

Nauru

Employment

SPC (1994) gives the 1992 population in Nauru as 9,919 people, 6,831 of whom are indigenous Nauruans. In 1992, of the 3,613 people aged 15 years and older, 1,917 were formally employed; 59 otherwise employed; 446 unemployed; and 911 not economically active; with the remainder not stating their activities. According to the census, only two people of the employed population had occupation under the category "Agriculture and related workers," which would presumably include fishery workers.

Ryan and Stepanoff (2000) project the total population of Nauru to reach 11,500 in 2000.

OFCF (1998) reports the ownership and number of fishing vessels as follows:

- Nauruan fishers: 130 powered skiffs; fish are mainly for own consumption with surplus for relatives.
- Non-Nauruan fishers: 88 powered skiffs, 128 one-man canoes; surplus catch sold at landings and to restaurants.

Dalzell et al. (1992) listed the number of nets observed from a circuit of the island: 39 beach seines and 28 cast nets.

NFMRA provided the following information on fisheries-related employment:

- The NFMRA catamaran employs five people full-time.
- Under a system of fisherman registration whereby the registered fishers get a higher price in the market, there are 20 Nauruans and 60 other Pacific Islander fishermen registered.
- Some commercial fishing is carried out by two local businesses.
- It is estimated that there are 100 half-time commercial fishermen, which would be equivalent to 50 full-time fishermen.

Volumes and Values of Fish Harvests

The available information includes Rodwell (1998), which used data collected by NFMRA, indicating that the small troll boats catch

70.0 kg of fish per day and the dropstone boats catch 115.0 kg per day.

Dalzell et al. (1996), citing Dalzell et al. (1992), gave the following catch information:

- Subsistence fisheries: 98 mt worth US\$219,600
- Commercial fisheries: 279 mt worth US\$628,605
- The price was assumed to be US\$2.25 per kg for both the subsistence and commercial landings.

Ryan and Stepanoff (2000), as stated earlier, project the total population of Nauru to be 11,500 in 2000, or an increase of about 13% from the period of the Dalzell et al. (1992) estimate.

Unpublished data of the NFMRA show that 72,275 kg of fish was monitored by the NFMRA numerators between May 1999 and June 2001, but it is unknown what portion of the entire Nauru landings this amount represents.

Mwinoangan, the Nauru fisheries newsletter (NFMRA 1998), gives the following estimates of pelagic catches:

April 1998	– 11.9 mt
May 1998	– 9.5 mt
June 1998	– 14.9 mt
July 1998	– 8.9 mt

Gillett et al. (2001), using the SPC Catch and Effort Logsheet Database with adjustments, give the catches by offshore foreign-based boats in Table A2.31:

Table A2.31: Offshore Foreign-based Catches in the Nauru EEZ, 1999

Fishing Nation	mt
Taipei, China	15,212
Korea, Rep. of	10,465
Japan	6,712
United States of America	6,407
Vanuatu	1,435
Federated States of Micronesia	1,009
Kiribati	140
Solomon Islands	18
Total	41,398

EEZ = exclusive economic zone; mt = metric ton.
Source: Gillett et al. (2001).

NFMRA provided information on fish prices as follows:

- Fresh fish on Nauru sells for A\$3.00–A\$8.00 per kg.
- Tuna sells for A\$4.00–A\$5.00 per kg.
- The average price for all fish sold is about A\$5.50 per kg.

In summary, by selectively using the above information and the knowledge of current developments, a crude approximation of the Nauru annual fisheries production in recent years is presented in Table A2.32:

Table A2.32: Estimated Annual Fisheries Production of Nauru, late 1990s

Fishing Sector	Volume (mt)	Value (A\$)
Coastal Subsistence	110	514,250
Coastal Commercial	315	1,732,500
Offshore Locally-based	50	387,000
Offshore Foreign-based	41,000	57,000,000
Total	41,475	59,633,750

A\$ = Australian dollar; mt = metric ton.

Fishery Exports and Imports

There is little export of fishery products from Nauru.

Dalzell et al. (1992) state that large but unknown quantities of tinned fish are imported into Nauru.

Coyne et al. (1984) indicate that consumption of imported fishery products in Nauru was 5.5 kg per capita in the 1970s. Considering the population of Nauru in 2000, this would presently equate to 63 mt of imported fishery products.

Discussions with officials of NFMRA (P. Jacob, M. Depaune, pers. com., June 2001) provided information on the import/export of fishery products:

- Most of the non canned fishery product imports come from Taipei, China (milkfish) and Australia (salmon, prawns, sardines).

- Imports from Kiribati could be considered semi-commercial as it involves transport as baggage, usually on request from friends in Nauru.
- There is a substantial amount of canned fish in the stores.

Access Fees

It is estimated that Nauru received about US\$3.4 million in access fees in 1999.

Levels of Marine Resource Consumption

Considering the following assumptions:

- (i) the Nauru population of 11,500 people in 2000 (Ryan and Stepanoff 2000);
- (ii) the subsistence fisheries production of 110 mt;
- (iii) the commercial fisheries production of 315 mt;
- (iv) the locally-based offshore production of 50 mt; and
- (v) imports of 63 mt.

The annual per capita consumption of fishery products on Nauru can be calculated to be about 46.7 kg.

Exchange Rates

Australian dollar (A\$) to the US dollar (US\$) as per ADB average-of-period rate:

1995	–	1.3490
1996	–	1.2779
1997	–	1.3474
1998	–	1.5918
1999	–	1.5500
2000	–	1.7250

