



Hawaii

Quality of Life Report 2014

HawaiiBusiness

62

pages on Economics,
Health, Education,
Civic Engagement,
Environment, Housing
and Communities


SYSTEMS MAPS

New Way of
Understanding Hawaii

SUCCESS STORIES

Overcoming Adversity

Staff

EDITOR

Steve Petranik

ART DIRECTOR

Kristin Lipman

SENIOR WRITERS

Stacy Yuen, Beverly Creamer

Contributors

SYSTEMS MAPS:

Robert Ricigliano, director of the Peace Studies Program and the Institute of World Affairs at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

SYSTEMS MAPS AND RESEARCH:

James Koshiba, co-founder of Kanu Hawaii and currently a freelance consultant working with nonprofit organizations, community groups and social enterprises.

RESEARCH

Sarah Yuan and the Center on the Family, University of Hawaii at Manoa.

PROOFREADING AND OTHER SUPPORT

Jason Ubay, Dennis Hollier, Mary Pigao and the entire team at *Hawaii Business* magazine.

Mahalo

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK

the following individuals who also contributed to the creation of the systems maps:

- Char Chang, communications specialist, Omidyar Group
- James Dannemiller, president, SMS Research;
- Jeff Mohr, co-founder & CEO, Kumu Systems;
- Mike Mohr, managing director, Omidyar Group;
- Faith Rex, president, SMS Consulting;
- Robert Wilkinson, Triad Consulting Group and the Fletcher School of Law and Public Diplomacy at Tufts University.

Our Goal

THIS IS HAWAII BUSINESS magazine's second Quality of Life Report and we plan to publish further editions every few years.

The team at *Hawaii Business* believe this is an important project for Hawaii and its people. Understanding our quality of life – both the good and the bad – is an important step toward improving it. Our goal is to spread this vital information as broadly as possible, and for that we are grateful

to our sponsors for the financial support we needed. However, the content and any errors or omissions are our responsibility.

We welcome your suggestions so that we can improve future editions of this report; send them to feedback@hawaiiqualityoflife.org. Also, check out this report at hawaiiqualityoflife.org, where we plan to post updates and refinements of the systems maps.

Sponsors



HAWAII'S BIGGEST CONCERN: THE ECONOMY

In 12 years of People's Pulse polls, the economy has almost always been the No. 1 concern of Hawaii's people.

Omnitrak Group, which has conducted the survey of local people regularly for 13 years, says the latest telephone poll of 700 adults was conducted in December 2012. It found that 33 percent of residents thought the economy was the top issue facing Hawaii.

The other top issues as ranked by the survey's respondents were, in descending order: infrastructure, education, government reform, taxes and cost of living.

Aside from the economy, only education has ranked No. 1 in People's Pulse polls over the years.

IMPROVING OUR QUALITY OF LIFE

By Steve Petranik

I think most of Hawaii's people feel ambivalent when they hear that their home is the best place to live in America. We feel proud and probably agree that Hawaii ranks No. 1 in quality of life, but we also know the Islands too well to be smug. We see both the good and the bad up close and real, not like a picture postcard or during a two-week vacation.



This report tells us what we're doing right – so, stay on track and strive to be even better in those areas – and what we need to fix.

Yes, we have the longest lifespan in the nation, but we also have the highest cost of living and housing. We treasure the land and the aloha spirit with all our souls, but we trample them far too often. Some of us in Hawaii have a fabulous quality of life, but many are left far behind.

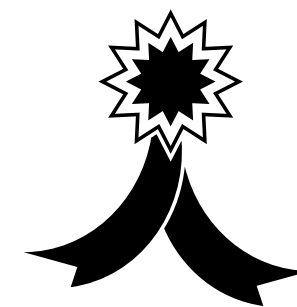
This 62-page report on Hawaii's Quality of Life examines the sunny and dark sides of paradise, and the many shades in between. We tell stories, show pictures, provide numbers and offer something innovative – systems maps – to explain the good and bad of Hawaii. The more we understand Hawaii and its people, the better equipped we are to improve our overall

quality of life.

This report tells us what we're doing right – so, stay on track and strive to be even better in those areas – and what we need to fix. We also offer ways to move forward, while recognizing that further conversation is needed on everything in these pages.

If we keep working at improving our home for everyone, there may come a glorious day when some outsider declares that Hawaii has the best Quality of Life in the world, and we can respond without ambivalence or irony, "Yes, you are absolutely right!"

Steve Petranik



We're No. 1

Every year, several surveys rank Hawaii as No. 1 in quality of life and this year is no exception. For instance, CNBC gave Hawaii first place among the states in quality of life, after ranking us at No. 2 in 2012.

An international annual survey of quality of life conducted by Mercer, a global consulting firm, ranked Honolulu as the best city in the U.S. this year. Honolulu placed 28th, just ahead of San Francisco, on the list of 221 cities worldwide. That survey scored cities on their political, social and economic situations, healthcare, schools, public services, recreation, housing and environment.

For the fourth year in a row, Hawaii ranked first in the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index. The index is based on a survey that asks people nationwide about more than 50 items. Hawaii scored 71.1 out of 100, with the top scores on life evaluation, emotional health and work environment.

The poll also found that Hawaii residents were most likely to rate their lives as "thriving," most likely to experience daily enjoyment and least likely to have daily worry or stress.

Contents

2014



5

Sponsor pages

Hawaiian Electric, Bank of Hawaii, HMSA, Island Insurance, The Nature Conservancy

10

Population

Overall Numbers, County by County, Ages, Ethnicity and Race, Marital Status

12

Civic Engagement

Explaining Systems Maps, Voting Numbers, Using Systems Maps

20

Economics

Cost of living, Income, Tourism's Share of Economy, Unemployment, Jobs, Poverty, Part-time Jobs

35

Education

Special Needs, Test Scores, Other Key Metrics, Early Education

39

Environment & Energy

Land and Water, Trash, Recycling, Renewable Energy, Cars

44

Health

Vital Statistics, Long Life, Suicide, Drug Abuse, Healthy Plan, Fitness, Unequal Outcomes, What Kills Us

52

Housing & Communities

Vital Statistics, Housing/Renting Costs, Crime Numbers, Homeless, Children on the Edge, Modest Budgets

SYSTEMS MAPS

- 13 Civic Engagement
- 14 Public Policy
- 22 Economy
- 41 Environment
- 47 Health
- 54 Social & Cultural
- 58 Combined Map

SUCCESS STORIES

- 17 Mo Maumalanga
- 33 Po Kivaha
- 37 Adult Friends for Youth
- 48 Helena Kaleiki
- 56 Habilitat



HawaiiBusiness

Hawaii 2014: Quality of Life is published as a supplement to Hawaii Business magazine, December 2013. ©2013 by PacificBasin Communications. 1000 Bishop St., Suite 405, Honolulu, HI, 96813. hawaiibusiness.com. All photos from thinkstockphotos.com unless otherwise noted.



THE HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANIES are again pleased to support *Hawaii Business* magazine's Quality of Life report. Our companies have proudly served Hawai'i for over 120 years. Today, our 2,700 employees continue to take seriously their responsibility to ensure the highest possible quality of life for our communities.

The first step to improving as a society is understanding just how we're doing in all facets of it. Knowing our strengths, acknowledging our weaknesses and identifying the right path forward is a process all of us in business know well. This starts with the kind of valuable information assembled by *Hawaii Business* in this special report – real data to inform meaningful action.

At the Hawaiian Electric Companies, we are mindful every single day that we provide a service that's essential to the quality of life in our islands.

And we're quite aware that we – more so than perhaps any other business in Hawai'i – touch virtually every person in the state, from the public to private sector, homes to workplaces, schools to institutions. Addressing energy issues takes input from all stakeholders.

As an island community, we need to rely on each other to build the kind of healthy, sustainable future we all want for our home. Whether it's working to build a clean energy future or strong schools or affordable housing, these are issues that affect us all.

Every person is a potential contributor to making the special place we call Hawai'i a better place to live.

This Quality of Life special report is a welcome reminder of this responsibility and mission we all share. ■

DICK M. ROSENBLUM
President & CEO
Hawaiian Electric Company



Hawaiian Electric
Maui Electric
Hawai'i Electric Light



AS A SPONSOR OF *Hawaii Business* magazine's inaugural Quality of Life Report in 2011, Bank of Hawaii is pleased to continue its support of this second edition.

The initial report established important benchmarks resulting from studies of six social and economic issues (economy, health, education, environment, housing and homelessness, and crime and communities), which have helped influence the direction of our state. It is the only consolidated study of its kind and will serve to document our quality of life over time.

This second report builds upon and updates the original report to reflect current conditions and challenges.

As a community bank, Bank of Hawaii has a unique perspective on the impacts each of the issues has on families and the communities we serve statewide. We also know from our community involvement that change will only come if we tackle our common challenges together. It is important to keep a spotlight on these issues since they are in many ways interconnected.

The report is an essential reference providing a roadmap to guide us as we work to build strong, healthy communities. The results of the research describe our quality of life vividly and in unsparing terms. At the same time it serves to inspire each of us to step off the sideline and get involved in helping to ensure a bright future for Hawaii. We all have a shared responsibility to ensure we keep Hawaii a very special place. ■



PETER HO
Chairman, President and CEO
Bank of Hawaii



HAWAII BUSINESS' COMMUNITY REPORT delivers the sound information and thoughtful analysis needed to make smart decisions. It offers a revealing look at our state's economy as we emerge from years of recession. It shows how well our schools are educating the next generation, the physical health of our communities, and many more key factors that shape our way of

life in Hawaii.

As much as this report is based on fact, it's also full of optimism. Its goal is to empower people by giving them relevant and easy-to-understand information about Hawaii's current state and the many ways we can improve our islands. We share that goal at HMSA as we work to explain the complicated world of health care to everyone in plain and simple language.

I hope you'll devote time to reading through this report and consider how you can apply its information and spirit of improving Hawaii to your community. ■



MICHAEL A. GOLD
President and Chief Executive Officer
HMSA



HAWAII IS UNDERGOING a transformation at an accelerated pace. It is vital that we confront the challenge such change brings with the courage to adapt. But will we be able to do so while still embracing the cultural values of the past that made our State a uniquely desirable place to live and work? That spirit of Aloha was once real and more than a marketing

slogan. It reflected a sense of responsibility for the well-being of our community.

Our State has an admirable history of businesses and community leaders working together to improve social conditions throughout our community. Much of the data in this report reflects the fruits of such past efforts. But the research also shows that we have fallen short in many areas of social need. We hope the 2014 Quality of Life Report serves as a catalyst for solution-oriented discussions on the most critical issues facing Hawaii today.

Our company was founded nearly 75 years ago to fill a void in the insurance marketplace – to provide local families and businesses with affordable insurance options that were not being offered by the established insurers of that time. As Island Insurance has continued to grow through periods of dynamic change in our State, its founding principle of serving the people of Hawaii has remained steadfast throughout the decades. In this spirit of helping others, we look forward to our continued involvement in Hawaii's community and working together to improve the quality of life for future generations. ■



ISLAND INSURANCE
COMPANIES

COLBERT M. MATSUMOTO
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer
Island Insurance Company, Ltd.



YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE an economist to know that Hawaii's natural environment is its greatest asset. It's the engine that drives our tourist-based economy, a source of cultural renewal and recreational opportunity, and a provider of vital services that technology can never replace.

Tourism is the primary—but not only—beneficiary of this extraordinary natural wealth. Many of the Hawaii's other key industries—scientific research, agriculture, fishing, forestry, filmmaking and biotechnology—depend on healthy natural resources.

Every resident and visitor benefits from the diverse services our environment provides. Natural systems like forests supply us with fresh water, control erosion, regulate climate and clean the air we breathe. Coral reefs provide habitat for healthy fisheries, buffer coastal communities against storms and high waves, and help create sand and surf.

Regrettably, many of us take these benefits for granted, viewing our natural resources as free and inexhaustible rather than as critical infrastructure that must be maintained. Hawaii's near shore fish populations are a quarter of what they were a century ago, the islands have lost half their native forest cover, and Hawaii has the worst invasive species problems in the nation.

Natural systems are like human beings. They suffer from long-term exposure to stress. If the threats are not removed, they become increasingly susceptible to invasion, disease, fragmentation, temperature and chemical changes and, finally, collapse.

When we allow our environment to degrade, we lose the important ecological benefits it provides, as well as a big part of the collective natural and cultural heritage of our islands. The quality of our environment and the quality of our own life are diminished. So, too, is the quality of life that we pass on to our children.

The health of Hawaii's environment, economy and people are intimately linked. Indeed, when it comes to ensuring our future, safeguarding Hawaii's environment may be the most important investment we can make. ■

The Nature Conservancy 
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

SUZANNE CASE
Executive Director
Nature Conservancy

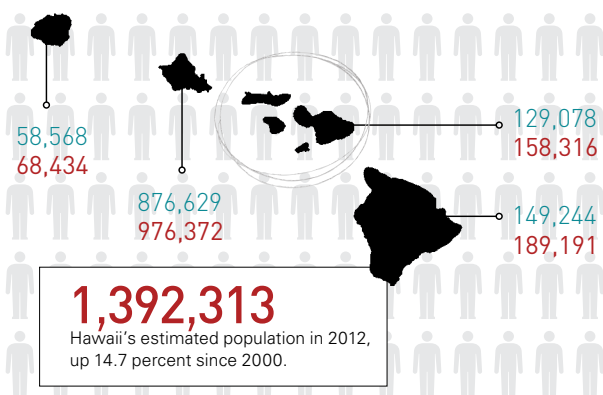
How Many

Hawaii's population has increased and so has our age: The median age for Hawaii residents is 38.4 vs. 37 for the nation

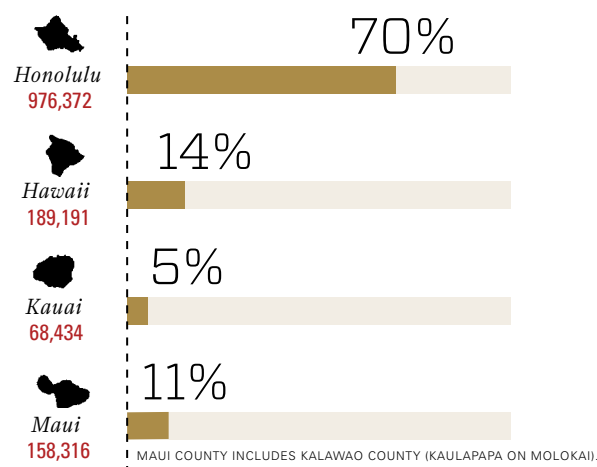
STATE POPULATION

2000 2012

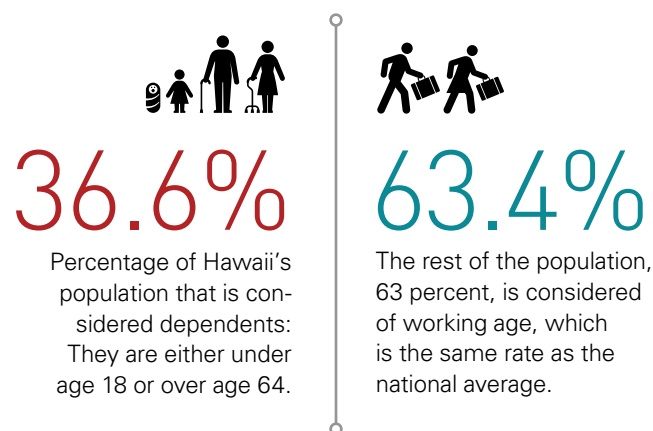
Estimate for July 1, 2012. Includes military personnel stationed or homeported in Hawaii and residents temporarily absent; excludes visitors present.



POPULATION BY COUNTY

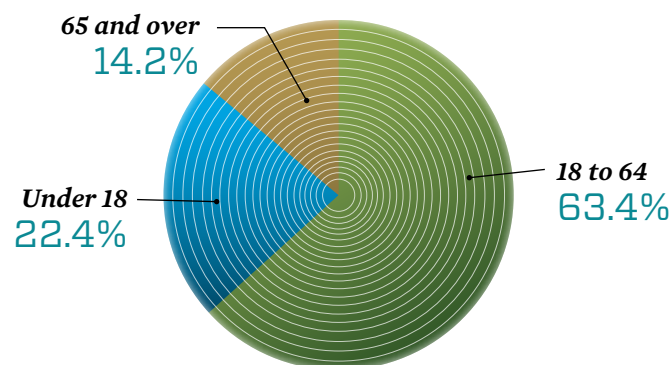


DEPENDENTS/ WORKING

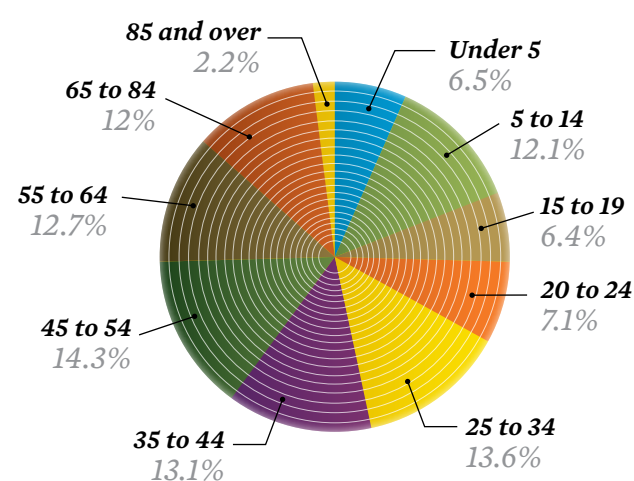


YOUNG, OLD AND IN BETWEEN

Percentage of Hawaii's population in broad age groups: children, people of working age and of retirement age:



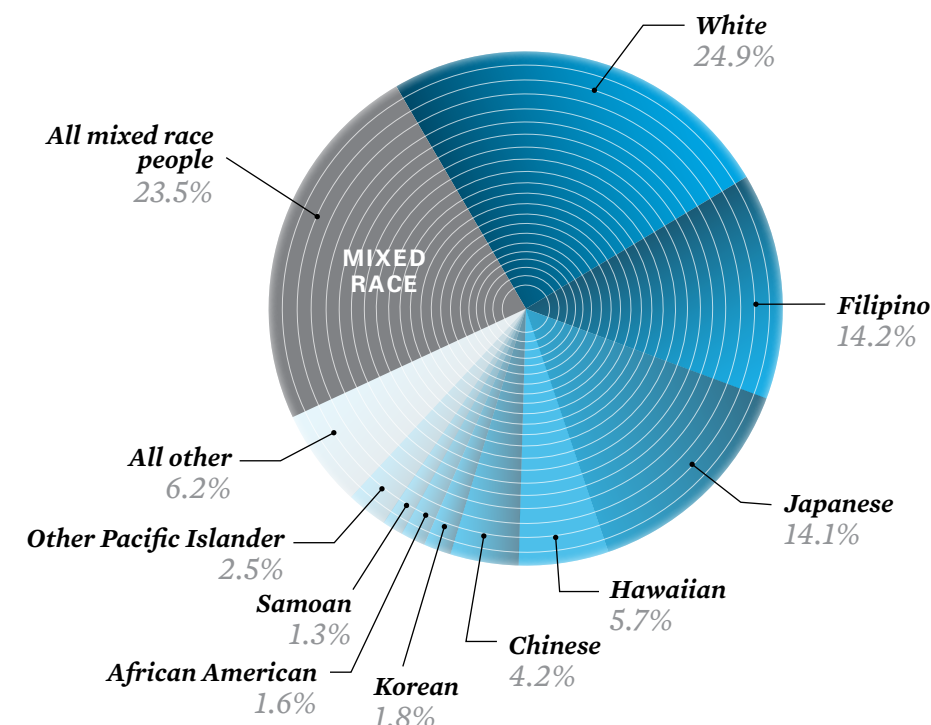
POPULATION BY NARROW AGE GROUPS



SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU ACS 2007-11

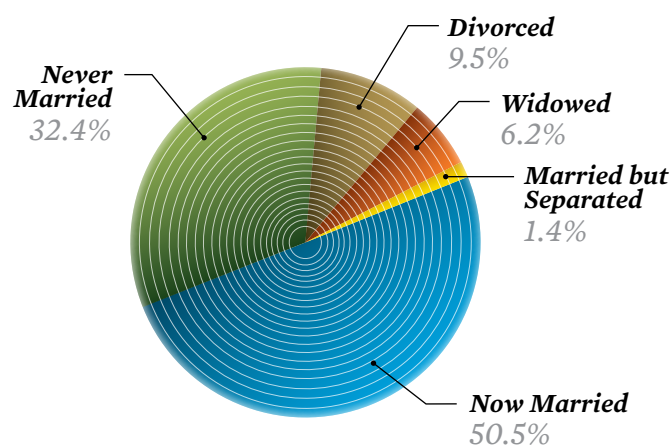
OUR HERITAGE

The races and ethnicities of Hawaii's population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey 2007-11, which relies on people's self-reported information.



MARITAL STATUS

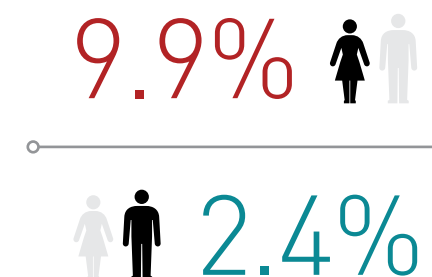
Marital status for men and women aged 15 and older.



SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS

One indication of the different lifespans for men and women: 9.9 percent of Hawaii's adult women are widowed, but only 2.4 percent of men.



HOW MANY HAWAIIANS IN HAWAII?

The answer depends on your source. The 2011 Hawaii Health Survey reports the combined population of pure and part Native Hawaiians at 23.9 percent of Hawaii's overall population. It bases race on parental lineage, whereas U.S. Census respondents self identify their race/ethnicity.

The 2007-11 U.S. Census American Community Survey's five-year estimate shows 5.7 percent of respondents in Hawaii say they are pure Hawaiian; those reporting as pure or part-Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander are 25.2 percent (the Census combines mixed-race Hawaiians with mixed-race Pacific Islanders).

A USEFUL WAY TO UNDERSTAND HAWAII

Systems maps in this report are a credible starting point for a conversation about improving our quality of life.

MEASURING AND UNDER-

STANDING the quality of life for Hawaii's people is a complex task, and this complexity often frustrates attempts to improve it. One way to make this complexity more manageable is to visualize the factors that improve or degrade our quality of life as a web of interconnected factors and behaviors. It's called a systems map.

Nonprofits, corporations, governments and scholars have used systems maps for decades to understand complex situations and to find ways to improve them. Just as stepping back from an intricate painting changes your understanding of the painting, stepping back from the day-to-day events

in Hawaii can help us see obstacles and opportunities in a new light. Sometimes, a map will help you realize that influencing a single key factor can have a major effect on an entire system.

In these pages, you will find systems maps and issue maps that try to explain parts of life in Hawaii. The first map is on the opposite page.

These maps are imperfect works in progress, but those who contributed to them believe that systems mapping can be a powerful tool for solving public problems in Hawaii.

The maps were started during discussions with the contributors listed on page 2, and then refined using interviews with them and other



Influencing a single key factor can have a major effect on an entire system."

Hawaii residents. The final maps were created by Robert Ricigliano, a veteran systems thinker and mapper based at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee.

The systems maps in this report cover three key areas in Hawaii: governance and public policy; the economy; and social and cultural factors. These three maps are combined in a single overall map on the inside back cover, which shows how the maps are all connected. Smaller

issue maps in this report cover civic engagement, the environment and health.

Clearly, we could have added more factors to these maps and more maps, creating more complexity, but we struck a balance between focusing on major elements and reflecting the more intricate reality of life in Hawaii.

Please take the time to study these maps. The more we understand about quality of life in the Islands, the more we can do to improve it.

HOW SYSTEMS MAPS WORK

Systems maps are one way to help explain something as intimate as a small organization or as big and complex as a society such as Hawaii.

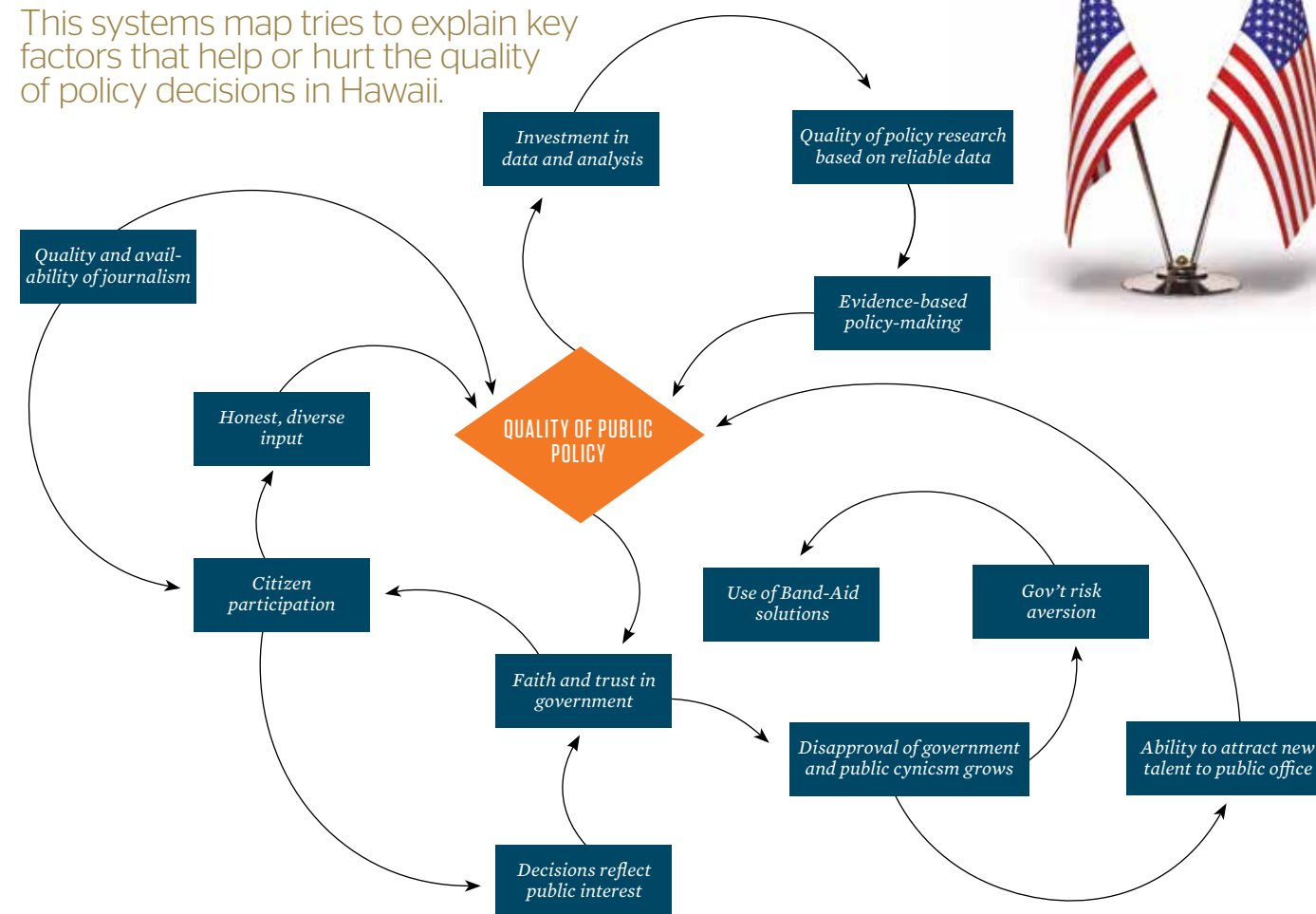
When you look at a systems map, you see that one factor influences another, which reinforces another and so on until the loop closes in on itself and sometimes becomes self-perpetuating. Different loops interact to help explain how a community thrives or declines. One way to improve life in Hawaii is to understand how the

parts fit together and find ways to break out of negative-feedback loops and to reinforce virtuous loops.

Systems maps try to prevent simple problem solving. In a complex society, it is a bad idea to break complex situations in easy-to-manage chunks and then try to solve the isolated problems. Life in Hawaii is characterized by constantly evolving relationships within our society. Trying to fix one piece may not make things better if it fails to account for these connections.

Why Civic Engagement is Important

This systems map tries to explain key factors that help or hurt the quality of policy decisions in Hawaii.



WHEN CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IS HIGH, politics is shaped by many diverse voices. When engagement is low, politics and policy are shaped by a few of the most passionate and well-resourced voices, increasing public cynicism and further reducing citizen participation. Public cynicism and criticism creates public leaders who avoid risk and opt for short-term, Band-Aid solutions. Widespread cynicism discourages many people from seeking public office.



Hawaii ranks 51st in 2012 among the states and Washington, D.C., for voter turnout in 2012, measured as a percentage of eligible voters who actually voted. The Hawaii turnout was 44.5 percent. Eligible voters include those people who meet the requirements for voting, whether they are registered to vote or not. Minnesota had the highest turnout: 76.1 percent. There is a narrower measure of voter turnout: votes cast as a percentage of registered voters. Hawaii also ranks low by that measure, 62 percent in 2012.

SOURCE: REPORT CALLED AMERICA GOES TO THE POLLS 2012 BY THE NONPROFIT VOTE.

Public Policy Sub-Map

Understanding how public policy is made in Hawaii.

R15 LOOP: TRUST IN GOVERNMENT

Many people believe the quality of public-policy making in Hawaii has declined. As that perception grows, it erodes people's belief that government is effective and responsive to their needs.

When people perceive government as less effective and less responsive, they trust it less. That means they are less likely to engage in elections, public hearings and other civic processes. As fewer people engage in civic life, elected leaders hear a narrower range of views. With less diverse input, the quality of public policy is likely to decline and the negative-feedback loop reinforces itself.

R16 LOOP: GOVERNMENT FUNDING

As the perceived or actual quality of government effectiveness declines, the public's willingness to fund government declines, too. That increases pressure for tax cuts and adds resistance to tax increases. A decline in government spending and services can further reduce government effectiveness and the quality of public policy.

R17 LOOP: RISK AVERSION

As public trust in government declines, people are more likely to blame the government for their problems. As that blame grows, government leaders are less willing to take risks

and more likely to use safer or quick-fix solutions to complex problems that may require long-term or innovative solutions. That reduces the quality of public policy even further.

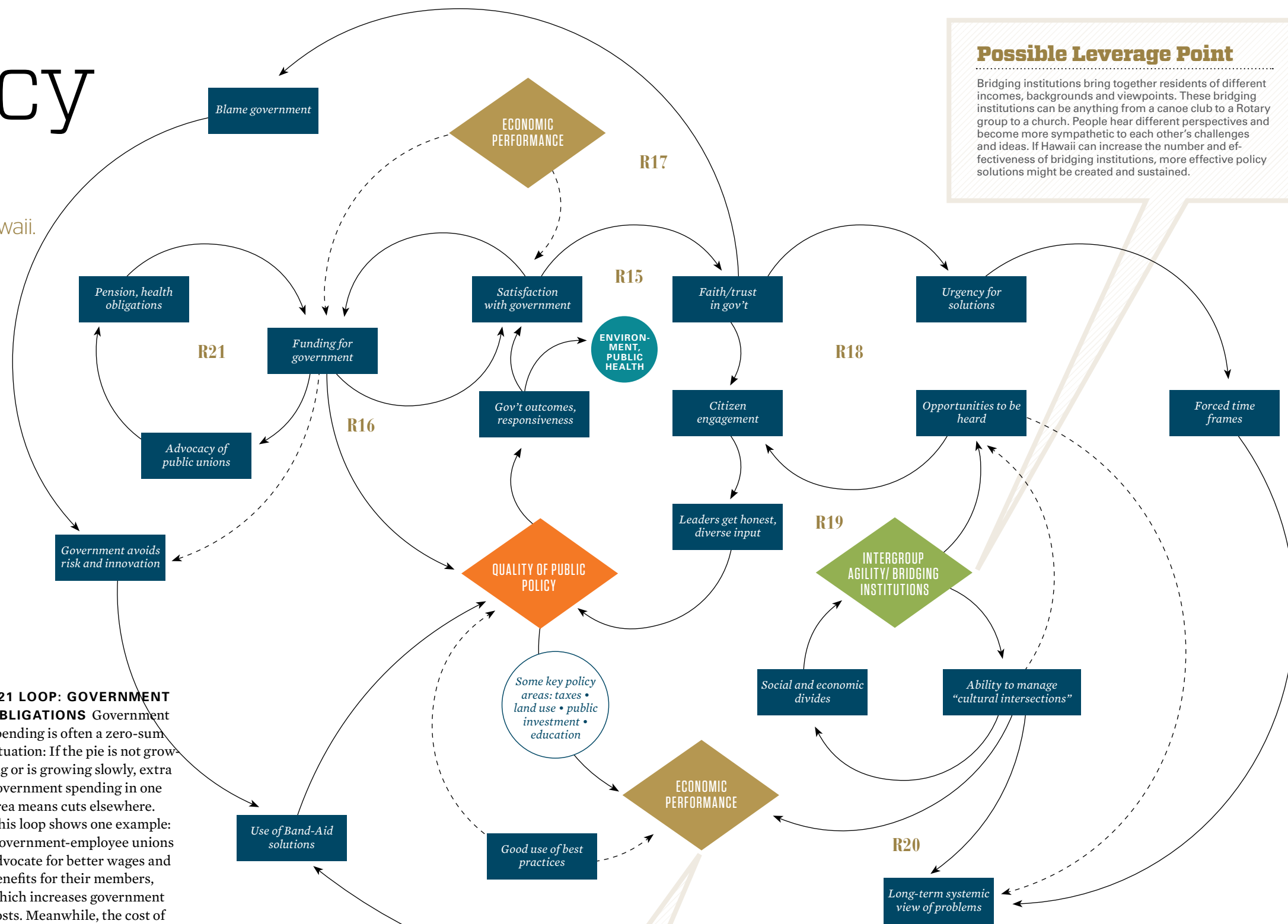
R18 LOOP: FORCED TIME FRAMES

As the public's trust in government erodes, government officials feel more pressure to show results right away. This greater sense of urgency may lead decision makers to set deadlines that are not based on real solutions. Forced time frames lessen the likelihood that decision makers will take the long-term and systemic views that many problems require. That means bad public policy, which reinforces the demand for urgent action.

R19 AND R20 LOOPS: A key impact of poor public policy is reduced economic performance. A weaker economy increases social and economic divisions. When the affluent, middle class, working class and poor are no longer talking to each other through "bridging institutions," the political process weakens. Each has fewer opportunities to listen to and be heard by people with different experiences and perspectives from their own. This reduces the diversity of input to leaders (R19) and encourages quick fixes (R20), which further hurts public policy.

R21 LOOP: GOVERNMENT OBLIGATIONS

Government spending is often a zero-sum situation: If the pie is not growing or is growing slowly, extra government spending in one area means cuts elsewhere. This loop shows one example: Government-employee unions advocate for better wages and benefits for their members, which increases government costs. Meanwhile, the cost of healthcare and pensions for government retirees rises faster than inflation, because of longer lifespans and rising healthcare costs. That leaves less money for other government functions.



A New Way to View Persistent Problems

By James Koshiba

HAWAII'S QUALITY OF LIFE is pretty good by most measures, but even paradise has its problems, and some of those problems are stubbornly persistent. An economy dependent on tourism despite our decades-long commitment to diversify; chronic disease running rampant in our most vulnerable communities, in the face of nation-leading health-coverage poli-

is, effects unintentionally turned back into causes. Thinking in systems can open our minds to new and more durable solutions.

Human beings have a tendency to compartmentalize problems and gravitate toward solutions based on linear, cause-effect understanding. If Hawaii suffers from low voter turnout, then investing more in get-out-

ing. It zooms in on those elements of a problem that we often fail to examine: solutions that are, in fact, part of the problem, or unseen ways that seemingly separate issues affect each other.

The maps in this report are visualized theories, not representations of fact. They depict hypothetical relationships that are difficult, if not impossible, to prove scientific.

for action that can ripple through a system to produce durable impact. Examples of such leverage points are highlighted alongside the maps in this issue and a group of local systems thinkers is committed to ongoing development of maps, and leverage points, to improve Hawaii's quality of life. With more work, and more voices contributing to them, we

“

“Human beings have a tendency to compartmentalize problems. ... Systems mapping helps us compensate for natural shortcomings in our thinking.”

cies; a cost of living moving steadily out of reach, in spite of investments in affordable housing and better pay.

Sometimes we make temporary headway on such issues, but then see conditions gradually revert back. Why do they seem intractable?

Systems thinking offers an explanation and, in the best case, fresh solutions. The systems are the series of inter-related causes, effects, and “feedback loops” – that

the-vote advertising should solve the problem. Yet it doesn't, both because other factors are at play (ease of registration, a lack of information, bland candidates) and because the solution (government-sponsored advertising) could actually deepen cynicism about government and discourage voting.

Systems mapping helps us compensate for natural shortcomings in our think-

cally. They are intended to help us consider things we often miss, not to capture every factor contributing to a problem, emphasizing “feedback loops” over well-known, cause-effect relationships. This is not to suggest that linear causes are unimportant, but systems maps focus on loops precisely because linear causes are so familiar.

At their best, systems maps point to “leverage points” – new opportunities

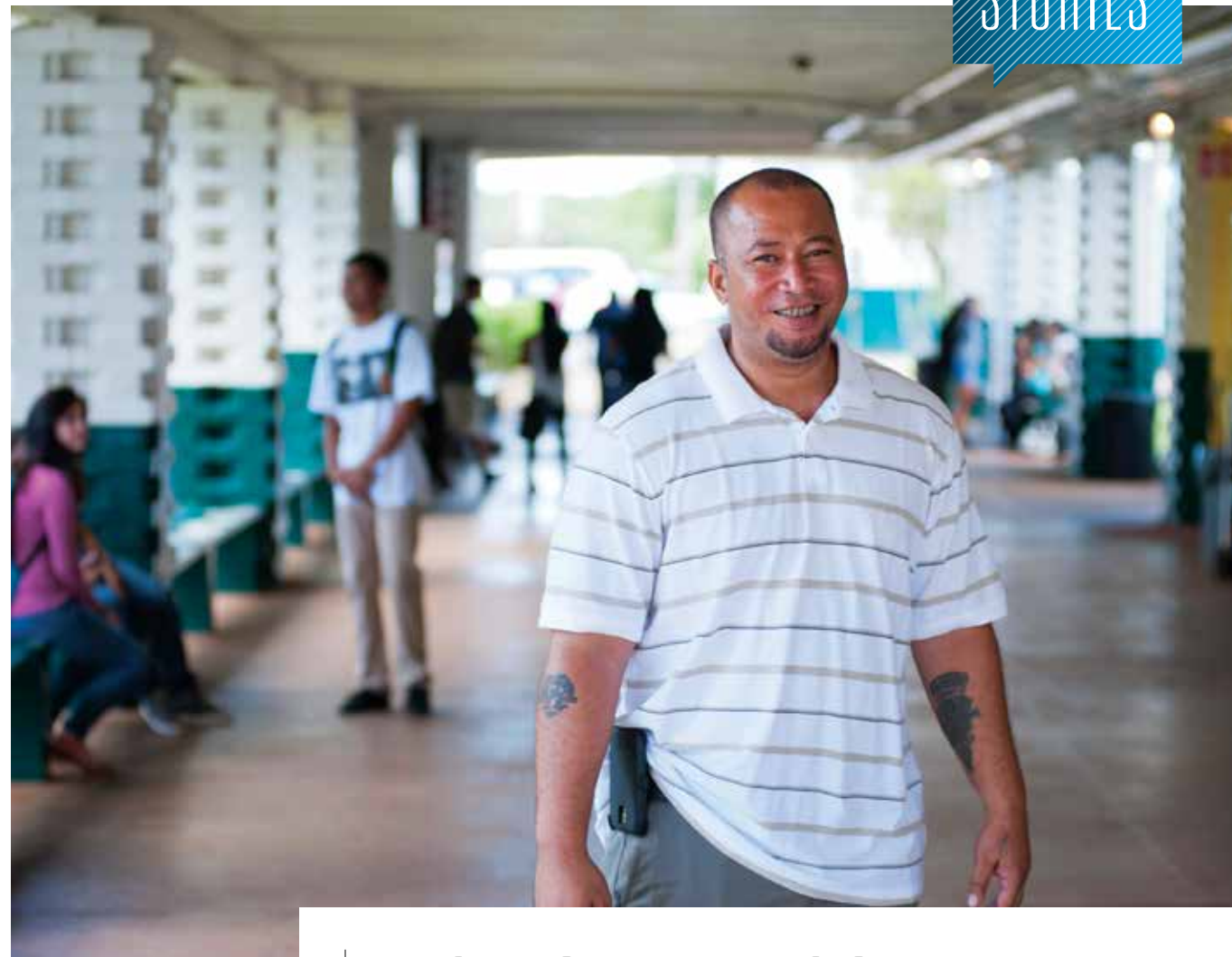
believe systems mapping can be a useful tool for communal problem solving.

As an island community, we are defined by our connections and interdependence: the six degrees of separation reduced to one or two. We hope the art and science of systems mapping can help lay bare some of our less-obvious connections, and help us get new traction on our most intractable problems.

INSPIRATION

Poverty creates huge challenges that drive many people to crime, addiction or despair, but there are also many triumphs. The following pages tell some of those local success stories.

Success STORIES



“

Hate. I see it in the kids I work with and it's like looking in a mirror. It looks like me when I was there.”

A SINGLE PERSON CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE

Deborah Spencer-Chun never gave up on Mo Maumalanga, from middle school through his darkest days in prison. Today, it is Mo who is saving kids from the bad choices that ruin their lives. BY BEVERLY CREAMER

EVERYONE CALLS HIM MO, this muscular, tough-looking social worker who is respected by the teens and tweens he works with and by their parents.

His door is never closed. His cell phone is never off. At 2 in the morning, he'll answer a call, show up on a doorstep to cool tempers or stop a fight, then mediate to calm a brewing turf war between rival gangs.

Mo has dedicated his life to troubled kids. Maybe that's because he was once one of them.

“Every generation is the same thing. ... My feelings were the same. My mental-

ity was the same. Hate. I see it in the kids I work with and it's like looking in a mirror. It looks like me when I was there."

Today, Malakai "Mo" Maumalanga holds both bachelor's and master's degrees in social work, plus an AA degree. He's a highly respected professional in his field and a man admired by youth, parents, community leaders and school officials.

He's also proof that lives can be saved – by caring individuals, by intervention techniques and by programs that go the distance and never give up.

In the mid-1990s, Mo was very different. After being involved in a drive-by shooting and then convicted on a firearm charge, he spent five years off and on in prison. At Terminal Island federal prison in Los Angeles, he saw two inmates killed while they slept. "After that I didn't sleep at night," he says. "You adjust."

When Mo was released from prison in 2001, life was just as hard. Jobs were scarce for someone with a record and little education, and it was easy to remember how welcoming your old gang feels, especially if you've been part of it since 7th or 8th grade.

Even his family had given up on him, he says.

"My Dad said, 'You did this – it's the life you chose. It was that old school 'tough love' thing. I never saw him cry in my life 'til someone shot up my house. I came home and he was sitting in the dark crying."

Mo credits his turnaround to a social worker who never gave up. Without that positive, ongoing intervention, he says, he might never have taken a new course.

"She was my lifeline," he says of social worker Deborah Spencer-Chun, who has been with Adult Friends for Youth for more than two decades and is now CEO. On the night in prison when he watched two other inmates killed, he reached out to Spencer-Chun.

In his darkest days, he would make a collect call to her office in Hawaii and she always took the call. Even before he was moved to a mainland prison, it was Deb who visited each week at his Hawaii prison.

"I was contemplating suicide because I thought I would never get out, and she told me 'Just hang in there.' ... That I cannot be thinking just about myself only. Lucky I listened."

Mo had been a gang member since he was 12. His family, recent immigrants from Tonga, struggled to survive and both parents worked two jobs. As he got older, he was often on his own. It was an easy step to becoming involved with a gang.

"We were all from the same neighborhood," he says of

his fellow gang members. "We were being bullied and picked on by the Mayor Wright housing 'Bloods.' I saw one (of our guys) getting beaten up and I jumped in and that's how we became friends. That's the whole gang concept, friendship. You get sucked into the negative and then it becomes part of the lifestyle. Before you know it, you hate the whole world. We beat up two of my cousins and put them in the hospital, just for the love of friends. When you're in the lifestyle, the consequences don't matter. You do first and think later. Twenty years later, I hear the same thing in the kids I work with."

His backward slide was stopped by Spencer-Chun, who's been working with him since he was in middle school. That effort never stopped – in high school, after he left school or even when he went to prison.

"It was a leap of faith for Deb," Mo says now. "Everybody had given up on me. But

“
**Everybody had
given up on me.
But Deb and Mac,
our supervisors,
didn't give up
no matter how
many mistakes I
made.”**



Deb and Mac, our supervisors, didn't give up no matter how many mistakes I made. They were there. They saw something in me that I didn't see. I was ashamed of making the wrong decisions because of all the time they'd put into me. They never judged me as a monster. That was my reputation. That was my self-image, too. I didn't see it change until I started working with the kids."

Spencer-Chun and McKay "Mac" Schwenke have been the long-time social workers at Adult Friends For Youth, a program that has worked with some of Hawaii's toughest kids for almost a quarter century. Today, among its programs is a chance for dropouts to earn high school diplomas with the help of supportive tutors.

AFY redirects young people from poor choices to better ones, and offers love and hope. It has been an important player over the past two decades in defusing gang activities in low-income Hawaii neighborhoods, and inspiring troubled kids to do something better with their lives. The successes are legion.

"We're getting more and more of our kids into college,"



Left: Mo Maumalanga leads a meeting at Adult Friends for Youth. An older generation at the agency helped him turn his life around and now he's trying to do the same for today's troubled youths. Above, he stands with colleague Po Kivaha.

Mo says. "We just had a group we followed from 8th grade through high school graduation and they're all doing good. Some are in college now."

Now, Mo works for AFY and offers the same lifeline to kids that Deb, Mac and AFY founder Sid Rosen offered to him.

"If you believe in me, I can grasp that and hold onto that," Mo says. "Deb and Sid believed in me so much, but for the longest time I couldn't see it. But I respected them enough and loved them enough and they were providing hope. All these kids want hope. The fear of going out and not making it overrides everything else."

This handful of social workers has proven over and over that a single caring individual can turn a life around.

"We challenge the mentality of the groups we work with," says Mo. "We plant the seed to change the mindset. The strength of working with the group is not just to deal with problems, but for them to find new ways to cope with their issues, so they don't have to punch guys out. Once you get them to commit to change, they'll do it because they've given their word."

"Ideally, if we can catch them at intermediate school, and follow them, we can get them through (high school)." ■

Hawaii's Overall Economy

Hawaii has the highest overall cost of living in the country and the highest housing costs. Here are key statistics, both good and bad.

\$4,396

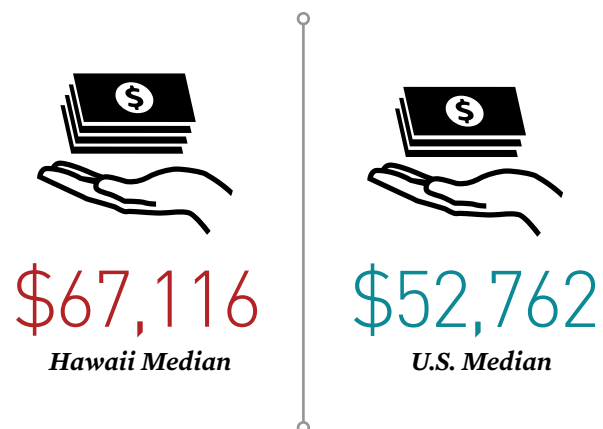
Combined state and local tax burden per capita in Hawaii in 2010, 10th highest in the nation, according to the national Tax Foundation. Connecticut ranked first at \$6,984 and Mississippi 50th at \$2,625.

WE'RE NO. 1, BUT THAT'S BAD

Hawaii has the highest cost of living in the U.S., says the U.S. Commerce Department. A standard mix of goods and services cost 116 percent of the national average in 2011. Housing is a huge factor: The Census Bureau says the median housing cost for Hawaii renters in 2011 was \$1,308 a month, highest in the nation. The median price for an owner-occupied house was \$529,500 in 2007-11 – three times the national average, the bureau says.

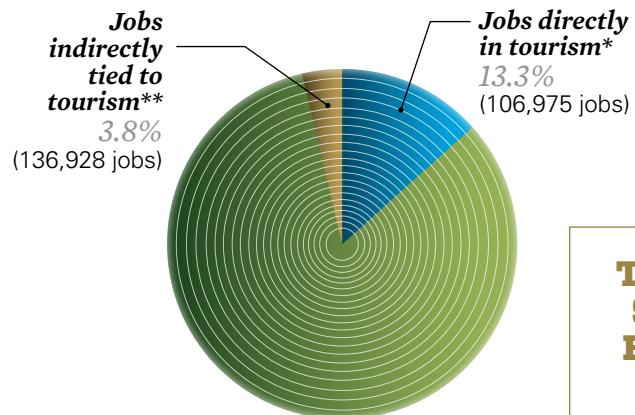


HOUSEHOLD INCOME



U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 2007-2011

CIVILIAN JOBS

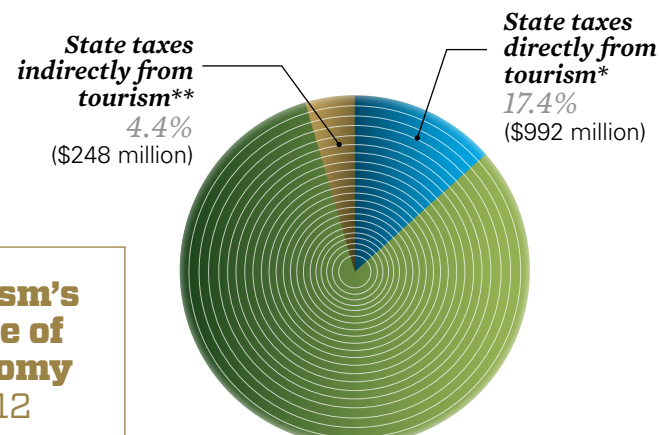


*Only companies that sell directly to tourists

**Adds firms that contribute goods and services eventually sold to tourists.

Note: Hawaii Tourism Authority says the amount of direct and indirect taxes from tourism is even greater, \$1.58 billion.

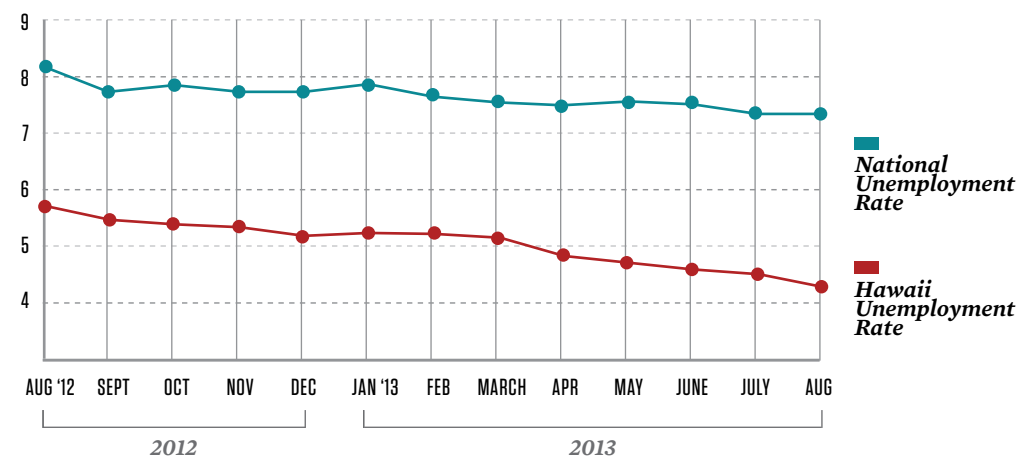
STATE TAXES



SOURCE: STATE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

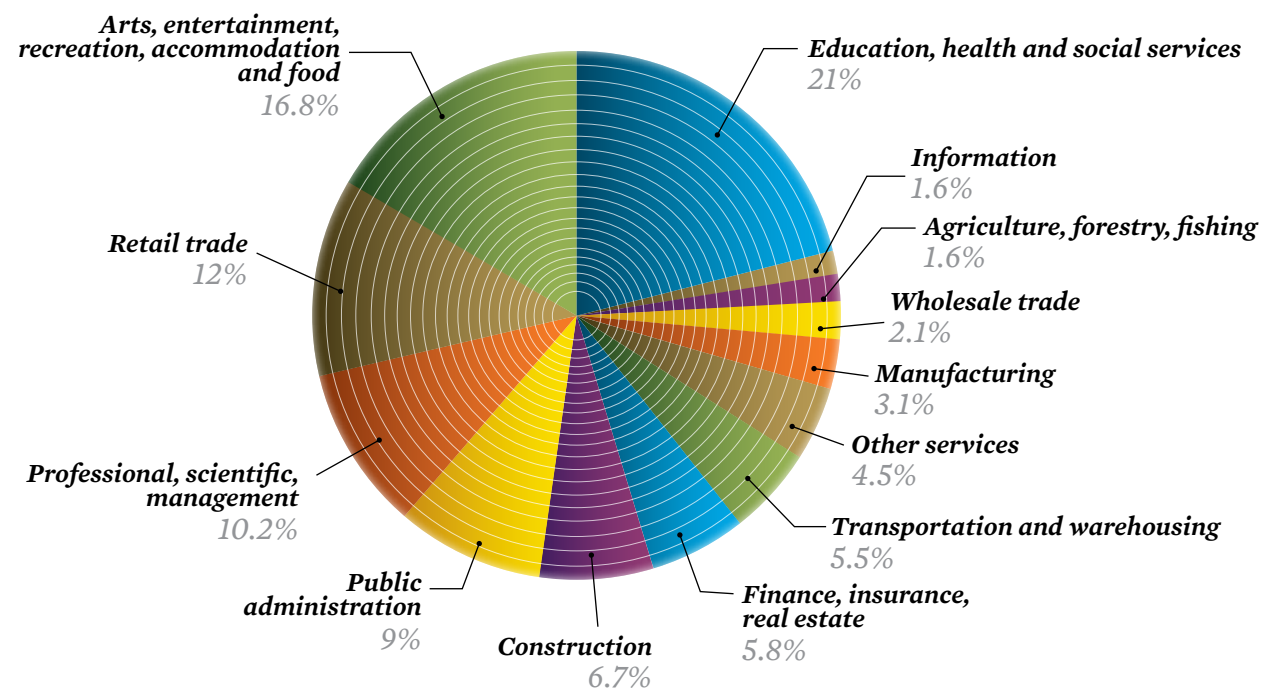
RELATIVELY LOW UNEMPLOYMENT

Since the official end of the recession in 2009, Hawaii's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has been consistently 2 to 3 percentage points lower than the national rate.



SOURCE: BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE BY INDUSTRY, 2011



SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

MEN AND WOMEN



Percent of all adults 16 or older who were in the labor force, 2011:

70.7%
of men

60%
of women

Mapping Our Economy

This systems map provides an integrated view of the “loops” that reinforce each other within the local economy.

R22 LOOP: VISITOR REVENUE

Tourism is Hawaii's most successful industry. That success spurs private investment in tourism and government support for tourism marketing and infrastructure, which further strengthens the visitor economy.

B23 LOOP: DEVELOPMENT

A vibrant tourist economy and demand from affluent visitors encourages developers and unions to press for more tourism development. This often means turning undeveloped land or farmland into resorts or resort-style housing. However, tourism depends on Hawaii's natural environment and green spaces, so increased development can harm tourism in the long run.

B24 LOOP: BOOM AND BUST

Tourism's success has helped create a local economy that is less diversified than in other states. A less-diversified economy is more susceptible to boom-and-bust cycles caused by global events outside our control. Boom-and-bust instability discourages the risk-taking needed to launch new companies and innovate, which harms economic

performance and increases Hawaii's dependence on tourism.

B25 LOOP: BLAME AND SHAME

A strong belief in the local way of doing things discourages people from trying new things. Innovations are risky and many fail; when people fail in Hawaii, they often suffer “blame and shame,” which makes them and others less likely to take further risks.

R26 LOOP: BRAIN DRAIN

Lack of economic diversification means fewer career paths and fewer nontourism business opportunities. That discourages smart, ambitious people from staying in Hawaii. As these people leave, there is less talent to innovate and that hurts the local economy.

R27 & 28 LOOPS: HEALTHCARE

Hawaii law requires employers to provide health insurance for employees who work 20 hours or more a week. Workers with insurance use the healthcare system more than those without and that improves overall public health. Better health boosts the popularity of Hawaii's healthcare law.

But those who work fewer than 20 hours a week do not automatically get health insurance from their employers, and part-time workers in general have worse public health outcomes than full-time workers. A strong visitor industry – plus growing retail and service sectors – means lots of part-time jobs, often at low wages. Some companies hire part-timers to avoid paying for their health insurance.

R29, 30 & 31 LOOPS: VISITOR INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Hawaii's beauty and weather attracts wealthy visitors. Many businesses and developers find it more profitable to service these affluent customers than locals. More resorts, condos and second homes for them help drive up land prices, making housing

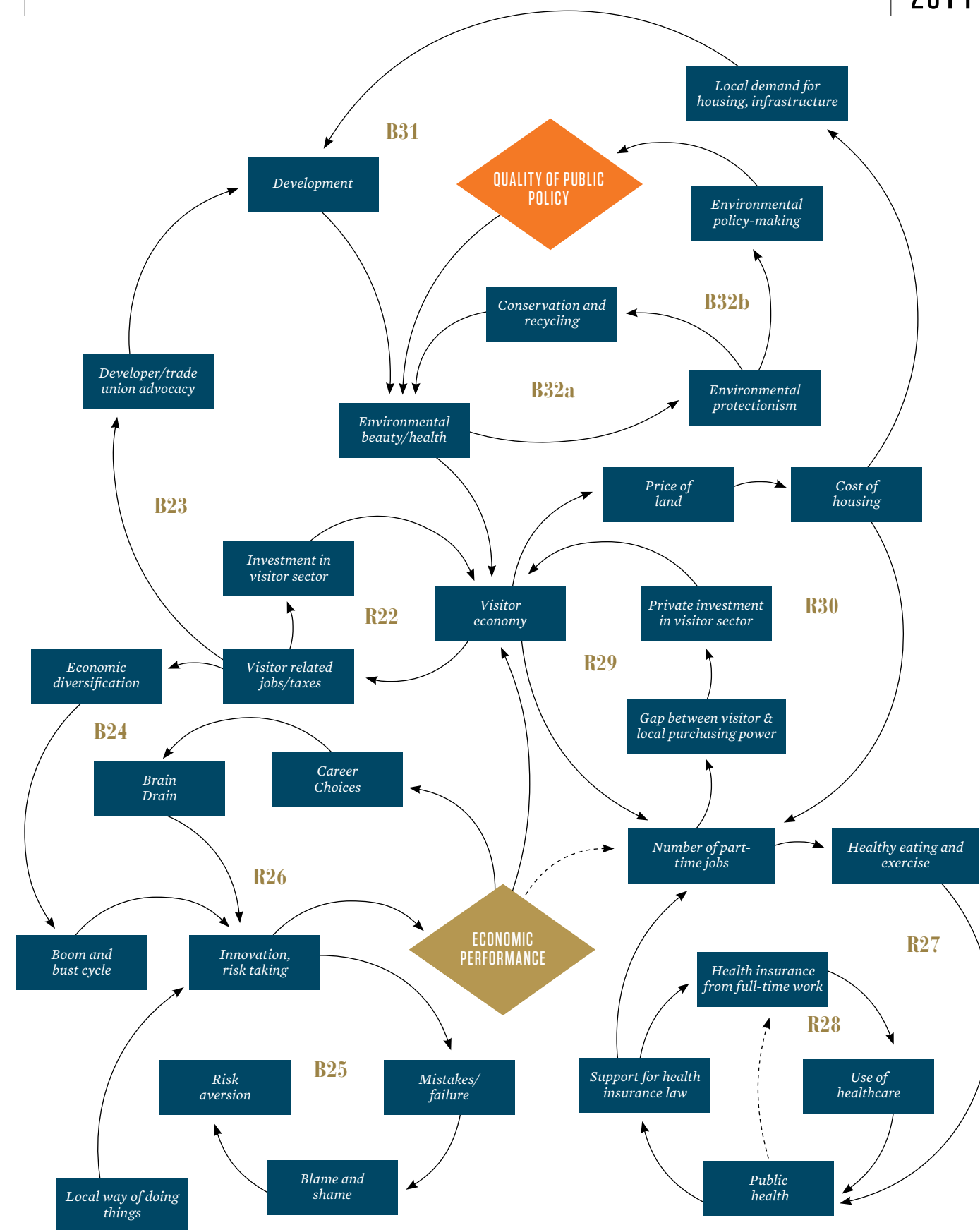
less affordable for locals. Higher housing costs create more public demand for government-supported affordable housing and for infrastructure and public transportation to serve those who live far from their work. These demands increase pressure for development, which adds stress to the environment. But when we diminish Hawaii's natural beauty, we weaken the visitor economy and our own quality of life.

B32A & B LOOPS, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Two dynamics protect Hawaii's environment and natural beauty. When factors threaten them, there is more public pressure for policies that protect them. These threats also promote conservation and recycling.

Leverage Points

Economic Performance and the Quality of Public Policy – the essence of the private and public sectors – are crucial to Hawaii's quality of life. Both appear on all of the main maps and each strongly affects the other and so much else about life in Hawaii.



PART-TIME JOBS

PUT LIVES ON HOLD

For decades, companies have been replacing full-time workers with part-timers. It increases scheduling flexibility and saves companies the cost of employee health insurance and other benefits. That's one reason many people who want full-time work can only find part-time jobs, which creates a high cost for them and consequences for our community.

by Beverly Creamer

Photos by **ELYSE & MATT MALLAMS**



Sharon Halford, who has a nursing degree and valuable skills, has three part-time jobs. Her income: \$36,000 a year.

Sharon Halford has been trying to find a full-time job in Hawaii since moving back home seven years ago. Instead, the 57-year-old divorcee juggles three part-time jobs and occasionally dips into a small nest egg. Those savings, from the sale of a home in Texas, let Halford help her three children with college and living expenses and help her build a modest skin-care business. “I’m always looking for another job,” says Halford, who earned her nursing degree 30 years ago. “But most of the part-time kind of nursing-supplement jobs are during the night. In my 20s, I worked a night shift and it was hard on my body then. Now I can’t be up all night.”

ALTOGETHER, HALFORD’S THREE JOBS earn her about \$36,000 a year. That means the used car she bought a decade ago has to last another decade. It means she’ll never be able to afford a house in Hawaii. And it means eating frugally.

“Last week I made black beans and white beans in my crockpot and ate that for several days. When it’s just me, I can do that.”

Halford is not alone in the precarious world of part-time employment. Last year, 34,000 Hawaii workers were employed part-time not by choice, but because of economic reasons, according to the U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics. Those reasons included their inability to find full-time work and a weak economy.

Many companies in Hawaii like to use part-time workers. It gives them the flexibility to schedule workers during peak business hours, without having to pay for an eight-hour day. It also allows companies to forego health insurance under the Hawaii Prepaid Health Care Act of 1974, which requires health coverage for employees regularly working 20 hours or more a week. This law, while protecting workers, has also accelerated the trend toward part-time employment in Hawaii, and now Obamacare’s provision requiring companies to provide coverage for employees working 30 or more hours a week could further accelerate the trend nationally.

Economic survival can be tough enough in Hawaii for people with full-time jobs, but it’s even harder for part-time workers. Such work is usually low paid, and the hours and schedules often vary from week to week, so it is hard to schedule childcare, attend school

or participate in other activities. These workers can also find it hard to participate in the civic life of a community, and that means fewer people volunteering for nonprofits, and leading active and healthy lives.

Halford squeezes three jobs into her week:

- Scheduling as many hours as possible doing facials for her own business, Sharon Halford Skin Therapy;
- Spending two 10-hour shifts a week doing skin-care operations in a physician’s office; and
- Making time to sell advanced skin treatments for a cosmetics company.

The hours are long but there are no benefits such as sick leave or paid vacations.

Halford had been paying \$230 monthly for health insurance, but that went up to \$445 a month for a different plan that covered knee surgery. However, many people with a series of part-time jobs cannot afford health insurance, so the state and federal governments often pay for that coverage. And, since many of those without full-time work are barely surviving from paycheck to paycheck, they often depend on food stamps, free school lunches and other parts of the social safety net. In fact, the community pays many costs as a consequence of the part-time economy.

“When workers are not able to get full-time employment, though they’re eager to work full-time, that really is constraining the growth and recovery of the economy,” says economist Denise Konan, dean of the College of Social Sciences at UH-Manoa. “A lot of workers in Hawaii also experience a loss in second jobs, and that’s also an issue for us.”

Part-time workers are not counted as unemployed in jobless statistics, Konan says, but, “It’s a sign of under-employment.” Another cause of under-employment: The recession and other factors have left experienced older workers without the savings to retire, so many are taking jobs below their skill levels, effectively blocking entry for younger workers.

“This is a most significant issue for people just newly entering the job market,” says Konan. “It could be new graduates from high school or university making the transition and taking on part-time instead of full-time work. This hampers the development of human capital and has long-term implications for individuals and, likewise, the



Above and opposite page: Sharon Halford works long hours to build her own small skin-care business, one of her three part-time jobs.

economy. When you’re eager to work and not able to work or are underemployed, you’re also losing skills during that time and not developing skills that help you move to the next level. We’re seeing this challenge nationwide.”

A recent Gallup poll reports that 17.2 percent of the national workforce is under-employed – defined as those who want full-time jobs but can only find part-time work. Economists worry the number is rising.

Like Halford, many of those who can’t find full-time work in Hawaii must survive on multiple part-time jobs. That’s what Andrew Dedrick tried to do.

The 20-something karaoke disc jockey and soundman came to Hawaii with his girlfriend a year and a half ago to begin what they thought would be an exciting new life. Together, the couple had five jobs. “It wasn’t so bad until we got behind,” says Dedrick. “Once you fall behind, you’re finished. I left for two weeks (without pay) when my mom was sick and by the time I came back we were buried.”

When Dedrick and his girlfriend moved back to the mainland a few months ago, they were disillusioned and in debt. Though they still love the Islands, they found it almost impos-

sible to survive on part-time jobs that pay the state minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour or a little more.

Rent, utilities, food, gasoline and miscellaneous expenses took most of their combined income of \$2,800 a month. The old car they paid \$1,000 for broke down within weeks and was given away for scrap.

To keep expenses down, they paid \$600 a month rent to share a small apartment with five other people – two other couples and a single woman who lived in a dirt-floor room under a stairwell. They had just enough space for a bed and dresser.

“We were trying to figure out if we wanted to live like this, never really seeing each other because of our jobs,” Dedrick says. “We don’t mind working hard, but it gets overwhelming when something happens and you don’t have a big support structure of family.”

The amount of part-time work versus full-time work available is dependent on the economy’s condition and the types of businesses predominant in an area, says Stevette Santiago, Ha-

DID YOU KNOW?

Hawaii ranks 15th in the nation in the percentage of workers with more than one job, according to the Hawaii State Data Book. Across the entire U.S., 13 percent of part-time workers are paid the minimum wage or less, compared with 2 percent of full-time workers, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.



waii chapter president of the Society for Human Resources Management.

Hawaii has a lot of small business, Santiago says. “Small businesses don’t have as many resources as big businesses and part-time is a cost saving for business, especially because part-time workers may not be eligible for vacation, sick leave, medical or retirement.”

Sherry Menor-McNamara, CEO at the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, says this is definitely a small-business economy. She points out that 95 percent of Hawaii businesses are small companies, and 70 percent employ fewer than 10 people.

“It’s a matter of: Can they afford to employ more full-time employees?” Menor-McNamara says. “With the economy making a slow recovery, businesses are taking a more cautious approach in hiring at the same level and capacity as in pre-recession days.”

Hawaii is not alone. The national shortage of well-paying,

Blanche Fuller, at home with one of her grandchildren at right, and, below, on the job as a part-time security guard



“WITH PART TIME, IT’S SO HARD. ... I’M STILL HOPING AND STILL SEARCHING TO FIND A FULL-TIME POSITION.”

full-time jobs is leading to a poverty crisis, says Peter Edelman, a professor at the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C., who spoke at UH-Manoa a few months ago.

“We’ve become a low-wage country,” says Edelman, author of the book, “So Rich, So Poor: Why It’s So Hard to End Poverty in America.”

“What happened? The industrial jobs we had that built the middle-class disappeared and were replaced by a large wave of low-paid jobs. Half of the jobs pay less than \$34,000 a year, according to the Economic Policy Institute. These wages have only grown by 7 percent over 40 years.”

Today, about one-third of America’s population – around

104 million people – have annual household incomes below twice the poverty line, or less than \$38,000 for a family of three, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. If not for the safety net that includes food stamps, child tax credits, women/infant/children aid programs, the Earned Income Tax Credit, Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security, experts say the number of Americans living below national poverty levels would double – going from 46 million people today to 86 million.

In Hawaii, the state government’s Medicare program that provides health insurance for low-income, aged and disabled people is called Med-Quest. In May, it covered 293,000 people – 21 percent of the state’s population.

NOT BY CHOICE

On most measures of employment, Hawaii ranks well, usually in the top 10 or 15 states. But, in 2012, we ranked 38th out of 50 states in “involuntary part-time workers,” the percentage of part-timers seeking full-time employment, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Our 2010 ranking was 50th.

Blanche Fuller is one of them. She’s been looking for full-time work for years but now hopes to finish college courses in healthcare and turn her life around with a better-paying job.

“You look at your life and say, ‘Wow,’” Fuller muses. “I had so many years not going to college, and then when I went back, I just loved it. Before, when I’d go to college, something always would happen and I’d have to drop out.”

Without the college courses she’s now taking, she had difficulty finding full-time employment.

“You put in an application and the only thing you receive is part time,” says the 58-year-old mother and grandmother, who has been living on take-home pay of \$850 a month for just under 20 hours a week of work as a security guard.

“With part time, it’s so hard,” says Fuller. “Sometimes you have to get another part time just to make ends meet, especially if you have a family. I’m still hoping and still searching to find a full-time position. That’s why I started back to college last year.”

Fuller has been living with her two daughters and two grandchildren in a \$500-a-month studio apartment. “Thank God,” she says of state-paid medical coverage and federal food stamps. Without them, “I don’t know how I could survive.”

Even with the growth of part-time, low-wage jobs, the demand for many kinds of high-skilled employees is exceeding

the supply, both in Hawaii and nationally. “While the nation’s overall unemployment rate remains relatively high, educated, highly trained professionals with specialized skills are enjoying low unemployment rates,” says a report by Robert Half International, a staffing agency.

The report, entitled, “The Specialist Economy: How Businesses and Professionals Can Prepare for the Trend Toward Specialization,” says that, in 2020, the United States could have 1.5 million too few college-educated workers, and a shortfall of up to 18 million highly skilled workers is expected to exist in advanced economies (worldwide)."

Young and ambitious? Find a niche in key areas such as healthcare, IT, accounting, finance or law, and you should be able to find a full-time job, the report suggests.

Specialized skills are the answer for a 24-year-old Kailua

woman, who asked that her name not be used. She earns about \$150 after taxes for 20 hours of work a week, lives at home to save money and knows a college degree is her ticket to a decent future. But she needs the support of her parents, their car, and free room and board.

“I have friends who live on their

Below: Blanche Fuller finishes paperwork at her part-time security job, but has gone back to college with the hope of some day finding a full-time professional job.





When Ruthy and Tommy left Chuuk, they dreamed of building a better life in Hawaii. So far, he has only been able to find part-time work.

own, but with roommates,” she says, asking not to be identified for reasons of privacy. “They kind of live in the junk part of town, but it’s still expensive. When I talk to my friends on the mainland, they don’t understand why everyone lives at home. There’s kind of a stigma for mainland people: ‘You live with your parents!’ – but, hey, they’re only paying \$350 for a fully furnished apartment. ... They say, ‘Why don’t you live on cereal and milk?’ and I say, ‘Do you know how expensive that is?’”

“I actually looked for a couple of places in Kailua at first – when I had no idea about what things cost – and I was shocked at how expensive that was. The cheapest was \$700, for a little tiny 10-by-10 room and you lived with other people.”

Many people are forced into part-time work because of lack of skills or the weak job market.

For others it’s about those problems, plus starting over in a new land, without a strong grip on the language.

For Ruthy and Tommy and their three young children, life has been challenging in the five years since they left Chuuk, a state in the Federated States of Micronesia. Tommy has only been able to find part-time work as a janitor, though he recently landed a second part-time janitorial position. With a 2-year-old needing care at home, and with medical problems of her own, including diabetes, Ruthy hasn’t looked for work. (Tommy and Ruthy asked that we not use their last name.)

Tommy’s two jobs earn him \$1,200 a month. At first, the family shared a Makiki apartment with fellow Micronesians, but when everyone else moved out, they couldn’t afford the \$1,300-a-month rent alone. Now, they live in a two-bedroom transitional housing shelter that costs \$450 a month, and they cope with the help of food stamps and Med-Quest health coverage.

“We’re still waiting for public housing, but we don’t know

**“WE CAME
HERE
ESPECIALLY
FOR THE
CHILDREN
TO HAVE
A BETTER
EDUCATION
... AND A
BETTER LIFE.”**

how long it will take,” says Ruthy, a beautiful young woman with shining eyes and lustrous hair. “Sometimes it takes five years to wait.”

The family has tried to save for the day next October when they must move out of the shelter, but they haven’t been able to put much away. Their 16-year-old car will carry very little on moving day, so they’ve limited themselves to a small table, a desk, futons, shelves and a few pictures.

A bright spot: Ruthy and Tommy’s children have breakfast with their parents each morning, and he usually gets home for dinner between his two part-time jobs. But he often misses seeing them go to bed on the futons spread out in their small bedroom.

Despite these challenges, the family is grateful to be in Hawaii. “We miss Chuuk, but there’s nothing we can do for a better life there,” says Ruthy. Instead, she dreams of the future.

“For me I would like to have our own place,” she says, then pauses. “A house where we can stay. ... We came

here especially for the children to have a better education ... and a better life.”



PART-TIME NUMBERS

• 9.3 percent of U.S. adults work only part time but want to work full time, according to Gallup’s daily polls in October. That percentage has fluctuated between 10.9 and 8.7 percent for the past four years, Gallup says. • The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics says that, in September, 7.93 million Americans wanted full-time employment but could only obtain part-time work. • America’s retail and wholesale sector cut 1 million full-time jobs from 2006 to 2012, while adding half-a-million part-time jobs, according to a New York Times calculation based on BLS statistics. The same report said that, in the retail and hospitality sectors, there are 3.1 million part-time workers who want full-time work. That’s two-and-a-half times the level in 2006.

Poverty in Hawaii

Hawaii Island has the highest rate of poverty in the state by far; tragically, one-sixth of all Hawaii children under the age of 5 live in poverty

NO INCOME

Can your family endure three months without a paycheck? The Liquid Asset Poverty Rate is the percentage of households without enough liquid assets to subsist at the poverty level for three months without income. Hawaii's 2013 rate is 29.7 percent – fifth lowest in the nation. The national average is 43.9 percent.

SOURCE: CORPORATION FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

STRUGGLING



7.1%

Hawaii families in poverty



10.2%

Hawaii individuals in poverty

(U.S. overall: 15.9%)

ASSET WEALTH AND ASSET POVERTY

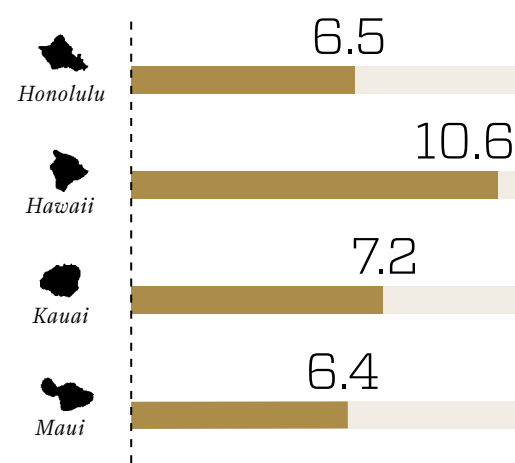
Assets such as savings and property protect people during unemployment and other financial crises.

These assets also give them the opportunity to start a business, buy a home, send children to college or leave a legacy to the next generation.

HOUSEHOLDS	HAWAII	U.S. OVERALL
With Bank Account	96.2%	91.8%
With Savings Accounts	78.6%	69.2%
Own Home	56.8%*	64.6%
Average credit card debt	\$13,031	\$10,736

SOURCE: CORPORATION FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

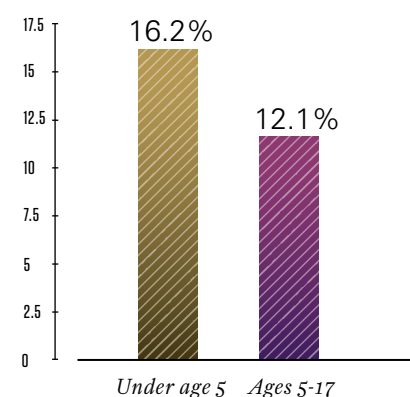
FAMILY POVERTY RATE BY COUNTY



SOURCE: US CENSUS BUREAU, AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 2007-2011

1 IN 6 SMALL KIDS LIVE IN POVERTY

Percentage of Hawaii children who live in poverty:

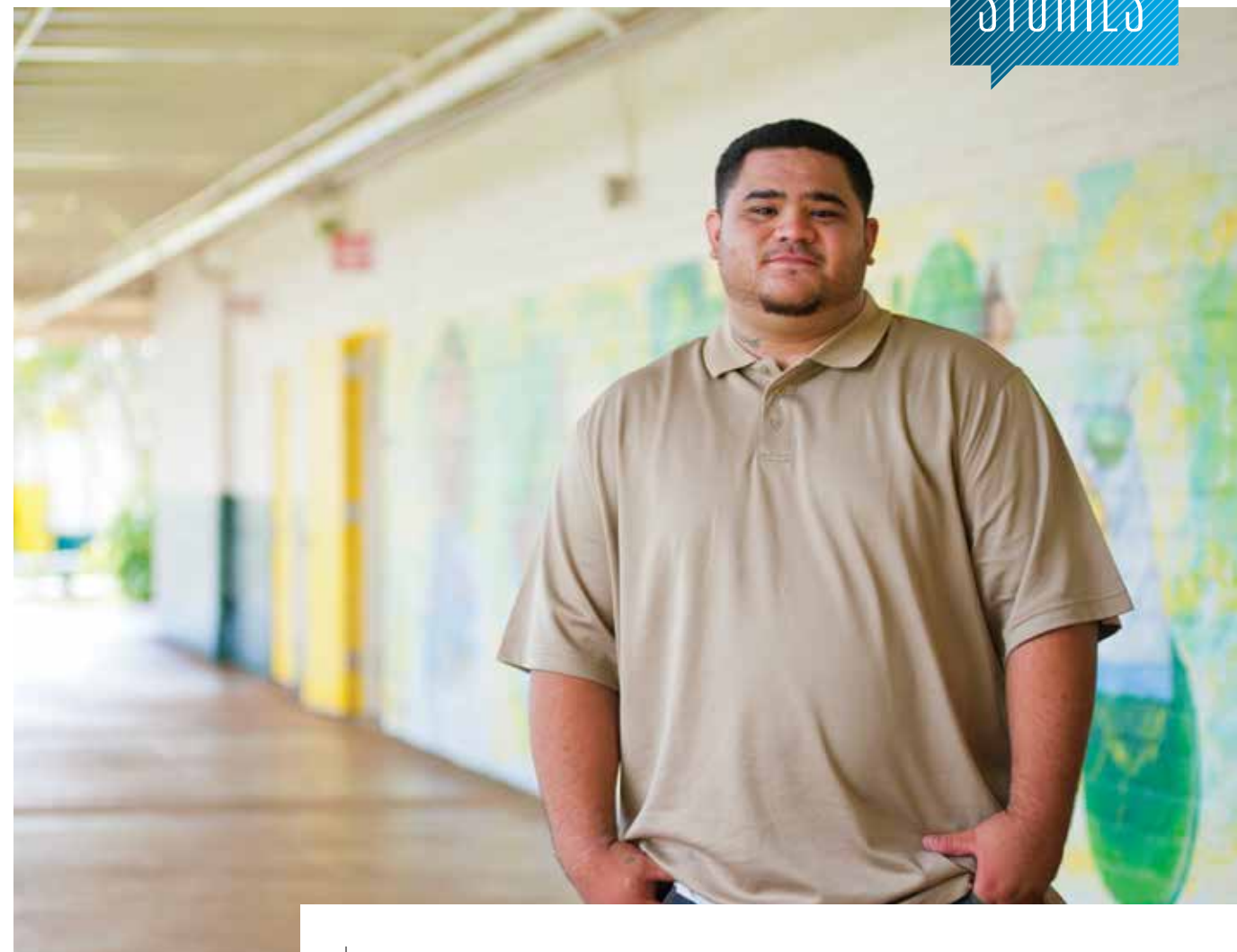


SOURCE: CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA

INSPIRATION

Why do some youths overcome adversity and others do not? Studies show the difference can be a single caring adult. Here is another success story made possible by a few adults.

Success STORIES



“My friend was shot. I was the target and they missed. I felt the shotgun pellets go right past me.”

INTERVENTION AT A CRUCIAL MOMENT

“Po” Kivaha was the intended victim when his buddy was shot and blinded in one eye. But a team of social workers defused an imminent gang war and offered him a way out. BY BEVERLY CREAMER

LAUPO “PO” KIVAHA WAS BIG FOR HIS AGE while growing up in Kalihi’s Kamehameha IV housing project. Based on size alone, Kaupo was often challenged to fight, whether he wanted to or not.

“Sixth grade was my first fight,” he remembers. “It was me and this kid from Kuhio Park Terrace. I was the big kid. He was the big kid. It was like you had to do something. All eyes were on you.”

Kivaha won that first fight. The other boy fell to the ground and stayed there.

“I felt like I was ‘The Man.’ After that, (I had) superstar status when I walked

around campus. That's what makes you do it more."

Now 25, Kivaha tells his story quietly in the offices of Adult Friends for Youth in an industrial area near Honolulu Airport, where he's a clinical associate and training to be a therapist. Kivaha remembers how easily he and others boys – some just 12 like himself – were recruited by older gang members.

"They showed love," he says. "They were my brothers. They were smoking weed, selling drugs. I wanted that life-style. It was fun."

He remembers the beatings at home and says he never listened to his family, including his older brothers. The gang became like a family.

While he wanted to change, it didn't seem possible. "The bad influence outweighed the good."

But then something turned his life around. That incident remains starkly in his memory, just like the night it happened.

"My friend was shot," he says, slowly now.

"I was the target and they missed. I felt the shotgun pellets go right past me. I saw the flashes. (The attacker) shot six times, standing on the bottom of the hill behind bushes. He was aiming for my head but missed. And then he ran."

Pellets struck Kivaha's friend, who was standing next to him, hitting him in the face and blinding him in one eye.

The shooting was part of an ongoing rumble between gangs that Kivaha says began with one youth being stabbed and almost dying.

The shooting left Kivaha feeling alone and vulnerable. He says when he needed them most, his gang of "brothers" wasn't there.

But someone else was.

"The first people who showed up on my doorstep were from AFY – Mo, Sid, Debby and Mac – all the big-timers. This all happened at 4 in the morning and they were there by 8. The house was all taped up. That morning they came up with a plan: That the best thing was for me to leave the island. They paid for everything and I went to stay with a relative for two weeks on the Big Island. That was so AFY could talk to the rival gangs and things could cool down."

Kivaha went along with the plan because he respected the social workers. In the next few weeks, AFY negotiated a peace treaty between the gangs.

During a difficult childhood, Po Kivaha found acceptance among gang members. "They were my brothers," he says, but that path almost got him killed. Today, "I keep my distance. ... I've got too much to lose."

Today, says Kivaha, he sees his former rivals and they even play basketball together.

He is close to graduating with an associate of arts degree. Soon, he'll be going to Chaminade University on a \$20,000 scholarship secured by AFY from a generous donor.

The door opened by the social workers is the one he wants to walk through. He's excited about the future and about his young family, two daughters, both under four. And he avoids trouble at all costs.

"I keep my distance. I don't put myself in a situation where I'm going to get into trouble. I've got too much to lose." ■

“

**They came up with a plan:
That the best thing for me was
to leave the island. ... I went
to stay with a relative for two
weeks on the Big Island.”**

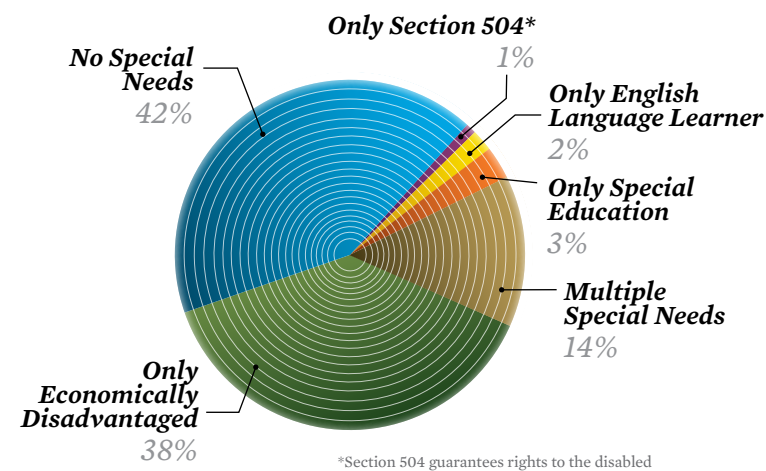


Still the Great Equalizer?

Public education in Hawaii and America has been seen as the best way for underprivileged children to do better than their parents. Is that still true? These numbers reflect both challenges faced by local public schools and some improving indicators.

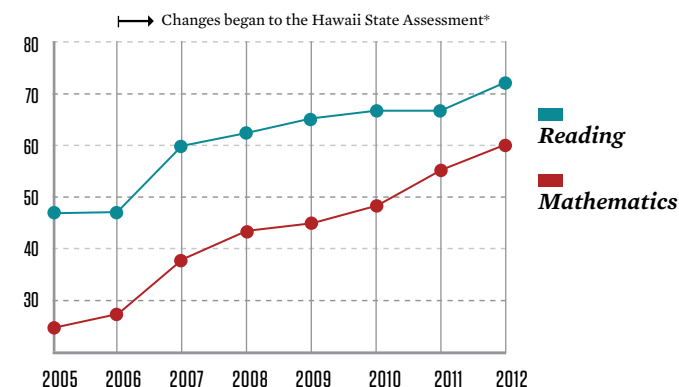
STUDENT ENROLLMENT

58% of public school students have special needs



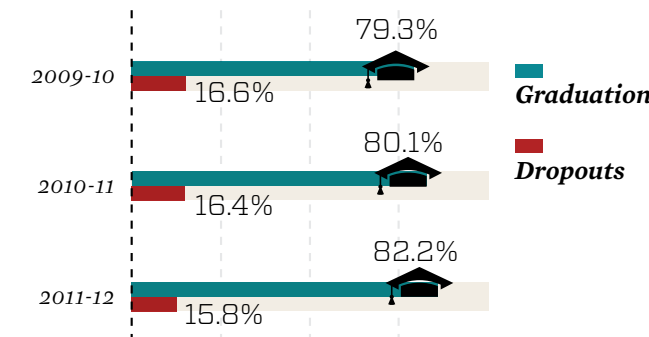
NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND, ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP)

Percent of public schools proficientx, AYP Math and Reading



*Questions match Hawaii Content and Performance Standards; addition of TerraNova to compare students nationally.
SOURCE: STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

IMPROVED FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION RATE*



*Total of graduates and dropouts is not 100 percent since GED certificates and special education students reaching maximum age are not counted.
SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

EDUCATION ASSESSMENTS

Percent of students proficient and advanced under the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP):

	2005		2011	
	HAWAII	NATION	HAWAII	NATION
READING				
Grade 4	23%	30%	27%	32%
Grade 8	18%	29%	26%	32%
MATHEMATICS				
Grade 4	27%	35%	40%	39%
Grade 8	18%	28%	30%	34%
SCIENCE				
Grade 4	19%	27%	---	---
Grade 8	15%	27%	22%	31%

SOURCE: STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

VITAL STATISTICS

Advanced Placement Programs

In the past three years, more public school students have enrolled in AP courses and more have received a passing grade on the exam (a 3, 4, or 5). However, the percentage of students who pass has fallen.

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Number of students enrolled in AP courses	3,638	4,245	4,831
Number of students who took AP exams	3,445	3,996	4,530
Number of exams taken	4,935	5,813	6,686
Number of AP exam results with a score of 3 or higher	2,091	2,396	2,603
Percent of exams passed	42%	41%	39%

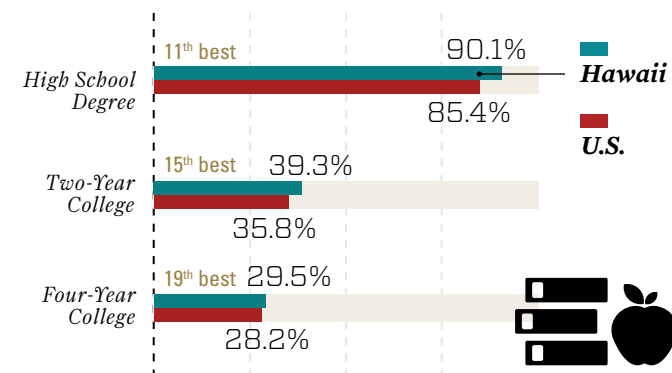
SOURCE: STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Percentage of exams passed for Advanced Placement programs

AN EDUCATED COMMUNITY

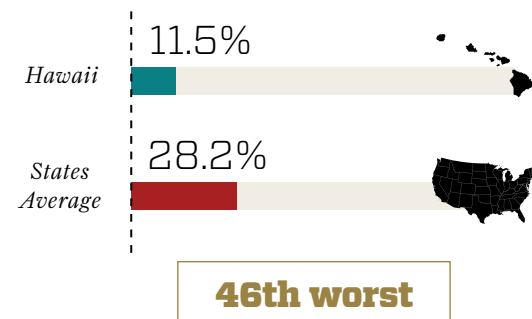
Hawaii has better educated residents than America as a whole. Percentages of adults with at least this level of education:



SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS, 2011 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ENROLLMENT

Percentage of all Hawaii 3-4 year olds in Head Start, state pre-K or special education, 2011 school year



SOURCE: NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR EARLY EDUCATION RESEARCH

USING BEST PRACTICES IN KINDERGARTEN

Public schools with well-established early childhood policies and practices (176 schools responding)

	2012
Transition from home/preschool to kindergarten	33%
Communication with families	26.7%
Parent involvement	14.8%
School improvement in Early Education	22.2%
Kindergarten classroom practice	58.5%
Met benchmarks in all dimensions	2.8%

KINDERGARTEN CLASSES

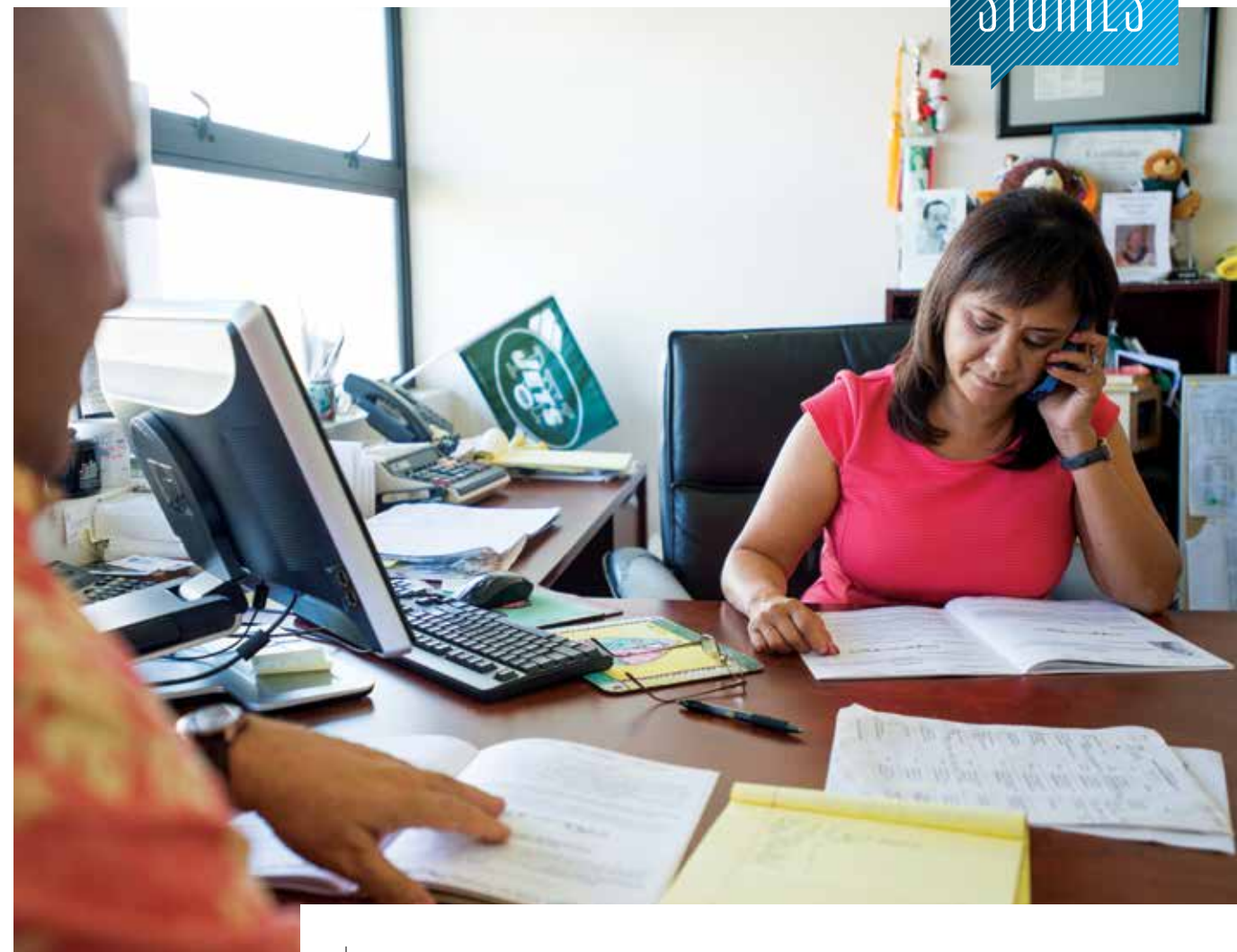
Kindergarten classes where at least 75% of pupils display these skills (781 kindergarten classes responding)

	2012
Approaches to Learning	37.4%
Academic	N/A
Literacy concepts & skills	21.3%
Math concepts & skills	24.8%
School Behaviors & skills	40.1%
Social-Emotional Behaviors	45.8%
Physical Well Being	49.6%
Met benchmarks in all dimensions	8.1%

SOURCE: STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE GOOD BEGINNINGS ALLIANCE

INSPIRATION

With a long-term approach, Adult Friends for Youth has shown that a few dedicated people in a single agency can help turn around hundreds of middle and high schoolers.



Success STORIES

“

There's a point when people fear someone is a lost cause and too old to change. ... I would be sad if we gave up.”

GIVING HOPE AND ALTERNATIVES TO KIDS

The philosophy of Adult Friends for Youth is that even the toughest kids can change. Just make sure you're there to help when they choose to change. BY BEVERLY CREAMER

DEBORAH SPENCER-CHUN HAS THE DEEP-SEATED BELIEF that “Kids can change no matter what level of trouble they get into.”

That's the philosophy that drives her and her nonprofit organization, Adult Friends for Youth. “We believe that given the opportunity, they will make changes in their lives,” she says.

“We're not a short-term program, we're long-term. The length of time we work with any group averages three to four years. And sometimes it's longer, four to six years. It depends on where they are and what help they need.”

AFY and its small group of social workers operate out of a labyrinth of of-

fices in a building flanked by the H1 Airport Viaduct. They also work in some of Oahu's toughest neighborhoods, like the Kalihi housing projects of Kuhio Park Terrace and along Kamehameha IV Road.

"We don't believe that these kids are throwaways," says Spencer-Chun, AFY's chief executive officer. "There's a point when people fear that someone is a lost cause and too old to change, so the focus is often on the elementary children. The perception is always to get them early so they don't get into trouble, but we believe we need to focus at all levels. But kids are starting (in gangs) at younger levels today. When we pick up a group, we see kids as young as fourth grade, all the way to adults. I would be sad if we gave up on the high-school level because you would be giving up on the next generation.

"A lot of them come so damaged. There's not a sense of love. They're labeled so badly by society that by the time they come to us, they don't believe anybody cares anymore. You have to put in that extra effort, and we're the first ones to show you that you matter. Many of our kids test us all the time. So if we say we're going to be there and give you our number, we mean it. They'll call you and see how true you are to your word. That was the same for Mo. He would call at 2 in the morning, 3 in the morning, saying, 'I just got in a fight and I need a ride.' I would come out and he'd say, 'Gee, you're for real.'"

Today, Mo Maumalanga works for AFY.

"We don't decide for them," Spencer-Chun continues. "They really have to make the decision. We put it in their court and sometime they make bad choices. 'OK, you got into a fight and got arrested, now what do you want to do and how can I support you through that process?'"

"We challenge them and hold our kids accountable. (We tell them) 'If you keep going along these lines, this is what your future is going to be.' It's so sad when they feel there



Deborah Spencer-Chun resists the attitude among many youths that they have no future.

is no future. They'll say, 'I'll be in prison. I'll be dead.' You have to provide hope that it doesn't need to be that way. Let's look at the alternatives.

"It can be as simple as taking them into new communities. One of the things that statistics show is that most low-income kids do not actually go beyond a five-mile radius of their home. They're very territorial. They're

very limited. They stay within their own community. So we'll take them in a van and hold a meeting at UH or at the baseball field. We'll hold it anywhere just for them to see that they're no different from the people who go to school there. They might see kids - 'Hey, I saw them at Farrington.'

"I guess one of the unique things about AFY is we work with groups as whole entities. And we have them hold each other accountable. The whole focus is on group therapy. If the group says they want to change and the members are still going out and fighting, we bring it back to the table. 'How do you guys reach a goal?' There's a caring and nurturing person that helps them and then the group is holding itself

accountable for what they want.

"A lot of times you see this after a couple of years, a guy says enough is enough, I have to graduate. Or I have a family now. Or I'm on probation and have a job. Or you guys are messing me up. You actually hear these conversations. We are there to make sure it's a positive experience when they're having these conversations. We're there to facilitate the conversation when it happens and provide a respectful place to have that conversation. And they begin to use their words instead of their hands. It's attitude-changing, belief-system changing.

"People all say if you can change one life, you can make an impact. We don't believe in changing just one life, but in changing a group. Then you can change many lives." ■

"We don't believe in changing just one life, but in changing a group. Then you can change many lives."

Land & Water

Good news and bad news about how we treat our most precious resources

H15 RATE

907 million containers sold in 2012



77% recycled - 697 million

100 = 100 million

SOURCE: HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT REPORT, 2012.

DIRTY WATER



3%

Percentage of Hawaii's beach water samples that exceeded bacterial standards in 2012.



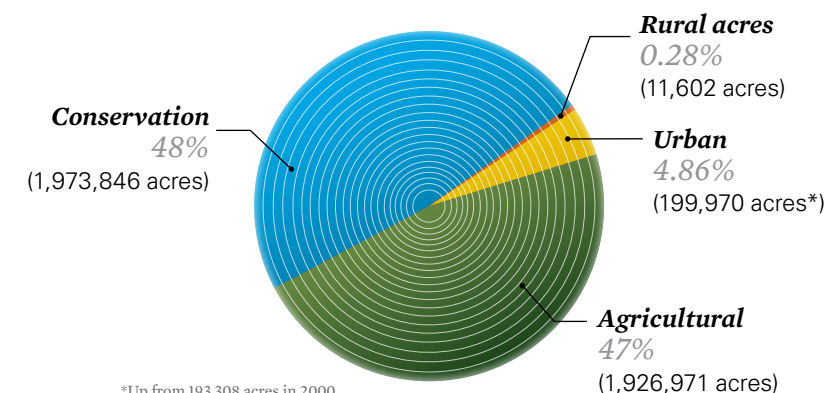
91

Number of perennial streams in Hawaii that failed to meet state water-quality standards in both 2008 and 2010.

SOURCES: NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL, HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

LAND USE

Hawaii has 4,112,388 acres spread across the Islands. Here's how it is zoned:



*Up from 193,308 acres in 2000
SOURCE: 2012, STATE DATABOOK

OUR TRASH



1.3

Tons of waste per Hawaii resident per year

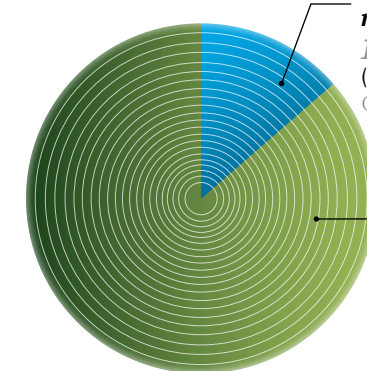


35.1%

Share of solid waste that is recycled or reclaimed

SOURCE: HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT REPORT, 2012.

RECYCLED WASTEWATER



Wastewater reused in 2011
13.9% of total
(19.6 million gallons)
(2006 rate was 24.6%)

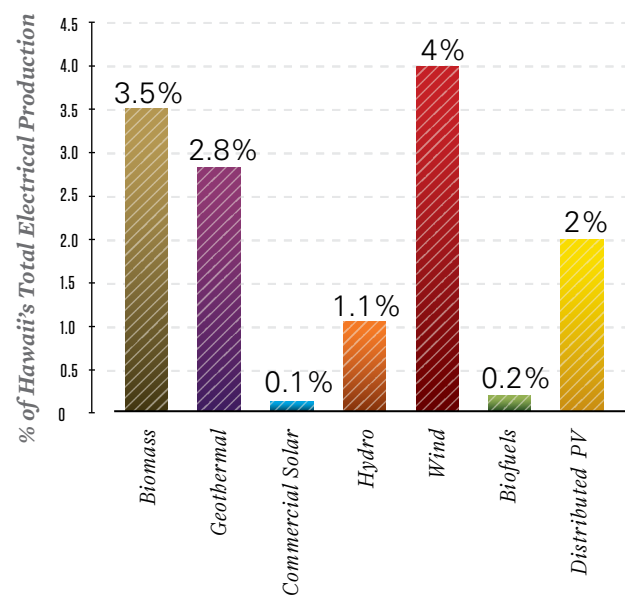
Wastewater treated but not reused per day in 2011
(121.6 million gallons)

SOURCE: HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

GENERATING & USING POWER

RENEWABLE ENERGY

In 2012, 13.7 percent of Hawaii's electricity came from renewable sources. Here are the sources for that 1,324 gigawatt hours of renewable energy.



MORE CARS, MORE DRIVERS

Not only does Hawaii have more drivers now than in 2002, the numbers of vehicles per driver is also up.

	2003	2012
Motor vehicles registered	1,058 million	1,310 million
Licensed drivers	834,188	910,265
Motor vehicles per driver	1.27	1.44
Gallons of fuel used	483 million	520 million

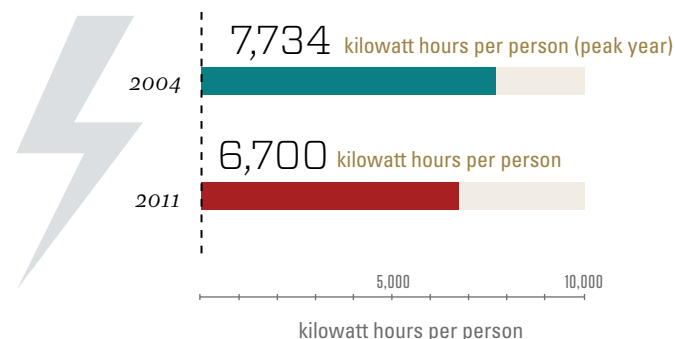


9,011

Average miles driven per vehicle in 2012

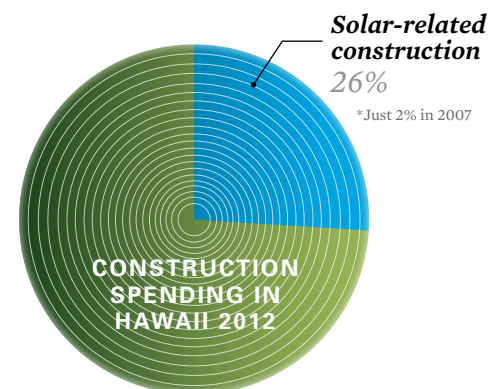
ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION

The average amount of electricity used by one person in Hawaii in a year:

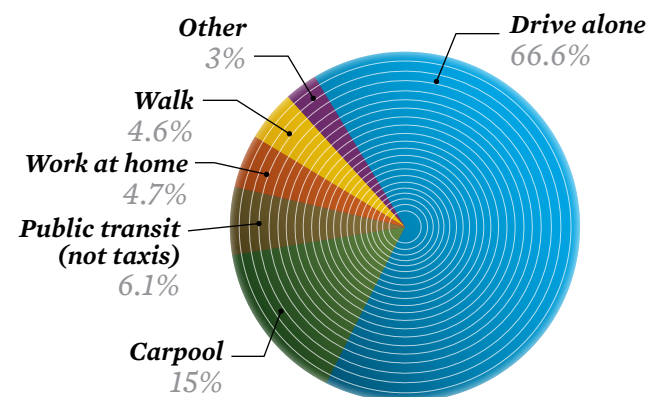


SOLAR ENERGY CONSTRUCTION

In 2012, solar energy projects accounted for more than a quarter of Hawaii's construction industry.



WORKERS WHO COMMUTE



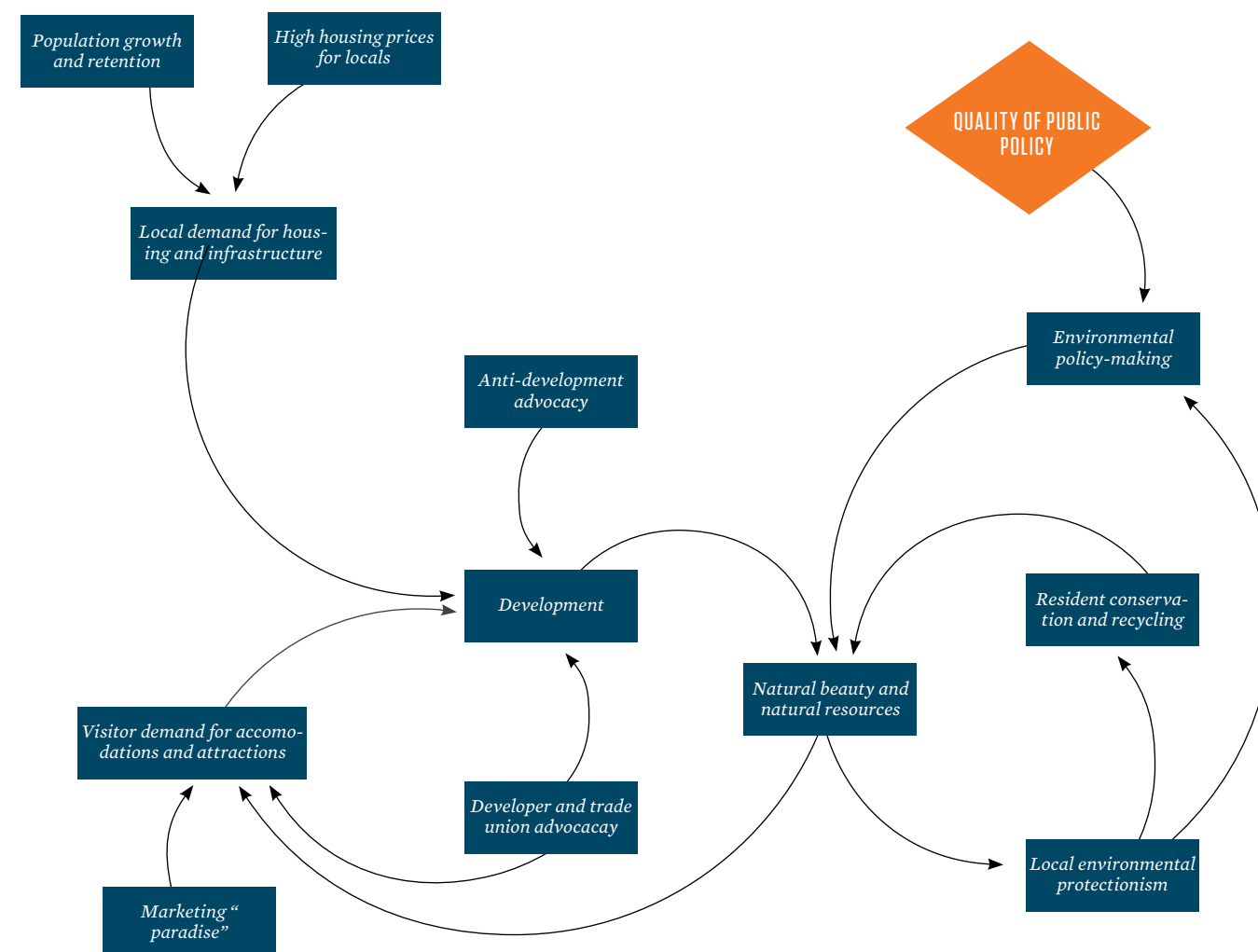
SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, AVERAGE OF 2007-2011

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Environment Map

Key Factors

Hawaii's beauty and natural resources make it an attractive place to live for locals and outsiders. Local demand for housing is driven by population growth and retention. Outside demand is enhanced by public- and private-sector marketing of Hawaii as paradise. Demand for a "piece of paradise" drives development – often in scenic and undeveloped areas. This sparks local protectionism, resulting in both conservation efforts and increased advocacy for environmental policies.



HEALTH: HAWAII'S STRONGEST SUIT

Key Statistics:

- ✓ Better than U.S.
 - Best among counties
 - Worst among counties
 - ↑↓ Better over time
 - ↑↓ Worst over time
- (Up or down indicates 2009 baseline comparison)

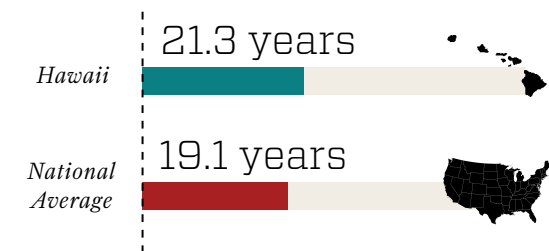
INDICATOR	YEAR	U.S.		HAWAII		OAHU	HAWAII ISLAND	KAUAI	MAUI COUNTY
MORTALITY									
Life Expectancy at birth in years	2008	78.2	✓	81.1	↑	81.6	79.6	80.5	80.7
Infant mortality, per 1,000 live births	2011	6.1	✓	4.9	↓	4.9	7.3	2.2	3.0
Cardiovascular disease death rate, per 100,000 people	2009-11	252	✓	223	↓	226	235	241	183
Cancer death rate, per 100,000 people	2009-11	185	✓	162	↓	159	179	191	146
Diabetes death rate, per 100,000 people	2009-11	23	✓	20	↑	20	18	26	24
DISEASE PREVENTION									
Obesity, % of adults	2012 ¹	27.6	✓	23.6	↑ ²	21.7	24	18.8	22
Smoking, % of adults	2012 ¹	19.6	✓	14.6	↓ ²	16.3	19.2	20.1	14.8
Binge drinking, % of adults	2012 ¹	16.9		18.2	N/A	21.3	22.5	17.7	22.6
Immunization rate, % of children ages 19-35 months	2012	71.9	✓	82.4	↑	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
% who had 150 minutes or more of aerobic activity a week	2011	51.7	✓	58.5	N/A	57.2	59.9	66.3	61.1
% who ate 2+ servings of fruit and 3+ vegetables a day	2011	N/A	N/A	11.4	N/A	10.7	11.7	16	12.8
ACCESS TO CARE									
% of adults without health insurance	2012 ¹	17.1	✓	10.4	²	8.5	11.3	9.3	13.6
Children without health insurance, % of children 17 and younger	2012	7.2	✓	3.5	↓ ³	2.9	3.8	4.3	6.3

¹ County date is 2011—the latest year available.
² Hawaii's trend was based on 2005-2010 as data since 2011 was not comparable to earlier data due to a different sampling methodology.
³ Baseline was 2009, the earliest year available.
Key: All noted differences are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level, except for children's insurance (90%CL) and the causes of death (based on observed differences only).

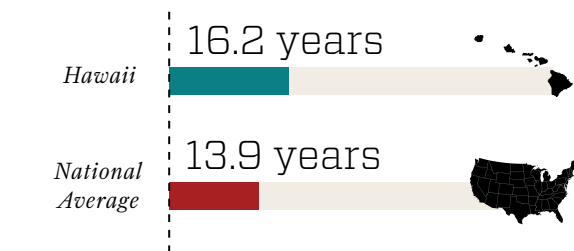
Not Just A Long Life

Hawaii not only leads the nation in life expectancy, reports the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, but also leads in “healthy life expectancy.” That means, on average in Hawaii, more of our old age is spent in good health.

REMAINING LIFE EXPECTANCY AT AGE 65



HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY AT AGE 65



A Major Increase in Suicides

By Steve Petranik and James Koshiba

SUICIDE IS A GROWING tragedy in Hawaii. It was the second leading cause of death among people aged 15 to 34 from 2007 to 2011, according to the Hawaii Injury Prevention Plan. Only unintentional injuries killed more young people. Among people aged 35 to 54, it was the fourth leading cause of death.

In 2010, 207 people committed suicide in Hawaii, according to the Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention, an age-adjusted death rate of 15 per 100,000 population. That was the 16th worst rate among the states.

In previous years, Hawaii's rate was much lower. In 2009, Hawaii ranked 29th among the states and, in the previous five years, Hawaii always ranked among the eight states with the lowest suicide rate. In fact, during five years of the past decade,

Hawaii's suicide rate was fewer than 10 per 100,000.

In a bitter irony, a 2010 report written by economists and published by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco effectively showed that the “happiest places on earth have the highest suicide rates.”

The report, called The Happiness-Suicide Paradox, compared quality of life surveys and suicide rates,

and found the paradox applied across both U.S. states and Western industrialized countries. Though a precise reason can never be established, the report speculates “that people may find it particularly painful to be unhappy in a happy place, so that the decision to commit suicide is influenced by relative comparisons.”

Drug Abuse

People 12 and older who have used this substance at least once in the month before the survey as a percent of the population:



8.8%

Any illicit drug¹



6.9%

Marijuana



20.1%

Cigarettes

¹ Includes marijuana, hashish, methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin, hallucinogens, inhalants and prescription psychotherapeutics used nonmedically.

SOURCE: STATE DATA BOOK, VIA U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, NATIONAL SURVEY ON DRUG USE AND HEALTH.

STUDENTS USING DRUGS

Percentage of students using drugs, according to surveys.

SUBSTANCE	HAWAII		U.S.
	2007	2011	2011
Used marijuana in the past 30 days	15.7	21.9	23.1
Ever used any form of cocaine	5.6	6.4	6.8
Glue, aerosol spray can, or paints/spray use ¹	11.4	9.7	11.4
Ever used methamphetamines	4.5	3.4	3.8
Ever used ecstasy	4.6	9.0	8.2
Ever used prescription drugs w/o a doctor's prescription	N/A	14.3	20.7
Alcohol use ²	29.1	29.1	38.7
Binge drinking ³	14.9	15.4	21.9
Ever tried any form of tobacco	43.7	33.5	N/A

¹ Ever sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high.
² Had at least one drink of alcohol in the past 30 days.
³ Had five or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours at least once in the past 30 days.

SOURCE: HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII'S CURRICULUM RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT GROUP "HAWAII YOUTH RISK BEHAVIORS HAWAII SCHOOL HEALTH SURVEY - SURVEY RESULTS 2011 - STATE OF HAWAII PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL REPORT" AND THE HAWAII YOUTH TOBACCO SURVEY.

A Plan to Make Hawaii Healthier

By Stacy Yuen

INCREASING PHYSICAL activity and encouraging healthy eating are the ultimate goals of the Hawaii Physical Activity and Nutrition Plan – nicknamed the PAN Plan 2020.

“We need to make the healthy choice the default choice,” says Lola Irvin, project manager for the state’s Healthy Hawaii Initiative. “We need to change the norm and make things like taking the stairs or bringing healthier potluck dishes the norm.”

Educating Hawaii’s people about healthy choices is

central to the seven-year plan, but there are plenty of specific goals. Among those are:

- More farmers markets overall and more farmers markets that accept the state’s SNAP card, which has replaced food stamps;

- More companies offering wellness programs, plus tax breaks to encourage those programs;

- A ban on sugary drinks at public schools while schools are in session;

- Policies that support breastfeeding through six months;

- Eliminating the excise tax on fruits and vegetables;
- Requiring health and PE instruction in all middle schools; and
- Redesigning communities to add bike lanes, safe routes to schools and other measures that encourage exercise.

The program aims to get schools, healthcare providers, businesses and government all working toward a healthier Hawaii.

“This is a complex problem and it’s not going to be resolved overnight,” says Loretta Fuddy, director of the

state Department of Health. “It has taken us generations to get to where we are today and it’s probably going to take us a generation to turn that back.”

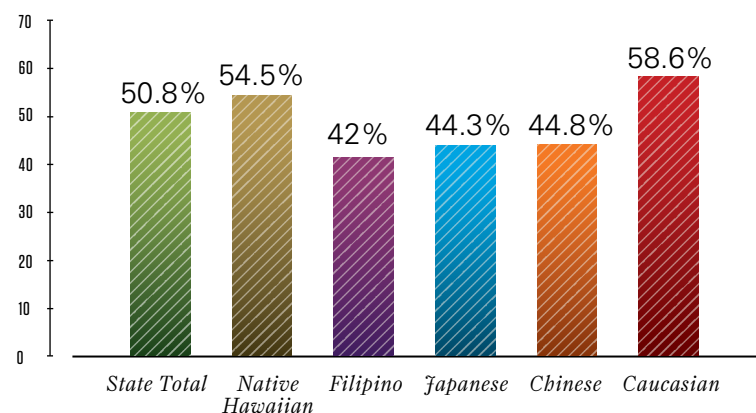
LEARN MORE

To read the plan and its 22 objectives, go to www.hawaiihealthmatters.org and click on PAN Plan Tracker in the green column on the left.



ARE WE FIT?

Percent of ethnic populations who have achieved the minimum recommended level of physical activity, 2003-2005.



SOURCE: HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, 2009

Unequal Outcomes

By many measures, Native Hawaiians on average are in poorer health than other ethnic populations in Hawaii

SOURCE: STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

SIX FEWER YEARS

Life expectancy for Hawaii residents at birth in 2000:

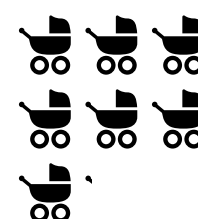


Native Hawaiian
74.3 years



All Hawaii Residents
80.5 years

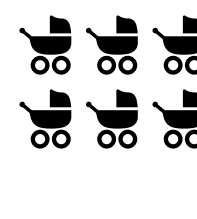
INFANT MORTALITY 2009



Native Hawaiians

7.1

per 1,000 births



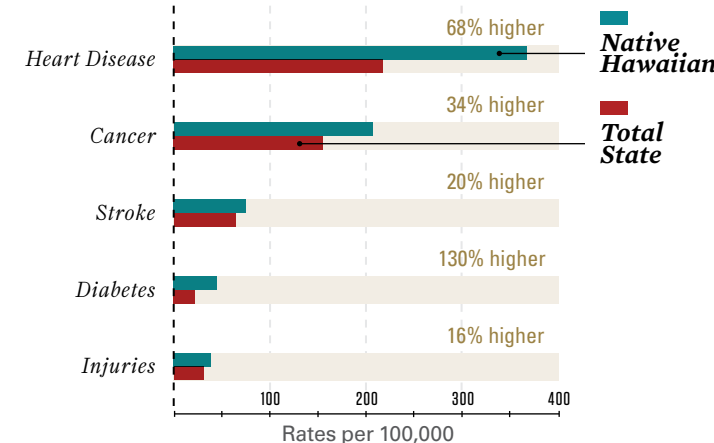
State Total

5.9

per 1,000 births

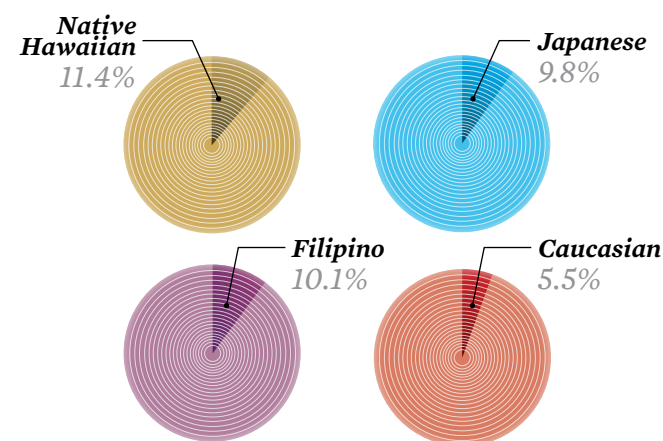
LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH

Native Hawaiians are more likely to die from many serious illnesses than Hawaii’s population as a whole:



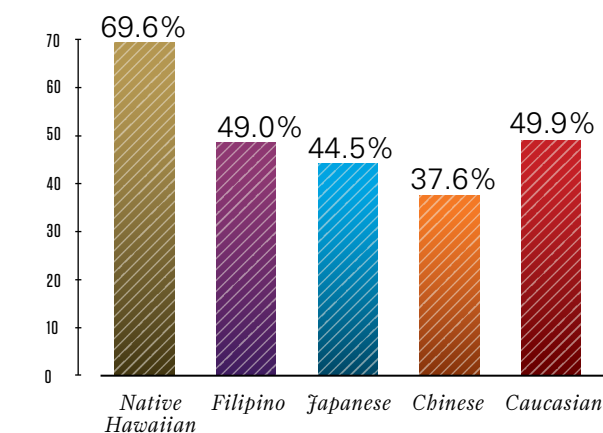
DIABETES DISPARITIES

Percent of adults diagnosed with diabetes, 2010



OVERWEIGHT ADULTS

Percentage of adults overweight by ethnicity, 2008



WHAT KILLS US

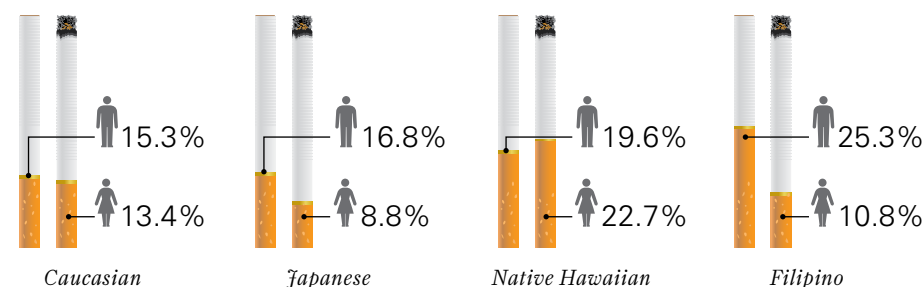
Here are the 10 leading causes of death for Hawaii residents, by age group, 2008 to 2012, as reported by the Hawaii Injury Prevention Plan.

	<1	1-14y	15-24y	25-34y	35-44y	45-54y	55-64y	65+y	all ages
1	Perinatal conditions 288 deaths	Unintentional injuries 44 deaths	Unintentional injuries 206 deaths	Unintentional injuries 202 deaths	Unintentional injuries 265 deaths	Cancer 892 deaths	Cancer 2,133 deaths	Heart disease 9,049 deaths	Heart disease 11,365
2	Congenital anomalies 68	Cancer 22	Suicide 132	Suicide 135	Cancer 245	Heart disease 697	Heart disease 1,297	Cancer 7,598	Cancer 11,029
3	Unintentional injuries 24	Congenital anomalies 12	Cancer 46	Cancer 91	Heart disease 218	Unintentional injuries 360	CVD* (incl. stroke) 305	CVD* (incl. stroke) 2,572	CVD* (incl. stroke) 3,095
4	Sudden infant death synd. 18	Homicide 10	Heart disease 27	Heart disease 72	Suicide 153	Suicide 162	Unintentional injuries 255	Influenza and pneumonia 1,353	Unintentional injuries 2,132
5	Other respiratory diseases 10	Suicide 6	Injuries, unknown intent 14	Injuries, unknown intent 34	CVD* (incl. stroke) 53	CVD* (incl. stroke) 140	Diabetes mellitus 212	Chronic lower resp. diseases 1,301	Influenza and pneumonia 1,544
6	Sepsis (infection) 8	Influenza and pneumonia 6	Homicide 12	Homicide 22	Injuries, unknown intent 37	Liver disease and cirrhosis 126	Liver disease and cirrhosis 192	Alzheimer's disease 1,082	Chronic lower resp. diseases 1,494
7	Influenza and pneumonia 8	Other resp. diseases 5	Congenital anomalies 8	CVD* (incl. stroke) 17	Liver disease and cirrhosis 36	Diabetes mellitus 108	Suicide 146	Diabetes mellitus 1,031	Diabetes mellitus 1,391
8	Other acute resp. infection 5	Heart disease 4	Influenza and pneumonia 5	Influenza and pneumonia 10	Diabetes mellitus 28	Injuries, unknown intent 93	Chronic lower resp. diseases 136	Nephritis (kidney disease) 851	Alzheimer's disease 1,088
9	Injuries, unknown intent 4	Sepsis (infection) 4	CVD* (incl. stroke) 4	Diabetes mellitus 8	Homicide 25	Viral hepatitis 50	Nephritis (kidney disease) 100	Unintentional injuries 776	Nephritis (kidney disease) 1,012
10	Other infections 3	CVD* (incl. stroke) 2	Sepsis (infection) 3	Congenital anomalies 7	Other circ. diseases 25	Influenza and pneumonia 47	Influenza and pneumonia 95	Other resp. diseases 629	Suicide 852

*Cerebrovascular diseases including stroke

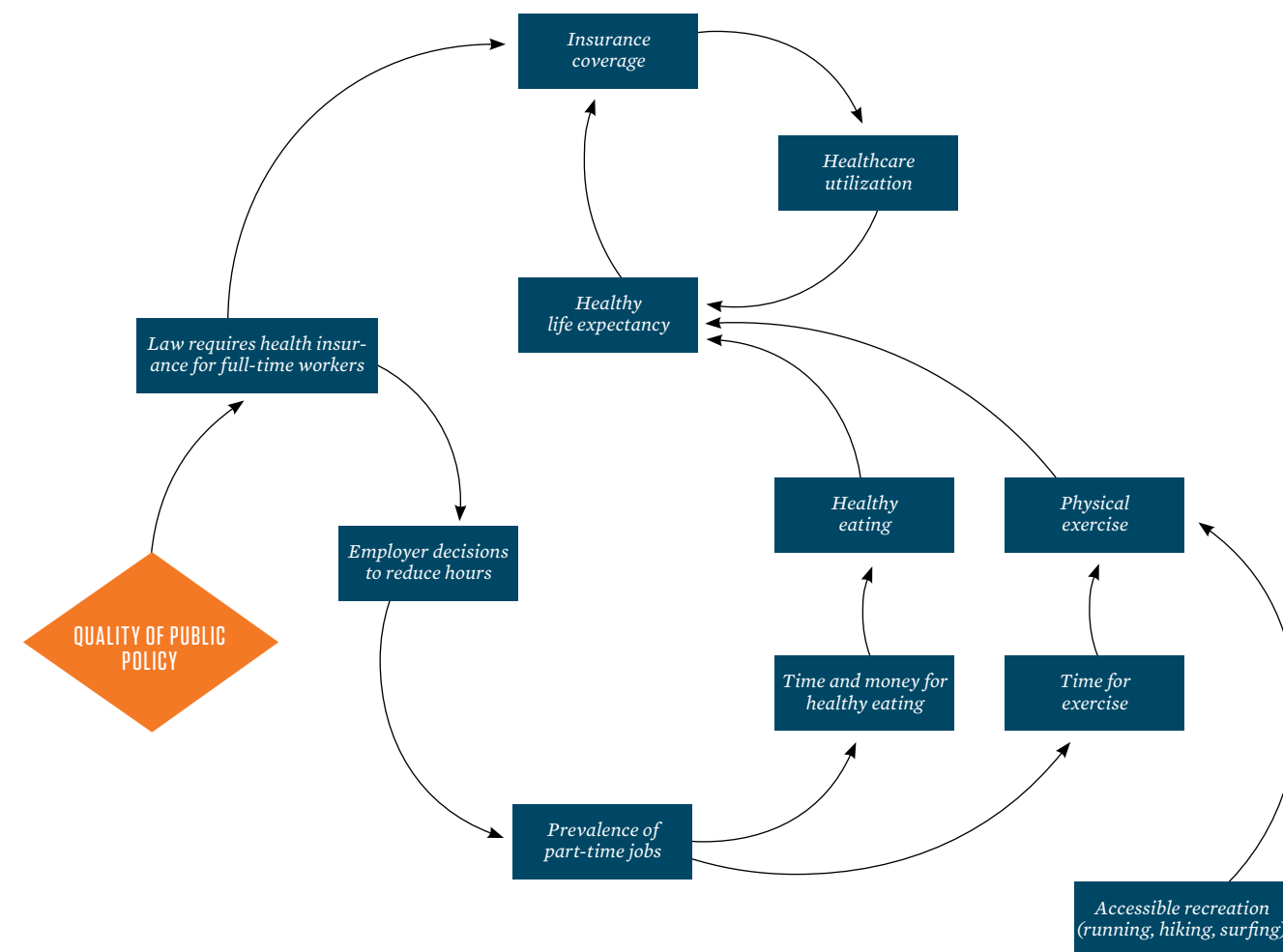
WHO SMOKES IN HAWAII

Smoking prevalence by ethnicity and gender in Hawaii, 2008. Hawaii average is 15.4%; U.S. average is 20.6%. Among Hawaiians, women smokers outnumber men.



Health Map

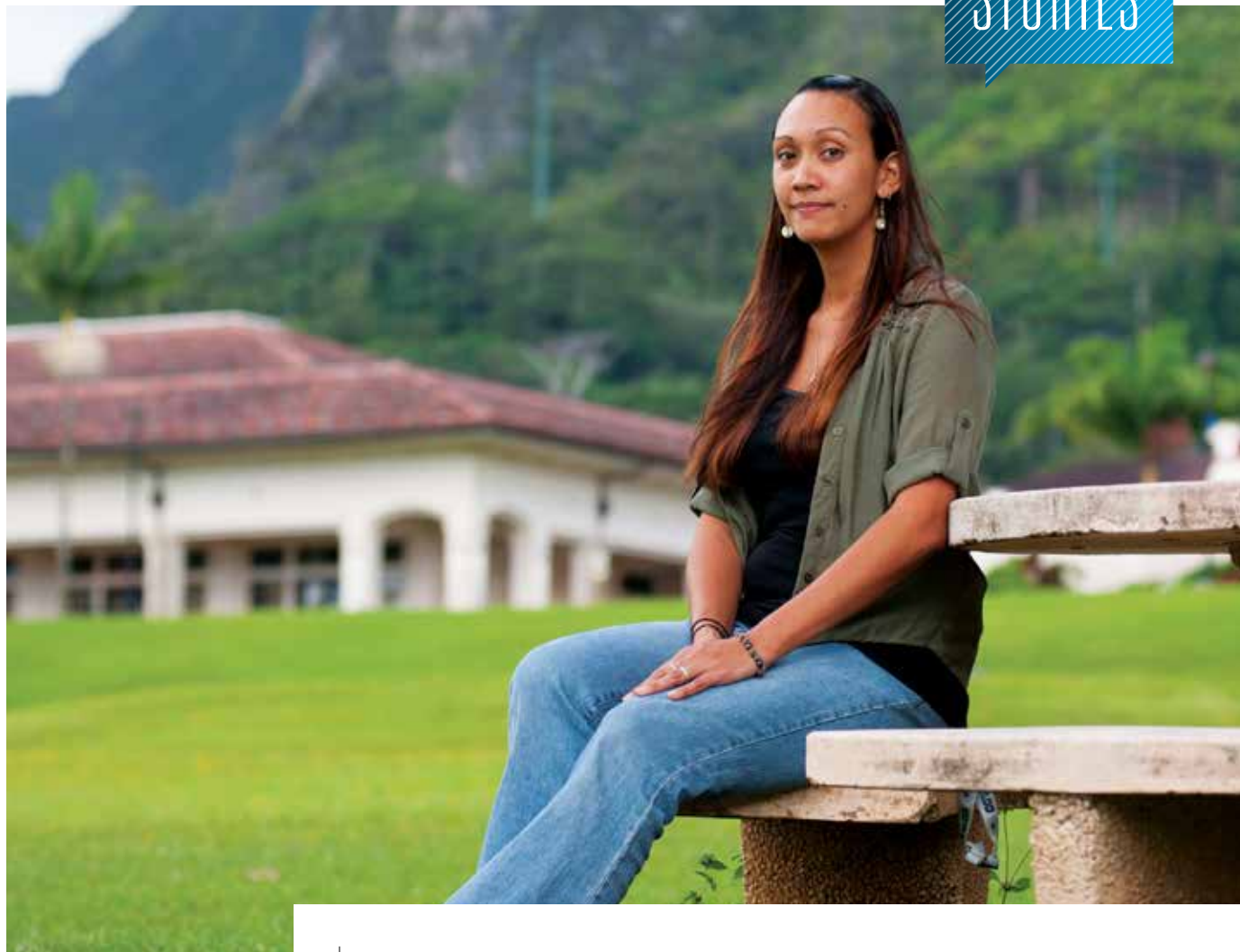
How employment, insurance and lifestyle affect our healthy longevity



Key Factor in Hawaii's Health

Hawaii's 39-year-old law requiring employer-provided health insurance for anyone working more than 20 hours a week has helped create one of America's highest rates of coverage. That has helped contribute to one of America's healthiest populations. So does Hawaii itself, which provides residents with many opportunities to exercise.

However, Hawaii's insurance mandate also incentivizes employers to reduce hours below 20 a week, resulting in many part-time and multiple job-holders. A part-time job limits your income for buying healthy food, which tends to be more expensive than unhealthy food. Multiple part-time jobs may leave less time for exercise and preparing healthy meals. This helps lead to major inequities in health based on employment.



It was good for me to be in a program away from where I was used to.”

NO QUICK FIX

Helena Kaleiki’s rehab program lasted 30 months, but she needed that much time to turn away from drugs, crime and despair. BY BEVERLY CREAMER

HELENA KALEIKI’S LIFE SOUNDS IDYLIC: a good job with hours that allow her time to attend college; two young sons and a new relationship; her own apartment and the money to pay for it. Basically, a great life.

It’s idyllic compared to six years ago, when she stood in front of a sentencing judge in Hilo and was told she had two choices: five-to-10 years at the Women’s Community Correctional Facility or two-and-a-half years at the Habilitat rehab facility in Kaneohe.

“My dad’s voice kept going over in my head,” says Kaleiki, now 36. “If I went to prison (on Oahu), he wouldn’t come visit me. He didn’t want to see his little girl behind bars.”

That helped her choose Habilitat, she says, even though clients aren’t allowed visitors for the first four months and then only sporadically afterward.

Kaleiki doesn’t like to dwell on a criminal past that includes check forgery, car theft and drug use. That’s far behind her now, so far behind that she recently spoke by phone for the first time in a decade with her oldest son, a boy who was just three when she was forced to give him up for adoption to an uncle. He’s now a young teenager. Their conversation touched Kaleiki deeply and is one thing she holds on to.

Her younger son, a toddler of 2 when she was arrested in a stolen car, is now 8, and being cared for by his grandparents. Someday soon, she expects to begin the legal process so her younger boy can be returned to her care.

“Just being able to talk to my (older) son – right now there’s nothing that anyone can say or do or put in front of me that can take that away from me,” she says. “I’ve accomplished too many goals. ... I can walk around outside and I don’t have to worry that I owe someone something, or where I’m going to sleep. I know I have somewhere to go home to. There’s food in the refrigerator. I have a cat. Those little things make me happy now.”

The thoughts of her family kept – and continue to keep – her going. That, and the long-term care at Habilitat, in a supportive community of others going through similar challenges. It was therapy that allowed her to change her thinking, change her self-image and left her feeling entitled to start life afresh.

“I had been to other programs before and at that point I wasn’t getting any younger. I didn’t want to have to go through another program again. I didn’t want to be classified as the daughter who ended up going to jail and made nothing of herself. And I wasn’t being any kind of example to look up to for my children.”

As she looks back, Kaleiki realizes that the length of Habilitat’s program – two-and-a-half years – was crucial to her success. As well, it was important to be in a program outside her community and her comfort zone.

“It was good for me to be in a program away from where I was used to. If I ended up in another six-month program (on Hawaii Island), I would have slipped out somehow.

“When they first tell you it’s two-and-a-half years, it sounds really horrible. But you’re doing the same things over and over and it gets easier. I thought at one point that if I got to do this after the program, I might be somewhat normal and live a decent life. It’s just simple things: having a routine, getting up at 5 a.m., doing aerobics, making and eating break-

fast, doing laundry twice a week, learning to communicate with people differently, learning to deal with your emotions. Habilitat was a way of starting fresh.”

For Kaleiki, starting fresh also meant looking at herself in a new way.

“I felt like I was bad. I felt like everything I had done was wrong, and that these were all my consequences wrapped up into one and I was being punished. At that point, no one in my family wanted to talk to me, and I didn’t have my children, and neither my family nor my children wanted anything to do with me.”

While changing her self-image was important, so was rebuilding her relationship with her father, who had raised her after her parents divorced. Maybe it was also learning how to grow up – something she thinks she stopped doing when she was 13 or 14 and began taking drugs.

“I had never rented anything by myself or had the keys to my own place. Everything was based on somebody else. So for me it felt good to find my own place, find my own job, even walk to work in the rain. Before I would just cry to my dad – ‘I can’t go anywhere, I don’t have a car’ – and he would come and pick me up, or pay for a car or buy a bike ... something. Being in Habilitat taught me and my dad both how to be independent and not to enable each other.”

Now, as a student at Windward Community College, she’s working toward a degree that will eventually allow her to be a veterinary assistant. She dreams of working to build the collection of animals at the small zoo in Hilo. Until then, she’s happy working for a shuttle company with hours that allow her to take classes.

“What helped me? Habilitat, family and the independence I’ve gained,” she says. “I know for a lot of women, in general, we end up in bad relationships and you cater everything to him. And now I’m in a relationship with another Habilitat graduate, but I’m still very independent. I don’t want him to help me with a lot of things. If I can’t do it, then I’ll ask him, but I like to try to do it myself first.

“And I go back to Habilitat twice a week to just remember what it’s like to be there, to share experiences, to just volunteer depending on what therapy they’re doing. For holidays they have dinners and this past Labor Day they went to the park next door and I went to hang out with them. Or I go just to sit in on meetings and I learn new things too. It’s reinforcement.” ■



“Being in Habilitat taught me and my dad both how to be independent and not to enable each other.”

HOUSING: HAWAII'S WEAK POINT

Hawaii housing costs are among the highest in the nation. All the measures listed in the chart below were already bad in 2009 and got worse since then.

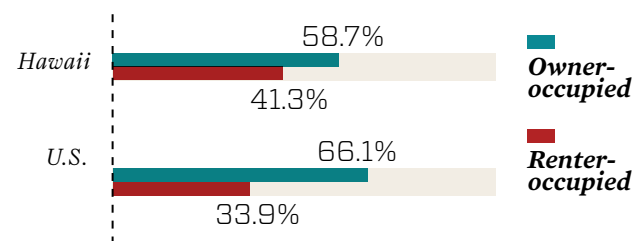
✗ Worse than U.S.
↑↓ Worse over time
(Up or down indicates 2009 baseline comparison)

INDICATOR	YEAR	U.S.		HAWAII		OAHU	HAWAII ISLAND	KAUAI	MAUI COUNTY
UNAFFORDABLE HOUSING									
Rental cost burden: Spending 30% or more of household income on rent, % of renters	2012	48.1	✗	50.3	↑ ¹	52.2	42.7	47.2	46.5
Ownership burden: Spending 30% or more of household income on selected ownership costs, % of homeowners with a mortgage	2012	33.7	✗	47.9	↑ ¹	45.8	48.8	54.4	56.2
Home ownership, % of occupied housing units	2012	63.9	✗	56.9	↑ ¹	54.4	66.1	64.6	57.1
UNMET HOUSING NEEDS									
Overcrowded dwellings: 1.01 or more occupants per room, % of occupied housing units	2012	3.3	✗	8.6		8.2	8.4	7.7	11.7
Homelessness: Point-in-time count, per 10,000 people	2012	20.2	✗	44.9	↑	44.6	32.6	58.7	55.2

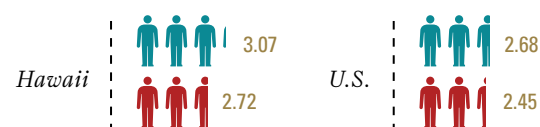
¹Baseline is the 3-year average of 2005-2007

OWNERS VS. RENTERS

Occupied Housing Units

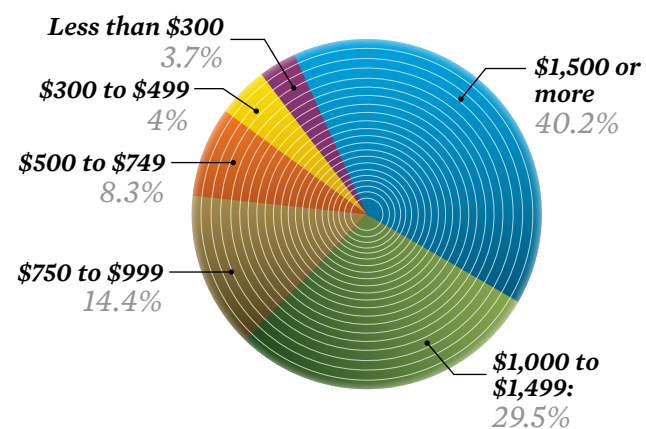


Average Number of People Per Home

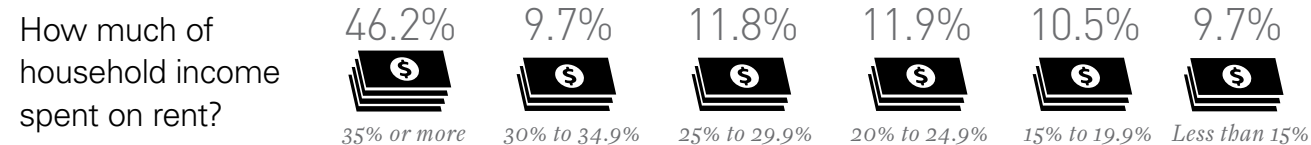


HOW MUCH RENT?

Percentage of renters who pay this much a month:



NUMBER OF RENTER HOUSEHOLDS



SHARE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME SPENT ON RENT

CENSUS BUREAU. AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY, 2007-2011

Crime down but...

Property and drug-related crime still worse than national average.

✓ Better than U.S.
✗ Worse than U.S.
↑↓ Better over time
↑↓ Worse over time
(Up or down indicates 2009 baseline comparison)

INDICATOR	YEAR	U.S.		HAWAII		OAHU	HAWAII ISLAND	KAUAI	MAUI COUNTY
PUBLIC SAFETY									
Violent crime rate, per 100,000 people	2011	387	✓	252	↓	246	262	348	236
Property crime rate, per 100,000 people	2011	2,905	✗	3,191	↓	3,177	2,518	3,871	3,788
Accident, homicide, and suicide death rate, per 100,000 people	2009-11	57	✓	47	↑	45	56	48	51
Drug-related arrests, per 100,000 people	2009-11	491	✓	201	↓	126	369	308	419
FAMILY RELATIONSHIP									
Child abuse and neglect, per 1,000 children aged 17 and younger	2011	9.1	✓	4.6	↓	3.6	7.6	5.9	6.0
Domestic abuse, per 100,000 people	2012			371	↑	298	676	459	422
COMMUNITY CONNECTEDNESS									
Idle youth, % of people aged 16-24	2009-11	8.2	✗	9.1	¹	8.6	10.5	9.9 ²	9.9 ²

¹Baseline is the 3-year average of 2005-2007

²Data based on combined sample of Kauai and Maui Counties

CONCERN ABOUT CRIME

Surveys of Hawaii residents indicate that crime is becoming less of a concern than in the past. In 2005, it was one of the top two concerns of 32.6 percent of respondents to a state survey – second only to cost of living. In a similar survey in 2008, it was one of the top two concerns of 26.6 percent and in 2010, down to 24.0 percent.

SOURCE: CRIME & JUSTICE IN HAWAII 2010, HOUSEHOLD SURVEY REPORT, STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

		INCIDENTS IN HAWAII	Rate per 100,000	
			HAWAII	U.S.
SPECIFIC CRIMES IN 2012				
Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter	✓	29	2.1	4.7
Forcible rape	✓	285	20.5	26.9
Robbery	✓	1,040	74.7	112.9
Aggravated Assault	✓	1,976	141.9	242.3
Burglary	✓	7,979	573.1	670.2
Larceny-theft	✗	31,233	2,243.2	1,959.3
Motor vehicle theft	✗	3,605	258.9	229.7

SOURCE: FBI UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS

Homelessness

A bleak snapshot of life on the street

- **MORE THAN HALF** of all homeless individuals have lived in Hawaii 10 years or more; up until three years ago a majority of the homeless were lifetime residents of the Islands.

- **ABOUT 28 PERCENT** of homeless individuals are Hawaiian or part-Hawaiian.

- **ABOUT 28 PERCENT** of the homeless are employed.

- **27 PERCENT** have some college education.

- **FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN** increased from 23 percent of the people in shelters in 2005 to 39 percent in 2012.

- **MORE PEOPLE TODAY** have been homeless for a year or more than in 2006.

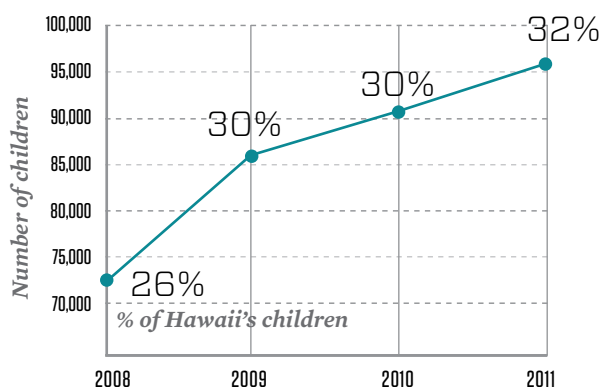
SOURCE: UH CENTER ON THE FAMILY, HOMELESS SERVICE UTILIZATION REPORT



PHOTO: DAVID CROXFORD

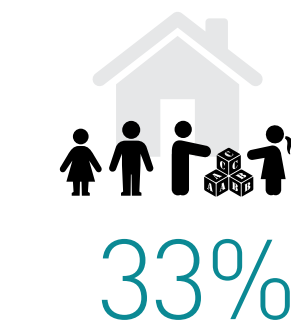
GROWING CONCERN

The number of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment is growing in Hawaii. "Without at least one parent employed full time, children are more likely to fall into poverty," says the Kids Count report by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.



SOURCE: KIDS COUNT REPORT BY THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION

INADEQUATE HOUSING FOR CHILDREN



Percentage of Hawaii children who live in "crowded housing," which is defined as more than one person per room.

SOURCE: KIDS COUNT REPORT

73%

Percentage of Hawaii's children who live in low-income households that spend more than 30 percent of that income on housing. Low income is defined as incomes that are 200 percent or less of the federally defined poverty level.

"MODEST LIVING STANDARD"

The Economic Policy Institute created a Family Budget Calculator for 2013 that measures the income families need for a "secure yet modest living standard" and is tailored for a city's specific costs. Honolulu's costs rank it as the third costliest city in the nation, after New York and Washington, D.C. Here are three budgets for Hawaii using the calculator at ww.epi.org/resources/budget:



Monthly costs for a family with 2 parents and 2 children in Honolulu

MONTHLY COSTS	
Housing	\$1,833
Food	\$754
Child Care	\$1,315
Transportation	\$607
Health Care	\$1,349
Other Necessities	\$662
Taxes	\$918

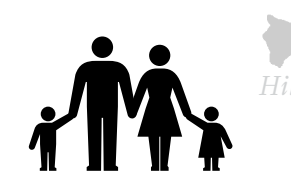
\$7,438 **\$89,255**
Monthly Total Annual Total



Monthly costs for a family with 1 parent and 1 child in Honolulu

MONTHLY COSTS	
Housing	\$1,833
Food	\$369
Child Care	\$725
Transportation	\$480
Health Care	\$885
Other Necessities	\$564
Taxes	\$1,021

\$5,877 **\$70,520**
Monthly Total Annual Total



Monthly costs for a family with 2 parents and 2 children in Hilo

MONTHLY COSTS	
Housing	\$1,314
Food	\$754
Child Care	\$1,315
Transportation	\$603
Health Care	\$1,278
Other Necessities	\$529
Taxes	\$698

\$6,491 **\$77,895**
Monthly Total Annual Total

HOW THE NUMBERS WERE CALCULATED

Housing: Based on Department of Housing and Urban Development fair market rents at the 40th percentile – the dollar amount below which 40 percent of standard-quality rental units are rented.

Food: Based on the "low-cost plan" outlined by the Department of Agriculture to achieve a nutritionally adequate diet. Assumes all food is bought at grocery stores and prepared at home.

Transportation: Based on the costs of owning and operating a car. Average miles driven determined geographically by National Household Travel Survey.

Childcare: For those budgets based on a single child, the cost is for a 4-year-old. For those budgets based on two children, one is a 4-year-old and the other is a school-age child. The costs are based

on the Child Care Aware of America annual report on the costs of childcare by state.

Healthcare: Insurance premiums and out-of-pocket expenses by geographic area.

Other necessities: Costs of clothing, personal care, household supplies, school supplies and other items of necessity from Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Expenditure Survey.

Taxes: Use National Bureau of Economic Research's Internet TAXSIM to gather information on federal personal income taxes, state income taxes and federal Social Security and Medicare payroll taxes.

Social and Cultural Map

Many factors divide Hawaii's people while some bring us together. These loops show how negative factors reinforce each other, making it harder to break out to better solutions.

REINFORCING LOOPS R1 & R2: SOCIAL/ECONOMIC DIVIDES

For Hawaii to thrive, people must interact well with those outside their income level and social group. When those relations break down, loyalty to your group grows and divisions between groups increase. One consequence: It becomes harder for poor and working-class people to rise beyond their parents' income, education and status. Another consequence: People compete for scarce resources rather than cooperate to enhance everyone's quality of life.

R3: CULTURAL DIVIDES LOOP

The increased number of inter-ethnic marriages shows that some barriers are breaking down. However, those marriages tend to be among people of similar income and education, which reinforces the divisions between economic groups.

BENEFICIAL LOOP B4: ALOHA

Hawaii has inherited and nurtures a culture of aloha that reduces the potential for destructive conflict and supports tolerance for people who are different from you.

R5 LOOP: SELF-EXPECTATIONS

Many measures show that social mobility – the likelihood that people can break out of poverty and earn more than their parents – has declined drastically in America. Reduced mobility leads to reduced expectations of what poor people can accomplish, including reduced expectations from society and from themselves. Reduced expectations lead people to make poorer career and life choices – almost a self-fulfilling prophecy about their status.

R6 & R7 LOOPS: CULTURAL INTERACTIONS

People from different backgrounds interact all the time through businesses, governments and other organizations. Friendly interactions – even simple ones – can help bridge the divides between groups, but when these interactions break down, divisions harden. Misunderstanding and conflict arise, often unintentionally, between people with different cultural expectations and different ways of solving (or avoiding) conflict. Such dysfunction hurts our ability to unite to solve problems and even damages our economy and

public policy, which further hardens our divisions.

LOOPS B9, B10 & R11: RESILIENCE AND UNMET NEEDS

Loyalties within groups and families encourage people to support each other. When people's needs are unmet, sometimes groups or families unite to help everyone get by. But when communities and families are not self-sufficient, it increases the strain on public programs that help people in need and strains resources such as housing. As needs go unmet, groups and families can lose even more self-sufficiency.

LOOPS 12A & 12B: LOCAL WAY OF DOING THINGS

These loops mirror each other and both can reduce the use of best practices, whether they originate from Hawaii or outside Hawaii. Both loops start with the belief that Hawaii is unique in many ways. In Loop 12a, this feeling of distinctiveness strengthens a belief in a local way of doing things – the belief that we have developed better ways of doing things tailored to our environment. That breeds resistance to good new ideas that may come from inside or outside Hawaii.

Leverage Point

"Intergroup agility" is crucial to Hawaii. It refers to a person's ability to mix easily, understand and empathize with different people – from other income and education levels, and from different ethnic and social groups. When that agility breaks down, our divisions harden.

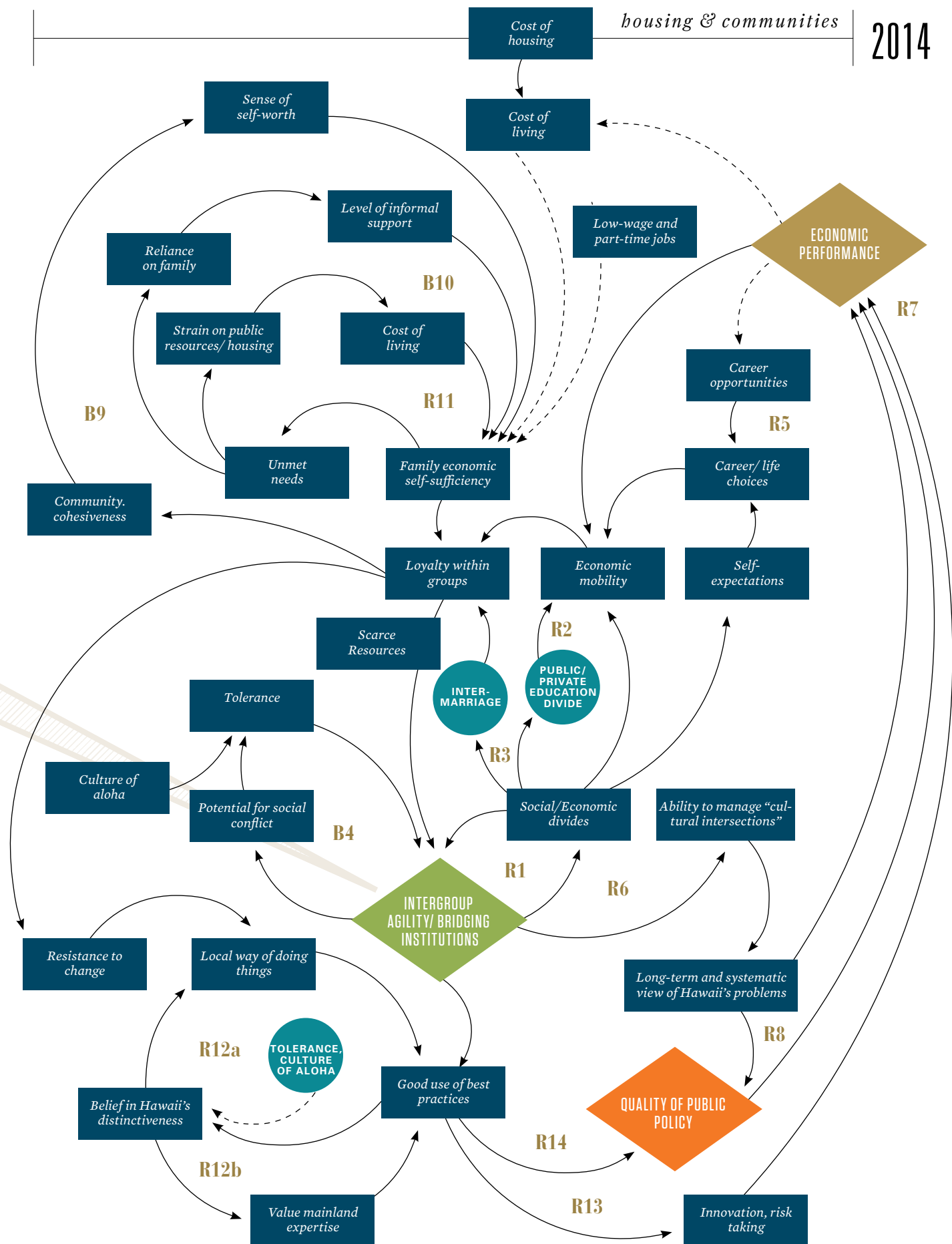
One thing that improves our intergroup agility is "bridging institutions," those organizations that cut across economic, social, ethnic and education divides. They bring different people together. In the past, those bridges included schools, business groups and ethnic groups, but now many of those organizations reinforce our divisions, not bridge them. We must rebuild our bridges.

Bridges are especially important during stressful times: That's when people bond more closely in their groups and sometimes create barriers between themselves and other groups. In those difficult times, we must work hard to cooperate in the interests of everyone – not compete for scarce resources.

In Loop 12b, the belief in Hawaii's distinctiveness focuses on Hawaii's shortcomings. It leads to a belief that anything from the mainland is superior. This leads to the over-use of mainland expertise at the exclusion of Hawaii's best practices.

R13 & R14 LOOPS: RESISTANCE TO CHANGE AND BEST PRACTICES

As social and economic mobility decreases and narrow group loyalties harden, people may become more attached to "the way things are." This resistance to change reduces the use of imported best practices and innovations that can help Hawaii.



INSPIRATION

When judges pass sentence, they often offer convicts a choice: prison or Habilitat. In fact, 85 percent of the rehab agency's population comes from Hawaii's prison system.

Success STORIES



**We're the place
where you send
people when all
else has failed."**

ONE WAY TO TRANSFORM LIVES

Habilitat has been treating hardcore substance-abuse patients for four decades with individual treatments that take years to complete. BY BEVERLY CREAMER

WHEN NO OTHER TREATMENT HAS SUCCEEDED, drug addicts are sent to Habilitat.

"In the industry, we're considered the last house on the block," says Jeff Nash, facility and program director since 2002. "We're the place where you send people when all else has failed."

Many substance-abuse programs last for six months, but the average stay at Habilitat is 24 to 30 months. That's a big commitment, but the results are encouraging. Nash says Habilitat tracks people for five years and has a 64 percent success rate based on three criteria: staying clean and sober, holding a job or going to school, and not being re-arrested for those five years.

Add that success rate to Habilitat's longevity – it's been in Hawaii for 43 years – and you have one of the state's best programs for hardcore addicts.

"A lot of times people from the mainland will come here, too. We have referral sources from Florida, Utah, California, Chicago and New York City. Counselors that work for other programs know about us, and when they see people struggling and not getting anywhere with short-term fixes, they will recommend Habilitat. It's considered the highest level of care – long-term and residential."

Working intensely with the court system, especially with judge Steven Alm, retired judge Michael Town and others, Habilitat can be an alternative to prison.

"Eighty-five percent of our population comes from the Hawaii prison system," says Nash. "They come to us instead of prison. They get arrested for a drug offense and they petition the judge in hopes they'll be able to come to Habilitat instead of incarceration. There's a big trend now of trying to shift the system to getting people to services they need rather than locking them up. It costs over \$100 a day per inmate in Hawaii, so the whole Judiciary works to get people into programs. It's much less costly to the taxpayer to send them to Habilitat instead of prison."

In fact, the state pays nothing to send a person to Habilitat, Nash says. Financing is provided by Habilitat's own fundraising, including Christmas tree sales and its construction and home-improvement company.

"If you're being faced with 20 years in prison or three years in Habilitat, it's a simple matter of math. And the judges create that motivation," Nash says.

The program's method is called the Therapeutic Community Model. "You bring someone into awareness of their thought patterns and help them change those patterns," says Nash. "You help them change their value systems, help them set up new morals and principles through changing their thought process."

The first nine months involves intensive therapy. After that, clients are usually ready for vocational training that includes eight-hours a day of on-the-job learning, usually as part of Habilitat's construction company.

"Most have spent nine months on our facility, sequestered here, so by the time they can go off property and work,



**We teach them
that successful
choices create
more choices for
themselves."**

they're excited," says Nash. "They're looking forward to a future."

The keys to Habilitat's success are the longevity of its treatment and the supportive community it creates, Nash says.

"One of the things we notice is you take away the drugs and they're not actually the problem. They're the symptom of the problem. Take away the drug use and you still have a person who has a lot of problems – lack of social skills, lack of vocational skills, lack of emotional security. They don't know how to deal with emotions. No one has taught them how."

Patients also learn that they have options. "We teach them that successful choices create more choices for themselves," Nash says. "We want them to understand there are choices for everything. We take the approach that they are in control of their lives and that addiction is not a disease, but a choice or a series of choices that led to the demise of one's life."

Nash is proud that Habilitat employs no psychiatrists and uses no psychotropic drugs or anti-depressants.

"We have people come to us on all kinds of heavy drugs and we get them off. Within a month they're not depressed; they're smiling, happy and have a purpose and a new direction and they understand they don't really need that stuff. We tell them, 'Your depression is now over.' We keep them busy.

"We're not about feeling sorry for ourselves. We're about choosing life." ■



Jeff Nash says the state pays nothing when it sends people to Habilitat. The center raises its money with Christmas tree sales, a construction and home-improvement business, and other fundraising efforts.

Combining the Maps

This overall systems map combines the three biggest maps from this report. This map does not recreate all the loops of the other maps, but refers to their numbers. Yes, this map is complex – just as Hawaii is complex. We believe a thoughtful study of this map will help you better understand Hawaii and suggest ways to improve its quality of life.

MAIN TAKEAWAYS

by James Koshiba, Mike Mohr, Steve Petranik and Robert Ricigliano

THE OVERALL SYSTEMS MAP opposite suggests three leverage points – places where engagement by leaders and citizens may produce disproportionately large benefits.

• **Intergroup Agility:** Often, when members of a group intensify their loyalty to each other, it hinders their willingness to reach out to people outside their group. We can help reverse this tendency by using bridging institutions and behavior.

One positive sign of our intergroup agility: Hawaii has more multiracial and multi-ethnic marriages than any other state. There's a catch, though: These marriages unite people of different ancestries, but the partners tend to come from the same economic and education level. The poor, middle class and affluent have little contact with each other, so there is more misunderstanding and fewer

shared ideas.

If these different people can come together in informal and social settings, then it will be easier to unite to face Hawaii's big challenges on divisive issues. If we succeed at bridging our divisions, building trust and finding common ground, the map suggests that the positive effects will ripple throughout society.

One way to encourage bridge-building is to highlight examples of people coming together across economic or social lines. Such examples would help all of us see others as potential allies in finding answers that benefit everyone, rather than competitors for scarce resources.

• **Citizen Engagement:** Can we restore civic engagement and people's trust in government? Possibly, by channeling dissatisfaction with government into creating new ways for people to

provide input and influence government. Similar mechanisms will also allow government to get better feedback and data on its policies and the effects of its policies.

There already have been important advances in how citizens can engage with government, from virtual forums and social media to improvements in how data can be gathered and analyzed to provide more evidenced-based policymaking and public understanding of the impacts of government policies. Pilot projects that use new ways to create better input and feedback would benefit policymakers, and citizens would be more likely to participate if they felt their voices are being heard.

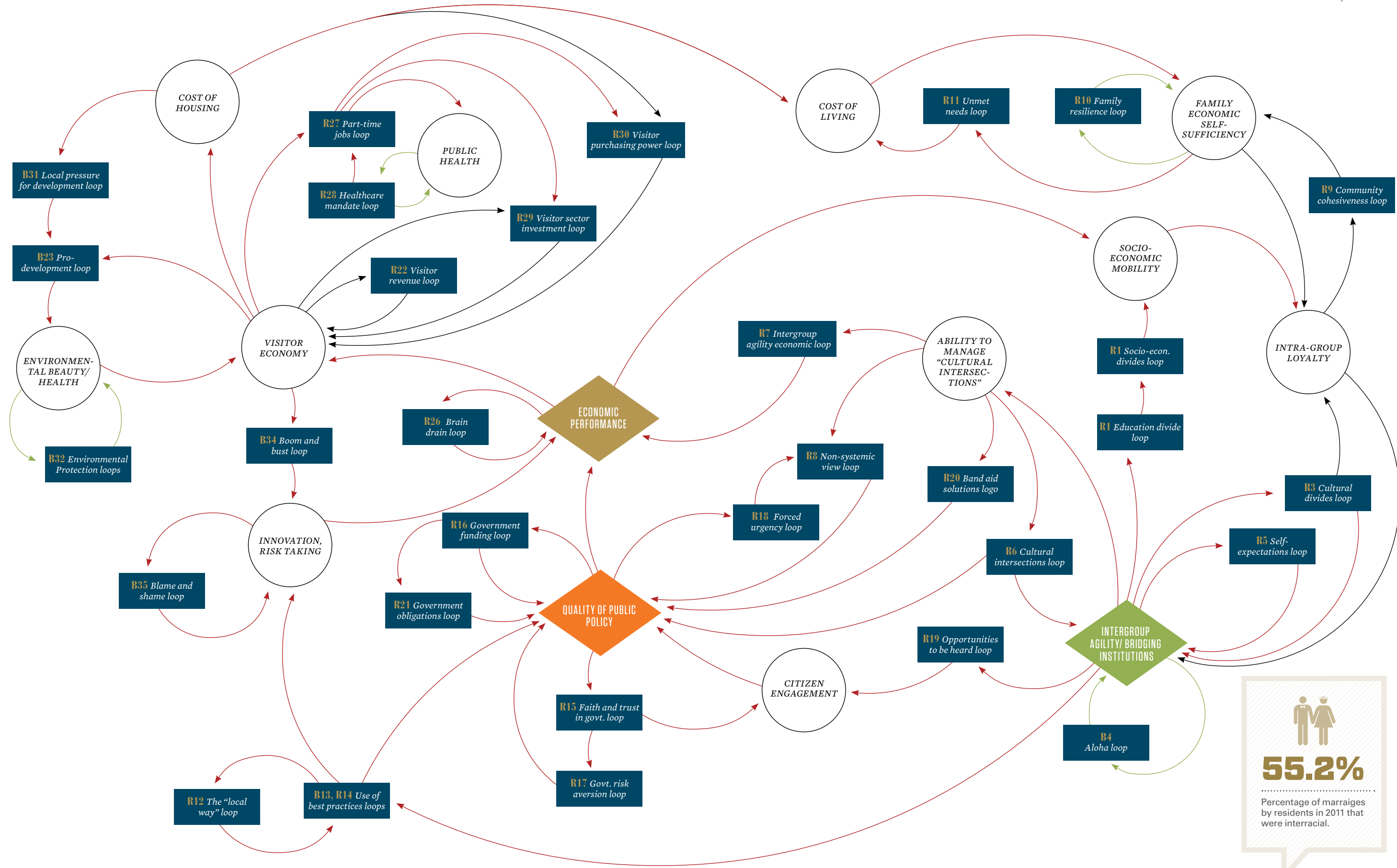
• **Economic Performance:** The visitor industry drives Hawaii's economy today and provides about 22 percent of state tax revenue.

But dependence on tourism leaves Hawaii at the mercy of global events outside our control. That dependence on visitors has also contributed to higher prices for housing and other essentials in Hawaii (see analysis on page 22-23). One solution is a more diversified economy, but getting there is challenging.

At times, state government policy has encouraged diversification: Act 221 used tax credits to fund the tech industry and solar energy tax credits encourage the production of alternative energy. One of the main criticisms of Act 221 is the government lacked the data to know what results the tax break created. If we take similar steps to encourage diversification in industries that seem well suited to Hawaii, the state needs to collect the data required to prove or disprove that the policies are working as intended.

Notes

- Red lines tend to hinder quality of life.
- Black lines tend to be stabilizing, but not necessarily improve quality of life.
- Green lines enable quality of life, either by stabilizing or by being a virtuous cycle.
- Potential leverage points are shown with colored diamonds.
- The black type is for key factors or core indicators of quality of life, such as public health and cost of living.
- Loops are labeled in blue.



Economic Mobility

Rags to riches rarely happens, but Hawaii has better outcomes on average than America as a whole. By Steve Petranik

THE AMERICAN PROMISE that anyone who works hard can do better than their parents has been tarnished by the reality of how few people rise out of poverty. However, it happens more often in Hawaii's cities than in most of America and we'll get to that in a moment.

First, America as a whole. The Economic Mobility Project of the Pew Charitable Trusts tracked families from 1968 to today and found that 43 percent of Americans raised in families within the bottom 20 percent of the income ladder were still there as adults. Only 4 percent of those poor children made it into the wealthiest one-fifth of American households.

Other countries fare much better on economic mobility: Canada, the United Kingdom and the Scandinavian countries are among

those where fewer than 30 percent of the people born into the bottom quintile stay there as adults.

A separate study by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago in 2007 found that economic mobility in America "increased from 1950 to 1980 but has declined sharply since 1980."

Mobility is usually easier in America's big cities than in rural areas, according to a study from the Equality of Opportunity Project, lead by researchers from Harvard University and the University of California at Berkeley. Honolulu ranked 13th highest in mobility among the nation's top 100 commuting zones, with 10.1 percent of those born into the bottom fifth of income reaching the top fifth in adulthood. Salt Lake City had the best odds, 11.5 percent, and Memphis the

worst, at 2.6 percent.

Here's how other Hawaii cities ranked by that same measure:

- Kapaa: 10.1
- Kahului: 8.7
- Hilo: 8.2

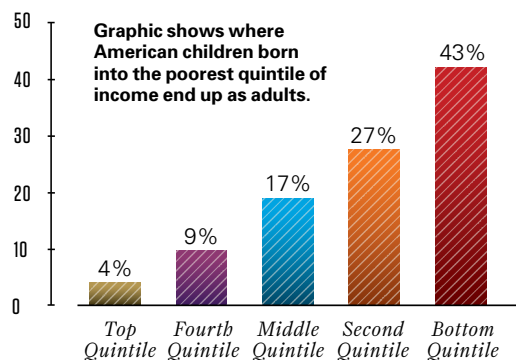
The project also calculated Absolute Upward Mobility: What happens in adulthood, on average, to a child born to parents at the 25th percentile of national income. The best score on Absolute Upward Mobility was 63.8 for the town of

Bowman, N.D., which meant that the average person born there into the 25th income percentile made it, on average, to the 63.8 income percentile as an adult. Here's how Hawaii cities did on Absolute Upward Mobility:

- Honolulu: 44.7
- Kapaa: 44.4
- Kahului: 43
- Hilo: 40.5

The worst ranking went to Mission, S.D., with an outcome of 26.

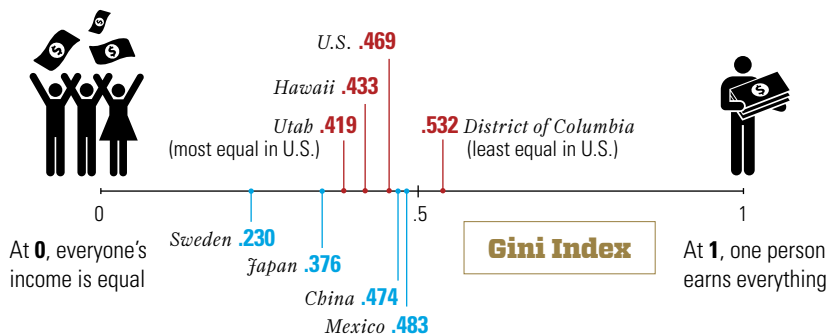
SOURCE: ECONOMIC MOBILITY PROJECT



INCOME EQUALITY AND INEQUALITY

The most common measure of income equality is the Gini index. A score of 0 means complete equality; everyone has the same income. A score of 1 is complete inequality; one person earns all the income.

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU 2010; OTHER COUNTRIES: CIA WORLD FACTBOOK, VARIED YEARS FROM 2005 TO 2012.



Hawaii

Quality of Life Report 2014

HawaiiBusiness

Read this report online at HAWAIIQUALITYOFLIFE.ORG.



Mahalo to Our Sponsors



ISLAND INSURANCE
COMPANIES



Hawaiian Electric
Maui Electric
Hawai'i Electric Light



We Welcome Your Feedback

PLEASE LET US KNOW what you liked and disliked about this Quality of Life Report, and what we should do in the next edition. Send comments to: feedback@hawaiiqualityoflife.org. The systems maps in this report are a work in progress. We plan to continue to refine them, both as a way to understand Hawaii and to help all of us change Hawaii for the better. Your thoughts on the maps are especially welcome.