

**THE SITUATION OF CHILDREN  
INTUVALU**

**COUNTRY FACTSHEET: SEPTEMBER 2025**

# Factsheet on the situation of children in Tuvalu

## Data Brief: September 2025

This country factsheet provides a snapshot of the situation of children, adolescents and youth in Tuvalu focusing on UNICEF East Asia and the Pacific regional accelerators.

The factsheet gives an overview of the most recent child-related statistics, drawing on internationally comparable indicators available through global databases. Indicators have been chosen based on the availability of historical data and geographic coverage, with priority to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators.

### Highlights

Tuvalu is an upper-middle income economy. Economic growth was 3.7% in 2023 and 3.3% in 2024. The country is forecasted to grow by 2.7% in 2025.

Children represent 39% of the projected 9,500 population in 2025. Children between the ages of 0 to 4 years represent 11% of the population.

The status of nutrition and health indicators show that Tuvalu is in a reasonable position in reducing Under-5 stunting, wasting, underweight, and overweight, though more effort is needed to encourage mothers to complete the minimum four antenatal visits (currently at 60%).

Most children received three doses of the DTP vaccine (94%) and two doses of the measles vaccine (98%) in 2023.

Completion drops from 99% in primary to 52% in upper secondary, with similar attendance trends. In 2021, only 24% of Grade 4 students met minimum

The factsheet contains six sections:

- 1) Demographic and Economic Overview
- 2) Primary Health Care
- 3) Adolescent girls' and boys' skills, learning, and employability
- 4) Violence against children
- 5) National Social Protection Systems
- 6) Water, disaster, and climate vulnerability

reading standards and 54% met numeracy benchmarks, improving modestly by Grade 6.

Child marriage is reported to be low compared to other Pacific Island countries with 2% of women (20 to 24 years of age) married before the age of 18.

Child labour is also low compared to most other countries in the Pacific at 4%. With females being more disadvantaged (5% vs. 3%).

Public spending in social sectors as a percent of total national budget is around 8% for Education, 13% for Health, and 1% for Social Protection.

Social protection coverage is minimal with only 5% of people covered by at least one benefit. Coverage for children is essentially absent revealing the weakness in social protection for the most vulnerable.

Basic drinking water and sanitation services can be improved, particularly for schools of which only 77% have access to drinking water.

### Disclaimer

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# Children in Tuvalu

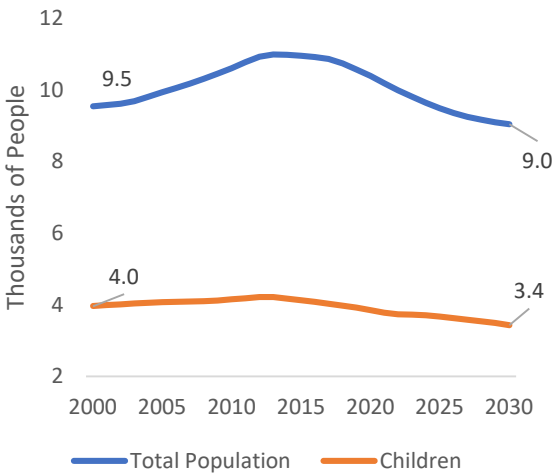


## Demographic and Economic Overview

### Demography<sup>1</sup>

	Value	Year
<b>Total Population</b> (in thousands)	9.5	2025
<b>% of Total population</b>		
Children 0-4	11	2025
Children 0-17	39	2025
Children and Adolescents 0-19	42	2025
<b>Number of births</b> (in thousands)	0.2	2025
<b>Population growth rate</b> (% annual change)	-1.5	2025
<b>Urban population (%)</b>	67	2024
<b>Rural population (%)</b>	33	2024

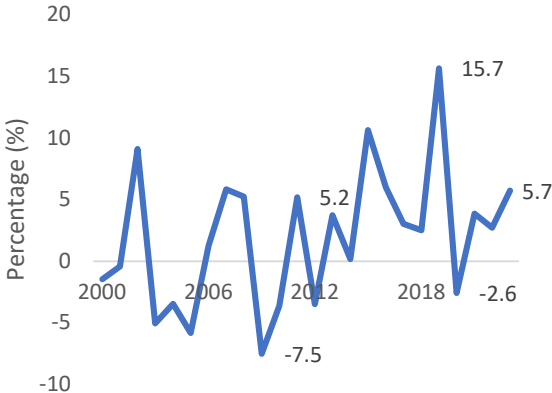
Population Trends and Projections (2000-2030)



### Economy<sup>2</sup>

	Value	Year
<b>Classification of the economy by income</b>	Upper-Middle-Income Economy	2025
<b>GDP per capita nominal</b> (in USD)	6,344.8	2024
<b>Inflation (%)</b>	1.2	2024

GDP Per Capita Growth (2000-2023)



# Children in Tuvalu

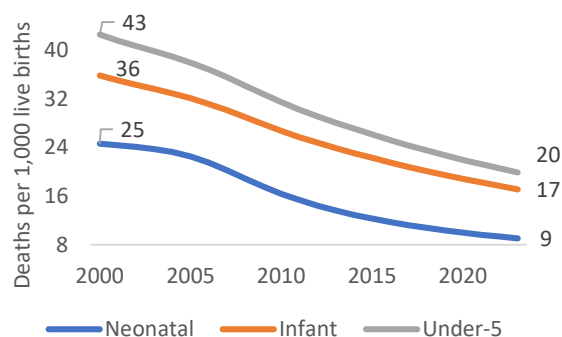


## Primary Health Care and Nutrition

### Mortality<sup>3</sup>

	Value	Year
<b>Mortality rates</b> (per 1,000 live births)		
Neonatal	9	2023
Infant	17	2023
Under-5	20	2023
<b>Under-5 deaths</b>		
	5	2023
<b>Crude suicide rate</b> per 100,000 population, among adolescents 15-19 years		
Total	Data Not Available	
Female	Data Not Available	
Male	Data Not Available	

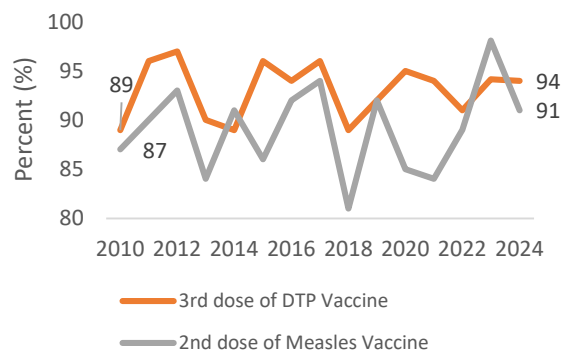
### Trends in Mortality Rates



### Maternal and Child Health<sup>4</sup>

	Value	Year
<b>% of Women</b> (15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years)		
(4+) Antenatal care visits	60	2020
Skilled attendant at birth	100	2020
Deliveries in health facilities	99	2020
<b>% of Children (0-2 years)</b>		
received 3 doses of DTP vaccine	94	2024
Received 2 doses of measles vaccine	91	2024

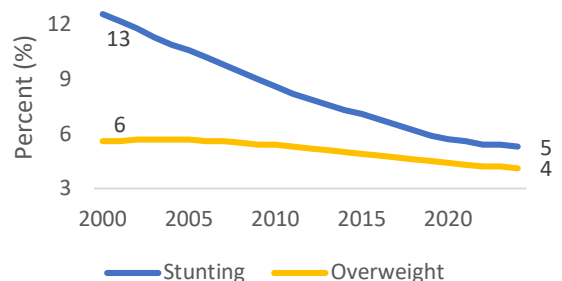
### Trends in Immunization, by Vaccine



### Nutrition<sup>4</sup>

	Value	Year
<b>% of Children</b> (under 5 years)		
Stunting	5	2024
Wasting	3	2019
Underweight	3	2019
Overweight	4	2024
<b>Minimum dietary diversity</b> (6-23 months)	29	2019
<b>Exclusive Breastfeeding</b> (under 6 months)	44	2019

### Trends in Nutrition



# Children in Tuvalu

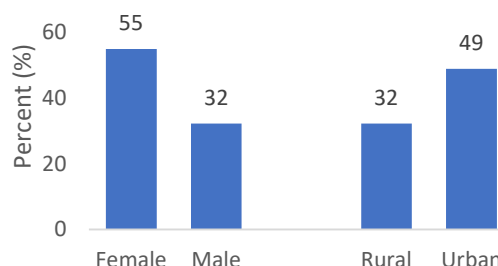


Learning, Skills, and Employability

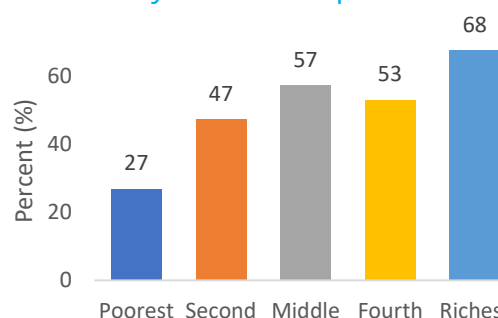
## Learning<sup>5</sup>

	Value	Year
<b>School net attendance</b> (% of children of the relevant age groups for the education level)		
Pre-Primary	78	2020
Primary	83	2020
Lower Secondary	75	2020
Upper Secondary	43	2020
<b>School completion</b> (% of children of the relevant age groups for the education level)		
Primary	99	2020
Lower Secondary	88	2020
Upper Secondary	52	2020
<b>Out-of-school children</b> (% of children of the relevant age groups for the education level)		
Primary	16	2020
Lower Secondary	26	2020
Upper Secondary	61	2020
<b>Educational Attainment</b> (% of students who are meeting the minimum expected standard)		
Grade 4 Numeracy	54	2021
Grade 4 Reading	24	2021
Grade 6 Numeracy	69	2021
Grade 6 Reading	44	2021

## Upper Secondary Net Attendance



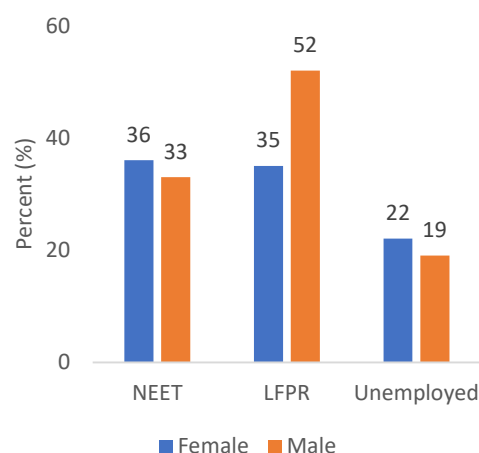
## Income Inequalities in Upper Secondary School Completion Rates



## Employment, Education and Training<sup>6</sup>

	Value	Year
<b>Not in education, employment, or training (NEET)</b> (15-19 years)		
	34	2022
Female	36	2022
Male	33	2022
<b>Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)</b> (15+)		
	44	2022
Female	35	2022
Male	52	2022
<b>Youth Unemployment rate</b> (15-24 years)		
	20	2022
Female	22	2022
Male	19	2022

## NEET, LFPR, and Youth Unemployment



# Children in Tuvalu



## Violence Against Children

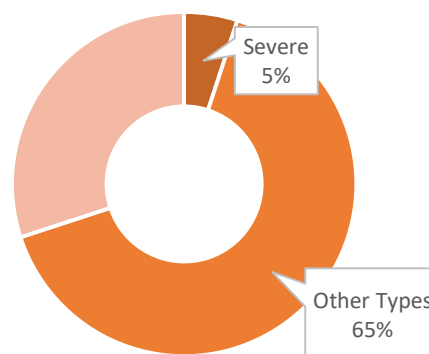
### Violence<sup>7</sup>

	Value	Year
<b>Violent child discipline</b> (% of Children aged 1-14)		
Any form of violent discipline	80	2020
Female	78	2020
Male	81	2020

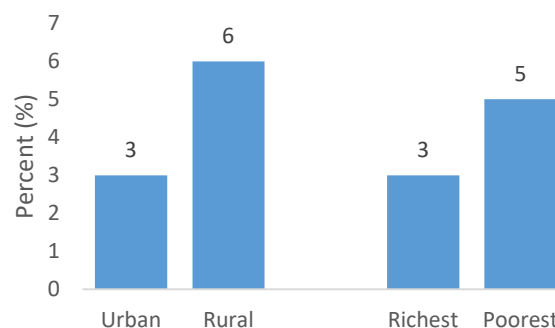
<b>Child marriage</b> (% of women and men aged 20-24)		
Women -		
Married before 18	2	2020
Married before 15	0	2020
Men -		
Married before 18	2	2020

<b>Child labour</b> (% of Children aged 5-14)		
Total	4	2020
Female	5	2020
Male	3	2020

### Physical Punishment



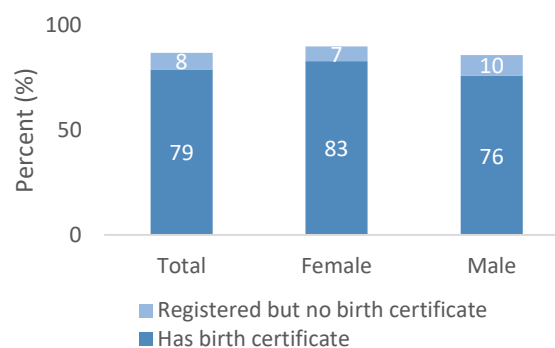
### Disaggregated Child Labour



### Birth Registration<sup>7</sup>

	Value	Year
<b>Birth registration</b> (% of Children under 5 years)		
Total	87	2021
Female	89	2021
Male	85	2021

### Birth Registration by Gender



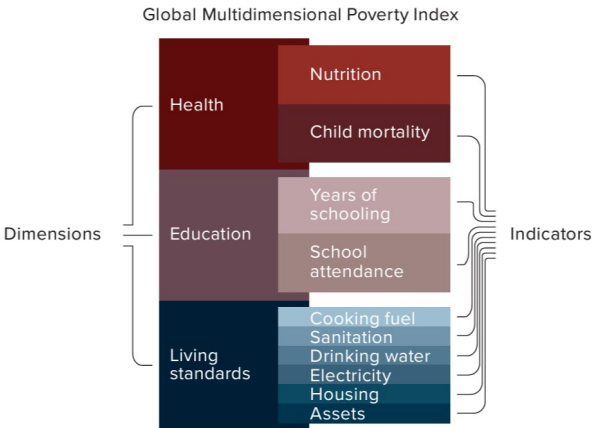
# Children in Tuvalu



## Social Protection Systems

### Poverty<sup>8</sup>

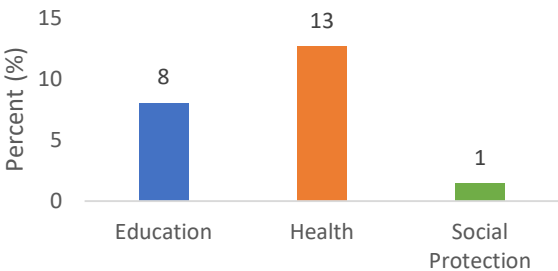
	Value	Year
<b>Monetary Poverty</b>		
International extreme poverty line \$3.00/day	9.0	2010
<b>National Poverty Rate</b>		
	26.3	2010
<b>Global Multidimensional Poverty Index</b>		
Population in multidimensional poverty (%)	2.1	2020
<b>Multidimensional Child Poverty (MODA)</b>		
	44.2	2025



### Public Expenditure on Essential Services<sup>9</sup>

	Value	Year
<b>Public Expenditure as % of GDP</b>		
Education	12	2023
Health	19	2023
Social Protection	2	2023

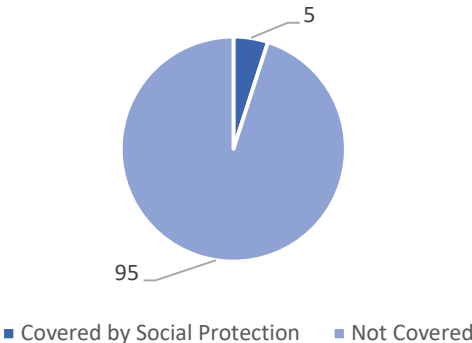
Sector as Percent of 2023 Budget



### Social Protection Coverage<sup>9</sup>

	Value	Year
<b>% Coverage</b>		
Population covered by at least one benefit (A)	5	2019
Proportion of children covered by social protection (B)	0	2023
Mothers with newborns receiving cash benefit (C)	Data Not Available	
Children/HHs receiving Child/Family cash benefits (D)	0	2022
Proportion of Poor Population receiving Social Assistance Cash Benefit (E)	0	2022
Persons with severe disabilities receiving benefits (F)	Data Not Available	

Population Covered by Social Protection (%)



# Children in Tuvalu

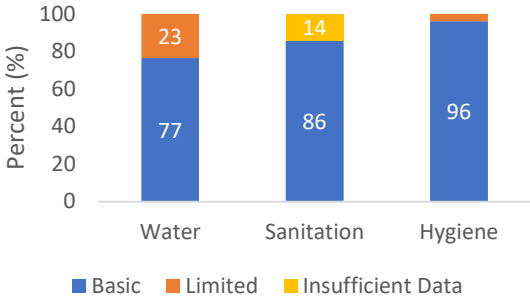


## Water Security and Climate

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene<sup>10</sup>

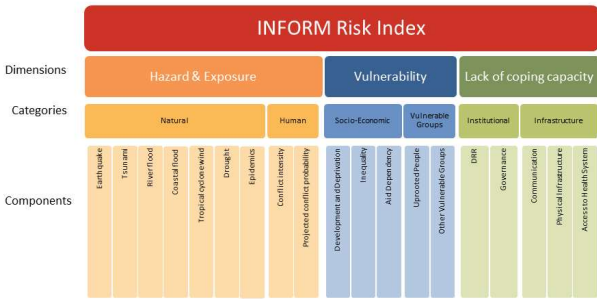
	Value	Year
<b>Household Coverage (%)</b>		
Basic drinking water	99	2024
Basic sanitation	90	2024
Basic hygiene	94	2024
<b>School Coverage (%)</b>		
Basic drinking water	77	2023
Basic sanitation	86	2023
Basic hygiene	96	2023

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene School Coverage



### Disaster and Climate Vulnerability<sup>11</sup>

	Value	Year
<b>INFORM Risk Index*</b>	2.7	
Risk Class	Low	
Country Rank	126 <sup>th</sup>	
<b>Children's Climate Risk Index (CCRI)**</b>	Data Not Available	



<b>Child-sensitive climate policies</b>	1) National Climate Change Policy 2021-2030
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\*The INFORM Risk Index identifies countries that are at a high risk of humanitarian crisis and therefore more likely to require international assistance. Released in 2024. \*\*The CCRI ranks countries based on children's exposure to climate and environmental shocks.

### Data Sources

- 1 Demography Data: UN Population Div, World Bank Data 2025
- 2 Economic Data: ADB Outlook September 2025, World Bank Data, and Brief 2025
- 3 Mortality Data: UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation, and WHO Data 2025
- 4 Maternal, Child Health, & Nutrition Data: UNICEF Data 2025
- 5 Learning/ Education Data: UNICEF Data 2025
- 6 Employment Data: ILO Country Profile for Tuvalu, and World Bank Data 2025
- 7 VAC Data: UNICEF Data 2025, and National Sources
- 8 Poverty Data: UNDP Global Multidimensional Poverty Index, World Bank Data, and ADB Data 2025
- 9 Essential Services and Social Protection Coverage Data: 2023 National Budget Document of the Tuvalu Government. UNICEF and ADB Data 2025
- 10 Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene Data: WHO/UNICEF JMP Data 2025
- 11 Climate Vulnerability: Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre (DRMKC), UNICEF Data, and National Sources 2025

For more information please visit UNICEF data ([data.unicef.org](https://data.unicef.org)) or contact: Martin Nabola | Social Policy Specialist | Tel: +679-948-7340 | Email: [mnabola@unicef.org](mailto:mnabola@unicef.org)