

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, JANUARY – JUNE 2011

1. Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicator presents provisional population estimates for mid-year 2011 and vital statistics for the first semester of 2011. Forecasts of vital events and rates for the year 2011 are also included.

It is to be noted that preliminary data for the compilation of vital statistics have been 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 0.4 % since mid-2010 and was estimated at 1,286,340 as at 1st July 2011.
- As at mid-2011, the female population outnumbered the male population by about 18,500.
- The number of live births forecast for the Republic of Mauritius for year 2011 is 14,760, corresponding to a crude birth rate of 11.5 per 1,000 mid-year population compared to 11.7 in 2010.
- The forecast for the number of deaths for 2011 is around 8,950 giving a crude death rate of 7.0 per 1,000 mid-year population against 7.1 in 2010.
- The forecast for the number of infant deaths for the Republic of Mauritius is around 195, representing an infant mortality rate of 13.2 compared to 12.5 in 2010.
- The number of still births forecast for 2011 is 145, giving a still birth rate of 9.7 compared to 6.8 in 2010.
- The forecast for the number of marriages for 2011 is 11,000, corresponding to a marriage rate of 17.1, against 16.5 in 2010.

3. Estimated resident population

Table 3.1: Estimated resident population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1st July 2011

Island	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio
Island of Mauritius	1,248,129	614,972	633,157	97.1
Island of Rodrigues	37,922	18,751	19,171	97.8
Agalega and St. Brandon	289	193	96	201.0
Republic of Mauritius	1,286,340	633,916	652,424	97.2

As at 1st July 2011, the population of the Republic of Mauritius was estimated at 1,286,340, of whom 633,916 were males and 652,424 females, giving a sex ratio of 97.2 males per 100 females.

The population of the Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues were estimated at 1,248,129 and 37,922 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, 1st July 2011

Island	Both sexes	Area (km ²)	Density per km ²
Island of Mauritius	1,248,129	1,864.8	669
Island of Rodrigues	37,922	104.0	365
Agalega and St. Brandon	289	71.2	4
Republic of Mauritius	1,286,340	2,040.0	631

The Republic of Mauritius, with a total land area of 2,040 square kilometres, had a population density of 631 persons per square km as at mid-2011. The population densities of the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues were 669 and 365 respectively.

Table3.3: Estimated resident population by sex and sex ratio, Republic of Mauritius, 2009 - 2011 (mid-year estimates)

Year	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio
2009	1,275,321	629,350	645,971	97.4
2010	1,281,213	631,885	649,328	97.3
2011	1,286,340	633,916	652,424	97.2

In the above table, population estimates and sex ratios for the past three years are given for comparative purposes. 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, 1st July 2010 and 1st July 2011

Island	Population		Change	
	1st July 2010	1st July 2011	Number	%
Island of Mauritius	1,243,084	1,248,129	5,045	0.4
Island of Rodrigues	37,840	37,922	82	0.2
Agalega and St. Brandon	289	289	0	0.0
Republic of Mauritius	1,281,213	1,286,340	5,127	0.4

The population of the Republic of Mauritius increased by 5,127 (0.4 %) between mid-2010 and mid-2011. The growth rate for the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues was 0.4% and 0.2% respectively.

Table 4.2: Components of population growth during the first semester of 2010 and 2011, Republic of Mauritius¹

Components of population growth	2010	2011
Resident population as at beginning of year	1,277,562	1,283,126
Natural increase, January-June	3,542	3,040
Live Births, January-June	7,835	7,432
Deaths, January-June	4,293	4,392
Net international migration, January-June	-180	-115
Resident population as at mid-year	1,280,924	1,286,051

¹ 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 international migration (the net movements of residents).

During the first semester of 2011, the population registered a natural increase of 3,040 which was the result of an addition of 7,432 persons due to live births and a subtraction of 4,392 persons due to deaths. For the same period, the net international migration of residents was -115.

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, 2010 and 2011¹

Island	Number of live births				Crude birth rate	
	2010		2011		2010	2011 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	7,442	14,291	7,096	14,100	11.5	11.3
Island of Rodrigues	393	714	336	660	18.5	17.4
Republic of Mauritius	7,835	15,005	7,432	14,760	11.7	11.5

¹ forecast

For the first six months of 2011, 7,432 live births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, 5.1 % less than for the corresponding period of 2010. For the year 2011, the number of live births is forecast at 14,760, resulting in a crude birth rate (live births per 1,000 mid-year population) of 11.5, compared to 11.7 in 2010. The forecast for 2011 for the Island of Mauritius is 14,100 live births (rate of 11.3), and for Rodrigues it is 660 (rate of 17.4).

5.2: Deaths and crude death rate

Table 5.2: Deaths and crude death rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2010 and 2011¹

Island	Number of deaths				Crude death rate	
	2010		2011		2010	2011 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	4,171	8,891	4,265	8,700	7.2	7.0
Island of Rodrigues	122	240	127	250	6.4	6.6
Republic of Mauritius	4,293	9,131	4,392	8,950	7.1	7.0

¹ forecast

The number of deaths registered during the first semester of 2011 in the Republic of Mauritius was 4,392, representing an increase of 2.3% compared to the corresponding figures of 2010. The forecast for 2011 is 8,950 deaths with a crude death rate of 7.0. The expected number of deaths for the Island of Mauritius for 2011 is 8,700 (rate of 7.0) and that for Rodrigues 250 (rate of 6.6).

5.3: Infant deaths and infant mortality rate

Table 5.3: Infant deaths and infant mortality rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2010 and 2011¹

Island	Number of infant deaths				Infant mortality rate	
	2010		2011		2010	2011 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	99	177	96	180	12.4	12.8
Island of Rodrigues	6	10	7	15	16.7	22.7
Republic of Mauritius	105	187	103	195	12.5	13.2

¹ forecast

During the first semester of 2011, 103 infant deaths were registered in the Republic of Mauritius compared to 105 for the same period in 2010. 195 infant deaths are expected to occur in the Republic of Mauritius in 2011, giving an infant mortality rate of 13.2 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2011 against 12.5 in 2010. The forecasted figures are 180 (rate of 12.8) for the Island of Mauritius and 15 (rate of 22.7) for the Island of Rodrigues.

5.4: Still births and still birth rate

Table 5.4: Still births and still birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2010 and 2011¹

Island	Number of still births				Still birth rate	
	2010		2011		2010	2011 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	51	95	71	140	6.6	9.8
Island of Rodrigues	3	8	2	5	8.5	7.5
Republic of Mauritius	54	103	73	145	6.8	9.7

¹ forecast

During the first six months of 2011, 73 still births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius compared to 54 for the same period in 2010, i.e. a 35.2 % increase. The number of still births expected for the Republic of Mauritius is 145 for year 2011, giving a still birth rate of 9.7 still births per 1,000 total births against 6.8 in 2010. Forecast for the Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues for year 2011 are 140 (rate of 9.8) and 5 (rate of 7.5) respectively.

5.5: Marriages and crude marriage rate

Table 5.5: Marriages and crude marriage rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2010 and 2011¹

Island	Number of marriages				Crude marriage rate	
	2010		2011		2010	2011 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	4,464	10,370	4,817	10,800	16.7	17.3
Island of Rodrigues	84	185	95	200	9.8	10.6
Republic of Mauritius	4,548	10,555	4,912	11,000	16.5	17.1

¹ forecast

A total of 4,912 marriages were registered in the Republic of Mauritius during the first semester of 2011, representing an increase of 8.0 % over the number registered during the same period in 2010. The number of marriages forecast for 2011 is 11,000, giving a crude marriage rate of 17.1 against 16.5 in 2010. The expected number of marriages in 2011 for the Island of Mauritius is 10,800 (rate of 17.3) and for the Island of Rodrigues is 200 (rate of 10.6).

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 (2008).

Table 6.1 - Vital rates for selected countries

Country	Year	Crude Birth rate	Crude death rate	Infant mortality rate
Mauritius	2008	12.9	7.1	14.4
Reunion	2005	18.8	5.6	8.0
Australia	2008	13.8	6.7	4.1
Canada	2006	10.9	7.0	5.0
India	2008	22.8	7.4	53.0
Italy	2008	9.6	9.7	3.6
France	2007	12.7	8.4	3.6

It is to be noted that the crude birth/death rates are strictly not 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

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 2011 are however calculated on the basis of data for the year only.