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Chapter 1

244

1.1 244.guide

Texified version of data for Tuvalu.

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Tuvalu

1.2 244.guide/Tuvalu

Tuvalu

Geography (Tuvalu)
People (Tuvalu)
Government (Tuvalu)
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1.3 244.guide/Geography (Tuvalu)

Geography (Tuvalu)

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Location:

Oceania, 3,000 km east of Papua New Guinea in the South Pacific Ocean

Map references:

Oceania, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

26 km²

land area:

26 km²

comparative area:

about 0.1 times the size of Washington, DC

Land boundaries:

0 km

Coastline:

24 km

Maritime claims:

contiguous zone:

24 nm

exclusive economic zone:

200 nm

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

none

Climate:

tropical; moderated by easterly trade winds (March to November); westerly gales and heavy rain (November to March)

Terrain:

very low-lying and narrow 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:
 severe tropical storms are rare

1.4 244.guide/People (Tuvalu)

People (Tuvalu)

=====

Population:
 9,666 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 1.74% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 26.79 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 9.41 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 26.8 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 62.64 years
 male:
 61.27 years
 female:
 63.82 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 3.11 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Tuvaluans(s)
 adjective:
 Tuvaluan
 Ethnic divisions:
 Polynesian 96%
 Religions:
 Church of Tuvalu (Congregationalist) 97%, Seventh-Day Adventist 1.4%, Baha' i
 1%, other 0.6%
 Languages:
 Tuvaluan, English
 Literacy: total population:
 NA%
 male:
 NA%
 female:
 NA%

Labor force:
 NA
 by occupation:
 NA

1.5 244.guide/Government (Tuvalu)

Government (Tuvalu)
 =====

Names:
 conventional long form:
 none
 conventional short form:
 Tuvalu
 former:
 Ellice Islands
 Digraph:
 TV
 Type:
 democracy; began debating republic status in 1992; referendum expected in 1993
 Capital:
 Funafuti
 Administrative divisions:
 none
 Independence:
 1 October 1978 (from UK)
 Constitution:
 1 October 1978
 Legal system:
 NA
 National holiday:
 Independence Day, 1 October (1978)
 Political parties and leaders:
 none
 Suffrage:
 18 years of age; universal
 Elections:
 Parliament:
 last held 28 September 1989 (next to be held by NA September 1993); results - percent of vote NA; seats - (12 total)
 Executive branch:
 British monarch, governor general, prime minister, deputy prime minister, Cabinet
 Legislative branch:
 unicameral Parliament (Palamene)
 Judicial branch:
 High Court
 Leaders:
 Chief of State: Queen ELIZABETH II (since 6 February 1952), represented by ↔ Governor General
 Toaripi LAUTI (since NA 1992)

Head of Government:

Prime Minister Bikenibeu PAENIU (since 16 October 1989); Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Alesana SELUKA (since October 1989)

Member of:

ACP, C (special), ESCAP, SPARTECA, SPC, SPF, UNESCO, UPU

Diplomatic representation in US:

chief of mission:

(vacant)

US diplomatic representation:

none

Flag:

light blue with the flag of the UK in the upper hoist-side quadrant; the outer half of the flag represents a map of the country with nine yellow five-pointed stars symbolizing the nine islands

1.6 244.guide/Economy (Tuvalu)

Economy (Tuvalu)

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Overview:

Tuvalu consists of a scattered group of nine coral atolls with poor soil. The country has no known mineral resources and few exports. Subsistence farming and fishing are the primary economic activities. The islands are too

small and too remote for development of a tourist industry. Government revenues largely come from the sale of stamps and coins and worker remittances. Substantial income is received annually from an international trust fund established in 1987 by Australia, New Zealand, and the UK and supported also by Japan and South Korea.

National product:

GNP - exchange rate conversion - \$4.6 million (1989 est.)

National product real growth rate:

NA%

National product per capita:

\$530 (1989 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

3.9% (1984)

Unemployment rate:

NA%

Budget:

revenues \$4.3 million; expenditures \$4.3 million, including capital expenditures of \$NA (1989)

Exports:

\$1.0 million (f.o.b., 1983 est.)

commodities:

copra

partners:

Fiji, Australia, NZ

Imports:

\$2.8 million (c.i.f., 1983 est.)

commodities:

food, animals, mineral fuels, machinery, manufactured goods

partners:
 Fiji, Australia, NZ
 External debt: \$NA
 Industrial production:
 growth rate NA%
 Electricity:
 2,600 kW capacity; 3 million kWh produced, 330 kWh per capita (1990)
 Industries:
 fishing, tourism, copra
 Agriculture:
 coconuts
 Economic aid:
 US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-87), \$1 million; Western (non-US)
 countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$101 million
 Currency:
 1 Tuvaluan dollar (\$T) or 1 Australian dollar (\$A) = 100 cents
 Exchange rates:
 Tuvaluan dollars (\$T) or Australian dollars (\$A) per US\$1 - 1.4837 (January
 1993), 1.3600 (1992), 1.2835 (1991), 1.2799 (1990), 1.2618 (1989), 1.2752
 (1988)
 Fiscal year:
 NA

1.7 244.guide/Communications (Tuvalu)

Communications (Tuvalu) =====

Highways:
 8 km gravel
 Ports:
 Funafuti, Nukufetau
 Merchant marine:
 6 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 33,220 GRT/58,518 DWT; includes 1
 passenger-cargo, 1 oil tanker, 4 chemical tanker
 Airports:
 total:
 1
 useable:
 1
 with permanent-surface runways:
 0
 with runways over 3,659 m:
 0
 with runways 2,440-3,659 m:
 0
 with runways 1,220-2,439 m:
 1
 Telecommunications:
 broadcast stations - 1 AM, no FM, no TV; 300 radiotelephones; 4,000 radios;
 108 telephones

1.8 244.guide/Defense Forces (Tuvalu)

Defense Forces (Tuvalu)
=====

Branches:
 Police Force
Manpower availability: NA
Defense expenditures:
 exchange rate conversion - \$NA, NA% of GNP