



# Demographic, Social, and Economic Characteristics of Hawaii's Race Groups: 2017-2021

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STATE OF HAWAII • DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
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**STATE OF HAWAII**

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The data presented in this report are based on the U.S. Census Bureau's 2017-2021 American Survey, a sample survey. It is subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. Supplemental Excel tables with estimates and margins of error available at [https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/economic/reports/Detailed-race-characteristics\\_supplemental-tables.xlsx](https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/economic/reports/Detailed-race-characteristics_supplemental-tables.xlsx).

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# Introduction

Hawaii is the most racially diverse state in the United States, with no singular race group making up the majority. This report provides a statistical portrait of this diverse population, highlighting the demographic, social, economic, and household characteristics of Hawaii's race groups. The data are tabulated from the 2017-2021 Selected Population Tables from the American Community Survey (ACS), the largest federal survey that produces insights into our population.

In the ACS, survey respondents are asked to select one or more races through a combination of checkboxes and write-in responses. Although respondents are encouraged to provide detailed answers, statistics related to smaller race groups are not regularly released. Instead, statistics are typically combined into five broad race categories: White, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander.

These broad race categories have limited utility in Hawaii's diverse racial and cultural landscape, and aggregating data in this way often masks the disparities that some communities face. For example, over 80 percent of Japanese residents were born in Hawaii; their economic and social profiles look significantly different than Asian populations who are primarily international migrants, like the Vietnamese. However, the needs of the small Vietnamese population are drowned out in data for the broader Asian population. Likewise, combined data on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders obscures the complex nuances of those populations which makes targeted approaches to health, social, and economic well-being harder to implement. These aggregated statistics can be frustrating for anyone who wants to understand these hidden disparities or use data to have a positive impact on Hawaii's diverse communities.

Every five years, though, the U.S. Census Bureau releases detailed data that allow for the separation of discrete racial groups from the larger racial categories typically reported. These data are more granular and robust than typically reported and provide more insight into how Hawaii's different race groups are faring. Using the latest data from these Selected Population Tables, this report follows up on DBEDT's March 2018 report entitled "Demographic, Social, Economic, and Housing Characteristics for Selected Race Groups in Hawaii," which used the Census Bureau's previous Selected Population Tables release (2011-2015 ACS data). This updated report seeks to inform community leaders and decisionmakers of the differing economic landscapes that Hawaii's populations face, while detailing the educational, employment, housing, and income circumstances for each of Hawaii's race groups.

## Data overview and included race groups

Data for this report are drawn from a special tabulation of the 2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates which includes detailed race and tribal groups. This is the third release of the special tabulation, with a new release about every five years. Other years of data include 2006-2010 and 2011-2015. Data in this report are the average of all survey responses between the period of 2017 to 2021, and monetary data are reported in 2021 inflation-adjusted dollars.

Because a quarter of Hawaii’s population is multiracial, this report uses the “race alone or in combination” data to capture the diversity of the state most fully. Therefore, the sum of the individual “race alone or in combination” categories add to more than the total population or households because people who reported more than one race were tallied in each race category selected.

Many of the racial groups in this report make up a small part of Hawaii’s population, which makes it difficult to obtain reliable data about their characteristics from a survey. This report aims to present as much data as possible; however, caution should be used when drawing comparative conclusions about small populations, as margins of error may be too large to draw meaningful distinctions between groups. Many graphs include error bars for 90 percent confidence intervals. Any estimates with margins of error that are too large to draw reliable conclusions are not shown in this report. However, the data and margins of error are available in the supplemental Excel tables.<sup>1</sup>

For most groups, the races in this report represent the most detailed data available. Data for six Asian groups are presented: Filipino, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and Okinawan. Three Polynesian groups—Native Hawaiians, Samoans, and Tongans—are included. Data are also included for Whites, Black/African Americans, American Indians and Alaska Natives (AIAN), and Micronesians.

Micronesians are the only included group that are an aggregation of other detailed race groups. Individual data are available for Chamorros, Marshallese, and Palauans (race alone or in combination only); however, the sample and population sizes were often too small for meaningful data comparison. Additionally, these groups only represented about half of Hawaii’s Micronesian population. To balance data reliability with group detail, we include the broader Micronesian category in this analysis, but detailed data for Chamorros and Marshallese are available in the supplemental tables and may be occasionally referenced in this report. Included in the Micronesian category are both Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants and non-COFA populations, like Chamorros of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and Hawaii-born Micronesians. Individuals born in Guam and CNMI are U.S. citizens, while COFA migrants are, by and large, not.

**Table 1. Micronesian race groups with detailed data**

<b>Micronesian race group with detailed data</b>	<b>Race alone</b>	<b>Race alone Margin of Error</b>	<b>Race alone or in combination</b>	<b>Race alone or in combination Margin of Error</b>
Micronesian total	29,514	± 2,827	36,475	± 3,241
Marshallese	7,642	± 1,432	8,682	± 1,428
Chamorro or Guamanian	2,853	± 758	6,891	± 1,023
Palauan	(NA)	(NA)	1,248	± 456

NA Not available

<sup>1</sup> Supplemental Excel tables with full estimates and margins of error are available at [https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/economic/reports/Detailed-race-characteristics\\_supplemental-tables.xlsx](https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/economic/reports/Detailed-race-characteristics_supplemental-tables.xlsx).

# Demographic characteristics

## Race composition

Asians (alone or in combination with other races) made up 56.3 percent of Hawaii’s total population during the 2017-2021 period. Three out of the five largest race groups in Hawaii were Asian-- Filipinos (second), Japanese (third), and Chinese (fifth). Whites were the largest race group, and Native Hawaiians were the fourth largest. The gap between Whites and Filipinos was about 250,000 people. Koreans (56,000) and Black/African Americans (53,000) were about the same population size. Samoans, Micronesians, and American Indians and Alaska Natives (AIAN) were similarly sized, with populations ranging from 37,000 to 35,000. The smallest population groups included in this report are the Vietnamese, Tongans, and Okinawans, whose populations ranged from about 9,000 to 18,000.

Table 2. Population and Household Estimates for Race Alone or in Combination Groups

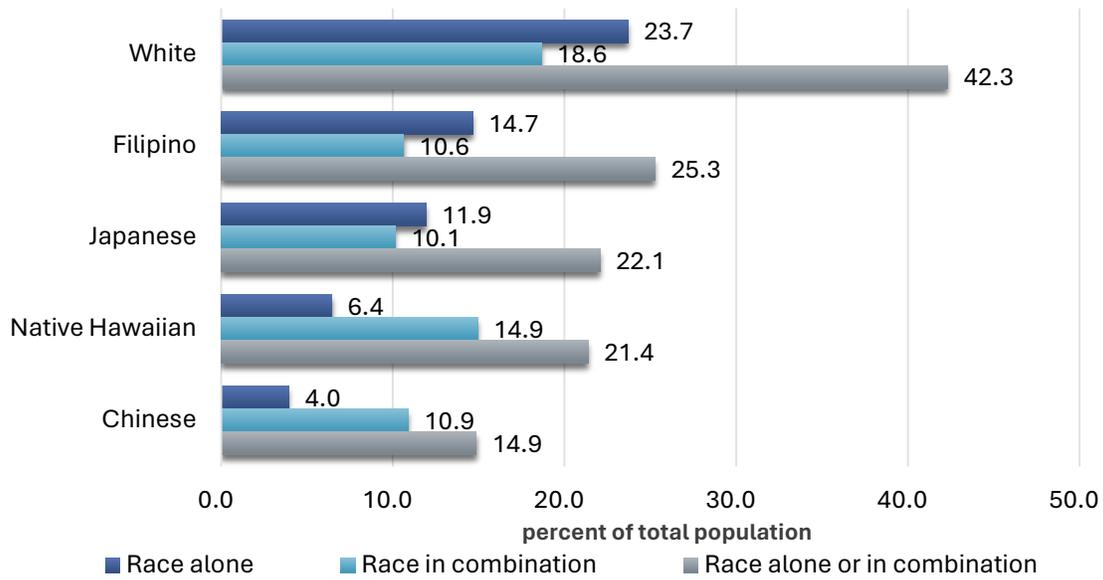
Race alone or in combination <sup>1</sup>	Population		Households <sup>2</sup>	
	Population estimate	Percent of total	Household estimate	Percent of total
Total population	1,453,498	100.0	478,413	100.0
White	615,223	42.3	212,462	44.4
Filipino	367,430	25.3	80,729	16.9
Japanese	320,768	22.1	108,327	22.6
Native Hawaiian	310,789	21.4	76,408	16.0
Chinese	216,026	14.9	61,603	12.9
Korean	56,202	3.9	17,004	3.6
Black or African American	53,159	3.7	15,736	3.3
Samoan	37,223	2.6	6,789	1.4
Micronesian	36,475	2.5	6,906	1.4
American Indian and Alaska Native	34,910	2.4	11,055	2.3
Vietnamese	17,655	1.2	4,546	1.0
Tongan	10,457	0.7	1,307	0.3
Okinawan	9,342	0.6	2,842	0.6

<sup>1</sup> The sum of individual race "alone or in combination" categories add to more than the total population and households because people who reported more than one race were tallied in each race category.

<sup>2</sup> Household race is determined by the race of the householder.

During the 2017-2021 period, 24.4 percent of Hawaii’s residents were multiracial. Among Hawaii’s multiracial population, the most common racial combination was White and some other race(s), with multiracial Whites making up 18.6 percent of the total population. Though numerically smaller than the White population, Hawaiian and Chinese populations were more likely to be multiracial. Only 4 percent of Hawaii’s population were Chinese alone, and only 6.4 percent of Hawaii’s population were Hawaiian alone.

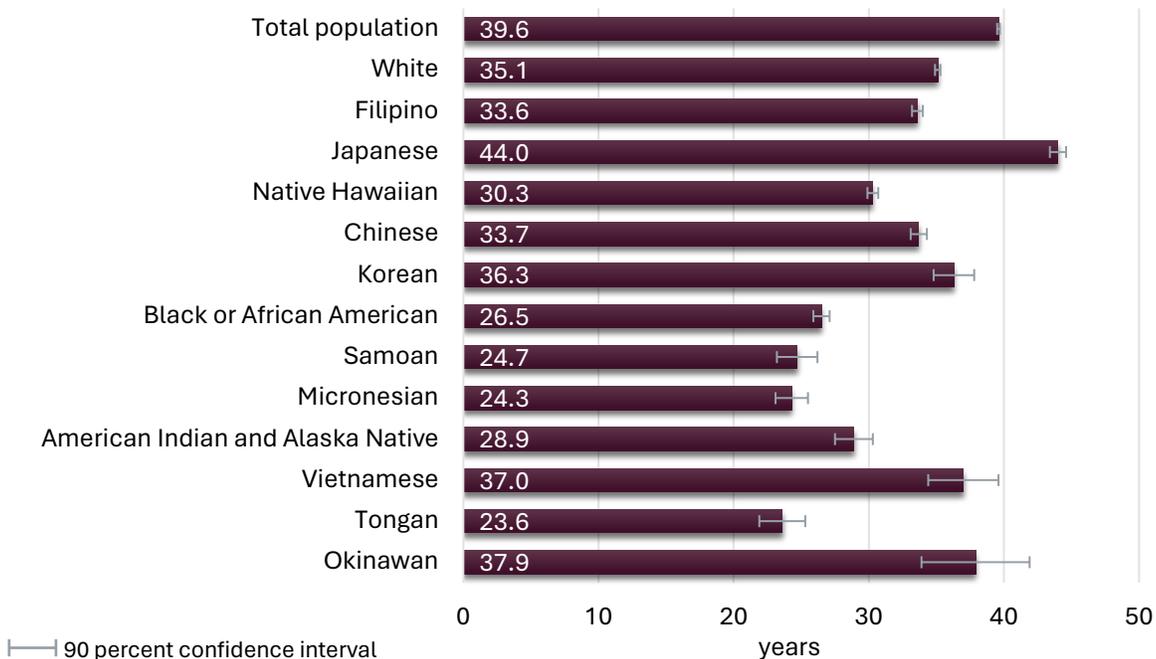
Figure 1. Percentage Distribution of Race Groups, for Hawaii's Largest Race Groups



## Age

Hawaii's race groups have noticeably different age distributions, as illustrated by Figure 2 and Table 3. With a median age of 44 years, Hawaii's Japanese population was older than all other groups. Tongan, Micronesians, Samoan, Black, and AIAN populations were considerably younger, all having median ages under 30 years. Nearly 40 percent of the Pacific Island groups (Tongans, Micronesians, and Samoans) were under the age of 18, and half were under the age of 25.

Figure 2. Median Age



People between the ages of 18 to 64 make up the bulk of the workforce, and during the 2017-2021 period, they comprised 60.1 percent of the state’s total population. This age band made up between 52 percent to 62 percent of each race group’s population. Hawaii’s Japanese (53.6 percent) and Tongan (52.5 percent) populations had the lowest share of people aged 18 to 64, as expected given that they had the oldest and youngest median ages among the studied groups. Black/African Americans (62.0 percent) and Vietnamese (60.0 percent) residents had the largest share of people aged 18 to 64. At around 40 percent of their population totals, they also had the largest shares of people aged 25 to 54, which the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) defines as the prime working age population.

**Table 3. Percent of Population by Age Group**  
(percent of race group)

<b>Race alone or in combination</b>	<b>Under 18 years old</b>	<b>18 to 64 years old</b>	<b>65 years and older</b>
Total population	21.4	60.1	18.5
White	25.2	59.3	15.5
Filipino	28.8	58.1	13.1
Japanese	22.4	53.6	24.0
Native Hawaiian	33.5	56.0	10.5
Chinese	30.6	55.6	13.8
Korean	27.2	58.5	14.3
Black or African American	32.7	62.0	5.3
Samoan	38.9	56.0	5.1
Micronesia	39.2	56.9	4.0
American Indian and Alaska Native	34.4	57.3	8.4
Vietnamese	27.7	60.0	12.3
Tongan	39.3	52.5	8.2
Okinawan	27.0	54.9	18.1

**Sex**

Between 2017-2021, the sex ratio in Hawaii was 102 males per 100 females. The population skewed more male than the U.S. average, which had a sex ratio of 98 males per 100 females. Among the race groups with at least 50,000 people, Black/African Americans (139 males per 100 females) and Whites (110 males per 100 females) had the highest sex ratios. This is likely influenced by the high percentage of Black/African American and White residents in the Armed Forces in Hawaii, a career path that skews heavily male. As women tend to live into older ages than men, there are more women than men among the race groups with the highest percentage of people aged 65 and over.

Table 4. Race Groups by Sex and Sex Ratio

Race Alone or in Combination <sup>1</sup>	Males	Females	Males per 100 females
Total population	732,172	721,326	101.5
White	321,644	293,579	109.6
Filipino	178,955	188,475	94.9
Japanese	155,262	165,506	93.8
Native Hawaiian	157,039	153,750	102.1
Chinese	104,348	111,678	93.4
Korean	25,453	30,749	82.8
Black or African American	30,907	22,252	138.9
Samoan	18,483	18,740	98.6
Micronesian	18,432	18,043	102.2
American Indian and Alaska Native	17,689	17,221	102.7
Vietnamese	8,674	8,981	96.6
Tongan	5,513	4,944	111.5
Okinawan	4,423	4,919	89.9

<sup>1</sup> The sum of individual race "alone or in combination" categories add to more than the total population because people who reported more than one race were tallied in each race category.

## Social characteristics

### Birthplace and citizenship status

Hawaii’s appeal, tropical climate, proximity to Asia, and military presence bring people here from across the country and globe. At the same time, Hawaii’s unique culture shapes the experiences of the people that were born here and strengthens the local ties of the community. Slightly over half, 52.9 percent, of the state’s population in 2017-2021 were born in Hawaii. This was a smaller percentage than the United States average, which had 58.1 percent of people living in the same state in which they were born. This is expected, though, for a state with significantly higher foreign-born populations and more active-duty military than the U.S average.<sup>2</sup>

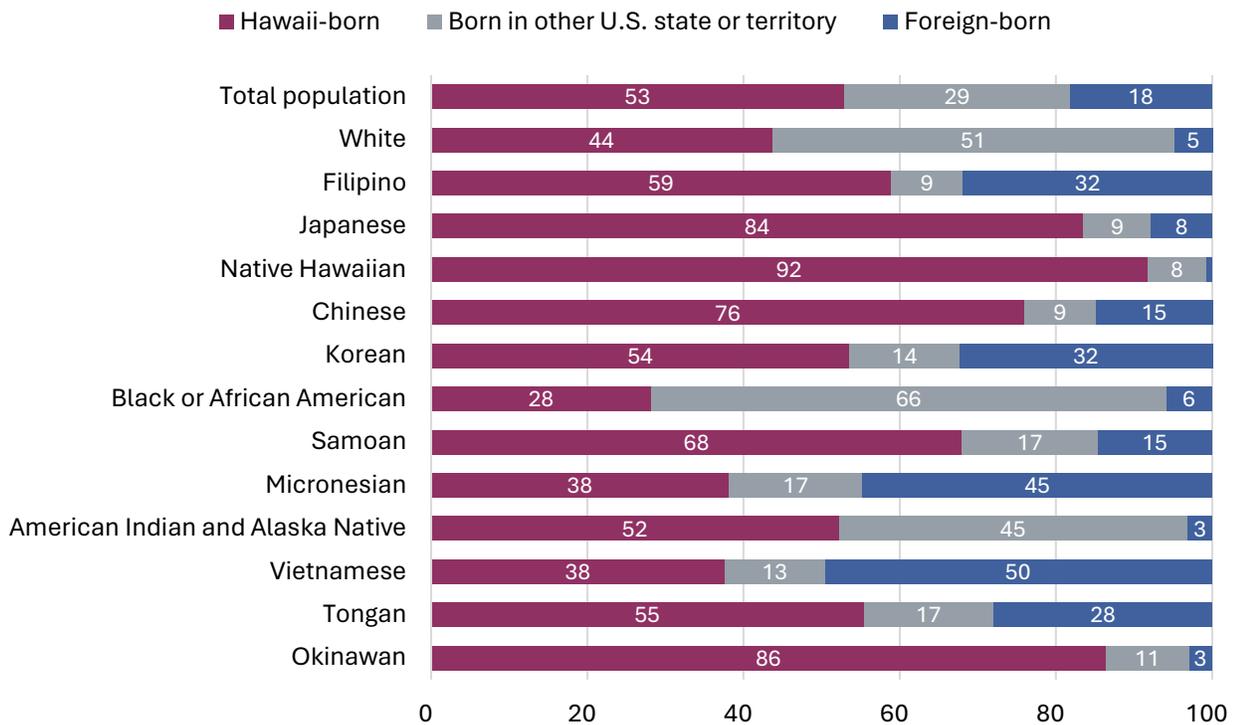
Most Native Hawaiian, Okinawan, and Japanese people living in the state were born here, indicating their strong familial and cultural ties to the islands. Over half of the Black/African American and White people living in Hawaii were born in another U.S. state or territory. Nearly 265,000 Hawaii residents were foreign-born, including half of the Vietnamese population and nearly half of the Micronesian population. Additionally, at least a quarter of Filipino, Korean, and Tongan residents were born in another country.

<sup>2</sup> The foreign-born population made up 13.6 percent of the U.S. population and 18.2 percent of the Hawaii population. People in the Armed Forces made up 0.5 percent of the U.S. workforce and 3.9 percent of Hawaii’s workforce.

About 60 percent of Hawaii residents that were born in another country were naturalized U.S. citizens. Compared to other groups with sizable foreign-born populations, Hawaii’s Vietnamese population had the highest rates of naturalization among their foreign-born population (80.8 percent). The majority of the Korean (70.7 percent) and Filipino (66.2 percent) foreign-born populations were naturalized U.S. citizens, and about half (48.0 percent) of Tongans who were born in another country were naturalized U.S. citizens.

Very few foreign-born Micronesians (7.8 percent) were naturalized U.S. citizens during the survey period. However, most foreign-born Micronesians can freely live, work, and study in the United States without a visa due to the Compacts of Free Association (COFA).<sup>3</sup> Although the broad “Micronesian” category includes more than just COFA migrants, Chamorros that moved to Hawaii from Guam or the CNMI are domestic migrants, not foreign-born. Among Chamorros, 42.7 percent were born in Hawaii and 38.7 percent were born in U.S. Island areas.

**Figure 3. Birthplace**  
(percent of race group)



## Language spoken at home

Hawaii’s racial diversity is accompanied by linguistic diversity as well. Hawaiian and English are the state’s official language, but there are about 100 different languages spoken in households around the state. Over

<sup>3</sup> United States Commission on Civil Rights, *Micronesians in Hawaii: Migrant Group Faces Barriers to Equal Opportunity* (March 2019). Available from: <https://www.usccr.gov/files/pubs/2019/08-13-Hawaii-Micronesian-Report.pdf>; Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Research & Economic Analysis Division, *COFA Migrants in Hawaii* (February 2020). Available from: [https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/economic/reports/COFA\\_Migrants\\_in\\_Hawaii\\_Final.pdf](https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/economic/reports/COFA_Migrants_in_Hawaii_Final.pdf).

350,000 people spoke a language other than English at home during the 2017-2021 period. Ilocano and Tagalog, languages of the Philippines, were the most frequently spoken languages at home across multiple survey periods.<sup>4</sup>

Populations with limited English proficiency may face barriers to participating in social and economic activities, and their access to public services may be impeded unless agencies are properly equipped to meet their language needs. During the survey period, there were about 153,000 Hawaii residents who spoke English less than “very well.” Filipinos represented the largest race group with language barriers, but less than 20 percent of Filipinos spoke English less than “very well.” Although there were fewer than 7,000 Vietnamese people who spoke English less than very well, limited English speakers represented 43.1 percent of Hawaii’s Vietnamese population. Populations with smaller numbers of non-English speakers but higher rates of limited English proficiency are potentially at a unique disadvantage, as there may be fewer translation services, either formal or informal, available to them.

**Table 5. People Who Speak a Language Other than English at Home**  
(population age 5 and over)

Race Alone or in Combination	Speaks a language other than English at home		Limited English proficiency <sup>1</sup>	
	Estimate <sup>2</sup>	Percent of race group	Estimate	Percent of race group
Total Population	353,663	25.9	152,929	11.2
White	62,435	11.0	10,251	1.8
Filipino	132,270	39.1	65,532	19.4
Japanese	44,289	14.7	18,257	6.1
Native Hawaiian	37,086	13.2	5,838	2.1
Chinese	47,662	24.1	22,823	11.5
Korean	19,878	38.7	11,344	22.1
Black or African American	5,401	11.4	**	**
Samoan	10,826	32.6	3,080	9.3
Micronesian	19,692	62.2	10,519	33.2
American Indian and Alaska Native	5,508	17.5	1,189	3.8
Vietnamese	10,320	65.0	6,838	43.1
Tongan	4,456	48.6	1,382	15.1
Okinawan	**	**	**	**

<sup>1</sup> Speaks English less than “very well.”

<sup>2</sup> The sum of individual race "alone or in combination" categories add to more than the total population because people who reported more than one race were tallied in each race category.

\*\* Estimates not shown due to large margins of error.

<sup>4</sup> Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Research & Economic Analysis Division, *Language Use Dashboard*, “Top languages other than English spoken at home: Speaks English less than very well.” Available from: <https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/language-use-dashboard/>.

## Education

About 75,000 adults aged 25 and older in Hawaii did not have a high school diploma or equivalent during the 2017-2021 period. These people were more at risk for higher unemployment and less stable economic circumstances than their peers with at least a high school diploma. Among Hawaii’s largest race groups, Filipinos lagged the most in high school education, with 11 percent of Filipinos aged 25 and over without a high school diploma. The populations with the lowest rates of high school completion had some of the highest rates of limited English proficiency, which can have a compounding effect on their ability to navigate bureaucracy and social services without support.

**Table 6. Highest Level of Education for the Population Age 25 and Over**

Race alone or in combination	Population age 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Educational attainment (percent of race group)				
		Less than high school	High school diploma or GED	Some college or Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Graduate or professional degree
Total Population	1,020,422	7.3	26.8	31.5	22.2	12.2
White	402,878	3.5	23.4	32.9	23.6	16.6
Filipino	228,837	11.3	31.2	34.3	18.3	4.8
Japanese	227,724	3.6	23.4	31.3	29.0	12.7
Native Hawaiian	178,292	6.7	42.3	32.4	12.5	6.1
Chinese	131,776	9.0	26.4	28.8	22.4	13.3
Korean	36,548	8.5	24.9	29.2	23.9	13.5
Black or African American	28,546	4.0	20.5	41.8	20.8	12.9
Samoan	18,453	10.7	45.4	29.1	10.0	4.7
Micronesian	17,921	21.1	34.4	31.3	10.1	3.1
American Indian and Alaska Native	19,101	7.8	24.6	36.7	18.5	12.4
Vietnamese	11,368	19.2	27.2	24.5	19.3	9.8
Tongan	4,961	12.0	46.9	24.3	13.6	3.2
Okinawan	6,136	4.5	21.6	32.0	27.6	14.3

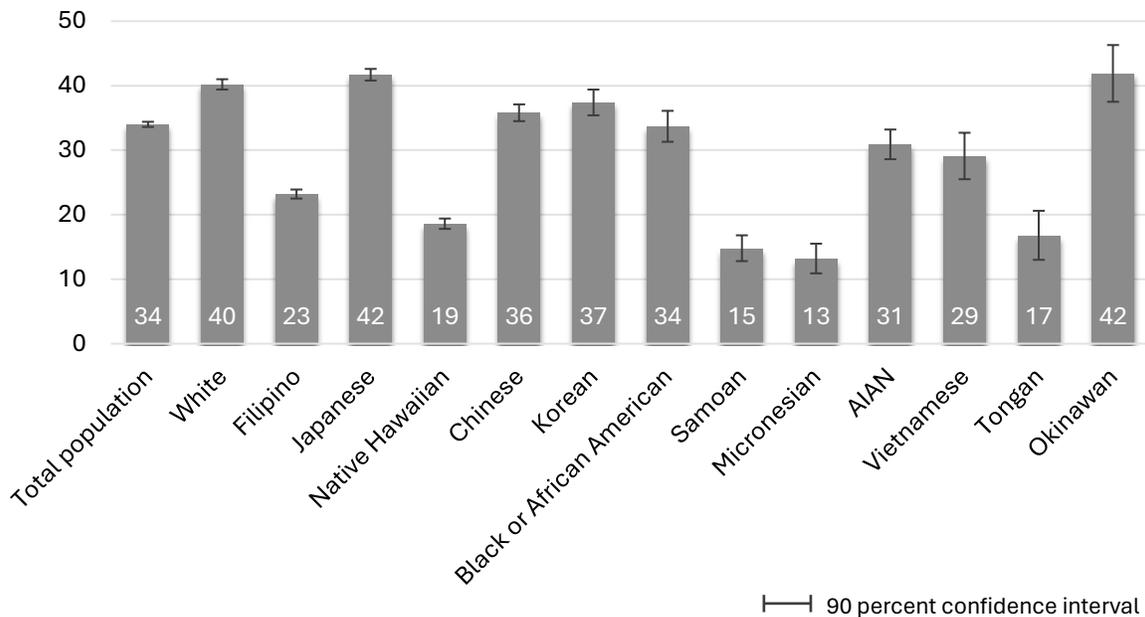
<sup>1</sup> The sum of individual race "alone or in combination" categories add to more than the total population because people who reported more than one race were tallied in each race category.

Educational attainment is associated with lower unemployment and higher immediate and lifetime earnings. Civilian unemployment rates for Hawaii residents aged 25 to 64 who held at least a bachelor’s degree was 4 percent during the 2017-2021 period. The civilian unemployment rate was 9 percent for those with only a high school diploma and 12 percent for those without a high school diploma. On average, full-time, year-round workers with a high school diploma outearned those without a high school education by \$11,600.

Hawaii ranked 19<sup>th</sup> in the nation in terms of the percent of people with a bachelor’s degree or higher. Okinawan, Japanese, White, Korean, and Chinese residents were statistically more likely than the total

population to have a bachelor’s degree. Hawaii’s Vietnamese population had the lowest rates of high school completion, but 29.1 percent of Vietnamese had at least college degrees. The state’s Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander populations lagged in terms of college education. Though 13.2 percent of all Micronesians held a bachelor’s degree, 23.3 percent of Chamorros had a four-year college education, with was lower than the total population but higher than most other Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander groups.

**Figure 4. Percent of People with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher**  
(percent of race group for the population age 25 and over)



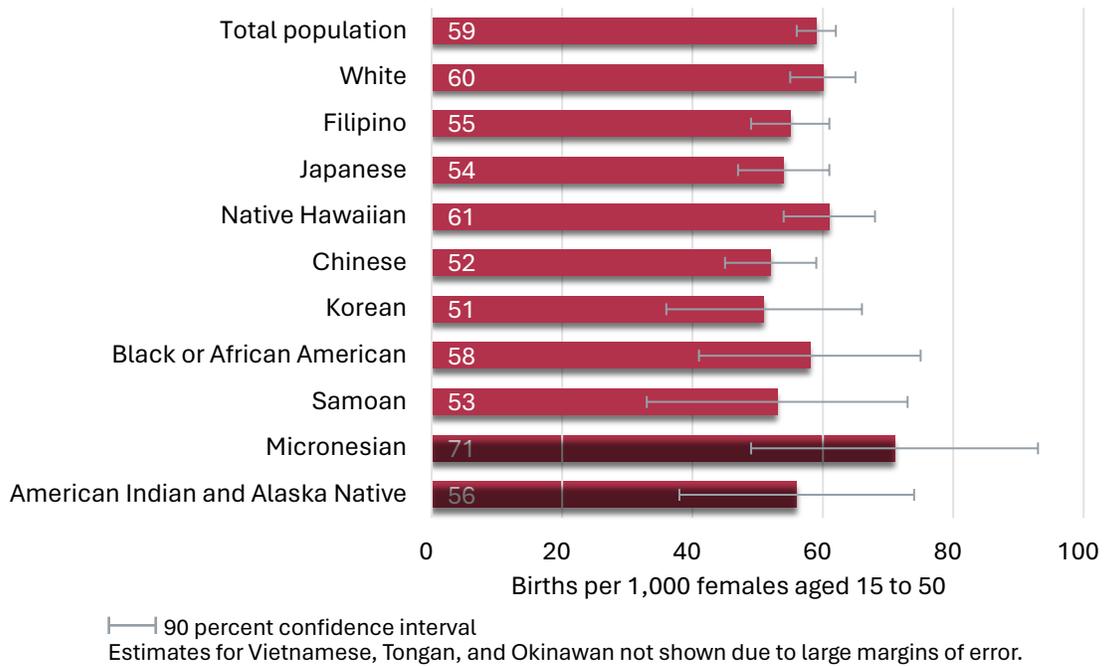
### Births in the past year

The average number of births per year during the 2017-2021 period was 18,800.<sup>5</sup> Similar to national trends, births have been declining in Hawaii since 2008, with an especially sharp decline since the pandemic. During the 2017-2021 period, there were 59 births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 50. This was higher than the U.S average of 51 births per 1,000 women. Births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 50 are shown in Figure 5. The estimate of births was noticeably higher for Micronesians women, but it was not statistically different from the state average.

An estimated 43.0 percent of births were given by women who were White, 25.7 percent of births were by Filipinos, and 23.4 percent were by Hawaiians. These percentages closely match the population sizes of these race groups. The percent of total births given by women who were Japanese, 17.9 percent, was smaller relative to its population size (22.1 percent of the total population).

<sup>5</sup> The average number of births reported herein may differ from those reported by the Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) due to differences in methodology. The DOH reports recorded births while the ACS is a survey which asks about births given in the prior year.

**Figure 5. Births per 1,000 Women**  
(for women aged 15 to 50 by race group)



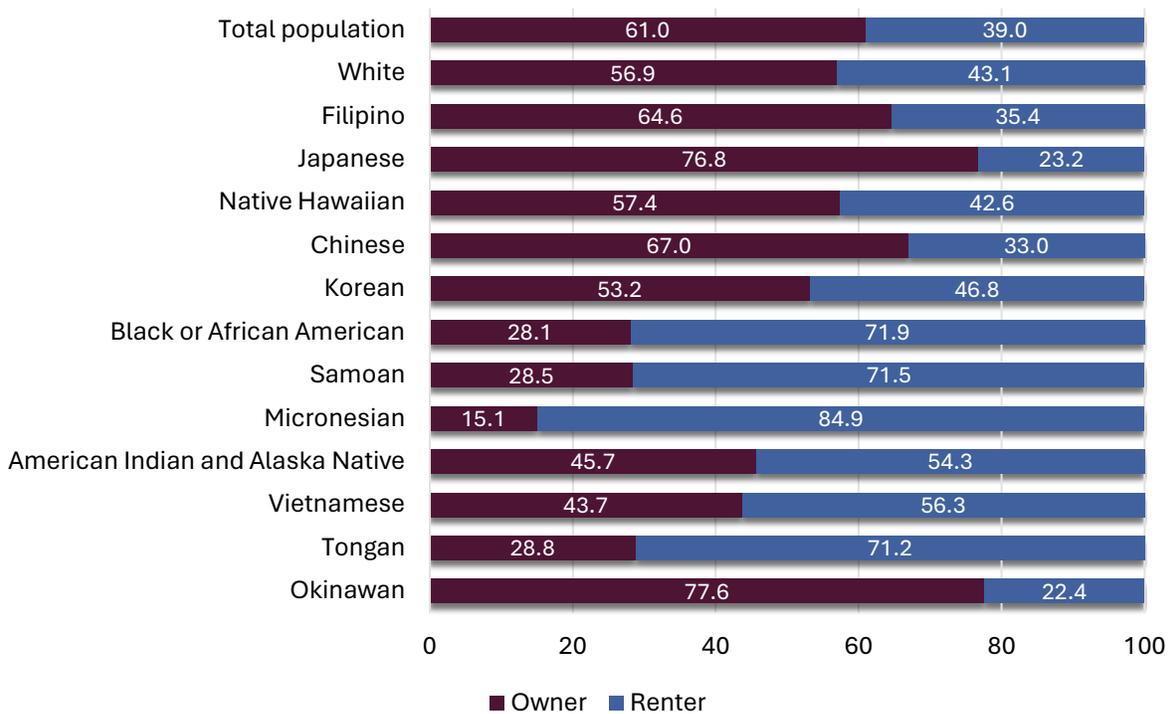
## Household characteristics

### Owner and renter households

Owning a home is often the largest source of wealth-building available to a household. Because housing is at a premium in Hawaii, homeownership is a primary source of generational wealth as well. People who rent rather than own miss out on the accumulation of wealth through housing appreciation and do not have access to home equity to finance a major or emergency expense. They are also subject to types of housing instability that homeowners generally are not.

During the survey period, Hawaii’s homeownership rate was 61.0 percent, which ranked 47<sup>th</sup> in the nation among the states and Washington D.C. Homeownership rates by race are shown in Figure 6. Homeownership varied significantly by race, from 77.6 percent for Okinawans to 15.1 percent for Micronesians. The Okinawan and Japanese populations, which are older populations born predominantly in Hawaii, had homeownership rates over 70 percent. The groups with the lowest rates of homeownership—Tongans, Samoans, Black/African Americans, and Micronesians—were the youngest groups in Hawaii. Over half of the owner-occupied households in Hawaii were headed by someone who was at least 60 years old, indicating the role that age plays in homeownership in Hawaii.

**Figure 6. Households by Owner and Renter Status**  
(percent of households by householder race)



## Household size

During the 2017-2021 period, the average household size in Hawaii was 2.95 people, statistically larger than the U.S. average of 2.60. Hawaii’s average household size was the second largest in the nation. Household size varied considerably by race, as shown in Table 7. For all groups, renters had smaller household sizes than owners. In owner-occupied households, the Vietnamese and Filipinos had the largest household sizes at 4.8 people per household. White and Japanese homeowners had the smallest average household size, under 3.0 people per household. Among renter-occupied households, Micronesians had the largest average household size and White residents had the lowest average household size.

Household size plays a role in the number of earners available to contribute to household finance, with single-person households potentially struggling more with expenses than households with multiple earners. At the same time, households with many occupants may experience crowding, which is associated with adverse physical and mental health outcomes.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup> WHO Housing and Health Guidelines, Household crowding (2018). Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK535289/>

**Table 7. Average Household Size for Owner and Renter Households**  
(by householder race)

Race Alone or in Combination	Total households <sup>1</sup>	Average household size		
		Total	Owner-occupied	Renter-occupied
Total Population	478,413	2.95	3.06	2.77
White	212,462	2.80	2.94	2.62
Filipino	80,729	4.49	4.81	3.90
Japanese	108,327	2.92	2.98	2.71
Native Hawaiian	76,408	3.98	4.26	3.61
Chinese	61,603	3.46	3.65	3.06
Korean	17,004	3.25	3.92	2.48
Black or African American	15,736	3.14	3.86	2.87
Samoan	6,789	5.32	**	4.51
Micronesia	6,906	5.05	**	4.99
American Indian and Alaska Native	11,055	3.05	3.42	2.73
Vietnamese	4,546	3.81	4.87	2.99
Tongan	1,307	**	**	**
Okinawan	2,842	**	3.32	**

<sup>1</sup> The sum of individual race "alone or in combination" categories add to more than the total households because people who reported more than one race were tallied in each race category.

\*\* Estimates not shown due to large margins of error.

## Household composition

Knowing how families, children, and older individuals are arranged into households can help us understand family needs. There was an average of 478,400 households in Hawaii during the 2017-2021 period. Most households in Hawaii were family households, with 69.1 percent of households comprised of families. About a third of all households had at least one child living in it, and an estimated 38 percent of households had at least one person 65 or older living in it.

### Family households

Family households are defined as two or more people residing together and related by birth, marriage, or adoption. There was an average of 331,000 family households in Hawaii from 2017 to 2021. Average family household size and types of families by race are shown in Table 8 on the following page. Because total households include people living alone, the average family size was larger than the average household size— 3.51 for families compared to 2.95 for households. At almost 6 people per family, Samoans-headed households had the largest average family size. Households with White householders were the only group to have smaller average family sizes than the total population.

Almost all households with a Tongan householder (92.3 percent) were families. Contributing to this, Tongans had the highest rates of married couple households at 62.0 percent of all households.

Micronesia households had the highest rates of “other family” arrangements. Among the largest race

groups, Native Hawaiian and Filipino households had the highest rates of “other family” arrangements with children, which may include a single parent and child, a grandparent caring for children, or unmarried partners with children.

**Table 8. Average Family Size and Family Households by Type**  
(by householder race)

Race Alone or in Combination	Average family size	Married couple households			Other family households		
		Total	With own child(ren) under 18	Without own child(ren) under 18	Total	With own child(ren) under 18	Without own child(ren) under 18
Total Population	3.51	244,142	87,916	156,226	86,770	32,697	54,073
White	3.38	109,924	41,781	68,143	30,289	14,100	16,189
Filipino	4.97	44,819	18,894	25,925	20,192	8,042	12,150
Japanese	3.68	52,067	15,241	36,826	20,213	5,901	14,312
Native Hawaiian	4.57	35,273	13,870	21,403	22,841	10,985	11,856
Chinese	4.19	31,502	13,006	18,496	13,220	5,570	7,650
Korean	4.20	7,893	2,972	4,921	3,132	1,180	1,952
Black or African American	4.12	7,228	3,781	3,447	2,307	1,370	937
Samoan	5.89	3,364	1,811	1,553	2,191	953	1,238
Micronesia	5.22	3,210	2,131	1,079	2,797	1,665	1,132
American Indian and Alaska Native	3.83	4,969	2,236	2,733	2,172	1,125	1,047
Vietnamese	4.70	2,182	1,127	1,055	916	432	484
Tongan	**	810	398	412	396	164	232
Okinawan	**	1,342	460	882	664	160	504

<sup>1</sup> The sum of individual race "alone or in combination" categories add to more than the total households because people who reported more than one race were tallied in each race category.

\*\* Estimates not shown due to large margins of error.

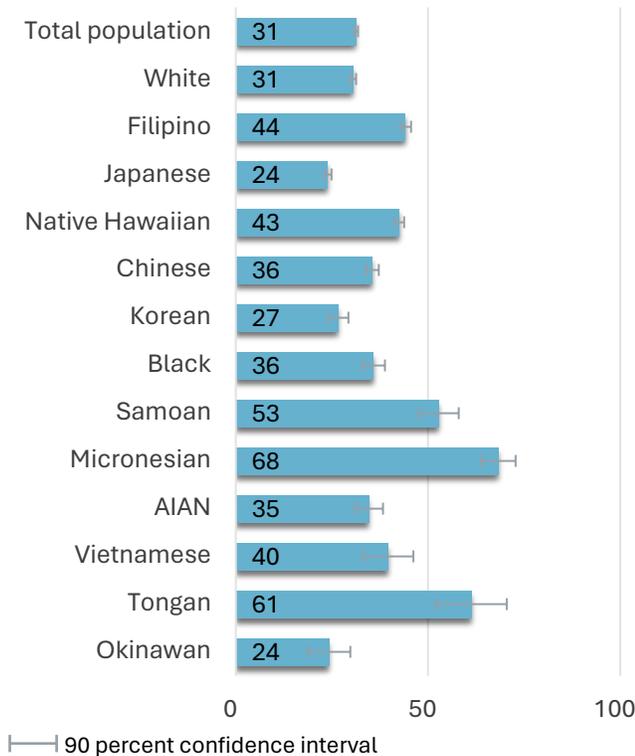
### Households with Children and Older Populations

About 150,000 households in Hawaii contained one or more children, representing 31 percent of all households during the 2017-2021 time period. Households headed by Micronesians, Tongans, and Samoans were more likely to contain children. Japanese, Okinawan, and Korean households were the least likely to contain children, with less than 3 in 10 households having children.

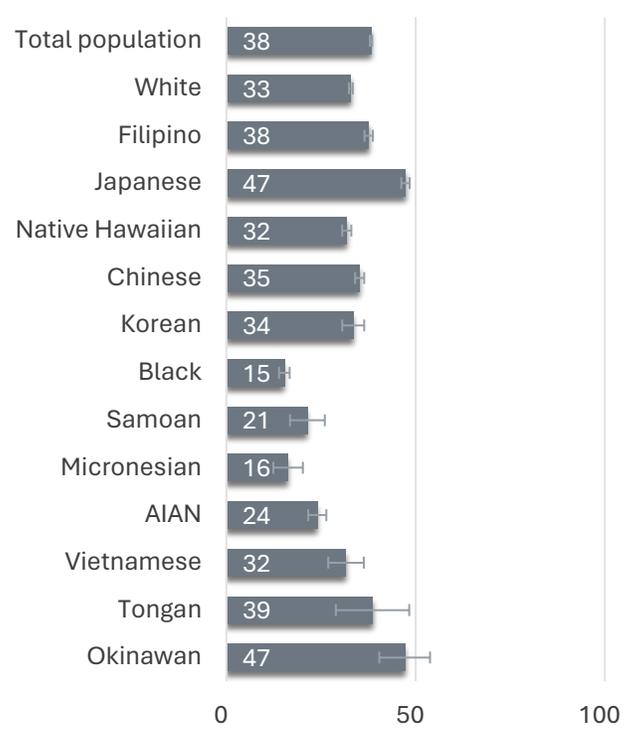
More households in Hawaii contained someone at retirement age than school age. About 183,000 households included someone aged 65 or older. As the inverse of households with children, Japanese- and Okinawan-led households were more likely to have at least one person aged 65 or older. At 15.2 percent of households, Hawaii’s Japanese and Okinawan households had the highest rates of seniors living alone, without partners, children, roommates, or other family.

Between 2017-2021, there were an average of 37,700 multigenerational households in Hawaii. Though statistics about multigenerational families are available for the total population, they are not available by race. However, households headed by Tongan and Filipino residents had high percentages of both children under the age of 18 and adults aged 65 or over, suggesting that these households are more likely to be multigenerational.

**Figure 7. Percent of Households with Children Under Age 18 (by householder race)**



**Figure 8. Percent of Households with Someone Aged 65 or Over (by householder race)**



### Living alone

Hawaii ranked 49<sup>th</sup> out of the states and Washington D.C. in terms of the percentage of people living alone; only in Utah and California did fewer people live alone. There were about 116,000 households that were made up of just one person during the 2017-2021 period, 10.7 percent of whom were seniors. Black/African American (30 percent of households) and Japanese (29 percent of households) residents were the most likely to live alone. Tongan (6 percent of households) and Micronesians (8 percent of households) residents were the least likely to live alone.

## Economic characteristics

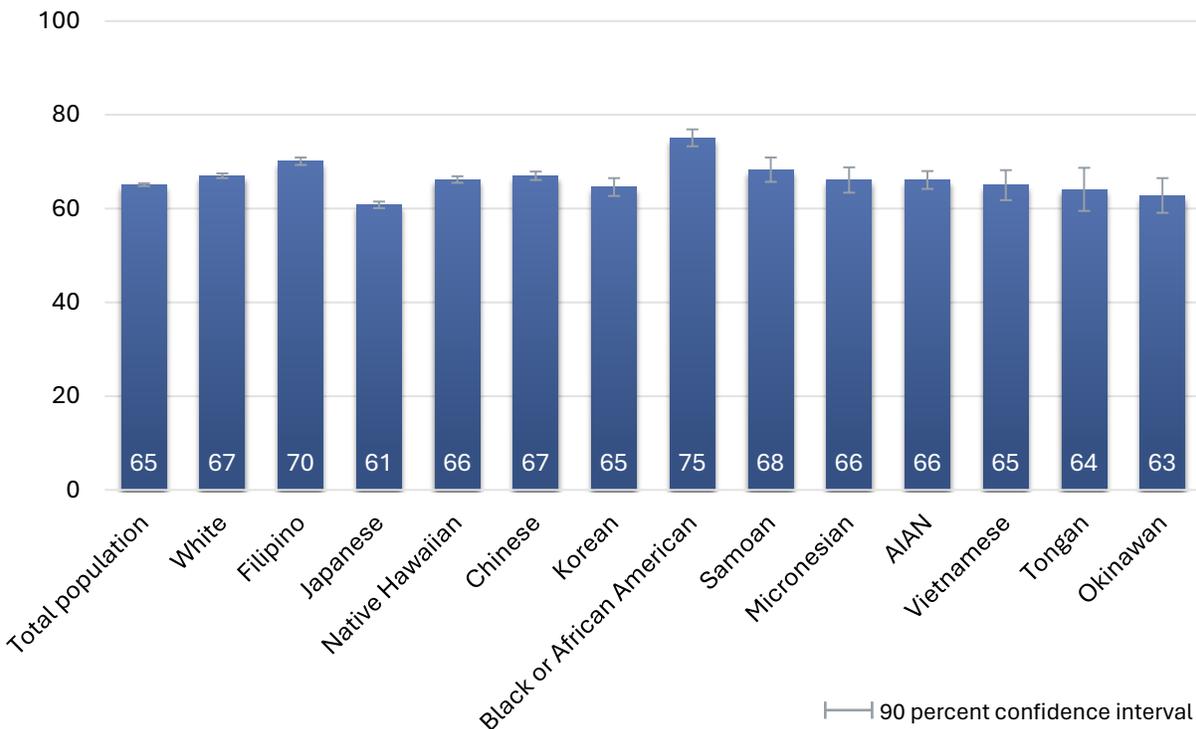
### Labor force participation

The labor force includes those who are employed, either as civilians or in the Armed Forces, and those who are actively looking for work. Though most of the adult population is in the labor force, people have many

reasons for not participating in it. Some exit the labor force by choice to raise children, care for family members, retire, or go to school. Others have left the labor force reluctantly—because they have become discouraged about their job search and have stopped looking or because they cannot find adequate childcare, transportation, or disability accommodations to facilitate their return, among other reasons.

The labor force participation rate measures the portion of people who are in the labor force among the working age population, which is defined as the population aged 16 and over in the American Community Survey. The labor force participation rate in Hawaii was 65.1 percent for the 2017-2021 period, 1.5 percentage points higher than the U.S. labor force participation rate in the period.<sup>7</sup>

**Figure 9. Labor Force Participation Rate**  
(percent of race group)



All race groups examined in this report had labor force participation rates of at least 60 percent. At 60.8 percent, Hawaii’s Japanese population was the only group to have a statistically lower labor force participation rate than the state average. However, this is likely explained by the Japanese population’s older age relative to the state average. Black/African Americans and Filipinos in Hawaii had the highest labor force participation rates, over 70 percent, during the 2017-2021 period. They also had some of the largest percentages of prime working age populations (people aged 25 to 54).

<sup>7</sup> The estimates of the labor force participation rate reported herein may differ from estimates reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates are based on the Current Population Survey. Survey and methodological differences between the American Community Survey and the Current Population Survey may produce differing estimates.

Men and women in Hawaii participate in the labor force in higher rates than the national average. However, women tend to have lower rates of participation than men (in Hawaii and nationally), especially during their childbearing years. Across all race groups in this study, men had higher participation rates than women. Gender parity in labor force participation rates were most closely found among Hawaii’s Samoan, Vietnamese, Native Hawaiian, and Filipino residents. The gender gap in labor force participation rates were largest for Tongans, Micronesians, and Koreans.

**Figure 10. Labor Force Participation Rate by Sex**  
(age 16 and over, percent of race group)

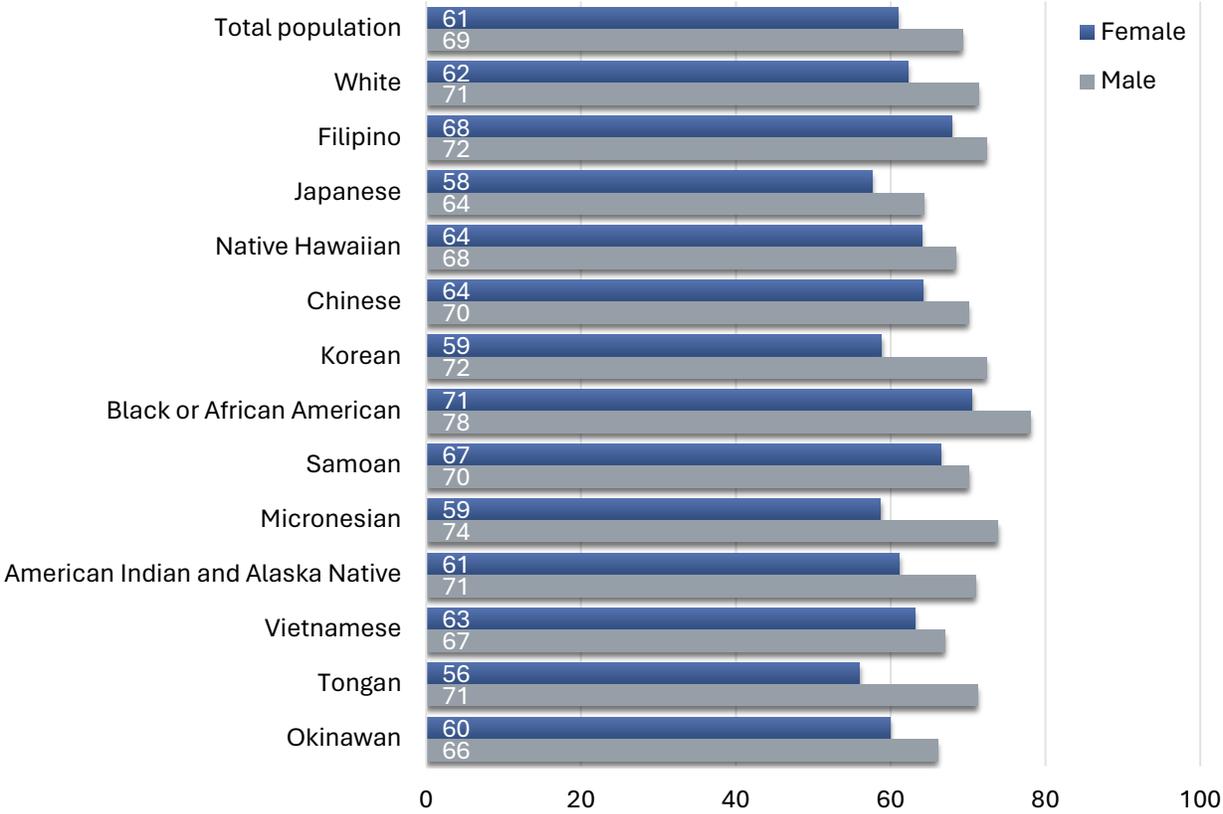


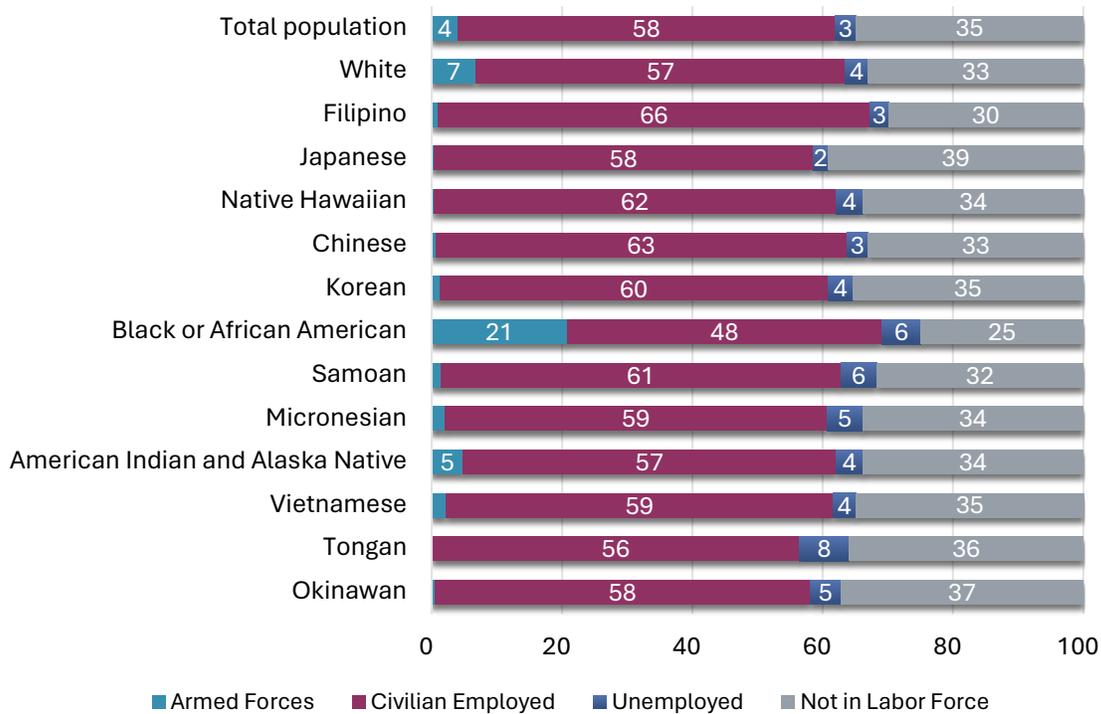
Figure 11 on the following page breaks down the employment status for the population age 16 and over by Armed Forces participation, civilian employment, unemployed and seeking work, and not in the labor force. Black/African Americans had the highest percentage of people aged 16 and over who were employed, at 69.1 percent. Among the largest race groups, Filipinos had the highest percentage at 67.3 percent.

Among the largest race groups, Hawaii’s Japanese residents had the highest percentage of people aged 16 and over who were either unemployed or not in the labor force (41.4 percent), but only 2.2 percent were unemployed. Overall, Tongans had the highest percentage of people aged 16 and over who were either unemployed or not in the labor force (43.6 percent). Lower levels of employment can be at least partially explained by the age structures for the Japanese and Tongans—24.0 percent of Hawaii’s Japanese

residents were retirement age, and Tongan residents were considerably younger than other groups and thus might have been in school instead of the labor force.

About one in five Black/African American residents aged 16 and over were in the Armed Forces during the 2017-2021 period. Hawaii’s White population (6.8 percent) was the only other group to have statistically higher rates of Armed Forces participation than the state average of 4.0 percent.

**Figure 11. Employment Status for Population Age 16 and Over**  
(percent of race group)



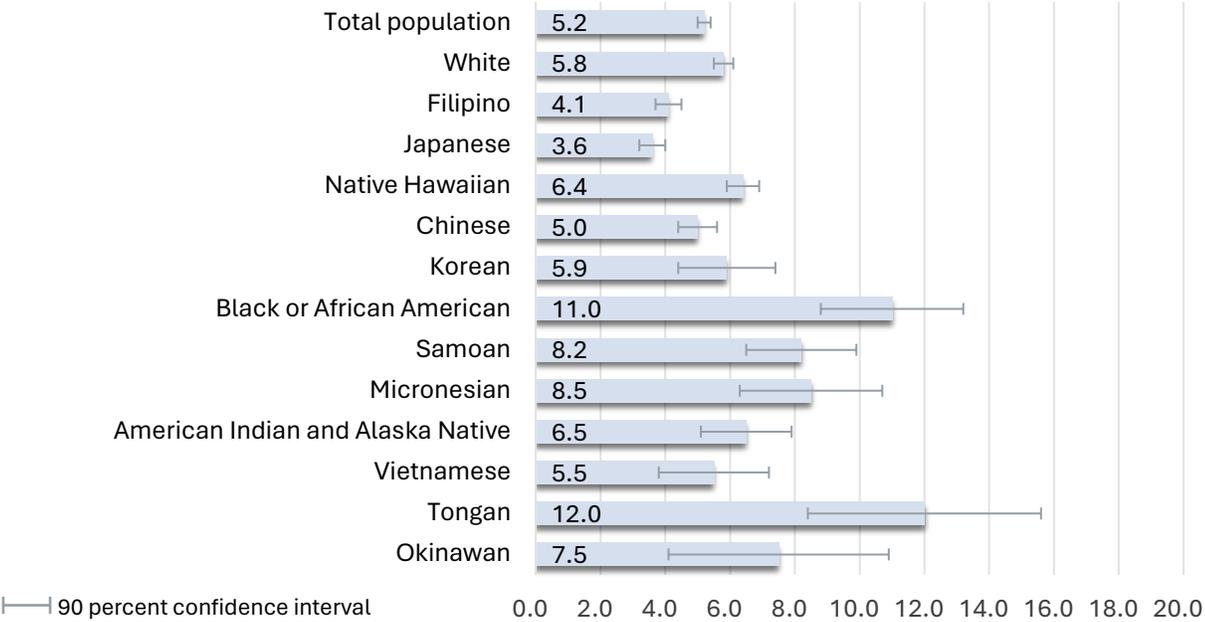
### Civilian unemployment rate

The civilian unemployment rate measures the percentage of unemployed people as a percentage of the civilian labor force. It does not include people not in the labor force or people in the Active Duty military. An annual average of 37,000 Hawaii residents were unemployed and actively seeking work during the 2017-2021 period.<sup>8</sup> Two groups had civilian unemployment rates that were statistically lower than the state unemployment rate of 5.2 percent: the Japanese and Filipinos. Whites, Native Hawaiians, Black/African Americans, Samoans, Micronesians, and Tongans had statistically higher unemployment rates than the total population, with Black/African Americans and Tongans having elevated levels of civilian unemployment.

<sup>8</sup> The estimates of the civilian unemployment rate reported herein may differ from estimates reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates are based on the Current Population Survey. Survey and methodological differences between the American Community Survey and the Current Population Survey may produce differing estimates.

It should be noted that the data shown here reflect the average economic characteristics during 2017-2021, and the state’s economy was widely variable over this period due to economic disruptions caused by COVID-19. Additionally, estimates of civilian unemployment rates had particularly large margins of error for most of Hawaii’s smaller race groups, as captured by the error bars in Figure 12. Thus, little comparison can be drawn between groups outside of Hawaii’s largest race groups.

**Figure 12. Civilian Unemployment Rate**  
(civilian population age 16 and over in the labor force, by race group)



**Class of workers**

During the 2017-2021 period, over 70 percent of civilian workers in Hawaii were private wage and salary employees. Tongans and Micronesians workers had the highest rates of private wage and salary jobs, with over 80 percent employed in the private sector. Among the five largest race groups, Filipino workers had the largest rates of private wage and salary jobs at 78.5 percent. Japanese workers had the lowest rates of private wage and salary employment among the largest race groups.

Over 20 percent of civilian workers were government employees. Black/African Americans had the highest rates of government employees at 28.0 percent of civilian workers. Most of those employees worked for the federal government, with 17.3 percent of all Black/African American civilian workers employed by the federal government. Of the five largest race groups, Japanese workers had the highest rates of government employees, working mostly in state government.

Business owners in Hawaii were more likely to have unincorporated businesses than incorporated businesses. Unincorporated businesses may include writers, tradespeople, freelancers, lawyers, salespeople, or gig workers like ride-share or food delivery drivers, among a host of other professions. During the 2017-2021 period, about two-thirds of business owners in Hawaii had unincorporated businesses. The Vietnamese population had the highest rates of self-employment in unincorporated

businesses at 14.1 percent of the civilian employed population. Compared to the national average (5.9 percent), Hawaii (6.9 percent) had higher rates of self-employment in unincorporated businesses.

**Table 9. Class of Worker for the Civilian Employed Population**  
(percent by race group)

<b>Race Alone or In Combination</b>	<b>Private wage and salary workers</b>	<b>Government employees</b>	<b>Self-employed in own not incorporated business</b>	<b>Unpaid workers</b>
Total population	72.0	20.9	6.9	0.2
White	70.2	20.6	8.9	0.3
Filipino	78.5	17.7	3.6	0.1
Japanese	68.4	26.2	5.3	0.1
Native Hawaiian	73.4	22.1	4.3	0.2
Chinese	71.6	22.0	6.2	0.2
Korean	72.4	20.5	7.0	0.2
Black or African American	65.9	28.0	5.6	0.5
Samoan	75.3	21.0	3.7	0.0
Micronesian	81.2	15.9	2.8	0.0
American Indian and Alaska Native	70.8	19.6	9.6	0.1
Vietnamese	72.2	13.5	14.1	0.3
Tongan	85.4	10.3	4.3	0.0
Okinawan	67.7	24.3	8.0	0.0

## Median earnings

Hawaii’s median earnings for full-time, year-round workers were \$41,200 in 2021 inflation-adjusted dollars.<sup>9</sup> Hawaii’s full-time workers made about \$2,500 more in earnings than the U.S. average, but Hawaii ranked only 14<sup>th</sup> in the nation in median full-time earnings despite having some of the highest costs of living in the country.

There were significant differences in earnings by race group, as shown in Figure 13. These differences in median earnings for full-time, year-round workers are the result of several factors, including educational attainment, occupation, age, and English proficiency. Among the race groups studied, Hawaii’s Pacific Islander workers earned the least, with median earnings under \$35,000 annually. These groups represent the youngest populations in Hawaii with some of the lowest rates of college education. Okinawan (\$50,100) and Japanese (\$48,300) workers, two of Hawaii’s oldest race groups with above average educational attainment, had the highest median earnings for full-time, year-round workers. Among Hawaii’s largest race groups, Filipinos and Native Hawaiians earned the least, both with median annual earnings under \$40,000 for full-time, year-round work.

<sup>9</sup> The estimates of earnings reported herein may differ from estimates reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates are based on the Current Population Survey.

Figure 13. Median Annual Earnings for Full-Time, Year-Round Workers  
(2021 inflation-adjusted dollars)

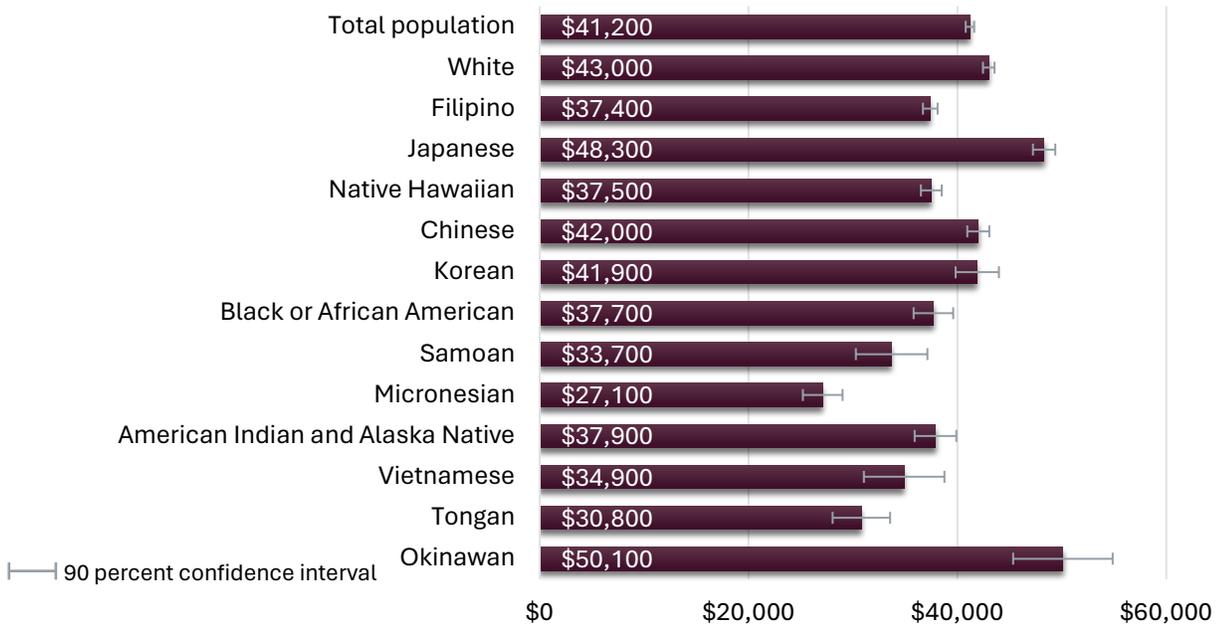
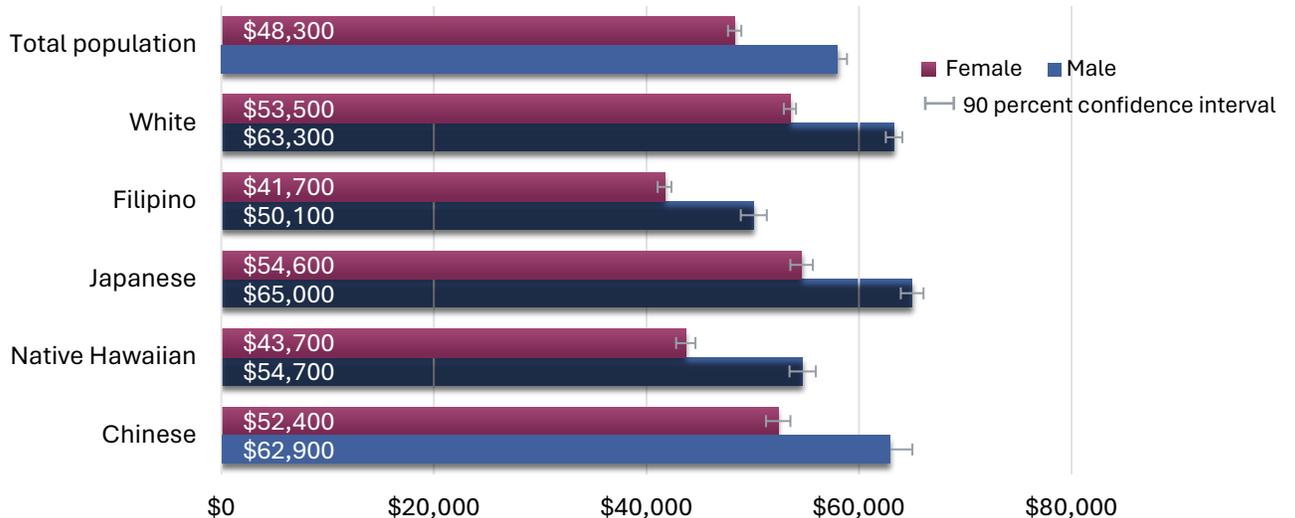


Figure 14 shows the median annual earnings for full-time, year-round workers by sex for Hawaii's largest race groups. Men had statistically higher median earnings than women among full-time, year-round workers. Filipinos had the smallest gender gap in median earnings among the groups shown below, but the gap between men and women's pay was still \$8,400 annually. Among all race groups, Black/African Americans had the smallest gender gap in median earnings, with men earning \$1,700 more than women on average. The largest wage gap for full-time, year-round workers was between Native Hawaiian men and women, with Native Hawaiian men outearning Native Hawaiian women by \$11,000 on average.

Figure 14. Median Annual Earnings for Full-Time, Year-Round Workers by Sex, for Hawaii's Largest Race Groups  
(2021 inflation-adjusted dollars)



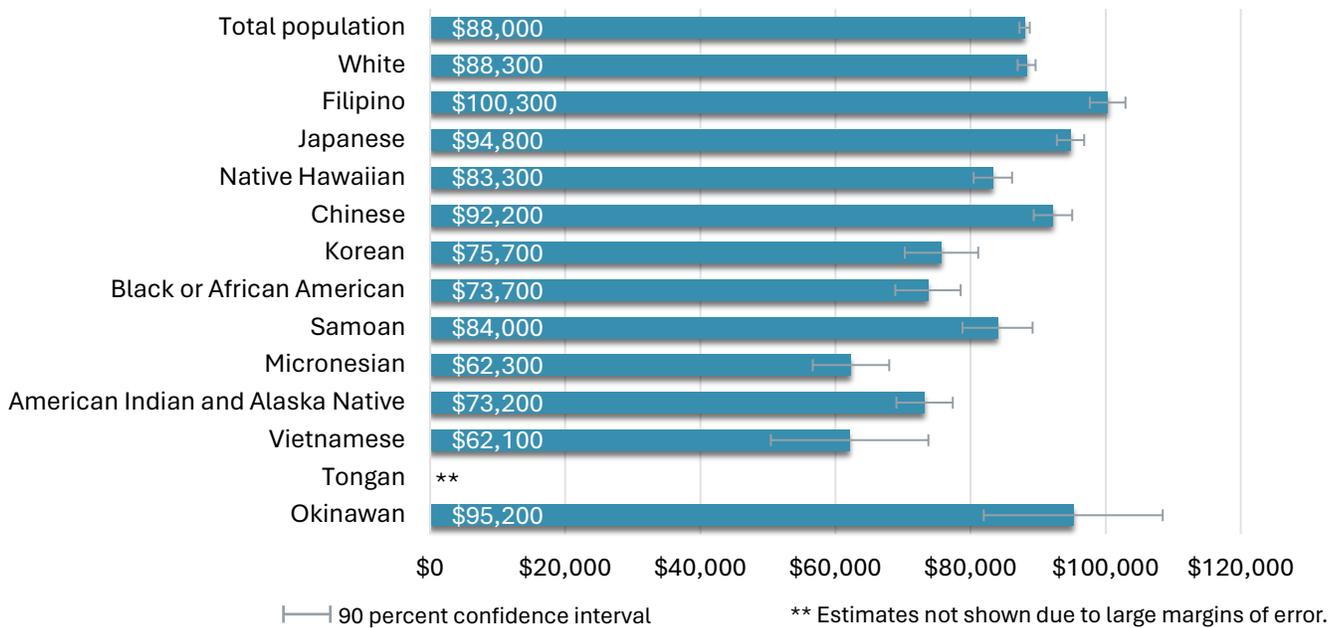
## Income

For most households, the primary source of income is through earnings (wage, salary, and tips), but households may also have Social Security and retirement income, income received from public assistance, or income from rental properties. In Hawaii, 80.4 percent of households had earnings, 36.2 percent had Social Security income, and 28.0 percent had retirement income. Only 4.1 percent of households received Supplemental Security Income (SSI) income and 3.7 percent received cash public assistance. More households in Hawaii (29.2 percent) had income from interest, dividends, and rental properties than the U.S. average (20.2 percent).

### Median Household Income

The median household income is a measure of the income available to a typical household. Median household income is not adjusted for household size; thus, the number of earners in the household can impact the median income, with more earners typically raising the median and one-earner households typically lowering the median.

**Figure 15. Median Household Income**  
(2021 inflation-adjusted dollars, by householder race)



The median household income in Hawaii was \$88,000 during the 2017-2021 period. Hawaii’s household income was 22 percent higher than the U.S average of \$69,000. Three race groups had median household incomes which were statistically higher than the state median: Filipino, Japanese, and Chinese households. Among those groups, only Japanese residents had median annual, full-time earnings that were higher than the state’s median annual earnings.

Despite having average household sizes that were larger than the state’s average, Native Hawaiian, Korean, Black/African American, Micronesia, and Vietnamese households had median household incomes that

were statistically lower than the state. However, the number of earners in a household are not available by race, so it is unclear how average household size translates to the number of earners per household.

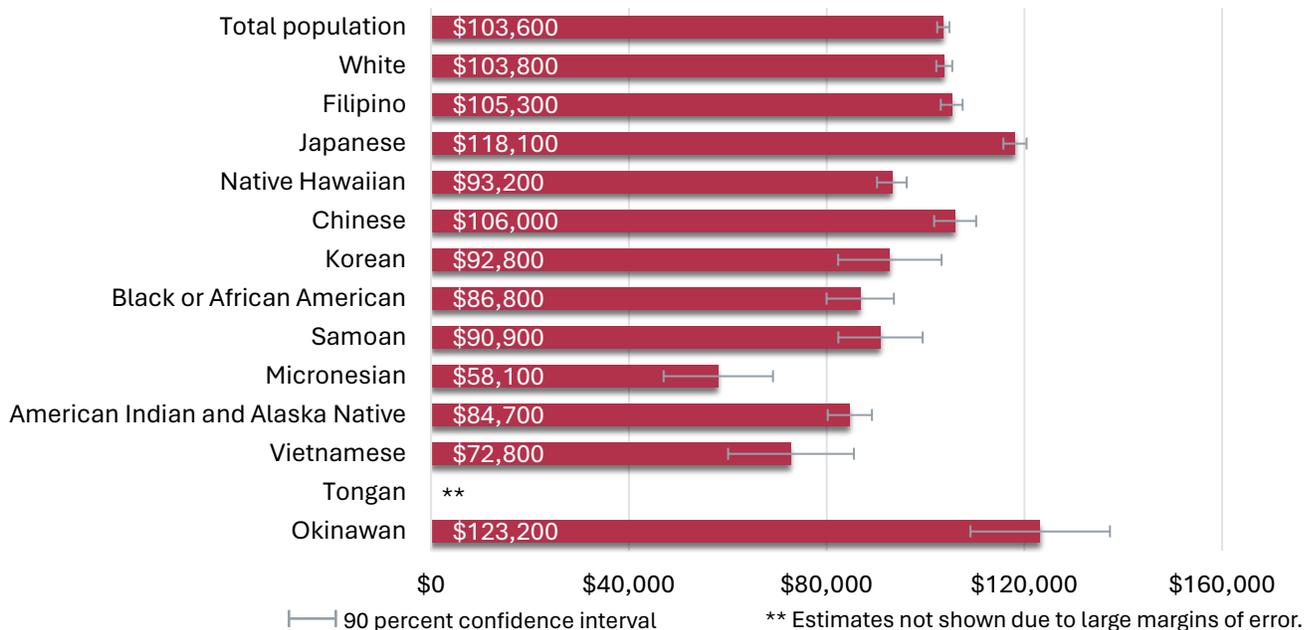
### Median Family Income

About 40 percent of families in Hawaii had two earners (full- or part-time), and another 17 percent of families had three earners. Around 30 percent of families had a single earner, while 13 percent had no earners. Data on the number of earners in a family are not available by race. Like median household income, median family income is not adjusted for family size.

Median family income is typically higher than median household income. Family households are typically larger, with householders that are more likely to be in their prime working (and earning) age. Since most households are families, though, similar patterns are found between median household and family incomes.

The median family income in Hawaii was \$103,600, which was 18 percent higher than the U.S. average. Japanese and Okinawan families had statistically higher median incomes than the state. Median family incomes for Filipino and Chinese residents were not statistically different from the state median, despite median household incomes being higher. Among Hawaii’s largest race groups, the typical Native Hawaiian household and family trailed economically, with median household and family incomes lower than the state medians.

**Figure 16. Median Family Income**  
(2021 inflation-adjusted dollars, by householder race)



### Per Capita Income

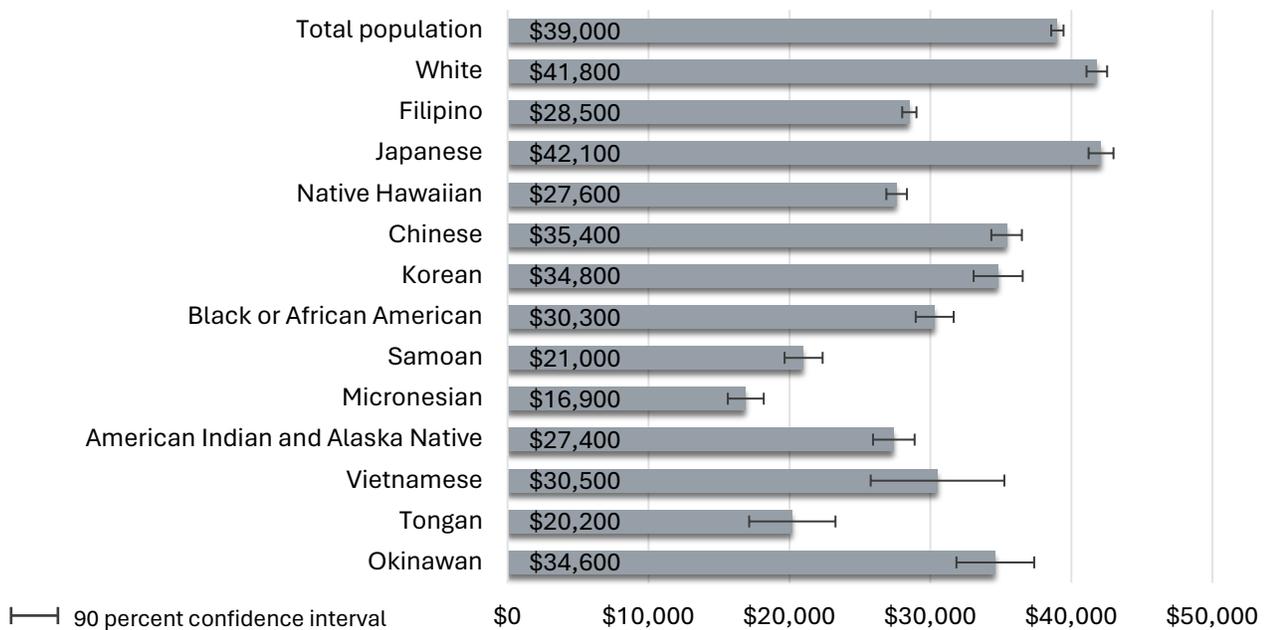
Per capita income is the mean income computed for every man, woman, and child living in an area. It is calculated by aggregating the income of a particular group and dividing that by the total population of the

group. Hawaii’s per capita income was \$39,000 between 2017-2021, which was only 3.6 percent higher than the U.S. per capita income of \$37,600.

This narrow gap between per capita incomes suggests that household structure plays a major role in Hawaii’s high median household and family incomes. Hawaii ranked first in the nation for multigenerational families and second in average household size. More adults in the home means that more people can contribute to the household income and financial upkeep of the home. This is especially necessary in Hawaii, where a higher percentage of households are cost-burdened than the U.S. average.

Hawaii’s Japanese and White residents had higher per capita incomes than the total population. Despite their high median household income, Filipinos made about \$10,500 less per capita than the total population. Micronesians, Tongans, and Samoans had the lowest per capita incomes; however, about 40 percent of Micronesian, Tongan, and Samoan residents were children under the age of 18. In comparison, only about 20 percent of the total population was under the age of 18. Although Micronesians as a group had a per capita income of \$16,900, Chamorros had a per capita income of \$26,200, which was more on par with Native Hawaiians than the other Pacific Islanders studied.

**Figure 17. Per Capita Income**  
(2021 inflation-adjusted dollars)



### Social Security and retirement

Although Social Security and retirement income are often associated with older people that have permanently exited the workforce, many people still work in some capacity while drawing Social Security or retirement/pension income. Social Security income is primarily triggered by age, so the percentage of households with this income type closely matched the percentage of households with someone over the age of 65. Fewer households, though, had retirement income. This is because retirement income is more

closely linked with having worked a full-time, year-round wage and salary job, and there are more barriers to drawing retirement income while still working.

Black/African American-led households had a higher percentage of households that received retirement income than Social Security income. However, a quarter of all Black/African American civilian adults were veterans, and members of the Armed Forces are eligible for retirement after 20 years of service. Thus, civilian veterans that served in the military in early adulthood would become eligible for retirement well before their 60s.

The mean annual Social Security income for households in Hawaii was \$21,970 between 2017-2021. This was only about \$900 more than the U.S. average. The mean annual retirement income for households was \$34,390, which was about \$4,700 more per year than the U.S. average. Hawaii’s Japanese-led households were the only households that had higher average Social Security and retirement incomes than the state’s averages.

**Table 10. Households with Retirement and Social Security Income**

Race Alone or In Combination	Social Security income		Retirement income	
	Percent of households receiving	Mean income <sup>1</sup>	Percent of households receiving	Mean income <sup>1</sup>
Total population	36.2	\$21,970	28.0	\$34,390
White	31.8	\$22,310	25.0	\$34,810
Filipino	36.3	\$21,110	26.8	\$26,330
Japanese	43.7	\$23,660	37.8	\$38,860
Native Hawaiian	32.4	\$20,510	24.7	\$28,920
Chinese	33.2	\$20,860	25.3	\$36,940
Korean	29.7	\$19,870	19.1	\$36,720
Black or African American	15.8	\$19,080	19.1	\$25,740
Samoan	25.7	\$15,760	13.4	\$20,830
Micronesian	**	**	**	**
American Indian and Alaska Native	23.3	\$18,220	18.3	\$24,760
Vietnamese	26.1	\$16,240	**	**
Tongan	**	**	**	**
Okinawan	45.8	\$21,390	37.6	**

<sup>1</sup> 2021 inflation-adjusted dollars.

\*\* Estimates not shown due to large margins of error.

## Housing costs

In this report, housing costs are measure by gross rent and selected monthly owner costs (SMOC). The Census definition of gross rent is the contract rent plus the estimated cost of utilities that are paid for by the renter. It is a measure of average monthly housing expenses for renters. Selected monthly owner costs are a comparable measure of housing costs for owners. SMOC includes mortgage payments, real estate

taxes, insurances, utilities, fuels, mobile home costs, and condominium fees. Neither measure takes the size or housing value of the housing unit into consideration.

Monthly housing costs are highest for owners with mortgages. Between 2017-2021, a typical renter in Hawaii paid \$830 less than a typical owner with a mortgage. However, the median monthly cost for homes owned free-and-clear was \$1,200 less than Hawaii’s median rent. So, while renters save money in the short term, they lose out on eventual savings, home equity, and wealth generation through property appreciation.

Black/African American households had the highest median rent at \$2,210. They also had some of the lowest rates of homeownership among the groups studied. Higher rents and lower homeownership, though, are likely related to the transient nature of military deployment in Hawaii. The Vietnamese population had the lowest median rent at \$1,270, which was about 27 percent less than the median gross rent for the state.

Tongans and Black/African American households had the highest monthly owner costs for households with mortgages, at \$3,200 and \$3,110, respectively. However, only about 28 percent of Tongan and Black/African American householders were homeowners in Hawaii. Among groups with over 60 percent homeownership rates, Okinawan and Chinese homeowners with mortgages paid the most, at around \$2,600 per month. Among all owners with mortgages, Native Hawaiian homeowners paid the least, at around \$2,250 a month typically.

**Table 11. Median Owner and Renter Costs**  
(by householder race, in 2021 inflation-adjusted dollars)

Race Alone or In Combination	Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs (SMOC)		Median Gross Rent
	With mortgages	Without mortgages	
Total population	\$2,590	\$570	\$1,760
White	\$2,660	\$610	\$1,970
Filipino	\$2,550	\$520	\$1,540
Japanese	\$2,520	\$570	\$1,570
Native Hawaiian	\$2,250	\$460	\$1,490
Chinese	\$2,620	\$610	\$1,460
Korean	\$2,730	\$740	\$1,560
Black or African American	\$3,110	\$710	\$2,210
Samoan	\$2,750	\$630	\$1,720
Micronesia	\$2,540	\$550	\$1,410
American Indian and Alaska Native	\$2,380	\$560	\$1,830
Vietnamese	\$2,800	\$630	\$1,270
Tongan	\$3,200	\$860	\$1,670
Okinawan	\$2,670	\$600	\$1,380

## Cost-burdened households

Households that spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing costs are considered cost-burdened. People in these households may face difficulties meeting other basic needs, like healthy foods, doctor visits, reliable transportation, or utility bills. Cost-burdened households may struggle to save money, meaning they have less of a safety net available to them in the face of an unexpected life change or major expense.<sup>10</sup> These burdens are amplified for households paying more than 50 percent of their income on housing; however, we are unable to separate cost-burdens by level of severity using these data.

From 2017-2021, over 173,000 households in Hawaii, 36.0 percent were cost-burdened. As shown by Figure 18 below, Hawaii renter households were more likely than owners to be cost-burdened, with over half of all renters in Hawaii meeting the criteria. Homeowners with mortgages did not fare much better than renters, though; about 40 percent of homeowners with mortgages were cost-burdened between 2017-2021.

**Figure 18. Cost-Burdened Renter and Owner Households**  
(percent of renter and owner households, by householder race)



— 90 percent confidence interval

\*\* Estimates not shown due to large margins of error.

Black/African American and White renters were statistically most likely to pay 30 percent or more of their reported incomes on housing. However, the American Community Survey does not directly ask about cash compensation for the military’s basic allowance for housing (BAH), so it is unclear if BAH is included in these calculations of income or housing cost burdens.

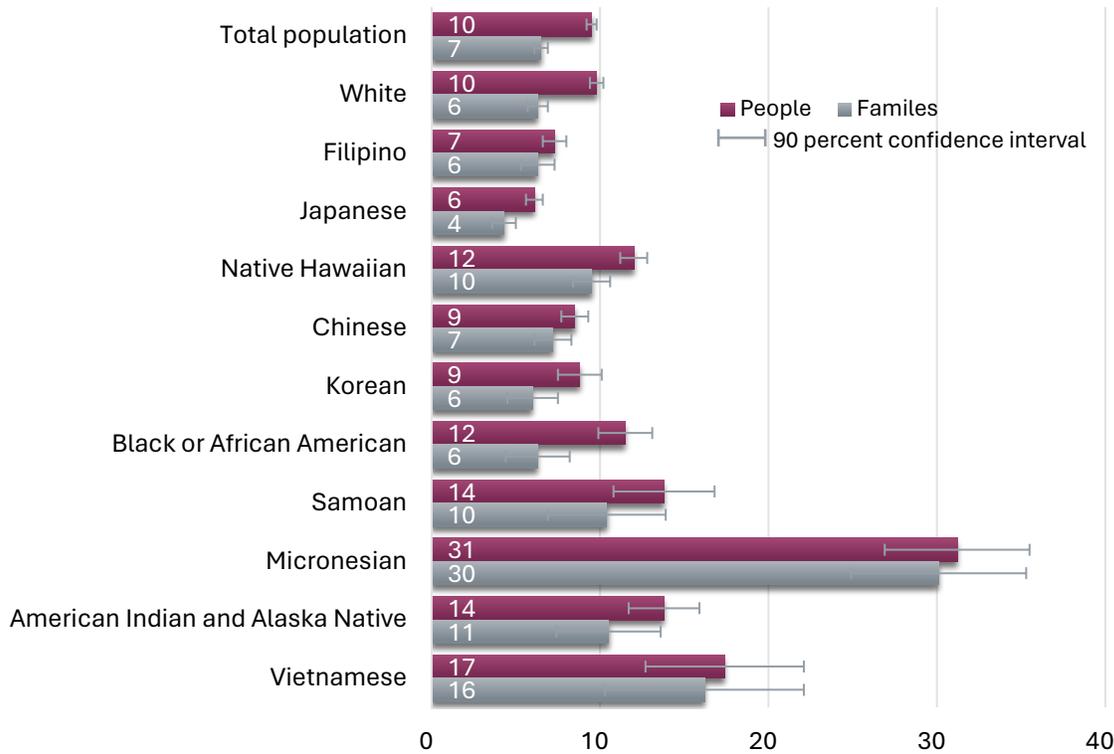
<sup>10</sup> Harvard University, Joint Center for Housing Studies, *The State of the Nation’s Housing 2023* (2023). Available at <https://www.jchs.harvard.edu/state-nations-housing-2023>

Vietnamese and American Indian and Alaska Native owners with mortgages were most likely to be cost-burdened, with over 50 percent of such households paying at least 30 percent of their income on rent. Among the largest race groups, Native Hawaiians had the lowest rate of cost-burdened owner households, though a third of Hawaiian owner households still faced high housing costs relative to their household incomes.

## Poverty

People living below the poverty threshold can struggle with limited access to food, clothing, shelter, health care, and education. Many families in poverty are cash-constrained and have little access to savings or low-cost sources of credit. Hawaii’s individual poverty rate was 9.5 percent between 2017-2021, and the poverty rate among families was 6.5 percent. Both poverty rates were lower than the U.S. average; however, this measure of poverty does not account for Hawaii’s cost of living and may underrepresent the number of people and families struggling financially.

**Figure 19. Percentage of Families and People Who Live in Poverty**  
(for families and people for whom poverty status can be determined)



Estimates for Tongan and Okinawan not shown due to large margins of error.

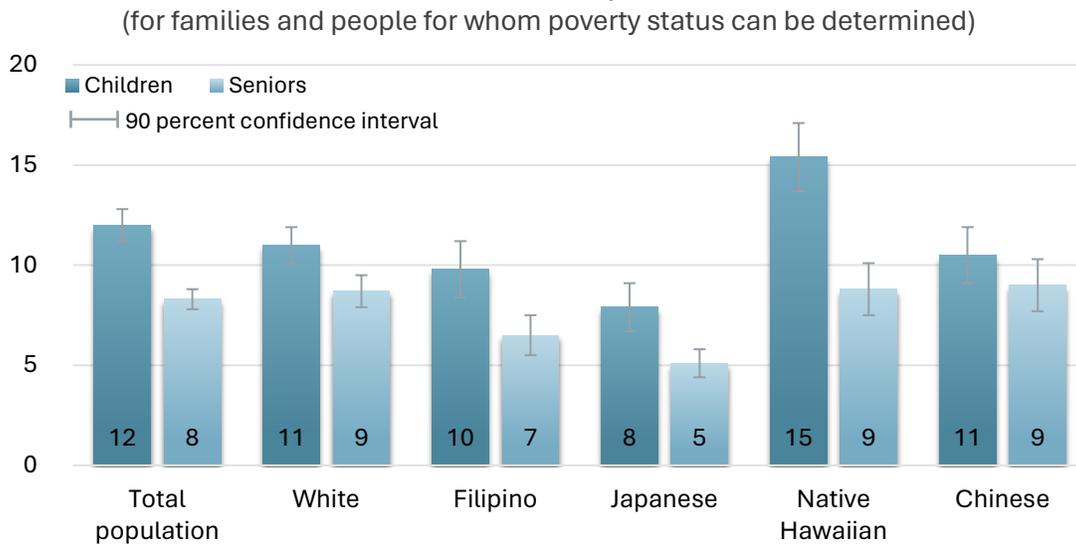
Like all other economic indicators studied in this report, poverty rates varied significantly between race groups. Some groups experienced very little poverty while others experienced double-digit levels. Hawaii’s Japanese population had the lowest poverty rates for both families (4.3 percent) and individuals (6.1 percent). Among the largest race groups, Native Hawaiians had the highest poverty rates for individuals and families, with 9.5 percent of families and 12.0 percent of people living below the poverty level. Micronesians had the highest rates of people living in poverty out of all groups studied. However, poverty

rates varied between Micronesian groups as well, with Chamorros having smaller, though still elevated, poverty rates than the group overall.

### Children and Seniors in Poverty

Children living in poverty are more likely to experience hunger, homelessness, and worse physical and behavioral health. They are more likely to struggle in school as a result of these circumstances, especially if the students go to underresourced schools.<sup>11</sup> Seniors are also particularly vulnerable to poverty, as constrained incomes later in life may not be able to keep up with the high costs of healthcare and housing.<sup>12</sup> As a result, there are many state and federal programs that target childhood and senior poverty in order to limit the duration and negative impacts they have.

**Figure 20. Percentage of Children and Seniors Who Live in Poverty for Hawaii’s Largest Race Groups**



In Hawaii, the percentage of children in families experiencing poverty was 12.0 percent, which was higher than the total percentage of families in poverty. Among the state’s largest groups, children in Native Hawaiian families had the highest rates of poverty at 15.4 percent. While only 4.3 percent of all Japanese families were living in poverty, the percentage of children in Japanese families who lived in poverty was 7.9 percent.

The percentage of seniors living in poverty was 8.3 percent, which was smaller than the total percent of people living in poverty. None of the Hawaii’s largest race groups had senior poverty rates that were statistically higher than the state’s senior poverty rate, but Japanese and Filipino seniors were statistically less likely to live in poverty than the total senior population.

<sup>11</sup> National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, *A Roadmap to Reducing Child Poverty* (February 2019). Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK547371/>

<sup>12</sup> Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Research and Economic Analysis Division, *The Elderly Population in Hawaii: Current Living Circumstances and Housing Options* (December 2021). Available from: [https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/economic/reports/Elderly\\_Population\\_in\\_Hawaii-Housing\\_Dec2021.pdf](https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/economic/reports/Elderly_Population_in_Hawaii-Housing_Dec2021.pdf)

## Health insurance

There were around 56,000 Hawaii residents without health insurance during the 2017-2021 period. At 96.0 percent, Hawaii had the third highest rate of health insurance for its civilian noninstitutionalized population, after Massachusetts and Washington D.C. Only Micronesian residents' insurance rates were below 90 percent, at 87.9 percent. However, Chamorros had insurance rates of 96.0 during this period, so the lower insurance rates for Micronesians were likely due to nuances of the COFA and health insurance coverage. Medicaid eligibility to COFA migrants was not restored until 2021, the final year of the survey period.<sup>13</sup>

Hawaii had higher rates of private health insurance (76.3 percent) than the U.S. average (67.8 percent). Higher rates of private health insurance in Hawaii are likely driven by the requirement for employers in Hawaii to provide employees with access to health insurance coverage if they work more than 20 hours a week, a requirement which is not common to all states.<sup>14</sup> Among Hawaii's largest race groups, the Japanese population had the highest rates of private health insurance at 84.6 percent. Native Hawaiians had the lowest rates of private health insurance at 69.0 percent, though this was still larger than the U.S. average rates for private health insurance.

## Concluding remarks

This report delves into the social, economic, and household dynamics across Hawaii's many racial groups. It sheds light on the disparities in education, income, and available resources that impact Hawaii's diverse population. With this report, we aim to equip policymakers and program developers with insightful data that can be used to target and address the hurdles facing our population.

We caution readers from taking a simplistic view of these data, though. The variable circumstances faced by Hawaii's residents stem from a complex interplay of factors, including access to education and language support, levels of economic opportunity, migration status, and age. These data compare smaller populations that are still establishing themselves to groups that have been prospering in Hawaii for generations, and a difference in needs and circumstances are expected between them.

It is important to recognize that this report offers only a glimpse into a group's overall well-being. Factors such as family bonds and community cohesion significantly shape people's lives. Hawaii's population draws strength from various sources, including family, friends, neighbors, and community. Targeted policies that marry data with the rich cultural tapestries that exist in Hawaii are more likely to succeed, improving and strengthening Hawaii for today and into the future.

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<sup>13</sup> State of Hawaii Department of Human Services, Med-QUEST Division, "Congress has restored Medicaid eligibility for citizens from one of the Compact of Free Association (COFA) Nations residing in the United States." Available from: [https://medquest.hawaii.gov/en/about/recent-news/2021/COFA\\_Medicaid.html](https://medquest.hawaii.gov/en/about/recent-news/2021/COFA_Medicaid.html).

<sup>14</sup> State of Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, About Prepaid Health Care. Available from: <https://labor.hawaii.gov/dcd/home/about-phc/>

## Appendix: Demographic, Social, Economic, and Housing Profiles by Race Group

## Race Group: Total population

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	1,453,498	100.0%
One race	1,098,484	75.6%
Two or more races	355,014	24.4%

The characteristics below are based on the total population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

## Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 50.4%		Female 49.6%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 21.4%	18-64 years old 60.1%	65 years & older 18.5%	Median age 39.6
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 7.3%	High school diploma 26.8%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 53.7%	Graduate degree 12.2%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 81.8%	Born in Hawaii 52.9%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 10.8%	Not a U.S. citizen 7.4%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 74.1%	Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 14.7%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 11.2%	
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 4.0%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 8.8%	

## Household & Housing Characteristics

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
51.0%	18.1%	3.51	24.3%	6.5%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
61.0%	2.95	3.06	2.77	40.0%	55.3%

## Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
65.1%	5.2%	\$88,005	9.5%

## Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Top occupations	Share
Private wage and salary workers	72.0%	Management, business, and financial	14.5%
Government employees (civilian)	20.9%	Office and administrative support	12.1%
Self-employed	6.9%	Education, legal, community service, arts, & media	11.7%
Unpaid family workers	0.2%	Sales and related	10.4%
		Food preparation and serving related	7.9%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#).

Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.

## Race Group: White alone or in combination

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	615,223	42.3%
One race	344,295	23.7%
Two or more races	270,928	18.6%

The characteristics below are based on the "alone or in combination with one or more other races" population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

## Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 52.3%		Female 47.7%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 25.2%	18-64 years old 59.3%	65 years & older 15.5%	Median age 35.1
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 3.5%	High school diploma 23.4%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 56.5%	Graduate degree 16.6%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 95.1%	Born in Hawaii 43.7%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 2.8%	Not a U.S. citizen 2.1%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 89.0%	Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 9.2%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 1.8%	
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 6.8%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 10.9%	

## Household & Housing Characteristics (households with White householders)

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
51.7%	14.3%	3.38	25.6%	8.4%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
56.9%	2.80	2.94	2.62	42.7%	58.3%

## Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
67.0%	5.8%	\$88,286	9.8%

## Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Occupation	Share
Private wage and salary workers	70.2%	Management, business, and financial	16.9%
Government employees (civilian)	20.6%	Education, legal, community service, arts, & media	14.4%
Self-employed	8.9%	Office and administrative support	10.5%
Unpaid family workers	0.3%	Sales and related	10.1%
		Food preparation and serving related	6.9%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#). Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.

## Race Group: Filipino alone or in combination

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	367,430	25.3%
One race	213,048	14.7%
Two or more races	154,382	10.6%

The characteristics below are based on the "alone or in combination with one or more other races" population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

## Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 48.7%		Female 51.3%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 28.8%	18-64 years old 58.1%	65 years & older 13.1%	Median age 33.6
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 11.3%	High school diploma 31.2%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 52.6%	Graduate degree 4.8%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 68.1%	Born in Hawaii 58.9%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 21.1%	Not a U.S. citizen 10.8%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 60.9%		Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 19.7%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 19.4%
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 1.0%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 5.4%	

## Household & Housing Characteristics (households with Filipino householders)

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
55.5%	25.0%	4.97	13.9%	5.5%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
64.6%	4.49	4.81	3.90	38.2%	42.8%

## Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
70.1%	4.1%	\$100,286	7.3%

## Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Occupation	Share
Private wage and salary workers	78.5%	Office and administrative support	12.9%
Government employees (civilian)	17.7%	Sales and related	10.4%
Self-employed	3.6%	Food preparation and serving related	9.9%
Unpaid family workers	0.1%	Building and grounds cleaning & maintenance	9.5%
		Management, business, and financial	9.4%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#). Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.

## Race Group: Japanese alone or in combination

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	320,768	22.1%
One race	173,351	11.9%
Two or more races	147,417	10.1%

The characteristics below are based on the "alone or in combination with one or more other races" population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

## Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 48.4%		Female 51.6%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 22.4%	18-64 years old 53.6%	65 years & older 24.0%	Median age 44.0
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 3.6%	High school diploma 23.4%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 60.3%	Graduate degree 12.7%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 92.2%	Born in Hawaii 83.5%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 3.3%	Not a U.S. citizen 4.4%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 85.3%	Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 8.6%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 6.1%	
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 0.3%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 7.8%	

## Household & Housing Characteristics (households with Japanese householders)

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
48.1%	18.7%	3.68	28.6%	4.7%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
76.8%	2.92	2.98	2.71	35.8%	51.1%

## Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
60.8%	3.6%	\$94,826	6.1%

## Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Occupation	Share
Private wage and salary workers	68.4%	Management, business, and financial	16.9%
Government employees (civilian)	26.2%	Office and administrative support	15.8%
Self-employed	5.3%	Education, legal, community service, arts, & media	13.2%
Unpaid family workers	0.1%	Sales and related	11.1%
		Computer, engineering, and science	6.0%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#). Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.

## Race Group: Native Hawaiian alone or in combination

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	310,789	21.4%
One race	93,745	6.4%
Two or more races	217,044	14.9%

The characteristics below are based on the "alone or in combination with one or more other races" population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

## Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 50.5%		Female 49.5%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 33.5%	18-64 years old 56.0%	65 years & older 10.5%	Median age 30.3
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 6.7%	High school diploma 42.3%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 44.9%	Graduate degree 6.1%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 99.3%	Born in Hawaii 91.7%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 0.5%	Not a U.S. citizen 0.3%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 86.8%	Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 11.1%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 2.1%	
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 0.4%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 6.3%	

## Household & Housing Characteristics (households with Native Hawaiian householders)

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
46.2%	29.9%	4.57	18.3%	5.7%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
57.4%	3.98	4.26	3.61	35.0%	53.5%

## Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
66.2%	6.4%	\$83,317	12.0%

## Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Occupation	Share
Private wage and salary workers	73.4%	Office and administrative support	13.4%
Government employees (civilian)	22.1%	Management, business, and financial	11.4%
Self-employed	4.3%	Sales and related	10.2%
Unpaid family workers	0.2%	Education, legal, community service, arts, & media	10.0%
		Construction and extraction	8.7%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#).

Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.

## Race Group: Chinese alone or in combination

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	216,026	14.9%
One race	57,489	4.0%
Two or more races	158,537	10.9%

The characteristics below are based on the "alone or in combination with one or more other races" population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

## Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 48.3%		Female 51.7%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 30.6%	18-64 years old 55.6%	65 years & older 13.8%	Median age 33.7
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 9.0%	High school diploma 26.4%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 51.3%	Graduate degree 13.3%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 85.0%	Born in Hawaii 76.0%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 10.5%	Not a U.S. citizen 4.5%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 75.9%	Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 12.6%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 11.5%	
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 0.6%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 4.2%	

## Household & Housing Characteristics (households with Chinese householders)

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
51.1%	21.5%	4.19	22.6%	4.8%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
67.0%	3.46	3.65	3.06	38.4%	47.3%

## Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
67.0%	5.0%	\$92,187	8.5%

## Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Occupation	Share
Private wage and salary workers	71.6%	Management, business, and financial	15.3%
Government employees (civilian)	22.0%	Office and administrative support	12.8%
Self-employed	6.2%	Education, legal, community service, arts, & media	11.4%
Unpaid family workers	0.2%	Sales and related	10.4%
		Food preparation and serving related	8.4%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#). Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.

## Race Group: Korean alone or in combination

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	56,202	3.9%
One race	25,632	1.8%
Two or more races	30,570	2.1%

The characteristics below are based on the "alone or in combination with one or more other races" population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

## Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 45.3%		Female 54.7%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 27.2%	18-64 years old 58.5%	65 years & older 14.3%	Median age 36.3
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 8.5%	High school diploma 24.9%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 53.1%	Graduate degree 13.5%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 67.6%	Born in Hawaii 53.6%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 22.9%	Not a U.S. citizen 9.5%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 61.3%		Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 16.6%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 22.1%
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 1.2%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 5.6%	

## Household & Housing Characteristics (households with Korean householders)

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
46.4%	18.4%	4.20	28.0%	7.1%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
53.2%	3.25	3.92	2.48	40.7%	56.4%

## Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
64.6%	5.9%	\$75,731	8.8%

## Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Occupation	Share
Private wage and salary workers	72.4%	Management, business, and financial	16.0%
Government employees (civilian)	20.5%	Sales and related	12.5%
Self-employed	7.0%	Office and administrative support	12.5%
Unpaid family workers	0.2%	Education, legal, community service, arts, & media	10.7%
		Food preparation and serving related	9.6%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#). Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.

## Race Group: Black or African American alone or in combination

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	53,159	3.7%
One race	28,142	1.9%
Two or more races	25,017	1.7%

The characteristics below are based on the "alone or in combination with one or more other races" population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

### Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 58.1%		Female 41.9%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 32.7%	18-64 years old 62.0%	65 years & older 5.3%	Median age 26.5
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 4.0%	High school diploma 20.5%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 62.6%	Graduate degree 12.9%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 94.2%	Born in Hawaii 28.2%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 3.9%	Not a U.S. citizen 1.9%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 88.6%	Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 9.6%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 1.8%	
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 20.8%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 25.1%	

### Household & Housing Characteristics (households with Black householders)

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
45.9%	14.7%	4.12	30.1%	9.3%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
28.1%	3.14	3.86	2.87	47.6%	65.9%

### Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
75.1%	11.0%	\$73,717	11.5%

### Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Occupation	Share
Private wage and salary workers	65.9%	Management, business, and financial	17.3%
Government employees (civilian)	28.0%	Education, legal, community service, arts, & media	14.9%
Self-employed	5.6%	Office and administrative support	9.9%
Unpaid family workers	0.5%	Sales and related	9.5%
		Food preparation and serving related	7.6%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#). Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.

## Race Group: Samoan alone or in combination

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	37,223	2.6%
One race	13,982	1.0%
Two or more races	23,241	1.6%

The characteristics below are based on the "alone or in combination with one or more other races" population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

## Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 49.7%		Female 50.3%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 38.9%	18-64 years old 56.0%	65 years & older 5.1%	Median age 24.7
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 10.7%	High school diploma 45.4%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 39.1%	Graduate degree 4.7%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 85.4%	Born in Hawaii 68.0%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 8.7%	Not a U.S. citizen 6.0%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 67.4%	Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 23.3%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 9.3%	
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 1.4%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 5.1%	

## Household & Housing Characteristics (households with Samoan householders)

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
49.6%	32.3%	5.89	12.6%	5.6%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
28.5%	5.32	7.33	4.51	32.3%	49.9%

## Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
68.3%	8.2%	\$84,049	13.8%

## Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Occupation	Share
Private wage and salary workers	75.3%	Office and administrative support	17.6%
Government employees (civilian)	21.0%	Management, business, and financial	9.8%
Self-employed	3.7%	Sales and related	8.4%
Unpaid family workers	0.0%	Material moving	8.0%
		Protective services (fire, police, etc.)	7.3%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#). Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.

## Race Group: Micronesian alone or in combination

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	36,475	2.5%
One race	29,514	2.0%
Two or more races	6,961	0.5%

The characteristics below are based on the "alone or in combination with one or more other races" population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

## Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 50.5%		Female 49.5%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 39.2%	18-64 years old 56.9%	65 years & older 4.0%	Median age 24.3
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 21.1%	High school diploma 34.4%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 41.4%	Graduate degree 3.1%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 55.3%	Born in Hawaii 38.1%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 3.5%	Not a U.S. citizen 41.2%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 37.8%	Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 29.0%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 33.2%	
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 2.0%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 3.4%	

## Household & Housing Characteristics (households with Micronesian householders)

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
46.5%	40.5%	5.22	8.5%	4.6%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
15.1%	5.05	5.39	4.99	40.3%	47.4%

## Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
66.1%	8.5%	\$62,313	31.2%

## Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Occupation	Share
Private wage and salary workers	81.2%	Food preparation and serving related	16.7%
Government employees (civilian)	15.9%	Sales and related	11.1%
Self-employed	2.8%	Building and grounds cleaning & maintenance	10.9%
Unpaid family workers	0.0%	Material moving	8.8%
		Office and administrative support	8.4%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#). Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.

## Race Group: American Indian and Alaska Native alone or in combination

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	34,910	2.4%
One race	4,286	0.3%
Two or more races	30,624	2.1%

The characteristics below are based on the "alone or in combination with one or more other races" population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

### Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 50.7%		Female 49.3%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 34.4%	18-64 years old 57.3%	65 years & older 8.4%	Median age 28.9
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 7.8%	High school diploma 24.6%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 55.2%	Graduate degree 12.4%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 96.8%	Born in Hawaii 52.2%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 1.8%	Not a U.S. citizen 1.4%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 82.5%		Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 13.7%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 3.8%
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 4.8%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 12.4%	

### Household & Housing Characteristics (households with AIAN householders)

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
44.9%	19.6%	3.83	23.9%	11.5%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
45.7%	3.05	3.42	2.73	50.5%	59.4%

### Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
66.1%	6.5%	\$73,199	13.8%

### Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Occupation	Share
Private wage and salary workers	70.8%	Education, legal, community service, arts, & media	14.5%
Government employees (civilian)	19.6%	Management, business, and financial	13.3%
Self-employed	9.6%	Sales and related	10.1%
Unpaid family workers	0.1%	Office and administrative support	9.9%
		Food preparation and serving related	7.8%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#).

Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.

## Race Group: Vietnamese alone or in combination

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	17,655	1.2%
One race	11,741	0.8%
Two or more races	5,914	0.4%

The characteristics below are based on the "alone or in combination with one or more other races" population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

## Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 49.1%		Female 50.9%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 27.7%	18-64 years old 60.0%	65 years & older 12.3%	Median age 37.0
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 19.2%	High school diploma 27.2%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 43.8%	Graduate degree 9.8%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 50.5%	Born in Hawaii 37.6%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 40.1%	Not a U.S. citizen 9.5%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 35.0%	Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 21.9%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 43.1%	
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 2.2%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 3.0%	

## Household & Housing Characteristics (households with Vietnamese householders)

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
48.0%	20.1%	4.70	26.9%	4.9%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
43.7%	3.81	4.87	2.99	50.7%	57.2%

## Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
65.0%	5.5%	\$62,056	17.4%

## Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Occupation	Share
Private wage and salary workers	72.2%	Personal care and service	15.3%
Government employees (civilian)	13.5%	Food preparation and serving related	11.4%
Self-employed	14.1%	Sales and related	11.3%
Unpaid family workers	0.3%	Transportation	9.0%
		Education, legal, community service, arts, & media	8.9%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#). Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.

## Race Group: Tongan alone or in combination

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	10,457	0.7%
One race	Not available	Not available
Two or more races	Not available	Not available

The characteristics below are based on the "alone or in combination with one or more other races" population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

## Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 52.7%		Female 47.3%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 39.3%	18-64 years old 52.5%	65 years & older 8.2%	Median age 23.6
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 12.0%	High school diploma 46.9%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 38.0%	Graduate degree 3.2%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 72.0%	Born in Hawaii 55.4%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 13.4%	Not a U.S. citizen 14.5%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 51.4%	Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 33.5%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 15.1%	
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 0.1%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 1.8%	

## Household & Housing Characteristics (households with Tongan householders)

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
62.0%	30.3%	7.54	5.7%	2.0%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
28.8%	7.61	11.60	5.99	28.2%	58.5%

## Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
64.1%	12.0%	\$69,934	17.1%

## Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Occupation	Share
Private wage and salary workers	85.4%	Office and administrative support	13.4%
Government employees (civilian)	10.3%	Building and grounds cleaning & maintenance	11.2%
Self-employed	4.3%	Sales and related	10.8%
Unpaid family workers	0.0%	Education, legal, community service, arts, & media	9.8%
		Construction and extraction	9.4%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#).

Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.

## Race Group: Okinawan alone or in combination

	Population estimate	Percent of total population
Race alone or in combination	9,342	0.6%
One race	Not available	Not available
Two or more races	Not available	Not available

The characteristics below are based on the "alone or in combination with one or more other races" population estimates from the 2017-2021 5-year American Community Survey.

## Social and Demographic Characteristics

Sex	Male 47.3%		Female 52.7%	
Age distribution	Under 18 years 27.0%	18-64 years old 54.9%	65 years & older 18.1%	Median age 37.9
Educational attainment (25 years and older)	Less than high school diploma 4.5%	High school diploma 21.6%	Some college or Bachelor's degree 59.6%	Graduate degree 14.3%
Place of birth and citizenship status	Total native born 97.2%	Born in Hawaii 86.4%	Naturalized U.S. citizen 2.6%	Not a U.S. citizen 0.2%
Language used at home (5 years and over)	English only 91.4%	Language other than English & speaks English "very well" 6.6%	Language other than English & speaks English less than "very well" 2.0%	
Military & veteran status	Active-duty military (percent of labor force) 0.5%		Veteran (percent of civilians aged 18+) 6.2%	

## Household & Housing Characteristics (households with Okinawan householders)

Family households			Non-family households	
Married couple	Other family	Average family size	Living alone	Other non-family
47.2%	23.4%	4.07	25.8%	3.6%

Homeownership rate	Average household size			Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> owner households with mortgages	Percent of cost burdened <sup>1</sup> renter households
	Total	Owner	Renter		
77.6%	3.27	3.32	3.08	33.0%	30.2%

## Economic Characteristics

Labor force participation rate (16 years and over)	Civilian unemployment rate	Median household income (2021 inflation-adj. dollars)	People living in poverty
62.8%	7.5%	\$95,188	2.7%

## Employment Characteristics (civilian employees)

Class of workers	Share	Occupation	Share
Private wage and salary workers	67.7%	Management, business, and financial	18.0%
Government employees (civilian)	24.3%	Office and administrative support	14.9%
Self-employed	8.0%	Education, legal, community service, arts, & media	12.9%
Unpaid family workers	0.0%	Sales and related	9.1%
		Healthcare, practitioners and technicians	8.3%

<sup>1</sup> Households are considered cost burdened if they spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs.

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, [Selected Population Data Profiles](#).

Estimates are based on a survey and sampling error. See data tables in the above link for margins of error.