Household Budget Survey 2017– Preliminary results

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Updated weights for the Consumer Price Index

1. Introduction

Statistics Mauritius conducted the tenth Household Budget Survey (HBS) from January to December 2017 in the Republic of Mauritius. The survey studied the consumption pattern of the population living in private households in Mauritius with a view to updating the basket of goods and services used for the computation of the monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI).

This issue of Economic and Social Indicators presents the main preliminary results obtained from the survey as well as the weights of the new basket. While the new basket has been derived from the consumption expenditure of private households comprising Mauritians and foreigners, income and expenditure estimates and poverty indicators relate to Mauritian households only.

The new weighting system is given at Annex 1. The methodology used for the survey is at Annex 2.

2. Summary of findings

<u>Income</u>

(i)   Average monthly household disposable income increased by 25.1% from Rs 29,420 in 2012 to Rs 36,810 in 2017. The real increase, i.e. after adjusting for an inflation rate of 13.3% and decrease in household size (from 3.5 to 3.4), works out to 13.7%.

(ii)   Median monthly household disposable income increased by 29.3% from Rs 21,850 in 2012 to Rs 28,250 in 2017.

(iii)   Income inequality decreased between 2012 and 2017. The share of total income going to the 20% of households at the lower end of the income range increased from 5.3% in 2012 to 5.7% in 2017. On the other hand, the share of the upper 20% of households decreased from 47.5% to 46.0% during that period.

(iv)   The Gini coefficient decreased from 0.414 to 0.400, indicating an improvement in the income distribution.

(v)   In 2017, there were 2.0 income earners for an average household of size 3.4, same as in 2012 but for an average household of size 3.5.

(vi)   Wages and salaries remained the principal source of household income accounting for around 70% of gross income for both 2012 and 2017.

(vii)   Transfer income which consists mainly of pensions and other social security benefits was also an important source of income. In 2017, it accounted for 19.3% of total gross income higher than the 13.8% of 2012.

Expenditure

(viii)   Average monthly household consumption expenditure increased by 21.6% from Rs 23,710 in 2012 to Rs 28,820 in 2017. The real increase, i.e. after adjusting for an inflation rate of 13.3% and decrease in household size (from 3.5 to 3.4), works out to 10.4%.

(ix)   In 2017, 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' constituted the largest share of household consumption expenditure (25%) followed by 'Transport' (15%), 'Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels' (11%) and 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' (11%).

(x)   The highest increase in household expenditure was registered in 'Miscellaneous goods and services'. It rose by 49.5% from Rs 970 to Rs 1,450 per household per month.

(xi)   The next highest increase was registered in 'Restaurants and hotels'. It went up by 49.1% from Rs 1,060 to Rs 1,580 per household per month.

Poverty

(xii)   The proportion of households below the relative poverty line, set at half of median household income per adult equivalent, was estimated at 9.4% in 2017, same as for 2012.

(xiii)   However, the poverty situation in the country improved from 2012 to 2017. This is indicated through the use of a fixed threshold such as the relative poverty line of previous years, updated for inflation.

CPI weights

(xiv)   The weight for the COICOP division 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' registered a decrease from 273 to 248 largely due to a decrease in the group food (from 254 to 230).

(xv)   The highest shift in the CPI weights was registered in the COICOP division of expenditure 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' from 96 in 2012 to 110 in 2017 mainly due to higher weight for beer from 20 to 30. It is to be noted that prices for that division increased by 42.4% during that period.

(xvi)   The weight for 'Miscellaneous goods and services' rose from 41 to 50 mainly due to the weight of medical insurance (8 in 2017 compared to negligible in 2012).

(xvii)   The weight for 'Restaurants and hotels' increased from 45 to 54 mainly due to an increase in the weights for purchase of prepared foods (from 24 to 28) and, cakes and snacks (from 4 to 9).

(xviii) Items of communication such as mobile phone calls (increase from 11 to 15) and internet connection (increase from 11 to 16) are gaining higher importance in the new CPI basket.

(xix)   The weight for "Education" grew from 45 to 50 between 2012 and 2017, mainly due to an increase in university fees from 19 to 33, partly offset by decrease in the weight for primary and secondary tuition fees (from 16 to 9).

3. Reliability of survey results

Comparison with data from Continuous Multipurpose Household Survey (CMPHS) 2017

The HBS results were compared with those of the CMPHS 2017 and were found to be consistent in terms of demographic characteristics such as composition by age, sex, marital and activity status as well as household size (see Table 1). The differences could be due to differences in sampling errors and also the objectives of the two surveys are not the same.

Table 1 - Comparison of HBS 2017 with HBS 2012 and CMPHS 2017

Demographic characteristics of household members	HBS 2012 (%)	CMPHS 2017 (%)	HBS 2017 (%)
SEX			
Male	48.9	49.2	49.0
Female	51.1	50.8	51.0
Both sexes	**100**	**100**	**100**
AGE			
Under 5 years	5.4	5.3	4.4
5 – 14 years	14.8	13.4	13.5
15 – 59 years	66.2	64.8	64.5
60 years and above	13.6	16.5	17.6
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**
MARITAL STATUS			
Married	47	46.3	46.9
Divorced / Separated / Widowed	9.8	11.0	11.1
Single	43.2	42.7	42.0
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**
ACTIVITY STATUS (16 yrs & above)			
Economically active	57.6	59.6	56.9
Students	9.1	8.1	8.3
Other	33.3	32.3	34.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
HOUSEHOLD SIZE			
Average household size	**3.5**	**3.4**	**3.4**

Comparison with data from other sources

The expenditure data from the HBS were also checked against estimates derived from other sources such as data on production, imports, exports and local sales (Table 2).

Table 2 - Comparison of HBS 2017 expenditure data on some items with data from other sources

Item	Estimated private household consumption per annum based on the HBS 2017	Estimated national [1] consumption per annum based on data from other sources, 2017
Rice (govt.imported)	11,000 tons	20,000 tons
Rice (trader's)	32,000 tons	40,000 tons
Flour (inc. flour for bread)	100,000 tons	102,000 tons
Tea	1,000 tons	1,565 tons
Sugar	9,500 tons	37,000 tons
Chicken	20,000 tons	46,200 tons
Cooking Oil	Rs 900 Mn	Rs 1,400 Mn
Potato	21,000 tons	25,500 tons
Onion	14,000 tons	17,400 tons
Powdered milk	Rs 2,100 Mn	Rs 2,200 Mn
Rum & Cane Spirits	Rs 1,200 Mn	Rs 4,500 Mn
Beer & Stout	Rs 900 Mn	Rs 5,800 Mn
Wine locally produced	Rs 130 Mn	Rs 924 Mn
Cigarettes	Rs 2,200 Mn	Rs 8,100 Mn
Electricity (domestic)	Rs 5,000 Mn	Rs 5,630 Mn
Water (domestic)	Rs 900 Mn	Rs 775 Mn
Waste Water (domestic)	Rs 240 Mn	Rs 160 Mn
Gasolene	Rs 6,000 Mn	Rs 10,200 Mn
LPG - cooking gas	Rs 1,400 Mn	Rs, 1,300 Mn

[1] - Consumption of households, tourist and also used in industries

4. Adjustment of expenditure data for deriving CPI weights

<u>Alcoholic beverages and cigarettes</u>

As shown in Table 2, there are large differences between the estimates for expenditure on alcoholic beverages and cigarettes derived from the HBS and from data on local sales. Past data indicate that people tend to underreport on what they actually consume on these items. Accordingly, it has been found necessary to adjust the expenditure data on alcoholic beverages and cigarettes before deriving the CPI weights. Thus an adjustment of Rs 2,428 has been made on the average monthly household consumption expenditure on alcoholic beverages and cigarettes. The COICOP divisions affected are 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' and 'Restaurants and Hotels' since the latter includes alcoholic drinks consumed in bars and restaurants.

5. Household Disposable Income

During the survey, income data was collected from all household members who were deriving an income. Table 3 shows some selected measures of monthly household disposable income computed from the data. Disposable income is defined as the income (both in cash and in kind) derived from employment, property and transfers (mainly pensions and other social security benefits) less compulsory deductions such as income tax and contributions to pensions and social security schemes.

Table 3 - Selected measures of monthly household disposable income - 2006/07, 2012 & 2017 HBS

Measures of Income	2006/07	2012	2017
Average monthly household disposable income (Rs)	19,080	29,420	36,810
95% Confidence Interval for average monthly disposable income			
Lower limit	18,590	28,740	36,050
Upper limit	19,570	30,110	37,560
Median monthly household disposable income (Rs)	14,640	21,850	28,250
Gini Coefficient	0.388	0.414	0.400
Income share			
Percentage of total income going to:-			
Lowest 20% of households	6.1	5.3	5.7
Highest 20% of households	45.6	47.5	46.0
Ratio of highest 20% to lowest 20%	7.4	9.0	8.1

From the reported figures, the average monthly household disposable income was Rs 36,810 in 2017 against Rs 29,420 in 2012, showing a 25.1% increase. Over the same period, the price of households consumption goods and services, as measured by the CPI increased by 13.3% and the average household size decreased by 2.9% from 3.5 to 3.4 persons. After adjusting for price increases and smaller household size, there was a real increase of 13.7% in the income of households.

The median monthly household disposable income was Rs 28,250 in 2017, indicating that 50% of households derived an income less than Rs 28,250 and that the other 50% had an income greater than Rs 28,250. Compared to a figure of Rs 21,850 for 2012, the median disposable income increased by 29.3%.

Table 4 shows the distribution of households by income class. The proportion of households having income less than Rs 10,000 per month decreased from 14.4% in 2012 to 8.4% in 2017. Similarly, the proportion of households receiving between Rs 10,000 and Rs 20,000 decreased from 29.9% in 2012 to 23.0% in 2017. Consequently, the share of households having a monthly income between Rs 20,000 and Rs 40,000 rose from 35.1% in 2012 to 37.5% in 2017, and the increase in the share of households with a monthly income above Rs 40,000 was even higher, from 20.7% in 2012 to 31.1% in 2017.

The dispersion of the income distribution can be illustrated by a Lorenz curve, which is a graph showing the income share for any selected cumulative proportion of households. If all incomes were equally distributed, the plot would coincide with the diagonal line known as the line of equality. Figure 1 shows that the Lorenz curve has moved nearer to the equality line in 2017 as compared to 2012, thus indicating an improvement in the income distribution. Thus the share of total income going to the 20% of households at the lower end of the income range increased from 5.3% in 2012 to 5.7% in 2017, while the share of the upper 20% of households decreased from 47.5% to 46.0%.

The degree of inequality in income can also be measured by the Gini coefficient that ranges between 0 (complete equality) and 1 (complete inequality). Data from past two surveys show that the Gini coefficient decreased from 0.414 in 2012 to 0.400 in 2017, showing an improvement in income inequality.

Table 4: Distribution (%) of households by income class - 2006/07, 2012 & 2017 HBS

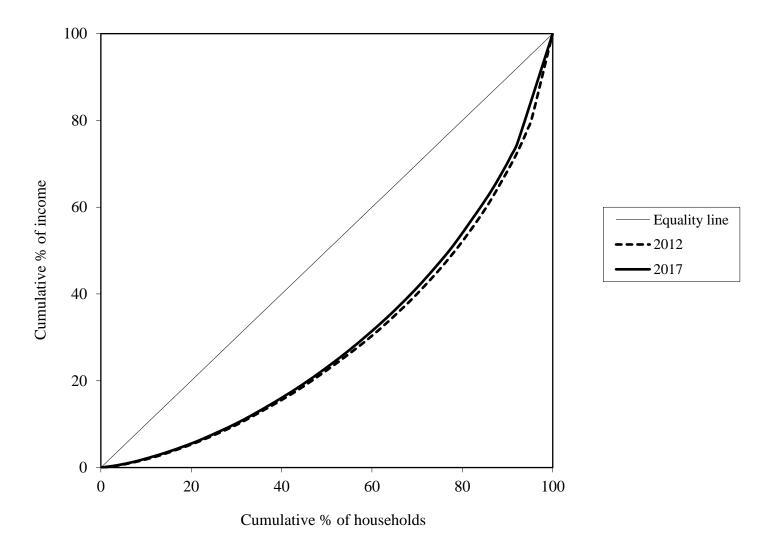| Monthly Household Disposable Income (Rs)	2006/07 HBS		2012 HBS		2017 HBS	
	Households (%)	Total Income (%)	Households (%)	Total Income (%)	Households (%)	Total Income (%)
Under 5,000	6.4	1.2	3.5	0.4	0.7	0.1
5,000 to < 7,000	6.6	2.1	4.0	0.8	3.3	0.5
7,000 to < 9,000	8.5	3.6	4.3	1.2	2.9	0.6
9,000 to < 10,000	5.1	2.5	2.6	0.8	1.4	0.4
10,000 to < 12,000	10.6	6.0	5.7	2.1	4.6	1.4
12,000 to < 14,000	9.9	6.7	6.1	2.7	4.5	1.6
14,000 to < 16,000	9.1	7.2	6.3	3.2	5.3	2.1
16,000 to < 18,000	6.8	6.0	5.9	3.4	4.1	1.9
18,000 to < 20,000	5.4	5.4	5.9	3.8	4.5	2.3
20,000 to < 25,000	10.3	12.0	13.4	10.2	11.5	7.0
25,000 to < 30,000	6.7	9.5	9.6	8.9	10.2	7.5
30,000 to < 35,000	3.8	6.5	7.1	7.8	9.0	7.8
35,000 to < 40,000	3.0	5.8	5.0	6.3	6.9	7.0
40,000 to < 45,000	1.9	4.2	4.0	5.8	5.4	6.2
45,000 to < 50,000	1.4	3.6	3.2	5.1	4.3	5.6
50,000 to < 60,000	1.6	4.4	4.8	8.9	7.0	10.4
60,000 to < 70,000	1.0	3.4	2.4	5.2	3.7	6.4
70,000 to < 80,000	0.8	3.0	1.6	4.2	2.9	6.0
80,000 to < 90,000	0.4	1.7	1.1	3.3	2.2	5.1
90,000 to < 100,000	0.2	1.0	1.0	3.1	1.3	3.4
100,000 & above	0.5	4.2	2.5	12.8	4.3	16.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

Figure 1 - Lorenz curves, 2012 & 2017 HBS

Table 5 - Average monthly household income by source of income 2006/07, 2012 & 2017 HBS

Rupees

Source of income	2006/07	2012	2017
Wages and salaries	13,460	21,450	25,850
Entrepreneurial	2,930	4,350	4,570
Property	430	440	460
Transfer	2,630	4,220	7,370
Other income	10	30	10
Gross income	**19,460**	**30,490**	**38,260**
Deductions	380	1,070	1,450
Average monthly household disposable income	**19,080**	**29,420**	**36,810**

Table 5 gives a breakdown of household income by source of income. The table indicates that wages and salaries remained the principal source of household income, accounting for around 70% of total gross income in both 2012 and 2017. Wages and salaries increased by 20.5% to Rs 25,850 in 2017 from Rs 21,450 in 2012.

Transfer income which consists mainly of pensions and other social security benefits was the second most important source of income in 2017; it accounted for 19.3% of total gross income in 2017 higher than the 13.8% of 2012. Transfer income increased significantly by 74.6% from Rs 4,220 per month in 2012 to Rs 7,370 in 2017. This change is explained by the high increase in the level of pensions rates coupled with an increase in the number of beneficiaries.

In 2017, there were 2.0 income earners for an average household of size 3.4, same as in 2012 but for an average household of size 3.5.

6. Household consumption expenditure

Household consumption expenditure is defined as the value of consumption goods and services acquired during the reference period regardless of whether they were paid for or received free. It does not however include education, health and other services received free from the government as well as the rental value of owner-occupied and free housing.

Table 6 compares the consumption expenditure figures obtained at the last two household budget surveys. Average monthly household consumption expenditure (adjusted for underreporting of alcoholic beverages and tobacco) increased by 21.6% from Rs 23,710 in 2012 to Rs 28,820 in 2017. Over the same period, inflation was 13.3% and the average household size decreased from 3.5 to 3.4 persons. After adjusting for price increases and smaller household size, there was a real increase of 10.4% in the consumption expenditure of households.

In 2017, 'Food & non-alcoholic beverages' constituted the largest share of household consumption expenditure (25%) followed by 'Transport' (15%), 'Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels' (11%) and 'Alcoholic beverages & tobacco' (11%). The remaining categories of expenditure including clothing, footwear, household equipment and maintenance, health, education, communication and recreation together accounted for the remaining 38%.

Expenditure on all categories of consumption goods and services showed increases. The highest increase was observed in 'Miscellaneous goods and services' and 'Restaurants and hotels', both with increase of 49%, followed by 'Communication' (39%) and 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (39%). The lowest increase was noted in 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' (10%).

Table 6 : Average monthly household consumption expenditure by COICOP division - 2012 and 2017 HBS

Division	2012		2017		Change in expenditure (%) 2012 to 2017
	Rs	share (%)	Rs	share (%)	
1. Food & non alcoholic beverages	6,490	27.4	7,140	24.8	10.0
2. Alcoholic beverages & tobacco	2,290	9.7	3,180	11.0	38.9
3. Clothing & footwear	1,060	4.5	1,340	4.6	26.4
4. Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels	2,860	12.1	3,210	11.1	12.2
5. Furnishing, household equipment & routine household maintenance	1,450	6.1	1,690	5.9	16.6
6. Health	940	4.0	1,090	3.8	16.0
7. Transport	3,550	15.0	4,220	14.6	18.9
8. Communication	920	3.9	1,280	4.4	39.1
9. Recreation & culture	1,050	4.4	1,200	4.2	14.3
10. Education	1,070	4.5	1,440	5.0	34.6
11. Restaurants & hotels	1,060	4.5	1,580	5.5	49.1
12. Miscellaneous goods & services	970	4.1	1,450	5.0	49.5
Total	**23,710**	**100.0**	**28,820**	**100.0**	**21.6**

7. Poverty

Relative Poverty is assessed based on a poverty line[1], set at 50% of median monthly household income per adult equivalent. As it is determined based on median income, it is a relative measure that shows how households below the line are faring in relation to others.

The household income is worked out in terms of 'per adult equivalent' to consider intra-household differentials, by adjusting for household size and age composition as well as economies of scale.

Hence, the Relative Poverty Line (RPL) for a 1-adult member household is estimated at Rs 7,497 in 2017 compared to Rs 5,652 in 2012. The poverty line for an average household comprising 2 adults and 2 children (aged less than 16 years) works out to Rs 17,657 in 2017.

Households/ persons in relative poverty

Table 7 – Selected summary indicators on relative poverty, Republic of Mauritius, 2006/07, 2012 and 2017 HBS

	2006/07	2012	2017
Relative Poverty Line: Half median monthly household income[2] per adult equivalent (Rs)	**3,821**	**5,652**	**7,497**
Estimated number of households in relative poverty	26,100	33,600	36,100
Proportion of households in relative poverty (%)	*7.9*	*9.4*	*9.4*
Estimated number of persons in relative poverty	105,200	122,700	130,500
Proportion of persons in relative poverty (%)	*8.5*	*9.8*	*10.3*

From 2012 to 2017, the proportion of households in relative poverty remained unchanged at 9.4%. This is because households in relative poverty registered the same percentage increase in their income than those around the median, on the basis of which the RPL is set. In absolute terms, the number of households in relative poverty increased from 33,600 to 36,100 due to population growth.

During the same period, the number of persons living in households in relative poverty increased from 122,700 to 130,500. The proportion also increased (from 9.8% to 10.3%) due to relatively bigger size of poor households.

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[1] *The Poverty line is a threshold below which a household is deemed to be in poverty*
[2] *Income refers to employment income, property income, transfer income, income from own produced goods, and imputed rent for non-renting households.*

Trend in poverty

Indicators of relative poverty are not appropriate to monitor the evolution of poverty levels over time. A poverty threshold which is fixed at a point in time and adjusted for price changes is more appropriate. In the absence of such a threshold, a RPL of any HBS years can be used.

Upon using the RPL of 2012 as a 'fixed threshold', a decreasing trend in poverty is observed (Table 8) both in terms of households and persons.

It is worth noting that this decreasing trend in poverty is maintained regardless of whether the RPL is 'fixed' at 2006/07 or 2017. This indicates that there has been an improvement in the poverty level of the country from 2006/07 onwards.

Table 8 – Trend in the level of poverty using 2012 RPL as a 'Fixed threshold', Republic of Mauritius

	2006/07	2012	2017
Poverty line using 2012 Relative poverty line as a 'Fixed threshold' (Rs) - per adult equivalent per month	**4,250**	**5,652**	**6,404**
Estimated number of households below the line	38,800	33,600	20,900
Proportion of households below the line (%)	11.7	9.4	5.5
Estimated number of persons below the line	152,600	122,700	79,300
Proportion of persons below the line (%)	12.3	9.8	6.3

8. The updated weights for the CPI

The main purpose of the monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) is to measure the relative change in the aggregate level of prices of goods and services purchased by private households. Changes in prices of different commodities do not all have the same degree of importance to households. The relative importance of an item is referred to as the weight of the item in the basket of goods and services consumed by households. It is determined on basis of the household expenditure on the item.

It is noted that consumption of own-produced goods as well as goods and services received free were excluded. Furthermore, data collected over a recall period of one year (instead of the usual reference month) were used for infrequently purchased items such as air tickets, cars, computers and other household durables, in order to obtain more reliable expenditure estimates for deriving the weights.

The table at Annex 1 shows the weight (expressed per 1000) of different items as a share of total household expenditure at the 2012 and 2017 Household Budget Surveys.

It is noted that a decrease in the weight of an item in the CPI basket does not necessarily imply a decrease in the expenditure on that item, but rather indicates that the relative importance of that item with respect to total household expenditure has declined.

There have been important shifts in the weights of some broad categories of expenditure and commodities as follows:

(i) The highest shift in the CPI weights was registered in the COICOP division of expenditure 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' from 96 in 2012 to 110 in 2017 mainly due to higher weight for beer from 20 to 30.

(ii) The weight for 'Miscellaneous goods and services' rose from 41 to 50, mainly due to the weight of medical insurance (8 in 2017 compared to negligible in 2012).

(iii) The weight for 'Restaurants and hotels' increased from 45 to 54 mainly due to an increase in the weights for purchase of prepared foods (from 24 to 28) and, cakes and snacks (from 4 to 9).

(iv) Items of communication such as mobile phone calls (increase from 11 to 15) and internet connection (increase from 11 to 16) are gaining higher importance in the new CPI basket.

(v)   The weight for "Education" grew from 45 to 50 between 2012 and 2017, mainly due to to an increase in university fees from 19 to 33, partly offset by decrease in the weight for primary and secondary tuition fees (from 16 to 9). The latter decrease is explained by lower enrolment rates in primary and secondary schools.

(vi) The weight for the COICOP division 'Food and non alcoholic beverages' registered a decrease from 273 to 248 largely due to a decrease in the group food (from 254 to 230).

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Statistics Mauritius
30 April 2018

Weighting system - 2012 and 2017 Consumer Price Index

	2012	2017
TOTAL ALL DIVISIONS	**1000**	**1000**
DIVISION 01 - FOOD AND NON ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	**273**	**248**
Group 1 - Food	*254*	*230*
Class 1 - Bread and cereals	**67**	**58**
Bread	18	14
Rice (Govt. imported)	1	1
Rice (trader's)	20	15
Flour (Govt. imported)	1	1
Other flour	2	1
Flour preparations	4	4
Biscuits	4	5
Other cereals	5	4
Frozen semi prepared food	6	7
Other prepared food	6	6
Class 2 - Meat	**41**	**39**
Fresh beef	5	5
Frozen beef	4	3
Mutton	6	6
Goat & Venison	1	1
Pork & sausages	1	1
Fresh chicken	15	15
Frozen chicken	7	6
Canned meat	2	2
Class 3 - Fish and other seafood	**24**	**24**
Fresh fish	8	8
Fresh octopus	1	1
Frozen fish	6	6
Other frozen sea products	3	3
Salted and dried fish	1	1
Canned fish and other processed sea food	5	5

Class 4 - Milk, cheese and eggs	**35**	**29**
Powdered milk - full cream	18	14
Powdered milk - skimmed	1	1
Baby milk powder	1	1
Other milk	2	2
Milk preparations	4	4
Processed & other Cheese	5	4
Fresh eggs	4	3
Class 5 - Oils and fats	**15**	**11**
Butter	1	1
Cooking oil	9	7
Margarine and ghee	5	3
Class 6 - Fruits	**11**	**11**
Fresh fruits - imported	7	7
Fresh fruits - local	3	3
Dried fruits	1	1
Class 7 - Vegetables	**45**	**43**
Tomatoes	6	6
Potatoes	6	6
Onions	4	4
Garlic	2	1
Other fresh vegetables	21	20
Preserved vegetables	3	3
Pulses	3	3
Class 8 - Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	**8**	**7**
Sugar	3	3
Chocolate	2	1
Ice cream	2	2
Sweets/confectionery	1	1
Class 9 - Food products not elsewhere classified	**8**	**8**
Ginger	1	1
Other food products n.e.c	7	7

Group 2 - Non-alcoholic beverages	*19*	*18*
Class 1 - Coffeee, tea and cocoa	**4**	**4**
Coffee	1	1
Tea	2	2
Food drinks	1	1
Class 2 - Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	**15**	**14**
Soft drinks	7	6
Fruit juice and syrup	5	5
Other	3	3
DIVISION 02 - ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	**96**	**110**
Group 1 - Alcoholic beverages	*51*	*61*
Class 1 - Spirits	**26**	**25**
Whisky	2	9
Rum	14	12
Other cane spirits	10	4
Class 2 - Wine	**4**	**5**
Wine	4	5
Class 3 - Beer	**21**	**31**
Beer	20	30
Stout	1	1
Group 2 - Tobacco	*45*	*49*
Class 0 - Tobacco	**45**	**49**
Cigarettes	45	49
DIVISION 03 - CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	**45**	**46**
Group 1 - Clothing	*34*	*36*
Class 1 - Clothing materials	**1**	**1**
Clothing materials	1	1
Class 2 - Garments	**32**	**35**
Ready made clothing - women	15	16
Ready made clothing - men	11	12
Ready made clothing - children	4	4
Other ready made clothing	2	3

Class 5 - Tailoring charges	**1**	**-**
Tailoring charges	1	-
Group 2 - Footwear	*11*	*10*
Class 1 - Shoes and other footwear	**11**	**10**
Ladies' shoes	5	4
Men's shoes	4	4
Children's shoes	2	2
DIVISION 04 - HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	**120**	**112**
Group 1 - Actual rentals for housing	*13*	*10*
Class 1 - Actual rent paid by tenants	**13**	**10**
Rent	13	10
Group 2 - Mortgage Interest Payment for housing	*30*	*31*
Class 1 - Mortgage interest payment for housing	**30**	**31**
Mortgage Interest Payment For Housing	30	31
Group 3 - Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	*12*	*13*
Class 1 - Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	**6**	**6**
Cement	1	1
Paints	1	1
Plumbing fittings	-	1
Ceramic tiles	1	1
Other construction materials	3	2
Class 2 - Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	**6**	**7**
Workmen's wages	6	7
Group 4 - Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling	*12*	*11*
Class 1 - Water supply	**8**	**7**
Water charges	8	7
Class 3 - Sewage collection	**2**	**2**
Waste water tax	2	2
Class 4 - Other Services Relating to the Dwelling not elsewhere classified	**2**	**2**
Municipal tax	2	2
Group 5 - Electricity, gas and other fuels	*53*	*47*
Class 1 - Electricity	**38**	**37**
Electricity	38	37

Class 2 - Gas	**15**	**10**
Cooking gas (LPG)	15	10
DIVISION 05 - FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE HOSEHOLD MAINTENANCE	<u>**61**</u>	<u>**59**</u>
<u>Group 1 - Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings</u>	<u>*16*</u>	<u>*15*</u>
Class 1 - Furniture and furnishings	**16**	**15**
Furniture	16	14
Furnishings	-	1
<u>Group 2 - Household textiles</u>	<u>*3*</u>	<u>*4*</u>
Class 0 - Household textiles	**3**	**4**
Bedding	1	2
Curtain material	1	1
Other	1	1
<u>Group 3 - Household appliances</u>	<u>*12*</u>	<u>*12*</u>
Class 1 - Major household appliances whether electric or not	**10**	**11**
Electric / Gas oven	1	1
Microwave oven	1	1
Refrigerator	3	4
Washing machine	2	2
Solar water heater	2	1
Air conditioner	-	1
Other	1	1
Class 2 - Small electric household appliances	**1**	**1**
Small electric household appliances	1	1
Class 3 - Repair of household appliances	**1**	-
Repair of household appliances	1	-
<u>Group 4 - Glassware, tableware and household utensils</u>	<u>*2*</u>	<u>*2*</u>
Class 0 - Glassware, tableware and household utensils	**2**	**2**
Glassware	1	1
Other utensils	1	1

**Group 5 - Tools and equipment for house and garden**	_**2**_	_**2**_
Class 1 - Major tools and equipment	**1**	**1**
Major tools and equipment	1	1
Class 2 - Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	**1**	**1**
Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1	1
**Group 6 - Goods and services for routine household maintenance**	_**26**_	_**24**_
Class 1 - Non-durable household goods	**17**	**16**
Laundry soap	2	1
Other washing materials	8	6
Floor polish	1	-
Detergents	3	5
Other	3	4
Class 2 - Domestic services and household services	**9**	**8**
Maid	6	6
Gardener	2	1
Babysitter	1	1
DIVISION 06 - HEALTH	**40**	**38**
**Group 1 - Medical products, appliances and equipment**	_**14**_	_**14**_
Class 1 - Pharmaceutical products	**11**	**10**
Analgesics and antalgics	2	2
Tonics and vitamins	2	1
Antibiotics	1	1
Medicine for diabetes	1	1
Medicine for cholesterol and cardiovascular therapy	1	1
Medicines for cough/asthma	-	1
Eye care products	1	-
Other pharmaceutical products	3	3
Class 2 - Other Medical Products	**-**	**1**
Other Medical Products	-	1
Class 3 - Therapeutic appliances and equipment	**3**	**3**
Spectacles	3	3
**Group 2 - Outpatient services**	_**17**_	_**15**_
Class 1 - Medical services	**11**	**11**
Doctors' fees	11	11
Class 2 - Dental services	**3**	**2**
Dentists' fees	3	2

Class 3 - Paramedical services	**3**	**2**
Paramedical Services	3	2
**Group 3 - Hospital services**	_**9**_	_**9**_
Class 0 - Hospital services	**9**	**9**
Clinic fees	9	9
DIVISION 07 - TRANSPORT	**151**	**147**
**Group 1 - Purchase of vehicles**	_**52**_	_**50**_
Class 1 - Personal Transport	**52**	**50**
Personal transport	52	50
**Group 2 - Operation of personal transport equipment**	_**66**_	_**64**_
Class 1 - Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	**4**	**4**
Tyres and tubes	2	1
Parts and accessories	2	3
Class 2 - Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	**52**	**50**
Gasolene	44	46
Autogas	1	-
Diesel oil	7	4
Class 3 - Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	**5**	**4**
Maintenance and repair charges	5	4
Class 4 - Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	**5**	**6**
Road tax & other transport services	5	6
**Group 3 - Transport services**	_**33**_	_**33**_
Class 2 - Passenger transport by road	**17**	**15**
Bus fare	11	9
Taxi fare	6	6
Class 3 - Passenger transport by air	**16**	**18**
Passenger transport by air	16	18

DIVISION 08 - COMMUNICATION	**39**	**44**
Group 2 - Telephone and telefax equipment	*3*	*5*
Class 0 - Telephone and telefax equipment	**3**	**5**
Telephone equipment (incl. mobile phones)	3	5
Group 3 - Telephone and telefax services	*36*	*39*
Class 0 - Telephone and telefax services	**36**	**39**
Fixed telephone rental	2	2
Fixed telephone calls	11	6
International calls	1	-
Mobile telephone calls	11	15
Internet connection	11	16
DIVISION 09 - RECREATION AND CULTURE	**44**	**42**
Group 1 - Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	*12*	*9*
Class 1 - Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	**6**	**5**
Television set	5	4
Other audio and video set	1	1
Class 3 - Information processing equipment	**6**	**4**
Computer	5	3
Other	1	1
Group 3 - Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	*5*	*6*
Class 1 - Games, toys and hobbies	**2**	**2**
Toy and games	2	2
Class 2 - Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreations	**1**	**1**
Balls, rackets, shuttlecocks, etc.	1	1

Class 3 - Gardens, plants and flowers	**1**	**1**
Decorative plants / flowers, etc.	1	1
Class 4 - Pets and related products	**1**	**2**
Foodstuff for pets	1	2
Group 4 - Recreational and cultural services	_12_	_15_
Class 1 - Recreational and sporting services	**1**	**1**
Fitness centers and lessons in music, swimming etc.	1	1
Class 2 - Cultural services	**11**	**14**
Cinema admission	1	1
Television licence	10	13
Group 5 - Newspapers, books and stationery	_15_	_12_
Class 1 - Books	**8**	**6**
School textbooks - Primary	1	1
School textbooks - Secondary	7	5
Class 2 - Newspapers and periodicals	**4**	**3**
Newspapers - Daily	2	1
Newspapers - Weekly	2	2
Class 4 - Stationery and drawing materials	**3**	**3**
Copy books and other stationeries	3	3
DIVISION 10 - EDUCATION	**45**	**50**
Group 1 - Pre-primary and secondary education	_7_	_5_
Class 0 - Pre-primary and primary education	**7**	**5**
Pre-primary education	2	2
Primary education	3	2
Private tuition fees - Primary	2	1

**Group 2 - Secondary education**	_**16**_	_**10**_
Class 0 - Secondary education	**16**	**10**
Secondary education	2	2
Private tuition fees - Secondary	14	8
**Group 3 - Post-secondary and non-tertiary education**	_**1**_	-
Class 0 - Post-secondary and non-tertiary education	**1**	-
Post secondary and non-tertiary education	1	-
**Group 4 - Tertiary education**	_**20**_	_**34**_
Class 0 - Tertiary education	**20**	**34**
University fees	19	33
Other	1	1
**Group 5 - Education not definable by level**	_**1**_	_**1**_
Class 0 - Education not definable by level	**1**	**1**
Vocational / Technical courses	1	1
DIVISION 11 - RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	**_45_**	**_54_**
**Group 1 - Catering services**	_**43**_	_**51**_
Class 1 - Restaurants, cafés and the like	**43**	**51**
Prepared foods	24	28
Cakes and snacks	4	9
Expenditure in bars and restaurants	15	14
**Group 2 - Accommodation services**	_**2**_	_**3**_
Class 0 - Accommodation services	**2**	**3**
Rental of bungalows	2	3
DIVISION 12 - MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	**_41_**	**_50_**
**Group 1 - Personal care**	_**21**_	_**22**_
Class 1 - Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	**2**	**3**
Hairdresser - male	1	1
Hairdresser - female	1	1
Beautician Services	-	1

Class 3 - Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	**19**	**19**
Goods for personal care - female	4	4
Goods for personal care - male	2	2
Goods for personal care - babies	3	3
Goods for personal hygiene	10	10
**Group 3 - Personal effects, not elsewhere classified**	_**3**_	_**2**_
Class 1 - Jewellery, clocks and watches	**2**	**1**
Jewellery, clocks and watches	2	1
Class 2 - Other personal goods	**1**	**1**
Other personal effects	1	1
**Group 4 - Social protection**	_**1**_	_**1**_
Class 0 - Social protection	**1**	**1**
Nursery fees	1	1
**Group 5 - Insurance**	_**12**_	_**21**_
Class 2 - Insurance connected with the dwelling	**2**	**2**
House insurance	2	2
Class 3 - Insurance connected with health	**-**	**8**
Medical insurance	-	8
Class 4 - Insurance connected with transport	**10**	**11**
Vehicle insurance	10	11
**Group 6 - Financial Services not elsewhere classified**	_**1**_	_**1**_
Class 1 - Financial Services not elsewhere classified	**1**	**1**
Credit card fee and other financial services	1	1
**Group 7 - Other services not elsewhere classified**	_**3**_	_**3**_
Class 0 - Other services not elsewhere classified	**3**	**3**
Religious and funerary articles & services	2	2
Other services	1	1

Methodology of the Household Budget Survey 2017

Scope and coverage of collection	Private households comprising Mauritians and foreigners.
Survey period	The survey was carried out on a monthly basis from January to December 2017.
Data collection method	Face to face interviewing of household members.
Sampling method	Stratified two-stage sampling design. Clusters containing more than 50 households were stratified by geographical district and within each district by region (according to their level of relative development). At the first stage, a sample of clusters was selected within each stratum with probability proportional to size. The household within each selected cluster were stratified according to household size, expenditure class and religion. At the second stage, 8 households were sampled from each selected cluster.
Sample size	The total sample size was 7,000 private households surveyed at the rate of 584 from January to November and 576 in December.
Response rate	The initial response rate was 72% before replacing households that were unable or unwilling to participate in the survey. After replacement by households having similar stratification criteria, the response rate was 100%.
Questionnaires	Five different questionnaires were used, namely to collect the necessary information. These were:

HBS 1 - Listing schedule

This schedule was used to list all households in the selected region

HBS 2 - Household schedule

This schedule was used to collect information on the characteristics of the selected households and its members.

HBS 3 - Daily record of household expenditure

This diary was used for collecting detailed daily household expenditure for the whole survey month. When consolidated, this provided item-wise expenditure for the whole month for each household.

HBS 4 - Income schedule

This schedule was used to collect data on the income of each income earner of the household.

HBS 5 - Point of purchase questionnaire

This was used to collect information on the outlets where households usually purchase consumption goods and services.