



Population in Nauru

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Statistics for Development Division

The 2019 Nauru mini census was carried out to update statistics on the population and the socio-economic situation of all persons living in private households (HH) in Nauru. Furthermore, the data collected in this census will be used as a sampling frame for future surveys that will be conducted in the country.

Table 1 shows the population by district as reported in the censuses of Nauru in 2002, 2011 and 2019. Between 2002 and 2019, the population increased significantly in Anetan and Baitsi and decreased in Location.

As illustrated in table 2, population of Nauru by district and by sex, the highest proportion of the HH population in 2019 is located in Meneng, 15%, whilst the lowest proportion is situated in Ijuw, 1.8%.

Table 1: Population of Nauru 2002–2019, by district

District	2002	2011	2019
Yaren	632	747	810
Boe	731	851	987
Aiwo	1,051	1,220	1,292
Buada	673	739	962
Denigomodu	292	307	397
Nibok	479	484	571
Uaboe	386	318	448
Baitsi	443	513	656
Ewa	397	446	513
Anetan	498	587	774
Anabar	378	452	418
Ijuw	169	178	212
Anibare	232	226	317
Meneng	1,323	1,380	1,729
Location	2,381	1,497	1,464
National	10,065	9,945	11,550

Table 2: Population of Nauru, by district and by sex

District	Total	Male	Female	%
Yaren	810	403	407	7.0%
Boe	987	504	483	8.5%
Aiwo	1,292	676	616	11.2%
Buada	962	479	483	8.3%
Denigomodu	397	201	196	3.4%
Nibok	571	298	273	4.9%
Uaboe	448	218	230	3.9%
Baitsi	656	321	335	5.7%
Ewa	513	278	235	4.4%
Anetan	774	392	382	6.7%
Anabar	418	207	211	3.6%
Ijuw	212	102	110	1.8%
Anibare	317	153	164	2.7%
Meneng	1,729	888	841	15.0%
Location	1,464	751	713	12.7%
National	11,550	5,871	5,679	100.0%

In figure 1, the population of Nauru by broad age groups shows that approximately 37% (4,306 persons) of the population consists of persons below the age of 15 years. More than a quarter (3,179 persons) of the population is 15–29 years old. There is evidently a trend; the proportion of the total population decreases as the age increases.

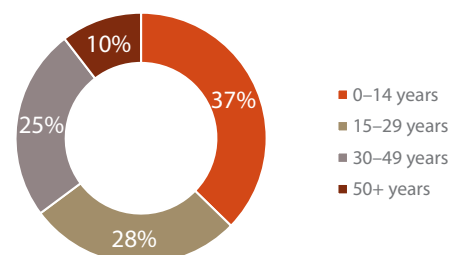


Figure 1: Population of Nauru, by broad age groups

Figure 2 shows the distribution of the population of Nauru, by age group and sex. The shape of the population pyramid is a wide base with a narrow top, which suggests high fertility and a growing population, or out-migration of Nauruans aged 15 years and over.

Additionally, there are about the same proportion of males and females in all of the age groups. However, it is evident that the proportion of males slightly exceeds that of females for the younger age groups, 0–14 and 15–29, while for the older age groups, 30–49 and 50 years and older, the proportion of females is greater than that of males. This possibly indicates a lower life expectancy of males or a higher rate of out-migration of males.

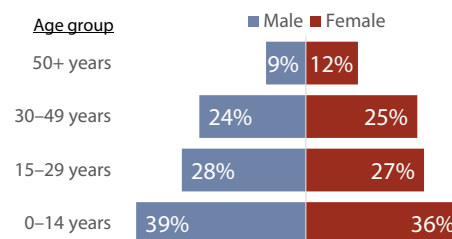


Figure 2: Population of Nauru, by age group and sex

As presented in figure 3, the majority of the population is located in the district Meneng, which consists of over 1,700 persons. This significantly differs from Ijuw district, which has the smallest population of 212 persons.

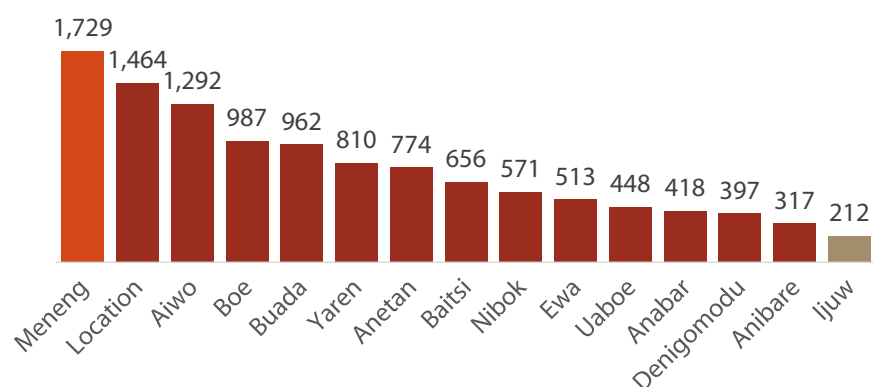


Figure 3: Population of Nauru by district

Dependency ratio

The [dependency ratio](#) refers to the number of persons of non-working age (ages 0–14 and 65 and older) who are dependent on the working-age population (ages 15–64). Data are shown as the proportion of dependents per 100 working-age population, where higher values indicate a higher number of dependent persons per person of economically active age.

As Nauru has a relatively large number of young persons, it is not surprising that the country has a high dependency ratio (64.7), as shown in figure 4. The districts with the highest level of dependency include Anabar, Denigomodu, Anetan and Location, which have dependency ratios of 74.2, 71.1, 70.5 and 70.4, respectively. The districts Boe, Aiwo and Buada, have the lowest level of dependency of 58.2, 56.0 and 55.2, respectively.

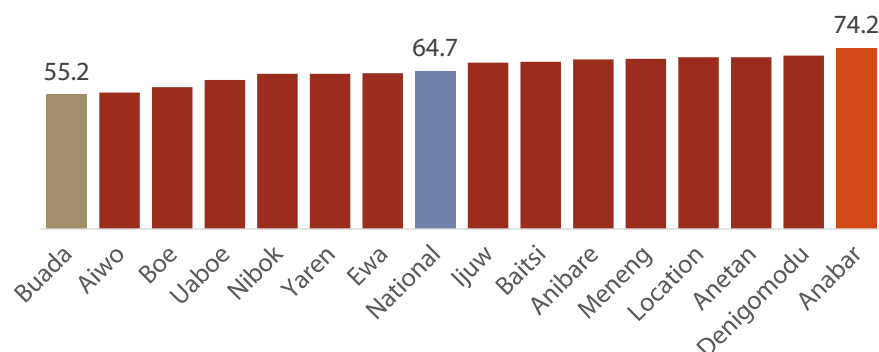


Figure 4: Dependency ratio of Nauru, by district

Sex ratio

The [sex ratio](#) refers to the proportion of males to females in a population. Table 3, population of Nauru by district and sex ratio, suggests that, nationally, there are about the same number of males to females (a ratio of 1.03, or 103 males for every 100 females). However, it should be noted that for the district Ewa, it has a much greater proportion of males than females (a ratio of 1.18). Conversely, the districts of Ijuw and Anibare have a higher proportion of females, with both districts having a sex ratio of 0.93.

Table 3: Population of Nauru by district and sex ratio (males vs. females)

District	Male	Female	Sex ratio
Yaren	403	407	0.99
Boe	504	483	1.04
Aiwo	676	616	1.10
Buada	479	483	0.99
Denigomodu	201	196	1.03
Nibok	298	273	1.09
Uaboe	218	230	0.95
Baitsi	321	335	0.96
Ewa	278	235	1.18
Anetan	392	382	1.03
Anabar	207	211	0.98
Ijuw	102	110	0.93
Anibare	153	164	0.93
Meneng	888	841	1.06
Location	751	713	1.05
National	5,871	5,679	1.03

Nationality

From the analysis on the population of Nauru by nationality and sex, it can be concluded that the majority of the population is Nauruan (95.4%). This is followed by i-Kiribati (2.1%), Fijian (0.7%), Tuvaluan (0.4%), Chinese (0.3%), Australian and New Zealand (0.2%) and other countries (0.8%).

Marital status

Figure 5, marital status of Nauruans aged 15 years and older, shows that a large proportion of the population is classified as either married (43.3%) or never married (35.9%), while a lower proportion of persons are widowed (4.8%), separated (2.0%) or divorced (1.0%).

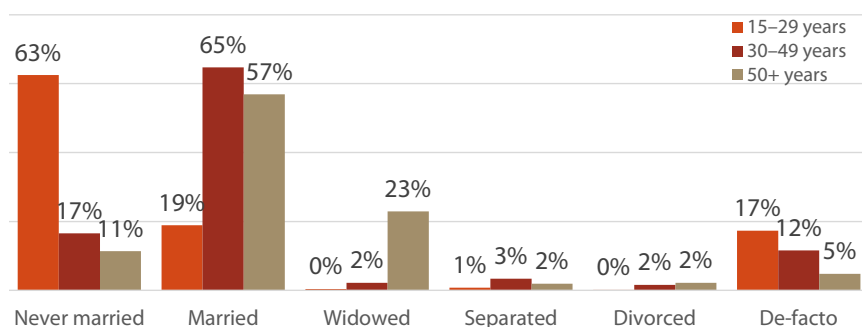


Figure 5: Marital status of Nauruans aged 15+ years

In the context of marital status for the different age groups, a key trend exists among all of the age groups — a small proportion of persons are widowed, separated or divorced. In the case of ages 15–29 years, a large proportion of the population has never been married (62.5%), whilst for ages 30–49 years, a large proportion of the population is married (64.8%). For the age group 50-plus years, a moderate proportion of the population is married (56.9%) or widowed (22.9%).

Internet usage

Internet usage in Nauru for persons aged 15 years and older shows that the vast majority of the population accesses the internet from home (72.3%). A moderate proportion either access the internet at work (8.7%) or have not used it in the last 12-months (16.4%). The internet is rarely used at an internet café (0.1 %), at a friend's or relative's place (0.6%), at an educational institution (0.3%) or other locations (1.6%).

Figure 6 illustrates the proportion of the population of Nauru that uses the internet, by age group. The figure shows that the internet is primarily accessed by persons aged 15–34 years (62.1%). This significantly differs from persons aged 75 and onward, who rarely use the internet (0.1%). There is evidently a trend in the data; the proportion of internet usage declines as age increases.

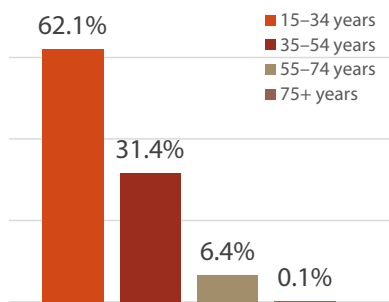


Figure 6: Internet usage of Nauruans, by age group



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Household composition

The number of HHs remained stable between 2002 and 2011 with respectively 1,652 and 1,647 HHs. In 2019, this number increased to 1,895 private HHs. The overall average HH size — the number of people per HH — remains high at 6.7 in 2019 as compared to 6 both in 2002 and 2011. There are more overcrowded HHs (16 people and more) in Anibare, Anetan and Ewa as shown in Figure 7.

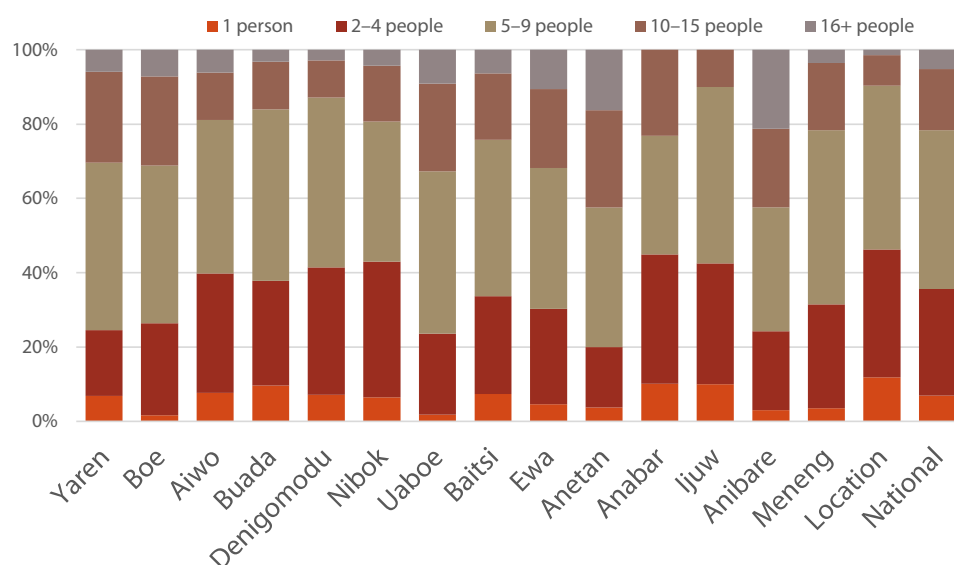


Figure 7: Household size, by household size groups and district

Table 4 presents the average HH size as reported in the 2002, 2011 and 2019 census. The average HH size remained fairly constant between 2002 and 2011, but experienced a raise of 13% between 2011 and 2019. Districts having the lowest average HH size in 2019 are Location (5.2) and Ijuw (5.3) while those having the highest are Anetan (9.7) and Anibare (9.6).

Table 5 demonstrates that the HH composition of Nauru in 2019 mostly consists of male HH heads (17.7%). The mostly present relatives in HHs are biological sons/daughters with 34.1%.

Table 4: Average household size, by district

District	2002	2011	2019
Yaren	7.7	7.4	7.9
Boe	6	6.5	7.9
Aiwo	6	5.9	6.6
Buada	7	5.6	6.2
Denigomodu	5.5	5.6	5.7
Nibok	6.9	6.9	6.1
Uaboe	7.5	8.2	8.1
Baitsi	9.1	7.5	6.9
Ewa	5.9	7.3	7.8
Anetan	8.1	6.5	9.7
Anabar	8.8	7.2	6.1
Ijuw	7	6.4	5.3
Anibare	7.2	6.6	9.6
Meneng	6.6	5.7	6.8
Location	4.3	4.6	5.2
National	6	6	6.7

Table 5: Relationship to head of household, by sex

Relationship	Total	Male	Female
Head of household	14.8%	17.7%	11.9%
Household head spouse	9.0%	4.6%	13.5%
Biological son/daughter	34.1%	34.5%	33.7%
Grandchild	19.8%	20.5%	19.0%
Son/Daughter in law	5.4%	5.8%	5.0%
Nephew/Niece	5.8%	6.2%	5.5%
Father/Mother (parent)	0.2%	0.1%	0.4%
Grandfather/Grandmother	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%
Other relatives	10.1%	9.9%	10.3%
Not relative/Visitor	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%

Household characteristics

Most dwellings in Nauru have roofs made of tin/aluminium (93.4% in total) while respectively 3.6% and 3% of roofs are made of asbestos and other materials.

Figure 8 shows that majority of dwelling roofs are fully working (55.8%), 30.5% need to be repaired while up to 13.7% need to be replaced. Anibare and Denigomodu have the highest rates of “Needs replacing” (with respectively 27.3% and 25.7%) while Ewa and Location have the lowest rates (4.5% and 5.7% respectively).

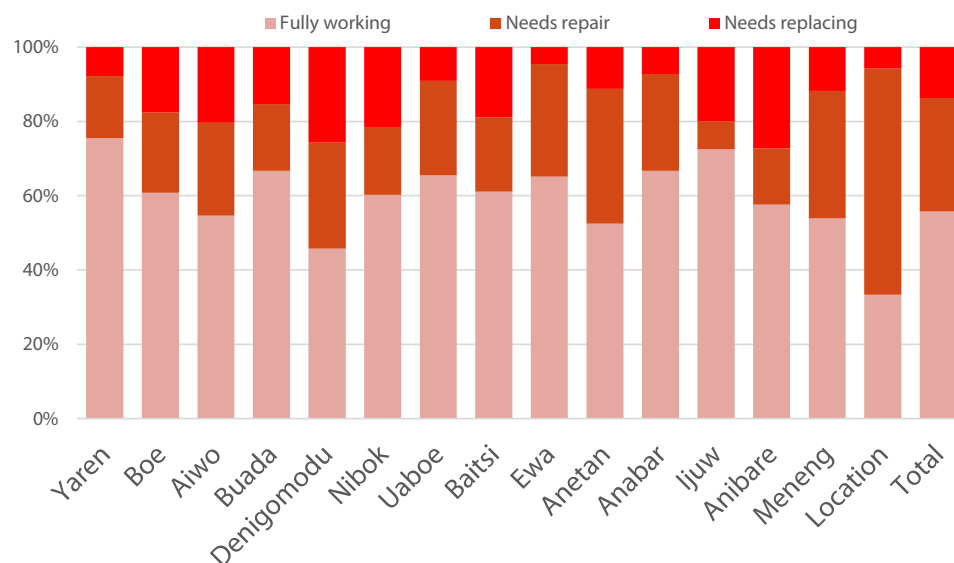


Figure 8: Roofing conditions, by district