

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, YEAR 2018

1. Introduction

This issue of Economic and Social Indicators presents population estimates as at December 2018 and vital statistics, including rates, for the year 2018.

Statistics Mauritius compiles vital statistics from data obtained from the computerised system in place at the Civil Status Division.

Definitions of terms used are given at **Annex**.

2. Key points

- The population of the Republic of Mauritius was estimated at 1,265,637 as at 31 December 2018, with a growth rate of 0.03% since end 2017.
- As at end 2018, the female population was higher than the male population by 13,115.
- The proportion of the population aged 0-14 years declined from 18.5% as at mid-2017 to 18.0%, one year later. The proportion aged 15-64 years was 71.0 % for both 2017 and 2018 and the proportion aged 65 years and above increased from 10.5% to 11.0% during the same period.
- 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 to 64 years) was 408.1 for 2017 and 408.3 for 2018.
- The number of live births registered during year 2018 was 12,965, representing a decrease of 3.8 % over the figure of 2017.
- The number of deaths registered in 2018 stood at 10,787, that is, 6.4 % higher than in 2017.
- The number of infant deaths increased by 10.4%, from 164 in 2017 to 181 in 2018.
- The number of still births decreased by 3.7 %, from 135 in 2017 to 130 in 2018.
- The number of marriages registered in 2018 was 10,034, that is, 2.8% higher than in 2017.
- Since the late nineties, females outnumbered males in the population.
- The present low population growth rate is due to low fertility prevailing in the population.
- The falling dependency ratio over time is mainly due to a fall in the number of children under 15 years of age in the population.
- Over time, the population age structure depicted by a population pyramid has shifted from wide base to shrinking base and thickening body, showing an ageing population.

3. Estimated resident population

Table 3.1 - Estimated resident population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 31 December 2018

Island	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio	Density per km ²
Island of Mauritius	1,222,208	604,923	617,285	98.0	654
Island of Rodrigues	43,155	21,164	21,991	96.2	392
Agalega and St. Brandon	274	174	100	174.0	10
Republic of Mauritius	1,265,637	626,261	639,376	97.9	631

The estimated resident population of the Republic of Mauritius was 1,265,637 as at 31 December 2018. The female population was 639,376 compared to a male population of 626,261. There were 97.9 males for every 100 females.

The population was estimated at 1,222,208 and 43,155 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 274, had more males (174) than females (100).

The Republic of Mauritius, with a total land area of 2,007 km², had a population density of 631 persons per km² as at end 2018. Among its constituent islands, the Island of Mauritius had the highest density (654), compared to 392 for the Island of Rodrigues.

4. Population growth

Table 4.1 - Population change, Republic of Mauritius, 31 December 2017 and 31 December 2018

Island	Population		Change	
	31 December 2017	31 December 2018	Number	%
Island of Mauritius	1,222,217	1,222,208	-9	0.0
Island of Rodrigues	42,818	43,155	337	0.8
Agalega and St. Brandon	274	274	-	-
Republic of Mauritius	1,265,309	1,265,637	328	0.03

The population of the Republic of Mauritius increased by 328(0.03%) from 31st December 2017 to 31st December 2018.

Table 4.2 - Components of population growth, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2017 and 2018

Components of population growth	2017	2018
Resident population as at beginning of year	<u>1,263,546</u>	<u>1,265,035</u>
Live Births	13,479	12,965
Deaths	10,140	10,787
Natural increase	<u>3,339</u>	<u>2,178</u>
Net international migration	-1,850	-1,850
Resident population as at end of year	1,265,035	1,265,363

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 2018, the natural increase was 2,178, with births adding 12,965 babies and deaths removing 10,787 persons from the population. For the same period, net international migration of residents was estimated at -1,850 persons.

5. Age distribution of population

Table 5.1 - Estimated resident population¹ by broad age group and sex – Republic of Mauritius², 1st July 2017 and 1st July 2018

Age group (Years)	1st July 2017			1st July 2018		
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
0	6,614	6,293	12,907	6,650	6,350	13,000
1 - 4	27,057	25,931	52,988	26,558	25,489	52,047
5 - 9	38,317	37,725	76,042	37,121	36,266	73,387
10 - 14	46,766	45,088	91,854	45,202	43,539	88,741
15 - 19	49,751	47,911	97,662	49,644	48,006	97,650
20 - 29	97,133	95,316	192,449	97,777	95,721	193,498
30 - 39	93,890	91,830	185,720	92,313	90,115	182,428
40 - 49	86,910	84,958	171,868	87,183	84,998	172,181
50 - 59	88,534	90,686	179,220	89,075	91,281	180,356
60-64	34,242	36,972	71,214	34,776	37,598	72,374
65+	56,513	76,176	132,689	59,731	79,910	139,641
All ages	625,727	638,886	1,264,613	626,030	639,273	1,265,303

¹ Based on 2011 Population Census data adjusted for underenumeration of children

² Excluding Agalega and St Brandon

The proportion of the population aged 0-14 years declined from 18.5% as at mid-2017 to 18.0%, one year later. The proportion aged 15-64 years was 71.0 % for both 2017 and 2018 and the proportion aged 65 years and above increased from 10.5% to 11.0% during the same period.

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, 2017 and 2018¹

Island	Number of live births registered		Crude birth rate	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
Island of Mauritius	12,671	12,202	10.4	10.0
Island of Rodrigues	808	763	18.2 ²	17.7
Republic of Mauritius	13,479	12,965	10.7	10.2

¹ Provisional

² Because of the small number of events, the rate for 2017 has been calculated by taking an average of events for three years (2016, 2017 and 2018) in order to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data

During the year 2018, some 12,965 live births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, representing a decrease of 3.8% over the 2017 figure of 13,479. The crude birth rate, i.e., the number of live births in a year per 1,000 mid-year population, declined from 10.7 in 2017 to 10.2 in 2018.

In the Island of Mauritius, the number of live births registered decreased from 12,671 in 2017 to 12,202 in 2018, bringing about a fall in the crude birth rate from 10.4 to 10.0. For the Island of Rodrigues, the number of live births decreased from 808 (rate of 18.2) in 2017 to 763 (rate of 17.7) in 2018.

6.2 Deaths and crude death rate

Table 6.2 - Deaths and crude death rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2017 and 2018¹

Island	Number of deaths registered		Crude death rate	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
Island of Mauritius	9,914	10,521	8.1	8.6
Island of Rodrigues	226	266	5.8 ²	6.2
Republic of Mauritius	10,140	10,787	8.0	8.5

¹ Provisional

² Because of the small number of events, the rate for 2017 has been calculated by taking an average of events for three years (2016, 2017 and 2018) in order to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data

The number of deaths registered in the Republic of Mauritius in 2018 was 10,787, representing an increase of 6.4% over the figure of 10,140 for 2017. The crude death rate, i.e., the number of deaths in a year per 1,000 mid-year population was 8.5 in 2018 compared to 8.0 in 2017.

The Island of Mauritius registered an increase in the number of deaths, from 9,914 in 2017 (rate of 8.1) to 10,521 in 2018 (rate from 8.6). During the same period, the number of deaths in Rodrigues increased from 226 to 266, with a rate of 5.8 for 2017 and 6.2 for 2018.

6.3 Infant deaths and Infant mortality rate

Table 6.3 - Infant deaths and infant mortality rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2017 and 2018¹

Island	Number of infant deaths registered		Infant mortality rate	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
Island of Mauritius	148	168	11.7	13.8
Island of Rodrigues	16	13	17.2 ²	17.0
Republic of Mauritius	164	181	12.2	14.0

¹ Provisional

² Because of the small number of events, the rate for 2017 has been calculated by taking an average of events for three years (2016, 2017 and 2018) in order to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data

The infant mortality rate, defined as the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births, increased from 12.2 in 2017 to 14.0 in 2018. During the year 2018, some 181 infant deaths (deaths to children aged under one year) were registered in the Republic of Mauritius against 164 in 2017, representing an increase of 10.4%.

The number of infant deaths in the Island of Mauritius increased from 148 in 2017 to 168 in 2018. The infant mortality rate rose from 11.7 to 13.8 during that period. For Rodrigues, the number of infant deaths decreased from 16 in 2017 to 13 in 2018 and the infant mortality rate declined slightly from 17.2 to 17.0 during the same period.

6.4 Still births and still birth rate

Table 6.4 - Still births and still birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2017 and 2018¹

Island	Number of still births registered		Still birth rate	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
Island of Mauritius	128	123	10.0	10.0
Island of Rodrigues	7	7	10.2 ²	9.1
Republic of Mauritius	135	130	9.9	9.9

¹ Provisional

² Because of the small number of events, the rate for 2017 has been calculated by taking an average of events for three years (2016, 2017 and 2018) in order to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data

In 2018, some 130 still births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, which is 3.7% lower than the 2017 figure of 135. The still birth rate which is the number of still births in a year per 1,000 total births remained 9.9 for both years.

The Island of Mauritius registered 123 still births in 2018 against 128 in 2017, with a still birth rate of 10.0 for both years. In Rodrigues, 7 still births were registered in both 2017 and 2018. The still birth rate fell from 10.2 in 2017 to 9.1 in 2018.

6.5 Marriages and crude marriage rate

Table 6.5 - Marriages and crude marriage rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2017 and 2018¹

Island	Number of marriages registered		Marriage rate	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
Island of Mauritius	9,586	9,834	15.7	16.1
Island of Rodrigues	171	200	8.3 ²	9.3
Republic of Mauritius	9,757	10,034	15.4	15.9

¹ Provisional

² Because of the small number of events, the rate for 2017 has been calculated by taking an average of events for three years (2016, 2017 and 2018) in order to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data

The number of marriages registered in the Republic of Mauritius increased by 2.8% from 9,757 in 2017 to 10,034 in 2018. The crude marriage rate, i.e., the number of persons married in a year per 1,000 mid-year population, rose from 15.4 to 15.9 during the same period.

The number of marriages in the Island of Mauritius increased from 9,586 in 2017 (rate of 15.7) to 9,834 in 2018 (rate of 16.1). The Island of Rodrigues registered an increase in the number of marriages from 171 in 2017 (rate of 8.3) to 200 in 2018 (rate of 9.3).

7. International Comparison

Population growth rates for various countries in the world are published in the UN publication “The Demographic Yearbook 2017”. The figures indicate that the population growth rate for the Republic of Mauritius during the period 2010 to 2017 was 0.2%, lower than the estimated world’s population growth rate of 1.1%. The Republic’s growth rate was lower than that of Singapore (1.4), Australia (1.6), South Africa (1.5), United Kingdom (0.7) and China (0.5) but higher than Japan (-0.1) .

Table 7.1 – Demographic indicators for selected countries, 2017

	Mid year Estimates (in thousands)	Average annual rate of population change (2010-2017)	Density	Crude Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
World	7,550,300	1.1	58	19.0	8.0	n/a
Mauritius	1,265	0.2	639	10.7	8.0	12.3
Seychelles	96	0.9	210	17.2	7.8	n/a
South Africa	56,522	1.5	46	n/a	n/a	n/a
<i>Canada¹</i>	36,708	1.1	4	10.3	7.4	4.5
China	1,384,373	0.5	144	n/a	n/a	n/a
<i>India¹</i>	1,283,600	1.2	390	20.4	6.4	34.0
Japan	126,786	-0.1	335	7.5	10.6	n/a
Singapore	5,612	1.4	7,795	10.0	5.3	2.4
Germany	82,522	0.1	231	9.5	11.3	n/a
United Kingdom	65,809	0.7	271	11.4	9.2	n/a
<i>Australia¹</i>	24,599	1.6	3	12.8	6.5	3.1

Source: UN Demographic Yearbook, 2017 (except for the Republic of Mauritius)

¹ Figures in italics refer to the year 2016.

n/a – Not available

8. Demographic trends

8.1 Sex ratio

Figure 8.1.1 – Sex ratio of resident population, Republic of Mauritius, 1974 – 2018

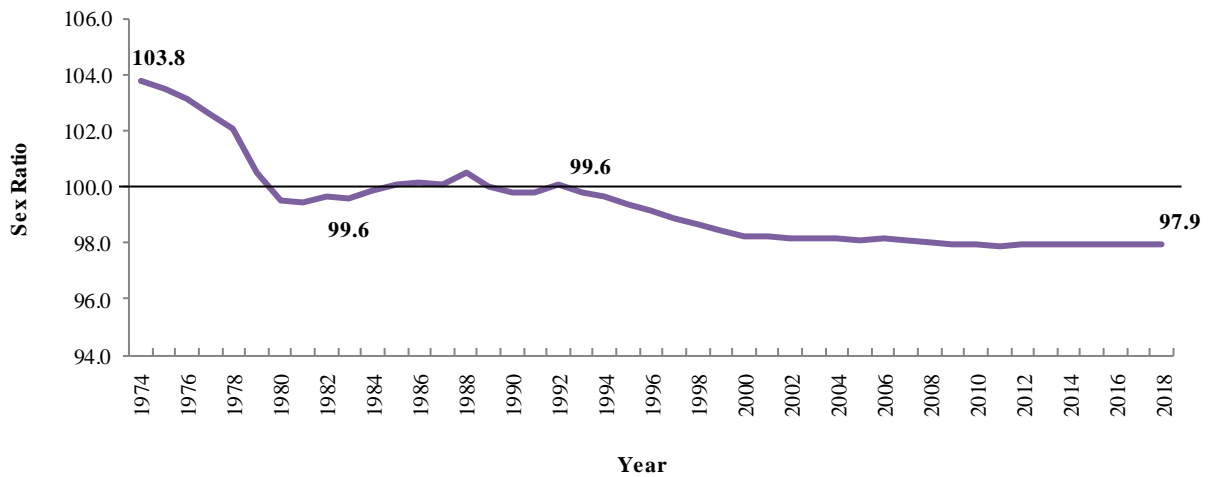
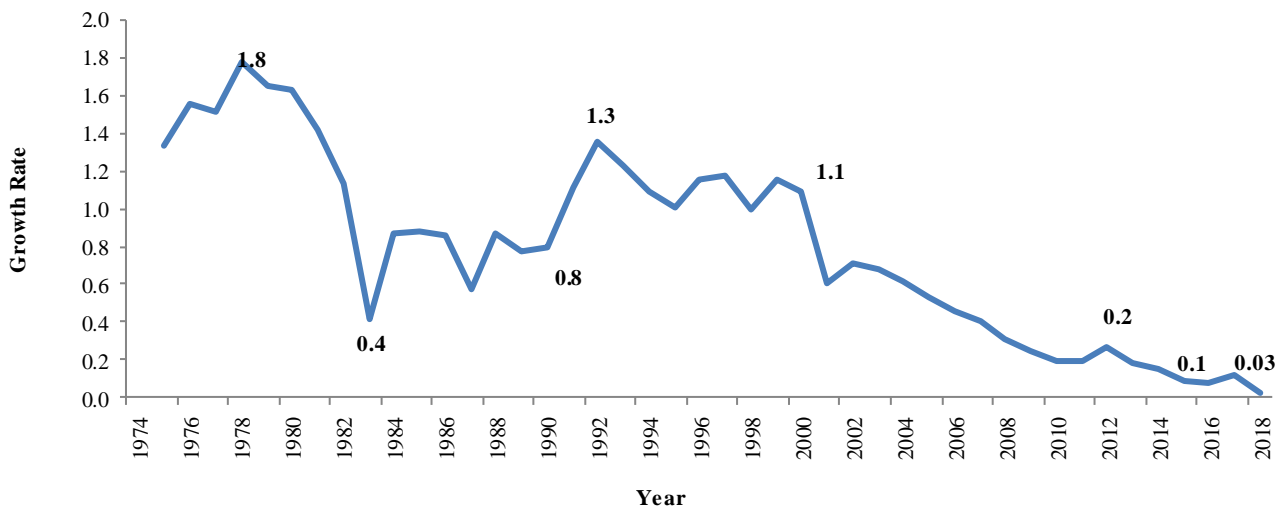


Figure 8.1.1 depicts the evolution of sex ratio (i.e. the number of males per 100 females) for the past forty years. Before the eighties, males outnumbered females in the population (e.g. 103.8 males per 100 females in 1974) and as from the nineties, the reverse trend was noted whereby females outnumbered males in the population (e.g. 97.9 males per 100 females in 2018). This shift was mainly due to ageing given that females live longer than males.

8.2 Population growth rate

During the same period, the population growth rate peaked in the late seventies followed by a fall in the eighties. The population growth rate caught up in the early nineties after which it dropped again to attain the lowest rate in 2018. The dips observed since the eighties mainly indicate falling fertility.

Figure 8.2.1 – Growth rate of resident population, Republic of Mauritius, 1974 – 2018

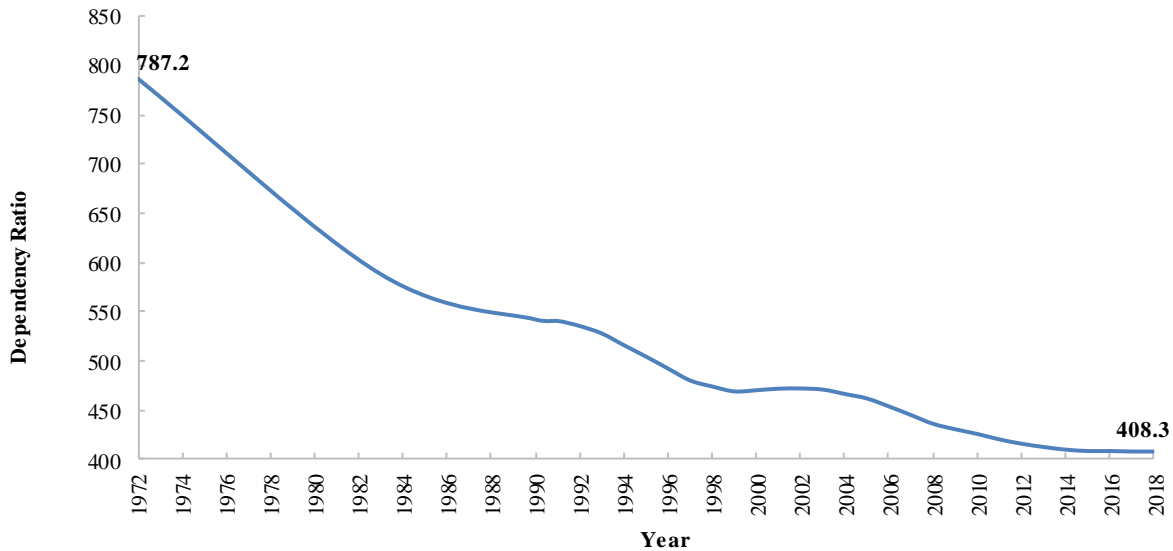


8.3 Dependency Ratio

Dependency ratio is defined as the combined child population (under 15 years) and population aged 65 years and over per 1,000 population of intermediated age (15-64 years) in a particular year.

There has been a general decrease in the dependency ratio from 787.2 in 1972 to 408.3 in 2018 (Figure 8.3.1). The fall in dependency ratio observed is mainly the result of a decline in child population over the years.

Figure 8.3.1 - Dependency Ratio, Republic of Mauritius, 1972 - 2018



8.4 Population age structure

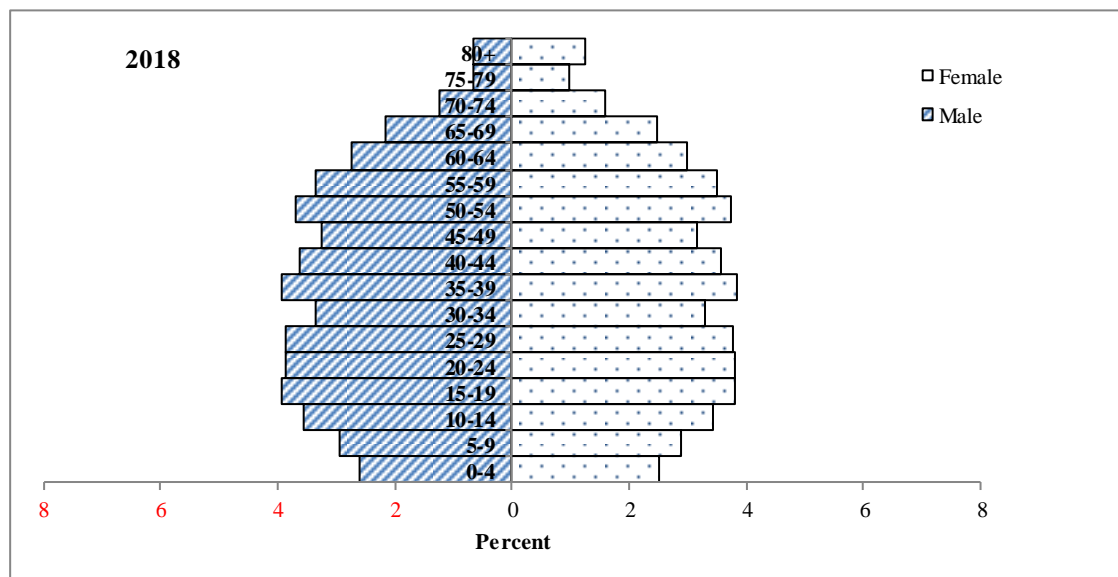
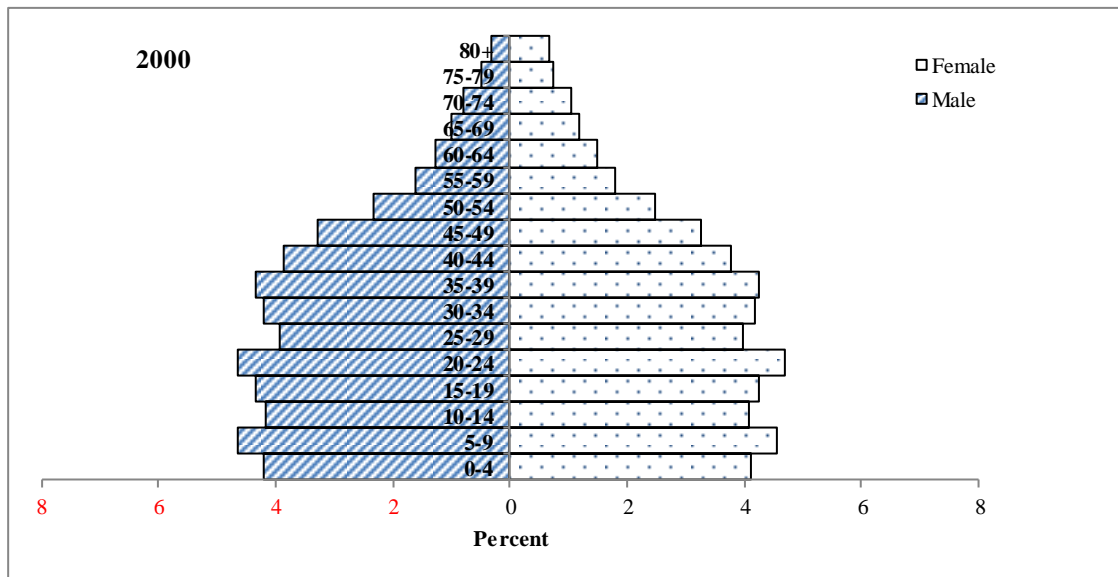
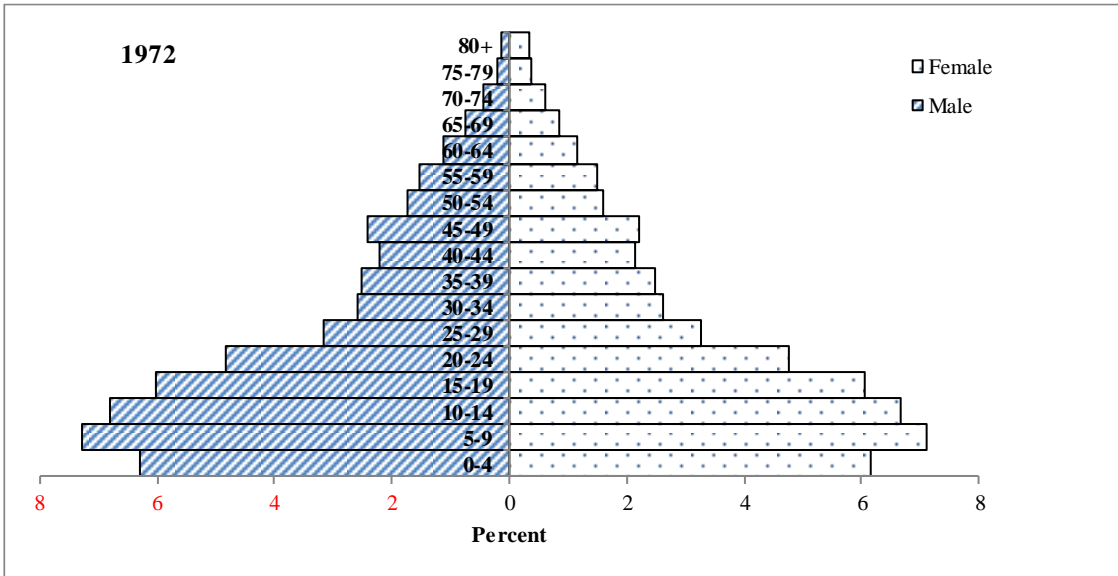
The structure of the pyramids in Figure 8.4.1 are determined by the patterns of births, deaths and migration which took place prior to the reference period of the pyramid. The pyramids compare the age structure of the population between 1972, 2000 and 2018 and show some important trends in the demographics of Mauritius.

The main changes observed over time are:

- the shrinking of the base of the pyramid over time 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.

The first pyramid in 1972, with its wide base and narrow top, is typical of a young population. This shape is the results of high birth rates that feed more and more people into the lowest bars and in turn shrink the relative proportion at the oldest ages. In 2000 and 2018, the base of the pyramid has started to narrow because of the fall in birth rates. These are typical of a population with a slow growth. The female bars are almost always longer because women live longer than men. Between 1972 and 2018, there has been a decline in the proportion of children in the age group 0-14 while the proportion of old persons aged 60 and above has increased steadily.

Figure 8.4.1 - Population pyramids, Republic of Mauritius, 1972, 2000 & 2018



9. Mortality

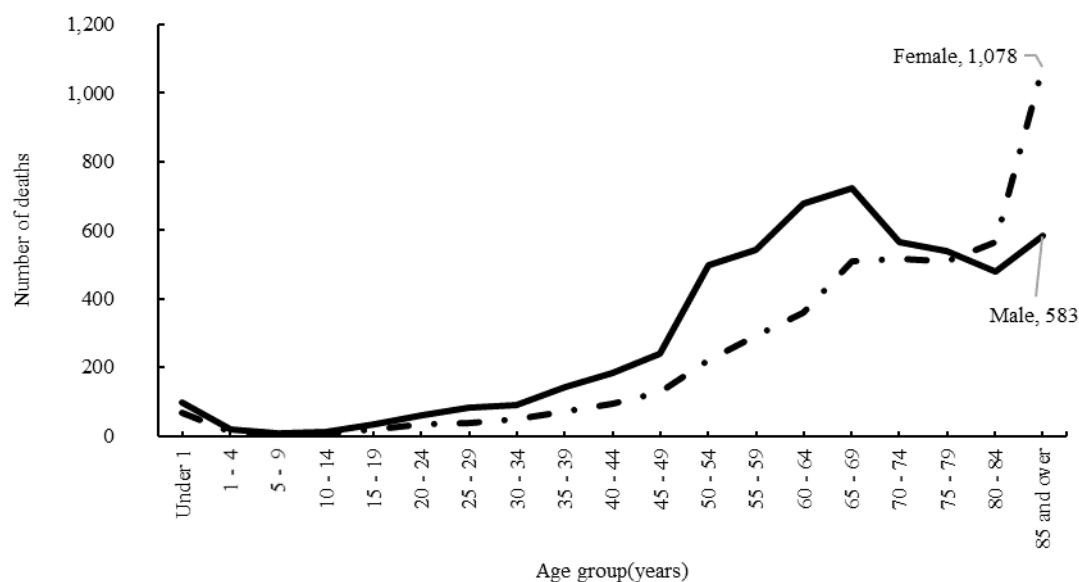
9.1 Deaths registered in 2017

Though women are more numerous than men, there are fewer deaths among women than men. In 2017, some 5,572 men died compared to 4,568 women in the Republic of Mauritius. Around 15% of the population who died in 2017 were under the age of 50. With the exception of the age group 80 years and over, deaths among males exceeded females. (Table 9.1.1)

Table 9.1.1 – Estimated resident population and deaths by age-group, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2017

Age Group (years)	Estimated Resident Population			Deaths		
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
Under 1	6,614	6,293	12,907	98	66	164
1 - 4	27,057	25,931	52,988	17	12	29
5 - 9	38,317	37,725	76,042	7	6	13
10 - 14	46,766	45,088	91,854	10	7	17
15 - 19	49,751	47,911	97,662	35	18	53
20 - 24	49,411	49,091	98,502	59	32	91
25 - 29	47,722	46,225	93,947	84	37	121
30 - 34	42,775	42,058	84,833	88	47	135
35 - 39	51,115	49,772	100,887	143	71	214
40 - 44	44,269	43,020	87,289	182	95	277
45 - 49	42,641	41,938	84,579	241	127	368
50 - 54	47,214	47,438	94,652	496	222	718
55 - 59	41,320	43,248	84,568	542	292	834
60 - 64	34,242	36,972	71,214	677	358	1,035
65 - 69	25,586	29,830	55,416	723	509	1,232
70 - 74	14,175	18,612	32,787	567	516	1,083
75 - 79	8,501	12,185	20,686	540	510	1,050
80 - 84	5,134	8,509	13,643	480	565	1,045
85 and over	3,117	7,040	10,157	583	1,078	1,661
All ages	625,727	638,886	1,264,613	5,572	4,568	10,140

¹ Excluding Agalega and St Brandon

Figure 9.1.1 – Number of deaths, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2017

¹ Excluding Agalega and St Brandon

9.2 Most common causes of deaths by chapter

The World Health Organisation International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD – 10) is used to code causes of death.

In 2017, “Diseases of the circulatory system” (32.3%) ranked first among the most common causes of death followed by “Endocrine, nutritional & metabolic diseases” (23.7%), “Neoplasms” (13.8%), “Diseases of the respiratory system” (10.3%) and “Injury, poisoning & certain other consequences of external causes” (5.3%).

In 2017, around 75% of deaths caused by “Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes” were registered among males compared to 25% among females. Similarly, deaths due to “Diseases of the respiratory system”, “Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases” and “Diseases of the circulatory system” were more among males than females in 2017. However, deaths caused by Neoplasms were higher among females (52%) than males (48%). (Table 9.2.1)

Table 9.2.1 - Deaths by chapter and cause¹, Republic of Mauritius², 2017

Chapter	Cause of death	Male	Female	Both sexes	
				Number	%
I	Certain Infectious & parasitic diseases	168	85	253	2.5
II	Neoplasms	668	734	1,402	13.8
III	Diseases of the blood & blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism	30	42	72	0.7
IV	Endocrine, nutritional & metabolic diseases	1,235	1,167	2,402	23.7
V	Mental & behavioural disorders	92	7	99	1.0
VI	Diseases of the nervous system	85	59	144	1.4
VII	Diseases of the eye & adnexa	0	0	0	0.0
VIII	Diseases of the ear & mastoid process	0	0	0	0.0
IX	Diseases of the circulatory system	1,756	1,519	3,275	32.3
X	Diseases of the respiratory system	614	434	1,048	10.3
XI	Diseases of the digestive system	236	124	360	3.6
XII	Diseases of the skin & subcutaneous tissue	29	32	61	0.6
XIII	Diseases of the musculoskeletal system & connective tissue	5	19	24	0.2
XIV	Diseases of the genito-urinary system	91	69	160	1.6
XV	Pregnancy, childbirth & the puerperium	0	10	10	0.1
XVI	Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	63	40	103	1.0
XVII	Congenital malformations, deformation & chromosomal abnormalities	30	19	49	0.5
XVIII	Symptoms, signs & abnormal clinical & laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	67	70	137	1.4
XIX	Injury, poisoning & certain other consequences of external causes	403	138	541	5.3
	All causes	5,572	4,568	10,140	100.0

¹ According to the "International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems", 10th revision

² Excluding Agalega and St Brandon

9.3 Selected principal causes of deaths

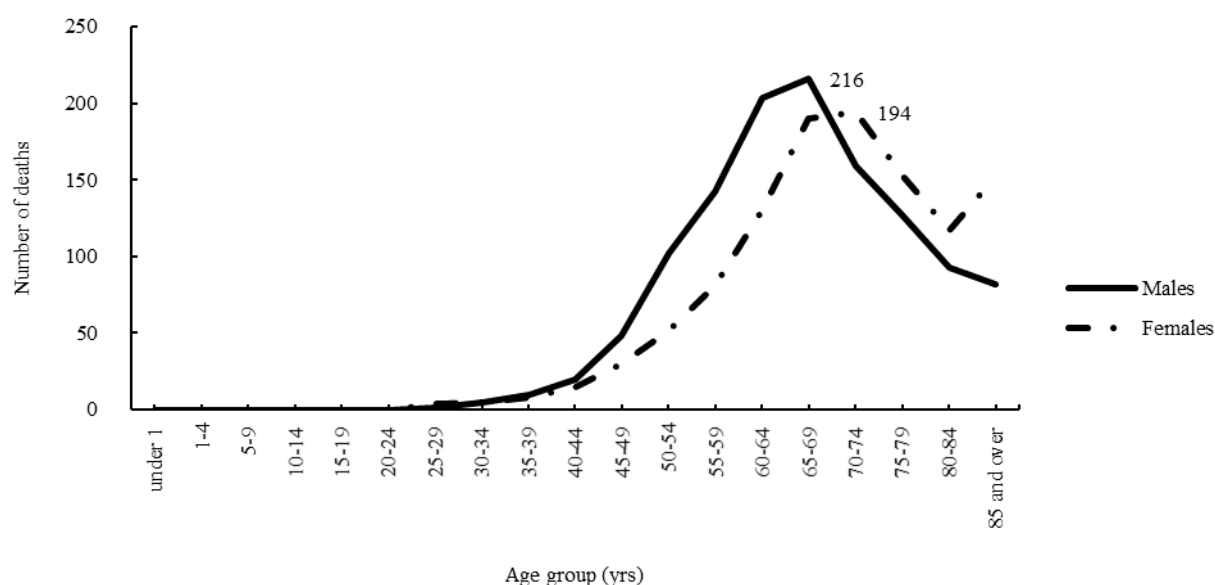
In 2017, among selected principal causes of death, diabetes mellitus was the leading cause of death accounting for 24.8%(1,131) of deaths among 4,568 women and 21.7%(1,208) among 5,572 men.

The number of deaths caused by diabetes mellitus among males and females predominated (97%) in the age group 45 years and above. (Table 9.3.1)

Table 9.3.1 - Deaths caused by diabetes mellitus, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2017

Age group (years)	Males	Females	Total
under 24	0	0	0
25-29	1	4	5
30-34	5	5	10
35-39	10	8	18
40-44	20	15	35
45-49	48	30	78
50-54	102	52	154
55-59	142	81	223
60-64	203	130	333
65-69	216	190	406
70-74	159	194	353
75-79	127	153	280
80-84	93	117	210
85 and over	82	152	234
TOTAL	1,208	1,131	2,339

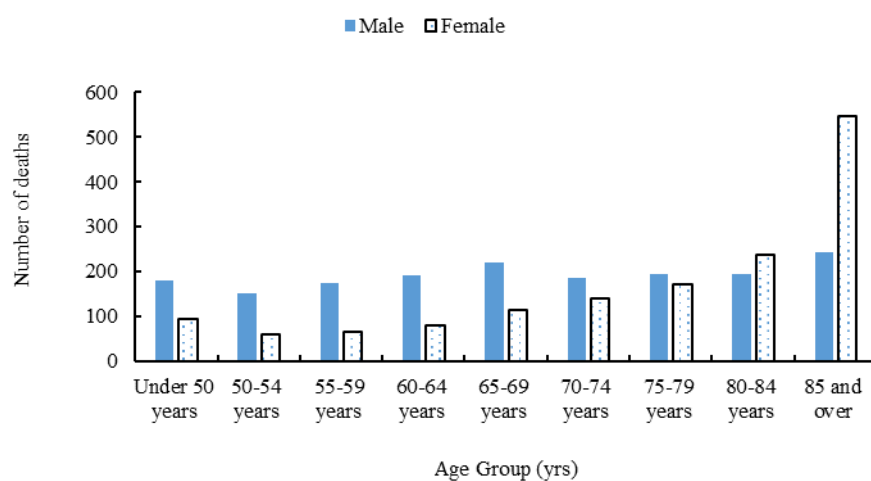
¹ Excluding Agalega and St Brandon

Figure 9.3.1 – Deaths caused by diabetes mellitus, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2017

¹ Excluding Agalega and St Brandon

In 2017, heart diseases, cerebrovascular disease and hypertensive disease were respectively responsible for 17.9%, 8.5% and 6.5% of deaths among 4,568 women and 19.1%, 7.9% and 4.1% of deaths among 5,572 men. Among the 1,730 males' deaths caused by heart, cerebrovascular and hypertensive diseases, 89.5% were aged 50 years and above compared to 93.8% for 1,503 female deaths.

Figure 9.3.2 – Deaths caused by heart, cerebrovascular and hypertensive diseases, Republic of Mauritius¹, 2017



¹ Excluding Agalega and St Brandon

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Definitions

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 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 to 64 years. |
| 4. Child Dependency ratio | The child population under 15 years of age per 1,000 population aged 15 to 64 years. |
| 5. Old age Dependency ratio | The elderly population aged 65 years and above per 1,000 population aged 15 to 64 years. |
| 6. Median age | The age which divides the population into two equal size groups, one of which is younger and the other older than the median. |
| 7. Sex ratio: | The number of males to every 100 females. |
| 8. Natural increase: | The excess of live births over deaths. |
| 9. Crude birth rate: | The number of live births in a year per 1,000 mid-year population. |
| 10. Crude death rate: | The number of deaths in a year per 1,000 mid-year population. |
| 11. Infant mortality rate: | The number of deaths in a year of infants aged under one year per 1,000 live births during the year. |
| 12. Still birth rate: | The number of still births in a year per 1,000 total births (live births and still births) during the year. |
| 13. 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 year 2018 are however calculated on the basis of data for the year only.