



National Productivity and Competitiveness Council



Productivity and Competitiveness Review

2019-2020

FOREWORD



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Executive Director

We currently find ourselves in the midst of the most significant health care crisis in generations, with the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). COVID-19 has swept through the global economy in an unprecedented way. Mauritius has not been spared.

The global economy will contract by 4.9% in 2020 as per the latest World Economic Outlook by the International Monetary Fund. According to the ILO, the impact on the global world of work will be far-reaching, pushing millions of people into unemployment. It is predicted that the contraction of the Mauritian economy will be around 11%, the lowest ever for our country, according to government estimates.

While the outlook looks bleak, it goes without any doubt that if we all *'Work Together'*, we can continue growing amidst a fragile global environment.

"At the same time, this crisis also presents an opportunity to accelerate the shift to a more productive, sustainable, and equitable growth through investment in new green and digital technologies and wider social safety nets" (IMF Chief Economist, Gita Gopinath).

Our past bears witness to how we have managed to sail through tougher waters.

Defying the predictions of Nobel Prize recipient James Meade, who famously predicted poor development prospects for Mauritius back in 1961, Mauritius has successfully emerged as the most competitive nation in Sub-Saharan Africa according to the Global Competitiveness Report 2019. We remain first in the Ease of Doing Business report (2020) in the Sub-Saharan region progressing from the 20th position to 13th place worldwide among 190 countries surveyed by the World Bank in 2019. The country continued to record positive economic growth, with a goal of reaching a High-Income Economy by 2030 over the last decade with real GDP growth averaging 3.8 percent.

Though it is unlikely that the socio-economic situation of Mauritius will remain same in the future, accelerating productivity should remain as one of our key priorities during this testing time.

I am confident that we will emerge out of this unprecedented global situation and hope that this report, which is annually published by the National Productivity and Competitiveness Council, serves as a useful reference point for decision makers and other relevant stakeholders to craft appropriate policies and measures to steer the country towards long-term growth to enable *'better living for one and all.'*



**REPORT
HIGHLIGHTS**

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

GLOBAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Global growth is projected to fall from 2.9 percent in 2019 to - 4.9 percent in 2020 according to the latest World Economic Outlook by the International Monetary Fund. Growth in advanced economies is projected to contract from 1.7 percent in 2019 to - 8.0 percent in 2020. For emerging markets and developing countries, growth is expected to decrease from 3.7 percent in 2019 to -3.0 percent in 2020. In sub-Saharan Africa, growth is expected to decline from 3.1 percent in 2019 and -3.2 percent in 2020.

OVERVIEW OF THE MAURITIAN ECONOMY

The Mauritian economy grew by 3 percent in 2019 and expected to decline to -11.0 percent in 2020 according to government estimates. Moody's Investors Service, ("Moody's") has changed the outlook on the Government of Mauritius's rating to negative from stable in April 2020. The negative outlook reflects risks to Mauritius's economic and fiscal metrics as a result of the coronavirus outbreak. The main contributors to economic growth in 2019 were financial services, wholesale and retail trade and construction. The tourism and export-oriented sector experienced sluggish growth in 2019 whilst real estate activities grew at 3.5 percent in 2019 compared to 3.3 percent in 2018.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

As at end of December 2019, the population of the Republic of Mauritius stood at 1,265,475. The population growth rate for the Republic of Mauritius during the period 2010 to 2018 was 0.1 percent, lower than the estimated world's population growth rate of 1.1 percent.

Essentially, no extreme poverty is present in Mauritius. Less than 1 percent of the population live on less than USD 1.25 per day (PPP). The proportion of households below the relative poverty line, set at half of median household income per adult equivalent, was estimated at 9.4 percent in 2017, same as for 2012. The Gini coefficient decreased from 0.414 to 0.400 during the period 2012-2017, indicating an improvement in the income distribution.

Current education indicators for Mauritius show that the country is doing relatively well. About 22 percent of the 14,985 school children who sat the Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC) failed to obtain it; the overall pass rate was 77.26 percent.

Health indicators show good progress. Under-five child mortality has fallen substantially from 23 per 1 000 live births in 1990 to 14.3 per 1 000 live births in 2017. Life expectancy stood at 74.4 years in 2018. Diseases of the circulatory system and diabetes were the leading causes of death for the period 2011- 2017.

Mauritius falls within the UNDP's high human development category as per the Human Development Report (2019). In 2018, it scored 0.796 on the Human Development Index (HDI) and was ranked 66 out of 189 countries.

Being a small island State, Mauritius is highly vulnerable to environmental degradation and climate change. Since 2007, about 7 percent of agricultural land and 9 percent of forest land have been lost to other uses, including housing, hotels and industrial parks.

PRODUCTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

At the global level, total factor productivity growth which takes account of investment in capital and labour force skills and provides a more accurate picture of the overall efficiency by which capital, labour, and skills are combined in the production process, turned negative again at -0.1 percent in 2018, down from a small increase of 0.2 percent in 2017.

According to Statistics Mauritius, unit labour cost, which measures the remuneration of labour per unit of output, and which provides a measure of cost competitiveness grew by 2.3 percent during the period 2009-2019. During the same period, labour productivity grew by 2.5 percent. Capital productivity which measures how well physical capital (machinery and buildings) is used in providing goods and services grew an average of 0.1 percent. Multifactor Productivity, which is defined as the rate of change in "productive efficiency", grew at an average of 1.0 percent per annum during the period 2009-2019.

In 2019, labour productivity grew at 1.8 percent compared to 3.7 percent in 2018. Capital productivity registered a decline of 0.3 percent compared to 0.4 percent in 2018. Multifactor productivity declined from 1.6 percent in 2018 to 0.4 percent in 2019.



REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

COMPETITIVENESS LANDSCAPE

In its Global Competitiveness Report 2019, the World Economic Forum (WEF) ranks Mauritius 52nd globally. Singapore is ranked as the most competitive economy in the world. Sub-Saharan Africa is overall the least competitive region, with 25 of the 34 economies assessed this year scoring below 50.

In improving its competitiveness, Mauritius has many strengths on which to build on. Among the 12 Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) pillars Mauritius has achieved its best score on the product market pillar (ranked 22nd globally), followed by financial system pillar (ranked 27th globally). However, to move rapidly towards high-income status, Mauritius would need to improve its capacity for innovation (ranked 70th globally for the innovation capability), supported by improved skills (ranked 79th globally for skills pillar) and health (ranked 82nd globally for health pillar). Furthermore, it would need to improve its infrastructure (ranked 64th globally for infrastructure pillar) and its labour market (ranked 76th globally for labour market pillar).

EASE OF DOING BUSINESS IN MAURITIUS

Mauritius moved seven places to 13th out of 190 countries according to the latest World Bank Ease of Doing Business Report 2020, issued on 24 October 2019. The country remains 1st in Africa. The sharp improvement on its position was attributed to methodical reforms conducted over the years.

GLOBAL HAPPINESS INDEX 2020

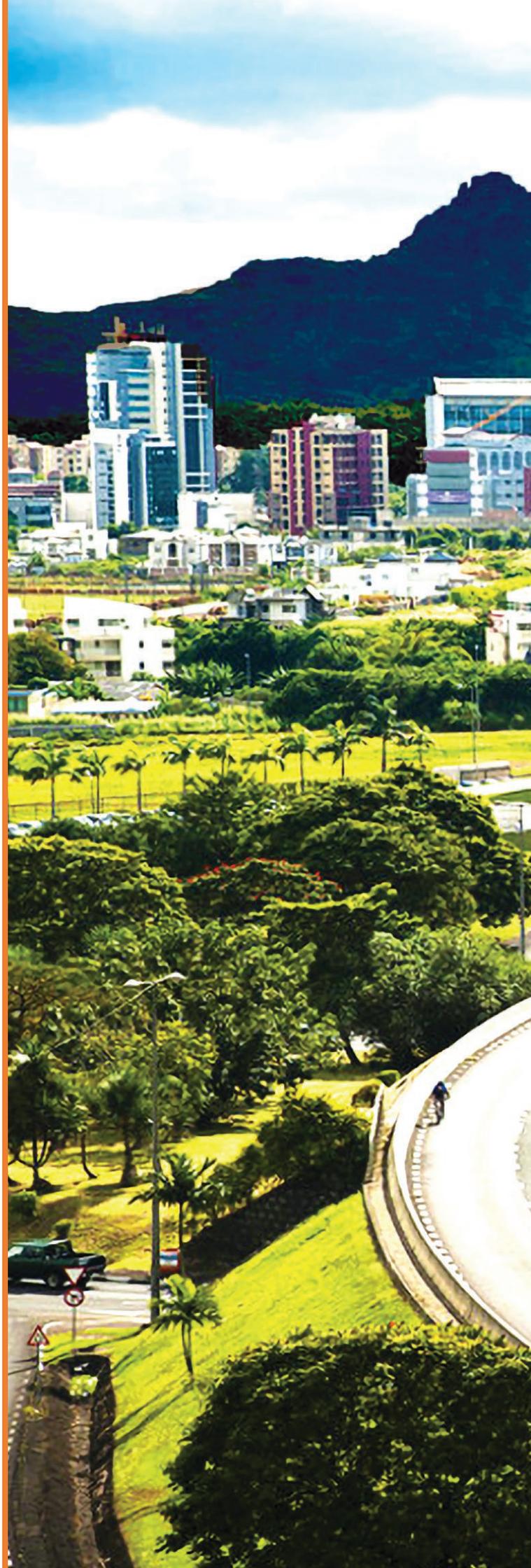
Mauritius is the 49th happiest country globally according to the Global Happiness Index 2020. Finland tops the global happiness ranking followed by Denmark, Switzerland and Iceland respectively.

GLOBAL TALENT COMPETITIVENESS INDEX 2020

Mauritius occupies the 49th position but maintains the lead over its African counterparts according to the Global Talent Competitiveness Index 2020. Switzerland, the United States and Singapore continue to lead the world in talent competitiveness, while countries in Asia, Latin America and Africa are seeing a progressive erosion of their talent base.

GOVERNANCE

In terms of global political governance indicators, Mauritius continues to be among the best performing countries in Africa. It retained its first position out of 54 African countries in the 2018 Mo Ibrahim Index on African Governance (IIAG), scoring 79.5 points (out of 100). The Seychelles (73.2 points) and Cabo Verde (71.1 points) were ranked second and third by the IIAG.



Mauritius moved seven places to 13th out of 190 countries according to the latest World Bank Ease of Doing Business Report 2020

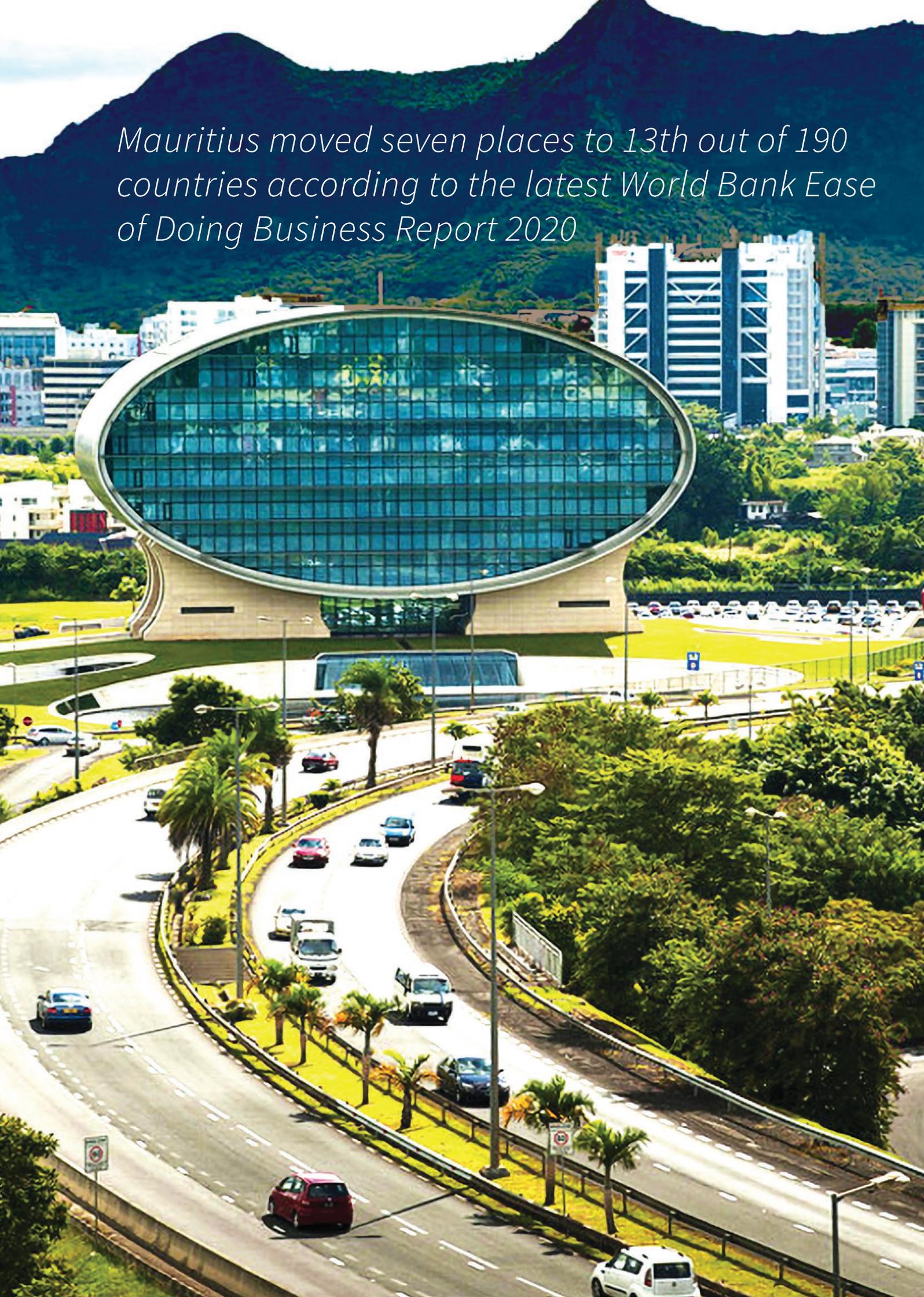


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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

EOE	Export-oriented enterprises
EPI	The Environmental Performance Index
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GCI	Global Competitiveness Index
GII	Global Innovation Index
GTCI	Global Talent Competitiveness Index
GVA	Gross Value Added
HBS	Household Budget Survey
HDI	Human Development Index
IMF	International Monetary Fund
KTOE	Kilo tonne of Oil Equivalent
MFP	Multifactor productivity
OECD	The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PPP	Purchasing power parity
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SDSN	Sustainable Development Solutions Network
TFP	Total factor productivity
WEF	World Economic Forum
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization

INTRODUCTION



INTRODUCTION

The Mauritian economy has continued to expand at a steady pace despite the rocky global environment. GDP growth was approximately 3 percent in 2019 compared to 3.8 percent in 2018. Mauritius has performed very well in various international indices and often seen as a model to replicate in the African Region.

But the world today is very different from what it was a few months back. The coronavirus pandemic has already influenced the short and medium-term global economic outlook and would potentially have a very significant socioeconomic impact in Mauritius. The Government, private sector and relevant stakeholders cannot go on in the scenario of “*Business as Usual*”.

Whichever way the world goes, a small, open economy like ours will need to adapt to rebound. It is therefore important to review our current performance in various fronts to plan for unforeseen, unpredictable scenarios. A wide range of indicators have been assembled in a single report to guide informed policy choices that enable Mauritius to thrive through uncertain situations we are facing.

STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

This report is organised in four chapters as follows:

- Chapter 1: Reviews the socio-economic performance of Mauritius and highlights productivity trends.
- Chapter 2: Discusses Mauritius’ competitiveness performance.
- Chapter 3: Highlights Mauritius’ performance according to several international and regional reports.
- Chapter 4: Relates to the Island of Rodrigues. The Island of Rodrigues which forms part of the Republic of Mauritius was granted political autonomy in 2002 by setting up the Rodrigues Regional Assembly (RRA) to administrate local affairs. Given Rodriguan specificities, it is viewed important to include a special chapter on the socio-economic development of Rodrigues in this report.





CHAPTER 1
SOCIO-ECONOMIC REVIEW AND
PRODUCTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

CHAPTER 1

SOCIO-ECONOMIC REVIEW AND PRODUCTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

1.1. GLOBAL RECESSION

The IMF's latest World Economic Outlook (WEO) sees the global economy faltering. IMF Chief Economist Gita Gopinath said:

"The COVID-19 pandemic pushed economies into a Great Lockdown, which helped contain the virus and save lives, but also triggered the worst recession since the Great Depression. Compared to our April World Economic Outlook forecast, we are now projecting a deeper recession in 2020 and a slower recovery in 2021. Global output is projected to decline by 4.9 percent in 2020, 1.9 percentage points below our April forecast, followed by a partial recovery, with growth at 5.4 percent in 2021. These projections imply a cumulative loss to the global economy over two years (2020–21) of over \$12 trillion from this crisis." (Source- World Economic Outlook, June 2020).

Table 1: Overview of the World Economic Outlook Projections

	Projections			
	2018	2019	2020	2021
World Output	3.6	2.9	-4.9	5.4
Advanced Economies	2.2	1.7	-8.0	4.8
United States	2.9	2.3	-8.0	4.5
Euro Area	1.9	1.3	-10.2	6.0
Germany	1.5	0.6	-7.8	5.4
France	1.8	1.5	-12.5	7.3
Italy	0.8	0.3	-12.8	6.3
Spain	2.4	2.0	-12.8	6.3
Japan	0.3	0.7	-5.8	2.4
United Kingdom	1.3	1.4	-10.2	6.3
Canada	2.0	1.7	-8.4	4.9
Other Advanced Economies	2.7	1.7	-4.8	4.2
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	4.5	3.7	-3.0	5.9
Emerging and Developing Asia	6.3	5.5	-0.8	7.4
China	6.7	6.1	1.0	8.2
India 4/	6.1	4.2	-4.5	6.0
ASEAN-5 5/	5.3	4.9	-2.0	6.2
Emerging and Developing Europe	3.2	2.1	-5.8	4.3
Russia	2.5	1.3	-6.6	4.1
Latin America and the Caribbean	1.1	0.1	-9.4	3.7
Brazil	1.3	1.1	-9.1	3.6
Mexico	2.2	-0.3	-10.5	3.3
Middle East and Central Asia	1.8	1.0	-4.7	3.3
Saudi Arabia	2.4	0.3	-6.8	3.1
Sub-Saharan Africa	3.2	3.1	-3.2	3.4
Nigeria	1.9	2.2	-5.4	2.6
South Africa	0.8	0.2	-8.0	3.5
<i>Memorandum</i>				
Low-Income Developing Countries	5.1	5.2	-1.0	5.2

Source: World Economic Outlook, June 2020, IMF

Advanced economies

Growth in the advanced economy group is projected at -8.0 percent in 2020, 1.9 percentage points lower than in the April 2020 WEO. The U.S. economy will contract by 8.0 percent in 2020, with a rebound to 4.5 percent growth in 2021. Euro zone economies will contract by 10.2 percent in 2020, with hard-hit Italy seeing its GDP fall by 12.8 percent and contractions of 7.8 percent in Germany and 12.5 percent in France. It is that predicted euro-area economies as a whole would match U.S. growth of 6.0 percent in 2021.

Emerging markets and developing economies

Excluding China, the downward revision for emerging market and developing economies over 2020–21 is 3.6 percentage points. Overall, growth in the group of emerging market and developing economies is forecast at -3.0 percent in 2020, 2 percentage points below the April 2020 WEO forecast.

Growth among low-income developing countries is projected at -1.0 percent in 2020, some 1.4 percentage points below the April 2020 WEO forecast, although with differences across individual countries. Excluding a few large frontier economies, the remaining group of low-income developing countries is projected to contract by -2.2 percent in 2020.

In China, where the recovery from the sharp contraction in the first quarter is underway, growth is projected at 1.0 percent in 2020, supported in part by policy stimulus.

India's economy is projected to contract by 4.5 percent following a longer period of lockdown and slower recovery than anticipated in April.

In Latin America, where most countries are still struggling to contain infections, the two largest economies, Brazil and Mexico, are projected to contract by 9.1 and 10.5 percent, respectively, in 2020. The disruptions due to the pandemic, as well as significantly lower disposable income for oil exporters after the dramatic fuel price decline, imply sharp recessions in Russia (-6.6 percent), Saudi Arabia (-6.8 percent), and Nigeria (-5.4 percent), while South Africa's performance (-8.0 percent) will be severely affected by the health crisis.

1.2. Global trade

Global trade will suffer a deep contraction this year of -11.9 percent, reflecting considerably weaker demand for goods and services, including tourism. Consistent with the gradual pickup in domestic demand next year, trade growth is expected to increase to 8 percent.

CHAPTER 1

SOCIO-ECONOMIC REVIEW AND PRODUCTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Table 2: Global trade

	2018	2019	2020	2021
World Trade Volume (goods and services)	3.8	0.9	-11.9	8.0
Advanced Economies	3.4	1.5	-13.4	7.2
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	4.5	0.1	-9.4	9.4
Commodity Prices (U.S. dollars)				
Oil	29.4	-10.2	-41.1	3.8
Nonfuel (average based on world commodity import weights)	1.3	0.8	0.2	0.8
Consumer Prices				
Advanced Economies	2.0	1.4	0.3	1.1
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	4.8	5.1	4.4	4.5

Source: World Economic Outlook, June 2020, IMF

The fast deterioration of the global economic outlook has weighed heavily on commodity prices. The assumptions on fuel prices are broadly unchanged from the April 2020 WEO. Average petroleum spot prices per barrel are estimated at \$36.20 in 2020 and \$37.50 in 2021. Oil futures curves indicate that prices are expected to increase thereafter toward \$46, still about 25 percent below the 2019 average. Nonfuel commodity prices are expected to rise marginally faster than assumed in the April 2020 WEO.

1.3. Global Foreign direct investment

Global foreign direct investment (FDI) totalled US\$1.39 trillion in 2019, slightly less than a revised \$1.41 trillion for 2018. But flows are still expected to rise moderately in 2020, according to UNCTAD Investment Trends Monitor published in January 2020.

FDI flows to developed economies fell by 6 percent to an estimated \$643 billion from their revised \$683 billion in 2018 (Table 3). FDI flows to developing economies remained stable at an estimated \$695 billion. Latin America and the Caribbean saw an increase of 16 percent, with growth concentrated in South America. Africa continued to register a modest rise (+3 percent) while flows to developing Asia fell by 6 percent.



Table 3: FDI flows (billions of US dollars)

FDI inflows		
	2018	2019
Region		
World	1413	1394
Developed economies	683	643
European Union	357	305
North America	297	298
Developing economies	696	695
Africa	47	49
Latin America and the Caribbean	146	170
Developing Asia	501	473
Transition economies	34	57

Source: UNCTAD estimates



1.4. Regional outlook: Sub-Saharan Africa

Sub-Saharan Africa is facing an unprecedented health and economic crisis with the outbreak of COVID-19. Growth in sub-Saharan Africa in 2020 is projected at -1.6 percent, the lowest level on record as per the IMF in its latest Regional Economic Outlook: Sub-Saharan Africa. The economic fallout from the COVID-19 outbreak and low commodity prices is expected to be the largest in less diversified economies. The level of real per capita GDP expected to be about 4½ percent lower by 2024 compared with the pre-COVID-19 projections

- Growth in oil exporters is projected to decline from 1.8 percent in 2019 to -2.8 percent in 2020. Nigeria, the largest economy in the region, GDP is expected to contract by -3.4 percent, mainly reflecting the large drop in oil prices and the impact of containment and mitigation measures on economic activity.
- Other resource-intensive countries are expected to see a decline in growth from 2.3 percent to -2.7 percent. In South Africa, disruptions caused by containment and mitigation measures and lower external demand are expected to compound existing structural constraints, with growth expected to fall from 0.2 percent in 2019 to -5.8 percent in 2020.
- Non-resource-intensive countries are expected to see growth decline from 6.2 percent to 2.0 percent. Within this group, tourism dependent countries (Cabo Verde, Comoros, The Gambia, Mauritius, São Tomé and Príncipe, Seychelles) are expected to experience a severe downturn.

CHAPTER 1

SOCIO-ECONOMIC REVIEW AND PRODUCTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Table 4: Real GDP Growth- Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	2019	2020	2021
Angola	-1.5	-1.4	2.6
Benin	6.4	4.5	6.0
Botswana	3.0	-5.4	6.8
Burkina Faso	5.7	2.0	5.8
Burundi	1.8	-5.5	4.2
Cabo Verde	5.5	-4.0	5.5
Cameroon	3.7	-1.2	4.1
Central African Republic	3.0	1.0	4.0
Chad	3.0	-0.2	6.1
Comoros	1.9	-1.2	3.1
Democratic Republic of the Congo	4.4	-2.2	3.5
Republic of Congo	-0.9	-2.3	3.4
Côte d'Ivoire	6.9	2.7	8.7
Equatorial Guinea	-6.1	-5.5	2.3
Eritrea	3.8	0.1	5.9
Eswatini	1.0	-0.9	1.8
Ethiopia	9.0	3.2	4.3
Gabon	3.4	-1.2	3.6
The Gambia	6.0	2.5	6.5
Ghana	6.1	1.5	5.9
Guinea	5.6	2.9	7.6
Guinea-Bissau	4.6	-1.5	3.0
Kenya	5.6	1.0	6.1
Lesotho	1.2	-5.2	5.1
Liberia	-2.5	-2.5	4.0
Madagascar	4.8	0.4	5.0
Malawi	4.5	1.0	2.5
Mali	5.1	1.5	4.1
Mauritius	3.5	-6.8	5.9
Mozambique	2.2	2.2	4.7
Namibia	-1.4	-2.5	3.2
Niger	5.8	1.0	8.1
Nigeria	2.2	-3.4	2.4
Rwanda	10.1	3.5	6.7
São Tomé and Príncipe	1.3	-6.0	5.5
Senegal	5.3	3.0	5.5
Seychelles	3.9	-10.8	8.0
Sierra Leone	5.1	-2.3	4.0
South Africa	0.2	-5.8	4.0
South Sudan	11.3	4.9	3.2
Tanzania	6.3	2.0	4.6
Togo	5.3	1.0	4.0
Uganda	4.9	3.5	4.3
Zambia	1.5	-3.5	2.3
Zimbabwe	-8.3	-7.4	2.5

Source: IMF, World Economic Outlook Database, April 2020



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1.5. Socio-economic review Mauritius

The Mauritian economy continued to expand amid the challenging global economic landscape. GDP at market prices grew by 3.8 percent in 2018 and 3 percent in 2019. Growth was mainly driven by financial services, construction, retail and wholesale trade, and information and communications technology. Both public and private investment continued to increase in 2019 (Table 5).

Investment rate increased from 18.8 percent in 2018 to 19.8 percent in 2019. The unemployment rate decreased from 7.1 percent in 2017 to 6.7 percent in 2019. The headline inflation rate declined from 3.2 percent in 2018 to 0.5 percent in 2019.

Table 5: Selected indicators

	Unit	Year			
		2016	2017	2018	2019
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at market prices	%	3.8	3.8	3.8	3
Per capita GDP at current market prices	Rs	344,029	361,456	380,262	397,343
Growth in household consumption expenditure	%	3	3.2	3.2	3.3
Investment rate	%	17.2	17.4	18.8	19.8
Private sector investment as a % of GDP at market prices	%	12.8	13.3	14.2	14.4
Public sector investment as a % of GDP at market prices	%	4.4	4.1	4.5	5.4
Gross Domestic Saving (GDS) as a % of GDP at market prices	%	11	10	9	9.5
Rate of inflation		1	3.7	3.2	0.5
Total exports of goods and services (f.o.b.)	Rs. Bn	192.4	194.1	196.2	197.1
Total imports of goods and services (f.o.b.)	Rs. Bn	233.6	251.1	261.5	269.8
Net export of goods and services	Rs. Bn	-41.2	-57	-65.3	-72.7
Unemployment rate		7.3	7.1	6.9	6.7
Foreign Direct Investment in Mauritius	Rs. Mn	18,161	22,342	17,370	
Overall Balance of Payments	Rs. Bn	26.9	18.6	47.5	
Current Account Balance	Rs. Bn	-17.5	-21.1	-27.9	-27.8
	Unit	July 2015 - June 2016	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019
Government Debt as a % of GDP	%	64.8	64.5	63.5	65.3
Government revenue as a % of GDP	%	20.9	21.1	22.5	22
Government expenditure as a % of GDP	%	24.4	24.6	25.4	25.3

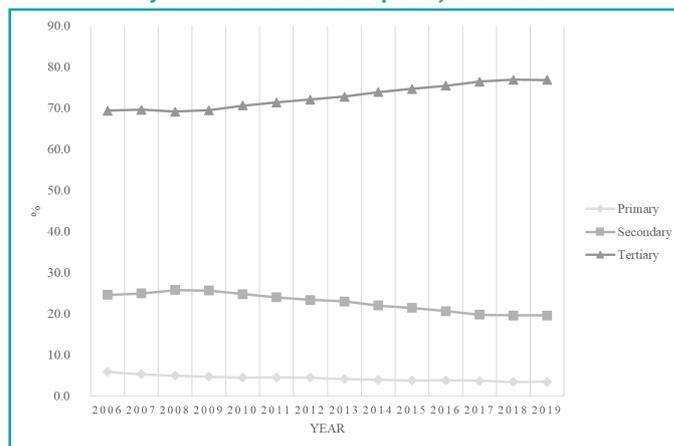
Source: Statistics Mauritius

Sectoral performance

The tertiary sector, comprising of the service industries continues to be a key driver of the Mauritian economy, particularly financial intermediation and ICT.



Figure 1: Percentage Distribution of Gross Value Added by sector at current basic prices, 2006 - 2019



Source: Statistics Mauritius

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Agriculture

The share of agriculture to Gross Value Added (GVA) declined from 3.5 percent in 2017 to 3.3 percent in 2019. Following a positive growth of 10.2 percent registered in 2009, growth in the agricultural sector dropped to 3.9 percent in 2019.

- The production of sugar cane went up by 7.9 percent from 3,154,515 tonnes in 2018 to 3,405,250 tonnes in 2019. The production of sugar went up by 2.4 percent from 323,406 tonnes in 2018 to 331,105 tonnes in 2019.
- Production of manufactured tea increased by 7.7 percent from 1,470 tonnes in 2018 to 1,583 tonnes in 2019.

- The area under food crops harvested decreased by 4.1 percent from 7,646 hectares in 2018 to 7,334 hectares in 2019. Production of food crops decreased by 3.2 percent from 96,847 tonnes to 93,736 tonnes in 2019, mainly explained by unfavourable climatic conditions.
- The share of agriculture in total employment declined from 7.3 percent in 2016 to 7.2 percent in 2018.

Manufacturing

The contribution of the manufacturing sector to GVA dropped from 13.4 percent in 2017 to 12.6 percent in 2019. The share of employment in the manufacturing sector declined from 23.6 percent in 2014 to 22 percent in 2018.

Table 6: Selected indicators for manufacturing sector

Indicators	Year						
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Annual real growth rate	4.7	1.8	0.1	0.3	1.5	0.7	0.5
Annual real growth rate EOE	-3	2.5	-3.1	-5.1	0.3	-4.5	-5.6
No. of large establishments	631	617	611	594	593	570	
Employment in large establishments	74,007	79,430	78,339	76,294	76,368	76,156	
Value added at current basic prices (R Million)	51,787	53,274	53,436	53,906	53,965	54,550	
Investment at current prices (R Million)	4,865	5,958	3,738	3,851	4,007	4,738	
Share of employment (%)	23.7	23.6	23.2	22.5	22.2	22	
Value added at current basic prices of the Industrial Sector EOE (R Million)	20,328	20,704	20,968	20,125	19,867	19,607	
Value added at current basic prices of the Industrial Sector Non-EOE (excl. sugar milling; R Million)	30,649	31,929	31,885	32,976	33,499	34,550	

Source: Statistics Mauritius

Construction

The contribution of the construction sector to GVA increased from 4.3 percent in 2017 to 4.9 percent in 2019. The construction sector is expected to grow by 8.5 percent in 2019 compared to a growth rate of 9.5 percent registered in 2018.

Distributive trade

The share of distributive trade to GVA increased from 12.2 percent in 2017 to 12.4 percent in 2019. The sector is expected to grow at 3.4 percent in 2019 compared to 3.6 percent in 2018.

Tourism

The tourism sector contributed to 7 percent of GVA in 2019 compared to 7.3 percent in 2018. The tourism sector is being called upon to operate in a more volatile and competitive environment which is currently impacting its expansion.

Table 7: Selected indicators for tourism sector

Indicators	Year			
	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sectoral real growth rates	9.2	4.6	4.1	-1.1
Employment in large establishments of the Tourism Industry				
Food Service	3,313	3,110	3,198	3282
Hotels	23,624	24,093	24,145	24,443
Travel and Other Services	3,755	3,664	3,604	3514
Tourism earnings (Rs Mn)	55,867	60,262	64,037	63,107
Tourist arrival	1,275,227	1,341,860	1,399,408	1,383,488
Occupancy Rates (%) for all Hotels				
Room	73	77	75	73
Bed	65	68	67	64

Source: Statistics Mauritius

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Financial and insurance sector

The financial sector continued to expand contributing to an estimated 11.8 percent of GVA in 2019. 12,627 persons found employment in the financial sector in 2018 compared to 12,886 in 2017.

Table 8: Selected indicators- financial sector

	2017		2018		2019	
	Contribution to GDP (%)	Growth Rate (%)	Contribution to GDP (%)	Growth Rate (%)	Contribution to GDP (%)	Growth Rate (%)
Financial and Insurance Activities	12	5.5	11.7	5.4	11.8	5.2
Monetary Intermediation	7.1	6	7.1	5.7	7.3	5.4
Financial Leasing and other Credit Granting	0.7	6.5	0.7	6.5	0.7	6.3
Insurance, Reinsurance and Pension	2.9	4.9	2.6	4.8	2.5	5
Other	1.3	3.8	1.3	4.5	1.3	4.1

Source: Statistics Mauritius

Table 9: Employment in financial sector

	2016	2017	2018
Financial and Insurance Activities	12,860	12,886	12,627
Monetary Intermediation	8,074	8,101	7,800
Financial Leasing and other Credit Granting	926	920	950
Insurance, Reinsurance and Pension Funding	2,617	2,596	2,573

Source: Statistics Mauritius

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

The ICT sector continues to be a key driver of the economy with a contribution of 4.3 percent to GVA in 2019. Activities in the ICT sector expanded by 5.5 percent in 2019, same as in 2018.

The number of large establishments (employing 10 or more persons) operating in the ICT sector decreased from 126 in 2017 to 122 in 2018. However, the number of employees in those establishments increased by 2.5 percent from 15,761 (8,383 males and 7,378 females) in 2017 to 16,157 (8,544 males and 7,613 females) in 2018. The share of employment in the ICT sector over total employment for 2018 stood at 5.0 percent, higher than the estimate of 4.9 percent recorded in 2017.

According to International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Mauritius ranked first among African countries and 72nd out of 176 countries worldwide in terms of ICT development in 2016. The highest ranked country worldwide was Iceland with an ICT Development Index (IDI) of 8.98.

Real estate activities

Real estate contributed to 5.9 percent of GVA in 2019 and expected to grow at 3.5 percent in 2019 compared to 3.3 percent in 2018.

Table 10: Selected indicators real estate activities

	2016		2017		2018		2019	
	Contribution to GDP (%)	Growth Rate (%)	Contribution to GDP (%)	Growth Rate (%)	Contribution to GDP (%)	Growth Rate (%)	Contribution to GDP (%)	Growth Rate (%)
Real estate activities	5.9	4.1	5.9	3.4	5.9	3.3	5.9	3.5
of which Owner-occupied dwellings	4.8	3.9	4.8	3	4.7	3.0	4.7	3.2

Source: Statistics Mauritius

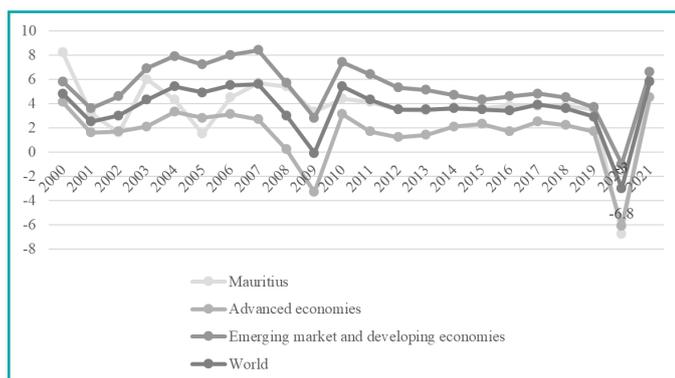
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Forecast

With the outbreak of COVID-19 which is affecting all countries around the world, it is unlikely that the socio-economic situation of Mauritius will remain same. The Mauritian economy is expected to contract by about 6.8 percent in 2020, owing to the coronavirus pandemic according to the latest IMF World Economic Outlook.

Figure 2: GDP forecast for Mauritius



Source: IMF, World Economic Outlook Database, April 2020

1.6. Small and medium enterprises

According to the Performance of Small and Medium Enterprises Report 2017 (Statistics Mauritius), Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) accounted for around 99 percent of all establishments operating in different sectors of the economy in 2013. They contributed to nearly half of total employment and about 35 percent of Gross Value Added (GVA) which is the total of value added generated by all production units in the country in 2013.

- Around 60 percent of SMEs were mainly engaged in service activities, led by 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles', 'Transportation and storage', 'Accommodation and food service activities' and 'Other service activities. Other important sectors for SMEs were: 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing', 'Manufacturing' and 'Construction'.
- SME workers were mostly engaged (table 12) in 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' (27%), 'Manufacturing' (13%), 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing' (12%), 'Construction' (11%) and 'Transportation and storage' (7%).

Table 11: Selected indicators- SME sector

	2007	2013
Employment in SMEs	229,700	264,900
Total employment	504,400	552,000
Share of SMEs in total employment	46%	48%
Value added of SMEs (Rs million)	72,647	114,094
Gross Value Added (GVA) at basic prices (Rs million)	226,662	329,009
Contribution of SMEs to GVA	32%	35%

Source: Statistics Mauritius

COVID-19
CORONAVIRUS

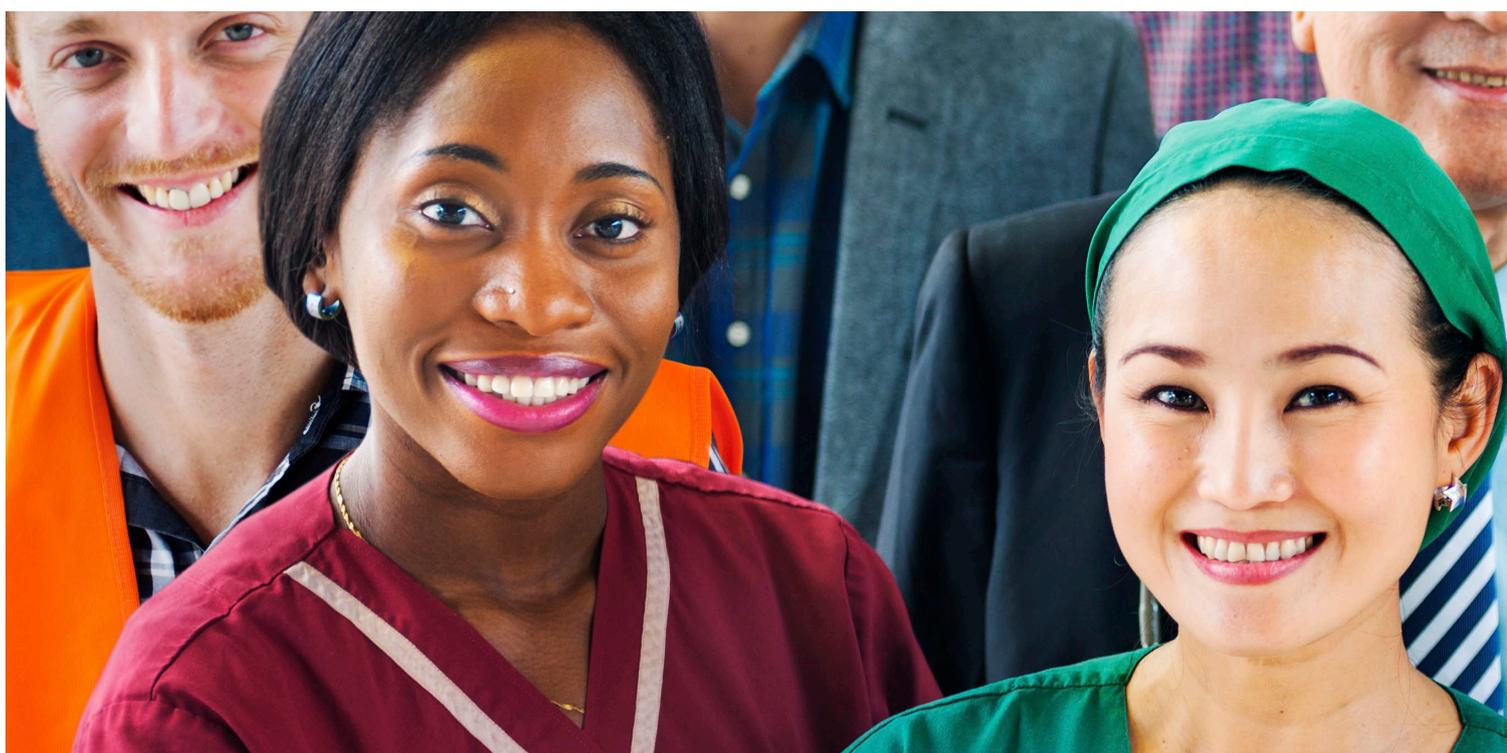
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Table 12: Estimated number of establishments by size and industry group – 2013

Industry group	SMEs				Other enterprises	Total
	Micro	Small	Medium	Total SMEs		
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	32,000	14,000	70	46,070	70	46,140
Mining and quarrying	15	15	10	25
Manufacturing	12,630	2,610	280	15,520	335	15,855
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	-	-	-	-	10	10
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	-	-	-	-	15	15
Construction	7,900	5,040	60	13,000	50	13,050
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	42,960	3,820	200	46,980	230	47,210
Transportation and storage	19,550	1,370	40	20,960	50	21,010
Accommodation and food service activities	9,040	1,670	90	10,800	90	10,890
Information and communication	380	180	30	590	60	650
Financial and insurance activities	90	90	50	230	40	270
Real estate activities	525	75	10	610	15	625
Professional, scientific and technical activities	1,555	705	115	2,375	45	2,420
Administrative and support service activities	1,200	520	50	1,770	60	1,830
Education	1,555	295	115	1,965	65	2,030
Human health and social work activities	1,445	265	10	1,720	40	1,760
Arts, entertainment and recreation	2,475	935	40	3,450	30	3,480
Other service activities	5,725	395	15	6,135	15	6,150
Total	139,030	31,970	1,190	172,190	1,230	173,420

Source: Statistics Mauritius



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Table 13: Employment by size of enterprises and industry group

Industry group	SMEs				Other enterprises	Total
	Micro	Small	Medium	Total SMEs		
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	...	26,200	5,400	31,600	8,700	40,300
Mining and quarrying	...	1,000	240	1,240	860	2,100
Manufacturing	13,200	10,400	10,655	34,255	67,345	101,600
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	-	-	-	-	2,300	2,300
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	-	-	-	-	3,200	3,200
Construction	12,310	15,790	2,940	31,040	11,660	42,700
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	51,400	10,300	10,440	72,140	16,160	88,300
Transportation and storage	16,090	2,910	860	19,860	15,940	35,800
Accommodation and food service activities	8,900	3,900	2,975	15,775	22,425	38,200
Information and communication	2,570	3,330	1,030	6,930	9,470	16,400
Financial and insurance activities	160	340	525	1,025	12,075	13,100
Real estate activities	340	260	220	820	480	1,300
Professional, scientific and technical activities	2,200	2,300	2,295	6,795	3,805	10,600
Administrative and support service activities	4,740	4,560	3,030	12,330	12,170	24,500
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	-	-	-	-	40,600	40,600
Education	2,800	1,300	6,160	10,260	21,040	31,300
Human health and social work activities	1,070	1,430	1,050	3,550	15,150	18,700
Arts, entertainment and recreation	5,680	1,020	750	7,450	2,350	9,800
Other service activities	7,970	1,430	450	9,850	21,350	31,200
<i>of which: Household employees</i>	-	-	-	-	20,000	20,000
Total	129,430	86,470	49,020	264,920	287,080	552,000

Source: Statistics Mauritius



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1.7. Social/ environmental context

1.7.1. Ageing population

The estimated resident population of the Republic of Mauritius was 1,265,475 as at 31 December 2019. The female population was 639,453 compared to a male population of 626,022. There were 97.9 males for every 100 females.

The population of Mauritius is ageing. The median age increased from 19.0 years in 1972 to 36.9 years in 2019. From 2010 to 2018, the average annual rate of change in the population of the world was estimated at 1.1 percent, with a rate of only 0.1 percent for the Republic of Mauritius. All other countries shown in Table 14 had a positive average annual change in their population namely South Africa (1.6%), India (1.2%), Singapore (1.3%), United Kingdom (0.7%) and Australia (1.6%) with the exception of Japan (-0.2%).

Table 14: Demographic indicators for selected countries, 2018¹

	Mid year Estimates (in thousands)	Average annual rate of population change (2010-2018)	Density	Crude Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
World	7,631,100	1.1	59	18.0	8.0	n/a
Mauritius	1,265	0.1	630	10.2	8.5	14.0
Seychelles	97	0.9	212	17.1	8.5	n/a
South Africa	57,726	1.6	47	16.1	n/a	n/a
Canada	37,059	1.1	4	10.3	7.6	4.5
China	1,392,730	0.5	145	10.9	7.1	n/a
India ¹	1,298,041	1.2	395	20.2	6.3	33.0
Japan ¹	126,529	-0.2	335	7.3	10.8	n/a
Singapore	5,639	1.3	7,804	10.0	5.3	2.4
Germany	82,792	0.2	232	9.5	11.5	3.2
United Kingdom	66,274	0.7	273	11.4	9.2	3.9
Australia ¹	24,993	1.6	3	n/a	6.3	n/a

Source: Statistics Mauritius

1.7.2. Poverty and inequality

According to the Household Budget Survey 2017 conducted by Statistics Mauritius, Income inequality decreased between 2012 and 2017. The share of total income going to the 20 percent of households at the lower end of the income range increased from 5.3 percent; in 2012 to 5.7 percent in 2017. On the other hand, the share of the upper 20 percent of households decreased from 47.5 percent to 46.0 percent during that period. The Gini coefficient decreased from 0.414 to 0.400 during the same period, indicating an improvement in the income distribution.

Over the past twenty years, the proportion of households in relative poverty showed a general increase - the poverty rate decreased from 8.7 percent in 1996/97 to 7.7 percent in 2001/02, and then continuously increased in the next 15 years i.e. 7.9 percent in 2006/07, 9.4 percent in 2012 and 9.6 percent in 2017. In 2017, the estimated number of households in poverty was around 36,500, around 3,000 more households as compared to 2012.

1.7.3. Education

Pre-primary education

Enrolment in pre-primary schools decreased by 2.7 percent, from 26,183 in March 2018 to 25,479 in March 2019. Girls represented 48.9 percent of the pre-primary school population. The Gross Enrolment Ratio (pre-primary enrolment as a percentage of the population aged 4 and 5 years) works out to 96.2 percent compared to 95.9 percent in 2018.

Primary education

In 2019, the number of school candidates who took part in Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC) assessment was 14,985. Including re-assessment, the overall percentage meeting PSAC requirement worked out to 77.26 percent in 2019 compared to 78.77 percent in 2018.

¹ Figures in italics refer to the year 2017

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Secondary education

In 2019, out of 15,483 candidates (6,836 males and 8,647 females) who took part in the Cambridge School Certificate examination, 10,937 were successful. Comparison with the 2018 results shows that the overall pass rate decreased from 71.51 percent to 70.93 percent.

The number of students taking part in the 2019 Cambridge Higher School Certificate examination stood at 8,975. The overall pass rate was 74.95 percent.

Table 15: Higher School Certificate 2005 – 2019 Pass Rate

Year	Mauritius		Rodrigues		Republic of Mauritius	
	Examined	% Pass	Examined	% Pass	Examined	% Pass
2005	7106	78.17	168	77.98	7274	78.17
2006	7849	79.42	191	74.35	8040	79.3
2007	8290	77.88	227	73.13	8517	77.75
2008	8658	78.85	249	73.9	8907	78.71
2009	9222	78.94	268	72.76	9490	78.77
2010	9495	78.54	207	76.1	9767	78.47
2011	9854	79.24	227	82.38	10081	79.31
2012	10178	79.09	236	81.36	10414	79.14
2013	10011	77.91	276	78.62	10287	77.93
2014	10150	75.57	279	69.18	10429	75.4
2015	9977	75.38	308	73.05	10285	75.31
2016	9022	75.54	263	72.62	9285	75.46
2017	9250	74.5	240	69.58	9490	74.37
2018	9102	75.28	306	63.73	9408	74.9
2019	8657	75.21	318	67.92	8975	74.95

Source: Statistics Mauritius

Tertiary education- decline in enrolment rate

In 2018, there were 6,973 students (of whom 73.8 percent were males) enrolled in publicly funded technical and vocational courses compared to 7,603 in 2017. Some 37.6 percent of the students were enrolled in full-time courses, 43.1 percent in part-time courses and the rest (19.3%) in apprenticeship courses.

1.7.4. Health

Increase in maternal mortality

Under-five mortality and infant mortality rates reduced substantially in the Republic of Mauritius. Maternal mortality rate however increased from 0.34 in 2011 to 0.39 in 2018.

Improvement in life expectancy

Life expectancy at birth, which was 68.1 years for males and 75.3 years for females in 2000, has reached 71.3 years and 77.7 years respectively in 2018.



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Leading causes of death

Diseases of the circulatory system and diabetes were the leading causes of death for the period 2011- 2018.

Table 16: Estimated number of establishments by size and industry group – 2013

Indicator	Unit	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Infant mortality rate	Per 1,000 Live Births	12.9	13.7	12.1	14.5	13.6	11.8	12.2	14.0
Under five mortality rates		15.9	15.7	14.5	16	15.5	13.3	14.3	16.5
Maternal mortality ratio		0.34	0.62	0.66	0.52	0.47	0.46	0.74	0.39
Early neonatal mortality rate		6.5	6.8	6	6.1	6.4	5.1	6.7	6.9
Late neonatal mortality rate		3.3	3	3.1	3.4	3.1	2.9	2.2	3.5
Neonatal mortality rate		9.7	9.8	9.1	9.5	9.5	8	8.9	10.4
Post-neonatal mortality rate		3.1	3.9	3	5	4.1	3.7	3.3	3.5
Population per doctor	Number of inhabitants	803	730	616	519	495	456	432	394
Population per dentist		4680	4178	3589	3447	3323	3283	3155	3079
Population per hospital bed		280	282	283	284	281	278	279	276
% death due to									
HIV/AIDS	%	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.1
Tuberculosis		0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
Diseases of the Circulatory System		31.2	31.4	31.2	31.9	33.6	35.4	32.3	35.3
Diabetes		25.3	26.3	24.5	24.9	24	23.2	23.1	20.5
Neoplasms		11.4	12.4	13.4	12.6	13.3	12.7	13.8	12.8
Death rate due to road traffic injury	Per 100,000 midyear population	14.7	13.6	11.4	12.8	13.3	13.1	13.5	13.3
Death rate due to suicides		9.7	9.2	7.9	10	8.4	8.4	8.7	8.5
Life expectancy at birth									
Male	Average number of years	70.4	70.7	71	71.1	71.2	71.3	71.3	71.2
Female		77.5	77.7	77.6	77.8	77.9	77.9	77.7	77.6
Both sexes		73.9	74.1	74.2	74.4	74.5	74.6	74.5	74.4

Source: Health Statistics Report 2018, Ministry of Health

1.7.5. Human Development Report

Mauritius' HDI value for 2018 is 0.796— which put the country in the high human development category— positioning it at 66 out of 189 countries and territories.

Between 1990 and 2018, Mauritius' HDI value increased from 0.620 to 0.796, an increase of 28.4 percent. Between 1990 and 2018, Mauritius' life expectancy at birth increased by 5.5 years, mean years of schooling increased by 3.7 years and expected years of schooling increased by 4.5 years. Mauritius' GNI per capita increased by about 202.9 percent between 1990 and 2018.

Table 17: Mauritius' HDI trends

	Life expectancy at birth	Expected years of schooling	Mean years of schooling	GNI per capita	HDI value
1990	69.4	10.5	5.7	7,503	0.62
1995	70.3	11.2	6.3	9,016	0.649
2000	71.2	12.2	6.2	11,219	0.674
2005	72.4	13.4	7.2	12,835	0.713
2010	73.5	14.1	8.2	15,783	0.748
2015	74.5	15.1	9.1	20,188	0.786
2016	74.6	15	9.3	20,893	0.79
2017	74.7	15	9.3	21,966	0.793
2018	74.9	15	9.4	22,724	0.796

Source: Human Development Indices and Indicators: 2019 Statistical update

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Mauritius' 2018 HDI of 0.796 is above the average of 0.750 for countries in the high human development group and above the average of 0.541 for countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. From Sub-Saharan Africa, countries which are close to Mauritius in 2018 HDI rank and to some extent in population size are Botswana and Gabon, which have HDIs ranked 94 and 115 respectively.

1.7.6. National resource management and environment

As a small island, Mauritius faces many environmental threats, key among which include; climate change, coastal erosion; water management; loss of biodiversity; soil degradation; invasive species; marine pollution; waste management; energy efficiency; and sustainable land use.

Table 18: Selected environment indicators, 2016-2018

Indicator	Unit	2016	2017	2018
Terrestrial protected areas	hectares	14,914.50	14,918	14,918
Marine protected areas	hectares	13,953	13,953	13,953
Total Greenhouse gas (GHG) emission	Gg CO ₂ -eq	5,403.00	5,612.10	5,613.20
Total carbon dioxide emission	000 tons	4,087.00	4,226.17	4,190.46
Per capita carbon dioxide emission	tons	3.2	3.34	3.31
Total electricity generated	GWh	3,042.20	3,120.00	3,131.64
Electricity generated from renewable sources	%	21.8	20	20.71
Total primary energy requirement	ktoe [1]	1,555.30	1,599.80	1,586.30
Primary energy requirement from renewable sources	%	14.6	13.4	12.9
Per capita primary energy requirement	toe	1.23	1.27	1.25
Per capita final energy consumption	toe	0.75	0.77	0.78
Energy intensity	toe per Rs.100,000 GDP at 2006 prices	0.47	0.46	0.44

Source: *Statistics Mauritius*

HIGHLIGHTS

Between 2017 and 2018, the harvested area under cultivation of:

- sugar cane decreased by 4.6 percent from 49,974 hectares to 47,678 hectares;
- tea increased by 5.5 percent from 622 hectares to 656 hectares; and
- foodcrops decreased by 1.7 percent from 7,780 hectares to 7,646 hectares

The total GHG emissions (excluding Forestry and Other Land Use) in 2018 were 5,613.2 Gg carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂-eq) compared to 5,612.1 Gg CO₂-eq in 2017, representing an increase of 0.02 percent.

Total primary energy requirement (defined as the sum of imported and locally available fuels less re-exports and bunkering after adjusting for stock changes) was 1,586 thousand tonnes of oil equivalent (ktoe) in 2018, some 0.9 percent less than in 2017 (1,600 ktoe)².

1.8. Productivity performance

1.8.1. Global productivity outlook

Global productivity growth has remained weak in 2018 and will continue to be slow through 2019. According to the latest release of annual productivity growth rates for 123 countries by The Conference Board³.

² Tonne of oil equivalent (toe)

³ The Conference Board is a global, independent business membership and research association working in the public interest.

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Global labour productivity growth

Globally, growth in output per worker was 1.9 percent in 2018, compared to 2 percent in 2017 and projected to return to 2 percent growth in 2019. The latest estimates extend the downward trend in global labour productivity growth from an average annual rate of 2.9 percent between 2000-2007 to 2.3 percent between 2010-2017. The results also indicate that long awaited productivity effects from digital transformation are still too small to see reflected in a lasting improvement at the macroeconomic level.

Table 19: Growth of labour productivity per person employed, percent change by major region;2010- 2019

Region	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
United States	3.2	0.8	0.7	1.1	1.0	1.6	0.2	0.8	1.7	1.3
Europe	2.5	1.4	-0.2	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.7	1.0
Euro Area	2.5	1.4	-0.6	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.3	0.7
United Kingdom	1.5	1.1	0.4	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.2
Japan	4.9	0.3	2.3	1.7	0.0	1.0	-0.2	1.1	-1.0	1.1
Other Mature Economies	4.1	1.7	0.8	0.9	1.7	0.6	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.2
Mature Economies	3.2	1.1	0.5	0.9	0.9	1.2	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.1
China	12.6	7.6	5.2	6.7	6.0	3.5	3.7	4.2	4.1	4.1
India	9.8	5.2	4.3	4.7	5.3	5.7	6.9	5.0	5.9	5.2
Other Developing Asia	3.4	2.9	4.6	3.3	4.2	4.4	2.9	3.8	3.3	3.5
Latin America	2.3	2.8	0.2	1.5	-0.6	0.2	-1.3	-0.1	-0.7	0.2
Brazil	5.8	2.5	0.5	1.4	-2.3	-0.2	-1.5	1.1	-0.3	0.3
Mexico	-2.9	3.0	-0.8	0.8	2.4	0.8	1.0	0.6	-0.6	-0.2
Middle East & North Africa	0.1	0.5	-1.1	-1.3	1.5	-0.9	0.9	-0.5	-0.1	0.3
Sub-Saharan Africa	5.4	2.6	3.0	2.3	3.0	-0.1	-0.6	0.7	1.5	0.6
Russia, Central Asia and Southeast Europe	3.7	4.1	2.3	3.0	0.9	-0.9	0.8	2.7	1.8	1.9
Emerging Markets and Developing Economies	6.0	4.2	2.9	3.4	3.3	2.1	2.3	2.7	2.6	2.7
World	4.6	2.7	1.8	2.3	2.2	1.7	1.5	2.0	1.9	2.0
EU-28	2.5	1.5	-0.2	0.5	0.8	1.1	0.8	1.0	0.7	1.0
OECD	2.8	1.3	0.5	1.0	0.9	1.2	0.5	1.0	0.8	0.9

Source: The Conference Board Total Economy Database™ (Adjusted version), April 2019

GLOBAL PRODUCTIVITY TRENDS

Mature economies

Among mature economies, the productivity slowdown in the past decade has been dramatic, as growth rates of output per hour halved from an average annual rate of 2.3 percent in the period 2000-2007 to 1.2 percent from 2010-2017. Productivity growth further slowed to 0.8 percent in 2018, showing a small projected improvement to 1.1 percent in 2019.

- The United States experienced a stabilization of growth in output per hour at 0.9 percent in 2018 compared to 1 percent in 2017. Growth in output per hour slowed from 2.6 percent between 2000-2007 to 1 percent between 2010-2017. Meanwhile, growth in total hours worked improved from only half of a percent to 1.4 percent between the two periods, and to 2.1 percent in 2018.

The “jobless productivity” phase of the early 2000s has clearly turned into a “productivity stagnation” phase since the Great Recession. Still, US labour productivity growth is slightly ahead of that in most other mature economies.

- Europe experienced an exceptionally weak year in terms of productivity growth in 2018, driven by a cyclical downturn in output growth since the second half of the year. Growth in output per hour in 2018 for the Euro Area was 0.2 percent, well below the 2010-2017 average of 1 percent, driven mostly by a slowdown in output growth while total hours worked continued to increase. Total factor productivity in the Euro Area turned negative in 2018 at -0.1 percent.

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- Productivity growth (output per hour) in the United Kingdom has been on a slowing growth path over the past three years, from 0.8 percent in 2017, to 0.5 percent in 2018 and projected at 0.2 percent in 2019.
- Japan is facing both a strong labour market and weak output growth. Growth in output per hour worked has averaged 1 percent annually in recent years, which is weak by historical standards. Total factor productivity declined strongly at -1.4 percent in 2018.
- Among other mature economies, Southeast Asian economies such as Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan are showing strong output per hour worked growth rates. Other economies, including Australia, Canada, and New Zealand show greater weakness.

Emerging economies

Emerging markets still have a substantial productivity growth advantage over mature economies. Taken together all emerging and developing economies saw an increase in output per worker at 2.6 percent in 2018, compared to 1 percent on average for the mature economies. However, overall productivity growth rates in emerging markets have also slowed since 2010, and this downward trajectory will continue for the time being. Emerging markets have lost much of their productivity catch-up potential in the past decade. For the largest eight emerging markets (Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Russia, South Africa and Turkey) combined, output per worker growth slowed from 5.5 percent between 2000-2007 to 4.4 percent between 2010-2017, a trend which has been exacerbated recently to only 3.5 percent.

- The drop in the growth rate of output per worker in China has been among the largest, coming down from 8.9 percent between 2000-2007, to 6.1 percent between 2010-2017, and only just over 4 percent now – even though those productivity rates are still triple or more those of mature economies.
- India continues to boast the highest labour productivity growth rate at an average rate of 5.8 percent in terms of output per worker between 2010-2017, and even 5.9 percent in 2018 with a modest projected slowdown to 5.2 percent in 2019. Total factor productivity growth in India is also among the highest for emerging economies by on average 2 percent. However, the level of output per worker in India is still relatively low compared to the United States (15 percent) as well as relative to other emerging markets.

- Average productivity growth (output per worker) in Latin America stayed below zero for the second consecutive year in 2018, showing that the region continues to struggle with the legacy of decades of weak output per worker growth rates. Brazil and Mexico continue to struggle after decades of weak output per worker growth rates. Productivity growth is estimated to have contracted in 2018 in both countries at -0.3 percent in Brazil and -0.6 in Mexico, even though this is in part explained by strong recoveries in employment growth in both countries.
- Output per worker growth rates in the oil and natural gas producing economies of the Gulf Region remain relatively low, even though higher oil prices for most of 2018 provided some temporary relief. However, the Gulf Region economies struggle with large challenges arising from the need to diversify their economies which seem to have at least a short-term downward effect on productivity growth.
- Russia, Central Asia and Southeast European countries witnessed a stabilization in productivity growth rates at around 2 percent on average for the region in recent years.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Productivity growth in Sub-Saharan Africa picked up in recent years and output per worker increased at 1.5 percent on average in 2018. However, this rate of growth is down from the annual average of 2 percent for 2010-2017 and significantly below the 3 percent growth rate during the 2000-2007 period. As the average level of output per worker in Sub-Saharan Africa is only 8 percent of that in the United States, the region is currently hardly realizing any catch-up effects relative to more advanced economies. South Africa, which is the richest country in the region at 36 percent of the US level of productivity, has shown two consecutive years of contraction in output per worker (-1 percent in 2017 and -0.6 percent in 2018) and is projected for another year of -1.1 contraction in productivity in 2019.



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1.8.2. Productivity trends in Mauritius

The table below presents the growth rates of productivity for the total economy during the period 2009- 2019.

Table 20: Productivity trends for the total economy 2009-2019

Indicator	Growth rate (%)		
	Annual Average	2018	2019
	2009-2019		
1 Output (GVA at basic prices)	3.6	3.6	3.3
2 GDP at market prices	3.8	3.8	3.6
3 GDP per capita (market prices)	3.6	3.7	3.6
4 Labour input	1.1	-0.1	1.6
5 Capital input	3.5	3.2	3.6
6 Capital - Output ratio	-0.1	-0.4	0.3
7 Capital - Labour ratio	2.4	3.3	2.0
8 Labour productivity	2.5	3.7	1.8
9 Capital productivity	0.1	0.4	-0.3
10 Multifactor productivity	1.0	1.6	0.4
11 Average compensation of employees	4.8	5.0	2.5
12 Unit Labour Cost (Mauritian Rupees)	2.3	1.3	0.8
13 Unit Labour Cost (US Dollars)	1.2	3.1	-3.3

Source: Statistics Mauritius

Labour productivity

The index of labour productivity, improved from 105.2 in 2009 to 134.6 in 2019, giving an average annual growth of 2.5 percent. In 2019, labour productivity grew at a lower rate of 1.8 percent compared to 3.7 percent in 2018.

Capital productivity

During the period 2009 to 2019, the index of capital productivity increased from 98.0 in 2009 to 99.3 in 2019. The average annual rate of change worked out to 0.1 percent. Capital productivity registered a fall of 0.3 percent in 2019 compared to an increase of 0.4 percent in 2018.

Multifactor productivity (MFP)

The average annual change in MFP during the period 2009 to 2019 worked out to 1.0 percent. In 2019, MFP moved up at a lower rate of 0.4 percent compared to 1.6 percent in 2018.

Unit labour cost (ULC)

During the period 2009 to 2019, average annual compensation of employees increased by 4.8 percent whilst labour productivity grew by 2.5 percent. This resulted in an average annual growth of 2.3 percent in ULC. In 2019, ULC increased by 0.8 percent compared to 1.3 percent growth in 2018.

1.8.3. Productivity trends in manufacturing sector

During the period 2009 to 2019, labour productivity in the manufacturing sector registered an average annual growth of 2.3 percent and capital productivity increased by an average of 4.1 percent annually. During the same period, multifactor productivity increased by an average of 3.0 percent per annum.

In 2019, labour productivity in manufacturing grew by 1.8 percent, higher than the 0.9 percent growth in 2018. Capital and multifactor productivity witnessed increases of 2.8 percent and 2.2 percent respectively in 2019 compared to increases of 2.2 percent and 1.5 percent in 2018.

Table 21: Productivity trends in manufacturing sector

Indicator	Growth rate (%)		
	Annual Average	2018	2019
	2009-2019		
1 Output (Value added at constant prices)	1.4	0.7	0.7
2 Labour input	-0.8	-0.2	-1.1
3 Capital input	-2.5	-1.4	-2.0
4 Capital - Output ratio	-3.9	-2.1	-2.7
5 Capital - Labour ratio	-1.7	-1.2	-0.9
6 Labour productivity	2.3	0.9	1.8
7 Capital productivity	4.1	2.2	2.8
8 Multifactor productivity	3.0	1.5	2.2
9 Average compensation of employees	4.1	2.9	3.3
10 Unit Labour Cost (Mauritian Rupees)	1.8	2.0	1.5
11 Unit Labour Cost (US Dollars)	0.7	3.9	-2.6

Source: Statistics Mauritius

LABOUR COST IN MANUFACTURING- MAURITIUS

Unit labour cost (ULC)

In 2019, ULC for the manufacturing sector rose further by 1.5 percent after an increase of 2.0 percent in 2018. In Dollar terms, ULC fell by 2.6 percent in 2019 after an increase of 3.9 percent in 2018.



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INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON OF COST IN MANUFACTURING

Unit Labour Cost

It is observed that, in 2018, ULC in the manufacturing sector, expressed in national currency or US dollars, increased in all the cited countries (see table 22). In national currency, the highest increase was registered in UK (4.6%) and the lowest was recorded in USA (0.2%). Mauritius registered an increase of 2.0%. In the same year, similar to ULC in national currency, ULC in US Dollar showed highest increase in UK (8.4%) and lowest in USA (0.2%). Mauritius witnessed an increase of 3.9%.

Table 22: Growth rate (%) in Manufacturing Unit Labour Cost of selected countries, 2018

Country	USA	France	Germany	Italy	UK	Mauritius	Taiwan, China	Korea	South Africa
National currency	0.2	1.6	2.3	1.1	4.6	2.0	3.7	2.5	1.7
US\$	0.2	6.3	7.0	5.8	8.4	3.9	5.9	5.3	2.3

Source: Statistics Mauritius

INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON OF HOURLY LABOUR COST (HLC)

Table 23 compares the evolution of HLC in the Mauritian manufacturing sector with available hourly labour cost for some other countries in US dollars. HLC is highest in Germany and lowest in Philippines from 2008 to 2018. In 2019, the HLC for Mauritius stood at 3.18 US Dollar compared to 3.09 US Dollar in 2018.

Table 23: Hourly compensation costs in manufacturing, U.S. dollars, 2008 - 2018

Country	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Australia	35.28	32.88	39.55	46.43	47.74	47.27	46.01	38.59	38.19	40.62	41.17
Brazil	8.44	8.12	10.00	11.59	10.74	10.49	10.43	7.73	7.98	n/a	n/a
Canada	32.08	29.24	34.25	36.26	36.69	36.55	34.47	30.74	30.08	31.84	33.02
France	41.63	39.72	39.04	42.77	41.25	43.33	44.03	37.31	37.72	38.66	41.38
Germany	46.75	45.27	43.82	47.08	45.40	48.29	49.50	42.27	43.18	44.03	47.12
Japan	27.48	30.06	31.75	35.66	35.25	28.85	26.94	23.60	26.46	26.09	27.38
Korea, Republic of	16.80	15.03	17.88	19.19	20.44	22.09	23.63	22.54	22.98	23.26	26.02
Mauritius	1.74	1.73	1.97	2.32	2.46	2.59	2.81	2.58	2.77	2.84	3.09
Mexico	4.85	4.22	4.52	4.79	4.68	5.01	4.99	4.38	3.91	4.13	4.13
Philippines	1.74	1.68	1.86	1.99	2.08	2.13	2.11	2.15	2.06	n/a	n/a
Portugal	12.48	12.34	12.00	13.24	12.39	12.90	12.68	10.99	10.96	11.14	12.02
Singapore	18.86	17.54	19.29	23.07	24.42	25.78	26.82	25.87	26.75	25.93	27.93
Taiwan	8.69	7.77	8.31	9.47	9.74	9.92	10.29	10.50	11.14	12.17	12.85
Turkey	6.44	5.76	6.29	6.01	6.02	6.35	6.21	5.68	6.09	7.01	6.08
United Kingdom	33.84	29.25	28.98	30.57	30.91	31.02	32.98	31.01	28.41	27.10	29.20
United States	32.78	34.19	34.75	35.51	35.70	36.49	37.04	37.81	39.03	39.70	40.53

Source: Statistics Mauritius



CHAPTER 2 COMPETITIVENESS LANDSCAPE

CHAPTER 2

COMPETITIVENESS LANDSCAPE

2. COMPETITIVENESS LANDSCAPE

2.1. MAURITIUS COMPETITIVENESS

Mauritius has moved down 3 places to rank 52nd according to the Global Competitiveness Report (GCR) 2019 published by the World Economic Forum (WEF), largely due to improvements witnessed by several economies. Once more, Mauritius outperformed its continental peers (Table 25) and is ranked as the most competitive country in Africa, followed by South Africa (60th), Seychelles (76th) and Botswana (91st).



About Global Competitiveness Report

The World Economic Forum, which has been measuring countries' competitiveness since 1979, defines competitiveness as: *“the set of institutions, policies and factors that determine the level of productivity of a country.”*

The Global Competitiveness Report is a tool to help governments, the private sector, and civil society work together to boost productivity and generate prosperity. Comparative analysis between countries allows leaders to gauge areas that need strengthening and build a coordinated response. It also helps identify best practices around the world.

The Global Competitive Index forms the basis of the report. It measures performance according to 103 indicators that influence a nation's productivity. Each indicator, using a scale from 0 to 100, shows how close an economy is to the ideal state or *“frontier”* of competitiveness. The pillars, which cover broad socio-economic elements are: institutions, infrastructure, ICT adoption, macroeconomic stability, health, skills, product market, labour market, the financial system, market size, business dynamism and innovation capability. The latest edition covered 141 economies, accounting for over 98 percent of the world's GDP (see Appendix A for more details).

Countries' scores are based primarily on quantitative findings from internationally recognized agencies such as the International Monetary Fund and World Health Organization, with the addition of qualitative assessments from economic and social specialists and senior corporate executives.

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Table 24 gives an overview of Mauritius performance in the twelve pillars. Among these, Mauritius has achieved its best score on the Product market pillar.

Table 24: Mauritius Competitiveness Performance

Indicator	Rank	Score (out of 100)	Best Performer
Global Competitiveness Index	52	64.3	Singapore
Pillar 1: Institutions	29	64.7	Finland
Pillar 2: Infrastructure	64	68.7	Singapore
Pillar 3: ICT adoption	43	68.3	Korea Republic
Pillar 4: Macroeconomic stability	57	89.4	U.A. E
Pillar 5: Health	82	77.4	Spain
Pillar 6: Skills	79	60.6	Switzerland
Pillar 7: Product market	22	64.5	Hong Kong SAR
Pillar 8: Labour market	76	59	Singapore
Pillar 9: Financial system	27	77.2	Hong Kong SAR
Pillar 10: Market size	119	37.2	China
Pillar 11: Business dynamism	38	66.1	United States
Pillar 12: Innovation capability	70	38.1	Germany

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 25: Top ten performers in sub-Saharan Africa

Country	Rank	Score
Mauritius	52	64.3
South Africa	60	62.4
Seychelles	76	59.6
Botswana	91	55.5
Namibia	94	54.5
Kenya	95	54.1
Rwanda	100	52.8
Ghana	111	51.2
Cape Verde	112	50.8
Senegal	114	49.7

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

2.2. GLOBAL AND REGIONAL PERFORMANCE

With a competitiveness score of 84.8, Singapore became the world's most competitive economy in 2019, pushing the US to second place. Singapore ranks first in terms of infrastructure, health and labour market functioning. Despite dropping one position, the US remains an innovation powerhouse, ranking 1st for business dynamism and 2nd for innovation capability. In the Global Competitiveness Index (2019), Hong Kong SAR is ranked 3rd, the Netherlands is 4th and Switzerland is ranked 5th.

As per the Global Competitiveness Report, growth over the last decade has been subdued and remained below potential in many developing countries. The average GCI score across the 141 economies studied is 60.7, meaning that the 'distance to the frontier' stands at almost 40 points (100 is the perfect score).

On nine of the 12 pillars, the average gap globally stands at more than 30 points. Though advanced economies perform consistently better than the rest of the world, but overall, they still fall 30 points short of the frontier. Singapore, the best performer overall, still falls 15 points short of the ideal.

The changing geopolitical context and rising trade tensions are fuelling uncertainty and could precipitate a slowdown. A major source of concern for the global economy is the low rate of growth in productivity.

The competitiveness landscape painted by the GCI in 2019 thus demands more effort to restore productivity and growth to lift living standards. The need to boost research and development, enhance the skills base of the current and future workforce, develop new infrastructure and integrate new technologies are among some of the measures to be adopted.

Furthermore, as highlighted in the report, though ICT adoption and promoting technology integration is important yet policymakers must in parallel invest in developing skills if they want to provide opportunity for all in the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. That being said, the WEF maintains that greater technological integration and complementary social policies could help governments support growth in their economies. There is also a need to merge environmental, social and economic agendas into a single sustainable and inclusive growth agenda.

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Table 26: Global Competitiveness ranking

Rank	Economy	Score	Rank difference from 2018	Rank	Economy	Score	Rank difference from 2018
1	Singapore	84.8	1	71	Brazil	60.9	1
2	United States	83.7	-1	72	Serbia	60.9	-7
3	Hong Kong SAR	83.1	4	73	Montenegro	60.8	-2
4	Netherlands	82.4	2	74	Georgia	60.6	-8
5	Switzerland	82.3	-1	75	Morocco	60	—
6	Japan	82.3	-1	76	Seychelles	59.6	-2
7	Germany	81.8	-4	77	Barbados	58.9	n/a
8	Sweden	81.2	1	78	Dominican Republic	58.3	4
9	United Kingdom	81.2	-1	79	Trinidad and Tobago	58.3	-1
10	Denmark	81.2	—	80	Jamaica	58.3	-1
11	Finland	80.2	—	81	Albania	57.6	-5
12	Taiwan, China	80.2	1	82	North Macedonia	57.3	2
13	Korea, Rep.	79.6	2	83	Argentina	57.2	-2
14	Canada	79.6	-2	84	Sri Lanka	57.1	1
15	France	78.8	2	85	Ukraine	57	-2
16	Australia	78.7	-2	86	Moldova	56.7	2
17	Norway	78.1	-1	87	Tunisia	56.4	—
18	Luxembourg	77	1	88	Lebanon	56.3	-8
19	New Zealand	76.7	-1	89	Algeria	56.3	3
20	Israel	76.7	—	90	Ecuador	55.7	-4
21	Austria	76.6	1	91	Botswana	55.5	-1
22	Belgium	76.4	-1	92	Bosnia and Herzegovina	54.7	-1
23	Spain	75.3	3	93	Egypt	54.5	1
24	Ireland	75.1	-1	94	Namibia	54.5	6
25	United Arab Emirates	75	2	95	Kenya	54.1	-2
26	Iceland	74.7	-2	96	Kyrgyz Republic	54	1
27	Malaysia	74.6	-2	97	Paraguay	53.6	-2
28	China	73.9	—	98	Guatemala	53.5	-2
29	Qatar	72.9	1	99	Iran, Islamic Rep.	53	-10
30	Italy	71.5	1	100	Rwanda	52.8	8
31	Estonia	70.9	1	101	Honduras	52.7	—
32	Czech Republic	70.9	-3	102	Mongolia	52.6	-3
33	Chile	70.5	—	103	El Salvador	52.6	-5
34	Portugal	70.4	—	104	Tajikistan	52.4	-2
35	Slovenia	70.2	—	105	Bangladesh	52.1	-2
36	Saudi Arabia	70	3	106	Cambodia	52.1	4
37	Poland	68.9	—	107	Bolivia	51.8	-2
38	Malta	68.5	-2	108	Nepal	51.6	1
39	Lithuania	68.4	1	109	Nicaragua	51.5	-5
40	Thailand	68.1	-2	110	Pakistan	51.4	-3

CHAPTER 2 COMPETITIVENESS LANDSCAPE

Table 26: Global Competitiveness ranking (continued)

Rank	Economy	Score	Rank difference from 2018	Rank	Economy	Score	Rank difference from 2018
41	Latvia	67	1	111	Ghana	51.2	-5
42	Slovak Republic	66.8	-1	112	Cape Verde	50.8	-1
43	Russian Federation	66.7	—	113	Lao PDR	50.1	-1
44	Cyprus	66.4	—	114	Senegal	49.7	-1
45	Bahrain	65.4	5	115	Uganda	48.9	2
46	Kuwait	65.1	8	116	Nigeria	48.3	-1
47	Hungary	65.1	1	117	Tanzania	48.2	-1
48	Mexico	64.9	-2	118	Côte d'Ivoire	48.1	-4
49	Bulgaria	64.9	2	119	Gabon	47.5	n/a
50	Indonesia	64.6	-5	120	Zambia	46.5	-2
51	Romania	64.4	1	121	Eswatini	46.4	-1
52	Mauritius	64.3	-3	122	Guinea	46.1	4
53	Oman	63.6	-6	123	Cameroon	46	-2
54	Uruguay	63.5	-1	124	Gambia, The	45.9	-5
55	Kazakhstan	62.9	4	125	Benin	45.8	-2
56	Brunei Darussalam	62.8	6	126	Ethiopia	44.4	-4
57	Colombia	62.7	3	127	Zimbabwe	44.2	1
58	Azerbaijan	62.7	11	128	Malawi	43.7	1
59	Greece	62.6	-2	129	Mali	43.6	-4
60	South Africa	62.4	7	130	Burkina Faso	43.4	-6
61	Turkey	62.1	—	131	Lesotho	42.9	-1
62	Costa Rica	62	-7	132	Madagascar	42.9	n/a
63	Croatia	61.9	5	133	Venezuela	41.8	-6
64	Philippines	61.9	-8	134	Mauritania	40.9	-3
65	Peru	61.7	-2	135	Burundi	40.3	1
66	Panama	61.6	-2	136	Angola	38.1	1
67	Viet Nam	61.5	10	137	Mozambique	38.1	-4
68	India	61.4	-10	138	Haiti	36.3	—
69	Armenia	61.3	1	139	Congo, Dem. Rep.	36.1	-4
70	Jordan	60.9	3	140	Yemen	35.5	-1
				141	Chad	35.1	-1

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Regional performance

The WEF identified East Asia and the Pacific as the world's most competitive region, followed by Europe and North America. However, it noted that the region is also home to countries with significant competitiveness deficits like Cambodia. Sub-Saharan Africa is overall the least competitive region, with 25 of the 34 economies assessed this year scoring below 50. However, many countries in this region have improved their competitiveness performance, helping Sub-Saharan Africa become one of the most improved regions.

Table 27: Regional performance, by pillar, Average score (0–100)

Region (alphabetical order)	Enabling Environment				Human Capital		Markets				Innovation Ecosystem	
	Institutions	Infrastructure	ICT adoption	Macro economic stability	Health	Skills	Product market	Labour market	Financial system	Market size	Business dynamism	Innovation capability
East Asia and the Pacific	-0.1	0.7	4.4	0.9	-0.6	0.6	0	1.1	2	1	0.6	2
Eurasia	1.5	2.1	4.2	4.5	-2.8	0.9	-1.9	3	2.5	1.1	2.9	1.9
Europe and North America	0.3	1.2	3.7	0.9	-1.7	0.5	-3.3	0.2	2	0.7	0	0
Latin America and the Caribbean	-1.4	0.2	9.8	-0.5	-0.6	2.2	-4.3	1.1	1.4	-2.5	2.8	1.8
Middle East and North Africa	1.2	1.4	4.8	-4.3	1	1.1	2.7	3.4	2.2	1	2.1	4.3
South Asia	-0.3	-0.8	6.4	0.8	0	0.8	-3.1	-0.5	1.6	1.2	2.3	-0.1
Sub-Saharan Africa	-1.2	-2.9	15.8	3.7	5.8	2.1	-2.3	1.5	0.7	4	1.4	3.6

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 28: Changes in regional performance, by pillar Percentage change 2018–2019

Region (alphabetical order)	Enabling Environment				Human Capital		Markets				Innovation Ecosystem	
	Institutions	Infrastructure	ICT adoption	Macro economic stability	Health	Skills	Product market	Labour market	Financial system	Market size	Business dynamism	Innovation capability
East Asia and the Pacific	-0.1	0.7	4.4	0.9	-0.6	0.6	0	1.1	2	1	0.6	2
Eurasia	1.5	2.1	4.2	4.5	-2.8	0.9	-1.9	3	2.5	1.1	2.9	1.9
Europe and North America	0.3	1.2	3.7	0.9	-1.7	0.5	-3.3	0.2	2	0.7	0	0
Latin America and the Caribbean	-1.4	0.2	9.8	-0.5	-0.6	2.2	-4.3	1.1	1.4	-2.5	2.8	1.8
Middle East and North Africa	1.2	1.4	4.8	-4.3	1	1.1	2.7	3.4	2.2	1	2.1	4.3
South Asia	-0.3	-0.8	6.4	0.8	0	0.8	-3.1	-0.5	1.6	1.2	2.3	-0.1
Sub-Saharan Africa	-1.2	-2.9	15.8	3.7	5.8	2.1	-2.3	1.5	0.7	4	1.4	3.6

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

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2.3. MAURITIUS PERFORMANCE IN THE TWELVE PILLARS

2.3.1. Pillar 1- Institutions

Strong institutions are the backbone of an economy. These are critical for driving a country's productivity and long-term growth. The Institutions pillar of the Global Competitiveness Index 4.0 assesses security, property rights, social capital, checks and balances, transparency and ethics, public-sector performance, future orientation of government, and corporate governance. Mauritius is well-positioned in terms of institutional quality (score= 64.7, rank=29th), with relatively high security standards (rank=41st) in the regional context, developed social capital (rank=21st), strong corporate governance (rank=14th) and relatively strong commitment to sustainability (rank=28th). Finland ranks first globally for the quality of its public institutions, followed by Singapore and New Zealand respectively.

Table 29: Pillar 1- Institutional ranking, Mauritius performance

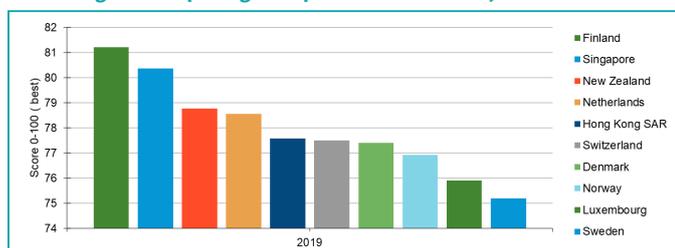
Indicator	Score	Rank
Security	82.8	41
Organized crime	74.2	31
Homicide rate	95.6	60
Terrorism incidence	100	1
Reliability of police services	61.4	60
Social capital	59.6	21
Social capital	59.6	21
Checks and balances	61.5	28
Budget transparency	53	n/a
Judicial independence	69.2	27
Efficiency of legal framework in challenging regulations	52.1	33
Freedom of the press	71.5	47
Public-sector performance	59.2	40
Burden of government regulation	50.2	30
Efficiency of legal framework in settling disputes	58.3	33
E-Participation	69.1	69
Transparency	51	50
Incidence of corruption	51	50
Property rights	63.2	47
Property rights	71.9	29
Intellectual property protection	57.7	56
Quality of land administration	60	55
Corporate governance	74.3	14
Strength of auditing and accounting standards	72.8	35
Conflict of interest regulation	80	12
Shareholder governance	70	28
Future orientation of government	66	26
Government ensuring policy stability	67.7	24
Government's responsiveness to change	48.9	56
Legal framework's adaptability to digital business models	45.4	59
Government long-term vision	52.7	57
Energy efficiency regulation	76.2	n/a
Renewable energy regulation	76.1	n/a
Environment-related treaties in force	82.8	36

Source: *Global Competitiveness Report 2019*

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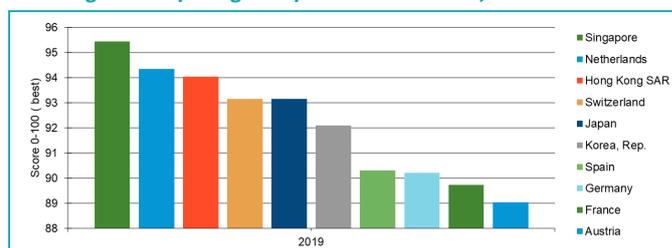
COMPETITIVENESS LANDSCAPE

Figure 3: Top ten global performers- Pillar 1; Institutions



Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Figure 4: Top ten global performers- Pillar 2; Infrastructure



Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 30: Top five best performers- Pillar 1: Institutions, Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	Score (0-100- best)	Rank
Mauritius	64.7	29
Rwanda	63.2	36
Seychelles	61.0	42
South Africa	57.1	55
Namibia	56.8	56

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 32: Top five best performers- Pillar 2: Infrastructure, Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	Score (0-100- best)	Rank
Mauritius	68.7	64
South Africa	68.1	69
Seychelles	62.3	87
Namibia	58.5	94
Eswatini	53.7	107

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

2.3.2. Pillar 2- Infrastructure

Infrastructure is a prerequisite to creating productive economies and liveable cities. Well-developed infrastructure lowers transportation and transaction costs, and facilitates the movement of goods and people and the transfer of information within a country and across borders. It also ensures access to power and water—both necessary conditions for modern economic activity. Singapore ranks first on the Infrastructure pillar (score= 95.4), where it also ranks first for road quality infrastructure, efficiency of seaport and airport services, and sea transport connectivity. Mauritius has the best infrastructure in the sub-Saharan African region. (score= 68.7, rank=64th).

Table 31: Pillar 2- Infrastructure ranking, Mauritius performance

Indicator	Score	Rank
Transport infrastructure	49.1	72
Road connectivity	36.3	136
Quality of road infrastructure	61.4	43
Railroad density	n/a	n/a
Efficiency of train services	n/a	n/a
Airport connectivity	37.8	86
Efficiency of air transport services	66.5	53
Liner shipping connectivity	34.5	53
Efficiency of seaport services	58	56
Utility infrastructure	88.3	58
Electricity access	100	1
Electricity supply quality	98.3	27
Exposure to unsafe drinking water	99.7	30
Reliability of water supply	55.3	97

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

2.3.3. Pillar 3: ICT adoption

ICT adoption captures the degree of diffusion of specific information and communication technologies (ICTs) in an economy. ICTs reduce transaction costs and speed up information and idea exchange, improving efficiency and sparking innovation and are becoming as necessary as power and transport infrastructure for all economies. The Republic of Korea is the world's champion in terms of broad-based ICT adoption, with a score of 92. 8. Only Mauritius, Seychelles and Gabon score above 50 for ICT adoption in sub-Saharan Africa.

Table 33: Pillar 3- ICT adoption ranking, Mauritius performance

Indicator	Score	Rank
Mobile-cellular telephone subscriptions	100	11
Mobile-broadband subscriptions	n/a	85
Fixed-broadband Internet subscriptions	43.3	48
Fibre internet subscriptions	n/a	15
Internet users	58.6	86

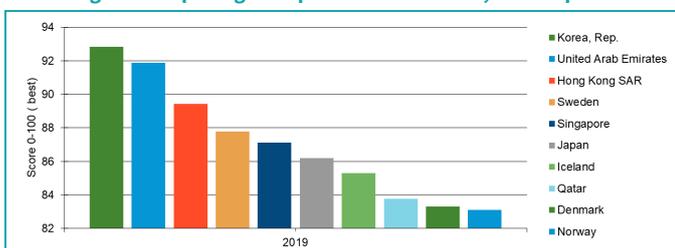
Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019



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Figure 5: Top ten global performers- Pillar 3; ICT adoption



Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 34: Top five best performers- Pillar 3: ICT adoption, Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	Score (0-100- best)	Rank
Mauritius	68.3	43
Seychelles	59.4	64
Gabon	50.8	85
South Africa	49.7	89
Ghana	49.1	90

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

2.3.4. Pillar 4: Macroeconomic stability

The Macroeconomic stability pillar (pillar 4) captures the extent to which a country's public sector can provide appropriate counter-cyclical measures and invest in projects that the private sector cannot finance. The stability of the macroeconomic environment is important for business and therefore is significant for the overall competitiveness of a country. The strongest performers in sub-Saharan Africa for pillar 4 were Botswana (score of 100), Mauritius (score 89.4) and South Africa (score= 88.4).

Table 35: Pillar 4- Macroeconomic stability, Mauritius performance

Indicator	Score	Rank
Inflation	100	1
Debt dynamics	78.9	60

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019



Table 36: Top ten global performers- Pillar 4; Macroeconomic stability

Country	Score (0-100- best)	Rank
Albania	Inflation	1
United Arab Emirates	Debt dynamics	1
United Arab Emirates	Inflation	1
Australia	Debt dynamics	1
Armenia	Inflation	1
Austria	Debt dynamics	1
Australia	Inflation	1
Belgium	Debt dynamics	1
Austria	Inflation	1
Botswana	Debt dynamics	1
Belgium	Inflation	1
Canada	Debt dynamics	1
Benin	Inflation	1
Switzerland	Debt dynamics	1
Burkina Faso	Inflation	1
Chile	Debt dynamics	1
Bulgaria	Inflation	1
Czech Republic	Debt dynamics	1
Bahrain	Inflation	1
Germany	Debt dynamics	1

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 37: Top five best performers- Pillar 4: Macroeconomic stability, Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	Score	Rank
Botswana	100	1
Mauritius	89.4	57
South Africa	88.4	59
Benin	75	64
Burkina Faso	75	64

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

2.3.5. Pillar 5: Health

A healthy nation is vital to a country's competitiveness and productivity state. Healthier individuals have more physical and mental capabilities, are more productive and creative, and tend to invest more in education as life expectancy increases. Healthier children develop into adults with stronger cognitive abilities. The strongest health performers in sub-Saharan Africa for the health pillar were Cape Verde (score=80.8), Seychelles (score=78.0) and Mauritius (score=77.4).

Table 38: Pillar 5- Health, Mauritius performance

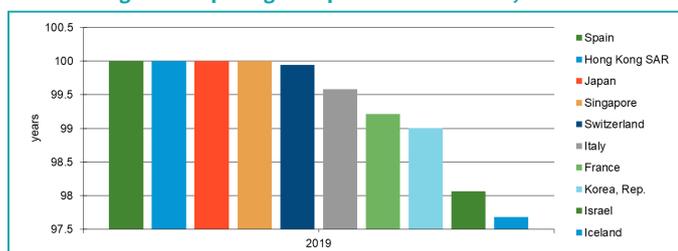
Indicator	Score	Rank
Healthy life expectancy (years)	77.4	81

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

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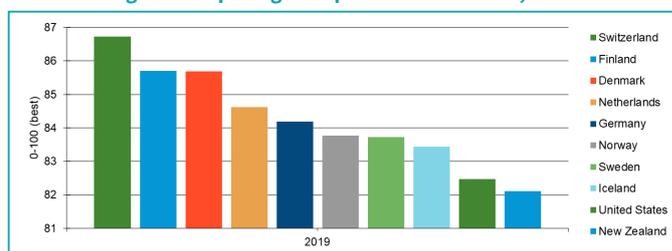
COMPETITIVENESS LANDSCAPE

Figure 6: Top ten global performers- Pillar 5; Health



Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Figure 7: Top ten global performers- Pillar 6, Skills



Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 39: Top five best performers- Pillar 5: Health

Country	Score (0-100- best)	Rank
Cape Verde	80.8	67
Seychelles	78.0	79
Mauritius	77.4	82
Mauritania	65.3	103
Rwanda	61.4	107

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 41: Top five best performers- Pillar 6: Skills, Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	Score (0-100- best)	Rank
Seychelles	71.7	36
Mauritius	60.6	79
South Africa	58.1	90
Botswana	56.8	94
Kenya	56.3	97

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

2.3.6. Pillar 6: Skills

Education embeds skills and competencies in the labour force. Highly educated populations are more productive because they possess greater collective ability to perform tasks and transfer knowledge quickly, and create new knowledge and applications. Switzerland tops the skills pillar globally. The strongest performers for the skills pillar in sub-Saharan Africa are the Seychelles (score=71.7) and Mauritius (score=60.6). The weakest were Angola (score=29.1) and Chad (score=29.0).

Table 40: Pillar 6- Skills, Mauritius performance

Indicator	Score	Rank
Current workforce	49.6	96
Mean years of schooling	45.3	107
Skills of current workforce	53.9	58
Extent of staff training	56.8	43
Quality of vocational training	54.6	57
Skillset of graduates	51.7	68
Digital skills among active population	55.7	60
Ease of finding skilled employees	50.6	82
Future workforce	71.7	65
School life expectancy	83.2	55
Skills of future workforce	60.2	66
Critical thinking in teaching	40.1	73
Pupil-to-teacher ratio in primary education	80.2	66

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

2.3.7. Pillar 7-Product market

Efficient product market enables countries to be well positioned to produce the right mix of products and services. Mauritius has achieved its best score on the Product market pillar (with a score of 64.5 and ranked 22nd). Hong Kong SAR tops the Product market pillar (score=81.6), followed closely by Singapore (score=81.2).



Table 42: Pillar 7- Product market, Mauritius performance

Indicator	Score	Rank
Domestic competition	56.2	51
Distortive effect of taxes and subsidies on competition	66	11
Extent of market dominance	38.1	107
Competition in services	64.4	76
Trade openness	72.7	6
Prevalence of non-tariff barriers	65	34
Trade tariffs	96.2	4
Complexity of tariffs	87.2	56
Border clearance efficiency	42.6	59

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

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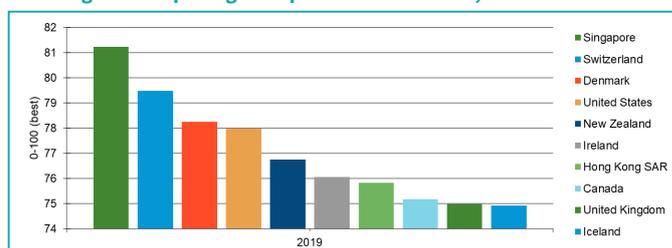
COMPETITIVENESS LANDSCAPE

Figure 8: Top ten global performers- Pillar 7, Product Market



Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Figure 9: Top ten global performers- Pillar 8, Labour Market



Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 43: Top five best performers- Pillar 7: Product Market, Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	Score (0-100- best)	Rank
Mauritius	64.5	22
Seychelles	60.0	38
Rwanda	55.3	66
South Africa	54.8	69
Guinea	54.6	71

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

2.3.8. Pillar 8- Labour market

Well-functioning labour markets foster productivity by matching workers with the most suitable jobs for their skillset and developing talent to reach their full potential. The strongest performers in sub-Saharan Africa for labour market pillar were Seychelles (score= 65.8), Namibia (score=63.7), Rwanda (score= 63.6) and Cape Verde (score= 61.4), and the weakest were Mauritania (score= 43.7), Mozambique (score= 43.2) and Chad (score= 42.2).

Table 44: Pillar 8- Labour market, Mauritius performance

Indicator	Score	Rank
Flexibility	52.1	113
Redundancy costs	0.0	138
Hiring and firing practices	59.8	21
Cooperation in labour-employer relations	62.5	45
Flexibility of wage determination	62.4	91
Active labour market policies	45.4	58
Workers' rights	74.0	54
Ease of hiring foreign labour	55.9	52
Internal labour mobility	56.7	79
Meritocracy and incentivization	66.0	56
Reliance on professional management	55.0	71
Pay and productivity	50.0	68
Ratio of wage and salaried female workers to male workers	59.1	76
Labour tax rate	99.9	25

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 45: Top best performers- Pillar 8: Labour Market, Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	Score (0-100- best)	Rank
Seychelles	65.8	36
Namibia	63.7	44
Rwanda	63.6	45
Cape Verde	61.4	58
Lesotho	61.3	60
South Africa	60.9	63
Botswana	60.2	66
Nigeria	60.2	67
Malawi	60.1	68
Uganda	60.0	69
Mauritius	59.0	76

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

2.3.9. Pillar 9- Financial system

A developed financial sector fosters productivity in mainly three ways: pooling savings into productive investments; improving the allocation of capital to the most promising investments through monitoring borrowers, reducing information asymmetries; and providing an efficient payment system. At the same time, appropriate regulation of financial institutions is needed to avoid financial crises that may cause long-lasting negative effects on investments and productivity. The strongest performers in Sub-Saharan Africa for pillar 9, financial system, are: South Africa (score= 83.2), Mauritius (score=77.2) and Namibia (score=69.1). The weakest performers in Sub-Saharan Africa for pillar 9, financial system are: Angola (score= 38.4), Mauritania (score= 37.4) and Chad (score 37.3).



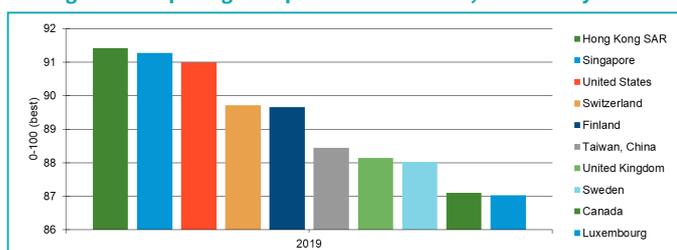
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Table 46: Pillar 9- Financial system, Mauritius performance

Indicator	Score	Rank
Depth	65.8	28
Domestic credit to private sector	100.0	29
Financing of SMEs	50.1	58
Venture capital availability	35.2	72
Market capitalization	65.7	33
Insurance premium	78.1	25
Stability	91.4	42
Soundness of banks	78.8	31
Non-performing loans	86.8	84
Credit gap	100	1
Banks' regulatory capital ratio	100	48

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Figure 10: Top ten global performers- Pillar 9, Financial system



Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 47: Top five best performers- Pillar 9: Financial system, Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	Score (0-100- best)	Rank
South Africa	83.2	19
Mauritius	77.2	27
Namibia	69.1	41
Botswana	59.7	72
Cape Verde	58.5	74

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

2.3.10. Pillar 10- Market size

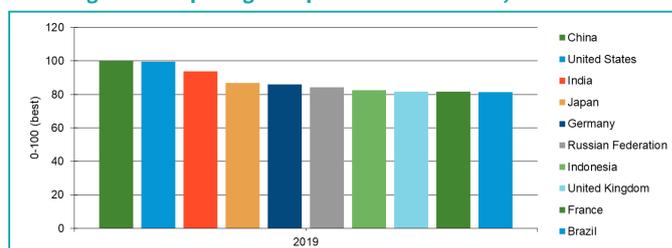
Larger markets lift productivity through economies of scale: the unit cost of production tends to decrease with the amount of output produced. Large markets also incentivize innovation. The strongest performers for pillar 10, market size in Sub-Saharan Africa are Nigeria (score= 71.1), South Africa (score= 68.6) and Ethiopia (score= 55.1).

Table 48: Pillar 10- Market Size, Mauritius performance

Indicator	Score	Rank
Gross domestic product	n/a	122
Imports of goods and services	n/a	48

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Figure 11: Top ten global performers- Pillar 10, Market size



Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 49: Top best performers- Pillar 10: Market size, Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	Score (0-100- best)	Rank
Nigeria	71.1	30
South Africa	68.6	35
Ethiopia	55.1	63
Ghana	54.2	65
Angola	53.9	69
Kenya	52.7	72
Mauritius	37.2	119

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

2.3.11. Pillar 11- Business dynamism

An agile and dynamic private sector increases productivity by taking business risks, testing new ideas and creating innovative products and services. The strongest performers for pillar 11, business dynamism in the Sub-Saharan African region are Mauritius (score= 66.1), Rwanda (score= 65.6) and Kenya (score= 63.9), while Mauritania (score= 38.9), Angola (score= 36.7) and Chad (score= 29.7) occupied the bottom places.



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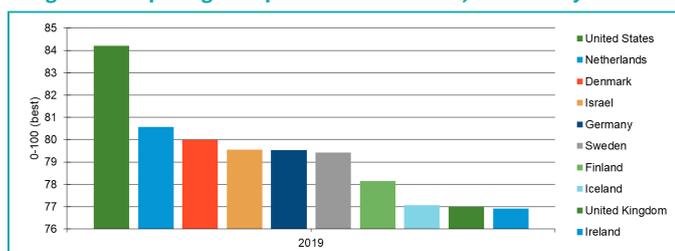
COMPETITIVENESS LANDSCAPE

Table 50: Pillar 11- Business dynamism, Mauritius performance

Indicator	Score	Rank
Administrative requirements	83.3	28
Cost of starting a business	99.6	21
Time to start a business	95.5	23
Insolvency recovery rate	72.6	27
Insolvency regulatory framework	65.6	59
Entrepreneurial culture	49.0	82
Attitudes towards entrepreneurial risk	49.4	74
Willingness to delegate authority	59.2	51
Growth of innovative companies	46.7	92
Companies embracing disruptive ideas	40.6	88

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Figure 12: Top ten global performers- Pillar 11, Business dynamism



Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 51: Top five best performers- Pillar 11, Business dynamism, Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	Score (0-100- best)	Rank
Mauritius	66.1	38
Rwanda	65.6	46
Kenya	63.9	51
South Africa	61.9	60
Seychelles	61.5	64

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

2.3.12. Pillar 12- Innovation capability

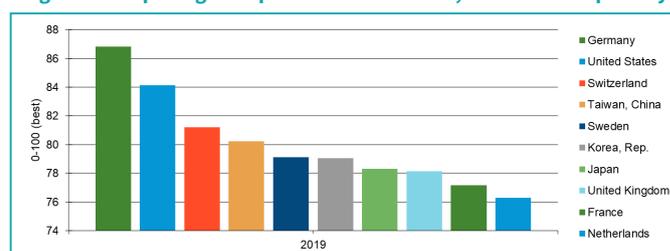
Countries that can generate greater knowledge accumulation and that offer better collaborative or interdisciplinary opportunities, tend to have more capacity to generate innovative ideas and new business models, which are widely considered the engines of economic growth. Germany stands out in particular for its innovation ecosystem. With a score of 86.8, it ranks first globally on the innovation capability pillar.

Table 52: Pillar 12- Innovation capability, Mauritius performance

Indicator	Score	Rank
Interaction and diversity	41.7	60
Diversity of workforce	68.3	26
State of cluster development	48.8	55
International co-inventions	11.3	57
Multistakeholder collaboration	38.3	106
Research and development	20.3	105
Scientific publications	62.6	121
Patent applications	12.5	67
R&D expenditures	5.9	95
Research institutions prominence	0.4	113
Commercialization	66.2	41
Buyer sophistication	46.1	58
Trademark applications	86.4	31

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Figure 13: Top ten global performers- Pillar 12, Innovation capability



Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019

Table 53: Top five best performers- Pillar 12, Innovation pillar, Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	Score (0-100- best)	Rank
Seychelles	46.1	45
South Africa	45.2	46
Mauritius	38.1	70
Kenya	36.3	78
Namibia	35.6	80

Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2019



Germany stands out in particular for its innovation ecosystem. With a score of 86.8, it ranks first globally on the innovation capability pillar.





CHAPTER 3
MAURITIUS IN THE WORLD

CHAPTER 3

MAURITIUS IN THE WORLD

3. MAURITIUS IN THE WORLD

3.1. EASE OF DOING BUSINESS- MAURITIUS IN THE TOP 20 COUNTRIES

Mauritius has emerged as the easiest place to do business in Africa, ranking 13th globally, according to the World Bank Group's Doing Business 2020⁴ report. More than half of the economies in the top-20 cohort in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business report 2020 are from the OECD high-income group; however, the top-20 list also includes four economies from East Asia and the Pacific, two from Europe and Central Asia, as well as one from the Middle East and North Africa and one from Sub-Saharan Africa.

Sub-Saharan Africa remains one of the weak-performing regions on the ease of doing business with an average score of 51.8, well below the OECD high-income economy average of 78.4 and the global average of 63.0. Compared to the previous year, Sub-Saharan African economies raised their average ease of doing business score by just 1 percentage point in Doing Business 2020, whereas economies in the Middle East and North Africa region raised their average score by 1.9.

Table 54: Ease of Doing Business 2020- Top fifteen performers

Economy	Global Rank	Starting a Business	Dealing with Construction Permits	Getting Electricity	Registering Property	Getting Credit	Protecting Minority Investors	Paying Taxes	Trading across Borders	Enforcing Contracts	Resolving Insolvency
New Zealand	1	1	7	48	2	1	3	9	63	23	36
Singapore	2	4	5	19	21	37	3	7	47	1	27
Hong Kong SAR, China	3	5	1	3	51	37	7	2	29	31	45
Denmark	4	45	4	21	11	48	28	8	1	14	6
Korea, Rep.	5	33	12	2	40	67	25	21	36	2	11
United States	6	55	24	64	39	4	36	25	39	17	2
Georgia	7	2	21	42	5	15	7	14	45	12	64
United Kingdom	8	18	23	8	41	37	7	27	33	34	14
Norway	9	25	22	44	15	94	21	34	22	3	5
Sweden	10	39	31	10	9	80	28	31	18	39	17
Lithuania	11	34	10	15	4	48	37	18	19	7	89
Malaysia	12	126	2	4	33	37	2	80	49	35	40
Mauritius	13	20	8	28	23	67	18	5	72	20	28
Australia	14	7	11	62	42	4	57	28	106	6	20
Taiwan, China	15	21	6	9	20	104	21	39	61	11	23

Source: Ease of Doing Business Report 2020

⁴ The Ease of doing business index ranks countries against each other based on how the regulatory environment is conducive to business operation, stronger protections of property rights among other parameters. Economies with a high rank (1 to 15) have simpler and more friendly regulations for businesses.

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Table 55: Ease of Doing Business in Sub-Saharan Africa- Top ten performers

Economy	Global Rank	Rank within group	Starting a Business	Dealing with Construction Permits	Getting Electricity	Registering Property	Getting Credit	Protecting Minority Investors	Paying Taxes	Trading across Borders	Enforcing Contracts	Resolving Insolvency
Mauritius	13	1	2	1	1	2	9	3	1	4	1	1
Rwanda	38	2	4	7	2	1	1	13	4	5	2	3
Kenya	56	3	25	15	3	24	1	1	14	12	11	2
South Africa	84	4	26	12	10	12	13	2	5	24	14	4
Zambia	85	5	20	6	12	32	1	5	2	26	24	6
Botswana	87	6	34	2	18	6	13	5	6	3	27	7
Togo	97	7	1	23	7	3	6	16	38	19	28	10
Seychelles	100	8	28	16	9	4	28	24	3	8	22	5
Namibia	104	9	37	9	4	42	13	9	11	20	5	23
Malawi	109	10	30	24	34	7	4	8	21	18	30	27

Source: Ease of Doing Business Report 2020

STARTING A BUSINESS

Formal registration of companies has many immediate benefits for the companies and for business owners and employees. Globally, Mauritius stands at the 20th position out of 190 economies to start a business. New Zealand remains the world topper in the area of starting a business, followed by Georgia, Canada, Singapore and Hong Kong SAR, China respectively. Whilst it takes 4.5 days for men and women to start a business in Mauritius, only half day is needed in New Zealand.

Table 56: Starting a business in Mauritius

Indicator	Mauritius	Sub-Saharan Africa	OECD High Income	Overall Best Performer
Procedure – Men (number)	4	7.4	4.9	New Zealand
Time – Men (days)	4.5	21.5	9.2	
Cost – Men (% of income per capita)	0.8	36.3	3	
Procedure – Women (number)	4	7.5	4.9	
Time – Women (days)	4.5	21.6	9.2	
Cost – Women (% of income per capita)	0.8	36.3	3	
Paid-in min. capital (% of income per capita)	0	9.3	7.6	

Source: Ease of Doing Business Report 2020

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DEALING WITH CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

Smart regulation ensures that standards are met while making compliance easy and accessible to all. Coherent and transparent rules, efficient processes and adequate allocation of resources are especially important in sectors where safety is at stake. Construction is one of them. Mauritius streamlined the process of dealing with construction permits by simplifying the process of plan approvals from utilities and reducing the time to apply for wastewater connection and is ranked 8th globally on this indicator. Hong Kong SAR, China top the world in the area of construction permits, followed by Malaysia, United Arab Emirates, Denmark and Singapore respectively.

Table 57: Dealing with construction permits in Mauritius

Indicator	Mauritius	Sub-Saharan Africa	OECD High Income	Overall Best Performer
Procedures (number)	12	15.1	12.7	Hong Kong SAR
Time (days)	95.5	145.4	152.3	
Cost (% of warehouse value)	0.4	8.9	1.5	
Building quality control index (0-15)	14	8.9	11.6	

Source: *Ease of Doing Business Report 2020*

GETTING ELECTRICITY

Access to reliable and affordable electricity is vital for businesses. Globally, Mauritius stands 28th in the ranking of 190 economies on the ease of getting electricity. United Arab Emirates is the world topper in the area of getting electricity followed by Korea Republic, Hong Kong SAR and Malaysia respectively. It takes 7 days to obtain electricity in United Arab Emirates, whilst 67 days are required in Mauritius.

Table 58: Getting electricity in Mauritius

Indicator	Mauritius	Sub-Saharan Africa	OECD High Income	Overall Best Performer
Procedures (number)	3	5.2	4.4	United Arab Emirates
Time (days)	67	109.6	74.8	
Cost (% of income per capita)	143.6	3,187.50	61	
Reliability of supply and transparency of tariffs index (0-8)	6	1.6	7.4	

Source: *Ease of Doing Business Report 2020*

REGISTERING PROPERTY

Ensuring formal property rights is fundamental. Mauritius made property registration faster by making it easier to check for encumbrances. Mauritius also improved the quality of its land administration system by publishing official service standards and court statistics on land disputes. Globally, Mauritius stands at 23rd in the ranking of 190 economies on the ease of registering property. Qatar is the global best performer in the area of registering property, followed by New Zealand and Rwanda respectively.

Table 59: Registering property

Indicator	Mauritius	Sub-Saharan Africa	OECD High Income	Overall Best Performer
Procedures (number)	5	6.1	4.7	Qatar
Time (days)	17	51.6	23.6	
Cost (% of property value)	0.6	7.3	4.2	
Quality of the land administration index (0-30)	22.5	9	23.2	

Source: *Ease of Doing Business Report 2020*

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GETTING CREDIT

Globally, Mauritius stands 67th in the ranking of 190 economies on the ease of getting credit. Azerbaijan, Brunei Darussalam and New Zealand are the world topper in the area of getting credit.

Table 60: Getting credit in Mauritius

Indicator	Mauritius	Sub-Saharan Africa	OECD High Income	Overall Best Performer
Strength of legal rights index (0-12)	6	5.1	6.1	Azerbaijan, Brunei Darussalam and New Zealand
Depth of credit information index (0-8)	7	3.9	6.8	
Credit Registry Coverage (% of adults)	100	8.3	24.4	
Credit bureau coverage (% of adults)	0	11	66.7	

Source: *Ease of Doing Business Report 2020*

PROTECTING MINORITY INVESTOR

Protecting minority investor matters for the ability of companies to raise the capital they need to grow, innovate, diversify and compete. Globally, Mauritius stands 18th in the ranking of 190 economies on the strength of minority investor protection index. Kenya is the world topper in the area of protecting minority investor.

Table 61: Protecting minority investors in Mauritius

Indicator	Mauritius	Sub-Saharan Africa	OECD High Income	Overall Best Performer
Strength of minority investor protection index (0-50)	39	-	-	Kenya
Extent of disclosure index (0-10)	7	5.5	6.5	
Extent of director liability index (0-10)	8	3.5	5.3	
Ease of shareholder suits index (0-10)	9	5.5	7.3	
Extent of shareholder rights index (0-6)	5	1.8	4.7	
Extent of ownership and control index (0-7)	5	1.4	4.5	
Extent of corporate transparency index (0-7)	5	1.5	5.7	

Source: *Ease of Doing Business Report 2020*

PAYING TAX

Taxes are essential. The level of tax rates needs to be carefully chosen—and needless complexity in tax rules avoided. Firms in economies that rank better on the ease of paying taxes in the Doing Business study tend to perceive both tax rates and tax administration as less of an obstacle to business according to the World Bank Enterprise Survey research. Mauritius is ranked 5th among 190 economies in the area of paying taxes. Bahrain leads the world in the area of paying taxes followed by Hong Kong SAR, China and Qatar.

Table 62: Paying taxes in Mauritius

Indicator	Mauritius	Sub-Saharan Africa	OECD High Income	Overall Best Performer
Payments (number per year)	8	36.6	10.3	Bahrain
Time (hours per year)	140	280.6	158.8	
Total tax and contribution rate (% of profit)	22.2	47.3	39.9	
Postfiling index (0-100)	98.3	55.9	86.7	

Source: *Ease of Doing Business Report 2020*

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TRADING ACROSS BORDERS

In today's globalized world, making trade between economies easier is increasingly important for business. Globally, Mauritius stands 72nd in the ranking of 190 economies on the ease of trading across borders.

Table 63: Trading across borders in Mauritius

Indicator	Mauritius	Sub-Saharan Africa	OECD High Income	Overall Best Performer
Time to export: Border compliance (hours)	24	97.1	12.7	Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, France, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Czech Republic, Netherlands, Slovak Republic
Cost to export: Border compliance (USD)	303	603.1	136.8	
Time to export: Documentary compliance (hours)	9	71.9	2.3	
Cost to export: Documentary compliance (USD)	128	172.5	33.4	
Time to import: Border compliance (hours)	41	126.2	8.5	
Cost to import: Border compliance (USD)	372	690.6	98.1	
Time to import: Documentary compliance (hours)	9	96.1	3.4	
Cost to import: Documentary compliance (USD)	166	287.2	23.5	

Source: *Ease of Doing Business Report 2020*

ENFORCING CONTRACTS

Effective commercial dispute resolution has many benefits. Mauritius made enforcing contracts easier by publishing performance measurement reports for the commercial division of the Supreme Court. Globally, Mauritius stands 20th in the ranking of 190 economies on the ease of enforcing contracts. Singapore leads the world in the area of enforcing contracts followed by Republic of Korea and Norway respectively. It takes 164 days to enforce contracts in Singapore compared to 490 days in Mauritius.

Table 64: Enforcing contracts in Mauritius

Indicator	Mauritius	Sub-Saharan Africa	OECD High Income	Overall Best Performer
Time (days)	490	654.9	589.6	Singapore
Cost (% of claim value)	25	41.6	21.5	
Quality of judicial processes index (0-18)	13.5	6.9	11.7	

Source: *Ease of Doing Business Report 2020*



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RESOLVING INSOLVENCY

Fast and cheap insolvency proceedings result in the speedy return of businesses to normal operation and increase returns to creditors. Mauritius made resolving insolvency easier by improving the continuation of the debtor's business during insolvency proceedings. Globally, Mauritius stands 28th in the ranking of 190 economies on the ease of resolving insolvency. Finland is the world topper in the area of resolving insolvency, followed by United States and Japan respectively. It takes 0.9 years to resolve insolvency in Finland compared to Mauritius, which takes 1.7 years.

Table 65: Resolving insolvency in Mauritius

Indicator	Mauritius	Sub-Saharan Africa	OECD High Income	Overall Best Performer
Recovery rate (cents on the dollar)	67.4	20.5	70.2	Finland
Time (years)	1.7	2.9	1.7	
Cost (% of estate)	14.5	22.8	9.3	
Outcome (0 as piecemeal sale and 1 as going concern)	1	-	-	
Strength of insolvency framework index (0-16)	12	6.5	11.9	

Source: *Ease of Doing Business Report 2020*

3.2. Global Happiness Index 2020

For the third year in a row, Finland is top of the world for happiness, according to the World Happiness Report 2020⁵. Denmark comes in second, followed by Switzerland and Iceland. Mauritius has been ranked as the 49th happiest country in the world and 1st happiest country in Sub-Saharan Africa. Afghanistan ranked lowest among 153 countries, with South Sudan and Zimbabwe just above it.

In addition to the country rankings, the World Happiness Report 2020 for the first time ranks cities around the world by their subjective well-being. Helsinki (Finland) and Aarhus (Denmark) are ranked first and second while Kabul in Afghanistan and Sanaa in Yemen respectively are at the very bottom. Port-Louis in Mauritius is ranked 104th on the list out of 186 cities.

Table 66: Ranking of happiest countries in the world

Country	2012	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Finland	7	6	5	5	1	1	1
Denmark	1	3	1	2	3	2	2
Switzerland	3	1	2	4	5	6	3
Iceland	9	2	3	3	4	4	4
Norway	2	4	4	1	2	3	5
Netherlands	4	7	7	6	6	5	6
Sweden	5	8	10	10	9	7	7
New Zealand	13	9	8	8	8	8	8
Austria	8	13	12	13	12	10	9
Luxembourg	19	17	20	18	17	14	10
Mauritius	67	71	66	64	55	57	49

Source: *Ease of Doing Business Report 2020*

⁵ The World Happiness Report is an annual survey by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network for the United Nations. It looks at the state of global happiness in 156 countries, ranking countries using the Gallup World Poll and six factors: levels of GDP, life expectancy, generosity, social support, freedom and corruption income. The World Happiness Report was originally launched in 2012.

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3.3. Global Talent Competitiveness Index 2020

Mauritius ranks 49th out of 132 countries on the 2020 Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI) 2020⁶. The sub- African region has the weakest average performance in the GTCI 2020. In fact, no fewer than 20 of the Sub-Saharan African countries are found at the bottom quartile of the index. Mauritius (49th) is the only country in the region that has an overall score above the GTCI median. This can be attributed to solid performances in enabling talent and Vocational and Technical Skills and strong regulatory landscape. The country's main challenge is to improve its pool of Global Knowledge Skills. South Africa, ranked 70th globally is the second-best performing country in the region followed by Botswana (rank= 71st).

Switzerland is leading the 2020 GTCI ranking with a score of 81.26. The United States are 2nd (79.09) and Singapore comes in 3rd place (78.48). Addressing the theme of Global Talent in the Age of Artificial Intelligence, this seventh edition of GTCI explores how the development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is not only changing the nature of work but also forcing a re-evaluation of workplace practices, corporate structures and innovation ecosystems.

Highlights from the GTCI 2020 edition

- **The gap between talent champions (almost all of them high-income countries) and the rest of the world is widening.**
- **Turning Artificial intelligence (AI) into a force for good requires a proactive, cooperative approach.**
- **When introducing AI to organisations, communities, or societies as a whole, acceptability is a condition for sustainability.**
- **AI may provide significant opportunities for emerging countries to leapfrog.**
- **The emergence of AI in the workplace requires a massive re-skilling of the workforce.**
- **Cities are striving to become AI hubs and attract relevant talents.**



⁶ The Global Talent Competitiveness Index published by INSEAD, the Business School for the World, in partnership with the Adecco Group and Tata Communications, measures how countries and cities grow, attract and retain talent, as well as provide a unique resource for decision makers to understand the global talent competitiveness picture and develop strategies for boosting their competitiveness. The report measures levels of Global Talent Competitiveness by looking at 70 variables. The 2020 index covers 132 national economies across all groups of income and levels of development.

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3.4. Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance

With a score of 79.5 (out of 100) Mauritius is ranked 1st in the Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG) 2018 Rankings. The IIAG Ranking, on its 12th year, annually compiled by the Mo Ibrahim Foundation to assess the quality of governance in African countries. The ranking provides a comprehensive measure of governance by analysing four major components, Safety and Rule of Law, Participation and Human Rights, Sustainable Economic Opportunity and Human Development. These components are further divided into smaller metrics and each metric is composed of multiple indicators that are easily measured and monitored throughout the year. Over 100 detailed indicators are used to rank the governance of African countries.

The 2018 Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG), highlights that public governance progress in Africa is lagging behind the needs and expectations of a growing population, composed mainly of young people.

18 countries - one out of three countries on the continent – display a worse governance score in 2017 than ten years ago. Even if some of these countries have begun to turn things around, the majority fail to do so. Some of these (Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Libya) are among the ten lowest scoring countries in terms of Overall Governance in 2017, with decline worsening over the last five years. Rapidly declining Safety & Rule of Law is a common factor in these countries. However, these alarming trends do not only concern low scoring countries. Three of the still top five scoring countries – Mauritius, Cabo Verde and Botswana – also register over the decade a decline which worsens over the last five years.

Table 67: Overall performance, Mauritius-Mo Ibrahim Index 2018

	Score / 100		Rank / 54		Africa		
	2017	Δ^7	2017	Δ	Lowest	Average	Highest
OVERALL GOVERNANCE	79.5	-0.7	1	↔0	13.6	49.9	79.5
SAFETY & RULE OF LAW	81.3	0.0	1	↑1	12.3	52.6	81.3
RULE OF LAW	93.3	-2.7	1	↔0	14.9	53.9	93.3
TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY	64.6	-4.3	3	↔0	5.1	35.3	66.9
PERSONAL SAFETY	67.2	+2.1	1	↑5	5.9	46.2	67.2
NATIONAL SECURITY	100.0	+5.0	1	↑6	17.1	75.1	100.0
PARTICIPATION & HUMAN RIGHTS	77.2	+1.6	1	↑1	17.5	49.2	77.2
PARTICIPATION	89.4	+4.1	1	↑1	2.6	49.4	89.4
RIGHTS	78.7	-1.1	1	↑1	8.1	44.2	78.7
GENDER	63.6	+1.9	18	↓7	17.1	54.0	87.3
SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY	74.8	-0.2	1	↔0	7.4	44.8	74.8
PUBLIC MANAGEMENT	61.7	+7.4	6	↑1	10.9	43.3	64.8
BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT	74.4	-11.7	2	↓1	0.0	41.1	83.6
INFRASTRUCTURE	83.0	+4.7	2	↓1	9.9	44.5	87.2
RURAL SECTOR	80.1	-1.3	2	↔0	13.2	51.1	84.1
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	84.6	-4.2	1	↔0	16.4	52.8	84.6
WELFARE	76.9	-9.2	2	↔0	10.7	45.9	83.3
EDUCATION	83.8	+1.8	1	↔0	0.0	44.5	83.8
HEALTH	93.2	-5.2	1	↔0	37.4	67.8	93.2

Source: Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG) 2018 Rankings

⁷ Change

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Table 68: Overall governance – Africa

OVERALL GOVERNANCE			
Rank/54	Country	Score	Δ
	Africa	49.9	+1.0
27	Algeria	50.2	-1.3
45	Angola	38.3	+0.7
13	Benin	58.7	-0.1
5	Botswana	68.5	-3.7
16	Burkina Faso	57.1	+4.8
43	Burundi	39.8	-5.0
3	Cabo Verde	71.1	-0.8
36	Cameroon	46.2	-0.3
50	CAR	29.5	-2.5
46	Chad	35.4	+4.6
34	Comoros	47.5	+3.9
43	Congo	39.8	+0.7
22	Côte d'Ivoire	54.5	+12.7
47	DRC	32.1	-2.8
38	Djibouti	45.1	+0.8
29	Egypt	49.9	+3.9
48	Equatorial Guinea	30.9	-0.1
51	Eritrea	29.3	-2.9
35	Ethiopia	46.5	+2.6
41	Gabon	42.4	-0.1
21	Gambia	54.9	+3.0
6	Ghana	68.1	+0.9
37	Guinea	45.9	+6.1
42	Guinea-Bissau	40.2	+0.9
11	Kenya	59.8	+6.1
16	Lesotho	57.1	0.0
23	Liberia	51.6	+4.8

OVERALL GOVERNANCE (continued)			
Rank/54	Country	Score	Δ
52	Libya	28.3	-15.6
31	Madagascar	49.0	-4.4
19	Malawi	55.8	-1.4
28	Mali	50.1	-4.0
40	Mauritania	43.4	+1.2
1	Mauritius	79.5	-0.7
15	Morocco	58.4	+7.3
25	Mozambique	51.0	-3.0
4	Namibia	68.6	+3.3
24	Niger	51.2	+5.6
33	Nigeria	47.9	+2.8
8	Rwanda	64.3	+5.9
12	São Tomé & Príncipe	59.2	+2.3
10	Senegal	63.3	+5.9
2	Seychelles	73.2	+4.0
26	Sierra Leone	50.9	+0.5
54	Somalia	13.6	+6.0
7	South Africa	68.0	-0.6
53	South Sudan	19.3	.
49	Sudan	30.8	+1.4
32	Swaziland	48.7	+1.4
14	Tanzania	58.5	+1.3
30	Togo	49.1	+5.2
9	Tunisia	63.5	+6.9
20	Uganda	55.0	+1.4
18	Zambia	56.2	+1.8
39	Zimbabwe	44.7	+10.8

Continental Average		
Africa	49.9	+1.0

Source: Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG) 2018 Rankings

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3.5. Mauritius in the world- A snapshot

AREAS ENVIRONMENT			
Report	Current rank	Publisher	Top performer
Environmental Performance Index 2018	90 (out of 180 countries)	Yale University & World Economic Forum	Switzerland
AREAS COMPETITIVENESS			
Global Competitiveness Report 2019	52 (out of 141 countries)	World Economic Forum	20
(WEF)	Singapore	6	34
Ease of Doing Business 2020	13 (out of 190 countries)	World Bank (WB)	New Zealand
Global Gender Gap Report 2020	115 (out of 153 countries)	World Economic Forum	28
(WEF)	Iceland	9	37
Forbes Survey of Best Countries for Business 2019	39 (out of 161 countries)	Forbes	United Kingdom
The SDG Index 2019	105 (out of 162 countries)	Sustainable Development Solutions Network	Denmark
AREAS TALENT			
Global Talent Competitiveness Index 2020	49 (out of 132 countries)	INSEAD, the international business school, The Adecco Group and Tata Communications	Switzerland
Global Human Capital Report 2017	74 (out of 130 countries)	World Economic Forum (WEF)	Norway
Human Development Index 2019	66 (out of 189 countries)	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Norway
AREAS INNOVATION			
Global innovation index 2019	82 (out of 129 countries)	Cornell University, INSEAD, and the World Intellectual Property Organization	Switzerland
International Property Rights Index 2019	72 (out of 129 countries)	Property Rights Alliance	Finland
AREAS CORRUPTION & TERRORISM			
Corruption Perceptions Index 2019	56 (out of 180 countries)	Transparency International	Denmark and New Zealand
ECONOMY/BUSINESS			
Economic Freedom Index 2020	21 (out of 180 countries)	The Heritage Foundation	Singapore
Global Passport Ranking 2020	61 (out of 193 countries)	CEOWORLD magazine	Japan
Global Terrorism Index 2019	138 (out of 163 countries)	Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP)	Afghanistan
Global Services Location Index 2019	30 (out of 50 countries)	A.T. Kearney	India
Global Enabling Trade Report 2016	39 (out of 136 countries)	World Economic Forum	Singapore
E-government development Index 2018	66 (out of 193 countries)	United Nations	Denmark
Global Information Technology Report 2016	49 (out of 139 countries)	World Economic Forum and INSEAD	Denmark
Global Cyber Security Index 2018	14 (out of 190 countries)	United Nations	United Kingdom (UK)
AREAS REGULATION			
Rule of Law Index 2020	38 (out of 128 countries)	World Justice Project	Denmark
AREAS QUALITY OF LIFE			
Global Peace Index 2019	24 (out of 163 countries)	Institute for Economics and Peace	Iceland
Global Happiness Index 2020	49 (out of 153 countries)	U.N Sustainable Development Solutions Network	Finland
Social Progress Index 2019	44 (out of 149 countries)	Social Progress Imperative	Norway
Mercer's 2019 Quality of Living Survey	83 (out of 231 countries)	Mercer	Vienna
World's Richest and Poorest countries 2019	63 (out of 191 countries)	International Monetary Fund	Qatar





CHAPTER 4
RODRIGUES

CHAPTER 4 RODRIGUES

About Rodrigues

The Island of Rodrigues was named after Portuguese navigator, Don Diego Rodriguez, who briefly visited the island in 1528. There were several visits of Dutch boats for food and replenishments thereafter, but the first settlement was by Huguenot Francois Leguat and his seven companions who founded a colony of Protestant refugees in 1691.

Francois Leguat left within two years due to isolation and, in 1735, Mahé de Labourdonais set up a permanent settlement in Rodrigues mainly for the collection of tortoise for food. This led to the pillage of these animals which continued for sixty years and eventually led to the extinction of the tortoise in the eighteenth century. Other colons came to Rodrigues, including Philibert Marragon in 1794 who developed livestock culture. During this period, African and Malagasy slaves were also brought in from Mauritius by the French settlers. The British took possession of the island in 1809. In 1804, the first population census revealed a population of 104 inhabitants (22 colons and 82 slaves).

In March 1991, the Rodrigues Local Council Act was voted in the National Assembly of Mauritius and in 1992 the Rodrigues Local Council with consultative powers was put in place at the same time as Mauritius was made a Republic. By 1995, the Rodrigues Local Council was auto-dissolved and in 2000 the Government of Mauritius granted a form of autonomy inspired on the Trinidad and Tobago model. The law was subsequently voted in the Mauritius National Assembly in November 2001 resulting in the establishment of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly (RRA).

4. RODRIGUES

4.1. POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

DEMOGRAPHY

The population was estimated at 43,538 (21,349 males and 22,189 females) for the Island of Rodrigues as at 31 December 2019. Females outnumbered males. The population density at the end of 2019 was 396 inhabitants per square kilometre.

HEALTH

Life expectancy at birth in Rodrigues was estimated to be 74.0 years for men and 79.1 years for women (Health Statistics Report 2018, Ministry of Health). Of all deaths recorded in 2018, diseases of the circulatory system were responsible for 41 percent, endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases (mainly diabetes) for 18.8 percent, neoplasm (cancers) for 11.3 percent and diseases of the respiratory system for 6.8 percent.

CHAPTER 4 RODRIGUES

4.2. LABOUR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT

Employment in the public sector decreased from 2600 in 2017 to 2500 in 2018. Employment in the education sector commanded more pay, whereby earning has increased from Rs 28,827 in 2014 to Rs 32,539 in 2018.

Table 69: Employment by industrial sector and sex, 2017 -2018

Industrial sector	2017			2018		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Primary	3,400	2,900	6,300	2,800	2,000	4,800
Secondary	2,000	900	2,900	2,600	700	3,300
of which						
Manufacturing	700	800	1,500	500	700	1,200
Tertiary	5,800	3,400	9,200	5,800	5,000	10,800
of which						
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of m/ vehicles and motorcycles	1,100	900	2,000	1,000	1,100	2,100
Accommodation and food service activities	600	600	1,200	600	800	1,400
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	1,700	900	2,600	1,800	700	2,500
Total	11,200	7,200	18,400	11,200	7,700	18,900

Source: Statistics Mauritius

Table 70: Average monthly earnings by industrial group as at March, 2014 – 2018 (rupees)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
All sectors	23,018	24,264	27,662	28,846	28,469
Manufacturing	6,567	8,012	8,166	8,343	8,935
Construction	13,737	14,316	15,728	14,636	15,852
Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	18,068	19,068	18,769	18,342	20,236
Accommodation and food service activities	11,392	12,034	12,148	12,208	12,584
Public administration & defence; compulsory social security	24,528	25,931	31,472	30,453	29,507
Education	28,827	28,492	29,065	32,351	32,539

Source: Statistics Mauritius

4.3. EDUCATION

PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION

Enrolment in pre-primary schools continued to decline in 2019. Enrolment stood at 1,441 in 2015 compared to 1,430 in 2019.

PRIMARY EDUCATION

In 2019, the number of school candidates who took part in Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC) assessment was 799. Including re-assessment, the overall percentage meeting PSAC requirement worked out to 74.7 percent compared to 79.3 percent in 2018.



CHAPTER 4 RODRIGUES

SECONDARY EDUCATION

In 2019, out of 815 candidates who took part in the Cambridge School Certificate examination, 464 were successful. Comparison with the 2017 results shows that the overall pass rate decreased from 70.1 percent to 57 percent in 2019.

The number of students taking part in the 2019 Cambridge Higher School Certificate examination stood at 318. The overall pass rate is 67.92 percent.

Table 71: Higher School Certificate, Rodrigues: 2005- 2019

Year	Examined	% Pass
2005	168	77.98
2006	191	74.35
2007	227	73.13
2008	249	73.90
2009	268	72.76
2010	207	76.10
2011	227	82.38
2012	236	81.36
2013	276	78.62
2014	279	69.18
2015	308	73.05
2016	263	72.62
2017	240	69.58
2018	306	63.73
2019	318	67.92

Source: Statistics Mauritius

4.4. Travel and tourism

The tourism sector continues to expand in Rodrigues with the number of arrivals increasing from 97,827 in 2017 to 98,418 in 2018. The majority of arrival for the year 2017 was from the Island of Mauritius, Reunion Island and France.

Table 72: Total arrivals by country of residence, 2015-2018

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Australia	411	446	442	504
Austria	61	68	60	53
Belgium	223	237	296	301
Canada	61	123	101	120
Denmark	19	22	28	34
France	7637	8555	7800	8794
Reunion Island	10351	10656	10850	10733
Germany	261	639	349	396
India	137	128	130	164
Italy	155	188	269	282
Mauritius	42867	50266	53119	52268
Netherlands	18	57	48	52
Portugal	7	15	15	16
Rodrigues	17729	20572	21531	22154
Seychelles	148	134	139	124
South Africa	178	171	205	219
Spain	88	89	157	141
Switzerland	393	458	486	534
United Kingdom	413	497	518	418
U. S. America	174	155	177	123
Other countries	595	794	1107	988
Total	81926	94270	97827	98418

Source: Statistics Mauritius



CHAPTER 4 RODRIGUES

4.5. Trade

Exports of commodities to the Island of Mauritius continues to decline, with a sharp decrease seen in several commodities such as cattle, dry octopus and honey among others.

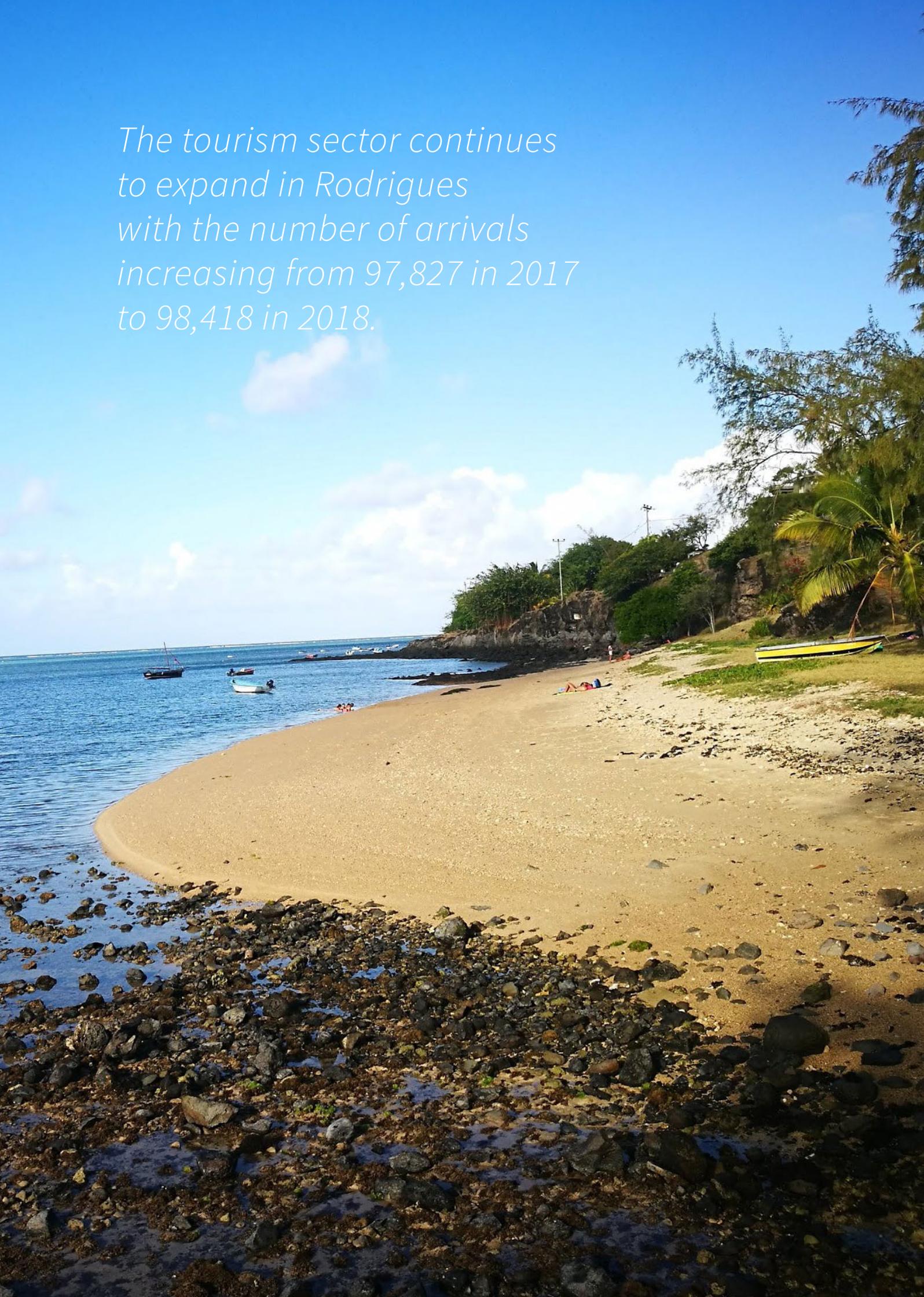
Table 73: Export of selected commodities (quantities) to the Island of Mauritius, 2009, 2014 - 2018

Commodity	Unit	2009	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Cattle	Unit	816	1497	1412	862	444	311
Pigs	Unit	1553	4	14	0	0	0
Goats	Unit	2217	3994	3911	2432	1801	1594
Sheep	Unit	1239	1908	2039	1689	1404	1396
Fowls	Basket	250	88	98	75	50	39
Salted Fish	Kg	3240	1,375	1059	500	1575	2375
Dry Octopus	Kg	5380	6600	5625	3025	5875	6360
Frozen Octopus	Tonnes	164	185	210	114	135	233
Lemon	Tonnes	366	192	197	179	213	276
Onions	Tonnes	90	394	214	268	328	215
Garlic	Tonnes	NA	0	0	0	0	5
Grapefruits	Tonnes	38	14	17	16	4	24
Coconuts	Tonnes	21	1	1	3	2	2
Honey	Kg	3078	2760	1920	3560	2680	2400
Chillies (Small)	Kg	2018	125	300	1425	2360	4560
Pumpkin	Tonnes	0	12	1	0	2	48
Handicraft	Tonnes	3	1	1	3	3	3
Sea Cucumber	Tonnes	25	NA	NA	NA	NA	19
Frozen Fish	Kg	680	4665	15834	8995	10743	3335
Peanuts	Kg	100	600	3040	240	680	3360
Spices	Kg	40	480	0	320	320	6400
Banana	Kg	8040	0	80	3680	2040	10960
Beans-dried	Kg	3,500	7,040	3,160	4,850	6,200	920

Source: Statistics Mauritius



The tourism sector continues to expand in Rodrigues with the number of arrivals increasing from 97,827 in 2017 to 98,418 in 2018.



APPENDIX

APPENDIX A: ABOUT THE WEF GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS REPORT

ABOUT THE NEW GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS INDEX 4.0

Building on four decades of experience in benchmarking competitiveness, the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index 4.0 is a composite indicator that assesses the set of factors that determine an economy's level of productivity – widely considered as the most important determinant of long-term growth.

PLATFORM FOR SHAPING THE FUTURE OF THE NEW ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

The Global Competitiveness Report is a flagship publication of the World Economic Forum's Platform for Shaping the Future of the New Economy and Society. The Platform provides the opportunity to advancing prosperous, inclusive and equitable economies and societies. It focuses on co-creating a new vision in three interconnected areas: growth and competitiveness; education, skills and work; and equality and inclusion. Working together, stakeholders deepen their understanding of complex issues, shape new models and standards and drive scalable, collaborative action for systemic change.

Over 100 of the world's leading companies and 100 international, civil society and academic organizations currently work through the Platform to promote new approaches to competitiveness in the Fourth Industrial Revolution economy; deploy education and skills for tomorrow's workforce; build a new pro-worker and pro-business agenda for jobs; and integrate equality and inclusion into the new economy, aiming to reach 1 billion people with improved economic opportunities.





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