

The 2022 Housing and Population Census



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ed nou pou kont ou*

Government has agreed that the next Housing and Population Census will be conducted in 2022. As done for previous national Censuses, the 2022 national Census will be carried out in two phases, starting with a Housing Census in May 2022 followed by a Population Census in July 2022.

Legal instruments regarding the conduct of the 2022 Housing and Population Census have already been finalised. To this effect, a motion was passed in the National Assembly at its seating on 29 March 2022.

Subsequently, His Excellency the President of the Republic of Mauritius has approved the Census Order, Regulations and Schedule giving effect that a Census of dwelling (housing) be taken between 30 April 2022 and 20 June 2022, and a Census of population be taken between 19 June 2022 and 1 August 2022, in respect of all persons alive at midnight on the night of 3 July 2022.

In this context, training of some 1,800 field-staff who will be deployed for the Housing Census has already started since early April 2022 and will last till the end of the month. Face-to-face interviews will continue to be the method of data collection from respondents in Census 2022. Statistics Mauritius will, for the first time, use Computer Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI) technology for the data collection exercise.

We wish the very best to all our Census officials who will be on field as from the start of May 2022!

Migration

According to the UN International Organisation for Migration (IOM), migration is defined as the movement of a person or a group of persons, either across an international border or within a State. A migrant is a person who moves away from his or her place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently, and for a variety of reasons. As attested by the IOM World Migration Report 2020, there were around 281 million international migrants in the world as at 2020, representing 3.6% of the global population.

In 2018, the Government approved the "Migration and Development Policy of the Republic of Mauritius", which is in line with the Mauritius Vision 2030. The overall goal of the Policy is to maximise the contribution of migration to an all-inclusive, sustainable and rights-based socio-economic development of Mauritius.

In the context of developing and improving migration statistics, Statistics Mauritius participated in two workshops in March 2022 as follows:

A. "Workshop on Household Surveys and International Migration Data: Using, improving and creating efficient migration data collection tools", from 14 to 16 March 2022 in Pretoria, South Africa

Statistics Mauritius was represented by Mr B. Unmar, Ag. Deputy Director and Mrs C. Bandinah, Ag. Senior Statistician. The workshop, which was organised by IOM in collaboration with the Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC), had as main objectives to:

- (i) discuss with specialists the use of household surveys to collect migration data, and
- (ii) explore methodological aspects with specialised migration surveys.

Participants were able to discuss the inclusion of migration module in household surveys and also learnt from other countries' experiences.

Statistics Mauritius will ponder upon the request for technical assistance through IOM for a feasibility study on whether to include questions on migration in existing Household Surveys or to opt for a dedicated Migration Survey.

B. "Regional Workshop on the First COMESA Regional Labour Migration trends report", from 22 to 25 March 2022 in Lusaka, Zambia

From Statistics Mauritius, Mr B. Unmar, Ag. Deputy Director attended the regional workshop, which was organised by the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). The workshop's primary objectives were to:

- (i) validate the findings of a draft of the First COMESA Regional Labour Migration Trends report,
- (ii) discuss on the content of future reports,
- (iii) establish a regional technical working group on labour migration data,
- (iv) conduct an appraisal of useful administrative data on migrant stocks and data, and
- (v) work towards the harmonisation of labour migration indicators in the COMESA region.

During the workshop, participants discussed the contents of the draft report and provided valuable comments for the improvement of the next report. COMESA, through the Southern Africa Migration Management (SAMM) Project provides technical assistance to develop international labour migration statistics.

Retirement of SM Staff during January—March 2022

SM conveys its thanks to the retirees for their years of dedicated service to the Department and wishes them all the very best in their future endeavours:

Mrs Pramela Devi Iyavoo, Senior Statistical Officer	22 January 2022
Mr Sunil Mungur, Senior Statistical Officer	14 February 2022
Mrs Set Fong Cheung Tung Shing, Principal Statistician	07 March 2022