

Final Count

2019 Tokelau Population Count

Introduction

The *Final Count* contains the final population counts based on information collected from the 2019 Tokelau Population Count. The Population Count was undertaken in one day across all 3 atolls including Apia on Thursday, 12 December 2019.

It was undertaken primarily to collect the number of de jure usual residents in order to satisfy the requirements of the *Constitution of Tokelau 2009*.

The *Constitution* and the *Statistics Rules 2013* require a count of the population to be undertaken in the year prior to a National Election, in order to determine the number of nuku delegates that can be elected for the General Fono.

Limited demographic information is also collected during the count. This serves as an update of Tokelau's demographic population information between censuses.

The information contained in this release includes several different population concepts. These are the:

- de jure usually resident population
- usually resident population present in Tokelau on count night
- usually resident population absent from Tokelau on count night.

The Tokelau population has a unique composition. A significant proportion of the population temporarily leaves the islands (eg for healthcare, education, or travel). For the 2019 Tokelau Population Count, core demographic information for people who usually live in Tokelau but were away on the night of the count was completed on their behalf by the head of the household. This is the same methodology used in the 2013 Tokelau Population Count and 2016 Tokelau Census for counting absentees.

This is the first information release from the 2019 Tokelau Population Count.

Final 2019 Tokelau Population Count de jure usually resident population

The de jure usually resident population of Tokelau was 1,647.

The de jure usually resident population includes the usually resident population present in Tokelau on count night and the usually resident absentee sub-population.

Usually resident population present in Tokelau on count night

The usually resident population present in Tokelau on the night of the count was 1,295.

Usually resident population absent from Tokelau on count night

The usually resident population absent from Tokelau on the night of the count was 352. This is made up of 62 Tokelauan Tokelau Public Service (TPS) employees and their immediate families

based in Apia, and 290 people who normally live in Tokelau but were overseas on the night of the count.

Population count definitions

De jure usually resident population

The de jure usually resident population count consists of the usually resident population present in Tokelau on the night of the count plus usual residents who were temporarily overseas at the time of the count. This includes Tokelauan TPS employees based in Apia and their immediate families.

Usually resident population present in Tokelau on count night

The usually resident population present in Tokelau on count night is a count of all people who usually live in Tokelau, and were present in Tokelau on the night of the count. This count excludes visitors from overseas, residents who have lived in Tokelau for less than three months and residents who were temporarily overseas on count night.

Residents who were away from their usual address (ie on another atoll), but were in Tokelau on count night are counted as part of the population of the atoll where they usually live. This ensures they form part of the usually resident population present in Tokelau on count night for their home atoll.

Census night population count

The census night population count includes all people who were in Tokelau on census night Thursday, 12 December 2019. Temporary visitors are included in this. The census night population count does not include people who normally live in Tokelau, but were absent on census night.

Comparison of final counts

The numbers recorded in Table 1 are the final numbers that will be used to determine the number of elected nuku representatives for the 2020-2022 General Fono.

Tables 2-4 provide extra population information for interested users.

Comparing the 2016 and 2019 de jure usually resident population count

The de jure usually resident population count from the 2019 Population Count was 1,647, which compares to the 2016 Tokelau Census de jure usually resident population count of 1,499.

The de jure usually resident population since 2016 therefore has increased by 10 percent.

Table 1 shows a comparison between the years 2016 and 2019 de jure usually resident population counts. Tokelauan TPS employees and their immediate families were asked to indicate their home atoll, and have already been allocated to their respective atolls in the table below. In other tables however, they have been separated by their place of usual residence, which is Samoa.

Table 1**Atoll populations ⁽¹⁾, including Tokelauan TPS Employees and their immediate families**

By atoll

2016 Tokelau Census of Population of Dwellings, and 2019 Population Count

Usual residence / home atoll	De jure usually resident population, including Samoa TPS ⁽¹⁾		Increase or decrease (2016-2019)	
	2016 Census	2019 Count	Number	Percent
Atafu	541	548	7	1.3
Fakaofu	506	568	62	12.3
Nukunonu	452	531	79	17.5
Total	1,499	1,647	148	10

1. Includes absentees, and Tokelauan TPS and their immediate families who are based in Apia, Samoa.

Table 2 shows the changes in the de jure usually resident population counts between the 2016 Tokelau Census and the 2019 Population Count. Tokelauan TPS employees and their immediate families have been kept separate in Table 2.

Table 2**Changes in the de jure usually resident population by atoll, and Tokelauan TPS employees based in Samoa and their immediate families**

By atoll

2016 Tokelau Census of Population of Dwellings, and 2019 Population Count

Usual residence	De jure usually resident population		Increase or decrease (2016-2019)	
	2016 Census	2019 Count	Number	Percent
Atafu	519	535	16	3.1
Fakaofu	484	546	62	12.8
Nukunonu	448	504	56	12.5
Samoa	48	62	14	29.2
Total	1,499	1,647	148	10

Comparing the 2016 and 2019 census night population counts

The number of people counted as present in Tokelau on the night of the 2019 Population Count was 1,480. This figure shows a significant increase of 15.2 percent compared with the 2016 Tokelau census night population count of 1,285.

Table 3 shows the changes in the census night population count between the 2016 Tokelau Census and the 2019 Population Count.

Table 3**Changes in the census night population count**

By atoll

2016 Tokelau Census of Population of Dwellings, and 2019 Population Count

Usual residence	Census night population		Increase or decrease (2016-2019)	
	2016 Census	2019 Count	Number	Percent
Atafu	513	502	-11	-2.1
Fakaofu	391	527	136	34.8
Nukunonu	381	451	70	18.4
Total	1,285	1,480	195	15.2

Comparing the absentee counts for the 2016 Tokelau Census and 2019 Tokelau Population Count

The number of usual residents absent from Tokelau on the night of the 2019 Tokelau Population Count was 290. This excludes Tokelauan TPS employees and their immediate families who are based in Apia, Samoa.

This figure compares to the 2016 Tokelau Census absentee count of 254. The absentee count has therefore increased by 14.2 percent.

Table 4 shows the changes in the absentee population count between the years 2016 and 2019. This table excludes Tokelauan TPS employees and their immediate families based in Apia, Samoa.

Table 4**Changes in absentee count**

By atoll

2016 Tokelau Census of Population of Dwellings, and 2019 Population Count

Usual residence	De jure usually resident population		Increase or decrease (2016-2019)	
	2016 Census	2019 Count	Number	Percent
Atafu	106	121	15	14.2
Fakaofu	85	84	-1	-1.2
Nukunonu	63	85	22	34.9
Total	254	290	36	14.2

Further information

For further information about the 2019 Tokelau Population Count please contact:

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Release information

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