

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, JANUARY – JUNE 2014

1. Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents provisional population estimates for mid-year 2014 and vital statistics for the first semester of 2014. Forecasts of vital events and rates for the year 2014 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. Also, population estimates presented in this publication are based on the 2011 Population Census data.

Definitions of terms used are at Annex.

2. Key points

- The population of the Republic of Mauritius grew at a rate of 0.2% since mid-2013 and was estimated at 1,261,208 as at 1st July 2014.
- As at mid-2014, the female population outnumbered the male population by about 12,856.
- The expected number of live births for the Republic of Mauritius for year 2014 is estimated at 13,610, corresponding to a crude birth rate of 10.8 per 1,000 mid-year population compared to 10.9 in 2013.
- The estimated number of deaths for 2014 is around 9,640 giving a crude death rate of 7.6 per 1,000 mid-year population compared to 7.5 in 2013.
- The forecast for the number of infant deaths for the Republic of Mauritius is around 198, representing an infant mortality rate of 14.5 per 1,000 live births compared to 12.1 in 2013.
- The number of still births for 2014 is estimated at 150, giving a still birth rate of 10.9 per 1,000 total births compared to 8.5 in 2013.
- The expected number of marriages for 2014 is 10,270, corresponding to a marriage rate of 16.3 persons married per 1,000 mid-year population, against 15.2 in 2013.

3. Estimated resident population

Table 3.1 - Estimated resident population by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1st July 2014

| Island | Both sexes | Male | Female | Sex ratio |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Island of Mauritius | 1,219,265 | 603,473 | 615,792 | 98.0 |
| Island of Rodrigues | 41,669 | 20,529 | 21,140 | 97.1 |
| Agalega and St. Brandon | 274 | 174 | 100 | 174.0 |
| Republic of Mauritius | 1,261,208 | 624,176 | 637,032 | 98.0 |

As at 1st July 2014, the population of the Republic of Mauritius was estimated at 1,261,208 of whom 624,176 were males and 637,032 females. There were 98 males for every 100 females.

The population of the Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues were estimated at 1,219,265 and 41,669 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 2014

| Island | Both sexes | Area (km ²) | Density per km ² |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Island of Mauritius | 1,219,265 | 1,864.8 | 654 |
| Island of Rodrigues | 41,669 | 104.0 | 401 |
| Agalega and St. Brandon | 274 | 71.2 | 4 |
| Republic of Mauritius | 1,261,208 | 2,040.0 | 618 |

The Republic of Mauritius, with a total land area of 2,040 square kilometres, had a population density of 618 persons per square km as at mid-2014. The population densities of the Island of Mauritius and the Island of Rodrigues were 654 and 401 respectively.

Table 3.3 - Estimated resident population by sex and sex ratio, Republic of Mauritius, 2012 - 2014 (mid-year estimates)

| Year | Both sexes | Male | Female | Sex ratio |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------|------------------|
| 2012 | 1,256,156 | 621,471 | 634,685 | 97.9 |
| 2013 | 1,258,927 | 623,035 | 635,892 | 98.0 |
| 2014 | 1,261,208 | 624,176 | 637,032 | 98.0 |

In the above table, population estimates and sex ratios for the past three years are given for comparative purposes. The rise in the sex ratio from 2012 to 2013 indicates a slight increase in the proportion of males in the population. However the sex ratio for 2014 is estimated at the same level as in 2013.

4. Population growth

Table 4.1 - Population change, Republic of Mauritius, 1st July 2013 and 1st July 2014

| Island | Population | | Growth | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------|------------|
| | 1st July 2013 | 1st July 2014 | Number | % |
| Island of Mauritius | 1,217,341 | 1,219,265 | 1,924 | 0.2 |
| Island of Rodrigues | 41,312 | 41,669 | 357 | 0.9 |
| Agalega and St. Brandon | 274 | 274 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Republic of Mauritius | 1,258,927 | 1,261,208 | 2,281 | 0.2 |

The population of the Republic of Mauritius increased by 2,281 (0.2%) from mid-2013 to mid-2014. The growth rate for the Island of Mauritius was 0.2% compared to 0.9% for the Island of Rodrigues.

Table 4.2 - Components of population growth during the first semester of 2013 and 2014, Republic of Mauritius¹

| Components of population growth | 2013 | 2014 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Resident population as at beginning of year | 1,257,216 | 1,259,564 |
| Natural increase, January-June | 2,387 | 2,295 |
| Live Births, January-June | 6,949 | 6,955 |
| Deaths, January-June | 4,562 | 4,660 |
| Net international migration, January-June | -950 | -925 |
| Resident population as at mid-year | 1,258,653 | 1,260,934 |

¹ excluding Agalega and St Brandon

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

During the first semester of 2014, the population registered a natural increase of 2,295 which was the result of an addition of 6,955 live births and a subtraction of 4,660 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, 2013 and 2014¹

| Island | Number of live births | | | | Crude birth rate | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | 2013 | | 2014 | | 2013 | 2014 ¹ |
| | Jan - June | Year | Jan - June | Year ¹ | | |
| Island of Mauritius | 6,591 | 12,986 | 6,591 | 12,900 | 10.7 | 10.6 |
| Island of Rodrigues | 358 | 702 | 364 | 710 | 17.3 | 17.0 |
| Republic of Mauritius | 6,949 | 13,688 | 6,955 | 13,610 | 10.9 | 10.8 |

¹ forecast

For the first six months of 2014, 6,955 live births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius, compared to 6,949 for the corresponding period of 2013. For the year 2014, the number of live births is estimated at 13,610, resulting in a crude birth rate (i.e. live births per 1,000 mid-year population) of 10.8 compared to 10.9 in 2013. The forecast for the Island of Mauritius is 12,900 live births (rate of 10.6), and for Rodrigues it is 710 (rate of 17.0).

5.2 Deaths and crude death rate

Table 5.2 - Deaths and crude death rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2013 and 2014¹

| Island | Number of deaths | | | | Crude death rate | |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | 2013 | | 2014 | | 2013 | 2014 ¹ |
| | Jan - June | Year | Jan - June | Year ¹ | | |
| Island of Mauritius | 4,469 | 9,231 | 4,541 | 9,400 | 7.6 | 7.7 |
| Island of Rodrigues | 93 | 209 | 119 | 240 | 5.6 | 5.8 |
| Republic of Mauritius | 4,562 | 9,440 | 4,660 | 9,640 | 7.5 | 7.6 |

¹ forecast

The number of deaths registered during the first semester of 2014 in the Republic of Mauritius was 4,660 representing an increase of 2.1% compared to the corresponding figures of 2013. The forecast for 2014 is 9,640 deaths representing a crude death rate of 7.6 per 1,000 mid- year population. The expected number of deaths for the Island of Mauritius for 2014 is 9,400 (rate of 7.7) and that for Rodrigues is 240 (rate of 5.8).

5.3 Infant deaths and infant mortality rate

Table 5.3 - Infant deaths and infant mortality rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2013 and 2014¹

| Island | Number of infant deaths | | | | Infant mortality rate | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| | 2013 | | 2014 | | 2013 | 2014 ¹ |
| | Jan - June | Year | Jan - June | Year ¹ | | |
| Island of Mauritius | 81 | 159 | 95 | 180 | 12.2 | 14.0 |
| Island of Rodrigues | 2 | 6 | 9 | 18 | 18.2 | 25.4 |
| Republic of Mauritius | 83 | 165 | 104 | 198 | 12.1 | 14.5 |

¹ forecast

During the first semester of 2014, 104 infant deaths were registered in the Republic of Mauritius compared to 83 for the same period in 2013. 198 infant deaths are expected to occur in the Republic of Mauritius in 2014, giving an infant mortality rate of 14.5 infant deaths per 1,000 live births against 12.1 in 2013. The number of infant deaths for the Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues are estimated at 180 (rate of 14.0) and 18 (rate of 25.4) respectively.

5.4 Still births and still birth rate

Table 5.4 - Still births and still birth rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2013 and 2014¹

| Island | Number of still births | | | | Still birth rate | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | 2013 | | 2014 | | 2013 | 2014 ¹ |
| | Jan - June | Year | Jan - June | Year ¹ | | |
| Island of Mauritius | 64 | 114 | 79 | 140 | 8.7 | 10.7 |
| Island of Rodrigues | 1 | 3 | 6 | 10 | 9.7 | 13.9 |
| Republic of Mauritius | 65 | 117 | 85 | 150 | 8.5 | 10.9 |

¹ forecast

During the first six months of 2014, 85 still births were registered in the Republic of Mauritius compared to 65 for the same period in 2013, i.e, a 30.8% increase. The expected number of still births for the Republic of Mauritius is 150 for 2014, giving a still birth rate of 10.9 still births per 1,000 total births against 8.5 in 2013. Forecast for the Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues for year 2014 are 140 (rate of 10.7) and 10 (rate of 13.9) respectively.

5.5 Marriages and crude marriage rate

Table 5.5 - Marriages and crude marriage rate, Republic of Mauritius, 2013 and 2014¹

| Island | Number of marriages | | | | Crude marriage rate | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| | 2013 | | 2014 | | 2013 | 2014 ¹ |
| | Jan - June | Year | Jan - June | Year ¹ | | |
| Island of Mauritius | 4,318 | 9,393 | 4,629 | 10,100 | 15.4 | 16.6 |
| Island of Rodrigues | 69 | 182 | 80 | 170 | 8.7 | 8.2 |
| Republic of Mauritius | 4,387 | 9,575 | 4,709 | 10,270 | 15.2 | 16.3 |

¹ forecast

A total of 4,709 marriages were registered in the Republic of Mauritius during the first semester of 2014, representing an increase of 7.3% over the number registered (4,387) during the same period in 2013. The expected number of marriages for 2014 is 10,270, giving a crude marriage rate of 16.3 persons married per 1,000 mid-year population against 15.2 in 2013. The expected number of marriages for the Island of Mauritius is 10,100 (rate of 16.6) and for the Island of Rodrigues is 170 (rate of 8.2).

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 (1998-2012).

Table 6.1 - Vital rates for selected countries

| Country | Year | Crude Birth rate | Crude death rate | Infant mortality rate |
|------------------|------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Mauritius | 2012 | 11.2 | 7.2 | 12.9 |
| Reunion | 2010 | 17.1 | 5.1 | 6.1 |
| Australia | 2011 | 13.5 | 6.6 | 3.8 |
| Canada | 2011 | 11.0 | 7.0 | 5.1 |
| India | 2010 | 22.1 | 7.2 | 47.0 |
| Germany | 2012 | 8.2 | 10.5 | 3.4 |
| France | 2012 | 12.5 | 8.8 | 3.3 |

Source : Demographic Yearbook 1998 -2012

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 and hence proportionately fewer deaths are expected.

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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 2014 are however calculated on the basis of data for the year only.