

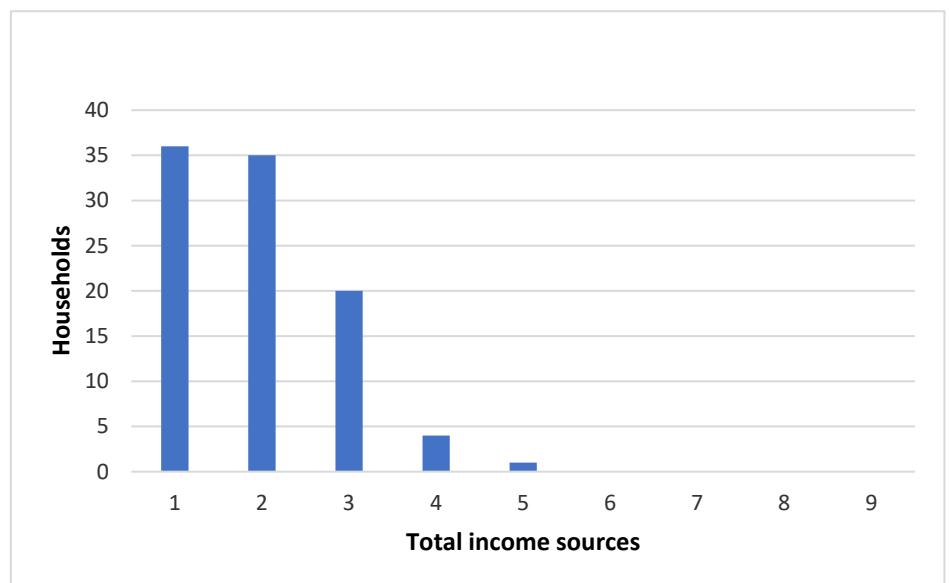
Climate Resilient Islands Programme

Livelihoods in Tuvalu: Income and Expenses

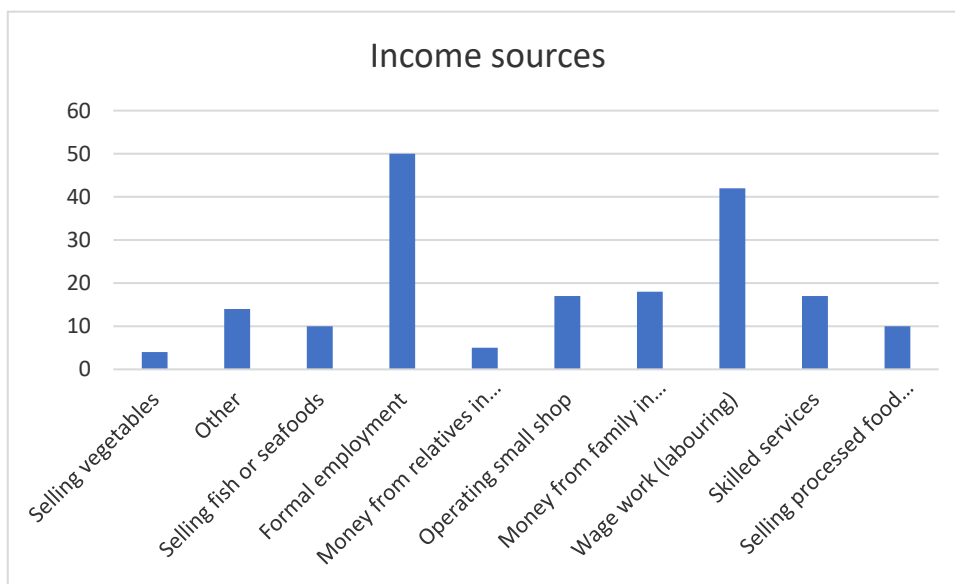
Income sources and households

Most households across Tuvalu Climate Resilient Islands communities tend to have a low number of income sources compared to other participating CRI countries, with a median number of income sources of 2. Single income households are most common at 36, while 35 households have two income sources. 20 have a third source, while only five have more than that.

Employment is a very common source of income in Tuvalu, with 50 households getting money from formal employment (including roles like teacher, government employee, pastor and more) and 42 from wage work such as labouring, plus 17 who make income from skilled services like trades. Selling food is a notably uncommon means of making money, with only 10 responses each for selling processed food products and selling fish or seafoods, while selling vegetables is the least common income source with just four responses.



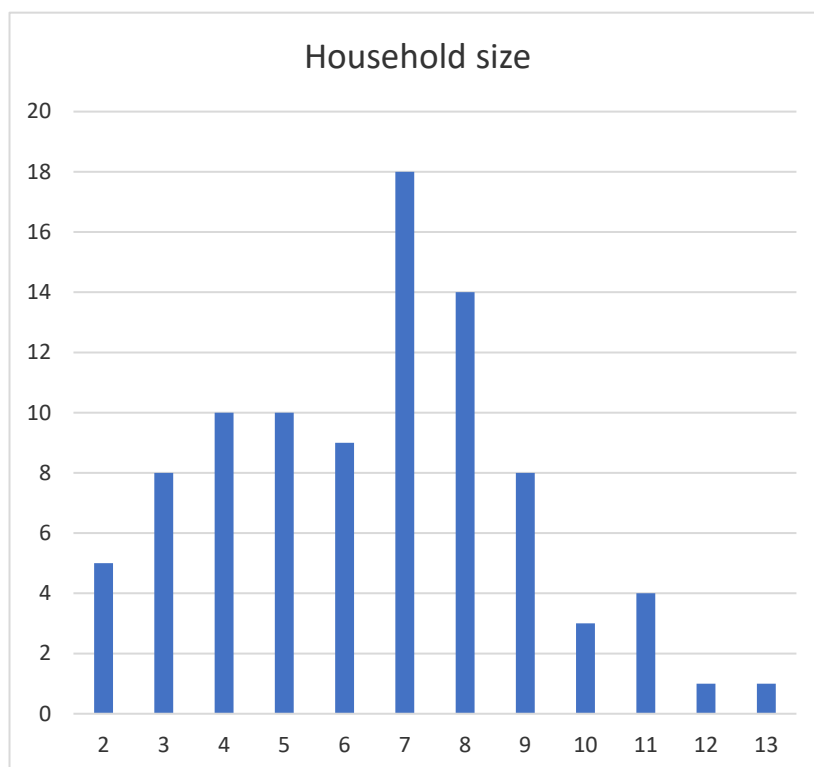
However, this is unsurprising in Tuvalu, where growing vegetables is very difficult due to soil conditions and supply of seeds, compost and more.

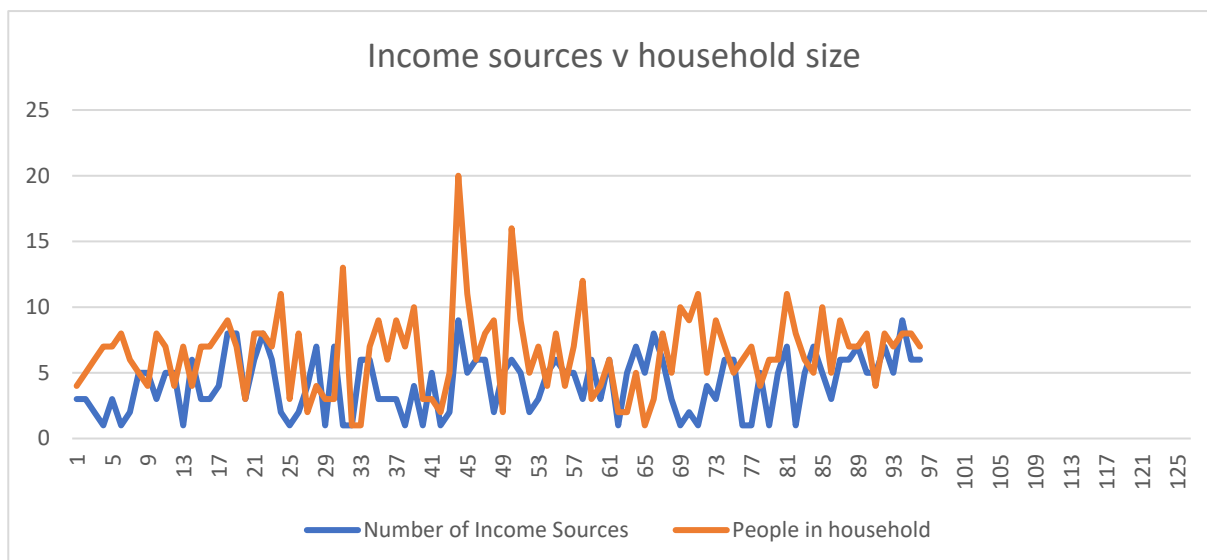


There was a wide range of household sizes found through Tuvalu CRI participants, from just one person to 13 people. The median and most common household size was seven, with 18 respondents reporting this number of people. Eight-person households were second most common with 14 households of this size, followed by four- and five-person households with 10 each. It is almost as common for a household to have one or two people as it is for a household to have between 10 and 13.

Despite the similarly wide range of income sources, there is almost no connection between people living in a household and the number of income sources. With a correlation coefficient of 0.1, there is effectively no relationship between the two.

For example, the average size of single-income households was 5.8 people, only slightly lower than the 6.2 for households with three income sources. Dual-income households were the most disproportionate, with an average size of just over seven people.





Spending and livelihoods

Unsurprisingly, every single household reported spending money on food, with 88% of respondents also saying food is their main reason for spending. Transport was the second-most common reason for spending, with 74 respondents, followed by 65 for phone/internet. No other category had more than 38 responses. 20 of the 30 'Other' responses mentioned utility bills as another reason for spending, with 4% of households saying this is their main reason for spending. 2% reported church, community or cultural obligations as their major expenditure despite only being mentioned by 9 households.

Education costs were also disproportionately represented, being the major expense of 5% of households despite being reported by only 38 households.

As might be expected, food was the dominant theme in households' learning interests. Raising pigs and chickens as livestock were particularly popular with 65 and 61 households respectively expressing interest in learning more about this. The next most common were all food-related also, with 41 households interested in growing and harvesting forests, 28 in aquaculture and 26 in processing nuts and fruit. The highest non-food category was tourism, in which only seven respondents expressed interest.

Climate Resilient Islands aims to strengthen community resilience and adaptive capacity to the impacts of climate change through nature-based solutions working with rural communities in Vanuatu, Fiji, PNG, Tonga, Tuvalu and the Solomon Islands. The project is a New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade initiative implemented by Live & Learn Environmental Education.

