NAURL

Demographic, economic and gender profile

Factsheet





Land area 20 km²



Gross Domestic Product (GDP) GDP (million, current USD, 2017): 113.9 GDP per capita (current USD, 2017): 8344

GDP growth rate (%, average 2010-2017): 15.4

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators database for land area, GDP and population indicators, UNFPA Pacific Sub-regional Office (2014) for life expectancy.



Population

Total (2017): 13,649 Density (per km², 2017): 682 Urban (% of total, 2017): 100 Life expectancy (years, 2016, male/female): 58/63

2019



Human Development

Human Development Index (HDI1): ... HDI rank: .. Population below income poverty line² (%): ... Gini Index3: ... UN LDC group: No

Nauru's sectoral structure of economic activity (share of GDP in per cent, 2016)



Source: Calculations based on UNCTADstat Database



KEY FACTS

- The services sector remains the main source of employment in Nauru.
- As in the other 9PICs,⁴ Nauru's small market prevents it from enjoying the potential benefits of economies of scale. This, combined with geographical remoteness, creates difficulties for the country to integrate into international markets.

Note:

- ¹ HDI is a composite index that integrates three basic dimensions of human development: life expectancy at birth as a proxy of the ability to live a long and healthy life; mean of years of schooling and expected years of schooling as a proxy of acquired knowledge; and gross national income per capita as a proxy of the ability to achieve a decent standard of living. An HDI close to zero indicates greater distance from the maximum that can be achieved on the factors entering the HDI and vice versa. For technical details, see http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-index-hdi.
- ² Based on USD (PPP) 1.90 per day.
- ³ The Gini coefficient measures the deviation of the distribution of income among individuals or households from a perfectly equal distribution. A coefficient of 0 represents perfect income equality (all persons or households have the same income) and a value of 1, perfect income inequality (all income is concentrated by one person or one household).
- ⁴ Nine Pacific Island Countries Signatories of the PACER Plus (9PICs).



Trade profile

Nauru's membership in trade agreements

Agreement	Scope
South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement (SPARTECA)	Duty free access to the markets of Australia and New Zealand
The Cotonou Agreement	Development; political; economic and trade cooperation. From "non-reciprocal" trade preferences in favour of Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries to reciprocal trade preferences through Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs)
The Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA)	Progressive reduction/elimination of tariffs among member countries
Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER) Plus	Trade in goods and services, temporary movement of skilled workers, investment, development and economic cooperation
General Scheme of Preferences (GSP)	Beneficiaries have duty free or preferential access to the donor country markets

Source: UNCTAD Secretariat

Nauru's trade composition by product group between 2015–2017

(per cent shares)



Nauru's main export and import products (2015-2017 average)

EXPORTS (share of total)



Source: Calculations based on UNCTADstat Database

Source: Calculations based on UNCTADstat Database



Nauru's main export and import partners (2015-2017 average)



KEY FACTS

- Merchandise exports as a percentage of GDP in Nauru decreased from almost 31 per cent to almost 17 between 2005–2007 and 2015–2017. Merchandise imports also experienced a substantial decrease from 160 to 64 per cent of GDP for the same periods.⁵
- The technological classification of trade⁶ for the period 2015–2017 shows that almost 63 per cent of Nauru's exports are primary products, followed by medium technology manufacture (about 22 per cent). Most imports are resource-based manufactures (26 per cent), medium technology manufactures (23.5 per cent), and unclassified products (20.8 per cent).
- Nauru maintains a high dependence on few export products (e.g. crude fertilizers) as shown by its concentration index⁷ (which slightly decreased from 0.74 for the period 1995-1997 to 0.62 for 2015-2017). Its concentration index of imports slightly increased from 0.18 to 0.23 during these periods.
- Nauru's main export markets (during the period 1995– 1997 and 2015–2017⁸) were developing Asia (with more than 25 per cent of the country's exports in both periods) and developed Oceania –the importance of the latter has significantly decreased (from almost 60 to about 31 per cent).

On the other hand, developed economies in Asia have gained importance as export partners for Nauru during the same periods (from more than 3 to almost 18 per cent). Australia, Japan, India and Nigeria are Nauru's leading export partners.

- Developed economies in Oceania are main import partners for Nauru. Imports originating in that region account for almost 68 per cent of total imports (for 2015–2017). Countries of developing Oceania have also increased their relative importance as import partners for Nauru (from 0.04 in 1995–1997 to almost 14.3 per cent for 2015–2017). Australia and Fiji's are Nauru's leading import partners.
- Nauru is not a member of the WTO.
- Nauru is a member of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF).⁹

Gender profile

KEY FACTS

- Gender gaps in school enrolment at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels favour women (UNFPA Pacific Sub-regional Office 2014).
- Youth (15–24 years old) literacy in Nauru is high (more than 90 per cent) for both the male and female population.
- The Labour Force Participation rate in 2013 was 82 per cent for men and 57 per cent for women; among the youth (15-24 years old) it was 68 per cent for men and 36 per cent for women.
- 80 per cent of employed women work in the services sector;
 12 per cent in industry and 2 per cent in agriculture
- Women are mainly employed in the following services sectors: Public administration, community, social, personal and similar services (56 per cent); Finance (14 per cent); Trade including wholesale, retail trade and repair (8 per cent) and tourism including accommodation and food services (7 per cent).

Note:

⁹ PIF is the region's premier political and economic policy organization.

 $^{^{\}rm 5}$ Information for services exports and imports is not available in the UNCTAD stat Database.

⁶ Lall (2000).

⁷ The Concentration Index or Herfindahl-Hirschmann Index is a measure of the degree of product concentration of exports (or imports). Values close to 1 indicate that exports (or imports) are highly concentrated in a few products while values close to 0 indicate a more homogeneous distribution of exports (or imports) among a wider range of products (UNCTADstat).

 $^{^{\}rm 8}$ These periods have been chosen to consider whether there have been significant changes after two decades.



- Nauru's Public Service Act provides specific measures to protect women working in the public sector.
- The 2014 Nauru National Women's Policy recognises the importance of women participation in decision making, of equality at the workplace and of access to education and health. It also strengthens Nauru's Women's Affairs Department and provide for enhanced capacity of government departments to mainstream gender equality programs.
- In 2016, Nauru's reform of the *Crimes Act* broadened the definition of rape and criminalised marital rape. *The 2016 Child Protection Policy* and the *2017 Domestic Violence and Family Protection Act* provide legal protection and services for survivors of violence, with the latter establishing a safety and protection order system.



Number of women and men in Parliament, 2018

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union (2018)

Ratified International Conventions or Commitments	Gender in trade policy	Other Gender Programmes
Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) (1993)	Gender considerations are not part of Nauru's trade policy frameworks.	Advancing Gender Justice in the Pacific (AGJP, UN Women)
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, CEDAW (2011)		Ending Violence Against Women (EVAW, UN Women)
Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995)		Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE, UN Women)
Agenda 2030 (2015)		Increasing Community Resilience through Empowerment of Women to Address Climate Change and Natural Hazards Programme (IREACH, UN Women)

Nauru's gender inputs

Sources: Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute; University of the South Pacific's School of Law; UN Women – Asia-Pacific (2018).