



# Hawaii

Hawaii is a tropical paradise filled with beauty and adventure. Pristine beaches, lush foliage, active volcanoes, and idyllic temperatures lure people from around the world to this island jewel of the sea. It has a rich history that includes Spanish explorers, sea adventures like Captain James Cook, and fabled Queen Lili'uokalani.

Hawaii's 1.5 million residents are largely of Japanese, Chinese, and Polynesian descent. At one time in the 1800s evangelical Christianity was the dominant religion, but today Buddhism, Catholicism, and Mormonism are the main religions. Hawaii is the only state in which a non-Christian religion predominates. The time is ripe for a wave of new ministry to take place in this marvelous land.

## NEEDS

Hawaii has fewer than 5,000 evangelical Christians. Cults such as the Jehovah Witnesses, Seventh Day Adventists, and Mormonism are a dominant presence in the islands. Pentecostalism also has a strong foothold.

Nearly 50,000 servicemen at Pearl Harbor and other military bases need the gospel message.

One in six Hawaiians lives in poverty, the sixth-highest rate in the United States. The homeless rate is higher than in New York.

On average things cost about 30 percent more than on the mainland. A three-bedroom apartment rents for \$3,000 a month.

The vast majority of Hawaiians have never heard the gospel explained, although the region was declared "evangelized" in the early 1800s.

## HOW YOU CAN SERVE

- Pastoral leadership is needed for some of the churches Baptist Mid-Missions has planted.
- Campus Bible Fellowship International ministries are needed among the 53,000 college and university students on 15 campuses.
- Visionary missionaries are needed to launch church planting ministries.
- "Homesteaders," retirees, and laymen are needed to move to Hawaii to strengthen local churches and help in whatever ways possible.
- Small group leaders and disciplers are needed to strengthen existing congregations.
- Multiethnic, multicultural teams are needed.



## LEARN MORE

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