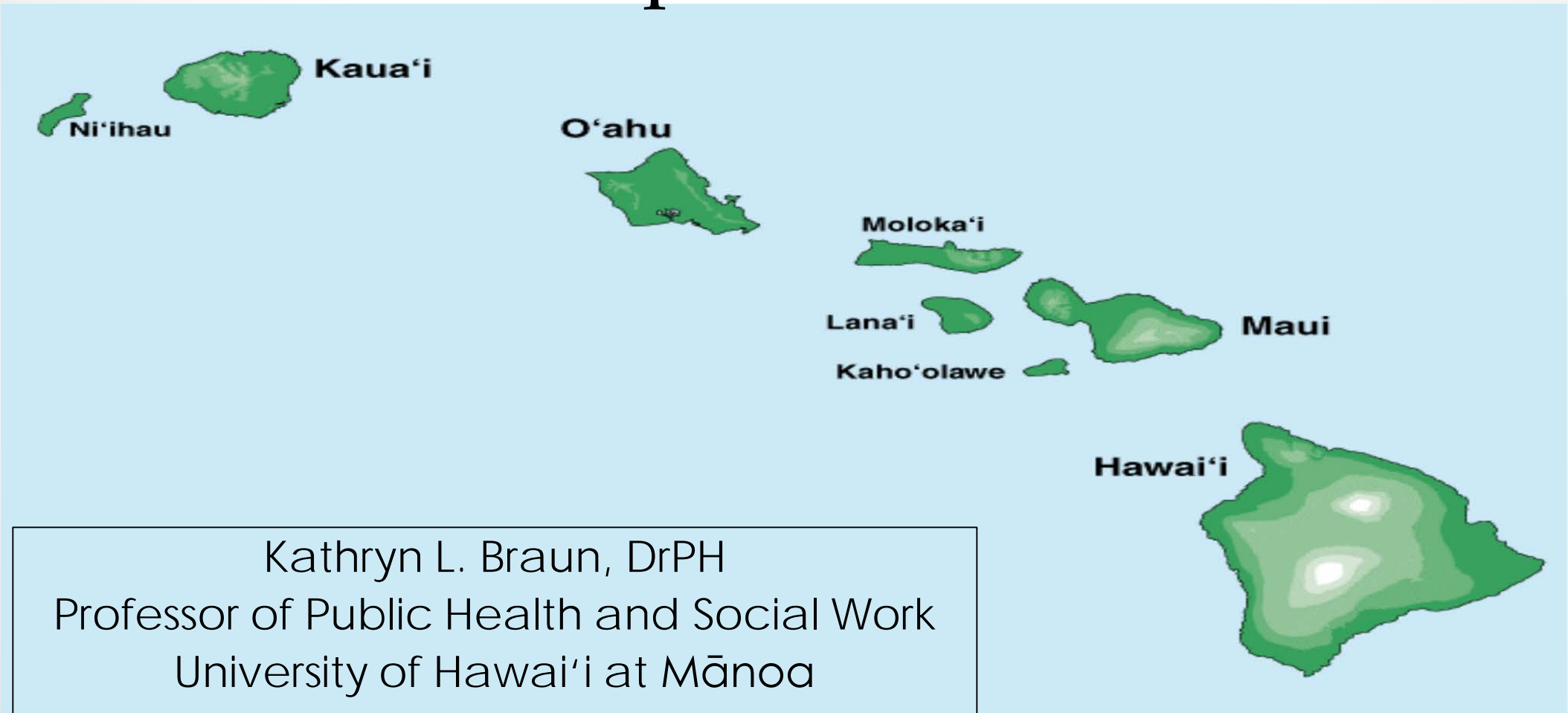


# Hawai'i's Multicultural Elder Population



# The Nation of Hawai`i

- First inhabited in 400 to 1300 CE
- “Discovered” by Captain Cook (1778)
- Visited by whalers
- Colonized by NE missionaries (1820s)



Foreign diseases like measles, chickenpox, and TB decimated the Native Hawaiian population



# Immigration for Agriculture

- 50,000 from China 1852-98
  - Chinese Exclusion Act, 1882
- 10,000 from Portugal 1877-84
- 600 Norwegians/Germans 1891
- 200,000 from Japan 1885-1924
  - Asian Exclusion Act, 1924
- 5,000 from Puerto Rico in 1900
- 8,000 from Korea 1902-1905
- 30,000 from Philippines, 1905-20
- 2,250 from Malaga 1907
- 15,000 Mexicans 1997





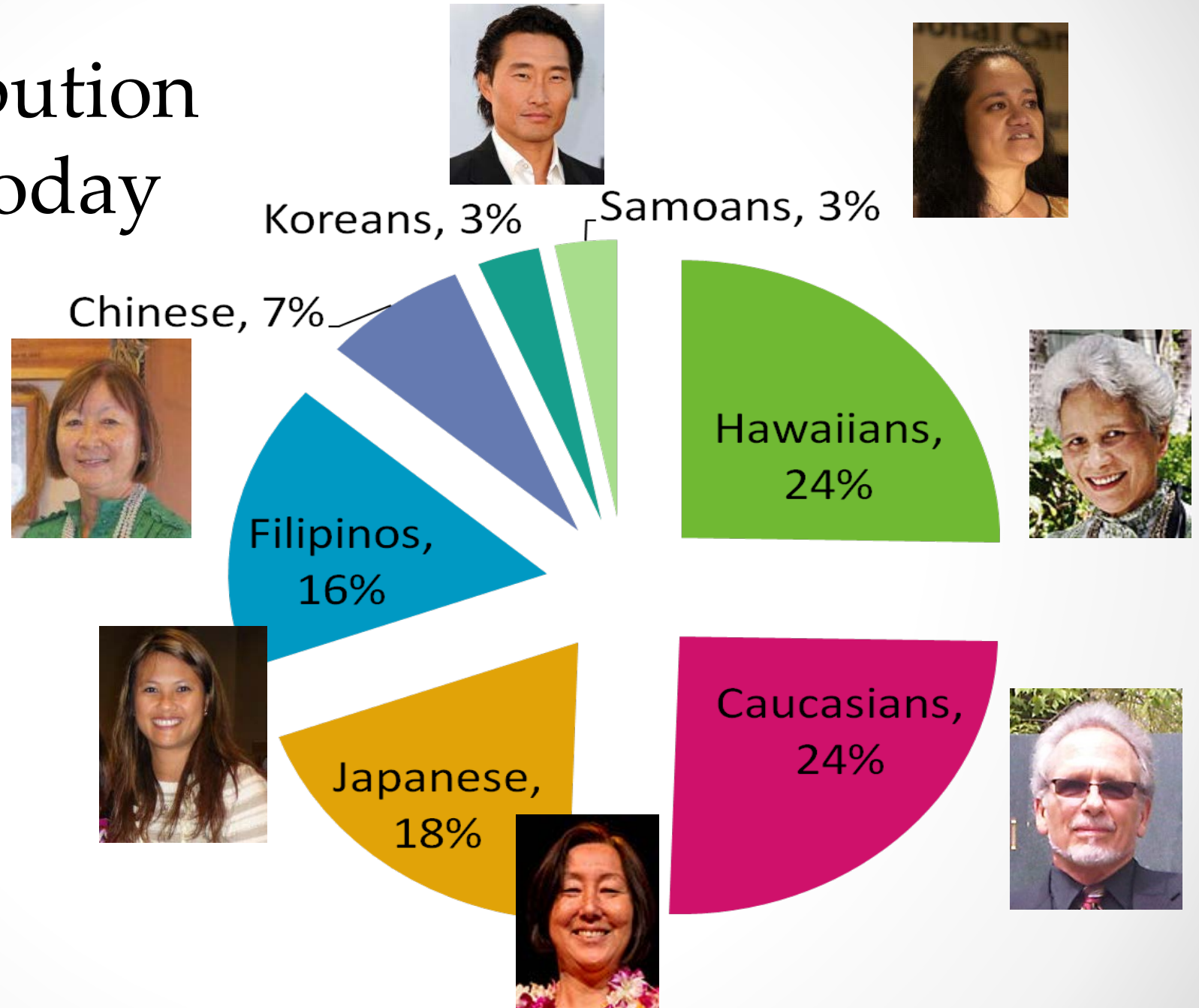
# Other immigration triggers

- 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act
- 1893-1898 overthrown and annexation by US
- 1898 Spanish Am War
- 1899 Treaty of Berlin (US control of Am Samoa)
- 1945 War Brides Act
- 1946 US control of Guam, Palau, Marshalls, FSM
  - Territories and Compact of Free Association
- 1959 statehood
- 1975 US withdrawal from Vietnam
- 2020 37,000 active duty military
  - controlling 25% of land on O'ahu

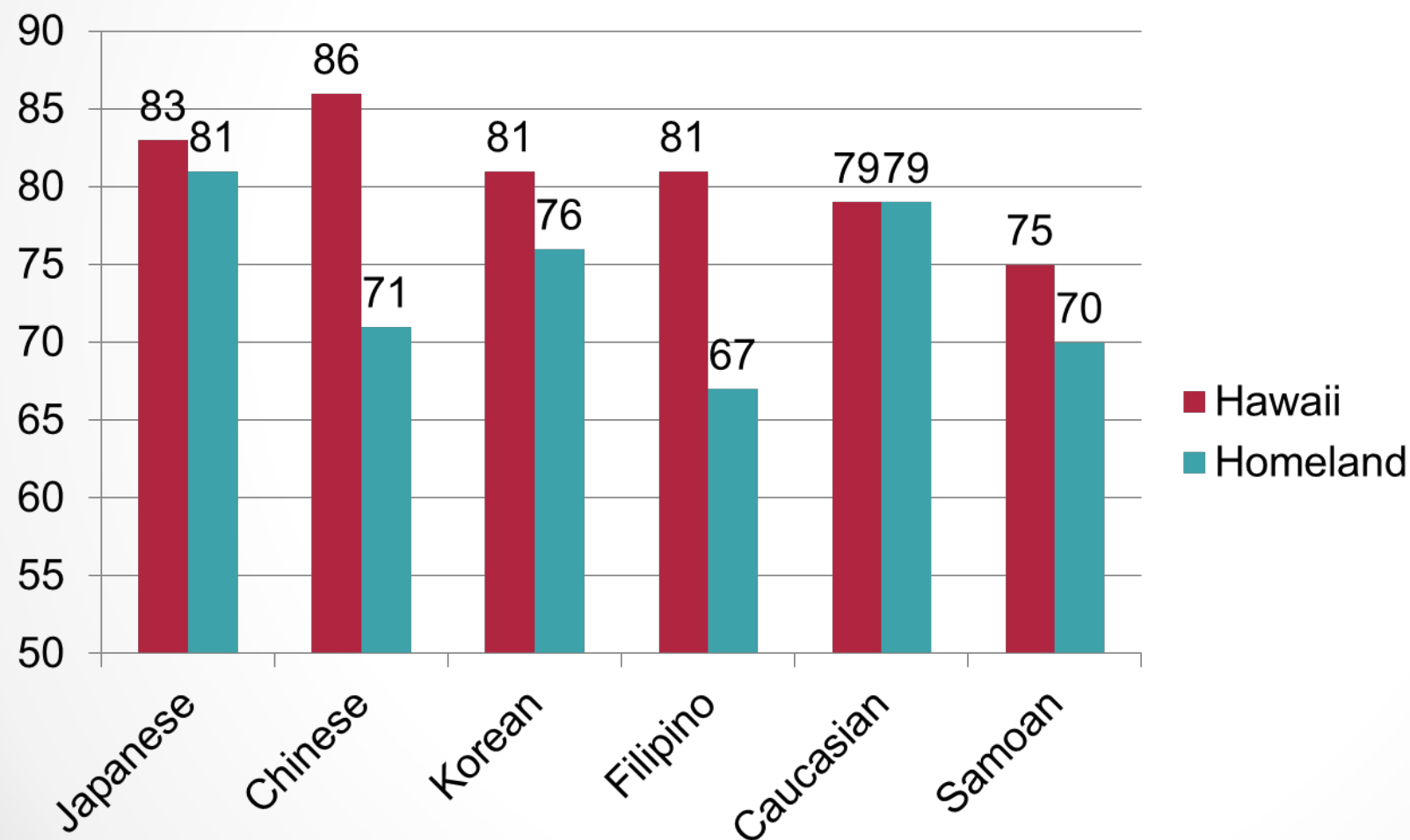


# Ethnic distribution of Hawai'i today

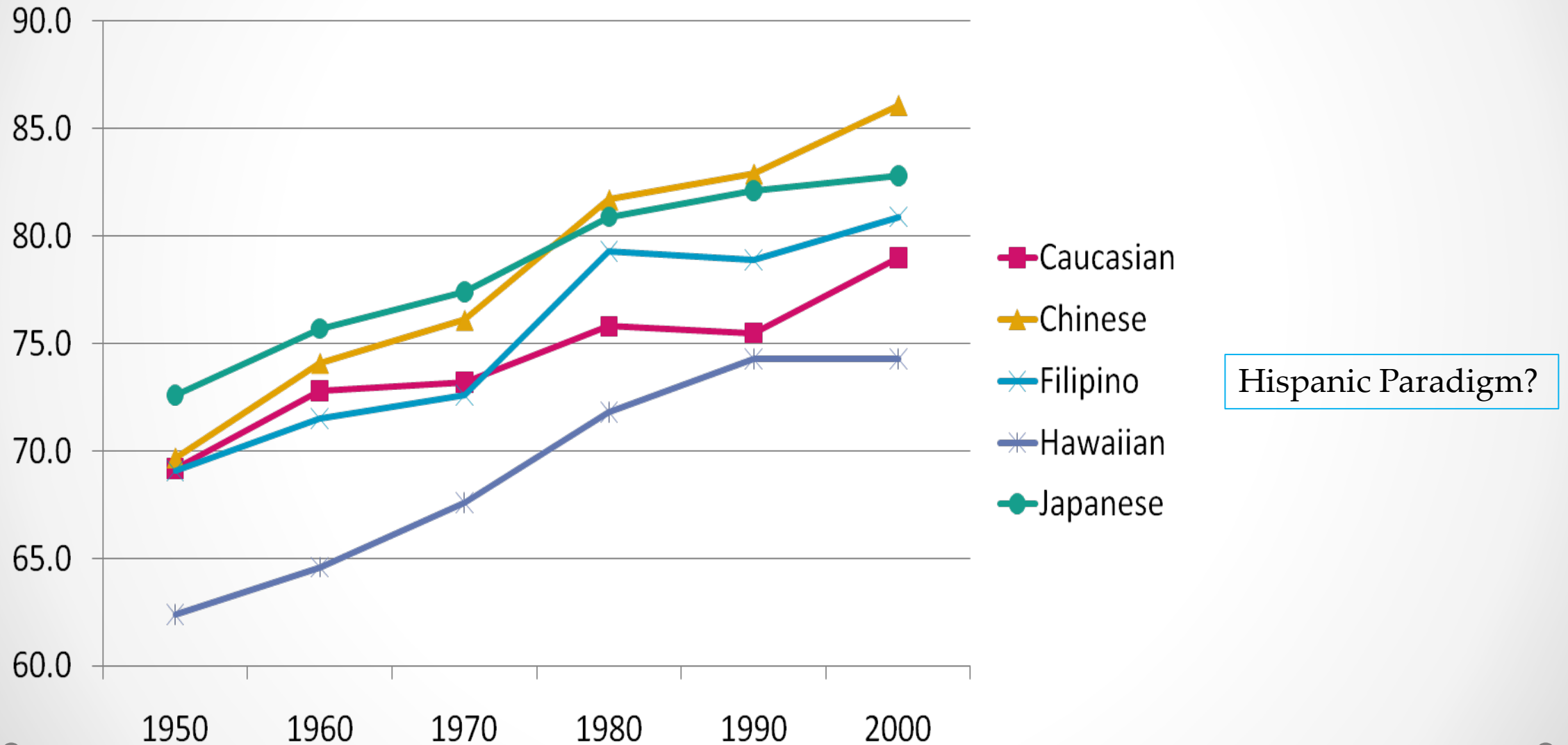
Hawaiians - 24%  
Caucasians - 24%  
Japanese - 18%  
Filipinos - 16%  
Chinese - 7%  
Koreans - 3%  
Samoans - 3%



# People live longer in Hawai'i than in their native lands.

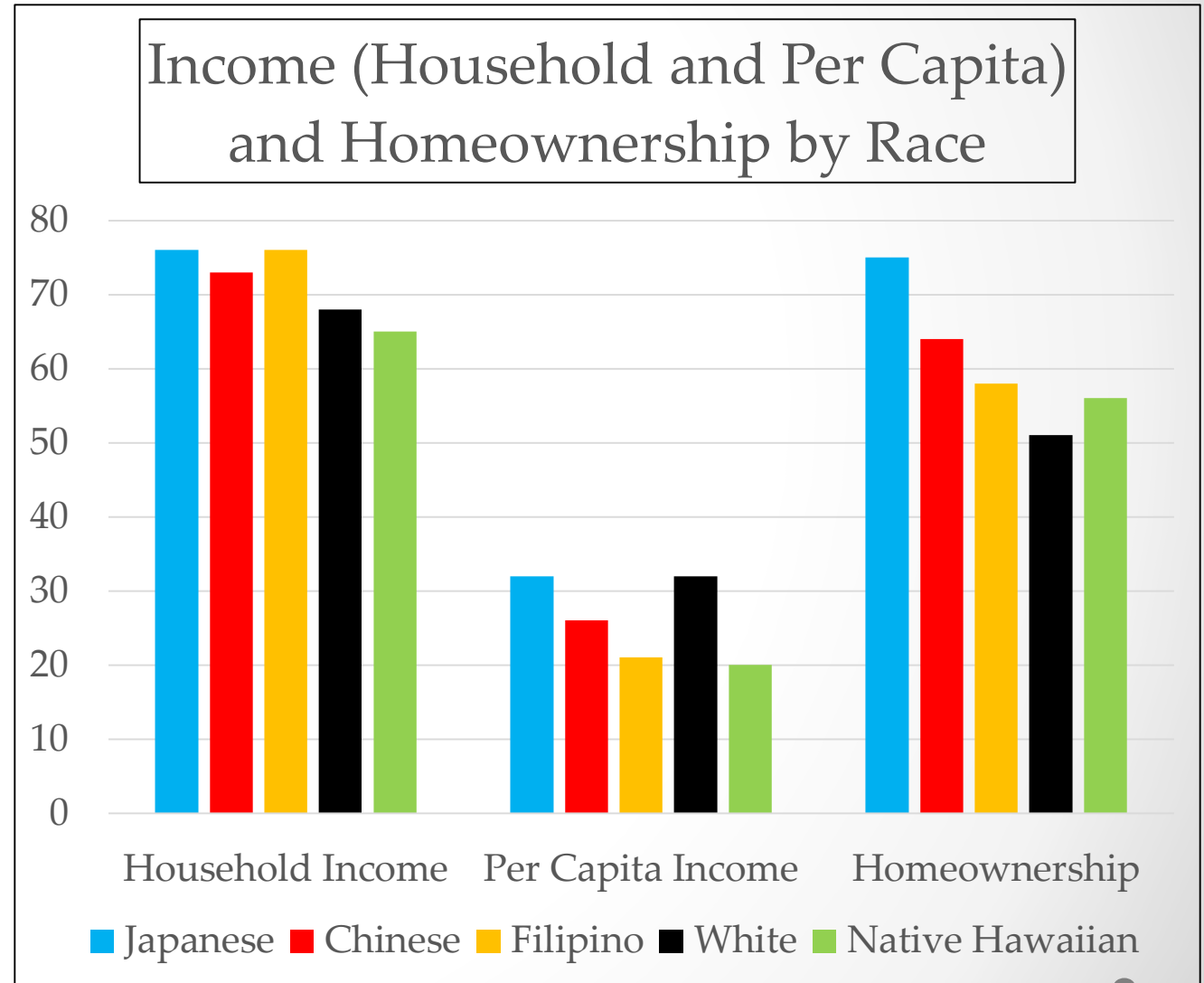


# But disparities in life expectancy continue



# Reasons include differences in:

- SES
- ACEs
- Culture, history with US, racism
- Lifestyle behaviors
- Availability, acceptability, and accessibility of health services





# Aging Population in Hawai'i

- #1 state in longevity.
- #8 state in percentage elders (age 60+)
  - 2012 = 20%
  - 2020 = 23%
  - 2030 = 27%
- #1 state for elders living with others
- 85% of long-term care provided to elders by family members

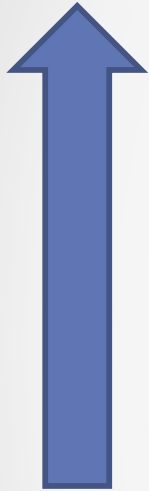


# Local Values and Elder Care

- Very much influenced by Native Hawaiian and Asian values
- Similarities
  - Families are strong
  - Honor your elders
  - Want the best for our children and grandchildren
- Differences
  - Family care a part of life...nothing special (especially Native Hawaiians and Filipinos)
  - Care for yourself as an elder and don't burden children (especially Caucasian and Asian elders with money)
- Elder care, in order of cost
  - Provided by family
  - Provided by small care homes and foster homes
    - (Operating a facility like this is a way to become a home owner)
  - Provided by retirement facilities with assisted living and memory care options



# Implications for Intergenerational Transfers in Hawai'i



- High cost of living and education will promote inter-generational households (and intergenerational exchange)
- High cost of housing will increase need for direct (cash) and indirect (co-housing) assistance from family.
- Local values and small geography will support co-housing and intergenerational exchange.



- Many elders with money will choose retirement and assisted living facilities.
- Many families with money will chose a facility when care becomes difficult.



# Mahalo

Kathryn Braun

[kbraun@hawaii.edu](mailto:kbraun@hawaii.edu)