BACKGROUND: Typically, homeownership is a sign of economic prosperity and security, but for Native Hawaiians, homeownership is unique as it also provides the opportunity to reaffirm and perpetuate ancestral ties to one’s kulāwi (homeland). The owner-occupancy rate is calculated by dividing the number of owner-occupied units by the total number of units.

FIGURE 1. Native Hawaiian Owner-Occupied Housing Percentage (2007-2015)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2016). Note: * No data currently available. Data from 2007 data is included to indicate pre-recession statistics. The y-axis does not start at 0.

FINDINGS

- Of the 68,973 housing units occupied by Native Hawaiians in 2015, 57.7% were owner-occupied.

- **Are Native Hawaiians making progress in this Strategic Result?** Yes. The Native Hawaiian owner-occupancy rate increased 4.8 percentage points from 2014. However, the number of Native Hawaiian households decreased 2.8% and the number of Native Hawaiian renter-occupied housing units decreased 4.8 percentage points in 2015.

- **Are Native Hawaiians on track to reach the 2018 goal?** Yes. Although there was a large decrease in 2014 to 52.9%, the increased change to 57.7% in 2015 puts OHA on track. This leaves a 0.3 percentage point gap between 2015 and the 2018 target goal of 58%.
American Community Survey (ACS) is an ongoing statistical survey by the U.S. Census Bureau sent to approximately 295,000 addresses monthly (or 3.5 million per year).

**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, 2016b).

**Native Hawaiian:** Includes respondents who indicate their race as “Native Hawaiian” or report entries such as Part Hawaiian or Hawaiian (U.S. Census Bureau, 2016b).

**Race alone or in combination:** The concept “race alone or in combination” includes people who reported a single race alone (e.g. Asian) and people who reported that race in combination with one or more of the other major race groups (e.g. White, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and Some Other Race). The “race alone or in combination” concept, therefore, represents the maximum number of people who reported as that race group, either alone, or in combination with another race(s). The sum of the six individual race “alone or in combination” categories may add to more than the total population because people who reported more than one race were tallied in each race category (U.S. Census Bureau, 2016b).

**REFERENCES:**


- Site: [http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_15_1YR_S0201&prodType=table](http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_15_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: HOUSING TENURE: Occupied housing units: Owner-occupied housing units