

Gender Statistics - 2017

1. Introduction

This is the ninth issue of Economic and Social Indicators (ESI) on gender statistics. It presents a portrait of women and men in the Republic of Mauritius and includes their demographic profile, health, family status, educational attainment and labour force characteristics.

The ESI is based on latest available sex disaggregated data from administrative sources, household surveys and censuses. Some of the statistics presented therefore refer to years earlier than 2017.

2. Highlights

- (i) In 2017, the population comprised 638,886 women compared to 625,727 men. Women outnumbered men by 13,159 as they live on average seven years longer than men.
- (ii) Diabetes mellitus was the leading cause of death, accounting for around 25% of deaths among women and 22% among men.
- (iii) More women than men are enrolled in tertiary institutions, but there are fewer women in research (PhD, MPhil and Doctor of Business Administration).
- (iv) Working women are more likely than men to be employees and contributing family workers, but less likely to be heading a business.
- (v) In spite of being fewer in the labour force, women are more numerous among the unemployed.
- (vi) Unemployed women are generally more qualified than their male counterparts.
- (vii) Average income tends to be lower for women than men – Rs 16,800 against Rs 22,300 monthly in 2017.
- (viii) The proportion of women in the most senior positions in government services (Senior Chief Executive, Permanent Secretary, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Director, Manager, Judge and Magistrate) increased from 20% in 1997 to 37% in 2017.
- (ix) Women are more likely to be victims of domestic violence than men.
- (x) Men are more likely to be victims of homicides and assaults, while women are more prone to sexual offences.
- (xi) Men are more likely than women to participate in sports as high level athletes.
- (xii) Between 2016 and 2017, Mauritius improved its ranking from 113 to 112, out of 144 countries worldwide with regard to Global Gender Gap Index (GGI) of the World Economic Forum. GGI seeks to measure gender equality across four key areas, namely:
 - (a) economic participation and opportunity, (b) educational attainment, (c) health and survival and (d) political empowerment.

3. Population

Prior to 1950 women were fewer than men in number. However, the female population has been growing at a faster rate such that in the 50's there were almost equal numbers of men and women. This balance in the population has been maintained for some 40 years. As from 1990, women have been increasingly outnumbering men over the years.

In 2017, there were 13,159 more women than men. Out of a total population of 1,264,613, there were 638,886 women against 625,727 men, i.e., 98 men for every 100 women.

Though women were more numerous in the total population, this was not the case in all age groups. At the younger ages (under 50 years), men were more numerous, mainly due to more births of baby boys than girls. In 2017, there were 105 male births for every 100 female births.

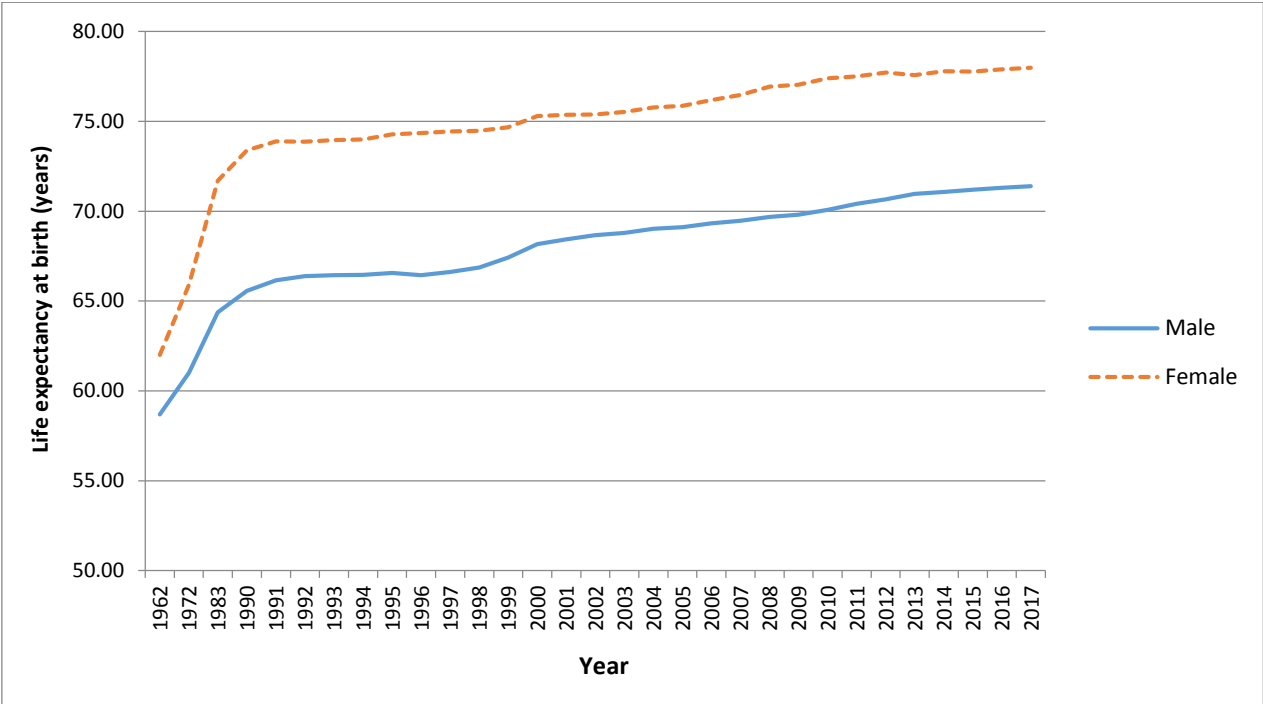
At ages 50 years and above, women outnumbered men and their proportion increased at higher ages. The male-female ratio stood at around 102 for those aged between 40 to 49 years compared to 53 among those aged 80 years and over; there were around 2 women for every man in this age group. The main reason for this imbalance is that women live longer than men.

Table 1 – Population by age and sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1st July 2017

Age Group (years)	Male	Female	Both sexes	Sex ratio (males per 100 females)
Under 10	71,988	69,949	141,937	102.9
10 - 19	96,517	92,999	189,516	103.8
20 - 29	97,133	95,316	192,449	101.9
30 - 39	93,890	91,830	185,720	102.2
40 - 49	86,910	84,958	171,868	102.3
50 - 59	88,534	90,686	179,220	97.6
60 - 79	82,504	97,599	180,103	84.5
80+	8,251	15,549	23,800	53.1
Total	625,727	638,886	1,264,613	97.9

Women have a higher life expectancy than men. In fact, women live around 7 years longer than men. In 2017, life expectancy at birth for women was 78 years compared to 71 years for men. Life expectancy at birth has improved over the years for both men and women and over the past seventeen years, the gap between life expectancy of men and women stabilised at around 7 years (Chart 1).

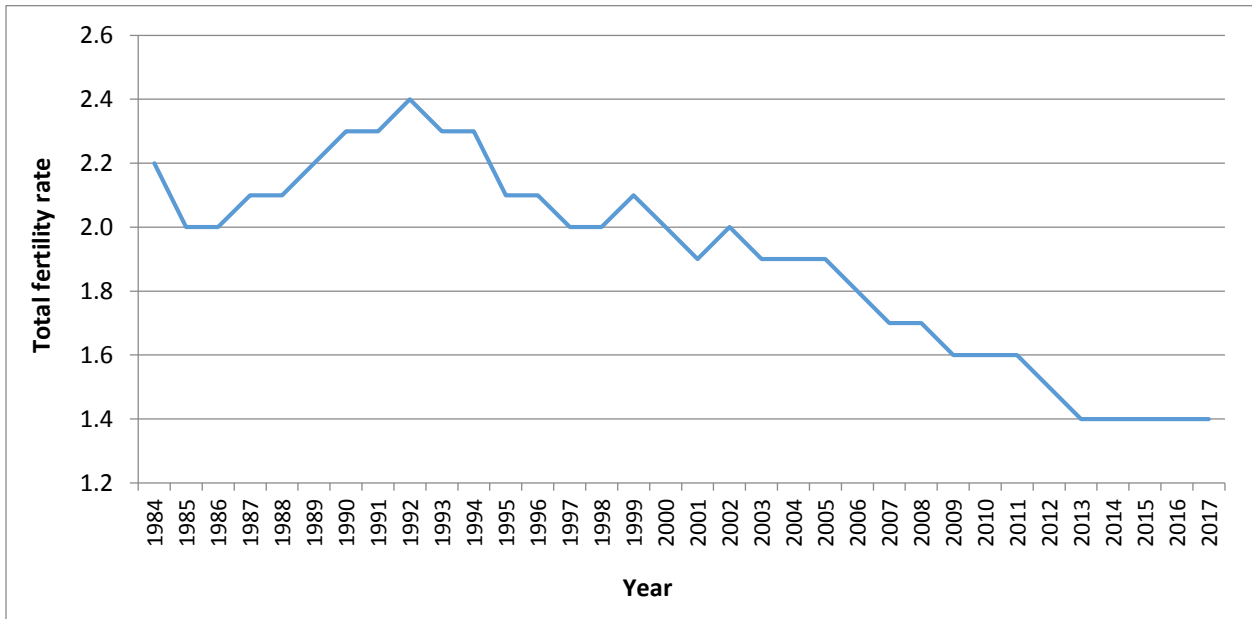
Chart 1 - Life Expectancy at birth, Republic of Mauritius, 1962 - 2017



4. Fertility and Contraceptive Use

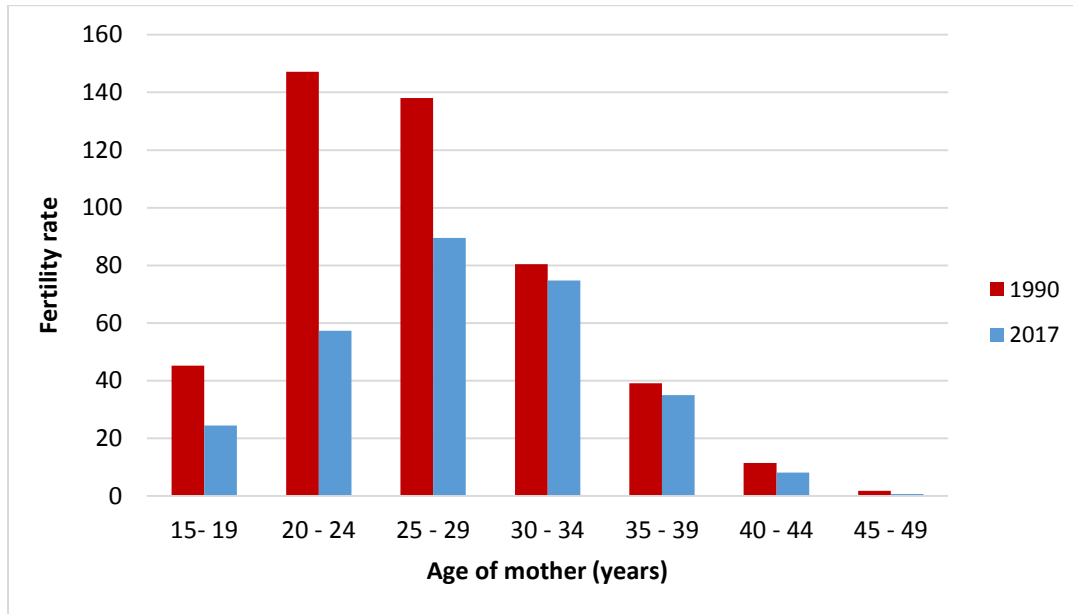
Women continue to give birth to fewer children than in the past. The total fertility rate, which is an indication of the average number of babies born to a woman during her childbearing period, has maintained a general decreasing trend after 1992 until 2013. Compared to 1992, the average number of children born to a woman dropped by nearly one child to reach a total fertility rate of 1.4 from 2013 to 2017.

Chart 2 - Total Fertility Rate, Republic of Mauritius, 1984 - 2017



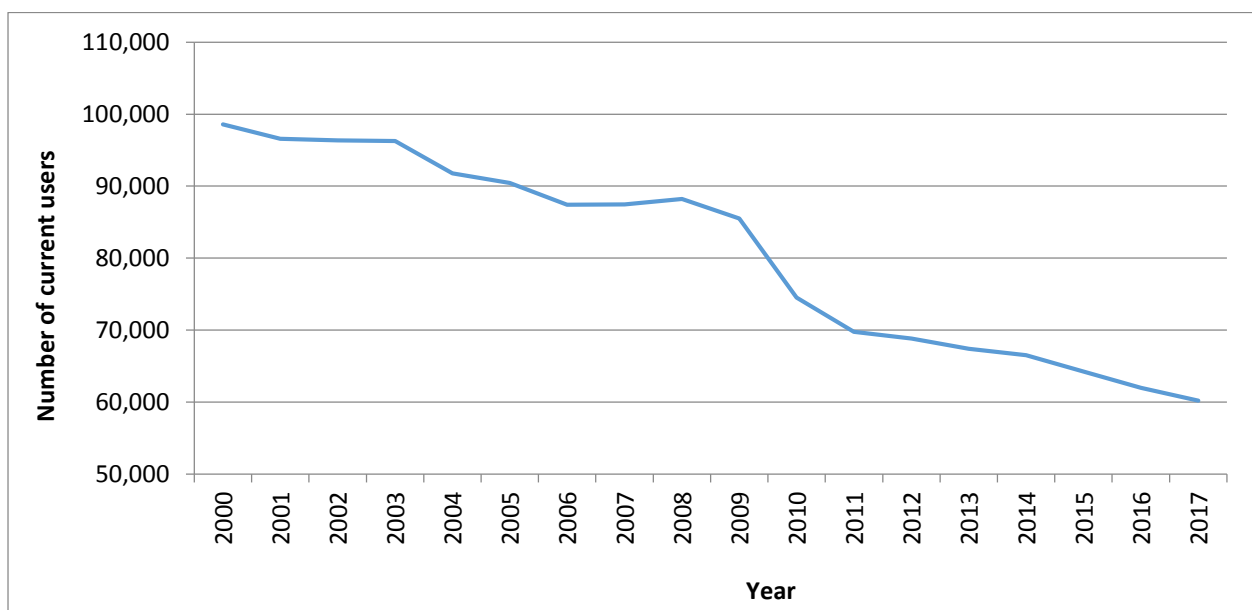
In the 1990's, women in the age bracket 20-24 years had the highest fertility with 147 births per 1,000 women of that age group (Chart 3). The peak fertility shifted to the age bracket 25-29 years in 2017, with only 90 births per 1,000 women in that age-group. One of the reasons explaining this shift is that women are getting married at an older age.

Chart 3 – Fertility Rate by age of mother, Republic of Mauritius, 1990 and 2017



In 2017, Government Family Planning Clinics, Mauritius Family Planning & Welfare Association and Action Familiale registered a total of some 60,204 current users of contraceptive methods in the Island of Mauritius, a decrease of 27,237 from 87,441 in 2007.

Chart 4 – Number of current users of contraceptives, Island of Mauritius, 2000 - 2017



New acceptors of contraceptive methods registered in 2017 numbered 3,726, of whom 526 had tubal ligation. A declining trend was observed in the number of new acceptors from 7,153 in 2007.

Among the new acceptors in 2017, Pill (22.7%), Sympto-thermal (22.3%) and 3-month injectable (18.5%) were the preferred methods of contraception while for current users Sympto-thermal (44.9%) was the preferred method.

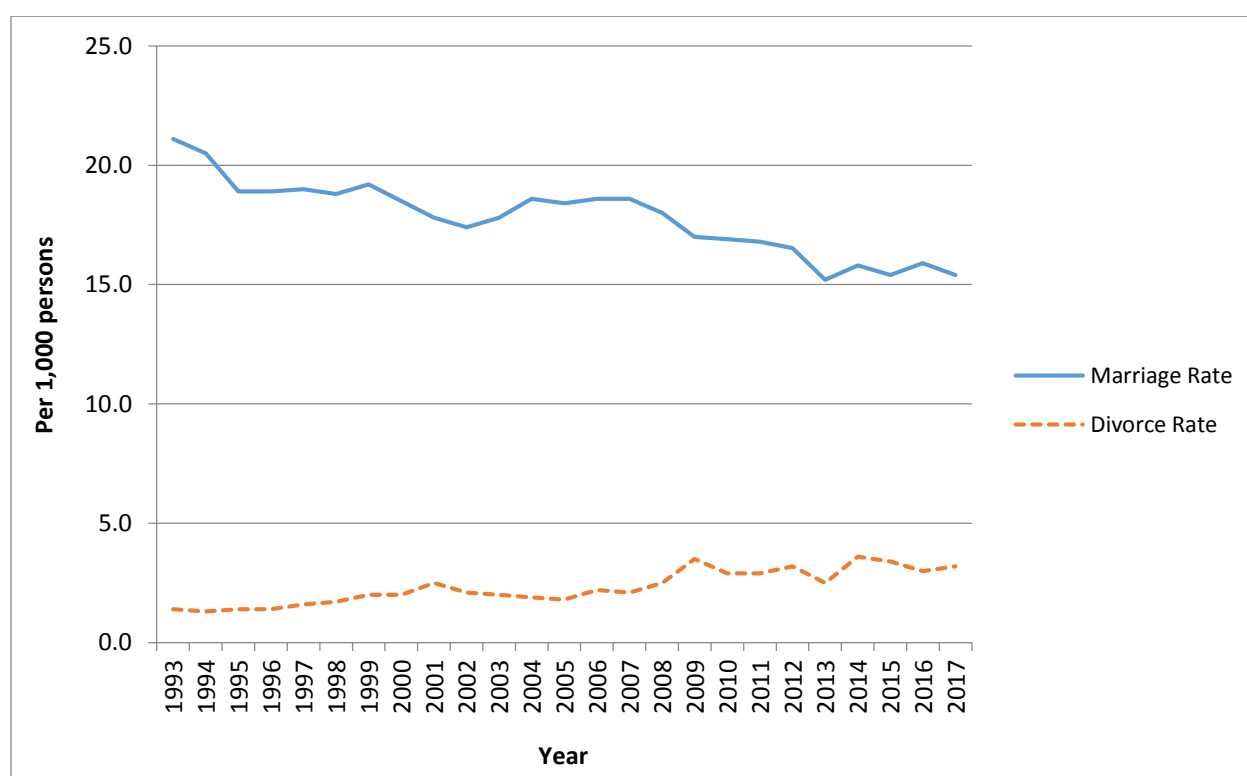
Table 2 – Method of family planning, Island of Mauritius, 2017

Methods	New Acceptors (%)	Current Users (%)
Pill	22.7	9.5
Tubal Ligation	14.1	23.8
Sympto-thermal	22.3	44.9
Male Condom	16.7	11.2
3-month injectable	18.5	4.9
Intra-uterine Devices	1.6	3.3
1-month injectable	3.0	0.9
Implant	1.1	1.5
Total	100.0	100.0

5. Family Status

While marriage rate is declining, divorce rate is on the rise. The marriage rate, i.e., the number of persons married per 1,000 mid-year population, fell from 21.1 in 1993 to 15.4 in 2017. The number of divorced persons per 1,000 mid-year population increased from 1.4 in 1993 to 3.2 in 2017 (Chart 5).

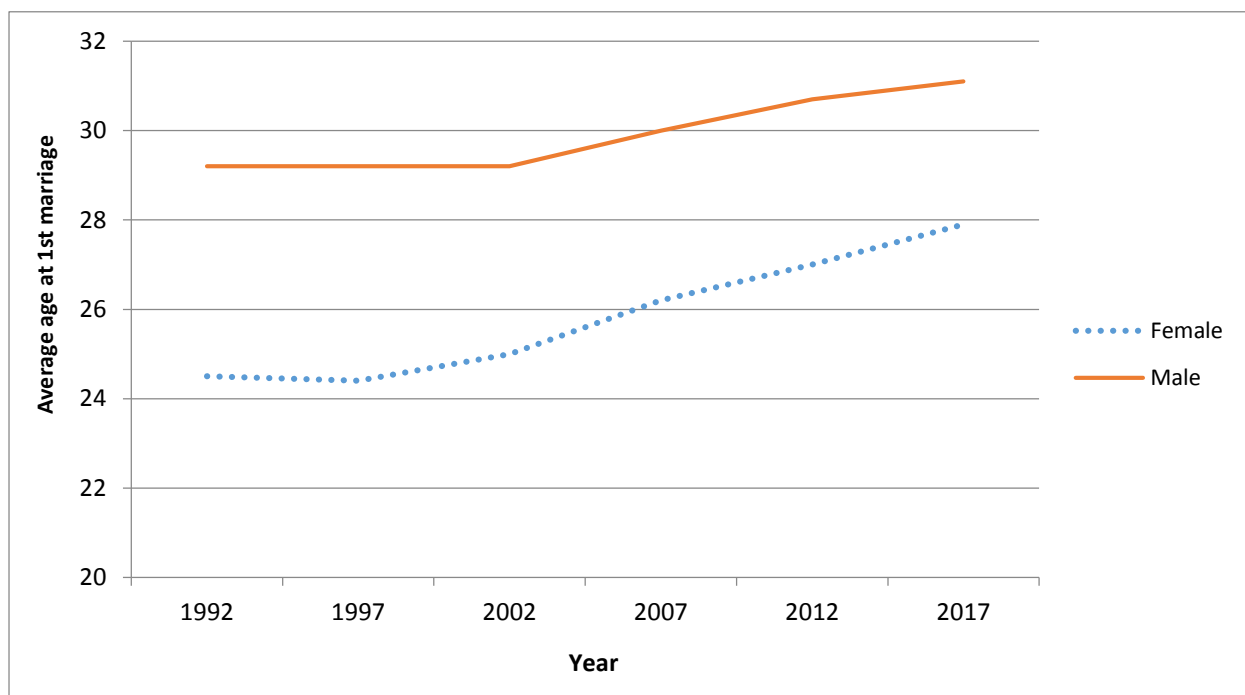
Chart 5 – Marriage and Divorce Rate, Republic of Mauritius, 1993 - 2017



Generally women tend to marry men who are older than them. However, over the past 25 years the age difference between husband and wife narrowed from 4.7 years in 1992 to 3.2 years in 2017.

The average age at first marriage has been gradually increasing over the years for both women and men. The average age at first marriage for women increased from 24.5 years in 1992 to reach 27.9 years in 2017, while that for men increased from 29.2 to 31.1 during the same period.

Chart 6 – Average age at first marriage, Republic of Mauritius, 1992 - 2017



Of the 1,996 divorces granted by the Supreme Court in 2017, woman was the petitioner in 44% of the cases. An analysis of the divorce statistics by single year duration of marriage indicate that couples had the highest tendency to divorce within the 3-10 years duration of marriage.

Table 3 – Divorce by petitioner, Republic of Mauritius, 2016 & 2017

Petitioner	2016	%	2017	%
Husband	551	28.8	587	29.4
Wife	881	46.1	872	43.7
Joint petitioner (both husband & wife)	478	25.0	537	26.9
Total divorces	1,910	100.0	1,996	100.0

Table 4 – Divorce by duration of union, Republic of Mauritius, 2017

Duration of union (years)	Number	%
< 1 year	3	0.2
1 and <3	131	6.6
3 and <5	217	10.9
5 and <10	529	26.5
10 and <15	419	21.0
15 and <25	502	25.2
25 or more	195	9.8
Total divorces	1,996	100.0

About one third of the couples who divorced in 2017 did not have children, while slightly more than half of them had 1 to 2 children. There were 38 couples with 4 or more children.

Table 5 – Divorce by number of dependent children¹, Republic of Mauritius, 2017

Number of children	Number	%
0	681	34.1
1	597	29.9
2	522	26.2
3	158	7.9
4	30	1.5
5 or more	8	0.4
Total	1,996	100.0

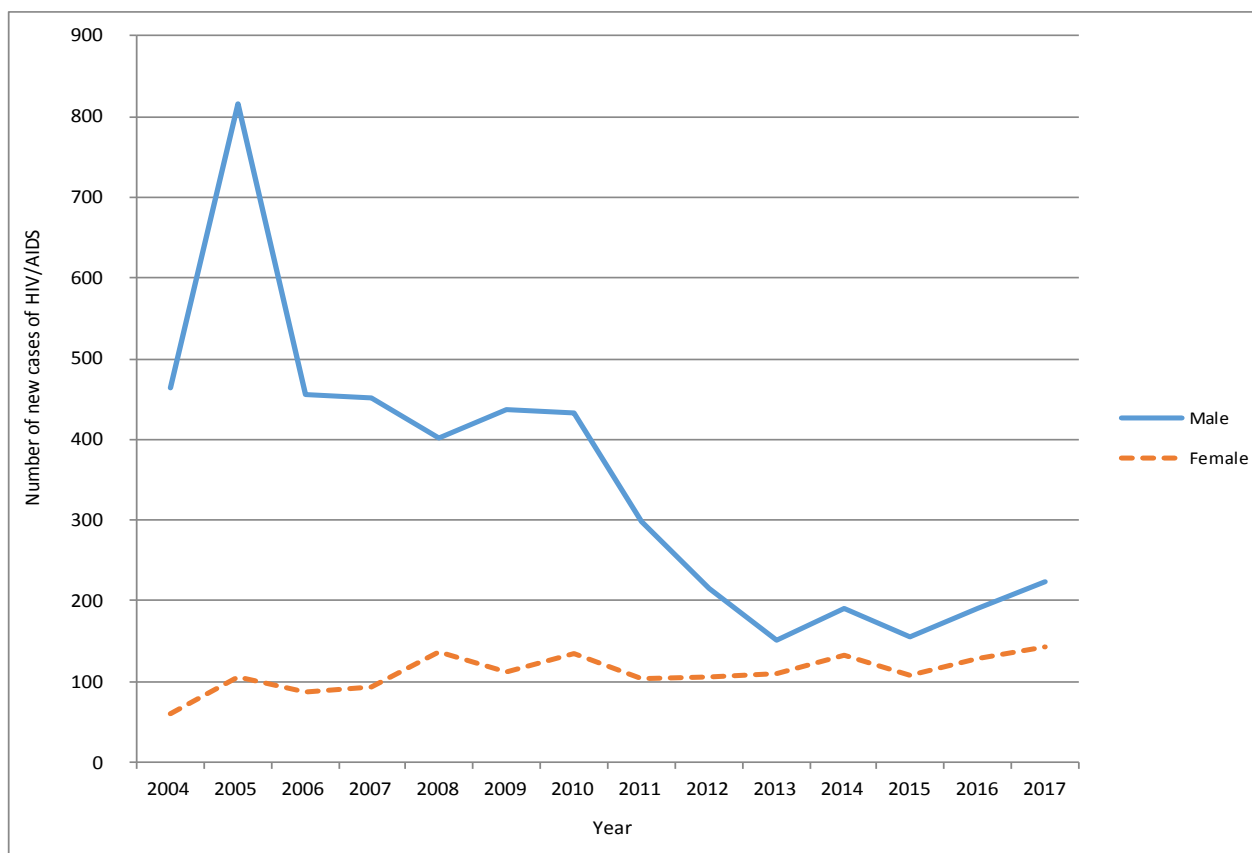
¹ dependent children are the living children who are dependent on either of the divorcees at the time the divorce petition is filed

6. Health

Since October 1987 when the first cases of HIV/AIDS were registered, the number has been increasing to reach 7,039 in December 2017, of whom 25 % were women.

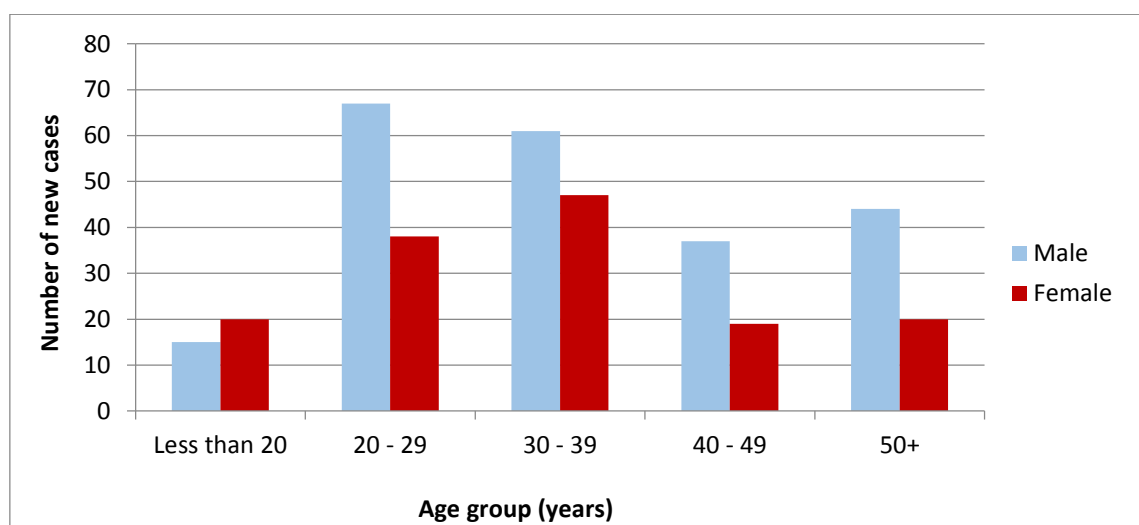
During 2017, 368 new cases of HIV/AIDS were registered among Mauritians and the proportion of women among the new cases was 39% compared to 12% in 2004.

Chart 7 – New HIV/AIDS cases, Republic of Mauritius, 2004 - 2017



In 2017, out of the 144 new HIV cases detected among females, 76% was due to heterosexual as mode of transmission and 15% to drug injection. As regards males, among the 224 new cases, the percentages were 37% and 54% respectively.

Chart 8 – Number of new HIV/AIDS cases by sex and age, 2017

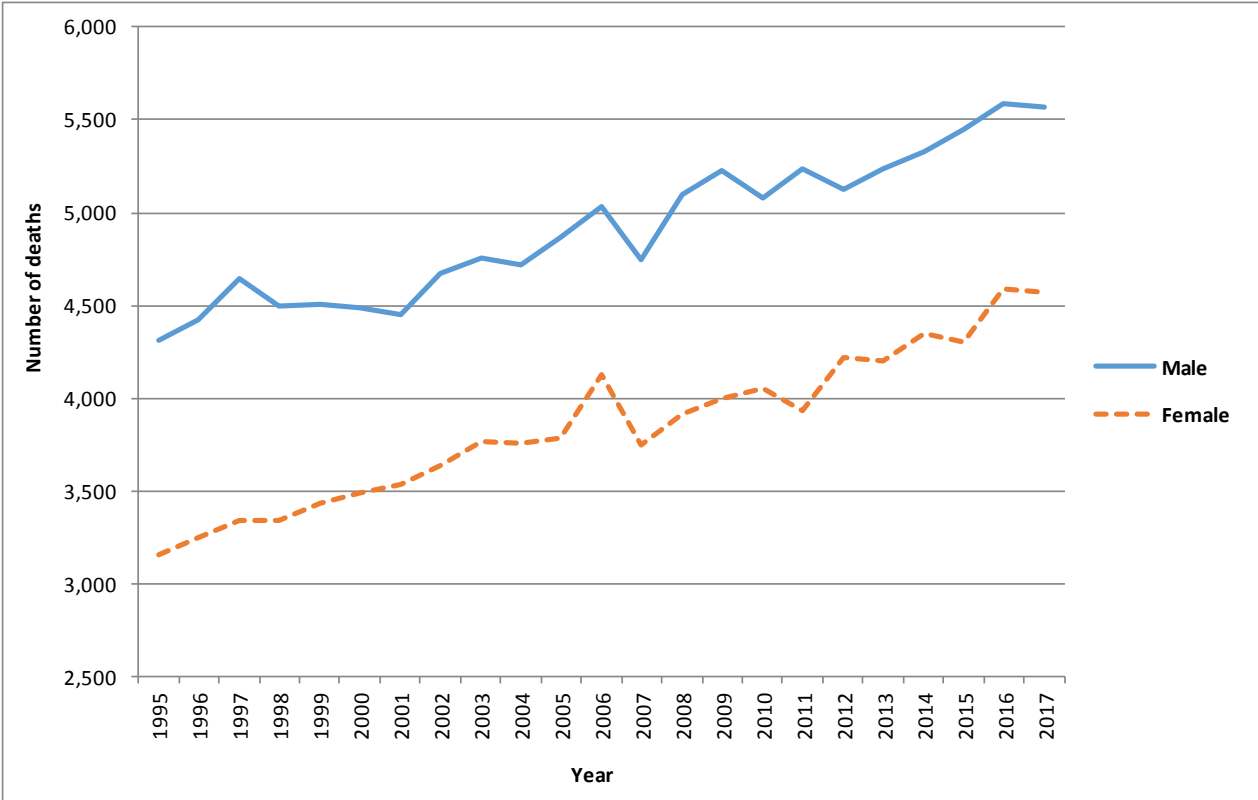


Among the newly detected cases in 2017, some 57.9% were in the age-group 20-39 years. However, women were predominant in the age group 30-39 years with 32.6%, while men were mostly in the age group 20-29 years with 29.9%.

7. Mortality

Though women are more numerous than men in the population, there are fewer deaths among women than among men. In 2017, 5,572 men compared to 4,568 women died. The crude death rate for 2017 was 8.9 for man and 7.1 for woman.

Chart 9 – Number of deaths by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1995 - 2017



In 2017, diabetes mellitus was the leading cause of death accounting for 24.8% of deaths among women and 21.7% among men. Heart disease and cerebrovascular disease were respectively responsible for 17.9% and 8.5% of deaths among women and 19.1% and 7.9% of deaths among men. Causes of death specific to women, such as breast and uterus cancer were responsible for 6.0% of deaths among women while maternal deaths was responsible for another 0.2%. Compared to men, women were more likely to die of hypertensive disease and neoplasms but less likely to die of cirrhosis of the liver and to commit suicide.

Table 6 – Deaths (%) by cause and sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2017

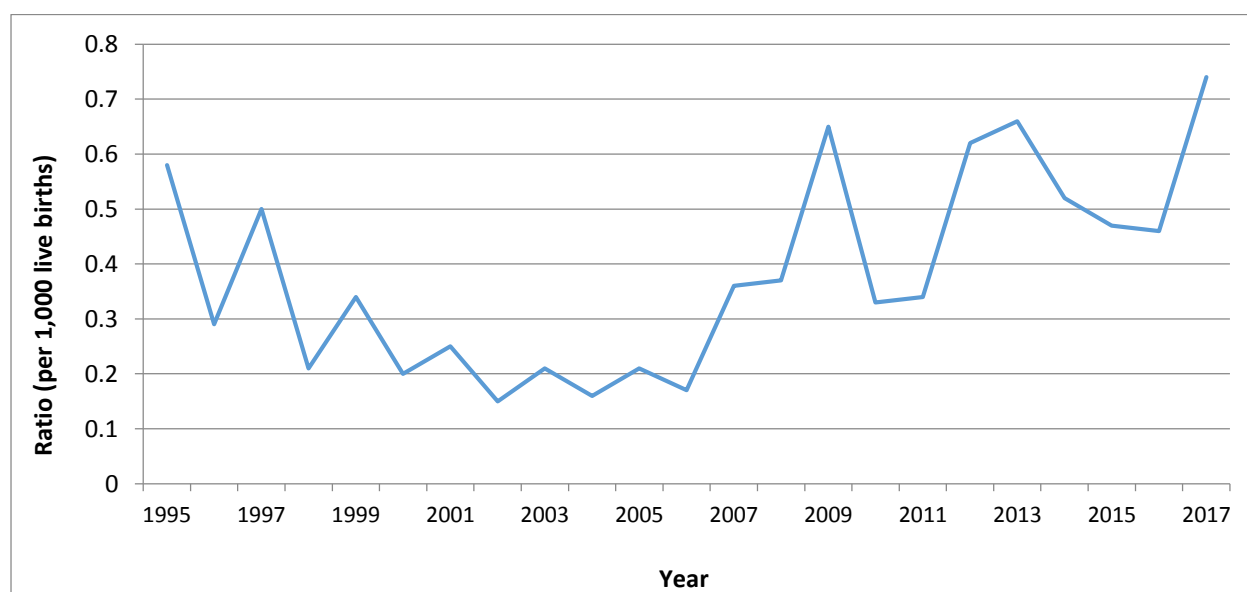
Cause of death	Male	Female
Diabetes mellitus	21.7	24.8
Heart disease	19.1	17.9
Hypertensive Disease	4.1	6.5
Neoplasm:	6.4	9.3
of which: breast cancer (malignant)	...	4.2
uterus cancer (malignant)	Napp	1.8
Cerebrovascular disease	7.9	8.5
Cirrhosis of liver	2.4	0.6
Suicide	1.5	0.6
Maternal death	Napp	0.2
Other	36.9	31.6
Total	100.0	100.0

...: Negligible

Napp: Not Applicable

The risk of a woman dying as a result of pregnancy or childbirth during her lifetime has generally been declining over the years with slightly higher level of maternal deaths in recent years. From 1995 to 2006, the maternal mortality ratio declined from 0.58 maternal death per 1,000 live births to 0.17. After 2006, the maternal mortality ratio was on a rising trend to reach 0.66 in 2013, but then decreased to reach 0.46 in 2016. In 2017, the maternal mortality ratio increased again to reach 0.74.

Chart 10 – Maternal Mortality Ratio, Republic of Mauritius, 1995 - 2017



8. Education

Boys and girls are equally likely to go to pre-primary and primary schools. The Gender Parity Index (GPI) which measures the relative educational participation of boys and girls was 1.0 for both pre-primary and primary, indicating no disparity.

Table 7 – Gross Enrolment Rates (%) by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2017

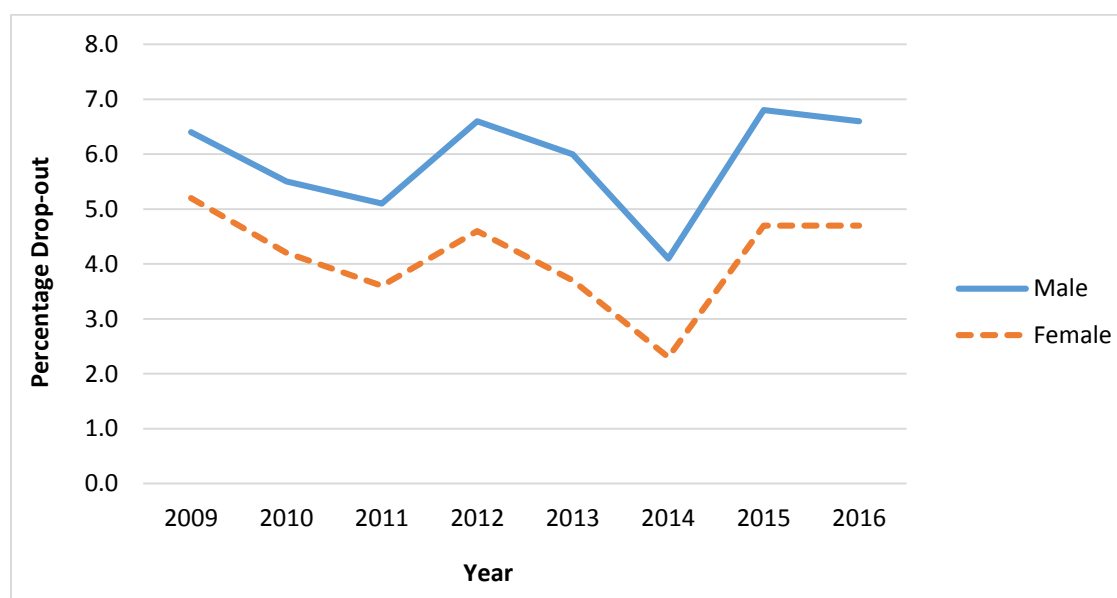
GER	Male	Female	Total	Gender Parity Index
Pre-Primary (4 - 5 years)	97	96	96	1.0
Primary (6 - 11 years)	96	97	97	1.0
Secondary (12 - 19 years)	75	81	78	1.1

At the end of primary, girls generally perform better than boys at the Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC) examinations. In 2017, the pass rate for girls was nearly 86% against 77% for boys.

At secondary level, girls are more likely to be enrolled than boys. The Gender Parity Index (GPI) in secondary enrolment, which measures the relative access to secondary education of males and females was 1.1 in 2017 showing a disparity in favour of girls.

Girls are less likely than boys to drop out from secondary academic stream, 5% against 7% for boys.

Chart 11 – Drop-Out Rate at secondary academic stream, Republic of Mauritius, 2009 - 2016



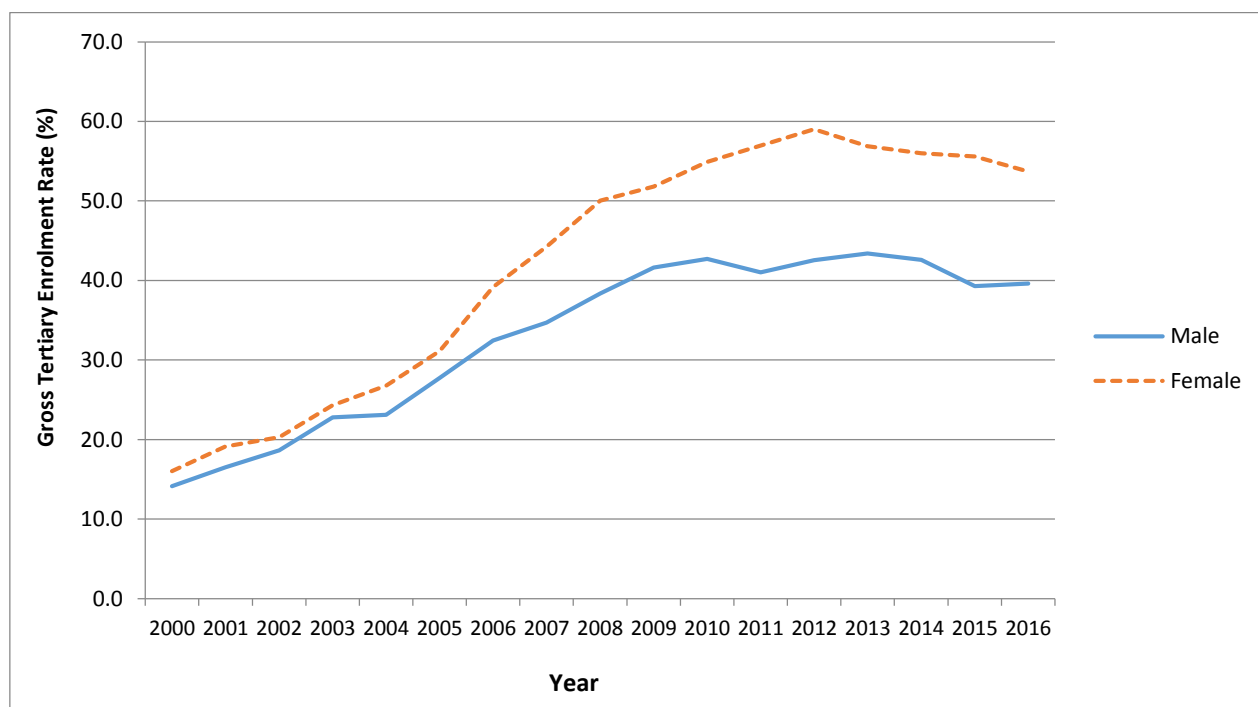
Girls generally perform better than boys at Higher School Certificate (HSC) examinations.

Table 8 – Pass Rate (%) at HSC, Republic of Mauritius, 2010 - 2017

Year	Male	Female
2010	73.7	81.7
2011	75.3	82.3
2012	74.8	82.2
2013	73.9	80.8
2014	70.0	79.1
2015	72.0	77.8
2016	70.9	78.2
2017	69.5	77.9

Consequently, more women than men are enrolled in tertiary institutions. Tertiary enrolment for both girls and boys increased over time but with a widening gap in favour of girls. Tertiary enrolment, as measured by Gross Tertiary Enrolment Rate (GTER), rose from 16 in 2000 to 54 per cent in 2016 for women, and from 14 to 40 per cent for men during the same period. In 2016, women enrolled in public, private and overseas tertiary institutions numbered 27,365, representing 57% of the student population which stood at 48,089.

Chart 12 – Gross Tertiary Enrolment Rate (GTER), Republic of Mauritius, 2000 - 2016



Both men and women were mostly enrolled in Bachelor Degree. There were fewer women than men at PhD, MPhil and DBA² level, 198 women against 233 men. As a result, women continue to be under-represented in research.

Table 9 – No. of student enrolled¹ in tertiary institutions by level, 2016

Level	Male	Female	Total
PhD	116	96	212
MPhil	83	87	170
DBA ²	34	15	49
Masters Degree	1,607	1,778	3,385
PG ³ Diploma	47	42	89
PG ³ Certificate	184	526	710
Bachelor Degree	8,156	10,757	18,913
Professional	2,708	3,532	6,240
Diploma	1,229	1,659	2,888
Certificate	282	331	613
Total	14,446	18,823	33,269

¹*Enrolment in local public and private institutions, excluding overseas students*

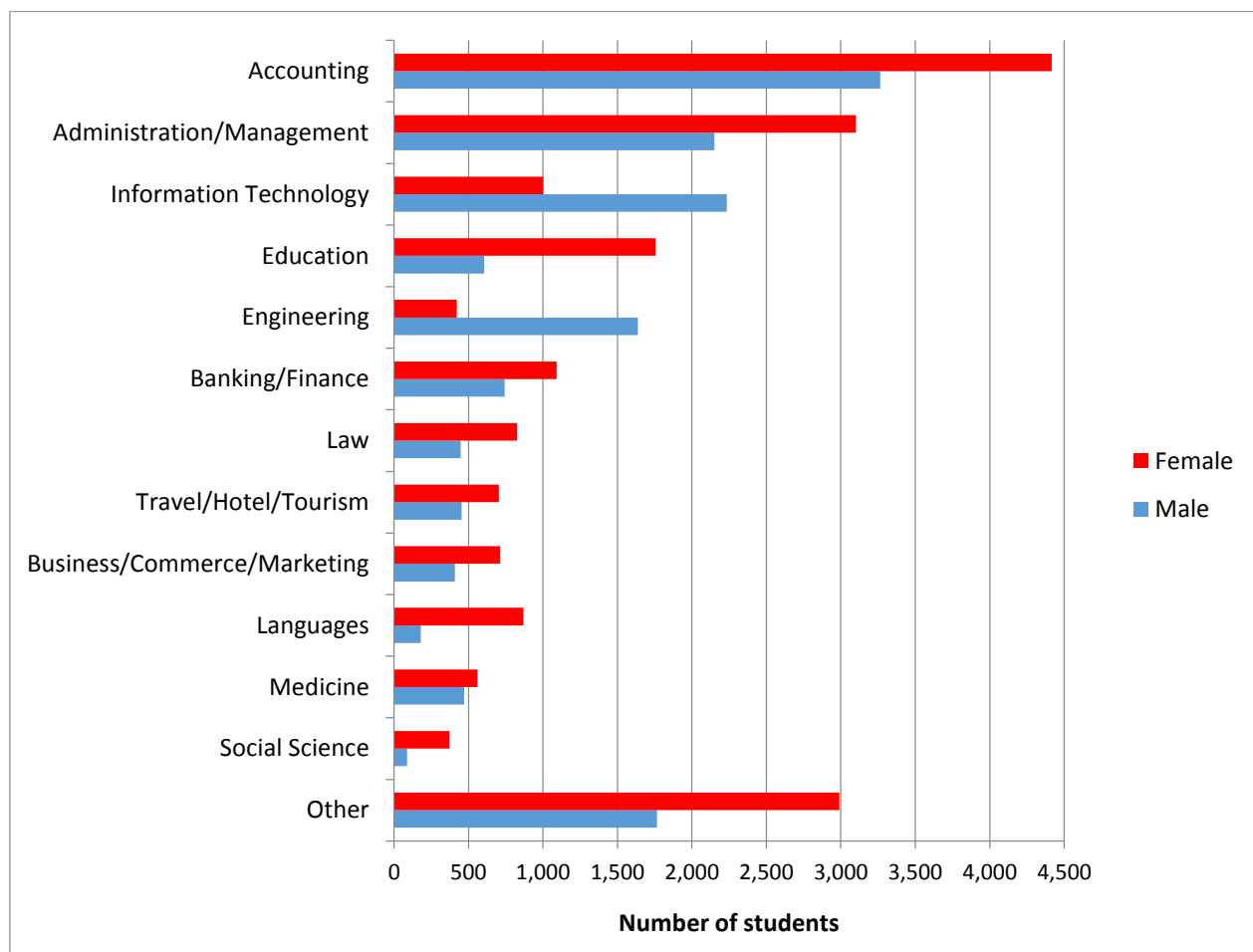
²*Doctor of Business Administration*

³*Post Graduate*

Accounting was the most popular field of study for both men and women (23% and 24% respectively). Information Technology was the second most popular subject for men (16%) followed by Administration/Management (15%) and Engineering (11%). Administration/Management was the second choice for women (16%) followed by Education (9%) and Banking/Finance (6%).

Women were under-represented in science related fields such as Engineering (2% against 11%) and Information Technology (5% against 16%) whereas men were under-represented in Education (4% against 9%) and Languages (1% against 5%).

Chart 13 – Number of student enrolled¹ in tertiary institutions by field of study, 2016



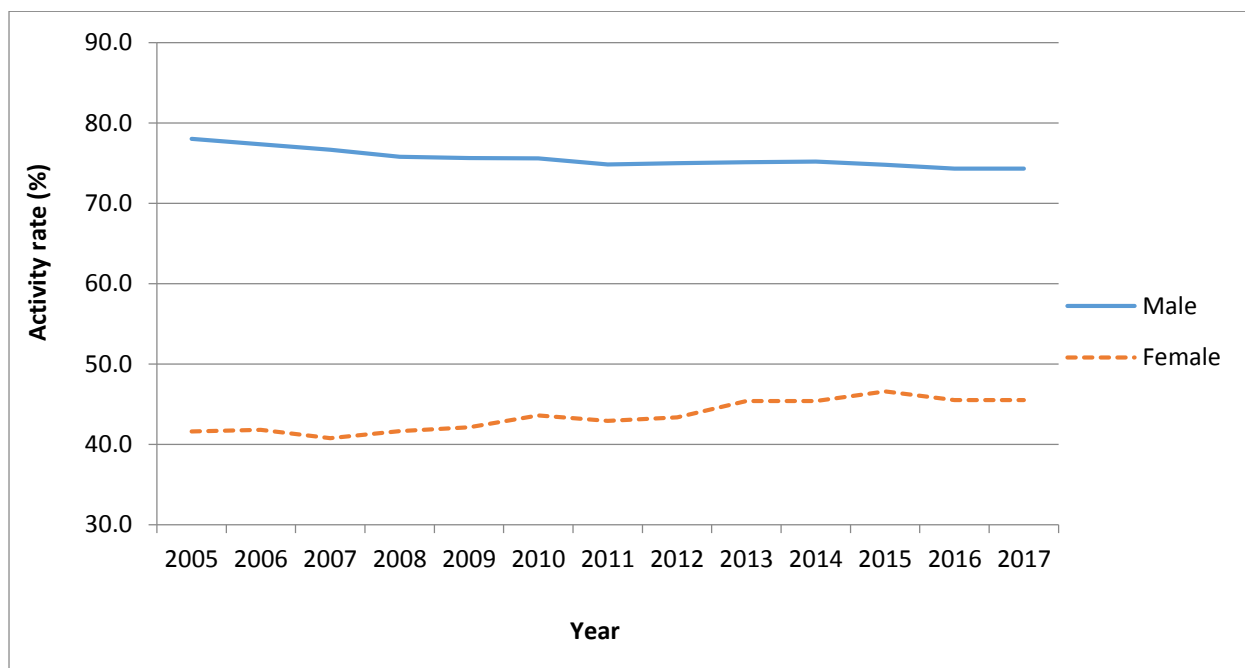
¹Enrolment in local public and private institutions, excluding overseas students

9. Economics Characteristics

In 2017, the active Mauritian population (aged 16 years and above) stood at 586,900 with 356,600 men and 230,300 women. Around 46% of women of working age was in the labour force compared to 74% of men.

During the period 2005 to 2017, male activity rate was consistently higher than female activity rate. However, the gap has been narrowing over time as the activity rate for men has been decreasing over the years, while that of females has been generally increasing.

Chart 14 – Activity rate (%) by sex, 2005 - 2017



Men and women have a similar age pattern of economic activity, i.e., less active at the younger and older age-groups. Over the years, the shape of the curve for female activity rate by age has been tending towards that of the male. The increase in the level of activity among women was more pronounced among those aged 25 to 29 years.

Chart 15 – Activity rate (%) by age group and sex, 2007 and 2017

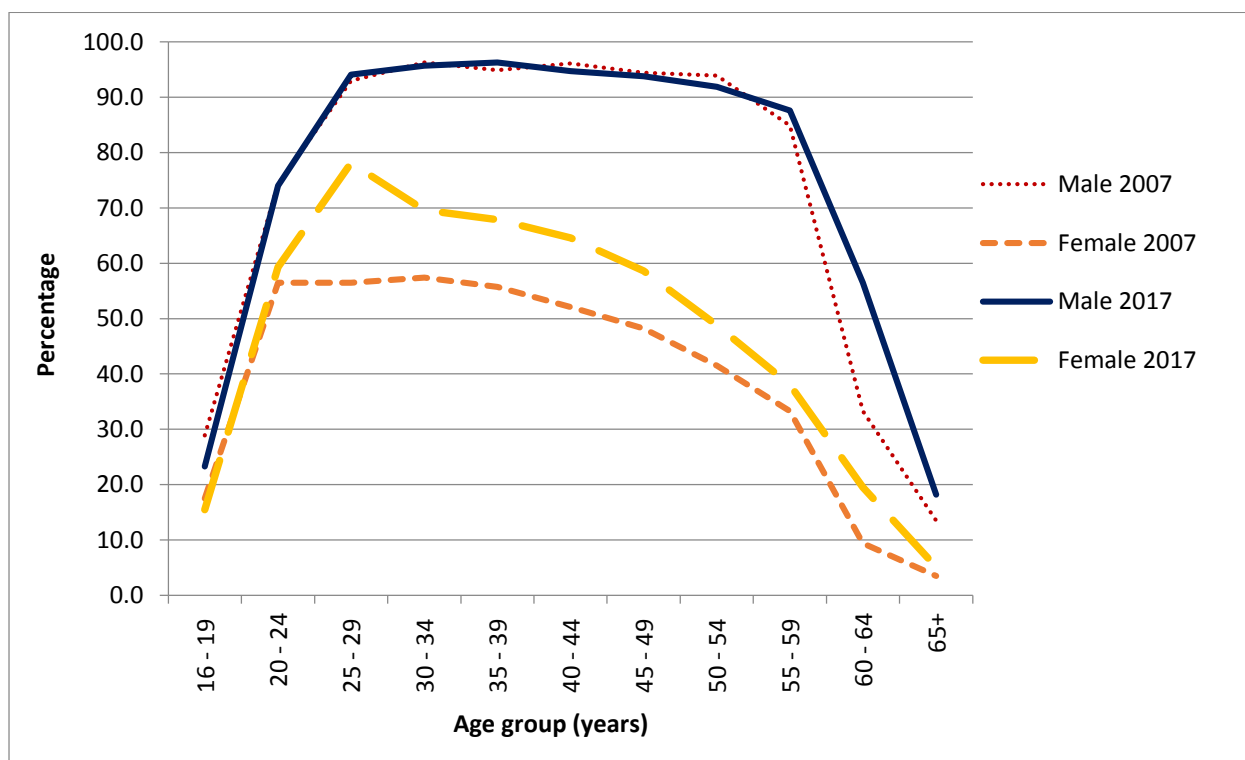


Table 10 – Employed persons by industrial sector and sex, 2017

Industrial sector	Male	Female
Primary	28,600	10,200
Secondary	101,300	32,400
Tertiary	209,500	163,100
All sectors	339,400	205,700

Both women and men had a high proportion of their working population in the tertiary sector (covering trade, accommodation service, transportation, health, education and other service industries), 62% for men and 79% for women. The secondary sector (covering manufacturing, electricity & water and construction) accounted for about one third of the working men and one sixth of the working women. The primary sector (comprising agriculture and mining & quarrying) employed 8% and 5% of the working men and women respectively.

Table 11 – Distribution (%) of employed persons by employment status and sex, 2017

Employment status	Male	Female
Employer	5.9	1.7
Own Account Worker	17.0	9.5
Employee	75.9	85.2
Contributing Family Worker	1.2	3.6
Total	100.0	100.0

Women were more likely than men to be employees, with 85.2% of the female workforce in that employment status as compared to 75.9% for the male workforce. Women were also less likely than men to work for themselves. Some 22.9% of working men were employers or own accounts workers compared to about only 11.2% for women.

On average, a woman worked 5 hours less than a man. In 2017, the average number of hours worked per week by women was 36.3 compared to 41.4 for men.

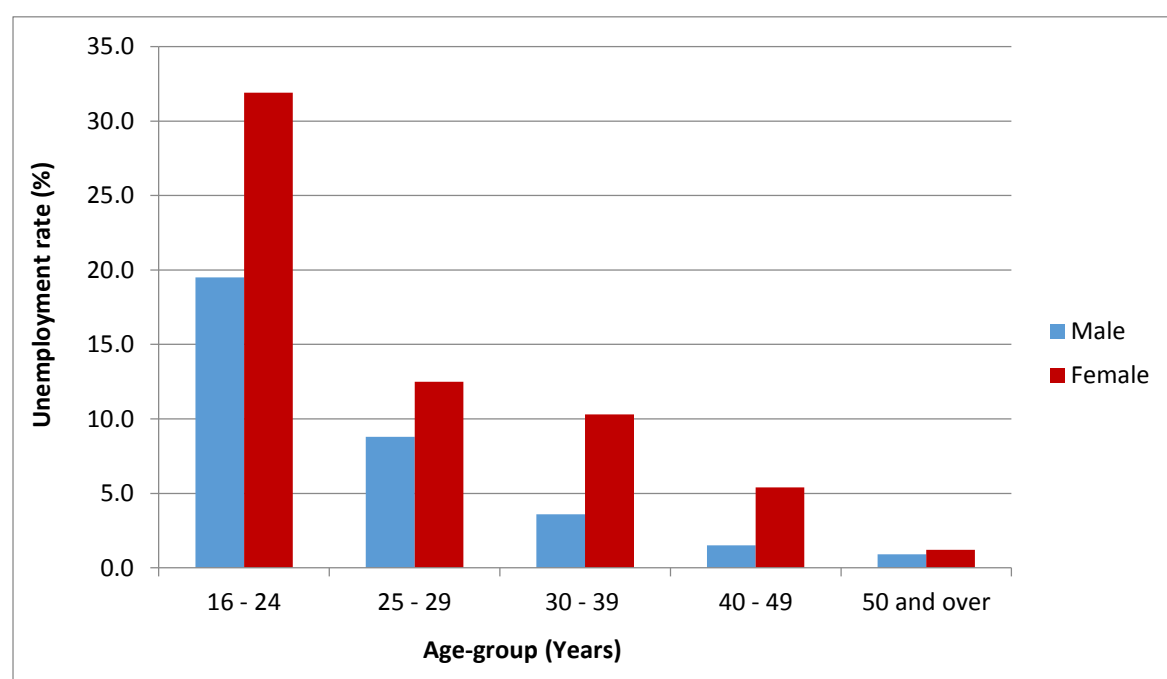
Across all occupational groups, women on average earned less than men. In the occupational category of managers, professionals and associate professionals, women earned on average 73 per cent of what men earned. In elementary occupations, women earned around half of what men earned.

Table 12 – Average monthly income (Rs) from employment by occupational group, 2017

Occupational group	Average monthly income (Rs)	
	Male	Female
Managers; Professionals; Technicians and associate professionals	43,200	31,500
Clerical support workers	22,200	17,900
Service and sales workers	19,800	11,700
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers; Craft and related trade workers; Plant and machine operators and assemblers	14,500	8,100
Elementary occupations	13,900	7,000
All occupational groups	22,300	16,800

In spite of being fewer in the labour force (representing only 39%), women were over represented among the unemployed; they made up nearly 59% of the total unemployed. Unemployed women numbered 24,600 in 2017 compared to 17,200 men. Female unemployment rate stood at 10.7%, much higher than the rate of 4.8% for male. The disparity between male and female unemployment rate was highest in the lower age-groups; the difference was nearly 12 percentage points among the unemployed below 25 years and around 0.3 percentage point among those aged 50 years and above.

Chart 16 – Unemployment rate (%) by age group and sex, 2017



Unemployed women were generally more qualified than their male counterparts; around 8,400 (34.2%) of them possessed the School Certificate (SC) or Higher School Certificate (HSC) against 4,600 males (26.7%). Also, around 5,900 (24.0%) unemployed women attained tertiary level education as compared to 3,800 (22.1%) unemployed men.

Table 13 – Unemployed persons by educational attainment, 2017

Educational attainment	Male	Female
Primary	2,000	3,100
<i>of which passed CPE</i>	700	700
Secondary	11,400	15,600
<i>of which passed SC</i>	2,500	4,500
<i>of which passed HSC</i>	2,100	3,900
Tertiary	3,800	5,900
Total	17,200	24,600

10. Social benefits and senior living in infirmaries

As at June 2017, out of 206,799 Basic Retirement pensioners, 56% were women. During that period, the number of women receiving Basic Retirement Pension outnumbered their male counterparts by 23,257 and this number is expected to increase to around 33,000 by 2046. Both male and female pensioners were concentrated in the age-group 60 to 69 years. It is to be noted that 73% of the pensioners in the age-group 90 to 99 were women.

There were 19,540 recipients of Basic Widows Pension as at June 2017, a decrease of 13% compared to 22,484 in 2002. A large majority of widows (68%) were aged between 50 to 59 years.

Invalids pensioners numbered 32,300 as at June 2017, with a higher proportion of men (52%) compared to women (48%).

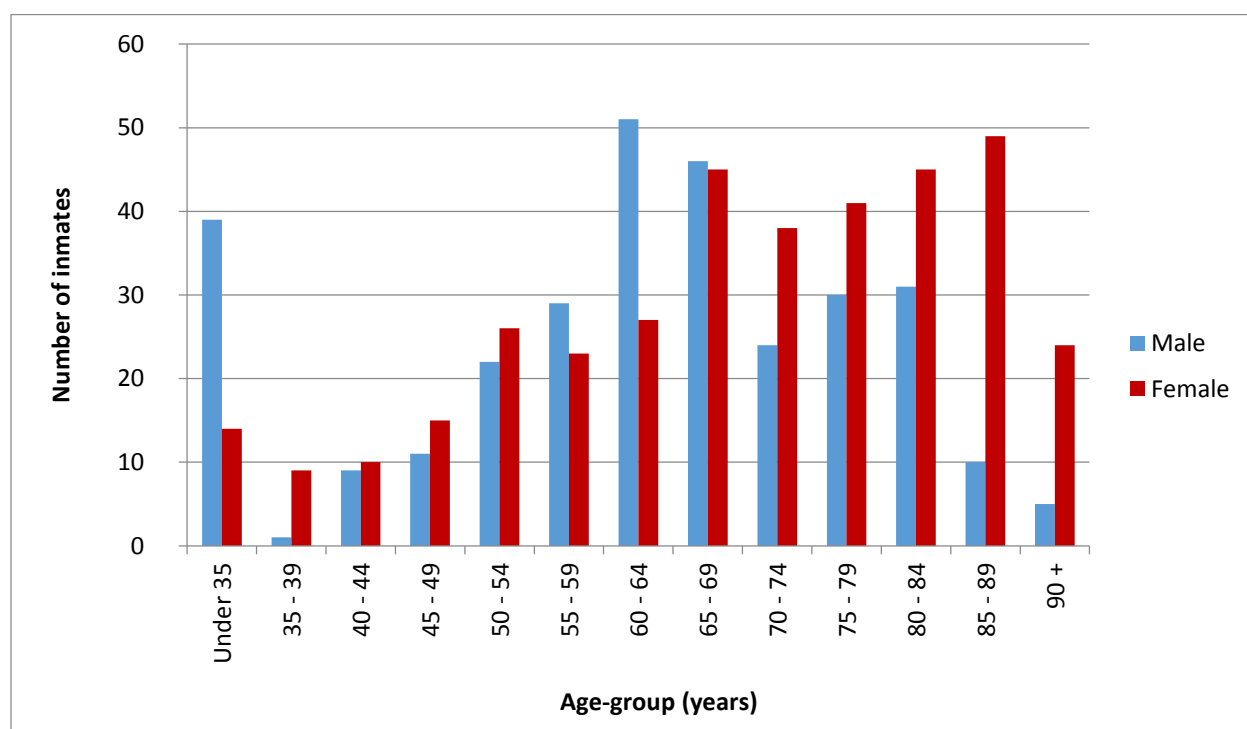
As at June 2017, some 365 children received Basic Orphans Pension, amongst whom 51% were girls.

Table 14 – Number of beneficiaries of selected benefits, 2002 and 2017

Pension type	December 2002			June 2017		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Basic Retirement Pension	49,428	65,364	114,792	91,771	115,028	206,799
<i>of whom 90 years and above</i>	<i>439</i>	<i>1,273</i>	<i>1,712</i>	<i>1,088</i>	<i>2,964</i>	<i>4,052</i>
Basic Widow's Pension	n/a	22,484	22,484	n/a	19,540	19,540
Basic Invalid's Pension	11,478	11,527	23,005	16,913	15,387	32,300
Basic Orphan's Pension	311	291	602	180	185	365

In 2017, some 54% of the 674 inmates living in infirmaries and orphanages registered at the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development (Social Security Division), were women. The women residents were older than men with 32% aged 80 years and over compared to 15% for men.

Chart 17 – Number of Inmates in infirmaries and orphanages by age-group and sex, 2017



Women inmates were more likely than men to suffer from a disease or a disability. Women inmates suffered mostly from other disabilities including multiple disabilities (36%) and from mental diseases (31%), whereas men inmates suffered mostly from mental diseases (31%) and other disabilities including multiple disabilities (17%).

Table 15 – Distribution (%) of inmates in infirmaries and orphanages by disability, 2017

Disability	Male	Female
Partial paralysis	13.3	6.3
Mental diseases	31.2	30.6
Heart diseases	3.2	4.6
Diabetes	11.7	16.4
Other (including those suffering from multiple disabilities)	17.2	35.5
Inmates with no disabilities	23.4	6.6
Total	100.0	100.0

11. Women in decision making

More women are occupying high positions in government services. The proportion of women in the most senior positions has increased from 20% to 37% over the past 20 years.

Table 16 – Senior position¹ in Government Services, 1997 – 2017

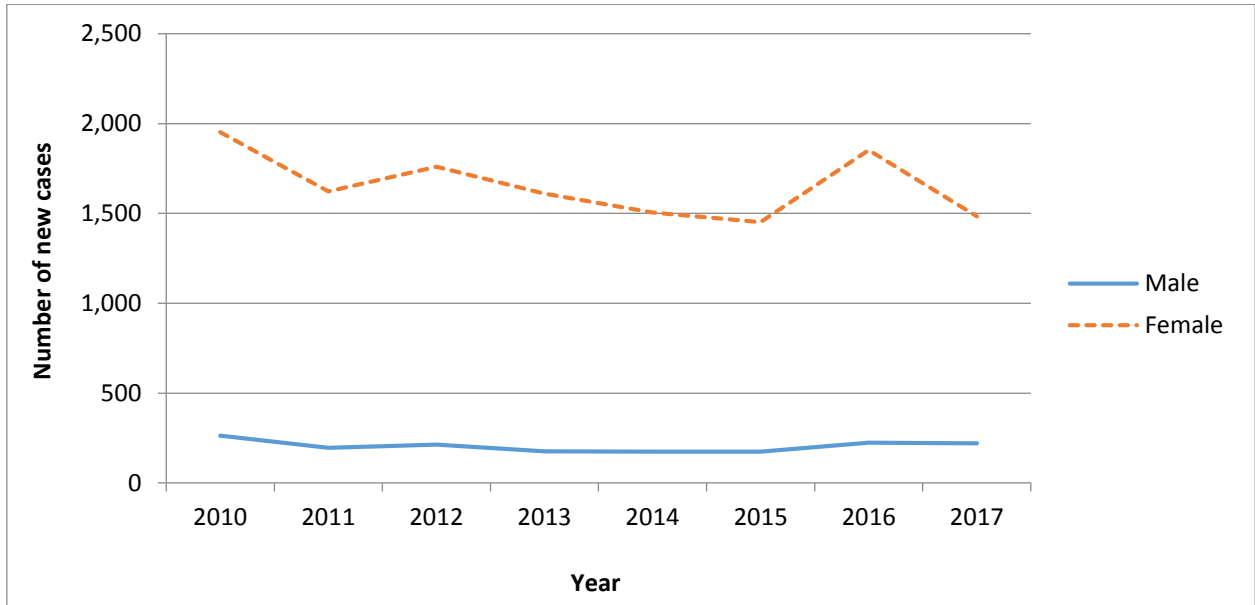
	1997		2007		2017	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Men	255	80.2	207	60.2	397	63.4
Women	63	19.8	137	39.8	229	36.6
Total	318	100.0	344	100.0	626	100.0

¹ Senior Chief Executive, Permanent Secretary, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Director, Manager, Judge and Magistrate

12. Domestic violence

Women are more likely to be victims of domestic violence. In 2017, out of 1,703 new cases of domestic violence reported at the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare, nearly 87% were against women. The number of new cases of domestic violence against women decreased from 1,852 in 2016 to 1,483 in 2017. The number of men victims of domestic violence decreased from 225 to 220 during the same period.

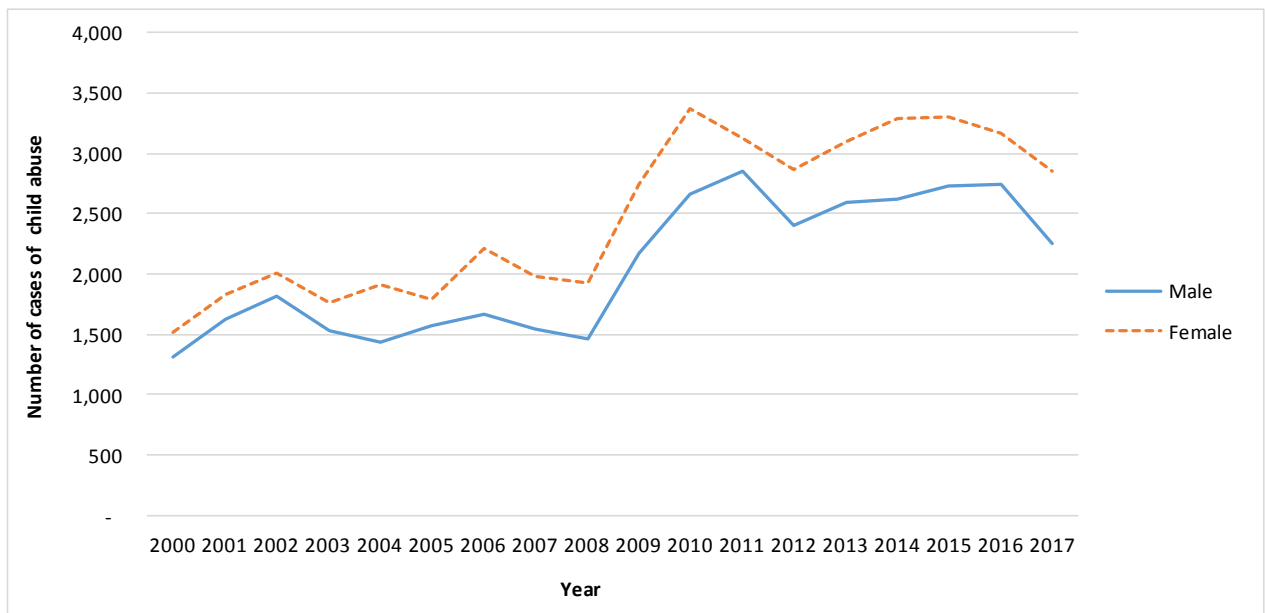
Chart 18 – Number of new cases of domestic violence reported, 2010 - 2017



Some 36% of women victims of domestic violence reported physical assault by spouse or partner, 20% verbal assault by spouse or partner (ill treatment, harassment, abuse, and humiliation), 9% threatening assault by spouse and nearly 6% has been subjected to physical assault by others living under the same roof. Reported cases by men related to physical assault by spouse or partner (22%), verbal assault by spouse or partner (19%) and physical assault by others living under the same roof (16%).

The total number of cases reported at the Child Development Unit of the Family Support Bureau is generally on the rise, but a decrease was noted from 6,035 in 2015 to 5,104 in 2017.

Chart 19 – Number of cases reported at the Child Development Unit, 2000 - 2017



Of the reported cases in 2017, some 56% of the victims were females. The most common nature of abuse was psychological/emotional (27% for male and 25% for female) followed by neglect cases (13% male and 11% for female) and physical abuse (12% for male and 8% for female).

Table 17 – Cases reported at Child Development Unit by nature of problem, 2017

Nature of Problem	Male		Female	
	Number	%	Number	%
Abandonment	37	1.6	31	1.1
Physical abuse	260	11.6	240	8.4
Neglect cases	287	12.7	322	11.3
Worst forms of Labour	1	0.0	-	-
Sexual abuse	29	1.3	231	8.1
Psychological /Emotional abuse	612	27.2	707	24.8
Other problems	1,025	45.5	1,322	46.3
Total	2,251	100.0	2,853	100.0

13. Offences

Men are more likely to be victims of homicides and assaults, while women are more prone to sexual offences. In 2017, some 55% of the assaults and 53% of the intentional homicides were committed against men. Around 88% of victims of sexual offences were women.

Table 18 – Victims¹ of selected offences reported at the Police, Republic of Mauritius, 2017

Offences	Male	Female	Both sexes
Homicides	67	32	99
<i>of which Intentional homicides</i>	25	22	47
Assaults	6,394	5,230	11,624
Sexual offences	70	512	582
<i>of which Rape</i>	-	54	54

¹A person may be victim of one or more than one offence and/or an offence may involve one or more victims

Boys are much more likely to commit offences than girls. In 2017, only 6% of the juvenile offences were committed by girls. The female juvenile delinquency rate stood at 1.3, while that for male was 8.9.

Table 19 – Number of Juvenile offenders¹ reported, Republic of Mauritius, 2017

	Male	Female	Both sexes
Crimes	175	10	185
<i>of which drug offences</i>	11	1	12
Misdemeanours	352	63	415
<i>of which drug offences</i>	49	1	50
Contraventions ²	675	5	680
Total	1,202	78	1,280
Juvenile Delinquency Rate ³	8.9	1.3	5.2

¹Persons aged 12 to 17 years

² Exclude contraventions established by camera

³Rate per 1,000 mid-year juvenile population and exclude contraventions

14. Sports

During the period 2014 to 2017, participation in high level sports was consistently lower among female athletes than male athletes. In 2017, participation among female athletes was 33% against 67% among male athletes.

Table 20 – Participation of high level athletes in sports, 2014 - 2017

	2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Male	48	64.9	80	65.0	63	63.6	69	67.0
Female	26	35.1	43	35.0	36	36.4	34	33.0
Total	74	100.0	123	100.0	99	100.0	103	100.0

The most common sporting disciplines in which women participated in 2017 were “athletics” (29%) followed by “handisports” (21%) and “weight lifting” (15%). No women participated in “boxing” while among men, 23% did so.

Table 21 – Participation of high level athletes in sports, as at December 2017

Sports discipline	Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%
Athletics	12	17.4	10	29.4
Tennis	3	4.3	1	2.9
Badminton	6	8.7	2	5.9
Swimming	5	7.2	1	2.9
Table Tennis	4	5.8	1	2.9
Cycling	2	2.9	2	5.9
Boxing	16	23.2	-	-
Judo	5	7.2	4	11.8
Weight lifting	3	4.3	5	14.7
Triathlon	1	1.4	-	-
Fencing	1	1.4	-	-
Kick boxing	3	4.3	1	2.9
Handisports	8	11.6	7	20.6
Total	69	100.0	34	100.0

15. Global Gender Gap Indices

Since 2006, through the Global Gender Gap Report series, the World Economic Forum has been quantifying the magnitude of gender-based disparities and tracking their progress over time. By providing a comprehensive framework for benchmarking global gender gaps, the report identified countries that are role models in dividing their resources equitably between women and men, regardless of the overall resource level.

The Global Gender Gap Index (GGI) seeks to measure one important aspect of gender equality; their relative gaps between women and men across a large set of countries and across four key areas: economic participation and opportunity, educational attainment, health and survival and political empowerment. The equality benchmark is considered to be one with no gap between men and women.

Between 2016 and 2017, Mauritius improved its ranking from 113 to 112 out of 144 countries worldwide. Mauritius has closed both its education attainment, and health and survival gender gaps with indices nearing 1, and it has progressed due to increases on both the Economic Participation & Opportunity and Political Empowerment subindexes (Table23).

Table 22 – Global Gender Gap Index by selected countries, 2015 - 2017

Country	2015		2016		2017	
	Rank	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	Value
Iceland	1	0.881	1	0.874	1	0.878
Norway	2	0.850	3	0.842	2	0.830
France	15	0.761	17	0.755	11	0.778
United Kingdom	18	0.758	20	0.752	15	0.770
Canada	30	0.740	35	0.731	16	0.769
South Africa	17	0.759	15	0.764	19	0.756
Australia	36	0.733	46	0.721	35	0.731
United States	28	0.740	45	0.722	49	0.718
Singapore	54	0.711	55	0.712	65	0.702
Madagascar	74	0.698	60	0.704	80	0.692
Brazil	85	0.686	79	0.687	90	0.684
China	91	0.682	99	0.676	100	0.674
India	108	0.664	87	0.683	108	0.669
Mauritius	120	0.646	113	0.652	112	0.664
Pakistan	144	0.559	143	0.556	143	0.546
Yemen	145	0.484	144	0.516	144	0.516

Source: The Global Gender Gap Report 2017, World Economic Forum

Table 23 – Global Gender Gap Index for overall and four key areas, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 - 2017

Year	Overall	Economic participation & Opportunity	Educational attainment	Health and survival	Political empowerment
2006	0.633	0.483	0.983	0.980	0.085
2007	0.649	0.547	0.983	0.980	0.085
2008	0.647	0.527	0.988	0.980	0.091
2009	0.651	0.546	0.988	0.980	0.091
2010	0.652	0.549	0.988	0.980	0.091
2011	0.653	0.544	0.989	0.980	0.099
2012	0.655	0.554	0.990	0.980	0.095
2013	0.660	0.574	0.991	0.980	0.096
2014	0.654	0.551	0.990	0.980	0.097
2015	0.646	0.534	0.991	0.980	0.078
2016	0.652	0.550	0.991	0.980	0.087
2017	0.664	0.595	0.992	0.980	0.090

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Appendix: Definitions of terms

Activity rate: The ratio (%) of the economically active population (employed and unemployed) to population aged 16 years and above.

Age specific fertility rate: the number of live births to women of a specified age-group per 1,000 women in that age-group.

Contributing Family Worker: A contributing family worker is a person who works without pay in an enterprise operated by a family worker.

Crimes: Offences that are punishable by: (a) penal servitude (b) fine exceeding 5,000 rupees.

Crude death rate: the number of deaths in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.

Current User of contraceptive method: A new acceptor who continues with the same or different method of contraception and pays regular return visits to the family planning service point to receive services and supplies.

Divorce rate: the number of persons divorced in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.

Employee: An employee is a person who works for pay for someone else, even in a temporary capacity.

Employer: An employer is a person who operates his/her own business or trade and hires one or more employees.

Employment: Employed population consists of Mauritians aged 16 years and above who have worked for pay, profit or family gain for at least one hour during reference week of a month. It includes those who are temporarily absent from work for reason such as leave with pay, leave without pay and temporary disorganisation of work (bad weather, break down of equipment, lack of order, etc).

Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER): Number of pupils enrolled in a given level of education, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the population in the relevant age-group

- 4 - 5 years for pre-primary
- 6 – 11 years for primary
- 12 – 19 years for secondary

Gender Parity Index (GPI): Ratio of the GER for female to the GER for male. It measures the relative education participation of boys and girls. A GPI of 1 reflects equal enrolment rate for boys and girls, whereas a GPI greater than 1 shows disparity in favour of girls.

HIV/AIDS: AIDS (Acquired immune deficiency syndrome or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) is a disease caused by a virus called HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus).

Juvenile: a person aged below 18 years.

Juvenile delinquency rate: the number of juvenile offenders involved in offences (excluding contraventions) per 1,000 juvenile populations.

Life Expectancy at birth: the number of years a new born infant would live if prevailing patterns of mortality at the time of its birth were to stay the same throughout its life.

Marriage rate: the number of persons married in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.

Maternal mortality rate: number of deaths due to pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium per 10,000 live births during that year.

Misdemeanors: Offences that are punishable by:(a) imprisonment for a term exceeding 10 days; (b) fine exceeding 5,000 rupees.

New acceptor of contraceptive methods: Someone who accepts a contraceptive method for the first time from a provider of a family planning programme.

Own Account Worker: An own account worker is a person who operates his/her own business or trade but does not hire employees. He/She may be working alone or with the help of contributing family workers.

Primary sector: Primary Sector comprises activities related to 'Agriculture, hunting, Forestry and fishing' and 'Mining'

Secondary sector: Secondary Sector comprises activities related to 'Manufacturing, 'Electricity, gas and water supply' and 'Construction'.

Sex Ratio: The sex ratio is defined as the number of males per 100 females.

Total fertility rate: the average number of children born to an average woman assuming that she survives to the end of her child-bearing age and is subjected to a fixed schedule of age-specific fertility rates.

Unemployment Rate: Unemployment rate is the ratio (%) of unemployment to economically active population (employed and unemployed).

Unemployment: Unemployed population comprises all Mauritians aged 16 years and over who are not working but who are looking for work and are available for work during the reference week.