Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Populations in the U.S. During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Takeaways on Structural Racism

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What is structural racism?

• The ways in which societies foster racial discrimination through systems (e.g. housing, education, wealth, health care, immigration policy, incarceration, etc.)…reflected in history, culture, and institutions.

  –Bailey et al. 2017
Who are Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPIs)?
Appendix.

Detailed Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (NHPI) Groups

The map illustrates how the detailed NHPI groups in the report are classified within the Polynesian, Micronesian, and Melanesian groupings. This illustration reflects the Census Bureau's implementation of race and ethnicity standards prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget, rather than any representation of distinct geographic boundaries. The largest detailed NHPI group is shown in parentheses. Detailed NHPI groups not shown are generally tabulated in a broader category (e.g., "Rapa Nui" or "Easter Island" responses are tabulated in the "Other Polynesian" category). Some respondents self-reported their association with an island region (e.g., "Mariana Islander" or "Carolinian").
A brief history of NHPIs in the U.S.
Social determinants of NHPI health & COVID-19 risk

• Sāmoans (16%), Tongans (16%), and Guamanians/Chamorros (11%) have higher poverty rates compared to Whites (7%)

• More Tongans (26%), Marshallese (24%), Fijians (17%), Guamanians/Chamorros (16%), and Sāmoans (15%) are uninsured compared to Whites (11%)
Social determinants of NHPI health & COVID-19 risk

- Higher neighborhood poverty and neighborhood environmental pollution
- Highly communal
  - More likely to live in inter-generational homes
  - More likely to live in more crowded living conditions, especially in dense urban areas
Social determinants of NHPI health & COVID-19 risk

- Overrepresented in essential workforce & at-risk jobs
  - Food preparation (meat packing)
  - Health care aides
  - Store clerks/cashiers
  - Military
  - Security officers
  - Transportation/delivery
  - Grounds maintenance
  - Hand laborers
Pre-existing chronic conditions

- Higher prevalence of
  - Cancer
  - Cardiovascular disease
  - Obesity
  - Diabetes
  - Asthma
  - Smoking/vaping
State COVID-19 Case Rates by Race and Ethnicity per 100,000

Alaska
Arkansas
California
Hawai‘i
Illinois
Ohio
Oregon
Utah
Washington

Legend:
- Orange: Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander
- Blue: American Indian/Alaskan Native
- Green: Black or African American
- Teal: Asian
- Yellow: Hispanic
- Purple: White
States where NHPIs are disaggregated
NHPI Community Resilience:

Pacific Islander COVID-19 Response Team
The Future of Leadership:

NHPI COVID-19 Data Policy Lab
As of: August 23, 2020
Total NHPI COVID-19 Cases: 12,513

Arkansas
NHPI COVID-19 Cases: 2,343
NHPI COVID-19 Case Rate per 100,000: 24,930.84
NHPI Case Rate Ranking (compared to other racial and ethnic groups): 1

Case Rate per 100,000 by Race and Ethnicity

Arizona reports Asian as a panracial category including Asian Pacific Islander and Native Hawaiian.

https://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/health-profiles/Pages/NHPI-COVID-19-Dashboard.aspx
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