

Country Profile: Solomon Islands

[Country Profile \(PDF\)](#)

Country Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Solomon Islands 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (X711/DOS 456)	DOS	1:50,000	1968 - 1976	45

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 Solomon Islands 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

Jump to: **Topographic** | **Nautical** | **Geological/Scientific** | **Thematic** | **Tourist/Reference**

Country Profile (PDF)

Topographic

The island nation of the Solomon Islands, located to the east of Papua New Guinea relies upon a map base established by British agencies. The British **Directorate of Overseas Surveys** (now **Ordnance Survey International (OSI)**) compiled the first modern topographic mapping in the period 1967-76. This 1:50,000 scale map was derived from aerial coverage and published in four-colors on the UTM projection, International ellipsoid, with a UTM grid. Sheets used a 40 m contour interval. After independence in 1978 the **Survey and Mapping Division** took over responsibility for topographic, cadastral surveying and map publication. Mapping is now the responsibility of the **Lands and Surveys Division (SILSD)** in the Ministry of Lands and Housing. Three new sheets in the 1:50,000 scale map were issued in 1981 in association with the **Royal Australian Survey Corps** and **SILSD** has extended coverage onto Rennell Island, including the publication of 1:25,000 scale mapping. A recent program is also using Australian aid to update the 1:50,000 scale topographic base, with new mapping derived from updated aerial coverage, and prepared on an Intergraph-based digital production flowline. The first revised sheets appeared in 1996 and it is planned to revise the whole series. A derived map at 1:150,000 scale with layer-colored relief was issued in conjunction with **DOS** prior to independence. Larger-scale mapping of developed and urban areas is also being carried out. This includes 1:10,000 scale mapping and 1:2,500 scale coverage of main settlements. Names from the 1:150,000 scale map are included in a gazetteer of place-names and **SILSD** also publishes smaller-scale maps of the group.

Soviet military topographic mapping of the Solomon Islands exists at the following scale: 1:1,000,000 (7 sheets, complete coverage, published 1973-1974). This product is available in print, digital raster and digital vector GIS formats from **East View Geospatial**.

Back to top

Nautical

The Solomon Islands **Hydrographic Unit** attached to **SILSD** is the official hydrographic authority for the islands and carries out some local charting, though British charting from the **Hydrographic Office (HO)** continues to support navigation around the Solomon Islands.

Back to top

Geological/Scientific

The geological mapping of the Solomon Islands was compiled by a British project, established in cooperation between the **British Geological Survey (BGS)** and **DOS**. After independence, the national earth science mapping agency became the **Solomon Islands Geological Survey**, (now the **Geological Survey (SIGS)**) in the Ministry of Natural Resources. Again, most mapping was produced as a result of overseas technical aid programs in the 1960s and 1970s. A full-color 1:50,000 scale series is in progress: sheets are numbered within each island group, with a single explanation published for each group of maps. Recent coverage has been published in larger sheets for the New Georgia and Santa Isabel groups, the latter as monochrome 1:100,000 scale maps. Derived mapping of island groups is in progress, with scales varying according to the size of islands. Single-sheet geological and mineral mapping is also issued.

Back to top

Thematic

Resource mapping of the group was compiled in the early 1970s by **DOS** for the **British Land Resources Development Center** (now **National Resources Institute (NRI)**). Maps were published with *hand resource study* 18 to cover physiographic regions, catchment areas, soil sample sites, soil associations, land systems and regions, land use, agricultural opportunity areas and forest types. Each island was mapped at 1:250,000 and 1:150,000 scale with a text volume accompanying the maps. General 1:1,000,000 scale mapping of the group was also issued to show geology, land forms, population distribution and agricultural opportunity areas. A soil survey of the islands at 1:1,000,000 scale was compiled as part of the same surveys. A recent digital inventory of the resource base has also been carried out, in a GIS project funded through the Australian aid program. This has captured the best available sources of environmental data across a dozen themes and is maintained by the **Forestry Division** of the **Ministry of Forests, Environment and Conservation**.

Back to top

Tourist/Reference

A general commercially published map of the Solomon Islands is issued by Australian publisher **Hema**.

Back to top

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