

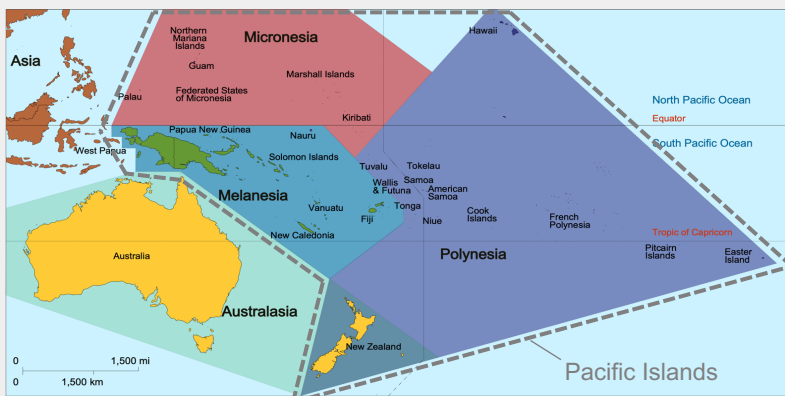
# Is the urbanization a relevant factor in the percentage of married women aged 15-17 in Pacific Islands regions?

According to the data provided in [United Nations Statistics Division | "The World's Women 2020: Population and families"](#), Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand) is one of the regions, along with Central and Southern Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, where **women marry younger** compared to the rest of the world, with an **average age of 22 years**.

Given this average, it is evident that many women marry at an even younger age. As a result, an analysis was conducted on the percentage of married women aged between 15 and 17 living in the three regions of the Pacific Islands.

It is important to note that these are data from certain countries and different dates, serving only as a sample for analysis.

The Pacific Islands are a group of islands in the Pacific Ocean categorized into three major island groups: **Melanesia**, **Micronesia** and **Polynesia**.

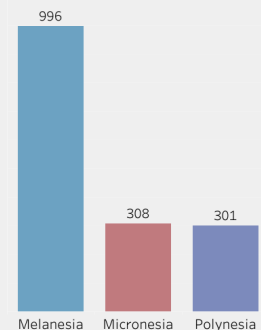


Source: [Wikipedia](#)



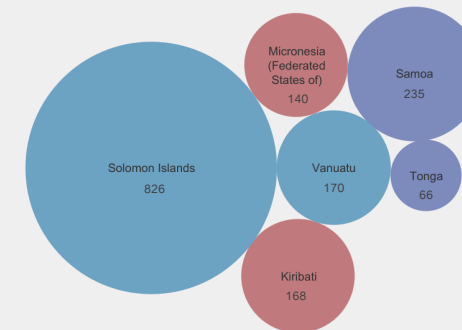
The number of married women aged 15-17 in **Melanesia** is more than **three times higher** than in the other regions.

Number of married women by region



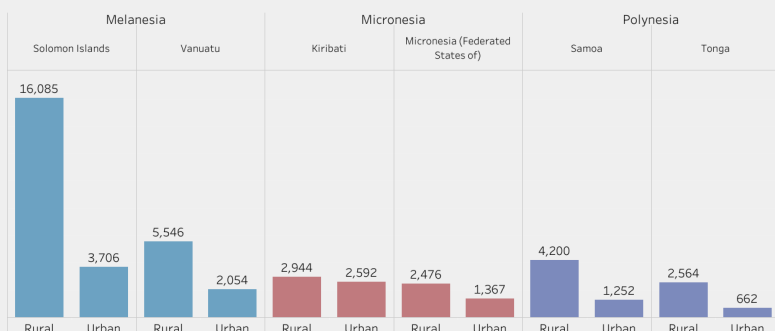
**Solomon Islands** is the country with the highest number of married women, significantly contributing to the total in Melanesia.

Number of married women by country



Additionally, when analyzing by urbanization, it is possible to identify that Solomon Islands has the **highest number of women in rural areas**, with nearly five times more women than in urban areas.

Number of women in Pacific Islands

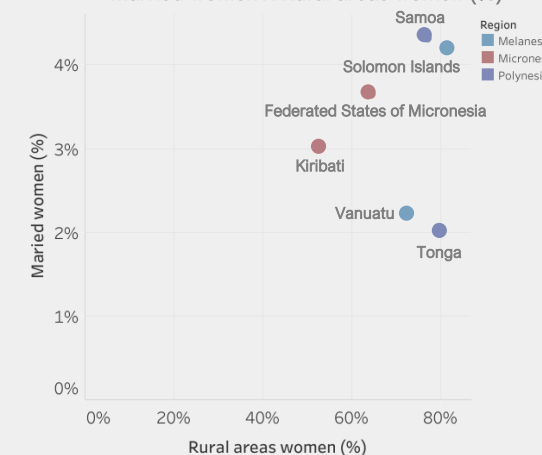


Despite the above, the analysis of **numbers in percentage** is a better approach because it **shows the proportion disregarding population variation**. Therefore, the graph beside shows the **correlation between the percentage of married women and the percentage of women in rural areas** by country.

It can be interpreted that in the regions of **Micronesia** and **Melanesia**, the countries with more women in rural areas also have a higher percentage of married women. **Polynesia**, while not showing the same behavior between the two countries Samoa and Tonga, supports the correlation when comparing Samoa with the two countries of Micronesia.



Married women x Rural areas women (%)



To better understand the urbanization factor relevance in the percentage of married women in the Pacific Islands regions, it is important to analyze temporal data and data from more countries and women age. Additionally, incorporating other socioeconomic data could complement the analysis.