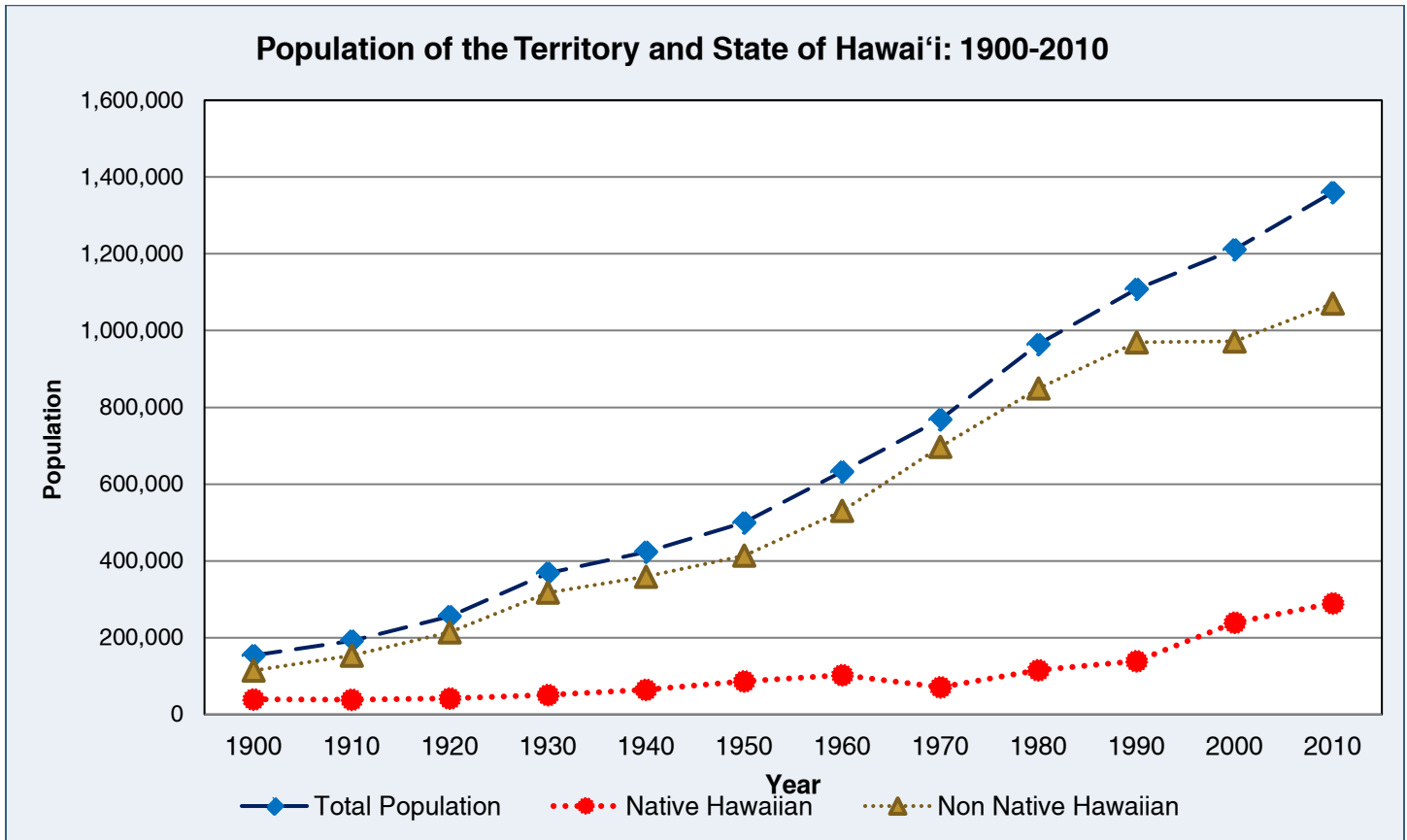


TRENDS: Demography



Population of the Territory and State of Hawai'i (US Census Bureau): 1900-2010



Source: Robert C. Schmitt, *Historical Statistics of Hawaii*. (Honolulu, 1977). US, Bureau of the Census. *Census 2000 Summary File 2* (SF 2) (January 16, 2002). US, Bureau of the Census. *Census 2010 Summary File 1* (SF 1) (June 16, 2011).

Note: Hawaiian as defined by the US Bureau of the Census. The Bureau's definition of Hawaiian/Part-Hawaiian/Native Hawaiian has changed over the decades. For Census 2000 and 2010, the question on "race" was revised to allow respondents the option to self-identify themselves by selecting one or more races to indicate their racial identities. The figure uses the "alone or in combination" totals.

Census Year	Total Population	Native Hawaiian	Non-Native Hawaiian
1900	154,001	39,656	114,345
1910	191,909	38,547	153,362
1920	255,912	41,750	214,162
1930	368,336	50,860	317,476
1940	423,330	64,310	359,020
1950	499,769	86,090	413,679
1960	632,772	102,403	530,369
1970	768,559	71,274	697,285
1980	964,691	115,500	849,191
1990	1,108,229	138,742	969,487
2000	1,211,537	239,655	971,882
2010	1,360,301	289,970	1,070,331

When Hawai'i became a US territory on August 12, 1898, Hawai'i became entitled for inclusion in the decennial census mandated by Article I, Section 2 of the United States Constitution. The US Census would provide a systematic accounting of the population throughout the Hawaiian Islands, providing data on its people and economy. The first US Census in the Hawaiian Islands was conducted in 1900. There had been previous population counts in the islands. There were several efforts made by missionary groups, the governments of the Kingdom of Hawai'i and Republic of Hawai'i. These efforts are often confused as the US Census. The US Census is conducted by the US government in US States and Territories, not in foreign countries.

Era	Year	Total	Island							
			Hawai'i	Kaho'olawe	Maui	Lāna'i	Moloka'i	O'ahu ¹	Kaua'i	Ni'ihau
Territory of Hawai'i	1900	154,001	46,843	—	24,797	619	2,504	58,504	20,562	172
	1910	191,874	55,382	2	28,623	131	1,791	81,993	23,744	208
	1920	255,881	64,895	3	36,080	185	1,784	123,496	29,247	191
	1930	368,300	73,325	2	48,756	2,356	5,032	202,887	35,806	136
	1940	422,770	73,276	1	46,919	3,720	5,340	257,696	35,636	182
	1950	499,794	68,350	—	40,103	3,136	5,280	353,020	29,683	222
State of Hawai'i	1960	632,772	61,332	—	35,717	2,115	5,023	500,409	27,922	254
	1970	769,882	63,468	—	38,691	2,204	5,261	630,497	29,524	237
	1980	964,660	92,053	—	62,823	2,119	6,049	762,534	38,856	226
	1990	1,108,229	120,317	—	91,361	2,426	6,717	836,231	50,947	230
	2000	1,211,537	148,677	—	117,644	3,193	7,404	876,156	58,303	160
	2010	1,360,301	185,079	—	144,444	3,135	7,345	953,207	66,921	170

¹ Includes outlying island legally part of the City and County of Honolulu: Palmyra (32 in 1940, uninhabited in 1950, and detached in 1959) and the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands from Nihoa to Kure but excluding Midway (14 in 1950, 15 in 1960, and 31 in 1970). Midway (35 in 1910, 31 in 1920, 36 in 1930, 437 in 1940, 416 in 1950, 2,356 in 1960, and 2,220 in 1970), often included with Oahu for census purposes, has never been under Hawaiian jurisdiction.

Source: Thrum's Hawaiian Almanac and Annual. Robert C. Schmitt, Demographic Statistics of Hawaii: 1778-1965. US Bureau of the Census, Census of Population: 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010

Contrary to hearsay and rumors, the US Census has always collected and reported data on “Hawaiians” as a distinctive people. Because of the limited number of Native Hawaiians in the other States, data is often aggregated with data from other racial groups and reported as “Asian and Pacific Islanders,” “Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander,” reporting classifications have also changed over the decades. Confusion often develops when people review these aggregated reports rather than reports generated for Hawai'i where the Hawaiian population is reported disaggregated.

The concept of race as used by the US Bureau of the Census reflects self-identification; it does not denote any clear-cut scientific definition of biological stock. During the following 2000 Census, the US Bureau of the Census changed the race category of “Hawaiian” to “Native Hawaiian.” The change was not a change in definition, but rather a change in terminology resulting from community input. The Bureau also modified the methodology used to collect race data. The Bureau's question on race was revised to allow respondents the option to self-identify themselves by selecting one or more races to indicate their racial identities. Due to the change, data on race is presented using different tabulation options. One option provides data on “race alone,” those who reported a single race category. The other option reports those who report a single category and

those who reported multiple categories, “alone or in any combination.” Due to the change, data on race from 2000 Census are not directly comparable with those from the 1990 census and previous censuses. For the 2000 Census, there were 80,137 reported as “Native Hawaiian alone,” and 239,655 reported as “Native Hawaiian alone or in any combination.” Those who identified themselves by a single race category does not indicate they are of a single race. Those who are classified as “Native Hawaiian alone,” does not indicate that they are “full-blooded Hawaiian” or are of “100% blood quantum,” any data should not be interpreted as such.

Race	Territory of Hawai'i					
	1900 ¹	1910 ¹	1920 ¹	1930 ¹	1940 ¹	1950 ¹
Hawaiian	29,799	26,041	23,723	22,636	14,375	12,245
Part Hawaiian	9,857	12,506	18,027	28,224	49,935	73,845
Caucasian	26,819	44,048	54,742	80,373	112,087	124,344
Puerto Rican	—	4,890	5,602	6,671	8,296	9,551
Portuguese	18,272	22,301	27,002	27,588	—	—
Spanish	—	1,990	2,430	1,219	—	114,793
Other Caucasian	8,547	14,867	19,708	44,895	—	—
Chinese	25,767	21,674	23,507	27,179	28,774	32,376
Filipino	—	2,361	21,031	63,052	52,569	61,062
Japanese	61,111	79,675	109,274	139,631	157,905	184,598
Korean	—	4,533	4,950	6,461	6,851	7,030
Negro/African American/ Black	233	695	348	563	255	2,651
American Indian	—	—	—	—	—	—
All others	415	376	310	217	579	1,618
Total	154,001	191,909	255,912	368,336	423,330	499,769

Race	State of Hawai'i					
	1960 ¹	1970 ²	1980 ²	1990 ²	2000 ³	2010 ³
Hawaiian	11,294	71,274	115,500	138,742	241,512	289,970
Part Hawaiian	91,109	—	—	—	—	—
Caucasian	202,230	301,429	318,770	369,616	476,812	564,323
Puerto Rican	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portuguese	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spanish	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Caucasian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chinese	38,197	52,375	56,285	68,804	170,439	198,711
Filipino	69,070	95,354	133,940	168,682	277,514	342,095
Japanese	203,455	217,669	239,748	247,486	295,875	312,292
Korean	—	9,625	17,962	24,454	41,119	48,699
Negro/African American/ Black	4,943	7,517	17,364	27,195	32,066	38,820
American Indian	472	1,216	—	—	—	—
All others	12,002	12,100	65,122	63,250	—	—
Total	632,772	768,559	964,691	1,108,229	1,211,537	1,360,301

¹ Persons of mixed stock, other than part Hawaiian, are classified by race of nonwhite parent if part Caucasian or by race of father if non-Caucasian. The 1853-1900 data are in some cases estimates from census tabulations on nationality

² Persons of mixed stock, including part Hawaiian, are classified either on the basis of self-identification or race of father. Many persons who would have been counted as part Hawaiians under the former definition were classified as Caucasian, Chinese, Filipino, or some other race in 1970.

³ Initiating with the 2000 U.S. Census, the Census Bureau's question on race was revised to allow respondents the option to self-identify themselves by selecting one or more races to indicate their racial identities. Due to the change, data on race is presented using different tabulation options. One option provides data on "race alone," for those who reported a single race category. The other option includes those who designated a single category and those who designated multiple categories, "alone or in any combination." Due to the change, data on race from Census 2000, subsequent censuses, and the American Community Survey (ACS) are not directly comparable with those from the 1990 census and previous censuses. Moreover, those who identified themselves by a single race category does not indicate they are of a single race. Consequently, those who are classified as "Hawaiian alone," does not indicate that they are "full-blooded Hawaiian" and any data should not be interpreted as such. Unless indicated, data from the 2000 or 2010 US Censuses use the "Native Hawaiian alone or in any combination" categorization.

Source: Andrew W. Lind, [Hawaii's People](#). Robert C. Schmitt, [Demographic Statistics of Hawaii: 1778-1965](#). US Bureau of the Census, [Census of Population: 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010](#).

There is no standardized definition of "Hawaiian"/ "Native Hawaiian." Caution should be exercised when comparing "Hawaiian"/ "Native Hawaiian" data from one source to another. The Census Bureau has its definition and it can be used for data comparisons for its reports within time periods. Programs within the State and county governments in Hawai'i utilize different definitions. Many time programs within the same department use different definitions.

Data from the 1900 to 2010 US Censuses illustrate that Hawai'i has experienced steady population growth throughout the decades. The Native Hawaiians while still smaller in count to the other races in the islands, they have also demonstrated growth. In 2017, the Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) reported that there were 6,312 Native Hawaiian infants born. Offset the number of Native Hawaiians born by the number of Native Hawaiians who died, there is an increase in the Native Hawaiian population.

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For additional information see the Native Hawaiian Data Book: www.ohadatabook.com

For additional research reports see: www.oha.org/research

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