

## Cook Islands



**Location** South central Pacific Ocean  
Comprises 15 main islands spread over about 2 mn km<sup>2</sup> of the Pacific Ocean, roughly 3 000 km north-east of New Zealand. There are two main groups, Northern and Southern  
**Land** Area 241 km<sup>2</sup> = 93 mi<sup>2</sup>  
**Climate** Sub-tropical (warm and humid)  
**Weather at Rarotonga, 5 m altitude**  
Temperature: hottest month Jan 23–29 °C, coldest July 18–25 °C

Rainfall (av monthly): driest month July 112 mm, wettest March 284 mm  
**Time** 10½ hours behind GMT

**Measures** UK (imperial) system, converting to metric system

**Monetary unit** Cook Islands dollar (CK \$) = 100 cents

The Cook Islands dollar is equal to the New Zealand dollar, also in use

Rate of exchange (1976 av): free CK \$ 1.004 = \$ 1, CK \$ 1.813 = £ 1

### Summary

**Political** New Zealand associated territory, having internal self-government and with New Zealand responsible for external affairs; the Cook Islands can proclaim full independence should they so wish. Territorial member of South Pacific Commission

**Economic** An agricultural economy, with fruit products as the main exports; there is some light industry. Tourism is being developed, aided by a new international airport opened at Rarotonga in 1973. Remittances sent home by workers in New Zealand substantially help the economy

### People, resources and equipment

**Population** 1960 18 100\*, 1970 20 900\*, 1976 18 100

Growth: 1960–70 1.4\* %pa, 1970–76 –2.4\* %pa

Density (1976): 75 people per km<sup>2</sup>

Vital statistics (rate per 1 000 people, 1976): births 25.2, deaths 5.9

**Regions** (population in 000, 1976) main islands, Rarotonga 9.8,

Aitutaki 2.4, Atiu 1.5, Mangaia 1.3

**Town** Avarua (capital), on Rarotonga

**Race** Mainly Polynesian

**Language** English and Polynesian

**Religion** (1966) Christian 95 %

**Education** (1975) Pupils 6 615, teachers 360

**Labour force** (1966) 5 768

**Personnel** Scientists and engineers (1970): 164

Physicians (1972): 22, 1 per 909 people

### Standard of living

National income per person (1976): CK \$ 800\*\* = \$ 800\*\* = £ 450\*\*

Consumption per person (1975): electricity 443 kW h

Newspapers (1972): number 1; circulation 1 000, 48 per 1 000 people

Telephones (Dec 1976): 956, 53 per 1 000 people

**Livestock** (000, 1976) Pigs 10\*, goats 2\*, horses 2, chickens 63\*

**Electrical capacity** (1975) 3\* megawatts

**Hospital beds** (1974) 179, 1 per 111 people

**Ports** Avatiu, Avarua, Mangaia

**Airports** Rarotonga, Aitutaki

**Radio sets** (Dec 1975) 7 000, 390 per 1 000 people

### Production, finance and trade

**Gross domestic product** 1972: CK \$ 8.1 mn = \$ 9.7 mn = £ 3.9 mn

1976 est: CK \$ 18\*\*mn = \$ 18\*\*mn = £ 10\*\*mn

**Main products** *Agriculture* (000 t, 1976) Cassava 3\*, sweet potatoes 8\*, coconuts 11\*, copra 1\*, oranges 2\*, mandarines 5\*, grapefruit 1\*, lemons 1\*, bananas 1\*, pineapples 3, mangoes 2\*, avocados 1\*  
fish catch 1\* *Other* (1975) Electricity 8 mn kW h

**Budget** (1976/77; year ending March 31st)

Balanced at CK \$ 10.98 mn = \$ 10.7 mn = £ 6.5 mn;

includes NZ assistance of CK \$ 3.70 mn = \$ 3.6 mn = £ 2.2 mn

**External trade** Imports (1973): CK \$ 4.9 mn = \$ 6.7 mn = £ 2.8 mn

Exports (1975): CK \$ 2.0 mn = \$ 2.4 mn = £ 1.1 mn

**Main imports** (1973) % of total **Main exports** (1975) % of total

Food 22

Machinery 11

Textile yarns and fabrics 10

Chemicals 7

**Main sources** (1973)

New Zealand 83

Japan 5

Preserved fruit 70

Clothing 13

Oilseeds and nuts 8

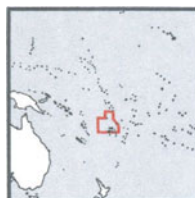
Fresh fruit 3

**Main destinations** (1975)

New Zealand 98

Japan 1

## Fiji



**Location** South central Pacific Ocean  
Includes main islands Viti Levu and Vanua Levu and 840 islands and islets, of which about 100 are permanently inhabited; New Zealand is about 2 000 km to the south. The island of Rotuma is part of the territory

**Land** Area 18 272 km<sup>2</sup> = 7 055 mi<sup>2</sup>

of which, Viti Levu 10 390 km<sup>2</sup>, Vanua Levu 5 535 km<sup>2</sup>

**Climate** Tropical

**Weather at Suva, 6 m altitude**

Temperature: hottest months Jan–Mar 23–30 °C, coldest July–Aug 20–26 °C

Rainfall (av monthly): driest month July 124 mm, wettest Mar 368 mm

**Time** 12 hours ahead of GMT

**Measures** Metric system, as conversion from UK (imperial) system; all customs work metric from January 1, 1977

**Monetary unit** Fiji dollar (F \$) = 100 cents; decimal currency, introduced from January 13, 1969, to replace the Fiji pound (F £) at F \$ 2 = F £ 1

Rate of exchange (1976 av): free \$ 1.111 = F \$ 1, F \$ 1.626 = £ 1

### Summary

**Political** Parliamentary monarchy, which became independent from the United Kingdom on October 10, 1970. Member of UN, Commonwealth, Colombo Plan, South Pacific Commission and an EEC ACP state

**Economic** An agricultural economy dependent mainly on exports of sugar. Tourism is also important, with gross receipts amounting to about one-half of exports. Light manufacturing industry is being encouraged with tax concessions

### People, resources and equipment

**Population** 1960 390 000\*, 1970 520 000\*, 1976 588 000

Growth: 1960–70 2.9\* %pa, 1970–76 2.1 %pa

Density (1976): 32 people per km<sup>2</sup>

Vital statistics (rate per 1 000 people, 1975): births 29.0, deaths 6.9

**Towns** (population in 000, 1976) Suva (capital) 64, Lautoka 29\*,

Nadi 13\*, Labasa 13\*, Nausori 13\*, Ba 9\*, Vatukoula 6\*, Sigatoka 4\*,

Levuka 3\*

**Race** (1976) Indian 50 %, Fijian 44 %, European (including mixed) 2.6 %, Rotuman 1.2 %, Chinese 0.8 %

**Language** English, Fijian and Hindustani

**Religion** (1966) Hindu 40 %, Methodist 38 %, Roman Catholic 8 %, Moslem 8 %, Church of England 1 %

**Education** Pupils (1976) 167 882, teachers (1974) 5 770\*

**Labour force** (1976) 176 322; in agriculture 77 009 (44 %)

**Personnel** Scientists and engineers (1969): 315

Physicians (1971): 256, 1 per 2 070 people

### Standard of living

National income per person (1976): F \$ 1 005\* = \$ 1 117\* = £ 618\*

Consumption per person (1975): energy 582 kg coal equivalent,

electricity (production) 410 kW h, newsprint 1.9 kg

Newspapers (1974): number 1; circulation 20 000, 36 per 1 000 people

Telephones (Dec 1976): 30 759, 52 per 1 000 people

**Livestock** (000, 1976) Cattle 156\*, goats 55\*, pigs 31\*, horses 35\*, chickens 785\*

**Electrical capacity** (1975) 83 megawatts

**Hospital beds** (1971) 1 513, 1 per 350 people

**Roads** (1975) 2 960 km = 1 839 mi, density 0.16 km per km<sup>2</sup>

**Railways**\* (1976) 644 km = 400 mi, density 0.035 km per km<sup>2</sup>

\*For sugar estates; permanent only. In addition 225 km of portable tracks

**Ships** (registered, 1977) 33, total of 10 879 gross tons

**Ports** (goods traffic, 000 tonnes, 1976)

loaded unloaded

Suva 78 428

Lautoka 251 100

Levuka — 10

**Airports** Nadi (217 km from Suva), Nausori (24 km from Suva), and 10 other airports with scheduled flights

**Durable equipment** 000 no per

(Dec 1975) 1 000 people no per

Radio sets 300 524 km of road

Passenger cars 21 37 7.1

Commercial vehicles 11 19 3.7