



Economic and Social Indicators

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Education Statistics

Year 2023

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Note: Readers are invited to make the distinction between official data which are published in the Economic and Social indicators and the analysis presented for the benefit of general readers. Differences of opinion may arise regarding the analytical part but these do not in any way, undermine the quality of the data. The Editors welcome constructive critical comments.

EDUCATION STATISTICS – 2023

1. Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents educational statistics, compiled based on data obtained from an annual survey conducted in schools together with data from other sources. The data refer to the Republic of Mauritius (excluding Agalega) and cover pre-primary, primary, secondary, technical & vocational, tertiary education as well as education in specialised institutions.

2. Expenditure

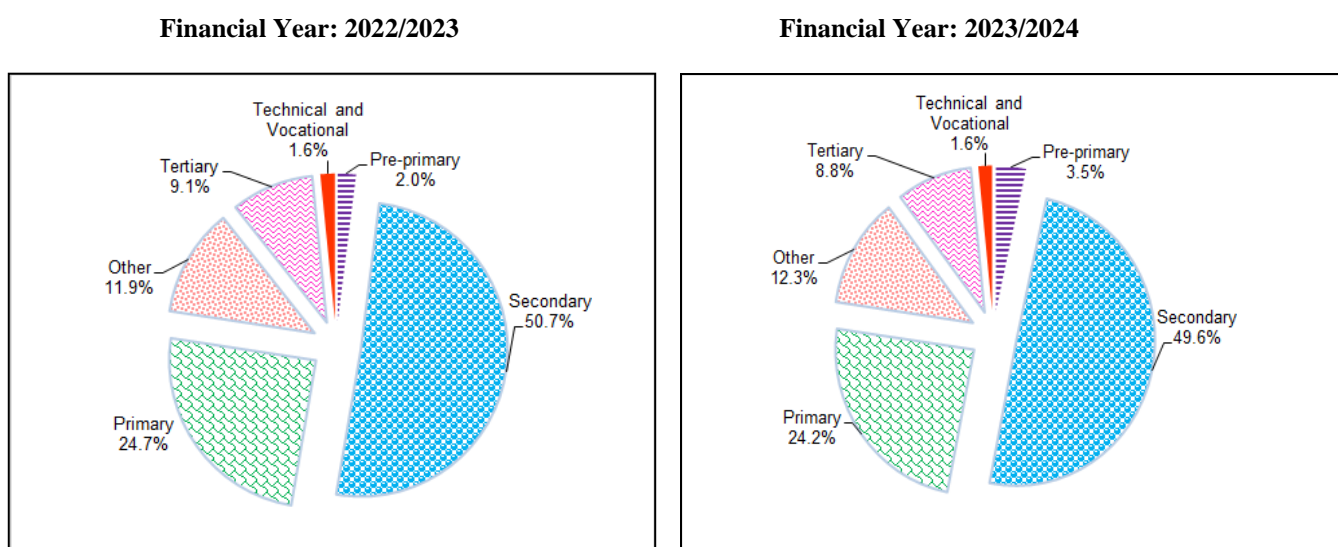
Total government expenditure for the financial years 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 are estimated as follows:

- (i) Financial year 2022/2023: Rs 216,253 million, of which, Rs 20,762 million (9.6%) has been allocated to education and training; and
- (ii) Financial year 2023/2024: Rs 214,942 million, of which, Rs 21,562 million (10.0%) has been allocated to education and training.

Total budget on education and training has been allocated as follows:

- (i) Financial year 2022/2023: 50.7% to secondary education, 24.7% to primary education, 9.1% to tertiary education, 2.0% to pre-primary education, 1.6% to technical and vocational education and the remaining 11.9% to other expenses; and
- (ii) Financial year 2023/2024: 49.6% to secondary education, 24.2% to primary education, 8.8% to tertiary education, 1.6% to technical and vocational education, 3.5% to pre-primary education and the remaining 12.3% to other expenses (Figure 1).

Figure 1 - Total Expenditure on Education, Republic of Mauritius



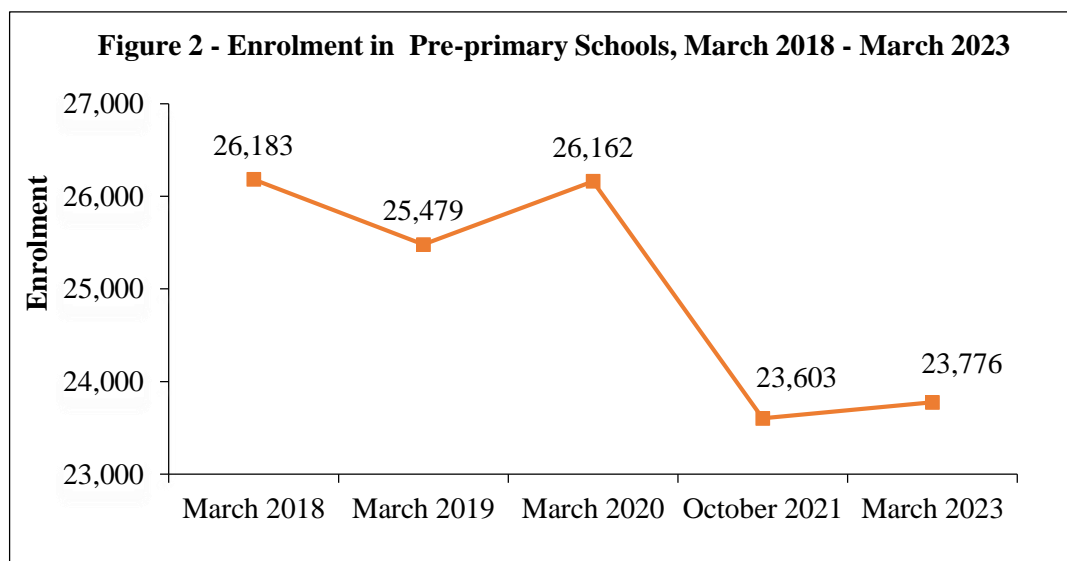
3. Pre-primary education

3.1 Schools

The number of schools providing pre-primary education stood at 769 in March 2023: 735 in the Island of Mauritius and 34 in Rodrigues. Of these schools, 523 (68.0%) were privately run institutions; 189 (24.6%), operating on government primary school premises, were administered by the Early Childhood Care and Education Authority and the remaining 57 (7.4%) were administered by either Roman Catholic (RC) or Hindu Education Authorities or Municipal/Village Councils.

3.2 Enrolment

Enrolment in pre-primary schools increased by 0.7%, from 23,603 in October 2021 to 23,776 in March 2023. Girls represented 49.2% 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 91.8% compared to 92.5% in 2021/2022.



An analysis of the trends, as per figure 2, shows a decrease in enrolment in pre-primary schools from 26,183 in March 2018 to 25,479 in March 2019; then increased to 26,162 in March 2020 and thereafter decreased to 23,603 in October 2021 followed by an increase to 23,776 in March 2023.

3.3 Personnel

In March 2023, total employment in pre-primary schools stood at 3,087, same as in October 2021, of whom 1,761 were teaching and 1,326 non-teaching staff. The average number of pupils per teacher works out to 14.

4. Primary education

4.1 Schools

In March 2023, there were 325 schools providing primary education: 308 in the Island of Mauritius and 17 in Rodrigues. The majority (220) of the schools were run by government, 51 by Roman Catholic Education Authority, 2 by Hindu Education Authority and the other 52 were private non-aided schools.

4.2 Enrolment

In March 2023, the primary school population in the Republic of Mauritius stood at 89,001, of whom 49.3% was girls. Some 61% was enrolled in government schools and the remaining was in private aided and non-aided schools.

Distribution by grade shows that grade 2 with 16,489 pupils, accounted for the highest number of pupils. The Gross Enrolment Ratio (primary enrolment as a percentage of the population aged 6 to 11 years) works out to 111.0% in 2023.

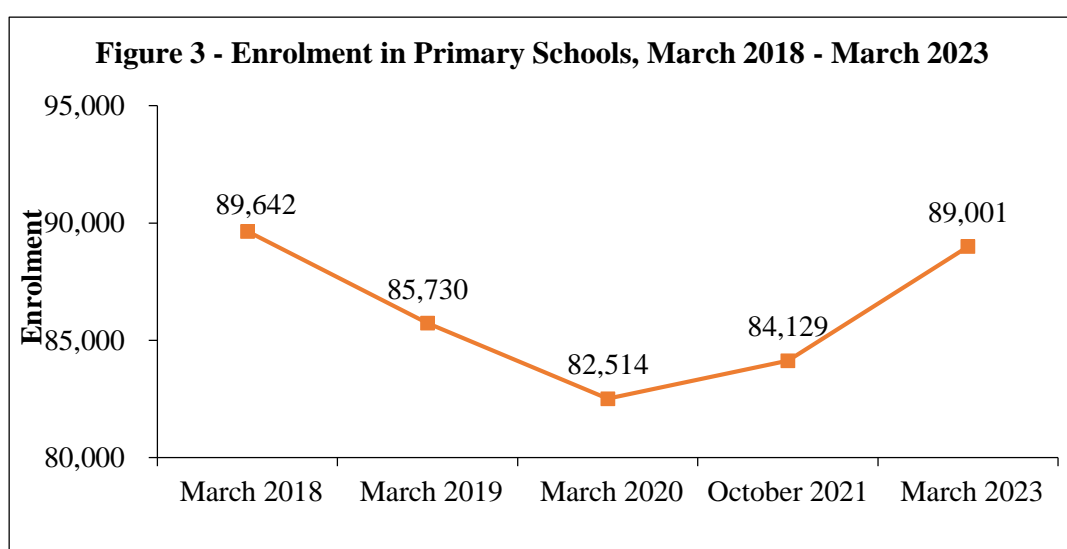


Figure 3 shows a decrease in primary enrolment from 89,642 in March 2018 to 82,514 in March 2020; thereafter it increased to 89,001 in March 2023.

4.3 Personnel

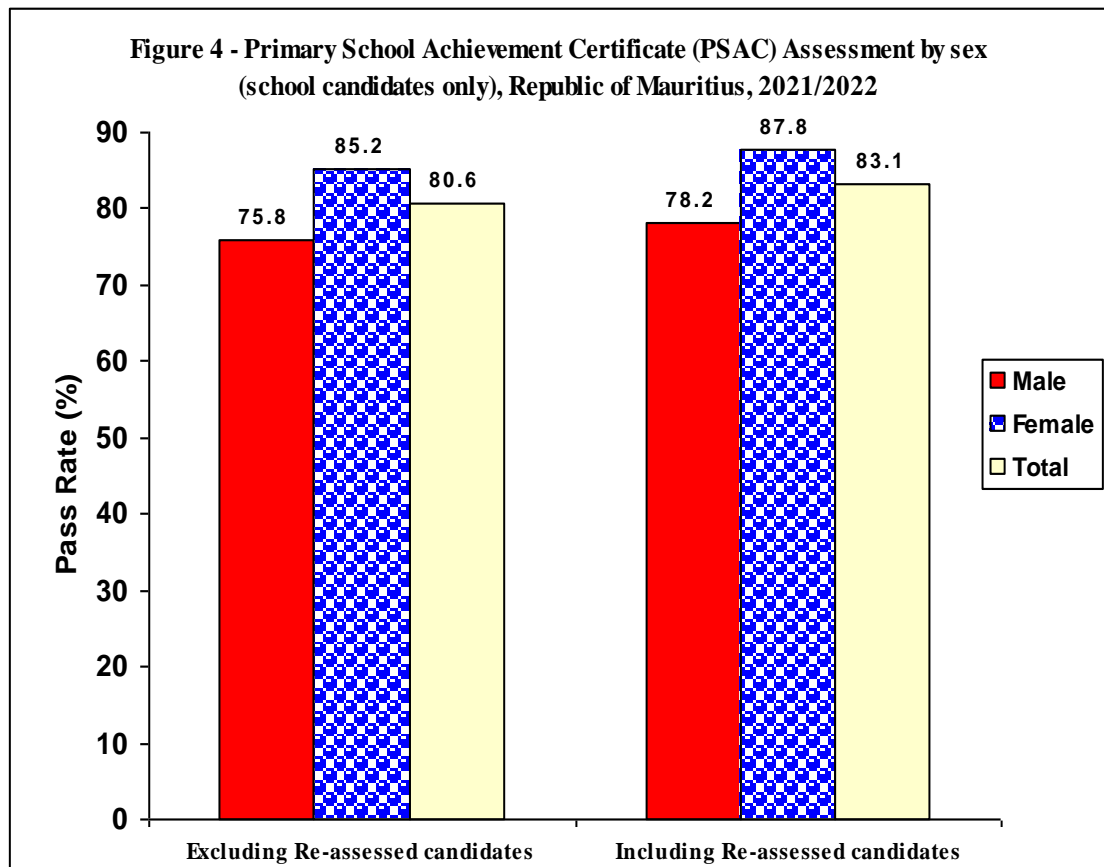
The number of persons employed in primary schools registered a decrease of 419 from 8,819 in October 2021 to 8,400 in March 2023. Of this number, 5,640 were teaching staff: 4,474 General Purpose Teachers and 1,166 Oriental Language Teachers. The remaining 2,760 comprised 262 Head Teachers, 869 Deputy Head Teachers and 1,629 administrative and other workers. The pupil/teacher (general purpose) ratio in primary schools works out to 16 compared to 18 in October 2021.

4.4 Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC)

With the introduction of the Nine-Year Continuous Basic Education (NYCBE) in 2017, the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) has been replaced by the Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC) which aims to assess learners holistically. The PSAC assessment thus comprises a School-Based Assessment component and a Modular component. The Modular assessments are taken at the end of grade 5 and beginning of the third term of Grade 6.

In 2021/2022, the number of school candidates who took part in PSAC Assessment was 16,011. Excluding re-assessment, the overall percentage meeting PSAC requirement works out to 80.6

It is to be noted that the percentage meeting PSAC requirement, including re-assessed school candidates, works out to 83.1. The performance of girls, including re-assessment exceeded that of boys with respective pass rates of 87.8% and 78.2% (Figure 4).



5. Secondary Education

5.1 Programmes of study

All children completing Primary Grade 6 move to Grade 7 in a secondary school to complete the last 3 years of the nine-year basic education cycle.

Pupils who have not reached the minimum standards at the PSAC Assessment are channeled to the Extended Programme in a secondary school where they follow an adapted curriculum and complete their basic education in 4 years instead of 3.

As at March 2023, the number of secondary schools, stood at 179, out of which 144 were offering both the Regular and the Extended Programmes from Grades 7 to 9+.

At the end of Grade 9, student continue their studies leading to Cambridge O/A level qualifications in either the same secondary school or in an Academie.

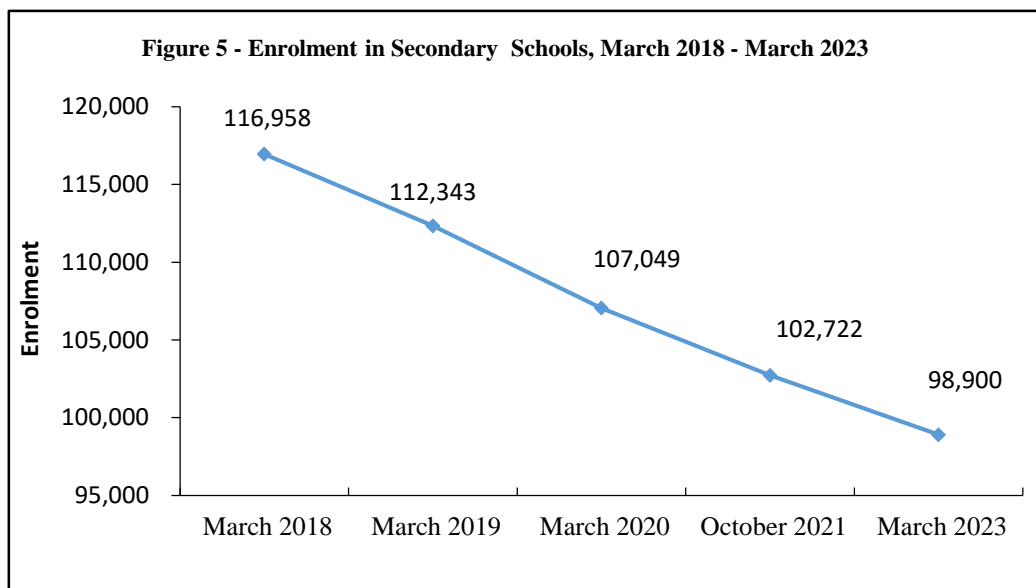


Figure 5 depicts a continuous fall in total secondary enrolment from March 2018 to March 2023.

5.2 Secondary Schools

5.2.1 Schools

Out of the 179 schools dispensing secondary Regular and Extended education, 171 were in the Island of Mauritius and 8 in Rodrigues. State administered schools numbered 69, while the other 110 were private aided and non-aided schools.

5.2.2 Enrolment

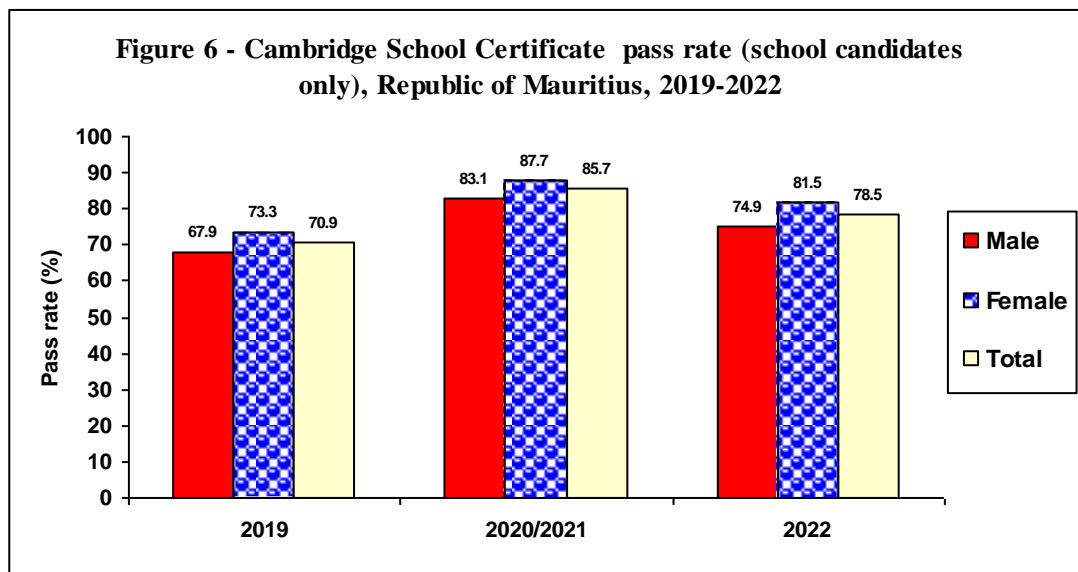
Secondary education enrolment decreased by 3,822 from 102,722 in October 2021 to 98,900 in March 2023. Some 44.8% of the secondary school population was in state schools and 55.2% in private (aided and unaided) schools. Gross Enrolment Ratio (secondary education enrolment as a percentage of the population aged 12 to 19 years) was 74.4%.

5.3 Personnel

The number of teachers working in secondary schools decreased by 387 from 9,379 in October 2021 to 8,992 in March 2023. The pupil/teacher ratio works out to 11.

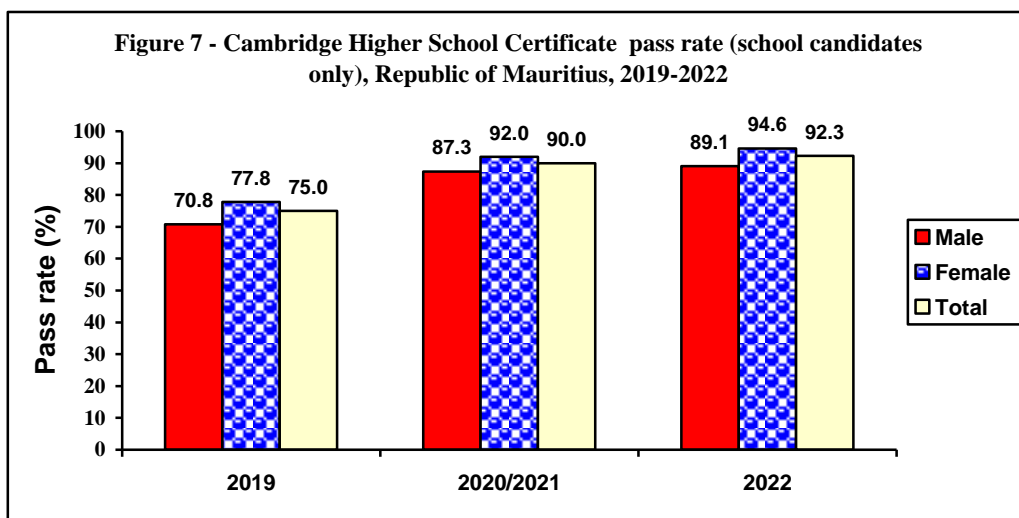
5.4 Cambridge School Certificate (SC)

In 2022, out of 15,474 candidates (7,063 males and 8,411 females) who took part in the Cambridge School Certificate examination, 12,145 were successful. Comparison with the 2020/2021 results shows that the overall pass rate decreased from 85.7% to 78.5% (Figure 6).



5.5 Cambridge Higher School Certificate (HSC)

The number of students taking part in the 2022 Cambridge Higher School Certificate examination stood at 5,640, of whom 56.7% were females. The overall pass rate was 92.3%, higher than the 2020/2021 figure of 90.0% (Figure 7).



5.6 Technical and Vocational Education

In 2021/2022, there were 9,717 students (of whom 76.1% were males) enrolled in publicly funded technical and vocational courses compared to 7,328 in 2020. Some 33.2% of the students were enrolled in full-time courses, 51.7% in part-time courses and the rest (15.1%) in apprenticeship courses.

6. Special Education Needs (SEN)

6.1 Schools

As at March 2023, there were 78 Special Education Needs schools in the Republic of Mauritius registered with the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology. Twenty-three schools were run by Government, while the other 55 were run by NGOs and the Roman Catholic Education Authority.

6.2 Enrolment

The number of students enrolled in the 78 special schools stood at 2,694 (of whom 68.3% were boys) as at March 2023, representing a decrease of 2.2% compared to the 2021/2022 figure of 2,754.

The three most frequent types of impairment among the pupils were intellectual/learning disability (39.5%), autism spectrum disorder (15.7%) and physical disability (8.4%).

6.3 Personnel

As at March 2023, there were 950 persons employed in the special education needs institutions, representing an increase of 2.0% compared to 931 as at October 2021. Out of these, 503 were teaching staff, and 91 were medical and para-medical staff. The remaining 356 were administrative and ancillary workers.

7. ICT in Education

In March 2023, out of the 769 pre-primary schools in the Republic of Mauritius, 635 (83%) had computers. All primary and secondary schools were equipped with computers. Availability of internet access for students in schools was as follows: 34% in pre-primary, 82% in primary and 99% in secondary.

8. Tertiary Education

As at December 2022, the total number of students (part-time and full-time) enrolled on tertiary-level programmes (including Distance Education) was 50,566 compared to 49,497 in December 2021, representing an increase of 2.2%.

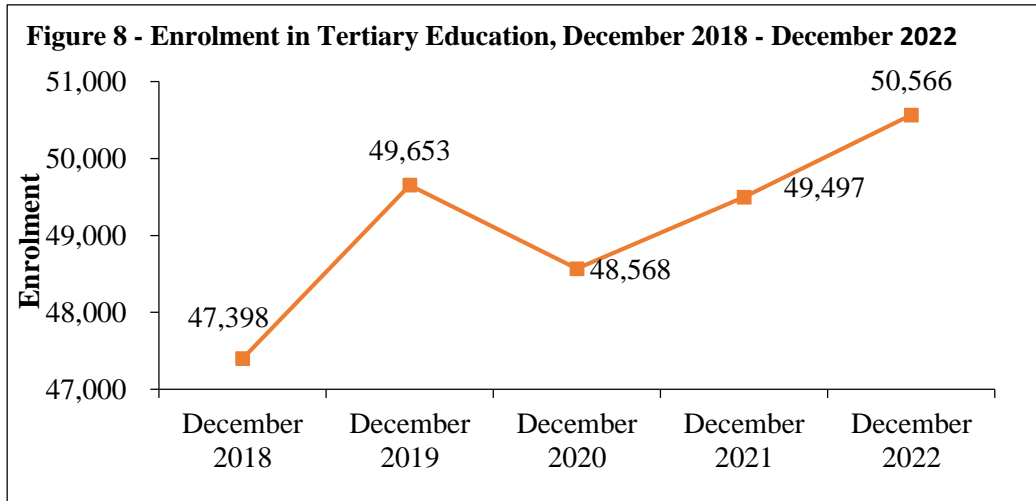


Figure 8 gives the evolution of total tertiary enrolment over the period 2018 to 2022. Total enrolment increased from 2018 to 2019 followed by a decrease from 2019 to 2020 and an increase from 2020 to 2022.

The majority of students (84.7%) were enrolled in tertiary education locally in both public-funded institutions (54.7%) and private institutions (30.0%). The remaining 15.3% of the students were enrolled in tertiary education overseas.

The Gross Enrolment Ratio (tertiary education enrolment as a percentage of the population aged 20 to 24 years) for 2022 works out to 49.5 %.

9. Main Indicators on Education

The main indicators are given below:

Table 1 - Main Indicators, Republic of Mauritius, 2018 - 2023

	2018	2019	2020	2021/2022	2023
Pre-primary					
Number of schools	846	851	828	789	769
Enrolment	26,183	25,479	26,162	23,603	23,776
Number of teachers	2,115	2,134	2,103	1,831	1,761
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%) (3-4 years) ¹	98.9	99.2	102.5	91.3	92.2
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%) (4-5 years)	95.9	96.2	102.0	92.5	91.8
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	12	12	12	13	14
Primary					
Number of schools	318	319	318	319	325
Enrolment	89,642	85,730	82,514	84,129	89,001
Number of teachers	5,534	5,639	5,903	5,936	5,640
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%) (5-10 years) ¹	99.8	98.7	98.0	102.9	113.0
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%) (6-11 years)	96.5	95.4	95.1	99.9	111.0
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	21	20	18	18	16
Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC)	78.8	77.3	78.0	83.1	n.a
Secondary					
Number of schools	179	181	179	178	179
Enrolment	116,958	112,343	107,049	102,722	98,900
Number of teachers	9,590	9,783	9,542	9,379	8,992 ²
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%) (11-17 years) ¹	89.7	88.4	87.0	86.1	89.8
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%) (12-19 years)	76.9	75.0	73.1	71.9	74.4
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	12	11	11	11	11
Cambridge School Certificate Pass Rate	71.5	70.9	85.7	78.5 ³	n.a
Cambridge Higher School Certificate Pass Rate	74.9	75.0	90.0	92.3 ³	n.a

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
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Tertiary⁴

Number of institutions registered	55	53	54	52	46 ²
Enrolment	47,398	49,653	48,568	49,497	50,566 ²
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%)	46.4	48.9	47.8	48.3	49.5 ²

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022 ⁵	2022/2023 ⁵	2023/2024 ⁶
Expenditure					
Total Government Expenditure (Rs million)	197,524	214,269	190,131	216,253	214,942
Total Government Expenditure on Education (Rs million)	16,296	14,771	16,448	18,602	19,700
Total Government Expenditure on Education as a % of GDP at market price	3.6	3.4	3.1	3.1 ²	3.0 ⁷
Total Government Expenditure on Education as a % of Total Government Expenditure	8.3	6.9	8.7	8.6	9.2

¹ Based on the UNESCO definition of Gross Enrolment Ratio, i.e., total enrolment in a specific level of education, regardless of age expressed as a percentage of the eligible official school-age population ² Provisional ³ Year 2022

⁴ Source: Higher Education Commission (ex- Tertiary Education Commission) ⁵ Revised ⁶ Budget Estimates ⁷ Forecast
n.a: Not Available

Table 2- Total Government Expenditure, Republic of Mauritius, 2021/2022 - 2023/2024

(Rs million)

	2021/2022 ¹	2022/2023 ¹	2023/2024 ²
Total Government Expenditure	190,131.0	216,253.0	214,942.0
of which expenditure by: Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology	16,448.1	18,602.4	19,700.0

Table 3 - Government Expenditure on Education by sector, 2021/2022 - 2023/2024

(Rs million)

	2021/2022 ¹		2022/2023 ¹		2023/2024 ²	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
Island of Mauritius						
Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology	16,448.1	89.2	18,602.4	89.6	19,700.0	91.4
<i>Pre-primary</i>	306.6	1.7	372.6	1.8	694.7	3.2
<i>Primary</i>	4,297.8	23.3	4,777.5	23.0	4,825.4	22.4
<i>Secondary</i>	8,974.2	48.7	10,055.6	48.4	10,659.3	49.4
<i>Technical & Vocational</i>	297.7	1.6	331.0	1.6	331.0	1.5
<i>Special Education Needs</i>	204.2	1.1	249.5	1.2	284.1	1.3
<i>Tertiary Education</i>	1,583.5	8.6	1,864.9	9.0	1,848.7	8.6
<i>Other</i> ³	784.1	4.3	951.3	4.6	1,056.8	4.9
Island of Rodrigues ⁴	859.2	4.7	907.7	4.4	598.3	2.8
<i>Pre-Primary</i>	33.9	0.2	44.4	0.2	54.9	0.3
<i>Primary</i>	344.0	1.9	350.8	1.7	396.0	1.8
<i>Secondary</i>	412.5	2.2	463.2	2.2	62.9	0.3
<i>Technical & Vocational</i>	12.5	0.1	10.1	0.0	12.5	0.1
<i>Tertiary Education</i>	30.4	0.2	10.5	0.1	34.5	0.2
<i>Other</i> ⁵	25.9	0.1	28.7	0.1	37.5	0.2
Other Ministries ⁶	1,127.2	6.1	1,251.6	6.0	1,264.2	5.9
Total	18,434.5	100.0	20,761.7	100.0	21,562.5	100.0

¹ Revised ² Budget estimates ³ Includes policy and management costs for education and human resources and includes grant to parastatal bodies falling under the aegis of the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology ⁴ Expenditure on Education under Ministry of Rodrigues Vote ⁵ Administrative costs

⁶ Includes expenditure incurred by other Ministries to support education activities and training dispensed by all Ministries/Departments in line with the concept of lifelong learning

Note: Totals may not add up due to independent rounding of figures

The following tables together with the web version of this publication can be downloaded from Statistics Mauritius website at <https://statsmauritius.govmu.org> From the homepage, click on ‘STATISTICS’ followed by ‘Statistics by subject’ then by ‘Education’ then select the publication under the heading ‘Economic and Social Indicators – Education Statistics, Year 2023’.

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Statistics Mauritius
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