Case Study:

Disaggregating Race/Ethnicity COVID-19 Data for Hawai'i
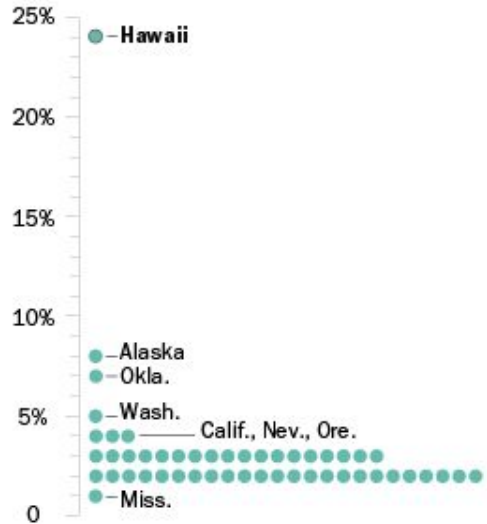
Joshua Quint, PhD, MPH

Epidemiologist

Disease Outbreak Control Division

Hawai'i Department of Health

Race/Ethnicity in Hawai'i

Nearly A Quarter of Hawaii's Population is Multiracial

Share of state population that is 2 or more races

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of 2013 American Community Survey (IPUMS)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

The New York Times

What the 'Majority Minority' Shift Really Means for America
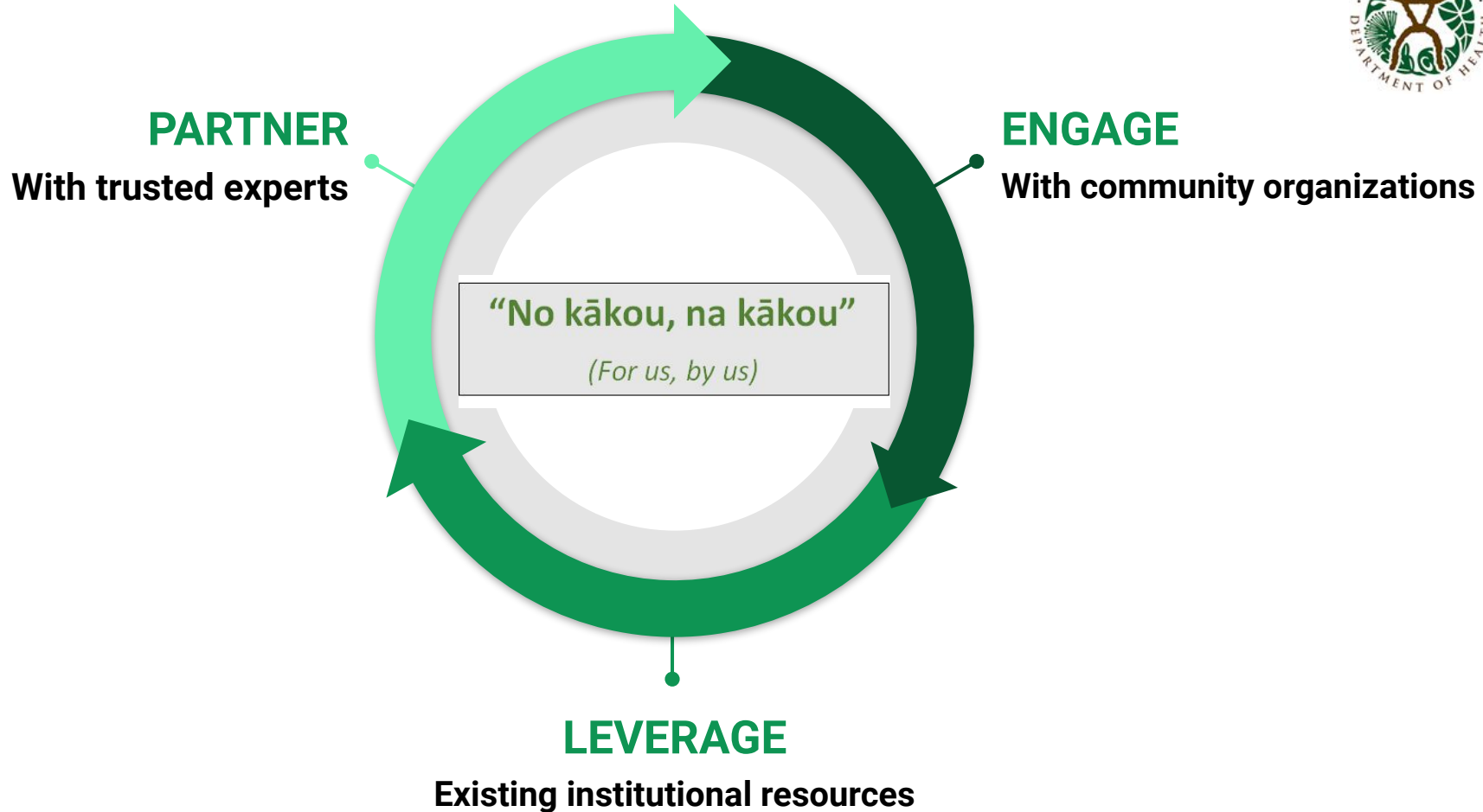
Aug. 24, 2021

Principles of Epidemiologic Analysis

If the data are abundant, it is nearly always preferable to preserve categories.

- Categories should make sense based on external information.

- Categories should be defined so that important differences in risk exist between categories but not within them.

- Categorize the data much more finely than necessary at first.

- Categories can be collapsed together when data are sparse (as long as these combinations do not merge groups that are disparate with respect to the phenomena under study).

Sander Greenland.
Fundamentals of Epidemiologic Data Analysis
Modern Epidemiology 3rd Edition. p.217-218, 303-5

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"No kākou, na kākou"

(For us, by us)

LEVERAGE
Existing institutional resources

COVID-19 Timeline

First case in US diagnosed in Washington State

Associated with travel from Wuhan, China

NY, LA report health disparities

Black and latino communities

King County reports NHPI disparities

Highest case and death rate of all groups

Missing NHPI data

NHPI data not reported for 27 states

January 2020

April 2020

June 2020

First cases diagnosed in Hawaiʻi

Associated with travel to continental US

Hawaiʻi reports race/ethnicity Data

NHPI and Asian Aggregated

DOH joins NHPI COVID Response Team

Hawaiʻi reports disaggregated NHPI data

Race* of COVID-19 Cases Compared to State Population (N=541†)

(as of April 23, 2020)

Race

(All) ▼

Legend
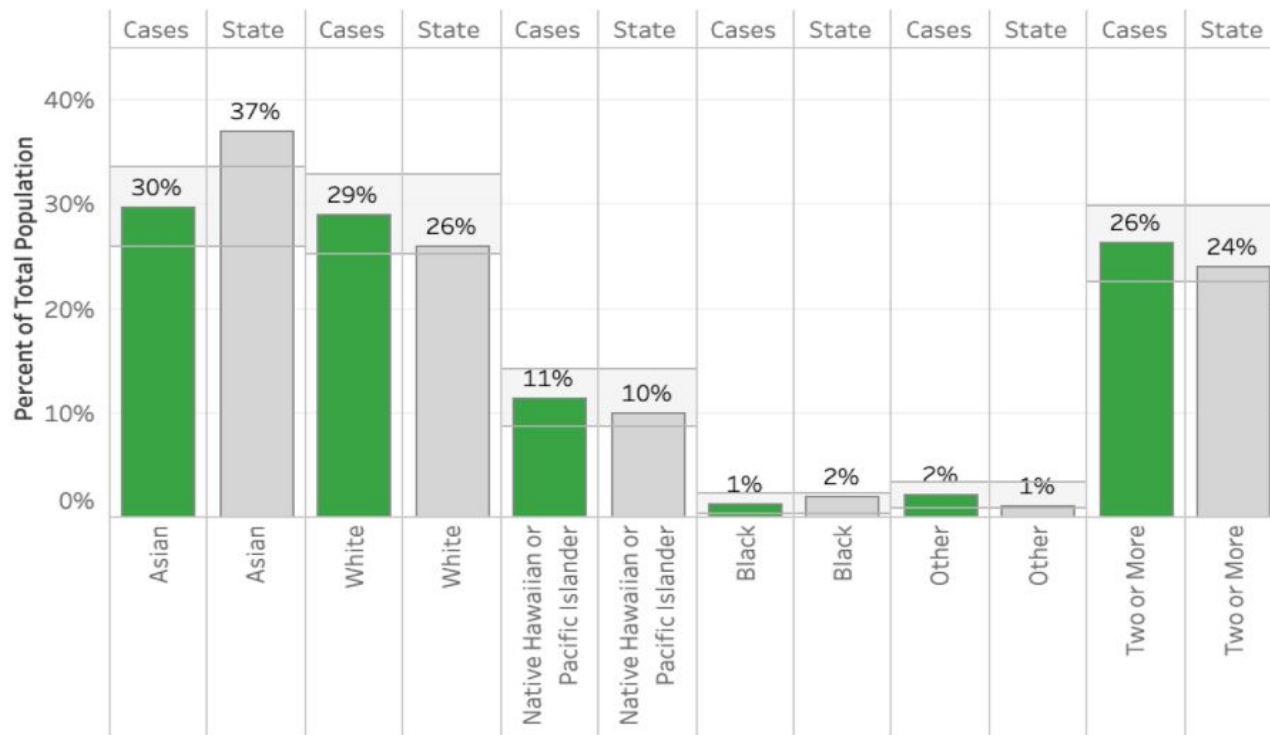- 🟩 Cases
- ⬜ State

Percent of Total Population

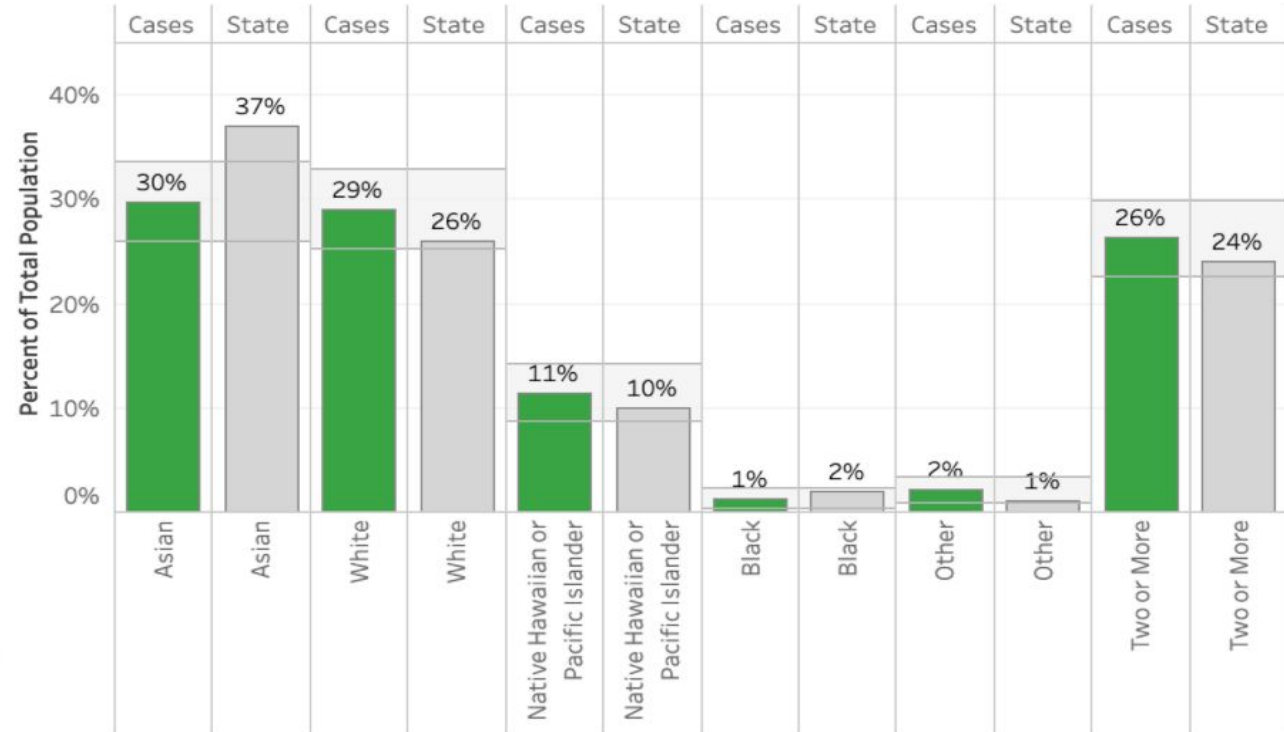|	Cases	State	Cases	State	Cases	State	Cases	State	Cases	State	Cases	State
Asian	30%	37%										
White			29%	26%								
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander					11%	10%						
Black							1%	2%				
Other									2%	1%		
Two or More											26%	24%

Race* of COVID-19 Cases Compared to State Population (N=541†)
(as of April 23, 2020)
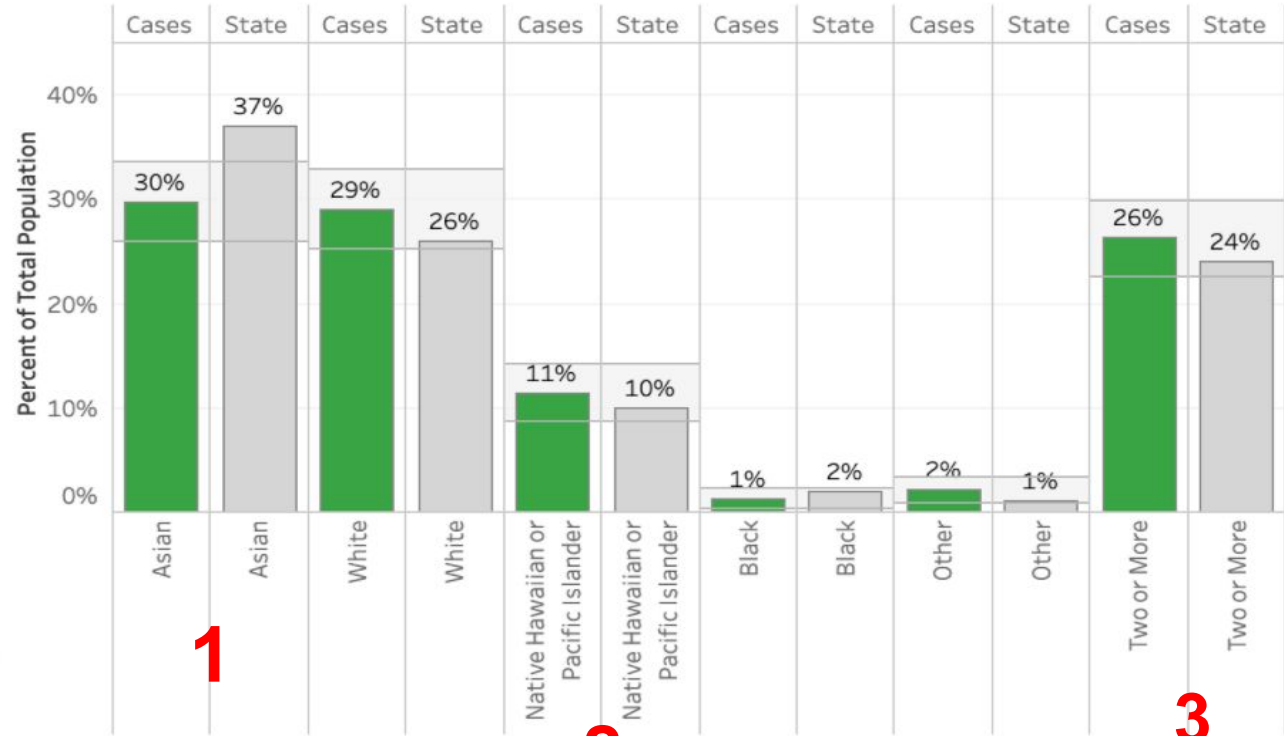
What is wrong with this picture???

Race* of COVID-19 Cases Compared to State Population (N=541†)
(as of April 23, 2020)

1. Asian
2. NHPI
3. Two or More

Race of COVID-19 Cases, Hawaii 2021

Last updated Wednesday, August 25, 2021 (updated weekly)
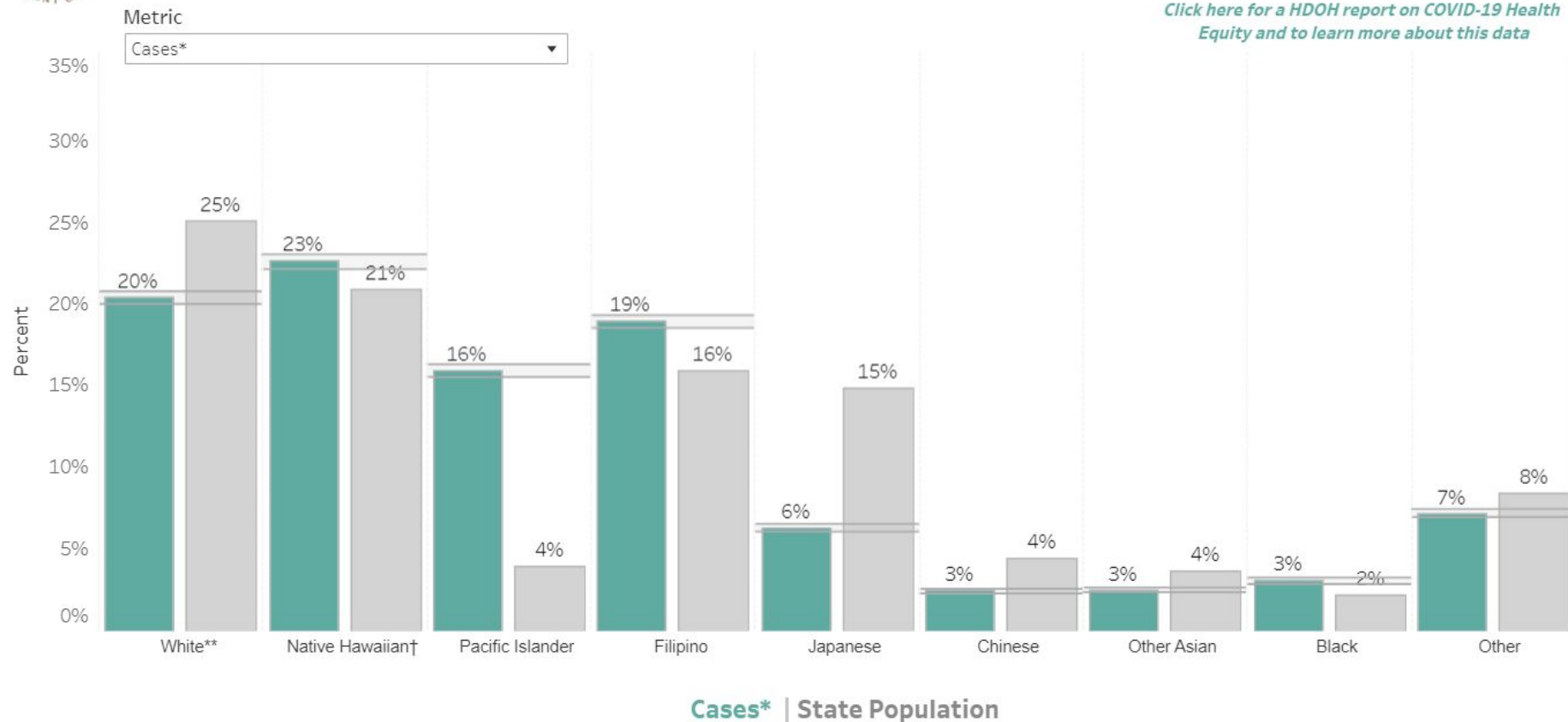
Total Number:

37,985

Metric

Cases* ▾

Cases* | State Population

Possible Barriers

Strategies

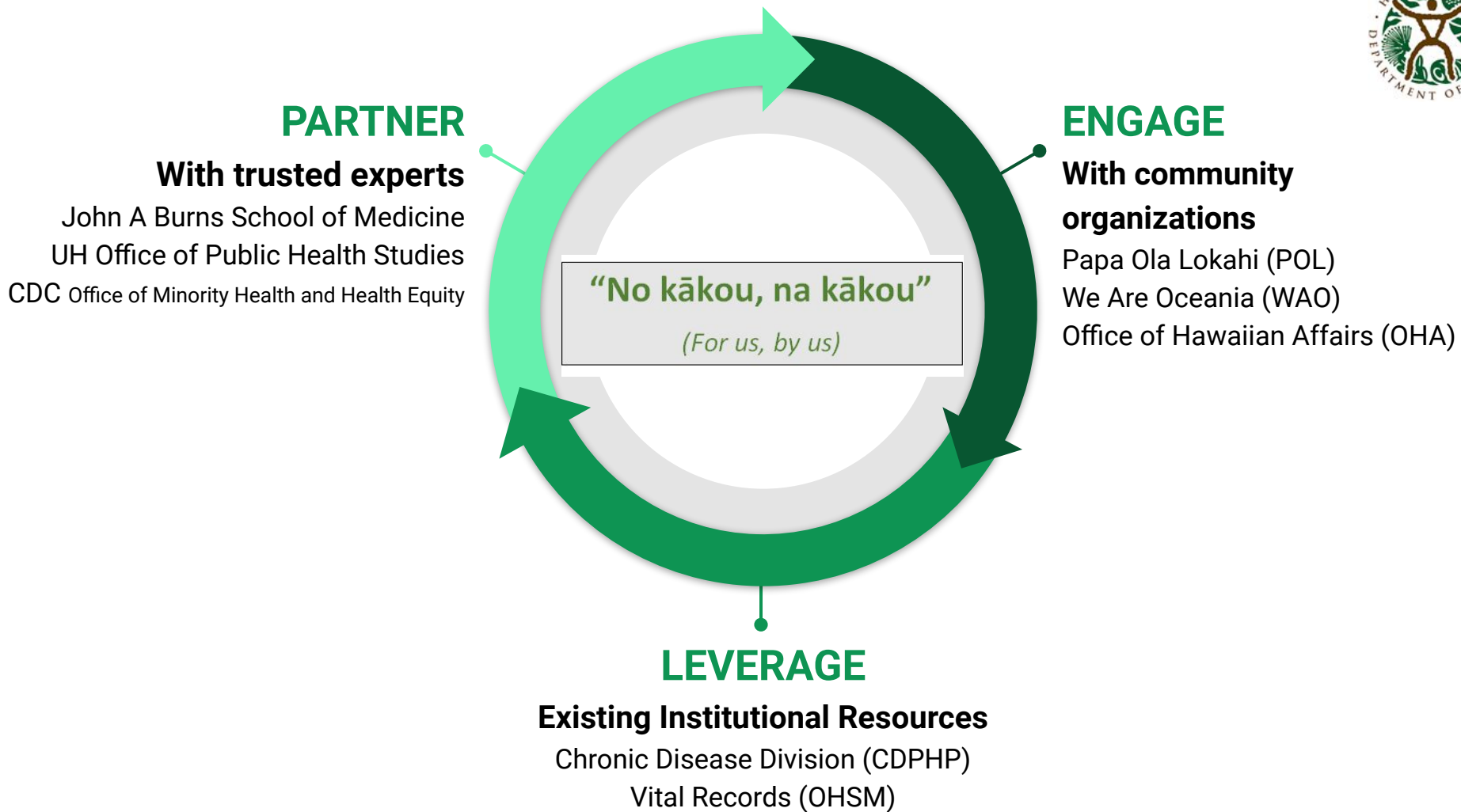| Political will | ● Response Team / Task Force |
Data collection tools	● Revised CDC Form
Data systems	● CDC Race Value Set
Population reference data	● Census API
Reporting guidance	● Advisory Groups

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John A Burns School of Medicine

UH Office of Public Health Studies

CDC Office of Minority Health and Health Equity

ENGAGE

With community organizations

Papa Ola Lokahi (POL)

We Are Oceania (WAO)

Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)

"No kākou, na kākou"

(For us, by us)

LEVERAGE

Existing Institutional Resources

Chronic Disease Division (CDPHP)

Vital Records (OHSM)

Other Lessons Learned

Promote accessibility

Interactive data tools (e.g. Tableau, Power BI)

Strive for transparency

Data belongs to the public

Outcomes

Formation of NHPI Investigation and Contact Tracing Team

   Led and staffed by members of impacted communities

Collaborative Report on COVID-19 Race/Ethnicity Data

   Detailing community efforts and recommendations

Framework for Vaccination Outreach and Surge Response

   Importance of Culturally-Informed and Responsive Interventions

Future Work

Data Disaggregation Standards Workgroup

Office of Health Equity

Publications

Mahalo

Hawai'i NHPI COVID-19 Team
(Data and Research Committee)

Shari Daniels
Keawe Kaholokula
Lisa Watkins-Victorino

Hawai'i Department of Health

Sarah Kemble
Ke'alohi Worthington
Hailey Maeda

UH Office of Public Health Studies

Catherine Pirkle
Tetine Sentell
May Rose Dela Cruz

CDC Office of Health Equity

Miriam Van Dyke
Ana Penman Aguilar
Delight Satter

Resources

Hawai'i Data Dashboards
https://health.hawaii.gov/coronavirusdisease2019/current-situation-in-hawaii/

Hawai'i Race/Ethnicity Report
https://hawaiicovid19.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/COVID-19-Race-Ethnicity-Equity-Report.pdf

CDC Race Value Set
https://phinvads.cdc.gov/vads/SearchVocab.action / https://www.hl7.org/fhir/v3/Race/cs.html

Census API
https://www.census.gov/data/developers/data-sets.html