

AREA, GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

Hawaii, the 50th state, has an area of 6,424 square miles. It ranks 47th in size, being larger than Rhode Island, Delaware and Connecticut. It consists of eight major islands and the string of small islands and reefs of the Hawaiian archipelago stretching 1,367 miles northwest of Honolulu to Kure Island.

Hawaii's climate is almost ideal throughout the year with an average temperature ranging from 72 degrees in February to 79 degrees in August. Temperature and rainfall vary within the state depending more upon elevation and location rather than season.

The Department of Planning and Economic Development serves as a general source of information on geographic and climatological statistics. Primary data on land area and geology are obtained from the U. S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, the University of Hawaii Geology Department and the Hawaii Geophysical Institute. Information on land use is available from the State Land Use Commission and the Land Study Bureau at the University of Hawaii. Climatological data are supplied by the U.S. Weather Bureau. Distances between airports are obtained from the Federal Aviation Agency.

Table 92 -- DISTANCE FROM HONOLULU TO SELECTED CITIES AND PLACES

Place	Distance	Place	Distance
Honolulu to: ¹			
Hilo, Hawaii	214 miles	Auckland, New Zealand	4,393 miles
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii	168	Hong Kong, Br. Crown Colony	5,541
Kahului, Maui	98	Manila, Philippine Isl.	5,293
Kamuela, Hawaii	170	Montreal, Canada	5,043
Lanai Airport	72	Sidney, Australia	5,070
Lihue, Kauai	103	Tokyo, Japan	3,847
Molokai Airport	54	Toronto, Canada	4,766
		Vancouver, Canada	2,709
French Frigate Shoal	556		
Kure Island	1,367	Anchorage, Alaska	2,782
		Chicago, Illinois	4,179
Apra Harbor, Guam	3,806	Los Angeles, California	2,557
Johnston Island	820	Miami, Florida	4,856
Midway Island	1,309	New York, New York	4,959
Pago Pago, Tutuila	2,606	Portland, Oregon	2,595
Palmyra Island	1,101	San Francisco, California	2,397
Suva, Fiji	3,159	Seattle, Washington	2,679
Wake Island	2,294	Washington, D. C.	4,829

1. Distance is great circle distance measured in statute miles from Honolulu International Airport which is located at 21° 19' N. latitude and 157° 55' W. longitude.

Source: U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey, records, and Federal Aviation Agency.

Table 93 -- AVERAGE TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION, SELECTED AREAS OF HAWAII

Location	Elevation	Temperature			Precipitation
		Annual average	Average high	Average low	Annual average
City-County of Honolulu					
Ewa Plantation	42 ft.	74 ^o F	78 ^o F	71 ^o F	21 in.
Honolulu Airport	7	76	79	72	22
Honolulu Downtown	12	75	78	72	24
Manoa (Upper)	500	--	--	--	161
Hawaii County					
Hilo Airport	31	73	75	70	140
Kona Airport	17	75	83	67	25
Mauna Loa Observatory	11,150	44	54	35	20
Mountain View	1,830	67	76	59	187
Kauai County					
Lihue Airport	115	74	78	70	42
Mana	11	75	78	71	22
Wainiha Intake	700	--	--	--	160
Waialeale	5,075	--	--	--	486
Maui County					
Haleakala Station	9,960	48	56	39	43
Kula Sanatorium	3,004	64	67	62	32
Lahaina	45	71	--	--	14
Wailuku	200	75	78	72	27
Lanai City	1,620	68	72	66	35
Hoolehua	420	--	--	--	22

Source: Environmental Science Services Administration, U.S. Weather Bureau, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Table 94-- ELEVATION OF MOUNTAINS IN HAWAII, BY ISLAND

Name of Mountain	Elevation	Name of Mountain	Elevation
Hawaii Island		Maui Island	
Mauna Kea	13,796 ft.	Haleakala	10,023
Mauna Loa	13,680	Puu Kuhui	5,788
Hualalai	8,271		
Kohala	5,480	Molokai Island	
Kauai Island		Kamakou	4,970
Kawaikini	5,240		
Waialeale	5,120	Oahu Island	
Lanai Island		Kaala	4,040
Lanaihale	3,370	Puu Konahuanui	3,150
		Tantalus	2,013

Table 95--AREA AND SHORELINE OF
HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

County & Island	Area (sq. miles)		Total shore- line
	Land and water	Land	
State of Hawaii	6,424	6,415	1,052
Hawaii County	4,021	4,021	313
Honolulu County	605	598	234
Oahu Island	602	595	209
Outlying islands	3	3	25
Kauai County	625	623	162
Kauai Island	553	551	110
Niihau Island	72	72	50
Kaula and Lehua Is.	0.6	0.6	NA
Maui County ¹	1,159	1,159	343
Kahoolawe Island	45	45	36
Lanai Island	141	141	52
Maui Island	728	728	149
Molokai Island ²	259	259	106
Kalawao County	14	14	NA

1. County total does not include 14 square miles for Kalawao County which is part of Molokai Island.

2. Island total includes 14 square miles for Kalawao County.

Source: Department of Planning and Economic Development, Statistical Abstract, 1962.