

2005 American Community Survey for Hawaii

The U.S. Census Bureau released more results of its American Community Survey for 2005 on October 3, 2006.

The survey started in 1996 and Hawaii was included since 2000, but only limited to the City and County of Honolulu. 2005 is the first year that the Census Bureau conducted surveys in Hawaii County and Maui County (excluding Kalawao County). Kauai County is not yet included in the survey.

Data cover household population and excludes population in group quarters such as school dorms, prisons, nursing homes, and hospitals.

The major focus of this release is on housing characteristics data. It also includes, however, additional information on transportation, geographic mobility, characteristics of households and families, grandparents, the foreign-born population and disability characteristics.

Selected Housing Facts for the State of Hawaii:

In 2005, there were 491,071 housing units in the State of Hawaii of which 430,007 (88%) were occupied and 61,064 (12%) were vacant. Vacant housing units include time-share units that are vacant and, therefore, this increases Hawaii's vacancy rate. Of the occupied housing units, about 60% were owner-occupied while 40% were renter-occupied.

Over 26,000 of Hawaii's housing units were built after 2000, which comprise over 5% of our housing stock. Maui County had the highest percentage with about 7.5% (over 4,600) of their housing units built after 2000.

Maui County had the highest median housing value, \$573,400, which was 26% over the statewide median of \$453,600. About one-third of Hawaii's homeowners who had mortgages used 35% or more of their household income for their monthly owner's costs. This includes costs for mortgage, real estate taxes, property insurance, and utilities. A higher percentage of Maui homeowners fell into this category (42%) than in the other two counties.

Median gross rent for the State of Hawaii was \$995. Gross rent includes the contract rent plus the estimated average monthly cost of utilities and fuels. Over one-third of Hawaii's renters used 35% or more of their household income on gross rent.

About 261,000 housing units (over 53%) of the housing units (occupied and unoccupied) in our state have 5 rooms or more. For example, this may mean the living room, dining room, kitchen and two bedrooms. Over 22,000 (over 4%) housing units have 9 or more rooms. This is heavily reflected in the City and County of Honolulu, where 54% of the housing units have 5 or more rooms. The City and County of Honolulu also had the

highest proportion of housing units with 9 or more rooms among the counties in our state, with over 5%. Maui County, in particular, tended to have fewer rooms per housing unit.

The City and County of Honolulu had a much greater percentage of occupied housing units with no vehicles available, with over 10% of the units, as compared with Hawaii and Maui counties which had about 5% each.

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