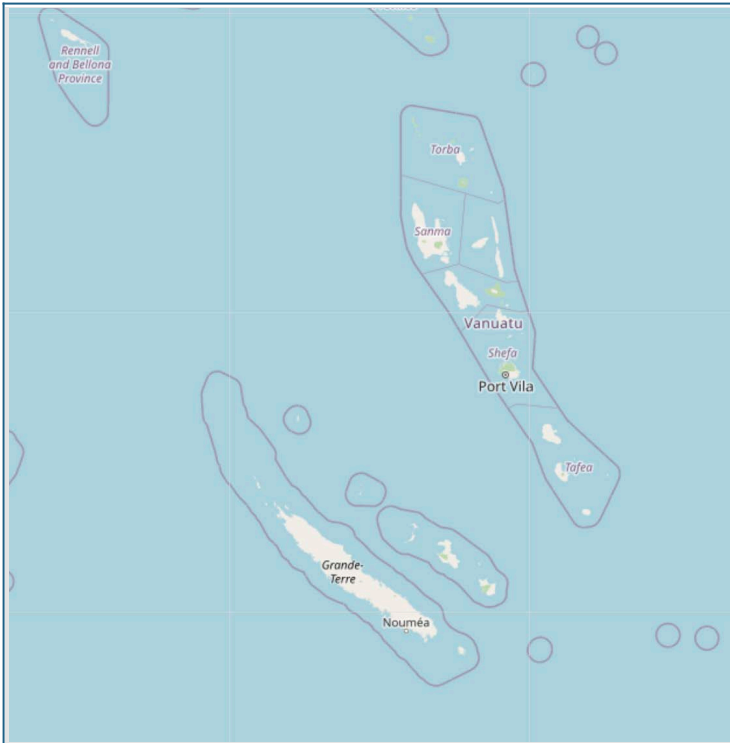


Vanuatu Immigration Detention Data Profile



Quick Facts

Immigration detainees (2019)	Not Available
Detained minors (2017)	Not Available
Immigration detention capacity (2019)	0
International migrants (2019)	3,245
New asylum applications (2016)	0
Number of immigration detainees on a given day (2019)	Not Available

NOTES ON USING THIS PROFILE

- Sources for the data provided in this report are available online at: <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/asia-pacific/vanuatu>
- "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	Number of immigration detainees on a given day	Not Available	2019
Total number of detained minors	Not Available	2017	Estimated capacity of dedicated long-term immigration detention centres	Not Available	2019
Criminal prison population	192	2016	Percentage of foreign prisoners	0.4	2011
	194	2012			
Prison population rate (per 100,000 of national population)	71	2016			
	76	2012			

Demographics and immigration-related statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Population	300,000	2020	International migrants	3,245	2019
	265,000	2015		3,200	2015
International migrants as a percentage of the population	1.2	2015			

DOMESTIC LAW

LEGAL TRADITION

	Name	Observation Date
Legal tradition	Civil law	2017
	Common law	2017
	Customary law	2017

COVID-19 UPDATES

	Update Status	Observation Date
Latest Update	<p>Amidst fears that the country's healthcare system would be overwhelmed by a Covid-19 outbreak, Vanuatu announced a State of Emergency and closed its borders to all inbound flights and vessels in March. Said one expert, "Their health system is fragile and even a few cases of Covid-19 will overwhelm their health system." As of early October 2020, the country had not declared any cases of the virus. In April, the arrival of Cyclone Harold, one of the strongest storms ever recorded in the Southeast Pacific, resulted in a severe humanitarian crisis on the island. This was further exacerbated by the government's ban on foreign aid workers from entering the country due to fears that they could bring in coronavirus. In the wake of the cyclone, the government lifted restrictions on domestic air and sea travel to facilitate the movement of aid supplies, but strict international travel restrictions remain in place. Vanuatu is not a signatory to the Refugee Convention and has not historically received many asylum seekers. In 2013, UNHCR reported that it was aware of two refugees residing in the country, both of whom were awaiting resettlement. According to the 2020 US Trafficking in Persons Report, there have been cases of labour exploitation of foreigners in the country. In March 2019, authorities arrested four Bangladeshi nationals for their role in a forced labour case involving 101 Bangladeshi nationals. In November that year, the government initiated court proceedings, leading to the first trafficking prosecution in the country's history. Although the government provided support to some victims, it also forced some to stay in the country for the duration of the prosecution without allowing them to earn an income, increasing their vulnerability to re-trafficking and exploitation. There remains a lack of systematic anti-trafficking training for law enforcement officials and a lack of public awareness campaigns surrounding the issue. There is little or no information about the use of enforcement measures like arrest and detention in immigration procedures in Vanuatu.</p>	2020

INTERNATIONAL LAW

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

	Name	Ratification Year
International treaties	VCCR, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations	1987
	ICCPR, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	2008
	CEDAW, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	1995
	CAT, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	2011
	CRC, Convention on the Rights of the Child	1993
	CRPD, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	2008
Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified	6/19	

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

	Name	Acceptance Year
Individual complaints procedure	CEDAW, Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 1999	2007

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

	Number	Observation Date
Ratio of complaints procedures accepted	1/5	2017

Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms

Relevant recommendations of the UN Universal Periodic Review	Recomendation Issued	Year Issued	Observation Date
	No	2009	2017
	No	2014	2017

INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS

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

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