

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

January – June 2009

1. Vehicles registered as at June 2009

As at 30 June 2009, the number of vehicles registered at the National Transport Authority (NTA) was 358,690. This represents a net increase of 7,284 vehicles (2.1%) as compared to the end of December 2008 when the number of registered vehicles stood at 351,406 (Table 1.1).

2. Net increase between January and June 2009

Between January and June 2009, the fleet was strengthened with the registration of 9,718 vehicles, of which 6,109 (62.9%) were new, 3,207 (33.0%) were imported second-hand and the other 402 (4.1%) were re-registered vehicles previously put off the road. During the same period, 2,434 vehicles were put off the road, thus resulting in a net addition of 7,284 vehicles to the existing fleet (Table 1.1).

3. Composition of the fleet

The composition of the fleet by type of vehicles is shown in Table 1.2. At the end of June 2009, the fleet consisted of 159,943 cars and dual purpose vehicles (44.6%) and 150,563 motorized two-wheelers (42.0%). The remaining 13.4% comprised 25,435 vans, 12,832 lorries and trucks, 2,798 buses and 7,119 other vehicles.

4. Cars and dual purpose vehicles

The number of cars and dual purpose vehicles increased by 4,415 (2.8%) from 155,528 at the end of December 2008 to 159,943 at the end of June 2009. This net increase resulted from the registration of 5,297 vehicles (2,205 new, 2,883 imported second-hand and 209 re-registered) and the de-registration of another 882 vehicles.

5. Motor cycles and auto cycles

At the end of June 2009, there were 150,563 motor cycles and auto cycles. This represents a net increase of 2,575 (1.7%) against 147,988 at the end of December 2009.

6. Road traffic accidents

From January to June 2009, a total of 10,185 road accidents was reported, of which 1,215 (12%) were casualty accidents and 8,970 (88%) were non-injury accidents. A breakdown of casualty accidents by severity showed that 64 (5%) were fatal accidents, 203 (17%) were serious injury accidents and 948 (78%) were slight injury accidents (Table 2.1).

Compared to the same period of 2008 the total number of road accidents decreased by 2.2%. Casualty accidents rose by 8.2% whilst non-injury accidents decreased by 3.4%.

Fatal accidents decreased by 14.7% whilst serious injury accidents and slight injury accident went up by 8.0% and 10.2% respectively (Table 2.1).

7. Vehicles involved in road accidents

The number of vehicles (motor and non-motor) involved in road accidents during the period January to June 2009 was 19,861, down by 2.5% compared to the corresponding period of 2008 (20,360). The number of motor vehicles involved in casualty accidents during the first semester of 2009 was 1,804, up by 7.1% compared to 1,685 for the same period in 2008 (Table 2.1).

As shown in Table 2.3, out of all vehicles involved in casualty accidents during the first half of 2009, around 32% were private cars, 35% motor/auto cycles, 12% vans and 8% buses.

8. Casualties

From January to June 2009, a total of 1,848 casualties (fatalities and persons injured as a result of road accidents) were reported as compared to 1,551 for the corresponding period of 2008, i.e. an increase of 19.1%. The number of fatalities (persons killed as a result of road accidents) went down by 7.9% from 76 to 70 while the number of seriously injured increased by 26.6% from 222 to 281 and the number of slightly injured persons by 19.5% from 1,253 to 1,497 (Table 2.1).

Table 2.4 shows that around 31% of the casualties were riders of motor/auto cycles, 33% passengers, 17% pedestrians and 13% drivers.

9. Hit and run cases in casualty accidents

During the first six months of 2009, 109 'hit and run' accidents involving casualties were reported to police stations against 89 for the corresponding period of the preceding year (Table 2.5). Among the 109 cases, 61 were accidents involving only vehicles while the remaining 48 involved both vehicles and pedestrians.

**Central Statistics Office
Ministry of Finance and Economic Empowerment
Port Louis
August 2009**

Contact person:

Mr. A. Poreema

Senior Statistical Officer

(i) National Transport Authority

Tel: 202 2831

(ii) Traffic Management & Road Safety Unit

Tel: 210 8716

Email: cso-transport@mail.gov.mu

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 autocycle 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 autocycle 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.

The above three categories are jointly referred to as *casualty accident*

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, crushings 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 as at June 2009

Type of vehicle	No. of vehicles at 31.12.08	New vehicles Jan. - Jun. 09	Imported second-hand vehicles Jan. - Jun. 09	Re - registered vehicles ² Jan. - Jun. 09	Vehicles off the road ³ Jan. - Jun. 09	No. of vehicles at 30.06.09	Net addition Jan. - Jun. 2009
Car	109,507	1,589	2,820	163	576	113,503	3,996
Dual purpose vehicle	46,021	616	63	46	306	46,440	419
Motor cycle	40,804	1,914	25	105	340	42,508	1,704
Auto cycle	107,184	1,580	6	1	716	108,055	871
Lorry and truck	12,726	90	84	33	101	12,832	106
Van	25,334	132	162	39	232	25,435	101
Bus	2,762	72	-	-	36	2,798	36
Other	7,068	116	47	15	127	7,119	51
Total	351,406	6,109	3,207	402	2,434	358,690	7,284

¹ excluding pedal cycles, but including government vehicles.

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

³ unlicensed either temporarily or permanently.

Table 1.2 - Vehicles ¹ registered by type, December 1999 - December 2008 and June 2009

Type of vehicle	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 (June)
Car	52,892	54,911	58,082	63,307	68,524	77,342	84,818	91,911	99,770	109,507	113,503
<i>(of which taxi car)</i>	<i>(4,905)</i>	<i>(5,039)</i>	<i>(5,318)</i>	<i>(5,801)</i>	<i>(5,979)</i>	<i>(6,482)</i>	<i>(6,798)</i>	<i>(6,860)</i>	<i>(6,885)</i>	<i>(6,941)</i>	<i>(6,928)</i>
Dual purpose vehicle	32,262	34,912	36,984	38,129	39,383	40,667	42,026	43,221	44,635	46,021	46,440
Heavy motor car	934	916	923	944	958	1,020	1,045	1,118	1,223	1,290	1,283
Motor cycle	24,125	24,523	25,104	25,723	26,744	28,646	30,927	33,936	36,969	40,804	42,508
Auto cycle	88,821	91,955	94,849	97,078	98,858	100,854	102,503	104,238	105,637	107,184	108,055
Lorry and truck	10,138	10,485	10,888	11,236	11,501	11,774	12,047	12,272	12,536	12,726	12,832
Van	16,814	18,807	20,694	21,750	22,496	23,326	23,989	24,522	24,934	25,334	25,435
Bus	2,344	2,394	2,408	2,450	2,460	2,457	2,560	2,612	2,753	2,762	2,798
Tractor and dumper	2,630	2,645	2,683	2,683	2,877	2,935	2,982	3,001	3,025	3,045	3,083
Prime mover	315	322	335	349	369	388	412	436	452	505	527
Trailer	1,719	1,726	1,776	1,770	1,772	1,771	1,765	1,756	1,795	1,809	1,811
Road roller	102	100	100	101	100	99	96	96	96	96	96
Other	319	322	323	321	329	326	326	321	320	323	319
TOTAL	233,415	244,018	255,149	265,841	276,371	291,605	305,496	319,440	334,145	351,406	358,690

¹ excluding pedal cycles, but including government vehicles.

Table 1.3 - Registration of vehicles by type, January - June 2008 and January - June 2009

Type of vehicle	New vehicles registered		Imported second - hand vehicles registered		Re -registration of vehicles ¹		Vehicles put off the road ²	
	Jan. - Jun.	Jan. - Jun.	Jan. - Jun.	Jan. - Jun.	Jan. - Jun.	Jan. - Jun.	Jan. - Jun.	Jan. - Jun.
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
Car	2,501	1,589	2,577	2,820	322	163	565	576
Dual purpose vehicle	817	616	78	63	106	46	294	306
Motor cycle	2,091	1,914	25	25	174	105	335	340
Auto cycle	1,330	1,580	3	6	9	1	725	716
Lorry and truck	92	90	54	84	67	33	100	101
Van	176	132	170	162	79	39	218	232
Bus	41	72	-	-	-	-	30	36
Other	137	116	33	47	27	15	121	127
Total	7,185	6,109	2,940	3,207	784	402	2,388	2,434

¹ refers to re-registration of vehicles previously off the road.

² unlicensed either temporarily or permanently.

Table 2.1 - Road traffic accidents¹, January - June 2008 and January - June 2009

	Jan. - Jun.	Jan. - Jun.	Change	
	2008	2009	Number	%
1. Road traffic accidents	10,410	10,185	-225	-2.2
of which				
Casualty accidents	1,123	1,215	92	8.2
<i>Fatal accident</i> ²	75	64	-11	-14.7
<i>Serious injury accident</i>	188	203	15	8.0
<i>Slight injury accident</i>	860	948	88	10.2
Non injury accident	9,287	8,970	-317	-3.4
2. Vehicles involved in road accidents	20,360	19,861	-499	-2.5
of which				
<i>Motor Vehicles</i>	20,247	19,744	-503	-2.5
<i>Motor-vehicles involved in casualty accidents</i>	1,685	1,804	119	7.1
3. Casualties	1,551	1,848	297	19.1
<i>Fatal</i> ²	76	70	-6	-7.9
<i>Seriously injured</i>	222	281	59	26.6
<i>Slightly injured</i>	1,253	1,497	244	19.5

¹ exclude accidents involving bicycles only or bicycle and pedestrian.

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

Table 2.2 - Road traffic accidents ¹ and casualties, 1999 - 2009, January - June 2009

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 ⁴	2009 Jan.-Jun.
1. Road traffic accidents :											
Number	17,877	18,278	18,517	18,022	19,178	19,495	22,554	20,242	20,519	20,877	10,185
Rate per 100,000 population	1,569	1,588	1,591	1,535	1,616	1,629	1,869	1,665	1,678	1,696	N/A
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	79	77	75	69	72	69	76	65	63	61	N/A
2. Motor vehicle involved :											
Number	32,547	33,537	33,988	33,119	35,239	35,506	43,741	40,023	41,178	42,910	19,744
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	144	142	137	127	133	126	148	129	127	125	N/A
3. Casualties :											
Total number of casualties of which	3,405	3,291	3,264	2,904	2,698	2,951	2,760	2,522	3,055	3,431	1,848
<i>Fatal</i> ²	170	163	126	158	131	144	136	134	140	168	70
<i>Seriously injured</i>	237	266	288	216	291	245	358	348	500	517	281
<i>Slightly injured</i>	2,998	2,862	2,850	2,530	2,276	2,562	2,266	2,040	2,415	2,746	1,497
4. Fatality :											
Rate per 100,000 population	14.9	14.2	10.8	13.5	11.0	12.0	11.3	11.0	11.4	13.6	N/A
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	N/A
Fatality index ³	5.0	5.0	3.9	5.4	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.3	4.6	4.9	N/A

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.

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

N / A : Not applicable

⁴ Revised

Table 2.3 - Vehicles¹ involved in casualty accidents by type, January 2008 - June 2009

Type of vehicle	2008						2009	
	Jan. - Jun.		Jul. - Dec.		Year		Jan. - Jun.	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Private car	612	34.0	656	37.1	1,268	34.0	621	32.3
Taxi car	71	4.0	20	1.1	91	3.0	56	2.9
Bus	146	8.1	133	7.5	279	8.0	157	8.2
Lorry	60	3.3	45	2.5	105	3.6	65	3.4
Van	237	13.2	239	13.5	476	12.3	235	12.2
Motor/auto cycle	557	31.0	571	32.3	1,128	33.6	667	34.7
Other motor vehicles	2	0.1	3	0.2	5	0.3	3	0.2
Total motor vehicles	1,685	93.7	1,667	94.2	3,352	94.8	1,804	93.9
Pedal cycle	113	6.3	103	5.8	216	5.2	117	6.1
Other non motor vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All vehicles	1,798	100.0	1,770	100.0	3,568	100.0	1,921	100.0

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

Table 2.4 - Casualties by class of road users, January 2008 - June 2009

Class of road users	2008 ¹				2009	
	Jan. - Jun.		Jul. - Dec.		Jan. - Jun.	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Pedestrian	333	21.0	297	16.1	314	17.0
Passenger	435	27.4	718	38.9	611	33.1
Driver	215	13.5	222	12.0	239	12.9
Rider (motor/auto cycle)	493	31.0	517	28.0	580	31.4
Pedal cyclist	113	7.1	92	5.0	104	5.6
Total	1,589	100.0	1,846	100.0	1,848	100.0

¹ Revised

Table 2.5 - Casualty accidents involved in "hit and run" cases, January 2008 - June 2009

Accident	2008 ¹				2009	
	Jan. - Jun.		Jul. - Dec.		Jan. - Jun.	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Vehicles v/s pedestrians	46	51.7	29	39.2	48	44.0
Vehicles v/s vehicles	43	48.3	45	60.8	61	56.0
Total	89	100.0	74	100.0	109	100.0

¹ Revised