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Government of Samoa

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION STATISTICS

2008

This release recapitulates Samoa’s International Arrival Statistics for the calendar year 2008, with the provision of crucial statistical information’s on international migration statistics.

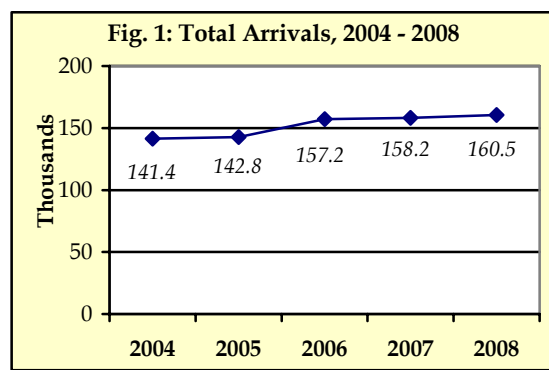
International Migration Statistics are collected solely to satisfy three core requirements: (a) provision of data to the government of Samoa on the number of characteristics of migrants (both immigrants and emigrants) for planners and policy makers; (b) to allow the Bureau to compile inter censal population estimates and (c) to refine statistics on visitors arrival.

The source documents used for the compilation of statistics on International Migration are the Migration Arrival and Departure forms completed by all incoming and outgoing travelers at the two ports of arrival and departure, namely the Apia Wharf and Faleolo International Airport.

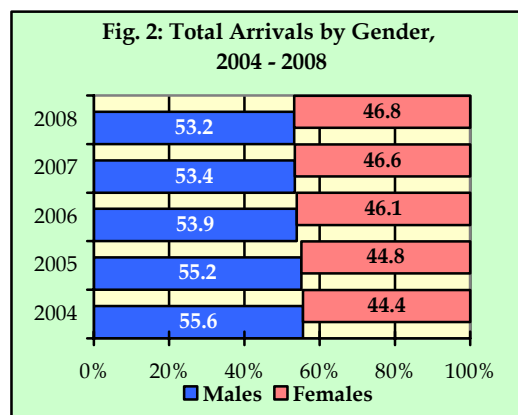
“A. ARRIVALS”

A1. TOTAL ARRIVALS

During the reference period, a total of 160,464 migrants (Table 1) arrived in Samoa. This indicates an increase of 1.4 percent compared to the same period of 2007 (158,215) and an increase of 2.1 percent when compared to the same period of 2006 (157,156). This is illustrated below in Fig. 1. Moreover, Air being the most preferred mode of travel to Samoa constituting 94.6 percent while the remaining 5.4 percent is represented by Sea.



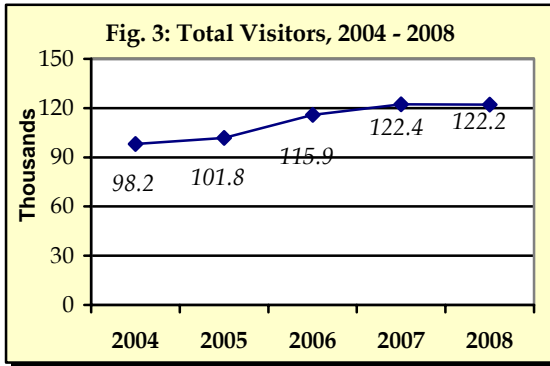
Arrivals by gender (Table 2) disclose that males recorded over half of the travelers with 53.2 percent (85,361) while their female counterpart comprised the remaining 46.8 percent (75,103). This is similar to 2007 where males recorded 53.4 percent while females comprised the remaining 46.6 percent. (Refer Fig. 2). Furthermore, the majority age for inbound travelers to Samoa in 2008 ranges from 20 – 59 years.



A2. TOTAL VISITORS

During the reference period, a total of 122,163 Visitors (including transit) entered our shores. This represents a decrease of a mere 0.2 percent when compared to the same period of 2007 in contrast to a 5.4 percent increase when compared with 2006. Refer Fig. 3.

Additionally, males constitute 52.1 percent (63,666) of this total while females constitute the remaining 47.9 percent (58,497).

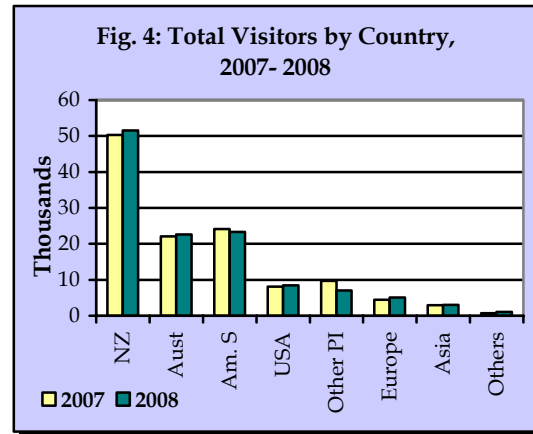


A3. VISITOR COMPOSITION

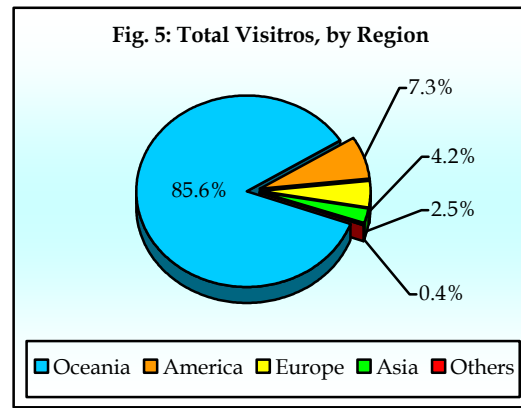
A3.1 Country of Usual Residence

The majority of visitors (Table 3 & 4) from principal source markets namely New Zealand, American Samoa, Australia and the United States of America constitute 86.7 or 105,992 of all visitors visiting Samoa in the calendar year 2008

New Zealand was the dominant country in visitors' arrival (Table 3 & 4) during the reference period with 51,533 inbound travelers, depicting an increase of 2.4 percent over 2007. This is followed by Australia with a total of 22,643 inbound travelers, also an increase of 2.4 percent over 2007. American Samoa followed next with 23,351 travelers, but with a decrease of 3.1 percent over 2007. The United States of America came in fourth with 8,325 travelers, an increase of 5.1 percent over 2007. This is graphically portrayed in Fig. 4.



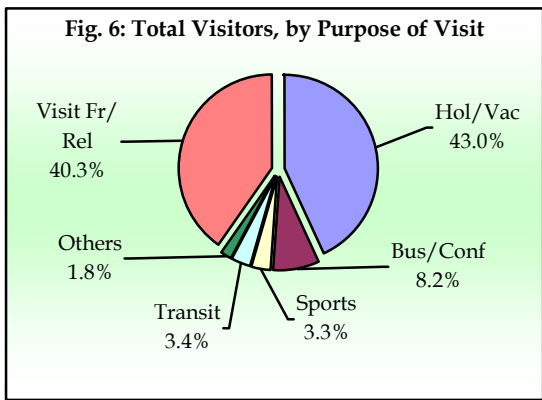
Of Total Visitors by region, Oceania is the leading region represented by 85.6 percent (104,579 visitors) followed by the American region with 7.3 percent (8,893 visitors). The European region is next with 4.2 percent (5,091 visitors), Asia with 2.5 percent (3,001 visitors) and the remaining 0.4 percent (599 visitors) is constituted by other regions and is shown in Fig. 5.



A3.2 Purpose of Visit

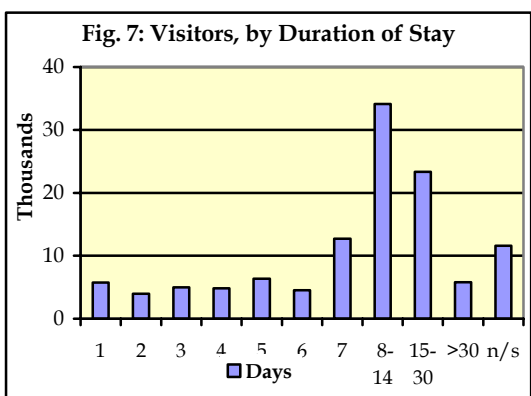
By purpose of visit, 43.0 percent (52,470) of total visitors were here on Vacation/Holiday of which almost half (45.5 percent) came from New Zealand. Those Visiting Friends/ Relatives followed next with 40.2 percent (49,137) of which 43.1 percent came from New Zealand alone. Those entering our shores for Business/

Conference recorded 8.2 percent (9,980) and the majority of which came from New Zealand with 37.8 percent. Transit travelers bound for other destinations registered 3.5 percent (4,267) and the majority of which came from American Samoa with 33.7 percent. Sports is next with 3.3 percent (4,059) of which 34.5 percent came from New Zealand. Those that were here for other purposes make up the remaining 1.8 percent. This is graphically illustrated in Fig. 6.

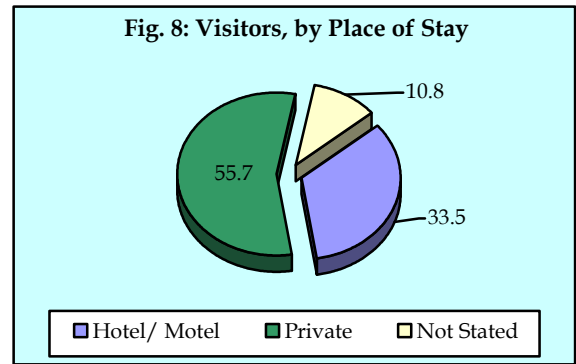


A3.3 Duration and Place of Stay

As tabulated in Table 6, the trend of visitors' duration of stay (excluding transit) in Samoa ranges from a week to a month. Fig. 7 shows the distribution of visitors' duration of stay in 2008.

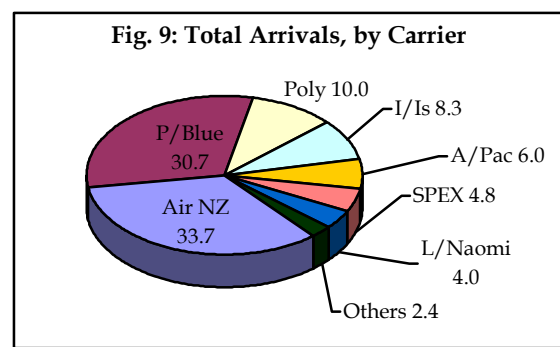


Furthermore, the majority of visitors (65,695) prefer to stay with private accommodations or families/ relatives compared to those that have a preference for hotel/ motels (39,439). Those visitors who did not wish to state their place of stay accounted for the remaining 12,762 visitors. Refer Fig. 8.



A4. CARRIER

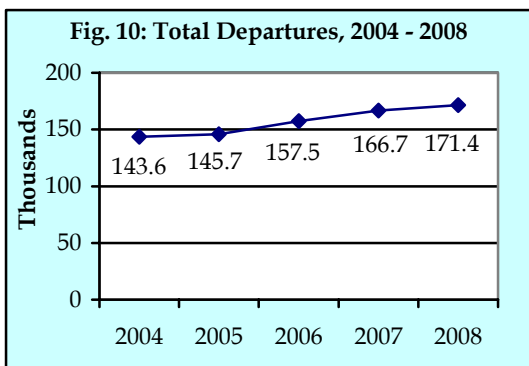
Table 5 reveal Air New Zealand as the main carrier for all those visiting Samoa for the calendar year 2008 with 54,002 passengers (33.7 percent) followed by Poly Blue with 49,282 passengers (30.7 percent). Next is Polynesian Airlines with 16,092 (10.0 percent) then by Inter Island Airways with 13,382 (8.3 percent). Fig. 9 portrays a more graphical presentation of all carriers during the reference period.



“B. DEPARTURES”

B1. TOTAL DEPARTURES

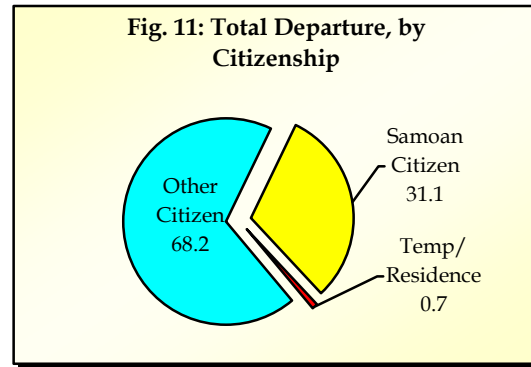
In the calendar year 2008, a total of 171,390 emigrants (Table 7) left our shores. This indicates an increase of 2.8 percent compared to the same period of 2007 (166,677) and an increase of 8.8 percent when compared to the same period of 2006 (157,480). This is graphically illustrated in Fig. 10. By gender, male represent 53.2 percent (91,095) of total departures while female make up the remaining 46.8 percent (80,295).



B2. TOTAL DEPARTURE COMPOSITION

B2.1 Total Departure by Citizenship

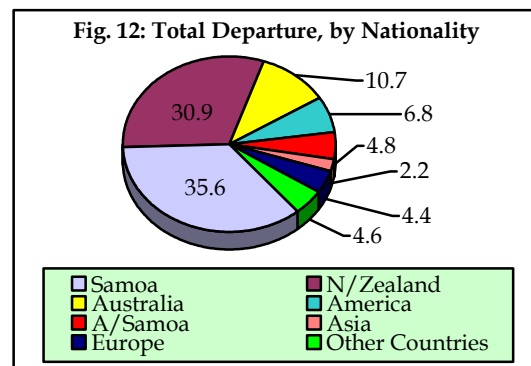
As depicted in Table 7, Other Citizen constitute 68.2 percent (116,960) to total departures (171,390) while Samoan citizens constitute 31.1 percent (53,268) and the remaining 0.7 percent (1,162) by temporary residence. Refer Fig. 11.



B2.2 Total Departure by Nationality

The majority of emigrants (Table 7) specifically from Samoa, New Zealand, Australia, the United States of America and American Samoa make up 88.8 percent (152,164) of total departures during the reference period.

For total departures, Samoa was the leading nationality exhibiting 35.6 percent (60,945) followed by New Zealand with 30.9 percent (53,036) then by Australia with 10.7 percent (18,271). America is next with 6.8 percent (11,630) then by American Samoa with 4.8 percent (8,282). An overall picture of departure by nationality is portrayed in Fig. 12 below.

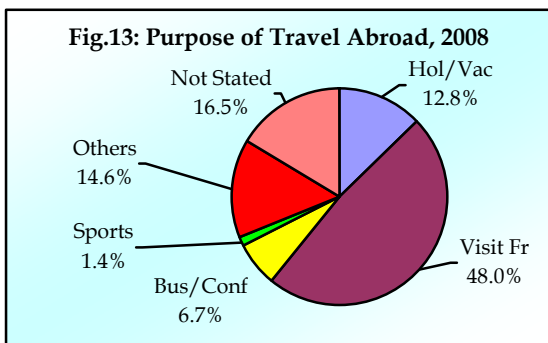


B3. SAMOA CITIZEN

B3.1 Purpose of Travel of Abroad

During the calendar year 2008, a total of 53,268 (Table 8) Samoans left our shores, representing 31.1 percent of total departures. Of this total, 55.1 percent (29,357) were males and the remaining 44.9 percent (23,911) were females.

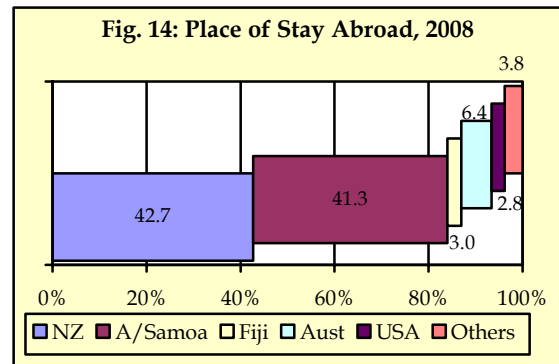
By purpose of travel, almost half or 48.0 percent (25,567) of Samoan emigrants traveled overseas to visit friends/ relatives while 12.8 percent (6,808) left on holiday/ vacation. Additionally, those that left for business/ conference and sporting activities constitute 6.7 percent (3,566) and 1.4 percent (733) respectively. 14.6 percent (7,799) of Samoan emigrants revealed that they left our shores for other purposes while 16.5 percent (8,795) did not state their purpose of travel abroad. This is graphically depicted in Fig. 13.



B3.2 Place of Stay Abroad

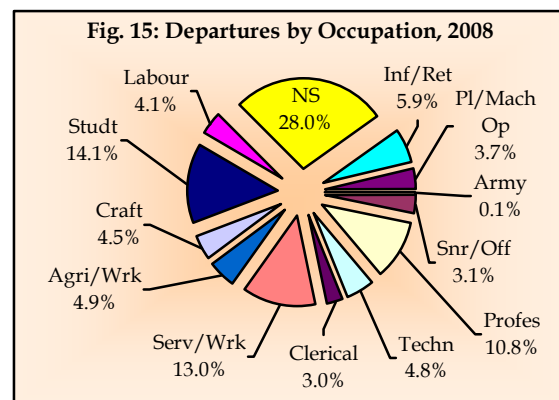
The majority of Samoans leaving our shores travel to New Zealand as indicated by 42.7 percent (22,764) in Table 9, which is then closely followed by American Samoa with 41.3 percent (22,020).

Australia comes in as the third main place of stay abroad yielding 6.4 percent (3,413), followed by Fiji and The United States of America with 3.0 percent (1,585) and 2.8 percent (1,480) respectively. Fig. 14 depicts a graphical impression of the main place of stay abroad by Samoa Citizens.



B3.3 Departures by Occupation

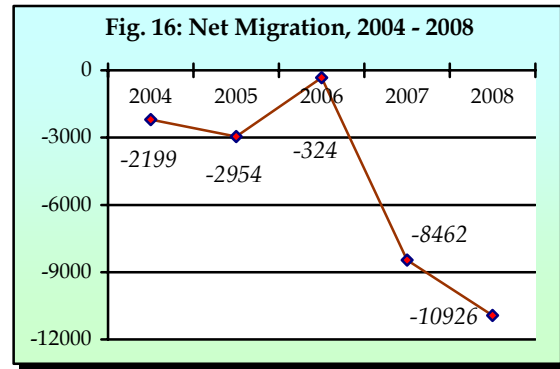
As depicted in Table 10, the majority of emigrants are students, yielding 14.1 percent (7,508) followed by service workers with 13.0 percent (6,899) then by professionals with 10.8 percent (5,772). Next is infant/retiree with 5.9 percent (3,166) then agricultural workers with 4.9 percent (2,662). A detail graphical analysis of departures by occupation is exhibited in Fig. 15.



“C. NET MIGRATION”

During the reference period, net migration stood at -10,926 (Table 1) implying that out going travelers (departure) were greater than in coming travelers (arrival). This shows an increase of 29.1 percent when compared to the same period of 2007.

Between 2004 and 2008, the most significant change was in 2008 with -10926 migrants while the less significant change was in 2006 with -324 migrants. Fig. 16 below gives the natural changes in international migration from 2004 – 2008.



The attached tables, Tables 1- 7, will provide readers with a more tabulated analysis of international migration during the reference period.

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