

Chapter V

5 Household and Housing Characteristics

The 1990 census was a population and housing census. Therefore, questions on housing were asked to all household heads. The following information on housing is available:

i. Dwelling type

Enumerators were instructed to record the dwelling type (type of house) of all dwellings. The question contained a list of choices.

ii. Dwelling ownership

Firstly, respondents were asked to report whether they rented or owned their house. If the house was rented, they were asked to state who the house was rented from. The question provided pre-coded answers:

In addition to the above information on dwelling type and dwelling ownership, the 2001 census also attempted to collect information on a number of other extremely useful items:

i. Number of rooms in the house

Interviewers were instructed to exclude kitchens, bathrooms, storerooms etc.

ii. Source of drinking water

Six (6) pre-coded answers were provided viz. piped to the household, rainwater tank, well and other. In the case the answer was 'other', a further description was required.

iii. Kind of fuel for cooking

The pre-coded answers included electricity, gas, kerosene, charcoal, firewood and other. In the case, the answer was 'other'; a further specification was again required.

iv. Source of hot water

The pre-coded answers included electricity, wood and solar energy, and other fuel. In the latter case a description was once again required.

There were also information on other housing and household characteristics collected from the 2001 census, and are all summarized in this chapter.

Household and Housing Characteristics are important for planners and policy makers to meet demands for housing and for different types, quantities and qualities of dwelling and other accommodation. To access related requirements such as water consumption, electricity supply, access to telephones, waste disposal and general infrastructure, data on household and housing is also needed. That is, household size and composition are important factors in considering the availability of land to build suitable houses needed by the people.

5.1 Household Size

The 2001 census counted 508 private households and the average number of persons per household in Niue is 3.4 people. The household size of 3.4 persons per household in Niue 2001 Population Census was lower than that estimated from the 1997 Population Census of 3.8 persons per household. About 78 people usually residing in Niue were temporarily absent during the census, including these people would increase the average household size to 3.6 household members.

There are outstanding differences in household size by village, ranging from 5.2 persons per household in Vaiea to only 1.5 persons per household in Namukulu. Average Household Size of each village is presented in Table A25.

Table A25. Average household size by Area, Niue 2001

<i>Area</i>	<i>Total HH</i>	<i>Total HH Pop.</i>	<i>Avg. HH Size</i>
<i>Makefu</i>	24	84	3.5
<i>Tuapa</i>	39	129	3.3
<i>Namukulu</i>	8	12	1.5
<i>Hikutavake</i>	21	65	3.1
<i>Toi</i>	10	31	3.1
<i>Mutalau</i>	39	133	3.4
<i>Lakepa</i>	24	88	3.7
<i>Liku</i>	22	73	3.3
<i>Hakupu</i>	55	227	4.1
<i>Vaiea</i>	12	62	5.2
<i>Avatele</i>	38	125	3.3
<i>Tamakautoga</i>	38	125	3.3
<i>Alofi South</i>	115	358	3.1
<i>Alofi North</i>	63	224	3.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>508</i>	<i>1736</i>	<i>3.4</i>

Of the 508 total households, 79.1 percent are family households while the remaining 20.1 percent are non-family households.

The distribution of household by size also changed in 2001 Niue Population Census compared to the 1997 Niue Population Census. In 2001 there was a noticeable increase of the number of household with one or two household members compared to that of 1997 – that is, 28 more single person households were recorded and 11 more households with 2 persons per household. On the other hand, there were 21 less households with more than 7 members in 2001 compared to that in 1997. Overall fewer people lived together per household in 2001 than in 1997, and probably fewer than ever before in Niue’s history. Percentage Distribution of Household Size, Niue 1997 and 2001 is presented in Table A26.

Table A26. Percentage Distribution of Household Size, Niue 1997 and 2001

<i>HH Size</i>	<i>Number and Percent of HH</i>			
	<i>1997</i>		<i>2001</i>	
	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>1 Person</i>	74	13.6	102	20.1
<i>2 Persons</i>	97	17.9	108	21.3
<i>3 Persons</i>	99	18.2	82	16.1
<i>4 Persons</i>	81	14.9	71	14.0
<i>5 Persons</i>	79	14.5	57	11.2
<i>6 Persons</i>	50	9.2	46	9.1
<i>7 Persons & above</i>	63	11.6	42	8.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>543</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>508</i>	<i>100.0</i>

5.2 Household Heads and Relationship to Head of Household

Data on relationship to head of household was established by identifying a head of household who serves as a reference person to whom all other persons in the household at the time of the census are related. This information shows that about 76 percent of all heads of household in Niue were men and 24 percent were women. The female heads of household were never married, widowed, divorced or separated or the heads of single-person households. In general, Niueans referred to the oldest male person living in the household as the head of household, regardless of his ability to economically support the household members.

About 86 percent of all household members belonged to nuclear families. Nuclear families consist of husband, wife and children. 4.1 percent was grandchildren/great-grandchildren of household heads. Other relation constitutes 8.6 percent of all household members and there were no non-related household members.

Table A27. Percentage Distribution of Population by Relationship to Head of Household

<i>Relationship to Head of Household</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male %</i>	<i>Female %</i>	<i>Total %</i>
<i>Head of Household</i>	384	124	508	31.8	10.3	42.1
<i>Spouse</i>	7	266	273	0.6	22.0	22.6
<i>Son/Daughter</i>	136	118	254	11.3	9.8	21.0
<i>Son/Daughter in laws</i>	9	10	19	0.7	0.8	1.6
<i>Grand child/Great Grand Child</i>	22	28	50	1.8	2.3	4.1
<i>Other relation</i>	38	66	104	3.1	5.5	8.6
<i>Not related</i>	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	596	612	1208	49.3	50.7	100.0

5.3 Dwelling Type

There were three types of dwelling in Niue: house, flat and kitset house. Among 508 household 93.3 percent was house type, 5.3 percent was flat type and only 1.4 percent was kitset house type. Percentage Distribution of Household by Dwelling Type is presented in Table A28.

Table A28. Percentage Distribution of Household by Dwelling Type

<i>Dwelling Type</i>	<i>Number of HH</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>House</i>	474	93.3
<i>Flat</i>	27	5.3
<i>Kitset House</i>	7	1.4
<i>Total</i>	508	100.0

5.4 Tenure of Living Quarters

Of the 508 households, 68.3 percent was owned by their occupants, 13 percent was on loan without payment, 7.1 percent was rented or lease, 6.5 percent was mortgage, 3.9 percent of houses was given free with job and only 1.2 percent was rented with nominal fees. Percentage Distribution of Household by Tenure of Living Quarters is presented in Table A29.

Table A29. Percentage Distribution of Household by Tenure of Living Quarters

<i>Tenure of Living Quarters</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Rent or Lease</i>	36	7.1
<i>On Loan without Payment</i>	66	13.0
<i>Free with Job</i>	20	3.9
<i>Pay Norminal Rent</i>	6	1.2
<i>Own</i>	347	68.3
<i>Buying on Mortgage</i>	33	6.5
<i>Total</i>	508	100.0

5.5 Fishing Vessel

The Distribution of Household by Fishing Vessel ownership is presented in Table A30. It shows that 117 out of the 508 households own 156 canoes, 58 households with 70 aluminum dinghy, only one household with 2 inflatable dinghy, 13 households with 14 boats, and 55 households with 84 Outboard motor.

Table A30. Distribution of Household by Fishing Vessels

<i>Fishing Vessels</i>	<i>HH</i>	<i>Num</i>
<i>Canoe</i>	117	156
<i>Aluminum Dinghy</i>	58	70
<i>Inflatable Dinghy</i>	1	2
<i>Boat</i>	13	14
<i>Outboard Motor</i>	55	84

5.6 Household Amenities

About 82.1 percent of the 508 households are fitted with flush toilets, 27.4 percent have water seal toilets, 71.5 percent have sewage concrete septic tanks, 20.9 percent have sewage non concrete water seal, and only 4.5 percent had sewage long drop. All but only 8 households in Niue have electricity power supply while only 2 households own electricity generators. Percentage Distribution of Household by Amenities is presented in Table A31.

Table 31. Percentage Distribution of Household by Amenities

<i>Amenities of Dwelling</i>	<i>Num of HH</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Flush Toilet</i>	417	82.1
<i>Water Seal Toilet</i>	139	27.4
<i>Bathtub</i>	87	17.1
<i>Handbasin</i>	348	68.5
<i>Washing Tub</i>	185	36.4
<i>Shower</i>	432	85.0
<i>Kitchen Sink</i>	376	74.0
<i>Electricity Public Supply</i>	500	98.4
<i>Electricity Own Generator</i>	2	0.4
<i>Sewage Long Drop</i>	23	4.5
<i>Sewage Non Concrete Water Seal</i>	106	20.9
<i>Sewage Concrete Septic Tank</i>	363	71.5

5.7 Main Means of Cooking

Among 508 households, 25.6 percent were reported using electric stove as their main mean of cooking, followed by Gas Stove with 19.3 percent. The percentages of households that used gas elements and open fire are 12.4 and 12.0 respectively. Percentage Distribution of Household b Main Mean Cooking is presented in Table A32.

Table A32. Percentage Distribution of Household by Main means cooking

<i>Main Mean Cooking</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Total</i>	508	100
<i>Electric Stove</i>	130	25.6
<i>Gas stove</i>	98	19.3
<i>Wood Stove</i>	3	0.6
<i>Kerosene Cooker</i>	22	4.3
<i>Charcoal Cooker</i>	14	2.8
<i>Electric Element</i>	33	6.5
<i>Open Fire</i>	61	12.0
<i>Umu</i>	7	1.4
<i>Drum Over</i>	1	0.2
<i>Bench Top oven</i>	43	8.5
<i>Gas Element</i>	63	12.4
<i>Other</i>	24	4.7
<i>Not Stated</i>	9	1.8

5.8 Source of Water Supply

Among 508 household 75.4 percent of them reported that to have piped water from taps in their houses. 72.6 percent had piped from public source to taps outside their houses. It shows that all houses which had public taps inside their houses also had public taps outside them. About 40.9 percent of the houses had water tank fed by rain water. Only 13.6 percent of the household had piped public to water tank. The percentage of households that had water well was only 1.6. Percentage Distribution of Household by Sources of Water Supply is presented in Table A33.

Table A33. Percentage Distribution of Household by Sources of Water Supply

<i>Source of Water Supply</i>	<i>Num. Of HH</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>Piped Public To Taps in House</i>	383	75.4
<i>Piped Public To Taps outside House</i>	369	72.6
<i>Piped Public to Water Tank</i>	69	13.6
<i>Water Tank Fed by Rain Water</i>	208	40.9
<i>Water Well</i>	8	1.6

5.9 Main Means of Hot Water

Among 508 households nearly half of them (ie: 43.3 percent) had no hot water system, 31.1 percent had main mean of hot water by electricity, 10.4 percent by solar energy booster, 6.5 percent by solar energy no booster, 3.5 percent b gas, another 3.5 percent by other fuel and

only 1.6 percent had main mean of hot water system by wood stove. The Percentage Distribution of Household by Main Mean of Hot water is presented in Table A34.

Table A34. Percentage Distribution of Household by Main Means of Hot Water

<i>Main Means Hot Water</i>	<i>Num. of Household</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>Total</i>	508	100
<i>Electricity</i>	158	31.1
<i>Gas</i>	18	3.5
<i>Solar Energy Booster</i>	53	10.4
<i>Solar Energy no Booster</i>	33	6.5
<i>Wood Stove</i>	8	1.6
<i>Other Fuel</i>	18	3.5
<i>None</i>	220	43.3

5.10 Type of Vehicles Owned

There are altogether 134 motorbikes in Niue. Among 508 households 106 households owned one motorbike each, 8 households owned two motorbikes each and 4 households owned 3 motorbikes each. The Island had 16 diesel cars, 307 petrol cars, 49 diesel Truck, 25 petrol cars, 90 diesel vans, 80 petrol vans, 28 diesel pickups, 48 petrol pickups, 5 diesel d/cabs and 6 petrol d/cabs. Distribution of Household and Number of Vehicles Owned by Type of Vehicles are presented in Table A35.

Table A35. Distribution of Household and Number of Vehicles Owned by Type of Vehicles

<i>Type of Vehicles</i>	<i>Total Num Owned</i>	<i>Number of Vehicles Owned/Households</i>											
		<i>0</i>		<i>1</i>		<i>2</i>		<i>3</i>		<i>4</i>		<i>5</i>	
		<i>Num</i>	<i>HH</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>HH</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>HH</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>HH</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>HH</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>HH</i>
<i>Motorbikes</i>	134	0	390	106	106	16	8	12	4	0	0	0	0
<i>Diesel Cars</i>	16	0	492	16	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Petrol Cars</i>	307	0	272	179	179	92	46	27	9	4	1	5	1
<i>Diesel Trucks</i>	49	0	462	44	44	2	1	3	1	0	0	0	0
<i>Petrol Trucks</i>	25	0	485	21	21	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Diesel Vans</i>	90	0	422	82	82	8	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Petrol Vans</i>	80	0	434	69	69	8	4	3	1	0	0	0	0
<i>Diesel Pickup</i>	28	0	480	28	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Petrol Pickup</i>	48	0	463	42	42	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Diesel Dcab</i>	5	0	503	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Petrol Dcab</i>	6	0	502	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

5.11 Home Improvement

Among 508 households 184 households are reported to renovate in the year 2001-2005. The number of households which were going to renovate in the year 2001, 2002 2003 2004 and 2005 were 12, 86, 42, 23 and 21 respectively. (Table 13)

Among 508 households 41 households were planning to build a new house in the year 2001-2005. Those who were planning to build a new household were going to build 1 household in the year 2001, 11 households in the year 2002, 8 households in the year 2003, 9 households in the year 2004 and 12 households in the year 2005.(Table 13)

Among 41 houses which were planning to build a new house, 25 houses were intending to build in their own villages, 3 houses were not stated their intending of building and 13 houses were intending to build in other villages. Among these 13 houses, 3 from Alofi South were intending to build in Tuapa, 2 houses from Alofi South were intending to build in Hakupu and 1 from the same village were intending to build in Alofi North. (Table 14)