**ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY**

**Hoʻokahua Waiwai**

**Background.** Homeownership is a sign of economic prosperity. For Native Hawaiians, homeownership may not only be personally momentous, but culturally significant as it can mean the opportunity to reaffirm and perpetuate ancestral ties to one’s *kulāiwi* (homeland). The owner occupancy statistic is calculated by dividing the number of owner-occupied units by the total number of housing units (renter and owner-occupied).

**Strategic Priority: Hoʻokahua Waiwai (Economic Self-Sufficiency)**

**Strategic Result** — Increase the percent of Native Hawaiians who improve their capacity to own or rent a home by

- increasing the percent of Native Hawaiian owner-occupied housing from 56.62% to 58%.

**Findings**

- Of the 67,710 housing units occupied by Native Hawaiians and part-Hawaiians in 2011, 55% were owner-occupied and 45% were renter-occupied. This is a slight increase over 2010 levels, but still 1.5% below the most recent high of 56.6% in 2008.

- **Are Native Hawaiians making progress in this Strategic Result?** Yes, when one considers the effect of the recession of 2008-2009. Time-series analysis indicates that although levels of Native Hawaiian homeownership rates dipped more in 2009 than the state average, rates among Native Hawaiians have recovered faster in 2010 and 2011. Between 2005 and 2009, the difference between the State owner-occupancy rates and those of Native Hawaiians was averaged at 4.7%. As of 2011, the difference between the State occupancy rates and those of Native Hawaiians decreased to only 1.8%.

**Sources.** U.S. Census Bureau (2012).
TERMS.

Native Hawaiian: Any descendant of the aboriginal peoples inhabiting the Hawaiian Islands which exercised sovereignty and subsisted in the Hawaiian Islands in 1778, and which peoples thereafter have continued to reside in Hawai‘i.

- Code used for selecting statistics was #062: Native Hawaiian (alone or in any combination (ACS Code #602) 500-503) & (100-299) or (300, A01-Z99) or (400-999).

Owner Occupied: A housing unit is owner occupied if the owner or co-owner lives in the unit even if it is mortgaged or not fully paid for. The owner or co-owner must live in the unit and usually is Person 1 on the (ACS) questionnaire. The unit is “Owned by you or someone in this household with a mortgage or loan” if it is being purchased with a mortgage or some other debt arrangement such as a deed of trust, trust deed, contract to purchase, land contract, or purchase agreement. The unit is also considered owned with a mortgage if it is built on leased land and there is a mortgage on the unit. Mobile homes occupied by owners with installment loan balances are also included in this category (U.S. Census Bureau, 2006).

Renter Occupied: All occupied housing units which are not owner occupied, whether they are rented for cash rent or occupied without payment of cash rent, are classified as renter Occupied (U.S. Census Bureau, 2006).

REFERENCES.


- Site: http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tablesservices/jsi/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_11_1YR_S0201&prodType=table
- Filter State: Hawai‘i
- Ethnic Group Code #062: Native Hawaiian alone or in any combination (500-503) & (100-299) or (300, A01-Z99) or (400-999).
- Row/Subject: Gross Rent as a percentage of Household Income in the past 12 months (less than 30%; 30% or greater)


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