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Population and Vital Statistics

Year 2022

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Note: Readers are invited to make the distinction between official data which are published in the Economic and Social indicators and the analysis presented for the benefit of general readers. Differences of opinion may arise regarding the analytical part but these do not in any way, undermine the quality of the data. The Editors welcome constructive critical comments.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, YEAR 2022

1. Introduction

This issue of Economic and Social Indicators presents population estimates as at December 2022 and vital statistics, including rates, for the year 2022. Please note that population estimates presented in this report are based on the 2011 Census data.

Statistics Mauritius compiles vital statistics from data obtained from the computerised system in place at the Civil Status Division.

Definitions of terms used are given at **Annex**.

2. Key points

- The population of the Republic of Mauritius was estimated at 1,261,196 as at 31 December 2022, with a net decrease of 2,692 from previous year's figure.
- As at end 2022, the female population was higher than the male population by 14,834.
- The proportion of the population aged 0-14 years declined from 16.6% as at mid-2021 to 16.3%, one year later. The proportion aged 15-64 years declined from 70.8% in 2021 to 70.6% in 2022 while for those aged 65 years and above, the proportion increased from 12.6% to 13.1% for the same period.
- The 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 to 64 years) was 413.0 for 2021 and 416.1 for 2022.
- The number of live births registered during year 2022 was 12,096, representing a decrease of 6.8% over the figure for 2021.
- The number of deaths registered in 2022 was 12,938, that is, 2.5% lower than in 2021.
- The number of infant deaths decreased by 3.9%, from 179 in 2021 to 172 in 2022.
- The number of still births declined by 15.3%, from 131 in 2021 to 111 in 2022.
- The number of marriages registered in 2022 was 9,558, that is, 16.8% higher than in 2021.
- Since the late nineties, females outnumber males in the population.
- The dependency ratio is slowly rising as a result of increasing old age dependency.
- Over time, the population age structure depicted by a population pyramid has shifted from wide base to shrinking base and thickening body, showing an ageing population.
- Life expectancy is increasing over time.

3. Estimated resident population

Table 3.1 - Estimated resident population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 31 December 2022

Island	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio	Density per km²
Island of Mauritius	1,216,139	601,126	615,013	97.7	651
Island of Rodrigues	44,783	21,881	22,902	95.5	407
Agalega and St. Brandon	274	174	100	174.0	10
Republic of Mauritius	1,261,196	623,181	638,015	97.7	628

The estimated resident population of the Republic of Mauritius was 1,261,196 as at 31 December 2022. The female population was 638,015, compared to a male population of 623,181. There were 97.7 males for every 100 females.

The population was estimated at 1,216,139 and 44,783 respectively for the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues. In both islands, females outnumbered males. However, Agalega and St Brandon, with an estimated population of 274, had more males (174) than females (100).

The Republic of Mauritius, with a total land area of 2,007 km², had a population density of 628 persons per km² as at end 2022. Among its constituent islands, the Island of Mauritius had the highest density (651), compared to 407 for the Island of Rodrigues.

4. Population growth

Table 4.1 - Population change, Republic of Mauritius, 31 December 2021 and 31 December 2022

Island	Population		Change	
	31 December 2021	31 December 2022	Number	%
Island of Mauritius	1,219,187	1,216,139	-3,048	-0.25
Island of Rodrigues	44,427	44,783	356	0.80
Agalega and St. Brandon	274	274	-	-
Republic of Mauritius	1,263,888	1,261,196	-2,692	-0.21

The population of the Republic of Mauritius decreased by 2,692 from 31 December 2021 to 31 December 2022, representing a decrease of 0.21%.

Table 4.2 - Components of population growth, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2021 and 2022

Components of population growth	2021	2022
Resident population as at beginning of year	<u>1,265,756</u>	<u>1,263,614</u>
Live Births	12,982	12,096
Deaths	13,274	12,938
Natural increase	<u>-292</u>	<u>-842</u>
Net international migration	-1,850	-1,850
Resident population as at end of year	1,263,614	1,260,922

¹ excluding Agalega and St Brandon

Population growth has two components: natural increase (the number of births minus the number of deaths) and net international migration (net international movement of residents).

During the year 2022, there was a natural increase of -842 persons, with births adding 12,096 babies and deaths removing 12,938 persons from the population. For the same period, net international migration of residents was estimated at -1,850 persons.

5. Age distribution of population

Table 5.1 - Estimated resident population¹ by broad age group and sex – Republic of Mauritius², 1 July 2021 and 1 July 2022

Age group (Years)	1 July 2021			1 July 2022		
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
0	6,761	6,354	13,115	6,114	6,110	12,224
1 - 4	26,282	25,363	51,645	26,428	25,423	51,851
5 - 9	34,331	33,057	67,388	33,613	32,176	65,789
10 - 14	39,626	38,789	78,415	38,275	37,699	75,974
15 - 19	47,743	46,238	93,981	46,606	44,957	91,563
20 - 29	98,073	95,669	193,742	97,276	95,021	192,297
30 - 39	88,288	85,669	173,957	88,253	85,241	173,494
40 - 49	91,384	88,952	180,336	92,511	90,067	182,578
50 - 59	87,316	88,970	176,286	85,332	86,785	172,117
60-64	37,344	40,346	77,690	37,883	41,429	79,312
65+	68,855	90,650	159,505	71,496	93,554	165,050
All ages	626,003	640,057	1,266,060	623,787	638,462	1,262,249

¹ based on 2011 Population Census data adjusted for underenumeration of children

² excluding Agalega and St Brandon

The proportion of the population aged 0-14 years declined from 16.6% as at mid-2021 to 16.3%, one year later. The proportion aged 15-64 years decreased to 70.6% in 2022 from 70.8% in 2021. As for

the population aged 65 years and above, the proportion increased from 12.6% in 2021 to 13.1% in 2022. The 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 to 64 years) was 413.0 for 2021 and 416.1 for 2022.

6. Vital statistics and rates

6.1 Live births and crude birth rate

Table 6.1 - Live births registered and crude birth rate, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2021 and 2022²

Island	Number of live births registered		Crude birth rate	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
Island of Mauritius	12,108	11,223	9.9	9.2
Island of Rodrigues	874	873	20.0 ³	19.5
Republic of Mauritius	12,982	12,096	10.3	9.6

¹ excluding Agalega and St Brandon

² Provisional

³ Because of the small number of events, the rate for 2021 has been calculated by taking an average of events for three years (2020, 2021 and 2022) in order to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data

For the year 2022, there were 12,096 live births registered in the Republic of Mauritius, representing a decrease of 6.8% over the 2021 figure of 12,982. The crude birth rate, i.e., the number of live births in a year per 1,000 mid-year population, decreased from 10.3 in 2021 to 9.6 in 2022.

For the Island of Mauritius, the number of live births registered decreased from 12,108 in 2021 to 11,223 in 2022, consequently bringing a fall in the crude birth rate from 9.9 to 9.2. For the Island of Rodrigues, the number of live births decreased from 874 in 2021 to 873 in 2022, with the crude birth rate decreasing from 20.0 to 19.5 during the same period.

6.2 Deaths and crude death rate

Table 6.2 - Deaths and crude death rate, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2021 and 2022²

Island	Number of deaths registered		Crude death rate	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
Island of Mauritius	12,990	12,581	10.6	10.3
Island of Rodrigues	284	357	7.0 ³	8.0
Republic of Mauritius	13,274	12,938	10.5	10.2

¹ excluding Agalega and St Brandon

² Provisional

³ Because of the small number of events, the rate for 2021 has been calculated by taking an average of events for three years (2020, 2021 and 2022) in order to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data.

The number of deaths registered in the Republic of Mauritius in 2022 was 12,938, representing a decrease of 2.5% over the figure of 13,274 for 2021. The crude death rate, i.e., the number of deaths in a year per 1,000 mid-year population was 10.2 in 2022, compared to 10.5 in 2021.

The Island of Mauritius registered a decrease in the number of deaths from 12,990 in 2021 to 12,581 in 2022, resulting in a decline in the crude death rate from 10.6 to 10.3 during the same period. For the Island of Rodrigues, the number of deaths increased from 284 to 357, with the crude death rate increasing from 7.0 in 2021 to 8.0 in 2022.

6.3 Infant deaths and Infant mortality rate

Table 6.3 - Infant deaths and infant mortality rate, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2021 and 2022²

Island	Number of infant deaths registered		Infant mortality rate	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
Island of Mauritius	165	165	13.6	14.7
Island of Rodrigues	14	7	13.9 ³	8.0
Republic of Mauritius	179	172	13.8	14.2

¹ excluding Agalega and St Brandon

² Provisional

³ Because of the small number of events, the rate for 2021 has been calculated by taking an average of events for three years (2020, 2021 and 2022) in order to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data

For the year 2022, some 172 infant deaths (deaths to children aged under one year) were registered in the Republic of Mauritius against 179 in 2021, representing a decline of 3.9%. The infant mortality rate, defined as the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births, however, increased from 13.8 in 2021 to 14.2 in 2022.

The number of infant deaths in the Island of Mauritius was 165 for both 2021 and 2022, with infant mortality rates of 13.6 and 14.7 respectively. For the Island of Rodrigues, the number of infant deaths decreased from 14 in 2021 to 7 in 2022, with the infant mortality rate decreasing from 13.9 to 8.0 during the same period.

6.4 Still births and still birth rate

Table 6.4 - Still births and still birth rate, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2021 and 2022²

Island	Number of still births registered		Still birth rate	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
Island of Mauritius	121	105	9.9	9.3
Island of Rodrigues	10	6	9.3 ³	6.8
Republic of Mauritius	131	111	10.0	9.1

¹ excluding Agalega and St Brandon

² Provisional

³ Because of the small number of events, the rate for 2021 has been calculated by taking an average of events for three years (2020, 2021 and 2022) in order to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data

In 2022, some 111 still births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, which is 15.3% lower than the 2021 figure of 131. The still birth rate which is the number of still births in a year per 1,000 total births was 9.1 for 2022, compared to 10.0 in 2021.

The Island of Mauritius registered 105 still births in 2022 against 121 in 2021, with the still birth rate decreasing from 9.9 in 2021 to 9.3 in 2022. For the Island of Rodrigues, there were 10 still births registered in 2021 and 6 in 2022, and the still birth rate decreased from 9.3 to 6.8 during the same period.

6.5 Marriages and crude marriage rate

Table 6.5 - Marriages and crude marriage rate, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2021 and 2022²

Island	Number of marriages registered		Marriage rate	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
Island of Mauritius	8,011	9,386	13.1	15.4
Island of Rodrigues	175	172	8.2 ³	7.7
Republic of Mauritius	8,186	9,558	12.9	15.1

¹ excluding Agalega and St Brandon

² Provisional

³ Because of the small number of events, the rate for 2021 has been calculated by taking an average of events for three years (2020, 2021 and 2022) in order to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data

The number of marriages registered in the Republic of Mauritius increased by 16.8%, from 8,186 in 2021 to 9,558 in 2022. The crude marriage rate, i.e., the number of persons married in a year per 1,000 mid-year population, rose from 12.9 to 15.1 for the same period.

For the Island of Mauritius, the number of marriages increased from 8,011 in 2021 to 9,386 in 2022, resulting in a rise in the marriage rate from 13.1 to 15.4. The Island of Rodrigues registered a decrease in the number of marriages from 175 in 2021 to 172 in 2022, decreasing the marriage rate from 8.2 to 7.7.

7. International Comparison

Population and demographic estimates for many countries of the world are published in the United Nations Demographic Yearbook. For years 2020 to 2025, the average annual rate of change in the population of the world was estimated at 1.0%. A zero population growth was registered for the Republic of Mauritius during the period 2015 to 2021. The other countries shown in Table 7.1 had a positive population growth namely South Africa (1.4%), Canada (1.1%), India (1.1%), United Kingdom (0.6%) with the exception of Japan (-0.2%) and Singapore (-0.2%).

Table 7.1 – Demographic indicators for selected countries, 2021

	Mid year Estimates (in thousands)	Average annual rate of population change (2015-2021)	Population Density (km ²)	Crude Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
World ¹	7,875,000	<i>1.0</i>	61	<i>17.0</i>	8.0	n/a
Mauritius	1,266	0.0	630	10.3	10.5	13.8
Seychelles	99	1.0	217	16.8	9.3	n/a
South Africa	60,143	1.4	49	n/a	n/a	n/a
Canada ²	38,246	1.1	4	<i>9.4</i>	<i>8.1</i>	<i>4.5</i>
India	1,367,173	1.1	416	n/a	n/a	n/a
Japan ²	125,682	-0.2	333	<i>6.7</i>	<i>10.9</i>	<i>1.8</i>
Singapore	5,454	-0.2	7,485	9.7	6.1	n/a
Germany	83,155	0.3	233	9.6	12.3	3.0
United Kingdom ²	<i>67,081</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>277</i>	<i>10.2</i>	<i>10.3</i>	<i>3.8</i>
Australia ²	25738	1.3	3	<i>11.5</i>	<i>6.3</i>	<i>3.2</i>

Source: UN Demographic Yearbook, 2021 (except for the Republic of Mauritius)

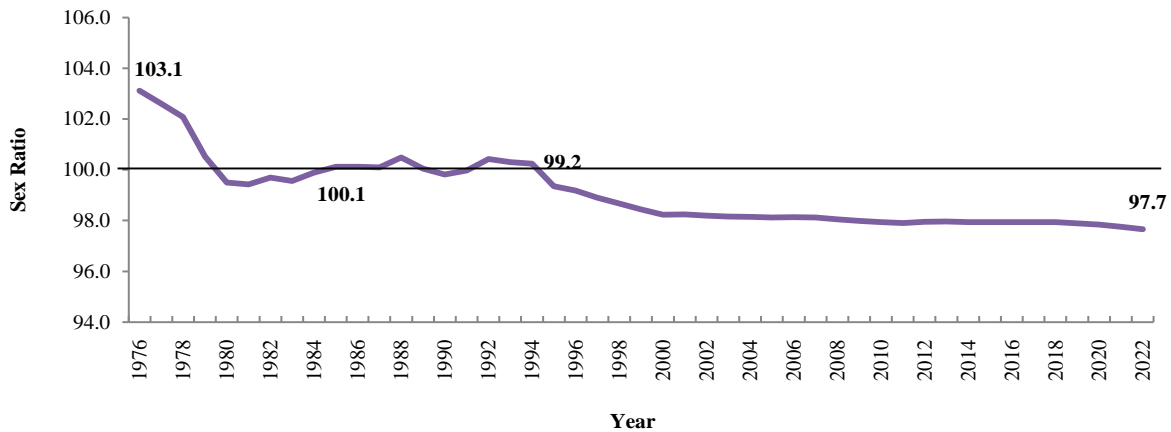
¹ Figures in italics refer to period 2020 to 2025

² Figures in italics refer to year 2020

8. Demographic trends

8.1 Sex ratio

Figure 8.1.1 – Sex ratio of resident population, Republic of Mauritius¹, 1976 – 2022

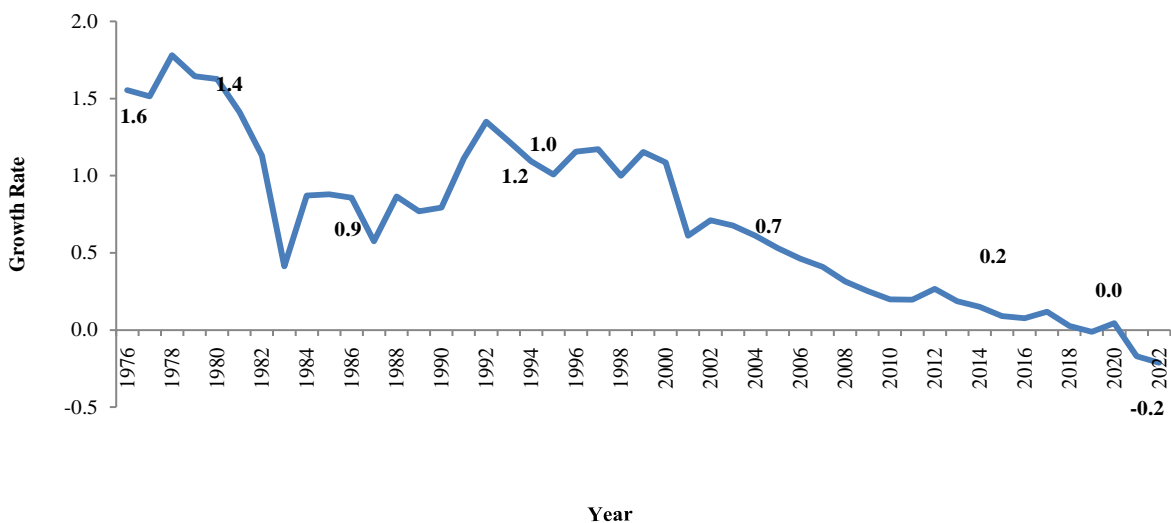


¹ excluding Agalega and St Brandon

Figure 8.1.1 depicts the evolution of sex ratio (i.e. the number of males per 100 females) for the past forty-six years. Before the eighties, males outnumbered females in the population (e.g. 103.1 males per 100 females in 1976) and as from the nineties, the reverse trend was noted whereby females outnumbered males in the population (e.g. 97.7 males per 100 females in 2022). This shift was mainly due to ageing given that females live longer than males.

8.2 Population growth rate

Figure 8.2.1 – Growth rate of resident population, Republic of Mauritius¹, 1976 – 2022



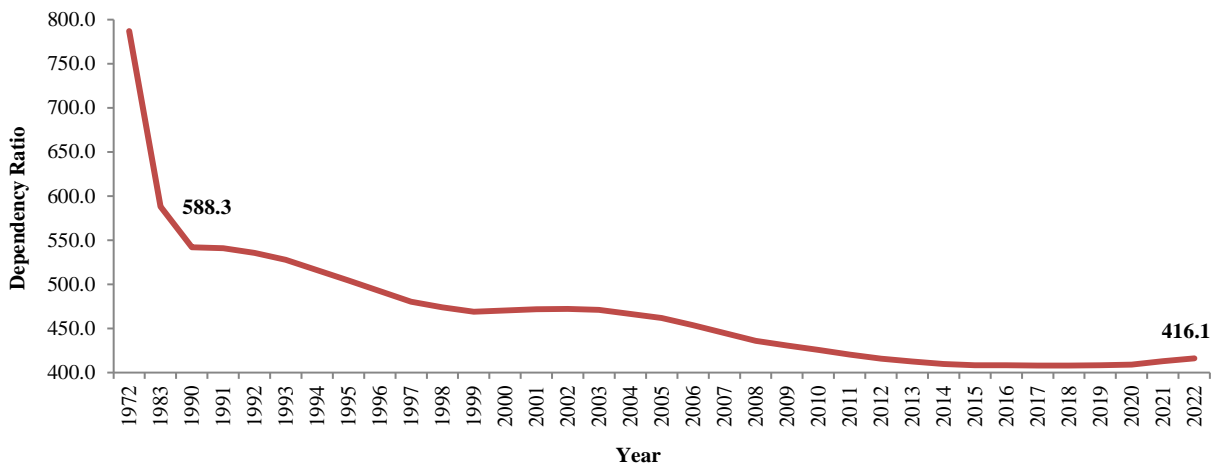
¹ excluding Agalega and St Brandon

Figure 8.2.1 shows the evolution of the growth rate of the resident population from 1976 to 2022. The population growth rate reached its peak in the late seventies and then declined in the eighties. There was a catch up in the nineties after which it continued to drop. The declining fertility rate,

resulting in a drop in number of live births together with an increase in the number of deaths, caused the population growth rate to decline, attaining zero growth rate or lower as from 2019 onwards.

8.3 Dependency Ratio

Figure 8.3.1 - Dependency Ratio, Republic of Mauritius¹, 1972 - 2022



¹ excluding Agalega and St Brandon

Dependency ratio is defined as the combined child population (under 15 years) and population aged 65 years and over per 1,000 population of intermediated age (15-64 years) in a particular year.

There has been a general decrease in the dependency ratio from 787.2 in 1972 to 416.1 in 2022 (Figure 8.3.1). The fall in dependency ratio observed is mainly the result of a decline in child population over the years. However, the dependency ratio is picking up in recent years as a result of ageing.

8.4 Population age structure

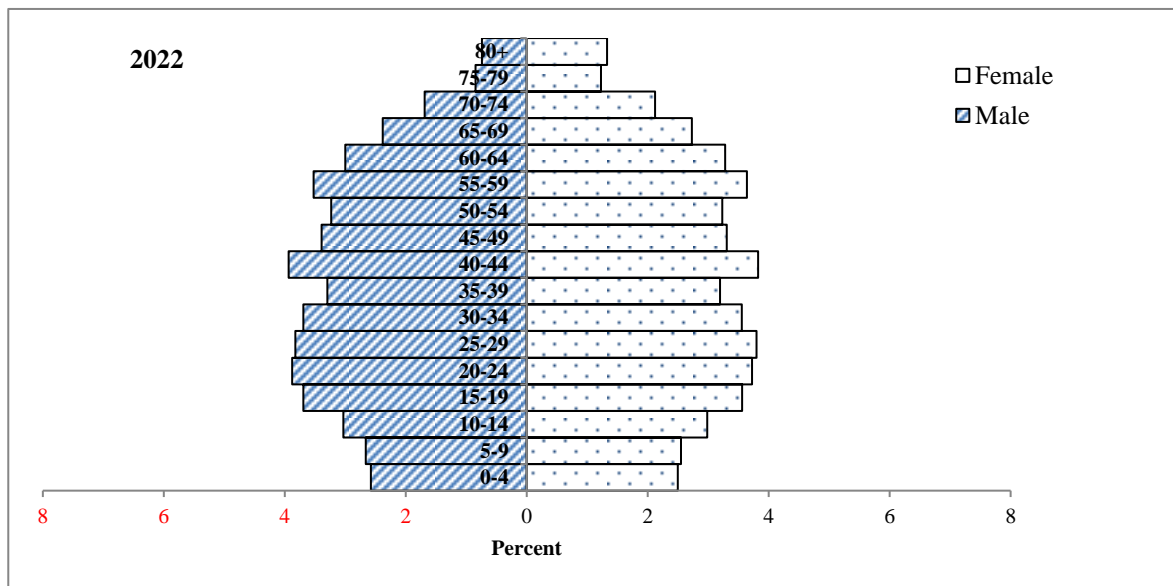
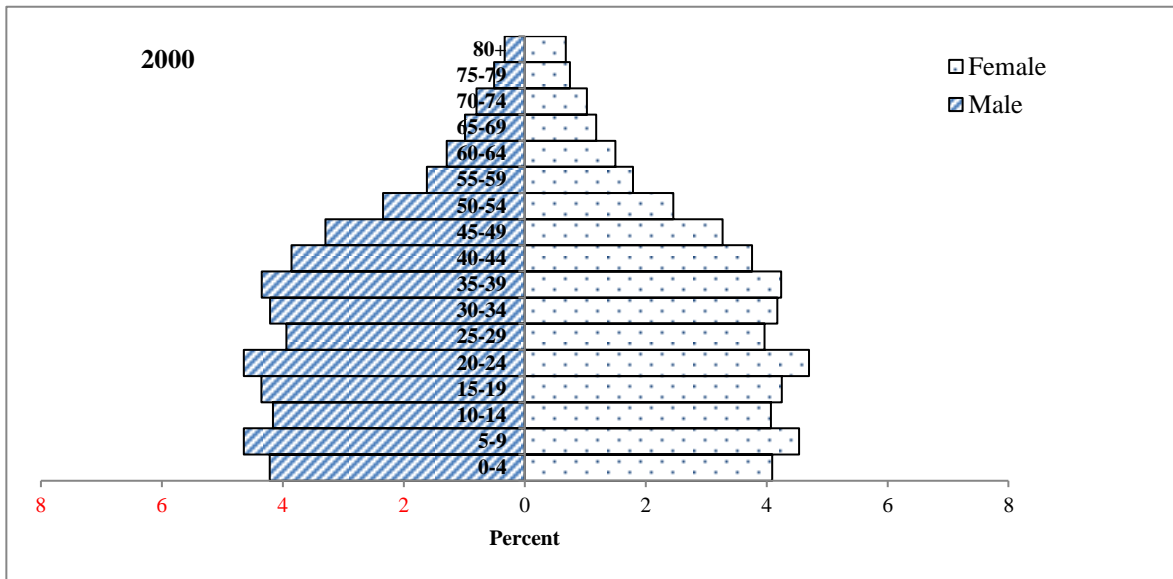
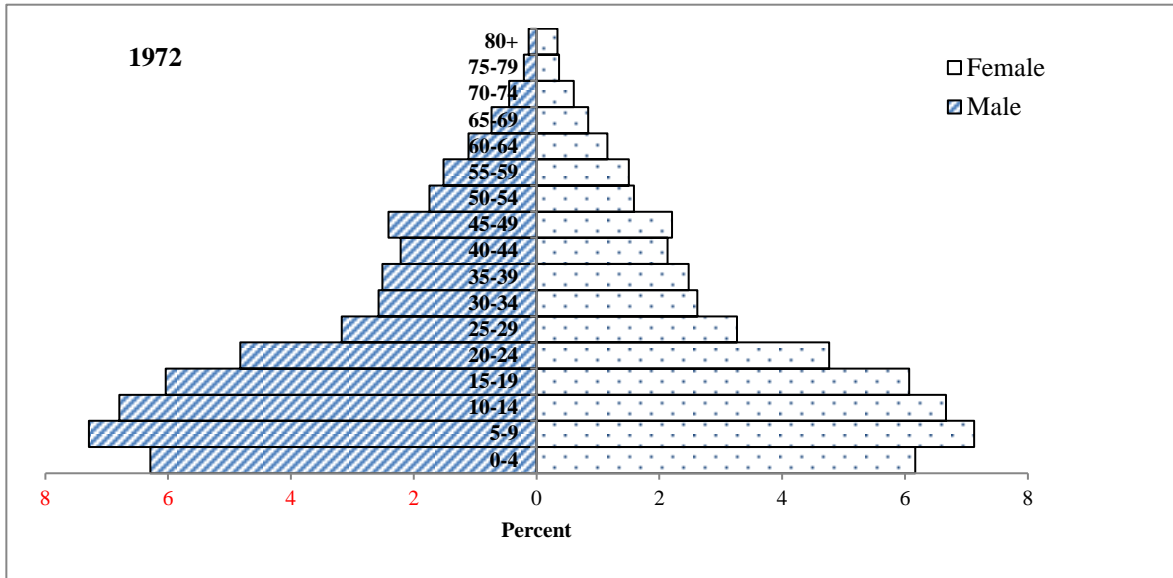
The structure of the pyramids in Figure 8.4.1 are determined by the patterns of births, deaths and migration which took place prior to the reference period of the pyramid. The pyramids compare the age structure of the population for years 1972, 2000 and 2022 and show some important trends in the demographics of Mauritius.

The main changes observed over time are:

- the shrinking of the base of the pyramid over time due to falling fertility;
- the thickening of the upper body of the pyramid indicating an increase in expectation of life;
- the relatively longer bars on the female side of the pyramid around its apex indicating the predominance of females among the elderly.

The pyramid for 1972 shows a typical young population with a wide base indicating a high birth rate, and a narrow top showing a relatively small proportion in the oldest ages. For 2000 and 2022, there is a 'fill up' of the pyramids above the base mainly due to the progression of the birth cohorts of the high fertility periods up the pyramid. The upper body of the 2022 pyramid is thicker than the one of 2000 due to improved life expectancy: the people born today are expected to live longer than previous generations. Women tend to live longer than men as can be seen from the population above 60 years in all the pyramids.

Figure 8.4.1 - Population pyramids, Republic of Mauritius¹, 1972, 2000 & 2022



¹ excluding Agalega and St Brandon

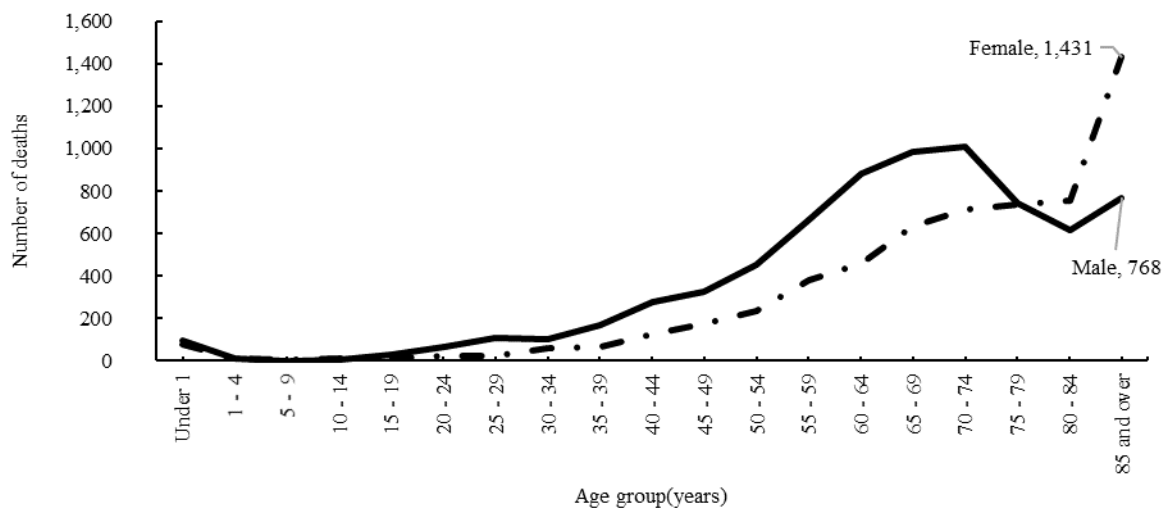
9. Mortality

9.1 Deaths registered in 2021

Though women are more numerous than men in the population, there are fewer deaths among women than among men. In 2021, 7,334 men compared to 5,940 women died in the Republic of Mauritius. At all ages there are more male deaths than female deaths, except for the extreme elderly age bracket (80+ years). At this extreme age, the population consists predominantly of females and hence more female deaths occur.

Death rate is usually highest at the extreme ends of the age range. In 2021, it was 13.6 among infants, as low as 0.1 among persons aged 5-9 years and then increased progressively to 17.3 among persons aged 60-64 years and then was as high as 188.9 for persons aged 85+.

Figure 9.1.1 – Number of deaths by age group, Republic of Mauritius ¹, 2021



¹ Excluding Agalega and St Brandon

9.2 Most common causes of deaths

The World Health Organisation International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD – 10) is used to code causes of death.

Table 9.2.1 below shows death by chapters of the ICD-10. According to the table, Diseases of the circulatory system ranked first among the most common causes of death and was responsible for 34.5% of deaths, followed by Endocrine, nutritional & metabolic diseases (20.3%), Neoplasms (10.7%), Diseases of the respiratory system (9.2%), SARS(Covid-19) (5.9%) and Injury, poisoning & certain other consequences of external causes (3.6%).

The table also indicates that women are more prone to Neoplasms which is responsible for 12.4% of female deaths compared to 9.4% of male deaths. Similarly, females are more prone to Endocrine, nutritional & metabolic diseases, 21.3% against 19.4% for men and Diseases of the circulatory system, 35.5% against 33.7% for men.

In contrast, males are more prone to Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes and responsible for 5.2% of male deaths against 1.5% for women. Similarly, males are more prone to Diseases of the digestive system, 4.6% against 2.7% for women and Mental and behavioural disorders, 1.5% against 0.3% for women.

Table 9.2.1 - Deaths by Chapter of the International Classification¹, Republic of Mauritius², 2021

Chapter	Cause of death	Male	Female	Both sexes
I	Certain Infectious & parasitic diseases	206	113	319
II	Neoplasms	688	735	1,423
III	Diseases of the blood & blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism	36	45	81
IV	Endocrine, nutritional & metabolic diseases	1,424	1,264	2,688
V	Mental & behavioural disorders	109	16	125
VI	Diseases of the nervous system	118	57	175
VII	Diseases of the eye & adnexa	0	0	0
VIII	Diseases of the ear & mastoid process	0	0	0
IX	Diseases of the circulatory system	2,473	2,111	4,584
X	Diseases of the respiratory system	698	520	1,218
XI	Diseases of the digestive system	337	161	498
XII	Diseases of the skin & subcutaneous tissue	48	57	105
XIII	Diseases of the musculoskeletal system & connective tissue	8	21	29
XIV	Diseases of the genito-urinary system	220	191	411
XV	Pregnancy, childbirth & the puerperium	0	7	7
XVI	Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	65	55	120
XVII	Congenital malformations, deformation & chromosomal abnormalities	19	22	41
XVIII	Symptoms, signs & abnormal clinical & laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	92	100	192
XIX	Injury, poisoning & certain other consequences of external causes	382	91	473
	SARS ³ (Covid-19)	411	374	785
	All causes	7,334	5,940	13,274

¹ According to the "International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems", 10th revision

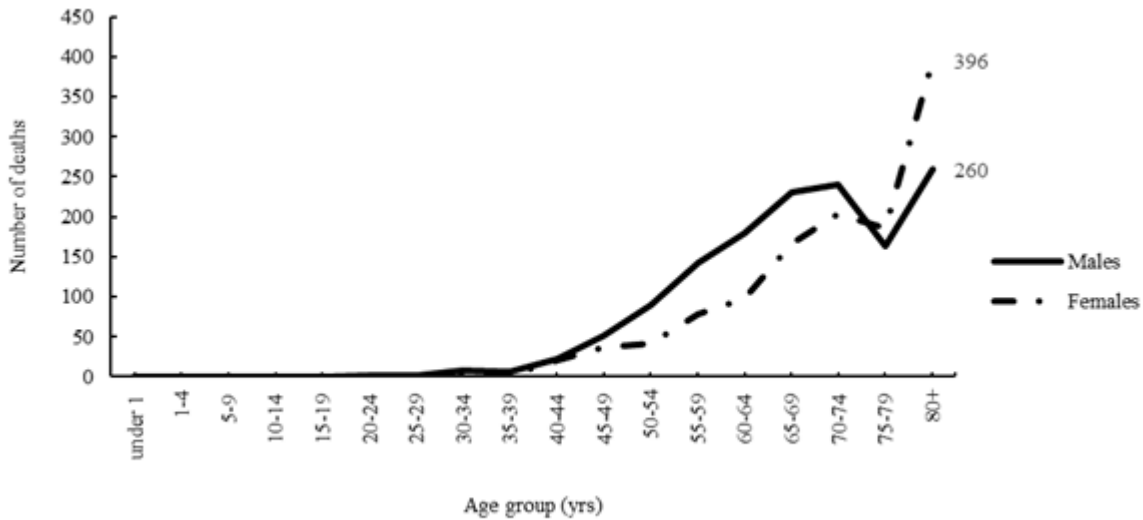
² Excluding Agalega and St Brandon

³ Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

9.3 Selected principal causes of deaths

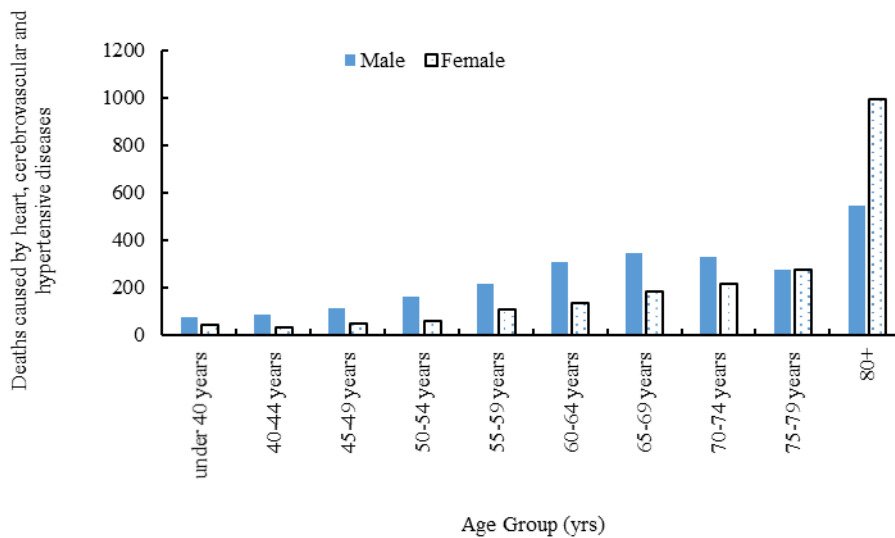
In 2021, among the selected principal causes of death, diabetes mellitus was the leading cause accounting for 20.7% (1,229) of deaths among women and 19.0% (1,397) among men. Among the 1,397 male deaths due to diabetes mellitus, around 97.2% of the deceased were aged 45 years and above with the highest number, i.e. 260 deaths occurring among men aged 80 years and above. The same trend was observed among the 1,229 female deaths due to diabetes mellitus, that is, 98.0% of the deceased, were aged 45 years and above, with the highest number, i.e. 396 deaths occurring among women aged 80 years and above.

Figure 9.3.1 – Deaths caused by diabetes, Republic of Mauritius, 2021



Heart disease, cerebrovascular disease and hypertensive disease were respectively responsible for 21.3%, 8.4% and 5.6 % of deaths among women and 21.4%, 7.8% and 4.3% of deaths among men. In 2021, among the 2,454 male deaths caused by heart, cerebrovascular and hypertensive diseases 96.9% were aged 40 years and above. The corresponding figure among the 2,093 female deaths was 97.9%. However, deaths registered among those aged 80 years and over were almost twice as many among females than males in 2021.

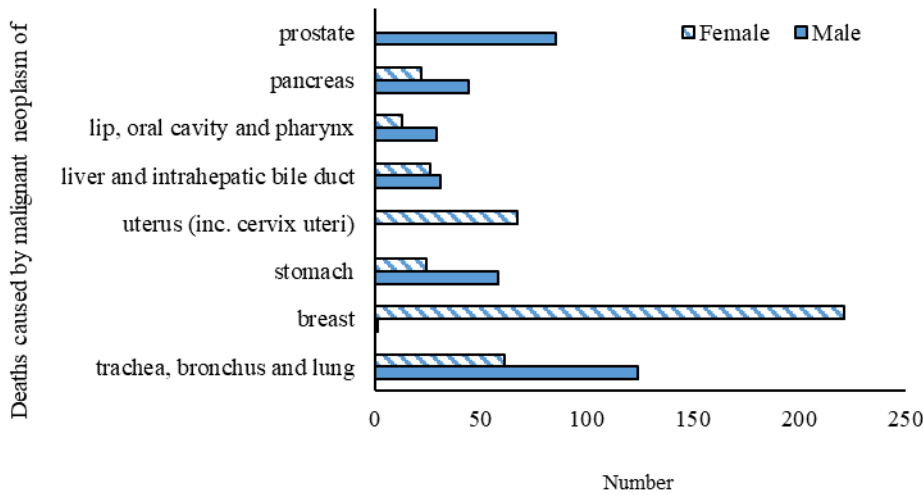
Figure 9.3.2 – Deaths caused by heart, cerebrovascular and hypertensive diseases, Republic of Mauritius, 2021



Neoplasms were responsible for 9.4% of deaths among men and 12.4% of deaths among women. Among women who died of neoplasms, malignant neoplasm of the breast was the leading cause responsible for around 30.1% deaths, followed by malignant neoplasm of uterus (9.1%).

Among males who died of neoplasms, 18.0% were due to malignant neoplasm of trachea, bronchus and lung, and 12.4% due to malignant neoplasm of prostate.

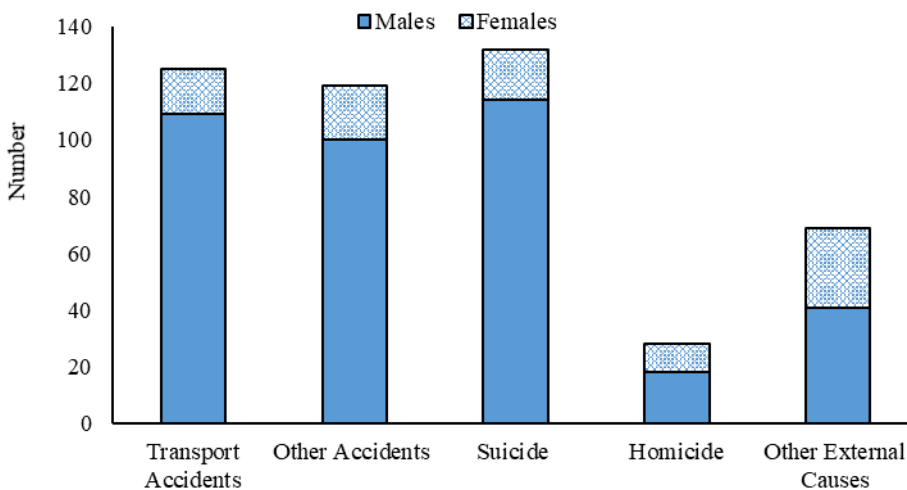
Figure 9.3.3 – Deaths caused by malignant neoplasms, Republic of Mauritius, 2021



9.4 Deaths due to Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes

In 2021, there were 473 registered cases of deaths due to injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes for the Republic of Mauritius. Among those external causes of deaths, suicide ranked first (27.9%), followed by transport accident (26.4%) and other accidents (25.2%). Males are more likely to die from external causes, 80.8% against 19.2% for females.

Figure 9.4.1 – Deaths due to Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes, Republic of Mauritius, 2021



Deaths due to Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes

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10 March 2023

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Annex

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 to 64 years.
4. Child Dependency ratio	The child population under 15 years of age per 1,000 population aged 15 to 64 years.
5. Old age Dependency ratio	The elderly population aged 65 years and above per 1,000 population aged 15 to 64 years.
6. Median age	The age which divides the population into two equal size groups, one of which is younger and the other older than the median.
7. Sex ratio:	The number of males to every 100 females.
8. Natural increase:	The excess of live births over deaths.
9. Crude birth rate:	The number of live births in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.
10. Crude death rate:	The number of deaths in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.
11. Infant mortality rate:	The number of deaths in a year of infants aged under one year per 1,000 live births during the year.
12. Still birth rate:	The number of still births in a year per 1,000 total births (live births and still births) during the year.
13. 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 year 2022 are however calculated on the basis of data for the year only.

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