

SOCIAL SECURITY STATISTICS

1997/98 –2002/2003

1. Introduction

This is the eighth 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 1997 to June 2003. Data on the number of beneficiaries refer 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 and contributory benefits.

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, the invalids, the widows and the 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 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 who have contributed 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 by the insured worker. For those persons whose contributions were marginal, government guarantees a minimum contributory pension.

3. Population age-structure

As shown in Tables 1 & 2, the mid-year population of the Republic of Mauritius increased from 1,159,729 in 1998 to 1,222,811 in 2003. The child population aged below 15 years declined in terms of proportion (from 26.2% to 23.2% of the total) but increased slightly from 303,837 to 307,958. The elderly population aged 60 years and above grew both in absolute and relative terms from 101,274 (8.7% of the total) in 1998 to 112,444 (9.2% of the total) in 2003. It should be pointed out that these estimates, computed by the Central Statistics Office on the basis of the 1990 and 2000 Censuses, differ from the number of persons reported by the Ministry of Social Security as drawing the old-age pension (108,784 in June 1998 and 116,324 in June 2003). 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 on account of deaths or absences from the country for more than 6 months.

Table 3 shows the number of widows by age as reported at the 2000 Census. The number of widows enumerated was 58,309, representing 13% of all women aged 15 years and over. Those who were eligible for Basic Widow's Pension, that is aged 15 to 59 years, numbered 21,719.

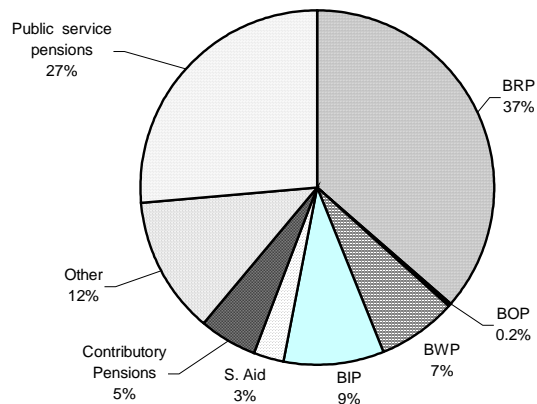
4. Expenditure on Social Security and Welfare

Government expenditure on Social Security and Welfare consists of expenditure and transfers made by government for the social welfare of the community, in line with the recommendations of the Government Finance Statistics Manual 1986 of the International Monetary Fund. It covers all expenses made by the Ministry of Social Security and the Ministry of Women's Rights together with components of social welfare of all government organizations as well as Local Government.

As shown in Table 4, expenditure on Social Security and Welfare for the financial year 2002/2003 was Rs 7,795 million compared to Rs 4,485 million in 1997/98. In terms of proportion, Social Security and Welfare expenditure accounted for 20.3% of total government expenditure in 2002/2003 against 20.5% in 1997/98.

The pie chart below (Figure 1) shows the share of each component of government expenditure on Social Security and Welfare. It is observed that the main components are the Basic Retirement Pension (BRP or old age pension) with a share of 37% followed by public service pensions (27%).

Figure 1 - Components of Government expenditure on Social Security and Welfare, 2002/03



5. NON-CONTRIBUTORY BENEFITS

5.1 Basic pensions

(a) Basic Retirement Pensions (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 6.9% from 108,784 (106,004 in Mauritius and 2,780 in Rodrigues) in June 1998 to 116,324 (112,966 in Mauritius and 3,358 in Rodrigues) in June 2003.

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 2003 was 15,599 of whom 15,158 in the Island of Mauritius (Table 5.2(a)) and 441 in Rodrigues (Table 5.3(a)).

The total amount disbursed to all old-age pensioners in the Republic was Rs 2,840.9 million in 2002/2003 compared to Rs 1,764.7 million in 1997/98 (Table 5.1(b)).

(b) Basic Widow's Pension (BWP)

Basic Widow's Pension is payable to widows aged 15 to 59 years who were either civilly or religiously married to their late husband. In June 2003, the number of beneficiaries of such pension was 22,861 (22,504 in Mauritius and 357 in Rodrigues) compared to 20,795 (20,459 in Mauritius and 336 in Rodrigues) in June 1998, i.e. an increase of 9.9%. The amount disbursed on Basic Widow's Pension was Rs 577 million in 2002/2003 compared to Rs 367 million in 1997/98.

(c) Basic Invalid's Pension (BIP)

The Basic Invalid's Pension is payable to any person aged 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 23,627 (23,089 in Mauritius and 538 in Rodrigues) in June 2003 from 17,506 in June 1998 (17,031 in Mauritius and 475 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 2003, this category of pensioners stood at 6,533 compared to 4,212 in June 1998.

The total amount of Basic Invalid's Pension (inclusive of Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance) increased to Rs 702 million in 2002/2003 from Rs 351 million in 1997/98.

(d) Basic Orphan's Pension (BOP)

Basic Orphan's Pension is payable to all orphans up to the age of 15, and up to 20 years 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 decreased from 738 in June 1998 to 553 in June 2003. A similar trend is noted in the islands of Mauritius (from 578 to 440) and Rodrigues (from 160 to 113). Consequently, the total number of guardians in the Republic declined from 605 to 456 in the five-year period. The number of orphans per guardian however remained at around 1.2.

In spite of the decreasing number of beneficiaries, expenditure on Basic Orphan's Pension and Guardian's Allowance rose to Rs 12.2 million in 2002/2003 from Rs 7.8 million in 1997/98. This is due to increases in the rates payable.

(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 17,504 (17,028 for island of Mauritius and 476 for Rodrigues) in June 2003 compared to 15,264 (14,798 for island of Mauritius and 466 for Rodrigues) in June 1998.

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 total income and the expected overall expenditure of the family.

The total number of families benefiting from such assistance increased by 40% from 11,048 in June 1998 to 15,521 in June 2003. In the Island of Mauritius, the corresponding increase was 38% (from 10,145 to 13,994) and in Rodrigues, 69% (from 903 to 1,527). 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 in 2002/2003 was Rs 220 million, nearly twice the amount in 1997/98 (Rs 123 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, i.e.

(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, 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 48,200 in June 2003. The total amount paid out in 2002/2003 was Rs 19 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 857 in June 2003 compared to 784 in June 1998. The amount disbursed under that scheme increased from Rs 16 million in 1997/98 to Rs 28 million in 2002/2003.

(d) Inmate's Allowance

Inmate's Allowance refers to the pocket money given to certain residents of government-subsidized institutions and of the government psychiatric hospital, Brown Sequard Hospital. The number of persons, who received such pocket money, was 950 in June 2003 compared to 923 in June 1998. However, due to increases in the rates payable, inmate's allowance nearly doubled from 1997/98 (Rs 2.5 million) to 2002/2003 (Rs 4.8 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 237 in June 1998 to 323 in June 2003. The amount paid to UHR beneficiaries was Rs 2 million in 2002/2003 compared to Rs 1 million in 1997/98.

(f) Funeral Grant

A funeral grant is meant to cover funeral expenses of persons from low-income families. The number of payments for funeral expenses rose from 1,006 in 1997/98 to 1,960 in 2002/2003. The amount disbursed increased from Rs 1.7 million in 1997/98 to Rs 5.0 million in 2002/2003.

6. Contribution to the NPF and contributory benefits

(a) The National Pension Scheme

The National Pension Scheme was introduced in April 1976. It provides for the payment 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 as from July 1978. Other employees joined the Scheme as from January 1980 except for household workers for whom the operative date was July 1980. The self-employed were also eligible to join the Scheme as 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 585 for household employees and Rs 975 for other employees during the financial year 2002/2003. The maximum monthly remuneration for both categories was Rs 6,435 during that period.

(b) The National Pensions Fund

The number of employers contributing to the NPF in respect of their employees was estimated at around 15,100 in 2002/2003 compared to 15,200 in 1997/98. The contributions received, exclusive of surcharge, rose from Rs 840 million in 1997/98 to Rs 1,140 million (Table 8).

At the end of June 2003, total net assets of the NPF were Rs 28 billion compared to Rs 14 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).

(c) Contributory Pensions

(i) Contributory Retirement Pension (CRP)

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, the number of beneficiaries of this type of pension has been increasing during the past years - from 28,295 in June 1998 to 34,775 in June 2003. The total amount paid out to such beneficiaries also went up from Rs 153 million in 1997/98 to Rs 310 million in 2002/2003.

(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 12,403 in June 2003 compared to 8,231 in June 1998. The amount disbursed was Rs 67 million in 2002/2003 against Rs 29 million in 1997/98.

(iii) Contributory Invalid's Pension (CIP)

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 was 2,603 in June 1998 and increased to 4,766 in June 2003. The amount paid to these pensioners doubled from Rs 9 million in 1997/98 to Rs 18 million in 2001/2002.

(iv) Contributory Orphan's pension (COP)

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 June 1998 to June 2003, the number of orphans benefiting from this pension declined from 91 to 81. The amount disbursed to such beneficiaries was Rs 0.1 million in 1997/98, the same as in 2002/2003.

(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. The number of such cases decreased from 981 in June 1998 to 914 in June 2003. The amount disbursed which was Rs 23 million in 1997/98, increased to Rs 26 million in 2002/2003.

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. Initially its objectives were to provide financial assistance to citizens requiring surgical operations that can only be performed abroad and to those undergoing severe personal hardship. Since November 1999, with the

creation of the “Trust Fund for Overseas Treatment” operating under the aegis of the Ministry of Health, all surgical operations cases have been transferred there. The National Solidarity Fund has then enlarged the scope of its activities under the “Severe Personal Hardship Scheme” to cover also tragic accidents, needy students, medical cases etc.

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 2002/2003, 121 cases were assisted by the National Solidarity Fund and the amount disbursed to them was around Rs 4,630,000 which was nearly twice that of 2001/2002. More details are given in tables 10(a) and 10(b).

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

In 2003, there were 112,444 persons aged 60 and over, and 802,409 in the working age group (15-59) years. The pensioner support ratio, defined as the number of persons of working age (15-59) years per old age pensioner (aged 60 years and over), worked out to about 7.1 (Table 11). This ratio is expected to fall to about 2.3 in forty years essentially due to a very high increase in the population aged 60 years and over, which will then constitute around 24.5% of total population compared to 9.2% in 2003.

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.

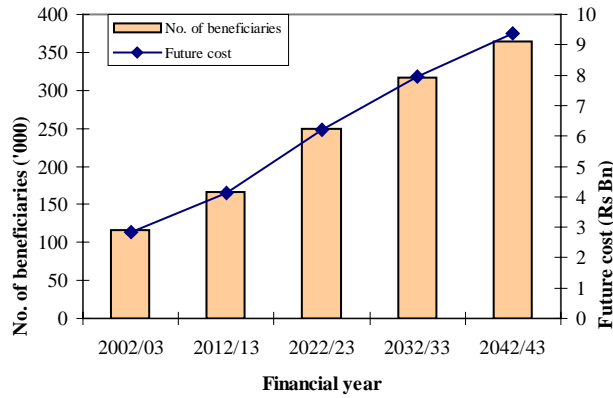
It is expected that the number of beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension which was around 116,300 in 2003 will increase to about 364,100 in forty years while the number of persons suffering from a severe disability will rise to 53,300.

The number of beneficiaries of Basic Widow's Pension, which was 22,900 in June 2003, is expected to grow to about 31,500 in the next four decades. During that period the number of beneficiaries of Basic Invalid's Pension, which was 23,600 in 2003 will increase to around 28,300.

The amount to be disbursed by government in future years is given in Table 12(b). These estimates are expressed in terms of the 2002/2003 pension rates. As shown in the table, Basic Retirement (old age) pensions is expected to increase dramatically from Rs 2.8 billion in 2002/2003 to around Rs 9.4 billion in some forty years due to the ageing of the population.

The chart below (Figure 2) shows the evolution in the number of beneficiaries and future cost of the Basic Retirement Pension.

Figure 2 - Projected number of beneficiaries and future cost of BRP, 2002/03 - 2042/43



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 1.6 billion within the next forty years compared to Rs 1.3 billion in 2002/2003.

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Table 1 - Estimated mid year population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius & Island of Rodrigues, 1998 & 2003

Year	Both Sexes	Male	Female
1998 ^{1/}			
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
2003 ^{2/}			
Republic of Mauritius	1,222,811	605,084	617,727
Island of Mauritius	1,186,363	587,024	599,339
Island of Rodrigues	36,448	18,060	18,388

Table 2 - Estimated mid year population by age-group & sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1998 & 2003

Age-group (years)	1998 ^{1/}			2003 ^{2/}		
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female
<i>Under 15</i>	303,837	154,187	149,650	307,958	156,119	151,839
0-4	101,765	51,295	50,470	98,048	49,916	48,132
5-9	107,872	54,827	53,045	101,728	51,264	50,464
10-14	94,200	48,065	46,135	108,182	54,939	53,243
<i>15-59</i>	754,618	381,759	372,859	802,409	400,587	401,822
15-19	112,873	57,071	55,802	93,817	47,426	46,391
20-24	105,360	53,447	51,913	111,321	55,825	55,496
25-29	91,324	47,184	44,140	103,665	51,338	52,327
30-34	104,137	53,561	50,576	91,466	45,682	45,784
35-39	97,174	49,633	47,541	103,195	51,743	51,452
40-44	84,300	42,845	41,455	96,001	48,438	47,563
45-49	73,021	36,569	36,452	83,247	41,845	41,402
50-54	50,821	24,567	26,254	71,325	35,347	35,978
55-59	35,608	16,882	18,726	48,372	22,943	25,429
<i>60 & Over</i>	101,274	43,711	57,563	112,444	48,378	64,066
60-64	32,042	14,872	17,170	33,016	15,299	17,717
65-69	24,182	10,931	13,251	28,739	12,957	15,782
70-74	22,192	9,569	12,623	20,135	8,678	11,457
75-79	12,223	4,899	7,324	16,780	6,789	9,991
80+	10,635	3,440	7,195	13,774	4,655	9,119
Total	1,159,729	579,657	580,072	1,222,811	605,084	617,727

^{1/} based on the 1990 population census data adjusted for underenumeration of young children (1,329 males and 786 females at ages 0-5 years).

^{2/} based on the 2000 population census data adjusted for underenumeration of children (4,456 males and 3,569 females at ages 0-9 years).

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^{1/} - Republic of Mauritius, 1997/98 - 2002/03

Government expenditure on Social Security & Welfare	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Rs (million)	4,484.8	5,448.2	5,953.2	6,647.2	7,268.3	7,795.3
% of total government expenditure	20.5	21.1	21.7	21.4	21.8	20.3

^{1/} revised

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

(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 1998 -June 2003

Pension type	No. of beneficiaries					
	June 98	June 99	June 00	June 01	June 02	June 03
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension)	108,784	109,571	111,885	113,131	114,792	116,324
<i>of whom</i>						
<i>Severely handicapped ^{1/}</i>	11,253	11,879	13,287	14,020	14,905	15,599
Basic Widow's Pension	20,795	21,153	21,323	22,140	22,484	22,861
Basic Invalid's Pension	17,506	18,860	19,958	21,970	23,005	23,627
<i>of whom</i>						
<i>Severely handicapped ^{2/}</i>	4,212	4,976	5,461	5,875	6,234	6,533
Basic Orphan's Pension	738	719	686	651	602	553
Guardian's Allowance	605	590	545	522	491	456
Child's Allowance	15,264	15,642	16,232	17,451	17,510	17,504
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of:</i>						
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	228	245	237	233	220	212
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	9,059	9,051	8,853	9,001	8,672	8,300
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	5,977	6,346	7,142	8,217	8,618	8,992

^{1/} drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

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

(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1997/98 - 2002/03

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	1,764.7	2,047.8	2,208.4	2,484.4	2,592.9	2,840.9
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	366.5	422.0	451.2	499.4	521.3	577.4
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	351.4	430.1	484.9	568.3	615.7	701.9
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	7.8	10.9	10.2	13.0	11.1	12.2

Table 5.2 - No. of beneficiaries of basic pensions and amount paid, Island of Mauritius
(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 1998 - June 2003

Pension type	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 98	June 99	June 00	June 01	June 02	June 03
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	106,004	106,650	108,840	109,938	111,541	112,966
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{1/}	10,805	11,401	12,735	13,485	14,425	15,158
Basic Widow's Pension	20,459	20,813	20,973	21,794	22,134	22,504
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	17,031	18,390	19,481	21,456	22,463	23,089
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{2/}	4,059	4,788	5,276	5,691	6,059	6,371
Basic Orphan's Pension	578	563	546	512	469	440
Guardian's Allowance	482	471	438	415	386	359
Child's Allowance	14,798	15,198	15,763	16,964	17,018	17,028
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of:</i>						
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	223	221	217	214	203	200
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	8,821	8,834	8,620	8,784	8,463	8,093
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	5,754	6,143	6,926	7,966	8,352	8,735

^{1/} drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

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

(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1997/98 - 2002/03

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	1,718.2	1,993.0	2,147.2	2,416.4	2,522.0	2,763.7
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	360.7	415.4	444.4	492.7	514.5	570.3
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	341.6	418.1	472.4	555.1	601.0	686.2
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	6.2	8.8	8.1	10.9	8.9	10.0

Table 5.3 - No. of beneficiaries of basic pensions and amount paid, Island of Rodrigues
(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 1998 - June 2003

Pension type	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 98	June 99	June 00	June 01	June 02	June 03
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	2,780	2,921	3,045	3,193	3,251	3,358
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{1/}	448	478	552	535	480	441
Basic Widow's Pension	336	340	350	346	350	357
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	475	470	477	514	542	538
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{2/}	153	188	185	184	175	162
Basic Orphan's Pension	160	156	140	139	133	113
Guardian's Allowance	123	119	107	107	105	97
Child's Allowance	466	444	469	487	492	476
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of</i>						
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	5	24	20	19	17	12
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	238	217	233	217	209	207
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	223	203	216	251	266	257

1/ drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

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

(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1997/98 - 2002/03

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	46.5	54.8	61.2	68.0	70.9	77.2
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	5.8	6.6	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.1
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	9.8	12.0	12.5	13.2	14.7	15.7
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	1.6	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2

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 1998 - June 2003

Type of benefit	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 98	June 99	June 00	June 01	June 02	June 03
Social Aid ^{1/}	11,048	11,865	12,622	14,242	17,026	15,521
Food Aid	51,000	48,800	47,100	48,700	46,500	48,200
Indoor Relief (Capitation Grant)	784	807	829	847	852	857
Inmate's Allowance	923	938	934	939	925	950
Unemployment Hardship Relief	237	212	233	276	202	323 ^{3/}
Funeral Grant ^{2/}	1,006	1,278	1,335	1,720	1,969	1,960

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

^{2/} refers to the number of payments during the financial year

^{3/} provisional

(b) Amount paid by type of benefit, Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1997/98 - 2002/2003

Type of benefit	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Social Aid	123.0	150.8	176.7	203.7	234.5	220.0
Food Aid	19.9	19.0	18.3	19.0	18.1	18.8
Indoor Relief (Capitation Grant)	15.5	18.8	21.1	22.9	24.2	28.1
Inmate's Allowance	2.5	3.2	3.6	3.9	4.1	4.8
Unemployment Hardship Relief	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.5	2.0 ^{1/}
Funeral Grant	1.7	2.6	3.1	3.7	4.5	5.0

Table 7 - Number of cases of Social Aid by district, June 1998 - June 2003

District/ Island	June 98	June 99	June 00	June 01	June 02	June 03
Port-Louis	2,289	2,355	2,434	2,631	3,382	3,160
Pamplemousses	1,175	1,342	1,385	1,655	2,118	1,662
Riviere du Rempart	1,053	1,039	1,166	1,206	1,523	1,198
Flacq	922	896	1,214	1,452	1,398	1,354
Grand-Port	728	786	851	892	1,117	1,000
Savanne	680	739	717	817	1,000	832
Plaine-Wilhems	2,450	2,772	2,825	3,260	3,776	3,278
Moka	323	320	346	530	604	575
Black River	525	606	680	726	912	935
<i>Island of Mauritius</i>	<i>10,145</i>	<i>10,855</i>	<i>11,618</i>	<i>13,169</i>	<i>15,830</i>	<i>13,994</i>
<i>Island of Rodrigues</i>	<i>903</i>	<i>1,010</i>	<i>1,004</i>	<i>1,073</i>	<i>1,196</i>	<i>1,527</i>
Republic of Mauritius	11,048	11,865	12,622	14,242	17,026	15,521

Table 8 - Contribution to the National Pensions Fund (NPF), financial years 1997/98-2002/2003

	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
No. of employers ^{1/} contributing to the NPF	15,200	15,400	15,400	15,100	15,400	15,100
Amount contributed by employers and employees (Rs Mn)	841.6	890.7	979.0	1,043.1	1,113.3	1,142.2
Surcharge paid by employers(Rs M)	8.1	7.1	6.9	7.3	9.0	9.7
Size of the NPF (Rs Mn) at end of financial year	14,258.2	16,442.3	18,887.3	21,810.4	24,962.8	28,307.7

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

Table 9(a) - No. of beneficiaries of contributory pensions, Republic of Mauritius - June 1998 - June 2003

Pension type	June 1998	June 1999	June 2000	June 2001	June 2002	June 2003
Contributory Retirement Pension	28,295	29,797	31,453	32,767	33,957	34,775
Contributory Widow's Pension ^{1/}	8,231	9,080	9,748	10,741	11,548	12,403
Contributory Invalid's Pension	2,603	3,124	3,443	4,166	4,530	4,766
Contributory Orphan's Pension	91	104	99	82	78	81
Industrial Injury Allowance	981	926	976	921	886	914

^{1/} includes widows of all ages

Table 9(b) - Amount paid to beneficiaries of contributory pensions, Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1997/98 - 2002/2003

Pension type						
	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Contributory Retirement Pension	152.8	178.8	212.3	245.0	274.5	310.2
Contributory Widow's Pension	28.7	34.5	40.8	48.7	56.4	67.0
Contributory Invalid's Pension	8.8	10.2	11.7	13.7	15.5	18.1
Contributory Orphan's Pension	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Industrial Injury Allowance ^{1/}	22.6	21.8	24.0	21.1	24.2 ^{2/}	25.9

^{1/} including lump sum

^{2/} revised

**Table 10(a) - No. of cases receiving assistance from the National Solidarity Fund (NSF),
Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1999/2000 - 2002/2003**

Contingency				
	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Medical treatment abroad (Air ticket only)	57	9	4	26
Personal Hardship Scheme:				
<i>Multiple births</i>	1	1	8	15
<i>Fire victims</i>	15	-	10	49
<i>Natural calamities</i>	5	2	1	6
<i>Tragic accidents</i>	38	10	17	54
<i>Needy students</i>	2	20	66	66
<i>Repatriation of mortal remains</i>	2	-	1	5
<i>Assistance on humanitarian grounds</i>	6	5	5	5
<i>Destitutes</i>	11	13	84	121
<i>Incurable disease</i>	-	-	9	8
<i>Assistive device</i>	-	12	33	42
<i>Medical case</i>	4	-	2	14
Other	1	37	1	1
Total	142	109	241	412

**Table 10(b) - Amount disbursed by the National Solidarity Fund (NSF),
Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1999/2000 - 2002/2003**

Contingency				
	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Medical treatment abroad (Air ticket only)	5,966	442	79	278
Personal Hardship Scheme:				
<i>Multiple births</i>	5	10	54	102
<i>Fire victims</i>	75	-	118	760
<i>Natural calamities</i>	25	20	25	98
<i>Tragic accidents</i>	190	95	379	881
<i>Needy students</i>	10	133	329	583
<i>Repatriation of mortal remains</i>	10	-	15	115
<i>Assistance on humanitarian grounds</i>	50	206	155	157
<i>Destitutes</i>	55	131	765	799
<i>Incurable diseases</i>	-	-	206	144
<i>Assistive devices</i>	-	47	109	316
<i>Medical cases</i>	19	-	25	201
Other	10	214	100	200
Total	6,415	1,298	2,359	4,634

Table 11 - Projected mid year population by broad age group and sex in selected years, Republic of Mauritius, 2003 - 2043

Age-group (years)	2003			2013			2023			2033			2043		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Under 15	156,119	151,839	307,958	147,486	143,285	290,771	144,467	140,279	284,746	140,677	136,999	277,676	136,601	132,989	269,590
15-59	400,587	401,822	802,409	432,921	436,864	869,785	436,740	441,964	878,704	436,396	439,212	875,608	427,326	425,616	852,942
60 & over	48,378	64,066	112,444	73,381	92,358	165,739	114,887	134,775	249,662	147,356	169,942	317,298	166,507	197,601	364,108
Total	605,084	617,727	1,222,811	653,788	672,507	1,326,295	696,094	717,018	1,413,112	724,429	746,153	1,470,582	730,434	756,206	1,486,640
Pensioner support ratio ^{1/}	8.3	6.3	7.1	5.9	4.7	5.2	3.8	3.3	3.5	3.0	2.6	2.8	2.6	2.2	2.3

^{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, 2003-2043

(a) Projected no. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 2003 - June 2043

Pension type	Actual no. of beneficiaries June 2003	Projected number of beneficiaries			
		June 2013	June 2023	June 2033	June 2043
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	116,324	165,700	249,700	317,300	364,100
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{1/}	15,599	20,400	30,000	42,400	53,300
Basic Widow's Pension	22,861	29,500	32,100	33,300	31,500
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	23,627	27,600	28,800	29,300	28,300
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{2/}	6,533	7,700	8,000	8,200	7,900
Basic Orphan's Pension	553	530	520	510	490
Guardian's Allowance	456	440	430	420	410
Child's Allowance	17,504	16,910	16,400	16,100	15,700
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of:</i>					
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	212	210	200	200	200
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	8,300	8,100	7,800	7,700	7,500
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	8,992	8,600	8,400	8,200	8,000

^{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 2002/2003 - 2042/43

Pension type	Actual amount 2002/2003	Estimated future costs at 2002/2003 pension rates			
		2012/13	2022/23	2032/33	2042/43
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	2,841	4,140	6,200	7,960	9,360
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	577	715	770	795	755
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	702	780	810	820	790
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	12	9	9	9	8

Non-contributory benefits by type and amount payable in 1997/98 and 2002/2003

Pension type	Amount payable (Rs)	
	1997/98	2002/03
	<u>Monthly</u>	
Basic Retirement Pension (BRP) for ages : (60-89) years	1,150	1,700
(90-99) years	4,450	6,400
100 years and over	4,560	7,300
Basic Widow's Pension (BWP)	1,150	1,700
Basic Invalid's Pension (BIP)	1,150	1,700
Basic Orphan's Pension (BOP)	550	955
Guardian's Allowance	225	420
Child's Allowance for ages : (0-9) years	350	555
(10-19) years	380	595
Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension for ages:		
(60-89) years	1,965	2,905
(90-99) years	5,265	7,605
100 years and over	5,375	8,505
Additional Basic Invalid's Pension (Carer's Allowance)	700	1,045
Social Aid (minimum amount payable)	300	460
Food Aid	30	30
Inmate's Allowance : (a) Charitable Institutions	120	265
(b) Brown Sequard Hospital	290	490
Unemployment Hardship Relief (minimum amount payable)	67	100
Minimum Contributory Retirement Pension	191	258
	<u>Daily</u>	
Indoor Relief : Under 90 years	55	90
(90 - 99) years	55	265
100 years and over	55	275
	<u>Per case</u>	
Funeral Grant	1,665	2,480
Allowance under the National Solidarity Fund:		
Personal Hardship Scheme (maximum amount payable)	10,000	25,000

ASSUMPTIONS USED FOR ESTIMATING FUTURE COSTS OF BASIC PENSIONS

1.0 - All future costs are calculated on pension rates of 2002/2003 (flat rate).

2.1 - 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 2003. 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 2003. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant in the future.

2.2 - 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 2003. 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 2003. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant in the future.

2.3 - 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 2003. 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 2003.

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 2003. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant in the future.

2.4 - 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 2003. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant in the future.

Beneficiaries of Guardian's Allowance

The average number of beneficiaries of Basic Orphan's Pension per guardian has been assumed to remain the same as in 2003.