



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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HEALTH STATUS OF HAWAII'S RESIDENTS

"Toward a Healthy Hawaii 2010"

HONOLULU — The Hawaii State Department of Health and the Hawaii Outcomes Institute recently issued a report series on Hawaii's overall health status entitled "Toward a Healthy Hawaii 2010." The report highlights the health indicators for each island community. For example, seatbelt use is highest on Kauai, Lanai residents have the lowest incidence of obesity, Maui babies have the healthiest birth weight and Honolulu residents get the most physical activity.

Hawaii met national goals for eight health indicators including; mammography use, Hepatitis A infection, teen pregnancy, physical activity and low death rates from coronary heart disease, lung cancer, breast cancer and motor vehicle accidents. However, many health improvements are still needed in the areas of reducing adult smoking rates, unintentional injuries, and the occurrence of infectious diseases.

"Toward a Healthy Hawaii 2010 will assist those in public health and the private sector to improve overall health in the state by identifying priority health needs, planning prevention and intervention strategies, and determining how to most effectively target resources within Hawaii," said Dr. Chiyome Fukino, Director of Health.

In order to assess health status and track progress for health improvement in Hawaii, the information from communities, counties, and the state are compared within and against national goals for levels of illness, disability, and death in the population. The reports are intended to further

(more)

the national *Healthy People 2010* health promotion and disease prevention initiative to increase the quality and years of healthy life and eliminate health disparities.

The public is encouraged to examine these reports to see how their county or community stacks up against the rest of the state and the nation. Visit the Hawaii Outcomes Institute website at www.hawaiioutcomes.org to view and download the health profiles, as well as multiple years of data for numerous health indicators.

The Hawaii's Outcomes Institute (HOI), is a project of the University of Hawaii's John A. Burns School of Medicine and is sponsored by the Hawaii Department of Health, HOI provides data analysis, training, technical assistance, research, and evaluation services to encourage and facilitate measurable improvement in community health outcomes.

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