

Road Transport and Road Traffic Accident Statistics (Island of Mauritius)

Year 2006

1. Vehicles registered in 2006

The number of vehicles registered at the National Transport Authority (NTA) at the end of year 2006 was 319,440. This shows a net increase of 13,944 vehicles (4.6%) over the December 2005 figure of 305,496.

During the year 2006, the fleet was strengthened with the registration of 18,467 vehicles, of which 12,123 (65%) were new, 5,294 (29%) were imported second-hand and 1,050 (6%) were re-registered vehicles, i.e. those which had been previously de-registered (put off the road). During the same period, 4,523 vehicles were put off the road, resulting in a net addition of 13,944 vehicles to the existing fleet (Table 1.1).

2. Composition of the fleet

The composition of the fleet by type of vehicles is shown in Table 1.2. At the end of December 2006, the fleet consisted mainly of motorized two-wheelers (138,174 or 43%), and cars and dual-purpose vehicles (135,132 or 42%). The remaining 15% comprised vans (24,522), lorries and trucks (12,272), buses (2,612) and other vehicles (6,728).

3. Vehicles used for the transport of passengers

3.1 *Cars and dual purpose vehicles*

The number of cars and dual purpose vehicles, which stood at 126,844 at the end of 2005, increased by 6.5% to reach 135,132 at the end of 2006. This increase was the result of the registration of 9,921 such vehicles (4,789 new, 4,570 imported second-hand and 562 re-registered), partly offset by 1,633 that were put off the road.

Table 1.3 shows the age distribution of cars and dual-purpose vehicles at the end of December 2006. Some 37% of them were under 5 years, 27% between 5 and 9 years, and the remaining 36%, 10 years and above.

3.2 *Buses*

At the end of December 2006, the number of buses was 2,612 compared to 2,560 a year ago, following the registration of 133 new buses and 81 put off the road during the year. Out of the 2,612 buses, 1,862 (71%) were "public" buses operating with a road service license.

Table 1.4 which gives the age distribution of the fleet of public buses shows that 32% of them were under 5 years, 23% between 5 and 9 years and 45%, between 10 and 18 years.

4. Road traffic accidents

As from August 2004, with the introduction of the “Agreed statement of facts”, the police registers road traffic accidents causing injury, and non-injury accidents involving dispute between parties. Other non-injury accidents are reported directly to insurance companies. The insurance companies provide only aggregated data on such accidents; detailed information on non-injury accidents are thus not available.

The number of road accidents registered during the year 2006 was 20,242, of which 1,947 (10%) caused casualties and 18,295 (90%) were non-injury accidents. Among the accidents causing casualties, 122 (6%) were fatal, 296 (15%) caused serious injuries and 1,529 (79%) resulted in slight injuries.

Compared to the 2005 figure of 22,554, a fall of 10.3% is noted in the total number of road accidents. Accidents causing casualties fell by 9.2% and non-injury accidents by 10.4%. Fatal and serious injury accidents rose by 5.2% and 0.3% respectively while slight injury accidents decreased by 11.8%.

The accident rate expressed as the number of accidents per 100,000 mid-year population decreased from 1,869 in 2005 to 1,665 in 2006, and the number of accidents per 1,000 mid-year registered motor vehicles from 76 to 65 (Table 2.1).

5. Vehicles involved in road accidents

During 2006, the total number of vehicles (motor and non-motor) involved in road accidents was 40,205, that is, 3,941 less than the 2005 figure of 44,146. The number of vehicles involved in accidents resulting in casualties was 3,007 in 2006 compared to 3,326 in 2005. Some 35% of these were private cars, 33% motor/auto cycles, 12% vans and 7% buses (Table 2.3).

6. Casualties

The number of casualties (fatalities and persons injured as a result of road accidents) declined by 8.6% from 2,760 in 2005 to 2,522 in 2006. Among the casualties, 134 (5%) were fatal, 348 (14%) were seriously injured and the remaining 2,040 (81%) slightly injured.

Compared to 2005, the number of fatality (persons who died as a result of road accidents) dropped by 1.5%. The fatality rate expressed as the number of persons who died as a result of road accidents per 100,000 mid-year population decreased from 11.3 in 2005 to 11.0 in 2006.

Among the casualties in 2006, 25% were passengers, 33% riders of auto/motor cycles, 22% pedestrians, 13% drivers and 7% pedal cyclists (Table 2.4).

7. Hit and run cases in accidents causing casualties

The number of accidents (causing casualties) that were involved in “hit and run” cases decreased by 17% from 153 in 2005 to 127 in 2006. Out of the 127 cases, 55% (70) involved vehicles only while the other 45% (57) involved both vehicles and pedestrians (Table 2.5).

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Explanatory Notes

A. Vehicle Statistics

1. Data refer to all vehicles registered at the National Transport Authority. Pedal cycles are therefore excluded. The classification of vehicles used in this report, follows the definition given in Section 4 of the Road Traffic Act of 1962.

2. **Vehicles include:**

(a) **motor vehicles**, that is, power-driven vehicles normally used for carrying persons or goods by road or for drawing vehicles used for carrying persons or goods. Examples are car, dual purpose vehicle, heavy motor car, motor cycle, lorry, van, bus, and tractor;

(b) **non-motorised vehicles**, for example trailer.

3. Definition of some types of vehicles according to the Road Traffic Act 1962.

(a) **Motor cycle**

A motor cycle is a mechanically propelled vehicle, other than an auto cycle or a vehicle classified as an invalid carriage, with not more than four wheels and whose unladen weight does not exceed 400 kilograms.

(b) **Auto cycle**

An auto cycle is a two wheeled motor vehicle, with or without pedals, whose engine capacity does not exceed 50 cubic centimetres.

(c) **Heavy motor car**

A heavy motor car is a vehicle of the bus type designed to carry passengers but not for hire or reward.

(d) **Dual purpose vehicle**

A dual purpose vehicle is essentially a car but it is so designed to be capable of carrying a certain load of goods.

B. Road Traffic Accidents

1. In this report, data on accidents refer to all road accidents reported to police stations and to insurance companies.

2. Road Traffic Accident

A road traffic accident is an accident between two or more vehicles, a vehicle and a cyclist, a vehicle and a pedestrian, a vehicle and a fixed object such as a bridge, building, tree, post, etc, or a single vehicle that overturned on or near a public road.

3. Severity of accident

Road traffic accidents are classified into the following categories according to the severity of the accident:

Fatal accident - an accident resulting in the death of one or more persons. Prior to 2002, a fatal accident was defined as an accident where deaths occurred within 7 days. As from 2002, a fatal accident is defined as an accident where deaths occurred within 30 days.

Serious injury accident - An accident in which one or more persons are seriously injured.

Slight injury accident - An accident in which one or more persons are slightly injured.

Non injury accident - An accident in which no one is killed or injured but which results in damage to the vehicle/s and/or other property only.

4. Casualty

Any person killed or injured in a road accident is referred to as a casualty.

Fatality - Any person killed during an accident, or within 30 days (7 days prior to 2002) as a result of an accident is referred to as a fatality.

Serious Injury - An injury for which a person is detained in hospital as an "in-patient" or any of the following injuries (whether or not he is detained in hospital): fractures, concussions, internal injuries, severe cuts and lacerations, crushing and severe general shock requiring medical treatment.

Slight Injury - An injury of minor character such as a sprain, bruise and cut not judged to be severe.

Table 1.1 - Vehicles¹ registered, 2006

Type of vehicle	No. of vehicles at 31.12.05	New vehicles	Imported second-hand vehicles	Re - registered vehicles ²	Vehicles off the road ³	No. of vehicles at 31.12.06	Net addition
Car	84,818	3,378	4,403	437	1,125	91,911	7,093
Dual purpose vehicle	42,026	1,411	167	125	508	43,221	1,195
Motor cycle	30,927	3,374	51	231	647	33,936	3,009
Auto cycle	102,503	3,049	6	18	1,338	104,238	1,735
Lorry and truck	12,047	251	112	88	226	12,272	225
Van	23,989	297	486	121	371	24,522	533
Bus	2,560	133	-	-	81	2,612	52
Other	6,626	230	69	30	227	6,728	102
Total	305,496	12,123	5,294	1,050	4,523	319,440	13,944

¹ excluding pedal cycles, but including government vehicles

² refers to re-registration of vehicles previously put off the road

³ unlicensed either temporarily or permanently

Fig. 1.1 - Stock of registered vehicles, 1997 - 2006

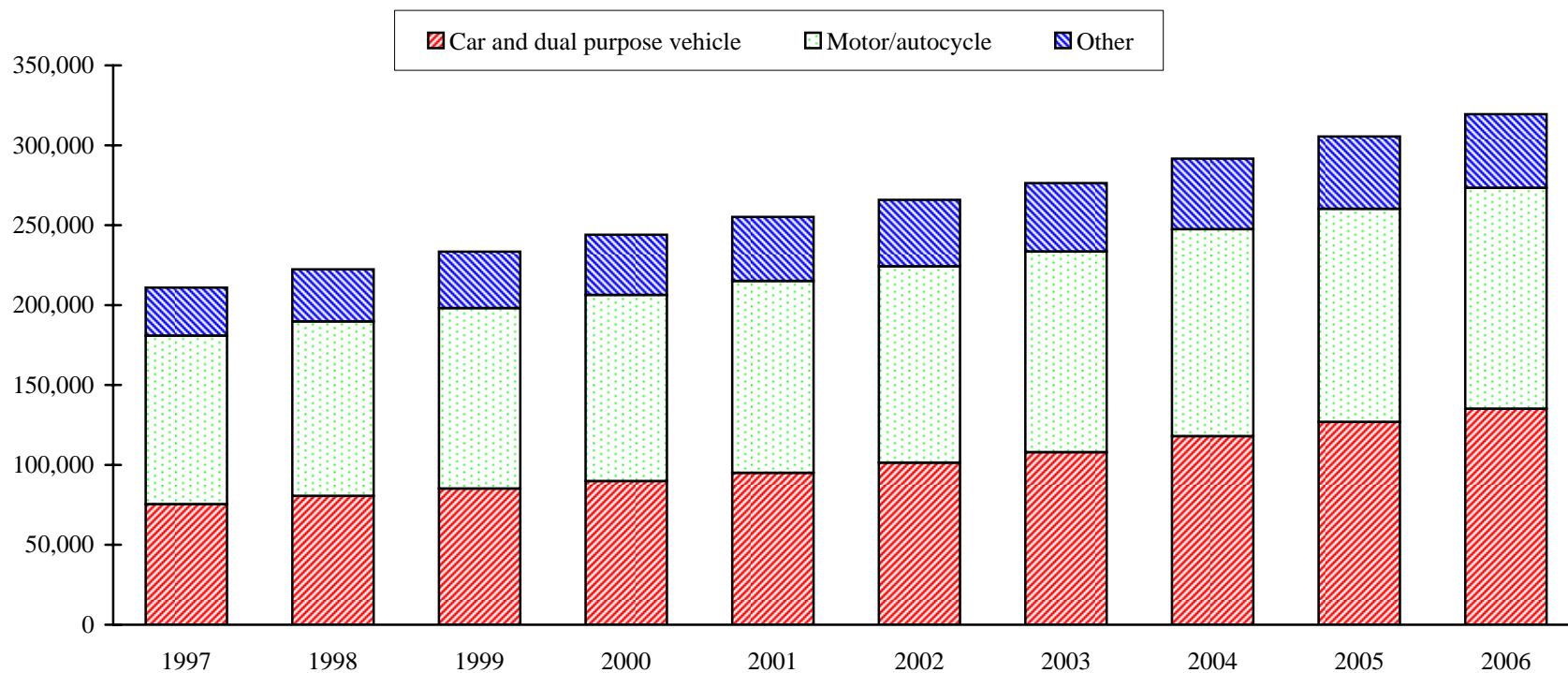


Table 1.2 - Vehicles¹ registered, 1997 - 2006

Type of vehicle	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Car (of which taxi car)	48,390 (4,721)	51,051 (4,761)	52,892 (4,905)	54,911 (5,039)	58,082 (5,318)	63,307 (5,801)	68,524 (5,979)	77,342 (6,482)	84,818 (6,798)	91,911 (6,860)
Dual purpose vehicle	27,050	29,527	32,262	34,912	36,984	38,129	39,383	40,667	42,026	43,221
Heavy motor car	934	945	934	916	923	944	958	1,020	1,045	1,118
Motor cycle	22,839	23,577	24,125	24,523	25,104	25,723	26,744	28,646	30,927	33,936
Auto cycle	82,567	85,566	88,821	91,955	94,849	97,078	98,858	100,854	102,503	104,238
Lorry and truck	9,356	9,750	10,138	10,485	10,888	11,236	11,501	11,774	12,047	12,272
Van	12,469	14,508	16,814	18,807	20,694	21,750	22,496	23,326	23,989	24,522
Bus	2,359	2,367	2,344	2,394	2,408	2,450	2,460	2,457	2,560	2,612
Tractor and dumper	2,615	2,627	2,630	2,645	2,683	2,683	2,877	2,935	2,982	3,001
Prime mover	278	297	315	322	335	349	369	388	412	436
Trailer	1,640	1,703	1,719	1,726	1,776	1,770	1,772	1,771	1,765	1,756
Road roller	108	105	102	100	100	101	100	99	96	96
Other	317	321	319	322	323	321	329	326	326	321
TOTAL	210,922	222,344	233,415	244,018	255,149	265,841	276,371	291,605	305,496	319,440

¹ Excluding pedal cycles but including government vehicles

Table 1.3 - Age composition of cars and dual purpose vehicles, 2005 - 2006

(as at 31st December)

Age group (Years)	2005		2006	
	Number	%	Number	%
< 5	44,319	34.9	49,749	36.8
5 < 10	35,791	28.2	36,935	27.3
10 < 15	14,283	11.3	14,303	10.6
≥ 15	32,451	25.6	34,145	25.3
TOTAL	126,844	100.0	135,132	100.0

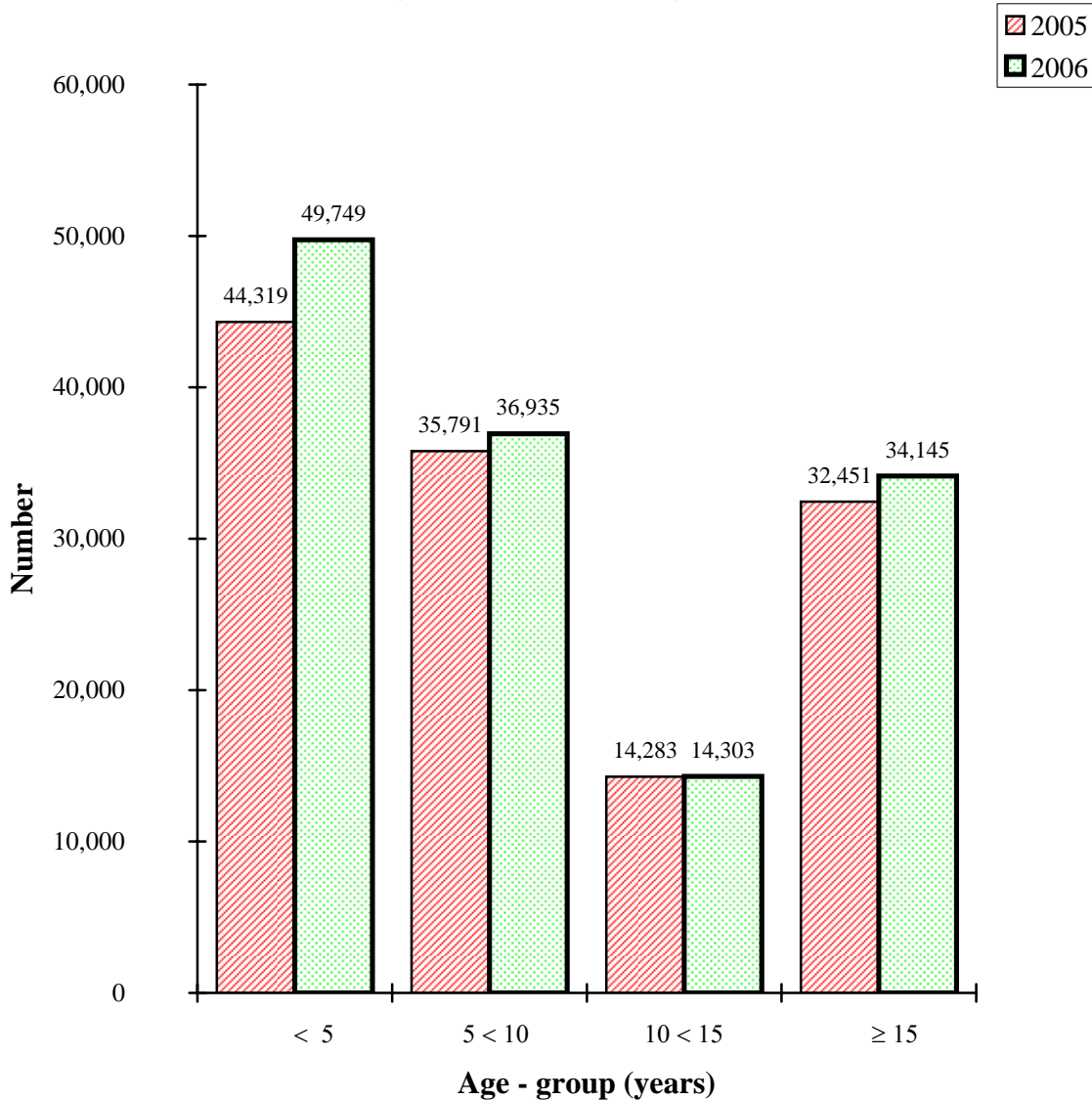
**Fig. 1.2 - Age composition of cars and dual purpose vehicles
(as at 31st December)**

Table 1.4 - Age composition of operational bus fleet¹, 2005 - 2006
(as at 31st December)

Age group (Years)	2005		2006	
	Number	%	Number	%
< 5	555	29.7	604	32.4
5 < 10	427	22.8	428	23.0
10 < 15	686	36.6	653	35.1
15 < 18	204	10.9	177	9.5
TOTAL	1,872	100.0	1,862	100.0

¹ Refers only to buses with a Road Service License, i.e., buses which operate on proclaimed routes and charge individual fares.

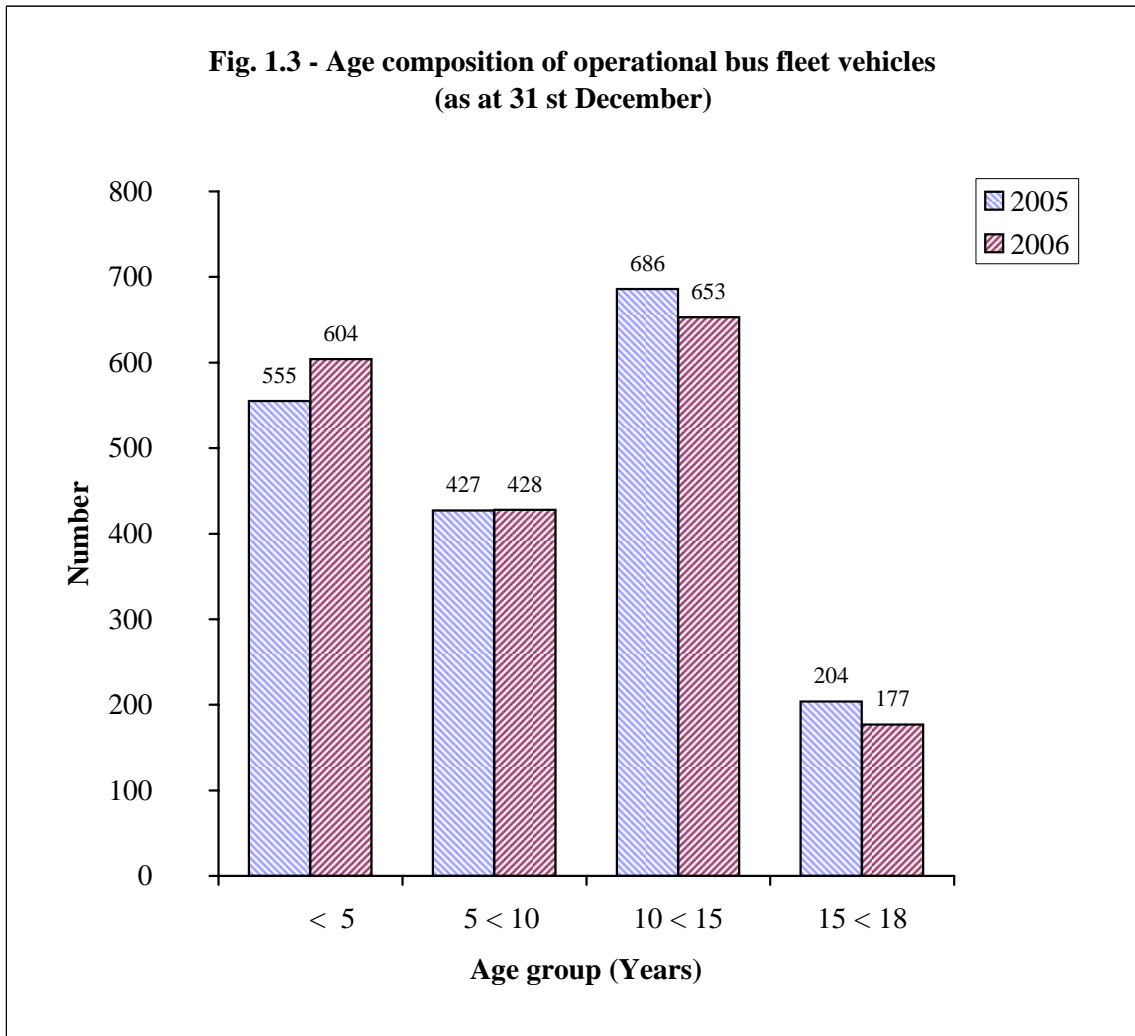


Table 2.1 - Road traffic accidents¹, 2005 - 2006

	2005	2006	Change	
			Number	%
1. Road traffic accidents	22,554	20,242	-2312	-10.3
Number of accidents causing casualties	2,144	1,947	-197	-9.2
<i>Fatal accident</i> ²	116	122	+6	+5.2
<i>Serious injury accident</i>	295	296	+1	+0.3
<i>Slight injury accident</i>	1,733	1,529	-204	-11.8
Non injury accident	20,410	18,295	-2115	-10.4
Rate per 100,000 population	1,869	1665	N.A	N.A
Rate per 1,000 registered motor-vehicles	76	65	N.A	N.A
2 .Vehicles involved	44,146	40,205	-3941	-8.9
of which				
<i>Motor Vehicles</i>	43,741	40,023	-3718	-8.5
Rate per 1,000 registered motor-vehicles	148	129	N.A	N.A
Number of m-vehicles involved in accidents causing casualties	3,146	2,825	-321	-10.2
3. Casualties	2,760	2,522	-238	-8.6
<i>Fatal</i> ²	136	134	-2	-1.5
<i>Seriously injured</i>	358	348	-10	-2.8
<i>Slightly injured</i>	2,266	2,040	-226	-10.0

¹ Exclude accidents involving bicycles only or bicycle and pedestrian

² Based on definition of fatal accidents where death occurred within 30 days.

N.A : Not applicable

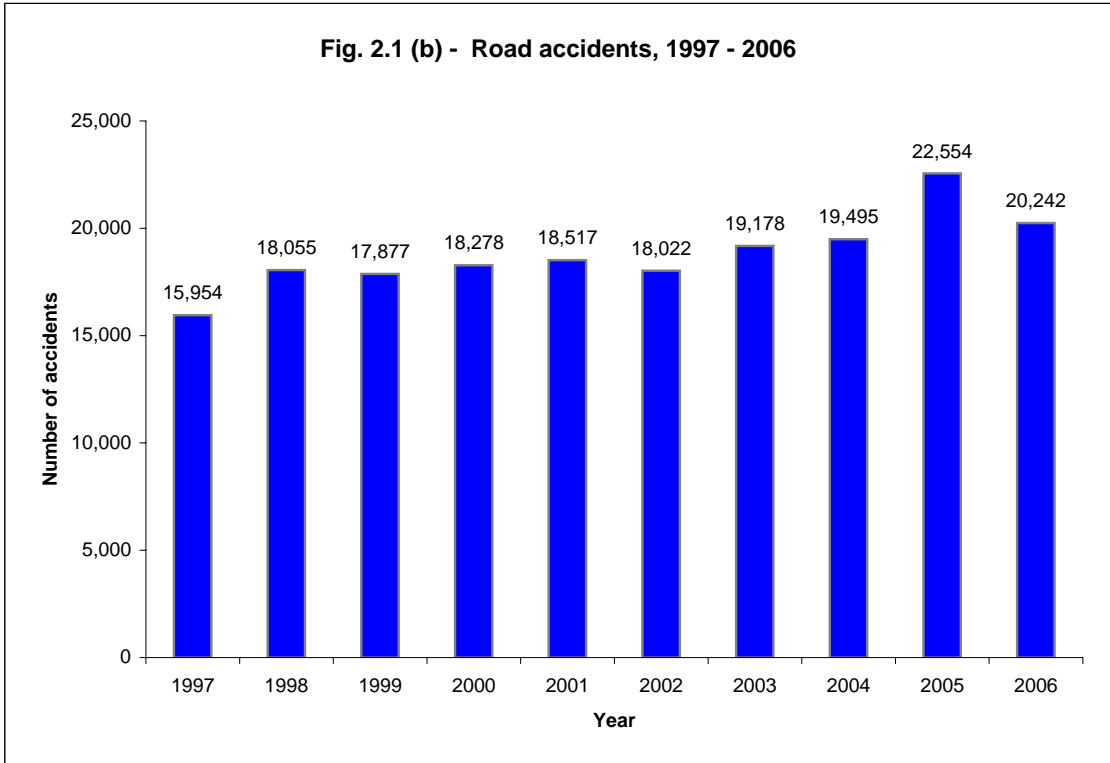
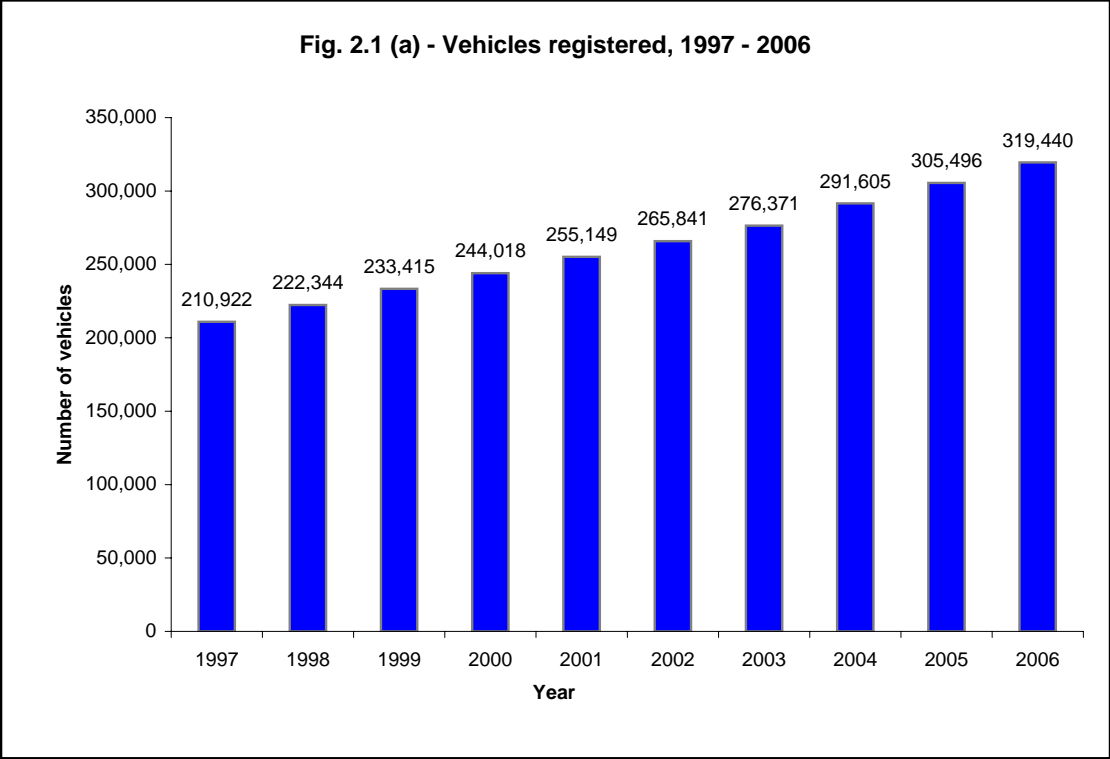


Table 2.2 - Road traffic accidents¹ and casualties, 1997 - 2006

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
1. Road traffic accidents :										
Number	15,954	18,055	17,877	18,278	18,517	18,022	19,178	19,495	22,554	20,242
Rate per 100,000 population	1,433	1,605	1,569	1,588	1,591	1,535	1,616	1,629	1,869	1,665
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	78	84	79	77	75	69	72	69	76	65
2. Motor vehicle involved:										
Number	28,561	32,568	32,547	33,537	33,988	33,119	35,239	35,506	43,741	40,023
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	140	152	144	142	137	127	133	126	148	129
3. Casualties:										
Total number of casualties of which	3,755	3,828	3,405	3,291	3,264	2,904	2,698	2,951	2,760	2,522
<i>Fatal</i> ²	146	162	170	163	126	158	131	144	136	134
<i>Seriously injured</i>	261	281	237	266	288	216	291	245	358	348
<i>Slightly injured</i>	3,348	3,385	2,998	2,862	2,850	2,530	2,276	2,562	2,266	2,040
4. Fatality :										
Rate per 100,000 population	13.1	14.4	14.9	14.2	10.8	13.5	11.0	12.0	11.3	11.0
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
Fatality index ³	3.9	4.2	5.0	5.0	3.9	5.4	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.3

¹ Exclude accidents involving bicycles only or bicycle and pedestrian

² From 1993 to 2001 figures are based on definition of fatal accidents where death occurred within 7 days.

As from 2002, figures are based on definition of fatal accidents where deaths occurred within 30 days as a result of road accidents

³ Fatality index is the number of fatalities per 100 casualties.

Table 2.3 -Number of vehicles¹ involved in accidents (causing casualties) by type, 2005 - 2006

Type of vehicle	2005					2006				
	Casualties					Casualties				
	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total	%	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total	%
Private car	58	181	1,026	1,265	38.0	56	129	863	1,048	34.9
Taxi car	3	9	85	97	2.9	1	13	79	93	3.1
Bus	16	27	175	218	6.6	19	35	142	196	6.5
Lorry	8	22	100	130	3.9	13	21	66	100	3.3
Van	26	42	332	400	12.0	21	62	290	373	12.4
Motor / auto cycle	41	147	808	996	29.9	46	164	773	983	32.6
Other motor vehicles	1	1	38	40	1.2	3	2	27	32	1.1
Total motor vehicles	153	429	2,564	3,146	94.6	159	426	2,240	2,825	93.9
Pedal cycle	17	24	136	177	5.3	17	31	134	182	6.1
Other non motor vehicles	0	1	2	3	0.1	0	0	0	0	0
All vehicles	170	454	2,702	3,326	100.0	176	457	2,374	3,007	100.0

¹ Only three main vehicles have been considered in accidents involving more than three vehicles

Table 2.4 - Number of casualties by class of road users, 2005 - 2006

Class of road users	2005				2006			
	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Total	%	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Total	%
Pedestrian	295	322	617	22.4	267	299	566	22.4
Passenger	349	370	719	26.0	312	306	618	24.5
Driver	206	242	448	16.2	127	200	327	13.0
Rider (auto / motor cycle)	408	403	811	29.4	404	437	841	33.3
Pedal cyclist	86	79	165	6.0	79	91	170	6.7
Total	1,344	1,416	2,760	100.0	1,189	1,333	2,522	100.0

Table 2.5 - Number of accidents (causing casualties) involved in "hit and run" cases, 2005- 2006

Year Accident	2005				2006			
	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Total	%	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Total	%
Vehicles v/s pedestrian	39	34	73	47.7	27	30	57	44.9
Vehicles v/s vehicles	49	31	80	52.3	32	38	70	55.1
Total	88	65	153	100.0	59	68	127	100.0