

# Licenses To Carry Handguns in Hawai‘i, 2024

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Hawai‘i Revised Statutes § 134-9.6 requires the county police departments to provide data to the Department of the Attorney General as needed for this annual report on the licensing of private persons to carry handguns in public in the State of Hawai‘i. The police data from the state’s four reporting counties were compiled to provide the statistics presented herein for calendar year 2024. This is the first edition of this annual report series, notwithstanding an initial administrative report published last year (see Reference section). With the exception of reporting a few denials of applications for open carry licenses (see page 8), this publication focuses on concealed carry licensing. Data on carry licenses for professional security guards (e.g., armored bank car personnel) will continue to be reported in the Department’s *Firearm Registrations in Hawai‘i* annual report series.

## Licensees

Licenses to carry (LTCs) concealed handguns are valid for four years in the State of Hawai‘i; license applications are submitted to the police departments on most days of the year; and licenses may be issued, denied, and/or revoked in the year(s) following application submission, making it complicated to report annually based statistics. In order to provide an unduplicated tally of all active licensees (i.e., including persons holding still-valid licenses issued in prior years plus new and renewed licensees from the current reporting year), the police departments make a total count on December 31. Those data are presented below in Table 1, which provides comparisons of licensee tallies across the state.

Table 1: Total Active Licensees on 12/31/2024,  
State of Hawai‘i and Counties

	Total Active Licensees	Jurisdiction's % of Total State Licensees	Resident Population Age 20+*	Jurisdiction's % of State Res. Pop. Age 20+*	% Licensees in Jurisdiction's Res. Pop. Age 20+** (Revised)
C&C Honolulu	1,356	61.4	766,965	69.0	0.18
Hawai‘i County	425	19.3	160,701	14.5	0.26
Maui County	183	8.3	127,078	11.4	0.14
Kaua‘i County	243	11.0	56,846	5.1	0.43
State Total	2,207	100%	1,111,590	100%	0.20

\* Based on 2023 state and county resident population estimates.  
\*\* Population estimates are available for all residents age 20 and older, while LTCs are issued to persons age 21 and older. Therefore, the actual percentages of licensees within a jurisdiction are likely slightly higher than shown.

A statewide total of 2,207 private persons held a valid LTC on December 31, 2024, comprising 0.2% of the state’s resident population of persons age 20 or older (see notes below Table 1). With the collection of additional data in future years, these measurements (and others presented throughout this report) will allow for year-to-year trend analyses.

Licensees are notably overrepresented in Kaua‘i County (11.0% of statewide licensees compared to 5.1% of the state’s resident population) and Hawai‘i County (19.3% and 14.5%, respectively). Licensees are commensurately underrepresented in the City and County of Honolulu and Maui County.

## Applications Received and Licenses Issued, Denied, and Revoked

Tables 2-6, shown on pages 3-7, present state and county data for all licensing activity performed during 2024, with breakdowns for applicant and licensee demographic categories. These measurements reflect only the actions that occurred during calendar year 2024. For example, some applications received later in 2024 were not completely processed by year's end, so the applications are reported in this publication but the associated outcomes (i.e., issued, denied, and/or revoked LTCs) will be reported accordingly in subsequent editions. As another example, applications that were received in 2023 are not counted in this report, but all associated outcomes that occurred during 2024 are. Readers are thus cautioned against calculating precise approval, denial, or revocation rates, particularly for this first-year report, although increasingly confident estimates of those measurements can be made as overlapping data for additional years are reported.

It is also important to note that Tables 2-6 include some duplicated counts of individual persons, as the focus here is on licensing activity (see section heading) rather than licensees. If a license applicant wishes to select between multiple qualified handguns to carry under different circumstances, s/he must qualify and apply for multiple LTCs, which can occur at the same or different points in the current year, or in subsequent years, relative to the first LTC. Moreover, the exact policies and procedures for this vary by county. In the absence of a statewide LTC records management system, and as demographic data must be reported for all types of licensing activity, the most straightforward (though still imperfect) way to manage and present such data is shown in Tables 2-6.

Table 2 reveals that a statewide total of 2,697 LTC applications were received by the county police departments throughout 2024, while 2,456 licenses were issued (as explained above, some licensees hold multiple licenses), 119 were denied, and six were revoked. License denials and revocations are discussed in greater detail in the next section of this report.

As can be seen in each of Tables 2-6, and with only minor variation between counties, Hawai'i's LTC applicants and licensees are most commonly male; in their 30s through 50s; and of Caucasian, Filipino, Hawaiian, or Japanese racial/ethnic descent. The demographic profiles of applicants versus licensees are also remarkably similar, with no striking distinctions in application outcomes relative to age, sex, or race/ethnicity.

**Table 2: Applications Received; Licenses Issued, Denied, and Revoked; and Associated Applicant/Licensee Demographics, State of Hawai‘i, 2024**

State of Hawai‘i	Applications		Licenses		Denials	Revocations
Age Range	2,697	%	2,456	%	119	6
21-29	264	9.8	223	9.1	31	2
30-39	538	19.9	495	20.2	47	0
40-49	681	25.3	623	25.4	19	2
50-59	672	24.9	600	24.4	14	2
60-69	378	14.0	357	14.5	6	0
70-79	147	5.5	140	5.7	2	0
80+	17	0.6	18	0.7	0	0
Sex	2,697	%	2,456	%	119	6
Male	2,510	93.1	2,244	91.4	111	6
Female	187	6.9	212	8.6	8	0
X/Other	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
Race/Ethnicity	2,697	%	2,456	%	119	6
American Indian	2	0.1	0	0.0	1	0
Black	66	2.4	51	2.1	8	0
White	865	32.1	791	32.2	42	1
Chinese	116	4.3	100	4.1	4	0
Japanese	389	14.4	355	14.5	8	0
Filipino	673	25.0	643	26.2	26	1
Korean	42	1.6	34	1.4	3	0
Other Asian	58	2.2	53	2.2	0	0
Hawaiian/part-Hawn	409	15.2	352	14.3	24	4
Samoan	24	0.9	27	1.1	2	0
Other Pacific Islander	53	2.0	50	2.0	1	0

**Table 3: Applications Received; Licenses Issued, Denied, and Revoked; and Associated Applicant/Licensee Demographics, City and County of Honolulu, 2024**

C&C Honolulu	Applications		Licenses		Denials	Revocations
Age Range	1,684	%	1,462	%	111	4
21-29	199	11.8	161	11.0	30	1
30-39	353	21.0	315	21.5	42	0
40-49	438	26.0	383	26.2	19	2
50-59	426	25.3	358	24.5	12	1
60-69	209	12.4	190	13.0	6	0
70-79	53	3.1	48	3.3	2	0
80+	6	0.4	7	0.5	0	0
Sex	1,684	%	1,462	%	111	4
Male	1,609	95.5	1,360	93.0	104	4
Female	75	4.5	102	7.0	7	0
X/Other	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
Race/Ethnicity	1,684	%	1,462	%	111	4
American Indian	2	0.1	0	0.0	1	0
Black	60	3.6	45	3.1	8	0
White	371	22.0	311	21.3	35	1
Chinese	92	5.5	77	5.3	4	0
Japanese	263	15.6	229	15.7	8	0
Filipino	533	31.7	505	34.5	26	0
Korean	38	2.3	30	2.1	3	0
Other Asian	30	1.8	25	1.7	0	0
Hawaiian/part-Hawn	268	15.9	213	14.6	23	3
Samoan	17	1.0	20	1.4	2	0
Other Pacific Islander	10	0.6	7	0.5	1	0

**Table 4: Applications Received; Licenses Issued, Denied, and Revoked; and Associated Applicant/Licensee Demographics, Hawai'i County, 2024**

Hawai'i County	Applications		Licenses		Denials	Revocations
Age Range	540	%	533	%	6	1
21-29	28	5.2	26	4.9	1	1
30-39	114	21.1	109	20.5	5	0
40-49	125	23.1	125	23.5	0	0
50-59	124	23.0	124	23.3	0	0
60-69	86	15.9	86	16.1	0	0
70-79	56	10.4	56	10.5	0	0
80+	7	1.3	7	1.3	0	0
Sex	540	%	533	%	6	1
Male	488	90.4	481	90.2	6	1
Female	52	9.6	52	9.8	0	0
X/Other	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
Race/Ethnicity	540	%	533	%	6	1
American Indian	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
Black	4	0.7	4	0.8	0	0
White	254	47.0	249	46.7	5	0
Chinese	19	3.5	19	3.6	0	0
Japanese	74	13.7	74	13.9	0	0
Filipino	72	13.3	72	13.5	0	0
Korean	3	0.6	3	0.6	0	0
Other Asian	13	2.4	13	2.4	0	0
Hawaiian/part-Hawn	89	16.5	87	16.3	1	1
Samoan	7	1.3	7	1.3	0	0
Other Pacific Islander	5	0.9	5	0.9	0	0

**Table 5: Applications Received; Licenses Issued, Denied, and Revoked; and Associated Applicant/Licensee Demographics, Maui County, 2024**

Maui County	Applications		Licenses		Denials	Revocations
Age Range	138	%	136	%	2	1
21-29	18	13.0	18	13.2	0	0
30-39	22	15.9	22	16.2	0	0
40-49	32	23.2	32	23.5	0	0
50-59	34	24.6	32	23.5	2	1
60-69	21	15.2	21	15.4	0	0
70-79	10	7.2	10	7.4	0	0
80+	1	0.7	1	0.7	0	0
Sex	138	%	136	%	2	1
Male	130	94.2	129	94.9	1	1
Female	8	5.8	7	5.1	1	0
X/Other	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
Race/Ethnicity	138	%	136	%	2	1
American Indian	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
Black	1	0.7	1	0.7	0	0
White	74	53.6	72	52.9	2	0
Chinese	2	1.4	2	1.5	0	0
Japanese	11	8.0	11	8.1	0	0
Filipino	20	14.5	20	14.7	0	1
Korean	1	0.7	1	0.7	0	0
Other Asian	3	2.2	3	2.2	0	0
Hawaiian/part-Hawn	20	14.5	20	14.7	0	0
Samoan	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
Other Pacific Islander	6	4.3	6	4.4	0	0

**Table 6: Applications Received; Licenses Issued, Denied, and Revoked; and Associated Applicant/Licensee Demographics, Kaua'i County, 2024**

Kaua'i County	Applications		Licenses		Denials	Revocations
Age Range	335	%	325	%	0	0
21-29	19	5.7	18	5.5	0	0
30-39	49	14.6	49	15.1	0	0
40-49	86	25.7	83	25.5	0	0
50-59	88	26.3	86	26.5	0	0
60-69	62	18.5	60	18.5	0	0
70-79	28	8.4	26	8.0	0	0
80+	3	0.9	3	0.9	0	0
Sex	335	%	325	%	0	0
Male	283	84.5	274	84.3	0	0
Female	52	15.5	51	15.7	0	0
X/Other	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
Race/Ethnicity	335	%	325	%	0	0
American Indian	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
Black	1	0.3	1	0.3	0	0
White	166	49.6	159	48.9	0	0
Chinese	3	0.9	2	0.6	0	0
Japanese	41	12.2	41	12.6	0	0
Filipino	48	14.3	46	14.2	0	0
Korean	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
Other Asian	12	3.6	12	3.7	0	0
Hawaiian/part-Hawn	32	9.6	32	9.8	0	0
Samoan	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
Other Pacific Islander	32	9.6	32	9.8	0	0

## Reasons for License Denials

The 119 total statewide LTC denials in 2024 (see Table 2 on page 3) involved a total of 291 reasons for denial, for an average of 2.4 reasons per denial. Table 7, below, shows that the top three categorical reasons for denials were that the applicant failed to: sign a required affidavit (24.7% of all denial reasons); complete application tasks within allowed timeframes (23.4%); and/or complete a prescribed training program and be certified to use the specific firearm in question (22.0%). Only 5.8% (16) of the denials were due to the applicants being legally disqualified from possessing firearms and ammunition. The apparent impediment concerning the affidavits is curious and perhaps attributable to some applicants being unaware of changes that were made to the state's LTC application requirements and procedures, and it will be interesting to see if this issue persists next year.

The nine denials for "Other" reasons were all made by the Honolulu PD, for applications for open (rather than concealed) carry licenses, which are virtually never issued to private citizens in the State of Hawai'i.

**Table 7: Reasons for License Denials,  
State of Hawai'i and Counties, 2024**

DENIAL REASONS <i>Count all reasons that apply to individual cases</i>	HON	HAW	MAU	KAU	State Total	State %
Is prohibited under §134-7 from ownership/possession/control of a firearm and ammunition.	16	1	0	0	17	5.8
Did not submit an appropriate application (e.g., not all fields completed and answered truthfully; missing signatures or attachments; missing/invalid payment).	24	0	0	0	24	8.2
Is not the registered owner of the firearm(s) to be licensed.	2	0	0	0	2	0.7
Did not complete a course of training per §134-9(e) and be certified to use the firearm(s) for which the license will be issued in a safe manner.	64	0	0	0	64	22.0
Did not sign and/or submit an affidavit acknowledging that the applicant has read and is responsible for understanding and complying with the federal, state, and county laws governing the permissible use of firearms and associated requirements.	72	0	0	0	72	24.7
Is found to be lacking the essential character or temperament necessary to be entrusted with a firearm.	28	5	2	0	35	12.0
Is not a citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident of the United States or a duly accredited official representative of a foreign nation.	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Is not a resident of the State of Hawai'i.	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Is not the age of 21 years or more.	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Rejected due to timeliness/expiration issue(s).	68	0	0	0	68	23.4
Other	9	0	0	0	9	3.1
<b>Total License Denial Reasons</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Reasons for License Revocations

Table 8 shows that six LTCs were revoked statewide during 2024, including four in the City and County of Honolulu and one each in Hawai'i County and Maui County. The Honolulu and Hawai'i County revocations were due to the affected licensees being prosecuted and/or convicted of disqualifying criminal offenses. The Maui County revocation was made after the licensee was videorecorded drawing and pointing his firearm in a dangerous direction for an unwarranted reason, and for failing to announce to police officers upon contact that he is in possession of a firearm and LTC. The Maui revocation also led to one of the administrative appeals and denials reported in the next section.

**Table 8: Reasons for License Revocations,  
State of Hawai'i and Counties, 2024**

REVOCATION REASONS <i>Count all reasons that apply to individual cases</i>	HON	HAW	MAU	KAU	State Total	State %
Is a fugitive from justice or prohibited from possessing a firearm or ammunition under title 18 United States Code §922 or any other provision of federal law.	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Is being prosecuted for (or has been convicted of) one or more charges for a felony, a crime of violence, a criminal offense relating to firearms, or an illegal sale or distribution of any drug in a court.	4	1	0	0	5	83.3
Is or has been under treatment or counseling for addiction to, abuse of, or dependence upon any dangerous, harmful, or detrimental drug, intoxicating compound or liquor as defined in §712-1240.	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Has been acquitted of a crime on the grounds of mental disease, disorder, or defect pursuant to §704-411 or any similar provision under federal law, the law of another state, a U.S. territory, or D.C.	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Is or has been diagnosed with or treated for a medical, behavioral, psychological, emotional, or mental condition or disorder that causes or is likely to cause impairment in judgment, perception, or impulse control to an extent that presents an unreasonable risk to public health, safety, or welfare if the person were in possession or control of a firearm.	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Has been adjudged to: (A) Meet the criteria for involuntary hospitalization under §334-60.2; or (B) Be an "incapacitated person", as defined in §560:5-102, and has not established with appropriate medical documentation that they are no longer adversely affected by the criteria or statuses identified in this subsection.	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Has a protective order or restraining order, or any extension in effect which specifically precludes the individual from possession, control, or transfer of ownership of a firearm or ammunition.	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other	0	0	1	0	1	16.7
<b>Total License Revocation Reasons</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Administrative Appeals

Denied LTC applicants and revoked licensees may seek relief from those actions, first through an administrative appeal decided by the respective county police chief, and secondly, if needed, through a judicial review made by the Hawai'i State Judiciary (see next section). As displayed in Table 9, a total of 10 administrative appeals were requested statewide in 2024, with an even split of three being granted and three being denied by the police chiefs, while four others were not concluded by year's end.

**Table 9: Administrative Appeals,  
State of Hawai'i and Counties, 2024**

	Requested	Granted	Denied	Pending
<b>C&amp;C Honolulu</b>	5	0	1	4
<b>Hawai'i County</b>	2	1	1	0
<b>Maui County</b>	3	2	1	0
<b>Kaua'i County</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>State Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>

## Judicial Reviews

As noted above, judicial reviews provide a second level of appeal for denied or revoked LTCs. The Hawai'i State Judiciary reported that no LTC judicial reviews were requested in 2024.

**Table 10: Judicial Reviews,  
State of Hawai'i and Counties, 2024**

	Requested	Granted	Denied	Pending
<b>C&amp;C Honolulu</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Hawai'i County</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Maui County</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Kaua'i County</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>State Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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## Reference

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