



# Mauritius



## 1 ID<sup>1</sup>

- **Location:** island country lying east of Madagascar in the western Indian Ocean.
- **Population:** (2010 est.) 1,282,000
- **Language:** English
- **Capital:** Port Louis



## 2 Economic data

### ✓ Real growth rate of the GDP from 2008 till 2010<sup>2</sup>

Year	GDP - real growth rate
2008	3.60 %
2009	3.10 %
2010	3.60 %

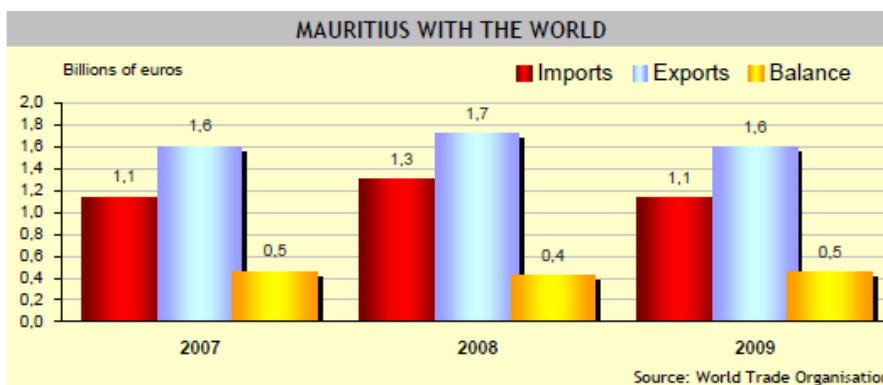
The real growth rate of the GDP has increased in 2009, but decreased again in 2010.

### ✓ Inflation rate<sup>3</sup>

Year	Inflation rate
2008	9.73 %
2009	2.51 %
2010	3.40 %

The inflation rate has decreased from 9.73% in 2008 to 3.40% in 2010. The rate in 2008 was almost three times as high as it was in 2010.

### ✓ Trade with the world<sup>4</sup>



Exports have remained the same during the past three years, so have imports.

<sup>1</sup> Encyclopaedia Britannica, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/370109/Mauritius>

<sup>2</sup> CIA, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/mp.html>

<sup>3</sup> Wallonia Export & Investment, <http://www.awex.be/fr-BE/Pages/Home.aspx>

<sup>4</sup> European Commission Trade, <http://trade.ec.europa.eu>, Mauritius – Trade Statistics





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## 3 Key sectors for exports and imports<sup>5</sup>

Merchant trade 2009			
Merchandise exports	1.942 million US\$	Merchandise imports	3.728 million US\$
<b>Breakdown in economy's total exports</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Breakdown in economy's total imports</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
• Agricultural products	30.6%	• Agricultural products	23.2%
• Fuels and mining products	0.6%	• Fuels and mining products	16.1%
• Manufactures	56.9%	• Manufactures	57.3%
<i>By main destination (2008)</i>		<i>By main origin (2008)</i>	
1. European Union (27)	46.6%	1. European Union (27)	17.7%
2. United States	5.8%	2. India	13.1%
3. Madagascar	4.4%	3. China	8.6%
4. South Africa	3.0%	4. South Africa	6.3%
5. Seychelles	1.0%	5. Japan	2.3%
6. Unspecified destination	32.6%	6. Unspecified origins	30.0%

The chart above represents merchant trade in 2009. Manufactures made up 56.9% of the total exports, which is the largest part. Manufactures also largely contributed to the number of total imports in 2009. You can also see the countries Mauritius exports and imports most of its products to.

### ✓ Agriculture<sup>6</sup>

#### GDP composition by sector (2010 est.)

Sector	Percentage
Agriculture	4.8 %
Industry	24.6 %
Services	70.5 %

Services contributed 70.5% to the GDP.

### ✓ Manufacturing sector<sup>7</sup>

Growth rates	2007	2008	2009
Food	4.0 %	7.5 %	3.0 %
Textile	8.5 %	0.0 %	-4.0 %
Other	-3.1 %	2.4 %	0.0 %
<b>Total manufacturing</b>	<b>3.3 %</b>	<b>1.6 %</b>	<b>0.0 %</b>

Growth rate in the food sector dropped from 7.5% in 2008 to 3% in 2009. Growth rate in the textile sector also declined to -4% after stagnating in 2008. The rest of the manufacturing sector shows zero growth in 2009 compared to 2008, which registered an increase of 2.4% in 2008.

<sup>5</sup> World Trade Organization (WTO), <http://stat.wto.org>, Country Profile Mauritius

<sup>6</sup> CIA, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/mp.html>

<sup>7</sup> The Mauritius Chamber of Commerce And Industry, [http://www.mcci.org/economy\\_review\\_manufacturing.aspx](http://www.mcci.org/economy_review_manufacturing.aspx)





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## 4 Political situation<sup>8</sup>

Mauritius became independent on March 12, 1968. Under the constitution adopted that year, the country was a constitutional monarchy with the British monarch as head of state. In 1991 a constitutional amendment was passed providing for a republican form of government, with a president as head of state; the amendment went into effect in 1992. Legislative power is vested in a National Assembly, elected every five years and consisting of 62 elected members and up to an additional 8 members drawn from the pool of candidates who were not elected but who may be appointed to broaden representation among minorities or underrepresented parties. Executive power is exercised by a Council of Ministers headed by a prime minister (appointed by the president), who assembles a government from members of the National Assembly. The president and vice president are elected by the National Assembly for a term of five years.

## 5 Security problems<sup>9</sup>

There aren't any security problems in Mauritius. Tourists aren't affected by ethnic minority problems. It is however advised not to carry valuable objects when going to local markets, beaches or deserted places because of the high criminality rate.

## 6 Certificates of Origin and ATA Carnet<sup>10</sup>

There are no special rules for the Certificates of Origin in Mauritius and the country has signed the A.T.A. Convention; therefore ATA Carnets can be used.

## 7 Contact

For more information please contact the Mauritius Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

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3 Royal Street, Port Louis  
Tel : (230) 208 3301  
Fax : (230) 208 0076  
Website: <http://www.mcci.org>

<sup>8</sup> Encyclopaedia Britannica, <http://www.britannica.com>

<sup>9</sup> Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Kingdom of Belgium, [http://diplomatie.belgium.be/fr/Services/voyager\\_a\\_letranger/conseils\\_par\\_pays/afrique/maurice/ra\\_mauritius.jsp](http://diplomatie.belgium.be/fr/Services/voyager_a_letranger/conseils_par_pays/afrique/maurice/ra_mauritius.jsp)

<sup>10</sup> The Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry, [http://www.mcci.org/ata\\_carnet.aspx](http://www.mcci.org/ata_carnet.aspx)

