



New Caledonia

Capital: Nouméa

Official Language: French

Population: 244,000

Government: Overseas territory of France

Politics: New Caledonia has the unique status of being both an independent country and an overseas department of France. Inhabitants of New Caledonia are French citizens and carry French passports, taking part in the legislative and presidential French elections.

Demographics: The largest group in New Caledonia is the indigenous Melanesian Kanak community now representing 44.6% of the whole population. The remaining population is made up of ethnic groups arriving in New Caledonia in the last 150 years.

Health: The health status of the New Caledonian population is strong with 400 physicians operating in New Caledonia, half of them being specialised. Hospitals are well equipped however some difficult cases are sent to Australia. Communicable diseases remain public health problems. New Caledonia is free of malaria and AIDS remains at a fairly low level



Approximately 30% of the New Caledonian population is protestant.

For more information
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