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# Chapter 1

## 260

### 1.1 260.guide

Texified version of data for Western Samoa.

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Western Samoa

### 1.2 260.guide/Western Samoa

Western Samoa  
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Geography (Western Samoa)  
People (Western Samoa)  
Government (Western Samoa)  
Government (Western Samoa 2. usage)  
Economy (Western Samoa)  
Communications (Western Samoa)  
Defense Forces (Western Samoa)

### 1.3 260.guide/Geography (Western Samoa)

Geography (Western Samoa)  
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Location:  
Oceania, 4,300 km southwest of Honolulu in the South Pacific Ocean, about halfway between Hawaii and New Zealand

Map references:  
Oceania, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:  
total area:  
2,860 km<sup>2</sup> land area:  
2,850 km<sup>2</sup>  
comparative area:  
slightly smaller than Rhode Island

Land boundaries:  
0 km

Coastline:  
403 km

Maritime claims:  
exclusive economic zone:  
200 nm  
territorial sea:  
12 nm

International disputes:  
none

Climate:  
tropical; rainy season (October to March), dry season (May to October)

Terrain:  
narrow coastal plain with volcanic, rocky, rugged mountains in interior

Natural resources:  
hardwood forests, fish

Land use:  
arable land:  
19%  
permanent crops:  
24%  
meadows and pastures:  
0%  
forest and woodland:  
47%  
other:

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10%  
 Irrigated land:  
 NA km2  
 Environment:  
 subject to occasional typhoons; active volcanism

## 1.4 260.guide/People (Western Samoa)

People (Western Samoa)

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Population:  
 199,652 (July 1993 est.)  
 Population growth rate:  
 2.37% (1993 est.)  
 Birth rate:  
 33 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Death rate:  
 6.17 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Net migration rate:  
 -3.14 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Infant mortality rate:  
 38.6 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)  
 Life expectancy at birth:  
 total population:  
 67.58 years male:  
 65.19 years  
 female:  
 70.08 years (1993 est.)  
 Total fertility rate:  
 4.28 children born/woman (1993 est.)  
 Nationality:  
 noun:  
 Western Samoan(s)  
 adjective:  
 Western Samoan  
 Ethnic divisions:  
 Samoan 92.6%, Euronesians 7% (persons of European and Polynesian blood),  
 Europeans 0.4%  
 Religions:  
 Christian 99.7% (about half of population associated with the London  
 Missionary Society; includes Congregational, Roman Catholic, Methodist,  
 Latter Day Saints, Seventh-Day Adventist)  
 Languages:  
 Samoan (Polynesian), English  
 Literacy:  
 age 15 and over can read and write (1971)  
 total population:  
 97%  
 male:  
 97%  
 female:  
 97%

Labor force:  
 38,000  
 by occupation:  
 agriculture 22,000 (1987 est.)

## 1.5 260.guide/Government (Western Samoa)

Government (Western Samoa)  
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Names:  
 conventional long form:  
 Independent State of Western Samoa  
 conventional short form:  
 Western Samoa  
 Digraph:  
 WS  
 Type:  
 constitutional monarchy under native chief  
 Capital:  
 Apia  
 Administrative divisions:  
 11 districts; A'ana, Aiga-i-le-Tai, Atua, Fa'asaleleaga, Gaga'emauga, Gagaifomauga, Palauli, Satupa'itea, Tuamasaga, Va'a-o-Fonoti, Vaisigano  
 Independence:  
 1 January 1962 (from UN trusteeship administered by New Zealand)  
 Constitution:  
 1 January 1962  
 Legal system: based on English common law and local customs; judicial review of legislative acts with respect to fundamental rights of the citizen; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction  
 National holiday:  
 National Day, 1 June  
 Political parties and leaders:  
 Human Rights Protection Party (HRPP), TOFILAU Eti, chairman; Samoan National Development Party (SNDP), TAPUA Tamasese Efi, chairman  
 Suffrage:  
 21 years of age; universal, but only matai (head of family) are able to run for the Legislative Assembly  
 Elections:  
 Legislative Assembly:  
 last held 5 April 1991 (next to be held by NA 1996); results - percent of vote by party NA; seats - (47 total) HRPP 28, SNDP 18, independents 1  
 Executive branch:  
 chief, Executive Council, prime minister, Cabinet  
 Legislative branch:  
 unicameral Legislative Assembly (Fono)  
 Judicial branch:  
 Supreme Court, Court of Appeal  
 Leaders:  
 Chief of State:

Chief Susuga Malietoa TANUMAFILI II (Co-Chief of State from 1 January 1962 until becoming sole Chief of State on 5 April 1963)  
Head of Government:  
Prime Minister TOFILAU Eti Alesana (since 7 April 1988)  
Member of:  
ACP, AsDB, C, ESCAP, FAO, G-77, IBRD, ICFTU, IDA, IFAD, IFC, IMF, IOC, ITU, LORCS, SPARTECA, SPC, SPF, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UPU, WHO  
Diplomatic representation in US:  
chief of mission:  
Ambassador-designate Neroni SLADE  
chancery:  
(temporary) suite 510, 1155 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20005  
telephone:  
(202) 833-1743  
US diplomatic representation:  
chief of mission:  
the ambassador to New Zealand is accredited to Western Samoa

## 1.6 260.guide/Government (Western Samoa 2. usage)

Government (Western Samoa 2. usage)

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embassy:  
address NA, Apia  
mailing address:  
P.O. Box 3430, Apia  
telephone:  
(685) 21-631  
FAX:  
(685) 22-030  
Flag:  
red with a blue rectangle in the upper hoist-side quadrant bearing five white five-pointed stars representing the Southern Cross constellation

## 1.7 260.guide/Economy (Western Samoa)

Economy (Western Samoa)

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Overview:  
Agriculture employs more than half of the labor force, contributes 50% to GDP, and furnishes 90% of exports. The bulk of export earnings comes from the sale of coconut oil and copra. The economy depends on emigrant remittances and foreign aid to support a level of imports several times export earnings. Tourism has become the most important growth industry, and construction of the first international hotel is under way.  
National product:



GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$115 million (1990)  
 National product real growth rate:  
 -4.5% (1990 est.)  
 National product per capita:  
 \$690 (1990)  
 Inflation rate (consumer prices):  
 15% (1990)  
 Unemployment rate:  
 NA%  
 Budget:  
 revenues \$95.3 million; expenditures \$95.4 million, including capital expenditures of \$41 million (FY92)  
 Exports:  
 \$9 million (f.o.b., 1990)  
 commodities:  
 coconut oil and cream 54%, taro 12%, copra 9%, cocoa 3%  
 partners:  
 NZ 28%, American Samoa 23%, Germany 22%, US 6% (1990)  
 Imports:  
 \$75 million (c.i.f., 1990)  
 commodities:  
 intermediate goods 58%, food 17%, capital goods 12%  
 partners:  
 New Zealand 41%, Australia 18%, Japan 13%, UK 6%, US 6%  
 External debt:  
 \$83 million (December 1990 est.)  
 Industrial production:  
 growth rate -4% (1990 est.); accounts for 14% of GDP  
 Electricity:  
 29,000 kW capacity; 45 million kWh produced, 240 kWh per capita (1990)  
 Industries:  
 timber, tourism, food processing, fishing  
 Agriculture:  
 accounts for 50% of GDP; coconuts, fruit (including bananas, taro, yams)  
 Economic aid:  
 US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-89), \$18 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$306 million; OPEC bilateral aid (1979-89), \$4 million  
 Currency:  
 1 tala (WS\$) = 100 sene  
 Exchange rates:  
 tala (WS\$) per US\$1 - 2.5681 (January 1993), 2.4655 (1992), 2.3975 (1991), 2.3095 (1990), 2.2686 (1989), 2.0790 (1988)  
 Fiscal year:  
 calendar year

## 1.8 260.guide/Communications (Western Samoa)

Communications (Western Samoa)

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Highways:  
 2,042 km total; 375 km sealed; 1,667 km mostly gravel, crushed stone, or

earth  
 Ports:  
   Apia  
 Merchant marine:  
   1 roll-on/roll-off ship (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 3,838 GRT/5,536 DWT  
 Airports:  
   total:  
     3  
   usable:  
     3  
   with permanent-surface runways:  
     1  
   with runways over 3,659 m:  
     0  
   with runways 2,440-3,659 m:  
     1  
   with runways 1,220-2,439 m:  
     0  
 Telecommunications:  
   7,500 telephones; 70,000 radios; broadcast stations - 1 AM, no FM, no TV; 1  
   Pacific Ocean INTELSAT ground station

## 1.9 260.guide/Defense Forces (Western Samoa)

Defense Forces (Western Samoa)  
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Branches:  
   Department of Police and Prisons  
 Manpower availability:  
   males age 15-49 NA; fit for military service NA  
 Defense expenditures:  
   exchange rate conversion - \$NA, NA% of GDP