

## Household Budget Survey 2023 – Preliminary results

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## Updated weights for the Consumer Price Index

### 1. Introduction

Statistics Mauritius conducted the eleventh Household Budget Survey (HBS) from January to December 2023 in the Republic of Mauritius. The survey studied the consumption pattern of the population living in private households in Mauritius and Rodrigues with a view to updating the basket of goods and services used for the computation of the monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI).

This issue of Economic and Social Indicators presents the main preliminary results obtained from the survey as well as the weights of the new basket. While the new basket has been derived from the consumption expenditure of private households comprising of Mauritians and Non-Mauritians, the income and expenditure estimates relate to Mauritians households only.

The new weighting system is given at Annex 1. The methodology used for the survey is at Annex 2.

### 2. Summary of findings

#### Income

- (i) Average monthly household disposable income increased by 51.1% from Rs 36,803 in 2017 to Rs 55,600 in 2023. The real increase, i.e., after adjusting for an inflation rate of 31.2% and decrease in household size (from 3.4 to 3.2), works out to 22.4%.
- (ii) Median monthly household disposable income increased by 59.3% from Rs 28,250 in 2017 to Rs 45,000 in 2023.
- (iii) In 2023, there were 2.1 income earners for an average household of size 3.2, higher as compared to 2.0 income earners for an average household of size 3.4 in 2017.
- (iv) Wages and salaries remained the principal source of household income accounting for around 62% of gross income in 2023, compared to around 68% in 2017.
- (v) Transfer income which consists mainly of pensions, social contribution (CSG) income allowance and other social security benefits was also an important source of income. In 2023, it accounted for around 25% of total gross income higher than the 19% of 2017.

## Expenditure

- (i) Average monthly household consumption expenditure increased by 45.6% from Rs 28,750 in 2017 to Rs 41,870 in 2023. The real increase, i.e. after adjusting for an inflation rate of 31.2% and decrease in household size (from 3.4 to 3.2), works out to 18.0%.
- (ii) 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' constituted the largest share of household consumption expenditure (25%) followed by 'Transport' (16%), 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' (11%), 'Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels' (10%) and, 'Information and Communication' (7%).
- (iii) For categories which were not affected by the revisions in classification of expenditure, the highest increases in household expenditure from 2017 to 2023, were registered in 'Health', 'Transport' and 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages'. Average monthly household expenditure on 'Health' rose by 88.1% from Rs 1,090 to Rs 2,050, on 'Transport' by 56.7% from Rs 4,230 to Rs 6,630 and on 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' by 46.4% from Rs 7,160 to Rs 10,480. Conversely, average household expenditure on 'Education services' fell by 6.9%, from Rs 1,440 to Rs 1,340.

## Change in the classification of expenditure:

The Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP) is the international reference classification of household expenditure. Prior to the Household Budget Survey (HBS) 2023, Statistics Mauritius was using the COICOP 1999 to classify the different expenditure of items of goods and services however, as from now, the expenditure of items of goods and services which forms part of the new Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket will be classified under the COICOP 2018. Below, we highlight the main changes between the COICOP 1999 and COICOP 2018:

- a) For the purpose of CPI, there are 13 major divisions under COICOP 2018 whilst COICOP 1999 had only 12 divisions. The Division 12 - 'Insurance and Financial Services' under COICOP 2018 was previously a sub-class under Division 12 – 'Miscellaneous goods and services' in COICOP 1999. Division 13 under COIOP 2018 is termed as 'Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods' and consist of items which were initially categorised under Division 12 – 'Miscellaneous goods and services' in COICOP 1999.

At item indicator (lowest level), the main changes in COICOP 2018 were:

- b) Items falling under sub-class – ‘Electric Accessories such as power sockets, switches etc’, now fall under Division 04 – ‘Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels’, instead of Division 05 – ‘Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance’.
- c) ‘Postal Services’ previously in Division 08 – ‘Communication’ is now under Division 07 – ‘Transport’.
- d) ‘Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and vision, Information Processing Equipment, Recording Media and repair charges’ previously falling under Division 09 – ‘Recreation, sport and culture’ now fall under Division 08 – ‘Communication’.
- e) ‘TV licence’ and ‘subscription to cable TV’ previously falling under Division 09 – ‘Recreation, sport and culture’ now falls under Division 08 – ‘Communication’.
- f) ‘Religious items’ previously falling under Division 05 - ‘Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance’ now fall under the new Division 13 - ‘Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods’.
- g) Items like ‘Insurance and financial services’ previously in Division 12 under COICOP 1999 remains under new Division 12 - ‘Insurance and Financial Services’ but the remaining items (example are religious services, photocopy services, legal services etc.) has been transferred to new Division 13 - ‘Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods’.

Note that further to these revisions in the classification of commodities from COICOP 1999 to COICOP 2018, the HBS 2017 consumption of goods and services which was initially classified under COICOP 1999, had been re-classified under COICOP 2018. As such, data for certain categories like ‘Recreation, sport and culture’, ‘Insurance and financial services’ and ‘Personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services’, are strictly not comparable.

## CPI weights

- (iv) The highest weight in the CPI is that of the COICOP division ‘Food and non-alcoholic beverages’ which registered an increase from 249 to 250, largely due to increases in the number of items falling under the Group – Food (for example, pre-cooked food).
- (v) The weight for ‘Alcoholic beverages and tobacco’ decreased from 110 in 2017 to 106 in 2023. Weight for whisky decreased from 9 in 2017 to 8 in 2023, and that of Rhum went down from 12 in 2017 to 9 in 2023;
- (vi) ‘Clothing and footwear’ witnessed a decrease in its weight from 46 in 2017 to 41 in 2023 as the weight for ‘Ready-made garments’ went down from 35 in 2017 to 31 in 2023;
- (vii) ‘Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels’ had a lower share of expenditure in the overall CPI basket in 2023, compared to 2017 (weight fell from 112 in 2017 to 100 in 2023) mainly due to lower weight for ‘Water Charges’ (from 7 in 2017 to 5 in 2023), ‘Electricity’ (from 37 in 2017 to 30 in 2023) and ‘Cooking gas’ (from 10 in 2017 to 9 in 2023);
- (viii) Households gave less importance to items under ‘Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance’ as its weight decreased from 58 in 2017 to 48 in 2023.
- (ix) The weight for ‘Health’ had an increase from 38 in 2017 to 49 in 2023 mainly due to higher weight for ‘Hospital services’ (from 9 in 2017 to 15 in 2023) and ‘Pharmaceutical products’ (from 10 in 2017 to 16 in 2023). It is to be noted that prices for this division increased by 31.4% during that period.
- (x) The weight for ‘Transport’ rose from 147 to 159, mainly due to higher weight of gasoline (from 46 in 2017 to 64 in 2023) and also inclusion of newer items like ‘Car Rental’ (weight was negligible in 2017 and 1 in 2023) and ‘Passenger transport by light rail’ (weight was nil in 2017 and 1 in 2023).
- (xi) The weight for ‘Information and Communication’ rose from 66 in 2017 to 70 in 2023, as items like ‘Internet access services’ (weight rose from 16 in 2017 to 29 in 2023) and ‘Bundled telecommunication services’ (weight was negligible in 2017 and 9 in 2023) are gaining more importance in the CPI basket.
- (xii) The weight for ‘Recreation, sport and culture’ remained unchanged at 20 in 2017 and 2023.
- (xiii) The weight for ‘Education’ has decreased from 50 in 2017 to 32 in 2023 due to downward shift in weight for ‘University fees’ from 33 in 2017 to 18 in 2023, mitigated by higher weight for ‘Early childhood and primary education’, from 4 in 2017 to 5 in 2023.
- (xiv) The weight for ‘Restaurants and accommodation services’ decreased from 53 in 2017 to 52 in 2023.

- (xv) ‘Insurance and financial services’ and ‘Personal Care, social protection and Miscellaneous goods and services’ have a share of 4.1% and 3.2%, respectively in 2023, compared to a share of 2.2% and 2.9% in 2017, respectively.

### **3. Reliability of survey results**

#### Comparison with data from Continuous Multipurpose Household Survey (CMPHS) 2023 and the Housing and Population Census 2022

The HBS results were compared with those of the CMPHS 2023 and Housing and Population Census 2022 and were found to be consistent in terms of demographic characteristics such as composition by age, sex, marital and activity status as well as household size (see Table 1). The differences could be due to differences in sampling errors and also the objectives of the mentioned surveys are not the same.

**Table 1 - Comparison of HBS 2023 with HBS 2017, Housing and Population Census 2022 and, CMPHS 2023**

<b>Demographic characteristics of household members</b>	<b>HBS 2017 (%)</b>	<b>CENSUS 2022<sup>1</sup> (%)</b>	<b>CMPHS 2023<sup>1</sup> (%)</b>	<b>HBS 2023 (%)</b>
<b>SEX</b>				
Male	49.0	49.3	48.8	49.1
Female	51.0	50.7	51.2	50.9
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>AGE</b>				
Under 5 years	4.4	4.7	5.1	4.1
5 – 14 years	13.5	10.6	11.0	10.7
15 – 59 years	64.5	65.1	63.3	63.0
60 years and above	17.6	19.6	20.6	22.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>MARITAL STATUS</b>				
Married	46.9	47.2	45.1	48.1
Divorced / Separated / Widowed	11.1	11.0	12.8	11.7
Single	42.0	41.8	42.1	40.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>ACTIVITY STATUS (16 yrs &amp; above)</b>				
Economically active	56.9	56.9	58.4	55.5
Students	8.3	7.4	7.8	8.0
Other	34.9	35.7	33.8	36.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>HOUSEHOLD SIZE</b>				
<b>Average household size</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.2</b>

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

### Comparison with data from other sources

The expenditure data from the HBS were also checked against estimates derived from other sources such as data on production, imports, exports and local sales (Table 2).

**Table 2 - Comparison of HBS 2023 expenditure data on some items with data from other sources**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Estimated private household consumption per annum based on the HBS 2023</b>	<b>Estimated national <sup>1</sup> consumption per annum based on data from other sources, 2023</b>
Rice (govt.imported)	9,900 tons	26,500 tons
Rice (trader's)	31,400 tons	35,300 tons
Flour (inc. flour for bread)	85,000 tons	101,000 tons
Tea	1,200 tons	1,640 tons
Sugar	7,000 tons	33,100 tons
Chicken	17,000 tons	55,000 tons
Cooking Oil	Rs 1,300 Mn	Rs 1,900 Mn
Potato	20,000 tons	25,000 tons
Onion	15,000 tons	18,000 tons
Powdered milk	Rs 2,500 Mn	Rs 2,200 Mn
Rum & Cane Spirits	Rs 1,200 Mn	Rs 5,000 Mn
Beer & Stout	Rs 1,200 Mn	Rs 7,500 Mn
Wine locally produced	Rs 270 Mn	Rs 1,200 Mn
Cigarettes	Rs 2,500 Mn	Rs 11,500 Mn
Electricity (domestic)	Rs 5,500 Mn	Rs 6,600 Mn
Water (domestic)	Rs 940 Mn	Rs 840 Mn
Waste Water (domestic)	Rs 190 Mn	Rs 180 Mn
Gasolene	Rs 11,800 Mn	Rs 15,000 Mn
LPG - cooking gas	Rs 1,500 Mn	Rs 2,600 Mn

<sup>1</sup> - Consumption of households, tourist and also used in industries

#### **4. Adjustment of expenditure data for deriving CPI weights**

##### Alcoholic beverages and cigarettes

As shown in Table 2, there are large differences between the estimates for expenditure on alcoholic beverages and cigarettes derived from the HBS and from data on local sales. Past data indicate that people tend to underreport on what they actually consume on these items. Accordingly, it has been found necessary to adjust the expenditure data on alcoholic beverages and cigarettes before deriving the CPI weights. Thus, an adjustment of Rs 3,362 has been made on the average monthly household consumption expenditure on alcoholic beverages and cigarettes. The COICOP divisions affected are 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' and 'Restaurants and accommodation services' since the latter includes alcoholic drinks consumed in restaurants.

#### **5. Household Disposable Income**

During the survey, income data was collected from all household members who were deriving an income. Table 3 shows some selected measures of monthly household disposable income computed from the data. Disposable income is defined as the income (both in cash and in kind) derived from employment, property and transfers (mainly pensions, social contribution (CSG) income allowance and other social security benefits) less compulsory deductions such as income tax and contributions to pensions and social security schemes.



**Table 3 - Selected measures of monthly household disposable income - 2012, 2017 & 2023 HBS**

<b>Measures of Income</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Average monthly household disposable income (Rs)</b>	29,421	36,803	55,600
<b>95% Confidence Interval for average monthly disposable income</b>			
Lower limit	28,740	36,050	54,380
Upper limit	30,110	37,560	56,820
<b>Median monthly household disposable income (Rs)</b>	21,850	28,250	45,000

From the reported figures, the average monthly household disposable income was Rs 55,600 in 2023 against Rs 36,803 in 2017, showing a 51.1% increase. Over the same period, the price of households' consumption goods and services, as measured by the CPI increased by 31.2% and the average household size decreased by 5.9% from 3.4 to 3.2 persons. After adjusting for price increases and smaller household size, there was a real increase of 22.4% in the income of households.

The median monthly household disposable income was Rs 45,000 in 2023, indicating that 50% of households derived an income less than Rs 45,000 and that the other 50% had an income greater than Rs 45,000. Compared to a figure of Rs 28,250 for 2017, the median disposable income increased by 59.3% to reach Rs 45,000 in 2023.

Table 4 shows the distribution of households by income class. The proportion of households having income less than Rs 10,000 per month decreased from 8.4% in 2017 to 0.7% in 2023. Similarly, the proportion of households receiving between Rs 10,000 and Rs 20,000 decreased from 23.1% in 2017 to 12.6% in 2023 and, the share of households having a monthly income between Rs 20,000 and Rs 40,000 also decreased from 37.4% in 2017 to 30.0% in 2023. Consequently, the increase in the share of households with a monthly income above Rs 40,000 was even higher, from 31.1% in 2017 to 56.7% in 2023.

**Table 4: Distribution (%) of households by income class - 2012, 2017 & 2023 HBS**

Monthly Household Disposable Income (Rs)	2012 HBS		2017 HBS		2023 HBS	
	Households (%)	Total Income (%)	Households (%)	Total Income (%)	Households (%)	Total Income (%)
Under 10,000	14.4	3.1	8.4	1.6	0.7	0.1
10,000 to < 12,000	5.7	2.1	4.6	1.4	3.0	0.6
12,000 to < 14,000	6.1	2.7	4.5	1.6	3.2	0.7
14,000 to < 16,000	6.3	3.2	5.3	2.1	2.3	0.6
16,000 to < 18,000	5.9	3.5	4.2	1.9	2.1	0.6
18,000 to < 20,000	5.9	3.8	4.5	2.3	2.0	0.7
20,000 to < 25,000	13.4	10.2	11.4	7.0	6.3	2.6
25,000 to < 30,000	9.6	8.9	10.2	7.5	8.5	4.2
30,000 to < 35,000	7.1	7.8	8.9	7.8	7.8	4.6
35,000 to < 40,000	5.0	6.3	6.9	7.0	7.4	5.0
40,000 to < 45,000	4.0	5.8	5.4	6.2	6.6	5.1
45,000 to < 50,000	3.2	5.1	4.3	5.6	6.6	5.6
50,000 to < 60,000	4.8	8.9	7.0	10.4	10.5	10.4
60,000 to < 70,000	2.4	5.2	3.7	6.4	8.1	9.4
70,000 to < 80,000	1.6	4.2	2.9	6.0	6.5	8.6
80,000 to < 90,000	1.1	3.3	2.2	5.1	4.5	6.8
90,000 to < 100,000	1.0	3.1	1.3	3.4	3.3	5.6
100,000 & above	2.5	12.8	4.3	16.7	10.6	28.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 5 - Average monthly household income by source of income 2012, 2017 & 2023 HBS**

Source of income	Rupees		
	2012	2017	2023
Wages and salaries	21,454	25,848	35,575
Entrepreneurial	4,555	4,824	7,800
Property <sup>1</sup>	240	205	120
Transfer	4,215	7,370	14,270
Other income	25	6	15
<b>Gross income</b>	<b>30,489</b>	<b>38,253</b>	<b>57,780</b>
Deductions	1,068	1,450	2,180
<b>Average monthly household disposable income</b>	<b>29,421</b>	<b>36,803</b>	<b>55,600</b>

**Note**

Other income refers to sales of goods produced by households

<sup>1</sup> Property Income includes only rent payable for the use of land. Figures for 2012 and 2017 have been revised.

Table 5 gives a breakdown of household income by source of income. The table indicates that wages and salaries remained the principal source of household income, accounting for 62% of total gross income in 2023 and for 68% in 2017. Wages and salaries increased by 37.6% to Rs 35,575 in 2023 from Rs 25,848 in 2017.

Transfer income which consists mainly of pensions, social contribution (CSG) income allowance and other social security benefits was the second most important source of income in 2023; it accounted for 25% of total gross income in 2023 higher compared to 19% of 2017. Transfer income increased significantly by 93.6% from an average of Rs 7,370 per month in 2017 to Rs 14,270 in 2023. This change is explained by the high increase in the level of pensions rates coupled with an increase in the number of beneficiaries during the past years, as well as the high level of social benefits and allowances like social contribution (CSG) income allowance, allocated to certain households for them to maintain a certain standard of living.

In 2023, there were 2.1 income earners for an average household of size 3.2, higher as compared to 2017, where there were 2.0 income earners for an average household of size 3.4.

## **6. Household consumption expenditure**

Household consumption expenditure is defined as the value of consumption goods and services acquired during the reference period regardless of whether they were paid for or received free. It does not however include education, health and other services received free from the government as well as the rental value of owner-occupied and free housing.

Table 6 compares the consumption expenditure figures obtained at the last two household budget surveys. Average monthly household consumption expenditure (adjusted for underreporting of alcoholic beverages and tobacco) increased by 45.6% from Rs 28,750 in 2017 to Rs 41,870 in 2023. Over the same period, inflation was 31.2% and the average household size decreased from 3.4 to 3.2 persons. After adjusting for price increases and smaller household size, there was a real increase of 18.0% in the consumption expenditure of households.

In 2023, 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' constituted the largest share of household consumption expenditure (25%) followed by 'Transport' (16%), 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' (11%), 'Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels' (10%) and 'Information and Communication' (7%). The remaining categories of expenditure including clothing, footwear, household equipment and maintenance, health, education services, recreation, restaurants and accommodation services, insurance and financial services, personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services together accounted for the remaining 31%.

Expenditure on most categories of consumption goods and services showed increases. The highest increases were observed in 'Health' (+88.1%), 'Transport' (+56.7%), and 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' (+46.4%). Conversely, a decrease was noted in 'Education services' (-6.9%).

**Table 6 : Average monthly household consumption expenditure by COICOP division - 2017 and 2023 HBS**

Division	2017		2023		Change in expenditure (%) 2017 to 2023
	Rs	share (%)	Rs	share (%)	
1. Food and non-alcoholic beverages	7,160	24.9	10,480	25.0	46.4
2. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	3,160	11.0	4,450	10.6	40.8
3. Clothing and footwear	1,320	4.6	1,720	4.1	30.3
4. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	3,220	11.2	4,180	10.0	29.8
5. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	1,670	5.8	2,010	4.8	20.4
6. Health	1,090	3.8	2,050	4.9	88.1
7. Transport	4,230	14.7	6,630	15.9	56.7
8. Information and Communication	1,900	6.6	2,940	7.0	54.7
9. Recreation, sport and culture	580	2.0	820	2.0	41.4
10. Education services	1,440	5.0	1,340	3.2	-6.9
11. Restaurants and accommodation services	1,520	5.3	2,190	5.2	44.1
12. Insurance and financial services	630	2.2	1,710	4.1	171.4
13. Personal Care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services	830	2.9	1,350	3.2	62.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,750</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>41,870</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>45.6</b>

## **7. The updated weights for the CPI**

The main purpose of the monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) is to measure the relative change in the aggregate level of prices of goods and services purchased by private households. Changes in prices of different commodities do not all have the same degree of importance to households. The relative importance of an item is referred to as the weight of the item in the basket of goods and services consumed by households. It is determined on basis of the household expenditure on the item.

The table at Annex 1 shows the weight (expressed per 1000) of different items as a share of total household expenditure at the 2017 and 2023 Household Budget Surveys.

It is noted that consumption of goods and services received free were excluded in deriving the weights although they are included in total household expenditure shown in Table 6. Furthermore, data collected over a recall period of one year (instead of the usual reference month) were used for infrequently purchased items such as air tickets, cars, computers and other household durables, in order to obtain more reliable expenditure estimates for deriving the weights.

It is noted that a decrease in the weight of an item in the CPI basket does not necessarily imply a decrease in the expenditure on that item, but rather indicates that the relative importance of that item with respect to total household expenditure has declined.

There have been important shifts in the weights of some broad categories of expenditure from 2017 to 2023 and these are:

- Trader’s Rice and Bread: The weight for trader’s rice has gone down from 15 to 14 and that of ‘Bread’, from 14 to 10.
- Chicken and Fish: The weight for fresh chicken went up from 14 to 15 whilst that of frozen chicken declined from 6 to 3. The weight for fresh fish went down from 8 to 7, and that of frozen fish remained unchanged at 6;
- Imported fruits: Weight for imported fruits rose from 7 to 10.
- The weight for ‘Ready-made garments’ went down from 35 in 2017 to 31 in 2023;
- The weight for furniture shifted downward from 14 to 8;
- ‘Video games’ and ‘music lessons’ got a weight of 2 and 1, respectively in 2023 compared to a weight of nil and negligible in 2017.
- The share of expenditure in snacks increased from 17 to 18.

- Funeral insurance is an addition with weight = 1. Weight for medical insurance went up from 8 to 15 and that for house insurance, from 2 to 12.
- Goods for personal care had an increase in its weight from 22 in 2017 to 23 in 2023.

Contact persons:

- (1) Mr Sanjev Bhonoo  
Principal Statistician (Economic Division)  
[sbhonoo@govmu.org](mailto:sbhonoo@govmu.org)
- (2) Ms Ashwinee Devi Soobhug  
Statistician/Senior Statistician (CPI/HBS)  
[asoobhug@govmu.org](mailto:asoobhug@govmu.org)

Statistics Mauritius,  
LIC Building,  
John Kennedy Street, Port Louis  
Tel : 208 1800  
Fax : 211 4150  
Email : [statsmauritius@govmu.org](mailto:statsmauritius@govmu.org)

**Statistics Mauritius**

**30 April 2024**

**Weighting system - 2017 and 2023 Consumer Price Index**

ITEMS	2017	2023
<b>TOTAL ALL DIVISIONS</b>	<b><u>1000</u></b>	<b><u>1000</u></b>
<b>DIVISION 01 - FOOD AND NON ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>	<b><u>249</u></b>	<b><u>250</u></b>
<b><u>Group 1 - Food</u></b>	<b><u>232</u></b>	<b><u>231</u></b>
Class 1 - Bread, cereal and cereal products	<b>51</b>	<b>44</b>
Rice (Govt. imported)	1	1
Rice (Trader's)	15	14
Flour (Govt. imported)	1	1
Other flour	1	1
Bread	14	10
Biscuits	5	6
Pastry	3	3
Breakfast cereals	4	3
Pasta products	4	3
Other cereal and grain mill products	3	2
<b>Class 2 - Meat</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>41</b>
Fresh beef	4	4
Frozen beef	2	2
Mutton	5	6
Goat & Venison	1	1
Pork	1	1
Fresh chicken	14	15
Frozen chicken	6	3
Beef liver	2	1
Mutton and chicken liver	2	1
Pork and chicken sausages	2	2
Canned meat	2	2
Frozen semi-prepared meat preparations	2	3
<b>Class 3 - Fish and other seafood</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>25</b>
Fresh fish	8	7
Frozen fish	6	6
Salted fish	1	1
Canned fish and other processed sea food	4	4
Frozen semi-prepared fish preparations	2	2
Fresh octopus	1	1
Other sea products	4	4



<b>Class 4 - Milk, cheese and eggs</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>
Liquid milk	2	2
Powdered milk - full cream	14	13
Powdered milk - skimmed	1	1
Processed & other Cheese	4	4
Milk preparations	4	4
Fresh eggs	3	4
<b>Class 5 - Oils and fats</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>
Cooking oil	7	9
Butter	1	1
Margarine and ghee	3	3
<b>Class 6 - Fruits and nuts</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>
Fresh fruits - local	3	3
Fresh fruits - imported	7	10
Dried fruits	1	2
<b>Class 7 - Vegetables</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>45</b>
Tomatoes	6	6
Other fresh vegetables	20	19
Onions	4	4
Garlic	1	1
Potatoes	6	6
Pulses	3	3
Preserved vegetables	3	3
Frozen semi-prepared vegetarian food	1	3
<b>Class 8 - Sugar, confectionery and desert</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
Sugar	3	2
Jam & Honey	-	1
Chocolate and Cocoa based food products	2	3
Ice cream	2	1
Sweets/confectionery	1	1
<b>Class 9 - Food products not elsewhere classified</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>
Pre-cooked food	1	1
Baby milk powder and cereals	1	2
Ginger & Culinary herbs	3	4
Other food products n.e.c	5	5

<b><u>Group 2 - Non-alcoholic beverages</u></b>	<b><u>17</u></b>	<b><u>19</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Fruit juice</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>
Fruit juice and syrup	5	4
<b>Class 2 - Coffee</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Coffee	1	1
<b>Class 3 - Tea</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>
Tea	2	4
<b>Class 5 - Mineral waters</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Mineral waters	1	2
<b>Class 6 - Soft drinks</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
Soft drinks	6	6
<b>Class 9 - Other non- alcoholic drinks</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
Other non alcoholic drinks	2	2
<b>DIVISION 02 - ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO</b>	<b><u>110</u></b>	<b><u>106</u></b>
<b><u>Group 1 - Alcoholic beverages</u></b>	<b><u>61</u></b>	<b><u>57</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Spirits</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>21</b>
Whisky	9	8
Rum	12	9
Other cane spirits	4	4
<b>Class 2 - Wine</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
Wine	5	5
<b>Class 3 - Beer</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>
Beer	30	30
Stout	1	1
<b><u>Group 2 - Tobacco</u></b>	<b><u>49</u></b>	<b><u>49</u></b>
<b>Class 0 - Tobacco</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>49</b>
Cigarettes	49	49
<b>DIVISION 03 - CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR</b>	<b><u>46</u></b>	<b><u>41</u></b>
<b><u>Group 1 - Clothing</u></b>	<b><u>36</u></b>	<b><u>31</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Clothing materials</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
Clothing materials	1	-
<b>Class 2 - Garments</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>31</b>
Ready made clothing - Men & Boys	14	12
Ready made clothing - Women & Girls	18	17
Ready made clothing - infants	1	1
School uniform	2	1

<b><u>Group 2 - Footwear</u></b>	<b><u>10</u></b>	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Shoes and other footwear</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
Men's shoes	4	5
Ladies' shoes	4	4
Children's shoes	2	1
<b>DIVISION 04 - HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS</b>	<b><u>112</u></b>	<b><u>100</u></b>
<b><u>Group 1 - Actual rentals for housing</u></b>	<b><u>10</u></b>	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Actual rent paid by tenants</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
Rent	10	10
<b><u>Group 2 - Mortgage Interest Payment for housing</u></b>	<b><u>31</u></b>	<b><u>30</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Mortgage interest payment for housing</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>30</b>
Mortgage Interest Payment For Housing	31	30
<b><u>Group 3 - Maintenance and repair of the dwelling</u></b>	<b><u>13</u></b>	<b><u>14</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>
Cement	1	1
Plumbing and electrical fittings	1	1
Paints	1	1
Ceramic tiles	1	1
Other construction materials	2	1
<b>Class 2 - Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>
Workmen's wages	7	9
<b><u>Group 4 - Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling</u></b>	<b><u>11</u></b>	<b><u>7</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Water supply</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>
Water charges	7	5
<b>Class 3 - Sewage collection</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Waste water tax	2	1
<b>Class 4 - Other Services related to the dwelling not elsewhere classified</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Services related to dwellings	2	1
<b><u>Group 5 - Electricity, gas and other fuels</u></b>	<b><u>47</u></b>	<b><u>39</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Electricity</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>30</b>
Electricity	37	30
<b>Class 2 - Gas</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>
Cooking gas (LPG)	10	9

<b>DIVISION 05 - FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE HOSEHOLD MAINTENANCE</b>	<b><u>58</u></b>	<b><u>48</u></b>
<b><u>Group 1 - Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings</u></b>	<b><u>15</u></b>	<b><u>9</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Furniture and furnishings</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>
Furniture	14	8
Furnishings	1	1
<b><u>Group 2 - Household textiles</u></b>	<b><u>4</u></b>	<b><u>3</u></b>
<b>Class 2 - Household textiles</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>
Curtain material	1	1
Bed linen & Bedding	2	1
Table linen and bathroom linen	1	1
<b><u>Group 3 - Household appliances</u></b>	<b><u>12</u></b>	<b><u>9</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Major household appliances whether electric or not</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>
Major kitchen appliances	6	4
Major laundry appliances	2	1
Heaters and Air conditioner	3	2
<b>Class 2 - Small electric household appliances</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Small electric household appliances	1	2
<b><u>Group 4 - Glassware, tableware and household utensils</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>
<b>Class 0 - Glassware, tableware and household utensils</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
Glassware	1	1
Other utensils	1	1
<b><u>Group 5 - Tools and equipment for house and garden</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Major tools and equipment</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Major tools and equipment	1	1
<b>Class 2 - Small tools and miscellaneous accessories</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1	1
<b><u>Group 6 - Goods and services for routine household maintenance</u></b>	<b><u>23</u></b>	<b><u>23</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Non-durable household goods</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>
Laundry soap	1	1
Other washing materials	6	6
Detergents	5	4
Other	3	4

<b>Class 2 - Domestic services and household services</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
Maid	6	6
Gardener	1	1
Babysitter	1	1
<b>DIVISION 06 - HEALTH</b>	<b><u>38</u></b>	<b><u>49</u></b>
<b><u>Group 1 - Medical products, appliances and equipment</u></b>	<b><u>14</u></b>	<b><u>20</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Pharmaceutical products</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>
Analgesics and antalgics	2	3
Tonics and vitamins	1	5
Antibiotics	1	-
Medicine for diabetes	1	2
Medicine for cholesterol and cardiovascular therapy	1	2
Medicines for cough/asthma	1	1
Eye care products	1	1
Other pharmaceutical products	2	2
<b>Class 2 - Other Medical Products</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Medical Products	1	1
<b>Class 3 - Assistive products</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
Spectacles	2	2
Adult diapers	1	1
<b><u>Group 2 - Outpatient services</u></b>	<b><u>13</u></b>	<b><u>11</u></b>
<b>Class 2 - Dental services</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
Dentists' fees	2	2
<b>Class 3 - Medical services</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>
Doctors' fees	11	9
<b><u>Group 3 - Hospital services</u></b>	<b><u>9</u></b>	<b><u>15</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Hospital services</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>
Clinic fees	9	15
<b><u>Group 4 - Other Health services</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>	<b><u>3</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Medical laboratory services</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
Medical laboratory services	2	3
<b>DIVISION 07 - TRANSPORT</b>	<b><u>147</u></b>	<b><u>159</u></b>
<b><u>Group 1 - Purchase of vehicles</u></b>	<b><u>50</u></b>	<b><u>44</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Personal Transport</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>
Personal transport	50	44

<b><u>Group 2 - Operation of personal transport equipment</u></b>	<b><u>64</u></b>	<b><u>85</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
Tyres and tubes	1	1
Parts and accessories	3	3
<b>Class 2 - Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>70</b>
Diesel oil	4	5
Gasolene	46	64
Lubricants	-	1
<b>Class 3 - Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
Maintenance and repair charges	4	5
<b>Class 4 - Other services in respect of personal transport equipment</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
Road tax & other transport services	6	5
Car Rental	-	1
<b><u>Group 3 - Transport services</u></b>	<b><u>33</u></b>	<b><u>30</u></b>
<b>Class 2 - Passenger transport services</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>
Passenger transport by light rail	-	1
Passenger transport by bus	9	6
Passenger transport by taxi	6	5
<b>Class 3 - Passenger transport by air</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>
Passenger transport by air, domestic	1	2
Passenger transport by air, international	17	16
 <b>DIVISION 08 - INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION</b>	 <b><u>66</u></b>	 <b><u>70</u></b>
<b><u>Group 1 - Information and communication equipment</u></b>	<b><u>14</u></b>	<b><u>6</u></b>
<b>Class 2 - Mobile telephone equipment</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>
Mobile phones	5	2
<b>Class 3 - Information processing equipment</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>
Computer	4	2
<b>Class 4 - Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and vision</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>
Television set	4	2
Other audio and video set	1	-
<b><u>Group 3 - Information and communication services</u></b>	<b><u>52</u></b>	<b><u>64</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Fixed communication services</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>
Fixed telephone calls	6	3
<b>Class 2 - Mobile communication services</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>
Mobile telephone calls	15	10

<b>Class 3 - Internet access services</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>29</b>
Internet connection	16	29
<b>Class 4 - Bundled telecommunication services</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>
Bundled package(T.V & internet)	-	9
<b>Class 5 - Repair and rental of information and communication equipment</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
Fixed telephone rental	2	2
<b>Class 9 - Other information and communication services</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>
Television licence	13	11
<b>DIVISION 09 - RECREATION, SPORT AND CULTURE</b>	<b><u>20</u></b>	<b><u>20</u></b>
<b><u>Group 2 - Other recreational goods</u></b>	<b><u>3</u></b>	<b><u>6</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Games and toys</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>
Video games	-	2
Toy and games	2	1
Celebration articles	-	1
<b>Class 2 - Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreations</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Balls, rackets, shuttlecocks, etc.	1	2
<b><u>Group 3 - Garden products and pets</u></b>	<b><u>3</u></b>	<b><u>4</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Gardens, plants and flowers</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Decorative plants / flowers, etc.	1	1
<b>Class 2 - Pets and products for pets</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
Foodstuff for pets	2	3
<b><u>Group 4 - Recreational services</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>
<b>Class 6 - Recreational and sporting services</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Fitness centers & swimming lessons	1	2
<b><u>Group 6 - Cultural services</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Services provided by cinema, theatres and concert venues</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Cinema admission	1	1
<b>Class 9 -Other cultural services</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
Music lessons	-	1
<b><u>Group 7 - Newspapers, books and stationery</u></b>	<b><u>12</u></b>	<b><u>6</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Books</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>
School textbooks - Primary	1	1
School textbooks - Secondary	5	2

<b>Class 2 - Newspapers and periodicals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
Newspapers - Daily	1	-
Newspapers - Weekly	2	1
<b>Class 4 - Stationery and drawing materials</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
Copy books and other stationeries	3	2
<b>DIVISION 10 - EDUCATION SERVICES</b>	<b><u>50</u></b>	<b><u>32</u></b>
<b><u>Group 1 - Early childhood and primary education</u></b>	<b><u>4</u></b>	<b><u>5</u></b>
<b>Class 0 - Early childhood and primary education</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
Early childhood education	2	2
Primary education	2	3
<b><u>Group 2 - Secondary education</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>
<b>Class 0 - Secondary education</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Secondary education	2	1
<b><u>Group 3 - Post-secondary and non-tertiary education</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>
<b>Class 0 - Post-secondary and non-tertiary education</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Post secondary and non-tertiary education	1	1
<b><u>Group 4 - Tertiary education</u></b>	<b><u>33</u></b>	<b><u>18</u></b>
<b>Class 0 - Tertiary education</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>18</b>
University fees	33	18
<b><u>Group 5 - Education not defined by level</u></b>	<b><u>10</u></b>	<b><u>7</u></b>
<b>Class 0 - Education not definable by level</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>
Tutoring - primary	1	1
Tutoring - secondary	8	6
Vocational / Technical courses	1	-
<b>DIVISION 11 - RESTAURANTS AND ACCOMMODATION SERVICES</b>	<b><u>53</u></b>	<b><u>52</u></b>
<b><u>Group 1 - Food and beverage serving services</u></b>	<b><u>50</u></b>	<b><u>50</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Restaurants, cafés and the like</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>
Expenditure in restaurants	9	8
Expenditure in snacks	17	18
Expenditure in foodcourt	3	3
International fast food	10	11
Other prepared foods	11	10
<b><u>Group 2 - Accommodation services</u></b>	<b><u>3</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>
<b>Class 0 - Accommodation services</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
Hotels and similar accommodation services	3	2



<b>DIVISION 12 - INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES</b>	<b><u>22</u></b>	<b><u>41</u></b>
<b><u>Group 1 - Insurance</u></b>	<b><u>21</u></b>	<b><u>40</u></b>
<b>Class 1 -Funeral Insurance</b>	-	1
Funeral insurance	-	1
<b>Class 2 - Insurance connected with health</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>15</b>
Medical insurance	8	15
<b>Class 3 - Insurance connected with the dwelling</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>
House insurance	2	12
<b>Class 4 - Insurance connected with transport</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
Vehicle insurance	11	12
<b><u>Group 2 - Financial Services</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>
<b>Class 9 - Other financial Services</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Credit card fee and other financial services	1	1
<b>DIVISION 13 - PERSONAL CARE, SOCIAL PROTECTION AND MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES</b>	<b><u>29</u></b>	<b><u>32</u></b>
<b><u>Group 1 - Personal care</u></b>	<b><u>22</u></b>	<b><u>23</u></b>
<b>Class 2 - Other appliances, articles and products for personal care</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
Goods for personal hygiene	10	11
Goods for personal care - female	4	4
Goods for personal care - male	2	2
Goods for personal care - babies	3	3
<b>Class 3 -Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
Hairdresser - male	1	1
Hairdresser - female	1	1
Beautician services	1	1
<b><u>Group 2 - Other personal effects</u></b>	<b><u>3</u></b>	<b><u>5</u></b>
<b>Class 1 - Jewellery and watches</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Jewellery	1	2
<b>Class 2 - Devotional articles and articles for religious and ritual celebrations</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Religious items	1	1
<b>Class 9 Other personal effects n.e.c</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Other personal effects	1	2
<b><u>Group 3 - Social protection</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>
<b>Class 0 - Social protection</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Child care services	1	1
Garde malade	-	1

<b><u>Group 9 - Other services</u></b>	<b><u>3</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>
<b>Class 0 - Other services</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
Religious and funerary services	2	1
Other miscellaneous services	1	1

### Methodology of the Household Budget Survey 2023

Scope and coverage of collection	Private households comprising Mauritians and Non-Mauritians
Survey period	The survey was carried out on a monthly basis from January to December 2023.
Data collection method	Computer-Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI) of household members
Sampling method	Stratified two-stage sampling design. Clusters containing more than 50 households were stratified by geographical district and within each district by region (according to their level of relative development). At the first stage, a sample of clusters was selected within each stratum with probability proportional to size. The households within each selected cluster were stratified according to household size, expenditure class and religion. At the second stage, 8 households were sampled from each selected cluster.
Sample size	The total sample size was 7,000 private households surveyed at the rate of 584 from January to November and 576 in December.
Response rate	The initial response rate was 74% before replacing households that were unable or unwilling to participate in the survey. After replacement by households having similar stratification criteria, the response rate was 100%.
Questionnaires	<p>Four different questionnaires were used, namely to collect the necessary information. These were:</p> <p><b>HBS 2 - Household schedule</b> This schedule was used to collect information on the characteristics of the selected households and its members.</p> <p><b>HBS 3A and 3B - Daily record of household expenditure</b> HBS 3A are 7-days diary whilst HBS 3B are 4-days diary. These diaries were used for collecting detailed daily household expenditure for the whole survey month. When consolidated, this provided item-wise expenditure for the whole month for each household.</p> <p><b>HBS 4 - Income schedule</b> This schedule was used to collect data on the income of each income earner of the household.</p> <p><b>HBS 5 - Point of purchase questionnaire</b> This was used to collect information on the outlets where households usually purchase consumption goods and services.</p> <p>For HBS 2023, listing schedules based on the Housing and Population Census 2022 were used.</p>

## Tablets

For the first time, tablets was used as a medium to capture information on the demographic characteristics of the selected households and its members, on income of each income earner of the household and on the outlets where households usually purchase consumption goods and services. Basically, the questionnaires namely HBS 2, 4 and 5 were designed in tablets using CSPro and responses of household members were captured digitally.

Only HBS 3A and 3B questionnaires were in hard-copies considering that each household members need to record their daily expenditures.