

The latest large national movement on behalf of kids was kicked off last April by the Presidents' Summit for America's Future. America's Promise is led by former General Colin Powell. It proposes five fundamental resources for children and youth:

- an ongoing relationship with a caring adult;
- safe places to learn and grow;
- marketable skills through effective education;
- a health start; and
- an opportunity to give back.

Attempts to measure how well our community is doing in providing these resources relies in part on information that is not currently collected. While we have some ideas about the availability of safe places, development of marketable skills, and child health, relatively little beyond anecdotal reports is known about the relationships kids have with adults or about youth volunteerism.

Regarding the presence of a consistent, caring adult in the lives of children, we need to know:

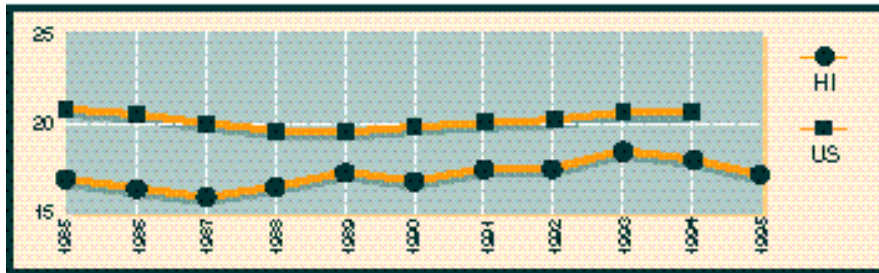
- 1.The percentage of children who report that they have a caring adult in their lives;
- 2.The percentage of children with a grandparent or senior adult in their lives; and
- 3.The percentage of children who have a younger child for whom they feel responsible.

We know quite a bit about school and home safety, although there are gaps in our knowledge. We need to know:

- 1.The percentage of children who are home alone following school;
- 2.The percentage of children who are homeless;
- 3.The rate of violence in schools; and
- 4.Domestic violence rates in homes with children.

Part of a healthy start in life includes being ready to continue learning in a formal school setting. Certainly, preparing children to succeed in school is one of the primary responsibilities of well-functioning families.

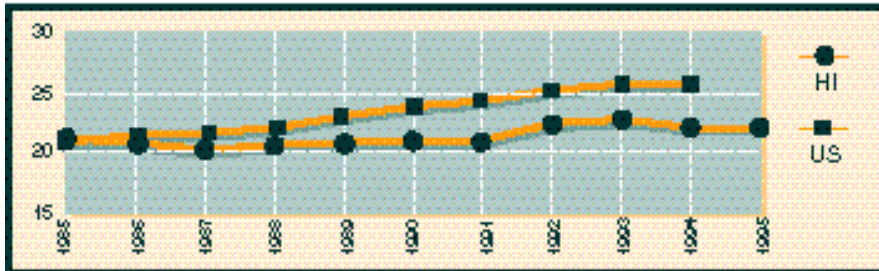
We need to know:



Per cent children in poverty

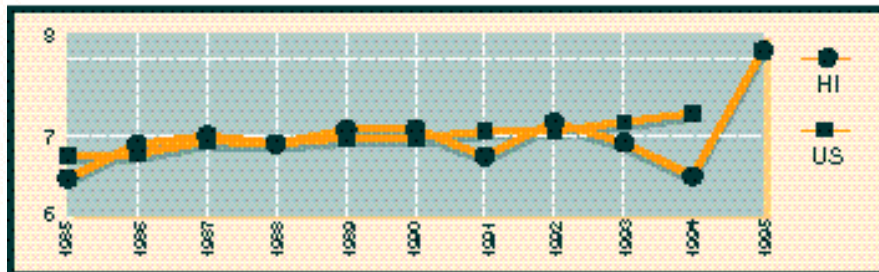
	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
HI	16.8	16.3	15.7	16.3	17.2	16.7	17.4	16.2	17.4	17.0	17.0
US	20.8	20.5	20.0	19.6	19.5	19.8	20.0	20.6	21.0	21.0	21.0

Note: this uses Hawai'i poverty level as 115% of national level for Hawai'i data, national level for US data (due to cost of living differences). *1995 is estimate of the 115% level



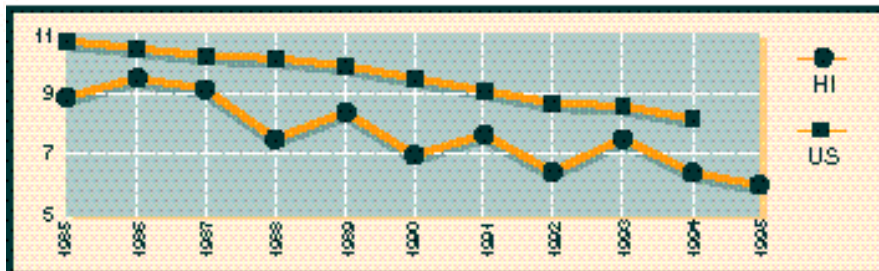
Per cent of families with children headed by a single parent

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
HI	21.5	21.0	20.2	20.6	20.7	20.7	20.9	22.0	23.0	22.0	22.0
US	21.6	22.0	22.3	22.8	23.4	24.2	24.7	25.3	26.0	26.0	26.0



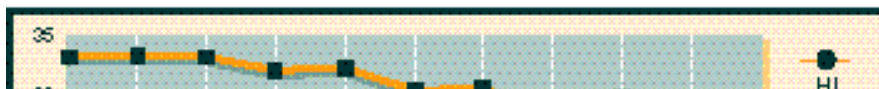
Per cent low-birth-weight babies (weighing less than 5.5 pounds)

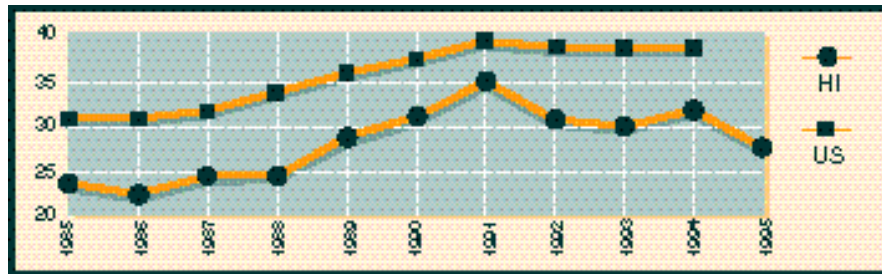
	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
HI	6.5	6.9	7.0	6.9	7.1	7.1	6.8	7.2	6.9	6.5	8.1
US	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.3



Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)

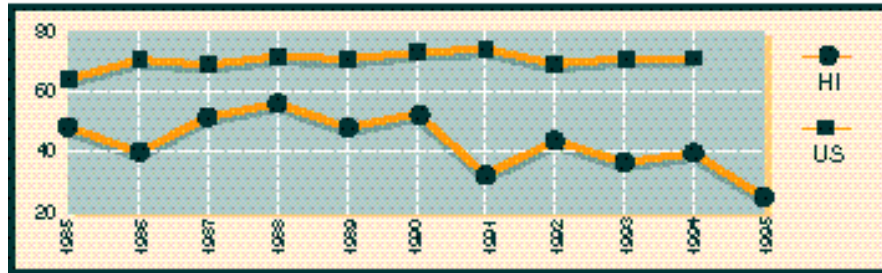
	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
HI	8.8	9.3	8.9	7.2	8.3	6.7	7.4	6.3	7.2	6.4	5.7
US	10.6	10.4	10.1	10.0	9.8	9.2	8.9	8.5	8.4	8.0	8.0





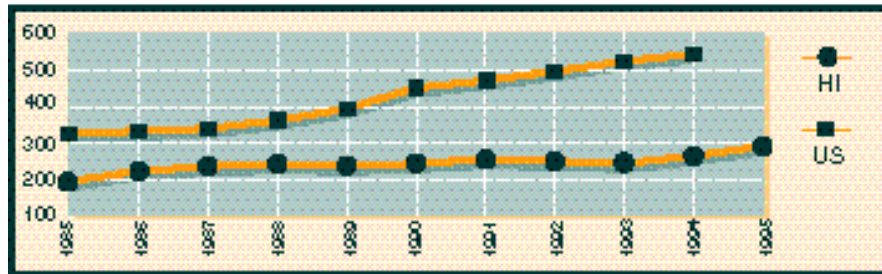
Number of births to teens (per 1,000 females ages 15–17)

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
HI	23	22	24	24	28	32	35	31	30	32	28
US	31	31	32	34	36	37	39	38	38	38	38



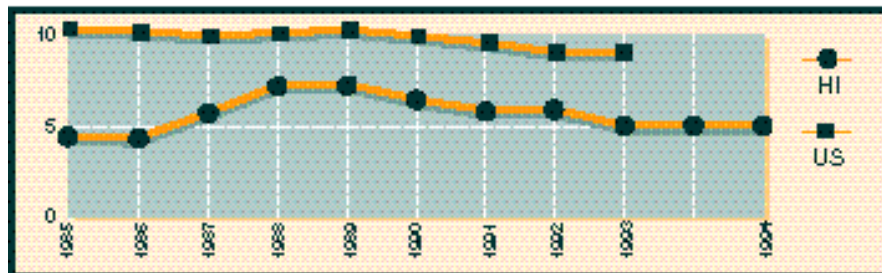
Teen violent death rate (ages 15–19, per 100,000 teens)

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
HI	45.6	38.0	49.4	56.4	45.5	51.0	31.5	40.8	35.6	38.9	22.2
US	62.8	68.5	66.5	69.7	69.3	70.9	71.1	66.6	69.0	69.0	69.0



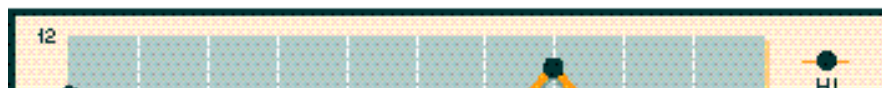
Juvenile violent crime arrest rate (per 100,000 youths)

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
HI	189	208	214	223	220	223	248	241	223	258	288
US	305	310	319	347	385	429	457	483	506	517	517



Per cent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
HI	4.8	4.8	5.5	7.0	7.1	6.8	5.6	6.3	5.0	5.0	5.0
US	10.5	10.4	10.3	10.4	10.5	10.3	9.9	9.3	9.0	9.0	9.0



Per cent of teens not attending school and not working

All rates and percents of child population are based on population numbers from the 1980 and 1990 census and official estimates of the 1994 population as provided by the Hawai'i Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism or from official US Bureau of the Census publications. Child population estimates for counties and ethnic classifications were made by Hawaii Kids Count for the purpose of calculating rates at those levels as the official census estimates are statewide by gender and single year of age.

FAMILY COMPOSITION AND RESOURCES

Percent of children in poverty: the percentage of related children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the US Office of Management and Budget. Source: census data and information from the Current Population Survey, March Supplement.

Percent in single-parent families: the percentage of all children under age 18 who live in families headed by a person without a spouse present in the home. Source: census data and special tabulations of information from the Current Population Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Teen birth rate: the number of births to teens per 1,000 females ages 15–19. Source: census data and information from the Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Percent of budget expended for housing: the percentage of

consumer units spent on housing cost. Source: Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Percent with health insurance: the percentage of children under age 18 who are covered by private or public health insurance, including Quest and Medicaid. Source: Current Population Survey, March Supplement.

INFANCY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD (roughly 0–5 years)

Percent having early prenatal care: the percentage of live births in which the mother had prenatal care in the first trimester of the pregnancy. Source: Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Percent low-birth-weight babies: the percentage of live births weighing under 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds). Source: Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Infant mortality rate: the number of deaths occurring to infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births. Source: Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Percent fully immunized by age 2: the percentage of children receiving the complete series of vaccines protecting them against childhood diseases (DTP/DT, Polio, Measles, Rubella, and Mumps) within their first two years of life. Source: Retrospective Kindergarten Survey, Hawai'i Immunization Program, Department of Health

Percent identified at developmental risk: the percentage of children birth to age 3 who have been identified as having developmental delays or biological risk factors and/or environmental risk factors which place them at risk of having delays in development. Source: Zero-To-Three Hawai'i Project.

Percent of poverty four-year-olds enrolled in subsidized pre-school: the number of poverty-related four-year-olds enrolled in Head Start, Open Doors, and the Kamehameha Center-Based Preschools divided by the child poverty rate times the number of four-year-olds. Source: Head Start, the Governor's Office of Children and Youth, and Kamehameha Schools.

Rate of child abuse: number of children involved in confirmed reports of child abuse and/or neglect per 1,000 children age 0–5. Source: Department of Human Services.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEARS (roughly ages 6–11)

Child death rate: the number of deaths from all causes to children between ages 1 and 14 per 100,000 children in this age range. Source: death data from Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Percent of children with work force parents who are enrolled in supervised program: number of children enrolled in the A+ program divided by the number of children age 6–11 with both or only parent employed. Source: A+ enrollment from Department of Education; number of children with both or only parent employed from census data.

Percent of third graders scoring above average (stanines 7–9) and

mathematics portion. Source: School Status and Improvement Reports, Department of Education.

Percent children with special needs enrolled in appropriate program: the number of children in public elementary schools enrolled in special education classes divided by the number of children in these public school grades. Source: School Status and Improvement Reports, Department of Education.

Rate of child abuse: number of children involved in confirmed reports of child abuse and/or neglect per 1,000 children age 6–11. Source: Department of Human Services.

YOUTH (roughly 12–18)

Rate of teen violent deaths: the number of deaths from homicide, suicide, and accidents to teens between ages 15 and 19, per 100,000 teens in this age group. Source: death data from Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Percent of eights graders scoring above average (stanines 7–9) and average (stanines 4–6) on the Stanford Achievement Test (SAT) mathematics portion. Source: School Status and Improvement Reports, Department of Education.