REPORT
on the
1974 CENSUS OF AMERICAN SAMOA

Part 1: Basic Information

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I INTRODUCTION

The 1974 Census of American Samoa was conducted as of midnight on 25-26 September 1974. The enumerated population was 29,190, an increase of 1.6 percent per year since the 1970 enumeration. Since the census was a de facto enumeration, persons who were temporarily absent from American Samoa on census night were not counted.

The questionnaires were designed to give data which were easily codable for computer tabulations, using the U.S. Bureau of the Census CENTS package, and which would be comparable with tabulations of data collected in the censuses of 1956, 1960, and 1970. Changes and additions were made to previous questionnaires in order to obtain information needed for planning future educational and medical facilities and economic development. In particular, questions were added to help determine statistically the amount of American Samoan migration, educational attainment, economic activities, and fertility. A discussion of the methodology and organization of the census to obtain these data appears in Section II. The Enumerator's Instruction Book is discussed in Section III, and the questionnaires appear in Appendices I and II.

Edgar S. Marcus, Director of the Development Planning Office of the Government of American Samoa, appointed Evelyn Gebauer, Statistician, to coordinate the enumeration. Nikolai Pula, former Director of Education for American Samoa, served as census coordinator during the enumeration procedures. Peter Pirie and Michael J. Levin of the East-West Population Institute, East-West Center, Honolulu, Hawaii, were consultants for the census.

The first provisional data, giving total population figures by sex and village, were published approximately one month after census night. Students at the Community College of American Samoa checked and coded the questionnaires.

Keypunching, editing, and tabulating

As enumeration districts (EDs) were coded and checked, they were sent in groups to the Computing Center in Utulei to be keypunched. Keypunching was done between 1 November 1974 and 15 March 1975. At the same time editing programs were developed by the consultant and by the Computing Center programmers to check various aspects of the data set for accuracy. A decision was made to have the data rekeypunched by Control Data Corporation in Hawaii. Rekeypunching was done between 15 October and 15 December 1975. The editing programs were rerun and corrections were made. Additional editing programs were developed to check for other problems in the data set. Preliminary tabulations were run in early January 1976 and final tabulations were run in February 1976.

II METHOD AND ORGANIZATION

Initial planning for the 1974 Census of American Samoa began during the summer of 1974. Preliminary census forms were developed and four supervisors and twelve assistant supervisors for the four census districts were trained in enumeration procedures. Three of the four districts—West, Central, and East—were on the island of Tutuila. The fourth, Manu'a District,
consisted of the three islands of Manu'a and Swain's Island. The supervisors assisted the

census coordinators in determining the boundaries for 95 enumeration districts. Approx-
mately 100 teachers were hired within the Department of Education to do the actual enum-
eration. The Enumerator's Instruction Book was written, and aids were developed to help in
the enumeration.

There were three training sessions for the supervisors and assistant supervisors, and
three training sessions for each of the Tutuila district enumerators. During the first session
the two types of forms, Household and Individual, were explained in detail. Each enumerator
then recorded information on sample census forms for his or her own family and for one
other family in the enumeration district. These were checked before the second training ses-
sion and returned to the enumerators for reference. Problems were explained and questions
answered. Some persons who wanted more practice enumerated other households; these
forms were checked and returned at the third session when all enumeration forms were dis-
tributed.

Each enumerator in Manu'a District was trained individually. After training, sample
enumeration was done immediately and checked. Because Swain's Island was inaccessible
and no enumerator was available for training, it was enumerated by the consultant on 30
August. Since all enumerators were teachers in the Department of Education and fairly
well educated, a reasonably high level of accuracy was obtained.

The 1974 Census was a de facto census of the whole population taken by the enumer-
ators who recorded the information from all persons sleeping in dwellings during the eight
evenings prior to midnight on 25 September 1974. During the three days after census night,
enumerators revisited all houses to ascertain which of the persons previously recorded were
actually present on census night, crossing out the names of those who had died or gone away
and adding those born or newly arrived. The forms were then delivered to the supervisors
for spot checking and then to the census room at the Community College for collation and
further checking.

Use of the forms

Each enumerator was equipped with 50 copies of the Household form and 300 copies of the
Individual form. As the enumerator entered each house, he first recorded all household resi-
dents on the Household form, and then assembled a packet of Individual forms, one for each
person in the house, and attached these to the Household form with a paper clip. All persons
were assigned to one of three categories: males born in 1960 and before, females born in
1960 and before, and children born in 1961 and after. Males and children were asked all
questions through the section on economic activity; females born in 1960 and before were
asked questions about fertility in addition to the questions asked of others.

The forms were printed in English only. Since all of the enumerators were teachers and
knew English, this presented few problems. All mimeographed enumeration aids and written
press releases were also produced in English only. Publicity releases for the radio, however,
were broadcast both in English and in Samoan. The forms were tested by the supervisors and
assistant supervisors in mid-August. Small corrections were made, boxes for computer coding
were added, and final forms were printed by the Government of American Samoa Printing
Office in mid-September.
Coding

The advantage of using a single sheet for recording the information about each individual became apparent during the coding process. Since the raw data and coded information were on the same sheet, accuracy could be sight-checked easily. Thirty checkers and coders were trained in two training sessions at the Community College of American Samoa. Each coder practiced coding data from several sample households. Instructions for coders and instructions for checkers were photocopied and used as aids during the coding process. A consultant was available 50 percent of the time to answer any further questions and to make spot checks of the coding. Approximately 70 percent of the forms were sight checked by the consultant. All forms were processed between 4 October 1974 and 12 January 1975; coding was done in shifts for seven hours per day, six and a half days per week.

Postenumeration survey

Five percent of the households on Tutuila were selected randomly for re-enumeration to measure the completeness of the census. There were 1,269 persons in the sample. The supervisors for the census became the enumerators for the postcensus. A few of the supervisors had their enumerators recensus the households; most of the supervisors, however, did the recensus themselves, thus producing a reliable check. The results and analysis of the postenumeration will appear in a later report.

Publicity

One of the consultants wrote publicity for the census and distributed it to the government-owned newspaper and radio station and to the two independent weekly newspapers. All newspapers carried the announcements as they were written. The radio station translated the announcements into Samoan as well. An interview with the consultant, during which all aspects of the census were explained, was broadcast by the television station. Since announcements were made during the enumerator training sessions, as well as immediately before and during the actual enumeration, very few people were uninformed about the census when the enumerator arrived.

III ENUMERATOR'S INSTRUCTION BOOK

The Enumerator's Instruction Book, distributed with other enumeration materials before precensus week, summarized the information discussed during the training sessions and served as a reference for questions that arose during the enumeration. The summary that follows includes only the parts of the book that are needed for interpretation of the tables.

The first chapters of the book contained introductory material for the enumerators and a description of the procedures for conducting the census, including the purpose of the census, enumerators’ duties and responsibilities, discussion of confidentiality, and description of materials. Subsequent chapters defined households and gave information about listing persons present in the household and which persons to list. Enumeration maps which had been prepared for use in determining census tracts were described and directions for drawing maps of all households within the district were given. The final sections were devoted to methods of conducting census and postcensus interviews.
Description and use of Household form

Two forms were used: the Household form and the Individual form. For the purpose of the census, a "household" was defined as "a group of people who normally sleep in the same house and share their meals. . . . A household may occupy a building which is intended primarily for business or nonresidential use, such as a warehouse for a watchman or the quarters of a shopkeeper in the back of his shop." Also, two families in a house who do not normally eat and live together were considered as two households. On the Household form (illustrated in Appendix I) the name, sex, and person number of each member of the household were recorded. The "household head" appeared first.

Only persons who were physically present in the household on census night were enumerated in the household. A person who was somewhere in the open air (fishing or hunting), however, or on night duty as a policeman or watchman, was considered in the household. A person who was visiting in another household for the night was counted in the household visited and not in the usual place of residence.

Description of Individual form

The section of the manual concerning the recording of personal information is necessary for an understanding of the tables. It has been reproduced below.

Question 4 Date of Birth

This question is one of the most important in the census, and may be one of the hardest to answer. You are likely to find many people who do not know their exact date of birth. In these cases, you will have to use your own patience and good sense to arrive at the best response.

The box should be filled in with month spelled out, the day in numbers if known, and year in full (4 numbers) e.g., January 19, 1931.

1. The best source of information will be birth certificates, or baptismal certificates. Ask if either of these is available for each person.

2. One reliable birthdate in the household may help others in the same household to remember their own birthdates more accurately. For example, if a wife's birthdate is known, it may be possible to work out the husband's approximate date if it is known that he is older or younger than his wife. If they were in the same grade at school, they would be close in age.

3. A Calendar of Historic Events will be provided to assist you in determining approximate dates of birth. Often parents or relatives will remember the birth or approximate age of a person at the time of some special event, e.g., the outbreak of World War II in the Pacific in December 1941. Someone who was a baby (not yet walking) when this occurred will have been born in 1940 or 1941. However, if someone is remembered to have been completing primary school at that time, it is likely that the person was born about 12 years before, that is, about 1928 or 1929. You will be able to think of many other examples on your own.

4. The appearance of the person being enumerated can help you judge the approximate age, and you can use the Calendar of Historic Events to fix the date of birth. For example, find an event which happened at some time when the person's age was known, or can be guessed fairly accurately, and work out the date of birth by subtracting the age at that time from the year of the event. It is important not to confuse remembering "an event which happened when I was X years old," and remembering hearing about an event after the event actually occurred.

5. To assist you and to save time, an Age to Birthdate Conversion Table is included in your kit. If persons know their age in years rather than their date of birth, the table can be used to find the year of birth corresponding to the age given.
6. You must have year of birth for everyone counted in the census. Where the day, month, and year of birth are known, e.g., from certificates or remembered birthdays, write these in the spaces provided. Where the birthdate must be estimated, write the year only. Do not write in the day or the month unless these are known.

7. Write all years using 4 figures, that is, 1921, 1872, etc. It is possible for persons to be born in either the 19th or the 20th century, and for a very few to be over 100 years old. Writing "72" where 1872 is meant rather than 1972 is confusing to the people who must read and code these forms.

**Question 5  Place of Birth**

The place (usually the village) of birth and the country of birth should be asked. Even if the place is not known the country should be written in. The mother's usual village or place of residence should be shown when she traveled in order to give birth in a place such as a hospital in town. The place where the mother was living just before the time of birth is the requested information. The place where the mother may have stayed in order to have her child is not required.

**Question 6  Ethnic Origin**

This question is related to a person's ancestry and the statement should normally be accepted. The most frequent one occurring will be "Samoan." There is no distinction to be made between American Samoan and Western Samoan as the ancestry is the same. Persons of other Pacific Island ancestry will be mostly Tongan or Niuean, but others such as Tokelauans, Cook Islanders, Tahitians, and Fijians may be found. A papalagi or European should be described as Caucasian. Persons of Asian descent should be described as Korean, Chinese, Japanese, etc. Where ancestry is mixed, but contains only Samoan, the person should be described as Part-Samoan. Samoan-Caucasian, Samoan-Chinese, and Samoan-Tongan are all considered Part-Samoan for census purposes. Persons of mixed ancestry without Samoan should have the parts listed briefly, e.g., Tongan-Caucasian, Caucasian-Chinese, etc.

**Question 7  Marital Status**

There are only four options in the answers to this question. You should ask if the person has ever married. Then, if the person has ever married, is he or she now married or widowed or divorced?

NM  *Never married* is for a person who is not now and never has been married.

M  *Married* applies to a person who is presently married and who normally lives with the spouse. The Census is not trying to find out who is legally married and who is not. No distinctions should be made between legally married couples and couples married by custom, living together as man and wife.

W  *Widowed* is for a person, male or female, who has been married but whose spouse has died.

D  *Divorced* or separated is for a person who has been married but has been divorced or separated, either legally or by custom, and who no longer thinks of the former partner as spouse. A person who is temporarily separated from a spouse who is away but who intends to return, should be marked "M."

Although it is possible to have been in each of these categories at one time, at the time of the census a person may be in only one.

**Question 8  Religion**

The question "What is your religion?" should be asked for each person. The statement given should be accepted as true. The larger congregations are shown with abbreviations, which may be used in the space provided, e.g., Congregational (CC), Catholic (RC), Methodist (M), or Mormon (LDS), but when a person has a religion which is not listed, its name should be written in the space provided. When persons say they have no religion, write "NONE": if they do not wish to answer the question, write "REFUSE." Children may be assumed to have the religion of the Head of the Household unless questioning indicates otherwise.
Question 9  Matai title
Persons being enumerated who hold matai titles should be marked “M” in the space provided and the title name written in the next space. The village to which the title belongs should also be written in the marked space and “AS” for American Samoa and “WS” for Western Samoa in the next space. Untitled persons should be shown as “UT” in the appropriate place and the title name of their matai written in the next space. The village and the country, American Samoa or Western Samoa, where the title of their matai belongs should also be written in. For persons who do not live in an aiga headed by a matai or who do not recognize a matai as head of the family mark “NO MATAI” in the “Matai Name” space.

Questions 10 & 11  Own Father and Own Mother
“Own father” and “own mother” in this question mean the true (blood-related) parents of the person being enumerated, not parents who may have adopted the person being enumerated.

It is important to show the country as well as the place (village) where each parent was born, as the same place name can often be found in more than one country, e.g., Western Samoa or Tonga. “AS” can be written for American Samoa. Note that if the true parent of the person being enumerated is not living, the word “DEAD” should be written in the space instead of the place name.

Question 10.3  Mother’s person number
Person number of mother if present in this household. This question allows “mothers” and their “own children” to be linked by person number in the one household. The person number of the mother of the person being enumerated should be marked in this box, if she is living within this household (i.e., has an Individual form).

Question 12  Usual residence
This question is designed to find out the place of usual residence of each person. (See definition of usual residence.) If the person being enumerated usually lives in the household write “Yes.” If the person is temporarily visiting the household and does not usually live there, write “No,” and give the place (village and/or country) where the person usually does live.

Question 13  Education
13.1  The question “Are you presently attending school?” should be asked for all young persons, and “Yes” or “No” written in the space shown for all persons. Attendance should be full-time.

13.2  Special care is being taken to find out about the schooling of the whole population. In this question, each school at which the person being enumerated spent one school year or more should be included in the list. For persons who went to more than five schools, use the back of the form and follow on each column below question 13.3. Write “over” beside the words “total years attended” to show that more schools are shown on the back of the sheet. “Schools” here includes primary, intermediate, secondary, high, senior high, community college, and university. Type of school (e.g., primary or high), location (village, town and/or country), and number of years attended should be written in for each school. The total number of years attended should be added up and written in the space provided below. All persons at school or who have ever been at school should answer these questions. If a person has never been to school, write “NONE” in the box provided for question 13.2. For persons who have been educated beyond high school, the total years beyond grade 12 should be used. An A.A. is worth 2 years beyond, i.e., 14; a Bachelor’s 4 years beyond, i.e., 16; a Master’s 6 years beyond, i.e., 18; and a Ph.D. 8 years beyond, i.e., 20. Qualifications other than these should be judged by the usual time required (e.g., graduation from the Central Medical, Fiji, is worth 5 years, i.e., 17 years).

Question 14  Employment
These questions are designed to cover everyone in the population, to show the way in which the country’s manpower resources are presently used, and to indicate possible sources of manpower for future development.

All persons should fall into at least one of the five categories:
I. Working in Communal or Commercial Agriculture;

II. Working in Paid Employment (except Agriculture);

III. Receiving "Other" income;

IV. Dependents and working in Household; or

V. Not Working.

I, II, III, or any combination of these three categories may be marked. If at least one of these is marked, IV may not also be marked. The opposite is also true. A person may occur in IV but not also in one of the first three categories. For example, a person may have a full-time job for which he receives wages (II, Working in Paid Employment except Agriculture), and be working in Agriculture (I) as a matai using communal land, or an owner or holder of freehold, leasehold, or registered land. It is not possible to be working in Paid Employment and to be a dependent at the same time. However, it is not possible to be classed as full-time (FT) in both categories I and II. Also, full-time students cannot also be working full-time.

I.A Working in agriculture

This question covers the two major types of agriculture practiced in American Samoa. If the person being enumerated answers "Yes" to Question A, all the questions under A are answered. If "No," none of the questions under A are answered, and the enumerator passes on to the questions under section II.

Communal agriculture involves using land held under Samoan custom, over which a matai holds the pule, and entitled members of the aiga may render service (tautua) in the form of labor and/or produce grown. This form of agriculture may be raising crops or livestock for either own subsistence or for sale, and is commonly a mixture of the two.

Non-communal agriculture involves freehold, leasehold, or individually registered land, which is used primarily for growing produce for sale. In this type of agriculture, the crop is "owned" and labor may be employed for wages. It may be difficult to decide in some cases which is "communal" and which is "non-communal"; in this case choose the type nearest, i.e., traditional Samoan or introduced papalagi.

Under this group there are five options of which only one should be chosen and one number (from 1 through 5) written in the box.

I.B Full-time or part-time

Full-time is classed as at least five days per week for at least seven hours per day or 35 hours per week, while part-time is classed as any time less than 35 hours. Where agriculture is a part-time activity, for instance, where the person has a full-time job in paid employment as well, the number of hours worked in agriculture should be estimated for the week before the census (19-25 September). This week comes within the pre-enumeration period, and it will be possible in many cases to warn persons working part-time in agriculture to keep a count of their hours. The week is used as a typical sample. In some cases, a person working in communal agriculture will not spend 35 hours actually working at agricultural tasks, but as long as there is no other occupation usually the person should be classed as full-time (FT), assuming that times such as travel to work, fishing, village maintenance, and other duties connected with the household or village are included.

I.C Sale of produce

Sale of produce includes any cash return for crops or livestock sold outside the household. This includes sales in the market or privately to persons, as long as cash is involved. The "past year" means since 26 September 1973.

I.D Principal source of income

This question is asked to give some idea of the place of agriculture in the economy of the country. "Yes" should be written in the box when agriculture is the major source of cash income (more than 50 percent). DO NOT take the value of food grown and eaten by the household into account for this question.
II.A  Working in paid employment (except agriculture)

For all persons who have a job for which they receive pay, wages, or salary, part-time or full-time, write “YES” in the box and ask other questions under II. Persons answering “NO” should be asked if they have had paid employment previously, but are currently unemployed. If the person has had employment, list the occupation, village, and last employer; otherwise, the enumerator should pass on to the next section (III). These questions should also be answered for persons “temporarily” unemployed (Question 14. V.C).

(1) The kind of work done should be shown in the space, whether the person is an employee or an owner. To assist you in identifying the range of occupations, see the list of occupations.

You should take some care in your description to give some indication of the level of skill or responsibility involved in the job where necessary, and what function is performed, e.g., “repairman” is not sufficient; it needs to be qualified by what kinds of things are repaired, “telephone repairman,” “boat repairman,” etc.

(2) Place of work (village). Usually the village name is sufficient here. A full postal address is not necessary. The main office of the person working should be given if the job involves moving about.

(3) Name of employer. The government department or division or the name of the commercial employer should be written. If an owner is being enumerated, the word “owner” should be written in this box. “Government” or “GAS” is not sufficient for public servants. The name of a supervisor, foreman, etc., who is in turn employed by the employer of the person being enumerated, should not be given, but only the employer to whom all employees are responsible.

II.B  Full-time or part-time

Persons who work in paid employment should be shown as either full-time (FT) or part-time (PT). A full-time job is one which takes 35 hours or more of the employee’s time per week, while a part-time job is classed as one taking less than 35 hours per week.

Persons answering “part-time” (PT) to this question should be asked the number of hours worked in the job last week (19-25 September). This week comes within the pre-enumeration period and it will be possible in cases where the number of hours worked varies from week to week to warn persons working part-time to keep count of their hours. The week used is taken to be a typical sample. Some persons may be found who have two positions of paid employment. Only one of these can be taken as full-time, and only this one can be shown on the form.

III.  Receiving “other” income

This section is to be answered “Yes” by persons who receive a regular income but not from an employer for whom they now work. They may also work at paid employment in which case this should be described under Section II, or they may be engaged in agriculture in which case this should be described under Section I.

If they answer “Yes” to the question “Are you receiving cash income for which you do not presently work?” the type or types of income should be marked in the appropriate box. “Regular support from aiga” need not be income received at regular intervals, but should be income received from a relative or relatives who assume some responsibility for the continued support of the person being enumerated. “Private means” applies to income received from private investments (e.g., rentals, stocks, shares, or bonds) or other arrangements not covered in the other categories. Boxes not marked should be left blank.

IV.  Dependents and working in household

In this section all persons not receiving income or support from other sources should be included. These will include: preschool children, children at school, persons who stay at home looking after the members of aiga who are employed (taust aiga), old people without their own income, and persons who cannot work because of some disability, etc. They should be shown as dependent upon only one of the types of support. In some aiga, the household may be supported by more than one employed or self-supporting member. In these cases, the major support for the household only should be used. Where
some doubt exists, give priority first to persons in full-time paid employment (including anyone in commercial agriculture, I. A (2), (3), or (5) and (2)), then to persons receiving "other" income III, then to persons working in communal agriculture, I. A (1) and (4).

It is assumed that the persons on whom those in this class are dependent are employed in American Samoa. Remember that it is not possible to be classified under IV in addition to I, II, or III. If a person has been unemployed for more than one year (see question 14, V.A), he should be included here. The objective of this system is to be able to work out the size of the economic sectors of the whole population, i.e., all those who get their support from paid employment, all those who get their support by communal agriculture, etc.

V. Not working

These questions apply to all persons who are "unemployed" or "underemployed" in the *papalagi* meaning of these words or temporarily not working, such as persons on leave.

A. Persons answering "Yes" to the question "Are you unemployed?" should have become unemployed within the past year and be looking for another job at the time of the census or have recently left school and are still looking for paid employment. All persons replying "Yes" to this question should have some work experience or suitable education which makes them eligible for the type of paid employment they are seeking. If a person has worked previously, the occupation, village, and employer should be filled in in Section II.

B. Under this question, persons answering "Yes" should be supported already, engaged in communal agriculture [I. A (1) or (4)], working in the household (IV), or rendering service to their *matatia*, but who could be more productively occupied in paid employment. They are not presently "unemployed" but may be said to be "underemployed" in a commercial sense.

C. Persons who normally have paid employment but who are, at the time of the census, on leave of some kind, including sick leave, vacation leave, annual leave, maternity leave, leave without pay, temporarily laid-off, etc., but who will return to the same job they had before, should answer "Yes" to this question. They should also be included under the appropriate sections showing the nature of their usual employment (in I or II).

**Question 15** Own children: for females born in 1960 or before ONLY

These questions are related to the fertility of the women of American Samoa, and it is very important that they are answered accurately. They are needed for accurate planning in such areas as education and health, and for population projections. The questions should be asked only of females who were born in 1960 or before. In all cases, it is own children born to the woman who should be counted, not including adopted children (who should be counted with the mother to whom they were born).

Number of children ever born alive includes all the children (of both sexes) born to each woman as long as they were alive at birth, including children who may have died soon after birth. Sometimes these are easily forgotten.

Number of children still living, born to each woman. This figure can only be the same as or less than the figure in 15.1, as it is different from 15.1 only because of deaths which have occurred within a mother's total number of children.

Age of mother at her first live birth. This includes only first children born alive. The mother's age at the time of this first birth should be shown in completed years.

Each woman should be asked the questions concerning the last live child born. These include the date of birth of the most recent child; the sex of that child; whether it is still alive (yes or no); and if the most recent child has died, the date of the death (write year only if the date is not known).
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Name</td>
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<td>2. Relationship to Head of Household</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Date of Birth</td>
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<td>5. Place of Birth</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Ethnic Origin</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Marital Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Religion</td>
<td>[ ] Church, [ ] Catholic, [ ] Lutheran, [ ] Baptist, [ ] Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. If you are a holder of a Samaan title, write and the name and the village to which it belongs.</td>
<td>[ ] Title, [ ] Name, [ ] Village, [ ] Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Place of Birth</td>
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<td>11. Person of Mother if present in this Household</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Place of Birth</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Education</td>
<td>[ ] Are you presently attending school?</td>
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<td>15. Children</td>
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**Population Census of American Samoa - 1974**