## Hawaii Population Characteristics 2017

The U.S. Census Bureau released the 2017 State and County population characteristics on June 21, 2018. The following are some facts about Hawaii's changing population.

## Age characteristics

The total population grew 4.9% from April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017, with an average growth rate of 0.7% annually. Comparably, the elderly population, those 65 years and older, grew 29.9% from April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017, with an average growth rate of 3.7% annually. The elderly population accounted for 17.8% of the statewide population in 2017. Hawaii tied at 7<sup>th</sup> with Pennsylvania among the fifty states and District of Columbia in terms of percentage of population aged 65 or older.

The average annual growth rate of those 65 and older between April 1, 2010 and July 1, 2017 was 5.7% for Hawaii County. Maui County had an average annual growth rate at 5.5% for its population 65 years and older. Kauai County's average annual growth rate for those 65 and older was 4.7%. With an average annual growth rate of 2.9%, Honolulu County's percentage of those 65 and older has grown the slowest. Comparable 2010 and 2017 figures for the percentage of the elderly population in each county are shown in the graph below.



The voting age population, those 18 years and over, comprised 78.6% of the population on July 1, 2017. There were similar percentages across all counties, ranging from 77.8% to 78.8% of the total population.

The median age for the state has increased slightly from April 1, 2010: from 38.6 years in 2010 to 39.0 years in 2017. The county with the highest median age was Hawaii County at 42.5 years, followed by Kauai County at 41.8 years, and Maui County at 41.2 years. Honolulu County had the lowest median age at 37.8 years.

Between April 1, 2010 and July 1, 2017, Hawaii's ratio of dependent-age population to the working-age population increased. In 2010, there were 58 dependent-age people for every 100 working-age people. In 2017, there were 64 dependent-age people for every 100 working-age people. 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.

## Gender breakdown

Hawaii's population consisted of 50.2% males and 49.8% females. Honolulu County had the highest percentage of males at 50.4%, followed by Maui County at 49.8%, Hawaii County at 49.6%, and Kauai County at 49.4%.

Changes to our state's overall age and gender structure between 2010 and 2017 may be seen by comparing the two population pyramids shown on the next page.



## **Racial composition**

*Asians (alone or in combination)* accounted for 57.1% of the total state population. Honolulu County had the largest percentage of Asian population at 61.5%, followed by Kauai County at 51.6%, Maui County at 48.1%, and Hawaii County at 45.1%.

*Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders (alone or in combination)* accounted for 26.8% of Hawaii's total population. Hawaii County had the largest share of Native Hawaiians and

Other Pacific Islanders at 35.3%, followed by Maui County at 28.3%, Kauai County at 26.3%, and Honolulu County at 24.8%.

*White (alone or in combination)* accounted for 43.3% of the total state population. Hawaii County had the largest percentage of White population at 56.7%. Maui County and Kauai County had the next largest percentage at 51.7%, followed by Honolulu County at 38.5%.

*Black or African American (alone or in combination)* accounted for 3.6% of the population in the State of Hawaii, with the largest share of the population in Honolulu County, with 4.2% of the total county population. Hawaii County had the next largest population with 2.4%, followed by Maui County and Kauai County at 1.8%.

*American Indians and Alaska Natives (alone or in combination)* made up 2.6% of the total state population, with the largest share of the population in Hawaii County, with 4.8% of the total county population. Maui County and Kauai County had the next largest population at 2.7%, followed by Honolulu County with 2.2%.

*Mixed race population* was 23.8% of the total state population.

*Minority population* comprised 78.1% of our state's total population. By county, Honolulu County was the highest with 81.7% minority population. Next was Kauai County at 70.7%, followed by Maui County at 69.8% and Hawaii County at 69.7%. "Minority population" 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.

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 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.