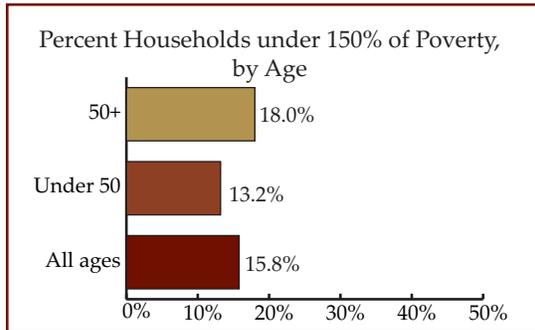


Energy and Telephone Assistance in the States

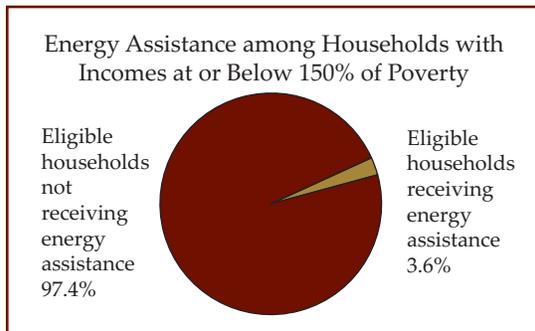
Hawaii

Hawaii in Brief (2006)

Total state population:	1,285,498
State median income:	\$71,320
Percent households age 50+:	55.9%

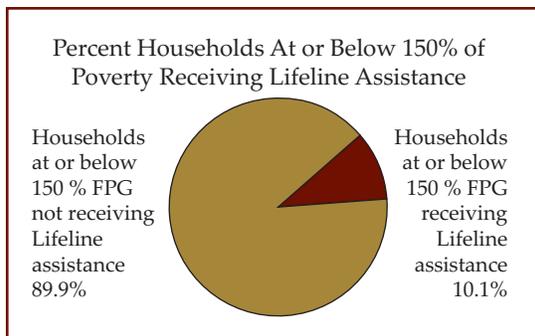


Energy Assistance



Telephone Assistance

Telephone penetration rate in state: 95.4%



Telephone Assistance

Lifeline and Link-Up are the primary sources of telephone assistance for low-income households in Hawaii.

Lifeline

Lifeline provides participating low-income households with a monthly credit toward the price of basic local telephone service.

Benefits (2006)

Maximum monthly credit: \$8.25

Basic federal support: \$8.25

State support: None

Funding (2005)

Federal: \$680,299

Eligibility (2006)

To receive Lifeline assistance, state residents must complete an application with their local telephone provider and prove their household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guideline.

Beneficiaries must recertify with their local telephone provider periodically to remain eligible for this program.

Participation (2005)

Households served: 6,882

Participation rate: 11.7% (based on 135% of federal poverty guideline)

Link-Up

Qualified customers receive a discount on the price of installing new telephone service.

Benefits (2006)

Link-Up subscribers receive the following:

- A credit of \$30 or a 50% reduction, whichever is less, on the charges customers pay for connecting to new telephone service

Energy and Telephone Assistance in the States

- The option of deferring payment on the balance of the connection fee (up to \$200) with no interest charges for a period not to exceed one year

Funding (2005)

Federal: \$12,439

Eligibility (2006)

Eligibility requirements are the same as for Lifeline.

Participation (2005)

Households served: 548

Energy Assistance

Low-income energy assistance programs in Hawaii include the following:

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides the state of Hawaii with a block grant to help eligible low-income households meet home energy needs. The purpose of the federal LIHEAP program is limited to providing heating or cooling to residences; it is neither a bill payment program nor an entitlement program. To ensure that heating/cooling is provided to the household's residence, credits are placed directly into utility accounts of eligible households. There are two components of assistance: crisis intervention and regular heating/cooling assistance.

Benefits (FY2005)

Maximum crisis benefit \$100

Average credit for regular heating/cooling: \$312

Clients receive one credit a year for either crisis intervention or regular heating/cooling with the electric or gas company. Open application period is for one month each year, usually in June.

Funding (FY2006)

Total: \$2,566,687

Federal: \$2,566,687

Regular net block grant: \$2,112,742

Additional one-time net block grant: \$442,135

Total emergency/cont.: \$11,810

The Hawaii Department of Human Services (DHS) contracts with community action programs throughout the state to accept applications for both components and to determine eligibility. DHS finalizes eligibility for regular heating benefits, processes all payments to utility companies to apply credits to client accounts, and notifies clients.

Hawaii allocates LIHEAP funds in the following manner:

• Heating	64%
• Crisis	25%
• Administration, etc.	10%
• Other	1%

Eligibility (FY2006)

State residents with household incomes at or below 150% of poverty are eligible for assistance. Hawaii also uses an assets test to determine the final eligibility of clients for LIHEAP.

Participation (FY2005)

Households served:

Heating: 5,874

Crisis: 230

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

Through the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), the U.S. Department of Energy provides Hawaii with a formula distribution grant to help low-income residents—especially those 60 years and older, disabled, or living with young children—increase the energy efficiency of their homes and reduce their energy expenditures.

Benefits (FY2006)

Maximum benefit per household: \$2,000

Energy and Telephone Assistance in the States

This program funds the fabrication and installation of hot water heater blankets and timers and solar water heaters. Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) has a five-year program to encourage households to install solar units, providing low-income households with rebates to help defray the cost.

Funding (FY2006)

Total: \$234,987

Federal: \$234,987

Department of Energy: \$234,987

The Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office of Community Services, through the services of community action agencies (CAAs) in the four counties accepts applications, determines eligibilities, and provides weatherization services, such as installing hot water heater blankets and/or timers and solar water heaters.

Eligibility (FY2006)

Households with total incomes at or below 150% of poverty are eligible for assistance. The program focuses on households with elderly members, children, and members with disabilities. The program is available to both owners and renters.

Participation (2005)

Households served: 107

Seasonal, Health-, and Income-Related Disconnection Policies

Health

Hawaii does not have a weather-related disconnection policy, but the state prohibits utility companies from disconnecting electric service to residential customers who need the service to power life-support equipment.