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.)