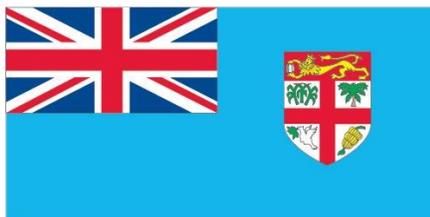




# FIJI



## INTRODUCTION

Fiji became independent in 1970 after nearly a century as a British colony. Coups and a 1990 constitution that cemented native Melanesian control of Fiji led to heavy Indian emigration. The population loss resulted in economic difficulties, but ensured that Melanesians became the majority. A new constitution enacted in 1997 was more equitable.

## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

President Jioji Konousi KONROTE

### Head of Government

Prime Minister Voreqe "Frank" BAINIMARAMA

### Government Type

parliamentary republic

### Capital

Suva

### Legislature

unicameral Parliament (51 seats)

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 18,274 sq km  
Land: 18,274 sq km  
Water: 0 sq km

### Climate

tropical marine; only slight seasonal temperature variation

### Natural Resources

timber, fish, gold, copper, offshore oil potential, hydropower

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

tourism-based Pacific island economy, susceptible to sea-level rises; new energy infrastructure investments; major foreign direct investment; COVID-19 crippled tourism sector; privatizing state-owned enterprises; military coups have destabilized labor force  
**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$9.86 billion (2020 est.)  
**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$11,000 (2020 est.)  
**Industries** - tourism, sugar processing, clothing, copra, gold, silver, lumber

**Agricultural products** - sugarcane, cassava, taro, poultry, vegetables, coconuts, eggs, milk, ginger, sweet potatoes

**Exports** \$1.23 billion (2020 est.)

water, refined petroleum, fish, raw sugar, gold (2019)  
**partners:** US 29%, Australia 14%, New Zealand 7%, Japan 6%, Tonga 6% (2019)

**Imports** \$1.97 billion (2020 est.)

refined petroleum, aircraft, cars, wheat, broadcasting equipment (2019)

**partners:** Singapore 18%, Australia 13%, China 13.8%, New Zealand 11%, France 11%, South Korea 8% (2019)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

939,540 (July 2021 est.)

### Population Growth

0.46% (2021 est.)

### Ethnicity

iTaukei 56.8% (predominantly Melanesian with a Polynesian admixture), Indo-Fijian 37.5%, Rotuman 1.2%, other 4.5% (European, part European, other Pacific Islanders, Chinese) (2007 est.)

### Language

English (official), iTaukei (official), Fiji Hindi (official)

### Religion

Protestant 45%, Hindu 27.9%, other Christian 10.4%, Roman Catholic 9.1%, Muslim 6.3%, Sikh 0.3%, other 0.3%, none 0.8% (2007 est.)

### Urbanization

urban population: 57.7% of total population (2021)  
rate of urbanization: 1.37% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)

