CAPTAIN COOK
Hō‘okēna
Hōnaunau
Kailua
Kalāhiki
Kealakekua
Kea‘au
Ke‘ōkea
Nāpo‘opo‘o
South Kona
And parts of:
Hualalai

South Kona Area
Community Profile

Aloha United Way
INTRODUCTION

Hawai‘i nō ka ‘oi—Hawai‘i the best—is a sentiment shared by many people in our island state. Those who have left and yearn to return home speak movingly about missing the best beaches in the world, delicious local grinds found no-where else, a mix of ethnicities at school, play, and work, and the aloha spirit that infuses even the smallest act. There are so many other things we can point to with pride:

- Hawai‘i has the lowest rates of child deaths and teen deaths in the nation
- Life expectancy is higher in Hawai‘i than anywhere else in the nation
- Three-fourths of Hawai‘i’s families eat dinner together 5 or more times a week
- More than 80% of Hawai‘i’s people feel they can rely on others in their community for help
- The average donation to charity is higher in Hawai‘i at every income level when compared to mainland giving.

There are, of course, many serious problems that require our attention and action. Some of these may seem monumental and insurmountable, such as the problem of drug abuse, but Hawai‘i’s people, working together, have overcome major obstacles in the past and can do so in the future.

This is one of 43 community profiles developed by the Center on the Family that can be used as a resource to improve conditions for children and families in your neighborhood. The profiles provide data and information about the people who live in specific geographic areas encompassed by a public high school and all of its feeder intermediate and elementary schools. Factual information provides a good starting point for making informed decisions and plans for strategic action. We hope that this first-ever presentation of data at the school/community-complex level will provide you with a better understanding of your community and spur you to take action to keep Hawai‘i nō ka ‘oi.

SOUTH KONA AREA

This area, which is home to almost 11,000 people, is served by the Konawaena School Complex and includes the neighborhoods of Kealakekua, Captain Cook, Hōnaunau, Nāpo‘opo‘o, South Kona, and parts of Hualalai. The age distribution of the people in this community is unusual in that there is a very low proportion of persons between the ages of 20 to 34 and a very high proportion of those between the ages of 35 to 64, compared to the rest of the State. Many of the grandparents who live with their grandchildren—about one third—are regularly involved in the care of the children. Compared to other areas in the State, the ethnic makeup of South Kona is mixed, with relatively high proportions of Caucasians, Hawaiians, and Part-Hawaiians and a lower proportion of Asians.

Although unemployment is low, the per capita income in the South Kona Area is lower than the State as a whole. The poverty rate for children under age 5 is high, and the child abuse rate is double the State average. Residential stability—the percentage of people living in the same home for more than 5 years—is higher than the County and State levels. However, teachers here rank last in the State for longevity in their current school setting, and the percentage of graduating public school seniors is one of the worst in the State.

The data for other indicators of child and family well being in the South Kona Area are more positive. Most adults have a high school diploma and the percentage with a college degree is higher than the County level. The 3rd graders do slightly better on the SAT reading test than the State as a whole. Teachers in this community report one of the highest percentages of school safety, and 8th graders’ reports of feeling safe at school are the best in the State. More than half of the adolescents from this area who responded to a Statewide survey of 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th graders reported adequate parental supervision and close neighborhood and family ties.
### Demographics

#### RACE AND ETHNICITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SOUTH KONA AREA</th>
<th>HAWAI’I COUNTY</th>
<th>STATE OF HAWAI’I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>10,712</td>
<td>148,677</td>
<td>1,211,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median age</td>
<td>40.4</td>
<td>38.6</td>
<td>36.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent choosing only 1 race</th>
<th>South Kona Area</th>
<th>Hawai’i County</th>
<th>State of Hawai’i</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>72.3%</td>
<td>71.6%</td>
<td>78.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African-American</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>24.0%</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>41.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filipino</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korean</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian in combination</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian alone or in combination with 1 or more other races</td>
<td>29.7%</td>
<td>28.9%</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some other race or choosing 2 or more races</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
<td>29.6%</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Population by Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>South Kona Area</th>
<th>State of Hawai’i</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 - 34</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 - 64</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 and over</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 and over</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Your Neighbors at Work

- Production, Transportation & Moving: 7.4%
- Armed Forces: 0.2%
- Management & Professional: 32.9%
- Construction, Extraction Maintenance: 11.4%
- Farming, Fishing & Forestry: 4.2%
- Sales & Office: 24.6%
- Service: 19.2%
COMMUNITY

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

- Per capita income
  - South Kona Area: $20,871
  - Hawaii County: $18,791
  - State of Hawaii: $21,526

- Home ownership - owner occupied housing units
  - South Kona Area: 59.0%
  - Hawaii County: 64.5%
  - State of Hawaii: 56.5%

- Residential stability - lived in same house from 1995-2000
  - South Kona Area: 62.2%
  - Hawaii County: 57.7%
  - State of Hawaii: 56.8%

- Residents who are U.S. citizens born in Hawaii
  - South Kona Area: 59.7%
  - Hawaii County: 63.3%
  - State of Hawaii: 56.9%

- New immigrants - foreign-born residents who entered Hawaii since 1990
  - South Kona Area: 3.4%
  - Hawaii County: 3.8%
  - State of Hawaii: 6.0%

- Residents over age 5 with language other than English at home
  - South Kona Area: 15.9%
  - Hawaii County: 18.4%
  - State of Hawaii: 26.6%

- Population over age 16 in the labor force
  - South Kona Area: 5,451
  - Hawaii County: 70,791
  - State of Hawaii: 612,773

- Civilian Unemployment
  - South Kona Area: 5.4%
  - Hawaii County: 60.0%
  - State of Hawaii: 47.2%

- Adults with high school diploma or higher
  - South Kona Area: 84.8%
  - Hawaii County: 84.6%
  - State of Hawaii: 84.6%

- Adults with Bachelor's Degree or higher
  - South Kona Area: 23.2%
  - Hawaii County: 62.6%
  - State of Hawaii: 26.2%

* Adolescents reporting unsafe neighborhoods
  - South Kona Area: 40.0%
  - Hawaii County: 41.4%
  - State of Hawaii: 43.9%

* Adolescents lacking close neighborhood ties
  - South Kona Area: 43.3%
  - Hawaii County: 39.6%
  - State of Hawaii: 38.6%

- Teachers with 5+ years at their school
  - South Kona Area: 24.1%
  - Hawaii County: 62.6%
  - State of Hawaii: 66.4%

- Teachers with advanced degrees
  - South Kona Area: 20.9%
  - Hawaii County: 23.7%
  - State of Hawaii: 19.1%

- Teachers reporting a safe school environment
  - South Kona Area: 78.6%
  - Hawaii County: 71.1%
  - State of Hawaii: 68.2%

SCHOOL SAFETY PERCEPTIONS

- Percent of teachers, parents, and students who report their schools are safe
  - South Kona Area
  - Hawaii County
  - State of Hawaii

FAMILY

- Number of families
  - South Kona Area: 2,691
  - Hawaii County: 36,903
  - State of Hawaii: 287,068

- Families with children under age 18
  - South Kona Area: 43.9%
  - Hawaii County: 46.3%
  - State of Hawaii: 45.0%

- Families with children, headed by married couple
  - South Kona Area: 68.7%
  - Hawaii County: 66.2%
  - State of Hawaii: 74.8%

- Average household size
  - South Kona Area: 2.8
  - Hawaii County: 2.8
  - State of Hawaii: 2.9

* Adolescents reporting close family ties
  - South Kona Area: 51.9%
  - Hawaii County: 49.4%
  - State of Hawaii: 46.2%

- Parents report checking child’s homework and other public school involvement
  - South Kona Area: 59.2%
  - Hawaii County: 60.0%
  - State of Hawaii: 63.2%

* Adolescents reporting poor parental supervision
  - South Kona Area: 44.0%
  - Hawaii County: 47.2%
  - State of Hawaii: 46.3%

- Parents feeling positive about students’ safety
  - South Kona Area: 65.9%
  - Hawaii County: 62.9%
  - State of Hawaii: 66.8%

- Persons receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
  - South Kona Area: 5.4%
  - Hawaii County: 9.2%
  - State of Hawaii: 5.4%

- Families receiving food stamps
  - South Kona Area: 14.4%
  - Hawaii County: 21.5%
  - State of Hawaii: 13.2%

- Population ages 21-64 with disabilities
  - South Kona Area: 16.0%
  - Hawaii County: 19.2%
  - State of Hawaii: 17.7%

- Households lacking telephone service
  - South Kona Area: 3.4%
  - Hawaii County: 3.3%
  - State of Hawaii: 2.0%

* These data represent responses from 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th graders from both public and private schools. Many communities had a higher proportion of young respondents and some communities had a low response rate overall. Age and sample size may affect the results.
### CHILDREN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>South Kona Area</th>
<th>Hawai'i County</th>
<th>State of Hawai'i</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K - 8 students with health insurance</td>
<td>84.2%</td>
<td>89.2%</td>
<td>90.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child abuse rate per 1000 children</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children ages 0-4 living in poverty</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children ages 0-5 with all parents in the labor force</td>
<td>65.8%</td>
<td>63.1%</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children ages 3-5 enrolled in nursery school, preschool, or kindergarten</td>
<td>73.1%</td>
<td>74.5%</td>
<td>72.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children ages 6-8 with untreated tooth decay</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td>36.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students in public school program for limited English proficiency</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT Reading: 3rd graders scoring below average</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT Math: 3rd graders scoring below average</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public school students in Special Education</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public school 8th graders who feel safe at school</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
<td>43.1%</td>
<td>37.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Adolescents reporting exposure to illicit drug use in their school and community</em></td>
<td>26.1%</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Adolescents reporting a lack of interest in school</em></td>
<td>44.6%</td>
<td>49.4%</td>
<td>45.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teens age 16-19, not in school and not working</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public school attendance</td>
<td>93.0%</td>
<td>93.1%</td>
<td>93.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation rates of public school seniors</td>
<td>83.8%</td>
<td>93.0%</td>
<td>94.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public school seniors with plans for 2 or 4 year college</td>
<td>78.6%</td>
<td>71.1%</td>
<td>74.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent accepted of the seniors with plans for college</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
<td>62.3%</td>
<td>58.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ELDERLY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>South Kona Area</th>
<th>Hawai'i County</th>
<th>State of Hawai'i</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals age 65 &amp; older living alone</td>
<td>21.0%</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals age 65 &amp; older living in poverty</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals age 65 &amp; older with a disability</td>
<td>38.7%</td>
<td>40.3%</td>
<td>40.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandparents who live in the same household as their grandchildren under age 18</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>5,080</td>
<td>49,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandparents responsible for the care of grandchildren with whom they live</td>
<td>33.1%</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There are various ways to assess the strength of a community. For this report, nine indicators of child, family, and community strengths were selected. Standard scores were derived for each of the nine indicators and summarized into a cumulative score for each of 42 school complex areas. A 43rd community, Ni‘ihau, was omitted from the index because some data were unavailable. Those communities that scored highest on the protection index are more likely to have children who are nurtured and doing well in school, families that are healthy, and communities which are economically vital.

REFERENCES


