



## Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPIs) in Utah

### History

The first known NHPIs to settle in Utah were Native Hawaiians who arrived in 1873. A sizeable NHPI community emerged in the Salt Lake Valley which included Maori from New Zealand beginning in 1884, Samoans prior to 1898, and Tongans as early as 1924. While many of Utah's NHPIs can trace their ancestry to these early arrivals, the largest influx of NHPIs occurred following World War II.

### Population

There are nearly 38,000 Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders residing in Utah, with more than 85% living in Salt Lake County and Utah County.<sup>1</sup> The population of Guamanians/Chamorros increased 157% between 2000 and 2010, a growth rate followed by Fijians (96% growth) and Samoans (85% growth).<sup>2</sup>

Salt Lake City and West Valley City have the largest and second largest population of Tongans of any city in the U.S., with one in four Tongan Americans living in Utah. While Salt Lake City has the fourth-largest Samoan community in the U.S., the overall proportion of NHPIs in Salt Lake City is greater than any other city in the continental U.S.<sup>3</sup>

### Sociodemographics

The median age of Utah NHPIs in 2014 is 20.2 years – the second “youngest” population in Utah, with a sex distribution of 52.2% males and 47.8% females.<sup>1</sup>

Nearly one-quarter of NHPIs in Salt Lake City are foreign-born.<sup>4</sup> About 68% of Tongans and 45% of Samoans report speaking a language other than English at home, with Tongan and Samoan being the fifth-most spoken and ninth-most spoken languages in Utah respectively.<sup>5</sup>

About 7% of Tongans and 9% of Samoans hold a bachelor's degree, the lowest rates of any race group.<sup>6</sup>

RACE/ETHNICITY	Population	Median Age (Years)	% Male	% Female	Foreign Born	Other Language	Bachelor's Degree
White	2,601,525	29.4	50.2%	49.8%	5.3%	9.2%	20.5%
Hispanic/Latino	370,870	23.6	51.6%	48.4%	40.0%	67.1%	8.2%
Asian	80,037	26.8	47.5%	52.5%	48.2%	57.1%	24.2%
Am. Indian/AK Native	59,338	24.1	49.6%	50.4%	2.5%	31.4%	8.7%
Black/African Am.	47,856	19.6	55.2%	44.8%	17.2%	22.8%	14.5%
<b>N.Hawaiian/Pacific I.</b>	<b>37,994</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>52.2%</b>	<b>47.8%</b>	<b>21.3%</b>	<b>44.0%</b>	<b>11.2%</b>

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Age, Race Alone or in Combination, 2014 Population Estimates, Table PEPA SR5H; ACS 2011-2013 3-Year Estimates, Table S0201.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF1, Tables P8, P9, and PCT10; 2010 Census SF1, Tables P5, P6, and PCT10.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF1, Table P6; 2010 Census SF1, Table PCT10.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 2006-2010 5-Year Estimates, Table B05003.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 2006-2010 5-Year Estimates, Table B16004.

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 2006-2010 5-Year Estimates, Table B15002.