



Asian American Center for Advancing Justice

A Community of Contrasts

Asian Americans in the United States: 2011

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REVISED



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ASIAN AMERICAN CENTER FOR ADVANCING JUSTICE

The Asian American Center for Advancing Justice (Advancing Justice) is a leading Asian American civil rights and social justice organization comprising four equal and independent affiliates: the Asian American Justice Center (AAJC), Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC), Asian American Institute (AAI), and Asian Law Caucus (ALC). Its mission is to promote a fair and equitable society for all by working for civil and human rights and empowering Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPIs) and other underserved communities.

Each affiliate's staff has valuable expertise and deep experience. AAJC is one of the nation's leading experts on issues of importance to the Asian American community and has enacted a sweeping range of programs on critical national concerns. APALC is the nation's largest legal organization addressing the needs of Asian Americans and NHPIs by advocating for civil rights, providing legal services and education, and building coalitions. AAI is the Midwest's leading pan-Asian organization dedicated to empowering the Asian American

community through advocacy, research, education, and coalition building. ALC is the oldest legal organization in the country defending the civil rights of Asian American and NHPI communities and focuses on the needs of low-income, immigrant, and underserved communities.

While well known in their individual spheres for their work and expertise, the affiliates of Advancing Justice have come together to build a stronger, more cohesive regional and national civil and human rights infrastructure for the Asian American community. We use our resources to provide valuable information to the community, work to address more issues in more places, impact a greater number of public debates, and help the voices of Asian Americans, NHPIs, and other marginalized and underserved communities be heard.

Please email any questions regarding the report to: publications@advancingequality.org.

WELCOME

For decades, Asian Americans have been among the fastest growing racial groups in the United States. The Asian American population is larger today than it has ever been in our nation's history, growing both in places like California and New York, where large Asian American communities have existed for decades, and in parts of the country like the South, where smaller communities have more recently grown to a critical mass.

As our communities grow, Asian Americans are making significant contributions to the economy and developing greater political power. At the same time, our population is incredibly diverse. With parts of the community thriving, those who struggle seem invisible. Many Asian Americans continue to face language barriers and struggle economically. The current recession poses even greater challenges to this vulnerable population.

At this time of both challenge and opportunity, four organizations—the Asian American Institute, Asian American Justice Center, Asian Law Caucus, and Asian Pacific American Legal Center—have deepened their affiliation and come together to

form the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice. As independent organizations under one umbrella, we will continue to advance the goals we have always worked toward—promoting a fair and equitable society for all, strengthening civil and human rights, and empowering Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI), and other vulnerable communities.

A publication of the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice, *A Community of Contrasts: Asian Americans in the United States 2011* draws upon data from the 2010 Census, American Community Survey, and other sources to provide a detailed portrait of the Asian American community in the United States. The report also includes a number of policy recommendations based on the data that address critical concerns facing Asian Americans throughout the country.

This national report is the second in a series and will be followed by regional reports on Asian American and NHPI communities in California, the West, the Midwest, the South, and the Northeast. Additional reports are also planned, including one focused on the NHPI community

and another on the economic contributions of Asian Americans and NHPs.

We would like to thank the sponsors who made this report possible, including the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation, the Cyrus Chung Ying Tang Foundation, and Bank of America.

We would also like to thank those who contributed to this report, including staff at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (Deisy Del Real, Victoria Wilson, Dan Ichinose, and Karin Wang) and Asian American Justice Center (Marita Etcubañez, Terry Ao-Minnis, and Olivia Chow). Special thanks to the National Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA) and our colleagues in Congress and philanthropy, who provided critical guidance on the content and structure of this report.



Karen K. Narasaki
President and Executive Director
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INTRODUCTION



Asian Americans come from all walks of life. Some are doctors or lawyers; others work in restaurants or nail salons. Many were born in the United States; most are immigrants. Our ancestors hail from many countries, including Bangladesh, Burma, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. We are Americans.

Asian Americans have been among our nation's fastest growing racial groups since discriminatory immigration quotas were eliminated in 1965 and now make up 6% of the country's total population. This rapid growth, coupled with significant social and economic diversity, make Asian Americans a complicated group to understand and serve.

A Community of Contrasts: Asian Americans in the United States 2011 is the second in an ongoing series of reports that attempt to promote a better understanding of Asian American communities throughout the country by compiling the latest data on Asian Americans.

It not only includes data on population, but key socioeconomic characteristics such as age, immigration, language, education, income, employment, housing, and health. In gathering these data at the national level, this report has two main goals.

First, it works to provide disaggregated data on discrete Asian American ethnic groups. Given the social and economic diversity within Asian American communities, these data are critical to understanding and serving a population that includes both affluent, third-generation English speakers and low-income refugees, many among the poorest in our nation.

Second, it presents these data in a way that is accessible to community organizations, elected and appointed officials, government agencies, foundations, and corporations looking to better understand and serve Asian American communities. Because quantitative data on Asian Americans can be difficult to access and interpret, compiling this important information in a user-friendly manner makes it

more manageable and likely to be used.

The report draws these data from numerous sources. While data from the U.S. Census Bureau, including the 2010 Census, American Community Survey, Survey of Business Owners, Current Population Survey, and American Housing Survey, provide a wealth of information on Asian American communities, they are not comprehensive. This report supplements Census Bureau data with data from other sources, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and U.S. Department of State.

Together, these data paint a fuller, more nuanced picture of one of our country's most diverse and rapidly changing racial groups. They will help stakeholders across the nation better respond to and serve our community of contrasts.

The statements and recommendations expressed in this report are solely the responsibility of the authors.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Community of Contrasts: Asian Americans in the United States 2011 compiles the latest data on Asian Americans at the national level. Produced by the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice, the report is a valuable resource to community organizations, elected and appointed officials, government agencies, foundations, corporations, and others looking to better understand and serve one of this country's fastest growing and most diverse racial groups. While *A Community of Contrasts* includes many findings, this Executive Summary highlights some of them.

Asian Americans are the country's fastest growing racial group.

According to the 2010 Census, the Asian American population in the United States grew 46% between 2000 and 2010, faster than any other racial group nationwide, including Latinos. While large Asian American communities in California, New York, Texas, and New Jersey continue to grow, less established communities in Nevada, Arizona, North Carolina, and North Dakota grew fastest over the past

decade. Among ethnic groups, South Asians, including Bangladeshis, Pakistanis, Sri Lankans, and Indians, saw the highest rates of growth. Policy makers and service providers in areas with established Asian American communities should determine whether existing services need to be modified to accommodate changing ethnic compositions. Those in areas with less established but growing Asian American communities should work to improve their capacity to serve these emerging populations.

Asian Americans make significant contributions to the economy through entrepreneurial activity, job creation, and consumer spending.

Asian American entrepreneurs own over 1.5 million businesses, employing about 3 million people with an annual payroll of nearly \$80 billion. According to the Census Bureau's 2002 and 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Asian American firms were more likely than other firms to create jobs. The buying power of Asian American communities is also growing dramatically. Between 2000 and 2009, the buying power

of Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPIs) increased 89%, from \$269 billion to \$509 billion, contributing to economic growth in the United States. The Asian American and NHPI population is roughly one-third the size of the Latino population nationwide yet has half the buying power.

Asian Americans are becoming citizens, registering to vote, and casting ballots.

According to the Census Bureau's November 2008 Current Population Survey, approximately 68% of Asian Americans old enough to vote are U.S. citizens. Of those eligible to register to vote, 55% have done so. Once registered, the rate of Asian American voter turnout still lags behind that of non-Hispanic Whites. Greater naturalization, voter registration, and Get Out the Vote (GOTV) efforts are needed if Asian Americans are to realize their untapped political potential. Bilingual voter assistance required under the federal Voting Rights Act remains critical to ensuring Asian American voters have full access to the ballot.

NATIONAL REPORT ON NATIVE HAWAIIANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS

In 1997, revisions to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Statistical Policy Directive 15 called for the disaggregation of data on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, establishing Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders as a distinct racial category for the purposes of data collection and reporting. Honoring the spirit of this directive and recognizing the importance of data that capture the unique needs and concerns of Pacific Islander communities, the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice will release a separate national report in 2012 dedicated to Pacific Islanders.

Immigration policies disproportionately impact Asian Americans.

Proportionately, Asian Americans are more likely than any other racial group to be foreign-born. According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2007–2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, approximately 60% of Asian Americans were born outside the United States, a rate significantly higher than that of Latinos. Immigrants continue to enter the United States from Asia in large numbers using almost every pathway. The largest number come as the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens, while equal numbers come under family-sponsored and employment-based preferences. Immigrants from certain Asian countries wait decades to enter, contributing to an Asian American undocumented population bordering one million. From 2001 to 2010, Asians made up 26% of refugee arrivals and 33% of people granted asylum. Impacting millions of Asian Americans, immigration policy should promote family unity, provide a path to legalization and citizenship for the undocumented, and create a process for immigrant students who have lived in the United States for most of their lives to obtain legal residency. Efforts to revoke the rights of noncitizens and harsh immigration enforcement measures have extremely disproportionate impacts on the Asian American community.

Language barriers continue to limit opportunities for millions of Asian Americans.

According to 2007–2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, roughly one out of every three Asian Americans are limited-English proficient (LEP) and experience some difficulty communicating in English. This impacts their ability to integrate fully into American society or access critical services needed to survive. Rates of limited-English proficiency vary by ethnic group, with a rough majority of Vietnamese and Bangladeshi Americans being LEP. Even among the most English-proficient Asian American ethnic groups, roughly one in five Japanese, Filipino, and Indian Americans are LEP. In addition, roughly one in five Asian American households is linguistically isolated, where all members of the household 14 years or older are LEP. Providing assistance in Asian languages and greater opportunities to learn English promotes better access to good jobs, citizenship, voting, healthcare, social services, and the judicial system for millions of Asian Americans.

Asian American educational attainment varies widely among ethnic groups.

With disproportionate numbers of Asian immigrants entering the country as professionals under employment-based preferences, Asian American educational attainment generally approaches or exceeds that of non-Hispanic

Whites. Yet disaggregated 2007–2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates data show that the educational attainment of Hmong, Cambodian, Laotian, and Vietnamese Americans is similar to African Americans and Latinos, limiting employment opportunities for many in Southeast Asian communities. Job training programs and vocational English language instruction should be targeted to Asian Americans with lower levels of educational attainment in an effort to increase access to good jobs.

Some Asian Americans struggle economically.

While some in Asian American communities enjoy economic success and stability, others struggle through severe poverty. According to 2007–2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, poverty rates have fallen for all Asian American ethnic groups since 2000. Yet challenges persist. Hmong Americans have the lowest per capita income of any racial or ethnic group nationwide, while Hmong, Bangladeshi, and Cambodian Americans have poverty rates that approach those of African Americans and Latinos. Federal, state, and local governments should establish or expand culturally and linguistically accessible public assistance programs to meet these needs, particularly in light of the ongoing economic recession.

Unemployment has impacted Southeast Asian American communities.

With disproportionate numbers in management and professional fields, many Asian Americans have been better situated than others to weather the current financial crisis. While the unemployment rate of Asian Americans is low relative to other groups, 2007–2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates shows that the most vulnerable in our community face high rates of joblessness. Hmong, Laotian, and Cambodian Americans have unemployment rates higher than the national average. Job training, adult English language learning, unemployment benefits, and other safety net programs should be made accessible to these workers as they struggle to get back on their feet.

Asian Americans continue to face housing concerns.

According to 2007–2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, 59% of Asian Americans own homes nationwide. Yet this rate of homeownership lags significantly behind that of non-Hispanic Whites, with a majority of Bangladeshi, Hmong, and Korean Americans renting rather than owning their own homes. The problem is compounded by large numbers of Asian Americans living in overcrowded housing. Approximately 7% live in over-crowded housing, twice the national average. Like other



communities continuing to face recession, Asian Americans would greatly benefit from expanding affordable housing and homeownership opportunities.

Access to affordable healthcare coverage is critical for Asian Americans.

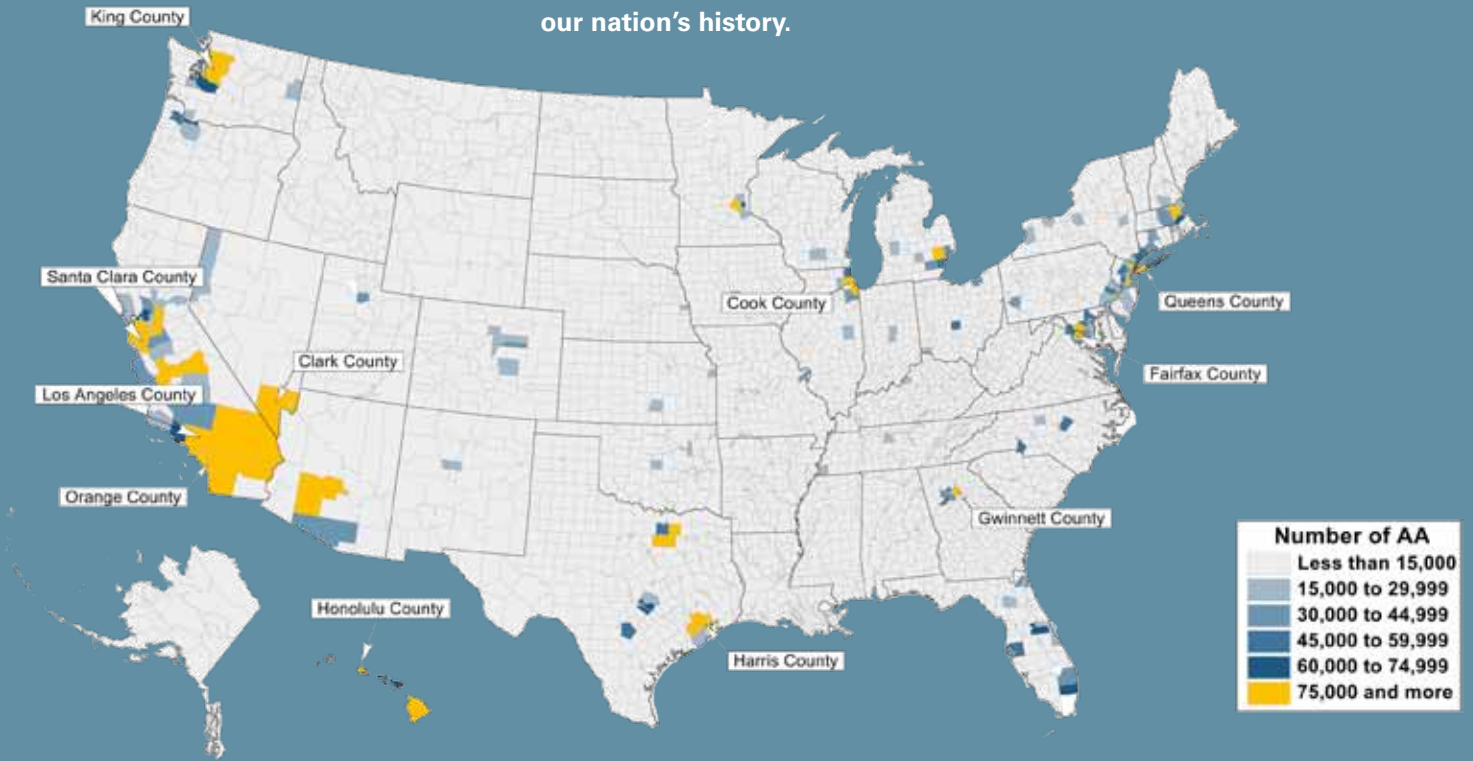
Data from the Centers for Disease Control’s 2008 National Health Interview Survey show that Asian Americans are twice as likely than both non-Hispanic Whites and African Americans to not have seen a doctor in the past five years, despite being more likely to develop hepatitis, stomach and liver cancer, and

other diseases. Asian Americans are also more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to be uninsured, with nearly one in four Pakistani and Bangladeshi Americans being without health insurance. The federal government should work with insurance companies and employers to expand access to affordable healthcare coverage for all U.S. residents, including immigrants.

Social and economic data on Asian Americans, particularly those disaggregated by Asian American ethnic group, provide policymakers and service providers with critical information to guide sound decision making.

POPULATION

Our nation's Asian American population has grown dramatically since discriminatory immigration quotas were eliminated in 1965. Numbering only 6.9 million in 1990, there are now over 17.3 million Asian Americans living in the United States, more than at any other time in our nation's history.



- There are over 17.3 million Asian Americans living in the United States.
- Asian Americans make up 6% of our nation's total population.

Population

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2010

Race and Hispanic Origin	Number	Percent
White	196,817,552	64%
Hispanic	50,477,594	16%
African American	42,020,743	14%
Asian American (AA)	17,320,856	6%
AIAN	5,220,579	2%
NHPI	1,225,195	0.40%
Total Population	308,745,538	100%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

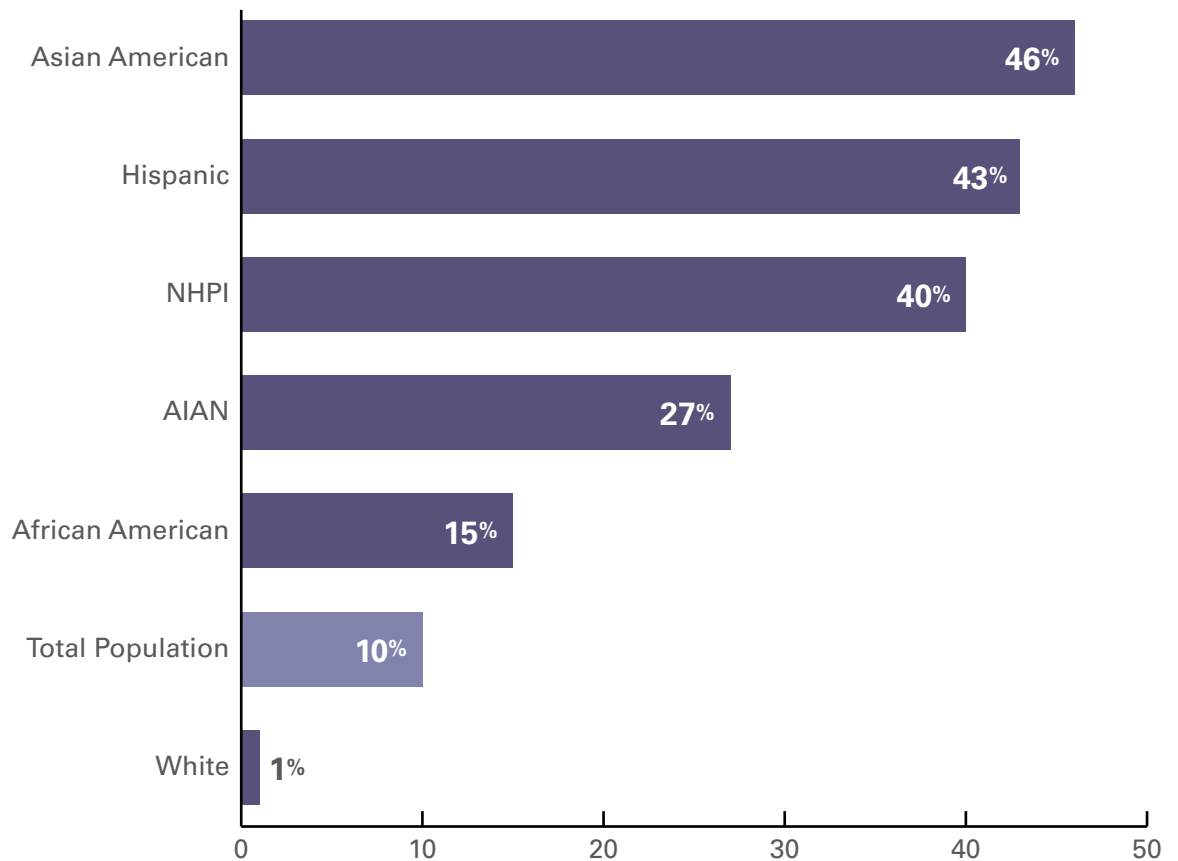
Note: Figures are for the inclusive population, single race and multirace combined, and are not exclusive of Hispanic origin, except for White, which is single race, non-Hispanic. Figures will not sum to total. Major races and ethnic groups ranked by United States percentage.

POPULATION GROWTH

- Asian American population grew 46% between 2000 and 2010.
- Asian American population growth over the decade outpaced that of any other racial group, including both Latinos and African Americans. In contrast, America's non-Hispanic White population grew only 1% over the same period.

Percent Population Growth

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2000 to 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses.



AIAN = American Indian and Alaska Native

NHPI = Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION



- Asian American populations in Nevada, Arizona, North Carolina, and North Dakota were the fastest growing nationwide between 2000 and 2010. Nevada’s Asian American population more than doubled over the decade.
- California’s Asian American population remained by far the country’s largest, numbering over 5.5 million in 2010. Asian American populations in New York, Texas, New Jersey, and Hawai’i followed California in size.
- Of 19 states home to more than 225,000 Asian Americans, six are in the South (Texas, Florida, Virginia, Maryland, Georgia, and North Carolina) and four are in the Midwest (Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Ohio).
- Over 57% of Hawai’i’s total population is Asian American, making it the country’s only majority Asian American state.

States With Highest Number of Asian Americans

United States 2010

U.S. States	Number	%
California	5,556,592	15%
New York	1,549,494	8%
Texas	1,110,666	4%
New Jersey	795,163	9%
Hawai’i	780,968	57%
Illinois	668,694	5%
Washington	604,251	9%
Florida	573,083	3%
Virginia	522,199	7%
Pennsylvania	402,587	3%
Massachusetts	394,211	6%
Maryland	370,044	6%
Georgia	365,497	4%
Michigan	289,607	3%
North Carolina	252,585	3%

States With Highest Growth of Asian Americans

United States 2000 to 2010

U.S. States	% Growth
Nevada	116%
Arizona	95%
North Carolina	85%
North Dakota	85%
Georgia	83%
New Hampshire	80%
Delaware	78%
Arkansas	77%
Indiana	74%
Texas	72%
Florida	72%
Virginia	71%
Idaho	71%
South Dakota	70%
Alabama	70%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

ETHNIC GROUPS

- The country's fastest growing Asian American ethnic groups were South Asian. Bangladeshi and Pakistani American populations doubled in size between 2000 and 2010.
- Chinese Americans continue to be the largest Asian American ethnic group, numbering nearly 3.8 million nationwide. They are followed in size by Filipino, Indian, Vietnamese, and Korean Americans.
- Vietnamese Americans now outnumber both Korean and Japanese Americans nationwide.

Asian American Ethnic Groups

United States 2010, Ranked in Order of Population

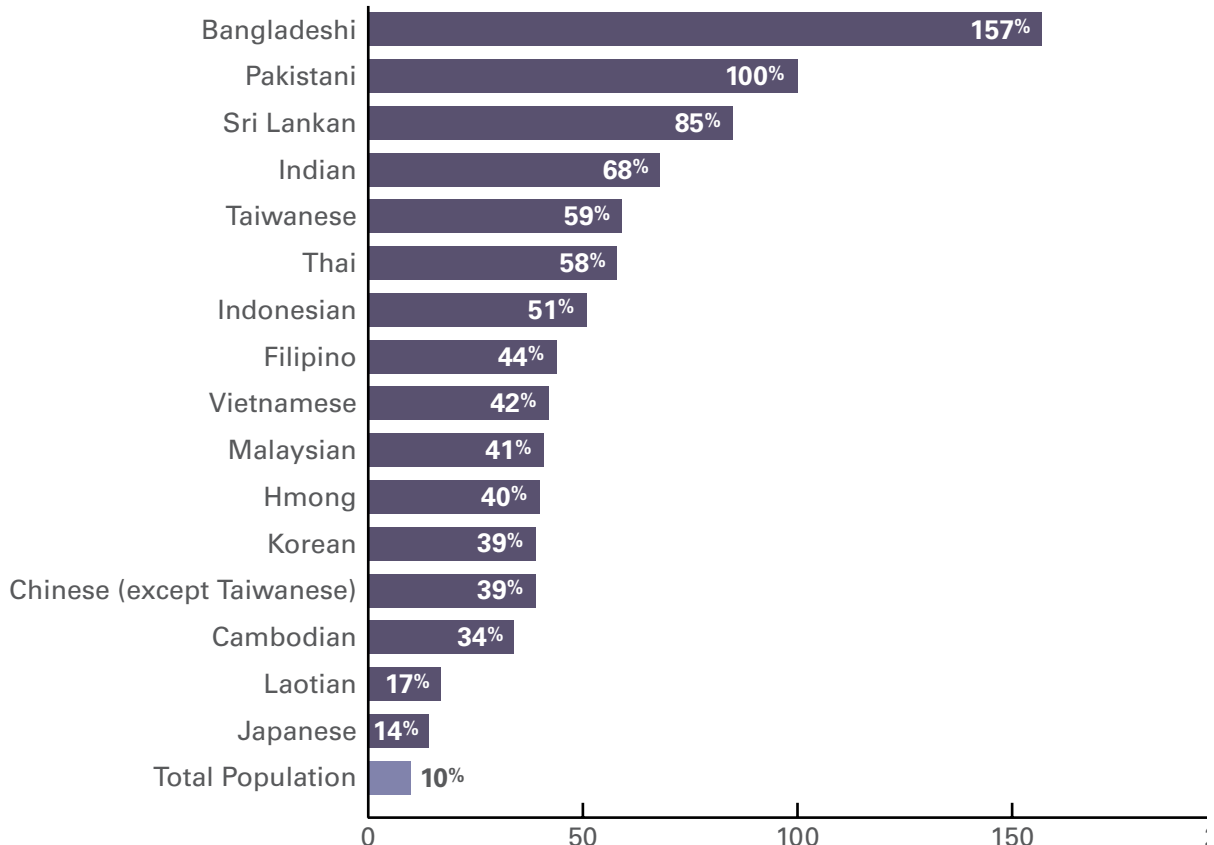
Ethnic Group	Number
Chinese (except Taiwanese)	3,794,673
Filipino	3,416,840
Indian	3,183,063
Vietnamese	1,737,433
Korean	1,706,822
Japanese	1,304,286
Pakistani	409,163
Cambodian	276,667
Hmong	260,073
Thai	237,583

Ethnic Group	Number
Laotian	232,130
Taiwanese	230,382
Bangladeshi	147,300
Burmese	100,200
Indonesian	95,270
Nepalese	59,490
Sri Lankan	45,381
Malaysian	26,179
Bhutanese	19,439

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

Population Growth

by Ethnic Group, United States 2000 to 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses.

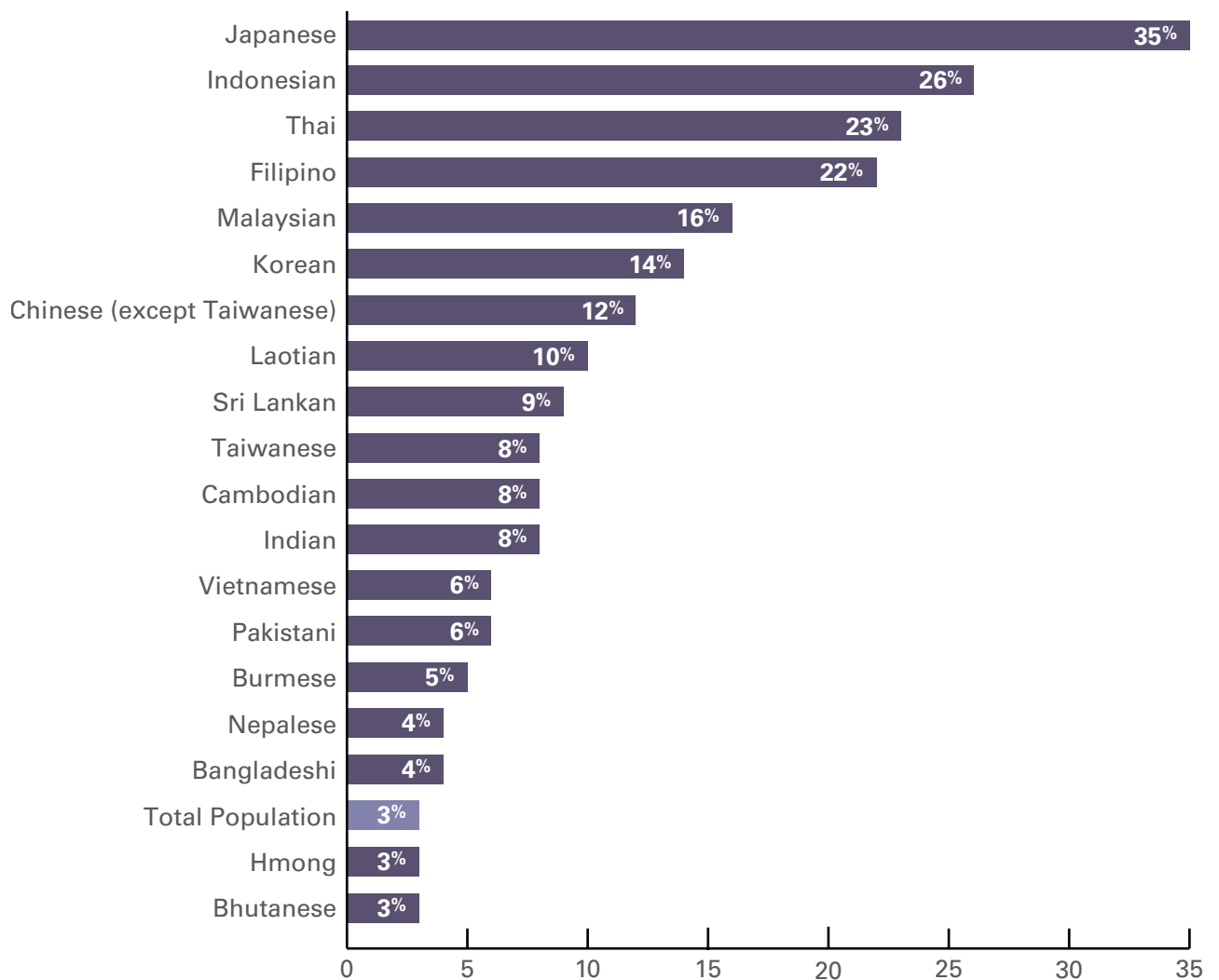
Note: Population growth percentages for Burmese, Nepalese, and Bhutanese excluded because these groups did not meet 2000 Census population thresholds to be counted as an ethnic category.

MIXED-RACE POPULATION

- More than 15% of Asian Americans are of mixed race. Only 3% of all Americans are multiracial.
- Among Asian American ethnic groups, Japanese Americans are most likely be of mixed race. More than one-third of Japanese Americans are multiracial, followed by 26% of Indonesian, 23% of Thai, 22% of Filipino, and 16% of Malaysian Americans.
- Fewer than 5% of Burmese, Nepalese, Bangladeshi, Hmong, and Bhutanese Americans are of mixed race. Among larger ethnic groups, only 6% of Vietnamese and 8% of Indians are multiracial.

Percent of Population That Is Mixed-Race

by Ethnic Group, United States 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

As Asian American communities grow, so too have their contributions to the American economy. Asian Americans are an emerging consumer power whose market share is growing dramatically. Asian Americans also own a disproportionate number of businesses, employing a large number of workers and generating significant revenue.

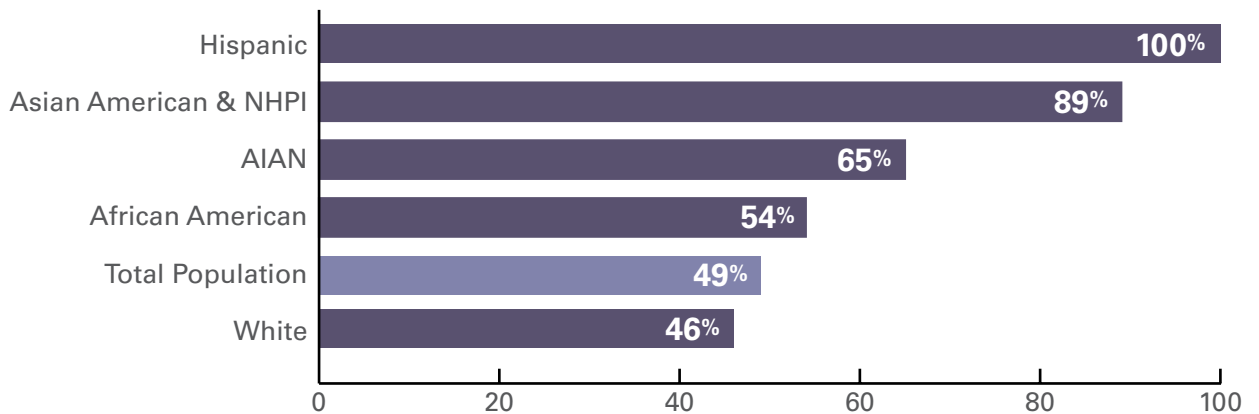


- Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) buying power was \$509 billion in 2009.*

**AA and NHPI data are not available separately.*

Percent Change in Buying Power

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2000 to 2009



Source: Humphreys, Jeffrey M. 2009. "The Multicultural Economy 2009." *Selig Center for Economic Growth* 69(3).

BUYING POWER refers to the personal income, after taxes, that can be used on any expenditure. This figure does not include savings from previous years or income that is borrowed.

- Asian American and NHPI* buying power nearly doubled between 2000 and 2009, growing 89% over a nine-year period.**

- Asian American and NHPI* growth in buying power surpassed that of non-Hispanic Whites, African Americans, and Native Americans over the same period.**

**AA and NHPI data are not available separately.*

***Source: Humphreys, Jeffrey M. 2009. "The Multicultural Economy 2009." Selig Center for Economic Growth 69(3).*

Race and Hispanic Origin of Business Owners

United States 2007

Race and Hispanic Origin	All firms (Number)	Revenues (\$1,000)	Employees (Number)	Annual Payroll (\$1,000)
White	22,595,146	\$10,240,990,714	52,518,201	\$1,824,109,379
Asian American	1,549,559	\$506,047,751	2,807,771	\$79,230,459
Hispanic	2,260,269	\$350,661,243	1,908,161	\$54,295,508
African American	1,921,864	\$135,739,834	909,552	\$23,334,792
AIAN	236,691	\$34,353,842	185,037	\$5,930,247
NHPI	37,678	\$6,319,357	37,081	\$1,217,799
Total Population	27,092,908	\$30,031,519,910	117,310,118	\$4,822,816,636

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners.

Note: Race and ethnic categories do not sum to the total population figures because "Hispanic" is treated as an ethnic category that overlaps with the racial categories.

- Asian Americans owned over 1.5 million businesses in 2007, generating over \$506 billion in revenues. These businesses generated more in revenue than businesses owned by any other racial group except non-Hispanic Whites.
- Approximately 26% of Asian American businesses had paid employees, highest among all racial groups.
- Asian American-owned businesses employed nearly 3 million Americans in 2007, paying out nearly \$80 billion in payroll. These businesses employed more persons and dispensed more in payroll than businesses owned by any other racial group, except for non-Hispanic Whites.

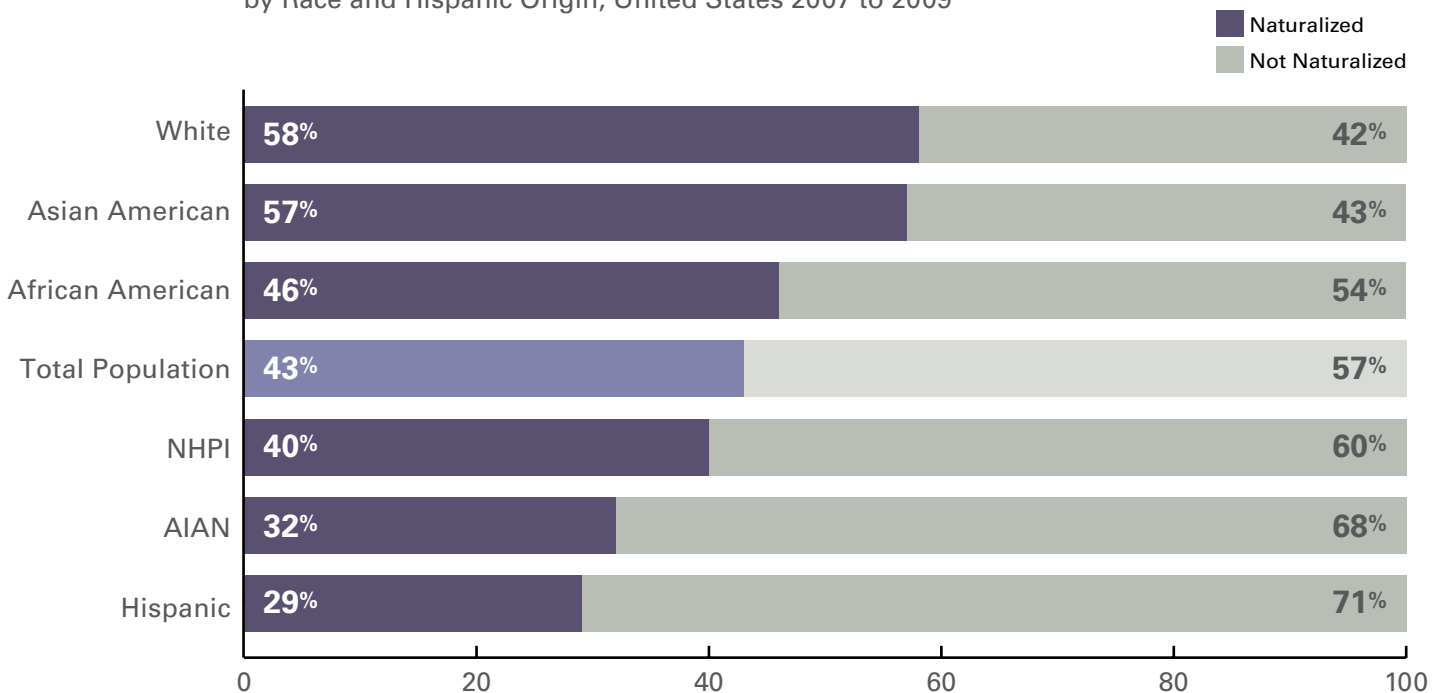
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Asian Americans are becoming a powerful political voice. They are becoming citizens, registering to vote, and voicing their concerns at the ballot box. Despite this, language and cost barriers to citizenship remain significant hurdles to full civic engagement. Language barriers and voter identification requirements also affect voter registration and access to the polls.



Percent of Foreign-Born Population Who Have Naturalized

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2007 to 2009



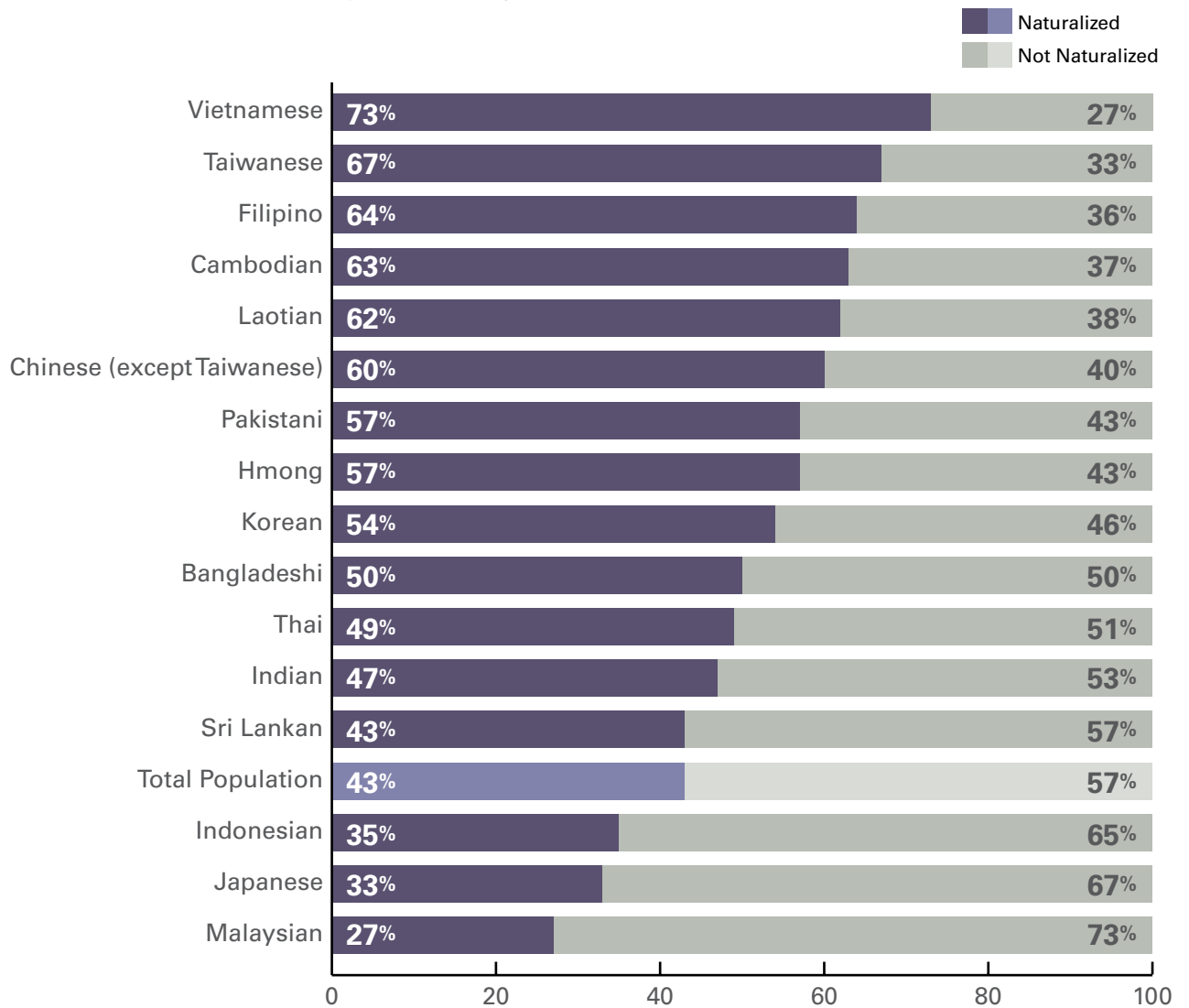
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.
 Note: The foreign-born population includes both those eligible and ineligible to naturalize.

- Approximately 57% of Asian American immigrants are U.S. citizens, an increase from 50% in 2000.
- Nearly three out of four Vietnamese American immigrants are U.S. citizens. Approximately 60% or more Taiwanese, Filipino, Cambodian, Laotian, and Chinese American immigrants are citizens.

- Fewer than half of Malaysian, Japanese, Indonesian, Sri Lankan, Indian, and Thai American immigrants are citizens.
- In 2010, more than 250,000 Asian American immigrants became U.S. citizens.*

*Source: Jeanne Batalova, "Asian Immigrants in the United States," Migration Policy Institute, May 2011.

Percent of Foreign-Born Population Who Have Naturalized by Ethnic Group, United States 2007 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

- The greatest number of legal permanent residents eligible to become citizens are from the Philippines, India, and Vietnam.
- Approximately 85% of Japanese American legal permanent residents are eligible to naturalize. In contrast, only 36% of Chinese American legal permanent residents are eligible to become citizens.

A **LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENT** is generally eligible to naturalize once she or he has held that status for five years. However, additional criteria, such as “good moral character” and basic English literacy, must also be met.



Asian American Legal Permanent Residents Eligible to Naturalize

by Country of Birth, United States 2008

Country of Birth	Legal Permanent Residents	Number Eligible to Naturalize	Percent Eligible to Naturalize
Philippines	550,000	280,000	51%
China	530,000	190,000	36%
India	500,000	200,000	40%
Vietnam	320,000	200,000	63%
Korea*	240,000	140,000	58%
Japan	130,000	110,000	85%
Pakistan	120,000	50,000	42%

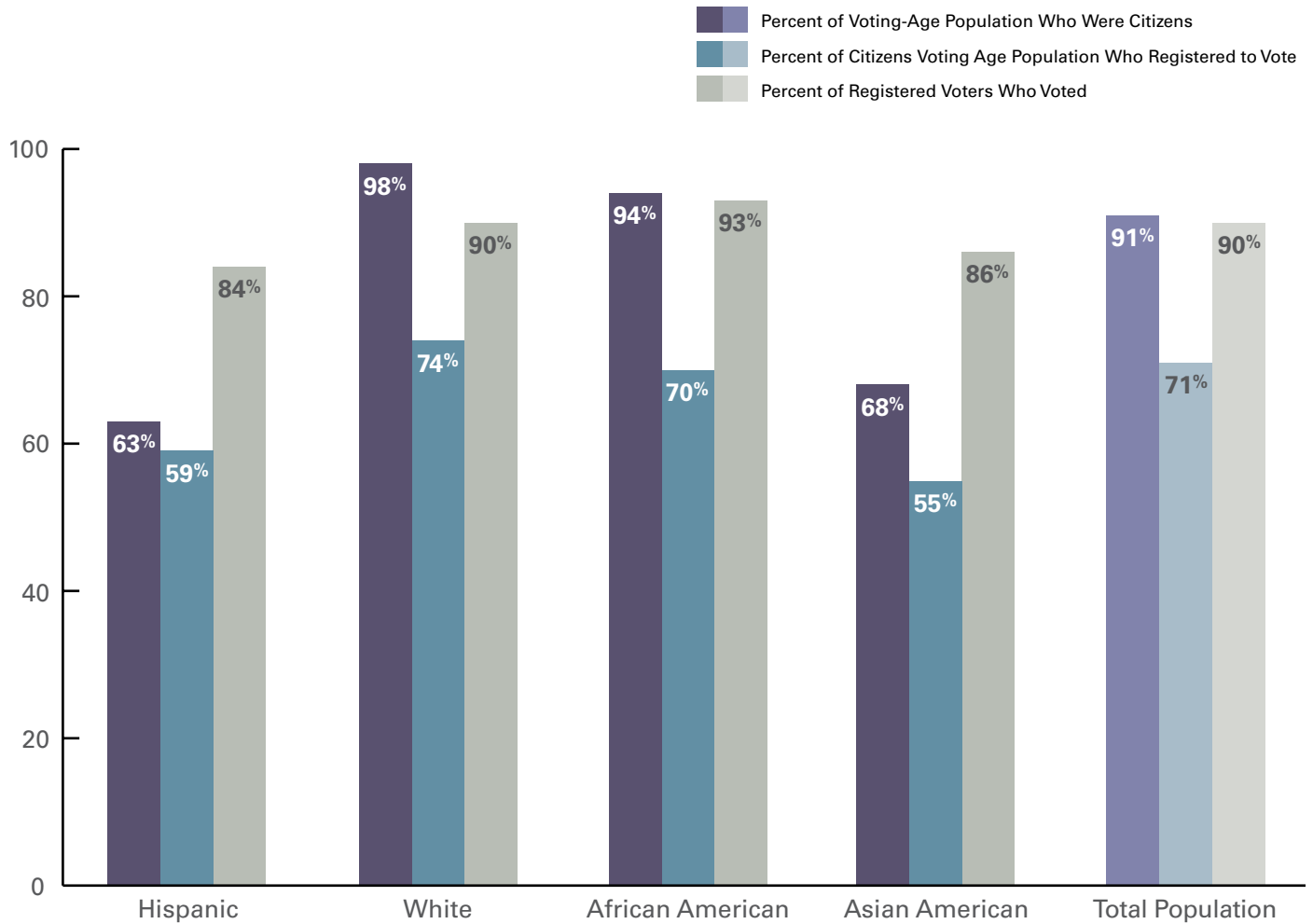
*Korea includes North and South Korea.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, “Estimates of the Legal Permanent Resident Population in 2009.”

Note: Estimates assume that immigrants are required to reside in the U.S. 5 years after obtaining Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) status except for the following immigrant categories: Spouses of U.S. citizens (3 years), asylees (4 years), and refugees, Lautenberg parolees, and those who adjusted to LPR status through cancelation of removal (2 years).

Citizenship, Voter Registration, and Voting

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States—November 2008



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, November 2008 Current Population Survey.
 "Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008."

- Only 68% of Asian Americans old enough to vote are citizens.
- Only 55% of Asian Americans eligible to register to vote have registered.
- Approximately 86% of Asian American registered voters cast ballots in the 2008 General Election, a rate lower than that of non-Hispanic Whites.
- In both 2004 and 2008 General Elections, roughly 30% of Asian American voters were voting for the first time.*

*Source: Project Vote, April 2011.

IMMIGRATION

Immigration is an integral part of the Asian American experience. Immigrants from Asia continue to enter the United States in large numbers. Some come as legal immigrants, refugees, or asylees, while others enter without documentation or fall out of status due to the difficulty of obtaining a visa. How an individual enters the United States greatly affects her or his economic and social well-being in this country.



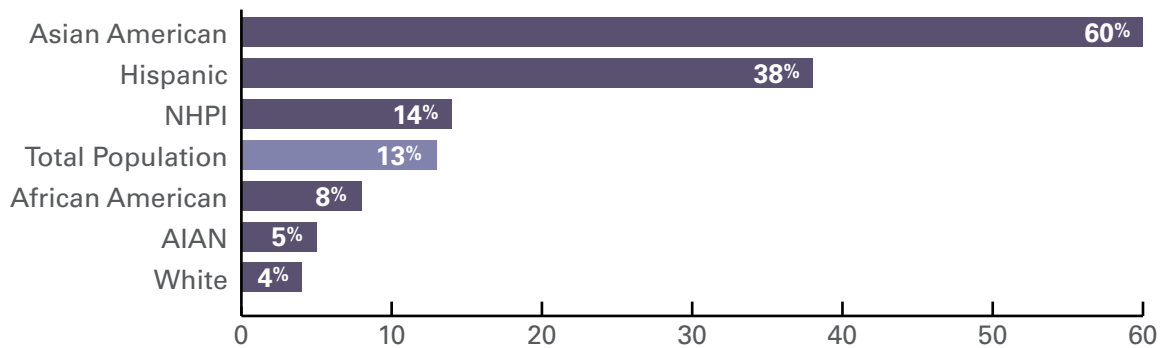
■ Approximately 60% of Asian Americans are foreign-born, the highest proportion of any racial group nationwide. In contrast, only 38% of Latinos, 8% of African Americans, and 4% of non-Hispanic Whites were born outside the United States.

■ Despite being overwhelmingly immigrant, increasing numbers of Asian Americans are native-born. The percent of Asian Americans nationwide born outside the United States decreased from 63% in 2000 to 60% in 2007–2009.

■ Nearly one in three of the 9.2 million Asian American foreign-born entered the United States between 2000 and 2009.

Percent of Population Who Are Foreign-Born

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2007 to 2009



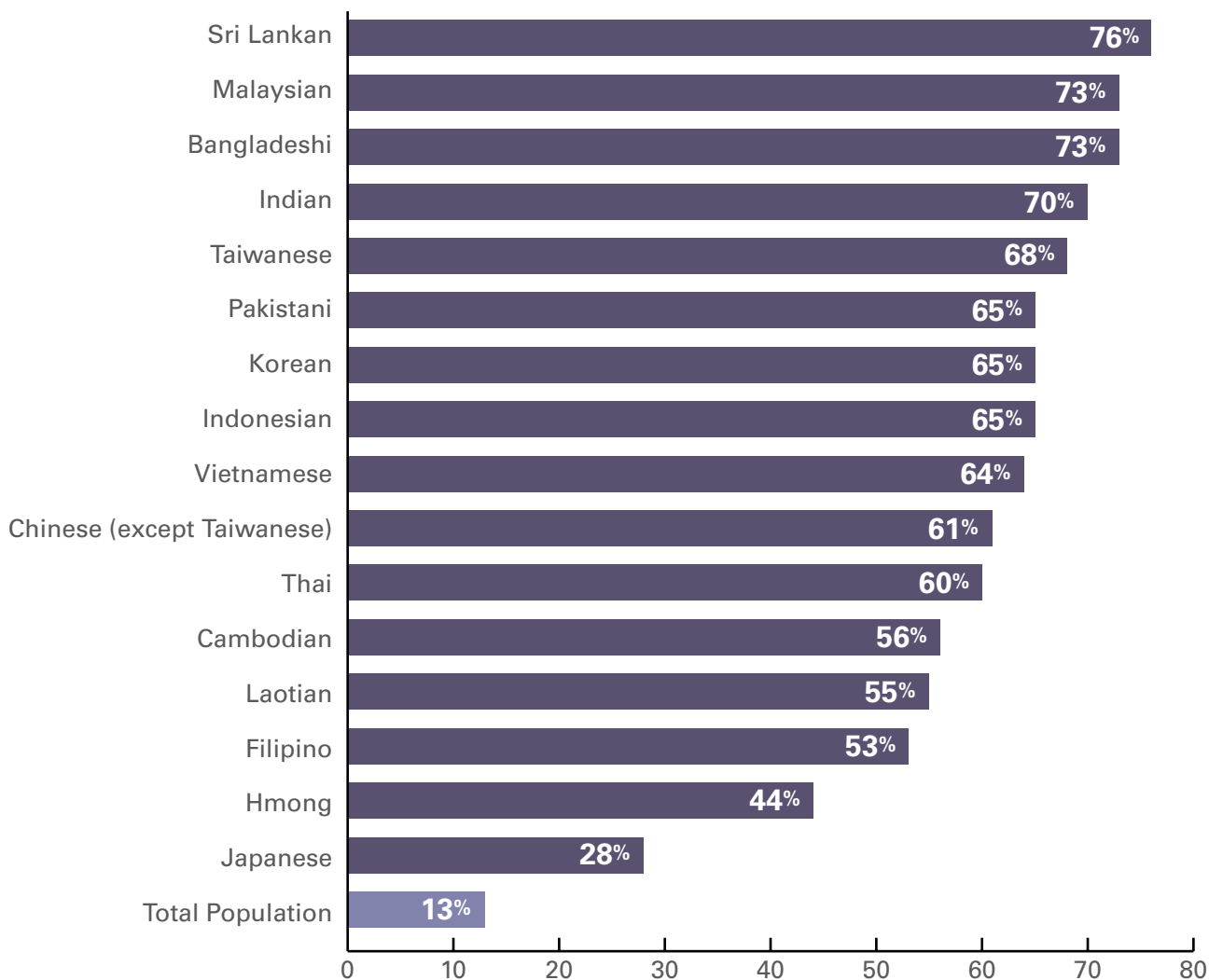
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.



- More than three out of four Sri Lankan Americans are foreign-born, the highest rate among Asian American ethnic groups. Roughly 7 in 10 Malaysian, Bangladeshi, Indian, and Taiwanese Americans were born abroad.
- Among Asian Americans, Japanese and Hmong Americans are the only ethnic groups with majority native-born populations.

Percent of Population Who Are Foreign-Born

by Ethnic Group, United States 2007 to 2009

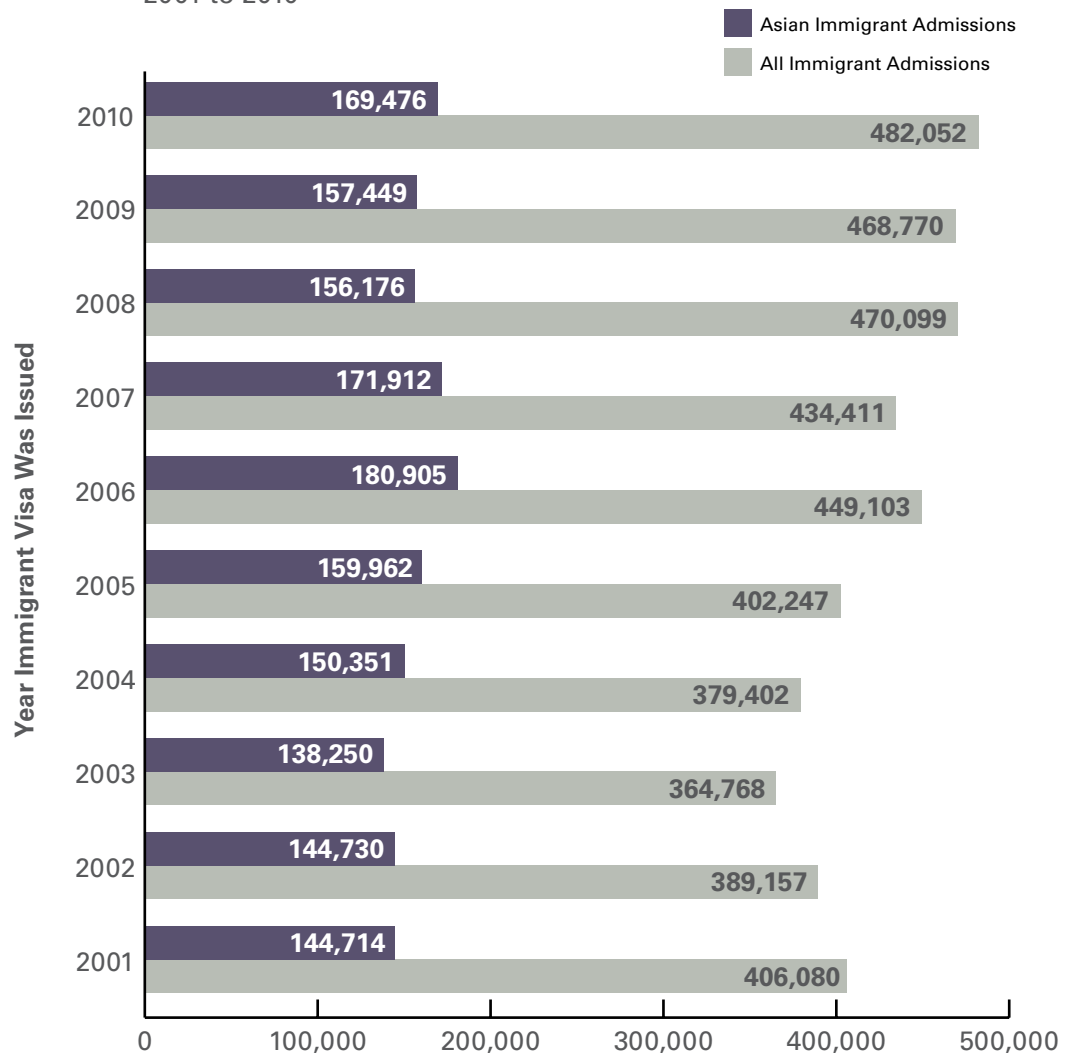


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

DEMAND FOR VISAS

Immigrant Visas Issued by the United States

2001 to 2010



Source: U.S. Department of State, "The Report of the Visa Office 2010."

* Data on immigrant visas do not include refugees and asylees.

WAITING PERIODS FOR VISAS*

The waiting period for visas under both family-sponsored and employment-based preferences can vary widely depending on country. Asian Americans sponsor more than one-third of all family-based immigrants and have some of the longest wait times.

FAMILY-SPONSORED VISAS: Immigrants born in mainland China and India must wait between 3 and 11 years. Immigrants born in the Philippines must wait between 3 and 23 years.

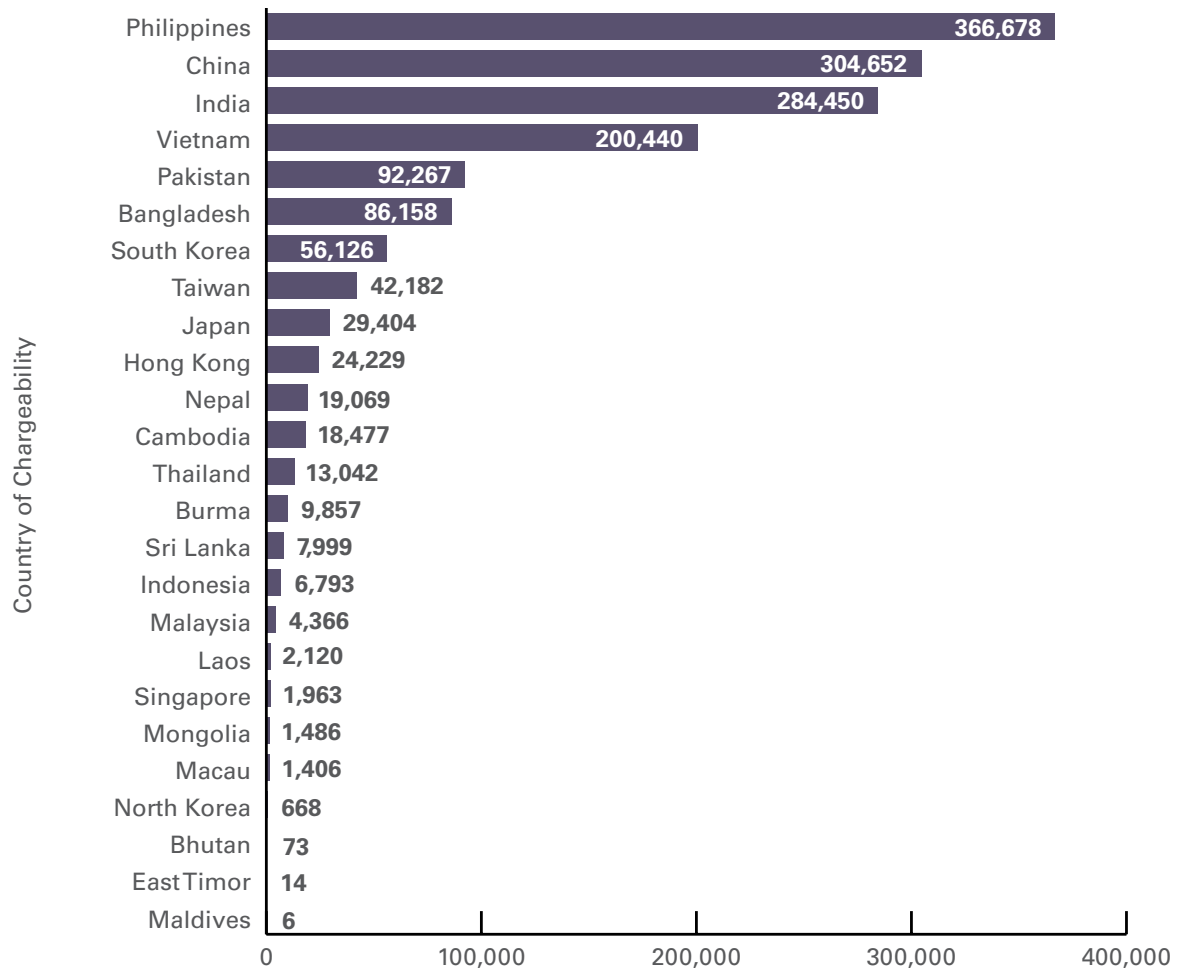
EMPLOYMENT-BASED VISAS: Immigrants born in mainland China and India wait for up to 9 years, the longest wait time for any nation besides Mexico. Immigrants born in the Philippines must wait up to 7 years.

*Source: U.S. Department of State, "Visa Bulletin: Immigrant Numbers for July 2011."

- Among Asian countries, the Philippines, China, and India sent the most immigrants to the United States over the past decade.
- Between 2001 and 2010, 1.6 million immigrants entered the United States from Asian countries.
- Bangladesh sent more immigrants to the United States than South Korea or Japan over the same period.

Immigrant Visas Issued by the United States for Asian Countries

2001 to 2010



Source: U.S. Department of State, "The Report of the Visa Office 2010."
 *Data on immigrant visas do not include refugees and asylees.

REFUGEES AND ASYLEES are persons who came to the United States to escape persecution in their country of origin. Refugees are immigrants who applied for admission while living abroad, while asylees are immigrants who applied for admission at either a port of entry or within the United States.

From 2001 to 2010, those from Asian countries made up 26% of all refugee arrivals and 33% of all persons granted asylum.*

From 2001 to 2010, 52% of refugee arrivals from Asian countries were from Burma, and 68% of asylees born in Asia were from China.*

*Source: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Yearbooks of Immigration Statistics, 2010.

LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENTS

- While the largest number of Asian-born persons obtaining legal permanent resident (LPR) status in 2010 entered as the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens, those born in Asia were more likely than other immigrants to enter under family-sponsored or employment-based immigration preferences.
- Over half of Macau and Vietnamese and nearly half of Hong Kong-born persons obtaining LPR status in 2010 entered under family-based preferences.
- A majority of Cambodian, Japanese, Laotian, Mongolian, and Philippine and nearly half of Indonesian and Pakistani-born persons obtaining LPR status in 2010 entered as the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens.
- A majority of South Korean and nearly half of Indian and Singapore-born persons obtaining LPR status in 2010 entered under employment-based preferences.

Persons Obtaining Legal Permanent Resident Status

by Class of Admissions, Asian Country of Birth, 2010

Country of Birth	Family-Sponsored Preferences		Employment-Based Preferences		Immediate Relatives of U.S. Citizens		Diversity		Refugees and Asylees		Other	
	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Bangladesh	41%	6,006	6%	827	33%	4,935	19%	2,800	1%	171	0.5%	80
Bhutan	D		0%	6	0.5%	28	D		99%	6071	0%	0
Burma	4%	459	1%	86	5%	604	3%	329	89%	11,445	0%	2
Cambodia	14%	418	2%	59	76%	2,266	4%	115	4%	113	1%	15
China	19%	13,610	25%	17,949	34%	24,198	0%	23	21%	14,943	0%	140
Hong Kong	49%	1,196	19%	464	30%	731	1%	30	0%	7	0%	4
India	21%	14,636	45%	31,118	32%	21,831	0%	58	2%	1,324	0%	195
Indonesia	10%	306	17%	515	48%	1,461	5%	138	19%	573	1%	39
Japan	2%	120	32%	1,973	63%	3,916	4%	218	0%	12	0%	25
Laos	9%	113	5%	59	71%	847	0%	4	14%	172	0%	5
Macau	59%	84	13%	18	24%	34	5%	7	0%	0	0%	0
Malaysia	9%	149	30%	508	41%	704	2%	40	18%	301	0%	12
Mongolia	1%	5	11%	66	54%	320	14%	80	20%	121	1%	2
Nepal	4%	269	11%	788	18%	1,312	23%	1,644	44%	3,093	0%	9
Pakistan	34%	6,247	16%	2,896	47%	8,522	0%	14	3%	507	0%	72
Philippines	31%	17,849	11%	6,423	58%	33,746	0%	14	0%	55	0%	86
Singapore	8%	65	49%	377	37%	289	2%	14	2%	18	1%	11
South Korea	11%	2,351	52%	11,642	37%	8,128	0%	6	0%	7	0%	93
Sri Lanka	10%	195	26%	530	32%	645	19%	394	13%	258	1%	14
Taiwan	26%	1,729	31%	2,090	40%	2,691	3%	196	0%	6	0%	20
Thailand	4%	345	6%	530	44%	4,126	1%	43	46%	4,276	1%	64
Vietnam	59%	18,027	1%	360	36%	11,091	0%	0	3%	1,032	0%	122
Total	24%	84,179	23%	79,284	38%	132,425	2%	6,167	13%	44,525	0.3%	1,010

D = Data withheld to limit disclosure.

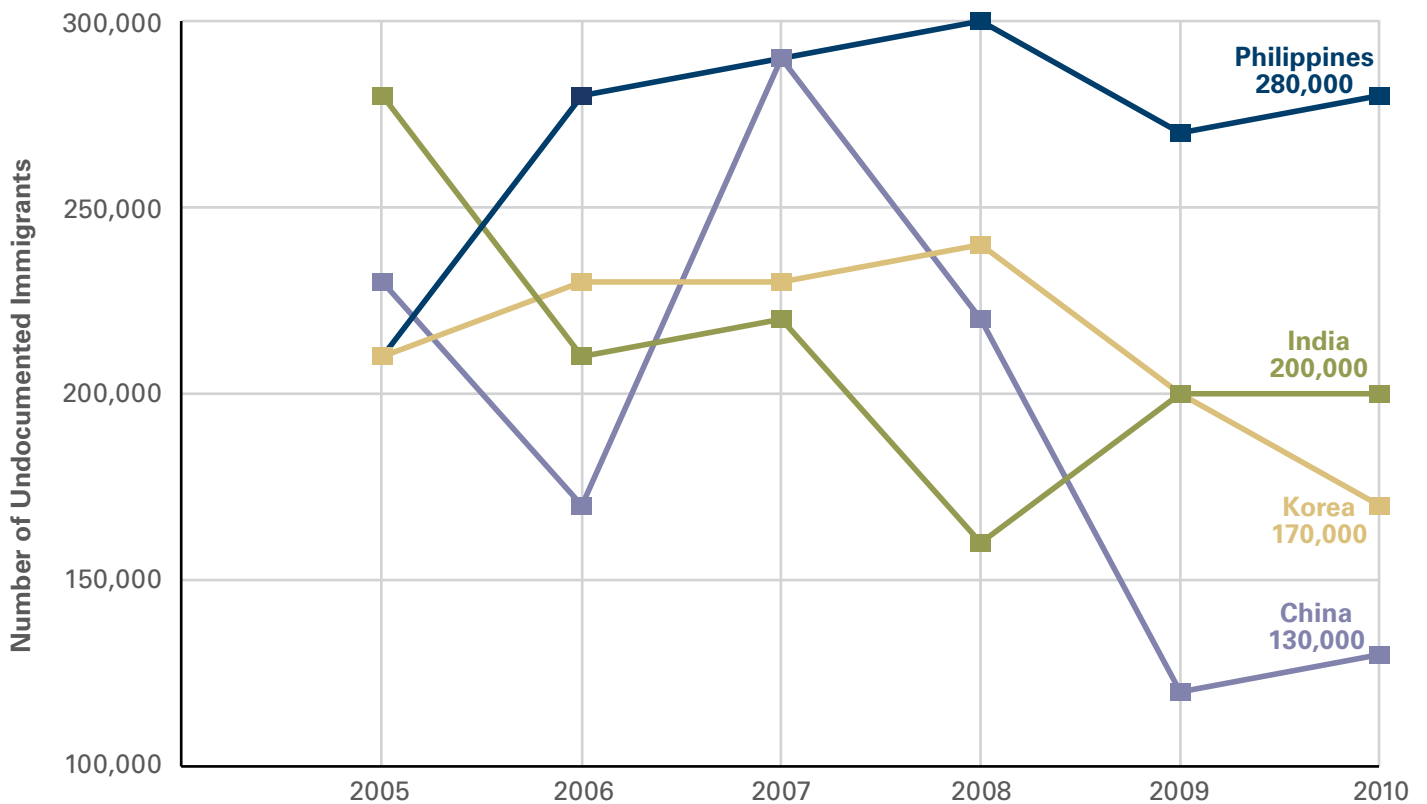
Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, 2010.

UNDOCUMENTED POPULATION

- Approximately 1 million undocumented immigrants in the United States are from Asia.
- More undocumented immigrants were born in the Philippines than any other Asian country.

Undocumented Asian American Immigrant Population in the United States

by Country of Birth, 2005 to 2010



Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, "Estimates of Unauthorized Immigrant Population residing in the United States: January 2010."

Note: Estimates of the unauthorized resident population are the remainder after estimates of the legally resident foreign-born population are subtracted from estimates of the total foreign-born population.

DREAM ACT STUDENTS

Among the 2.1 million undocumented youth who would qualify for legalization through the DREAM Act, 1 in 10 is of Asian origin.**

**Source: Batalova, Jeanne, and Margie McHugh. July 2010.

AGE

Age affects both an individual's opportunities and social service needs. Asian Americans are younger on average and have a higher proportion of working-age adults compared to other major racial groups.



- Approximately 65% of Asian Americans are working-age adults between the ages of 18 and 64, a greater proportion than any other racial group.
- The median age of Asian Americans is 33, making them younger than both the overall U.S. population (37) and non-Hispanic Whites (41).
- Over one-quarter of Asian Americans are children under the age of 18.
- Among Asian American ethnic groups, Japanese Americans have the oldest median age (38), while Hmong Americans have the youngest (20).

Median Age and Age Group by Race

United States 2007 to 2009

Race and Hispanic Origin	Median Age	0–17	18–64	65+
African American	30	30%	62%	8%
AIAN	31	30%	62%	8%
Asian American	33	26%	65%	9%
Hispanic	27	35%	60%	6%
NHPI	26	35%	60%	6%
White	41	21%	63%	16%
Total Population	37	24%	62%	13%

Median Age and Age Group by Ethnic Group

United States 2007 to 2009

Ethnic Group	Median Age	0–17	18–64	65+
Bangladeshi	31	33%	64%	3%
Cambodian	27	32%	63%	5%
Chinese (except Taiwanese)	35	25%	65%	13%
Filipino	34	28%	63%	10%
Hmong	20	45%	52%	3%
Indian	32	26%	68%	6%
Indonesian	33	24%	70%	6%
Japanese	38	24%	61%	15%
Korean	33	26%	66%	8%
Laotian	28	32%	63%	5%
Malaysian	33	22%	74%	5%
Pakistani	29	34%	63%	4%
Sri Lankan	36	24%	68%	8%
Taiwanese	35	19%	59%	9%
Thai	32	26%	70%	4%
Vietnamese	34	28%	64%	8%
Total Population	37	24%	63%	13%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

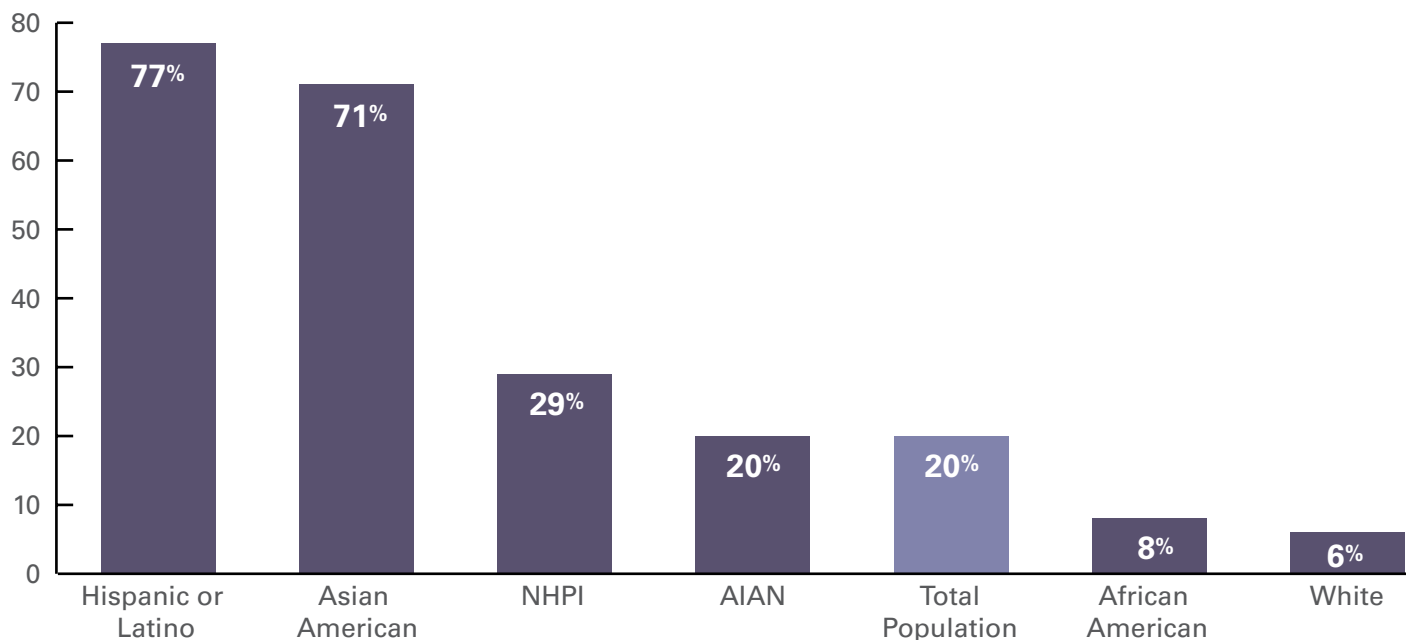
LANGUAGE

Asian Americans speak dozens of languages and dialects, reflecting the community's rich immigrant character and diversity. Nearly three out of four Asian Americans speak a language other than English at home, and roughly one-third is limited-English proficient (LEP). Coupled with a lack of available English classes, language is a formidable barrier impacting access to a range of vital services, such as healthcare, social services, housing, courts, and education.



Percent of Population Who Speak a Language Other Than English at Home for Those 5 Years of Age and Older

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2007 to 2009

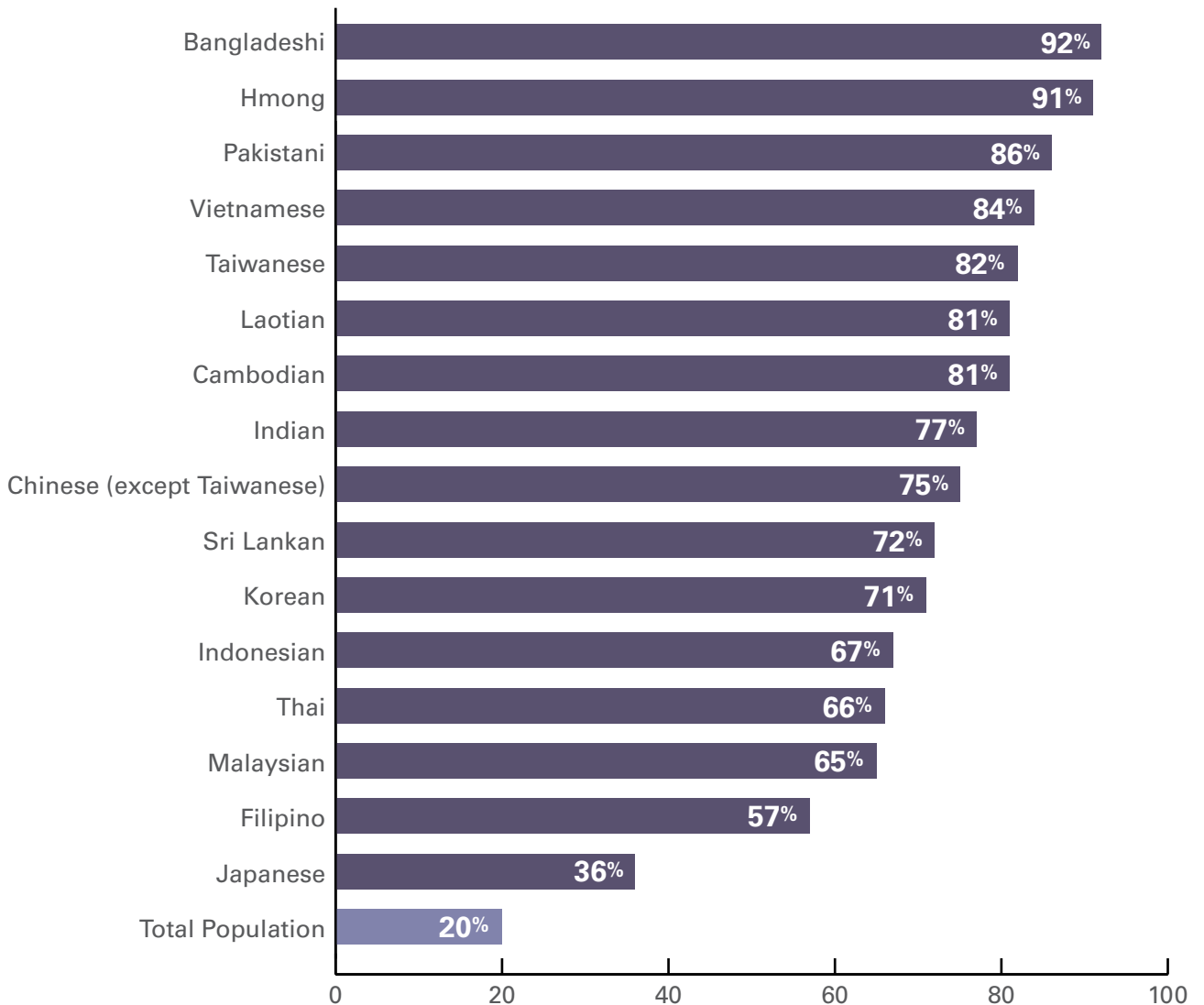


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

- Approximately 71% of Asian Americans speak a language other than English at home.
- More than 80% of Bangladeshi, Hmong, Pakistani, Vietnamese, Taiwanese, Laotian, and Cambodian Americans speak a language other than English at home.
- Despite being disproportionately native-born relative to other Asian American ethnic groups, more than one in three Japanese Americans continue to speak a language other than English at home.

Percent of Population Who Speak a Language Other Than English at Home for Those 5 Years and Older

by Ethnic Group, United States 2007 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

Number of Asian Language Speakers in the United States

by Language, 2005 to 2009

Language	Number
Chinese	2,380,453
Tagalog	1,441,799
Vietnamese	1,200,709
Korean	1,041,030
Hindi	527,481
Japanese	457,540
Urdu	326,310
Gujarati	304,102
Punjabi	209,835
Bengali	188,452
Mon-Khmer, Cambodian	185,311
Hmong	181,770
Telugu	171,015
Laotian	148,186
Thai	142,045
Tamil	132,573
Malayalam	116,486
Formosan	76,822
Ilocano	74,547
Indonesian	57,504
Marathi	53,436
Kannada	37,377
Nepali	37,240
Burmese	34,758
Visayan (not including Cebuano)	23,119
Sinhalese	22,336
Pakistan N.E.C.*	13,840
Malay	13,319
Cebuano	11,501

- Approximately 10 million Americans speak one of the 33 Asian languages categorized by the U.S. Census.
- The largest group of languages spoken by Asian Americans is composed of languages from China.
- Over two-thirds of Asian Americans speak a language originating from China, India, or the Philippines.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005–2009 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates.

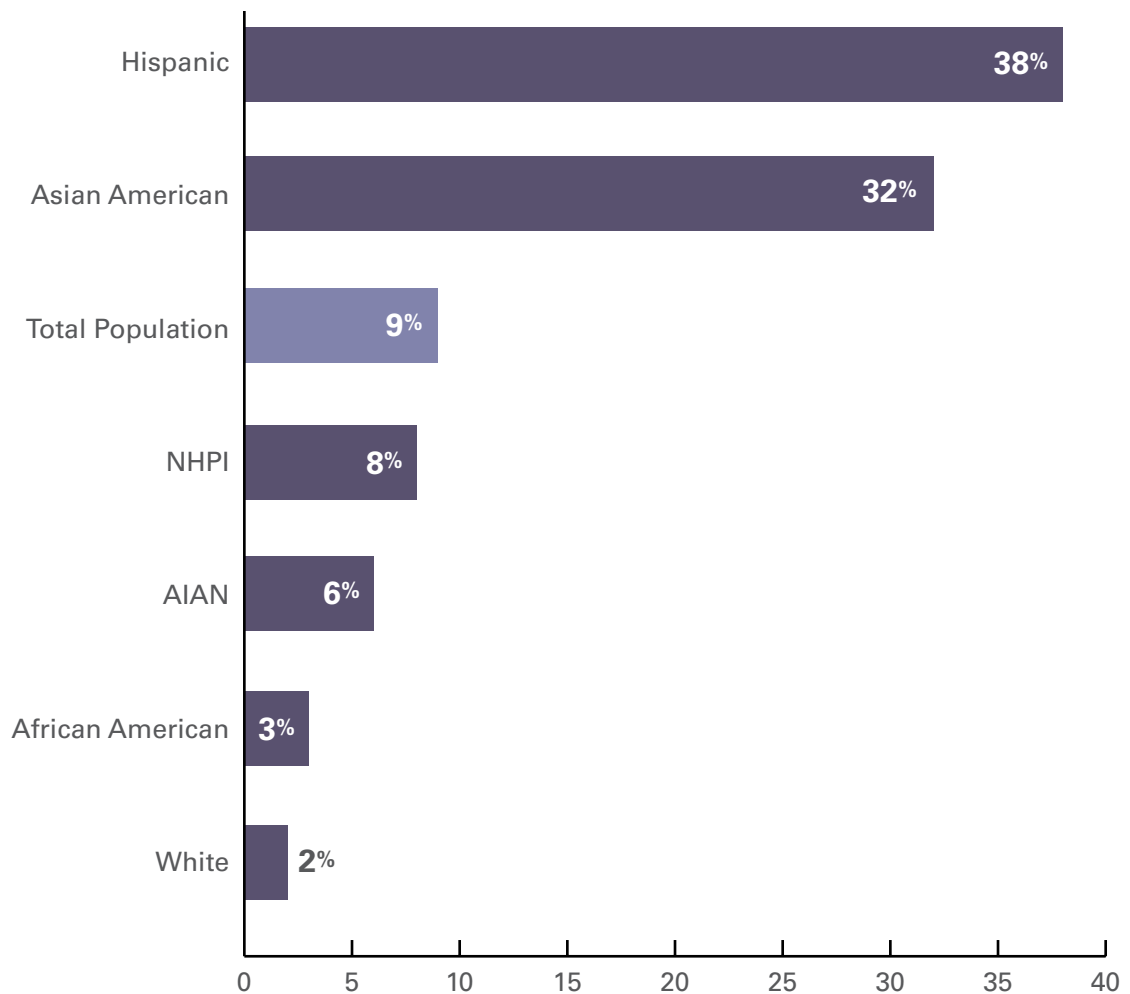
*Pakistan not elsewhere classified, representing undetermined languages spoken in Pakistan.

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

- Approximately 32% of Asian Americans are limited-English proficient (LEP) and experience some difficulty communicating in English.
- Despite continued immigration, rates of limited-English proficiency among Asian Americans have fallen since 2000, when 36% of Asian Americans were LEP. Rates of limited-English proficiency among Latinos have seen a similar decline, from 41% in 2000 to 38% in 2007–2009.

Percent of Population Who Are Limited English Proficient for Those 5 Years of Age and Older

by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2007 to 2009

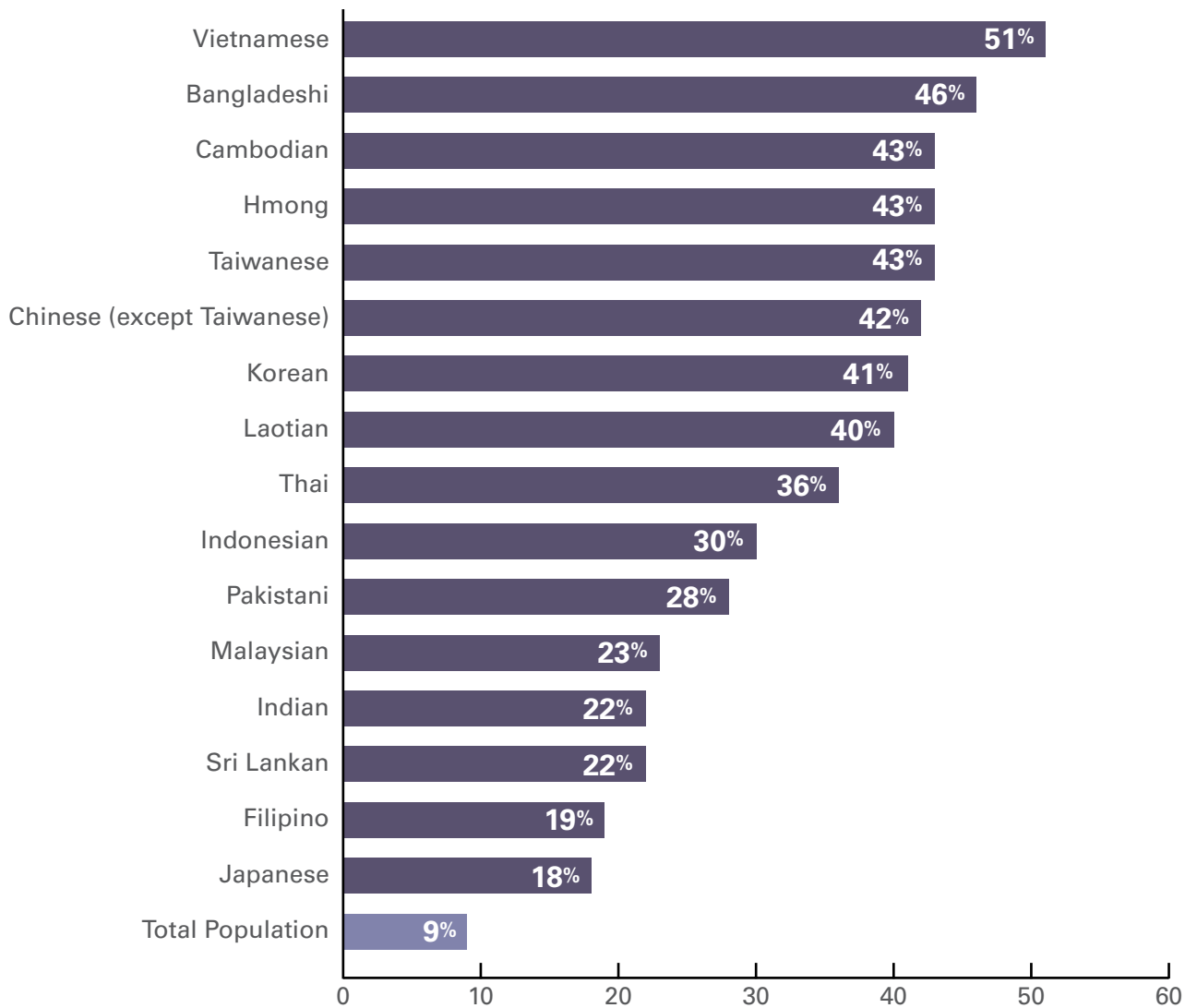


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

- Among Asian American ethnic groups, over half of Vietnamese and nearly half of Bangladeshi Americans are LEP.
- Even among the most English proficient Asian American ethnic groups, including Japanese and Filipino Americans, nearly one in five are LEP.
- Among Asian American ethnic groups, only Sri Lankan Americans have seen an increase in limited English proficiency since 2000. Limited English proficiency among Sri Lankan Americans increased from 18% in 2000 to 22% in 2007–2009.
- Over 40% of Cambodian, Hmong, Taiwanese, Chinese, Korean, and Laotian Americans are LEP.

Percent of Population Who Are Limited English Proficient for Those 5 Years of Age and Older

by Ethnic Group, 2007 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

LINGUISTIC ISOLATION

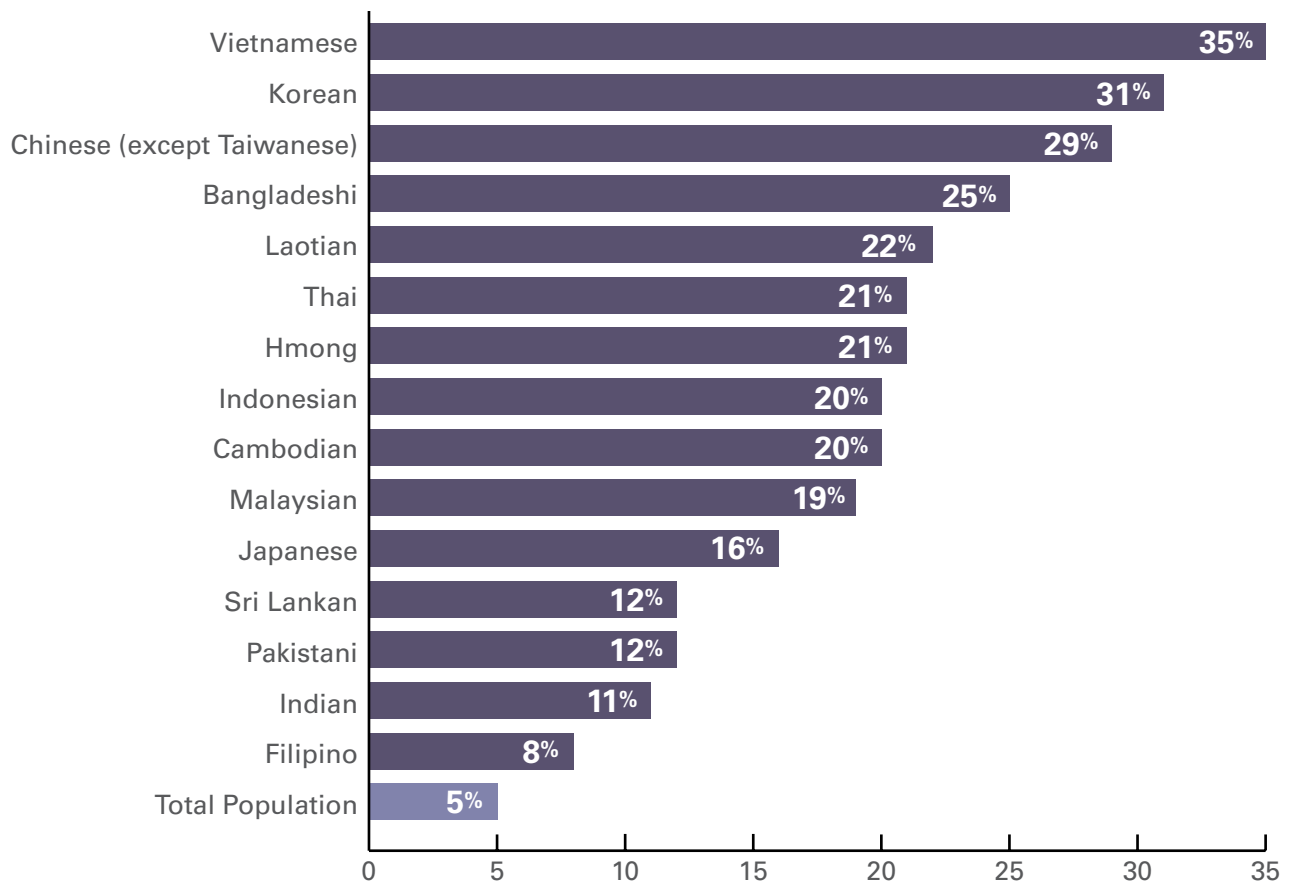
- Approximately 21% of Asian American households are linguistically isolated, a decrease from 25% in 2000.
- Among Asian American ethnic groups, 35% of Vietnamese, 31% of Korean, and 29% of Chinese American households are linguistically isolated.
- Despite their origins in former U.S. and British Commonwealth territories, 8% of Filipino, 11% of Indian, 12% of Pakistani, and 12% of Sri Lankan American households experience linguistic isolation.

LINGUISTICALLY ISOLATED HOUSEHOLDS

Households in which all members 14 years old and older speak English less than “very well.”

Percent of Linguistically Isolated Households

by Ethnic Group, 2005 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005–2009 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates.

Note: The ethnic group percentages included in this graph do not include mixed-ethnicity and mixed-race people.

EDUCATION

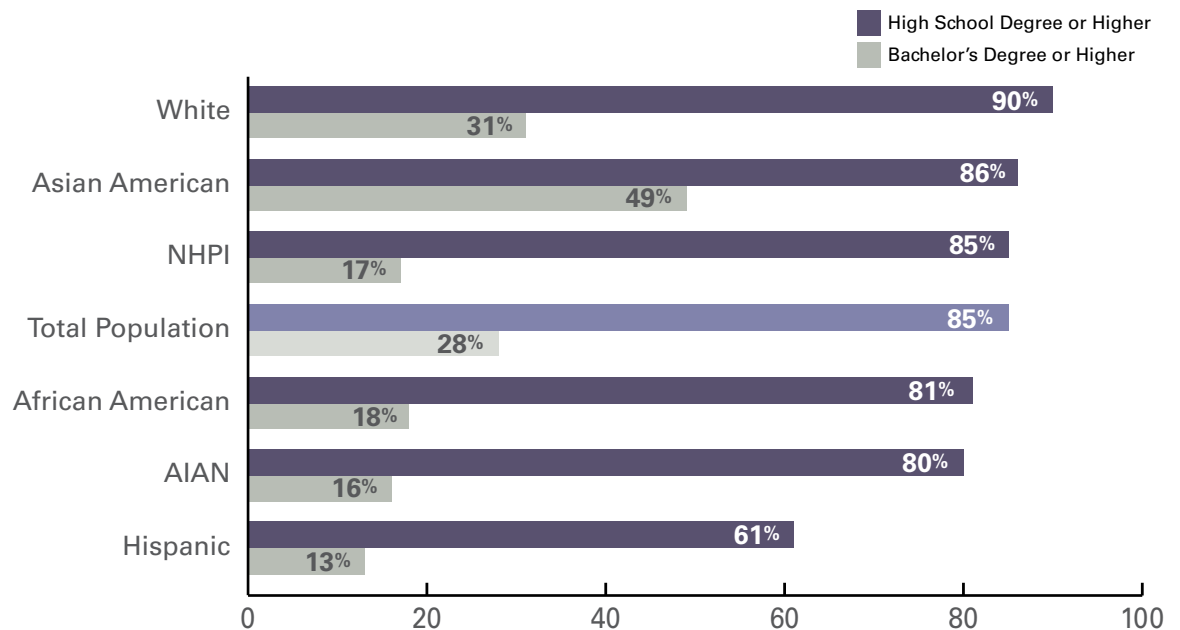
Asian Americans are often thought of as having high levels of formal education. While this is generally true, a closer look at data from the U.S. Census Bureau reveals large disparities between Asian American ethnic groups, with the educational profiles of some communities similar to Latinos and African Americans. This suggests that many Asian Americans lack the credentials necessary to access secure and living wage jobs, employer-provided healthcare, and opportunities to build assets.



- Asian Americans are less likely than non-Hispanic Whites to hold a high school degree.

Educational Attainment

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2009



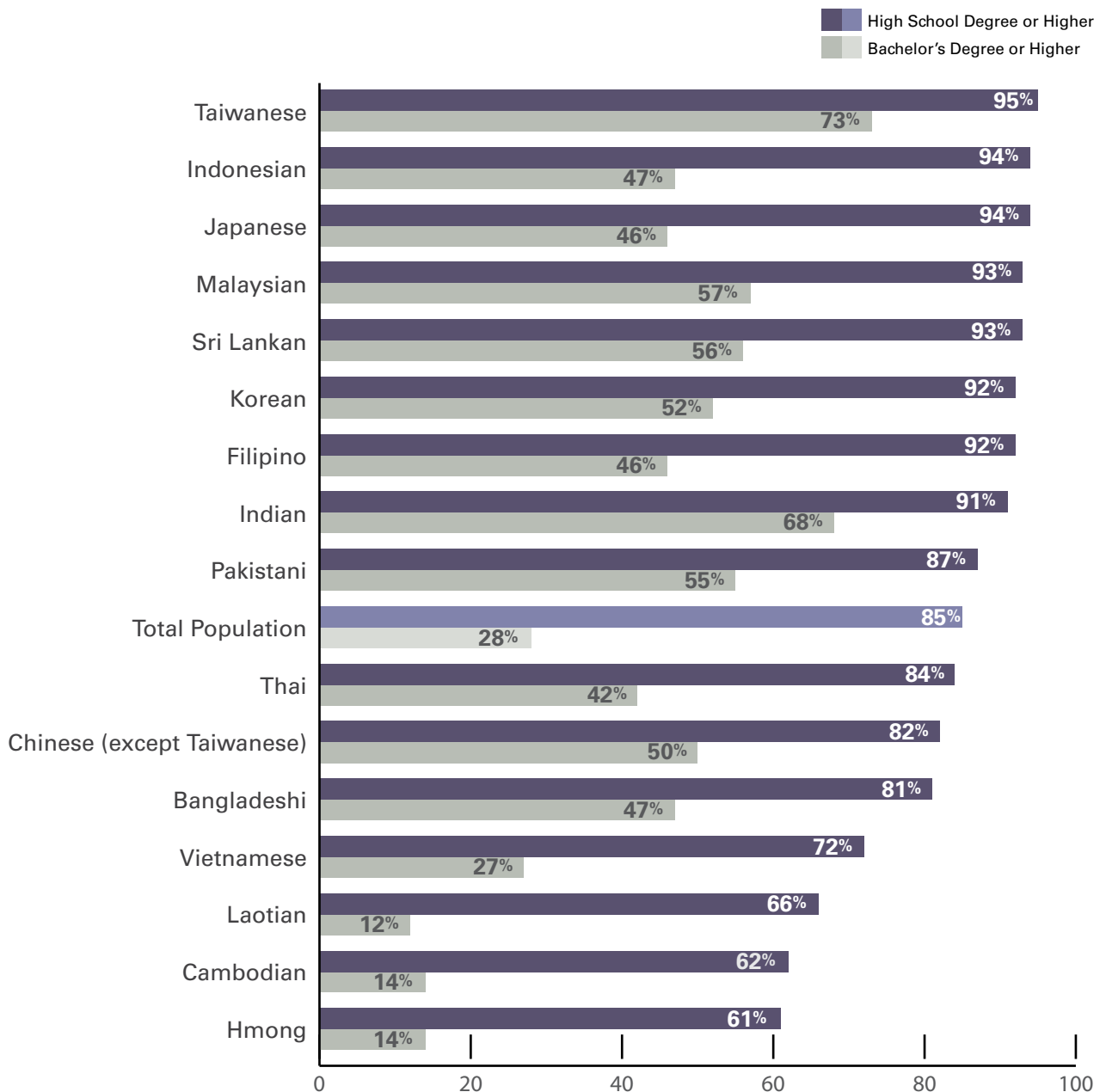
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

- The educational attainment of Hmong, Cambodian, Laotian, and Vietnamese Americans is lowest among Asian American ethnic groups and similar to those of Latinos and African Americans. Only 61% of Hmong Americans hold a high school diploma, while only 12% of Laotian Americans have graduated from college.
- In contrast, eight Asian American ethnic groups, including Taiwanese, Indonesian, Japanese, Sri Lankan, Malaysian, Korean, Filipino, and Indian Americans, are more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to hold a high school degree.

Educational Attainment

by Ethnic Group, United States 2007 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

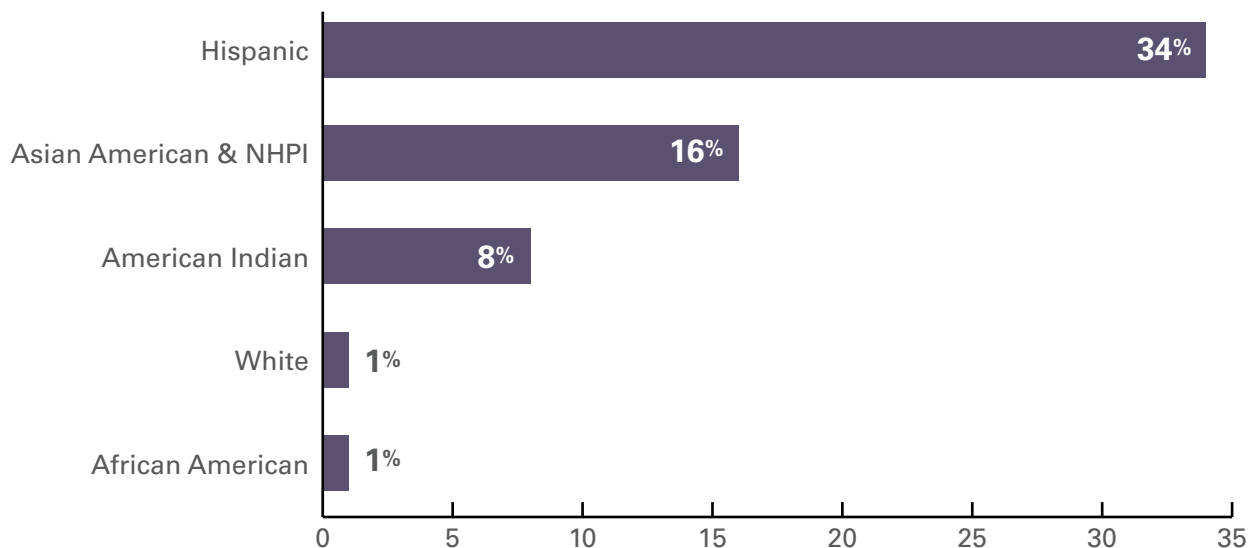
ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

- Approximately 16% of Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) students are English language learners (ELL), second highest among racial groups.

*National English Language Learner Status data do not provide separate figures for Asian Americans and NHPIs.

Percentage of Fourth Graders (for Reading Assessment) With English Language Learner Status

by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2009



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center of Education Statistics, National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP), 2009 Reading Assessment.



INCOME

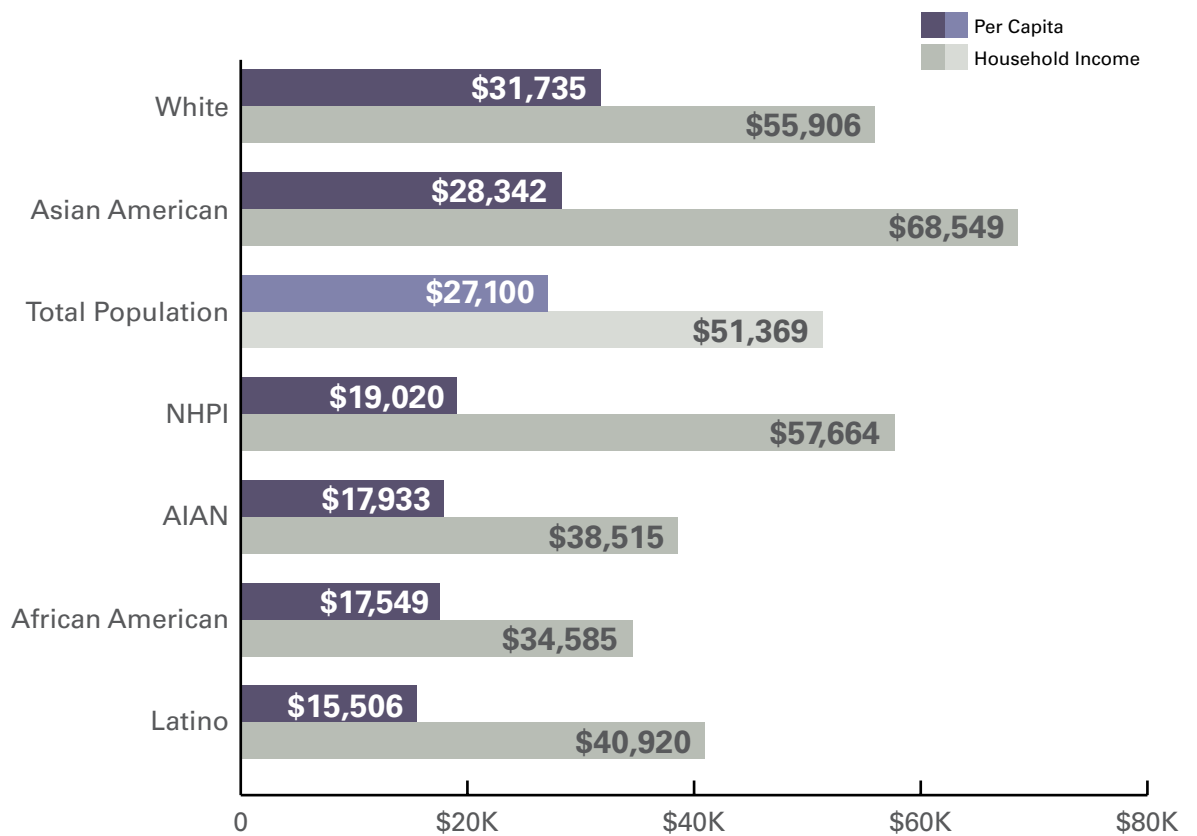
Income is a key barometer of socioeconomic status. Asian Americans earn more per capita income than Latinos or African Americans but less than non-Hispanic Whites despite comparable rates of educational

attainment. Yet data by ethnic group show that per capita income and poverty rates for some Asian American ethnic groups are similar to those of Latinos and African Americans.



Per Capita Income vs. Household Income

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2007 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME FOR ASIAN AMERICANS MISLEADING

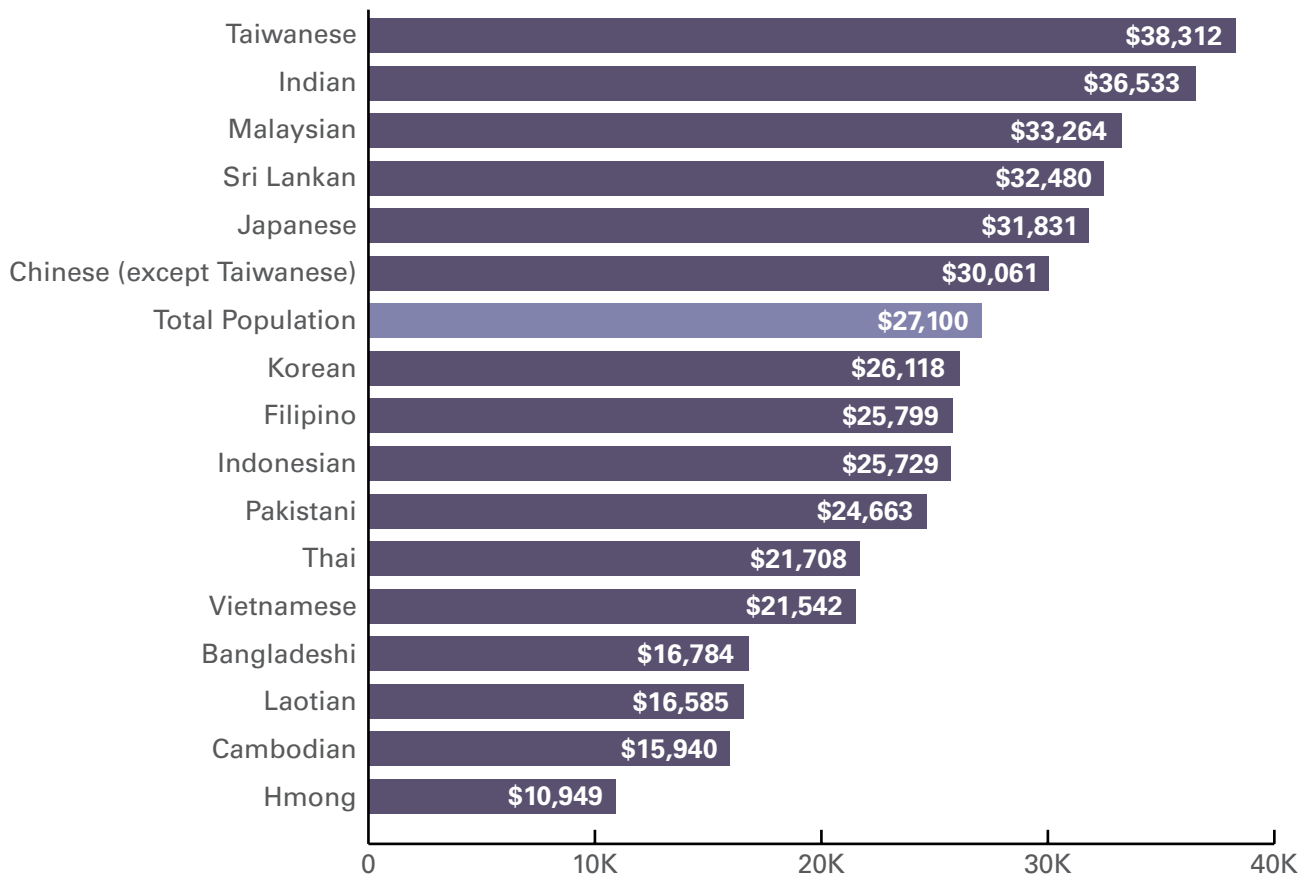
Asian Americans are more likely than other racial groups, including non-Hispanic Whites and African Americans, to have three or more workers per household, resulting in an inflated household income. Because Asian Americans also have larger households, their income is better measured by per capita income, which adjusts for household size.

PER CAPITA INCOME

- Asian American per capita income falls below that of non-Hispanic Whites but exceeds that of every other racial group. Per capita incomes vary considerably by Asian American ethnic group.
- Hmong Americans have a per capita income lower than any racial group nationwide, falling below even that of Latinos.
- The per capita incomes of Hmong, Cambodian, Laotian, and Bangladeshi Americans fall below that of African Americans.
- Per capita incomes of Taiwanese, Indian, Malaysian, Sri Lankan, and Japanese Americans exceed that of non-Hispanic Whites.

Per Capita Income

by Ethnic Group, United States 2007 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

PER CAPITA INCOME is the mean income computed for every man, woman, and child in a particular group. It is derived by dividing the total income of a particular group by the total population of that group.

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME divides the income distribution of households (all persons living in the same residence) into two equal parts, half falling below and half above the median household income.

POVERTY BY RACE

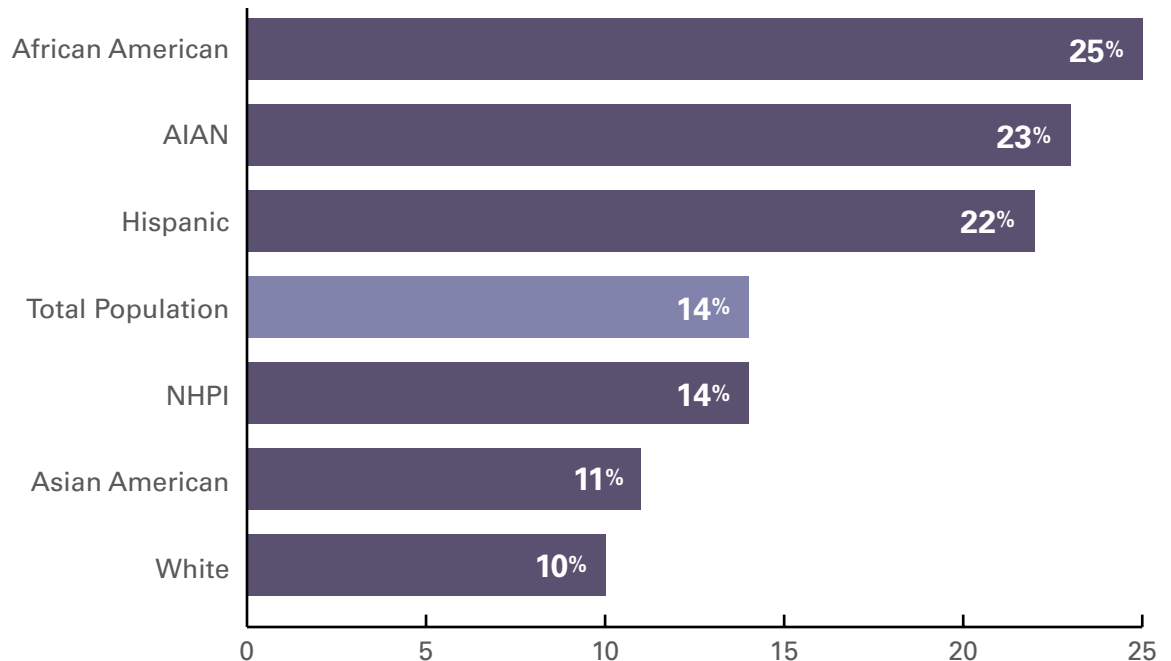
- Approximately 11% of Asian Americans live below the federal poverty line, a rate that exceeds that of non-Hispanic Whites but falls below the national average.
- While poverty among all Americans has increased, the percentage of Asian Americans living beneath the federal poverty line decreased slightly from 2000, when 13% of Asian Americans were poor.
- Poverty varies considerably among Asian American ethnic groups, with some among the most impoverished in the country.



The **POVERTY THRESHOLD** used by the Census Bureau in 2009 was an annual income of \$21,954 for a family of four.

Poverty Rates

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2007 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

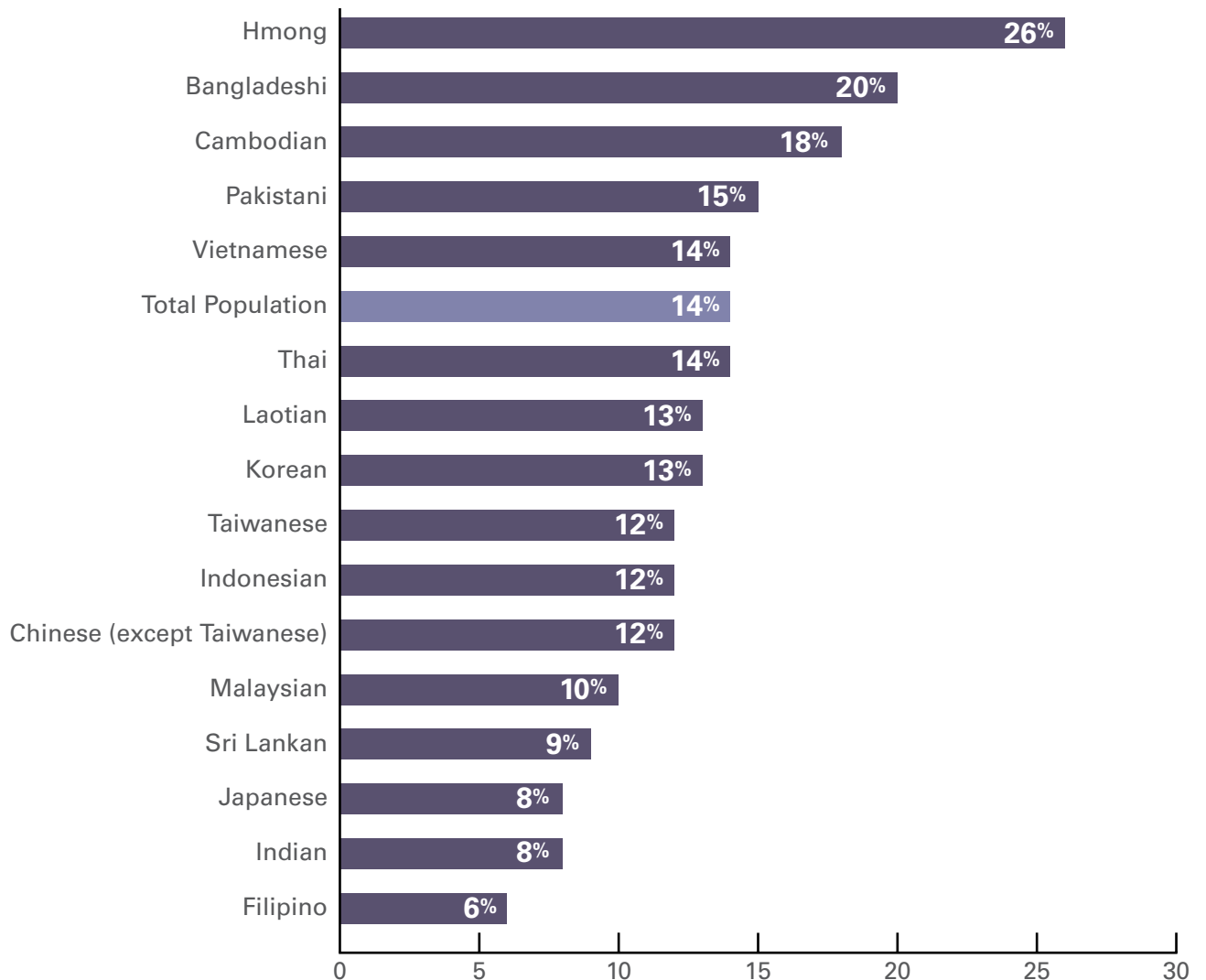
Note: Chart contains data for all individuals living beneath the federal poverty line, not family poverty.

POVERTY BY ETHNIC GROUP

- Over one in four Hmong Americans lives below the federal poverty line, a rate that exceeds that of Latinos and African Americans.
- Roughly one in five Cambodian and Bangladeshi Americans lives in poverty, a rate that exceeds the national average.
- In contrast, less than 10% of Filipino, Indian, Japanese, and Sri Lankan Americans live below the poverty line.

Poverty Rates

by Ethnic Group, United States 2007 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

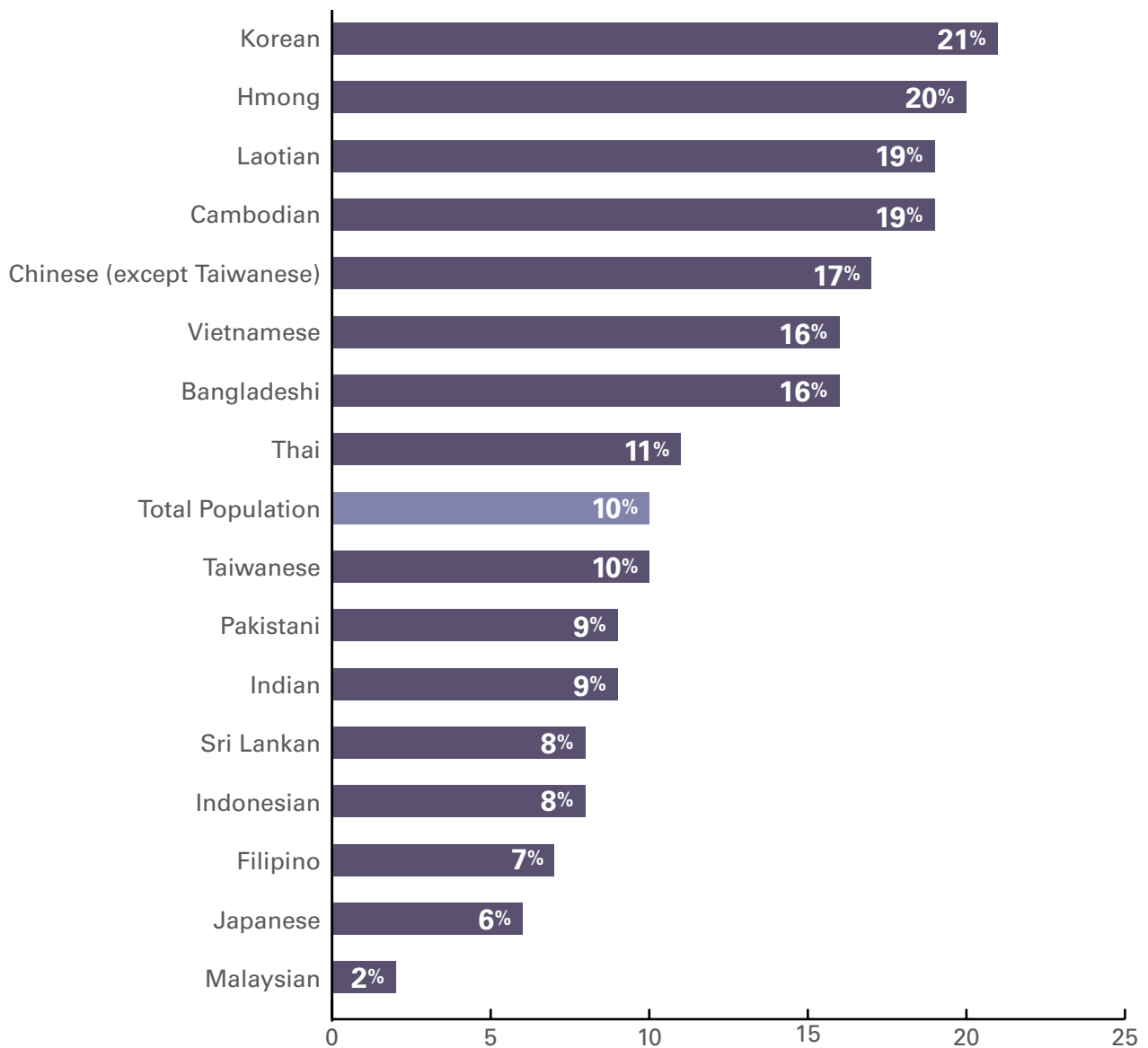
Note: Chart contains data for all individuals living beneath the federal poverty line, not family poverty.

POVERTY AMONG CHILDREN AND SENIORS

- Nearly one-third of Hmong American children live in poverty.
- Approximately one-fifth of Korean, Hmong, Cambodian, and Laotian American seniors live in poverty.
- Hmong, Cambodian, and Bangladeshi American communities have the highest proportion of children and seniors who live in poverty.

Poverty Rates of Seniors (Ages 64+)

by Ethnic Group, United States 2007 to 2009

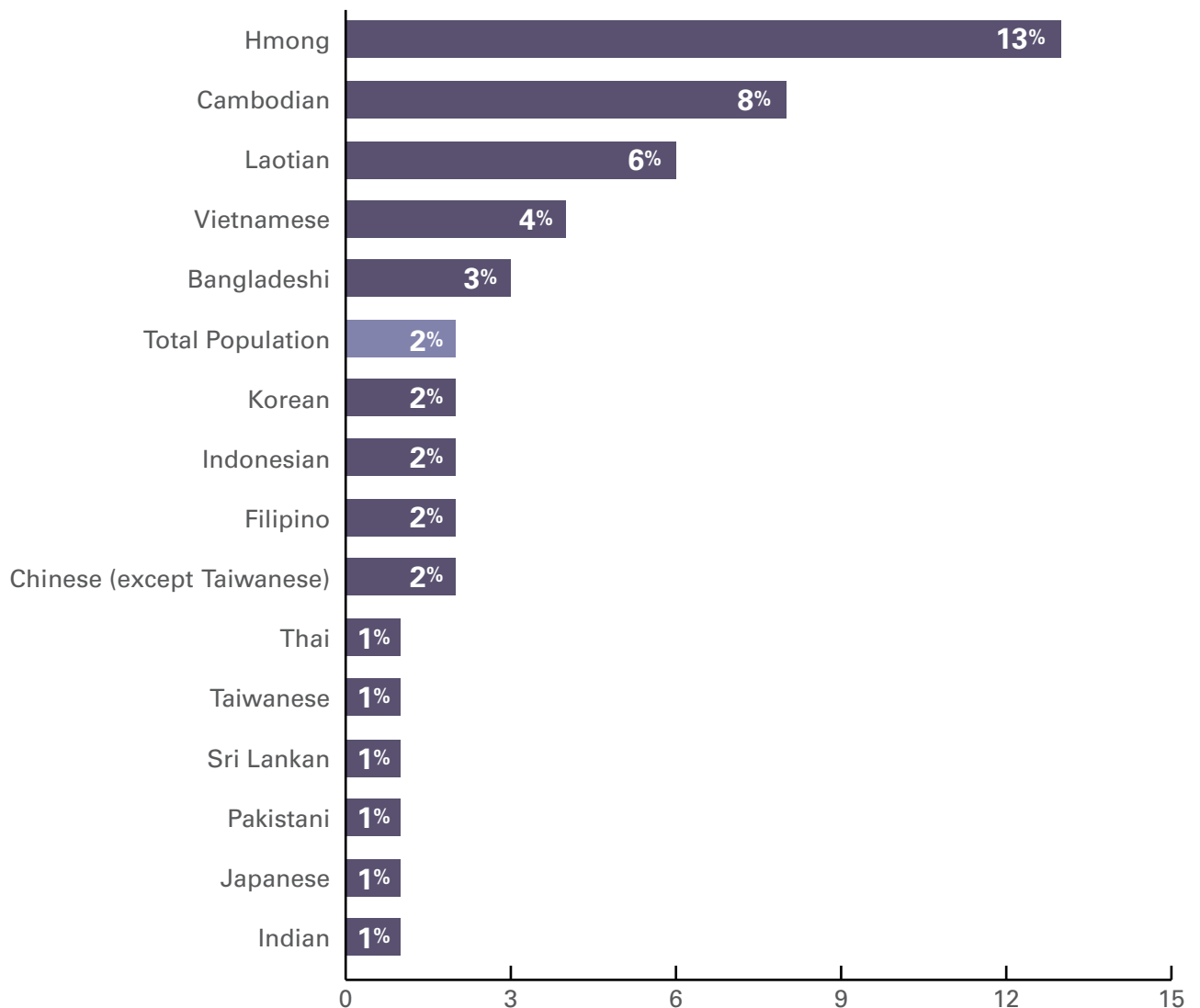


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

CASH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

- Hmong, Cambodian, and Laotian Americans are more likely than any racial group to access cash public assistance. In 2007–2009, approximately 13% of Hmong, 8% of Cambodian, and 6% of Laotian American households accessed cash public assistance, compared to 5% of African American and 4% of Latino households.
- Other Asian American ethnic groups are far less likely to access cash public assistance. Roughly 1% of Indian, Japanese, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, and Thai American households access cash public assistance.
- Only 2% of all Asian American households access cash public assistance, the lowest rate among racial groups.

Percent of Households Who Receive Cash Public Assistance
by Ethnic Group, United States 2007 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.
Note: Data on Malaysian Americans not reported.

EMPLOYMENT

An individual's employment affects her or his standing on a number of key economic indicators, including income and whether one has health insurance. Because the majority of Asian Americans are working-age adults, employment is particularly important. While Asian Americans as a group have low unemployment rates

and are disproportionately employed in managerial or professional occupations, some Asian American ethnic groups suffer unemployment rates similar to Latinos and African Americans. Once unemployed, Asian Americans are likely to be unemployed for longer periods than any other racial group.



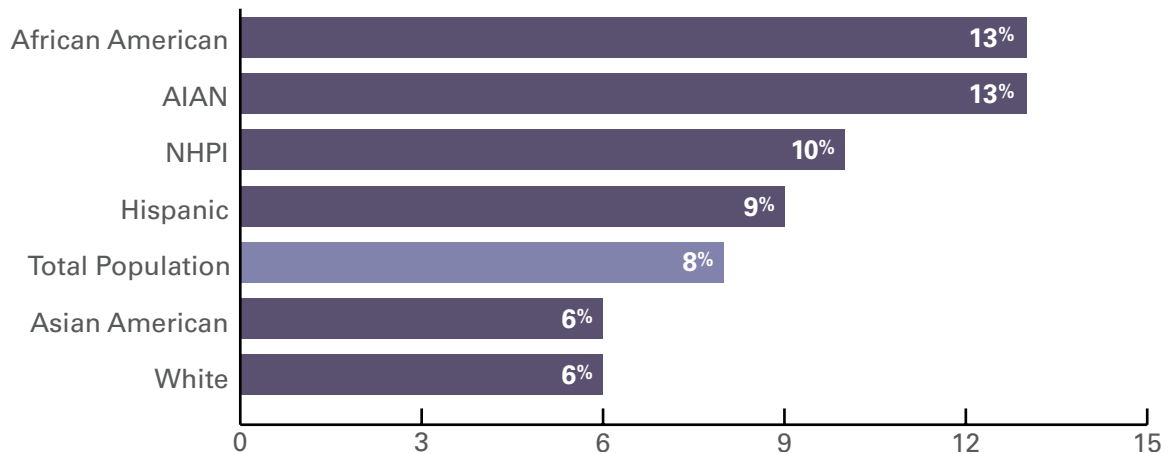
■ While Asian Americans have lower unemployment rates relative to other racial groups, some Asian American ethnic groups have unemployment rates similar to Latinos and African Americans.

■ During the second quarter of 2010, 52% of unemployed Asian Americans had been unemployed for more than six months, while 39% had been unemployed for more than a year. Both rates exceeded those of any other racial group.

Source: Economic Policy Institute, February 2011.

Unemployment Rate for Those 16 Years of Age and Older

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2007 to 2009

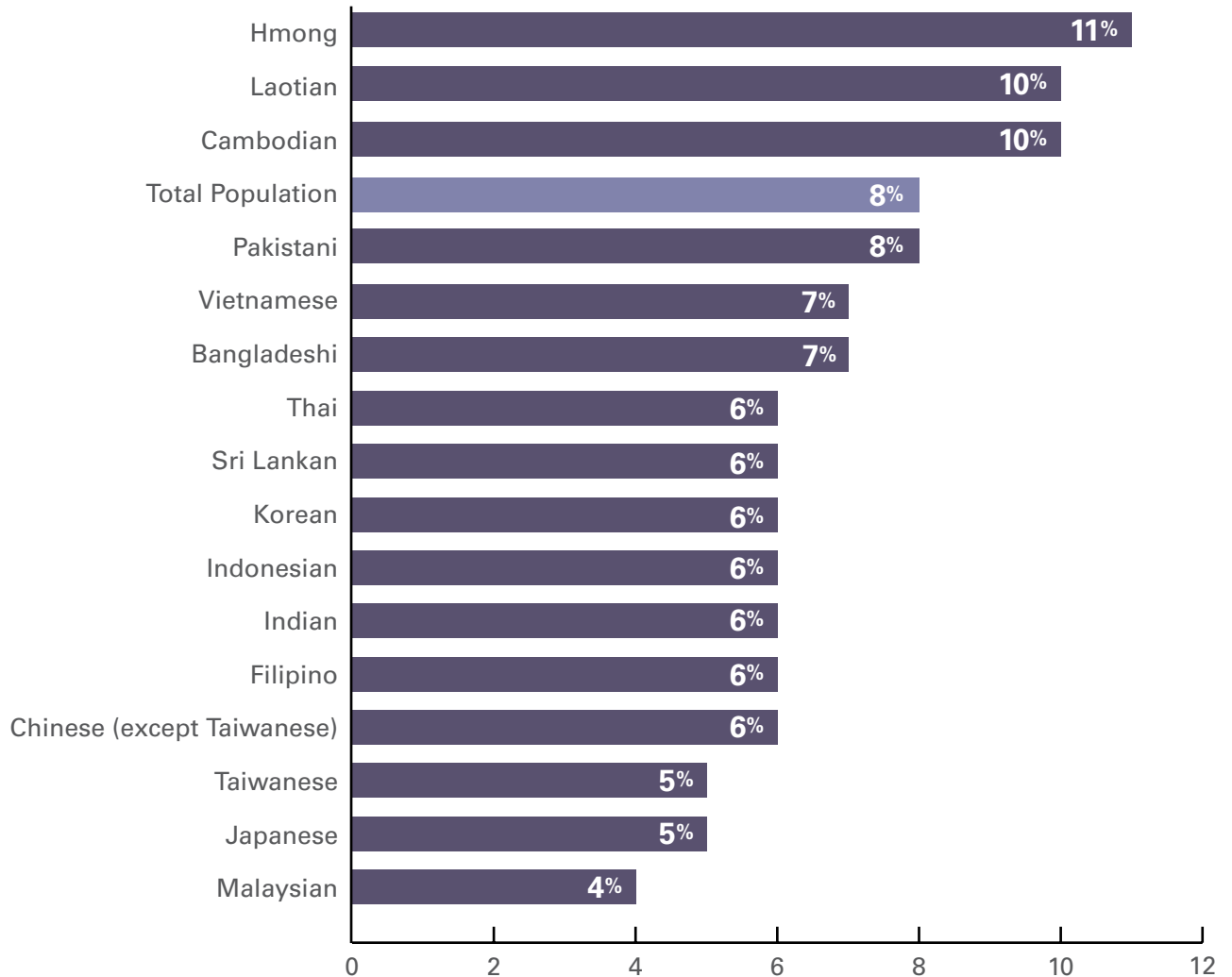


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.
Note: Chart contains data for civilian labor force only.

UNEMPLOYMENT

- Hmong, Laotian, and Cambodian Americans have unemployment rates higher than Latinos and similar to African Americans. Roughly 1 in 10 Hmong, Laotian, and Cambodian Americans in the civilian labor force are without work.

Unemployment Rate for Those 16 Years of Age and Older by Ethnic Group, United States 2007 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.
Note: Chart contains data for civilian labor force only.

UNION MEMBERSHIP

- From 2003 to 2007, Asian American workers who were unionized earned 14% more than nonunionized Asian American workers.*
- At 12%, Asian Americans and NHPs unionized at a slightly higher rate than workers overall (11%).*

*AA and NHPI data are not available separately.

Source: Schmitt, John, Hye Jin Rho, and Nicole Woo. January 2011. "Unions and Upward Mobility for Asian Pacific American Workers." The Center for Economic and Policy Research.

OCCUPATION

- Nearly half of employed Asian Americans are working in management and professional fields.
- While Asian American ethnic groups with the lowest poverty rates (Filipino, Indian, and Japanese Americans) are concentrated in management and other professional occupations, those with the highest poverty rates (Bangladeshi, Cambodian, and Hmong Americans) tend to work in production, transportation, and material moving occupations.

OCCUPATIONS KEY

CONSTRUCTION, EXTRACTION, PRODUCTION, TRANSPORTATION, AND MATERIAL MOVING: carpentry, construction, fishing, farming, electronic assembly, tailoring, piloting, bus driving, etc.

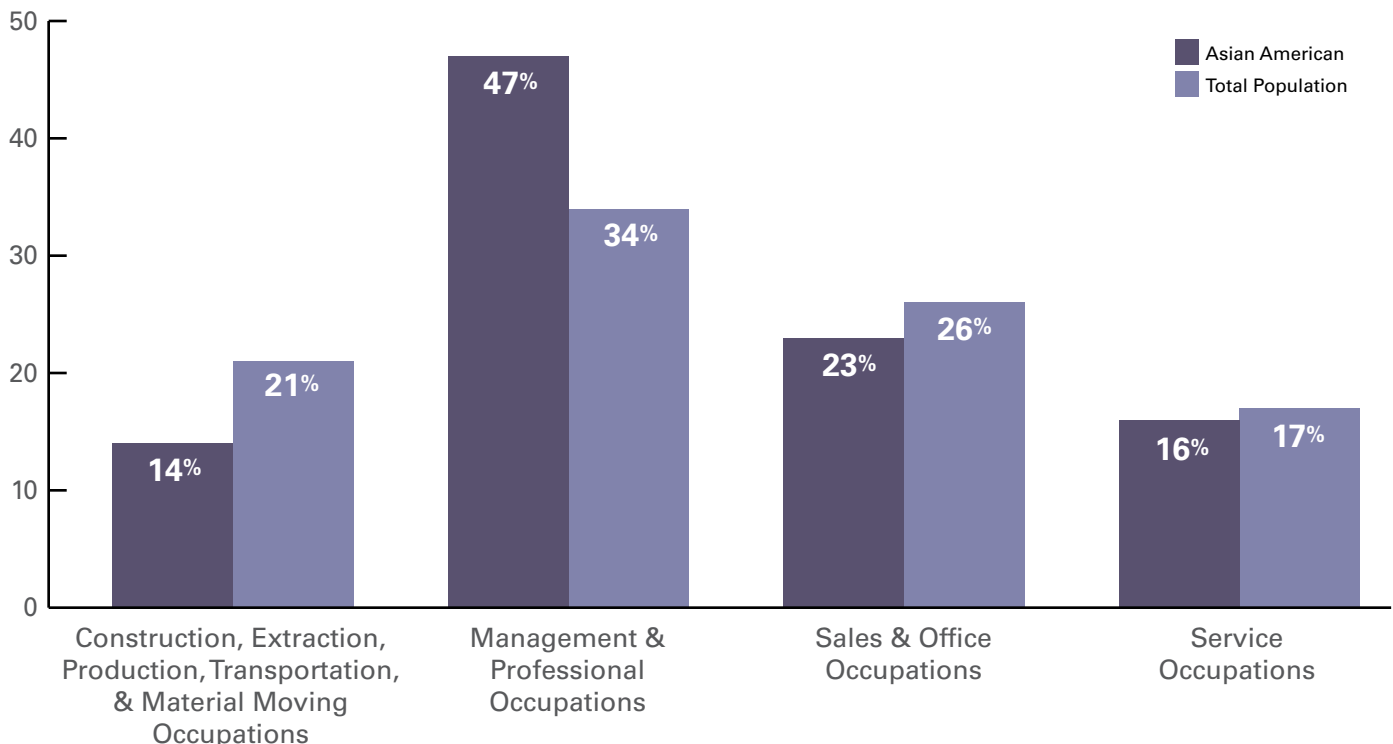
MANAGEMENT AND PROFESSIONAL: science, engineering, architecture, law, education, media, arts, medicine, etc.

SALES AND OFFICE: sales, administration, etc.

SERVICE: healthcare support, food service, caregiving, police, firefighting, etc.

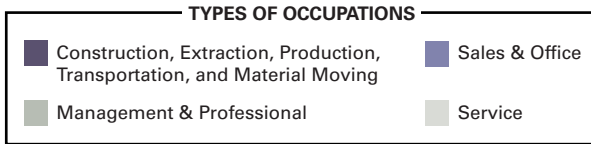
Asian American Occupations for Those 16 Years of Age and Older

United States 2007 to 2009



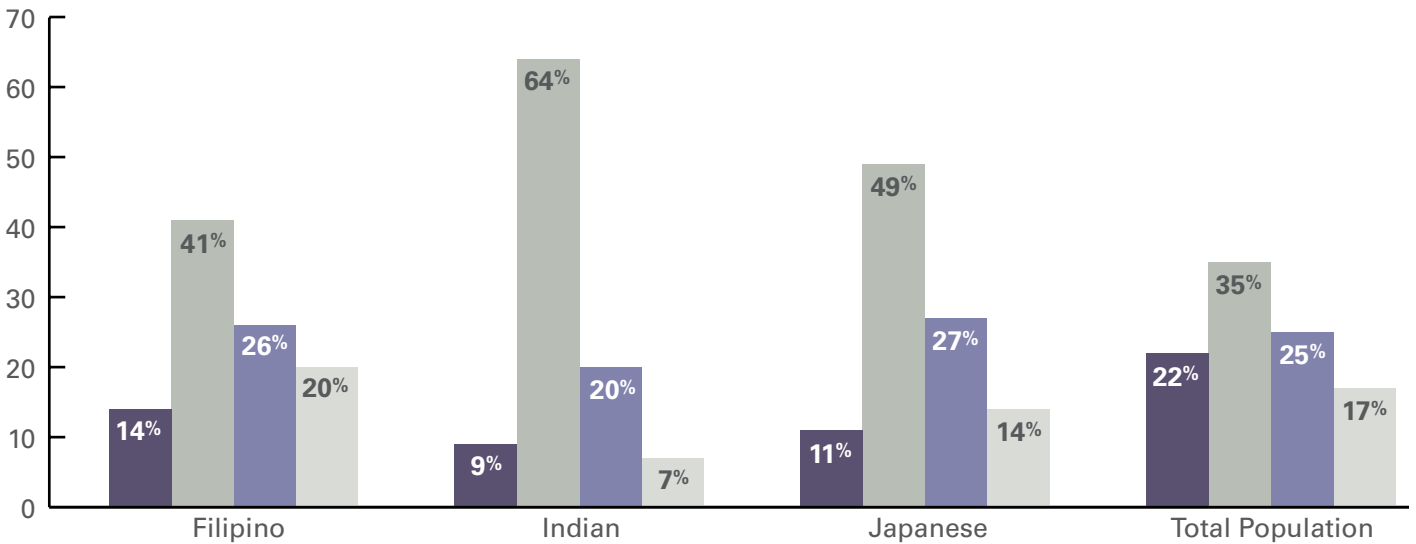
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.
 Note: Chart contains data for civilian labor force only.

OCCUPATION AND POVERTY



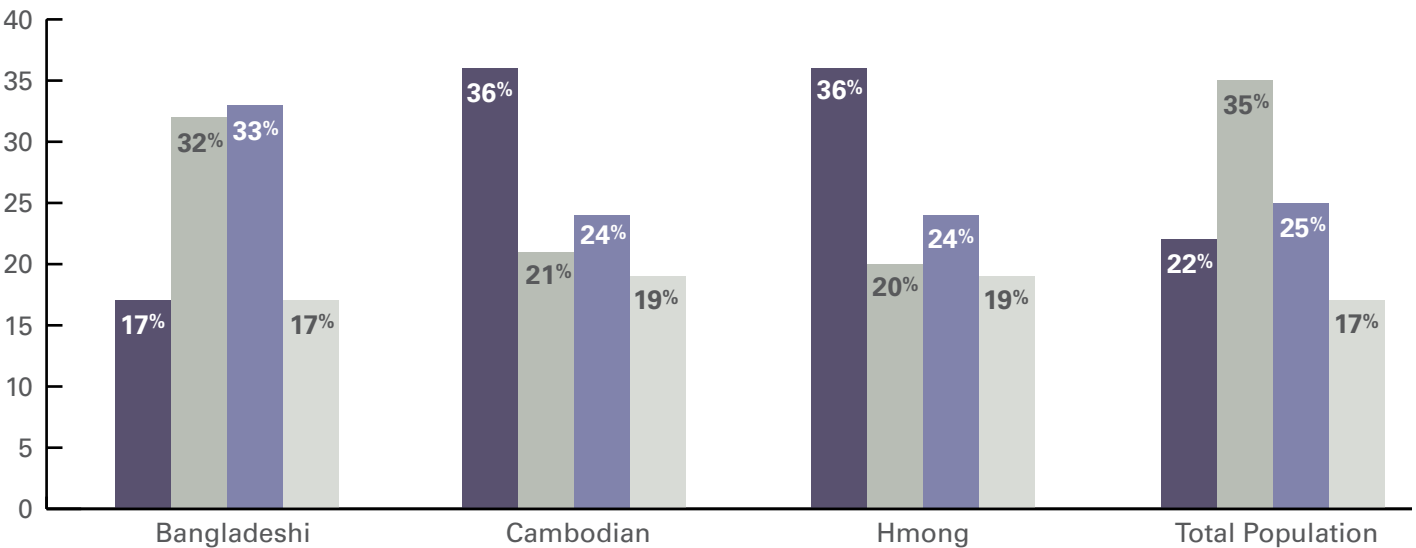
Occupation for Ethnic Groups With Low Poverty Rates

United States 2007 to 2009



Occupation for Ethnic Groups With High Poverty Rates

United States 2007 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.
 Note: Charts exclude percentages of workers active in the farming, fishing, and forestry industries.

HOUSING

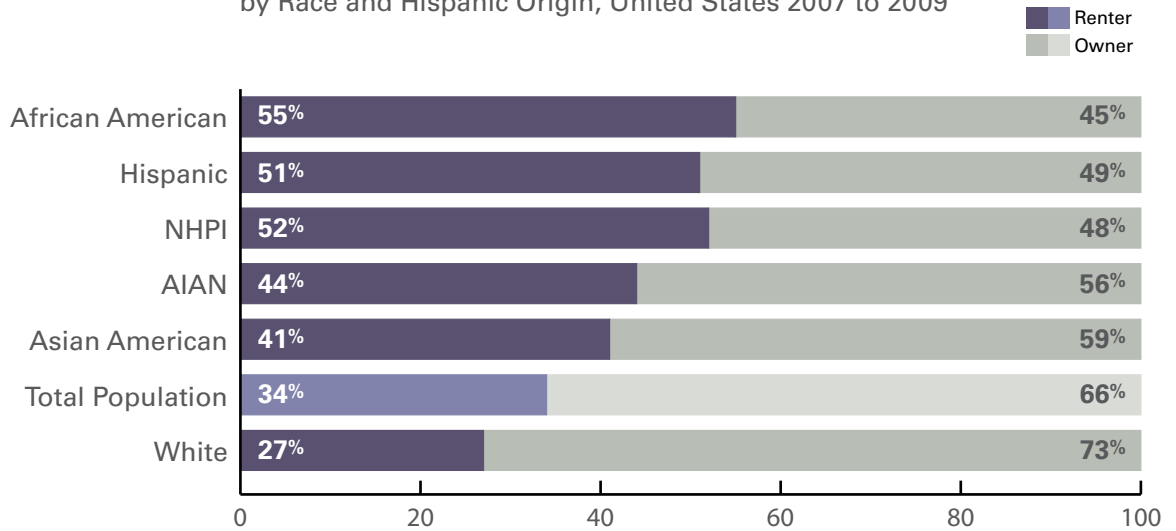
Housing is a fundamental human need. Asian Americans are much less likely than non-Hispanic Whites to own their own home and often live in overcrowded conditions. Despite these challenges, Asian Americans are less likely to utilize government-subsidized housing programs.



- Approximately 59% of Asian Americans are homeowners, while 41% rent their homes. While rates of homeownership among Asian Americans exceed those of Latinos and African Americans, they fall well below those of non-Hispanic Whites. Rates of homeownership vary by Asian American ethnic group.

Percent of Population Who Are Homeowners vs. Renters

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2007 to 2009



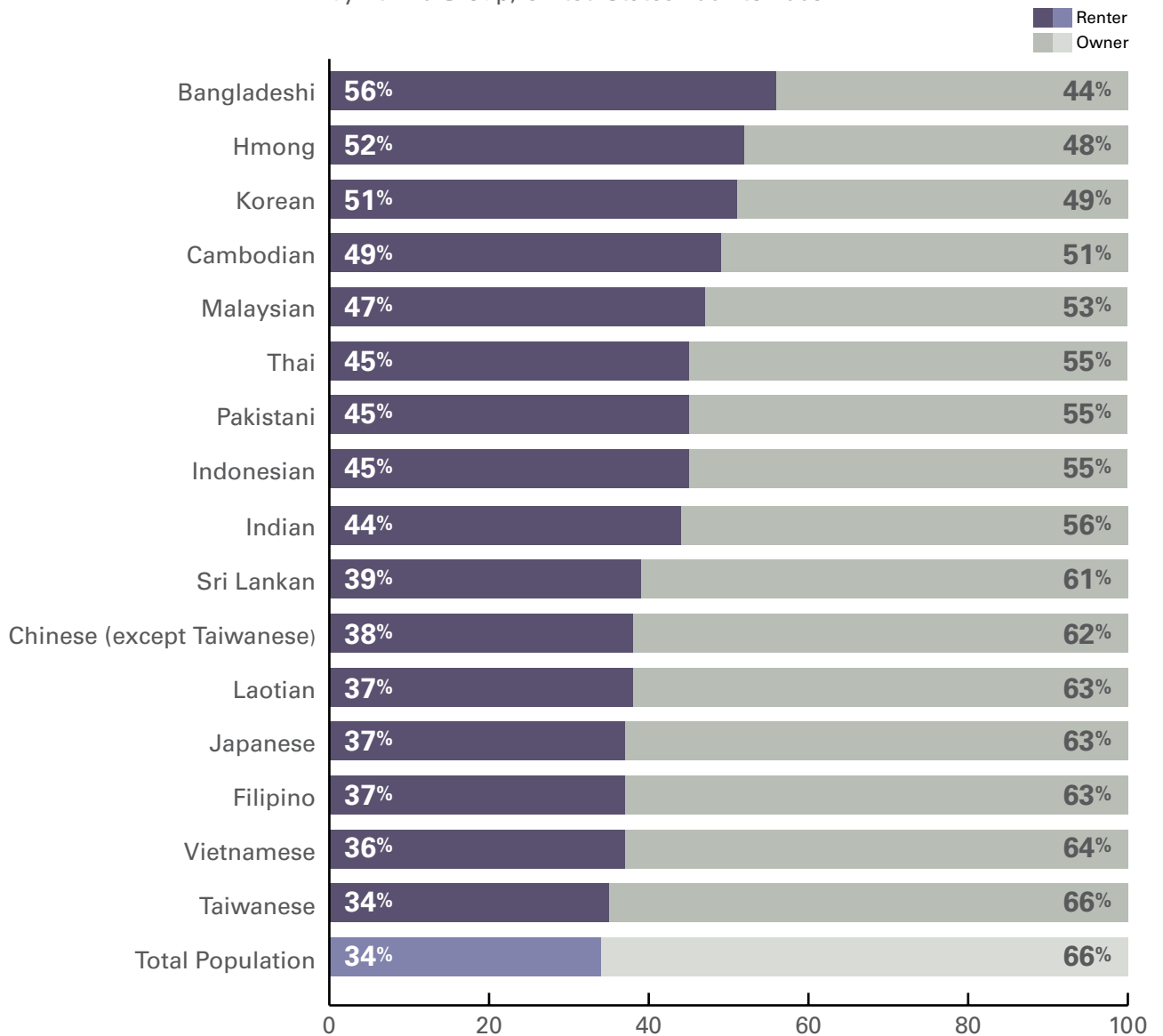
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

HOMEOWNERSHIP

- Over 60% of Taiwanese, Vietnamese, Filipino, Japanese, Laotian, Chinese, and Sri Lankan Americans are homeowners.
- However, less than half of Bangladeshi, Hmong, and Korean Americans own their homes.

Percent of Population Who Are Homeowners vs. Renters

by Ethnic Group, United States 2007 to 2009



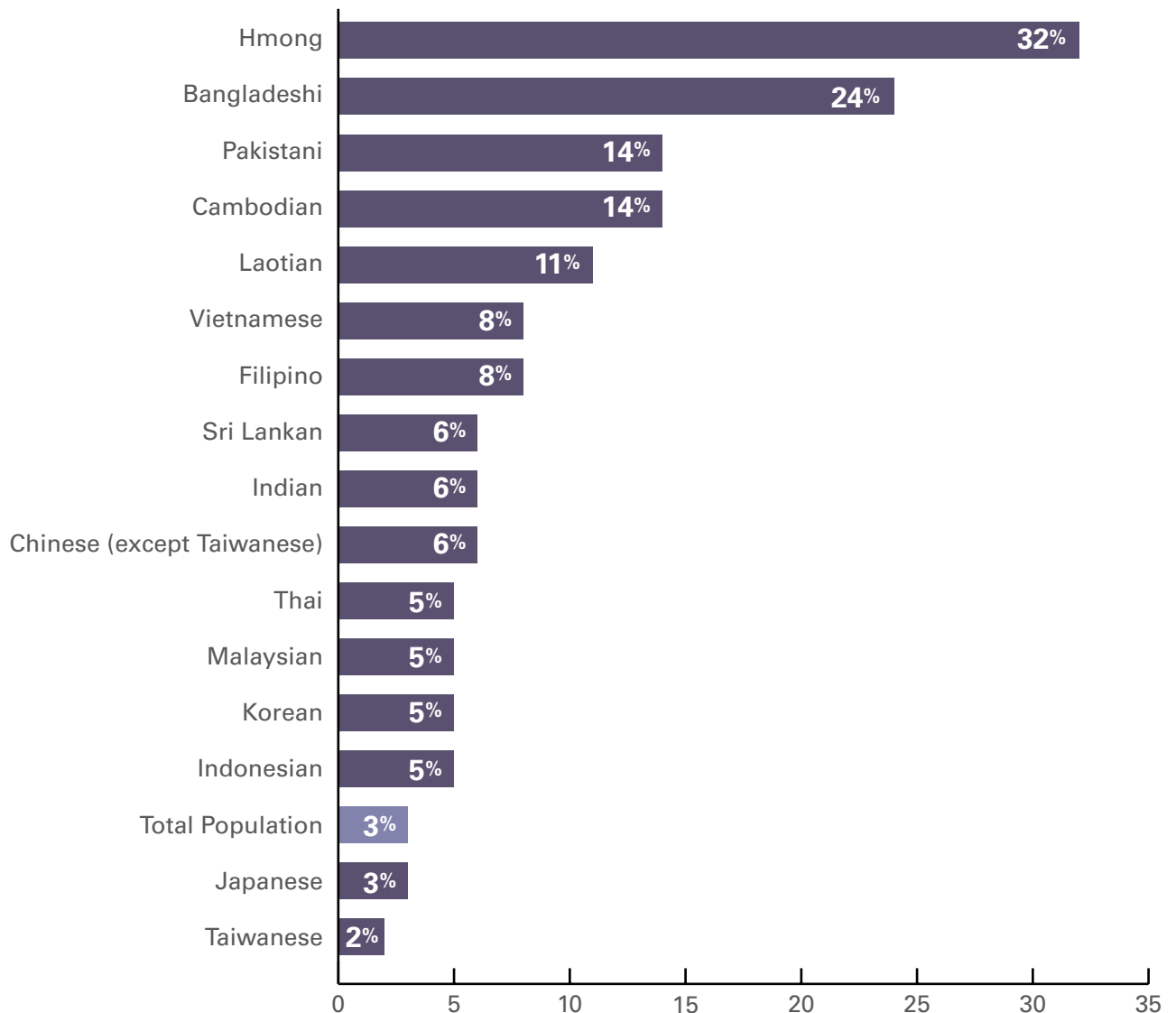
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

OVERCROWDED HOUSING

- Approximately 7% of Asian Americans live in overcrowded households in which there is more than one person per room. In contrast, only 3% of the total population and 1% of non-Hispanic Whites live in such conditions.
- Nearly one-third of Hmong and one-quarter of Bangladeshi Americans live in overcrowded housing.
- Despite large numbers living in overcrowded conditions and facing a high housing burden, Asian Americans are under-represented in government-subsidized housing with only 3% of Asian Americans benefitting.

Percent Who Live in Overcrowded Housing

by Ethnic Group, United States 2007 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007–2009 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates.

HEALTH

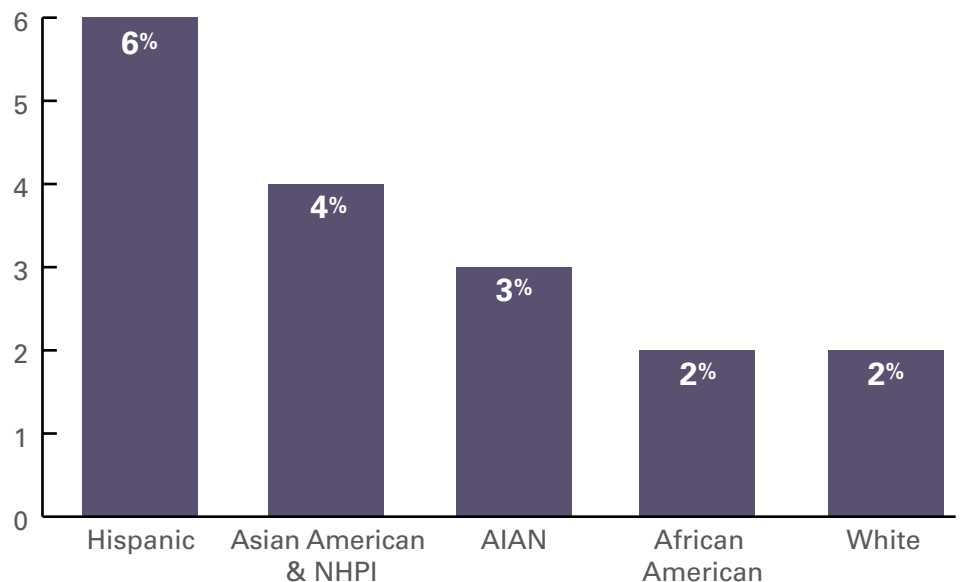
Health concerns include both disease and the ability to treat disease. Asian Americans are more likely than other racial groups to develop hepatitis and stomach and liver cancers. Asian American youth are more likely to consider suicide, and Asian American women 65 years or older are more likely to commit suicide. Yet Asian Americans are less likely to have seen a health professional in the past five years and are more likely to be uninsured.



- Approximately 4% of Asian Americans and NHPIs* have not seen a health professional in more than five years, a rate twice that of non-Hispanic Whites.
- Roughly 3 out of 10 Asian Americans and NHPIs* have been tested for HIV, a rate lower than all racial groups.**

*Asian American and NHPI data are not made available separately.
 ** Source: National Health Interview Survey, January 2008. The Asian American sample included in this study includes Americans of Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Indian, and Filipino descent.

Last Sought a Health Professional More Than 5 Years Ago
 by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2004 to 2006



Source: National Interview Survey's "Health Characteristics of the Asian Adult Population: United States, 2004–2006." Advance Data No. 394, January 22, 2008.
 Note: The racial categories represented in this chart are non-Hispanic, single-race only. Focus of this report is the following selected Asian subgroups: Chinese, Filipino, Indian, Japanese, Vietnamese, and Korean.

HEALTH DISPARITIES

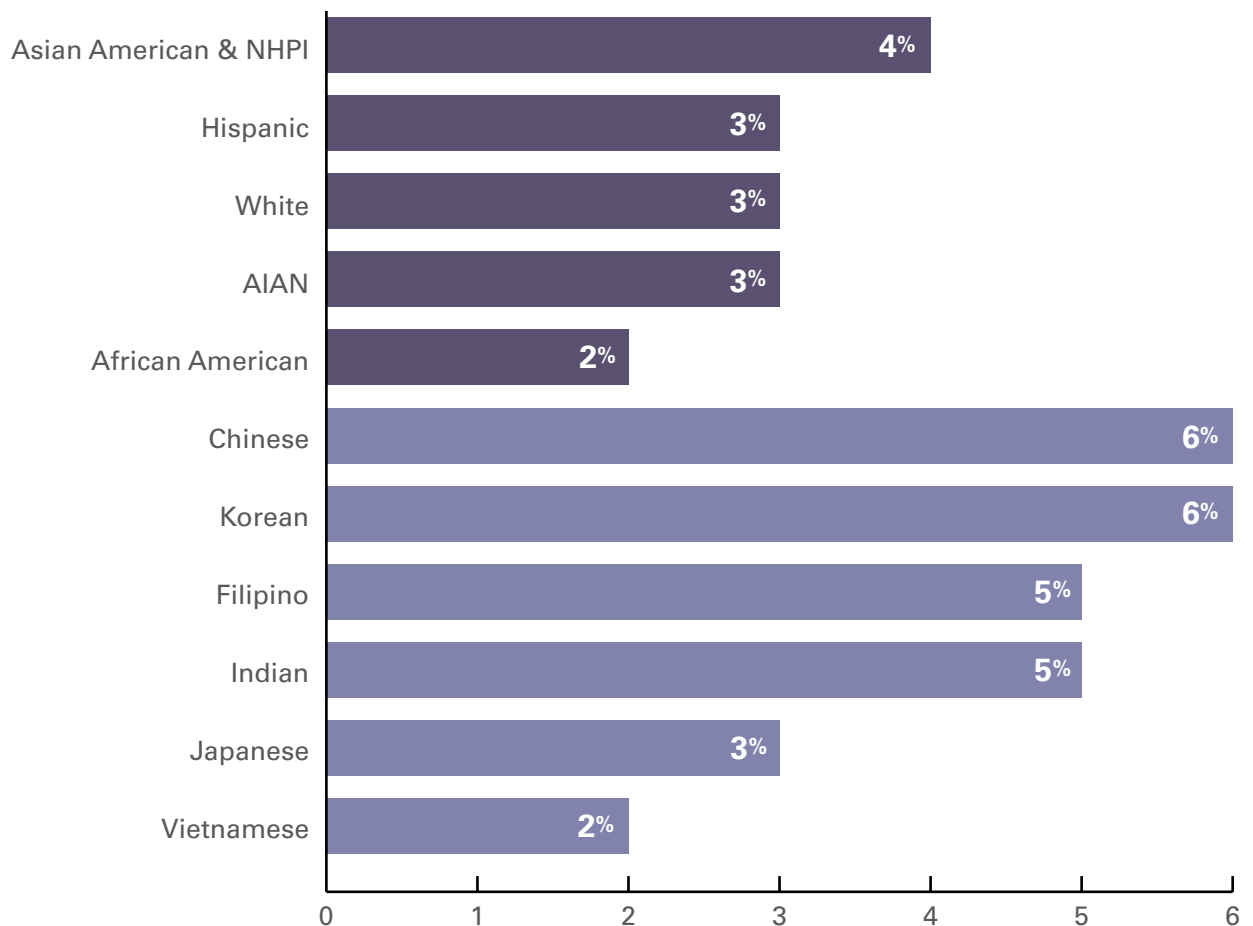
- Asian Americans are more likely than any other racial group to contract hepatitis. Roughly 4% of all Asian Americans have the disease. Chinese and Korean Americans are twice as likely as non-Hispanic Whites to contract hepatitis.
- Approximately 14% of Indian Americans have diabetes, a rate higher than those of all other racial groups, except for American Indians and Alaskan Natives, and all Asian American ethnic groups.*
- Asian Americans and NHPs have the highest incidence of stomach and liver cancers.**

*Source: National Health Interview Survey, January 2008.

**Source: NCI 2011, SEER Cancer Statistics Review, 1975–2008. Tables 5.11, 14.15, 24.15 <http://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/breast.html>. Asian American and NHP data are not made available separately.

Percent of Those 18 Years of Age and Over With Hepatitis

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, United States 2004 to 2006



Source: National Interview Survey's "Health Characteristics of the Asian Adult Population: United States, 2004–2006." Advance Data No. 394, January 22, 2008.

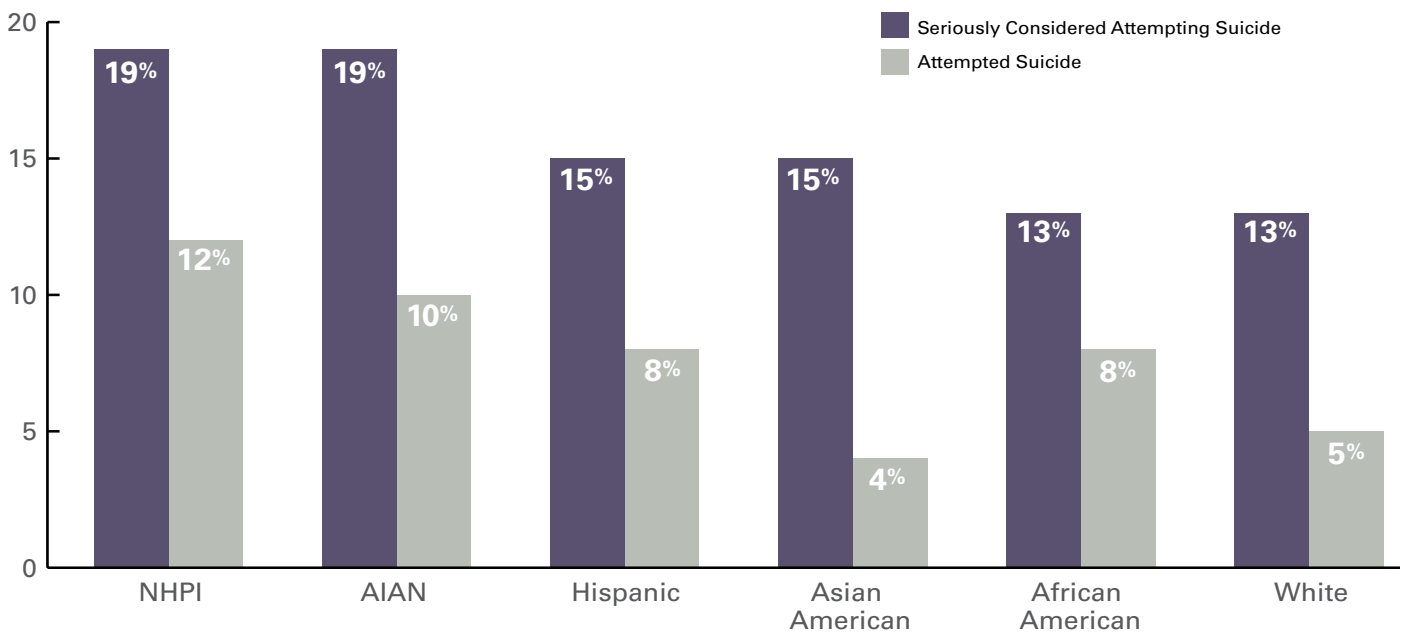
Note: The racial categories represented in this chart are non-Hispanic, single-race only. Focus of this report is the following selected Asian subgroups: Chinese, Filipino, Indian, Japanese, Vietnamese, and Korean.

SUICIDE

- Approximately 15% of Asian American high school students have seriously considered attempting suicide, a rate higher than both African Americans and non-Hispanic Whites.
- From 2002 to 2006, the highest suicide rates for women ages 65 and older were among Asian Americans and NHPs, with 6.4 suicides per 100,000.*

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2009. "National Suicide Statistics at a Glance: Suicide Rates Among Persons Ages 65 Years and Older, by Race/Ethnicity and Sex, United States, 2002–2006."

Percentage of High School Students Who Attempted or Seriously Considered Suicide by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2009



Source: The Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum's tabulation of the 2009 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System data reported in CDC, 2009.

REFUGEE AND ASYLEE MENTAL HEALTH

- Approximately 62% of Cambodian Americans in Long Beach, California, report symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and 51% reported major depression.*
- A 1998 study of 51 Vietnamese ex-political detainees found higher rates of PTSD and depression than in a comparison group.**

*Source: Marshall et al., 2005. "Mental Health of Cambodian Refugees 2 Decades After Resettlement in the United States," *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

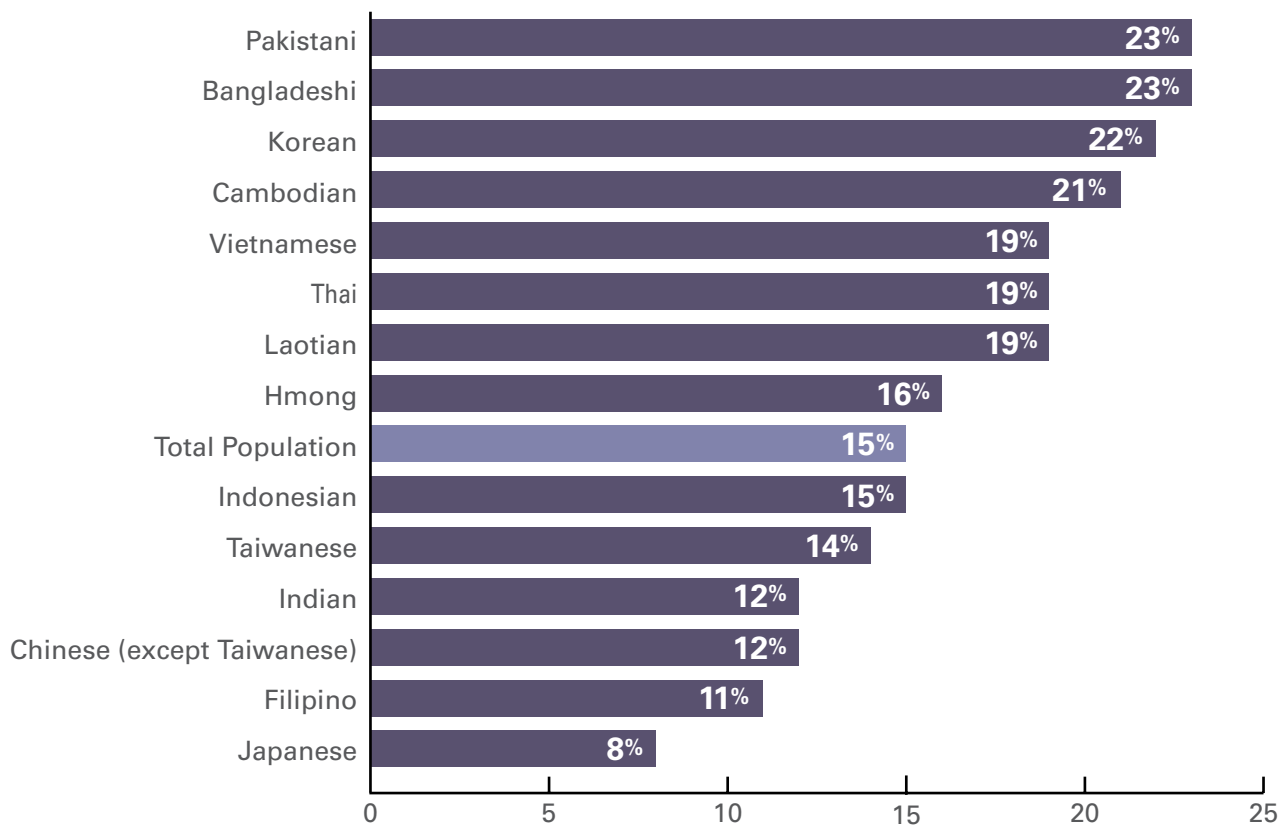
**Source: Mollica et al., 1998. "The Dose-Effect Relationships between Torture and Psychiatric Symptoms in Vietnamese Ex-Political Detainees and a Comparison Group," *The Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*. Vol. 9 (2).

INSURANCE

- More than one in five Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Korean, and Cambodian Americans is uninsured.
- Among Asian American ethnic groups, Japanese Americans are most likely to have health insurance.

Percent Uninsured

by Ethnic Group, 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates.

MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

- Approximately 34% of Asian Americans over the age of 65 only have Medicare coverage. In comparison, 29% of non-Hispanic Whites rely solely on Medicare.
- Approximately 74% of Asian Americans under the age of 65 have private health insurance, and only 10% have Medicaid coverage.*

*Source: The Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum Tabulation of the 2008 NHIS reported data in CDC, 2010.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Asian Americans are increasingly becoming citizens, registering to vote, and casting ballots. But significant hurdles hindering full political participation and civic engagement remain. Many of the over 1 million Asian American noncitizens who have met the residency requirements to naturalize will need assistance to become U.S. citizens. Only 55% of Asian Americans eligible to register to vote have registered. Asian American voter turnout still lags behind that of non-Hispanic Whites.

- Corporations, foundations, and the government should promote citizenship through greater investment in civics courses, adult English language learning, and naturalization assistance.
- The federal government should make naturalization and immigration fees affordable and ensure sufficient funding to USCIS to expeditiously process citizenship applications.
- Foundations, political parties, candidates, and other stakeholders should increase their investment in voter registration and mobilization efforts targeting Asian American communities, including voters who are not fully fluent in English.
- Federal, state, and local agencies and elected officials should guarantee equal access to voting by combating discriminatory voting practices that deny or abridge the right of Asian Americans and others to vote. Voter protection laws should be vigorously enforced and policies and practices that impose additional barriers to voting should be opposed.
- The Department of Justice and state and local voting officials must ensure compliance with and enforcement of Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act, which provides for language assistance to communities that meet certain requirements. Communities with significant populations of Asian American voters should consider providing voluntary language assistance.

IMMIGRATION

Every aspect of immigration policy affects Asian Americans. Nearly 60% of Asian Americans are foreign-born, yet there is insufficient public and private investment in programs supporting immigrant integration. The fate of aspiring new Americans hinges on a broken immigration system. Approximately one million Asian Americans are undocumented. Waiting times for family visas can be as long as 23 years. Under the current system, immigrants are separated from their families, exploited by unscrupulous employers, denied meaningful educational and employment opportunities, and prevented from contributing fully to American society. In the absence of immigration reform at the federal level, many states have attempted their own “fixes” to immigration law, resulting in a patchwork of laws, many of which are harmful to communities and undermine America’s most fundamental values.

- Congress and the President need to address every aspect of the broken immigration system, preferably through comprehensive reform.
- Our system of family immigration provides new immigrants with an integration network and safety net. Repairs to our employment immigration system should not come at the expense of family unity, a cornerstone of U.S. immigration law and policy.
- Women are more reliant on family-based immigration than men, which means that women are overrepresented in visa backlogs. Congress should support changes to the visa system, including reclassifying spouses and minor children of permanent residents as “immediate relatives” to allow families to reunite without having to endure years of separation.
- Congress should amend immigration laws to allow U.S. citizens and permanent residents to sponsor their same-sex, foreign-born partners.
- Congress should provide a path to legalization and citizenship for undocumented immigrants, including immigrant youth who have lived in the United States most of their lives.
- Congress and the courts should preserve the long-established constitutional rule that children born in the United States are U.S. citizens. The guarantee of “birthright citizenship” is found in the Fourteenth Amendment, which contains many important civil rights protections.
- Congress should expand legal channels for workers to come to the United States by raising the number of employment-based visas for high-skilled and less-skilled workers, while also guaranteeing full labor and immigration protections.
- Congress should restore judicial discretion, fairness, and due process in immigration hearings and overhaul the immigration detention system.

LANGUAGE

Many Asian Americans are recent immigrants: 1.6 million Asian immigrants arrived in the United States within the last decade. About one-third of Asian Americans have limited proficiency in English, and in some communities, nearly half are LEP. Both public and private institutions must dismantle the barriers that prevent limited-English proficient individuals from accessing safety net services and the justice system. Asian Americans recognize that English is a gateway to citizenship and upward mobility, but many who seek to learn find the demand for English courses greater than the supply.

- Public and private institutions need to ensure meaningful access to programs and services for limited-English proficient individuals, including ensuring adequate funding, supporting the hiring of bilingual staff and translation of materials, and actively enforcing Title VI requirements and Executive Order 13166.

- Government, corporations, foundations, and other stakeholders need to invest in high-quality bilingual K–12 education that promotes English language acquisition as well as academic achievement.
- Both the public and private sectors need to provide sufficient funding to meet the demand for English language programs for adults. The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and adult educational systems need to be reformed and better funded to provide for this need.

EDUCATION

It is in the education context that the term “model minority” is most often used to describe Asian Americans. While many in the Asian American community are well educated, others do not complete high school. Many Asian Americans who came as refugees have levels of educational attainment similar to Latinos and African Americans.

- Government, corporations, foundations, and other stakeholders should improve K–12 programs to better address the cultural and linguistic barriers that contribute to educational disparities, including improving programs for English language learners.
- Government agencies and educational institutions should protect and promote affirmative action programs in education. Asian Americans should be included in affirmative action programs, particularly under-represented groups such as Southeast Asians.

INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT

Asian Americans occupy both ends of the socioeconomic spectrum. The per capita income of Asian Americans approaches that of non-Hispanic Whites, but more than 1 in 10 Asian Americans live in poverty. While almost half of Asian Americans work in management and professional fields, Asian Americans work in all occupations, including sales, services, construction, and production.

- Federal, state, and local governments need to strengthen and expand access to safety net programs, including public assistance and unemployment benefits, particularly during times of recession when needs are especially acute. Public benefits must be culturally and linguistically accessible.
- While many Asian Americans have high educational attainment and work in professional fields, some face a “glass ceiling” that blocks their professional advancement. Corporations, law firms, government agencies, academic institutions, and other employers should implement equal opportunity programs that remove barriers to advancement in the workplace.
- Federal, state, and local agencies should include Asian Americans in equal opportunity programs, including minority contracting programs. Asian Americans face ongoing discrimination in public contracting and

should be included in minority set-aside programs and allowed to complete for government contracts on an equal footing.

- Government agencies at all levels need to ensure vigorous enforcement of employment and labor laws, including antidiscrimination provisions and protection against retaliation for workers who assert their rights. This enforcement must extend to workers regardless of immigration status and ensure that all workers are protected.
- Government agencies, unions, and employers should protect collective bargaining rights and support workers' rights to unionize and organize to challenge unfair employment practices.

HOUSING

Access to quality affordable housing, whether rented or owned, is key to economic stability. Asian American homeownership rates are lower than those of non-Hispanic Whites. A significant percentage of Asian Americans live in overcrowded housing, but only 3% of Asian Americans live in government-subsidized housing.

- Federal, state, and local agencies and private companies need to expand affordable housing and homeownership opportunities for Asian American families.
- All levels of government should vigorously enforce laws prohibiting predatory lending practices that target immigrant communities, individuals with limited-English proficiency, and other vulnerable communities.
- With many people losing their homes in the foreclosure crisis, federal, state, and local governments need to fund and expand housing counseling services and consumer protection agencies, such as the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

HEALTH

Having access to affordable quality healthcare is a basic human need. Asian Americans need access to quality, affordable health care that is linguistically and culturally appropriate. Asian Americans face specific health disparities, including high rates of hepatitis, liver cancer, and stomach cancer.

- Federal, state, and local governments and private entities such as insurance companies and employers should expand access to affordable healthcare coverage for all U.S. residents, including immigrants.
- All levels of government, community-based organizations, and those in the health industry should outreach to and educate Asian Americans about the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act so they can benefit from the expanded availability of healthcare insurance.

- The federal government and courts should broadly interpret and fully enforce the antidiscrimination provisions of the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act.
- Those in the healthcare industry and federal, state, and local governments need to ensure meaningful access to quality healthcare for persons who are not fluent in English. They can accomplish this by supporting efforts to provide health services in a linguistically and culturally appropriate manner and by removing barriers to enrollment.
- The federal government should fully fund or expand programs such as Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program to ensure Asian Americans with low incomes are able to access basic healthcare services, providing a vital lifeline for the most vulnerable members of our communities.

DATA COLLECTION AND RESEARCH

Socially and economically diverse and growing dramatically, Asian American communities are complicated to understand and serve. Data collection and research play a critical role in providing policy makers and service providers the information they need to identify community needs and target programs in the most cost-effective manner possible. While the Census Bureau has provided a wealth of disaggregated data on Asian American communities, few other federal, state, or local agencies collect or disseminate disaggregated data, address language barriers in the Asian American community’s ability to participate in research efforts, or reach sufficient sample size in surveys of smaller ethnic groups to provide meaningful findings.

- Data and research produced by both governmental and nongovernmental entities must include data on Asian Americans, disaggregated by ethnic group where possible. Researchers should work to improve the quantity and quality of survey data on Asian Americans by conducting outreach, translating and administering survey instruments, and providing assistance to respondents in Asian languages and oversampling Asian American ethnic groups.
- Federal, state, and local governments and private foundations should re-examine whether adequate resources are being directed to studying and serving the needs of Asian American communities, particularly Southeast Asians. Government can draw upon the knowledge and experience of community members through the formation of Asian American advisory groups. In many areas, government programs and social service agencies are faced with having to serve greater numbers even as funding is cut. In some areas, Asian American populations may be without linguistically and culturally appropriate programs altogether. It is critical that sufficient funding is directed to meet the needs of diverse Asian American communities.

TOP FIVE LARGEST GROUPS

CHINESE AMERICANS

Chinese Americans are the largest Asian American ethnic group nationwide. Approximately 61% are foreign-born. One of the oldest Asian American ethnic groups, Chinese immigrants continue to arrive on American shores at a steady pace, with 29% entering between 2000 and 2010. The majority of legal permanent residents born in mainland China (53%) obtained immigrant visas as the immediate relatives of a U.S. citizen or under family-sponsored preferences, while 25% obtained employment-based visas. Chinese Americans are nearly twice as likely as the total population to live in overcrowded housing. Forty-two percent of Chinese Americans are limited-English proficient, and 29% are linguistically isolated.

FILIPINO AMERICANS

Filipino Americans are the second largest Asian American ethnic group nationwide. Approximately 53% of the population is foreign-born. Twenty-seven percent of the foreign-born Filipino American population entered the United States between 2000 and 2010. The vast majority of legal permanent residents born in the Philippines (89%) immigrated as the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens or under family-sponsored preferences. The remaining 11% entered the United States under employment-based preferences. Filipino Americans are nearly three times as likely to live in overcrowded housing than the total U.S. population. Nearly one in five are limited-English proficient.

INDIAN AMERICANS

Indian Americans are the third largest and fourth fastest growing Asian American ethnic group, having grown by 68% between 2000 and 2010. Approximately 70% of Indian Americans are foreign-born, and 40% of the foreign-born population entered the United States between 2000 and 2010. Approximately 45% of Indian American legal permanent residents immigrated to the United States under employment-based preferences, and 53% came as the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens or under family-sponsored preferences. Indian Americans have generally achieved professional and economic success. The majority (64%) works in a management or professional occupation and their household, median, and per capita income exceeds those of the total population. Despite their material success, over one in five Indian Americans is limited-English proficient.

VIETNAMESE AMERICANS

Vietnamese Americans are the fourth largest Asian American ethnic group. Approximately 64% are foreign-born, and 19% entered the United States between 2000 and 2010. While the largest number entered before 1990, Vietnam remains the fourth largest sender of immigrants among Asian countries. The vast majority of legal permanent residents born in Vietnam (95%) entered the United States as the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens or under family-sponsored

preferences. Only 1% entered under employment-based preferences. Nearly three out of four Vietnamese American immigrants have become U.S. citizens, highest among Asian American ethnic groups. Approximately 8% live in overcrowded housing, making them twice as likely as the total population to do so. Over half of Vietnamese Americans are limited-English proficient and over one in three are linguistically isolated, both highest among Asian American ethnic groups.

KOREAN AMERICANS

Korean Americans are the fifth largest Asian American ethnic group. Approximately 65% are foreign-born, and 29% of the foreign-born population entered between 2000 and 2010. The majority of legal permanent residents born in South Korea (52%) entered under employment-based preferences, while 48% entered as the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens or under family-sponsored preferences. Approximately 71% of Korean Americans speak a language other than English at home, 41% are limited-English proficient, and 31% live in linguistically isolated households. Over one in five Korean Americans are without health insurance.

TOP FIVE FASTEST GROWING GROUPS

BANGLADESHI AMERICANS

Bangladeshi Americans are the fastest growing Asian American ethnic group over the past decade, having grown 157% from 2000 to 2010. Approximately 73% are foreign-born, and 41% of the foreign-born population entered the United States between 2000 and 2010. Nearly three out of four Bangladeshi American legal permanent residents entered as the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens or under family-sponsored preferences. A large minority (19%) entered through the Diversity Visa program. Language barriers pose a significant problem to many Bangladeshi Americans. Nearly half (46%) are limited-English proficient, and one-quarter live in linguistically isolated households. Among Asian American ethnic groups, Bangladeshi Americans are least likely to own their own home. Nearly one in four are without health insurance.

PAKISTANI AMERICANS

Having doubled in size from 2000 to 2010, Pakistani Americans are the second fastest growing and seventh largest Asian American ethnic group. Approximately 65% are foreign-born, and 34% of the foreign-born population entered between 2000 and 2010. Roughly 81% of legal permanent residents born in Pakistan entered the country as the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens or under family-sponsored preferences, while 16% entered under employment-based preferences. Approximately 14% of Pakistani Americans live in overcrowded housing, making them over four times as likely as the general population to do so. More than one-quarter is limited-English proficient.

SRI LANKAN AMERICANS

Sri Lankan Americans were the third fastest growing Asian American ethnic group between 2000 and 2010, having grown 85% over the decade. Approximately 76% are foreign-born, and 42% of the foreign-born population entered the United States between 2000 and 2010. Approximately 42% of Sri Lankan American legal permanent residents immigrated as the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens or under family-sponsor preferences, 26% entered under employment-based preferences, and the remaining 33% entered under diversity, refugee, and asylee preferences. Sri Lankan Americans are three times as likely as the average American to hold an advanced degree and almost twice as likely to work in a management or professional occupation. Sri Lankan Americans are one of the few Asian American ethnic groups whose household, median, and per capita incomes exceed those of the average American. Despite their origins in a former British commonwealth, 72% of Sri Lankan Americans report speaking a language other than English at home, and more than one in five is limited-English proficient.

INDIAN AMERICANS

See page 55.

TAIWANESE AMERICANS

Taiwanese Americans were the fifth fastest growing Asian American ethnic group between 2000 and 2010. Approximately 68% are foreign-born, and 25% of the foreign-born population entered between 2000 and 2010. Sixty-six percent arrived as the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens or under family-sponsored preferences. Thirty-one percent arrived under employment-based preferences. Among Asian American ethnic groups, Taiwanese Americans have the highest educational attainment, with 95% holding a high school degree and 72% holding a bachelor's degree. They have the highest rates of homeownership and are the least likely to live in overcrowded housing. Language access remains a pressing issue, however, as 43% are limited-English proficient.

GLOSSARY

Asian countries

Defined as including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, Cambodia, China, East Timor, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, North Korea, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.

buying power

The “total personal income of residents that is available, after taxes, for spending on virtually everything that they buy, but it does not include dollars that are borrowed or that were saved in previous years.” (Humphreys, 2009)

country of chargeability

The country to which an immigrant is ‘charged,’ counting toward an established limit on the number of immigrant visas issued to those born in that country.

Diversity Visa (DV) program

Type of immigrant visa drawn from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. Unlike other immigrant types, diversity visas do not require a U.S. sponsor or petition.

employment-based preferences

Type of immigrant visa based on employer-sponsorship.

family-sponsored preferences

Type of immigrant visa based on family relationships. Family preference categories include sons and daughters (over the age of 21) of U.S. citizens, the spouses and children of legal permanent residents, and the siblings of U.S. citizens.

immediate relatives of U.S. citizens

Type of immigrant visa based on a close family relationship with a U.S. citizen. Immediate relative is defined as being a spouse, an unmarried child under 21 years of age, an adopted orphan, or parent of a U.S. citizen.

immigrant visas

Immigrant visas include any visas issued under the auspices of immediate relative and family-sponsorship, employment-based sponsorship, the Special Immigrants program (Iraqi and Afghan translators, government workers, and religious workers), the Diversity Visa program, Vietnam Amerasian Immigrants, and Schedule A Workers.

legal permanent resident (LPR)

A person who has immigrated legally, but is not an American citizen. This person has been

admitted to the U.S. as an immigrant and holds a green card.

limited-English proficient

Persons who speak English less than “very well.”

linguistically isolated households

Households in which all members 14 years of age and older speak English less than “very well.”

median household income

A measurement of income that divides the income distribution of households (all persons living in the same residence) into two equal parts, half falling below and half above the median household income.

overcrowded housing

Occupied units are generally considered crowded if they have more than one person per room.

per capita income

The mean income computed for every man, woman, and child in a particular group. It is derived by dividing the total income of a particular group by the total population of that group.

poverty

A measure of income relative to the federal poverty threshold (the poverty line). Adjusted for family size, the 2009 Census Bureau poverty threshold was \$21,954 annually for a family of four.

cash public assistance income

Income that includes general assistance and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). Separate payments received for hospital or other medical care (vendor payments) are excluded. This does not include Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or noncash benefits such as food stamps.

refugees and asylees

Persons who moved to the United States to escape persecution in their country of origin. Refugees are those who applied for admission while living outside the United States. Asylees are those who applied at either a port of entry or while residing in the United States.

unemployment rate

The percent of civilians 16 years of age or older who have been actively looking for work over the past four weeks, but have yet to find a job.

APPENDIX A: RACE AND ETHNICITY

Race and Hispanic Origin	2000		2010		% Growth 2000 to 2010
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	
White, Non-Hispanic	194,552,774	69%	196,817,552	64%	1%
Hispanic	35,305,818	13%	50,477,594	16%	43%
African American	36,419,434	13%	42,020,743	14%	15%
Asian American	11,898,828	4%	17,320,856	6%	46%
American Indian Alaskan Native	4,119,301	1%	5,220,579	2%	27%
Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander	874,414	0.3%	1,225,195	0.4%	40%
Total	281,421,906	100%	308,745,538	100%	10%

Asian American Ethnic Groups	2000		2010		% Growth 2000 to 2010
	Number	% of AA Total	Number	% of AA Total	
Chinese (except Taiwanese)	2,734,841	23%	3,794,673	22%	39%
Filipino	2,364,815	20%	3,416,840	20%	44%
Indian	1,899,599	16%	3,183,063	18%	68%
Vietnamese	1,223,736	10%	1,737,433	10%	42%
Korean	1,228,427	10%	1,706,822	10%	39%
Japanese	1,148,932	10%	1,304,286	8%	14%
Pakistani	204,309	2%	409,163	2%	100%
Cambodian	206,052	2%	276,667	2%	34%
Hmong	186,310	2%	260,073	2%	40%
Thai	150,283	1%	237,583	1%	58%
Laotian	198,203	2%	232,130	1%	17%
Taiwanese	144,795	1%	230,382	1%	59%
Bangladeshi	57,412	0.5%	147,300	1%	157%
Burmese	NR	NR	100,200	1%	NR
Indonesian	63,073	1%	95,270	1%	51%
Nepalese	NR	NR	59,490	0.3%	NR
Sri Lankan	24,587	0.2%	45,381	0.3%	85%
Malaysian	18,566	0.2%	26,179	0.2%	41%
Bhutanese	NR	NR	19,439	0.1%	NR
Asian American Total	11,898,828	100%	17,320,856	100%	46%

APPENDIX B: AA POPULATION BY STATE

States	2000		2010		% Growth 2000 to 2010
	AA Population	% of Total	AA Population	% of Total	
California	4,155,685	12%	5,556,592	15%	34%
New York	1,169,200	6%	1,579,494	8%	35%
Texas	644,193	3%	1,110,666	4%	72%
New Jersey	524,356	6%	795,163	9%	52%
Hawaii	703,232	58%	780,968	57%	11%
Illinois	473,649	4%	668,694	5%	41%
Washington	395,741	7%	604,251	9%	53%
Florida	333,013	2%	573,083	3%	72%
Virginia	304,559	4%	522,199	7%	71%
Pennsylvania	248,601	2%	402,587	3%	62%
Massachusetts	264,814	4%	394,211	6%	49%
Maryland	238,408	5%	370,044	6%	55%
Georgia	199,812	2%	365,497	4%	83%
Michigan	208,329	2%	289,607	3%	39%
North Carolina	136,212	2%	252,585	3%	85%
Minnesota	162,414	3%	247,132	5%	52%
Nevada	112,456	6%	242,916	9%	116%
Ohio	159,776	1%	238,292	2%	49%
Arizona	118,672	2%	230,907	4%	95%
Oregon	127,339	4%	186,281	5%	46%
Colorado	120,779	3%	185,589	4%	54%
Connecticut	95,368	3%	157,088	4%	65%
Wisconsin	102,768	2%	151,513	3%	47%
Indiana	72,839	1%	126,750	2%	74%
Missouri	76,210	1%	123,571	2%	62%
Tennessee	68,918	1%	113,398	2%	65%

States	2000		2010		% Growth 2000 to 2010
	AA Population	% of Total	AA Population	% of Total	
Louisiana	64,350	1%	84,335	1.9%	31%
Oklahoma	58,723	1.7%	84,170	2.2%	43%
Kansas	56,049	2.1%	83,930	2.9%	50%
Utah	48,692	2.2%	77,748	2.8%	60%
South Carolina	44,931	1.1%	75,674	1.6%	68%
Alabama	39,458	0.9%	67,036	1.4%	70%
Iowa	43,119	1.5%	64,512	2.1%	50%
Kentucky	37,062	0.9%	62,029	1.4%	67%
Alaska	32,686	5.2%	50,402	7.1%	54%
Arkansas	25,401	1.0%	44,943	1.5%	77%
Nebraska	26,809	1.6%	40,561	2.2%	51%
New Mexico	26,619	1.5%	40,456	2.0%	52%
Rhode Island	28,290	2.7%	36,763	3.5%	30%
New Hampshire	19,219	1.6%	34,522	2.6%	80%
Delaware	18,944	2.4%	33,701	3.8%	78%
Mississippi	23,281	0.8%	32,560	1.1%	40%
Idaho	17,390	1.3%	29,698	1.9%	71%
District of Columbia	17,956	3.1%	26,857	4.5%	50%
Maine	11,827	0.9%	18,333	1.4%	55%
West Virginia	11,873	0.7%	16,465	0.9%	39%
Montana	7,101	0.8%	10,482	1.1%	48%
Vermont	6,622	1.1%	10,463	1.7%	58%
South Dakota	6,009	0.8%	10,216	1.3%	70%
North Dakota	4,967	0.80%	9,193	1.4%	85%
Wyoming	4,107	0.80%	6,729	1.2%	64%
Total	11,898,828	100%	17,320,856	100%	46%

APPENDIX C: AA POPULATION BY COUNTY

Counties	2000		2010		% Growth 2000 to 2010
	AA Population	% of Total	AA Population	% of Total	
Los Angeles County, California	1,245,019	13%	1,497,960	15%	20%
Santa Clara County, California	462,261	28%	618,242	35%	34%
Orange County, California	423,911	15%	597,748	20%	41%
Honolulu County, Hawaii	539,384	62%	590,926	62%	10%
Queens County, New York	433,553	19%	552,867	25%	28%
Alameda County, California	326,949	23%	440,869	29%	35%
San Diego County, California	295,346	11%	407,984	13%	38%
Cook County, Illinois	287,551	5%	362,929	7%	26%
King County, Washington	217,351	13%	330,038	17%	52%
San Francisco County, California	253,477	33%	288,529	36%	14%
Kings County, New York	206,272	8%	284,489	11%	38%
Harris County, Texas	193,059	6%	280,341	7%	45%
Sacramento County, California	159,302	13%	241,160	17%	51%
Fairfax County, Virginia	140,224	15%	212,647	20%	52%
Clark County, Nevada	90,268	7%	207,775	11%	130%
New York County, New York	156,710	10%	199,722	13%	27%
San Mateo County, California	156,605	22%	199,294	28%	27%
Middlesex County, New Jersey	109,778	15%	182,852	23%	67%
Contra Costa County, California	121,969	13%	180,773	17%	48%
Maricopa County, Arizona	83,675	3%	167,691	4%	100%
Riverside County, California	71,355	5%	161,542	7%	126%
Middlesex County, Massachusetts	100,456	7%	155,141	10%	54%
San Bernardino County, California	97,340	6%	154,710	8%	59%
Montgomery County, Maryland	107,785	12%	151,180	16%	40%

Counties	2000		2010		% Growth 2000 to 2010
	AA Population	% of Total	AA Population	% of Total	
Bergen County, New Jersey	100,009	11%	140,413	16%	40%
Dallas County, Texas	98,563	4%	132,393	6%	34%
San Joaquin County, California	76,656	14%	116,818	17%	52%
Nassau County, New York	70,209	5%	113,831	9%	62%
Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania	74,435	5%	106,720	7%	43%
Fort Bend County, Texas	42,556	12%	106,263	18%	150%
DuPage County, Illinois	76,941	9%	101,542	11%	32%
Fresno County, California	73,403	9%	101,134	11%	38%
Tarrant County, Texas	59,749	4%	97,472	5%	63%
Collin County, Texas	37,215	8%	97,124	12%	161%
Gwinnett County, Georgia	45,993	8%	92,584	12%	101%
Hudson County, New Jersey	62,549	10%	91,810	15%	47%
Hawaii County, Hawaii	70,921	48%	82,944	45%	17%
Hennepin County, Minnesota	60,541	5%	82,203	7%	36%
Snohomish County, Washington	42,502	7%	77,720	11%	83%
Oakland County, Michigan	54,780	5%	77,076	6%	41%
Solano County, California	60,724	15%	74,750	18%	23%
Maui County, Hawaii	61,148	48%	72,810	47%	19%
Broward County, Florida	45,601	3%	70,826	4%	55%
Travis County, Texas	41,307	5%	69,359	7%	68%
Ventura County, California	48,856	7%	69,252	8%	42%
Pierce County, Washington	48,803	7%	68,958	9%	41%
Orange County, Florida	35,977	4%	67,357	6%	87%
Suffolk County, Massachusetts	52,360	8%	65,454	9%	25%

APPENDIX D: SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS,

Median Age		Homeownership (%)		Crowded Housing (%)		Below Federal Poverty Line (%)		Cash Public Assistance (%)		High School Degree (%)	
NHPI	26	African American	45	NHPI	13	African American	25	AIAN	6	Hispanic	61
Hispanic	27	NHPI	48	Hispanic	13	AIAN	23	NHPI	6	AIAN	80
African American	30	Hispanic	49	Asian American	7	Hispanic	22	African American	5	African American	81
AIAN	31	AIAN	56	AIAN	6	NHPI	14	Hispanic	4	NHPI	85
Asian American	33	Asian American	59	African American	4	Asian American	11	Asian American	2	Asian American	86
White	41	White	73	White	1	White	10	White	2	White	90
Total Population	37	Total Population	66	Total Population	3	Total Population	14	Total Population	2	Total Population	85

Median Age		Homeownership (%)		Crowded Housing (%)		Below Federal Poverty Line (%)		Cash Public Assistance (%)		High School Degree (%)	
Hmong	20	Bangladeshi	44	Hmong	32	Hmong	26	Hmong	13	Hmong	61
Cambodian	27	Hmong	49	Bangladeshi	24	Bangladeshi	20	Cambodian	8	Cambodian	62
Laotian	28	Korean	49	Pakistani	14	Cambodian	18	Laotian	6	Laotian	66
Pakistani	29	Cambodian	51	Cambodian	14	Pakistani	15	Vietnamese	4	Vietnamese	72
Bangladeshi	31	Malaysian	53	Laotian	11	Vietnamese	14	Bangladeshi	3	Bangladeshi	81
Indian	32	Pakistani	55	Vietnamese	8	Thai	14	Filipino	2	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	82
Thai	32	Indonesian	55	Filipino	8	Korean	13	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	2	Thai	84
Korean	33	Thai	55	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	6	Laotian	13	Korean	2	Pakistani	87
Malaysian	33	Indian	56	Sri Lankan	6	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	12	Indonesian	2	Indian	91
Indonesian	33	Sri Lankan	61	Indian	6	Taiwanese	12	Pakistani	1	Korean	92
Filipino	34	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	62	Indonesian	5	Indonesian	12	Thai	1	Filipino	92
Vietnamese	34	Laotian	63	Korean	5	Malaysian	10	Indian	1	Malaysian	93
Chinese (except Taiwanese)	35	Filipino	63	Malaysian	5	Sri Lankan	9	Japanese	1	Sri Lankan	93
Taiwanese	35	Japanese	63	Thai	5	Indian	8	Sri Lankan	1	Indonesian	94
Sri Lankan	36	Vietnamese	64	Japanese	3	Japanese	8	Taiwanese	1	Japanese	94
Japanese	38	Taiwanese	66	Taiwanese	2	Filipino	6	Malaysian	NR	Taiwanese	95

UNITED STATES 2007 TO 2009

Per Capita Income		Median Household Income		Foreign-Born (%)		Naturalization Rate of Foreign-Born (%)		Limited English Proficiency (%)	
Hispanic	\$15,506	African American	\$34,585	Asian American	60	Hispanic	29	Hispanic	38
African American	\$17,549	AIAN	\$38,515	Hispanic	38	AIAN	32	Asian American	32
AIAN	\$17,933	Hispanic	\$40,920	NHPI	14	NHPI	40	NHPI	8
NHPI	\$19,020	White	\$55,906	African American	8	African American	46	AIAN	6
Asian American	\$28,342	NHPI	\$57,664	AIAN	5	Asian American	57	African American	3
White	\$31,735	Asian American	\$68,549	White	4	White	58	White	2
Total Population	\$27,100	Total Population	\$51,369	Total Population	13	Total Population	43	Total Population	9

Per Capita Income		Median Household Income		Foreign-Born (%)		Naturalization Rate of Foreign-Born (%)		Limited English Proficiency (%)	
Hmong	\$10,949	Bangladeshi	\$45,953	Sri Lankan	76	Malaysian	27	Vietnamese	51
Cambodian	\$15,940	Hmong	\$47,038	Bangladeshi	73	Japanese	33	Bangladeshi	46
Laotian	\$16,585	Cambodian	\$50,669	Malaysian	73	Indonesian	35	Cambodian	43
Bangladeshi	\$16,784	Korean	\$53,934	Indian	70	Sri Lankan	43	Taiwanese	43
Vietnamese	\$21,542	Vietnamese	\$54,799	Taiwanese	68	Indian	47	Hmong	43
Thai	\$21,708	Laotian	\$55,119	Indonesian	65	Thai	49	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	42
Pakistani	\$24,663	Thai	\$55,210	Korean	65	Bangladeshi	50	Korean	41
Indonesian	\$25,729	Indonesian	\$60,906	Pakistani	65	Korean	54	Laotian	40
Filipino	\$25,799	Pakistani	\$62,744	Vietnamese	64	Hmong	57	Thai	36
Korean	\$26,118	Malaysian	\$63,269	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	61	Pakistan	57	Indonesian	30
Chinese (except Taiwanese)	\$30,061	Japanese	\$65,767	Thai	60	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	60	Pakistani	28
Japanese	\$31,831	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	\$68,420	Cambodian	56	Laotian	62	Malaysian	23
Sri Lankan	\$32,480	Sri Lankan	\$73,927	Laotian	55	Cambodian	63	Indian	22
Malaysian	\$33,264	Filipino	\$76,455	Filipino	53	Filipino	64	Sri Lankan	22
Indian	\$36,533	Taiwanese	\$77,596	Hmong	44	Taiwanese	67	Filipino	19
Taiwanese	\$38,312	Indian	\$86,660	Japanese	28	Vietnamese	73	Japanese	18

TECHNICAL NOTES

Measuring the characteristics of racial and ethnic groups

Since 2000, the United States Census Bureau has allowed those responding to its questionnaires to report one or more racial or ethnic backgrounds. While this better reflects America's diversity and improves data available on multiracial populations, it complicates the use of data on racial and ethnic groups.

Data on race are generally available from the Census Bureau in two forms, for those of a single racial background (referred to as "alone"), with multiracial people captured in an independent category, and for those of either single or multiple racial backgrounds (referred to as "alone or in combination with one or more other races"). Similarly, data on ethnic groups are generally available as "alone" or "alone or in any combination." In this report, population, population growth, and population characteristics by racial and ethnic group are measured for the "alone or in combination" population unless otherwise noted. Exceptions include the measurement of the White population, which is defined here as non-Hispanic White "alone."

Sources of data used in this report

Most of the data included in this report are drawn from the United States Census Bureau, including the 2010 Census, American Community Survey (ACS) 2009 1-Year Estimates, American Community Survey (ACS) 2007–2009 3-Year Estimates, American Community Survey (ACS) 2005–2009 5-Year Estimates, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, 2008 Current Population Survey (CPS), and 2008 American Housing Survey. Other data included in the report include the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2008 National Health Interview Survey, U.S. Department of Education's 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), U.S. Department of Homeland Security data on legal permanent residents, refugees, asylees, and the undocumented population, and U.S. Department of State data on visas issued. Various reports are also cited. Where data on population characteristics are available from multiple sources, data from the American Community Survey (ACS) were preferred, given its inclusion of disaggregated data by Asian American ethnic group.

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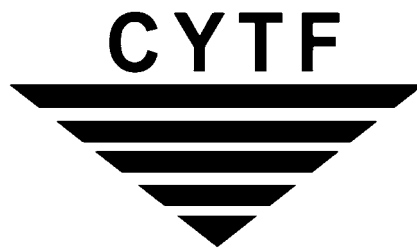
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