

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

Year 2009

1. Vehicles registered in 2009

At the end of December 2009, there were 366,520 vehicles registered at the National Transport Authority (NTA). This represents a net increase of 15,114 vehicles (4.3%) as compared to end of December 2008 when the number of registered vehicles was 351,406.

During the year 2009, the fleet was strengthened with the registration of 19,789 vehicles, of which 12,482 (63%) were new, 6,424 (32%) were imported second-hand and 883 (5%) were re-registered vehicles; i.e., those which had been previously de-registered (put off the road). However during the same period 4,675 vehicles were put off the road, resulting in a net addition of 15,114 vehicles to the existing fleet (Table 1.1).

2. Composition of the fleet

A breakdown of the fleet by type of vehicle is given in Table 1.2. At the end of December 2009, the fleet consisted of 45% (165,036) cars and dual purpose vehicles and 42% (152,935) auto/motor cycles. The remaining 13% comprised vans (25,622), lorries and trucks (12,950), buses (2,803) and other vehicles (7,174).

3. Vehicles used for the transport of passengers

3.1 *Cars and dual purpose vehicles*

At the end of 2009, the number of cars and dual purpose vehicles was 165,036, a rise of 6.1% over the 2008 figure which stood at 155,528. This increase was the result of the registration of 11,186 such vehicles (4,959 new, 5,733 imported second-hand and 494 re-registered), partly offset by 1,678 that were put off the road (Table 1.1).

Table 1.3 shows the age distribution of cars and dual purpose vehicles. At the end of December 2009, 41.7% were less than 5 years, 23.8% between 5 and 9 years and the remaining 34.5%, 10 years and above.

3.2 *Buses*

At the end of December 2009, there were 2,803 registered buses, out of which 1,891 or 67.5% were 'public' buses operating with a road service licence. During

2009, 118 new buses were registered while 77 buses were put off the road resulting in an increase of 41 buses.

Table 1.4, which gives the age distribution of the fleet of public buses, shows that 35.3% of the buses were under 5 years, 25.8% between 5 and 9 years and 38.9%, between 10 and 18 years.

4. Road traffic accidents

The number of road accidents registered during the year 2009 was 19,571 against 20,873 in the preceding year, showing a decrease of 6.2%. Among these accidents the majority, 17,602 (89.9%) were non-injury, 129 fatal, 372 caused serious injuries and 2,008 slight injuries (Table 2.1).

Compared to 2008, accidents causing casualties went up by 12.9% in 2009 (from 2,223 to 2,509) and non-injury accidents decreased by 8.5% (from 18,650 to 17,062). Fatal accidents went down by 20.4% (from 162 to 129) and serious injury accidents by 2.1 % (from 380 to 372) while slight injury accidents increased by 19.5% (from 1,681 to 2,008).

The accident rate expressed as the number of accidents per 100,000 mid-year population decreased from 1,696 in 2008 to 1,582 in 2009 and the number of accidents per 1,000 mid-year registered motor vehicles decreased from 61 to 55 (Table 2.1).

5. Vehicles involved in road accidents

During the year 2009, the total number of vehicles (both motor and non-motorised) involved in road accidents went down by 11.7% to 38,058 from 43,096 in the previous year. The number of motor vehicles involved in accidents resulting in casualties in 2009 was 3,734, up by 11.4% compared to 3,352 in 2008. Table 2.3 shows that 32.8% of these were private cars, another 36.0% motor/auto cycles and 12.6% vans.

6. Casualties

The number of casualties (fatalities and persons injured as a result of road accidents) rose by 6.4% from 3,435 in 2008 to 3,655 in 2009. Among the casualties, 140 were fatal, 479 were seriously injured and the remaining 3,036 were slightly injured (Table 2.1).

Compared to 2008, the number of persons who died as a result of road accidents in 2009 went down by 16.7%. 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 13.6 in 2008 to 11.3 in 2009.

Table 2.4 reveals that, among the casualties in 2009, 30.5% were passengers, 33.7% riders of auto/motor cycles, 17.7% pedestrians, 13.1% drivers and 5.0% pedal cyclists.

7. Hit and run cases of accidents causing casualties

In 2009, there were 187 "hit and run" cases causing casualties compared to 163 in 2008. Out of these 187 cases, 54.5% (102) involved vehicles only while the other 45.5% (85) 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 auticycle 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 auticycle 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, 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 in 2009

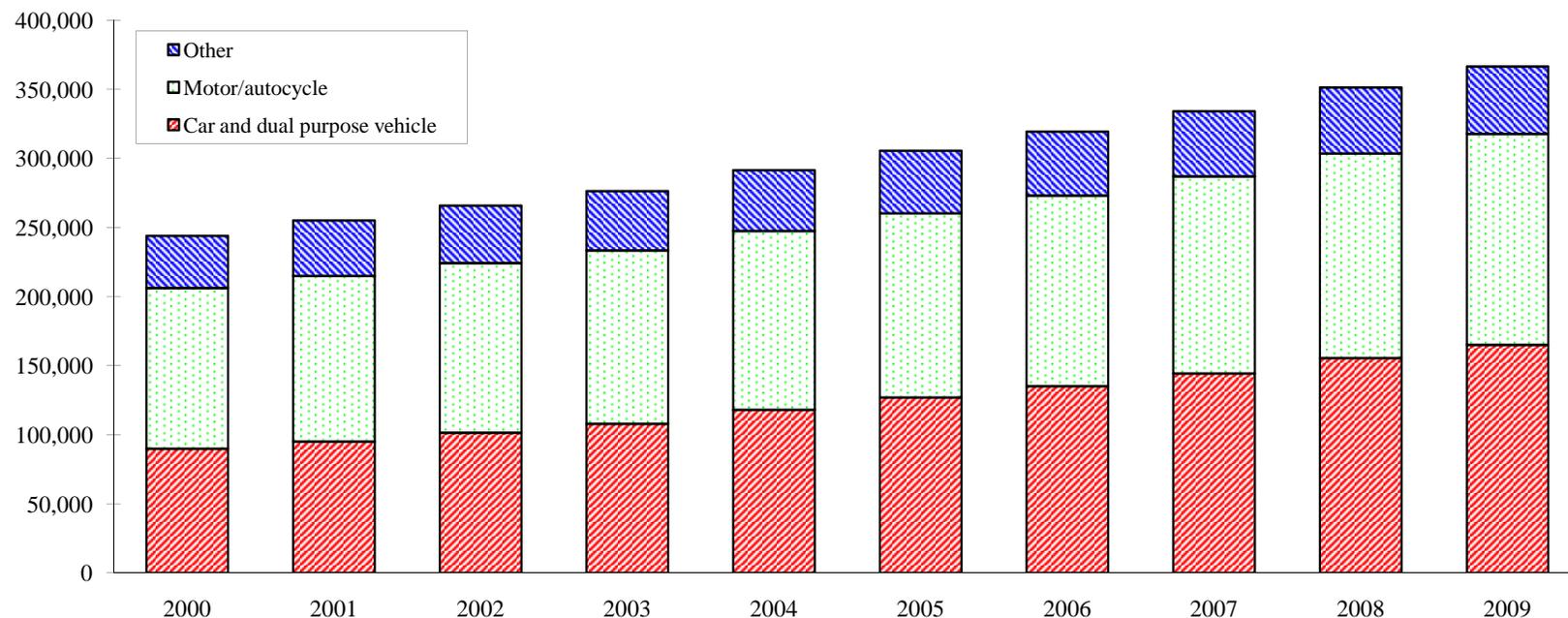
Type of vehicle	No. of vehicles at 31.12.08	New vehicles	Used imported vehicles	Re - registered vehicles ²	Vehicles off the road ³	No. of vehicles at 31.12.09	Net addition
Car	109,507	3,524	5,596	380	1,117	117,890	8,383
Dual purpose vehicle	46,021	1,435	137	114	561	47,146	1,125
Motor cycle	40,804	3,822	53	209	666	44,222	3,418
Auto cycle	107,184	2,874	6	2	1,353	108,713	1,529
Lorry and truck	12,726	202	192	61	231	12,950	224
Van	25,334	283	355	79	429	25,622	288
Bus	2,762	118	-	-	77	2,803	41
Other	7,068	224	85	38	241	7,174	106
Total	351,406	12,482	6,424	883	4,675	366,520	15,114

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

Fig. 1.1 - Stock of registered vehicles, 2000 - 2009



Type of vehicle	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Car and dual purpose vehicle	89,823	95,066	101,436	107,907	118,009	126,844	135,132	144,405	155,528	165,036
Motor cycle and autocycle	116,478	119,953	122,801	125,602	129,500	133,430	138,174	142,606	147,988	152,935
Other	37,717	40,130	41,604	42,862	44,096	45,222	46,134	47,134	47,890	48,549
Total	244,018	255,149	265,841	276,371	291,605	305,496	319,440	334,145	351,406	366,520

Table 1.2 - Vehicles¹ registered , 2000 - 2009

Type of vehicle	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Car	54,911	58,082	63,307	68,524	77,342	84,818	91,911	99,770	109,507	117,890
<i>(of which taxi car)</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>(6,921)</i>
Dual purpose vehicle	34,912	36,984	38,129	39,383	40,667	42,026	43,221	44,635	46,021	47,146
Heavy motor car	916	923	944	958	1,020	1,045	1,118	1,223	1,290	1,275
Motor cycle	24,523	25,104	25,723	26,744	28,646	30,927	33,936	36,969	40,804	44,222
Auto cycle	91,955	94,849	97,078	98,858	100,854	102,503	104,238	105,637	107,184	108,713
Lorry and truck	10,485	10,888	11,236	11,501	11,774	12,047	12,272	12,536	12,726	12,950
Van	18,807	20,694	21,750	22,496	23,326	23,989	24,522	24,934	25,334	25,622
Bus	2,394	2,408	2,450	2,460	2,457	2,560	2,612	2,753	2,762	2,803
Tractor and dumper	2,645	2,683	2,683	2,877	2,935	2,982	3,001	3,025	3,045	3,102
Prime mover	322	335	349	369	388	412	436	452	505	558
Trailer	1,726	1,776	1,770	1,772	1,771	1,765	1,756	1,795	1,809	1,823
Road roller	100	100	101	100	99	96	96	96	96	97
Other	322	323	321	329	326	326	321	320	323	319
TOTAL	244,018	255,149	265,841	276,371	291,605	305,496	319,440	334,145	351,406	366,520

¹ Excluding pedal cycles, but including government vehicles

Table 1.3 - Age composition of cars and dual purpose vehicles, 2008 - 2009

(as at 31st December)

Age group (Years)	2008		2009	
	Number	%	Number	%
< 5	63,842	41.0	68,794	41.7
5 < 10	37,321	24.0	39,316	23.8
10 < 15	16,294	10.5	16,888	10.2
≥ 15	38,071	24.5	40,038	24.3
TOTAL	155,528	100.0	165,036	100.0

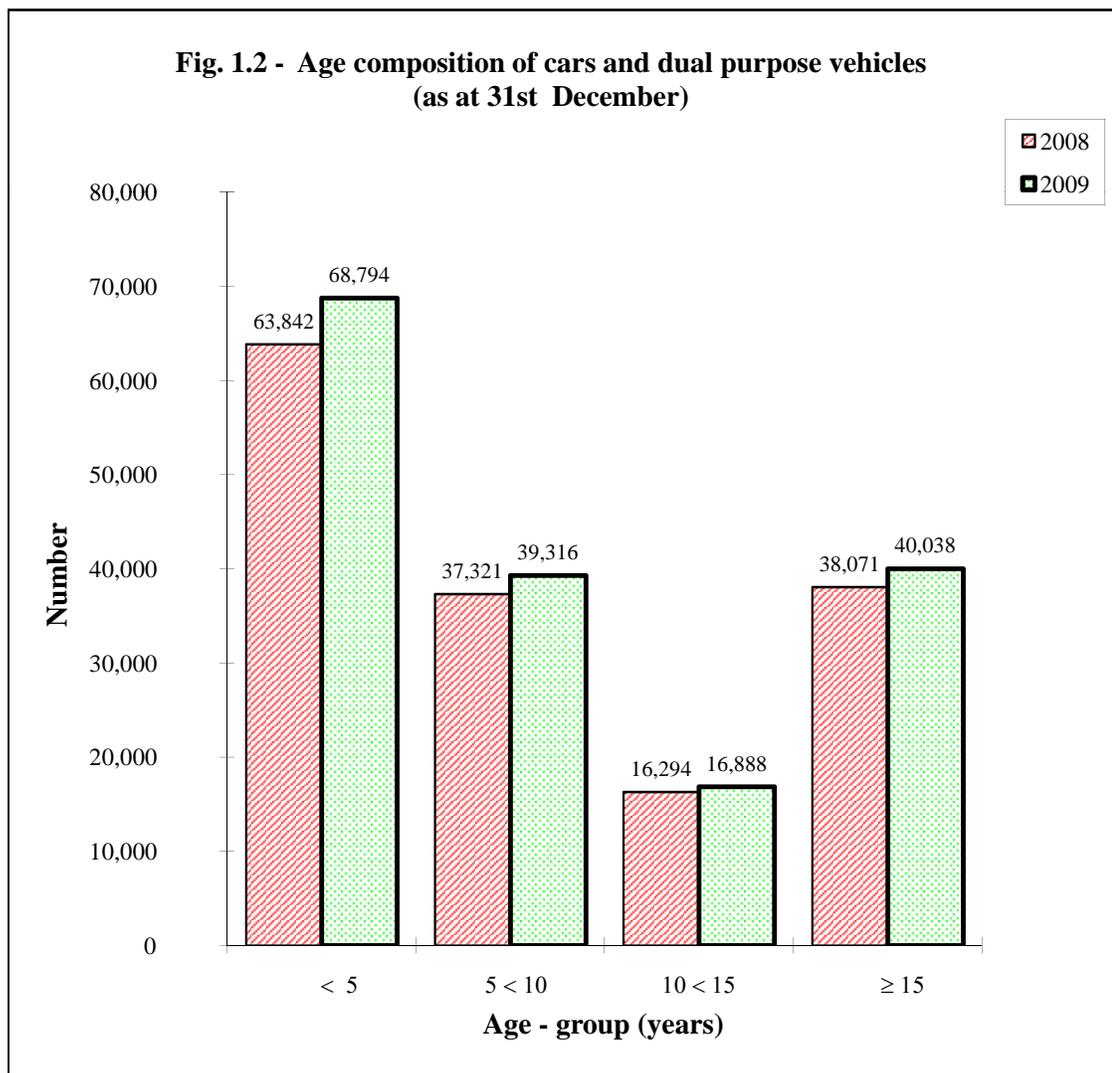


Table 1.4 - Age composition of operational bus fleet ¹, 2008 - 2009

(as at 31st December)

Age group (Years)	2008		2009	
	Number	%	Number	%
< 5	670	35.3	668	35.3
5 < 10	456	24.0	487	25.8
10 < 15	501	26.4	408	21.6
15 < 18	271	14.3	328	17.3
TOTAL	1,898	100.0	1,891	100.0

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

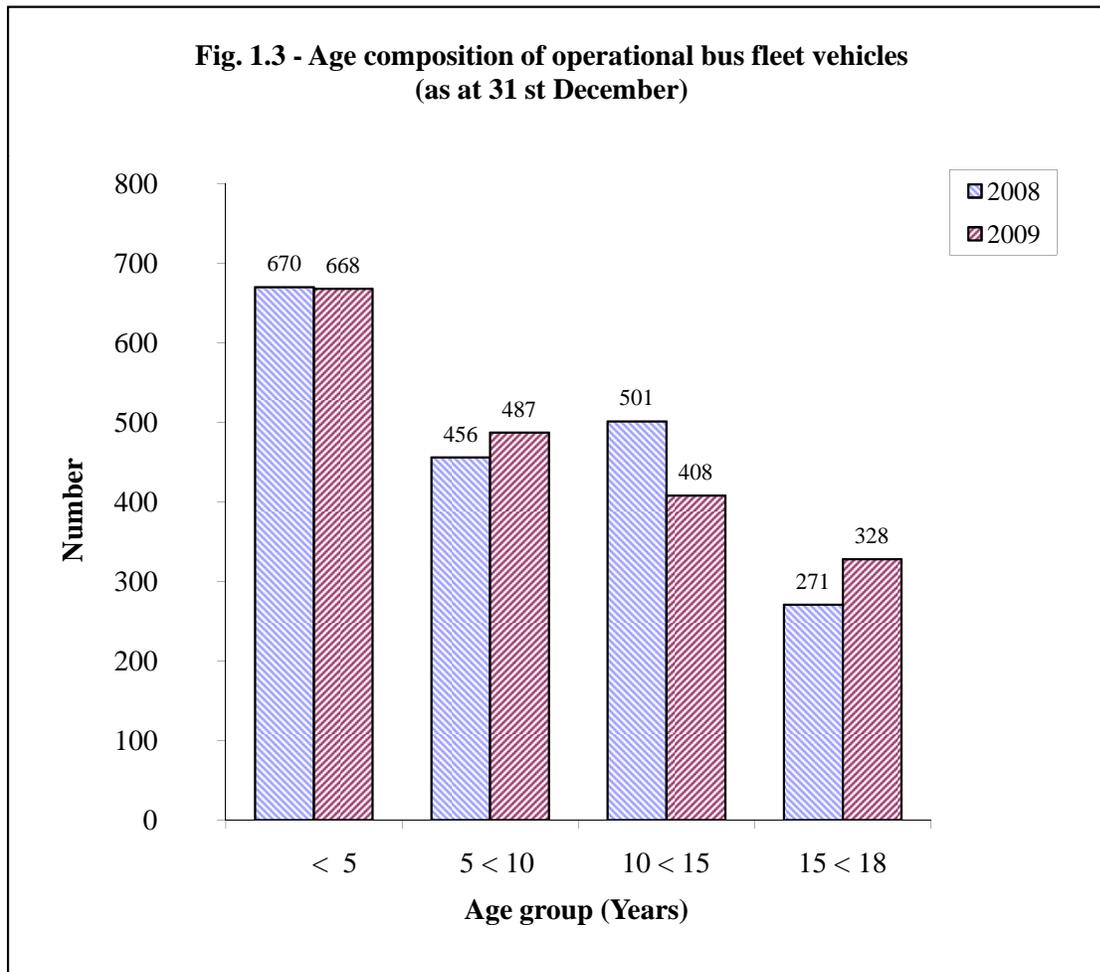


Table 2.1 - Road traffic accidents¹, 2008 - 2009

	2008 ³	2009	Change	
			Number	%
1. Road traffic accidents	20,873	19,571	- 1,302	- 6.2
Number of accidents causing casualties	2,223	2,509	+ 286	+ 12.9
<i>Fatal accident</i> ²	162	129	- 33	- 20.4
<i>Serious injury accident</i>	380	372	- 8	- 2.1
<i>Slight injury accident</i>	1,681	2,008	+ 327	+ 19.5
Non injury accident	18,650	17,062	- 1,588	- 8.5
Rate per 100,000 population	1,696	1,582	N.A	N.A
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	61	55	N.A	N.A
2. Vehicles involved in road accidents				
Number of vehicles involved of which	43,096	38,058	- 5,038	- 11.7
<i>Motor Vehicles</i>	42,910	37,858	- 5,052	- 11.8
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	125	106	N.A	N.A
Number of m-vehicles involved in accidents causing casualties	3,352	3,734	+382	+ 11.4
3. Casualties	3,435	3,655	+220	+ 6.4
<i>Fatal</i> ²	168	140	- 28	- 16.7
<i>Seriously injured</i>	512	479	- 33	- 6.4
<i>Slightly injured</i>	2,755	3,036	+ 281	+ 10.2

¹ Exclude accidents involving bicycles only or bicycle and pedestrian² Based on definition of fatal accidents where death occurred within 30 days.³ Revised

N.A : Not applicable

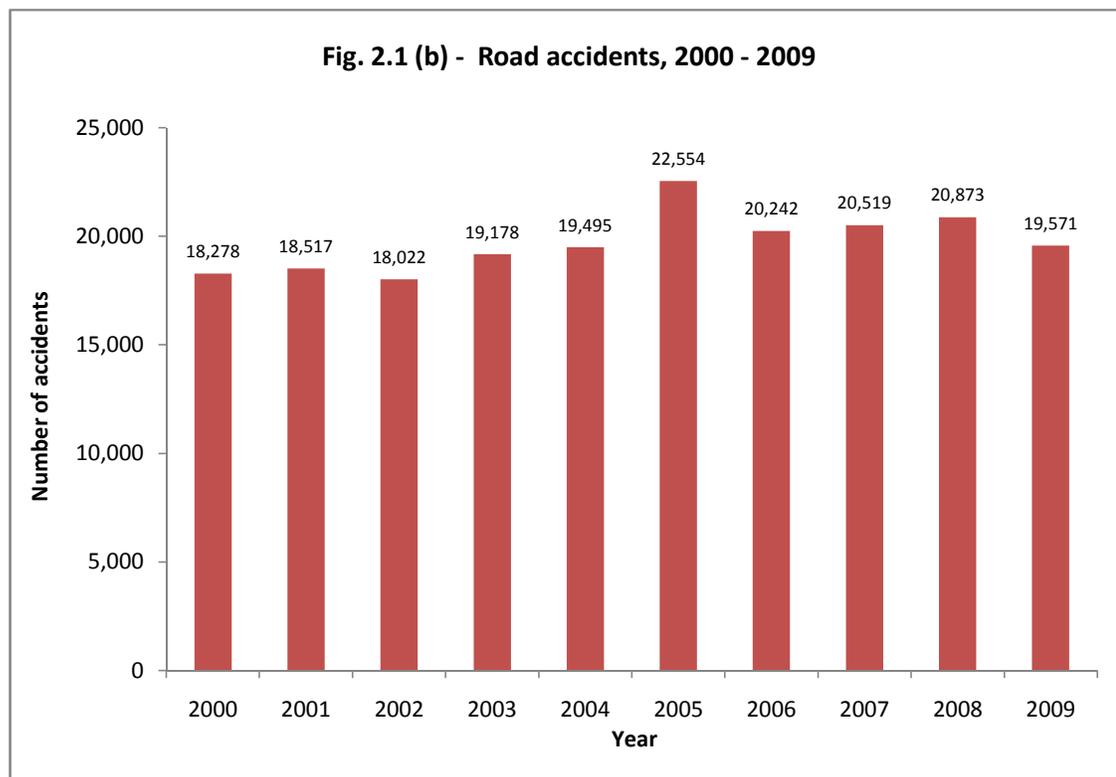
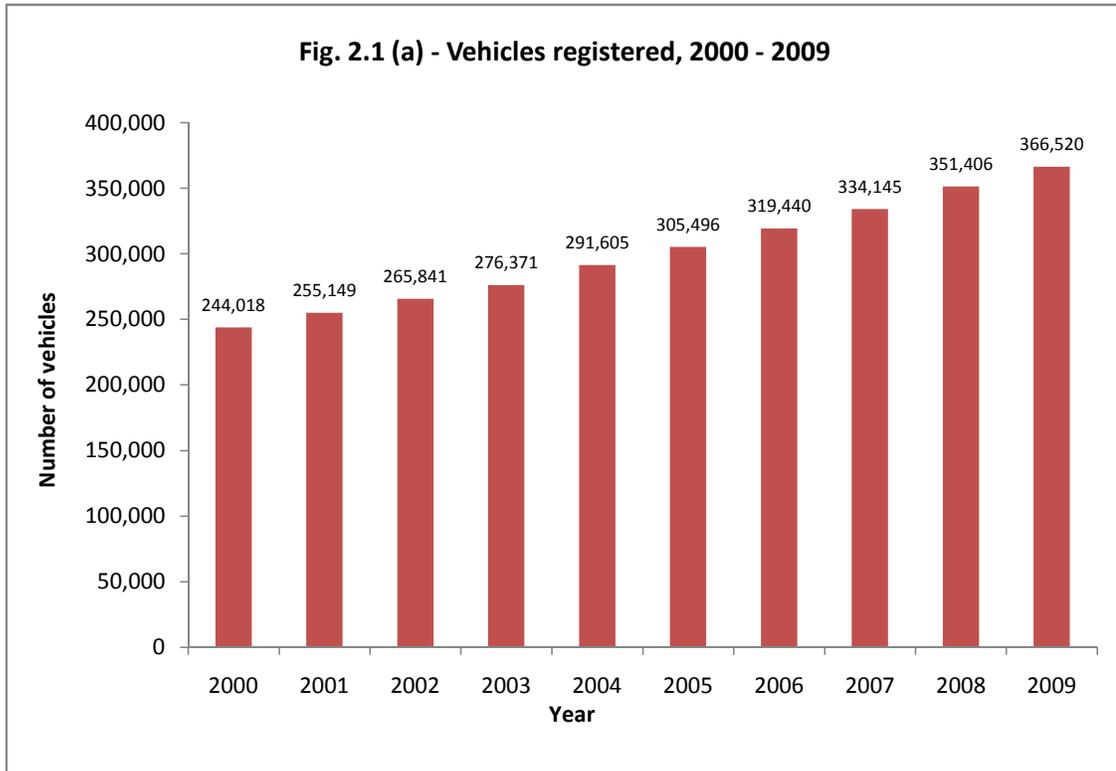


Table 2.2 - Road traffic accidents¹ and casualties, 2000 - 2009

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 ⁴	2009
1. Road traffic accidents :										
Number	18,278	18,517	18,022	19,178	19,495	22,554	20,242	20,519	20,873	19,571
Rate per 100,000 population	1,588	1,591	1,535	1,616	1,629	1,869	1,665	1,678	1,696	1,582
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	77	75	69	72	69	76	65	63	61	55
2. Motor vehicle involved:										
Number	33,537	33,988	33,119	35,239	35,506	43,741	40,023	41,178	42,910	37,858
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	142	137	127	133	126	148	129	127	125	106
3. Casualties:										
Total number of casualties of which	3,291	3,264	2,904	2,698	2,951	2,760	2,522	3,055	3,435	3,655
<i>Fatal</i> ²	163	126	158	131	144	136	134	140	168	140
<i>Seriously injured</i>	266	288	216	291	245	358	348	500	512	479
<i>Slightly injured</i>	2,862	2,850	2,530	2,276	2,562	2,266	2,040	2,415	2,755	3,036
4. Fatality :										
Rate per 100,000 population	14.2	10.8	13.5	11.0	12.0	11.3	11.0	11.4	13.6	11.3
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4
Fatality index ³	5.0	3.9	5.4	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.3	4.6	4.9	3.8

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.

⁴ Revised

Table 2.3 -Number of vehicles¹ involved in accidents (causing casualties) by type, 2008 - 2009

Type of vehicle	2008					2009				
	Casualties					Casualties				
	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total	%	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total	%
Private car	59	225	984	1,268	35.6	32	185	1,074	1,291	32.8
Taxi car	9	11	71	91	2.6	2	13	84	99	2.5
Bus	38	40	201	279	7.8	21	40	253	314	8.0
Lorry	16	17	72	105	2.9	6	25	72	103	2.6
Van	32	88	356	476	13.3	26	68	402	496	12.6
Motor / auto cycle	57	202	869	1128	31.6	46	238	1133	1417	36.0
Other motor vehicles	1	1	3	5	0.1	2	2	10	14	0.4
Total motor vehicles	212	584	2,556	3,352	93.9	135	571	3,028	3,734	94.9
Pedal cycle	17	33	166	216	6.1	13	26	161	200	5.1
Other non motor vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All vehicles	229	617	2,722	3,568	100.0	148	597	3,189	3,934	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, 2008 - 2009

Class of road users	2008				2009			
	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec. ¹	Total	%	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Total	%
Pedestrian	333	297	630	18.3	314	333	647	17.7
Passenger	435	718	1,153	33.6	611	505	1,116	30.5
Driver	215	222	437	12.7	239	241	480	13.1
Rider (auto / motor cycle)	493	517	1,010	29.4	580	650	1,230	33.7
Pedal cyclist	113	92	205	6.0	104	78	182	5.0
Total	1,589	1,846	3,435	100.0	1,848	1,807	3,655	100.0

¹ Revised**Table 2.5 - Number of accidents (causing casualties) involved in "hit and run" cases, 2008- 2009.**

Year Accident	2008 ¹				2009			
	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Total	%	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Total	%
Vehicles v/s pedestrian	46	29	75	46.0	48	37	85	45.5
Vehicles v/s vehicles	43	45	88	54.0	61	41	102	54.5
Total	89	74	163	100.0	109	78	187	100.0

¹ Revised