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16TH CENSUS

OF THE UNITED STATES

1940



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AMERICAN SAMOA

Population Agriculture

Prepared under the supervision of

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**SIXTEENTH CENSUS REPORTS ON TERRITORIES AND POSSESSIONS
OF THE UNITED STATES: 1940**

The Sixteenth Decennial Census of the United States was taken in all the Territories and possessions except the Philippine Islands. A census of the Philippines was taken by the Commonwealth Government in 1939. Preliminary reports for the outlying areas covered by the Sixteenth Census were issued in 1940. The final reports, listed below, will ultimately be assembled and published in a single bound volume entitled "Sixteenth Census of the United States: 1940—Territories and Possessions."

ALASKA: Population; Agriculture; Manufactures; Business.

AMERICAN SAMOA: Population; Agriculture.

GUAM: Population; Agriculture.

HAWAII: Population; Housing; Agriculture; Manufactures; Business.

PANAMA CANAL ZONE: Population.

PUERTO RICO: Population; Housing; Agriculture; Manufactures; Business.

VIRGIN ISLANDS: Population; Housing; Agriculture.

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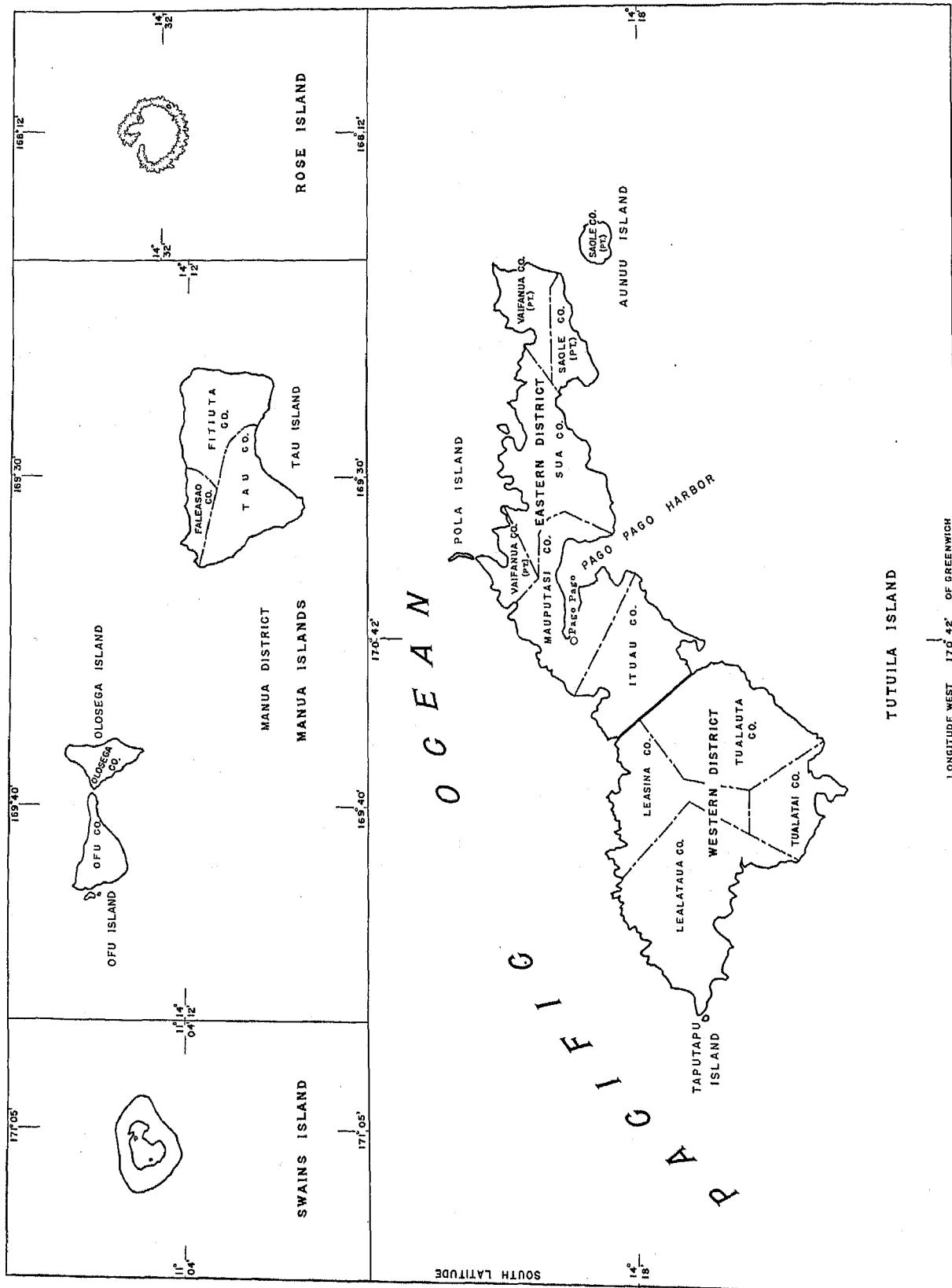
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AMERICAN SAMOA ISLANDS AND COUNTIES



AMERICAN SAMOA

Introduction

Acquisition by United States.—American Samoa was acquired by the United States in accordance with a convention between the United States, Great Britain, and Germany, signed December 2, 1899, ratified February 16, 1900, and proclaimed by the President of the United States on the latter date. Under an Executive Order of February 19, 1900, the islands were placed under the authority of the Secretary of the Navy for use as a naval station.

The high chiefs of Tutuila voluntarily ceded the islands of Tutuila and Aunuu to the United States on April 17, 1900; and the islands of the Manua group (Tau, Olosega, and Ofu) were ceded by their high chiefs on July 16, 1904.

By joint resolution of Congress, approved March 4, 1925, Swains Island was annexed to American Samoa.

Location and area.—The islands constituting

American Samoa lie in the South Pacific Ocean, approximately 2,500 miles east of the northeastern shore of Australia. (See map, p. iv.) This group comprises Tutuila and Aunuu islands; the Manua islands, Tau, Olosega, and Ofu; and Swains Island. Its total area is 76 square miles.

Earlier censuses.—Local censuses of population were taken by the naval governors in 1900 and 1912. Federal censuses of population were taken in 1920, 1930, and 1940; of livestock, in 1920; and of agriculture (crops and livestock), in 1930 and 1940. The field work on each of these Federal censuses was done under the supervision of the naval governor in accordance with plans prescribed by the Director of the Census. Captain Edward W. Hanson, U. S. Navy, who was governor in April 1940, was in charge of the Sixteenth Census canvass of American Samoa.

POPULATION

NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION

The major civil divisions of American Samoa are as follows: Manua District, comprising Tau, Ofu, and Olosega islands; Eastern District of Tutuila (including Aunuu Island); Western District of Tutuila; and Swains Island. The islands constituting Manua District and the districts constituting Tutuila Island are subdivided into counties.

The population totals for American Samoa, by districts, for 1940 and all earlier census years, are given in table 1, below; and figures for islands, counties, and villages, for 1940 in comparison with 1930, 1920, and 1912, are presented in table 2.

TABLE 1.—POPULATION, BY DISTRICTS: 1900 TO 1940

DISTRICT	POPULATION					PERCENT OF INCREASE	
	1910 ¹	1930 ¹	1920 ²	1912 ³	1900 ³	1930 to 1910	1920 to 1930
American Samoa, total.....	12,908	10,055	8,056	7,251	5,679	28.4	423.6
Manua.....	2,507	2,147	1,871	1,797	1,756	21.0	14.8
Tutuila:							
Eastern.....	6,733	5,032	3,777	3,186	2,221	33.8	33.2
Western.....	3,431	2,777	2,408	2,268	1,702	23.6	15.3
Swains Island.....	147	99	(4)	(5)	(5)	48.5	(5)

¹ Federal census taken as of Apr. 1.

² Federal census taken as of Jan. 1.

³ Local census taken by naval governor.

⁴ Rate of increase of population exclusive of that of Swains Island.

⁵ Swains Island was annexed to American Samoa in 1925.

TABLE 2.—POPULATION, BY DISTRICTS, ISLANDS, COUNTIES, AND VILLAGES: 1912 TO 1940

DISTRICT, ISLAND, COUNTY, OR VILLAGE	1940	1930	1920	1912 ¹	DISTRICT, ISLAND, COUNTY, OR VILLAGE	1940	1930	1920	1912 ¹
Manua District, total	2,597	2,147	² 1,871	² 1,797	Tutuila and Aunuu Islands—Continued.				
Tau Island, total	1,588	1,243	1,155	1,033	Eastern District—Continued.				
Falensao County, total	340	279	269	238	Sua County, total	881	622	633	469
Falensao village.....	340	279	269	238	Afono village.....	138	96	130	70
Fitiuta County, total	494	462	335	315	Amatau village.....	49	41	30	—
Leusoli village.....	230	222	—	—	Fagaitua village.....	212	152	130	113
Maia village.....	258	180	335	315	Lauili village.....	163	114	109	101
Tau County, total	754	562	551	480	Masafau village.....	202	131	141	125
Amouli village.....	26	12	—	—	Masafu village.....	54	40	38	—
Luna village.....	307	200	298	224	Sallele village.....	63	48	43	60
Sitafaga village.....	331	284	253	250	Vaifanua County, total	801	630	504	405
Ofu Island (coextensive with Ofu County), total	500	466	(?)	(?)	Alao village.....	195	138	123	98
Ofu village.....	500	466	361	383	Aoa village.....	141	137	101	85
Olosega Island (coextensive with Olosega County), total	509	438	(?)	(?)	Ononon village.....	108	67	50	46
Olosega village.....	421	371	308	324	Tula village.....	144	128	85	61
Sili village.....	88	67	47	57	Vatia village.....	213	160	145	112
Tutuila and Aunuu Islands, total	10,164	7,809	6,185	5,454	Western District, total	3,431	2,777	2,408	2,268
Eastern District, total	6,733	5,032	3,777	³ 3,186	Leaialua County, total	1,625	1,256	1,134	1,163
Iuau County, total	1,012	760	573	507	A'ao village.....	45	48	33	120
Pagasa village.....	400	295	216	203	Amalua village.....	65	57	45	48
Paganenon village.....	58	42	60	58	Amamave village.....	123	100	143	110
Matuu village.....	44	47	—	—	Asili village.....	79	61	65	54
Nuuuli village.....	510	390	288	246	A'auloma village.....	120	40	20	—
Mauputasi County, total	3,361	2,559	1,761	1,264	Pagalii village.....	48	32	54	82
Anua village.....	4	4	2	—	Pagamalo village.....	97	62	42	33
Atun village.....	48	41	65	—	Pailolo village.....	84	67	58	61
Aun village.....	330	254	202	187	Leone village.....	711	583	472	458
Fagailua village.....	107	100	55	47	Naa village.....	52	50	50	46
Fagatogo village.....	912	678	515	523	Poloa village.....	106	92	95	80
Fatamafu village.....	8	12	—	—	Seetaga village.....	95	49	51	50
Leleoloa village.....	128	141	75	103	Leasina County, total	335	272	290	241
Lepua village.....	30	16	12	—	Attulagi village.....	118	100	116	85
Pago Pago village.....	634	708	668	404	Aoloua village.....	120	114	113	99
Sitafala village.....	15	38	12	—	Asu village.....	88	58	61	57
Utulei village.....	488	375	206	—	Tualatai County, total	527	437	333	296
Naval Reservation.....	270	186	—	—	Futiga village.....	68	36	38	27
Suale County, total	678	471	366	332	Ituan village.....	74	84	80	65
Alofau village.....	134	103	60	37	Paputimu village.....	160	101	97	73
Amouli village.....	180	115	95	91	Vailoatai village.....	⁴ 216	216	118	125
Aunuu village (Aunuu Island).....	322	233	108	184	Tualaua County, total	944	812	651	574
Utumenu village.....	42	20	14	—	Faleniu village.....	135	91	86	158

¹ Census taken by naval governor.² Totals for Manua District include population figures (716 for 1920; 704 for 1912) for Luanuu County, from which counties of Ofu and Olosega were formed between 1920 and 1930.³ Includes 200 enumerated at naval station.⁴ Tualu village and Vailoa village combined to form Vailoatai village in 1920, but reported separately in 1930.⁵ Annexed to American Samoa in 1925.

COMPOSITION AND CHARACTERISTICS

Definitions

This section presents statistics for the population of American Samoa, classified according to sex, race, nativity, age, school attendance, literacy, ability to speak English, family relationship, marital status, and place of birth, and includes occupation statistics for gainfully employed persons.

Race.—The population of American Samoa is classified according to race as (1) Polynesian, (2) part-Polynesian, (3) white, and (4) other. The classifications "Polynesian" and "white" are used for full-blooded Polynesians and full-blooded white persons, respectively; "part-Polynesian," for persons of mixed Polynesian and other blood (white or nonwhite); and "other," for Chinese, Japanese, Negroes, and other persons not classifiable in any of the first three groups.

Age.—The age classification is based on the age at the last birthday prior to April 1, 1940. Thus a

person who was born on April 1, 1910, was classified in the 25-29 age group, since he was 29 years old on his last birthday prior to April 1, 1940. Similarly, an infant born on April 1, 1939, was classified as under 1 year of age.

School attendance.—The school-attendance figures in table 6, for persons 5 to 24 years of age, refer to persons who, at any time within the month of March 1940, attended or were enrolled in vocational schools, or in public, private, or parochial grade schools, or in any other units of the regular school system. The figures in table 7 for persons 25 years of age and older represent the numbers of years of attendance in any of these classes of schools.

Illiteracy.—For census purposes, all persons 10 years of age and older who are unable to read and write any language (not necessarily English) are classified as "illiterate." The enumerators were instructed to report all persons who had attended school 4 years or more as able to read and write; in the cases of persons

who had attended school less than 4 years, to inquire specifically as to their ability to read and write; and to report as illiterate all persons who were able to read but were not able to write.

The instructions in effect in 1930 were less specific, but the enumerators were cautioned not to report a person as literate simply because he was able to write his name. Possibly because of this change in the instructions, the Sixteenth Census enumerators appear to have been somewhat more conservative than the Fifteenth Census enumerators in their interpretation of the illiteracy question; and as a result the 1940 percentages of illiteracy for Polynesians and part-Polynesians in the 10-to-20-year age group are higher than the corresponding percentages for 1930. As it seems unlikely that the degrees of illiteracy in these elements of the population were actually lower in 1930 than in 1940, no comparative figures for the earlier year are given in table 8.

Nativity.—All persons born within the present limits of the 48 States, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, the Panama Canal Zone, the Philippine Islands, Guam, and American Samoa (including persons born in these areas prior to their acquisition by the United States) are classified as "native," and all others are classified as "foreign-born." Persons born at sea or in foreign countries, of parents who were citizens of the United States, are classified as "native."

Family relationship.—The term "private family" is used to designate—

(1) A group consisting of husband and wife, or husband, wife, and children, or husband, wife, children, and other relatives, or any other group of persons related by blood or by marriage, living together as a single household.

(2) A group consisting in part of related persons and in part of other persons, such as lodgers (not exceeding four in number), servants, etc., living together as a single household.

(3) A person living alone.

(4) Two or more persons, not related by blood or by marriage and not members of a "quasi-family group," who live together as a single household.

The head of the family is the person regarded as such by the members of the family—whether husband or father, widow, or unmarried person of either sex. A person living alone is classified, for census purposes, as the head of a family.

The term "quasi-family group" is applied to a group of persons living in a hotel, or in a lodginghouse having five or more lodgers, or in the dormitory of an educational institution, or in a prison or a jail, or in an almshouse, a hospital, or other institution in which the inmates are likely to remain for considerable periods of time; or to the personnel of a military post or a naval station, or the members of a camp or barracks of laborers.

Occupations of gainfully employed persons.—All persons (including those temporarily unemployed at the time the census was taken) who usually work for pay (in the form of salaries, wages, fees, commissions, etc.) or for profit (in their own businesses, professions, etc., or on farms that they own or rent) are classified as "gainfully employed." Persons engaged in unpaid family labor—e. g., women doing housework in their own homes and children working at home on general household work or chores—are not thus classified.

TABLE 3.—POPULATION, BY SEX, BY RACE AND NATIVITY: 1940 AND 1930

(Percent not shown where less than 0.1; sex ratio not shown where base is less than 100)

RACE AND NATIVITY	NUMBER		PERCENT OF TOTAL		1940		1930		MALES PER 100 FEMALES	
	1940	1930	1940	1930	Male	Female	Male	Female	1940	1930
Total population.....	12,988	10,955	100.0	100.0	6,612	6,296	5,208	4,847	105.0	107.4
Native.....	11,010	8,987	92.3	80.4	6,100	5,813	4,678	4,309	105.0	108.0
Foreign-born.....	980	1,008	7.7	10.0	506	483	530	538	104.8	98.5
Polynesian, total.....	11,291	8,926	87.5	88.8	5,711	5,580	4,541	4,385	102.3	103.6
Native.....	10,507	8,040	81.4	80.0	5,319	5,188	4,108	3,932	102.5	104.5
Foreign-born.....	784	886	6.1	8.8	392	392	433	453	100.0	95.6
Part-Polynesian, total.....	1,303	877	10.1	8.7	687	616	469	468	111.5	115.0
Native.....	1,133	742	8.8	7.4	500	534	406	330	112.2	120.8
Foreign-born.....	170	135	1.3	1.3	88	82	63	72	—	—
White, total.....	300	227	2.3	2.3	200	100	174	53	200.0	—
Native.....	273	193	2.1	1.9	182	91	153	40	—	—
Foreign-born.....	27	34	.2	.3	18	9	21	13	—	—
Other, total.....	144	225	.1	.2	14	—	24	1	—	—
Native.....	6	12	—	.1	6	—	11	1	—	—
Foreign-born.....	8	13	.1	.1	8	—	13	—	—	—

¹ Japanese, 4; Filipino, 2; Negro, 2; other nonwhite, 6.

² Japanese, 6; Chinese, 5; Negro, 6; other nonwhite, 8.

POPULATION

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TABLE 14.—OCCUPATIONS OF GAINFULLY EMPLOYED PERSONS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER, BY RACE, BY SEX: 1940

OCCUPATION	ALL RACES					POLYNESIAN		PART-POLYNESIAN		WHITE		OTHER ¹
	Total	Male	Female	Percent distribution		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
				Male	Female							
Population, all ages.....	12,908	6,612	6,296			5,711	5,580	687	616	200	100	14
Population 10 years of age and older.....	8,638	4,426	4,212			3,841	3,806	391	331	180	75	14
Gainful workers.....	5,147	3,177	1,970			2,745	1,852	245	107	174	11	13
Percent of population, all ages.....	39.9	48.0	31.3			48.1	33.2	35.7	17.4	87.0	11.0	92.9
Percent of population 10 years of age and older.....	59.6	71.8	46.8			71.5	48.7	62.7	32.3	96.7	14.7	92.9
GAINFUL WORKERS												
All occupations.....	5,147	3,177	1,970	100.0	100.0	2,745	1,852	245	107	174	11	13
Bakers.....	16	15	1	.5	.1	10	1	1		3		1
Barbers, beauticians, and manicurists.....	3	2	1	.1	.1	2					1	
Carpenters and carpenters' mates.....	40	40		1.5		30		16		3		
Carpenters' apprentices.....	6	5		.2		4		1				
Chauffeurs, teamsters, and deliverymen.....	38	38		1.2		23		14				1
Clergymen.....	80	80		2.8		84				5		
Clerks in stores.....	9	6	3	.2	.2	4	1	2	2			
Clerical and kindred workers, not elsewhere classified.....	26	25	1	.8	.1	10		11	1	4		
Compositors and typesetters.....	6	6		.2		4		1		1		
Cooks and other domestic servants.....	86	6	79	.2	4.0	6	61		18			
Cooks and servants, except in private families.....	4	3	1	.1	.1	3	1					
Dressmakers and seamstresses, not in factories.....	4		4		.2				4			
Electricians.....	11	11		.3		1		7		3		
Engineers, stationary.....	5	5		.2		2		1		2		
Farm owners and tenants, including metais.....	1,085	1,077	8	33.0	.4	1,035	8	40		1		1
Farm laborers.....	1,153	1,145	8	36.0	.4	1,093	8	52				3
Fishermen and oystermen.....	77	77		2.4		73		1				
Foremen.....	5	5		.2				2		3		
Laborers, except farm.....	123	123		3.9		98		25				
Laundry operatives and laundresses, except in private families.....	9	8	1	.3	.1	7	1	1				
Laundresses in private families.....	15		15		.8		14		1			
Machinists.....	21	21		.7		2		2		17		
Mechanics and repairmen.....	6	6		.2		5		1				
Messengers; errand and office boys and girls.....	3	3		.1		2		1				
Musicians and music teachers.....	20	20		.6		16		3		1		
Nurses, trained and student.....	31	1	30		1.5	1	25		1		4	
Nurses and attendants, hospitals and other institutions.....	4	4		.1		4						
Officials, public.....	13	13		.4		1				12		
Painters, construction and maintenance.....	8	8		.3		5		3				
Physicians and surgeons.....	4	4		.1		1				3		
Plumbers and gas and steam fitters.....	6	6		.2		3		3				
Policemen and detectives.....	10	10		.3		10						
Postmasters.....	3	2	1	.1	.1			1	1	1		
Proprietors, managers, and officials—all industries ²	33	29	4	.9	.2	6	1	10	3	11		2
Radio and wireless operators.....	15	15		.5				1		14		
Religious workers.....	12	6	6	.2	.3	2	2			4	4	
Salesmen and saleswomen, not including clerks in stores.....	20	17	12	.5	.6	10	4	7	8			
Soldiers, marines, and coast guards; sailors, U. S. Navy.....	83	83		2.6		23		3		63		4
Teachers, except college, art, dancing, music, and athletic.....	101	86	15	2.7	.8	76	0	2	5	8	1	
Water transportation ³	51	51		1.6		30		12				
All other gainful workers.....	1,877	97	1,780	3.1	90.4	50	1,716	21	63	25	1	

¹ No females reported in this racial group.² Manufacturing, wholesaling and retailing, construction, mining, and transportation; finance, insurance, and real estate; personal services; amusement, recreation, and related services; professional and related services; etc.³ Officers, pilots, pursers, and engineers on ships; sailors and deck hands, except U. S. Navy.

AGRICULTURE

Definitions and Explanations

Definition of "farm."—The term "farm," as used in this report, relates to any parcel or parcels of land—regardless of size and of value of production—on which crops were grown by one person, either alone or with the aid of members of his household or of hired help.

Census dates.—The figures for crops relate to the calendar year 1939; those for livestock on hand, to the date April 1, 1940.

Crops.—The census enumerators were instructed to report all crops grown in 1939. Because of the conditions under which farming is carried on in American Samoa, however, it was found that accurate data on acreage and production of specified fruits, vegetables, etc., could not be obtained, and that only the numbers of trees and plants could be ascertained with a degree of accuracy sufficient to justify the publication of statistics. For this reason, no acreage figures are given in any of the tables; no production figures, except estimates for coconuts, are given in table 3; and no production figures are included in tables 6 and 7.

Agricultural conditions.¹—The mountainous islands of American Samoa are of volcanic origin. In Tutuila there is very little level land except along the coast and in a broad plain in the southwestern part. The climate is tropical but equable, with occasional severe gales and hurricanes. The average annual rainfall for 26 years was 197 inches. The yearly temperature ranges from about 60° to 90° Fahrenheit.

The soil of the islands is partly sand and partly clay. In the alluvial valleys it is fertile, but on the slopes it is thin, without subsoil. Because of differences in altitude, in the nature of the soil, and in degree of protection from salt air, soil fertility varies, even within small areas, to such an extent that in some cases plants that thrive in one locality cannot be grown in other localities nearby.

The chief vegetable product is copra, the dried meat of the coconut, which is exported for the extraction of the oil. The coco palm grows readily in the islands, and supplies food, drink, and shelter to the Samoans.

In addition to the tropical fruits and nuts native to Samoa, such as the nutmeg, the papaya, the Samoan chestnut, the mango, the Malay apple, and the bread-fruit, numerous trees and plants have been introduced from Hawaii, the Philippine Islands, and other regions. These include, among others, Macadamia, lichi, pili, cashew, English walnut, and Malabar chestnut trees;

French cherries, Brazil cherries, loquats, African manasteen, tamarinds, Java coffee, Arabian and Liberian coffee, and fifteen varieties of avocado; tropical corn, especially Guam corn; sweetpotatoes, radishes, beans, okra, peanuts, turnips, mustard, rutabaga, cucumbers, peas, and citrus fruits. Tomatoes, cabbages, eggplant, and lettuce have also been introduced and are grown fairly successfully with the aid of fertilizers and sprays.

Livestock.—Samoan livestock comprises cattle, horses, swine, and poultry, which are constantly increasing in number. Cattle thrive on the luxuriant grass and weeds. The natives raise many hogs, which are in demand for feasts. In 1930, all livestock, whether kept on farms or elsewhere, was reported. In 1940, however, although the enumerators were instructed to report all livestock, wherever kept, they failed to report any livestock not kept on farms, and for this reason the livestock figures for 1940 and 1930 may not be strictly comparable.

TABLE 1.—COPRA EXPORTED, 1939; COPRA PRODUCED, 1929 AND 1919

[As all copra is produced for export, the figures for 1939 are substantially comparable with the production figures for earlier years. The total for 1939 was supplied by the governor of American Samoa; the district figures were estimated]

DISTRICT	Exports, 1939	PRODUCTION	
		1929	1919
Total, pounds.....	2,640,500	3,778,880	1,735,734
Manua.....	807,200	904,960	42,827
Tutuila:			
Eastern.....	550,500	808,640	521,935
Western.....	1,273,800	2,065,280	1,171,302

TABLE 2.—FARMS—NUMBER, BY DISTRICTS, BY COUNTIES:
1939 AND 1929

DISTRICT AND COUNTY	1939	1929
Total farms.....	1,038	815
Manua District.....	256	232
Faleasao County.....	31	32
Fitiuta County.....	54	43
Ofu County.....	42	48
Olosega County.....	49	42
Tau County and Swains Island.....	80	67
Tutuila, Eastern District.....	478	328
Ituau County.....	62	54
Mauputasi County.....	235	131
Saie County.....	52	37
Sua County.....	63	60
Vafanua County.....	66	46
Tutuila, Western District.....	304	255
Lealataua County.....	140	125
Leusia County.....	25	27
Tualatala County.....	45	34
Tualauta County.....	94	69

¹ Source: Navy Department.

