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- 1.↔ SOCIAL SECURITY STATISTICS  
1992/93 - 1997/98**
  
- 2.↔ POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS  
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**MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTIVITY  
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PORT LOUIS  
MAURITIUS**

# SOCIAL SECURITY STATISTICS

## 1992/93 - 1997/98

### Introduction

This is the third issue of 'Economic and Social Indicators' on Social Security Statistics. It presents data on the main social security benefits provided by the Ministry of Social Security and National Solidarity for the period June 1993 - June 1998. Data on the number of beneficiaries refer to the last month of each financial year whereas the amount paid is given for each financial year.

### 2. Social Security benefits

Social Security benefits can be classified as : non-contributory or contributory.

Non-contributory benefits are entirely financed by government and are payable to every Mauritian citizen under certain conditions. These benefits include

- basic pensions which cater for the elderly, invalids, widows and orphans irrespective of their economic status.
- allowances such as Social Aid, Food Aid, Unemployment Hardship Relief, Family Allowance and Funeral Grant which are payable to the low-income group of the population.
- Inmates Allowance and Indoor Relief payable to, or on behalf of, those Mauritians residing in government-subsidized institutions (such as old-people homes, infirmaries and orphanages) provided they would have otherwise benefited from a basic pension or from Social Aid.

Contributory benefits, on the other hand, are payable only to, or on behalf of, those persons (mainly employees of the private sector) who have paid contributions to the National Pension Fund (NPF). The contributory pensions include old-age, invalidity, widows' and orphans' pensions in addition to industrial injury allowances.

The pension rates for non-contributory benefits are given in the annex. In the case of contributory benefits, the allowances payable vary according to the amount contributed to the NPF by the insured worker. For those persons whose contributions were marginal, government guarantees a minimum contributory pension.

### **3. Population age-structure**

The mid-year population of the Republic of Mauritius increased from 1,097,305 in 1993 to 1,159,729 in 1998 (Table 1). The breakdown by age (Table 2), shows that the child population aged below 15 years has decreased from 315,855 (29% of the total) to 303,837 (26% of the total) over the period. The elderly population aged 60 years and above, on the other hand, has increased from 91,248 (8% of the total) to 101,274 (9% of the total). It is to be noted that these estimates, computed by the Central Statistical Office on the basis of the latest Census, differ from the number of persons reported by the Ministry of Social Security as drawing the old-age pension (95,240 in June 1993 and 108,775 in June 1998). This discrepancy may be due to various reasons, such as misreporting of age at the Population Census and delays in updating the list of old-age pensioners to account for death.

Table 3 gives the number of widows by age as reported at the 1990 Census. 46,757 widows were enumerated at that time, among whom 17,807 were in the age bracket 15-59 years i.e. eligible for Basic Widow's Pension. The proportion of the female population aged 15 years and over who were widowed in 1990 was 12.5%.

### **4. Expenditure on Social Security and Welfare**

Government expenditure on Social Security has been increasing over time both in actual amount and in percentage terms. During the financial year 1992/93, expenditure on Social Security was Rs 1,970.1 million representing 16% of total government expenditure. Five years later, during 1997/98, the amount increased to Rs 4,421.5 million or 21% of the total as shown in Table 4.

## 5. Non-contributory benefits

### 5.1 Basic pensions

#### *(a) Old-age pension*

Old-age pension, also known as Basic Retirement Pension, is payable to every Mauritian citizen aged 60 years and above. In the Republic, the number of old-age pensioners increased gradually from 95,240 in June 1993 to 108,775 in June 1998. For the island of Mauritius, the figure increased from 92,950 in June 1993 to 106,004 in June 1998, while in Rodrigues the increase was from 2,290 to 2,771 during the same period.

The Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension is an additional allowance payable to old-age pensioners who are severely disabled, i.e. who are either

- i. totally blind, or
- ii. suffer from total paralysis, or
- iii. need the constant care of another person

As shown in Table 5.1(a), the number of persons eligible for the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension in June 1998 was 11,253, of whom 10,805 were in the island of Mauritius (Table 5.2 a) and 448 in Rodrigues (Table 5.3a).

The total amount disbursed by government to all old-age pensioners in the Republic was Rs 1,764.7 million in 1997/98 as compared to Rs 758.4 million in 1992/93 (Table 5.1b).

#### *(b) Basic Widow's Pension*

Basic Widow's Pension is payable to widows aged 15-59 years who were either civilly or religiously married to their late husband. The number of beneficiaries of Basic Widow's Pension has increased from 19,198 in June 1993 to 20,795 in June 1998 for the Republic. During the same period the increase for the island of Mauritius was from 18,877 to 20,459 and for Rodrigues from 321 to 336.

The total amount of Basic Widow's Pension paid was Rs 366.5 million in 1997/98 against Rs 158.0 million in 1992/93 (Table 5.1b).

***(c) Basic Invalid Pension***

The Basic Invalid Pension is payable to any person aged between 15 and 59 years if it is certified by a Medical Board that the person is either permanently or substantially incapacitated to work to a degree of at least 60% for at least 12 months. The number of beneficiaries of Basic Invalid Pension was also on the increase - from 14,825 in June 1993 to 17,506 in June 1998 for the Republic. Out of the latter some 17,031 beneficiaries were in the main island of Mauritius and 475 in Rodrigues.

Recipients of Basic Invalidity Pension who need the constant care and attention of another person benefit from an additional allowance known as the Carer's Allowance. This group of invalids has trebled from 1,419 in June 1993 to 4,215 in June 1998. In terms of percentage, 10% of the beneficiaries of Basic Invalid Pension were eligible for the Carer's Allowance in June 1993 against 24% in June 1998.

The amount of Basic Invalid Pension inclusive of Carer's Allowance increased from Rs 128.5 million in 1992/93 to Rs 351.4 million in 1997/98 for the Republic.

***(d) Basic Orphan's Pension & Guardian's Allowance***

Basic Orphan's Pension is payable to all orphans up to the age of 15 as well as those up to 20 years of age if they are in full-time education. A Guardian's Allowance is payable to the person looking after one or more orphans. However, only one allowance is payable even if the number of orphans under the care of a person is more than one.

Beneficiaries of Basic Orphan's Pension declined in number from 1,127 in June 1993 to 737 in June 1998 for the Republic. This decreasing trend has been observed in both the islands of Mauritius (from 889 to 578) and Rodrigues (from 238 to 159). Consequently the number of guardians in the whole Republic decreased from 836 to 609 in the five-year period, and the average number of orphans per guardian fell from 1.35 to 1.21.

Basic Orphan's Pension and Guardian's Allowance together cost government Rs 4.5 million in 1992/93. In spite of the decreasing number of beneficiaries, this amount gradually rose to Rs 7.8 million in 1997/98 because of increases in the payable rates.

### ***(e) Child's Allowance***

Child's Allowance is payable to beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension, Basic Widow's Pension and Basic Invalid Pension in respect of a child below 15 years, or below 20 years if in full-time education. Child's Allowance is payable for up to three dependent children. The number of children of such pensioners benefiting from a Child's Allowance has decreased slightly from 15,991 in June 1993 to 15,265 in June 1998 in the Republic, and from 15,593 to 14,798 in the island of Mauritius. In Rodrigues, however there was a slight increase from 398 to 467 in the same period.

The amount spent by government on Child's Allowance is not available separately; it is included in the overall amount paid to beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension, Basic Widow's Pension and Basic Invalid Pension as shown in Tables 5.1(b), 5.2(b) and 5.3(b).

## **5.2 Other non-contributory social benefits**

### ***(a) Social Aid***

Social Aid is an income-tested scheme. It is payable to a head of a family who is incapable of earning his living adequately and who has insufficient means to support himself and his dependents. Social Aid is payable to the poorer section of the population, including the dependents of prisoners and abandoned spouses, especially with dependent children. The allowance payable is calculated as the difference between the net income and the expected overall expenditure of the family.

The total number of families benefiting from such an assistance has increased from 9,278 in June 1993 to 11,048 in June 1998, i.e. an increase of around 19% (Table 6). In the island of Mauritius the corresponding increase was nearly 17% (from 8,683 to 10,145) and in Rodrigues almost 52% (from 595 to 903). Details on the geographical distribution of the families receiving Social Aid are given in Table 7.

The total amount paid to beneficiaries of Social Aid increased from Rs 59.3 million in 1992/93 to Rs 123.0 million in 1997/98.

***(b) Food Aid***

The Food Aid Scheme was introduced in March 1993 when government subsidy on rice and flour was temporarily discontinued. Under the Food Aid Scheme, a monthly stipend is given to every needy Mauritian for the purchase of rice and flour. The following three categories of beneficiaries are entitled to the Food Aid Allowance :

- (1) All recipients of Social Aid and their dependants.
- (2) All beneficiaries of Unemployment Hardship Relief .
- (3) All needy beneficiaries of a basic pension under the National Pensions Act: that is, beneficiaries of basic retirement, widow's, invalid and orphan's pensions, who would have qualified to receive social aid if the basic pensions were not payable .

The total amount paid out as Food Aid was Rs 19.9 million in 1997/98 and there were 62,238 such beneficiaries in the islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues in June 1998. It is to be noted that though subsidy on rice and flour was reintroduced as from financial year 1995/96, payment of Food Aid has still continued.

***(c) Indoor Relief***

Indoor Relief is the grant paid to an institution in respect of every person residing in the institution if that person would have otherwise benefited from a basic pension or from Social Aid. The number of such persons has gradually increased during the past years from 714 in June 1993 to 784 in June 1998. The amount disbursed on indoor relief has thus increased from Rs 8.3 million in 1992/93 to Rs 15.5 million in 1997/98.

***(d) Inmate's Allowance***

Inmate's Allowance refers to the pocket money given to certain residents of government-subsidized institutions and of the only government psychiatric hospital (Brown Sequard Hospital). The number of persons receiving such pocket money has decreased from 1,083 in June 1993 to 914 in June 1998 due mainly to a decreasing number in Brown Sequard Hospital. However, the cost of this allowance to government gradually increased from Rs 1.5 million in 1992/93 to Rs 2.5 million in 1997/98 due to increases in the rates payable.

***(e) Unemployment Hardship Relief***

The Unemployment Hardship Relief (UHR) is payable to heads of families where the income of the family is not sufficient to meet the needs of the members. The head concerned should be registered as unemployed at the Employment Exchange, be willing and able to take up employment and be actively looking for work. A disabled person who can work, but has not been able to find a job receives an UHR in addition to his Basic Invalidity Pension. The number of beneficiaries of UHR has decreased from 400 in June 1993 to 108 in June 1998. The amount paid to UHR beneficiaries has also decreased from Rs 1.2 million for the financial year 1992/93 to Rs 0.9 million for 1997/98.

***(f) Family Allowance***

Family Allowance is payable to heads of families where the annual family income is less than Rs10,000 and there are at least three children below 15 years of age. The number of families in that group has decreased from 450 in June 1993 to 1 in June 1998. Consequently, the amount disbursed on this allowance decreased from Rs 0.4 million in 1992/93 to Rs 2,150 in 1997/98.

***(g) Funeral Grant***

A funeral grant is meant to cover funeral expenses of persons from low-income families. The number of payments for funeral expenses increased from 492 in June 1993 to 1,006 in June 1998 while the total amount paid increased from Rs 0.5 million in 1992/93 to Rs 1.7 million in 1997/98.

**6. Contributions to the National Pension Fund (NPF) and contributory benefits**

***6.1 The National Pension Scheme***

The National Pension Scheme came into operation in April 1976. It provides for the payment of contributory pensions to those employees of the private sector who have contributed to the National Pension Fund (NPF). All employees working for employers with more than 10 employees had to join the Scheme from July 1978. Other employees joined the Scheme from January 1980, except for domestic servants for whom the operative date was July 1980. The self-employed were also eligible to join the Scheme from July 1980 on a voluntary basis.



Contributions to the Scheme are payable at the rate of 10.5% by millers and large employers of the Sugar Industry (those having at least 100 arpents of sugar cane cultivation) whereas all other employers pay contribution at the rate of 6%. For all employees, the contribution rate is 3%. Contributions are not payable on bonus, overtime pay and allowances. The minimum monthly remuneration on which contributions are payable was Rs 419 for household employees and Rs 699 for other employees in the financial year 1997/98. The maximum monthly remuneration for both categories was Rs 5,100 in the same period.

## **6.2 *The National Pension Fund (NPF)***

The number of employers contributing to the NPF in respect of their employees has remained at around 15,000 from 1992/93 to 1997/98. The amount contributed however, has increased from Rs 537.8 million to Rs 841.6 million, mainly due to higher contributions resulting from higher wages (Table 8).

Total Net Assets of the NPF has increased from Rs 6.1 billion in June 1993 to Rs 14.5 billion in June 1998. This is the result of increased income (from higher contributions and return on investment) compared to expenditure (payment of contributory pensions).

## **6.3 *Contributory pensions***

### *(a) Contributory Retirement Pension*

The Contributory Retirement Pension is payable to a person on reaching the age of 60 if he has contributed to the NPF. In the Republic of Mauritius, beneficiaries of this type of pension have been increasing in the past years - from 20,046 in June 1993 to 28,295 in June 1998. Consequently the total amount paid out to such beneficiaries has also increased - from Rs 55.1 million in 1992/93 to Rs 152.8 million in 1997/98 (Tables 9(a) and 9(b)).

### *(b) Contributory Widow's Pension*

The Contributory Widow's Pension is payable to a widow whose late husband has been contributing to the National Pensions Fund. There were 5,777 widows benefiting from such a pension in June 1998 as compared to 3,970 in June 1993. The amount paid was Rs 28.7 million in 1997/98 against Rs 9.1 million in 1992/93.

*(c) Contributory Invalid's Pension*

A person is entitled to a Contributory Invalid's Pension if he/she has previously contributed to the NPF and suffers from a permanent incapacity of at least 60%. The number of persons drawing such a pension has increased from 1,885 in June 1993 to 2,603 in June 1998. The amount paid to these pensioners has also increased - from Rs 4.6 million in 1992/93 to Rs 8.8 million in 1997/98.

*(d) Contributory Orphan's Pension*

The Contributory Orphan's Pension is payable to orphans under the age of 15 (or 18 if the child is at school) if any of the deceased parents had contributed to the NPF. In the five-year period from June 1993 to June 1998, the number of orphans benefiting from this pension decreased from 141 to 91. The amount paid has decreased from Rs 0.2 million in 1992/93 to Rs 0.1 million in 1997/98.

*(e) Industrial Injury Allowance*

The Industrial Injury Allowance is payable in respect of a work accident (whether fatal or not) affecting any employee insured under the National Pension Scheme. The amount disbursed was Rs 22.6 million in 1997/98 as compared to Rs 12.3 million in 1992/93.

## **7. The National Solidarity Fund**

The National Solidarity Fund started operating under the aegis of the Ministry of Social Security and National Solidarity on 1 June 1991. The Fund caters for Mauritians who have to undergo surgical operations which cannot be performed locally, and provides financial assistance to persons undergoing severe personal hardship provided the monthly income of their family does not exceed Rs 18,000.

The sources of revenue of the Fund include :

- Contribution from the General Public
- Contribution from Ministries and Departments
- Interests on investment
- Unclaimed prizes and unclaimed winning tickets e.g. from Automatic Systems Ltd., from Mauritius Turf Club and from commercial promotions.

Details on the number of persons who have been given assistance from the National Solidarity Fund by contingency is given in Table 10(a) and the amount disbursed in Table 10(b).

#### **8. Projected no. of pensioners and related future costs of basic pensions**

As shown in Table 11, there are presently about 7.5 persons aged 15-59 years for each person over age 60. This ratio is expected to fall to about 2.8 in 40 years essentially due to a very high increase in the elderly population aged 60 years and over.

The number of persons aged 60 & above is expected to treble in 40 years - rising from around 99,000 in 1997 to nearly 324,000 in 2037. Correspondingly, the category suffering from a severe disability is expected to increase from around 11,000 to above 42,000 (Table 12a).

The number of beneficiaries of Basic Widow's Pension and Basic Invalid Pension will also be on the increase. Currently there are nearly 20,000 beneficiaries of Basic Widow's Pension; this is expected to increase to around 38,000 in the next four decades. The number of basic invalidity pensioners, presently around 17,000 in number, is projected to increase to nearly 26,000 in 40 years.

The amount to be disbursed by government in future years is given in Table 12(b). These estimates are expressed in terms of the 1996/97 pension rates. As shown in the table, Basic Retirement (old-age) Pension will treble in the next 40 years, from Rs 1.6 billion in 1996/97 to Rs 5.0 billion in 2036/37. This is the consequence of ageing of the population : there will be more and more persons in the older age-category both in absolute numbers and percentage terms. Regarding Basic Widow's Pension, Basic Invalid's Pension and Basic Orphan's Pension, the future costs will increase in line with the projected number of beneficiaries.

Central Statistical Office  
Ministry of Economic Development, Productivity and Regional Development  
Port Louis

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**Table 1- Mid year population by sex, Republic of Mauritius,  
Island of Mauritius & Island of Rodrigues, 1993 & 1998**

Year	Both Sexes	Male	Female
<b>1993</b>			
Republic of Mauritius	1,097,305	549,790	547,515
Island of Mauritius	1,062,810	532,599	530,211
Island of Rodrigues	34,495	17,191	17,304
<b>1998</b>			
Republic of Mauritius	1,159,729	579,657	580,072
Island of Mauritius	1,124,508	562,166	562,342
Island of Rodrigues	35,221	17,491	17,730

**Table 2-Mid year population by age-group &sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1993 & 1998**

Age-group (years)	1st July 1993			1st July 1998		
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female
<b>Under 15</b>	<b>315,855</b>	<b>160,356</b>	<b>155,499</b>	<b>303,837</b>	<b>154,187</b>	<b>149,650</b>
0-4	108,191	54,960	53,231	101,765	51,295	50,470
5-9	94,412	48,150	46,262	107,872	54,827	53,045
10-14	113,252	57,246	56,006	94,200	48,065	46,135
<b>15-59</b>	<b>690,202</b>	<b>349,432</b>	<b>340,770</b>	<b>754,618</b>	<b>381,759</b>	<b>372,859</b>
15-19	106,157	53,722	52,435	112,873	57,071	55,802
20-24	92,612	47,703	44,909	105,360	53,447	51,913
25-29	105,593	54,249	51,344	91,324	47,184	44,140
30-34	98,680	50,541	48,139	104,137	53,561	50,576
35-39	86,003	43,961	42,042	97,174	49,633	47,541
40-44	74,972	37,903	37,069	84,300	42,845	41,455
45-49	52,934	25,984	26,950	73,021	36,569	36,452
50-54	37,967	18,438	19,529	50,821	24,567	26,254
55-59	35,284	16,931	18,353	35,608	16,882	18,726
<b>60 &amp; Over</b>	<b>91,248</b>	<b>40,002</b>	<b>51,246</b>	<b>101,274</b>	<b>43,711</b>	<b>57,563</b>
60-64	27,887	13,125	14,762	32,042	14,872	17,170
65-69	27,202	12,564	14,638	24,182	10,931	13,251
70-74	16,665	7,320	9,345	22,192	9,569	12,623
75-79	10,833	4,356	6,477	12,223	4,899	7,324
80+	8,661	2,637	6,024	10,635	3,440	7,195
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,097,305</b>	<b>549,790</b>	<b>547,515</b>	<b>1,159,729</b>	<b>579,657</b>	<b>580,072</b>

**Table 3 - Female population aged 15 years & above and no. of widows by age-group, Republic of Mauritius, 1990 Census**

Age-group (years)	Number of widows	Total female population	% widows
15 - 19	9	47,964	0.0
20 - 24	90	50,238	0.2
25 - 29	308	51,893	0.6
30 - 34	733	45,875	1.6
35 - 39	1,464	39,925	3.7
40 - 44	2,559	30,309	8.4
45 - 49	3,202	22,802	14.0
50 - 54	4,328	19,576	22.1
55 - 59	5,114	16,475	31.0
<b>15 - 59</b>	<b>17,807</b>	<b>325,057</b>	<b>5.5</b>
<b>60 &amp; over</b>	<b>28,950</b>	<b>48,819</b>	<b>59.3</b>
<b>15 &amp; over</b>	<b>46,757</b>	<b>373,876</b>	<b>12.5</b>

**Table 4- Government Expenditure on Social Security & Welfare- Republic of Mauritius, 1992/93 - 1997/98**

	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
Government expenditure on Social Security & Welfare						
- in million rupees	1,970.1	2,368.8	2,674.8	3,148.5	3,937.2	4,421.5
- as % of total Government expenditure	16.2	16.6	17.3	18.2	19.4	20.6

**Table 5.1 - No. of beneficiaries of basic pensions and amount paid, Republic of Mauritius, 1992/93 - 1997/98**

**(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 1993 - June 1998**

Pension type	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 93	June 94	June 95	June 96	June 97	June 98
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	95,240	98,647	101,665	103,804	107,106	108,775
<i>severely disabled</i> <sup>1/</sup>	7,376	8,550	9,378	9,982	11,081	11,253
Basic Widow's Pension	19,198	19,496	19,692	19,942	20,428	20,795
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	14,825	15,363	15,809	16,130	17,405	17,506
<i>severely disabled</i> <sup>2/</sup>	1,419	2,489	3,074	3,499	3,944	4,215
Basic Orphan's Pension	1,127	1,043	984	860	889	737
Guardian's Allowance	836	840	784	735	716	609
Child's Allowance <i>of whom children of beneficiaries of</i>	15,991	16,262	15,867	15,776	15,497	15,265
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	304	289	285	237	237	229
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	11,130	10,958	10,578	10,436	10,151	9,059
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	4,557	5,015	5,004	5,103	5,101	5,977

<sup>1/</sup> drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

<sup>2/</sup> drawing Carer's Allowance

**(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1992/93 - 1997/98**

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	758.4	859.7	982.7	1,190.6	1,583.1	1,764.7
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	158.0	174.8	190.1	209.6	325.3	366.5
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	128.5	142.9	170.7	189.2	302.3	351.4
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	4.5	4.5	4.9	5.8	7.4	7.8

Source: Ministry of Social Security

**Table 5.2 - No. of beneficiaries of basic pensions and amount paid, Island of Mauritius,  
1992/93 - 1997/98**

*(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 1993 - June 1998*

Pension type	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 93	June 94	June 95	June 96	June 97	June 98
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	92,950	96,254	99,216	101,267	104,522	106,004
<i>severely disabled</i> <sup>1/</sup>	7,197	8,343	9,182	9,699	10,743	10,805
Basic Widow's Pension	18,877	19,173	19,368	19,626	20,112	20,459
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	14,570	15,072	15,504	15,781	16,988	17,031
<i>severely disabled</i> <sup>2/</sup>	1,405	2,445	3,005	3,408	3,838	4,059
Basic Orphan's Pension	889	804	778	680	708	578
Guardian's Allowance	668	666	632	591	579	482
Child's Allowance <i>of whom children of beneficiaries of</i>	15,593	15,876	15,493	15,384	15,093	14,798
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	304	289	285	237	237	223
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	10,809	10,666	10,304	10,182	9,914	8,821
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	4,480	4,921	4,904	4,965	4,942	5,754

<sup>1/</sup> drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

<sup>2/</sup> drawing Carer's Allowance

*(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1992/93 - 1997/98*

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	739.8	837.8	958.4	1,160.5	1,542.1	1,718.2
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	155.2	171.9	186.8	206.1	319.8	360.7
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	126.5	140.3	167.5	184.9	295.3	341.6
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	3.5	3.5	3.9	4.6	5.9	6.2

Source: Ministry of Social Security

**Table 5.3 - No. of beneficiaries of basic pensions and amount paid, Island of Rodrigues, 1992/93 - 1997/98**

**(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 1993 - June 1998**

Pension type	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 93	June 94	June 95	June 96	June 97	June 98
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	2,290	2,393	2,449	2,537	2,584	2,771
<i>severely disabled</i> <sup>1/</sup>	179	207	196	283	338	448
Basic Widow's Pension	321	323	324	316	316	336
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	255	291	305	349	417	475
<i>severely disabled</i> <sup>2/</sup>	14	44	69	91	106	156
Basic Orphan's Pension	238	239	206	180	181	159
Guardian's Allowance	168	174	152	144	137	127
Child's Allowance	398	386	374	392	404	467
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of</i>						
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	-	-	-	-	8	6
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	321	292	274	254	237	238
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	77	94	100	138	159	223

<sup>1/</sup> drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

<sup>2/</sup> drawing Carer's Allowance

**(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1992/93 - 1997/98**

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	18.6	21.9	24.3	30.2	41.0	46.5
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	2.8	2.9	3.3	3.5	5.5	5.8
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	2.0	2.5	3.3	4.3	7.0	9.8
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.5	1.6

Source: Ministry of Social Security



**Table 6 - Number of beneficiaries of other non-contributory social benefits and amount paid, Republic of Mauritius, 1992/93 - 1997/98**

**(a) No. of beneficiaries by type of benefit, June 1993 - June 1998**

Type of benefit	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 93	June 94	June 95	June 96	June 97	June 98
Social Aid <sup>1/</sup>	9,278	9,607	10,021	10,761	11,200	11,048
Food Aid	...	60,000	61,000	61,400	62,563	62,238
Indoor Relief	714	734	742	757	761	784
Inmate's Allowance	1,083	997	979	935	932	914
Unemployment Hardship Relief	400	321	305	340	227	108
Family Allowance	450	226	104	51	12	1
Funeral Grant <sup>2/</sup>	492	552	596	624	960	1,006

<sup>1/</sup> the no. of beneficiaries of Social Aid refers to no. of heads of families who benefit from Social Aid for themselves and for members of their family.

<sup>2/</sup> refers to the number of payments for the financial years 1992/93 to 1997/98

**(b) Amount paid by type of benefit, Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1992/93 - 1997/98**

Type of benefit	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
Social Aid	59.3	72.2	80.1	91.2	108.8	123.0
Food Aid	...	21.5	23.8	23.9	21.7	19.9
Indoor Relief	8.3	9.4	10.6	12.0	14.1	15.5
Inmate's Allowance	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	2.5
Unemployment Hardship Relief	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.1	0.9
Family Allowance	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Funeral Grant	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.7

... not applicable

**Table 7 - Number of beneficiaries<sup>1/</sup> of Social Aid by district, June 93- June 98**

District/ Island	June 93	June 94	June 95	June 96	June 97	June 98
Port-Louis	2,083	2,138	2,213	2,194	2,192	2,289
Pamplemousses	1,058	1,029	1,118	1,120	1,157	1,175
Riviere du Rempart	922	1,048	1,110	1,177	1,207	1,053
Flacq	680	689	703	803	914	922
Grand-Port	699	761	757	893	758	728
Savanne	517	568	630	635	690	680
Plaine-Wilhems	1,968	2,017	1,951	2,189	2,419	2,450
Moka	372	342	330	395	389	323
Black River	384	394	391	455	526	525
<b><i>Island of Mauritius</i></b>	<b>8,683</b>	<b>8,986</b>	<b>9,203</b>	<b>9,861</b>	<b>10,252</b>	<b>10,145</b>
<b><i>Island of Rodrigues</i></b>	<b>595</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>903</b>
<b>Republic of Mauritius</b>	<b>9,278</b>	<b>9,607</b>	<b>10,021</b>	<b>10,761</b>	<b>11,200</b>	<b>11,048</b>

<sup>1/</sup> heads of families who benefit from Social Aid for themselves & for members of their household.

Source: Ministry of Social Security

**Table 8 - Contribution to the National Pensions Fund (NPF), financial years 1992/93 - 1997/98**

	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
No. of employers contributing to the NPF	14,968	14,800	15,000	14,580	14,710	14,799
Amount contributed by employers and employees (Rs Mn)	537.8	598.1	682.9	718.9	761.8	841.6
Surcharge paid by employers (Rs Mn)	5.3	5.4	6.1	5.8	7.4	8.1
Size of the NPF (Rs Mn) at end of financial year	6,130.9	7,200.2	8,505.0	10,000.0	12,101.6	14,542.0

**Table 9(a) - No. of beneficiaries of contributory pensions, June 1993 - June 1998**

Pension type	June 93	June 94	June 95	June 96	June 97	June 98
Contributory Retirement Pension	20,046	21,999	23,547	25,280	27,262	28,295
Contributory Widow's Pension	3,970	4,347	4,623	4,992	5,387	5,777
Contributory Invalid's Pension	1,885	2,053	2,184	2,335	2,636	2,603
Contributory Orphan's Pension	141	111	110	104	108	91

**Table 9(b) - Amount paid to beneficiaries of contributory pensions, financial years 1992/93 - 1997/98**

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
Contributory Retirement Pension	55.1	69.5	86.6	106.9	127.1	152.8
Contributory Widow's Pension	9.1	12.9	15.8	19.1	22.2	28.7
Contributory Invalid's Pension	4.6	5.2	6.3	6.9	8.1	8.8
Contributory Orphan's Pension	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
Industrial Injury Allowance	12.3	14.1	16.8	16.8	21.4	22.6

Source: Ministry of Social Security

**Table 10(a) - No. of persons receiving assistance from the National Solidarity Fund,  
Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1992/93 - 1997/98**

Contingency	Number of beneficiaries					
	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
Personal hardship scheme						
<i>Birth of triplets</i>	2	-	3	2	3	-
<i>Fire victims</i>	57	64	74	3	1	79
<i>Cyclone relief</i>	-	...	-	-	-	5
Medical treatment abroad	18	20	63	74	N.A	109
Assistance for haemodialysis	...	...	28	67	N.A	...

**Table 10(b) - Amount paid to persons receiving assistance from the National Solidarity Fund,  
Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1992/93 - 1997/98**

Contingency	Amount paid (Rs 000)					
	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
Personal hardship scheme						
<i>Birth of triplets</i>	10	-	15	10	15	-
<i>Fire victims</i>	57	90	111	5	5	395
<i>Cyclone relief</i>	-	1,000	-	-	-	25
Medical treatment abroad	455	460	1,475	3,004	2,525	6,170
Assistance for haemodialysis	...	...	700	1,352	422	...

... Not applicable

N.A : not available

Source: Ministry of Social Security

**Table 11 - Projected population by broad age-group and sex in selected years,  
Republic of Mauritius, 1997-2037**

Age-group (years)	1st July 1997			1st July 2007			1st July 2017			1st July 2027			1st July 2037		
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female
Under 15	304,453	154,426	150,027	314,330	158,708	155,622	313,756	158,654	155,102	317,161	160,532	156,629	321,909	163,065	158,844
15-59	743,981	376,282	367,699	835,177	421,797	413,380	882,241	443,181	439,060	894,168	447,576	446,592	913,149	455,763	457,386
60 & over	99,272	43,151	56,121	124,123	52,807	71,316	190,543	83,817	106,726	274,181	123,408	150,773	323,715	147,662	176,053
Total (no.)	1,147,706	573,859	573,847	1,273,630	633,312	640,318	1,386,540	685,652	700,888	1,485,510	731,516	753,994	1,558,773	766,490	792,283
Pensioner support ratio <sup>1/</sup>	7.5	8.7	6.6	6.7	8.0	5.8	4.6	5.3	4.1	3.3	3.6	3.0	2.8	3.1	2.6

<sup>1/</sup> Number of persons of working age (15-59 years) per old-age pensioner (aged 60 years and over)

**Table 12 - Projected no. of beneficiaries and estimated future costs of basic pension  
in selected years, Republic of Mauritius, 1996/97 - 2036/37**

**(a) Projected no. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 1997 - June 2037**

Pension type	Actual no. of beneficiaries June 1997	Projected number of beneficiaries			
		June 2007	June 2017	June 2027	June 2037
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	107,106	124,123	190,543	274,181	323,715
<i>severely disabled</i> <sup>1/</sup>	11,081	14,783	20,927	30,654	42,212
Basic Widow's Pension	20,428	29,567	34,594	35,186	37,526
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	17,405	22,072	24,534	24,883	25,958
<i>severely disabled</i> <sup>2/</sup>	3,944	5,077	5,643	5,723	5,970
Basic Orphan's Pension	889	883	896	897	910
Guardian's Allowance	716	711	722	722	733
Child's Allowance <i>of whom children of beneficiaries of</i>	15,497	15,412	15,503	15,467	15,750
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	237	245	248	246	251
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	10,151	10,070	10,137	10,105	10,291
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	5,101	5,097	5,118	5,116	5,208

<sup>1/</sup> drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

<sup>2/</sup> drawing Carer's Allowance

**(b) Estimated future costs (Rs million) by pension type, financial years 1996/97 - 2036/37**

Pension type	Actual amount paid in 1996/97	Estimated future costs at 1996/97 pension rates			
		2006/07	2016/17	2026/27	2036/37
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	1,583	1,914	2,941	4,201	5,020
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	325	448	517	525	558
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	302	365	403	409	426
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	7	8	8	8	8

## ANNEX

### Non-contributory benefits by type and monthly amount payable in 1992/93 and 1997/98

Pension type	Monthly amount payable	
	1992/93	1997/98
Basic Retirement Pension (BRP) for ages : 60-89	Rs520	Rs1,150
90-99	Rs650	Rs4,450
100+	Rs3,100	Rs4,560
Basic Widow's Pension (BWP)	Rs520	Rs1,150
Basic Invalid Pension (BIP)	Rs520	Rs1,150
Basic Orphan's Pension (BOP)	Rs209	Rs550
Guardian's Allowance	Rs130	Rs225
Child's Allowance for ages : 0-10	Rs103	Rs350
10 & above	Rs158	Rs380
Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension (BRP) for ages : 60-89	Rs1,040	Rs1,965
90-99	Rs1,170	Rs5,265
100+	Rs3,620	Rs5,375
Carer's Allowance	Rs433	Rs700
Social Aid (minimum amount payable)	Rs186	Rs300
Food Aid	Rs25	Rs30
Indoor Relief (amount paid daily)	Rs32	Rs55
Inmate's Allowance : (a) Charitable Institutions	Rs74	Rs120
(b) Brown Sequad Hospital	Rs74	Rs290
Unemployment Hardship Relief (minimum amount payable)	Rs67	Rs67
Family Allowance	Rs50	Rs50
Funeral Grant	Rs1,070	Rs1,665
Minimum Contributory Retirement Pension	Rs131	Rs191
Allowance under the National Solidarity Fund		
- Medical treatment abroad (maximum amount payable) :	Rs25,000	Rs80,000(July97-Nov 98) Rs100,000(Dec98-June98)
- Personal Hardship Scheme	Rs1,000	Rs5,000

Source: Ministry of Social Security