



# **Mauritius**

# **Fire and Rescue Service**

## **Statistical Report 2013**

**May 2014**

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# **Mauritius Fire Statistics, 2013**

## **1. Introduction**

The Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service (MFRS), formerly known as the Government Fire Services, was set up in 1954. It is a department falling under the aegis of the Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands.

The Department is headed by the Chief Fire Officer. The main responsibility of the MFRS is to take all necessary steps for the prevention and suppression of fires and the protection of life, property and the environment in case of emergency.

The vision of MFRS is to render the Republic of Mauritius free from fire hazards. The MFRS has 10 fire stations located around the Island (4 in urban and 6 in rural regions) which operate round the clock and can be contacted on the emergency telephone number 115.

To keep pace with increasing demand for statistics for evidence based policy decision, Statistics Mauritius (SM) set up a Statistics Unit at the Department to assist them in developing a statistical data base and providing timely statistical information for improved decision making.

All data in this report relate to the Island of Mauritius

Detailed tables are given at Annex.

## **2. Key indicators**

This annual report is the first of its kind and statistics provided herein are based on administrative data for 2013 collected by the Control and Mobilising Centre and the Fire Prevention Unit. The report will henceforth be a regular publication of the MFRS and will be available freely on the Department website at [fsd.gov.mu](http://fsd.gov.mu) as well as on Statistics Mauritius website at [statsmauritius.gov.mu](http://statsmauritius.gov.mu)

| Key indicator                                                   | Unit          | 2013         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Overall average time taken to reach incident spot               | Mins          | 8            |
| Fire incident attended by Fire and rescue service               | Number        | 10,693       |
| Fire outbreak attended                                          | Number        | 7,614        |
| <i>of which:</i>                                                |               |              |
| <i>Sugar cane field fire</i>                                    | <i>Number</i> | <i>2,489</i> |
| <i>Outside Fire</i>                                             | <i>Number</i> | <i>4,446</i> |
| Application for fire certificate and fire clearance             | Number        | 2,598        |
| Issue of fire certificate and fire clearance                    | Number        | 869          |
| % of fire certificate and fire clearance over total application |               | 33           |
| Public education activities (lectures delivered)                | Number        | 536          |

***Data Source: Control and Mobilising Centre***

*The Control and Mobilising Centre located at the MFRS Headquarters in Port-Louis, receives all incoming emergency calls, dispatches fire crews to incidents and monitors management of operations on incident grounds.*

**3. Average time taken to reach incident spot**

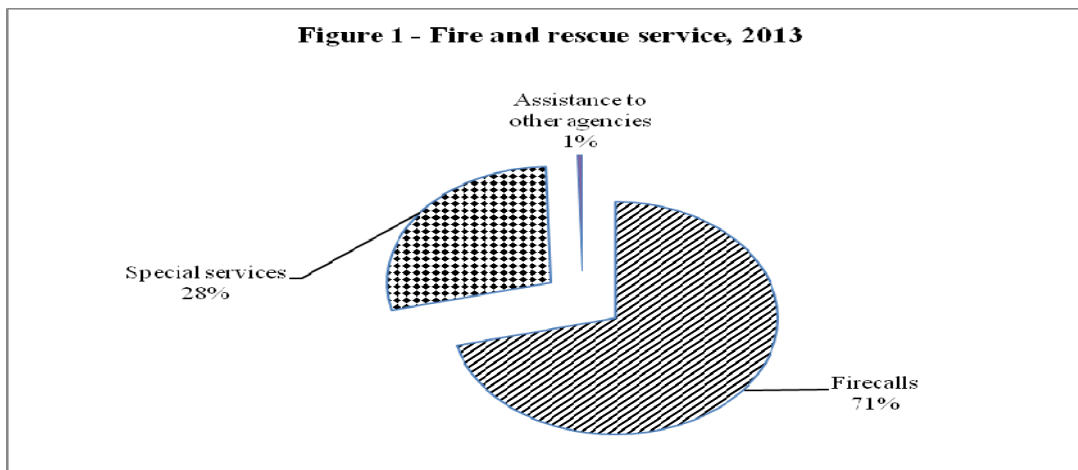
One of the indicators in the Programme Based Budget (PBB) is the time taken to reach an incident spot most particularly in case of structural fires<sup>1</sup> where human life may be at stake. The set target is 12 minutes. This indicator enables one to gauge the efficiency and the effectiveness of the MFRS to promptly respond to an emergency situation. From data obtained with regards to structural fires, it is observed that on average the fire crew takes approximately 8 minutes to reach the location (Table 1). Note that the time taken by each fire station varies due to the area coverage and the ease of accessibility.

<sup>1</sup> Any fire inside, on, under or touching a construction for occupancy and use for a specific purpose.

#### 4. Fire and rescue service statistics



The number of firecalls (fire incidents dealt with by fire crews) attended by the fire stations in 2013 amounted 10,693. In 71% of cases the Fire and Rescue team were deployed to intervene in various type of fire throughout the country. Special services<sup>2</sup> and Assistance offered to other agencies<sup>3</sup> accounted to 28% and 1% respectively (Table 2).



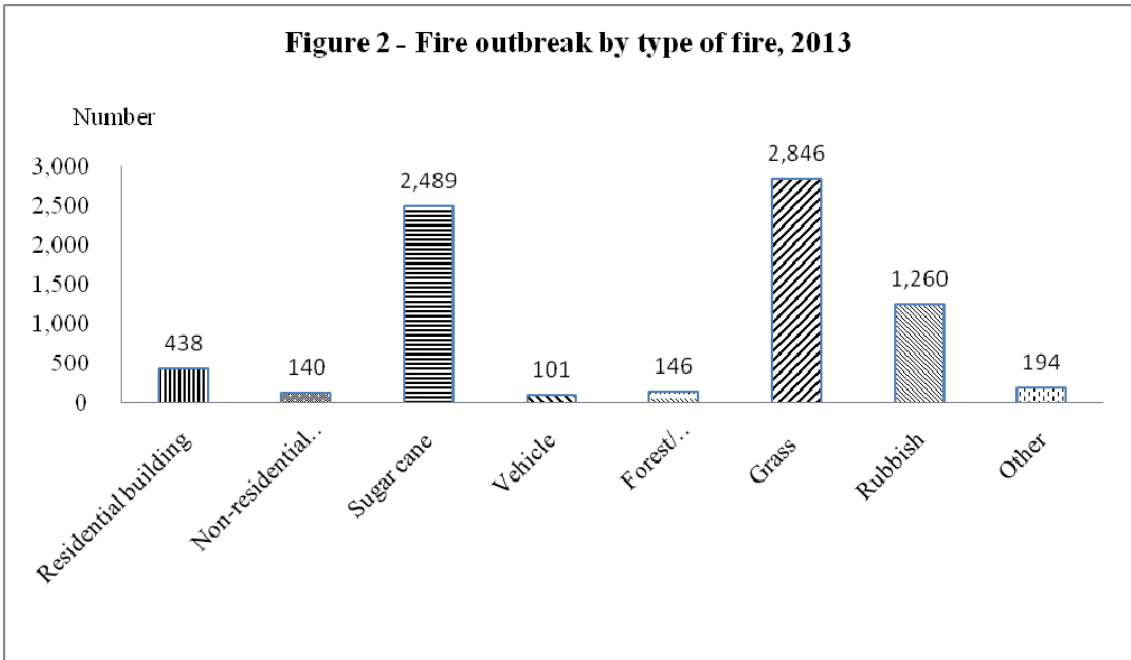
<sup>2</sup> include pumping of accumulated water, flushing, road accident, rescue operation, supply of water and flooding.

<sup>3</sup> Assistance offered to the Police, health institutions and Ministry of Environment.

5. Fire outbreak by Type of Fire



Most (37%) fire incidents occurred in grass lands and sugar cane fields (33%). These fires may be malicious or intentional and requires mobilization of lots of resources to deal with. Residential and non – residential property fires accounted for 8% (Table 4).



***Data Source: Fire Prevention Unit***

*The Fire Prevention Unit carries out inspection of buildings, filling stations, fuel depots, gas installations, office and commercial buildings, places of public entertainment, and other premises prone to fire hazards throughout the island for the purpose of fire certification and registration. In addition, the Unit conducts fire safety educational programmes for various categories of target groups, including workers, students and citizens.*

**6. Applications received and certificates issued**

*Fire certificate is issued when more than 10 persons are so employed elsewhere than on the ground floor or where highly flammable material is used or stored.*

*A fire clearance is issued subject that the building satisfies fire safety norms as required by MFRS.*

The number of applications received for fire certificate and fire clearance was 2,598 and the number of fire certificates and fire clearance issued summed up to 869 (33%) (Tables 10 & 11).

**7. Public education activities**



In 2013, the Fire Prevention Section undertook 536 campaigns in connection with fire safety awareness through talks, lectures, demonstrations and broadcast to the population (Table 12).

**8. Inquiries**

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**Statistics Mauritius  
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development  
Port Louis  
May 2014**

**Table 1 - Monthly average time taken to reach structural fire location by station, 2013**

| Fire Station                  | Month |     |     |     |     |     |      |     |      |     |     |     |           |
|-------------------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
|                               | Jan   | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan - Dec |
| Coromandel                    | 8     | 11  | 3   | 6   | 8   | 10  | 9    | 7   | 5    | 7   | 7   | 5   | 7         |
| Curepipe                      | 8     | 7   | 8   | 7   | 7   | 6   | 13   | 15  | 6    | 12  | 10  | 7   | 9         |
| Flacq                         | 9     | 10  | 8   | 5   | 3   | 5   | 5    | 12  | 6    | 14  | 11  | 19  | 9         |
| Mahebourg                     | 7     | 11  | 2   | 10  | 11  | 5   | 7    | 11  | 10   | 8   | 8   | 9   | 8         |
| Piton                         | 8     | 8   | 10  | 8   | 4   | 7   | -    | 10  | 10   | 9   | 10  | 4   | 7         |
| Port Louis                    | 6     | 7   | 4   | 7   | 5   | 4   | 6    | 4   | 9    | 6   | 7   | 5   | 6         |
| Quatre Bornes                 | 11    | 10  | 7   | 9   | 9   | 12  | 7    | 9   | 8    | 9   | 6   | 9   | 9         |
| Saint Aubin                   | 19    | 18  | -   | 12  | 11  | 8   | -    | 9   | 9    | 19  | 14  | 12  | 11        |
| Tamarin <sup>1</sup>          | -     | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -    | -   | -    | -   | 7   | 8   | 8         |
| Triolet                       | 5     | 6   | 5   | 6   | 7   | -   | 11   | 10  | 11   | 10  | 12  | 6   | 7         |
| <b>Overall Average (mins)</b> |       |     |     |     |     |     |      |     |      |     |     |     | <b>8</b>  |

<sup>1</sup> Operational as from November 2013

Source: Control Room



**Table 2 - Number of firecalls, special services and assistance to other agencies by station, 2013**

| <b>Fire Station</b>  | <b>Firecalls</b> | <b>Special services</b> | <b>Assistance to other agencies</b> | <b>Total</b>  |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Coromandel           | 1,228            | 424                     | 4                                   | <b>1,656</b>  |
| Curepipe             | 606              | 441                     | 12                                  | <b>1,059</b>  |
| Flacq                | 774              | 256                     | 2                                   | <b>1,032</b>  |
| Mahebourg            | 518              | 149                     | 2                                   | <b>669</b>    |
| Piton                | 912              | 263                     | 2                                   | <b>1,177</b>  |
| Port Louis           | 1,269            | 616                     | 9                                   | <b>1,894</b>  |
| Quatre Bornes        | 956              | 390                     | 14                                  | <b>1,360</b>  |
| Saint Aubin          | 358              | 258                     | 1                                   | <b>617</b>    |
| Tamarin <sup>1</sup> | 19               | 28                      | 1                                   | <b>48</b>     |
| Triolet              | 974              | 204                     | 3                                   | <b>1,181</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>7,614</b>     | <b>3,029</b>            | <b>50</b>                           | <b>10,693</b> |
| <b>%</b>             | <b>71</b>        | <b>28</b>               | <b>1</b>                            | <b>100</b>    |

**Table 3 - Number of firecalls, special services and assistance to other agencies by district, 2013**

| <b>District</b>    | <b>Firecalls</b> | <b>Special services</b> | <b>Assistance to other agencies</b> | <b>Total</b>  |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Black River        | 786              | 170                     | 3                                   | <b>959</b>    |
| Flacq              | 804              | 246                     | 2                                   | <b>1,052</b>  |
| Grand Port         | 579              | 185                     | 3                                   | <b>767</b>    |
| Moka               | 238              | 145                     | 1                                   | <b>384</b>    |
| Pamplemousses      | 1,763            | 403                     | 5                                   | <b>2,171</b>  |
| Plaine Wilhems     | 1,231            | 793                     | 26                                  | <b>2,050</b>  |
| Port Louis         | 1,054            | 622                     | 8                                   | <b>1,684</b>  |
| Riviere du Rempart | 760              | 151                     | 1                                   | <b>912</b>    |
| Savanne            | 399              | 314                     | 1                                   | <b>714</b>    |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>7,614</b>     | <b>3,029</b>            | <b>50</b>                           | <b>10,693</b> |

<sup>1</sup> Operational as from November 2013

Note: Fire station boundaries may be different from district boundaries

Source: Control Room

**Table 4 - Number of firecalls by station and nature of fire, 2013**

| Fire Station         | Residential building | Non-residential building | Sugar cane <sup>1</sup> | Vehicle    | Outside fire |              |              |            | Total        |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
|                      |                      |                          |                         |            | Forest/Tree  | Grass        | Rubbish      | Other      |              |
| Coromandel           | 46                   | 11                       | 143                     | 14         | 22           | 764          | 201          | 27         | <b>1,228</b> |
| Curepipe             | 68                   | 18                       | 233                     | 17         | 8            | 156          | 84           | 22         | <b>606</b>   |
| Flacq                | 39                   | 13                       | 460                     | 17         | 20           | 134          | 74           | 17         | <b>774</b>   |
| Mahebourg            | 36                   | 10                       | 302                     | 7          | 13           | 78           | 53           | 19         | <b>518</b>   |
| Piton                | 37                   | 10                       | 466                     | 11         | 13           | 264          | 96           | 15         | <b>912</b>   |
| Port Louis           | 74                   | 32                       | 121                     | 14         | 28           | 613          | 355          | 32         | <b>1,269</b> |
| Quatre Bornes        | 71                   | 18                       | 163                     | 14         | 16           | 446          | 198          | 30         | <b>956</b>   |
| Saint Aubin          | 32                   | 6                        | 224                     | 1          | 7            | 53           | 28           | 7          | <b>358</b>   |
| Tamarin <sup>2</sup> | 3                    | 1                        | 3                       | -          | -            | 8            | 4            | -          | <b>19</b>    |
| Triolet              | 32                   | 21                       | 374                     | 6          | 19           | 330          | 167          | 25         | <b>974</b>   |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>438</b>           | <b>140</b>               | <b>2,489</b>            | <b>101</b> | <b>146</b>   | <b>2,846</b> | <b>1,260</b> | <b>194</b> | <b>7,614</b> |

<sup>1</sup> Sugar cane: comprises standing cane and young shoot

<sup>2</sup> Operational as from November 2013

Note: Fire station boundaries may be different from district boundaries

Source: Control Room

**Table 5 - Number of firecalls by district and nature of fire, 2013**

| District           | Residential building | Non-residential building | Sugar cane <sup>1</sup> | Vehicle    | Outside fire |              |              |            | Total        |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
|                    |                      |                          |                         |            | Forest/Tree  | Grass        | Rubbish      | Other      |              |
| Black River        | 27                   | 10                       | 60                      | 7          | 18           | 556          | 84           | 24         | <b>786</b>   |
| Flacq              | 39                   | 14                       | 501                     | 15         | 15           | 133          | 72           | 15         | <b>804</b>   |
| Grand Port         | 40                   | 12                       | 327                     | 12         | 16           | 89           | 64           | 19         | <b>579</b>   |
| Moka               | 11                   | 7                        | 68                      | 6          | 3            | 97           | 39           | 7          | <b>238</b>   |
| Pamplemousses      | 48                   | 27                       | 781                     | 13         | 33           | 617          | 210          | 34         | <b>1,763</b> |
| Plaine Wilhems     | 140                  | 29                       | 171                     | 26         | 17           | 497          | 309          | 42         | <b>1,231</b> |
| Port Louis         | 68                   | 26                       | 8                       | 12         | 28           | 547          | 333          | 32         | <b>1,054</b> |
| Riviere du Rempart | 33                   | 9                        | 304                     | 8          | 11           | 260          | 123          | 12         | <b>760</b>   |
| Savanne            | 32                   | 6                        | 269                     | 2          | 5            | 50           | 26           | 9          | <b>399</b>   |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>438</b>           | <b>140</b>               | <b>2,489</b>            | <b>101</b> | <b>146</b>   | <b>2,846</b> | <b>1,260</b> | <b>194</b> | <b>7,614</b> |

<sup>1</sup> Sugar cane: standing cane and young shoot

Note: Fire station boundaries may be different from district boundaries

Source: Control Room

**Table 6 - Number of assistance offered to other agencies by station, 2013**

| <b>Fire Station</b>  | <b>Hospital</b> | <b>Police</b> | <b>Other</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Coromandel           | 3               | -             | 1            | <b>4</b>     |
| Curepipe             | 10              | 1             | 1            | <b>12</b>    |
| Flacq                | 2               | -             | -            | <b>2</b>     |
| Mahebourg            | 1               | -             | 1            | <b>2</b>     |
| Piton                | 2               | -             | -            | <b>2</b>     |
| Port Louis           | 8               | -             | 1            | <b>9</b>     |
| Quatre Bornes        | 12              | -             | 2            | <b>14</b>    |
| Saint Aubin          | 1               | -             | -            | <b>1</b>     |
| Tamarin <sup>1</sup> | 1               | -             | -            | <b>1</b>     |
| Triolet              | 3               | -             | -            | <b>3</b>     |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>43</b>       | <b>1</b>      | <b>6</b>     | <b>50</b>    |

**Table 7 - Number of assistance offered to other agencies by district, 2013**

| <b>District</b>    | <b>Hospital</b> | <b>Police</b> | <b>Other</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Black River        | 2               | -             | 1            | <b>3</b>     |
| Flacq              | 2               | -             | -            | <b>2</b>     |
| Grand Port         | 2               | -             | 1            | <b>3</b>     |
| Moka               | 1               | -             | -            | <b>1</b>     |
| Pamplemousses      | 5               | -             | -            | <b>5</b>     |
| Plaine Wilhems     | 22              | 1             | 3            | <b>26</b>    |
| Port Louis         | 7               | -             | 1            | <b>8</b>     |
| Riviere du Rempart | 1               | -             | -            | <b>1</b>     |
| Savanne            | 1               | -             | -            | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>43</b>       | <b>1</b>      | <b>6</b>     | <b>50</b>    |

<sup>1</sup> Operational as from November 2013

Note: Fire station boundaries may be different from district boundaries

Source: Control Room

**Table 8 - Number of sugar cane field fire <sup>1</sup> (SCFF) by station and damage, 2013**

| Station              | Standing cane |                | Young shoot |                | Total        |                |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
|                      | No. of SCFF   | Damage (Acres) | No. of SCFF | Damage (Acres) | No. of SCFF  | Damage (Acres) |
| Coromandel           | 129           | 1,399          | 14          | 101            | <b>143</b>   | <b>1,500</b>   |
| Curepipe             | 197           | 1,134          | 36          | 266            | <b>233</b>   | <b>1,400</b>   |
| Flacq                | 371           | 1,408          | 89          | 157            | <b>460</b>   | <b>1,564</b>   |
| Mahebourg            | 259           | 1,979          | 43          | 153            | <b>302</b>   | <b>2,132</b>   |
| Piton                | 429           | 2,253          | 37          | 105            | <b>466</b>   | <b>2,358</b>   |
| Port Louis           | 113           | 868            | 8           | 90             | <b>121</b>   | <b>957</b>     |
| Quatre Bornes        | 128           | 1,016          | 35          | 118            | <b>163</b>   | <b>1,134</b>   |
| Saint Aubin          | 188           | 923            | 36          | 112            | <b>224</b>   | <b>1,035</b>   |
| Tamarin <sup>2</sup> | 3             | 3              | -           | 1              | <b>3</b>     | <b>3</b>       |
| Triolet              | 340           | 1,574          | 34          | 148            | <b>374</b>   | <b>1,723</b>   |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>2,157</b>  | <b>12,556</b>  | <b>332</b>  | <b>1,249</b>   | <b>2,489</b> | <b>13,805</b>  |

**Table 9 - Number of sugar cane field fire <sup>1</sup> (SCFF) by district and damage, 2013**

| District           | Standing cane |                | Young shoot |                | Total        |                |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
|                    | No. of SCFF   | Damage (Acres) | No. of SCFF | Damage (Acres) | No. of SCFF  | Damage (Acres) |
| Black River        | 54            | 587            | 6           | 9              | <b>60</b>    | <b>596</b>     |
| Flacq              | 407           | 1,639          | 94          | 235            | <b>501</b>   | <b>1,874</b>   |
| Grand Port         | 287           | 2,062          | 40          | 131            | <b>327</b>   | <b>2,193</b>   |
| Moka               | 52            | 441            | 16          | 121            | <b>68</b>    | <b>562</b>     |
| Pamplemousses      | 712           | 3,980          | 69          | 328            | <b>781</b>   | <b>4,308</b>   |
| Plaine Wilhems     | 135           | 922            | 36          | 175            | <b>171</b>   | <b>1,097</b>   |
| Port Louis         | 7             | 54             | 1           | -              | <b>8</b>     | <b>54</b>      |
| Riviere du Rempart | 278           | 1,563          | 26          | 77             | <b>304</b>   | <b>1,640</b>   |
| Savanne            | 225           | 1,309          | 44          | 173            | <b>269</b>   | <b>1,481</b>   |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>2,157</b>  | <b>12,556</b>  | <b>332</b>  | <b>1,249</b>   | <b>2,489</b> | <b>13,805</b>  |

<sup>1</sup> Number of firecalls attended<sup>2</sup> Operational as from November 2013

Note: Fire Station boundaries may be different from district boundaries

Source: Control Room

**Table 10 - Number of fire certificate and fire clearance applications received by district, 2013**

| <b>District</b>    | <b>Fire certificate</b> | <b>Fire clearance</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Black River        | 115                     | 111                   | <b>226</b>   |
| Flacq              | 131                     | 132                   | <b>263</b>   |
| Grand Port         | 84                      | 71                    | <b>155</b>   |
| Moka               | 85                      | 77                    | <b>162</b>   |
| Pamplemousses      | 123                     | 176                   | <b>299</b>   |
| Plaine Wilhems     | 341                     | 340                   | <b>681</b>   |
| Port Louis         | 168                     | 231                   | <b>399</b>   |
| Riviere du Rempart | 120                     | 147                   | <b>267</b>   |
| Savanne            | 87                      | 59                    | <b>146</b>   |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>1,254</b>            | <b>1,344</b>          | <b>2,598</b> |

**Table 11 - Number of fire certificate and fire clearance issued by district, 2013**

| <b>District</b>    | <b>Fire certificate</b> | <b>Fire clearance</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Black River        | 11                      | 59                    | <b>70</b>    |
| Flacq              | 28                      | 71                    | <b>99</b>    |
| Grand Port         | 17                      | 41                    | <b>58</b>    |
| Moka               | 9                       | 40                    | <b>49</b>    |
| Pamplemousses      | 16                      | 83                    | <b>99</b>    |
| Plaine Wilhems     | 63                      | 189                   | <b>252</b>   |
| Port Louis         | 21                      | 81                    | <b>102</b>   |
| Riviere du Rempart | 27                      | 64                    | <b>91</b>    |
| Savanne            | 19                      | 30                    | <b>49</b>    |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>211</b>              | <b>658</b>            | <b>869</b>   |

Source: Fire Prevention

**Table 12 - Number of lectures on fire prevention undertook by the Fire Prevention Unit, 2013**

| Month                            | No. of lectures   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| January                          | 6                 |
| February                         | 22                |
| March                            | 30                |
| <i><u>January - March</u></i>    | <i><u>58</u></i>  |
| April                            | 50                |
| May                              | 107               |
| June                             | 98                |
| <i><u>April - June</u></i>       | <i><u>255</u></i> |
| July                             | 59                |
| August                           | 59                |
| September                        | 45                |
| <i><u>July - September</u></i>   | <i><u>163</u></i> |
| October                          | 26                |
| November                         | 18                |
| December                         | 16                |
| <i><u>October - December</u></i> | <i><u>60</u></i>  |
| <i><b>January - December</b></i> | <i><b>536</b></i> |

Source: Fire Prevention