

HAWAII OPINION POLL

Prepared for:

ACLU Hawaii

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[ANTHOLOGY®]

METHODOLOGY 3

SAFETY IN HAWAII..... 4

DRUG ADDICTION..... 5

PRISON REFORM..... 7

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY 10

CAMPAIGN ISSUES – PROSECUTING ATTORNEY 13

BACKGROUND INFORMATION 14

VOTING BACKGROUND 18

ONLINE ACCESS/ SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT 20

PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS 21

METHODOLOGY

The research team at Anthology Marketing Group conducted a quantitative study in the form of an online survey. The online sample was purchased from a third-party supplier that specializes in this type of sample for online based surveys. This sample of email addresses was augmented by Anthology Research's proprietary panel of respondents who have agreed to take part in surveys.

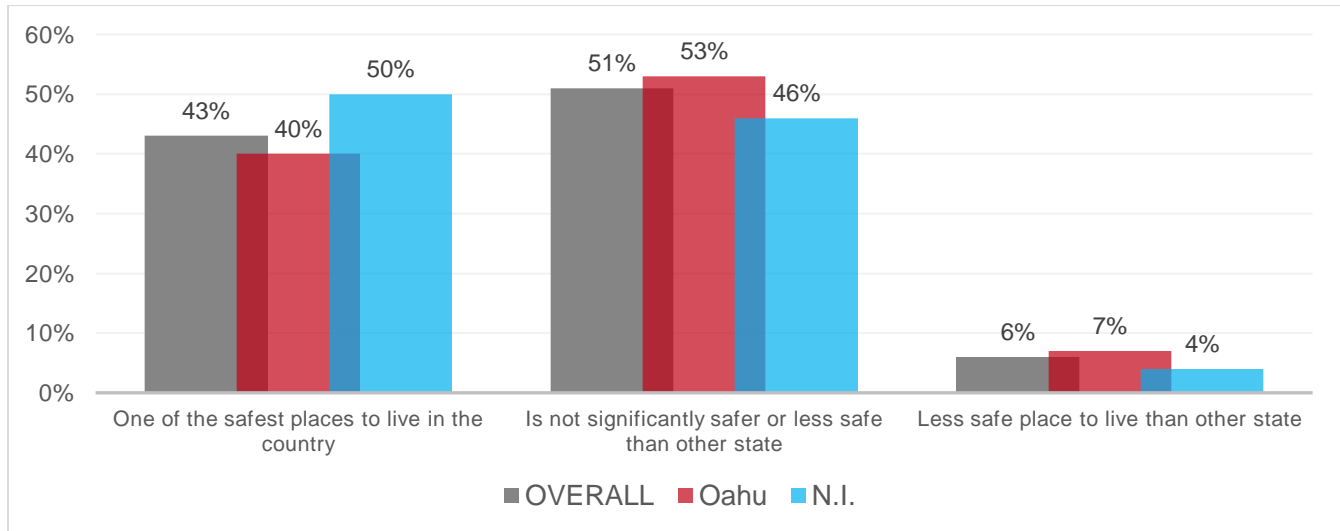
The field work began on April 3, 2020 and ended on April 8, 2020. A total of 482 completed surveys were collected statewide. The resulting data was weighted to reflect population estimates of adults 18+ on each island.

The margin of error for a total sample of this size (n=482) is +/-4.51 percentage points with a 95% confidence level.

Each respondent was screened to ensure they were at least 18 years of age and resided on the island for which they were being contacted.

SAFETY IN HAWAII

At the outset of the study, research respondents were asked for their general thoughts and opinions regarding how safe they felt living in Hawaii.

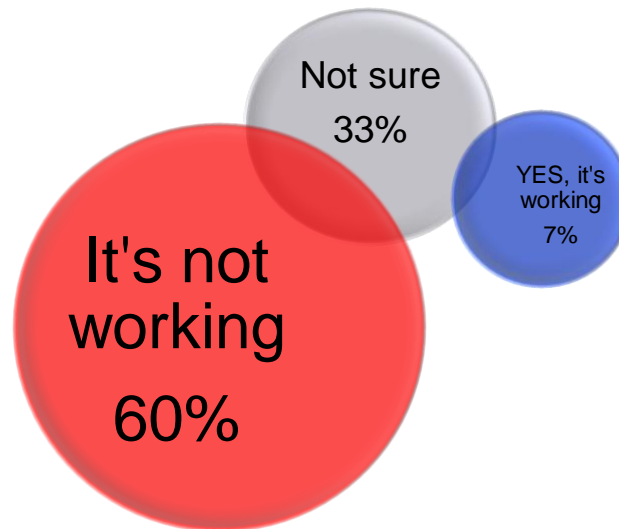


Overall, 43% of those polled consider Hawaii to be one of the safest places to live in the United States. Half (51%) are of the opinion it is no different than any other State in this regard while six percent feel Hawaii is less safe compared to other parts of the country.

When the results are segmented by island, we find those on the Neighbor Islands (50%) are more likely perceive Hawaii as a safer place to live than are those on Oahu (40%).

DRUG ADDICTION

Next, those taking part in the study were asked if they felt as though Hawaii's response to the drug addiction crisis is currently working.



Nearly two-thirds (60%) of the Hawaii residents polled are of the opinion that the current response to the drug addiction crisis in the State is not working. Just seven percent feel we are headed in the right direction while a third (33%) are unsure how they feel about this particular issue.

- *Those who have been arrested, charged, or convicted of a crime or know someone personally who has (71%) are more likely to be of the opinion that current efforts to address drug addiction in Hawaii is not working compared to those who have not been in some way affected by crime in this direct manner (56%).*

The results for registered voters are very similar to that of the overall sample.

Next, in order to further probe this topic, those taking part in the study were asked which of the following two statements best mirrored their own personal views regarding the response to the drug crisis.

	OVERALL	REGISTERED VOTER
Do more to emphasize tougher criminal laws and longer sentences for people who commit drug-related crime	33%	32%
Do more to emphasize drug treatment and rehabilitation for people living with addiction	67%	68%

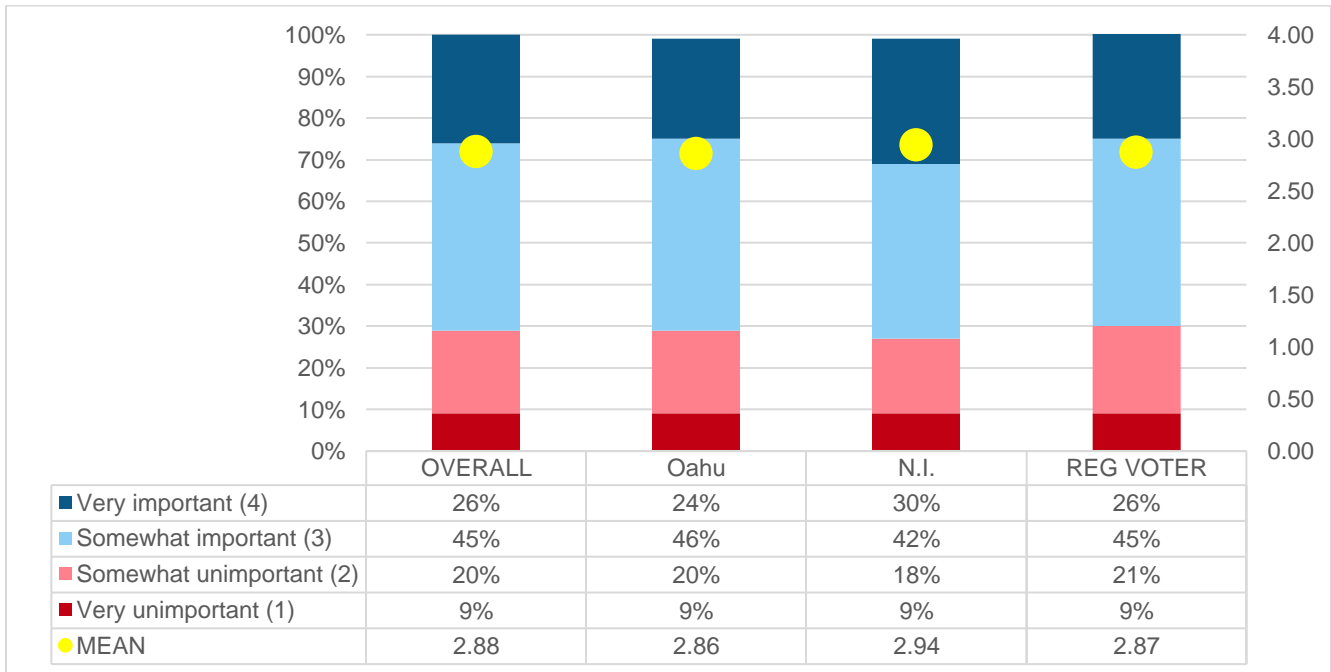
The results show a clear preference by the general public in support of drug treatment and rehabilitation as opposed to tougher penalties and longer prison sentences.

The data reveals clear statistical differences in community perceptions on this issue based on how closely they have been affected by drug abuse and crime in general.

- *Those who have been arrested, charged, or convicted of a crime or know someone personally who has (76%), support rehabilitation over stiffer punishment. When this number is computed among those who have never been arrested or personally know someone who has, support for this approach falls to 64%.*

PRISON REFORM

In this section of the study, Hawaii residents were asked for their personal opinion regarding the topic concerning the importance of reducing the number of persons currently incarcerated in the State. They were instructed to quantify their perceptions using a standard four-point rating scale highlighted in the table below. In addition to the percent results a mean or average score (closer to 4.00) was also computed. The higher the mean score the greater the perceived importance placed on reducing the prison population locally.



Overall, a majority of Hawaii residents agree that it is important to make attempts to decrease the number of individuals currently incarcerated by the State. One in four (26%) feel this is a very important issue while another 45% feel it is at least somewhat important to them. Of the remainder, one in five (20%) feel it is somewhat unimportant while nine percent consider this to be a relative non-issue for them. When these results are looked at in the aggregate they result in a mean or average score of 2.88 out of a possible 4.00.

Those who have been personally impacted by drug abuse and/or crime are more strongly in favor of reducing the number of inmates in Hawaii than are those who have not been personally impacted by crime and drugs.

Native Hawaiian Incarceration

Next, research respondents were presented with the following:

Native Hawaiians are disproportionately caught up in the criminal system in Hawaii. They make up 21% of Hawaii's population, but 37% of our prison population.

They were then asked for their personal thoughts regarding this fact. They were instructed to quantify their perceptions using the rating scale highlighted in the table below. In addition to the percent results a mean or average score was also computed. The higher the mean score (closer to 3.00) the greater the level of concern.

	Very Serious Concern (3)	Somewhat Serious (2)	No Real Concern (1)	MEAN
OVERALL	27%	43%	30%	1.96
Oahu	26%	43%	31%	1.94
N.I.	29%	43%	28%	2.04
REGISTERED VOTER	26%	42%	33%	1.93

Overall, one in four (27%) respondents view the number of Native Hawaiians impacted by the local criminal justice system as a cause for them to have very serious concerns about the justice system in Hawaii. Forty-three percent feel it is somewhat concerning to them while roughly one in three (30%) are of the opinion that it is a relative non-issue. When these results are looked at in the aggregate they result in a mean or average score of 1.96 out of a possible 3.00.

- *These facts are more concerning to younger segments of the sample. For example, 43% of young adults under the age of 35 feel the rate of Native Hawaiians being incarcerated is a very serious concern for them. By comparison, this number (very serious concern) drops to just 17% among seniors 65 and older.*
- *The rate of Native Hawaiians being incarcerated becomes less of a concern among our wealthiest residents. Among those who reside in households with combined incomes in excess of \$100K, 40% feel this is of no real concern to them.*

Recidivism

In this section of the study Hawaii residents were asked which of the following two actions they felt was most effective in reducing the recidivism rate of offenders.

	OVERALL	REGISTERED VOTER
Making prison sentences longer and as hard and unpleasant as possible so offenders are afraid of going back	28%	27%
Providing alternatives to incarceration including rehabilitation services and training so offenders can re-enter society and be productive citizens	72%	73%

Overall, three in four (72%) Hawaii residents feel alternatives to incarceration such as rehabilitation and training will do more to reduce further offenses as compared to longer and tougher prison sentences.

Impact on Community

Research respondents were asked which of the following two statements would be the end result of reducing the prison population by sending some people convicted of crimes to rehabilitation programs to help them cope with mental illness or addictions instead of sending them to prisons.

	OVERALL	REGISTERED VOTER
It would harm communities because people who belong behind bars will be let out	29%	30%
It would help communities by rehabilitating offenders and saving taxpayer dollars that can be reinvested into preventing crime	71%	70%

The results show that 71% support rehabilitating offenders through release programs with fewer (29%) fearing an increase in crime and harm to the community as a result of such a directive.

COVID-19 Prisoner Release

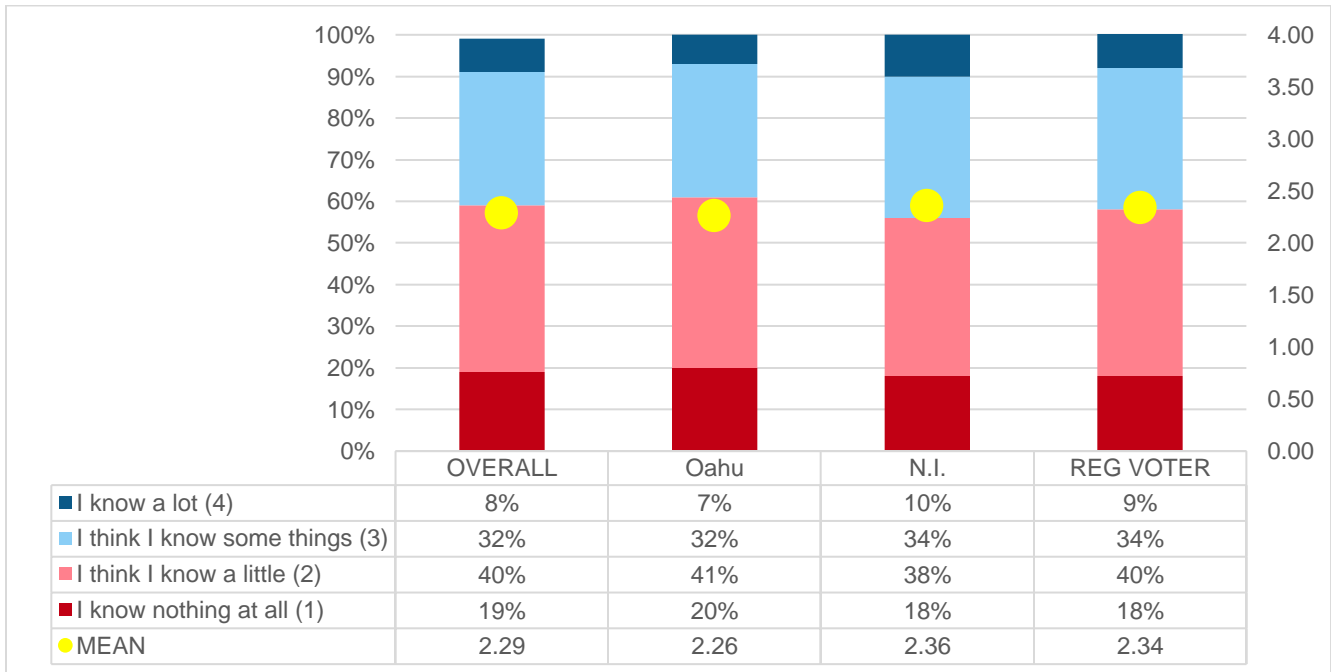
At the conclusion of this section of the study, Hawaii residents were asked for their thoughts on the prospect of releasing individuals from prisons and jails as part of the effort to stop the spread of the disease.

The results show great support for release for elderly people, where 60% of those polled agree that these individuals should be released to protect these inmates from COVID-19. Fifty-six percent are okay with letting out persons convicted of non-violent offenses.

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Familiarity

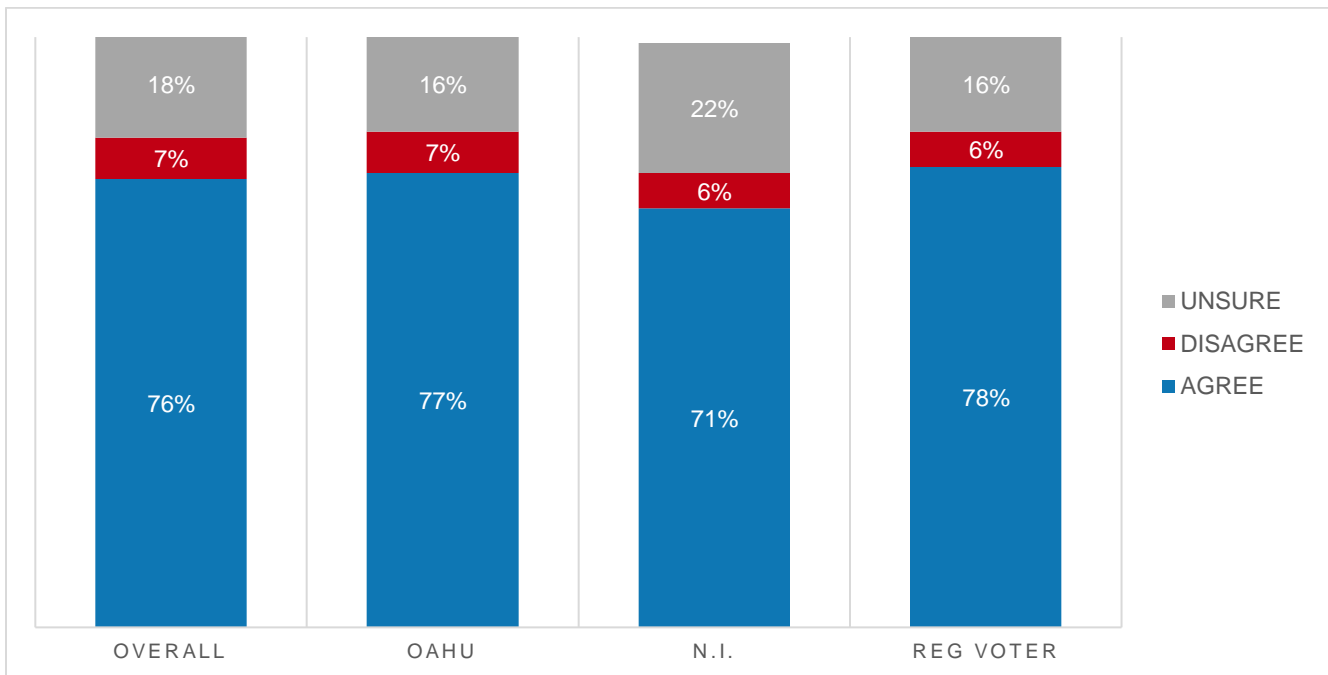
At the outset of this section of the study, Hawaii residents were asked how familiar they are with the responsibilities of the prosecuting attorney for their respective county. They were instructed to quantify their knowledge using a standard four-point rating scale highlighted in the table below. In addition to the percent results, a mean or average score was also computed. The higher the mean score (closer to 4.00) the greater the perceived level of knowledge.



Just eight percent of those polled feel they know a lot when it comes to understanding the responsibilities of their local prosecuting attorney. Roughly a third (32%) believe they know some things related to this office’s job responsibilities. Forty percent know very little while roughly one in five (19%) admit they know nothing at all regarding this topic. When these results are looked at in the aggregate they result in a mean or average score of 2.29 out of a possible 4.00.

Next, in order to further probe this topic, those taking part in the research were asked if they agree or disagree with the following statement:

Creating more transparency and letting the public know about prosecutor’s work would allow everyone in Hawaii to create a better justice system.



The results show that a solid majority (76%) of those polled agree there is value in greater transparency from the Prosecutor's Office.

IMPORTANCE

Each respondent was then presented with the following information:

The prosecuting attorney has a number of different responsibilities. They decide whether or not to charge someone with a crime, which crimes to prosecute; and who gets a second chance through diversion or treatment programs. They also influence state and local criminal laws; that includes lobbying the state legislature to expand alternatives to incarceration or to adopt tougher criminal laws. Knowing these things, how important would you say is the role the prosecuting attorney plays in your community.

Each respondent was then asked to rate the importance of the role the prosecuting attorney plays in their community. They were instructed to quantify their perceptions using a standard four-point rating scale highlighted in the table below. In addition to the percent results a mean or average score was also computed. The higher the mean score (closer to 4.00) the greater the perceived level of importance.

	Very important (4)	Somewhat important (3)	Somewhat unimportant (2)	Very unimportant (1)	MEAN
OVERALL	73%	24%	2%	1%	3.70
Oahu	72%	25%	2%	1%	3.69
N.I.	77%	20%	1%	2%	3.72
REG VOTER	75%	23%	1%	0%	3.73

The results show a solid majority of the Hawaii residents polled agrees that the job of a prosecuting attorney is a very important (73%) one. One in four (24%) feels it is at least a somewhat important job while a very small number believes the work they do is relatively unimportant. When these results are looked at in the aggregate they result in a mean or average score of 3.70 out of a possible 4.00.

Prosecutor's Office Response to Drug Addiction Crisis

In this section of the study Hawaii residents were asked which of the following two approaches they felt was the better way for the Prosecutor's office to respond to the drug crisis.

	OVERALL	OAHU	N.I.	REG VOTER
Focusing on public health responses, such as expanding access to rehabilitation and medically assisted treatment for people who are addicted	69%	67%	73%	68%
Focusing on aggressively prosecuting people for drug crimes	31%	33%	27%	32%

The results show that a majority (69%) of Hawaii residents prefer treatment options for those suffering from drug addiction as opposed to more aggressive prosecution of these individuals.

Prosecutor's Office Response to Future Crime Prevention

In this section of the study, Hawaii residents were asked which of the following two approaches they felt is the better way for the Prosecutor's Office to prevent future crime.

	OVERALL	OAHU	N.I.	REG VOTER
Sending fewer people to prison and sending more people to mental health treatment, drug treatment, and other rehabilitative programs	65%	62%	72%	66%
Seeking the harshest prison sentences possible to keep offenders off the streets and deter other people from committing crimes	35%	38%	28%	34%

Two-thirds (65%) of those polled show a preference for treatment and rehabilitation services as opposed to harsher prison sentences (35%).

CAMPAIGN ISSUES – PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

In this section of the study Hawaii residents presented seven positions a future prosecuting attorney might take on various issues. They were then asked how each position would influence their potential support of a candidate who mirrored these views.

	More likely to vote for	Less likely	Wouldn't make a difference	Not sure
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who commits to holding police and prosecutors accountable for misconduct</i>	81%	4%	9%	5%
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who commits to making prosecutors' decisions more transparent while sharing data, information, and policies with the public</i>	78%	6%	10%	7%
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who commits to actively working to reduced unequal treatment by race in the criminal justice system</i>	67%	7%	18%	8%
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who commits to reducing the number of people in our prisons by placing greater emphasis on alternatives to incarceration, like drug treatment, mental health services, and restorative justice</i>	59%	17%	15%	10%
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who commits to ensuring that people with drug addictions are in treatment, not prison</i>	57%	17%	16%	11%
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who commits to ensuring nobody is held in jail only because they are too poor to afford bail</i>	43%	20%	24%	13%
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who believes we must lock up as many people who commit crimes as possible</i>	26%	44%	17%	12%

The two message points that resonate the most strongly with research respondents were an independent prosecutor who holds police and fellow prosecutors accountable for misconduct and a prosecutor that helps to make the office's decisions more transparent to the general public.

At the opposite end, the message point that receives the least favorable ratings was the idea that the office should lock up as many individuals as possible.

Filter: Registered Voters

The table below takes the prior results and filters them to reflect only registered voters who participated in the study.

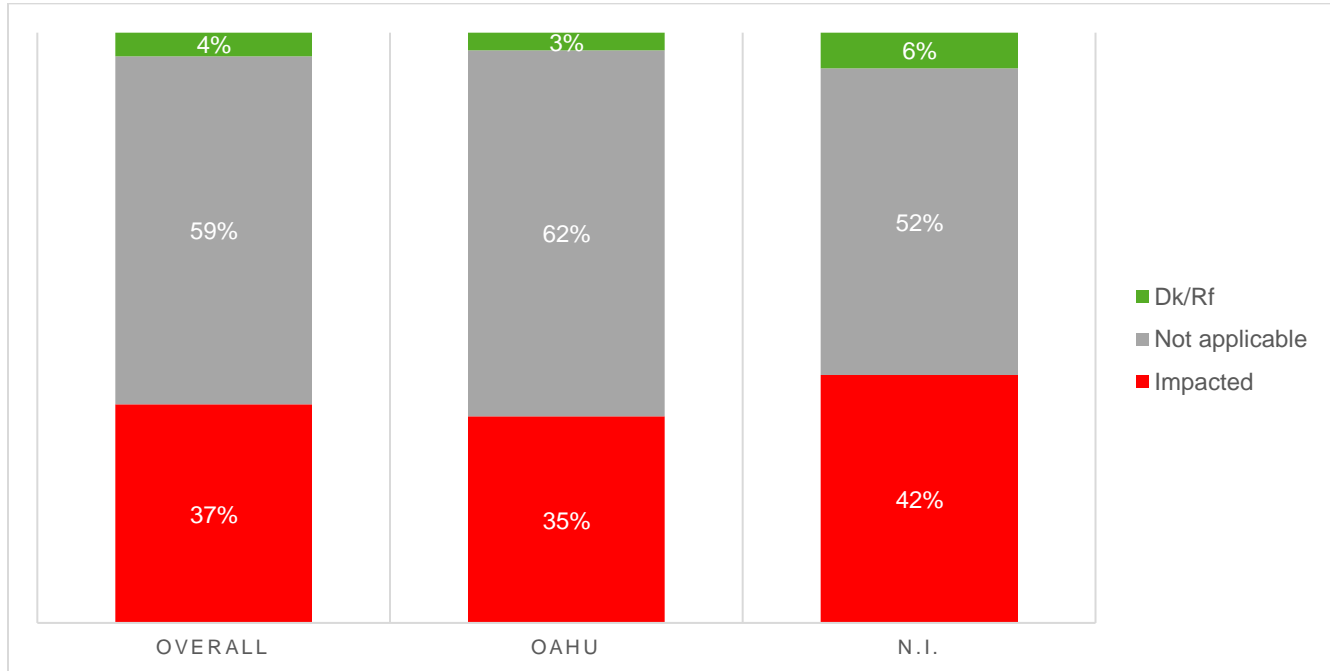
	More likely to vote for	Less likely	Wouldn't make a difference	Not sure
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who commits to holding police and prosecutors accountable for misconduct</i>	85%	4%	9%	3%
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who commits to making prosecutors' decisions more transparent while sharing data, information, and policies with the public</i>	82%	5%	9%	5%
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who commits to actively working to reduced unequal treatment by race in the criminal justice system</i>	69%	6%	19%	7%
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who commits to reducing the number of people in our prisons by placing greater emphasis on alternatives to incarceration, like drug treatment, mental health services, and restorative justice</i>	61%	16%	15%	8%
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who commits to ensuring that people with drug addictions are in treatment, not prison</i>	59%	16%	16%	9%
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who commits to ensuring nobody is held in jail only because they are too poor to afford bail</i>	44%	20%	25%	12%
<i>A prosecuting attorney candidate who believes we must lock up as many people who commit crimes as possible</i>	27%	46%	16%	11%

When the results are segmented by registered voters, we note nearly identical results when compared to the overall sample.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Drug Addiction – Penetration

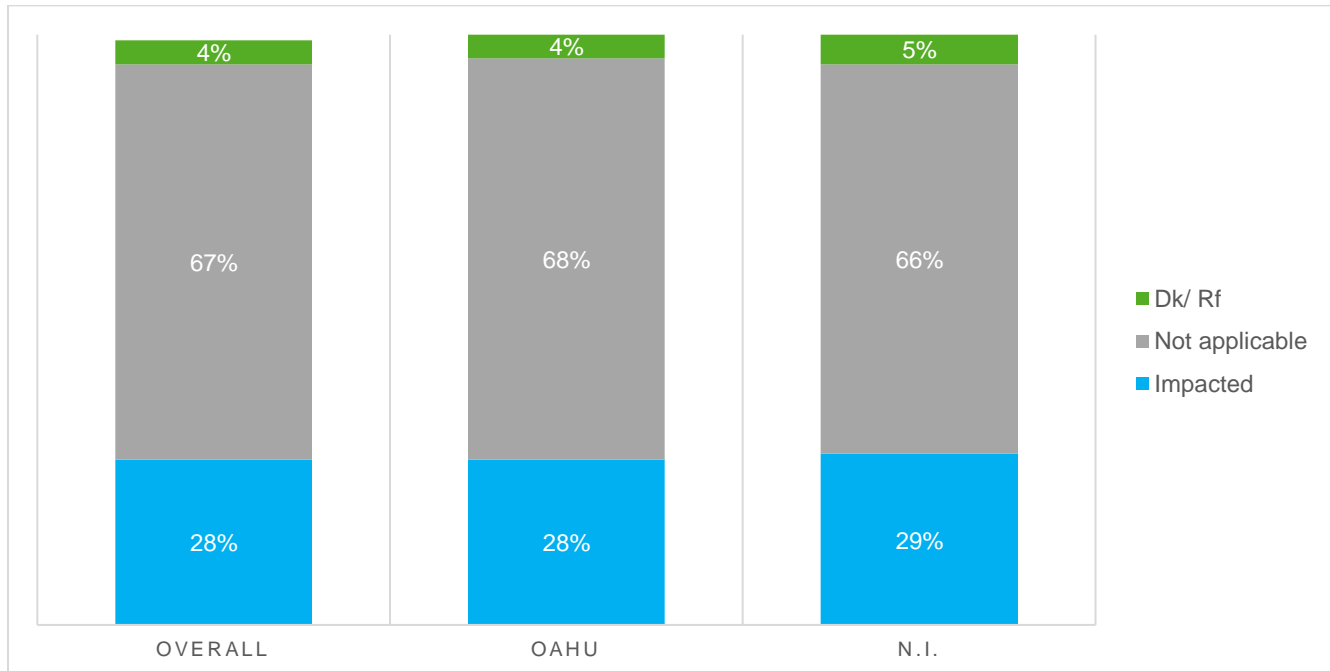
In this section of the study Hawaii residents were asked if they themselves, friends, and/or family members have ever struggled with drug addiction.



The results show that 37% of those polled have themselves struggled with drug addiction or personally know someone who has. The impact that drugs has is higher on the Neighbor Islands at 42% compared to 35% on Oahu.

Criminal Arrest/ Charge/ Conviction – Penetration

Hawaii residents were asked if they themselves, friends, or family members have ever been arrested, charged, and/or convicted of a criminal offense.

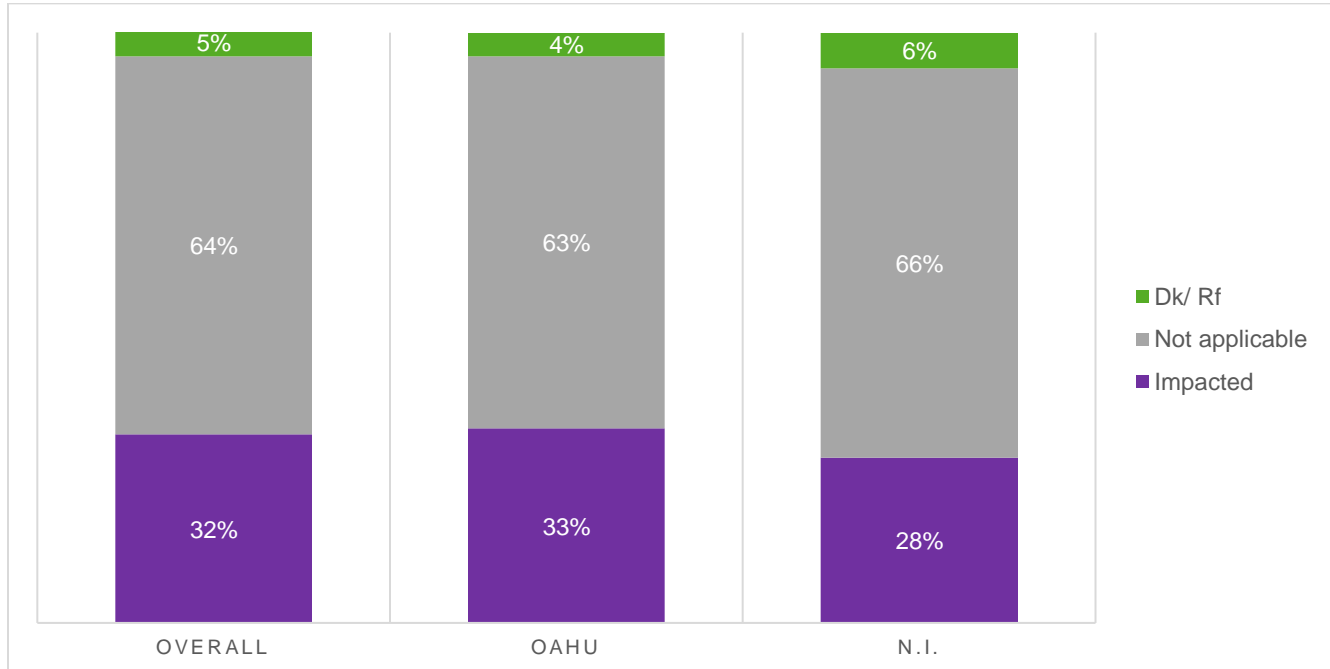


Overall, roughly one in four (28%) have been arrested, charged, or convicted of a crime or personally know someone who has been.

- *The level of education has a direct impact on the likelihood one has been involved in a crime or know someone who has. Among those with a college degree, 23% have been involved with a crime or know someone who has. This number rises to 36% among those without a college degree.*

Crime Victim – Penetration

In this section of the study Hawaii residents were asked if they themselves, friends, or family members have ever been the victim of a crime.



A third (32%) of those polled have personally been a victim of a crime or know someone personally who has.

- *The level of education has a direct impact on the likelihood one has been the victim a crime or know someone who has. Among those with a college degree, 68% have not been the victim of a crime or know someone who has. This number drops to 58% among those without a college degree.*

VOTING BACKGROUND

Registered Voter

Each respondent was asked if they were registered to vote in the State of Hawaii.



The results show that a majority of those who took part in the study were registered to vote in the State of Hawaii.

Next, those who were registered to vote (n=400) were asked which of three possible voting scenarios for the upcoming election season best described their likelihood of participation.

	OVERALL	OAHU	N.I.
Will vote in both the August and November elections	88%	87%	91%
Will vote in just the November election	9%	10%	7%
Will not vote in either	3%	4%	2%

The research indicates that at this point a majority of those polled intend to vote in both the upcoming Primary and General Election.

Political Party

In this next section registered voters were asked which political party they felt best mirrored their personal views.

	OVERALL	OAHU	N.I.
Strong Democrat	24%	22%	27%
Leaning Democrat	25%	25%	26%
Independent	23%	24%	20%
Leaning Republican	12%	12%	11%
Strong Republican	8%	7%	9%
Don't know	9%	10%	8%

The results show that half of those polled more closely identify with the Democratic Party. One in four (23%) considers themselves to be Independents while one in five would self-classify as Republicans. Nine percent are unsure about how they feel about this topic.

ONLINE ACCESS/ SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

At the outset of this section of the study research respondents were asked if they had the following:

	OVERALL	OAHU	N.I.
Internet access	98%	98%	97%
Smart phone	90%	90%	90%
iPad/ Tablet	70%	73%	64%

The research shows nearly everyone who took part in the study currently owns a smart phone while a majority also own an iPad or tablet.

Next, research respondents were asked if they engaged with the following social media platforms at least four times a week.

	OVERALL	OAHU	N.I.	REG VOTER
Facebook	60%	59%	62%	61%
Twitter	21%	22%	19%	23%
Instagram	43%	46%	35%	43%
Snapchat	16%	16%	14%	14%

The research shows that Facebook and Instagram are the two most popular social media platforms used at least four times a week. Twitter and Snapchat are utilized way less frequently.

- *Frequent social media usage of Facebook and Instagram is higher among females.*
- *Social media usage in general tends to be significantly higher among younger segments of the sample.*

PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS

	OVERALL	COMMENTS
YEARS IN HAWAII		
Born & Raised	54%	Roughly half are locals, born & raised in Hawaii.
Transplant	46%	
AGE		
18-34	21%	Typical respondent was 50.74 years of age.
35-49	25%	
50-64	27%	
65+	27%	
MEAN	50.74	
ETHNICITY		
Caucasian	29%	Random sample.
Japanese	24%	
Hawaiian	17%	
Filipino	5%	
Other	21%	
EDUCATION		
Less than H.S.	1%	More than half of those polled are college graduates.
H.S. graduate	11%	
Some college	30%	
College graduate	34%	
Post-graduate degree	24%	
HOUSEHOLD INCOME		
<\$50K	26%	
\$50K-\$100K	35%	
\$100K+	32%	
GENDER		
Male	48%	Targeted 50/50 split.
Female	52%	