

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

**Year 2008**

## **1. Vehicles registered in 2008**

At the end of December 2008 there were 351,406 vehicles registered at the National Transport Authority (NTA). This represents a net increase of 17,261 vehicles (5.2%) as compared to end of year 2007 when the number of registered vehicles was 334,145.

During the year 2008, the fleet was strengthened with the registration of 21,849 vehicles, of which 14,515 (66%) were new, 6,531 (30%) were imported second-hand and 803 (4%) were re-registered vehicles; i.e., those which had been previously de-registered (put off the road). However during the same period 4,588 vehicles were put off the road, resulting in a net addition of 17,261 vehicles to the existing fleet (Table 1.1).

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

A breakdown of the fleet by type of vehicle is given in Table 1.2. At the end of December 2008, the fleet consisted of 44% (155,528) cars and dual purpose vehicles and 42% (147,988) auto/motor cycles. The remaining 14% comprised vans (25,334), lorries and trucks (12,726), buses (2,762) and other vehicles (7,068).

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

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

At the end of 2008, the number of cars and dual purpose vehicles was 155,528, a rise of 7.7% over the 2007 figure which stood at 144,405. This increase was the result of the registration of 12,766 such vehicles (6,452 new, 5,876 imported second-hand and 438 re-registered), partly offset by 1,643 that were put off the road.

Table 1.3 shows the age distribution of cars and dual purpose vehicles. At the end of December 2008, 41% were less than 5 years, 24% between 5 and 9 years and the remaining 35%, 10 years and above.

### **3.2 *Buses***

At the end of December 2008, there were 2,762 registered buses, out of which 1,898 or 69% were 'public' buses operating with a road service licence. During 2008,

81 new buses were registered while 72 buses were put off the road resulting in an increase of 9 buses.

Table 1.4 which gives the age distribution of the fleet of public buses shows that 35% of the buses were under 5 years, 24.% between 5 and 9 years and 41%, between 10 and 18 years.

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

The number of road accidents registered during the year 2008 was 20,877 against 20,519 in the preceding year, showing an increase of 1.7%. Among these accidents the majority, 18,650 (89.3%) were non-injury, 162 fatal, 378 caused serious injuries and 1,687 slight injuries.

Compared to 2007, accidents causing casualties went up by 1.7% and non-injury accidents by 1.8%. Fatal accidents rose by 21.8% and slight injury accidents by 2.0 % while serious injury accidents decreased by 6.2%.

The accident rate expressed as the number of accidents per 100,000 mid-year population increased from 1,678 in 2007 to 1,696 in 2008 while the number of accidents per 1,000 mid-year registered motor vehicles decreased from 63 to 61 (Table 2.1).

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

During the year 2008, the total number of vehicles (both motor and non-motor) involved in road accidents was 43,096 against 41,355 in the previous year. The number of vehicles involved in accidents resulting in casualties in 2008 was 3,568 against 3,389 in 2007. Table 2.3 shows that 35.5% of these were private cars, another 31.6% motor/auto cycles and 13.3% vans.

#### **6. Casualties**

The number of casualties (fatalities and persons injured as a result of road accidents) rose by 12.3 % from 3,055 in 2007 to 3,431 in 2008. Among the casualties, 168 were fatal, 517 were seriously injured and the remaining 2,746 were slightly injured.

Compared to 2007, the number of persons who died as a result of road accidents went up by 20%. The fatality rate expressed as the number of persons who died as a result of road accidents per 100,000 mid-year population increased from 11.4% in 2007 to 13.6 in 2008

Table 2.4 reveals that, among the casualties in 2008, 33.4% were passengers, 29.4% riders of auto/motor cycles, 18.4% pedestrians, 12.8% drivers and 6.0% pedal cyclists.

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

In 2008, there were 147 "hit and run" cases causing casualties compared to 128 in 2007. Out of these 147 cases, 55.1% (81) involved vehicles only while the other 44.9% (66) involved both vehicles and pedestrians (Table 2.5).

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## Explanatory 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, and 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 autocyple or a vehicle classified as an invalid carriage, with not more than four wheels and whose unladen weight does not exceed 400 kilograms.

(b) **Auto cycle**

An autocyple 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 Accidents**

1. In this report, data on accidents refer to all road accidents reported to police stations and to insurance companies.

### **2. Road Traffic Accident**

A road traffic accident is an accident between two or more vehicles, a vehicle and a cyclist, a vehicle and a pedestrian, a vehicle and a fixed object such as a bridge, building, tree, post, etc, or a single vehicle that overturned on or near a public road.

### **3. Severity of accident**

Road traffic accidents are classified into the following categories according to the severity of the accident:

*Fatal accident* - an accident resulting in the death of one or more persons. Prior to 2002, a fatal accident was defined as an accident where deaths occurred within 7 days. As from 2002, a fatal accident is defined as an accident where deaths occurred within 30 days.

*Serious injury accident* - An accident in which one or more persons are seriously injured.

*Slight injury accident* - An accident in which one or more persons are slightly injured.

*Non injury accident* - An accident in which no one is killed or injured but which results in damage to the vehicle/s and/or other property only.

### **4. Casualty**

Any person killed or injured in a road accident is referred to as a casualty.

*Fatality* - Any person killed during an accident, or within 30 days (7 days prior to 2002) as a result of an accident is referred to as a fatality.

*Serious Injury* - An injury for which a person is detained in hospital as an "in-patient" or any of the following injuries (whether or not he is detained in hospital): fractures, concussions, internal injuries, severe cuts and lacerations, crushings and severe general shock requiring medical treatment.

*Slight Injury* - An injury of minor character such as a sprain, bruise and cut not judged to be severe.

**Table 1.1 - Vehicles<sup>1</sup> registered, 2008**

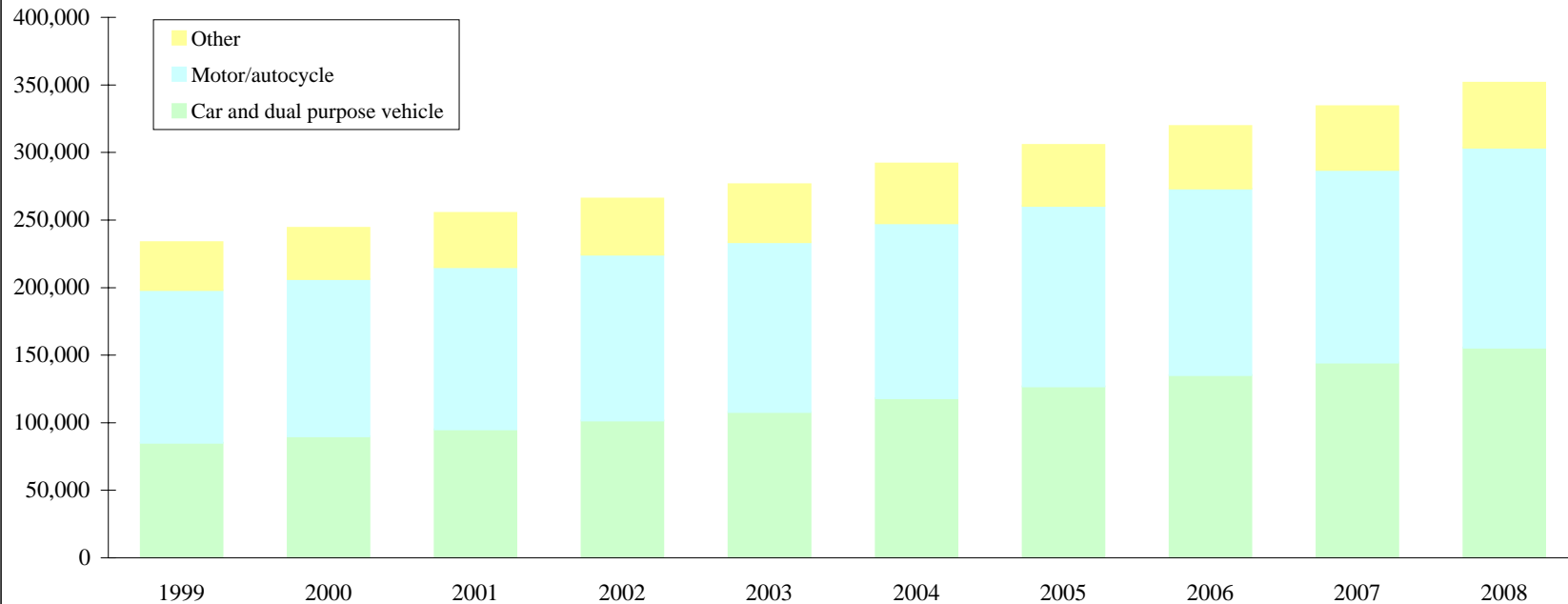
Type of vehicle	No. of vehicles at 31.12.07	New vehicles	Imported second-hand vehicles	Re - registered vehicles <sup>2</sup>	Vehicles off the road <sup>3</sup>	No. of vehicles at 31.12.08	Net addition
Car	99,770	4,798	5,698	349	1,108	109,507	9,737
Dual purpose vehicle	44,635	1,654	178	89	535	46,021	1,386
Motor cycle	36,969	4,235	55	198	653	40,804	3,835
Auto cycle	105,637	2,890	6	3	1,352	107,184	1,547
Lorry and truck	12,536	225	130	64	229	12,726	190
Van	24,934	349	380	76	405	25,334	400
Bus	2,753	81	-	-	72	2,762	9
Other	6,911	283	84	24	234	7,068	157
<b>Total</b>	<b>334,145</b>	<b>14,515</b>	<b>6,531</b>	<b>803</b>	<b>4,588</b>	<b>351,406</b>	<b>17,261</b>

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

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

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

**Fig. 1.1 - Stock of registered vehicles, 1999 - 2008**



**Table 1.2 - Vehicles<sup>1</sup> registered , 1999 - 2008**

Type of vehicle	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Car	52,892	54,911	58,082	63,307	68,524	77,342	84,818	91,911	99,770	109,507
<i>(of which taxi car )</i>	<i>(4,905)</i>	<i>(5,039)</i>	<i>(5,318)</i>	<i>(5,801)</i>	<i>(5,979)</i>	<i>(6,482)</i>	<i>(6,798)</i>	<i>(6,860)</i>	<i>(6,885)</i>	<i>(6,941)</i>
Dual purpose vehicle	32,262	34,912	36,984	38,129	39,383	40,667	42,026	43,221	44,635	46,021
Heavy motor car	934	916	923	944	958	1,020	1,045	1,118	1,223	1,290
Motor cycle	24,125	24,523	25,104	25,723	26,744	28,646	30,927	33,936	36,969	40,804
Auto cycle	88,821	91,955	94,849	97,078	98,858	100,854	102,503	104,238	105,637	107,184
Lorry and truck	10,138	10,485	10,888	11,236	11,501	11,774	12,047	12,272	12,536	12,726
Van	16,814	18,807	20,694	21,750	22,496	23,326	23,989	24,522	24,934	25,334
Bus	2,344	2,394	2,408	2,450	2,460	2,457	2,560	2,612	2,753	2,762
Tractor and dumper	2,630	2,645	2,683	2,683	2,877	2,935	2,982	3,001	3,025	3,045
Prime mover	315	322	335	349	369	388	412	436	452	505
Trailer	1,719	1,726	1,776	1,770	1,772	1,771	1,765	1,756	1,795	1,809
Road roller	102	100	100	101	100	99	96	96	96	96
Other	319	322	323	321	329	326	326	321	320	323
<b>TOTAL</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>	<b>319,440</b>	<b>334,145</b>	<b>351,406</b>

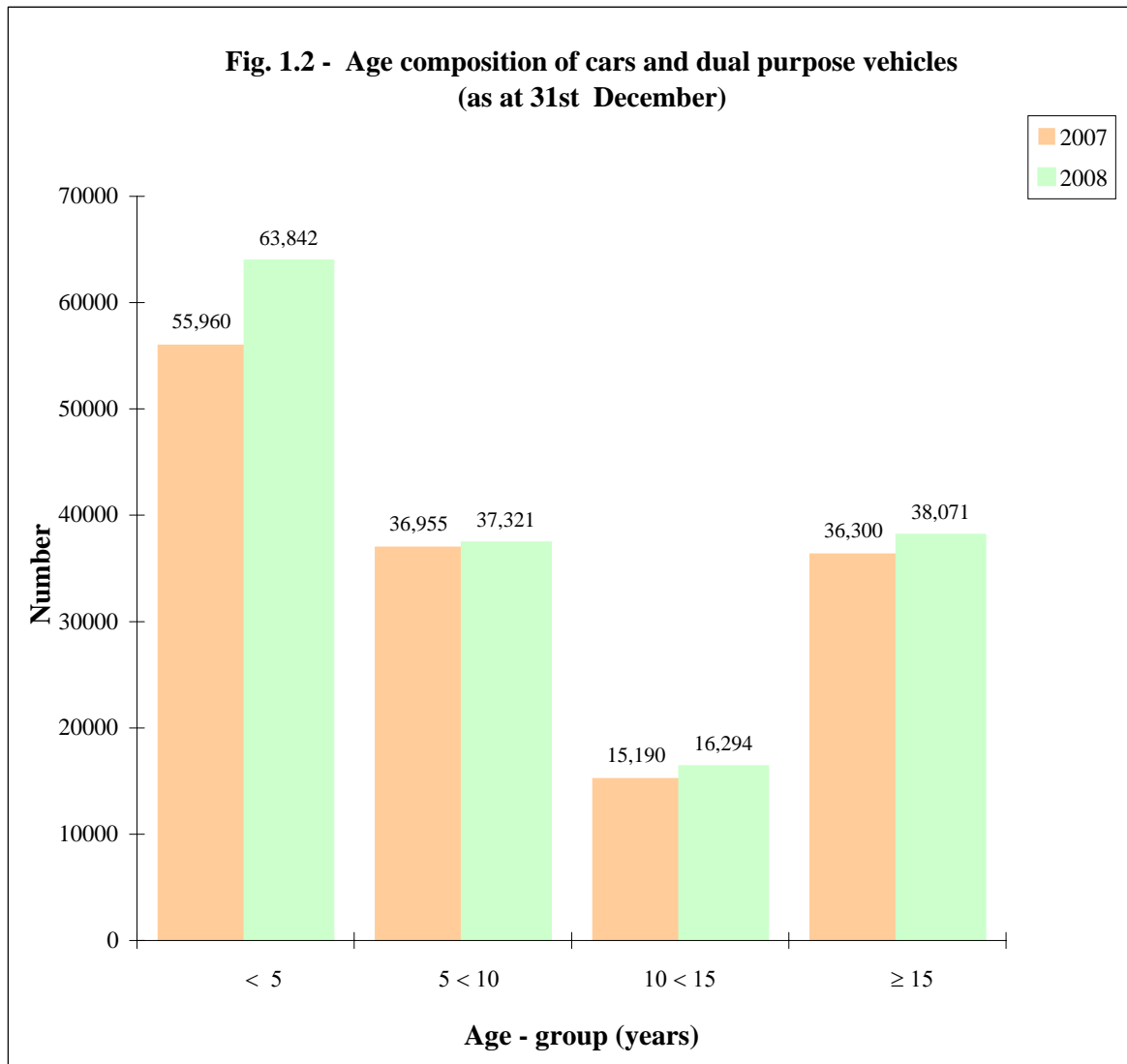
<sup>1</sup> Excluding pedal cycles, but including government vehicles



**Table 1.3 - Age composition of cars and dual purpose vehicles , 2007 - 2008**

( as at 31st December )

Age group (Years)	2007		2008	
	Number	%	Number	%
< 5	55,960	38.8	63,842	41.0
5 < 10	36,955	25.6	37,321	24.0
10 < 15	15,190	10.5	16,294	10.5
≥ 15	36,300	25.1	38,071	24.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144,405</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>155,528</b>	<b>100.0</b>

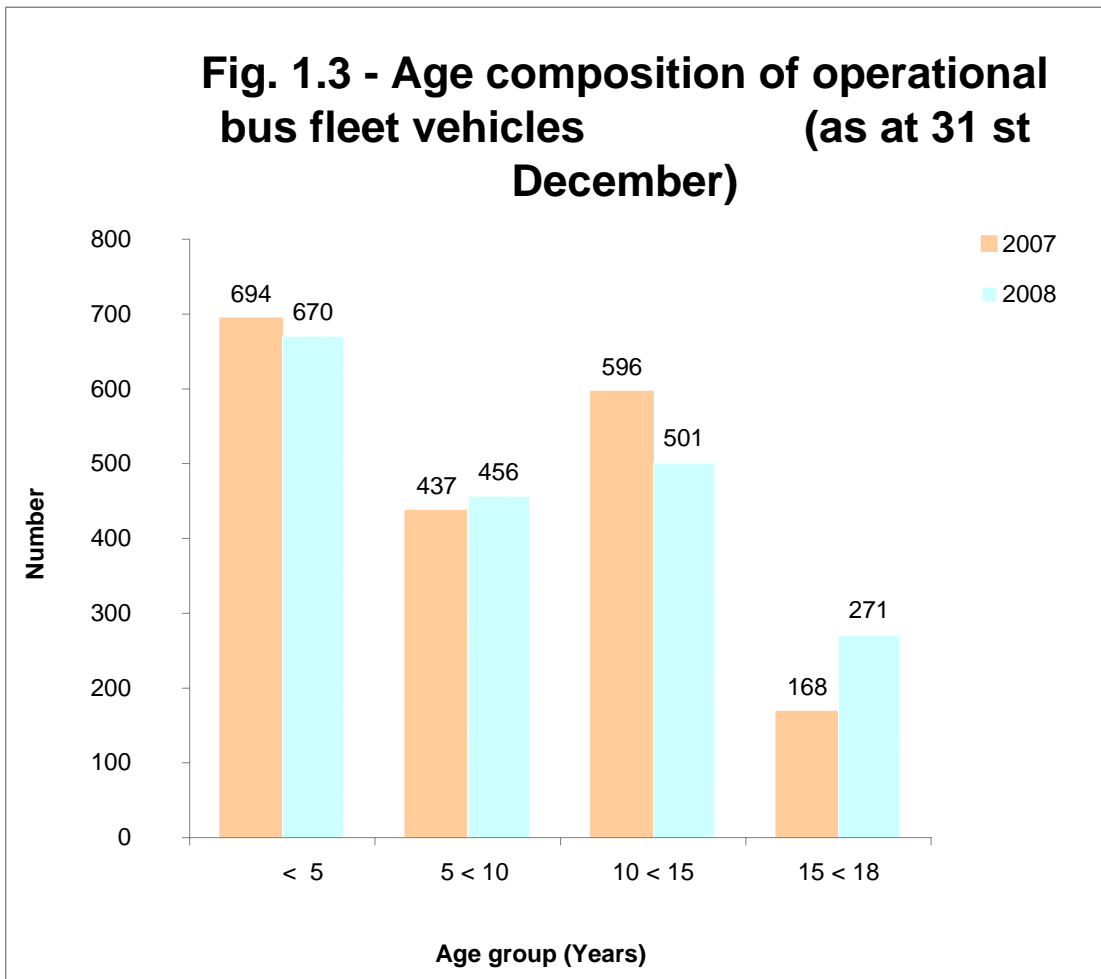


**Table 1.4 - Age composition of operational bus fleet <sup>1</sup>, 2007 - 2008**

(as at 31st December)

Age group (Years)	2007		2008	
	Number	%	Number	%
< 5	694	36.6	670	35.3
5 < 10	437	23.0	456	24.0
10 < 15	596	31.5	501	26.4
15 < 18	168	8.9	271	14.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,895</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,898</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

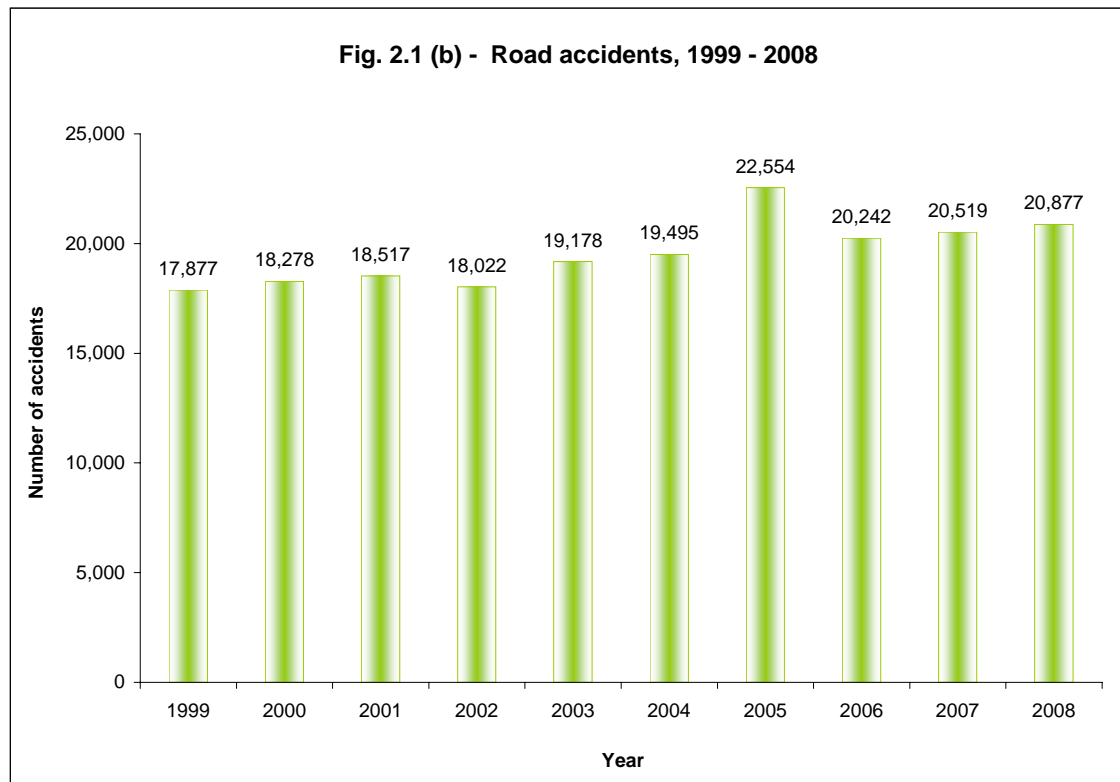
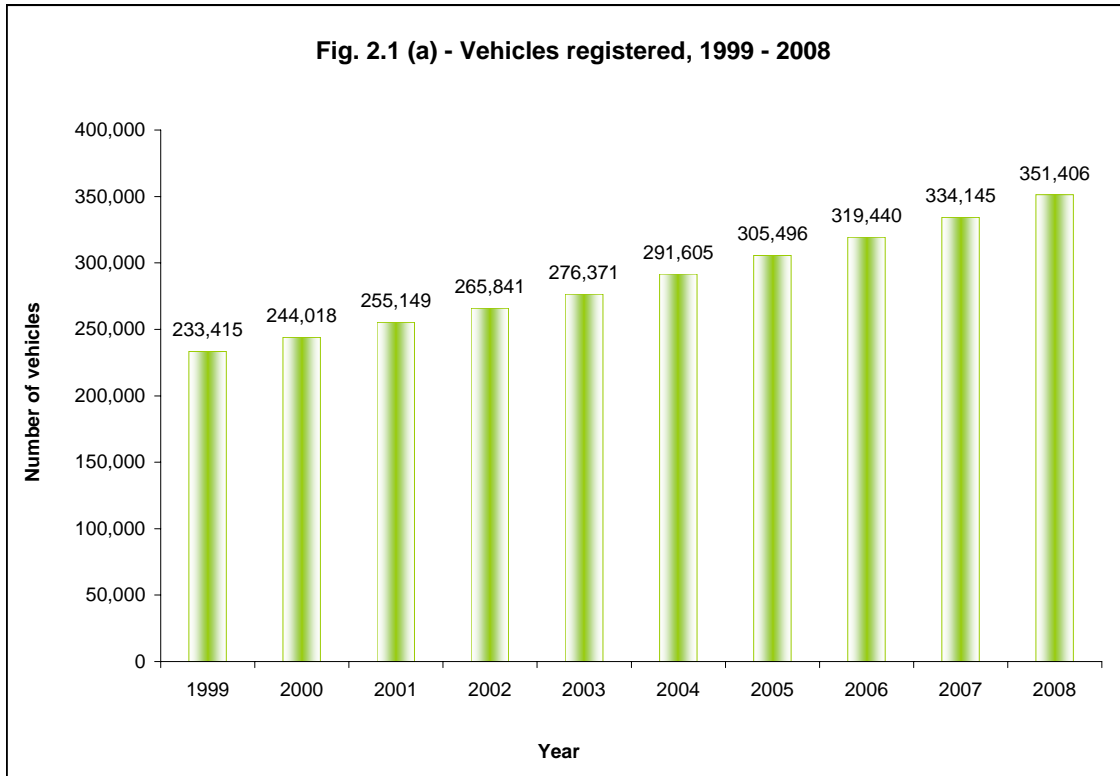


**Table 2.1 - Road traffic accidents<sup>1</sup>, 2007 - 2008**

	2007	2008	Change	
			Number	%
<b>1. Road traffic accidents</b>	<b>20,519</b>	<b>20,877</b>	<b>+ 358</b>	<b>+ 1.7</b>
Number of accidents causing casualties	2,190	2,227	+ 37	+ 1.7
<i>Fatal accident</i> <sup>2</sup>	133	162	+ 29	+ 21.8
<i>Serious injury accident</i>	403	378	- 25	- 6.2
<i>Slight injury accident</i>	1,654	1,687	+ 33	+ 2.0
Non injury accident	18,329	18,650	+ 321	+ 1.8
Rate per 100,000 population	1,678	1,696	N.A	N.A
Rate per 1,000 registered motor-vehicles	63	61	N.A	N.A
<b>2. Vehicles involved</b>				
Number of vehicles involved of which	41,355	43,096	+ 1,741	+ 4.2
<i>Motor Vehicles</i>	41,178	42,910	+ 1,732	+ 4.2
Rate per 1,000 registered motor-vehicles	127	125	N.A	N.A
Number of m-vehicles involved in accidents causing casualties	3,212	3,352	+ 140	+ 4.4
<b>3. Casualties</b>	<b>3,055</b>	<b>3,431</b>	<b>+ 376</b>	<b>+ 12.3</b>
<i>Fatal</i> <sup>2</sup>	140	168	+ 28	+ 20.0
<i>Seriously injured</i>	500	517	+ 17	+ 3.4
<i>Slightly injured</i>	2,415	2,746	+ 331	+ 13.7

<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, 1999 - 2008**

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>1. Road traffic accidents :</b>										
Number	17,877	18,278	18,517	18,022	19,178	19,495	22,554	20,242	20,519	20,877
Rate per 100,000 population	1,569	1,588	1,591	1,535	1,616	1,629	1,869	1,665	1,678	1,696
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	79	77	75	69	72	69	76	65	63	61
<b>2. Motor vehicle involved:</b>										
Number	32,547	33,537	33,988	33,119	35,239	35,506	43,741	40,023	41,178	42,910
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	144	142	137	127	133	126	148	129	127	125
<b>3. Casualties:</b>										
Total number of casualties of which	3,405	3,291	3,264	2,904	2,698	2,951	2,760	2,522	3,055	3,431
<i>Fatal</i> <sup>2</sup>	170	163	126	158	131	144	136	134	140	168
<i>Seriously injured</i>	237	266	288	216	291	245	358	348	500	517
<i>Slightly injured</i>	2,998	2,862	2,850	2,530	2,276	2,562	2,266	2,040	2,415	2,746
<b>4. Fatality :</b>										
Rate per 100,000 population	14.9	14.2	10.8	13.5	11.0	12.0	11.3	11.0	11.4	13.6
Rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
Fatality index <sup>3</sup>	5.0	5.0	3.9	5.4	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.3	4.6	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, 2007 - 2008**

Type of vehicle	2007					2008				
	Severity of accident					Severity of accident				
	Fatal	Serious injury	Slight injury	Total	%	Fatal	Serious injury	Slight injury	Total	%
Private car	47	180	926	1,153	34.0	59	225	984	1,268	35.5
Taxi car	2	14	84	100	3.0	9	11	71	91	2.6
Bus	22	56	193	271	8.0	38	40	201	279	7.8
Lorry	15	31	75	121	3.6	16	17	72	105	2.9
Van	30	85	303	418	12.3	32	88	356	476	13.3
Motor / auto cycle	63	207	870	1140	33.6	57	202	869	1128	31.6
Other motor vehicles	0	2	7	9	0.3	1	1	3	5	0.1
<b>Total motor vehicles</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>2,458</b>	<b>3,212</b>	<b>94.8</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>2,556</b>	<b>3,352</b>	<b>93.9</b>
Pedal cycle	14	33	130	177	5.2	17	33	166	216	6.1
Other non motor vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>All vehicles</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>2,588</b>	<b>3,389</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>2,722</b>	<b>3,568</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, 2007 - 2008**

Class of road users	2007				2008			
	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Total	%	Jan. - Jun. <sup>1</sup>	Jul.- Dec.	Total	%
Pedestrian	306	302	608	19.9	333	298	631	18.4
Passenger	424	394	818	26.8	435	710	1,145	33.4
Driver	231	206	437	14.3	215	223	438	12.8
Rider (auto / motor cycle)	483	536	1,019	33.3	493	517	1,010	29.4
Pedal cyclist	86	87	173	5.7	113	94	207	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,530</b>	<b>1,525</b>	<b>3,055</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,589</b>	<b>1,842</b>	<b>3,431</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Revised**Table 2.5 - Number of accidents (causing casualties) involved in "hit and run" cases, 2007- 2008.**

Year Accident	2007				2008			
	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Total	%	Jan. - Jun.	Jul. - Dec.	Total	%
Vehicles v/s pedestrian	23	28	51	39.8	36	30	66	44.9
Vehicles v/s vehicles	40	37	77	60.2	39	42	81	55.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>100.0</b>