

SOCIAL SECURITY STATISTICS

1999/00 –2004/2005

1. Introduction

This is the tenth 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 1999 to June 2005. 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 2004/2005 are subject to revision in future issues as additional information becomes available.

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. It is to be noted that during the period December 2004 to June 2005, Basic Retirement Pension was not paid on a universal basis. During that period, persons aged 60 to 89 years were liable to pension subject to the amount of yearly income received.
- ❖ 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 1,186,873 in 2000 to 1,243,253 in 2005 representing an average annual increase of about 1.0 percent. During that period the child population aged below 15 years went down from 305,288 to 303,740. As a percentage of the total population, it decreased from 25.7 percent to 24.4 percent. However, the elderly population aged 60 years and above grew from 107,503 (9.1 percent of total) to 119,669 (9.6 percent of total).

It should be pointed out that these estimates, computed by the Central Statistics Office on the basis of the 2000 Population Census differ from the number of persons reported by the Ministry of Social Security as drawing the old-age pension (111,885 in June 2000 and 120,802 in June 2005). 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 aged 15 years and above as reported at the 2000 Population Census was 58,309, representing 13 percent of all women in that age group. 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 increased by 62.6 percent from Rs 5,953.2 million in 1999/2000 to Rs 9,681.9 million in 2004/2005. The latter amount represents 22.1 percent of total government expenditure in 2004/2005 against 21.7 percent in 1999/2000.

Figure 1 - Components of Government expenditure on social security and welfare, 2004/05

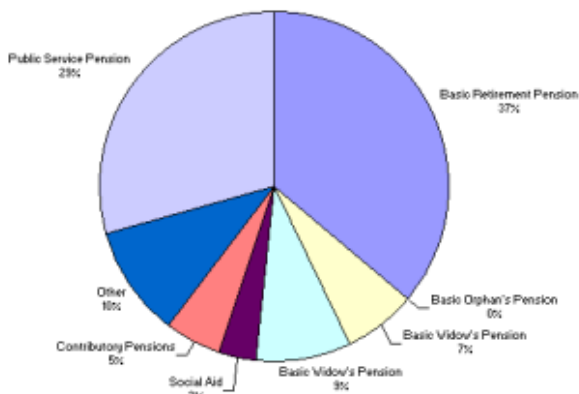


Figure 1 shows the share of each component of government expenditure on Social Security and Welfare. It is observed that the main components are the Basic Retirement Pension with a share of 36.0 percent followed by Public Service Pensions (29.5 percent).

5 Non - Contributory Benefits

5.1 Basic pensions – (Tables 5.1 – 5.3)

(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 such beneficiaries increased by 8.0 percent from 111,885 (108,840 in the Island of Mauritius and 3,045 in the Island of Rodrigues) in June 2000 to 120,802 (117,319 in the Island of Mauritius and 3,483 in the Island of Rodrigues) in June 2005.

The Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension is an additional allowance payable to old-age pensioners who are either

- ❖ totally blind, or
- ❖ suffer from total paralysis, or
- ❖ need the constant care of another person

The number of beneficiaries of the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension in June 2005 was 16,596 (16,114 in the Island of Mauritius and 482 in the Island of Rodrigues).

The total amount spent on all Basic Retirement Pension (inclusive of Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance) was Rs 3,486.2 million in 2004/2005 compared to Rs 2,208.4 million in 1999/2000 showing an increase of 57.9 percent during that period.

(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 2005, the number of beneficiaries of such pension rose by 6.3 percent, from 21,323 (20,973 in the Island of Mauritius and 350 in the Island of Rodrigues) in June 2000 to 22,672 (22,306 in the Island of Mauritius and 366 in the Island of Rodrigues) in June 2005.

Government expenditure on Basic Widow's Pension was Rs 639.4 million in 2004/2005 compared to Rs 451.2 million in 1999/2000.

(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 percent or more for at least 12 months. The number of such beneficiaries increased by 28.5 percent from 19,958 (19,481 in the Island of Mauritius and 477 in the Island of Rodrigues) in June 2000 to 25,646 (25,001 in the Island of Mauritius and 645 in the Island of Rodrigues) in June 2005.

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 2005, 7,354 pensioners benefited from this allowance compared to 5,461 in June 2000 showing an increase of 34.7 percent.

The total amount spent on Basic Invalid's Pension (inclusive of Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance) jumped from Rs 484.9 million in 1999/2000 to Rs 867.2 million in 2004/2005 representing a rise of about 78.8 percent 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 dropped from 686 in June 2000 to 457 in June 2005. A similar trend was noted in the Island of Mauritius (from 546 to 370) and Island of Rodrigues (from 140 to 87) during that period. Consequently, the total number of guardians declined from 545 to 392 and the number of beneficiaries per guardian from 1.3 to 1.2.

Though the number of such beneficiaries has decreased, expenditure on Basic Orphan's Pension and Guardian's Allowance rose from Rs 10.2 million in 1999/2000 to Rs 14.1 million in 2004/2005. This is due to increases in the rates payable every year.

(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. It is to be noted that child allowance is payable even after discontinuation of pensions to the parents for some reasons or another. The total number of children benefiting

from Child's allowance went up from 16,507 in June 2000 (16,030 for the Island of Mauritius and 477 for the Island of Rodrigues) to 18,367 in June 2005 (17,840 for the Island of Mauritius and 527 for the Island of Rodrigues).

The amount spent by government on Child's allowance is not available separately. This 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 39.1 percent from 12,622 in June 2000 to 17,562 in June 2005. In the Island of Mauritius, the corresponding increase was 35.4 percent (from 11,618 to 15,734) and in the Island of Rodrigues, 82.1% (from 1,004 to 1,828).

The total amount paid to beneficiaries of Social Aid in 2004/2005 was Rs 317.3 million compared to Rs 176.7 million in 1999/2000 showing an increase of about 79.6 percent.

(b) Food Aid

The Food Aid Scheme was introduced in May 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.

- ❖ All recipients of Social Aid and their dependents.
- ❖ All beneficiaries of Unemployment Hardship Relief.
- ❖ 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 31,300 in June 2005 and the total amount paid in 2004/2005 Rs 16.9 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 762 recipients of Indoor Relief in June 2005 as compared to 829 in June 2000. Though the number has decreased, the amount paid under that scheme has increased from Rs 21.1 million in 1999/2000 to Rs 31.1 million in 2004/2005, showing an increase of 47.4 percent.

(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 2005, 888 persons received such money as compared to 934 in June 2000. However, due to increases in the rates paid, the amount spent under this item increased by 36.1 percent from Rs 3.6 million in 1999/2000 to Rs 4.9 million in 2004/2005.

(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

- 1) Registered as unemployed at the Employment Exchange,
- 2) Be willing and able to take up employment and
- 3) 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 233 in June 2000 to 457 in June 2005. The amount paid to these beneficiaries more than trebled, increasing from Rs 0.9 million in 1999/2000 to Rs 3.0 million during that period.

(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 1,335 during the period 1999/2000 to 2,447 in 2004/2005. The amount disbursed more than doubled during that period, from Rs 3.1 million in 1999/2000 to Rs 6.7 million in 2004/2005.

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 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 percent 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 percent. For all employees, the contribution rate is 3 percent. Contributions are not payable on bonus, overtime pay and allowances. The minimum monthly remuneration on which contributions are payable was Rs 655 for household employees and Rs 1,095 for other employees during the financial year 2004/2005. The maximum monthly remuneration for both categories was Rs 7,205 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 16,500 in 2004/2005 compared to 15,400 in 1999/2000. The contributions received, exclusive of surcharge increased by 34.1 percent, rising from Rs 979.0 million in 1999/2000 to Rs 1,312.9 million in 2004/2005. At the end of June 2005, total net assets of the National Pension Fund more than doubled, increasing from Rs 18,887.3 million at the end of June 2000 to Rs 38,157.0 million.

(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 continued to increase, from 31,453 in June 2000 to 37,895 in June 2005 showing a rise of 20.5 percent. Subsequently, the total amount paid out went up from Rs 212.3 million to Rs 375.9 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 44.4 percent from 9,748 in June 2000 to 14,079 in June 2005. In consequence, the amount paid went up from Rs 40.8 million in 1999/2000 to Rs 91.5 million in 2004/2005 showing a rise of 124.3 percent.

(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 percent. These beneficiaries rose by 63.3 percent from 3,443 in June 2000 to 5,620 in June 2005. Thus, the amount paid to them increased from Rs 11.7 million in 1999/2000 to Rs 22.7 million in 2004/2005.

(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. During the five-year period June 2000 to June 2005, the number of orphans benefiting from this pension slightly rose from 99 to 102 while the amount disbursed increased from Rs 0.1 million in 1999/2000 to Rs 0.2 million in 2004/2005.

(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:

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

The number of cases decreased from 976 in June 2000 to 852 in June 2005 whilst the total amount paid out rose from Rs 24.0 million to Rs 27.2 million.

7. The National Solidarity Fund – (Table 10a – 10b)

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:

- ❖ Mauritian citizens residing in Mauritius who require surgical operations that can only be performed abroad.
- ❖ 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 2004/2005, the National Solidarity Fund assisted 898 cases compared to only 109 in 2000/2001. The amount disbursed rose from Rs 1.3 million to Rs 14.0 million during that period.

8. 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.

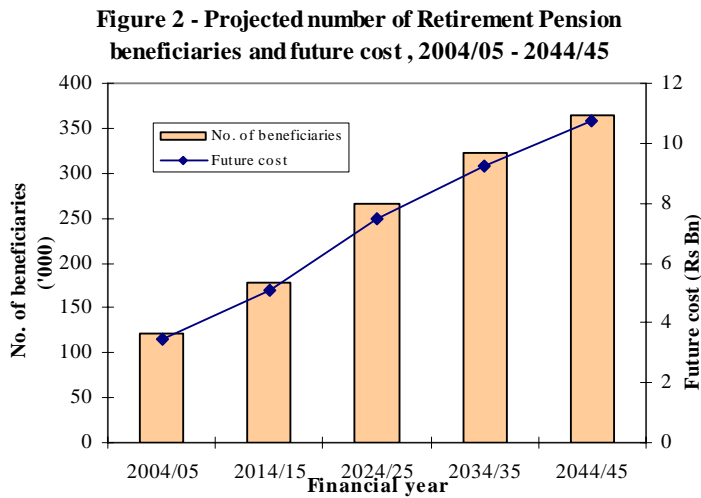
At June 2005, the population aged 60 years and over was estimated at 119,669, that in the working age group 15-59 years at 819,844 and that under 15 years at 303,740. The pensioner support ratio, defined as the number of persons of working age (15-59 years) per old age pensioner (aged 60 years and over) worked out to 6.9. The index of ageing defined as the number of persons aged 60 years and over per 100 children aged under 15 years was 39.4. In 2045, the pensioner support ratio is expected to fall to about 2.3 and the index of ageing to increase to 137.0.

It is expected that the number of beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension, which was around 120,800 in 2005 will more than treble to reach 364,700 in forty years. During that same period, the number of these persons who will suffer from a severe disability will rise from 16,600 to 55,300.

The number of beneficiaries of Basic Widow's Pension, which was 22,700 in June 2005, is expected to grow to about 29,600 in the next four decades. At the same time, the number of beneficiaries of Basic Invalid's Pension will increase from 25,600 to around 29,500.

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 3.5 billion in 2004/2005 to around Rs 10.7 billion in some forty years due to the ageing of the population.

Figure 2 below 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 reach Rs 1.7 billion within the next forty years compared to Rs 1.5 billion in 2004/2005.

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Table 1 - Estimated mid year population^{1/} by sex, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius & Island of Rodrigues, 2000 & 2005

Year	Both Sexes	Male	Female
2000			
Republic of Mauritius	1,186,873	588,212	598,661
Island of Mauritius	1,151,094	570,512	580,582
Island of Rodrigues	35,779	17,700	18,079
2005			
Republic of Mauritius	1,243,253	614,786	628,467
Island of Mauritius	1,206,346	596,498	609,848
Island of Rodrigues	36,907	18,288	18,619

Table 2 -Estimated mid year population^{1/} by age-group & sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2000 & 2005

Age-group (years)	2000			2005		
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female
Under 15	305,288	154,574	150,714	303,740	153,995	149,745
0-4	98,589	50,019	48,570	96,566	49,047	47,519
5-9	108,949	55,123	53,826	98,354	49,898	48,456
10-14	97,750	49,432	48,318	108,820	55,050	53,770
15-59	774,082	387,091	386,991	819,844	409,397	410,447
15-19	102,100	51,676	50,424	97,512	49,290	48,222
20-24	110,902	55,112	55,790	101,716	51,432	50,284
25-29	93,806	46,752	47,054	110,404	54,768	55,636
30-34	99,525	49,968	49,557	93,252	46,345	46,907
35-39	101,956	51,625	50,331	98,664	49,337	49,327
40-44	90,414	45,801	44,613	100,548	50,591	49,957
45-49	77,939	39,136	38,803	88,441	44,410	44,031
50-54	56,945	27,792	29,153	75,353	37,396	37,957
55-59	40,495	19,229	21,266	53,954	25,828	28,126
60 & Over	107,503	46,547	60,956	119,669	51,394	68,275
60-64	33,100	15,302	17,798	37,220	17,275	19,945
65-69	25,771	11,759	14,012	29,160	13,008	16,152
70-74	21,697	9,492	12,205	21,419	9,248	12,171
75-79	14,911	6,047	8,864	16,380	6,644	9,736
80+	12,024	3,947	8,077	15,490	5,219	10,271
Total	1,186,873	588,212	598,661	1,243,253	614,786	628,467

^{1/} 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 Population 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, 1999/2000 - 2004/05

Government expenditure on Social Security & Welfare	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05 ^{1/}
Rs (million)	5,953.2	6,647.2	7,268.3	7,898.3	8,851.9	9,681.9
% of total government expenditure	21.7	21.4	21.8	20.5	20.8	22.1
% of GDP at market prices	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3

^{1/} Provisional

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

(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 2000 - June 2005

Pension type	No. of beneficiaries					
	June 00	June 01	June 02	June 03	June 04	June 05
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension)	111,885	113,131	114,792	116,324	119,448	120,802 ^{4/}
<i>of whom</i>						
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{1/}	13,287	14,020	14,905	15,599	16,366	16,596
Basic Widow's Pension	21,323	22,140	22,484	22,861	22,757	22,672
Basic Invalid's Pension	19,958	21,970	23,005	23,627	25,035	25,646
<i>of whom</i>						
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{2/}	5,461	5,875	6,234	6,533	7,132	7,354
Basic Orphan's Pension	686	651	602	553	529	457
Guardian's Allowance	545	522	491	456	437	392
Child's Allowance	16,507	17,809	17,902	17,910	18,629	18,367
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of:</i>						
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	237	233	220	212	219	199
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	8,853	9,001	8,672	8,300	8,113	7,985
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	7,142	8,217	8,618	8,992	9,862	9,755
<i>Other</i> ^{3/}	275	358	392	406	435	428

^{1/} drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

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

^{3/} children of previous beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension or
Basic Widow's Pension or Basic Invalid's Pension

^{4/} Not paid on a universal basis from Dec 2004 - June 2005

(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1999/00 - 2004/05

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	2,208.4	2,484.4	2,592.9	2,918.1	3,156.9	3,486.2
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	451.2	499.4	521.3	584.5	610.1	639.4
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	484.9	568.3	615.7	717.6	805.5	867.2
Basic Orphan's Pension ^{1/} (including Guardian's Allowance)	10.2	13.0	11.1	14.4	14.4	14.1

^{1/} includes also allowances to children of previous beneficiaries of
Basic Retirement Pension or Basic Widow's Pension or Basic Invalid's Pension

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

(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 2000 - June 2005

Pension type	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 00	June 01	June 02	June 03	June 04	June 05
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension)	108,840	109,938	111,541	112,966	116,047	117,319 ^{4/}
<i>of whom</i>						
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{1/}	12,735	13,485	14,425	15,158	15,870	16,114
Basic Widow's Pension	20,973	21,794	22,134	22,504	22,399	22,306
Basic Invalid's Pension	19,481	21,456	22,463	23,089	24,441	25,001
<i>of whom</i>						
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{2/}	5,276	5,691	6,059	6,371	6,927	7,077
Basic Orphan's Pension	546	512	469	440	428	370
Guardian's Allowance	438	415	386	359	347	313
Child's Allowance	16,030	17,307	17,397	17,422	18,105	17,840
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of:</i>						
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	217	214	203	200	207	194
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	8,620	8,784	8,463	8,093	7,903	7,784
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	6,926	7,966	8,352	8,735	9,576	9,450
<i>Other</i> ^{3/}	267	343	379	394	419	412

^{1/} *drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension*

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

^{3/} *children of previous beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension or Basic Widow's Pension or Basic Invalid's Pension*

^{4/} *Not paid on a universal basis from Dec 2004 - June 2005*

(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1999/00 - 2004/05

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	2,147.2	2,416.4	2,522.0	2,840.9	3,073.8	3,396.2
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	444.4	492.7	514.5	577.4	602.7	632.6
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	472.4	555.1	601.0	701.9	787.5	845.6
Basic Orphan's Pension ^{1/} (including Guardian's Allowance)	8.1	10.9	8.9	12.2	12.3	12.2

^{1/} *includes also allowances to children of previous beneficiaries of*

Basic Retirement Pension or Basic Widow's Pension or Basic Invalid's Pension

Table 5.3 - No. of beneficiaries of basic pensions and amount paid, Island of Rodrigues
(a) No. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 2000 - June 2005

Pension type	Number of beneficiaries					
	June 00	June 01	June 02	June 03	June 04	June 05
Basic Retirement Pension (Old age pension) <i>of whom</i>	3,045	3,193	3,251	3,358	3,401	3,483 ^{4/}
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{1/}	552	535	480	441	496	482
Basic Widow's Pension	350	346	350	357	358	366
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	477	514	542	538	594	645
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{2/}	185	184	175	162	205	277
Basic Orphan's Pension	140	139	133	113	101	87
Guardian's Allowance	107	107	105	97	90	79
Child's Allowance	477	502	505	488	524	527
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of</i>						
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	20	19	17	12	12	5
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	233	217	209	207	210	201
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	216	251	266	257	286	305
<i>Other</i> ^{3/}	8	15	13	12	16	16

^{1/} drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

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

^{3/} children of previous beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension or
Basic Widow's Pension or Basic Invalid's Pension

^{4/} Not paid on a universal basis from Dec 2004 - June 2005

(b) Amount paid by pension type, financial years 1999/00 - 2004/05

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	61.2	68.0	70.9	77.2	83.2	90.0
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.1	7.5	6.8
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	12.5	13.2	14.7	15.7	18.0	21.6
Basic Orphan's Pension ^{1/} (including Guardian's Allowance)	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.1	1.9

^{1/} includes also allowances to children of previous beneficiaries of
Basic Retirement Pension or Basic Widow's Pension or Basic Invalid's Pension

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 2000 - June 2005

Type of benefit	Number of beneficiaries					
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Social Aid ^{1/}	12,622	14,242	17,026	15,521	16,346	17,562 ^{3/}
Food Aid	47,100	48,700	46,500	48,200	44,500	31,300
Indoor Relief (Capitation Grant)	829	847	852	857	826	762
Inmate's Allowance	934	939	925	950	935	888
Unemployment Hardship Relief	233	276	202	336	402	457
Funeral Grant ^{2/}	1,335	1,720	1,969	1,960	2,050	2,447

^{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 1999/00 - 2004/2005

Type of benefit	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Social Aid ^{1/}	176.7	203.7	234.5	276.4	295.3	317.3
Food Aid	18.3	19.0	18.1	18.8	17.4	16.9
Indoor Relief (Capitation Grant)	21.1	22.9	24.2	28.1	29.9	31.1
Inmate's Allowance	3.6	3.9	4.1	4.8	4.7	4.9
Unemployment Hardship Relief	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.7	2.4	3.0
Funeral Grant	3.1	3.7	4.5	5.0	5.4	6.7

^{1/} includes assistance given to professional fishermen in Rodrigues.

Table 7 - Number of cases of Social Aid paid by district, June 2000 - June 2005

District/ Island	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005^{1/}
Port-Louis	2,434	2,631	3,382	3,160	3,551	3,949
Pamplemousses	1,385	1,655	2,118	1,662	1,751	1,941
Riviere du Rempart	1,166	1,206	1,523	1,198	1,190	1,276
Flacq	1,214	1,452	1,398	1,354	1,446	1,516
Grand-Port	851	892	1,117	1,000	993	1,043
Savanne	717	817	1,000	832	852	887
Plaine-Wilhems	2,825	3,260	3,776	3,278	3,321	3,620
Moka	346	530	604	575	556	563
Black River	680	726	912	935	898	939
<i>Island of Mauritius</i>	<i>11,618</i>	<i>13,169</i>	<i>15,830</i>	<i>13,994</i>	<i>14,558</i>	<i>15,734</i>
<i>Island of Rodrigues</i>	<i>1,004</i>	<i>1,073</i>	<i>1,196</i>	<i>1,527</i>	<i>1,788</i>	<i>1,828</i>
Republic of Mauritius	12,622	14,242	17,026	15,521	16,346	17,562

^{1/} *provisional*

Table 8 - Contribution to the National Pensions Fund (NPF), financial years 1999/00 - 2004/2005

	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
No. of employers ^{1/} contributing to the NPF	15,400	15,100	15,400	15,100	16,300	16,500
Amount contributed by employers and employees (Rs Mn)	979.0	1,043.1	1,113.3	1,142.2	1,256.1	1,312.9
Surcharge paid by employers (Rs Mn)	6.9	7.3	9.0	9.7	9.8	1.0
Size of the NPF (Rs Mn) at end of financial year	18,887.3	21,810.4	24,962.8	29,435.7	34,067.3	38,157.0

^{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 2000 - June 2005

Pension type	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Contributory Retirement Pension	31,453	32,767	33,957	34,775	36,100	37,895
Contributory Widow's Pension ^{1/}	9,748	10,741	11,548	12,403	13,235	14,079
Contributory Invalid's Pension	3,443	4,166	4,530	4,766	5,427	5,620
Contributory Orphan's Pension	99	82	78	81	102	102
Industrial Injury Benefits	976	921	886	914	1,003	852

^{1/} includes widows of all ages

Table 9(b) - Amount paid to beneficiaries of contributory pensions, Republic of Mauritius, financial years 1999/00 - 2004/2005

Pension type	Amount paid (Rs million)					
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Contributory Retirement Pension	212.3	245.0	274.5	310.6	340.8	375.9
Contributory Widow's Pension	40.8	48.7	56.4	67.1	78.1	91.5
Contributory Invalid's Pension	11.7	13.7	15.5	18.2	21.7	22.7
Contributory Orphan's Pension	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Industrial Injury Benefits ^{1/}	24.0	21.1	24.2	25.9	26.2	27.2

^{1/} including lump sum

**Table 10(a) - No. of cases receiving assistance from the National Solidarity Fund (NSF)
Republic of Mauritius, 2000/01 - 2004/05**

Contingency	Number of cases				
	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Medical treatment abroad (Air ticket only)	9	4	26	23	29
Personal Hardship Scheme:	63	236	385	405	851
<i>Multiple births</i>	1	8	15	6	8
<i>Fire victims</i>	-	10	49	22	25
<i>Natural calamities</i>	2	1	6	10	10
<i>Tragic accidents</i>	10	17	54	41	31
<i>Needy students</i>	20	66	66	129	270
<i>Repatriation of mortal remains</i>	-	1	5	2	1
<i>Assistance on humanitarian grounds</i>	5	5	5	4	1
<i>Destitutes</i>	13	84	121	102	305
<i>Incurable disease</i>	-	9	8	4	3
<i>Assistive device</i>	12	33	42	58	81
<i>Medical case</i>	-	2	14	27	116
Other	37	1	1	-	18
Total	109	241	412	428	898

**Table 10(b) - Amount disbursed by the National Solidarity Fund (NSF),
Republic of Mauritius, 2000/01 - 2004/05**

Contingency	Amount paid (Rs 000)				
	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Medical treatment abroad (Air ticket only)	442	79	278	261	355
Personal Hardship Scheme:	642	2,180	4,156	5,875	12,750
<i>Multiple births</i>	10	54	102	100	190
<i>Fire victims</i>	-	118	760	650	416
<i>Natural calamities</i>	20	25	98	40	70
<i>Tragic accidents</i>	95	379	881	825	486
<i>Needy students</i>	133	329	583	1,165	3,330
<i>Repatriation of mortal remains</i>	-	15	115	38	49
<i>Assistance on humanitarian grounds</i>	206	155	157	120	25
<i>Destitutes</i>	131	765	799	1,683	4,903
<i>Incurable disease</i>	-	206	144	100	75
<i>Assistive device</i>	47	109	316	586	1,194
<i>Medical case</i>	-	25	201	568	2,012
Other	214	100	200	-	944
Total	1,298	2,359	4,634	6,136	14,049

Table 11 - Projected mid year population by broad age group and sex in selected years, Republic of Mauritius, 2005 - 2045

Age-group (years)	2005			2015			2025			2035			2045		
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
Under 15	153,995	149,745	303,740	146,000	141,500	287,500	143,700	139,200	282,900	138,900	134,600	273,500	135,200	131,000	266,200
15-59	409,397	410,447	819,844	435,700	438,600	874,300	434,700	437,100	871,800	436,800	434,900	871,700	428,200	421,800	850,000
60 & over	51,394	68,275	119,669	79,300	99,100	178,400	122,100	143,400	265,500	148,900	174,000	322,900	168,000	196,700	364,700
Total	614,786	628,467	1,243,253	661,000	679,200	1,340,200	700,500	719,700	1,420,200	724,600	743,500	1,468,100	731,400	749,500	1,480,900
Pensioner support ratio ^{1/}	8.0	6.0	6.9	5.5	4.4	4.9	3.6	3.0	3.3	2.9	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.1	2.3
Index of ageing ^{2/}	33.4	45.6	39.4	54.3	70.0	62.1	85.0	103.0	93.8	107.2	129.3	118.1	124.3	150.2	137.0

^{1/} Number of persons of working age (15-59 years) per old-age pensioner (aged 60 years and over).

^{2/} 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, 2005-2045

(a) Projected no. of beneficiaries by pension type, June 2005 - June 2045

Pension type	Actual no. of beneficiaries June 2005	Projected number of beneficiaries			
		June 2015	June 2025	June 2035	June 2045
Basic Retirement Pension <i>of whom</i>	120,802	178,400	265,500	322,900	364,700
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{1/}	16,596	22,100	32,500	44,900	55,300
Basic Widow's Pension	22,672	28,400	29,600	31,100	29,600
Basic Invalid's Pension <i>of whom</i>	25,646	29,300	29,800	30,500	29,500
<i>Severely handicapped</i> ^{2/}	7,354	8,500	8,600	8,900	8,600
Basic Orphan's Pension	457	430	420	410	400
Guardian's Allowance	392	370	360	360	340
Child's Allowance	18,367	16,990	16,690	16,280	15,780
<i>of whom children of beneficiaries of:</i>					
<i>Basic Retirement Pension</i>	199	190	190	180	180
<i>Basic Widow's Pension</i>	7,985	7,600	7,400	7,300	7,000
<i>Basic Invalid's Pension</i>	9,755	9,200	9,100	8,800	8,600
<i>Other</i> ^{3/}	428	400	400	390	370

^{1/} drawing the Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension

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

^{3/} children of previous beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension or Basic Widow's Pension or Basic Invalid's Pension

(b) Estimated future costs (Rs million) by pension type, financial years 2004/2005 - 2044/45

Pension type	Actual amount 2004/2005	Estimated future costs at 2003/2004 pension rates			
		2014/15	2024/25	2034/35	2044/45
Basic Retirement Pension (including Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension and Child's Allowance)	3,486	5,060	7,487	9,260	10,729
Basic Widow's Pension (including Child's Allowance)	639	766	794	830	790
Basic Invalid's Pension (including Carer's Allowance and Child's Allowance)	867	927	940	961	930
Basic Orphan's Pension ^{1/} (including Guardian's Allowance)	14	12	11	11	11

^{1/} includes also allowances to children of previous beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension or Basic Widow's Pension or Basic Invalid's Pension

Non-contributory benefits by type and amount payable in 1999/00 and 2004/2005

ANNEX 1

Pension type	Amount payable	
	1999/00	2004/05
	Monthly	
Basic Retirement Pension (BRP) : (60-69) years	1,400	1,900 ^{1/}
(70-89) years	1,400	2,000 ^{1/}
(90-99) years	5,400	6,850
100 years and over	6,000	7,795
Basic Widow's Pension (BWP)	1,400	1,900
Basic Invalid's Pension (BIP)	1,400	1,900
Basic Orphan's Pension (BOP)	785	1,050
Guardian's Allowance	345	465
Child's Allowance: (0-9) years	460	615
(10-19) years	485	660
Enhanced Basic Retirement Pension :		
(60-69) years	2,400	3,230
(70-89) years	2,400	3,330
(90-99) years	6,400	8,180
100 years and over	7,000	9,125
Additional Basic Invalid's Pension (Carer's Allowance)	865	1,150
Social Aid (minimum amount payable)	370	510
Food Aid	30	50 ^{2/}
Inmate's Allowance : (a) Charitable Institutions	230	325
(b) Brown Sequard Hospital:		
(i) Under 70 years	350	475
(ii) 70 years and over	350	500
Unemployment Hardship Relief (minimum amount payable)	90	130
Minimum Contributory Retirement Pension	218	283
	Daily	
Indoor Relief : (60-69) years	70	100
(70-89) years	70	110
(90-99) years	210	295
100 years and over	220	305
	Per case	
Funeral Grant	2,020	2,730
Allowance under the National Solidarity Fund:		
Personal Hardship Scheme (maximum amount payable)	10,000	25,000

^{1/} Full pension payable. It is to be noted that during the period December 2004 to June 2005, Basic Retirement Pension was not paid on a universal basis. Pensioners aged 60 to 89 were liable to pension subject to the amount of yearly income received.

^{2/} As from October 2004

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 2004/2005 (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 2005. 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 2005. 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 2005. 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 2005. 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 2005. 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 2005.

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 2005. 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 2005. 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 2005.