AMERICAN SAMOA









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

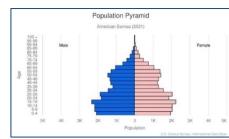
46,370 (July 2021 est.)

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.)

as of October 2021