

MAURITIUS

Region: Eastern Africa

Income group: Upper-middle income

Summary: Mauritius has reported 4 metadata sources, which collect information on international labour migration statistics. The sources are as follows: the **2011 Housing and Population Census** carried out by the Statistics Mauritius; two administrative records, such as the record of **PIO Border Control System** held by the Passport and Immigration Office, and **Work Permit Records** carried out by the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training; and one estimation of **Economic and Social Indicators on Labour Force, Employment and Unemployment** held by the Statistics Mauritius.

Geographically all of the sources cover whole country, however different population groups such as:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country* (covered by the **2011 Housing and Population Census**),
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country* (covered by the **2011 Housing and Population Census**),
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country* (covered by the **2011 Housing and Population Census**),
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country* (covered by the **2011 Housing and Population Census**, the **Work Permit Records**, and the estimation of **Economic and Social Indicators on Labour Force, Employment and Unemployment**),
- *Entry nationals (citizens) returning from residence abroad* (covered by the **PIO Border Control System**),
- *Exit nationals (citizens) going abroad to live* (covered by the **PIO Border Control System**),
- *Exit nationals (citizens) leaving for temporary purposes* (covered by the **PIO Border Control System**),
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) entering the country to live* (covered by the **PIO Border Control System**),
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) entering country for temporary purpose* (covered by the **PIO Border Control System**).

Periodicity of data collection varies depending on the type of sources. The **Housing and Population Census** in Mauritius was last processed in 2011; the record of **PIO Border Control System** is carried out every month starting from 2009. The **Work Permit Records** collects the data on continuously basis starting from 2004. The estimation of **Economic and Social Indicators on Labour Force, Employment and Unemployment** is held quarterly since 1990.

Age coverage also varies depending on the type of sources. In the **2011 Housing and Population Census** and in the estimation of **Economic and Social Indicators on Labour Force, Employment and Unemployment** persons aged 16 years and over are covered. The record of **PIO Border Control System** collects data on persons of all ages and the **Work Permit Records** is limited to persons from 20 to 60 years old.

Five essential demographic characteristics are collected through the **2011 Housing and Population Census** in Mauritius. Detailed international migration characteristics such as country of birth, nationality, country of origin, country of citizenship (also covered in the **2011 Housing and Population Census** and the record of **PIO Border Control System**), reason for departure/coming to country, foreign workers in the country (also covered in the estimation of **Economic and Social Indicators on Labour Force, Employment and Unemployment**), year of arrival, and time period allowed to stay are provided in the **Work Permit Records**. Labour related characteristics are generated in the **2011 Housing and Population Census** and the **Work Permit Records**.

Definitions of “*international migrant workers*”, “*employment*”, “*short-term migrant worker*”, “*individual earnings*”. Definitions of “*employment*” in the **2011 Housing and Population Census** and in the record of **PIO Border Control System** are based on national adaptations.

The classifications of occupation and industry in the **2011 Housing and Population Census**, the record of **PIO Border Control System**, and the **Work Permit Records** are national adaptations of internationally adapted classifications, such as National Adaptation of Standard Classification of Occupations-08 and National Standard Industrial Classification. To classify status in education, the **2011 Housing and Population Census** applies

National Standard Classification of Education and the estimation of *Economic and Social Indicators on Labour Force, Employment and Unemployment* uses International Standard Classification of Education 1997.

Micro data files from the *2011 Housing and Population Census* are the only available for the research and analysis outside the agencies. The costs are different depending on the status of the person. Researchers can obtain these files for higher price than students.

Metadata sources:

Type of source	Name of the source	Agency Responsible	Periodicity of data collection	Year the source started	Year of the last source
Q1. Population Census	2011 Housing and Population Census	Statistics Mauritius	-	-	2011
Q3. Border/Admission Statistics	PIO Border Control System	Passport and Immigration Office	Monthly	2009	-
Q6. Administrative Sources	Official Records – Work Permit Records	Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training	Continuously	2004	-
Q7. Estimation of International Migrant Workers in the Country	Economic and Social Indicators on Labour Force, Employment and Unemployment	Statistics Mauritius	Every quarter	1990	-

Findings:

The latest *Housing and Population Census* in the Mauritius was carried out in 2011 by the Statistics Mauritius covering the country's entire population. There are four population groups examined in the *Housing and Population Census*:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, even if arrived recently, and*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country.*

The *Housing and Population Census* obtains detailed data on demographic characteristics of these population groups. The source collects only country of citizenship on the topic of international migration related characteristics. Information and characteristics of household members that have left the country to live abroad, such as sex, main reason for leaving, age at present, and marital status at present, are collected in the source. The *Housing and Population Census* covers labour related characteristics of current household members aged 16 years and older, such as:

- Employment status,
- Occupation,
- Industry/economic sector,
- Status in employment,
- Hours usually worked, and
- Disability.

In order to measure “*international migrant workers*”, the Statistics Mauritius uses the term “*foreign worker*” which is defined as non-Mauritian workers. “*Employment*” refers to persons aged 16 years and above who have worked for pay, profit or family gain for at least one hour during the reference week of a month. To classify occupation, industry, and education in Mauritius, nationally adapted classifications are applied. For example:

- NASCO - 08 (where two digit are used to release the data);
- NSIC rev. 2 (where two digit are used to release the data); and
- NSCED- 97.

Micro-data files are available at different costs; for researchers it is MRU 5,500 and for students it is MRU 1,500.

The *Border/Admission Statistics* are recorded in the *PIO Border Control System* starting from 2009, and held on monthly basis by the Passport and Immigration Office. It amasses information on the following five population groups of all ages:

- *Entry nationals (citizens) returning from residence abroad,*
- *Exit nationals (citizens) going abroad to live,*
- *Exit nationals (citizens) leaving for temporary purposes,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) entering country to live, and*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) entering country for temporary purposes.*

The *PIO Border Control System* retrieves the data on demographic characteristics, of each person in a household, such as sex and age. For the population groups assessed in the survey, the data on international migration related characteristics is available, particularly for:

- Country of citizenship,
- Intended duration of stay,
- Year of arrival, and
- Time period allowed to stay.

“*International migrant workers*” are defined as expatriates who hold valid work permits and residence permits. “*Overseas visitor*” is in compliance with Passport Act and related Regulations.

Micro data is unavailable for research and analysis outside the Passport and Immigration Office.

The register of work permits issued to foreign workers in Mauritius is *Work Permits Record*, which is carried out by the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training on continuously basis, starting from 2004. The source geographically appraises the whole country and collects data on the *foreigner (non-citizens) living and working in the country* aged from 20 to 60 years old.

In the register, data can be found on demographic characteristics such as age, sex, and marital status. This data is not relevant for the publication in the Employment Service Monthly bulletin. Migration related characteristics accessible through the source are:

- Country of birth,
- Country of citizenship,
- Year of arrival,
- Time period allowed to stay,
- Reason for coming to country,
- Reason for departure,

- Nationality,
- Foreign workers in the country, and
- Country of origin.

“International migrant workers” refers to foreign workers who come to work in Mauritius, in any sector, but with a duly approved work permit document for a defined period. **“Short-term migrant workers”** refers to foreign workers who come to work to Mauritius on a short-term contract or seasonal basis. **“Employment”** is defined as employed foreign worker who during a reference period performed some work for an employer under a work permit contract for wage or salary. **“Individual earnings”** are defined as individual’s total personal income before taking taxes or deductions into account. To classify occupation and industry, nationally adapted classifications are applied. For example:

- NASCO - 08 (where two digit are used to release the data); and
- NSIC rev. 2 (where two digit are used to release the data).

Micro data files are unavailable for research and analysis outside the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training.

The ***Economic and Social Indicators on Labour Force, Employment and Unemployment*** is an estimation of international migrant workers in Mauritius. It is carried by the Statistics Mauritius every quarter since 1990 covering the whole country and collecting data on the *foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country* aged 16 years and older.

It accumulates data on demographic characteristics of people such sex. There is no formal definition of **“international migrant workers”**. But, it is considered as non-Mauritian citizen workers in Mauritius. The following classifications of occupations, industry, status in employment, and education are used in the estimation:

- National adaptation of ISCO – NASCO – 08;
- National adaptation of ISIC – NSIC2;
- ICSE – 1993; and
- ISCED – 1997.

Q1. Population Census

SOURCE

Title of source: 2011 Housing and Population Census

Year of last census: 2011

Agency responsible: Statistics Mauritius

COVERAGE

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population groups covered: Nationals (*citizens*) in the country, nationals (*citizens*) employed in the country, foreigners (*non-citizens*) living in the country, foreign workers (*non-citizens*) living in the country.

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Nationals (*citizens*) in the country, nationals (*citizens*) employed in the country.

TOPICS COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, marital status, household size, sex, educational attainment.

International migration related characteristics: Country of citizenship

- **Coverage for international migration related characteristics:** All persons
- **Exceptions for international migration related characteristics:** Questions on country of birth, second country of citizenship, country of previous residence for foreigners, country of previous residence for citizens who lived abroad but returned are not applicable.

Information about household members left to live abroad: Yes. Questions P10A, P10B (Place of residence) and P10C (Reason for living abroad) as per 2011 Population Census questionnaire. (Refer 2011 Population Census questionnaire).

- **Information refers to the last time the person left:** N.A.
- **Limited to certain age and work status:** N.A.
- **Limited to those who left the household abroad within the last X years and have not returned:** N.A.
- **Characteristics of persons who left to live abroad:** Sex, main reason for leaving, age at present, marital status at present.

Labour related characteristics of all current household members: Employment status, occupation, industry/economic sector, status in employment, hours usually worked, disability.

- **Age coverage:** 16 years and above.

Remittances related characteristics: N.A.

Information on immigrants and return migrants: No

- **Information on the situation of the person prior to leaving the household last time is obtained:** N.A.

Data collected and not published/disseminated:

- B2 – Foreign workers living in the country – due to confidentiality purposes and incomplete information collected on foreign workers.
- C 2.2 – Household members who left to live, work or study abroad – due to incomplete information collected on members living abroad.

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: It means non-Mauritian workers.

Definition of national (citizen) living abroad: N.A.

Definition of employment: It refers to persons aged 16 years and above who have worked for pay, profit or family gain for at least one hour during the reference week of a month. It includes those who are temporarily absent from work for reasons such as leave with pay, leave without pay and temporary disorganisation of work (bad weather, breakdown of equipment, lack of order, etc.).

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: National Standard Classification of Occupation (NASCO-08)

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** 2

Classification used for industry: National Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities (NSIC Rev. 2)

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** 2

Classification used for status in employment: N.A.

Classification used for status in education: National Standard Classification of Education (NSCED-97)

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Face-to-face interview by census enumerator using paper questionnaire (PAPI)

Compulsory participation of households: Yes

Official estimate of under-coverage rate: 1.3% of total population

Dissemination of results: Printed publications – 2011 Housing and Population Census – Table Reports & Analytical Reports; Electronic format; Web site – <http://statsmauritius.govmu.org/English/CensusandSurveys/Pages/census/Census-2011.aspx>; Workshops.

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data is available outside NSO/responsible agency: Yes

- **Limitations:** 1% sample: -Removal of direct identifiers such as Name, Address, National Identity Card No. – “Broad branding” of identifying variables for residential address, religion, NSIC, NASCO and ISCED.
- **Cost of obtaining micro-data:** Researchers – MRU 5,500; Students – MRU 1,500.

Q3. Border/Admission Statistics

SOURCE

Title of source: PIO Border Control System

Agency responsible: Passport & Immigration Office

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data collection: Every month

Year the statistics first started: 2009

Population coverage: Entry nationals (*citizens*) returning from residence abroad, exit nationals (*citizens*) going abroad to live, exit nationals (*citizens*) leaving for temporary purposes, foreigners (*non-citizens*) entering country to live, foreigners (*non-citizens*) entering country for temporary purposes.

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Foreigners (*non-citizens*) entering country to live, foreigners (*non-citizens*) entering country for temporary purposes.

Age coverage: All ages

CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex.

Migration related characteristics: Country of citizenship, intended duration of stay, year of arrival, time period allowed to stay.

Labour related characteristics: N.A.

Data collected and not published/disseminated: N.A.

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of overseas visitor: It is in compliance with Passport Act & Regulations there.

Definition of country of residence: N.A.

Definition of international migrant workers: It refers to an expatriate holder of a valid Work Permit and Residence Permit.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: N.A.

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** N.A.

Classification used for industry: N.A.

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** N.A.

Classification used for status in employment: N.A.

Classification used for status in education: N.A.

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Generation of reports and dissemination of electronic files to requestor against acknowledgement or official letter.

Dissemination of results: Printed publications – Statistics Mauritius Publications; Electronic format.

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: No

Micro-data is available outside NSO/responsible agency: No

Q6. Administrative Sources

SOURCE

Title of source: Work Permit Records

Agency responsible: Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment & Training

Kind of source: Register of work permits issued to foreign workers

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data release: Continuously

Year the source first started: 2004

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population coverage: Foreigner (*non-citizens*) living and working in the country

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Foreigner (*non-citizens*) living and working in the country

Age coverage: 20-60 years old

DATA COLLECTED ON PERSONS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SOURCE

Demographic characteristics: Age, marital status, sex.

Migration related characteristics: Country of birth, country of citizenship, year of arrival, time period allowed to stay, reason for coming to the country, reason for departure, nationality, foreign workers in the country, country of origin.

Labour related characteristics: Occupation, industry/economic sector.

Data collected and not published/disseminated: C1 – Not relevant for the publication in the Employment Service Monthly bulletin.

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: it is defined as a worker who comes to work in Mauritius, in any sector, but with a duly approved work permit document for a defined period.

Definition of short-term migrant worker: It is defined as a foreign worker who comes to work in Mauritius on a short contract or on a seasonal basis (for a short period), example in the case of jockeys.

Definition of a national (citizen) living abroad: N.A.

Definition of employment: It is defined as employed foreign worker who during a reference period performed some work for an employer under a work permit contract for wage or salary.

Definition of individual earnings: It is defined as individual's total personal income before taking taxes or deductions into account.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: National Classification of Occupations (ISCO – 08)

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** 6

Classification used for industry: National Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activity (NSIC Rev 2)

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** 5

Classification used for status in employment: N.A.

Classification used for status in education: N.A.

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Compulsory registration for the population groups covered: Yes

Official estimate of coverage rate:

- 45% of total employed population;
- 7% of total foreign migrant workers living in the country.

Dissemination of results: Printed publications – Employment Service Monthly Bulletin; Web site – www.mauritiusjobs.com

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: No

Micro-data is available outside NSO/responsible agency: No

Q7. Estimation of International Migrant Workers in the Country

SOURCE

Title of source: Economic and Social Indicators on Labour Force, Employment and Unemployment

Reference year: 2015

Agency responsible: Statistics Mauritius

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data release: Every quarter

Year the source first started: 1990

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population coverage: Foreign workers (*non-citizens*) in the country

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Foreign workers (*non-citizens*) in the country

Age coverage: Foreign workers aged 16 years and over.

TOPICS COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Sex

International migration related characteristics: Foreign workers in the country

Labour related characteristics: N.A.

Remittances related characteristics: N.A.

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of migrant worker: There is no formal definition. It is considered as non-Mauritian citizen workers in Mauritius.

Definition of short-term migrant worker: N.A.

Definition of a national (citizen) living abroad: N.A.

Definition of employment: N.A.

Definition of household income: N.A.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: NASCO-08 an adapted version of ISCO-08 - applies to statistics other than migration statistics.

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** 5

Classification used for industry: NSIC2 based on ISIC rev 4 - applies to statistics other than migration statistics.

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** 5

Classification used for status in employment: ICSE-1993

Classification used for status in education: ISCED-1997

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Dissemination of results:

- Printed publications – Quarterly Economic and Social Indicators on Labour Force, Employment and Unemployment; The Digest of Labour Statistics;
- Web site – <http://statsmauritius.govmu.org/English/StatbySubj/Documents/ei%201205/Labour%20Force%20-%20CMPHS%202nd%20Qt%2015a.pdf>

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: No