



ST. HELENA

CENSUS
of the population of
St. Helena Island
and
Ascension Island
1956

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Education Office,
St. Helena,
19th January, 1957.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to submit herewith my report on the Census of the inhabitants of this Island that was taken on the night of 21st October, 1956.

2. The enumeration district demarcation lines are identical with those set out in the District Division Order, 1956, with a further sub-division for Half Tree Hollow.

3. The census results are to some extent affected by the fact that 181 men were temporarily engaged in Ascension Island in connection with the United States Guided Missile project. If these men had been included in the census returns, the total population of St. Helena would have been 4823 (instead of 4642), comparing with a total of 4748 in 1946.

$$\begin{array}{r} 181 \\ 4642 \\ \hline 4823 \end{array}$$

4. In comparison with the 1946 Census Report, the more detailed schedules completed this time have made it possible to include in the present Report much fuller particulars of housing conditions, and of occupational status, while the separate showing of non-gainful employment is felt to have advantages.

5. Susan MacDonald, aged 92 years, of Market Street, Jamestown is the oldest female on the Island whilst Charles E. Thomas, aged 90 years, of Knollcomb's is the oldest male.

6. I should like to express my grateful thanks to the Enumerators who had to assist a large number of householders to complete their schedules, and to the Tabulators who carried out their onerous task cheerfully and efficiently.

I have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

Edgar J. Wagstaff,
Acting Education Officer,
Census Supervisor.

His Excellency the Governor,
Sir James Harford, K.B.E., C.M.G.,
St. Helena.

**LIST OF ENUMERATORS
AND NUMBERS OF SCHEDULES ISSUED IN EACH DISTRICT**

No. of Reg- istration and Enumeration	District	Name of Enumerator	No of Schedules issued		
			Schedule 1 (relating to buildings)	Schedule 2 (general)	
1	Jamestown—	Area (a)	Mr. J. E. Le Breton	56	76
		(b)	Mr. G. C. Lawrence	65	66
		(c)	Mr. S. Young	71	115
		(d)	Mr. I. D. Hudson	81	94
2	Half Tree Hollow	Mr. E. Benjamin	123	162	
3	St. Paul's—	Area (a)	Mr. A. E. Broadway	51	53
		(b)	Mr. A. Flagg	87	89
4	Blue Hill—	Area (a)	Mr. R. Francis	} 61	62
		(b)	P.C. F. H. Yon		
5	Sandy Bay—	Area (a)	P.C. F. H. Yon	} 61	68
		(b)	Mr. P. Legg		
6	Longwood—	Area (a)	P.C. C. Augustus	57	61
		(b)	Sgt. J. Dillon, B.E.M.	90	92
		(c)	P.C. T. John	59	60
Total			862	998	

TABLE NO. 1.

TOTAL POPULATION ON CENSUS NIGHT

Male.	Female.	Total persons.
2,224	2,418	4,642
Number of persons per square mile		98.8.

TABLE NO. II.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF POPULATION FOR CENSUSES OF 1946 AND 1956

	Year.	Male.	Female.	Total persons.
Inhabitants	1946	2,181	2,567	4,748
	1956	2,224	2,418	4,642
Increase		43		
Decrease			149	106

TABLE NO. III.

CONDITIONS OF MARRIAGE, ETC.

	Year.	Married.	Widowed.	Single.	Total persons.
	1946	1,552	214	2,982	4,748
	1956	1,447	234	*2,961	4,642
Increase			20		
Decrease		105		21	106

*Made up as follows :—

Ages	0 to 4	5 to 15	16 and over	Total
	642	1,509	810	2,961
			(including 20 divorced)	

TABLE NO. IV.

AGE DISTRIBUTION

Age Period Years.	Males.	Females.	Total Persons.
Under 1 year.	64	60	124
1	63	55	118
2	72	48	108
3	75	77	152
4	74	66	140
5	64	61	125
6	52	67	119
7	75	77	152
8	76	64	140
9	76	64	140
10	50	65	115
11	84	85	169
12	64	61	125
13	91	83	174
14	60	64	124
15	65	61	126
16-19	155	146	301
20-24	98	121	219
25-29	80	136	216
30-34	82	122	204
35-39	103	117	220
40-44	90	121	211
45-49	110	122	232
50-54	113	118	231
55-59	89	101	190
60-64	69	77	146
65-69	61	62	123
70-74	31	50	81
75-79	28	37	65
80 and over	22	30	52
	2,224	2,418	4,642

TABLE NO. V.

CONDITIONS OF MARRIAGE WITH AGES

Age Period Years.	Married (a)			Widowed (b)			Single (c)		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
16 to 19	1	20	21	0	0	0	154	126	280
20 „ 29	68	153	221	0	1	1	110	103	213
30 „ 39	151	189	340	3	7	10	31	43	74
40 „ 49	160	192	352	4	13	17	36	38	74
50 „ 59	155	129	284	14	44	58	33	45	78
60 „ 69	90	72	162	20	39	59	20	29	49
70 „ 79	30	21	51	19	45	64	10	21	31
80 and over	11	5	16	8	17	25	3	8	11
Total	(a) 1447	(b) 234	(c) 810.	Grand Total.....2,491.					

TABLE NO. VI.

LITERACY

No. of persons unable to read and write.

Age period Years	Males.	Females.	Total.
16 to 19	1	1	2
20 „ 29	4	5	9
30 „ 39	5	5	10
40 „ 49	6	7	13
50 „ 59	8	7	15
60 and over	34	29	63
Total Males	58.	Total Females	54.
		Total Persons	112.

TABLE NO. VII.

SICKNESS AND INFIRMITY

Number of persons 92.

	At Home.	In Institutions.
Deaf and Dumb	9	—
Blind	12	—
Mentally infirm	6	17
Crippled	36	1
Epileptic	5	1
Bedridden	5	—
	73	19

TABLE NO. VIII.

POPULATION ACCORDING TO NATIONALITY

	Males.	Females.	Total.
British Born	2,224	2,418	4,642

TABLE NO. IX.

POPULATION ACCORDING TO BIRTHPLACE

Birthplace	Male	Female	Total
St. Helena	2170	2365	4535
England	32	23	55
Scotland	2	4	6
Wales	2	2	4
Ireland	—	1	1
South Africa	13	15	28
Southern Rhodesia	1	1	2
Northern Rhodesia	—	1	1
Australia	—	1	1
Canada	1	1	2
St. Vincent (Cape Verde Isles)	1	—	1
Malta	1	—	1
Ceylon	—	1	1
Uganda	—	1	1
India	1	1	2
British West Indies	—	1	1
	2224 2170	2418 2365	4642 4535
	54	53	107

TABLE NO. X.

POPULATION BY DISTRICTS AND RELIGIONS

		Inhabitants			Religions								
District Number	District	Males	Females	Total Persons	Church of England	Baptist	Salvation Army	Roman Catholic	Presbyterian	Seventh Day Adventist	Persons showing no religion but followers of the sect known as Jehovah's Witnesses	Others	Total Persons
1.	Jamestown	754	814	1568	1475	18	36	5	1	15	17	1	1568
2.	Half Tree Hollow	335	419	754	637	1	79	—	—	36	—	1	754
3.	St. Paul's	318	326	644	576	18	10	2	—	25	13	—	644
4.	Blue Hill	128	130	258	210	44	1	—	—	3	—	—	258
5.	Sandy Bay	148	167	315	257	58	—	—	—	—	—	—	315
6.	Longwood	541	562	1103	1048	4	8	1	—	9	32	1	1103
	Totals	2224	2418	4642	4203	143	134	8	1	88	62	3	4642

CLASSIFICATION BY OCCUPATION IF GAINFULLY EMPLOYED

	Jamestown	Half Tree Hollow	St. Paul's	Blue Hill	Sandy Bay	Longwood	Total	Sub-Total
MALES								
Professional, technical and related workers								
Ministers of Religion	3	-	1	-	1	-	5	
Consular Service	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Doctors	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	
Dentist	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Dental Mechanic	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Dental Nurse	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Hospital Nurses	3	1	-	-	-	-	4	
Engineers	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	
Teachers or Pupil Teachers	5	1	3	-	1	5	15	
Technical Supervisory Staff	-	2	2	-	-	2	6	
Dispenser	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Public Health Inspectors	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Artist	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Meteorological Observers	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	
Total								44
Managerial, Administrative, and Clerical workers								
Clerks	27	3	14	-	1	2	47	
Senior Government Officials	5	2	4	-	-	-	11	
Manager or Managing Owners	3	3	2	-	-	1	9	
Accountants	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	
Total								69
Sales Workers								
Commission Agent	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	
Merchants	4	-	1	-	-	1	6	
Shop Owners	3	2	2	-	-	1	8	
Shop Assistants	4	2	2	-	-	2	10	
Hawker	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	
Total								26
Farmers, Fishermen, etc.								
Farmers or Market Gardeners	6	4	6	1	8	18	43	
Farm Labourers	5	11	25	8	6	47	102	
Fishermen	21	3	-	-	-	-	24	
Forest Workers	-	-	-	3	3	1	7	
Shepherd	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
Total								177
Workers in operating transport and communications operations								
Animal Vehicle Drivers	-	3	2	-	1	2	8	
Motor Vehicle Drivers	12	5	10	-	1	5	33	
Other Drivers	6	-	1	1	1	3	12	
Boatmen	6	1	-	-	-	-	7	
Telecommunication Operators	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Telecommunication Engineers	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	
Telephonist	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Messengers	1	1	-	-	-	1	3	
Total								70
Craftsmen, production process workers etc.								
Bakers	6	1	-	-	-	-	7	
Butchers	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	
Blacksmiths	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	
Carpenters	24	2	6	1	-	5	38	
Cobblers	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Concrete Block Layer or Maker	1	2	-	-	-	-	3	
Electricians	7	1	-	-	-	1	9	
Flaxmill Workers	2	12	26	18	57	54	169	
Masons	8	5	3	3	-	2	21	
Mechanics	5	2	1	-	-	5	13	
Painters	9	2	-	-	-	1	12	
Plumbers	7	1	-	-	-	-	8	
Printers	4	-	1	-	-	-	5	
Roadman or Roadmender	1	10	5	5	2	9	32	
Tinsmith	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Watch Repairer	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Total								327

MALES (Cont.)	Jamestown	Half Tree Hollow	St. Paul's	Blue Hill	Sandy Bay	Longwood	Total	Sub-Total
Service Workers								
Caretakers	5	-	1	-	-	2	8	
Domestic Servant or Nurse	5	-	5	-	-	1	11	
Garage Hands	4	1	-	-	-	-	5	
Gardeners	4	6	9	-	-	4	23	
Tavern Keepers	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Total								49
Security Forces								
Policemen and Warder	4	2	1	-	-	3	10	
Total								10
Not Classified								
Labourers not included above	56	39	16	12	2	16	141	
Relief Workers *	47	17	13	16	6	31	130	
Storekeepers	7	1	1	-	-	-	9	
Total								280
GRAND TOTAL	347	150	165	69	90	231	1052	1052

* Of the 181 men temporarily employed at Ascension Island at the time of the census, 105 had previously been employed on relief work.

FEMALES	Jamestown	Half Tree Hollow	St. Paul's	Blue Hill	Sandy Bay	Longwood	Total	Sub-Total
Professional, technical and related workers								
Minister of Religion	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Dentist	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Hospital Nursing Sisters	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	
Hospital Nurses	10	2	-	-	1	-	13	
Health Sisters	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	
Physiotherapist	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
Teacher or Pupil Teacher	12	4	9	3	6	10	44	
Parish Home Matron	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Total								66
Managerial, Administrative, and Clerical workers								
Clerk	7	1	-	-	-	2	10	
Manager or Managing Owner	3	-	-	-	-	2	5	
Librarian	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Total								17
Sales Workers								
Merchant	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	
Shop Owners	2	1	2	-	2	1	8	
Shop Assistants	20	1	1	1	1	1	25	
Hawkers	16	-	-	-	-	2	18	
Total								53
Farmers, Fishermen etc.								
Farm Labourers	-	-	2	-	1	-	3	
Total								3
Workers in operating transport and communications operations								
Telephonist	2	1	-	-	-	-	3	
Total								3
Craftsmen, production process workers, etc.								
Flax Mill Workers	2	5	12	5	11	33	68	
Hairdressers	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	
Lace Workers	2	-	-	15	12	1	30	
Laundress	10	4	3	-	-	2	19	
Needlewomen	10	11	7	2	-	1	31	
Dressmaker	3	1	1	1	3	2	11	
Total								161
Service workers								
Caretakers	1	-	-	-	1	4	6	
Domestic Servant or Nurse	53	15	23	-	1	8	100	
Total								106
Security forces								
Prison Matron	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Total								1
Not classified								
Labourers not included above	-	2	1	2	1	-	6	
Storekeeper	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Total								7
GRAND TOTAL	165	49	62	29	42	70	417	417

TABLE NO. XII.

CLASSIFICATION BY OCCUPATION IF NON-GAINFULLY EMPLOYED

MALES							
	Jamestown	Half Tree Hollow	St. Paul's	Blue Hill	Sandy Bay	Longwood	Total
Child at School	247	99	96	34	31	167	674
Child not at School	117	66	43	21	21	115	383
Housewife and Housekeeper	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Inmates of institutions	10	6	—	—	—	—	16
Retired and Pensioners	13	7	9	3	6	1	39
Private Means	3	1	1	—	—	—	5
Unemployed	16	5	2	1	—	18	42
Others	1	1	2	—	—	9	13
Total	407	185	153	59	58	310	1172

FEMALES							
	Jamestown	Half Tree Hollow	St. Paul's	Blue Hill	Sandy Bay	Longwood	Total
Child at School	206	121	82	34	33	169	645
Child not at School	104	60	36	15	22	100	337
Housewife and Housekeeper	281	176	132	49	70	190	898
*Inmates of institutions	10	11	—	—	—	—	21
Retired and Pensioners	4	—	—	—	—	2	6
Private Means	3	—	3	—	—	—	6
Unemployed	33	—	4	—	—	26	63
Others	8	2	7	3	—	5	25
Total	649	370	264	101	125	492	2001

*Parish Home and Mental Hospital.

TABLE NO. XIII.

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS

Paid by Day.	Paid by Month.	Paid by Job.	Employer.	Worker on own account.	Unpaid Family Worker.	Total.
878	399	75	8	89	20	1469

TABLE NO. XIV.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION**(a) Number of residential buildings.**

Dwelling Houses.	Other Buildings.	Total.
857	5	862

(b) Sizes of dwelling houses, occupation and density.

No. of rooms.	No. of households.	No. of persons.	Average No. of persons per room.
1	55	162	2.9
2	152	617	2
3	335	1503	1.5
4	288	1496	1.3
5	79	428	1.1
(697 rooms) over 5	89	436	.6
	998	4642	1.29

(c) Water Supply.

Piped.	Standpipe.	Tank.	Spring.	Total.
424	319	64	191	998

(d) Sanitation.

Water Closet.	Earth Closet.	Nil.	Total
345	652	1	998

(e) Distribution of households according to family composition and size of dwelling.

Households with:—	No. of Rooms						Total.
	1	2	3	4	5	over 5	
Adults only	21	44	87	57	20	39	268
1 child under 16	12	23	78	60	18	18	209
2 children „ „	5	29	49	31	17	17	148
3 „ „ „	9	20	44	47	6	10	136
4 „ „ „	6	24	32	39	4	2	107
5 „ „ „	1	5	22	25	2	1	56
more than 5	1	7	23	29	12	2	74
Total	55	152	335	288	79	89	998

(f) Status of heads of households.

Owner occupiers.	Rentpaying Tenants.	Free Tenants.	Total Householders.
402	405	191	998

(g) Rent of dwelling houses (per week).

1/- or under	...	...	1
Over 1/- and not exceeding 2/6d	...	...	180
Over 2/6d „ „ 5/-	...	...	176
Over 5/- „ „ 7/6d	...	...	34
Over 7/6	...	...	14
			405

(h) Households provided with Kitchen or Food Garden.

Kitchen Garden.	Food Garden.	Others.	Total.
315	152	531	998

(i) Residence or Visit abroad.

Heads of households who have resided abroad	...	...	...	168
„ „ „ visited	...	...	...	33
Others	...	...	...	797
				998

Total householders 998

ASCENSION

TABLE NO. I.

TOTAL POPULATION

excluding U. S. Service Personnel and civilians, other than St. Helenian, associated with the Guided Missile Project.

Inhabitants. 11 to sq. mile	Males.	Females.	Total Persons.
	338	52	390

TABLE NO. II.

CONDITIONS OF MARRIAGE

Year.	Married.	Widowed.	Divorced.	Single.	Total Persons.
1946	115	5	4	168	292
1956	160	2	3	225	390
Increase	45	-3	-1	57	98

TABLE NO. III.

RELIGIONS

Church of England	...	...	367
Baptist	...	...	4
Roman Catholic	...	...	6
Methodist	...	...	4
Congregationalist	...	...	1
Greek Orthodox	...	...	1
Church of Scotland	...	...	3
Salvationist	...	...	1
Seventh Day Adventist	...	...	2
Jehovah's Witness...	...	...	1
			390

TABLE NO. IV.

Showing Population and Race classified by occupations.

EUROPEAN BRITISH SUBJECTS

	Males.		Females.
Cable and Wireless Officers	21	Housewives	16
Doctor	1	Nurse	1
Children	8	Children	7
	30		24
Total Europeans	54		

ST. HELENIANS

	Males.		Females.
Cable & Wireless Employees	109	Housewives	16
Jones-Tompkins Employees	181	Children	12
St. Helena Police	4		
Domestic Servants (Private)	7		
Children	7		
	308		28

Total St. Helenians 336.

TABLE NO. V.

SHOWING POPULATION CLASSIFIED BY AGE

	Up to 16 years.	17-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	Over 60	Total
Europeans	15	2	12	12	6	7	—	54
St. Helenians	19	75	123	49	43	23	4	336
Total	34	77	135	61	49	30	4	390