

Groupe de Démographie Africaine

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**POPULATION SIZE
IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES :
AN EVALUATION**

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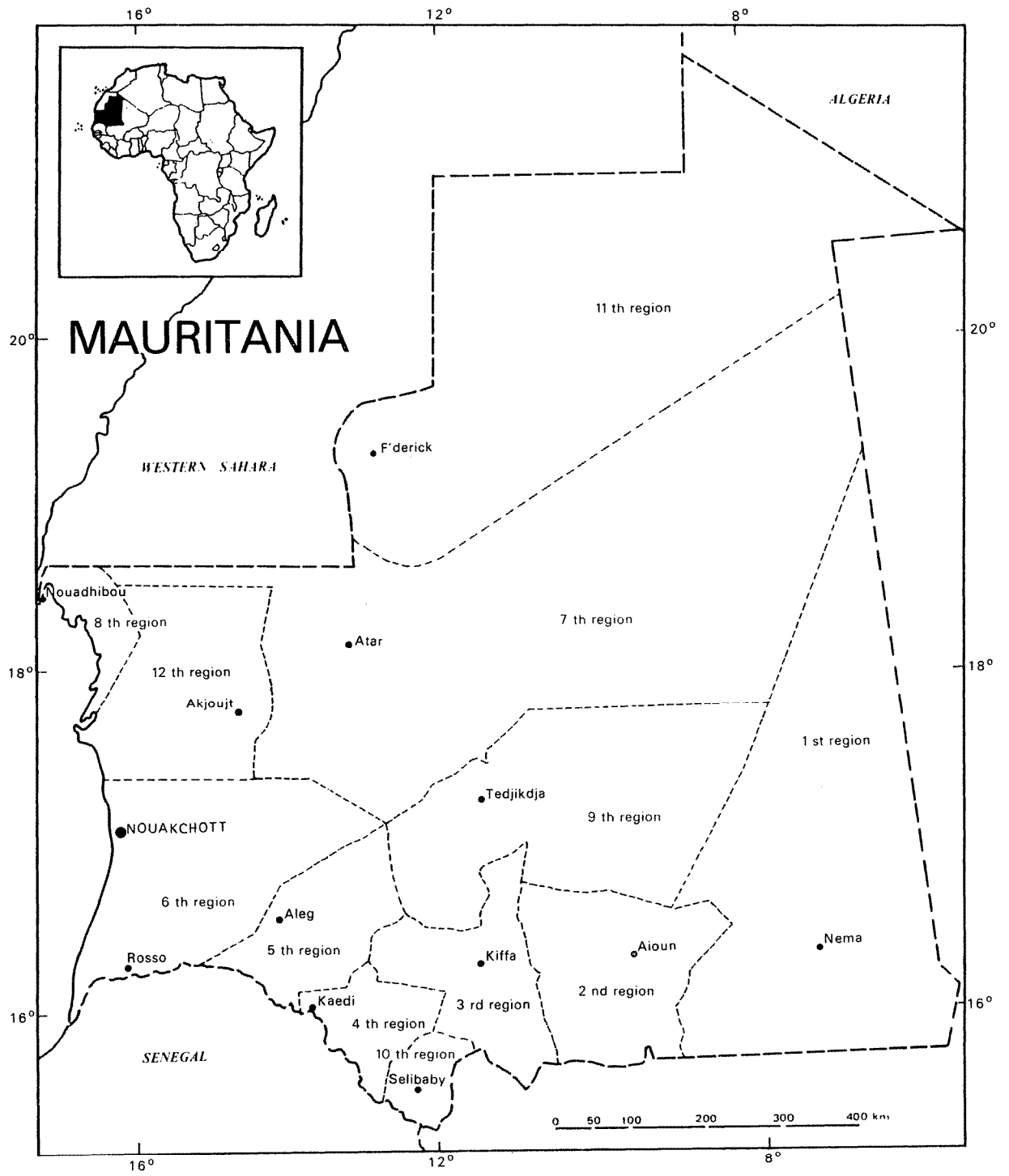
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MAURITANIA

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M A U R I T A N I A

I. INTRODUCTION

Mauritania occupies the western part of the Sahara bordering on the Sahel. To the south lie countries peopled with Blacks (Senegal, Mali), to the north, with Berber-Arabs: it is a land of transition. With a population estimated at 1,420,000 inhabitants, the population density of 1.4 inhabitants per sq. km. is one of the lowest in the world, the consequence of the very low rainfall: 600 mm/year in the southern tip and only 50mm/year in the north-eastern half of the country. The south-western part of Mauritania is sometimes called "exploitable Mauritania"; that is where the minimum conditions exist for practising extensive nomadic livestock farming. The cultivable land area is much more limited: 200,000 hectares are farmed along the Senegal river and in certain favourable zones, behind a dam or in a basin (low water cultivation). More generalized, rainfall cultivation is also practiced, always with uncertain yields.

These difficult conditions account for the coexistence of nomads, who are mainly livestock farmers, of semi-nomadic livestock or crop farmers, and of sedentary populations. The first two categories have appropriated the land in a very different way to the sedentary peasants: pastures, wells, cultivable land and dams belong to the tribe and may be very scattered. The sedentary peasants have been settled for centuries, mostly on the banks of the Senegal; they consist of African Negroes related to the Senegalese living on the opposite bank of the river and Moors, who are also found throughout southern Marutiania. For the latter, however, tribal ties prevail over land ones.

The colonial, then national administrations have taken these traditional structures into account. The Moors are represented by heads of communities, the African Negroes by village headmen. The case of the Peuhls is particular: they are semi-nomads very badly covered by the administration (resistance to the authorities, dispersion of the populations). According to the duration of settlement, they are administered as nomadic or sedentary.

This relatively simple situation proved increasingly ill-adapted from the 1960's with the creation of a capital, the development of the port of Nouadhibou due to the exploiting of an iron mine at Zouerate, the opening of a copper mine at Akjoujt, and a little later the construction of a tarmac road linking Saint Louis du Senegal to Akjoujt via Nouakchott and of a railway line linking Nouadhibou to Zouerate. To the traditional population movements - transhumance and migration with neighbouring countries - was added an essentially male rural migration towards the new towns, made easier by the fact that animal transport was progressively replaced by motor transport.

Finally, in the early 1970s, a catastrophic drought attracted a large part of the population to the towns. The population of the towns of at least 5,000 inhabitants grew from 3.5% in 1962 to 22% in 1977, while the nomadic population, in the literal sense, decreased from 53% to 30% of the

total population. The method used traditionally for enumerating the nomadic communities thus became totally ineffective; it was not until the 1977 census that a reasonably accurate picture of the new population distribution could be obtained.

II. DATA SOURCES

The oldest available data concern the 1944 administrative census, which provides the population by regions. For earlier periods, only monographs exist. It should be noted that the "end of the pacification" of Mauritania took place around 1930.

1) Administrative Censuses, 1944-1970

Table 72 presents the population by regions derived from the successive administrative censuses. These were carried out in 20% of the prefectures each year, which explains certain step-wise patterns. The long-term trend shows a mean annual rate of growth of 28 per 1,000; this reflects the progress in coverage which began in 1950 and subsequently accelerated.

Adding to the common sources of omissions in administrative censuses (under - 15s, women) is the fact that taxes were not paid per capita, but per head of cattle (for livestock farmers); thus the shepherds who were not taxed were often neglected. A recent example may illustrate the incompleteness of these censuses: during the preparation of the 1977 survey on nomads, the interviewers had to draw up lists of the community members under conditions similar to those of the administrative censuses, that is, by convoking the community representatives. An a posteriori comparison with the lists of the household members interviewed revealed, for the population aged 20 and over, both a 30% undercount and at the same time a 20% overcount of people wrongly included, who were in reality dead or living abroad.

2) The Survey of the Socio-Economic Mission for Senegal (MISOES), 1957

This survey covered a sample of the population living on both banks of the river Senegal; we could find no trace of it locally.

3) Census of the Main Population Centres, 1962

At this time, the exceptional development of several population centres (Nouackchott, Nouadhibou, Zouerate) made it necessary to take a census of their population. 27 localities considered as the most important in the country were covered. The field operations, which lasted 13 months, enumerated 88,000 inhabitants. Demographic and economic questions on place of birth and ethnic group were included, providing the first table of this kind for Mauritania.

4) Rural Demographic Survey, 1965

Designed to complement the population centre census, this survey covered a sample of 145,000 inhabitants, 105,000 of whom were actually interviewed, that is, roughly 1/10 of the population. The sample was obtained by a random selection of villages and nomad communities from the lists of the administrative censuses, after stratification according to size and geographical zone for the nomads and size and ethnic group for the

sedentary population. The questionnaire focussed on demographic questions. The divergence between the results of this survey and those provided by the last administrative census is strong (28.3% of omissions). The data permitted projections to be made.

5) The General Population Census, 1977

This operation, the most important so far in Mauritania, was conducted in the framework of the African census program; it is the first demographic investigation to cover the whole population. The data yielded are very instructive with regard to the redistribution of population following the drought, but for this same reason they cannot be extrapolated (regional population forecasts).

The rate of coverage, although it cannot be termed "complete", is a definite improvement on the 1965 survey (deficient sampling frame). Indeed, the rate of growth indicated (27.5 per 1,000) can only be explained by a strong underestimation of the preceding operation; this will be discussed later. The census operations also required a cartographic listing of all villages; computerized, this list provides a good sampling frame for future surveys and is a tool much sought-after by administrations and projects concerned with the rural world. The fact remains that this census operation is also seemingly the most expensive in the whole of Africa, when compared with the size of the population.

6) The National Fertility Survey, 1980

The questionnaire and the methodology used are those of the World Fertility Survey. For financial reasons, investigations were limited to the sedentary population (2/3), which was divided into three strata: urban, river and other areas. The primary sample consisted of roughly 100,000 inhabitants; a second sample was drawn among married women. The results are not yet available, but an extrapolation of the survey population apparently leads to an estimate lower than the one provided by the census of the sedentary population.

7) Civil Registration

Civil registration, which is in the hands of the Ministry of the Interior, is still at the embryonic stage. However, in certain towns 70% of births are registered, against 5 to 10% in rural areas. Marriage generally remains within the competence of the traditional authorities. Deaths are very rarely reported. No data have been published.

8) Maternity Registers

Families have for some time become very keen on childbirth in maternity hospitals. Certain of these attract mothers from far and wide, which creates problems, as births are not recorded at the home address. In the town of Rosso, for instance, the coverage rate is such that the apparent birth rate reaches 70 per 1,000! On the other hand, women traditionally go back to mother's for childbirth, which works in the opposite direction. The data for the capital seem exploitable: 90 to 95% of mothers give birth in a maternity hospital, a proportion which largely exceeds birth-reporting in the civil registers (70%). The sex ratio varies a great deal from year to year: over a period of 10 years, the mean is 104.5.

9) Other Administrative Sources

The Ministry of Education publishes an annual report on school enrolment by level, which provides a source of comparison with the census data for testing its coverage.

The Ministry of Health publishes an annual report on the causes of mortality and morbidity: these data are unfortunately not representative.

III. CRITICAL STUDY OF DATA SOURCES

1) The 1965 Population Estimate

The first 'serious' estimate of the population of Mauritania was based on the census of the main population centres and the rural demographic survey. The aggregated figures gave a total population ranging between 990,504 and 1,094,138 inhabitants for mid-year 1965; the intermediate figure of 1,028,900 was taken as the population estimate. The difference with the 1962-1963 administrative census is high (+ 38%); yet the results of these two operations are strongly suspected of under-estimation.

In 1962, an option was chosen which subsequently proved very prejudicial: "the census population corresponds to a 'de jure' population. Indeed, in the absence of a precise geographical demarcation of the population centres, the respondents were those dependent on a head of the family who was considered by the local authorities as belonging to the village". This definition is not as restrictive as it might appear, since it includes relatives of the head of the family who may be covered by an administrative census elsewhere; this must be frequent in the centres which exert a strong population attraction. On the other hand, it excludes a large part of the population made up of new residents (we have seen that the towns expanded rapidly: Nouakchott grew from 500 inhabitants in 1958 to 5,807 at the 1962 census). The 'de facto' population was 120,000 inhabitants; 88,000 were enumerated as resident or 'de jure' population. Of the 32,000 excluded from the census, many may also have been omitted during the 1965 survey.

The updating of the population of the main centres took into account only the natural increase observed in 1962 (21 per 1,000). However, if we consider the actual population growth in three towns, Nouakchott, Nouadhibou and Zouerate, and apply to the other centres the 1962 rate of natural increase, we obtain a 'de jure' population of 105,000 inhabitants in 1965 instead of 93,000.

The sex ratio for the rural population was reduced from 108 to 100 by increasing the number of females. It might have been further reduced, to 98 or 97 for instance, to take into account the traditional, mainly male patterns of migration with other countries and the migration of workers to the new towns, where the sex ratio was already very high in 1962 (Nouakchott: 124.2; Nouadhibou: 259; Zouerate: 163); this would mean adding a further 10 to 15,000 females.

The most important source of omission concerns the Peuhl livestock farmers, who are very ill known of the administrative authorities because of the instability and great dispersal of their villages. Introduced into

the sample according to the procedure applied to the sedentary population, these villages are under-represented. The 1977 census data point to a 54% underestimation of Peuhls in 1965 (44,000 inhabitants).

In view of these different remarks, and taking into account the regional populations in 1965 estimated from the 1977 census data (population and inter-regional 'lifetime' migration), we obtain an estimate of roughly 1,108,000 inhabitants for the population of Mauritania in 1965. Compared with the population on January 1st 1977, this gives a more plausible growth rate of 2.17%.

The main difficulties encountered during these two operations lay in population movements, because of their intensity and variety (nomadism, semi-nomadism, rural-urban migration, expatriation, external transhumance).

For population structure (age/sex) and natural increase alike, the quality of the data is fairly poor, despite the efforts made with regard to the questionnaire.

Comparisons with the census are no easy task. The classing of Moors with nomads, which was justified at the time for operational reasons, is in particular a problem for studying settling. An effort should have been made during processing to distinguish the true nomads, those who move around.

The population forecasts calculated with varying mortality gave a population of 1,295,000 in 1975, that is, a mean annual rate of growth of 23.3 per 1,000, which is much too high for a natural increase estimated at 16 per 1,000 in 1965.

These two operations nonetheless opened up a wide field of experience which was put to use by the general population census held in 1977.

2) The 1977 Population Census

In 1972, a request was made to the UNFPA for financing a complete census of the nomadic and sedentary populations of Mauritania. It was subsequently shown [6] that complete coverage of the nomadic population was impossible for reasons of both cost and difficulty of checking the coverage. It was therefore decided to conduct a complete census of the sedentary population and a sample survey of the nomadic population. As the relative importance of the latter category had decreased a great deal, this option was less prejudicial. Moreover, an effort was made to distinguish more clearly between the nomadic and sedentary populations, which led to the following two definitions:

- a village is an inhabited site where at least one dwelling-place is permanent;
- a nomad is a person who spends more than six months per year outside the villages.

These definitions, while inevitably imperfect, have the advantage of providing straightforward instructions for the fieldworkers.

It proved impossible to hold both operations simultaneously for reasons of lack of personnel and material. The date of December 22 to January 7 was set for the census of the sedentary population to use personnel available

during the school holidays, while the survey of the nomadic population was carried out between January and April using employees recruited specifically for that purpose.

As a 'de jure' population was necessary for the nomadic survey, for rectifying the sample, the nomads encountered in the sedentary areas during the census were enumerated. On the other hand, as the census was conducted on a 'de facto' population, people absent from the households and living 'in camp' were counted because they would not be included in the nomadic survey. The total population is therefore neither a 'de jure' nor a 'de facto' population. This ambiguity is the counterpart of the methodological progress made with regard to the nomadic population since the 1965 survey.

The improved procedure used for this population was the following:

- A list of male over-20's was established using the nomadic community lists and a sample was drawn from it: these were the 'pilot respondents'.
- The search for these respondents led the fieldworkers to the camps, the populations of which were then enumerated completely.
- The probabilities of enumerating these camps were determined a posteriori by comparing the over-20's interviewed with those on the nomadic community lists.

The proportion of the sample encountered in 1965 was 75%; in 1977, the pilot respondents encountered represent 88% of the total sample and 90% of those still living as nomads in Mauritania. Furthermore, an estimated 67,000 nomads had at the time left the country during transhumance (chiefly to Mali); for this population, it is very difficult to find a suitable survey date other than December, as certain tracks are more or less inaccessible between August and November, and after December the nomads start their descent towards the southern pasture lands.

The decision which was taken to include both visitors from abroad (7,457) and people who were absent, living abroad (15,085), remains a mystery, in view of the fact that theoretically it had been decided to cover the 'de facto' population.

In reality, it is very difficult to distinguish between nomads and sedentary population, as so many intermediate situations exist: people classified as 'temporary inhabitants', others 'absent, in camp' or 'residents of temporary villages' (villages uninhabited part of the year).

Farming camps are a real problem as there is a latent confusion between these and the true nomad camps. Given the definition adopted for the village, the fieldworker is completely free to judge how permanent he considers sites consisting of mere huts. If they are covered by the census, there may be double counting if the individuals have already been counted in their household of origin as 'absent, in camp'. If they are not covered, there may be omission if whole households have come out to the farming land. The problem is eclipsed if the farming land is located outside the national boundaries, as is frequently the case in the southern part of the Assaba and Hodh Gharbi regions, where the census findings were well below the cartographic estimates made at another time of year.

The fact that the villages have no precise boundaries means that stable camps situated nearby may be included, as respondents declare that they live there most of the year, and the villages themselves often consist mostly of tents. Similarly, a nomad who has come to stay with a member of his family living in the village may be considered by him as part of the household, because of household-family confusion. Despite the instructions given to the fieldworkers, 35,000 nomads (rectified equivalent) were thus counted in both operations, perhaps due to a food distribution in the villages at the time. This was corrected by deducting 35,000 people from the livestock farming families in the sedentary population.

The question on residence status was split into two:

- The situation as regards residence: to solve the problem of whether or not the respondent belongs to the locality;
- The situation as regards presence within the household.

It should be noted that there is no theoretical equality between 'absent, living in a village/town' on the one hand and 'visitors' plus 'temporary inhabitants' on the other hand (the case of people absent from a household and counted in another household in the same locality). A means of checking the coverage of the census is thus lost.

Table 69 presents the population size of each of these categories (sedentary population census).

TABLE 68 - MAURITANIA - DEFINITION OF RESIDENCE STATUS, 1977 POPULATION CENSUS

SITUATION AS REGARDS PRESENCE WITHIN THE HOUSEHOLD	RESIDENT INHABITANT	TEMPORARY INHABITANT	VISITOR	TRANSIENT NOMAD
Present	x	x	x	
Absent, in camp	x			
Absent, abroad	x			
Absent, in a town/village	x			
Transient nomad				x

TABLE 69 - MAURITANIA - SEDENTARY POPULATION BY SEX AND RESIDENCE STATUS,
1977 POPULATION CENSUS

SITUATION AS REGARDS RESIDENCE	POPULATION			SEX RATIO
	Male	Female	Total	
Resident, present	386 690	411 656	798 346	93.9
Resident, absent in camp	23 459	19 060	42 519	123.1
Resident, absent in town/village	29 664	13 253	42 917	223.8
Resident, absent abroad	11 895	3 190	15 085	372.9
Temporary inhabitant	14 412	8 558	22 970	168.4
Visitor (a)	9 956	5 241	15 197	190.0
Transient nomad (b)	46 126	...

(a) including 7,457 from abroad.

(b) including 35,000 wrongly enumerated as sedentary.

All these remarks show that it is extremely difficult to assess the coverage of the 1977 census because of the constant population movement, aggravated at the time by drought.

A comparison of the 1977 and 1965 figures led us to correct the regional estimates of 1965 for underenumeration. The 1977 and the rectified 1965 figures are however certainly still too low, as certain causes of underestimation remain in 1977: omission of young females, whose number we increased by 13,282, omission of whole households who had moved to farming lands which were not enumerated, Peuhl nomad communities which could not be included in the sampling frame. The lack of information on emigration limits the possibility of rectifying the female population. The sex ratio observed in 1977 was 96.7, compared with 106 for rural areas in 1965 and 101 for the main population centres in 1962 (the latter would no doubt be higher if the 'floating population' of 32,000 had been included). Such a variation in the sex ratio cannot be attributed solely to better reporting of females: emigration is no doubt part of the explanation. Assuming emigration of females to be nil, we estimated the number of migrants at 31,875 males. Underreporting of females would lead to a larger estimate of emigrants and vice versa.

The population does not seem to have been particularly uncooperative with regard to the census: there is no per capita tax in Mauritania and the livestock tax was abolished during the drought. On the other hand, the

confusion of the population census with a distribution of food supplies led to the enumeration of non-residents (for instance the 35,000 nomads).

The main difficulties were in the field operations, because of the inadequate road network and the extensiveness of many census areas. The rural cartographic work seems to have been satisfactory, and there were very few cases of overlapping of villages. Certain sites shown as 'permanent camps' on the maps had become villages, but on the whole the recently settled villages proved fairly stable. The use of amateur aerial photographs for delimiting the boundaries of the urban census districts was an initiative which helped the fieldworkers considerably. For the survey of the nomadic population, there seem to have been no major problems which could not be resolved, although the estimation of the number of nomads who had left the country during transhumance was somewhat uncertain.

The handbooks issued to the fieldworkers were much too voluminous: 86 full-size pages. Few enumerators must have read it outside the week's training course: that would have required a motivation which could hardly be expected of fourth-formers for a fortnight's spare-time job. Similarly, the use of historical calendars seems to have deterred a good number of these adolescents (very strong attraction for round numbers). The use of two very different questionnaires for the nomadic and sedentary populations caused complications at all levels (twice the printing for the questionnaires and handbooks and, more importantly, much heavier computer processing). Initially, 120 Tables were planned; only 72 have been obtained.

The handbooks were voluminous because designed to make up for a lack of supervision of fieldwork: they were intended to provide a precise answer for any of the fieldworkers' questions; but the natural tendency to find solutions more rapidly by guesswork was not taken into account. The most difficult questions are unfortunately those concerning 'situation as regards residence', 'situation as regards presence within the household' and 'type of village'. These are so complicated that the author of the present paper took several months to evaluate all their ins and outs.

A greater effort should have been made, on the other hand, for the notebooks issued to the fieldworkers (for summing up the figures by sex and household and generally noting down remarks on the reception and difficulties encountered): these were nothing more attractive than ordinary school notebooks.

IV. CONCLUSION

As we have seen, the administrative censuses have improved over time, and the ongoing one should profit from the results of the 1977 population census.

The present trend towards greater settling will prove beneficial, at least for demographic studies. A survey conducted by the Department of Hydraulics on the villages of 180 inhabitants and over located by the census has revealed a five-year geographical stability.

Many methodological improvements have been introduced, in particular with regard to the nomadic populations; however, the problem of farming lands still requires clarification.

Adjustment of the population pyramid led us to assume, for 1962 a population with a mortality level of 7.5 and a gross reproduction rate of 3.1 for a mean age of mothers at childbirth of 29.6 years, giving a growth rate of 19 per 1,000 for that date.

By assuming an exponential variation of this growth rate, we obtained a very rough evaluation of population size since 1900, based on the growth rate in 1962 and the population in 1977. Two simple equations provide the growth rate and the population at the different dates (1).

Two remarks confirm the validity of this assumption:

- the very good fit observed for the population and the rates after 1962;
- the regular progression of the coverage rate for the administrative censuses.

(1) Annual rate of growth:

$$r = e^{0,0003036 (t - 1900)} - 1$$

Population on January 1st:

$$P = 583\,290 e^{0,0001518 (t - 1901) (t - 1900)}$$

TABLE 70 - MAURITANIA - SUPPOSED EVOLUTION OF THE POPULATION, 1920-1977

DATE	RATE OF GROWTH (%/ ₀₀)	POPULATION	ADMINISTRATIVE CENSUS	RATE OF COVERAGE AT THE ADMINIS- TRATIVE CENSUSES (%)
1/1/77	23.65	1 419 079 (1)		
1/1/75	23.0	1 355 945		
1/1/70	21.5	1 215 557	1 021 000	84.0
1/1/65	20.5	1 108 853		
1/1/63	19.3	1 056 477	747 000	70.7
1/1/62	19.0 (a)	1 036 776		
1/1/50	15.3	846 977		
1/1/46	14.1	799 503	494 000	61.8
1/1/40	12.2	739 942		
1/1/30	9.1	666 360		
1/1/20	6.1	618 593		

(a) base assumption.

TABLE 71 - MAURITANIA - COMPARISON OF THE 1965 ESTIMATES WITH THE 1977
POPULATION CENSUS

REGIONS	DE JURE POPULATION ESTIMATED ON 1.1.1977	ESTIMATE MADE IN 1965	GROWTH RATE (%)	PROBABLE POPULATION 1965	GROWTH RATE (%)	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ESTIMATE AND POPULATION 1965
Nouakchott	134 762	17 500	19,4	17 500	19,42	-
Hodh Charki	214 317	168 900	2,1	171 000	1,98	+ 2 100
Hodh Gharbi	117 456	87 400	2,6	96 000	1,77	+ 8 600
Assabq	134 826	101 100	2,5	111 000	1,71	+ 9 900
Gorgol	148 698	74 800	6,2	117 000	2,11	+ 42 200
Brahna	152 025	123 900	1,8	133 000	1,17	+ 9 100
Trarza	223 193	194 300	1,2	200 000	0,95	+ 5 700
Adrar	65 532	64 700	0,1	65 000	0,07	+ 300
D. Nouadhibou	23 949	10 800	7,2	11 200	6,83	+ 400
Iagent	71 420	81 700	-1,2	75 000	-0,46	- 6 700
Guidimaha	87 117	63 400	2,8	69 000	2,05	+ 5 600
Tiris Zemmour	23 225	15 800	3,4	17 400	2,54	+ 1 600
Inchiri	22 559	24 600	0,8	24 800	-0,08	+ 200
TOTAL	1 419 079	1 028 900	2,8	1 107 900	2,18	+ 79 000

TABLE 72 - MAURITANIA - POPULATION ACCORDING TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE CENSUSES, 1944-1970 (a)

(thousands)

REGIONS	1944	1945-1946	1948	1950-1951	1955	1959	1962-1963	1970	GROWTH BETWEEN 1.1.46 and 1.1.70
Hodh Charki	} 136	{ 80	84	} 139	{ 98	117	119	156	95 %
Hodh Gharbi		54	54		64	66	73	98	81 %
Assabq	63	63	65	69	70	76	(c) 88	(c) 104	65 %
Gorgol	40	40	42	38	43	56	56	(c) 96	140 %
Brahna	54	55	56	60	72	76	80	127	131 %
Irarza	72	72	74	85	92	104	122	197	174 %
Adrar	(b) 38	35	35	(b) 42	38	48	57	74	111 %
D. Nouadhibou	4	4	4	5	5	4	10	6	50 %
Tagant	41	39	40	40	42	47	60	66	69 %
Guidimaka	38	39	39	38	42	46	(c) 52	64	64 %
Iris Zemmour	(b)	4	4	(b)	7	3	14	15	275 %
Inchiri	10	9	9	9	10	11	16	18	106 %
MAURITANIA	496	494	506	525	583	654	747	1 021	107 %
Annual rate of growth (%)	///	- 0.27	0.96	1.48	2.36	2.91	3.87	4.25	2.83

(a) No administrative census strictly speaking has been conducted in Nouakchott.

(b) This figure covers both regions.

(c) New administrative divisions.

TABLE 73 - MAURITANIA - POPULATION ACCORDING TO ENVIRONMENT IN 1965 AND 1977

ENVIRONMENT	POPULATION ON		ANNUAL RATE OF GROWTH (%)
	1/1/1977	1/1/1965	
Urban	306 682	110 000	9,3 %
Rural sedentary	616 735	374 550	4,4 %
Nomads + transhumants	428 699 66 963	623 350	- 2,0 %
Total	1 419 079	1 107 900	2,17 %
Total rural	1 112 397	997 900	0,9 %

N.B. The definitions of environments are the same at both dates.

TABLE 74 - MAURITANIA - POPULATION OF THE MAIN TOWNS IN 1962 AND 1977

TOWNS	POPULATION	
	1977	1962
Nouakchott	134 762	5 807
Nouadhibou	21 930	5 283
Kaedi	20 707	9 197
Zouérate	17 401	4 659
Rosso	16 510	4 811
Attar	16 180	9 528
Kiffa	10 266	4 359

TABLE 75 - MAURITANIA - POPULATION BY BROAD AGE GROUPS IN 1977 (a)

Sex \ Age	0-14 YEARS	15-59 YEARS	60 YEARS AND+	TOTAL
Males	22.25	24.38	2.06	48.69
Females	21.95	26.82	2.54	51.31
TOTAL	44.20	51.20	4.60	100.00

(a) Adjusted population , excluding transhumants.

TABLE 76 - MAURITANIA - FOREIGN NATIONALS PRESENT ON JANUARY 1ST 1977

NATIONALITY	POPULATION
Senegalese	17 624
Maliens	3 461
French	2 922
Guineans	1 555
Others	4 161

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