

ANKER REFERENCE VALUE ANNUAL UPDATE 2023¹

RURAL PAPUA NEW GUINEA

LIVING INCOME
PGK 1,760 (USD 490)

This report provides an update of the Anker Living Income Reference Value for rural Papua New Guinea, taking into account inflation since the original report.² As of 2020, the estimated living income for rural areas in Papua New Guinea was PGK 1,593 per month. This update takes into account the amount of inflation to mid-2023 for the country since mid-2020. Between mid-2020 and mid-2023, the inflation rate in Papua New Guinea was 10.5%.³ Without accounting for inflation, the living income estimated in 2020 would not be sufficient for families to have a basic but decent standard of living in 2023, because the purchasing power of the living income would have decreased. Therefore, the updated living income for 2023 in rural Papua New Guinea is estimated to be PGK 1,760 per month.

Table 1. Anker Living Income Reference Value for Rural Papua New Guinea (in PGK and USD)

	2020		2022		2023	
	PGK	USD	PGK	USD	PGK	USD
Anker Living Income Reference Value	1,593	460	1,744	496	1,760	490
Exchange Rate of PGK to USD	3.46^a		3.52^b		3.59^c	
Inflation since mid-2020			9.5%		10.5%	

Notes: ^a Average exchange rate from January 2020 to November 2020.

^b Average exchange rate from May 2022 to July 2022.

^c Average exchange rate for June 2023. (<https://www.xe.com/currencycharts/?from=USD&to=PGK&view=5Y>).

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² Bonilla, F., Voorend, K., Anker, R., Anker M. & Prates, I. (2020). Anker Living Income Reference Value for Rural Papua New Guinea, 2020. Global Living Wage Coalition. See: <https://www.globallivingwage.org/living-income-reference-value-rural-papua-new-guinea/>.

³ To calculate the amount of inflation, we used CPI values provided by the Papua New Guinea's National Statistical Office (NSO) (<https://www.nso.gov.pg/statistics/economy/consumer-price-index/>). This CPI is the weighted average of prices collected in eight urban areas of the country, and it is the CPI officially used to track inflation at the national level.