INTRODUCTION
Settled as early as 1000 B.C., Samoa was not reached by European explorers until the 18th century. International rivalries in the latter half of the 19th century were settled by an 1899 treaty in which Germany and the US divided the Samoan archipelago. The US formally occupied its portion - a smaller group of eastern islands with the excellent harbor of Pago Pago - the following year.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Joseph R. BIDEN Jr.
Head of Government
Governor Lemanu Peleti MAUGA
Government Type
unincorporated, unorganized Territory of the US with local self-government; republican form of government with separate executive, legislative, and judicial branches;
Capital
Pago Pago
Legislature
bicameral Legislature or Fono consists of the Senate (18 seats) and the House of Representatives (21 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 224 sq km
Land: 224 sq km
Water: 0 sq km
Climate
tropical marine, moderated by southeast trade winds, little seasonal temperature variation
Natural Resources
pumice, pumicite

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
tourism, tuna, and government services-based territorial economy; sustained economic decline; vulnerable tuna canning industry; large territorial government presence; minimum wage increases to rise to federal standards by 2036
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $658 million (2016 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $11,200 (2016 est.)
Industries - tuna canneries (largely supplied by foreign fishing vessels), handicrafts
Agricultural products - bananas, coconuts, vegetables, taro, breadfruit, yams, copra, pineapples, papayas, dairy products, livestock
Exports $428 million (2016 est.)
canned tuna
partners: Australia 25%, Ghana 19%, Indonesia 16%, Burma 10%, Portugal 5% (2017)
Imports $615 million (2016 est.)
raw materials for canneries, food, petroleum products, machinery and parts
partners: Fiji 11%, Singapore 10%, NZ 10%, South Korea 9%, Samoa 8%, Kenya 6%, Australia 5% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population 46,370 (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth -2.1% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Pacific Islander 92.6%
(includes Samoan 88.9%, Tongan 2.9%, other 0.8%), Asian 3.6% (includes Filipino 2.2%, other 1.4%), mixed 2.7%, other 1.2% (2010 est.)
Language
Samoan 88.6% (closely related to Hawaiian and other Polynesian languages), English 3.9%, Tongan 2.7%, other Pacific islander 3%, other 1.8% (2010 est.)
Religion
Christian 98.3%, other 1%, unaffiliated 0.7% (2010 est.)