**Strategic Priority: Ho'okahua Waiwai (Economic Self-Sufficiency)**

**Strategic Result** — Increase the percent of Native Hawaiians who improve their capacity to own or rent a home by 2018 by

- decreasing from 55% to 50% the percent of Native Hawaiian renters who are paying more than the HUD standard housing cost (no more than 30% of household income).

**BACKGROUND.** The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) definition of affordability is for a household to pay no more than 30% of income on housing costs. Households that spend more are considered “cost-burdened” because they have less to spend on other necessities (HUD, 2012). Figure 1 depicts both the percent of Native Hawaiian and part-Hawaiian renters who reported affordable rental costs (spending less than or equal to 30%) and who those reported rental costs that exceeded 30% of their household income.

![Figure 1. Percent of Native Hawaiians Paying 30% or More of Household Income on Rent (2006-2012)](image)

**Source.** U.S. Census Bureau (2013).

**FINDINGS**

- As of 2012, 56% of Native Hawaiian or part-Hawaiian renters reported spending at least 30% of household income on housing costs, thus exceeding the HUD definition of affordable housing.

- **Are Native Hawaiians making progress in this Strategic Result?** Yes, despite still being above pre-recession levels, the 2012 mark of 56% is 3.1 percentage points lower than the 2011 figure of 59.1% and is the first year since 2007 in which this figure has lowered.

- **Are Native Hawaiians on track to reach the 2018 goal?** Despite recent progress, predicting the indicator’s chance for success proves difficult; the goal appears within reach when considering the progress made from 2011, yet if previous years are considered success appears less likely.
**Household Income:** The sum of money income received in the calendar year by all household members 15 years old and over, including household members not related to the householder, people living alone, and other nonfamily household members. Included in the total are amounts reported separately for wage or salary income; net self-employment income; interest, dividends, or net rental or royalty income or income from estates and trusts; Social Security or Railroad Retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); public assistance or welfare payments; retirement, survivor, or disability pensions; and all other income (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2012).

**Median gross rent:** The amount which divides the gross rent distribution into two equal parts: one-half of the cases falling below the median gross rent and one-half above the median. Gross rent is the contract rent plus the estimated average monthly cost of utilities (electricity, gas, and water and sewer) and fuels (oil, coal, kerosene, wood, etc.) if these are paid by the renter (or paid for the renter by someone else). Gross rent is intended to eliminate differentials that result from varying practices with respect to the inclusion of utilities and fuels as part of the rental payment. The estimated costs of water and sewer, and fuels are reported on a 12-month basis but are converted to monthly figures for the tabulations. Renter units occupied without payment of cash rent are shown separately as “No cash rent” in the tabulations (U.S. Census Bureau, 2006).

**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).

**REFERENCES.**


- Site: http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/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)


**Suggested Citation.** Office of Hawaiian Affairs. (2013). Renters Indicator Sheet 2013. Honolulu, HI: Research Division, Special Projects.