

FACTS ABOUT HAWAII'I , the Aloha State

GOVERNMENT:

Hawai'i was admitted as the 50th state of the union on August 21, 1959. It is the only state of the USA that was once a kingdom ruled by (Polynesian) royalty.

The State seal includes the state Motto. The state coat of arms is in the center, with a figure of King Kamehameha I to the left and the Goddess of Liberty on the right.

Motto: Ua mau ke ea o ka aina I ka pono
The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness.

Capital: Honolulu, on the island of Oahu

Population: 1,224,398 estimate in 2001

STATE SYMBOLS:

State Flag: The flag consists of eight horizontal stripes, representing the eight major islands and the British Union Jack. It resembles the Union Jack of Great Britain because many of King Kamehameha's advisors were British and the islands were once placed under England's protection.

State Bird: The nene (Hawaiian goose)

State Flower: The yellow hibiscus

State Tree: The kukui (candlenut)

State Fish: The humuhumunukunuku apua'a (trigger fish)

State Marine Mammal: The Northern Pacific humpback whale

State Gem: Black coral

Song: Hawai'i Pono'i (words by: Kalakaua, music by: Henri Berger)

For more info, including photos, go to <http://www.state.hi.us/>

GEOGRAPHY:

Hawai'i is made of eight major islands; Ni'ihau, Kaua'i, O'ahu, Maui, Moloka'i, Lana'i, Kaho'olawe and the Big Island of Hawai'i, but there are actually 137 islands, reefs and shoals in the Hawaiian archipelago.

(Geography continued...)

Hawai'i's climate features mild temperatures, moderate humidity and cooling trade winds.

Highest Point: Mauna Kea at 13,796 feet (from ocean floor to its top, Mauna Kea is the tallest mountain in the world, measuring 32,000 feet). Mauna Kea is the only Hawaiian volcano that is glaciated.

Hawai'i is the only state that is not part of the mainland of North America.

Hawai'i is the widest state in the United States, from tip to tip,.

Ka Lae, (South Point) on the Big Island is the southern most point in the USA.

AGRICULTURAL FACTS:

Hawai'i's agriculture includes: pineapple, coffee, sugar, flowers, fruits & vegetables.

Hawai'i is the only state that grows coffee.

OTHER INTERESTING FACTS:

There are only 12 letters in the Hawaiian alphabet. Vowels: A, E, I, O, U Consonants: H, K, L, M, N, P, W.

Hawai'i is the most isolated population center on earth. Hawai'i is 2,390 miles from California; 4,900 miles from China; 3,850 miles from Japan; and 5,280 miles from the Philippines.

Hawai'i's industries include, tourism, canning, clothing and sugar.

Hawai'i's fishing Industries: Swordfish, Bigeye tuna.

Hawai'i's manufacturing: printed materials, food products, and petroleum products.

Hawai'i has its own time zone (Hawaiian Standard Time.) There is no daylight savings time. The time runs 3 hours behind Pacific Standard Time.

In Hawai'i, there are no racial or ethnic majorities, everyone is a minority, consisting of Hawaiian/Part Hawaiians (22.1%); Caucasian (20.5); Japanese (18.3); Filipino (12.3); Chinese (4.1).