

### *Did you know...*

Here are a few things hardly anyone in the United States (and only a small percentage of our local population) knows or appreciates.

**Hawaii's seven populated islands** are 200 square miles larger than both Rhode Island and Connecticut combined, with 72 percent of the population on an Oahu that comprises 9.3 percent of the total land area of the state. The Big Island (Hawaii County) has 63 percent of the total land area and is almost twice as large as all the other islands combined, but has only about 12.3 percent of the state's population.

**Hawaii's coastline of 750 miles** compares to California's 840 miles and is more than double the 367 miles of coastline claimed by Texas.

**Hawaii has the tallest mountain** in the world. Mauna Kea's summit is 33,476 feet above the ocean floor while its visible portion is 13,760 feet above sea level.

**Hawaii is the most isolated populated place** in the world: 2,400 miles from the nearest landmass of North America. Also, contrary to popular assumption, it is not "in the middle of the Pacific Ocean". While it is 2,400 miles from San Francisco, it is 3,847 miles from Tokyo, 4,390 miles from New Zealand, 4,040 miles from Taiwan, 4,450 miles from Hong Kong and 5,293 miles from Manila. New York City is closer (4,950 miles) than most of our Asian and Pacific Island "neighbors".

**Hawaii is America's true "deep south"** because it is at latitude about even with Cuba (also, it is not America's westernmost state—Alaska is).

### **Hawaii is diverse**

The Hawaiian Islands rival continents in their ecosystem richness. Unlike the sand and palm trees of popular vision, the tapestry of native vegetation in Hawaii is in fact much more diverse. It includes not only coastal strand and tropical rain forests, but also dry woodlands, mesic forests, sparsely vegetated deserts, montane wet forests, bogs, and subalpine grasslands. You can go from arid desert-like terrain to the wettest spot on earth in a few hours by land or a few minutes by helicopter.

This is just a sample of the intriguing facts you can discover in Hawaii. Read on and you'll see what we mean!

### **About the Islands**

The Hawaiian Islands consist of eight major islands, seven of which are populated, and 124 minor islands with a total area of 6,471 square miles (6,425 square miles are land and 46 are inland waters). The major islands are Oahu, Hawaii (The Big Island), Kauai, Ni'ihau, Maui,

Lanai, Kaho'olawe, and Moloka'i, each with its own unique features and cultural flavor. Measuring from its submarine base (3,280 fathoms) in the Hawaiian Trough to the top of the mountain (13,796 feet), Mauna Kea is the tallest mountain in the world with a combined height of 33,476 feet. The July 1, 1991 resident population for the State of Hawaii was 1,134,800 persons. (Between the 1980 and 2000 Census counts, 964,691 in 1980 and 1,211,537 in the 2000 census, Hawaii's population grew 25.5 percent.)

### **History**

It is generally believed that Hawaii was discovered and populated by Polynesians in voyaging canoes sometime in the first millennium, A.D. It was a kingdom until 1775, when it was discovered by Captain James Cook and renamed the "Sandwich Islands" after the Earl of Sandwich. However, as early as 1818, King Kamehameha I is reported to have protested, saying that each island should be called by its own name and the entire group referred to as the "Islands of the Kingdom of Hawaii". The islands were officially granted their independence (after a brief usurpation) from Great Britain in 1843, and remained a sovereign kingdom until 1893, when the monarchy was overthrown by a group of American businessmen. Hawaii's last queen was Queen Lili'uokalani, who wrote the now famous, "Aloha 'Oe." Hawaii officially became the 50th state in the American Union on August 21, 1959.

### **People & Customs**

Once in Hawaii, the spirit of Aloha becomes contagious. Known as the "Melting Pot of the Pacific", Hawaii blends different ethnic groups and cultures from many lands into a culture of its own. No single race prevails and the mixed ethnic portion of the population is always growing. About 28% of the population is Caucasian, 23% is Japanese, and 29% is Hawaiian, Filipino, Chinese, Hispanic, or a combination. This ethnic variety is a source of pride for the people of Hawaii. It is that diversity of backgrounds and cultures that makes Hawaii so special.

Generosity, friendliness, compassion, and the love of music, dance and celebration all play an integral part in the life of an Islander. In the island's climate, tension is abated, rushing is obsolete, and thus the expression of doing things on "Hawaiian Time" is created.

After living in Hawaii for a while, you'll inevitably adopt the habit of removing your shoes when entering most homes. A warm embrace is treasured among friends and relatives upon a greeting or departure. The closeness, the bond, can be referred to as having "Aloha" for someone. Bringing a small gift or offering is a common gesture when visiting another's home. The most cherished gift of all is the GIFT of ALOHA.

Local people often call on the clergy for groundbreaking, building completions, or grand openings for a formal blessing. Usually, the priest or minister (a Kahu) will complete the blessing with the sprinkling of water at the entrance. A ti (pronounced tee) leaf is dipped into a carved, wooden bowl (calabash) and the water is shaken from the leaf as a prayer is said.

In a local family, one of the most celebrated among special occasions is a child's first birthday, for which the family will bar no expense for a grand celebration.

Both men and women enjoy the gifts of aloha, for it has no prejudices. Everyone enjoys the flower lei or the ceremonial "haku" lei. At parties or gatherings you will easily recognize the host or honored guest because that celebrated someone will likely be wearing a special flower lei. Flowers and leis are given to friends or relatives upon arrivals or departures on trips or for any other special occasion, which can include birthdays, weddings, proms, anniversaries, graduations, births, promotions, appointments, or anything that moves the spirit.

Hawaii is a unique haven with its kaleidoscopic lifestyle, reminding us every day "Lucky we live Hawaii!"

### **Hula - Hawaii's Cultural Legacy**

Originally, the hula was a religious dance performed by trained dancers before a king to honor the gods or to praise the chiefs. It was an essential part of the Hawaiian culture, functioning as an illustration for chants. There was no written word in Hawaii at the time, and the hula, by telling a story through its movement, was the preserver of the oral history of the islands.

According to an ancient Hawaiian myth, Hi'iaka, the sister of the volcano goddess Pele, introduced the hula to Hawaii. At first, the hula was performed only by chosen people who had undergone disciplined schooling in the halau (hall of learning dedicated to the goddess Laka, the patron deity of the hula). After intense training, the students were then permitted to perform the dance in public. They were the privileged olapa or dancers.

Like most aspects of Hawaiian life, the hula was altered forever as foreigners came to Hawaii. With the arrival of the New England missionaries in the early 1800's came the requirement for the women to replace their hula skirts with long dresses. The Portuguese brought with them a small guitar from which the ukulele was developed.

Today, hula is usually categorized as ancient or modern. The ancient hula (**kahiko**) features mainly chants and percussion instruments. Contemporary hula (**auwana**) incorporates many styles and costumes and is often danced to popular melodies. Whether colorfully contemporary or dramatically ancient, the hula continues to educate and entertain millions of residents and visitors in Hawaii.

### **Language**

By educational standards, Hawaii has two documented languages: English and Hawaiian. By local standards, there is a third: "Pidgin-English." Though the English language is universal in the islands, you may need to know something about the Hawaiian language and "Pidgin English" because of its constant use in everyday conversation.

Pure Hawaiian, though spoken by a small minority, is still prevalent in music and taught in schools as a special language just as other foreign languages are taught. There are a select few pre-schools, elementary, and high schools in Hawaii where the Hawaiian language is the primary language.

There are only 12 letters in the Hawaiian alphabet, the five vowels "A, E, I, O, U" (pronounced "*ah, ay, ee, oh, oo*"), and seven consonants, "H, K, L, M, N, P, W" having the same sounds as in English, with one exception. When "W" is next to the final letter in a word, it is pronounced as a "V"; i.e. Hurricane Iwa is pronounced "*ee-vah*", but the "W" in Waikiki is still pronounced "*why-kee-kee*" because it is at the beginning of the word.

"Pidgin-English" follows the basics of normal English, but is interfaced with the slang and terminologies of the various ethnic groups that make up our local culture.

The following are commonly used Hawaiian and "Pidgin-English" words and phrases along with their English equivalents:

| <u>Word</u> | <u>Meaning</u>      |
|-------------|---------------------|
| aloha       | greetings, love     |
| brah        | brother             |
| bumbai      | later               |
| choke       | a lot of            |
| da kine     | the current subject |
| grinds      | food                |
| hale        | house               |
| haole       | Caucasian           |
| kama'aina   | long time resident  |
| malihini    | newcomer, visitor   |
| kane        | man                 |
| kapu        | forbidden           |
| keiki       | children            |
| kokua       | help, assistance    |
| luau        | feast               |
| mahalo      | thank you           |
| makai       | toward the ocean    |
| mauka       | toward the mountain |
| moana       | ocean               |
| muu muu     | loose fitting dress |
| ohana       | family              |
| ono         | delicious           |
| pau         | done, finished      |
| puka        | hole                |
| pupus       | appetizers          |
| wahine      | woman               |

### **Biology**

Big Island has a wide variety of plant, marine and animal life. Many species are rare and endangered including the giant Pacific Green Sea Turtle (which can grow to 400 pounds), the Nene Goose (the official state bird) and the humpback whale (the official state marine mammal).

Vegetation zones include coastal, dry land forest, mixed open forest, rain forest, subalpine and alpine.

### **Climate**

Like most of the Hawaiian Islands, Big Island has only two seasons: “summer” between May and October and “winter” between October and April. Average temperature ranges from 71.2 to 77.3 (°F) in coastal regions. Kailua-Kona average temperature: Jan – Feb is 72.1 (°F). In Aug – Sept 77.3 (°F). Average annual rainfall ranges from 10 inches at Kawaihae (near the Kohala coast) to 128 inches at the Hilo airport.

### **Cultural History**

Big Island is a multi-cultural society with major immigration from:

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| Polynesia.....     | 700 AD. |
| United States..... | 1820    |
| China.....         | 1852    |
| Japan.....         | 1868    |
| Portugal.....      | 1878    |
| Puerto Rico.....   | 1900    |
| Korea.....         | 1903    |
| Philippines.....   | 1906    |

### **Government**

Hawaii Government is run the same as the many other states with a Senate, House of Representatives and City/County Councils. There are four county seats: Oahu, Kauai, Maui (which includes Lanai, Moloka'i, and Kaho'olawe) and Hawaii counties.

The Hawaii Revised Statutes were adopted in 1977 and have since prevailed over the State's laws and regulations. Also integrated into the statutes is the Federal Uniform Crime Code.

The Island of Hawaii is all one governmental unit, the County of Hawaii. Unlike some other jurisdictions, there are no individual city or municipal governments. The County has a Mayor and a nine-member County Council. The Hawaii Police Department and the Hawaii Fire Department have their headquarters in Hilo.

### **Taxation**

Real property taxes for the County of Hawaii are set by the Hawaii County Council. Rates for improved residential, is currently set at \$7.10 per thousand of assessed value. All other classifications are set at a range of between \$5.55 to \$9.00 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value. Other property class rates apply and may be found online at [www.hawaii.gov](http://www.hawaii.gov).

Exemptions of \$80,000.00 or more from the assessed value are allowed for a principal residence owners over 60. For those over 70 the exemption is \$100,000. Currently a preferential rate of \$5.55 per thousand of assessed value is levied on improved residential property, which is the owner's principal residence.

### **Economy**

The Big Island's economy was once almost exclusively driven by agriculture and fishing. While fishing, ranching, and agriculture still make major contributions to our economy, other sectors have also emerged, including tourism (7,400,000 visitors in 2005), and high tech industries such as astronomy and aquaculture, retail and services, as well as education and government. The median household income on the Big Island is \$59,111. Major contributions to the State of Hawaii's economy include:

Visitor Expenditures: \$11.8 billion (2005) – an all time high\*

Federal Defense Spending: \$4.8 billion (2003)

Construction (Private Building Permits): \$3.5 billion (2005)

\*Visitor Expenditure figures are deceptive, since a certain percentage of tourism dollars do not remain in the Island, but are returned to overseas investors.

With the demise of its sugar and pineapple industries in the 1990's, Hawaii is working to diversify its economy with a focus on industries such as science and technology, health and wellness tourism, diversified agriculture, ocean research and development, and film and television production. A study currently being conducted by the State is looking at the extent to which the benefits from tourism can be maintained, while sustaining the quality of our social, economic and environmental assets.

The Big Island's major sources of income include agriculture (the majority of the State's fruits, nuts and coffee are produced on the island) and tourism. Sugar cane is no longer produced on the Big Island – abandoned in 1996.

The minimum wage is \$7.25 an hour. The civilian labor force numbers 78,535 with employment in 2004, with seasonal increases during coffee harvests. The average unemployment rate was 3.8% in 2007. Major sources of employment are finance, insurance, real estate, hotels and other services, wholesale and retail trade, government, agriculture, manufacturing, and construction.

Private landowners own 58% (1,448,537 acres) of the Island of Hawaii, the State of Hawaii owns 33% (817,391 acres), the federal government owns 9.2% (229,848 acres), and Hawaii County owns .05% or 1,278 acres. There are 53,421 housing units on the Big Island with 23,336 owner occupied.

Total farm crop and livestock sales are two major sources of income. Expanding export industries in papayas, tropical flowers, foliage and dry-land taro. Other crops produced on the Big Island include over four-fifths by volume of the state's production of fruit other than pineapple; the bulk of the state's macadamia nuts and papaya; much of Hawaii's coffee, grown in the Kona district; ginger (The Big Island is the major ginger producer in the United States), Chinese cabbage, leaf lettuce, greenhouse tomatoes, Sharwil avocados, cucumbers, all for local and mainland markets. There are several aquaculture farms on the Big Island.

(Source: Hawaii Agriculture Commodities Services)

The bulk of Hawaii's agricultural products is grown and processed on the Big Island with about 1,150,000 acres devoted to agriculture enterprises out of a total of 1,950,000 acres statewide. Agriculture is a major force in the economy of Hawaii, and economists estimate the overall farm and processed value of the island grown commodities at approximately \$850 million, including worldwide exports.

Diversified agriculture includes all crops, livestock and aquaculture except for sugar and pineapple. As the Hawaii sugar and pineapple industries diminish, the diversified crops have a tremendous opportunity to expand (sugar declined from a \$100 million crop in 1983 to \$39 million in 1993).

### **Kona Coffee**

The Kona area is the proud producer of Kona coffee, a world-famous gourmet coffee. There are thousands of acres planted in coffee with over 700 individual coffee farms dotting the mountain slopes. There are coffee farms and processing mills open to visitors in Kona with many serving complimentary coffee.

### **Macadamia Nuts**

The Big Island features the largest macadamia nut industry in the world. The state's top diversified crop by value is the macadamia nut. The Big Island is the state's leading producer of these gourmet nuts with the world's largest macadamia nut orchard located in South Kona. Roasted nuts, along with the many macadamia nuts confections, bakery products and cooking oil are sold throughout the island.

### **Avocado**

Hawaii County has 500 acres devoted to the avocado and is the major avocado growing area in the state. There are 60 growers producing 1.5 million pounds of avocado per year with a retail value of \$2 million. Over 90% of the avocados produced on the Big Island are marketed in Honolulu.

### **Flowers and Nursery Products**

By combining all flowers, foliage and nursery products, Hawaii's number one diversified agriculture industry emerges. Over 26% of all diversified agriculture falls into these categories and most of that is on the Big Island. Many of the tropical flowers and nursery products grown on the Big Island can be packed and shipped to the mainland U.S. and other destinations. They must be from certified nurseries and inspected by the agriculture inspections services. These beautiful island gifts can be found at many locations on the Big Island.

Bird of Paradise have both brilliant and subdued colors, a variety of unusual shapes and sizes, and last longer than other flowers. Many varieties of orchids are grown commercially on the island and are marketed as both cut and polled plants. Palms, bamboo and a variety of dracaenas, which decorate the interior of many homes and offices, come from the Big Island's fastest growing agriculture crop. These large foliage plants are in great demand for island hotels, golf courses and export markets.

## Exotic Tropical Fruits

Many fruits, native to Southeast Asia and South America, make up the new and growing industry of tropical fruits. These quality Hawaii grown fruits are available for a fresh exotic taste during their harvest season. Lychee and related rambutan, moya, star fruit and mango are among the many tropical fruits being grown on the Big Island. These tropical delicacies can be found at markets and are served at hotels on the Big Island.

More information can be obtained from the following Agricultural Service Organizations: Hawaii Macadamia Nut Association, Hawaii Avocado Association, Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers, Hawaii State Guava Association, Hawaii Agricultural Promotional Association, State of Hawaii, Department of Agriculture Hawaii County, Department of Research and Development.

## Livestock

Big Island cattle ranches, including Parker Ranch, one of the largest solely owned ranches in the United States, produce about a third by volume of livestock marketed in Hawaii. The Big Island cattle operation produces over 20 million pounds of beef a year, which is 60% of the state's beef supply, on 700,000 acres of grazing land. The world's largest privately owned cattle ranch is the Parker Ranch located in Kamuela. Other cattle operations are scattered throughout the island, primarily in the North Kohala, Kona, and Ka'u districts.

## The County of Hawaii has:

- The largest macadamia nut industry in the world.
- The largest orchid growing business in the world.
- The major coffee industry in the United States.
- The major ginger producer in the United States.
- Expanding export industries in papayas, tropical flowers, foliage, and dry-land taro

## Time Zones

The entire state of Hawaii operates on Hawaiian (Pacific) Standard Time and is two hours behind the West Coast. Here are a few examples of the time zone relationships:

|                   | <b>HST</b>     | <b>Daylight Saving</b> |
|-------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Los Angeles ..... | +2 hours       | .....+3 hours          |
| Chicago .....     | +4 hours       | .....+5 hours          |
| New York.....     | +5 hours       | .....+6 hours          |
| Tokyo .           | .....+19 hours | .....+20 hours         |
| Zurich. ....      | +11 hours      | .....+12 hours         |

Because Hawaii does not recognize daylight savings, the state is then an additional hour behind during that period.

### **Cost of Living**

2008 cost of living index in Hawaii County: 95.0 (less than average, U.S. average is 100). The cost of living is considered high in comparison to the other states (approximately 35% higher), but there are redeeming features to living in Hawaii. Because of the pleasant year round climate, there is no need to purchase additional winter clothes, heating or air conditioning.

(See Table 1.1 - Goods and Services Indexes - for cost of living comparisons.)

### **Hawaii Highways**

Shipping your auto to Hawaii from the Mainland will require some advance preparation. You should allow two to six weeks for your car to arrive on the Big Island. Depending on your location, you may need to consider the feasibility of shipping the car at all. Sometimes the cost of maritime shipping plus cross-country rail exceeds the cost of replacing the vehicle at your destination. In that respect, shipping newer model cars may make more economical sense than older models.

You may want to consult a local freight forwarder for shipping points in your area. Personal belongings should be removed from the car before shipment; particularly removable electronic/sound equipment. Be aware that most shippers require cash at the time of loading-checks are generally not accepted. Be sure to have your vehicle documents available when you pick up your car in Hawaii. For complete information about shipping your automobile go to <http://www.matson.com>.

Law requires registration and basic no-fault insurance. When you pick up your car from the dock you should visit the nearest safety inspection station (usually any gas station) for a Hawaii Safety Inspection Certification. Your next stop should be you're nearest insurance affiliate to obtain your Hawaii Proof of No-Fault Insurance. Although your out-of-state license plate registration is current in another state, you are still required to obtain a permit from the Department of Finance within 10 days from the vehicle's date of entry into Hawaii. To obtain the out of-state permit or to re-register your vehicle in Hawaii, you will be required to produce the following:

- Bill of Lading (shipping receipts)
- Certificate of Registration
- Certificate of Legal Ownership
- Hawaii Safety Inspection Certification
- Hawaii No-Fault Insurance

The out-of-state permit will be valid for as long as your registration remains valid. If you are in the military and choose to register your car, you are entitled to a military exemption on the vehicle weight tax schedule. You will need to submit a non-resident certificate signed by your base commander along with the above registration documents. The non-resident certificate can be obtained from the County Motor Vehicle Registration Division, your base commander or personnel office.

Other types of vehicles such as motorcycles will require the same registration procedures as described above.

Moped and bicycle registration is required and will need much attention to detail. You will be expected to produce current tags from the state you are coming from; a bill of sale if it was purchased; or to sign an affidavit of ownership. However, after attending to these details you may still have a special case situation, which will restrict registration. Again, you may want to consider the feasibility of shipping these items.

Driver's licensing in the State of Hawaii requires passing written and road exams for a "Type 3" license. A vision test, written test and road test are required for license application. Road tests may be exempted for those over 18 and converting their valid U.S. or Canadian license to a Hawaii license. A person 18 years of age is legally an adult in Hawaii and may obtain a Hawaii driver's license without parental consent. If you have a valid driver's license from another state or Canada, the exams are waived and you may drive in Hawaii until the license expires or is declared invalid. If you still wish to apply for a Hawaii Driver's License, you will be required to relinquish your valid out-of-state license and submit to the exams. This option is not applicable to out-of-state minors with a valid license. All minors must obtain a Hawaii license before operating any motor vehicle.

Motorcycle and moped operation requires "Type 2" licensing which is considered separate from "Type 3". The same provision from "Type 3" apply if you already have a valid out-of-state motorcycle license. Although mopeds are not motorcycles, they are not considered bicycles or scooters either. Therefore, regulation requires that all moped operators must have a valid driver's license of either type.

Bicycle operation does not require licensing. However, one should cycle with extreme care and follow the rules of the road as if driving a car. Traffic laws in Hawaii are similar to Mainland states; and, making a right turn at a red light after a complete stop is legal unless otherwise posted. The speed limits most often posted are 25 mph (residential/school zones); 35 mph (most urban areas); 45-55 mph (highways).

For new applications, renewals and learning permits, you will need proof of your birth date and social security number. Other official forms of identification, such as military I.D., are accepted. Contact the State of Hawaii Driver Licensing Offices for additional information.

- For MINORS (ages 15-17) and YOUNG ADULTS, parental or guardian consent is required.
- State law requires seat belts and child restraint devices.

### **Media**

Airwave media in Hawaii has been nicknamed, "the coconut wireless". When surfing the AM and FM radio bands, you will find talk shows and music from Hawaiian to Country.

The major television and cable broadcasts originate in Honolulu and are transmitted via transmitter stations to the outer islands. There are 8 independent public stations (including NBC, CBS, ABC, FOX, and PBS) and various other pay stations available. Satellite service is also available from Dish Network and Direct TV.

The state of Hawaii is served by two major daily newspaper publications, based on Oahu: The *Honolulu Advertiser* and the *Honolulu Star Bulletin*. The Big Island is serviced by the *Hawaii Tribune Herald* (Hilo) and (Kona) *West Hawaii Today*.

### **Flora & Fauna**

In Hawaii, the State Department of Agriculture has strict regulations controlling the importation of pets and animals, fruit, vegetables and live plants. You should check with authorities for guidelines prior to making any shipping arrangements; otherwise you may find your things confiscated at the airport. Plants, fruits, and vegetables must be free of pest/viral infestation. Most household birds may be brought into Hawaii providing you have obtained a permit prior to shipment from Hawaii's Plant Quarantine Station.

### **Pet Owner Information**

Hawaii is rabies-free. Hawaii's quarantine law is designed to protect residents and pets from potentially serious health problems associated with the introduction and spread of rabies. All dogs and cats, regardless of age (puppies and kittens included) or purpose, must comply with Hawaii's dog and cat import requirements.

Chapter 4-29 Hawaii Administrative Rules, governs the importation of dogs, cats and other carnivores into Hawaii. This law states that dogs and cats meeting specific pre-and post-arrival requirements may qualify for 5-Day-Or-Less quarantine program, which has a provision for direct release at Honolulu International Airport after inspection. Furthermore, the law requires dogs and cats not meeting all of the specific 5-Day-Or-Less program requirements to be quarantined for up to 120 days upon arrival in Hawaii. Pets may now qualify for direct release at Kona Airport.

For further information <http://www.hawaii.gov/hdoa/ai/aqs/info>.

**Be sure to check with the airlines for regulations on the transport of live animals: travel is often limited to specific seasons.**

### **Prohibited Animals**

The regulation of animal breeds and species that are permitted to enter Hawaii is under Plant Quarantine Branch jurisdiction and administrative rules. Non-domestic dogs and cats and hybrids such as wolf, wolf cross, Dingo, Bengal, Savannah, etc. are prohibited under Plant Quarantine (PQ) law. Refer to Plant Quarantine's animal guidelines for importation.

### **Puppies and Kittens**

Due to the minimum amount of time needed to prepare a puppy or kitten to meet the requirements of the 5-Day-Or-Less program, a puppy or kitten will be about 10 months of age by the time the preparations are completed. Puppies and kittens not able to meet all of the requirements for the 5-Day-Or-Less program will be quarantined for 120 days.

### **Hawaii Resident Pets**

Owners wishing to leave Hawaii with their pets and return without extended quarantine must meet all requirements listed on the “Checklist Only For Resident Dogs And Cats Originating From Hawaii And Returning For The 5-Day-Or-Less Program. The length of the waiting period after a successful blood test is modified and must be completed before leaving Hawaii. See “Checklist Only For Resident Dogs and Cats Originating From Hawaii And Returning For The 5-Day-Or-Less Program” for details.

### **Direct Release on Neighbor Islands**

Pets may now qualify for direct release at Kona Airport. See “Checklist For Requesting Direct Airport Release at Kona. The *Animal Quarantine Station Information Brochure* provides all the details on the quarantine process, fees, and regulations. To obtain a copy, contact the Department of Agriculture or visit the website at to download the brochure and other information.

Department of Agriculture  
Animal Quarantine Branch  
99-951 Halawa Valley Street  
Aiea, Hawaii 96701-5602  
Telephone (808) 483-7151  
Fax (808) 483-7161  
[www.hawaiiag.org/hdoa/doa/importing.htm](http://www.hawaiiag.org/hdoa/doa/importing.htm)

**This is a complex procedure, so be sure to read all the information well in advance of your planned departure..**

### **Transportation**

**Inter-Island:** frequent daily flights by Mokulele, Go, and Hawaiian Airlines. Air Taxi and Charter flights are also available.

**Flights to U.S. Mainland:** Direct flights to and from Keahole-Kona International are provided by American, Alaskan, US Air, Delta, Northwest, and United.

**State Airports:** Keahole-Kona and Hilo.

**Deepwater ports:** Hilo ... roll on / roll off container service and barge service.  
Kawaihae ... barge service.

**Public Transit System:** "Hele-On Bus" provides island-wide bus service seven days a week.

### Health Facilities

**Hilo Hospital:**

1190 Waianuenue Avenue, Hilo, Hawaii 96720 (808)969-4111

**Ka'u Hospital:**

P.O. Box 40, Pahala, Hawaii 96777 (808)928-8331

**Kohala Hospital:**

P.O. Box 10, Kapa'au, Hawaii 96755 (808)889-6211

**Kona Community Hospital:**

P.O. Box 69, Kealahou, Hawaii 96750 (808)322-9311

**North Hawaii Community Hospital:**

67-1125 Mamalahou Hwy. Waimea, Hawaii 96743 (808)885-4444

### Churches

Nearly every religion is represented on the Big Island, ranging from Catholic to Buddhist, Seventh Day Adventist to Baptist, and Mormon to Lutheran. Churches of all denominations are located all around the island.

### Hawaii's Government

First achieving statehood in 1959, Hawaii is America's 50th state. Like other U.S. states, the State of Hawaii's government has three divisions: the legislative, executive, and judicial branches.

Major sources of revenue for the state are general excise taxes (sales), visitor accommodation tax, and personal and corporate tax income taxes.

Local government in Hawaii is divided into four counties: Hawaii County, Maui County, Kauai County, and the City and County of Honolulu.

The County of Hawaii encompasses the Island of Hawaii, nicknamed the Big Island, and is the state's largest county and its second most populous, with an estimated 173,057 residents in 2007. Hawaii County government is comprised of the administrative branch and the County Council, which is the County's legislative branch. Four of the nine seats on the County Council are held by West Hawaii elected officials who represent North and South Kona and North and South Kohala. County revenues are raised with the real property tax.

## Hawaii County Administrative Offices

### **Hawaii County Services, Kona (808) 329-5226**

Suggestions, complaints, voter registration, applications and permits for disabled parking, information on county and public meetings, listings and applications for public employment.

### **Department of Corporation Counsel (808) 961-8251**

Legal advisor to County Administration and County Council.

### **Planning Department (808) 961-8288**

Administers zoning and land laws, signs off on building permits, provides forms and applications, information on planning requirements, and zoning maps.

### **Department of Public Works (808) 961-8231**

Responsible for construction and maintenance of public roads, bridges and sidewalks, county buildings and enforcement of building, electrical, housing, and plumbing codes and ordinances.

### **Department of Liquor Control (808) 961-8218**

Grants and renews liquor licenses.

### **Department of Water Supply (808) 969-1421**

Semi-autonomous agency consisting of the Water Commission, Manager, and staff. Plans, designs, constructs, and operates county water system.

### **Department of Parks and Recreation (808) 961-8311**

Manages the county recreational facilities and programs.

### **Prosecuting Attorney (808) 961-3794**

Investigates and prosecutes public offenses.

### **Office of Aging**

**(808) 961-3794** Secures and administers funding for senior citizens..

### **Department of Finance (808) 961-8234**

Collects real property taxes, handles motor vehicle licenses and transfers, trailer, moped, bicycle, and dog licenses as well as collecting real property taxes

### **Police Department (808) 961-2349**

Administers 911 emergency number, handles driver permits and licenses and issues safety check applications to service stations.

### **Fire Department (808) 961-8336**

Administers 911 emergency number, responsible for fire protection and emergency medical services. Renders assistance to the general public in natural or man-made disasters.

### **Department of Research and Development (808) 961-8366 / 329-5526**

Supports the economic development of the Big Island by encouraging existing and potential industries; secures and distributes statistical information.

### **Office of Housing and Community Development (808) 935-8379**

Develops new public housing projects and administers the county affordable housing requirements.

### **Transit Agency (808) 961-8343**

Operates the county bus and shared-ride taxi system.

### **Department of Civil Service (808) 961-8361**

County personnel programs and administers civil service laws of the state.

### **Safety Coordinator (808) 935-0031**

Reviews operation practices of county agencies and assists in accident prevention programs.

### **Civil Defense Agency (808) 935-0031**

### Utilities and Services

|                        | <b>Kona</b>    | <b>Waimea (Kamuela)</b> | <b>Hilo</b>    |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Electric</b>        | (808) 329-3584 | (808) 885-4605          | (808) 969-6999 |
| <b>Telephone</b>       | (808) 643-3456 | (808) 643-3456          | (808) 643-3456 |
| <b>Water</b>           | (808) 322-0600 | (808) 885-4158          | (808) 961-8790 |
| <b>Cable</b>           | (808) 329-2418 | (808) 329-2418          | (808) 961-0443 |
| <b>Rubbish Removal</b> | (808) 329-3440 | (808) 882-7295          | (808) 934-8846 |

### GOODS AND SERVICES INDEXES FOR SELECTED METROPOLITAN AREAS: 1998

(Based on a survey of 150 items. Data include 10 categories: food-at-home, food-away-from-home, tobacco, alcohol, household furnishing and operations, clothing, domestic service, medical care, personal care, and recreation. Data exclude housing, transportation, and personal income taxes.)

| <b>Expensive Areas</b>        | <b>Index</b> | <b>Inexpensive Areas</b> | <b>Index</b> |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| New York, NY (Manhattan only) | 131.9        | Billings, MT             | 91.0         |
| Honolulu, HI                  | 116.2        | Janesville, WI           | 91.6         |
| Washington, DC                | 112.5        | Fayetteville, NC         | 92.1         |
| San Francisco, CA             | 110.0        | Manchester, NH           | 92.9         |
| San Jose, CA                  | 109.8        | Greenwood, SC            | 93.1         |
| Chicago, IL                   | 109.3        | Amarillo, TX             | 93.8         |
| Boston, MA                    | 109.1        | Eugene, OR               | 93.8         |
| Philadelphia, PA              | 108.0        | Erie, PA                 | 94.0         |
| Los Angeles, CA               | 107.5        | Martinsville, VA         | 94.1         |
| Buffalo, NY                   | 107.5        | Hobbs, NM                | 94.1         |

Source: State department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, Website: <http://state.hi.us/dbedt/db97> and Runzheimer International Website [http://runzheimer.com/corpc/news/scripts/I\\_O1298.asp](http://runzheimer.com/corpc/news/scripts/I_O1298.asp)

### RESIDENT POPULATION, BY DISTRICTS, HAWAII COUNTY: 1980, 1990 AND 2000

| District      | April 1st<br>1980 | April 1st<br>1990 | April 1st<br>2000 | % change<br>1980 – 2000 | % change<br>1990 - 2000 |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| State         | 964,691           | 1,108,229         | 1,211,537         | 25.6                    | 9.3                     |
| Hawaii County | 92,053            | 120,317           | 148,677           | 61.5                    | 23.6                    |
| Puna          | 11,751            | 20,781            | 31,335            | 166.7                   | 50.8                    |
| South Hilo    | 42,278            | 44,639            | 47,386            | 12.1                    | 6.2                     |
| North Hilo    | 1,679             | 1,541             | 1,720             | 2.4                     | 11.6                    |
| Hamakua       | 5,128             | 5,545             | 6,108             | 19.1                    | 10.2                    |
| North Kohala  | 3,249             | 4,291             | 6,038             | 85.8                    | 40.7                    |
| South Kohala  | 4,607             | 9,140             | 13,131            | 185.0                   | 43.7                    |
| North Kona    | 13,748            | 22,284            | 28,543            | 107.6                   | 28.1                    |
| South Kona    | 5,914             | 7,658             | 8,589             | 45.2                    | 12.2                    |
| Kau           | 3,699             | 4,438             | 5,827             | 57.5                    | 31.3                    |

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of Population and Housing Unit Counts, Hawaii, 1990 CPH-2-13 (March 1993), table 8; and Census 2000 Redistricting Data, (Public Law 94-171) Summary File; figures compiled and calculated by County of Hawaii, Department of Research & Development.

### TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION FOR SELECTED PLACES HAWAII COUNTY

|                     | Average temperature<br>1/(F.) | Extreme temperature<br>of record(F.) |                  | Average<br>annual<br>precipi<br>tation<br>inches |                  |        |         |  |  |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|--|------------------|--------|---------|--|--|
|                     |                               | Ground<br>Elevation<br>(feet)        | Coolest<br>month |  | Warmest<br>month | Lowest | Highest |  |  |
|                     |                               |                                      |                  |  |                  |        |         |  |  |
|                     |                               |                                      |                  |  |                  |        |         |  |  |
| Hilo Airport        | 38                            | 66.4                                 | 81.2             | 53   | 94               | 128    |         |  |  |
| Hawaii Volcanoes    |                               |                                      |                  |  |                  |        |         |  |  |
| Nat'l Park          | 3,970                         | 52.7                                 | 69.2             | 34   | 89               | 109    |         |  |  |
| Naalehu             | 800                           | 65.8                                 | 79.4             | 50   | 93               | 48     |         |  |  |
| Kailua-Kona         | 30                            | 63.6                                 | 76.3             | 46   | 88               | 25     |         |  |  |
| Puako 2/            | 5                             | 68.3                                 | 83.8             | 52   | 92               | 9      |         |  |  |
| Waimea (Kamuela)    | 2,670                         | 61.3                                 | 66.8             | 34   | 95               | 31     |         |  |  |
| Honokaa             | 1,070                         | 67.6                                 | 75.5             | NA   | NA               | 81     |         |  |  |
| Mauna Kea summit 3/ | 13,796                        | 31.3                                 | 42.5             | 11   | 66               | 20     |         |  |  |

NA = Not Available.

1/ For some stations, data present 30-year normals.

2/ Temperature data are for Mahukona.

3/ Based on incomplete and non-continuous data for 1966-2007

Source: Hawaii State Department of Land and Natural Resources, Commission on Water Resource Management, data supplied February 14, 1995; and Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, Website: <http://www.state.hi.gov/dbedt>

**WEALTHIEST ZIP CODES, HAWAII COUNTY:2007**  
 (Ranked by Average household income)

| <b>Zip Code / Place</b> | <b>Population</b> | <b>No. of Households</b> | <b>Average household income</b> | <b>Median household income</b> | <b>Per Capita income</b> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 96743 / Kamuela         | 10,514            | 3,750                    | \$82,318                        | \$62,145                       | \$29,720                 |
| 96740 / Kailua          | 31,300            | 11,701                   | \$78,099                        | \$57,333                       | \$29,269                 |
| 96725 / Holualoa        | 3,571             | 1,358                    | \$78,073                        | \$55,290                       | \$29,724                 |
| 96719 / Hawi            | 3,210             | 793                      | \$77,802                        | \$60,529                       | \$23,529                 |
| 96738 / Waikoloa        | 6,521             | 2,375                    | \$74,095                        | \$60,505                       | \$27,007                 |
| 96750 / Kealahou        | 1,732             | 614                      | \$72,470                        | \$50,781                       | \$25,927                 |
| 96774 / Ookala          | 514               | 167                      | \$68,087                        | \$58,301                       | \$21,472                 |
| 96727 / Honokaa         | 6,000             | 2,096                    | \$67,947                        | \$47,973                       | \$24,204                 |
| 96704 / Captain Cook    | 9,346             | 3,463                    | \$67,155                        | \$50,174                       | \$24,905                 |
| 96780 / Papaaloa        | 269               | 100                      | \$66,385                        | \$58,117                       | \$24,678                 |
| 96710 / Hakalau         | 281               | 107                      | \$64,300                        | \$46,770                       | \$24,484                 |
| 96755 / Kapaau          | 3,623             | 1,210                    | \$63,648                        | \$56,030                       | \$21,556                 |
| 96720 / Hilo            | 48,067            | 17,468                   | \$62,733                        | \$47,788                       | \$23,410                 |
| 96783 / Pepeekeo        | 2,121             | 486                      | \$62,306                        | \$48,300                       | \$23,089                 |
| 96728 / Honomu          | 712               | 257                      | \$58,061                        | \$37,567                       | \$20,958                 |
| 96749 / Keau            | 11,169            | 3,876                    | \$55,789                        | \$43,874                       | \$19,372                 |
| 96781 / Papaikou        | 1,912             | 667                      | \$53,683                        | \$45,073                       | \$18,727                 |

Note; Data courtesy of ESRI, geographic information system software and data company, www.esri.com; Telephone: (800) 292-2224. Source: Pacific Business News, "The List: Wealthiest Zip Codes," September 14, 2007, pp. 26-29