[Template:For](/wiki/Template:For" \o "Template:For) [Template:Other uses](/wiki/Template:Other_uses) [Template:Pp-move-indef](/wiki/Template:Pp-move-indef) [Template:Use British English](/wiki/Template:Use_British_English) [Template:Infobox Continent](/wiki/Template:Infobox_Continent) **Oceania** ([Template:IPAc-en](/wiki/Template:IPAc-en)[[1]](#cite_note-1) or [Template:IPAc-en](/wiki/Template:IPAc-en)),[[2]](#cite_note-2) also known as **Oceanica**,<ref name=OceanicaDef>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> is a [region](/wiki/Region) centred on the [islands of the tropical Pacific Ocean](/wiki/Pacific_Islands).[[3]](#cite_note-3) Opinions of what constitutes Oceania range from its three [subregions](/wiki/Subregion) of [Melanesia](/wiki/Melanesia), [Micronesia](/wiki/Micronesia), and [Polynesia](/wiki/Polynesia)[[4]](#cite_note-4) to, more broadly, the entire insular region between [Southeast Asia](/wiki/Southeast_Asia) and the [Americas](/wiki/Americas), including [Australasia](/wiki/Australasia) and the [Malay Archipelago](/wiki/Malay_Archipelago).<ref name=OED/>

The term is often used more specifically to denote a [continent](/wiki/Continent) comprising [Australia](/wiki/Australia_(continent)) and proximate islands[[5]](#cite_note-5)[[6]](#cite_note-6)[[7]](#cite_note-7)[[8]](#cite_note-8)or biogeographically as a synonym for either the [Australasian ecozone](/wiki/Australasian_ecozone) ([Wallacea](/wiki/Wallacea) and [Australasia](/wiki/Australasia)) or the Pacific ecozone (Melanesia, Polynesia, and Micronesia, excluding both [New Zealand](/wiki/New_Zealand)[[9]](#cite_note-9) and [mainland](/wiki/Mainland) [New Guinea](/wiki/New_Guinea)).[[10]](#cite_note-10)

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## Etymology and semantics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

[Template:Expand section](/wiki/Template:Expand_section)

The term was coined as *Océanie* circa 1812 by geographer [Conrad Malte-Brun](/wiki/Conrad_Malte-Brun).<ref name=OED>[Template:OED](/wiki/Template:OED)</ref> The word *Océanie* is a [French](/wiki/French_language) word derived from the [Latin](/wiki/Latin_language) word [*Template:Lang*](/wiki/Template:Lang), and this from the [Greek](/wiki/Greek_language) word [Template:Lang](/wiki/Template:Lang) (*ōkeanós*), ocean. Natives and inhabitants of this region are called Oceanians or Oceanicans.[[11]](#cite_note-11)[[12]](#cite_note-12)

## Definitions[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

[Template:Anchor](/wiki/Template:Anchor) [Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

**Oceania** <div align=center> [200px|An orthographic projection of geographic Oceania.](/wiki/File:Oceania,_broad_(orthographic_projection).svg)  
Wider Geographic Oceania.   
Little of the South Pacific is apparent at this scale, though Hawaii is just visible near the eastern horizon. </div>

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Area** | [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) |
| **Population** | 37.8 million (2010) |
| **Time Zones** | [UTC+7](/wiki/UTC+7) ([Western Indonesian Time](/wiki/Time_in_Indonesia)) to [UTC-6](/wiki/UTC-6) ([Easter Island](/wiki/Easter_Island)) |
| **Largest Cities** | [Jakarta](/wiki/Jakarta) [Manila](/wiki/Manila) [Sydney](/wiki/Sydney) [Bandung](/wiki/Bandung) [Melbourne](/wiki/Melbourne) [Surabaya](/wiki/Surabaya) [Medan](/wiki/Medan) |

<div align=center> [200px|Narrower Geographic Oceania.](/wiki/File:Oceania,_narrow_(orthographic_projection).svg)  
Narrower Geographic Oceania.   
[Island Melanesia](/wiki/Island_Melanesia), Micronesia, and Polynesia (apart from New Zealand) </div>

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Area** | [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) |
| **Population** | 5.2 million (2008) |
| **Time Zones** | [UTC+9](/wiki/UTC+9) ([Palau](/wiki/Palau)) to [UTC-6](/wiki/UTC-6) ([Easter Island](/wiki/Easter_Island)) |
| **Largest Cities** | [Honolulu](/wiki/Honolulu) [Nouméa](/wiki/Nouméa) [Suva](/wiki/Suva) [Papeete](/wiki/Papeete) [Honiara](/wiki/Honiara) |

[thumb|300px|A map of Oceania from the CIA World Factbook](/wiki/File:%22Political_Oceania%22_CIA_World_Factbook.jpg) [thumb|300px|Oceania map of Köppen climate classification.](/wiki/File:Oceania_map_of_Köppen_climate_classification.svg)

As an ecozone, Oceania includes all of [Micronesia](/wiki/Micronesia), [Fiji](/wiki/Fiji), and all of Polynesia except [New Zealand](/wiki/New_Zealand). [New Zealand](/wiki/New_Zealand), along with [New Guinea](/wiki/New_Guinea) and nearby islands, part of [Philippines](/wiki/Philippines) islands, [Australia](/wiki/Australia), the [Solomon Islands](/wiki/Solomon_Islands), [Vanuatu](/wiki/Vanuatu), and [New Caledonia](/wiki/New_Caledonia), constitute the separate [Australasian ecozone](/wiki/Australasian_ecozone). In geopolitical terms, however, New Zealand, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and New Caledonia are almost always considered part of Oceania. Australia and [Papua New Guinea](/wiki/Papua_New_Guinea) are usually considered part of Oceania along with the [Maluku Islands](/wiki/Maluku_Islands) and [Papua](/wiki/Papua_(province)) in Indonesia. [Puncak Jaya](/wiki/Puncak_Jaya) in Papua is often considered the highest peak in Oceania.

### Physiographical[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

Oceania was originally conceived as the lands of the Pacific Ocean, stretching from the [Strait of Malacca](/wiki/Strait_of_Malacca) to the coast of the Americas. It comprised four regions: [*Polynesia*](/wiki/Polynesia), [*Micronesia*](/wiki/Micronesia), *Malaysia* (now called the [Malay Archipelago](/wiki/Malay_Archipelago)), and [*Melanesia*](/wiki/Melanesia) (now called [Australasia](/wiki/Australasia)).[[13]](#cite_note-13) Today, parts of three geological continents are included in the term "Oceania": [Eurasia](/wiki/Eurasia), [Australia](/wiki/Australia_(continent)), and [Zealandia](/wiki/Zealandia_(continent)), as well the non-continental volcanic islands of the [Philippines](/wiki/Philippines), [Wallacea](/wiki/Wallacea), and the open Pacific. The area extends to [Sumatra](/wiki/Sumatra) in the west, the [Bonin Islands](/wiki/Bonin_Islands) in the northwest, the [Hawaiian Islands](/wiki/Hawaiian_Islands) in the northeast, [Rapa Nui](/wiki/Easter_Island) and [Sala y Gómez Island](/wiki/Isla_Salas_y_Gómez) in the east, and [Macquarie Island](/wiki/Macquarie_Island) in the south. Not included are the Pacific islands of [Taiwan](/wiki/Taiwan), the [Ryukyu Islands](/wiki/Ryukyu_Islands) and the [Japanese archipelago](/wiki/Japanese_archipelago), all on the margins of Asia, and the [Aleutian Islands](/wiki/Aleutian_Islands) of North America.[[14]](#cite_note-14)[[15]](#cite_note-15) The islands at the geographic extremes of Oceania are Bonin, a politically integral part of Japan, Hawaii, a state of the United States, and Easter Island, belonging to Chile. There is also a smaller geographic definition that excludes land on the [Sunda Plate](/wiki/Sunda_Plate) but includes Indonesian New Guinea on the [Australian continent](/wiki/Australia_(continent)).

### Biogeographical[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

[thumb|upright|](/wiki/File:Puncakjaya.jpg)[Puncak Jaya](/wiki/Puncak_Jaya) / *Carstensz Pyramid*, highest [summit](/wiki/Summit) in Oceania [thumb|upright|](/wiki/File:Aoraki_Mount_Cook.JPG)[Aoraki / Mount Cook](/wiki/Aoraki_/_Mount_Cook), located on the [South Island](/wiki/South_Island) of [New Zealand](/wiki/New_Zealand) Biogeographically, Oceania is used as a synonym for either the [Australasian ecozone](/wiki/Australasian_ecozone) ([Wallacea](/wiki/Wallacea) and [Australasia](/wiki/Australasia)) or the Pacific ecozone (Melanesia, Polynesia, and Micronesia apart either from New Zealand[[9]](#cite_note-9) or from mainland New Guinea[[10]](#cite_note-10)).

#### Ecogeographical[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

Oceania is one of eight terrestrial [ecozones](/wiki/Ecozone), which constitute the major ecological regions of the planet. The [Oceania ecozone](/wiki/Oceania_ecozone) includes all of Micronesia, [Fiji](/wiki/Fiji), and all of Polynesia except New Zealand. New Zealand, New Guinea, Melanesia apart from Fiji, and Australia constitute the separate [Australasian ecozone](/wiki/Australasian_ecozone). The Malay Archipelago is part of the [Indomalaya ecozone](/wiki/Indomalaya_ecozone). Related to these concepts are [Near Oceania](/wiki/Near_Oceania), that part of western [Island Melanesia](/wiki/Island_Melanesia) which has been inhabited for tens of millennia, and [Remote Oceania](/wiki/Remote_Oceania) which is more recently settled.[[16]](#cite_note-16)

### Geopolitical[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

In the geopolitical conception used by the [United Nations](/wiki/United_Nations_geoscheme), [International Olympic Committee](/wiki/International_Olympic_Committee), and many atlases, Oceania includes [Australia](/wiki/Australia) and the nations of the Pacific from Papua New Guinea east, but not the Malay Archipelago or Indonesian New Guinea.[[17]](#cite_note-17)[[18]](#cite_note-18)[[19]](#cite_note-19)

### Other definitions[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

* The term is often used to denote a [continent](/wiki/Continent) comprising [Australia](/wiki/Australia_(continent)) and proximate islands.[[5]](#cite_note-5)[[6]](#cite_note-6)[[7]](#cite_note-7)[[8]](#cite_note-8)\* New Zealand forms the south-western corner of the [Polynesian Triangle](/wiki/Polynesian_Triangle). Its indigenous [Māori](/wiki/Māori_people) constitute one of the major cultures of Polynesia. It is also, however, considered part of Australasia.[[17]](#cite_note-17)\* The widest definition of Oceania includes the entire region between continental Asia and the Americas, thereby including islands in the Pacific Rim such as the Japanese archipelago, Taiwan, and the Aleutian islands.[[20]](#cite_note-20)[Template:Multiple image](/wiki/Template:Multiple_image)

[Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) The history of Oceania in the medieval period was synonymous with the history of the indigenous peoples of Australasia, Micronesia, Melanesia, Polynesia. The arrival of European settlers in subsequent centuries resulted in a significant alteration in the social and political landscape of Oceania. In more contemporary times there has been increasing discussion on national flags and a desire by some Oceanians to display their distinguishable and individualistic identity.[[21]](#cite_note-21)

## Demographics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

The linked map below shows the [Exclusive economic zones](/wiki/Exclusive_economic_zone) (EEZs) of the islands of Oceania and neighboring areas, as a guide to the following table. (There are no political boundaries that can be drawn on a map of the Pacific at this scale.) [Template:Oceania Labelled Map](/wiki/Template:Oceania_Labelled_Map) The demographic table below shows the subregions and countries of geopolitical Oceania.[[17]](#cite_note-17) The countries and territories in this table are categorized according to the scheme for geographic subregions used by the United Nations. The information shown follows sources in cross-referenced articles; where sources differ, provisos have been clearly indicated. These territories and regions are subject to various additional categorisations, of course, depending on the source and purpose of each description.

{| class="wikitable sortable" style="border:1px solid #aaa; font-size:90%;" |- style="background:#ececec;"| ! style="line-height:95%; width:2em" class="unsortable" | [Arms](/wiki/Coat_of_arms) ! style="line-height:95%; width:2em" class="unsortable" | [Flag](/wiki/Flag) ! Name of region, followed by countries[[22]](#cite_note-22)! data-sort-type="number" | [Area](/wiki/List_of_countries_and_outlying_territories_by_total_area)  
(km²) ! data-sort-type="number" | [Population](/wiki/List_of_countries_by_population) ! data-sort-type="number" | [Population density](/wiki/List_of_countries_and_dependencies_by_population_density)  
(per km²) ! [Capital](/wiki/Capital_(political)) ! [ISO 3166-1](/wiki/ISO_3166-1_alpha-2) |- | colspan="8" style="background:#eee; text-align:center;"|[**Australasia**](/wiki/Australasia)[[23]](#cite_note-23)|- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Ashmore and Cartier Islands](/wiki/Ashmore_and_Cartier_Islands) ([Australia](/wiki/Australia)) | style="text-align:right;"| 199 | style="text-align:right;"| | style="text-align:right;"| | | |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [**Australia**](/wiki/Australia) | style="text-align:right;"| 7,686,850 | style="text-align:right;"| 23,034,879 | style="text-align:right;"| 2.7 | [Canberra](/wiki/Canberra) | AU |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Christmas Island](/wiki/Christmas_Island)[[24]](#cite_note-24) (Australia) | style="text-align:right;"| 135 | style="text-align:right;"| 1,493 | style="text-align:right;"| 3.5 | [Flying Fish Cove](/wiki/Flying_Fish_Cove) | CX |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Cocos (Keeling) Islands](/wiki/Cocos_(Keeling)_Islands)[[24]](#cite_note-24) (Australia) | style="text-align:right;"| 14 | style="text-align:right;"| 628 | style="text-align:right;"| 45.1 | [West Island](/wiki/West_Island,_Cocos_(Keeling)_Islands) | CC |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Coral Sea Islands](/wiki/Coral_Sea_Islands) (Australia) | style="text-align:right;"| 10 | style="text-align:right;"| 4 | style="text-align:right;"| | | |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [**New Zealand**](/wiki/New_Zealand)[[25]](#cite_note-25)| style="text-align:right;"| 268,680 | style="text-align:right;"| 4,465,900 | style="text-align:right;"| 16.5 | [Wellington](/wiki/Wellington) | NZ |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Norfolk Island](/wiki/Norfolk_Island) (Australia) | style="text-align:right;"| 35 | style="text-align:right;"| 2,302 | style="text-align:right;"| 61.9 | [Kingston](/wiki/Kingston,_Norfolk_Island) | NF |- | colspan="8" style="background:#eee; text-align:center;"| [**Melanesia**](/wiki/Melanesia)[[26]](#cite_note-26)|- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [**Fiji**](/wiki/Fiji) | style="text-align:right;"| 18,270 | style="text-align:right;"| 856,346 | style="text-align:right;"| 46.9 | [Suva](/wiki/Suva) | FJ |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [New Caledonia](/wiki/New_Caledonia) ([France](/wiki/France)) | style="text-align:right;"| 19,060 | style="text-align:right;"| 240,390 | style="text-align:right;"| 12.6 | [Nouméa](/wiki/Nouméa) | NC |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Maluku Islands](/wiki/Maluku_Islands) ([Indonesia](/wiki/Indonesia)) | style="text-align:right;"| 74,505 | style="text-align:right;"| 1,895,000 | style="text-align:right;"| | | ML |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Papua](/wiki/West_Papua_(province)) (Indonesia) | style="text-align:right;"| 319,036 | style="text-align:right;"| 3,486,432 | style="text-align:right;"| 11 | [Jayapura](/wiki/Jayapura) | PA |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [West Papua](/wiki/West_Papua_(province)) (Indonesia) | style="text-align:right;"| 140,375 | style="text-align:right;"| 760,855 | style="text-align:right;"| 5.4 | [Manokwari](/wiki/Manokwari) | PB |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Papua New Guinea](/wiki/Papua_New_Guinea)[[27]](#cite_note-27)| style="text-align:right;"| 462,840 | style="text-align:right;"| 5,172,033 | style="text-align:right;"| 11.2 | [Port Moresby](/wiki/Port_Moresby) | PG |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [**Solomon Islands**](/wiki/Solomon_Islands) | style="text-align:right;"| 28,450 | style="text-align:right;"| 494,786 | style="text-align:right;"| 17.4 | [Honiara](/wiki/Honiara) | SB |- |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [**Vanuatu**](/wiki/Vanuatu) | style="text-align:right;"| 12,200 | style="text-align:right;"| 240,000 | style="text-align:right;"| 19.7 | [Port Vila](/wiki/Port_Vila) | VU |- | colspan="8" style="background:#eee; text-align:center;"| [**Micronesia**](/wiki/Micronesia) |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [**Federated States of Micronesia**](/wiki/Federated_States_of_Micronesia) | style="text-align:right;"| 702 | style="text-align:right;"| 135,869 | style="text-align:right;"| 193.5 | [Palikir](/wiki/Palikir) | FM |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) ([United States](/wiki/United_States)) | style="text-align:right;"| 549 | style="text-align:right;"| 160,796 | style="text-align:right;"| 292.9 | [Hagåtña](/wiki/Hagåtña,_Guam) | GU |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [**Kiribati**](/wiki/Kiribati) | style="text-align:right;"| 811 | style="text-align:right;"| 96,335 | style="text-align:right;"| 118.8 | [South Tarawa](/wiki/South_Tarawa) | KI |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [**Marshall Islands**](/wiki/Marshall_Islands) | style="text-align:right;"| 181 | style="text-align:right;"| 73,630 | style="text-align:right;"| 406.8 | [Majuro](/wiki/Majuro) | MH |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [**Nauru**](/wiki/Nauru) | style="text-align:right;"| 21 | style="text-align:right;"| 12,329 | style="text-align:right;"| 587.1 | [Yaren](/wiki/Yaren_District) (*de facto*) | NR |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Northern Mariana Islands](/wiki/Northern_Mariana_Islands) (United States) | style="text-align:right;"| 477 | style="text-align:right;"| 77,311 | style="text-align:right;"| 162.1 | [Saipan](/wiki/Saipan) | MP |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [**Palau**](/wiki/Palau) | style="text-align:right;"| 458 | style="text-align:right;"| 19,409 | style="text-align:right;"| 42.4 | [Ngerulmud](/wiki/Ngerulmud)[[28]](#cite_note-28)| PW |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Wake Island](/wiki/Wake_Island) (United States) | style="text-align:right;"| 2 | style="text-align:right;"| 150 | style="text-align:right;"| | [Wake Island](/wiki/Wake_Island) | UM |- | colspan="8" style="background:#eee; text-align:center;"| [**Polynesia**](/wiki/Polynesia) |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [American Samoa](/wiki/American_Samoa) (United States) | style="text-align:right;"| 199 | style="text-align:right;"| 68,688 | style="text-align:right;"| 345.2 | [Pago Pago](/wiki/Pago_Pago), [Fagatogo](/wiki/Fagatogo,_American_Samoa)[[29]](#cite_note-29)| AS |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Cook Islands](/wiki/Cook_Islands) (New Zealand) | style="text-align:right;"| 240 | style="text-align:right;"| 20,811 | style="text-align:right;"| 86.7 | [Avarua](/wiki/Avarua) | CK |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Easter Island](/wiki/Easter_Island) ([Chile](/wiki/Chile)) | style="text-align:right;"| 164 | style="text-align:right;"| 5,761 | style="text-align:right;"| 31 | [Hanga Roa](/wiki/Hanga_Roa) | CL |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [French Polynesia](/wiki/French_Polynesia) (France) | style="text-align:right;"| 4,167 | style="text-align:right;"| 257,847 | style="text-align:right;"| 61.9 | [Papeete](/wiki/Papeete) | PF |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Hawaii](/wiki/Hawaii) (United States) | style="text-align:right;"| 16,636 | style="text-align:right;"| 1,360,301 | style="text-align:right;"| 81.8 | [Honolulu](/wiki/Honolulu) | US |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Niue](/wiki/Niue) (New Zealand) | style="text-align:right;"| 260 | style="text-align:right;"| 2,134 | style="text-align:right;"| 8.2 | [Alofi](/wiki/Alofi) | NU |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Pitcairn Islands](/wiki/Pitcairn_Islands) ([United Kingdom](/wiki/United_Kingdom)) | style="text-align:right;"| 5 | style="text-align:right;"| 47 | style="text-align:right;"| 10 | [Adamstown](/wiki/Adamstown,_Pitcairn_Island) | PN |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [**Samoa**](/wiki/Samoa) | style="text-align:right;"| 2,944 | style="text-align:right;"| 179,000 | style="text-align:right;"| 63.2 | [Apia](/wiki/Apia) | WS |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Tokelau](/wiki/Tokelau) (New Zealand) | style="text-align:right;"| 10 | style="text-align:right;"| 1,431 | style="text-align:right;"| 143.1 | [Nukunonu](/wiki/Nukunonu) | TK |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [**Tonga**](/wiki/Tonga) | style="text-align:right;"| 748 | style="text-align:right;"| 106,137 | style="text-align:right;"| 141.9 | [Nuku](/wiki/Nukuʻalofa)[Template:Okinaalofa](/wiki/Template:Okina) | TO |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [**Tuvalu**](/wiki/Tuvalu) | style="text-align:right;"| 26 | style="text-align:right;"| 11,146 | style="text-align:right;"| 428.7 | [Funafuti](/wiki/Funafuti) | TV |- | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Coat of arms](/wiki/Template:Coat_of_arms) | style="text-align:center;"| [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) | [Wallis and Futuna](/wiki/Wallis_and_Futuna) (France) | style="text-align:right;"| 274 | style="text-align:right;"| 15,585 | style="text-align:right;"| 56.9 | [Mata-Utu](/wiki/Mata-Utu) | WF |- style="font-weight:bold;" | colspan="3" | Total | style="text-align:right;"| 8,919,530 | style="text-align:right;"| 41,050,699 | style="text-align:right;"| 4.4 | rowspan=2 colspan=2| |- style="font-weight:bold;" | colspan="3" | *Total minus mainland Australia* | style="text-align:right;"| 1,232,680 | style="text-align:right;"| 19,022,699 | style="text-align:right;"| 14.8 |} [thumb|right|Geographic map of islands of Oceania](/wiki/File:Map_OC-Oceania.PNG)

## Archaeogenetics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

[Archaeology](/wiki/Archaeology), [linguistics](/wiki/Linguistics), and existing [genetic studies](/wiki/Genetics) indicate that Oceania was settled by two major waves of migration. The first migration took place approximately 40 thousand years ago, and these migrants, [Papuans](/wiki/Papuan_people), colonised much of [Near Oceania](/wiki/Near_Oceania). Approximately 3.5 thousand years ago, a second expansion of [Austronesian](/wiki/Austronesian_languages) speakers arrived in Near Oceania, and the descendants of these people spread to the far corners of the Pacific, colonising [Remote Oceania](/wiki/Remote_Oceania).[[30]](#cite_note-30) [Mitochondrial DNA](/wiki/Mitochondrial_DNA) (mtDNA) studies quantify the magnitude of the [Austronesian expansion](/wiki/Austronesian_peoples) and demonstrate the homogenizing effect of this expansion. With regards to Papuan influence, autochthonous [haplogroups](/wiki/Haplogroup) support the hypothesis of a long history in Near Oceania, with some lineages suggesting a time depth of 60 thousand years. [Santa Cruz](/wiki/Santa_Cruz_Islands), a population located in [Remote Oceania](/wiki/Remote_Oceania), is an anomaly with extreme frequencies of autochthonous haplogroups of Near Oceanian origin.[[30]](#cite_note-30)

## Religion[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

The predominant religion in Oceania is [Christianity](/wiki/Christianity) (73.3%).[[31]](#cite_note-31)[[32]](#cite_note-32) A 2011 survey found that 65.6% of Australia and New Zealand population,[[31]](#cite_note-31) 92.1% in [Melanesia](/wiki/Melanesia),[[31]](#cite_note-31) 93.1% in [Micronesia](/wiki/Micronesia)[[31]](#cite_note-31) and 96.1% in [Polynesia](/wiki/Polynesia) described themselves as [Christians](/wiki/Christians).[[31]](#cite_note-31) Traditional religions are often [animist](/wiki/Animism), and prevalent among traditional tribes is the belief in spirits (*masalai* in [Tok Pisin](/wiki/Tok_Pisin)) representing natural forces.[[33]](#cite_note-33) In recent Australian and New Zealand censuses, large proportions of the population say they belong to "[no religion](/wiki/Irreligion)" (which includes [atheism](/wiki/Atheism), [agnosticism](/wiki/Agnosticism), [deism](/wiki/Deism), [secular humanism](/wiki/Secular_humanism), and [rationalism](/wiki/Rationalism)). In [Tonga](/wiki/Tonga), everyday life is heavily influenced by [Polynesian](/wiki/Polynesian_culture) traditions and especially by the Christian faith. The [Ahmadiyya](/wiki/Ahmadiyya) mosque in Marshall Islands is the only mosque in [Micronesia](/wiki/Micronesia).[[34]](#cite_note-34) Another one in [Tuvalu](/wiki/Tuvalu) belongs to the same sect. The [Bahá'í House of Worship](/wiki/Bahá'í_House_of_Worship) in Tiapapata, [Samoa](/wiki/Samoa), is one of seven designations administered in the [Bahá'í Faith](/wiki/Bahá'í_Faith).

## Sport[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]

### Multi-sport games[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]

Australia has hosted two Summer Olympics: [Melbourne 1956](/wiki/1956_Summer_Olympics) and [Sydney 2000](/wiki/2000_Summer_Olympics). Also, Australia has hosted four editions of the [Commonwealth Games](/wiki/Commonwealth_Games) ([Sydney 1938](/wiki/1938_British_Empire_Games), [Perth 1962](/wiki/1962_British_Empire_and_Commonwealth_Games), [Brisbane 1982](/wiki/1982_Commonwealth_Games), [Melbourne 2006](/wiki/2006_Commonwealth_Games)), and is scheduled for a fifth ([Gold Coast 2018](/wiki/2018_Commonwealth_Games)). Meanwhile, New Zealand has hosted the Commonwealth Games three times: [Auckland 1950](/wiki/1950_British_Empire_Games), [Christchurch 1974](/wiki/1974_British_Commonwealth_Games) and [Auckland 1990](/wiki/1990_Commonwealth_Games).

The [Pacific Games](/wiki/Pacific_Games) (formerly known as the South Pacific Games) is a multi-sport event, much like the Olympics on a much smaller scale, with participation exclusively from countries around the Pacific. It is held every four years and began in 1963. Australia and New Zealand will be competing in the games for the first time in 2015.[[35]](#cite_note-35)

### Association football (soccer)[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) The [Oceania Football Confederation](/wiki/Oceania_Football_Confederation) (OFC) is one of six [association football](/wiki/Association_football) confederations[[36]](#cite_note-36) under the auspices of [FIFA](/wiki/FIFA), the international governing body of the sport. The OFC is the only confederation without an automatic qualification to the [World Cup](/wiki/FIFA_World_Cup). Currently the winner of the OFC qualification tournament must play off against a [North, Central American and Caribbean confederation](/wiki/CONCACAF) side to qualify for the World Cup.[[37]](#cite_note-37)[[38]](#cite_note-38) Currently, [Vanuatu](/wiki/Vanuatu) is the only country in Oceania to call football its national sport. However, it is the most popular sport in [Kiribati](/wiki/Kiribati), the [Solomon Islands](/wiki/Solomon_Islands) and [Tuvalu](/wiki/Tuvalu), and has a significant (and growing) popularity in Australia.

Oceania has been represented at five World Cup finals tournaments — [Australia](/wiki/Australia_national_association_football_team) in [1974](/wiki/1974_FIFA_World_Cup), [2006](/wiki/2006_FIFA_World_Cup), [2010](/wiki/2010_FIFA_World_Cup), and [2014](/wiki/2014_FIFA_World_Cup), and [New Zealand](/wiki/New_Zealand_national_football_team) in [1982](/wiki/1982_FIFA_World_Cup) and [2010](/wiki/2010_FIFA_World_Cup). In 2006, Australia joined the Asian Football Confederation and qualified for the 2010 World cup as an Asian entrant. New Zealand qualified through the Oceania Confederation, winning its playoff against Bahrain. This made 2010 the first time that two countries from (geographic) Oceania had qualified at the same time, albeit through different confederations.

### Australian rules football[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [Australian rules football](/wiki/Australian_rules_football) is the national sport in Nauru[[39]](#cite_note-39) and is the most popular football code in Australia in terms of attendance.[[40]](#cite_note-40) It has a large following in Papua New Guinea, where it is the second most popular sport after Rugby League.[[41]](#cite_note-41)