	2021	Change
Northern	590	517	-73
Hal Għarghur	33	19	-14
Il-Mellieħa	65	71	6
L-Imġarr	25	33	8
Il-Mosta	164	131	-33
In-Naxxar	159	135	-24
San Pawl Il-Baħar	144	128	-16
Gozo and Comino	173	163	-10
Il-Fontana	4	4	-
Għajnsielem and Comino	22	20	-2
L-Għarb	1	4	3
L-Għasri	2	1	-1
Il-Munxar	7	5	-2
In-Nadur	14	16	2
Il-Qala	2	3	1
San Lawrenz	1	1	-
Ta' Kercem	3	3	-
Ta' Sannat	4	4	-
Ir-Rabat	58	49	-9
Ix-Xagħra	12	16	4
Ix-Xewkija	30	30	-
Iż-Żebbuġ	13	7	-6
Total	3,357	2,864	-493

Chart 5. Top 10 localities for road traffic accidents: January-March 2021



Graphical Illustration of MALTA by NUTS Classification



Districts classification

Southern Harbour

Bormla; Il-Fgura; Floriana; Ғal Luqa; Ғaḑ-Żabbar; Il-Kalkara; Il-Marsa; Raḡal Ġdid; Santa Luċija; L-Isla; Ғal Tarxien; Valletta; Il-Birgu; Ix-Xgħajra.

Northern Harbour

Birkirkara; Il-Ġżira; Ғal Qormi; Il-Ғamrun; L-Imsida; Pembroke; San Ġwann; Santa Venera; San Ġiljan; Is-Swieqi; Ta' Xbiex; Tal-Pietà; Tas-Sliema.

South Eastern

Birżebbuġa; Il-Gudja; Ғal Għaxaq; Ғal Kirkop; Ғal Safi; Marsaskala; Marsaxlokk; L-Imqabba; Il-Qrendi; Iz-Żejtun; iz-Żurrieq.

Western

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

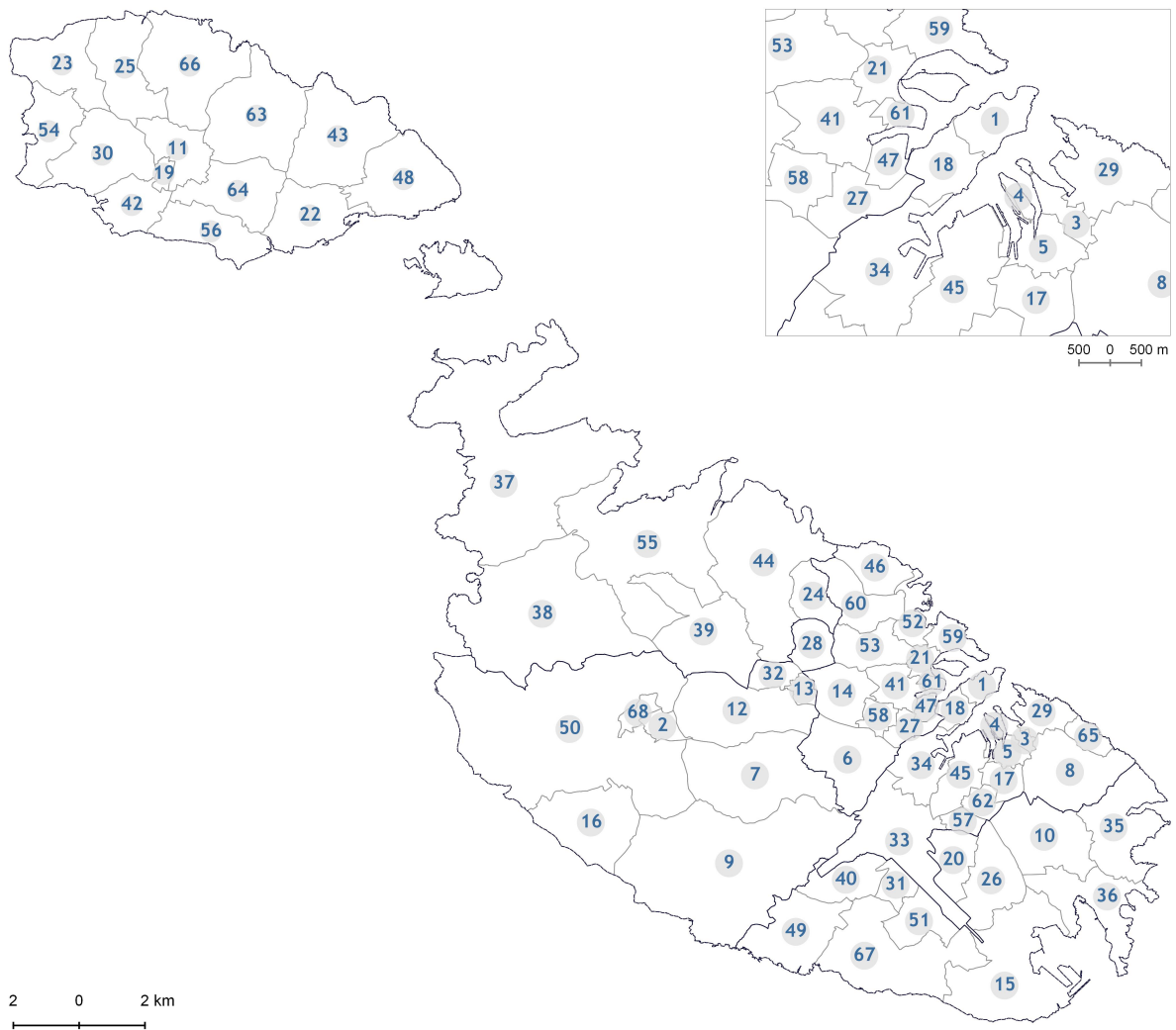
Northern

Ғal Għargħur; Il-Mellieḡa; L-Imġarr; Il-Mosta; In-Naxxar; San Pawl Il-Baḡar .

Gozo and Comino

Il-Fontana; Għajnsielem and Comino; L-Għarb; L-Għasri; Il-Munxar; In-Nadur; Il-Qala; San Lawrenz; Ta' Kerċem; Ta' Sannat; Ir-Rabat; Ix-Xagħra; Ix-Xewkija; Iz-Żebbuġ.

Graphical Illustration of MALTA by LAU2 Classification



Key

1 Valletta	18 Floriana	35 Marsaskala	52 San Ġiljan
2 L-Imdina	19 Il-Fontana	36 Marsaxlokk	53 San Ġwann
3 Il-Birgu	20 Il-Gudja	37 Il-Mellieħa	54 San Lawrenz
4 L-Isla	21 Il-Gżira	38 L-Imġarr	55 San Pawl Il-Baħar
5 Bormla	22 Ġhajnsielem and Comino	39 Il-Mosta	56 Ta' Sannat
6 Ħal Qormi	23 L-Għarb	40 L-Imqabba	57 Santa Luċija
7 Ħaż-Żebbuġ	24 Ħal Għargħur	41 L-Imsida	58 Santa Venera
8 Ħaż-Żabbar	25 L-Għasri	42 Il-Munxar	59 Tas-Sliema
9 Is-Siġġiewi	26 Ħal Għaxaq	43 In-Nadur	60 Is-Swieqi
10 Iż-Żejtun	27 Il-Ħamrun	44 In-Naxxar	61 Ta' Xbiex
11 Ir-Rabat, Ġhawdex	28 L-Iklin	45 Raħal Ġdid	62 Ħal Tarxien
12 Ħ'Attard	29 Il-Kalkara	46 Pembroke	63 Ix-Xagħra
13 Ħal Balzan	30 Ta' Kerċem	47 Tal-Pieta'	64 Ix-Xewkija
14 Birkirkara	31 Ħal Kirkop	48 Il-Qala	65 Ix-Xgħajra
15 Birżebbuġa	32 Ħal Lija	49 Il-Qrendi	66 Iż-Żebbuġ, Ġhawdex
16 Ħad-Dingli	33 Ħal Luqa	50 Ir-Rabat, Malta	67 Iż-Żurrieq
17 Il-Fgura	34 Il-Marsa	51 Ħal Safi	68 L-Imtarfa

Methodological Notes

1. Road traffic accidents data is compiled from administrative information provided by the Police Department and the Malta Insurance Association (Guard and Warden Service House Limited).
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: <https://legislation.mt/eli/cap/9/eng/pdf>
 - 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: <https://legislation.mt/eli/cap/9/eng/pdf>
 - 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".
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: https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_B3/Environment_Energy_Transport_and_Agriculture_Statistics/Pages/Road-Traffic-Accidents.aspx
Statistical Concepts: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/ConceptDetails.aspx?id=15>
LAU Classification: [https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/classificationdetails.aspx?id=Districts%20\(Local%20Administrative%20Unit\)](https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/classificationdetails.aspx?id=Districts%20(Local%20Administrative%20Unit))
NUTS: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NUTS>
6. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
7. A detailed news release calendar is available on: https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx