Hawaiian Matters:
Data Considerations for Native Hawaiian Populations

NCVHS Subcommittee on Populations
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Los Angeles, California
Overview

- **Data Definitions**
  - Grouped race categories
  - Multiple races
  - Bridges between old & new definitions

- **Data Sources**
  - Small populations
  - Respondents
  - Cross-sectional vs. longitudinal data

- **Data Quality**
  - Health issues
  - Language & culture

- **Recommendations**
Definitions: Grouped Data

- Some statistical organizations continue to report “API” as a single group.
- Although convenient, grouping broad racial/ethnic groups washes over salient differences.
- OMB Directive No. 15 Revisions: NHOPI
Example: Educational attainment

- Figures for “Asian/Pacific Islander” from March 2002 CPS suggest high attainment among Hawaiians.
- Census 2000 (SF3) data show lower estimates for “Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders”
- Aloha Counts (special Census 2000 tabulations) isolate estimates to Hawaiians alone.

![Bar Chart]

- Bachelor's degree
- Graduate degree
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Definitions: Multiple Races

- Only 1/3 of all Hawaiians reported a single race in Census 2000.
- Although a recent phenomenon in federal statistics...
- … Long history of interracial marriage and multi-racial population in Hawai`i.
Example: Multiple Races

Definitions: Bridges

- Racial classifications can change over time
- Conflict between consistency and quality of the data
- OMB Directive No. 15 Revisions:
  - Institute changes by 2003
  - Provide bridges between old & new data
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• Recommendations
Data Sources

- What are the current obstacles to collecting data on Native Hawaiians?
- Are these barriers unique to the Native Hawaiian population?
- What types of data are needed?
Sources: Small Population

• Although it is difficult (and expensive) to capture Hawaiians using random sampling techniques...

• Sufficient sample sizes are needed in order to conduct statistical analyses

• Over-sampling under review:
  - Stratified, cluster techniques
  - Geography not necessarily the answer
**Example: NHOPI on Mainland**

All geographic entities (outside Hawai`i) with at least 20% NHOPI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>At least 20% NHOPI</th>
<th>Number of block groups</th>
<th>Number of Census tracts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alone (one race)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alone or in combination (one or more races)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Special Census 2000 tabulations performed by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Race and Ethnicity Advisory Council (REAC), May, 2003.
Sources: Respondents

- Among Hawaiians, “in-person” efforts more culturally acceptable than “detached” methods.
- Concepts of o`hana, pono, malama affect relationships with respondents.
- Attention to cultural differences can result in successful coverage.
Sources: Longitudinal Data

- Most current data sources are cross-sectional in nature
- Trends are crucial in ongoing analyses of Native Hawaiian well-being and health
- Longitudinal analysis especially suited to Hawaii owing to uniqueness of (relative) geographic isolation
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Quality: Health Issues

- Current research shows Hawaiians:
  - Are less likely to be insured or to seek treatment
  - Are more likely to experience domestic violence or substance abuse

- Important measures:
  - Help-seeking and risk behaviors
  - Chronic illnesses, cancer, obesity
  - Detection and treatment
(Rates age-adjusted per 100,000 [1970 US Population])

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>1976-80</th>
<th>1986-90</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>14.69</td>
<td>37.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>30.29</td>
<td>30.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>10.06</td>
<td>13.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>17.69</td>
<td>18.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filipino</td>
<td>11.75</td>
<td>15.89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Quality: Language & Culture

- Language revival
- Native Hawaiian health practices
- Differing family structures
- Western vs. Hawaiian values and priorities
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• Recommendations
Recommendations

- Improve coverage of Native Hawaiians
  - Over-sampling, targeted surveys, etc.
  - Especially on mainland
- Collect and report detailed race groups
  - Disaggregate traditional “API” group
- Develop longitudinal data sets
  - Trend analysis, individual development
- Consider cultural factors
  - Language, community and *aloha*
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In Hawai`i: Data Sources

• State DOH data sources
  - Hawai`i Health Survey
  - Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System
  - Hawai`i Annual Vital Statistics

• Other data sources
  - Hawaiian Community Survey
  - The State of Hawai`i Data Book
  - Hawai`i Tumor Registry
  - Native Hawaiian Data Book
In Hawai`i: Talk Story

- Face-to-face interviews
- Language flexibility: Hawaiian, Hawaiian Pidgin, Tagalog, etc.
- *Talk story*
- Communication of results
In Hawai`i: Community

- Hawai`i DOH
- Papa Ola Lokahi
- University of Hawai`i’s John A. Burns School of Medicine
- Kamehameha Schools - PASE
- Hawai`i DOE
- Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)
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Mahalo.