

Road Transport and Road Traffic Accident Statistics (Island of Mauritius) Year 1999

1. Vehicles registered as at December 1999

The number of vehicles registered with the National Transport Authority (N.T.A) as at end December 1999 was 233,415. This shows a net increase of 11,071 vehicles (5%) as compared to December 1998 when the number of registered vehicles stood at 222,344.

The composition of the fleet by type of vehicles shows that around 48% (112,946) were motorised two-wheelers, 36% (85,154) were cars and dual purpose vehicles while the remaining 16% comprised vans (16,814), lorries and trucks (10,138), buses (2,344) and other vehicles (6,019). (Table 1.2)

2. Net increase during 1999

Between January and December 1999, the fleet was strengthened with the registration of some 15,386 vehicles, of which 66% (10,122) were new, 16% (2,525) were imported second-hand and the remaining 18% (2,739) consisted of re-registered vehicles. However, during the same period about 4,315 vehicles were put off the road, so that the effective addition to the fleet during 1999 was 11,071 vehicles. (Table 1.1)

3. Vehicles used for the transport of passengers

3.1 Cars and dual purpose vehicles

During the year 1999, some 6,120 cars and dual purpose vehicles (3,651 new, 1,580 imported second-hand and 889 re-registered) were registered, while around 1,544 were put off the road. This, net increase of 4,576 (5.7%) brought the total number of cars and dual purpose vehicles to 85,154 in December 1999.

Table 1.3 shows that 36 % of the fleet were under 5 years, 27 % between 5 and 10 years and the remaining 37 % were 10 years and above.

3.2 Buses

Out of a total of 2,344 buses, 1,715 (73%) were 'public' buses, operating with a Road Service License. The age distribution of the fleet of public buses as given in Table

1.4, shows that 28 % of the buses were under 5 years, 39 % between 5 and 10, and 33 % 10 years and over.

4. Road traffic accidents

The number of road accidents reported at police stations, which was 18,055 in 1998, decreased by 1 % to 17,877 in 1999. The rate of accidents thus decreased from 1605 to 1570 per 100,000 population. Similarly the rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles dropped from 83 to 80.

The majority of accidents (15,286 or 86%), did not entail any injury to the persons involved; another 2,241 resulted in only slight injuries, while 196 caused serious injuries and 154 were fatal. Compared to 1998 an increase of 1.3% is noted in "fatal cases", whereas the other two types, i.e "serious injury" cases and "slight injury" cases, showed decreases of 14% and 12% respectively.

5. Vehicles involved in road accidents

The total number of vehicles involved in road accidents during 1999 numbered 32,995 as compared to 33,001 in 1998.

The number of motor vehicles involved in accidents (98.6% of total vehicles involved) decreased slightly (less than 1%) from 32,568 in 1998 to 32,547 in 1999. Private cars , vans and motor/auto cycles together accounted for nearly 77% of all vehicles involved , representing 45.9 % , 18.5% and 12.4% respectively . More details are given in table 2.3.

6. Casualties

The total number of casualties reported, which as shown in table 2.4, was 3,828 in 1998, declined by 11% to 3,405 in 1999. Out of these casualties, 170 were fatal cases, 237 were seriously injured and the remaining 2,998 were only slightly injured. The fatality rate per 100,000 population rose from 14.4 in 1998 to reach 14.9 in 1999. The fatality rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles went up from 0.7 in 1998 to 0.8 in 1999.

The most vulnerable road users were riders of motor cycles/auto cycles and pedestrians, accounting for 29.8% and 28.3% of total casualties respectively.

7. Hit and run cases

There were 351 "hit and run" cases reported at police stations in 1999. Of these 299 involved only vehicles while the remaining 52 involved vehicles and pedestrians.

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Ministry of Economic Development, Productivity and Regional Development
Port Louis**

April, 2000

Definitions and General Notes

A. Vehicle Statistics:

- I. 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, 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 auticycle or a vehicle classified as an invalid carriage, with not more than four wheels and whose unladen weight does not exceed 400 kilograms.
 - (b) **Auticycle**

An auticycle 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. **Fatal:** Death occurring within seven days as a result of the accident.
4. **Serious injuries:** Fracture, concussion, internal crushing, severe cut and laceration, severe general shock requiring medical treatment.
5. **Slight injuries:** Secondary injuries such as sprain, bruises and cuts not judged to be severe.

Table 1.1 - Registration of vehicles in 1999

Type of vehicle	No. of Vehicles at 31.12.98	Imported Vehicles		Re - Registered Vehicles	Vehicles off the Road ¹	No. of Vehicles at 31.12.99	Net Addition in 1999
		New	Used				
Car	51,051	1,682	775	553	1,169	52,892	+ (1,841)
Dual purpose vehicle	29,527	1,969	805	336	375	32,262	+ (2,735)
Motor cycle	23,577	721	24	372	569	24,125	+ (548)
Auto cycle	85,566	3,502	13	1,130	1,390	88,821	+ (3,255)
Lorry and truck	9,750	264	255	114	245	10,138	+ (388)
Van	14,508	1,797	607	177	275	16,814	+ (2,306)
Bus	2,367	72	--	--	99	2,344	- + (23)
Other	5,998	115	46	53	193	6,019	+ (21)
TOTAL	222,344	10,122	2,525	2,739	4,315	233,415	+ (11,071)

¹ Unlicensed either temporarily or permanently

Table 1.2 - Vehicles¹ registered, 1989 - 1999

Type of vehicle	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Car (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)	52,892 (4,905)
Dual purpose vehicle	11,460	12,877	14,343	16,246	17,882	20,023	22,086	24,382	27,050	29,527	32,262
Heavy motor car	624	695	766	799	826	848	898	922	934	945	934
Motor cycle	10,560	11,937	14,740	16,880	18,829	20,461	21,492	22,230	22,839	23,577	24,125
Auto cycle	35,844	45,157	53,834	60,859	66,711	72,509	76,317	79,524	82,567	85,566	88,821
Lorry and truck	5,906	6,564	7,226	7,776	8,166	8,559	8,815	9,058	9,356	9,750	10,138
Van	5,600	6,637	7,602	8,749	9,663	10,292	10,851	11,434	12,469	14,508	16,814
Bus	1,858	1,929	2,021	2,097	2,217	2,276	2,362	2,348	2,359	2,367	2,344
Tractor and dumper	2,078	2,156	2,274	2,356	2,413	2,478	2,546	2,580	2,615	2,627	2,630
Prime mover	182	185	197	212	228	249	256	262	278	297	315
Trailer	1,151	1,155	1,231	1,288	1,333	1,428	1,534	1,597	1,640	1,703	1,719
Road roller	98	94	96	100	106	106	107	106	108	105	102
Other	233	243	251	262	273	300	315	314	317	321	319
TOTAL	107,513	123,545	140,254	155,320	168,158	180,884	190,867	200,320	210,922	222,344	233,415
<i>Index</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>115</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>168</i>	<i>178</i>	<i>186</i>	<i>196</i>	<i>207</i>	<i>217</i>

¹ Excluding pedal cycles, but including government vehicles

Fig. 1.1 - Stock of registered vehicles, 1989 - 1999

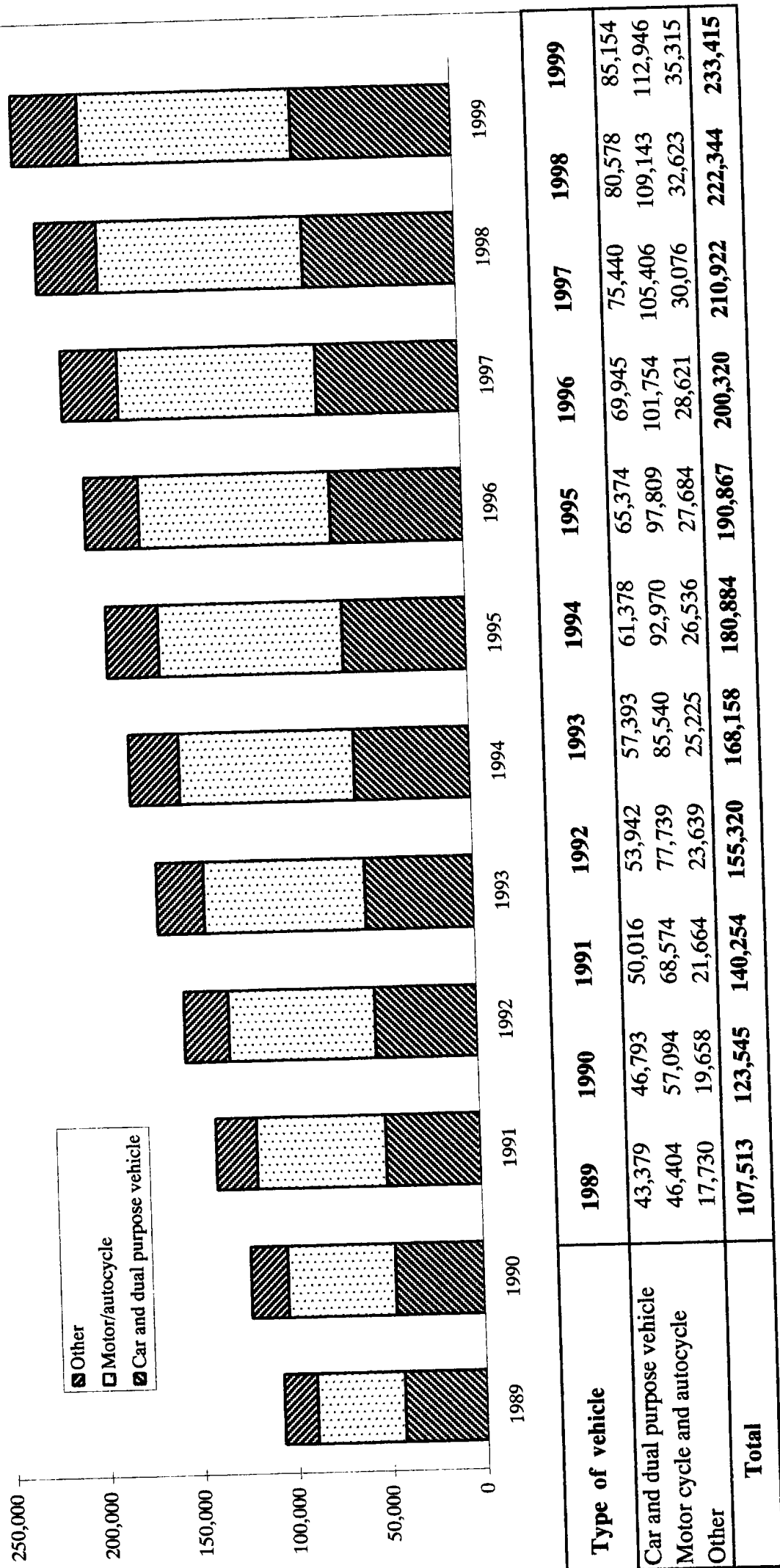


Table 1.3 - Age composition of cars and dual purpose vehicles , 1998 - 1999

Age group (Years)	as at 31st December 1998		as at 31st December 1999	
	Number	%	Number	%
< 5	28,889	36	30,301	36
5 < 10	21,711	27	22,967	27
10 < 15	8,065	10	9,747	11
≥ 15	21,913	27	22,139	26
TOTAL	80,578	100	85,154	100

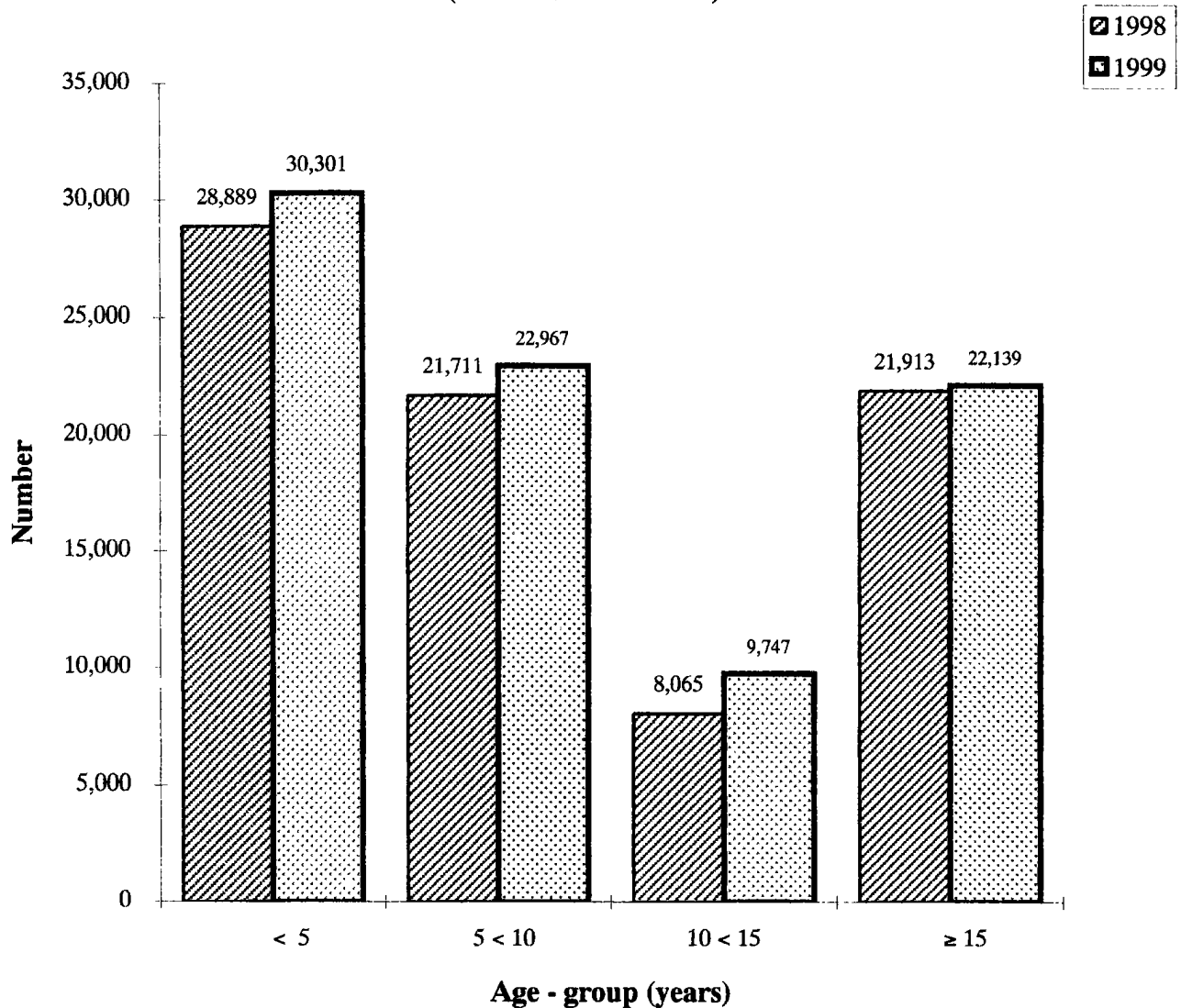
Fig. 1.2 - Age composition of cars and dual purpose vehicles
(as at 31st December)

Table 1.4 - Age composition of operational bus fleet ¹, 1998 - 1999

Age group (Years)	as at 31st December 1998		as at 31st December 1999	
	Number	%	Number	%
< 5	568	32	472	28
5 < 10	652	37	675	39
10 < 15	466	26	542	31
15 < 18	85	5	26	2
TOTAL	1,771	100	1,715	100

¹ Refers only to buses with a Road Service License, i.e, buses which operate on proclaimed routes and charge individual fares

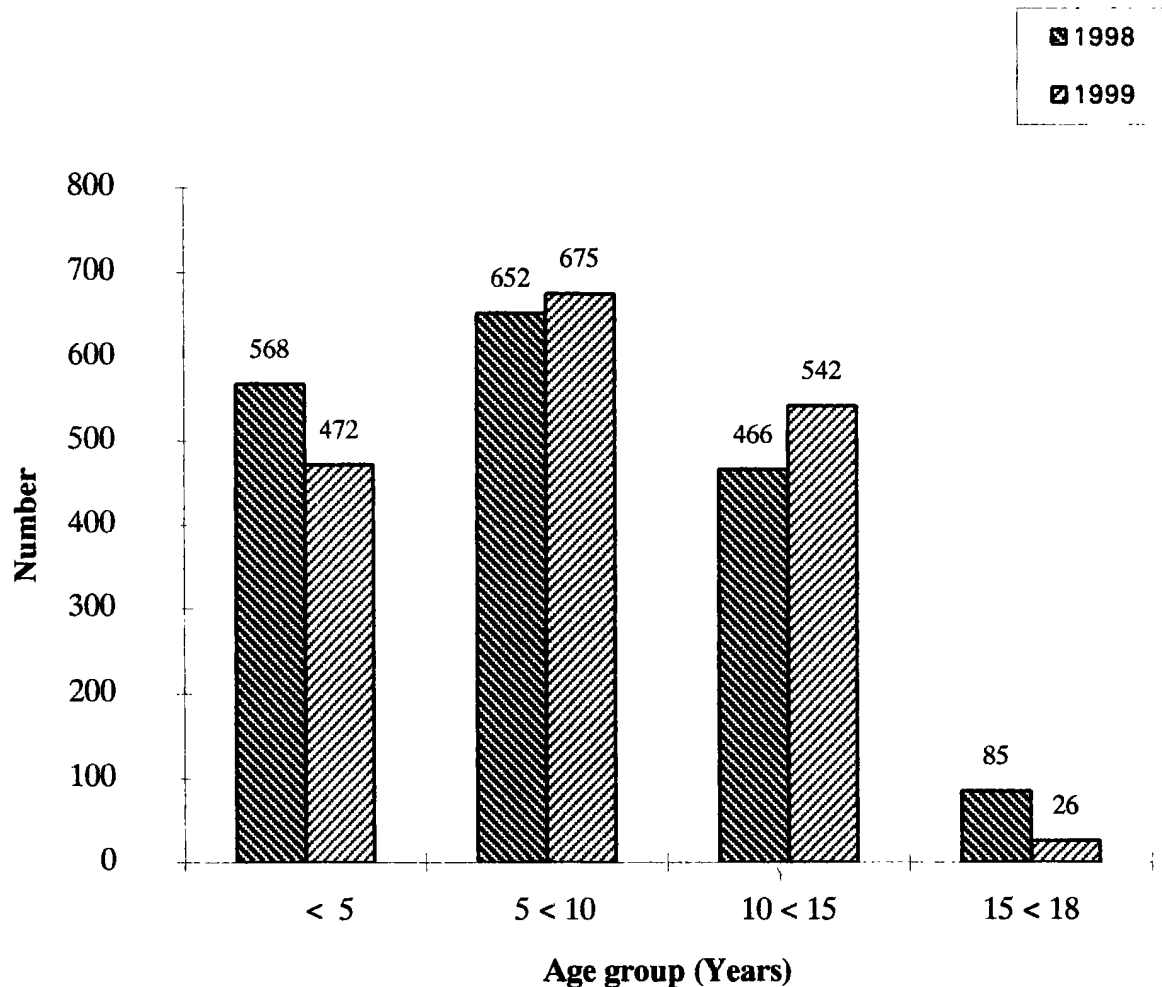
**Fig. 1.3 - Age composition of operational bus fleet vehicles
(as at 31st December)**

Table 2.1 - Comparison of road traffic accidents¹, 1998 - 1999

	1998	1999	Change	
			Number	%
1. Road traffic accidents				
Number of accidents	18,055	17,877	- 178	- 1.0
Fatal accident	152	154	+ 2	+ 1.3
Serious injury accident	229	196	- 33	- 14.4
Slight injury accident	2,557	2,241	- 316	- 12.4
Non injury accident	15,117	15,286	+ 169	+ 1.1
Rate per 100,000 population ³	1,605	1,570	N.A ²	N.A ²
Rate per 1,000 registered motor-vehicles ³	83	80	N.A ²	N.A ²
2. Motor- vehicles involved				
Number of vehicles involved	32,568	32,547	- 21	- 0.06
Rate per 1,000 registered motor-vehicles ³	150	146	N.A ²	N.A ²
3. Casualties				
Total number of casualties	3,828	3,405	- 423	- 11.1
Fatal	162	170	+ 8	+ 4.9
Seriously injured	281	237	- 44	- 15.7
Slightly injured	3,385	2,998	- 387	- 11.4

¹ Exclude number of accidents involving bicycles only

² N.A : Not applicable

³ Based on previous twelve months figures

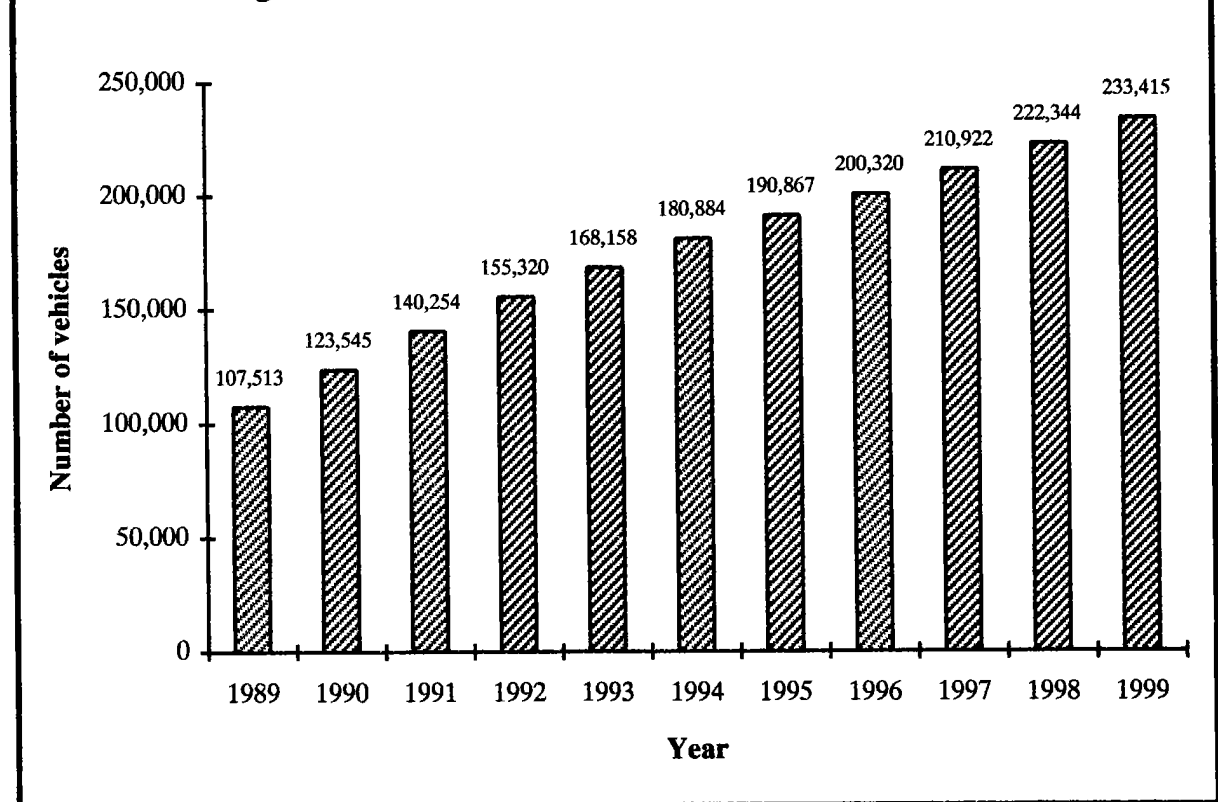
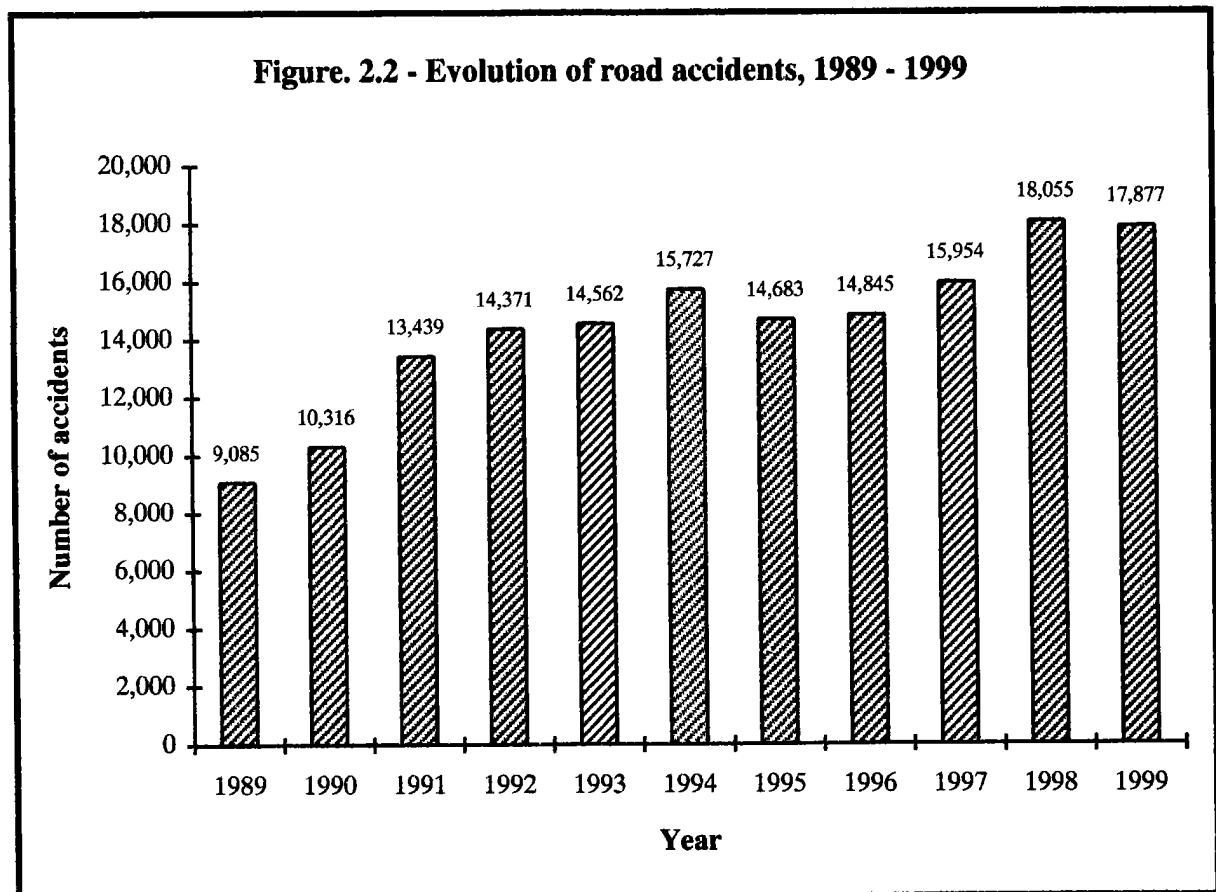
Figure. 2.1 - Evolution of vehicles registered, 1989 - 1999**Figure. 2.2 - Evolution of road accidents, 1989 - 1999**

Table 2.2 - Road traffic accidents¹ and casualties, 1989 - 1998

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
1. Road traffic accidents:											
Number	9,085	10,316	13,439	14,371	14,562	15,727	14,683	14,845	15,954	18,055	17,877
Rate per 100,000 Population	893	1007	1,297	1,369	1,378	1,459	1,350	1,351	1,434	1,605	1,570
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles ³	89	90	102	97	91	91	78	76	78	83	80
2. Motor vehicles involved :											
Number	15,489	17,562	22,835	24,549	25,240	27,203	25,584	26,270	28,561	32,568	32,547
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles ³	152	153	173	166	156	156	137	135	139	150	146
3. Casualties :											
Total number of casualties	3,141	3,575	4,025	4,395	4,160	3,947	3,586	3,774	3,755	3,828	3,405
Fatal	130	144	168	119	157	154	173	153	146	162	170
Seriously injured	250	315	296	378	322	330	280	238	261	281	237
Slightly injured	2,761	3,116	3,561	3,898	3,681	3,463	3,133	3,383	3,348	3,385	2,998
4. Fatality :											
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	14.9
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicle ³	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8
Index ²	4.1	4.0	4.2	2.7	3.8	3.9	4.8	4.1	3.9	4.2	5.0

¹ Exclude number of accidents involving bicycles only

² Fatality index is the ratio of the number of fatalities to the number of casualties expressed as a percentage

³ Based on previous twelve months figures

Table 2.3 - Vehicles¹ involved in accidents by type, 1998 - 1999

Type of vehicle	1998						1999					
	Jan. - June		Jul. - Dec.		Year		Jan. - June		Jul. - Dec.		Year	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Private car	6,975	45.6	8,227	46.4	15,202	46.1	7,344	45.6	7,805	46.2	15,149	45.9
Taxi car	1,353	8.9	1,588	9.0	2,941	8.9	1,413	8.8	1,422	8.4	2,835	8.6
Bus	1,123	7.3	1,175	6.6	2,298	7.0	1,095	6.8	1,044	6.2	2,139	6.5
Lorry	899	5.9	1,176	6.6	2,075	6.3	910	5.7	1,060	6.3	1,970	6.0
Van	2,545	16.7	2,955	16.7	5,500	16.7	2,911	18.1	3,207	19.0	6,118	18.5
Motor/auto cycle	2,065	13.5	2,190	12.4	4,255	12.9	2,110	13.1	1,969	11.7	4,079	12.4
Other motor vehicle	124	0.8	173	1.0	297	0.9	118	0.7	139	0.8	257	0.8
Total motor vehicles	15,084	98.7	17,484	98.7	32,568	98.7	15,901	98.7	16,646	98.5	32,547	98.6
Pedal cycle	188	1.2	209	1.2	397	1.2	189	1.2	209	1.2	398	1.2
Other non motor vehicle	8	0.1	28	0.2	36	0.1	14	0.1	36	0.2	50	0.2
All vehicles	15,280	100.0	17,721	100.0	33,001	100.0	16,104	100.0	16,891	100.0	32,995	100.0

¹ Only three main vehicles have been considered in accidents involving more than three vehicles

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

Class of road users	1998				1999			
	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Year		Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Year	
	Number	Number	Number	%	Number	Number	Number	%
Pedestrian	559	563	1,122	29.3	512	451	963	28.3
Passenger	391	492	883	23.1	386	453	839	24.6
Driver	179	204	383	10.0	147	176	323	9.5
Rider (auto / motor cycle)	544	579	1,123	29.3	521	493	1,014	29.8
Pedal cyclist	155	162	317	8.3	141	125	266	7.8
All road users	1,828	2,000	3,828	100.0	1,707	1,698	3,405	100.0

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

Period Accident	1998				1999			
	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Year		Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Year	
	Number	Number	Number	%	Number	Number	Number	%
Vehicles v/s pedestrian	16	19	35	14.2	24	28	52	14.8
Vehicles v/s vehicles	101	111	212	85.8	128	171	299	85.2
Total	117	130	247	100.0	152	199	351	100.0