



STATE OF HAWAI'I • DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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# Quality of Life in Hawai'i: 2024 Update

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Department of Business, Economic  
Development & Tourism  
Research and Economic Analysis Division

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# INTRODUCTION

## Overview

In 2008, the Hawai‘i Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) contracted with the University of Hawai‘i Center on the Family (COF) to create a set of community quality of life (QOL) measures for the state to assist economic initiatives, state and county planning, and social service programs to identify trends and critical factors relating to the community’s well-being. The result, *Quality of Life in Hawai‘i 2009 Report: Framework, Indicators, and Technical Documentation* (Yuan et al.), presented a comprehensive QOL framework and indicators, with the COF focusing on developing indicators that would allow stakeholders to cost-effectively monitor changes in the community’s QOL.

Regularly updating QOL indicator data is important to maintaining the usefulness of the QOL framework and reassessing economic initiatives, state and county planning, and social service programs. While some of this can be done via the annual *State of Hawai‘i Data Book* from DBEDT, which provides comprehensive statistics, many QOL indicators are not regularly published in the data book or are published in a fashion that limits the ability to evaluate whether there have been improvements to the QOL. The first update was published in year 2020, the *Quality of Life in Hawai‘i: 2019 Update*. The second update was published in year 2022, the *Quality of Life in Hawai‘i: 2022 Update*. The current report provides an update to the previous update.

## The Concept of Quality of Life

Quality of life is a broad concept that describes and assesses people’s well-being. The term, which emerged in the 1960s, questioned the simplistic assumption about the relationship between economic growth and social well-being (Sirgy et al., 2006). Although economic well-being is positively correlated to some QOL aspects such as life expectancy, educational attainment, and human rights, some studies have demonstrated that economic progress does not always guarantee, and may even be inversely related to, other aspects of well-being such as personal happiness, community safety, and a healthy environment (Diener & Suh, 1997; Bognar, 2005).

While there is no generally accepted definition of QOL, the concept is widely considered to be an outcome of the interaction of various conditions in the economic, health, social, and environmental domains that shape the shared experiences of individuals and their families in the communities where they live (Myers, 1987; National Research Council, 2002; Ferriss, 2006). In accordance with this ecological perspective, the concept of social cohesion was found to be particularly relevant in assessing the collective well-being of residents at the county and state levels. Social cohesion characterizes relationships among community members and creates constraints and opportunities that affect these relationships and the well-being of the constituent parts of the community. Notions of shared values, common identity, a sense of belonging, trust among individuals and toward institutions, and social inclusion and participation are included in the concept of social cohesion that can be readily related to QOL. Berger-Schmitt (2002) identified two main dimensions in social development – strengthening social ties and

commitments and reducing disparities and inequalities – which are conceptually linked to social cohesion. From this perspective, a community’s success in fostering social ties and commitments, and in reducing disparities and inequalities in various QOL domains, influences the quality of life of the community as a whole.

## **Hawai‘i’s Quality of Life Initiatives: 2024 Update**

Concerns about the long-term viability of Hawai‘i’s economy culminated in various initiatives from 2005 to 2010. For example, Act 8, Special Session Laws of Hawai‘i 2005, established the Hawai‘i Sustainability Task Force, which was tasked to develop a *Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability Plan*; the Center on the Family (COF) at the University of Hawai‘i, in collaboration with the Aloha United Way (AUW), published the first *Quality of Life in Hawai‘i* report with county-level data in 2005; and Act 148, Session Laws of Hawai‘i 2007, designated DBEDT to conduct research and policy development related to emerging industries. To further assist with economic initiatives, state and county planning, and social service programs, DBEDT contracted with the COF to produce a quality-of-life report, which was published in 2009 (*Quality of Life in Hawai‘i 2009 Report: Framework, Indicators, and Technical Documentation*, by Yuan et al.).

More recently, Love and Garboden (2019) look for determinants of individual well-being in Hawai‘i, focusing on how various individual and community factors might cause or be correlated with an individual’s perception of well-being. In addition, the *Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability Plan*, published in 2008, was recently followed by a *Ten-Year Measurement Update* in 2018. In the spirit of evaluating the progress towards the 2050 sustainability plan in the *Ten-Year Measurement Update*, this report presents an update to the 2022 update, allowing stakeholders to assess how the community’s QOL has evolved.

## **Structure of Update**

The information in this update is presented in the following order:

- *Measuring Quality of Life* presents the QOL framework, QOL indicators, data collection and analysis methods, and data limitations.
- *Summary Findings* summarizes findings on QOL in Hawai‘i in terms of its relative standing to the national average, progress over time, and variation across counties.
- *Sections A to F* focus on individual QOL domains and begin with the presentation of key findings and a summary table of the most recent indicator data and findings, followed by detailed information on each indicator within the domain. The information for each indicator includes: why the indicator is important, Hawai‘i’s status on this indicator, trend data for the United States (U.S.) and for the state and counties of Hawai‘i, technical notes, and data sources.

# MEASURING QUALITY OF LIFE

## Quality of Life Framework

This report presents a framework that integrates trend reporting of key QOL conditions, outcome reporting of societal goals, and evaluation of social cohesion to inform broad policy direction and to engage stakeholders in effecting positive changes in their community. From the review of the QOL literature and county QOL reporting in the U.S., six major domains that constitute the well-being of a community were identified: economic, education, environment, health, housing & transportation, and social. Guided by the integrated framework, four major measurement dimensions for each domain (for a total of 24 dimensions across the six domains) that address key living conditions, outcomes of societal goals, and social ties and inequalities in Hawai‘i (see Table 1).

## Quality of Life Indicators

The selection process for the indicators began with a comprehensive review of the research literature, national and international QOL projects, and previous work undertaken in Hawai‘i, which led to the compilation of an initial set of indicators based on the proposed QOL framework. The final set of indicators, which was narrowed down to 68, was screened to meet the following five selection criteria:

- *Relevancy* – measures a concept or issue that is clearly relevant to the community.
- *Validity* – accurately reflects or assesses the specific concept or issue that it is measuring.
- *Acceptability* – can be easily understood or accepted by the community.
- *Reliability* – is comparable across time and geographical locations.
- *Availability* – has data available in a timely, efficient, and cost-effective manner over the long term.

As shown in Table 1, there are between two and six indicators in each domain-dimension. Tables 3 to 8 in the following sections of this report contain the list of indicators by the six domains.

**Table 1. Quality-of-Life Framework and Indicator Counts**

Domain and Dimension	No. of indicators
<b>A. Economic</b>	<b>9</b>
1. Standard of Living	3
2. Income Inequality	2
3. Employment	2
4. Compensation and Work Hours	2
<b>B. Education</b>	<b>10</b>
1. Attainment	2
2. Performance	4
3. Readiness	2
4. Participation in Higher Education	2
<b>C. Environment</b>	<b>10</b>
1. Pollution	4
2. Conservation	2
3. Consumption	2
4. Recycling	2
<b>D. Health</b>	<b>17</b>
1. Mortality	5
2. Health Status	3
3. Disease Prevention	6
4. Access to Care	3
<b>E. Housing &amp; Transportation</b>	<b>10</b>
1. Affordable Housing	3
2. Unmet Housing Needs	2
3. Housing Characteristics	2
4. Commuting Patterns	3
<b>F. Social</b>	<b>12</b>
1. Public Safety	5
2. Family Relationship	3
3. Community Connectedness	2
4. Social Participation	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>68</b>

## Data Analysis

QOL analysis was conducted at the indicator, dimension, and domain levels. Specifically, the relative standing of QOL in Hawai‘i is analyzed from three perspectives:

- *Compared to the nation:* For the same indicator for the most current available year, state data is compared to national data (usually the mean; median when noted). For positive indicators (e.g., per capita income), a higher value indicates the outcome is better; for negative indicators (e.g., violent crime rate), a higher value indicates the outcome is worse.
- *Comparison over time:* The average annual growth rate of an indicator is calculated to determine if the state is progressing over time (i.e., an increase for a positive indicator, and a decrease for a negative indicator). Generally, the benchmark year is ten years prior to the latest available data. However, in some cases the data does not go back ten years, and in these cases the earliest data point available is used.

Note: The methodology for calculating the *Comparison over time* from reports 2019 and prior were revised in the 2022 update. In earlier versions, the total percent change between two periods was reported. However, due to variations in reported time spans for different data sets, the methodology for this report has been updated to calculate the average annual growth rate. The average annual growth rate allows for comparisons across data sets that may have slightly different time spans.

- *Comparison across counties:* Using the most current available year, data are first compared to determine if any county differences exist for an indicator. The counties with the highest and lowest indicator values are then compared to determine ranks. The county with the best outcome on an indicator is ranked on highest.

Results of the analysis are presented using the following symbols.

**Table 2. Symbols Used in the Report**

Compared to the nation	Comparison over time	Comparison across counties	Other symbol
⊖ HI better than the nation	↑ HI improved	■ Top-ranked County	… Data not available
◎ No difference	↔ No change	■■ Mid-ranked County	
⊕ HI worse than the nation	↓ HI worsened	■■■ Bottom-ranked County	
		□ No difference	

Two summary QOL scores are calculated for each domain: one for Hawai‘i’s standing compared to the nation, and one for Hawai‘i’s change over time.

The methodology for calculating Hawai‘i’s comparison to the nation and across time were updated from previous reports.

For compared to the nation summaries, indicators within each dimension are counted if better than the nation and averaged to obtain dimension scores, which then are summed to obtain domain scores. Summary results over 50 percent indicate Hawai‘i performed better than the nation in the QOL indicators, below 50 percent indicate Hawai‘i performed worse than the nation and if 50 percent than no difference.

For Hawai‘i’s change over time summaries, indicators within each domain are counted if improved over time and averaged to obtain dimension scores, which then are averaged to obtain domain scores. Summary results over 50 percent indicate Hawai‘i performed better than the nation in the QOL indicators, below 50 percent indicate Hawai‘i performed worse than the nation and if 50 percent than no difference.

## **Limitations**

While the selection of indicators emphasized the availability of national, county, and trend data, some indicators that lack one of these dimensions were included because they provided the best data available for measuring a specific QOL dimension. When an indicator’s national data and county data were not comparable due to the use of different measurements, the latter was focused on to facilitate county comparisons. National data for several indicators were not reported, while other indicators had the closest proxy in the indicator’s breakdown (but not in summary tables) to provide an idea of how the state compares to the nation (e.g., voted in elections).

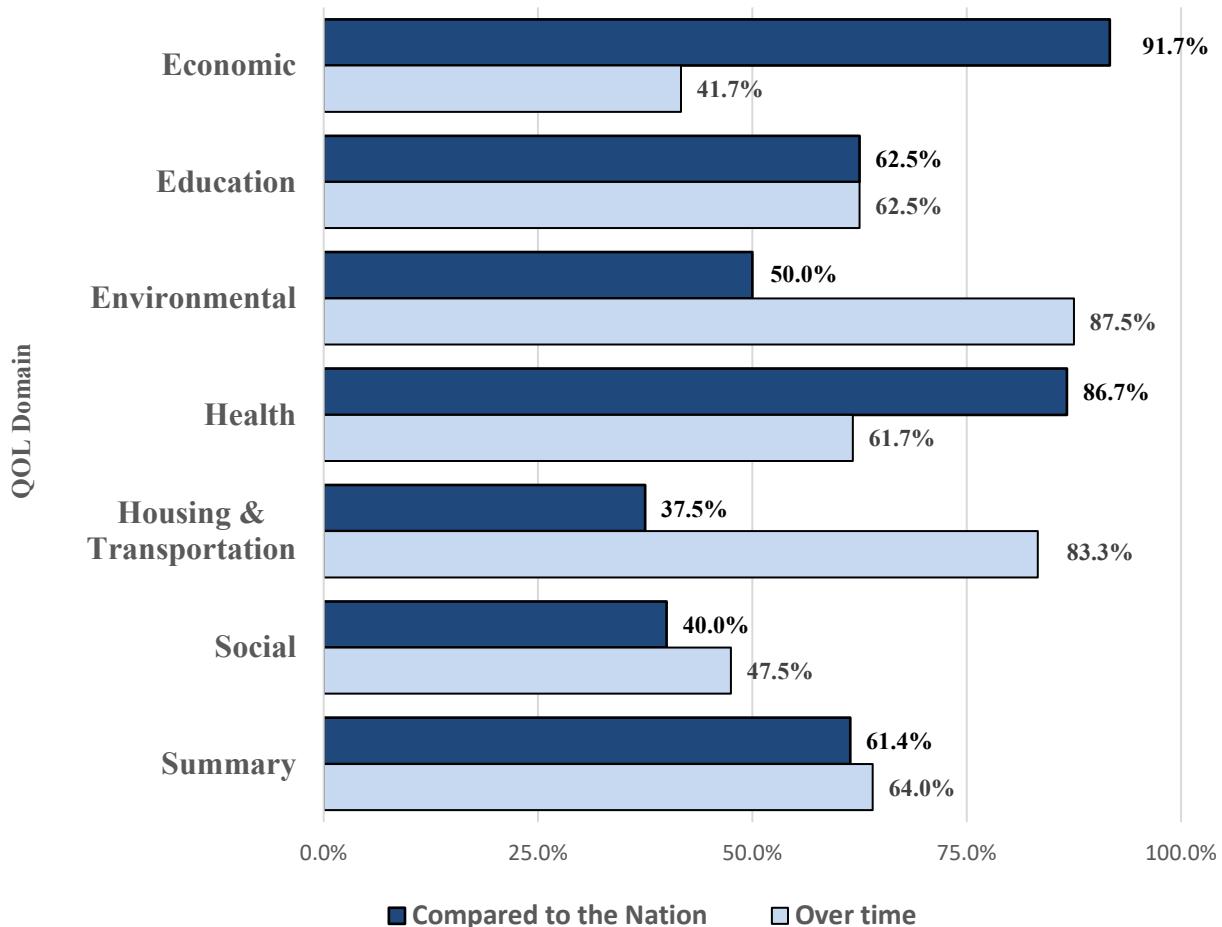
Like previous QOL reports, this report is based on data collected from governmental and other public sources, which generally suffer from a lack of positive indicators relating to well-being. Moreover, there is an absence of data on concepts that may play important roles in influencing QOL, such as the *aloha spirit*, as these are difficult to quantify.

Note that there is a time lag between data collection and reporting; therefore, even the most recent available data may not reflect real-time conditions.

Data was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic beginning in 2020. The effects from the pandemic are still far from being understood, however, shocks in the QOL data for the years beginning in 2020 are noticeable. Also, due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. Census Bureau determined the standard 2020 ACS 1-year estimates did not meet its statistical quality standards and decided to ultimately release estimates as an experimental product (Villa Ross, 2021). Unfortunately, even with modifications focusing on known sources of bias, the Census Bureau determined that the estimates did not satisfy statistical quality standards as it became apparent that the data collected overrepresented the population that was more educated, had higher incomes, and lived-in single-family housing units (U.S. Census, 2021). In addition, the experimental 2020 ACS data does not cover all the usual annual ACS indicators and does not include county level data. Due to these reasons, the experimental 2020 ACS data was not used as an alternative source.

## SUMMARY FINDINGS

**Figure 1. Quality of Life - Summary Scores**



Summary scores over 50 percent indicate Hawai‘i performed better compared to the nation or over time, scores under 50 percent represent worse than the nation and scores equal to 50 percent represent no difference. Hawai‘i's Quality of Life is in higher than the nation and has improved over time.

### Hawai‘i's QOL Compared to the Nation

#### **Hawai‘i fared better than the nation.**

In summary, Hawai‘i's QOL domains performed better than the nation, with a weighted average of 61.4 percent. Hawai‘i performed better than the nation in the economic, education, and health domains. There was no difference between Hawai‘i and the nation in the environmental domain. Hawai‘i performed worse than the nation in the housing & transportation and social domains.

## Hawai‘i's QOL Over Time

### Hawai‘i improved over time.

In summary, a weighted average of 64.0 percent of Hawai‘i's QOL domains performed better over time. Hawai‘i performed better over time in the education, environmental, health, and housing & transportation domains. Hawai‘i performed worse over time in the economic and social domains.

## Hawai‘i's QOL Compared Across Counties

*Overall, the City and County of Honolulu ranked highest and Hawai‘i County ranked worst the most often amongst the comparable QOL indicators.*

### Hawai‘i County:

Hawai‘i County ranked best in 17.5 percent of comparable indicators overall amongst the counties. Hawai‘i County was the leader amongst the counties in performing best in the housing & transportation domain and performed best in four of its nine comparable indicators: rental and housing cost burden, homeownership rates, and had fewer older structures. In comparing the county's performance amongst the domains, it performed best in the environmental and housing & transportation domains, performing best in 44.4 percent of comparable indicators in both these domains.

Overall, Hawai‘i County performed worst compared to the other counties. Across domains and compared to the other counties, Hawai‘i County ranked worst in all but two domains (environmental and tied Maui for worst in the social domain). Hawai‘i County ranked worse in over 52.6 percent of comparable indicators amongst the counties. Hawai‘i County underperformed the other counties the most in the economic and education domains, performing worse in 77.8 percent and 71.4 percent of comparable indicators, respectively. Also notably, Hawai‘i County performed worse in 66.7 percent of the health domain indicators compared to the other counties.

### City and County of Honolulu:

The City and County of Honolulu was the leader amongst the counties in performing best overall and ranked best in 40.4 percent of the comparable indicators. The county ranked best in two domains (social and economic) and tied Kaua‘i for best in the health domain. Socially, the City and County of Honolulu had lower rates of drug-related arrest, child abuse and neglect, domestic abuse, and idle youth than the other counties. Notably for Honolulu's economy, it maintained the highest per capital income at \$64,936, the highest median earnings at \$46,309, and the lowest economic dependency.

The City and County of Honolulu performed worst in 19.3 percent of comparable indicators overall amongst the counties, and amongst domains ranked worst in the housing & transportation domain. The county had a higher rental cost burden, less homeownership, and older housing structures than the next county by over 17.0 percentage points.

**Kaua‘i County:**

Kaua‘i County ranked best in a third of comparable indicators amongst the counties and ranked worst in over 14.0 percent. Among the domains and compared to the other counties, Kaua‘i County ranked best in the environmental domain (55.6 percent) and tied the City and County of Honolulu for best in the health domain (33.3 percent). The county performed mid-ranked in the economic, education, housing & transportation, and social domain indicators.

**Maui County:**

Maui County ranked best in around 15.8 percent of comparable indicators amongst the counties and ranked worst in over 21.1 percent. It ranked middle in the economic, education, health, and housing & transportation domain indicators. Maui County performed the worst amongst the counties in the environmental domain (33.3 percent) and matched Hawai‘i County in performing worse in the social domain and its indicators.

## A. ECONOMIC DOMAIN AND INDICATORS

Hawai‘i’s economic domain consists of nine indicators within four dimensions: standard of living, income inequality, employment, and compensation and work hours. Based on the QOL economic domain as summarized in Table 3, Hawai‘i outperformed the nation in all four dimensions, though, only four of the nine indicators improved over time.

Hawai‘i fared better than the nation in eight of the nine comparable economic domain indicators. Hawai‘i’s per capita income, was around \$3,600 below the nation. The nation’s average annual growth rate in per capita income was over 1.5 percent, well above Hawai‘i growth rate of 1.1 percent. Since the nation’s real per capita income grew faster than Hawai‘i over time, the gap between the two increased. Suggesting less improvement in living standards for the State of Hawai‘i compared to the nation. On the other hand, median earnings for people aged 16 and over in Hawai‘i surged to \$45,043 in 2022, 5.9 percent above national median earnings. Suggesting purchasing power for Hawai‘i residents has increased, fueled by low unemployment and growth in hours worked per week. Hawai‘i’s income was distributed more uniformly and there was less income concentrated in the top 20 percent income group than the nation. Hawai‘i’s poverty rate was almost three percentage points lower than the nation.

Hawai‘i improved over time in four of the nine indicators and remained unchanged for one indicator. Hawai‘i improved the most over time in lowering unemployment. Income inequality in Hawai‘i worsened with income distribution and income share of households in the top 20 percent income group indicators increasing the most over time.

**Standard of living:** In 2022, Hawai‘i residents earned about \$3,600 less per capital income than the nation; the per capital average annual growth rate in Hawai‘i was about a half a percentage point below that of the nation. Hawai‘i had 2.6 percentage points lower poverty than the nation. Also in year 2022, Hawai‘i had a smaller percentage of households receiving SNAP/food stamps.

**Income inequality:** Income was distributed more equally in Hawai‘i than for the nation. The Gini index, a measure of income inequality, was almost three points lower in Hawai‘i than nationally. The income share of Hawai‘i households in the top 20 percent was almost three percentage points below the nation. However, the Gini index in Hawai‘i increased at a rate faster than for the nation, at 0.7 percent versus 0.2 percent on average annually over time. Meaning since 2012, high-income individuals received larger percentages of the population's total income. As the Gini index increased faster in Hawai‘i than for the nation, so did Hawai‘i's income share of households in the top 20 percent, at 0.6 percent increase versus 0.2 percent annually on average for the nation.

**Employment:** In 2022, Hawai‘i had a lower dependency ratio than the nation with about two fewer people per 100 not in the labor force. Hawai‘i's unemployment rate(3.5 percent) differed little from the national one (3.6 percent).

**Compensation and work hours:** While workers in Hawai‘i earned a higher median wage than their national counterparts, they worked slightly less per week than the national average. In

Hawai‘i, median wages improved, and average hours worked per week stayed unchanged over time.

### **County comparisons**

- Hawai‘i County had the most favorable outcome for average hours worked per week for ages 16 to 64. However, the county had the least favorable conditions and ranked last in seven of the nine economic indicators.
- The City and County of Honolulu had the most favorable conditions for four of the nine indicators: per capita income, economic dependency ratio, the unemployment rate, and median earnings. Unfavorably, the Honolulu County had the most average hours worked per week.
- Kaua‘i County had the most favorable conditions for two of the nine indicators: Gini index of income inequality and income share of households in the top 20 percent of income – making Kaua‘i County the best in terms of income inequality amongst the counties. Kaua‘i County had the least favorable outcome median earnings, which trailed national levels.
- Maui County had the most favorable conditions for three of the nine indicators: poverty rate, households receiving SNAP/food stamps, and the unemployment rate.

**Table 3. Economic Domain: Data and Findings**

Economic Indicators	Year	U.S.	HI	Hawai‘i, compared to the nation	Hawai‘i: Over time <sup>(1)</sup>		County			
					Average Annual Growth	Improved or Worsened	Hawai‘i	Honolulu	Kaua‘i	Maui
<b>Standard of Living</b>										
<b>A01. Per capita income</b> , in 2022 dollars	2022	\$65,470	\$61,779	🟡	1.1%	↑	\$49,476	\$64,936	\$56,697	\$60,376
<b>A02. Poverty rate</b> , % of people	2022	12.6%	10.0%	🟡	-1.6%	↑	14.6%	9.3%	9.1%	9.0%
<b>A03. Households receiving SNAP/food stamps</b> , % of households with at least one child under 18	2022	12.4%	11.7%	🟡	0.3%	↓	17.6%	10.4%	16.0%	10.1%
<b>Income Inequality</b>										
<b>A04. Gini index</b> , scale of 0-100	2022	48.6	45.7	🟡	0.7%	↓	48.5	45.3	43.1	44.7
<b>A05. Income share of households in the top 20% income group</b> , % of total income	2022	52.0%	49.1%	🟡	0.6%	↓	51.1%	48.7%	48.6%	48.7%
<b>Employment</b>										
<b>A06. Economic dependency ratio</b> , number of people in the total population who are not in the labor force per 100 who are	2022	94.7	93.0	🟡	0.4%	↓	120.8	88.0	..	89.7
<b>A07. Unemployment rate</b> , % of people who are jobless, looking for a job, and available for work	2022	3.6%	3.3%	🟡	-5.6%	↑	3.6%	3.5%	3.6%	3.5%
<b>Compensation and Work Hours</b>										
<b>A08. Median earnings</b> , people aged 16 and older with earnings in the past 12 months, in 2022 dollars	2022	\$42,542	\$45,043	🟡	1.6%	↑	\$42,245	\$46,309	\$40,777	\$44,099
<b>A09. Working hours</b> , Average hours worked per week for 16-64 ages	2022	38.7	38.6	🟡	0.0%	↔	37.2	38.9	38.0	38.3

Symbols: .. Data not available; 🟢 HI better than the nation, ⚪ No difference, 🟠 HI worse than the nation; ↑ HI improved, ↔ No change, ↓ HI worsened;

■ Top-ranked county, ■■ Mid-ranked county, ■■■ Bottom-ranked county, □ No difference

(1) Benchmark years annotated in appendix

## A01. Per capita income

Average income per person

### Why is this important?

This indicator assesses the economic health of a population. Personal income affects many areas of concern, including access to adequate housing, healthcare, higher education, safety, nutritious food, and clean water. In general, strong economic resources can contribute to a higher quality of life. As an average measure, per capita income tells us how well income growth has kept up with population growth. Changes in per capita income are useful in gauging local economic conditions and trends over time, though they need to be kept in context with changes in the cost of living.

### How are we doing?

In the ten years through 2022, the nation's average annual growth rate in per capita income was over 1.5 percent, well above Hawai'i growth rate of 1.1 percent. Since the nation's real per capita income grew faster than Hawai'i over time, the gap between the two increased. By 2022, Hawai'i's per capita income of \$61,779 was over \$3,600 lower than the national level. The City and County of Honolulu maintained the highest per capital income amongst the counties in 2022, \$64,936, 31 percent higher than Hawai'i County's which had the lowest at \$49,476.

### Indicator A01. Per capita income

Area / Year	2012	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	\$56,387	\$59,342	\$59,713	\$60,895	\$62,129	\$63,586	\$66,888	\$69,586	\$65,470
State of Hawai'i	\$55,152	\$57,283	\$57,852	\$58,679	\$58,801	\$60,516	\$63,032	\$65,452	\$61,779
Hawai'i County	\$41,151	\$44,496	\$44,940	\$46,128	\$46,447	\$48,245	\$50,338	\$53,867	\$49,476
C&C Honolulu	\$59,412	\$61,129	\$61,724	\$62,425	\$62,322	\$63,715	\$66,609	\$68,358	\$64,936
Kaua'i County	\$46,366	\$50,273	\$50,863	\$52,057	\$53,607	\$56,237	\$58,600	\$60,680	\$56,697
Maui County	\$49,053	\$51,618	\$52,267	\$53,475	\$54,296	\$57,531	\$58,487	\$64,199	\$60,376

### Technical notes:

The Bureau of Labor Statistics' CPI-U and CPI-U Urban Hawai'i were used to inflate the data to 2022 dollars for the U.S. and Hawai'i, respectively. Per capita income is calculated by dividing the total income of residents by the total number of residents. Data for the years 2013 and 2014 were not included due to space limitations, however, as they are not needed for the ten-year comparisons. It is also worth noting that the surges in 2020 and 2021 levels, which were not maintained in 2022, may be attributed in part to federal stimulus payments made directly to individuals related to COVID-19 financial stresses.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012, 2015–2022  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. (November 29, 2023). SAINC1: Personal income summary: personal income, population, per capita personal income. *Personal income by state*. Retrieved from <https://apps.bea.gov/iTable/index Regional.cfm>

- U.S./HI, 2012, 2015–2022  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. (November 29, 2023). CAINC1: Personal income, population, per capita personal income. *Personal income by county, metro, and other areas*. Retrieved from <https://apps.bea.gov/iTable/index Regional.cfm>
- U.S./HI, 2012, 2015–2022  
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (November 29, 2023). All urban consumers (current series). *Consumer Price Index (CPI) databases*. Retrieved from <https://www.bls.gov/cpi/data.htm>

A02. Poverty rate
Percentage of people living below the federal poverty thresholds

### Why is this important?

This indicator gauges the percentage of individuals with an inadequate standard of living and limited access to food, clothing, shelter, health care, and education, all of which determine quality of life. Other challenges associated with poverty include stress, strained family relationships, unaffordable childcare, unsafe environment, and transportation difficulties, which are associated with financial insufficiency.

### How are we doing?

Hawai‘i’s poverty rate has remained below the national level since the turn of the century. In year 2022, Hawai‘i’s poverty rate rose to 10.0 percent, but stayed below the national level of 12.6 percent. While overall poverty rates have declined since 2012, the decline has been greater nationally (-20.8 percent) than in Hawai‘i statewide (-15.3 percent). Hawai‘i County continues to have the highest poverty rate amongst the counties and higher than the national level. Still, Hawai‘i County made the greatest improvement during the decade through 2022 compared to the other counties, with the percentage of people living below the federal poverty thresholds declining by 22.8 percent. Maui County took the lead from the City and County of Honolulu with the lowest poverty rates during year 2022.

#### Indicator A02. Poverty rate

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	15.9%	15.8%	15.5%	14.7%	14.0%	13.4%	13.1%	12.3%	11.9%	12.8%	12.6%
State of Hawai‘i	11.8%	11.2%	11.5%	10.7%	9.5%	9.5%	9.0%	9.0%	8.9%	10.9%	10.0%
Hawai‘i County	18.9%	19.5%	18.1%	18.3%	15.4%	15.0%	15.6%	13.1%	12.2%	14.7%	14.6%
C&C Honolulu	10.4%	9.6%	9.8%	9.2%	8.5%	8.3%	7.7%	7.9%	8.0%	10.0%	9.3%
Kaua‘i County	11.2%	10.7%	13.1%	10.7%	9.5%	10.0%	8.5%	9.3%	9.9%	11.2%	9.1%
Maui County	12.3%	11.8%	12.3%	11.2%	8.1%	10.1%	8.6%	10.7%	9.5%	11.4%	9.0%

The federal poverty thresholds do not consider various factors that affect people’s economic wellbeing, including the cost of living, which can offset high incomes or improve purchasing power of low-income people. Nor does it incorporate taxes or certain government benefits. The U.S. Census Bureau attempts to enhance the poverty measure with the supplemental poverty measure, which incorporates cost of living, taxes, and government benefits into its estimation. For the 2020-2022 period, Hawai‘i was about one percent below the nation according to the supplemental poverty measure. For the periods analyzed, while this measure decreased for both Hawai‘i and the nation, Hawai‘i improved less.

#### Indicator A02b. Supplemental poverty measure

Area / Year	2013-2015	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020	2019-2021	2020-2022
United States	14.5%	13.7%	12.9%	12.3%	11.5%	11.2%	11.2%	11.5%
State of Hawai‘i	10.9%	10.3%	10.2%	9.5%	9.4%	9.5%	10.1%	10.2%

**Technical notes:**

The federal poverty thresholds do not vary across states, but they are updated annually for inflation. Poverty rate statistics for ages under 5 years are available only at the state level.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2012–2022  
U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE). (February 12, 2024). Poverty and median household income estimates - counties, states, and national. *SAIPE state and county estimates, various years*. Retrieved from <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe.html>
- U.S./HI, 2013–2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (November 29, 2023). Number and percentage of people in poverty by state using 3-year average. *The Supplemental Poverty Measure, various years*. Retrieved from <https://www.census.gov/library/publications/2023/demo/p60-280.html>.

### A03. Households receiving SNAP/food stamps

Percentage of households with at least one child under 18 receiving SNAP or food stamps

#### Why is this important?

This indicator measures child poverty. Families are eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits if their monthly net income falls below 100% of the poverty level, monthly gross income falls below 130% of the poverty level, or monthly income falls below 200% of the poverty level and the family has high expenses. Households where all members receive or are authorized to receive TANF or SSI cash assistance are categorically eligible for SNAP. Research shows that children from low-income families are more likely to lack the resources needed to meet daily-living needs, perform poorly academically, and be at risk for child abuse or neglect.

#### How are we doing?

In 2022, 11.7 percent of Hawai‘i households with at least one child under 18 received SNAP benefits. This fell below the national average of 12.4 percent. However, the percent of Hawai‘i’s households receiving SNAP grew faster than for the nation. Hawai‘i grew 0.3 percent on average annually, while the nation declined 0.9 percent on average annually. In 2022, Hawai‘i County continued to have the highest percentage of households receiving SNAP benefits, at 17.6 percent. The same year, the City and County of Honolulu had continued to have the lowest percentage, at about 10.4 percent, though this was above the 2012 to 2022 average level of 9.5 percent.

#### Indicator A03. Households receiving SNAP/food stamps

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	13.6%	12.4%	13.5%	13.2%	13.0%	12.6%	11.3%	10.7%	12.4%	12.4%
State of Hawai‘i	11.3%	10.2%	11.3%	11.3%	11.6%	11.4%	10.0%	10.4%	12.6%	11.7%
Hawai‘i County	19.0%	16.8%	19.4%	18.7%	19.5%	19.5%	19.1%	18.7%	20.2%	17.6%
C&C Honolulu	9.0%	8.6%	9.8%	9.7%	9.9%	10.0%	8.3%	9.0%	11.1%	10.4%
Kaua‘i County	11.2%	9.9%	9.5%	10.2%	10.1%	9.4%	8.8%	9.9%	14.0%	16.0%
Maui County	15.2%	11.5%	11.1%	11.8%	11.9%	10.5%	8.4%	7.7%	11.4%	10.1%

#### Technical notes:

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) annual data for year 2020 was not available.

#### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012-2019, 2021-2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (November 30, 2023). S2201: Food stamps/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>

**A04. Gini index**

Gini index (0-100) of income distribution

**Why is this important?**

The Gini index, ranging from 0 to 100, provides a summary measure of income inequality within a population and indicates how much the income distribution differs from a perfectly equal income distribution. A measure of 100 indicates perfect inequality, i.e., one person has all the income while the rest has none. A measure of 0 indicates a perfect equal-sharing of income among all people. This index is also useful in measuring relative changes in income inequality over time. A decreasing Gini index indicates an improvement in income equality.

**How are we doing?**

Across all periods analyzed, income was distributed more uniformly in Hawai‘i compared to the nation, as demonstrated by a lower Gini index (most recently 45.7 in Hawai‘i compared to 48.6 in the U.S.). The exception remains Hawai‘i County, which had a Gini index in line with the national average at 48.5 in 2022. Both Maui and Kaua‘i Counties saw significant reductions in income inequality in 2022, while the City and County of Honolulu recorded its highest Gini index level since 2012.

**Indicator A04. Gini index**

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	47.6	47.4	48.0	48.2	48.2	48.2	48.5	48.1	48.5	48.6
State of Hawai‘i	42.6	43.1	43.3	43.5	44.2	44.6	44.5	44.0	45.5	45.7
Hawai‘i County	46.6	46.1	48.7	44.3	46.7	46.5	50.7	46.2	49.5	48.5
C&C Honolulu	41.4	42.0	41.7	43.2	43.0	43.9	43.0	43.5	44.1	45.3
Kaua‘i County	39.4	42.1	43.3	40.8	42.0	39.6	43.1	41.6	45.3	43.1
Maui County	43.5	44.0	44.2	42.1	46.1	45.3	44.0	43.3	48.3	44.7

**Technical notes:**

U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2012-2019, 2021-2022

U.S. Census Bureau. (November 30, 2023). B19083: Gini index of income inequality. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## A05. Income share of households in the top 20% income group

Percentage of income shared by households in the top 20% income group

### Why is this important?

Income allows various means for meeting one's needs and goals. However, income also enables individuals to accumulate wealth, power, and influence, which may have important implications in a democratic society. The Gini index is a broad measure of income distribution and (in)equality; the income share of households in the top quintile is a narrower measure of income concentration, measuring how much of total income is concentrated in households in the top 20% income group. An increasing concentration of income suggests greater inequality in a community. This also reflects changes in the distribution of most other income sources. Therefore, a decreasing percentage of income-share of the top 20% income households reflects a reduction in income inequality.

### How are we doing?

Hawai‘i’s top 20 percent of households in income share had a smaller percentage of total income than the nation during the year 2022 (49.1 percent versus 52.0 percent, with both levels rising by 0.2 percentage points from previous year). For both Hawai‘i and the nation, these increases are part of an ongoing trend, meaning income has become more concentrated among high income households. However, only the City and County of Honolulu saw the level rise in 2022.

### Indicator A05. Income share of households in top 20% income group

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	50.9%	51.4%	51.4%	51.5%	51.6%	51.6%	51.8%	51.6%	51.8%	52.0%
State of Hawai‘i	46.1%	47.5%	46.8%	47.1%	47.7%	47.9%	48.0%	47.5%	48.9%	49.1%
Hawai‘i County	48.9%	49.9%	51.0%	46.7%	50.2%	49.1%	53.4%	49.1%	52.7%	51.1%
C&C Honolulu	45.2%	46.4%	45.6%	47.1%	46.8%	47.5%	46.7%	47.3%	47.5%	48.7%
Kaua‘i County	43.6%	48.4%	46.6%	44.6%	44.8%	42.1%	46.5%	45.4%	49.2%	48.6%
Maui County	47.7%	48.0%	48.1%	46.1%	49.4%	48.8%	48.2%	47.2%	51.6%	48.7%

### Technical notes:

U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012-2019, 2021-2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (November 30, 2023). B19082: Shares of aggregate household income by quintile. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

**A06. Economic dependency ratio**

Number of people in the total population who are not in the labor force per 100 of those who are

**Why is this important?**

The economic dependency ratio measures the extent of a community's population that is not participating in the labor force, and is an indicator of the economic responsibility of those who are economically active in providing for those who are not. An economic dependency ratio of less than 100 means there are more economically active people than non-economically active people. Economic dependency is directly related to the number of children (17 years and below) and older adults (65 years and over), and to some degree, the health of the economy and workforce. More people will be active in the labor force (employed or looking for a job) if the economy is growing or if the workforce is educated and/or experienced.

**How are we doing?**

The economic dependency ratio is prone to fluctuations, something the effects of the pandemic magnified. After surging in 2021 in Hawai‘i (versus 2019 levels), the ratio declined in 2022, following national trends. The City and County of Honolulu continued to have the state's lowest economic dependency ratio, with 88 people who are not in the labor force per 100 people who are. The Hawai‘i County level continued to be strikingly high, with 20.8 percent more people out of the labor force than in it.

**Indicator A06. Economic dependency ratio**

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	97.8	98.2	98.6	98.8	98.4	97.7	97.2	96.0	97.3	94.7
State of Hawai‘i	89.3	92.1	91.4	89.7	88.8	89.5	88.7	90.0	95.0	93.0
Hawai‘i County	108.4	109.0	119.5	117.0	116.6	110.6	109.9	109.1	115.7	120.8
C&C Honolulu	86.9	91.1	87.5	85.6	84.7	86.2	84.7	86.6	91.5	88.0
Kaua‘i County	93.6	95.3	92.9	98.4	95.0	88.5	104.2	107.3	93.8	..
Maui County	82.4	79.2	86.0	88.2	86.2	87.2	88.3	87.2	94.1	89.7

**Technical notes:**

U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available and was not available for Kaua‘i County during year 2022. The total population includes the Armed Forces and children. The number of people in the labor force includes those who are either employed or unemployed but willing and able to work and looking for a job.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2012–2019, 2021-2022

U.S. Census Bureau. (November 30, 2023). B23001: Sex by age by employment status for the population 16 years and over; B01003: Total population. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

### A07. Unemployment rate

Percentage of people who are jobless, looking for a job, and available for work

#### Why is this important?

This indicator, which is a basic measure of the unutilized labor supply of a community, reflects the availability of jobs and opportunities. Because the unemployment rate only considers those who are jobless and looking for work, the unemployment rate tends to underestimate the unemployment situation of a region, as it does not include underemployed workers or those who have given up job-seeking because they believe no jobs are available to them. Prolonged unemployment may lead to difficulty in meeting the basic necessities of daily living and can make it increasingly difficult to find a job.

#### How are we doing?

Before 2020, the unemployment rate in Hawai‘i had been lower than the national average. The situation was reversed in both 2020 and 2021, but returned to more normal levels in 2022, with the state unemployment rate declining to 3.3 percent. Historically, unemployment rates in the City and County of Honolulu have been significantly lower than those in other counties; that difference vanished in 2022, with all four counties reporting similar rates.

#### Indicator A07. Unemployment rate

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	8.1%	7.4%	6.2%	5.3%	4.9%	4.4%	3.9%	3.7%	8.1%	5.3%	3.6%
State of Hawai‘i	5.9%	4.8%	4.2%	3.4%	2.9%	2.2%	2.4%	2.5%	11.7%	6.0%	3.3%
Hawai‘i County	8.1%	6.4%	5.3%	4.2%	3.5%	2.6%	2.9%	3.2%	11.4%	5.7%	3.4%
C&C Honolulu	5.3%	4.3%	4.0%	3.2%	2.7%	2.1%	2.3%	2.4%	10.2%	5.5%	3.2%
Kaua‘i County	7.1%	5.4%	4.6%	3.8%	3.1%	2.2%	2.4%	2.5%	16.2%	8.1%	3.4%
Maui County	6.3%	5.0%	4.3%	3.5%	3.0%	2.3%	2.3%	2.4%	17.7%	7.6%	3.2%

#### Technical notes:

Data are annual averages of the unemployment rate that is not seasonally adjusted.

#### Data source/s:

- US, 2012–2022  
U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. (November 30, 2023). Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population, 1948 to date. *Labor force statistics from the Current Population Survey*. Retrieved from <https://www.bls.gov/cps/data.htm>
- HI, 2012–2022  
State of Hawai‘i Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Research & Economic Analysis. (November 30, 2023). Not seasonally adjusted labor force data. Retrieved from <https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/datawarehouse/>.

## A08. Median earnings

Median earnings for people aged 16 and over with earnings in the past 12 months

### Why is this important?

This indicator measures how well people's work provides access to food, clothing, shelter, and transportation—all of which determine quality of life. An increase in earnings indicates greater discretionary income for the purchase of goods and services, and plays a significant role in ensuring that individuals can be financially independent and more economically secure in the future.

### How are we doing?

For year 2022, the median earnings for people aged 16 and over in Hawai‘i was surged to \$45,043, 5.9 percent above national median earnings. The City and County of Honolulu had the highest median earnings amongst the counties at \$46,309. Median earnings growth from 2021 to 2022 ranged from 5.9 percent (Honolulu) to 21.1 percent (Kaua‘i), levels well above that seen nationally.

### Indicator A08. Median earnings

Area / Year	2012	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	\$38,437	\$38,131	\$38,764	\$39,002	\$40,171	\$41,130	\$41,804	\$43,482	\$42,542
State of Hawai‘i	\$38,348	\$39,127	\$40,019	\$40,517	\$41,675	\$40,304	\$43,107	\$42,129	\$45,043
Hawai‘i County	\$32,698	\$35,492	\$35,889	\$35,784	\$35,453	\$35,261	\$35,429	\$37,593	\$42,245
C&C Honolulu	\$40,270	\$41,099	\$40,844	\$41,900	\$43,169	\$42,370	\$44,388	\$43,727	\$46,309
Kaua‘i County	\$36,367	\$37,904	\$40,762	\$36,862	\$42,225	\$37,836	\$40,897	\$33,675	\$40,777
Maui County	\$34,891	\$37,535	\$40,441	\$37,237	\$43,287	\$39,229	\$41,515	\$38,167	\$44,099

### Technical notes:

Median earnings were adjusted to 2022 dollars. The Bureau of Labor Statistics' CPI-U and CPI-U Urban Hawai‘i were for the U.S. and Hawai‘i, respectively. U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available. Data for the years 2013 was not included due to space limitations, however, was not needed for comparison over time estimations.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012, 2014–2019, 2021-2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (December 1, 2023). S2001: Earnings in the past 12 months. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.
- U.S./HI, 2012, 2014–2019, 2021-2022  
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (December 1, 2023). All urban consumers (current series). *Consumer Price Index (CPI) databases*. Retrieved from <https://www.bls.gov/cpi/data.htm>

**A09. Usual hours worked**

Mean usual hours worked in the past 12 months for workers 16 to 64 years

**Why is this important?**

This indicator addresses the effects of working hours on fatigue, health, and safety outcomes and work-life balance. Every hour spent at work is one less hour that can be spent with family or friends, or pursuing personal interests.

In previous reports, working long hours, “percentage of employed people aged 25-64 who usually work 41 hours or more per week,” was used instead of usual hours worked. This indicator was updated to usual hours worked due to availability of data.

**How are we doing?**

Usual hours worked per week rebounded in Hawai‘i in 2022, a trend not seen nationally, where there has historically been less fluctuation. The rebounds were more striking in Kaua‘i and Maui Counties, which had seen the greatest declines from 2019 to 2021.

**Indicator A09. Usual hours worked per week**

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	38.4	38.5	38.6	38.7	38.7	38.8	38.9	38.8	38.7	38.7
State of Hawai‘i	38.7	38.8	38.8	38.9	38.9	38.8	38.6	39.0	38.0	38.6
Hawai‘i County	36.7	35.6	36.3	37.4	37.4	37.2	36.5	38.1	37.2	37.2
C&C Honolulu	39.4	39.6	39.5	39.2	39.3	39.1	39.0	39.5	38.5	38.9
Kaua‘i County	37.0	37.1	37.4	38.5	38.3	38.1	38.2	38.0	36.0	38.0
Maui County	37.1	38.0	37.7	38.6	37.9	38.9	38.7	38.0	36.8	38.3

**Technical notes:**

Usual hours worked per week worked in the past 12 months was asked of people 16 years old and over who indicated that they worked during the past 12 months. The respondents were to report the number of hours worked per week in the majority of the weeks they worked in the past 12 months. If the hours worked per week varied considerably during the past 12 months, the respondent was to report an approximate average of the hours worked per week. This indicator changed from the previous reports and thus should not be compared. U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2012–2019, 2021-2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (December 1, 2023). B23020: Mean usual hours worked in the past 12 months for workers 16 to 64 years. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## B. EDUCATION DOMAIN AND INDICATORS

Hawai‘i’s education domain consists of a total of ten indicators within four dimensions: attainment, performance, readiness, and participation in higher education. As summarized in Table 4, Hawai‘i’s performance is mixed across the dimensions.

Hawai‘i fared better than the nation in four of the seven comparable indicators. Hawai‘i performed particularly well compared to the nation with a higher percentage of people aged 25 and over who have high school degrees, higher percentage of eighth grade students at or above proficiency in reading according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), and more lifelong learners. Hawai‘i also had higher combined average SAT math and critical reading scores among college-bound seniors than the nation. Hawai‘i did not perform as well as the nation with eighth graders showing lower proficiency in mathematics according to NAEP and lower on-time high school graduation rates.

Hawai‘i’s education indicators improved over time in six of the ten indicators. Hawai‘i improved the most over time, three percent on average annually, with a higher percentage of people aged 25 and over who have high school degrees. Hawai‘i declined the most over time in meeting the state’s standards in mathematics, the life-long learners, and in the college going rate.

**Attainment:** With regards to education attainment, Hawai‘i’s share of people aged 25 and over with a high school degree or equivalent grew to over three percentage points higher than the national level. However, its share of people 25 and older with bachelor’s degrees slipped slightly below the overall nation. Both education attainment indicators improved over time with the percentage of people aged 25 and over without a high school degree decreasing by three percent on average annually.

**Performance:** Hawai‘i had about 52.0 percent of its students meeting state standards in language arts and about 40.0 percent of its students meeting them in mathematics. Over time, Hawai‘i’s percentage of students meeting state standards in language arts grew by one percent on average annually, with the percentage of students meeting them in math declining by 0.3 percent on average annually. Hawai‘i trailed the nation in the percentage of eighth grade students who scored at or above NAEP proficiency in mathematics, but overperformed by two percentage points in those who scored at or above NAEP proficiency in reading. Over time Hawai‘i improved in NAEP proficiency in reading. However, it failed to improve over time in NAEP proficiency in mathematics.

**Readiness:** Average SAT scores for Hawai‘i students were 86 points higher than the nation overall. However, Hawai‘i fell behind the nation by one percentage point in on-time high-school graduation rates.

**Participation in higher education:** Participation in higher education declined over time in Hawai‘i, with decreases in the percentage of high-school seniors going to college and life-long learners. Both indicators of higher education participation decreased by more than one percent on average annually.

## County comparisons

- Hawai‘i County performed worst in the education domain, underperforming the other counties in meeting Hawai‘i's standards in language arts and mathematics, in the rate of high-school seniors going to college, and in producing lifelong learners.
- The City and County of Honolulu performed the best in the education domain, ranking highest in six of the seven comparable indicators and mid-ranked for the remaining one.
- Kaua‘i County had the highest percentage of high school students graduating on time for public schools among the state's four counties. However, it had the highest percentage of people aged 25 and older without a high school degree.
- Maui County was mid-ranked for all but one education indicator. It ranked lowest in the percentages of people aged 25 and older with a bachelor's degree or higher.

**Table 4. Education Domain: Data and Findings**

Education Indicators	Year	U.S.	HI	Hawai‘i, compared to the nation	Hawai‘i: Over time <sup>(1)</sup>		County			
					Average Annual Growth	Improved or Worsened	Hawai‘i	Honolulu	Kaua‘i	Maui
<b>Attainment</b>										
<b>B01. Less than high school degree, % of people aged 25 and over</b>	2022	10.4%	7.1%	⊖	-3.0%	↑	7.4%	7.0%	7.8%	7.1%
<b>B02. Bachelor’s degree or higher, % of people aged 25 and over</b>	2022	35.7%	35.4%	⊖	1.6%	↑	32.1%	37.7%	29.2%	29.0%
<b>Performance</b>										
<b>B03. Meeting Hawai‘i standards in math, % of students</b>	22-23 <sup>(3)</sup>	..	40.0%	..	-0.3%	⬇	27.0%	44.0%	36.0%	29.0%
<b>B04. Meeting Hawai‘i standards in language arts, % of students</b>	22-23 <sup>(3)</sup>	..	52.0%	..	1.0%	↑	40.0%	55.0%	48.0%	43.0%
<b>B05. At or above 8th-grade proficiency in math, % of 8th-grade students</b>	21-22 <sup>(3)</sup>	26.0%	22.0%	⊖	-2.8%	⬇	..	..	..	..
<b>B06. At or above 8th-grade proficiency in reading, % of 8th-grade students</b>	21-22 <sup>(3)</sup>	29.0%	31.0%	⊖	1.6%	↑	..	..	..	..
<b>Readiness</b>										
<b>B07. On-time graduation, % of high school students</b>	2020 <sup>(2)</sup>	87.0%	86.0%	⊖	0.4%	↑	82.0%	87.0%	93.0%	82.0%
<b>B08. SAT score of college-bound seniors, combined average scores of math and critical reading</b>	2023	1,028	1,114	⊖	1.2%	↑	..	..	..	..
<b>Participation in Higher Education</b>										
<b>B09. College-going rate, seniors</b>	2022 <sup>(4)</sup>	..	51%	..	-1.3%	⬇	40.0%	52.0%	42.0%	45.0%
<b>B10. Lifelong learning, % of people aged 25-35 enrolled in college or graduate school</b>	2022	10.2%	11.2%	⊖	-1.6%	⬇	0.7%	14.1%	5.4%	5.3%

Symbols: .. Data not available; ⊖ HI better than the nation, ⊖ No difference, ⊖ HI worse than the nation; ↑ HI improved, ↔ No change, ↓ HI worsened;

■ Top-ranked county, ■ Mid-ranked county, ■ Bottom-ranked county, □ No difference

(1) Benchmark years annotated in appendix

(2) County data year 2022

(3) School Years

(4) Class of 2022

### B01. Less than high school degree

Percentage of people aged 25 and over with less than a high school degree

#### Why is this important?

This indicator provides information on the status of the education system in a community. High school education lays the foundation for a community's economic growth and competitiveness and expands access for learning and job opportunities for individuals. Having less than a high school education is associated with lower personal income, less favorable working conditions, and lower civic participation. It is also associated with higher unemployment rates and higher participation rates in public assistance programs. A decreasing percentage of people with less than high school education indicates an improving education system, which leads to better quality of life of the community.

#### How are we doing?

Hawai‘i performed better than the nation with a lower percentage of people aged 25 and over with less than a high school degree in year 2022 (7.1 percent) compared to the nation (10.4 percent). It is both notable and positive that the rates are declining both nationally and in Hawai‘i; in 2012, the respective rates were 13.6 percent for the U.S. and 9.6 percent for Hawai‘i. The 2022 county rates for the percentage of people aged 25 and over with less than a high school degree ranged from 7.0 percent (Honolulu) to 7.8 percent (Kaua‘i).

#### Indicator B01. Less than high school degree

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	13.6%	13.4%	13.1%	12.9%	12.5%	12.0%	11.7%	11.4%	10.6%	10.4%
State of Hawai‘i	9.6%	9.0%	8.3%	9.1%	8.0%	7.7%	8.0%	7.6%	7.1%	7.1%
Hawai‘i County	10.3%	8.2%	7.6%	8.6%	7.3%	6.8%	7.6%	7.4%	7.1%	7.4%
C&C Honolulu	9.5%	9.5%	8.2%	9.4%	8.4%	7.7%	8.2%	7.4%	7.2%	7.0%
Kaua‘i County	8.4%	9.2%	9.2%	7.2%	6.9%	9.7%	8.0%	7.2%	7.5%	7.8%
Maui County	9.9%	7.0%	9.0%	9.0%	7.1%	8.2%	7.6%	9.4%	6.0%	7.1%

#### Technical notes:

“Less than high school education” includes all levels below a high school diploma or its equivalent U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

#### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012–2019, 2021-2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (December 4, 2023). B15002: Sex by educational attainment for the population 25 years and over. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

B02. Bachelor's degree or higher	
Percentage of people aged 25 and over with a Bachelor's degree or a higher degree	

### Why is this important?

This indicator provides information on the intellectual capital of a community, which is critical to both the development of an innovative economy and a strong civic society. Higher education plays a crucial role in equipping the workforce with necessary skills to translate ideas into new technologies, products, and services. At the individual level, education beyond high school is becoming crucial in ensuring employment at a livable wage. Furthermore, people with higher levels of education are more likely to engage in behaviors that improve their health. The community as a whole benefits as higher levels of education correspond to higher rates of volunteering, voting, and other community-based activities and lower unemployment, poverty, and crime rates.

### How are we doing?

The year 2022 saw Hawai‘i’s percentage of people aged 25 and over with a bachelor’s degree or higher education (35.4 percent) fall short of the national level (35.7 percent). Both nationally and in Hawai‘i, the trend has been upward. Declines were experienced by Kaua‘i (7.0 percentage points) and Maui (1.0 percentage point).

### Indicator B02. Bachelor's degree or higher

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	29.1%	29.6%	30.1%	30.6%	31.3%	32.0%	32.6%	33.6%	35.0%	35.7%
State of Hawai‘i	30.1%	31.2%	31.0%	31.4%	31.9%	32.9%	33.5%	30.0%	35.3%	35.4%
Hawai‘i County	25.6%	25.7%	28.6%	28.7%	27.6%	30.7%	29.6%	35.8%	30.7%	32.1%
C&C Honolulu	32.2%	33.4%	32.6%	33.2%	33.4%	34.7%	35.2%	35.8%	37.1%	37.7%
Kaua‘i County	26.8%	24.8%	29.6%	27.5%	27.9%	28.8%	31.4%	28.6%	36.2%	29.2%
Maui County	23.9%	27.4%	25.2%	25.3%	24.7%	27.0%	29.5%	27.7%	30.0%	29.0%

### Technical notes:

U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012–2019, 2021-2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (December 5, 2023). B15002: Sex by educational attainment for the population 25 years and over. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

### B03. Meeting Hawai‘i standards in math

Percentage of students meeting Hawai‘i standards in mathematics

#### Why is this important?

This indicator provides a measure of the knowledge and capabilities of Hawai‘i’s public-school students on the mastery of mathematics. Reflecting the quality of the community’s public schools in preparing students for the future workforce and civic participation, this indicator is one measure of the community’s concern for the children and the future. In general, a quality education is needed to advance the social and economic conditions of a community, which underpins its quality of life.

#### How are we doing?

The percentage of students who are proficient in math according to the Smarter Balanced Assessment continued its post-COVID pandemic recovery. The 2022-23 school year level for the state reached 40.0 percent for the first time in three years. While all counties recorded improvements compared to achievement levels during the pandemic era, the disparity between counties, however, is striking, ranging from 27.0 percent (Hawai‘i) to 44.0 percent (Honolulu).

#### Indicator B03. Meeting Hawai‘i standards in math

Area / Year	SY 2014-2015	SY 2015-2016	SY 2016-2017	SY 2017-2018	SY 2018-2019	SY 2020-2021	SY 2021-2022	SY 2022-2023
State of Hawai‘i	41%	42%	42%	42%	43%	32%	38%	40%
Hawai‘i County	32%	32%	31%	30%	30%	18%	24%	27%
C&C Honolulu	43%	44%	45%	46%	46%	35%	42%	44%
Kaua‘i County	35%	36%	37%	38%	38%	28%	33%	36%
Maui County	35%	31%	31%	31%	30%	20%	28%	29%

#### Technical notes:

Data is for school years (SY). All students in public schools who attended grades 3, 8 and 11 are included in these data. Charter schools are not included in the calculations. During the 2014 to 2015 school year, Hawai‘i adopted the Common Core State Standards that is tested with the Smarter Balanced Assessment. Thus, previous years’ results are not comparable. Test-takers are considered “proficient” if they earn a 3 or 4 out of 4 on the assessment. National data are unavailable. No tests were taken during school year’s 2019 to 2020.

#### Data source/s:

- HI, School Year’s 2014-2015 to 2018-2019, 2020-2021 to 2022-2023 State of Hawai‘i Department of Education. (December 5, 2023). Smarter Balanced Assessment. *Smarter Balanced Assessment results, various years*. Retrieved from <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/TeachingAndLearning/Testing/StateAssessment/Pages/home.aspx>

## B04. Meeting Hawai‘i standards in language arts

Percentage of students meeting Hawai‘i standards in language arts

### Why is this important?

This indicator measures the knowledge and capabilities of Hawai‘i’s public-school students on the mastery of English and language arts. It reflects the quality of the community’s public schools in preparing students for the future workforce and civic participation and is one measure of the community’s concern for its children and the future. In general, a quality education is needed to advance the social and economic conditions of a community, which underpins its quality of life.

### How are we doing?

In Hawai‘i, the percentage of students who are proficient in language arts, according to the Smarter Balanced Assessment, improved four percentage points since it was first implemented in the 2014-2015 school year, rising from 48 percent to 52 percent. The language arts scores are higher than those for mathematics and exhibit more stability historically. This proves the case at both state and individual county levels. While disparity exists between counties, it is notably less prominent than that seen with mathematic proficiency results.

### Indicator B04. Meeting Hawai‘i standards in language arts

Area / Year	SY 2014-2015	SY 2015-2016	SY 2016-2017	SY 2017-2018	SY 2018-2019	SY 2020-2021	SY 2021-2022	SY 2022-2023
State of Hawai‘i	48%	51%	50%	54%	54%	50%	52%	52%
Hawai‘i County	40%	43%	40%	43%	43%	38%	39%	40%
C&C Honolulu	51%	54%	53%	57%	57%	53%	56%	55%
Kaua‘i County	40%	47%	47%	49%	47%	45%	46%	48%
Maui County	42%	42%	41%	45%	40%	40%	43%	43%

### Technical notes:

Data is for school years (SY). All students in public schools who attended grades 3 to 8 and 11 are included in these data. Charter schools are not included in the calculations. In the 2014 to 2015 school years, Hawai‘i adopted the Common Core State Standards that is tested with the Smarter Balanced Assessment. Thus, previous years’ results are not comparable. Test-takers are considered “proficient” if they earn a 3 or 4 out of 4 on the assessment. National data are unavailable. No tests were taken during school year 2019 to 2020.

### Data source/s:

- HI, School Year’s 2014-2015 to 2018-2019, 2020-2021 to 2022-2023 State of Hawai‘i Department of Education. (December 5, 2023). Smarter Balanced Assessment. *Smarter Balanced Assessment results, various years*. Retrieved from <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/TeachingAndLearning/Testing/StateAssessment/Pages/home.aspx>

**B05. At or above 8<sup>th</sup>-grade proficiency in math**Percentage of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who scored at or above NAEP proficiency in mathematics**Why is this important?**

This indicator measures whether Hawai‘i’s public-school 8th-grade students are mastering the basic knowledge and skills in math required for high school. At the same time, proficiency in mathematics is an indicator of the schools’ success in developing higher academic standards for their students. The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the only assessment that has been administered uniformly across the nation and over time; thus, it serves as a benchmark to determine the academic competence of Hawai‘i’s students and the academic progress of the state over time.

**How are we doing?**

Hawai‘i’s percentage of eighth grade students who scored at or above NAEP proficiency in mathematics has consistently lagged the national average. Compared with levels achieved in the 2010-2011 school year, the decline both nationally and in Hawai‘i is striking. For the 2021-2022 school year, Hawai‘i’s rate stood at 22.0 percent compared to the national average of 26.0 percent. Both numbers suggest the impact of the pandemic.

**Indicator B05. At or above 8<sup>th</sup>-grade proficiency in math**

Area / Year	SY 2010-2011	SY 2012-2013	SY 2014-2015	SY 2016-2017	SY 2018-2019	SY 2021-2022
United States	35%	35%	33%	34%	34%	26%
State of Hawai‘i	30%	32%	30%	27%	28%	22%

**Technical notes:**

Data is for school years (SY). Data includes public school students only. County data were unavailable.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, SY’s 2010-2011, 2012-2013, 2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2018-2019, 2021-2022 U.S. Department of Education. (December 6, 2023). Mathematics, grade 8, all students. *NAEP Data Explorer*. Retrieved from <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/ndecore/xplore/NDE>

**B06. At or above 8<sup>th</sup>-grade proficiency in reading**Percentage of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who scored at or above NAEP proficiency in reading**Why is this important?**

This indicator measures whether Hawai‘i’s public-school 8th-grade students are mastering the basic knowledge and skills in reading required for high school. At the same time, proficiency in reading is an indicator of the schools’ success in developing higher academic standards for their students. The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the only assessment that has been administered uniformly across the nation and over time; thus, it serves as a benchmark to determine the academic competence of Hawai‘i’s students and the academic progress of the state over time.

**How are we doing?**

Hawai‘i outperformed the nation in eighth grade reading proficiency in the 2020-2021 school year for the first-time across the years analyzed. Hawai‘i had 31 percent of its students who scored at or above NAEP proficiency in reading, which was two percentage points above the national average at 29 percent. Historical test result data suggest a gradual improvement in Hawai‘i results and a decline in national results.

**Indicator B06. At or above 8<sup>th</sup>-grade proficiency in reading**

Area / Year	SY 2010-2011	SY 2012-2013	SY 2014-2015	SY 2016-2017	SY 2018-2019	SY 2021-2022
United States	34%	36%	34%	36%	32%	29%
State of Hawai‘i	26%	28%	26%	30%	29%	31%

**Technical notes:**

Data is for school years (SY). Data includes public school students only. County data were unavailable.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, SY’s 2010-2011, 2012-2013, 2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2018-2019, 2021-2022 U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (December 6, 2023). Reading, grade 8, all students. *NAEP Data Explorer*. Retrieved from <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/ndecorg/xplore/NDE>

**B07. On-time graduation**Percentage of students who graduated within four years of entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade**Why is this important?**

This indicator is significant in assessing the success of the educational system in providing education, preparing students academically, and encouraging completion of its requirements. On-time graduates are associated with better outcomes in work, employment, civic life, and health compared to high school dropouts and late completers.

**How are we doing?**

In Hawai‘i, the Class of 2022 graduated 85.0 percent of its students on time. Historical data suggest a gradual improvement in graduation rates. Kaua‘i County continued to have the state’s highest on-time graduation rate for public school students (93.0 percent), with Maui and Hawai‘i Counties both recording 82.0 percent on-time graduation rates in the most recent year for which data exist.

**Indicator B07. On-time graduation**

Area / Year	Class of 2012	Class of 2015	Class of 2016	Class of 2017	Class of 2018	Class of 2019	Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
United States	81%	83%	84%	85%	85%	86%	87%	..	..
State of Hawai‘i	82%	82%	83%	83%	85%	85%	86%	86%	85%
Hawai‘i County	..	79%	79%	78%	81%	82%	85%	85%	82%
C&C Honolulu	..	83%	83%	84%	85%	86%	87%	87%	87%
Kaua‘i County	..	86%	89%	88%	89%	92%	93%	91%	93%
Maui County	..	79%	81%	80%	84%	83%	80%	82%	82%

**Technical notes:**

Each year's on-time graduation rate is based on a cohort of first-time 9th graders in the school year represented by the graduating year minus three. Students who transfer out, emigrate, or die during the four years are not used in county's rate calculations. Students who transfer-in after the official enrollment rosters are established in the 9th grade cohort's year are added to the cohort. Data for year's 2013 and 2014 were not included due to space limitations, however, are not needed for comparison over time estimations.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, Class of 2012, Class of 2015 to Class of 2022  
National Center for Education Statistics. (December 6, 2023). Table 219.46. Public high school 4-year adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR), by selected student characteristics and state. *Digest of Education Statistics, Current*.  
[https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/2018menu\\_tables.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/2018menu_tables.asp)
- HI, Class of 2015 to Class of 2022  
Hawai‘i P-20 Partnerships for Education, Hawai‘i Data eXchange Partnership. (December 6, 2023). Special tabulation for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. *On-time graduation rate*.

**B08. SAT score of college-bound seniors**

Combined average SAT math and critical readings scores of college-bound seniors

**Why is this important?**

The SAT (originally called the Scholastic Aptitude Test, then later the Scholastic Assessment Test, and most recently the SAT Reasoning Test) is a standardized test that measures college-bound seniors' knowledge and skills in math and reading considered necessary for the subsequent success of college-bound seniors. The SAT is used for admission to most four-year universities. Likewise, this indicator reflects the schools' priorities in providing resources that prepare students for college work and careers. In general, students' admission to college improves the prospects for future employment and economic success.

**How are we doing?**

The average SAT combined math and critical reading scores of college-bound seniors had historically been below that of the nation before 2016. Since year 2017, Hawai‘i’s SAT scores have exceeded the national average. That results peaked both nationally in Hawai‘i in 2021 probably reflect the negative influence of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is notable that the disparity between Hawai‘i and national results reached its highest level in 2023, a difference of 86 points.

**Indicator B08. SAT score of college-bound seniors**

Area / Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
United States	1,010	1,010	1,006	1,002	1,060	1,068	1,059	1,051	1,061	1,050	1,028
State of Hawai‘i	985	988	995	1,002	1,085	1,099	1,100	1,095	1,144	1,124	1,114

**Technical notes:**

An average SAT score is the sum of the average mathematics score and the average critical-reading score. Data year refers to the year of the graduating senior class; data include all SAT scores for college-bound seniors who are graduating in the data year. County data were unavailable. The state profile reports provide historical scores for the nation; for some years, the scores changed from one report to another. The most recent report’s historical scores were used for this table.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2013–2023

The College Board. (December 4, 2023). *College-bound seniors: State profile report: Hawai‘i, various years*. Retrieved from <https://research.collegeboard.org/programs/sat/data/archived>

**B09. College-going rate**

Percentage of high school seniors who are enrolled in any college nationwide

**Why is this important?**

This indicator provides information in assessing how adequately the education system prepares students academically and provides encouragement and other support to foster students' aspiration to pursue and succeed in higher education. In its own right, the college-going rate of high school graduates is a measure of the schools' performance. This is also an indicator of the community's social capital and economic future.

**How are we doing?**

Hawai‘i’s college-going rate for seniors decreased by 5.0 percentage points from 2015 to 2022. Much of this decrease can be attributed to the impact of the COVID-19 on recent graduating classes. For the Class of 2022, most counties saw college enrollment rates improve, with Maui County being the exception. A considerable gap remains between present levels and those of the Class of 2015. The City and County of Honolulu continued to have the highest rates of college enrollment; the rate for Hawai‘i County was the state’s lowest.

**Indicator B09. College-going rate**

Area / Year	Class of 2015	Class of 2016	Class of 2017	Class of 2018	Class of 2019	Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
State of Hawai‘i	56%	55%	55%	55%	55%	50%	51%	51%
Hawai‘i County	49%	47%	47%	49%	46%	35%	39%	40%
C&C Honolulu	56%	57%	56%	57%	53%	49%	50%	52%
Kaua‘i County	57%	59%	59%	55%	51%	44%	39%	42%
Maui County	54%	53%	55%	50%	54%	43%	47%	45%

**Technical notes:**

The rate indicates the percentage of graduating Hawai‘i Department of Education (HIDOE) high school seniors who were enrolled in college the first fall after their graduation from high school. Statewide figures are derived from National Student Clearinghouse aggregate data. County-level figures are calculated from student-level records, which exclude information for students who have requested privacy and include DXP confirmed matches based on HIDOE/University of Hawai‘i records.

**Data source/s:**

- HI, Class of 2015 to Class of 2022  
Hawai‘i P-20 Partnerships for Education, Hawai‘i Data eXchange Partnership (DXP). (December 4, 2023). Special tabulation for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. *College-going rate, class of 2015 to class of 2022*.

## B10. Lifelong learning

Percentage of people aged 25-34 enrolled in college or graduate school

### Why is this important?

This indicator reflects the success of working-age adults and students attending higher education and learning new skills and perspectives, which contributes to a high quality of life. On a broader scale, this indicator is significant in examining the capacity of a community's educational system in helping adults improve their skills, update their knowledge, meet their personal and academic goals, and promote lifelong learning activities.

### How are we doing?

In 2022, Hawai‘i's percentage of people aged 25-34 participating in lifelong learning was marginally higher than the national rate (11.2 percent versus 10.2 percent). However, strong variation in participation rates was observed at the county level. The City and County of Honolulu had the highest rate at 14.1 percent, with the rates for Kaua‘i, Maui, and Hawai‘i Counties considerably lower.

### Indicator B10. Lifelong learning

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	13.3%	13.2%	13.1%	12.8%	12.4%	12.1%	11.1%	11.0%	10.6%	10.2%
State of Hawai‘i	13.2%	14.2%	14.2%	13.9%	13.6%	13.7%	12.2%	12.2%	13.6%	11.2%
Hawai‘i County	6.8%	8.1%	7.4%	8.5%	9.6%	9.7%	7.7%	9.6%	9.2%	0.7%
C&C Honolulu	15.6%	16.3%	16.4%	15.9%	15.4%	15.5%	14.5%	13.4%	16.0%	14.1%
Kaua‘i County	4.2%	8.4%	8.2%	7.5%	7.0%	6.6%	2.8%	13.1%	6.8%	5.4%
Maui County	6.5%	9.2%	8.9%	8.7%	7.7%	8.3%	5.0%	6.0%	4.5%	5.3%

### Technical notes:

This indicator changed from people aged 25-44 in the 2009 QOL report to 25-34 in this report to take advantage of the Census Bureau's tabulations, which makes tabulations for all counties in Hawai‘i. The previous report was unable to separate Kaua‘i and Maui data. The figures from the 2009 QOL report and this report are not directly comparable. U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012–2019, 2021-2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (December 4, 2023). B14004: Sex by college or graduate school enrollment by type of school by age for the population 15 years and over. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## C. ENVIRONMENT DOMAIN AND INDICATORS

Hawai‘i’s environmental domain consists of ten indicators within four dimensions: pollution, conservation, consumption, and recycling. Hawai‘i performed well both compared to the nation and over time within the environmental domain and its indicators. Hawai‘i outperformed the nation in three of the four comparable indicators. Notably, Hawai‘i continued to release eight pounds less per person in toxic releases during 2022, contrary to national trends, which saw a slight increase. State energy consumption levels were over 100 million BTU less per person below national levels. Also, Hawai‘i improved over time in all but one of the ten environmental indicators. Hawai‘i’s largest improvements were in increasing renewable energy production and decreasing energy consumption. Hawai‘i saw declines in the level of solid waste recycled.

**Pollution:** Hawai‘i outperformed the nation in both of the two comparable pollution indicators: unhealthy air quality days and in toxic releases. Hawai‘i saw improvement over time in each of the four indicators within the pollution dimension.

**Conservation:** Hawai‘i performed worse than the nation in renewable energy, producing two percentage points less in renewable energy than the nation overall. Over time, there were improvements in both conservation indicators with renewable energy the most improved at almost seven percent on average annually.

**Consumption:** Hawai‘i consumed less energy per capita compared to the nation. Over time, Hawai‘i also consumed less water and energy per capita.

**Recycling:** Hawai‘i’s solid waste recycling worsened more than three percent on average annually, while wastewater reused improved about one percent on average annually.

### County comparisons

- Hawai‘i County was the second-best performer amongst the counties in the environmental domain and its indicators. Hawai‘i County ranked first in four of the nine comparable environmental indicators. The county had the most favorable conditions for solid waste generated, acres of parks and historic sites, water consumption, and unhealthy air quality days. On the other hand, Hawai‘i County had the least amount of wastewater reused.
- The City and County of Honolulu outperformed the other counties in wastewater reused by more than seven million gallons per day. However, the City and County of Honolulu performed worse in three of the nine comparable environmental indicators: number of surface water advisory days, toxic releases, and electricity produced from renewable resources.
- Kaua‘i County was the leader amongst the counties in the environmental domain and its indicators. Kaua‘i County had the most favorable conditions amongst the counties in toxic releases, electricity produced from renewable resources, and in solid waste recycled. Like the other counties, Kaua‘i County had zero unhealthy air quality days. Kaua‘i County had the least number of acres of parks and historic sites compared to the other counties.
- Maui County performed the worst amongst the counties in the environmental domain and its indicators. Maui County had the highest water consumption amongst the counties, consuming over 38 percent more than the next highest county (Hawai‘i County). Maui County had the most solid waste generated, and the least amount of solid waste recycled (over 36 percent less than the next lowest county).

**Table 5. Environmental Domain: Most Recent Data and Findings**

Environment Indicators	Year	U.S.	HI.	Hawai‘i, compared to the nation	Hawai‘i: Over time <sup>(1)</sup>		County			
					Average Annual Growth	Improved or Worsened	Hawai‘i	Honolulu	Kaua‘i	Maui
<b>Pollution</b>										
<b>C01. Unhealthy air quality days, number of days</b>	2022	0.6	0.0	●	-100.0%	↑	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>C02. Surface water advisory days, number of days</b>	2022	..	1,170	..	-1.0%	↑	227	714	100	129
<b>C03. Solid waste generated, number of pounds per day per person</b>	2022	..	9.5	..	-0.1%	↑	7.8	9.3	9.8	13.1
<b>C04. Toxic releases, number of pounds per person</b>	2022	9.8	1.8	●	-1.7%	↑	1.0	2.1	0.3	1.6
<b>Conservation</b>										
<b>C05. Acres of parks and historic sites, per 1,000 acres of total area</b>	2022	..	105.1	..	0.5%	↑	138.5	42.6	42.1	65.7
<b>C06. Renewable energy, % of total electricity produced from renewable sources</b>	2022 <sup>(2)</sup>	20.5%	18.5%	●	6.5%	↑	36.8%	12.3%	59.0%	27.1%
<b>Consumption</b>										
<b>C07. Water consumption, number of gallons per day per person</b>	2022	..	137.9	..	-0.7%	↑	120.4	129.1	150.3	207.7
<b>C08. Energy consumption, million BTU per person</b>	2021	281.4	177.6	●	-1.9%	↑	..	..	..	..
<b>Recycling</b>										
<b>C09. Solid waste recycled, % of total solid waste</b>	2022	..	24.8%	..	-3.4%	↓	30.5%	25.8%	31.7%	14.2%
<b>C10. Wastewater reused, million gallons of wastewater reused per day</b>	2022	..	18.9	..	0.7%	↑	1.0	11.3	2.7	3.9

Symbols: .. Data not available; ● HI better than the nation, ○ No difference, ● HI worse than the nation; ↑ HI improved, ↔ No change, ↓ HI worsened;

■ Top-ranked county, □ Mid-ranked county, ▨ Bottom-ranked county, □ No difference

(1) Benchmark years annotated in appendix

(2) County data year 2021

### C01. Unhealthy air quality days

Number of days that the EPA declared the air quality unhealthy for sensitive groups or worse

#### Why is this important?

This indicator measures how many days the air quality is unhealthy by the national air quality standard set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Air Quality Index (AQI) measures five major air pollutants regulated by the Clean Air Act: ground-level ozone, particle pollution, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen dioxide. AQI values range from 0 to 500, with higher values indicating greater levels of air pollution, and therefore greater levels of health concern. An AQI value of 100 or higher is considered “unhealthy”; residents, particularly sensitive groups like older adults or people with asthma, may begin to experience some adverse health effects.

#### How are we doing?

Air quality is seldom an issue in Hawai‘i. The years in which the number of unhealthy air quality days has risen were due to volcanic emissions emanating from Hawai‘i County, which was the only county affected by them. No unhealthy days were recorded in 2022 in either the state or individual counties. It should be noted that the national total declined to a level not seen in the last decade.

#### Indicator C01. Unhealthy air quality days

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	9.4	4.2	3.4	3.9	3.9	4.5	5.1	2.5	4.8	1.1	0.6
State of Hawai‘i	2.0	0	4.0	6.0	6.0	0	14.0	4.0	11.0	1	0
Hawai‘i County	2.0	0	2.0	5.0	5.0	0	14.0	4.0	11.0	0	0
C&C Honolulu	0	0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kaua‘i County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maui County	0	0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	0

#### Technical notes:

EPA updated its historical data files and data for years 2013 through 2018, resulting in considerable changes from the previous QOL report. Air Quality Index (AQI) value 100 or higher includes AQI categories “unhealthy for sensitive groups” (101–150), “unhealthy” (151–200), “very unhealthy” (201–300), and “hazardous” (301–500). Data is reported at the county level. State totals are calculated as the number of days with an AQI above 100 in the county with the highest number of days with an AQI above 100 in the calendar year. United States data is the U.S. county average of 50 states and the District of Columbia.

#### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012-2022  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (December 4, 2023). Annual summary data, AQI by country. *Air quality index report*. Retrieved from [https://aqs.epa.gov/aqsweb/airdata/download\\_files.html#Annual](https://aqs.epa.gov/aqsweb/airdata/download_files.html#Annual)

## C02. Surface water advisory days

Number of days surface water advisories were posted due to water pollution

### Why is this important?

This indicator provides information on the quality of surface water by measuring the number of days that water pollution warning signs were posted. Surface water includes recreational waters, other shorelines, streams, and lagoons. Sewage, chemical spills, storm water runoff, and other releases into surface waters have a negative impact on the daily lives of residents and visitors, as well as on aquatic life. Warning signs are posted by personnel from the counties, the military, private parties, or the Department of Health when surface water is unsafe due to water pollution.

### How are we doing?

The number of water advisory days reported annually continues to fluctuate greatly, though 2022 saw reductions versus 2021 levels in all four counties. The sharpest decline was seen in Kaua‘i.

### Indicator C02. Surface water advisory days

Area / Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
State of Hawai‘i	1,228	3,382	1,406	1,083	1,838	1,170
Hawai‘i County	305	382	186	157	281	227
C&C Honolulu	370	1,160	666	273	1,077	714
Kaua‘i County	182	1,336	438	515	318	100
Maui County	371	504	116	138	162	129

### Technical notes:

County total is calculated by adding the number of days of sewage spills, brown water advisories, and beach notifications posted within a county each year. The beach advisory protocol was revised in late 2016, with a change to using different fecal indicators. As a result, surface water advisories prior to 2017 cannot be directly compared with more current data. National data were unavailable.

### Data source/s:

- HI, 2017–2022  
State of Hawai‘i Department of Health, Environmental Management Division, Clean Water Branch. (December 6, 2023). Environmental Health Portal. *Advisories*. Retrieved from <https://eha-cloud.doh.hawaii.gov/cwb/#/event/list>

**C03. Solid waste generated**

Pounds of solid waste generated per person per day

**Why is this important?**

This indicator provides information on the amount of solid waste generated in Hawai‘i. Solid waste includes everything that is generated from agricultural, industrial, mining, construction, and demolition activities, as well as municipal solid waste produced by households and offices. The majority of the solid waste is disposed of in landfills. Because it is a series of islands, Hawai‘i faces many solid waste management challenges, particularly the availability of new land for landfills. This indicator reflects the need to improve awareness of the consequences of waste generation in Hawai‘i when dealing with limited land space and the related costs of solid waste management.

**How are we doing?**

Fiscal year 2022 saw per day solid waste generation decline by modest margins in two counties (Hawai‘i, Honolulu) and increase in the two smallest counties by population (Kaua‘i, Maui). On a statewide basis, the level was lower than that of the previous fiscal year, which was (by a small margin) the highest on record.

**Indicator C03. Solid waste generated**

Area / Year	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
State of Hawai‘i	9.6	8.9	9.3	8.6	9.0	9.2	8.8	8.3	9.8	9.5
Hawai‘i County	6.7	6.3	6.8	4.2	6.9	7.6	8.5	6.7	7.9	7.8
C&C Honolulu	10	10.1	10	8.7	8.7	9.1	8.5	8.9	10.0	9.3
Kaua‘i County	10.3	10.3	11.4	14.5	14.4	16.3	10.0	9.6	9.4	9.8
Maui County	10.5	4.2	7.2	10.5	10.4	8.8	10.5	6.6	10.6	13.1

**Technical notes:**

Solid waste generated per day per person is calculated by dividing the annual total amount of solid waste (disposed and diverted) by 365 days, and then dividing the daily average by total population. The City and County of Honolulu reported data by calendar year, while other counties reported data by state fiscal year. Data for fiscal year 2012 was not available.

**Data source/s:**

- HI, FY 2013-2022  
State of Hawai‘i Department of Health, Office of Solid Waste Management. (December 7, 2023). Waste Diversion Statistics. *Report to the legislature, pursuant to Section 342g-15, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes, requiring the Office of Solid Waste Management to give an annual report on solid waste management, various years*. Retrieved from <https://health.hawaii.gov/shwb/solid-waste/>
- HI, 2013-2022, Denominator  
U.S. Census Bureau. (November 30, 2023). B01003: Total population. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

**C04. Toxic releases**

Pounds of toxic releases per person

**Why is this important?**

A critical amount of toxic release can result in serious damage to public health and the environment. What is classified as toxic release includes those released on-site (into the air or water, and via underground injection, landfills, and other forms of land disposal) and those transferred off-site for disposal. Although “release” should not be directly equated with “risk,” it is important to be aware of the amount of toxic release in the community. This indicator enables the community to have more leverage in holding companies accountable for their activities, and in encouraging them to focus on practicing better chemical management.

**How are we doing?**

Hawai‘i’s levels of toxic releases remained both constant and well below the national level. Kaua‘i continued to have the lowest level in the state, with Honolulu the highest, unsurprising given the level of industrial activity in the state’s most populous county. Kaua‘i and Hawai‘i Counties, the state’s most rural, had the lowest levels.

**Indicator C04. Toxic releases**

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	11.6	13.1	12.5	11.5	11.1	12.2	11.3	10.3	9.4	9.7	9.8
State of Hawai‘i	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.3	2.1	1.8	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.8
Hawai‘i County	1.6	1.3	1.7	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.0
C&C Honolulu	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.1
Kaua‘i County	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3
Maui County	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.7	1.3	1.4	1.6

**Technical notes:**

Data includes both toxic releases disposed on site and those transferred to waste brokers for disposal. Toxic releases per person are calculated by dividing the annual total amount of toxic releases by the resident population. Total state disposal or other releases omit double counted amounts.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2012–2022  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (December 7, 2023). Release geography report. *EPA Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Explorer*. Retrieved from [https://enviro.epa.gov/triexplorer/tri\\_release.geography](https://enviro.epa.gov/triexplorer/tri_release.geography)
- HI, 2012–2022, Denominator  
State of Hawai‘i Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. . (December 1, 2023). Table 1.06: Resident population by county. *State of Hawai‘i data book: A statistical abstract*. Retrieved from <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/databook/>

## C05. Acres of parks and historic sites

Acres of parks and historic sites per 1,000 acres of total land area

### Why is this important?

This indicator measures the acres of national, state, and county parks as well as historic sites available in Hawai‘i. Parks and historic sites provide opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy outdoor activities, leisure recreation, and cultural heritage. National, state, and county parks also preserve green coverage and protect natural vegetation essential in improving air quality and overall quality of life.

### How are we doing?

Unsurprisingly, the state’s parks and historic sites acreage per 1,000 acres of total area has been relatively stable. The state’s largest county, Hawai‘i, has the most park acreage, at least double that of any other county as a percentage of land area.

### Indicator C05. Acres of park and historic sites

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
State of Hawai‘i	100.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.0	101.4	101.4	101.1	101.1	105.1
Hawai‘i County	129.8	130.0	130.0	130.0	130.0	130.0	131.5	131.5	131.0	131.0	138.5
C&C Honolulu	44.4	44.0	43.0	43.0	40.0	43.0	42.5	42.5	42.4	42.5	42.6
Kaua‘i County	40.2	40.0	41.0	41.0	40.0	42.0	42.1	42.1	42.1	42.1	42.1
Maui County	64.1	76.0	77.0	77.0	77.0	77.0	65.3	65.3	65.3	65.4	65.7

### Technical notes:

Parks include national, state, and county parks. The Honouliuli National Historic Site added 154 acres of park lands in the City and County of Honolulu in 2018; however, the land is currently inaccessible to the public, as the designation as a national monument was only in 2015, and the site is still being developed. However, this site accounts for less than 1% of park acreage in the City and County of Honolulu. State parks and historical sites data were estimated to be the same as previous years for 2021 and 2022 due to data limitations. Hawai‘i County parks acreage was also estimated to be the same as previous years for 2022 due to data limitations.

### Data source/s:

- HI, 2012-2022  
State of Hawai‘i Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. (December 7, 2023). Section 7, Table: 7.40 National parks, Table 7.41 State Parks and Historic Sites, and Table 7.46 County Parks, By Island. *State of Hawai‘i data book: A statistical abstract, various years*. Retrieved from <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/databook/>
- HI, 2012-2022, Denominator  
State of Hawai‘i Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. (December 7, 2023). Table 6.04: Estimated acreage of land use districts, by island. *State of Hawai‘i data book: A statistical abstract*. Retrieved from <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/databook/>

## C06. Renewable energy

Percentage of total electricity produced from renewable energy sources

### Why is this important?

This indicator measures the extent to which renewable energy is produced in the state to conserve fuel and natural resources. Fossil fuels – coal, oil, and natural gas – cannot be recreated at the same rate that they are used. When the supply of fossil fuels continues to be depleted, their prices go up. The use of renewable (e.g., hydropower, wind, geothermal, biomass, and solar) energy sources reduces the state’s dependency on fossil fuel, increases energy self-sufficiency and security, and protects the environment and public health by avoiding or reducing emissions of gases and suspended particles.

### How are we doing?

While its rate of growth (86.8 percent) in the ten years from 2012 is slightly higher than national levels, Hawai‘i remains less reliant on renewable energy than the U.S. Individual county levels for 2022 are not yet available. The state’s largest county by population, Honolulu, continues to be a drag on renewable energy source reliance.

### Indicator C06. Renewable energy

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	11.3%	11.9%	12.1%	12.3%	13.9%	16.0%	15.9%	16.7%	18.6%	19.0%	20.5%
State of Hawai‘i	9.9%	11.7%	12.7%	13.2%	14.5%	14.1%	13.3%	12.1%	15.9%	19.0%	18.5%
Hawai‘i County	37.4%	39.4%	37.6%	37.7%	39.7%	38.7%	22.8%	12.5%	18.8%	36.8%	..
C&C Honolulu	2.1%	1.8%	6.9%	7.3%	8.2%	9.0%	9.9%	9.8%	11.8%	12.3%	..
Kaua‘i County	9.6%	9.0%	11.3%	14.4%	24.3%	22.8%	25.3%	31.4%	43.9%	59.0%	..
Maui County	32.6%	48.4%	25.9%	25.9%	24.3%	18.1%	20.5%	18.4%	29.2%	27.1%	..

### Technical notes:

Renewable energy sources include hydroelectric power, biomass, and geothermal, wind, photovoltaic, and solar thermal energy. Data not available at county level for 2022.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI., 2012-2022  
U.S. Energy Information Administration. (December 12, 2023). Net Generation by State by Type of Producer by Energy Source (EIA-906, EIA-920, and EIA-923). *Historical State Data*. Retrieved from <https://www.eia.gov/electricity/data/state/>.
- HI, 2012-2022  
State of Hawai‘i Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. (December 13, 2023). Table 17.07: Electricity Production, By Source, State Total. *State of Hawai‘i data book: A statistical abstract*. Retrieved from <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/databook/>

## C07. Water consumption

Daily water consumption per person, in gallons

### Why is this important?

As a scarce and limited resource, water poses many challenges for across Hawai‘i. This indicator shows how many gallons of water are consumed in Hawai‘i per person per day. It aims to raise awareness about water consumption routines in daily lives and to preserve scarce resources in the long run. Using less water also reduces the strain on the environment by consuming less energy that is associated with water use. In addition, it lessens the possibility of surface-spillage of untreated sewage.

### How are we doing?

The state’s per capita consumption levels, which have gradually decreased over the last decade, recorded a small increase in 2022. Its two least populated counties had the highest level of water consumption, each rising. Kaua‘i consumption increased by 14.4 percent, reaching its highest level since 2017. Maui consumption levels remain stubbornly high, increasing by 8.3 percent from 2021 levels.

### Indicator C07. Water consumption

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
State of Hawai‘i	147.5	145.8	148.1	140.2	141.4	140.5	139.2	140.0	136.5	135.4	137.9
Hawai‘i County	131.4	132.5	128.1	128.3	132.9	132.6	121.8	125.9	119.5	120.4	120.4
C&C Honolulu	137.9	133.0	143.1	132.6	133.3	132.6	132.8	133.6	129.0	128.2	129.1
Kaua‘i County	163.5	177.6	155.4	153.5	153.6	152.8	152.5	148.6	143.1	131.3	150.3
Maui County	219.5	226.7	199.1	194.5	194.7	191.5	192.5	191.0	198.6	199.7	207.7

### Technical notes:

Water consumption per day per person in gallons is calculated by dividing the annual total amount of water consumed by 365 days and then dividing the daily average by total population. For leap years 2012, 2016 and 2020, 366 days were used to calculate daily water consumption per day. National data were unavailable.

### Data source/s:

- HI, 2012–2022  
State of Hawai‘i Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. (December 14, 2023). Table 5.25: Water services and consumption, for county waterworks. *State of Hawai‘i data book: A statistical abstract, various years*. Retrieved from <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/databook/>
- HI, 2012-2022, Denominator  
U.S. Census Bureau. (November 30, 2023). B01003: Total population. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## C08. Energy consumption

Energy consumption per person, in million BTU

### Why is this important?

This indicator measures the amount of energy consumed, which reflects the awareness and concern of the people in using scarce energy resources, the level of energy dependence of a community, and the related costs to the environment. Energy consumption can be lowered through improved energy efficiency, such as in appliances, building design, and industrial machinery, and also through behavioral changes that involve using less energy, such as driving less or not using the air conditioning as much.

### How are we doing?

People in Hawai‘i have consistently consumed less energy than their national counterparts. Energy consumption is tied to the level of economic activity. The COVID-19 pandemic served to broadly reduce economic activity, making 2020 levels something of an aberration. Hawai‘i consumption remains well below national levels, primarily due to a more forgiving climate and lower levels of industrial activity.

#### Indicator C08. Energy consumption

Area / Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
United States	301.6	292.0	298.1	299.0	293.9	291.2	288.3	297.7	294.2	272.1	281.4
State of Hawai‘i	215.9	209.1	209.3	201.7	202.4	203.2	208.3	208.1	210.2	154.9	177.6

Maui County had the highest annual electricity consumption per person, with its high visitor presence a likely cause; while visitors don’t count as part of the resident population, the denominator in calculating per capita usage, their addition consumes energy. Hawai‘i County had the lowest, a decline which was first seen in 2018. Over time, there have been declines in annual per capita electricity consumption across all counties in Hawai‘i.

#### Indicator C08b. Annual per capita electricity consumption, in 1,000 kWh

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
State of Hawai‘i	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.0	6.0	6.1
Hawai‘i County	5.7	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.6	5.3	5.2	4.9	5.1	5.1
C&C Honolulu	7.1	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.2	6.7	6.7	6.3	6.2	6.2
Kaua‘i County	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4	5.8	5.9	6.2
Maui County	7.2	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.7	5.8	6.4	6.6

### Technical notes:

Energy consumption per person is calculated by dividing the annual total amount of energy consumed by resident population estimates.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2011-2021

U.S. Energy Information Administration. (December 14, 2023). Consumption, price, expenditure, and production estimates. *State Energy Data System: data files*. Retrieved from <https://www.eia.gov/state/seds/seds-data-fuel.php?sid=US>

- HI, 2012-2022  
State of Hawai‘i Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. (December 14, 2023). Table 17.10 : Electricity utilities, by island; Table 17.16: liquid fuel tax base, by county. *State of Hawai‘i data book: A statistical abstract, various years*. Retrieved from <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/databook/>
- HI, 2012-2022, Denominator  
U.S. Census Bureau. (November 30, 2023). B01003: Total population. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## C09. Solid waste recycled

Percentage of solid waste diverted from landfills (reused or recycled)

### Why is this important?

This indicator measures the extent to which solid waste is diverted from landfills for recycling or reuse in Hawai‘i. Reuse and recycling can reduce the impacts of solid waste on our environment. Recycling offers a number of benefits: it saves energy and reduces water and air pollution by replacing the use of virgin materials with recyclables; it reduces the consumption of natural resources to produce new goods; it saves crucial space that would be used for waste disposal pits and landfills; and it makes economic development sustainable.

### How are we doing?

Even if rates are underestimated (see technical note below), the sharp fluctuations in recycling activity success are not easily explained. The numbers below suggest a decline in overall solid waste recycling rates, a worrisome trend.

### Indicator C09. Solid waste recycled

Area / Year	FY 2012	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
State of Hawai‘i	35.1%	36.8%	43.0%	32.8%	30.0%	23.7%	19.4%	25.4%	27.1%	24.8%
Hawai‘i County	28.9%	24.7%	26.7%	50.5%	22.9%	19.5%	18.9%	25.4%	32.8%	30.5%
C&C Honolulu	36.9%	40.3%	48.4%	28.7%	28.1%	20.0%	16.2%	19.7%	28.4%	25.8%
Kaua‘i County	23.8%	42.4%	44.9%	55.5%	54.2%	57.3%	30.4%	30.4%	30.1%	31.7%
Maui County	36.6%	..	14.4%	30.8%	30.6%	18.4%	30.4%	67.9%	13.2%	14.2%

### Technical notes:

The City and County of Honolulu reported data by calendar year, while other counties reported data by state fiscal year. Reuse calculations are likely underestimated, as some reuse activities, such as regularly reusing plastic containers for storage, is difficult to accurately measure. Data for fiscal year 2013 was not included due to space limitations, however, are not needed for comparison over time estimations.

### Data source/s:

- HI, 2012, 2014-2022  
State of Hawai‘i Department of Health, Office of Solid Waste Management. (December 14, 2023). Diversion Rates. *Report to the legislature, pursuant to Section 342g-15, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes, requiring the Office of Solid Waste Management to give an annual report on solid waste management, various years.* Retrieved from <https://health.hawaii.gov/shwb/solid-waste/>

**C10. Wastewater reused**

Treated wastewater reused, million gallons per day

**Why is this important?**

This indicator measures the extent to which treated wastewater is reused to help meet Hawai‘i’s water needs. Treated wastewater is not suitable for drinking but is safe for other purposes such as industrial processing and irrigation. Reusing water has two important benefits: it reduces the demand for more water; and it minimizes environmental pollution by diverting part of the wastewater to be treated and reused. The Hawai‘i Fresh Water Initiative goal is to be reusing 30 million gallons of treated wastewater a day by year 2030.

**How are we doing?**

The state level gains in reused wastewater levels from 2015 are largely due to success in Honolulu, though 2022 levels there have dipped successfully since 2020. Hawai‘i County continues to see the least success and progress in wastewater recycling.

**Indicator C10. Wastewater reused**

Area / Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
State of Hawai‘i	18.1	18.9	19.5	19.2	18.2	19.0	19.0	18.9
Hawai‘i County	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.2	0.7	1.0	1.0
C&C Honolulu	10.4	11.1	12.1	12.1	11.8	12.3	11.7	11.3
Kaua‘i County	2.4	2.1	2.1	2.7	1.8	2.1	2.5	2.7
Maui County	3.6	4.0	3.9	3.1	3.3	3.9	3.7	3.9

**Technical notes:**

Wastewater is measured in million gallons per day. The State of Hawai‘i Department of Health Wastewater Branch changed its methodology for collecting treated wastewater usage in 2015; data prior to 2015 is thus not comparable.

**Data source/s:**

- HI, 2015-2022  
State of Hawai‘i Department of Health Wastewater Branch. (December 14, 2023). Recycle water use (million gallons per day). *Recycled water program*. Retrieved from <http://health.hawaii.gov/wastewater/home/reuse/>

## D. HEALTH DOMAIN AND INDICATORS

Hawai‘i’s health domain consists of 17 indicators within four dimensions: mortality, health status, disease prevention, and access to care. As summarized in Table 6, Hawai‘i was healthier than the nation in that it performed better than the nation in the majority of indicators. Hawai‘i also improved over time in most health domain indicators.

Overall, Hawai‘i outperformed the nation in 14 of the 17 comparable QOL health indicators. Hawai‘i performed considerably better than the nation in life expectancy, cardiovascular, cancer, and diabetes disease death rates, adult obesity, and health insurance coverage rates. Hawai‘i underperformed the nation in two indicators, binge drinking and home- and community-based service expenditures.

State outcomes improved over time in the majority of indicators within each dimension, with 10 of the 17 health indicators exhibiting improvement. The greatest gains were seen in a decreased numbers of adult smokers and more adults with health insurance. Both indicators improved almost four percent on average annually.

**Mortality:** Hawai‘i performed better compared to the nation in all mortality indicators. It also improved over time for the majority of the mortality indicators. Compared to the nation, Hawai‘i residents lived almost four years longer and had a much lower likelihood of death from cardiovascular disease, cancer, and diabetes death rates. Also, Hawai‘i had about one less infant mortality than the U.S. per 1,000 live births.

The state exhibited improvements over time in four of the five indicators within the mortality dimension. Hawai‘i improved in life expectancy at birth, infant mortality, cardiovascular disease death rates and in the cancer death rates. The diabetes death rate grew at an average annual rate of 0.1 percent since year 2010, performing slightly worse across time, but remained well under the national rate.

**Health status:** Hawai‘i’s health status indicators performed well compared to the nation and in general showed improvement. All pointed to higher levels of health than the nation, with the gaps being significant. Hawai‘i had improvements in health status with a smaller percentage of people reporting frequent physical distress, which decreased by 0.3 percent on average annually in declining to 9.5 percent, 3.9 percentage points below the national level. It also reported an increase in the percentage of adults reporting good or better health (by 0.1 percent on average annually). Despite these gains, there was an increase of over three percent on average annually in the percentage of adults with 14 or more poor mental health days. This remained 4.4 percentage points below the national level of 15.9 percent.

**Disease prevention:** Hawai‘i performed better than the nation in disease prevention, with two of the disease prevention indicators improving over time. Hawai‘i levels for obese adults (by 7.4 percentage points) and smokers (by 4.0 percentage points) as a percentage of adults were lower than national levels. Hawai‘i had more children who are fully immunized than the national average. Hawai‘i adults exercise more than the national average. Over time in Hawai‘i, adult

obesity rates are increasing, while immunization and fruit and vegetable consumption rates are doing declining.

**Access to care:** Hawai‘i continues to have better health insurance coverage compared to the nation. Hawai‘i saw strong improvements in health insurance coverage for adults (improved almost six percent on average annually) and for children (improved over two percent on average annually). A higher percentage of Medicaid spending was spent on long-term care for aged and disabled persons, via home- and community-based service (HCBS), in the nation compared to the state.

### County comparisons

- Hawai‘i County performed the worst compared to the other counties in the health domain and indicators. Hawai‘i County had the most favorable outcomes for one of the 15 comparable health indicators, diabetes death rate. Hawai‘i County had the least favorable outcomes for 9 of the 15 comparable health indicators: life expectancy at birth, infant mortality, cardiovascular disease and cancer death rates, adult good or better health status, adult frequent physical distress, obesity, adult smoking, and adults without health insurance.
- The City and County of Honolulu had the most favorable outcomes for five of the 15 comparable health indicators: infant mortality, adult frequent physical distress, adult smoking, and adult and children without health insurance. It had the worst outcomes amongst the counties for the diabetes death rate and fruit and vegetable consumption.
- Kaua‘i County had the most favorable outcomes for five of the 15 comparable health indicators: cancer death rate, adults reporting frequent mental distress, adult obesity, binge drinking, and fruit and vegetable consumption. Kaua‘i County had the least favorable outcomes for one of the 15 comparable health indicators, adult physical activity.
- Maui County had the most favorable outcomes for four of the 15 comparable health indicators: life expectancy at birth, cardiovascular disease death rate, adult good or better health status, and adult physical activity. Maui County had the least favorable outcomes for two of the 15 comparable health indicators: adult frequent mental distress and children without health insurance.

**Table 6. Health Domain: Most Recent Data and Findings**

Health Indicators	Year	U.S.	HI	Hawai‘i, compared to the nation	Hawai‘i: Over time <sup>(1)</sup>		County			
					Average Annual Growth	Improved or Worsened	Hawai‘i	Honolulu	Kaua‘i	Maui
<b>Mortality</b>										
<b>D01. Life expectancy at birth, years</b>	2018-2020	78.5	82.3	⊖	0.04%	↑	81.0	82.4	82.4	82.9
<b>D02. Infant mortality, per 1,000 live births</b>	2019-2021	5.4	4.5	⊖	-1.9%	↑	5.0	4.4	..	4.6
<b>D03. Cardiovascular disease death rate, per 100,000 people</b>	2018-2020	217.9	173.3	⊖	-1.1%	↑	185.9	170.6	175.7	170.0
<b>D04. Cancer death rate, per 100,000 people</b>	2022	146.4	118.2	⊖	-1.1%	↑	134.7	114.9	109.1	121.4
<b>D05. Diabetes death rate, per 100,000 people</b>	2020	24.8	16.8	⊖	0.1%	↓	14.9	17.9	..	16.5
<b>Health Status</b>										
<b>D06. Good or better health, % of adults</b>	2022	82.6%	86.0%	⊖	0.1%	↑	84.0%	86.6%	84.6%	87.1%
<b>D07. Frequent mental distress, % of adults with 14 or more poor mental health days (past 30 days)</b>	2022	15.9%	11.5%	⊖	3.1%	↓	13.2%	10.7%	9.9%	13.5%
<b>D08. Frequent physical distress, % of adults with 14 or more poor physical health days (past 30 days)</b>	2022	12.4%	9.5%	⊖	-0.3%	↑	12.2%	8.5%	11.9%	10.0%
<b>Disease Prevention</b>										
<b>D09. Obesity, % of adults</b>	2022	33.3%	25.9%	⊖	0.9%	↓	27.1%	26.0%	24.4%	24.8%
<b>D10. Smoking, % of adults</b>	2022	14.0%	10.0%	⊖	-3.7%	↑	13.2%	9.2%	11.6%	10.6%
<b>D11. Binge drinking, % of adults</b>	2022	17.0%	18.2%	🟡	0%	↔	18.3%	18.3%	16.2%	17.0%
<b>D12. Immunization rate, % of children aged 19-35 months</b>	2020	73.9%	77.1%	⊖	-0.1%	↓	..	..	..	..
<b>D13. Physical activity, % of adults meeting 150 minute/week aerobic exercise and 2+ days muscle strengthening recommendation</b>	2019	23.0%	24.8%	⊖	0.6%	↑	25.5%	24.0%	23.6%	26.7%

Health Indicators	Year	U.S.	HI	Hawai‘i, compared to the nation	Hawai‘i: Over time <sup>(1)</sup>		County			
					Average Annual Growth	Improved or Worsened	Hawai‘i	Honolulu	Kaua‘i	Maui
<b>D14. Fruit and vegetable consumption, % of adults who consume 5 or more daily servings</b>	2021	..	14.6%	..	-3.0%	⬇	15.0%	14.1%	16.2%	15.2%
<b>Access to Care</b>										
<b>D15. Adults without health insurance, % of adults</b>	2020	13.9%	8.2%	⊕	-3.6%	↑	9.9%	7.6%	8.2%	8.9%
<b>D16. Children without health insurance, % of children aged 17 and younger</b>	2022	5.1%	3.0%	⊕	-1.5%	↑	3.0%	2.9%	3.3%	3.8%
<b>D17. Home- and community-based service expenditures, % of Medicaid long-term care spending for aged and disabled persons</b>	FY 2020	33.4%	24.0%	⊖	-0.4%	⬇	..	..	..	..

Symbols: .. Data not available; ⊕ HI better than the nation, ⊖ No difference, ⊖ HI worse than the nation; ↑ HI improved, ↔ No change, ↓ HI worsened;

■ Top-ranked county, ■ Mid-ranked county, ■ Bottom-ranked county, □ No difference

(1) Benchmark years annotated in appendix

**D01. Life expectancy at birth**

Average number of years a newborn infant is expected to live

**Why is this important?**

This key indicator of health summarizes the mortality pattern that prevails across all age groups - from infants to children and adolescents to adults and the elderly. This indicator provides insight into whether a community has a healthy population, adequate public health infrastructure, and an efficient and effective health care system.

**How are we doing?**

In the recent National Vital Statistics Reports, Hawai‘i ranked first in year 2020 amongst the 50 states and D.C. for the total, male, and female populations, with life expectancies at birth of 80.7, 77.6, and 83.8 years, respectively (Arias et al., 2022). Hawai‘i and the four counties had a higher life expectancy than the nation for all periods analyzed. Hawai‘i County reported the lowest among the counties in life expectancy for 2018 to 2020, at 81 years. The remaining counties all reported life expectancies over 82 years.

**Indicator D01. Life expectancy at birth**

Area / Year	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020
United States	79.1	79.1	79.2	78.5
State of Hawai‘i	82.2	82.3	82.3	82.3
Hawai‘i County	80.1	80.5	80.6	81.0
C&C Honolulu	82.5	82.5	82.5	82.4
Kaua‘i County	82.0	82.1	82.0	82.4
Maui County	82.7	83.3	82.9	82.9

**Technical notes:**

To reduce fluctuation due to small numbers of deaths occurring at the county level, multiple years of deaths were used in the calculation.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2015–2020  
Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Vital Statistics. (February 27, 2024). Community Dashboard. *Life Expectancy*. Retrieved from <https://www.hawaiihlthmatters.org/>

## D02. Infant mortality

Number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births

### Why is this important?

This indicator measures how well the state serves some of its most vulnerable populations—pregnant women and infants. Infant mortality is often related to preterm birth, which in turn is related to the health status and overall situation of the mother. A declining trend in infant mortality suggests improved health care for mothers and babies, new developments in the care of high-risk pregnancies and sick newborns, and technological advances in the care of premature infants. The federal Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion's Healthy People 2030 target is 5.0 infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

### How are we doing?

In the 2019 to 2021 period, Hawai‘i saw significant improvement in infant deaths per 1,000 live births. The 0.8 death decline was notable in part because the higher U.S. rate was unchanged. In addition, the state finished well below the 2030 federal target of 5 deaths. Declines were witnessed in three counties for which data were available, with Honolulu (4.4 deaths) recording its lowest infant death number on record.

### Indicator D02. Infant mortality

Area / Year	2009-2011	2010-2012	2011-2013	2012-2014	2013-2015	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020	2019-2021
United States	6.2	6.1	6.0	5.9	4.2	6.5	6.2	5.8	4.2	5.4	5.4
State of Hawai‘i	5.4	5.1	5.3	5.1	3.6	5.3	5.4	5.7	5.2	5.3	4.5
Hawai‘i County	6.4	4.6	3.9	2.6	3.6	5.3	5.4	5.7	5.2	5.2	5.0
C&C Honolulu	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.3	6.1	5.5	5.4	4.4
Kaua‘i County	3.6	3.6	2.4	3.1	4.2	6.5	6.2	5.8	4.2	..	..
Maui County	4.8	3.1	5.5	5.6	6.4	4.5	5.7	4.5	5.8	5.1	4.6

### Technical notes:

The rates for the state and county are based on the place of residence of the deceased infants and live births.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2009-2011–2019-2021  
Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Vital Statistics. (February 27, 2024). Community Dashboard. *Infant Mortality Rate*. Retrieved from <https://www.hawaiihlthmatters.org/>

### D03. Cardiovascular disease death rate

Number of deaths due to cardiovascular disease per 100,000 people, adjusted for age

#### Why is this important?

Death rates due to cardiovascular disease are important in identifying specific health behaviors, risk factors, and environmental surroundings attributable to deaths. Since 2000, cardiovascular disease has regularly been the leading cause of death both in the nation and in Hawai‘i. People suffering from cardiovascular diseases are especially affected by the lack of health insurance and access to care. However, patients and primary care physicians can work together to prevent, delay, and manage cardiovascular disease through proper personal care, diet, and exercise. In many cases, the causes of cardiovascular disease are personal health-damaging behaviors practiced on a daily basis over the course of a lifetime.

#### How are we doing?

Compared to the nation, Hawai‘i had fewer cardiovascular disease deaths per 100,000 people across all periods analyzed. A decreasing trend can be seen for both Hawai‘i and the nation since the 2008 to 2010 period. The City and County of Honolulu and Maui County had the lowest cardiovascular disease death rate for year’s 2018 to 2020, at about 170 deaths per 100,000 residents; Hawai‘i County had the highest, at about 186 deaths per 100,000 residents, a level well below the national one.

#### Indicator D03. Cardiovascular disease death rate

Area / Year	2008-2010	2009-2011	2010-2012	2011-2013	2012-2014	2013-2015	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020
United States	241.5	233.6	228.4	224.3	221.4	221.0	219.8	219.7	217.8	216.3	217.9
State of Hawai‘i	194.4	187.1	180.5	181.6	182.4	183.7	179.1	178.3	175.5	174.5	173.3
Hawai‘i County	208.1	192.7	193.5	196.5	195.3	198.6	202.8	209.3	195.6	191.2	185.9
C&C Honolulu	191.6	185.9	178.4	177.6	179.6	181.1	177.1	175.8	175.2	172.6	170.6
Kaua‘i County	196.7	188.5	182.2	186.6	184.2	183.1	170.1	165.7	164.4	172.9	175.7
Maui County	189.9	184.7	176.1	181.9	180.3	180.8	169.7	163.4	161.1	166.5	170.0

#### Technical notes:

Cardiovascular diseases include diseases of the heart, stroke, and other cerebrovascular diseases. The ICD-10 codes that are classified as cardiovascular disease are major cardiovascular diseases as for the National Vital Statistics, I00-I78. State and county data are based on the place of residence of the deceased persons.

#### Data source:

- U.S./HI, 2008–2020  
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention. (February 27, 2024). Interactive Atlas of Heart Disease and Stroke, 1999–2020. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/maps/atlas/index.htm>.

#### D04. Cancer death rate

Number of deaths due to cancer per 100,000 people, adjusted for age

##### Why is this important?

This indicator reflects critical aspects of health in Hawai‘i and is helpful in providing information on specific health behaviors, risk factors, and environmental surroundings attributable to deaths due to malignant neoplasms (cancer). Since 2000, cancer has regularly been the second leading cause of death in Hawai‘i and the nation; some demographics have a higher cancer death rate than cardiovascular death rate. People suffering from cancer can be especially hindered by a lack of health insurance and access to care. However, patients and primary care physicians can work together to prevent, delay, and manage cancer through proper personal care, diet, and exercise.

##### How are we doing?

As the number of Hawai‘i deaths due to cancer continued to decline, the gap between local and national levels continued to grow. The rate of Hawai‘i deaths due to cancer fell after a slight rise in 2021. Declining rates in Hawai‘i and Maui Counties contributed to the improvement, though Honolulu and Kaua‘i Counties still have the state’s lowest death rates. The statewide rate – 118.2 deaths per 100,000 people is over 10 percent below the 2012 rate.

#### Indicator D04. Cancer death rate

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	166.5	163.4	161.5	159.0	156.1	152.7	149.2	149.1	144.1	146.4	146.4
State of Hawai‘i	132.5	131.7	135.5	130.5	123.7	125.2	120.6	123.4	117.6	119.5	118.2
Hawai‘i County	136.4	139.0	141.4	138.4	138.3	155.3	130.3	128.0	125.3	141.2	134.7
C&C Honolulu	131.1	127.4	135.2	127.4	121.6	120.3	118.9	120.6	115.5	114.5	114.9
Kaua‘i County	144.5	134.9	119.1	127.7	118.5	127.4	122.6	124.2	123.9	108.1	109.1
Maui County	131.3	150.1	136.5	138.7	115.3	119.0	119.2	133.2	118.2	127.2	121.4

##### Technical notes:

Cancer includes all malignant neoplasms, ICD-10 codes C00-C97. State and county data are based on the place of residence of the deceased persons.

##### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012–2022  
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion , Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention. (December 15, 2021). Interactive Atlas of Heart Disease and Stroke.
- U.S./HI, 2012–2022  
Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Vital Statistics. (December 15, 2023). Community Dashboard. *Cancer Death Rate*. Retrieved from <https://www.hawaiihlthmatters.org/>

## D05. Diabetes death rate

Number of deaths due to diabetes mellitus per 100,000 people, adjusted for age

### Why is this important?

This indicator provides information on vital aspects of health in Hawai‘i as it reflects the specific health behaviors, risk factors, and environmental surroundings attributable to deaths due to diabetes mellitus. Diabetes is correlated with other health issues. According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, diabetes is likely to be underreported as the underlying cause of death, and the risk for death among people with diabetes is about twice that of people without diabetes. This indicator is especially important in light of the increasing diabetes rate in Hawai‘i.

### How are we doing?

In year 2020, Hawai‘i had a diabetes death rate of 16.8 deaths per 100,000 people. While the rate was 32 percent below the national rate, it was the state’s highest since 2009. Both rates and trends have fluctuated widely in Hawai‘i, Honolulu, and Maui Counties in recent years. The Honolulu rate surged in Honolulu in 2020 but declined elsewhere. Kaua‘i death rates haven’t been reported since 2017.

### Indicator D05. Diabetes death rate

Area / Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
United States	20.8	21.6	21.2	21.2	20.9	21.3	21.0	21.5	21.4	21.6	24.8
State of Hawai‘i	16.6	15.5	16.2	15.5	15.4	14.5	15.1	15.9	16.1	15.8	16.8
Hawai‘i County	14.3	15.0	16.0	14.4	16.1	14.8	11.7	16.2	16.9	16.4	14.9
C&C Honolulu	16.5	15.3	15.7	15.0	14.9	15.0	15.3	15.3	16.0	14.5	17.9
Kaua‘i County	..	..	..	..	..	..	20.4	22.2	..	..	..
Maui County	19.4	18.7	21.3	19.9	18.1	13.2	16.3	17.5	18.2	22.8	16.5

### Technical notes:

Diabetes mellitus is ICD-10 code E10-E14. Data from Kaua‘i County is blank due to the unreliability from small sample sizes. State and county data are based on the place of residence of the deceased persons.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2010–2020  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. (n.d.). Underlying cause of death, 1999-2020. *ICD-10 Codes E10-E14 (Diabetes mellitus)*. CDC Wonder. Retrieved from <https://wonder.cdc.gov/>
- U.S./HI, 2010–2020  
Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Vital Statistics. (February 27, 2024). Community Dashboard. *Diabetes Death Rate (Multiple Cause of Death)*. Retrieved from <https://www.hawaiihalalthmatters.org/>

D06. Good or better health	
Percentage of adults who reported good, very good, or excellent health	

### Why is this important?

This indicator provides information on the health status of the population based on the self-reported health status of respondents. As such, it complements the traditional measures of morbidity and mortality, with some research demonstrating that self-reported health status is correlated to morbidity and mortality. Thus, self-perceived health condition is useful as a proxy measure for the perceived symptom burden of both acute and chronic health conditions and as predictive indicator of the future burden on the health care delivery system.

### How are we doing?

In the years between 2012 and 2022, an average of 86.0 percent of Hawai‘i adults reported their health condition to be good, very good, or excellent. The annual scores ranged from 83.7 percent to 88.9 percent, with the peak coinciding with the year Covid-19’s effects were most devastating. The pattern is repeated in national data. The following two years saw the scores decline both nationally in Hawai‘i, with the national score falling below its historical average (based on 2012 to 2022 data) and the Hawai‘i score matching its historical average. Maui County had the highest percentage of those reporting good or better health (87.1 percent), while Hawai‘i County reported the lowest (84.0 percent).

### Indicator D06. Good or better health

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	82.4%	83.0%	83.2%	83.2%	83.4%	82.8%	82.5%	82.8%	86.7%	84.5%	82.6%
State of Hawai‘i	85.2%	86.3%	85.5%	86.4%	85.2%	85.3%	83.7%	83.9%	88.9%	87.8%	86.0%
Hawai‘i County	84.6%	85.0%	82.2%	85.9%	81.6%	83.4%	82.8%	81.9%	86.4%	85.9%	84.0%
C&C Honolulu	85.2%	86.5%	85.7%	86.2%	86.1%	85.2%	84.0%	84.2%	89.2%	88.5%	86.6%
Kaua‘i County	83.5%	86.7%	84.3%	85.8%	83.6%	86.3%	83.5%	84.3%	89.3%	88.4%	84.6%
Maui County	86.6%	85.2%	86.0%	87.3%	85.6%	85.3%	84.1%	85.9%	90.8%	86.1%	87.1%

### Technical notes:

Adult respondents were asked: “Would you say that in general your health is excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?” A “good or better” health status refers to one of the following response categories: “good,” “very good,” and “excellent.” The national average is the median of 50 states, District of Columbia, and U.S. Territories.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012-2022  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. (December 27, 2023). Health status, overall health, all available years for all states and DC (median) and Hawai‘i. *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System: Prevalence and Trends Data*. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/brfssprevalence/>
- U.S./HI, 2012–2022

Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Vital Statistics. (February 28, 2024). Community Dashboard. *Adults with Health Status of Good or Better*. Retrieved from <https://www.hawaiihalalthmatters.org/>

D07. Frequent mental distress	
Percentage of adults reporting 14 or more poor mental health days per month	

### Why is this important?

Measuring healthy days complements the overall health status by providing a measure of how frequently a respondent feels healthy and distinguishing between mental and physical health. The number of healthy days is inversely related to both self-reported chronic diseases and their risk factors; thus, it can help determine the burden of preventable disease, injuries, and disabilities, and provide valuable insights into the relationships between health related QOL and risk factors such as body mass index, physical inactivity, and smoking status. Fourteen days is set as the cutoff for frequent distress because a strong relationship has been demonstrated between clinically diagnosed disorders and a minimum 14-day period.

### How are we doing?

Hawai‘i continues to have a smaller percentage of adults reporting 14 or more days of poor mental health per month compared to the nation. The 2022 gap between the two (3.9 percentage points) is the greatest dating back to 2012. The steady increase in both U.S. and Hawai‘i levels is a concern, as both levels reached new highs in 2022. Maui County reported the highest percentage of frequent mental distress (13.5%), while Kaua‘i County reported the lowest (9.9%).

### Indicator D07. Frequent mental distress

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	11.7%	11.3%	11.0%	11.2%	11.7%	12.0%	13.0%	13.8%	13.2%	14.6%	15.9%
State of Hawai‘i	8.5%	8.2%	8.4%	8.8%	9.2%	9.5%	9.9%	11.1%	10.7%	10.7%	11.5%
Hawai‘i County	10.1%	10.2%	10.6%	8.3%	11.4%	11.8%	11.5%	13.8%	11.0%	11.2%	13.2%
C&C Honolulu	8.2%	7.9%	8.2%	8.9%	8.6%	8.8%	9.8%	10.4%	10.3%	10.0%	10.7%
Kaua‘i County	7.7%	5.4%	7.4%	8.7%	6.4%	7.1%	8.4%	11.1%	11.9%	10.7%	9.9%
Maui County	8.4%	8.4%	7.5%	8.5%	10.1%	11.4%	10.6%	12.2%	10.5%	11.1%	13.5%

### Technical notes:

Adult respondents were asked: *“Now thinking about your mental health, which includes stress, depression, and problems with emotions, for how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?”* State, county and primary care service area data are from HI-BRFSS. Census place, zip code and census tract data are from CDC-PLACES. Use caution when comparing directly between the two data sources as they use different survey weights. The national average is the median of 50 states and District of Columbia.

### Data source/s:

- HI, 2012-2022  
Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Vital Statistics. (February 28, 2024). Community Dashboard. *Adult Poor Mental Health: 14+ Days*. Retrieved from <https://www.hawaiihalalthmatters.org/>
- U.S./HI, 2012-2022

America's Health Ranking analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Prevalence & Trends Data. (December 27, 2023). Annual report, various years. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/brfssprevalence/>

D08. Frequent physical distress	
Percentage of adults reporting 14 or more poor physical health days per month	

### Why is this important?

Measuring healthy days complements the overall health status by providing a measure of how frequently a respondent feels healthy and distinguishing between mental and physical health. The number of healthy days is inversely related to both self-reported chronic diseases and their risk factors; thus, it can help determine the burden of preventable disease, injuries, and disabilities, and provide valuable insights into the relationships between health-related QOL and risk factors such as body mass index, physical inactivity, and smoking status. Fourteen days is set as the cutoff because it constitutes a substantial level of physical impairment.

### How are we doing?

While Hawai‘i continues to have a smaller percentage of adults reporting 14 or more days of poor physical health per month compared to the nation, both percentages rose sharply in 2022, reaching levels not seen since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. There were significant increases in reporting frequent physical distress per month from 2021 to 2022 across the counties, with Kaua‘i and Maui Counties both increasing over four percent. Hawai‘i County reported the highest percentage of adults reporting frequent physical distress at 12.2 percent.

### Indicator D08. Frequent physical distress

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	12.1%	11.8%	11.6%	11.4%	11.7%	12.0%	11.0%	12.6%	9.9%	10.9%	12.4%
State of Hawai‘i	9.8%	9.7%	9.7%	9.2%	9.9%	10.7%	10.5%	10.6%	7.3%	7.5%	9.5%
Hawai‘i County	11.3%	12.7%	11.4%	10.8%	14.3%	12.7%	11.9%	13.9%	8.1%	9.8%	12.2%
C&C Honolulu	9.4%	9.1%	7.8%	8.8%	8.6%	10.8%	10.3%	9.8%	6.9%	7.2%	8.5%
Kaua‘i County	8.7%	8.2%	11.7%	10.6%	10.0%	9.4%	11.9%	9.1%	7.3%	7.7%	11.9%
Maui County	10.7%	11.2%	9.5%	9.5%	12.6%	9.3%	9.5%	11.2%	7.9%	5.4%	10.0%

### Technical notes:

Adult respondents were asked: “Now thinking about your physical health, which includes physical illness and injury, for how many days during the past 30 days was your physical health not good?” The national average is the median of 50 states and District of Columbia.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012-2022  
America’s Health Ranking analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Prevalence & Trends Data. (December 27, 2023). Annual report, various years. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/brfssprevalence/>
- HI, 2012-2022  
Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Vital Statistics. (February 28, 2024). Community Dashboard. *Adult Poor Physical Health: 14+ Days*. Retrieved from <https://www.hawaiihalalthmatters.org/>

**D09. Obesity**

Percentage of adults who are obese

**Why is this important?**

This is an important measure in determining health status and whether adult residents are maintaining body weight at a level that lowers their risk for certain chronic illnesses. Obesity is associated with increased risk of heart disease, diabetes, mental health, physical mobility, respiratory problems, and other health problems. At the same time, there are economic consequences both directly (e.g., preventive, diagnostic, and treatment services) and indirectly (e.g., decreased productivity, restricted activity, absenteeism, bed days, and premature death) related to obesity. The federal Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion's Healthy People 2020 target is reducing obesity among adults to lower than 30.5%.

**How are we doing?**

Two trends are notable here. Obesity is on the rise in both the U.S. and in Hawai‘i, and the gap between U.S. and Hawai‘i obesity rates continue to increase, with the U.S. increasing more than Hawai‘i. In the decade between 2012 and 2022, U.S. obesity levels grew by 5.7 percentage points, over a 20 percent increase. The Hawai‘i increase, 2.3 percentage points, equates to a 9.7% higher obesity rate. Hawai‘i County continued to have the highest obesity rates in 2022 at 27.1 percent. Honolulu County had a two percentage points increase from 2021. Kaua‘i and Maui Counties had decreasing obesity rates from 2021 to 2022.

**Indicator D09. Obesity**

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	27.6%	29.4%	29.6%	29.8%	29.9%	31.3%	30.9%	31.4%	31.9%	33.0%	33.3%
State of Hawai‘i	23.6%	21.8%	22.1%	22.7%	23.8%	23.8%	24.9%	25.0%	24.5%	25.0%	25.9%
Hawai‘i County	24.8%	22.8%	20.3%	25.0%	26.9%	23.3%	27.9%	26.3%	25.2%	29.6%	27.1%
C&C Honolulu	24.0%	21.6%	22.3%	22.4%	23.3%	24.4%	24.7%	24.9%	24.7%	24.0%	26.0%
Kaua‘i County	20.8%	17.4%	22.6%	21.2%	24.0%	21.5%	25.3%	24.7%	22.0%	25.5%	24.4%
Maui County	21.3%	24.3%	23.5%	22.7%	24.3%	23.0%	24.4%	24.8%	25.9%	26.3%	24.8%

**Technical notes:**

Obesity is assessed by using body mass index (BMI), defined as the weight (in kilograms) divided by the square of the height (in meters). A BMI of 30 or above is obese. BMI does not measure body fat directly but has been shown to be moderately correlated with more direct measures of body fat. The national average is the median of 50 states and District of Columbia.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2012-2022  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. (December 29, 2023). Overweight and obesity (BMI), BMI categories, all available years for all states and DC (median) and Hawai‘i. *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System: Prevalence and Trends Data*. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/brfssprevalence/>

- HI, 2012-2022  
Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Vital Statistics. (February 28, 2024). Community Dashboard. *Adults Who Are Obese*. Retrieved from <https://www.hawaiihlthmatters.org/>

## D10. Smoking

Percentage of adults who report smoking cigarettes

### Why is this important?

The 2004 U.S. Surgeon General's report on the health effects of smoking stated that tobacco use remains the leading preventable cause of disease and death in the United States. In addition to the harmful effects of tobacco use on individual smokers, secondhand smoke exposure is proven to cause disease and premature death in children and adults who do not smoke. Any level of exposure to secondhand smoke is considered to increase health risks. On the other hand, substantial risks from smoking can be reduced and health status can be improved by successfully quitting smoking at any age. The health of the community will also have immediate and long-term benefit from a reduced smoking prevalence. The federal Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion's Healthy People 2030 goal is to reduce the percentage of current smokers among adults to 5 percent.

### How are we doing?

This measure is one where both the U.S. and Hawai‘i have seen parallel improvements. In the decade since 2012, the U.S. smoking rates declined by 28.6 percent, with Hawai‘i's decline reaching 31.5 percent. Hawai‘i's 2022 rate – 10.0 percent – remains at double the level the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion has set for 2030. Hawai‘i County's had the highest percentage of adults who report smoking cigarettes (13.2 percent), while the City and County of Honolulu had the lowest (9.2 percent).

### Indicator D10. Smoking

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	19.6%	19.0%	18.1%	17.5%	17.1%	17.1%	16.1%	16.0%	15.5%	14.4%	14.0%
State of Hawai‘i	14.6%	13.3%	14.1%	14.1%	13.1%	12.8%	13.4%	12.3%	11.6%	10.1%	10.0%
Hawai‘i County	16.3%	17.6%	20.3%	16.2%	16.3%	14.9%	17.0%	15.5%	14.0%	12.0%	13.2%
C&C Honolulu	14.1%	12.1%	13.4%	13.5%	11.9%	12.3%	12.3%	11.3%	11.1%	9.9%	9.2%
Kaua‘i County	17.6%	12.1%	14.6%	14.1%	15.1%	13.1%	14.8%	11.5%	11.4%	9.0%	11.6%
Maui County	14.0%	15.3%	12.4%	15.9%	15.2%	12.5%	15.2%	14.6%	11.8%	10.1%	10.6%

### Technical notes:

Adult respondents were asked: “*Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire lifetime?*” and “*Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?*” Those who responded that they have smoked over 100 cigarettes and who smoke “every day” or “some days” are smokers. The national average is the median of 50 states and District of Columbia.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012-2022  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. (December 29, 2023). Tobacco use, current smoker status, all available years for all states and DC (median) and Hawai‘i. *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System: Prevalence and Trends Data*. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/brfssprevalence/>

- HI, 2012-2022  
Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Vital Statistics. (February 28, 2024). Community Dashboard. *Adults Who Smoke Cigarettes*. Retrieved from <https://www.hawaiihalthmatters.org/>

## D11. Binge drinking

Percentage of adults who report binge drinking

### Why is this important?

This indicator measures the potential burden of preventable disease, injuries, and disabilities due to excessive drinking. Binge drinking, or getting drunk, typically results in acute intoxication, which can be detrimental to the health and well-being of the users and others in the family and community. The negative consequences include, but are not limited to, impaired brain function; increased risk of certain cancers, stroke, and liver diseases; damage to a developing fetus if consumed by pregnant women; and increased risks of motor-vehicle traffic crashes, suicides, violence, other injuries, unintended pregnancies, coma, and death. The federal Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion's Healthy People 2030 goal is to reduce binge drinking among adults to lower than 25.4%.

### How are we doing?

The newest data suggest that neither the U.S. nor Hawai‘i has made progress in addressing its drinking problems. Binge drinking levels surged by record levels in both areas in 2022, offsetting nearly a decade of slow progress in reducing binge drinking levels. All counties had a higher rate of binge drinking than the U.S. except for Kaua‘i County, which had the lowest at 16.2 percent. Hawai‘i County had the greatest increase in binge drinking from 2021, matching the City and County level at 18.3 percent.

### Indicator D11. Binge drinking

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	16.9%	16.8%	16.0%	16.3%	16.9%	17.4%	16.2%	16.8%	15.7%	15.4%	17.0%
State of Hawai‘i	18.2%	18.3%	19.7%	18.9%	18.6%	19.5%	19.2%	17.3%	15.7%	16.6%	18.2%
Hawai‘i County	21.1%	15.5%	20.0%	20.3%	20.5%	19.0%	19.2%	17.5%	16.8%	19.4%	18.3%
C&C Honolulu	17.6%	18.7%	19.2%	18.4%	18.0%	19.0%	19.4%	16.8%	15.0%	16.2%	18.3%
Kaua‘i County	21.4%	18.2%	19.5%	19.4%	20.8%	21.8%	20.9%	18.4%	17.4%	16.6%	16.2%
Maui County	17.6%	18.4%	23.4%	19.4%	18.9%	20.5%	18.9%	20.4%	16.1%	16.6%	17.0%

### Technical notes:

The definition of binge drinking is males having five or more drinks on one occasion and females having four or more drinks on one occasion. The national average is the median of 50 states and District of Columbia.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012-2022  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. (December 29, 2023). Alcohol consumption, binge drinking, all available years for all states and DC (median) and Hawai‘i. *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System: Prevalence and Trends Data*. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/brfssprevalence/>

- HI, 2012-2021  
Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Vital Statistics. (December 29, 2023). Community Dashboard. *Adults Who Binge Drink*. Retrieved from <https://www.hawaiihalalthmatters.org/>

## D12. Immunization rate

Percentage of children who are immunized by 35 months old

### Why is this important?

This indicator assesses the current and future health of the children in Hawai‘i. Timely immunization for childhood diseases is a crucial part of preventing the spread of infectious diseases among children and preserving the public health of the general population.

### How are we doing?

Hawai‘i has seen its vaccination rates rise since 2011, a period in which U.S. rates stagnated. Because roughly a third of the population below the age of 3 changes each year, the push to encourage vaccination is a difficult one. This also helps to explain the fluctuation in Hawai‘i rates.

### Indicator D12. Immunization rate

Area / Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
United States	74.4%	75.9%	74.8%	74.1%	74.9%	75.3%	74.9%	76.1%	76.0%	73.9%
State of Hawai‘i	67.2%	79.4%	80.5%	74.3%	75.0%	80.4%	70.7%	81.9%	74.1%	77.1%

### Technical notes:

This report uses data to find the percentage of children by age 35 months who are immunized with the childhood combined 7-vaccine series. The childhood combined seven-vaccine series consists of diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis (DTaP) vaccine; measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine; poliovirus vaccine; Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) vaccine; hepatitis B (HepB) vaccine; varicella vaccine; and pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV). County data were unavailable.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2011-2020  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. (February 27, 2024). *ChildVaxView – Vaccination Coverage among Young Children (0 – 35 Months)*. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/coverage/childvaxview/interactive-reports/index.html>

### D13. Physical activity

Percentage of adults who meet the 150-minute-per-week aerobic exercise and 2 or more days of muscle strengthening recommendation

#### Why is this important?

This indicator measures the extent to which the adult population is maintaining a healthy lifestyle by engaging in regular physical activity. Physically active residents enjoy significant health benefits; for example, substantially lower risks in developing or dying from heart disease, diabetes, colon cancer, and high blood pressure; better physical and emotional health; and better memory, concentration, and energy levels. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recommends at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic exercise or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity aerobic exercise and at least 2 days of muscle strengthening exercise a week. Engaging in moderate physical activity at least 5 days a week for 30 minutes or more each time provides health benefits associated with calorie consumption and weight control.

#### How are we doing?

Because this data dates back five years, it doesn't reflect the impact that the Covid-19 pandemic had on physical activity patterns. Two trends in the biennial data are evident: 1) Hawai'i activity levels continue to exceed national ones though the gap narrowed in 2019, and 2) activity level differences among the counties continue to fluctuate. Maui County saw the highest percentage of adults exhibiting adequate levels of physical activity in 2019, having been lowest among the counties four years earlier.

#### Indicator D13. Physical activity

Area / Year	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019
United States	..	20.5%	20.3%	20.3%	23.0%
State of Hawai'i	23.7%	26.5%	23.6%	24.6%	24.8%
Hawai'i County	23.3%	26.0%	22.8%	22.0%	25.5%
C&C Honolulu	23.4%	26.3%	23.4%	24.2%	24.0%
Kaua'i County	25.1%	26.4%	27.8%	25.2%	23.6%
Maui County	25.8%	28.4%	21.8%	28.2%	26.7%

#### Technical notes:

The national average is the median of 50 states and District of Columbia. Due to methodology changes, BRFSS results from 2011 forward should not be directly compared with previous years.

#### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. (December 29, 2023). Physical activity. *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System: Prevalence and Trends Data*. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/brfssprevalence/>
- HI, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019  
Hawai'i State Department of Health, Vital Statistics. (February 27, 2024). Community Dashboard. *Adults Who Meet Aerobic and Strengthening Activity Guidelines*. Retrieved from <https://www.hawaiihlthmatters.org/>

#### D14. Fruit and vegetable consumption

Percentage of adults who consumer 5 or more daily servings of fruits and vegetables

##### Why is this important?

This indicator assesses the extent to which the adult population maintains a healthy eating lifestyle to optimize nutrition, reduce disease risk, and maximize good health. Maintaining a healthy diet is one of the key factors in the promotion and maintenance of good health. As an important component of a healthy diet, sufficient daily consumption of fruits and vegetables tend to prevent and reduce the risk of chronic diseases, such as obesity, stroke, diabetes, some cancers, cardiovascular diseases, and hypertension. The “sufficient” amount varies by individuals, and it increases as the daily calorie requirements increase. According to the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, a 2,000-calorie diet requires about 2 cup-equivalents of fruits and 2.5 cup-equivalents of vegetables.

##### How are we doing?

With the exception of Kaua‘i County, Hawai‘i saw significant declines in the percentage of adults eating adequate quantities of fruits and vegetables in 2021. The declines from the levels seen in 2011-2015 are striking. Whether this is a result of eating patterns shifting due to higher prices is a significant question for health outcomes given the inflation that commenced in 2021.

#### Indicator D14. Fruit and vegetable consumption

Area / Year	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021
State of Hawai‘i	19.7%	18.1%	19.8%	20.7%	17.5%	14.6%
Hawai‘i County	19.8%	20.6%	22.9%	22.8%	18.6%	15.0%
C&C Honolulu	18.5%	16.4%	18.4%	19.3%	17.3%	14.1%
Kaua‘i County	26.5%	20.5%	22.8%	23.4%	14.4%	16.2%
Maui County	23.4%	24.4%	21.2%	23.7%	17.7%	15.2%

##### Technical notes:

National data not available.

##### Data source/s:

- HI, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. (December 29, 2023). Fruit and Vegetable Consumption. *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System: Prevalence and Trends Data*. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/brfssprevalence/>
- HI, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021  
Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Vital Statistics. (February 27, 2024). Community Dashboard. *Adult Fruit and Vegetable Consumption*. Retrieved from <https://www.hawaiihalohalo.org/>

**D15. Adults without health insurance**

Percentage of adults without health insurance

**Why is this important?**

Health insurance provides access to health care, which directly influences the well-being of individuals and the community. Individuals who have health insurance are more likely to seek preventive health screening and services than those without such coverage, leading to a healthier population and more cost-effective health care. Adults without health insurance are susceptible to a risky combination of health and financial crises. In addition, a high level of uninsured adults may hurt the economy of the state.

**How are we doing?**

Hawai‘i had more of its adults with insurance than the nation. For year 2020, 8.2 percent of Hawai‘i adults had no health insurance compared to 13.9 percent of adults in the nation. The City and County of Honolulu had the lowest adult uninsured rate, 7.6 percent uninsured, while Hawai‘i County had the highest uninsured rates at 9.9 percent.

**Indicator D15. Adults without health insurance**

Area / Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
United States	15.1%	14.7%	14.4%	11.5%	9.1%	9.0%	9.1%	9.4%	14.5%	13.9%
State of Hawai‘i	11.4%	12.7%	10.0%	9.8%	8.8%	8.3%	7.8%	8.1%	8.6%	8.2%
Hawai‘i County	13.4%	16.0%	13.1%	11.6%	8.7%	10.0%	8.0%	9.9%	9.4%	9.9%
C&C Honolulu	9.9%	12.1%	8.8%	8.6%	8.6%	7.3%	7.4%	6.5%	7.5%	7.6%
Kaua‘i County	11.6%	11.0%	15.0%	11.9%	9.7%	10.8%	9.9%	10.9%	8.7%	8.2%
Maui County	16.0%	12.3%	12.1%	11.0%	9.5%	10.0%	9.1%	12.6%	11.8%	8.9%

**Technical notes:**

Data for adults 18 to 64 years old.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2011-2020  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. (February 27, 2024). Alcohol consumption, binge drinking, all available years for all states and DC (median) and Hawai‘i. *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System: Prevalence and Trends Data*. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/brfssprevalence/>
- HI, 2013–2020  
Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Vital Statistics. (February 27, 2024). Community Dashboard. *Adults without Health Insurance*. Retrieved from <https://www.hawaiihlthmatters.org/>

**D16. Children without health insurance**

Percentage of children aged 17 and younger without health insurance

**Why is this important?**

Health insurance provides access to health care services and directly influences the well-being of children and the community. Children who have health insurance are more likely to receive preventive health care and early treatment than those without, leading to a healthier population and more cost-effective health care. Children without health insurance but who may need medical care are susceptible to health crises.

**How are we doing?**

Across all years analyzed, Hawai‘i insured more of its children. In 2022, Hawai‘i had three percent of its children without health insurance, while the nation had over five percent. There have been improvements for both the nation and Hawai‘i over time. The City and County of Honolulu had the lowest percent of children without health insurance (2.9 percent) amongst Hawai‘i’s counties, while Kaua‘i County had the highest (3.3 percent).

**Indicator D16. Children without health insurance**

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	7.2%	7.1%	6.0%	1.6%	4.5%	4.3%	5.2%	5.7%	5.4%	5.1%
State of Hawai‘i	3.5%	3.0%	3.1%	4.8%	2.2%	2.2%	2.6%	2.8%	2.8%	3.0%
Hawai‘i County	3.8%	4.6%	1.6%	2.0%	1.7%	2.9%	4.1%	2.3%	3.5%	3.0%
C&C Honolulu	2.9%	2.4%	3.4%	1.4%	2.3%	1.8%	1.9%	2.4%	2.5%	2.9%
Kaua‘i County	4.3%	4.9%	1.8%	1.2%	2.6%	0.7%	5.1%	4.4%	4.4%	3.3%
Maui County	6.3%	4.5%	3.7%	2.9%	2.5%	4.3%	3.5%	5.3%	3.0%	3.8%

**Technical notes:**

U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2012-2019, 2021-2022

U.S. Census Bureau. (February 28, 2024). B27001: Health insurance coverage status by sex by age. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## D17. Home- and community-based service expenditures

Percentage of Medicaid long-term care spending for aged and disabled persons allocated to home- and community-based services

### Why is this important?

This indicator measures the extent to which the state is supporting access to home- and community-based services among the elderly and people with disabilities. There is a strong preference among the frail elderly to age in their own home; however, the majority of public financial support for long-term care is spent on nursing facility care, making home- and community-based care inaccessible to many. In addition, home- and community-based care is a cost-effective alternative to nursing home care. It thus provides access to more people with long-term care needs. Medicaid, as the major payer of long-term care services in the nation, plays an important role in re-balancing the long-term care delivery system by financing an adequate choice of community and institutional options.

### How are we doing?

In Hawai‘i during fiscal year 2020, home- and community-based service expenditures were over nine percentage points less than for the nation. Expenditures for the U.S. has decreased more rapidly, while Hawai‘i's expenditure has remained relatively flat.

### Indicator D17. Home- and community-based service expenditures

Area / Year	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
United States	38.2%	38.8%	40.2%	41.1%	43.8%	45.2%	31.8%	32.2%	34.0%	33.4%
State of Hawai‘i	24.8%	21.8%	21.9%	24.5%	23.9%	26.0%	23.0%	26.0%	26.0%	24.0%

### Technical notes:

Medicaid long-term-care spending includes expenditures for nursing homes, regardless of participants' type of disability or reason for admission; and all 1915(c) waivers for older people and adults with physical disabilities, and personal care services, if any. Populations with developmental disabilities, behavioral health services, and services received through managed care programs are not included in the data. County data were unavailable.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, FY 2011-2020  
Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (January 4, 2024). Percentage of long-term services and supports for HCBS: Services for older adults and people with physical disabilities. *Medicaid expenditures for long-term services and supports, various years*. Retrieved from <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/ltss/reports-and-evaluations/index.html>.

## E. HOUSING & TRANSPORTATION DOMAIN AND INDICATORS

Hawai‘i’s housing & transportation domain consists of ten indicators within four dimensions: affordable housing, unmet housing needs, housing characteristics, and commuting patterns. Hawai‘i underperformed the nation in all the affordable housing and unmet housing needs dimensions indicators and in one of the two indicators within the housing characteristics dimension. Even though Hawai‘i underperformed the nation, there was growth for these indicators over time except for one, rental cost burden. Hawai‘i outperformed the nation in all the commuting patterns dimension indicator.

Based on the housing & transportation domain, as summarized in Table 7, Hawai‘i underperformed the nation within six of the ten housing & transportation indicators. Standing out was Hawai‘i’s homeowner housing cost burden. Hawai‘i had over 41 percent of its homeowners with mortgages accounting for over 30 percent of their household income on selected monthly owner costs. Hawai‘i’s homeowners housing cost burden was almost 14 percentage points worse than the national average. Also standing out, was that Hawai‘i had about 239 more homeless per 100,000 people than the nation and 5.1 percentage points more overcrowded dwellings than the nation.

Despite many of Hawai‘i’s housing & transportation indicators performing below the nation, all but two improved over time. Though, five of the eight improved indicators did not have an average annual growth rate of more than one percent. The largest improvements were seen in Hawai‘i’s homelessness numbers, with an average annual decline of almost five percent. The public transportation and rental cost indicators worsened over time.

**Affordable housing:** Hawai‘i is considered one of the most expensive states in the nation when it comes to housing, and the three indicators in this subsection continued to confirm that. The financial burden for both Hawai‘i’s renters and homeowners was higher than for the nation, and a lower percentage of people own a home, compared to the nation overall. Hawai‘i’s housing cost burden and home ownership indicators improved over time, while the rental cost burden worsened over time.

**Unmet housing needs:** Hawai‘i underperformed the nation in its unmet housing needs indicators, however, both improved over time. Hawai‘i had over five percentage points more overcrowded dwellings than the nation.

**Housing characteristics:** Hawai‘i had 1.3 percentage points fewer housing structures built after year 1980 compared to the nation and this indicator had about one percent average annual growth in Hawai‘i. Hawai‘i continued to have more internet access than the nation and internet access grew 1.4 percent on average annually.

**Commuting patterns:** Hawai‘i performed better than the nation in all three of the commuting patterns indicators. Hawai‘i’s long commute time increased in 2022, however remains at record lows compared to the 2012 to 2019 period. Over four percentage points fewer commuting workers in Hawai‘i drive alone to work compared to the nation. Public transportation usage will likely gradually recover after 2021, however, remains well above the national usage.

## County comparisons

- Hawai‘i County performed the best compared to the other counties and had favorable outcomes in four of the nine comparable housing & transportation indicators: rental cost burden, home ownership, overcrowded dwellings, and age of structure. Hawai‘i County was the only county with higher ownership levels than reported in the U.S. Hawai‘i County had unfavorable outcomes for two of the nine comparable housing & transportation indicators: long commute time and public transportation usage.
- The City and County of Honolulu had the most favorable outcomes for public transportation usage and workers driving alone to work. The City and County of Honolulu had unfavorable outcomes for three of the nine comparable housing & transportation indicators: rental cost burden, homeownership, and age of structure. Honolulu County’s share of renters paying over 30 percent of household income on rent jumped to 56.4 percent, the highest level on record and over eight percentage points more than the nation overall.
- Kaua‘i County had favorable outcomes for three of the nine comparable housing & transportation indicators: overcrowded dwellings, internet access, and commute time. Kaua‘i County had the worse outcomes for two of the nine comparable housing & transportation indicators: housing cost burden and driving alone to work. Kaua‘i County’s 97.0 percent internet access rate is the state’s highest and over three percentage points higher than the nation overall.
- Maui County was mid-ranked for most and worse for one of the nine comparable indicators: overcrowded dwellings.

**Table 7. Housing & Transportation Domain: Most Recent Data and Findings**

Housing & Transportation Indicators	Year	U.S.	HI	Hawai‘i, compared to the nation	Hawai‘i: Over time <sup>(1)</sup>		County			
					Average Annual Growth	Improved or Worsened	Hawai‘i	Honolulu	Kaua‘i	Maui
<b>Affordable Housing</b>										
<b>E01. Rental cost burden</b> , % of renters spending over 30% of household income on rent	2022	48.2%	52.9%	◐	0.5%	⬇	38.7%	56.4%	42.4%	47.7%
<b>E02. Housing cost burden</b> , % of owners with mortgage spending over 30% of household income on selected monthly owner costs	2022	27.8%	41.3%	◐	-1.5%	↑	37.7%	41.3%	45.4%	44.5%
<b>E03. Home ownership</b> , % of occupied housing units	2022	65.2%	62.6%	◐	1.0%	↑	73.8%	59.7%	64.4%	64.5%
<b>Unmet Housing Needs</b>										
<b>E04. Overcrowded dwellings</b> , % of occupied housing units with 1.01 or more occupants per room	2022	3.4%	8.5%	◐	-0.2%	↑	8.5%	8.2%	5.8%	11.3%
<b>E05. Homelessness</b> , point-in-time count, per 100,000 people	2022	175	414	◐	-4.7%	↑	..	396	..	..
<b>Housing Characteristics</b>										
<b>E06. Age of structure</b> , % of total housing units built after 1980	2022	50.7%	49.4%	◐	0.8%	↑	67.5%	42.8%	59.9%	61.2%
<b>E07. Internet access</b> , % of households with internet access at home	2022	93.6%	93.9%	●	1.4%	↑	92.2%	94.3%	97.0%	92.2%
<b>Commuting Patterns</b>										
<b>E08. Long commute time</b> , % of commuting workers traveling 60 minutes or more to work	2022	8.5%	7.9%	●	-0.5%	↑	9.0%	8.1%	5.3%	6.4%
<b>E09. Driving alone to work</b> , % of workers	2022	68.7%	64.1%	●	-0.2%	↑	65.8%	62.0%	75.8%	70.0%
<b>E10. Public transportation usage</b> , per capita annual unlinked trips	2021	13.3	21.1	●	-11.8%	⬇	1.6	28.7	5.6	6.0

Symbols: .. Data not available; ● HI better than the nation, ○ No difference, ◐ HI worse than the nation; ↑ HI improved, ↔ No change, ⬇ HI worsened;

■ Top-ranked county, □ Mid-ranked county, ▨ Bottom-ranked county, □ No difference

(1) Benchmark years annotated in appendix

## E01. Rental cost burden

Percentage of renter-occupied housing units spending 30% or more of household income on rent

### Why is this important?

Affordable housing is a significant factor in quality of life and attracting workers to a community. Affordable rental housing is an indicator of the households' ability to pay for one of the basic necessities of life. When rental housing becomes unaffordable – commonly defined as renters' spending more than 30% of their income on housing – renters may have inadequate funds available for other basic necessities and amenities, including food, clothing, transportation, and health care. On a greater scale, the lack of affordable housing leads to higher rental costs and makes home ownership inaccessible for most residents. At the same time, unaffordable housing may also lessen the ability of employers to recruit and retain employees and cause long commutes for workers.

### How are we doing?

The 2022 data suggests high percentages of renter households continue to spend over 30 percent of income on rent. Over the past decade, the national share of rent-burdened households has remained relatively steady. Versus 2021 three counties saw levels decline, with Honolulu being the exception. Its share of renters paying over 30 percent of household income on rent jumped to 56.4 percent, the highest level on record.

### Indicator E01. Rental cost burden

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	48.1%	47.6%	47.9%	46.8%	46.1%	46.0%	46.2%	45.1%	47.4%	48.2%
State of Hawai‘i	50.3%	50.8%	52.6%	52.4%	51.5%	51.7%	48.5%	49.7%	53.4%	52.9%
Hawai‘i County	42.7%	48.8%	46.7%	45.5%	42.2%	41.1%	42.8%	46.2%	43.9%	38.7%
C&C Honolulu	52.2%	53.5%	55.1%	55.4%	54.5%	55.2%	51.1%	52.0%	54.8%	56.4%
Kaua‘i County	47.2%	38.3%	43.8%	33.3%	45.3%	45.0%	38.3%	34.9%	53.4%	42.4%
Maui County	46.5%	41.2%	46.3%	46.4%	44.3%	44.0%	42.3%	44.2%	52.9%	47.7%

### Technical notes:

U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012-2019, 2021-2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (January 12, 2024). B25070: Gross rent as a percentage of household income in the past 12 months. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## E02. Housing cost burden

Percentage of owners with a mortgage spending 30% or more of household income on select monthly owner costs

### Why is this important?

Affordable housing is an indicator of a household's ability to pay for one of the basic necessities of life, shelter. When housing becomes unaffordable – commonly defined as owners with a mortgage spending more than 30% of their income on housing – homeowners may have inadequate funds for other basic necessities and amenities, including food, clothing, transportation, and health care. The lack of affordable housing makes home ownership inaccessible for most residents. Further, it may lessen the ability of employers to recruit and retain employees and cause long commutes for workers.

### How are we doing?

The share of Hawai‘i households overburdened by mortgage payments remains far higher than national levels. Higher housing prices remain an important factor behind this disparity. Even Hawai‘i County, the least burdened county in the state, has a rate (37.7 percent) far higher than that in the U.S. (27.8 percent). In 2023 and 2024, mortgage rates remained relatively high, and these rates continue to have a negative impact on housing burden.

### Indicator E02. Housing cost of burden

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	33.7%	31.6%	30.7%	29.4%	28.1%	27.4%	27.6%	26.5%	27.4%	27.8%
State of Hawai‘i	47.9%	43.5%	40.3%	39.8%	37.9%	38.8%	38.6%	40.9%	41.3%	41.3%
Hawai‘i County	48.8%	47.6%	31.1%	35.9%	41.7%	38.1%	36.9%	37.2%	42.3%	37.7%
C&C Honolulu	45.8%	40.6%	40.5%	39.2%	37.0%	37.7%	38.0%	40.6%	40.6%	41.3%
Kaua‘i County	54.4%	54.9%	51.2%	43.8%	42.9%	43.8%	37.5%	45.6%	45.7%	45.4%
Maui County	56.2%	49.3%	45.3%	46.0%	35.4%	43.7%	43.8%	45.8%	42.4%	44.5%

### Technical notes:

U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012-2019, 2021-2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (January 12, 2024). B25091: Mortgage status by selected monthly owner costs as a percentage of household income in the past 12 months. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

### E03. Home ownership

Percentage of owner-occupied housing units

#### Why is this important?

Home ownership is an important measure of personal assets and self-sufficiency for families and the community. A high proportion of home ownership improves neighborhood stability and community well-being. Stable home ownership requires a balance between (a) family income and (b) housing prices and financing costs.

#### How are we doing?

Unlike national home ownership levels, which have little change in the last decade, Hawai‘i has seen a gradual increase. The greatest growth has been seen in Hawai‘i and Maui Counties. Hawai‘i County was the only county with higher ownership levels than reported in the U.S. Honolulu County ownership rates remain the lowest in the state.

#### Indicator E03. Home ownership

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	63.9%	64.9%	64.4%	63.9%	63.6%	63.8%	63.9%	64.1%	65.4%	65.2%
State of Hawai‘i	56.9%	57.6%	57.1%	56.9%	57.5%	58.1%	58.3%	60.2%	62.6%	62.6%
Hawai‘i County	66.1%	65.7%	65.8%	66.4%	66.6%	67.0%	66.2%	69.8%	73.4%	73.8%
C&C Honolulu	54.4%	55.5%	54.9%	54.4%	55.0%	55.6%	55.4%	57.4%	59.3%	59.7%
Kaua‘i County	64.6%	62.6%	62.7%	61.6%	63.3%	63.0%	59.2%	67.4%	65.5%	64.4%
Maui County	57.1%	58.1%	57.3%	57.7%	58.3%	59.3%	63.9%	60.8%	67.1%	64.5%

#### Technical notes:

U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

#### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2012-2019, 2021-2022

U.S. Census Bureau. (January 12, 2024). B25003: Tenure. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

**E04. Overcrowded dwellings**

Percentage of occupied housing units with 1.01 or more occupants per room

**Why is this important?**

This measure indicates the degree of overcrowding in housing units. Although there is no official definition of crowded units, people in the U.S. generally consider units with more than one occupant per room to be crowded. Overcrowded dwellings reflect a lack of affordable housing options relative to residents' income, which hinders quality of life.

**How are we doing?**

The gap between overcrowded dwelling rates nationally and in Hawai‘i remains great, with Hawai‘i at over double the national rate. Over the last decade neither U.S. nor state rates have changed meaningfully. County rates have fluctuated, though the changes haven’t been sustained; with the exception of Kaua‘i, county rates in 2022 were almost two percentage points below those of a decade earlier.

**Indicator E04. Overcrowded dwellings**

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%	3.4%	3.3%	3.4%	3.4%
State of Hawai‘i	8.6%	8.8%	8.8%	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%	8.6%	8.5%	8.7%	8.5%
Hawai‘i County	8.4%	8.0%	7.7%	7.4%	6.7%	6.4%	7.2%	7.5%	7.3%	8.5%
C&C Honolulu	8.2%	8.6%	8.6%	9.0%	9.2%	9.4%	8.9%	8.5%	8.7%	8.2%
Kaua‘i County	7.7%	8.2%	8.0%	7.3%	7.8%	7.8%	10.1%	9.6%	7.3%	5.8%
Maui County	11.7%	11.2%	11.4%	11.5%	11.2%	10.7%	8.1%	9.9%	11.1%	11.3%

**Technical notes:**

U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2012-2019, 2021-2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (January 12, 2024). B25014: Tenure by occupants per room.  
*American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## E05. Homelessness

Number of people who are homeless on a given day per 100,000 people

### Why is this important?

This indicator assesses the capacity of individuals and families to have safe, decent, and affordable housing. Homelessness denies individuals and families the ownership and maintenance of home space and thus directly affects their lifestyle and quality of life. In general, homelessness is associated with risks that have negative consequences for personal well-being. At the same time, this indicator provides information on how the degree of homelessness in the community has changed over time and, therefore, provides crucial information on how the community raises social awareness of displacement as well as the availability of services and programs to prevent and alleviate homelessness.

### How are we doing?

The 2022 data reinforces two trends. One is that Hawai‘i continues to see a gradual decline in rates of homelessness, both in Honolulu and the Neighbor Islands. The statewide rate stands 25 percent below that of 2016. The second is the continuing disparity between rates in Hawai‘i and those nationally: Hawai‘i’s 2022 rate was 2.3 times higher than that in the U.S.

### Indicator E05. Homelessness

Area / Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2022
United States	170	169	169	173	178	175
State of Hawai‘i	554	506	460	453	455	414
Neighbor Islands	684	515	462	452	457	455
C&C Honolulu	498	502	459	453	454	396

### Technical notes:

There was a methodology change in the reporting Hawai‘i’s homelessness number at the county level and data prior to year 2016 is not directly comparable. The number of homeless people is a point-in-time count, which is an estimate of how many people are homeless at a given time. There are far more people who are homeless over the course of the year. The rate is calculated based on resident population. The data for 2021 was not included because it does not display the total count of people experiencing homelessness or the count of all people experiencing unsheltered homelessness because of pandemic-related disruptions to counts.

### Data source/s:

- U.S., 2016-2020, 2022  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (January 16, 2024). Point-in-time estimates by CoC. *Annual homeless assessment report to Congress*. Retrieved from <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/ahar.html>
- U.S./HI, 2016-2020, 2022, Denominator  
U.S. Census Bureau. (November 30, 2023). B01003: Total population. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

**E06. Age of structure**

Percentage of total housing units built after 1980

**Why is this important?**

Newer housing tends to have better amenities and are less costly to maintain. Importantly, several laws were enacted in the 1970's to improve the safety of residential buildings. Multifamily structures built before year 1980 in the City and County of Honolulu might not have a fire sprinkler system, as sprinklers only became mandatory for apartments in year 1975. Fire sprinklers can reduce the possibility of fires spreading from one apartment to another. At the federal level, the Toxic Substances Control Act (1976) allowed the Environmental Protection Agency to place restrictions on certain chemicals such as asbestos and lead-based paint, which were commonly used in homes. Asbestos is strongly linked to lung cancer and low levels of exposure to lead through ingestion can lead to learning disabilities and behavioral problems in children.

**How are we doing?**

This data set is influenced by the pace of both new home construction and whether the new units replace demolished units. If new units replace older ones, the percentage of post-1980 units rises more sharply than if additional units are created, something which serves to increase the housing supply. Honolulu County has the state's oldest housing stock. For Honolulu County the gap with national levels is now 7.9 percentage points, versus 6.0 percentage points in 2012.

**Indicator E06. Age of structure**

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	43.5%	44.3%	44.4%	45.1%	45.8%	46.4%	46.9%	47.4%	49.6%	50.7%
State of Hawai‘i	45.5%	45.7%	46.3%	46.3%	46.2%	46.9%	47.5%	45.8%	49.4%	49.4%
Hawai‘i County	62.8%	64.0%	62.3%	63.2%	63.9%	63.8%	65.8%	58.8%	64.2%	67.5%
C&C Honolulu	37.5%	37.9%	37.9%	38.0%	38.7%	38.4%	40.4%	39.2%	43.2%	42.8%
Kaua‘i County	61.2%	55.4%	63.9%	61.7%	55.4%	65.2%	53.0%	58.8%	57.8%	59.9%
Maui County	54.3%	57.2%	59.4%	59.8%	57.2%	58.6%	57.3%	55.6%	60.4%	61.2%

**Technical notes:**

U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2012–2019, 2021-2022

U.S. Census Bureau. (January 16, 2024). CP04: Comparative housing characteristics. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

**E07. Internet access**

Percentage of households with internet access at home

**Why is this important?**

Expanding internet access can lead to higher economic growth through improving connectivity among people, sharing of information and knowledge, and allowing faster and more convenient access to services. Internet access at home means household members can benefit from the internet at any time, without relying on accessing the internet at work, school, or other public spaces like the library. For example, with access to the internet at home, adults have the convenience of communicating via e-mail and paying bills online after business hours, while children can take advantage of online resources to help with homework.

**How are we doing?**

Over time, Hawai‘i has maintained higher percentages of households with internet access at home than the nation overall. The internet access level gap between Hawai‘i and the U.S. narrowed in 2022. In 2013 it was 4.2 percentage points; it has been reduced to 0.3 percentage points, largely due to a small decline in internet access levels for Honolulu County residents. Kaua‘i County’s 97.0 percent internet access rate is the state’s highest.

**Indicator E07. Internet access**

Area / Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	78.6%	79.9%	81.5%	84.8%	86.7%	88.0%	89.1%	92.6%	93.6%
State of Hawai‘i	82.8%	84.0%	85.9%	87.6%	87.9%	88.5%	90.5%	94.1%	93.9%
Hawai‘i County	78.5%	77.6%	81.3%	82.1%	82.6%	79.7%	87.0%	92.3%	92.2%
C&C Honolulu	84.2%	85.7%	87.1%	88.6%	89.0%	90.6%	91.8%	95.0%	94.3%
Kaua‘i County	80.1%	81.8%	85.0%	86.0%	85.7%	89.3%	92.7%	95.2%	97.0%
Maui County	81.0%	82.9%	85.4%	89.5%	89.0%	87.7%	86.4%	90.8%	92.2%

**Technical notes:**

U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available. There was no ACS data available for years prior to 2013.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2013–2019, 2021-2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (January 16, 2024). B28002: Presence and types of internet subscriptions in household. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

**E08. Long commute time**

Percentage of commuting workers who travel 60 minutes or more to work

**Why is this important?**

Commuting patterns play a major role in understanding the mobility and accessibility of residents and workers within the community. Increased travel time or long commutes may adversely affect personal lives (e.g., spending less time with families and volunteering in the community, or not getting the health benefits of walking or biking) and worker productivity due to the time lost in transit. Housing is intricately connected to the commuting patterns of households. People may choose a longer work commute in exchange for lower housing costs, to live in a preferred location, or to have specific housing amenities.

**How are we doing?**

Long commute rates were less prevalent in Hawai‘i than nationally for the second straight year, but both the state and the nation saw rates rise. How much of this is a result of a post-pandemic return to in-person work requiring commuting is unclear. The data shows higher rates in Honolulu and Kaua‘i Counties, but declining rates in Hawai‘i and Maui Counties.

**Indicator E08. Long commute time**

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	8.3%	8.1%	8.3%	8.5%	8.7%	8.9%	9.5%	9.8%	7.7%	8.5%
State of Hawai‘i	8.3%	8.0%	8.7%	9.3%	9.9%	10.1%	9.8%	10.3%	7.2%	7.9%
Hawai‘i County	10.6%	9.5%	9.7%	9.3%	10.1%	9.3%	9.3%	13.3%	9.5%	9.0%
C&C Honolulu	8.8%	8.7%	9.4%	10.4%	11.0%	11.5%	11.1%	11.3%	7.0%	8.1%
Kaua‘i County	5.2%	3.8%	4.1%	4.5%	4.6%	4.7%	3.0%	2.4%	4.7%	5.3%
Maui County	3.8%	4.3%	4.8%	5.0%	4.8%	4.9%	5.1%	4.1%	7.2%	6.4%

**Technical notes:**

U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2012-2019, 2021-2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (January 17, 2024). S0801: Commuting characteristics by sex. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

**E09. Driving alone to work**

Percentage of commuting workers who drive alone to work

**Why is this important?**

This indicator provides insight on automobile dependency in terms of driving alone to work. Taking public transportation, carpooling, walking, and cycling are alternative modes of transportation to driving alone, which can save money, relieve congestion, and improve air quality by taking cars off the road.

**How are we doing?**

Over four percentage points fewer commuting workers in Hawai‘i drive alone to work compared to the nation. In the last decade the U.S. has seen a 7.6 percentage point decline in workers commuting alone by car to work. Hawai‘i’s statewide declined by just 1.1 percentage points during the same period, with an even smaller decline for Honolulu (0.9 percentage points). Rates for both Maui and Kaua‘i Counties exceeded national rates.

**Indicator E09. Driving alone to work**

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
United States	76.3%	76.3%	76.5%	76.4%	76.4%	76.4%	76.3%	75.9%	67.8%	68.7%
State of Hawai‘i	65.2%	66.6%	66.4%	66.7%	66.6%	67.1%	67.3%	69.3%	65.3%	64.1%
Hawai‘i County	72.8%	71.4%	74.2%	74.4%	74.0%	73.8%	71.5%	69.6%	69.7%	65.8%
C&C Honolulu	62.9%	64.7%	63.3%	64.0%	63.6%	64.0%	65.5%	67.2%	63.7%	62.0%
Kaua‘i County	74.0%	75.7%	83.2%	78.1%	79.0%	80.0%	69.4%	80.5%	70.2%	75.8%
Maui County	68.4%	69.7%	69.7%	71.0%	72.2%	73.3%	72.8%	76.5%	69.0%	70.0%

**Technical notes:**

U.S. Census Bureau, ACS annual data for year 2020 was not available.

**Data source/s:**

- U.S./HI, 2012-2019, 2021-2022

U.S. Census Bureau. (January 17, 2024). S0801: Commuting characteristics by sex. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## E10. Public transportation usage

Annual unlinked trips, per person

### Why is this important?

A robust public transportation system provides an alternative to private vehicle transportation. Without a robust public transportation system, those who are unable to afford a car or who cannot drive are limited in their ability to get to work, run errands, and engage in leisure activities. Public transportation can also help relieve traffic congestion and improve air quality by taking cars off the road.

### How are we doing?

Hawai‘i’s rate of public transportation usage continues to exceed the national rate by a large margin. The most recent data, for 2021, was likely influenced by the Covid-19 pandemic. It shows sharp declines in usage from both 2019 and 2020 levels. The data also emphasizes the disparities in public transportation options between Honolulu and Neighbor Islands.

#### Indicator E10. Public transportation usage

Area / Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
United States	32.9	32.9	31.7	31.7	31.1	29.8	29.7	17.9	13.3
State of Hawai‘i	..	50.9	46.8	46.8	49.7	48.9	47.7	37.2	21.1
Hawai‘i County	..	5.6	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.6	3.3	2.8	1.6
C&C Honolulu	71.4	68.0	66.3	66.3	67.5	66.9	65.7	50.9	28.7
Kaua‘i County	..	12.7	9.1	9.1	11.3	10.8	10.6	9.0	5.6
Maui County	17.7	17.2	12.0	12.0	14.4	13.3	12.4	10.2	6.0

### Technical notes:

An unlinked passenger trip is the number of passengers who board public transportation vehicles; passengers are counted each time they board a vehicle, no matter how many transfers to other vehicles they use to travel to their destination. The national data includes all forms of public transportation, such as ferries and trains, whereas Hawai‘i currently only has buses for public transportation. Because of this, state and national data might not necessarily be comparable.

### Data source/s:

- U.S., 2013-2021  
U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration. (January 17, 2024). *National Transit Database, National Transit Summary and Trend*. Exhibit 20. Fares as a Proportion of Operating Expenses. Retrieved from <https://www.transit.dot.gov/ntd/annual-national-transit-summaries-and-trends>

- HI, 2013-2021  
U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration. (January 17, 2024). City and County of Honolulu Department of Transportation Services, County of Hawai‘i Mass Transit Agency, County of Maui – Dept. of Transportation, County of Kaua‘i – Transportation Agency, Annual agency profile. *NTD transit agency profiles, various years*. Retrieved from <https://www.transit.dot.gov/ntd/transit-agency-profiles>
- HI, 2013-2021, Denominator  
U.S. Census Bureau. (November 30, 2023). B01003: Total population. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## F. SOCIAL DOMAIN AND INDICATOR

Hawai‘i’s social domain consists of 12 indicators within four dimensions: public safety, family relationships, community connectedness, and social participation.

In the social domain, Hawai‘i fared better than the nation in five of the ten comparable indicators: violent crime rate; accident, homicide, and suicide death rate; drug related arrests; child abuse and neglect; and families regularly eating together. Hawai‘i’s violent crime rates remain well below nationwide ones, at over 121 fewer violent crimes per 100,000 people. Hawai‘i fared worse off than the nation in five of the ten comparable indicators: property crime, safe neighborhoods, idle youth, talking regularly with neighbors, and participation in volunteer activities.

For Hawai‘i, six of the twelve social domain indicators improved over time. The most improved indicator was drug-related arrests, decreasing almost eight percent on average annually overtime. On the other hand, the percentage of people regularly talking with neighbors and voting in elections decreased over two percent on average annually.

**Public safety:** Hawai‘i performed better than the nation in three of the five public safety indicators. Hawai‘i had fewer violent crimes; accidents, homicides, and suicide deaths; and less drug-related arrests compared to the nation. The largest improvements over time were a decline in drug-related arrest compared to the nation. Also, property crimes decreased over two percent on average annually overtime. The largest losses over time were for accidents, homicides, and suicide deaths, which grew almost two percent on average annually.

**Family relationships:** Hawai‘i performed better than the nation among the family relationship indicators, with fewer unique and confirmed reports of child abuse and neglect compared to the nation and more families eating together regularly. A lack of national data prevented a comparison for domestic abuse rates, but over time Hawai‘i decreased its domestic abuse rate by over one percent on average annually.

**Community connectedness:** Hawai‘i trailed the nation for both of the indicators in the community connectedness dimension. Regularly talking with neighbors in Hawai‘i decreased almost three percent on average annually overtime.

**Social participation:** Hawai‘i’s rate of participation in volunteer activities lagged the national rate by over three percentage points. In Hawai‘i, registered voters who voted in elections declined over two percent on average annually over time.

### County comparisons

- Hawai‘i County social indicator data was mostly unavailable. Hawai‘i County fared poorly in three of the five comparable indicators: accident, homicide, and suicide death rate; domestic abuse; and percentage of idle youth. There were more than 213 more domestic abuse cases per 100,000 people in Hawai‘i County than in other counties.
- The City and County of Honolulu outperformed the other counties in the social domain indicators and ranked highest amongst the counties in four of the eight comparable

indicators: drug-related arrests; child abuse and neglect, domestic abuse; and idle youth. The County's performance for the remaining four indicators was mid-ranked.

- Kaua‘i County had the lowest property crime rate, and accident, homicide, and suicide death rates among the four counties, and the highest percentage of registered voters voting in the most recent election. Kaua‘i County was mid-ranked among the remaining five indicators.
- Maui County had the state's lowest violent crime rate. It performed worst in two of the eight comparable indicators: child abuse and neglect per 1,000 children aged 17 and younger and the voter turnout.

**Table 8. Social Domain: Most Recent Data and Findings**

Social Indicators	Year	U.S.	HI	Hawai‘i, compared to the nation	Hawai‘i: Over time <sup>(1)</sup>		County			
					Average Annual Growth	Improved or Worsened	Hawai‘i	Honolulu	Kaua‘i	Maui
<b>Public Safety</b>										
<b>F01. Violent crime rate, per 100,000 people</b>	2022	380.7	259.6	⊖	0.7%	⬇	..	239.7	235.7	191.6
<b>F02. Property crime rate, per 100,000 people</b>	2022	1,954	2,435	🟡	-2.4%	↑	..	2,566	1,821	2,034
<b>F03. Accident, homicide, and suicide death rate, per 100,000 people</b>	2021	90.1	62.2	⊖	1.7%	⬇	69.5	60.0	59.9	67.6
<b>F04. Drug-related arrests, per 100,000 people</b>	2022	230	94	⊖	-7.8%	↑	..	79	192	254
<b>F05. Safe neighborhoods, % of families with children under 18 years old</b>	2020-2021	94.8%	94.7%	🟡	-0.2%	⬇	..	..	..	..
<b>Family Relationship</b>										
<b>F06. Child abuse and neglect, per 1,000 children aged 17 and younger</b>	2021	8.1	4.3	⊖	-0.6%	↑	10.1	3.2	8.0	10.8
<b>F07. Domestic abuse, per 100,000 people</b>	2021	..	330.9	..	-1.2%	↑	575.6	275.6	341.7	362.2
<b>F08. Families eating together regularly, % of families with children under 18 years old</b>	2021-2022	72.8%	75.6%	⊖	0.7%	↑	..	..	..	..
<b>Community Connectedness</b>										
<b>F09. Idle youth, % of people aged 16-19</b>	2018-2022	5.2%	5.8%	🟡	-1.9%	↑	7.0%	5.4%	6.0%	6.7%
<b>F10. Regularly talking with neighbors, % of people</b>	2021	74.8%	64.5%	🟡	-2.8%	⬇	..	..	..	..
<b>Social Participation</b>										
<b>F11. Participated in volunteer activities, % of people 16 and older</b>	2021	23.2%	19.7%	🟡	-1.5%	⬇	..	..	..	..
<b>F12. Voted in elections, % of registered voters</b>	2022	..	48.7%	..	-2.4%	⬇	49.3%	48.9%	51.4%	45.8%

Symbols: .. Data not available; ⊖ HI better than the nation, ⊕ No difference, ⊖ HI worse than the nation; ↑ HI improved, ↔ No change, ↓ HI worsened;

■ Top-ranked county, ■ Mid-ranked county, ■ Bottom-ranked county, □ No difference

(1) Benchmark years annotated in appendix

## F01. Violent crime rate

Number of violent crimes per 100,000 people

### Why is this important?

An important aspect of quality of life for every resident is being and feeling safe at home and in the community. Violent crimes not only cause physical, mental, economic, and psychological costs to the victims and the community, but also pose threats to public safety and individual freedom. Moreover, the presence of violent crimes reflects the lack of economic opportunities and the prevalence of lower education within the community, as well as the ineffectiveness of the public safety strategies that community and police authorities employ to prevent crimes. Lower violent crime rate indicates better public safety.

### How are we doing?

Hawai‘i’s violent crime rates remain well below nationwide ones. It is notable that 2022 saw declines from 2021 rates both nationally in Hawai‘i, with the Hawai‘i declines greater. Honolulu County violent crime has remained flat across time, while Kaua‘i and Maui County’s saw significant declines.

### Indicator F01. Violent crime rate

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	387.8	369.1	361.6	373.7	397.5	394.9	383.4	380.8	398.5	387.0	380.7
State of Hawai‘i	243.0	254.4	236.7	293.4	241.6	251.2	255.0	264.5	258.8	274.0	259.6
Hawai‘i County	223.0	287.0	237.0	204.0	238.0	255.0	248.0	181.0	304.6	..	..
C&C Honolulu	239.4	231.1	228.7	243.9	237.7	246.4	257.1	280.3	252.5	259.6	239.7
Kaua‘i County	306.0	239.0	257.0	190.0	235.0	253.0	276.0	326.0	269.0	258.7	235.7
Maui County	259.0	282.0	314.0	338.0	273.0	269.0	262.0	268.0	236.3	283.1	191.6

### Technical notes:

The violent crime index is comprised of homicide, rape, robbery, and assault. Please note that in 2013, the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program revised its definition of rape. For consistency, this table uses the legacy definition of rape. State of Hawai‘i is currently transitioning to National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) standards and county data will be available once transition is complete.

### Data source/s:

- U.S., HI 2012-2022, Numerator  
U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. (January 29, 2024). Crime in the United States by volume and rate per 100,000 inhabitants. *Crime in the United States*. Retrieved from <https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr/>
- HI, 2012–2020, Numerator  
State of Hawai‘i Department of the Attorney General, Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division. (n.d.). Uniform Crime Reporting Program data: state of Hawai‘i. *Crime in Hawai‘i – Uniform crime reports*. Retrieved from <http://hawaii.gov/ag/cpja/main/>.

- HI, 2012-2022, Denominator  
U.S. Census Bureau. (November 30, 2023). B01003: Total population. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## F02. Property crime rate

Number of property crimes per 100,000 people

### Why is this important?

This indicator measures the security of residents and has a direct impact on the overall perceived “livability” of a community. Property crime causes people to feel violated and insecure. It is also an indicator of social and economic stress in the community. A lower property crime rate makes citizens feel safer and more secure and also attracts business and residential development. However, the increase in property crime rate results in a negative perception of the safety of the community, which in turn makes residents feel more anxious and decreases property values.

### How are we doing?

In contrast to violent crime, property crime in Hawai‘i continues to occur at higher rates than the national average. Both rates have fallen gradually, but over the last decade Hawai‘i has seen a smaller decline (-22 percent) than was the case nationally (-32 percent). Rates vary widely among counties, with Honolulu County continuing to experience the largest number of and highest rate of property crimes in the state. In 2012, Kaua‘i County had the highest number of property crimes per 100,000 people, however by 2022, the county had the lowest number compared to the other counties.

### Indicator F02. Property crime rate

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	2,868	2,734	2,574	2,501	2,452	2,363	2,210	2,131	1,958	1,832	1,954
State of Hawai‘i	3,118	3,214	3,186	3,171	2,965	2,836	2,888	2,869	2,411	2,533	2,435
Hawai‘i County	2,844	2,771	3,486	3,413	2,509	2,700	2,468	2,100	2,002	..	..
C&C Honolulu	3,017	3,203	3,085	3,111	3,033	2,774	2,955	3,032	2,628	2,892	2,566
Kaua‘i County	3,782	3,766	2,904	2,253	2,077	2,509	2,657	2,458	1,505	1,493	1,821
Maui County	3,781	3,573	3,575	3,641	3,484	3,454	3,061	2,976	2,058	2,403	2,034

### Technical notes:

The property crime index includes crimes that only involve the taking of money or property, and does not involve force or threat of force against a victim. Property crimes include burglary, larceny, theft, motor vehicle theft, arson, shoplifting, and vandalism. Robbery is classified as a violent crime due to the use or threat of violence. State of Hawai‘i is currently transitioning to National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) standards and county data will be available once transition is complete.

### Data source/s:

- U.S. HI, 2012-2022  
U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. (January 29, 2024). Crime in the United States by volume and rate per 100,000 inhabitants. *Crime in the United States*. Retrieved from <https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr/>
- HI, 2012–2019, Numerator  
State of Hawai‘i Department of the Attorney General, Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division. (n.d.). Uniform Crime Reporting Program data: state of Hawai‘i

1975-2019. *Crime in Hawai‘i – Uniform crime reports*. Retrieved from <http://hawaii.gov/ag/cpja/main/>

- Kaua‘i HI, 2020, Numerator  
State of Hawai‘i Department of the Attorney General, Research & Statistics Branch Crime Prevention & Justice Assistance Division. (2021). *Crime In Kaua‘i County, 2020: A Review Of Uniform Crime Reports*. Retrieved from <https://ag.hawaii.gov/cpja/files/2021/11/Crime-in-Kauai-County-2020.pdf>
- City & County of Honolulu HI, 2020, Numerator  
State of Hawai‘i Department of the Attorney General, Research & Statistics Branch Crime Prevention & Justice Assistance Division. (2021). *Crime In City & County of Honolulu, 2020: A Review Of Uniform Crime Reports*. Retrieved from <https://ag.hawaii.gov/cpja/files/2021/11/Crime-in-the-City-and-County-of-Honolulu-2020.pdf>
- Hawai‘i County HI, 2020, Numerator  
State of Hawai‘i Department of the Attorney General, Research & Statistics Branch Crime Prevention & Justice Assistance Division. (2021). *Crime Hawai‘i County, 2020: A Review Of Uniform Crime Reports*. Retrieved from <https://ag.hawaii.gov/cpja/files/2021/11/Crime-in-Hawaii-County-2020.pdf>
- HI, 2012-2022, Denominator  
U.S. Census Bureau. (November 30, 2023). B01003: Total population. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

### F03. Accident, homicide, and suicide death rate

Number of deaths by accident, homicide, or suicide per 100,000 people

#### Why is this important?

This indicator measures premature deaths caused by accidents, homicides, and suicides. A lower rate reflects the effectiveness of public safety programs, such as roadway safety, home safety, neighborhood watch, drug control, and gun control. The major cause of accident deaths is motor vehicle accidents; other common causes are overdoses of medicine or drugs, falls, fire, and drowning. Homicide events reflect social and economic conditions of a community, including poverty, social isolation, availability of alcohol establishments and drugs, and firearm accessibility. Major risk factors for suicide are mental and substance-abuse disorders. Over half of the homicides and suicides occur through the use of firearms.

#### How are we doing?

The gap between Hawai‘i and the U.S. in the likelihood of dying from accident, homicide, or suicide widened further in 2021. In 2021, Hawai‘i had over 27 fewer deaths than U.S. In no Hawai‘i county did the death rate from accidents approach that of the nation for the year. Hawai‘i and Maui Counties saw modest growth in rates, while Honolulu and Kaua‘i Counties saw declines.

#### Indicator F03. Accident, homicide, and suicide death rates

Area / Year	2018	2019	2020	2021
United States	71.6	73.0	82.4	90.1
State of Hawai‘i	59.2	64.3	62.8	62.2
Hawai‘i County	74.6	71.0	61.5	69.5
C&C Honolulu	55.8	61.3	63.2	60.0
Kaua‘i County	70.7	76.1	59.8	59.9
Maui County	55.6	68.7	63.7	67.6

#### Technical notes:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention changed its methodology for collecting ICD-10 codes and population data in 2018; data prior to 2018 is thus not comparable. ICD-10 codes for accidents, homicides, and suicides are V01-V99 and Y85 (transport accidents), W00-X59, Y86 (nontransport accidents), X60-X84, U03, Y87 (intentional self-harm), and X85-Y09, U01-U02, Y87.1 (assault). State and county data are based on the place of residence of the deceased persons.

#### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2018–2021  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. (January 30, 2024). Underlying cause of death. *Detailed mortality*. CDC Wonder. Retrieved from <https://wonder.cdc.gov/>

## F04. Drug-related arrests

Number of drug-related arrests per 100,000 people

### Why is this important?

This indicator measures the number of arrests for drug-related violations, including drug manufacturing, sale, illicit possession of drugs, and drug trafficking for both adults and juveniles. The number of arrests is an indicator of the police response to drug law violations, and the extent and prevalence of drug use within a community. This indicator is also vital in assessing the effort of the state in implementing effective drug-use prevention and early intervention programs within the community. Drug dependency is often associated with various public health problems and safety concerns such as suicide, homicide, burglary, theft, and property crimes.

### How are we doing?

Hawai‘i consistently had less drug-related arrests than the nation each year reported. In year 2022, Hawai‘i had 94 drug-related arrests per 100,000 people, while there were 230 drug-related arrests per 100,000 people for the nation. The City and County of Honolulu drug-related arrests declined over 40 percent since 2012. Maui County had a significant decline in drug-related arrests in 2022.

### Indicator F04. Drug-related arrests

Area / Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	390	449	401	363	388	419	418	380	287	200	230
State of Hawai‘i	212	167	151	206	180	191	215	212	179	128	94
Hawai‘i County	295	313	294	309	265	342	317	306	328	..	..
C&C Honolulu	133	117	119	107	100	98	141	132	95	93	79
Kaua‘i County	267	234	241	261	322	241	261	284	259	230	192
Maui County	564	679	688	666	498	545	504	530	454	459	254

### Technical notes:

Data include drug-related arrests due to drug abuse violations, drug manufacturing, sale, illicit possession of drugs, and drug trafficking for both adults and juveniles. State of Hawai‘i is currently transitioning to National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) standards and county data will be available once transition is complete.

### Data source/s:

- U.S., HI. 2012-2022  
U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. (February 27, 2024). Crime in the United States by volume and rate per 100,000 inhabitants. *Crime in the United States*. Retrieved from <https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr/>
- HI, 2012–2020  
State of Hawai‘i Department of the Attorney General, Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division. (n.d.). Uniform Crime Reporting Program data: state of Hawai‘i. *Crime in Hawai‘i – Uniform crime reports*. Retrieved from <http://hawaii.gov/ag/cpja/main/>
- HI, 2012-2022, Denominator

U.S. Census Bureau. (November 30, 2023). B01003: Total population. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## F05. Safe neighborhoods

Percentage of families with children under 18 years old who report living in a safe neighborhood

### Why is this important?

This indicator provides a measure of the general sense of safety and concern of families about their neighborhoods. Living in a safe neighborhood is crucial to one's quality of life in a community. It influences families' decision to engage in community activities and allow children to play outdoors. On the other hand, crime rates are low in neighborhoods where residents participate in community activities and where social ties are tight. A strong neighborhood identity gives a sense of belonging, a shared respect for neighborhood rules, a greater web of acquaintances, more capacity for collective action, and an increased sense of safety in public places. As a result, these families have a better overall quality of life, a better sense of control, and an effective outlet for concerns.

### How are we doing?

The data on families with children under 18 years old who reported living in a safe neighborhood suggest little difference in neighborhood safety perceptions between Hawai‘i and the U.S. National and Hawai‘i rates continue to remain high and largely stable.

### Indicator F05. Safe neighborhoods

Area / Year	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
United States	94.5%	95.3%	95.0%	94.6%	94.8%
State of Hawai‘i	95.3%	96.2%	95.0%	94.0%	94.7%

### Technical notes:

The National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) was redesigned in 2016, data prior to 2016 is thus not comparable. County data not available. Results include survey respondents who answered, 'definitely agree' and 'somewhat agree' to the living in a safe neighborhood question.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2016-2017 to 2020-2021  
Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health. (January 31, 2024) *National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH)*. Interactive data query. Retrieved from <https://www.childhealthdata.org/browse/survey/>

## F06. Child abuse and neglect

Number of unduplicated, confirmed reports of child abuse and neglect per 1,000 children

### Why is this important?

This indicator provides information on the well-being of children, who represent the community's future. Child abuse and neglect have intense, long-term impacts on the lives of children resulting in emotional, learning, and behavioral problems. It also adversely affects the community by increasing strain on police time and medical resources; and creating potential dangers in the community, since children who experience abuse are more likely to repeat the cycle of violence into the next generation. The abuse and neglect of children is often linked to parental drug and alcohol abuse, social isolation, domestic violence, and family's financial stress. A higher rate indicates a need for more resources for early intervention strategies targeting substance abuse, mental health concerns, family violence, and poverty.

### How are we doing?

Two trends stand out regarding rates of confirmed reports of child abuse and neglect. The first is how the State of Hawai'i's rate remains well below the U.S. rate. The second is the disparity between counties. Rates in Hawai'i, Kaua'i, and Maui Counties have increased over the last decade. Disturbingly, those in Hawai'i and Maui Counties exceeded national levels by significant amounts in 2021.

### Indicator F06. Child abuse and neglect

Area / Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
United States	9.2	9.2	8.8	9.1	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.1	8.9	8.4	8.1
State of Hawai'i	4.6	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.9	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.5	4.4	4.3
Hawai'i County	7.6	7.1	6.6	7.9	9.8	8.0	8.4	8.0	10.7	7.3	10.1
C&C Honolulu	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.3	2.8	3.0	3.3	3.0	3.2
Kaua'i County	5.8	6.3	5.1	6.7	6.8	6.1	4.8	5.8	5.5	7.5	8.0
Maui County	6.0	6.4	5.6	6.2	7.2	5.6	6.7	5.7	4.0	5.7	10.8

### Technical notes:

The rate is calculated based on annual unduplicated and confirmed reports for children under age 18.

### Data source/s:

- U.S., 2011–2021  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. (January 31, 2024). Child victims. *Child maltreatment, various years*. Retrieved from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/state-level-data-for-understanding-child-welfare-in-the-united-states>
- HI, 2011–2021  
State of Hawai'i Department of Human Services; Audit, Quality Control and Research Office. (January 31, 2024). Intakes and children reported by disposition, by county. *A statistical report on child abuse and neglect in Hawai'i, various years*. Retrieved from <https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/reports/child-abuse-and-neglect-reports/>

- U.S., 2011–2021, Denominator  
State of Hawai‘i Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. (January 31, 2024). Research & Economic Analysis. *Economic Data Warehouse*. Retrieved from <https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/datawarehouse/>

## F07. Domestic abuse

Number of domestic abuse protective orders filed per 100,000 people

### Why is this important?

This indicator measures domestic abuse as reflected in the number of protective orders filed with family courts. Domestic abuse is a behavior (emotional, verbal, physical, or sexual) of establishing power and control over a spouse, domestic partner, or intimate partner through fear, intimidation, and use of violence. Domestic abuse has negative impacts on people in the community, especially women and children. Children in abusive relationships may have difficulty in their daily activities and interactions, personal relationships, and poor physical and mental health. In general, domestic abuse endangers the physical and emotional well-being of victims and can have lasting negative effects. This can also lead to homelessness and poverty if the abused flees the dangerous environment.

### How are we doing?

While rates have trended lower statewide over the last decade, the disparity between counties remains noteworthy. Protective order cycles differ by county, with individual peaks reached between 2014 and 2017. Honolulu order issues continue to be the lowest in the state and are half the level seen in Hawai‘i County. Hawai‘i County had over 244 more domestic abuse protective orders filed per 100,000 people than the state’s average.

### Indicator F07. Domestic abuse

Area / Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
State of Hawai‘i	374.6	374.8	377.1	381.5	379.5	368.7	377.4	365.6	350.5	340.3	330.9
Hawai‘i County	683.1	709.9	720.6	744.6	731.6	643.0	629.8	597.1	562.2	574.6	575.6
C&C Honolulu	300.6	295.6	293.1	298.4	292.2	300.4	324.8	312.6	296.2	287.8	275.4
Kaua‘i County	462.5	432.5	397.1	408.7	401.5	445.7	396.3	420.1	417.7	311.3	341.7
Maui County	425.3	438.6	475.7	442.8	480.0	416.0	378.3	374.4	382.7	379.2	362.2

### Technical notes:

Court data for the City and County of Honolulu include the island of O‘ahu and the settlement of Kalawao on Moloka‘i. National data were unavailable.

### Data source/s:

- HI, 2011–2021  
Hawai‘i State Judiciary. (February 1, 2024). *Annual report statistical supplement, various years*. Retrieved from [https://www.courts.state.hi.us/news\\_and\\_reports/reports/annual\\_report\\_stat\\_sup\\_archive](https://www.courts.state.hi.us/news_and_reports/reports/annual_report_stat_sup_archive)
- HI, 2011–2021, Denominator  
U.S. Census Bureau. (November 30, 2023). B01003: Total population. *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## F08. Families eating together regularly

Percentage of families with children under 18 years old eating together 4 or more days each week

### Why is this important?

This indicator assesses the quality time that families spend together. Regular mealtimes present opportunities for learning and communicating. They also strengthen family ties by providing family members with time to listen and contribute to discussions and allowing children to practice new language and communication skills. Eating together regularly also promotes a sense of stability and harmony by allowing family members to discuss concerns or develop strategies to tackle issues they are facing, coordinate plans, and share good news. In addition, regular family mealtimes create a sense of routine for children and youth, and are associated with positive outcomes such as high school achievement and reduced risk for substance use and delinquent behaviors.

### How are we doing?

The percentage of families with children eating together on a regular basis declined for both the U.S. and Hawai‘i. Hawai‘i had just under three percentage points more families eating together regularly than the nation.

### Indicator F08. Families eating together regularly

Area / Year	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
United States	73.0%	73.3%	73.6%	75.2%	75.8%	72.8%
State of Hawai‘i	73.0%	77.2%	75.9%	77.1%	79.4%	75.6%

### Technical notes:

The National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH) was redesigned in 2016, data prior to 2016 is thus not comparable. The NSCH asked parents: “*During the past week, on how many days did all the family members who live in the household eat a meal together?*” The responses were separated into four intervals: no days, 1-3 days, 4-6 days, and every day. Responses of 4-6 days and everyday were considered “eating together regularly”.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2016-2017 to 2020-2021  
Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative NSCH interactive data query.  
*National Survey of Children’s Health, various years.* Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health supported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB). Retrieved [www.childhealthdata.org](http://www.childhealthdata.org).

## F09. Idle youth

Percentage of people aged 16-19 who are not attending school and not in the labor force

### Why is this important?

This indicator assesses one aspect of the disconnected youth by measuring youth who do not finish school as well as youth who finish school but cannot attach to the labor force. The weak links between school and work that lead to idle youth have negative impacts on individuals as well as the wider community, such as lower lifetime earnings, increased poverty, homelessness, and criminal activity. Idle youth are often found in disadvantaged communities and among the youth who lack positive adult role models in their lives. This indicator also reflects the unavailability of jobs in the community and the weaknesses of the educational system in preparing and encouraging youth with general high school backgrounds for employment or college education.

### How are we doing?

While Hawai‘i has narrowed the gap with the national levels for this metric, that success is due largely to lower rates in Honolulu County. Rates in Hawai‘i, Kaua‘i, and Maui Counties have fluctuated historically, but have never been low. The fluctuations are significant because the data tracks 5-year estimates, and suggests that rapid declines in Hawai‘i’s rates are unlikely.

### Indicator F09. Idle youth

Area / Year	2008-2012	2009-2013	2010-2014	2011-2015	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019	2016-2020	2017-2021	2018-2022
United States	5.4%	5.3%	5.2%	5.0%	4.9%	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	5.0%	5.1%	5.2%
State of Hawai‘i	7.0%	6.8%	6.6%	6.2%	6.1%	6.2%	5.6%	5.4%	6.1%	6.1%	5.8%
Hawai‘i County	8.2%	8.0%	10.7%	10.5%	10.7%	9.3%	8.0%	5.5%	6.4%	6.6%	7.0%
C&C Honolulu	6.9%	6.8%	6.1%	5.5%	4.8%	4.9%	4.3%	5.4%	5.2%	5.7%	5.4%
Kaua‘i County	5.8%	5.4%	6.4%	7.7%	8.7%	11.3%	11.2%	11.6%	9.7%	7.6%	6.0%
Maui County	6.2%	5.8%	4.6%	4.6%	7.2%	8.4%	8.4%	8.2%	9.6%	7.5%	6.7%

### Technical notes:

Data are 5-year averages.

### Data source/s:

- U.S./HI, 2008-2012 to 2018-2022  
U.S. Census Bureau. (February 1, 2024). B14005: Sex by school enrollment by educational attainment by employment status for the population 16 to 19. *American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*. Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/>.

## F10. Regularly talking with neighbors

Percentage of respondents who talk with neighbors at least a few times a month

### Why is this important?

This indicator provides information on the availability of social interaction in neighborhoods, reflecting a sense of social connectedness, security, and trust. Personal happiness and perceived quality of life are closely connected to the level of community social connectedness and trust. Families that lack a sense of social trust tend to be isolated and more vulnerable to stress and often cope poorly when problems occur.

### How are we doing?

Two trends are notable in this data tracking interactions with neighbors. The first is the opposite directions respondent answers suggest for the U.S. and Hawai‘i; nationwide, Americans are interacting more with neighbors, while in Hawai‘i the trend is for less interaction. The second is that Hawai‘i was once a state where interactions were more frequent than was the case nationally. That is no longer the case.

### Indicator F10. Regularly talking with neighbors\*

Area / Year	2017	2019	2021
United States	68.8%	70.4%	74.8%
State of Hawai‘i	72.4%	65.5%	64.5%

### Technical notes:

The data comes from the civic engagement supplement from the Current Population Survey. The U.S. Census Bureau changed its methodology for collecting regularly talking with neighbors data in 2017; data prior to 2017 is thus not comparable.

### Data source/s:

- U.S., 2017-2021  
AmeriCorps. (February 5, 2024). CEV Findings: National Rates of All Measures from the Current Population Survey Civic Engagement and Volunteering (CEV) Supplement, 2017-2021. Washington, DC: AmeriCorps Office of Research and Evaluation
- HI, 2017-2021  
AmeriCorps. (February 5, 2024). CEV Findings: State-Level Rates of All Measures from the Current Population Survey Civic Engagement and Volunteering (CEV) Supplement, 2017-2021. Washington, DC: AmeriCorps Office of Research and Evaluation.

## F11. Participated in volunteer activities

Percentage of people age 16 and older who participated in volunteer activities

### Why is this important?

This indicator provides information on how residents extend themselves outside of their social systems and express their social responsibility in contributing their time and money to the church, charity, or community through unpaid, voluntary service. Volunteerism meets many important needs in the community. On a greater scale, volunteer activities promote a sense of belonging for everyone in the community as they engage residents in the productive use of their leisure time and strengthen their values of responsibility to and trust in others. The more people feel connected to the community, the more likely they will give to and share with the community. Moreover, parents engaging in volunteer work convey to their children the significance of civic duty and of contributing to the well-being of the community.

### How are we doing?

The percentage of people 16 and older participating in volunteer activities regularly dipped significantly in 2021, a result which can be partly attributed to the effects of Covid-19 pandemic. Hawai‘i had made great strides, surpassing national volunteering levels in 2019, but those gains were reversed in 2021.

### Indicator F11. Participated in volunteer activities

Area / Year	2015	2017	2019	2021
United States	26.0%	30.3%	30.0%	23.2%
State of Hawai‘i	21.5%	28.0%	32.1%	19.7%

### Technical notes:

Data includes all people aged 16 and older who indicated they spent time doing volunteering activities for any organization in the past year. The data come from the volunteer supplement of the Current Population Survey. The U.S. Census Bureau changed its methodology for collecting Volunteering and Civic Life data in 2015; data prior to 2015 is thus not comparable.

### Data source/s:

- U.S., 2017-2021  
AmeriCorps. (February 5, 2024). CEV Findings: National Rates of All Measures from the Current Population Survey Civic Engagement and Volunteering (CEV) Supplement, 2017-2021. Washington, DC: AmeriCorps Office of Research and Evaluation
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- U.S./HI, 2015  
Flood, S., King, M., Rodgers, R., Ruggles, S., and Warren, J.R. (n.d.). Integrated Public Use Microdata Series. *Current Population Survey: Version 6.0 [dataset]*. Minneapolis, MN: Minnesota Population Center. Retrieved from <https://cps.ipums.org/cps/>

## F12. Voted in elections

Percentage of registered voters voting

### Why is this important?

This indicator reflects community participation and is often associated with other forms of good citizenship and community engagement, such as philanthropy and community activism. As an element of political participation, exercising the right to vote is one of the most important rights available to citizens in a democratic society that measures civic interest and involvement and the public's optimism regarding their impact on governmental decision-making.

### How are we doing?

In year 2022, 48.7 percent of registered voters in Hawai‘i voted during the mid-term elections, a decrease of four percentage points from the previous mid-terms in 2018. Kaua‘i County continues to have the highest turnout rates in the state. Maui County had the lowest turnout rates in 2022, at about 46 percent. The contrast in voting rates between years when there were presidential elections and off-years is striking.

#### Indicator F12. Registered voters voting in elections

Area / Year	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022
State of Hawai‘i	61.9%	52.3%	58.4%	52.7%	69.6%	48.7%
Hawai‘i County	61.2%	47.7%	52.4%	51.5%	69.6%	49.3%
C&C Honolulu	62.9%	52.8%	58.5%	52.5%	70.1%	48.9%
Kaua‘i County	62.9%	57.4%	61.4%	58.1%	72.1%	51.4%
Maui County	56.8%	52.7%	56.4%	52.4%	66.4%	45.8%

National election turnout rates from the U.S. Census Bureau and other nongovernmental sources used different methodology and are not comparable with the official election data. Hawai‘i data provided county-level data, something national data did not. A similar measure of voter participation, voting-eligible population turnout, shows that Hawai‘i's turnout (40.5 percent) in 2022 was about two percentage points higher than the previous mid-term elections in 2018. Overall, Hawai‘i voter turnout rates continue to trail national levels, particularly in presidential election years.

#### Indicator F12b. Voting-eligible population turnout

Area / Year	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022
United States	58.6%	36.7%	60.1%	49.4%	66.8%	46.2%
State of Hawai‘i	44.5%	36.5%	43.2%	38.7%	57.5%	40.5%

### Technical notes:

Data are based on certified, official, or final records. The voting-eligible population is the voting-age population less the non-citizen population and ineligible felon population.

**Data source/s:**

- HI, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2022  
State of Hawai‘i Office of Elections. (n.d.). General election, final summary report, statewide and county summaries. *Results, general election, certified reports*. Retrieved from <https://elections.hawaii.gov/election-results/>
- U.S./HI, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2022  
United States Elections Project. (n.d.) Voter turnout. *General election state turnout rates, various years*. Retrieved from <https://www.electproject.org/home>

## APPENDIX I: QOL INDICATORS OVER TIME ANALYSIS

Table	Indicator	Over-time Benchmark Year	Over-time Ending Year
A01	Per capita income	2012	2022
A02	Poverty rate	2012	2022
A02b	Supplemental poverty measure	2013-2015	2020-2022
A03	Households receiving SNAP/food stamps	2012	2022
A04	Gini index	2012	2022
A05	Income share of households in top 20% income group	2012	2022
A06	Economic dependency ratio	2012	2022
A07	Unemployment rate	2012	2022
A08	Median earnings	2012	2022
A09	Usual hours worked per week	2012	2022
B01	Less than high school degree	2012	2022
B02	Bachelor's degree or higher	2012	2022
B03	Meeting Hawai'i standards in math	SY 2014-2015	SY 2022-2023
B04	Meeting Hawai'i standards in language arts	SY 2014-2015	SY 2022-2023
B05	At or above 8th-grade proficiency in math	SY 2010-2011	SY 2021-2022
B06	At or above 8th-grade proficiency in reading	SY 2010-2011	SY 2021-2022
B07	On-time graduation	Class of 2012	Class of 2022
B08	SAT score of college-bound seniors	2013	2023
B09	College-going rate	Class of 2015	Class of 2022
B10	Lifelong learning	2012	2022
C01	Unhealthy air quality days	2012	2022
C02	Surface water advisory days	2017	2022
C03	Solid waste generated	FY 2013	FY 2022
C04	Toxic releases	2012	2022
C05	Acres of parks and historic sites	2012	2022
C06	Renewable energy	2012	2022
C07	Water consumption	2012	2022
C08	Energy consumption	2011	2021
C08b	Annual per capita electricity consumption	2012	2022
C09	Solid waste recycled	FY 2012	FY 2022
C10	Wastewater reused	2015	2022
D01	Life expectancy at birth	2015-2017	2018-2020
D02	Infant mortality	2009-2011	2019-2021
D03	Cardiovascular disease death rate	2008-2010	2018-2020
D04	Cancer death rate	2012	2022
D05	Diabetes death rate	2012	2022
D06	Good or better health	2012	2022
D07	Frequent mental distress	2012	2022

Table	Indicator	Over-time Benchmark Year	Over-time Ending Year
D08	Frequent physical distress	2012	2022
D09	Obesity	2012	2022
D10	Smoking	2012	2022
D11	Binge drinking	2012	2022
D12	Immunization rate	2011	2020
D13	Physical activity	2011	2019
D14	Fruit and vegetable consumption	2011	2021
D15	Adults without health insurance	2011	2020
D16	Children without health insurance	2012	2022
D17	Home- and community-based service expenditures	FY 2011	FY 2020
E01	Rental cost burden	2012	2022
E02	Housing cost burden	2012	2022
E03	Home ownership	2012	2022
E04	Overcrowded dwellings	2012	2022
E05	Homelessness	2016	2022
E06	Age of structure	2012	2022
E07	Internet access	2013	2022
E08	Long commute time	2012	2022
E09	Driving alone to work	2012	2022
E10	Public transportation usage	2014	2021
F01	Violent crime rate	2012	2022
F02	Property crime rate	2012	2022
F03	Accident, homicide, and suicide death rate	2018	2021
F04	Drug-related arrests	2012	2022
F05	Safe neighborhoods	2016-2017	2020-2021
F06	Child abuse and neglect	2011	2021
F07	Domestic abuse	2011	2021
F08	Families eating together regularly	2016-2017	2021-2022
F09	Idle youth	2008-2012	2018-2022
F10	Regularly talking with neighbors	2017	2021
F11	Participated in volunteer activities	2015	2021
F12	Voted in elections	2012	2022
F12b	Voting-eligible population turnout	2012	2022

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