

SOCIAL SECURITY STATISTICS

1995/96 –2000/2001

1. Introduction

This is the sixth issue of the 'Economic and Social Indicators' on Social Security Statistics. The data refer to the main social security benefits provided by the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, Senior Citizen Welfare and Reform Institutions for the period July 1995 to June 2001. The number of beneficiaries relates to the last month of each financial year whereas the amount paid is given on a financial year basis.

2. Social Security benefits

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

Non-contributory benefits are entirely financed by government and are payable to every Mauritian citizen under certain given 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 and Funeral Grant, which are payable to the low-income segment of the population.
- Inmates allowance and indoor relief payable to, or on behalf of, those Mauritians residing in government-subsidised 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 Pensions 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 at Annex I. In the case of contributory benefits, the allowances payable vary according to the amount contributed to the NPF in respect of 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 to 1,199,881 in 2001 from 1,133,551 in 1996 (Table 1). The child population aged below 15 years increased slightly from 306,470 (27.0% of the total) to 307,136 (25.6% of the total). The elderly population aged 60 years and above grew from 97,528 (8.6%) to 109,180 (9.1%) as shown in Table 2. It is worth pointing out that these estimates, computed by the Central Statistics Office on the basis of the 1990 & 2000 censuses respectively, differ from the number of persons reported by the Ministry of Social Security as drawing the old-age pension (103,804 in June 1996 and 113,051 in June 2001). This discrepancy is due to various reasons, such as misreporting of age at the Population Census and delays in updating the list of old-age pensioners on account of death.

Table 3 gives the number of widows by age as reported at the 2000 Census. Some 58,309 widows representing 13% of all women aged 15 years and over were enumerated at that time. The number of widows aged 15-59 years, i.e. eligible for Basic widow's pension, was 21,719.

4. Expenditure on Social Security and Welfare

Government expenditure on Social Security continued its upward trend. As shown in Table 4, expenditure on Social Security and welfare for the financial year 2000/2001 was Rs 6,550.5 million compared to Rs 3,148.5 million in 1995/96. In terms of percentage, social security expenditure accounted for about 20.3% of total government expenditure in 2000/2001 against 18.2% in 1995/96.

5. Non-contributory benefits

5.1 Basic pensions

(a) *Basic Retirement Pension (BRP)*

Basic Retirement Pension, also known as old-age pension, is payable to every Mauritian citizen aged 60 years and above subject to certain residency conditions. The number of beneficiaries of BRP increased by 8.9% from 103,804 (101,267 in Mauritius and 2,537 in Rodrigues) in June 1996 to 113,051 (109,863 in Mauritius and 3,188 in Rodrigues) in June 2001.

The Enhanced Basic Retirement pension is an additional allowance payable to old-age pensioners 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 2001 was 14,038 of whom 13,505 in the island of Mauritius (Table 5.2(a)) and 533 in Rodrigues (Table 5.3(a)). Total government expenditure on old-age pensions was Rs 2,484.4 million in 2000/01 - more than twice the corresponding amount in 1995/96 (Rs 1,190.6 million).

(b) Basic Widow's Pension (BWP)

Basic Widow's Pension is payable to widows aged between 15 and 59 years who were either civilly or religiously married to their late husband. In June 2001, the number of beneficiaries of BWP was 21,920 (21,577 in Mauritius and 343 in Rodrigues) compared to 19,942 (19,626 in Mauritius and 316 in Rodrigues) in June 1996 i.e. an increase of 9.9%. The amount disbursed on Basic Widow's Pension more than doubled between 1995/96 and 2000/01 - from Rs 209.6 million to Rs 499.4 million due to increases in the payable rates and higher number of beneficiaries.

(c) Basic Invalid's Pension (BIP)

The Basic Invalid's Pension is payable to any person aged from 15 to 59 years if certified by a Medical Board that the person is either permanently or substantially incapacitated to work to a degree of 60% or more for at least 12 months. The number of beneficiaries of BIP increased to 21,185 (20,686 in Mauritius and 499 in Rodrigues) in June 2001 from 16,130 in June 1996 (15,781 in Mauritius and 349 in Rodrigues).

BIP recipients, who need the constant care and attention of another person, benefit from an additional allowance known as the Carer's allowance. In June 2001 this category of pensioners stood at 5,766 compared to 3,499 in June 1996.

The total amount disbursed on Basic Invalid's Pension (inclusive of Carer's allowance) increased to Rs 568.3 million in 2000/2001 from Rs 189.2 million in 1995/96.

(d) Basic Orphan's Pension & Guardian's allowance (BOP)

Basic Orphan's Pension is payable to all orphans up to the age of 15, and 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 per guardian irrespective of the number of orphans under his/her care.

The number of beneficiaries of BOP in the Republic declined from 860 in June 1996 to 625 in June 2001. A similar trend is noted in the islands of Mauritius (from 680 to 489) and Rodrigues (from 180 to 136). Consequently, the total number of guardians dropped from 735

to 505. The number of orphans per guardian however remained at around 1.2. Although the number of BOP beneficiaries went down, expenditure on Basic Orphan's Pension and Guardian's allowance increased significantly between 1995/96 and 2000/2001 - from Rs 5.8 million to Rs 13.0 million. This is due to increases in the payable rates.

(e) Child's allowance

Child's allowance is payable to children of beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension, Basic Widow's Pension and Basic Invalid's 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 total number of children benefiting from Child's allowance reached 16,326 (15,862 for island of Mauritius and 464 for Rodrigues) in June 2001, up from 15,776 (15,384 for island of Mauritius and 392 for Rodrigues) in June 1996.

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's 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 the 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 those 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 receiving Social Aid was 14,242 in June 2001 compared to 10,761 in June 1996, i.e. an increase of 32.3%. In the island of Mauritius, the number of families benefiting from such assistance went up from 9,861 to 13,169 and in Rodrigues from 900 to 1,073. Table 7 gives more details on the geographical distribution of families receiving Social Aid.

The total amount paid to beneficiaries of Social Aid in 2000/2001 was Rs 203.7 million, more than twice the amount in 1995/96 (Rs 91.2 million).

(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 of Rs 30 for the purchase of rice and flour is given to every needy Mauritian defined as follows: -

- (1) All recipients of Social Aid and their dependents
- (2) All beneficiaries of Unemployment Hardship Relief
- (3) All needy beneficiaries of a basic pension under the National Pensions Act, i.e. beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension, Basic Widow's Pension and Basic Invalid's Pension and Basic Orphan's pensions, who would have qualified to receive social aid if the basic pensions were not payable.

The number of persons who were granted Food Aid was around 48,700 in June 2001. The total amount paid out in 2000/2001 was Rs 19.0 million. 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 persons for whom Indoor Relief was granted stood at 847 in June 2001 against 757 in June 1996. The expenditure incurred, on the other hand, went up from Rs 12.0 million in 1995/96 to Rs 22.9 million in 2000/2001.

(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 Sequare Hospital. The number of persons, who received such pocket money, was 939 both in June 1996 and in June 2001. However, due to increases in the rates payable, inmate's allowance more than doubled from 1995/96 (Rs 1.8 million) to 2000/2001 (Rs 3.9 million).

(e) Unemployment Hardship Relief

The Unemployment Hardship Relief (UHR) is payable to unemployed heads of families whose family income is not sufficient to meet the needs of the members. The head 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 a UHR in addition to his Basic Invalid's Pension. The number of beneficiaries of UHR decreased from 340 in June 1996 to 276 in June 2001. The

amount paid to UHR recipients was the same in 2000/01 as in 1995/96, i.e. Rs 1.2 million.

(f) Funeral Grant

A funeral grant is meant to cover funeral expenses of persons of low-income families. The number of payments for funeral expenses rose significantly from 624 in June 1996 to 1,720 in June 2001. The amount paid was Rs 3.7 million in 2000/01, almost four times the amount in 1995/96 (Rs 1.0 million).

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

(a) The National Pension Scheme

The National Pension Scheme was introduced in 1976. It provides for the payments of contributory pensions to those employees of the private sector who have contributed to the National Pensions 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); most 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 480 for household employees and Rs 800 for other employees in the financial year 2000/2001. The maximum monthly remuneration for both categories was Rs 5,535 in the same period.

(b) The National Pensions Fund

The number of employers contributing to the NPF in respect of their employees increased from 14,900 in 1995/96 to 15,100 in 2000/2001. The contributions received rose from Rs 718.9 million to Rs 1,043.1 million (Table 8).

At the end of June of 2001 the total net assets of the NPF were Rs 21.8 billion, more than double those at the end of June 1996 (Rs10.3 billion). This is the result of increased income (from higher contributions and return on investment) compared to expenditure (payment of contributory pensions).

(c) Contributory Pensions

(i) *Contributory Retirement Pension (CRP)*

The Contributory Retirement Pension (CRP) is payable to a person on reaching the age of 60 if he/she had contributed to the NPF. In the Republic of Mauritius, the number of beneficiaries of this type of pension has been increasing in the past years - from 25,280 in June 1996 to 32,587 in June 2001. An upward trend is also noted in the amount disbursed to such beneficiaries from Rs 106.9 million in 1995/96 to Rs 245.0 million in 2000/2001.

(ii) *Contributory Widow's Pension (CWP)*

The Contributory Widow's Pension is payable to a widow whose late husband had contributed to the National Pensions Fund. The number of widows who benefited from such a pension stood at 10,547 in June 2001 against 6,416 in June 1996. Contributory Widows pensions amounted to Rs 48.7 million in 2000/2001 against Rs 19.1 million in 1995/96.

(iii) *Contributory Invalid's Pension (CIP)*

A person is entitled to a Contributory Invalid's Pension (CIP) provided 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 rose to 3,891 in June 2001 from 2,335 in June 1996. The amount paid to these pensioners also increased from Rs 6.9 million in 1995/96 to Rs 13.7 million in 2000/2001.

(iv) *Contributory Orphan's pension (COP)*

The Contributory Orphan's pension is payable to orphans under the age of 15 years (or 18 if the child is at school) if any of the deceased parents had contributed to the NPF. In the five-year period June 1996 to June 2001, the number of orphans benefiting from this pension dropped to 89 from 104. As a result the amount paid decreased to Rs 0.1 million in 2000/2001 from Rs 0.2 million in 1995/96.

(v) *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. There were 921 such cases in June 2001, the same as in June 1996. However, the amount disbursed in 2000/2001

was Rs 21.1 million against Rs 16.8 million in 1995/96.

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. It provides financial assistance to persons undergoing severe personal hardship. Prior to November 1999, the Fund used to cater for Mauritians who have to undergo surgical operations which cannot be performed locally, provided the monthly income of their family does not exceed Rs 50,000.

The sources of revenue of the Fund are manifold. These include:

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

During the year 2000/2001, some 10 persons received assistance from the National Solidarity Fund; the amount disbursed to them was around Rs 452,000. More details are given in tables 10(a) and 10(b).

8. Projected number of pensioners and related future costs of basic pensions

As shown in Table 11, around 9.1% of the population were aged 60 years or above in June 2001 while nearly two thirds were in the working age-group 15-59 years, thus resulting in a pensioner support ratio of about 7.2. This ratio is expected to fall to around 2.4 by 2041, essentially due to a very high increase in the elderly population aged 60 years and over which will then constitute nearly a quarter of the total population.

The projected number of beneficiaries of basic pensions by pension type is shown in Table 12(a). The assumptions underlying these projections are given at Annex II.

It is expected that the number of persons aged 60 years or above, i.e. entitled for old age pensions will be around 354,000 by 2041 against 113,051 in June 2001. The number of elderly with severe disability is projected to reach nearly 48,000.

The number of beneficiaries of Basic Widow's Pension was 21,920 in June 2001; this number is projected at around 33,000 in the next four decades. Recipients of Basic Invalid's Pension that totalled 21,185 in 2001 are expected to be around 27,000 in number by 2041.

The amount to be disbursed by government in future years is given in Table 12(b). These

estimates are expressed in terms of the 2000/2001 pension rates. As shown in the table, Basic Retirement (old age) pensions will increase dramatically in the next 40 years, from Rs 2.5 billion to Rs 7.9 billion due to the ageing of the population. Regarding Basic Widow's pensions, Basic Invalid's pensions and Basic Orphan's pensions, the future costs will increase in line with the projected number of beneficiaries. These pensions are expected to total Rs 1.4 billion by 2041 compared to Rs 1.1 billion in 2000/2001.

Central Statistics Office

Ministry of Economic Development, Financial Services and Corporate Affairs

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Contact Person

Mr. R. Auckbur, Statistician
Statistics Unit, Ministry of Social Security
Social Security House, Rose Hill
Telephone : 465 4119

Table 1 - Estimated mid year population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius & Island of Rodrigues, 1996 & 2001

Year	Both Sexes	Male	Female
1996 ^{1/}			
Republic of Mauritius	1,133,551	567,015	566,536
Island of Mauritius	1,098,668	549,671	548,997
Island of Rodrigues	34,883	17,344	17,539
2001 ^{2/}			
Republic of Mauritius	1,199,881	594,490	605,391
Island of Mauritius	1,163,875	576,672	587,203
Island of Rodrigues	36,006	17,818	18,188

Table 2 -Estimated mid year population by age-group & sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1996 & 2001

Age-group (years)	1996 ^{1/}			2001 ^{2/}		
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female
Under 15	306,470	155,494	150,976	307,136	155,623	151,513
0-4	106,930	54,014	52,916	98,568	50,148	48,420
5-9	101,299	51,515	49,784	107,037	54,028	53,009
10-14	98,241	49,965	48,276	101,531	51,447	50,084
15-59	729,553	369,052	360,501	783,565	391,632	391,933
15-19	115,229	58,429	56,800	97,620	49,374	48,246
20-24	96,670	49,034	47,636	113,741	56,811	56,930
25-29	95,342	49,301	46,041	95,449	47,386	48,063
30-34	105,121	53,836	51,285	96,104	48,177	47,927
35-39	92,374	47,237	45,137	104,573	52,750	51,823
40-44	79,958	40,520	39,438	91,665	46,399	45,266
45-49	65,041	32,511	32,530	78,791	39,567	39,224
50-54	44,336	21,247	23,089	63,667	31,354	32,313
55-59	35,482	16,937	18,545	41,955	19,814	22,141
60 & Over	97,528	42,469	55,059	109,180	47,235	61,945
60-64	29,993	14,103	15,890	33,135	15,405	17,730
65-69	25,344	11,438	13,906	26,761	12,174	14,587
70-74	20,879	9,226	11,653	20,766	8,969	11,797
75-79	11,265	4,470	6,795	15,901	6,528	9,373
80+	10,047	3,232	6,815	12,617	4,159	8,458
Total	1,133,551	567,015	566,536	1,199,881	594,490	605,391

^{1/} based on the 1990 population census data adjusted for underenumeration of children.

^{2/} based on the 2000 population census data adjusted for underenumeration of children.

Table 3 - Female population aged 15 years & above and number of widows by age group, Republic of Mauritius, 2000 Census

Age-group (years)	Number of widows	Total female population	% widows
15 - 19	8	50,417	0.0
20 - 24	98	55,784	0.2
25 - 29	273	47,048	0.6
30 - 34	684	49,551	1.4
35 - 39	1,449	50,325	2.9
40 - 44	2,598	44,608	5.8
45 - 49	4,408	38,798	11.4
50 - 54	5,847	29,149	20.1
55 - 59	6,354	21,263	29.9
15 - 59	21,719	386,943	5.6
60 & over	36,590	60,948	60.0
15 & over	58,309	447,891	13.0

Table 4 - Government Expenditure on Social Security & Welfare - Republic of Mauritius, 1995/96 - 2000/01

Government expenditure on social security & welfare	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 ^{1/}	1999/2000 ¹	2000/01 ^{2/}
Rs (million)	3,148.5	3,937.2	4,421.5	5,378.0	5,862.9	6,550.5
% of total	18.2	19.4	20.6	21.1	21.7	20.3

^{1/} revised

^{2/} provisional

Table 5.1 - No. of beneficiaries of basic pensions and amount paid, Republic of Mauritius

(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 1996 -June 2001

Pension type	No. of beneficiaries					
	June 96	June 97	June 98	June 99	June 00	June 01
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension)	103,804	107,106	108,784	109,571	111,885	113,051
<i>Of whom</i>						
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{1/}	9,982	11,081	11,253	11,879	13,287	14,038
Basic Widow's Pension	19,942	20,428	20,795	21,153	21,323	21,920
Basic Invalid's Pension	16,130	17,405	17,506	18,860 ^{3/}	19,958	21,185
<i>Of whom</i>						
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{2/}	3,499	3,944	4,212 ^{3/}	4,976 ^{3/}	5,461 ^{3/}	5,766
Basic Orphan's Pension	860	889	738 ^{3/}	719	686	625
Guardian's Allowance	735	716	605	590	545	505
Child's Allowance	15,776	15,489^{3/}	15,264^{3/}	15,642	16,232	16,326
<i>Of whom children of beneficiaries of:</i>						
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	237	237	228 ^{3/}	245	237	207
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	10,436	10,151	9,059	9,051	8,853	8,632
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	5,103	5,101	5,977	6,346	7,142	7,487

^{1/} drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

^{2/} drawing Additional Basic Invalid's Pension (Carer's Allowance)

^{3/} revised

(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1995/96 - 2000/01

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00 ^{1/}	2000/01
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	1,190.6	1,583.1	1,764.7	2,047.8	2,208.4	2,484.4
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	209.6	325.3	366.5	422.0	451.2	499.4
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's and Child's Allowance)	189.2	302.3	351.4	430.1	484.9	568.3
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	5.8	7.4	7.8	10.9	10.2	13.0

^{1/} revised

Source: Ministry of Social Security

Table 5.2 - No. of beneficiaries of basic pensions and amount paid, Island of Mauritius

(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 1996 - June 2001

Pension type	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 96	June 97	June 98	June 99	June 00	June 01
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	101,267	104,522	106,004	106,650	108,840	109,863
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{1/}	9,699	10,743	10,805	11,401	12,735	13,505
Basic Widow's Pension	19,626	20,112	20,459	20,813	20,973	21,577
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	15,781	16,988	17,031	18,390 ^{3/}	19,481	20,686
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{2/}	3,408	3,838	4,059	4,788 ^{3/}	5,276 ^{3/}	5,592
Basic Orphan's Pension	680	708	578	563	546	489
Guardian's Allowance	591	579	482	471	438	399
Child's Allowance	15,384	15,093	14,798	15,198	15,763	15,862
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of:</i>						
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	237	237	223	221	217	192
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	10,182	9,914	8,821	8,834	8,620	8,420
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	4,965	4,942	5,754	6,143	6,926	7,250

^{1/} drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

^{2/} drawing Additional Basic Invalid's Pension (Carer's Allowance)

^{3/} revised

(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1995/96 - 2000/01

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000 ^{1/}	2000/01
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's)	1,160.4	1,542.1	1,718.2	1,993.0	2,147.2	2,416.4
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	206.1	319.8	360.7	415.4	444.4	492.7
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	184.9	295.3	341.6	418.1	472.4	555.1
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	4.6	5.9	6.2	8.8	8.1	10.9

^{1/} revised

Source: Ministry of Social Security

Table 5.3 - No. of beneficiaries of basic pensions and amount paid, Island of Rodrigues

(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 1996 - June 2001

Pension type	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 96	June 97	June 98	June 99	June 00	June 01
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	2,537	2,584	2,780	2,921	3,045	3,188
<i>severely handicapped</i> ^{1/}	283	338	448	478	552	533
Basic Widow's Pension	316	316	336	340	350	343
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	349	417	475	470	477	499
<i>severely handicapped</i> ^{2/}	91	106	153	188	185	174
Basic Orphan's Pension	180	181	160 ^{3/}	156	140	136
Guardian's Allowance	144	137	123	119	107	106
Child's Allowance	392	404	466^{3/}	444	469	464
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of</i>						
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	0	8	5 ^{3/}	24	20	15
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	254	237	238	217	233	212
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	138	159	223	203	216	237

1/ drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

2/ drawing Additional Basic Invalid's Pension (Carer's Allowance)

3/ revised

(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1995/96 - 2000/01

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	30.2	41.0	46.5	54.8	61.2	68.0
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	3.5	5.5	5.8	6.6	6.8	6.7
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	4.3	7.0	9.8	12.0	12.5	13.2
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	1.2	1.5	1.6	2.1	2.1	2.1

Source: Ministry of Social Security

Table 6 - Number of beneficiaries of other non-contributory social benefits and amount paid, Republic of Mauritius

(a) No. of beneficiaries by type of benefit, June 1996 - June 2001

Type of benefit	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 96	June 97	June 98	June 99	June 00	June 01
Social Aid ^{1/}	10,761	11,200	11,048	11,865	12,622	14,242
Food Aid ^{2/}	61,400	55,700	51,000	48,800	47,100	48,700
Indoor Relief (Capitation Grant)	757	761	784	807	829	847
Inmate's Allowance ^{2/}	939	940	923	938	934	939
Unemployment Hardship Relief	340	227	237 ^{2/}	212 ^{2/}	233 ^{2/}	276
Funeral Grant ^{3/}	624	960	1,006	1,278	1,335	1,720

^{1/} the no. of beneficiaries of Social Aid refers to the no. of heads of families who benefit from Social Aid for themselves and for members of their family.

^{2/} revised

^{3/} refers to the number of payments

(b) Amount paid by type of benefit, Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1995/96 - 2000/2001

Type of benefit	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/2001
Social Aid	91.2	108.8	123.0	150.8	176.7 ^{1/}	203.7
Food Aid	23.9	21.7	19.9	19.0	18.3	19.0
Indoor Relief (Capitation Grant)	12.0	14.1	15.5	18.8	21.1	22.9
Inmate's Allowance	1.8	2.3 ^{1/}	2.5	3.2	3.6	3.9
Unemployment Hardship Relief	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9 ^{1/}	1.2
Funeral Grant	1.0	1.5	1.7	2.6	3.1 ^{1/}	3.7

^{1/} revised

Source: Ministry of Social Security

Table 7 - Number of beneficiaries^{1/} of Social Aid by district, June 1996 - June 2001

District/ Island	June 96	June 97	June 98	June 99	June 00	June 01
Port-Louis	2,194	2,192	2,289	2,355	2,434	2,631
Pamplemousses	1,120	1,157	1,175	1,342	1,385	1,655
Riviere du Rempart	1,177	1,207	1,053	1,039	1,166	1,206
Flacq	803	914	922	896	1,214	1,452
Grand-Port	893	758	728	786	851	892
Savanne	635	690	680	739	717	817
Plaine-Wilhems	2,189	2,419	2,450	2,772	2,825	3,260
Moka	395	389	323	320	346	530
Black River	455	526	525	606	680	726
<i>Island of Mauritius</i>	<i>9,861</i>	<i>10,252</i>	<i>10,145</i>	<i>10,855</i>	<i>11,618</i>	<i>13,169</i>
<i>Island of Rodrigues</i>	<i>900</i>	<i>948</i>	<i>903</i>	<i>1,010</i>	<i>1,004</i>	<i>1,073</i>
Republic of Mauritius	10,761	11,200	11,048	11,865	12,622	14,242

^{1/} heads of families who benefit from Social Aid for themselves & for members of their family

Source: Ministry of Social Security

Table 8 - Contribution to the National Pensions Fund (NPF), financial years 1995/96 - 2000/2001

	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/2001
No. of employers ^{1/} contributing to the NPF ^{2/}	14,900	15,100	15,200	15,400	15,400	15,100
Amount contributed by employers and employees (Rs Mn)	718.9	761.8	841.6	890.7	979.0 ^{1/}	1,043.1
Surcharge paid by employers (Rs Mn)	5.8	7.4	8.1	7.1	6.9	7.3
Size of the NPF (Rs Mn) at end of financial year	10,312.7 ^{2/}	12,101.6	14,258.2	16,442.3	18,887.3	21,810.4

^{1/} include the self employed and those who have contributed at least once during the financial year

^{2/} revised

Table 9(a) - No. of beneficiaries of contributory pensions, Republic of Mauritius

June 1996 - June 2001

Pension type	June 96	June 97	June 98	June 99	June 2000	June 2001
Contributory Retirement Pension	25,280	27,262	28,295	29,797	31,453	32,587
Contributory Widow's Pension ^{1/}	6,416	7,044	8,231	9,080	9,748	10,547
Contributory Invalid's Pension	2,335	2,636	2,603	3,124 ^{1/}	3,443	3,891
Contributory Orphan's Pension	104	108	91 ^{1/}	104	99	89
Industrial Injury Allowance	921 ^{1/}	895 ^{1/}	981 ^{1/}	926 ^{1/}	976	921

^{1/} revised, includes widows of all ages

Table 9(b) - Amount paid to beneficiaries of contributory pensions, Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1995/96 - 2000/2001

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01
Contributory Retirement Pension	106.9	127.1	152.8	178.8	212.3 ^{1/}	245.0
Contributory Widow's Pension	19.1	22.2	28.7	34.5	40.8 ^{1/}	48.7
Contributory Invalid's Pension	6.9	8.1	8.8	10.2	11.7	13.7
Contributory Orphan's Pension	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Industrial Injury Allowance ^{2/}	16.8	21.4	22.6	21.8	24.0 ^{1/}	21.1

^{1/} revised

^{2/} include lump sum

Source: Ministry of Social Security

Table 10(a) - No. of persons receiving assistance from the National Solidarity Fund, Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1995/96 - 2000/2001

Contingency	Number of beneficiaries					
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01
Personal hardship scheme						
<i>Birth of triplets</i>	2	3	-	-	1	1
<i>Fire victims</i>	3	1	79	110	15	-
<i>Cyclone relief</i>	-	-	5	10	5	-
Medical treatment abroad ^{1/}	74	N.A	109	123	57	9

Table 10(b) - Amount paid to persons receiving assistance from the National Solidarity Fund, Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1995/96 - 2000/2001

Contingency	Amount paid (Rs 000)					
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01
Personal hardship scheme						
<i>Birth of triplets</i>	10	15	-	-	5	10
<i>Fire victims</i>	5	5	395	547	75	-
<i>Cyclone relief</i>	-	-	25	50	25	-
Medical treatment abroad ^{1/}	3,004	2,525	6,170	8,746	5,966	442

^{1/} transferred to the Ministry of Health since November 1999; only pending cases are being processed by the NSF.

N.A : not available

Source: Ministry of Social Security

Table 11 - Projected mid-year population by broad age-group and sex in selected years, Republic of Mauritius, 2001 - 2041

Age-group (years)	2001			2011			2021			2031			2041		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Under 15	155,623	151,513	307,136	149,439	144,995	294,434	145,326	141,261	286,587	142,622	138,568	281,190	138,541	134,569	273,110
15-59	391,632	391,933	783,565	430,104	433,285	863,389	439,448	444,539	883,987	436,649	440,262	876,911	430,538	430,023	860,561
60 & over	47,235	61,945	109,180	65,090	84,617	149,707	102,150	126,062	228,212	137,589	167,646	305,235	159,021	194,764	353,785
Total (no.)	594,490	605,391	1,199,881	644,633	662,897	1,307,530	686,924	711,862	1,398,786	716,860	746,476	1,463,336	728,100	759,356	#####
Pensioner support ratio ^{1/}	8.3	6.3	7.2	6.6	5.1	5.8	4.3	3.5	3.9	3.2	2.6	2.9	2.7	2.2	2.4

^{1/} 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

(a) Projected no. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 2001 - June 2041

Pension type	Actual no. of beneficiaries June 2001	Projected number of beneficiaries			
		June 2011	June 2021	June 2031	June 2041
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	113,051	149,707	228,212	305,235	353,785
<i>severely handicapped</i> ^{1/}	14,038	17,400	25,100	36,800	47,650
Basic Widow's Pension	21,920	29,800	33,500	33,900	33,100
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	21,185	25,700	27,600	27,500	27,100
<i>severely handicapped</i> ^{2/}	5,766	7,000	7,600	7,500	7,400
Basic Orphan's Pension	625	620	600	580	570
Guardian's Allowance	505	500	485	470	460
Child's Allowance	16,326	16,210	15,600	15,180	14,890
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of:</i>					
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	207	210	200	200	190
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	8,632	8,650	8,300	8,080	7,900
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	7,487	7,350	7,100	6,900	6,800

^{1/} drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

^{2/} drawing Additional Basic Invalid's Pension (Carer's Allowance)

(b) Estimated future costs (Rs million) by pension type, financial years 2000/2001 - 2040/41

Pension type	Actual amount 2000/2001	Estimated future costs at 2000/2001 pension rates			
		2010/11	2020/21	2030/31	2040/41
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	2,484	3,300	5,000	6,700	7,900
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	499	640	710	715	700
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	568	630	675	675	660
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	13	9	9	9	8

Non-contributory benefits by type and amount payable in 1995/96 and 2000/2001

Pension type	Amount payable (Rs)	
	1995/96	2000/2001
	Monthly	
Basic Retirement Pension (BRP) for ages : 60-74	675 ^{1/}	1,500
75-89	840 ^{1/}	1,500
90-99	3,900	5,725
100+	4,000	6,500
Basic Widow's Pension (BWP)	675	1,500
Basic Invalid's Pension (BIP)	675	1,500
Basic Orphan's Pension (BOP)	350	840
Guardian's Allowance	175	370
Child's Allowance for ages : (0-10) years	135	490
10 years & above	210	520
Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension (BRP) for ages : 60-74	1350 ^{2/}	2,560
75-89	1515 ^{2/}	2,560
90-99	4,575	6,785
100+	4,675	7,560
Additional Basic Invalid's Pension (Carer's Allowance)	560	920
Social Aid (minimum amount payable)	250	395
Food Aid	30	30
Inmate's Allowance : (a) Charitable Institutions	100	250
(b) Brown Sequard Hospital	169	375
Unemployment Hardship Relief (minimum amount payable)	67	95
Minimum Contributory Retirement Pension	167	230
	Daily	
Indoor Relief : Under 90 years	45	75
(90 - 100) years	45	225
100 years and over	45	235
	Per case	
Funeral Grant	1,400	2,145
Allowance under the National Solidarity Fund:		
- Medical treatment abroad (maximum amount payable)	50,000	100,000
- Personal Hardship Scheme (maximum amount payable)	5,000	100,000

^{1/} from March to June 1996, amount was Rs1,000

^{2/} from March to June 1996, amount was Rs 1,675

Source: Ministry of Social Security

Age-group (years)	Number of widows	Total female population	% widows
15 - 19	8	50,417	0.0
20 - 24	98	55,784	0.2
25 - 29	273	47,048	0.6
30 - 34	684	49,551	1.4
35 - 39	1,449	50,325	2.9
40 - 44	2,598	44,608	5.8
45 - 49	4,408	38,798	11.4
50 - 54	5,847	29,149	20.1
55 - 59	6,354	21,263	29.9
15 - 59	21,719	386,943	5.6
60 & over	36,590	60,948	60.0
15 & over	58,309	447,891	13.0

ASSUMPTIONS USED FOR ESTIMATING FUTURE COSTS OF BASIC PENSIONS

Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)

Beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension

These are assumed to be the projected population aged 60 and over.

Beneficiaries of Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

The proportion of beneficiaries of BRP who obtain this additional pension has been worked out by 5-year age-group and sex for 2001. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant in the future.

Beneficiaries of Child's Allowance

The proportion of children receiving Child's Allowance (BRP cases) has been worked out by 5-year age-group and sex for 2001. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant in the future.

Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)

Beneficiaries of Basic Widow's Pension

The proportion of women who are widows has been worked out by 5-year age-group for 2001. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant in the future.

Beneficiaries of Child's Allowance

The proportion of children receiving Child's Allowance (BWP cases) has been worked out by 5-year age-group and sex for 2001. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant in the future.

Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)

Beneficiaries of Basic Invalid's Pension

The proportion of the population who are such pensioners has been worked out by 5-year age-group and sex for 2001. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant in the future.

Beneficiaries of Carer's Allowance

It has been assumed that the proportion of BIP beneficiaries who obtain this additional pension remains the same as in 2001.

Beneficiaries of Child's Allowance

The proportion of children receiving Child's Allowance (BIP cases) has been worked out by 5-year age-group and sex for 2001. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant in the future.

Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)

Beneficiaries of Basic Orphan's Pension

The proportion of children receiving Basic Orphan's Pension has been worked out by 5-year age-group and sex for 2001. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant in the future.

Beneficiaries of Guardian's Allowance

The average no of beneficiaries of Basic Orphan's Pension per guardian has been assumed to remain the same as in 2001.