

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, JANUARY – JUNE 2017

1. Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents provisional population estimates for mid-year 2017 and vital statistics for the first semester of 2017. Forecasts of vital events and rates for the year 2017 are also included.

It is to be noted that preliminary data for the compilation of vital statistics have been extracted from the computerised system in place at the Central Civil Status Office.

Definitions of terms used are at Annex.

2. Key points

- The population of the Republic of Mauritius grew at a rate of 0.1% (+1,140) since mid-2016 and was estimated at 1,264,887 as at 1st July 2017.
- As at mid-2017, the female population outnumbered the male population by 13,085.
- The expected number of live births for the Republic of Mauritius for year 2017 is 13,100, corresponding to a crude birth rate of 10.4 per 1,000 mid-year population, same as in 2016.
- The estimated number of deaths for 2017 is around 10,030, giving a crude death rate of 7.9 per 1,000 mid-year population, compared to 8.1 in 2016.
- The forecast for the number of infant deaths for the Republic of Mauritius in 2017 is around 150, representing an infant mortality rate of 11.5 per 1,000 live births, compared to 11.8 in 2016.
- The number of still births for 2017 is estimated at 120, giving a still birth rate of 9.1 per 1,000 total births, compared to 9.6 in 2016.
- The expected number of marriages for 2017 is 9,860, corresponding to a marriage rate of 15.6 persons married per 1,000 mid-year population, against 15.9 in 2016.

3. Estimated resident population

Table 3.1 - Estimated resident population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1st July 2017

Island	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio
Island of Mauritius	1,221,975	604,780	617,195	98.0
Island of Rodrigues	42,638	20,947	21,691	96.6
Agalega and St. Brandon	274	174	100	174.0
Republic of Mauritius	1,264,887	625,901	638,986	98.0

As at 1st July 2017, the population of the Republic of Mauritius was estimated at 1,264,887, of whom 625,901 were males and 638,986 females. There were 98 males for every 100 females.

The population of the Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues were estimated at 1,221,975 and 42,638 respectively. In both islands, females outnumbered males.

Agalega and St. Brandon had an estimated population of 274, with 74 more males than females.

Table 3.2 - Population density, Republic of Mauritius, 1st July 2017

Island	Both sexes	Area (km ²)	Density per km ²
Island of Mauritius	1,221,975	1,868.4	654
Island of Rodrigues	42,638	110.1	387
Agalega and St. Brandon	274	28.7	10
Republic of Mauritius	1,264,887	2,007.2	630

The Republic of Mauritius, with a total land area of 2,007.2 square kilometres, had a population density of 630 persons per square km as at mid-2017. The population densities of the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues were 654 and 387 respectively.

Table 3.3 - Estimated resident population by sex and sex ratio, Republic of Mauritius, 2015 - 2017 (mid-year estimates)

Year	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio
2015	1,262,879	624,943	637,936	98.0
2016	1,263,747	625,380	638,367	98.0
2017	1,264,887	625,901	638,986	98.0

In the above table, population estimates and sex ratios for the past three years are given for comparative purposes. From 2015 to 2017, the sex ratio remained at 98.0.

4. Population growth

Table 4.1 - Population change, Republic of Mauritius, 1st July 2016 and 1st July 2017

Island	Population		Growth	
	1st July 2016	1st July 2017	Number	%
Island of Mauritius	1,221,213	1,221,975	762	0.1
Island of Rodrigues	42,260	42,638	378	0.9
Agalega and St. Brandon	274	274	0	0.0
Republic of Mauritius	1,263,747	1,264,887	1,140	0.1

The population of the Republic of Mauritius increased by 1,140 (0.1%) from mid-2016 to mid-2017. The growth rate for the Island of Mauritius was 0.1% compared to 0.9% for the Island of Rodrigues.

Table 4.2 - Components of population growth during the first semester of 2016 and 2017, Republic of Mauritius¹

Components of population growth	2016	2017
Resident population as at beginning of year	1,262,588	1,263,546
Natural increase, January-June	1,860	1,992
Live Births, January-June	6,858	6,810
Deaths, January-June	4,998	4,818
Net international migration, January-June	-975	-925
Resident population as at mid-year	1,263,473	1,264,613

¹ excluding Agalega and St Brandon

Population growth has two components: natural increase (the number of live births minus the number of deaths) and its net international migration (the net movement of residents).

During the first semester of 2017, the population registered a natural increase of 1,992, which was the result of an addition of 6,810 live births and a subtraction of 4,818 deaths. For the same period, the net international migration of residents was estimated at -925.

5. Vital statistics and rates

5.1 Live births and crude birth rate

Table 5.1 - Live births registered and crude birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2016 and 2017¹

Island	Number of live births				Crude birth rate	
	2016		2017		2016	2017 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	6,462	12,330	6,387	12,300	10.1	10.1
Island of Rodrigues	396	752	423	800	17.5 *	18.8
Republic of Mauritius	6,858	13,082	6,810	13,100	10.4	10.4

¹ Forecast

* Provisional

For the first six months of the current year, 6,810 live births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, compared to 6,858 for the corresponding period of 2016. For the year 2017, the number of live births is estimated at 13,100, resulting in a crude birth rate (i.e, live births per 1,000 mid-year population) of 10.4, same as in 2016. The forecast for the Island of Mauritius is 12,300 live births (rate of 10.1), and for Rodrigues it is 800 (rate of 18.8).

5.2 Deaths and crude death rate

Table 5.2 - Deaths and crude death rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2016 and 2017¹

Island	Number of deaths				Crude death rate	
	2016		2017		2016	2017 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	4,884	9,920	4,717	9,800	8.1	8.0
Island of Rodrigues	114	254	101	230	5.7 *	5.4
Republic of Mauritius	4,998	10,174	4,818	10,030	8.1	7.9

¹ Forecast

* Provisional

The number of deaths registered during the first semester of 2017 in the Republic of Mauritius was 4,818, compared to 4,998 for the corresponding period of 2016. The forecast for 2017 is 10,030 deaths, representing a crude death rate of 7.9 per 1,000 mid-year population. The expected number of deaths for the Island of Mauritius for 2017 is 9,800 (rate of 8.0) and that for Rodrigues is 230 (rate of 5.4).

5.3 Infant deaths and infant mortality rate

Table 5.3 - Infant deaths and infant mortality rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2016 and 2017¹

Island	Number of infant deaths				Infant mortality rate	
	2016		2017		2016	2017 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	90	143	70	130	11.6	10.6
Island of Rodrigues	6	11	10	20	17.5 *	25.0
Republic of Mauritius	96	154	80	150	11.8	11.5

¹ Forecast

* Provisional

During the first semester of the year 2017, 80 infant deaths were registered in the Republic of Mauritius compared to 96 for the same period in 2016. 150 infant deaths are expected to occur in the Republic of Mauritius in 2017, giving an infant mortality rate of 11.5 infant deaths per 1,000 live births against 11.8 in 2016. The number of infant deaths forecast for the Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues are 130 (rate of 10.6) and 20 (rate of 25.0) respectively.

5.4 Still births and still birth rate

Table 5.4 - Still births and still birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2016 and 2017¹

Island	Number of still births				Still birth rate	
	2016		2017		2016	2017 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	63	117	62	110	9.4	8.9
Island of Rodrigues	8	10	5	10	11.9 *	12.3
Republic of Mauritius	71	127	67	120	9.6	9.1

¹ Forecast

* Provisional

During the first six months of 2017, 67 still births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius compared to 71 for the same period in 2016, i.e. a 5.6% decrease. The expected number of still births for the Republic of Mauritius for 2017 is 120, giving a still birth rate of 9.1 still births per 1,000 total births against 9.6 in 2016. Forecasts for the Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues for the year 2017 are 110 (rate of 8.9) and 10 (rate of 12.3) respectively.

5.5 Marriages and crude marriage rate

Table 5.5 - Marriages and crude marriage rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2016 and 2017¹

Island	Number of marriages				Crude marriage rate	
	2016		2017		2016	2017 ¹
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June	Year ¹		
Island of Mauritius	4,629	9,882	4,428	9,700	16.2	15.9
Island of Rodrigues	66	160	69	160	7.5 *	7.5
Republic of Mauritius	4,695	10,042	4,497	9,860	15.9	15.6

¹ Forecast

* Provisional

A total of 4,497 marriages were registered in the Republic of Mauritius during the first semester of 2017, representing a decrease of 4.2% over the number registered (4,695) during the same period in 2016. The expected number of marriages for 2017 is 9,860, giving a crude marriage rate of 15.6 persons married per 1,000 mid-year population against 15.9 in 2016. The expected number of marriages for 2017 for the Island of Mauritius is 9,700 (rate of 15.9) and for the Island of Rodrigues is 160 (rate of 7.5).

6. International comparison of vital rates

Vital statistics for different countries in the world are published in the UN publication “The Demographic Yearbook” and the United Nations Population and Vital Statistics Report. The table below displays some comparative figures available from the latest United Nations Population and Vital Statistics Report (2001 - 2015).

Table 6.1 - Vital rates for selected countries

Country	Year	Crude Birth rate	Crude death rate	Infant mortality rate
Mauritius	2015	10.0	7.7	13.7
Reunion	2014	16.8	5.2	6.1
Australia	2014	12.8	6.5	3.4
United States	2014	12.5	8.2	5.8
India	2014	21.0	6.7	39.0
Germany	2015	9.1	11.4	3.2 *
France	2015	11.8	9.1	3.3 *

Source : United Nations Population & Vital Statistics Report Vol LXIX

* Refers to the year 2014

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 can be explained by the fact that Mauritius has a relatively young population compared to France and hence proportionately fewer deaths are expected.

Statistics Mauritius,
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
Port Louis
August 2017

Contact person:
Mrs C. Martial, Statistician
Demography Unit
Statistics Mauritius
LIC Centre
John Kennedy Street
Port Louis
Tel: 208 0859
Email: cso_demography@govmu.org

Annex

Definition 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 for three years in order to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data. The rates for the year 2017 are however calculated on the basis of data for the year only.