

**Road Transport and Road Traffic Accident Statistics**  
(Island of Mauritius)  
Year 2005

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

**Year 2005**

## **1. Vehicles registered in 2005**

At the end of year 2005, the number of vehicles registered at the National Transport Authority (NTA) stood at 305,496, showing an increase of 4.8% compared to the figure of 291,605 for December 2004.

During the year 2005, 18,385 vehicles were registered, of which 11,243 (61%) were new, 5,557 (30 %) were imported second-hand and 1,585 (9%) were re-registered vehicles, i.e. those which had been previously de-registered (put off the road). During the same period 4,494 vehicles were put off the road, resulting in a net addition of 13,891 vehicles to the existing fleet (Table 1.1).

## **2. Composition of the fleet**

The composition of the vehicular fleet is shown in Table 1.2. At the end of December 2005, the fleet consisted of 44% (133,430) motorized two-wheelers and 41% (126,844) cars and dual purpose vehicles. The remaining 15% comprised vans (23,989), lorries and trucks (12,047), buses (2,560) and other vehicles (6,626).

## **3. Vehicles used for the transport of passengers**

### ***3.1 Cars and dual purpose vehicles***

The number of cars and dual purpose vehicles which stood at 118,009 at the end of 2004, increased by 7.5% to reach 126,844 at the end of 2005. This increase was the result of the registration of 10,455 such vehicles (4,748 new, 4,774 imported second-hand and 933 re-registered), partly offset by 1,620 that were put off the road.

Table 1.3 shows the age distribution of cars and dual purpose vehicles. At the end of December 2005, 35% were less than 5 years, 28% between 5 and 9 years and the remaining 37%, above 10 years. The mean age worked out to 8.9 years.

### ***3.2 Buses***

At the end of December 2005, out of 2,560 registered buses, 1,869 (73%) were 'public' buses operating with a road service licence. During 2005, 184 new buses were registered while 81 buses were put off the road.

Table 1.4 which gives the age distribution of the fleet of public buses shows that 30% of the buses were under 5 years, 23% between 5 and 9 years and 47%, between 10 and 18 years. The mean age of a bus was 8.8 years.

#### **4. Road traffic accidents**

As from August 2004, with the introduction of the “Agreed statement of facts”, the police registers road traffic accidents causing injury and non-injury accidents involving dispute between parties. Other non-injury accidents are reported directly to insurance companies. However the insurance companies provide only aggregated data on such accidents and thus detailed information on non-injury accidents are not available.

The number of road accidents registered during the year 2005 was 22,554, of which 2,144 (9%) caused casualties and 20,410 (91%) were non-injury accidents. Among the accidents causing casualties, 116 (5%) were fatal, 295 (14%) caused serious injuries and 1,733 (81%) slight injuries.

Compared to the 2004 figure of 19,495, a rise of 15.7% is noted in total road accidents. Accidents causing casualties fell by 0.7% whereas non-injury accidents rose by 17.7%. Fatal and slight injury accidents dropped by 11.5% and 6.1% respectively while serious injury accidents rose by 60.3%.

The accident rate expressed as the number of accidents per 100,000 mid year population increased from 1,629 in 2004 to 1,869 in 2005 and the number of accidents per 1,000 mid year registered motor vehicles moved up from 69 to 76 (Table 2.1).

#### **5. Vehicles involved in road accidents**

During the year 2005, the total number of vehicles (motor and non- motor) involved in accidents was 44,146 compared to 35,809 in 2004. However, the number of vehicles involved in accidents resulting in casualties was 3,326 in 2005 and 3,297 in 2004. Table 2.3 shows that 38% of these were private cars, 30% motor/auto cycles, 12% vans and 7% buses.

#### **6. Casualties**

The number of casualties (fatalities and persons injured as a result of road accidents) declined by 6.5% from 2,951 in 2004 to 2,760 in 2005. Among the casualties, 136 (5%) were fatal, 358 (13%) were seriously injured and the remaining 2,266 (82%) slightly injured.

Compared to 2004, the number of fatality (persons who died as a result of road accidents) dropped by 5.6%.The fatality rate expressed as the number of persons who died per 100,000 mid year population decreased from 12.0 in 2004 to 11.3 in 2005.

Among the casualties in 2005, 26% were passengers, 29% riders of auto/motor cycles, 22% pedestrians, 16% drivers and 6% pedal cyclists Table (2.4).

## **7. Hit and run cases in accidents causing casualties**

The number of accidents (causing casualties) that were involved in “hit and run” cases increased by 23% from 124 in 2004 to 153 in 2005. Out of the 153 cases, 52% (80) involved vehicles only while the other 48% (73) involved both vehicles and pedestrians (Table 2.5).

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**March 2006**

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## 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.
  - (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:** Prior to August 2004 all road accidents were reported to police stations. As from August 2004, the police register road accidents causing injury, non-injury accidents involving dispute between parties and accidents involving vehicles hitting any property on the road. Other non -injury accidents are reported directly to insurance companies which provide aggregated data on such accidents. Thus detailed information on non-injury accidents are not available.
- 2. Casualties refer** to the total number of fatalities and persons injured as the result of road accidents.
- 3. Fatalities:** Prior to 2002, fatalities were defined as deaths occurring within 7 days as a result of road accidents. Since January 2002, fatalities are defined as deaths occurring within 30 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 - Vehicles<sup>1</sup> registered, 2005**

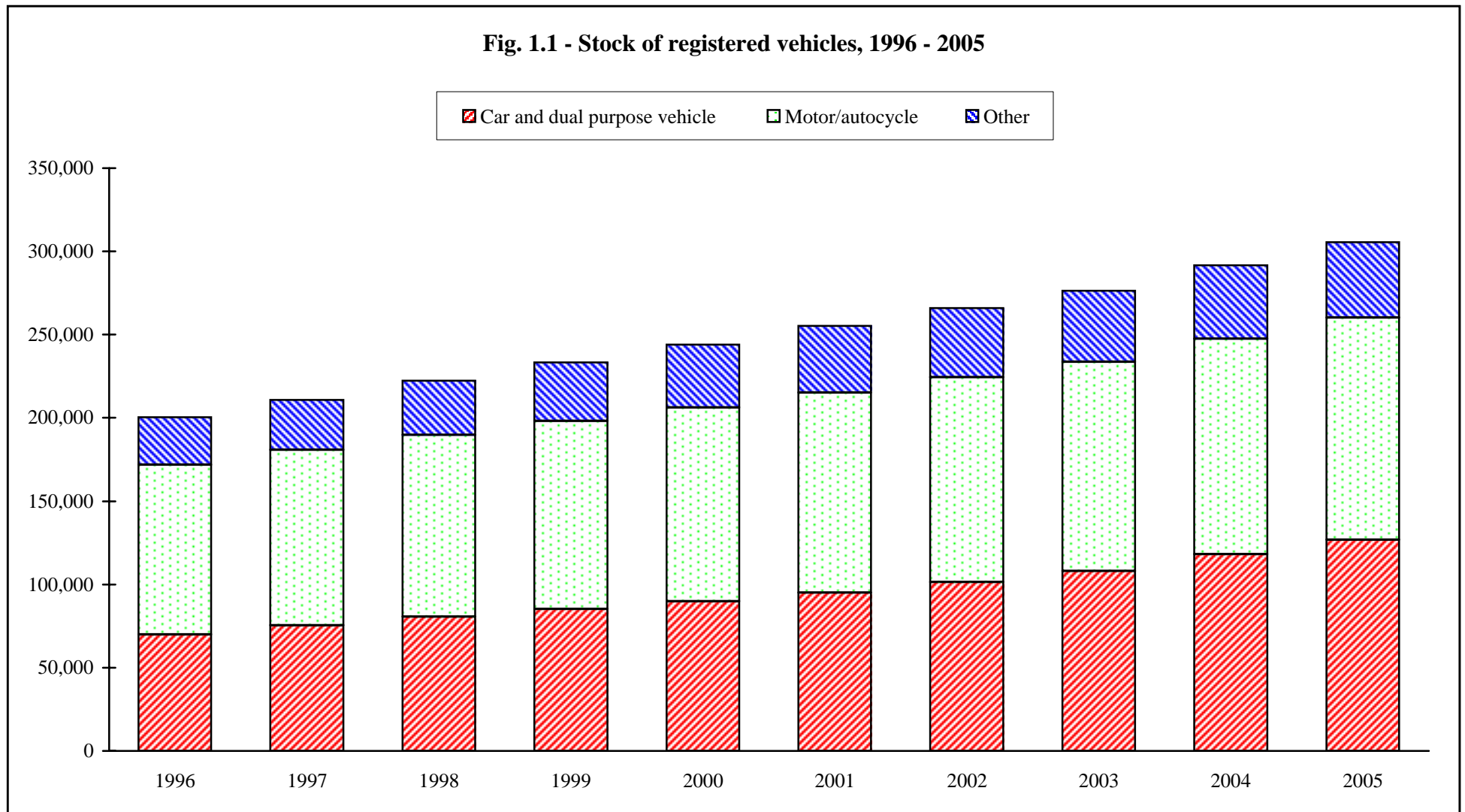
| Type of vehicle      | No. of vehicles at 31.12.04 | New vehicles  | Used imported vehicles | Re - registered vehicles <sup>2</sup> | Vehicles off the road <sup>3</sup> | No. of vehicles at 31.12.05 | Net addition  |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Car                  | 77,342                      | 3,359         | 4,528                  | 717                                   | 1,128                              | 84,818                      | 7,476         |
| Dual purpose vehicle | 40,667                      | 1,389         | 246                    | 216                                   | 492                                | 42,026                      | 1,359         |
| Motor cycle          | 28,646                      | 2,574         | 40                     | 291                                   | 624                                | 30,927                      | 2,281         |
| Auto cycle           | 100,854                     | 2,973         | 8                      | 28                                    | 1,360                              | 102,503                     | 1,649         |
| Lorry and truck      | 11,774                      | 254           | 114                    | 130                                   | 225                                | 12,047                      | 273           |
| Van                  | 23,326                      | 322           | 532                    | 169                                   | 360                                | 23,989                      | 663           |
| Bus                  | 2,457                       | 184           | --                     | --                                    | 81                                 | 2,560                       | 103           |
| Other                | 6,539                       | 188           | 89                     | 34                                    | 224                                | 6,626                       | 87            |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>291,605</b>              | <b>11,243</b> | <b>5,557</b>           | <b>1,585</b>                          | <b>4,494</b>                       | <b>305,496</b>              | <b>13,891</b> |

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

<sup>2</sup> refers to re-registration of vehicles previously put off the road

<sup>3</sup> unlicensed either temporarily or permanently

FIG1-1 Chart 1





**Table 1.2 - Vehicles<sup>1</sup> registered, 1996 - 2005**

| Type of vehicle       | Number         |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                       | 1996           | 1997           | 1998           | 1999           | 2000           | 2001           | 2002           | 2003           | 2004           | 2005           |
| Car                   | 45,563         | 48,390         | 51,051         | 52,892         | 54,911         | 58,082         | 63,307         | 68,524         | 77,342         | 84,818         |
| ( of which taxi car ) | (4,673)        | (4,721)        | (4,761)        | (4,905)        | (5,039)        | (5,318)        | (5,801)        | (5,979)        | (6,482)        | (6,798)        |
| Dual purpose vehicle  | 24,382         | 27,050         | 29,527         | 32,262         | 34,912         | 36,984         | 38,129         | 39,383         | 40,667         | 42,026         |
| Heavy motor car       | 922            | 934            | 945            | 934            | 916            | 923            | 944            | 958            | 1,020          | 1,045          |
| Motor cycle           | 22,230         | 22,839         | 23,577         | 24,125         | 24,523         | 25,104         | 25,723         | 26,744         | 28,646         | 30,927         |
| Auto cycle            | 79,524         | 82,567         | 85,566         | 88,821         | 91,955         | 94,849         | 97,078         | 98,858         | 100,854        | 102,503        |
| Lorry and truck       | 9,058          | 9,356          | 9,750          | 10,138         | 10,485         | 10,888         | 11,236         | 11,501         | 11,774         | 12,047         |
| Van                   | 11,434         | 12,469         | 14,508         | 16,814         | 18,807         | 20,694         | 21,750         | 22,496         | 23,326         | 23,989         |
| Bus                   | 2,348          | 2,359          | 2,367          | 2,344          | 2,394          | 2,408          | 2,450          | 2,460          | 2,457          | 2,560          |
| Tractor and dumper    | 2,580          | 2,615          | 2,627          | 2,630          | 2,645          | 2,683          | 2,683          | 2,877          | 2,935          | 2,982          |
| Prime mover           | 262            | 278            | 297            | 315            | 322            | 335            | 349            | 369            | 388            | 412            |
| Trailer               | 1,597          | 1,640          | 1,703          | 1,719          | 1,726          | 1,776          | 1,770          | 1,772          | 1,771          | 1,765          |
| Road roller           | 106            | 108            | 105            | 102            | 100            | 100            | 101            | 100            | 99             | 96             |
| Other                 | 314            | 317            | 321            | 319            | 322            | 323            | 321            | 329            | 326            | 326            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          | <b>200,320</b> | <b>210,922</b> | <b>222,344</b> | <b>233,415</b> | <b>244,018</b> | <b>255,149</b> | <b>265,841</b> | <b>276,371</b> | <b>291,605</b> | <b>305,496</b> |

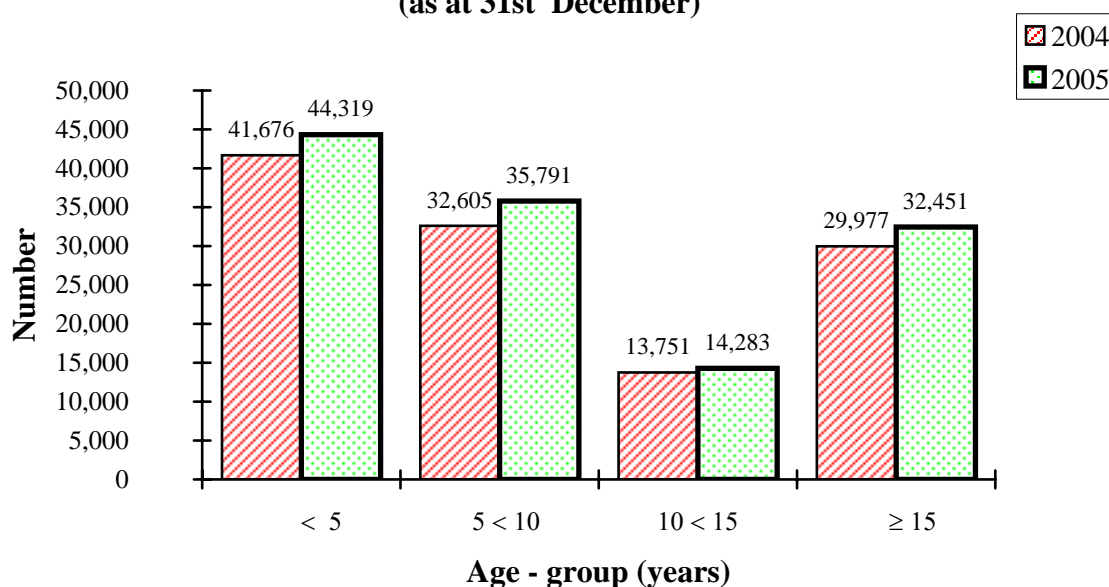
<sup>1</sup> Excluding pedal cycles but including government vehicles

**Table 1.3 - Age composition of cars and dual purpose vehicles, 2004 - 2005**

( as at 31st December )

| Age group<br>(Years) | 2004           |              | 2005           |              |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                      | Number         | %            | Number         | %            |
| < 5                  | 41,676         | 35.3         | 44,319         | 34.9         |
| 5 < 10               | 32,605         | 27.6         | 35,791         | 28.2         |
| 10 < 15              | 13,751         | 11.7         | 14,283         | 11.3         |
| ≥ 15                 | 29,977         | 25.4         | 32,451         | 25.6         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | <b>118,009</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>126,844</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

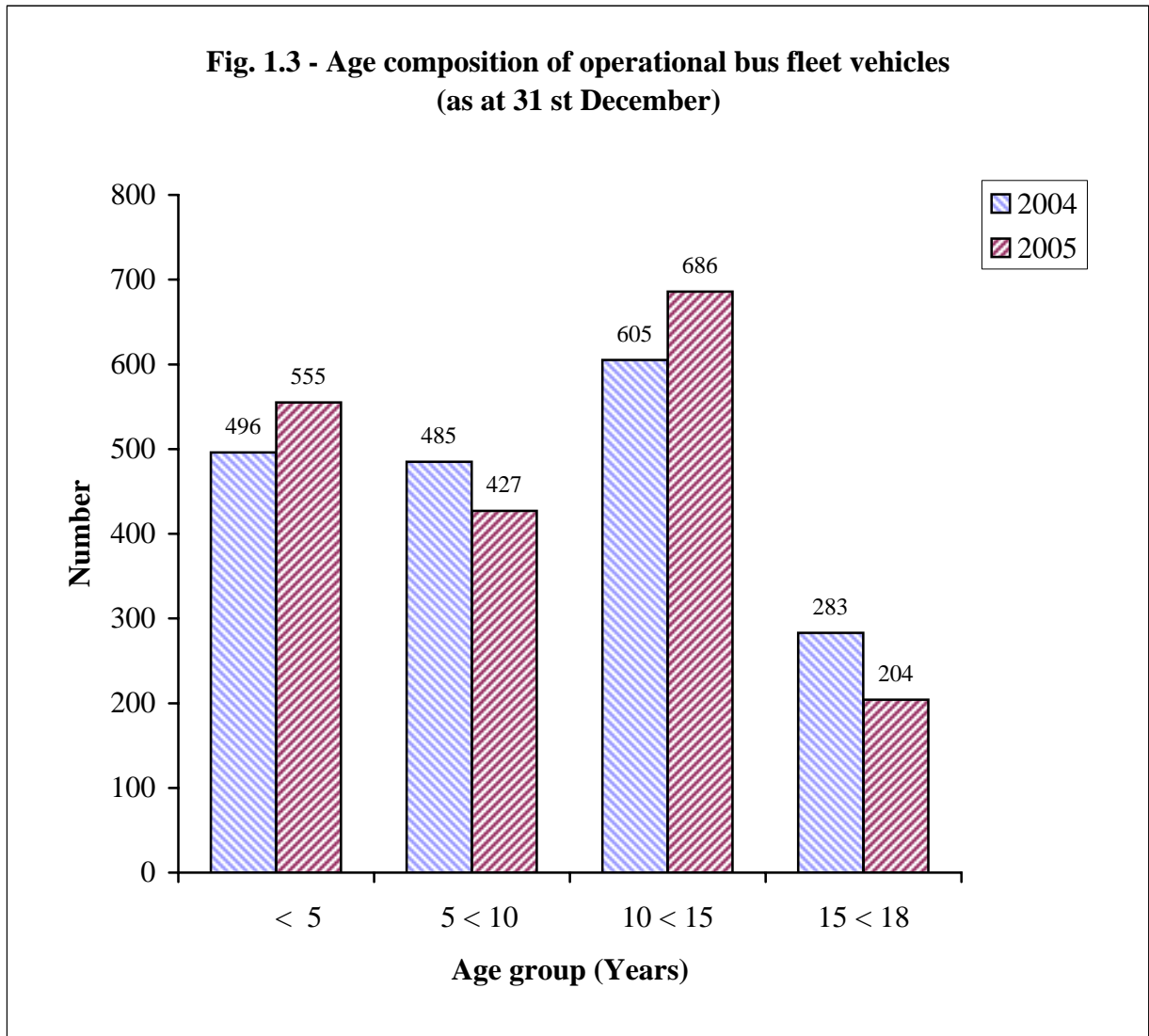
**Fig. 1.2 - Age composition of cars and dual purpose vehicles  
(as at 31st December)**



**Table 1.4 - Age composition of operational bus fleet<sup>1</sup>, 2004 - 2005**  
(as at 31st December)

| Age group<br>(Years) | 2004         |              | 2005         |              |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                      | Number       | %            | Number       | %            |
| < 5                  | 496          | 26.5         | 555          | 29.7         |
| 5 < 10               | 485          | 26.0         | 427          | 22.8         |
| 10 < 15              | 605          | 32.4         | 686          | 36.6         |
| 15 < 18              | 283          | 15.1         | 204          | 10.9         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | <b>1,869</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>1,872</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

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



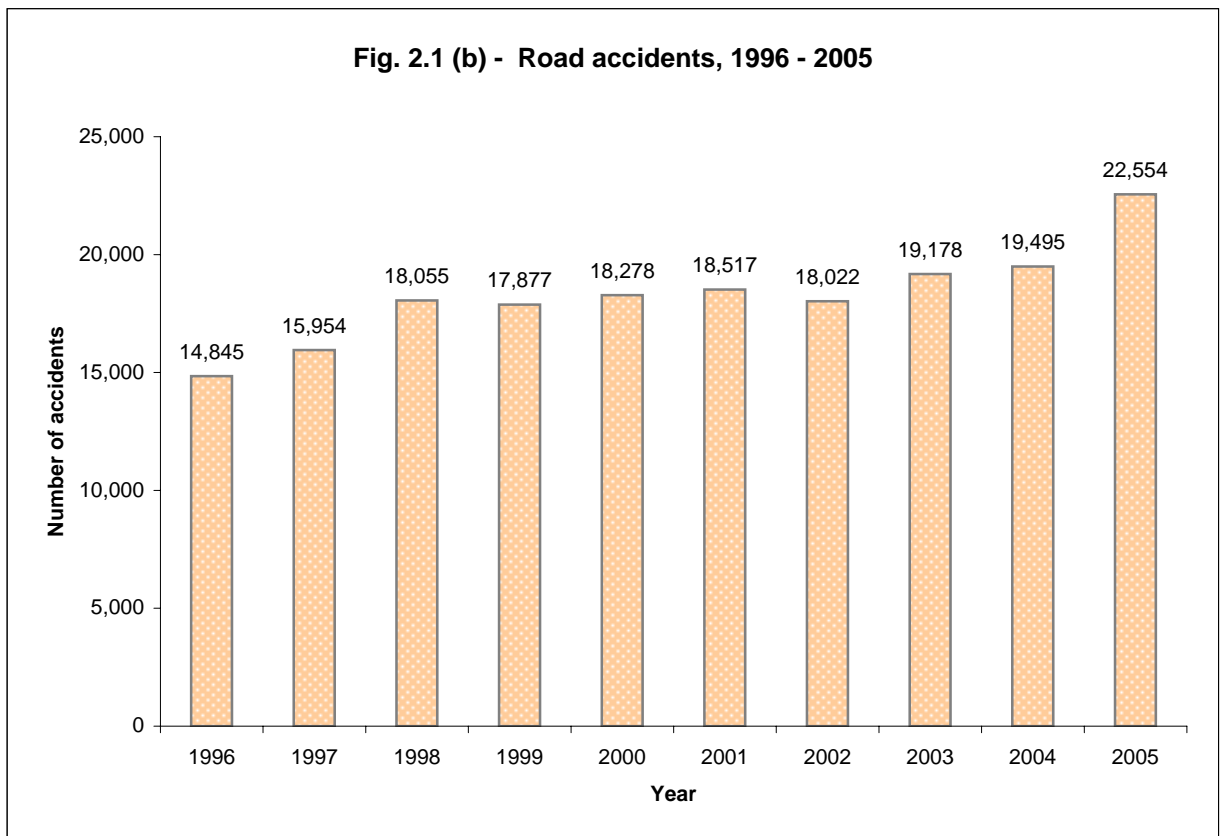
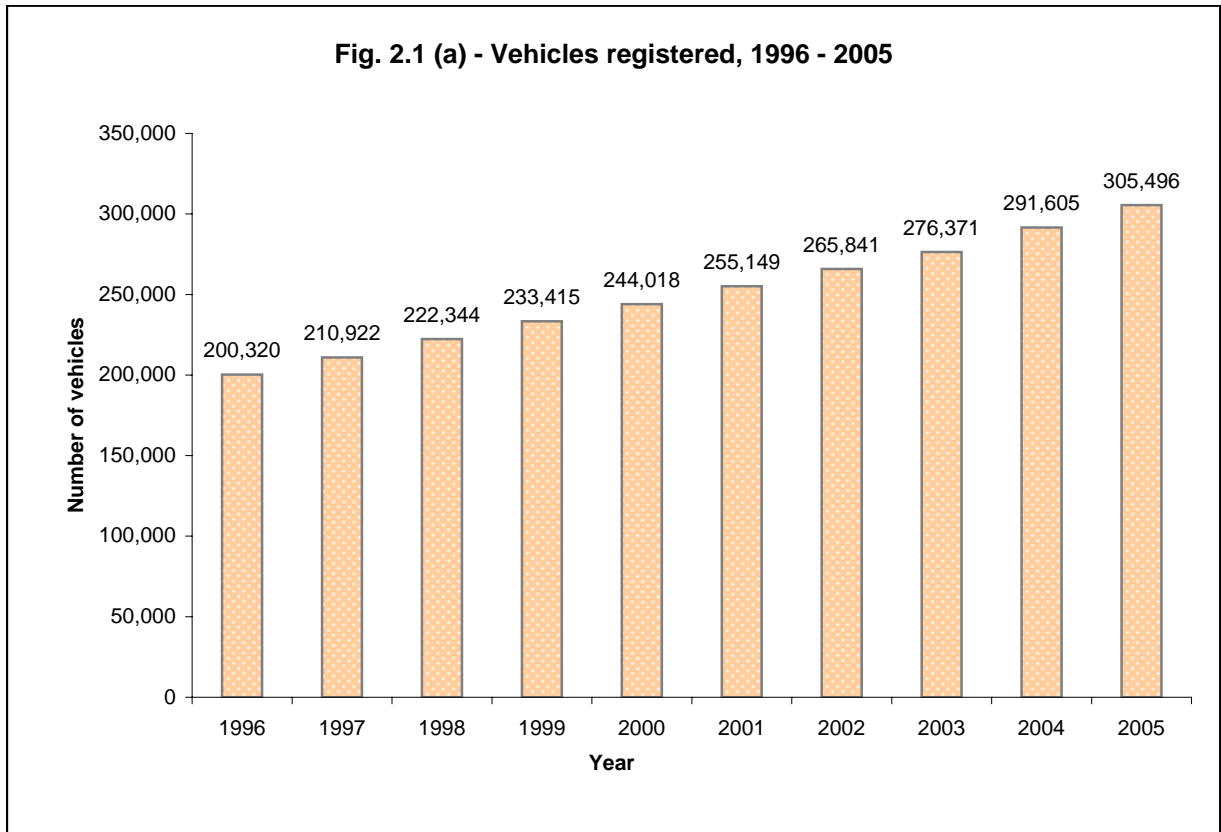
**Table 2.1 - Road traffic accidents<sup>1</sup>, 2004 - 2005**

|   | 2004          | 2005          | Change        |              |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
|   |               |               | Number        | %            |
| <b>1. Road traffic accidents</b>                              | <b>19,495</b> | <b>22,554</b> | <b>+3,059</b> | <b>+15.7</b> |
| Number of accidents causing casualties                        | 2,160         | 2,144         | -16           | -0.7         |
| <i>Fatal accident</i> <sup>2</sup>                            | 131           | 116           | -15           | -11.5        |
| <i>Serious injury accident</i>                                | 184           | 295           | +111          | +60.3        |
| <i>Slight injury accident</i>                                 | 1,845         | 1,733         | -112          | -6.1         |
| Non injury accident   | 17,335        | 20,410        | +3,075        | +17.7        |
| Rate per 100,000 population                                   | 1,629         | 1,869         | N.A           | N.A          |
| Rate per 1,000 registered motor-vehicles                      | 69            | 76            | N.A           | N.A          |
| <b>2. Vehicles involved</b>                                   | <b>35,809</b> | <b>44,146</b> | <b>+8,337</b> | <b>+23.3</b> |
| of which  |               |               |               |              |
| <i>Motor Vehicles</i>   | 35,506        | 43,741        | +8,235        | +23.2        |
| Rate per 1,000 registered motor-vehicles                      | 126           | 148           | N.A           | N.A          |
| Number of m-vehicles involved in accidents causing casualties | 3,087         | 3,146         | +59           | +1.9         |
| <b>3. Casualties</b>  | <b>2,951</b>  | <b>2,760</b>  | <b>-191</b>   | <b>-6.5</b>  |
| <i>Fatal</i> <sup>2</sup>                                     | 144           | 136           | -8            | -5.6         |
| <i>Seriously injured</i>                                      | 245           | 358           | +113          | +46.1        |
| <i>Slightly injured</i>                                       | 2,562         | 2,266         | -296          | -11.6        |

<sup>1</sup> Exclude accidents involving bicycles only or bicycle and pedestrian

<sup>2</sup> Based on definition of fatal accidents where death occurred within 30 days.

N.A : Not applicable



**Table 2.2 - Road traffic accidents<sup>1</sup> and casualties, 1996 - 2005**

|  | 1996   | 1997   | 1998   | 1999   | 2000   | 2001   | 2002   | 2003   | 2004   | 2005   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>1. Road traffic accidents :</b>       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Number                                   | 14,845 | 15,954 | 18,055 | 17,877 | 18,278 | 18,517 | 18,022 | 19,178 | 19,495 | 22,554 |
| Rate per 100,000 population              | 1,351  | 1,433  | 1,605  | 1,569  | 1,588  | 1,591  | 1,535  | 1,616  | 1,629  | 1,869  |
| Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles | 77     | 78     | 84     | 79     | 77     | 75     | 69     | 72     | 69     | 76     |
| <b>2. Motor vehicle involved:</b>        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Number                                   | 26,270 | 28,561 | 32,568 | 32,547 | 33,537 | 33,988 | 33,119 | 35,239 | 35,506 | 43,741 |
| Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles | 135    | 140    | 152    | 144    | 142    | 137    | 127    | 133    | 126    | 148    |
| <b>3. Casualties:</b>                    |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Total number of casualties of which      | 3,774  | 3,755  | 3,828  | 3,405  | 3,291  | 3,264  | 2,904  | 2,698  | 2,951  | 2,760  |
| <i>Fatal</i> <sup>2</sup>                | 153    | 146    | 162    | 170    | 163    | 126    | 158    | 131    | 144    | 136    |
| <i>Seriously injured</i>                 | 238    | 261    | 281    | 237    | 266    | 288    | 216    | 291    | 245    | 358    |
| <i>Slightly injured</i>                  | 3,383  | 3,348  | 3,385  | 2,998  | 2,862  | 2,850  | 2,530  | 2,276  | 2,562  | 2,266  |
| <b>4. Fatality :</b>                     |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Rate per 100,000 population              | 13.9   | 13.1   | 14.4   | 14.9   | 14.2   | 10.8   | 13.5   | 11.0   | 12.0   | 11.3   |
| Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles | 0.8    | 0.7    | 0.8    | 0.8    | 0.7    | 0.5    | 0.6    | 0.5    | 0.5    | 0.4    |
| Fatality index <sup>3</sup>              | 4.1    | 3.9    | 4.2    | 5.0    | 5.0    | 3.9    | 5.4    | 4.8    | 4.9    | 4.9    |

<sup>1</sup> Exclude accidents involving bicycles only or bicycle and pedestrian

<sup>2</sup> From 1993 to 2001 figures are based on definition of fatal accidents where death occurred within 7 days.

As from 2002, figures are based on definition of fatal accidents where deaths occurred within 30 days as a result of road accidents

<sup>3</sup> Fatality index is the number of fatalities per 100 casualties.

**Table 2.3 -Number of vehicles<sup>1</sup> involved in accidents (causing casualties) by type, 2004 - 2005**

| Type of vehicle             | 2004       |            |              |              |              | 2005       |            |              |              |              |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                             | Casualties |            |              |              |              | Casualties |            |              |              |              |
|                             | Fatal      | Serious    | Slight       | Total        | %            | Fatal      | Serious    | Slight       | Total        | %            |
| Private car                 | 63         | 87         | 850          | 1,000        | 30.3         | 58         | 181        | 1,026        | 1,265        | 38.0         |
| Taxi car                    | 4          | 6          | 132          | 142          | 4.3          | 3          | 9          | 85           | 97           | 2.9          |
| Bus                         | 13         | 24         | 191          | 228          | 6.9          | 16         | 27         | 175          | 218          | 6.6          |
| Lorry                       | 21         | 15         | 159          | 195          | 5.9          | 8          | 22         | 100          | 130          | 3.9          |
| Van                         | 33         | 49         | 450          | 532          | 16.1         | 26         | 42         | 332          | 400          | 12.0         |
| Motor / auto cycle          | 42         | 80         | 843          | 965          | 29.3         | 41         | 147        | 808          | 996          | 29.9         |
| Other motor vehicles        | 2          | 2          | 21           | 25           | 0.8          | 1          | 1          | 38           | 40           | 1.2          |
| <b>Total motor vehicles</b> | <b>178</b> | <b>263</b> | <b>2,646</b> | <b>3,087</b> | <b>93.6</b>  | <b>153</b> | <b>429</b> | <b>2,564</b> | <b>3,146</b> | <b>94.6</b>  |
| Pedal cycle                 | 13         | 10         | 185          | 208          | 6.3          | 17         | 24         | 136          | 177          | 5.3          |
| Other non motor vehicles    | 0          | 0          | 2            | 2            | 0.1          | 0          | 1          | 2            | 3            | 0.1          |
| <b>All vehicles</b>         | <b>191</b> | <b>273</b> | <b>2,833</b> | <b>3,297</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>170</b> | <b>454</b> | <b>2,702</b> | <b>3,326</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 - Number of casualties by class of road users, 2004 - 2005**

| Class of road users        | 2004         |              |              |              | 2005         |              |              |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                            | Jan. - Jun.  | Jul. - Dec.  | Total        | %            | Jan. - Jun.  | Jul. - Dec.  | Total        | %            |
| Pedestrian                 | 359          | 343          | 702          | 23.8         | 295          | 322          | 617          | 22.4         |
| Passenger                  | 459          | 411          | 870          | 29.5         | 349          | 370          | 719          | 26.0         |
| Driver                     | 166          | 171          | 337          | 11.4         | 206          | 242          | 448          | 16.2         |
| Rider (auto / motor cycle) | 419          | 392          | 811          | 27.5         | 408          | 403          | 811          | 29.4         |
| Pedal cyclist              | 122          | 109          | 231          | 7.8          | 86           | 79           | 165          | 6.0          |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>1,525</b> | <b>1,426</b> | <b>2,951</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>1,344</b> | <b>1,416</b> | <b>2,760</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

**Table 2.5 - Number of accidents (causing casualties) involved in "hit and run" cases, 2004- 2005**

| Year<br>Accident        | 2004        |             |            |              | 2005        |             |            |              |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
|                         | Jan. - Jun. | Jul. - Dec. | Total      | %            | Jan. - Jun. | Jul. - Dec. | Total      | %            |
| Vehicles v/s pedestrian | 29          | 37          | 66         | 53.2         | 39          | 34          | 73         | 47.7         |
| Vehicles v/s vehicles   | 34          | 24          | 58         | 46.8         | 49          | 31          | 80         | 52.3         |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>63</b>   | <b>61</b>   | <b>124</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>88</b>   | <b>65</b>   | <b>153</b> | <b>100.0</b> |