PACIFIC ISLANDS CHIEFS OF POLICE

Country Briefs

This report has been created by the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police (PICP) Secretariat and designed by the Australian Federal Police (AFP). Content was compiled by the Secretariat with input from PICP member police services and credible open source reporting. It is provided to support situational awareness and strategic planning. Information is current as of July 2026.



PACIFIC ISLANDS CHIEFS OF POLICE

SECRETARIAT

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AMERICAN SAMOA



GOVERNMENT
Unincorporated, Unorganized Territory of the United States with local self-government; republican form of territorial government with separate executive, legislative, and judicial branches.

POPULATION
43,268 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
Samoan, English

CAPITAL
Pago Pago

Overview

American Samoa is an unincorporated and unorganized territory of the United States located in the Polynesia region of the South Pacific Ocean.

Settled as early as 1000 B.C., American Samoa was not reached by European explorers until the 18th century. International rivalries in the latter half of the 19th century were settled by an 1899 treaty in which Germany, and the United States (US) divided the Samoan archipelago. The US formally occupied its portion - a smaller group of eastern islands with the excellent harbor of Pago Pago - the following year.

1 American Samoa - The World Factbook

American Samoa Department of Public Safety



Acting Commissioner Lauti Tautalaso'o Moliga

Appointed:
10 July 2026

+1 684 633 1111

Commissioner@dps.as.gov

Human Resources

Total: **220**

Sworn	183
Unsworn	37
Male	Unknown
Female	Unknown

Police to population ratio:
1 : 236 (estimated)

Budget:

2023-2024: USD 7,434,000

Rank structure

Commissioner
Deputy Commissioner
Commander
Major
Captain
Lieutenant
Corporal
Police Officer II,
Police Officer I,
Police Trainee

The American Samoa Department of Public Safety (DPS), formerly the American Samoa Territorial Police, is the police law enforcement agency for American Samoa, which has jurisdiction anywhere in the territory. It was created to protect the lives and property of American Samoans. The DPS has police, corrections and fire divisions.

The DPS was established in 1978 under Public Law 16-29. It brought together the police system, fire, correctional facility, and the Office of Motor Vehicle, which was responsible for the licensing and registration of vehicles.

The fire department was separated from the DPS in 2005.

The corrections department separated from the DPS in 2022.

Ministry

The Ministry is led by the DPS Commissioner.

Transnational Crime Unit

The American Samoa DPS has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

Officers are trained locally and may also undertake regional and international training further abroad.

Use of Force regimen

Police are routinely armed with a Glock 17 (9mm) as the standard sidearm and have access to Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray, batons and handcuffs.

Specialist units have access to specialist firearms, accoutrements and capabilities.

N/A

Department of Public Safety, Government of American Samoa
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

AUSTRALIA



GOVERNMENT
Federal parliamentary democracy under a constitutional monarchy. A Commonwealth realm.

POPULATION
26,614,411 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
English

CAPITAL
Canberra

Overview

Australia's history began with Indigenous inhabitants for over 65,000 years before British colonization in 1788 as a penal colony. Following 19th-century gold rushes and pastoral expansion, the colonies federated into the Commonwealth of Australia in 1901. Today, it is a diverse, multicultural nation known for its unique democracy and landscape.

1 Population | Australian Bureau of Statistics

Australian Federal Police



Commissioner Krissy Barrett

Appointed: 4 October 2025

+61 2 5127 4100

office-of-the-commissioner@afp.gov.au

Human Resources[3]

Total: **8,328**

Sworn	3,578
Unsworn	3,912
Male	4,853
Female	3,464
Non-binary	11

Police to population ratio: 1: 375[4] (estimated, varies across state jurisdictions)

Budget:

2025-2026: AUD 2,296,096,000[5]

Rank structure[6]

Commissioner
Deputy Commissioner
Assistant Commissioners
Commander
Superintendent
Inspector
Sergeant
Leading Senior Constable
Senior Constable
Recruit

The catalyst for the creation of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) is often cited as the bombing of the Hilton Hotel in Sydney on 13 February 1978, which occurred during the first Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting. The Hilton bombing was considered the first significant terrorist incident on Australian soil and prompted a series of changes to the Commonwealth policing, intelligence and security landscape.

Following the Hilton Bombing, Sir Robert Marks (former Commissioner of the United Kingdom Metropolitan Police) was appointed to conduct a review into police, protective security and counter-terrorism resources of the Commonwealth. In response to the findings of this review, the Australian Federal Police Act 1979 (AFP Act) was enacted by Parliament. This gave effect to the Government's policy to create a single federal policing agency, incorporating into it the existing Commonwealth Police, ACT Police and Commonwealth Narcotics Bureau.

The AFP commenced operations on 19 October 1979 under its first Commissioner, Sir Colin Woods KCVO CBE QPM[2].

Transnational Crime Unit

Australia has an established Transnational Crime Unit (TCU). The AFP leads the Australian TCU and can be contacted through email australian-transnational-crime-unit@afp.gov.au.

Training

Recruits are trained at the Australian Federal Police College in Barton, Canberra.

Executives may be trained at the Australian Institute of Police Management in Manly, New South Wales.

Vocational training is also undertaken through regional training facilities including the Pinkenba Hub in Brisbane, Queensland and with international partners.

Use of Force regimen

All sworn officers are armed with a Glock pistol and trained in the use of firearms, taser, handcuff, batons and Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray.

Specialist units (such as the Special Response Group) have access to specialist firearms, accoutrements and capabilities.

afp.gov.au
Australian Federal Police
AFP in the Pacific
AustFederalPolice
AFPinthePacific
@ausfedpolice
@AusFedPolice
47 Kings Avenue Barton ACT 2600

2 History | Australian Federal Police
3 Current as of 30 June 2025 | AFP Annual Report 2024-25
4 Police services - Report on Government Services 2025 | Productivity Commission
5 Portfolio Budget Statements 2025-26 Full Report
6 AFP | Our organisational structure

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS



GOVERNMENT
United States Unincorporated Territory in free association with the United States.

POPULATION
43,887 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
Chamorro, Carolinian, English

CAPITAL
Saipan

Overview

Austronesian people settled the Northern Mariana Islands around 1500 B.C. These people became the indigenous Chamorro and were influenced by later migrations, including Micronesians in the first century A.D. and island Southeast Asians around 900. Spanish explorer Ferdinand Magellan sailed through the Mariana Islands in 1521, and Spain claimed them in 1565. Spain formally colonized the Mariana Islands in 1668 and administered the archipelago from Guam. Spain's brutal repression of the Chamorro, along with new diseases and intermittent warfare, reduced the indigenous population by about 90 per cent in the 1700s. With a similar dynamic occurring in Guam, Spain forced the Chamorro from the Northern Mariana Islands to resettle there. By the time they returned, Carolinians and many other Micronesians including Chuukese and Yapese, had already settled on their islands.

In 1898, Spain ceded Guam to the United States after the Spanish-American War but sold the Northern Mariana Islands to Germany under the German-Spanish Treaty of 1899. Germany administered the territory from German New Guinea but took a hands-off approach to day-to-day life. Following World War I, Japan administered the islands under a League of Nations mandate. Japan focused on sugar production and brought in thousands of Japanese labourers, who quickly outnumbered the Chamorro on the islands. During World War II, Japan invaded Guam from the Northern Mariana Islands and used Marianan Chamorro as translators with Guamanian Chamorro, creating friction between the two Chamorro communities that continues to this day. The United States captured the Northern Mariana Islands in 1944 after the Battle of Saipan and later administered them as part of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI).

On four occasions in the 1950s and 1960s, voters opted for integration with Guam, which Guam rejected in 1969. In 1978, the Northern Mariana Islands was granted self-governance separate from the rest of the TTPI, and in 1986, islanders were granted US citizenship, with the territory coming under US sovereignty as the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). In 2009, the CNMI became the final United States territory to elect a nonvoting delegate to the Congress.

1 Northern Mariana Islands | The Pacific Community

CNMI Department of Public Safety



Commissioner Anthony Macaranas

Appointed:
30 January 2024

+1 670 664 9000

picp.secretariat@police.govt.nz

Human Resources[2]

Total: **187**

Sworn	146
Unsworn	41
Male	136
Female	51

Police to population ratio:
1 : 350 (estimated)

Budget:

2025-2026: USD 6,107,752

Rank structure

Commissioner
Director of Police
Captain
Lieutenant
Sergeant
Police Officer 3
Police Officer 2
Police Officer 1
Police Cadets

In CNMI, the police are under the authority of the Department of Public Safety (DPS).

The DPS is a law enforcement agency and one of the CNMI executive agencies.

DPS was previously responsible for corrections until it was administratively separated into its own department in 2005. It also included the Fire Department, however this now the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services; a separate department established by Public Law 18-73, on January 25, 2015. As a result, the DPS now has one division, Police.

The Northern Marianas also have Ports Authority Police that patrols the air and seaports in the island chain. Conservation officers, and customs and biosecurity officers are also armed law enforcement officers in the CNMI.

Transnational Crime Unit

The DPS has a Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

Officers are trained locally at the North Marianas College in Saipan and may also undertake regional and international training further abroad.

Use of Force regime

General duties officers carry a standard issue Glock 19 and 22 (9mm) and have access to Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray, batons and handcuffs.

The DPS has a part time Special Weapons and Tactics Team who are assigned to different Sections and activated when needed.

dps.gov.mp

CNMI Department of Public Safety

Jose M. Sablan Memorial Building, 2794 Tekken St, Susupe Saipan 96950

2 Current as of October 2025

COOK ISLANDS



GOVERNMENT
Self-governing parliamentary democracy in free association with New Zealand. It has been self-governed since 1965. A Commonwealth realm.

POPULATION
25,900 (2025 est.)[1]
NB: Resident population is 17,300

LANGUAGES
English, Cook Islands Maori (Rarotongan)

CAPITAL
Rarotonga

Overview

Polynesians from Tahiti were probably the first people to settle Rarotonga - the largest of the Cook Islands - around A.D. 900. Over time, Samoans and Tongans also settled in Rarotonga, and Rarotongans voyaged to the northern Cook Islands, settling Manihiki and Rakahanga. Pukapuka and Penrhyn in the northern Cook Islands were settled directly from Samoa. Prior to European contact, there was considerable travel and trade between inhabitants of the different islands and atolls, but they were not united in a single political entity. Spanish navigators were the first Europeans to spot the northern Cook Islands in 1595, followed by the first landing in 1606, but no further European contact occurred until the 1760s. In 1773, British explorer James Cook spotted Manuae in the southern Cook Islands, and Russian mapmakers named the islands after Cook in the 1820s.

Fearing France would militarily occupy the islands as it did in Tahiti, Rarotongans asked the UK for protectorate status in the 1840s and 1860s, a request the UK ignored. In 1888, Queen Makea Takau of Rarotonga formally petitioned for protectorate status, to which the United Kingdom reluctantly agreed.

In 1901, the United Kingdom placed Rarotonga and the rest of the islands in the New Zealand Colony, and in 1915, the *Cook Islands Act* organized the islands into one political entity. It remained a protectorate until 1965, when New Zealand granted the Cook Islands self-governing status. The Cook Islands has a great deal of local autonomy and is an independent member of international organizations, but it is in free association with New Zealand, which is responsible for its defence and foreign affairs.

1 Vital Statistics and Population Estimates | Cook Islands Statistics Office

Cook Islands Police Service



Commissioner Teokotai (Tai) Joseph

Appointed:
9 April 2025

+682 22499

picp.secretariat@police.govt.nz

Human Resources

Total: **108**

Sworn	91
Unsworn	17
Male	79
Female	29

Police to population ratio:
1 : 190 (estimated)

Budget:

2024-2025: NZD 6,679,970

Rank structure

Commissioner
Deputy Commissioner
Inspector
Senior Sergeant
Sergeant
Senior Constable
Constable
Honorary Constable
Recruit

The Cook Islands Police Service (CIPS) is a law enforcement agency, responsible for the safety and security of the population of the Cook Islands, and its natural resources, throughout the nation's 15 islands and the territorial sea of the country's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

The CIPS is an independent statutory authority mandated under the Police Act 2012, and responsible for the administration of relevant legislation, including inter alia the Crimes Act 1969, Transport Act 1966, and Misuse of Narcotics and Drugs Act 2004.

The history of CIPS began with missionary-appointed law enforcement in the 1820s, evolving to include a local defence force in the 20th century and a modern, independent service after self-government was achieved in 1965. The service is now the national police force, responsible for domestic security, with a history of collaboration and assistance from New Zealand and Australia.

Ministry

Ministry of Police

Transnational Crime Unit

CIPS has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

A newly refurbished training facility (with support from New Zealand Police) was officially opened in November 2024.

Use of Force regimen

CIPS officers do not routinely carry firearms. This approach aligns with a philosophy of ‘policing by consent’ where firearms are only issued when a situation requires them.

Specialist units have access to firearms, accoutrements and capabilities.

N/A

CookIslandsPolice

Cook Islands Police Service National Headquarters, Ara Tapu, Avarua, Cook Islands

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA



GOVERNMENT
Federal Republic in free association with the United States.

POPULATION
98,860 (2025 est.) [1]

LANGUAGES
English, Chuukese, Kosrean, Pohnpeian, Yapese, Ulithian, Woleaian, Nukuoro, Kapingamarangi

CAPITAL
Palikir

Overview

Each of the four states that compose the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) - Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap - has its own unique history and cultural traditions. The first humans arrived in what is now the FSM in the second millennium B.C. In the 800s A.D., construction of the artificial islets at the Nan Madol complex in Pohnpei began, with the main architecture being built around 1200. At its height, Nan Madol united the approximately 25,000 people of Pohnpei under the Saudeleur Dynasty. By 1250, Kosrae was united in a kingdom centered in Leluh. Yap's society became strictly hierarchical, with chiefs receiving tributes from islands up to 1,100km (700mi) away. Widespread human settlement in Chuuk began in the 1300s, and the different islands in the Chuuk Lagoon were frequently at war with one another.

Portuguese and Spanish explorers visited a few of the islands in the 1500s, and Spain began exerting nominal, but not day-to-day, control over some of the islands - which they named the Caroline Islands - in the 1600s. In 1899, Spain sold all the FSM to Germany. Japan seized the islands in 1914 and was granted a League of Nations mandate to administer them in 1920. During WWII, Japan built military bases across most of the islands and headquartered their Pacific naval operations in Chuuk. The United States bombed Chuuk in 1944 but largely bypassed the other islands in its leapfrog campaign across the Pacific.

In 1947, the FSM came under United States administration as part of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, which comprised six districts: Chuuk, the Marshall Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Pohnpei, and Yap; Kosrae was separated from Pohnpei into a separate district in 1977. In 1979, Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap ratified the FSM Constitution and declared independence while the other three districts opted to pursue separate political status. There are significant inter-island rivalries stemming from their different histories and cultures. Chuuk, the most populous but poorest state, has pushed for secession, but an independence referendum has been repeatedly postponed[1].

1 Micronesia, Federated States of - The World Factbook

Federated States of Micronesia National Police



Chief Cindy Ludrick

Appointed: September 2024

+691 320 2628

picp.secretariat@police.govt.nz

Human Resources

Total: **70**

Sworn	63
Unsworn	7
Male	Unknown
Female	Unknown

Police to population ratio: 1 : 350-450 (estimated)
Also state police in Chuuk, Pohnpei, Yap, and Kosrae, plus municipal police. Staffing varies by state/municipality and is not centrally reported.

Budget:

N/A

Rank structure

Chief
Captain
Lieutenant
Sergeant
Officer 3
Officer 2
Officer 1

The Federated States of Micronesia's National Police (commonly referred to as the FSM National Police) is the small national police force of FSM and is a division of the FSM Department of Justice.

The FSM National Police is specifically mandated to enforce fishery laws, the Controlled Substance Act, the Weapons Control Act, Search and Rescue, protection of government officials and visiting foreign diplomats, and laws that are national in nature or crimes against the government.

Other functions include medical evacuation, assistance in disaster relief operations, emergency communications and technical support and training state law enforcement agencies.

The national police is managed and administered from its headquarters at the capital, Palikir. The Maritime Wing, an integral unit of the national police, is situated at the dock in Dekehtik, Pohnpei.

The FSM also has state police departments for Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk, and Yap, as well as municipal departments for Kitti, Kolonia, Madolenihmw, Nett, Sapwuahfik, Sokehs and U Pohnpei; Polle, Fono, Losap, Nema, Udot, Uman and Tol in the Chuuk chain; and Tafunsak on Kosrae.

Ministry

Department of Justice (Attorney General's Office)

Transnational Crime Unit

The FSM National Police has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

The FSM National Police undertake training in Pohnpei. They have no permanent Police Academy building.

Use of Force regimen

The FSM National Police have access to Glock 17 (9mm) firearms as the standard sidearm, Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray, batons and handcuffs.

N/A

Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) National Police
Kaselehlie Street, PO Box 2356
Kolonia, Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

FIJI



GOVERNMENT
Parliamentary Republic.
A Commonwealth Realm

POPULATION
955,284 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
English, iTaukei, Fiji Hindi

CAPITAL
Suva

Overview

Austronesians settled Fiji around 1000 B.C., followed by successive waves of Melanesians starting around the first century A.D. Fijians traded with Polynesian groups in Samoa and Tonga, and by about 900, much of Fiji was in the Tu'i Tongan Empire's sphere of influence. The Tongan influence declined significantly by 1200, while Melanesian seafarers continued to periodically arrive in Fiji, further mixing Melanesian and Polynesian cultural traditions. The first European spotted Fiji in 1643 and by the 1800s, European merchants, missionaries, traders, and whalers frequented the islands. Rival kings and chiefs competed for power, at times aided by Europeans, and in 1865, Seru Epenisa Cakobau united many groups into the Confederacy of Independent Kingdoms of Viti. The arrangement proved weak, however, and in 1871 Cakobau formed the Kingdom of Fiji in an attempt to centralize power. Fearing a hostile takeover by a foreign power as the kingdom's economy began to falter, Cakobau ceded Fiji to the United Kingdom in 1874.

The first British governor set up a plantation-style economy and brought in more than 60,000 Indians as indentured labourers, most of who chose to stay in Fiji rather than return to India when their contracts expired. In the early 1900s, society was divided along ethnic lines, with iTaukei (indigenous Fijians), Europeans, and Indo-Fijians living in separate areas and maintaining their own languages and traditions. ITaukei fears of an Indo-Fijian takeover of government delayed independence through the 1960s; Fiji achieved independence in 1970 with agreements to allocate parliamentary seats by ethnic groups. After two coups in 1987, a new constitution in 1990 cemented iTaukei control of politics, leading thousands of Indo-Fijians to leave. A reformed constitution in 1997 was more equitable and led to the election of an Indo-Fijian prime minister in 1999, who was ousted in a coup the following year. In 2005, the new prime minister put forward a bill that would grant pardons to the coup perpetrators, leading Josaia Voreqe 'Frank' Bainimarama to launch a coup in 2006. Bainimarama appointed himself prime minister in 2007 and retained the position after elections in 2014 and 2018 that international observers deemed credible. Bainimarama's party lost control of the prime minister position after elections in 2022 with former opposition leader Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka winning the office by a narrow margin[1].

1 Fiji - The World Factbook

Fiji Police Force



Commissioner Rusiate Tudravu

Appointed:
18 February 2024

+679 334 3777

picp.secretariat@police.govt.nz

Human Resources[2]

Total: **5,482**

Sworn	5,207
Unsworn	275
Male	4,041
Female	1,441

Police to population ratio:
1 : 183 (estimated)

Budget:

2024-25: FJD 226,800,000

Rank structure

Commissioner
Deputy Commissioner
Assistant Commissioner
Directors (Senior Superintendent of Police - SSP)
Deputy Directors (Superintendent of Police - SP)
Managers (Assistant Superintendent of Police - ASP)
Inspector of Police (IP)
Sergeant Major (SM)
Sergeant of Police
Corporal
Constable
Special Constable

Founded in 1874 following Fiji's cession to Britain, the Fiji Police Force began as a tiered system ranging from the military-style Armed Native Constabulary (ANC) to village-level officers[3]. Originally headquartered in Levuka, the force led the government's 1882 relocation to Suva, establishing the "Totogo" station that remains a central landmark today. Early policing was defined by this paramilitary structure, distinct uniforms (distinguished by brass or silver buttons), and the foundational leadership of Lieutenant Henry Olive.

The mid-20th century brought modernization and social reform, most notably the integration of women. Prompted by the global feminist movement and local advocacy from the YWCA, the first 13 female recruits joined the regular force in 1970. During this era, the force also became a regional hub for excellence; under Commissioner Roy Henry, the Nasova Police Academy began training officers from across the Pacific, including Tonga, Samoa, and the Solomon Islands, cementing Fiji's role as a leader in regional security.

Political shifts directly shaped the force's identity: it was granted the "Royal" title upon Fiji's independence in 1970, only to have it stripped 17 years later when Fiji was declared a Republic in 1987. From its colonial origins to its role in a modern Republic, the force has evolved from a small constabulary into a professionalized institution that reflects Fiji's complex journey toward sovereignty and gender equality.

Ministry

Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration (MOHAI)

Transnational Crime Unit

The FPF has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

In 2022, the Fiji Police Academy in Suva, received a full registration certificate from the Fiji Higher Education Commission, resulting in police officers graduating from their own institution with a bachelor's degree in policing, management and other areas.

FPF routinely host Basic Recruit Training for recruits in regional police services including the Nauru Police Force and Tuvalu Police Service.

Use of Force regimen

Police are not armed with firearms but do have access to Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray, batons and handcuffs.

Specialist units such as Police Mobile Force have access to riot equipment (gas gun, shield and baton) firearms, accoutrements and capabilities.

police.gov.fj
@fiji_force
Fiji Police Force Headquarters
Vinod Patel Building,
Ratu Dovi Road
Suva, Fiji
Fiji Police Force
@fiji-police-force
@fijipoliceforce

2 Current as of December 2025
3 Fiji Police Force

FRENCH POLYNESIA



GOVERNMENT
An overseas collective of France with broad autonomy. It remains an integral part of the French Republic however, it has its own institutions and extensive powers in areas such as education, health, employment, culture and the environment. The political organisation is based on three main bodies: The President of French Polynesia, The Assembly of French Polynesia and The High Commissioner of the Republic.

POPULATION
305,507 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
In order of percentage spoken: French, Tahitian, Marquesan, Austral languages, Paumotu

CAPITAL
Papeete

Overview

French Polynesia consists of five archipelagos - Austral Islands, Gambier Islands, Marquesas Islands, Society Islands, and Tuamotu Archipelago. The Marquesas were first settled around 200 B.C. and the Society Islands around A.D. 300. Raiatea in the Society Islands became a center for religion and culture. Exploration of the other islands emanated from Raiatea and by 1000 there were small permanent settlements in all the island groups. Ferdinand Magellan was the first European to see the islands of French Polynesia in 1520. In 1767, British explorer Samuel Wallis was the first European to visit Tahiti, followed by French navigator Louis Antoine de Bougainville in 1768 and British explorer James Cook in 1769. King Pomare I united Tahiti and surrounding islands into the Kingdom of Tahiti in 1788. Protestant missionaries arrived in 1797, and Pomare I's successor converted in the 1810s, along with most Tahitians. In the 1830s, Queen Pomare IV refused to allow French Catholic missionaries to operate, leading France to declare a protectorate over Tahiti and fight the French-Tahitian War of the 1840s to annex the islands.

In 1880, King Pomare V ceded Tahiti and its possessions to France, changing its status into a colony. France then claimed the Gambier Islands and Tuamotu Archipelago and by 1901 had incorporated all five island groups into its establishments in Oceania. A Tahitian nationalist movement formed in 1940, leading France to grant French citizenship to the islanders in 1946 and change it to an overseas territory. In 1957, the islands' name was changed to French Polynesia, and the following year, 64 per cent of voters chose to stay part of France when they approved a new constitution. Uninhabited Mururoa Atoll was established as a French nuclear test site in 1962, with tests conducted between 1966 and 1992 (underground beginning in 1975). France also conducted tests at Fangataufa Atoll, including its last nuclear test in 1996.

France granted French Polynesia partial internal autonomy in 1977 and expanded autonomy in 1984. French Polynesia was converted into an overseas collective in 2003 and renamed an overseas territory in 2004. Pro-independence politicians won a surprise majority in local elections that same year, but in subsequent elections, they have been relegated to a vocal minority. In 2013, French Polynesia was relisted on the United Nations List of Non-Self-Governing Territories1.

1 French Polynesia - The World Factbook

French National Police / Territorial Directorate of the National Police



Commissioner Emmanuel Mericam

Appointed: 17 July 2023

+689 40 47 01 47

dtpn987@interieur.gouv.fr

Human Resources[2]

Total: **436**

Sworn	394
Unsworn	42
Male	330
Female	106

Police to population ratio: 1 : 260-300 (estimated)
The French Gendarmerie (not members of PICP) also provide policing services and there is also municipal police.

Budget:

N/A

Rank structure

Police Commissioner
Trainee Police Commissioner
Divisional Police Commissioner
Principal Police Commissioner
Police Lieutenant
Police Captain
Police Commander
Major of Police
Chief Brigadier of Police
Peace Officer
Trainee Officer, Cadet
Police Auxiliary
Trainee Peace Officer

Starting 1 January 2022, French Polynesia consolidated several specialized police entities—including the Security and Protection Directorate (DSP) and the Border Police (DPAF)—into a single Territorial Directorate of the National Police (DTPN). This restructuring, which became standard across mainland France in 2024, shifts the organisation from a job-based approach to a more efficient business logic. By unifying command under a Territorial Director who reports directly to the Director General of the National Police, the reform aims to optimize operational coordination and provide greater clarity for the public.

The DTPN 987 includes two support services and five professional sectors:

- General Staff
- Resource Management Service (SGR)
- Territorial Public Security Service (STSP)
- Territorial Border Police Service (STPAF)
- Territorial Intra-Ministerial Training Service (STIF)
- Territorial Judicial Police Service (STPJ)
- Territorial Intelligence Service (SRT)

All sectors share a centralised management secretariat, while the DTPN also maintains a specific secretariat to handle public prosecutions and monitor minor legal violations. Ultimately, this integration brings together diverse expertise under one roof to improve territorial governance and streamline the execution of law enforcement duties.

Ministry

High Commission of French Polynesia

Transnational Crime Unit

The French National Police in French Polynesia has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

Police receive training in mainland France and regional training in French Polynesia.

Use of Force regimen

Police have access to firearms, Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray, batons and handcuffs.

Specialist units such as RAID (Recherche, Assistance, Intervention, Dissuasion/Search, Assistance, Intervention, Deterrence, absent from French Polynesian Territory) can be called upon and have access to specialist firearms, accoutrements and capabilities.

polynesie-francaise.pref.gouv.fr

Haut-commissariat de la République en Polynésie française

55 av. Pouvana'a a Oopa, BP 87 – 98713 Papeete, Tahiti, French Polynesia

2 Current as of December 2025

GUAM



GOVERNMENT
Unincorporated organized territory of the US with local self-government.

POPULATION
169,961 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
English, Chamorro, Filipino

CAPITAL
Hagåtña

Overview

Guam was settled by Austronesian people around 1500 B.C. These people became the indigenous Chamorro and were influenced by later migrations, including the Micronesians in the first millennium A.D., and island Southeast Asians around 900 A.D. Society was stratified, with higher classes living along the coast and lower classes living inland. Spanish explorer Ferdinand Magellan was the first European to see Guam in 1521, and Spain claimed the island in 1565 because it served as a refuelling stop for ships between Mexico and the Philippines. Spain formally colonized Guam in 1668.

Guam became a hub for whalers and traders in the western Pacific in the early 1800s. During the 1898 Spanish-American War, the United States Navy occupied Guam and set up a military administration. The navy opposed local control of government despite repeated petitions from the Chamorro. Japan invaded Guam in 1941 and instituted a repressive regime. During the US recapture of Guam in 1944, the island's two largest villages were destroyed. After World War II, political pressure from local Chamorro leaders led to Guam being established as an unincorporated organized US territory in 1950, with US citizenship granted to all Chamorro. In a referendum in 1982, more than 75 per cent of voters chose closer relations with the US over independence, although no change in status was made because of disagreements on the future right of Chamorro self-determination. The US military holds about 29 per cent of Guam's land and stations several thousand troops on the island. The installations are some of the most strategically important US bases in the Pacific; they also constitute the island's most important source of income and economic stability.

1 Guam - The World Factbook

Guam Police Department



Acting Chief Joe Carbullido

Appointed:
15 June 2026

+671 475 8508 / 8509

picp.secretariat@police.govt.nz

Human Resources[2]

Total: **342**

Sworn	259
Unsworn	83
Male	274
Female	68

Police to population ratio:
1 : 654 (estimated)

Budget:

N/A

Rank structure

Chief
Colonel
Captain
Lieutenant
Sergeant
Corporal
Police officer

The Guam Police Department became its own entity in 1985, following operations as the Department of Public Safety in 1952. Prior to this, law enforcement in Guam was handled by the US Navy, administered Guam Insular Guard and the civilian run Guam Insular Patrol Force.

The Guam Police Department (Chamorro: Dipåttamenton Polisian Guåhan) is the law enforcement agency in the US territory of Guam. The department has jurisdiction across the entire territory, except for areas covered by the sea port, airport and military bases; the Guam Police Department has authority over military dependents on base, since civilians cannot be charged under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The Guam Police Department exists to serve the community by protecting life and property; by preventing crime; by enforcing the laws; and by maintaining order for all citizens.

The men and women of the Guam Police Department value: Human Life, Integrity, Laws and Constitution, Excellence, Accountability, Cooperation, Problem Solving, and Ourselves[3].

Ministry

N/A

Transnational Crime Unit

GPD has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

Police officers are trained at the Police Academy, Guam Community College.

Use of Force regimen

GPD general duties officers are routinely armed with Glock 22 .40 Caliber pistols and have access to Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray, batons and handcuffs.

The GPD Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team is a specialized unit within the Guam Police Department. The team is activated to handle high-risk situations that are beyond the capabilities of patrol officers.

gpd.guam.gov / gpdrecruiting.com

Guam Police DepartmentCommunity Oriented Policing Services

Guam Police Department, #13-16A Mariner Avenue Tiyan, Guam 96913

2 Current as of December 2025
3 About Us | GPD

KIRIBATI



GOVERNMENT
Presidential Republic

POPULATION
117,702 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
English, Gilbertese

CAPITAL
Tarawa

Overview

Kiribati (pronounced Kee-ree-bass) is made up of three distinct island groups - the Gilbert Islands, the Line Islands, and the Phoenix Islands. The first Austronesian voyagers arrived in the Gilbert Islands as early as 3000 B.C., but these islands were not widely settled until about A.D. 200 by Micronesians. Around 1300, Samoans and Tongans invaded the southern Gilbert Islands, then known as Tungaru, bringing Polynesian cultural elements with them. Later arrivals of Fijians brought Melanesian elements to the Gilbert Islands, and extensive intermarriage between the Micronesian, Polynesian, and Melanesian people led to the creation of what would become Gilbertese cultural traditions by the time Europeans spotted the islands in the 1600s. The Phoenix Islands and Line Islands were both visited by various Melanesian and Polynesian peoples, but their isolation and lack of natural resources meant that long-term settlements were not possible. Both island groups were uninhabited by the time of European contact.

Kiribati experienced sustained European contact by the 1760s; all three island groups were named and charted by 1826. American whaling ships frequently passed through the islands, and the UK declared a protectorate over the Gilbert and nearby Ellice Islands in 1892, to block growing US influence. Phosphate-rich Banaba Island was annexed to the protectorate in 1900. In 1916, the protectorate became a colony, and some Line Islands were added in 1916 and 1919, with the final ones added in 1972. The Phoenix Islands were added to the colony in 1937, and the United Kingdom agreed to share jurisdiction of some with the US because of their strategic location for aviation. During World War II, the islands were occupied by Japanese forces but were ejected by US amphibious assaults. The Ellice Islands became its own colony in 1974 and was renamed Tuvalu for ‘eight standing together’ in 1975. The Gilbert Islands became fully self-governing in 1977 and independent in 1979 under the new name of Kiribati, the Gilbertese spelling of Gilberts. The US relinquished all claims to the sparsely inhabited Phoenix and Line Islands in a 1979 treaty of friendship.

In 2012, Kiribati purchased a 22sqkm (8.5sqmi) plot of land in Fiji for potential eventual resettlement of its population because of climate change, and in 2014 Fijian Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama said residents of Kiribati would be welcome to relocate to Fiji if their country is swamped by rising sea levels[1].

1 Kiribati - The World Factbook

Kiribati Police Service



Acting Commissioner Eeri Aritiera

+686 7402 6187
info@police.gov.ki

Human Resources[2]

Total: **640**

Sworn	615
Unsworn	25
Male	525
Female	90

Police to population ratio:
1 : 191 (estimated)

Budget:

N/A

Rank structure

Commissioner
Deputy Commissioner
Superintendent
Assistant Superintendent
Inspector
Sergeant
Senior Constable
Constable

The only state disciplined forced in Kiribati are the unified national police force Kiribati Police Services (KPS), with prison and quarantine powers and the coast guard. Defence assistance is provided by Australian and New Zealand. The police force does not report to any ministers but rather directly to the President of Kiribati and is an independent body.

KPS is responsible for managing fire and rescue services and the prisons in Kiribati.

The KPS also operate the Guardian Class Patrol Boat, provided to Kiribati by Australia as part of the Pacific Patrol Boat Program in June 2021. The vessel is registered and stationed in Tarawa.

Ministry

N/A

Transnational Crime Unit

The KPS has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

KPS are trained domestically at the Police Training Center in Betio, South Tarawa. They also undertake further training regionally and internationally.

Use of Force regime

The KPS carry few weapons. Drill purpose rifles are used for drills and some officers have been provided with AR-15 rifles.

N/A

Kiribati Police Service

Police Headquarters, PO Box 497, Betio, Tarawa, Kiribati

2 Current as of December 2025

THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS



GOVERNMENT
Mixed presidential-parliamentary system in free association with the United States

POPULATION
83,037 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
Marshallese, English

CAPITAL
Majuro

Overview

Humans arrived in the Marshall Islands in the first millennium B.C. and gradually created permanent settlements on the various atolls. The early inhabitants were skilled navigators who frequently travelled between atolls using stick charts to map the islands. Society became organized under two paramount chiefs, one each for the Ratak (Sunrise) Chain and the Ralik (Sunset) Chain. Spain formally claimed the islands in 1592. Germany established a supply station on Jaluit Atoll and bought the islands from Spain in 1884, although paramount chiefs continued to rule.

Japan seized the Marshall Islands in 1914 and was granted a League of Nations Mandate to administer the islands in 1920. The United States captured the islands in heavy fighting during World War II, and the islands came under United States administration as part of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI) in 1947. Between 1946 and 1958, the United States resettled populations from Bikini and Enewetak Atolls and conducted 67 nuclear tests; people from Ailinginae, Rongelap, and Utrik Atolls were also evacuated because of nuclear fallout, and Bikini and Rongelap remain largely uninhabited. In 1979, the Marshall Islands drafted a constitution separate from the rest of the TTPI and declared independence under President Amata Kabua, a paramount chief. In 2000, Kessai Note became the first commoner elected president. In 2016, Hilda Heine was the first woman elected president[2].

1 Marshall Islands - The World Factbook
2 Marshall Islands Police Department | Pacific Cyber Security Operational Network (PaCSON)

Marshall Islands Police Department



Commissioner Hemona Jack

Appointed: December 2024

+692 625 8666 / 625 6911

picp.secretariat@police.govt.nz

Human Resources[3]

Total: **180**

Sworn	180
Unsworn	0
Male	169
Female	11

Police to population ratio: 1 : 461 (estimated)

Budget

2025-26: USD 2,108,675

Rank structure

Commissioner
Deputy Commissioner
Assistant Commissioner
Captain
Lieutenant
Sergeant
Officer 3
Officer 2
Officer 1

Established in 1952, the Marshall Island's Police Department (MIPD) is part of the Ministry of Justice. Headed by a police commissioner, the force is responsible for: protection of people and property and law enforcement throughout the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

MIPD is provides law enforcement across 34 coral atolls and more than a thousand islands.

The MIPD's main police station is in Majuro (Uliga) with sub stations located on the outer islands of Ebeye, Jaluit and Wotje.

Ministry

Ministry of Justice, Immigration and Labor (MoJIL)

Transnational Crime Unit

The MIPD has an established Transnational Crime Unit can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

The MIPD does not have a dedicated, standalone police academy but instead uses regional training programs and is working to establish a long-term academy.

Use of Force regimen

MIPD have limited use of force training. Members have access to hand cuffs if required.

N/A

Marshall Islands Police Dept. - MIPD

MIPD National Police Headquarters Majuro Uliga Police Station
90 Delap Main Rd, Majuro, MH 96960, Republic of Marshall Islands

3 Current as of December 2025

NAURU



GOVERNMENT
Parliamentary Republic

POPULATION
9,930 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
Nauruan, English

CAPITAL
No capital. Yaren serves as the de facto capital where the government offices are located

Overview

By 1000 B.C., Micronesian and Polynesian settlers inhabited Nauru, and the island was divided among twelve clans. Nauru developed in relative isolation because ocean currents made landfall on the island difficult. As a result, the Nauruan language does not clearly resemble any other in the Pacific region. In 1798, a British mariner was the first European to spot the island and by 1830, European whalers used Nauru as a supply stop, trading firearms for food. A civil war in 1878 reduced the population by more than a third. Germany forcibly annexed Nauru in 1888 by holding the twelve chiefs under house arrest until they consented to the annexation. Phosphate was discovered in 1900 and was heavily mined, although Nauru and Nauruans earned about one tenth of one percent of the profits from the phosphate deposits.

Australian forces captured Nauru from Germany during World War I, and in 1919, it was placed under a joint Australian-British-New Zealand mandate with Australian administration. Japan occupied Nauru during World War II and used its residents as forced labour elsewhere in the Pacific while destroying much of the infrastructure on the island. After the war, Nauru became a United Nations trust territory under Australian administration. In 1962, recognizing the phosphate stocks would eventually be depleted, Australian Prime Minister Robert Menzies offered to resettle all Nauruans on Curtis Island in Queensland, but Nauruans rejected that plan and opted for independence, which was achieved in 1968. In 1970, Nauru purchased the phosphate mining assets, and income from the mines made Nauruans among the richest people in the world. However, a series of unwise investments led to near bankruptcy by 2000. Widespread phosphate mining officially ceased in 2006.

As its economy faltered, Nauru briefly tried to rebrand itself as an offshore banking haven, an initiative that ended in 2005, and the country made a successful bid for Russian humanitarian aid in 2008. In 2001, Australia set up the Nauru Regional Processing Centre (NRPC), an offshore refugee detention facility, paying Nauru per person at the centre. The NRPC closed in 2008 but reopened in 2012. The number of refugees steadily declined after 2014, and in 2020 the remaining people were moved to Brisbane, Australia, effectively shuttering the NRPC. However, in 2023, Australia agreed to continue funding NRPC for two years and restarted settling asylees in the centre in mid-2023. The centre remains the Government of Nauru's largest source of income[1].

1 Nauru - The World Factbook

Nauru Police Force



Acting Commissioner Imran Scotty

+674 557 1165

COP.PA@npf.gov.nr

Human Resources[2]

Total: **307**

Sworn	170
Unsworn	113
Male	190
Female	117

Police to population ratio: 1 : 57 (estimated)

Budget

2025-26: AUD 4,000,000

Rank structure

Commissioner
Deputy Commissioner
Superintendent
Inspector
Sergeant
Senior Constable
Constable
Police Protective Services Supervisors
Police Protective Services Officers

The Nauru Police Force (NPF) exists to deliver 'safety, safety, safety' to the people of Nauru. It operates under the command of Commissioner of Police responsible to the Minister of Police and President of the Republic of Nauru.

In accordance with the Nauru Police Force Act 1972, the force operates to preserve the public peace, prevent and detect offences, prevent injury to life and property, lawfully apprehend offenders, regulate and preserve order during processions and assemblies and more, working together with other agencies and departments to carry out health, quarantine, immigration and port and maritime regulations and work alongside the court system.

The NPF have a police protective services component which provide security services to all government infrastructures and support to NPF frontline and other related activities[3].

Ministry

The Minister of Police is the responsible government minister for policing in Nauru. However, the Commissioner of Police acts independently of the minister in carrying out law enforcement decisions and operational matters.

Transnational Crime Unit

The NPF has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

NPF are trained both domestically at the Police Training College in Aiwo District. In the past, NPF recruits have also participated in Fiji Police Force Recruit Training.

Use of Force regimen

Police officers in Nauru are not armed while on routine patrol.

In 2020, thirty M1 Garand Honor Guard, or 'Squad Performance', rifles were donated by the Taiwanese Embassy to the Nauru Police Force[4].

nauru.gov.nr

Nauru Police Force

Nauru Police Force Central Police Station, FW37+PXG,Yaren, Nauru

2 Current as of December 2025
3 Welcome to the Nauru Police Force. - The Government of the Republic of Nauru
4 web.archive.org/web/20230116102840 | roc-taiwan.org/nr_en/post/2376.html

NEW CALEDONIA



GOVERNMENT
Parliamentary Democracy (Territorial Congress); an overseas collective of France

POPULATION
307,612 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
French, 33 dialects of Melaysian-Polynesian

CAPITAL
Noumea

Overview

The human history of New Caledonia began around 1600 BC with the arrival of the Lapita people, who were skilled navigators known for their distinct pottery. Over time, these settlers intermingled with successive waves of migrants from other Melanesian islands, forming the specific ethnic group now considered indigenous to the archipelago. European contact occurred much later in 1774, when James Cook sighted the islands and named them after Scotland. By 1853, France annexed the territory to pre-empt British claims, eventually establishing it as a penal colony that received over 20,000 prisoners.

The late 19th and early 20th centuries were defined by the discovery of nickel and the subsequent exploitation of the land. This colonial expansion led to significant conflict, including a major rebellion in 1878 led by Grand Chief Atai and another in 1917, both of which were suppressed by French authorities. During World War II, the islands served as a strategic South Pacific headquarters for the United States. Following the war, France transitioned the island's status to an overseas territory and granted citizenship to its inhabitants in 1953.

Political tensions escalated in the 1970s and 80s as a nationalist movement grew, leading to a period of violent unrest known as "The Events". To restore peace, the Matignon-Oudinot Accords were signed in 1988, creating a framework for shared responsibility between pro-independence and non-independence supporters. This was followed by the Nouméa Accord in 1998, which was enshrined in the French Constitution and granted New Caledonia a "sui generis" status, providing a path for increased local autonomy and a series of self-determination referendums.

Between 2018 and 2021, New Caledonia held three separate referendums on the issue of full independence. In each instance, voters chose to remain part of France, though the margins narrowed significantly in the first two votes before a final 96 per cent "no" vote in 2021. Today, the territory remains an overseas collective with a unique legal status, continuing to balance its indigenous Kanak identity with its ongoing political and constitutional relationship with the French Republic.

1 New Caledonia - The World Factbook

French National Police / Police Nationale Nouvelle-Calédonie



General Controller Marjorie Ghizoli

Appointed:
10 December 2024

+687 24 33 00

dtpn988-em@interieur.gouv.fr

Human Resources [2]

Total: **651**

Sworn	556
Unsworn	95
Male	427
Female	224

Police to population ratio:
1 : 457 (estimated)
The French Gendarmerie (not members of PICP) also provide policing services.

Budget:

N/A

Rank structure

Police Commissioner
Trainee Police Commissioner
Divisional Police Commissioner
Principal Police Commissioner
Police Lieutenant
Police Captain
Police Commander
Major of Police
Chief Brigadier of Police
Peace Officer
Trainee Officer, Cadet
Police Auxiliary
Trainee Peace Officer

The history of policing in New Caledonia is closely tied to its colonial past. Following French annexation in 1853, law enforcement was initially overseen by the French military and colonial authorities, with Port-de-France (now Nouméa) established in 1854 as the military and administrative centre.

Today, policing is carried out by two mainland French forces: the French National Police, responsible for urban areas including Nouméa, and the French National Gendarmerie, which oversees rural areas, small towns, road safety and public order, including specialised units such as an air component. Both share the same powers but operate in different areas and report to the High Commissioner for administrative matters and the Public Prosecutor for judicial matters.

In 2020, the Territorial Directorate of the National Police (DTPN) was established to provide a more unified and coordinated command structure across New Caledonia. DTPN is organised around two cross-functional directorates and six departments.

The DTPN may also request specialised personnel from the Territorial Unit for Research, Assistance, Intervention, and Deterrence (RAID). Mobile gendarmes are made available to the DTPN988 to secure the police zone.

Ministry

Overseen by the High Commissioner to New Caledonia

Transnational Crime Unit

French National Police in New Caledonia has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

French National Police in New Caledonia provides initial training for cadets of the republic and assistant police officers.

It also provides continuing education for police personnel (commissioners, officers, non-commissioned officers and guards, administrative and technical staff, etc.) within its jurisdiction throughout their careers (recruitment, initial and continuing training, and promotion).

Use of Force regimen

Police have access to firearms, Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray, batons and handcuffs.

Specialist units such as RAID (Recherche, Assistance, Intervention, Dissuasion (Search, Assistance, Intervention, Deterrence)) have access to specialist firearms, accoutrements and capabilities.

nouvelle-caledonie.gouv.fr

Police Nationale Nouvelle-Caledonie

36, Rue de Sébastopol, Nouméa, New Caledonia

2 Current as of December 2025

NEW ZEALAND



GOVERNMENT
Constitutional monarchy with a Parliamentary system of Government

POPULATION
5,324,700 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
English, Maori, New Zealand sign language

CAPITAL
Wellington

Overview

New Zealand is an island country in the southwestern Pacific Ocean. It consists of two main landmasses — the North Island (Te Ika-a-Māui) and the South Island (Te Waipounamu) — and over 700 smaller islands. New Zealand was first settled between 1250 and 1300 by the explorer Kupe who ventured across the Pacific on his waka hourua (voyaging canoe) from his ancestral Polynesian homeland of Hawaiki. More waka hourua followed Kupe over the next few hundred years, landing in various parts of New Zealand. Today, Māori are part of an iwi (tribes), a group of people who are descendants of a common ancestor and associated with a certain region or area in New Zealand

In 1642, Dutch explorer Abel Tasman became the first European to sight and record New Zealand although he never set foot on land. Abel Tasman annexed the country for Holland under the name of 'Staten Landt' (later changed to 'New Zealand' by Dutch mapmakers)[2]. In 1769 British explorer Captain James Cook became the first European to set foot on New Zealand and European settlers began arriving soon after. In 1840, representatives of the British Government and Māori chiefs signed the Treaty of Waitangi, which paved the way for Britain's declaration of sovereignty, and the establishment of the Crown Colony of New Zealand in 1841. When the Commonwealth of Australia was established in 1901, New Zealand declined to become its sixth state instead inspiring to its own to 'identity, status and a grander future'. In 1907 New Zealand became a dominion within the British Empire; it gained full statutory independence in 1947, retaining the monarch as head of state.

New Zealand was the first country to introduce a minimum wage and give women the right to vote. It ranks very highly in international measures of quality of life and human rights and has one of the lowest levels of perceived corruption in the world.

New Zealand is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary system of government. The head of state is the British sovereign (currently King Charles III). The King is represented in New Zealand by the Governor-General, Dame Cindy Kiro. Legislative authority is vested in a democratically elected Parliament, while executive political power is exercised by the Government, led by the prime minister, currently Christopher Luxon.

The Realm of New Zealand also includes the Cook Islands and Niue (self-governing states in free association with New Zealand); Tokelau (a dependent territory); and the Ross Dependency, which is New Zealand's territorial claim in Antarctica.

1 TeAra.govt.nz
2 NewZealand.com

New Zealand Police



Commissioner Richard Chambers

Appointed:
25 November 2025

+64 04 4707 346 / 44346

picp.secretariat@police.govt.nz

Human Resources[3]

Total: **15,696**

Sworn	10,314
Unsworn	5,361
Male	7,688
Female	2,646

Police to population ratio:
1 : 328 (estimated)

Budget:

2025-26: NZD 2,600,000,000

Rank Structure

Commissioner of Police
Deputy Commissioner
Assistant Commissioner
Superintendent
Inspector
Senior Sergeant
Sergeant
Senior Constable
Constable

New Zealand Police delivers services to ensure that everybody is safe and feels safe. Its mission is to prevent crime and harm, and its vision is for New Zealand to be the safest country - where everyone can go about their daily lives without fear of harm or victimisation.

The organisation's three goals - Service, Safety, and Trust - define both its current priorities and its future aspirations for policing in New Zealand.

In carrying out its functions, New Zealand Police relies on a wide range of partner organisations, as well as the efforts of individuals, families, and communities. Policing is delivered within a networked and cooperative environment, with significant contributions from local authorities, the private security sector, Māori and Pacific wardens, and members of the public.

Ministry

New Zealand Police is a government department with a Parliamentary Minister. The Commissioner and sworn members swear allegiance directly to the sovereign and, by convention, have constabulary independence from the government of the day.

Transnational Crime Unit

New Zealand Police has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through NZTransnationalCrimeUnit@police.govt.nz

Training

New Zealand police officers are trained at two main locations: the Royal New Zealand Police College (RNZPC) in Porirua, which is the primary college, and the new RNZPC Auckland Campus at Massey University.

Use of Force regime

The Use of Force by New Zealand Police is generally regulated by the Crimes Act 1961. It allows 'such force as may be necessary to overcome any force used' in resisting arrest, unless the arrest can be made 'by reasonable means in a less violent manner'. Under Section 62 of the 1961 Act, a police officer is criminally liable for any excessive force he or she uses.

Members of the New Zealand Police do not routinely carry firearms in the course of their duties. They are ordinarily equipped with a baton, pepper spray, and a conducted electrical weapon. However, firearms are available in their vehicles for specific circumstances. All police vehicles are equipped with locked-up firearms, and officers must stop, unlock, and access them when needed, which is a policy of 'minimum visibility' for armed response.

Specialised units like the Armed Offenders Squad (AOS) are trained and deployed for situations requiring a firearms response.

police.govt.nz | newcops.govt.nz

New Zeland Police

@newzealandpolice

New Zealand Police National Headquarters
180 Molesworth Street
Thorndon, Wellington 6011
New Zealand

3 Current as of September 2025

NIUE



GOVERNMENT
Parliamentary Democracy

Self-governing in free association with New Zealand since 1974. Niue is fully responsible for its internal affairs under the *Niue Constitution Act of 1974*, and New Zealand provides necessary economic and administrative assistance, and assistance with foreign affairs, defence, and security upon request.

POPULATION
1,815 (2024 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
Niuean, English

CAPITAL
Alofi

Overview

Voyagers from Samoa first settled on Niue around 900, and a second main group of settlers came from Tonga around 1500. With only one reliable source of fresh water, conflict was high on the island. Samoan and Tongan customs heavily influenced Niuean culture, including the formation of an island-wide elected kingship system in the early 1700s. In 1774, British explorer James Cook landed on the island and named it Savage Island because of the Niueans' hostility. Missionaries arrived in 1830 but were also largely unsuccessful at staying on the island until 1846, when a Niuean trained as a Samoan missionary returned to the island and provided a space from which the missionaries could work. In addition to converting the population, the missionaries worked to stop the violent conflicts and helped establish the first parliament in 1849.

Great Britain established a protectorate over Niue in 1900. The following year, Niue was annexed to New Zealand and included as part of the Cook Islands. Niue's remoteness and cultural and linguistic differences with the Cook Islands led New Zealand to separate Niue into its own administration in 1904. The island became a self-governing nation in 1974; it is an independent member of international organisations but is in free association with New Zealand, which is responsible for defence and foreign affairs.

1 Niue - The World Factbook

Niue Police Department



Chief Richard Sami

Appointed: October 2025

+683 4333

picp.secretariat@police.govt.nz

Human Resources [2]

Total: **16**

Sworn	14
Unsworn	1
Male	11
Female	3

Police to population ratio: 1 : 130 (estimated)

Budget:

N/A

Rank Structure

Chief
Inspector
Sergeant
Constable

Niue Police Department is in Fonuakula, Alofi South, Niue Island. The Police Department consists of three main divisions:

Police: Reducing Crime and road violations, initiate strategies to enhance Community awareness and safety, maintain national security.

Corrections: secure detention and assist in the rehabilitation of prisoners.

National Disaster Management Office: Effective emergency and disaster response.

Ministry

The Prime Minister is the police minister and holds this portfolio.

Transnational Crime Unit

Niue has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

Niue Police members are trained both domestically and part take in regional training on a regular basis with support from New Zealand and Australia.

Use of Force regimen

Police officers in Niue are not armed. They have access to firearms but are not routinely trained in firearms. Risk mitigation dependant on circumstances and response ultimately lies with the Chief of Police.

gov.nu/notice-board/niue-police-department

Niue Police Department – Faahi Gahua LeoLeo ha Niue

Fonuakula, Alofi, Niue

2 Current as of December 2025

PALAU



GOVERNMENT
Presidential Republic in free association with the US

POPULATION
21,947 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
Palauan, English

CAPITAL
Ngerulmud

Overview

Humans arrived in the Palauan archipelago from Southeast Asia around 1000 B.C. and developed a complex, highly organised matrilineal society where high-ranking women picked the chiefs. The islands were the westernmost part of the widely scattered Pacific islands north of New Guinea that Spanish explorers named the Caroline Islands in the 17th century. The 18th and 19th centuries saw occasional visits of whalers and traders as Spain gained some influence in the islands and administered it from the Philippines. Spain sold Palau to Germany in 1899 after losing the Philippines in the Spanish-American War.

Japan seized Palau in 1914, was granted a League of Nations mandate to administer the islands in 1920 and made Koror the capital of its South Seas Mandate in 1922. By the outbreak of World War II, there were four times as many Japanese living in Koror as Palauans. In 1944, the United States invasion of the island of Peleliu was one of the bloodiest island fights of the Pacific War. After the war, Palau became part of the United States-administered Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Palau voted against joining the Federated States of Micronesia in 1978 and adopted its own constitution in 1981, which stated that Palau was a nuclear-free country. In 1982, Palau signed a Compact of Free Association (COFA) with the United States, which granted Palau financial assistance and access to many United States domestic programs in exchange for exclusive United States military access and defence responsibilities. However, many Palauans saw the COFA as incompatible with the Palauan Constitution because of the United States military's nuclear arsenal, and seven referenda failed to achieve ratification. Following a constitutional amendment and eighth referendum in 1993, the COFA was ratified and entered into force in 1994 when the islands gained their independence. Its funding was renewed in 2010.

Palau has been on the frontlines of combatting climate change and protecting marine resources. In 2011, Palau banned commercial shark fishing and created the world's first shark sanctuary. In 2017, Palau began stamping the Palau Pledge into passports, reminding visitors to act in ecologically and culturally responsible ways. In 2020, Palau banned coral reef-toxic sunscreens and expanded its fishing prohibition to include 80 per cent of its exclusive economic zone[1].

1 Palau - The World Factbook

Bureau of Public Safety



Director Curtis Elobt

Appointed: 13 September 2024

+680 488 2423

picp.secretariat@police.govt.nz

Human Resources[2]

Total: **171**

Sworn	156
Unsworn	15
Male	127
Female	44

Police to population ratio: 1 : 113 (estimated)

Budget:

N/A

Rank Structure

Director
Chief
Detective Lieutenant
Lieutenant
Detective Sergeant
Sergeant
Detective
Police Officer III
Police Officer II
Police Officer I
Police Officer

The Bureau of Public Safety (BPS) is Palau's national law enforcement body, operating under the Ministry of Justice and responsible for maintaining public order, enforcing national laws, and ensuring the safety of communities across the Republic of Palau. It forms part of the Executive Branch of government.

It supervises key operational divisions, including:

- National Police/General Policing
- Emergency Response (including 911 services)
- Fire and rescue services
- Criminal Investigation and Drug Enforcement
- Maritime safety/security functions (via the Division of Maritime Security)

Ministry

Ministry of Justice

Transnational Crime Unit

Palau has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

BPS members are trained both domestically and part take in regional and international training when available.

Use of Force regimen

BPS have access to and are trained in the use of firearms. Officers are armed while on duty, for training purposes, and for special response operations.

N/A

MOJPalu

8FRG+M67, Koror, Palau

2 Current as of December 2025

PAPUA NEW GUINEA



GOVERNMENT
Federal parliamentary democracy under a constitutional monarchy. A Commonwealth realm.

POPULATION
10,273,996 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
Tok Pisin, English, Hiri Motu, and some 839 living indigenous languages are spoken (about 12 per cent of the world's total)

CAPITAL
Port Moresby

Overview

Papua New Guinea (PNG) occupies the eastern half of the island of New Guinea; the western half is part of Indonesia. PNG was first settled between 50,000 and 60,000 years ago. Its harsh geography of mountains, jungles, and numerous river valleys kept many of the arriving groups isolated, giving rise to PNG's ethnic and linguistic diversity. Around 500 B.C., Austronesian voyagers settled along the coast. Spanish and Portuguese explorers periodically visited the island starting in the 1500s, but none made it into the country's interior. American and British whaling ships frequented the islands off the coast of what was then 'New Guinea' in the mid-1800s. In 1884, Germany declared a protectorate, and eventually a colony, over the northern part of what would become PNG and named it German New Guinea; days later the United Kingdom followed suit on the southern part and nearby islands and called it Papua. Most of their focus was on the coastal regions, leaving the highlands largely unexplored.

The United Kingdom put its colony under Australian administration in 1902 and formalized the act in 1906. At the outbreak of World War I, Australia occupied German New Guinea and continued to rule it after the war as a League of Nations Mandate. The discovery of gold along the Bulolo River in the 1920s led prospectors to venture into the highlands, where they found about one million people living in isolated communities. The New Guinea campaign of World War II lasted from January 1942 to the Japanese surrender in August 1945. After the war, Australia combined the two territories and administered PNG as a United Nations trusteeship. In 1975, PNG gained independence and became a member of the Commonwealth.

Between 1988 to 1997, a secessionist movement on the island province of Bougainville, located off the eastern PNG coast, fought the PNG Government, resulting in 15,000 to 20,000 deaths. In 1997, the PNG Government and Bougainville leaders reached a cease-fire and subsequently signed a peace agreement in 2001. The Autonomous Bougainville Government was formally established in 2005. Bougainvilleans voted in favor of independence in a 2019 non-binding referendum. The Bougainville and PNG Governments are in the process of negotiating a roadmap for independence, which requires approval by the PNG parliament.

1 Papua New Guinea - The World Factbook

Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary



Commissioner David Manning

Appointed: December 2019

+675 322 6241

cop@police.gov.pg

Human Resources[2]

Total: **6,344**

Sworn	6,004
Unsworn	340
Male	5,326
Female	1,018

Police to population ratio: 1 : 962 (estimated)

Budget:

2025-26: PGK 782,000,000

Rank Structure

Commissioner of Police
Deputy Commissioner
Assistant Commissioner
Commander
Chief Superintendent
Superintendent
Chief Inspector
Senior Inspector
Inspector
Chief Sergeant
Senior Sergeant
Sergeant
Senior Constable
Constable
First Constable

The Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary (RPNGC) is the national police force of Papua New Guinea. Itis the result of the amalgamation in 1942 of the former separate Police Forces of Papua and New Guinea. Under the Constitution of the Independent State of PNG, the RPNGC is subject to the control of the National Executive Government through a minister.

The Constitution states the primary functions of the RPNGC is to preserve peace and good order in the country and to maintain and enforce the law in an impartial and objective manner.

With over 130 years of history, its culture is rich and varied. The RPNGC has played a significant role in the development of PNG which celebrated its 47th Anniversary of Independence in 2022. The RPNGC and its officers were a major asset to the allied forces in resisting the Japanese occupation of New Guinea during World War II. The Lae War Cemetery holds the names of 13 police officers who lost their lives during the war, with many others at the Bomana and Kokopo War Cemeteries and others throughout Papua New Guinea.

Today the RPNGC is part of the Law and Justice Sector of the Government of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea. It is one of the three disciplined services along with the Papua New Guinea Defence Force and Papua New Guinea Correctional Services. Its headquarters are in Konedobu, a suburb of Port Moresby, the capital city.

The RPNGC is headed by the commissioner of police, supported by four deputy commissioners and assistant commissioners who have responsibility for organisational functions and regional command. This RPNGC is responsible for 462,840 square kilometres and a population of approximately 9.5 million[3].

Ministry

Ministry of Internal Security

Transnational Crime Unit

RPNGC has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

RPNGC are trained domestically at the Bomana National Centre of Excellence. The centre trains basic policing skills that will equipe them to serve their country better when they graduate. RPNGC officers part take in regional training when available.

Use of Force regimen

RPNCG officers have access to firearms and accoutrements but are regularly unarmed. Special Services Division and Mobile Squad members have access to special training, tactics and equipment.

rpngc.cog.pg

National Police Headquarters
Spring Garden Road, Konedobu, Papua New Guinea

2 Current as of December 2025
3 About Us – Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary

SAMOA



GOVERNMENT
Samoa is a parliamentary democracy and has a unicameral parliamentary system. This means it has a single legislative chamber: the Legislative Assembly. The Parliament works alongside the Head of State who has powers to summon, prorogue, or dissolve the Assembly. Samoa's system blends modern democratic governance with the traditional fa'amatai chiefly system, giving chiefs a role in society and local decision-making.

POPULATION
210,223 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
Samoan, English

CAPITAL
Apia

Overview

Samoa, officially the Independent State of Samoa, is an island country in Polynesia, part of Oceania, located in the South Pacific Ocean. It consists of two main islands Savai'i and Upolu, two smaller inhabited islands (Manono and Apolima) and several uninhabited islands including the Aleipata Islands (Nu'utele, Nu'ulua, Fanuatapu and Namua). The capital and largest city is Apia. Geographically, Samoa lies 64km west of American Samoa, 889km northeast of Tonga, 1,152km northeast of Fiji and 610km northwest of Niue, among other nearby Pacific islands.

Samoa was settled around 3,500 years ago by the Lapita people who developed the Samoan language and cultural identity. Early European explorers referred to the islands as the 'Navigator Islands' because of the Samoans' exceptional seafaring skills. In 1899, Samoa became a colony of the German Empire known as German Samoa. During World War I in 1914, New Zealand occupied the islands and in 1920, Samoa officially became the Territory of Western Samoa under a League of Nations mandate. Following World War II in 1946, it was converted into a United Nations Trust Territory. Samoa gained full independence on 1 January 1962, becoming the first Pacific Island nation to do so and in 1997, it officially changed its name to Samoa.

Samoa is a unitary parliamentary democracy divided into 11 administrative districts. The country was admitted to the United Nations on 15 December 1976 and is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Pacific Islands Forum. National defence responsibilities are coordinated with the New Zealand Defence Force.

Samoan society maintains strong ties to its traditional fa'amatai chiefly system blending modern governance with village-level leadership. The Samoan language and cultural customs remain central to the nation's identity and social cohesion.

1 Samoa - The World Factbook

Samoa Police, Prisons & Corrections Services



Acting Commissioner Leiataua Samuelu Afamasaga

+685 777 5067
picp.secretariat@police.govt.nz

Human Resources[2]

Total: **956**

Sworn	853
Unsworn	103
Male	Unknown
Female	Unknown

Police to population ratio:
1 : 323 (estimated)

Budget:

2025-26: WST 41,000,000

Rank Structure

Commissioner
Deputy Commissioner
Assistant Commissioner
Superintendent
Inspector
Senior Sergeant
Sergeant
Corporal
Constable

The Samoa Police, Prisons & Corrections Services (SPPCS) maintains law and order, protect public safety, prevent and investigate crime, manage prisons and ensure the security of Samoa's land and maritime areas. They also work closely with communities to promote safety and compliance with laws, support emergency and disaster response and collaborate with regional partners to uphold peace and security across the South Pacific.

Westernised policing was first introduced to Samoa in the early 1800s under German occupation, while law and order was primarily maintained by the village council, including the Ali'i (chiefs) and the Faipule (local political leaders). In 1890, the first police headquarters were built along Beach Road in Apia and by 1899, the Berlin Treaty placed Samoa under German control as Western Samoa, while the United States governed American Samoa.

During World War I in 1914, New Zealand occupied Western Samoa, taking operational control of the police in 1918 under the League of Nations mandate.

From the 1940s to 1950s, the Western Samoa Constabulary and Police Force were formally established under Superintendent J. Corsten, with minimal crime due to strong village curfews and religious beliefs.

In 1956, Alfonso Philipp became the first Samoan Commissioner of Police, followed by Lio Edmond Schmidt in 1970 and Sonny Schuster in 1978, marking a period of increased Samoan leadership in the force. By the 2010s, the police had grown to over 600 officers, including a Maritime Unit, playing a key role in crime prevention, community engagement and regional security in the South Pacific.

Ministry

Ministry of Police, Prisons & Corrections

Transnational Crime Unit

SPPCS has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

SPPCS undertakes training at the Samoa Police Academy.

Use of Force regimen

General duties officers do not carry firearms but have access to batons, shields and handcuffs. Force is applied based on necessity and proportionality, escalating from verbal commands to non-lethal options, with lethal force used only as a last resort.

Members of the Specialised Unit (also known as the Tactical Operations Section) may be armed and are trained to use firearms when situations require.

samoapolice.ws

Samoa Police, Prisons & Corrections Services

Samoa Police Headquarters, PO Box 53, Apia, Samoa

2 Current as of December 2025

SOLOMON ISLANDS



GOVERNMENT
Parliamentary Democracy
Formerly part of the Commonwealth.
Independence granted 1978.

POPULATION
738,774 (2025 est.) [1]

LANGUAGES
Solomonese Pijin, English

CAPITAL
Honiara

Overview

Solomon Islands (SI) is predominantly Melanesian (about 95 per cent) although there are also small Polynesian, Micronesian, Chinese and European communities. There are 63 distinct languages in the country, with numerous local dialects.

SI is made up of nine individual provinces across thousands of islands spanning from Vanuatu to the Bougainville border.

Honiara is the capital city located in one of the nine provinces, Guadalcanal.

1 Solomon Islands - The World Factbook

Royal Solomon Islands Police Force



Acting Commissioner James Aitorea

Appointed: 6 July 2026

+677 23800

picp.secretariat@police.govt.nz

Human Resources[2]

Total: **1,315**

Sworn	1,278
Unsworn	39
Male	Unknown
Female	Unknown

Police to population ratio: 1 : 641 (estimated)

Budget:

2025-26: SI 223,494,091

Rank Structure

Commissioner
Deputy Commissioner
Assistant Commissioner
Directors/Provincial Police Commander
Superintendent
Chief Inspector
Inspector
Sergeant
Constable
Cadet

The Protectorate Government began its focus on policing in Western SI, and established government bases, at Gizo in 1899 and in the Shortland Islands in 1906. Each Resident Magistrate had control of their own small police force.

The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) was established in 1974 for the maintenance and enforcement of law and order, the preservation of peace, the protection of life and property, prevention and detection of crime, apprehension of offenders, upholding the laws of SI.

SI has no military organisation with this provided in the past by the abolished paramilitary wing of the RSIPF known as the Police Field Force (later Special Task and Rescue).

Ministry

Ministry of Police, National Security and Correctional Services

Transnational Crime Unit

The RSIPF has an established Transnational Crime Unit can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

Officers are trained at the RSIPF Police Academy in Rove, Police Headquarters, Honiara.

Use of Force regimen

General duties officers do not carry firearms but have access to Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray, batons and handcuffs.

The National Response Department (Tactical Operators) and Close Personal Protection are armed.

rsipf.gov.sb

RSIPF

Royal Solomon Islands Police Force Rove Police Headquarters
Tandai Highway, PO Box G3, Honiara, Solomon Islands

2 Current as of December 2025

TOKELAU



GOVERNMENT
Non-self-governing territory, administered by New Zealand since 1926 with a government based on traditional village leadership. The Administrator of Tokelau is held by a New Zealand senior public servant and is appointed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Administrator has technical responsibility for the administration of Tokelau's executive government. Over the past decade, there has been a progressive transfer of authority and responsibility.

Population
2,453 (2024 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
Tokelauan, English

CAPITAL
Tokelau does not have a capital. The largest Island is Nukunonu.

Overview

Tokelau is composed of three atolls (Fakaofo, Atafu, and Nukunonu), and it was first settled by Polynesians around 1000 A.D. The atolls operated relatively independently, but Fakaofo Atoll eventually subjugated the others. British explorers first saw the atolls in 1765 and 1791. Catholic and Protestant missionaries arrived in the 1840s and converted the population on the islands on which they landed.

In 1863 Peruvian slave raiders abducted many islanders, and roughly contemporary outbreaks of disease reduced the population to about 200. Settlers of diverse nationalities subsequently intermarried with Tokelauans. In the same period, local governance moved to a system based on a Council of Elders, which still exists today. British interest began in the late 1870s, and Tokelau became a British protectorate in 1889, and in 1916 under the name Union Group, Tokelau became part of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony. In 1925, the United Kingdom placed Tokelau under New Zealand administration. *The Tokelau Islands Act of 1948* formally transferred sovereignty from the United Kingdom to New Zealand, and Tokelauans were granted New Zealand citizenship. In 1979, the United States relinquished its claim to Tokelau in the Treaty of Tokehega, and Tokelau relinquished its claim to Swains Island, which is part of American Samoa.

Economic opportunities in Tokelau are sparse, and about 80 per cent of Tokelauans live in New Zealand. Tokelau held self-governance referendums in 2006 and 2007 in which more than 60 per cent of voters chose free association with New Zealand; however, the referendums failed to achieve the two-thirds majority necessary to enact a status change[1].

1 Tokelau - The World Factbook

Tokelau Police



Inspector Tavita Pue

Appointed: 13 May 2024

N/A

picp.secretariat@police.govt.nz

Human Resources[2]

Total: **24**

Sworn	5
Unsworn	19
Male	15
Female	9

Police to population ratio: 1 : 102 (est.)

Budget

2025-26: N/A

Rank Structure

Inspector (Commissioner)
Sergeant
Constable

The Tokelau Police is responsible to the village authorities for the enforcement of law and order and to the public service for their various civil duties. There is little crime apart from petty theft and minor public disturbances and there are no prisons. Punishment generally takes the form of public rebukes, fines or labour.

Ministry

N/A

Transnational Crime Unit

Tokelau does not have its own Transnational Crime Unit (TCU), but is supported through the New Zealand TCU at NZTransnationalCrimeUnit@police.govt.nz

Training

Training has been provided by New Zealand Police. Tokelau Police also partake in training regionally and internationally.

Use of Force regime

Police officers in Tokelau do not carry firearms. There is no specialist armed police capability in Tokelau.

N/A

Please contact the PICP Secretariat

2 Current as of December 2025

TONGA



GOVERNMENT
The Kingdom of Tonga is a Constitutional Democracy

POPULATION
104,519 (2025 est.) [1]

LANGUAGES
Tongan, English

CAPITAL
Nuku'alofa

Overview

The Kingdom of Tonga is an archipelago of 171 islands located in Polynesia. Forty-five of the islands are inhabited

Tonga was first inhabited approximately 2,500 years ago by people of the Lapita culture who developed a distinct and strong identity and culture. They established a powerful empire across the South Pacific known as the Tu'i Tonga Empire and were a strong economic, ethnic and cultural influence in the Pacific. The first Europeans to visit the islands did so in 1616.

From 1900 to 1970 Tonga had British protected-state status and a Treaty of Friendship with Britian but retained its sovereignty. In 2010 Tonga transitioned from an absolute to a semi-constitutional monarchy after legislative reform allowed for its first partial representative elections.

Tonga is a member of the United Nations, the Commonwealth of Nations, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Alliance of Small Island States.

1 Tonga - The World Factbook

Tonga Police



Commissioner Geoff Turner

Appointed: 12 May 2025

+676 874 6587

commissioner.office@police.gov.to

Human Resources[2]

Total: **528**

Sworn	475
Unsworn	53
Male	329
Female	199

Police to population ratio: 1 : 220 (est.)

Budget

2025-26: N/A

Rank structure

Commissioner
Deputy Commissioner
Assistant Commissioner
Superintendent
Chief Inspector
Senior Inspector
Inspector
Sergeant
Constable

In 2010 the Tonga Police Act 2010 replaced the 1968 Police Act. There were two significant changes under the new Act:

- separation of powers between minister and commissioner of police
- introduction of Community Policing as a policing philosophy and model for the Tonga Police.

The primary role of the Tonga Police set out in section 8 of the Police Act outlines the following functions: maintain law and order, preserve the peace, protect life and property, prevent and detect crime, provide community support and reassurance, uphold the laws of Tonga, undertake the service and execution of court processes, carry out land and marine search and rescue operations, and any other function conferred by the Police Act or another enactment.

Ministry

The Ministry of Police is responsible for the administration of the Tonga Police Act 2010 and the management of Tonga Police.

Transnational Crime Unit

Tonga Police has an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

Training is undertaken at the Tonga Police College in Nuku'alofa.

Use of Force regime

Police officers in Tonga do not carry firearms unless the situation is expected to merit it. The Tonga Police Tactical Response Group (TRG) undertakes intensive training supported by New Zealand Police. The training is delivered through the Tonga New Zealand Policing Programme supporting ongoing policing capability development. TRG staff are trained in common tactical skills and clearance and rescue tactics as well as periodic firearms live fire range qualification.

N/A

Tonga Police

Tonga Police Headquarters, Mauikisikisi Road, Nuku'alofa, Tonga

2 Current as of December 2025

TUVALU



GOVERNMENT
Constitutional monarchy with a Parliamentary system of government

POPULATION
11,824 (2025 est.) [1]

LANGUAGES
Tuvaluan, English

CAPITAL
Funafuti

Overview

Tuvalu has a unique history: seven islands grounded in Polynesian heritage, Nui influenced by Micronesian traditions, and the nine islands historically governed under the Niutao Council, which provided customary jurisdiction and inter-island unity. European exploration and missionary activity introduced new systems of law, education, and faith, which continue to shape Tuvalu's governance. The UK declared a protectorate over islands in 1892 and merged them with the Micronesian Gilbert Islands, and the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Protectorate became a colony in 1916. Tuvaluans voted to secede from the colony in 1974, were granted self-rule in 1975, and gained independence in 1978 as Tuvalu. However, in 1979, the US relinquished its claims to the Tuvaluan islands in a treaty of friendship[1].

1 Tuvalu - The World Factbook

Tuvalu Police Service



Commissioner Matatia Makaili

Appointed:
23 December 2024

+688 20187

police@tuvalu.tv

Human Resources[2]

Total: **134**

Sworn	134
Unsworn	0
Male	120
Female	13

Police to population ratio:
1 : 88 (est.)

Budget

2025-26: AUD 2,995,172

Rank structure

Commissioner
Superintendent
Inspector
Sergeant
Corporal
Constable

The Tuvalu Police Service (TPS) is the national police force of Tuvalu and it is headquartered in Funafuti. It includes a land police force, fire, search and rescue unit, prison, maritime wing.

In 1978, the TPS was confirmed as the national custodian of law and order, harmonizing traditional customs with statutory obligations while safeguarding Tuvalu's cultural and spiritual heritage.

TPS is vested with statutory responsibility for the preservation of public order, the protection of life and property, and the enforcement of laws enacted by the sovereign Parliament of Tuvalu.

Ministry

Office of the Prime Minister

Transnational Crime Unit

TPS have an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

TPS recruits undertake training with Fiji Police Force. Training has also been provided by regional and international policing partners.

Use of Force regime

Police officers in Tuvalu do not carry firearms, and there is no specialist armed police capability in Tuvalu.

N/A

Office of the Commissioner of Police, Tuvalu Police Service
Private Mail Bag, Vaiaku, Funafuti, Tuvalu

2 Current as of December 2025

VANUATU



GOVERNMENT
A parliamentary democracy with the President as the head of the Republic

POPULATION
322,915 (2025 est.)[1]

LANGUAGES
Bislama, English, French

CAPITAL
Port Vila

Overview

The Republic of Vanuatu is an archipelago located in the South Pacific Ocean.

Vanuatu was first inhabited by Melanesian people. Archaeological evidence indicates that, by 1300 BCE, islands in northern Vanuatu had been settled by people of the Lapita culture from Melanesian islands to the west. The first Europeans to visit the islands were a Spanish expedition led by Portuguese navigator Fernandes de Queirós, who arrived on the largest island, Espiritu Santo, in 1606. Queirós claimed the archipelago for Spain, as part of the colonial Spanish Easy Indes and and named it La Austrialia del Espíritu Santo.

In the 1880s, the Republic of France and the United Kingdom claimed parts of the archipelago, and in 1906 they agreed on a framework for jointly managing the archipelago as the New Hebrides through an Anglo-French condominium.

Independence was agreed upon at a 1977 conference in Paris attended by British, French, and New Hebridean representatives. Elections were held, and a constitution was drawn up in 1979, and the Republic of Vanuatu was founded in 1980. Since independence, the country has become a member of the United Nations, the Commonwealth of Nations, the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie and the Pacific Islands Forum.

1 Vanuatu - The World Factbook

Vanuatu Police Force



Commissioner Kalshem Bongran

Appointed: 26 May 2025

+64 04 4707 346 / 44346

picp.secretariat@police.govt.nz

Human Resources[2]

Total: **1,026**

Sworn	1,023
Unsworn	23
Male	Unknown
Female	Unknown

Police to population ratio: 1 : 316 (est.)

Budget

2025-26 VAT 1,218,778,652

Rank structure

Commissioner
Deputy Commissioner
Assistant Commissioner
Superintendent
Chief Inspector
Senior Inspector
Inspector
Senior Sergeant
Sergeant
Corporal
Constable

Under the Protocol respecting the New Hebrides (or Protocol of 1914), the French and the British governments were given joint control over the New Hebrides. As a result of the joint government of the country, all services, including the police force, were provided by both the French and British governments. During this time, each police force was run separately.

On 20 May 1980, both police forces united and came under command of Ni-Vanuatu officers. The police force was named the New Hebrides constabulary; some French and British officers were kept as advisors.

On 1 August 1980, this police force became known as the Vanuatu Police Force (VPF).

Ministry

VPF is a department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Transnational Crime Unit

VPF have an established Transnational Crime Unit and can be contacted through the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre at ptccc@ptccc.ws

Training

The Vanuatu Police Recruit Training Programme runs for 18 to 20 weeks at the Police Training College in Port Vila.

Use of Force regime

Vanuatu Police Force powers are granted by the Police Act Cap 105. The Act states: ‘Any member of the force may use all such force as may be reasonably necessary in order to prevent crime or to effect or assist in effecting a lawful arrest’.

Members of the VPF are not routinely armed but are authorised to carry firearms in specific high-risk situations

The Vanuatu Mobile Forces (VMF) is the paramilitary wing of the VPF and acts as the first line of defence should Vanuatu come under attack. Its members are armed.

police.gov.vu

Vanuatu Police Force

VANSEC House, Rue Bougainville, PMB 9014, Port Vila, Vanuatu

2 Current as of September 2025



www.picp.co.nz

PICP.Secretariat@police.govt.nz

PACIFIC ISLANDS CHIEFS OF POLICE

SECRETARIAT