

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, YEAR 2009

1. Introduction

This issue of Economic and Social Indicator presents population estimates as at December 2009 and vital statistics including rates for year 2009.

The Central Statistics 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 1,277,853 as at 31 December 2009, growing at a rate of 0.5% since end 2008.
- As at end 2009, female population was higher than the male population by about 16,899.
- In 2009, the population aged 0-14 years comprised 22.2% of the total population. The population aged 15-64 years and that aged 65 years and over comprised 70.8% and 7.0% respectively of the total population.
- The 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) decreased from 419 in 2008 to 412 in 2009.
- The number of live births registered during year 2009 was 15,344, representing a decrease of 6.3% over the figure of 2008.
- The number of deaths registered in 2009 stood at 9,222, 2.4% higher than for 2008.
- The number of infant deaths decreased by 13.1% from 236 in 2008 to 205 in 2009.
- The number of still births decreased by 16.4%, from 165 in 2008 to 138 in 2009.
- The number of marriages registered in 2009 was 10,619, that is 5.2% less than in 2008.

3. Estimated resident population

**Table 3.1: Estimated resident population by sex, Republic of Mauritius,
31 December 2009**

Island	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Sex Ratio
Island of Mauritius	1,239,790	611,594	628,196	97.4
Island of Rodrigues	37,774	18,690	19,084	97.9
Agalega and St. Brandon	289	193	96	201.0
Republic of Mauritius	1,277,853	630,477	647,376	97.4

The estimated resident population of the Republic of Mauritius was 1,277,853 at 31 December 2009. The female population was 647,376 compared to a male population of 630,477. There were 97.4 males for every 100 females.

The population was estimated at 1,239,790 and 37,774 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 3.2: Population density, Republic of Mauritius, 31 December 2009

Island	Both Sexes	Area (km²)	Density per km²
Island of Mauritius	1,239,790	1,864.8	665
Island of Rodrigues	37,774	104.0	363
Agalega and St. Brandon	289	71.2	4
Republic of Mauritius	1,277,853	2,040.0	626

The Republic of Mauritius, with a total land area of 2,040 km² had a population density of 626 persons per km² as at end 2009. Among its constituent islands, the Island of Mauritius had the highest density (665), followed by Rodrigues (363). The population density for the Republic of Mauritius increased from 624 in 2008 to 626 in 2009.

Table 3.3: Estimated resident population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2007-2009 (end of year estimates)

Island	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio
2007	1,264,863	625,030	639,833	97.7
2008	1,272,031	628,084	643,947	97.5
2009	1,277,853	630,477	647,376	97.4

Comparative population estimates and sex ratios for the past three years are given in Table 3.3. There was a slight decline in the sex ratio from 2007 to 2009, indicating an increasing proportion of females over time.

4. Population growth

Table 4.1: Population change, Republic of Mauritius, 31 December 2008 and 31 December 2009

Island	Population		Change	
	31 December 2008	31 December 2009	Number	%
Island of Mauritius	1,234,042	1,239,790	5,748	0.5
Island of Rodrigues	37,700	37,774	74	0.2
Agalega and St. Brandon	289	289	0	0.0
Republic of Mauritius	1,272,031	1,277,853	5,822	0.5

The population of the Republic of Mauritius increased by 5,822 persons from 31 December 2008 to 31 December 2009. The population growth rate was thus 0.5% during the 12-month period. The growth rate for the Island of Mauritius was also 0.5%; whilst for Rodrigues it was around 0.2%.

Table 4.2: Components of population growth, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2008 and 2009

Components of population growth	2008	2009
Resident population as at beginning of year	1,264,574	1,271,742
Live Births	16,372	15,344
Deaths	9,004	9,222
Natural Increase	<u>7,368</u>	<u>6,122</u>
Net international migration	-200	-300
Resident population as at end of year	1,271,742	1,277,564

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 2009, the natural increase was 6,122, with births adding 15,344 babies and deaths removing 9,222 persons from the population. For the same period, net international migration of residents was -300 persons.

5. Age distribution of the population

Table 5.1: Estimated resident population¹ by broad age group and sex - Republic of Mauritius², 1 July 2008 and 1 July 2009

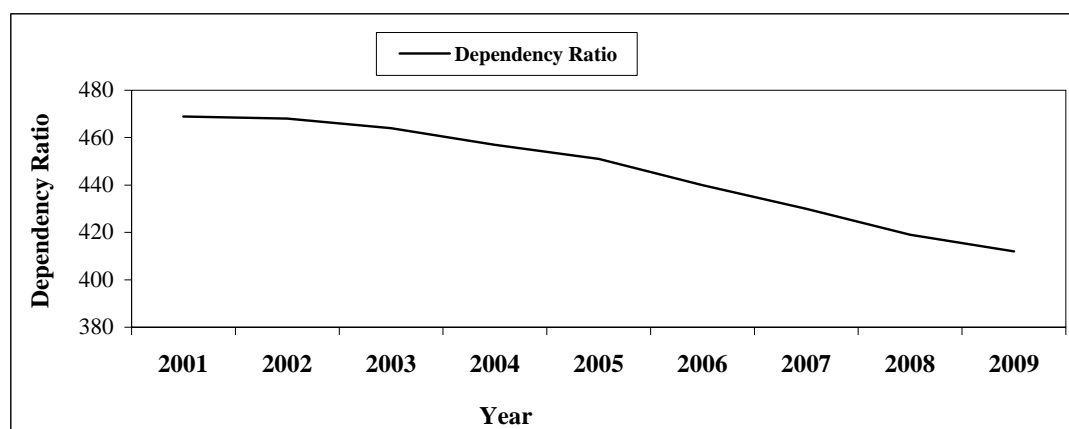
Age group (Years)	1 st July 2008			1 st July 2009		
	Male	Female	B. Sexes	Male	Female	B. Sexes
0	8,303	8,194	16,497	7,873	7,824	15,697
1-4	37,040	35,426	72,466	35,637	34,337	69,974
5-9	49,806	48,033	97,839	49,593	47,849	97,442
10-14	51,210	50,411	101,621	50,381	49,304	99,685
15-19	54,815	53,150	107,965	55,121	53,606	108,727
20-29	102,495	101,329	203,824	101,514	99,717	201,231
30-39	95,783	97,371	193,154	97,774	99,791	197,565
40-49	97,694	97,916	195,610	97,348	97,886	195,234
50-59	73,106	75,340	148,446	75,457	77,924	153,381
60-64	20,743	24,018	44,761	21,743	25,098	46,841
65+	35,561	50,821	86,382	36,716	52,539	89,255
All ages	626,556	642,009	1,268,565	629,157	645,875	1,275,032

¹ based on 2000 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 22.7% in 2008 to 22.2% in 2009. In contrast, increases were registered in the proportion aged 15-64 years from 70.5% to 70.8% and the proportion aged 65 years and above from 6.8% to 7.0% during the same period. The overall effect was a decrease in the dependency ratio from 419 to 412 thus confirming the decreasing trend observed since 2000 (see Figure 5.1).

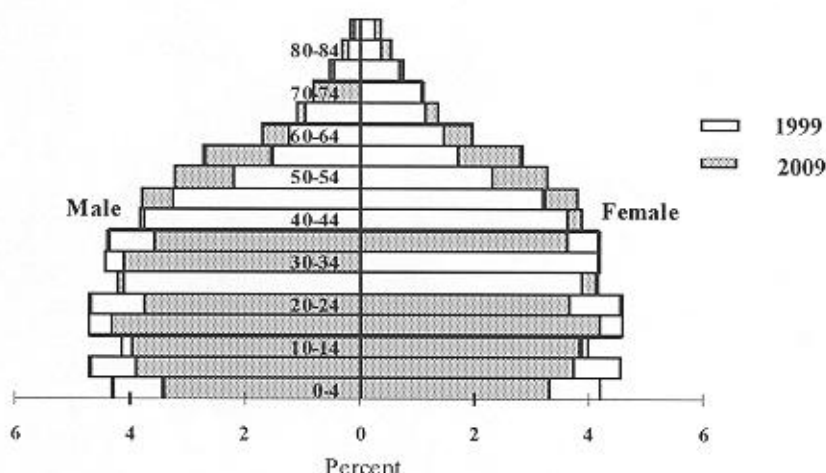
Figure 5.1: Dependency Ratio, 2001-2009



The population pyramid in Figure 5.2 compares the age structure of the population between 1999 and 2009. 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.

Figure 5.2: Population pyramids – Republic of Mauritius, 1999 & 2009



6 Vital statistics and rates

6.1: Live births and crude birth rate

Table 6.1: Live births registered and crude birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2008 and 2009¹

Island	Number of live births registered		Crude birth rate	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
Island of Mauritius	15,590	14,623	12.7	11.8
Island of Rodrigues	782	721	20.8	19.1
Republic of Mauritius	16,372	15,344	12.9	12.0

¹ Provisional

During the year 2009, 15,344 live births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, representing a 6.3% fall over the 2008 figure of 16,372. The crude birth rate, i.e., the number of live births in a year per 1,000 mid-year population, fell from 12.9 in 2008 to 12.0 in 2009.

In the Island of Mauritius, the number of live births registered decreased from 15,590 in 2008 to 14,623 in 2009 bringing about a fall in the crude birth rate from 12.7 to 11.8. Similarly, for

the Island of Rodrigues, the number of live births decreased from 782 (rate of 20.8) in 2008 to 721 (rate of 19.1) in 2009.

6.2: Deaths and crude death rate

Table 6.2: Deaths and crude death rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2008 and 2009

Island	Number of deaths registered		Crude death rate	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
Island of Mauritius	8,798	8,985	7.1	7.3
Island of Rodrigues	206	237	5.5	6.3
Republic of Mauritius	9,004	9,222	7.1	7.2

¹ Provisional

The number of deaths registered in the Republic of Mauritius in 2009 was 9,222, representing a 2.4% increase over the figure of 9,004 for 2008. The crude death rate, i.e., the number of deaths in a year per 1,000 mid-year population rose slightly from 7.1 to 7.2.

The Island of Mauritius registered an increase in the number of deaths, from 8,798 in 2008 (rate of 7.1) to 8,985 in 2009 (rate of 7.3). During the same period, the number of deaths in Rodrigues increased from 206 (rate of 5.5) to 237 (rate of 6.3).

6.3: Infant deaths and infant mortality rate

Table 6.3: Infant deaths and infant mortality rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2008 and 2009¹

Island	Number of infant deaths registered		Infant Mortality rate	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
Island of Mauritius	223	195	14.3	13.3
Island of Rodrigues	13	10	15.3	13.9
Republic of Mauritius	236	205	14.4	13.4

¹ Provisional

During the year 2009, 205 infant deaths (deaths to children aged under one year) were registered in the Republic of Mauritius against 236 in 2008, representing a decrease of 13.1%. The infant mortality rate, defined as the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births, fell from 14.4 in 2008 to 13.4 in 2009.

A decrease in the number of infant deaths was also noted in the Island of Mauritius from 223 in 2008 to 195 in 2009. The infant mortality rate thus declined from 14.3 to 13.3. Similarly for Rodrigues, the number of infant deaths decreased from 13 in 2008 (rate of 15.3) to 10 in 2009 (rate of 13.9).

6.4: Still births and still birth rate

Table 6.4: Still births and still birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2008 and 2009¹

Island	Number of still births registered		Still birth rate	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
Island of Mauritius	159	133	10.1	9.0
Island of Rodrigues	6	5	11.0	6.9
Republic of Mauritius	165	138	10.0	8.9

¹ Provisional

In 2009, 138 still births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, which is 16.4% lower than the 2008 figure of 165. Consequently, the still birth rate which is the number of still births in a year per 1,000 total births during the year fell from 10.0 in 2008 to 8.9 in 2009.

The Island of Mauritius registered 133 still births in 2009 against 159 in 2008, with the still birth rate falling from 10.1 in 2008 to 9.0 in 2009. In Rodrigues, 5 still births were registered in 2009 compared to 6 in 2008. The still birth rate fell from 11.0 in 2008 to 6.9 in 2009.

6.5: Marriages and crude marriage rate

Table 6.5 – Marriages and crude marriage rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2008 and 2009¹

Island	Number of marriages registered		Marriage rate	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
Island of Mauritius	11,012	10,451	17.9	16.9
Island of Rodrigues	185	168	9.6	8.9
Republic of Mauritius	11,197	10,619	17.7	16.7

¹ Provisional

The number of marriages registered in the Republic of Mauritius decreased by 5.2% from 11,197 in 2008 to 10,619 in 2009. The crude marriage rate, i.e., the number of persons married in a year per 1,000 mid-year population, fell from 17.7 to 16.7 during the same period.

The number of marriages in the Island of Mauritius decreased from 11,012 in 2008 (rate of 17.9) to 10,451 in 2009 (rate of 16.9). The Island of Rodrigues also registered a decrease in the number of marriages from 185 in 2008 (rate of 9.6) to 168 in 2009 (rate of 8.9).

6. International Comparison

Population growth rates for various countries in the world are published in the UN publication “The World Population Prospects 2008”. 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 1.3%. The Republic’s growth rate was lower than that for Singapore (1.2%) 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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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 2009 are however calculated on the basis of data for the year only.