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Chapter 1

53

1.1 53.guide

Texified version of data for Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

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Cocos (Keeling) Islands

1.2 53.guide/Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Header (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)
Geography (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)
People (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)
Government (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)
Economy (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)
Communications (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)
Defense Forces (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)

1.3 53.guide/Header (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)

Header (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)
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Affiliation:
 (territory of Australia)

1.4 53.guide/Geography (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)

Geography (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)
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Location:
 in the Indian Ocean, 1,070 km southwest of Indonesia, about halfway between
 Australia and Sri Lanka
Map references:
 Southeast Asia
Area:
 total area:
 14 km²
 land area:
 14 km²
 comparative area:
 about 24 times the size of the Mall in Washington, DC
note:
 includes the two main islands of West Island and Home Island
Land boundaries: 0 km
Coastline:
 2.6 km
Maritime claims:
 exclusive fishing zone:
 200 nm
 territorial sea:
 3 nm
International disputes:
 none
Climate:

pleasant, modified by the southeast trade wind for about nine months of the year; moderate rain fall

Terrain:
flat, low-lying coral atolls

Natural resources:
fish

Land use:
arable land:
0%
permanent crops:
0%
meadows and pastures:
0%
forest and woodland:
0%
other:
100%

Irrigated land:
NA km2

Environment:
two coral atolls thickly covered with coconut palms and other vegetation

1.5 53.guide/People (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)

People (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)

=====

Population:
593 (July 1993 est.)

Population growth rate:
-0.53% (1993 est.)

Birth rate:
NA births/1,000 population

Death rate:
NA deaths/1,000 population

Net migration rate:
NA migrant(s)/1,000 population

Infant mortality rate:
NA deaths/1,000 live births

Life expectancy at birth:
total population:
NA years
male:
NA years
female:
NA years

Total fertility rate:
NA children born/women

Nationality:
noun:
Cocos Islander(s)
adjective:
Cocos Islander

Ethnic divisions:
 West Island:
 Europeans
 Home Island:
 Cocos Malays
 Religions:
 Sunni Muslims
 Languages:
 English
 Literacy:
 total population:
 NA%
 male:
 NA%
 female:
 NA%
 Labor force:
 NA

1.6 53.guide/Government (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)

Government (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands
 conventional short form:
 Cocos (Keeling) Islands
 Digraph:
 CK
 Type:
 territory of Australia
 Capital:
 West Island
 Administrative divisions:
 none (territory of Australia)
 Independence:
 none (territory of Australia)
 Constitution:
 Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act of 1955
 Legal system:
 based upon the laws of Australia and local laws
 National holiday:
 NA
 Political parties and leaders:
 NA
 Suffrage:
 NA
 Elections: NA
 Executive branch:
 British monarch, governor general of Australia, administrator, chairman of
 the Islands Council

Legislative branch:
unicameral Islands Council
Judicial branch:
Supreme Court
Leaders:
Chief of State:
Queen ELIZABETH II (since 6 February 1952)
Head of Government:
Administrator B. CUNNINGHAM (since NA); Chairman of the Islands Council ↔
Haji
WAHIN bin Bynie (since NA)
Member of:
none
Diplomatic representation in US:
none (territory of Australia)
US diplomatic representation:
none (territory of Australia)
Flag:
the flag of Australia is used

1.7 53.guide/Economy (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)

Economy (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)

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Overview:
Grown throughout the islands, coconuts are the sole cash crop. Copra and fresh coconuts are the major export earners. Small local gardens and ↔ fishing contribute to the food supply, but additional food and most other necessities must be imported from Australia.
National product:
GDP \$NA
National product real growth rate:
NA%
National product per capita:
\$NA
Inflation rate (consumer prices):
NA%
Budget:
revenues \$NA; expenditures \$NA, including capital expenditures of \$NA
Exports:
\$NA
commodities:
copra
partners:
Australia
Imports:
\$NA
commodities:
foodstuffs
partners:
Australia

External debt:
 \$NA
 Industrial production:
 growth rate NA%
 Electricity:
 1,000 kW capacity; 2 million kWh produced, 2,980 kWh per capita (1990)
 Industries:
 copra products
 Agriculture:
 gardens provide vegetables, bananas, pawpaws, coconuts
 Economic aid:
 none
 Currency:
 1 Australian dollar (\$A) = 100 cents
 Exchange rates:
 Australian dollars (\$A) per US\$1 - 1.4837 (January 1993), 1.3600 (1992),
 1.2836 (1991), 1.2799 (1990), 1.2618 (1989), 1.2752 (1988)
 Fiscal year:
 1 July - 30 June

1.8 53.guide/Communications (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)

Communications (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)

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Ports:
 none; lagoon anchorage only
 Airports:
 total:
 1
 useable:
 1
 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:
 1
 Telecommunications:
 250 radios (1985); linked by telephone, telex, and facsimile communications
 via satellite with Australia; broadcast stations - 1 AM, no FM, no TV

1.9 53.guide/Defense Forces (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)

Defense Forces (Cocos (Keeling) Islands)

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Note:

defense is the responsibility of Australia
