

PROVISIONAL FIGURES OF POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS, DECEMBER 1989

N O T E S
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1. Sex ratio : The number of males to every 100 females
2. Natural increase : The excess of births over deaths
3. Crude birth rate : The number of live births in a year per 1,000 mid-year population
4. Crude death rate : The number of deaths in a year per 1,000 mid-year population
5. Infant mortality rate : The number of deaths in a year of an infant aged under one year per 1,000 live-births during the year
6. Still birth rate : The number of still births in a year per 1,000 total births (live births and still births) during the year
7. Marriage rate : The number of persons married in a year per 1,000 mid year population
8. Divorce rate : The number of persons divorced in a year per 1,000 mid year population

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A. Mauritius

The total population of Mauritius was estimated to be 1,085,570 at the end of December 1989, consisting of 1,047,532 for the main Island of Mauritius, 37,538 for the island of Rodrigues and around 500 for the outer islands. This represents an increase of less than one per cent over the corresponding figure of December 1988, when the population numbered 1,077,187. The population density per square kilometre stood at 562 persons for the island of Mauritius and 361 for Rodrigues, thus giving 532 persons per square kilometre for Mauritius as a whole.

B. Island of Mauritius

1. Population estimates, December 1989

The population of the island of Mauritius registered a growth of 0.7 per cent during 1989, reaching 1,047,532 compared to 1,040,222 in December 1988. It must be pointed out that the annual growth rate over the past six years has been about 1% except for 1988 when it was 2.0 per cent. This was due to an unusually high excess of arrivals over departures at the end of 1988, consisting mostly of foreign visitors.

The density of population is estimated at 562 persons per square kilometre.

In terms of sex, it is estimated that the population consisted of 517,538 males to 529,994 females at December 1989, giving a sex ratio of 97.6 for 1989, compared with 99.2 in 1988 and 100.2 in 1987.

2. Components of population growth

Table 3 shows the details of population growth during 1988 and 1989. The excess of births over deaths (the natural increase) amounted to 14,010 while net migration contributed to a decrease of 6,700 persons from Mauritius, thus reversing the trend of last year when a surplus of 7,240 arrivals was registered.

3. Vital Statistics

Births

Tables 4 and 5 give some main indicators and rates of vital statistics. The number of live births registered during the year 1989 was 20,956, that is 4.5 per cent more than that registered in 1988 (20,057). From the available data (table 6) it can also be seen that the number of live births registered monthly during 1989 was consistently higher (except for December) than the corresponding figures of 1988, thus raising the crude birth rate to 20.3 during 1989. It will be remembered that this ratio, which had been declining during the eighties to reach 18.3 in 1986, has been on the rise thereafter, attaining 19.1 in 1987 and 19.7 in 1988.

The general fertility rate, which is the number of live births per 1000 women aged 15-49 years, was 73.2 in 1989. This rate which had been consistently declining since 1979 started an upward trend in 1986, which it seems to be continuing, after reaching 69.4 in 1987 and 71.3 in 1988. The 1989 level represents an increase of 3 per cent over the previous year. In the absence of detailed information on birth by age of mother, it is not yet possible to say whether this is due to a real increase in fertility or to other factors such as changes in the relative number of women in the various child bearing age-groups.

Deaths

A total of 6,946 deaths were registered during the year 1989 as against 6,699 in 1988, that is an increase of 3.7%. The crude death rate registered a slight increase from 6.6 in 1988 to 6.7 in 1989.

The number of infant deaths registered during the year 1989 was 449, almost the same as in 1988. Coupled with an increased number of live births, this yielded an infant mortality rate for 1989 of 21.4, the lowest ever recorded.

Still Births

The number of still births reported during the year 1989 was 399. Compared to the corresponding figure of 351 reported last year. This was a considerable increase of 14 per cent, which brought up the still birth rate to 18.7 from 17.2 registered the year before

Marriages

The year 1989 saw a slight decrease in the number of marriages which from 11,283 in 1988, fell to 11,045. From the available data (table 6) it can also be seen that the number of marriages registered during each of the months of the second semester was lower than the recorded number during the corresponding months of 1988. After an increase of 3 per cent in the first semester a decrease of 6 per cent is noted in the second semester, giving a marriage rate of 21.4, as compared to 22.2 in 1988.

Divorces

The number of divorces granted in 1989 fell from 740 in 1988 to 711. The divorce rate, expressed as the number of divorces per one thousand total population, has thus declined from 1.5 in 1988 to 1.4 in 1989.

C. Island of Rodrigues

1. Population estimates, December 1989

The population of the island of Rodrigues, as at 31st December 1989 was 37,538, as compared to 36,465 the year before. This increase of 2.9 per cent was due both to a net gain in inward migration (excess of arrivals over departures (+ 409) and an excess of births over deaths (+ 664). Unlike the island of Mauritius, the male population of the island of Rodrigues exceeds the female population, giving a sex ratio of 107.2 in 1989 - a further step in the upward movement of this ratio, which was 105.0 the year before.

2. Vital events

In the light of table 9, the number of registered vital events for 1989, except for deaths, were all lower than those reported in 1988.

Comparing the figures for the year 1989 to 1988, the number of live births decreased from 884 to 867 while that of deaths increased from 180 to 203. The number of marriages registered fell from 170 to 157.

One important change among vital events was the high number of infant deaths, particularly during the first semester of the year 1989. Compared to 1988 the figure (30) reached (47) in 1989 which caused the infant mortality rate to rise to 54.2. This was due to the cases of bronchiolitis or broncho pneumonia notified during early 1989, particularly during the month of March.

Among the vital events, a significant decrease was observed in still births. In fact the number fell from 23 in 1988 to 16 in 1989. After having risen continuously since 1984 the still birth rate fell in 1988 to 21.6 and again in 1989 to an even lower rate (18.1).

Central Statistical Office
Port Louis

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Table 1 - Estimated total population of Mauritius as at 31st December 1989^{1/}
based on the 1983 Population Census data

Island	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex Ratio	Area	Density
					Km ²	Persons per Km ²
Island of Mauritius	1,047,532	517,538	529,994	97.6	1,864.8	562
Island of Rodrigues	37,538	19,419	18,119	107.2	104.0	361
Other islands	500	350	150	233.3	71.2	7
Mauritius	1,085,570	537,307	548,263	98.0	2,040.0	532

Table 2 - Estimated total population by sex, island of Mauritius,
1987 - 1989 (End of year estimates)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Both sexes</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Sex Ratio</u>	<u>Density/Km²</u>
1987	1,019,624	510,388	509,236	100.2	547
1988	1,040,222	518,328	521,894	99.3	558
1989 ^{1/}	1,047,532	517,538	529,994	97.6	562

Table 3 - Components of population growth, Island of Mauritius, 1988 and 1989

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
Population as at beginning of year	1,019,624	1,040,222
Live births	20,057	20,956
Deaths	6,699	6,946
Natural increase	<u>+13,358</u>	<u>+14,010</u>
Arrivals	343,940	379,800
Departures	336,700	386,500
Net migration	<u>+7,240</u>	<u>-6,700</u>
Population as at end of year	<u>1,040,222</u>	<u>1,047,532</u>

^{1/} provisional

Table 4 - Vital Statistics, Island of Mauritius, 1987 - 1989

	1987	1988	1989 ^{1/}
Mid year population	1,003,794	1,016,596	1,031,443
Live births	19,151	20,057	20,956
Deaths	6,581	6,699	6,946
Natural increase	12,570	13,358	14,010
Marriages	11,201	11,283	11,045
Divorces	842	740	711
Infant Deaths	463	441	449
Still births	344	351	399

^{1/} provisional

Table 5 - Vital Statistics rates, Island of Mauritius, 1987 - 1989

	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989^{1/}</u>
Crude birth rate	19.1	19.7	20.3
Crude death rate	6.6	6.6	6.7
Rate of natural increase	12.5	13.1	13.6
Crude Marriage Rate	22.3	22.2	21.4
Crude Divorce Rate	1.7	1.5	1.4
Infant Mortality Rate	24.2	22.0	21.4
Still birth rate	17.6	17.2	18.7

^{1/} provisional

Table 6 - Vital Statistics by month of registration, Island of Mauritius,
1988 - 1989

<u>Month/Year</u>	<u>Live births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Marriages</u>	<u>Infant Deaths</u>	<u>Still births</u>
January	1,627	617	752	36	35
February	1,537	494	669	37	28
March	1,754	534	743	49	28
April	1,653	460	947	27	24
May	1,670	511	888	43	26
June	1,649	572	930	34	32
July	1,581	622	935	46	29
August	1,776	632	1,038	38	29
September	1,678	572	872	36	32
October	1,806	611	1,108	35	27
November	1,646	548	1,183	30	30
<u>December</u>	<u>1,680</u>	<u>526</u>	<u>1,218</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>
<u>Year 1988</u>	<u>20,057</u>	<u>6,699</u>	<u>11,283</u>	<u>441</u>	<u>351</u>
January	1,729	563	741	45	31
February	1,601	472	704	48	32
March	1,904	528	798	32	41
April	1,704	542	898	40	21
May	1,881	575	947	35	39
June	1,699	597	973	34	46
July	1,752	628	870	34	27
August	1,829	640	967	39	27
September	1,740	683	834	37	36
October	1,898	608	1,011	33	35
November	1,655	565	1,131	39	35
<u>December</u>	<u>1,564</u>	<u>545</u>	<u>1,171</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>29</u>
<u>Year 1989 ^{1/}</u>	<u>20,956</u>	<u>6,946</u>	<u>11,045</u>	<u>449</u>	<u>399</u>

^{1/} provisional

Table 7 - Estimated total population by sex, Island of Rodrigues.

1987 - 1989 (End-of-year estimates)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Both Sexes</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Sex Ratio</u>	<u>Density/ Km²</u>
1987	36,743	18,747	17,996	104.2	353
1988	36,465	18,674	17,791	105.0	351
1989 ^{1/}	37,538	19,419	18,119	107.2	361

^{1/} provisional

Table 8 - Components of Population Growth, Island of Rodrigues, 1988 & 1989

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
Population at beginning of year	36,743	36,465
Live births	884	867
Deaths	180	203
Natural increase	<u>+704</u>	<u>+664</u>
Arrivals	9,146	11,501
Departures	10,128	11,092
Net migration	<u>-982</u>	<u>+409</u>
Population at end of year	<u><u>36,465</u></u>	<u><u>37,538</u></u>

^{1/} provisional

Table 9 - Vital Statistics, Island of Rodrigues, 1987 - 1989

	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u> ^{1/}
Mid year population	36,537	36,485	37,046
Live births	882	884	867
Deaths	172	180	203
Natural increase	710	704	664
Marriages	191	170	157
Infant deaths	41	30	47
Still births	19	23	16

1/ provisional

Table 10 - Vital Statistics rates ^{1/}, Island of Rodrigues, 1987 - 1989

	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
Crude birth rate	24.7	24.1	23.4
Crude death rate	4.9	5.1	5.5
Rate of natural increase	19.8	19.0	17.9
Crude marriage rate	10.6	9.5	8.5
Infant mortality rate	42.4	44.8	54.2
Still birth rate	23.4	21.6	18.1

1/ because of the small number of events, the rates have been calculated by taking the average for three years and dividing by the midperiod population

2/ based on events for the year 1989 only

Table 11 - Vital statistics by month of registration, Island of Rodrigues,
1988 and 1989

<u>Month/Year</u>	<u>Live births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Marriages</u>	<u>Infant Deaths</u>	<u>Still births</u>
January	66	21	6	4	1
February	71	16	10	1	2
March	74	13	10	3	2
April	67	16	22	2	3
May	80	5	5	1	-
June	72	17	9	2	3
July	60	13	19	2	2
August	85	8	19	2	3
September	92	18	10	5	3
October	81	13	14	1	1
November	65	23	30	7	2
<u>December</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Year 1988</u>	<u>884</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>23</u>
January	86	16	10	3	1
February	68	13	7	5	1
March	73	26	3	10	-
April	84	9	18	2	-
May	98	25	17	7	2
June	68	18	13	5	1
July	72	17	13	2	4
August	55	17	19	4	-
September	46	13	13	3	2
October	76	13	17	1	3
November	74	20	15	4	2
<u>December</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Year 1989^{1/}</u>	<u>867</u>	<u>203</u>	<u>157</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>16</u>

^{1/} provisional