



<b>COLLABORATORS</b>
----------------------

	<i>TITLE :</i>  237		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
WRITTEN BY		August 10, 2024	

<b>REVISION HISTORY</b>
-------------------------

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	237.guide . . . . .	1
1.2	237.guide/Tonga . . . . .	1
1.3	237.guide/Geography (Tonga) . . . . .	2
1.4	237.guide/People (Tonga) . . . . .	3
1.5	237.guide/Government (Tonga) . . . . .	4
1.6	237.guide/Economy (Tonga) . . . . .	5
1.7	237.guide/Communications (Tonga) . . . . .	6
1.8	237.guide/Defense Forces (Tonga) . . . . .	7

# Chapter 1

## 237

### 1.1 237.guide

Texified version of data for Tonga.

Texified using wfact from

Gerhard Leibrock  
Neuhäuselerstr. 12  
D-66459 Kirkel  
Germany

Tel.: 06849 / 6134  
INTERNET: leibrock@fsinfo.cs.uni-sb.de  
fach5@cipsol.cs.uni-sb.de

Project Gutenberg

P. O. Box 2782

Champaign, IL 61825

When all other email fails try our Michael S. Hart, Executive Director:

hart@vmd.cso.uiuc.edu (internet)    hart@uiucvmd (bitnet)

We would prefer to send you this information by email (Internet, Bitnet, Compuserve, ATTMAIL or MCImail).

Tonga

### 1.2 237.guide/Tonga

Tonga

\*\*\*\*\*

---

Geography (Tonga)  
People (Tonga)  
Government (Tonga)  
Economy (Tonga)  
Communications (Tonga)  
Defense Forces (Tonga)

### 1.3 237.guide/Geography (Tonga)

Geography (Tonga)

=====

Location:

Oceania, 2,250 km north-northwest of New Zealand, about two-thirds of the way between Hawaii and New Zealand

Map references:

Oceania, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

748 km<sup>2</sup>

land area:

718 km<sup>2</sup>

comparative area:

slightly more than four times the size of Washington, DC

Land boundaries:

0 km

Coastline:

419 km

Maritime claims:

continental shelf:

not specified

exclusive economic zone:

200 nm

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

none

Climate:

tropical; modified by trade winds; warm season (December to May), cool season (May to December)

Terrain:

most islands have limestone base formed from uplifted coral formation; others have limestone overlying volcanic base

Natural resources:

fish, fertile soil

Land use:

arable land:

25%

permanent crops:

55%

meadows and pastures:

6%  
 forest and woodland:  
 12%  
 other:  
 2%  
 Irrigated land:  
 NA km2  
 Environment:  
 archipelago of 170 islands (36 inhabited); subject to cyclones (October to April); deforestation

## 1.4 237.guide/People (Tonga)

People (Tonga)

=====

Population:  
 103,949 (July 1993 est.)  
 Population growth rate:  
 0.8% (1993 est.)  
 Birth rate: 25.16 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Death rate:  
 6.75 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Net migration rate:  
 -10.4 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Infant mortality rate:  
 21.38 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)  
 Life expectancy at birth:  
 total population:  
 67.79 years  
 male:  
 65.5 years  
 female:  
 70.24 years (1993 est.)  
 Total fertility rate:  
 3.68 children born/woman (1993 est.)  
 Nationality:  
 noun:  
 Tongan(s)  
 adjective:  
 Tongan  
 Ethnic divisions:  
 Polynesian, Europeans about 300  
 Religions:  
 Christian (Free Wesleyan Church claims over 30,000 adherents)  
 Languages:  
 Tongan, English  
 Literacy:  
 age 15 and over can read and write (1976)  
 total population:  
 57%  
 male:  
 60%

female:  
 60%  
 Labor force:  
 NA  
 by occupation:  
 agriculture 70%, mining (600 engaged in mining)

## 1.5 237.guide/Government (Tonga)

Government (Tonga)

=====

Names:  
 conventional long form:  
 Kingdom of Tonga  
 conventional short form:  
 Tonga  
 former:  
 Friendly Islands  
 Digraph:  
 TN  
 Type:  
 hereditary constitutional monarchy  
 Capital: Nuku alofa  
 Administrative divisions:  
 three island groups; Ha'apai, Tongatapu, Vava'u  
 Independence:  
 4 June 1970 (from UK)  
 Constitution:  
 4 November 1875, revised 1 January 1967  
 Legal system:  
 based on English law  
 National holiday:  
 Emancipation Day, 4 June (1970)  
 Political parties and leaders:  
 Democratic Reform Movement, 'Akilisi POHIVA; Christian Democratic Party,  
 leader NA  
 Suffrage:  
 all literate, tax-paying males and all literate females over 21  
 Elections:  
 Legislative Assembly:  
 last held 14-15 February 1990 (next to be held 3-4 February 1993); results ←  
 —  
 percent of vote NA; seats - (29 total, 9 elected) 6 proreform, 3  
 traditionalist  
 Executive branch:  
 monarch, prime minister, deputy prime minister, Council of Ministers  
 (cabinet), Privy Council  
 Legislative branch:  
 unicameral Legislative Assembly (Fale Alea)  
 Judicial branch:  
 Supreme Court  
 Leaders:

**Chief of State:**

King Taufa'ahau TUPOU IV (since 16 December 1965)

**Head of Government:**

Prime Minister Baron VAEA (since 22 August 1991); Deputy Prime Minister S. Langi KAVAIKU (since 22 August 1991)

**Member of:**

ACP, AsDB, C, ESCAP, FAO, G-77, IBRD, ICAO, ICFTU, IDA, IFAD, IFC, IMF, INTERPOL, IOC, ITU, LORCS, SPARTECA, SPC, SPF, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WHO

**Diplomatic representation in US:**

Ambassador Sione KITE, resides in London

**US diplomatic representation:**

the US has no offices in Tonga; the ambassador to Fiji is accredited to Tonga and makes periodic visits

**Flag:**

red with a bold red cross on a white rectangle in the upper hoist-side corner

## 1.6 237.guide/Economy (Tonga)

### Economy (Tonga)

=====

**Overview:**

The economy's base is agriculture, which employs about 70% of the labor force and contributes 40% to GDP. Coconuts, bananas, and vanilla beans are the main crops and make up two-thirds of exports. The country must import a high proportion of its food, mainly from New Zealand. The manufacturing sector accounts for only 11% of GDP. Tourism is the primary source of hard currency earnings, but the island remains dependent on sizable external aid and remittances to offset its trade deficit.

**National product:**

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$92 million (FY90)

**National product real growth rate:**

0.4% (FY92 est.)

**National product per capita:**

\$900 (FY90)

**Inflation rate (consumer prices):**

4% (FY92 est.)

**Unemployment rate:**

NA%

**Budget:**

revenues \$36.4 million; expenditures \$68.1 million, including capital expenditures of \$33.2 million (FY91 est.)

**Exports:**

\$18.8 million (f.o.b., FY92 est.)

**commodities:**

coconut oil, desiccated coconut, copra, bananas, taro, vanilla beans, fruits, vegetables, fish

**partners:**

Japan 34%, US 17%, Australia 13%, NZ 13% (FY91)

**Imports:**

\$68.3 million (c.i.f., FY92 est.)



commodities:  
 food products, machinery and transport equipment, manufactures, fuels, chemicals  
 partners:  
 NZ 33%, Australia 22%, US 8%, Japan 8% (FY91)  
 External debt:  
 \$47.5 million (FY91)  
 Industrial production:  
 growth rate 1.7% (FY90); accounts for 11% of GDP  
 Electricity:  
 6,000 kW capacity; 8 million kWh produced, 80 kWh per capita (1990)  
 Industries:  
 tourism, fishing  
 Agriculture:  
 accounts for 40% of GDP; dominated by coconut, copra, and banana production ←  
 ;  
 vanilla beans, cocoa, coffee, ginger, black pepper  
 Economic aid:  
 US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-89), \$16 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$258 million  
 Currency:  
 1 pa'anga (T\$) = 100 seniti  
 Exchange rates:  
 pa'anga (T\$) per US\$1 - 1.3996 (January 1993), 1.3471 (1992), 1.2961 (1991) ←  
 ,  
 1.2809 (1990), 1.2637 (1989), 1.2799 (1988)  
 Fiscal year:  
 1 July-30 June

## 1.7 237.guide/Communications (Tonga)

### Communications (Tonga)

=====

Highways:  
 198 km sealed road (Tongatapu); 74 km (Vava'u); 94 km unsealed roads usable only in dry weather  
 Ports:  
 Nukualofa, Neiafu, Pangai  
 Merchant marine:  
 3 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 6,765 GRT/10,597 DWT; includes 1 cargo ←  
 ,  
 1 roll-on/roll-off cargo, 1 liquefied gas  
 Airports:  
 total:  
 6  
 usable:  
 6  
 with permanent-surface runways:  
 1  
 with runways over 3,659 m:  
 0  
 with runways 2,440-3,659:

1  
with runways 1,220-2,439 m:  
1  
Telecommunications:  
3,529 telephones; 66,000 radios; no TV sets; broadcast stations - 1 AM, no  
FM, no TV; 1 Pacific Ocean INTELSAT earth station

## 1.8 237.guide/Defense Forces (Tonga)

Defense Forces (Tonga)

=====

Branches:

Tonga Defense Force, Tonga Maritime Division, Royal Tongan Marines, Royal  
Tongan Guard, Police

Manpower availability:

NA

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$NA, NA% of GDP