

# Hawaii Population Characteristics 2019

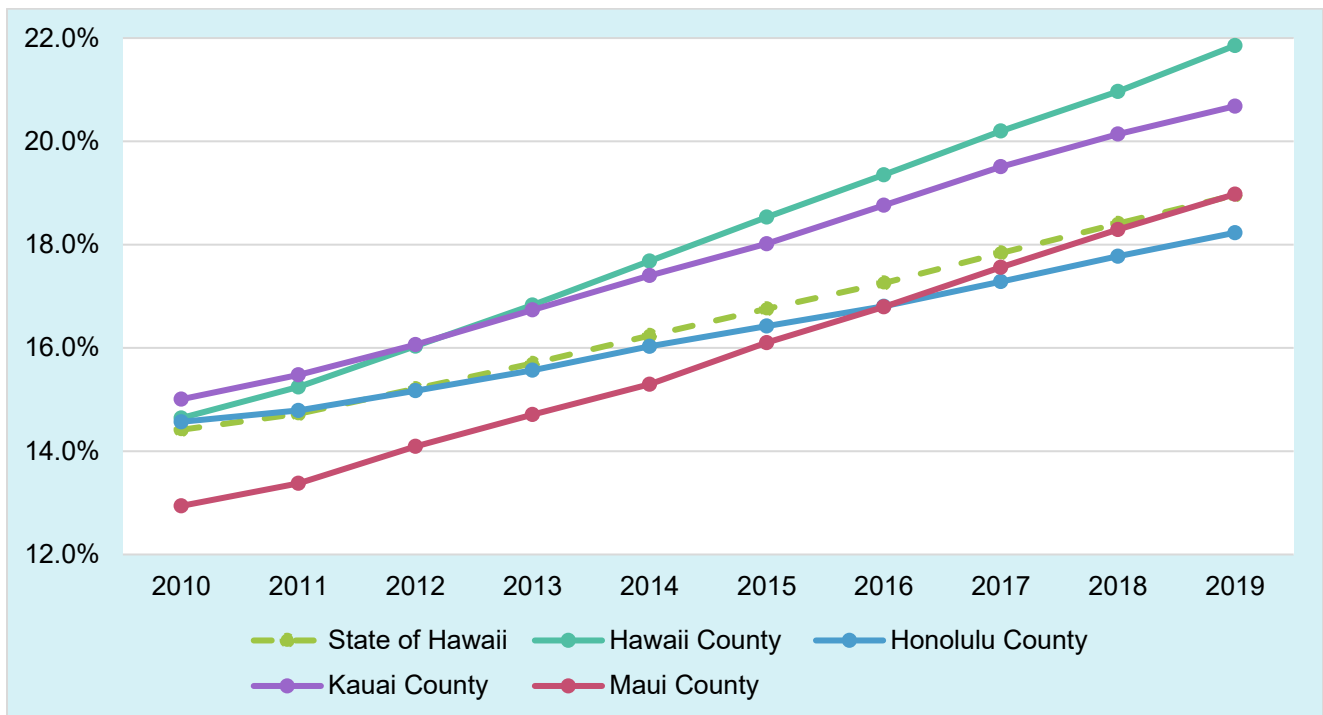
The U.S. Census Bureau released the 2019 State and County population characteristics on June 25, 2019. Included in the latest estimates are age, race, and gender data for the United States, states, and counties for 2010 through 2019. These are the last population estimates before results of the 2020 decennial census are released.

## Hawaii’s Aging Population

Hawaii, like the rest of the United States, has seen significant growth in its 65-and-older population since 2010. Hawaii’s kupuna have grown by 37.6% since April 1, 2010, with an average growth rate of 3.5% annually. Comparably, Hawaii’s overall population has only grown 4.1% since April 1, 2010, with average annual growth of 0.4%.

Figure 1 shows the share of population aged 65 and older for all counties from 2010 to 2019. Since 2010, the over 65 population has grown fastest in Hawaii and Maui counties, with average growth rates over 5.0% annually. Since July 1, 2010, Hawaii County’s 65-and-older population has grown 62.3%, and Maui County’s elderly population, which was the lowest in the state in 2010, had grown by 58.4% in the 9-year period. Honolulu County now has the smallest share of their population aged 65 and older.

Figure 1. Percentage of Population 65 Years and Older for the State of Hawaii and its Counties: July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019



Starting in 2017, the State of Hawaii saw negative growth in its total population, including the under 18 and working age populations. However, Hawaii's 65-and-older population continued to grow during those years. This has contributed to an increase in Hawaii's dependency ratio; that is, the number of dependent-age people for every 100 working-age people.<sup>1</sup> In 2010, there were 58 dependent-age people for every 100 working-age people. In 2019, the ratio was 67 dependent-age people for every 100 working-age people.

Hawaii's dependency ratio increased at a faster rate than the United States'. In 2010, there were 59 dependent-age people for every 100 working-age people in the United States, a similar ratio to Hawaii's in 2010. In 2019, the ratio was 63 dependent-age people for every 100 working-age people, which was smaller than Hawaii's in 2019.

Declining fertility rates, which are seen across the United States, are also impacting Hawaii's age structure. Between April 1, 2010 and July 1, 2019, Hawaii's under 5 population declined 2.5%, and the under 18 population declined 1.3%. At 39.6 years old, Hawaii's median age was a full year older in 2019 than it was in 2010.

## Gender and Age Breakdown

As of July 1, 2019, Hawaii's population was equally split between males and females. However, gender breakdowns were not equal across all age groups. Over 54% of Hawaii's population aged 18-24 were males, and Hawaii's working-age population was split 51% to 49% for men and women, respectively. However, among those aged 65 years and older, nearly 55% were female. As a result, the median age was 41.1 for women and 38.2 for men in 2019.

Figures 2 and 3 visualize some of the changes to Hawaii's gender and age structures since 2010, showing comparable population pyramids for 2010 and 2019. Though the 2019 population pyramid is top-heavier than the 2010 pyramid, gender ratios amongst the different age groups are mostly the same, except for those aged 70 to 84, for which gender was more balanced in 2019 than in 2010.

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<sup>1</sup> The "working-age population" is defined here as people between the ages of 18 and 64. The "dependent-age population" is defined here as those under 18 years of age and those 65 years of age and older.

Figure 2: Male and Female Population by Age, State of Hawaii: April 1, 2010

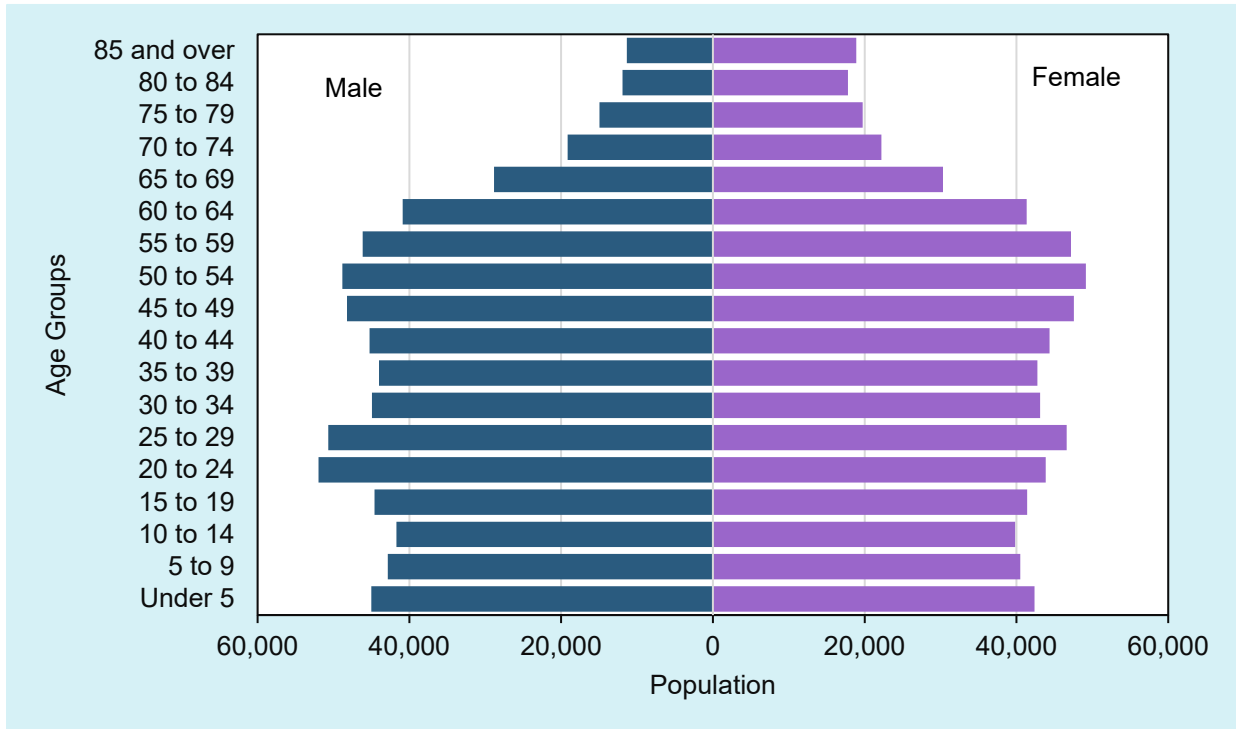
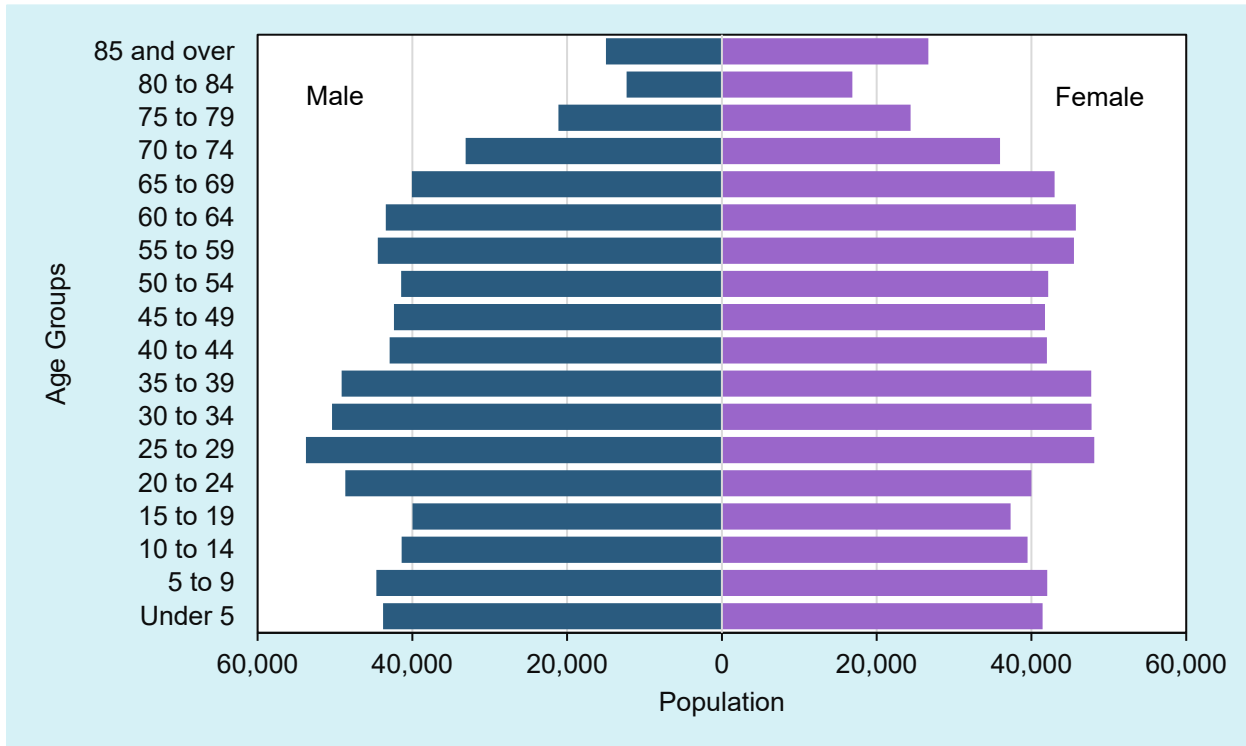


Figure 3: Male and Female Population by Age, State of Hawaii: July 1, 2019



# Hawaii's Diverse Racial Makeup

Hawaii's population features much more racial diversity than the United States as a whole. In 2019, 24.2% of Hawaii's population was multiracial, identifying as two or more races. Comparatively, only 2.8% of the United States population was multiracial. Whereas the United States was three-fourths White Alone, there was no majority race in Hawaii. As seen in Figure 4, the largest plurality in the state was Asian Alone at 37.6%, followed by White Alone at 25.5%. However, Hawaii's Hispanic and Black or African American populations were proportionally much smaller than on the Mainland.

Using Race Alone or in Combination estimates, which includes people in each race group with which they identify, the majority race group in the state was Asian, followed by White, and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander. In 2019, Hawaii made up 0.4% of the United States population, but 23.7% of the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander population in the United States lived in Hawaii. Honolulu County had the largest Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander population (244,496) in the nation in 2019. However, Clark County, Nevada had the largest numeric population growth (1,583) among the NHPI population between 2018 and 2019.

Figure 4: Race Alone, for the United States, Hawaii, and its Counties: July 1, 2019

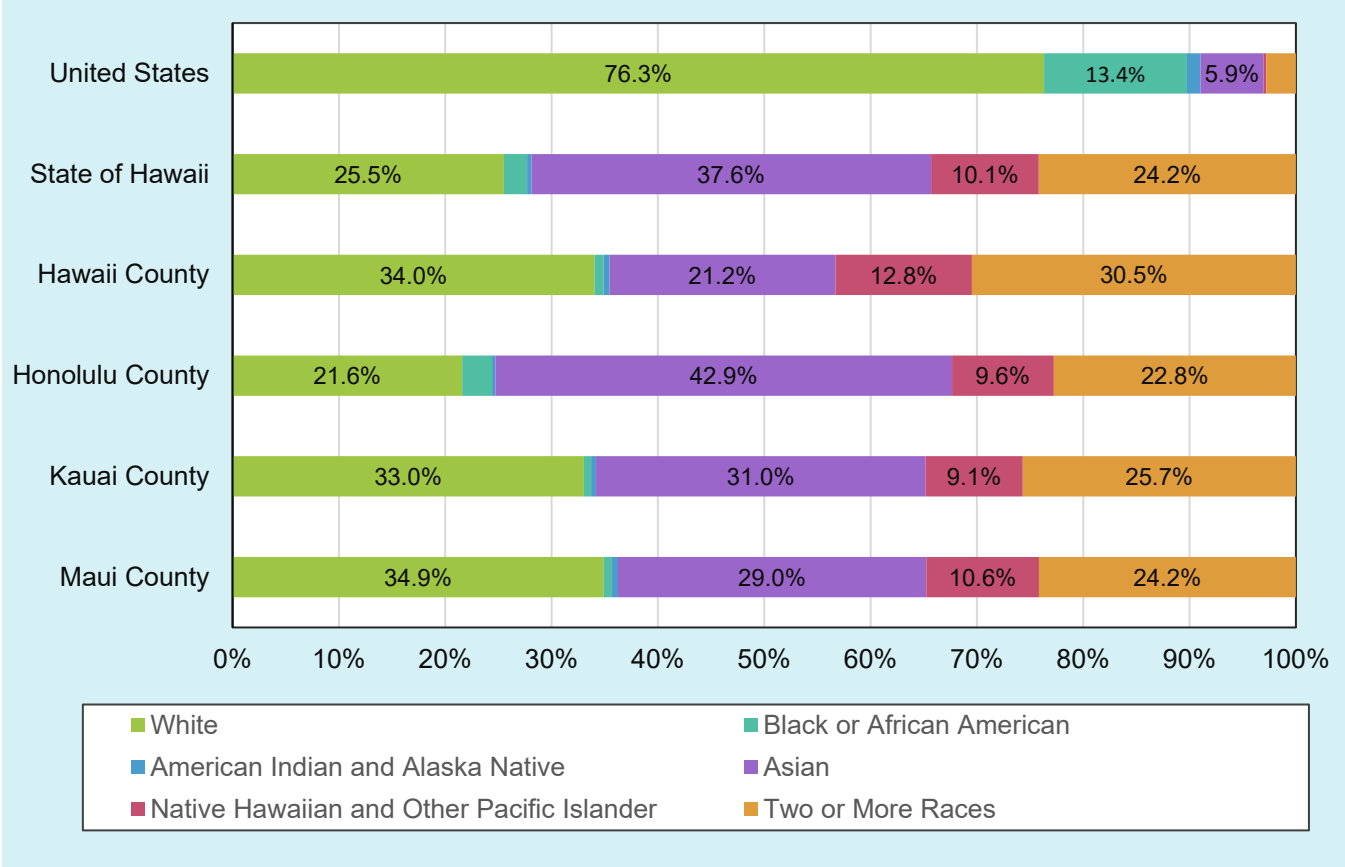


Table 1 shows the Race Alone or in Combination and Hispanic Origin estimates and Figure 4 shows the Race Alone estimates. Using either estimates, similar patterns emerge. In 2019, Hawaii County was the most racially diverse county in the state, with the largest share of the Hispanic, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and American Indian and Alaska Native populations, proportional to the county's population. Honolulu County had the proportionally largest share of the Asian and Black or African American populations. Maui County and Kauai County had comparable race compositions.

**Table 1: Race Alone or in Combination and Hispanic Origin, for the United States, Hawaii, and its Counties: July 1, 2019**

Race Alone or in Combination and Ethnicity 1/	United States	State of Hawaii	Hawaii County	Honolulu County	Kauai County	Maui County
Asian	7.0%	57.3%	45.2%	61.8%	51.5%	48.2%
White	78.8%	43.5%	57.2%	38.6%	52.1%	52.1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.5%	27.0%	35.3%	25.1%	26.5%	28.2%
Black or African American	14.7%	3.6%	2.5%	4.3%	1.8%	1.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native	2.1%	2.7%	4.8%	2.2%	2.8%	2.7%
Hispanic, any race	18.5%	10.7%	12.9%	10.0%	11.4%	11.6%

1/ The sum of the individual categories may sum to more than 100% because people who reported more than one race were tallied in each race category.

These are the last population estimates before the 2020 decennial tabulations are released in July 2021. The decennial census data release will include detailed age, race, and sex data for small geographic areas. The 2020 Census is being conducted through October 2020, with responses collected [online](#), over the phone, by mailing back questionnaires, or through a census taker visiting homes.

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*The population and its characteristics are estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau based on the 2010 Census population, vital statistics, administrative records, federal tax returns, and the results from the American Community Survey. These estimates tend to change when more information becomes available.*

*Maui County includes Kalawao County for analysis.*

To view Hawaii data, visit [DBEDT Census Population Estimates](#). For original data, visit [U.S. Census Bureau's Population and Housing Estimates Tables: 2010-2019](#).