

1999 PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY

Prepared for:
Office of Hawaiian Affairs
August, 1999

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INTRODUCTION

Background

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) was formed in 1978 to serve as the principal public agency in Hawai'i responsible for performance, development and coordination of programs and activities related to native Hawaiians and Hawaiians.

Part of its mission is to handle public information for and about Hawaiians. OHA accordingly seeks to inform Hawaiians and the general public about OHA activities and programs and to disseminate information about Hawaiian issues and concerns.

OHA has conducted research to measure awareness and support of Hawaiian issues among its constituencies for several years. In 1999 there is an even greater need to measure accurately and access those opinions. The Hawaiian community can expect to face greater challenges to its interests than in the past. The State is likely to be faced by severe economic restrictions on both public and private sector activities. With the States attention focused on economic survival, protecting and furthering the needs, rights and concerns of the Hawaiian minority will require a special vigilance.

Study Method

This section describes the method used to complete the 1999 Office of Hawaiian Affairs Awareness and Opinion Survey. The interviews were conducted between January 22 and July 8, 1999. In total, 4,000 interviews were completed among adult Hawai'i residents.

A brief description of the sample content is shown in the table below.

	Dates	Hawaiian	Non-Hawaiian	Total
number of total surveys completed				
Cycle 1	1/22 - 2/23	481	539	1,020
Cycle 2	3/20 - 4/15	363	515	878
Cycle 3	5/13 - 6/3	408	608	1,016
Cycle 4	6/12 - 7/8	512	549	1,061
				3,975
margin of error (plus or minus percentage points)				
Cycle 1		4.5	4.2	3.1
Cycle 2		5.1	4.3	3.3
Cycle 3		4.9	4.0	3.1
Cycle 4		4.3	4.2	3.0

Note: A total of 25 respondents declined to identify their ethnic background. Total sample size is 4,000.

Survey Instrument

The survey instrument for this study was developed by SMS research staff in consultation with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Public Information Office. The survey, over the course of four fielding cycles, was primarily designed to:

1. measure awareness for organizations that help and serve native Hawaiians;
2. quantify evaluation of OHA;
3. collect opinions on issues relating to Hawaiian sovereignty, blood quantum requirement, ceded lands;
4. measure awareness of historical facts;
5. gauge media usage pertinent to Hawaiian issues; and
6. collect demographic data.

Target Audience

The target audience for the survey/measurement program are (1) Hawaiians; (2) registered voters; (3) the general public in Hawaii; and (4) Hawai'i decision-makers. The first three groups overlap to a considerable extent. Most beneficiaries are within the general public and many are registered voters. In order to simplify sampling and data collection, and add accuracy and reliability to the analysis, the first three target audiences were combined for the survey.

Decision-makers and opinion leaders, on the other hand, were treated separately. Key informant interviews were used to track opinions through a semi-structured, open-ended interview protocol that mirrored the content of the telephone survey.

Sample Design

Population

The study population for this study was defined as adult residents of Hawaii. Ethnic Hawaiians consisted a specific sub-population to be studied and analyzed separately.

Sample

The sample consisted of a total of 4,000 respondents. Because of the need to collect disproportionately higher percentage of ethnic Hawaiian respondents, two different sampling approaches were adopted, to be used simultaneously:

1. Random digit dialing.

The respondents were selected using the random digit dialing (RDD) method. The RDD selection uses simple random sampling, in which all those living in households with working telephones have an equal chance of being selected. Assuming that the rate of telephone access is the same between Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians, the proportion of Hawaiian segment in this sample can be expected to be very similar to such in the general population.

2. Random sampling within the list of voters registered to vote on the election for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Board of Trustees.

A list obtained from the Voter Contact Services (VCS) contained records that represented households within which at least one person was registered to vote on the election for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Board of Trustees. Although not everyone contacted at these phone numbers can be expected to be ethnic Hawaiians, proportion of Hawaiians can be expected to be higher than the general population.

Results of these two sampling methods, used simultaneously during the fielding, are as follows:

	VCS Sample	RDD Sample	Total
Hawaiian	1,559	205	1,764
not Hawaiian	1,035	1,176	2,211
Total	2,594	1,381	3,975
% Hawaiian	60.1%	14.8%	

Data Collection

Data collection was conducted in the SMS Call Center, using the computer assisted telephone interview (CATI) system. The CATI system enables the interviewers to enter the data directly into a computer file, thereby eliminating the process of keypunching entirely.

Calls on the surveys were placed between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on weekdays, and 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on weekends. Call Center supervisors monitored calls, verifying the interviews.

Analysis and Data Output

The data collected by CATI system were transferred into SPSS, a software designed for statistical data analysis. Tabulations representing all Hawai'i adults were produced with weights, to correct for the over-sampling of ethnic Hawaiians. Weighting scheme was calculated based on number of adults by ethnicity (Hawaiians vs. Non-Hawaiians), data available from the 1999 Hawai'i Health Survey, State of Hawai'i Department of Health.

The Effects of Sampling and Data Weighting

The respondents in the OHA Public Opinion Survey 1999 were intended to represent the general public of Hawai'i and the Native Hawaiian Community within that public. To do that, the survey used two interlocking samples. One sample was a random digit dialing (RDD) sample of all households with telephone service during the seven months of the survey. That sample included proportionate numbers of Hawaiian and non-Hawaiians. The other sample was taken from the OHA voter list compiled and maintained by the Office of Elections. That list contained the names of Hawaiian adults qualified to vote in elections for OHA Trustees.

In all, a total of 1,381 interviews were completed from the RDD sample, and 2,594 interviews were completed from the OHA voters' list. Both the RDD interviews and the OHA voters list interviews included Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian persons. The non-Hawaiian cases from the OHA voters' list were members of households identified on the voter list, who did not identify their ethnicity as being either Hawaiian or part-Hawaiian. The results were as shown in Table 1.

Table 1
Results of OHA Public Opinion Interviewing

	Survey Sample				Total Both Samples	
	RDD Sample		OHA Vote List Sample			
	Num.	Pct.	Num.	Pct.	Num.	Pct.
Ethnic Hawaiian	205	14.8%	1,559	60.1%	1,764	44.4%
Not Hawaiian	1,176	85.2%	1,035	39.9%	2,211	55.6%
Total Cases	1,381		2,594		3,975	100.0%

The sample design was stratified and disproportionate. It was necessary to weight sample data to the configuration of the adult population of Hawaii. That was accomplished by developing a weighting system in which the four types of respondents (Hawaiians from the OHA list, Hawaiians not on the OHA list, non-Hawaiians on the OHA list, and non-Hawaiians not on the OHA lists) would represent their counterparts in the general population.

The effect of this sampling and weighting system is to produce results for Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians that have similar sampling precision. In the Tables presented here, the results of Hawaiians are based on 1,764 cases, all of whom identified themselves as Hawaiian or part-Hawaiians. The non-Hawaiians results are based on 2,211 interviews with persons who did not claim any part Hawaiians ethnicity. Results reported for the whole sample (total columns) are based on 3,975 cases whose ethnic backgrounds are similar to the ethnic distribution of Hawaii's adult population.

No other weighting system has been applied to these data. In some cases, the demographic data do not exactly match the distributions for the larger population. It is possible to develop data weighting systems that can statistically adjust for this problem. At this point in the development of the OHA Public Opinion Data System, it was decided not to further weight these data. In future iterations of the OHA Public Opinion Survey, it may be wise to develop more sophisticated data weighting systems.

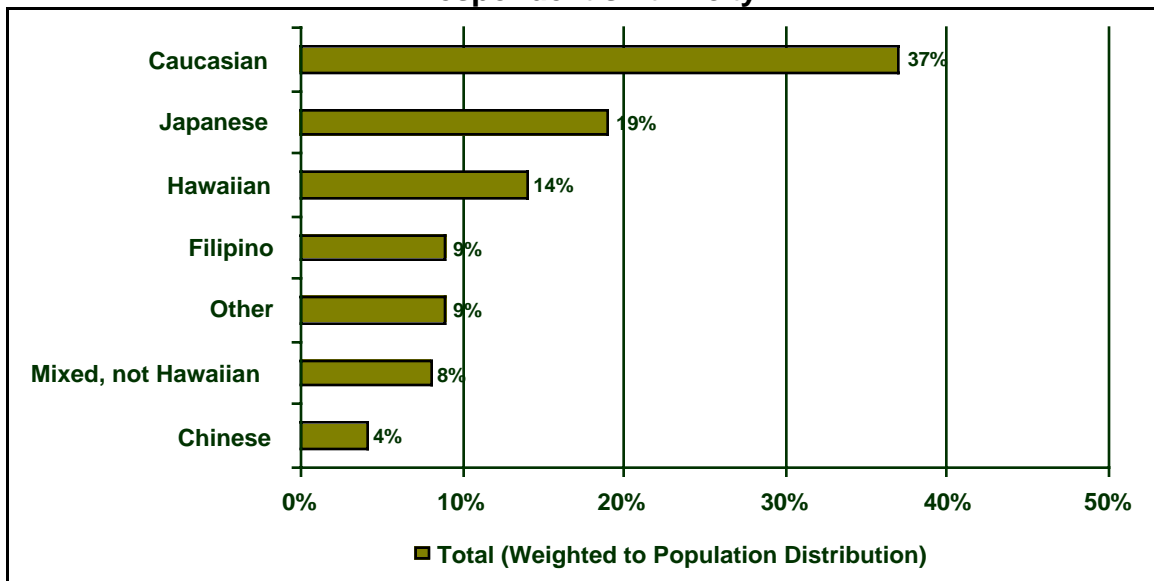
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SURVEY POPULATION

Who are the survey respondents? We have selected several demographic variables for presentation in this report. They were selected because they illustrated differences between the Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian group, or because they exhibit some differences from known or expected characteristics of the Hawaiian population.

Ethnicity of the Respondent Group

The ethnic distribution of our respondents is similar to, but not exactly like that of the larger population. The respondent groups has a few more Caucasians and people of mixed ethnicity without any Hawaiian ancestry. There were fewer Japanese and Filipinos than we might have expected, and Hawaiians may also be underrepresented.

Figure 1
Respondent's Ethnicity



Distinctive Characteristics of Hawaiians

The survey data show that Hawaiian adults live in households that are larger than those of non-Hawaiian adults in the state. They are twice as likely to have household sizes of five or more. Hawaiians are also more likely to live in households with children (49% vs. 39%), and to have live in Hawai'i all of their lives (87% vs. 45%). In

other demographics variables – gender, marital status, etc. – there were no notable difference between the two groups.

Figure 2
Household size

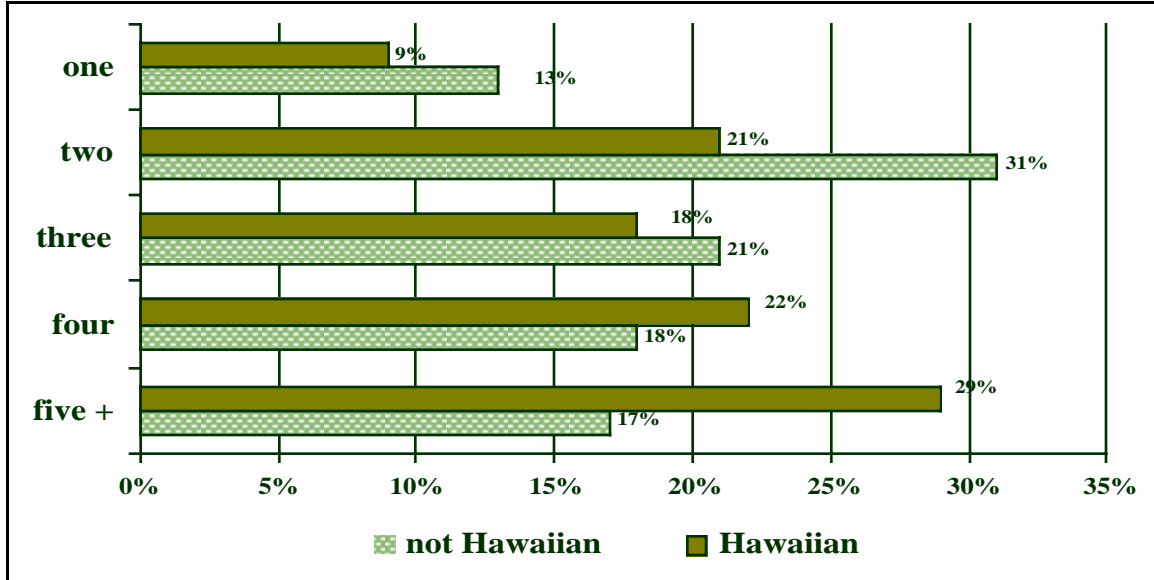


Figure 3
Children in Household

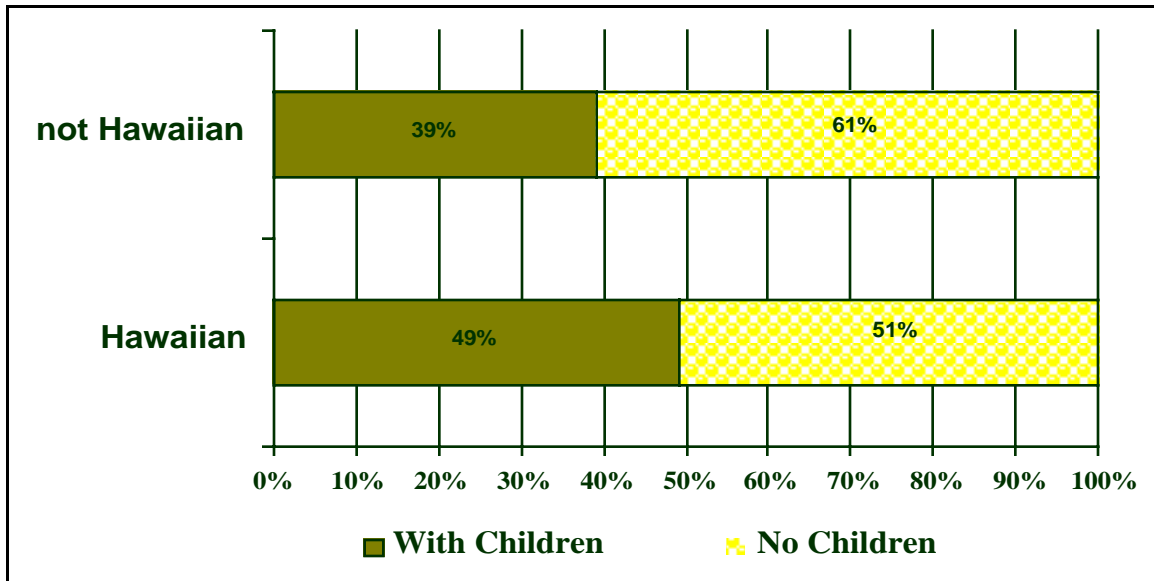
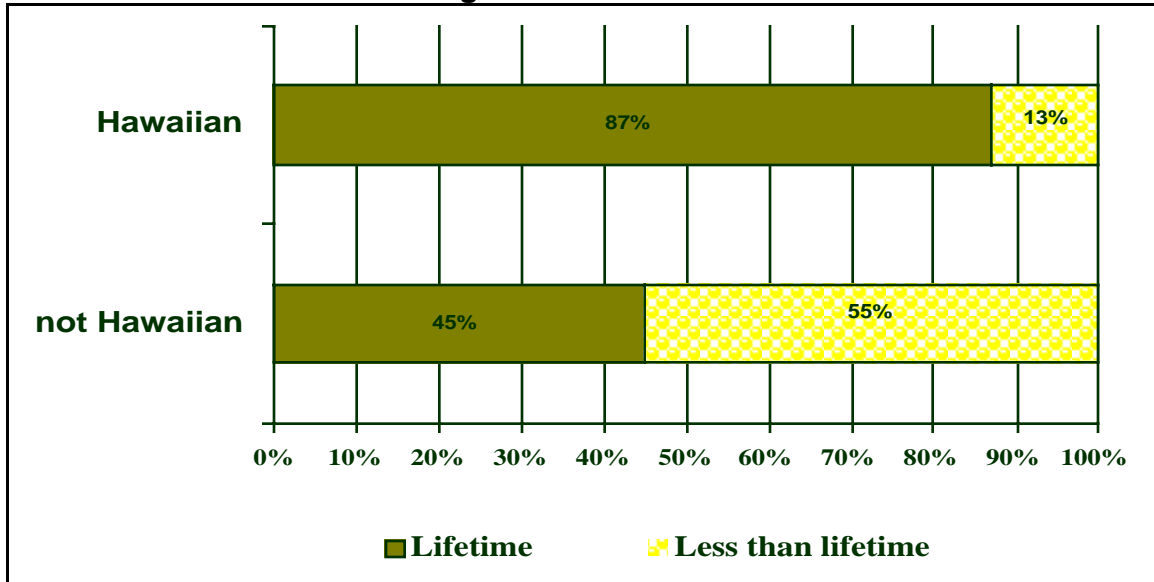


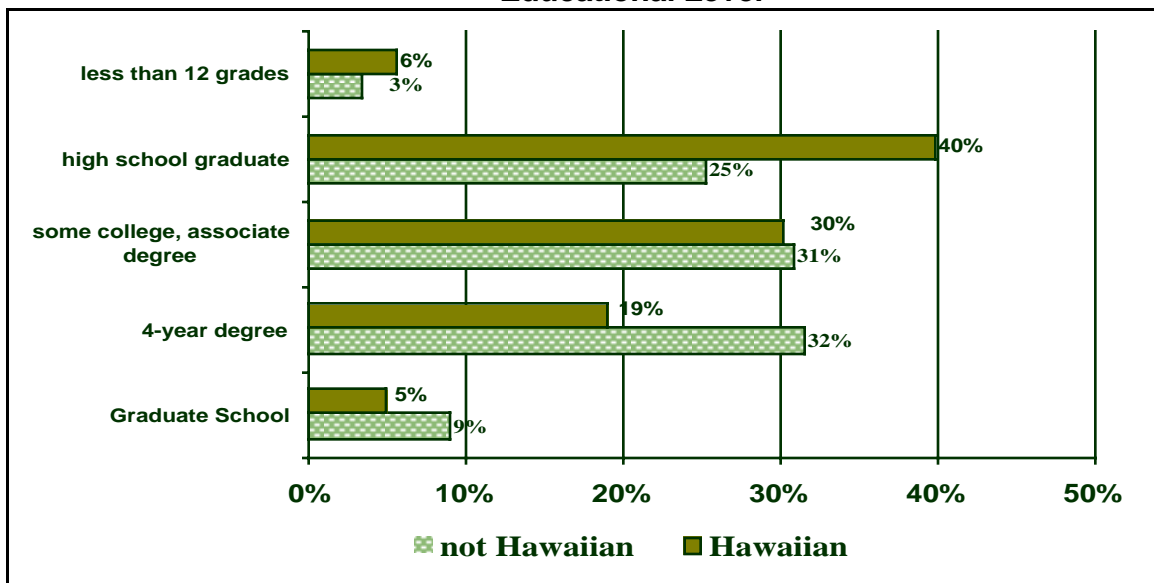
Figure 4
Length of Residence in Hawaii



Education

The most significant difference found between the Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians respondents to the survey was their level of education. Hawaiians were much more likely than non-Hawaiians to have fewer than 12 years of education. The numbers of both groups who had some experience in college was about the same. And Hawaiians were much less likely to have received baccalaureate or higher degrees.

Figure 5
Educational Level



Household Income

The most problematic characteristic of the survey respondents is the data on household income. The survey data suggest that income levels were very similar for both Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians. It has been known from other data sources since the 1990 Census in Hawaii, that Hawaiian household incomes are notably lower than those of other ethnic groups in the state. The most recent data were taken from the Hawai'i Department of Health, Office of Health Status Monitoring, *Hawai'i Health Survey, 1999*. Household income data for the two surveys are shown in Table 2.

Figure 6
Household Income

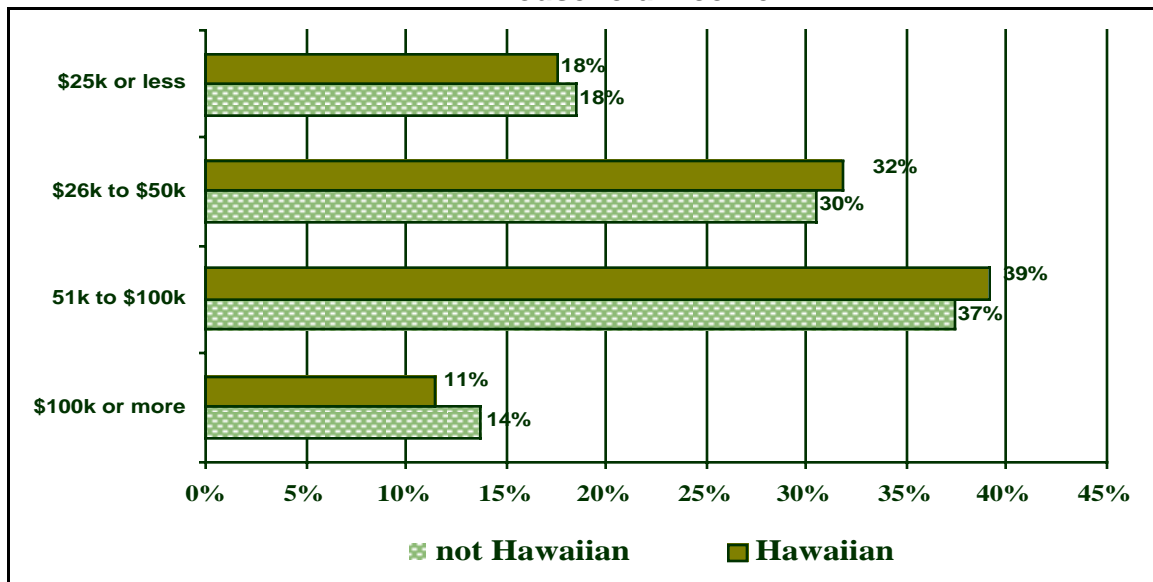


Table 2
Household Income, Households with Hawaiian and Part-Hawaiian Adults

Income	Survey	
	1999 OHA Survey	1999 Hawai'i Health Survey
less than \$10k	5.5%	11.6%
\$10 - 15k	3.8%	4.4%
\$15 - 25k	8.2%	13.8%
\$25 - 35k	11.9%	16.6%
\$35 - 50k	19.9%	20.9%
\$50 - 75k	25.9%	19.1%
\$75 - 100k	13.3%	8.0%
\$100 - 150k	8.2%	3.1%
\$150k or more	3.3%	2.7%

Households in which at least one adult, the survey respondent, identified his or herself as being Hawaiian or part-Hawaiian.

The figures from the Hawai'i Health Survey are similar to those found in other sources. This suggests that our Hawaiian survey respondents had somewhat higher household incomes than the population they were intended to represent. We believe this to be the case, and suggest that researchers or planners looking for the most accurate measure of household income among Hawaiians use the DOH numbers.

The income issue is somewhat more severe than even the DOH data suggest. The Hawaiian household incomes are taken from households with greater household sizes and lower percentages of adults of working age. When incomes have to support larger household sizes, disposable incomes are likely to be lower.

The question remains, are the data on such issues as problems facing the Hawaiian community, or issues OHA should address, effected by the income bias in the survey data? Our tests suggest not. After statistically adjusting the incomes of the Hawaiian respondents to the pattern shown in the DOH survey, the results for the issues data do not change in any significant way.

MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES FACING HAWAIIANS

Chapter 10 of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes establishes the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and notes that the general purpose of OHA includes:

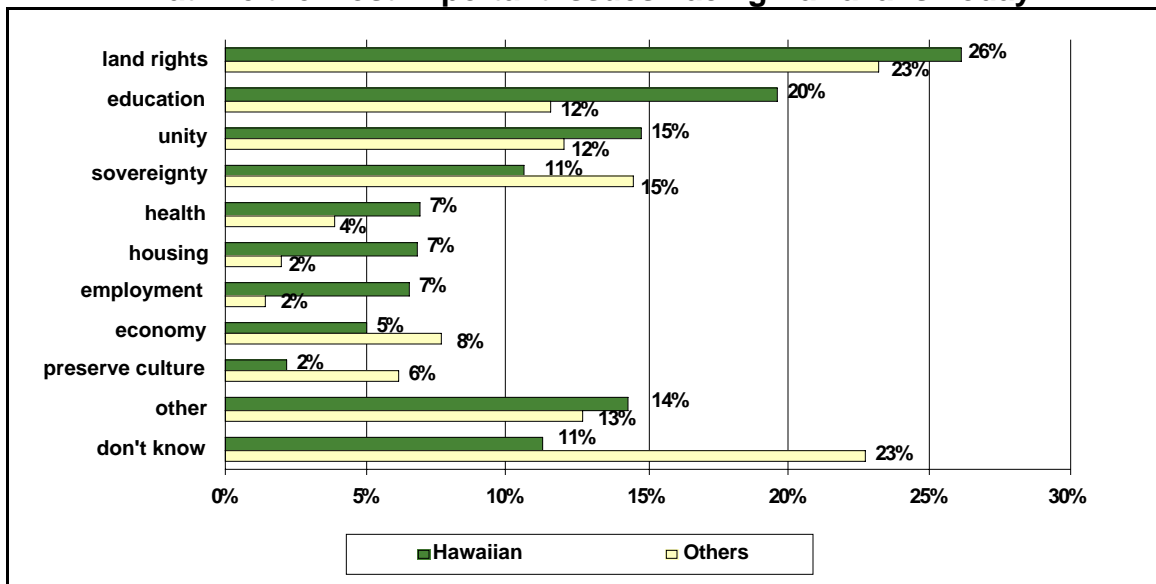
- the betterment of conditions of native Hawaiians
- the betterment of the conditions of Hawaiians.

In order to fulfill its mission, OHA should truly understand the plight of Hawaiians and their thoughts and fears.

According to the 1999 OHA survey, the most important issue facing the Hawaiians is land. Hawaiians (26.2%) and other state residents (23.2%) agree that land issues such as land rights and homelands were of particular concern. Hawaiians felt that education was also important issue facing Hawaiians (19.6%). In contrast non-Hawaiians felt sovereignty was more of priority for Hawaiians (14.5%). All citizens recognized that unity (14.8% of Hawaiians and 12.0% of non-Hawaiians) was a problem in the Hawaiian community that needed attention. Unity was voiced in several ways. In most cases the idea was for Hawaiians to work towards agreement among its peoples, agencies, policies, and philosophies.

Land issues were of particular concern to the Hawaiians on the Neighbor Islands. Nearly a third of Hawaiians on Maui (33.1%) and Hawai'i (29.5%), stated that land was the most important issue facing Hawaiians today. On the other hand, less than one-quarter (23.6%) of Oahu residents felt land was the issue [Table E-2].

Figure 7
What Are the Most Important Issues Facing Hawaiians Today?



Land rights and unity concerns are short term issues that will be resolved once appropriate actions or decisions are made. However, education is an infrastructure problem that will be around for a while. Health, housing and employment are also similar structural issues of concern for the Hawaiian community. These are long term service related problems that impeded successes in the Hawaiian population. Large amounts of time and money are needed to develop new services. Efforts must also be spent on improving the methods for delivering the service to those in need.

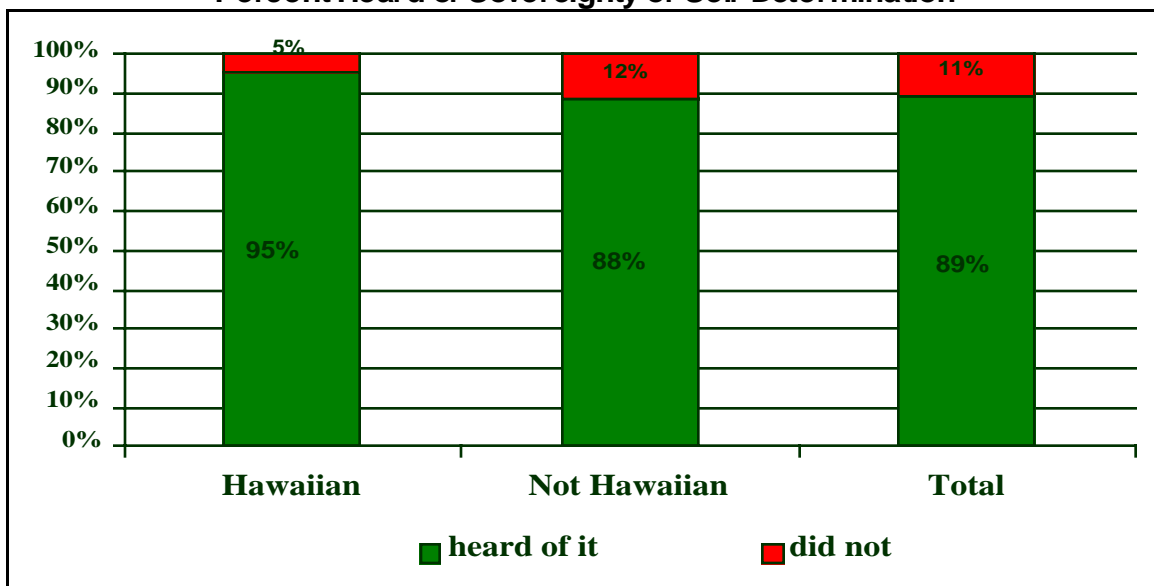
Figure 7 also illustrates Hawaiians' concern for health, housing, employment, and education are much greater relative to other residents. Of course, Hawaiians have a more intimate knowledge of Hawaiian issues and are able to articulate specifics. However, this suggests an ignorance on the part of non-Hawaiians to understand the plight of the Hawaiian community.

SOVEREIGNTY

The future of the Hawaiian people and the state of Hawai'i is being strongly influenced by Hawaiian sovereignty movement. It can be argued that this right to restoration of an independent nation state as existed prior to 1893, has even been recognized by the United States government.¹ The idea of sovereignty, self-governance and independence for Hawaiians is moving closer to reality. There is daily mention of the activities of sovereignty groups, cases dealing with sovereignty in our court system or conflicts with self-proclaimed governments facing the Executive and Legislative branches.

According to the 1999 OHA Awareness & Opinion Study, a large majority of Hawai'i residents, Hawaiian or not, have heard of the "Hawaiian sovereignty, or self determination, movement."

Figure 8
Percent Heard of Sovereignty or Self-Determination



Hawaiians are well aware of the sovereignty movement. Further, this high level of awareness has remained through out the survey period. However, non-Hawaiians in Hawai'i are less aware of Hawaiian sovereignty. Awareness among this group was consistently lower in January through March; then declined in April; and improved dramatically in May. Since May sovereignty awareness among non-Hawaiians has continued at a high level.

¹ Overthrow of Hawai'i Resolution, Pub. L., No. 103-150, 1993 USCCAN (107 Stat.) 1510.

Figure 9

**Percent Heard of Sovereignty or Self-Determination Movement
Hawaiians Only**

	month							OVERALL
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	
yes	96.5%	93.6%	93.6%	97.5%	95.5%	96.0%	95.6%	95.3%
no, don't know	3.5%	6.4%	6.4%	2.5%	4.5%	4.0%	4.4%	4.7%
Unweighted Count	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	126	355	210	153	275	370	275	1,764

Figures are weighted column percentages, except for the unweighted bases.
Differences between the months not statistically significant.

Figure 10

**Percent Heard of Sovereignty or Self-Determination Movement
Non-Hawaiians Only**

	month							OVERALL
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	
yes	86.8%	88.1%	85.7%	79.7%	90.6%	90.9%	90.1%	88.4%
no, don't know	13.2%	11.9%	14.3%	20.3%	9.4%	9.1%	9.9%	11.6%
Unweighted Count	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	166	373	335	180	447	487	223	2,211

Figures are weighted column percentages, except for the unweighted bases.
Differences between the months statistically significant.

In a 1995 Advertiser survey, the same question was asked. At that time, only 86 percent of Hawaiians and about 80 percent of non-Hawaiians had heard of the issue. There are probably very few public issues that would receive higher awareness ratings today.

However, the Hawaiian sovereignty movement is still evolving with many questions unresolved. Who is supporting sovereignty? What is the compelling force to change the status quo? What form will sovereignty ultimately take?

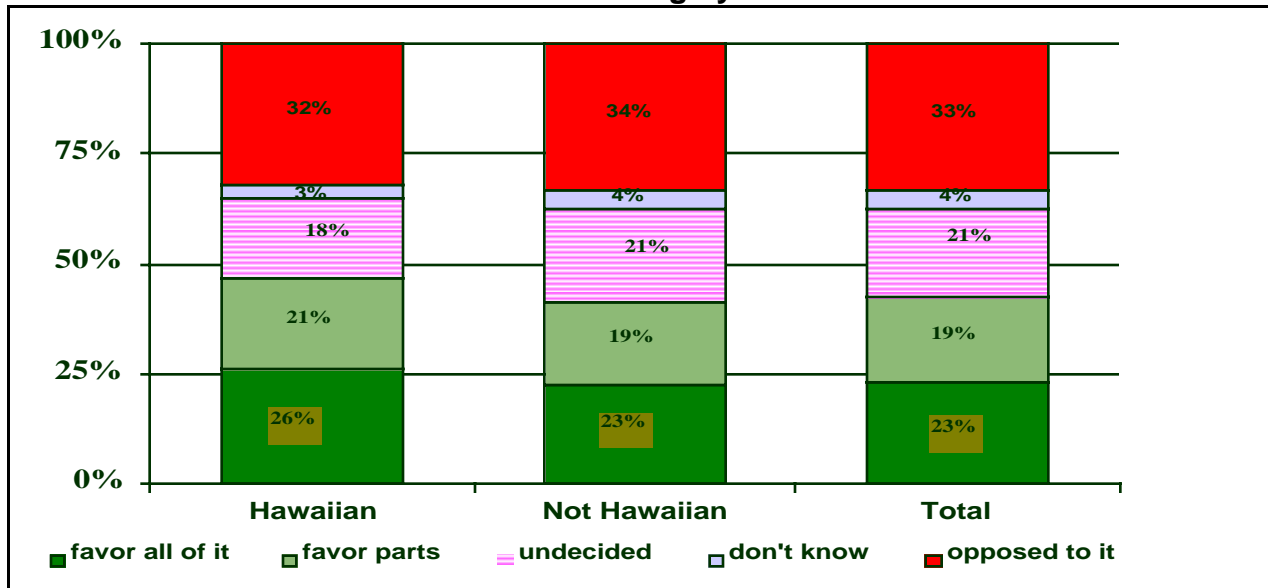
Motivation for Sovereignty

During the five-month period of this study, four out of every ten Hawai'i residents (42.3%) favored or partly-favored the idea of Hawaiian sovereignty. In particular nearly one-quarter (23.1%) favored the concept of sovereignty. On the other hand, 33.3 percent were opposed to Hawaiian sovereignty and another 20.5 percent remained undecided. In either situation, there is no clear majority who either support or oppose sovereignty. Support for sovereignty also does not vary significantly across age and education level (*See Appendix B: Results of Sovereignty Questions Tabulated by Selected Variables*).

The distribution of opinions is very similar among Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians. More importantly, a significant portion of the population remain undecided. This is an

indicator that the sovereignty issues is still not decided for the general populace. People have concerns for sovereignty but are not yet ready to go in either direction.

Figure 11
Position on Sovereignty Movement



Many sovereignty advocates agree that Hawaiian sovereignty can be a means to correct the disproportionate representation of Hawaiians with problems such as poverty, crime, drug addiction, and domestic violence. Many attribute these problems to a society rooted in over 100 years of colonization. Among the goals of sovereignty advocates are the improved welfare and prosperity of Hawaiians and the protection of the Hawaiian language and cultural practices.

The people of Hawai'i were very adamant in describing the driving force that motivates them in supporting sovereignty. Almost one-third (30.6%) of those who support sovereignty (favor or favor part of it) do so because they feel a need to correct past wrongs and Hawaiians deserve sovereignty.

Hawaiians who do not support sovereignty believe that Hawaiians are not ready yet (36.4%) and that sovereignty is impractical or impossible (23.6%). Non-Hawaiian opponents who only favor parts of sovereignty find that sovereignty will be unfair to non-Hawaiians (21.3%).

Figure 12

Reasons for Supporting Sovereignty

	Ethnicity						Overall
	Hawaiian			non-Hawaiian			
	favor	favor part of it	still thinking	favor	favor part of it	still thinking	
To correct the past wrongs; we (they) deserve it	32.6%	8.8%	5.7%	49.7%	21.3%	14.9%	30.6%
Sovereignty is a right	8.7%	5.3%	2.8%	7.8%	2.4%		4.7%
Sovereignty provides tangible benefits (land, money)	6.8%	4.4%	2.8%	4.2%	.6%	.5%	2.6%
Sovereignty threatens certain existing benefits		2.2%	2.8%				.2%
My Hawaiian heritage	6.4%	3.3%	2.8%	2.3%	.6%		1.7%
Details have to be worked out		7.5%		.2%			.5%
Same rights as other Native Americans	1.9%	2.2%	2.8%	4.5%	6.1%	.5%	4.2%
I am (they are) Hawaiian, not American	1.0%	5.5%	2.8%				.5%
We (they) can do this if we (they) work together	1.9%	8.3%		.4%	.8%	10.9%	2.5%
It's impractical; it's not going to work	3.9%	10.8%	16.4%	1.9%	2.4%	.5%	2.9%
We're (they're) ready; time to make it happen	9.7%	32.8%	25.5%	1.4%	6.9%	7.5%	7.1%
It's inevitable; it's going to happen sooner or later			5.7%	1.7%			.8%
Just because; no particular reason	4.9%		2.8%	2.1%	2.0%	.5%	1.9%
other reasons	34.9%	20.0%	16.4%	50.1%	61.8%	55.5%	51.2%
don't know, refused	2.9%	11.9%	30.5%	2.6%	4.6%	20.0%	6.8%
	308	258	140	331	298	172	1,507

Figures are weighted column percentages, except for the unweighted bases.
Percentages down the column may sum to more than 100 due to multiple responses.

Figure 13

Reasons for Opposing Sovereignty

	Ethnicity						Overall
	Hawaiian			non-Hawaiian			
	favor part of it	oppose	still thinking	favor part of it	oppose	still thinking	
It's not fair to non-Hawaiians; it's asking too much	8.8%	11.7%	5.7%	21.3%	7.2%	14.9%	12.7%
Sovereignty is not going to help us (them)	5.3%	8.9%	2.8%	2.4%	4.8%		3.7%
Doing fine now, why change?	4.4%	6.9%	2.8%	.6%	.5%	.5%	1.2%
Will lose benefits (govt funding, social security)	2.2%	2.0%	2.8%		.3%		.4%
I am not Hawaiian	3.3%		2.8%	.6%	1.4%		1.0%
Details have to be worked out	7.5%	1.0%			.3%		.6%
Don't want what happened to Native Americans	2.2%	1.0%	2.8%	6.1%	.1%	.5%	2.2%
I am (they are) American; should stay American	5.5%	10.9%	2.8%		.5%		1.2%
We (they) should work within the existing system	8.3%	6.9%		.8%	1.6%	10.9%	3.1%
It's impractical; it's not going to work; too late now	10.8%	23.6%	16.4%	2.4%	11.5%	.5%	8.3%
We're (they're) not ready	32.8%	36.4%	25.5%	6.9%	5.5%	7.5%	9.8%
It's never going to happen			5.7%		1.8%		.9%
Just because; no particular reason		3.0%	2.8%	2.0%	1.2%	.5%	1.5%
other reasons	20.0%	17.2%	16.4%	61.8%	66.4%	55.5%	57.4%
don't know, refused	11.9%	4.0%	30.5%	4.6%	6.3%	20.0%	8.0%
	258	411	140	298	516	172	1,795

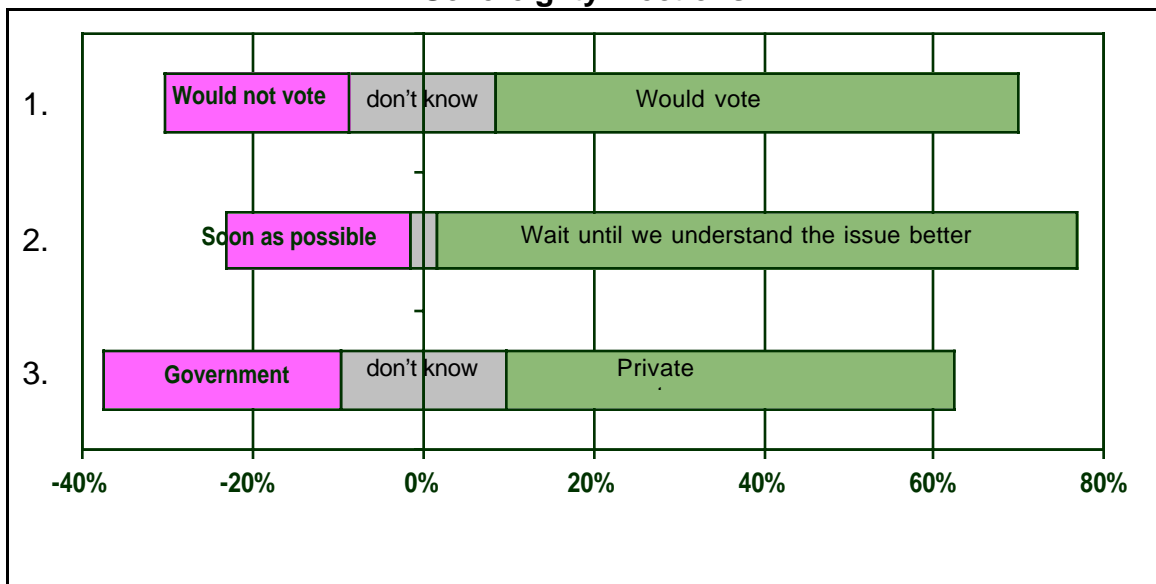
Figures are weighted column percentages, except for the unweighted bases.
Percentages down the column may sum to more than 100 due to multiple responses.

Many mention the need to improve the political and economic status of Hawaiians. To achieve this, the sovereignty movement has pushed for independence and self-governance. Sovereignty groups seek to have their own lands and money. Self-determination gives Hawaiians responsibility for solving problems. But how do the people of Hawai'i understand the concept of sovereignty?

Sovereignty Format

Many Hawaiians felt that a Native Hawaiian “constitutional convention” would be a means to sort through the various forms of sovereignty. In fact, a majority would vote in an election to choose representatives to a convention that decides the form of the sovereign nation (61.2%). However, as many sovereignty opponents have mentioned, many in the Hawaiian community are not yet ready (73.0%) and felt that the election should be held only after they understand more about the different forms of sovereignty.

Figure 14
Sovereignty Elections



1. Would you vote in an election to select delegates to a Native Hawaiian Constitutional Convention?
2. When should a delegate election take place (open ended).
3. Who should fund the Native Hawaiian Constitutional Convention?

Sovereignty discussions usually coalesce around the various models of a proposed government. These include integration (state-within-a-state, nation-within-a-nation), autonomy/free-association, and an independent nation. Each of these models are based on the essential characteristics of an independent state²: a distinct population, a government, a fixed territory, and the ability to conduct international relations.³

² Convention on Rights and Duties of States adopted by the Seventh International Conference of American States. December 26, 1933, LNTS 19, 25.

³ Statements depicting the various components of sovereignty were developed around these four characteristics. Each statement was asked of the respondents independently of any other statement. Therefore, trade-offs and interdependence between choices were not considered. This component list was not exhaustive but just attempted to measure reaction to various proposed forms of sovereignty.

Government

Governance by an elected leader is a concept supported by many Hawaiian sovereignty proponents. It is also the most favored concept for a government by Hawaiians overall (60.1%).

Figure 15 shows that 65.0 percent of those who favor sovereignty and 56.6 percent of those who oppose would support the concept of elected leaders for a sovereign nation. To a lesser extent, many would favor a government where only those of Hawaiian ancestry would run for office (51.5%). A nation governed by a monarch from an Ali'i family was supported by only 15.5 percent of Hawaiians would support such a concept if votes were to be taken today. However, this does not preclude a Mo'i for protocol and cultural figure-head

Sovereignty supporters agree that an independent Hawaiian state would control its natural resources (68.0%), have responsibility for its own economic development (59.8%) and have responsibility for its own social and welfare system (56.8). The majority of all sovereignty supporters at least agree on these three issues. This is the core of what people believe sovereignty should deliver. At a minimum, if the new nation cannot address these aspects then the nation will not be supported by the people.

Those who favor sovereignty strongly support a nation with a law-making body (56.8%) and an autonomous courts and legal system (59.8%).

Fixed Territories

In terms of national territory, nearly two-thirds (64.6%) of Hawaiians who favor sovereignty, support the return of all ceded lands to a Hawaiian nation. Hawaiians opposed to sovereignty were much less likely to relinquish state control of ceded lands. Only 21.7 percent would agree to have ceded lands placed in the hands of a new nation. The ceded lands would serve as the territory a new nation. Support for a new nation to control the ali'i trusts (i.e., Bishop Estate, Queen's Foundation, or Lili'uokalani Trust) was significantly less. Only 43.9 percent supported this idea.

International Relations

The position that an independent Hawaiian nation should have in the international community varied too greatly among those who favor sovereignty. No one model of sovereignty dominated. A nation fashioned as an equivalent to a county (subject to federal and state laws) would be supported by only 41.7 percent. A state-within-a-state was supported by over one-third of sovereignty supporters (35.8%). A nation-within-a-nation was supported by 26.5 percent. Complete independence from the US

was only supported by 36.5 percent. The majority of sovereignty defenders (50.9%) and opponents (53.0%) believe that the sovereign nation should continue ties with the US for at least foreign relations and defense purposes.

On the other hand, opponents of sovereignty were adamant that any sovereign nation should be subject to federal as well as state laws (57.3%). A majority would also support a nation that was subject to the US federal laws and courts if not the state (58.2%). Only one out of ten (13.5%) of sovereignty opponents, could supported complete independence from the US at this time.

Distinct Population

For who would a Hawaiian nation be established? Overall, only one-third (36.2%) supported restricting citizenship to Hawaiians only. Less than half of those who favor sovereignty (40.3%) agree that the new nation should be for native Hawaiians and only 28.8 percent of sovereignty opponents could live with a nation for Hawaiians only. Of those who are less committed (partially favor or undecided on sovereignty), 39.4 percent support the idea that citizenship in an independent Hawaiian nation should be reserved for Hawaiians only.

Many sovereignty supporters feel that a Hawaiian nation should have control of over all immigration issues (54.2%). Just under one-third (31.0%) of sovereignty supporters agree that citizens should be citizens of the Hawaiian nation only, is dual citizenship would not be permitted.

Figure 15

**Estimated Voting Percentage* for Selected Sovereignty Items
Hawaiians Only****

	Position on Sovereignty			Hawaiians Overall
	favor	oppose	favor only partly, still thinking, no opinion	
should be completely independent of US	36.5	13.5	20.8	23.5
should be part of US for foreign relations/defense purposes	50.9	53.0	57.9	54.4
citizenship should only be for native Hawaiians	40.3	28.8	39.4	36.2
should have its courts and legal system	59.8	16.9	33.8	36.5
citizens should pay taxes only to the sovereign nation	47.2	16.5	25.7	29.4
should have its own law making body	62.8	26.0	41.2	43.2
should be able to enter into international relations	53.1	28.5	44.6	42.7
only those with Hawaiian ancestry can run for office	59.2	40.3	53.7	51.5
should be governed by a monarch	18.6	10.1	16.9	15.5
should be exempt from county laws	41.7	14.5	24.7	26.9
should be governed by an elected leader	65.0	56.6	59.4	60.1
should be subject to federal laws and courts of U.S.	26.5	58.2	43.4	42.5
should be responsible for its own economic development	59.8	42.4	45.1	48.6
should have its own money and banking system	50.4	28.9	31.6	36.2
should have control over foreign ownership of land	35.1	19.2	30.8	28.9
should have control over immigration issues	54.2	29.3	41.1	41.4
citizens should be citizens of sovereign nation only	31.0	16.9	19.7	22.4
should be responsible for social and welfare system	56.8	41.3	46.5	47.9
should control the alli trust lands	43.9	20.4	25.8	29.6
should be subject to federal and state laws	35.8	57.7	45.6	46.0
all ceded lands should be returned to the nation	64.6	21.7	45.9	44.9
should control natural resources	68.0	43.9	51.1	53.9
should have its own law enforcement	53.8	18.5	29.8	33.6

#4374: 1999 OHA Awareness & Opinion Survey.

SMS, Inc. Data weighted by sample source.

*Estimated percentage of population voting 'yes' to each item.

Calculation is based on the assumption that likelihood of voting 'yes' decreases as the degree of agreement to each item decreases.

Likelihood of voting 'yes' based on the following percentages:

strongly agree=75%, somewhat agree=50%, don't know, neither agree nor disagree=25%, disagree=0%.

Base: favor=98; oppose=99; partly favor, still thinking, no opinion=143.

**Ethnicity was self-identified by the respondent.

Question asked during March survey period only.

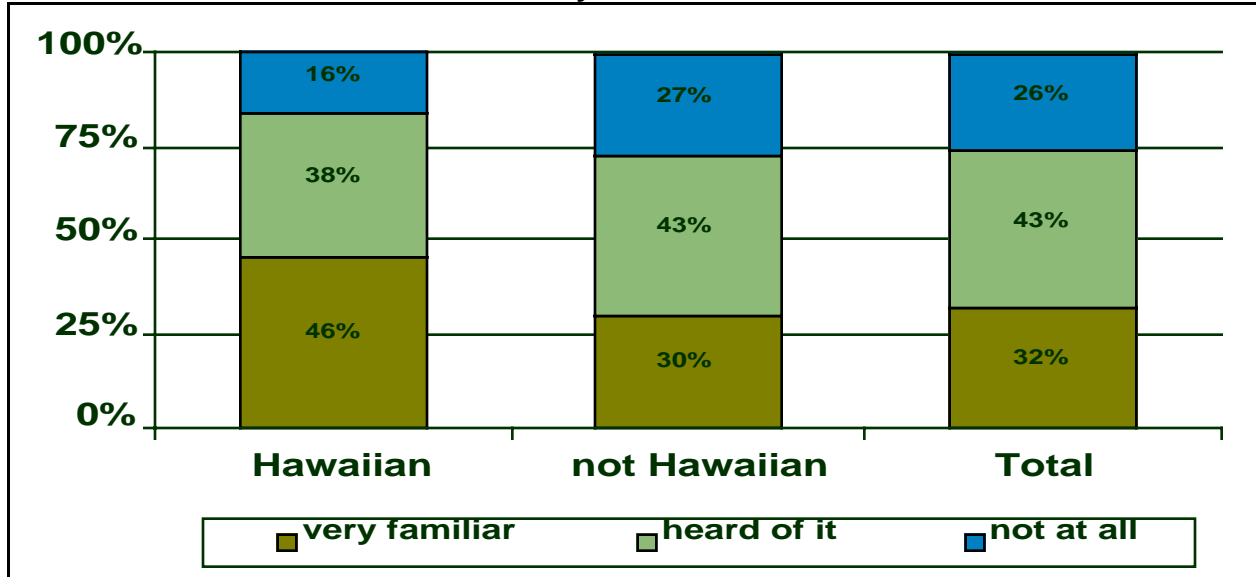
A solution to the sovereignty question will not be answered today. The results of the survey indicate that although awareness of the sovereignty issues are very high, the forms and concepts associated with sovereignty are not clear to all. Discussions have been initiated among Hawaiians and between Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians to facilitate more informed decisions on the issues. However the answers to the revitalization of the Hawaiians will be formed through the choices of the people of Hawai'i.

CEDED LANDS

The Public Land trusts are those lands transferred or “ceded” to the U.S. by the Republic of Hawai‘i in 1898 and which were conveyed to the State of Hawai‘i by the Admissions Act in 1959. The Admission Act mandated the State to hold ceded lands as a public trust for five purposes, one of which was the betterment of the conditions of native Hawaiians. It is from this land base that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs derives its funds for grants and programs. Twenty percent of all revenue derived from the ceded lands can be expended by OHA for the betterment of the conditions of native Hawaiians. Therefore it is important that Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians understand the issues surrounding ceded lands. A well-informed public would make decisions that would assist in carrying out the objectives of OHA.

Hawaiians are familiar with the term “ceded lands”. Nearly one-half (45.9%) state that they are very familiar and another 38.3 percent state that they have heard of it. Non-Hawaiians, however, were more inclined to say they have heard of it (43.2%) but were not very familiar (only 29.5% were very familiar).

Figure 16
Familiarity with the Issues



Awareness of ceded lands was not equally represented throughout the State. Hawaiians on Oahu were more likely to be very familiar (48.1%) than the other island, particularly Kauai (39.7%). Among non-Hawaiians Maui residents seem to be the most exposed to issues surrounding ceded lands (35.0% for Maui compared to 21.6% for Kauai). Certain demographic segments also were underrepresented in the

level of awareness of ceded lands: younger adults, 18 to 35 years old (30.2%); lowest income level, less than \$25,000 per year (33.5%); and the lowest educational level, no high school diploma (36.4%); were not very familiar with “ceded lands” [Appendix D].

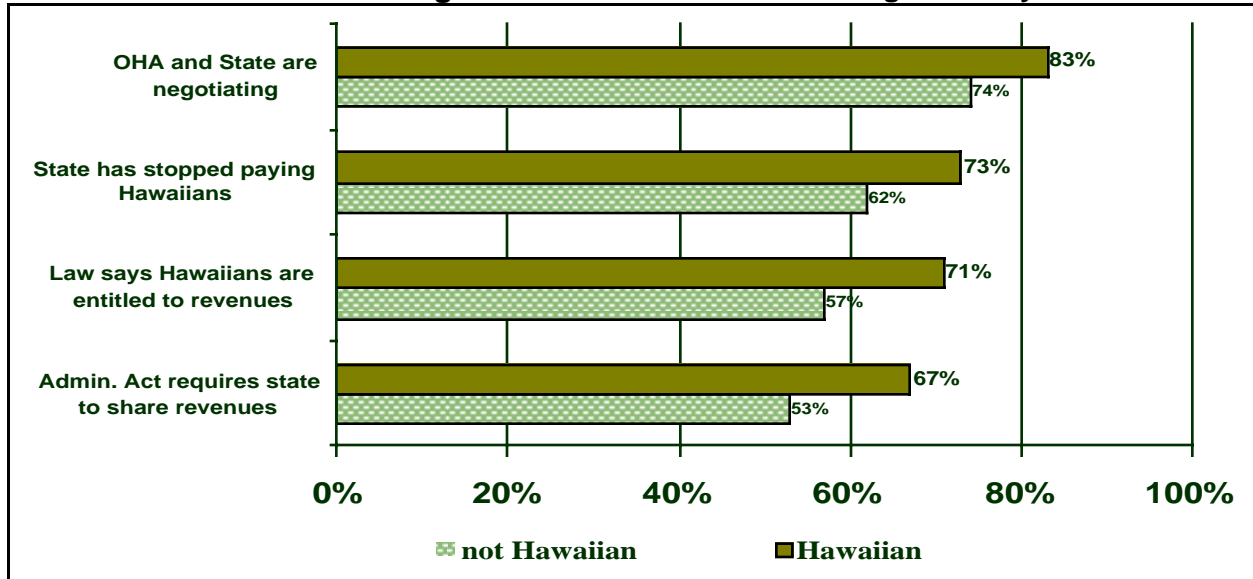
More importantly than just recognizing the term “ceded lands”, OHA’s Focus on Fairness Campaign aimed to increase the consciousness of citizens towards the specific issues surrounding ceded lands. The following four statements were made throughout this education campaign:

- Negotiations are currently taking place between the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the State, over the revenues from the ceded lands;
- The Admissions Act of 1959 requires the State to share with Hawaiian people the revenue from activities on lands that used to belong to Hawaiians;
- According to the State law, native Hawaiians are entitled to a portion of the revenues that are generated on the land that used to belong to the Hawaiians;
- The State of Hawai’i has stopped paying Hawaiians some of the money to which they are entitled according to the law.

Overall, the campaign has been very effective in establishing a high awareness of ceded lands issues among Hawaiians. In the first survey period (January - February) no less than eight out of ten Hawaiians knew that “Negotiations are currently taking place between the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the State, over the revenues from the ceded lands.” Hawaiians were also very much aware of the “State stopped paying Hawaiians” (72.8%); “Law says Hawaiians are entitled to revenues from ceded lands” (71.2%), and “Admission Act requires state to share ceded land revenues with Hawaiians” (66.5%). This high level of awareness was retained by Hawaiians throughout the study. Measurements even in the last survey period (June-July) showed no significant deviations.

Citizens, other than Hawaiians, also were well aware of particular ceded land issues. Over half of non-Hawaiians were able to answer correctly questions on ceded lands (See Figure 17.)

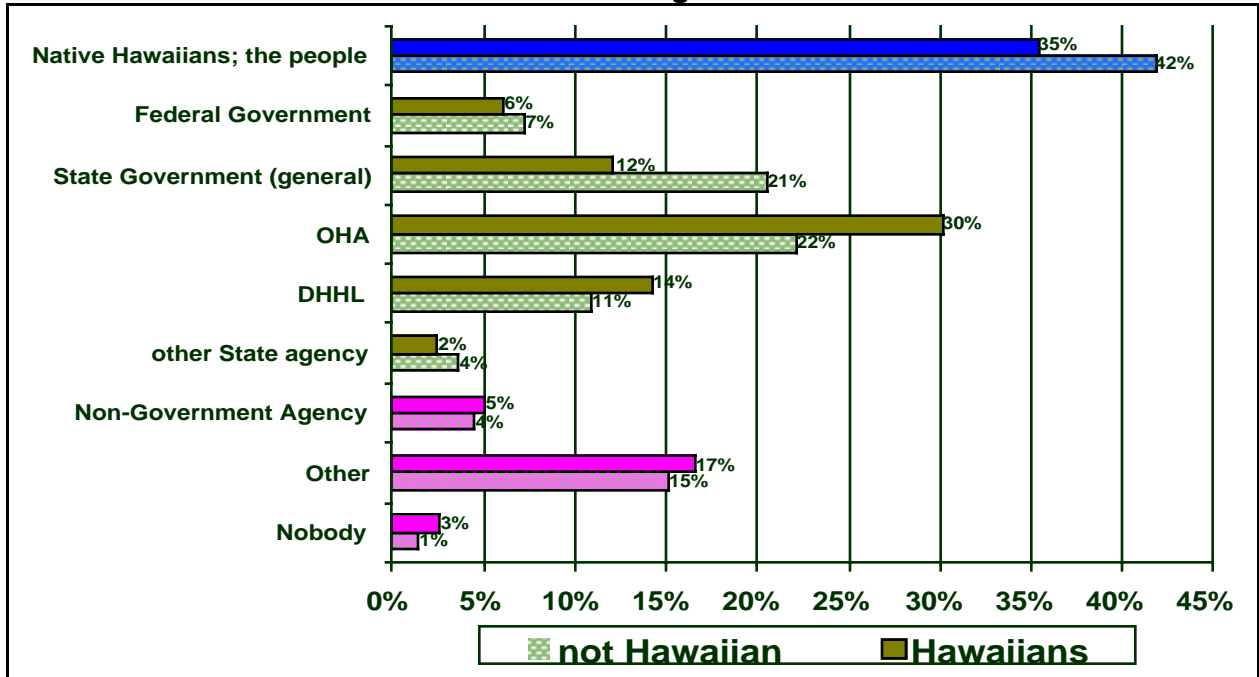
Figure 17
Understanding the Issue: Percent answering correctly



Respondents were also asked for an opinion on “who should be responsible for managing the lands that used to belong to the Native Hawaiians?” Figure 18 below, illustrates that the distribution of responses varied widely. The strongest answer was to let the Hawaiian people manage these lands (35.4% of Hawaiians and 41.8% of non-Hawaiians). Respondents mentioned that through some democratic process presumably some board or group could be formed to oversee the land management.

The green section of the graph represents government agencies that could be responsible managers. Among this sector, OHA is thought to be the most favored (30.2% of Hawaiians, 22.1% of non-Hawaiians). In general, respondents were more apt to give detailed responses, listing various government agencies, since they have greater knowledge of their operations and reputations.

Figure 18
Who Should Manage the Lands



HAWAIIANS AND POLITICS

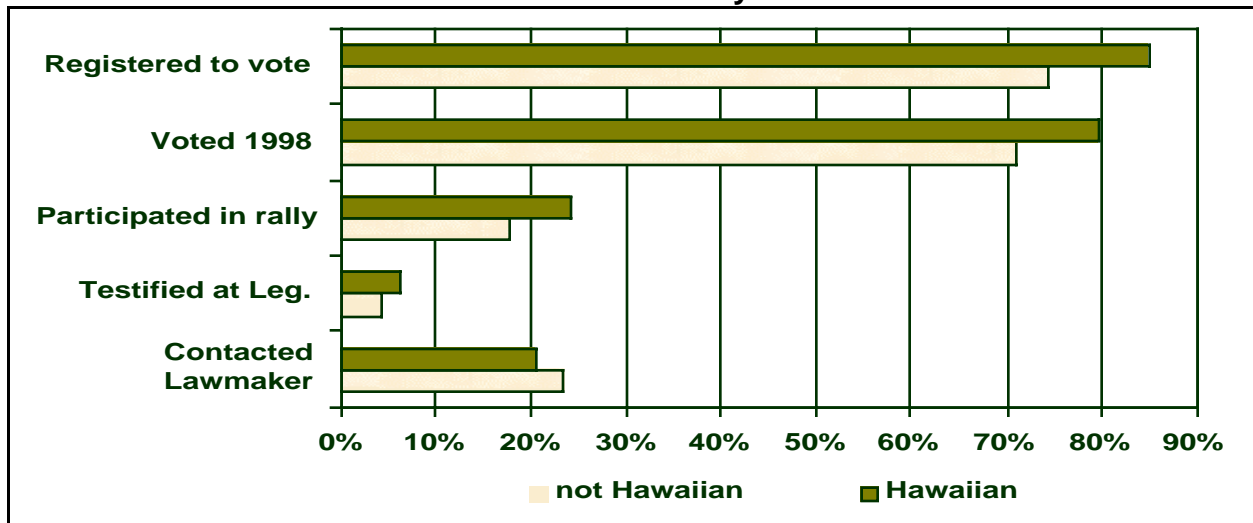
Politics are an integral part of modern living. For Hawaiians to succeed in this contemporary lifestyle they must be politically astute, understand current issues and participate in the government process.

Political Activity

The Hawaiian community has been very successful in promoting participation in the political process. According to the 1999 OHA Public Awareness & Opinion Survey, 85.0 percent of adult Hawaiians were registered to vote, in contrast to only three-quarters of the State-wide population (75.9%) were registered voters. Hawaiians also surpass the general public in voter turnout with 79.8 percent of the registered voters actually voting in the 1998 General Election (State as a whole 72.9%).⁴

Hawaiians are no less politically active than other residents. Hawaiians are more likely to participate in a political rally (24.2%) than non-Hawaiians (18.6%). In terms of testifying at the Legislature (6.2%) or contacting lawmakers (20.6%), the Hawaiian population is on par with the State as a whole.

**Figure 19
Political Activity**



⁴ Self-reported status on voter registration and political activism might be slightly inflated since respondents could have a tendency to boost their status. However, comparisons between the Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian groups are appropriate.

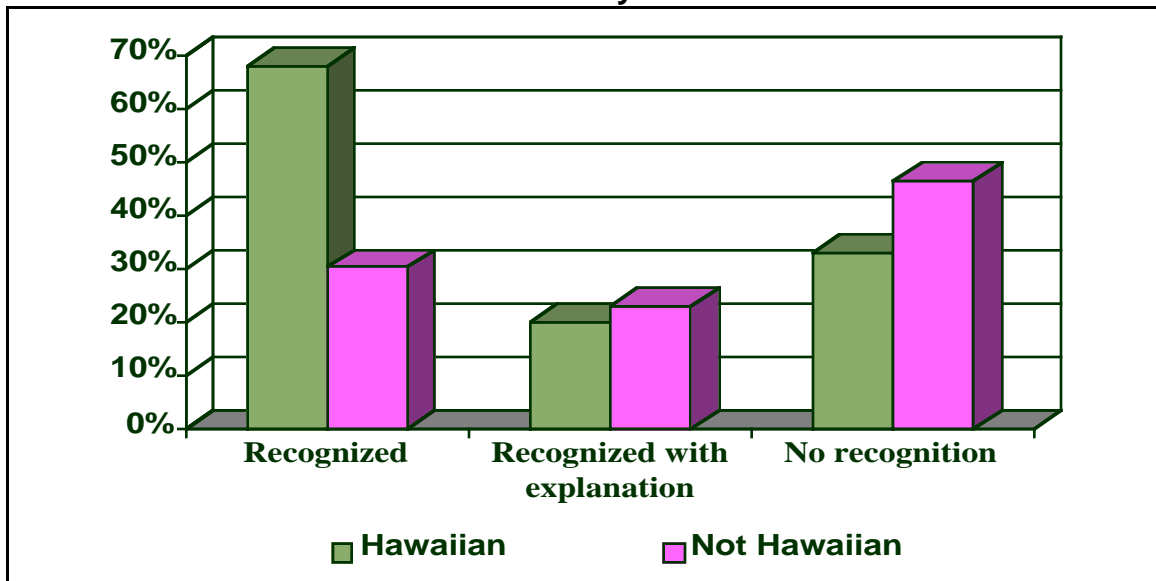
Awareness of Issues Facing Hawaiians

In order to be more politically astute, Hawaiians also need to be aware of issues at the federal level.

Hawaiians were well aware of the 1993 U. S. Congressional Resolution No. 103-150. More than seven out of ten Hawaiians (71.7%) knew that the Resolution apologizes for the illegal overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom.

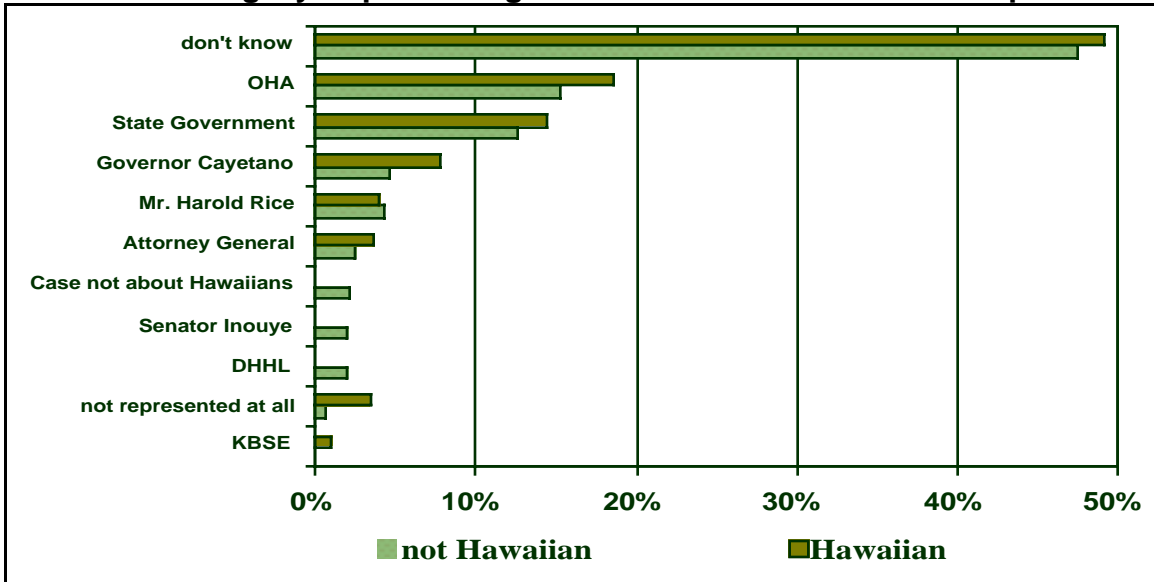
A more recent case before the U.S. Supreme Court is the Rice Vs. Cayetano Case. Again a majority of Hawaiians (66.9%) recognized the case, either by name, or were familiar with the subject matter.

Figure 20
Rice Vs Cayetano



However, at this time, many Hawaiians did not understand the details of the case, such as, “Who is legally representing Hawaiians in this case?”. Almost half were honest enough to state they did not know (49.1%). This is the “ground zero” state of awareness as of July 1999. Any education and awareness campaign will have to start from this blank slate.

Figure 21
Who is Legally Representing the Interest of the Hawaiian People?

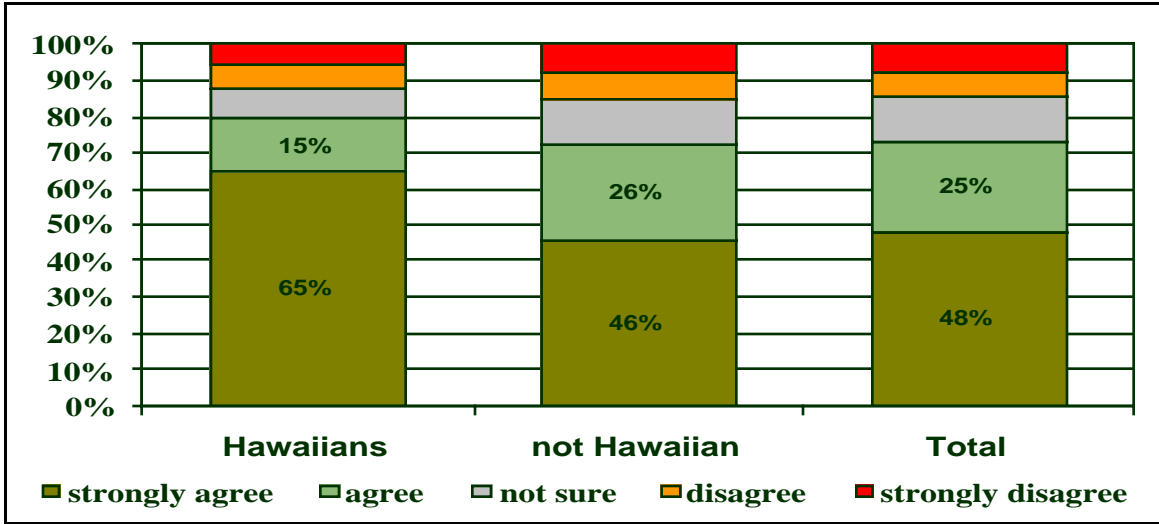


Native Rights

Hawaiians have also taken a political stance on native rights.

Hawaiians are much more keen to recognizing that Hawaiians have the right to access government or undeveloped lands for traditional and cultural activities. Two-thirds of Hawaiian citizens (64.6%) strongly agree to these Native Hawaiian access rights.

Figure 22
Access Rights



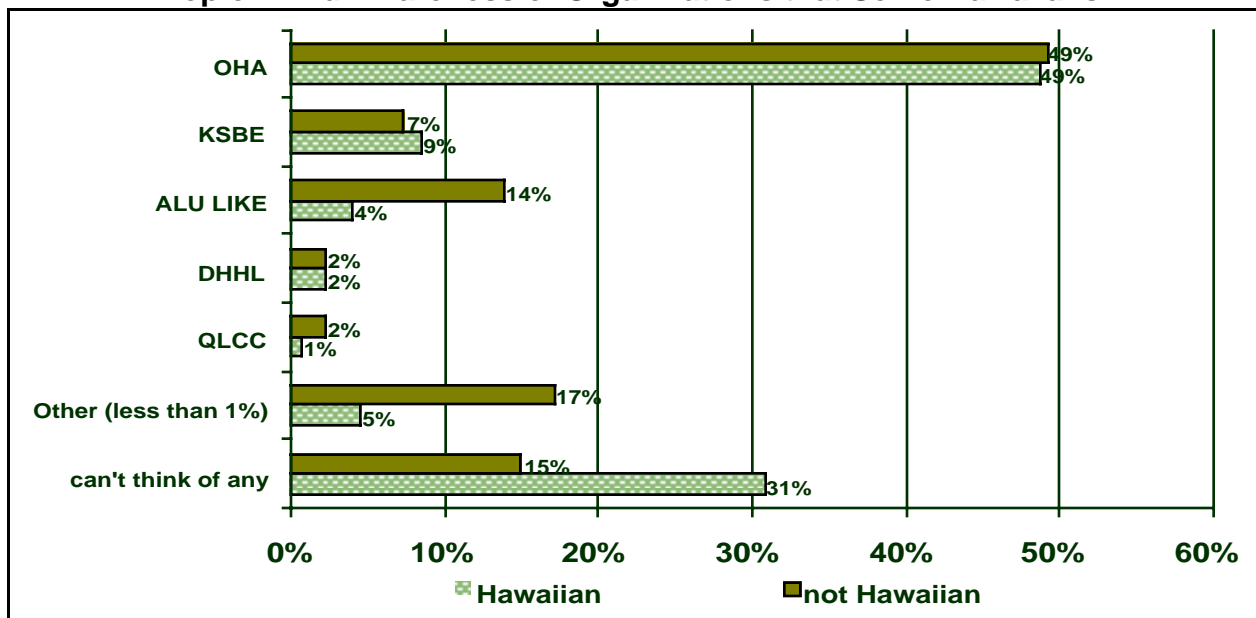
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS EVALUATION

The native Hawaiian people once lived in a highly-organized, and self-sufficient economy. Hawaiians prospered with a strong cultural identify and healthy bodies. However the Hawaiians of today experience excessive poverty, poor health, crime, and drug addiction. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) was created in response to the needs of the aboriginal class of people of Hawaii. "Its mission is the betterment of conditions of all Hawaiians and to provide Hawaiians with the opportunity for a better life and future."

Perception of OHA

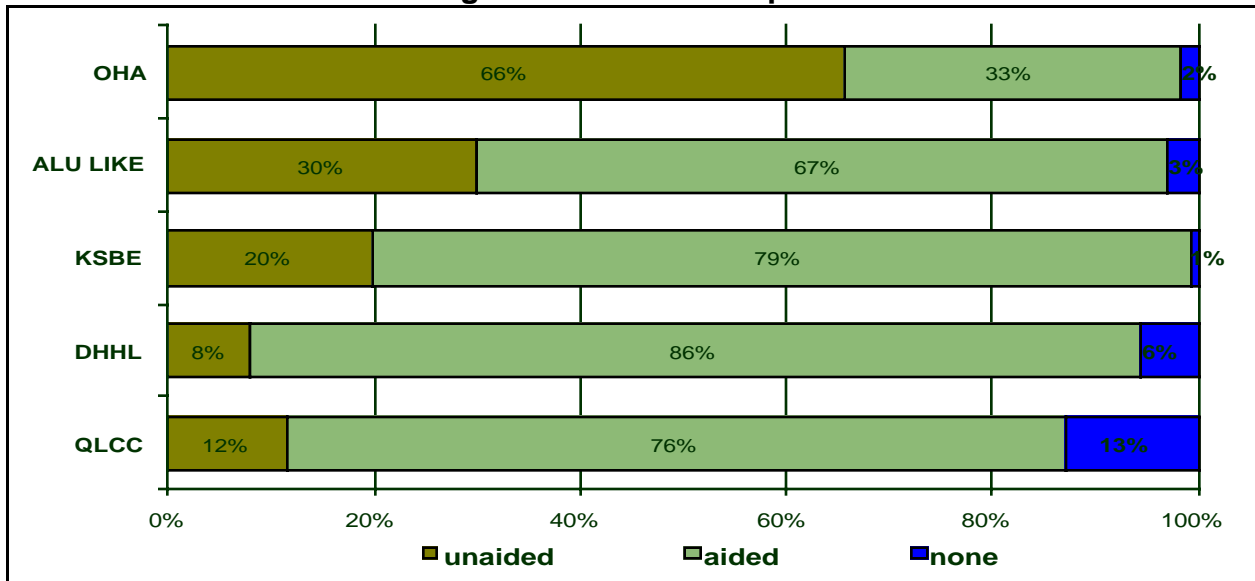
According to the 1999 OHA Awareness & Opinion Survey, The Office of Hawaiian Affairs was the most conspicuous organization that serves native Hawaiians. OHA was the first organization that came to mind (Top-of-Mind) for 48.9 percent of the residents of Hawaii. Among Hawaiians the second most named organization was Alu Like (13.9%). Non-Hawaiians were not as aware of Alu Like as only 4.0 percent could name it outright. For non-Hawaiians, Kamehameha Schools Bishop Estate (KSBE) was the second most mentioned as an organization that benefited Hawaiians. One in twelve (8.5%) stated KSBE.

Figure 23
Top of Mind Awareness of Organizations that Serve Hawaiians



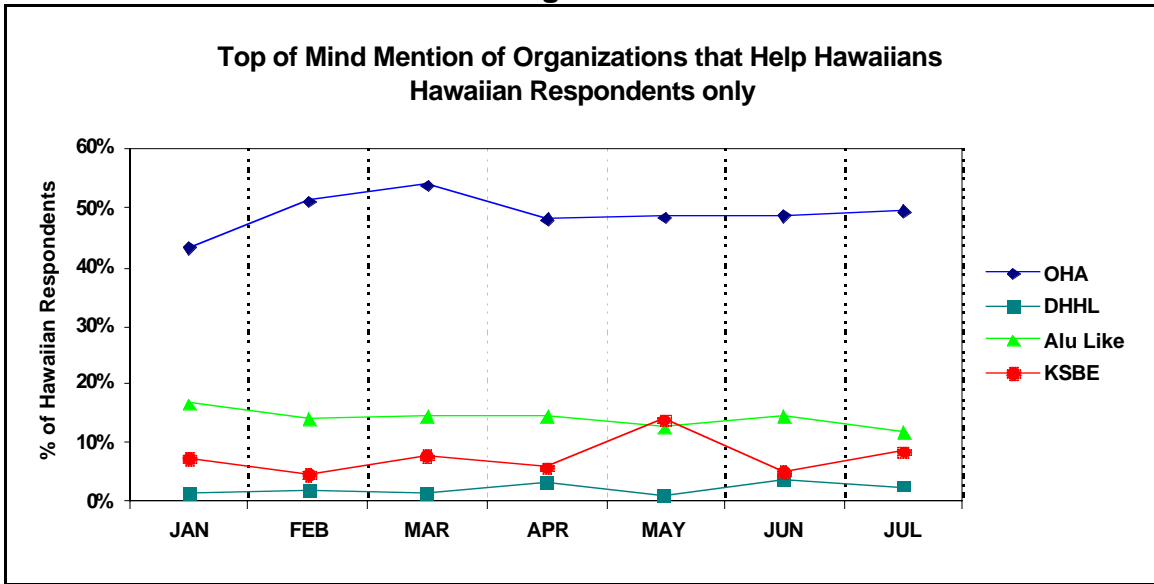
Overall, “Office of Hawaiian Affairs” or “OHA” was recognized by 93.8 percent of the total adult population. Respondents either mentioned the name outright (unaided) or respondents yes to the question, “Have you heard of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs or OHA” (aided recall) [See Figure 24 for results]. The only other organization to garner a higher awareness level was KSBE with 98.1 percent of the population. A great disparity exists in the fact that 97.1 percent of Hawaiians are aware of the contributions of Alu Like but only 60.5 percent of non-Hawaiians mentioned or even recognized its name.

Figure 24
Awareness of Organizations That Help Native Hawaiians



Top-of-mind awareness of OHA continued its favorable levels throughout the survey period. Awareness remained within a range of 43.1 percent to 53.8 percent of all Hawaiian respondents.

Figure 25



Evaluation of OHA in Relation to Other Organizations

OHA's master plan focuses of certain goals in order to accomplish OHA's mission:

- Coordinate programs for Hawaiians
- Provide programs for Hawaiians if none exists
- Advocate for Hawaiians
- Serve as a receptacle for reparations.

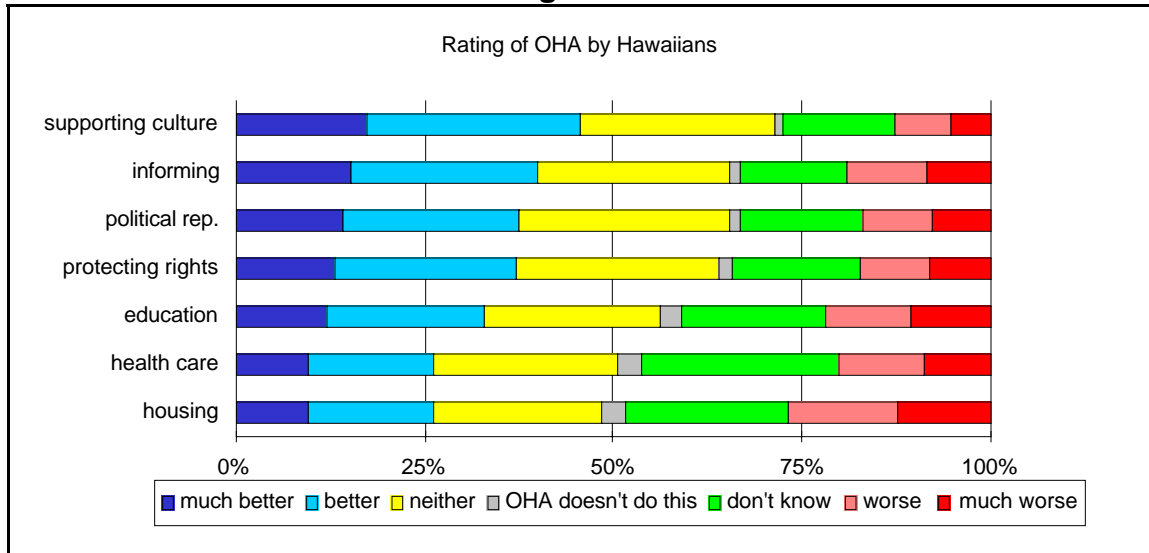
OHA's more encompassing goals reflect a desired conditions for Hawaiians and not a specific purpose such as education, health care, or housing. OHA's intent is to reach all areas of the community.

However, the success of OHA is gauged by the accomplishment of specific objectives as noted in their master plan. According to Hawaiians, OHA was best at supporting Hawaiian culture. In fact, almost one-half of all Hawaiians (45.8%) felt that OHA was either better or much better than other organization that help Hawaiians when it comes to supporting Hawaiian culture. Gathering and disseminating information about Hawaiians was also a perceived strength of OHA, with 40.2 percent better or much better rating.

Education, healthcare, and housing rated the lowest among the sentiment of Hawaiians. However, these areas have a shared responsibility with other well known organizations. It is important that "legislators, beneficiaries and the general public become more aware of OHA's accomplishments and the many positive ways in which

OHA has impacted the community.”⁵ OHA should capitalize on success in these areas by publicizing the important role OHA played in these partnerships.

Figure 26

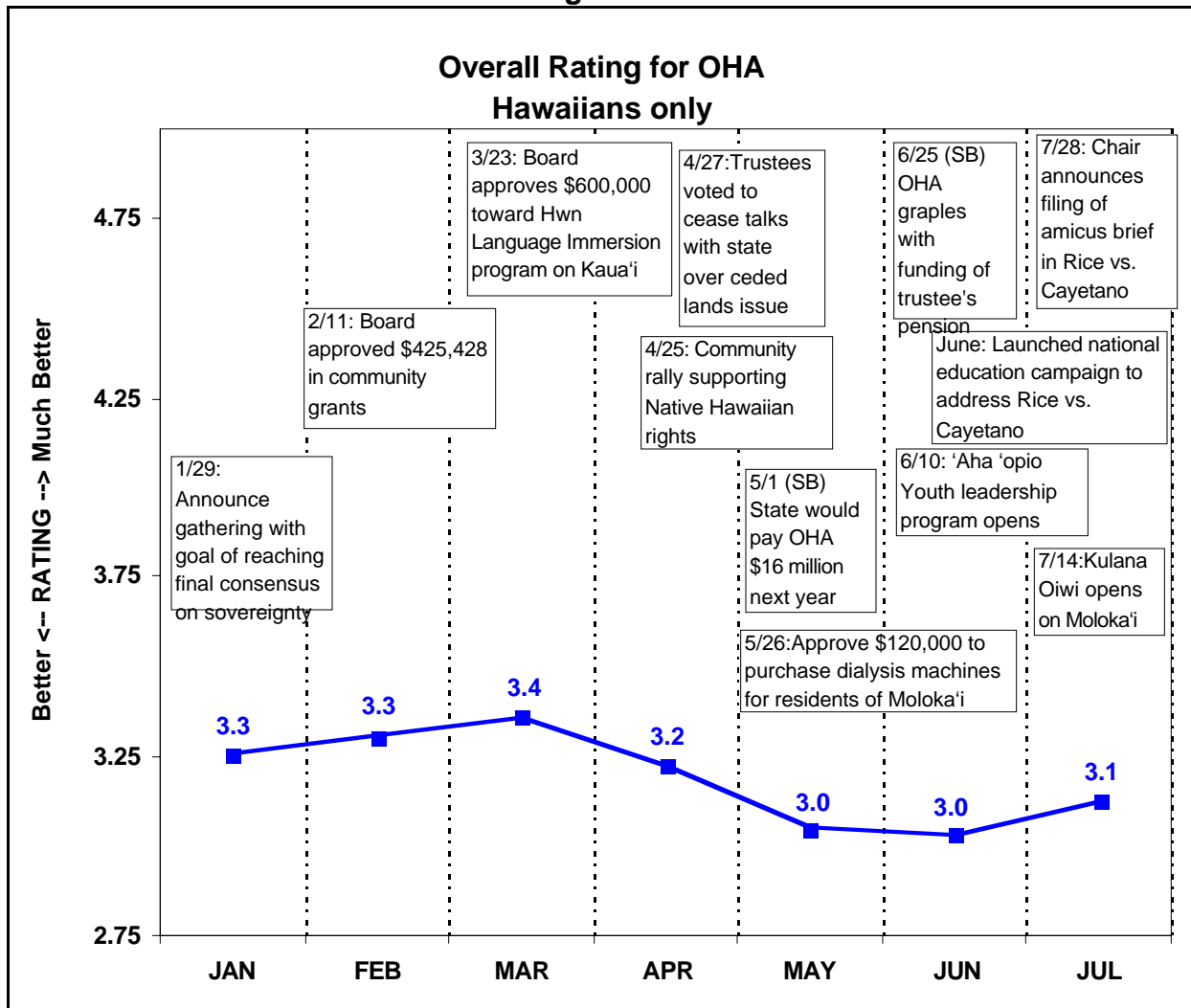


Evaluation by Month

Overall, OHA is rated “Better” (3.17 out of 5) than other organizations that serve Hawaiians. This aggregate score based on all the above mentioned criteria. In general, OHA has been able to main a favorable rating over the course of the survey period, January through July, 1999 (See Figure 27, below). Ratings reached a peak in March but experienced a decline in April and May. Effectiveness of OHA, as rated by beneficiaries, started to improve in July, but remains below the levels recorded in the earlier part of the year. Figure 27 also notes a few of the more widely publicized actions taken by OHA during the course of this survey. No one event can be held responsible for the rise and fall of OHA’s ratings. However the chart does illustrate that good deeds are sometimes masked by the purveying sentiment developed over the course of time.

⁵ OHA website, “The office’s work”, <http://www.oha.org/info/agency.html>

Figure 27



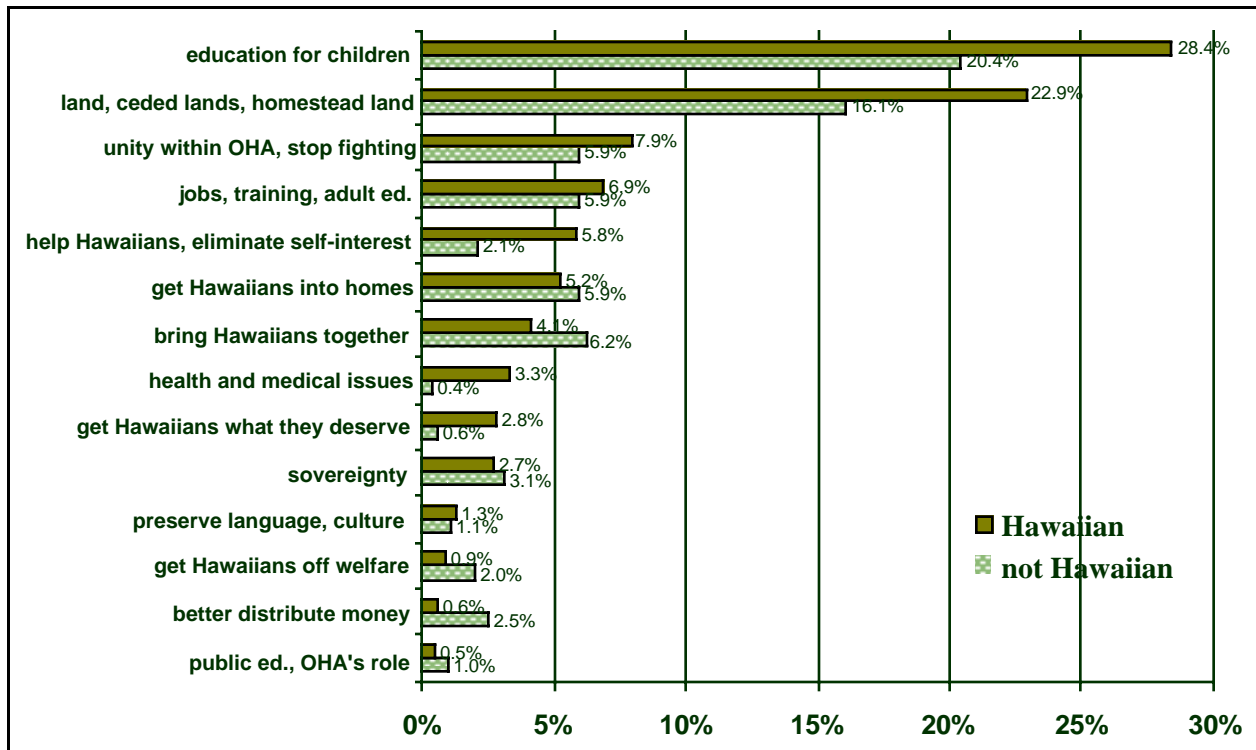
Rating based on a scale from 1 to 5 where 1=much worse, to 5=much better than other organizations that serve Hawaiians.

What The Beneficiaries And General Public Are Saying....

Respondents were not only adamant of how well OHA is doing but also what it should be doing for its beneficiaries. Among the population of Hawai'i many felt that Trustees should be focusing on education. Almost one-quarter of adults (24.4%) mentioned that OHA should address education in Hawaii, such as education for Hawaiian children, vocational education for adults and training for displaced workers. Many Hawaiian beneficiaries (15.7%) specifically mentioned education and schooling for Hawaiian children. Another important issue for Trustees to address were the problems with lands such as ceded lands, homesteads and homelands. Land issues were explicitly mentioned by 22.9 percent of Hawaiians and 16.1% of non-Hawaiians.

Unity was an important theme among respondents. For Hawaiians, unity meant focusing on “unity within OHA” and stopping the in-fighting (7.9% of Hawaiians). On the other hand, non-Hawaiians saw OHA was needed to provide unity among Hawaiians and to bring Hawaiians together (6.2% of non-Hawaiians).

Figure 28
OHA Trustees Should Focus On . . .

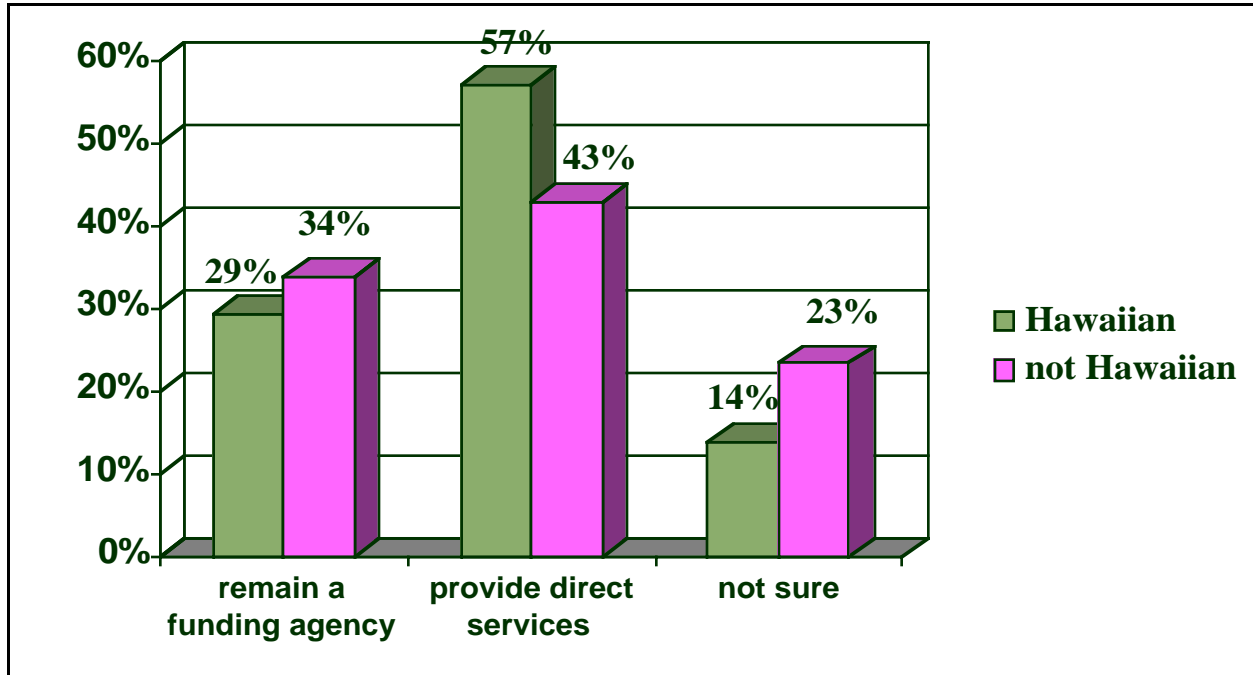


OHA As A Service Provider

OHA attempts to ensure service through existing mechanisms for effectiveness and to avoid duplication of efforts. When beneficiary needs are not being met, OHA is authorized to provide grants or establish agencies to serve native Hawaiians and Hawaiians.⁶ However, Hawaiians felt that OHA should be doing more than just funding programs. More than half of Hawaiians (57.0%) felt that OHA should become a direct service provider. A slightly less, yet still evident sentiment was echoed in the non-Hawaiian population, where 42.8 percent agreed that OHA should provide direct services.

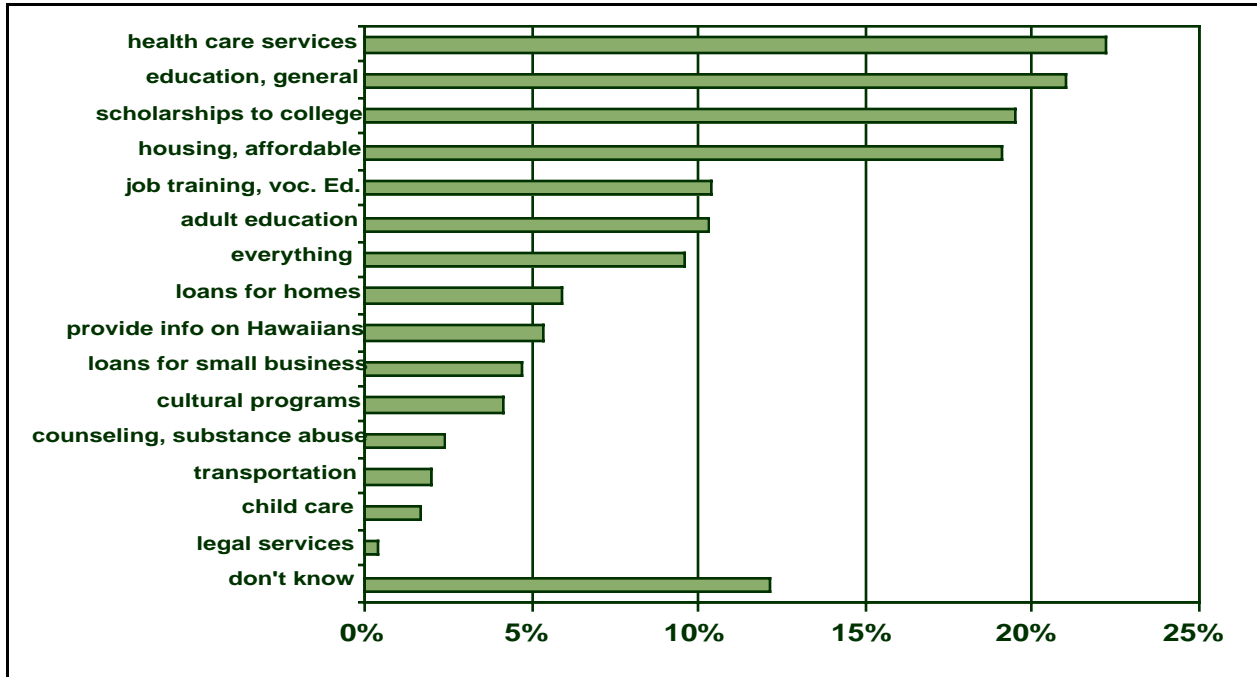
⁶ Chapter 10-6 Hawaii Revised Statutes

Figure 29
Direct Services Issue



If direct services should be provided by OHA, the people would like to receive a variety of educational services. Education again surfaces as the most important objective set by the public for OHA. Six out of ten Hawaiians would like to see OHA provide scholarships (19.5%), adult education and literacy (10.3%), and additional funding for educational programs (10.7%). There is also a segment that would like OHA to provide job training, job placement, vocational education and career counseling (10.4%). Another 12.3 percent would just desire general educational services provided to the beneficiaries. Beneficiaries would also like OHA to provide health services such as clinics and assistance in health care and health insurance (22.2%). A sizable portion (19.1%) want OHA to provide housing services such as housing assistance and affordable housing.

Figure 30
Provide Which Direct Services



Some will disagree that policy should be directly determined by the general public. However, the results of the survey indicate a disparity between OHA's goals and the impressions and expectations from the beneficiaries. Awareness of OHA remains high but its actions, programs and plans are not clear to the community. As OHA continues to strengthen the Hawaiian people and their culture, a public awareness campaign is essential to explain the complexities of a funding-only organization.

BLOOD QUANTUM

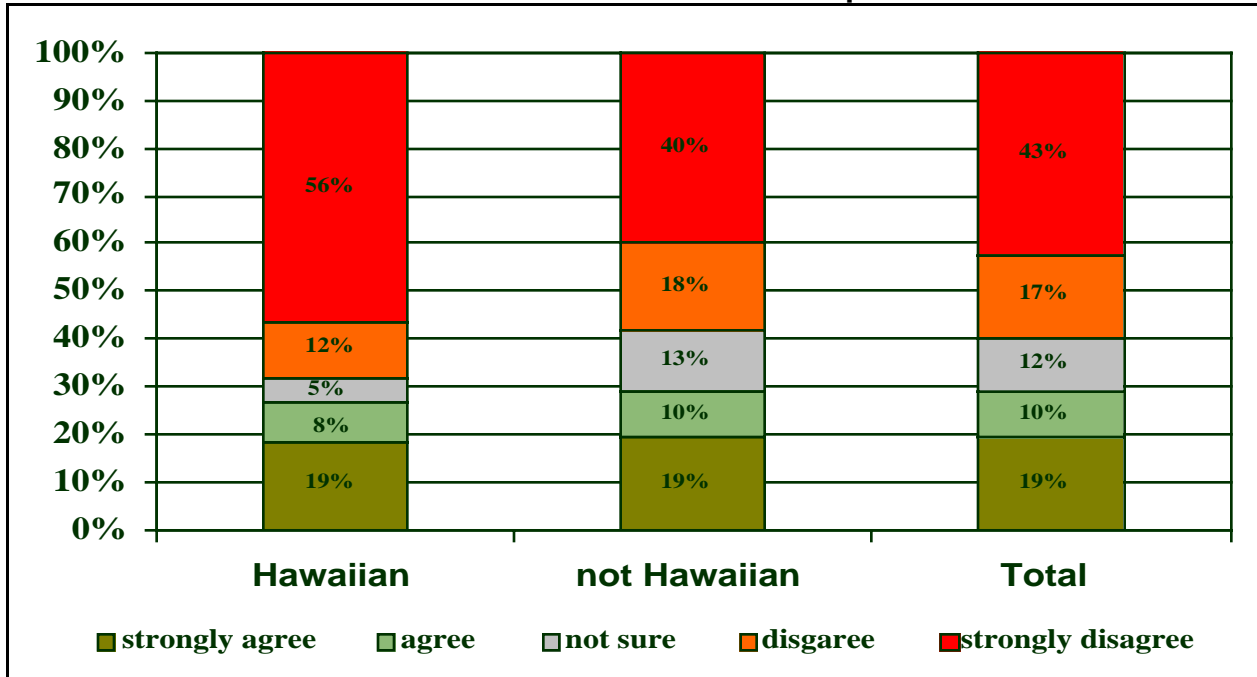
Currently the Office of Hawaiian Affairs receives public land trust revenues which are restricted to benefit only one class of beneficiaries – the native Hawaiians (those of 50% or more Hawaiian blood). Some people believe that this 50%-blood quantum is necessary to maintain the integrity of the programs and protect the rights of Hawaiian people.

However, in its Master Plan, OHA has set a high priority to “pursue a single definition of Native Hawaiian without reference to blood quantum.” This objective is deemed most urgent in order to build OHA’s pool of resources to meet the needs of the Hawaiian people.

The general public and in particular Hawaiians, do not support the current 50 percent blood quantum requirement. A majority of Hawaiians (56.4%) strongly disagree with the blood quantum limits. Only one-quarter (26.7%) agree to keep the restrictions. Even currently beneficiaries did not agree with the requirements. More than half (53.7%) of beneficiaries who were 50 to 75 percent Hawaiian were insistent about seeing changes made to the constrictive terms. For those who have greater than 75 percent Hawaiian blood the sentiment was similar but less intense (38.3% strongly disagree, 15.1% somewhat disagree).

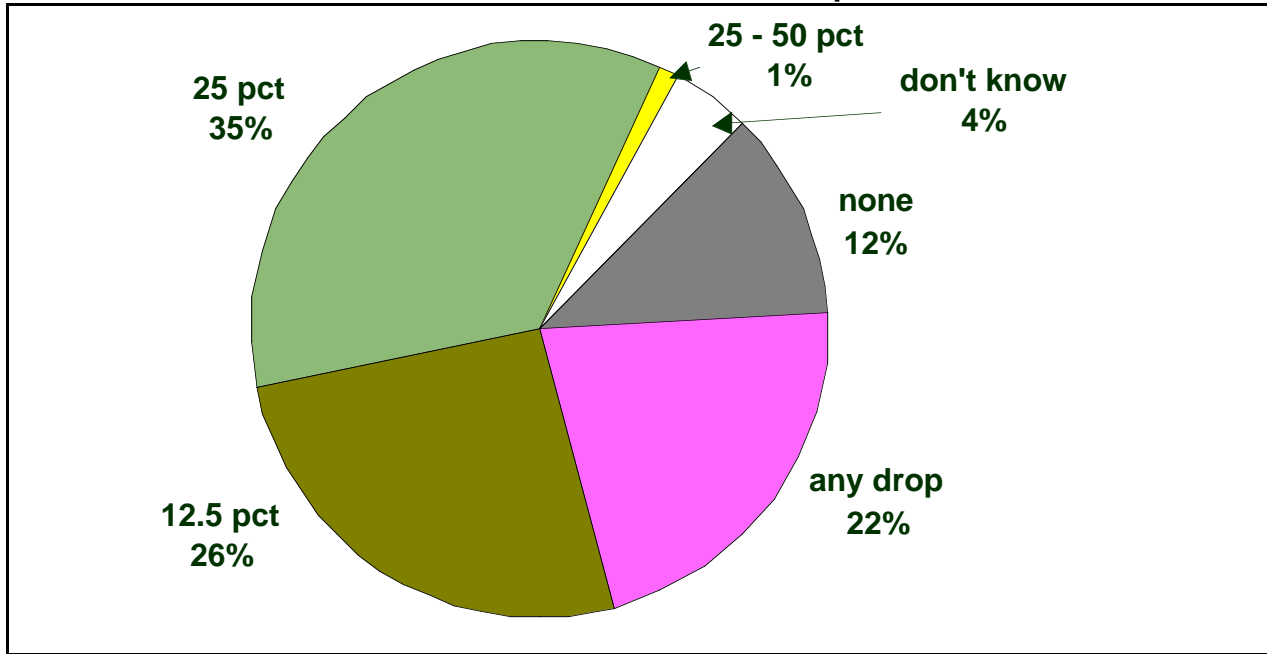
Many reasoned that the blood quantum needs to be lowered because “not many Hawaiians are 50 percent or more in blood” (42.7% of Hawaiians). Many Hawaiians also believed that “any drop of Hawaiian blood” makes a person Hawaiian and entitled to assistance and funding from OHA.

Figure 31
Should OHA Retain Blood Quantum Requirement?



How much should it be? According to the Hawaiians in this State, many would like the blood quantum relaxed to at least one-eighth Hawaiian if not lower (59.3%). In fact one out of five (21.9%) would like to see benefits extended to any individual who has even a drop of Hawaiian blood. Another 11.6 percent feel there should not be a blood quantum requirement at all.

Figure 32
What should the Blood Quantum Requirement?



The results of this survey gives OHA justification to pursue a revised definition for Hawaiians. The ultimate goal is to increase the resources available in order to meet the needs of all Hawaiians.