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# Chapter 1

## 183

### 1.1 183.guide

Texified version of data for Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau).

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Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau)

### 1.2 183.guide/Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau)

Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau)

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Header (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))  
 Geography (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))  
 People (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))  
 Government (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))  
 Government (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau) 2. usage)  
 Economy (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))  
 Communications (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))  
 Defense Forces (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))

### 1.3 183.guide/Header (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))

Header (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))  
 =====

Affiliation:  
 (UN trusteeship administered by the US)

### 1.4 183.guide/Geography (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))

Geography (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))  
 =====

Location:  
 in the North Pacific Ocean, 850 km southeast of the Philippines  
 Map references:  
 Oceania  
 Area:  
 total area:  
 458 km<sup>2</sup>  
 land area:  
 458 km<sup>2</sup>  
 comparative area:  
 slightly more than 2.5 times the size of Washington, DC  
 Land boundaries:  
 0 km  
 Coastline:  
 1,519 km  
 Maritime claims:  
 contiguous zone:  
 24 nm  
 continental shelf:  
 200 m or depth of exploitation  
 exclusive fishing zone:  
 200 nm  
 territorial sea:

12 nm  
 International disputes:  
   none  
 Climate:  
   wet season May to November; hot and humid  
 Terrain:  
   about 200 islands varying geologically from the high, mountainous main island of Babelthuap to low, coral islands usually fringed by large barrier reefs  
 Natural resources:  
   forests, minerals (especially gold), marine products, deep-seabed minerals  
 Land use: arable land:  
   NA%  
   permanent crops:  
   NA%  
   meadows and pastures:  
   NA%  
   forest and woodland:  
   NA%  
   other:  
   NA%  
 Irrigated land:  
   NA km2  
 Environment:  
   subject to typhoons from June to December; archipelago of six island groups totaling over 200 islands in the Caroline chain  
 Note:  
   includes World War II battleground of Peleliu and world-famous rock islands

## 1.5 183.guide/People (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))

People (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))

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Population:  
   16,071 (July 1993 est.)  
 Population growth rate:  
   1.84% (1993 est.)  
 Birth rate:  
   22.9 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Death rate:  
   6.61 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Net migration rate:  
   2.12 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Infant mortality rate:  
   25.07 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)  
 Life expectancy at birth:  
   total population:  
     71.01 years  
   male:  
     69.14 years  
   female:  
     73.02 years (1993 est.)

## Total fertility rate:

2.96 children born/woman (1993 est.)

## Nationality:

noun:

Palauan(s)

adjective:

Palauan

## Ethnic divisions:

Palauans are a composite of Polynesian, Malayan, and Melanesian races

## Religions:

Christian (Catholics, Seventh-Day Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses, the Assembly of God, the Liebenzell Mission, and Latter-Day Saints), Modekngei religion (one-third of the population observes this religion which is indigenous to Palau)

Languages: English (official in all of Palau's 16 states), Sonsorolese (↔ official in the state of Sonsoral), Angaur and Japanese (in the state of Anguar), Tobi (in the state of Tobi), Palauan (in the other 13 states)

## Literacy:

age 15 and over can read and write (1980)

total population:

92%

male:

93%

female:

91%

## Labor force:

NA

by occupation:

NA

## 1.6 183.guide/Government (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))

Government (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))

=====

## Names:

conventional long form:

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

conventional short form:

none

note:

may change to Republic of Palau after independence; the native form of ↔ Palau

is Belau and is sometimes used incorrectly in English and other languages

## Digraph:

NQ

## Type:

UN trusteeship administered by the US

note:

constitutional government signed a Compact of Free Association with the US on 10 January 1986, which was never approved in a series of UN-observed

plebiscites; until the UN trusteeship is terminated with entry into force ↔  
 of  
 the Compact, Palau remains under US administration as the Palau District of  
 the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; administrative authority ↔  
 resides  
 in the Department of the Interior and is exercised by the Assistant  
 Secretary for Territorial and International Affairs through the Palau  
 Office, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, J. Victor HOBSON Jr.,  
 Director (since 16 December 1990)

Capital:  
 Koror

note:  
 a new capital is being built about 20 km northeast in eastern Babelthup

Administrative divisions:  
 there are no first-order administrative divisions as defined by the US  
 Government, but there are 16 states: Aimeliik, Airai, Angaur, Kayangel,  
 Koror, Melekeok, Ngaraard, Ngardmau, Ngaremlengui, Ngatpang, Ngchesar,  
 Ngerchelong, Ngiwal, Peleliu, Sonsorol, Tobi

Independence:  
 the last polity remaining under the US-administered UN trusteeship ↔  
 following  
 the departure of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States  
 of Micronesia, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas from the  
 trusteeship; administered by the Office of Territorial and International  
 Affairs, US Department of Interior

Constitution:  
 1 January 1981

Legal system:  
 based on Trust Territory laws, acts of the legislature, municipal, common,  
 and customary laws

National holiday:  
 Constitution Day, 9 July (1979)

Suffrage:  
 18 years of age; universal

Elections:

President:  
 last held on 4 November 1992 (next to be held NA November 1996); results -  
 Kuniwo NAKAMURA 50.7%, Johnson TORIBIONG 49.3%

Senate:  
 last held 4 November 1992 (next to be held NA November 1996); results -  
 percent of vote by party NA; seats - (14 total); number of seats by party ↔  
 NA

House of Delegates:  
 last held 4 November 1992 (next to be held NA November 1996); results -  
 percent of vote by party NA; seats - (16 total); number of seats by party ↔  
 NA

Executive branch:  
 national president, national vice president

## 1.7 183.guide/Government (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau) 2. usage)

Government (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau) 2. usage)

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Legislative branch:

bicameral Parliament (Olbiil Era Kelulau or OEK) consists of an upper house or Senate and a lower house or House of Delegates

Judicial branch:

Supreme Court, National Court, Court of Common Pleas

Leaders:

Chief of State and Head of Government:

President Kuniwo NAKAMURA (since 1 January 1993), Vice-President Tommy E. REMENGESAU Jr. (since 1 January 1993)

Member of:

ESCAP (associate), SPC, SPF (observer)

Diplomatic representation in US:

administrative officer:

Charles UONG,

address:

Palau Liaison Office, 444 North Capitol St., N.W., Suite 308, Washington, DC 20001 ↵

US diplomatic representation:

director:

US Liaison Officer Lloyd W. MOSS

liaison office:

US Liaison Office at Top Side, Neeriyas, Koror

mailing address:

P.O. Box 6028, Koror, PW 96940

telephone:

(680) 488-2920; (680) 488-2911

Flag:

light blue with a large yellow disk (representing the moon) shifted slightly to the hoist side ↵

## 1.8 183.guide/Economy (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))

### Economy (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))

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Overview:

The economy consists primarily of subsistence agriculture and fishing. Tourism provides some foreign exchange, although the remote location of Palau and a shortage of suitable facilities has hindered development. The government is the major employer of the work force, relying heavily on financial assistance from the US.

National product:

GDP - purchasing power equivalent - \$31.6 million (1986)

note:

GDP numbers reflect US spending

National product real growth rate:

NA%

National product per capita:

\$2,260 (1986)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

NA%  
 Unemployment rate:  
   20% (1986)  
 Budget:  
   revenues \$6.0 million; expenditures \$NA, including capital expenditures of  
   \$NA (1986)  
 Exports:  
   \$0.5 million (f.o.b., 1986)  
   commodities:  
     NA  
   partners:  
     US, Japan  
 Imports:  
   \$27.2 million (c.i.f., 1986)  
   commodities:  
     NA  
   partners:  
     US  
 External debt:  
   about \$100 million (1989)  
 Industrial production:  
   growth rate NA%  
 Electricity:  
   16,000 kW capacity; 22 million kWh produced, 1,540 kWh per capita (1990)  
 Industries:  
   tourism, craft items (shell, wood, pearl), some commercial fishing and  
   agriculture  
 Agriculture:  
   subsistence-level production of coconut, copra, cassava, sweet potatoes  
 Economic aid:  
   US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-89), \$2,560 million; Western (non-US)  
   countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$92 million  
 Currency:  
   US currency is used  
 Fiscal year:  
   1 October - 30 September

## 1.9 183.guide/Communications (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))

Communications (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))

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Highways:  
   22.3 km paved, some stone-, coral-, or laterite-surfaced roads (1991)  
 Ports:  
   Koror  
 Airports:  
   total:  
     3  
   usable:  
     3  
   with permanent-surface runways:  
     1

with runways over 3,659 m:  
0  
with runways 2,440-3,659 m:  
0  
with runways 1,220-2,439 m:  
3  
Telecommunications:  
broadcast stations - 1 AM, 1 FM, 2 TV; 1 Pacific Ocean INTELSAT earth  
station

## 1.10 183.guide/Defense Forces (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))

Defense Forces (Pacific Islands- Trust Territory of the (Palau))  
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Note:

defense is the responsibility of the US and that will not change when the ←  
UN  
trusteeship terminates if the Compact of Free Association with the US goes  
into effect