

Guam

INTRODUCTION

This report includes statistics on the basic characteristics of the population including age, sex, race, nativity, country of birth, school enrollment, years of school completed, marital status, work in 1949, occupation, and industry for Guam.

The amount of detail presented in this bulletin is generally greater for the possession as a whole than for places within it, and data for earlier censuses on the subjects treated have been included for Guam only.

ARRANGEMENT OF TABLES

The tables presented here are numbered consecutively beginning with table 33. Tables 33 to 35 published as tables 8 to 10 in the Series P-A report "Number of Inhabitants for American Samoa,

Canal Zone, Guam, and the Virgin Islands of the United States" are repeated here.

Data for Guam are shown in detail by race, and data for earlier censuses are shown where comparable. Less detail is shown for municipalities.

AVAILABILITY OF UNPUBLISHED DATA

This bulletin presents practically all the statistics tabulated for Guam. Unpublished statistics can be made available, upon request, for the cost of transcription or tabulation, or consolidation. Requests for such unpublished statistics, addressed to the Director, Bureau of the Census, Washington 25, D. C., will receive a prompt reply, which will include an estimate of the cost of preparing the data.

POPULATION TRENDS

Population of Guam.—The population of Guam on April 1, 1950, according to the 1950 Census, was 59,498 (table 33). The total land area of Guam is 203 square miles. In 1950 the average number of inhabitants per square mile was 293 as compared with an average of 110 in 1940.

The Island of Guam was ceded by Spain to the United States under the terms of the Treaty of Paris, signed December 10, 1898, and ratified in April 1899. Local censuses of population were taken by the naval governors in 1901 and 1910. In 1920, 1930, and 1940, the population of the island was enumerated in conjunction with the regular decennial censuses of the United States, the field work being done under the supervision of the naval governor in accordance with plans prescribed by the Director of the Census. Although the formal transfer of the administration of Guam from the Navy to the Department of the Interior did not take place until August 1, 1950, Carlton Skinner, the first civilian Governor of Guam, had been appointed before April 1950 and was in charge of taking the 1950 Census of Guam.

Municipalities.—Guam is divided into 15 municipalities, which are the principal administrative units of the island. Table 34 shows the population in 1950 and 1940 of these municipalities. Because of extensive redistricting between 1930 and 1940, however, it is impossible to show all comparative figures for 1930.

Cities and villages.—Table 35 shows the 1950 population of Agana city and the villages in Guam. In this table the places are arranged in alphabetical order, each followed by the name of the municipality in which it is located. In 1940 the municipalities of Guam were divided into towns and barrios, with the exception of Agana municipality, which was coextensive with Agana city. During World War II, most of the towns and villages (including Agana city) were either totally destroyed or severely damaged. In the reconstruction process, many of the communities were relocated and the division of municipalities into barrios was abandoned. As a result of all these changes, table 10 has been limited to 1950 data only.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

The definitions of the major concepts used in the 1950 Census are given below. Several of these definitions differ from those used in 1940. These changes were made after consultation with users of census data in order to improve the statistics, even though it was recognized that comparability would be adversely affected.

USUAL PLACE OF RESIDENCE

In accordance with usual Census practice, each person enumerated in the 1950 Census was counted as an inhabitant of his usual place of residence or usual place of abode, which is generally construed to mean the place where he lives and sleeps most of the time. This place is not necessarily the same as his legal residence or domicile, although in the vast majority of cases these different bases of classification would be identical.

In the application of this rule, persons were not always counted as residents of the places in which they happened to be found by the census enumerators. Visitors found staying in private homes were not ordinarily interviewed there. Information on persons away from their usual place of residence was obtained from other members of their families, landladies, etc. If an entire family was expected to be away during the whole period of the enumeration, information on it was obtained from neighbors. A matching process was used to eliminate duplicate reports for persons who reported for themselves while away and were also reported by their families at home.

Persons in the armed forces quartered on military installations were enumerated as residents of the area in which their installations were located. Members of their families were enumerated where they actually resided. In the 1950 Census, college students