

2024 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY, 1-YEAR ESTIMATES

The U.S. Census Bureau has released the 2024 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year estimates today, providing valuable data on income, poverty, employment, housing, and many other interesting subjects. These estimates are available for geographic areas with populations of 65,000 or more. About 1.9% of Hawaii's households were surveyed in 2024.

Included in this release are data for the State, the counties, Hawaii's two congressional districts, and Hawaii's 10 Public Use Microdata Sample Areas (PUMAs). Additionally, there are data for select CDPs, Urbanized Areas, and Micro/Metro Areas, including: Urban Honolulu CDP; Kailua-Kaneohe and Urban Honolulu Urbanized Areas; Hilo and Kapaa Micro Areas; and Kahului-Wailuku-Lahaina Metro Area. Kalawao County does not meet the population threshold for 1-year estimates; however, it is included in the State total.

The wealth of topics covered by the ACS and the annual nature of the survey allow data users to compare various topics across time, geography, and population groups. Below are some highlights from the newly available statistics.

SNAP Beneficiaries

In 2024, approximately 56,690 households in Hawaii received Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, representing 11.5% of all households in the state. Among Hawaii's counties, Hawaii County had the highest percentage of households receiving SNAP benefits, at 18%.

Nearly half of all households receiving SNAP benefits included vulnerable populations: 50.2% had children under 18, 50.3% had someone over 60, and 49.8% had one or more people with a disability. Additionally, 22.1% of SNAP households were headed by a female householder with children and no spouse present. The median household income for households receiving SNAP benefits was \$42,621, which is about 42% of the median household income for all households in the state.

Households Receiving SNAP Benefits, 2024

	Households receiving benefits	% of total household
State of Hawaii	56,690	11.5%
Hawaii County	13,813	18.0%
Honolulu County	33,561	9.9%
Kauai County	1,783	7.6%
Maui County	7,526	13.8%

Select Household Characteristics, 2024

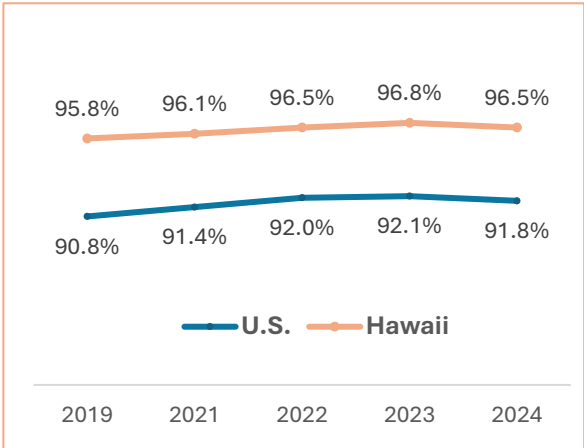
	% of total household	With SNAP benefits
Someone(s) 60 years and over	51.6%	50.3%
With child(ren) under 18 years	29.6%	50.2%
Female householder with child(ren), no spouse	7.0%	22.1%
Below poverty level	10.4%	38.0%
Someone(s) with a disability	27.9%	49.8%
Median household income	\$100,745	\$42,621

Health Insurance

Hawaii's unique employer mandate, which requires businesses to provide health insurance to employees working over 20 hours per week, helps the state maintain a high rate of health insurance coverage, well above the national average. In 2024, 96.5% of Hawaii's civilian noninstitutionalized population had health insurance, significantly higher than the U.S. average of 91.8%. For individuals with income below 138% of the poverty threshold- the cutoff for Medicaid eligibility under the Affordable Care Act- Hawaii's coverage rate was 94.3%, significantly higher than the national average of 86.0%.

The state’s employer-based health insurance was notably higher, at 61.1% compared to the U.S. average of 54.6%. This contributed to a higher overall private health insurance coverage rate of 74.6% in Hawaii, versus 67.2% nationally. As for public health insurances, while Hawaii’s Medicaid coverage rate was similar to the U.S. average (20.1% and 20.5% respectively), the state’s Medicare coverage rate was higher, reflecting the higher proportion of elderly residents in Hawaii.

% Covered by Health Insurance



Select Insured Characteristics, 2024

	U.S.	Hawaii
Total*	91.8%	96.5%
With private health insurance	67.2%	74.6%
With public coverage	36.8%	40.1%
65 years and older	99.2%	99.5%
Below 138% poverty threshold	86.0%	94.3%
Employer-based alone or in comb.	54.6%	61.1%
Medicare coverage alone or in comb.	18.9%	21.9%
Medicaid coverage alone or in comb.	20.5%	20.1%

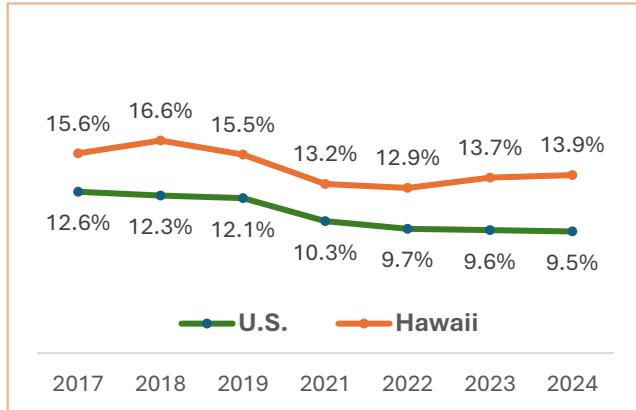
* Civilian noninstitutionalized population

Housing Vacancy

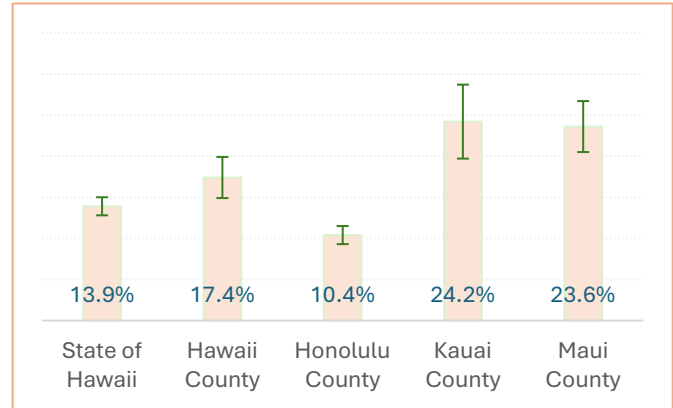
In 2024, Hawaii had an estimated 79,673 vacant housing units, accounting for 13.9% of the state’s total housing stock. This was a slight increase from 2023, but not a statistically significant change. Hawaii’s overall vacancy rate has been consistently higher than the U.S. average, with a difference of 4.4 percentage points in 2024. Among the state’s four counties, the vacancy rate varied significantly: Honolulu County had the lowest rate at 10.4% while Kauai and Maui Counties had significantly higher rates, at 24.2% and 23.6%, respectively.

Housing units were vacant for a variety of reasons. Approximately a quarter of the vacant units were either for sale or rent, or were already sold or rented and awaiting occupancy. The most common reason for a vacant unit was for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use, marking up 45.0% of the state’s vacant units. This rate was significantly higher than the national average of 31.0%, reflecting the high number of vacation rentals and second homes in Hawaii.

Housing Vacancy Rates, U.S. vs. Hawaii



Vacancy Rate by County, 2024



Reasons for Housing Unit Vacancy, 2024

	U.S.	Hawaii
Total	100%	100%
For rent	20.0%	15.2%
Rented, not occupied	3.5%	2.9%
For sale only	6.1%	3.2%
Sold, not occupied	4.0%	4.0%
For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use	31.0%	46.0%
For migrant workers	0.4%	0.8%
Other vacant	35.1%	27.9%

New Tables for this Release

In this release of ACS data, new tables were added for housing and race-related data. Housing data new to this release are estimates of homeowners' association and/or condominium fees. One table presents a monthly estimate of homeowners' association and/or condominium fee. Another table presents the median monthly fee organized by mortgage status. Six new race-related tables provide details on estimates for the White and Black or African American population. These tables include information on selected detailed race categories of White and Black or African American race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Data, and the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Research and Economic Analysis Division, Hawaii State Data Center. View more 2024 Hawaii Census Data at <https://census.hawaii.gov/acs/acs-2024>.