

CHUUK ISLANDS

GEOGRAPHY: There are 48 islands in Chuuk State. (46 inhabited islands, 2 uninhabited islands). There are 19 high Islands and 29 atolls (low islands). The main population center of Chuuk State is Chuuk Lagoon. Chuuk land area is only 49 square miles.

HISTORY: As part of the colonial territory of the Caroline Islands, four countries invaded Chuuk State.

First occupation: Spain (1886-1898)

Second occupation: Germany (1898-WWI)

Third occupation: Japan (WWI-WWII)

Fourth occupation: U.S.A. (1947- 1986)

DEMOGRAPHICS: The population of Chuuk State is 53,595. About 40,000 live on islands in the Chuuk lagoon.

The population is made up of:

Chuukese 48.8%
Pohnpeian 24.2%
Kosraen 6.2%
Yapese 9.7%
Asian 1.8%
Polynesian 1.5%
Other 6.4%

Religion:

Catholics
Congregational
Baptist
7th Day Adventist
Rosendo says that Mormonism is rapidly growing. We must pray that they see the true Savior.

POLITICAL STATUS: The Federated States of Micronesia is a Freely Associated State under the Compact of Free Association with the United States. It entered into the Compact of Free Association in 1986, and this was amended in 2004. Citizens are not citizens or nationals of the United States. The Compact provides citizens with the right to migrate to the United States and its territories & commonwealths as nonimmigrants without visas, but they must have a valid passport. Micronesians can live, work, and study in the United States but the United States has the right to set terms and conditions on the non-immigrant stay of these citizens. At the present time, they are granted an unlimited length of stay. The United States has full authority and responsibility for the defense of the Federated States of Micronesia.

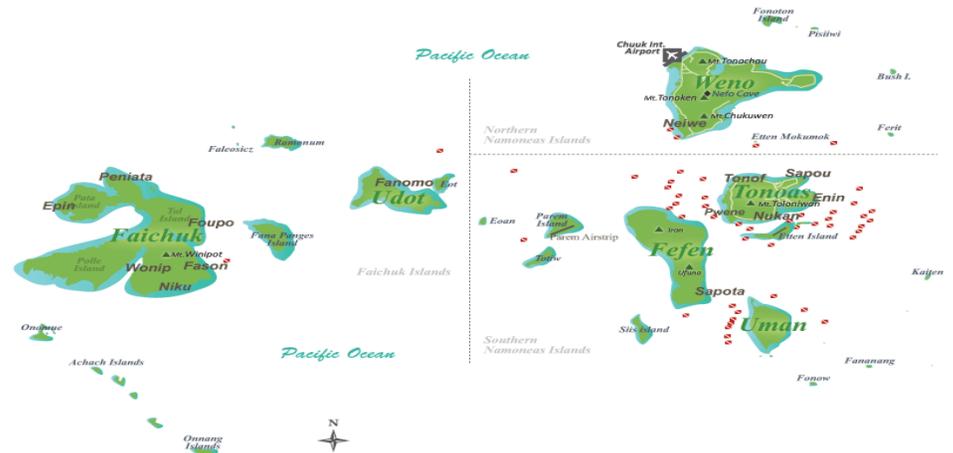
IMMIGRATION/EMIGRATION: The total number of people emigrating from Chuuk State is 10,199 (male 5,149: female 5,050). As of 2010, approximately 20% were living abroad. They migrate to find medical assistance, employment, and education. A large part of Chuukese population have settled in the Hawaiian Islands. There are others scattered in mainland U.S.A.

ECONOMY: Chuukese still live off the land and the ocean. People farm, fish, and make handicrafts. People are also working for the government, local and private sectors [industry (34.4%), services (64.7%)]. An estimated 2/3 are government employees: 2,968. The unemployment rate is 22%, many of these people work on the land.

CULTURE: In Chuukese culture, it is important for men to know their roles: fishing, farming, climbing, and doing handicraft. It is also important for every woman to know their roles within the community and society: such as cooking and weaving. Culturally they are still living traditionally, exchanging goods, sharing foods with relatives and neighbors. Rosendo shared that cash economy has an effect on people who are working and hold high positions in government. They have more power over people.

HEALTH ISSUES: Rates of obesity are over 40%. People are not careful about or aware of what to eat. Life expectancy is 68.5 years. Leading causes of death: heart attack, diabetes, COPD, stroke. Leading causes of hospital care: Hypertension (high blood pressure), Diarrhea/ Gastroenteritis, Diabetes (Diabetes rate: 24.4%), & TB is prevalent. People also have the right to seek medical assistance from any of the US territories.

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ROCK OF HOPE PARTNERS WITH ISLAND FELLOWSHIP TO HELP THE PEOPLE OF CHUUK.

Collection begins in July thru Mid-August. Items to be shipped in late August.

Needs for the Chuukese:

These items are being gathered to ship to Chuuk in a shipping pod-container this August. If you want to help our partners, please drop these items off at the church office. Collection begins in July thru mid-August.

1. **Summer type clothing for all ages including adults.** Average daily temperature is 85-87°F with humidity at 80%. These people are large boned and muscular, please purchase large sizes.
2. **Sandals and flip flops:** Average rainfall: 20 days/month. Sensible shoes that dry out easily. Ground is uneven; no shoes with high heels.
3. **School supplies of all types.**
4. **Personal care items:** Toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo & conditioner, bar soap
5. **Towels** (bath, hand, washcloths, bath sponges/puffs)
6. **Bedding** (Queen size sheets & pillowcases)
7. **Medical supplies** (Tylenol, aspirin, band aides of various sizes, antibiotic ointments, first aid kits). Medical supplies are a big need, as everything must be shipped in.
8. **Money to ship supplies to the island.** Costs \$6000 to ship the container and 63 days to arrive. Checks to be made out to Island Fellowship Church.