

**Refugee Review Tribunal  
AUSTRALIA**

**RRT RESEARCH RESPONSE**

**Research Response Number:** FJI35625  
**Country:** Fiji  
**Date:** 30 October 2009

Keywords: Fiji – Nadi – Nawaka – Indigenous Fijians – Fiji Indians – Police stations

This response was prepared by the Research & Information Services Section of the Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT) after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the RRT within time constraints. This response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. This research response may not, under any circumstance, be cited in a decision or any other document. Anyone wishing to use this information may only cite the primary source material contained herein.

---

**Questions**

- 1. Where is the village of Nawaka?**
- 2. How far is the village from Nadi?**
- 3. How many people live in the village?**
- 4. How many indigenous Fijians live in the village? How many Indo-Fijians live in the village?**
- 5. Is there a local police station in the village or close by?**
- 6. Where do the majority of Indo Fijians live in Fiji?**

**RESPONSE**

- 1. Where is the village of Nawaka?**
- 2. How far is the village from Nadi?**

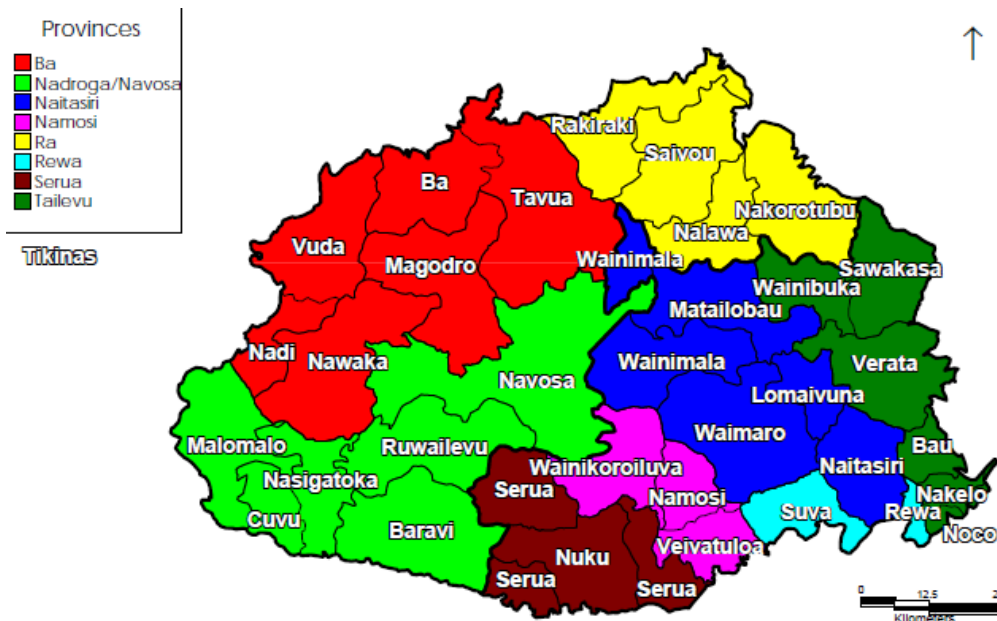
According to the following map from *Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas 2000*, Nawaka is approximately 1.6 kilometres to the east of Nadi:



(‘Distance from Nadi to Nawaka’ 2000, *Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas 2000* – Attachment 1).

Please see Attachment 2 for Lonely Planet maps showing the location of Nawaka. Maps have been included of Viti Levu Island, “Nadi, Lautoka & Around” and Fiji (Miller, K., Jones, R. & Pinheiro, L. 2003, *Lonely Planet: Fiji* (6th ed.), Lonely Planet Publications, Melbourne, pp. 102 – 105 – Attachment 2).

The following 1997 map of the provinces and *tikinas* (districts) in Fiji indicates that Nawaka is also a district in the Ba province of Viti Levu island:



(‘Schossberg, M. 1997, ‘The Provincial Profile Mapped: A Prototype Social Atlas for Fiji’, University of Oregon website, p.3 <http://www.uoregon.edu/~schlossb/articles/pprofile.pdf> – Accessed 28 March 2007 – Attachment 3).

### 3. How many people live in Nawaka?

A report by the Fijian Government and United Nations titled *Millennium Development Goals: Fiji National Report* provides information on the population size of Fijian districts. According to the report in 1996 Nawaka district had a population of 10, 393 (United Nations & Fijian Government 2004, *Millennium Development Goals: Fiji National Report*, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation website, November, p.83

<http://planipolis.iiep.unesco.org/upload/fiji/fiji%20mdg%202004.pdf> – Accessed 27 October 2009 – Attachment 4).

No other information was found in the sources consulted regarding the population of Nawaka village or district.

#### **4. How many indigenous Fijians and Indian Fijians live in Nawaka?**

Information provided in question one of this response indicates that Nawaka is located in Ba province. A 2008 report by the Fiji Islands Bureau of Statistics states that Ba Province has a population of 96,796 Indigenous Fijians, 126,130 Indian Fijians and 8,836 people of other ethnicities. The report indicates that Ba province has the highest number of Indian Fijians in Fiji. However, the report also indicates that Ba province has by far the largest overall population in Fiji. The report does not provide information on the ethnic demography of Nawaka (Fiji Islands Bureau of Statistics 2008, *Fiji Fact and Figures: As at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008*, 30 October, p.7 <http://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/fff08.pdf> – Accessed 29 October 2009 – Attachment 5).

A report by the Fijian Islands Bureau of Statistics on the 2007 census results indicates that within Ba province there has been a significant out-migration of Indian Fijians and in-migration of Indigenous Fijians. The report states that Nawaka is one of the areas within Ba province which has experienced a “very significant” in-migration of Indigenous Fijians. The report states that “in 1996, there were still 94 percent more Indians than Fijians in this province but in 2007, this had been reduced to only 30 percent”. The reports provides the following information on the ethnic demographics of Ba province:

- In spite of the very high level of out-migration of rural Indians from Ba Province, its population has been growing at about the national average rate. This is mainly due to very significant in-migration of Fijians into the urban sector of Nadi, Nawaka and Vuda Tikina (the Nadi and Lautoka UA respectively).

...In spite of the very significant decrease in its Indian population, the total population of Ba Province is still growing at a rate close to the national average. This is due to the very fast increase of its Fijian population. About 87 percent of growth in the Western Division occurred in Ba Province. As in the case of Naitasiri Province, this growth is highly localized. It is due to the dramatic increase of the Fijian population in the urban sector of Nadi Tikina, Nawaka and Vuda Tikina (the Nadi and Lautoka UAs). Growth of the Indian population in these tikinas, with the exception of the urban sector of Nadi Tikina is now close to nil.

In the meantime, Ba Tikina experienced a very significant decrease in its rural Indian population and the same applies to Tavua Tikina. In spite of the massive emigration of Indians, Ba remains, in 2007, the province with by far the largest population in Fiji. However, as already mentioned, given continuation of present trends, the population of Ba will be surpassed by that of Naitasiri in 2033. As in the case of Macuata Province, changes in the population of Ba Province have altered the ethnic composition dramatically. In 1996, there were still 94 percent more Indians than Fijians in this province but in 2007, this had been reduced to only 30 percent. Given continuation of the present growth rates of Fijians and Indians implies that the Fijian population will overtake the Indian population 7 years after the 2007 Census, that is in 2014 (Fiji Islands Bureau of Statistics 2008, *Census 2007 Results: Population Size, Growth, Structure and Distribution*, 15 October, pp. 3 & 26

<http://spc.int/prism/country/fj/stats/census2007/release%201%20-%20population%20size.pdf> – Accessed 28 October 2009 – Attachment 6).

According to a 1997 “social atlas of Fiji”, Nawaka district had 3,549 rural indigenous Fijians. The social atlas does not, however, provide figures for the number of Indian Fijians living in Nawaka district (Schossberg, M. 1997, ‘The Provincial Profile Mapped: A Prototype Social Atlas for Fiji’, University of Oregon website, p.23  
<http://www.uoregon.edu/~schlossb/articles/pprofile.pdf> – Accessed 28 March 2007 – Attachment 3).

### 5. Is there a local police station in the village or close by?

No information was found in the sources consulted regarding a police station in Nawaka. The Fiji Police Force website contains a list of phone contacts for police stations and police posts in the Western Division of Fiji. The website does not list a police station in Nawaka but does list a police station in Nadi. Information contained in question one of this response indicates that Nadi is 1.6 kilometres from Nawaka (‘Phone Contacts: Western Division’ 2009, Fiji Police website  
[http://www.police.gov.fj/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=163&Itemid=90](http://www.police.gov.fj/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=163&Itemid=90) – Accessed 29 October 2009 – Attachment 7).

The 2006 Crime Statistics Annual Report published by the Fiji Police Force states that there are 75 “regular officers” and 30 “police support officers” in Nadi. The report states that the estimated general population of Nadi is 73, 090. The 2006 report was the most recent crime statistics annual report located on the Fiji Police Force website (Fiji Police Force 2006, *Crime Statistics Annual Report 2006*, p.8  
[http://www.police.gov.fj/pdf/annual\\_reports/crime%20statistics%20annual%20report%202006.pdf](http://www.police.gov.fj/pdf/annual_reports/crime%20statistics%20annual%20report%202006.pdf) – Accessed 29 October 2009 – Attachment 8).

The below map outlines the Western division of Fiji:



(Central Intelligence Agency 1987, ‘Fiji’, ReliefWeb website, 1 January, <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900largemaps/skar-64gem2?opendocument&cc=fji> – Accessed 19 March 2007 – Attachment 9).

### 6. Where do the majority of Indo Fijians live in Fiji?

A 2008 report by the Fiji Islands Bureau of Statistics indicates that according to the 2007 Census Ba Province has the largest population of Indian Fijians followed by the Naitasiri Province. The report provides the following table of the ethnic population by province:

Population by Province And Ethnicity	2007 Census			
	Total	Fijian	Indian	Others
Ba	231,762	96,796	126,130	8,836
Bua	14,176	11,183	2,366	627
Cakaudrove	49,339	35,967	7,927	5,445
Kadavu	10,167	9,959	47	161
Lau	10,683	10,540	88	55
Lomaiviti	16,461	15,015	491	955
Macuata	72,441	28,193	42,554	1,694
Nadroga	58,387	35,063	22,134	1,190
Naitasiri	160,759	93,122	58,495	9,142
Namosi	6,898	6,159	514	225
Ra	29,464	20,253	8,883	328
Rewa	100,791	61,972	24,060	14,759
Serua	18,249	11,138	5,829	1,282
Tailevu	55,692	40,186	14,211	1,295
Rotuma	2,002	89	20	1,893

(Fiji Islands Bureau of Statistics 2008, *Fiji Fact and Figures: As at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008*, 30 October, p.7 <http://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/fff08.pdf> – Accessed 29 October 2009 – Attachment 5).

The Fiji Islands Bureau of Statistics also provides the following table which contains information on the number of Indian Fijian households within some Fijian towns and cities. The table is based on information from the 2007 Census. The report indicates that among the towns and cities listed, Nasinu has the highest number of Indian Fijian households followed by Nausori, Suva and Lautoka City:

Total number of Households by Town/Cities	2007 Census [p]				
	Total	Fijian	Indian	Rotuman	Others
Ba Town	15,735	4,452	10,823	66	394
Nadi Town	42,712	20,241	19,513	614	2,344
Tavua Town	2,449	1,633	726	41	49
Lautoka City	52,742	24,366	25,365	877	2,134
Sigatoka Town	9,446	4,598	4,408	62	378
Rakiraki Town	5,009	2,225	2,736	5	43
Vatukaula Town	5,730	3,419	1,968	188	155
Suva City	86,178	47,719	25,396	2,543	10,520
Nasinu Town	86,770	46,485	34,835	1,967	3,483
Nausori Town	46,811	18,620	26,753	529	909
Lami Town	20,223	16,894	851	316	2,162
Korovou Peri Urban	358	317	26	3	12
Navua Peri Urban	4,969	1,597	3,209	31	132
Pacific Harbour Peri Urban	1,832	1,284	142	30	376
Levuka Town	4,290	3,197	382	44	667
Nabouwalu Peri Urban	561	516	42	0	3
Savusavu Town	7,000	3,231	2,915	90	764
Labasa Town	27,450	9,648	16,938	64	800
Seaqaqa Peri Urban	821	320	488	0	13

(Fiji Islands Bureau of Statistics 2008, *Fiji Fact and Figures: As at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008*, 30 October, p.8 <http://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/fff08.pdf> – Accessed 29 October 2009 – Attachment 5).

Nasinu, Nausori, Suva and Lautoka City are all located in Viti Levu island. The location of these towns and cities within Viti Levu island has been circled in the following map from *Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas 2000*:





(‘Viti Levu: Fiji’ 2000, *Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas 2000* – Attachment 10).

## List of Sources Consulted

### Internet Sources:

#### **Government Information & Reports**

Immigration & Refugee Board of Canada <http://www.irb.gc.ca/>

UK Home Office <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk>

US Department of State <http://www.state.gov/>

US Department of State website <http://www.state.gov>

#### **United Nations (UN)**

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, International Institute for Educational Planning website <http://planipolis.iiep.unesco.org/>

UNHCR <http://www.unhcr.ch/>

Relief Web website <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc100?OpenForm>

#### **Non-Government Organisations**

Amnesty International website <http://www.amnesty.org/>

Freedom House <http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=1>

Human Rights Watch <http://www.hrw.org/>

International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights <http://www.ihf-hr.org/welcome.php>

Human Rights Internet (HRI) website <http://www.hri.ca>

#### **International News & Politics**

*BBC News* website <http://news.bbc.co.uk/>

#### **Region Specific Links**

Fiji Islands Bureau of Statistics website <http://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/>

Fiji Police Force <http://www.police.gov.fj/>

#### **Search Engines**

Google search engine <http://www.google.com.au/>

#### **University Sites**

University of Oregon website <http://www.uoregon.edu/>

#### Databases:

FACTIVA (news database)

BACIS (DIAC Country Information database)

REFINFO (IRBDC (Canada) Country Information database)

ISYS (RRT Research & Information database, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, US Department of State Reports)

RRT Library Catalogue

#### **List of Attachments**

1. 'Distance from Nadi to Nawaka' 2000, *Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas 2000*.
2. Miller, K., Jones, R. & Pinheiro, L. 2003, *Lonely Planet: Fiji* (6th ed.), Lonely Planet Publications, Melbourne, pp. 102 – 105.
3. 'Schossberg, M. 1997, 'The Provincial Profile Mapped: A Prototype Social Atlas for Fiji', University of Oregon website <http://www.uoregon.edu/~schlossb/articles/pprofile.pdf> – Accessed 28 March 2007.
4. United Nations & Fijian Government 2004, *Millennium Development Goals: Fiji National Report*, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation website, November <http://planipolis.iiep.unesco.org/upload/fiji/fiji%20mdg%202004.pdf> – Accessed 27 October 2009.
5. Fiji Islands Bureau of Statistics 2008, *Fiji Fact and Figures: As at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008*, 30 October <http://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/fff08.pdf> – Accessed 29 October 2009.
6. Fiji Islands Bureau of Statistics 2008, *Census 2007 Results: Population Size, Growth, Structure and Distribution*, 15 October, pp. 3 & 26 <http://spc.int/prism/country/fj/stats/census2007/release%201%20-%20population%20size.pdf> – Accessed 28 October 2009.
7. 'Phone Contacts: Western Division' 2009, Fiji Police website [http://www.police.gov.fj/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=163&Itemid=90](http://www.police.gov.fj/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=163&Itemid=90) – Accessed 29 October 2009.
8. Fiji Police Force 2006, Crime Statistics Annual Report 2006 [http://www.police.gov.fj/pdf/annual\\_reports/crime%20statistics%20annual%20report%202006.pdf](http://www.police.gov.fj/pdf/annual_reports/crime%20statistics%20annual%20report%202006.pdf) – Accessed 29 October 2009.
9. Central Intelligence Agency 1987, 'Fiji', Relief Web website, 1 January, <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900largemaps/skar-64gem2?opendocument&cc=fji> – Accessed 19 March 2007.
10. 'Viti Levu: Fiji' 2000, *Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas 2000*.