

TOKELAU

2015/16 HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SURVEY (HIES)

TABULATION AND SUMMARY REPORT

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Tokelau National Statistics Office

Office of the Council for the Ongoing Government of Tokelau

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KEY RESULTS

POPULATION (PERSONS AND HOUSEHOLDS)

| Population (persons and HHs) | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Resident population (2015) | 1,159 |
| Number of HHs (2015) | 251 |
| Average HH size | 4.6 |
| Median age | 25 |

EXPENDITURE

| Expenditure type | National (NZ\$) | Percentage |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Cash expenditure | 5,693,900 | 80.6% |
| Home production (subsistence, gross) | 547,800 | 7.7% |
| Imputed rents | 708,500 | 10.0% |
| Income in-kind from employer | 112,110 | 1.6% |
| Total expenditure | 7,062,400 | 100% |

| Expenditure category | National (NZ\$) | Percentage |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Final consumption | 6,248,400 | 88.4% |
| Donations and taxes | 706,400 | 10.0% |
| Investment | 107,400 | 1.5% |

| HH expenditure | Average (NZ\$) | Median (NZ\$) |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Annual HH expenditure - cash | 22,680 | 21,200 |
| Annual HH expenditure - total | 28,140 | 26,900 |

| Per capita expenditure | Average (NZ\$) | Median (NZ\$) |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Annual per capita expenditure - cash | 4,900 | 4,100 |
| Annual per capita expenditure - total | 6,090 | 5,000 |

INCOME

| Income type | National (NZ\$) | Percentage |
|------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Cash income | 5,857,700 | 82.9% |
| Income in-kind from employer | 112,100 | 1.6% |
| Home production (subsistence, net) | 203,100 | 2.9% |
| Home-produced gifts received | 185,400 | 2.6% |
| Imputed rents | 708,500 | 10.0% |
| Total income | 7,066,700 | 100% |

| Income category | National (NZ\$) | Percentage |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Income from employment | 5,455,600 | 77.2% |
| Income from property | 42,800 | 0.6% |
| Income from transfers | 495,300 | 7.0% |
| Casual receipts | 1,720 | - |
| Income from gifts | 362,600 | 5.1% |
| Imputed rents | 708,500 | 10.0% |

| HH income | Average (NZ\$) | Median (NZ\$) |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Annual HH income - cash | 23,340 | 21,000 |
| Annual HH income - total | 28,150 | 24,400 |

| Per capita income | Average (NZ\$) | Median (NZ\$) |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Annual per capita income - cash | 5,050 | 4,400 |
| Annual per capita income - total | 6,100 | 5,400 |

HIES: OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

The Tokelau 2015/16 Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) was implemented over a ten-month period from May 2015 to February 2016. This report is the first generated output of the HIES and it includes information on the survey, interpretation and analysis of the data, and an appendix of key expenditure and income tables.

The 2015/16 HIES, implemented by the Tokelau National Statistics Office, adopted the regionally standardized HIES methodology that was developed by the Pacific Community (SPC).

The main objective of the HIES was to collect information on HH income and expenditure to:

1. contribute to the revision of consumer price indices (CPI);
2. contribute to the compilation of national accounts; and
3. provide information on the incidence of poverty in Tokelau.

In total, 120 households (HH) were randomly selected to participate in the survey, and the response rate was 99% (i.e., 119 HHs responded). This response rate allows for statistically significant analysis at the national level.

The results are summarized in three chapters, which cover expenditure analysis (Section 4), income analysis (Section 5), and population profile and HH characteristics (Section 6).

HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE

Total annual HH expenditure was estimated to be NZ\$7 million. Of this expenditure, 88.4% is consumption expenditure (expenditure-related to goods and services that are consumed by HHs), 10.0% non-consumption expenditure (cash transfers), and 1.5% investment expenditure (improvement of dwelling and purchase of plant and equipment).

In terms of expenditure type, 80.6% of total expenditure is cash based, 7.7% is subsistence (the gross value of home-produced and consumed goods), 10% imputed rents (the estimated value of the services that an owner-occupied dwelling delivers the HH), and 1.6% is income in kind from employer (all goods and services provided by the employer to the HHs in addition to the wages).

Consumption expenditure — the main expenditure category — is mainly dedicated to “Food and non-alcoholic beverages” (37.7%), “Housing” (19.8%, mainly due to imputed rents), and “Alcohol and tobacco” (12.1%).

Nationally, “Food and non-alcoholic beverages” expenditure is allocated to fresh fish (15.7% of the “Food and non-alcoholic beverages”), chicken meat (10.0%), rice (7.5%), fruit (6.0%) and other, although 98.8% of the value of the fish consumed (100% of shellfish items) and 87.8% of the value of fruit consumed are home-produced. Therefore, in terms of cash expenditure, the main cash expenditure on “Food and non-alcoholic beverages” by COICOP division is on chicken meat (13.1% of the cash expenditure on “Food and non-alcoholic beverages”) and rice (9.8%).

In terms of housing and utilities, the majority (57.2%) of expenditure is imputed rent.

Expenditure is not evenly distributed among HHs, with the top 25% of the population accounting for almost 45% of the total expenditure. A national expenditure Gini Coefficient of 0.28 was calculated, indicating relatively unequal distribution of expenditure among Tokelau’s HHs.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

From the 2015/16 HIES, Tokelau's total annual HH income was estimated to be NZ\$7 million. Income from employment (wages and salaries, cash income from primary activities, business income and home production) accounts for 77.2% of total HH income, followed by imputed rents (10%). Income from transfers (including remittances, social benefits, pension and scholarships) accounts for 7.0% and gifts (in kind and remittances) for 5.1%. Income from capital and other casual income (sale of assets) make up the remaining 1%.

In terms of income type, 82.9% of total HH income is cash income, followed by imputed rents (10%), net home production (2.9%), in-kind receipts (2.6%) and in-kind income from employer (1.6%).

Income from employment consists mainly of wages and salaries (93.2%) followed by the net home production consumed (3.7%). Subsistence activities that are market-oriented (e.g., agriculture, fishing, livestock and handicrafts) and non-subsistence businesses account respectively for 1.7% and 1.3%.

In terms of cash income, wages and salaries account for the greatest proportion (84.9%) of income, followed by social security (3.5%), remittances (3.0%), and scholarships (2.7%).

The distribution of income amongst the population demonstrates income inequality, with the poorest 50% of the population in Tokelau accounting for only 28% of the total HH income. A national income Gini Coefficient of 0.31 was calculated, indicating relatively unequal distribution of income among HHs in Tokelau.

POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

From the 2015/16 HIES, Tokelau's resident population is estimated to be 1,159 people and the total number of HHs is 251. The population consisted of 572 males (49%) and 587 females (51%), resulting in a sex ratio of 0.97. An average HH size of 4.6 people was estimated and the median age of the population is 25 years old.

Approximately 40% of Tokelau's population is less than 20 years of age, and the national age dependency ratio is 62 - this is the ratio of dependents (people younger than 15 or older than 64) to the working-age population (those aged 15-64). Data are presented as the proportion of dependents per 100 working-age population.