

AREA, GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

Hawaii, the 50th state, has an area of 6,450 square miles of land and water according to revised figures issued recently by the U. S. Bureau of the Census. 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 Environmental Science Services Administration, U. S. Weather Bureau. Distances between airports are obtained from the Federal Aviation Agency.

Table 96. -- DISTANCE FROM HONOLULU TO SELECTED CITIES AND PLACES

Place	Distance <sup>1</sup>	Place	Distance
Honolulu to:			
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 Is. . .	5,293
Kamuela, Hawaii . .	170	Montreal, Canada . . . .	5,043
Lanai Airport. . .	72	Saigon, Vietnam. . . . .	6,373
Lihue, Kauai . . .	103	Sydney, Australia . . . .	5,070
Molokai Airport . .	54	Tokyo, Japan. . . . .	3,847
		Toronto, Canada. . . . .	4,766
French Frigate Shoals.	556	Vancouver, Canada . . . .	2,709
Kure Island . . . .	1,367		
		Anchorage, Alaska . . . .	2,782
Apra Harbor, Guam . .	3,806	Chicago, Illinois . . . . .	4,179
Johnston Island. . .	820	Los Angeles, California . .	2,557
Midway Islands . . .	1,309	Miami, Florida . . . . .	4,856
Pago Pago, Tutuila. .	2,606	New York, New York. . . . .	4,959
Palmyra Islands. . .	1,101	Portland, Oregon . . . . .	2,595
Suva, Fiji . . . . .	3,159	San Francisco, California . .	2,397
Wake Island . . . . .	2,294	Seattle, Washington . . . .	2,679
		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 97. -- AVERAGE TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION, SELECTED AREAS OF HAWAII

Location	Elevation	Temperature (°F)			Pre- cipitation Annual average (inches)
		Annual average	Average high	Average low	
City-County of Honolulu					
Honolulu Airport . . .	7	76	82	70	22
Honolulu Downtown. . .	12	75	80	70	24
Kaneohe (MCAS). . . .	10	76	80	72	42
Waianae . . . . .	20	76	85	68	20
Waikiki <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10	77	85	68	25Est.
Hawaii County					
Hilo Airport . . . . .	31	73	81	66	137
Kamuela . . . . .	2,670	65	75	54	38
Kawaihae. . . . .	11	77	86	69	9
Kona Airport . . . . .	15	75	83	67	25
Mauna Loa Observ.. .	11,146	44	55	34	23
Volcanoes Nat. Park .	3,971	61	68	53	98
Kauai County					
Lihue Airport . . . .	103	74	81	68	43
Mana . . . . .	11	75	84	65	22
Mt. Waialeale . . . .	5,075	--	--	--	486
Poipu Bay . . . . .	52	76	83	69	33
Wainiha . . . . .	690	--	--	--	160
Maui County					
Haleakala Summit . .	9,960	46	55	38	48
Hana . . . . .	120	74	80	68	72
Kula Sanatorium . . .	3,004	64	73	54	32
Lahaina . . . . .	45	75	84	65	14
Wailuku . . . . .	200	75	82	67	26
Lanai City, Lanai. . .	1,620	69	75	62	35
Molokai Airport . . .	420	--	--	--	22

1. Only 1965-1967 records available.

Source: Environmental Science Services Administration, U. S. Weather Bureau, Honolulu, Hawaii. Weather Bureau Normals (1931-60) used where available.

Table 98. -- AREA AND SHORELINE OF HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

County & Island	Area (sq. miles)			Tidal shoreline
	Land and water	Land	Inland water	
State of Hawaii .	6,450	6,425	25.1	1,052
Hawaii County. . .	4,038	4,037	1.0	313
Maui County <sup>1</sup> . . .	1,161	1,160	0.8	343
Kahoolawe Island .	45	45	--	36
Lanai Island . . .	140	140	--	52
Maui Island. . . .	729	728	0.6	149
Molokai Island <sup>2</sup> .	261	261	0.2	106
Kauai County . . .	627	619	8.0	162
Kauai Island . . .	553	549	4.6	110
Niihau Island . . .	73	70	3.4	50
Kaula & Lehua Is..	0.8	0.8	--	2
Honolulu County . .	611	596	15.2	234
Oahu Island . . .	608	593	15.0	209
Outlying islands .	3	3	--	25
Kalawao County . .	13	13	--	NA

1. County area does not include 13 square miles for Kalawao County which is part of Molokai Island. County shoreline does include Kalawao.

2. Island total includes 13 square miles for Kalawao County.

Source: Department of Planning and Economic Development, Statistical Reports Nos. 17 and 49.

Table 99. -- ELEVATION OF MAJOR MOUNTAINS IN HAWAII, BY ISLAND

Name and Location	Elevation (feet)	Name and Location	Elevation (feet)
Hawaii Island		Maui Island	
Mauna Kea . . . . .	13,796	Haleakala . . . . .	10,023
Mauna Loa . . . . .	13,677	Puu Kukui . . . . .	5,788
Hualalai. . . . .	8,271	Iao Needle . . . . .	2,250
Kohala . . . . .	5,480		
Kahoolawe Island		Molokai Island	
Lua Makika . . . . .	1,477	Kamakou . . . . .	4,970
Kauai Island		Oahu Island	
Kawaikini . . . . .	5,243	Kaala. . . . .	4,040
Waialeale . . . . .	5,148	Puu Konahuanui. . . .	3,150
		Tantalus. . . . .	2,013
Lanai Island		Niihau Island	
Lanaihale . . . . .	3,370	Paniau . . . . .	1,281

Source: U. S. Department of the Interior, U. S. Geological Survey, Map Information Service, Washington, D. C. 20242.