

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, YEAR 2007

1. Introduction

This issue of Economic and Social Indicator presents population estimates as at December 2007 and vital statistics and rates for year 2007.

This office compiles vital statistics from data obtained from the computerised system in place at the Central Civil Status Office.

Definitions of terms used are given at Annex.

2. Key points

- The population of the Republic of Mauritius was estimated at 1,264,866 as at 31 December 2007, growing at a rate of 0.6% since end 2006.
- As at end 2007, female population was higher than the male population by about 15,000.
- In 2007, the population aged 0-14 years comprised 23.3% of the total population. The population aged 15-64 years and that aged 65 years and over comprised 69.9% and 6.7% respectively of the total population.
- The number of live births registered during year 2007 was 17,034, representing a decrease of 3.2% over the figure of 2006.
- The number of deaths registered in 2007 stood at 8,495, 7.3% lower than for 2006.
- The number of infant deaths rose by 5.2% from 249 in 2006 to 262 in 2007.
- The number of still births increased by 9.5%, from 147 in 2006 to 161 in 2007.
- The number of marriages registered in 2007 was 12,471, that is 8.7% more than in 2006.

3. Estimated resident population

Table 1: Estimated resident population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 31 December 2007

Island	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio
Island of Mauritius	1,227,078	606,308	620,770	97.7
Island of Rodrigues	37,499	18,530	18,969	97.7
Agalega and St. Brandon	289	193	96	201.0
Republic of Mauritius	1,264,866	625,031	639,835	97.7

The estimated resident population of the Republic of Mauritius was 1,264,866 at 31 December 2007. The female population was 639,835 compared to a male population of 625,031. There were 97.7 males for every 100 females.

The population was estimated at 1,227,078 and 37,499 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 289, had more males (193) than females (96).

Table 2: Population density, Republic of Mauritius, 31 December 2007

Island	Both sexes	Area (km ²)	Density per km ²
Island of Mauritius	1,227,078	1,864.8	658
Island of Rodrigues	37,499	104.0	361
Agalega and St. Brandon	289	71.2	4
Republic of Mauritius	1,264,866	2,040.0	620

The Republic of Mauritius, with a total land area of 2,040 km² had a population density of 620 persons per km² as at end 2007. Among its constituent islands, the Island of Mauritius had the highest density (658), followed by Rodrigues (361).

The population density for the Republic of Mauritius increased from 616 in 2006 to 620 in 2007.

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

Year	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio
2005	1,248,585	617,409	631,176	97.8
2006	1,256,727	621,304	635,423	97.8
2007	1,264,866	625,031	639,835	97.7

Comparative population estimates and sex ratios for the past three years are given in Table 3. There was a slight decline in the sex ratio from 2005 to 2007, indicating an increasing proportion of females over time.

4. Population growth

Table 4: Population change, Republic of Mauritius, 31 December 2006 and 31 December 2007

Island	Population		Change	
	31 December 2006	31 December 2007	Number	%
Island of Mauritius	1,219,208	1,227,078	7,870	0.6
Island of Rodrigues	37,230	37,499	269	0.7
Agalega and St. Brandon	289	289	0	0.0
Republic of Mauritius	1,256,727	1,264,866	8,139	0.6

The population of the Republic of Mauritius increased by 8,139 persons from 31 December 2006 to 31 December 2007. The population growth rate was thus 0.6% during the 12-month period. The growth rate for the Island of Mauritius was also 0.6%; while for Rodrigues it was around 0.7%.

Table 5: Components of population growth, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2006 and 2007

Components of population growth	2006	2007
Resident population as at beginning of year	<u>1,248,296</u>	<u>1,256,438</u>
Live Births	17,604	17,034
Deaths	9,162	8,495
Natural increase	<u>8,442</u>	<u>8,539</u>
Net international migration	-300	-400
Resident population as at end of year	1,256,438	1,264,577

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 2007, the natural increase was 8,539, with births adding 17,034 babies and deaths removing 8,495 persons from the population. For the same period, net international migration of residents was -400 persons.

5. Age distribution of the population

Table 6: Estimated resident population¹ by broad age group and sex – Republic of Mauritius², 1 July 2006 and 1 July 2007

Age group (Years)	1st July 2006			1st July 2007		
	Male	Female	B. Sexes	Male	Female	B. Sexes
0	9,257	8,759	18,016	8,727	8,255	16,982
1 - 4	38,806	37,704	76,510	38,212	36,933	75,145
5 - 9	50,040	48,311	98,351	49,883	47,912	97,795
10 - 14	53,960	52,957	106,917	52,387	51,902	104,289
15 - 19	51,333	50,006	101,339	53,496	51,658	105,154
20 - 29	105,665	104,913	210,578	103,889	103,146	207,035
30 - 39	94,486	95,526	190,012	94,890	96,237	191,127
40 - 49	96,656	96,070	192,726	96,883	96,684	193,567
50 - 59	66,947	69,532	136,479	70,451	72,778	143,229
60-64	17,793	20,834	38,627	19,085	22,081	41,166
65+	34,300	48,843	83,143	35,023	49,891	84,914
All ages	619,243	633,455	1,252,698	622,926	637,477	1,260,403

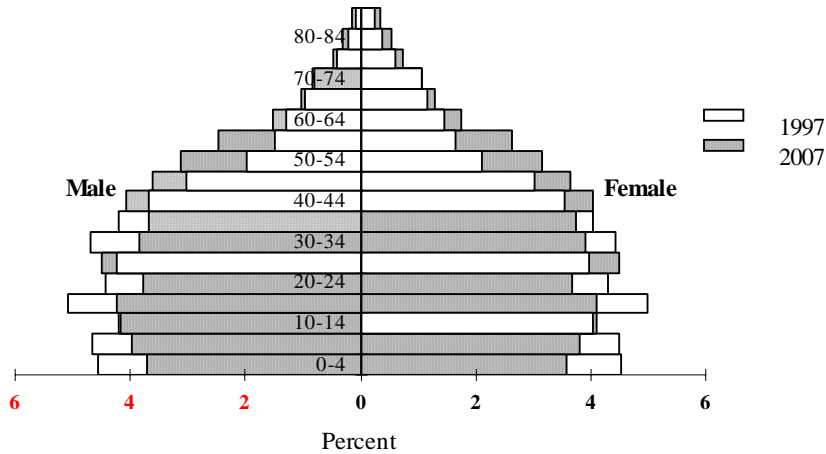
¹ based on 2000 population census data adjusted for underenumeration of young children

² excluding Agalega and St Brandon

The proportion of the population aged 0-14 years declined from 23.9% in 2006 to 23.3% in 2007. In contrast, an increase was registered in the proportion aged 15-64

years from 69.4% to 69.9% and the proportion aged 65 years and above from 6.6% to 6.7% during the same period. As a result, the dependency ratio decreased from 440 to 430.

Figure 1: Population pyramids – Republic of Mauritius, 1997 & 2007



The population pyramid compares the age structure of the population between 1997 and 2007. The main changes observed over time are:

- the shrinking of the base of the pyramid 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.

6. Vital statistics and rates

6.1: Live births and crude birth rate

Table 7: Live births registered and crude birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 and 2007¹

Island	Number of live births registered		Crude birth rate	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
Island of Mauritius	16,723	16,190	13.8	13.2
Island of Rodrigues	881	844	23.6	22.6
Republic of Mauritius	17,604	17,034	14.1	13.5

¹ Provisional

During the year 2007, 17,034 live births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, representing a 3.2% fall over the 2006 figure of 17,604. The crude birth rate fell from 14.1 in 2006 to 13.5 in 2007.

In the Island of Mauritius, the number of live births registered decreased from 16,723 in 2006 to 16,190 in 2007 bringing about a fall in the crude birth rate from 13.8 to 13.2. Similarly, for the Island of Rodrigues, the number of live births decreased from 881 (rate of 23.6) in 2006 to 844 (rate of 22.6) in 2007.

6.2: Deaths and crude death rate

Table 8: Deaths and crude death rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 and 2007¹

Island	Number of deaths registered		Crude death rate	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
Island of Mauritius	8,917	8,320	7.3	6.8
Island of Rodrigues	245	175	5.8	4.7
Republic of Mauritius	9,162	8,495	7.3	6.7

¹ Provisional

The number of deaths registered in the Republic of Mauritius in 2007 was 8,495, representing a 7.3% decrease over the figure of 9,162 for 2006. The crude death rate consequently fell from 7.3 to 6.7.

The Island of Mauritius registered a decrease in the number of deaths, from 8,917 in 2006 (rate of 7.3) to 8,320 in 2007 (rate of 6.8). During the same period, the number of deaths in Rodrigues also decreased from 245 (rate of 5.8) to 175 (rate of 4.7).

6.3: Infant deaths and infant mortality rate

Table 9: Infant deaths and infant mortality rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 and 2007¹

Island	Number of infant deaths registered		Infant mortality rate	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
Island of Mauritius	225	249	13.5	15.4
Island of Rodrigues	24	13	18.3	15.4
Republic of Mauritius	249	262	14.1	15.4

¹ Provisional

During the year 2007, 262 infant deaths (deaths to children aged under one year) were registered in the Republic of Mauritius against 249 in 2006, representing an increase of 5.2%. The infant mortality rate, defined as the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births, rose from 14.1 in 2006 to 15.4 in 2007.

An increase in the number of infant deaths was also noted in the Island of Mauritius from 225 in 2006 to 249 in 2007. The infant mortality rate thus rose from 13.5 to 15.4 during the same period. For Rodrigues, the number of infant deaths decreased from 24 in 2006 (rate of 18.3) to 13 in 2007 (rate of 15.4).

6.4: Still births and Still birth rate

Table 10: Still births and still birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 and 2007¹

Island	Number of still births registered		Still birth rate	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
Island of Mauritius	135	146	8.0	8.9
Island of Rodrigues	12	15	14.7	17.5
Republic of Mauritius	147	161	8.3	9.4

¹ Provisional

In 2007, 161 still births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, which is 9.5% higher than the 2006 figure of 147. The still birth rate rose from 8.3 in 2006 to 9.4 in 2007.

The Island of Mauritius registered 146 still births in 2007 against 135 in 2006, with the still birth rate rising from 8.0 in 2006 to 8.9 in 2007. In Rodrigues, 15 still births were registered in 2007 compared to 12 in 2006. The still birth rate thus rose from 14.7 in 2006 to 17.5 in 2007.

6.5 – Marriages and crude marriage rate

Table 11 – Marriages and crude marriage rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 and 2007¹

Island	Number of marriages registered		Marriage rate	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
Island of Mauritius	11,262	12,286	18.5	20.1
Island of Rodrigues	209	185	11.0	9.9
Republic of Mauritius	11,471	12,471	18.3	19.8

¹ Provisional

The number of marriages registered in the Republic of Mauritius increased by 8.7% from 11,471 in 2006 to 12,471 in 2007. The crude marriage rate rose from 18.3 to 19.8 during the same period.

The number of marriages in the Island of Mauritius increased from 11,262 in 2006 (rate of 18.5) to 12,286 in 2007 (rate of 20.1). However, the Island of Rodrigues registered a decrease in the number of marriages from 209 in 2006 (rate of 11.0) to 185 in 2007 (rate of 9.9).

7. International Comparison

Population growth rates for various countries in the world are published in the UN publication “The World Population Prospects 2006”. The figures indicate that the population growth rate for the Republic of Mauritius during the period 2000-05 was 0.9%, lower than the estimated world’s population growth rate of 1.2%. The Republic’s growth rate was lower than that for Singapore (1.5%) and India (1.6%), but was higher than that for the United Kingdom (0.5%), Japan (0.1%) and Belgium (0.4%).

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04 March 2008

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Annex

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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.