

Gender Statistics, 2012

1. Introduction

This is the fourth issue of Economic and Social Indicators (ESI) on gender statistics. It presents a portrait of women and men in the Republic of Mauritius and includes their demographic profile, health, family status, educational attainment and labour force characteristics.

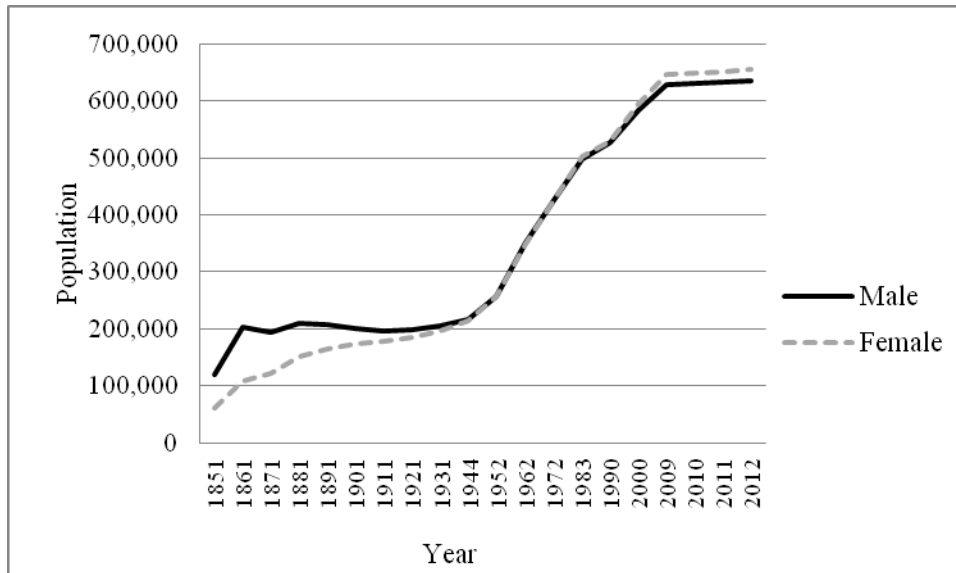
The ESI is based on latest available sex disaggregated data from administrative sources, household surveys and censuses. Some of the statistics presented therefore refer to years earlier than 2012.

2. Highlights

- (i) In 2012, the population comprised 655,300 women compared to 635,800 men. Women outnumbered men by 19,500 as they live on average seven years longer than men.
- (ii) Women are more likely than men to be widowed, divorced/separated and unemployed.
- (iii) Diabetes, heart disease and cancer together accounted for 60.6% of causes of deaths among women against 68% of men's deaths.
- (iv) Disability prevalence is higher amongst the female population. In 2011, out of every 1,000 females, 49 were disabled against 47 males out of every 1,000
- (v) Men are more literate than women. However, the literacy gap between men and women has narrowed from 7.2 percentage points in 2000 to 5.0 percentage points in 2011.
- (vi) Employed women work on average six hours less than men.
- (vii) More women are occupying high positions in government services. The proportion of women in the most senior positions was 39%.
- (viii) Domestic violence against men is on the increase, though women are more likely to be victims.
- (ix) In 2012, Mauritius ranked 70th out of 146 countries according to the Gender Inequality Index of the UN. The index reflects inequality in achievements between women and men in reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market.

3. Population

Prior to 1950 women were fewer than men in number. However, the female population has been growing at a faster rate such that in the 50's there were almost equal numbers of men and women. This balance in the population has been maintained for some 40 years. As from 1990, women have been increasingly outnumbering men over the years.

Chart 1 – Population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1851 –2012

In 2012, there were 19,500 more women than men. Out of a total population of 1,291,200, there were 655,300 women against 635,800 men, i.e., 97 men for every 100 women.

Though women were more numerous in the total population, this was not the case in all age groups. At the younger ages (under 30 years), men were more numerous mainly due to more births of baby boys than girls. In 2012, there were 104.7 male births for every 100 female births.

At ages 30 years and above, women outnumbered men and their proportion increases at higher ages. The male-female ratio stood at around 98 for those aged between 30 to 49 years compared to 50.5 among those aged 80 years and over; there were around 2 women for every man in this age group. The main reason for this imbalance is that women live longer than men.

Table 1 - Population by age and sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1st July 2012

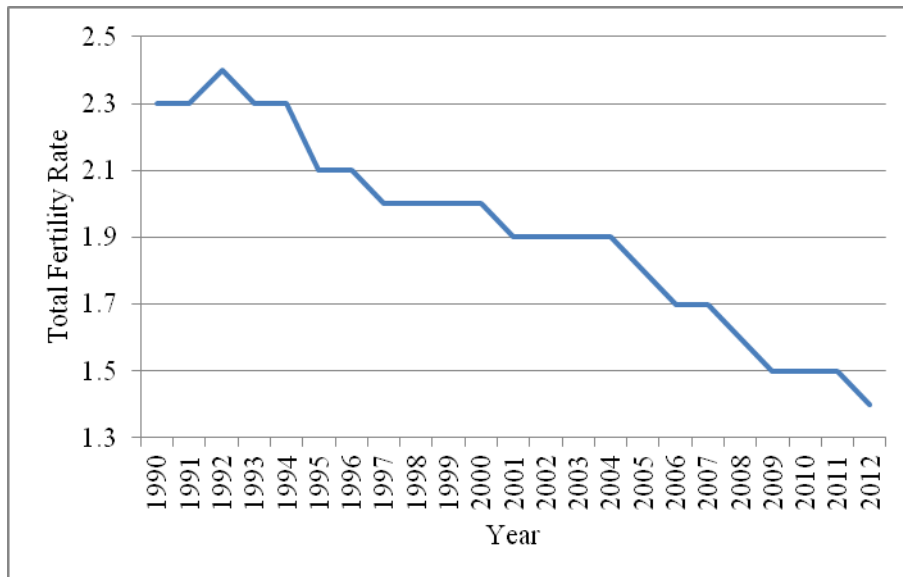
Age group (years)	Male	Female	Both sexes	Sex Ratio (males per 100 females)
under 10	85,200	82,800	168,100	102.9
10-19	102,100	99,700	201,800	102.4
20-29	100,100	97,600	197,700	102.5
30-39	103,500	105,300	208,900	98.3
40-49	95,300	96,800	192,100	98.4
50-59	80,600	83,600	164,200	96.5
60-79	62,800	77,300	140,000	81.2
80+	6,200	12,200	18,400	50.5
Total	635,800	655,300	1,291,200	97.0

In fact, women live 7 years longer than men. In 2012, life expectancy at birth for women was 77 years compared to 70 years for men. Over the past ten years, the gap between life expectancy of man and woman tends to stabilise around 7 years.

4. Fertility and Contraceptive Use

Women continue to give birth to fewer children than in the past. The total fertility rate, which is an indication of the average number of babies born to a woman during her childbearing period, has maintained a decreasing trend over the last 20 years. The average number of children born to a woman dropped by nearly one child to reach a total fertility rate of 1.4 in 2012.

Chart 2 – Total Fertility Rate, Republic of Mauritius, 1990-2012



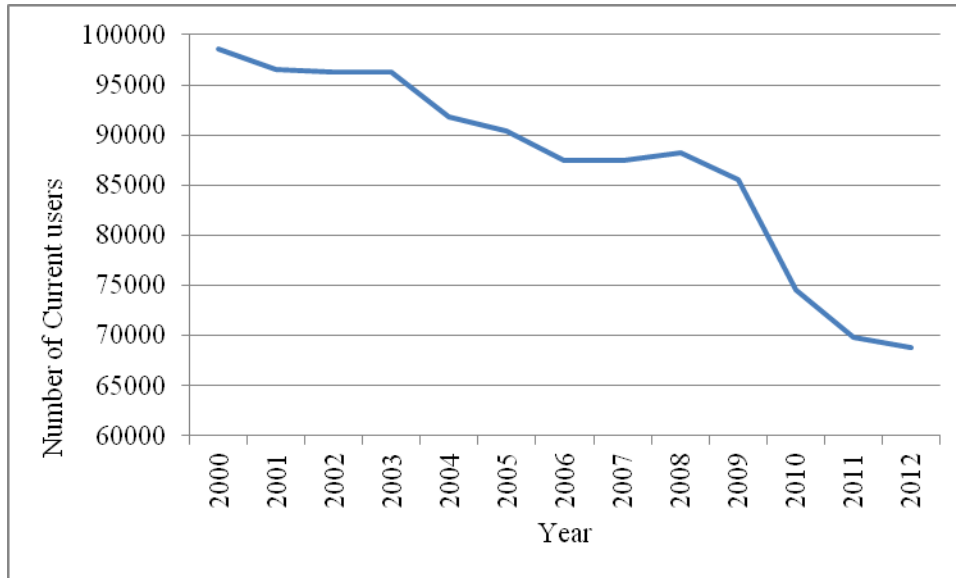
In the 1990's, women in the age bracket 20-24 years had the highest fertility with 147 births per 1,000 women of that age group. The peak fertility moved to the age bracket 25-29 years in 2012, with only 89.5 births per 1,000 women in that age group. This shift is mostly explained by women getting married at an older age.

Table 2 - Fertility Rates by age of mother, Republic of Mauritius, 1990-2012

Age Group (Yrs)	1990	2000	2012
15-19	45.2	38.9	29.4
20-24	147.2	121.5	71.2
25-29	138.1	120.4	89.5
30-34	80.4	75.1	62.7
35-39	39.1	34.2	27.2
40-44	11.4	8.1	6.3
45-49	1.8	0.6	0.5
15-49	77.4	60.1	41.2

In 2012, Government Family Planning Clinics, Mauritius Family Planning & Welfare Association and Action Familiale registered a total of some 68,900 current users of contraceptive methods in the Island of Mauritius, a decrease of 27,400 from 96,300 in 2002. However, the number of tubal ligation increased from 10,100 to 14,700 during the same period.

Chart 3 – Number of current users of contraceptive, Island of Mauritius, 2000-2012



New acceptors of contraceptive methods registered at Government Family Planning Clinics, Mauritius Family Planning & Welfare Association and Action Familiale numbered 8,200 in 2012, of whom, 500 had tubal ligation. A declining trend is observed in the number of new acceptors from 10,700 in 2002.

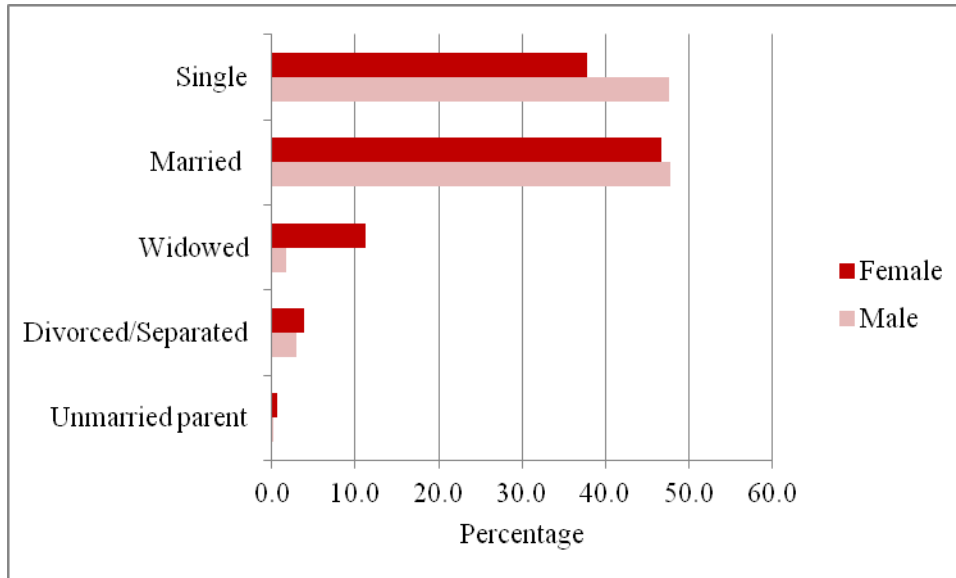
Among the new acceptors, Pill (28.3%) and Male Condom (22.4%) are the preferred methods of contraception while for current users Sympto-thermal (41.4%) method is the preferred method.

Table 3 –Method of family planning, 2012

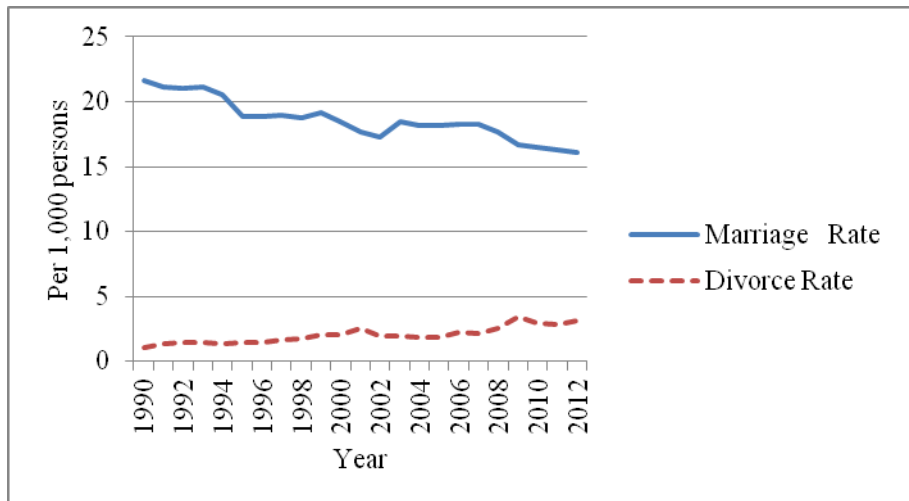
Methods	New Acceptors (%)	Current Users (%)
Pill	28.3	13.5
Tubal Ligation	7.4	21.3
Sympto-thermal	22.2	41.4
Male Condom	22.4	12.7
3-month injectable	13.4	4.7
Intra-uterine Devices	1.6	3.4
Monthly injectable	3.0	0.9
Implant	1.7	2.1
Total	100.0	100.0

5. Family Status

At the 2011 Population Census, women make up slightly more than half of the total population but are largely over-represented among the widowed, divorced and separated indicating that women are less likely to re-marry than men. Unmarried parents, made up mostly of unmarried mothers, numbered 3,700 in 2011.

Chart 4 - Population (%) by marital status, 2011 Population Census

While marriage rate is declining, divorce rate is on the rise. The marriage rate, i.e., the number of persons married per 1,000 mid-year population, fell from 21.6 in 1990 to 16.1 in 2012. The number of divorced persons per 1,000 mid-year population increased from 1 in 1990 to 3.1 in 2012.

Chart 5 - Marriage and Divorce Rate, Republic of Mauritius, 1990 – 2012

Wives are more likely than husbands to initiate divorce. In 2012, some 52% of the petitioners were women. In the same year, 2,003 divorces were granted by the Supreme Court, the majority of which (27.4%) occurred after 5 to 10 years of union. The number of divorces after 25 years of union accounted for 7.9% of all divorces. Also, 12 divorces were registered within 1 year of marriage.

Table 4 - Divorce by duration of union, Republic of Mauritius, 2012

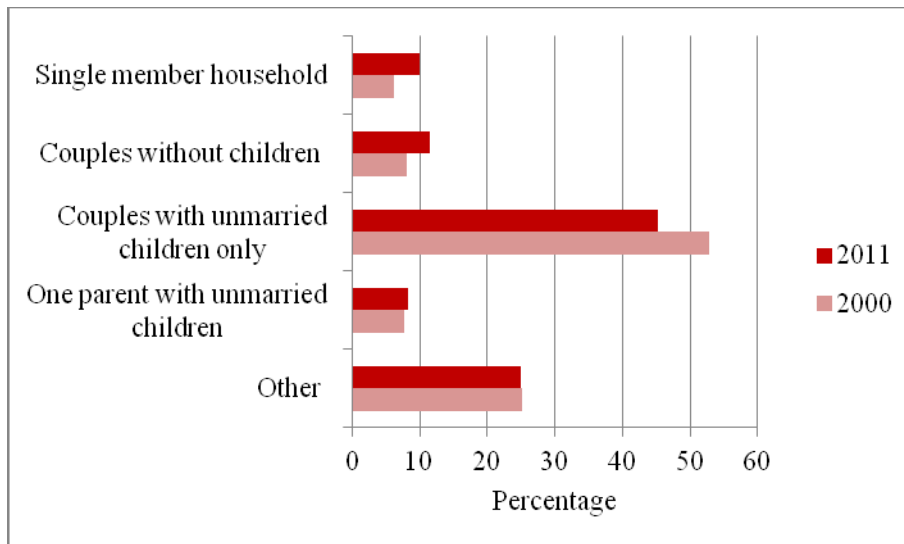
Duration of union (years)	Number	%
1 year	12	0.6
1 and <3	170	8.5
3 and <5	249	12.4
5 and < 10	548	27.4
10 and < 15	440	22.0
15 and <25	426	21.3
25 or more	158	7.9
Total divorces	2,003	100.0

6. Household and living arrangements

The number of persons in a household continues its declining trend. Based on the 2011 Population Census data, the average household size works out to 3.5, down from 3.9 in 2000 and 4.5 in 1990.

The living arrangements of the population have also undergone changes over time. There are now fewer households with couple with unmarried children, but more single member households, households with couples without children and one parent households with unmarried children.

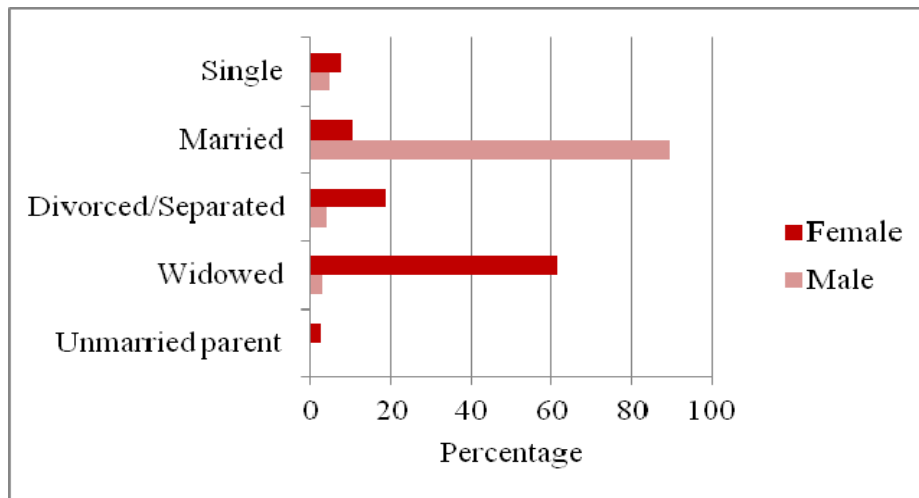
Chart 6 – Distribution of households by type, Republic of Mauritius, 2000 and 2011 Population Censuses



Women are much less likely than men to be heads of households. They headed only one household out of every five households enumerated at the 2011 Population Census.

As the size of the household increases, women are less likely to head the household. Some 53% of the households headed by women contained two or lesser persons while an equal proportion of the male-headed households were of size three to five members. There were 34,739 persons living alone in 2011 of whom 19,990 were women, that is, out of every 7 persons living alone in 2011, 4 were women.

Chart 7 - Heads of Households by marital status and sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2011 Population Census



The majority of men (90%) heading households are married while their female counterparts were mostly widowed (61%) and divorced/separated (19%). Only 10% of the female heads are married. Some 1,700 unmarried women with children were enumerated at the 2011 Census.

Table 5 - Heads of Households by age and sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2011 Population Census

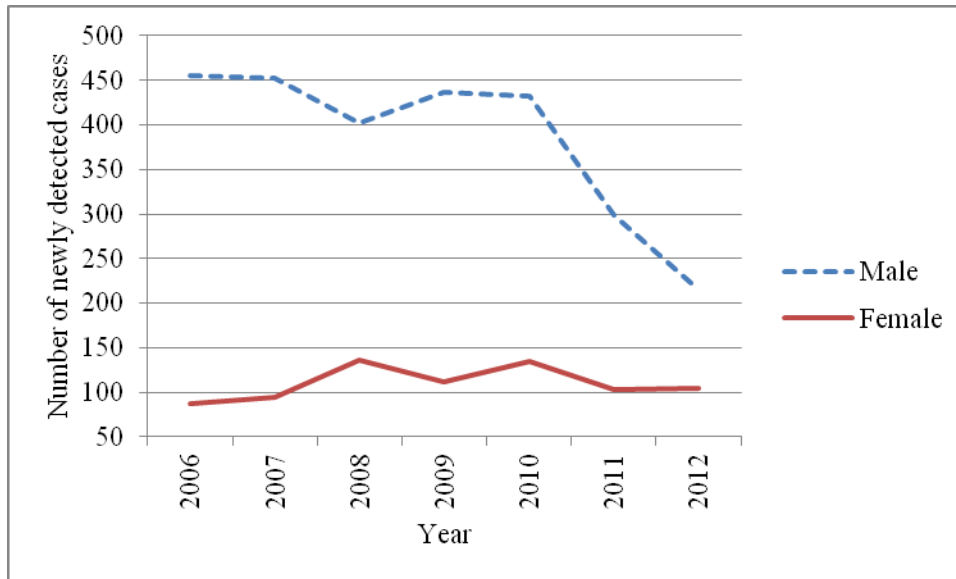
Age-group	Male	Female
Under 20	171	96
20 - 29	12,505	2,151
30 - 39	53,846	5,974
40 - 49	77,435	12,516
50 - 59	71,238	18,830
60 - 69	39,336	17,912
70+	20,527	15,515
Not stated	127	87
Total	275,185	73,081

Nearly 75% of men heading households are found in the age group 30 to 59 years while some 70% of the female heads of households are aged 50 years and over. These women are mostly widowed.

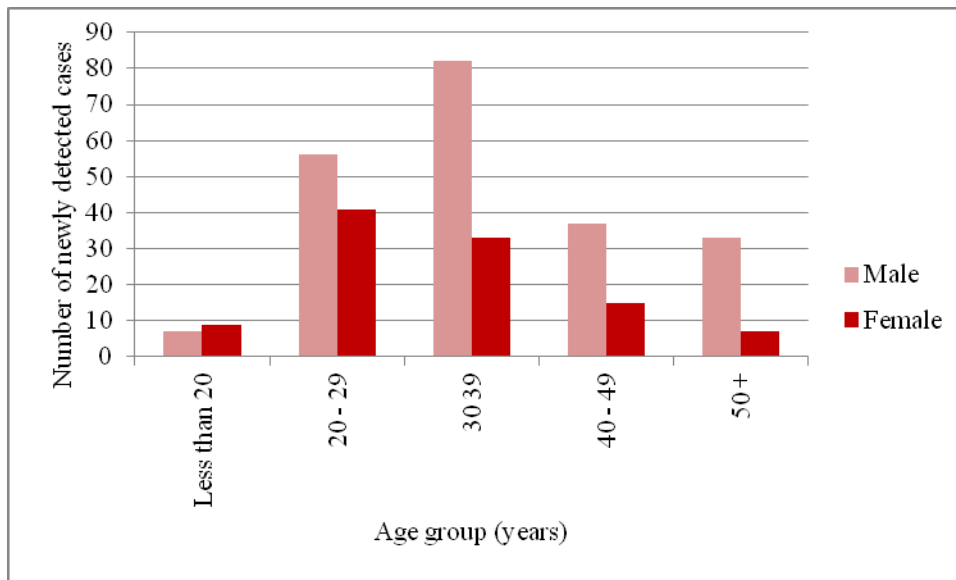
7. Health

Since October 1987 when the first cases of AIDS were registered, the number of HIV/AIDS cases increased to reach 5,508 at December 2012, of whom 21 % were women.

During 2012, 320 newly detected cases of HIV/AIDS were registered. The proportion of women among the new cases stood at 32.8% compared to 16% in 2006.

Chart 8 – Newly detected HIV/AIDS cases, Republic of Mauritius, 2006-2012

In 2011, 60% of the newly detected cases of HIV/AIDS for women were due to hetero sexual modes of transmission, while injecting drug (83%) was the most common modes of transmission for men.

Chart 9 - Distribution of newly detected HIV/AIDS cases by sex and age group, 2012

Among the newly detected cases in 2012, 66% were in the age group 20-39 years. However, women were predominant in the age group 20-29 years (39.0%) while men were mostly in the age group 30-39 years (38.1%).

8. Mortality

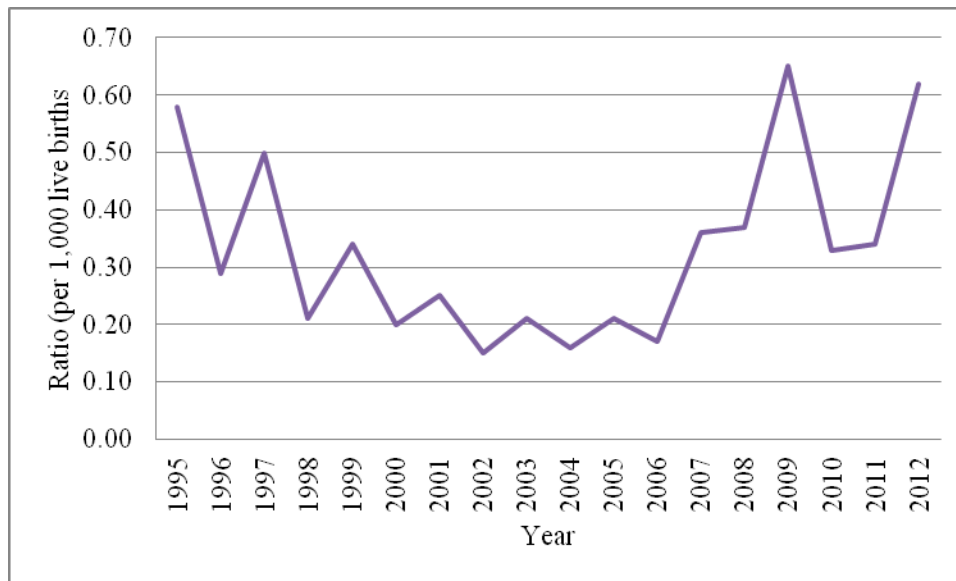
Though women are more numerous than men, there are fewer deaths among women than among men with female deaths representing 45.2% of all deaths in 2012. 5,123 men compared to 4,220 women died in 2012. The crude death rate for 2012 was 8.1 for man and 6.4 for woman.

The main causes of death for both men and women in 2012 were diabetes, heart diseases, cerebrovascular disease and cancer (neoplasm). Causes of death specific to women, such as breast and uterus cancer were responsible for 3.4% of deaths among women while maternal deaths was responsible for another 0.2%. Compared to men, women were more likely to die of diabetes but less likely to die of diseases of the liver (0.5%) and to commit suicide (0.6%).

Table 6 – Deaths (%) by cause and sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2012

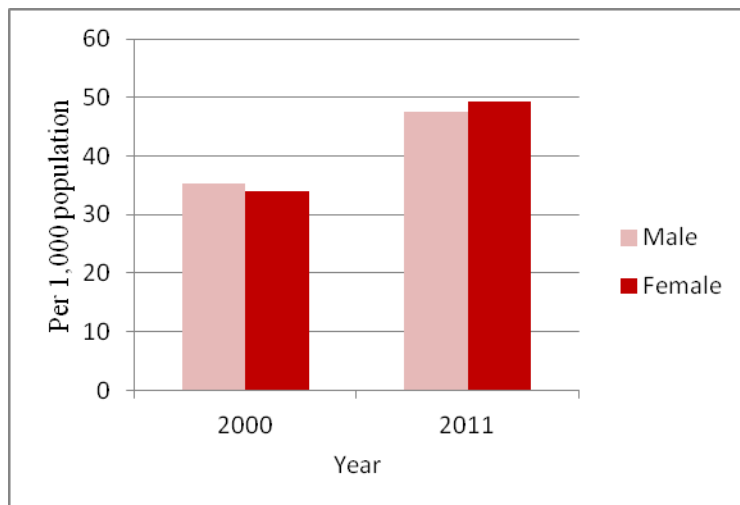
Cause of death	Male	Female
Diabetes mellitus	23.9	29.2
Heart disease	18.3	17.1
Cerebrovascular Disease	6.9	8.2
Malignant Neoplasm:	11.5	13.5
<i>of which: breast cancer (malignant)</i>	0	3.4
<i>uterus cancer (malignant)</i>	<i>n/a</i>	1.6
Hypertensive Diseases	4.6	6.8
Diseases of liver (inc. alcoholic cirrhosis)	3.2	0.5
Suicide	1.7	0.6
Maternal death	<i>n/a</i>	0.2
Other	29.9	23.9
Total	100.0	100.0

The risk of a woman dying as a result of pregnancy or childbirth during her lifetime has generally been declining over the years with slightly higher level of maternal deaths in recent years.

Chart 10 - Maternal Mortality Ratio, Republic of Mauritius, 1995 - 2012

9. Disability

The 2011 Population Census enumerated 59,900 disabled persons; there were 30,900 women compared to 29,000 men. The proportion of women among the disabled population increased from 49.5% in 2000 to 51.6% in 2011. In 2000, there were 20,200 disabled women compared to 20,600 disabled men.

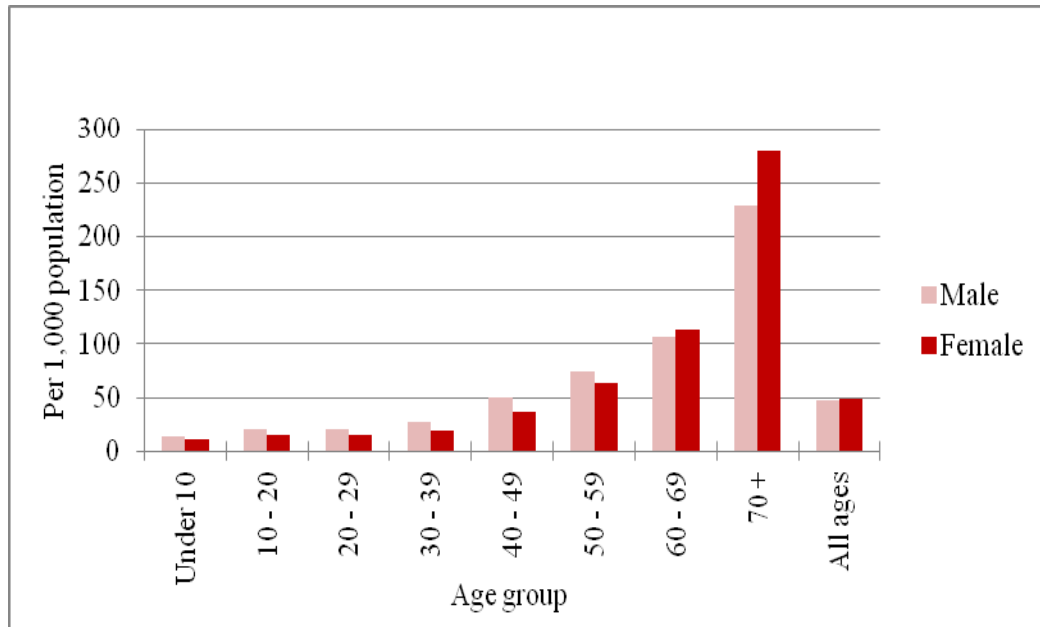
Chart 11 - Prevalence of disability by sex, 2000 and 2011 Population Censuses

Disability prevalence is higher among women. In 2011, out of every 1,000 female population, 49 were disabled against 47 among every 1,000 male population. Ten years back, disability prevalence was much lower among the population, but less prevailing among women than men; there were 34 disabled women out of every 1,000 female population against 35 men out of every 1,000.

The higher disability prevalence among women in 2011 is partly attributable to the larger proportion of elderly people, who are more prone to be disabled, among the female population than the male population.

For both men and women, the prevalence of disability increased with increasing age. However, the prevalence was higher among men for population under 60 years and higher among women among those aged 60 years and over.

Chart 12 - Disability prevalence rate by age and sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2011 Population Census



Disability related to motion was the most reported type of disability by both women and men. However, the prevalence was higher among women; 33% of the disabled women reported motion disability against 28% for disabled men.

10. Education

The 2011 Population Census enumerated over 1.2 million persons aged 2 years and over in the Republic of Mauritius. Around 26% of males and 25% of females were attending school. The corresponding figures for those who already left school are 70% and 67% respectively. The remaining were either children not yet at school or those who never attended school, 4% for males and 8% for females.

Table 7- Population aged 5 years and above by educational attainment (%), Republic of Mauritius, 2011 Population Census

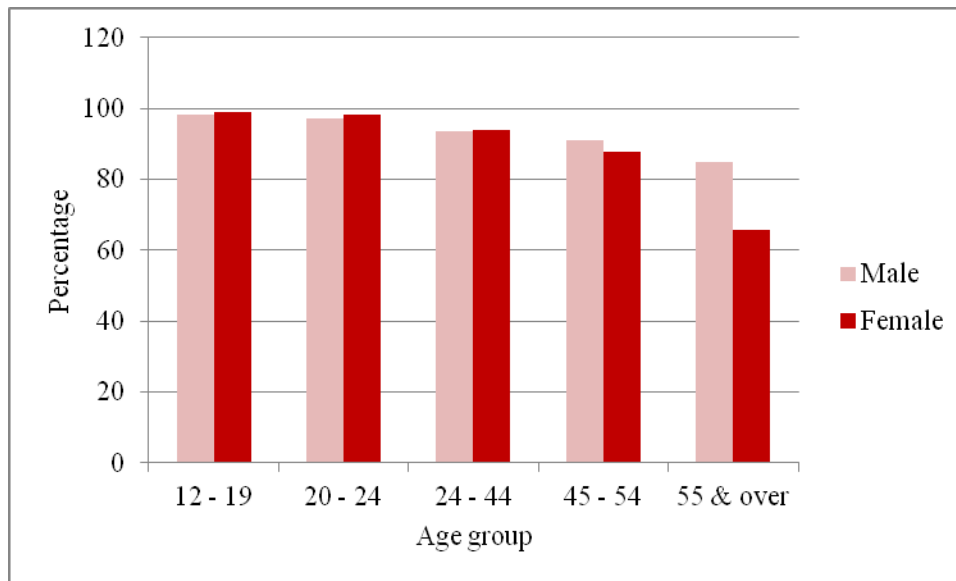
Educational attainment	Male	Female
Nil & preprimary	3.0	7.6
Primary but not passed CPE	28.8	28.5
Passed CPE	8.6	9.9
Secondary but not passed SC	29.9	26.2
Passed SC or equivalent	16.3	15.1
Passed HSC or equivalent	8.7	9.4
University degree or equivalent	4.7	3.3
Total	100.0	100.0

Though the level of educational attainment is higher among the male population, there are no marked differences between men and women at the different levels. It is, however, worth noted that nearly 8% of the female population have not been to school or reached only the preprimary level against 3% for the male population. Slightly more than 3% of women held a university degree compared to nearly 5% for men.

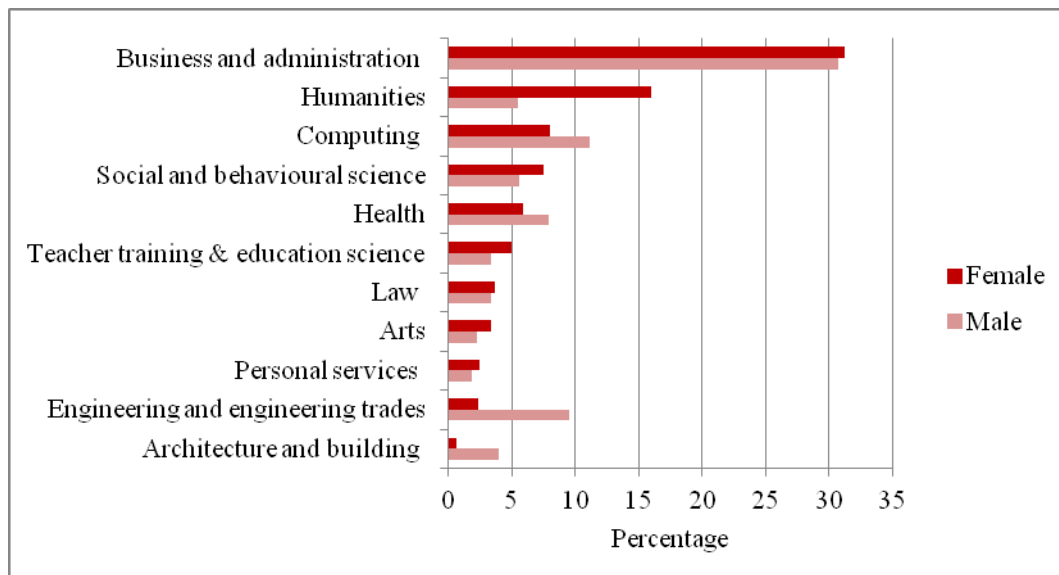
Table 8 - Literacy Rates (%), Republic of Mauritius, 2000 and 2012 Population Censuses

	2000	2012
Male	88.7	92.3
Female	81.5	87.3
Difference	7.2	5.0

Over 92 out of 100 males and 87 out of 100 females aged 12 years and over are literate in the Republic of Mauritius. Between 2000 and 2012, the literacy rate of the population aged 12 years and above improved. The improvement was higher among the female population, thus bringing down the literacy gap from 7.2 to 5.0 percentage points.

Chart 13 - Literacy rates (%) by age and sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2011 Population Census

It is observed that among the population below 25 years, females are slightly more literate than males. Women and men in the age group 24 to 44 years are equally literate. However, above the age of 45, the rates for men were higher, with the difference becoming more significant at higher ages. For age 55 and above, the rates stood at 85% for males and 65.9% for females

Chart 14 - % of people with tertiary education by field of study and sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2011 Population Census

According to the 2011 Population Census, there were 19,167 women and 26,474 men holders of post secondary degree. Business and Administration was the most popular field of study (around 30%) for both men and women, followed by Computing (11%) for men and Humanities for women (16%).

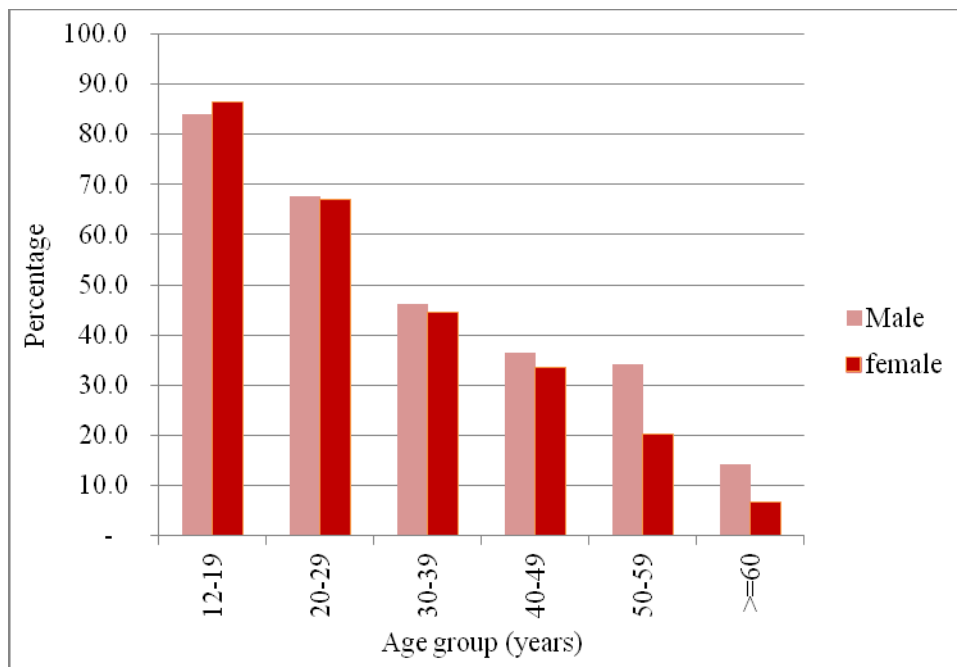
Women were largely underrepresented in Engineering & Engineering Trades, and to some extent in Computing and Health.

11. ICT

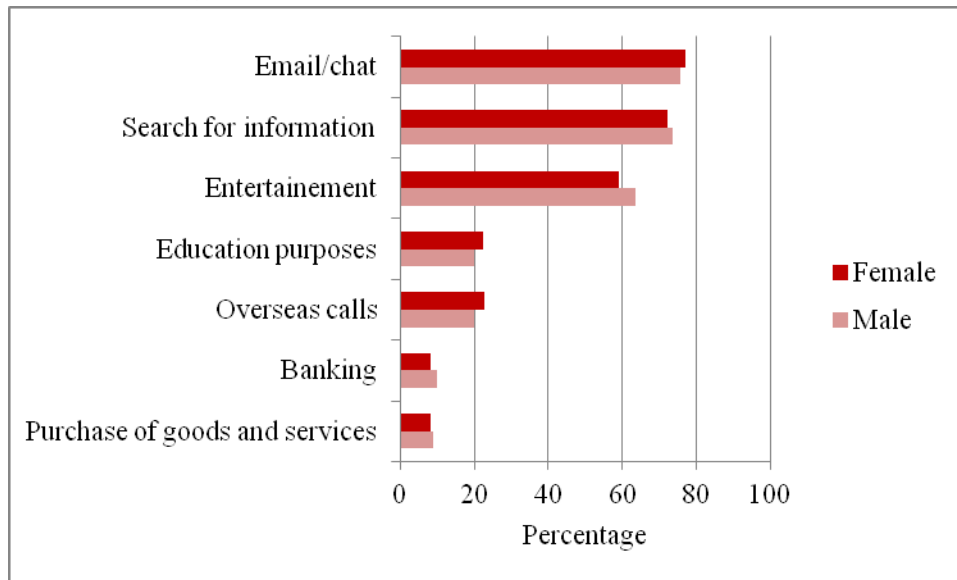
Girls aged 12-19 years are more likely than boys of the same age to use a computer; in 2012, 87% of girls aged 12-19 years used a computer compared to 84% for boys of the same age. At the older age-groups, the reverse is true.

As age increases, the use of computer decreases for both women and men.

Chart 15 - Usage of computer by age group and sex, 2012



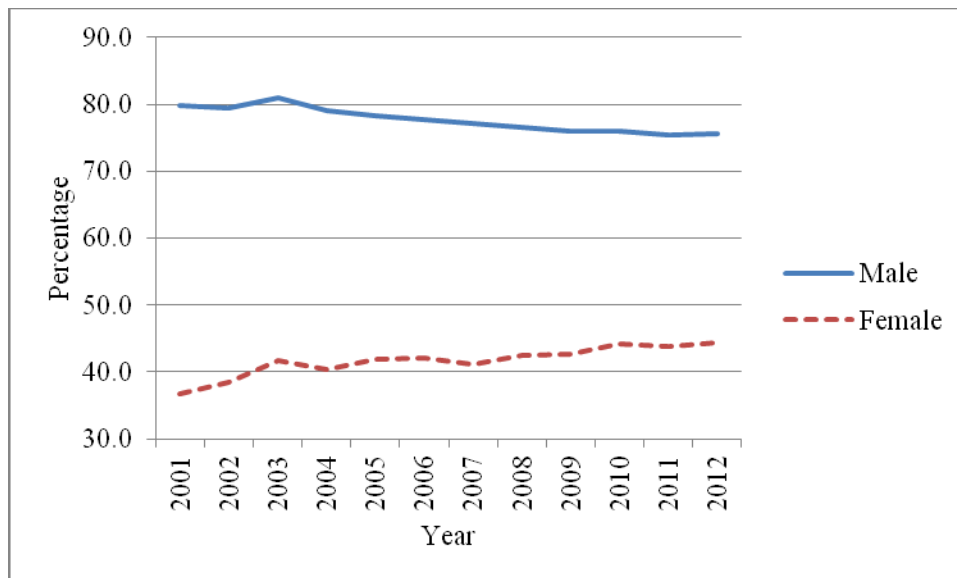
Both men and women use the internet mainly for communication, searching for information and for entertainment. However women are less likely than men to use the internet for entertainment purposes. Women are more likely to use the internet for education purposes, but do not tend to use the internet for banking and purchase of goods and services as men do.

Chart 16 - Usage of internet by sex, 2012

12. Economics Characteristics

In 2012, the active Mauritian population (aged 16 years and above) stood at 593,100 with 368,400 men and 224,700 women. The active women represented 44.3% of the female population aged 16 years and above compared to 75.7% for men.

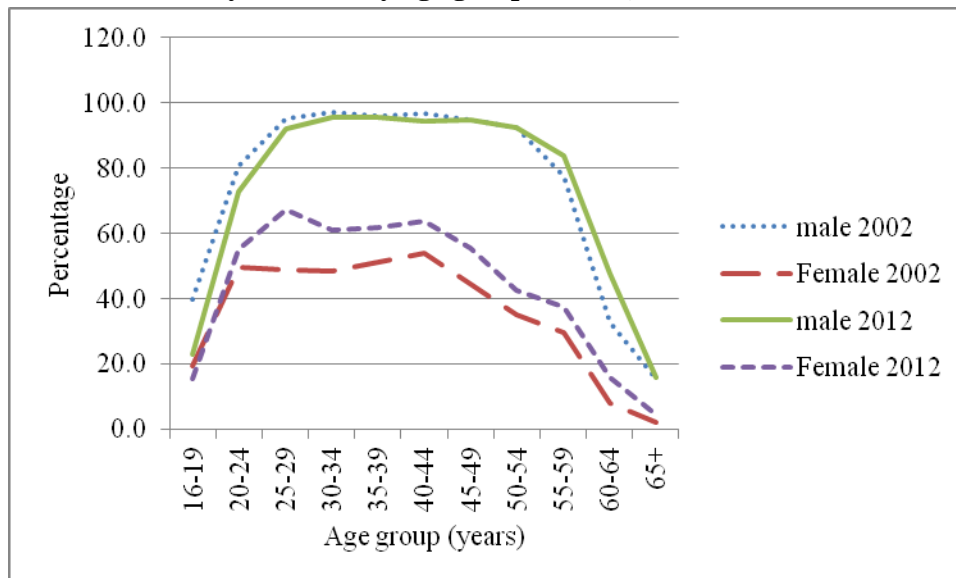
During the period 2002 to 2012, male activity rate was consistently higher than female activity rate. However, the gap was narrowing over time as the activity rate for men has been constantly decreasing over the years while that of females has been generally increasing.

Chart 17 - Activity rate (%) by sex, 2001 to 2012

Over the years, the shape of the curve for female activity rate by age has been tending towards that of the male except for a peak at the age 25 -29 years. Women are then less active in their early 30's, at time of

marriage, childbirth and child care. The increase in the level of economic activity among women was more pronounced for those aged 20 to 49 years.

Chart 18 - Activity rate (%) by age group and sex, 2002 and 2012



Both women and men had a high proportion of their working population in the tertiary sector (covering trade, accommodation service, transportation, health, education and other service industries), 59% for men and 73% for women. The secondary sector (covering manufacturing, electricity & water and construction) accounted for about one third of the working men and one fifth of the working women. For every 10 women working in the manufacturing sector, there are 13 men, while there are 400 men for every 10 woman in the construction sector. The primary sector (comprising agriculture and mining & quarrying) employed 8% and 6% of the working men and women respectively.

Table 9- Distribution (%) of employed persons by employment status and sex, 2012

Employment Status	Male	Female
Employer	5.0	1.2
Own account worker	16.8	10.3
Employee	77.5	83.7
Contributing family worker	0.8	4.8
Total	100.0	100.0

Women were more likely than men to be employees, with 83.7% of the female workforce in that employment status as compared to 77.5% of the male workforce. They were also much less likely than men to work on their own. Some 22% of working men were employers or own accounts workers compared to about only 12% for women.

On average, a woman works 6 hours less than a man. The average number of hours worked by women was 35.9 compared to 41.8 for men.

In spite of being fewer in the labour force (representing only 38%), women are over represented among the unemployed; they make up nearly 60% of the total unemployed. Unemployed women numbered 28,600 in 2012 compared to 19,700 men. Female unemployment rate stood at 12.7%, much higher than

the rate of 5.3% for male. The disparity between male and female unemployment rate was highest in the lower age group; the difference was nearly 16 percentage points among the unemployed below 20 years and around 2 percentage points among those aged 50 years and above.

Table 10 - Distribution (%) of unemployed persons by educational attainment, 2012

Educational attainment	Male	Female
Primary	24.9	23.8
<i>of which passed CPE</i>	5.1	8.0
Secondary	55.8	55.9
<i>of which passed SC</i>	16.2	16.8
<i>of which passed HSC</i>	4.6	9.4
Tertiary	19.3	20.3
Total	100.0	100.0

Unemployed women were generally more qualified than their male counterparts; around 47% of them possessed the School Certificate or above against 40% among males. Similarly, a slightly higher proportion of unemployed women (20%) attained tertiary level education as compared to unemployed men (19%).

Though unemployed women are generally more qualified but tend to stay longer in unemployment. On average, women remained unemployed for 13 months compared to 8 months for men.

13. Social benefit and senior living in infirmaries

In 2011, the number of women receiving Basic Retirement Pension outnumbered their male counterparts by 21,391. Out of 161,219 Basic Retirement pensioners, 57% were women. Both male and female pensioners were concentrated in the age group 60 to 69 years. However 75% of pensioners in the age group 90 to 99 years were women. For every male centenary pensioner, there were 10 women centenary.

There were 21,503 recipients of Basic Widows Pension in 2011, a large majority of whom (64%) were aged between 50 to 59 years.

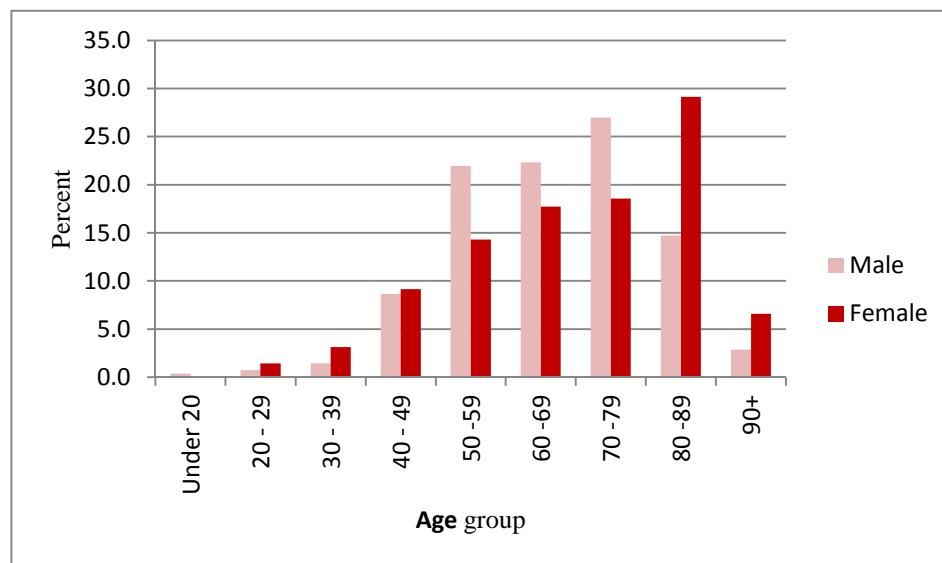
Invalids pensioners numbered 26,928 in 2011, with an almost equal proportion of men and women. Among the 6,669 invalid persons who benefitted from the carers allowance, 46% were women.

In 2011, 371 children received Basic Orphans Pension, 47% of them were girls. The females orphans were younger than the male orphans; 86% were aged 10 to 19 years against 83% for the boys. In 2011, 6,490 abandoned mothers and 600 unmarried mothers received a social aid allowance.

Table 11 - Number of beneficiaries by selected benefits, 2011

Pension Type	Male	Female	Total
Basic Retirement Pension	69,914	91,305	161,219
Basic Widow's Pension	N/A	21,503	21,503
Basic Invalid's Pension	13,522	13,406	26,928
Basic Orphan's Pension	195	176	371
Carers Allowance	3,594	3,075	6,669
Social Aid	15,924	25,216	41,140

In 2011, 56% of the 628 inmates living in the 20 infirmaries registered at the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reforms Institutions were women. The women residents were older than men with 36% aged 80 years and over compared to 18% for men.

Chart 19 - Number of Inmates in infirmaries, 2011

Women inmates were more likely to suffer from a disease or a disability, 89% against 81% for men. However, they are less likely to be partially paralysed.

Table 12 - Types of inmates' disabilities, 2011

	Male (%)	Female (%)
Partial paralysis	18.0	7.7
Mental diseases	25.8	27.1
Heart diseases	4.0	3.1
Diabetes	6.8	6.3
Other (including those suffering from multiple disabilities)	13.3	34.2
Inmates with no disabilities	28.4	19.1
Total	100.0	100.0

14. Women in politics and decision making

Women's participation in decision making at the level of local government has increased at the last election. In 2012, women comprised nearly 37% of the elected members at the Municipal Council Election compared to some 13% at the previous election following amendment in the Local Government Act which imposes a gender quota.

Table 13 – Elected Members at the Municipal Council Elections, 2001, 2005 & 2012

	2001		2005		2012	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Men	109	86.5	110	87.3	57	63.3
Women	17	13.5	16	12.7	33	36.7
Total	126	100.0	126	100.0	90	100.0

The increase in the representation of women is much more significant at the Village Council Election; the share of women among the elected members is 25.4% in 2012 compared to 5.8% in 2005 and only 2.8% in 1997.

Table 14 – Elected Members at the Village Council Elections, 1997, 2005 & 2012

	1997		2005		2012	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Men	1,435	97.2	1,390	94.2	873	74.6
Women	41	2.8	86	5.8	297	25.4
Total	1,476	100.0	1,476	100.0	1170	100.0

More women are occupying high positions in government services. The proportion of women in the most senior positions has increased from 23% to 39% over the past 12 years.

Table 15 - Senior position¹ in Government Services, 2000 & 2012

	2000		2012	
	Number	%	Number	%
Men	266	76.9	284	60.7
Women	80	23.1	184	39.3
Total	346	100.0	468	100.0

¹ Senior Chief Executive, Permanent Secretary, Principal Assistant Secretary, Director, Manager, Judge and Magistrate

15. Justice related occupations

In the Judiciary, women made up 39% of the personnel compared to only 7% at the Mauritius Police Force and an equal proportion at the Mauritius Prisons Department. However, women were more represented at the Probation and After-care service (63%).

Table 16 - Justice Related Employment, 2011

Staff	Male (%)	Female (%)	Total (%)
Police	93	7	100
Prisons (including Correctional Youth Centre)	93	7	100
Probation and After care service	37	63	100
Rehabilitation Youth Centre	60	40	100
Judiciary	61	39	100

16. Domestic violence

In 2012, 1,760 cases of domestic violence were reported at the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare, nearly 89.2% of which were against women. Though women are more likely to be victims, domestic violence against men is on the increase; some 10 years back, one of every 34 cases of domestic violence was against men compared to one out of every 9 cases in 2012.

Some 31% of women victims of domestic violence reported physical assault by spouse or partner, 18% verbal assault by spouse or partner (ill treatment, harassment, abuse, and humiliation), 16% threatening assault by spouse and 11% harassment by spouse. Reported cases by men relate mostly to physical assault by spouse or partner (21%) and verbal assault by spouse or partner (18%).

17. Offences

Men are more likely to be victims of homicides and assaults while women are more prone to sexual offences. In 2011, 75% of the intentional homicides and 56% of the assaults were committed against men. Women were victims to 86% of the sexual offences.

Table 17 - Victims of selected offences reported at the Police, Island of Mauritius, 2011

Offences	Male	Female	Both sexes
Homicides	82	28	110
<i>of which Intentional homicides</i>	42	17	59
Assaults	7,675	6,150	13,825
Sexual offences	59	349	408
<i>of which Rape</i>	-	49	49

Boys are much more likely to commit offences than girls. In 2011, only 8% of the juvenile offences were committed by girls. The female juvenile delinquency rate stood at 0.9 while that for male was over 10 times higher.

Table 18 - Number of Juvenile offenders¹ reported, 2011

	Male	Female	Both sexes
Crimes	159	13	145
<i>of which drug offences</i>	12	-	12
Misdemeanours	489	40	529
<i>of which drug offences</i>	21	-	21
Contraventions ²	868	3	871
Total	1,325	70	1,395
Juvenile Delinquency Rate ³	10.6	0.9	5.8

¹Persons aged 12 to 17 years

²Exclude contraventions established by camera

³Rate per 1,000 mid-year juvenile population and exclude contraventions

18. UN Gender indices

The Gender Inequality Index (GII), introduced by the United Nations in 2010, is a composite measure reflecting inequality in achievements between women and men in three dimensions, namely reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market. It varies between zero (when women and men fare equally) and one (when men or women fare poorly compared to the other in all dimensions).

According to the latest figure published in the 2012 UN Human Development Report, Mauritius ranked 70th out of 146 countries with a GII value of 0.38. Netherlands ranked first with a value of 0.05 and Yemen last with a value of 0.75. In 2011, Mauritius reached 63rd.

Table 19 - GII by selected countries, 2012

Gender Inequality Index		
Country	Rank	Value
Netherlands	1	0.045
Sweden	2	0.055
France	9	0.083
Singapore	13	0.101
Australia	17	0.115
New Zealand	31	0.164
United Kingdom	34	0.205
China	35	0.213
Republic of Moldova	49	0.303
Mauritius	70	0.377
Rwanda	76	0.414
South Africa	90	0.462
Iraq	120	0.557
Ghana	121	0.565
Kenya	130	0.608
India	132	0.610
Yemen	148	0.747

Source: Human Development Report 2013

Statistics Mauritius

Ministry of Finance and Economic Development

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July 2013

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Definitions of terms

Activity rate: The ratio (%) of the economically active population (employed and unemployed) to population aged 16 years and above.

Age specific fertility rate: the number of live births to women of a specified age-group per 1,000 women in that age-group.

Contributing Family Worker: A contributing family worker is a person who works without pay in an enterprise operated by a family worker.

Crimes: Offences that are punishable by: (a) penal servitude (b) fine exceeding 5,000 rupees.

Crude death rate: the number of deaths in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.

Current User of contraceptive method: A new acceptor who continues with the same or different method of contraception and pays regular return visits to the family planning service point to receive services and supplies.

Divorce rate: the number of persons divorced in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.

Employee: An employee is a person who works for pay for someone else, even in a temporary capacity.

Employer: An employer is a person who operates his/her own business or trade and hires one or more employees.

Employment: Employed population consists of Mauritians aged 16 years and above who have worked for pay, profit or family gain for at least one hour during reference week of a month. It includes those who are temporarily absent from work for reason such as leave with pay, leave without pay and temporary disorganisation of work (bad weather, break down of equipment, lack of order, etc).

Juvenile: a person aged below 18 years.

Juvenile delinquency rate: the number of juvenile offenders involved in offences (excluding contraventions) per 1,000 juvenile populations.

Life Expectancy at birth: the number of years a new born infant would live if prevailing patterns of mortality at the time of its birth were to stay the same throughout its life.

Marriage rate: the number of persons married in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.

Maternal mortality rate: number of deaths due to pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium per 10,000 live births during that year.

Misdemeanours: Offences that are punishable by:(a) imprisonment for a term exceeding 10 days; (b) fine exceeding 5,000 rupees.

New acceptor of contraceptive methods: Someone who accepts a contraceptive method for the first time from a provider of a family planning programme.

Own Account Worker: An own account worker is a person who operates his/her own business or trade but does not hire employees. He/She may be working alone or with the help of contributing family workers.

Primary sector: Primary Sector comprises activities related to 'Agriculture, hunting, Forestry and fishing' and 'Mining'

Secondary sector: Secondary Sector comprises activities related to 'Manufacturing, 'Electricity, gas and water supply' and 'Construction'.

Sex Ratio: The sex ratio is defined as the number of males per 100 females.

Total fertility rate: the average number of children born to an average woman assuming that she survives to the end of her child-bearing age and is subjected to a fixed schedule of age-specific fertility rates.

Unemployment Rate: Unemployment rate is the ratio (%) of unemployment to economically active population (employed and unemployed).

Unemployment: Unemployed population comprises all Mauritians aged 16 years and over who are not working but who are looking for work and are available for work during the reference week.