

Independent State of Samoa



1. General Information

Population ^{*1}	179,058 (July 2001 est.)
Population density [/km ²] ^{*1}	62.61
Languages ^{*1}	Samoan (Polynesian), English
Ethnic Groups ^{*1}	Samoan 92.6%, Euronesian 7%, Europeans 0.4%
Climate ^{*1}	Tropical; rainy season (October to March), dry season (May to October)
Land Area [km ²] ^{*1}	2860

Comments for General Information ^{*1}

New Zealand occupied the German protectorate of Western Samoa at the outbreak of World War I in 1914. It continued to administer the islands as a mandate and then as a trust territory until 1962, when the islands became the first Polynesian nation to reestablish independence in the 20th century. The country dropped the "Western" from its name in 1997.

2. Economy

GDP [US\$] ^{*1}	571 million (purchasing power parity, 2000)	
GDP-per capita [US\$] ^{*1}	3,200 (purchasing power parity, 2000)	
Imports [US\$] ^{*1}	90 million (2000)	
	Machinery and equipment, industrial supplies, foodstuffs	
Exports [US\$] ^{*1}	17 million (2000)	
	Coconut oil and cream, copra, fish, beer	
Composition of Sector ^{*1} (Ratio to GDP)	Agriculture & Fishery [%]	15
	Industry [%]	24
	Service [%]	61

Comments for Economy ^{*1}

The economy of Samoa has traditionally been dependent on development aid and agricultural exports. The country is vulnerable to storms. Agriculture employs two-thirds of the labor force, and furnishes 90% of exports, featuring coconut cream, coconut oil, and copra. The manufacturing sector mainly processes agricultural products. Tourism is an expanding sector.

3. Energy

Electricity	Electricity production [kWh] ^{*1}		100 million (1999)
	Electricity consumption [kWh] ^{*1}		93million (1999)
	Electricity - production by source ^{*1}		Fossil fuel: 60%; hydro: 40%; nuclear: 0%; other: 0% (1999)
Energy Resources	Production ^{*2}	Oil	0
		Coal	0
		Gas	0
	Consumption ^{*2}	Oil	4 (thousand barrels per day)
		Coal	0
		Gas	0

Comments for Energy ^{*3}

In Samoa, the electric power has depended on energy by the import. However, about 40% of the electric power is being supplied by a domestic hydroelectric power plant now.

Introduction of Renewable Energy Use ^{*4}

Because electrification and the supply of electric power system are widespread, the possibility of the use of solar energy is limited now. Though there is no access to the electric power on some islands, but there will be a plan to make the system, which supplies the electric power by using the submarine cable to these islands in the future.

4. Water

Precipitation ^{*5}		2,991.7 mm	
Internal Renewable Water Resources ^{*5}		NA	
Population with Access to Improved Water Supply ^{*5}		99%	
Total Water Withdrawal ^{*5}	NA	Industry [%]	NA
		Domestic [%]	NA
		Agriculture [%]	NA

Comments for Water ^{*6}

Water issues of Samoa are shown as follows:

1. Freshwater management

- Inadequate quality checks, inequitable distribution and overpricing

2. Watershed management

- Conflict on land use and lack of awareness, information and protection.

3 Underground water aquifers

- Boreholes too close to the sea results in the poor water quality.

4. Water pricing

- Lack of consultation with communities about government policy and privatization of water.

5. Environment and Pollution

CO ₂ Emission ^{*7}	Total metric tons	282
	Metric tons per capita	4.73

Sea Level^{*1}

Low level of islands makes them very sensitive to changes in sea level. The comments for Sea Level Rise are the following:

- Costal erosion, salt water intrusion into freshwater aquifers and degradation of water quality.

Comments for Environment^{*1}

- Heavy pollution in lagoon due to inadequate facilities for disposal of solid waste.

References

- *1 <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook>
- *2 <http://www.eia.doe.gov>
- *3 Encyclopedia of World Geography
- *4 Thomas Lynge Jensen, Forum for Energy and Development (FED)(2000): Renewable Energy on Small Islands Second Edition)
- *5 <http://geodata.grid.unep.ch>
- *6 Issue raised by NGO's working in the water sector in the pacific
- *7 <http://cdiac.esd.ornl.gov>

Information

<http://www.government.as/>