Strategic Priority: Hoʻokahua Waiwai (Economic Self-Sufficiency)

**Strategic Result** — Native Hawaiian Median Family Income will be equal to, or greater than 92% of the Statewide Median Family Income.

**BACKGROUND.** Median Family Income, or MFI, provides a measure of average family income in which 50% of incomes are higher and 50% of incomes are lower. Income includes all earnings, assistance payments, pensions or any other sources of income received regularly for a 12 month period, for all family members. For this strategic result, the Native Hawaiian MFI is divided by the comparable Total Hawaiʻi State Population MFI.

**FINDINGS**

- In 2014, the Native Hawaiian MFI decreased to $69,560 which is equal to 87.8% of the Statewide MFI at $79,187.

- **Are Native Hawaiians making progress in this Strategic Result?** No. Compared to 2013, Native Hawaiian MFI decreased by 4.4%, while the total state MFI decreased by 1.4%. This change in MFI represents a decrease of 2.8 percentage points in Native Hawaiian MFI as a percent of the total state MFI and a widening of the income gap between Native Hawaiians and the total state population.

- **Are Native Hawaiians on track to reach the 2018 goal?** Undetermined. Although this data signifies the Native Hawaiian MFI indicator is 2.7 percentage points below the 2014 annual target of 90.5%, a trend over the past 5 years is not apparent.

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American Community Survey (ACS) is an ongoing statistical survey by the U.S. Census Bureau sent to approximately 295,000 addresses monthly (or 3.5 million per year).

Income: Total income is the sum of the amounts reported separately for wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips; self-employment income from own nonfarm or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships; interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income, or income from estates and trusts; Social Security or Railroad Retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); any public assistance or welfare payments; retirement, survivor, or disability pensions; and all other sources of income (U.S. Census Bureau, 2014).

Family Income: In compiling statistics on family income, the incomes of all members 15 years old and over related to the householder are summed and treated as a single amount. Although the family income statistics cover the past 12 months, the characteristics of individuals and the composition of families refer to the time of interview. Thus, the income of the family does not include amounts received by individuals who were members of the family during all or part of the past 12 months if these individuals no longer resided with the family at the time of interview. Similarly, income amounts reported by individuals who did not reside with the family during the past 12 months but who were members of the family at the time of interview are included. However, the composition of most families was the same during the past 12 months as at the time of interview (U.S. Census Bureau, 2014).

Median Income: The median divides the income distribution into two equal parts: one-half of the cases falling below the median income and one-half above the median. For households and families, the median income is based on the distribution of the total number of families including those with no income. Median income is computed on the basis of a standard distribution and is rounded to the nearest whole dollar. Median income figures are calculated using linear interpolation (U.S. Census Bureau, 2014).

Native Hawaiian: Includes respondents who indicate their race as “Native Hawaiian” or report entries such as Part Hawaiian or Hawaiian. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2014).

REFERENCES

- Site: http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tables SERVICES/jsi/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_14_1YR_S0201&prodType=table
- Filter State: Hawai‘i
- Ethnic Group Code #062: Native Hawaiian alone or in any combination (500-503) & (100-299) or (300, A01-Z99) or (400-999).
- Row/Subject: INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS (IN 2012 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS): Families: Median family income (dollars)
