

EDUCATION STATISTICS – 2021

1. Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents educational statistics, compiled based on data obtained from an annual survey conducted in schools together with data from other sources. The data refer to the Republic of Mauritius (excluding Agalega) and cover pre-primary, primary, secondary, technical & vocational, tertiary education as well as education in specialised institutions. It is to be noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a change in the school calendar and therefore the annual survey was conducted in October 2021 instead of March 2021.

2. Expenditure

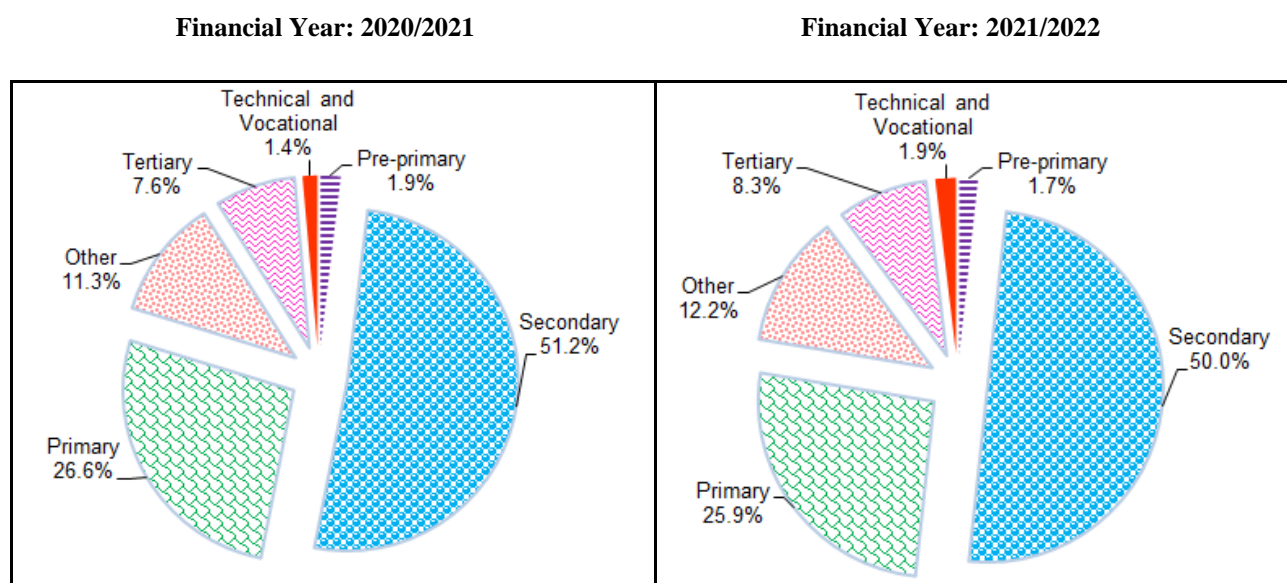
Total government expenditure for the financial years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 are estimated as follows:

- (i) Financial year 2020/2021: Rs 214,269 million, of which, Rs 16,529 million (7.7%) has been allocated to education and training; and
- (ii) Financial year 2021/2022: Rs 190,131 million, of which, Rs 19,153 million (10.1%) has been allocated to education and training.

Total budget on education and training has been allocated as follows:

- (i) Financial year 2020/2021: 51.2% to secondary education, 26.6% to primary education, 7.6% to tertiary education, 1.9% to pre-primary education, 1.4% to technical and vocational education and the remaining 11.3% to other expenses; and
- (ii) Financial year 2021/2022: 50.0% to secondary education, 25.9% to primary education, 8.3% to tertiary education, 1.9% to technical and vocational education, 1.7% to pre-primary education and the remaining 12.2% to other expenses (Figure 1).

Figure 1 - Total Expenditure on Education, Republic of Mauritius



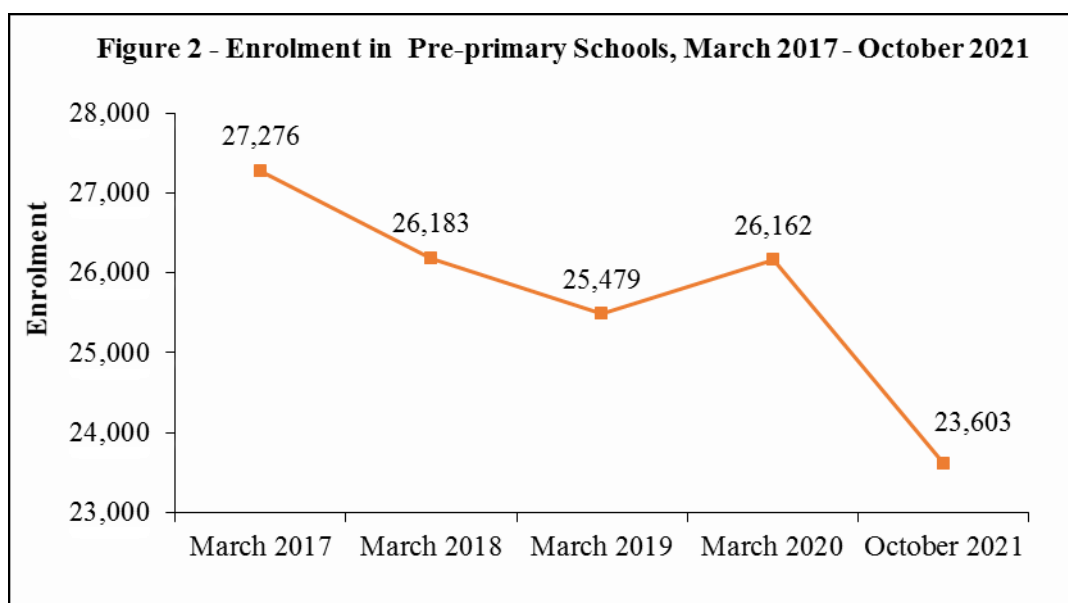
3. Pre-primary education

3.1 Schools

The number of schools providing pre-primary education stood at 789 in October 2021: 755 in the Island of Mauritius and 34 in Rodrigues. Of these schools, 537 (68.1%) were privately run institutions; 192 (24.3%), operating on government primary school premises, were administered by the Early Childhood Care and Education Authority and the remaining 60 (7.6%) were administered by either Roman Catholic (RC) or Hindu Education Authorities or Municipal/Village Councils.

3.2 Enrolment

Enrolment in pre-primary schools decreased by 9.8%, from 26,162 in March 2020 to 23,603 in October 2021. Girls represented 48.8% of the pre-primary school population. The Gross Enrolment Ratio (pre-primary enrolment as a percentage of the population aged 4 and 5 years) works out to 92.5% compared to 102.0% in 2020.



An analysis of the trends, as per figure 2, shows a decrease in enrolment in pre-primary schools from 27,276 in March 2017 to 25,479 in March 2019; then increased to 26,162 in March 2020 and thereafter decreased to 23,603 in October 2021.

3.3 Personnel

In October 2021, total employment in pre-primary schools stood at 3,087, of whom 1,831 were teaching and 1,256 non-teaching staff. This represents a decrease of 1.5% compared to 2020. The average number of pupils per teacher works out to 13.

4. Primary education

4.1 Schools

In October 2021, there were 319 schools providing primary education: 302 in the Island of Mauritius and 17 in Rodrigues. The majority (221) of the schools were run by government, 51 by Roman Catholic Education Authority, 2 by Hindu Education Authority and the other 45 were private non-aided schools.

4.2 Enrolment

In 2021, the primary school population in the Republic of Mauritius stood at 84,129, of whom 49.7% was girls. Some 63% was enrolled in government schools and the remaining was in private aided and non-aided schools.

Distribution by grade shows that grade 1 with 16,253 pupils, accounted for the highest number of pupils. The Gross Enrolment Ratio (primary enrolment as a percentage of the population aged 6 to 11 years) works out to 99.9% in 2021.

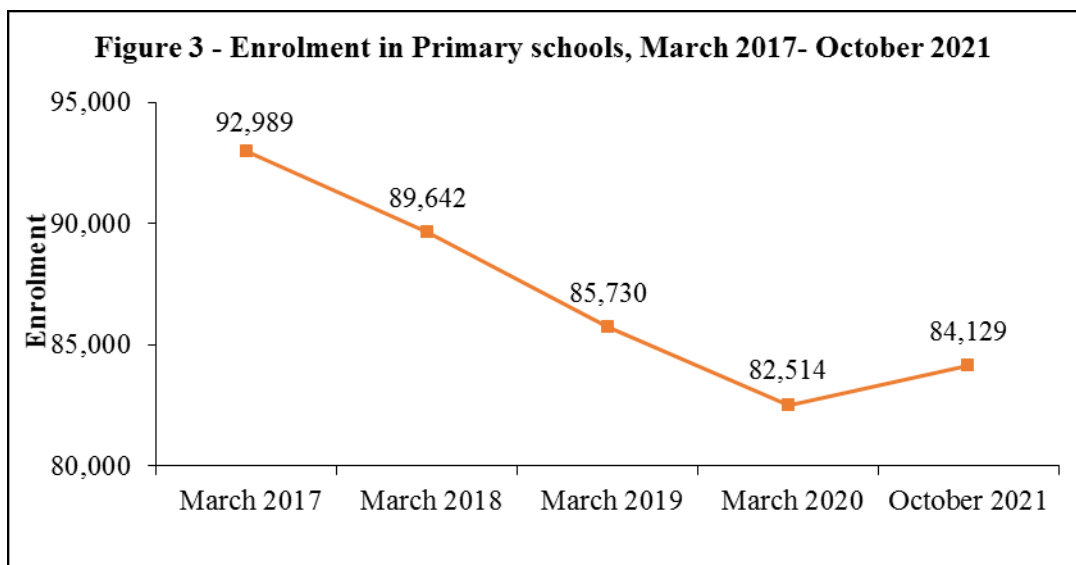


Figure 3 shows a decrease in primary enrolment from 92,989 in March 2017 to 82,514 in March 2020; thereafter it increased to 84,129 in October 2021.

4.3 Personnel

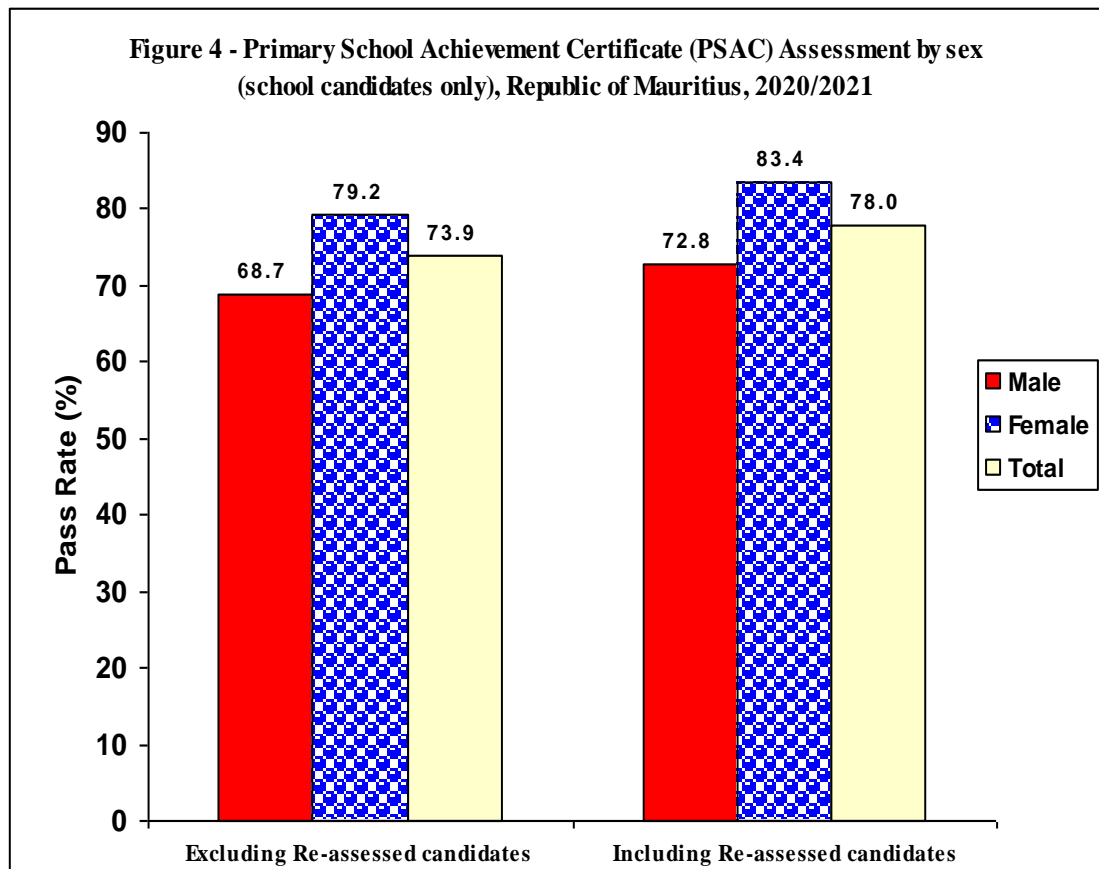
The number of persons employed in primary schools registered a decrease of 87 from 8,906 in March 2020 to 8,819 in October 2021. Of this number, 5,936 were teaching staff: 4,651 General Purpose Teachers and 1,285 Oriental Language Teachers. The remaining 2,883 comprised 282 Head Teachers, 885 Deputy Head Teachers and 1,716 administrative and other workers. The pupil/teacher (general purpose) ratio in primary schools works out to 18 same as in 2020.

4.4 Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC)

With the introduction of the Nine-Year Continuous Basic Education (NYCBE) in 2017, the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) has been replaced by the Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC) which aims to assess learners holistically. The PSAC assessment thus comprises a School-Based Assessment component and a Modular component. The Modular assessments are taken at the end of grade 5 and beginning of the third term of Grade 6.

In 2020, the number of school candidates who took part in PSAC Assessment was 14,103. Excluding re-assessment, the overall percentage meeting PSAC requirement works out to 73.9.

It is to be noted that the percentage meeting PSAC requirement, including re-assessed school candidates, works out to 78.0. The performance of girls, including re-assessment exceeded that of boys with respective pass rates of 83.4% and 72.8% (Figure 4).



5. Secondary Education

5.1 Programmes of study

All children completing Primary Grade 6 move to Grade 7 in a secondary school to complete the last 3 years of the nine-year basic education cycle.

Pupils who have not reached the minimum standards at the PSAC Assessment are channeled to the Extended Programme in a secondary school where they follow an adapted curriculum and complete their basic education in 4 years instead of 3.

As at October 2021, the number of secondary schools, stood at 178, out of which 143 were offering both the Regular and the Extended Programmes from Grades 7 to 9+.

At the end of Grade 9, student continue their studies leading to Cambridge O/A level qualifications in either the same secondary school or in an Academie.

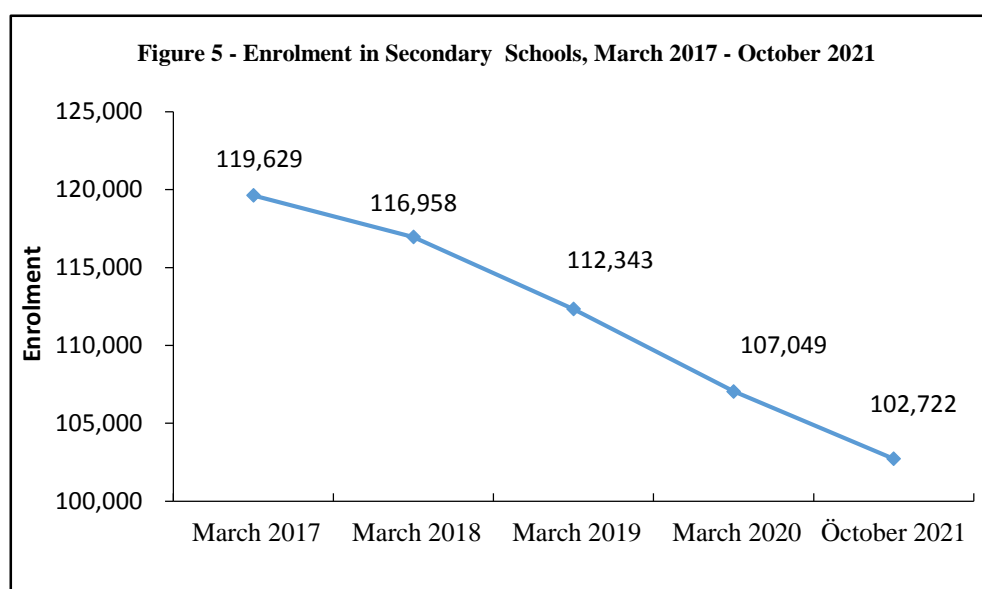


Figure 5 depicts a continuous fall in total secondary enrolment from March 2017 to October 2021.

5.2 Secondary Schools

5.2.1 Schools

Out of the 178 schools dispensing secondary Regular and Extended education, 170 were in the Island of Mauritius and 8 in Rodrigues. State administered schools numbered 69, while the other 109 were private aided and non-aided schools.

5.2.2 Enrolment

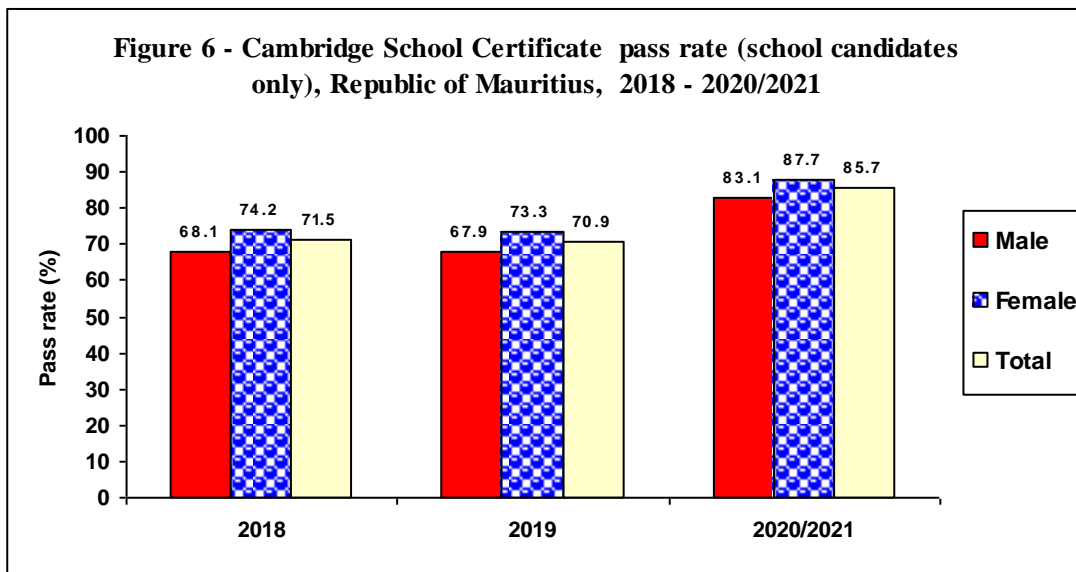
Secondary education enrolment decreased by 4,327 from 107,049 in 2020 to 102,722 in 2021. Some 43.8% of the secondary school population was in state schools and 56.2% in private (aided and unaided) schools. Gross Enrolment Ratio (secondary education enrolment as a percentage of the population aged 12 to 19 years) was 71.9%.

5.3 Personnel

The number of teachers working in secondary schools decreased by 163 from 9,542 in March 2020 to 9,379 in October 2021. The pupil/teacher ratio works out to 11.

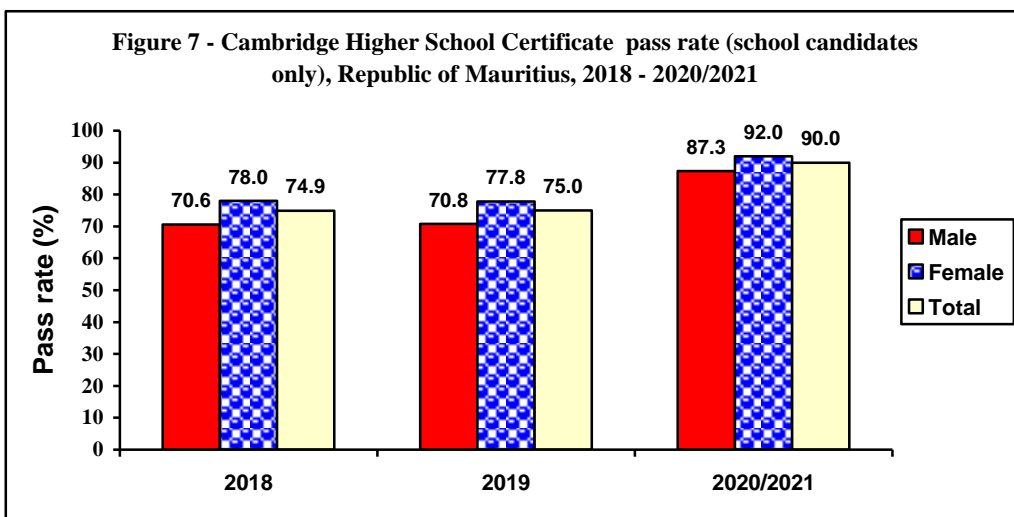
5.4 Cambridge School Certificate (SC)

In 2020, out of 15,339 candidates (6,704 males and 8,635 females) who took part in the Cambridge School Certificate examination, 13,142 were successful. Comparison with the 2019 results shows that the overall pass rate increased from 70.9% to 85.7% (Figure 6).



5.5 Cambridge Higher School Certificate (HSC)

The number of students taking part in the 2020 Cambridge Higher School Certificate examination stood at 7,868, of whom 58% were females. The overall pass rate was 90.0%, higher than the 2019 figure of 75.0% (Figure 7).



5.6 Technical and Vocational Education

In 2020, there were 7,328 students (of whom 76.5% were males) enrolled in publicly funded technical and vocational courses compared to 8,024 in 2019. Some 39.3% of the students were enrolled in full-time courses, 40.1% in part-time courses and the rest (20.6%) in apprenticeship courses.

6. Special Education Needs (SEN)

6.1 Schools

As at October 2021, there were 72 Special Education Needs schools in the Republic of Mauritius registered with the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology. Nineteen schools were run by Government, while the other 53 were run by NGOs and the Roman Catholic Education Authority.

6.2 Enrolment

The number of students enrolled in the 72 special schools stood at 2,754 (of whom 67.4% were boys) as at October 2021, representing a decrease of 0.4% compared to the 2020 figure of 2,766.

The three most frequent types of impairment among the pupils were intellectual learning disability (42.1%), autism spectrum disorder (11.9%) and mental health & emotional disabilities (9.5%).

6.3 Personnel

As at October 2021, there were 1,013 persons employed in the special education needs institutions, representing an increase of 0.6% compared to 1,007 as at March 2020. Out of these, 501 were teaching staff, and 158 were medical and para-medical staff. The remaining 354 were administrative and ancillary workers.

7. ICT in Education

In October 2021, out of the 789 pre-primary schools in the Republic of Mauritius, 490 (62%) had computers. All primary and secondary schools were equipped with computers. Availability of internet access for students in schools was as follows: 23% in pre-primary, 75% in primary and 100 % in secondary.

8. Tertiary Education

As at December 2020, the total number of students (part-time and full-time) enrolled on tertiary-level programmes (including Distance Education) was 48,568 compared to 49,653 in December 2019, representing a decrease of 2.2%.

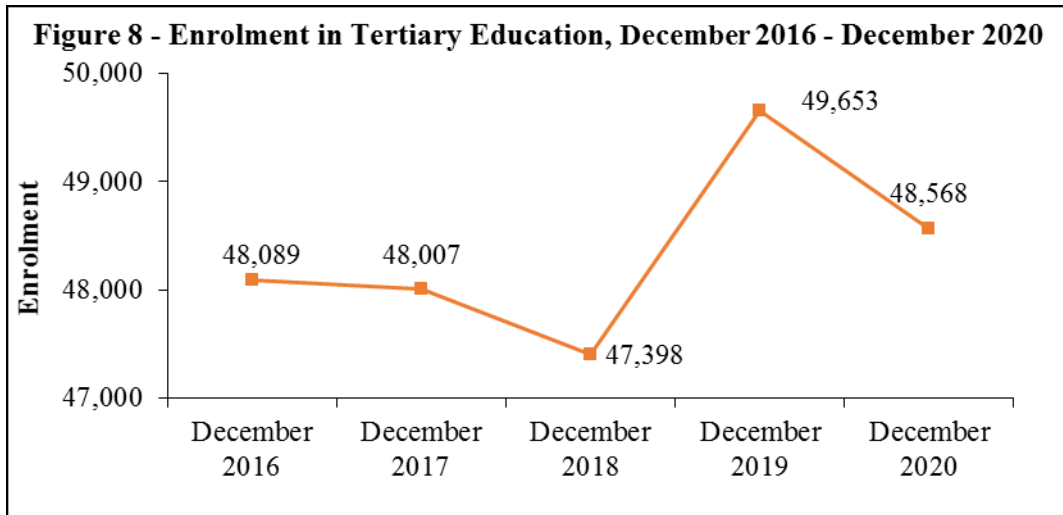


Figure 8 gives the evolution of total tertiary enrolment over the period 2016 to 2020. Total enrolment decreased from 2016 to 2018 followed by an increase from 2018 to 2019 and a decrease from 2019 to 2020.

The majority of students (85.3%) were enrolled in tertiary education locally in both public-funded institutions (53.3%) and private institutions (32.1%). The remaining 14.6% of the students were enrolled in tertiary education overseas.

The Gross Enrolment Ratio (tertiary education enrolment as a percentage of the population aged 20 to 24 years) for 2020 works out to 47.8 %.

9. Main Indicators on Education

The main indicators are given below:

Table 1 - Main Indicators, Republic of Mauritius, 2017 - 2021

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Pre-primary					
Number of schools	883	846	851	828 ¹	789
Enrolment	27,276	26,183	25,479	26,162 ¹	23,603
Number of teachers	2,219	2,115	2,134	2,103 ¹	1,831
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%) (3-4 years) ²	99.9	98.9	99.2	102.5 ¹	91.3
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%) (4-5 years)	96.5	95.9	96.2	102.0 ¹	92.5
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	12	12	12	12	13
Primary					
Number of schools	318	318	319	318 ¹	319
Enrolment	92,989	89,642	85,730	82,514 ¹	84,129
Number of teachers	5,184	5,534	5,639	5,903 ¹	5,936
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%) (5-10 years) ²	100.1	99.8	98.7	98.0 ¹	102.9
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%) (6-11 years)	96.6	96.5	95.4	95.1 ¹	99.9
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	24	21	20	18	18
Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC)	81.2	78.8	77.3	78.0	n.a
Secondary					
Number of schools	176	179	181	179	178
Enrolment	119,629	116,958	112,343	107,049 ¹	102,722
Number of teachers	8,359	9,590	9,783	9,542	9,379
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%) (11-17 years) ²	90.0	89.7	88.4	87.0 ¹	86.1
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%) (12-19 years)	78.0	76.9	75.0	73.1 ¹	71.9
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	14	12	11	11	11
Cambridge School Certificate Pass Rate	71.6	71.5	70.9	85.7	n.a
Cambridge Higher School Certificate Pass Rate	74.4	74.9	75.0	90.0	n.a

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
------	------	------	------	------

Tertiary³

Number of institutions ⁴	45	49	45	44	n.a
Enrolment	48,007	47,398	49,653 ¹	48,568	n.a
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%)	46.6	46.4	48.9 ¹	47.8	n.a

	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021 ¹	2021/2022 ⁵
Expenditure					
Total Government Expenditure (Rs million)	140,209	150,511	197,524	214,269	190,131
Total Government Expenditure on Education (Rs million)	15,767	16,284	16,296	14,771	17,000
Total Government Expenditure on Education as a % of GDP at market price	3.3	3.3	3.6	3.4	3.5 ⁶
Total Government Expenditure on Education as a % of Total Government Expenditure	11.2	10.8	8.3	6.9	8.9

¹ Revised² Based on the UNESCO definition of Gross Enrolment Ratio, i.e., total enrolment in a specific level of education, regardless of age expressed as a percentage of the eligible official school-age population³ Source Higher Education Commission (ex- Tertiary Education Commission) ⁴ In operation ⁵ Budget Estimates⁶ Provisional Estimate n.a: Not Available

Table 2- Total Government Expenditure, Republic of Mauritius, 2019/2020 - 2021/2022

(Rs million)

	2019/2020 ¹	2020/2021 ¹	2021/2022 ²
Total Government Expenditure	197,524.0	214,269.0	190,131.0
of which expenditure by: Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology	16,296.2	14,771.2	17,000.0

Table 3 - Government Expenditure on Education by sector, 2019/2020 - 2021/2022

(Rs million)

	2019/2020 ¹		2020/2021 ¹		2021/2022 ²	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
Island of Mauritius						
Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology	16,296.2	89.0	14,771.2	89.4	17,000.0	88.8
<i>Pre-primary</i>	275.9	1.5	274.3	1.7	284.8	1.5
<i>Primary</i>	4,229.0	23.1	4,095.2	24.8	4,611.5	24.1
<i>Secondary</i>	8,842.5	48.3	8,080.3	48.9	9,125.1	47.6
<i>Technical & Vocational</i>	510.0	2.8	236.0	1.4	343.0	1.8
<i>Special Education Needs</i>	177.0	1.0	177.6	1.1	227.5	1.2
<i>Tertiary Education</i>	1,412.3	7.7	1,225.6	7.4	1,556.1	8.1
<i>Other</i> ³	849.5	4.6	682.2	4.1	852.0	4.4
Island of Rodrigues ⁴	741.4	4.1	757.2	4.6	903.9	4.7
<i>Pre-Primary</i>	28.5	0.2	32.7	0.2	40.6	0.2
<i>Primary</i>	300.4	1.6	295.6	1.8	337.4	1.8
<i>Secondary</i>	359.6	2.0	374.3	2.3	449.7	2.3
<i>Technical & Vocational</i>	0.2	0.0	1.5	0.0	24.4	0.1
<i>Tertiary Education</i>	30.2	0.2	28.3	0.2	28.5	0.1
<i>Other</i> ⁵	22.5	0.1	24.8	0.1	23.3	0.1
Other Ministries ⁶	1,265.8	6.9	1,000.4	6.1	1,249.2	6.5
Total	18,303.4	100.0	16,528.8	100.0	19,153.1	100.0

¹ Revised ² Budget estimates³ Includes policy and management costs for education and human resources and includes grant to parastatal bodies falling under the aegis of the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology⁴ Expenditure on Education under Ministry of Rodrigues Vote ⁵ Administrative costs⁶ Includes expenditure incurred by other Ministries to support education activities and training dispensed by all Ministries/Departments in line with the concept of lifelong learning

Note: Totals may not add up due to independent rounding of figures

The following tables together with the web version of this publication can be downloaded from Statistics Mauritius website at <https://statsmauritius.govmu.org> From the homepage, click on ‘STATISTICS’ followed by ‘Statistics by subject’ then by ‘Education’ then select the publication under the heading ‘Economic and Social Indicators – Education Statistics, Year 2021’.

List of tables

Tables by Zone

1 PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION

- 1.1 Distribution of pre-primary schools by zone and type of administration, 2021
- 1.2 Enrolment and personnel in pre-primary schools by zone and sex, 2021

2 PRIMARY EDUCATION

- 2.1 Distribution of primary schools by zone and type of administration, 2021
- 2.2 Enrolment in primary schools by zone, type of administration and sex, 2021
- 2.3 Enrolment in primary schools by zone and grade, 2021
- 2.4 Enrolment in primary schools by grade and sex, 2019 - 2021
- 2.5 Enrolment in primary schools by type of administration, grade and sex, 2019 - 2021, Republic of Mauritius
- 2.6 Personnel in primary schools by zone and occupational status, 2021
- 2.7 Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC) Assessment by sex, 2020/2021

3 SECONDARY EDUCATION - GENERAL

- 3.1 Distribution of secondary schools (general) by zone and type of administration, 2021
- 3.2 Enrolment in secondary schools (general) by zone and grade, 2021
- 3.3 Teaching staff in secondary schools (general) by zone and sex, 2021
- 3.4 Enrolment in secondary schools (general) by zone, type of administration and sex, 2021
- 3.5 Enrolment in secondary schools (general) by grade and sex, 2019 - 2021
- 3.6 Enrolment in secondary schools (general) by type of administration, grade and sex, 2019 - 2021, Republic of Mauritius
- 3.7 Cambridge School Certificate (SC) examination results by type of school administration and sex, 2018 – 2020/2021
- 3.8 Cambridge Higher School Certificate (HSC) examination results by type of school administration and sex, 2018 – 2020/2021
- 3.9 Enrolment in Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD) Centres, Republic of Mauritius, 2020
- 3.10 Enrolment in Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD) Centres by course level, year of study and sex (Full Time), Republic of Mauritius, 2020

4 SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS

- 4.1 Distribution of Special Education Needs (SEN) schools by zone and type of administration, 2021
- 4.2 Enrolment in Special Education Needs (SEN) schools by sex and zone, 2019 - 2021
- 4.3 Enrolment in Special Education Needs (SEN) schools by age and sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2019 - 2021
- 4.4 Number of pupils in Special Education Needs (SEN) schools by type of impairment and sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2021
- 4.5 Personnel in Special Education Needs (SEN) schools by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2019 - 2021

5 ICT

- 5.1 ICT in pre-primary, primary and secondary schools - Republic of Mauritius, 2021

6 POST SECONDARY EDUCATION

- 6.1 Enrolment at Tertiary Education Level, both Locally and Overseas, by Source and Field of Study, as at December 2019
- 6.2 Enrolment at Tertiary Education Level, both Locally and Overseas, by Source and Field of Study, as at December 2020

Tables by District**7 PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION**

- 7.1 Distribution of pre-primary schools by district and type of administration, 2021
- 7.2 Enrolment and personnel in pre-primary schools by district and sex, 2021

8 PRIMARY EDUCATION

- 8.1 Distribution of primary schools by district and type of administration, 2021
- 8.2 Enrolment in primary schools by district, type of administration and sex, 2021
- 8.3 Enrolment in primary schools by district and grade, 2021
- 8.4 Personnel in primary schools by district and occupational status, 2021

9 SECONDARY EDUCATION - GENERAL

- 9.1 Distribution of secondary schools (general) by district and type of administration, 2021
- 9.2 Enrolment in secondary schools (general) by district, type of administration and sex, 2021
- 9.3 Enrolment in secondary schools (general) by district and grade, 2021
- 9.4 Teaching staff in secondary schools (general) by district and sex, 2021

10 SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS

- 10.1 Distribution of Special Education Needs (SEN) schools by district and type of administration, 2021
- 10.2 Enrolment in Special Education Needs (SEN) schools by sex and district, 2019 - 2021

Definition of Indicators

Statistics Mauritius
 Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development
 Port Louis

29 April 2022

Contact Person

Mrs F. Koussa (Statistician)
 Mr. G. G. Chandyyal (Senior Statistical Officer)
 Ms. Z. Oodally (Senior Statistical Officer)
 Statistics Unit
 Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology
 10th Floor, NPF Bldg, Rose Hill
 Tel: (230) 454 1411 Ext 4030