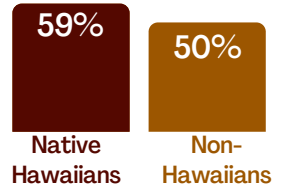


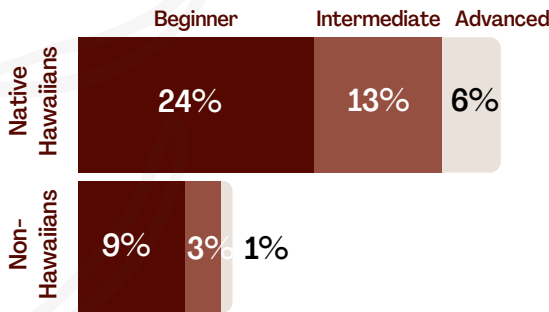
'Ōlelo Hawai'i Among Native Hawaiians

Responses from the 2023 'Imi Pono Hawai'i Wellbeing Survey

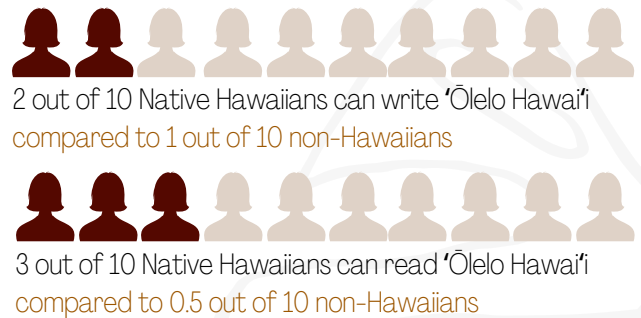
1 The majority of Native Hawaiians have a strong understanding of common words in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i. The percentage of Native Hawaiians who understand common Hawaiian words (59%) is higher than non-Hawaiians (50%).



2 The percentage of Native Hawaiians who report fluency levels with common Hawaiian words well exceeds non-Hawaiians.



3 A greater proportion of Native Hawaiians compared to non-Hawaiians report proficiency in reading and writing 'Ōlelo Hawai'i.



4 The vitality of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i lives and thrives within the 'ohana and various social and community contexts. As a percentage of all responses, informal settings are nests for the proliferation of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i as opposed to more formal settings like work and school.



5 On average, Native Hawaiians engage substantially more in community-based 'Ōlelo Hawai'i programs than non-Hawaiians. 32% of Native Hawaiians participate in school or community based 'Ōlelo Hawai'i programs at least once a month compared to 19% non-Hawaiians.

6 Once faced with near extinction, a revitalization of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i over the past few decades has contributed to a deepening connection and understanding of our cultural heritage.

Native Hawaiians are almost twice as likely (1.8x) as non-Hawaiians to believe that their wellbeing is linked to preserving their cultural heritage. This highlights how much Native Hawaiians value their cultural heritage, which underscores the importance of preserving and perpetuating 'Ōlelo Hawai'i.

Recommendations

- Sponsor 'Ōlelo Hawai'i events to engage community members and encourage its continuous use in informal settings.
- Increase the prevalence of bi-lingual ('Ōlelo Haole and 'Ōlelo Hawai'i) publications particularly within government professions and in educational settings.
- Host more community-based education classes to further support the language development of intermediate and advanced 'Ōlelo Hawai'i speakers.
- Conduct research on fluency levels of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i and their connection to, or influence on, a positive cultural identity.