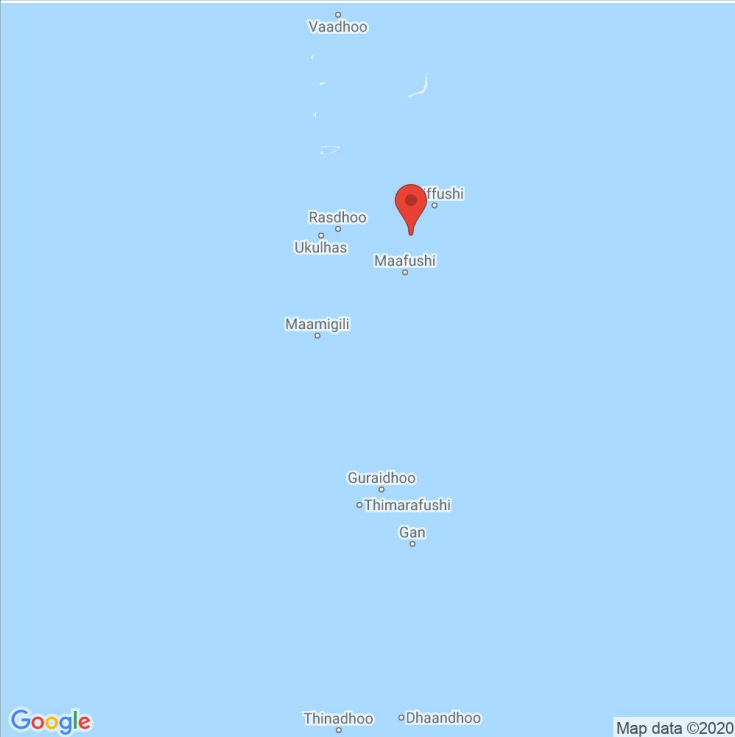


Maldives Immigration Detention Data Profile

	Quick Facts	
	Immigration detainees (2019)	Not Available
	Detained minors (2017)	Not Available
	International migrants (2019)	69,249

NOTES ON USING THIS PROFILE

- Sources for the data provided in this report are available online at: <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/asia-pacific/maldives>
- "Observation Dates" indicate the timeframe statistical data correspond to or other data were last validated. More than one statistical entry for a year indicates contrasting reports.

STATISTICS

Detention, expulsion, and incarceration statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Total number of immigration detainees by year	Not Available	2019	Total number of detained minors	Not Available	2017
Criminal prison population	1,880	2016	Percentage of foreign prisoners	1.1	2004
	1,050	2013			
	994	2012			
	993	2008			
	1,387	2003			
	1,098	1996			
Prison population rate (per 100,000 of national population)	514	2016			
	320	2013			
	307	2012			
	322	2008			
	436	2003			
	414	1996			

Demographics and immigration-related statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Population	500,000	2020	International migrants	69,249	2019
	364,000	2015		94,100	2015
	300,000	2012		84,200	2013
International migrants as a percentage of the population	25.9	2015	Refugees	31	2014
	8.3	2013			

DOMESTIC LAW

LEGAL TRADITION

Legal tradition	Name	Observation Date
	Muslim law	2017

COVID-19 UPDATES

	Update Status	Observation Date
<p>Latest Update</p>	<p>The Maldives has more than 100,000 migrant workers—comprising almost 25 percent of the islands' total population. A large number of these migrants are from Bangladesh, and many are undocumented. With numbers of migrants increasing in recent years, authorities have increasingly cracked down on irregular migration, opening a new dedicated detention centre in Hulhamale (outside Malé) in May 2019. Although employers are legally obligated to provide health insurance, coverage is often minimal and employers are reported to regularly confiscate workers' papers - making accessing care difficult. On 11 March, the government announced the opening of a dedicated Covid-19 clinic specifically for migrant workers in a preschool near Malé. According to the government's Covid-19 spokesperson, migrants using the service are not required to show work permits or other forms of documentation. With increasing numbers of migrants testing positive for Covid-19, living conditions have come under increased scrutiny. On 6 April, authorities announced plans to relocate some 1,500 migrant workers living in areas deemed as too congested. According to the Minister of Economic Development, in some areas more than 25, 30, or even 50 migrants share rooms. Reportedly, the state plans to temporarily move the individuals to housing units in Hulhumale and residences in Gulhifalhu, Kaafu Atol. On 27 April, the country's Minister of Tourism stated, "Expatriates are also people who provide a service to Maldives, just as Maldivians do. Even under these circumstances, protecting and respecting humanity is the biggest priority for the state. Unless safety can be provided for everyone, neither Maldivians nor foreigners will be able to emerge from this pandemic." At the same time, six overcrowded accommodation blocks were placed under quarantine. With police surveillance in place, migrants have been prevented from entering or exiting. Simultaneously, authorities appear to have deported some undocumented Bangladeshi migrants. On 21 April, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs confirmed that 68 persons had been returned to Bangladesh. As of 30 April, more Bangladeshi migrants had tested positive for Covid-19 than Maldivian nationals.</p>	<p>2020</p>

INTERNATIONAL LAW

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

	Name	Ratification Year
<p>International treaties</p>	<p>OP CRC Communications Procedure</p>	<p>2019</p>
	<p>CTOCTP, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children</p>	<p>2016</p>
	<p>CRPD, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</p>	<p>2010</p>
	<p>ICCPR, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</p>	<p>2006</p>
	<p>ICESCR, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</p>	<p>2006</p>
	<p>OPCAT, Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment</p>	<p>2006</p>
	<p>CAT, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment</p>	<p>2004</p>
	<p>CEDAW, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women</p>	<p>1993</p>
	<p>CRC, Convention on the Rights of the Child</p>	<p>1991</p>
	<p>VCCR, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations</p>	<p>1991</p>
	<p>ICERD, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination</p>	<p>1984</p>
<p>Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified</p>	<p>11/19</p>	

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
International treaty reservations	Name	Reservation Year	Observation Date
	CRC Article 14	1991	1991
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Individual complaints procedure	Name		Acceptance Year
	ICCPR, First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966		2006
	CEDAW, Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 1999		2006
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Ratio of complaints procedures accepted	Number		Observation Date
	2/7		2017
Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms			
Relevant recommendations of the UN Universal Periodic Review	Recommendation Issued		Observation Date
	No		2017
	No		2017

INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS															
Institutions responsible for immigration detention															
Custodial authority	Agency	Ministry			Ministry Typology	Observation Date									
			Department of Immigration and Emigration				2009								
Institutions responsible for immigration detention															
Detention Facility Management	Entity Name					Entity Type	Observation Date								
	Expatriate Monitoring centre of the Department of Immigration and Emigration					Governmental	2009								
Institutions responsible for immigration detention															
Types of detention facilities used in practice	Immigration detention centre (Administrative)	Immigration field office (Administrative)	Transit centre (Administrative)	Reception centre (Administrative)	Offshore detention centre (Administrative)	Hospital (Administrative)	Border guard (Administrative)	Police station (Criminal)	National penitentiary (Criminal)	Local prison (Criminal)	Juvenile detention centre (Criminal)	Informal camp (Ad hoc)	Immigration detention centre (Ad hoc)	Surge facility (Ad hoc)	Observation Date
															2015

More information about immigration detention in Maldives is available at the website of the Global Detention Project (www.globaldetentionproject.org)