Hawaii Population Characteristics 2015

The U.S. Census Bureau released the 2015 State and County population characteristics on June 23, 2016. The following are some facts about Hawaii.

Age characteristics

With the elections being held in a few months, the group comprised of people 18 years and over (the voting age population) may be of special interest. There were 1,120,770 people in Hawaii who were 18 years and over on July 1, 2015 representing 78.3% of the state's population. This population group grew by 6.1% from 2010. The size of the voting age population by county were 783,862 in Honolulu County; 153,211 in Hawaii County; 127,981 in Maui County; and 55,716 in Kauai County. Their proportion of the total population were similar for all counties ranging from 77.7% to 78.5%.



The elderly population, those 65 years and above, accounted for 16.5% of the total population in 2015. This segment of the population grew from 195,138 on April 1, 2010 to 236,914 on July 1, 2015, an average annual growth rate of 3.8%. The elderly population in Hawaii grew about 4 times faster than the total population which increased over the same time period by 1.0% annually.

On July 1, 2015, Hawaii County had the highest percentage of the 65 year + population at 18.3% followed closely by Kauai County with 18.0%. 16.2% of the population in Honolulu County was 65 years and above in July 2015 while Maui County had the smallest share of 65 year + population at 15.9%.

The median age for the State of Hawaii was 37.8 years. This was a decrease from the median age on April 1, 2010 of 38.6 years. The county with the highest median age was Hawaii County with 41.3 years, followed by Kauai County with 41.2 years and Maui County with 39.9 years. Honolulu County had the lowest median age with 36.6 years.

Between April 1, 2010 and July 1, 2015, Hawaii's ratio of the dependent population to the working population increased. In 2010, there were 58 dependent people to every 100 working-age population. In 2015, there were 62 dependent people to every 100 working-age population. The "working population" are people between the ages of 18 and 64, while the "dependent population" are those either under 18 years of age or those age 65 and over.

Gender breakdown

Hawaii's total population consisted of 50.7% males and 49.3% females. Honolulu County had the highest percentage of males at 50.9% while Hawaii County had the lowest at 50.1%.

Racial composition

Asians (alone or in combination) accounted for 55.9% of the state total population. Honolulu County had the largest percentage of Asian population at 60.0%, followed by Kauai County at 50.8%, Maui County at 47.1%, and Hawaii County at 44.8%.

Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders (alone or in combination) accounted for 26.0% of Hawaii's total population. Hawaii County had the largest share of Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders at 34.6%, followed by Maui County at 27.8%, Kauai County at 25.6%, and Honolulu County at 24.1%.

White (alone or in combination) accounted for 43.7% of the state total population. Within the state, Hawaii County ranked the first in terms of shares of White population with 56.4% of the total population on the Island of Hawaii on July 1, 2015. Maui County had 52.2% of the White population and ranked the second, followed by Kauai County at 51.9%, and then Honolulu County at 39.2%.

Black or African American (alone or in combination) accounted for 4.0% of the population in the State of Hawaii while the *American Indian and Alaska Native (alone or in combination)* group made up 2.6% of the state's population.

Mixed race population in Hawaii was 23.0%.

Minority population comprised 77.1% of our state's population. By county, Honolulu County was the highest with an 80.5% minority population. Next was Kauai County with a 69.9% minority population, followed by Hawaii County with 69.4% and Maui County with 68.9%. "Minority" is defined by the U.S. Census Bureau as the population identifying their race and ethnicity as something other than non-Hispanic White race alone.

Maui County data in this DBEDT analysis are the combined data for Maui County and Kalawao County.





Source: Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Research and Economic Analysis Division.