Tuvaluan is closely related to the language of Samoan. It is distantly related to most of the other Polynesian languages.

### Counting – numbers | Lauga - Napa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One</th>
<th>Tasi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>Lua</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td>Tolu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four</td>
<td>Fa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five</td>
<td>Lima</td>
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<tr>
<td>Six</td>
<td>Ono</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seven</td>
<td>Fitu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eight</td>
<td>Valu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nine</td>
<td>Iva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ten</td>
<td>Sefulu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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Facts on Tuvalu | Fakamatala e uiga mo Tuvalu

Tuvalu is a small Pacific island nation that lies midway between Australia and Hawaii. Tuvalu means eight islands standing together. The total land area is around 26 square kilometres.

**The islands are:**

- Funafuti (the capital of the Tuvalu group)
- Nanumaga
- Nanumea
- Niutao
- Nui
- Niulakita (grouped up with Niutao to be one island).
- Nukufetau
- Nukulaelae

Population | Aofai Tino

In 2013, Tuvaluan people were the seventh largest Pacific ethnic group in New Zealand, making up 1.2% or 3,537 of New Zealand’s Pacific peoples’ population.

**In 2013 there were**

3,537

Tuvaluans living in New Zealand
Tuvalans are proud of their culture, history, stories and their uniqueness in the Pacific and in Aotearoa. They are guided by principles including:

- Ulu kite fatu e malu ei koe (Shelter in the Rock for your safety)
- Te olaga aava, matakii te Atua ko te kamataga o te Poto – Moe ki te Puka Lasi (Fear God is the beginning of wisdom)
- Olaga fiafia o sala te poto sala se lumanai manuia (Wisdom is the path to happiness and a bright future).

Te Ano

Te Ano is the national game of Tuvalu and has been described as being similar to volleyball. Tuvalans of all ages and gender play Te Ano. Teams score points when the opposing team cannot keep the ano off the ground. The first team to ten points wins.

Spirituality | Fakateagaaga

Spiritual beliefs (talitonuga fakateagaga) and values (fuataga) are an important part of the day to day lives of Tuvalans who are grounded and enriched by the Tuvalu way (Faka Tuvalu).