NIUE

INTRODUCTION
Samoans settled Niue in about A.D. 900, followed by Tongans around 1500. In 1889, tribal chiefs asked the UK for protectorate status, which was granted in 1900. In 1901, Niue was annexed to New Zealand as part of the Cook Islands. Niue became self-governing in 1974, in free association with New Zealand, which is responsible for its defense and foreign affairs.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
Queen ELIZABETH II; represented by Governor-General of New Zealand Cindy KIRO, the UK and New Zealand are represented by New Zealand High Commissioner Helen TUNNAH

Head of Government
Premier Dalton TAGELAGI

Government Type
parliamentary democracy

Capital
Alofi

Legislature
unicameral Assembly or Fono Ekepule (20 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 260 sq km
Land: 260 sq km
Water: 0 sq km

Climate
tropical; modified by southeast trade winds

Natural Resources
arable land, fish

as of April 2022

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
upper-middle-income self-governing New Zealand territorial economy; massive emigration; postage stamps, small-scale agricultural processing, and subsistence farming; depends on New Zealand subsidies; EU preferential market access not utilized

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $10.01 million (2003 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $5,800 (2003 est.)

Industries – handicrafts, food processing

Agricultural products – coconuts, taro, fruit, sweet potatoes, tropical fruit, yams, vegetables, lemons, limes, bananas

Exports $201,400 (2004 est.)
- tanker ships, fruit juice, thermostats, textiles, measurement devices/appliances (2019)
- partners: Indonesia 92%, South Korea 5% (2019)

Imports $9.038 million (2004 est.)
- hydraulic engines, ships, refined petroleum, cars, plastics (2019)
- partners: New Zealand 43%, UK 30%, Japan 22% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
2,000 (2021 est.)

Population Growth
-0.03% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity
Niuean 65.4%, part-Niuean 14%, non-Niueans 20.6% (2017 est.)

Language
Niuean 65.4%, Niuean and English 32%, English (official) 11%, Niuean and others 5%, other 6% (2011 est.)

Religion
Ekalesia Niue (Congregational Christian Church of Niue – a Protestant church founded by missionaries from the London Missionary Society) 61.7%, Church of Jesus Christ 8.7%, Roman Catholic 8.4%, Jehovah’s Witness 2.7%, Seventh Day Adventist 1.4%, other 8.2%, none 8.9% (2017 est.)

Urbanization
- urban population: 47.6% of total population (2022)
- rate of urbanization: 1.43% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)