**Analytics Capstone Project Proposal: Impact of COVID Proclamations/Restrictions on Hawaii Tourism**

Background:

Hawaii has a very special place in my heart as it’s where I grew up and where my Mom and many friends and relatives still live. My partner also grew up in Hawaii and we typically visit at least two times per year… mainly to see friends and family. Growing up there, we understand how important tourism is to the state’s economy… Tourism is THE business of Hawaii. In our lifetime, we’ve never seen regulation that basically ‘shuts down’ the islands. This is something that we considered unfathomable… until it happened. And, of course, with good reason… unprecedented circumstances call for unprecedented reaction. However, many are left wondering… at what cost? Did Hawaii go too far?

Purpose of the Study:

Since the start of COVID, Hawaii has maintained a very low rate of positive COVID cases and deaths through mandates/restrictions on both visitors and residents. Governor Ige has been very proactive to protect the residents of Hawaii from COVID. With Tourism being Hawaii’s primary industry, this of course has come at a significant cost.

Questions:

* What was the impact on tourism following each proclamation?
* What was the impact on COVID cases and deaths following each proclamation?
* What was the cost to Hawaii’s economy?

Data:

This study would overlay/combine three major categories of data:

* Tourism Data pre-COVID (as baseline) vs Tourism Data since the first COVID proclamation on 3/5/2020
  + Includes details such as date of arrival, how many nights stayed, which islands visited, type of accommodations (hotel, staying w/family, etc.), age of primary filling out entry form, etc. This data is collected by means of the mandatory agriculture form that is required upon entry into Hawaii and is maintained by the Hawaii Department of Tourism.
* Governor Ige’s 23 Proclamations (to-date) regarding COVID
  + Includes data as to the timing of travel restrictions, quarantine requirements, pre-flight COVID testing, restrictions on the use of short-term rentals, restrictions of car rentals, beach closures, mask mandates, etc.
* Hawaii COVID Data
  + Includes data such as number of active cases, deaths, etc.

*Original Working Notes:*

* Hawaii Tourism Bureau
* Hawaii Tourism Data Warehouse: <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/visitor/tourismdata/>
* Hawaii Economics Data Warehouse: <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/datawarehouse/>
* Timeline of COVID restrictions … Governor Ige’s 23 Proclamations: <https://hiema-hub.hawaii.gov/apps/8465a766a5ca43fc800bff9ff675e89b/explore>
  + Mask Mandates
  + Social Distancing Mandates
  + Stay at Home Orders
  + Beach Closings
  + Restaurant Closings and Limited Capacity
  + Mandate no more than 2 people for boating excursions, hiking excursions, etc.
  + Restrictions on Gatherings (weddings and funerals)
  + Quarantine Rqmts
    - Exception for Safe Travels Pre-Testing
    - Exception for Safe Travels Vaccination Proof Interisland
    - Exception for Safe Travels Vaccination Proof State Inbound
    - Restriction on car rentals and car-sharing for those in quarantine
    - Restriction on short-term rentals for those in quarantine (must be lodged in a hotel or motel where they can be monitored)
* Hawaii COVID Statistics Timeline
* Backdrop of importance of Tourism to Hawaii’s Economy