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ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF HAWAII, PUERTO RICO, THE PANAMA CANAL ZONE, AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS: 1940 TO 1947

Estimates of the population of the Territory of Hawaii, and of Puerto Rico, the Panama Canal Zone, and the Virgin Islands of the United States, for July 1 of each year, 1940 to 1947, were released today by J. C. Capt, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

Between April 1, 1940, the date of the last census, and July 1, 1947, the total population of the Territory of Hawaii (i.e., the civilian population plus armed forces stationed in the area) increased by about 121,000, or 29 percent. In 1947 Hawaii had a population of about 544,000, as compared with 423,330 in 1940. As a result of the rapid demobilization of the armed forces in the Territory of Hawaii, a substantial decline in the total population took place after the close of the war. Before that time the population had reached a peak of more than 800,000.

Puerto Rico, the most populous of our Territories and Possessions, had a total population of approximately 2,149,000 in 1947. This figure represents a gain of about 280,000, or 15 percent, over the 1940 census figure of 1,869,255.

Between 1940 and 1947 the civilian population of the Panama Canal Zone rose by about 19,800, or 71 percent, reaching about 47,500 in the latter year. At the time of the last census the area had a civilian population of about 27,800 and a total population of 51,827.

The total population of the Virgin Islands of the United States amounted to about 27,200 in 1947, a number only slightly larger than the 1940 population of 24,889. The rate of growth in this Possession (about 9 percent) was substantially lower than that in the other areas included in this report and approximated that for continental United States in the same period.

Two kinds of estimates are presented for the Territory of Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, in the accompanying table:

(1) The total population, i.e., the civilian population plus armed forces stationed in the area; and

(2) The civilian population.

The estimates for the Panama Canal Zone relate to the civilian population only.

Estimates of the civilian population for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are based on statistics from the last decennial census, taken on April 1, 1940, and on statistics of births, deaths, immigration, emigration, and net loss of population to the armed forces, for the period since the census. The vital statistics were obtained largely from the National Office of Vital Statistics, U. S. Public Health Service, and the migration statistics were obtained from the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice. Because the reported death statistics include the deaths of members of the armed forces stationed in the area, an estimate of such deaths was subtracted from the reported death statistics to obtain an estimate of deaths of civilians only.

The estimates for the Territory of Hawaii shown in this release take into account, in addition to the types of data described above, the results of a registration of the civilian population conducted by the Office of Civilian Defense in the period January to June, 1942, and statistics on movements of civilians in military vessels during the war years. The latter are not included in the official immigration figures compiled by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Because complete information on departures from the Territory in Navy vessels was not available and because overcounting may have occurred in the registration as a result of the length of the period over which it extended, the estimates for Hawaii should be regarded as only rough approximations.

The estimates of the population of the Panama Canal Zone for most of the years given in the accompanying table are based on a house-to-house canvass of the resident civilian population made by the police force of the Canal Zone. The canvass included civilian employees of the Army and Navy and members of the families of Army and Navy personnel. For the more recent years the house-to-house canvass covered only a portion of the civilian population and was supplemented by information regarding the remainder of the civilian population furnished by Army and Navy authorities.

Despite the heavy demand for current postcensal estimates of the population of the Territory of Alaska, estimates for this area are not presented in this release. It has not been possible to prepare a reliable

estimate of the population of Alaska for any date since the last census by methods comparable with those used for the other areas shown herein. Data on the extent of immigration and emigration for Alaska since the last census are lacking. It appears desirable, therefore, not to publish estimates for this area until accurate information on population changes becomes available. It is now apparent that the post-censal estimates published earlier were based on inadequate data. According to the latest census, taken as of October 1, 1939, the population of Alaska was 72,524.

The estimates presented in this report for Hawaii for July 1, 1940 to 1945, supersede those published in Population--Special Reports, Series P-46, No. 9; they

are based on more complete information than was available when that report was prepared. The estimates given here for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands for July 1, 1940 to 1945, differ only slightly from those published in the earlier report. Estimates for the Panama Canal Zone are being published for the first time.

The estimates for Hawaii and Puerto Rico presented in the accompanying table have been rounded to the nearest thousand, and the estimates for the Panama Canal Zone and the Virgin Islands have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Derived figures are based on the unrounded absolute numbers and may, therefore, differ slightly from values computed from the rounded numbers given in the table.

ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF HAWAII, PUERTO RICO, THE PANAMA CANAL ZONE, AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS:
1940 to 1947

(Estimates for Hawaii and Puerto Rico are rounded to the nearest thousand, and estimates for the Panama Canal Zone and the Virgin Islands are rounded to the nearest hundred. Derived figures are based on the unrounded absolute numbers and therefore may differ slightly from values computed from the rounded numbers given in the table)

Area and date	Total population			Civilian population		
	Number	Increase (+) or decrease (-) since April 1, 1940		Number	Increase (+) or decrease (-) since April 1, 1940	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
HAWAII						
July 1, 1947.....	544,000	+121,000	+28.6	509,000	+112,000	+28.3
July 1, 1946.....	551,000	+127,000	+30.1	492,000	+96,000	+24.1
July 1, 1945.....	812,000	+389,000	+91.8	483,000	+86,000	+21.7
July 1, 1944.....	850,000	+427,000	+100.9	461,000	+64,000	+16.2
July 1, 1943.....	637,000	+213,000	+50.4	449,000	+53,000	+13.3
July 1, 1942.....	574,000	+151,000	+35.6	443,000	+46,000	+11.6
July 1, 1941.....	463,000	+40,000	+9.4	418,000	+21,000	+5.2
July 1, 1940.....	423,000	+4,000	+1.0	399,000	+3,000	+0.7
April 1, 1940 (census).....	423,330	-	-	397,000	-	-
PUERTO RICO						
July 1, 1947.....	2,149,000	+280,000	+15.0	2,141,000	+275,000	+14.8
July 1, 1946.....	2,100,000	+230,000	+12.3	2,084,000	+213,000	+11.7
July 1, 1945.....	2,070,000	+200,000	+10.7	2,040,000	+174,000	+9.3
July 1, 1944.....	2,037,000	+167,000	+8.9	2,010,000	+144,000	+7.7
July 1, 1943.....	2,012,000	+143,000	+7.7	1,976,000	+110,000	+5.9
July 1, 1942.....	1,973,000	+104,000	+5.6	1,939,000	+73,000	+3.9
July 1, 1941.....	1,926,000	+57,000	+3.0	1,904,000	+38,000	+2.0
July 1, 1940.....	1,879,000	+9,000	+0.5	1,875,000	+9,000	+0.5
April 1, 1940 (census).....	1,869,255	-	-	1,866,000	-	-
PANAMA CANAL ZONE						
July 1, 1947.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	47,500	+19,800	+71.2
July 1, 1946.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	47,400	+19,700	+70.8
July 1, 1945.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	46,100	+18,400	+66.8
July 1, 1944.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	49,900	+22,100	+79.8
July 1, 1943.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	54,600	+27,000	+97.5
July 1, 1942.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	51,200	+23,400	+94.4
July 1, 1941.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	41,500	+13,700	+49.5
July 1, 1940.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	34,000	+6,200	+22.4
April 1, 1940 (census).....	51,827	-	-	27,800	-	-
VIRGIN ISLANDS						
July 1, 1947.....	27,200	+2,300	+9.2	27,100	+2,400	+9.5
July 1, 1946.....	27,000	+2,100	+8.6	26,900	+2,200	+8.8
July 1, 1945.....	26,700	+1,900	+7.3	26,200	+1,500	+6.0
July 1, 1944.....	27,000	+2,100	+8.6	26,100	+1,400	+5.7
July 1, 1943.....	27,400	+2,500	+10.1	24,900	+100	+0.8
July 1, 1942.....	26,300	+1,400	+5.7	25,000	+300	+1.2
July 1, 1941.....	25,500	+600	+2.5	25,200	+400	+1.7
July 1, 1940.....	24,700	-200	-0.6	24,600	-200	-0.7
April 1, 1940 (census).....	24,889	-	-	24,700	-	-

¹ Not available.