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Chapter 1

168

1.1 168.guide

Texified version of data for Nauru.

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Nauru

1.2 168.guide/Nauru

Nauru

Geography (Nauru)

People (Nauru)

Government (Nauru)

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1.3 168.guide/Geography (Nauru)

Geography (Nauru)

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Location:

Oceania, 500 km north-northeast of Papua New Guinea

Map references:

Oceania, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

21 km²

land area:

21 km²

comparative area:

about one-tenth the size of Washington, DC

Land boundaries:

0 km

Coastline:

30 km

Maritime claims:

exclusive fishing zone:

200 nm

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

none

Climate:

tropical; monsoonal; rainy season (November to February)

Terrain:

sandy beach rises to fertile ring around raised coral reefs with phosphate

plateau in center

Natural resources:

phosphates

Land use:

arable land:

0%

permanent crops:

0%

meadows and pastures:

0%

forest and woodland:

0%

other:

100%

Irrigated land:

NA km²

Environment:

only 53 km south of Equator

Note:

Nauru is one of the three great phosphate rock islands in the Pacific Ocean - the others are Banaba (Ocean Island) in Kiribati and Makatea in French Polynesia

1.4 168.guide/People (Nauru)

People (Nauru)

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Population:

9,882 (July 1993 est.)

Population growth rate:

1.42% (1993 est.)

Birth rate:

18.92 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)

Death rate:

5.1 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)

Net migration rate:

0.4 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)

Infant mortality rate:

40.6 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:

total population:

66.68 years

male:

64.3 years

female:

69.18 years (1993 est.)

Total fertility rate:

2.2 children born/woman (1993 est.)

Nationality:

noun:

Nauruan(s)

adjective:

Nauruan

Ethnic divisions:

Nauruan 58%, other Pacific Islander 26%, Chinese 8%, European 8%

Religions:

Christian (two-thirds Protestant, one-third Roman Catholic)

Languages:

Nauruan (official; a distinct Pacific Island language), English widely understood, spoken, and used for most government and commercial purposes

Literacy:

total population:

NA%

male:

NA%

female:

NA%

Labor force:

by occupation:

NA

1.5 168.guide/Government (Nauru)

Government (Nauru)

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Names:

conventional long form: Republic of Nauru

conventional short form:

Nauru

former:

Pleasant Island

Digraph:

NR

Type:

republic

Capital:

no official capital; government offices in Yaren

Administrative divisions:

14 districts; Aiwo, Anabar, Anetan, Anibare, Baiti, Boe, Buada, Denigomodu, Ewa, Ijuw, Meneng, Nibok, Uaboe, Yaren

Independence:

31 January 1968 (from UN trusteeship under Australia, New Zealand, and UK)

Constitution:

29 January 1968

Legal system:

own Acts of Parliament and British common law

National holiday:

Independence Day, 31 January (1968)

Political parties and leaders:

none

Suffrage:

20 years of age; universal and compulsory

Elections:

President:

last held 19 November 1992 (next to be held NA November 1995); results - Bernard DOWIYOGO elected by Parliament

Parliament:

last held on 14 November 1992 (next to be held NA November 1995); results - percent of vote NA; seats - (18 total) independents 18

Executive branch:

president, Cabinet

Legislative branch:

unicameral Parliament

Judicial branch:

Supreme Court

Leaders:

Chief of State and Head of Government:

President Bernard DOWIYOGO (since 12 December 1989)

Member of:

AsDB, C (special), ESCAP, ICAO, INTERPOL, ITU, SPARTECA, SPC, SPF, UPU

Diplomatic representation in US:

there is a Nauruan Consulate in Agana (Guam)

US diplomatic representation:

the US Ambassador to Australia is accredited to Nauru

Flag:

blue with a narrow, horizontal, yellow stripe across the center and a large white 12-pointed star below the stripe on the hoist side; the star ← indicates

the country's location in relation to the Equator (the yellow stripe) and the 12 points symbolize the 12 original tribes of Nauru

1.6 168.guide/Economy (Nauru)

Economy (Nauru)

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Overview:

Revenues come from the export of phosphates, the reserves of which are expected to be exhausted by the year 2000. Phosphates have given Nauruans one of the highest per capita incomes in the Third World - \$10,000 annually ←

Few other resources exist, so most necessities must be imported, including fresh water from Australia. The rehabilitation of mined land and the replacement of income from phosphates are serious long-term problems. Substantial amounts of phosphate income are invested in trust funds to help cushion the transition.

National product:

GNP - exchange rate conversion - \$90 million (1989 est.)

National product real growth rate:

NA%

National product per capita:

\$10,000 (1989 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

NA%

Unemployment rate:

0%

Budget:

revenues \$69.7 million; expenditures \$51.5 million, including capital expenditures of \$NA (FY86 est.)

Exports:

\$93 million (f.o.b., 1984)

commodities:

phosphates

partners:

Australia, NZ

Imports:

\$73 million (c.i.f., 1984)

commodities:

food, fuel, manufactures, building materials, machinery

partners:

Australia, UK, NZ, Japan

External debt:

\$33.3 million

Industrial production:

growth rate NA%

Electricity:

14,000 kW capacity; 50 million kWh produced, 5,430 kWh per capita (1990)

Industries:

phosphate mining, financial services, coconut products

Agriculture:

coconuts; other agricultural activity negligible; almost completely dependent on imports for food and water

Economic aid:

Western (non-US) countries (1970-89), \$2 million

Currency:

1 Australian dollar (\$A) = 100 cents

Exchange rates:

Australian dollars (\$A) per US\$1 - 1.4837 (January 1993), 1.3600 (1992), 1.2834 (1991), 1.2799 (1990), 1.2618 (1989), 1.2752 (1988)

Fiscal year:

1 July - 30 June

1.7 168.guide/Communications (Nauru)

Communications (Nauru)

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Railroads:

3.9 km; used to haul phosphates from the center of the island to processing facilities on the southwest coast

Highways:

about 27 km total; 21 km paved, 6 km improved earth

Ports:

Nauru

Merchant marine:

1 bulk ship (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 4,426 GRT/5,750 DWT

Airports:

total:

1

useable:

1

with permanent-surface runways:

1

with runways over 3,659 m:

0

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

0

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

1

Telecommunications:

adequate local and international radio communications provided via Australian facilities; 1,600 telephones; 4,000 radios; broadcast stations - 1 AM, no FM, no TV; 1 Pacific Ocean INTELSAT earth station

1.8 168.guide/Defense Forces (Nauru)

Defense Forces (Nauru)

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Branches:

Directorate of the Nauru Police Force

note:

no regular armed forces

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 NA; fit for military service NA

Defense expenditures:

\$NA - no formal defense structure