



Annual Report 2016/17

STATISTICS MAURITIUS

Ministry of Finance & Economic Development

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ANNUAL REPORT ON PERFORMANCE BY STATISTICS MAURITIUS

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PART I – ABOUT STATISTICS MAURITIUS (SM)

Vision and Mission

Vision

To be a key provider of world-class statistical information.

Mission

To provide coherent, timely, relevant and reliable statistics, consistent with international principles and standards, for effective policy and decision-making and for monitoring national development processes.

Goal

To improve development outcomes and governance by strengthening National Statistical Systems in the country.

Supervising Officer's Statement

Officially created in July 1945 and changing name to Statistics Mauritius in 2011, Statistics Mauritius is the official national statistical agency of Mauritius operating under Statistics Act 2000.

We are a department of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and the central statistical authority and depository of all official statistics produced in the country, and as such collect, compile, analyse and disseminate statistics and related information on the social, demographic, economic and financial activities in Mauritius to serve the needs of public and private users.

As an organization, we try our best to facilitate policy and decision making and public debates, through timely provision of high quality social and economic data.

During the year we published all 69 planned Economic and Social Indicators, according to the prerelease calendar, in addition to regular monthly web releases and digests of statistics on various topics.

Roles and Functions of Statistics Mauritius

We collect data through censuses and surveys. The data are then compiled, analysed and disseminated according to a pre-release calendar. For more efficiency and to reduce response burden, we make maximum use of data collected for administrative purposes and collect data only where there is a need to do so.

We also collaborate with Ministries and other Government departments in their statistical activities to ensure good quality statistics and to minimise overlapping and duplication of activities.

We produce our statistics according to latest international standards; and to classify our data in meaningful classes and to enable comparability at the international level, we make use of classifications recommended by international institutions and adapt them to the national context.

We conduct regular consultations with main data users to assess their needs and try our best to produce statistics of relevance to them.

All the tasks listed above are done within the framework of the Statistics Act 2000.

About Our People

By the end of the Financial Year 2016/17, there were 255 staff at the disposal of Statistics Mauritius for public policy making and delivery of its services. The Technical Staff numbered 181 of which the Statistician Cadre made up 35 officers and the Statistical Officer Cadre 146 officers. Our support staff comprised 74 officers of the general services cadre inclusive of HR, Finance and Procurement people. Moreover, 4 Interns under the Service to Mauritius (STM) Programme and 21 Trainees under the Youth Employment Programme (YEP) were also in post at this office.

The office has experienced a high rate of turnover in the grade of Statistical Officer during the period 2016/17. Offers for appointment as Statistical Officer in a temporary capacity were made to 51 Management Support Officers and 18 declined the offer. Out of the 33 officers who accepted the post, only 18 remained in post at end of 2016/17 since 3 were offered other posts and 8 have, upon their requests, been reverted to their substantive post. Four substantive Statistical Officers have been offered other higher posts.

Statistics Mauritius has successfully implemented the major reforms initiatives of the government with relation to Human Resource Management such as the Performance Management System, Human Resource Management Information System and the Electronic Attendance System. More emphasis is being laid on the training aspect of the PMS, whereby arrangements are made for officers to be given in-house training and courses dispensed by the Civil Service College Mauritius. Moreover, 69 officers have benefitted from local (34) and foreign (35) Workshops/Training Courses /Seminars.

The health and safety committee meets every two months, in accordance with the regulations, to look into health and safety aspects of the officers and their problems are, as far as possible, being positively looked into. Officers are also granted their vacation leaves so that they may overcome the fatigue and stress at work and resume duty afresh, after spending some precious moments with their families.

PART II – STATISTICS MAURITIUS ACHIEVEMENTS & CHALLENGES

Major Achievements

Statistics Mauritius has been able to meet the targets set for financial year 2016/17. The main achievements during the financial year 2016/17 are given below:

- 100% Social and Economic data published as per official calendar.
- Statistical Business Register is in place and is being used by Statistics Mauritius Staff.
- Tablets are used to collect data for Survey of Inbound Tourism, User satisfaction surveys and Continuous Multipurpose Household Survey.
- Work is in progress relating to open data protocols.
- Additional Statistics and Indicators were developed on Labour and Financial Sector.

Status on Implementation of Budget Measures

Statistics Mauritius has provided data and statistical advice on several projects/tasks to help Ministries/Departments to implement evidence based policies such as:

- Salary compensation to be paid to workers and pensioners whereby the office provided data on erosion of purchasing power
- National Minimum Wage whereby SM provided data on distribution of wages in public and private sector
- Social Register of Mauritius whereby SM submitted poverty maps
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) whereby SM is working jointly with the Strategic Policy and Planning Department (SPPD) of MOFED to identify and compile Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicators for tracking national progress.

Status on Implementation of Key Actions

The status of implementation of key actions is given in the table below:

Key Action	Key Performance Indicator	Achievement 2016/17
Updated social and economic data are available to support policy decision making	% of Social and Economic data are published as per official calendar	100% of ESI released according to official calendar
Statistical Business Register (SBR) in place and is being used by Statistics Mauritius (SM) Staff	SBR used by SM staff	SM staff is using SBR to conduct surveys
Improved statistics and indicators are published on Labour, Ocean and Financial Services.	Improved statistics are published	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Estimates of Global Business are included in National Accounts 2. Committees on Labour Statistics and Financial Statistics set up
Undertake on line surveys and use of technology such as tablets for data collection to gain in timeliness.	SM uses tablets for collecting data	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. SM is using tablets for Survey of Inbound and Outbound Tourism 4. Tablets are being gradually introduced for the Continuous Multipurpose Household Survey
Adhere to open data protocols which will result in benefits for the economy and society through creation of jobs in innovative activities such as development of applications by using the mass of data released.	Prepare data according to open data format	Data prepared and sent to Ministry of IT for approval and uploading.

Risk Management, Citizen Oriented Initiatives & Good Governance

Confidentiality and Security of information is one of our major concerns. Safeguarding the information given by respondents to our censuses and surveys is as important to us as it is to them. We ensure that the data provided by respondents are strictly protected. Our staff is required by law to give an undertaking of secrecy while we make sure that in publishing the statistics, identifiable information is not released. We also take necessary measures to ensure the security of the statistical information collected.

PART III – FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Statements of Revenue and Expenditure

Statement of Revenue

The main source of revenue for Statistics Mauritius is from the sale of its publications and micro data. Most of the publications that are sold are also available for free on the SM website. The table below shows the amount received in the financial years 2016/17 and 2015/16.

Revenue (Rs million)	2015-2016 Actual	2016-2017 Estimates	2016-2017 Actual
Property Income	-	-	-
Sales of Goods and Services	-	-	-
Fines, Penalties and Forfeits	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Revenues	144,506	-	215,359
Total Revenue from Property Income, User Fees and other Sources	-	-	-

Statement of Expenditure

This table below shows the expenditure by Head/Sub-Head of Expenditure and main economic categories in respect of (i) compensation of salaries, (ii) goods and services, (iii) subsidies, (iv) grants, (v) social benefits, (vi) other expense, (vii) acquisition of non-financial assets and (viii) acquisition of financial assets.

Head/Sub-Head of Expenditure (Rs million)	2015-2016 Actual	2016-2017 Estimates	2016-2017 Actual
Compensation of Employees	97,895	117,448	101,894
Goods and Services	44,639	79,717	53,818
Subsidies	-	-	-
Grants	27	35	28
Social Benefits	-	-	-
Other Expense	-	-	-
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	1,617	500	1,278
Acquisition of Financial Assets	-	-	-
Total	144,178	197,700	157,018

The main item expenditure after compensation of employees is goods and services. For Statistics Mauritius, this relates mainly to the cost of conducting surveys. In the financial year 2016/17 Statistics Mauritius conducted two surveys: (i) the Continuous Multipurpose Household Survey and (ii) the Household Budget Survey.

PART IV – WAY FORWARD

Trends and Challenges

A SWOT analysis was carried out at Statistics Mauritius. The main strength of SM is that it is being recognized as a statistical authority. The weaknesses relate to lack of resources (financial and human) and enforcement of the Statistics Act. The detailed findings are given below:

SWOT analysis table

Strengths	Weaknesses
1. SM has recognized authority in Statistics	1. Inadequate human resource strategy
2. Statistical outputs are of high quality	2. Unsatisfactory collaboration from data suppliers in spite of legal provisions
3. Network with local and foreign institutions	3. Inadequate structure of the office
4. Existence of a comprehensive Statistics Act	4. Inadequate information and knowledge management
5. Publication programme available and followed	5. Inadequate sensitization & awareness programmes to promote statistics
6. Professional independence of SM	6. Data dissemination not at par with latest technology
7. Existence of statistical units in line ministries	
8. Good ICT infrastructure	
Opportunities	Threats
1. Access to regional resources and facilities	1. Barriers for recruitment and retention of staff
2. Ongoing Civil Service reform	2. Low response rates at censuses and surveys
3. Ongoing developments in data sharing through the Information Highway and open data policies	3. Erroneous interpretation of statistics published by SM
4. Government commitment to statistical development	4. Failure to innovate and use state of the art technology to disseminate statistics
5. Continuous demand for data and information	

Strategic Direction

In light of Vision 2030 and identified users' needs, the strategic direction of SM includes the following:

1. Extension of the scope of statistics published to meet users' needs, comply to international commitments and support Government in achieving Vision 2030 by developing/improving the following:
2. Developing statistical business and population registers as an important tool for developing sample frameworks and in the production of economic statistics, and as the primary source of official population statistics respectively.
3. Improving data dissemination, accessibility and use
4. Making regular and better statistics available.