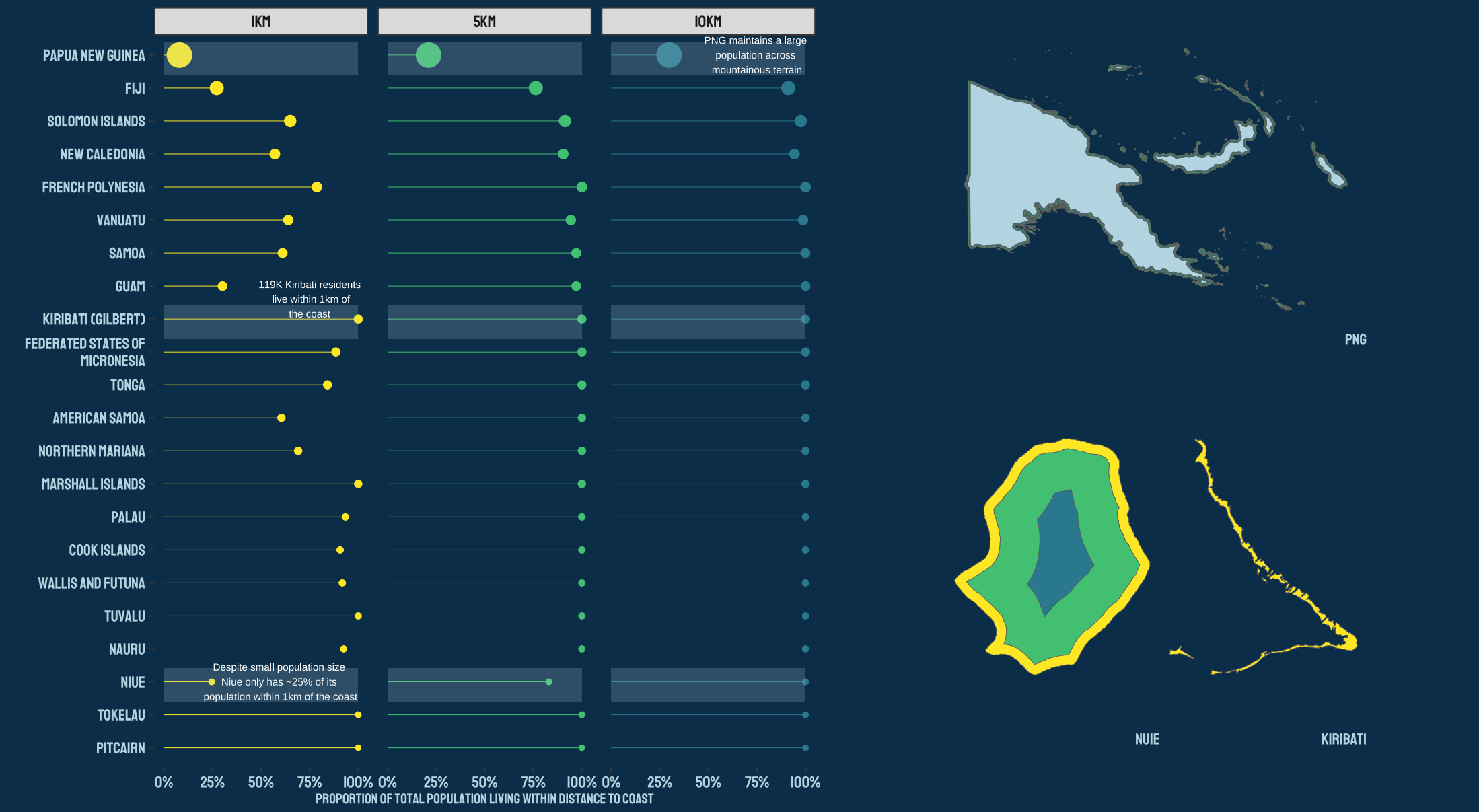


97% OF PACIFIC RESIDENTS ARE WITHIN 10KM OF THE COAST (EXCL. PNG)

INCLUDING PAPUA NEW GUINEA, OVER HALF THE PACIFIC POPULATION IS STILL WITHIN 10KM OF THE COAST AND QUARTER ARE LIVING WITHIN 1KM. SOME CORAL ATOLL NATIONS SUCH AS TOKELAU AND TUVALU ARE ENTIRELY WITHIN 1KM OF THE COAST. COUNTRIES IN THE PACIFIC REGION DEPEND ON THE OCEAN FOR FOOD, EMPLOYMENT, TRANSPORTATION AND TOURISM. HOWEVER THIS PROXIMITY INCREASES EXPOSURE AND VULNERABILITY OF THOSE WHO RESIDE IN PACIFIC NATIONS. OF THE 22 PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES (PICTS), FOUR LOW-LYING ATOLLS AND REEF ISLANDS ARE RECOGNISED AS THE MOST VULNERABLE NATIONS IN THE WORLD TO SEA LEVEL RISE, CLIMATE AND WEATHER DISASTERS. THE KEY OUTLIER IS PAPUA NEW GUINEA WHICH OCCUPIES A GREATER LAND AREA AND MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN.



SOURCE: ANDREW, N. L., BRIGHT, P., DE LA RUA, L., TEOH, S. J., & VICKERS, M. (2019). COASTAL PROXIMITY OF POPULATIONS IN 22 PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES. PLOS ONE, 14(9), EO223249. DATA: [HTTPS://PACIFICDATA.ORG/DATA/GEOGRAPHIC_DATA/PERCENTAGE-OF-POPULATION-WITHIN-1-5-10KM-COASTAL-BUFFERS](https://pacificdata.org/data/geographic_data/percentage-of-population-within-1-5-10km-coastal-buffers)