

NEWSLETTER



April-June 2015

Launching of the statistical products namely...

2014 Demographic and Health Survey report, Redatam software, Samoa Socio-Economic atlas 2011, Reprinted Population and Housing Census Analytical Reports with ISBN: 2001, 2006 and 2011.



The event took place on the 25th of June 2015 and was held at the DBS conference room. Diplomats, CEO, ACEO, Senior staff or representatives of many government ministries, corporations, non-government organizations, international agencies, principals of colleges in Samoa were all invited to this event.

Reverend Fuamai Samuelu delivered the prayer dedication and the keynote address was delivered by SBS Associate Minister Honourable Papalii Niko Lee Hang. A presentation of the new Mapping and Tabulation software known as "Redatam" available on the SBS website was presented by the ACEO of the Demography, Census and Survey Division Susuga Aliimuamua Malaefono Tava-Tadloga.

The main purpose was to demonstrate to the users how they can access the census 2011 database using the Redatam for their own use. Free copies of the 2014 DHS report, Socio -Economic atlas and Instruction notes for using of the Redatam program and old Census reports 2001, 2006 and 2011 were given out for free to all attending invited guests.



Samoa Agriculture Survey 2015 - Pilot completed on 22nd April 2015

Mr Laupua Fiti, FAO national consultant for Agriculture Survey 2015 worked closely with ACEO and senior staff of Economics Division during this period on training materials and the pilot training.

A 2 day supervisors training was held at the Development Bank Conference Room on the 20th -21st of April 2015. The training included 7 participants from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and 15 staff from SBS.

The pilot was held at the village of Saleapaga, Lepa on the 22nd of April 2015 followed by a debriefing on the 23rd of April to discuss issues and challenges during the pilot.

Dates to Look Forward to:

1. October 13-15 Supervisor Training
2. October 19-23 Enumerator Training
3. October 26-November 28 Fieldwork



Certificate of Official Statistics Workshop in May 2015

The Statistics NZ lecturer Kirsti Rawstron return in May to conduct a workshop for the students or Participants who were attending the COS training course last March, The workshop was divided into Two parts, the first part on Saturday and Monday lunchtime, Tuesday and Wednesdays open sessions addressing some of the most difficult parts of US23271 (Ethical and Legal Issues) and US23268 (Descriptive Statistics).

The second part were individual workshop sessions, where candidates can get one on one help with their assignments. The Workshops runs from 16 May 2015- 20th May 2015, the venue were MPMC conference Level 4 and SBS conference room level 1.



Business Activity Survey 2015

Business Activity Survey (BAS) preparation has been the focus of the Finance Statistics Division activities during the period. This was with the assistance of the Technical Assistance provided under the Trade and Manufacturing Sector activities funded under the Enhanced Integrated Facility (EIF). The activities include:

1. Training of enumerators
2. Questionnaire testing and Pilot
3. Preparation for the field work

The BAS enumeration commenced on the 12th of May, targeting the Apia Urban Area (AUA) and North West of Upolu (NWU) regions, as these areas were considered the hub of businesses in Samoa. This was followed by the enumeration in Savaii for one week before the team enumerated the Rest of Upolu (ROU). A team was then sent back to Savaii to enumerate a few businesses that were missed out in the first round due to the unavailable of these business owners when first visited by the team.

By the end of June, more than 50% of the questionnaires were collected and edited by the team. The main contributing factor to this collection rate was due to the ongoing awareness programs and the advertisements by the office so that the business owners are aware of this survey and how it can benefit them in the long run. The data processing phase of the survey is scheduled to be carried out in July – August, followed by the analytical report which is planned to commence in September.

Pacific Civil Registrars Network Event in Fiji 2015



Registrar of Births Deaths and Marriages (Tuautu Kalepo Tuautu) attended the Inaugural Pacific Civil Registrars Network Event that was held at Novotel,

Nadi Fiji from 10th to 12th June. The event was divided into three major components;

- Civil Registrars Meeting
- Data Analysis Training
- Innovations Workshops

Three days agenda was focus on,

1. Translating goals into action
2. Using technology to achieve our goals
3. Legislation and policy setting to support information sharing

The participants consisted of 16 Registrars from 12 countries plus 5 agency and 5 business partners to the first PCRN event. The event was put together by the courtesy of UNICEF and the business partners, plus the ongoing support of SPC.

Demographic and Health Survey 2014— Report Writing Workshop



The Demographic and Health Survey Report Writing workshop was conducted on the 15th-24th April 2015. The purpose of the workshop was to write, compile and finalize the DHS report 2014 with specific reference to the 2009 DHS report.

The official opening of the workshop was held on the 15th

of April 2015 at the Millenia Hotel conference room. The keynote address was delivered by the CEO/Government Statistician Afioga Muagututia Sefuiva Reupena and Deacon Iosefa Lualua delivered the prayer dedication. The Government Statistician specifically welcomed Ms Luisa Engracia from the Philippines who was the Technical Advisor (TA) funded under the UNFPA DHS support for 2015.

During the workshop, the staffs of SBS in partnership with the staffs of the Ministry of Health (MOH), Samoa Family Health Association (SFHA) and the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development (MWCSD) were allocated different chapters of the DHS report to review and write within three weeks. That arrangement was one of the recommendations made by the DHS Steering Committee in order to improve and enhance the report writing and analysis skills of the local staffs. For SBS, the staffs of the Division of Census -Survey and Demography, took the lead in writing all the chapters of the DHS 2014 report while the writers from MOH, SFHA and MWCSD focused mainly on reviewing the texts and providing constructive and relevant feedback to the writers.



BDM Training on Home Births processes for new women representatives

Under the legislation there are three phases to the registration of a birth:

1. **Birth Advice.** This is intended to give the Births Deaths and Marriages (BDM) office a complete record of all births that have occurred as soon as possible after they occur.
2. **Birth Notification.** This provides the formal verification of the birth and identity of the parents. This occurs when the parents fill out the birth registration form (B12 form) at the BDM office.
3. **Birth Registration.** The Registration of the Birth. This records the child's name and details in the Register and provides the child with the identity, allowing creation of the birth certificate. Registration is completed by the BDM Office.

The importance of partnership and working close collaboration with key stakeholders is one of the core strengths of registration. Ministry of Women, Community

and Social Development through women representative (Sui Tamaitai o Nuu & Sui o le Malo) plays a vital role in one of the registration phases (Birth Advice). The role of the BDM Division is to ensure that women representatives are aware of the legislations, processes and are up to date with current and existing information related to their role (Home Birth Advice).

On the 9th June, 2015, 22 new women representative were trained as part of their induction program and their mandated role as Home Birth Informants. The training mainly focused on Birth Advice form and its core components; Information about the child, the child's natural parents and confirmation of details. It was also emphasised as part of the process the timeliness of submission of the B10 form;

- B10 should be submitted **within 14 days after the birth occurred**;
- B10 **expiration period is 3 months** from date of birth;
- BDM will **no longer expect** B10 (after 3 months) but will use the **church ministers confirmation**;
- **ONLY** the women representative (Home Birth Informants) **MUST** submit the B10 form to the BDM office;

2014 Statistical Abstract

The latest Statistical Abstract is now available and can also be downloaded from its website. This publication serves as an appropriate statistical reference, which presents annual aggregated statistical information collected and compiled by the Bureau pertaining to a social, economic, environment and other detailed subject matters.

Emphasis is given to the most recent available statistical data obtained from source references of various Government Ministries, Corporations and Non-Government Organization (NGOs) cited. The count of the population, its migratory characteristics, and changes in prices of goods and services are exclusively collected and processed in-house through censuses and surveys.

Public Awareness Program LALI Program: Vital Registration

The awareness of the public on the importance of vital registration is very crucial, and the focus to improve registration on Births, Deaths and Marriages. BDM coordinated a panel discussion with key stakeholders and held a media program (Panel Discussion) on Wednesday 24th June 2015 on TV1 evening show 'Lali'. The key stakeholders highlighted their roles in vital registration;

Ministry of Health: they will complete the B10 form and submit it to BDM if the child was born in the hospital and should be within the statutory period of 14 days;

Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development: women representative will complete the B10 form and submit it to BDM if the child was born at home/village

and should be within the statutory period of 14 days;

Births, Deaths and Marriage: highlighted the importance of registration and timeliness to avoid late registration and the role of other informants such as church ministers, midwives and traditional birth attendants and others. General Public was also reminded about the importance of working together with our stakeholders in advising the office of the Registrar regarding any BDM events.

International Arrival Statistics

June 2015 compared with June 2014

- Total arrivals (14,728) decreased by 4.0 percent
- Total visitors (11,393) decreased by 3.4 percent
- 5,100 visitors from New Zealand, up 3%
- 2,220 visitors from Australia, down 25%
- 1,210 visitors from American Samoa, down 21%
- 1,210 visitors from USA, up 44%

CPI, Trade, IPI & Volume Indicators:

CPI June

- Increase in the global price of oil has pushed local prices up for fuel reflected in the 8.4 percent increase in the Transport index and contributed the most to the increase of the All Item Index.
 - The Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages index also increased by 1.3 percent.
 - Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco index decreased by 1.4 percent.
- The Average Annual Inflation for the year ended April 2015 was 1.7 percent

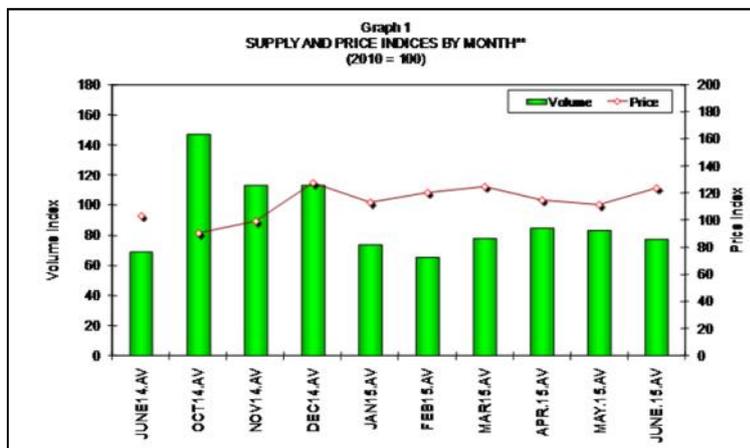
CPI May

- The Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages index decreased by 4.3 percent, driven down by lower prices for market staples and fresh fish.
 - Transport index increased by 3.7 percent.
- The Average Annual Inflation for the year ended May 2015 was 1.9 percent.

LOCAL MARKET

The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the Local Markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in June

2015 showed overall volume decrease 7 percent from May 2015. Significant decreases were recorded for all agricultural produce with the exception of taro, banana, yam, head cabbage and tomato supplies. When compared with the same month last year, current supply was 13 percent higher.



TRADE

May 2015

- Exports were valued at \$7.1 million
- Imports were valued at \$65.5 million
- There was a trade deficit of \$58.4 million

April 2015

- Exports were valued at \$10.5 million
- Imports were valued at \$62.4 million
- There was a trade deficit of \$51.9 million

IMPORT PRICE INDEX

The Import Price Index for the June 2015 quarter showed an overall decrease of 4.4 percent when compared to the March 2015 quarter. The table below shows the percentage changes for the June 2015 quarter over the March 2015 quarter.

Descriptions	IMPORT PRICE INDEX		
	Base Quarter: March Quarter 2009 = 100.0		
	Quarter		% Change
	Mar-15	Jun-15	Jun 15 / Mar 15
Animal Products	115.6	110.4	-4.5%
Vegetable Products	79.6	75.8	-4.8%
Fats & Oils	88.8	88.3	-0.6%
Food and Beverages	106	96.2	-9.2%
Mineral Products	113.8	111.4	-2.1%
TOTAL, ALL GROUPS	100.8	96.4	-4.4%

For more information on SBS:

LOCATION & CONTACT

Samoa Bureau of Statistics (SBS)
Level 1 & 2
Government Building, Matagalalua
Phone: (685) 62000
Fax: (685) 24675

BDM, Ground Floor
Development Bank of Samoa

Phone: (685) 32157/51532
Apia/Savaii, SAMOA

Visit us on our website for more detailed data needs/send us an email:

Email address: info.stats@sbs.gov.ws
Website address: www.sbs.gov.ws

Staff Appointments:

The **Samoa Bureau of Statistics (SBS)** WELCOMES the new staff:

Economics Division

Tauvaga Etimani: Principal Statistician - Prices Officer

ICT & Data Processing Division

Alesana Ioane: Senior IT Officer

Census & Survey Statistics Division

Ken Faafo: Census & Survey Officer