

Cambridge University Press
0521523141 - Demographic Collapse: Indian Peru, 1520-1620
Noble David Cook
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

GENERAL EDITOR
MALCOLM DEAS

ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WERNER BAER MARVIN BERNSTEIN
AL STEPAN BRYAN ROBERTS

41

DEMOGRAPHIC COLLAPSE

INDIAN PERU, 1520-1620

Cambridge University Press

0521523141 - Demographic Collapse: Indian Peru, 1520-1620

Noble David Cook

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

For a list of books in this series please turn to page 309.

Cambridge University Press
0521523141 - Demographic Collapse: Indian Peru, 1520-1620
Noble David Cook
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

DEMOGRAPHIC COLLAPSE
INDIAN PERU, 1520-1620

NOBLE DAVID COOK

*Department of History
University of Bridgeport*

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

*Cambridge
London New York New Rochelle
Melbourne Sydney*

Cambridge University Press
0521523141 - Demographic Collapse: Indian Peru, 1520-1620
Noble David Cook
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK
40 West 20th Street, New York NY 10011-4211, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain
Dock House, The Waterfront, Cape Town 8001, South Africa
<http://www.cambridge.org>

© Cambridge University Press 1981

This book is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,
no reproduction of any part may take place without
the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1981
First paperback edition 2004

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication Data

Cook, Noble David.
Demographic collapse, Indian Peru, 1520-1620.
(Cambridge Latin American studies)
Bibliography: p.
Includes index.
I. Indians of South America - Peru -
Population. 2. Peru - Population - History -
16th century. I. Title. II. Series.
F3429.3.P68C66 304.6'2'0985 81-9950
ISBN 0 521 23995 8 hardback AACR2

ISBN 0 521 23995 8 hardback
ISBN 0 521 52314 1 paperback

Cambridge University Press

0521523141 - Demographic Collapse: Indian Peru, 1520-1620

Noble David Cook

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contents

List of tables, figures, and maps	<i>page</i> vi
Preface	ix
Introduction: The problem in perspective	I
 Part I: Peru's preconquest population 	
1 The ecological approach	14
2 Population and archaeology	30
3 Depopulation ratios	41
4 Estimates from social organization	55
5 Disease mortality models	59
6 Census projections	75
7 Conclusion	108
 Part II: Demographic collapse 	
8 First contact: north coast	119
9 Center of Spanish control: middle coast	145
10 Disease, earthquakes, and droughts: south coast	165
11 Intermediate area: northern highlands	178
12 Mining and population in the central sierra	199
13 The Indian heartland: southern highlands	211
14 An overview	247
Abbreviations used in notes	256
Notes	257
Bibliography	281
Index	298

Cambridge University Press

0521523141 - Demographic Collapse: Indian Peru, 1520-1620

Noble David Cook

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Tables, figures, and maps

Tables

1	Major Andean sources of food	<i>page</i> 19
2	Central coastal population density, ca. 1530	20
3	Land and water in the major coastal valleys	21
4	Rowe's figures for population change, 1525-1571	42
5	Inca census of tributary population, Chucuito, ca. 1520-1525	46
6	Age-sex structure of population, Chucuito, 1566	47
7	Revised estimate of population, Central Andes, ca. 1520-1525	50
8	Borah and Cook estimates of the Mexican population	52
9	Peru's 1520 population, based on Mexican rates of decline	53
10	Peruvian epidemics, 1524-1635	60
11	Mortality during 1606 epidemics	66
12	Possible population loss due to epidemics, 1524-1619	70
13	Originarios and forasteros in Peru, 1680s-1690s	85
14	Forasteros and originarios, ca. 1754	86
15	Repertimiento population counts, 1570-1620	89
16	Median rates of change, Indian population, 1570s-1600s	91
17	Methods of estimating total population, 1520-1630	91
18	Estimated Indian population of Peru, 1520-1630	94
19	Estimated Peruvian population, 1520, based on rapid initial decline	96
20	Estimated Peruvian population, 1520, based on recorded rates	97
21	Estimated Peruvian population, 1520 and 1530, based on maximum-minimum rates of change	99
22	"West" model stable populations	102
23	Proportion of women in cohorts of ten years	104
24	Calculations to adjust for "real" populations of Huánuco and Yucay	105
25	Estimated Peruvian population, 1520, from 1570 figures	106
26	Denevan's aboriginal population for eastern Peru	112

Cambridge University Press

0521523141 - Demographic Collapse: Indian Peru, 1520-1620

Noble David Cook

Frontmatter

[More information](#)*Tables, figures, and maps*

vii

27	Estimated tributary population of Peru, 1570-1620	117
28	Pedro de la Gasca's distribution of repartimientos in Piura	126
29	Distribution of Piura inhabitants, 1560s	128
30	San Miguel de Piura, era of Toledo and Vázquez de Espinosa	129
31	The Lambayeque complex	131
32	Age and sex distribution, Cherrepe, 1572	136
33	Urban population of Trujillo, 1604	140
34	Age and sex distribution, Huacho, 1583, and Végueta, 1623	148
35	Population of Lima, 1614	151
36	Family size in Lima Indian population, 1614	153
37	Origins of the population of Lima, 1613	154
38	Population of Acarí, 1593	169
39	Tributary change in Huaraz-Conchucos mining sector	184
40	Tributary change in Cajamarquilla, 1575-1602	185
41	Tributaries in Los Huamalies, 1549-1602	186
42	Household size in Los Chupachos, 1562	189
43	Population change in Jaén, 1591-1606	192
44	Relation of repartimientos of Chachapoyas, ca. 1549	194
45	Age and sex distribution, Goparas, 1602	196
46	Number of children in family unit, Bagazán, 1594	197
47	Mitayos assigned during Huancavelica asentos, 1573-1645	207
48	Indian population of Cuzco, ca. 1561	215
49	Toledo's count of Cuzco's tributaries	216
50	Age and sex distribution, Yanaconas of Yucay, 1571	222
51	Huancavelica mitayos from Cotabambas, 1630	229
52	1591 population of Los Collaguas	232
53	Number of children per couple, Collaguas, 1591	235

Figures

1	Possible evolution of the tribute-exempt class	86
2	Population pyramids for Huánuco, 1562, and Yucay, 1571	101
3	Population pyramid for Cherrepe, 1572	135
4	Annual water discharge of Chicama River	142
5	Population pyramids for Huacho, 1583, and Végueta, 1623	147
6	Population pyramid for Lima, 1614	152

Cambridge University Press

0521523141 - Demographic Collapse: Indian Peru, 1520-1620

Noble David Cook

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii	<i>Tables, figures, and maps</i>	
7	Ten-year cohort population pyramid for Acarí, 1593	167
8	Population pyramid for Acarí, 1593	168
9	Transverse views of Peru	179
10	Population pyramid for Huánuco, 1562	187
11	Population pyramid for Goparas, 1602	196
12	Ten-year cohort population pyramid for Yanaconas of Yucay, 1571	220
13	Population pyramid for Yanaconas of Yucay, 1571	221
14	Ten-year cohort population pyramid for Los Collaguas, 1591	232
15	Population pyramid for Los Collaguas, 1591	233
16	Registered silver production in the Potosí district, 1550-1735	240

Maps

1	Peru in perspective	5
2	Hydrographic map of Peru	16
3	The 1586-9 epidemics in Peru	63
4	Peruvian corregimientos	118
5	North coast of Peru	124
6	Indian migrants to Lima, 1613	155
7	Central coast of Peru	159
8	Southern coast of Peru	170
9	Northern highlands of Peru	180
10	Central highlands of Peru	202
11	Southern highlands of Peru	218

Cambridge University Press

0521523141 - Demographic Collapse: Indian Peru, 1520-1620

Noble David Cook

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Preface

Little did I realize when I first read Woodrow Borah's *New Spain's Century of Depression* in 1962 that I would begin a search for similar material for the Andean area of South America that would continue for almost two decades. Borah's description of the relationship between population and economy in Central Mexico stimulated my investigation for parallel patterns in Peru. While preparing my master's thesis, under the direction of Lyle N. McAlister at the University of Florida, I became aware of the limited knowledge of the dynamics of population change in colonial Peru. By 1969 I had completed much of the basic research on Peru's Indian population from 1570 to 1620 for my dissertation at the University of Texas with Thomas F. McGann and James Lockhart, but teaching duties, and revisions, led to a delay in completion until 1973. I have continued the search for supplementary materials since that date, conducting new research in Peru in 1973, 1974, and finally 1977. I have now reached the point where I feel continued investigation would provide only diminishing returns. Most of the population data for Indian Peru for the period prior to 1650 have already been collected. Census results, at least the totals, for almost 585 repartimientos – the primary local unit of Indian administration – for various dates provide the basis for the present study. Undoubtedly, other information will be found, but it is unlikely that the data base will be substantially modified.

Many people have assisted me during the course of research and writing. Woodrow Borah and William Denevan have read a draft of the present volume. I owe them special thanks for their comments and support. The work would have been substantially improved had I been able to incorporate all of their advice for the text. Robert Keith provided early citations for central coastal material. In Lima, Franklin Pease and Pablo Macera were a constant inspiration because of their unflagging interest in the colonial history of Peru, especially as it relates to the native population, but most of all they have been friends. John Fisher of Liverpool gave encouragement on numerous occasions. Nicolás Sánchez-Albornoz often guided me in the study of historical demography. To these, and to those whom I have not mentioned, I give my thanks.

Cambridge University Press

0521523141 - Demographic Collapse: Indian Peru, 1520-1620

Noble David Cook

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Financial assistance came from several sources. A Fulbright–Hays grant funded original research in Spain in 1967. The Doherty Foundation supported investigations in Peru during most of 1968. I had partial help from the Ford Foundation briefly in 1973 and 1974. A Fulbright lectureship at the Catholic University in Lima allowed me to continue population research in 1974. My return to Peru in 1977 was sponsored by the Wenner–Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research. At that time I was working on social structure and population change in the Collaguas region of the south Peruvian Andes. The staffs of archives, libraries, and special collections were always courteous and quick in their assistance. In Spain I single out for mention the Archivo General de Indias in Seville, the special collections at the Biblioteca Central of the University of Seville, and in Madrid the Real Academia de la Historia, the Archivo Histórico Nacional, and the manuscript room of the Biblioteca Nacional. In Peru the following depositories were extensively consulted: the Archivo Nacional del Perú, the Archivo Arzobispal, the manuscript room of the Biblioteca Nacional, all in Lima, and provincial archives in Arequipa and Cuzco. In the United States I used manuscript collections and reference material at the University of Texas, Yale University, and the New York Public Library. The University of Bridgeport Computer Center staff was invaluable in facilitating data analysis. The maps were prepared by Valmor C. Philp of the Syracuse University Cartographic Laboratory, thanks to the generous assistance of David J. Robinson. I thank also the editors of the *Hispanic American Historical Review* for publishing the data base (volume 62, February 1982 issue).

Alexandra Parma Cook deserves more than thanks. She provided, first, the incentive; second, the time; and third, direct assistance. Her editorial work helped to clarify passages, and her critical questions and comments led to elaboration of areas that needed expanded analysis. The book owes much to her abilities. The sabbatical granted by the University of Bridgeport during the fall of 1979 permitted the extended time necessary to complete the manuscript. Typing assistance was provided by the funds of the Dr. and Mrs. Henry W. Littlefield Professorship in History. Finally, the appointment as Visiting Fellow in Latin American Studies at Yale University for the academic year 1979–80 gave me access to the facilities of that research center for final revisions.

I hope the book, for which I take full responsibility, is a modest contribution to our understanding of the impact of European expansion in the sixteenth century on the native population of the Americas.