

## POPULATION.

The Native population of Western Samoa, estimated from the census of 1921, amounted to 35,976, but the census of 1st January, 1926, showed it to be 36,688. The discrepancy of 712 is due to one or more of the following causes: (a) The census of 1921 may not have been accurate. (b) The present system of registration of births and deaths only commenced in 1923, and the records previous to that date may not be accurate. (c) The records of arrivals from and departures for overseas showed an excess of departures over arrivals of more than 500 during the first four and a half years following the census of 1921. A more careful check for the six months ending 31st December showed no such discrepancy. The explanation of the greater part of the difference between the estimated and the census figures is probably to be found in these returns.

In the table given below the population as at 31st December, 1924, has been estimated by working back from the census of 1st January, 1926.

Notes on the census will be found in Appendix D.

*Native Population, Western Samoa.*

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Estimated population, 31st December, 1924	18,064	17,465	35,529
Live births during 1925 .. ..	1,045	988	2,033
Arrivals from overseas, 1925 .. ..	926	569	1,495
Deaths during 1925 .. ..	465	392	857
Departure for overseas, 1925 .. ..	929	583	1,512
Population, 31st December, 1925 .. ..	18,641	18,047	36,688
Net increase .. ..	577	582	1,159

## BIRTHS.

The births of 2,033 living children were registered during 1925, as compared with 1,900 in 1924, and 1,701 in 1923. On only one other occasion since 1906 has the number of births exceeded 1,700: this was in 1912, when the mid-year population was 33,939, and the number of births 1,792, the birth-rate being 52·8 per thousand.

The birth-rate for 1925 was 56·30 per thousand of mid-year population, as compared with 55·38 for 1924 and 50·49 for 1923.

The total number of Samoan women, as disclosed by the census of 1st January, 1926, was 18,947. Of this total 8,304 are or have been married, and a further 2,806 have passed the age of puberty but are as yet unmarried, a total of 11,110 females above the age of puberty (puberty has been reckoned at twelve years). The birth-rate calculated on the above number of available females is 183 per thousand. No estimate of the number of females of reproductive age is available.

(NOTE.—Still-births, of which 37 were registered during the year, are not included either as births or deaths in the various numbers and rates given below.)

*Births of Samoans, Western Samoa, 1925.*

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Upolu .. ..	683	664	1,347
Savai'i .. ..	362	324	686
Total, Western Samoa .. ..	1,045	988	2,033

*Births by Months.*

—	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Males ..	85	68	90	83	101	101	94	94	88	86	83	72	1,045
Females	73	62	102	71	96	83	87	77	86	100	85	66	988
Total	158	130	192	154	197	184	181	171	174	186	168	138	2,033

## DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 857, as compared with 766 in 1924 and 1,398 in 1923. The death-rate was 23·75 per thousand of mid-year population, the rates for 1923 and 1924 being respectively 41·50 and 22·29.

*Deaths of Samoans, Western Samoa, 1925.*

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Upolu .. ..	316	264	580
Savai'i .. ..	149	128	277
Total, Western Samoa .. ..	465	392	857