

Migration in Mauritius

A COUNTRY PROFILE 2013



IOM Development Fund
DEVELOPING CAPACITIES IN MIGRATION MANAGEMENT



International Organization for Migration (IOM)

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CONTENTS

List of tables	4
List of figures	6
Members of the technical working group.....	7
Acronym list	9
Acknowledgments	11
Foreword.....	13
Map of Mauritius.....	15
Key information for Mauritius.....	16
Executive summary.....	17
Part A: Overview of population and migration trends in Mauritius	21
A.1 International migration data sources in Mauritius	21
A.1.1 Censuses as sources of migration data	21
A.1.2 Census data in Mauritius	23
A.1.3 Sample surveys	25
A.1.4 Border data collection system	26
A.1.5 Residence permits	27
A.1.6 International databases	28
A.2. The population of Mauritius: Facts and trends.....	31
A.2.1 Historical overview on the evolution of the population of Mauritius.....	31
A.2.2 Recent population trends: Fertility, mortality and population growth	33
A.2.3 Population age and sex composition	38
A.2.4 Labour force.....	41
A.2.5 Internal migration	45
A.3 Population with foreign background and international migrations	48
A.3.1 Foreign resident population over time	48
A.3.2 Legislation pertaining to international migration	51
A.3.3 Characteristics of non-Mauritians.....	66
A.3.4 Foreign workers and other categories of foreigners in Mauritius	71
A.3.5 International migration	77
A.4 Mauritians living abroad	87
Part B: Effects of migration in Mauritius.....	97
B.1 Mauritius as a country of destination	97
B.2 Mauritius as a country of origin and the value added by its diaspora today	100
B.3 Internal migration: A focus on Rodrigues.....	101
B.4 Border data collection system	102

B.5 Migration and health	104
B.6 Migration and environmental change	105
Part C: Recommendations	107
C.1 Improving migration statistics.....	107
C.2 Mainstreaming migration into national development planning	111
C.3 Establishing the institutional framework allowing continuity in the migration profile exercise and policy development.....	115
Annexes.....	117
Annex 1: Concepts and internationally recommended definitions in the area of international migration statistics	117
Annex 2: Statistical tables	122
Annex 3: Institutional framework in Mauritius pertaining to migration.....	133
Bibliography	135

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Population size of Mauritius, 1767–2011.....	32
Table 2: Population change in Mauritius based on 2000–2013 mid-year estimates, with numbers of births and deaths and estimated net migration.....	35
Table 3: Births, deaths and natural population growth, 2000–2012	36
Table 4: Life expectancy at birth, 1950–2010	37
Table 5: Population age group structure based on the 1990, 2000 and 2011 censuses and selected mid-year estimates	38
Table 6: Population age structure indicators	41
Table 7: Population aged 16 and over, by sex and activity status.....	42
Table 8: Labour force participation rates, by age group and sex, 2012 CMPHS .	43
Table 9: Unemployment rate, by age and sex.....	44
Table 10: Unemployment rate, by education and sex	45
Table 11: District-to-district migration flows of the population aged 5 years and over, 2006 and 2011.....	47
Table 12: Population, by nationality, 2000 and 2011 censuses	50
Table 13: Naturalization, by sex, 2008–2012	51
Table 14: Relevant international conventions ratified by Mauritius.....	65
Table 15: Number of non-Mauritians by country of citizenship according to the 2011 census and valid residence permits in Mauritius on 1 January 2013	68

Table 16:	Number of holders of valid work permits by country of origin in December 2010 and 2013.....	73
Table 17:	Foreign workers by branch of industry, 2005, 2009 and 2013	74
Table 18:	Number of occupation permits issued between 2 October 2006 and 30 June 2013	75
Table 19:	Enrolment of foreign students in tertiary education in Mauritius by country of origin	76
Table 20:	Number of arrivals and departures on main border points, in thousands, 2000 and 2010–2012	78
Table 21:	Departure of Mauritian residents* travelling abroad by country of disembarkation.....	79
Table 22:	Difference between arrivals and departures of Mauritians and non-Mauritians, by age group, 2010–2012.....	80
Table 23:	Total number of foreign nationals deported, arrested and repatriated, by nationality, 2000–2014.....	81
Table 24:	Resident Mauritians and non-Mauritians aged 5 years and over who lived abroad in 2006, disaggregated by sex and country of residence in 2006.....	82
Table 25:	Resident population aged 5 years and over who were abroad five years prior to the 2000 and 2011 censuses, disaggregated by age, sex and nationality status	83
Table 26:	Estimation of net international migration between censuses 2000 and 2011 for the population born before 2000	85
Table 27:	Mauritian-born population aged 15 years and older enumerated in the 2000 census, by various countries of residence (including Mauritius)	88
Table 28:	Mauritian-born population and Mauritian nationals living in selected European Union Member States	90
Table 29:	First permits issued by EU Member States to Mauritian citizens valid for at least 12 months, by reason for applying, 2008–2010.....	90
Table 30:	New admissions of students abroad, by country, 2000–2011	91
Table 31:	Estimated total overseas enrollment, by country, 2000–2011.....	92
Table 32:	Estimated remittance flows, 2003–2010.....	93
Table 33:	Number of repatriated and deported Mauritians, 2000–2014.....	94
Table 34:	Male and female, by age group, and sex ratio, 2000 and 2011 censuses	122
Table 35:	Foreigners by citizenship and sex, and sex ratio, 2000 and 2011 censuses	123
Table 36:	Non-Mauritians by sex and sex ratio by age group	124
Table 37:	Mauritian nationals and foreigners in the workforce, 1990–2012.....	125
Table 38:	Mauritian residents aged 5 years and over living abroad in 2006, disaggregated by country of residence in 2006.....	126
Table 39:	Foreigners enumerated in Mauritius in the 2011 census, disaggregated by place of residence in 2006	127

Table 40:	Number of permits issued between 2 October 2006 and 30 June 2013, by nationality	128
Table 41:	Number of occupation permit holders per sector, 2013 and 2014.....	129
Table 42:	Resident population aged 5 years and over, by selected characteristics, 2011	130
Table 43:	Active international students as of 5 May 2014.....	131

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1:	Extract from the 2011 census questionnaire showing questions for the identification of populations involved in migration	24
Figure 2:	Disembarkation card filled out at arrival by every non-resident traveller.....	27
Figure 3:	Population growth in Mauritius, 1767–2011	33
Figure 4:	Total fertility rate, 1950–2010.....	37
Figure 5:	Age and gender composition of the population	39
Figure 6:	Children and older persons as proportions of the total population, 2000 and 2011.....	40
Figure 7:	Growth of the foreign population, 1983 to 2011.....	50
Figure 8:	Foreigners by sex and country of citizenship, 2000 and 2011.....	67
Figure 9:	Age and sex composition of foreigners, 2000 and 2011	69
Figure 10:	Age and sex composition of non-Mauritians holding valid residence permits in Mauritius on 1 January 2013.....	70
Figure 11:	Change in number of foreign citizens between the 2000 and 2011 censuses.....	71
Figure 12:	Growth of the number of Mauritian and foreign workers, 1990–2013	72
Figure 13:	Growth of the number of foreigners with valid work permits at year-end, 2004–2013	73
Figure 14:	Relative change of the number of Mauritians by year of birth as a percentage of the 2000 census count, 2000 to 2011	87
Figure 15:	Mauritian-born living in other countries, 2000.....	88
Figure 16:	Estimated number of Mauritian students pursuing tertiary education abroad, at December of each year, 2000–2011	92

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ACRONYM LIST

APEI	Accelerated Programme for Economic Integration
CMPHS	Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey
GDP	Gross domestic product
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
LFS	Labour Force Survey
NTFM	National Task Force for Migration
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PIO	Passport and Immigration Office
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNSD	United Nations Statistical Division

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FOREWORD

The Republic of Mauritius is one of the most prosperous economies in Africa. It has been consistently ranked as the top performer in terms of governance as per the Mo Ibrahim Index and has attained various high rankings, such as nineteenth place worldwide in the 2013 Ease of Doing Business Index; sixth globally in the 2010 Environmental Performance Index and twenty-fourth in the Democracy Index 2011. In its Government Programme for 2012–2015, entitled “Moving the Nation Forward,” the Government of Mauritius clearly outlined its goal of switching to a new phase of economic growth and focusing on becoming a high-income nation.

As a middle-income country, Mauritius has the possibility to capitalize on migration as a tool for socioeconomic development. Mobility, in the context of a middle-income country, can not only facilitate the integration of the developing economy into regional and global markets; it can also contribute towards its socioeconomic development at the national level. Demonstrating its objective of using migration policy as a pivotal tool in its development plan, Mauritius was the first country in Africa to host the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD). Organized in 2012, the GFMD outlined the key international role played by Mauritius as both a “sender” and “receiver” country in the area of migration.

Evidence, indeed, suggests that migration can be a powerful driver of development for both migrants and their households. The development impacts of migration at a more aggregate community or national level tend to be more tangible, both at the origin and the destination, when migration flows concern a large share of a community’s or country’s population (the latter being the case in some small island States like Mauritius, for example), or when immigration or emigration movements are very concentrated in a particular region.

A first situation assessment and analysis has been carried out with the financial and technical support of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). This first profile should constitute the basis of discussion for the identification of strategic goals and priorities and the development of an action plan for Mauritius.

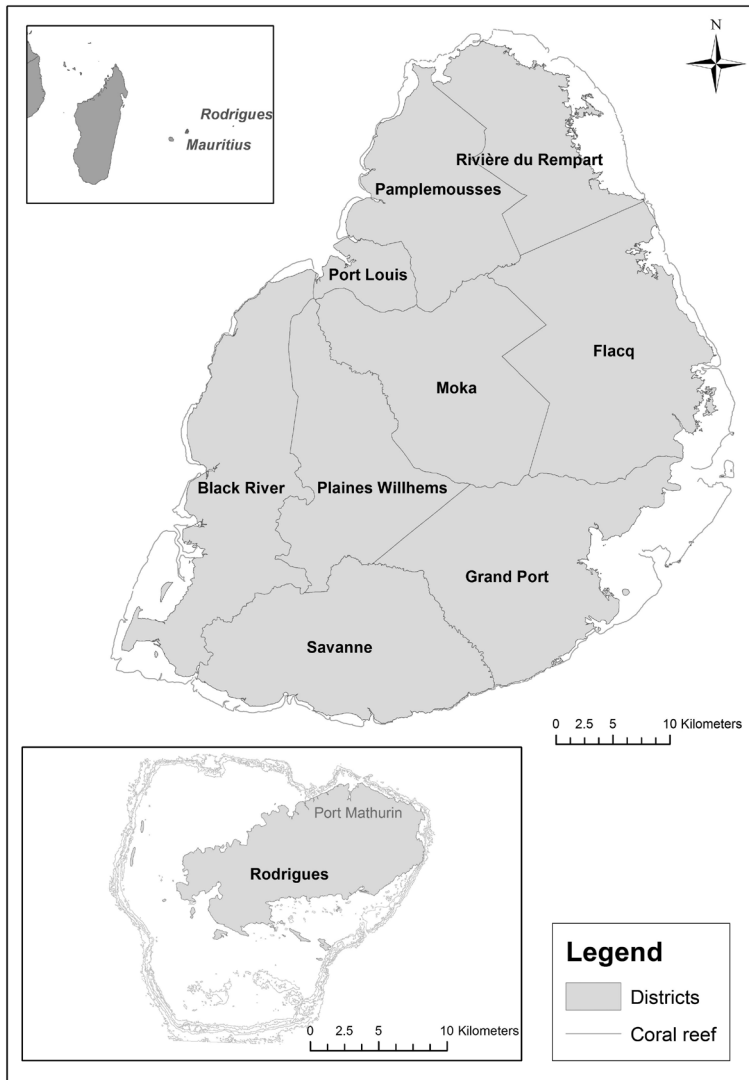
This national migration profile should therefore constitute a fundamental basis for the development of the first comprehensive policy document in Mauritius which aims to set out a road map showing how this middle-income country intends to go about mainstreaming migration into development planning.

We sincerely thank IOM for its support in the preparation of this key document.



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MAP OF MAURITIUS



Key information for Mauritius

Official names	Republic of Mauritius République de Maurice (French)
Total area, in sq km ^a	1,969
Capital city, latitude and longitude	Port Louis, 20°16'S 57°50'E
Climate	Tropical marine
Independence date	12 March 1968
Political system	Parliamentary democratic republic
Parliament type	Unicameral (National Assembly)
Administrative divisions	9 districts and 3 dependencies
Main branch of economic activity	Manufacturing, financial services, tourism, information and communications technology, and agriculture
Main languages	English, Mauritian Creole and French (no official language)
Population, 2011 (last census)	1,236,817
Population, 2013 (estimate) ^b	1,259,838
Population density, 2011 (sq km)	653
Life expectancy at birth, 2012 ^c	73.5
Labour force, 2012 estimate	593,100
Unemployment rate (% of labour force) ^d	8.1
Urban population (% of total), 2012	41.5
GDP, total, 2012 (in current USD millions) ^e	10,492
GDP annual growth rate (%), 2011–2012	3.0
HDI value and rank among 186 countries, 2012 ^d	0.737 (high human development); rank: 80th
Currency	Mauritian rupee (MUR)

^a Source: United Nations Statistics Division, "Environment Statistics – Country Snapshots," webpage. Available from http://unstats.un.org/unsd/environment/envpdf/Country_Snapshots_Aug%202013/Mauritius.pdf.

^b Estimate by Statistics Mauritius.

^c Source: United Nations Development Programme, "Human Development Indices: A statistical update 2012," webpage. Available from <http://data.un.org/Explorer.aspx>.

^d Source: International Labour Organization, 2012 Labour Force Survey. Available from www.ilo.org/dyn/lfsurvey/lfsurvey.list?p_lang=en.

^e Source: The World Bank, "World Development Indicators," webpage. Available from <http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/world-development-indicators>.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This migration profile gives a descriptive analysis of the main migration characteristics and trends for Mauritius based on available data and information provided by key players and institutions. It is expected to become a tool for the Government of Mauritius to: (a) enhance the knowledge base on migration; (b) identify the data gaps; and (c) provide the basis for coherence in the development of policies, to effectively manage migration in the interest of national development.

The context

Although Mauritius is both a source and destination country for international migration, the inadequacy of data with respect to migration makes it difficult for the Government to elaborate a migration policy to promote the country's socioeconomic development. It is important to strengthen the capacity of public institutions to better manage migration-related issues, namely, immigration, brain drain, the return of migrants and their reinsertion into the labour market, remittances, mobilization of the diaspora, and the impact of migration on the environment.

The main objectives of this document are to provide a review of migration trends in Mauritius and to recommend how best to improve policymaking with respect to migration, taking into account the socioeconomic conditions prevalent in the country. It should provide the basis for a better understanding of migration issues and the development of a migration profile as a framework for the collection and analysis of data in support of strategic planning at the national level.

Throughout the world, international migration has become a key component of development for the achievement of individual well-being for everybody. Several international bodies and initiatives have been launched to manage international migration flows and coordinating the support for migrants all over the world.

Among these initiatives, the preparation of national migration profiles that give a comprehensive overview of the migration in each country, takes a prominent place. This tool is country-specific, but this exercise has been carried out according to general guidelines provided by IOM in order to enhance comparability between countries (IOM, 2011).

Statistical data on international migration flows and the characteristics of population stocks with migration backgrounds represent the backbone of this migration profile, whose main objective is to support evidence-based policy. The present migration policy brings such evidence by considering all data available thus far and extracting from these data a consistent view of the situation in Mauritius as far as international migration is concerned.

In areas of migration where available data is rare, innovative methods should be developed in order to make maximum use of data collected for various statistical purposes and in the course of administrative activities. The new methodologies developed during the preparation of this migration profile have to be used to ensure the sustainability of the process in the future. Moreover, certain data in international migration have important political dimensions, which should be factored in when analysing such.

This migration profile should not be an end in itself. It has to be seen as a tool and input within the context of the global development strategy of Mauritius in relation to its labour policies. Even though the exercise has revealed gaps in the statistical collection, there are enough indicators to support the case for a coherent migration strategy to be worked out to overcome the internal strains caused by an ageing population, a declining fertility rate, increasing youth unemployment (particularly graduate unemployment) and an increasing number of foreigners coming to work on the island as new sectors of economic activity emerge and grow (e.g. financial services, information and communications technology, post-secondary education and the maritime industry). With a population of only 1.3 million, it is clear that more migrants will be required if Mauritius wishes to emulate Dubai or city-States like Singapore. At the same time it will have to find jobs for the increasing number of graduates churned out by a growing tertiary education sector.

The major themes linked to migration management within the framework of development policy are: (a) institutional arrangement; (b) data management; (c) human resource capacity management; (d) linkages with the diaspora; and (e) the protection of migrants and their households. These themes have to be carried forward and monitored by a dedicated body at the national level.

It is therefore recommended that a National Task Force for Migration (NTFM) be created, which will ensure inter-ministry coordination for an optimal implementation of the migration profile. The NTFM will be an important body in charge of the accurate interpretation of collected data and emerging trends, which would stimulate the discussion on current and future migration policy

in Mauritius. The NTFM will be also responsible to find a consensus where discrepancies appear in collected data and to compile and update the migration profile in a structured process that should be built in a way that ensures its sustainability. Therefore, the Government should establish or strengthen structures and mechanisms for regular data collection and reporting on migration-related trends.

For effective policy support, demand and supply of statistical data should be reconciled. Therefore, a close cooperation is needed between data owners and data users for the identification of indicators that describe the ongoing processes in the field of migration. Within an action plan, each of these indicators should be assigned to a responsible body, with fixed timelines for regular updates. Using appropriate methods for the accurate interpretation of data is needed, keeping in mind that reliability and timeliness are crucial for the production of these indicators. More generally, comparing the levels of the relevant indicators and assessing related trends represent concrete support to policy development. This is the objective of this first version of the migration profile being a starting point for the management of the numerous topics related to international migration in Mauritius.

PART A: OVERVIEW OF POPULATION AND MIGRATION TRENDS IN MAURITIUS

A.1 International migration data sources in Mauritius

While censuses are the main data source for population migration issues, other potential data sources exist in many countries. These include national surveys, including labour force surveys and household or migration surveys; administrative registers, such as population registers, alien registers and consular registers; and other administrative data collected by authorities responsible for managing migration, such as records of residence permit, work permit and asylum applications, and by border control, such as passenger surveys, visa records and entry and exit cards.

The above-mentioned records and reports were explored for the purpose of this migration profile in order to identify all existing and potential sources of migration data in Mauritius. While censuses have in the past been (and are still today) the most important data source for population issues such as migration, administrative data sources should be used more in the future for the production of statistics on international migration.

A.1.1 Censuses as sources of migration data

Censuses constitute the most important tool for the collection of population data, including that on international migration. Population and housing censuses attempt to determine the usual resident population of a country and, consequently, tend to be good sources of information on the number of migrants living in a country at a given point in time (the so-called “migrant stock”). Some countries, such as Comoros, have used their censuses in an attempt to estimate and characterize the emigrant stock. However, because of their relatively low frequency (censuses are usually carried out every 10 years), censuses have limited use in measuring migrant flows (the number of migrants entering or leaving a country in a given time period). Censuses are also limited by the number of questions that they ask, which means that obtaining detailed information on migration processes is usually not feasible. Specific migration surveys are therefore required for the collection of more detailed information on migrant populations on a sample basis.

The benefits and disadvantages of using censuses for the collection of international migration data are varied. In theory, a census counts the total resident population, thus allowing the retrieval of statistics on all population groups relevant to international migration, irrespective of citizenship, country of birth or even legal status. Since international migrants still constitute only a small proportion of the total population in some countries, a census is often the only data collection instrument that provides adequate information on international migrants despite the risk of underestimation.

A census provides a snapshot of a country's population at a given point in time and can therefore be the best source of data on migrant population stocks. Censuses may collect data on individuals' countries of birth and of citizenship, which are two possible variables that help identify population groups relevant to international migration. A census collects data on basic demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of individuals, thereby allowing for the cross-classification of international migrants by characteristics such as age, sex, employment, education and household composition, among others. Given its nature, a population census is particularly important for stock figures, since information on country of birth and country of citizenship are usually collected. It can also provide data on immigration inflows, when questions relating to past place(s) of residence are asked. Given that information is self-reported, however, the reliability of censuses can be questionable. Since censuses only take into account the movements of individuals who are present at the time they are taken, they do not reflect departures or deaths that may occur in between, resulting in an important underestimation of migration flows, as migrants who arrive and leave between censuses are not accounted for.

A census can only count immigrants still living in the country at the time it is taken, thus excluding those who have emigrated prior. Attempts to collect data on emigrants are often unsuccessful once these individuals have left the country, and any information obtained from remaining family or household members may not be very reliable. Censuses are, consequently, more focused on immigrant population stocks than on migration flows.

Obtaining reliable statistics on emigration flows is not possible since the movements of persons who have left the country at the time of a census cannot be adequately covered. By addressing questions to a household member on how many members of the household have left or are currently abroad, it may be possible to estimate both emigrant stock and flow. However, relying on information from the family and relatives that emigrants have left behind is likely to result in an underestimation of their true, as there is no one to report if all household members have emigrated.

Even though the 2008 UN Census Recommendations do not recommend including questions to aid in the measurement of emigration flows, it is worth introducing an emigration module in the census questionnaire. Usually, information is collected on people who have been absent for more than a certain minimum period. However, only a few details can be gathered, and any such information would refer only to a subset of emigrants. Moreover, since the data collection is often meant to cover persons who are only temporarily absent, the data can be interpreted in various ways.

A.1.2 Census data in Mauritius

The history of census-taking in Mauritius dates back to the eighteenth century. The first census was carried out in 1735, under the governorship of Mahé de Labourdonnais (SM 2011 census history). From 1767 to 1817, the French carried out censuses every 10 years and the British did the same starting 1830. The post-World War II censuses have been carried out regularly but the decennial interval was not strictly maintained.

The last population census was organized as per Census Order 2011, with enumeration lasting from 19 June 2011 to 1 August 2011. De facto enumeration took place from 20 June to 31 July 2011 in respect of all persons alive on the midnight between 3 and 4 July 2011. The census counted all persons present on Census Night in all private households and communal establishments (including collective quarters), as well as usual residents who were absent on the said night. Data on whereabouts and usual addresses enabled both the present population (de facto) and the resident population (de jure) counts. The population counts of only two islands, Mauritius and Rodrigues, were included in published tables; Agalega Island had less than 200 inhabitants, while St Brandon did not have any permanent residents.

The census questionnaire included a group of questions that were used for the identification of certain categories of migrants (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Extract from the 2011 census questionnaire showing questions for the identification of populations involved in migration

P01 Person Number	P07A Citizenship	P07B Citizenship	P08 Intention to return to Mauritius	P09A Usual address	P09B Usual address	
	<p>State if the person's citizenship is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Mauritian, born in Island of Mauritius 2 Mauritian, born in Rodrigues 3 Mauritian, born in Diego Garcia/Chagos 4 Mauritian, born in Agalage/St. Brandon 5 Mauritian by descent 6 Mauritian by registration 7 Mauritian by naturalisation 8 Non-Mauritian 	<p>If non-Mauritian, specify the country of citizenship. State if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Here 2 Elsewhere in the Republic of Mauritius 3 Outside the Republic of Mauritius 	<p>State if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Here 2 Elsewhere in the Republic of Mauritius 3 Outside the Republic of Mauritius <p>If usual address is "Here", go to P10A.</p>	<p>For persons whose usual address is not «Here»:</p> <p>Write the person's usual address.</p> <p>For persons on visit to Mauritius, write the country of residence.</p>		
P01 Person Number	P10A Place of residence	P10B Place of residence	P10C Reason for living abroad	P10D Reason for staying in the Republic of Mauritius	P11A Usual address 5 years ago (on 03.07.2006)	P11B Usual address 5 years ago (on 03.07.2006)
	<p>State if the person lived in the Republic of Mauritius continuously for the past 12 months.</p> <p>Y: Yes N: No If «Yes» go to P11A</p>	<p>State if the person intends to live in the Republic of Mauritius continuously for at least 12 months.</p> <p>Y: Yes N: No If «Yes» go to P11A</p>	<p>For Mauritian citizens who replied «No» at both P10A and P10B, state if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Working abroad 2. Studying abroad 3. On medical treatment 4. Other 	<p>For non-Mauritian citizens who replied «No» at both P10A and P10B, state if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Working 2. Studying 3. On medical treatment 4. Other <p>STOP HERE if «On medical treatment» or «Other»</p>	<p>State if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Here 2. Elsewhere in the Republic of Mauritius 3. Outside the Republic of Mauritius 4. Not born 	<p>If usual address 5 years ago is elsewhere in the Republic of Mauritius, write the person's usual address 5 years ago. If usual address 5 years ago is outside the Republic of Mauritius, write the country.</p> <p>If usual address 5 years ago is «Here» or «Not born», leave blank.</p>

The preliminary results of the census were published online only a few months after it was taken. The overview of the main findings extracted from the 2011 census was based on unadjusted data. Statistics Mauritius published four analytical reports covering the (a) demographic and fertility, (b) education, (c) disability and (d) economic characteristics of the population. The post-census report (SM, 2014) featured adjusted data, with the exhaustive analysis of census data is still ongoing. Tabulations of geographic and migration characteristics were published in October 2012; the corresponding analytical report will be published in 2014 (SM, 2014).

The 2011 census reports considered three different populations: (a) the enumerated population, (b) the present population and (c) the usual resident population. Following UN recommendations (UN, 2008), the place of usual residence was defined as the place at which the person lives at the time of the census and has been there continuously for the past 12 months or intends to live there continuously for at least 12 months.

The post-census data evaluation report has been part of census activities since 1952. The evaluation of census data is based on data from the previous census (i.e. in 2000), the natural increase based on the vital statistics of the inter-census period and net migration estimated from international passenger traffic. The analysis of the 2000 and 2010 censuses (SM, 2005) noted that the number of enumerated children between 0 and 10 years of age (i.e. children born between censuses) was about 5 to 7 per cent less than the number expected according to vital registration. There is no such under-enumeration of children above the age of 10 (i.e. those born before the previous census). In 2011 the same

magnitude of under-enumeration was found among children ages 10 to 14 when census figures were compared with the estimated population in corresponding generations.

Even if passenger traffic records are regarded as complete because passengers can enter and exit only through two border points, that is, the airport and the seaport, it has been noted in the census evolution report that the net migration estimated from these data is not fully reliable. One reason is that some Mauritians may have more than one citizenship, and these holders of double passports sometimes use one passport when entering and another when leaving the country, resulting in a discrepancy between visitor and resident counts in the two directions of travel.

A.1.3 Sample surveys

Until 2004 the Labour Force Sample Survey collected information on labour force employment and unemployment among the population. Since 2004 the Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey (CMPHS) has collected data on various themes, including labour force and employment indicators. This survey only covers Mauritians and excludes foreign workers. From year 2007 labour force estimates have been based on the segment of the population ages 16 years and above, following the amendment to the Labour Act in December 2006 whereby the minimum legal working age is 16 years.

The publication “Digest of Labour Statistics 2011,” circulated in July 2011, noted that estimates of the labour force, employment and unemployment were based on the total resident population ages 16 years and over, and that “the labour force includes foreign workers, but separate figures for Mauritians are also given.” The information on foreign workers was actually obtained from another survey, the “Survey of Employment, Earnings and Hours of work in Large Establishments,” carried out every year in March among establishments employing at least 10 persons on the day of the survey. This survey collects aggregated data from establishments and employers in Mauritius and distinguishes between Mauritians and foreigners workers. The population of foreign workers is disaggregated by sex and work category (e.g. manager or “other worker”); distribution across the different branches of industry follows from the identification of the sector of industry of each respondent company. This survey was first organized prior to the 1990s, and published data on the total number of foreign workers in such establishments are available from 1990. Smaller establishments and people working at home are not covered by this survey.

A.1.4 Border data collection system

The Passport and Immigration Office (PIO) maintains a database of all travellers entering and leaving the country that serves as the main source of data for the compilation of passenger traffic statistics. Data is collected at border control points through disembarkation cards filled out by non-residents entering the country. Residents of Mauritius, whether Mauritian nationals or not, do not have to fill out the disembarkation card; returning residents' passport data is entered into the border control database by PIO. The disembarkation card filled by non-residents (Figure 2) includes questions on country of birth, country of citizenship, passport number a expiry date, purpose of visit and intended duration of stay. At the end of each month, data on passenger traffic for that particular month is downloaded from the border control database and supplied to the Statistics Unit of the Ministry of Tourism and Leisure, which then generates statistical tables and forwards these figures to Statistics Mauritius for publication and dissemination. Additional data on cruise ships is supplied by the Mauritius Ports Authority. These data are mostly used for the management of tourism policy. Arrivals and departures are counted and data is disaggregated by age, sex and the distinction between Mauritian and non-Mauritian. For non-Mauritians, the only data available are the country of citizenship and duration of stay (number of nights). As far as migration statistics are concerned, the annual difference between arrivals and departures is considered as an estimation of the annual net international migration figure. PIO is currently linking the different border crossings of a given person based on passport number, name and date of birth. Such linkage allows the identification of international migrants based on their actual duration of stay within or outside the country.

According to the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life, the use of the health declaration form is for the surveillance of vector-borne diseases such as malaria, dengue and chikungunya, as well as emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, among migrants and other mobile populations entering through the main border posts. For active case detection, passengers arriving from countries with endemic infectious diseases are initially screened at ports of entry. At the airport, for example, a thermal camera is used to detect fever. In addition, Health Inspectorate Division staff members posted at the port and the airport scrutinize health declaration forms to check for declarations of medical symptoms by incoming passengers. The health declaration form is compulsorily completed by all incoming passengers, as required by the Public Health Act. Data from health declaration forms are captured by computer, and passengers who may have been exposed to any disease under surveillance are classified by region. The lists of such passengers are sent to the respective health offices, of

which there are 14 in the main island and one in Rodrigues. Thereafter, the listed passengers are followed up by health surveillance officers at their residences or other places of accommodation, as indicated on their health declaration forms.

Figure 2: Disembarkation card filled out at arrival by every non-resident traveller

Write in Capital Letters, using BLUE or BLACK ink only / Ecrivez en Lettres Majuscules, à l'encre BLEUE ou NOIRE uniquement.

Flight No. No. de Vol	AB933728			Address during Stay Adresse durant le Séjour
Surname Nom				
First Name(s) Prénoms				
Male Mâle	Female Femelle	Date of Birth Date de Naissance	D/ J	M/ M
				Y/ A
Country of Birth Pays de Naissance				
Nationality Nationalité				
Profession				
Passport Number Numéro du Passeport				
Date of Expiry Date d'Expiration	D/ J	M/ M	Y/ A	
Country of Issue Pays de Délivrance				
Country of Residence Pays de Résidence				
Street Rue				
Town/City Ville/Cité				
Port of Embarkation Port d'Embarquement				
Purpose: Motif:	Holidays Vacances:	Other Autre:		
Duration of Stay Durée du Séjour	Days Jours	Months Mois	Years Années	

Are you suffering from fever?
Souffrez-vous de la fièvre?

Yes
Oui

No
Non

DECLARATION
I declare that all the information I have given is true and complete. I understand that I shall commit an offence if I refuse to fill in the card or knowingly give false information.
Je déclare que la totalité des renseignements que j'ai fournis sont exacts et complets. Je suis conscient que le fait de ne pas remplir cette fiche ou toute fausse déclaration de ma part pourrait entraîner des poursuites pénales.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

OFFICIAL USE USAGE OFFICIEL

A.1.5 Residence permits

The PIO has been delegated authority by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) to issue residence permits to foreigners (except in respect of foreigners acquiring residential properties under the Real Estate Development Scheme, permanent residence for 10 years and residence permits for an indefinite period). The database of residence permit holders that PIO maintains is therefore coordinated with the residence permits, which are only issued by the PMO. Such a database usually provides information on immigration flows and stocks of foreigners in a country. The population concerned is the legal, non-national population entitled to live in the country by virtue of their residence permits.

Statistics pertaining to international migration are a product of the utility of the residence permit database. When using data derived from the residence permit registry, due attention should be paid to existing regulations regarding entry and length of stay in the country, since these would affect the statistics. Discrepancies between the number of issued permits and the number of de facto immigrations may also arise because of non-arrivals, early departures or double counts due to the simultaneous validities of multiple permits. Nevertheless, even if only a few specific subgroups of immigrants are covered, residence permits

can still provide important information on migration flows. The administrative databases that compile information on permits are thus valuable sources of various statistics on international migration. This importance derives from the database's good coverage, the limited costs entailed and the availability of data in electronic format. This data source can therefore be used in making estimates of several basic indicators of the migration-related population, such as the stocks of foreigners and new immigrants, and changes in status among resident foreigners.

At any rate, several conceptual and methodological issues need to be resolved before producing migration statistics based on this data source. Close cooperation between national statistical institutes and the ministry of the interior in charge with administering and maintaining the permit databases appears to be the most important prerequisite for developing this data source.

In light of the preparation of this migration profile, the residence permit database was analysed to determine a suitable method for producing statistics. Previously, from 2011 to 2013, individual residence permit data records were used for characterizing the stock of foreigners living in the country. The residence permit database appeared to be a good proxy source for such data, even if residence permit holders do not necessarily stay in Mauritius for the entire validity period of their residence permits. While the database was a promising source of reliable data on international migrant stock, some problems had to be solved before the data could be used for aggregations, for example, cleaning the database of duplicate records, in order to fit with internationally recommended definition on international migration. Therefore, only residence permits with a cumulative duration of validity exceeding 180 days were selected.

A.1.6 International databases

Where particular national data were missing or difficult to collect, UN and other international databases were explored in order to collect such data for this migration profile. These data concerns mainly nationals living abroad and some indicators used for assessing a country's level of socioeconomic development.

Figures pertaining to international migration available on various international databases may differ from their country-produced counterparts for reasons that are not necessarily identifiable. These figures remain useful, however, not only because they serve as a comparative tool, but also because they include data on emigration and the diaspora, which are usually difficult to collect by each national statistical office. Emigration data can only be obtained

if immigration data in receiving countries are likewise collected. However, this is possible only if the country of origin (or citizenship) provides enough details. The diaspora can be characterized through statistics from their countries of actual (or current) residence, namely, immigrants' country of citizenship or birth. Some detailed databases also provide data on remittances sent by emigrants to their families back home, and asylum-seekers and refugees by country of origin.

The main international bodies compiling statistical databases in the field of international migration are as follows:

1. The United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD, New York) collects data on international migration flows and migrant stocks for all the countries of the world. These data are organized in a unique database and are accessible on the Internet at <http://data.un.org>. In order to provide a global perspective on international migration, UNSD prepares an annual report that features estimates of migrant stocks, either by considering data produced by the countries themselves or, if such is not available, by using ad hoc models.
2. The United Nations Population Division in New York publishes an annual table entitled "International Migration Wall Chart," the most recent update is available on the Internet, at <http://esa.un.org/unmigration/wallchart2013.htm>, and in CD-ROM. A number of reports on migration (e.g. *International Migration Policies, World Migration Figures and International Migration*) are available from www.un.org/development/desa/population.
3. The United Nations Development Program (UNDP, New York) publishes the Human Development Report every year. The report includes a large number of statistics on various aspects of human development and is available at <http://hdr.undp.org>.
4. The International Labour Organization (ILO, Geneva) collects and analyses a large number of statistics on labour migration on all countries which are accessible from <http://laborsta.ilo.org>.
5. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR, Geneva) collects and analyses data concerning asylum, refugees and displaced persons around the world. These are accessible from <http://popstats.unhcr.org>.
6. The World Bank (Washington, D.C.) proposes data on remittances sent by emigrants to their country of origin, as well as various indicators related to development. The Global Bilateral Migration Database includes data on stocks of migrants by country of origin and destination countries of migrants

and is accessible from <http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/global-bilateral-migration-database>. Some basic information on remittances and development indicators can be found in the *Migration and Remittances Factbook 2011*, from <http://econ.worldbank.org/>.

7. Eurostat (Statistical Office of the European Communities, Luxembourg) collects data on international migration from Member States of the European Economic Area and European Union candidate countries. The database is accessible from <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/population/data/database>.

More precisely, the Eurostat database includes data on the following themes:

- (a) Data on migration and citizenship including data on population stock disaggregated by (a) country of citizenship and (b) country of birth ; and data on migration flows disaggregated by (a) country of citizenship, (b) country of birth and (c) country of previous or next residence, as well as data on acquisition;
 - (b) Data on residence permits issued to citizens of non-EU countries, disaggregated by either country of citizenship, duration of permit validity or motive for applying;
 - (c) Data on asylum-seekers, including decision taken at the first stage of the asylum procedure and final decision;
 - (d) Statistics on national immigration legislation, including data on non-EU citizens who are illegally present on EU territory or whose entry was refused, and on the repatriation of non-EU citizens whose presence is not authorized.
8. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD, Paris) also makes a database on immigrants available to its Member States at www.oecd.org/migration/mig/oecdimmigrationdatabases.htm. The database, named Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC-E), also includes data on 68 non-Member States, including Mauritius.

A.2 The population of Mauritius: Facts and trends

A.2.1 Historical overview on the evolution of the population of Mauritius

The island of Mauritius, situated 800 km east of Madagascar and with a land surface of about 1,860 sq km, was uninhabited until the Dutch East India Company started to settle there in 1638, leaving in 1710. In 1721, the French took over the island, and the population quickly increased to about 3,000 by the middle of the eighteenth century. The French engaged in sugarcane cultivation and imported slaves from Madagascar and continental Africa. The island's first population census dates back to 1767, when more than 18,000 persons were enumerated (Table 1).

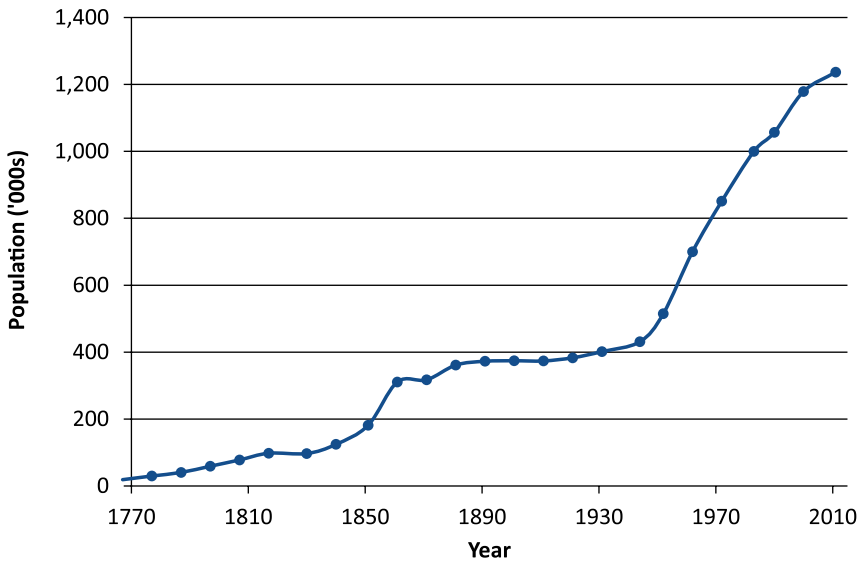
When the British conquered Mauritius in 1810, the population was almost 100,000; however, more than 80 per cent were slaves. The abolition of slavery a quarter of a century later – in 1830 – reduced the size of the population (as seen in Table 1), probably because most slaves returned to Madagascar or the African continent. More than 100,000 Indians were recruited to replace the slaves, which is the main reason why Mauritians of Indian origin still make up the largest segment of the population today. While immigration flows were the main driver of Mauritius' population increase in the nineteenth century, their impact was largely reduced from 1860 onwards; natural increase constituted the main reason of the slow evolution of the population until World War II. The eradication of malaria in the late 1940s and the overall improvement of living conditions throughout the globe resulted in a sharp decrease in the mortality rate. As the total fertility rate was still as high as six children per family until 1965, population growth was steady, doubling from 419,000 to 829,000 between 1944 and 1973. In the 1960s, family planning started being promoted in Mauritius. It is considered as the driver of the world's most rapid fertility decline, bringing the total fertility rate in the country to less than three children per woman within a decade. Accordingly, the growth of the population still continues to be positive, but at a lower rate: the population passed the million milestone just before 1990 and reached 1.2 million in 2010 (see Figure 3).

Table 1: Population size of Mauritius, 1767–2011

Census year	Population size	Annual growth rate for the intercensal period (%)
1767	18,777	-
1777	29,761	4.7
1787	40,439	3.1
1797	59,020	3.9
1807	77,768	2.8
1817	97,847	2.3
1830	96,945	-0.1
1840	124,335	2.5
1851	181,318	3.5
1861	310,743	5.5
1871	317,150	0.2
1881	361,305	1.3
1891	372,656	0.3
1901	374,185	0.0
1911	373,620	0.0
1921	383,069	0.3
1931	401,440	0.5
1944	431,070	0.5
1952	514,748	2.2
1962	699,954	3.1
1972	850,968	2.0
1983	999,945	1.5
1990	1,056,660	0.8
2000	1,178,848	1.1
2011	1,236,817	0.4

Source: Statistics Mauritius.

Figure 3: Population growth in Mauritius, 1767–2011



Source: Statistics Mauritius; Digest of Demography (from 1851).

A.2.2 Recent population trends: Fertility, mortality and population growth

Between the last two censuses (i.e. from 2000 to 2011) the population grew by 58,000 persons – a 4.9 per cent increase within 11 years. However, the population growth rate is continuously declining, without signs of stabilization. This demographic trend is exclusively due to decreasing natural growth rates. The estimated net migration is considered slightly negative and stable during the said period.

The resident population is the count of all usual residents of a country at the time of the census. For census purposes, “usual residence” is defined as the place where the person is living at the time of the census and has been there continuously for the past 12 months or intends to live there continuously for at least 12 months. The 1990 census enumerated 1,056,660 residents; in a historical data series, it is considered to be the de jure population. The estimated mid-year figure for 1990 was adjusted for the under-enumeration of 2,115 children ages 0 to 5 years.

The 2000 census counted among the country's resident population 1,143,069 persons living on the main island of Mauritius; 35,779 persons on the island of Rodrigues; and 289 on two smaller islands, giving a total of 1,179,137. Another 2000 census figure exists – 1,178,848 – which represents the combined population count for the two bigger islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues. Like in 1990, the 2000 census under-enumerated minor children. 8,025 children were added ex-post to census data, resulting in an adjusted total population of 1,186,873 persons.

The post-census evaluation of the 2011 census showed that 15,587 children ages 0 to 14 years were missing. Accordingly, the adjusted census figure would be 1,252,404.

As can be gleaned from the data presented in Table 2, natural change is the most important factor explaining the growth of Mauritius' population. The country's birth rate decreased from 17.0 to 11.2 per 1,000 inhabitants between 2000 and 2011, while the death rate increased from 6.7 to 7.2 (Table 3). The size of natural change was reduced by a factor of two during this period. As the estimated international migration balance has a minor effect on the total change in population size, the amplitude of that change was divided by more than two during the period.

Table 2: Population change in Mauritius based on 2000–2013 mid-year estimates, with numbers of births and deaths and estimated net migration

Year	Start of year population	Mid-year population	Census population	Adjusted census population	End-of-year population	Number of births	Number of deaths	Natural change	Estimated net migration	Total change
2000	1,180,361	1,186,873	1,178,848	1,186,873**	1,191,581	20,205	7,982	12,223		
2001	1,191,581	1,196,287			1,200,454	19,696	7,983	11,713	500	12,213
2002	1,200,454	1,204,621			1,208,996	19,983	8,310	11,673	-569	11,104
2003	1,208,996	1,213,370			1,217,187	19,343	8,520	10,823	524	11,347
2004	1,217,187	1,221,003			1,224,629	19,230	8,475	10,755	-822	9,933
2005	1,224,629	1,228,254			1,231,125	18,820	8,646	10,174	350	10,524
2006	1,231,125	1,233,996			1,236,813	17,604	9,162	8,442	-300	8,142
2007	1,236,813	1,239,630			1,241,876	17,034	8,498	8,536	-400	8,136
2008	1,241,876	1,244,121			1,245,775	16,372	9,004	7,368	-200	7,168
2009	1,245,775	1,247,429			1,248,915	15,344	9,224	6,120	-300	5,820
2010	1,248,915	1,250,400			1,251,402	15,005	9,131	5,874	-21	5,853
2011	1,251,402	1,252,404	1,236,817*	1,252,404**	1,253,865	14,701	9,170	5,531	-262	5,269
2012	1,253,865	1,255,882			1,257,216	14,494	9,343	5,151	-293	4,858
2013	1,257,216	1,258,653			1,259,564	13,688	9,440	4,248	-1 900	2,348

Source: Statistics Mauritius (Demography Unit) and authors' calculations.

* The 2011 census adopted the UN-recommended definition of usual residence. Consequently, the 2011 census figure is not strictly comparable with the corresponding mid-year estimate. Statistics Mauritius estimated that the application of the new definition reduced the census figure by 1.3 per cent (or 15,300 persons).

** This adjusted figure considers the 2011 census figure and adopts the new definition of "usual residence." The adjusted figures for both 2000 and 2011 censuses include under-enumerated children and are backdated to the 1st of July. The mid-year population figures in 2000 and 2011 have been estimated by using the adjusted census figures.

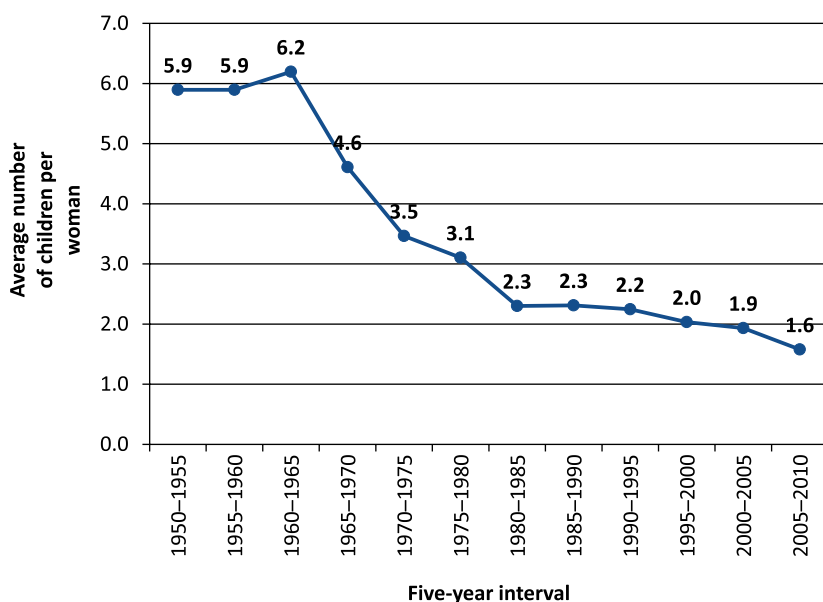
Table 3: Births, deaths and natural population growth, 2000–2012

	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	2012
Birth rates (annual number of births divided by the mid-year population, in %)	17.0	16.6	15.7	14.3	13.2	12.0	11.7	11.5
Death rates (annual number of deaths divided by the mid-year population, in %)	6.7	6.9	6.9	7.4	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.4
Natural growth rate (difference between birth and death rates, in ‰)	10.3	9.7	8.8	6.9	6.0	4.7	4.4	4.1

Source: Statistics Mauritius; Digest of Demography (for crude birth and crude death rates).

As previously mentioned, the reduction in the fertility rate started in the 1960s; the fertility rate fell from 6.2 children per woman in 1960–1964 to 2.2 in 1980–1984. The steady decrease in the number of births observed during the last intercensal period should not be mistaken as a result of the continuation of this trend (the current level of the fertility is estimated by the UN to be as low as 1.6 children per woman) (Figure 4). The main factor responsible for such a decrease in the number of births is the declining number of young women, which could be explained by either a generation effect (specifically, a decrease in the size of women birth cohorts) or emigration (a relatively big number of women left the country). The size of the birth cohorts started to decrease only in mid-1990s, and this impact is expected to contribute to the decrease in the number of births only in the coming years. Accordingly, the decrease of the number of births during the last decade is a strong indication of the emigration of women of reproductive age.

Figure 4: Total fertility rate, 1950–2010



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2013). World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, DVD Edition.

The increase in life expectancy since the middle of the twentieth century is evident in UN data (Table 4). Life expectancy for both sexes rose from 50 to more than 72 years within half a century. It moved Mauritius from a situation still largely observed in Africa to a level similar to those in developed countries.

Table 4: Life expectancy at birth, 1950–2010

	Both sexes	Male	Female	Gender gap
1950–1955	50.2	49.0	51.5	2.5
1955–1960	55.8	54.0	57.6	3.7
1960–1965	61.2	59.4	63.0	3.6
1965–1970	63.0	60.8	65.0	4.3
1970–1975	63.5	60.7	66.3	5.6
1975–1980	65.7	61.5	70.0	8.5
1980–1985	68.1	64.5	71.8	7.3
1985–1990	68.5	64.7	72.5	7.8
1990–1995	70.3	66.6	74.1	7.4
1995–2000	70.4	66.8	74.2	7.5
2000–2005	72.1	68.9	75.5	6.6
2005–2010	72.8	69.4	76.3	6.9

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2013). World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, DVD Edition.

A.2.3 Population age and sex composition

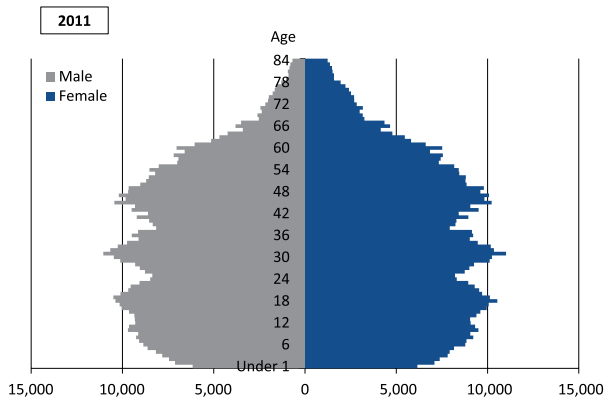
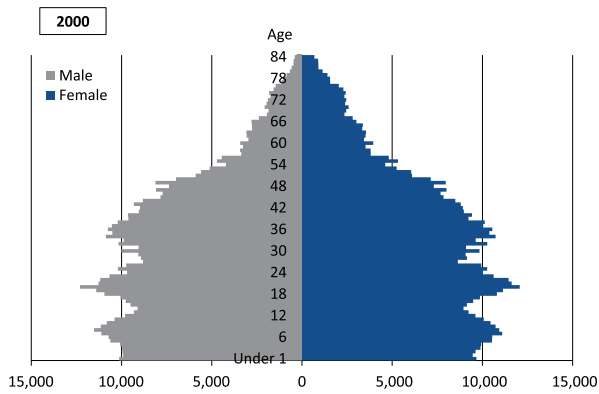
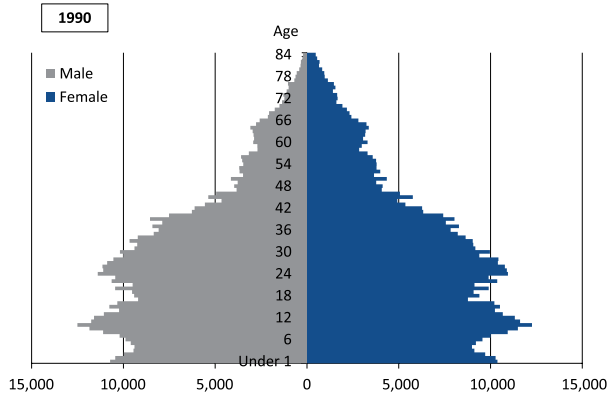
The age and sex distribution of the Mauritian population, presented in Table 5 and Figure 5, clearly shows an increasingly ageing population in Mauritius since 1990. This reflects the strong effect of the decline in fertility in the 1960s and 1970s. The population pyramid featured a traditional shape in the 30-and-over segment in 1990, in the 40-and-over segment in 2000, and in the 50-and-over segment in 2011. Below these ages, the age groups were more similar in size as a result of the balancing effect of the decreasing fertility rate and the decreasing number of young women. In 2011, as Figure 5 shows, this situation is no longer observed, and the shrinking of young generations (i.e. 0 to 14 years of age) is obvious in the census. The ageing of the population is summarized in Figure 6, which shows a sharp decrease in the population share of the 0–14 age group, as opposed to the strong gains made by those aged 40 to 64.

Table 5: Population age group structure based on the 1990, 2000 and 2011 censuses and selected mid-year estimates

	1990 census	2000 census	2004 mid-year	2006 mid-year	2008 mid-year	2011 census	2012 mid-year
TOTAL	1,056,660	1,178,848	1,233,386	1,252,698	1,268,565	1,236,817	1,291,167
0–4	96,719	94,303	97,648	94,526	88,963	73,078	76,111
5–9	103,482	105,189	99,797	98,351	97,839	89,015	91,948
10–14	113,273	97,740	108,949	106,917	101,621	93,639	97,700
15–19	97,202	102,088	94,963	101,339	107,965	101,008	104,064
20–24	102,664	110,892	107,584	97,341	93,335	92,671	104,638
25–29	105,582	93,797	106,753	113,237	110,489	90,937	93,103
30–34	93,589	99,515	92,847	94,834	102,743	103,429	112,269
35–39	81,209	101,946	99,909	95,178	90,411	87,797	96,599
40–44	60,435	90,406	98,979	103,091	101,672	89,386	92,208
45–49	44,710	77,931	85,477	89,635	93,938	99,341	99,858
50–54	38,039	56,939	74,229	76,123	80,590	86,337	88,627
55–59	32,163	40,491	50,550	60,356	67,856	73,054	75,595
60–64	30,846	33,097	35,201	38,627	44,761	57,342	59,644
65–69	24,253	25,768	28,565	29,101	29,283	35,439	36,882
70–74	14,749	21,694	20,769	22,200	24,133	25,375	24,887
75 and above	17,674	26,933	31,166	31,842	32,966	38,350	37,034
Unknown	72	119				619	

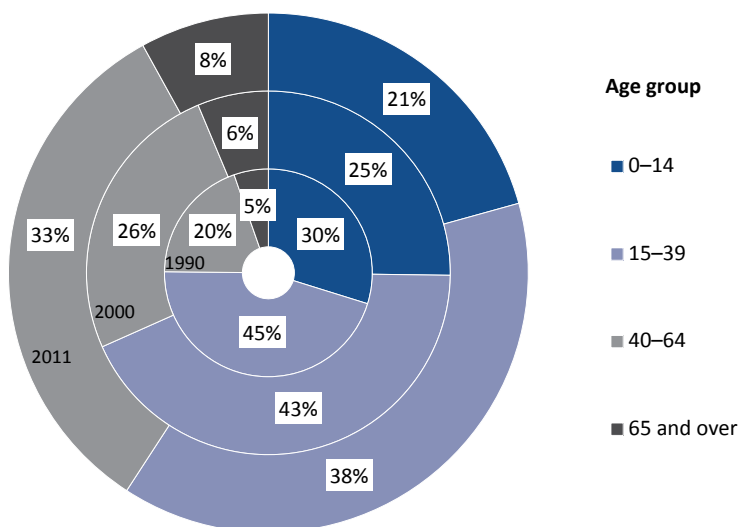
Source: Statistics Mauritius; Digest of Demography.

Figure 5: Age and gender composition of the population



Source: Statistics Mauritius (1990, 2000 and 2011 censuses).

Figure 6: Age groups as proportions of the total population, 1990, 2000 and 2011



Source: Calculations based on Statistics Mauritius data.

The dependency ratio – that is, the ratio of the number of persons in the dependent age groups (0 to 14, and 65 and over) to that in the working-age population (i.e. 15 to 64) – has decreased during the two last decades (Table 6). This is due to a simultaneous decrease in the number of children and an increase in the population aged 15 to 64 and 65 and over. However, the increase in the size of the 65-and-over segment cannot compensate for the large decrease observed among young generations. The so-called “senior support index,” which measures the degree of support for the elderly that the generation of their children may potentially give is very low and further decreasing, albeit slightly. The age structure index for the working-age population shows that the share of older adults has almost doubled since 1990; this group comprised 40 per cent of the working-age population in 2012. The rapid decline in the number of people belonging to young generations is mostly responsible for the large drop in the demographic labour pressure index (the ratio between the number of people below working age (those aged 5 to 14), who will eventually enter the labour market, and those who about to leave the labour market (i.e. those aged 55 to 64).

In conclusion, the recent demographic changes in Mauritius and the overall ageing of the population are still favourable in terms of support to dependent persons and, more specifically, the retired population. Nevertheless the relative ageing of the working-age population may reduce the dynamism of the labour force in the forthcoming years.

Table 6: Population age structure indicators

	1990 census	2000 census	2011 census	2012 mid-year
Population below working age (0 to 14 years)	315,610	297,232	255,732 ^e	265,759
Working-age population (15 to 64 years) ^a	686,485	807,102	881,302	926,605
Population aged 65 years and over	56,680	74,395	99,164	98,803
Demographic dependency ratio: (0–14) + (65+) / (15–64)	54.2	46.0	40.3	39.3
Child dependency ratio: (0–14) / (15–64)	46.0	36.8	29.0	28.7
Elderly dependency ratio: (65+) / (15–64)	8.3	9.2	11.3	10.7
Seniors' support index: (65+) / (40–64)	27.5	24.9	24.5	23.8
Population in working ages 15 to 39 years	480,279	508,238	475,842	510,673
Population in working ages 40 to 64 years	206,206	298,864	405,460	415,932
Age structure index for the working-age population ^b	0.43	0.59	0.85	0.81
Population aged 5 to 14 years	217,132	202 929	182,654	189,648
Population aged 55 to 64 years	63,013	73,588	130,396	135,239
Demographic labour pressure index ^c	3.45	2.76	1.40	1.40
Working-age females, 15 to 39 years	235,914	253,125	236,244	254,765
Working-age females, 40 to 64 years	105,258	151,614	204,658	211,798
Femininity ratio, 15–39 age group ^d	97	99	99	100
Femininity ratio, 40–64 age group ^d	104	103	102	104

Source: Statistics Mauritius (1990, 2000 and 2011 censuses and 2012 mid-year estimates) and author's calculations.

NOTES:

a The working-age population includes all persons aged 15 to 64 years, according to the UN definition.

b Ratio of the number of persons aged 40 to 64 years to the number of persons aged 15 to 39 years.

c Ratio of the number of persons aged 5 to 14 years to the number of persons aged 55 to 64 years.

d Ratio of the number of females aged 15 to 39 years, or those aged 40 to 64 years, to the number of males in the same age group.

The 15,587 children aged 0 to 14 years added to the population as the result of the adjustment done in the post-census evaluation report are not included.

A.2.4 Labour force

Labour force data have been collected since 2004 through the CMPHS, which is conducted on a quarterly basis. The estimates based on these data refer only to the Mauritian population aged 16 years and above and exclude foreign workers. As the sample of the survey includes all adults without any upper age limit, we have to consider that a part of the increase in the inactive proportion of the population is linked with the global ageing population.

According to data on activity status published by Statistics Mauritius, the labour market has been very stable in recent years, with only a small increase

in the economically active population since 2000 (see Table 7). However, the labour force participation (i.e. the share of the economically active population of the total population aged 16 and above) is very low – just above half. This is actually due mainly to the youngest age group (those less than 20) and elderly (65 and above) having very low participation rates (according to 2012 data; see Table 9). In other age groups, the labour force participation rate is high (80% for those aged 25 to 29 for both sexes together; 95% for those aged 30 to 49 for men). As far as sex is concerned, women’s labour participation rate is only about two thirds that of men’s, and this situation is roughly the same in all ages. Nevertheless, the changes in women’s labour force participation rates from 2000 to 2011 reflect an increase in their level of activity. This is confirmed by more recent (specifically, 2012) CMPHS data.

Table 7: Population aged 16 and over, by sex and activity status

Total population aged 16 years and above	2000 census			2011 census			2012 CMPHS		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	424,154	438,828	862,982	472,261	489,578	961,839	486,600	506,900	993,500
Economically active population	338,029	171,917	509,946	356,213	208,147	564,360	368,400	224,700	593,100
Labour force participation rate (%)	80.0	39.3	59.1	76.0	42.7	58.7	75.7	44.3	59.7
among the employed	309,441	155,059	464,500	337,070	185,128	522,198	348,700	196,100	544,800
among unemployed job-seekers	28,588	16,858	45,446	19,143	23,019	42,162	197,00	28,600	48,300
Unemployment rate (%)	8.5	9.8	8.9	5.4	11.1	7.5	5.3	12.7	8.1
Inactive	84,698	265,793	350,491	112,586	279,363	391,949	118,200	282,200	400,400
Not reported	1,427	1,118	2,545	3,462	2,068	5,530	0	0	0

Source: Statistics Mauritius (2000 and 2011 censuses and 2012 CMPHS data).

Table 8: Labour force participation rates, by age group and sex, 2012 CMPHS

Age	Labour force participation rate (%)		
	Male	Female	Total
16–19	23.0	15.6	19.3
20–24	72.9	55.2	64.3
25–29	92.2	67.2	80.0
30–34	95.8	61.1	78.5
35–39	95.6	61.8	78.4
40–44	94.6	63.9	79.0
45–49	95.0	55.5	75.1
50–54	92.4	42.8	67.2
55–59	83.9	37.6	60.2
60–64	47.6	16.1	31.0
65 and over	16.1	4.5	9.3
TOTAL	75.7	44.3	59.7

Source: Statistics Mauritius.

The unemployment rate is relatively low among men compared to women in Mauritius – just above 5 per cent of economically active men, according to Statistics Mauritius (Table 9). The employment situation of young generations, particularly among women is more problematic. As Table 9 shows, more than one third of people in the labour market aged below are unemployed; among young women, unemployment reaches 45 per cent. As the labour force participation in these ages is low, the high level of unemployment may be a result of too-low qualifications, as most of inactive individuals are students trying to acquire a higher education. Nevertheless, in the 20–29 age bracket, in which nearly two thirds of women are active, the unemployment is remarkably high as well, with every fifth active woman being an unemployed job-seeker.

Table 9: Unemployment rate, by age and sex

Unemployment rate (%) by age group:	2000 census			2011 census			2012 CMPHS		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	8.5	9.8	8.9	5.4	11.1	7.5	5.3	12.7	8.1
Below 20	41.2	38.8	40.4	38.1	49.1	42.2	29.4	45.2	35.7
20–29	14.9	14.9	14.9	11.1	16.5	13.4	12.6	21.8	16.4
30–39	4.1	6.6	4.9	3.0	9.6	5.5	3.0	11.2	6.3
40–49	2.7	3.9	3.1	2.1	7.0	3.9	2.3	8.0	4.5
50 and above	2.0	2.6	2.1	1.6	3.6	2.2	1.9	4.2	2.6

Source: Statistics Mauritius (2000 and 2011 censuses and 2012 CMPHS).

According to census data, unemployment among people with a tertiary education (obtained either locally and/or abroad) has increased, from 1.7 per cent up to nearly 5 per cent in 2011 (Table 10). The reason why the CMPHS shows four times higher levels of unemployment among the tertiary-educated is not yet clear and may be due to different classifications of educational attainment used by censuses and surveys. In fact, in making unemployment estimates, the CMPHS defines the tertiary-educated population as comprising holders of certificates, diplomas, degrees and higher qualifications, while censuses include only holders of degrees and higher qualifications. With higher aspirations from the Mauritian population, there has been a growing demand for higher education over the years, and it should be noted that about one third of Mauritian students enrolled in higher education still study overseas. Out of the five public tertiary educational institutions in Mauritius, four impose full fees and other charges. The University of Mauritius is the only public institution which does not impose tuition fees – based on a 1976 government decision to grant free education at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels. The University of Mauritius, which currently has the largest student population among tertiary educational institutions in the country, however, enforces administrative and other charges. Private universities and tertiary educational institutions established locally have relatively high fees, ranging from MUR 45,000 to MUR 240,000 annually. A reliable estimate of the unemployment rate would be required to assess this current trend, as it is a key indicator generally linked to the emigration of high skilled persons – a topic considered in the next section.

Table 10: Unemployment rate, by education and sex

	2000 census			2011 census			2012 CMPHS**		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Primary	12,409	5,219	17,628	4,937	5,744	10,681	4,900	6,800	11,700
Secondary	15,191	10,820	26,011	13,342	16,142	29,484	11,000	16,000	27,000
Tertiary*	402	347	749	813	1,105	1,918	3,800	5,800	9,600
Total	28,002	16,386	44 388	19,092	22,991	42,083	19,700	28,600	48,300
Share among unemployed (%)									
Primary	44.3	31.9	39.7	25.9	25.0	25.4	24.9	23.8	24.2
Secondary	54.2	66.0	58.6	69.9	70.2	70.1	55.8	55.9	55.9
Tertiary*	1.4	2.1	1.7	4.3	4.8	4.6	19.3	20.3	19.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Statistics Mauritius (2000 and 2011 censuses and 2012 CMPHS).

NOTES:

* Includes people pursuing higher-level postgraduate degrees and professional development courses.

** Estimates of unemployment based on the 2012 CMPHS definition, whereby tertiary-educated population comprise holders of certificates, diplomas, degrees and higher qualifications; unemployment figures in the censuses include only holders of degrees at a minimum.

A.2.5 Internal migration

The analysis of internal migration is based on data collected through the 2011 census question on place of current usual residence and place of usual residence five years prior (Figure 1, question P11B). It takes into account movements between municipal wards and village council areas (VCAs) but does not consider movements within these areas. Also, 0.6 per cent of the census population did not state their usual address in 2006. These people have been excluded from this analysis; therefore, the migration numbers may undercount, even if to a little extent, the actual number of migrants between 2006 and 2011.

Between 2006 and 2011, 94,218 (8.1% of the total population aged five years and over) people changed their place of residence to a different area within the country. Among all persons who migrated within the republic:

- (a) 89,808 (95.3%) changed residence within the island of Mauritius.
- (b) 2,232 (2.2%) changed their residence within the island of Rodrigues.
- (c) 2,178 (2.3%) changed their place of residence, moving between the islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues. Of these inter-island migrants, 1,116 (51.2%) left Rodrigues to settle in Mauritius, while 1,062 (48.8%) moved from Mauritius to Rodrigues.
- (d) Young adults aged between 16 and 29 years were the most mobile age group.

The movement of people has a number of potential impacts on expanding economic opportunity and on the activities of daily life – for example, commuting to and from the place of work, shopping, visiting, among others. These types of activities are of interest to certain users.

Inter-district mobility

Table 11 shows how inter-district migrants impacted the size of the population of each district and their share of the 2011 population. It also shows the population share of inter-district emigrants in 2006. Black River and Moka Districts attracted the highest number of immigrants (7.8% and 4.8%, respectively), while Port Louis District registered the highest number of emigrants (5.5%). Port Louis remains the main loser and Black River District the largest beneficiary in terms of net inter-district movement of people.

The analysis showed that net internal migration rates were positive in only four districts: Pamplemousses, Flacq, Moka and Black River. Of all districts, the largest net gain was experienced by Black River (+2,559 people or +3.9%). The main drivers of this net population increase were Richelieu and Albion VCAs, where there have been new housing projects during the 2000–2011 intercensal period.

As mentioned, the largest net loss was experienced by Port Louis (-2,960 people or -2.6%). It is worth noting that a similar scenario was observed during the 1995–2000 period. Rodrigues, on the other hand, registered the smallest net loss, that is, 54 people.

Table 11: District-to-district migration flows of the population aged 5 years and over, 2006 and 2011

	A	B	C = A - B	D	E	A/D	B/E	2C/(D+E)
	Immigrants	Emigrants	Net inter-district migrants	Population 2011 (excluding those who were abroad and unknown)	Population 2011 by district of residence in 2006	% Immigrants	% Emigrants	Net internal migration rate
Republic of Mauritius	36,455	36,455	0	1,131,287	1,131,287	3.2%	3.2%	-
Port Louis	3,230	6,190	-2,960	109,075	112,035	3.0%	5.5%	-2.68%
Pamplemousses	5,411	4,281	1,130	123,589	122,459	4.4%	3.5%	0.92%
R. du Rempart	2,688	2,752	-64	97,679	97,743	2.8%	2.8%	-0.07%
Flacq	2,989	2,794	195	125,192	124,997	2.4%	2.2%	0.16%
Grand-Port	2,630	2,747	-117	103,280	103,397	2.5%	2.7%	-0.11%
Savanne	1,671	2,043	-372	62,442	62,814	2.7%	3.3%	-0.59%
Plaines Wilhems	7,920	8,723	-803	331,369	332,172	2.4%	2.6%	-0.24%
Moka	3,638	3,152	486	75,187	74,701	4.8%	4.2%	0.65%
Black River	5,216	2,657	2,559	67,093	64,534	7.8%	4.1%	3.89%
Island of Rodrigues	1,062	1,116	-54	36,381	36,435	2.9%	3.1%	-0.15%

Source: Statistics Mauritius.

Commuters from place of residence to place to work

One of the main goals of the national physical strategy is the improvement of inter-urban and intra-urban traffic flows through the formulation of long-term road schemes and short-term traffic management projects. Roads leading to the city have reached their traffic-bearing capacity. Various measures have been implemented by the Mauritian Government to make traffic flow more fluid in certain regions. In order to study the movement of people from their place of usual residence to their workplace, a question on place of work was asked during the 2011 population census. The census showed that more than 201,000 employed persons commute to another district daily. Port Louis District had the highest influx of workers, with a total of 66,798 persons (42,857 males and 23,941 females) entering the district for work every day. More than 38 per cent (27,534) came from Plaines Wilhems, followed by Pamplemousses (21.8% or 12,045).

A.3 Population with foreign background and international migrations

There are several ways to identify the population with foreign background living in a given country. Either: (a) country of birth is identified and, with this information, the foreign-born population is considered, or (b) citizenship or nationality is considered and, in the case of Mauritius, a distinction is made between Mauritians and non-Mauritians. In the former group, a further distinction may be made between Mauritians by birth and naturalized Mauritians at a later stage. Based on UN census recommendations (2008), it is important to include in the resident population both temporary foreign workers and other foreigners who have lived in the country for at least one year or have the intention to do so. This rule has been applied by Statistics Mauritius in the 2011 census enumeration. The use of administrative data records on residence permits and border crossings represents an alternative way to assess the number of foreigners in the country based on the duration of the validity of their permits or duration of stay in the country.

A.3.1 Foreign resident population over time

Mauritius did not have an indigenous population, and the population has historically been composed of immigrants and their descents. The 1972 census was the first census organized after independence and the introduction of Mauritian citizenship. In 1972 5,524 non-Mauritians were enumerated. The 1983 and 1990 censuses included a question on nationality and identified,

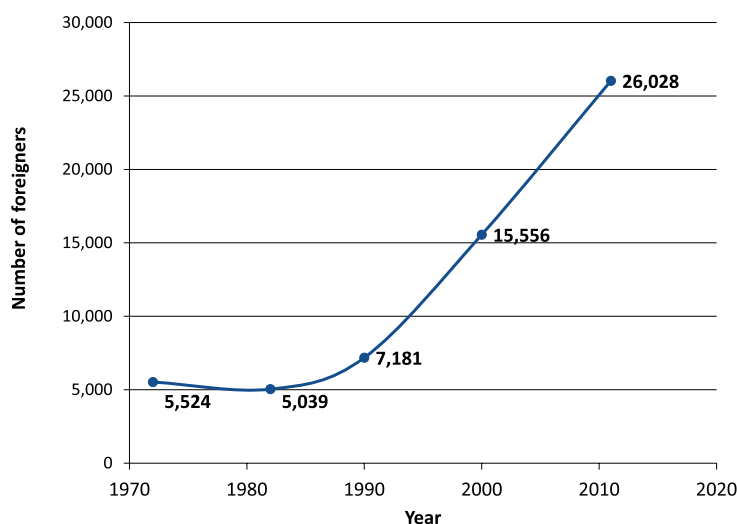
respectively, 5,039 and 7,181 non-Mauritians. Thereafter, this number increased steadily, reaching 15,556 in 2000 and 26,028 in 2011 (Figure 7).

It is important to note, however, that the two last censuses did not use a similar definition for “resident.” In 2011 Statistics Mauritius used a restricted definition to identify a resident population in order to comply with UN guidelines. The new definition (UN, 2008) considers only those persons who have been living in the country during last 12 months or those who entered recently but intend to stay in the country as usual residents for at least 12 months. The national definition used in the 2000 census did not apply this time restriction. Statistics Mauritius estimated the loss caused by the new definition to about 1.3 per cent of the whole population. The loss for the number of foreigners could be even bigger because foreigners are mobile and a large number of them cannot meet this time constraint. As shown further in this migration profile, the estimated number of foreigners differs between census results and aggregated border crossing, residence permit and work permit data. In fact, there is a high probability that the number of foreigners doubled in Mauritius between the last two censuses.

While Mauritians constitute 98 per cent of the population, this share is slowly decreasing with the respective growth of foreign population: the 2000 census estimated that 1.3 per cent of the Mauritian population consisted of foreigners (in the 2011 census, this proportion was already 2.1% (Table 12)). Assessing the origins of Mauritian nationals living in Mauritius, it is found that most of them were born in Mauritius (99.5%). Naturalization is very rare, and naturalized Mauritians represent only 0.2 per cent of all Mauritians; their absolute number even decreased between the 2000 and 2011 censuses. Moreover, comparing the number of naturalizations per year (Table 13) to the number of enumerated naturalized Mauritians, it appears that a part of the naturalized do not live in Mauritius.

To encourage business formation via direct investment and to support high-end real estate developments, Mauritius issues “occupation permits,” via which professionals, investors and retired non-citizens who transfer to Mauritius and earn at least USD 40,000 annually, as well as the self-employed, secures a renewable three-year right of residence in the country subject to the investment of capital and/or an ongoing transfer of income. The number of permits currently issued is small – approximately 4,000 professionals, just over 2,000 investors, 600 retirees and 400 self-employed individuals. Unlike visas and residence permits, “occupation permits” can be applied for after arrival in Mauritius.

Figure 7: Growth of the foreign population, 1983 to 2011



Source: Statistics Mauritius.

Table 12: Population, by nationality, at different censuses (1972–2011)

	1972	1983	1990	2000			2011		
	Both sexes	Both sexes	Both sexes	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Total population	826,199	966,863	1,055,482	1,178,848	583,756	595,092	1,236,817	610,848	625,969
All Mauritians of which:	820,675	961,892	1,048,167	1,163,292	578,042	585,250	1,210,789	596,667	614,122
by birth	815,591	956,898	1,043,151	1,155,516	574,406	581,110	1,204,702	594,074	610,628
by descent		-	-	3,061	1,531	1,530	1,594	812	782
by registration	2,105	1,858	2,255	2,047	833	1,214	1,577	601	976
by naturalization	2,979	3,136	2,615	2,668	1,272	1,396	2,916	1,180	1,736
Non-Mauritians	5,524	4,971	7,181	15,543	5 705	9,838	26,028	14,181	11,847

Proportions of the total population (%)									
All Mauritians	99.3%	99.5	99.3	98.7	99.0	98.3	97.9	97.7	98.1
by birth	98.7%	99.0	98.8	98.0	98.4	97.7	97.4	97.3	97.5
by descent	-	-	-	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
by registration	0.3%	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
by naturalization	0.4%	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Non-Mauritians	0.7%	0.5	0.7	1.3	1.0	1.7	2.1	2.3	1.9

Source: Statistics Mauritius.

The number of persons naturalized from 2008 to 2012 (Table 13) provided by the PIO seems to be inconsistent with the number of naturalized Mauritians enumerated in the 2011 census, considering that the number of recent naturalizations is almost equal to the total number of naturalized citizens enumerated during the 2011 census. The most probable reason for this inconsistency could be that many naturalized Mauritians did not report being such during the census.

Table 13: Naturalizations, by sex, 2008–2012

	Total	Male	Female
2008	899	469	430
2009	668	320	348
2010	510	246	264
2011	493	255	259
2012	543	234	288
2008–2012	3113	1524	1589

Source: Passport and Immigration Office.

Considering the change of the population composition in terms of nationality status between 1983 and 2011, we observe a limited increase in the number of Mauritian citizens who were not Mauritian by birth (Table 12). Their number increased from 4,994 to 6,187 within three decades. The number of non-Mauritians increased remarkably, from 4,971 to 26,028, so that their proportion of the total population increased from 0.5 to 2.1 per cent during the same period. This proportion still remains small compared to what is observed in Seychelles, where it peaks above 15 per cent.

A.3.2 Legislation pertaining to international migration

Entry and Exit Requirements in Mauritius

Subject to the Immigration Act No. 13 of 1970 (17 May 1973, amended 2/02 (P 14/02); 20/02; 21/06 (CIO 1.10.06); 17/07; 1/08; 18/08; 12/12), a citizen, resident or exempted person shall be allowed to enter Mauritius or, if already in Mauritius, to remain there so long as he or she holds his or her status of citizen, resident or exempted person, as the case may be. It also stipulates in subsection (2) that other than citizens and, subject to section 6 (“Residents”), persons shall be deemed to be prohibited immigrants and shall not be admitted to Mauritius if they are afflicted with any infectious or contagious disease.

The PIO is a branch of the Mauritius Police Force and functions under the command of the Commissioner of Police. It is the sole authority in Mauritius which is empowered to provide passport and immigration services.

Conditions to be satisfied for right of admission to Mauritius

Any person entering Mauritius must:

- (a) Hold a valid passport or any other recognized travel document, with expiry date beyond the intended period of stay;
- (b) Hold the appropriate visa or entry/residence permit, as applicable;
- (c) Hold a valid return/onward passage ticket to his or her country of origin or residence;
- (d) Have sufficient funds to meet the costs of stay in Mauritius (minimum of USD 100 per day);
- (e) Have a confirmed booking for accommodation in Mauritius;
- (f) Be eligible to re-enter his or her country of origin or residence.

Merchant seaman

Merchant seamen travelling on duty must be in possession of a valid passport or seaman's book written in either English or French. If a seaman is arriving by air in order to board ship, a visa is not required, provided the seaman is in possession of a letter of guarantee from the shipping company and is met at the airport by the shipping agent. If the seaman is arriving by ship in order to board an aircraft, a visa is not required, provided the seaman is met at the seaport by the shipping agent. The shipping agent must inform immigration authorities prior to arrival. If continuing journey to a third country, he should comply with transit visa requirements. Shipping agents are to inform immigration authorities prior to the arrival of the seaman.

Deportation

Subject to the Deportation Act of 1968, the minister may, if he thinks fit, make a deportation order in such form as may be prescribed in respect of -

- (a) A convicted person;
- (b) An undesirable person;

- (c) A destitute person;
- (d) A prohibited immigrant.

Where a deportation order is made under section 4, a copy of the order shall, as soon as practicable, be served upon the person charged.

No person shall be detained under subsection (2) for a period exceeding 28 days and, if at the expiration of such period he has not been deported, the deportation order shall cease to have effect.

Visa requirements to enter Mauritius

According to section 7 (“Exempted persons”), and subject to section 8 of the Immigration Act 13 of 1970 (17 May 1973, amended 2/02 (P 14/02); 20/02; 21/06 (CIO 1.10.06); 17/07; 1/08; 18/08; 12/12), the immigration officer may admit to Mauritius, on such conditions and for such period as he thinks fit in any particular case:

- (a) Tourists or other visitors or persons coming for business (repealed and replaced 21/06);
- (b) Persons passing through Mauritius in transit to another country.

Visas and extensions of stay are issued free of charge.

Any person who stays in Mauritius after the expiry of the allowed period, for which he obtained a visa or entry permit, as the case may be, shall commit an offence and shall be liable for prosecution by a court of law.

Non-citizens travelling to Mauritius as tourists/visitors are not allowed to engage in any gainful activities or apply for extension of visa to follow studies/training courses. Any person who wishes to seek employment or engage in any gainful occupation in Mauritius will not be allowed to enter Mauritius unless he is the holder of a valid residence permit and a work permit issued by Mauritian authorities.

Non-citizens coming to celebrate their marriage in Mauritius should comply with the requirements of the Civil Status Act. Moreover, a non-citizen coming to get married to a Mauritian should fulfil the requirements under the Civil Status Act.

The list of countries which are not exempted from visa requirements can be obtained from the Passport and Immigration Office website at: <http://passport.gov.mu/English/Passport%20and%20Visa%20Requirement%20in%20Mauritius/Pages/Visa-Requirements-in-Mauritius.aspx>.

Permanent Residence Permit (PRP)

A permanent residence permit (PRP) allows an eligible non-citizen to work and/or live in Mauritius for a period of 10 years. The application for this renewable permit is made at the “Residence Permit Section” of the Prime Minister’s Office (Home Affairs Division).

Eligibility for a permanent residence permit

The following categories of persons are eligible for a permanent residence permit:

- (a) An investor having held an occupation permit for three years immediately preceding the date of application for the said permanent residence permit and whose company’s turnover exceeded MUR 15 million every year during each of these three years in respect of each shareholder of the company;
- (b) A self-employed individual having held an occupation permit for three years immediately preceding the date of application for the said permanent residence permit and whose income exceeded MUR 3 million every year during each of these three years;
- (c) A professional having held an occupation or a work permit for three years immediately preceding the date of application for the said permanent residence permit, and who has drawn a basic monthly salary of at least MUR 150,000 during the entire three-year period;
- (d) A retired non-citizen having held a residence permit for three years and who has transferred to Mauritius USD 40,000 or its equivalent in convertible currency annually during each of these three years.

Permanent residence permit for accompanying spouse and dependents

- (a) Only the married spouse and dependent children under 18 years are eligible for a permanent residence permit.
- (b) Children over 18 may obtain a residence permit only if they are enrolled and pursuing full-time education in Mauritius. In case a dependent child intends to take up employment in Mauritius, he or she should apply and obtain a work permit or an occupation permit.

- (c) Common-law partners are not eligible for permanent residence but will obtain a residence permit renewable on a yearly basis.

Occupation permit

Non-citizens coming to Mauritius for business may apply for an occupation permit at the PIO through the Board of Investment as investors, self-employed individuals or professionals. The occupation permit,¹ which is a combined work and residence permit, allows non-nationals to reside and work in Mauritius. Non-citizens above the age of 50 years may also choose to retire in Mauritius the residence permit programme.

A non-citizen can apply for an occupation/residence permit under any of the following four categories:

- (a) Investor: The business activity should generate a turnover exceeding MUR 4 million annually, with an initial investment of USD 100,000.
- (b) Professional: Basic salary should exceed MUR 45,000 monthly. However, the basic salary for professionals in the information and communications technology (ICT) sector should exceed only MUR 30,000 monthly.
- (c) Self-employed: Income from the business activity should exceed MUR 600,000 annually, with an initial investment of USD 35,000.
- (d) Retired: The non-citizen must undertake to transfer to his or her local bank account in Mauritius at least USD 40,000 annually.

Occupation/residence permits are granted for a maximum period of three years, renewable thereafter, subject to established criteria. Dependents of occupation/residence permit holders, namely, the spouse or common-law partner, and children up to the age of 24, are also eligible to apply for a residence permit in Mauritius.

¹ Further details on the Occupation Permit are available at www.investmauritius.com/work-live.aspx.

Work permit

Any person who wishes to seek employment or engage in any gainful occupation in Mauritius may not be allowed to enter Mauritius unless he or she is the holder of a residence permit issued by the Passport Immigration Office and a work permit issued by the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment.

Work permits are issued by the Employment Division of the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment under the Non-Citizens (Employment Restriction) Act of 1973, which provides, among others, that “a non-citizen shall not engage in any occupation in Mauritius for reward or profit or be employed in Mauritius unless there is in force in relation to him a valid work permit.” The act also provides that “no person shall have a non-citizen in his employment in Mauritius without there being in force a valid permit in relation to that employment.”

The recruitment of workers is governed by the Recruitment of Workers Act of 1993 and the regulations made thereunder. Recruitment licences are issued under the Recruitment of Workers Act. A recruitment licence authorizes a company/individual to recruit the following categories of workers:

- (a) Citizens of Mauritius for employment in Mauritius;
- (b) Citizens of Mauritius for employment abroad;
- (c) Non-citizens for employment in Mauritius.

According to section 4 (“Discrimination in employment and occupation”) of the Employment Rights Act 2008:

“(1) (a) No worker shall be treated in a discriminatory manner by his employer in his employment or occupation; (b) No person shall be treated in a discriminatory manner by a prospective employer in respect of access to employment or occupation. (2) Any distinction, exclusion or preference in respect of a particular occupation based on the inherent requirements thereof shall not be deemed to be discrimination.”

Eligibility to apply for a work permit

An employer based in Mauritius should apply for a work permit in respect of an expatriate who will be employed to do a specific job for the employer on a full time basis. The work permit is non-transferable. An overseas company cannot make an application for a work permit unless it is incorporated in Mauritius as a foreign company, subject to the company laws of Mauritius.

Recruitment agencies are not authorized to apply for work permits on behalf of employers. All applications for work permit should emanate from the company concerned. Any employer applying for a work permit for the first time should submit the application together with the following documents: a certified copy of the certificate of incorporation of the company and a duly filled-in data sheet.

Employers wishing to employ skilled workers should apply for and obtain a permission in principle to recruit expatriate skilled workers before submitting an application for a work permit.

An expatriate married to a Mauritian does not require a work permit.

Foreign workers should be aged between 20 and 60 years. Departure from this policy is exceptionally made for investors and expatriates who are above 60 years and who possess specific expertise. They should have obtained both a work permit and a residence permit before travelling to Mauritius. Employers should, therefore, ensure that applications for work permit and residence permit are made simultaneously. Foreign skilled workers are normally granted work permits valid for a maximum period of four years. However, applications for the renewal of the work permit of a skilled worker may be considered beyond four years if his or her services are still required. They would be required to swear an affidavit in the event they would stay in Mauritius for a period exceeding five years. Expatriates employed at the managerial, supervisory and technical levels may be allowed to work for a period of five years or more subject to full justifications being provided and upon their swearing an affidavit to the effect that they will not apply for Mauritian citizenship. In case of application for groups of workers, work permits are normally granted where a ratio of three local to one expatriate worker is satisfied. For bulk recruitment of foreign skilled workers, the employer should obtain a lodging accommodation permit in respect of the workers' dormitory, as per the Employee's Lodging Accommodation Regulations (2011).

For certain grades, employers may be required, within three months from the date of issue of the work permit, to appoint a suitable local counterpart to be trained by the expatriate during his or her posting in Mauritius.

Employers should provide their foreign workers with an air ticket to return to their home country on the termination of the contract of employment or for any cause whatsoever.

For new cases, expatriates are granted six months from the date of issue of the work permit to travel to Mauritius. Beyond that date, work permits will be cancelled and companies will be required to submit fresh applications.

Health clearance requirements for migrant workers Prior to arrival (for provisional health clearance)

The Ministry of Health and Quality of Life requires a complete medical report for the migrant workers prior to their arrival, as follows:

- (a) Fitness certificate (for expatriates from India, the doctor should mention that expatriate is not suffering from leprosy);

Blood tests:

- (b) Full blood count and haemoglobin;
- (c) Test for filariasis;
- (d) Hepatitis B surface antigen (Australia antigen);
- (e) HIV screening test;
- (f) VDRL (for syphilis);
- (g) Urine test for albumin and sugar;
- (h) Stool for parasites;
- (i) Chest x-ray report.

On arrival (for final health clearance)

- (a) The chest x-ray should be repeated in a private clinic within one week after arrival and the report, certified by a radiologist, should be submitted to the Migrant Worker Section, along with a covering letter.
- (b) For expatriates travelling from India, a medical certificate certifying that the expatriate is not suffering from leprosy (issued by a medical practitioner registered with the Medical Council of Mauritius), should be submitted.

- (c) An HIV test and test for filariasis should be done within one week upon arrival. Expatriates should call in person with their passport and a covering letter from their employer at the AIDS Unit of the nearest hospital to undergo both tests.

Student visa

A student visa² is a permit that allows an eligible non-citizen to enter and stay in Mauritius to study full-time or part-time in a tertiary educational institution registered³ with the Tertiary Education Commission, or in a technical and vocational educational and training (TVET) institution registered with the Mauritius Qualifications Authority, or to follow a practical training course which forms part of higher studies. According to the section “Exempted persons,” and subject to section 8 of the Immigration Act 13 of 1970 (17 May 1973, amended 2/02 (P 14/02); 20/02; 21/06 (CIO 1.10.06); 17/07; 1/08; 18/08; 12/12), the immigration officer may admit to Mauritius, on such conditions and for such period as he thinks fit in any particular case:

- (a) Students coming to Mauritius for the purpose of attending and, having entered Mauritius, are in actual attendance at any college or at the University of Mauritius;
- (b) Persons who have been accepted as students by an educational or training establishment approved by the Minister of Education and, having entered Mauritius, are in actual attendance at that educational or training establishment.

The following categories of persons are eligible for a student visa:

- (a) A non-citizen enrolled on one or more programmes in a recognized tertiary educational institution or TVET institution to follow on a full-time basis specific modules for one semester or two, a course leading to a certificate or diploma for a duration of at least one academic year;
- (b) A non-citizen enrolled in a recognized tertiary educational institution to follow full-time or part-time degree course at the undergraduate level;

² Further information can be obtained on the Passport and Immigration website at: <http://passport.gov.mu/English/AboutUs/Pages/default.aspx>.

³ The list of registered tertiary educational institutions, and technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutions are posted on the respective websites of the Tertiary Education Commission and the Mauritius Qualifications Authority at www.tec.mu and www.mqa.mu.

- (c) A non-citizen enrolled in a recognized tertiary educational institution to follow a full-time or part-time course at postgraduate levels (including master's, master of philosophy and doctoral levels);
- (d) A non-citizen carrying out post-doctoral research;
- (e) A non-citizen coming to Mauritius on an exchange programme not exceeding one year with a recognized tertiary educational institution.

Non-citizens travelling to Mauritius as tourists/visitors will not be issued any permit or extension of visas to pursue studies or training courses. Prospective students and trainees are allowed to travel to Mauritius only after their application for study or training in Mauritius has been approved.

An application for student visa is determined by the PIO within two weeks of its date of submission, subject to it being complete and accompanied by appropriate supporting documents. The PIO notifies the outcome of the application to:

- (a) The tertiary educational institution or TVET institution where the student is enrolled;
- (b) The receiving institution/enterprise where the trainee intends follow practical training course in Mauritius or the trainee, as appropriate.

The PIO then issues permission for provisional entry permit valid for three months to the student to enable him to travel to Mauritius. In case the medical certificate issued in Mauritius certifies that the student is suffering from HIV, Hepatitis B or chest infection, his or her provisional entry permit would be cancelled and he or she would be required to leave Mauritius within two weeks. In case the medical certificate does not reveal any contagious or infectious disease as per Article 8 of the Immigration Act, the PIO will advise the student call at the Residence Permit Section for the issue of a residence permit for the duration of the study programme.

Citizenship and naturalization

The Prime Minister's Office is responsible for the processing of all applications and for dealing with all matters relating to Mauritian citizenship.

Persons qualified as Mauritian citizen

A person becomes a citizen of Mauritius either by birth or by descent.

(a) By birth:

- (i) A person is a citizen of Mauritius if he or she is born in Mauritius before 1 September 1995, of either Mauritian or foreign parents.
- (ii) A person is a citizen of Mauritius if he or she is born in Mauritius after 1 September 1995 and if either of his parents is a citizen of Mauritius.

(b) By descent: A person born outside Mauritius is a citizen of Mauritius under section 20(3) and 23 of the Constitution if either of his parents is a citizen of Mauritius by birth.

Citizenship on adoption

Section 3 of the Mauritius Citizenship Act provides that a minor who is not a citizen of Mauritius shall become a citizen of Mauritius if:

- (a) He has been adopted by a citizen of Mauritius, or in the case of a joint adoption, the male adopter is a citizen of Mauritius;
- (b) The adoption has been legally effected in Mauritius.

The Prime Minister's Office may, on submission of the adoption order issued by the Supreme Court of Mauritius, issue a certificate of Mauritian nationality, which shall be conclusive evidence that the minor child is a citizen of Mauritius as from the date of the adoption.

Registration of Commonwealth citizens

Under section 5 of the Mauritius Citizenship Act, a Commonwealth citizen may be registered as a citizen of Mauritius, if he has resided in Mauritius for a continuous period of five years or such shorter period (but not less than 12 months) as the minister may in the special circumstances of any particular case accept, immediately preceding the date of his application.

Registration of foreign spouses of Mauritian citizens

Under section 7 of the Mauritius Citizenship Act, the foreign spouse of a Mauritian citizen may be registered as a citizen of Mauritius if he or she has

resided with his or her spouse under the same conjugal roof in Mauritius for an aggregate period of four years immediately preceding the date of his application.

Naturalization for non-Commonwealth citizens

Under section 9 of the Mauritius Citizenship Act, a non-Commonwealth citizen may be naturalized as a citizen of Mauritius if he has resided in Mauritius:

- (a) For a continuous period of 12 months immediately preceding the date of his application;
- (b) During the seven years immediately preceding the period of 12 months referred to in paragraph (i) of section 5, for aggregate periods amounting to not less than five years.

An applicant for naturalization shall, in addition, place an advertisement in two daily newspapers.⁴

Naturalization for investors

Under section 9(3) of the Mauritius Citizenship Act, an investor may be naturalized as a citizen of Mauritius if:

- (a) He has invested a sum of not less than USD 500,000 in Mauritius;
- (b) He has resided in Mauritius for a continuous period of not less than two years preceding the date of his application.

An applicant for naturalization under section 9(3) of the Mauritius Citizenship Act shall, in addition, place an advertisement in two daily newspapers.⁵

Renunciation of Mauritius citizenship

Under section 14(1) of the Mauritius Citizenship Act, a citizen of Mauritius who is also a national of a foreign country may make a declaration of renunciation of his citizenship of Mauritius, provided the declaration is made in the form set out in Appendix VI.⁶ The minister shall cause the renunciation to be registered and that person shall cease to be a citizen of Mauritius as from the date of the registration.

⁴ Further information available at <http://pmo.gov.mu/English/dha/Mandate/Pages/CITIZENSHIP.aspx>.

⁵ Further information available at <http://pmo.gov.mu/English/dha/Mandate/Pages/CITIZENSHIP.aspx>.

⁶ The Citizenship Act is available at dha.pmo.gov.mu/English/Documents/mca.doc.

Acquisition of property by non-citizens

According to the Non-Citizens Property Restriction Act (RL 4/71 – 12 July 1975), a non-citizen cannot hold or purchase or acquire immovable property in Mauritius unless he gets the approval to acquire that property. Thus:

- (a) Any transfer or vesting of an immovable property situated in Mauritius where a beneficial interest is held by a non-citizen is considered void and of no effect.
- (b) Any transfer of shares to a non-citizen in a company which includes immovable property situated in Mauritius is considered void and of no effect.
- (c) Any transfer or vesting of an immovable property situated in Mauritius upon a trust of which a beneficial interest is held by a non-citizen is considered void and of no effect.

Any appointment of a non-citizen as beneficiary of a trust, the trust property of which includes immovable property situated in Mauritius is considered void and of no effect.

As regards other national legislations and regulations on immigration, the following also exists:

- The Piracy and Maritime Violence Act of 2011
- The Combatting of Trafficking in Persons Act of 2009
- The Customs Regulations of 1989
- The Extradition Act of 1970
- The Passport Act of 1968–1969
- The Deportation Act of 1968
- The Quarantine Act of 1953–1954
- The Customs Act 1988

Labour migration agreements in Mauritius

The legislation in Mauritius caters to the recruitment of Mauritian nationals by foreign recruiters and employers via the Recruitment of Workers Act 39 of 1993. This act makes provision for licensed organizations and individuals to facilitate employment avenues for Mauritian workers abroad. Several labour migration bilateral agreements have been signed on the issue of labour migration:

- (a) Technical Cooperation Agreement with Seychelles (1990);
- (b) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Mauritius and the Government of the People's Republic of China on bilateral labour service cooperation (January 2005);
- (c) *Accord entre le Gouvernement de la République de Maurice et le Gouvernement de la République française relatif au séjour et à la migration circulaire de professionnels* (2008) (Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of France relating to the stay and circular migration of professionals (2008)) ;
- (d) Agreement with Canadian employers (Since 2007 a total of four tripartite agreements has been signed between the Government of Mauritius, IOM and employers in Canada. These agreements outline the terms of collaboration between IOM; the Government of Mauritius, including the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment and the National Empowerment Foundation (under the Ministry of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment); other stakeholders and employers in relation to the selection, preparation and mobilization of workers from Mauritius. The trilateral agreements touch on issues such as pre-departure orientation, employment contracts, visas, travel arrangements and language classes. The agreement also ensures migrants' rights are safeguarded and that workers are protected from any form of exploitation. To ensure integration, the agreement also covers post-arrival assistance and stay; and return issues for the migrants who come from a country with a proven history of a well-integrated diaspora. According to the World Economic Report (2010) "such agreements have been identified as a promising mechanism for ensuring that the potential benefits of migration accrue both to origin and destination countries, as well as to migrants themselves." Formal agreements and memorandums of understanding are effective methods of regulating the recruitment and employment of foreign workers because (i) they allow for greater State involvement in the migration process; they can be tailored to the specific supply and demand characteristics of the origin and destination countries; and (ii) they can provide effective mechanisms for protecting migrant workers.);
- (e) *Déclaration conjointe entre le Ministère italien du Travail et des Politiques Sociales et Le Ministère mauricien du Travail, des Relations Industrielles et de l'Emploi en matière de coopération dans le secteur de la migration circulaire* (2012) (Joint declaration between the Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and the Mauritian Ministry

of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment on the matter of cooperation in the sector of circular migration (2012));

- (f) Labour Migration Agreement between the Government of Mauritius and the State of Qatar (2014).

Table 14: Relevant international conventions ratified by Mauritius

Conventions	Date of accession/signature/ratification
Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of Child Abduction	Acceded on 1 June 1993
Convention on the Rights of the Child	Acceded on 26 July 1990
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography	Signed on 11 November 2001
Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention	Ratified on 26 May 2000
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	Acceded on 30 May 1972
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	Acceded on 12 December 1973
Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Acceded on 12 December 1973
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Acceded on 12 December 1973
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	Acceded on 9 July 1984
Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	Acceded on 9 December 1992
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	Signed on 11 November 1001
Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	Ratified on 14 June 1005
ILO Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97)	Ratified on 2 December 1969
ILO Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)	Ratified on 2 December 1969
ILO Seafarer's Identity Documents Convention, 1958 (No. 108)	Ratified on 2 December 1969
ILO Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)	Ratified on 3 December 2002
ILO Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111)	Ratified on 3 December 2002
Domestic Workers Convention 2011 (C189) and Recommendation (No. 201)	Ratified on 13 September 2012
UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention)	Ratified on 18 April 2003
Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000	Acceded on 24 September 2003
Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime	Acceded on 24 September 2003

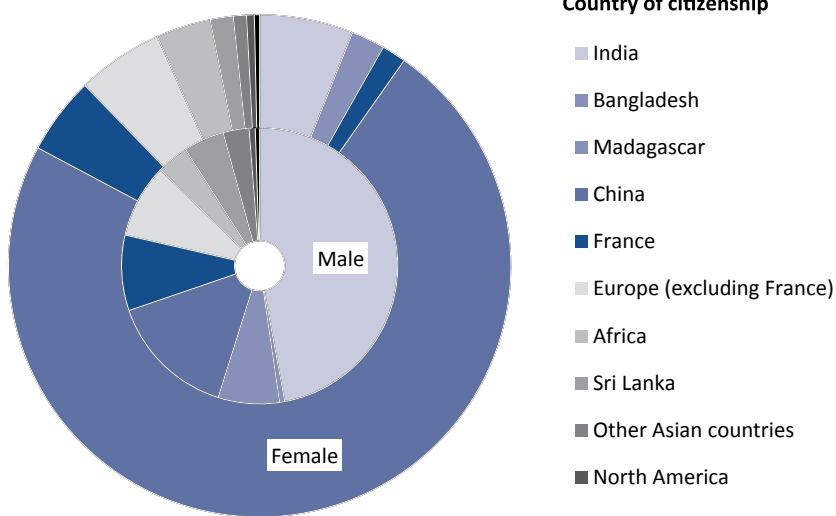
Conventions	Date of accession/signature/ratification
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, 1973	Acceded on 24 September 2003
Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction	Acceded on 1 June 1993
Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of Inter-country Adoption	Acceded on 28 September 1998
Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, 1950	Signed on 24 September 2003
Final Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, 1950	Signed on 24 September 2003

A.3.3 Characteristics of non-Mauritians

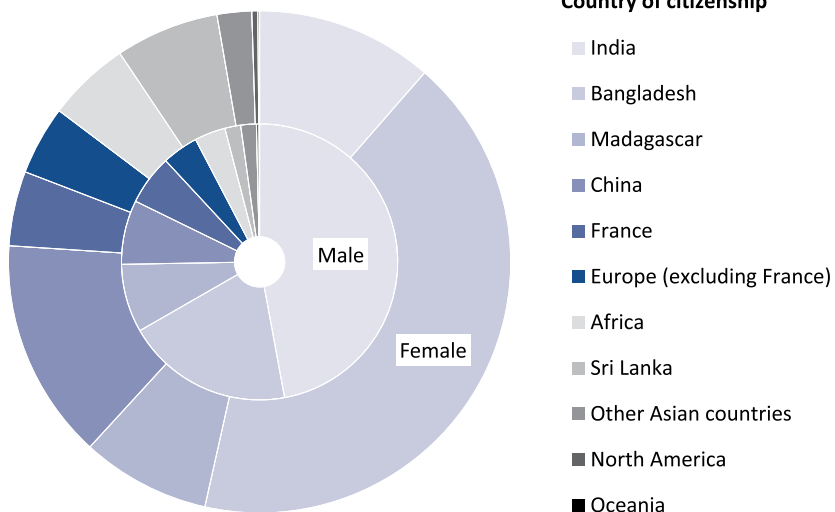
Not only has the number of foreigners in Mauritius increased during a relatively short period of time, the composition of the foreign population has also changed extensively. Still, three quarters of the foreigners in 2011 were citizens of Asian countries – a situation fairly similar to that in 2000. The dominating citizenship countries among foreigners have changed remarkably, and the distribution by sex has also a completely different pattern (see Figure 8). In 2000 the most important group was women, of which almost three quarters came from China; the largest group of men came from India (Table 35 in Annex 2). In 2011 the sex ratio for foreigners was inverted, with 120 males for every 100 females. This was due to the fact that the increase in the female foreigner population was only 20 per cent, while the number of male foreigners more than doubled. The number of Chinese women decreased largely and this was only partly compensated by an increase in the number of women originating from Bangladesh. The potential causes for this change will be examined in Part B.

Figure 8: Foreigners, by sex and country of citizenship, 2000 and 2011

2000



2011



Source: Statistics Mauritius.

More recent figures can be obtained by using the data extracted from the residence permit database, considering the residence permits valid on 1 January 2013 (Table 15). These data show a slight increase in the number of foreigners since the 2011 census (i.e. from 26,028 to 27,809). In 2013, the male–female sex ratio for holders of valid residence permits was higher (169 men for every 100 women) than what was reported by 2011 census. The sex ratio for foreigners also reveals a difference in nationality distribution patterns between the census and the residence permit database. For example, considering the two largest foreigner groups, Indians and Bangladeshis: Both the official census and the residence permit database counted about five Indian males per one Indian female; among Bangladeshis, two females were counted for every male by the 2011 census, and approximately equal numbers of men and women were listed on the residence permit database. Such a situation could be partly explained by methodological differences between the two data sources. More investigation is definitely needed to understand the reason for this difference in the number of foreigners in the country.

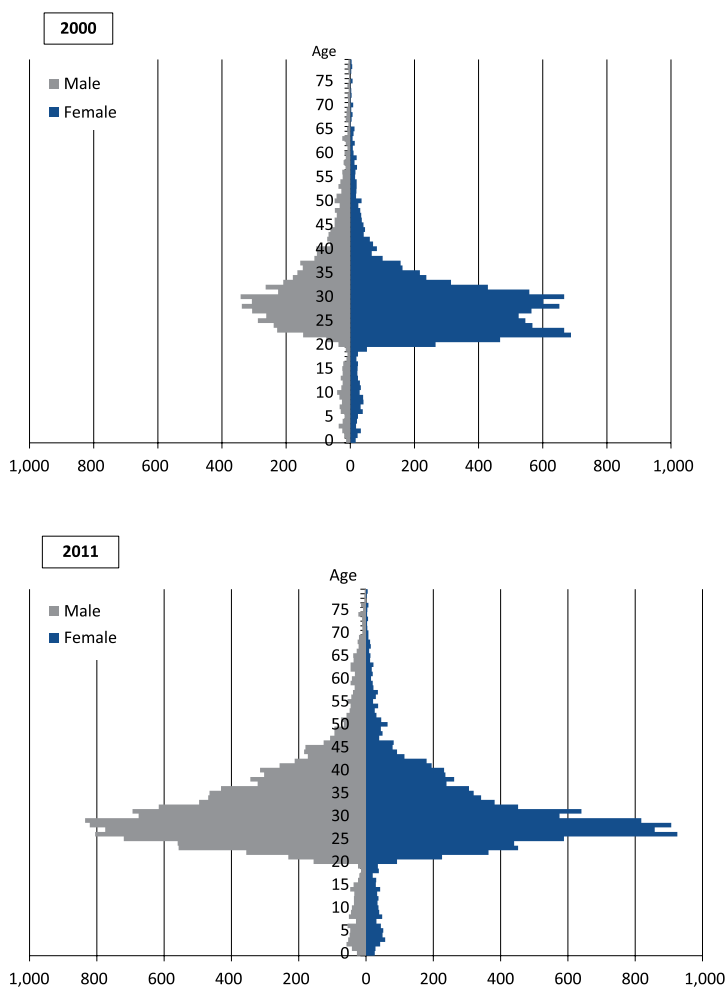
Table 15: Number of non-Mauritians by country of citizenship according to the 2011 census and valid residence permits in Mauritius on 1 January 2013

Country	2011 census	2011 census	2011 census	2013 valid permits	2013 valid permits	2013 valid permits	of which, permanent residence permits	2013 sex ratio
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Men per 100 women
Total	26,028	14,181	11,847	27,809	17,460	10,349	2,255	169
Bangladesh	7,583	2,729	4,854	7,236	3,823	3,413	39	112
Belgium	108	84	24	209	134	75	62	179
China	2,688	1,048	1,640	2,571	1,666	905	48	184
France	1,371	816	555	3,466	2,000	1,466	735	136
Germany	125	63	62	158	83	75	43	111
India	7,878	6,561	1,317	6,742	5,555	1,187	393	468
Italy	134	78	56	215	135	80	42	169
Madagascar	2,075	1,117	958	2,470	1,481	989	132	150
Pakistan	171	72	99	190	113	77	68	147
Seychelles	114	40	74	82	24	58	43	41
South Africa	568	254	314	1,091	592	499	117	119
Sri Lanka	1,027	258	769	483	216	267	13	81
United Kingdom	415	205	210	598	325	273	120	119
Other	1,771	856	915	2 298	1313	985	400	133

Source: Statistics Mauritius and the Passport and Immigration Office (The sex ratio correspond to the number of men per 100 women.)

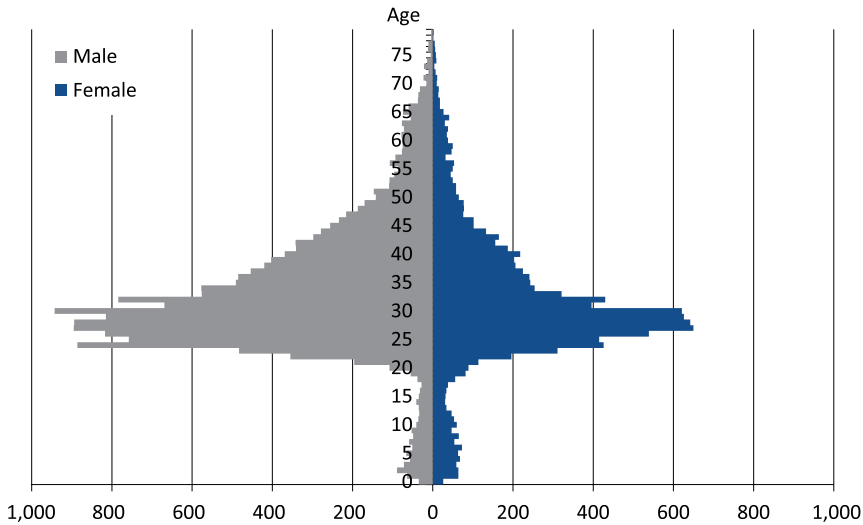
The age and sex composition of the foreigner population presented in Figure 9 and 10 and Table 36 in Annex 2 show the traditional situation of the immigrant population, that is, having a overrepresentation of young adults. In the case of Mauritius, an additional feature emerges, namely, a strong increase in the number of men compared to women, resulting in a reverse sex ratio in favour of men. We assume that the change could be related to the change in the labour market, which now has fewer opportunities for foreign women in the textile industry, with the simultaneous increased opportunities for males in the manufacturing and construction industries.

Figure 9: Age and sex composition of foreigners, 2000 and 2011 censuses



Source: Statistics Mauritius.

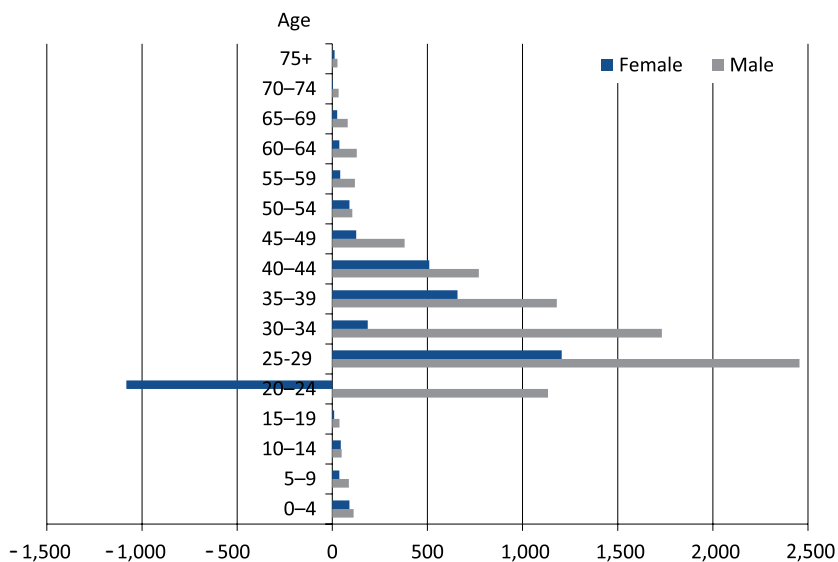
Figure 10: Age and sex composition of non-Mauritians holding valid residence permits in Mauritius on 1 January 2013



Source: Passport and Immigration Office.

Comparing the age composition of foreigners by sex between two censuses (Figure 11) reveals a strong decrease in the number of foreign women aged 20 to 24, while men aged 20 to 40 show a large increase). With the introduction of the occupation permit system however, the profile of foreigners is beginning to change and expand to various nationalities. The figures from the Board of Investment are presented by Table 40 in Annex 2. It is important to note that under the Occupation Permit Programme, more males have requested and benefited as investor, professional, self-employed and retired. As of 30 June 2013, 3,289 occupation permit holders were males and only 813 females.

Figure 11: Change in number of foreign citizens between the 2000 and 2011 censuses

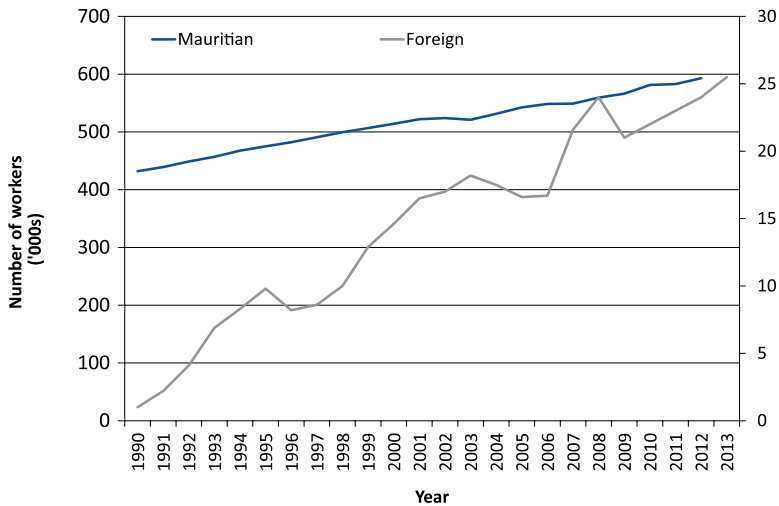


Source: Authors' calculation based on SMS data.

A.3.4 Foreign workers and other categories of foreigners in Mauritius

Data on foreign workers is collected through the Survey of Employment and Earnings in Large Establishments and published as a part of labour statistics. The total annual number of foreign workers has been available since 1990. Compared to Mauritian workers, whose number increased by about only 20 per cent from 1990 to 2013, the number of foreign workers multiplied by 25 times during the same period, that is, from one thousand to more than 25,000 (Figure 12 and Table 37 in Annex 2). While the foreign labour force comprised no more than 0.2 per cent in 1990, the latest number in 2013 represents 4 per cent of the Mauritian labour force.

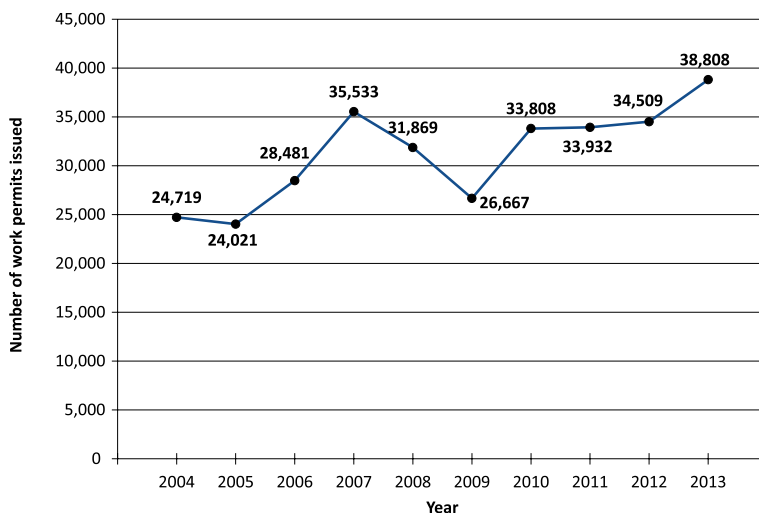
Figure 12: Growth of the number of Mauritian workers (left scale) and foreign workers (right scale), 1990–2013.



Source: Statistics Mauritius.

While the survey data cover only these foreigners who, at the time of survey, worked in large establishments in Mauritius, data on all work permits issued and valid at end of every month is produced by Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment and published in the Employment Service Monthly Bulletin. By the end of January 2014, a total of 39,378 valid work permits had been issued to foreign nationals, among which 27,639 were men and 11,739 women, allowing them to work in Mauritius (Figure 14). Compared to the number of foreign workers estimates based on the survey in large establishments the number of valid work permits is about one third bigger. According to survey data, there were 25,476 foreign workers working in large establishments in March 2013. This figure was 2,000 bigger than the year before (23,477). Among foreign workers in these enterprises, 16,117 were men and 9,359 were women, with the annual increase observed only among men.

Figure 13: Growth of the number of foreigners with valid work permits at year-end, 2004–2013



Source: Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment.

The share of foreign workers by nationality is available from the work permit database (Table 16). The overall distribution by nationality and sex of work permit holders is similar to that of residence permit holders.

Table 16: Number of holders of valid work permits by country of origin in December 2010 and 2013

Country of origin	Total		Female		Male	
	2010	2013	2010	2013	2010	2013
Total	33,808	38,808	12,465	11,795	21,343	27,013
Bangladesh	8,919	18,649	5,856	7,153	3,063	11,496
Belgium	15		5		10	
China	7,134	4,340	3,592	1,610	3,542	2,730
France	327		119		208	
Germany	19		14		5	
India	11,984	8,927	265	239	11,719	8,688
Italy	91		33		58	
Madagascar	2,293	3,603	784	1,309	1,509	2,294
Nepal	276		38		238	
Pakistan	21		0		21	
Seychelles	7		3		4	

Country of origin	Total		Female		Male	
	2010	2013	2010	2013	2010	2013
South Africa	116		18		98	
Sri Lanka	2,187	1,863	1,596	1,141	591	722
United Kingdom	90		34		56	
Other countries	336		110		226	

Source: Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment.

The occupational distribution of foreign workers, as collected by the Survey of Employment and Earnings, shows that the majority of foreign workers (84%) were in the manufacturing industry in 2013 (Table 17). The construction industry is second by the number of employees but involves only 8 per cent of foreign labour force, even if recently an increase has been observed.

Table 17: Foreign workers by sector of industry, 2005, 2009 and 2013

	2005	2009	2013
	Male		
Manufacturing	6,868	10,524	12,505
Construction	793	947	2,052
Accommodation and food service activities	269	140	291
Information and communication	n.a.	n.a.	244
Health and social work	69	56	105
Education	n.a.	n.a.	88
Other	698	685	832
Total	8,697	12,352	16,117
	Female		
Manufacturing	7,149	7,238	8,830
Construction	7	7	17
Accommodation and food service activities	81	62	127
Information and communication	n.a.	n.a.	68
Health and social work	21	19	70
Education	n.a.	n.a.	103
Other	211	178	144
Total	7,469	7,504	9,359

Source: Survey of Employment and Earnings in Large (employing 10 or more persons) establishments.

Compared to the number of persons in the labour force estimates based on CMPHS, the Survey of Employment and Earnings in Large Establishments covers roughly only half of the total employed Mauritian population and the coverage by branches of industry is varying. For example, in the construction industry, the number of employees working in smaller establishments exceeds by three times that of workers in large establishments and is nearly a quarter of the number of employees in the manufacturing industry. Therefore, we cannot be sure that the number of foreign workers based on the Survey of Employment and Earnings is not largely underestimated. In addition to the data provided by the Board of Investment on occupation permit holders (see Table 18), the breakdown by industry was not made available.

Table 18: Number of occupation permits issued between 2 October 2006 and 30 June 2013

Category	Occupation Permit / Residence Permit	Permanent Residence Permit
Investor	1,966	7
Professional	10,123	14
Self-employed	386	42
Retired non-citizen	1,058	1
Grand Total	13,533	64

Source: Board of Investment.

Table 18 shows the number of foreigners who have obtained occupation (combined with residence) permits, as well as permanent residence permits. The highest figure relates to professionals who have been able to obtain occupation permits based on a salary criteria. It also shows that 11 per cent of foreigners who have obtained occupation permits as self-employed have obtained a permanent resident status.

Another category of foreigners in the country are foreign students. According to the data from Tertiary Education Commission the number of students from other countries is relatively small but increased since 2009 (Table 19). The biggest number of students comes from India, followed by Madagascar and Nigeria. The Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment also collects data on the number of foreign students in Mauritius, as they issue authorization letters to students who wish to work part time, for a maximum of 20 hours per week.⁷

⁷ As of July 2014, all 139 authorizations are still valid.

Table 19: Enrolment of foreign students in tertiary education in Mauritius by country of origin

	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	As at May 2014
India	n.a.	219	188	520
Madagascar	n.a.	81	85	116
Nigeria	n.a.	13	71	289
South Africa	n.a.	62	61	n.a.
France	n.a.	25	27	80
Seychelles	n.a.	31	27	22
Reunion	n.a.	14	25	n.a.
Comoros	n.a.	16	24	15
Kenya	n.a.	9	16	30
Germany	n.a.	18	13	14
Other	n.a.	108	98	815
Total	476	596	635	1,901

Source: Tertiary Education Commission ("Participation in Tertiary Education, 2008–20 11").

The tertiary education landscape of Mauritius has witnessed considerable change since 2010. There are now four public universities, namely, University of Mauritius; University of Technology, Mauritius; Open University of Mauritius and Université des Mascareignes. Some 56 private institutions, including a number of private branch campus universities such as Middlesex University, are also in operation. The political stability and the diversity of programmes available locally, among other factors, have attracted a number of international students to Mauritius. Table 44 in Annex 2 shows the latest figure, as of 5 May 2014, with regard to the number of international students by institution.

As can be observed the number of international students which has increased considerably over the last few years currently stands at 1901. A deeper analysis of the above figures in terms of their distribution by country of origin shows that the following countries top the list:

- India (520)
- Nigeria (289)
- South Africa (238)
- Nepal (211)
- Bangladesh (158)
- Madagascar (116)
- France (80)

The Mauritian Government has provided a number of incentives to attract international students to Mauritius, among which are the following:

- (a) Authorization to students to work for 20 hours per week;
- (b) Free bus transport to all students (local and international);
- (c) Grant of scholarships to African students to pursue full-time undergraduate programmes of a maximum duration of four years at publicly funded universities;
- (d) Grant of MUR 200,000 annually to private higher education providers to participate in education fairs to market Mauritian higher education.

A.3.5 International migration

The most direct way to estimate the number of international immigration and emigration is to capture relevant information when travellers cross national borders. Data on arrivals and departures are presented and analysed by the Statistics Mauritius as a part of tourism statistics. A distinction is made between Mauritians and non-Mauritians. Among arriving Mauritians, those who have stayed from 6 to 12 months or for more than one year outside of Mauritius are identified. Data on departing non-Mauritians who have stayed in Mauritius from 6 to 12 months, or for one year or more, is captured as well (see Table 20). The UN-recommended definition for “international migration” (UN, 1998) cannot be fully applied, as data on Mauritian and non-Mauritians are collected differently. Nevertheless, the number of returning Mauritians could be estimated as growing from 5,000 in 2010 to 14,000 in 2012, with an average of 10,000 per year. Foreign immigrants also increase in number from 2,000 to nearly 11,000, with an average of 6,500 per year. If we consider all arrivals and departures, the net border movement is, on average, greater than 3,000 for Mauritians and under 6,000 for foreigners. Evidently, these figures are not reliable, as such negative change in the size of the foreign population is not compatible with data obtained from all other data sources presented earlier in this migration profile.

Table 20: Number of arrivals and departures on main border points, in thousands, 2000 and 2010–2012

	2000	2010	2011	2012
Arrivals (total)	915.2	1,252.0	1,294.4	1,245.4
Mauritian citizens *	n.a.	218.4	227.6	225.7
Of which those who stayed six months to one year outside Mauritius	n.a.	14.1	14.7	15.6
Of which those who stayed one year or more outside Mauritius	n.a.	5.1	11.7	14.0
Foreigners	n.a.	1,020.0	1,055.7	1,049.2
Departures (total)	895.6	1,257.0	1,293.1	1,288.6
Mauritian citizens *	n.a.	211.7	228.3	220.5
Foreigners	n.a.	1,025.5	1,063.5	1,053.6
Of which those who stayed six months to one year in Mauritius	n.a.	5.7	7.2	8.2
Of which those who stayed one year or more in Mauritius	n.a.	2.1	6.5	10.8
Net of nationals	n.a.	6.7	-0.7	5.2
Net of foreigners	n.a.	-5.5	-7.8	-4.4
Net border movement	n.a.	1.2	-8.5	0.8

Source: Statistics Mauritius (tourism statistics) and authors' calculations.

Table 21 gives the distribution of destination countries chosen by departing Mauritian residents. The main destinations are France, Reunion and the United Arab Emirates. These figures include not only Mauritian nationals but also foreigners who are residents in Mauritius.

Table 21: Departure of Mauritian residents* travelling abroad by country of disembarkation

Country of disembarkation	2011	2012
Total	219,055	236,595
Australia	9,534	9,237
China	1,325	2,843
Hong Kong SAR	11,628	8,338
France	29,631	35,839
Germany	2,337	3,411
India	21,825	24,354
Indonesia	308	188
Italy	6,315	2,864
Madagascar	8,894	10,044
Malaysia	3,377	3,762
Reunion	31,642	36,427
Saudi Arabia	946	0**
Seychelles	4,681	3,978
Singapore	9,469	10,215
South Africa	20,087	22,499
Switzerland	2,001	997
United Arab Emirates	27,670	34,705
United Kingdom	24,815	23,671
Other	2,570	3,223

Source Statistics Mauritius ESI (Economic and Social Indicator) International Travel and Tourism, year 2012

NOTES:

* Among Mauritian residents may be both Mauritian nationals and foreigners.

** In 2012 there was no direct flight from Mauritius to Saudi Arabia for the pilgrims going on Hajj. Arrangements were made via Dubai.

The age composition of departing and arriving Mauritians and non-Mauritians shown in Table 22 for the period 2010 to 2012 reveal a negative balance for Mauritians aged 15 to 19 (probably for studies abroad) and a large positive balance for those aged 50 to 65 (probably those returning from abroad for retirement). For non-Mauritians, a large positive balance is observed for those aged 20 to 29, corresponding to the arrival of young workers; a negative balance is found thereafter.

Table 22: Difference between arrivals and departures of Mauritian and non-Mauritians, by age group, 2010–2012

	Mauritians			Non-Mauritians		
	Arrivals	Departures	Difference	Arrivals	Departures	Difference
Total	671,705	660,487	11,218	3,124,764	3,142,456	-17,692
0–4	12,706	12,487	219	118,552	118,114	438
5–9	14,757	14,939	-182	130,411	130,945	-534
10–14	17,441	17,493	-52	127,077	127,864	-787
15–19	22,836	25,073	-2,237	99,287	100,414	-1,127
20–24	46,468	46,781	-313	156,601	151,891	4,710
25–29	63,531	62,633	898	349,718	346,104	3,614
30–34	78,316	77,647	669	342,964	346,643	-3,679
35–39	73,233	72,702	531	314,257	316,189	-1,932
40–44	75,342	74,177	1,165	307,741	312,398	-4,657
45–49	71,025	69,675	1,350	299,031	298,824	207
50–54	58,342	56,722	1,620	264,047	269,441	-5,394
55–59	52,014	49,844	2,170	217,630	218,811	-1,181
60–64	40,294	37,838	2,456	180,517	184,855	-4,338
65–69	22,552	21,107	1,445	110,741	111,875	-1,134
70–74	12,764	11,970	794	62,412	63,687	-1,275
75–79	6,378	6,000	378	29,187	29,536	-349
80–84	2,783	2,556	227	11,121	11,349	-228
85–89	770	704	66	2,996	3,034	-38
90–94	141	128	13	427	432	-5
95+	12	11	1	47	50	-3

Source: Statistics Mauritius Tourism Statistics Unit.

Table 23 provides the numbers of foreign nationals deported, arrested and repatriated, disaggregated by nationality, since 2000. The numbers have increased significantly since 2009, particularly because of problems that the Government of Mauritius had been encountering with Bangladeshi workers in the textile industries. It seems quite expected that deportation and repatriation cases are mainly linked with nationalities that enter Mauritius mainly for employment.

Table 23: Total number of foreign nationals deported, arrested and repatriated, by nationality, 2000–2014

Nationality	YEAR										
	2000–2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Afghanistan										1	
Bangladesh	13	3	7	1		308	20	53	43	22	14
Cameroon			1								
China	1		2	1			27	1	2	3	
Comoros										2	
Congo	2	1									
France	4		1			1	4	3	10	4	1
Germany						1		1	1		
Ghana	1						1		1	1	11
India	22	14	15	18	3	5	4	22	28	24	2
Indonesia						2	5		5	2	
Ireland							1				
Italy	5										
Côte d'Ivoire								1			
Kenya					1						
Lesotho						1					
Madagascar	48		4	8	2	6	2	38	7	6	6
Nepal							3	1	2	8	1
Pakistan	1							1	1		
Russian Federation			1	1							
Seychelles	1										
South Africa			1		1			2	1	1	
Sri Lanka	1					1					
United Republic of Tanzania	2						1				
Uganda							1				
United Arab Emirates				1							
United Kingdom	1							1	1		
Zimbabwe											
TOTAL	101	19	32	30	7	325	68	124	102	80	35

Source: Passport and Immigration Office.

A different way to assess the level of international migration is to consider the census questions pertaining to place of residence five years prior to the time the census was taken. Concretely, international immigrants are those enumerated in Mauritius during the 2011 census and those who declared living abroad five years prior to the census. However, census does not include any questions that could allow identifying international emigrants.

A total of 24,799 persons declared in their 2011 census form that they lived abroad in 2006. The distribution of these individuals by country of citizenship and sex are given in Table 20.

Table 24: Resident Mauritians and non-Mauritians aged 5 years and over who lived abroad in 2006, disaggregated by sex and country of residence in 2006

Country of residence in 2006	Mauritians			Non-Mauritians			Total		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Total	5,290	2,753	2,537	19,509	10,671	8,838	24,799	13,424	11,375
Asia	315	144	171	15,971	8,843	7,128	16,286	8,987	7,299
of which									
India	198	74	124	6,518	5,765	753	6,716	5,839	877
Bangladesh	-	-	-	6,467	2,005	4,462	6,467	2,005	4,462
China	36	23	13	2,318	858	1,460	2,354	881	1,473
Sri Lanka	-	-	-	526	148	378	526	148	378
Africa	655	327	328	2,079	1,003	1,076	2,734	1,330	1,404
of which									
Madagascar	146	63	83	1,427	698	729	1,573	761	812
South Africa	204	119	85	333	152	181	537	271	266
Europe	3,058	1,614	1,444	897	526	371	3,955	2,140	1,815
of which									
France	691	329	362	559	328	231	1,250	657	593
United Kingdom	1,631	935	696	194	96	98	1,825	1,031	794
Other	1,262	668	594	562	299	263	1,824	967	857

Source: Statistics Mauritius.

Table 24 shows that, of those who lived abroad in 2006, 5,290 were Mauritian nationals, among whom were 2,753 males and 2,537 females; and that 19,509 were foreigners, among whom were 10,671 males and 8,838 females. In 2000 the corresponding figures were 4,283 Mauritians and 12,621 foreigners, in total 47 per cent less than in 2011. Accordingly, more than three quarters of persons who immigrated during the five-year period before censuses were foreign citizens. In both censuses, two thirds of these persons came from Asian countries. Concretely, the biggest numbers of Mauritians came from the United Kingdom and France (1,631 and 691, respectively) while the majority of foreign immigrants were from India (6,518) Bangladesh (6,467) and China (2,318) (Table 20 and Table 35 in Annex 2).

While the distribution of countries of origin and age is approximately the same in 2000 as in 2011, as seen in Table 24, the gender composition of these immigrants has changed from one characterized by female dominance in 2000 to the opposite situation in 2011. This was largely due to the shift in the gender balance among Asian immigrants, whereby the number of women in 2000 exceeded that of men. The more detailed data on foreign immigrants during the five years before the 2011 census, disaggregated by age group and country of residence in 2006, can be found in Table 39 in Annex 2. The data in Table 40 in Annex 2 shows that three quarters of foreigners who lived in Mauritius at the time of 2011 census arrived during five years prior to the census.

Table 25: Resident population aged 5 years and over who were abroad five years prior to the 2000 and 2011 censuses, disaggregated by age, sex and nationality status

	2000			2011		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Both sexes	16,905	6,560	10,345	24,799	13,424	11,375
of which (%)						
5–14	5.5	6.9	4.5	4.1	3.9	4.4
15–44	85.2	79.3	88.9	85.8	84.6	87.2
45–64	7.7	11.8	5.1	8.4	9.8	6.8
65 and over	1.6	2.0	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.6
<hr/>						
Mauritian	25.3	32.4	20.9	21.3	20.5	22.3
Non-Mauritian	74.7	67.6	79.1	78.7	79.5	77.7

	2000			2011		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Africa	4.0	7.0	2.1	8.1	7.2	9.1
North America	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asia	65.0	52.9	72.6	63.9	66.0	61.5
Europe	5.2	7.1	4.0	4.6	4.8	4.3
Oceania	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
Other	0.0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.0	0.0	-	1.6	1.1	2.3

Source: Statistics Mauritius.

Data on immigrants collected by censuses during a fixed period can be disaggregated by other characteristics included in the census questionnaires. However, these data tend to underestimate the total number of immigrants because those who left the country before the census cannot be covered.

Evidently, the same question on the place of residence five years prior to the 2011 census cannot provide information on emigrants (who were living in Mauritius five years in 2006 and were residing abroad at the time of the 2011 census). Between the two censuses, the change in the number of persons in a given generation (birth cohort), with the exception of newborns, are merely due to immigration, emigration or deaths. Emigrants and immigrants can be identified by comparing individual enumeration records of two successive censuses. Persons born before 2000 who were enumerated in 2011, but not in 2000, can therefore be considered international immigrants. Conversely, those enumerated in 2000 but did not appear among enumerated persons in the 2011 census, and were not found in death records between the two censuses dates can be considered as international emigrants. It has to be noted that the number of international immigrants and emigrants during the intercensal period is expected to be larger, as a given person could have done more than one international migration during the period, and a person who experienced two successive migrations is counted neither as an immigrant nor an emigrant.

Concretely, net migration between the two last censuses can be estimated by comparing the population, disaggregated by sex and year of birth in both censuses and considering the number of deaths that occurred between the two census dates. For this estimation, adjustments for the under-enumeration of children and the harmonization of the definition of "resident population" used by the 2000 census with that used by the 2011 census have to be considered. The calculation for the net international migration is detailed in Table 26 separately for Mauritians and non-Mauritians.

Table 26: Estimation of net international migration between censuses 2000 and 2011 for the population born before 2000

	Mauritian citizens	Total	Male	Female
A	Enumerated resident Mauritians in the 2000 census	1,163,292	578,042	585,250
B	Positive adjustment for under-enumeration of children in the 2000 census	8,025	4,456	3,569
C	Negative adjustment for the 2011 census definition of "usual resident population"	15,300	8,900	6,400
D = A - B - C	Adjusted number of resident Mauritians in the 2000 census	1,155,832	573,552	582,280
E	Deaths from July 2000 to June 2011 (for cohorts born prior to July 2000)	92,338	51,739	40,599
F = D - E	Expected resident population (2011) aged 11 and over of Mauritian nationality (assuming no international migration)	1,063,494	521,813	541,681
G	Enumerated resident population of Mauritian nationality (2011) aged 11 and over during the 2011 census (adjusted for under-enumeration)	1,034,118	507,905	526,213
H = G - F	Estimate of net international migration of population of Mauritians born prior to July 2000	-29,376	-13,908	-15,468

	Non-Mauritian citizens	Total	Male	Female
I	Resident population of foreigners in the 2000 census (adjusted to the 2011 definition*)	15,543	5,705	9,838
J	Resident population of foreigners aged 11 years and over in the 2011 census	25,077	13,682	11,395
K = J - I	Net migration of foreigners between 2000 and 2011 census, population aged 11 year and over in 2011**	9,534	7,977	1,557
	Total population (Mauritians and foreigners)			
L = H + K	Net migration of resident the whole population (Mauritians and foreigners) between 2000 and 2011 census, population born prior July 2000	-19,643	-5,858	-13,785

Source: Statistics Mauritius and authors' calculations.

NOTES:

* The adjustment made after applying the same definition of "usual residence" used by the 2011 consists of a reduction of 1.3 per cent of the enumerated number of foreigners in 2000.

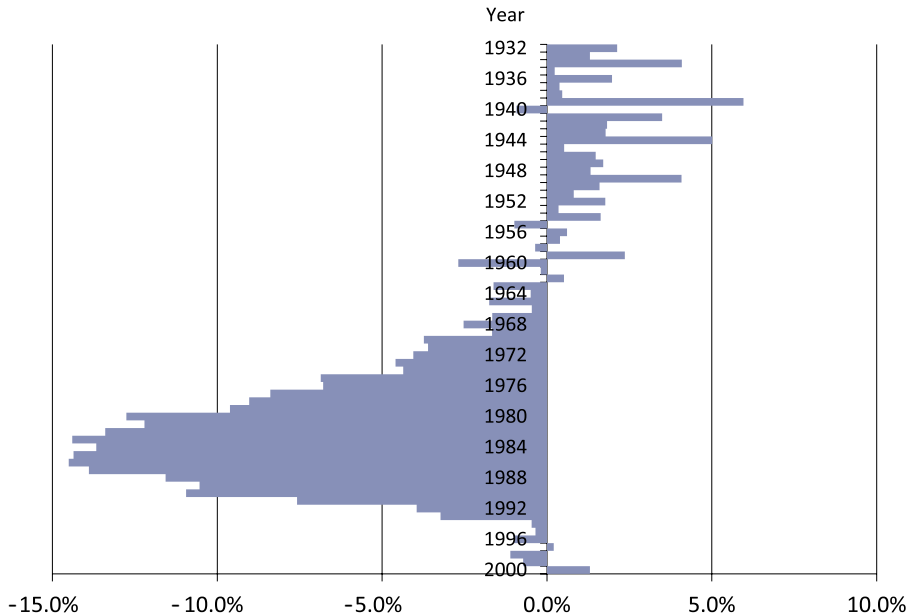
** Assuming that the net number of changes of citizenship could be neglected before the two censuses.

In conclusion, even if such assessment has to be taken with extreme caution, the situation can be summarized by assessing the level of international migration flows between the 2000 and 2011 censuses as follows:

- (a) For non-Mauritian citizens, the net migration between the two censuses is about +10,000 (9,534, to be exact, as indicated on Table 25). Based on the estimated number of foreign immigrants since 2006 (19,509 in Table 20), it could be estimated that about 30,000 immigrants were observed during the full intercensal period and still lived in Mauritius in 2011. Accordingly, the number of non-Mauritians enumerated in 2000 who emigrated and were not present in 2011 is about 20,000.
- (b) For Mauritian citizens, the net migration between the two censuses is about – 30,000 (-29,376, to be exact, as indicated on Table 25). Based on the estimated number of returning Mauritians since 2006 (5,290 in Table 20) it could be estimated that about 10,000 returned during the full intercensal period. Accordingly the number of those who left and did not return between the two censuses (emigrants) is estimated to be about 40,000.

The same exercise may be performed by year of birth. Figure 14 displays the relative net migration for Mauritian citizens born before 2000 census. The age pattern of international migrants emerges including a strong net emigration of young adults born between 1975 and 1990 and a more reduced net return immigration of those born before 1950. These two opposite situations reflect the emigration of young adults in search of jobs and the return of Mauritian emigrants at the age of retirement. These figures would tend to indicate that Mauritius may be already suffering from an important wave of emigration of Mauritians, which, if not properly assessed, could lead to brain drain.

Figure 14: Relative change of the number of Mauricians by year of birth as a percentage of the 2000 census count, 2000 to 2011

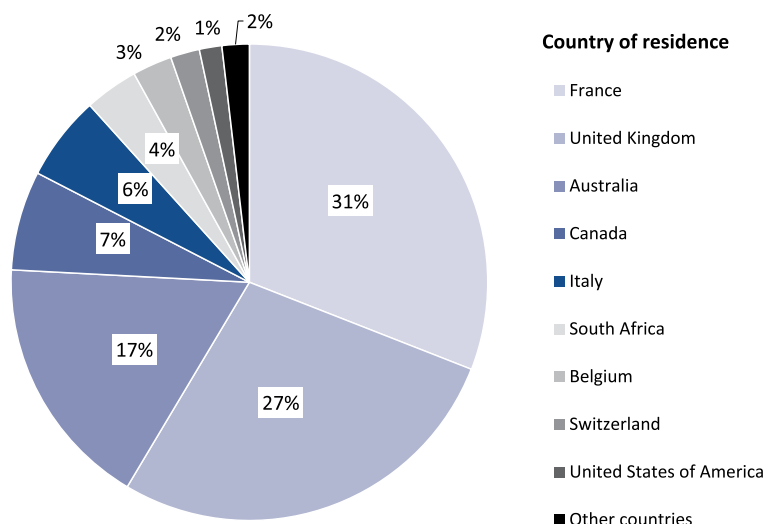


Source: Authors' calculations based on Statistics Mauritius data.

A.4 Mauricians living abroad

The estimation of the number of Mauricians living abroad is a difficult exercise. The census does not give this information; the CMPHS does not include any questions to capture emigration, and no statistical information is available from consulates of Mauritius abroad. The only sources of information are the statistics of the countries of residence of Mauricians abroad. Figure 15 and Table 27 shows the most important destinations of Mauritian-born persons based on data gathered by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development from the 2000 census round of a large number of countries. As seen, the main foreign countries of residence of Mauritian-born in 2000 was France, followed by the United Kingdom and then Australia. Three out of four Mauritian-born living abroad lived in these three countries.

Figure 15: Mauritian-born living in other countries, 2000



Source: OECD.

Table 27: Mauritian-born population aged 15 years and older enumerated in the 2000 census, by various countries of residence (including Mauritius)

Country of residence*	Number	%
Total	962,742	100.0
Mauritius	866,857	90.0
France	29,674	3.1
United Kingdom	26,481	2.8
Australia	16,557	1.7
Canada	6,465	0.7
Italy	5,513	0.6
South Africa	3,491	0.4
Belgium	2,578	0.3
Switzerland	1,894	0.2
United States of America	1,462	0.2
Seychelles	372	0.0
India	320	0.0
Russian Federation	214	0.0
New Zealand	165	0.0
Ireland	123	0.0
Denmark	110	0.0
Sweden	105	0.0

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

*Countries with more than 100 Mauritian-born.

Eurostat, the Statistical Office of European Communities, provides similar data on an annual basis considering country of birth and country of citizenship of the residents in the EU Member States. Even if data are not available from all EU Member States, we can see in Table 28 that the number of Mauritian-born exceeds largely the number of Mauritian citizens in all countries. This reflects the large number of Mauritians who were naturalized in these countries and are not any more considered as Mauritian citizens.

More recent data on Mauritians living abroad can be obtained directly from some destination countries' statistics. According to the US Department of Homeland Security, 872 Mauritian-born persons obtained legal permanent resident status in the United States and 610 Mauritian-born persons were naturalized between 2003 and 2012. Between 2008 and 2013, Australia registered 431 arrivals of Mauritian-born persons for permanent residence (settlers' arrivals), two thirds of whom were classified as skilled migrants. According to Australian statistics these figures increased from only few persons in 2008 to more than 200 in 2012. According to data received from the Quebec government in September 2013, there were 2,938 immigrants who originated from Mauritius from 2008 to 2012, resulting in an annual average of 588 persons per year. The age structure of these immigrants was relatively young, as 7 of 10 Mauritians were aged under 35 years. As regards student migration, data from the Quebec Government indicates that 27 Mauritians in 2012 obtained a student permit to pursue their studies mainly at the tertiary level. According to the 2006 Census, 3,475 persons in Quebec declared being of Indian origin (1,650 women and 1,825 men). Statistics Canada reported that the number of Mauritians acquiring permanent residency has increased from 840 persons in 2009 to 1,402 in 2010.

The number of Mauritians that emigrated by country of destination may also be estimated by considering the first residence permits issued in these countries. Table 29 shows these data collected by Eurostat from countries in the EU. The biggest number of the residence permits was issued by the United Kingdom, followed by France and Italy (58%, 27% and 10%, respectively, of all permits in EU). One third of all first permit applications were made for family reasons and another third for studies. Only one out of eight permits is issued for remunerated activities.

Table 28: Mauritian-born population and Mauritian nationals living in selected European Union Member States

Countries	Country of birth			Country of citizenship		
	2000	2005	2010	2000	2005	2010
Belgium	2,579*	n.a.	3,092	840	n.a.	651
Denmark	106	116	139	28	24	37
Ireland	n.a.	n.a.	3,004	n.a.	693****	2,967
Germany	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	859	848	896
Spain	145	180	237	52	90	113
France	n.a.	39,222	n.a.	n.a.	13,463	n.a.
Italy	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	8 831	8,721	9,413
Netherlands	292	321	348	51	61	66
Austria	n.a.	76	110**	n.a.	44	66
Finland	24	32	34	14	14	14
Sweden	122	146	167	50	61	66
United Kingdom	18,880	35,073***	n.a.	n.a.	20,683	n.a.
Norway	138	148	173	29	30	40

Source: Eurostat database (http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/statistics/search_database) visited on 15 November 2013.

NOTES: * 2001, ** 2009, *** 2004, **** 2007

n.a. – data not available

Table 29: First permits issued by EU Member States to Mauritian citizens valid for at least 12 months, by reason for applying, 2008–2010

Countries	Total	Family reasons	Education reasons	Remunerated activities reasons	Other reasons
Total	14,664	4,956	4,499	1,759	3,450
United Kingdom	8,469	2,093	3,079	696	2,601
France	3,955	2,102	1,114	332	407
Italy	1,404	403	0	652	349
Ireland	346	37	240	17	52
Belgium	155	135	3	4	13
Germany	62	41	6	8	7
Spain	49	26	5	12	6
Sweden	44	31	8	3	2
Hungary	29	5	22	2	0
Denmark	28	5	1	19	3

Countries	Total	Family reasons	Education reasons	Remunerated activities reasons	Other reasons
Poland	24	18	3	3	0
Romania	24	11	13	0	0
Czech Republic	23	21	1	1	0
Luxembourg	15	13	0	2	0
Austria	8	5	0	0	3
Other EU Member States	29	10	4	8	7

Source: Eurostat database, visited on 15 November 2013.

Mauritians studying abroad

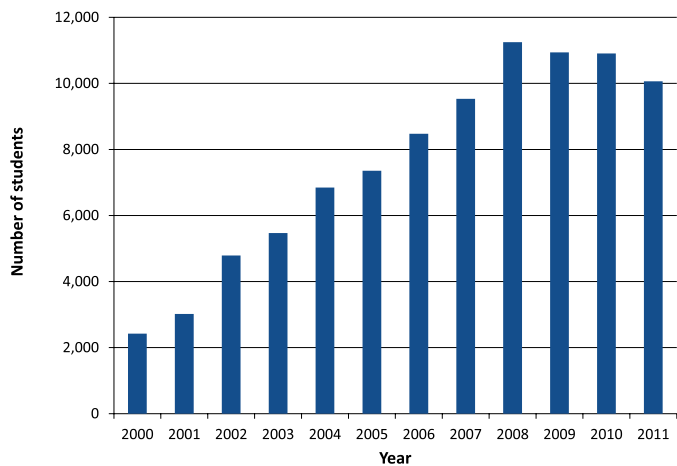
Part of the Mauritians living abroad is students. Statistics Mauritius annual statistics on education includes data on Mauritian students studying overseas, as well as foreign students studying in Mauritius, based on various data sources. Table 30 presents the evolution of new admissions, while Table 30 and Figure 16 show the estimated number of Mauritians citizens studying abroad for the period 2000 to 2011. Emigration rate of the group of people holding tertiary education exceeds 50 per cent in Mauritius according to World Bank (2011).

Table 30: New admissions of students abroad, by country, 2000–2011

Country	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Australia	64	128	61	419	477	650	679	1,212	2,472	1,978	1,555	1,234
France/Reunion	166	508	509	492	414	431	319	425	392	277	350	372
United Kingdom	133	145	281	332	457	656	788	900	800	1,430	850	643
India	215	290	477	485	404	373	283	224	186	197	262	394
South Africa	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	41	40	40	52
United States of America	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	52	50	210	51
China	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	47	64	94	98
Malaysia	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	13	10	80	80
Others	224	114	183	202	355	220	357	421	83	73	59	83
Total	802	1,185	1,511	1,930	2,107	2,330	2,426	3,182	4,086	4,119	3,500	3,007

Source: Statistics Mauritius Education Statistics Unit.

Figure 16: Estimated number of Mauritian students pursuing tertiary education abroad, at December of each year, 2000–2011



Source: Statistics Mauritius Education Statistics Unit.

Table 31: Estimated total overseas enrolment, by country, 2000–2011

Country	2000/ 01	2001/ 02	2002/ 03	2003/ 04	2004/ 05	2005/ 06	2006/ 07	2007/ 08	2008/ 09	2009/ 10	2010/ 11	2011/ 12
Australia	202	265	326	674	1,085	1,572	2,119	2,422	3,925	4,639	4,149	2,966
France/ Réunion	563	977	1 480	1,722	2,045	1,968	1,831	1,928	2,009	1,560	1,648	1,758
United Kingdom	550	532	813	787	1,150	1,522	2,067	2,608	2,889	3,045	3,058	2,887
India	454	625	1,102	1,305	1,403	1,333	1,302	1,239	1,052	646	663	895
South Africa	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	231	165	149	183
United States of AMerica	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	167	170	310	247
China	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	157	204	278	367
Malaysia	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	62	48	300	350
Other Countries*	654	620	1,070	980	1,163	962	1,154	1,334	756	462	352	410
Total	2,423	3,019	4,791	5,468	6,846	7,357	8,473	9,531	11,248	10,939	10,907	10,063

Source: Statistics Mauritius Education Statistics Unit.

Remittances

It is quite common that remittances, whether in the form of cash or goods, sent back home by the migrant worker are spent directly by his or her family, so in many respects remittances are a very efficient way to raise the incomes of the family. The influence of remittances on individual recipient household incomes can be seen as a positive one. The main advantage of remittances is that they are paid directly to individuals and families. It raises available household income, which, in turn, enables families to meet their own specific needs. However, as remittances represent a source of private capital, deciding on the money's use is solely the discretion of the migrants and their families. Money sent back home by migrant workers are used primarily for the daily expenditures of the family left behind; home construction and/or improvement; medical care; and children's education. A smaller fraction of the money goes to savings and possibly invested. The majority of funds, however, are used to cover ongoing living expenses.⁸

Table 32 from the World Bank shows inward and outward remittances flow for Mauritius in 2011.

Table 32: Estimated remittance flows, 2003–2010

Amounts in USD millions	Year							
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010e
Inward remittance flows	215	215	215	215	215	215	211	220
of which								
Workers' remittances								
Compensation of employees	1	1	1	1	1	1		
Migrants' transfers								
Outward remittance flows	10	11	11	13	12	14	12	
of which								
Workers' remittances								
Compensation of employees	9	9	9	10	10	13		
Migrants' transfers	1	2	2	3	2	1		

For comparison: Net FDI inflows, USD 0.4 billion; net ODA received, USD 0.1 billion; total international reserves, USD 1.8 billion; export of goods and services, USD 4.9 billion in 2008.

Source: World Bank.

⁸ Facilitating Labour Migration To Canada: The Mauritian Approach and Experience; IOM Mauritius, September 2013.

Irregular migration

Table 33: Number of repatriated and deported Mauritians, 2000–2014

Year	United Kingdom	Other countries	Total
2000	15	55	70
2001	13	45	58
2002	23	54	77
2003	203	92	295
2004	310	255	565
2005	364	148	512
2006	390	164	554
2007	366	164	530
2008	275	147	422
2009	240	203	443
2010	199	119	318
2011	136	81	217
2012	132	65	197
2013	172	52	197
Up to May 2014	38	12	50

Source: Passport and Immigration Office.

In addition to these data, the IOM Office in Mauritius has been assisting in the voluntary return and repatriation of Mauritians, who were either living in a regular status overseas or considered as stranded migrants (including victims of trafficking). The assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) is one of many migration management services IOM offers to migrants and governments, which aims to better enable the orderly, humane and cost-effective return and reintegration of migrants who are unable or unwilling to remain in host countries and who wish to return voluntarily to their countries of origin. IOM return programmes are either available to all migrants in an irregular situation, or tailored to the particular needs of specific groups, including vulnerable migrants. The assistance typically provides information, referral, arrangement of travel to the home location and limited support towards reinsertion. AVRR assistance may also include the profiling of target groups, provision of information and counselling to potential returnees, medical assistance, reception and longer-term reintegration assistance in countries of origin in order to facilitate sustainable returns. Since 2007 IOM Mauritius has assisted 148 Mauritians in returning, mainly from Australia, Belgium, Northern Ireland, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Refugees, asylum-seekers and victims of trafficking in persons

Despite the absence of a refugee protection system, the Mauritian Government has not returned any persons in need of international protection to countries where their lives or freedom would be threatened on account of their race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion. In essence, Mauritius is upholding the principle of non-refoulement. In 2009, six Iraqi asylum-seekers were assisted by the Government of Mauritius, IOM and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (through UNDP Mauritius) and were subsequently sent to the United States of America.

There are few Mauritians who are registered as refugees or asylum-seekers in foreign countries. In its last report dated from mid-2013, UNHCR estimated 63 refugees and 85 asylum-seekers based on figures provided by the different countries where these Mauritians are living.

With the exception of some anecdotal information, little is presently known about the extent and character of trafficking to, from, through and within Mauritius. Mauritius, however, is a major tourist destination with visitors from around the globe. Mauritius is also a country actively involved in labour migration, both of migrants coming to work in Mauritius, as well as Mauritians seeking employment opportunities abroad. Both these elements leave Mauritius vulnerable to human trafficking. According to the 2013 US Trafficking in Persons Report, Mauritius is a source and destination country especially for trafficking of children and to a lesser extent men and women. Some Mauritian victims of trafficking have been identified in Belgium, Canada and the United Kingdom. In 2011 and 2012, Cambodian men were identified as victims of forced labour on fishing boats in Mauritius's territorial waters.

PART B: EFFECTS OF MIGRATION IN MAURITIUS

B.1 Mauritius as a country of destination

Mauritius is a land of migrants – some came here against their will, namely, slaves who were brought here from Madagascar, Mozambique and Senegal. Once the abolition of slavery became effective in Mauritius in 1834; indentured labourers were brought in from India on fixed short-term contracts; but very few went back, as revealed by the figures in Table 1. The demand for imported labour in the agricultural sector did not slacken until the mid-1920s, when a stop was put to the import of indentured labourers from India. It is to be noted that though the indentured labourers came on short-term contracts most of them chose to remain here.

With the active programme towards the eradication of malaria in the 1940s, the population grew annually by 3.2 per cent between 1952 and 1962. The agricultural sector, mainly sugar cane which contributed to some 98 per cent of export earnings, could not absorb the new entrants to the labour market. Thus, in 1960 when cyclone Carol destroyed the island, James Meade was sent by the British Government to prepare a report on the economic options open to Mauritius. Considering that Mauritius was a basket case of Malthusian economics, he recommended in his report (“The Economic and Social Structure of Mauritius”) that emigration had to be encouraged, as this was the only short-term means by which demographic pressure could be relieved! After independence in 1968, emigration was supported by the State – although many had migrated to Australia for economic reasons as the prospects for an independent Mauritius looked very dim. This explains why the bulk of the Mauritian diaspora is found in the United Kingdom, France and Australia. Later migrants went to Canada and Europe as well. As the Mauritian economy took off, emigration became more of an individual issue until the last five years when the unemployment rate – especially youth unemployment – started rising again. Policies have thus been put in place to promote circular migration.⁹ Like most

⁹ A working definition of circular migration should allow for both spontaneous circulation and managed circulation. Opinions on what are the most desirable features or attributes of circular migration in relation to policies should be discussed separately from such a working definition. The main features of circular migration are (Wickramasekara, 2011): (a) Temporariness; (b) Repeat movements involving more than one migration cycle; and (c) Involvement of the same groups of migrants, or repeat migration by the same persons. Since 2007, the Mauritian Government has taken the initiative to embark on circular migration programmes in order to widen the scope of opportunities for its nationals in collaboration with IOM. “The government is negotiating temporary labour migration programmes with destination countries...this would enable Mauritians to build up their skills abroad and on return, find employment in new sectors or start a business under a scheme to help small and medium enterprises (SMEs). “We want to maximize the development potential of migrants returning home after a limited stay abroad, bringing with them new skills, savings and ideas. We also want to encourage remittance flows which will, improve long-term benefits to migrants’ families and enhance their development...we also want to facilitate the Mauritian diasporas’ return home so they too can assist in the development of the country...”

small island States, however, the dearth of well-remunerated job opportunities always acts as a spur to emigration. The statistics mentioned in the previous section bear this fact out.

At the same time, Mauritius is confronted with a scarcity of skilled manpower. Section A.3.3 described the change in the pattern of foreigners working in Mauritius. The change in the pattern may be caused by various factors linked essentially to demand for labour in specific industries and for specific jobs where a scarcity of local labour was felt. Although it was not possible within the context of this study to explore deeper the causes of this change, a cursory examination of the economic trajectory of Mauritius since 1990 can provide a reasonable explanation. The Recruitment of Workers Act was passed in 1993 because there was a lot of pressure from the export processing zone sector to liberalize the import of labour as garment factories were finding it difficult to recruit Mauritians – initially because there was full employment and, subsequently, as the standard of living increased, there was reluctance on the part of Mauritians to work night shifts. Hence, the argument from industry was that foreign labour would be available to work night shifts and that would allow them to maintain and even increase their output and remain competitive in the international market, especially in the US market, where there were no quotas on Mauritian products. Since it was mainly firms from Hong Kong, China that were initially exporting to the United States it was natural that they would bring in Chinese labour (mostly female) to work in the local factories here. Other Mauritian firms then followed suit when they faced labour shortages.

Government accepted this argument because there was a danger that local jobs would be lost if firms were to lose their export markets. However, what was expected to be a short-term measure became an established practice, as the productivity of foreign workers was higher than that of local labourers, mainly due to availability. While it allowed the import of labour, the Government also in 1993 prepared the Industrial Expansion Act, which promoted the modernization of the garment sector through the establishment of a Technology Diffusion Scheme meant to assist firms to adopt capital-intensive technology, so as to reduce the reliance on imported labour. However, the fact that immigration has continued to grow steadily shows that employers have found it so far more advantageous to import labour.

The change in the sex ratio can be explained by the fact that the construction sector started to grow significantly as from the late 1990s, when major infrastructure development was initiated (the creation of a “cyber city” with Indian assistance, and the construction of new secondary schools, roads

and the international airport with Chinese assistance, among others). This sector employed men essentially. A recent pattern has been the recruitment of Bangladeshis who work in garment factories, in seafood sector but also in small bakeries. Going beyond the gender composition of migrants it would be more relevant to produce regular detailed statistics about the skill level of the migrants, which includes also a review of the grades defined today when analysing the profiles of migrant workers, that is, skilled, management, supervisory, technical and others.

The challenge confronting Mauritius' ambition to escape from the middle-income trap is to have sufficient hands and brains to move to higher-value-added services and manufacturing. Its demographics, as revealed by the population data (ageing population, decline in fertility rate, and emigration of young women) do not provide a solid platform from which to make the leap. This is why the reforms outlined in the 2006–2007 budget of Mauritius mention the opening up of Mauritius to global talent. The occupation permit system and the enhanced role of the Board of Investment in that respect point to the fact that the Mauritian Government considers migration as an important tool in attracting investors, highly skilled manpower and entrepreneurs to the island.

In keeping with national priorities to develop sufficient skills in Mauritius through the “One Graduate per Family” policy and transforming Mauritius into a knowledge hub with a target of 100,000 foreign students by 2025, there is a clear intention of the Government to mainstream migration into the development plan of Mauritius; this is where the production of migration statistics becomes even more crucial, so as to inform national migration policies and update them regularly. Policies should be clearly devised based on the needs and priorities to welcome short-, medium- and long-term foreign labour and skills. The comprehensive Report of the Work Permit Committee on the Review of Scarcity Areas (November 2005) should be an exercise conducted on a regular basis. These migration policies should also be analysed jointly with other national challenges, such as the high density of the population, unemployment rate and ageing population.

In addition, with the increasing number of international students coming to Mauritius to study, a number of issues have arisen and such challenges should be carefully analysed:

- (a) Many students come to Mauritius to work rather than to study.
- (b) Many of the international students have problems to communicate in English, making their adaptation difficult.

- (c) Many institutions are using misleading information to attract students.
- (d) No proper monitoring is conducted.

B.2 Mauritius as a country of origin and the value added by its diaspora today

The fear of independence and economic recession led a large number of Mauritians to migrate overseas prior to and in the years following independence. A substantial number of Franco-Mauritians and *metis* migrated to Australia. In fact, the Australian Government has kept track of this important wave of migrants. About 14,000 Mauritians left between 1966 and 1972. The 1971 census recorded 7630 Mauritius-born living in Australia. In the 1970s, thousands of Mauritians of Indian origin and members of other communities migrated because of the prevailing difficult economic conditions in Mauritius. They mainly went as nurses to Great Britain or to take up other jobs in France. At the same time, a Ministry of Immigration was established to assist in the emigration of Mauritians abroad. From data collected from various sources, emigration continues to grow and specifically to new countries like Canada and for the skilled, highly skilled and student categories. This growing trend has been considered as the third wave of emigration. According to key informant interviews carried out by IOM, the following broad groups were clearly discernible within the Mauritian diaspora: (a) the retirees who are mainly first- or second-generation migrants who want to settle down in or at least have a second home in Mauritius; (b) older migrant professionals, mainly in nursing, who have already acquired properties like care homes and who went into business or the academe. It also includes younger, more recent migrants who have worked hard and are now becoming to establish themselves; (c) the silent category, who are mainly economic migrants who had no particular skills at the time of migration and have worked their way up to some financial stability.

The numbers provided on the repatriation or voluntary return of Mauritians living in an irregular situation has become a concern for the Government not only in terms of the pull and push factors but also as regards the protection of their nationals abroad. This influx is also related to the fact that some countries have relaxed the conditions of entry and short-term stay for Mauritians.

Growing emigration is not a phenomenon unique to Mauritius and is actually noted in various small developing island States within the region (e.g. Seychelles), as Mauritians, who present an attractive profile for countries of destination, are seeking better opportunities abroad. What seems more relevant

today, however, is that migration policies are developed to encourage, even on a temporary basis, the “brain circulation” of Mauritian emigrating, therefore maintaining the linkages with them through various incentives. In addition, other policies aiming to attract investors and highly skilled individuals to Mauritius should be carefully developed and reviewed in order not to contradict national employment policies and affect the chance of nationals to acquire similar opportunities in their own country, hence the importance of labour market testing and understanding the labour market and human resource needs and shortages on the short, medium and long term. Such an approach will help maximize the benefits of migration and development for a country like Mauritius. It is important to note that some initiatives exist already and recognize the value added of the Mauritian diaspora, such as the “Diaspora of Mauritian Experts” database developed by the Mauritius Research Council, but a holistic strategy on mobilization of the Mauritian diaspora is timely.

Every country today with a significant diaspora regards it, and rightly so, as a valuable resource. Based on data available, the number of Mauritians living abroad is sizable and probably underestimated. The skills of Mauritians acquired abroad are also important, in spite of the lack of information and data available. Therefore, it seems strategic today that Mauritius embarks on an “open systems architecture” approach to engage its diaspora as operational and strategic partners in a more organized manner. This includes confidence-building and outreach measures. In his keynote address at the Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa in 2006 the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Cooperation indicated the intention of the Government of Mauritius through the following statement: “...Now at the present critical juncture, when Mauritius is embarking on its ten-year reform programme, we are seeking solutions, that is, harnessing the intellectual and financial resources of our diaspora – something the Asians particularly China and India have already achieved... We consider our diaspora as our treasure kept abroad and as our influential “undercover” ambassadors without formerly designated portfolios...we describe our diaspora as communities living or settled permanently in other countries, aware of the Mauritian identity and maintaining varying degrees of linkages with the homeland.”

B.3 Internal migration: A Focus on Rodrigues

Data on internal migration between 2006 and 2011 in Mauritius is based on data collected through the question on place of usual residence in 2006 and on place of current usual residence within the censuses. It takes into account movements between Municipal Wards (MWs) and Village Council Areas

(VCAs) but does not consider movements within the same MW or VCA. Also, 0.6 per cent of the census population did not state their usual address in 2006.

Mobility between Mauritius and Rodrigues

More than 4 out of 10 residents migrating from Rodrigues to Mauritius live in rented houses. Between 2006 and 2011, of all persons who moved from Rodrigues to Mauritius:

- (a) Nearly the same number of males and females migrated to Mauritius: 50.5 per cent were male and 49.5 per cent were female;
- (b) 79.3 per cent were Mauritians, born in Rodrigues while 20.52 per cent were Mauritians, born on the Island of Mauritius;
- (c) Adults in the age bracket 16 to 29 years had the highest five-year migrant rate (52.4%) followed by those in the 30–44 age group (22.3%);
- (d) 47.0 per cent were married or in a union, while 45.2 per cent were single persons;
- (e) 52.0 per cent were employed, 5.7% unemployed and some 42.3 per cent were inactive;
- (f) 39.3 per cent were living in buildings wholly used as one housing unit, 38.9 per cent in either blocks of flats or semi-detached houses; and
- (g) 43.3 per cent were living in rented houses.

B.4 Border data collection system

In Mauritius, functional responsibility for operations at the border is largely concentrated in operational agencies under the policy direction of the Prime Minister's Office. These include four separate arms of the Mauritius Police Force:

- (a) Passport and Immigration Office (PIO), responsible for passport, visa and permit issuance and passenger clearance at the border;
- (b) Anti-Drug Smuggling Unit (ADSU) – with enforcement responsibilities at the border and throughout Mauritius;
- (c) National Security Service (NSS) – responsible for national security matters at the border and throughout Mauritius; and
- (d) Mauritius Police Force (MPF) – responsible for general policing duties in port and airport facilities and precincts.

The Civil Aviation Department also falls under the portfolio responsibilities of the Prime Minister and therefore of the PMO. Finally, since the Defence and Home Affairs is also a portfolio responsibility of the Prime Minister, the Civil Status Division and its civil registration functions also fall under the PMO. Reflecting its traditional role of revenue collection, the Mauritius Department of Customs and Excise (or, simply, “Customs”) is an agency of the Mauritius Revenue Authority. At par with with global practice, Customs’ focus extends to preventing the entry to Mauritius of illegal goods, including, but not limited to, illegal drugs. At the border in Mauritius, Customs therefore shares some enforcement responsibilities with ADSU.

Officials from the Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security also work with Customs at the border to identify bio-security threats. Activity is focused on preventing the entry of exotic plants and animals that might represent a threat to indigenous crops, plants and wildlife. The final agency with operational responsibilities at the border is the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life, who undertakes human screening to prevent the entry of disease. As a tropical island in a region with endemic malaria, health threats are a real concern for Mauritius. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade is included because it has an operational role in identity verification of Mauritian nationals as part of its consular responsibilities and because diplomatic missions support the centralized passport and visa issuance managed by the PIO. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is also responsible for multi-lateral engagement including with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and therefore is a critical stakeholder regarding the SADC Protocol on the Facilitation of Movement of Persons.

With respect to the most prevalent pattern of identity fraud in the long stay group is the reentry of previously removed persons using genuinely issued passports in a fraudulent identity. In addition, media reports and anecdotal evidence have indicated that some foreigners with long-term permits are involved in criminal or other activity of concern, either in Mauritius or elsewhere. However, the visa waiver arrangements for tourist arrivals seem to be working well for Mauritius.

A systemic weakness in the current long-stay entry arrangements in Mauritius is that interventions to prevent “travel” are constrained by the limited diplomatic network available to Mauritius and the consequent need to centralize visa and residence permit processing in PIO in Mauritius. The introduction of the so-called “API/PNR” (advance passenger information/passenger name records) could constitute a step towards future arrangements that could allow border control interventions to prevent travel to Mauritius being managed from

Mauritius. Improved document verification, including e-passport PKI (public key infrastructure) verification, where relevant, could also be applied in targeted interventions to the “long stay” group.

B.5 Migration and health

In most small island States, the issue of health is considered as an important aspect of border control and management. In fact, the health card is a vivid example. The final agency with operational responsibilities at the border is the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life (MoHQL) who undertake human screening to prevent the entry of disease. As a tropical island in a region with endemic malaria, health threats are a real concern for Mauritius. However in a recent border management assessment carried out by the IOM, it was recommended that the PIO disembarkation card and MoHQL health declaration card should be combined into a single form. The current duplication is considered an unnecessary inconvenience to travellers and a significant fuel cost to airlines, given all the more that such form is self-reported. Although this is will impact on the current operational processing of passengers at the border, such recommendation should be considered.

Another important Issue has been raised by several NGOs in Mauritius advocating for the non-discrimination against persons living with HIV is the restriction made on foreigners living with HIV to be able to reside and stay in Mauritius. Such policy has led to few cases of loss of employment and repatriation of foreigners. However, the Government of Mauritius recently committed to removing the current stay and residence restrictions for people living with HIV. During a meeting with UNAIDS Executive Director Michel Sidibé in Port Louis on 18 April 2014, the Prime Minister of Mauritius pledged to set up a special committee to review and make recommendations towards lifting the remaining travel restrictions in the country. Mauritius is one of the 44 countries in the world that enforce HIV-related restrictions to the entry, stay and residence for people living with HIV.

In addition to that, the issue of health was also investigated in the context of intra-island movements within the Republic of Mauritius. IOM carried out a study to collect information on the health and socioeconomic conditions of Rodriguans living on the mainland of Mauritius and to document behaviours, perceptions and attitudes regarding sexuality and drug use. The main findings were that the unplanned movements of Rodriguans to Mauritius have a negative health and socioeconomic consequence. Despite access to reproductive health services, 21 per cent of women in the low-income sub-group reported the death of a child (born alive) and 23 per cent of the same group of women reported

having had a miscarriage, abortion or still birth, mainly during the first three months of pregnancy. In addition, a large number of respondents in both socioeconomic sub groups, reported ever having been tested for HIV (48% of men and 49% of women in the low-income sub-group and 60 per cent of men and 80 per cent of women in the middle-income sub-group) and only 36 per cent of men and 28 per cent of women in this sub-group responded correctly to the five key questions on the prevention/transmission of HIV. Drug use was also very high as almost half (48.5%) of men in the low-income subgroup reported having used illegal and intravenous drugs in the past 12 months.

B.6 Migration and environmental change

Despite its relatively high elevation, the island of Mauritius is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The whole coastal zone is particularly at risk, because of a combination of environmental disruptions (sea-level rise, cyclones, coastal erosion and tsunamis, among others). Key economic activities could be affected and economic operators have only timidly started to adapt. The situation is relatively similar in Rodrigues where natural hazards often cause damages on the coast and have strong economic impacts. Migration is already a major issue in Rodrigues. A study carried out by the IOM and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development indicated that though this migration is currently mostly driven by economic reasons, environmental threats will exacerbate this situation. As in Mauritius, no adaptation to climate change strategy has yet been implemented in Rodrigues. Agalega represents an area of exacerbated vulnerability, due to the nature of the islands (atolls).

On a local scale, people already suffer from environmental changes through the degradation of their means of livelihoods. Yet, many of those affected by environmental changes do not have the resources or the land that would allow them to relocate their activities to. Some of those among the most vulnerable feel neglected and abandoned to their fate. It is fundamental to understand that even though environmental factors can play a major trigger role on migration behaviours, these factors will be mediated by their impacts on economic activities. It is important to acknowledge the environmental dimension of internal migration associated with the search of new livelihoods. In such a perspective, national authorities and international cooperation agencies have a significant role to play through legislation, territorial planning and funding for programmes and projects.

Environmental changes are neither expected to induce mass migration out of the country, nor to create cohorts of internal migrants. They could, however, result in significant physical or professional internal migration/relocation over

time associated to the impacts of environmental changes on some key economic sectors. Given that Mauritius is a small island and that it is possible for people to commute to their areas of work on a daily basis, voluntary physical migration is often a decision of the last resort. And even if people do move, they prefer to do so in the same geographical area. Physical migration is usually associated with generational mobility. Internal migration is thus likely to increase as a result of these changes over time. Inter-island migration, in particular, is likely to increase considerably, especially from Rodrigues and Agalega to Mauritius. The pressure on internal lands will increase, and cities in Mauritius will need to adapt and provide new resources (housing, jobs, etc.) in order to respond to these demographic changes.

With regard to solutions, the study suggests to focus the initial efforts on vulnerable groups of population at a local scale, assuming that these groups would be the first in line when facing environmental disruption. These potential migrants need to be supported in priority. With regard to possible future migration, the following options were put forward:

- (a) Support adaptation in situ for populations who are unwilling to move;
- (b) Improve the resettlement, relocation and integration policies for the populations who are willing to move, or when adaptation in situ is not possible;
- (c) Focus primarily on adaptation to climate change, rather than on the mitigation side – even though some obvious linkages exist between both;
- (d) Be innovative in the identification of relevant pilot projects for local communities, so that they can start adapting to environmental degradations and climate change.

However, adaptation to climate change remains difficult to translate into pragmatic actions. This is the reason why this study proposes a general framework in order to guide the reflection on relevant pilot-projects and make sure that they are consistent with the fight against current environmental degradations, in the short and medium terms, as well as with the adaptation to the climate change challenge (in the long term). Further studies, namely household surveys, would allow for further application and refinement of this framework.

PART C: RECOMMENDATIONS

C.I Improving migration statistics

Statistical data are key tools to better understand migration processes and the development of relevant evidence-based migration policies. This is even more relevant and crucial with the increase in the foreign population size and, in parallel, an important wave of Mauricians emigrating. As in many other countries, Mauritius, in spite of possessing a well-developed statistical system, lacks reliable and detailed statistics in the field of international migration. A more in-depth use and analysis of the available data sources and a better use of the administrative databases may undoubtedly help to reduce this data gap.

To ensure effective policy support, the demand for and supply of statistical data should be reconciled. Therefore, close cooperation is essential between data owners, Statistics Mauritius with various ministries, and data users for the identification of indicators that describe in the best manner the ongoing processes in the field of migration. Within an action plan aiming to update the migration profile, each of these indicators should be assigned to a responsible body with fixed timelines for regular updates. Comparing the levels of the relevant indicators and assessing their trends represent a concrete support to the policy development, keeping in mind that reliability and timeliness are crucial aspects for the production of these indicators.

As regards the statistical data sources currently available, the first set of recommendations is related to census. The recent 2011 census included several questions that allowed the production of interesting statistical tables depicting various angles of the international migration phenomenon in Mauritius. Even if a reasonable amount of detailed data is already available and some analysis is already devoted to the special topic of migration (Statistics Mauritius 2014, Migration report), more detailed investigations would be needed based on data collected through the following questions: (a) the place of residence at the last census (b) the nationality and (c) the place of birth, with the distinction between native-born and foreign-born, which were not asked in the 2011 census. These questions may enlighten the characteristics of internal migrants, international immigrants and persons with foreign background.

The identification of the usual resident population and the problem of under-coverage of the census enumeration should be addressed attentively in

Mauritius. Since 1952 post-census reports have been systematically produced following each census. The population figures obtained from the census enumeration are compared with school enrolment lists and vital statistics. In the case of the 2011 census, Statistics Mauritius used also the results of the housing census that followed a different enumeration method and was carried out four months before the population census. Note that the data were also compared with data from Ministry of Social Security and Reform Institutions (Beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension) and registered electors from the Electoral Commissioner's Office. Following these investigations, census figures were adjusted by adding 15,587 children aged 0 to 14 during the 2011 census and 8.025 children mostly aged 0 to 9 at the previous (2000) census. An independent post-census survey is needed in order to assess the level of the overall under-enumeration rate. It could also be helpful to compare individual census data with similar data extracted from administrative databases (e.g. the NPD, the residence permit database and the border control database). The vital registration and school enrolment lists are not necessarily suitable for determining the exact number of children in a country, despite being considered to be of good quality (due to compulsory education and registration of every newborn).

As far as the forthcoming 2021 census is concerned, we recommend developing a methodology for adopting a register-based population enumeration based on the new National Population Database (NPD). The latter is currently in a development phase developed in parallel with the introduction of new ID cards that was introduced on 1 October 2013. In addition, an in-depth survey should collect on a random basis the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the population that are traditionally collected by censuses. In such combination, the National Population Database would serve as a base for the enumeration for a so-called register-based census.

A special attention should be devoted to the accuracy of the National Population Database (NPD) in order to accurately reflect the resident population of the country. The completeness and reliability of that database should be carefully checked following the international recommendations on the usual place of residence. The administration in charge of the NPD should consider with extreme caution the situation of temporary foreign workers, tourists, businesspersons and other visitors exceeding the 90 days of authorized stay in Mauritius without a residence permit, seamen and Mauritians living abroad. The best way to check and improve the quality of such database is by producing, on a regular basis, statistical tables according to precise definitions and with the cooperation of Statistics Mauritius.

As far as other administrative databases are concerned, the residence permit database is worth considering for the production of migration statistics, as they allow the identification of foreign immigrants as foreigners being granted a first residence permit with a validity period of at least six months, and foreign emigrants as those who did not renew their residence permit within six months after expiry. Based on this information, it is possible to produce data on the age and sex structure of this group of persons, their country of citizenship and the total duration of validity of their successive permits (first and renewed). The accuracy of that administrative data should be carefully checked to avoid double-counts, and records of foreigners who died during their stay in Mauritius must be deleted. In addition, the linkage between successive permits issued for the same person will help to characterize the duration of stay of these foreigners in Mauritius and their return afterwards. Moreover, by linking records extracted from the residence permit database and records concerning the same persons in the border-crossing database, it will be possible to check if the person who received a first residence permit effectively entered the country and whether those who reached the end of validity of their permit effectively left the territory. The work permit database is another potential data source for international migration of foreigners, which reinforces the importance of PIO strongly collaborating with Statistics Mauritius. Nevertheless, the figures extracted from the work permit database were largely higher than those from the residence permit database. To assess the situation, the individual information from the work permit database should be linked with information extracted from the databases on residence permit and border crossing in order to explain why the number of work permits largely exceeds the number of residence permits. Such a discrepancy can also be fixed when the process of issuance of work and residence permits is combined.

Currently, Statistics Mauritius estimates the net international migration as the difference between the number of arrivals and departures of travellers at national borders. The data collected at entry and exit of the country are more appropriate for producing tourism statistics. The net international migration figure obtained by difference between arrivals and departures does not give a reliable picture of ongoing migration processes. Accordingly, a concrete improvement of that data collection is strongly recommended for producing reliable migration data in Mauritius. Therefore, close cooperation between Statistics Mauritius and PIO is recommended in order to integrate the border control system and the statistical data collection for both tourism and migration issues. This important change should also take advantage of the existing new technologies for passport reading and interactive database. In this perspective, the experience of other countries could be helpful. Special attention should be devoted to specific groups of persons entering or leaving the country, such as

diplomats and other VIPs, as well as seamen and other persons who could enter or leave the country by sea.

Statistics Mauritius is encouraged to produce more reliable information on the foreign labour force. Statistical data on the labour market participation of foreigners (with both long- and short-term contracts) would be needed considering the increasing share of foreigners in the labour force. The Continuous Multi-purpose Household Survey does not consider specifically the foreign workers, while the Surveys of Employment and Earnings disregard the large number of foreigners who are working in small companies. Statistics Mauritius also compiles and cross-checks data only on work permits and not on occupation permits issued to professionals, which does not provide an accurate overview of the contribution of the foreign labour force. In addition and as explained above, the data on work permits are compatible neither with the number of foreigners in the country according to censuses, nor with the number of foreign workers published by Statistics Mauritius based on the above-mentioned survey. While this additional data source may give very valuable information of foreign workers in country, the data has to be confronted with other data sources, such as administration data. The survey should equally assess whether migration of foreign professionals to Mauritius have effectively favoured knowledge transfer.

There is a little information available on international emigration of Mauritians and their return to Mauritius. Nevertheless, the investigation carried out in the framework of the migration profile identified important emigration flows of Mauritians. In order to collect information on Mauritians that are expatriated we recommend adding an emigration module in the CMPHS. By addressing questions to a household member on how many members of the household have left and the reasons why they decided to leave Mauritius or why they are currently abroad, it may be possible to estimate both emigrant stock and emigration flow. However, such information is likely to result in an underestimation of the number of emigrants, as there is nobody to report if all household members have emigrated. Fortunately, both countries of departure and countries of destination collect data on international migration flows, making it easier to collect such data for Mauritius. Data-sharing between sending and receiving countries and the use of international databases are two ways of obtaining more information on emigration flows and the number of Mauritians living abroad. The cooperation with neighbouring countries of the Indian Ocean should be stimulated in the framework of the Indian Ocean Commission. The same initiative should be taken with the main receiving countries for emigrating Mauritians. Data on Mauritians living abroad could also be collected through Mauritius consulates abroad, and developing consular registers would help this data collection.

Statistics Mauritius produces annually population projections (SM, 2012). The results show that the population of Mauritius will continue growing to reach a maximum of 1,265,375 inhabitants in 2023 before subsequently decreasing. To perform these projections, the following assumptions on net annual migration were considered by Statistics Mauritius:

- (a) Island of Mauritius: -500 males and -1,200 females for period 2013–18 and -300 males and -800 females for period 2048–2053;
- (b) Island of Rodrigues: -90 males and -60 females for the whole projection period.

We recommend that while updating these population projections and when revising the migration assumptions, Statistics Mauritius considers separately Mauritians and non-Mauritians that could improve the knowledge and support the future migration policy.

C.2 Mainstreaming migration into national development planning

The importance of developing a migration policy for Mauritius is clear from the analysis of the data collected in the course of this study. The challenges facing the country are:

- (a) An ageing population;
- (b) A declining fertility rate;
- (c) Increasing emigration of women;
- (d) Increase in the number of unemployed graduates;
- (e) Number of foreigners between the 2000 and 2011 censuses has doubled;
- (f) Leveraging the diaspora.

Despite its potential advantages, migration is rarely acknowledged in development planning tools and this is mainly due to the lack of data and indicators on migration, lack of capacity, expertise and financial resources to understand and address these linkages and migration is a fragmented portfolio, often falling under the responsibility of various governments, the issue may not feature prominently in donor priorities, migration is a cross-cutting issue and can become difficult to formulate a coherent and common position. In a country where migration is already being used a development tool, a coordinated and coherent

approach is essential. Mainstreaming migration will require six key elements to success: (a) a strong political support at a high level; (b) national ownership; (c) early involvement of key stakeholders; (d) a shared understanding of objectives; (e) broad based participation based on clear roles and responsibilities; and (f) the importance of timing. As Mauritius aims to join the ranks of high-income countries it will need to attract highly skilled manpower. It will need to elaborate an evidence-based migration policy. It is therefore imperative to improve the collection and analysis of migration statistics. The following recommendations aim towards a better use of both traditional statistical tools and administrative databases on border control, residence and work permits and naturalization and, more broadly, any database that includes information on migrant populations.

The data presented in this migration profile demonstrates that the level of international migration flows is largely underestimated in Mauritius and that could bring along unexpected effects if specific measures are not taken in order to better manage these migration flows. Consequently, there is a need for an integrated migration policy in Mauritius. It is therefore crucial that all efforts are joined together to assess the issue of international migration in Mauritius and develop a migration policy and coordinated processes aiming to benefit the well-being of Mauritian society at large (i.e. population, private sector and Government) and sustainable socioeconomic development of the country whilst facilitating smooth entry, stay and residence of foreigners and reducing any fraud or abuse of the system. Such an integrated approach involves the collaboration of main stakeholders involved in migration management in Mauritius, as well as the definition of integration policies as it is important today that the growing foreign population residing in the country understands and adheres to the local culture, customs and practices. Implementation of such policies should also involve the participation of civil society.

As regards the development of human resource policies, an immediate baseline assessment is required to better understand the surplus and shortages in the country in view of better optimizing labour migration to meet its labour market needs. Such assessment must be based on well-measured trends and levels of both incoming and outgoing flows of people. Even if according to our observation, some interest on migration processes exist among Mauritian authorities, the available information remains fragmented and thus does not allow an evidence-based assessment for elaborating effective policy. The prevailing opinion from discussions among the members of the technical working group is that most foreigners are considered as an isolated group, temporally residing in Mauritius and which has thus limited impact on the society. On the long term, and considering the fast growing number of foreigners in the country, a proper

impact analysis and evidence-based migration should be regularly conducted by the Government and other partners. Such assessment should be carried out closely with training needs. In addition, most destination countries apply a labour market or resident worker test to applicants for a work permit, which only the Ministry of Labour applies today and does not apply to the Occupation permit system for foreigners coming to work and earn a salary of USD 1,000 (for those in the ICT sector) or USD 1,500. These tests assess whether there are workers available for the work in question on the domestic labour market. This is important today, as Mauritius' unemployment rate is still high, especially for women, and the country is creating more and more graduates each year. An assessment of the labour market needs requires also today that some sectors, such as the vocational and technical fields, be revisited and bestowed more importance, especially in the trades. Such inclusive and integrated approach requires the collaboration of the main stakeholders involved in facilitating and issuing permits to foreigners and assessing the labour market needs with a clear assessment of breakdowns of work and occupation permits per industry and skills.¹⁰ In addition, exercise, such as the comprehensive Report of the Work Permit Committee on the Review of Scarcity Areas (November 2005) should be carried out on a more systematic basis. The report indicates correctly that “the scarcity areas drawn since 2001 need to be redefined and updated as the work sector is dynamic and the need for qualified and competent personnel changes in line with the economic development of the country, as well as with continued intense competition on the international market.”

Circular migration has constituted an innovative approach to provide opportunities to Mauritians overseas and has been acknowledged as an even more efficient tool in the context of small island developing States. In fact, it is estimated that an average of CAD 300 is being remitted back to Mauritius by most of the Mauritians (total of 420 persons) and out of the low skilled and/or unemployed persons who have benefitted from the programme, they have all today acquired stable jobs and paid off their debts. However, the one main challenge which persists with circular migration today is that countries of origin better define their needs to be more in line with national labour market priorities, as well as develop more incentives to encourage the return and reintegration of their citizens. Circular migration in some countries should focus mainly on capacity-building and short-term placement/skills development and on certain important sectors of the economy in Mauritius, such as tourism, fishing, food processing, information technology and new sectors like green and blue economy.

¹⁰ Currently the categorization of skills and branches (see Table 44) are not standardized, which makes it challenging to adequately compare the skills imported within the work and occupation permit system.

In parallel, a significant outflow of young working-age Mauritians during the last intercensal period was noted. A better understanding of the reasons of emigration and future plans for return is crucial. The number of students abroad has increased fivefold during the last decade and a clear national policy to attract them back is timely. The same applies for the other members of the Mauritian Diaspora. It seems timely today that Mauritius recognizes the added value of Mauritians overseas and how they can contribute to the development of their home country. Therefore it seems strategic today that Mauritius embarks on an “open systems architecture” approach to engage its diaspora as operational and strategic partners in a more organized manner. This includes confidence-building and outreach measures and should look at knowledge and financial resources distinctly.

Mainstreaming the migration policies becomes even more essential as Mauritius positions itself to be a regional hub for finance and education in particular. The recent national budget refers to such vision through programmes being implemented by the Board of Investment through its Africa Centre of Excellence. In addition, already within the context of the Accelerated Programme for Economic Integration (APEI) among five like-minded countries (namely, Malawi, Mozambique, Mauritius, Seychelles and Zambia), work is being done to develop a memorandum of understanding among the five countries to facilitate the movement of different categories of service providers: business visitors, intra-corporate transferees, contractual services suppliers, independent professionals, graduate trainees and non-APEI foreign nationals working in a company/firm located in one of the five APEI member countries. The objective is to increase the volume of trade and investment in the region so as to stimulate economic growth, leading to a reduction in poverty.

Mauritius should also reinforce the cooperation with the other members of the IOC in the field of international migration as recommended during the regional meeting of the IOC held in Port Louis, Mauritius on 25 and 26 November 2013. A closer cooperation is recommended concerning the conditions for admission and stay of nationals of IOC Member States in another IOC country aiming to promote the mobility of workers within the region. As also recommended by the IOC, the countries should consolidate their capacity to produce national migration data with a better harmonization at the regional level. As far as the diaspora is concerned, a common action is recommended to mobilise the nationals from IOC countries living abroad in view of the development of an “Indian Oceanic” region.

It is finally recommended that the Government of Mauritius develop a simple, overarching strategic policy framework to be adopted as common language across relevant agencies to guide future border security strategy in Mauritius, to ensure an identity focus and define the immigration role. This should be accompanied by a review of the administrative, policy and legal frameworks relevant to border control. Required areas of focus include, inter alia, the introduction of contemporary concepts and definitions regarding identity, as well offence provisions that reflect global patterns and incidence of identity related fraud. Border control in Mauritius should be strengthened in order to ensure that Mauricians respect the short-term entry and stay in certain countries today, which have granted today visa waivers. Such policy should be carried out in parallel with awareness raising campaigns on the risks associated with irregular migration.

C.3 Establishing the institutional framework allowing continuity in the migration profile exercise and policy development

The present migration profile is only a first step towards the monitoring of international migration in Mauritius. To ensure a sustainable continuation of this process, a National Task Force for Migration (NTFM) should be created or the present technical working group should be prolonged based on its present composition, including high officials of all ministries and administrations dealing with migration related matters in Mauritius. The first task of the NTFM should be the preparation of a precise action plan that includes a precise timetable for periodical updating of all indicators and statistical tables included in the migration profile, and the detailed planning of future revisions of the migration profile. All indicators included in the migration profile should be updated annually, but a more rapid updating (preferably monthly) would be needed for some basic indicators, for example, those based on issue of residence permits and border-crossing.

The NTFM should nominate an executive secretariat comprised of a limited number of persons. Their tasks would be to analyse the updated figures, to identify ongoing trends and significant changes in the field of migration, and prepare the materials for discussion in the NTFM. The executive secretariat will be in charge of the revision of the migration profile that ideally should take place every two years. The revised migration profile should be presented, discussed and approved by the members of the NTFM.

The migration policy of the Republic of Mauritius should be assessed in parallel with the revision of the migration profile. The NFTM should be eligible to do proposals for the revision of some measures or for the introduction of new measures in the policies that are related to the international migration. These proposals would be a part of the revised version of the migration profile and validated with the relevant statistical data in order to ensure the development of an evidence-based policy.

ANNEXES

Annex I: Concepts and internationally recommended definitions in the area of international migration statistics

In producing statistics in the area of international migration, an important basic difference to know is that between the concepts of flow data and stock data. Flow data are those related to events that happen on a continuous basis and are counted during a given period of time (usually one calendar year), while stock data present the situation of a given population at a single point in time. Flow data include the characteristics of events (e.g. immigrations and emigrations), and of the persons involved in these events (i.e. immigrants and emigrants), while stock data present the size and characteristics of persons who make up the population at that precise moment. In the case of international migration flows, the events in question are international migrations and the persons involved in these events are labelled as international migrants. For stock data, the population groups that are relevant to international migration include all persons who are directly or indirectly linked to such migration.

Since any international migration changes the population stock figure, it is considered to be a demographic event. International migration flow data consist of the number of international migrations counted for a given country during a given period; considering the origin and destination of the migrants involved, the following two concepts are used for migration flows:

- (a) International immigration flow is the number of international immigrations in a given country over the course of a specified period, usually a calendar year.
- (b) International emigration flow is the number of international emigrations from a given country over the course of a specified period, usually a calendar year.

Following UN recommendations (UN, 1998), the period of at least a year used in the definition of international migrant is consistent with the “at least 12 months” threshold used in the definition of “country of usual residence.” In practice, either intended or actual duration of stay is considered, depending on the data source used. When administrative registers are used, data based on intended duration of stay as reported by migrants at the time of registration

may be compared ex-post with the actual duration of stay. The latter may be considered as being more reliable, even if only available one year later.

To summarize the criteria for defining a person as an immigrant in a given country, the following conditions must be met:

- (a) Entered the country by crossing the State border;
- (b) Has been a usual resident of another country before entering;
- (c) Transferred his or her usual residence to the receiving country for at least one year.

Similarly, an emigrant of a country must satisfy the following conditions:

- (a) Left the country by crossing the State border;
- (b) Has been a usual resident of this country;
- (c) Transferred his or her usual residence to another country for at least one year.

More recently, the new concept of circular migration appeared to identify a category of migration movements for the purpose of work or study at all skill levels from one country to another, followed by voluntary return after a certain period. There may be one period abroad or successive periods of time abroad and in the country of origin. It may also involve such mobility of members of diaspora, moving to the country of origin or ancestry for limited periods of time. Circular migration occurs spontaneously, but may be most beneficial for the migrants and for development, when facilitated (or at least not hindered) by governments and implemented through partnerships among private, government and other agencies, and linked to labour market planning in both host and origin country.¹¹ Unfortunately, neither the UN nor ILO proposes any concrete definition that may be used when producing statistics on circular migrants and only border crossing data can help identify circular migrants.

As far as the definition of “population stock relevant to international migration” is concerned, the key indicators for identifying a person having some personal involvement in international migration are country of birth, current citizenship and mode of acquisition of citizenship (by birth or by naturalization), and international migration experience.

¹¹ GFMD Background paper prepared for the GFMD Athens Meeting 2009 and accessible at http://www.gfmdathens2009.org/fileadmin/material/docs/workp/working_paper_2_2.pdf.

Country of birth

If a persons' country of birth is different from their country of usual residence, this is the most direct indicator of international migration. Information on country of birth is usually derived from place of birth. Logically, the two complementary population groups based on country of birth can be defined as follows:

- (a) Foreign-born – persons who were born in another country;
- (b) Native-born – persons born in the country.

Citizenship

Of all the characteristics pertaining to a migrant, citizenship is probably the most important, as well as being the one most often used. In general, the most basic categorization of international migration flows introduces distinctions – between immigration and emigration, on the one hand, and between citizens of a given country and non-citizens, on the other. Again, logically, the two complementary populations groups based on citizenship can be defined as follows:

- (a) Foreigners – persons who do not hold the citizenship of a given country;
- (b) Nationals – citizens of a given country.

Both foreigners and nationals can be either foreign born or native born.

The citizenship at birth may be different from the current citizenship at the time of data collection. Additional information is therefore needed on changes of citizenship, in order to distinguish between those who are nationals by birth and those who are nationals by naturalization, whether by declaration, option, marriage or other means. Moreover, special attention should be devoted to those who hold more than one citizenship.

Other key indicators

Several other key indicators relevant to international migration have been suggested by the United Nations in its recommendations. Determining the year of arrival in the country, the total duration of residence in the country or in the country of usual residence one or five year(s) prior (in the country concerned or

abroad) can help to distinguish between recently arrived immigrants and those who have been living in the country for a longer period of time. The reason for migration could also bring an additional disaggregation of population groups relevant to international migration. However, if the reason for moving is self-reported, such information may be subjective. Only if the reason for migrating is for the purpose of obtaining a residence permit can it be considered as relatively objective and valid. More detailed population groups can be identified by considering certain characteristics of parents, such as their country of birth or citizenship. Even if these additional indicators helped to identify other population groups relevant to international migration, such as second- and third-generation migrants composing the diaspora, such information is generally not available. To collect data on the diaspora, such questions should be asked in the receiving country, since it is difficult to obtain information about the diaspora in the country of origin.

Country of usual residence

A variety of possible interpretations of the term country of residence can result in a lack of clarity in the statistics relating to the usual resident population and international migrations. The country of residence can be interpreted from either a legal (*de jure*) or an actual (*de facto*) point of view. As for the legal perspective, the laws and regulations of a given country specify requirements that have to be fulfilled in order to become a resident, and the conditions differ for citizens and non-citizens. In fact, citizens have an unconditional right of residence in their country of citizenship, whereas the rights of foreigners are subject to concrete conditions. Having a legal place of residence in a country does not necessarily mean a physical presence of a person in the territory. Citizens may still be counted as part of the resident population of their country of citizenship, even if they have lived abroad for a number of years.

The concept of country of usual residence is based on that of place of usual residence, with the latter being defined as the place where the person spends most of his or her daily rest periods. This definition excludes all places where the person stays for short-term holidays, visits, pilgrimages or business trips. The place of usual residence is central to an individual's life and is often referred to as home – the place from which they begin and end most daily excursions. Accordingly, special attention should be paid to the identification of the country of usual residence, since it may not necessarily be simply deduced by identifying the place of usual residence. However, this consideration is purely theoretical and considering the country of usual residence as the place of usual residence is the most workable method.

Interpreting the meaning of most of his/her daily periods of rest in order to enumerate a given person as usual resident can be done only on the basis of actual stay. The time criterion for assessing the actual stay of a person in the country is “at least 12 months,” and the country will be considered as the country of usual residence for a given person if the following conditions are met:

- (a) The person lived in the country one year prior;
- (b) During the last year, he or she spent most daily periods of rest in the country (for a cumulative duration of more than six months);
- (c) The minimum six months’ daily periods of rest within the country do not include holidays, visits, pilgrimages or business trips.

Using these criteria, the country of usual residence would be defined on the basis of actual stay only. Accordingly, a person who has been in a given country for more than six months but less than one year would not be considered a usual resident of that country, even if he or she stayed there continuously since immigrating. However, a person who entered the country during the last year could be counted as a usual resident if he or she intends to stay. Persons who entered the country during the last year and intend to spend most of their daily periods of rest within the country for one year starting from the date of arrival would also be considered a usual resident of that country.

The time criterion can be applied to both former and future situations concerning migrations. Former situations may be based on self-reported retrospective information in censuses and surveys, or on registered information in administrative databases, and both may suffer from biases resulting from memory problems or false declarations, or due to the fact that only official, legal administrative data are entered into administrative databases. In concrete cases, the reference period for assessing a former situation can be 6 or 3 months, and not 12 months, as recommended. In the case of censuses or surveys, retrospective questions may relate to the place of residence five years prior to the census, at the last census, at the time of a significant historical event or, also, at the time of birth (i.e. in the country of birth). In all these variants, existing models may help in estimating the number of migrations and migrants, based on the recommended 12-month criterion.

Annex 2: Statistical tables

Table 34: Male and female, by age group, and sex ratio, 2000 and 2011 censuses

Age group	2000				2011			
	Total	Male	Female	Sex ratio	Total	Male	Female	Sex ratio
TOTAL	1,178,848	583,756	595,092	98	1,236,817	610,848	625,969	98
0–4	94,303	47,640	46,663	102	73,078	36,702	36,376	101
5–9	105,189	53,037	52,152	102	89,015	44,947	44,068	102
10–14	97,740	49,428	48,312	102	93,639	47,302	46,337	102
15–19	102,088	51,671	50,417	102	101,008	50,715	50,293	101
20–24	110,892	55,108	55,784	99	92,671	46,871	45,800	102
25–29	93,797	46,749	47,048	99	90,937	45,589	45,348	101
30–34	99,515	49,964	49,551	101	103,429	52,182	51,247	102
35–39	101,946	51,621	50,325	103	87,797	44,241	43,556	102
40–44	90,406	45,798	44,608	103	89,386	45,150	44,236	102
45–49	77,931	39,133	38,798	101	99,341	49,800	49,541	101
50–54	56,939	27,790	29,149	95	86,337	42,996	43,341	99
55–59	40,491	19,228	21,263	90	73,054	35,713	37,341	96
60–64	33,097	15,301	17,796	86	57,342	27,143	30,199	90
65–69	25,768	11,758	14,010	84	35,439	15,846	19,593	81
70–74	21,694	9,491	12,203	78	25,375	10,986	14,389	76
75–79	14,910	6,047	8,863	68	18,044	7,49	10,695	69
80–84	7,132	2,584	4,548	57	11,369	4,176	7,193	58
85–89	3,498	1,049	2,449	43	6,368	2,135	4,233	50
90–94	1,104	272	832	33	1,982	512	1,470	35
95–99	289	42	247	17	491	107	384	28
100 and over	0	0	0		96	13	83	16
Unknown	119	45	74	61	619	373	246	152

Source: Statistics Mauritius.

NOTE: In the 2000 census, the 95–99 age group included persons aged 100 and over, among these 81 persons aged 98 and over (8 men and 73 women).

Table 35: Foreigners by citizenship and sex, and sex ratio, 2000 and 2011 censuses

	2000				2011			
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio %	Both sexes	Male	Female	Sex ratio %
TOTAL	15,543	5,705	9,838	58	26,028	14,181	11,847	120
By continent								
Africa	1,122	622	500	124	3,194	1,622	1,572	103
North America	90	41	49	84	89	44	45	98
Asia	12,220	4,012	8,208	49	19,687	10,850	8,837	123
Europe	2,034	998	1,036	96	2,473	1,405	1,068	132
Oceania	62	29	33	88	19	7	12	58
Not stated	15	3	12	25	501	218	283	77
By country of citizenship								
Australia	50	23	27	85	60	34	26	131
Bangladesh	246	34	212	16	7,583	2,729	4,854	56
Belgium	86	30	56	54	108	84	24	350
Canada	34	15	19	79	34	18	16	113
China	8,024	849	7,175	12	2,688	1,048	1,640	64
Hong Kong SAR	25	16	9	178	10	4	6	67
France	993	504	489	103	1371	816	555	147
Germany	124	61	63	97	125	63	62	102
India	3,278	2,685	593	453	7,878	6,561	1,317	498
Ireland	12	8	4	200	47	25	22	114
Italy	106	57	49	116	134	78	56	139
Japan	15	3	12	25	4	1	3	33
Madagascar	563	409	154	266	2,075	1,117	958	117
Malaysia	49	21	28	75	24	10	14	71
Pakistan	73	33	40	83	171	72	99	73
Seychelles	58	18	40	45	114	40	74	54
Singapore	14	8	6	133	12	6	6	100
South Africa	307	120	187	64	568	254	314	81
Spain	9	8	1	800	26	16	10	160
Sri Lanka	416	271	145	187	1,027	258	769	34
Switzerland	93	26	67	39	97	70	27	259
United Kingdom	458	196	262	75	415	205	210	98
United States of America	41	20	21	95	46	22	24	92
Others of which	1,417	709	708	100	1,461	671	790	85
Comoros	4	3	1	300	19	9	10	90
Reunion (excl. France)	75	58	17	341	140	54	86	63

Source: Statistics Mauritius.

Table 36: Non-Mauritians by sex and sex ratio by age group

Age group	2000				2011				2013			
	Total	Male	Female	Sex ratio, %	Total	Male	Female	Sex ratio, %	Total	Male	Female	Sex ratio, %
TOTAL	15,543	5,705	9,838	58	26,028	14,181	11,847	120	27,812	17,463	10,349	169
0-4	228	117	111	104	431	229	202	113	598	317	281	113
5-9	316	141	175	80	441	228	213	107	580	278	302	92
10-14	284	146	138	107	379	196	183	107	412	187	225	83
15-19	223	81	142	58	272	120	152	79	430	188	242	78
20-24	3,382	726	2,656	27	3,434	1,860	1,574	118	3,164	2,028	1,136	179
25-29	4,390	1,500	2,890	52	8,052	3,956	4,096	97	7,051	4,179	2,872	146
30-34	3,421	1,216	2,205	55	5,342	2,951	2,391	123	5,572	3,550	2,022	176
35-39	1,388	683	705	97	3,228	1,865	1,363	137	3,371	2,253	1,118	202
40-44	673	370	303	122	1,954	1,141	813	140	2,488	1,629	859	190
45-49	388	221	167	132	894	601	293	205	1,499	1,064	435	245
50-54	299	188	111	168	495	293	202	145	878	602	276	218
55-59	184	99	85	116	345	218	127	172	671	439	232	189
60-64	124	75	49	153	290	204	86	237	541	359	182	197
65-69	82	53	29	183	189	134	55	244	331	239	92	260
70-74	55	36	19	189	92	69	23	300	127	86	41	210
75 and over	92	46	46	100	131	73	58	126	99	65	34	191
Unknown	14	7	7		59	43	16					

Source: Statistics Mauritius.

NOTE: Data is based on 2000 and 2011 censuses, and 2012 valid residence permits.

Table 37: Mauritian nationals and foreigners in the workforce, 1990–2012

Year	Mauritian workers (in thousands)*	Foreign workers (in thousands)**	Total (in thousands)	% foreign workers
1990	432.0	1.0	433.0	0.2
1991	439.2	2.2	441.4	0.5
1992	448.8	4.1	452.9	0.9
1993	457.0	6.9	463.9	1.5
1994	467.5	8.3	475.8	1.7
1995	475.0	9.8	484.8	2.0
1996	482.3	8.2	490.5	1.7
1997	490.8	8.6	499.4	1.7
1998	499.4	10.0	509.4	2.0
1999	506.6	12.9	519.5	2.5
2000	514.0	14.6	528.6	2.8
2001	522.0	16.5	538.5	3.1
2002	523.9	17.0	540.9	3.1
2003	520.9	18.2	539.1	3.4
2004	531.3	17.5	548.8	3.2
2005	542.5	16.6	559.1	3.0
2006	548.4	16.7	565.1	3.0
2007	548.9	21.6	570.5	3.8
2008	559.4	24.0	583.4	4.1
2009	566.3	21.0	587.3	3.6
2010	581.3	22.0	603.3	3.6
2011	582.8	23.0	605.8	3.8
2012	593.1	24.0	617.1	3.9

Source: Statistics Mauritius, Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey.

NOTES:

* 1990–2002 population 12 years and above, 2003–2012 16 years and over

** Data on the number of foreign workers is collected from establishments and employers through the quarterly Survey of Employment and Earnings.

Table 38: Mauritian residents aged 5 years and over living abroad in 2006, disaggregated by country of residence in 2006

Country of residence	Mauritians			Foreigners		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
TOTAL	5,290	2,753	2,537	19,509	10,671	8,838
Australia	190	109	81			
Bangladesh				6,467	2,005	4,462
Belgium	45	6	39	47	38	9
Botswana	40	17	23			
Canada	87	45	42			
China	36	23	13	2,318	858	1,460
France	691	329	362	559	328	231
Germany	31	10	21			
India	198	74	124	6,518	5,765	753
Ireland	179	100	79			
Italy	345	163	182	46	29	17
Kenya	18	7	11	43	27	16
Madagascar	146	63	83	1,427	698	729
Malaysia	21	12	9			
Morocco	14	3	11	36	7	29
Mozambique	14	7	7			
Nepal				25	4	21
Pakistan	45	24	21	77	33	44
Philippines				40	30	10
Réunion	118	54	64	133	71	62
Romania	21	15	6			
Russian Federation	65	41	24			
Saudi Arabia	23	15	8			
Seychelles	84	47	37	50	16	34
Singapore	15	11	4			
South Africa	204	119	85	333	152	181
Sri Lanka				526	148	378
Switzerland	75	29	46	51	35	16
Ukraine	40	27	13			
United Arab Emirates	54	30	24	33	20	13
United Kingdom	1,631	935	696	194	96	98
United Republic of Tanzania	17	10	7			
United States of America	60	34	26			

Country of residence	Mauritians			Foreigners		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Zimbabwe	14	7	7	35	20	15
Other countries of which:	769	387	382	415	271	239
Mayotte	0	0	0	4	2	2
Comoros	3	3		18	10	8

Source: Author's calculations based on Statistics Mauritius census data.

Table 39: Foreigners enumerated in Mauritius in the 2011 census, disaggregated by place of residence in 2006

	FEMALE					MALE				
	Total	0-14	15-39	40-64	65+	Total	0-14	15-39	40-64	65+
Total number of foreigners in country in 2011	11,620	396	9,567	1,521	136	13,903	427	10,743	2,457	276
Foreigners living abroad in 2006 of which in:	8,838	214	7,781	799	44	10,671	251	8,709	1,624	87
Australia	21	7	5	9	0	20	5	6	7	2
Bangladesh	4,462	0	4,442	20	0	2,005	0	1,930	73	2
Belgium	9	1	4	4	0	38	2	11	22	3
Sri Lanka	378	1	330	47	0	148	4	129	15	0
China	1,460	2	1,125	333	0	858	8	530	320	0
France	231	33	116	66	16	328	46	97	152	33
India	753	48	610	87	8	5,765	51	5,091	615	8
Italy	17	2	10	4	1	29	10	9	9	1
Kenya	16	2	10	4	0	27	2	20	5	0
Madagascar	729	15	651	60	3	698	14	573	110	1
Pakistan	44	3	40	1	0	33	7	20	5	1
Philippines	10	1	6	3	0	30	3	16	11	0
Réunion	62	8	35	17	2	71	12	20	33	6
Seychelles	34	1	27	4	2	16	6	5	5	0
South Africa	181	30	99	51	1	152	19	78	48	7
Switzerland	16	0	10	5	1	35	1	5	24	5
United Arab Emirates	13	1	7	5	0	20	6	6	8	0
United Kingdom	98	25	40	29	4	96	21	31	37	7
Zimbabwe	15	5	4	5	1	20	3	9	7	1
Others	289	29	210	45	5	282	31	123	118	10

Source: Author's calculations using SM census data.

Table 40: Number of permits issued between 2 October 2006 and 30 June 2013, by nationality

Country of nationality	Number of permits
France	4,395
India	2,780
South Africa	1,500
United Kingdom	857
China	480
Italy	479
Belgium	263
Philippines	260
Madagascar	253
Germany	192
United States of America	150
Australia	141
Switzerland	137
Zimbabwe	104
Pakistan	85
Kenya	81
Denmark	76
Canada	70
Russian Federation	60
Netherlands	52
Malaysia	52
Spain	52
Ireland	49
Sri Lanka	49
Sweden	49
Bulgaria	43
Indonesia	43
Austria	36
Romania	33
Portugal	32
Seychelles	30
Thailand	30
Others	620
TOTAL	13,533

Source: Board of Investment.

Table 41: Number of occupation permit holders per sector, 2013 and 2014**(a) 2013**

Sector	Investor	Professional	Self-employed	Retired non-citizen	TOTAL
Creative	2	10	2		14
Energy	3	9	1		13
Financial services	20	297			317
Freeport and logistics	14	25			39
Hospitality and airline industry	34	401	5		440
Information and communications technology	33	477	12		522
Knowledge	2	150	3		155
Manufacturing	36	153	2		191
Medical	5	77	5		87
Professional services	24	167	27		218
Property development	18	118			136
Seafood and agribusiness	5	16			21
Trading	53	109	2		164
Retired non-citizen				151	151
TOTAL	249	2,009	59	151	2,468

Source: Board of Investment.

(b) 2014

Sector	Investor	Professional	Self-employed	Retired non-citizen	TOTAL
Creative	1	3	1		5
Energy	1	7			8
Film industry		1			1
Financial services	4	55	5		64
Freeport and logistics	3	4			7
Hospitality and airline industry	7	137	1		145
Information and communications technology	19	155	11		185
Knowledge		25	2		27
Manufacturing	5	59	1		65
Medical	2	37	3		42
Professional services	12	66	10		88
Property development	3	21			24
Seafood and agribusiness	1	5			6
Trading	11	26			37
Retired non-citizen				68	68
TOTAL	69	601	34	68	772

Source: Board of Investment.

Table 42: Resident population aged 5 years and over, by selected characteristics, 2011

Selected characteristics	Total	Movement							
		Republic	Island of Mauritius			Island of Rodrigues			From abroad to Mauritius
			Total	Between districts	Different districts	Total	Within island of Rodrigues	From Rodrigues to Mauritius	
Total, 5 years and over	1,163,120	119,017	90,870	55,531	35,339	3,348	2,232	1,116	24,799
Sex									
Male	573,773	52,022	40.9	42.8	37.9	42.8	38.9	50.5	54.1
Female	589,347	66,995	59.1	57.2	62.1	57.2	61.1	49.5	45.9
Age									
5 to 9 years	89,015	9,071	8.9	9.1	8.6	11.5	13.0	8.3	2.4
10 to 15 years	112,885	8,842	8.9	9.4	8.0	8.5	9.4	6.8	2.0
16 to 24 years	174,433	22,757	20.0	19.5	20.9	28.7	25.0	36.2	14.5
25 to 29 years	90,937	21,547	14.3	12.7	16.8	17.7	18.4	16.2	32.1
30 to 44 years	280,612	35,671	27.7	27.7	27.7	24.1	25.0	22.3	39.0
45 to 64 years	316,074	16,883	16.0	17.3	14.1	6.9	6.2	8.2	8.4
65 to 74 years	60,814	2,421	2.3	2.4	2.1	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.2
75 years and over	38,350	1,825	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.1	1.4	0.5	0.5
Marital status									
Single	453,682	41,088	31.1	33.1	28.1	35.2	30.2	45.2	46.9
Married/In a union	578,232	66,284	58.2	56.3	61.2	52.2	54.8	47.0	47.0
Widowed/	79,910	4,034	4.1	4.3	3.9	2.4	2.3	2.4	0.8
Divorced/ Separated	40,978	6,042	5.9	5.8	6.0	6.8	8.4	3.8	1.8
Unmarried parent	3,847	492	0.4	0.4	0.4	2.3	2.8	1.4	0.1
Others (incl. not stated)	6,471	1,077	0.2	0.1	0.4	1.1	1.5	0.2	3.5
Employment status									
Employed	522,198	66,274	49.2	49.5	48.8	46.1	43.2	52.0	80.6
Not employed	42,162	5,207	4.8	4.6	5.2	7.5	8.4	5.7	2.4
Not currently active	391,949	47,536	46.0	45.9	46.0	46.4	48.4	42.3	17.0

Source: Statistics Mauritius.

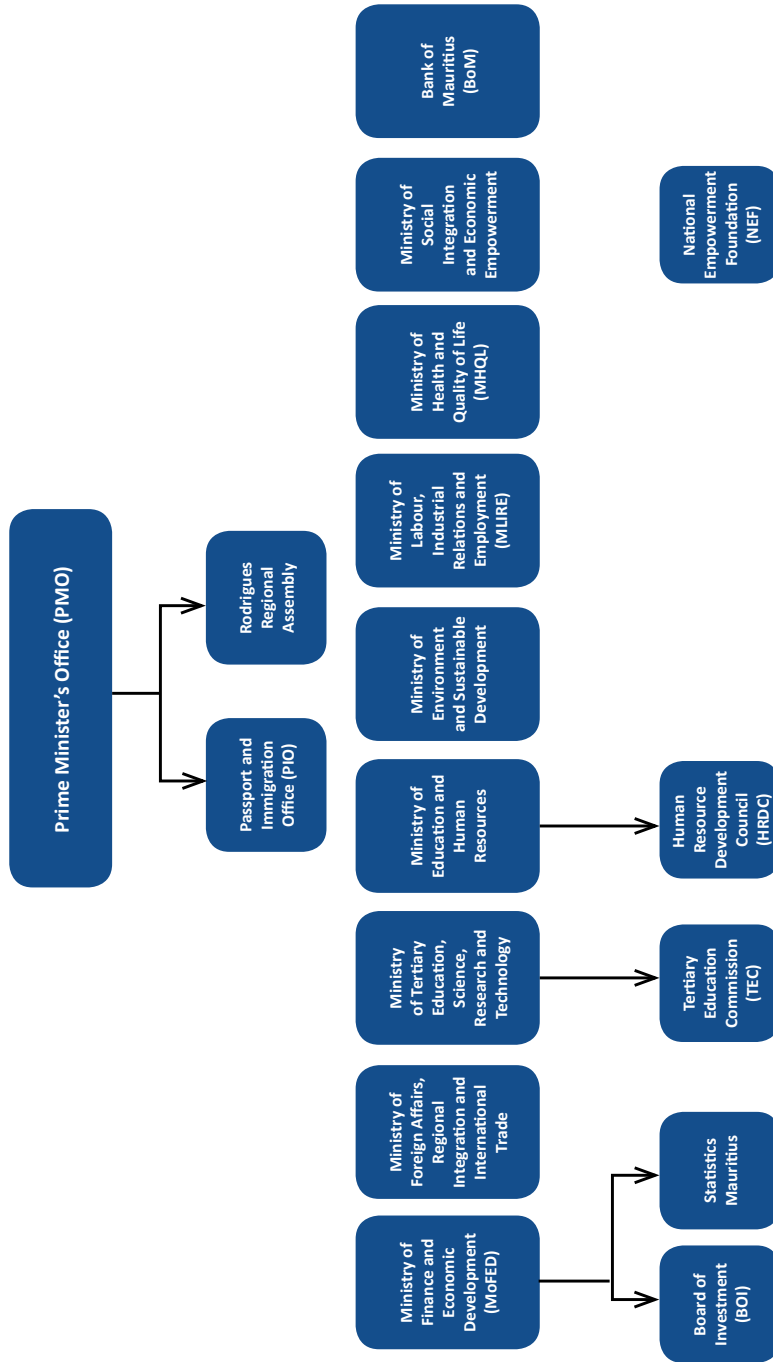
Table 43: Active international students as of 5 May 2014

Institution	Number of students
Amity Institute of Higher Education	112
Maragadham Education Ltd, operating as Anna Medical College and Research Centre	243
Apollo Bramwell Nursing School Co. Ltd.	1
BIZ/IT Education Co. Ltd.	2
BSP School of Accountancy and Management Ltd	1
Charles Telfair Company Ltd., operating as Charles Telfair Institute	46
Diocese of Port Louis	5
DYP Worldwide Ltd.	1
Ebène School of Accountancy and Finance	4
MITD–École Hotel Gaëtan Duval	11
Ecole Médecine Louis Pasteur	2
EIILM University (Mauritius Branch Campus)	4
Elite School of Business and Finance Ltd.	37
Fashion and Design Institute	5
FTMS Global Education	7
Glamis Business School Ltd.	1
Grant Thornton (Business School) Ltd.	1
Indian Ocean Medical Institute Trust	4
L'Institut de la Francophonie pour L'Entrepreneuriat (IFE)	11
Institute of Marketing and Management Ltd.	1
Jhurry Rya (JR School) Co. Ltd.	161
JSS Academy Ltd.	9
Law and Management Business School (LMBS)	102
London College of Accountancy Ltd.	4
Mahatma Gandhi Institute	1
R. F. Gandhi A. K. T. Ltd., operating as Mauras College of Dentistry and Hospital and Oral Institute	17
Middlesex International JSS (Mauritius) Ltd.	286
Mauritius Institute of Education	1
Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry	21
Oceana International Business School (ISITECH Business SCHOOL Ltd.)	12
PADMASHREE DR.D.Y Patil Medical College	89
R.F. Gandhi A.K.T Ltd.	31
Rushmore Business School	6
Sagittarius (Centre for Information Technology and Business Studies (Mauritius)) Ltd.	13
World Islamic Mission	17
Spherinity Ltd.	42
SSR Medical College	148

Institution	Number of students
The Executive Business and Computational Institute	99
Université des Mascareignes	6
University of Mauritius	69
University of Mauritius Trust	19
University of Technology, Mauritius	24
Ramnath Jeetah Trust, operating as the University of Wolverhampton (Mauritius branch campus)	1
Trianon Hotel and Tourism Management Centre Ltd. (Vatel in Mauritius)	114
Whitefield Business School	69
YK Business School	41
TOTAL	1,901

Source: Passport and Immigration Office.

Annex 3: Institutional framework in Mauritius pertaining to migration



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