The U.S. Census Bureau released subcounty population estimates on May 23, 2013. In this data release, the Census Bureau ranked 726 incorporated places with populations over 50,000. Urban Honolulu CDP was the only place in Hawaii on this listing. It ranked 54th among the incorporated places in 2012, with a population of 345,610. This was a slight drop in ranking from April 1, 2010, when it was in the 53rd position. Ranking was based on population size with the largest being ranked first.

CDP stands for **census-designated place**. A CDP is an area identified by the U.S. Census Bureau for statistical purposes. CDPs are delineated for each decennial census as the statistical counterparts of incorporated places such as cities, towns, and villages. CDPs are communities that lack separate municipal government, but which otherwise physically resemble incorporated places. CDPs are delineated to provide data for settled concentrations of population that are identifiable by name but are not legally incorporated under the laws of the state in which they are located. The boundaries of a CDP have no legal status.

Hawaii is the only state that has no incorporated places recognized by the U.S. Census Bureau. For this subcounty release, the City and County of Honolulu was reported as Urban Honolulu CDP and the balance of Honolulu.

In 2010, the former Honolulu CDP was mostly divided into Urban Honolulu CDP and East Honolulu CDP. A small portion of the former Honolulu CDP became part of Hickam CDP. Urban Honolulu and Arlington are the only CDPs for which postcensal population estimates are calculated by the U.S. Census Bureau.

From April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2012, Urban Honolulu CDP had a 2.5% growth in population, from 337,256 on April 1, 2010 to 345,610 on July 1, 2012. This growth was slightly higher than the population growth for the rest of Honolulu, for the City and County of Honolulu and for the entire state. It was also higher than the growth for Hawaii County (2.2%), Maui County (2.2%) and Kauai County (2.0).

Urban Honolulu CDP accounted for 35.4% of Oahu’s population in 2012, while 64.6% of Oahu’s population lived in the rest of Oahu. No change in population shares occurred over the period beginning April 1, 2010 and ending July 1, 2012.
Census Bureau used building permit information as the base for the population estimate.

New York City was the most populous city in the U.S. with 8.3 million people, followed by Los Angeles with 3.9 million people. Chicago was ranked the third largest city with a population of 2.7 million. Houston and Philadelphia were the next two in population size with 2.2 million and 1.5 million people, respectively.

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