

# Cook Islands



## 1. General Information

Population <sup>*1</sup>	20,611 (July 2001 est.)
Population density [ /km <sup>2</sup> ] <sup>*1</sup>	85.88
Languages <sup>*1</sup>	English (official), Maori
Ethnic Groups <sup>*1</sup>	Polynesian(full blood), Polynesian and European, Polynesian and non-European, European ,other
Climate <sup>*1</sup>	Tropical; moderated by trade winds
Land Area [km <sup>2</sup> ] <sup>*1</sup>	240

### Comments for General Information <sup>\*1</sup>

Named after Captain Cook, who sighted them in 1770, the islands became a British protectorate in 1888. By 1900, administrative control was transferred to New Zealand. In 1965 residents chose self-government in free association with New Zealand. The cook islands comprised of 15 islands of which 12 are inhabited.

## 2. Economy

GDP [US\$] <sup>*1</sup>	100 million (purchasing power parity, 1999)	
GDP-per capita [US\$] <sup>*1</sup>	5,000 (purchasing power parity, 1999)	
Imports [US\$] <sup>*1</sup>	85 million (1994)	
	Foodstuffs, textiles, fuels, timber, capital goods	
Exports [US\$] <sup>*1</sup>	3 million (1994)	
	Copra, papayas, fresh and canned citrus fruit, coffee; fish; pearls and pearl shells; clothing	
Composition of Sector (Ratio to GDP) <sup>*1</sup>	Agriculture & Fishery [%]	18 (1995)
	Industry [%]	9 (1995)
	Service [%]	73 (1995)

Comments for Economy <sup>\*1</sup>

Like many other South Pacific island nations, the Cook Islands' economic development is hindered by the isolation of the country from foreign markets, the limited size of domestic markets, lack of natural resources, periodic devastation from natural disasters, and inadequate infrastructure. Agriculture provides the economic base with major exports made up of copra and citrus fruit. Manufacturing activities are limited to fruit processing, clothing, and handicrafts. Trade deficits are made up for by remittances from emigrants and by foreign aid, overwhelmingly from New Zealand. In the 1980s and 1990s, the country lived beyond its means, maintaining a bloated public service and accumulating a large foreign debt. Subsequent reforms, including the sale of state assets, the strengthening of economic management, the encouragement of tourism, and a debt restructuring agreement, have rekindled investment and growth.

3. Energy

Electricity	Electricity production [kWh] <sup>*1</sup>		21 million (1999)
	Electricity consumption [kWh] <sup>*1</sup>		19.5 million (1999)
	Electricity - production by source <sup>*1</sup>		Fossil fuel: 100%; hydro: 0%; nuclear: 0%; other: 0% (1999)
Energy Resources	Production <sup>*2</sup>	Oil	0
		Coal	0
		Gas	0
	Consumption	Oil	NA
		Coal	NA
		Gas	NA

Comments for Energy <sup>\*1,\*4</sup>

To promote the tourist industry as the important source of foreign exchange and to secure economic growth, the development of renewable energy is a clue to supply enough energy to the facilities and villages, to attract the direct investment by the private sector and to be independent on imported fossil fuels. In addition, the cost of electricity supply to the outer island and isolated region are also key issues. Therefore, the small scale and distributed power supply system based on the renewable energy are one of the countermeasures to improve its economicality. Cook Islands and other island countries should make a challenge to be self-sufficient nations in the power generation for the sustainable development for the next generation. And also, the challenge to global warming is also important to this region in the future.

4. Water

Precipitation <sup>*3</sup>		1,925 mm	
Internal Renewable Water Resources <sup>*3</sup>		NA	
Population with Access to Improved Water Supply <sup>*3</sup>		100%	
Total Water Withdrawal	NA	Industry [%]	NA
		Domestic [%]	NA
		Agriculture [%]	NA

Comments for Water<sup>\*5</sup>

Water issues of Cook Islands are shown as follows:

- Freshwater management.
- Inadequate monitoring and observation facilities to protect and develop lands, underground area and marine area sustainably.
- No proper sewerage treatment resulting in increasing pollution of lagoons.
- Poor quality of water during dry period and after heavy rain.
- Government policy and planning is not transparent to the public.

5. Environment and Pollution

CO <sub>2</sub> Emission	Total metric tons	NA
	Metric tons per capita	NA

Comments for Environment<sup>\*1</sup>

- Fresh water resources are limited to reserve rainwater in natural underground reservoirs.

References

- \*1 <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook>
- \*2 <http://www.eia.doe.gov>
- \*3 <http://geodata.grid.unep.ch>
- \*4 Energy and Sustainable Development – Pacific Regional Submission to the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD9)-
- \*5 Issue raised by NGO's working in the water sector in the Pacific

Information

<http://www.ck/>

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