

**Social and Economic Correlates of Native
Hawaiian and Pacific Islander COVID-19
Rates in Hawaii and the continental U.S.**

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They Crossed an Ocean to Butcher Pigs. It Was No American Dream.

200 Pacific Islanders recruited to work at an Iowa pork plant ended up in a tangled migration dispute with accusations of mistreatment and broken promises.



REKHA BASU | **Opinion** *This piece expresses the views of its author(s), separate from those of this publication.*

We bombed their homeland, hurt their health, cut off their health care. Then comes COVID-19.

U.S. tested nuclear bombs on Marshall Islands in the 1950s. Some of the displaced are in fragile health in Iowa with COVID-19 but can't get Medicaid.

Rekha Basu Des Moines Register

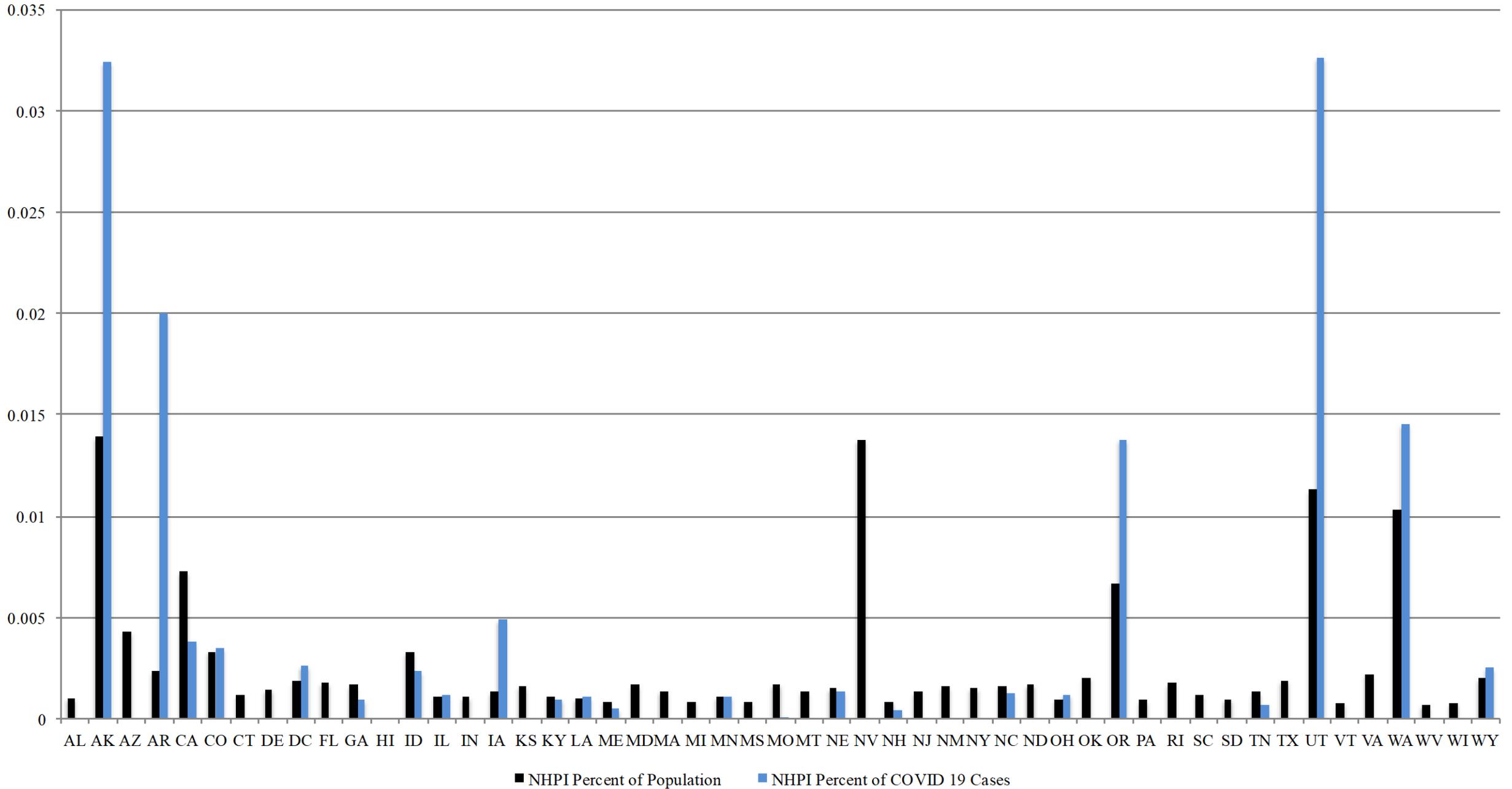
Published 7:00 a.m. CT Jun. 26, 2020 | Updated 5:08 p.m. CT Jun. 26, 2020

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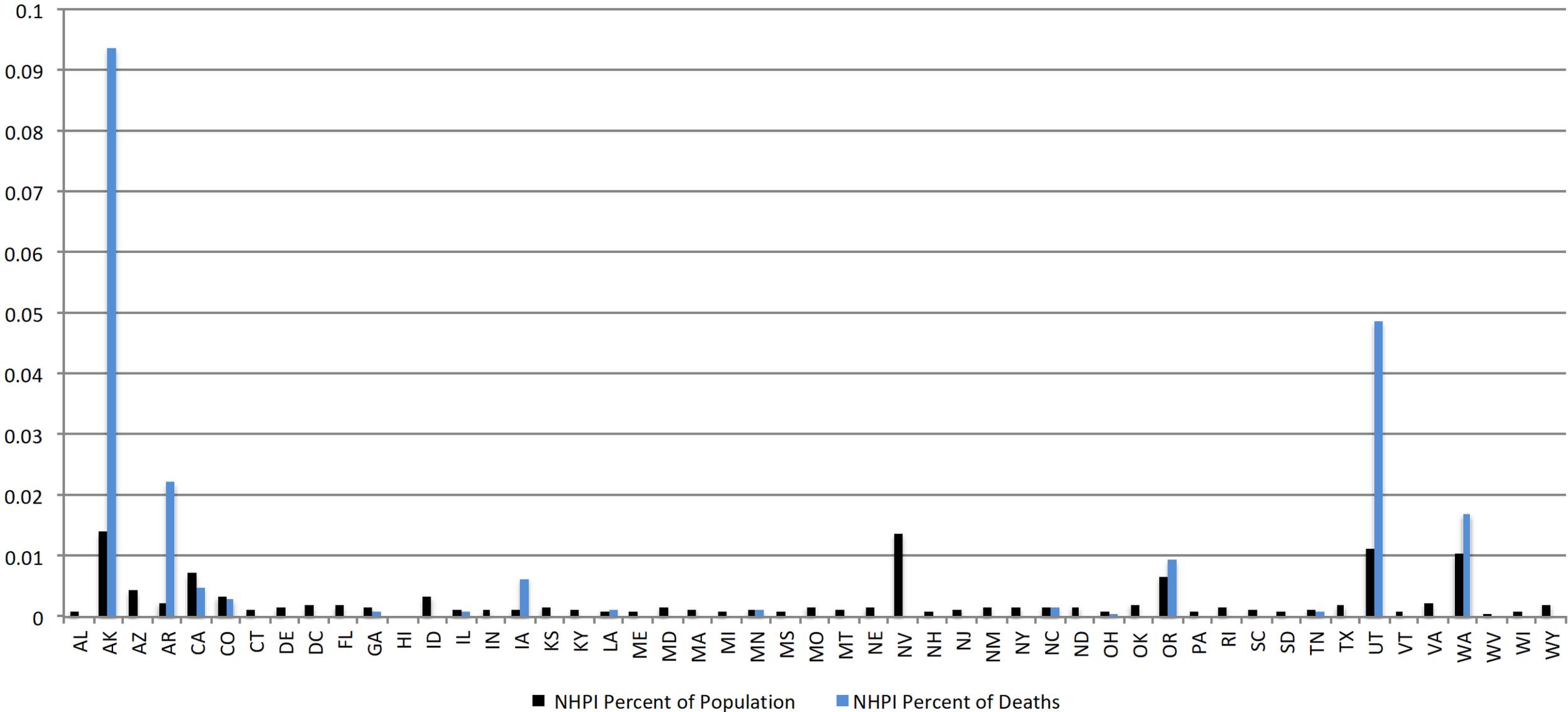


“Now that population, with its disproportionately high rates of diabetes, heart disease and more, is disproportionately contracting COVID-19. That's linked to the radiation from, in particular, Bikini Atoll, site in 1954 of the biggest explosion ever — 1,000 times more powerful than the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In Dubuque, [Politico reported in January](#) that almost one in four Marshallese has diabetes and about 10% has heart disease. The city is home to some 800 Marshallese out of a general population of 60,000. Of them, 28 contracted COVID-19 and seven have died from it, more than a third of the city's overall COVID deaths.”

Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Percent of Population and COVID 19 Cases

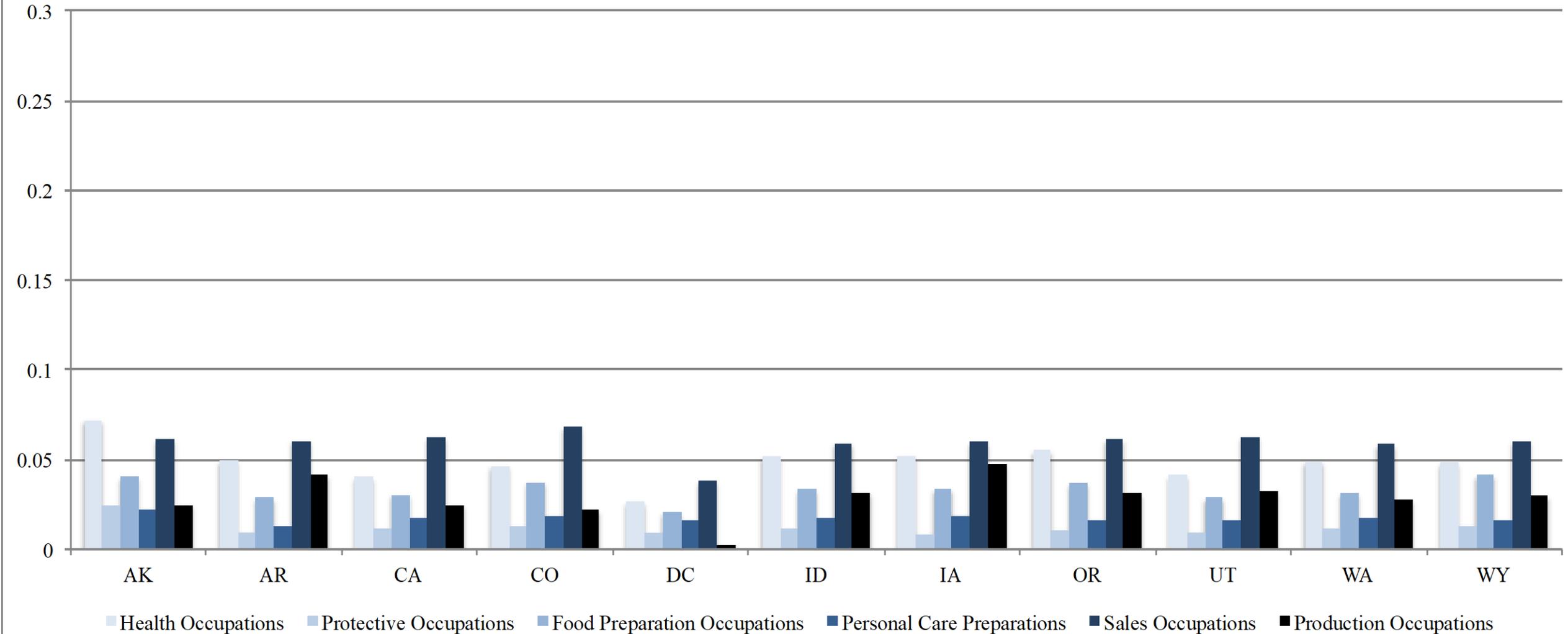


Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Percent of Population and COVID 19 Deaths



Occupation	Working from Home
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	1
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	0.98
Legal Occupations	0.97
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	0.88
Management Occupations	0.87
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	0.76
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	0.65
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	0.61
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	0.54
Community and Social Service Occupations	0.37
Sales and Related Occupations	0.28
Personal Care and Service Occupations	0.26
Protective Service Occupations	0.06
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	0.05
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	0.03
Healthcare Support Occupations	0.02
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	0.01
Production Occupations	0.01
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	0.01
Construction and Extraction Occupations	0
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	0
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	0

White Percent Employment by State by Occupational Categories



Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Percent Employment by State by Occupational Categories

