# Glossary

## Population

**Census**

The total process of collecting, compiling and publishing data on the demographic, social and economic situation of all persons in a specified territory at a particular time. Decennial censuses are usually the norm.

**De facto population**

A population enumerated or estimated on the basis of those present at a particular time, including temporary visitors but excluding residents temporarily absent.

**De jure population**

A population enumerated or estimated on the basis of normal residence, excluding temporary visitors but including residents temporarily absent.

**Density of population**

A ratio of the number of people to the area of land that they occupy usually given as number of persons per square kilometer of area.

**Natural increase**

The excess of births over deaths.

**Rate of natural increase**

The difference between births and deaths occurring in a year per 1000 mid-year population. This rate is the difference between the ‘crude birth rate’ and the ‘crude death rate’.

**Population growth**

The change in population size due to the three demographic processes, namely, births, deaths, and migration.

**Doubling time**

The number of years it would take for the population to double its current size at the current annual rate of growth.

**Net external migration**

The difference between international departure and arrivals of residents.

## Age structure

**Sex ratio**

The number of males per 100 females in a population.

**Total Dependency ratio**

The combined child population (below 15 years) and older population (aged 60 years and above) per 1,000 population of the intermediate age (15-59 years).

**Young-age dependency ratio (per 1000)**

The ratio of the population below age 15 years to that aged 15-59 years.

**Old-age dependency ratio (per 1000)**

The ratio of the population age 60 years and above to that aged 15-59 years.

**Median age**

The age that divides a population into numerically two equal groups; one which is younger and the other which is older.

**Population pyramid**

A graphic that portrays the age-sex distribution of the population.
**Fertility**

- **Crude birth rate**: The number of live births occurring in a year per thousand estimated mid-year population.

- **Fertility**: The childbearing performance of individuals, couples, groups or populations. It is contrasted with FECUNDITY, the theoretical capacity which may or may not lead to fertility.

- **General fertility rate**: The number of live births occurring in a year per thousand estimated mid-year female population in their childbearing age (15-49 years).

- **Age-specific fertility rate**: The number of live births occurring to women of a particular age or age group per year, normally expressed per 1000 women. Five-year age groups from 15-19 to 45-49 are most commonly used.

- **Total fertility rate**: The average number of children born to a woman assuming that she survives to the end of her childbearing age and is subjected to a fixed schedule of age-specific fertility rates.

- **Gross reproduction rate**: The average number of daughters born to a woman assuming that she survives to the end of her childbearing age and is subjected to a fixed schedule of age-specific fertility rates. This is similar to the total fertility rate except that the gross reproduction rate counts only daughters.

- **Net Reproduction Rate**: The average number of daughters that would be born to a woman during her lifetime if she passed through all her childbearing years conforming to a fixed schedule of age-specific fertility rates and age-specific mortality rates. The net reproduction rate is closely related to gross reproduction rate employing the same data on fertility but also indicating the effects of mortality.

- **Replacement level fertility**: A net reproduction rate of 1.0 denotes replacement level fertility; the women are having just enough daughters to "replace" themselves in the population.

- **Mean age of Childbearing**: The average age of mothers at the time of birth.

- **Live birth order**: The ordinal number of a given live birth in relation to all previous live births of the same woman.

**Nuptiality**

- **Marriage rate**: The annual number of men and women marrying per thousand mid-year population.

- **Divorce rate**: The annual number of men and women divorcing per thousand mid-year population.
### Mortality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crude death rate</td>
<td>The number of deaths in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infant deaths</td>
<td>The number of deaths occurring to children less than one year of age (0 - 364 days).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infant mortality rate</td>
<td>The number of infant deaths in a year per 1,000 live births in the same year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Still birth</td>
<td>The expulsion or extraction from the mother of a dead foetus after the time at which it would normally be presumed capable of independent extra uterine existence. This is taken to be after 28 weeks duration of pregnancy.</td>
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<td>Still birth rate</td>
<td>The number of still births in a year per 1,000 total births (live births and still births).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early neonatal mortality rate</td>
<td>The number of deaths of infants under one week (0-6 days) of age in a year per 1,000 live births in the same year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late neonatal mortality rate</td>
<td>The number of deaths of infants aged between one week and four weeks (7-27 days) in a year per 1,000 live births in the same year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neonatal mortality rate</td>
<td>The number of deaths of infants aged under four weeks (0-27 days) in a year per 1,000 live births in the same year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post neonatal mortality rate</td>
<td>The number of deaths of infants aged between four weeks and one year (28-364 days) in a year per 1,000 live births in the same year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Perinatal mortality rate</td>
<td>The sum of the number of deaths of children aged under 7 days and the number of still births in a year per 1,000 total births (live births and still births) in the same year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maternal mortality</td>
<td>Mortality from causes connected with pregnancy, labour or the purperium (lying-in period).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maternal mortality rate</td>
<td>Number of deaths connected with pregnancy, labour or the purperium divided by the number of live births and expressed per 1000 or 100,000.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life expectancy at birth</td>
<td>The average number of years a newborn can expect to live based on the mortality conditions at the time.</td>
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### Family Planning Clients & Activities

**New acceptor**  
A client is classified as a new acceptor when the client is a first-time contraceptive user.

**Current User**  
A new acceptor who continues with the same or different method of contraception and pays regular return visits to the family planning service point to receive services and supplies.

**Drop out**  
A current user who did not return to receive services and supplies at the family planning service point.

**Drop out returnee**  
A client who again starts receiving the services and supplies available at the family planning service point after temporarily failing to pay return visits at the service point.

**Canvassing**  
The purpose of canvassing is to seek clients who will benefit from the information and services at a family planning service point.

**Follow-Up**  
Visit paid by a community health worker to a current user who failed to keep the appointment made at the family planning service point. The time interval between the appointment and follow-up depends on the method that the client is currently using.

**Session**  
Field visit made by community health worker for canvassing and follow-ups.

### Organisations and Acronyms

**ACTION FAMILIALE (A.F.)**  
Action Familiale, a non-governmental organisation, was established in 1963 at the initiative of Msgr J. Margeot, then Vicar General of the Mauritian Catholic Diocese. Besides, promoting only sympto-thermal, which is a natural family planning method, Action Familiale provides a wide range of services which includes counselling services to couples.

**MAURITIUS FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION (MFPA)**  
The MFPA, a non-governmental organisation, was set up in 1957 by some volunteers who believed that the rampant population growth rate would hinder economic development in Mauritius. The MFPA promotes modern methods of contraception and is involved in many family planning related activities.

**MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH/FAMILY PLANNING (MCH/FP)**  
The Ministry of Health and Quality of Life administers the Maternal and Child Health/Family Planning Programme which promotes reproductive health. The Family Planning Programme was integrated with the Maternal and Child Health Services in 1972.