

## **Road Transport and Road Traffic Accident Statistics**

### **Year 1997**

#### **1.1 Vehicles registered as at December 1997 (Island of Mauritius)**

Data on registration of vehicles at the National Transport Authority shows that in 1997 the fleet increased by some 10,600 or 5.3 % over 1996. At December 1997, the size of the fleet had attained 210,900 and its composition by type of vehicles stood as follows: 105,400 or 50 % were motorcycles and autocycles; 75,400 or 36 %, cars and dual purpose vehicles, and the remaining 14 % comprised 12,470 vans, 9,350 lorries, 2,350 buses and 5,900 other vehicles.

#### **1.2 Net addition during 1997 (Table 1.1)**

Between January and December 1997, some 14,700 vehicles were registered, consisting of 9,400 new, 2,300 imported second-hand vehicles and 3,000 re-registered. However during the same period about 4,100 vehicles were put off the road, which brought the net additions to the fleet to 10,600.

#### **1.3 Vehicle used for the transport of passengers**

The fleet of cars and dual purpose vehicles (dpv's) increased by 5,500 or 7.9% to reach 75,400 in 1997. During the year, some 6,000 cars and dual purpose vehicles were registered, around 1,000 were re registered and 1,500 were put off the road.

Of the 6,000 registered, 3,900 were new and 2,100 imported second-hand vehicles. Comparative figures for 1996 are 2,700 new and 2,400 imported second-hand vehicles.

Table 1.3 on the age composition of cars and dual purpose vehicles shows that 36% of the fleet were under 5 years, 28% between 5 and 10 and the remaining 36% were above 10 years.

As regards the fleet of public buses, that is, those operating with a Road Service License, there were 1,755 operational. The age distribution was as follows: 40 % of the buses were under 5 years, 40 % between 5 and 10 and 20%, 10 years and over. (Table 1.4)

## **2.1 Road accidents**

The number of road accidents reported at police stations increased from 14,845 in 1996 to 15,954 in 1997. This 7.5% increase compares with a 1.1% increase in 1996. Accidents with injuries increased by around 4%, while "non injury" accidents, by 8.4% (Table 2.1).

Consequently, the rate of accidents per 100,000 population went up from 1,351 to 1,434. The rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles increased from 77 to 78.

## **2.2 Motor vehicles involved in accidents (Table 2.3)**

There were 28,561 motor vehicles involved in the road accidents showing an increase by 2,291 or 8.7% over 1996. Private cars alone accounted for about 45% of the vehicles involved while autocycles and motorcycles, 14%, vans, 16% and the remaining 25% were other types of vehicles.

## **2.3 Casualties**

However, the number of casualties reported (3,755) remained almost at the same level as that of the previous year. The main reason could be the high number of non-injury accidents. Out of these 3,755 casualties, 146 were fatal, 261 involved serious injuries and the remaining 3,348 only slight injuries. Consequently, there has been a decrease in both the fatality rates per 100,000 population (from 13.9 in 1996 to 13.1 in 1997) and per 1,000 registered vehicles (from 0.8 in 1996 to 0.7 in 1997).

The most vulnerable class of road users were once again riders of autocycles and motorcycles with 31% of casualties followed closely by pedestrians, 28 %.

## **2.4 Hit and run cases**

Out of the 334 hit and run cases reported at police stations in 1997, 69 involved vehicles and pedestrians and the remaining 151, vehicles only.

Central Statistical Office

Ministry of Economic Development and Regional Cooperation

Port Louis

June, 1998

# Definitions and General Notes

## A. Vehicle Statistics:

1. Data refer to all vehicles registered at the National Transport Authority. Pedal cycles are therefore excluded.
2. The classification of vehicles used in this report, follows the definition given in Section 4 of the Road Traffic Act of 1962.
3. **Vehicles include:**
  - (a) **motor vehicles**, that is, power-driven vehicles normally used for carrying persons or goods by road or for drawing vehicles used for carrying persons or goods. Examples are car, dual purpose vehicle, heavy motor car, motor cycle, lorry, van, bus, tractor, etc.and
  - (b) **non-motorised vehicles**, for example trailer.
4. Definition of some type of vehicles according to the Road Traffic Act 1962.
  - (a) **Motor cycle**

A motor cycle is a mechanically propelled vehicle, other than an autocycle or a vehicle classified as an invalid carriage, with not more than four wheels and whose unladen weight does not exceed 400 kilograms.

**(b) Autocycle**

An autocycle is a two wheeled motor vehicle, with or without pedals, whose engine capacity does not exceed 50 cubic centimetres.

**(c) Heavy motor car**

A heavy motor car is a vehicle of the bus type designed to carry passengers but not for hire or reward.

**(d) Dual purpose vehicle**

A dual purpose vehicle is essentially a car but it is so designed to be capable of carrying a certain load of goods.

**B. Road Traffic Accident Statistics:**

1. **Accidents** refer to all road accidents as reported at police stations.
2. **Casualties** refer to the total number of fatalities and persons injured as a result of road accidents.
3. **Fatality:** Death occurring within seven days as a result of the accident.
4. **Seriously injured:** Fracture, concussion, internal crushing, severe cut and laceration, severe general shock requiring medical treatment.
5. **Slightly injured:** Secondary injuries such as sprain, bruises and cuts not judged to be severe.

**Table 1.1 - Registration of Vehicles in 1997**

Type of vehicle	No. of Vehicles at 31.12.96	Imported Vehicles		Re - Registered Vehicles	Vehicles off the Road <sup>1</sup>	No. of Vehicles at 31.12.97	Net Addition in 1997
		New	Used				
Car	45,563	2,141	1,188	667	1,169	48,390	+ ( 2,827 )
Dual Purpose Vehicle	24,382	1,758	867	345	302	27,050	+ ( 2,668 )
Motor Cycle	22,229	768	16	362	536	22,839	+ ( 610 )
Auto Cycle	79,524	3,235	8	1,211	1,411	82,567	+ ( 3,043 )
Lorry and Truck	9,058	218	99	170	189	9,356	+ ( 298 )
Van	11,434	1,029	84	139	217	12,469	+ ( 1,035 )
Bus	2,348	110	--	2	101	2,359	+ ( 11 )
Other	5,782	163	31	85	169	5,892	+ ( 110 )
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>200,320</b>	<b>9,422</b>	<b>2,293</b>	<b>2,981</b>	<b>4,094</b>	<b>210,922</b>	<b>+ (10,602)</b>

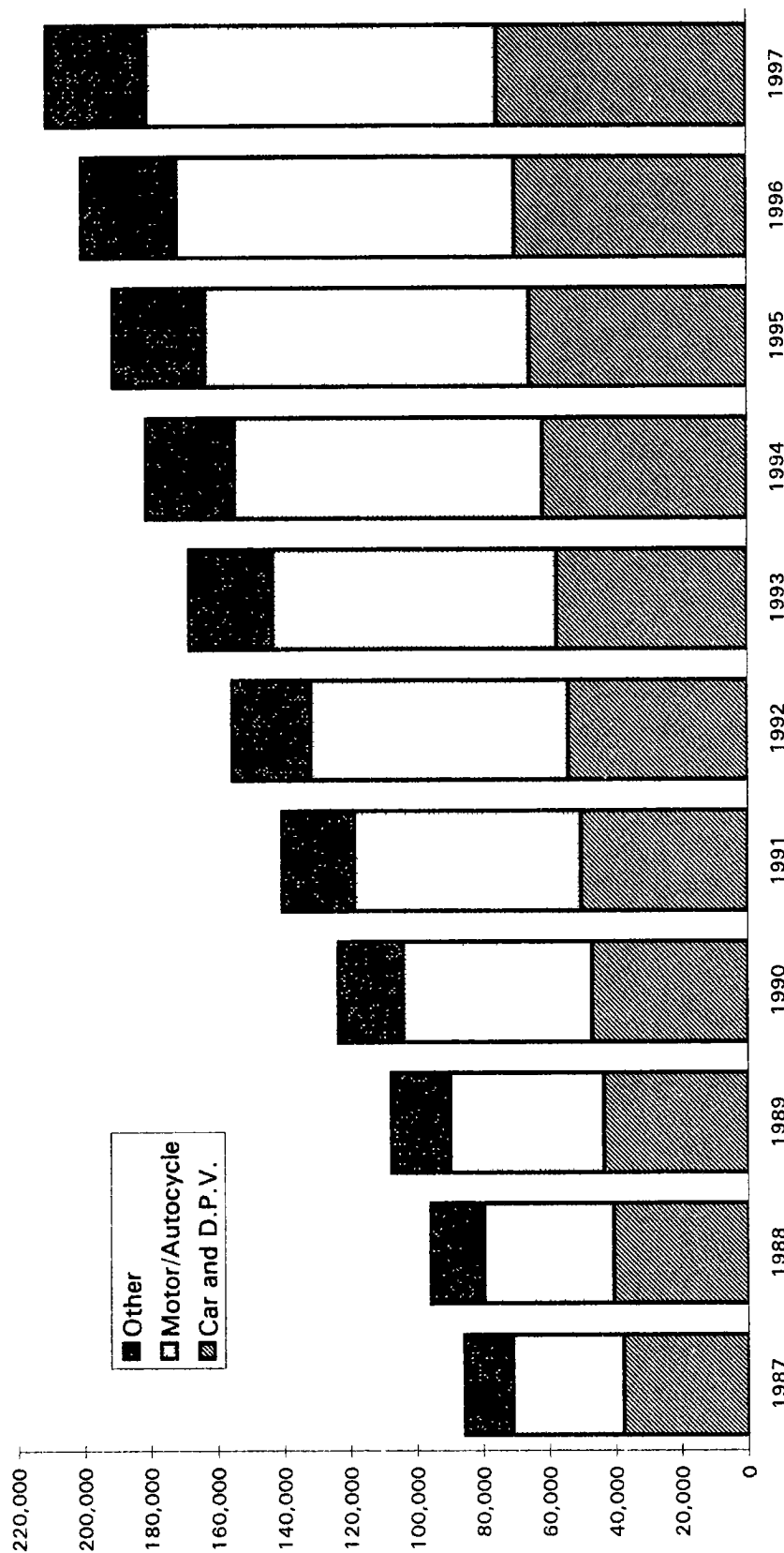
<sup>1</sup> Unlicensed either temporarily or permanently

**Table 1.2 - Vehicles<sup>1</sup> registered , 1987 - 1997**

Type of vehicle	Number										
	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Car ( of which Taxi Car )	28,337 (3,358)	30,283 (3,423)	31,919 (3,464)	33,916 (3,715)	35,673 (3,965)	37,696 (4,014)	39,511 (4,050)	41,355 (4,311)	43,288 (4,439)	45,563 (4,673)	48,390 (4,721)
Dual Purpose Vehicle	9,207	10,283	11,460	12,877	14,343	16,246	17,882	20,023	22,086	24,382	27,050
Heavy Motor Car	454	517	624	695	766	799	826	848	898	922	934
Motor Cycle	9,436	9,912	10,560	11,937	14,740	16,880	18,829	20,461	21,492	22,230	22,839
Auto Cycle	24,124	29,181	35,844	45,157	53,834	60,859	66,711	72,509	76,317	79,524	82,567
Lorry & Truck	5,057	5,534	5,906	6,564	7,226	7,776	8,166	8,559	8,815	9,058	9,356
Van	4,115	4,788	5,600	6,637	7,602	8,749	9,663	10,292	10,851	11,434	12,469
Bus	1,529	1,771	1,858	1,929	2,021	2,097	2,217	2,276	2,362	2,348	2,359
Tractor & Dumper	1,940	2,013	2,078	2,156	2,274	2,356	2,413	2,478	2,546	2,580	2,615
Prime Mover	145	164	182	185	197	212	228	249	256	262	278
Trailer	1,039	1,083	1,151	1,155	1,231	1,288	1,333	1,428	1,534	1,597	1,640
Road Roller	87	101	98	94	96	100	106	106	107	106	108
Other	207	210	233	243	251	262	273	300	315	314	317
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>85,677</b>	<b>95,840</b>	<b>107,513</b>	<b>123,545</b>	<b>140,254</b>	<b>155,320</b>	<b>168,158</b>	<b>180,884</b>	<b>190,867</b>	<b>200,320</b>	<b>210,922</b>
<i>Index</i>	100	112	125	144	164	181	196	211	223	234	246

<sup>1</sup> Excluding pedal cycles , but including government vehicles

Fig. 1.1 - Stock of registered vehicles, 1987 - 1997

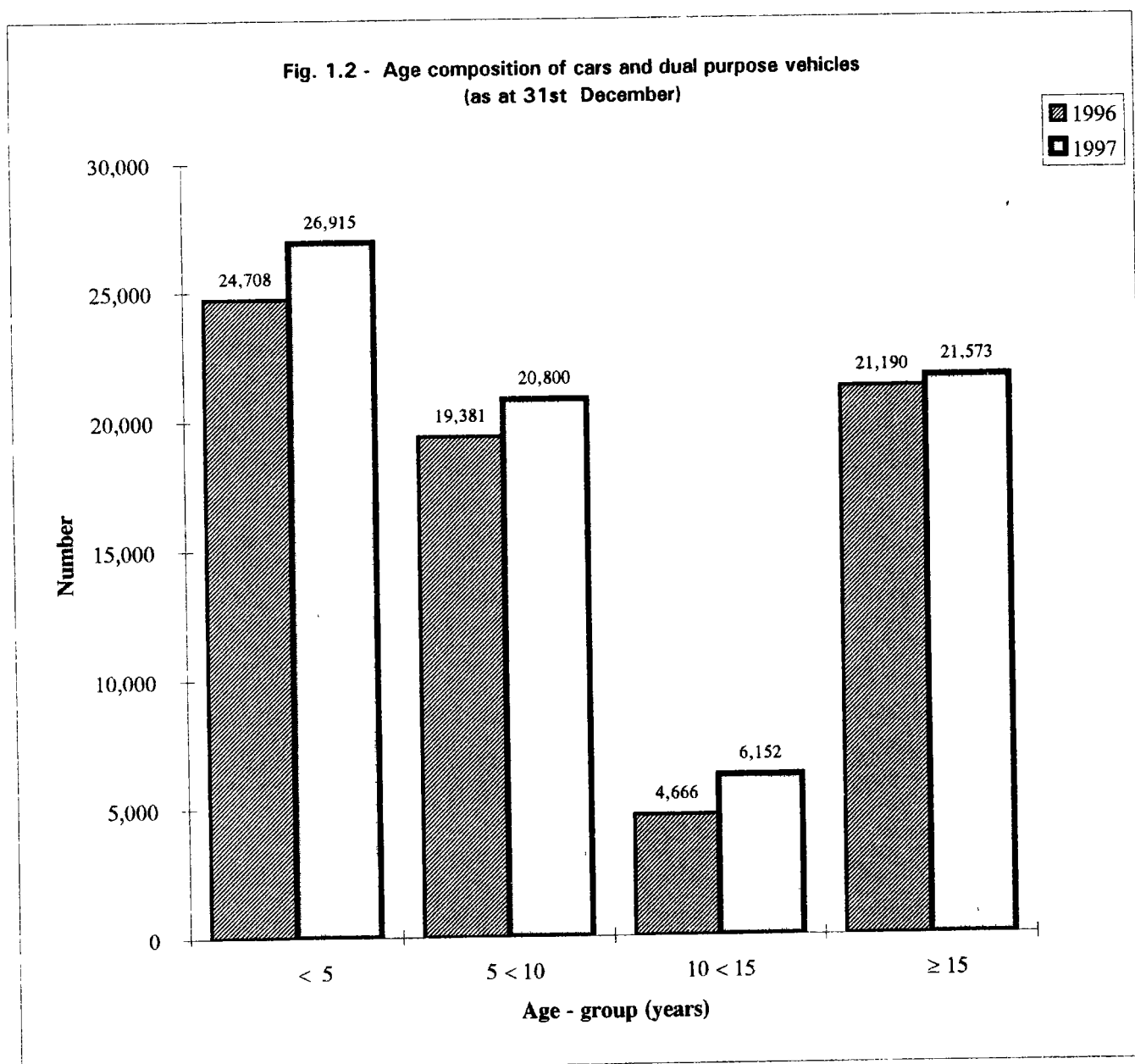


Type of vehicle	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Car and Dual Purpose Vehicle	37,544	40,566	43,379	46,793	50,016	53,942	57,393	61,378	65,374	69,945	75,440
Motor cycle and autocycle	33,560	39,093	46,404	57,094	68,574	77,739	85,540	92,970	97,809	101,754	105,406
Other	14,573	16,181	17,730	19,658	21,664	23,639	25,225	26,536	27,684	28,621	30,076
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>85,677</b>	<b>95,840</b>	<b>107,513</b>	<b>123,545</b>	<b>140,254</b>	<b>155,320</b>	<b>168,158</b>	<b>180,884</b>	<b>190,867</b>	<b>200,320</b>	<b>210,922</b>



**Table 1.3 - Age composition of cars and dual purpose vehicles , 1996 - 1997**

Age group (Years)	as at 31st December 1996		as at 31st December 1997	
	Number	%	Number	%
< 5	24,708	35	26,915	36
5 < 10	19,381	28	20,800	28
10 < 15	4,666	7	6,152	7
≥ 15	21,190	30	21,573	29
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69,945</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>75,440</b>	<b>100</b>

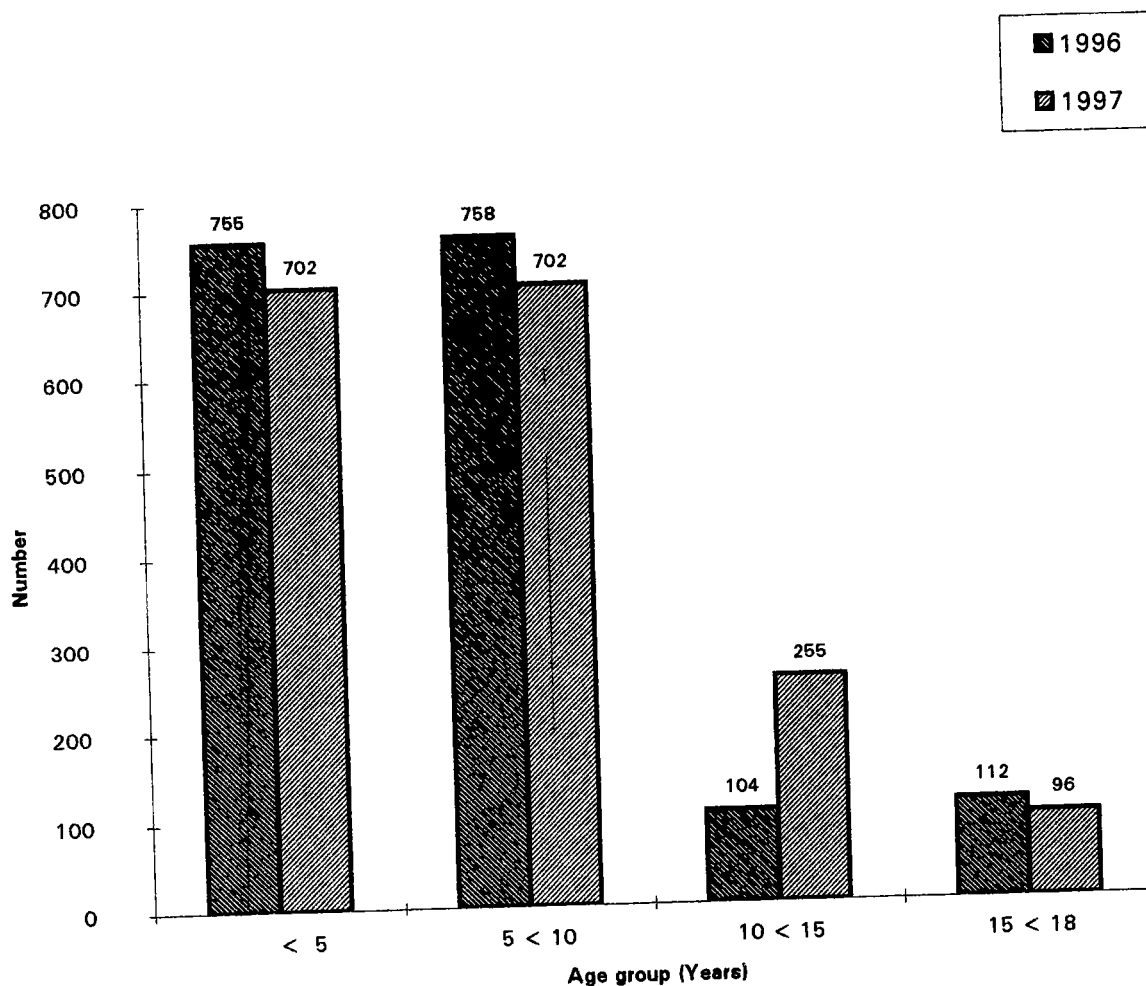


**Table 1.4 - Age composition of operational bus fleet <sup>1</sup>, 1996 - 1997**

Age group (Years)	as at 31st December 1996		as at 31st December 1997	
	Number	%	Number	%
< 5	755	44	702	40
5 < 10	758	44	702	40
10 < 15	104	6	255	15
15 < 18	112	6	96	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1,755</b>	<b>100</b>

<sup>1</sup> Refers only to buses with a Road Service Licence, i.e, buses which operate on proclaimed routes and charge individual fares

**Fig. 1.3 - Age composition of operational bus fleet vehicles  
(as at 31st December)**



**Table 2.1 - Comparison of Road Traffic Accidents<sup>1</sup>, 1996 - 1997**

	1996	1997	Change	
			Number	%
<b>1. Road Traffic Accidents</b>				
Number of accidents	14,845	15,954	1,109	7.5
<i>Fatal accident</i>	138	132	-- 6	- 4.3
<i>Serious injury accident</i>	176	184	8	4.5
<i>Slight injury accident</i>	2,469	2,563	94	3.8
<i>Non injury accident</i>	12,062	13,075	1,013	8.4
Rate per 100,000 population	1,351	1,434	N.A <sup>2</sup>	N.A <sup>2</sup>
Rate per 1,000 registered motor-vehicles	77	78	N.A <sup>2</sup>	N.A <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Motor-vehicles involved</b>				
Number of vehicles involved	26,270	28,561	2,291	8.7
Rate per 1,000 registered motor-vehicles	135	139	N.A <sup>2</sup>	N.A <sup>2</sup>
<b>3. Casualties</b>				
Total number of casualties	3,774	3,755	-19	- 0.5
Fatal (Killed)	153	146	-7	- 4.6
Seriously injured	238	261	23	9.7
Slightly injured	3,383	3,348	-35	- 1.0

<sup>1</sup> Exclude number of accidents involving bicycles only

<sup>2</sup> N.A : Not applicable

Fig. 2.1 - Evolution of vehicles registered, 1987 - 1997

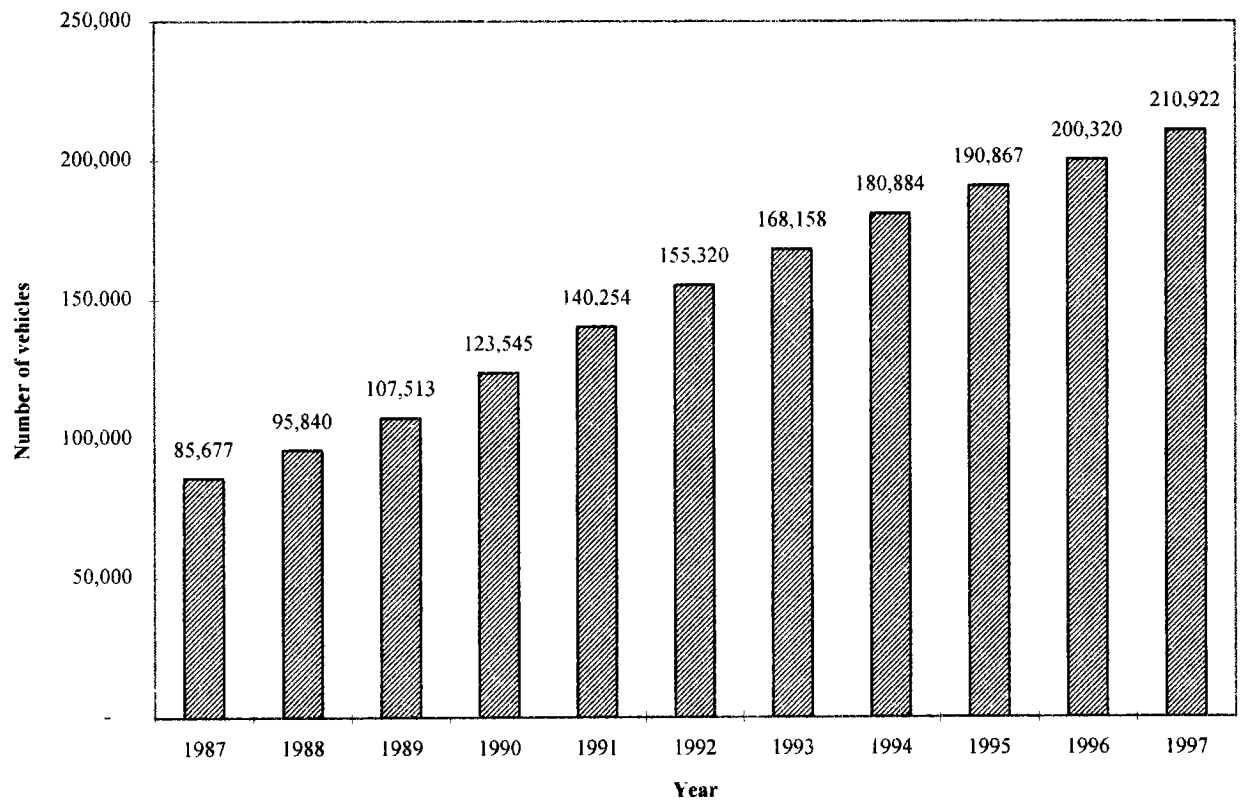


Fig. 2.2 - Evolution of road accidents, 1987 - 1997

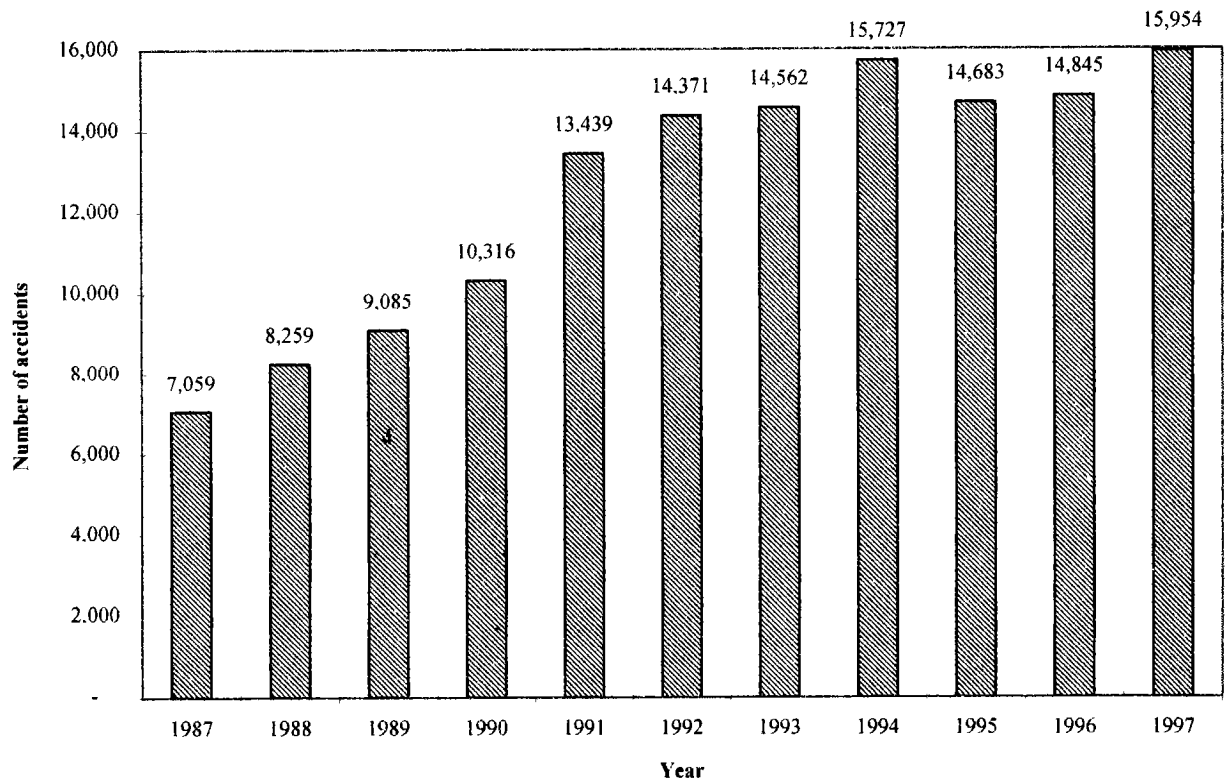


Table 2.2 - Road traffic accidents <sup>1</sup> and casualties, 1987 - 1997

	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>
<b>1. Road traffic accidents :</b>											
Number	7,059	8,259	9,085	10,316	13,439	14,371	14,562	15,727	14,683	14,845	15,954
Rate per 100,000 population	703	812	893	1,007	1,297	1,369	1,378	1,459	1,350	1,351	1,434
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	87	91	89	90	102	97	91	91	78	77	78
<b>2. Motor vehicles involved:</b>											
Number	11,869	14,153	15,489	17,562	22,835	24,549	25,240	27,203	25,584	26,270	28,561
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	147	156	152	153	173	166	156	156	137	135	139
<b>3. Casualties:</b>											
Total number of casualties	3,294	3,004	3,141	3,575	4,025	4,395	4,160	3,947	3,586	3,774	3,755
Fatal	112	122	130	144	168	119	157	154	173	153	146
Seriously injured	255	282	250	315	296	378	322	330	280	238	261
Slightly injured	2,927	2,600	2,761	3,116	3,561	3,898	3,681	3,463	3,133	3,383	3,348
<b>4. Fatality :</b>											
Rate per 100,000 population	11.2	12.0	12.6	13.9	16.2	11.3	14.8	14.3	15.9	13.9	13.1
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicle	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7
Index <sup>2</sup>	3.4	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.2	2.7	3.8	3.9	4.8	4.1	3.9

<sup>1</sup> Exclude number of accidents involving bicycles only

<sup>2</sup> Fatality index is the ratio of the number of fatalities to the total number of casualties expressed as a percentage

**Table 2.3 - Vehicles<sup>1</sup> involved by type, 1996 - 1997**

Type of vehicle	1996			1997		
	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Year	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Year
	Number	Number	%	Number	Number	%
Private car	5,739	6,175	44.7	6,164	6,960	45.2
Taxi car	1,152	1,288	9.2	1,187	1,354	8.8
Bus	995	1,001	7.5	1,010	1,158	7.5
Lorry	670	888	5.8	739	1,054	6.2
Van	1,824	2,110	14.8	2,131	2,450	15.8
Motor/Auto cycle	2,161	2,054	15.8	1,936	2,165	14.1
Pedal cycle	204	123	1.2	212	198	1.4
Other motor vehicle	75	138	0.7	107	146	0.9
Other non motor vehicle	30	36	0.3	16	17	0.1
<b>All vehicles</b>	<b>12,850</b>	<b>13,813</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13,502</b>	<b>15,502</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Only three main vehicles have been considered in accidents involving more than three vehicles

**Table 2.4 - Casualties by class of road users, 1996 - 1997**

Class of Road users	1996				1997			
	Jan. - Jun	Jul. - Dec.	Year		Jan. - Jun	Jul. - Dec.	Year	
	Number	Number	Number	%	Number	Number	Number	%
<b>Pedestrian</b>	503	554	1,057	28.0	481	573	1,054	28.1
<b>Passenger</b>	337	653	990	26.2	380	441	821	21.9
<b>Driver</b>	131	177	308	8.2	146	227	373	9.9
<b>Rider (Auto / Motor Cycle)</b>	561	586	1,147	30.4	558	626	1,184	31.5
<b>Pedal cyclist</b>	144	128	272	7.2	164	159	323	8.6
<b>All road users</b>	<b>1,676</b>	<b>2,098</b>	<b>3,774</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>2,026</b>	<b>3,755</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 2.5 - Total number of accidents involving hit and run cases, 1996 - 1997**

Period  Accidents	1996				1997			
	Jan. - Jun	Jul. - Dec.	Year		Jan. - Jun	Jul. - Dec.	Year	
	Number	Number	Number	%	Number	Number	Number	%
<b>Vehicles v/s pedestrian</b>	33	26	59	20.0	32	37	69	20.7
<b>Vehicles v/s vehicles</b>	117	119	236	80.0	114	151	265	79.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Fig. 2.3 - Vehicles involved in accidents by type, 1996 - 1997

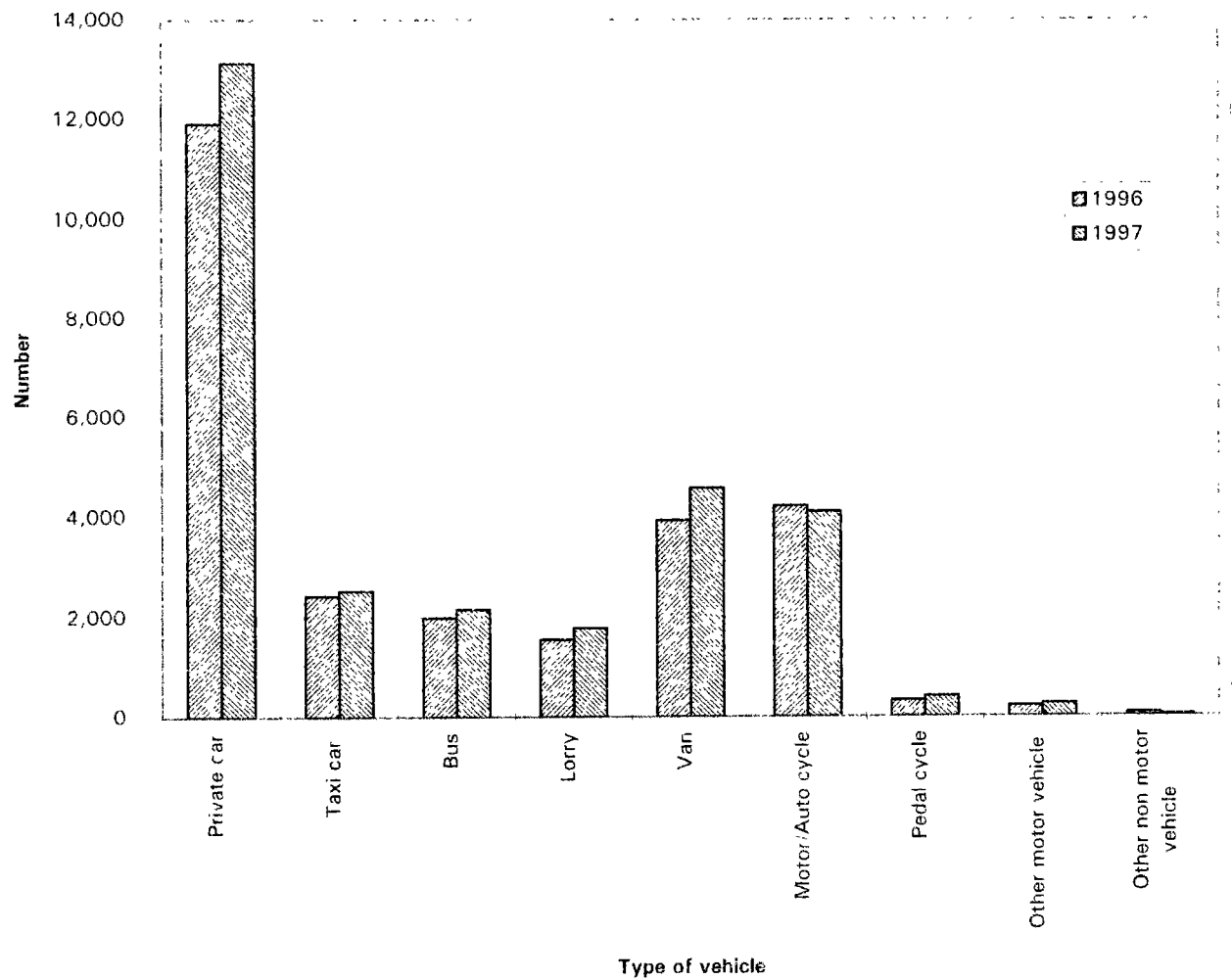


Fig. 2.4 - Casualties by class of road users, 1997

