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தொகைமதிப்பு மற்றும் புள்ளிவிபரத் திணைக்களம்
Department of Census and Statistics



TEL: 011-288 9516

FAX: 011-288 3655

E-mail: rgdeptvsu2011@gmail.com

Mid-Year Population

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Births, deaths and migration are the main factors that affect the population change of a country. As births, deaths and migrations are a continuous process, the population of a country or any territory is constantly changing over time. Every country conducts a census to calculate the population at any given moment. Thus, the last population and housing census in Sri Lanka was conducted in 2012 and the next census is planned to be conducted in 2024. Population is estimated annually on the basis of administrative data on births, deaths and migration in the country during the inter-census period. This estimate is based on July 1 and is called the Mid-Year population. The estimate for a respective year is calculated by adding the difference between registered births and deaths from July 1st of the previous year to June 30th of the respective year (natural increase = number of births - number of deaths) and net migration (net migration = number of people entering the country - number of people leaving the country), to the midyear population count of the previous year.

Mid-year population of the relevant year= Mid-year population of the previous year

+

Number of births

-

Number of deaths

+

Number of arrivals in the country

-

Number of departures from the country

Table 1: Annual Births, Deaths, Net Migration and Population Change-2013 -2023

Time period	Year	Births	Deaths	Net Migration	Population Change	Mid-Year Population ('000)
July 2012 to June 2013	2013	352,450	125,626	-71,730	155,094	20,585
July 2013 to June 2014	2014	361,800	125,334	-44,714	191,752	20,778
July 2014 to June 2015	2015	342,108	129,577	-17,055	195,476	20,970
July 2015 to June 2016	2016	331,525	129,936	34,995	236,584	21,209
July 2016 to June 2017	2017*	322,089	137,432	57,028	241,685	21,444
July 2017 to June 2018	2018*	325,741	136,403	32,826	222,164	21,670
July 2018 to June 2019	2019*	329,177	141,104	-54,681	133,392	21,803
July 2019 to June 2020	2020*	299,875	139,203	-44,160	116,512	21,919
July 2020 to June 2021	2021*	295,418	136,685	77,600	236,333	22,156
July 2021 to June 2022	2022*	289,863	179,052	-85,572	25,239	22,181
July 2022 to June 2023	2023*	268,920	190,600	-222,715	-144,395	22,037

*Provisional

Source: Department of Registrar General
Department of Immigration and Emigration

According to Table 1, during period July 2012 - June 2013 there were 352,450 registered births and from the that period to July 2013 - June 2014 period, number of registered births has been increased from 352,450 to 361,800. Since then the number of registered births has gradually decreased every year and during the period of July 2022 to June 2023, number of registered births was 268,920.

Furthermore, the number of registered deaths from July 2012 to June 2013 was 125,626 and by the period of July 2022 to June 2023, there has been a gradual growth to 190,600.

According to the data from Department of Immigration and Emigration, during the periods from July 2015 to June 2018 and July 2020 to June 2021, inward migration was higher than the outward migration and in rest of the periods; outward migration was higher than the inward migration after the last population census.

Net migration during the July 2021 to June 2022 period was negative 85,572 and it was negative 222,715 during the July 2022 to June 2023 period also.

Thus, the average annual population in the year 2023 has decreased by 144,395 compared to the year 2022, considering births decrease, deaths increase in and the immediate increase in the population that left the country.

Annual Births,Deaths,Net Migration & Population Change 2013-2023

