Food for All in Hawai‘i

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New Entry Community Food Systems Conference
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Photos © Ken Meter, 2003, 2016
129 studies in 39 states & Manitoba
Community-Based Food Systems

Systems of exchange that strive to bring food producers and food consumers into affinity with each other...

...For the purposes of fostering community health, wealth, connection, and capacity

Meter (2007). Evaluating Farm and Food Systems in the U.S.
What Differentiates “Local” Food Economically is that it Builds Community Connections

Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture: 1Local
Food System

Farmers

Aggregators

Processors

Wholesalers

Distributors

Institutions

Consumers

Restaurants

Retailers

Waste Recyclers

Policy Makers
Researchers
Technicians
Health Workers
Healthy Soil
Clean Air, Water
Infrastructure
Energy

Meter & Goldenberg, 2016
Food Systems are Networks
Population in Hawai‘i, 1969 - 2014

Bureau of Economic Analysis
Population Below Livable Wage

Population Living Below 185% of Poverty Level:

- 0 - 20
- 20 - 40
- 40 - 60
- 60 - 80
- 80 - 100

* Census data represent 5-year mean averages from 2010 to 2014

Projected in Hawaii Albers Equal Area Conic
Scale: 1:2,500,000

Sources:
- US Census Bureau Census Tracts & Block Groups (TIGER/Line 2015)
- NRCS State & County Boundaries

Geospatial & Cartographic Services by Brendan Heberlein
Poverty in Hawai‘i

23% of Population Lives Below a Livable Wage (about 320,000 people)

Not all SNAP Eligible

Approx. 179,000 People Receive SNAP

Federal Census; Hawai‘i Department of Human Services

$500 million / year
Hawai‘i Once Fed Itself
Schmitt (1997), Historical Statistics of Hawai‘i
Hawai‘i Now Imports
85 – 90% of its Food

Moloka‘i, 2016
Hawaiʻi Imports $8 Billion of Food

$4.5 Billion of Household Food / Year

Plus $3 billion for Restaurants

Legacy of Self-Sufficiency is Gone
Net Farm Income by Type in Hawai'i, 1969 - 2015

- Government payments
- Other farm-related income
- Net cash income

Bureau of Economic Analysis
Emerging Community Initiatives

MA‘O Farms
Waipā Farms
Indigenous Farming Collaboratives
GoFarm
OK Farms
KKV Farm Site
Kamehameha Schools Leases Land
‘Ulu Co-op
‘Ulu Processing
Sharwil Avocado Exports from Small Farms
Nutrition Education (DHS, DOH & partners)
AND MANY MORE!
Key investments:
Infrastructure that Creates Efficiencies in Community Food Trade
Recommendations:

• Improve SNAP Enrollment – Brings $50 to $100 million into state

• Build Stronger Network of Community-Based Foods Initiatives

• Establish Community Food Systems as Public Trust
Local Farm & Food Economy Studies

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