



Republic of Mauritius

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CRIME, JUSTICE AND SECURITY STATISTICS - 2007



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# **Crime, Justice and Security Statistics, 2007**

## **(Police, Judiciary and Prisons)**

### **1. Introduction**

This is the first issue of a new series of Economic and Social Indicator (ESI) dealing with crime, justice and security. It covers statistics on victimisation collected by the Central Statistics Office from the Continuous Multi Purpose Household Survey (CMPHS) for 2004 and 2007 together with statistics from the Mauritius Police Force (MPF), Judiciary Department and the Mauritius Prison Services (MPS) for 2006 and 2007. This series will henceforth replace that on crime statistics dealing with data from the MPF only.

It is to be noted that the criminal justice system is very complex, involving police, prosecution, judiciary, prison and probation and after-care services as well the socio-economic situation in which crimes occur. It has not been possible yet to include any figures on prosecution and probation and after-care services which would be necessary to fully interpret the figures in this ESI. These statistics will be developed and added in forthcoming issues as soon as they are available.

All data in this ESI relate to the Republic of Mauritius except those of the prisons which relate only to the Island of Mauritius since the figures for Rodrigues are not yet available.

To assist in interpreting the figures, a reference chart of the flow through the criminal justice system is included at Annex I and a glossary of terms used at Annex II. Questionnaires used to collect data on victimisation at the CMPHS may be accessed at <http://statsmauritius.gov.mu>.

### **2. Statistical Notes**

The following points should be recalled when drawing any conclusions from the figures in this publication:

- (a) When comparing figures it should be realised that police and judiciary figures are based on offences but prison figures are based on offenders, and that many offenders are sentenced for more than one offence.
- (b) Moreover, offences can sometimes be reclassified during the court process, usually downwards, as they proceed from police investigation through prosecution to final court sentence. This is usually due to evidence not being as robust as at first thought.
- (c) Figures on victimisation reported at the CMPHS cannot be exactly compared with figures on crimes obtained from the police. The coverage and categorisation of offences are different in the two sources.
- (d) Figures from the CMPHS should be interpreted with care as the estimates are subject to sampling error that tends to be relatively large when the sample numbers are small.

### **3. Key points**

#### **3.1 Victimisation (based on CMPHS data for 2004 & 2007)**

- (a) It is estimated that, out of 337,200 households in the Republic of Mauritius in 2007, 13,600 (4%) households were victims of household burglary, 9,800 (3%) were victims of vehicle theft and 5,400 (2%) victims of personal theft.
- (b) Crime varies across the country with higher victimisation reported in the urban regions.
- (c) The rate of household burglary victimisation decreased from 50.5 per 1,000 households in 2004 to 40.3 in 2007. For vehicle theft, the rate decreased from 42.1 in 2004 to 29.1 in 2007 but for personal theft it rose from 15.0 to 16.0.
- (d) A high proportion of offences are not reported at the police. This is especially the case for vehicle theft, including attempts, damage and theft of parts and accessories. It is estimated that 54.1% of households that were victims in 2007 did not report the offence at the police.
- (e) All categories of people were worried about their personal safety at night. In 2007, 45.1% of people aged 15 years and over were worried about travelling on public transport at night and 35.2% about walking in their own neighbourhood at night.

#### **3.2 Police**

- (a) In 2007, the total number of offences reported at the police was about 194,000, of which 72.1% were contraventions (mainly traffic offences), 22.1% misdemeanours, 3.5% crimes, and 2.3% drug related offences.
- (b) From 2006 to 2007, the number of offences reported at the police increased by about 3,500 or 1.9%; drug related offences increased by 15.9%, reported crimes by 15.6%, and misdemeanours by 10.2% while contraventions decreased by 1.4%.

#### **3.3 Judiciary**

- (a) The total number of criminal cases lodged decreased by 19.5% from 145,514 in 2006 to 117,172 in 2007. Criminal cases disposed of declined by 12.1% from 138,927 to 122,105 during the same period.
- (b) The total number of convicted offences dropped by 14.3% from 135,820 in 2006 to 116,390 in 2007. Convictions for contraventions under the Road Traffic Act fell by 20.1%. However, major increases were noted in convictions for homicide and related offences (85.7%), fraud and dishonesty (44.0%), embezzlement (38.0%), assault and related offences (26.1%) and drug related offences (13.1%).

### 3.4 Prisons

- (a) Nearly 75% of the prison detainees in 2006 and 2007 consisted of convicts, the remaining 25% being on remand and awaiting trial.
- (b) The daily average number of detainees in prison increased by 0.7% from 2,226 in 2006 to 2,242 in 2007. During the same period, the imprisonment rate rose from 175 to 183 per 100,000 population.
- (c) The daily average number of convicts increased by 3.1% from 1,600 in 2006 to 1,649 in 2007, while the average number on remand and trial decreased by 5.6% from 622 to 587.
- (d) Unpaid fines accounted for 35.8% of convicts admitted to prison in 2007.

## 4 Victimisation reported at CMPHS 2004 & 2007

### 4.1 Overall victimisation

**Table 1 - Household victimisation by type of offence, Republic of Mauritius, 2004 & 2007**

Type of offence <sup>1</sup>	Estimated number of households victimised		Rate per 1,000 households	
	2004	2007	2004	2007
Household Burglary	16,200	13,600	50.5	40.3
Vehicle theft <sup>2</sup>	13,500	9,800	42.1	29.1
Personal theft	4,800	5,400	15.0	16.0

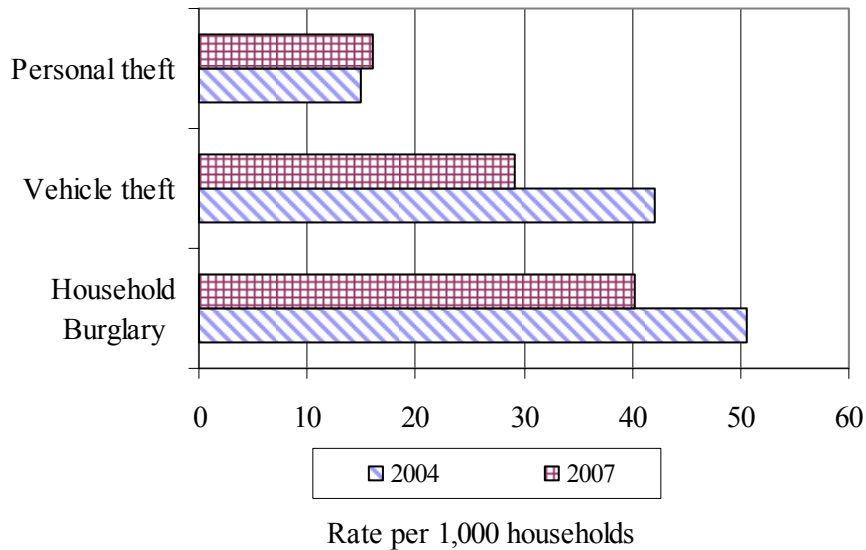
<sup>1</sup> Including attempted offences

<sup>2</sup> Figures on vehicle theft include attempts, damage and theft of parts and accessories

Estimates from the Continuous Multi Purpose Household Survey (CMPHS) in Table 1 show that, from 2004 to 2007, the number of households victim of burglary fell from 16,200 to 13,600; the number of households victims of vehicle theft, including attempts, damage and theft of parts and accessories, fell from 13,500 to 9,800. Conversely, the number of households with at least one member victim of personal theft increased from 4,800 to 5,400.

The rate of victimisation for household burglary decreased from 50.5 per 1,000 households in 2004 to 40.3 in 2007; for vehicle theft the rate decreased from 42.1 to 29.1. For personal theft, however, the rate rose from 15.0 to 16.0 (Figure 1).

**Figure 1 - Rate of household victimisation by type of offence,  
Republic of Mauritius, 2004 & 2007**



#### 4.2 Victimisation by income level

**Table 2 - Household victimisation by type of offence and level of household income,  
Republic of Mauritius, 2007**

Monthly household income (Rs)	Household Burglary		Vehicle theft		Personal theft	
	Number of households victimised	Rate per 1,000 households	Number of households victimised	Rate per 1,000 households	Number of households victimised	Rate per 1,000 households
Under 10,000	3,800	31.5	2,200	18.5	1,100	9.6
10,000 < 15,000	2,600	33.6	2,000	26.1	1,600	20.3
15,000 < 20,000	1,500	29.6	2,000	38.4	800	16.1
20,000 < 30,000	2,000	40.6	1,600	32.6	1,000	20.7
30,000 < 40,000	1,100	57.1	1,000	51.2	900	46.6
40,000 and over	2,600	117.8	1,000	46.3		
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,600</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>9,800</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>5,400</b>	<b>16.0</b>

Victimisation varied considerably by level of household income. As expected, households with higher income were more likely to be victims of household burglary, vehicle theft and personal theft (Table 2).

The rate of victimisation for household burglary was 117.8 per 1,000 households with income Rs 40,000 and above, nearly four times higher than that (31.5) for households with income less than Rs 10,000. About 46 out of 1,000 households with monthly income Rs 40,000 and above were victims of vehicle theft against 19 out of 1,000 households with monthly income below Rs 10,000.

As regards personal theft, the rate of victimisation for households with monthly income Rs 30,000 and above was about 47 per 1,000 households against 10 for households with monthly income less than Rs 10,000.

### 4.3 Victimisation by region

**Table 3 - Household victimisation by type of offence and region, Republic of Mauritius, 2007**

Region	Household Burglary		Vehicle theft		Personal theft	
	Number of households victimised	Rate per 1,000 households	Number of households victimised	Rate per 1,000 households	Number of households victimised	Rate per 1,000 households
Urban	6,700	60.2	4,200	37.7	2,000	18.0
Rural	6,900	30.5	5,600	24.8	3,400	15.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,600</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>9,800</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>5,400</b>	<b>16.0</b>

Analysis of victimisation by geographical region is restricted due to few sample observations in some regions. However, a broad comparison by urban and rural region shows that urban regions had higher victimisation rate for household burglary, vehicle theft as well as personal theft (Table 3).

#### 4.4 Non-reporting of offences at the police

Not all offences are reported at the police. Results from CMPHS show that non-reporting was quite high (Table 4). The proportion of households victim of burglary that did not report at the police was 39.5% in 2004 and 45.6% in 2007; the corresponding proportion for vehicle theft, including attempts, damage and theft of parts and accessories, was 56.3% in 2004 and 54.1% in 2007; for personal theft, it was 59.3% in 2007.

**Table 4 - Households not reporting offences at the police, Republic of Mauritius, 2004 & 2007**

Type of offence	2004			2007		
	Total no. of household victims	Household victims not reporting offence	Percentage of household victims not reporting offence	Total no. of household victims	Household victims not reporting offence	Percentage of household victims not reporting offence
Household Burglary	16,200	6,400	39.5	13,600	6,200	45.6
Vehicle theft	13,500	7,600	56.3	9,800	5,300	54.1
Personal <sup>1</sup> theft	4,800	...*	...*	5,400	3,200	59.3

<sup>1</sup> Figures on personal theft refer to households with at least one member victim of personal theft

\* Questions on non-reporting of personal thefts were not asked at CMPHS 2004

The main reasons stated by households for not reporting an offence to the police were :

- (a) thinking that the stolen goods would not be recovered (43.2%),
- (b) just not wanting to be involved with the police (24.3%),
- (c) the case was not serious enough (22.1%),
- (d) others, e.g., the case had already been reported to some other authority (10.4%).

#### 4.5 Concern about personal safety

At CMPHS 2007, questions on personal safety were asked of all household members aged 15 years and above. The survey results indicate that an equal proportion of people (8%) did not feel safe in public transport during the day and walking in their neighborhood during the day; a lower proportion (5%) were worried about their safety at home during the day (Table 5 & Figure 2).

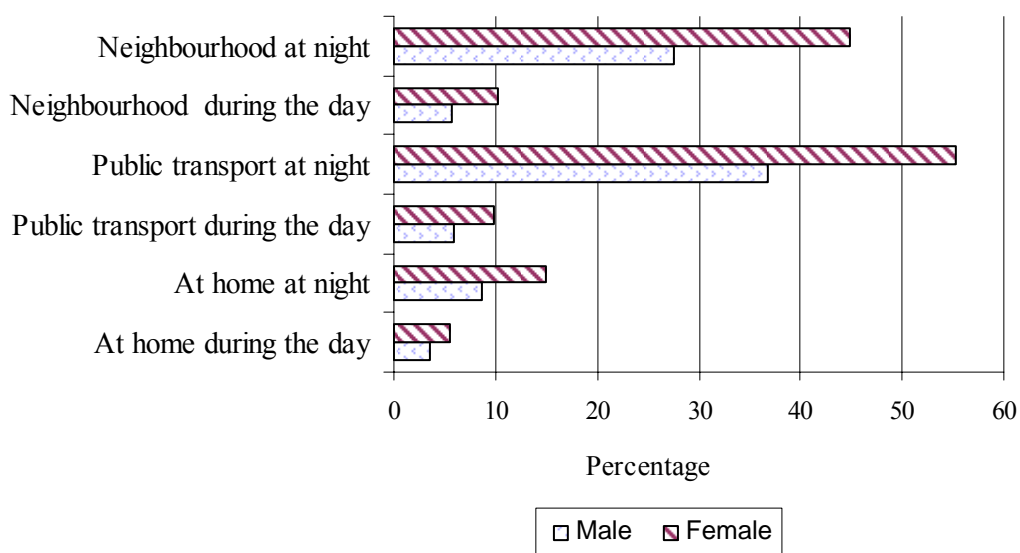
**Table 5 - Percentage of people not feeling safe in various places by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2007**

Place	Male	Female	Both sexes
At home during the day	3.5	5.6	4.6
At home at night	8.6	15.0	11.9
Public transport during the day	5.9	9.8	7.9
Public transport at night	36.8	55.3	45.1
Neighbourhood during the day	5.7	10.2	8.0
Neighbourhood at night	27.5	44.8	35.2

As expected, people were more worried about their safety at night. It is estimated that, at night, about 12% of people did not feel safe at home; 35% did not feel safe in their neighbourhood while a higher percentage, 45%, were worried about their safety in public transport.

In general, females felt less safe than males both during the day and at night in the various places.

**Figure 2 - Percentage of people not feeling safe in various places by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2007**





Analysing the data by age shows that, in general, the proportion of people not feeling safe at various places increased with age (Table 6). Elderly people aged 60 years and above were those who felt the most unsafe.

**Table 6 - Percentage of people not feeling safe in various places by age group, Republic of Mauritius, 2007**

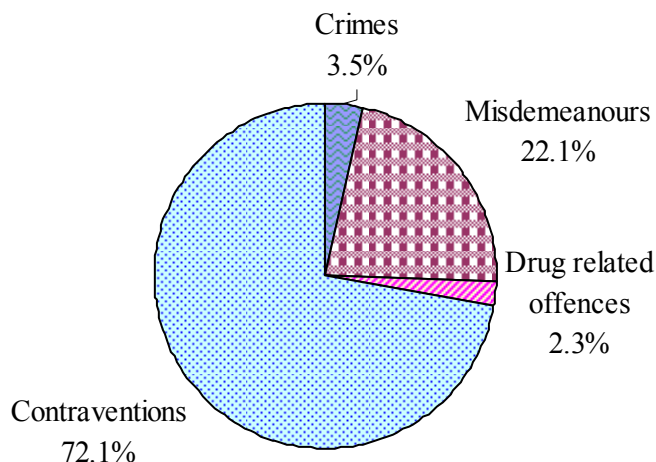
Place	Age (Years)				
	15-24	25-39	40-59	60 and over	Total (15 and over)
At home during the day	3.7	4.3	4.8	6.1	<b>4.6</b>
At home at night	10.0	11.4	12.1	15.3	<b>11.9</b>
Public transport during the day	7.1	7.7	8.2	9.1	<b>7.9</b>
Public transport at night	42.5	43.0	46.3	54.2	<b>45.1</b>
Neighbourhood during the day	7.5	7.5	8.3	9.0	<b>8.0</b>
Neighbourhood at night	35.8	32.7	35.7	40.5	<b>35.2</b>

## 5. Police Statistics

### 5.1 Offences

The total number of offences reported at the police in 2007 was 193,711 of which 72.1% were contraventions, 22.1% misdemeanours, 3.5% crimes and 2.3% drug related offences (Table 7 & Figure 3). It is to be noted that nearly 90% of the contraventions were due to road traffic offences.

**Figure 3 - Offences by type, Republic of Mauritius, 2007**



The total number of reported offences increased by 1.9% from 190,168 in 2006 to 193,711 in 2007; drug related offences increased by 15.9%, crimes by 15.6% and misdemeanours by 10.2%. Contraventions, on the other hand, decreased by 1.4%.

**Table 7 - Offences by type, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 & 2007**

Offences	2006		2007		% Change 2006 - 2007
	Number	%	Number	%	
Crimes	5,837	3.1	6,744	3.5	+15.6
Misdemeanours	38,862	20.4	42,829	22.1	+10.2
Drug related offences	3,851	2.0	4,464	2.3	+15.9
Contraventions	141,618	74.5	139,674	72.1	- 1.4
<b>All offences</b>	<b>190,168</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>193,711</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>+1.9</b>

The overall offence rate increased from 151.8 per 1,000 population in 2006 to 153.7 in 2007 (Table 8). Increases were observed in the rate for misdemeanours (from 31.0 to 34.0), crimes (from 4.7 to 5.4) and drug related offences (from 3.1 to 3.5). The contravention rate dropped from 113.1 to 110.8 per 1,000 population.

**Table 8 - Offence rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 & 2007**

Type of offence	Rate per 1,000 mid-year population	
	2006	2007
Crimes	4.7	5.4
Misdemeanours	31.0	34.0
Drug related offences	3.1	3.5
Contraventions	113.1	110.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>151.8</b>	<b>153.7</b>

## 5.2 Offences by United Nations Classification

Table 9 presents reported offences in 2006 and 2007 grouped according to the UN Classification of Offences. Major increases are noted in theft (16.4%) and drug related offences (15.9%), while sexual offences decreased by 8.6% and fraud and dishonesty by 4.5%.

**Table 9 - Reported offences as per United Nations Classification of Offences, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 & 2007**

UN Classification of Offences	Cases reported to Police		% Change 2006 - 2007
	2006	2007	
Homicide and related offences <i>of which intentional homicide</i>	110 50	116 45	+5.5 -10.0
Assault and related offences <i>of which simple wounds/ blows</i>	13,169 13 063	13,768 13,628	+4.5 +4.3
Sexual offences <i>of which rape</i>	420 64	384 77	-8.6 +20.3
Fraud and dishonesty	1,048	1,001	-4.5
Embezzlement	706	690	-2.3
Theft <i>of which vehicle theft</i>	18,038 1,005	21,005 971	+16.4 -3.4
Drug and related offences	3,851	4,464	+15.9
Contraventions <i>of which road traffic offences</i>	141,618 125,849	139,674 124,975	-1.4 -0.7
Other offences	11,208	12,609	+12.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>190,168</b>	<b>193,711</b>	<b>+1.9</b>

### 5.3 Drug related offences reported at the police

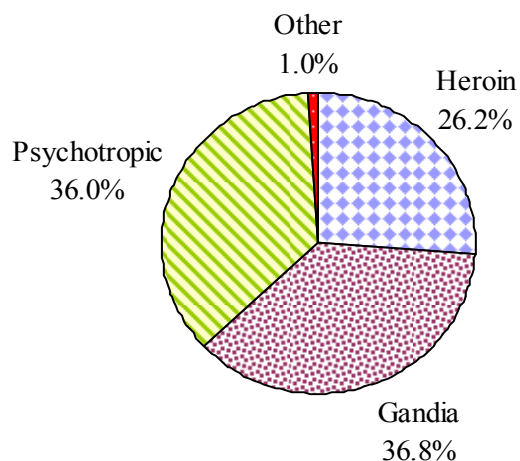
In 2007, 4,464 drugs related offences were reported at the police of which 1,170 were related to heroin (26.2%), 1,641 to gandia (36.8%) and 1,608 to psychotropic drugs (36.0%) (Table 10 & Figure 4).

During the period 2006 to 2007, drug related offences increased by 15.9%, driven by a high increase in offences related to psychotropic drugs (37.2%) and gandia (17.9%). The number of offences linked to heroin however declined by 5.8%.

**Table 10 - Drug related offences reported at the police, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 & 2007**

Type of drug	2006		2007		% Change 2006 - 2007
	Number	%	Number	%	
Heroin	1,242	32.2	1,170	26.2	-5.8
Gandia	1,392	36.1	1,641	36.8	+17.9
Psychotropic	1,172	30.4	1,608	36.0	+37.2
Other	45	1.3	45	1.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,851</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,464</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15.9</b>

**Figure 4 - Drug related offences by type, Republic of Mauritius, 2007**



#### **5.4 Juvenile offences reported at the police**

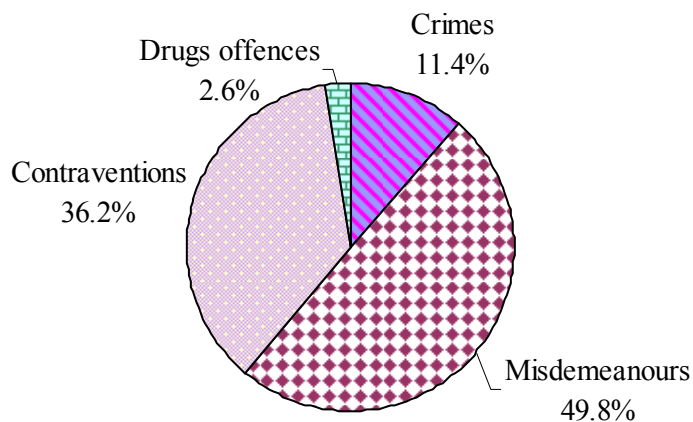
In 2007, 905 juvenile offences involving 940 juvenile offenders were reported at the police. About half of the reported offences were misdemeanours while more than one third were contraventions. A small proportion (less than 3%) of the juvenile offences were drug related (Table 11 & Figure 5).



**Table 11 - Juvenile offences reported at the police, Republic of Mauritius, 2007**

Type of offence	Juvenile offences		Juvenile offenders	
	Number	%	Number	%
Crimes	103	11.4	113	12.0
Misdemeanours	451	49.8	471	50.1
Contraventions	328	36.2	325	34.6
Drugs related offences	23	2.6	31	3.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Figure 5 - Juvenile offences reported at the police, Republic of Mauritius, 2007**



## 6. Judiciary statistics

### 6.1 Total number of criminal cases

The total number of criminal cases lodged in court in 2007 was 117,172, representing a decrease of 19.5% compared to 145,514 cases in 2006 (Table 12). Criminal cases disposed of dropped by 12.1% from 138,927 to 122,105 during the same period. As cases disposed of exceeded those lodged, the number of outstanding cases at the end of year 2007 fell by 23.1% from 44,699 to 34,380.

**Table 12 - Criminal cases in court, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 & 2007**

Court	No. of cases pending at the beginning of the year		No. of cases lodged during the year		No. of cases disposed of during the year		No. of cases outstanding at the end of the year	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
<b>Republic of Mauritius</b>	<b>44,535</b>	<b>44,699</b>	<b>145,514</b>	<b>117,172</b>	<b>138,927</b>	<b>122,105</b>	<b>44,699</b>	<b>34,380</b>
<b>Island of Mauritius</b>	<b>44,107</b>	<b>44,300</b>	<b>143,129</b>	<b>115,677</b>	<b>136,513</b>	<b>120,662</b>	<b>44,300</b>	<b>33,929</b>
<i>Supreme Court</i>	200	229	157	221	128	115	229	335
<i>Industrial Court</i>	200	168	240	313	245	300	168	181
<i>Intermediate Court</i>	1,457	1,443	1,419	1,278	1,433	1,491	1,443	1,230
<i>District Courts</i>	42,250	42,460	141,313	113,865	134,707	118,756	42,460	32,183
<b>Court of Rodrigues</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>2,385</b>	<b>1,495</b>	<b>2,414</b>	<b>1,443</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>451</b>

## 6.2 Convicted offences

The number of convicted offences registered in courts dropped by 14.3% from 135,820 in 2006 to 116,390 in 2007 (Table 13).

Convictions for homicide and related offences increased by 85.7% from 28 in 2006 to 52 in 2007. During the same period, the number of convictions for fraud and dishonesty increased by 44.0%, for embezzlement by 38.0%, for assault and related offences by 26.1% and for drug related offences by 13.1%. However, convictions for contraventions decreased by 20.1%. This may be due to various reasons, e.g. fewer cases of contraventions lodged in court and the enforcement of the law under the Road Traffic Act on fixed penalty notice whereby the person is given the option to pay his/her fines without having to appear before a court.

**Table 13 - Convicted offences by type of offence, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 & 2007**

UN Classification of Offences	Number of convicted offences		% Change 2006 - 2007
	2006	2007	
Homicide and related offences <i>of which Intentional homicide</i>	28 <i>1</i>	52 <i>23</i>	+85.7
Assault and related offences	4,232	5,335	+26.1
Sexual offences <i>of which Rape</i>	99 <i>11</i>	110 <i>10</i>	+11.1
Fraud and dishonesty	316	455	+44.0
Embezzlement	142	196	+38.0
Theft	2,857	2,858	0.0
Drug and related offences	2,945	3,330	+13.1
Contraventions (Road Traffic Act)	109,950	87,828	-20.1
Other offences	15,251	16,226	+6.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>135,820</b>	<b>116,390</b>	<b>-14.3</b>

### 6.3 Sentence imposed

Judiciary figures show that the number of convicted offences for which the offenders were sentenced to imprisonment, rose by 41.3% from 1,938 in 2006 to 2,739 in 2007 (Table 14). Offences involving juvenile offenders sentenced to Rehabilitation Youth Centre (RYC) and Correctional Youth Centre (CYC) fell by 53% from 100 to 47. Other offences for which sentences were mainly probation, community service orders, conditional discharge and absolute discharge rose by 17% from 1,834 to 2,145.

**Table 14 - Convicted offences by sex of offender and outcome of judgement, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 & 2007**

Year	Outcome of judgement	Adult		Juvenile		Total
		Male	Female	Male	Female	
<b>2006</b>	Imprisonment	1,920	18	0	0	<b>1,938</b>
	RYC & CYC	0	0	84	16	<b>100</b>
	Fine	130,313	1,519	112	4	<b>131,948</b>
	Other	1,721	66	39	8	<b>1,834</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>133,954</b>	<b>1,603</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>135,820</b>
<b>2007</b>	Imprisonment	2,691	48	0	0	<b>2,739</b>
	RYC & CYC	0	0	41	6	<b>47</b>
	Fine	109,410	2,032	14	3	<b>111,459</b>
	Other	2,065	70	9	1	<b>2,145</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>114,166</b>	<b>2,150</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>116,390</b>

## 7. Prisons statistics

### 7.1 Number of detainees

**Table 15 - Daily average number of detainees by type of detainee, Island of Mauritius, 2006 & 2007**

Type of detainee	2006		2007		% Change 2006 - 2007
	Number	%	Number	%	
Convicts	1,600	71.9	1,649	73.5	+3.1
Remand and Trial	622	27.9	587	26.2	-5.6
Civil debtors	4	0.2	6	0.3	+50.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,226</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,242</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>+0.7%</b>



The daily average number of detainees (excluding juvenile detainees) in prison increased by 0.7% from 2,226, in 2006 to 2,242 in 2007 for the Island of Mauritius (Table 15). During the same period the number of convicts increased by 3.1% (from 1,600 to 1,649), and the number on remand and trial decreased by 5.6% (from 622 to 587). Figures for Rodrigues are currently not available.

Nearly three quarters of the prison population were convicts; the remaining constituted mainly the remand and trial prison population. The very small number of civil debtors in prison will eventually fall to zero as a result of the Courts (Civil Procedure) Act being repealed in 2006, whereby civil debtors are no longer sent to prison.

## 7.2 Prison admission rate

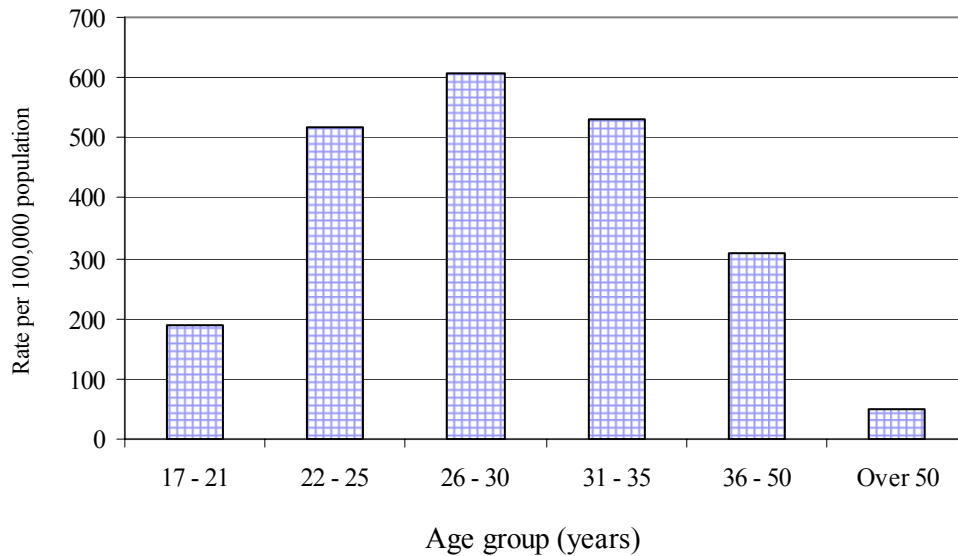
In 2007, the overall admission rate to prison was 221.8 per 100,000 population. The admission rate increases with age, from 190.3 for age-group 17 - 21 years to a peak of 608.4 for age-group 26 - 30 years, then declines thereafter to reach 48.4 for those over 50 years (Table 16 & Figure 6).

In 2007, 2,626 (96.8%) males and 87 (3.2%) females were admitted to prison. The admission rate per 100,000 population was 434.4 for male and 14.1 for female.

**Table 16 – Prison admission rate by age group, Island of Mauritius, 2007**

<b>Age-group (years)</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Rate per 100,000 mid year population</b>
17 - 21	178	190.3
22 - 25	393	519.1
26 - 30	667	608.4
31 - 35	492	532.4
36 - 50	864	307.4
Over 50	119	48.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,713</b>	<b>221.8</b>

**Figure 6 - Prison admission rate by age group,  
Island of Mauritius, 2007**



### 7.3 Convicts admitted to prison by length of sentence

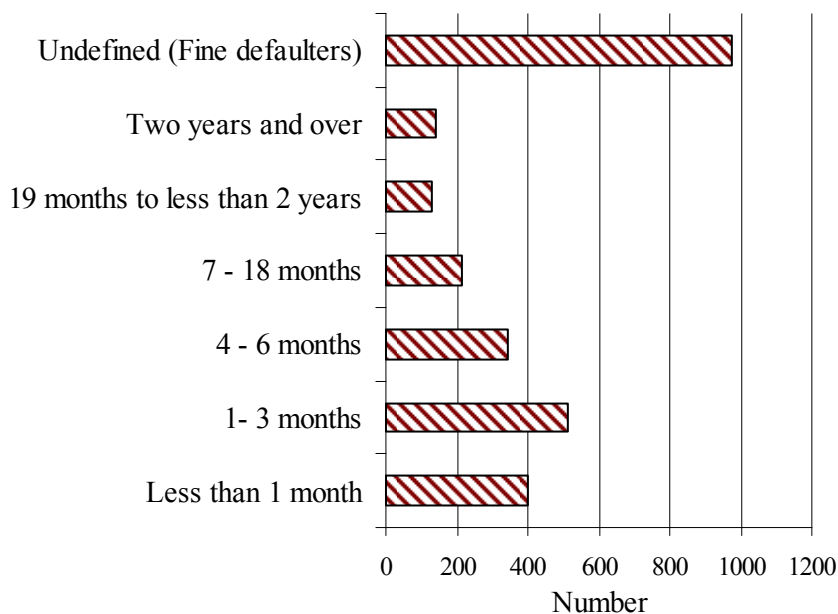
**Table 17 - Convicts admitted to prison by length of sentence, Island of Mauritius, 2007**

Length of sentence	Number	Percentage
< 1 month	399	14.7
1 - 3 months	514	18.9
4 - 6 months	342	12.6
7 - 18 months	214	7.9
19 months to less than 2 years	132	4.9
Two years and over	140	5.2
Life Sentence	0	0
Undefined (Fine defaulters <sup>♦</sup> )	972	35.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,713</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\* Fine defaulters are convicts sentenced to imprisonment for non-payment of fines; they either stay in prison for a specified period or are released as soon as they pay the fines.

Table 17 and Figure 7 show that most convicts admitted to prison in 2007 serve relatively short sentences: around 46% were in for 6 months or less and 18% for 7 months or more. Around 36% were fine defaulters to be released on payment of the respective fines. There was no life sentence conviction in 2007.

**Figure 7 - Convicts admitted to prison by length of sentence, Island of Mauritius, 2007**



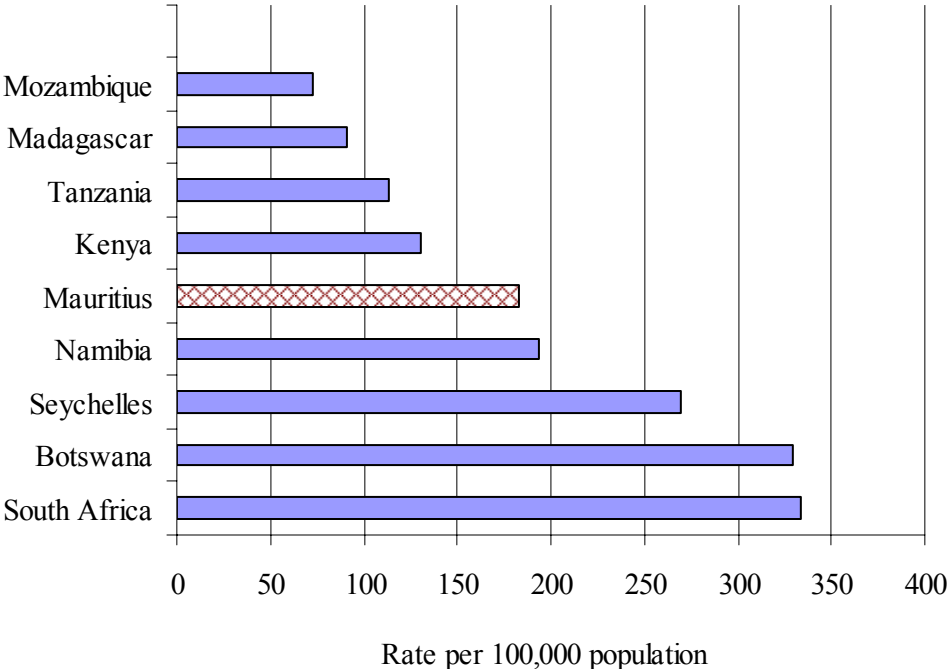
#### 7.4 International comparison of prison populations

**Table 18 - Imprisonment rate for selected Sub-Saharan African countries, 2007**

Country	Imprisonment rate per 100,000 population
South Africa	334
Botswana	329
Seychelles	270
Namibia	194
<b>Mauritius</b>	<b>183</b>
Kenya	130
Tanzania	113
Madagascar	91
Mozambique	73

The imprisonment rate per 100,000 mid-year population for the Island of Mauritius was 183 in 2007. There was considerable variation among neighbouring countries, with many having much higher imprisonment rates and many others much lower (Table 18 & Figure 8). The country with the highest rate of imprisonment in the region was South Africa with 334 prisoners per 100,000 population, followed by Botswana with 329 and Seychelles with 270. Countries in the region with lower imprisonment rates than Mauritius include Kenya, at 130 and Tanzania, at 113.

**Figure 8 - Imprisonment rate per 100,000 population for selected Sub-Saharan African countries, 2007**



(Source: World Prison Brief, International Centre for Prison Studies, Kings College, London, UK <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/law/research/icps/worldbrief/>)

**Central Statistics Office**

**Ministry of Finance and Economic Empowerment**

**Port Louis**

**April 2009**

This ESI has been prepared with the assistance of Professor Christopher Lewis, World Bank Expert, and with the contribution of the Mauritius Police Force, Judiciary Department, the Mauritius Prisons Services and Probation and After-care Services.



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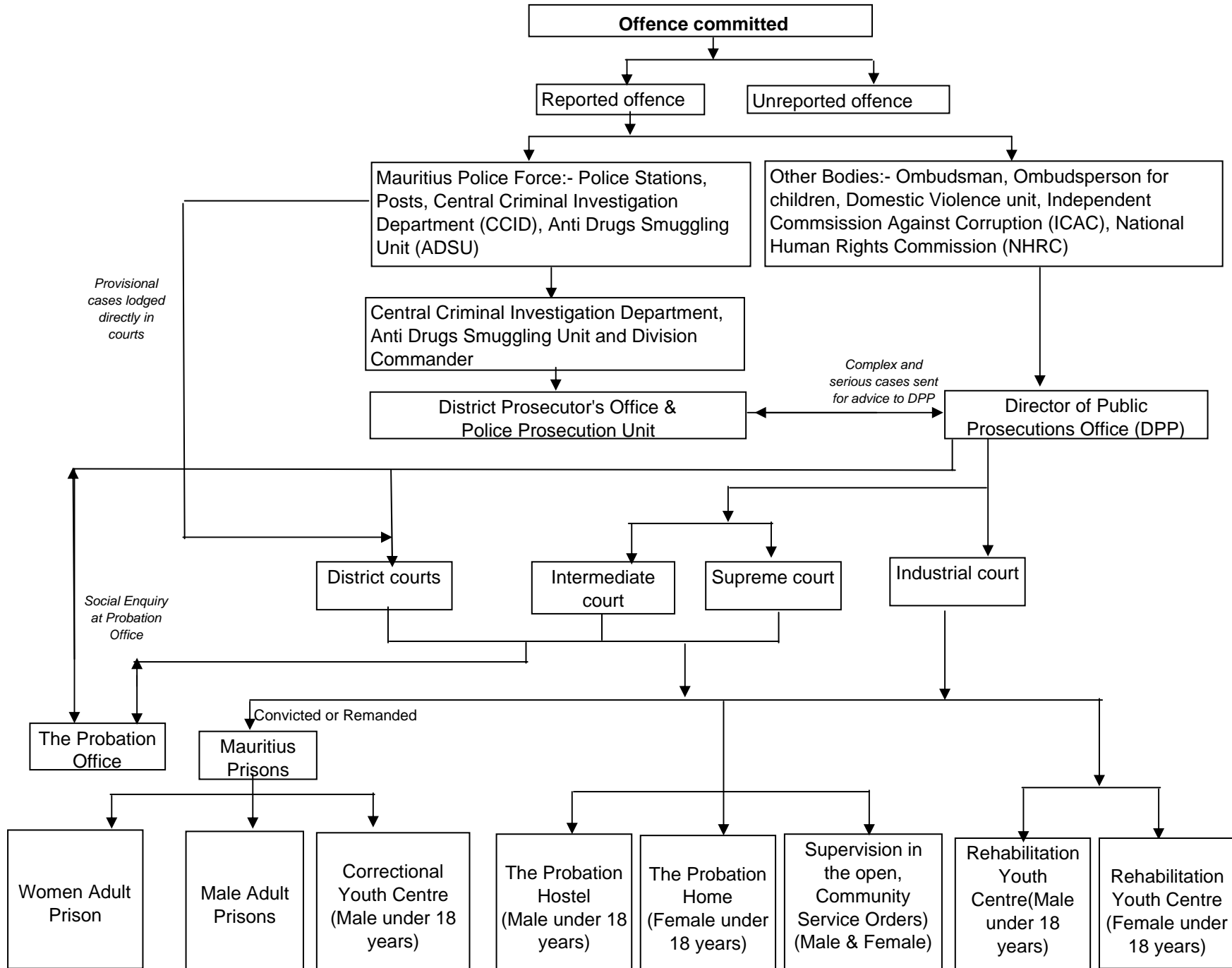
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# The National Criminal Chart, Republic of Mauritius



## GLOSSARY

1. **Absolute discharge** is complete and unconditional release.
2. **Admission rate** is defined as the number of people in a given year admitted to prison per 100,000 mid year population.
3. **Community Service Order** is a sentence requiring an offender to perform unpaid community work.
4. **Conditional discharge** is a sentence whereby an offender is released under certain conditions, e.g., regular reporting to police stations for a specified period of time.
5. **Contraventions** are defined as offences that are punishable by:
  - (a) imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 days;
  - (b) a fine not exceeding 5,000 rupees.
6. **Contravention rate** is defined as the number of reported contraventions per 1,000 mid-year population.
7. **Crimes** are defined as offences that are punishable by:
  - (a) penal servitude;
  - (b) a fine exceeding 5,000 rupees.
8. **Crime rate** is defined as the number of reported crimes per 1,000 mid-year population.
9. **Criminal case** is a case dealing with an offender indicted for a public offence.
10. **Detainee** is referred as any person confined to prison and is classified as follows:
  - (a) Convict: person sentenced to imprisonment.
  - (b) Person on remand and trial: person charged for an offence with a court of law and awaiting judgment.
  - (c) Civil debtor: person found guilty by the court for the non-payment of debts.
11. **Drug related offences** are as spelt out under the Dangerous Drug Act 2000. They relate mainly to drugs like gandia, heroin, hashish, opium, cocaine and other psychotropic substances.
12. **Drug related offence rate** is defined as the number of reported drug offences per 1,000 mid-year population.

13. **Household burglary** is unlawful or forcible entry or attempted entry of a residence (household).
14. **Household income** comprises mainly income from work, property (rent from land & building, dividend, interest) and transfers (pensions from former employer, social security benefits, allowances from relatives).
15. **Imprisonment rate** is defined as the number of detainees in prison per 100,000 mid-year population.
16. **Juveniles** are defined as persons aged 12 to 17 years.
17. **Misdemeanours** are defined as offences that are punishable by:
  - (a) imprisonment for a term exceeding 10 days;
  - (b) a fine exceeding 5,000 rupees.

Where the punishment of imprisonment is imposed, the Court may inflict that punishment with or without hard labour.

18. **Misdemeanour rate** is defined as the number of reported misdemeanours per 1,000 mid-year population.
19. **Offences** punishable by the law are crimes, misdemeanours and contraventions.
20. **Personal theft** is robbery, purse snatching, pocket picking or attempted theft on a person.
21. **Probation** is a sentence whereby an offender is placed under the supervision of a probation officer for a period not less than one nor more than three years.
22. **Vehicle theft** is stealing or unauthorized taking of a vehicle (bicycle, automobile, truck, motorcycle or other vehicle) including attempts, damage and theft of parts and accessories.