

Current Native Hawaiian Conditions on Kaua‘i



Educational Pathways Data

- 27% of Kaua‘i DOE students are Native Hawaiian (2,627 / 9,658) and 92% of the two Kaua‘i Hawaiian Focused Charter students are Native Hawaiian.
- Of the total number of Kaua‘i Island Class of 2021 public high school graduates (662), 33% (217) were Native Hawaiian.



Health Outcomes Data

- As of June 6th, the COVID-19 positivity rate (7-day moving average) is 26.5% (220 daily average tests), there are 9 new hospitalizations (220 total), and have been 30 total deaths in Kaua‘i County
- 78% of Kaua‘i County residents received at least one (1) dose of a COVID-19 vaccine (55,896), 72% received at least two (2) doses (51,875), and 48% received more than two (2) doses (33,867).



Quality Housing Data

- The Native Hawaiian homeownership rate in Kaua‘i was 66%, compared to 62% for the total Kauai population and 56% of the statewide Native Hawaiian population.
- The Department of Hawaiian Homelands has 743 leases on Kaua‘i, 7% of the 9,957 leases statewide.
- DHHL lands on Kaua‘i comprise a total of 20,575 acres, 10% of the total 203,981 acre DHHL land holdings.
- 4,315 Native Hawaiians are waitlisted for Residential (1,707), Agricultural (2,280), and Pastoral (328) lots.



Economic Stability Data

- 22% of Native Hawaiians on Kaua‘i have some college but no degree, 13% have an associate’s degree, 7% have a bachelor’s degree, and 5% have a graduate or professional degree.
- Native Hawaiian Median Household Income in Kaua‘i County was \$67,230, compared to \$65,101 for all races – Native Hawaiian Median Household Income was 103% of all races countywide.
- The COVID-19 pandemic had significant negative effect on Native Hawaiian household finances. Many Native Hawaiian survey respondents on Kaua‘i reported being worse off during than before the pandemic, including an increase from 2% to 15% of Native Hawaiians who were not making ends meet.

Current Issues on Kaua‘i

Kaunoe o Koloa Project: On April 19 and 20, 2022, OHA Compliance Program was in receipt of several beneficiary complaints regarding the County permitting of work for the subject project, allegations of disturbed heiau, and reports of destruction of Kaua‘i cave spider habitat. The alleged heiau disturbance was subsequently reported to the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) and the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) as a possible HRS 6E-11 violation. OHA Compliance Program further put out a request to the County for any permit approvals related to the project and evidence of some kind of Ka Pa‘akai Analysis in fulfillment of Article XII, Section 7, constitutional obligations. See Full Report, page 19

Polihale State Park Mismanagement: Stakeholders have proposed a plan to address the state’s mismanagement of increasing public abuse of the Polihale State Park, which has resulted in harm to the park’s cultural resources, including burials and heiau. See Full Report, page 13

Missile Defense Agency (MDA) Re-Opening of Public Scoping to now include Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF): PMRF is one of two sites currently being considered as a possible site for a homeland defense radar. Advanced planning studies and an EIS narrowed the siting prospects from four to two, which triggers a re-opening of public scoping and commenting. This re-opening of the public scoping and commenting is considered pre-consultation and precedes the release of the EIS. OHA Compliance Program will continue to monitor this project, track community input and then review and provide OHA’s formal comments on the EIS when it is available. See Full Report, page 14

Wai‘oli Valley Taro Hui: The partnership between OHA and University of Hawai‘i’s Ka Huli Ao Center for Excellence in Native Hawaiian Law continues to assist area taro farmers with securing necessary permits and approvals to ensure that they can legally continue to use Wai‘oli Stream’s water after the 2018 flooding damaged the area’s lo‘i kalo system. See Full Report, page 16

Hanapēpē Early Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) Outreach for Port Allen Airport Security Fence: The environmental review process and associated CIA were initiated for a project intended to replace the existing Port Allen Airport fence, which is located near the Hanapepe Salt Ponds, an important cultural resource that has been the subject of several BOT Kaua'i community meetings. OHA Administration will continue monitor the project and review the Environmental Assessment and CIA when they are ready for review. See Full Report, page 15

Current Grantees Serving Kaua'i

Kanu O Ka 'Āina Learning 'Ohana • Hawaiian Community Assets • Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement • Hawaii Community Lending • Kukulu Kumuhana O Anahola • The Hawaiian Church of Hawai'i Nei • Supporting the Language of Kauai, Inc. • Hawaiian Islands Land Trust • Alu Like, Inc. • Hanalei River Heritage Foundation • Āina Ho'okupu o Kilauea • Kupu • Homestead Community Development Corporation • Papa Ola Lokahi • University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Current Kaua'i Lending

- 22 active Native Hawaiian Revolving Loan Fund/Consumer Micro Loan Program loans, \$1,340,126 total amount lent