

2009-2011 American Community Survey (ACS) 3-Year Estimates Hawaii Information Sheet

The U.S. Census Bureau released its 2009-2011 American Community Survey (ACS) 3-Year Estimates on October 25, 2012. New in this data release are areas with populations of 20,000 and above. The 1-year data released earlier this year included only areas with populations of 65,000 and above. 2011 ACS data were based on the 2010 Census geographies. Data for the 2009 ACS datasets and earlier were based on the Census 2000 geographies.

To increase the accuracy of the data, the Census Bureau combined three years of data (2009 through 2011) and produced 3-year estimates. Therefore, the data released at this time did not represent any single year. Instead, they were estimates that describe the average characteristics of an area over the entire 3-year time period.

Due to the larger sample size (three years of data), the 3-year estimates are more accurate than a single-year estimates when looking at the percentage shares and the dollar values. Geographic level data are less meaningful.

Some of the differences between the [2011 American Community Survey \(ACS\) 1-Year Estimates](#) and the [2009-2011 American Community Survey \(ACS\) 3-Year Estimates](#) included:

- **More geographies in the 3-year dataset for the CDP level.** The additional profiles included:
 - Oahu***- East Honolulu, Ewa Gentry, Kailua, Kaneohe, Mililani Mauka, Mililani Town, Pearl City, and Waipahu
 - Neighbor islands*** – Hilo and Kahului
- **More selected population profiles in the 3-year dataset.** The additional profiles included:
 - Race Alone*** – Black or African American, Korean, and Micronesian
 - Race Alone or in Combination With One or More Races*** - Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, American Indian, Korean, Micronesian, Samoan, and Some Other Race
 - Race in Combination With One or More Races*** – American Indian or Alaska Native
 - Hispanic*** – Mexican, Puerto Rican, Other Hispanic, All Other Hispanic or Latino
 - Not Hispanic or Latino*** – American Indian or Alaska Native alone or in combination with one or more races, Black alone or in combination with one or more races, Two or more races
 - Ancestry*** – English, French (except Basque), Irish, Italian and Portugese
 - County of Birth*** – Eastern Asia, Japan, China, and Oceania

The unweighted sample sizes for the housing units and the population were 4.6% and 4.7% respectively of their weighted totals.

**2009-2011 ACS 3-Year Estimates
Sample Sizes for the State of Hawaii, by County**

Subject	State total 1/	Hawaii County	City and County of Honolulu	Kauai County	Maui County
Housing units					
Sample size	23,934	3,964	15,423	1,665	2,859
Estimated weighted total 2/	520,129	82,515	337,046	29,890	70,579
Sample size/estimated weighted total (%)	4.6	4.8	4.6	5.6	4.1
Population					
Sample size	64,518	9,057	44,957	3,872	6,617
Estimated weighted total 2/	1,361,628	185,249	954,140	67,145	155,044
Sample size/estimated weighted total (%)	4.7	4.9	4.7	5.8	4.3

1/ State total includes Kalawao County. Kalawao County not shown separately.

2/ Based on the combined 3 years of data for the period 2009 to 2011. This value was the estimated weighted total of the area over the entire 3-year time period.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 ACS 3-Year Estimates; calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.