

Country Profile: Papua New Guinea

Country Profile (PDF)

Country Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Papua New Guinea 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Maps (T601)	NMB	1:100,000	1969 - 2001	280
Papua New Guinea 1:250,000 Scale Vector Data	NMB	1:250,000	2000	70

Geoscientific

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Papua New Guinea 1:250,000 Scale Geological Maps	GSPNG	1:250,000	1961 - 1989	30
Indonesia 1:5,000,000 Scale Geological Maps	PPPG/GRDC	1:5,000,000	1996	1
Indonesia 1:10,000,000 Scale Geological Maps	PPPG/GRDC	1:10,000,000	2000	1

Thematic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
The World 1:30,000,000 Scale Topographic Map Series 1145 (NGA)	DMA	1:30,000,000		2

Global Census Archive: GIS Census Data

East View Geospatial has an ongoing effort to add GIS census data to our Global Census Archive program. Please contact us for the status and availability of Papua New Guinea census resources.

Global Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Soviet Military City Plans	VTU GSh	Varies	1944 - 2003	3,020
Soviet Military 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:100,000	1947 - 1999	24,897
Soviet Military 1:200,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:200,000	1949 - 2009	17,799
Soviet Military 1:500,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:500,000	1953 - 1998	3,093

Nautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
NGA Nautical Charts POD Certified (All Scales)	NGA	Varies	1943 - 2013	4,517

Aeronautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Joint Operations Graphic (JOG 1501A) 1:250,000 - Aeronautical	DMA	1:250,000	1958 - 2007	4,204
Tactical Pilotage Chart (TPC) 1:500,000 Scale - Aeronautical	DMA	1:500,000	1967 - 2006	598
Operational Navigation Chart (ONC) 1:1,000,000 Scale - Aeronautical	DMA	1:1,000,000	1969 - 2001	243

Jet Navigation Chart (JNC) 1:2,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:2,000,000	1971 – 1999	117
Global Navigation and Planning Chart (GNC) 1:5,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:5,000,000	1981 – 1999	27

Geoscientific

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Soviet Military 1:1,000,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:1,000,000	1948 – 1994	1,089

Note: East View Geospatial is continuously sourcing new resources that may not yet be listed in Global Explorer. Please contact us if you have geodata needs beyond what is listed above and we will be happy to discuss available off-the-shelf and custom solutions.

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Historical Country Mapping Information

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Topographic

Modern mapping of Papua New Guinea was established by Australian agencies in the years leading up to independence in 1975 and Australian bilateral agreements continue to fund development of basic mapping of the country after independence. The **National Mapping Bureau (NMB)** is the official mapping agency, but following completion in 1981 of basic scale 1:100,000 scale mapping there has been little further topographic mapping progress. The 1:100,000 series is published on very similar specifications to Australian national mapping: it is a five-color map using the Transverse Mercator projection, and depicts relief with 40 m contours. Mainland areas are based upon Australian Geodetic Datum, offshore islands use the World Geodetic System 1972, the series was compiled from 1:80,000 to 1:100,000 scale aerial coverage and is complete in 280 sheets. A 1:250,000 scale map is also published by **NMB** and conforms to JOG specifications with UTM grid and 200 m contours (50 m in lowland areas). This covers Papua New Guinea in 73 sheets. Larger scale topographic coverage is also available for some areas of the country, 1:50,000 and 1:25,000 scale mapping is maintained for the capital area and for parts of Bougainville and New Ireland.

Soviet military topographic mapping of Papua New Guinea is available at the following scales: 1:1,000,000 (10 sheets, complete coverage, published 1952-1976) and 1:500,000 (8 sheets, partial country coverage, published 1963-1964). These products are available in print, digital raster and digital vector GIS formats from **East View Geospatial**.

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Nautical

The national hydrographic agency is the **Department of Transport Maritime Division**, but charting of Papuan waters is still carried out in conjunction with the **Royal Australian Navy Hydrographic Service (RANHS)** which is responsible for the publication of nautical charting of the area.

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Geological/Scientific

The **Department of Mining and Petroleum (DMP)** is responsible for the monitoring of the mining and petroleum industry in Papua

New Guinea, and maintains data holdings covering seismic, gravity and aeromagnetic surveys, regional geological mapping and geochemical and age-dating databases. Most of the available geological mapping of the country was published in the 1970s and 1980s. This includes complete coverage at 1:250,000, a series which is being revised on an ad hoc basis from data supplied from regional geological mapping and from mineral exploration activities. 1:100,000 scale mapping is also published for some areas. Work is about to start on a joint project with the **Australian Geological Survey (AGSO)** to create a seamless digital data set based upon these two series. 1:1,000,000 scale coverage of the country in four maps has recently been digitized in a project funded through the **Coordinating Committee for Coastal and Offshore Geoscience Geology (CCOP)**.

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Thematic

Other small scale mapping is also maintained, including a four-sheet road map produced for the **Department of Transport and Works**, and 1:500,000 scale thematic mapping, offering full color coverage of Papua New Guinea in 18 sheets, with published themes comprising vegetation and resources, geology and terrain, settlement and communication, and cross country movements.

Thematic mapping of Papua New Guinea was compiled in the 1970s and 1980s by the Australian **Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO)**. This includes 1:250,000 scale land systems mapping, as well as 1:1,000,000 scale themes. **CSIRO** established a resources GIS for Papua New Guinea, to provide a MapInfo-based national inventory of soil, vegetation and land use. The **Department of Primary Industry** (now the **Land Utilization Section** in the **Department of Agriculture and Livestock**) inherited these programs and also prepared soils mapping of the country in the 1980s. The **Department of Environment and Conservation** is building a nation-wide database of biodiversity resources.

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Cadaster

The majority of **NMB** work is concerned with the establishment of a digital cadastral land registration system, which is replacing urban 1:4,000 scale mapping and rural 1:50,000 black and white boundaries editions.

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Tourist/Reference

Universal and **Hema** and **Robert Brown and Associates** have published small scale commercial mapping of Papua New Guinea for the tourist market. Amongst the commercial mapping organizations is **Gordan and Gotch Pty** which distributes a number of Australian tourist maps of PNG.

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