



Quick Facts	
Immigration detainees (2019)	Not Available
Detained minors (2017)	Not Available
International migrants (2019)	3,752

NOTES ON USING THIS PROFILE

- Sources for the data provided in this report are available online at: <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/asia-pacific/tonga>
- "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	176	2014	Prison population rate (per 100,000 of national population)	166	2014
	163	2013		155	2013

Demographics and immigration-related statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Population	106,095	2020	International migrants	3,752	2019
	106,000	2015		5,700	2015
International migrants as a percentage of the population	5.4	2015			

DOMESTIC LAW

LEGAL TRADITION

Legal tradition	Name	Observation Date
	Common law	2017

COVID-19 UPDATES

	Update Status	Observation Date
Latest Update	In March, Tonga instituted a State of Emergency and shut its borders in order to prevent a domestic outbreak. As with other Pacific-island nations like Palau and Samoa, Tonga remained as of October 2020 one of a small handful of countries that had not reported any COVID-19 cases. Historically, Tonga has not been a destination for asylum seekers or refugees. There is no national asylum legislation and the country is not a signatory to the Refugee Convention. There is little available information about the treatment of migrants or asylum seekers in immigration enforcement procedures in Tonga. According to the 2020 US Trafficking in Persons Report, there are concerns about the vulnerability of Tongan nationals and foreign individuals to trafficking in Tonga. Since convicting its first trafficker in April 2011, the government has not prosecuted or convicted any trafficking cases. The government has still not developed procedures to proactively identify victims or effectively coordinated anti-trafficking efforts.	2020

INTERNATIONAL LAW

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

	Name	Ratification Year
International treaties	VCCR, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations	1974
	ICERD, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	1972
	CRC, Convention on the Rights of the Child	1995
Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified		3/19

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
International treaty reservations	Name	Reservation Year	Observation Date
	ICERD Article 5	1972	2017
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Ratio of complaints procedures accepted	Number	Observation Date	
	0/2	2017	
Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms			
Relevant recommendations of the UN Universal Periodic Review	Recomendation Issued	Year Issued	Observation Date
	No	2008	2017
	No	2013	2017

INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS

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