

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, JANUARY – JUNE 2007

1. Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicator presents provisional population estimates for mid-year 2007 and vital statistics for the first semester of 2007. It also includes forecasts of vital events and rates for the year 2007.

It is to be noted that as from January 2005, data for the compilation of vital statistics is being extracted from the computerised system in place at the Central Civil Status Office. Previously, all civil status offices were manually filling in a statistical form for each vital event registered. These forms were subsequently submitted to the Central Statistics Office where they were coded and edited prior to data capture at the Central Informatics System Division.

Definitions of terms used are at Annex.

2. Key points

- The population of the Republic of Mauritius was estimated at 1,260,696 as at 1st July 2007, growing at a rate of 0.6% since mid-2006.
- As at mid-2007, female population was higher than the male population by about 14,000.
- The number of live births forecast for the Republic of Mauritius for year 2007 is 17,000, corresponding to a crude birth rate of 13.5, against 14.1 in 2006.
- The number of deaths forecast for 2007 is 8,200 giving a crude death rate of 6.5, compared to 7.3 in 2006.
- For 2007, 255 infant deaths are forecast for the Republic, corresponding to an infant mortality rate of 15.0 against 14.1 in 2006.
- The number of still births forecast for 2007 is 130 giving a still birth rate of 7.6, compared to 8.3 in 2006.
- The number of marriages forecast for 2007 is 11,500 corresponding to a marriage rate of 18.2, against 18.3 in 2006.

3. Estimated resident population

Table 1: Estimated resident population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1st July 2007

Island	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio
Island of Mauritius	1,223,091	604,479	618,612	97.7
Island of Rodrigues	37,316	18,446	18,870	97.8
Agalega and St. Brandon	289	193	96	201.0
Republic of Mauritius	1,260,696	623,118	637,578	97.7

As at 1st July 2007, the population of the Republic of Mauritius was estimated at 1,260,696 of whom 623,118 were males and 637,578 females, resulting in a sex ratio of 97.7 males per 100 females.

The population of the Island of Mauritius and Rodrigues were estimated at 1,223,091 and 37,316 respectively. In both islands, females outnumbered males.

However, Agalega and St. Brandon, with an estimated population of 289, had more males than females.

Table 2: Population density, Republic of Mauritius, 1st July 2007

Island	Both sexes	Area (km ²)	Density per km ²
Island of Mauritius	1,223,091	1,864.8	656
Island of Rodrigues	37,316	104.0	359
Agalega and St. Brandon	289	71.2	4
Republic of Mauritius	1,260,696	2,040.0	618

The Republic of Mauritius, with a total land area of 2,040 square kilometres, had a population density of around 618 persons per square km at mid-2007. The population densities of the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues were 656 and 359 respectively.

Table 3: Estimated resident population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2005-2007 (mid-year estimates)

Year	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio
2005	1,243,542	614,979	628,563	97.8
2006	1,252,987	619,436	633,551	97.8
2007	1,260,696	623,118	637,578	97.7

Comparative population estimates and sex ratios for the past three years are given in the above table. The drop in the sex ratio indicates a slight fall in the proportion of males in the population.

4. Population growth

Table 4: Population change, Republic of Mauritius, 1st July 2006 and 1st July 2007

Island	Population		Change	
	1st July 2006	1st July 2007	Number	%
Island of Mauritius	1,215,619	1,223,091	7,472	0.6
Island of Rodrigues	37,079	37,316	237	0.6
Agalega and St. Brandon	289	289	0	0.0
Republic of Mauritius	1,252,987	1,260,696	7,709	0.6

The population of the Republic of Mauritius increased by 7,709 between mid-2006 and mid-2007, at a rate of 0.6%. The growth rates for both the islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues were 0.6%.

Table 5: Components of population growth during the first semester of 2006 and 2007, Republic of Mauritius¹

Components of population growth	2006	2007
Resident population as at beginning of year	1,248,296	1,256,438
Live Births, January-June	9,065	8,660
Deaths, January-June	4,903	3,998
Natural increase, January-June	4,162	4,662
Net international migration, January-June	240	-693
Resident population as at mid-year	1,252,698	1,260,407

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 (the net movements of residents).

During the first semester of 2007, the population registered a natural increase of 4,662, which was the result of an addition of 8,660 persons due to live births and a subtraction of 3,998 persons due to deaths. For the same period, the net international migration of residents was -693 persons.

5. Vital statistics and rates

5.1: Live births and crude birth rate

Table 6: Live births registered and crude birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 and 2007¹

Island	Number of live births				Crude birth rate	
	2006		2007		2006	2007 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	8,637	16,723	8,235	16,200	13.8	13.2
Island of Rodrigues	428	881	425	800	23.2	21.4
Republic of Mauritius	9,065	17,604	8,660	17,000	14.1	13.5

¹ forecast

During the first semester of 2007, 8,660 live births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, 4.5% less than in the corresponding period of 2006. For the year 2007, the

number of live births is forecast at 17,000 resulting in a crude birth rate of 13.5 live births per 1,000 mid-year population compared to 14.1 in 2006. The forecast for 2007 for the Island of Mauritius is 16,200 live births (rate of 13.2), and for Rodrigues it is 800 (rate of 21.4).

5.2: Deaths and crude death rate

Table 7: Deaths and crude death rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 and 2007¹

Island	Number of deaths				Crude death rate	
	2006		2007		2006	2007 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	4,775	8,917	3,904	8,000	7.3	6.5
Island of Rodrigues	128	245	94	200	6.0	5.4
Republic of Mauritius	4,903	9,162	3,998	8,200	7.3	6.5

¹ forecast

The number of deaths registered during the first six months of 2007 in the Republic of Mauritius was 3,998, that is, 18.5% less than figures for the corresponding period in 2006. The forecast for 2007 is 8,200 deaths corresponding to a crude death rate of 6.5. The expected number of deaths for the Island of Mauritius for 2007 is 8,000 (rate of 6.5) and that for Rodrigues 200 (rate of 5.4).

5.3: Infant deaths and infant mortality rate

Table 8: Infant deaths and infant mortality rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 and 2007¹

Island	Number of infant deaths				Infant mortality rate	
	2006		2007		2006	2007 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	136	225	140	240	13.5	14.8
Island of Rodrigues	14	24	8	15	19.4	18.8
Republic of Mauritius	150	249	148	255	14.1	15.0

¹ forecast

During the period January to June 2007, 148 infant deaths were registered in the Republic of Mauritius against 150 during the same period in 2006, i.e a decrease of 1.3%. For the year 2007, around 255 infant deaths are expected to occur in the Republic of Mauritius, giving an infant mortality rate of 15.0 infant deaths per 1,000

live births against 14.1 in 2006. The forecast for 2007 for the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues are 240 (rate of 14.8) and 15 (rate of 18.8) respectively.

5.4: Still births and still birth rate

Table 9: Still births and still birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 and 2007¹

Island	Number of still births				Still birth rate	
	2006		2007		2006	2007 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	73	135	62	120	8.0	7.4
Island of Rodrigues	9	12	6	10	13.0	12.3
Republic of Mauritius	82	147	68	130	8.3	7.6

¹ forecast

During the first semester of 2007, 68 still births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius against 82 during the same period in 2006, i.e a 17.1% decrease. For year 2007, the number of still births expected for the Republic of Mauritius is 130, giving a still birth rate of 7.6 still births per 1,000 total births against 8.3 in 2006. The number of still births forecast for the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues for 2007 are 120 (rate of 7.4) and 10 (rate of 12.3) respectively.

5.5: Marriages and crude marriage rate

Table 10: Marriages and crude marriage rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 and 2007¹

Island	Number of marriages				Crude marriage rate	
	2006		2007		2006	2007 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	5,012	11,262	5,029	11,300	18.5	18.5
Island of Rodrigues	105	209	78	200	11.3	10.7
Republic of Mauritius	5,117	11,471	5,107	11,500	18.3	18.2

¹ forecast

A total of 5,107 marriages were registered in the Republic of Mauritius during the first semester of 2007, representing 0.2% decrease over the number registered during the same period in 2006 (5,117). The number of marriages forecast for 2007 is 11,500 giving a crude marriage rate of 18.2, against 18.3 in 2006. The expected number of marriages in 2007 for the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues are 11,300 (rate of 18.5) and 200 (rate of 10.7) respectively.

6. International comparison of vital rates

Vital statistics for countries in the world are published in the UN publication "The Demographic Yearbook". Some comparative figures from the 2004 Yearbook are given in the table below.

Table 11 - Vital rates for selected countries

Country	Year	Crude Birth rate	Crude death rate	Infant mortality rate
Mauritius	2003	15.8	7.0	12.9
Botswana	2001	32.0	12.4	29.3
Mozambique	2001	42.7	23.9	131.6
Canada	2003	10.6	7.1	5.3
India	2004	24.1	7.5	58.0
Philippines	2003	20.6	4.9	13.7
France	2003	12.7	9.2	4.0

It is to be noted that the crude birth/death rates are strictly not comparable between countries as it is affected by the age structure of the population. For instance, the crude death rate for Mauritius is lower than that for France. This is because Mauritius has a relatively young population and hence proportionately less death is expected.

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Annex

Definitions of terms

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|--------------------------|--|
| 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 15-64 years. |
| 4. Sex ratio | The number of males to every 100 females. |
| 5. Natural increase | The excess of live births over deaths. |
| 6. Crude birth rate | The number of live births in a year per 1,000 mid-year population. |
| 7. Crude death rate | The number of deaths in a year per 1,000 mid-year population. |
| 8. Infant mortality rate | The number of deaths in a year of infants aged under one year per 1,000 live births during the year. |
| 9. Still birth rate | The number of still births in a year per 1,000 total births (live births and still births) during the year. |
| 10. 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 of three years in order to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data. The rates for year 2007 is however calculated on the basis of data for the year only.