

# **Road Transport and Road Traffic Accident Statistics Island of Mauritius**

**(January - June 1999)**

## **1. Vehicles registered as at June 1999**

The number of vehicles registered at the National Transport Authority (N.T.A) as at the end of June 1999 was 227,700 (Table 1.1). Compared to 222,300 at the end of December 1998, this shows a net increase of about 5,400 or 2.4 % during the first semester of 1999.

Table 1.2 on the composition of the fleet by type of vehicles shows that about 111,000 or 49 % were motorised two-wheelers (motor cycles and auto cycles), 82,700 or 36 % were cars and dual purpose vehicles while the remaining 15 % comprised vans (15,700),lorries (9,950),buses (2,350) and other vehicles (6,000). Figure 1.1 shows changes in the stock and composition of registered vehicles since 1989.

## **2. Net addition between January and June 1999**

Between January and June 1999, the fleet was strengthened with the registration of some 7,700 vehicles, consisting of 5,200 new, 1,200 imported second-hand and 1,300 re-registered. However, during the same period about 2,300 vehicles were put off the road, which brought the net addition to 5,400 ( Table 1.1 ).

Table 1.3 compares the situation in January-June 1999 with that in January-June 1998.

## **3. Cars and dual purpose vehicles**

The number of cars and dual purpose vehicles increased by about 2,100 or 2.6 % to reach 82,700 at the end of June 1999. During the first six months some 2,900 cars and dual purpose vehicles (1,800 new, 700 imported second - hand vehicles and 400 re-registered) were registered while around 800 were put off the road.

## **4. Road traffic accidents**

During the period January to June 1999, 8,736 road accidents were reported at police stations, showing an increase of 3.8 % over the corresponding period of 1998 (8,414) (Table 2.1). A high proportion of the accidents, that is, some 98 % or 8,559 were either slight injury or non- injury accidents. The rate of accidents per 100,000 population has increased from 1,512 to 1,623 and the rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles rose from 80 to 83. More details about road accidents, vehicles involved and casualties are given in Tables 2.2 and 2.3.

## 5. Vehicles involved in road accidents

There were 16,104 vehicles involved in the road accidents, 5.4 % higher than in the corresponding period of the previous year when 15,280 vehicles were concerned. Passenger cars including taxis comprised 8,757 or 54.4 % of vehicles involved whilst goods vehicles represented 23.7%, motor/ auto cycles, 13.1 % and buses, 6.8 %. (Table 2.3)

## 6. Casualties

The accidents that occurred during the first semester of 1999 resulted in 1,707 casualties. This figure reveals a decline of around 7 % over the corresponding semester of 1998 when the number of casualties was 1,828.

Of the 1,707 casualties, 86 were fatal, 107 seriously injured and the remaining 1,514 were slightly injured. Although a decline was noted in the total number of casualties, the number of fatal cases, in fact, has moved up from 72 in 1998 to 86 in 1999, pointing to an increase of about 19 %. (Table 2.1)

As shown at Table 2.4, pedestrians and riders of motor/auto cycles were the most vulnerable class of road users, each class accounting for around 30 % of total casualties, followed by passengers, 22.6 %. The percentage distribution by category of road users was almost the same as that of the corresponding period of 1998.

## 7. Hit and run cases

The number of hit and run cases recorded at police stations during the first semester of 1999 stood at 152 compared to 117 for the same period of 1998. Of the 152 cases, 128 were accidents involving vehicles only and the remaining 24, vehicles against pedestrians. (Table 2.5)

## **Definitions and General Notes**

### **A. Vehicle Statistics**

1. Data refer to all vehicles registered at the National Transport Authority. Pedal cycles are therefore excluded. The classification of vehicles used in this report follows the definition given in Section 4 of the Road Traffic Act of 1962.
  
2. **Vehicles include:**
  - (a) **motor vehicles**, that is, power-driven vehicles normally used for carrying persons or goods by road or for drawing vehicles used for carrying persons or goods. Examples are car, dual purpose vehicle, heavy motor car, motor cycle, lorry, van, bus, tractor, etc. and
  - (b) **non-motorised vehicles**, for example trailer.
  
3. Definition of some types of vehicles according to the Road Traffic Act 1962.
  - (a) **Motor cycle**  
 A motor cycle is a mechanically propelled vehicle, other than an autocycle or a vehicle classified as an invalid carriage, with not more than four wheels and whose unladen weight does not exceed 400 kilograms.
  - (b) **Autocycle**  
 An autocycle is a two wheeled motor vehicle, with or without pedals, whose engine capacity does not exceed 50 cubic centimetres.
  - (c) **Heavy motor car**  
 A heavy motor car is a vehicle of the bus type designed to carry passengers but not for hire or reward.
  - (d) **Dual purpose vehicle**  
 A dual purpose vehicle is essentially a car but it is so designed to be capable of carrying a certain load of goods.

**B. Road Traffic Accident Statistics**

1. **Accidents** refer to all accidents as reported at police stations.
2. **Casualties refer** to the total number of fatalities and persons injured as a result of road accident.
3. **Fatality:** Death occurring within seven days as a result of the accident.
4. **Seriously injured:** Fracture, concussion, internal crushing, severe cut and laceration, severe general shock requiring medical treatment.
5. **Slightly injured:** Secondary injuries such as sprain, bruises and cuts not judged to be severe.

Table 1.1 - Vehicles registered as at June 1999 ✓

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Type of vehicle	No. of vehicles at 31.12.98	New vehicles	Used imported vehicles	Re - registered vehicles	Vehicles off the road <sup>1</sup>	No. of vehicles at 30.06.99	Net addition
Car	51,051	865	338	249	588	51,915	+ (864)
Dual purpose vehicle	29,527	956	363	146	196	30,796	+ (1,269)
Motor cycle	23,577	423	15	184	308	23,891	+ (314)
Auto cycle	85,566	1,714	8	556	763	87,081	+ (1,515)
Lorry and truck	9,750	132	123	69	128	9,946	+ (196)
Van	14,508	1,023	288	74	150	15,743	+ (1,235)
Bus	2,367	32	--	2	50	2,351	- (16)
Other	5,998	65	29	25	87	6,030	+ (32)
<b>Total</b>	<b>222,344</b>	<b>5,210</b>	<b>1,164</b>	<b>1,305</b>	<b>2,270</b>	<b>227,753</b>	<b>+ (5,409)</b>

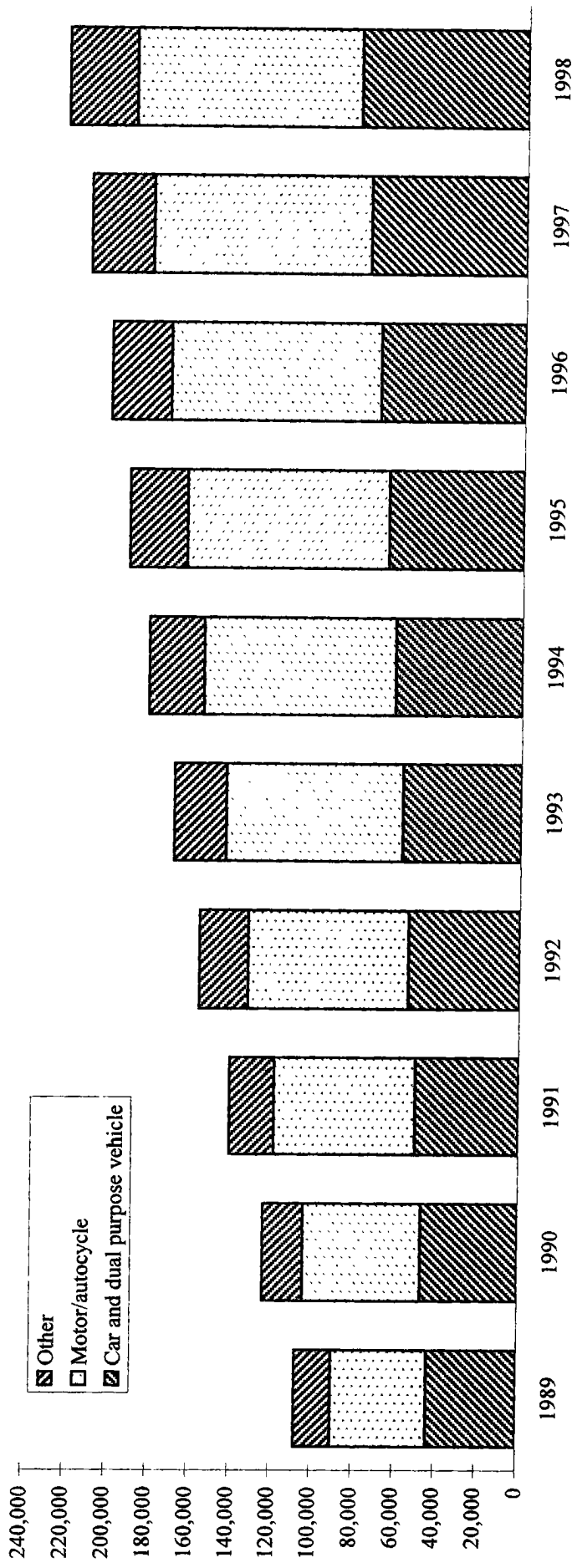
<sup>1</sup> Unlicensed either temporarily or permanently

Table 1.2 - Vehicles<sup>1</sup> registered by type, Dec. 1989 - Dec. 1998, June 1999 ✓ (nd)-1

Type of vehicle	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999 ( June )
<b>Car</b> ( of which taxi car )	31,919 (3,464)	33,916 (3,715)	35,673 (3,965)	37,696 (4,014)	39,511 (4,050)	41,355 (4,311)	43,288 (4,439)	45,563 (4,673)	48,390 (4,721)	51,051 (4,761)	51,915 (4,845)
<b>Dual purpose vehicle</b>	11,460	12,877	14,343	16,246	17,882	20,023	22,086	24,382	27,050	29,527	30,796
<b>Heavy motor car</b>	624	695	766	799	826	848	898	922	934	945	940
<b>Motor cycle</b>	10,560	11,937	14,740	16,880	18,829	20,461	21,492	22,230	22,839	23,577	23,891
<b>Auto cycle</b>	35,844	45,157	53,834	60,859	66,711	72,509	76,317	79,524	82,567	85,566	87,081
<b>Lorry and truck</b>	5,906	6,564	7,226	7,776	8,166	8,559	8,815	9,058	9,356	9,750	9,946
<b>Van</b>	5,600	6,637	7,602	8,749	9,663	10,292	10,851	11,434	12,469	14,508	15,743
<b>Bus</b>	1,858	1,929	2,021	2,097	2,217	2,276	2,362	2,348	2,359	2,367	2,351
<b>Tractor and dumper</b>	2,078	2,156	2,274	2,356	2,413	2,478	2,546	2,580	2,615	2,627	2,633
<b>Prime mover</b>	182	185	197	212	228	249	256	262	278	297	313
<b>Trailer</b>	1,151	1,155	1,231	1,288	1,333	1,428	1,534	1,597	1,640	1,703	1,717
<b>Road roller</b>	98	94	96	100	106	106	107	106	108	105	105
<b>Other</b>	233	243	251	262	273	300	315	314	317	321	322
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,513</b>	<b>123,545</b>	<b>140,254</b>	<b>155,320</b>	<b>168,158</b>	<b>180,884</b>	<b>190,867</b>	<b>200,320</b>	<b>210,922</b>	<b>222,344</b>	<b>227,753</b>

<sup>1</sup> Excluding pedal cycles, but including government vehicles

**Fig. 1.1 - Stock of registered vehicles, 1989 - 1998 (as at December)**



Type of vehicle	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Car and dual purpose vehicle	43,379	46,793	50,016	53,942	57,393	61,378	65,374	69,945	75,440	80,578
Motor cycle and autocycle	46,404	57,094	68,574	77,739	85,540	92,970	97,809	101,754	105,406	109,143
Other	17,730	19,658	21,664	23,639	25,225	26,536	27,684	28,621	30,076	32,623
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,513</b>	<b>123,545</b>	<b>140,254</b>	<b>155,320</b>	<b>168,158</b>	<b>180,884</b>	<b>190,867</b>	<b>200,320</b>	<b>210,922</b>	<b>222,344</b>

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Table 1.3 - Registration of vehicles by type, Jan. - June 1998 and Jan. - June 1999

Type of vehicle	New vehicles registered		Re-registration of vehicles		Vehicles put off the road	
	Jan. - June		Jan. - June		Jan. - June	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Car	1,122	865	827	587	577	588
Dual purpose vehicle	920	956	404	509	177	196
Motor cycle	383	423	200	199	299	308
Auto cycle	1,732	1,714	554	564	766	763
Lorry and truck	131	132	129	192	112	128
Van	678	1,023	191	362	136	150
Bus	63	32	2	2	57	50
Other	81	65	46	54	74	87
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,110</b>	<b>5,210</b>	<b>2,353</b>	<b>2,469</b>	<b>2,198</b>	<b>2,270</b>



**Table 2.1 - Comparison of road traffic accidents<sup>1</sup> Jan. - June 1998 and Jan. - June 1999**

	1998	1999	Change	
	Jan. - June	Jan. - June	Number	%
<b>1. Road traffic accidents</b>				
<b>Number of accidents</b>	<b>8,414</b>	<b>8,736</b>	<b>+ 322</b>	<b>+ 3.8</b>
Fatal accident	65	82	+ 17	+ 26.1
Serious injury accident	107	95	- 12	- 11.2
Slight injury accident	1,241	1,130	- 111	- 8.9
Non injury accident	7,001	7,429	+ 428	+ 6.1
Rate per 100,000 population <sup>3</sup>	1,512	1,623	N.A <sup>2</sup>	N.A <sup>2</sup>
Rate per 1,000 registered motor - vehicles <sup>3</sup>	80	83	N.A <sup>2</sup>	N.A <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Motor- vehicles involved</b>				
Number of vehicles involved	15,084	15,901	+ 817	+ 5.4
Rate per 1,000 registered motor - vehicles <sup>3</sup>	144	150	N.A <sup>2</sup>	N.A <sup>2</sup>
<b>3. Casualties</b>				
<b>Total number of casualties</b>	<b>1,828</b>	<b>1,707</b>	<b>- 121</b>	<b>- 6.6</b>
Fatal	72	86	+ 14	+19.4
Seriously injured	129	107	- 22	- 17.1
Slightly injured	1,627	1,514	- 113	- 6.9

<sup>1</sup> Exclude number of accidents involving bicycles only<sup>2</sup> N.A : Not applicable<sup>3</sup> Based on previous twelve months figures

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**Table 2.2 - Road traffic accidents<sup>1</sup> and casualties, 1989 - 1998, Jan. - June 1999**

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999 (Jan. - June)
<b>1. Road traffic accidents:</b>											
Number	9,085	10,316	13,439	14,371	14,562	15,727	14,683	14,845	15,954	18,055	8,736
Rate per 100,000 Population	893	1007	1,297	1,369	1,378	1,459	1,350	1,351	1,434	1,605	1,623
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles <sup>3</sup>	89	90	102	97	91	91	78	76	78	83	83
<b>2. Motor vehicles involved :</b>											
Number	15,489	17,562	22,835	24,549	25,240	27,203	25,584	26,270	28,561	32,568	15,901
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles <sup>3</sup>	152	153	173	166	156	156	137	135	139	150	150
<b>3. Casualties :</b>											
Total number of casualties	3,141	3,575	4,025	4,395	4,160	3,947	3,586	3,774	3,755	3,828	1,707
Fatal	130	144	168	119	157	154	173	153	146	162	86
Seriously injured	250	315	296	378	322	330	280	238	261	281	107
Slightly injured	2,761	3,116	3,561	3,898	3,681	3,463	3,133	3,383	3,348	3,385	1,514
<b>4. Fatality :</b>											
Rate per 100,000 population	12.6	13.9	16.2	11.3	14.8	14.3	15.9	13.9	13.1	14.4	15.5
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicle <sup>3</sup>	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8
Index <sup>2</sup>	4.1	4.0	4.2	2.7	3.8	3.9	4.8	4.1	3.9	4.2	5.0

<sup>1</sup> Exclude number of accidents involving bicycles only

<sup>2</sup> Fatality index is the ratio of the number of fatalities to the number of casualties expressed as a percentage

<sup>3</sup> Based on previous twelve months figures

**Table 2.3 - Vehicles<sup>1</sup> involved in accidents by type, January 1998 - June 1999**

Type of vehicle	1998						1999	
	Jan. - June		Jul. - Dec.		Year		Jan - June	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Private car	6,975	45.6	8,227	46.4	15,202	46.1	7,344	45.6
Taxi car	1,353	8.9	1,588	9.0	2,941	8.9	1,413	8.8
Bus	1,123	7.3	1,175	6.6	2,298	7.0	1,095	6.8
Lorry	899	5.9	1,176	6.6	2,075	6.3	910	5.6
Van	2,545	16.7	2,955	16.7	5,500	16.7	2,911	18.1
Motor/auto cycle	2,065	13.5	2,190	12.4	4,255	12.9	2,110	13.1
Other motor vehicle	124	0.8	173	1.0	297	0.9	118	0.7
<b>Total motor vehicles</b>	<b>15,084</b>	<b>98.7</b>	<b>17,484</b>	<b>98.7</b>	<b>32,568</b>	<b>98.7</b>	<b>15,901</b>	<b>98.7</b>
Pedal cycle	188	1.2	209	1.2	397	1.2	189	1.2
Other non motor vehicle	8	0.1	28	0.2	36	0.1	14	0.1
<b>All vehicles</b>	<b>15,280</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>17,721</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>33,001</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>16,104</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Only three main vehicles have been considered in accidents involving more than three vehicles

Table 2.4 - Casualties by class of road users, January 1998 - June 1999

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Class of road users	1998				1999	
	Jan. - June		Jul. - Dec.		Jan. - June	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Pedestrian	559	30.6	563	28.2	512	30.0
Passenger	391	21.4	492	24.6	386	22.6
Driver	179	9.8	204	10.2	147	8.6
Rider (auto / motor cycle)	544	29.8	579	29.0	521	30.5
Pedal cyclist	155	8.5	162	8.1	141	8.3
<b>All road users</b>	<b>1,828</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,707</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 2.5 - Total road accidents involving hit and run cases, January 1998 - June 1999

Period Accident	1998				1999	
	Jan. - June		Jul. - Dec.		Jan. - June	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Vehicles v/s pedestrian	16	13.7	19	14.6	24	15.8
Vehicles v/s vehicles	101	86.3	111	85.4	128	84.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>100.0</b>