

# RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY PRICE INDEX

(Base period: Year 2019 = 100)

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2022

## 1. Introduction

The Residential Property Price Index (RPPI) is an indicator of how the prices of transacted residential properties (houses and apartments) develop over time.

This issue of the RPPI, presents the evolution of residential property prices up to the fourth quarter of 2022, with the year 2019 as base period.

The RPPI is compiled using the *mix-adjustment-by-stratification* methodology, which is discussed in the Annex. Figures have been rounded to one decimal place, although they have been calculated to many decimal places. Note that these figures are provisional.

## 2. Evolution of the Residential Property Price Index up to 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2022

Chart 1 illustrates the evolution of the RPPI from Q1 2019 to Q4 2022.

The index for the fourth quarter of 2022 reached 150.7, compared to 119.8 in the third quarter of 2022, representing an increase of 25.8%.

While comparing the RPPI with the corresponding quarter of 2021, the index increased by 38.2%.



### 3. Residential Property Price Index from Q1 2019 to Q4 2022 (Base period Year 2019 = 100)

The table below shows the comparable RPPI as calculated for Q1 2019 to Q4 2022.

<b>Period</b>	<b>RPPI (2019 = 100)</b>
<b>Q1 2019</b>	112.4
<b>Q2 2019</b>	111.1
<b>Q3 2019</b>	87.7
<b>Q4 2019</b>	88.8
<b>Q1 2020</b>	100.1
<b>Q2 2020</b>	103.7
<b>Q3 2020</b>	121.6
<b>Q4 2020</b>	121.8
<b>Q1 2021</b>	113.1
<b>Q2 2021</b>	93.4
<b>Q3 2021</b>	127.9
<b>Q4 2021</b>	109.1
<b>Q1 2022</b>	119.6
<b>Q2 2022</b>	139.3
<b>Q3 2022</b>	119.8
<b>Q4 2022</b>	150.7

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**Annex**  
**Technical Note**

**Methodology used for the computation of the Residential Property Price Index**

**(i) Introduction**

The Residential Property Price Index (RPPI) is an indicator of changes over time in the prices of residential properties (houses and apartments) purchased.

**(ii) Uses**

As mentioned in the Handbook on Residential Property Price Indices (2013), the *Residential Property Price Indices* have a number of important uses:

- a) *as a macro-economic indicator of economic growth;*
- b) *for use in monetary policy and inflation targeting;*
- c) *as an input into estimating the value of housing as a component of wealth;*
- d) *as a financial stability or soundness indicator to measure risk exposure;*
- e) *as a deflator in the national accounts;*
- f) *as an input into an individual citizen's decision making on whether to buy (or sell) a residential property;*
- g) *for use in making inter-area and international comparisons.*

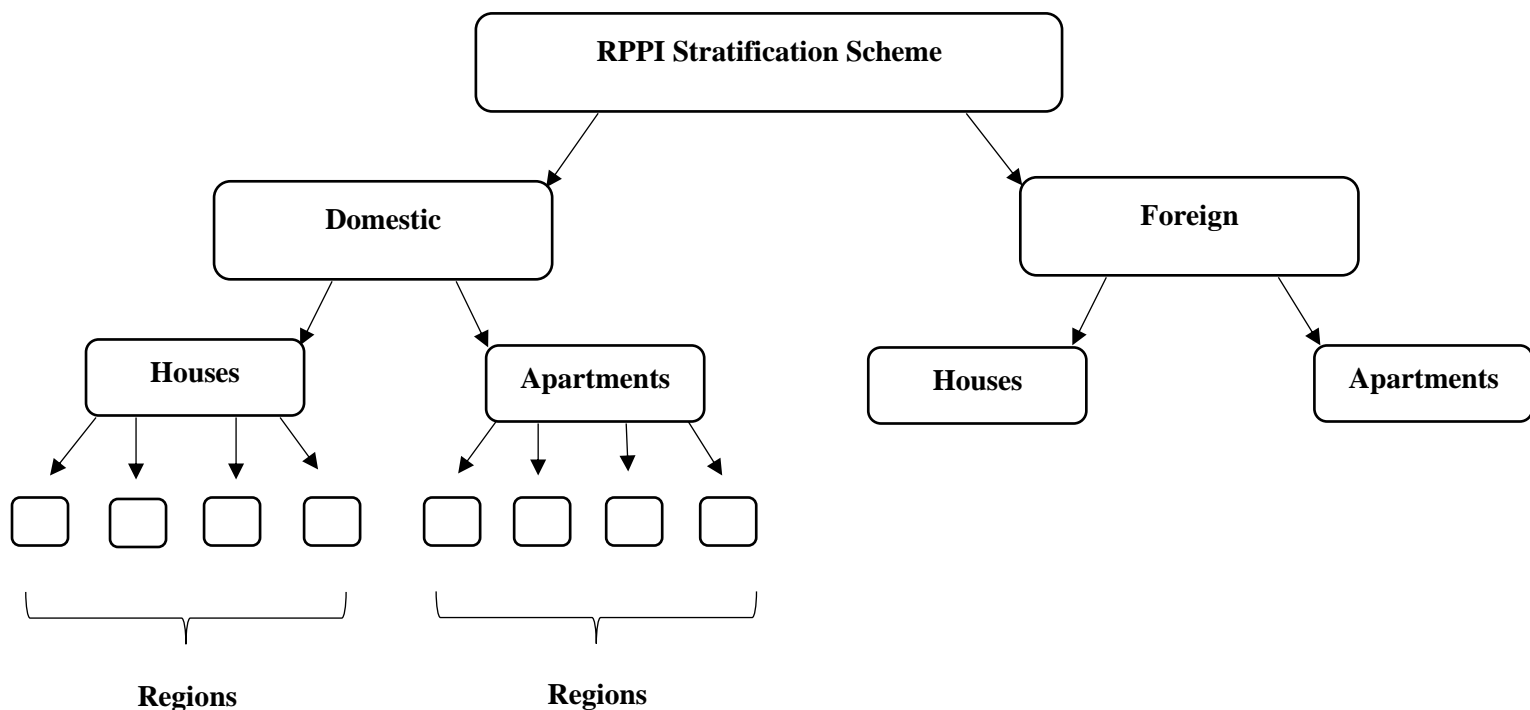
**(iii) Method**

The index is compiled using the *mix-adjustment-by-stratification* approach. The design of the index is based on three stratification levels, namely:

- (a) Domestic versus foreign transactions;
- (b) Property type (apartments versus houses);
- (c) Four regions, for which the different districts of Mauritius were combined as follows:
  - Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart;
  - Moka, Flacq, Grand Port, Savanne and Port Louis;
  - Plaines Wilhems;
  - Black River.

Sub-indices are compiled for each of these stratification levels and are then aggregated into the country-level RPPI.

The stratification scheme for the Residential Property Price Index is illustrated below:



**(iv) Weighting scheme**

The weights are based on the total value of transactions in year 2019 for each stratum.

**(v) Data source**

The index is compiled based on all transactions for apartments and houses for which the title deeds were registered at the Registrar General Department between Q1 2019 and Q4 2022.

#### **(vi) Calculation of the Residential Property Price Index**

The Residential Property Price Index is a weighted average of price relatives of houses and apartments, based on the modified Laspeyres formula:

$$I_t = \frac{\sum W_i (P_{it} / P_{i0}) \times 100}{\sum W_i}$$

where  $I_t$  = index for current period t

$P_{i0}$  = price per meter square of item i at base period 0 (Year 2019)

$P_{it}$  = price per meter square of item i at current period t

$W_i$  = weight of item i

At the level of individual items, the Jevons formula is used to calculate price relatives.

During the 2020 COVID pandemic, the sale of apartments dropped significantly in Mauritius, resulting in data gaps for some region-quarter combinations. In these cases, where the number of transactions for a region were too low for a particular quarter, data were imputed based on past trends as per the recommendations of an IMF expert.

#### **(vii) Special treatment**

Not all transaction data from the Registrar General Department have been used in the computation of the index. In cases where the transaction prices were not consistent with the other market transactions in the same stratum, they were treated as outliers and removed from the calculations.

#### **(viii) Limitations**

- a) The value of land could not be excluded from transactions where sales values cover both land and building.
- b) Currently, only the aggregated country-level RPPI for Mauritius is published.