

Table 1.04b The Racial/Ethnic Composition of the State of Hawai'i: 2008.

Race/Ethnicity	American Community Survey (U.S. Census): 2008		Hawaii Health Survey (Hawai'i DOH): 2008	
	Population Estimate	%	Population Estimate	%
Native Hawaiian ^{a,b}	242,423	18.8%	305,837	24.3%
Caucasian	549,174	42.6%	259,826	20.7%
Chinese	174,365	13.5%	80,898	6.4%
Filipino	287,785	22.3%	199,986	15.9%
Japanese	253,222	19.7%	273,014	21.7%
Others	–	–	138,043	11.0%
Total	1,288,198		1,257,607	

^a Hawaiian as defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. "The Concept of race as used by the Census Bureau reflects self-identification; it does not denote any clear-cut scientific definition of biological stock." For the Census 2000 and subsequent Census Bureau work, 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 table uses the "alone or in combination" totals.

^b Hawaiian as defined by the Hawaii Health Survey (HHS). The Hawaii Health Survey examined the ethnic background of the parents of each individual as provided by that individual. Racial background of each individual is based on the racial composition of his/her parents. Note: The data is based on a sample and is subject to sampling variability.

Source: United States. Bureau of the Census. American Community Survey 2008. Hawai'i State. Department of Health, Hawaii Health Survey. (Honolulu).

- The American Community Survey (ACS) is an ongoing survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau to supplement their decennial census by providing annual data. The data from the ACS is not as detailed as the decennial data but it does provide current estimates on a variety of population indicators.
- The ACS and HHS provide different measures for the same populations. The difference is due to survey methodology and sampling variability. These and other factors should be considered when selecting which data to use.