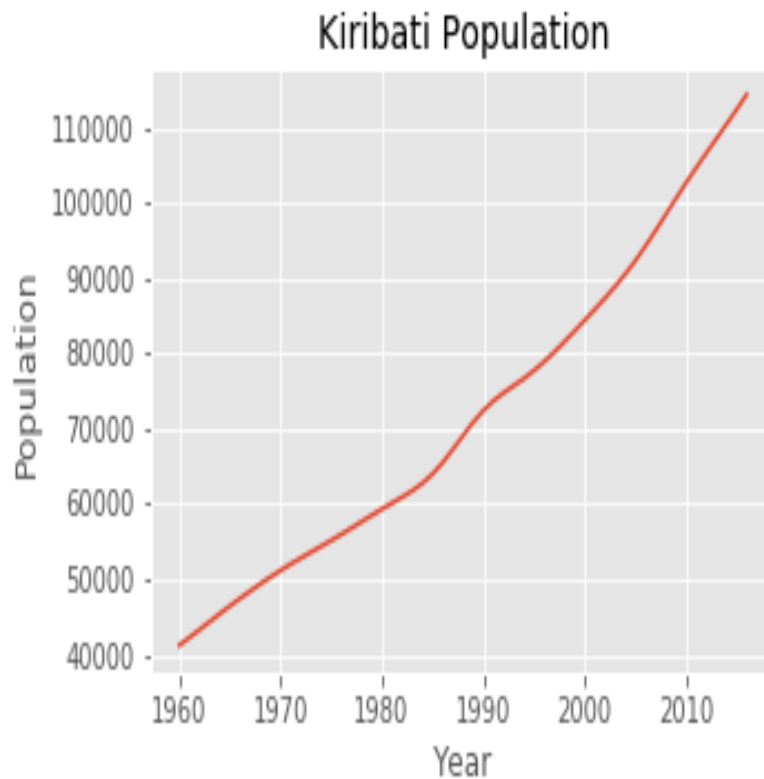


# Kiribati



Coordinates:  $1^{\circ}25'N$   $173^{\circ}00'E$  /  $1.417^{\circ}N$   $173.000^{\circ}E$  /  $1.417$ ;  $173.000$  Kiribati (/ˈkɪrɪˈbʌs/ KIRR-i-BES or /ˈkɪrɪˈbʌti/ KIRR-i-BAHT-ee), officially the Republic of Kiribati (Gilbertese: Ribaberiki Kiribati), is a sovereign state in the central Pacific Ocean. The permanent population is just over 110,000 (2015), more than half of whom live on Tarawa Atoll. The nation comprises 33 atolls and reef islands and one raised coral island, Banaba. They have a total land area of 800 square kilometres (310 sq mi) and are dispersed over 3.5 million square kilometres (1.3 million square miles). Their spread straddles both the equator and the 180th meridian, although the International Date Line goes round Kiribati and swings far to the east, almost reaching the  $150^{\circ}W$  meridian. This brings the Line Islands into the same day as the Kiribati Islands. Kiribati's easternmost islands, the southern Line Islands, south of Hawaii, have the most advanced time on Earth: UTC+14 hours.