

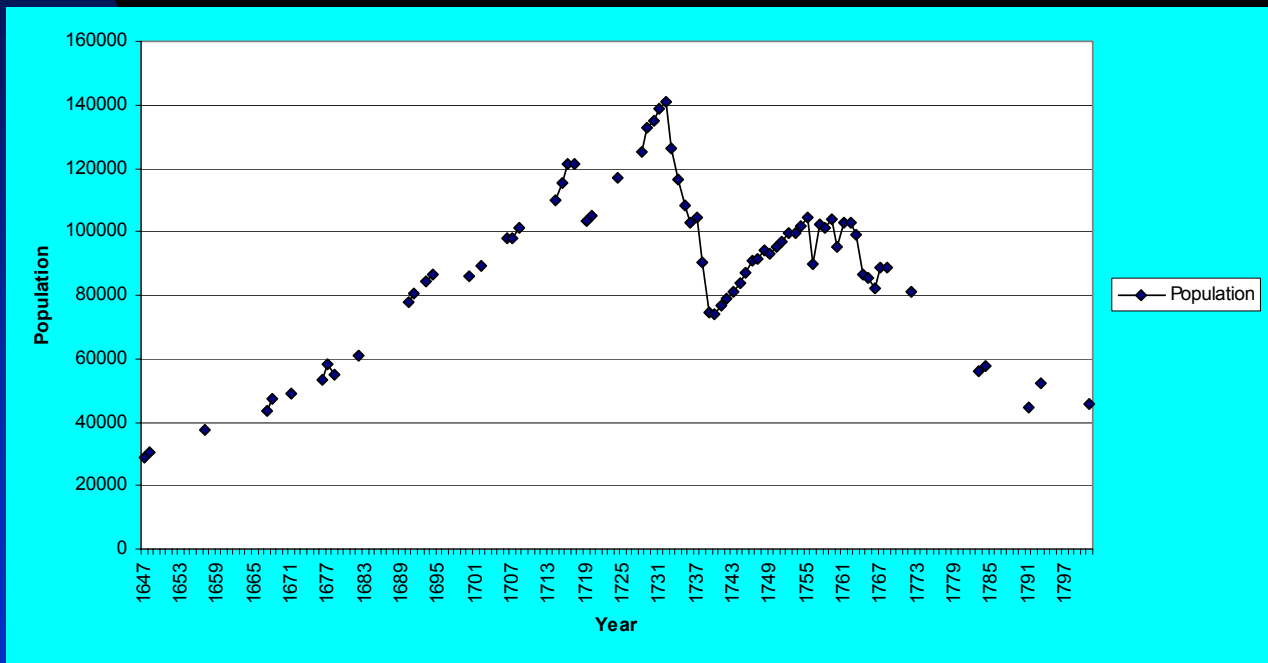
Population of the Jesuit Missions of Paraguay

Robert H. Jackson

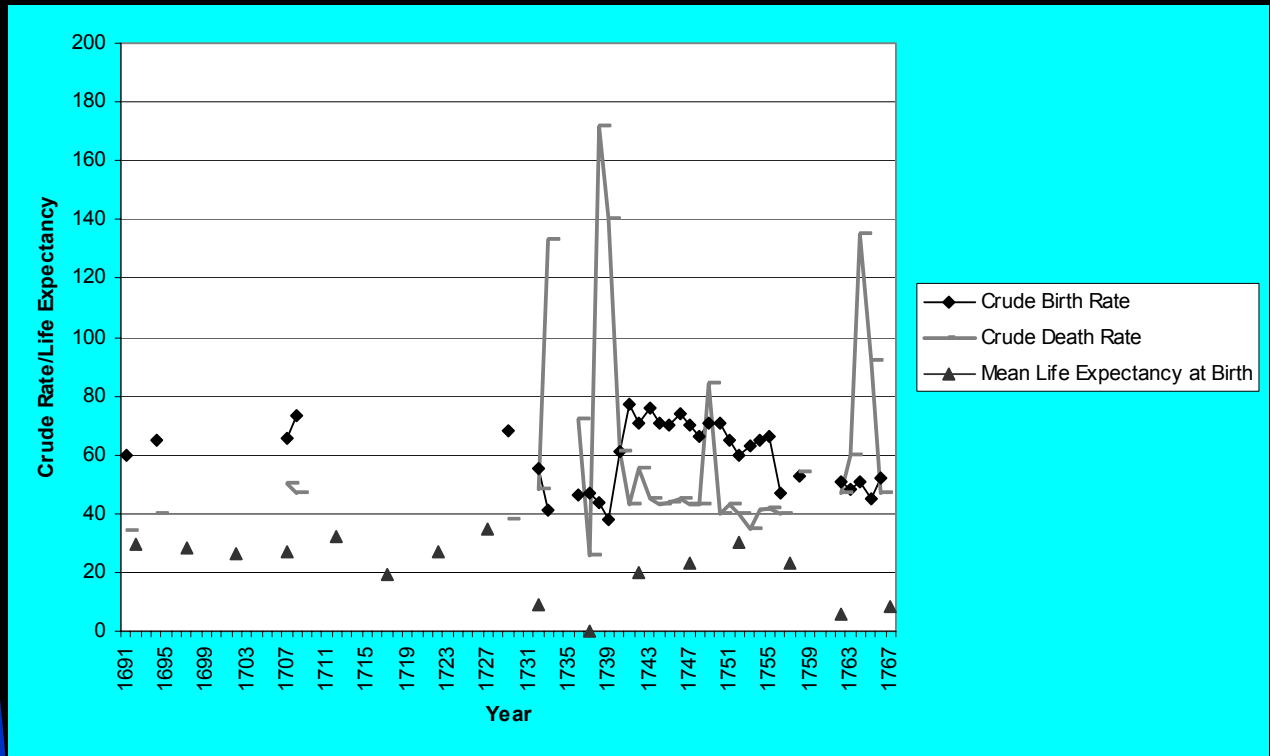
Beginning in 1607, Jesuit missionaries established and managed a chain of what eventually totaled 30 mission communities in southeast Paraguay and adjoining parts of Argentina and Brazil. The Jesuits settled thousands of Guarani on the missions.

The demographic history of the Guarani populations constitutes an important aspect of the development of the Paraguay missions. Epidemics swept through the mission communities periodically, but the Guarani populations also recovered or rebounded following the epidemics. The mission populations, particularly in the 18th century, were high fertility and high mortality populations that experienced slow to moderate population growth. The most severe mortality crisis in the missions occurred in the 1730s, when several epidemics culled the mission populations.

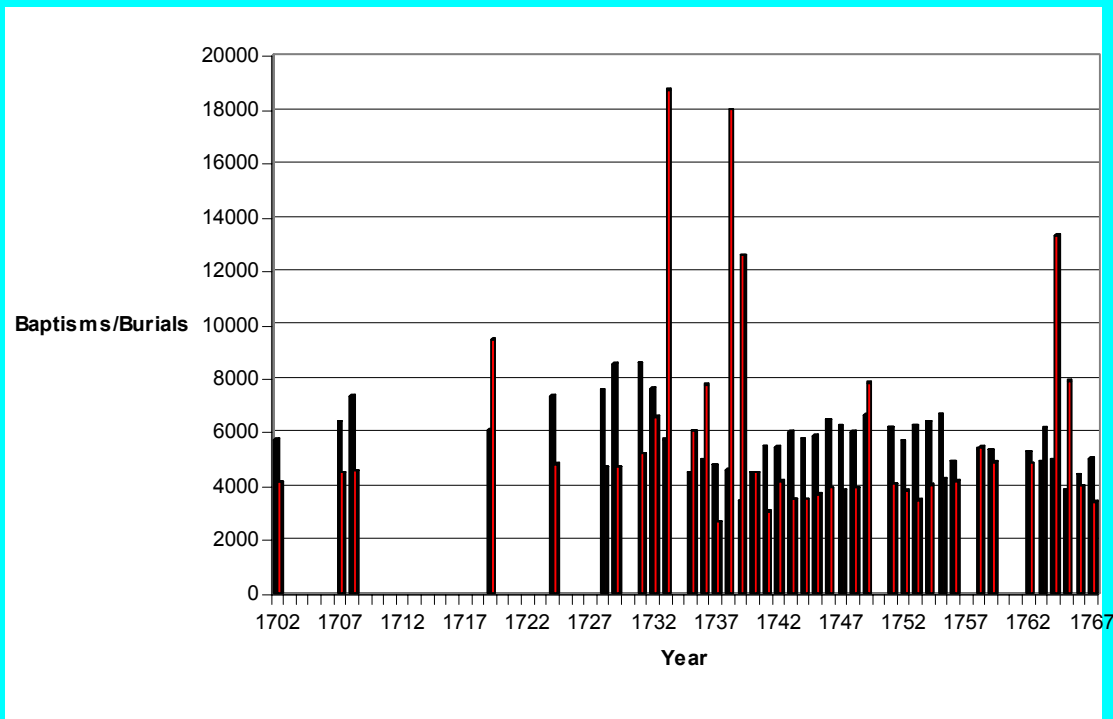
Total Population of the Jesuit Missions of Paraguay.



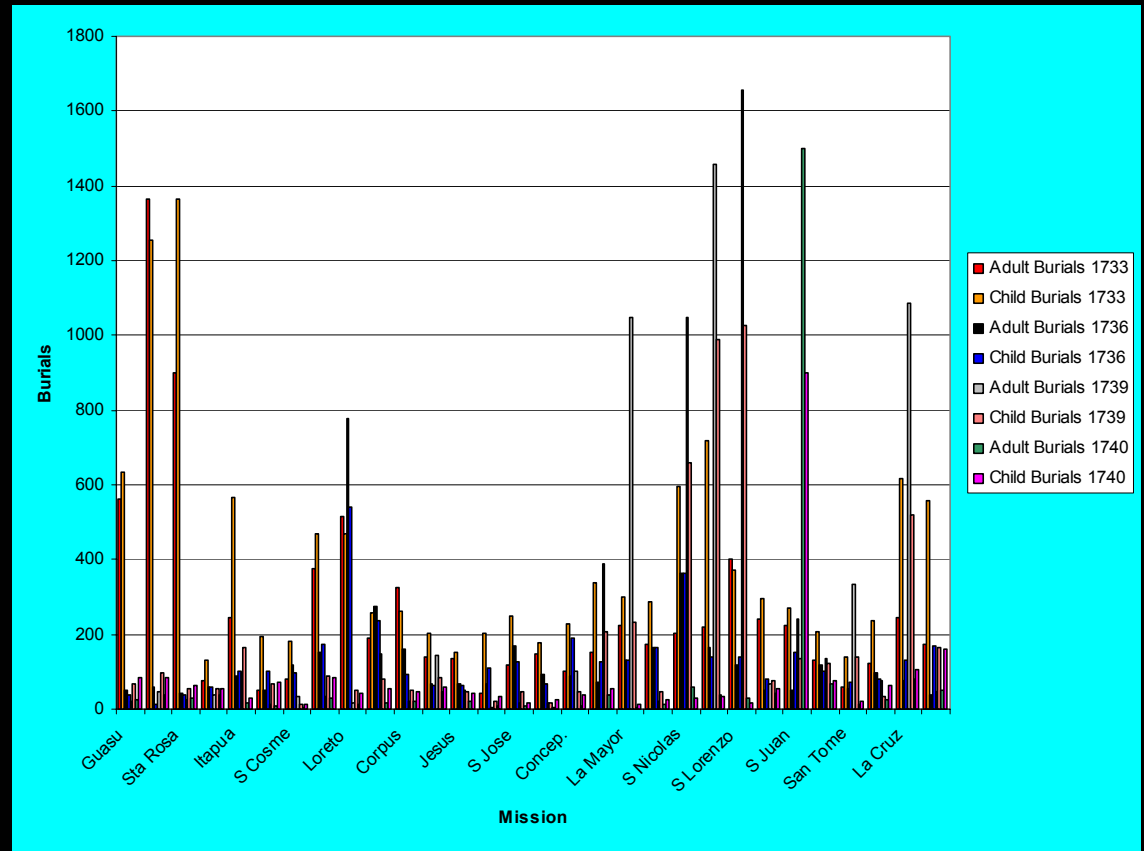
Crude Birth and Death Rates and Mean Life Expectancy in the Missions.



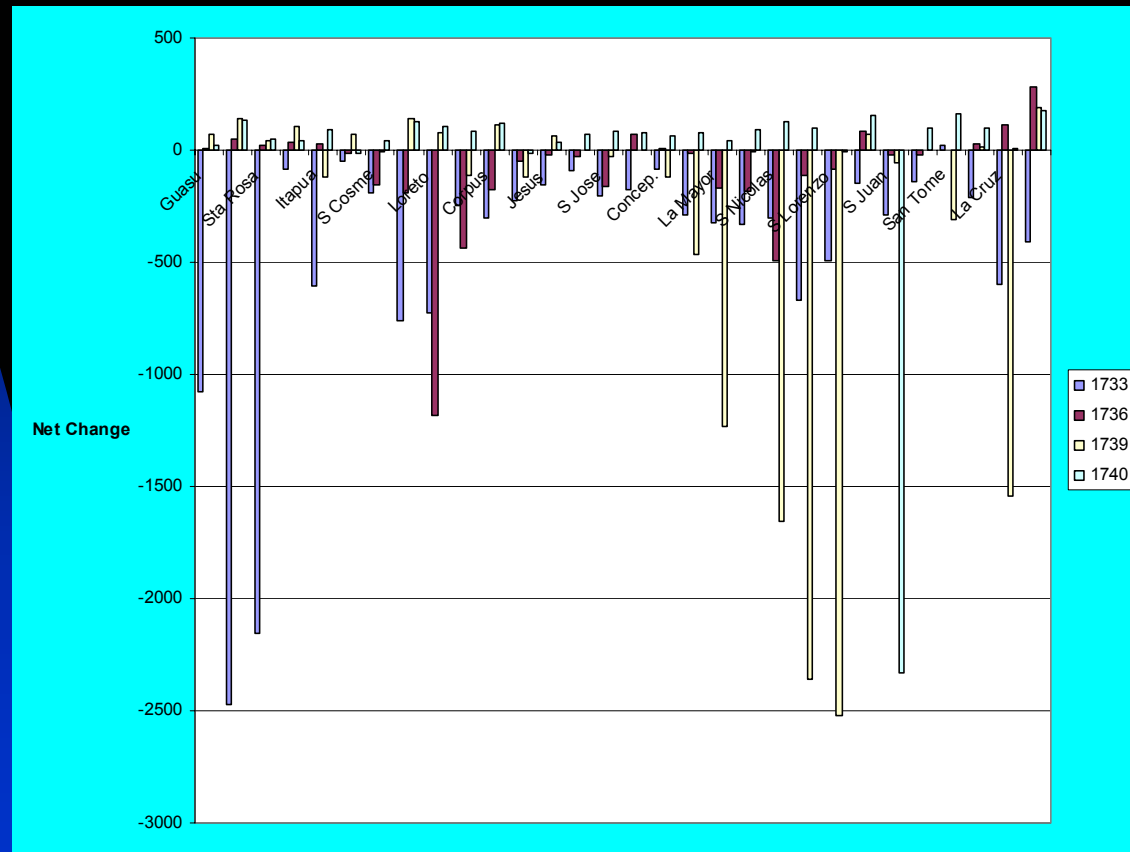
Total baptisms and burials recorded in selected years in the missions.



Burials Recorded in the Guarani Missions in 1733, 1736, 1739, and 1740.

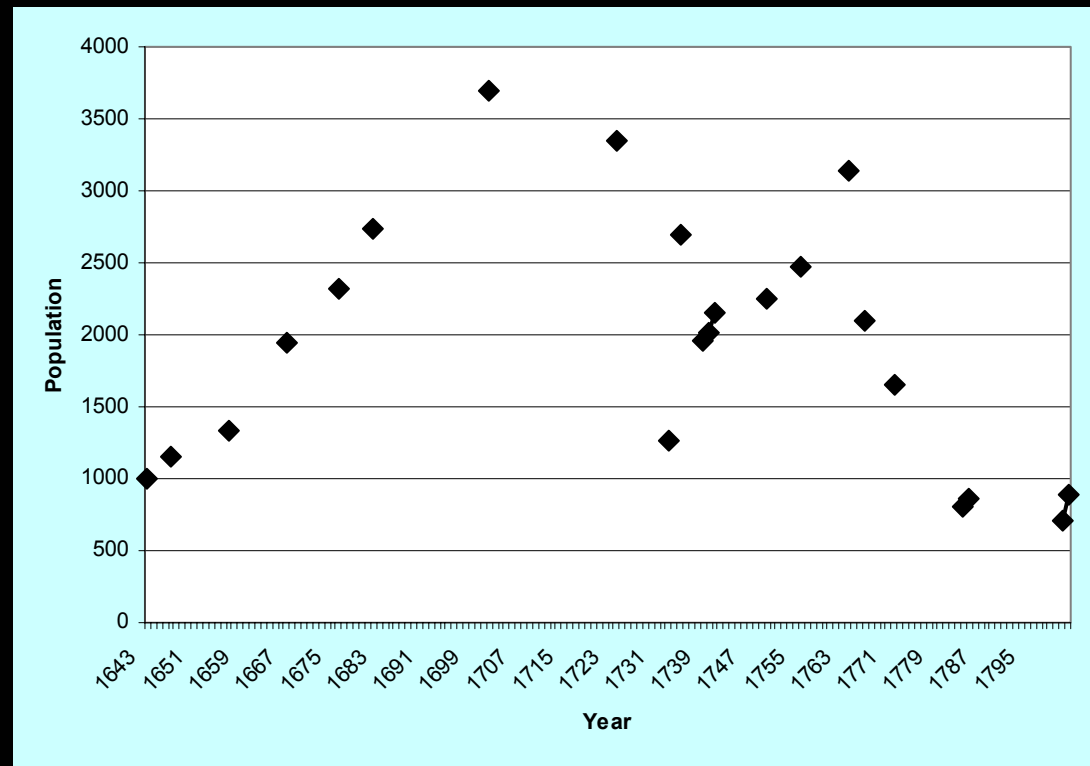


Net Change in the Population of the Guarani Missions in 1733, 1736, 1739, and 1740

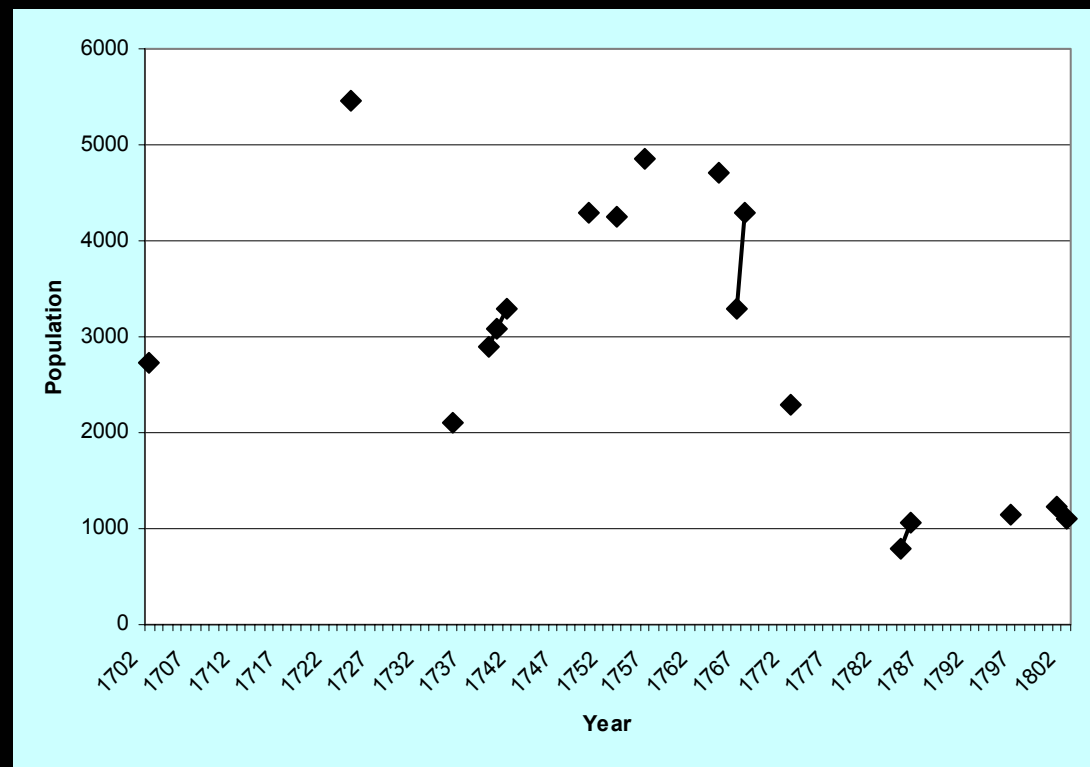


Population of the Missions Located in Modern Paraguay.

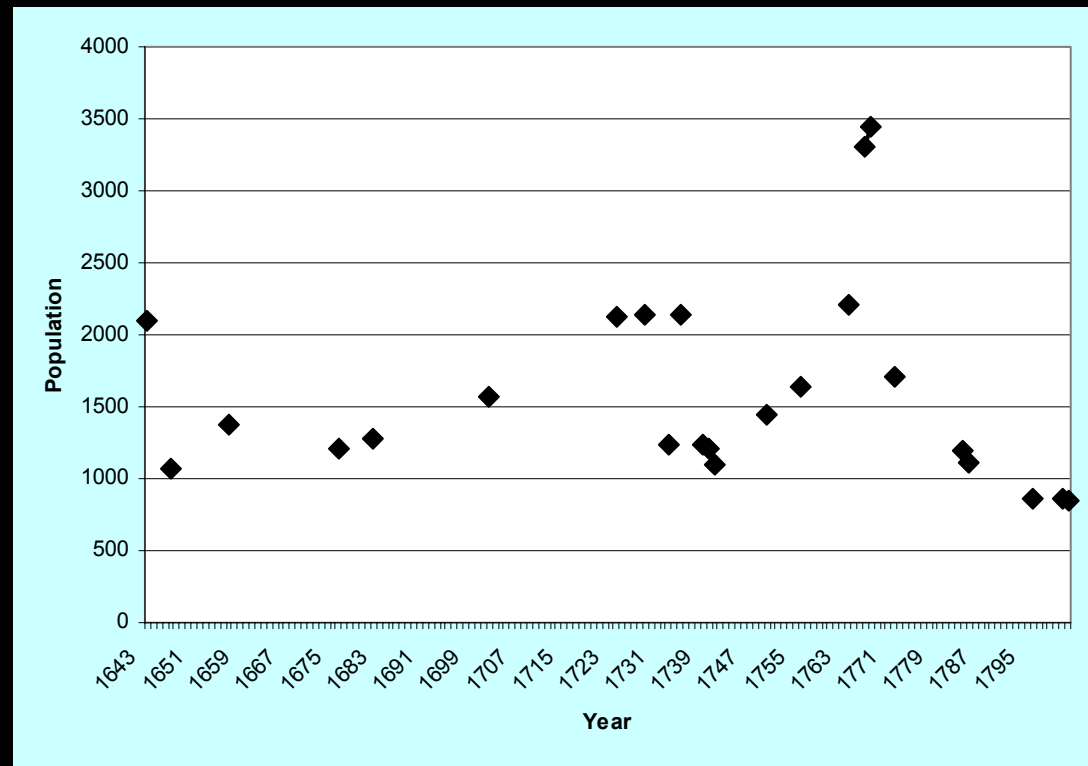
San Ignacio Guazu.



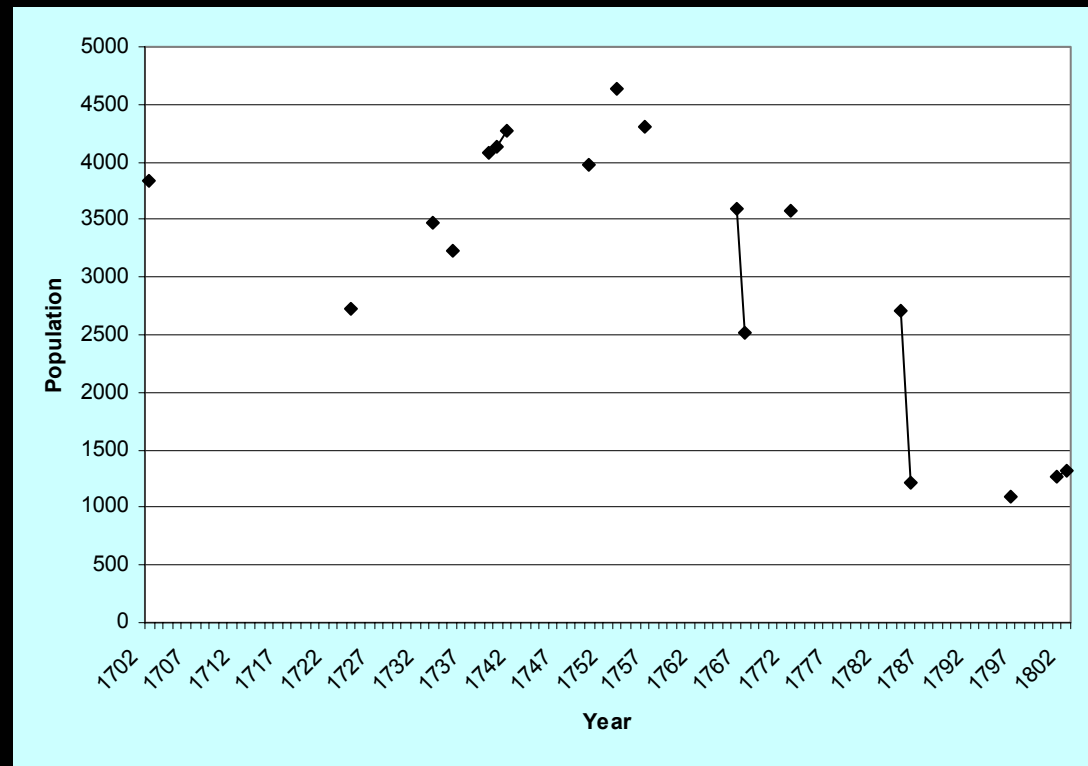
La Fe.



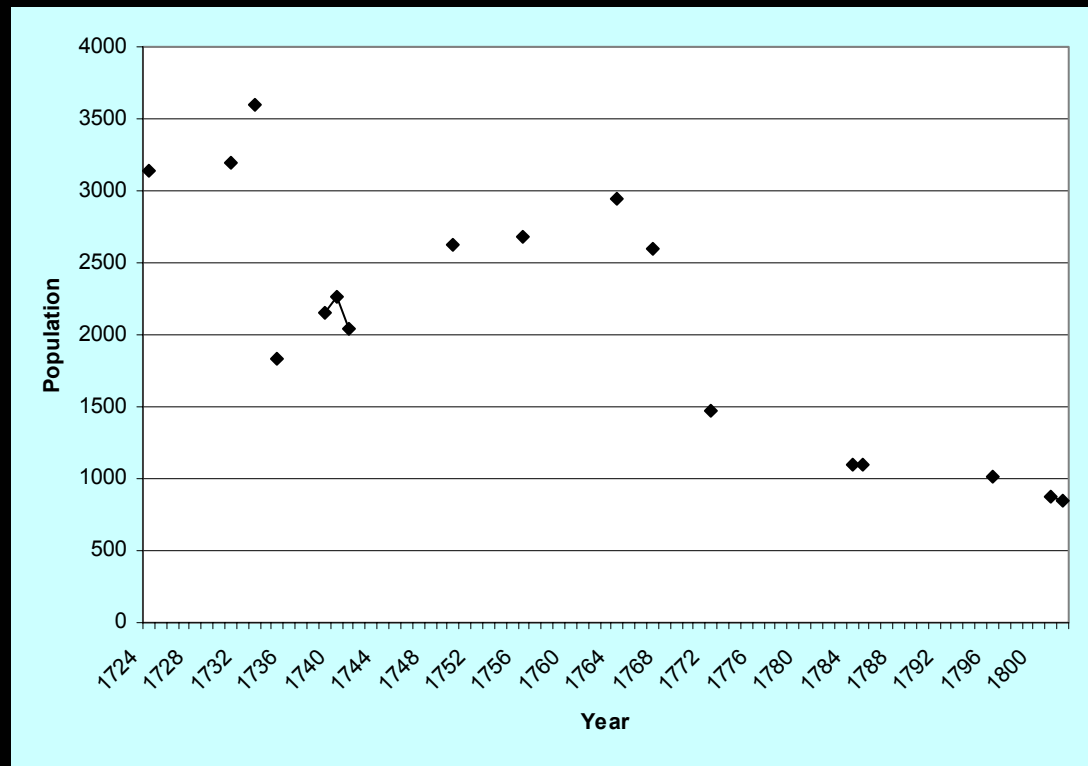
San Cosme y Damian.



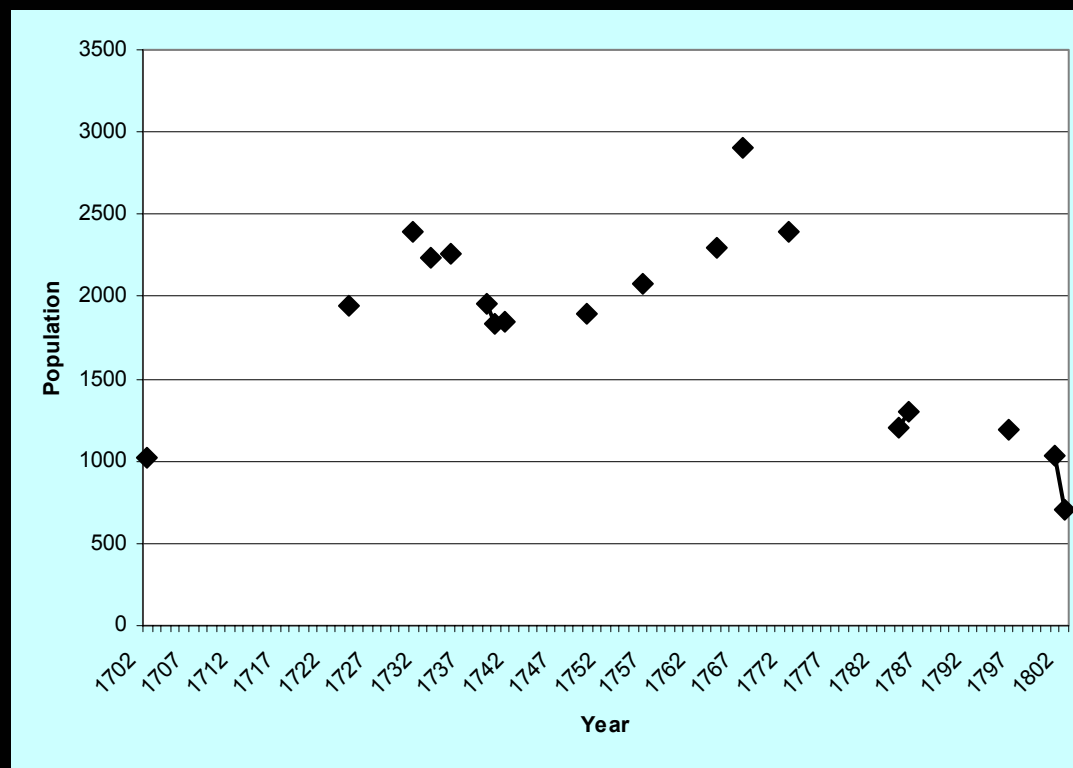
Santiago.



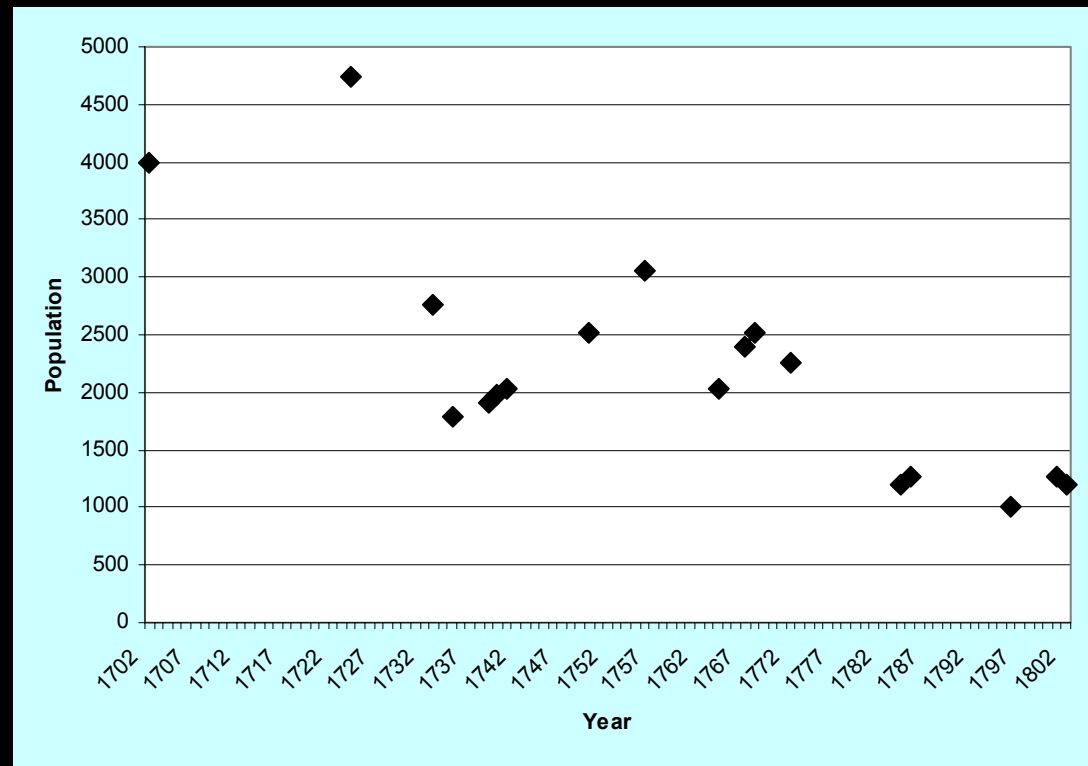
Trinidad.



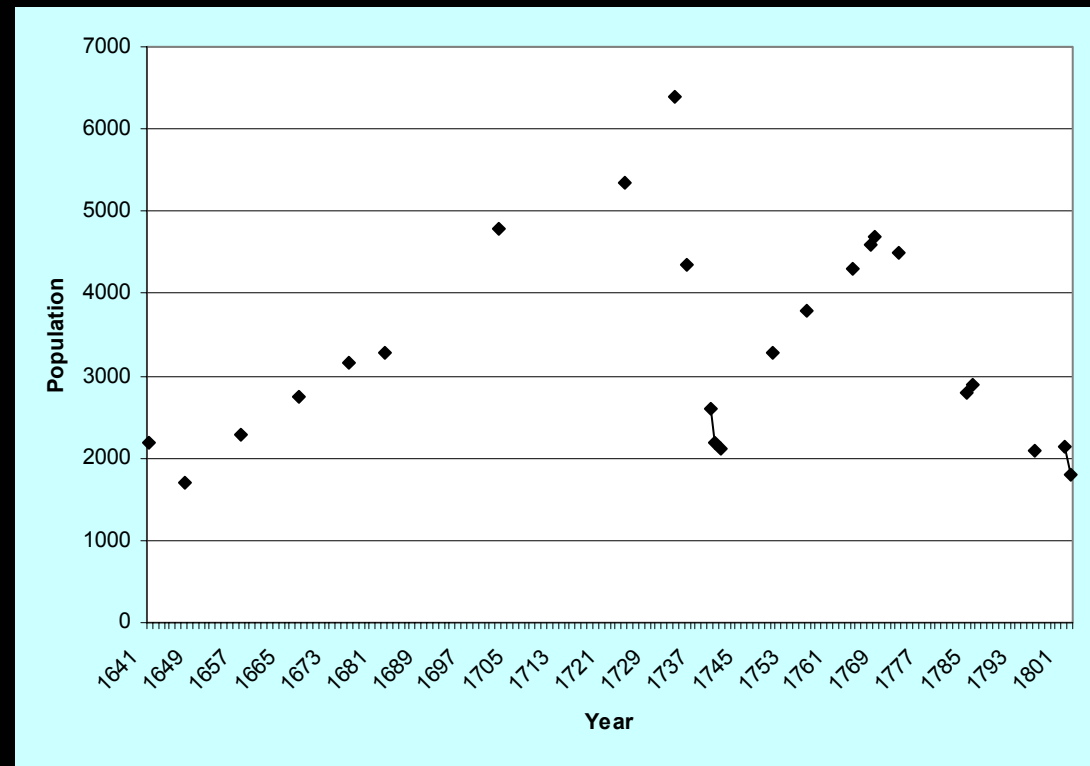
Jesus de Tavarangue.



Santa Rosa.

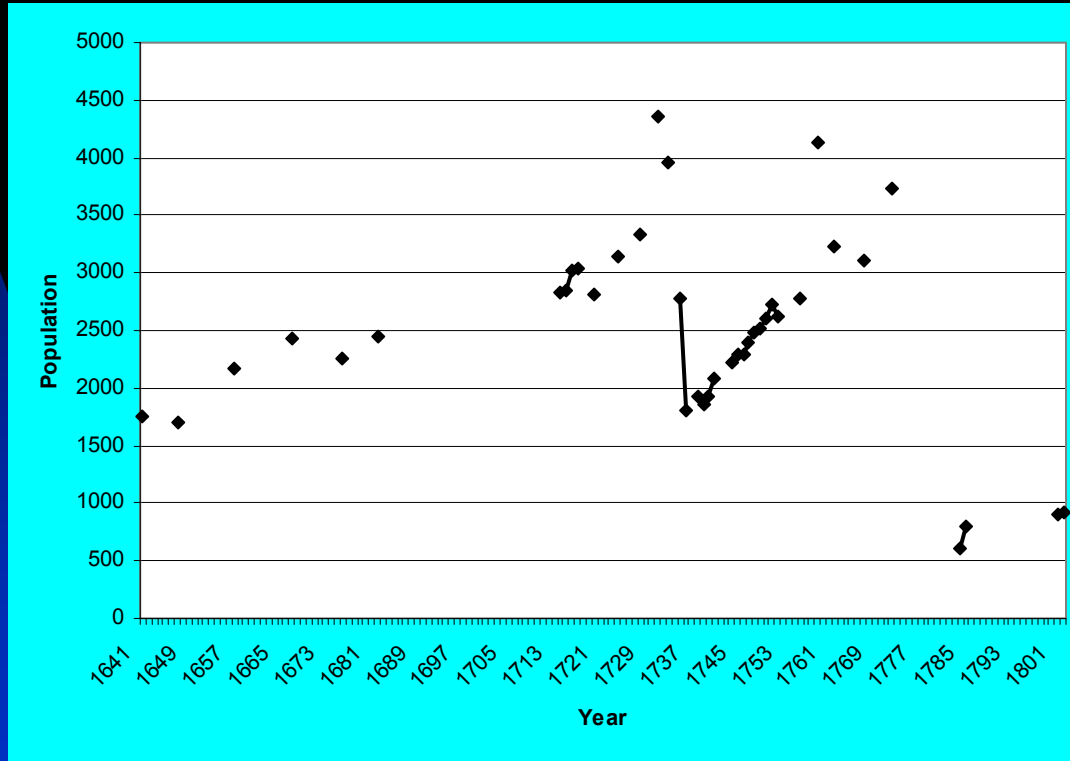


Encarnacion de Itapua.

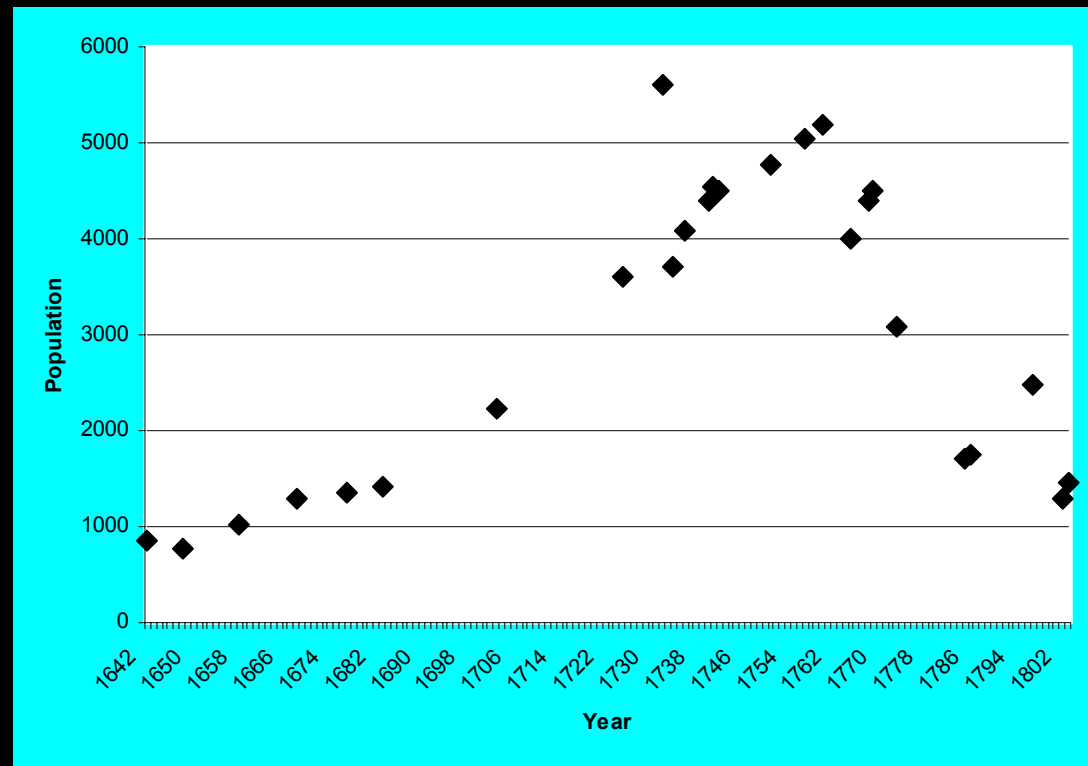


The largest number of Guarani missions were located in what today are the Argentine provinces of Misiones and Corrientes.

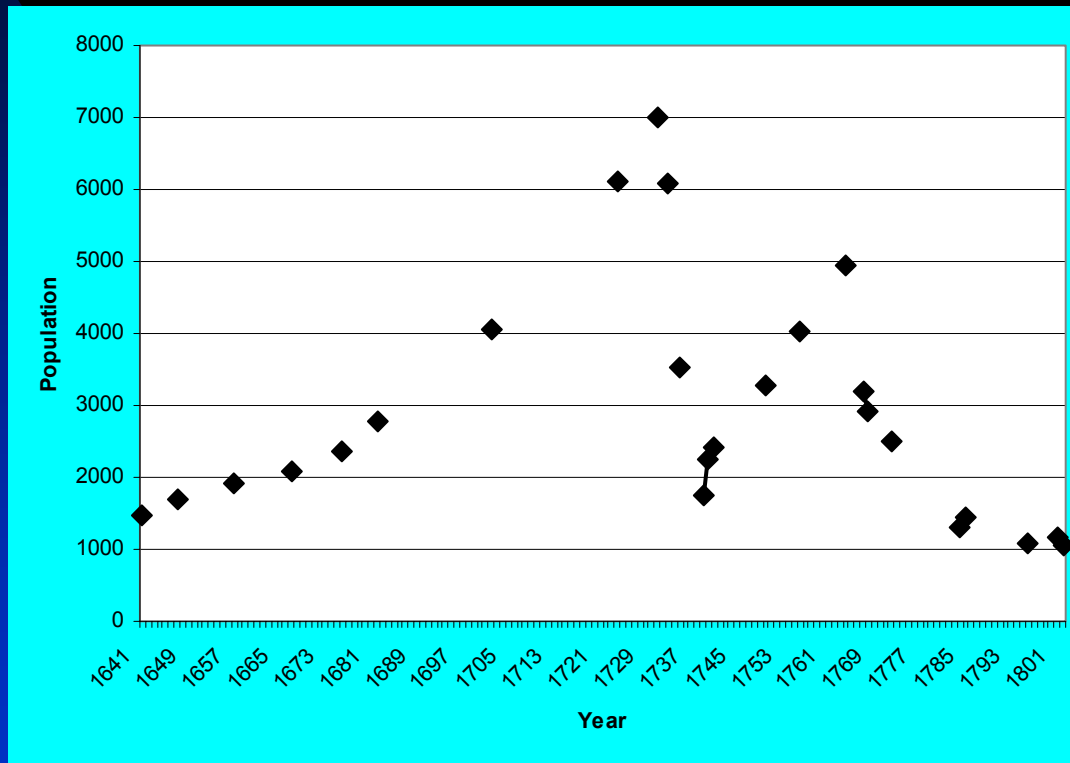
San Ignacio Mini.



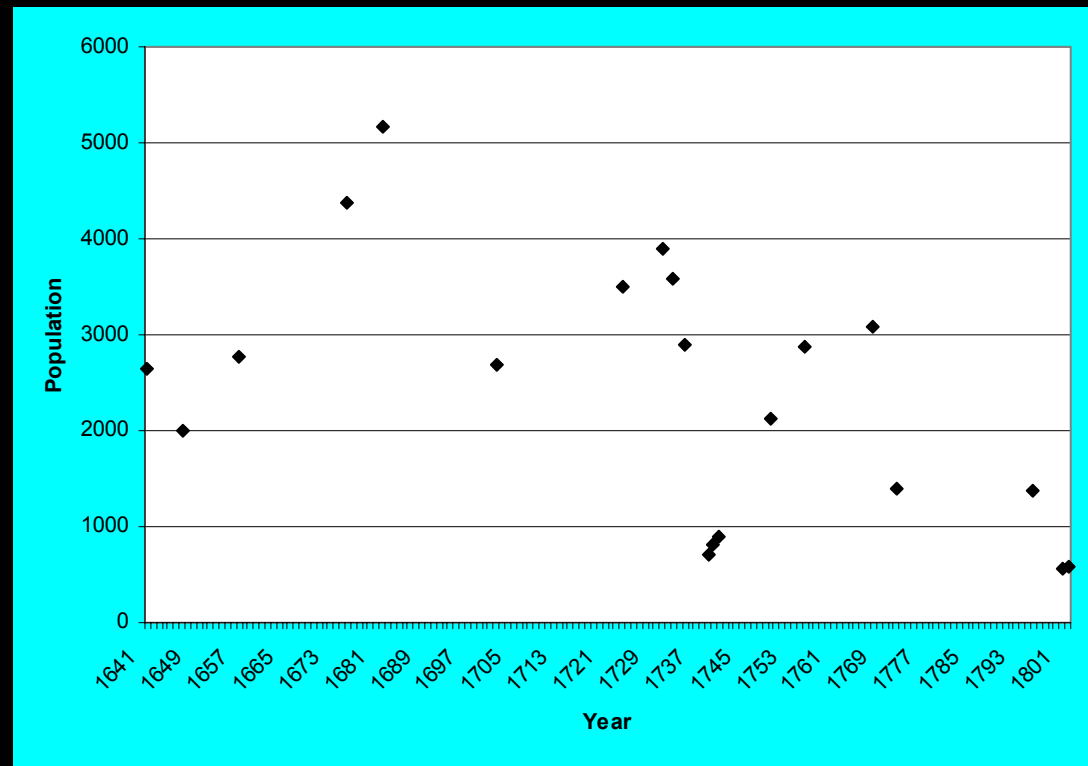
Santa Ana.



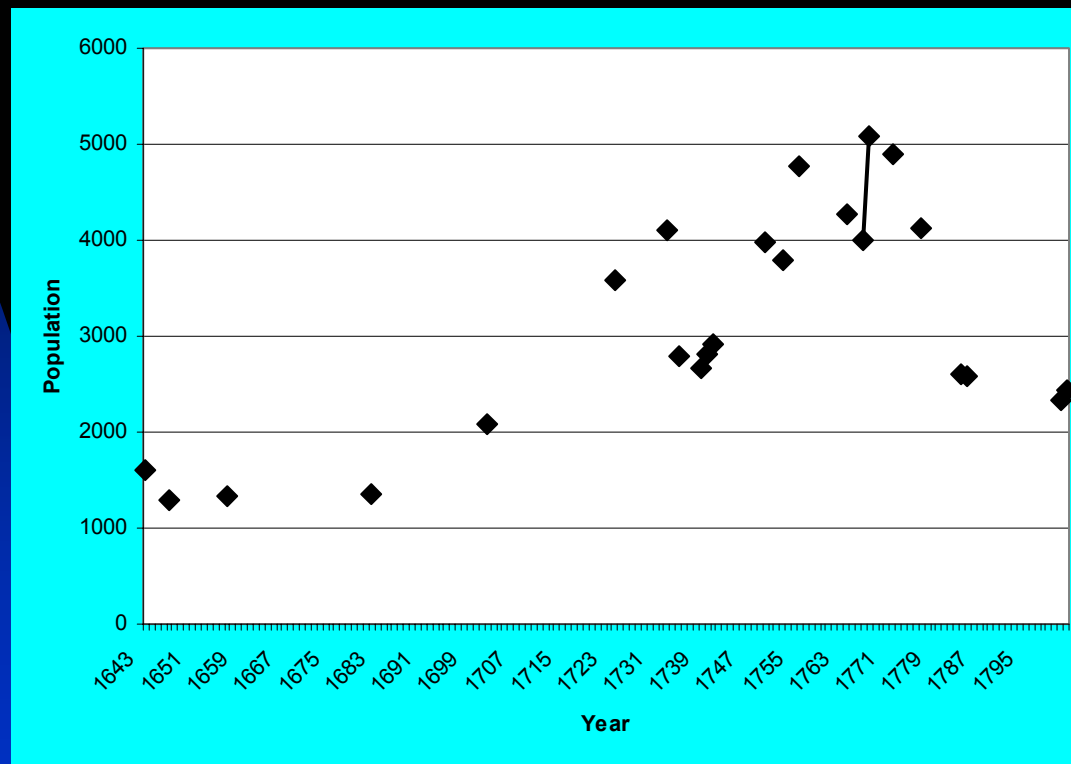
Loreto.



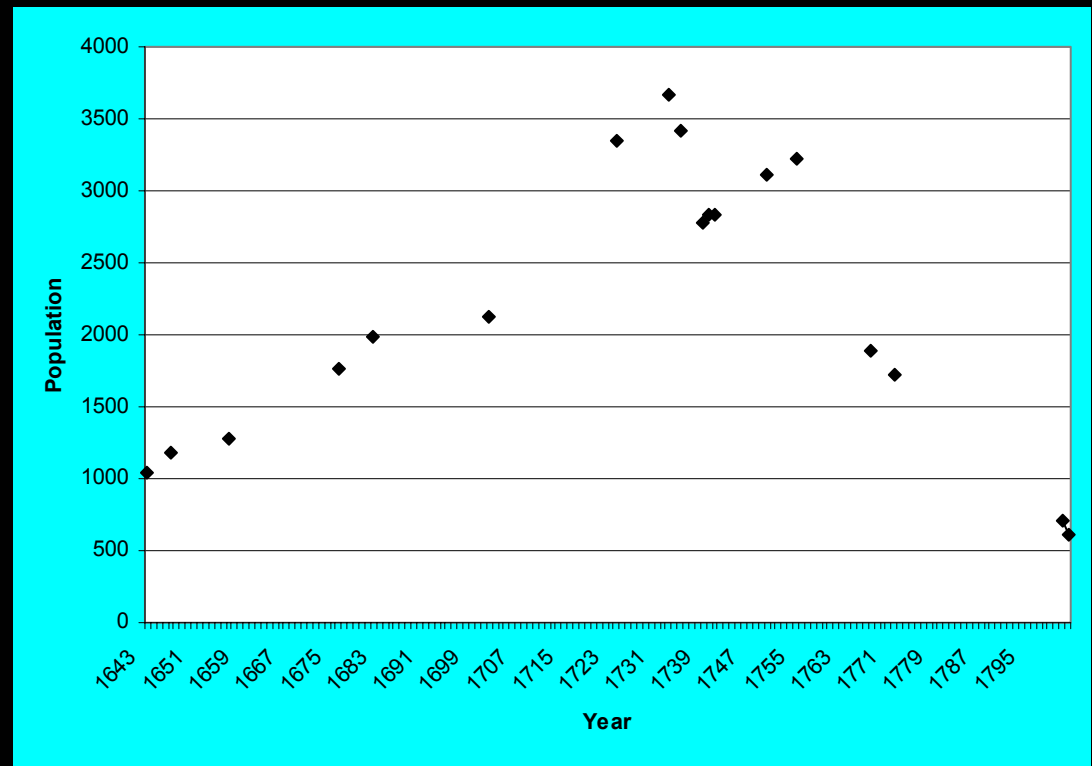
Santa Maria la Mayor.



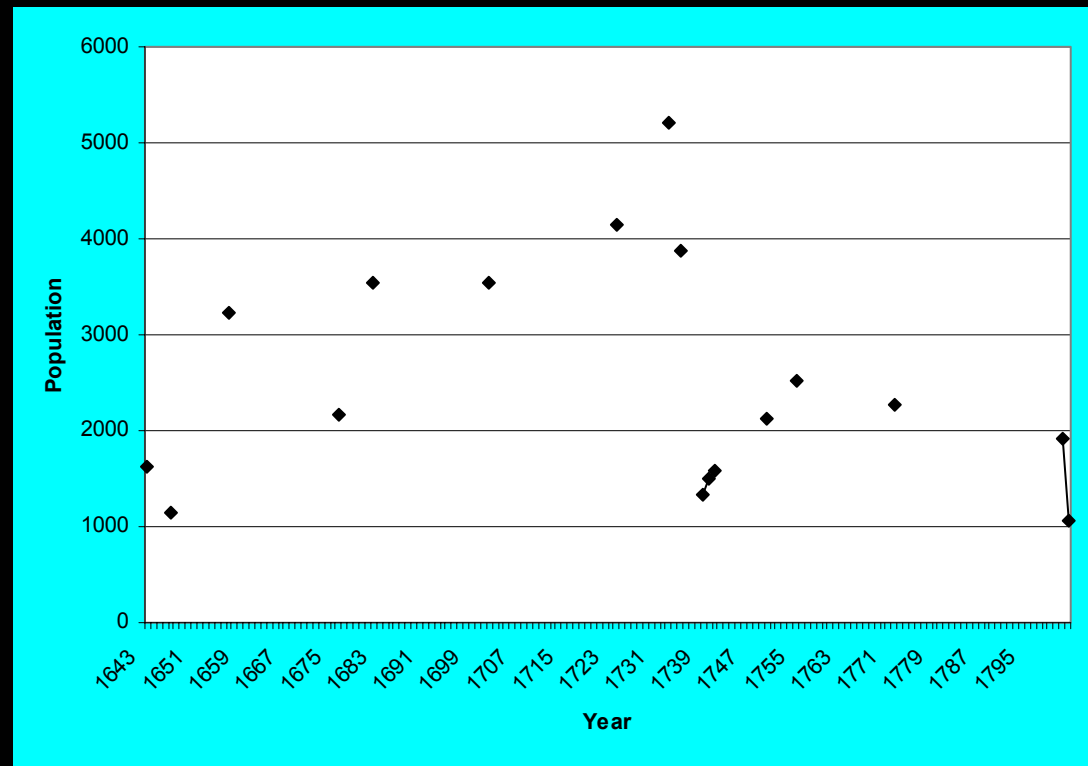
Corpus Christi.



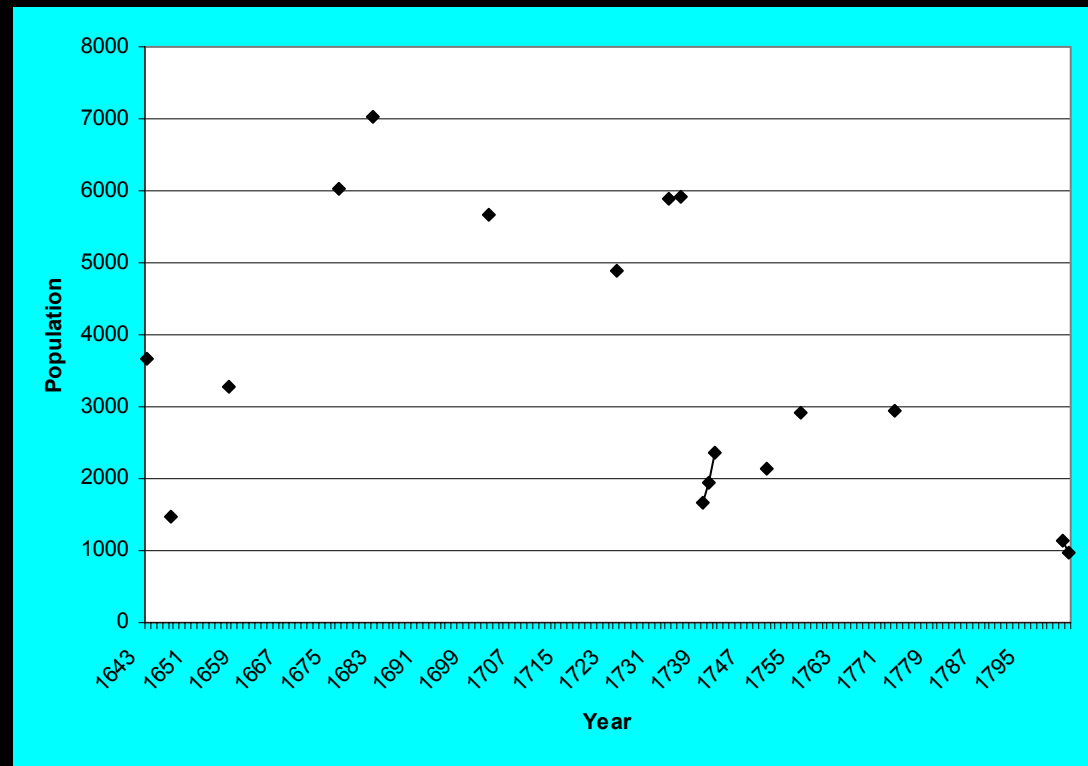
Los Santos Martires de Japon.



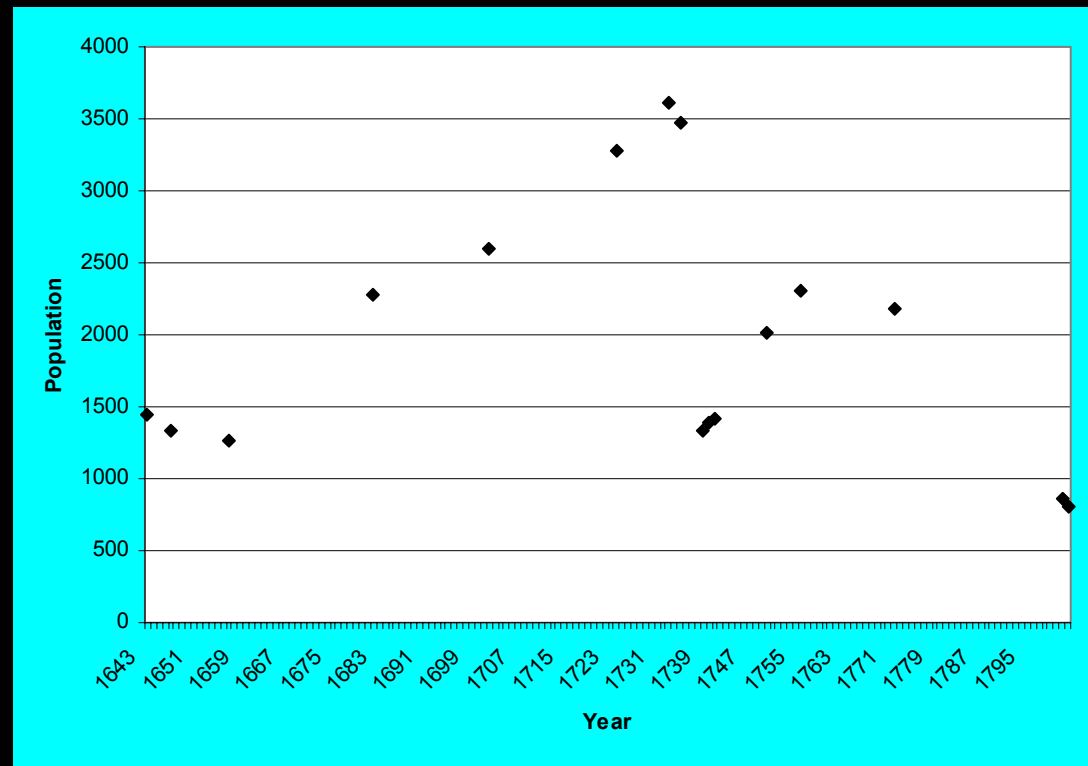
Aposteles.



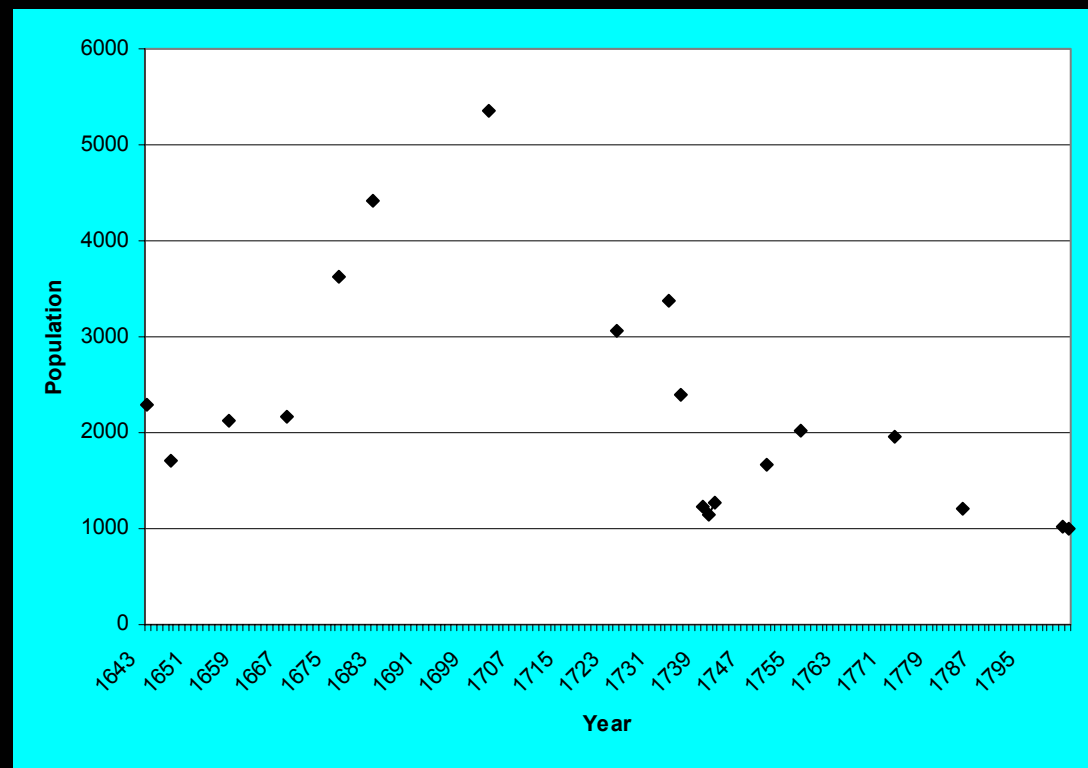
Concepcion.



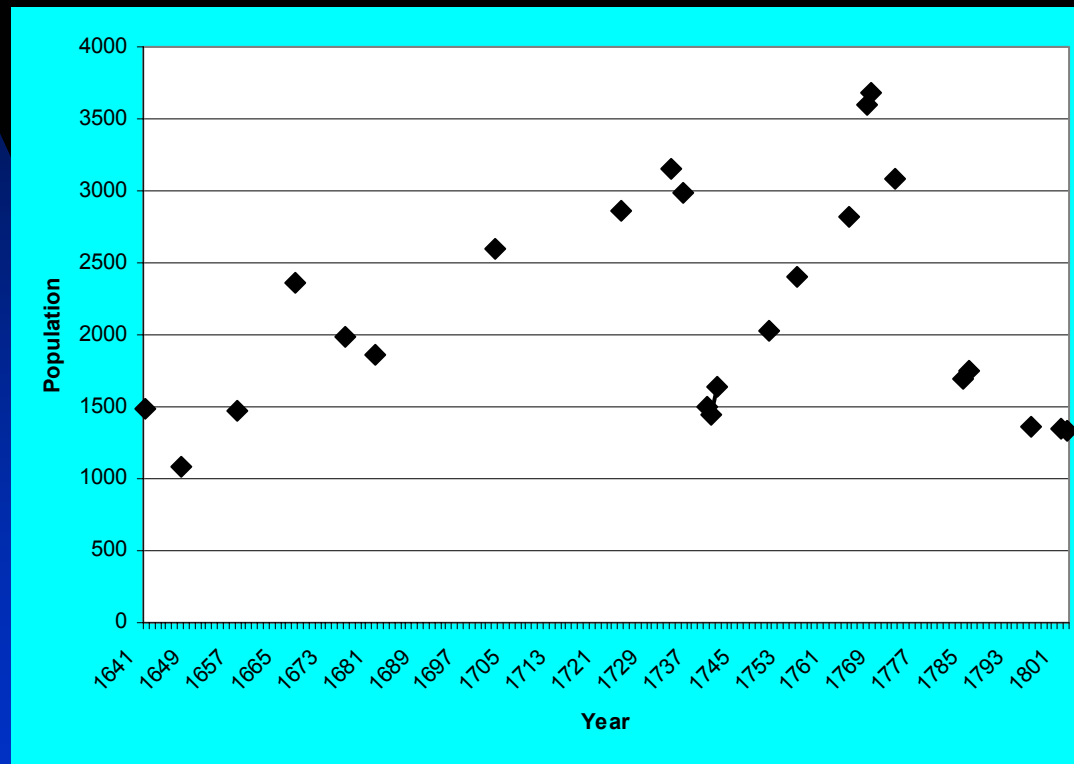
San Jose.



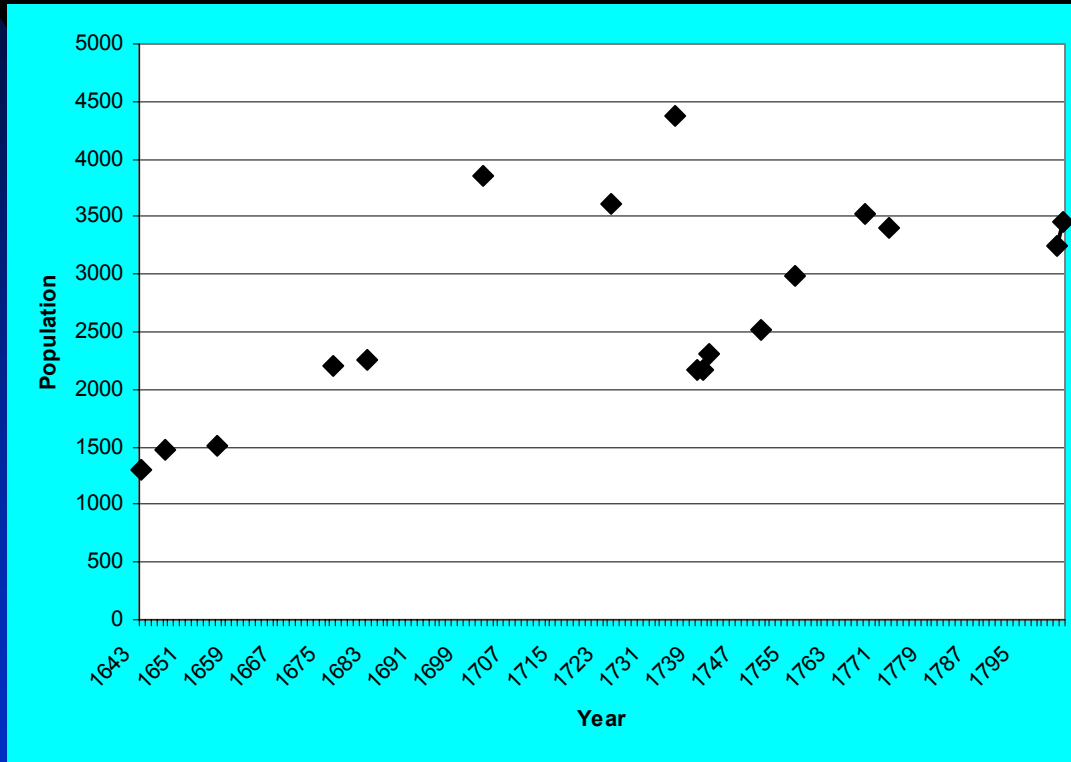
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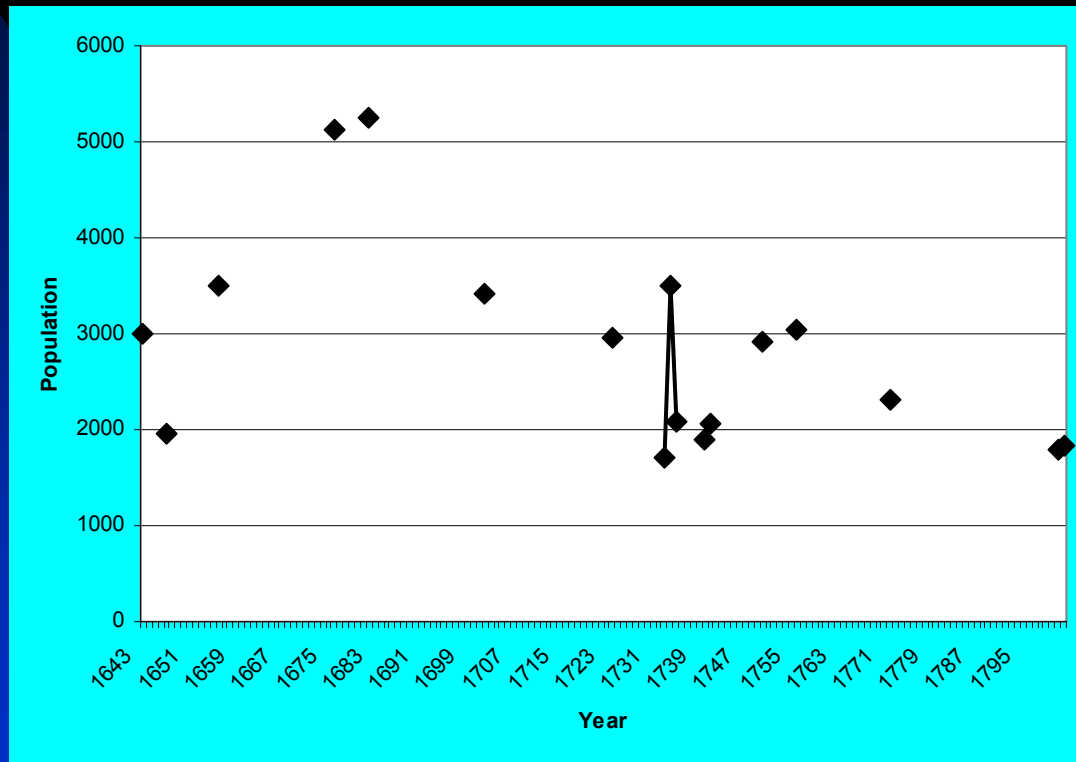
Candelaria.



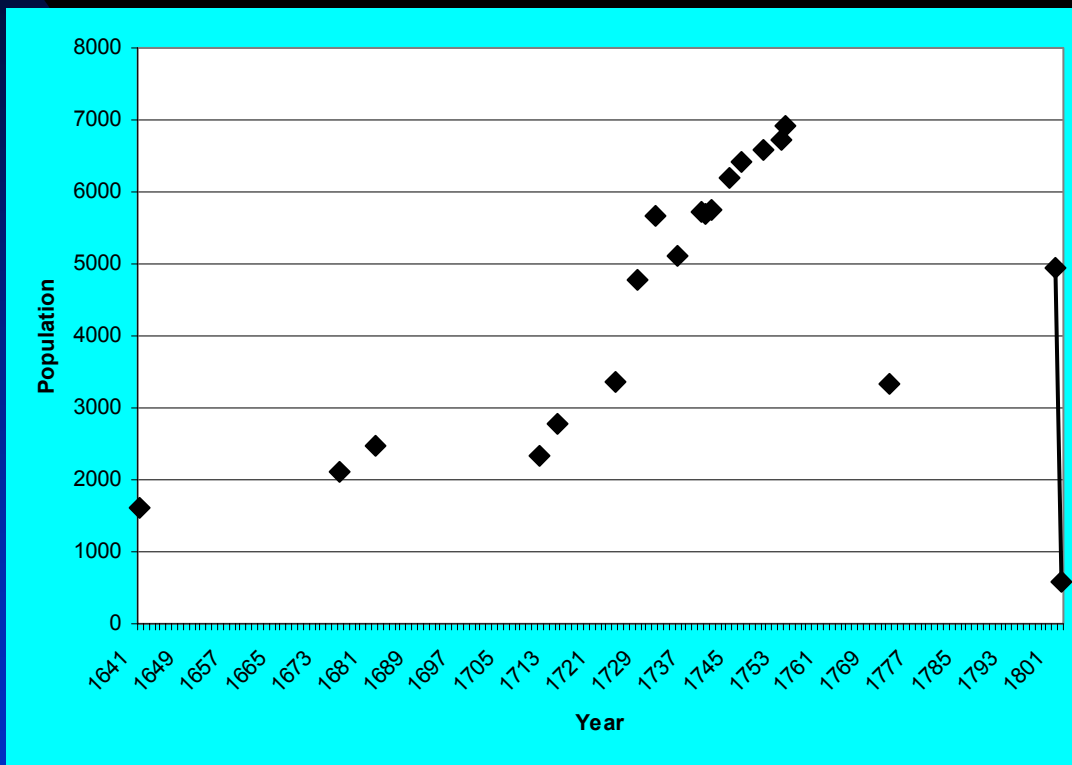
La Cruz.



San Tome.

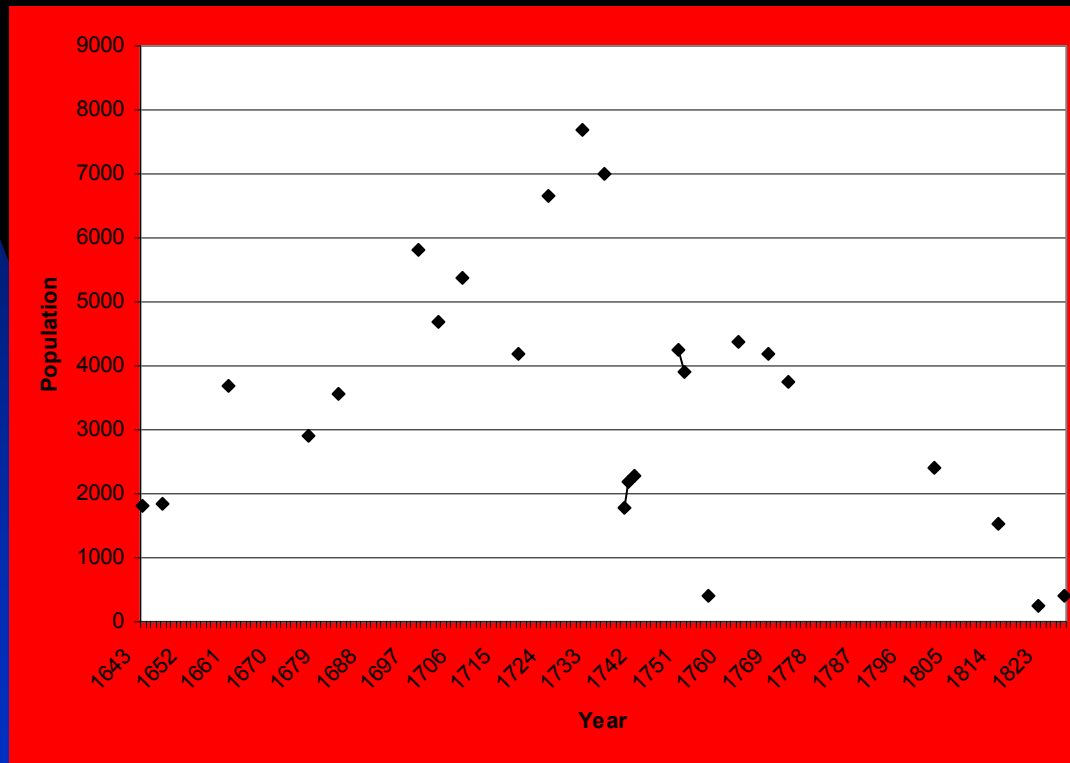


Yapeyu.

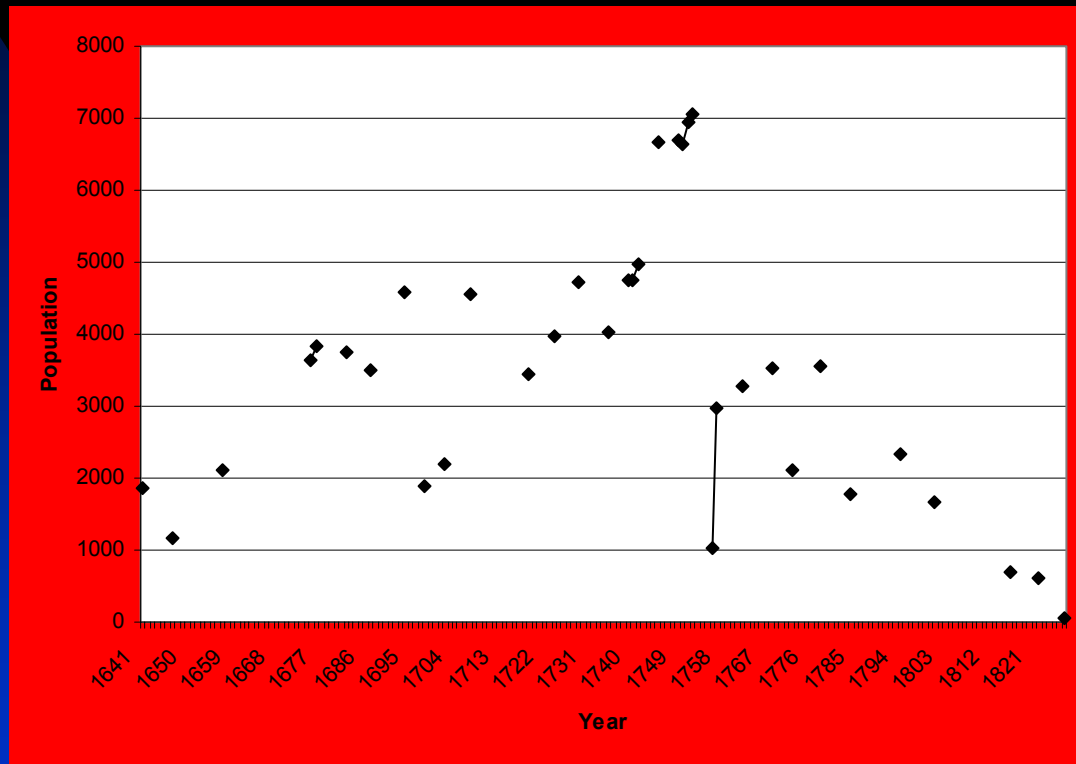


The Jesuits established seven missions east of the Uruguay River in what today is Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. The population of these missions shifted not only as a consequence of epidemics, but also from dispersion resulting from an uprising in the mid-1750s.

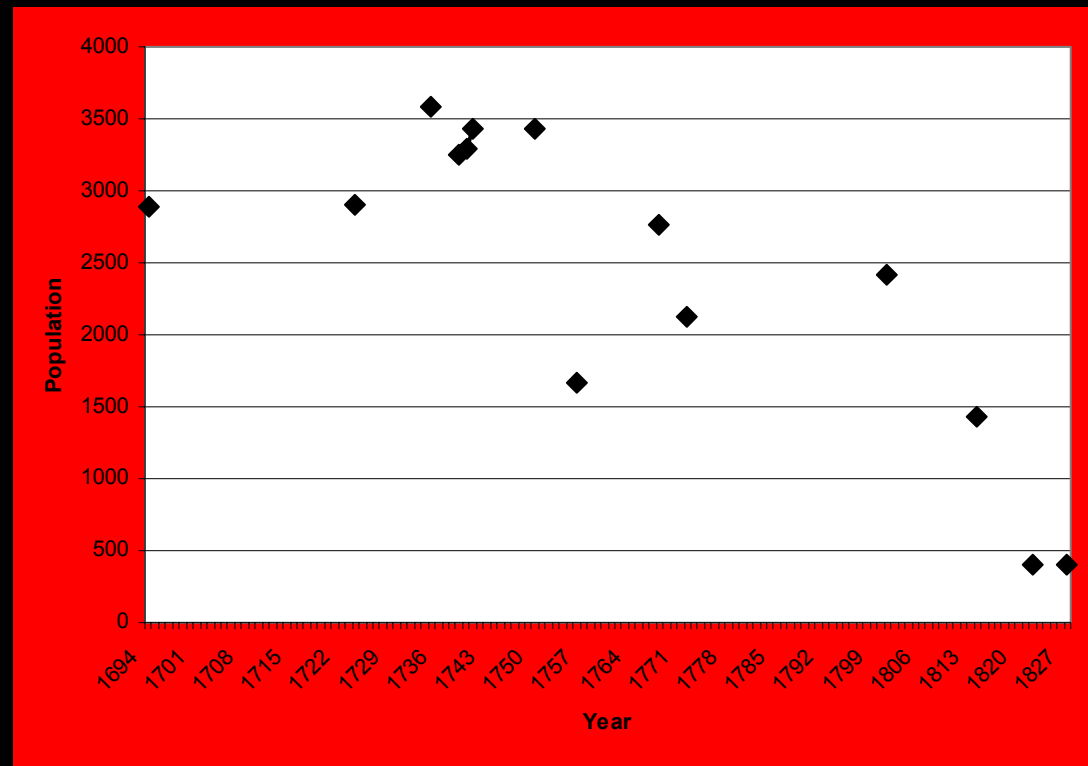
San Nicolas.



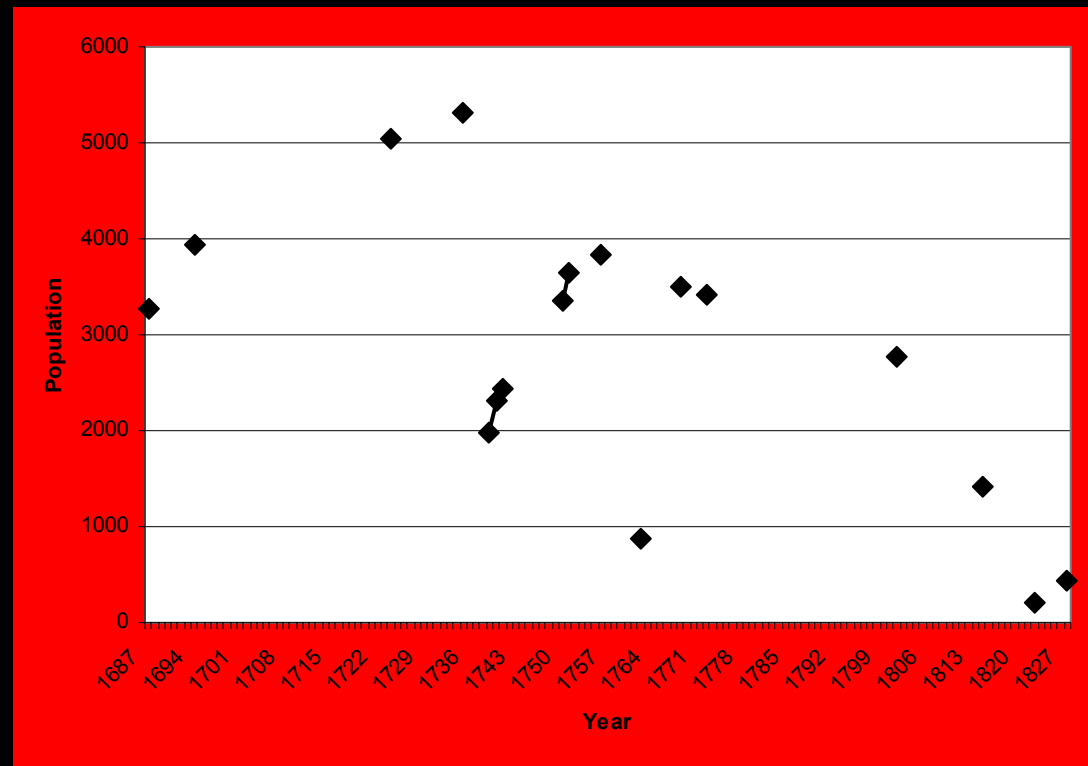
San Miguel.



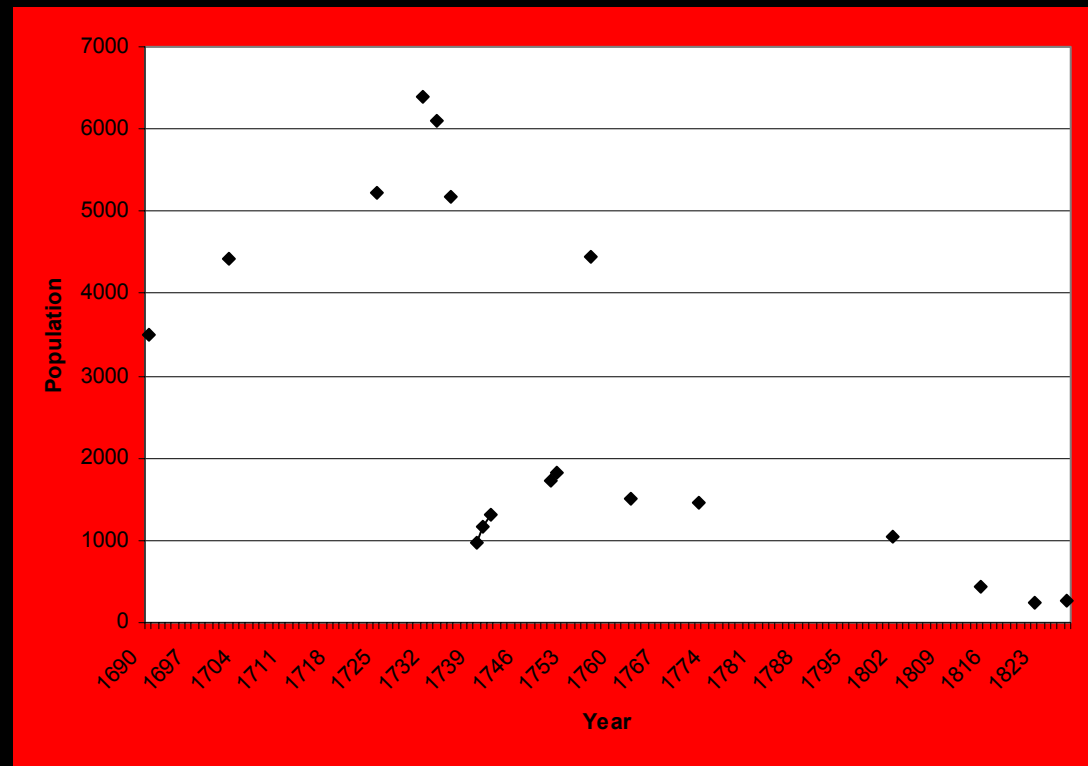
San Francisco de Borja.



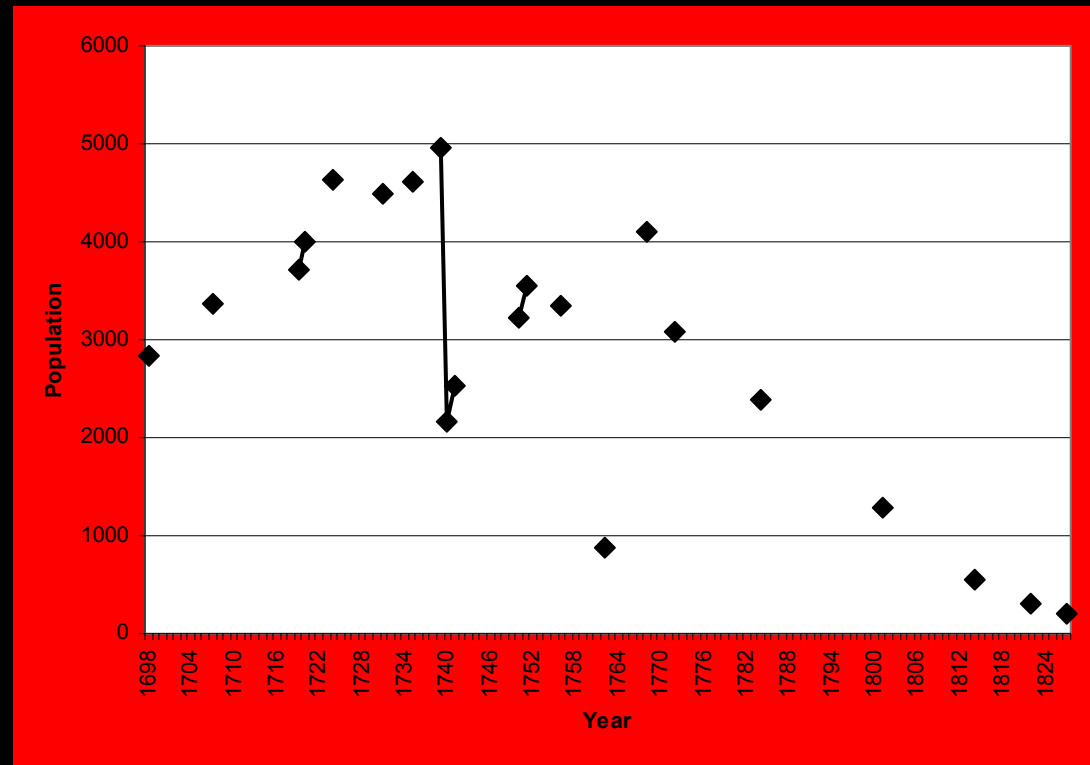
San Luis Gonzaga.



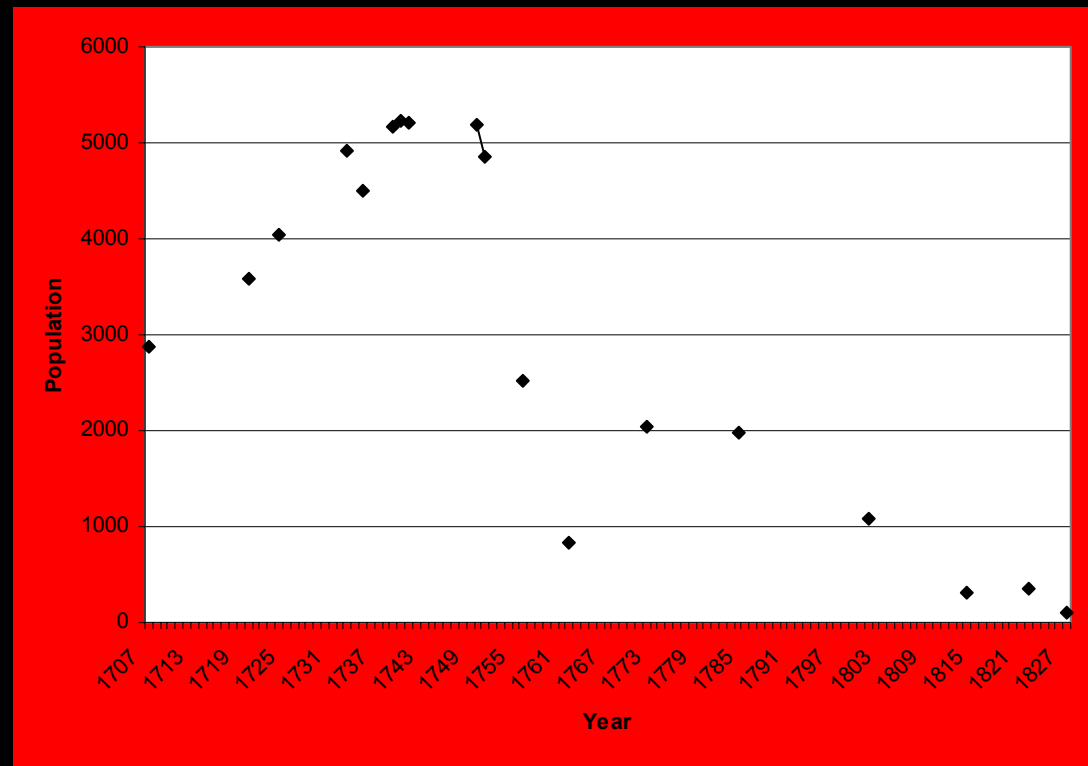
San Lorenzo Martir.



San Juan Bautista.



Santo Angel Custodio.



Unlike many native groups brought into missions in Spanish America, the Guarani survive today.