

Marshall Islands

Marshall Islands, archipelago, republic, central North Pacific Ocean. It consists of 34 islands in two groups: the southeastern Ratak Chain and the northwestern Ralik Chain. The chief industries are agriculture and fishing; the major export is copra. The islands are atolls and coral reefs, and the inhabitants are Micronesian. Kwajalein is the largest atoll; Majuro is the capital island.

The islands were sighted by the Spanish in 1526 but remained essentially uncolonized until the late 19th century. They were a German protectorate from 1885 to 1914, when they fell to Japan. In 1920 the archipelago was mandated to Japan. In February 1944 American forces took Majuro, the first Japanese possession captured in World War II. Other islands were subsequently occupied. The archipelago remained under American military control for the duration of the war. In 1946 an American task force used Bikini atoll as a nuclear testing ground. The Marshalls became a trusteeship of the United States in 1947 and self-governing in 1979, with a locally drafted constitution, a popularly elected legislature, and a president. A Compact of Free Association, delegating to the U.S. the responsibility for defense, was approved by plebiscite in 1983 and came into effect in 1986. The trusteeship was formally dissolved by the UN Security Council in 1990, and the country was admitted to the United Nations in 1991. Area, 181 sq km (70 sq mi); population (2001 estimate) 70,822.

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Marshall Islands Facts and Figures

BASIC FACTS

Official name	Republic of the Marshall Islands
Capital	Majuro
Area	181 sq km 70 sq mi

PEOPLE

Population	70,822 (2001 estimate)
Population growth	
Population growth rate	3.88 percent (2001 estimate)
Projected population in 2025	171,134 (2000 estimate)
Projected population in 2050	347,893 (2000 estimate)
Population density	391 persons per sq km (2001 estimate) 1,013 persons per sq mi (2001 estimate)
Urban/rural distribution	
Share urban	73 percent (1999 estimate)
Share rural	29 percent (1999 estimate)
Largest cities, with population	
Majuro	Not available
Ethnic groups	
Micronesian, German, Japanese, American, Filipino	
Languages	
English (official and universally spoken), Ratak and Ralik (Marshallese dialects from the Malayo-Polynesian family), Japanese	
Religious affiliations	
Christian (mostly Protestant)	

HEALTH AND EDUCATION

Life expectancy	
Total	65.8 years (2001 estimate)
Female	67.7 years (2001 estimate)
Male	64 years (2001 estimate)
Infant mortality rate	40 deaths per 1,000 live births (2001 estimate)
Population per physician	Not available
Population per hospital bed	440 people (1990)
Literacy rate	
Total	93 percent (1980)
Female	88 percent (1980)
Male	100 percent (1980)
Education expenditure as a share of gross national product (GNP)	Not available
Number of years of compulsory schooling	Not available
Number of students per teacher, primary school	Not available

GOVERNMENT

Form of government

Republic

Voting qualifications	Universal at age 18
Constitution	1 May 1979
Armed forces	
Total number of military personnel	Not available
Military expenditures as a share of gross domestic product (GDP)	Not available

ECONOMY

Gross domestic product (GDP, in U.S.\$)	\$97 million (1999)
GDP per capita (U.S.\$)	\$1,910 (1999)
GDP by economic sector	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing	14.9 percent (1998)
Industry	15 percent (1998)
Services	70.1 percent (1998)
Employment	
Number of workers	Not available
Workforce share of economic sector	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing	Not available
Industry	Not available
Services	Not available
Unemployment rate	Not available
National budget (U.S.\$)	
Total revenue	Not available
Total expenditure	Not available
Monetary unit	
1 United States dollar (U.S.\$), consisting of 100 cents	
Major trade partners for exports	
United States, Japan, Australia	
Major trade partners for imports	
United States, Japan, Australia, New Zealand	

ENERGY, COMMUNICATIONS, AND TRANSPORTATION

Electricity production

Electricity from thermal sources	Not available
Electricity from hydroelectric sources	Not available
Electricity from nuclear sources	Not available
Electricity from geothermal, solar, and wind sources	Not available
Number of radios per 1,000 people	Not available
Number of telephones per 1,000 people	62 (1998)
Number of televisions per 1,000 people	Not available
Number of Internet hosts per 10,000 people	0.39 (1999)
Daily newspaper circulation per 1,000 people	Not available

Number of motor vehicles per 1,000 people	Not available
Paved road as a share of total roads	Not available

SOURCES

Basic Facts and People sections

Area data are from the statistical bureaus of individual countries. Population, population growth rate, and population projections are from the United States Census Bureau, International Programs Center, International Data Base (IDB) (www.census.gov). Urban and rural population data are from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (UN), FAOSTAT database (www.fao.org). Largest cities population data and political divisions data are from the statistical bureaus of individual countries. Ethnic divisions and religion data are largely from the latest Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) *World Factbook* and from various country censuses and reports. Language data are largely from the *Ethnologue, Languages of the World*, Summer Institute of Linguistics International (www.sil.org).

Health and Education section

Life expectancy and infant mortality data are from the United States Census Bureau, International Programs Center, International database (IDB) (www.census.gov). Population per physician and population per hospital bed data are from the World Health Organization (WHO) (www.who.int). Education data are from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) database (www.unesco.org).

Government section

Government, independence, legislature, constitution, highest court, and voting qualifications data are largely from various government Web sites, the latest *Europa World Yearbook*, and the latest Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) *World Factbook*. The armed forces data is from *Military Balance*.

Economy section

Gross domestic product (GDP), GDP per capita, GDP by economic sectors, employment, and national budget data are from the World Bank database (www.worldbank.org). Monetary unit, agriculture, mining, manufacturing, exports, imports, and major trade partner information is from the latest *Europa World Yearbook* and various International Monetary Fund (IMF) publications.

Energy, Communication, and Transportation section

Electricity information is from the Energy Information Administration (EIA) database (www.eia.doe.gov). Radio, telephone, television, and newspaper information is from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) database (www.unesco.org). Internet hosts, motor vehicles, and road data are from the World Bank database (www.worldbank.org).

Note

Figures may not total 100 percent due to rounding.

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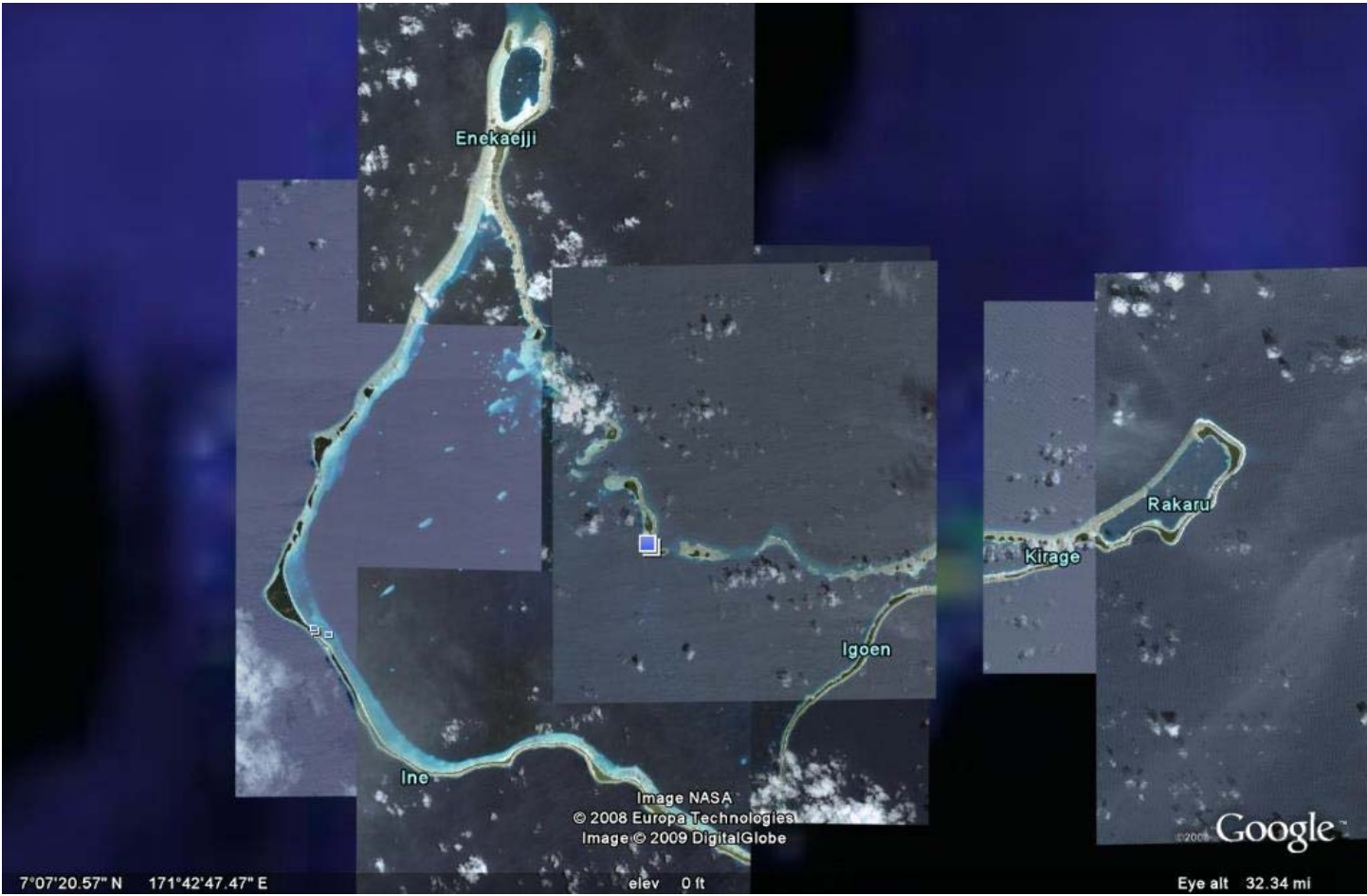
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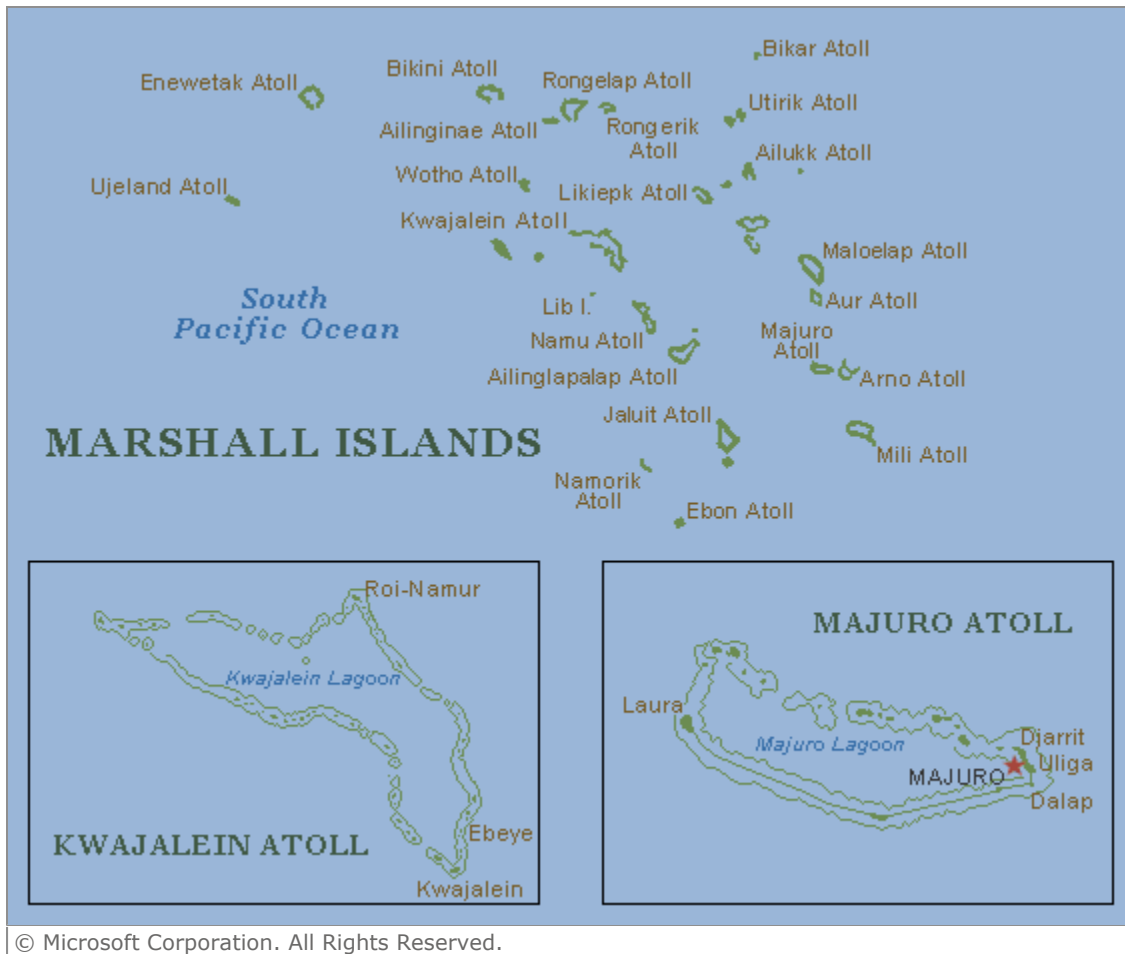
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8°32'21.08" N 169°37'47.82" E

Eye alt 1071.41 mi





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Bert Sagara/Tony Stone Images

Marshall Islands

Consisting of 34 atolls and coral reefs, the Marshall Islands are located in the central North Pacific Ocean. Its inhabitants are Micronesians. The republic had been under United States jurisdiction but in 1991 the arrangement was dissolved.

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Marshall Islands

Average temperature, rainfall and snowfall information is available for the following climate stations in Marshall Islands

• MAJURO WSO AP

Official name:	Republic of the Marshall Islands
Capital:	Majuro
Area:	total: 181.3 sq km note: includes the atolls of Bikini, Enewetak, Kwajalein, Majuro, Rongelap, and Utirik water: 0 sq km land: 181.3 sq km
Climate:	wet season from May to November; hot and humid; islands border typhoon belt
Location:	Oceania, group of atolls and reefs in the North Pacific Ocean, about one-half of the way from Hawaii to Australia
Geographic coordinates:	9 00 N, 168 00 E
Comparative Area:	about the size of Washington, DC
Land boundaries:	0 km
Coastline:	370.4 km
Terrain:	low coral limestone and sand islands
Elevation extremes:	lowest point: Pacific Ocean 0 m highest point: unnamed location on Likiep 10 m

Map of Marshall Islands

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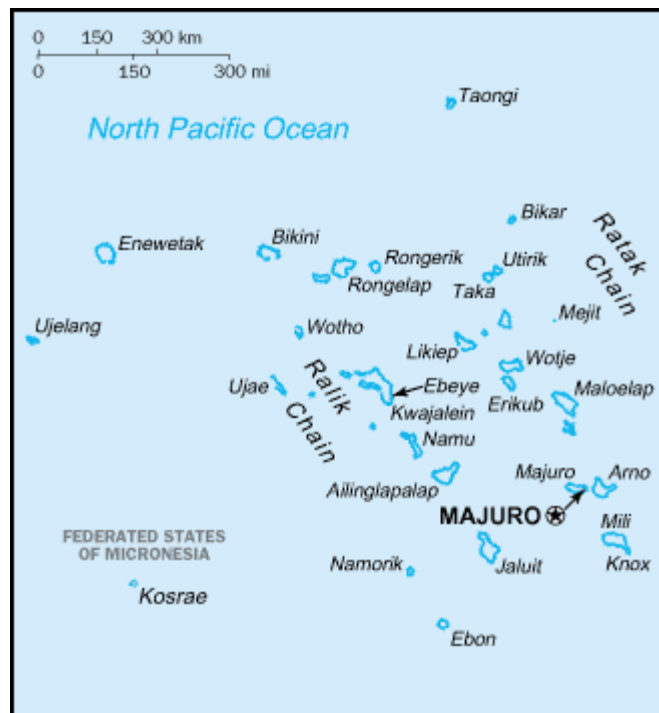
Find Deals, Read Reviews from Real People. Get the Truth. Then Go.
[www.TripAdvisor.com](#)

[Kwajalein Hotels](#)

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[Help Ebeye Children](#)

Charity to help Marshall Islands Children to get an Education
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General info

Entity:
Marshall Islands
Capital:
Majuro
Population (2008-07-01):
63,174 (CIA)
Area:
181 sq.km.
Country code:
MH
Region:
Micronesia

Marshall Islands

Administrative units

administrative units	capital	area (sq.km.)	population 1980 census	population 1999-06-01 census
Ralik Chain		93.28	13,684	17,502
Ailinginae (<i>atoll</i>)		2.80	0	0
Ailinglaplap (<i>atoll</i>)		14.68	1,385	1,959
Bikini (<i>atoll</i>)		6.01	0	13
Ebon (<i>atoll</i>)		5.75	887	902
Enewetak (<i>atoll</i>)		5.85	542	853
Jabat (<i>island</i>)		0.57	72	95
Jaluit (<i>atoll</i>)		11.34	1,450	1,669
Kili (<i>island</i>)		0.93	489	774
Kwajalein (<i>atoll</i>)		16.39	6,624	10,902
Lae (<i>atoll</i>)		1.45	237	322
Lib (<i>island</i>)		0.93	98	147
Namorik (<i>atoll</i>)		2.77	617	772
Namu (<i>atoll</i>)		6.27	654	903
Rongedrik (<i>atoll</i>)		1.68	0	0
Rongelap (<i>atoll</i>)		7.95	235	19
Ujae (<i>atoll</i>)		1.86	309	440
Ujelang (<i>atoll</i>)		1.73	0	0
Wotho (<i>atoll</i>)		4.32	85	145
Ratak Chain		88.07	17,189	30,925
Ailuk (<i>atoll</i>)		5.36	413	513
Arno (<i>atoll</i>)		12.94	1,487	2,069
Aur (<i>atoll</i>)		5.62	444	537
Bikar (<i>atoll</i>)		0.49	0	0
Bokak (<i>atoll</i>)		3.24	0	0
Erikub (<i>atoll</i>)		1.53	0	0
Jemo (<i>island</i>)		0.16	0	0
Likiep (<i>atoll</i>)		10.25	481	527
Majuro (<i>atoll</i>)		9.71	11,791	23,676
Maloelap (<i>atoll</i>)		9.81	614	856
Mejit (<i>island</i>)		1.86	325	416
Mili (<i>atoll</i>)		15.92	763	1,032
Nadikdik (<i>atoll</i>)		0.00	0	0
Toke (<i>atoll</i>)		0.57	0	0
Utirik (<i>atoll</i>)		2.43	336	433
Wotje (<i>atoll</i>)		8.18	535	866
total		181.43	30,873	50,840

source: Marshall Islands Statistics.