# THE MALTA POLICE'S ACTIVE ROLE TOWARDS ROAD SAFETY ON AND OFF MALTESE ROADS

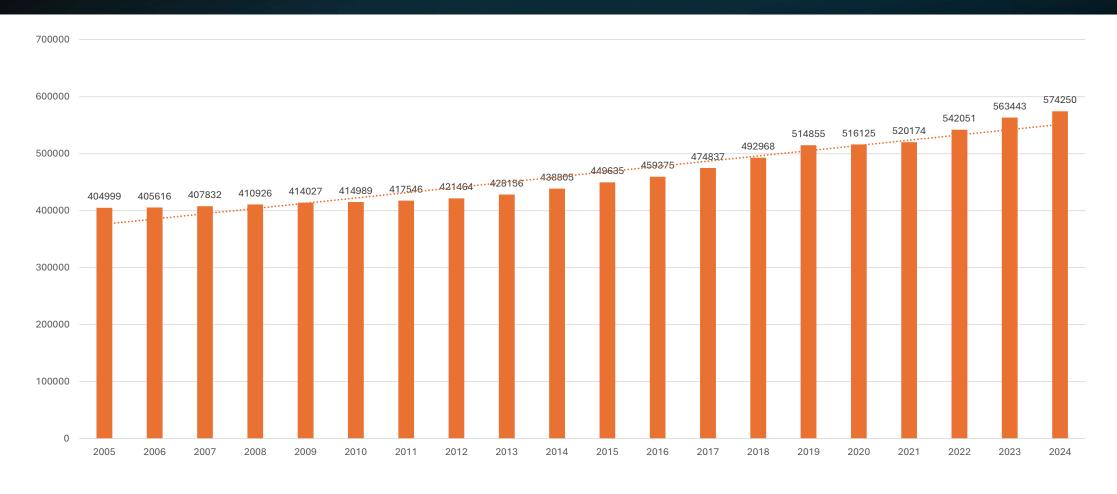
DIRIGE

Angelo Gafà
Commissioner of Police

"To provide a professional and trusted policing service to ensure safety and security in partnership with the community."

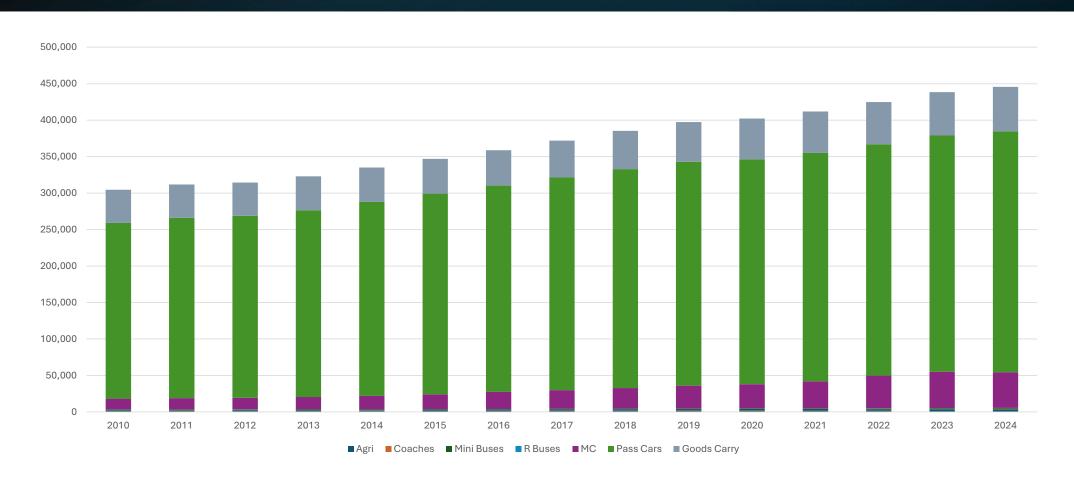


# Setting Context – POPULATION Growth



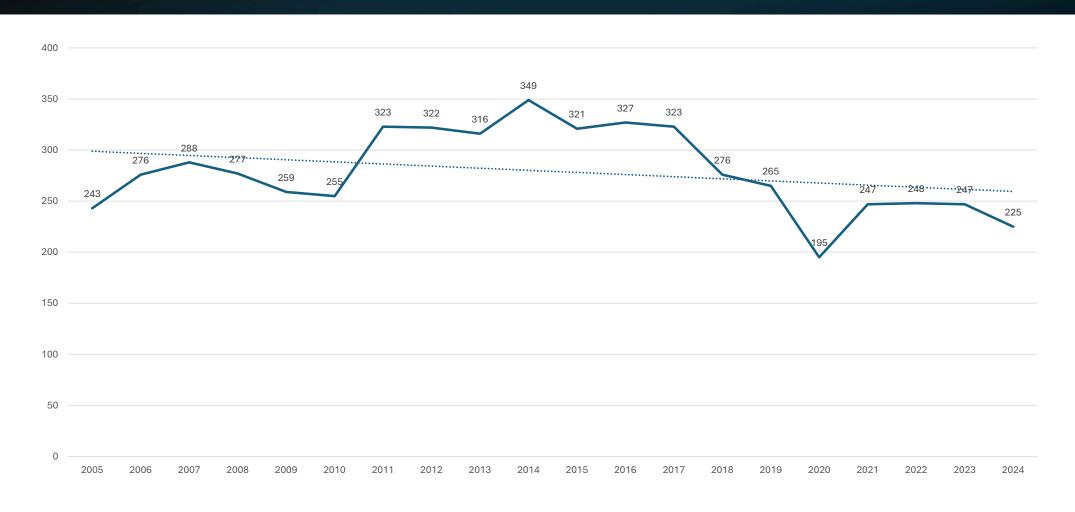


## Setting Context – Increase in Registered VEHICLES



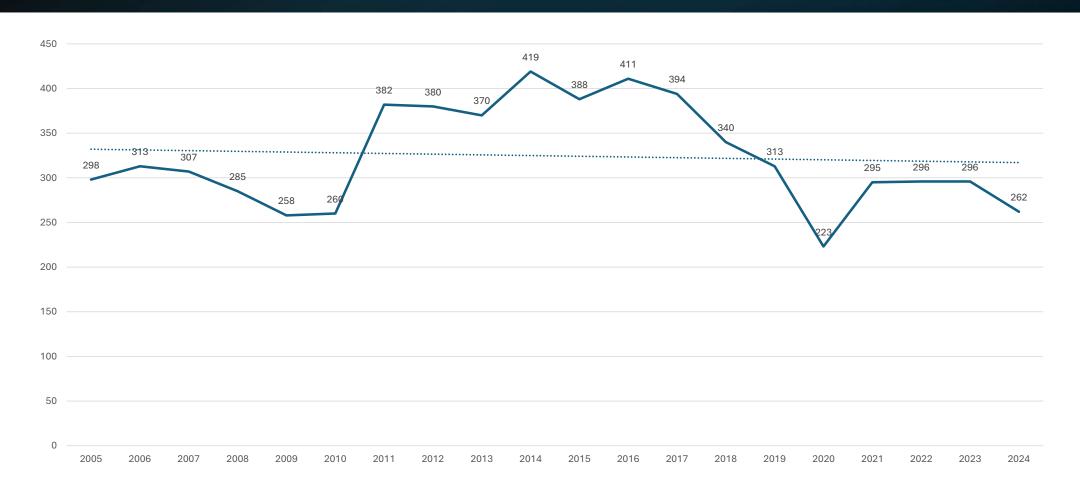


## Serious Road Collisions per 100K Population



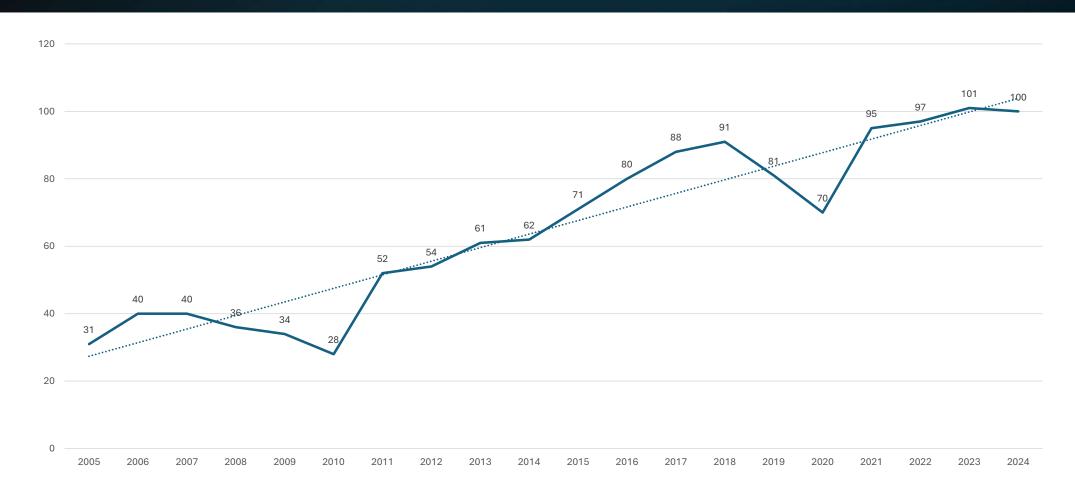


## Road Collision INJURIES per 100K Population



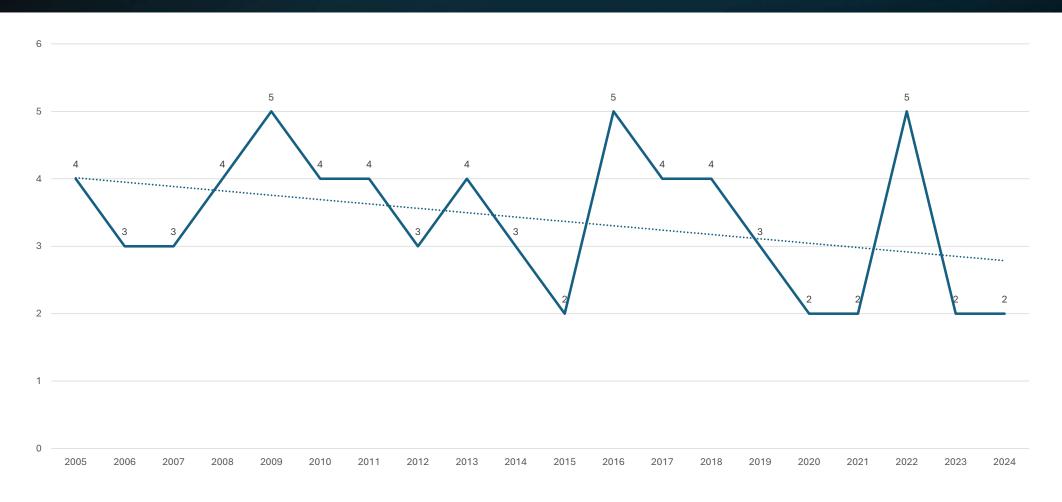


## MOTORCYCLE Collision Injuries per 100K Population



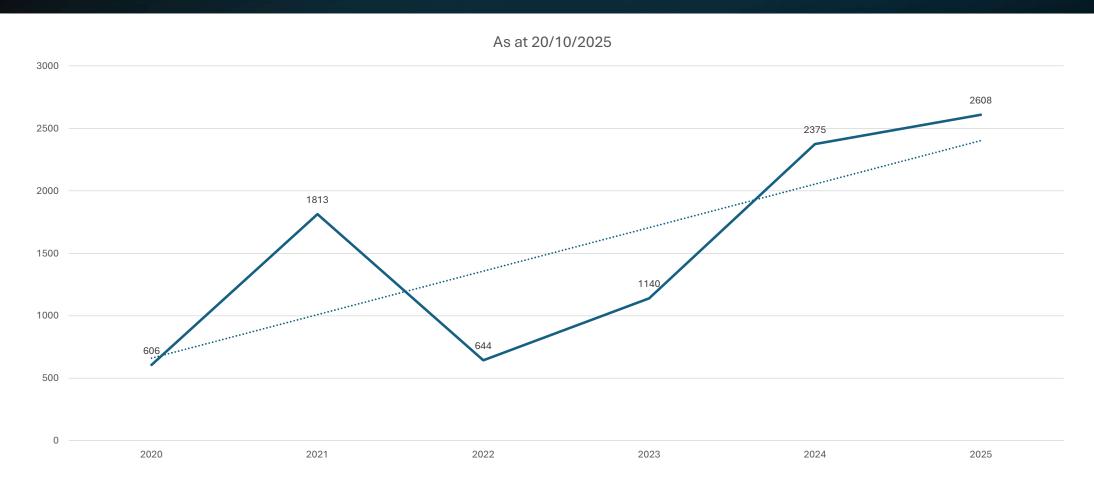


## Road Collision FATALITIES per 100K Population



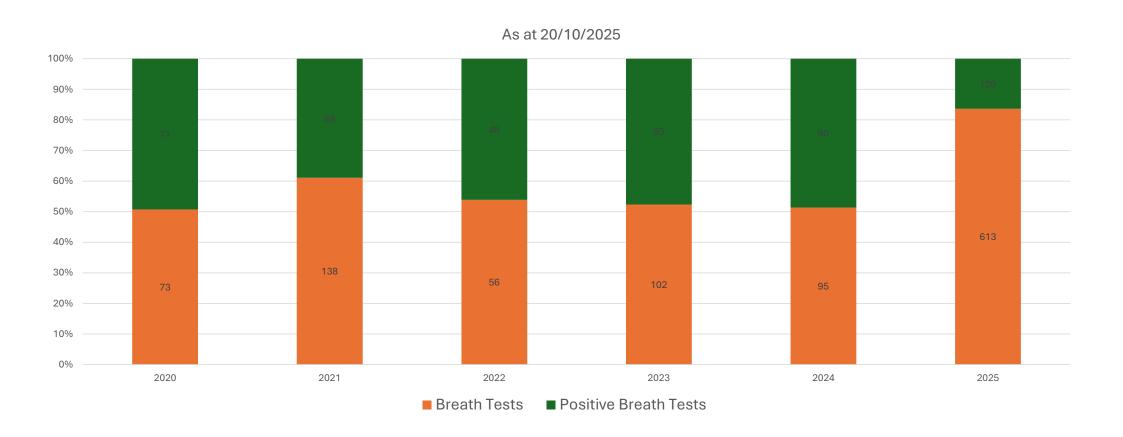


### MPF's Active Role ON our Roads: ROAD CHECKS



# Malta Police's Active Role ON our Roads: ALCOHOL BREATH TESTS

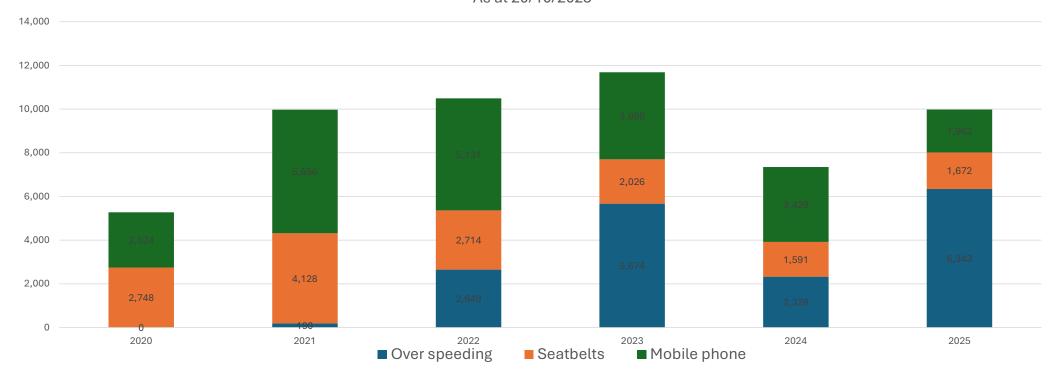


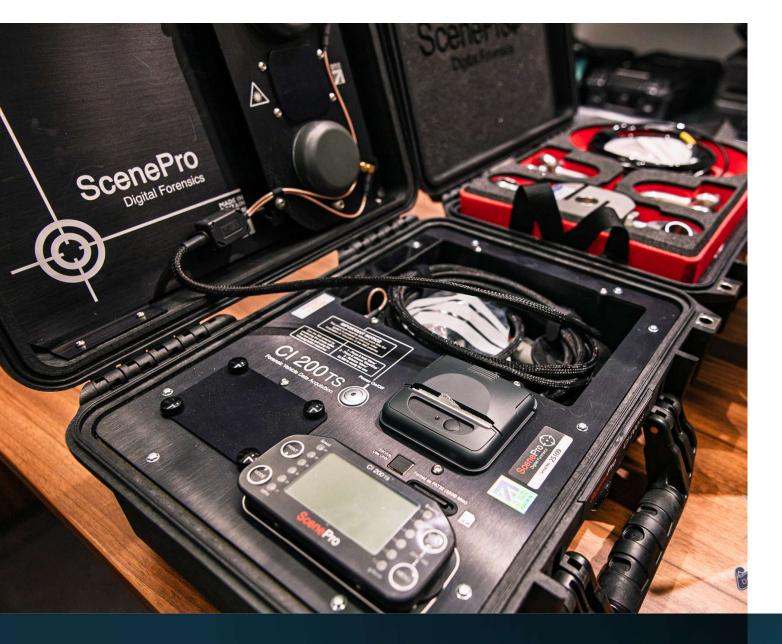


# Malta Police's Active Role ON our Roads: CONTRAVENTIONS ON INJURY-CAUSING COLLISIONS



#### As at 20/10/2025





#### Malta Police's Active Role ON our Roads: ROADS POLICING UNIT

- Roads Policing Unit launched in May 2025.
- Unit coordinates Enforcement and Collision Investigations.
- Road collisions are now centrally investigated with precision, professionalism and use of advanced technology.

# Malta Police's Active Role OFF our Roads:

Analysis of Position Paper on Drug-Driving – June 2023

#### Gaps in Malta's current framework

- No per-substance impairment thresholds (blood/urine/oral fluid).
- No distinction in law between cannabisimpaired vs cannabis-positive drivers.
- No aggravated penalties for alcohol + psychoactive drug co-use.
- No operational oral-fluid roadside testing.
- Alcohol testing still requires prior suspicion.





# Malta Police's Active Role OFF our Roads: Analysis of National Drug Policy 2023-2033

#### **Action 8**

Introduce a new law on random drug testing for all drivers of all vehicles with a 'zero tolerance' for all illicit drugs.





# Malta Police's Active Role OFF our Roads: PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS



- Introduction of a New Offence: Proposed criminal action against whosoever produces or distributes any material that depicts individuals driving recklessly, negligently, or dangerously.
- **Drug Driving (Zero-Tolerance Policy):** Proposed a zero-tolerance prohibition to driving under the influence of all controlled drugs except Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC, cannabis).
- THC Driving Limit: Proposed the prohibition of driving under the influence of THC above the prescribed limit of 2 mg per litre of blood, in accordance with The Drug Driving (Specified Limits) (England and Wales) Regulations 2014.
- Mandatory Testing After Serious Collisions: Proposed a mandatory breath and/or roadside drug test for any driver involved in a serious road collision.
- <u>Testing of Passenger Vehicle Drivers:</u> Proposed breath and/or oral fluid drug testing of drivers of vehicles carrying passengers for hire or reward without reasonable suspicion.

# Malta Police's Active Role OFF our Roads: PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS continued

#### PROCEDURE FOR ROADSIDE DRUG TESTING

Following a positive roadside drug test (oral fluid), a confirmatory test on all drugs or an impairment test for THC would be required.

In case of any drugs other than THC an oral fluid sample would be collected on site and taken to an independent laboratory for a confirmatory test.

In case of THC, a blood sample would be required which shall also be taken to the laboratory for an impairment test.

In case of blood tests, prior to consenting, the driver shall be entitled to receive legal advice.

Should the driver not consent; the Court may draw such inferences from the refusal which shall amount to corroboration of any evidence against the driver.

If the driver is incapable to give his consent, a Police Inspector shall request the duty Magistrate in writing to authorise the taking and analysis of a blood sample.

Subsidiary Legislation shall establish the procedure as well as the devices to be used for roadside drug testing.





Malta Police's
Active Role OFF
our Roads:
PROPOSED
LEGISLATIVE
AMENDMENTS
continued

#### **TOUGHER PENALTIES**

Proposed increase in punishments for driving under the influence (Article 15H, Cap. 65):

- Fines to increase from a minimum of €1800 to a minimum of €2500 for first conviction; on second or subsequent convictions from a minimum of €3000 to a minimum of €5000.
- Removing imprisonment (in view of right to legal advice).
- Court to order reimbursement of costs in connection with drug testing.

Proposed increase in punishment for hit and run offences involving injuries

Malta Police's
Active Role OFF our
Roads:
BILL 146 TABLED by
Minister for Home
Affairs – June 2025

Zero tolerance on **ALL** drugs including THC.

In cases of Involuntary Homicide, the prosecution shall request the Court to suspend the driving licence during the proceedings.

The punishment of involuntary homicide while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs shall be not less than 3 years imprisonment without the possibility of a suspended sentence or probation order.

Bill to be discussed at Committee Stage on 19 November 2025



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Angelo Gafà Commissioner of Police angelo.gafa@gov.mt

