

Contact information

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TOKELAU STATISTICS UNIT

Statistics
New Zealand
TATAURANGA AOTEAROA

About 2011 Tokelau Census

Tuesday, 18 October 2011



What is the census?

The census is the official count of how many people and dwellings there are in Tokelau and must be undertaken every five years.

Information from the census provides an inclusive picture of the people of Tokelau and the places they live.

Census information is used to plan vital public services, such as education, health, housing, and transport. It is also used to help understand how society changes over time.

Am I included?

Yes. Filling in census forms is required by law.

Under the Census Act 1961, everyone in Tokelau on census day must be counted. This includes babies, and visitors to Tokelau, as well as Tokelau Public Service staff and their immediate families in Samoa.

What do I have to do?

Census day is **Tuesday, 18 October 2011**.

On census day a trained interviewer will visit your house with a census form. The interviewer will ask each member of the household some questions, and fill in the form on your behalf.

It is important that each member of the household is at home on census day, and able to answer questions.

Why is census information important and how is it used?

Information from the census helps determine how government funding is allocated in the community.

Census information is also used by international organisations. This includes the Secretariat for the Pacific Community, and the United Nations.

What happens to my information?

Your information becomes a part of the complete collection. Once all the forms are collected, they are processed and turned into statistical information. This information is analysed and published in various forms, including tables and graphs. Anyone can use the published information.

The information you give to the interviewers is protected by Tokelau's Census Act 1961 and New Zealand's Statistics Act 1975. Your information must be kept confidential and secure at all times.

Only people who have signed a life-long declaration of secrecy will have access to personal identifiable information. They cannot reveal personal information to anyone.

When census information is published, it must be in a way that cannot identify anyone, or a family, through their private details.



Gathering your information

Houses people live in

The census asks about the different types of houses people live in and the facilities they have available at their houses. These questions measure the quality of housing in Tokelau, and how housing needs change over time. Information about resources households are using, such as water and electricity, are used to help plan for the future.

Where you are on census night and where you have lived

Information about where people live and have lived helps to measure the migration and movements of people in and out of Tokelau. This helps to plan changes to the population. The census also measures how many people are visiting Tokelau from overseas.

Your name, address, age, and sex

We need everybody's name to ensure we count everyone on census day and to ensure everyone has been grouped into the correct households and families. Age and sex show the structure of the population and help to estimate fertility and mortality. This information is also used to help plan for changes to the population.

Ethnic origin, religion, and citizenship

We need to find out about the differences and similarities of groups of people living in Tokelau to help identify their needs. This information about the social characteristics of these groups helps to make sure people receive the services they need, eg from government, or community groups.

Education, qualifications, work, and literacy

We ask about employment, education, and literacy to help measure living standards and the educational needs of the Tokelauan people. Information about work helps to measure paid employment, growth of job opportunities, and how people's work and day-to-day activities contribute to their community, and to Tokelau.

Fertility and children

We gather information about fertility and children to help plan for how the population of Tokelau will change over time. We use it to calculate how many people are expected to live in Tokelau in the future. It also helps the government and community to plan and allocate resources, such as those for health and education services.