

Transportation



Since the ship wreck-age of the Sea Venture in 1609 brought Ber-muda's first settlers, almost four centuries ago, island residents have travelled by land, sea and, air. During the late 1940's,

the mode of vehicular travel changed, as shown in the table below. In 1946, the main choice of motor-ized transportation was service vehicles (*Table 2*). Four years later, auto bicycles were the vehicle of choice. By 1960, the number of registered motor vehicles had more than doubled reaching, 18,819.

Table 2

Number of Motor Vehicles Registered, 1946-1950

Vehicles	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Private Car	375	846	1,164	1,474	1,797
Taxi	109	316	334	438	440
Truck	380	449	528	555	612
Omnibus	6	22	45	39	45
Auto Bicycle	215	955	2,587	3,276	3,667
Service Vehicle	7,363	500	500	441	384
Other	42	88	100	86	86
Total	8,490	3,176	5,258	6,309	7,031

Significant 20th Century Events

- 1901-02 More than 4,000 South African men and boys were prisoners on islands in the Great Sound
- 1902 Two-Day Cup Match tradition begins
- 1904 Bermuda Electric Light Power Company sup-plies first street lights
- 1910 Bermuda obtained approval to use its coat of arms
- 1919 Bermuda Union of Teachers, first union, es-tablished
- 1930 First airplane to fly between North America and Bermuda
- 1930 Bermuda's first radio station opens
- 1931 Inaugural Bermuda Railway, Hamilton to Somerset journey
- 1934 Severn Bridge links St. David's to St. George's parish
- 1940 America leased Bermuda land for military bases
- 1946 The Motor Car Act was passed allowing the "general use" of motor cars

Statistical Publications

Monthly

Consumer Price
Retail Sales Index

Quarterly

Balance of Payments
Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics

Annually

Bermuda Digest of Statistics
Bermuda Facts and Figures
Employment Briefs
Employment Survey Detailed Tabulation Set
Bermuda Labour Market Indicators
Bermuda Gross Domestic Product

Other

Women in Leadership
Bermuda's Maritime Connections
Characteristics of Bermudas Families
Bermuda's Population Projections 2000-2030
The Changing Face of Bermuda's Seniors
Bermuda Roots
Literacy in Bermuda
Household Expenditure Survey 2004
Bermuda's Social Dynamics
Labour Force Trends
2000 Census of Population and Housing Report
The 1991 Census of Population and Housing

Acknowledgements

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Statistics
on
Life in Old Bermuda
Heritage Month, May 2008

At Your Service, Bermuda!

Population

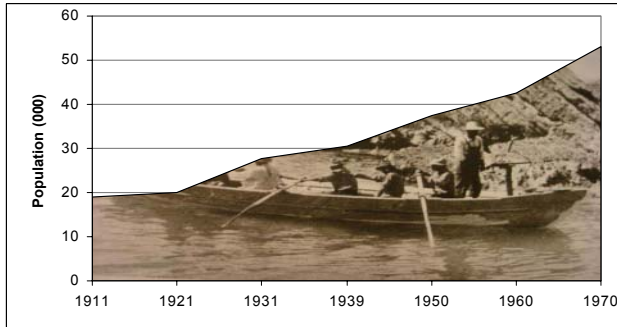


Unlike many islands to our south, "Bermuda is another world, 700 miles at sea . . ." ¹ with no indigenous people. Historically, the waves of Bermuda immigrants who came, or were brought to the island shores, were mainly of British, African, West Indian, Portuguese, and American Indian ancestry.

Between the 1911 and 1970 censuses, the population of Bermuda more than doubled in number (Figure 1).

Figure 1

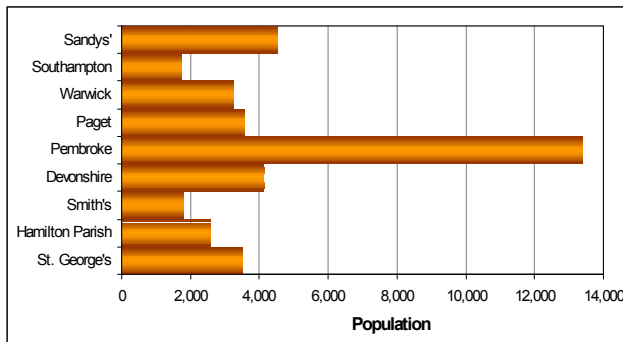
Bermuda's Population Grew Steadily, 1911-1970



In 1950, there were 32,198 residents who were concentrated mainly in Pembroke, Sandys, Devonshire and Paget parishes (Figure 2).

Figure 2

Pembroke was Most Populated Parish, 1950



¹ Verse from Hubert Smith's song, c. 1969

Housing



Bermuda's houses evolved from cedar timber walls and palmetto-thatched roofs to cedar shingles roofs, and by the end of 1600's they were constructed primarily of limestone. This transition was encouraged because of the shortage of cedar, risk of fires, and settlers being given the land if they built limestone houses.

By the 1970 census, the outer walls of Bermuda houses for 9 out of 10 households (97%) were constructed of limestone or cement block. The

remaining 3% were built of wood, or a combination of wood and metal, or stone and wood.

In 1950, 55% of households had water piped indoors, 1,913 households (20%) had to dip water or collect it from a pump in the yard, and 25% of households did not state their water supply. Twenty years later, 94% of households occupied dwellings with water piped indoors and 840 households used other sources.

As early as 1950, 70% of dwellings had a water closet while others used a pit or bucket latrine. At the time of the 1970 census, significant improvements were made in Bermuda's standard of living; whereby 96% of households had flushed toilets and 4% had other means of waste disposal.

In 1950, Bermuda's:

- Average household size was 3.89 persons
- Each dwelling had an average of 5.24 rooms
- 67% of households had families of 2 to 5 persons
- 20% of households had families of 6 or more persons



Household

Economic Activity

From sea to shore, Bermuda residents were engaged in a variety of economic activity for their livelihood. In the 17th century, Bermuda's economy was based primarily on whaling, ship building, tobacco growing, and salt raking in the Turks Islands. By the 18th century, privateering became the main economic activity. A century later, there



were agricultural gains and Bermuda exported vegetables to the eastern United States of America. By the 20th century, tourism became the economic driver.

In 1950, the labour force comprised of 17,630 persons and 4% were unemployed. The leading occupations at that time reflected the emergence of the tourism industry as listed below (Table 1).

Table 1

Leading Occupations, 1950

Occupation	Number of Workers
Housekeeper	1,950
Construction Labourer	1,336
Office Clerk	888
Stonemason	735
Shop Clerk	741
Carpenter	584
Waiter or Waitress	536
Taxi Driver	455
Retail Dealer	381

