



AUSTERITY WITHIN THE CNMI

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PRIMARY RESEARCH QUESTION

- ▶ In terms of alleviating the financial deficit of the CNMI government, will the implementation of austerity be successful?

SECONDARY RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- Does austerity play a role in individuals seeking career choices off island?
- Are there any possible alternatives relative to austerity that can also alleviated the CNMI's deficit?
- What parts of the island community is strongly affected by the austerity implementation?
- Does austerity prove to be an appropriate solution whenever a financial shortfall or deficit occurs?



METHODOLOGIES

- Surveys: Both pilot and final survey
- Letter to Experts
- Both local and international literature



PILOT AND FINAL SURVEYS

- Primarily NMC students
- Demographic questions were used to better measure data
- Open-ended questions were used to acquire individuals' personal responses to austerity.
- Responses:
 - Pilot: 16 responses
 - Final: 12 responses
 - Total: 28 responses

- Sent to 5 individuals
 - International Experts: (3)
 - Two experts were authors of international literatures the student researcher found.
 - One expert being a German economist.
 - Local Experts: (2)
 - Representative Ed Propst
 - Representative Tina Sablan

None of the letters sent were responded to



LETTERS TO EXPERTS

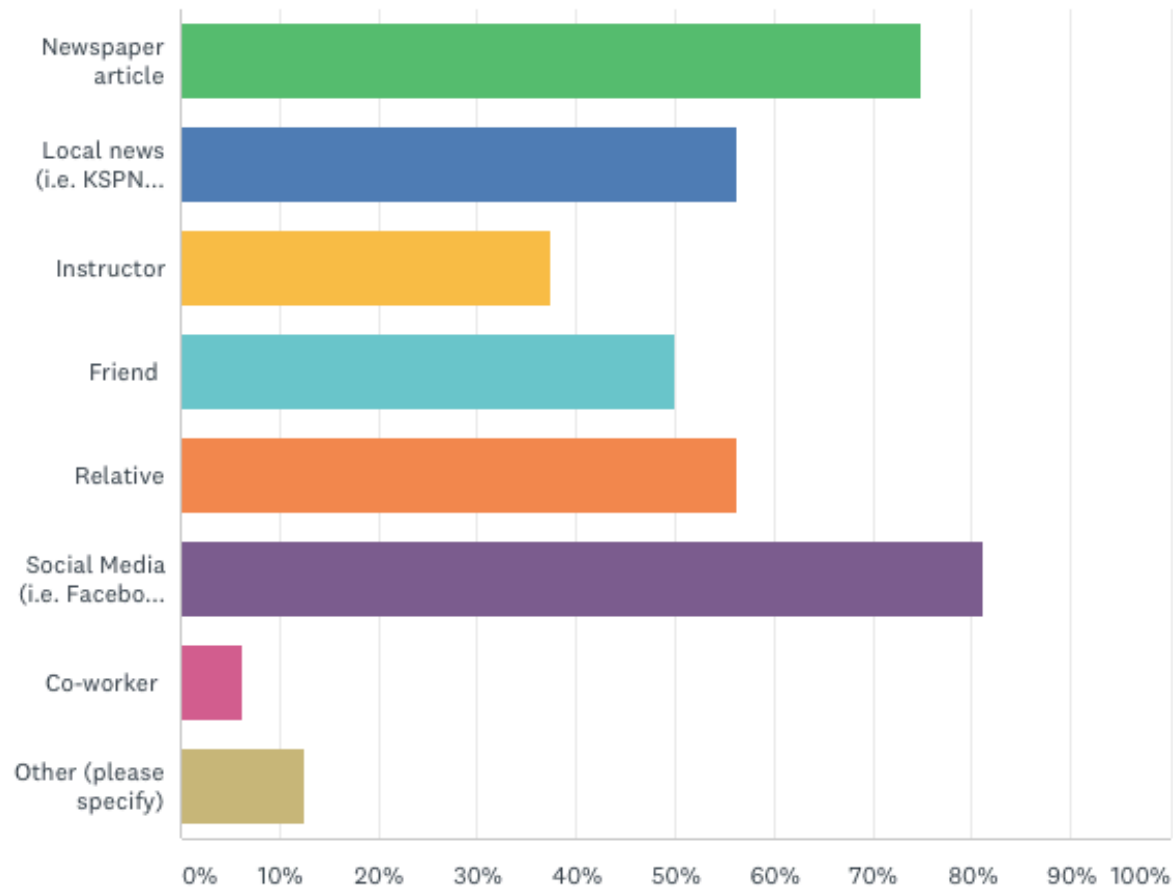
LETTERS TO EXPERTS QUESTIONNAIRE

- In your opinion, will the current implementation of austerity be successful in terms of alleviating the CNMI government's deficit?
- What areas of our island community have been heavily impacted by these austerity measures?
- Why did you vote no to austerity measures?
- Are there any other solutions, other than austerity, that could have been utilized to alleviate the current deficit?



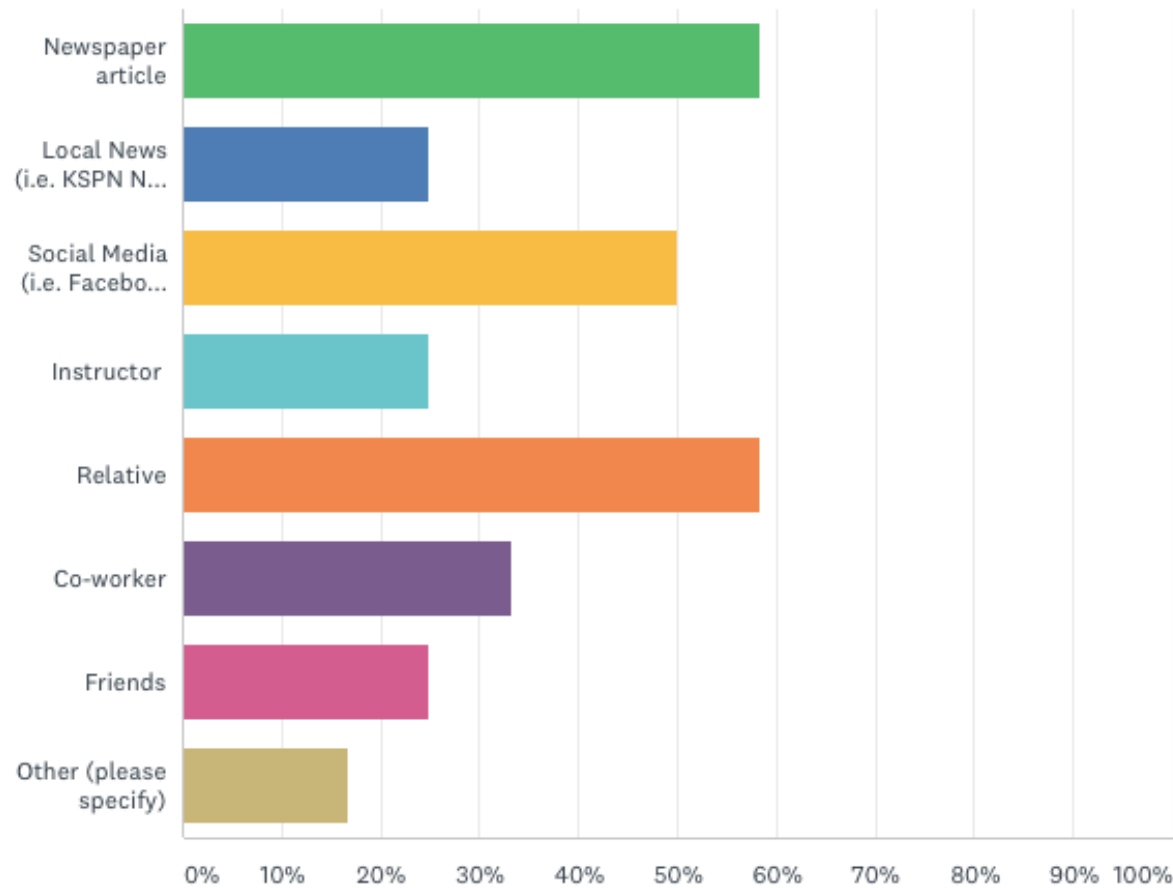
SURVEY RESULTS

Pilot Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Newspaper article	75.00% 12
▼ Local news (i.e. KSPN news)	56.25% 9
▼ Instructor	37.50% 6
▼ Friend	50.00% 8
▼ Relative	56.25% 9
▼ Social Media (i.e. Facebook, Twitter)	81.25% 13
▼ Co-worker	6.25% 1
▼ Other (please specify)	Responses 12.50% 2
Total Respondents: 16	

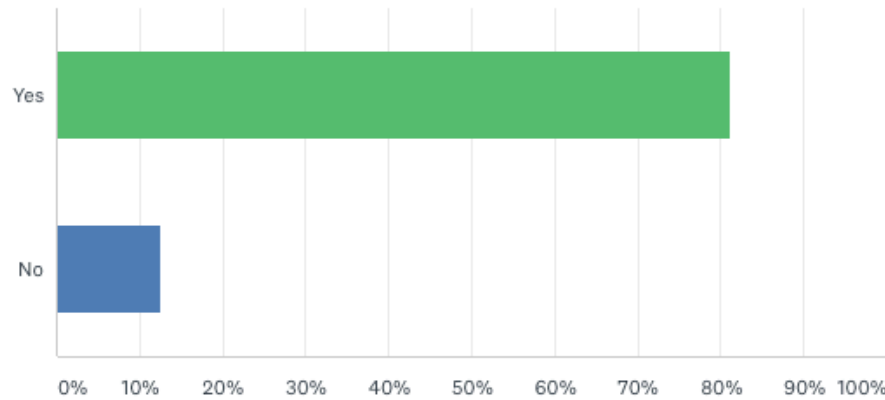
Final Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Newspaper article	58.33% 7
▼ Local News (i.e. KSPN News)	25.00% 3
▼ Social Media (i.e. Facebook, Twitter)	50.00% 6
▼ Instructor	25.00% 3
▼ Relative	58.33% 7
▼ Co-worker	33.33% 4
▼ Friends	25.00% 3
▼ Other (please specify)	Responses 16.67% 2
Total Respondents: 12	

Would the implementation of austerity cause you to lose interest in working for the CNMI government?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



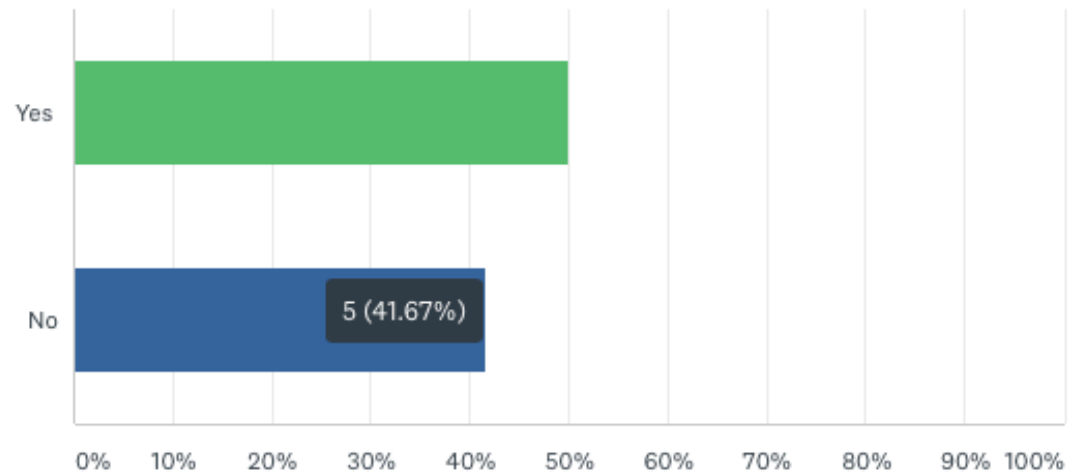
Pilot Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	81.25% 13
No	12.50% 2
TOTAL	16

- Generally the CNMI salaries are lower than other places. Austerity makes it worse.**
9/30/2019 12:40 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#)
- The money earning here is not enough to support yourself these days**
9/29/2019 9:52 AM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#)
- I want to be able to support my family**
9/27/2019 8:11 AM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#)

Would the implementation of austerity cause you to lose interest in working for the CNMI government?

Answered: 12 Skipped: 0



Final Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	50.00% 6
No	41.67% 5
TOTAL	12

Because all though its halved, you still earn money you have to take chances event though its hard

10/13/2019 12:57 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags](#)

I feel like the hour cuts and the salary cuts would make me not want to work for the government. No one wants to get paid less when you know you should be getting more.

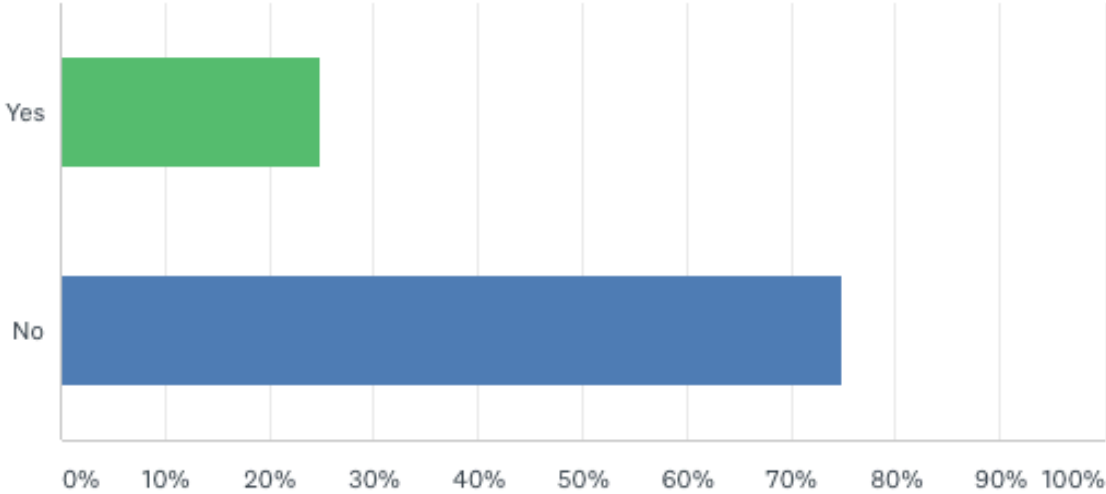
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Do youth think austerity is the best solution to lessening the CNMI deficit?

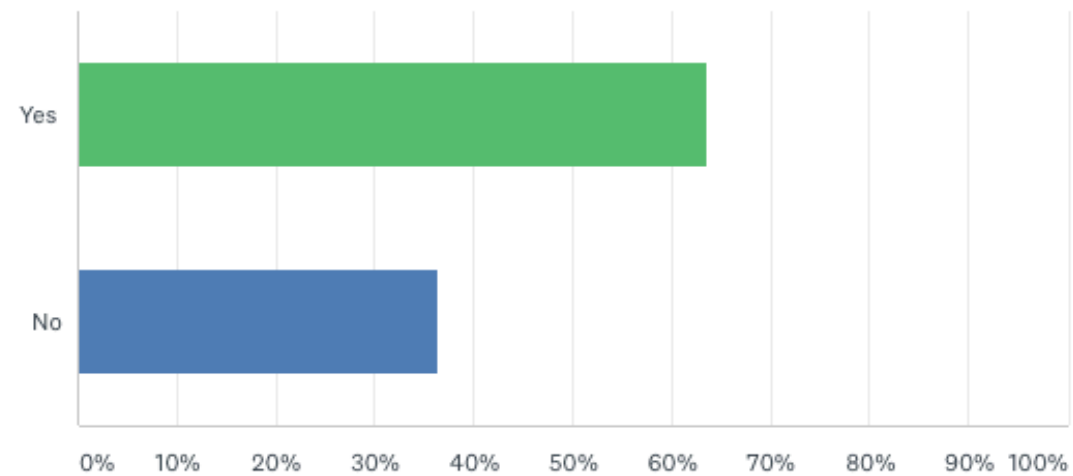
Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Yes	25.00%	4
▼ No	75.00%	12
TOTAL		16

Do youth think austerity is the best solution to lessening the CNMI deficit?

Answered: 11 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Yes	63.64% 7
▼ No	36.36% 4
TOTAL	11



LITERATURE RESULTS



LOCAL LITERATURE

- Impact on the healthcare system or CHCC.
- Reduction of training services and off-island traveling
- Uncompensated care costs and insufficient Medicaid funding.
- Big impact on the business community
 - Low revenue generation
 - Decrease in government employee expenditures



INTERNATIONAL LITERATURE

- ▶ Effect on personal lives
 - ▶ Unsubsidized public transportation makes transit to work much harder
 - ▶ Frozen salaries or major salary cuts
 - ▶ Reduction of services to low-income families
- ▶ Alteration of the healthcare system
 - ▶ Influx of patients to the point of needing to transfer patients to a different hospital
 - ▶ High demand for medical services
 - ▶ Takes a toll on healthcare workers
- ▶ Emergence of activists groups
 - ▶ Specifically colored women advocating for the appropriate funding of “privatized services”, or services that they specifically need.

RESEARCH IMPROVEMENTS:

- Survey more people as 28 respondents does not constitute 1% of the entire island population.
- Consistently follow-up on surveys sent into the public.
- Weigh out the availability of experts both on and off-island.
- Possibly survey 1,000 respondents
- More open-ended questions to exactly pinpoint the impacts as well as the outcomes of austerity.
- Search and gather more international literature on the respective topic of austerity
- Investigate and inquire information such as monetary amounts or monetary appropriation and location.