

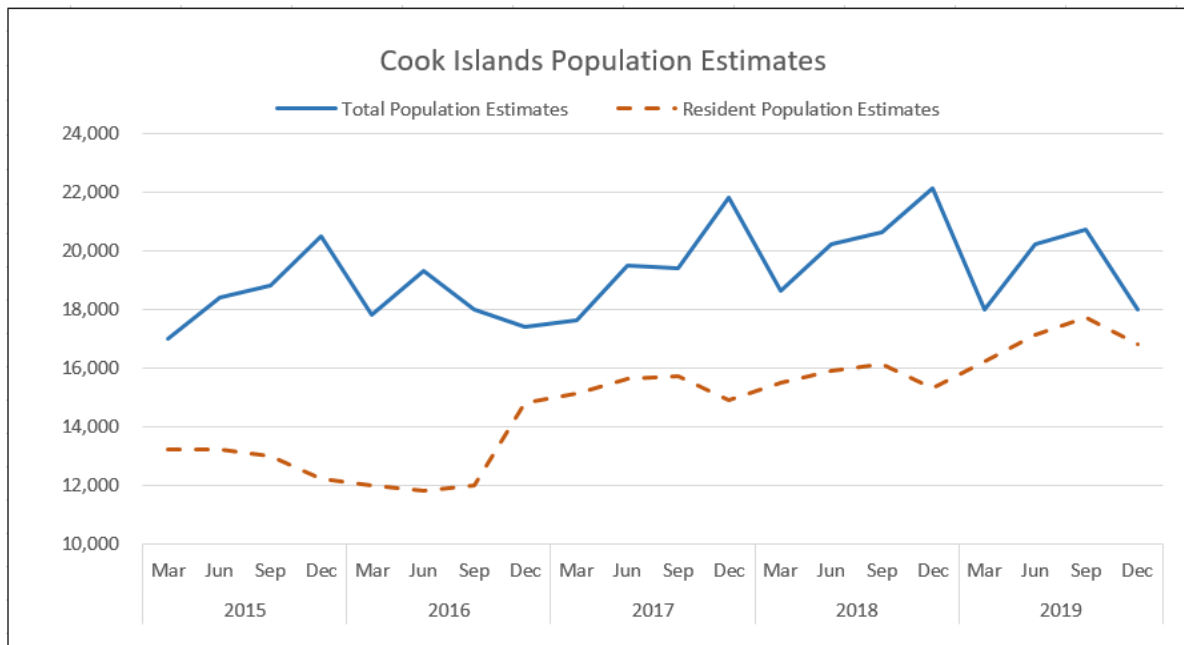
**MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT**  
**GOVERNMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS**  
**COOK ISLANDS**  
**STATISTICAL BULLETIN**

**VITAL STATISTICS AND POPULATION ESTIMATES**  
**DECEMBER QUARTER 2019**

**Population Estimates**

Total estimated population for December quarter 2019 was 18,000 showing a decrease of 13.0% (2,700 people) when compared to September quarter 2019 (20,700). Total resident population is currently estimated at 16,800 for this quarter.

The biggest factor affecting this drop is the large number of Cook Island Residents travelling overseas for holidays, meeting families and friends, business reasons and others. This is the normal trend in the December quarter.



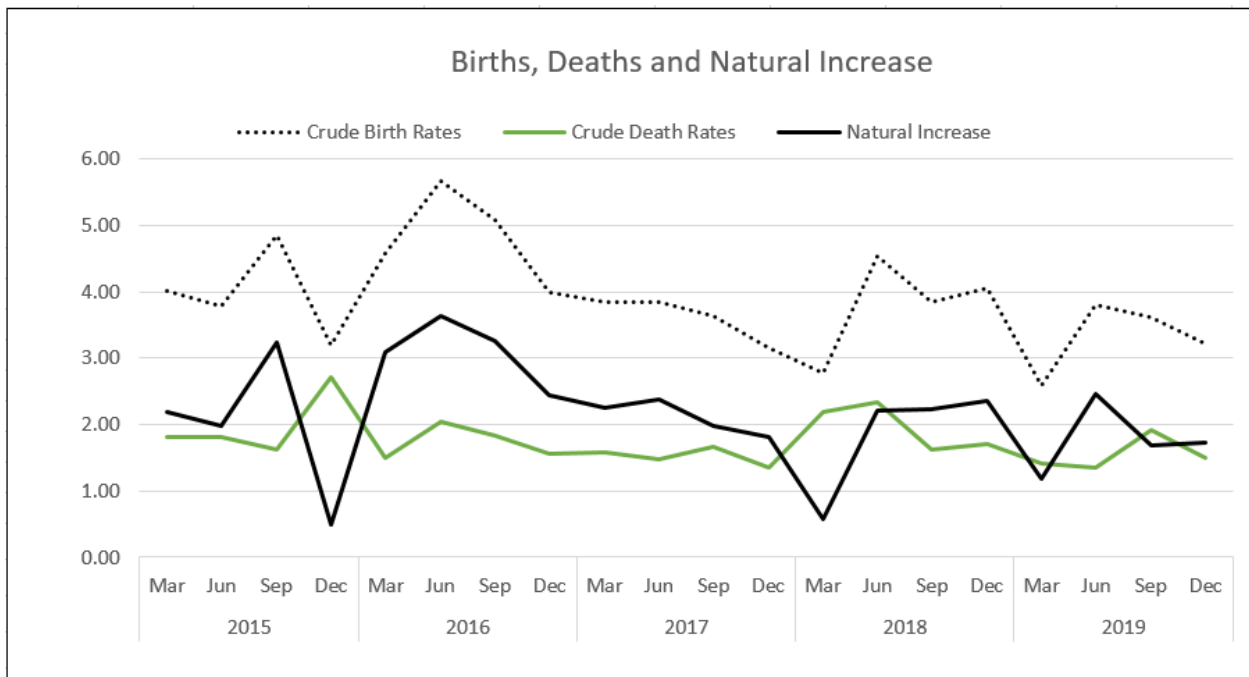
**Births**

Total births recorded for this quarter was 54, a decrease of 15.6% (10 births) when compared to previous quarter (64 births). This averages to 5 births per week. The number of births to women aged 20-24 and 30-34 (17 births) showed the highest for December quarter 2019.

The quarterly crude birth rate (number of births per 1000 population) stood at 3.2, giving an average of 3 children born to every thousand population.

## Deaths

Total number of deaths recorded for this quarter was 25, an average of two deaths per week. This is 26.5% less when compared to previous quarter. The crude death rate stood at 1.7, this means one death to every thousand population. There were no Infant deaths registered for this quarter.



## Marriages

Total marriages officiated for December quarter 2019 was 146. Non Residents marriages continue to be popular in the Cook Islands, a factor of the Cook Islands being marketed as South Seas wedding destination. Of the 146 marriages officiated, 90% (134 marriages) were for non-residents and 10% (14 marriages) were for Cook Islands residents.

Further information about this release can be obtained from the Statistics Office.

Taggy Tangimetua  
Government Statistician  
February 2020

# Explanatory Notes

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## Introduction

The Population and Vital Statistics reports on the total and resident population estimate base on vital events of birth and deaths plus net migration data derived from tourism migration data. It also reports on the various vital events such as births, deaths and marriages that occurred within the Cook Islands. Some basic demographic crude rates such as for birth, death and infants deaths including natural increase are also reported in this release.

## Computation of Crude Rates

Crude rates of birth, death and infant deaths are also compiled from these events.

The formula used in computing these rates are as follows:

$$\text{Crude Birth Rate} = \text{Total Births} / \text{Total Resident Population} * 1,000$$

$$\text{Crude Death Rate} = \text{Total Deaths} / \text{Total Resident Population} * 1,000$$

$$\text{Infant Mortality Rates} = \text{Total Infant Deaths} / \text{Total Births} * 1,000$$

$$\text{Natural Increase} = \text{Total Crude Birth Rate} \text{ less } \text{Crude Death Rate}$$

## Data Source

The records of births, deaths and marriages are compiled from the records of the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registrar of the Ministry of Justice. For the islands outside of Rarotonga, the Deputy Registrars of each island furnish these records directly to the Cook Islands Statistics Office.

## Coverage

All records are compiled for each inhabited island of the Cook Islands and are tabulated by the date of occurrence of the event. Often these records are reconciled with the Ministry of Health (MOH) records to ascertain the compilation of one indicator for the Cook Islands.

**Table 1 Population Estimates**

Period	Total Population Estimate	Resident Population Estimate <sup>(4)</sup>	Total Births	Crude Birth Rate <sup>(2)</sup>	Total Deaths	Crude Deaths Rate <sup>(2)</sup>	Rates of Natural Increase	Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rate <sup>(3)</sup>	
<b>JUNE YEAR <sup>(1)</sup></b>										
2015 <sup>(p)</sup>	18,400	13,200	205	15.5	102	7.7	7.8	-	-	
2016 <sup>(p)</sup>	19,300	11,800	242	20.5	87	7.4	13.1	-	-	
2017 <sup>(p)</sup>	19,500	15,600	222	14.2	93	6.0	8.3	1	4.5	
2018 <sup>(p)</sup>	20,200	15,900	239	15.0	123	7.7	7.3	4	16.7	
2019 <sup>(p)</sup>	20,200	17,100	225	13.2	105	6.1	7.0	2	8.9	
<b>QUARTER</b>										
<b>2015</b>	Mar <sup>(p)</sup>	17,000	13,200	53	4.0	24	1.8	2.2	-	-
	Jun <sup>(p)</sup>	18,400	13,200	50	3.8	24	1.8	2.0	-	-
	Sep <sup>(p)</sup>	18,800	13,000	63	4.8	21	1.6	3.2	-	-
	Dec <sup>(p)</sup>	20,500	12,200	39	3.2	33	2.7	0.5	-	-
<b>2016</b>	Mar <sup>(p)</sup>	17,800	12,000	55	4.6	18	1.5	3.1	-	-
	Jun <sup>(p)</sup>	19,300	11,800	67	5.7	24	2.0	3.6	-	-
	Sep <sup>(p)</sup>	18,000	12,000	61	5.1	22	1.8	3.3	-	-
	Dec <sup>(p)</sup>	17,400	14,800	59	4.0	23	1.6	2.4	-	-
<b>2017</b>	Mar <sup>(p)</sup>	17,600	15,100	58	3.8	24	1.6	2.3	-	-
	Jun <sup>(p)</sup>	19,500	15,600	60	3.8	23	1.5	2.4	-	-
	Sep <sup>(p)</sup>	19,400	15,700	57	3.6	26	1.7	2.0	-	-
	Dec <sup>(p)</sup>	21,800	14,900	47	3.2	20	1.3	1.8	1	21.3
<b>2018</b>	Mar <sup>(p)</sup>	18,600	15,500	43	2.8	34	2.2	0.6	2	46.5
	Jun <sup>(p)</sup>	20,200	15,900	72	4.5	37	2.3	2.2	1	13.9
	Sep <sup>(p)</sup>	20,600	16,100	62	3.9	26	1.6	2.2	1	16.1
	Dec <sup>(p)</sup>	22,100	15,300	55	3.6	24	1.6	2.0	-	-
<b>2019</b>	Mar <sup>(p)</sup>	18,000	16,200	42	2.6	23	1.4	1.2	1	23.8
	Jun <sup>(p)</sup>	20,200	17,100	65	3.8	23	1.3	2.5	-	-
	Sep <sup>(p)</sup>	20,700	17,700	64	3.6	34	1.9	1.7	1	15.6
	Dec <sup>(p)</sup>	18,000	16,800	54	3.2	25	1.5	1.7	-	-

**Note :** <sup>(1)</sup> Mid year population estimated at June Quarter

<sup>(2)</sup> Crude birth rate and crude death rate are calculated per thousand Resident Population as of 1992

<sup>(3)</sup> Infant mortality rate is calculated per thousand births

<sup>(4)</sup> Resident population comprises only those usually resident in the Cook Islands

**Table 2 Vital Events - Births, Deaths and Marriages**

Period		Live births			Deaths			Infant Deaths	Marriages		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total		Resident	Non-resident	Total
<b>YEAR</b>											
	2015	102	103	205	51	51	102	-	70	650	720
	2016	127	115	242	57	30	87	-	57	650	707
	2017	116	106	222	49	44	93	1	57	668	725
	2018 <sup>(r)</sup>	119	113	232	74	47	121	4	72	631	703
	2019 <sup>(p)</sup>	101	124	225	56	49	105	2	56	514	570
<b>QUARTER</b>											
<b>2015</b>	Mar	20	33	53	9	15	24	-	13	103	116
	Jun	26	24	50	10	14	24	-	12	199	211
	Sep	32	31	63	12	9	21	-	8	176	184
	Dec	24	15	39	20	13	33	-	37	172	209
<b>2016</b>	Mar	26	29	55	13	5	18	-	15	92	107
	Jun	35	32	67	15	9	24	-	15	163	178
	Sep	33	28	61	13	9	22	-	10	218	228
	Dec	33	26	59	16	7	23	-	17	177	194
<b>2017</b>	Mar	32	26	58	14	10	24	-	12	120	132
	Jun	28	32	60	12	11	23	-	9	165	174
	Sep	30	27	57	12	14	26	-	18	194	212
	Dec	26	21	47	11	9	20	1	18	189	207
<b>2018</b>	Mar <sup>(r)</sup>	22	21	43	19	15	34	2	16	92	108
	Jun <sup>(r)</sup>	34	38	72	25	12	37	1	18	172	190
	Sep <sup>(r)</sup>	30	32	62	16	10	26	1	18	199	217
	Dec <sup>(r)</sup>	33	22	55	14	10	24	-	20	168	188
<b>2019</b>	Mar <sup>(p)</sup>	18	24	42	15	8	23	1	16	98	114
	Jun <sup>(p)</sup>	27	38	65	10	13	23	-	11	136	147
	Sep <sup>(p)</sup>	29	35	64	19	15	34	1	15	148	163
	Dec <sup>(p)</sup>	27	27	54	12	13	25	-	14	132	146

**Table 3 Mothers Age at Birth of Child**

Period		Age Group							
		Total	<20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45>
<b>YEAR</b>									
	2015	205	24	63	47	38	21	12	0
	2016	219	21	55	48	56	27	10	2
	2017	222	26	53	75	38	18	12	0
	2018 <sup>(r)</sup>	210	20	63	51	41	24	11	0
	2019 <sup>(p)</sup>	225	20	65	64	50	18	7	1
<b>QUARTER</b>									
<b>2015</b>	Mar	53	7	19	11	7	7	2	0
	Jun	50	6	14	9	12	6	3	0
	Sep	63	7	14	18	12	7	5	0
	Dec	39	4	16	9	7	1	2	0
<b>2016</b>	Mar	47	7	15	12	6	6	1	0
	Jun	60	6	15	17	18	4	0	0
	Sep	54	4	13	11	16	6	3	1
	Dec	58	4	12	8	16	11	6	1
<b>2017</b>	Mar	58	8	14	21	8	4	3	0
	Jun	60	7	19	14	10	7	3	0
	Sep	57	4	10	21	13	4	5	0
	Dec	47	7	10	19	7	3	1	0
<b>2018</b>	Mar <sup>(r)</sup>	43	2	13	17	4	6	1	0
	Jun <sup>(r)</sup>	72	8	22	16	14	8	4	0
	Sep <sup>(r)</sup>	40	4	7	12	7	7	3	0
	Dec <sup>(r)</sup>	55	6	21	6	16	3	3	0
<b>2019</b>	Mar <sup>(p)</sup>	42	1	15	11	9	5	1	0
	Jun <sup>(p)</sup>	65	5	16	20	15	6	3	0
	Sep <sup>(p)</sup>	64	9	17	22	9	4	2	1
	Dec <sup>(p)</sup>	54	5	17	11	17	3	1	0