



Gov. Ige (D)

“In many ways, the state of the State of Hawaii is sound and full of possibilities. Having said that, we all know there is still much work to be done. There are families out there that continue to struggle despite the overall state of the economy.”

— Gov. David Ige, from his State of the State address, January 23, 2017

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Hawaii

Pop. (2017): 1,461,211
Median household income: \$73,636
Credit Rating: AA+/Stable

Pop. growth 2017–2022: 0.97%
Median age: 39.3
Right-to-work state: No

Legislative Update

- During a special session in September, Hawaii lawmakers passed a bill to raise \$2.4 billion in taxes for Honolulu's financially troubled rail transit project. The \$9.5-billion transit line is less than half-built and faced a shortfall of up to \$3 billion. The new law will raise the hotel tax by 1 percent to 10.25 percent through 2030. Supporters of the project, in the works for more than a decade, say it will encourage affordable housing and transit-oriented development, and reduce traffic to and from the city's west side, where only one road corridor exists.
- Hawaii's 2018-2019 budget, approved in May, contains \$2.9 billion for capital improvements, including \$90 million to repair public schools statewide; \$50 million to finance affordable rental housing; \$6 million to retrofit buildings with hurricane protective measures and to increase the number of emergency shelters; \$170 million for improvements to the terminal ticket lobby at Honolulu International Airport; \$190 million for the repair, rehabilitation or replacement of bridges statewide; and \$50 million for shoreline protection.



27th

Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2017-2018: **0**



38th

Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure: **\$318,134**



47th

Number of NCRCs: **431** | Percent Improvement 2017-2018: **1%**



40th

ITIF Score: **50.1**



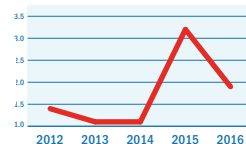
50th

Lowest Electric Power Cost (cents/kWh): **22.41**



27th

GDP
38th



2016 GDP
(in millions of current US\$)
\$84,671