

# SOCIAL SECURITY STATISTICS

## 1998/99 –2003/2004

### 1. Introduction

This is the ninth 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 1998 to June 2004. 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. Figures for 2003/2004 are subject to revision in future issues.

### 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 1. 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 (Tables 1 – 3)

The estimated mid-year population of the Republic of Mauritius increased from 1,174,417 in 1999 to 1,233,386 in 2004 representing an average annual increase of about 1.0%. During that period, the child population aged below 15 years increased from 303,998 to 306,394. However as a percentage of the total population, it decreased from 25.9% to 24.8%. The elderly population aged 60 years and above grew both in absolute and relative terms from 102,748 (8.7% of the total) to 115,701 (9.4% of the total).

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 (109,571 in June 1999 and 119,448 in June 2004). 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.

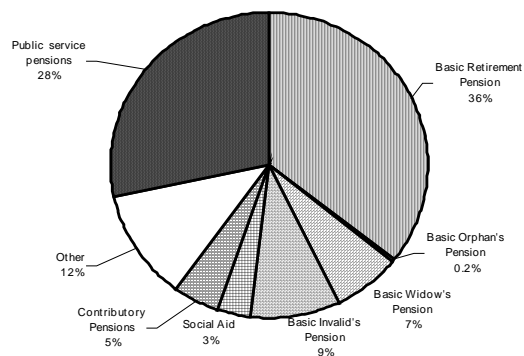
The number of widows by age group as reported at the 2000 Census was 58,309, representing 13% of all women aged 15 years and over. Those who were eligible for Basic Widow's Pension, that is aged 15 to 59 years, numbered 21,719.

### 4. Expenditure on Social Security and Welfare (Table 4)

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.

Expenditure on Social Security and Welfare for the financial year 2003/2004 was Rs 8,852

Figure 1 - Components of Government expenditure on social security and welfare, 2003/04



million compared to Rs 5,448 million in 1998/99. This amount represents 20.8% of total government expenditure in 2003/2004 against 21.1% in 1998/99.

The pie chart above (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 with a share of 36% followed by public service pensions (28%).

## **NON-CONTRIBUTORY BENEFITS**

### **5.1 Basic pensions (Tables 5.1 – 5.3)**

#### ***(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 such beneficiaries increased by 9.0% from 109,571 (106,650 in the island of Mauritius and 2,921 in the island of Rodrigues) in June 1999 to 119,448 (116,047 in the island of Mauritius and 3,401 in the island of Rodrigues) in June 2004.

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

The number of beneficiaries of the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension in June 2004 was 16,366 (15,870 in the island of Mauritius and 496 in the island of Rodrigues).

The total amount disbursed to all old-age pensioners (inclusive of Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance) was Rs 3,156.9 million in 2003/2004 compared to Rs 2,047.8 million in 1998/1999.

#### ***(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 2004, the number of beneficiaries of such pension rose by 7.6%, from 21,153 (20,813 in the island of Mauritius and 340 in the island of Rodrigues) in June 1999 to 22,757 (22,399 in the island of Mauritius and 358 in the island of Rodrigues) in June 2004.

Government expenditure on Basic Widow's Pension was Rs 610.1 million in 2003/2004 compared to Rs 422.0 million in 1998/99.

#### ***(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 such beneficiaries increased significantly by 32.7% from 18,860 (18,390 in the island of Mauritius and 470 in the island of Rodrigues) in June 1999 to 25,035 (24,441 in the island of Mauritius and 594 in the island of Rodrigues) in June 2004.

Basic Invalid Pensioners, who need the constant care and attention of another person, benefit from an additional allowance known as the Carer's Allowance. In June 2004, there were 7,132 such beneficiaries compared to 4,976 in June 1999.

The total amount spent on Basic Invalid's Pension (inclusive of Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance) increased from Rs 430.1 million in 1998/99 to Rs 805.5 million in 2003/2004 showing an increase of about 87.3% during that five-year period.

***(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 also paid 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 Basic Orphan's Pension in the Republic of Mauritius decreased from 719 in June 1999 to 529 in June 2004. A similar trend is noted in the islands of Mauritius (from 563 to 428) and Rodrigues (from 156 to 101) during that period. Consequently, the total number of guardians declined from 590 to 437 in the Republic of Mauritius. However, the number of orphans per guardian remained at around 1.2.

Though the number of such beneficiaries has decreased, expenditure on Basic Orphan's Pension and Guardian's Allowance rose from Rs 10.9 million in 1998/99 to Rs 14.4 million in 2003/2004. 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 went up from 15,642 (15,198 for the island of Mauritius and 444 for the island of Rodrigues) in June 1999 to 18,194 (17,686 for the island of Mauritius and 508 for Rodrigues) in June 2004.

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.

**5.2 OTHER NON-CONTRIBUTORY SOCIAL BENEFITS (Tables 6 – 7)**

***(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 37.8% from 11,865 in June 1999 to 16,346 in June 2004. In the Island of Mauritius, the corresponding increase was 34.1% (from 10,855 to 14,558) and in Rodrigues, 77.0% (from 1,010 to 1,788).

The total amount paid to beneficiaries of Social Aid in 2003/2004 was Rs 295.3 million, nearly twice the amount in 1998/99 (Rs 150.8 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.

(i) All recipients of Social Aid and their dependents.

(ii) All beneficiaries of Unemployment Hardship Relief.

(iii) 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 44,500 in June 2004 and the total amount paid in 2003/2004 was Rs 17.4 million. It is to be noted that though subsidy on rice and flour was reintroduced as from 1995/96, payment of Food Aid has 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. There were 826 recipients of Indoor Relief in June 2004 as compared to 807 in June 1999. The amount paid under that scheme increased from Rs18.8 million in 1998/99 to Rs 29.9 million in 2003/2004, showing an increase of 59.0%.

***(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 Sequad Hospital. In June 2004, 935 persons received such money as compared to 938 in June 1999. However, due to increases in the rates paid, the amount spent under this item increased by 46.9% from Rs 3.2 million in 1998/1999 to Rs 4.7 million in 2003/2004.

***(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,

- (i) As unemployed at the Employment Exchange,
- (ii) Be willing and able to take up employment and
- (iii) Be actively looking for work.

A disabled person, who can work but has not been able to find a job, receives an Unemployment Hardship Relief in addition to his Basic Invalid's Pension. The number of beneficiaries of UHR nearly doubled from 212 in June 1999 to 402 in June 2004. The amount paid to these beneficiaries was Rs 2.4 million in 2003/2004 compared to Rs 0.9 million in 1998/99, showing an increase of 166.7%.

***(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 1,278 in 1998/99 to 2,050 in 2003/2004. The amount disbursed more than doubled during that period, from Rs 2.6 million in 1998/99 to Rs 5.4 million in 2003/2004.

**6. Contribution to the National Pension Fund 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); 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 615 for household employees and Rs 1,025 for other employees during the financial year 2003/2004. The maximum monthly remuneration for both categories was Rs 6,765 during that period.

***(b) The National Pensions Fund (Table 8)***

The number of employers contributing to the NPF in respect of their employees was estimated at around 16,300 in 2003/2004 compared to 15,400 in 1998/99. The contributions

received, exclusive of surcharge, rose from Rs 890.7 million in 1998/99 to Rs 1,256.1 million in 2003/2004. During that period, the surcharge received increased from Rs 7.1 million to Rs 9.8 million.

At the end of June 2004, total net assets of the National Pension Fund stood at Rs 34,067.3 million compared to Rs 16,442.3 million in June 1999.

***(c) Contributory Pensions (Tables 9(a) - (b))***

***(i) Contributory Retirement Pension (CRP)***

The Contributory Retirement Pension is payable to a person on reaching the age of 60 years if that person has contributed to the National Pension Fund. In the Republic of Mauritius, the number of beneficiaries of this type of pension has been increasing during the past years - from 29,797 in June 1999 to 36,100 in June 2004. During that period, the total amount paid out went up from Rs 178.8 million to Rs 340.8 million.

***(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 total number of widows who benefited from such a pension increased by 45.7 % from 9,080 in June 1999 to 13,235 in June 2004. In consequence, the amount paid went up from Rs 34.5 million in 1998/99 to Rs 78.1 million in 2003/2004.

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

A person is entitled to a Contributory Invalid's Pension if he/she has previously contributed to the National Pension Fund and suffers from a permanent incapacity of at least 60%. There were 5,427 such beneficiaries in June 2004 compared to 3,124 in June 1999. The amount paid to them more than doubled from Rs 10.2 million in 1998/99 to Rs 21.7 million in 2003/2004.

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

The Contributory Orphan's pension is payable to orphans under the age of 15 years (or 18 years if the child is at school) if any of the deceased parents had contributed to the National Pension Fund. In the five-year period June 1999 to June 2004, the number of orphans benefiting from this pension declined marginally from 104 to 102 and the amount disbursed which was Rs 0.2 million in 1998/99 remained at the same level in 2003/2004.

***(v) Industrial Injury Benefits***

The different types of allowances payable in respect of a work accident affecting an employee insured under the National Pension Scheme are:

- (i) Industrial Injury allowance as a result of a total temporary incapacity, subject to medical evidence.
- (ii) Disablement pension due to a permanent incapacity (partial or total).
- (iii) Survivor's Pension as a result of the death.
- (iv) Constant attendance allowance resulting in a total temporary incapacity or a 100% disability and requiring the constant attendance of another person.
- (v) Dependent's pension, orphan's pension, child allowance, clinical expenses, clothing expenses, hospital expenses, artificial aid

The number of cases increased from 926 in June 1999 to 1,003 in June 2004 while the total amount paid out rose from Rs 21.8 million to Rs 26.2 million.

### **The National Solidarity Fund (Tables 10(a) – 10(b))**

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:

- (i) Mauritian citizens residing in Mauritius who require surgical operations that can only be performed abroad.
- (ii) Those undergoing Severe Personal Hardships.

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, victims of natural calamities, multiple births, 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 from e.g. Automatics Systems Ltd., Mauritius Turf Club and commercial promotions.

During the year 2003/2004, the National Solidarity Fund assisted 428 cases compared to only 109 in 2000/2001. The amount disbursed rose from Rs 1.3 million to Rs 6.1 million



**Projected number of pensioners and related future costs of basic pensions (Tables 11 – 12)**

Assumptions used in the projections of the number of beneficiaries of basic pensions and their eventual costs are given at Annex 2.

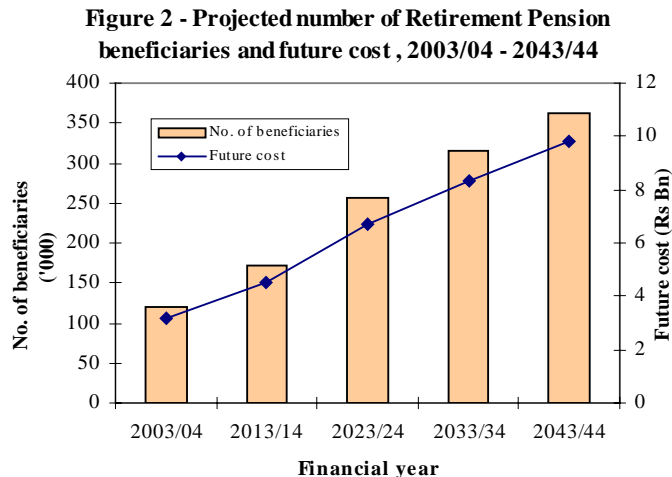
At June 2004, the population aged 60 years and over was estimated at 115,701, that in the working age group 15-59 years at 811,291 and that under 15 years at 306,394. The pensioner support ratio, defined as the number of persons of working age (15-59) years per old age pensioner (aged 60 years and over) worked out to 7.0. The index of ageing defined as the number of persons aged 60 years and over per 100 children aged under 15 years was 37.8. The pensioner support ratio is expected to fall to about 2.3 and the index of ageing to increase to 135.1 in 2044.

It is expected that the number of beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension, which was around 119,400 in 2004 will increase to about 361,600 in forty years while the number of these persons who will suffer from a severe disability will rise from 16,400 to 54,300.

The number of beneficiaries of Basic Widow's Pension, which was 22,800 in June 2004, is expected to grow to about 30,400 in the next four decades. During that period, the number of beneficiaries of Basic Invalid's Pension will increase from 25,000 to around 29,300.

The amount to be disbursed by government on Basic Retirement pensions (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance) is expected to triple from Rs 3.2 billion in 2003/2004 to around Rs 9.8 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.



As for the other pensions, namely, 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 1.4 billion in 2003/2004.

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**Table 1 - Estimated mid year population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius & Island of Rodrigues, 1999 & 2004**

Year	Both Sexes	Male	Female
<b>1999</b> <sup>1/</sup>			
Republic of Mauritius	<b>1,174,417</b>	587,796	586,621
Island of Mauritius	<b>1,138,969</b>	569,051	569,918
Island of Rodrigues	<b>35,448</b>	18,745	16,703
<b>2004</b> <sup>2/</sup>			
Republic of Mauritius	<b>1,233,386</b>	610,108	623,278
Island of Mauritius	<b>1,196,696</b>	591,951	604,745
Island of Rodrigues	<b>36,690</b>	18,157	18,533

**Table 2 - Estimated mid year population by age-group & sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1999 & 2004**

Age-group (years)	1999 <sup>1/</sup>			2004 <sup>2/</sup>		
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female
<i>Under 15</i>	<b>303,998</b>	<b>154,283</b>	<b>149,715</b>	<b>306,394</b>	<b>155,393</b>	<b>151,001</b>
0-4	<b>99,949</b>	50,532	49,417	<b>97,648</b>	49,702	47,946
5-9	<b>108,571</b>	55,135	53,436	<b>99,797</b>	50,440	49,357
10-14	<b>95,478</b>	48,616	46,862	<b>108,949</b>	55,251	53,698
<i>15-59</i>	<b>767,671</b>	<b>388,111</b>	<b>379,560</b>	<b>811,291</b>	<b>404,956</b>	<b>406,335</b>
15-19	<b>109,075</b>	55,223	53,852	<b>94,963</b>	48,008	46,955
20-24	<b>108,841</b>	55,094	53,747	<b>107,584</b>	54,276	53,308
25-29	<b>94,045</b>	48,348	45,697	<b>106,753</b>	52,798	53,955
30-34	<b>101,212</b>	52,097	49,115	<b>92,847</b>	46,256	46,591
35-39	<b>100,482</b>	51,360	49,122	<b>99,909</b>	49,955	49,954
40-44	<b>86,804</b>	44,061	42,743	<b>98,979</b>	49,907	49,072
45-49	<b>76,031</b>	38,169	37,862	<b>85,477</b>	42,880	42,597
50-54	<b>53,125</b>	25,710	27,415	<b>74,229</b>	36,847	37,382
55-59	<b>38,056</b>	18,049	20,007	<b>50,550</b>	24,029	26,521
<i>60 &amp; Over</i>	<b>102,748</b>	<b>44,227</b>	<b>58,521</b>	<b>115,701</b>	<b>49,759</b>	<b>65,942</b>
60-64	<b>31,692</b>	14,561	17,131	<b>35,201</b>	16,375	18,826
65-69	<b>24,836</b>	11,269	13,567	<b>28,565</b>	12,714	15,851
70-74	<b>22,085</b>	9,462	12,623	<b>20,769</b>	9,035	11,734
75-79	<b>13,360</b>	5,414	7,946	<b>16,557</b>	6,675	9,882
80+	<b>10,775</b>	3,521	7,254	<b>14,609</b>	4,960	9,649
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,174,417</b>	<b>586,621</b>	<b>587,796</b>	<b>1,233,386</b>	<b>610,108</b>	<b>623,278</b>

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

<sup>2/</sup> 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
<b>15 - 59</b>	<b>21,719</b>	<b>386,943</b>	<b>5.6</b>
<b>60 &amp; over</b>	<b>36,590</b>	<b>60,948</b>	<b>60.0</b>
<b>15 &amp; over</b>	<b>58,309</b>	<b>447,891</b>	<b>13.0</b>

**Table 4 - Government Expenditure on Social Security & Welfare - Republic of Mauritius, 1998/99 - 2003/04**

Government expenditure on Social Security & Welfare	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 <sup>1/</sup>	2003/04
Rs (million)	5,448.2	5,953.2	6,647.2	7,268.3	7,898.3	8,851.9
% of total government expenditure	21.1	21.7	21.4	21.8	20.5	20.8

<sup>1/</sup> revised

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

*(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 1999 - June 2004*

Pension type	No. of beneficiaries					
	June 99	June 00	June 01	June 02	June 03	June 04
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension)	109,571	111,885	113,131	114,792	116,324	119,448
<i>of whom</i>						
<i>Severely handicapped</i> <sup>1/</sup>	11,879	13,287	14,020	14,905	15,599	16,366
Basic Widow's Pension	21,153	21,323	22,140	22,484	22,861	22,757
Basic Invalid's Pension	18,860	19,958	21,970	23,005	23,627	25,035
<i>of whom</i>						
<i>Severely handicapped</i> <sup>2/</sup>	4,976	5,461	5,875	6,234	6,533	7,132
Basic Orphan's Pension	719	686	651	602	553	529
Guardian's Allowance	590	545	522	491	456	437
Child's Allowance	<b>15,642</b>	<b>16,232</b>	<b>17,451</b>	<b>17,510</b>	<b>17,504</b>	<b>18,194</b>
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of:</i>						
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	245	237	233	220	212	219
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	9,051	8,853	9,001	8,672	8,300	8,113
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	6,346	7,142	8,217	8,618	8,992	9,862

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

<sup>2/</sup> *drawing Additional Basic Invalid's Pension (Carer's Allowance)*

*(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1998/99 - 2003/04*

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 <sup>1/</sup>	2003/04
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	2,047.8	2,208.4	2,484.4	2,592.9	2,918.1	3,156.9
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	422.0	451.2	499.4	521.3	584.5	610.1
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	430.1	484.9	568.3	615.7	717.6	805.5
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	10.9	10.2	13.0	11.1	14.4	14.4

<sup>1/</sup> *revised*

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

*(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 1999 - June 2004*

Pension type	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 99	June 00	June 01	June 02	June 03	June 04
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	106,650	108,840	109,938	111,541	112,966	116,047
<i>Severely handicapped</i> <sup>1/</sup>	11,401	12,735	13,485	14,425	15,158	15,870
Basic Widow's Pension	20,813	20,973	21,794	22,134	22,504	22,399
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	18,390	19,481	21,456	22,463	23,089	24,441
<i>Severely handicapped</i> <sup>2/</sup>	4,788	5,276	5,691	6,059	6,371	6,927
Basic Orphan's Pension	563	546	512	469	440	428
Guardian's Allowance	471	438	415	386	359	347
Child's Allowance	<b>15,198</b>	<b>15,763</b>	<b>16,964</b>	<b>17,018</b>	<b>17,028</b>	<b>17,686</b>
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of:</i>						
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	221	217	214	203	200	207
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	8,834	8,620	8,784	8,463	8,093	7,903
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	6,143	6,926	7,966	8,352	8,735	9,576

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

<sup>2/</sup> *drawing Additional Basic Invalid's Pension (Carer's Allowance)*

*(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1998/99 - 2003/04*

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 <sup>1/</sup>	2003/04
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	1,993.0	2,147.2	2,416.4	2,522.0	2,840.9	3,073.8
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	415.4	444.4	492.7	514.5	577.4	602.7
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	418.1	472.4	555.1	601.0	701.9	787.5
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	8.8	8.1	10.9	8.9	12.2	12.3

<sup>1/</sup> *revised*

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

*(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 1999 - June 2004*

Pension type	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 99	June 00	June 01	June 02	June 03	June 04
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	2,921	3,045	3,193	3,251	3,358	3,401
<i>Severely handicapped</i> <sup>1/</sup>	478	552	535	480	441	496
Basic Widow's Pension	340	350	346	350	357	358
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	470	477	514	542	538	594
<i>Severely handicapped</i> <sup>2/</sup>	188	185	184	175	162	205
Basic Orphan's Pension	156	140	139	133	113	101
Guardian's Allowance	119	107	107	105	97	90
Child's Allowance	<b>444</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>508</b>
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of</i>						
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	24	20	19	17	12	12
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	217	233	217	209	207	210
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	203	216	251	266	257	286

*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 1998/99 - 2003/04*

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	54.8	61.2	68.0	70.9	77.2	83.2
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	6.6	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.1	7.5
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	12.0	12.5	13.2	14.7	15.7	18.0
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.1

**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 1999 - June 2004*

Type of benefit	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 99	June 00	June 01	June 02	June 03	June 04
Social Aid <sup>1/</sup>	11,865	12,622	14,242	17,026	15,521	16,346
Food Aid	48,800	47,100	48,700	46,500	48,200	44,500
Indoor Relief (Capitation Grant)	807	829	847	852	857	826
Inmate's Allowance	938	934	939	925	950	935
Unemployment Hardship Relief	212	233	276	202	336 <sup>3/</sup>	402
Funeral Grant <sup>2/</sup>	1,278	1,335	1,720	1,969	1,960	2,050

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

<sup>2/</sup> refers to the number of payments during the financial year

<sup>3/</sup> revised

*(b) Amount paid by type of benefit, Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1998/99 - 2003/2004*

Type of benefit	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
Social Aid <sup>1/</sup>	150.8	176.7	203.7	234.5	276.4 <sup>2/</sup>	295.3
Food Aid	19.0	18.3	19.0	18.1	18.8	17.4
Indoor Relief (Capitation Grant)	18.8	21.1	22.9	24.2	28.1	29.9
Inmate's Allowance	3.2	3.6	3.9	4.1	4.8	4.7
Unemployment Hardship Relief	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.7 <sup>2/</sup>	2.4
Funeral Grant	2.6	3.1	3.7	4.5	5.0	5.4

<sup>1/</sup> includes assistance given to professional fishermen in Rodrigues.

<sup>2/</sup> revised



**Table 7 - Number of cases of Social Aid paid by district, June 1999 - June 2004**

<b>District/ Island</b>	<b>June 99</b>	<b>June 00</b>	<b>June 01</b>	<b>June 02</b>	<b>June 03</b>	<b>June 04</b>
Port-Louis	2,355	2,434	2,631	3,382	3,160	3,551
Pamplemousses	1,342	1,385	1,655	2,118	1,662	1,751
Riviere du Rempart	1,039	1,166	1,206	1,523	1,198	1,190
Flacq	896	1,214	1,452	1,398	1,354	1,446
Grand-Port	786	851	892	1,117	1,000	993
Savanne	739	717	817	1,000	832	852
Plaine-Wilhems	2,772	2,825	3,260	3,776	3,278	3,321
Moka	320	346	530	604	575	556
Black River	606	680	726	912	935	898
<i>Island of Mauritius</i>	<i>10,855</i>	<i>11,618</i>	<i>13,169</i>	<i>15,830</i>	<i>13,994</i>	<i>14,558</i>
<i>Island of Rodrigues</i>	<i>1,010</i>	<i>1,004</i>	<i>1,073</i>	<i>1,196</i>	<i>1,527</i>	<i>1,788</i>
<b>Republic of Mauritius</b>	<b>11,865</b>	<b>12,622</b>	<b>14,242</b>	<b>17,026</b>	<b>15,521</b>	<b>16,346</b>

**Table 8 - Contribution to the National Pensions Fund (NPF), financial years 1998/99 - 2003/2004**

	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
No. of employers <sup>1/</sup> contributing to the NPF	15,400	15,400	15,100	15,400	15,100	16,300
Amount contributed by employers and employees (Rs Mn)	890.7	979.0	1,043.1	1,113.3	1,142.2	1,256.1
Surcharge paid by employers (Rs Mn)	7.1	6.9	7.3	9.0	9.7	9.8
Size of the NPF (Rs Mn) at end of financial year	16,442.3	18,887.3	21,810.4	24,962.8	29,435.7 <sup>2/</sup>	34,067.3

<sup>1/</sup> include the self employed and those who have contributed at least once during the financial year  
<sup>2/</sup> revised

**Table 9(a) - No. of beneficiaries of contributory pensions, Republic of Mauritius - June 1999 - June 2004**

Pension type	June 1999	June 2000	June 2001	June 2002	June 2003	June 2004
Contributory Retirement Pension	29,797	31,453	32,767	33,957	34,775	36,100
Contributory Widow's Pension <sup>1/</sup>	9,080	9,748	10,741	11,548	12,403	13,235
Contributory Invalid's Pension	3,124	3,443	4,166	4,530	4,766	5,427
Contributory Orphan's Pension	104	99	82	78	81	102
Industrial Injury Benefits	926	976	921	886	914	1,003

<sup>1/</sup> includes widows of all ages

**Table 9(b) - Amount paid to beneficiaries of contributory pensions, Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1998/99 - 2003/2004**

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03 <sup>2/</sup>	2003/04
Contributory Retirement Pension	178.8	212.3	245.0	274.5	310.6	340.8
Contributory Widow's Pension	34.5	40.8	48.7	56.4	67.1	78.1
Contributory Invalid's Pension	10.2	11.7	13.7	15.5	18.2	21.7
Contributory Orphan's Pension	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Industrial Injury Benefits <sup>1/</sup>	21.8	24.0	21.1	24.2	25.9	26.2

<sup>1/</sup> including lump sum

<sup>2/</sup> revised

**Table 10(a) - No. of cases receiving assistance from the National Solidarity Fund (NSF),  
Republic of Mauritius, financial years 2000/2001 - 2003/2004**

Contingency	Number of cases			
	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
Medical treatment abroad (Air ticket only)	9	4	26	23
Personal Hardship Scheme:				
<i>Multiple births</i>	1	8	15	6
<i>Fire victims</i>	-	10	49	22
<i>Natural calamities</i>	2	1	6	10
<i>Tragic accidents</i>	10	17	54	41
<i>Needy students</i>	20	66	66	129
<i>Repatriation of mortal remains</i>	-	1	5	2
<i>Assistance on humanitarian grounds</i>	5	5	5	4
<i>Destitutes</i>	13	84	121	102
<i>Incurable disease</i>	-	9	8	4
<i>Assistive device</i>	12	33	42	58
<i>Medical case</i>	-	2	14	27
Other	37	1	1	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>428</b>

**Table 10(b) - Amount disbursed by the National Solidarity Fund (NSF),  
Republic of Mauritius, financial years 2000/2001 - 2003/2004**

Contingency	Amount paid (Rs 000)			
	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
Medical treatment abroad (Air ticket only)	442	79	278	261
Personal Hardship Scheme:				
<i>Multiple births</i>	10	54	102	100
<i>Fire victims</i>	-	118	760	650
<i>Natural calamities</i>	20	25	98	40
<i>Tragic accidents</i>	95	379	881	825
<i>Needy students</i>	133	329	583	1,165
<i>Repatriation of mortal remains</i>	-	15	115	38
<i>Assistance on humanitarian grounds</i>	206	155	157	120
<i>Destitutes</i>	131	765	799	1,683
<i>Incurable diseases</i>	-	206	144	100
<i>Assistive devices</i>	47	109	316	586
<i>Medical cases</i>	-	25	201	568
Other	214	100	200	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,298</b>	<b>2,359</b>	<b>4,634</b>	<b>6,136</b>

**Table 11 - Projected mid year population by broad age group and sex in selected years, Republic of Mauritius, 2004 - 2044**

Age-group (years)	2004			2014			2024			2034			2044		
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
Under 15	155,393	151,001	<b>306,394</b>	147,008	142,246	<b>289,254</b>	143,840	139,351	<b>283,191</b>	139,739	135,363	<b>275,102</b>	135,936	131,675	<b>267,611</b>
15-59	404,956	406,335	<b>811,291</b>	433,331	437,526	<b>870,857</b>	434,116	439,041	<b>873,157</b>	435,203	436,593	<b>871,796</b>	426,345	422,671	<b>849,016</b>
60 & over	49,759	65,942	<b>115,701</b>	76,371	95,680	<b>172,051</b>	117,090	139,202	<b>256,292</b>	144,198	171,880	<b>316,078</b>	164,464	197,156	<b>361,620</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>610,108</b>	<b>623,278</b>	<b>1,233,386</b>	<b>656,710</b>	<b>675,452</b>	<b>1,332,162</b>	<b>695,046</b>	<b>717,594</b>	<b>1,412,640</b>	<b>719,140</b>	<b>743,836</b>	<b>1,462,976</b>	<b>726,745</b>	<b>751,502</b>	<b>1,478,247</b>
Pensioner support ratio <sup>1/</sup>	8.1	6.2	<b>7.0</b>	5.7	4.6	<b>5.1</b>	3.7	3.2	<b>3.4</b>	3.0	2.5	<b>2.8</b>	2.6	2.1	<b>2.3</b>
Index of ageing <sup>2/</sup>	32.0	43.7	<b>37.8</b>	52.0	67.3	<b>59.5</b>	81.4	99.9	<b>90.5</b>	103.2	127.0	<b>114.9</b>	121.0	149.7	<b>135.1</b>

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

<sup>2/</sup> Number of persons aged 60 years and over per 100 children below 15 years.

**Table 12 - Projected number of beneficiaries and estimated future costs of basic pension in selected years, Republic of Mauritius, 2004-2044**

*(a) Projected no. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 2004 - June 2044*

Pension type	Actual no. of beneficiaries June 2004	Projected number of beneficiaries			
		June 2014	June 2024	June 2034	June 2044
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	119,448	172,051	256,292	316,078	361,620
<i>Severely handicapped</i> <sup>1/</sup>	16,366	21,408	31,226	43,580	54,266
Basic Widow's Pension	22,757	28,901	30,691	32,167	30,395
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	25,035	28,904	29,652	30,352	29,308
<i>Severely handicapped</i> <sup>2/</sup>	7,132	8,313	8,539	8,760	8,445
Basic Orphan's Pension	529	506	493	483	467
Guardian's Allowance	437	418	407	399	386
Child's Allowance	<b>18,194</b>	<b>17,447</b>	<b>17,028</b>	<b>16,630</b>	<b>16,126</b>
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of:</i>					
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	219	217	211	207	200
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	8,113	7,816	7,621	7,454	7,222
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	9,862	9,414	9,196	8,969	8,704

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

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

*(b) Estimated future costs (Rs million) by pension type, financial years 2003/2004 - 2043/44*

Pension type	Actual amount 2003/2004	Estimated future costs at 2003/2004 pension rates			
		2013/14	2023/24	2033/34	2043/44
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	3,157	4,532	6,708	8,364	9,835
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	610	736	776	809	766
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	806	866	885	903	872
Basic Orphan's Pension (including Guardian's Allowance)	14	9	9	9	8

## Non-contributory benefits by type and amount payable in 1998/99 and 2003/2004

Pension type	Amount payable (Rs)	
	1998/99	2003/04
	<b>Monthly</b>	
Basic Retirement Pension (BRP) for ages : (60-89) years	1,300	1,790
(90-99) years	5,000	6,735
100 years and over	5,275	7,680
Basic Widow's Pension (BWP)	1,300	1,790
Basic Invalid's Pension (BIP)	1,300	1,790
Basic Orphan's Pension (BOP)	725	1,005
Guardian's Allowance	320	445
Child's Allowance for ages : (0-9) years	425	585
(10-19) years	450	630
Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension for ages:		
(60-89) years	2,220	3,060
(90-99) years	5,920	8,005
100 years and over	6,195	8,950
Additional Basic Invalid's Pension (Carer's Allowance)	800	1,100
Social Aid (minimum amount payable)	340	485
Food Aid	30	30
Inmate's Allowance : (a) Charitable Institutions	215	310
(b) Brown Sequard Hospital	325	447.50
Unemployment Hardship Relief (minimum amount payable)	80	120
Minimum Contributory Retirement Pension	218	271
	<b>Daily</b>	
Indoor Relief : Under 90 years	65	95
(90 - 99) years	195	280
100 years and over	205	290
	<b>Per case</b>	
Funeral Grant	1,870	2,610
Allowance under the National Solidarity Fund:		
Personal Hardship Scheme (maximum amount payable)	10,000	25,000

## ASSUMPTIONS USED IN THE PROJECTIONS OF BENEFICIARIES OF BASIC PENSIONS AND THEIR FUTURE COSTS

### **1.0 - All future costs are calculated on pension rates of 2003/2004 (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 2004. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant during the projected period.

##### 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 2004. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant during the projected period.

#### **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 2004. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant during the projected period.

##### 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 2004. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant during the projected period.

#### **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 2004. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant during the projected period.

##### 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 2004.

##### 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 2004. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant during the projected period.

#### **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 2004. It has been assumed that this proportion remains constant during the projected period.

##### 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 2004.