

Population and Vital Statistics

Republic of Mauritius, January – June 2020

1. Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents provisional population estimates for mid-year 2020 and vital statistics for the first semester of 2020. Forecasts of vital events and rates for the year 2020 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 Civil Status Division.

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

2. Key points

- The population of the Republic of Mauritius was estimated at 1,266,014 as at 1 July 2020, corresponding to zero population growth from the population one year ago.
- As at mid-2020, the female population outnumbered the male population by 13,610.
- The expected number of live births for the Republic of Mauritius for year 2020 is 13,170, corresponding to a crude birth rate of 10.4 per 1,000 mid-year population, compared to 10.2 in 2019.
- The estimated number of deaths for 2020 is around 11,170, giving a crude death rate of 8.8 per 1,000 mid-year population, same as in 2019.
- The forecast for the number of infant deaths for the Republic of Mauritius in 2020 is 205, representing an infant mortality rate of 15.6 per 1,000 live births, compared to 14.5 in 2019.
- The number of still births for 2020 is estimated at 150, giving a still birth rate of 11.3 per 1,000 total births, compared to 10.7 in 2019.
- The expected number of marriages for 2020 is 7,290, corresponding to a marriage rate of 11.5 persons married per 1,000 mid-year population, against 15.3 in 2019.

3. Estimated resident population

Table 3.1 - Estimated resident population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1 July 2020¹

Island	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio
Island of Mauritius	1,221,921	604,560	617,361	97.9
Island of Rodrigues	43,819	21,468	22,351	96.0
Agalega and St. Brandon	274	174	100	174.0
Republic of Mauritius	1,266,014	626,202	639,812	97.9

¹ Provisional

As at 1 July 2020, the population of the Republic of Mauritius was estimated at 1,266,014 with 626,202 males and 639,812 females. There were 97.9 males for every 100 females.

The population of the Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues were estimated at 1,221,921 and 43,819 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, 1 July 2020¹

Island	Both sexes	Area (km²)	Density per km²
Island of Mauritius	1,221,921	1,868.4	654
Island of Rodrigues	43,819	110.1	398
Agalega and St. Brandon	274	28.7	10
Republic of Mauritius	1,266,014	2,007.2	631

¹ Provisional

The Republic of Mauritius had a population density of 631 persons per square kilometre as at mid-2020 for a total land area of 2,007.2 km². The population densities of the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues were 654 and 398 respectively.

Table 3.3 - Estimated resident population by sex and sex ratio, Republic of Mauritius, 2018 - 2020 (mid-year estimates)

Year	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio
2018	1,265,577	626,204	639,373	97.9
2019	1,265,985	626,341	639,644	97.9
2020¹	1,266,014	626,202	639,812	97.9

¹ Provisional

In the above table, mid-year population estimates and sex ratios are given for comparative purposes. The sex ratio remained at 97.9 for the three years.

4. Population growth

Table 4.1 - Population change, Republic of Mauritius, 1 July 2019 and 1 July 2020

Island	Population		Growth	
	1 July 2019	1 July 2020¹	Number	%
Island of Mauritius	1,222,340	1,221,921	-419	-0.03
Island of Rodrigues	43,371	43,819	448	1.03
Agalega and St. Brandon	274	274	0	0.00
Republic of Mauritius	1,265,985	1,266,014	29	0.00

¹ Provisional

The population of the Republic of Mauritius increased marginally from mid-2019 to mid-2020. The growth rate for the Island of Mauritius was negligible while for the Island of Rodrigues it was 1.03%.

Table 4.2 - Components of population growth during the first semester of 2019 and 2020, Republic of Mauritius¹

Components of population growth	2019	2020 ²
Resident population as at beginning of year	1,265,363	1,265,201
Natural increase, January - June	1,273	1,464
Live Births, January - June	6,670	6,856
Deaths, January - June	5,397	5,392
Net international migration, January - June	-925	-925
Resident population as at mid-year	1,265,711	1,265,740

¹ excluding Agalega and St Brandon

² Provisional

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

During the first semester of 2020, the population registered a natural increase of 1,464, which was the result of an addition of 6,856 live births and a subtraction of 5,392 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, 2019 and 2020

Island	Number of live births				Crude birth rate	
	2019		2020		2019	2020 ²
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June ¹	Year ²		
Island of Mauritius	6,249	12,056	6,365	12,300	9.9	10.1
Island of Rodrigues	421	806	491	870	18.7 ¹	19.9
Republic of Mauritius	6,670	12,862	6,856	13,170	10.2	10.4

¹ Provisional

² Forecast

For the first six months of the current year, 6,856 live births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, compared to 6,670 for the corresponding period of 2019. For the year 2020, the number of live births is estimated at 13,170, resulting in a crude birth rate (i.e, live births per 1,000 mid-year population) of 10.4, compared to 10.2 in 2019. The forecast for the Island of Mauritius is 12,300 live births (rate of 10.1) and that for Rodrigues is 870 (rate of 19.9).

5.2 Deaths and crude death rate

Table 5.2 - Deaths and crude death rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2019 and 2020

Island	Number of deaths				Crude death rate	
	2019		2020		2019	2020 ²
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June ¹	Year ²		
Island of Mauritius	5,272	10,911	5,262	10,900	8.9	8.9
Island of Rodrigues	125	263	130	270	6.1 ¹	6.2
Republic of Mauritius	5,397	11,174	5,392	11,170	8.8	8.8

¹ Provisional

² Forecast

The number of deaths registered during the first semester of 2020 in the Republic of Mauritius was 5,392, compared to 5,397 for the corresponding period of 2019. The forecast for 2020 is 11,170 deaths, representing a crude death rate of 8.8 per 1,000 mid-year population. The expected number of deaths for the Island of Mauritius for 2020 is 10,900 (rate of 8.9) and that for Rodrigues is 270 (rate of 6.2).

5.3 Infant deaths and infant mortality rate

Table 5.3 - Infant deaths and infant mortality rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2019 and 2020

Island	Number of infant deaths				Infant mortality rate	
	2019		2020		2019	2020 ²
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June ¹	Year ²		
Island of Mauritius	87	173	97	190	14.3	15.4
Island of Rodrigues	6	14	8	15	17.2 ¹	17.2
Republic of Mauritius	93	187	105	205	14.5	15.6

¹ Provisional

² Forecast

During the first semester of 2020, there were 105 infant deaths registered in the Republic of Mauritius compared to 93 for the same period in 2019. Around 205 infant deaths are expected to occur in the Republic of Mauritius in 2020, giving an infant mortality rate of 15.6 per 1,000 live births against 14.5 in 2019. The number of infant deaths forecast for the Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues are 190 (rate of 15.4) and 15 (rate of 17.2) respectively.

5.4 Still births and still birth rate

Table 5.4 - Still births and still birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2019 and 2020

Island	Number of still births				Still birth rate	
	2019		2020		2019	2020 ²
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June ¹	Year ²		
Island of Mauritius	62	131	73	140	10.7	11.3
Island of Rodrigues	6	8	7	10	10.1 ¹	11.4
Republic of Mauritius	68	139	80	150	10.7	11.3

¹ Provisional

² Forecast

During the first six months of 2020, some 80 still births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, compared to 68 for the same period in 2019, i.e. a 17.6% increase. The expected number of still births for the Republic of Mauritius for 2020 is 150, giving a still birth rate of 11.3 per 1,000 total births against 10.7 in 2019. Forecasts of still births for the Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues for the year 2020 are 140 (rate of 11.3) and 10 (rate of 11.4) respectively.

5.5 Marriages and crude marriage rate

Table 5.5 - Marriages and crude marriage rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2019 and 2020

Island	Number of marriages				Crude marriage rate	
	2019		2020		2019	2020 ²
	Jan - June	Year	Jan - June ¹	Year ²		
Island of Mauritius	4,306	9,501	2,353	7,100	15.5	11.6
Island of Rodrigues	95	208	76	190	9.2 ¹	8.7
Republic of Mauritius	4,401	9,709	2,429	7,290	15.3	11.5

¹ Provisional

² Forecast

A total of 2,429 marriages were registered in the Republic of Mauritius during the first semester of 2020, representing a decrease of 44.8% over the number registered (4,401) during the same period in 2019. This drop is mainly because the Civil Status Division did not entertain marriage celebration during a major part of the COVID-19 lockdown running from end of March to May 2020. The expected number of marriages for 2020 is 7,290, giving a crude marriage rate of 11.5 per 1,000 mid-year population against 15.3 in 2019. The expected number of marriages for 2020 for the Island of Mauritius is 7,100 (rate of 11.6) and for the Island of Rodrigues is 190 (rate of 8.7).

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 (2005 - 2019).

Table 6.1 - Vital rates for selected countries

Country	Year	Crude Birth rate	Crude death rate	Infant mortality rate
Mauritius	2019	10.1	8.8	14.6
Reunion	2018	15.6	5.9	6.1
Australia	2018	12.6	6.3	3.1
United States	2015	12.4	8.5	5.9
India	2017	20.2	6.3	33.0
Germany	2018	9.5	11.5	3.2
France	2018	11.1	9.2	3.6 ¹

Source : United Nations Population & Vital Statistics Report Vol LXXII

¹ refers to year 2017

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.

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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 2020 are however calculated on the basis of data for the year only.