

MAURITIUS AT A GLANCE

Constitution

Official name
Republic of Mauritius

Form of state
Republic within the Commonwealth

Legal system
Based on English common law, the Napoleonic Code and the 1968 constitution

National legislature
National Assembly; 70 members elected by universal suffrage every five years in 20 three-member constituencies on Mauritius and one two-member constituency on Rodrigues, plus eight 'best losers'

Elections
Last general election Jul 3 2005; next election due in 2010

Head of state
President, elected by a simple majority of the National Assembly; currently Sir Anerood Jugnauth since Oct 2003

National government
Council of Ministers appointed and headed by the prime minister

Source: EIU

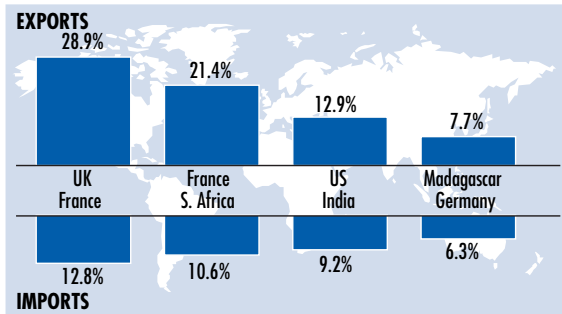


- Area: 1,860 sq km
 - Language: English, French, Creole, Hindi, Urdu, Bhojpuri
 - Population: 1.233m (2004)
 - Currency: Mauritius rupee (MRs)
 - Exchange rate:
2005 average MRs29.38164 = US\$1
Latest 2006 figure MRs 30.68001 = US\$1
 - Main cities and population 2004 ('000)
- | | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Port Louis (capital) | 143.6 |
| Beau-Bassin/Rose Hill | 110.7 |
| Vacoas/Phoenix | 104.4 |
| Curepipe | 79.9 |
| Quatre Bornes | 76.5 |

Economic summary

		2006 (forecast)	2007 (forecast)
Total GDP	(MRs bn)	203.8	219.0
Total GDP	(\$bn)	6.6	7.0
Real GDP growth	(annual % change)	3.0	2.5
GDP per head	(\$)	5,300	5,590
Inflation	(annual % change in CPI)	5.1	4.8
Agricultural output	(annual % change)	1.5	-0.5
Industrial production	(annual % change)	1.0	0.3
Unemployment rate	(% of labour force)	10.2	10.2
Money supply, M2	(annual % change)	11.4	11.8
Foreign exchange reserves	(\$bn)	1.3	1.3
Government expenditure	(% of GDP)	27.4	27.2
Budget balance	(% of GDP)	-6.0	-5.6
Total foreign debt	(% of GDP)	50.6	48.3
Current account balance	(\$m)	-197	-291
Merchandise exports	(\$m)	2,061	1,978
Merchandise imports	(\$m)	-2,880	-2,894
Trade balance	(\$m)	-820	-916

Main trading partners (2004)



Credit rating

Moody's Baa2