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Government of Samoa

## SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

# ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION STATISTICS

# 2009

This release recapitulates Samoa’s International Arrival Statistics for the calendar year 2009, 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.

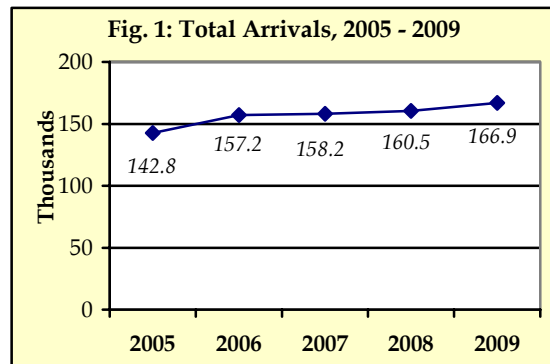
The source documents used for the compilation of statistics on International Migration are the Migration Arrival and Departure forms completed by all incoming and outgoing travelers at the ports of arrival and departure, namely the Apia Wharf and Fagalii and Faleolo International Airports.

## **“A. ARRIVALS”**

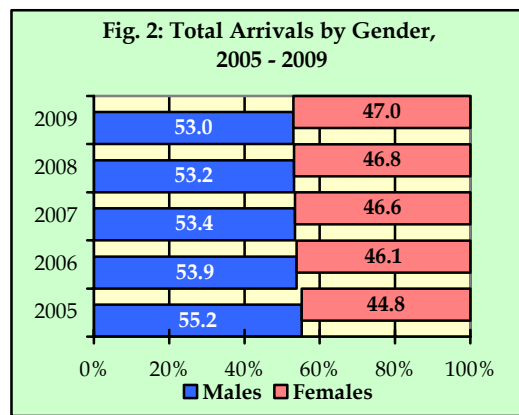
### **A1. TOTAL ARRIVALS**

During the reference period, a total of 166,911 migrants (Table 1) arrived in Samoa. This indicates an increase of 4.0 percent compared to the same period of 2008 (160,511) and an increase of 5.5 percent when compared to the same period of 2007 (158,215). This is illustrated below in Fig. 1. Moreover, Air being the most preferred mode of travel to Samoa constituting 96.9 percent while the

remaining 3.1 percent is represented by Sea.



Arrivals by gender (Table 2) disclose that males recorded over half of the travelers with 53.0 percent (88,438) while their female counterpart comprised the remaining 47.0 percent (78,473). This is similar to 2008 where males recorded 53.2 percent while females round up the remaining 46.8 percent. (Refer Fig. 2). Furthermore, the majority age for inbound travelers to Samoa in 2009 ranges from 20 – 59 years.

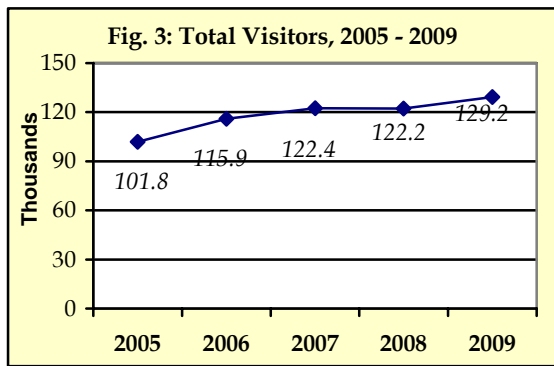


### **A2. TOTAL VISITORS**

During the reference period, a total of 129,238 Visitors (including transit) entered our shores (Table 1). This indicates an increase of 5.8 percent when compared to

the same period of 2008 in contrast to a 5.6 percent increase when compared with 2007. Refer Fig. 3.

Additionally, males constitute 52.1 percent (67,351) of this total while females constitute the remaining 47.9 percent (61,887).



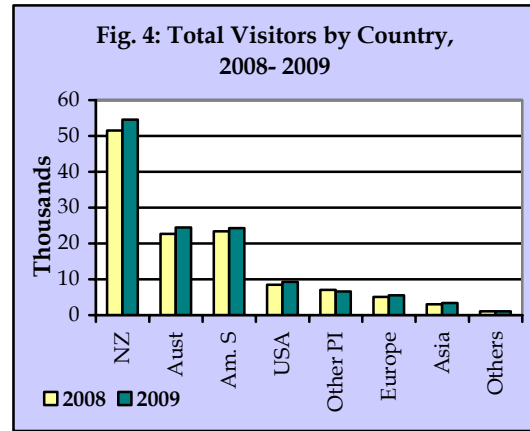
### A3. VISITOR COMPOSITION

#### A3.1 Country of Usual Residence

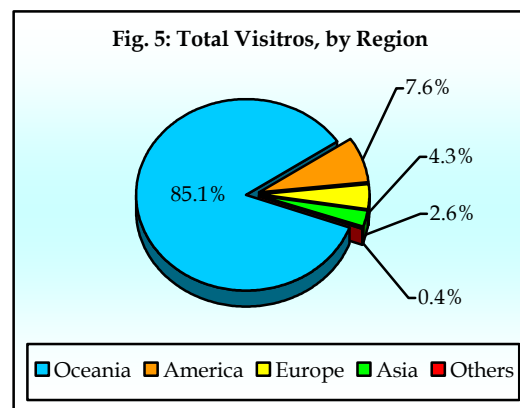
The majority of visitors (Table 3 & 4) from principal source markets namely New Zealand, American Samoa, Australia and the United States of America constitute 87.2 or 112,603 of all visitors visiting Samoa in the calendar year 2009

New Zealand was the dominant country in visitors' arrival (Table 3 & 4) during the reference period with 54,574 inbound travelers, depicting an increase of 5.9 percent over 2008. This is followed by Australia with a total of 24,497 inbound travelers, also an increase of 8.2 percent over 2008. American Samoa followed next with 24,285 travelers, also an increase of 4.0 percent over 2008. The United States of America came in fourth with 9,247 travelers, an increase of 9.2 percent over

2008. This is graphically portrayed in Fig. 4.



Of Total Visitors by region, Oceania is the leading region represented by 85.1 percent (109,965 visitors) followed by the American region with 7.6 percent (9,777 visitors). The European region is next with 4.3 percent (5,537 visitors), Asia with 2.6 percent (3,423 visitors) and the remaining 0.4 percent (536 visitors) is constituted by other regions as graphically illustrated in Fig. 5.



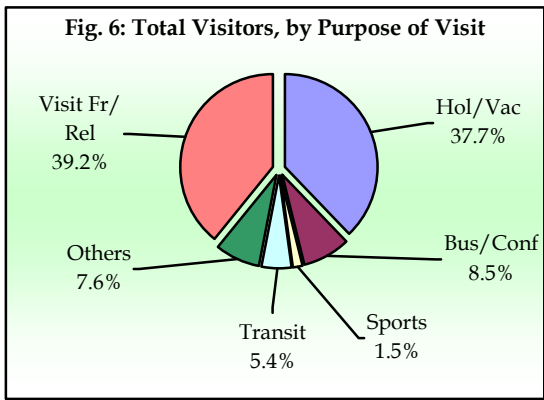
#### A3.2 Purpose of Visit

By purpose of visit, 39.2 (50,671) of total visitors were here visiting friends/ relatives of which 43.7 came from New Zealand.

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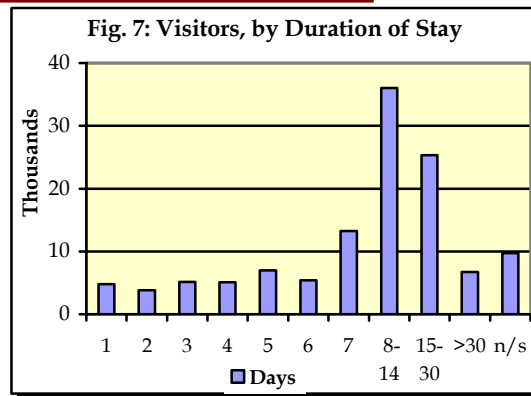
Those visitors on holiday/ vacation followed next with 37.7 percent (48,782) of which 47.8 percent came from New Zealand alone. Those entering our shores

for Business/ Conference recorded 8.5 percent (10,993) and the majority of which came from New Zealand with 40.9 percent. Transit travelers bound for other destinations registered 5.4 percent (6,961) and the majority of which came from American Samoa with 34.0 percent. Sports constitute 1.5 percent (1,941) of which 32.5 percent came from New Zealand. Those that were here for other purposes make up the remaining 7.6 percent. This is graphically illustrated in Fig. 6.

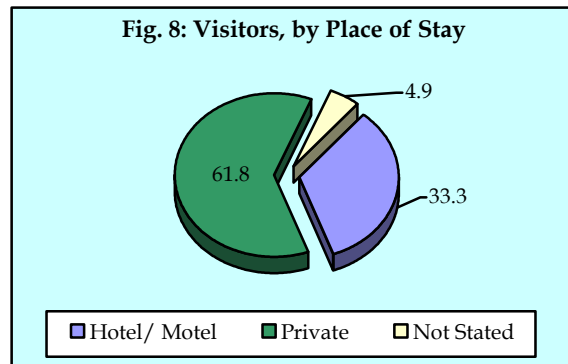


**A3.3 Duration and Place of Stay**

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 2009.

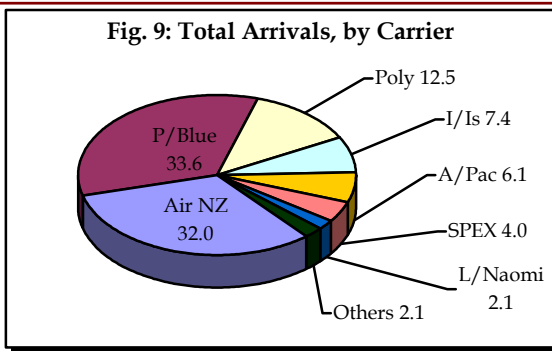


Furthermore, the majority of visitors (75,623) prefer to stay with private accommodations or families/ relatives compared to those that have a preference for hotel/ motels (40,691). Those visitors who did not wish to state their place of stay accounted for the remaining 5,963 visitors. Refer Fig. 8.



**A4. CARRIER**

Table 5 reveals Poly Blue as the main carrier for all those visiting Samoa for the calendar year 2009 with 56,131 passengers (33.6 percent) followed by Air New Zealand with 53,485 passengers (32.0 percent). Next is Polynesian with 20,881 (12.5 percent) then by Inter Island Airways with 12,419 (7.4 percent). Fig. 9 portrays a more graphical presentation of all carriers during the reference period.

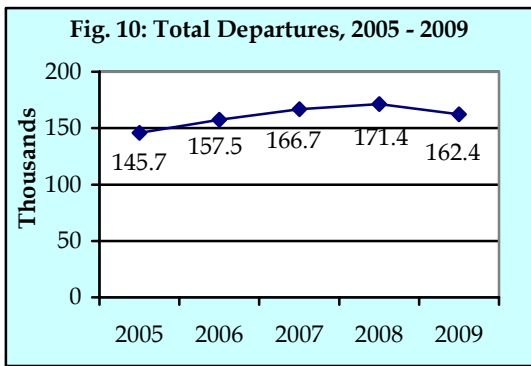


departures (162,388) while Samoan citizens constitute 27.3 percent (44,362) and the remaining 0.6 percent (934) by temporary residence. Refer Fig. 11.

## “B. DEPARTURES”

### **B1. TOTAL DEPARTURES**

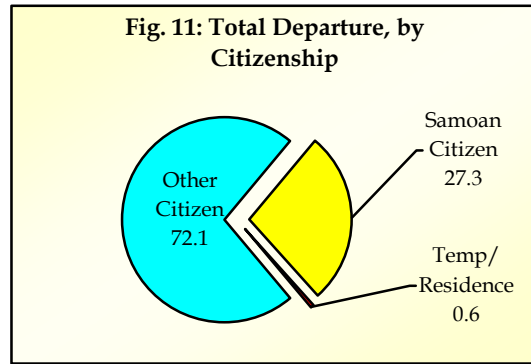
In the calendar year 2009, a total of 162,388 emigrants (Table 7) left our shores. This indicates a decrease of 5.3 percent compared to the same period of 2008 (171,390) and a decrease of 2.6 percent when compared to the same period of 2007 (166,677). This is graphically illustrated in Fig. 10. By gender, male represent 53.1 percent (86,255) of total departures while female make up the remaining 46.9 percent (76,133).



### **B2. TOTAL DEPARTURE COMPOSITION**

#### ***B2.1 Total Departure by Citizenship***

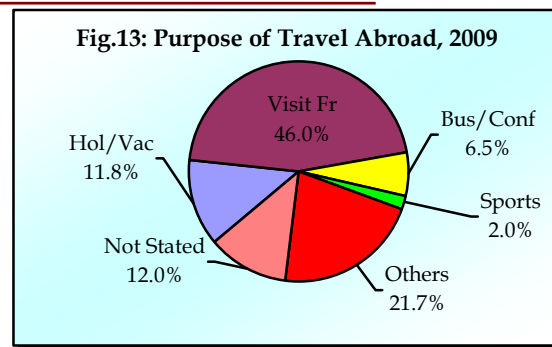
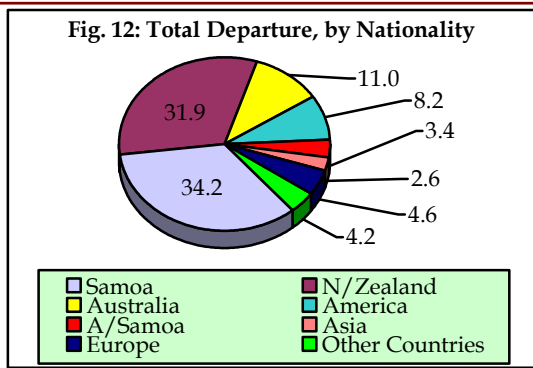
As depicted in Table 7, Other Citizen constitutes 72.1 percent (117,091) to total



#### ***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 88.3 percent (143,422) of total departures during the reference period.

For total departures, Samoa was the leading nationality exhibiting 34.2 percent (55,526) followed by New Zealand with 31.9 percent (51,852) then by Australia with 11.0 percent (17,850). America is next with 7.8 percent (12,684) then by American Samoa with 3.4 percent (5,510). An overall picture of departure by nationality is portrayed in Fig. 12 below.



**B3. SAMOA CITIZEN**

***B3.1 Purpose of Travel of Abroad***

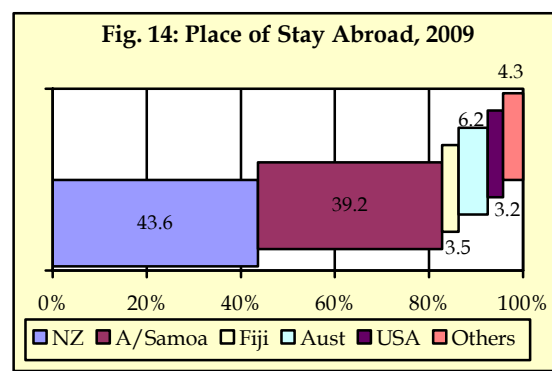
During the calendar year 2009, a total of 44,362 (Table 8) Samoans left our shores, representing 27.3 percent of total departures. Of this total, 54.8 percent (24,327) were males and the remaining 45.2 percent (20,035) were females.

By purpose of travel, almost half or 46.0 percent (20,407) of Samoan emigrants traveled overseas to visit friends/ relatives while 11.8 percent (5,214) left on holiday/ vacation. Additionally, those that left for business/ conference and sporting activities constitute 6.5 percent (2,902) and 2.0 percent (897) respectively. 21.7 percent (9,640) of Samoan emigrants revealed that they left our shores for other purposes while 12.0 percent (5,302) 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 43.6 percent (19,348) in Table 9, which is then closely followed by American Samoa with 39.2 percent (17,395).

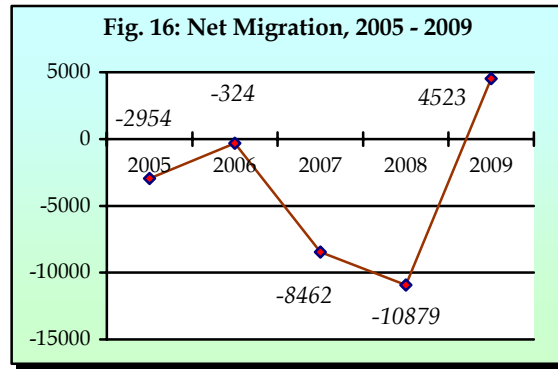
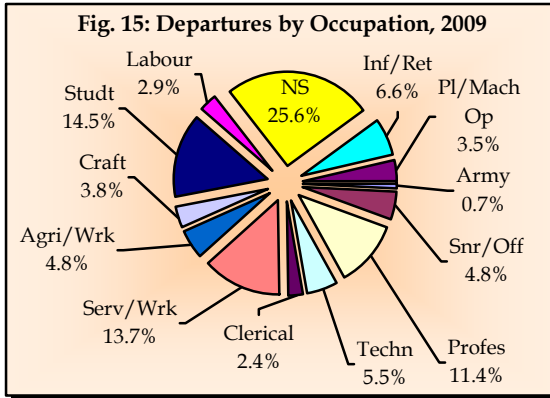
Australia comes in as the third main place of stay abroad yielding 6.2 percent (2,764), followed by Fiji and The United States of America with 3.5 percent (1,552) and 3.2percent (1,418) respectively. Fig. 14 depicts a graphical impression of the main place of stay abroad by Samoa Citizens.



***B3.3 Departures by Occupation***

As depicted in Table 10, the majority of emigrants are students, yielding 14.6 percent (6,486) followed by service workers with 13.8 percent (6,121) then by professionals with 11.5 percent (5,090).

Next is infant/retiree with 6.6 percent (2,930) then agricultural workers with 4.8 percent (2,137). A detail graphical analysis of departures by occupation is exhibited in Fig. 15.



The attached tables, Tables 1- 10, will provide readers with a more tabulated analysis of international migration during the reference period.

Muagututi'a S Reupena  
**GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN**

## “C. NET MIGRATION”

During the reference period, net migration stood at 4,523 (Table 1) implying that out going travelers (departure) was far more less than in coming travelers (arrival). This shows an immense increase of 141.6 percent compared to the same period of 2008.

Between 2005 and 2009 the most significant change was in 2008 with -10,879 migrants while the less significant change was in 2006 with -324 migrants. Fig. 16 below gives the natural changes in international migration from 2005 – 2009.