

Introduction

These tables represent one in a series of “Community Profiles” reports prepared by the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) to promote the planning and understanding of communities on Oahu. These profiles describe the areas corresponding to the 35 Neighborhood Boards (NBs) on the island. Each area is profiled in terms of four sets of characteristics: 1) demographic, 2) social, 3) economic and 4) housing.

The data are derived from the responses of Honolulu residents to the short and long forms of the 2000 Census. They are compiled from Census files SF1, SF2 and SF3 and therefore encompass data from both a complete count and a sample of the population. For demographic characteristics (except for detailed races), the data are accurate geographically to the Census block, which typically corresponds to a street block in urban areas, but may represent a much larger area in outlying areas. For the other characteristics, they are accurate to the block group, which on Oahu consists of 14 contiguous blocks on average.

The 35 Neighborhood Areas (NA) described in the tables are close approximations of the Neighborhood Boards. They are not the same because the source data is based on Census boundaries, which are generally not coincident with the official NB boundaries. In defining the NAs, block lines were selected which would minimize conflict with the official boundaries.

The characteristics presented were chosen on the basis of planning interest to the local community. This requirement often conflicts with data availability. Generally, geographic detail is inversely proportional to subject detail. For example, while broad racial group (e.g., White, Black, Asian) data is available by block, detailed race (e.g., Chinese, Filipino, Vietnamese) data is available only by Census Tract. There are 216 tracts on Oahu, as compared to 6009 blocks. Using tract data to define small areas therefore often result in overstating some areas and understating others. It is important to recognize this limitation when using the detailed race data for small areas, for which data may be missing altogether. The same caution applies, though to a lesser extent, to data available only by block group. Many summary statistics generated by DPP are not available in standard Census products

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy, completeness and usefulness of the data. Users who encounter problems with the data, or find anomalies in the statistics, or have suggestions on ways to broaden the report’s usefulness, are encouraged to bring them to the attention of the Planning Research Branch of the Department of Planning and Permitting, City and County of Honolulu.