



REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

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Mid-Year Population

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Births, deaths, and migration are the main factors that influence population change in a country. As births, deaths, and migration occur continuously, the population of a country or any territory changes over time. Therefore, countries conduct population censuses to determine the size of the population at a specific point in time. Accordingly, the 15th Population and Housing Census of Sri Lanka was conducted by the Department of Census and Statistics on 18 December 2024.

During the intercensal period, the mid-year population is estimated annually based on administrative data on births, deaths, and migration in the country. The mid-year population is estimated as at 1 July of each year.

The mid-year population estimate for a respective year is calculated by adding the natural increase and net migration during the period from 1 July of the previous year to 30 June of the respective year to the mid-year population estimate of the previous year. Natural increase is calculated as the difference between registered births and registered deaths during the reference period. Net migration represents the difference between immigration and emigration during the same period.

**Mid-year population of the relevant year = Mid-year population of the previous year
+ (Number of births - Number of deaths
+ Number of arrivals - Number of
Departures)**

Natural increase = Number of births - Number of deaths

Net migration = Number of arrivals to the country - Number of departures from the country

Table 1: Annual Births, Deaths, Net Migration and Population Change 2025-2026*

Time Period	Year	Births	Deaths	Natural Increase	Net Migration	Population Change	Mid Year Population ('000)
19 th December 2024 to 30 th June 2025	2025	110,652	95,181	15,471	-41,002	-25,531	21,756
1 st July 2025 to 30 th June 2026	2026	215,366	169,426	45,940	-23,736	22,204	21,778

*Provisional

Source: Department of Registrar General
Department of Immigration and Emigration

The 2024/25 Mid-Year Population Estimates were prepared based on the population enumerated in the Census of Population and Housing 2024. The 2025/26 Mid-Year Population Estimates were derived by applying the net change in population resulting from live births, deaths, and migration recorded in Sri Lanka during the period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 to the 2024/25 Mid-Year Population Estimates.