

Covid-19 on Island and Rural Communities

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PUBA 310 Research Methods of the Public Sector

Abstract

The COVID-19 virus is clearly evident in island states, countries, and rural communities. To understand a virus, like COVID-19, effects on such isolated destinations secondary data is used to identify determinants of community spread and economic damage. Through secondary data both qualitative and quantitative data is collected as reasoning why the virus is highly dangerous for island and rural communities. Hawaii COVID-19 cases counts are used to show the difference of cases between the different Hawaiian Islands as well as the ethnic groups who make up most of the newly delta variant cases. Through the different sources were a mix of locations, but the populations are majority within the Polynesian islands. Therefore, the factor of culture must be identified as a determinant. Culture defines one's lifestyle and perspective. In addition, the factor of very limited sources is also concluded as a determinant, meaning fewer hospitals, staff and other medical facilities. With a disease spread within such communities, before the vaccine, state and country shutdowns had to occur. Causing a stop in the economy and a decrease in tourism. Of course, the COVID-19 is deadly wherever it is present, but safety measures should be taken in island and rural areas no matter if they're so called isolated from the rest of the world.

Research Question

Why are islands within rural communities at risk for extreme impact caused by the pandemic?

Hypothesis

The population capacity in islands and rural areas are at risk for pandemic spread because of small communities, limited resources, and cultural practices.

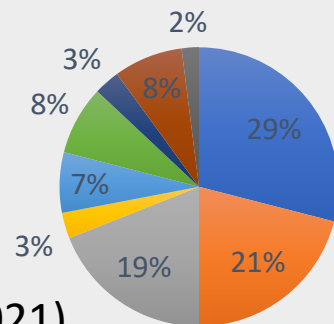
Research Method & Data Collection

Used from Hawaii.gov COVID-19 case statistics, visuals are included from the site to help see the average cases amongst the Hawaiian Islands, percentage of vaccinated, and demographic, of ethnic and race, in the delta cases since November 10, 2021. Secondary data from web sources is used to gather qualitative data about the effect of COVID-19 in rural and island locations.

Discussion

There are many aspects that affect the well-being of others and I think looking at the gathered data it can be concluded that island communities have the hardest times dealing with disease. Not only do locations like the state of Hawaii have to hold stricter restrictions, the state also has to deal with keeping the economy afloat. It is important for people living in these types of areas, and especially others who are from larger states and countries, to understand damaging risks that can occur if not taken the proper precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Delta Variant Cases Updated: Nov. 10, 2021



(Hawaii Covid 19 data ,2021)

■ Native Hawaiian ■ White ■ Filipino ■ Chinese ■ Japanese ■ Pacific Islander ■ Black ■ Other ■ Other Asian

Results

Limited Resources:

- distant medical facilities, shortages of staff, ICU beds, and PPE.

Cultural Aspect:

-Indigenous cultures gatherings, distinct number of Native Hawaiians and Pacific islanders who are unvaccinated,

Economic:

-Shutdowns mandates, Paused travel, decrease in tourism, unemployment

-These determinants are a reflection of causation towards the damaging effects towards the health of citizens with these communities.

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