

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS
REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, JANUARY-JUNE 2003

1. Population estimates, 1st July 2003

As at 1st July 2003, the population of the Republic of Mauritius was estimated at 1,223,074 of whom 605,251 were males and 617,823 females, giving a sex ratio of 98.0 males per 100 females. Given a population of 1,210,485 at mid-2002, the population growth during the period July 2002 to June 2003 is estimated at around 1.0%. The population of the Island of Mauritius grew at a rate of 1.0%, rising from 1,174,021 (581,332 males and 592,689 females) in mid-2002 to 1,186,342 (587,010 males and 599,332 females) in mid-2003. Over the same period, the population of Rodrigues grew at a lower rate of 0.7% from 36,175 (17,925 males and 18,250 females) to 36,443 (18,048 males and 18,395 females). The population of the outer islands (Agalega and Saint Brandon) is estimated at 289 (193 males and 96 females).

The Republic of Mauritius, with a total land area of 2,040 square kilometres, had a population density of around 600 persons per square kilometre in mid-2003. The population densities of the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues were 636 and 350 respectively. (Table 1).

Table 2 shows comparative population estimates and selected indicators for the past three years.

2. Components of population growth

Table 3 shows the contribution of each component of population growth, namely natural increase and net international migration to the population increase registered during the first semester of 2003. The net gain of 6,293 persons registered during that period, is the result of an excess of 5,904 births over deaths (natural increase) and another of 389 arrivals over departures (net international migration).

3. Vital Statistics and rates

Table 4 shows some vital statistics for 2002 and 2003 while Table 5 gives a series of rates for the years 2001 to 2003 for the Republic of Mauritius, the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues.

3.1 Live births

During the first semester of 2003, 10,017 live births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, representing a 0.7% decrease from 10,089 in the corresponding period of 2002. The number of live births forecast for 2003 is 19,800, with a crude birth rate of 16.2 live births per 1000 mid-year population compared to 16.5 in 2002. The forecast for 2003 for the Island of Mauritius is 18,900 (rate of 15.9) and for Rodrigues is 900 (rate of 24.7).

3.2 Deaths

In the Republic of Mauritius, a total of 4,113 deaths was registered during the first six months of 2003 compared to 4,151 during the same period in 2002, that is a 0.9% decrease. It is estimated that the number of deaths for the year 2003 will total 8,460 for the Republic, corresponding to a crude death rate of 6.9, the same as in 2002. The expected number of deaths in 2003 for the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues are 8,270 (rate of 7.0) and 190 (rate of 5.2) respectively.

3.3 Infant deaths

During the period January to June 2003, 113 infant deaths were registered in the Republic of Mauritius against 152 during the same period in 2002, that is a 25.7% decrease. Around 220 infant deaths are expected for the Republic in 2003, giving an infant mortality rate of 11.1 against 14.9 in 2002. The forecast for the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues for 2003 are 200 (rate of 10.6) and 20 (rate of 22.2) respectively.

3.4 Still births

During the first semester of 2003, a total of 117 still births was registered in the Republic of Mauritius against 102 for the same period in 2002, that is a 14.7% increase. The number of still births forecast for the Republic of Mauritius in 2003 is 220, giving a still birth rate of 11.0 against 10.1 in 2002. The number of still births forecast for the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues in 2003 are 210 (rate of 11.0) and 10 (rate of 11.0) respectively.

3.5 Marriages

A total of 4,570 marriages was registered in the Republic of Mauritius during the first semester of 2003 representing a 0.9% increase over the number registered during the same period in 2002 (4,530). The number of marriages forecast for 2003 is 10,650 giving a crude marriage rate of 17.4 as against 17.3 in 2002. The expected number of marriages in 2003 for the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues are 10,460 (rate of 17.6) and 190 (rate of 10.4) respectively.

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NOTES

1. Vital Statistics : The statistics pertaining to vital events which include live births, deaths, still births, marriages and divorces.
2. Sex ratio : The number of males to every 100 females.
3. Natural increase : The excess of live births over deaths.
4. Crude birth rate : The number of live births in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.
5. Crude death rate : The number of deaths in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.
6. Infant mortality rate : The number of deaths in a year of infants aged under one year per 1,000 live births during the year.
7. Still birth rate : The number of still births in a year per 1,000 total births (live births and still births) during the year.
8. Marriage rate : The number of persons married in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.
9. Divorce rate : The number of persons to whom divorce is granted in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.

Table 1 - Estimated resident population - 1st July 2003¹

Island	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio	Area (km ²)	Population Density (per km ²)
Mauritius	1,186,342	587,010	599,332	97.9	1,864.8	636
Rodrigues	36,443	18,048	18,395	98.1	104.0	350
Other	289	193	96	201.0	71.2	4
Republic	1,223,074	605,251	617,823	98.0	2,040.0	600

Table 2 - Estimated resident population by sex - Republic of Mauritius, 2001 - 2003 (Mid-year estimates)

Year	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio	Population Density (per Km ²)
2001	1,200,170	594,683	605,487	98.2	588
2002	1,210,485	599,450	611,035	98.1	593
2003 ¹	1,223,074	605,251	617,823	98.0	600

Table 3 - Components of population growth during the first semester of 2002 and 2003, Republic of Mauritius ²

Components of population growth	2002	2003
<u>Resident population as at beginning of year</u>	<u>1,205,388</u>	<u>1,216,492</u>
<i>Live births, January-June</i>	10,089	10,017
<i>Deaths, January-June</i>	4,151	4,113
<u>Natural increase, January-June</u>	<u>5,938</u>	<u>5,904</u>
<i>Arrival of residents, January-June</i>	71,035	71,445
<i>Departure of residents, January-June</i>	72,165	71,056
<u>Net international migration, January-June</u>	<u>-1,130</u>	<u>389</u>
<u>Resident population as at mid-year</u>	<u>1,210,196</u>	<u>1,222,785</u>

¹ Provisional

² excluding other islands (Agalega and St Brandon), where 289 residents were enumerated at the 2000 Census.

Note : Population estimates are based on adjusted 2000 Population Census data.

Table 4 - Vital statistics, 2002 - 2003

<i>(a) Republic of Mauritius</i> ¹			
Vital events	Jan-June 2002	Year 2002	Jan-June 2003 ²
Live births	10,089	19,983	10,017
Deaths	4,151	8,310	4,113
Natural increase	5,938	11,673	5,904
Marriages	4,530	10,484	4,570
Infant deaths	152	297	113
Still births	102	203	117
Divorces	...	1,291	...
<i>(b) Island of Mauritius</i>			
Vital events	Jan-June 2002	Year 2002	Jan-June 2003 ²
Live births	9,682	19,169	9,566
Deaths	4,043	8,081	4,027
Natural increase	5,639	11,088	5,539
Marriages	4,440	10,253	4,496
Infant deaths	143	278	104
Still births	98	197	110
<i>(c) Island of Rodrigues</i>			
Vital events	Jan-June 2002	Year 2002	Jan-June
			2003 ²
Live births	407	814	451
Deaths	108	229	86
Natural increase	299	585	365
Marriages	90	231	74
Infant deaths	9	19	9
Still births	4	6	7

¹ excluding Agalega and Saint Brandon

² provisional

... not available

Table 5 - Vital statistics rates, 2001 -2003 ¹

<i>(a) Republic of Mauritius</i>			
Rate	2001	2002	2003 ²
Crude birth rate	16.4	16.5	16.2
Crude death rate	6.7	6.9	6.9
Rate of natural increase	9.7	9.6	9.3
Crude marriage rate	17.7	17.3	17.4
Infant mortality rate	14.3	14.9	11.1
Still birth rate	12.2	10.1	11.0
Divorce rate	2.5	2.1	...
<i>(b) Island of Mauritius</i>			
Rate	2001	2002	2003 ²
Crude birth rate	16.2	16.3	15.9
Crude death rate	6.7	6.9	7.0
Rate of natural increase	9.5	9.4	8.9
Crude marriage rate	17.9	17.5	17.6
Infant mortality rate	13.9	14.5	10.6
Still birth rate	12.2	10.2	11.0
<i>(c) Island of Rodrigues</i>			
Rate	2001 ³	2002 ³	2003 ⁴
Crude birth rate	22.5	23.3	24.7
Crude death rate	5.8	5.9	5.2
Rate of natural increase	16.7	17.4	19.5
Crude marriage rate	12.9	11.8	10.4
Infant mortality rate	22.2	23.0	22.2
Still birth rate	7.7	10.2	11.0

¹ refer to explanatory notes

² forecast

³ because of the small number of events registered in Rodrigues, the rates have been calculated by taking the average for a period of three years so as to remove wide fluctuations

⁴ based on projected events for the year only

... not available