



MILITARY IN HAWAII

ECONOMIC IMPACT FACTBOOK

EMBARGOED

2025

A COMPREHENSIVE, COMMUNITY-FOCUSED RESOURCE
OUTLINING THE MILITARY'S ROLE IN HAWAII'S
ECONOMY, WORKFORCE AND EVERYDAY LIFE



The 2025 Military in Hawai'i Economic Impact Factbook was developed to give Hawai'i's residents, leaders, and partners a clear, accessible view of the U.S. military's role in our state, grounded in data, context, and transparency. At a time when conversations about land use, readiness, safety, and community well-being are complex and deeply felt, the Factbook is intended to serve as a shared foundation for informed dialogue.

The cloud image reflects results from a recent statewide resident survey asking respondents for the first word that comes to mind when thinking about the U.S. military's presence in Hawai'i. Larger words appear more frequently in responses, and words shown in blue were cited ten times or more. The range of terms highlights diverse community perspectives and reinforces the value of shared facts as a foundation for informed discussion.

Inside the Factbook, readers will find data on military personnel and payroll, defense contracting and small-business participation, Native Hawaiian Organization engagement, major installations, and federal investments, including REPI and Public Schools on Military Installations grants. Statewide economic impacts, direct, indirect, and induced, are also detailed.

This QR code links readers to the underlying data sources and methodologies used throughout the Factbook, reinforcing transparency and enabling independent review. The reference materials also include a larger version of the word cloud and additional context about the statewide survey. We hope this resource supports informed dialogue, deepens understanding, and encourages thoughtful decision-making that honors Hawai'i's people, lands, and shared future.



MACRO
Military and Community Relations Office

The study and analysis for this Factbook was conducted by the State of Hawai'i's Military and Community Relations Office, in partnership with Regional Economic Models, Inc.

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MILITARY SENTIMENT: HAWAI'I'S LOCAL STANDING

62% feel positively about the U.S. military's presence in Hawai'i

74% agree the military strengthens Hawai'i's economy

71% agree the military provides good civilian job opportunities

43% had a personal interaction with a service member in the past year

72% interactions with a service member described as positive

6% cite military families as a top contributor to Hawai'i's housing shortage

MILITARY ECONOMIC IMPACT: HAWAI'I'S NATIONAL STANDING

#21 **\$10.2B**
in Total Spending

#4 **\$6,942**
in Spending Per Resident

#9 **\$6.2B**
in Personnel Spending (Statewide)

#2 **\$5.6B**
in Personnel Spending (Honolulu County)

#8 **43,118**
in Active-Duty Personnel

#9 **73,072**
in Total DoD Personnel



ACTIVE DUTY 59.0% **43,118**

DOD CIVILIAN WORKFORCE 28.0% **20,476**

NATIONAL GUARD 7.4% **5,401**

RESERVE 5.6% **4,077**

TOTAL DOD PERSONNEL **73,072**

44.0% **ARMY**

13.8% **MARINE CORPS**

29.1% **NAVY**

12.7% **AIR FORCE**

0.4% **SPACE FORCE**

Silhouette figure to the right illustrates the composition of Hawai'i's 43,118 active-duty personnel.



MILITARY SPENDING IN HAWAII'

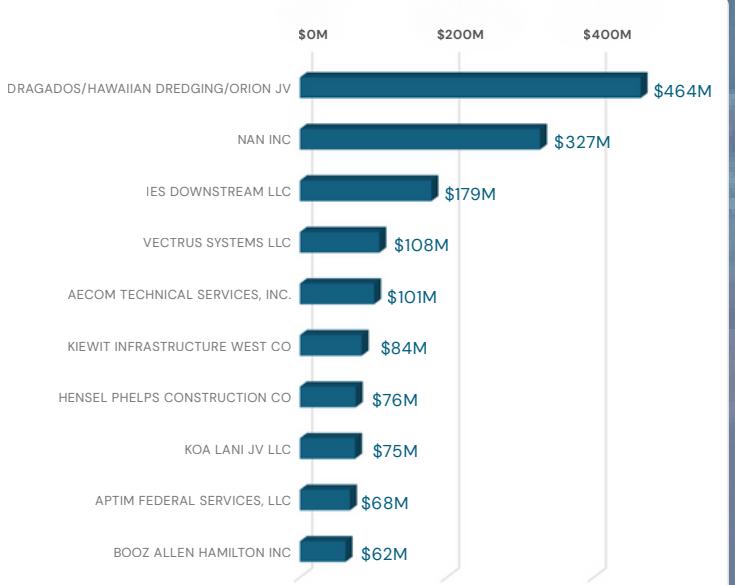
Grants & Assistance	\$1.1B	11%
DoD Grants	\$147M	1.5%
VA Grants	\$20M	0.2%
VA Assistance	\$956M	9.3%

Contracts	\$3.2B	32%
Department of Defense (DoD) Contracts & Sub-Contracts	\$3.2B	31.2%
Veterans Affairs (VA) Contracts & Sub-Contracts	\$40M	0.4%

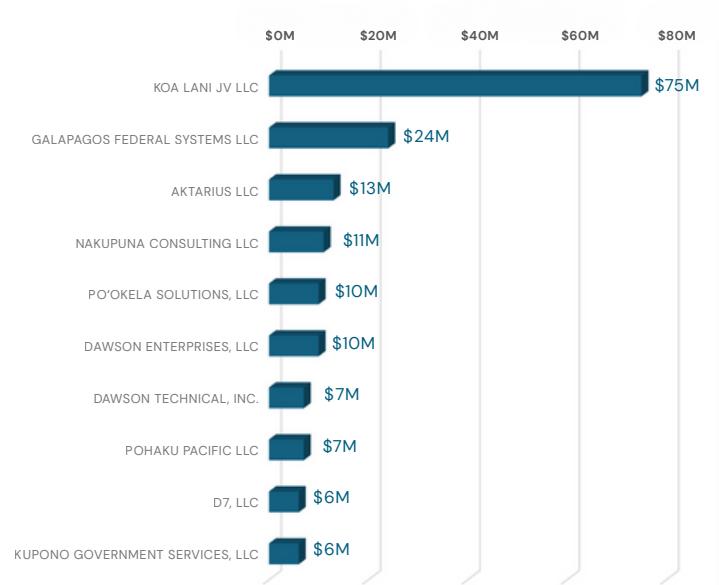
- Compensation
- Contracts
- Grants & Assistance

Compensation	\$5.9B	57%
Military Personnel Payroll	\$5.2B	50.3%
Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH)	\$430M	4.2%
Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)	\$288M	2.9%

CONTRACT IMPACTS (STATEWIDE)



CONTRACT IMPACTS (NATIVE HAWAIIAN OWNED ORGANIZATIONS)



WHAT IS CONTRACTING?

Military contracting is how the U.S. military **works with local Hawai'i businesses to obtain the goods and services it needs to operate**. These contracts can cover everything from building and repairing facilities, to providing transportation, food, technology, and professional support. When a local company wins a contract, **it means federal dollars stay in Hawai'i, supporting local workers, suppliers, and families**.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Defense contracting plays a major role in fueling Hawai'i's defense industry, which is the state's second largest contributor to GDP, second only to tourism. While tourism can rise and fall with travel trends, military spending provides steady, year-round jobs and income for thousands of local residents that support local businesses in construction, housing, retail, and technology. **Economic stability and diversity helps to keep Hawai'i's economy strong even when other sectors slow down.**

2023 CONTRACT AWARD TOTALS BY CATEGORY



SUPPORTING LOCAL

The Department of Defense (DoD) has an annual goal to award **22%** of its prime contracting dollars to small businesses.

This ensures equal access for small businesses, an opportunity to increase local economic activity, and provides jobs for local residents.

In addition, DoD sets specific goals for various small-business categories.

Specific FY23 Goals Include

11% Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB)

5% Women-Owned Small Business (WOSB)

3% Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB)

3% Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone) firms

Businesses can qualify for more than one set-aside designation. For instance, a Woman-Owned Business may also meet the criteria for certification as a Veteran-Owned Business.

Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHOs) are community-based entities majority owned and controlled by Native Hawaiians for Native Hawaiians. Many operate 8(a)-certified small businesses, allowing them to pursue federal contracting opportunities that support small-business growth. Profits are reinvested into cultural, educational, economic, and social programs that directly benefit Native Hawaiian communities.

In Fiscal Year 2023, firms owned by NHOs and their joint ventures received more than \$233 million in Department of Defense contract awards.

HOW DEFENSE SPENDING NOURISHES HAWAII'S ECONOMY

9%

of Hawai'i's \$112B GDP comes from **direct** military contributions



\$17.4B

in **direct, indirect, and induced** GDP contributions from the U.S. Military

Approx 16%

Direct, indirect, induced GDP contribution to the State of Hawai'i



\$10.2B

Compensation



\$1.7B

Grants & Veterans Assistance



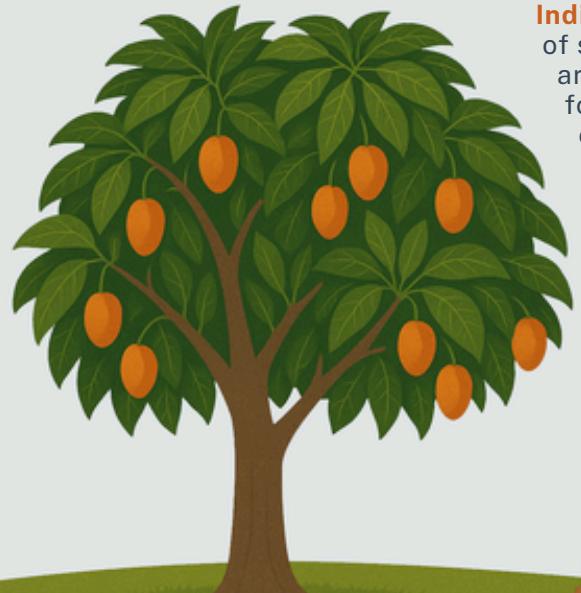
\$5.5B

Contracts

UNDERSTANDING DIRECT, INDIRECT, AND INDUCED GDP

Hawai'i's economy is a diverse ecosystem, with many sectors working together to sustain our state. The defense industry is one important part of that landscape - not the whole forest, but a contributor to a wider network of jobs, businesses, and community well-being. Using a mango tree as a metaphor helps illustrate how defense dollars flow through the economy, from core spending to supplier networks to everyday household purchases that support local families and small businesses.

Direct GDP is the trunk of the mango tree - strong, central, and where nutrients first flow. It represents the core economic activity entering Hawai'i from defense spending: base operations, infrastructure, construction, civilian jobs, and service member pay. These investments anchor and feed the entire economic ecosystem.



Indirect GDP is the system of branches - the wide network of suppliers, contractors, and service providers that grow around the defense sector. Construction firms, engineers, food distributors, logistics companies, and local vendors expand the impact outward, creating a broader canopy of economic activity supported by the trunk.

Induced GDP is the leaves, fruit, and everything made from them - the mangoes and products that nourish the community. It reflects everyday household spending by workers in the direct and indirect sectors at local stores, restaurants, childcare centers, and small businesses. These purchases feed the wider island economy, sustaining families and helping Hawai'i thrive long after the initial dollar is spent.

WHAT HAWAII STANDS TO LOSE

The Cost of Military Downsizing

Hawai'i's economy is an interconnected ecosystem, where changes in one sector ripple through many others. Because the defense industry is tied to construction, engineering, transportation, retail, housing, and local services, shifts in military presence create impacts far beyond installation gates. Understanding the scale of those effects is key to preparing our communities and protecting long-term economic stability.

Because Hawai'i's economy is closely tied to the stability of its military workforce and operations, even modest shifts can have substantial effects. Hypothetically, if a 10% reduction in force occurred, whether due to federal budget cuts, a major deployment, or a strategic realignment of units, it would result in a \$1.7 billion annual loss to our economy. This goes beyond shutting off the tap, it closes the main valve that feeds entire sectors. Construction pipelines would stall, specialized engineering and tech teams would shrink, and transportation and logistics routes would disappear. Even strong businesses would feel the impact as spending shifts statewide.

A 25% reduction, or a \$4.4 billion loss, would be like removing an entire industry from Hawai'i. It wouldn't just close the valve, it drains the reservoir. Hundreds of small businesses would lose their anchor customers, school enrollment and subsequent impact aid dollars would fall, county revenues would drop, and commercial corridors would struggle. The ecosystem around military communities would be fundamentally reshaped, with statewide impacts on employment, economic stability, and government services.

10% REDUCTION IN FORCE

\$1.7 Billion
Decrease in GDP

\$1.2 Billion
Loss of Personal Income
PERSONNEL + GRANTS + VA

9,157
Jobs Eliminated
PERSONNEL + CONTRACTOR

25% REDUCTION IN FORCE

\$4.4 Billion
Decrease in GDP

\$3.0 Billion
Loss of Personal Income
PERSONNEL + GRANTS + VA

22,893
Jobs Eliminated
PERSONNEL + CONTRACTOR



DEFENSE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS IN HAWAII'

In 2023, the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) invested approximately \$147 million in grant funding that directly supported Hawai'i's schools, communities, and natural resources. Enabled by Hawai'i's strategic role in national defense, these federal investments help strengthen shared infrastructure, protect critical landscapes, and enhance quality of life for families statewide.

The examples highlighted here represent a snapshot of how DoD-funded programs are supporting Hawai'i today. From public school facilities and educational support to environmental stewardship and community resilience, these partnerships illustrate how federal defense investments can address local priorities while advancing a shared commitment to readiness, sustainability, and long-term security.

SUPPORTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII'



A participant demonstrates immersive technology at the PACAF Innovation Conference, showcasing DoD-funded research at UH supporting innovation and Indo-Pacific priorities.

The DoD awarded the University of Hawai'i (UH) **\$72.8 million to support a broad range of research and development initiatives across the state**. This funding represented approximately **one in every seven federal research dollars invested in the university's overall research portfolio**. These awards supported projects that address both national defense priorities and local needs, with impacts extending across multiple campuses and disciplines. Investments included a \$17.9 million partnership with the Pacific Disaster Center for disaster preparedness and resilience, an \$8.7 million collaboration with the Air Force Research Laboratory advancing applied science and technology, \$5.4 million from Navy Facilities Engineering Command supporting infrastructure-related research, and \$5.4 million for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers environmental project on O'ahu. **Collectively, these projects contribute to advanced research, workforce training, environmental stewardship, and community resilience**, while reinforcing UH's role as a strategic research partner in the Indo-Pacific and supporting long-term innovation and economic impact for Hawai'i.

FEDERAL IMPACT AID AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS ON MILITARY INSTALLATIONS (PSMI)



The DoD contributed \$26.6M to the renovation of Daniel K. Inouye Elementary School.

The Hawai'i Department of Education oversees all public schools, including those on military installations. Public Schools on Military Installations (PSMI), a DoD program, funds major reconstruction and renovation projects for public schools on or near military installations and typically covers about 80 percent of total project costs. **Since 2011, three schools in Hawai'i have been rebuilt or modernized through PSMI, with seven more planned, representing a combined investment nearing \$1 billion.** One of the most recent projects began in 2023 to renovate Mōkapu Elementary School, supported by **\$96 million in PSMI funds**. Hawai'i also receives Federal Impact Aid, a U.S. Department of Education program that provides operational support to states and districts with large numbers of federally connected students. In 2023, Hawai'i received **\$53.3 million in Impact Aid to help fund substitute teachers, textbooks, computers, utilities, and special education services statewide.** Together, these investments strengthen Hawai'i's public school system by supporting both long-term facilities and essential classroom operations for all students.

READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INITIATIVE (REPI)



Army Natural Resources Program staff outplant Ka'ala loulu (Pritchardia kaala) within a management unit that is fenced to keep out goats and pigs, on the Wai'anae mountain range.

In 2023, Hawai'i received **\$10 million through the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Challenge**, reinforcing the state's ongoing partnership with the DoD to protect training areas and strengthen environmental resilience. **REPI is a DoD program designed to enhance military readiness and environmental stewardship by promoting cooperative land management between military installations and surrounding communities.** Initially established to address encroachment challenges, REPI supports partnerships with state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners to secure conservation easements or protect lands that buffer military installations. These collaborations often advance habitat restoration, invasive species control, watershed protection, and wildfire risk reduction, benefiting both military lands and neighboring communities. Through these efforts, REPI helps sustain military readiness while supporting local conservation priorities and maintaining the ecological integrity of surrounding landscapes.

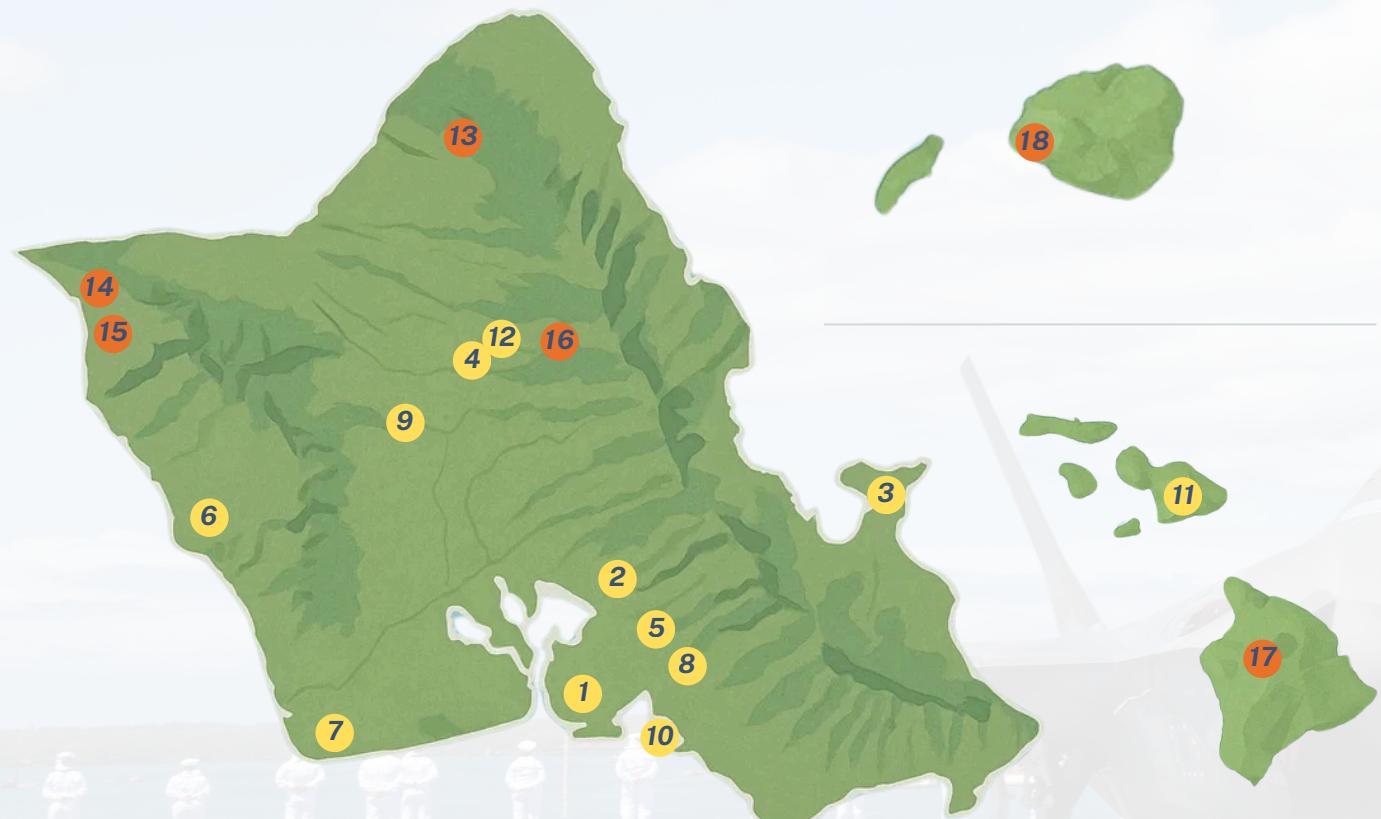
DOD PARTNERSHIPS: SHARED INFRASTRUCTURE, SHARED RESILIENCE



Wildfire response along Mana Road, Hawai'i Island, supported by a Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program grant, strengthening firefighting readiness, logistics, and vehicle maintenance capabilities.

Programs such as the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP), Intergovernmental Support Agreements (IGSA), and Installation Resilience Grants strengthen partnerships between military installations and surrounding communities across Hawai'i by improving shared infrastructure and resilience. DCIP provides multi-million-dollar federal grants to state, local, and tribal governments for infrastructure projects linked to nearby installations. In Hawai'i, **DCIP investments have included a \$20 million project** involving the University of Hawai'i and the U.S. Army. **IGSAs enable installations to enter multi-million-dollar service agreements with state and local governments** for utilities and public services, while **Installation Resilience Grants support multi-million-dollar projects that address climate, environmental, and operational risks**. These programs complement efforts involving the University of Hawai'i, PSMI, and initiatives such as REPI, supporting education, planning, and long-term community resilience while sustaining military readiness statewide.

INSTALLATION DESCRIPTIONS



Installations on Federally Owned Land

- 1 Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Hickam Field
- 2 Camp H.M. Smith
- 3 Marine Corps Base Hawai'i
- 4 NSA Hawai'i
- 5 Tripler Army Medical Center
- 6 Lualualei Naval Annex
- 7 U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point
- 8 Fort Shafter
- 9 Schofield Barracks/ Wheeler Army Airfield
- 10 U.S. Coast Guard Base Honolulu
- 11 Maui Space Surveillance Complex
- 12 Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific

Installations & Training Areas on Leased or Partial Leased Land

- 13 Kahuku Training Area
- 14 Ka'ena Point Space Force Station
- 15 Mākua Military Reservation
- 16 Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area
- 17 Pōhakuloa Training Area (PTA)
- 18 Pacific Missile Range Facility Barking Sands (PMRF)

1 Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam (JBPHH)

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam is one of the Indo-Pacific region's most vital military hubs, integrating Navy and Air Force missions to support national defense and global readiness. The installation also serves as a major employer and community partner on O'ahu, contributing to Hawai'i's economy while safeguarding its strategic waterways and airspace.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 3,339

1 Hickam Field

Hickam Field, adjacent to Pearl Harbor U.S. Naval Base, was established in 1935 as Hawai'i's principal Army airfield and bomber base. The airfield played a critical role in defense against the Pearl Harbor attacks of Dec 7, 1941. Today, Hickam serves as the headquarters of the Pacific Air Force.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 405

2 Camp H.M. Smith

Located in Aiea, Camp Smith is the headquarters of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command and home to U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific (MARFORPAC), serving as the nerve center for joint military coordination and regional security across half the globe. Perched above Pearl Harbor, it plays a critical role in shaping U.S. defense strategy while maintaining strong partnerships throughout Hawai'i and the Pacific.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 221

3 Marine Corps Base Hawai'i (MCBH)

Located on the Windward side of O'ahu, Marine Corps Base Hawai'i is the Marine Corps' primary operational platform in the central Pacific, home to III Marine Expeditionary Force units, Marine Aircraft Group-24, and key training assets that enable amphibious, aviation, and rapid-response missions across the Indo-Pacific. The base integrates air, ground, and logistics capabilities while partnering closely with Windward communities and supporting local employees.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 3,026

4 National Security Agency Hawai'i (NSA)

Located in Wahiawā, The National Security Agency (The Hawaii Cryptologic Center) provides support through cybersecurity and signals intelligence.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 70

5 Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC)

A major DoD hospital serving active duty, retired military personnel, veterans, and their families, TAMC is the only federal tertiary care hospital in the Pacific Basin. TAMC was established in 1907 and remains a critical care facility which acts as headquarters for the Regional Health Command - Pacific.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 367

6 Lualualei Naval Magazine

Lualualei Naval Magazine is a Navy ordnance storage facility, supporting fleet operations through secure munitions storage, logistics, and ammunition handling critical to maritime readiness. It maintains strong ties to the surrounding community and exercises careful stewardship of the valley's cultural and natural resources.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 9,578

7 U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point

At Kāne'ohe, members of the U.S. Coast Guard serve as "Guardians of the Pacific," providing the protection of 12.2 million square miles of open ocean, atolls, and island nations.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 278

8 Fort Shafter

Fort Shafter is the headquarters of U.S. Army Pacific, directing Army operations and theater-wide planning across the Indo-Pacific region. Nestled above Honolulu, it serves as a historic and strategic command center that supports joint readiness.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 591

9 Schofield Barracks / Wheeler Army Airfield

Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Airfield together form the heart of Army operations in Hawai'i, serving as home to the 25th Infantry Division, key aviation brigades, and critical training, mobilization, and air support capabilities for missions across the Indo-Pacific. Located in Central O'ahu, these sister installations integrate ground and aviation readiness, support thousands of soldiers and families, and partner closely with surrounding communities to strengthen both regional security and local quality of life.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 16,403

10 U.S. Coast Guard Base Honolulu

This major Coast Guard support command, located on Sand Island, delivers integrated mission support for protective operations.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 41

11 Maui Space Surveillance Complex

The Maui Space Surveillance Complex, located atop Haleakalā, is one of the nation's premier space domain awareness sites, hosting advanced telescopes and sensors that track satellites and objects in deep space. Operated by the U.S. Space Force, it provides critical real-time data for national security while working in close coordination with local partners to protect the cultural and environmental significance of Haleakalā.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 151

12 Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific

The largest communication station in the world, located near Wahiawā, this station provides operational direction through the Naval Telecommunications System.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 700

13 Kahuku Training Area

Kahuku Training Area is one of the Army's primary field training sites on O'ahu, providing terrain for infantry maneuver, aviation support, and combined-arms exercises that prepare soldiers for real-world missions across the Indo-Pacific.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 9,465

Total Army Leased Acres: 1,150 (As of December 2025, lease renewal discussions are ongoing. The Army's Record of Decision (ROD) proposes a modified retention of 450 acres.)

14 Ka'ena Point Space Force Station (KPSTS)

Ka'ena Point Space Force Station (formerly Ka'ena Point Satellite Tracking Station) is located on O'ahu. It acts as a remote tracking station for the Satellite Control Network (SCN), which tracks satellites in orbit for the DoD.

Total Space Force Leased Acres: 138

15 Mākua Military Reservation

Mākua Military Reservation is part of three valleys - Mākua, Kahanahāiki, and Kō'iāhi - which hold cultural, ecological, and spiritual significance. This area has been utilized for military training for over one hundred years and live-fire training has ceased since 2004. This Army reservation is accessible for cultural, educational, and spiritual use and is the site of native reforestation and archeological discoveries, including heiau and agricultural terraces.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 3,408

Total Army Leased Acres: 782 (As of December 2025, the Army's ROD does not pursue a lease renewal of the 782 acres. The remaining acres are U.S. government-owned and not part of a lease.)

16 Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area

The Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, or Kawaihoa Forest Maneuver Training Area, is located on O'ahu on the western slope of the Ko'olau Mountains. The Area is owned by the State of Hawai'i and is utilized by the Army for low-altitude helicopter training.

Total Army Leased Acres: 18,707 (As of December 2025, the Army's ROD does not pursue a lease renewal of these lands.)

17 Pōhakuloa Training Area (PTA)

Pōhakuloa Training Area is the Army's largest training range in the Pacific, offering terrain for live-fire, aviation, convoy, and joint-force exercises that prepare U.S. and partner forces for missions across the Indo-Pacific. Located on Hawai'i Island between Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa, it supports year-round readiness for all branches of service, including the National Guard and first responders, while partnering with local communities and prioritizing the protection of culturally significant sites, endangered species, and the island's unique natural environment.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 109,000

Total Army Leased Acres: 22,971 (As of December 2025, lease renewal discussions are ongoing. The Army's ROD proposes continued use of 19,700 acres of state land.)

18 Pacific Missile Range Facility Barking Sands (PMRF)

Located on Kaua'i, Barking Sands hosts the world's largest instrumented multi-environment range capable of simultaneous air, space, surface, and subsurface operations. This Naval facility remains critical for comprehensive national defense.

Total Federally Owned Acres: 9,579

Total Navy Leased Acres: 8,348



MAHALO NUI LOA FOR YOUR INTEREST IN THE 2025
MILITARY IN HAWAII ECONOMIC IMPACT FACTBOOK



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