

# **POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS**

## **REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, JANUARY – JUNE 2010**

### **1. Introduction**

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicator presents provisional population estimates for mid-year 2010 and vital statistics for the first semester of 2010. Forecasts of vital events and rates for the year 2010 are also included.

It is to be noted that preliminary data for the compilation of vital statistics are being extracted from the computerised system in place at the Central Civil Status Office.

Definitions of terms used are at Annex.

### **2. Key points**

- The population of the Republic of Mauritius is growing at a rate of 0.5 % since mid-2009 and was estimated at 1,281,200 as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010.
- As at mid-2010, the female population outnumbered the male population by about 17,400.
- The number of live births forecast for the Republic of Mauritius for year 2010 is 15,365, corresponding to a crude birth rate of 12.0 per 1,000 mid-year population, same as in 2009.
- Forecast for the number of deaths for 2010 is around 8,940 giving a crude death rate of 7.0 per 1,000 mid-year population against 7.2 in 2009.
- The forecast for the number of infant deaths for the Republic of Mauritius is around 200 representing an infant mortality rate of 13.1 compared to 13.4 in 2009.
- The number of still births forecast for 2010 is 108 giving a still birth rate of 7.0 compared to 8.9 in 2009.
- The forecast for the number of marriages for 2010 is 10,095 corresponding to a marriage rate of 15.8, against 16.7 in 2009.

### 3. Estimated resident population

**Table 3.1: Estimated resident population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010**

| Island                       | Both Sexes       | Male           | Female         | Sex ratio   |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Island of Mauritius          | 1,243,085        | 612,982        | 630,103        | 97.3        |
| Island of Rodrigues          | 37,840           | 18,711         | 19,129         | 97.8        |
| Agalega and St. Brandon      | 289              | 193            | 96             | 201.0       |
| <b>Republic of Mauritius</b> | <b>1,281,214</b> | <b>631,886</b> | <b>649,328</b> | <b>97.3</b> |

As at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010, the population of the Republic of Mauritius was estimated at 1,281,214 of whom 631,886 were males and 649,328 females, giving a sex ratio of 97.3 males per 100 females.

The population of the Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues were estimated at 1,243,085 and 37,840 respectively. In both islands, females outnumbered males.

Agalega and St. Brandon had an estimated population of 289 with 97 more males than females.

**Table 3.2: Population density, Republic of Mauritius, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010**

| Island                       | Both Sexes       | Area (km <sup>2</sup> ) | Density per km <sup>2</sup> |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Island of Mauritius          | 1,243,085        | 1864.8                  | 667                         |
| Island of Rodrigues          | 37,840           | 104.0                   | 364                         |
| Agalega and St. Brandon      | 289              | 71.2                    | 4                           |
| <b>Republic of Mauritius</b> | <b>1,281,214</b> | <b>2,040.0</b>          | <b>628</b>                  |

The Republic of Mauritius, with a total land area of 2,040 square kilometres, had a population density of around 628 persons per square km at mid-2010. The population densities of the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues were 667 and 364 respectively.

**Table 3.3: Estimated resident population by sex and sex ratio, Republic of Mauritius, 2008-2010 (mid-year estimates)**

| Year | Both Sexes | Male    | Female  | Sex ratio |
|------|------------|---------|---------|-----------|
| 2008 | 1,268,854  | 626,749 | 642,105 | 97.6      |
| 2009 | 1,275,321  | 629,350 | 645,971 | 97.4      |
| 2010 | 1,281,214  | 631,886 | 649,328 | 97.3      |

In the above table, population estimates and sex ratios for the past three years are displayed for comparative purpose. The drop in the sex ratio indicates a gradual decrease in the proportion of males in the population.

#### 4. Population growth

**Table 4.1: Population change, Republic of Mauritius, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009 and 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010**

| Island                       | Population                |                           | Change       |            |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------|
|                              | 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2009 | 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2010 | Number       | %          |
| Island of Mauritius          | 1,237,283                 | 1,243,085                 | 5,802        | 0.5        |
| Island of Rodrigues          | 37,749                    | 37,840                    | 91           | 0.2        |
| Agalega and St. Brandon      | 289                       | 289                       | 0            | 0.0        |
| <b>Republic of Mauritius</b> | <b>1,275,321</b>          | <b>1,281,214</b>          | <b>5,893</b> | <b>0.5</b> |

The population of the Republic of Mauritius increased by 5,893 (0.5 %) between mid-2009 and mid-2010. The growth rate for the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues was 0.5% and 0.2% respectively.

**Table 4.2: Components of population growth during the first semester of 2009 and 2010, Republic of Mauritius<sup>1</sup>**

| Components of population growth                    | 2009             | 2010             |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Resident population as at beginning of year</b> | <b>1,271,742</b> | <b>1,277,562</b> |
| <b>Natural increase, January-June</b>              | <b>3,440</b>     | <b>3,543</b>     |
| Live births, January-June                          | 7,873            | 7,835            |
| Deaths, January-June                               | 4,433            | 4,292            |
| <b>Net international migration, January-June</b>   | <b>-150</b>      | <b>-180</b>      |
| <b>Resident population as at mid-year</b>          | <b>1,275,032</b> | <b>1,280,925</b> |

<sup>1</sup> excluding Agalega and St Brandon

Population growth is the change in the size of the population between two dates. It is determined by combining a country's natural increase (the number of births minus the number of deaths) and its net migration (the net movements of residents).

During the first semester of 2010, the population registered a natural increase of 3,543 which was the result of an addition of 7,835 persons due to live births and a subtraction of 4,292 persons due to deaths. For the same period, the net international migration of residents was -180.

## 5. Vital statistics and rates

### 5.1: Live births and crude birth rate

**Table 5.1: Live births registered and crude birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2009 and 2010<sup>1</sup>**

| Island                       | Number of live births |               |              |                   | Crude birth rate |             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------|
|                              | 2009                  |               | 2010         |                   | 2009             | 2010        |
|                              | Jan-Jun               | Year          | Jan-Jun      | Year <sup>1</sup> |                  |             |
| <b>Island of Mauritius</b>   | <b>7,507</b>          | <b>14,623</b> | <b>7,442</b> | <b>14,595</b>     | <b>11.8</b>      | <b>11.7</b> |
| <b>Island of Rodrigues</b>   | <b>366</b>            | <b>721</b>    | <b>393</b>   | <b>770</b>        | <b>19.1</b>      | <b>20.3</b> |
| <b>Republic of Mauritius</b> | <b>7,873</b>          | <b>15,344</b> | <b>7,835</b> | <b>15,365</b>     | <b>12.0</b>      | <b>12.0</b> |

<sup>1</sup> forecast

For the first six months of 2010, 7,835 live births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, 0.5 % less than for the corresponding period of 2009. For the year 2010, the number of live births is forecast at 15,365 resulting in a crude birth rate (live births per 1,000 mid-year population) of 12.0 same as in 2009 . The forecast for 2010 for the Island of Mauritius is 14,595 live births (rate of 11.7), and for Rodrigues it is 770 (rate of 20.3).

## 5.2: Deaths and crude death rate

**Table 5.2: Deaths and crude death rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2009 and 2010<sup>1</sup>**

| Island                       | Number of deaths |              |              |                   | Crude death rate |                   |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                              | 2009             |              | 2010         |                   | 2009             | 2010 <sup>1</sup> |
|                              | Jan-Jun          | Year         | Jan-Jun      | Year <sup>1</sup> |                  |                   |
| Island of Mauritius          | 4,321            | 8,987        | 4,170        | 8,690             | 7.3              | 7.0               |
| Island of Rodrigues          | 112              | 237          | 122          | 252               | 6.3              | 6.7               |
| <b>Republic of Mauritius</b> | <b>4,433</b>     | <b>9,224</b> | <b>4,292</b> | <b>8,942</b>      | <b>7.2</b>       | <b>7.0</b>        |

<sup>1</sup> forecast

The number of deaths registered during the first semester of 2010 in the Republic of Mauritius was 4,292 representing a decrease of 3.2% from the corresponding period in 2009. The forecast for 2010 is 8,942 deaths with a crude death rate of 7.0. The expected number of deaths for the Island of Mauritius for 2010 is 8,690 (rate of 7.0) and that for Rodrigues 252 (rate of 6.7).

## 5.3: Infant deaths and infant mortality rate

**Table 5.3: Infant deaths and infant mortality rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2009 and 2010<sup>1</sup>**

| Island                       | Number of infant deaths |            |            |                   | Infant mortality rate |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
|                              | 2009                    |            | 2010       |                   | 2009                  | 2010 <sup>1</sup> |
|                              | Jan-Jun                 | Year       | Jan-Jun    | Year <sup>1</sup> |                       |                   |
| Island of Mauritius          | 112                     | 195        | 101        | 190               | 13.3                  | 13.0              |
| Island of Rodrigues          | 5                       | 10         | 6          | 12                | 13.9                  | 15.6              |
| <b>Republic of Mauritius</b> | <b>117</b>              | <b>205</b> | <b>107</b> | <b>202</b>        | <b>13.4</b>           | <b>13.1</b>       |

<sup>1</sup> forecast

During the first semester of 2010, 107 infant deaths were registered in the Republic of Mauritius compared to 117 for the same period in 2009. 202 infant deaths are expected to occur in the Republic of Mauritius, giving an infant mortality rate of 13.1 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2010 against 13.4 in 2009. The forecasted figures are 190 (rate of 13.0) for the Island of Mauritius and 12 (rate of 15.6) for the Island of Rodrigues respectively.

#### 5.4: Still births and still birth rate

**Table 5.4: Still births and still birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2009 and 2010<sup>1</sup>**

| Island                       | Number of still births |            |           |                   | Still birth rate |                   |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------------|-----------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                              | 2009                   |            | 2010      |                   | 2009             | 2010 <sup>1</sup> |
|                              | Jan-Jun                | Year       | Jan-Jun   | Year <sup>1</sup> |                  |                   |
| Island of Mauritius          | 67                     | 133        | 51        | 100               | 9.0              | 6.8               |
| Island of Rodrigues          | 1                      | 5          | 3         | 8                 | 6.9              | 10.3              |
| <b>Republic of Mauritius</b> | <b>68</b>              | <b>138</b> | <b>54</b> | <b>108</b>        | <b>8.9</b>       | <b>7.0</b>        |

<sup>1</sup> forecast

During the first six months of 2010, 54 still births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius compared to 68 during the same period in 2009, i.e. a 20.6 % decrease. The number of still births expected for the Republic of Mauritius is 108 for year 2010, giving a still birth rate of 7.0 still births per 1,000 total births against 8.9 in 2009. Forecast for the number of still births for the Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues for year 2010 are 100 (rate of 6.8) and 8 (rate of 10.3) respectively.

#### 5.5: Marriages and crude marriage rate

**Table 5.5: Marriages and crude marriage rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2009 and 2010<sup>1</sup>**

| Island                       | Number of marriages |               |              |                   | Crude marriage rate |                   |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
|                              | 2009                |               | 2010         |                   | 2009                | 2010 <sup>1</sup> |
|                              | Jan-Jun             | Year          | Jan-Jun      | Year <sup>1</sup> |                     |                   |
| Island of Mauritius          | 4,755               | 10,446        | 4,464        | 9,920             | 16.9                | 16.0              |
| Island of Rodrigues          | 84                  | 173           | 84           | 175               | 9.2                 | 9.2               |
| <b>Republic of Mauritius</b> | <b>4,839</b>        | <b>10,619</b> | <b>4,548</b> | <b>10,095</b>     | <b>16.7</b>         | <b>15.8</b>       |

<sup>1</sup> forecast

A total of 4,548 marriages were registered in the Republic of Mauritius during the first semester of 2010 representing a decrease of 6.0 % over the number registered during the same period in 2009. The number of marriages forecast for 2010 is 10,095 giving a crude marriage rate of 15.8 against 16.7 in 2009. The expected number of marriages in 2010 for the Island of Mauritius is 9,920 (rate of 16.0) and the Island of Rodrigues is 175 (rate of 9.2).

## 6. International comparison of vital rates

Vital statistics for different countries in the world are published in the UN publication “The Demographic Yearbook”. The table below displays some comparative figures from the latest Yearbook (2006).

**Table 6.1 - Vital rates for selected countries**

| Country   | Year | Crude birth rate | Crude Death rate | Infant mortality rate |
|-----------|------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Mauritius | 2006 | 14.1             | 7.3              | 14.1                  |
| Reunion   | 2003 | 18.9             | 5.3              | 7.4                   |
| Australia | 2006 | 12.9             | 6.5              | 4.7                   |
| Canada    | 2005 | 10.6             | 7.1              | 5.4                   |
| India     | 2006 | 23.5             | 7.5              | 57.0                  |
| Italy     | 2006 | 9.5              | 9.5              | 4.2                   |
| France    | 2005 | 12.7             | 8.6              | 3.6                   |

It is to be noted that the crude birth/death rates are not strictly comparable between countries as it is affected by the age structure of the population. For instance, the crude death rate for Mauritius is lower than that for France. This can be explained by the fact that Mauritius has a relatively young population and hence proportionately fewer deaths are expected.

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**Annex****Definition of terms**

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|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Vital Statistics      | The statistics pertaining to vital events which include live births, deaths, still births, marriages and divorces                    |
| 2. Population density    | The number of persons per square kilometre   |
| 3. Dependency ratio      | The child population under 15 years of age and the elderly population aged 65 years and above per 1,000 population aged 15-64 years. |
| 4. Sex ratio             | The number of males to every 100 females.  |
| 5. Natural increase      | The excess of live births over deaths.   |
| 6. Crude birth rate      | The number of live births in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.   |
| 7. Crude death rate      | The number of deaths in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.  |
| 8. Infant mortality rate | The number of deaths in a year of infants aged under one year per 1,000 live births during the year.                                 |
| 9. Still birth rate      | The number of still births in a year per 1,000 total births (live births and still births) during the year.                          |
| 10. Marriage rate        | The number of persons married in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.   |

**Note:** The vital rates for Rodrigues are usually calculated as an average for three years in order to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data. The rates for the year 2010 are however calculated on the basis of data for the year only.