

Population

- ❑ The total population of the Cook Islands enumerated during the 2006 Census increased by 1,553 (8.6%) when compared to the 2001 census. This count included a large number of visitors. At this point the final results for the Northern Group Islands have been released.
- ❑ All islands except for Rarotonga and Aitutaki showed a decline in population with Manihiki affected the most followed by Pukapuka and Penrhyn. Population growth rate for Rarotonga peaked at 3.0%, the highest since 1966. Offsetting to this was the massive decline in the Northern Group population bringing Cook Islands population growth rate to 1.7%. Another interesting factor is the Age Dependency ratio with 61 persons dependent on every 100 working persons. This is an indicator of the economic burden the productive portion of the population must carry.
- ❑ Population distribution shows that over 70% of the population is resident in Rarotonga increasing by 20% over the last 10 years. The sex ratio is about 103 males per 100 females.
- ❑ Estimated total population for 2008 was 22,100 with total registered birth at 261 averaging to nearly 1 child born per day. Crude birth rate is estimated at 18.4 per thousand resident population or 1.8%. Infant mortality rate (deaths to under 1 year age per 1,000 live births) for 2008 decreased from 13.8 per thousand in 2007 to 3.8 per thousand in 2008. In real numbers there was 1 infant death in 2008. Total death is below 100 per annum, but this number do not reflect deaths of Cook Islanders occurring abroad.
- ❑ Total marriages officiated in the Cook Islands for 2008 was 702 (averaging 2 marriages per day) decreased by 10.6% (83) over 2007. Over 90% of these marriages were non residents, a factor of the Cook islands being marketed as a South Seas wedding and honeymoon destination.
- ❑ A total of 4,504 dwellings were reported to be occupied during the 2006 Census, of which 4,305 were Private and 199 were Non Private. This does not include Vacant houses.

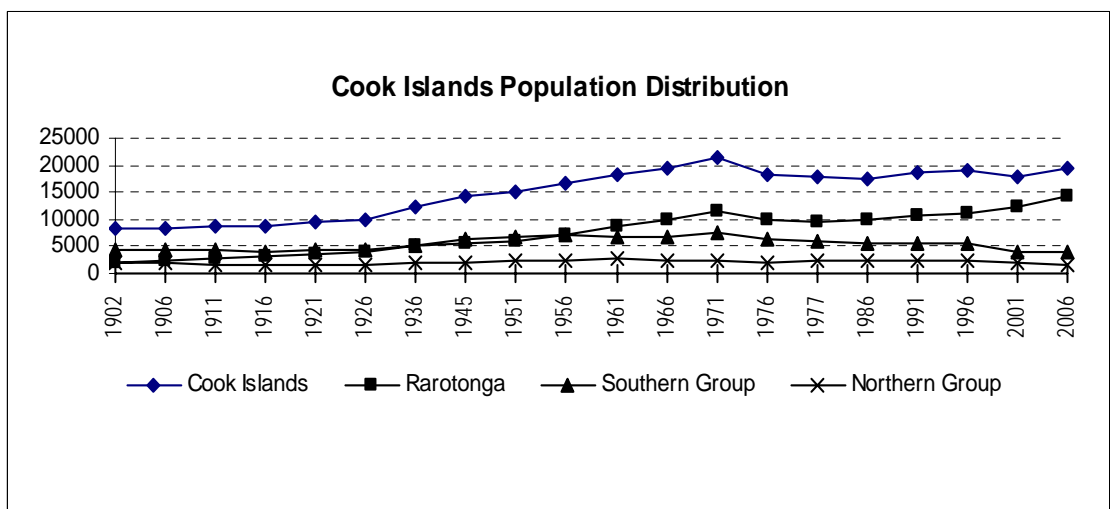


Table 1:1 Total Population and Land Area by Island

Census Year	Cook Islands	Rarotonga	Aitutaki	Mangaia	Atiu	Mauke	Mitiaro	Manuae	Manihiki	Penrhyn	Rakahanga	Pukapuka	Nassau	Tongareva	Suvarrow
	Land area in square kilometre														
	236.7	67.1	18.3	51.8	26.9	18.4	22.3	6.2	5.4	9.8	4.1	1.3	1.3	2.1	0.4
	Population														
1902	8,213	2,060	1,170	1,541	918	370	165	10	484	445	400	505	0	115	30
1906	8,518	2,441	1,162	1,531	918	446	210	0	521	420	352	435	0	82	0
1911	8,655	2,759	1,237	1,471	812	457	199	29	444	335	315	490	0	107	0
1916	8,805	3,064	1,302	1,245	759	490	237	23	493	326	295	474	0	90	7
1921	9,459	3,503	1,373	1,230	837	578	207	0	432	376	310	530	0	83	0
1926	10,082	3,936	1,431	1,249	933	511	238	23	416	395	327	526	0	97	0
1936	12,246	5,054	1,719	1,459	1,086	652	265	8	487	467	290	651	18	90	0
1945	14,088	5,573	2,356	1,845	1,114	804	229	28	435	654	318	662	0	65	5
1951	15,079	6,048	2,396	1,830	1,270	836	305	20	816	527	261	559	124	87	0
1956	16,680	7,212	2,565	1,970	1,307	815	275	32	661	619	341	638	110	77	58
1961	18,378	8,676	2,582	1,877	1,266	785	307	18	1,006	628	319	718	109	86	1
1966	19,247	9,971	2,579	2,002	1,327	671	293	15	584	545	323	684	167	86	0
1971	21,322	11,478	2,855	2,081	1,455	763	331	2	452	612	339	732	160	62	0
1976	18,126	9,802	2,423	1,530	1,312	710	305	0	266	531	283	785	123	56	0
1981	17,743	9,530	2,335	1,364	1,225	681	256	0	405	608	269	797	137	51	0
1986	17,614	9,826	2,390	1,229	957	692	273	0	508	497	282	761	119	66	6
1991	18,617	10,886	2,357	1,214	1,006	639	247	0	663	503	262	670	102	49	10
1996	19,103	11,225	2,389	1,108	956	652	319	0	668	606	249	779	99	49	4
2001	18,027	12,188	1,946	744	623	470	230	0	515	357	169	664	72	48	1
2006 ⁽¹⁾	19,570	14,155	2,204	640	569	390	219	0	353	254	141	507	75	63	0

NOTE: ⁽¹⁾ Preliminary results and is likely to change. As at date of publication, Northern Group population have been revised

Table 1:2 Average Annual Inter-censal Population Growth Rate and Dependency Ratio

Census Year	Cook Islands		Rarotonga		Southern Group		Northern Group	
	Growth Rate (%)	Dependency Ratio	Growth Rate (%)	Dependenc Ratio	Growth Rate (%)	Dependency Ratio	Growth Rate (%)	Dependency Ratio
1906	0.9	...	4.2	...	0.6	...	-2.2	...
1911	0.3	...	2.4	...	-0.3	...	-1.4	...
1916	0.3	...	2.1	...	-0.7	...	-0.1	...
1921	1.4	...	2.7	...	0.8	...	0.5	...
1926	1.3	...	2.3	...	0.7	...	0.3	...
1936	3.9	...	5.0	...	3.4	...	2.6	...
1945	2.8	...	2.0	...	4.1	...	1.3	...
1951	1.4	...	1.6	...	0.9	...	2.1	...
1956 ⁽³⁾	2.0	95.0	3.5	84.4	0.9	108.8	1.1	91.6
1961	1.9	110.2	3.7	91.5	-0.4	139.3	2.7	110.2
1966	0.9	123.4	2.8	105.3	0.2	151.1	-3.6	135.1
1971	2.0	121.3	2.8	103.6	1.7	148.4	-0.3	139.8
1976	-3.2	115.6	-3.2	94.5	-3.5	146.4	-2.9	149.1
1981	-0.5	91.8	-0.6	76.1	-1.3	113.4	2.1	116.8
1986	-0.1	75.4	0.6	60.2	-1.2	95.5	-0.2	101.6
1991 ⁽¹⁾	1.1	67.3	2.0	54.4	-0.3	86.5	0.2	89.9
1996 ⁽²⁾	0.5	79.0	0.6	68.0	-0.1	94.7	1.6	100.1
2001 ⁽²⁾	-1.2	68.5	1.6	58.6	-6.0	94.2	-5.9	93.2
2006 ⁽²⁾	1.6	61.0	3.0	53.6	0.0	82.1	-5.4	90.9

NOTE: ⁽¹⁾ Dependency Ratio for the years prior to 1991 is the ratio of the population less than 15 years and greater than 64 years compared to the population, 15 to 64 years of age.

⁽²⁾ Dependency Ratio for the years 1996, 2001 and 2006 is the ratio of the population less than 15 years and greater than 59 years compared to the population, 15 to 59 years of age.

⁽³⁾ Population for the years prior to 1956 were head counts only.

Table 1:3 Population by Sex

Census Year	Cook Islands		Rarotonga		Percentage Distribution		Sex Ratio
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Rarotong	Outer Islands	
1936	6,376	5,870	2,649	2,405	41.3	58.7	108.6
1945	7,185	6,903	2,879	2,694	39.6	60.4	104.1
1951	7,827	7,252	3,211	2,837	40.1	59.9	107.9
1956	8,695	7,985	3,805	3,407	43.2	56.8	108.9
1961	9,454	8,924	4,470	4,206	47.2	52.8	105.9
1966	9,749	9,498	5,047	4,924	51.8	48.2	102.6
1971	10,910	10,413	5,917	5,561	53.8	46.2	104.8
1976	9,294	8,834	5,080	4,722	54.1	45.9	105.2
1981	9,109	8,564	4,933	4,597	53.9	46.1	106.4
1986	9,188	8,426	5,143	4,683	55.8	44.2	109.0
1991	9,697	8,920	5,619	5,267	58.5	41.5	108.7
1996	9,842	9,261	5,730	5,495	58.8	41.2	106.3
2001	9,303	8,724	6,259	5,929	67.6	32.4	106.6
2006	9,931	9,639	7,166	6,989	72.3	27.7	103.1

Table 1:4 Population Estimates & Vital Statistics

Period	Total Population Estimate	Resident Estimate ⁽⁴⁾	Total Births	Crude Birth Rate ⁽²⁾	Total Deaths	Crude Death Rate ⁽²⁾	Natural Increase	Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rate ⁽³⁾	Marriages
YEAR ⁽¹⁾										
1967	19,400	...	817	42.1	162	8.4	34
1968	20,000	...	901	45.1	163	8.2	37
1969	20,500	...	831	40.5	135	6.6	34
1970	20,800	...	773	37.2	168	8.1	29	41	53.0	...
1971	21,200	...	775	36.6	147	6.9	30	35	45.2	...
1972	21,300	...	703	33.0	104	4.9	28	24	34.1	...
1973	20,900	...	673	32.2	118	5.6	27	24	35.7	...
1974	19,900	...	567	28.5	108	5.4	23	19	33.5	...
1975	19,200	...	516	26.9	125	6.5	20	23	44.6	...
1976	18,400	...	458	24.9	107	5.8	19	15	32.8	...
1977	18,400	...	505	27.4	173	9.4	18	16	31.7	...
1978	18,500	...	520	28.1	163	8.8	19	20	38.5	...
1979	18,200	...	468	25.7	117	6.4	19	18	38.5	...
1980	17,900	...	492	27.5	125	7.0	21	12	24.4	...
1981	17,400	...	461	26.5	102	5.9	21	9	19.5	...
1982	17,400	...	439	25.2	132	7.6	18	13	29.6	...
1983	17,400	...	414	23.8	132	7.6	16	9	21.7	...
1984	17,100	...	420	24.6	115	6.7	18	5	11.9	94
1985	17,200	...	423	24.6	137	8.0	17	12	28.4	113
1986	16,700	...	430	25.7	119	7.1	19	12	27.9	117
1987	16,500	...	408	24.7	128	7.8	17	12	29.4	91
1988	17,700	...	434	24.5	97	5.5	19	5	11.5	122
1989	16,500	...	448	27.2	97	5.9	21	12	26.8	118
1990	17,000	...	481	28.3	130	7.6	21	12	24.9	130
1991	18,200	...	463	25.4	137	7.5	18	12	25.9	174
1992	19,000	17,500	510	29.1	104	5.9	23	3	5.9	169
1993	19,700	17,300	494	28.6	101	5.8	23	5	10.1	224
1994	19,500	18,400	548	29.8	110	6.0	24	3	5.5	237
1995	19,400	18,400	490	26.6	102	5.5	21	3	6.1	252
1996	20,000	18,800	510	27.1	110	5.9	21	12	23.5	210
1997	18,200	17,400	413	23.7	144	8.3	15	15	36.3	229
1998	17,300	16,600	386	23.3	108	6.5	17	8	20.7	259
1999	16,400	15,500	361	23.3	96	6.2	17	5	13.9	387
2000	17,900	15,000	309	20.6	115	7.7	13	6	19.4	715
2001	18,100	14,000	313	22.4	88	6.3	16	4	12.8	578
2002	18,400	14,800	292	19.7	97	6.6	13	2	6.8	604
2003	18,400	13,900	298	21.4	87	6.3	15	5	16.8	623
2004	20,300	13,500	297	22.0	99	7.3	15	5	16.8	645
2005	20,200	12,400	280	22.6	91	7.3	15	6	21.4	755
2006	20,700	11,800	278	23.6	85	7.2	16	3	10.8	707
2007 (p)	21,000	14,000	289	20.6	87	6.2	14	4	13.8	785
2008 (p)	21,200	13,000	261	20.1	58	4.5	16	1	3.8	702

- Note :
- (1) Annual population is estimated at mid year or June Quarter
 - (2) Crude birth rate and crude death rate are calculated per thousand Resident Population as of 1992
 - (3) Infant mortality rate is calculated per thousand births
 - (4) Resident population comprises only those normally resident in the Cook Islands

Table 1:5 Private (occupied) Dwellings and Total Non Private Dwellings

Island	1996		2001		2006		% Change over 2001	
	Private	Non Private	Private	Non-Private	Private	Non-Private	Private	Non Private
COOK ISLANDS	4,153	42	3,880	162	4,308	201	11.0	24.1
RAROTONGA	2,569	33	2,531	138	2,964	159	17.1	15.2
SOUTHERN GROUP (excluding Rarotonga)	1,127	9	965	22	1,018	39	5.5	77.3
Aitutaki	496	6	435	17	511	25	17.5	47.1
Mangaia	237	0	197	2	180	4	-8.6	100.0
Atiu	197	1	161	2	158	6	-1.9	200.0
Mauke	133	2	110	0	105	2	-4.5	0.0
Mitiaro	64	0	62	1	64	2	3.2	100.0
NORTHERN GROUP	457	0	384	2	326	3	-15.1	50.0
Manihiki	149	0	117	1	95	1	-18.8	0.0
Penrhyn	113	0	83	1	71	2	-14.5	100.0
Rakahanga	42	0	32	0	31	0	-3.1	0.0
Pukapuka	120	0	124	0	96	0	-22.6	0.0
Nassau	21	0	15	0	15	0	0.0	0.0
Palmerston	11	0	12	0	18	0	50.0	0.0
Suvarrow	1	0	1	0	0	0	-100.0	0.0

