

Making America Work:

Asian Americans,

Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders

in the Workforce and Business 2014



Asian American Federation



ASIAN AMERICANS
ADVANCING
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LOS ANGELES

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ORGANIZATIONAL DESCRIPTIONS



Founded in 1983 as the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles (Advancing Justice - LA) is the nation’s largest legal and civil rights organization for Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI). Through direct services, impact litigation, policy advocacy, leadership development, and capacity building, Advancing Justice - LA focuses on the most vulnerable members of Asian American and NHPI communities while also building a strong voice for civil rights and social justice.

Advancing Justice - LA is based in downtown Los Angeles, with satellite offices in Orange County, Sacramento, and the San Gabriel Valley. Visit www.advancingjustice-la.org. Our affiliates include Asian Americans Advancing Justice - AAJC (Washington, DC), Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus (San Francisco), Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta, and Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Chicago.



Asian American Federation

The Asian American Federation’s mission is to raise the influence and well-being of the pan-Asian American community through research, policy advocacy, public awareness, and organizational development.

Established in 1989, the Federation is a nonprofit organization representing a network of community service agencies in the Northeast. These agencies work in the fields of health and human services, education, economic development, civic participation, and social justice. Visit www.aafederation.org for more information about our programs and services.

All photographs in the report were taken by M. Jamie Watson. Data design and layout were provided by Stylistic Press.

Please e-mail any questions regarding the report to askdemographics@advancingjustice-la.org or info@aafederation.org.

*Our communities create millions of jobs,
fill vital roles in key industries, and command
growing buying power.*

Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) have long been the victims of a “model minority” myth. The perception that our communities have universally overcome adversity to achieve the American dream persists despite considerable evidence to the contrary; data from the U.S. Census Bureau and others show increasing numbers of Asian Americans and NHPI who are unemployed and poor, lack access to health care, and face language barriers to good jobs and critical services. When held by policy makers, funders, and others in positions of power, this perception can have a chilling effect on our ability to serve those in our communities who are most in need.

Yet as debate around immigration reform continues against the backdrop of relentless attacks on both documented and undocumented immigrants, it is also critical that policy makers understand the contributions our communities make to this country. Immigrants are a vital part of our economy, helping carry our nation during tough times through their labor and entrepreneurial spirit. For example, this report shows that Asian American and NHPI workers drive key industries in states throughout the country and that Asian American and NHPI business owners have created jobs for millions of Americans nationwide.

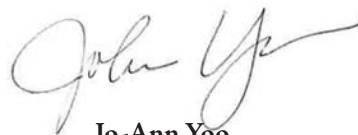
Making America Work: Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in the Workforce and Business, 2014 attempts to navigate a complex narrative; while our communities face growing challenges, they are also playing a critical role in bringing our nation back from economic recession through their work and entrepreneurial activity. The report includes the latest national data from the U.S. Census Bureau and other sources outlining the consumer spending, labor, and entrepreneurial activity that contribute to economic growth. Together these data tell a story of how immigrants continue to build America.

We would like to thank the sponsors who made this report possible, including the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation, 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 American Federation (Howard Shih, Peiyi Xu, and Jo-Ann Yoo) and Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles (Kristin Sakaguchi, Dan Ichinose, Joanna Lee, Betty Hung, and Stewart Kwoh). Special thanks to Josh Ishimatsu (National Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Community Development), Betty Lo (Nielsen), Stephanie Lomibao (Bank of America), Richard Lui (MSNBC), Wynne Lum (Bank of America), and Reshma Shamasunder (California Immigrant Policy Center) for their critical guidance and feedback.



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*This report seeks to present
a clear and nuanced view of the roles
Asian Americans and NHPI
play in the economy.*

Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) have had a long and rich history contributing to the economy of the United States. Starting with the Gold Rush during the mid-1800s, a large migration supplied waves of manual labor for the gold and silver mines of the American West and the construction of the transcontinental railroads. The subsequent backlash against Asian American labor led to bans on Asian immigration and limits on economic opportunities for those who remained. NHPI were an essential part of the American whaling industry during the same period. However, conditions were harsh and captains favored NHPI crews because they could pay them lower wages.

Only with the change in immigration laws in the 1960s did the image of Asian American workers gradually shift to the current “model minority” stereotype of the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) professional. As large waves of Asian immigrants entered the country, they began to more broadly contribute to the economy. Today Asian Americans and NHPI are the fastest-growing portion of the consumer market measured by buying power, dominate occupations as diverse as software engineers and nail salon workers, and drive job growth through entrepreneurship and business leadership.

Making America Work: Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in the Workforce and Business, 2014 seeks to present a clear and nuanced view of the roles Asian Americans and NHPI play in the economy.

First, our report seeks to show the diversity of experiences in our communities. The “model minority” image of the Asian American STEM professional obscures the prominent and diverse roles Asian Americans and NHPI play across the economy. Where possible, we present the full range of data by ethnic group and shine the light on the fast-growing low-income Asian American worker population.

Second, this report is a resource to Asian American and NHPI communities. By compiling the data into a single and accessible format, community organizations, policy makers, government agencies, foundations, businesses, and other stakeholders are able to make informed decisions that result in more effective change in our communities.

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

Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) are two of the nation's fastest-growing and most-diverse racial groups. Driven by immigration, this growth has had a positive impact on our economy; Asian American and NHPI communities throughout the country are making real contributions through their work and business ownership. However, not all Asian Americans and NHPI are able to reap the rewards. *Making America Work: Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in the Workforce and Business, 2014* provides a better understanding of the role Asian Americans and NHPI are playing in our nation's economic recovery as well as what policy makers can do to better support and strengthen these critical contributions. The report's key findings include the following:

While Asian American and NHPI populations command increasing buying power, the Great Recession had a devastating effect on Asian American household wealth.

Asian American and NHPI buying power increased 180% nationwide between 2000 and 2014. Growth in Asian American and NHPI buying power has been dramatic both in states that have seen the greatest increases in population and states with large, established communities. Yet Asian American and NHPI communities continue to experience the effects of the recession; the median net worth of Asian American households declined 59% between 2005 and 2010, caused by significant decreases in home equity. Financial literacy and housing counseling services are needed in Asian American and NHPI communities and should be culturally and linguistically accessible.

Asian Americans in both white- and blue-collar occupations are driving key industries throughout our nation's economy, yet increasing numbers are low-wage workers.

Asian Americans and NHPI work in occupations across all industries in the United States. Asian Americans are overrepresented among white-collar workers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) industries critical to the economy, including electronic component and product manufacturing, computer systems design, and both Internet and software publishing. Yet Asian Americans and NHPI are also overrepresented among blue-collar occupations: disproportionate numbers of nail salon, apparel manufacturing, and taxi workers are Asian American. To address the growing number of Asian American and NHPI low-wage workers, policy makers should preserve and strengthen social safety-net programs, ensure the cultural and linguistic accessibility of workforce development programs, and invest greater resources in the enforcement of employment and labor laws.

Asian American- and NHPI-owned businesses employ millions nationwide, creating jobs that stimulate recovery in the wake of the economic crisis.

There are over 1.5 million Asian American- and nearly 38,000 NHPI-owned businesses nationwide; the vast majority are immigrant owned. These businesses employ over 2.8 million workers, creating nearly 600,000 jobs from 2002 to 2007 alone. The majority of Asian American- and NHPI-owned businesses are small businesses; approximately 94% and 91%, respectively, have fewer than 20 employees. While some large Asian American-owned businesses are among the nation's leaders in their respective industries, Asian Americans and NHPI remain underrepresented among the leadership of Fortune 500 companies. To support the contributions of Asian American and NHPI entrepreneurs and promote diversity in corporate leadership, policy makers should assist small businesses and small business development while including Asian Americans and NHPI in equal opportunity programs to counter discrimination in hiring, retention, and promotion.

demographics

The economic impact of Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) communities can only be fully understood against the backdrop of dramatic demographic change. Across the United States, Asian American and NHPI populations are among the fastest growing.

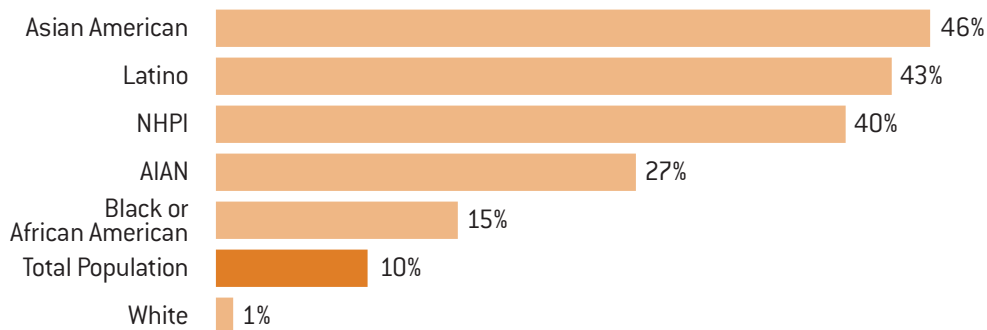
Driven by immigration, this growth is occurring both in large states like California and New York and in smaller states where Asian American and NHPI communities have more recently become established.

*There are over
17 million Asian Americans
living in the United States.
By 2025, the population is expected
to approach 25 million.*

- The United States is home to over 17 million Asian Americans, who make up 6% of the total population.¹ By 2025, the number of Asian Americans nationwide is expected to approach 25 million.²
- From 2000 to 2010, Asian Americans were the fastest-growing racial group nationwide, increasing 46%, a rate higher than that of Latinos (43%).
- There are over 1.2 million Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) living in the United States; by 2025, the population is expected to exceed 1.8 million. NHPI were among the fastest-growing racial groups from 2000 to 2010, increasing 40% over the decade.³
- Chinese, Filipino, and Indian Americans are the largest Asian American ethnic groups nationwide, while South Asians, including Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, and Indian Americans, are among the fastest growing.⁴
- Native Hawaiians, Samoan Americans, and Guamanian or Chamorro Americans are the nation's largest NHPI ethnic groups. Fijian (138%) and Guamanian or Chamorro Americans (60%) were among the fastest-growing NHPI ethnic groups between 2000 and 2010.⁵

Population Growth by Race and Hispanic Origin

United States 2000 to 2010



U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1, Tables P8 and P9; 2010 Census SF1, Tables P5 and P6. Note: Figure for each racial group includes both single race and multiracial people, except for White, which is single race, non-Latino.

AIAN: Native American(s) or Alaska Native(s)
NHPI: Native Hawaiian(s) and Pacific Islander(s)

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF1, Tables P5 and P6.

² U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 National Population Projections, Table 4.

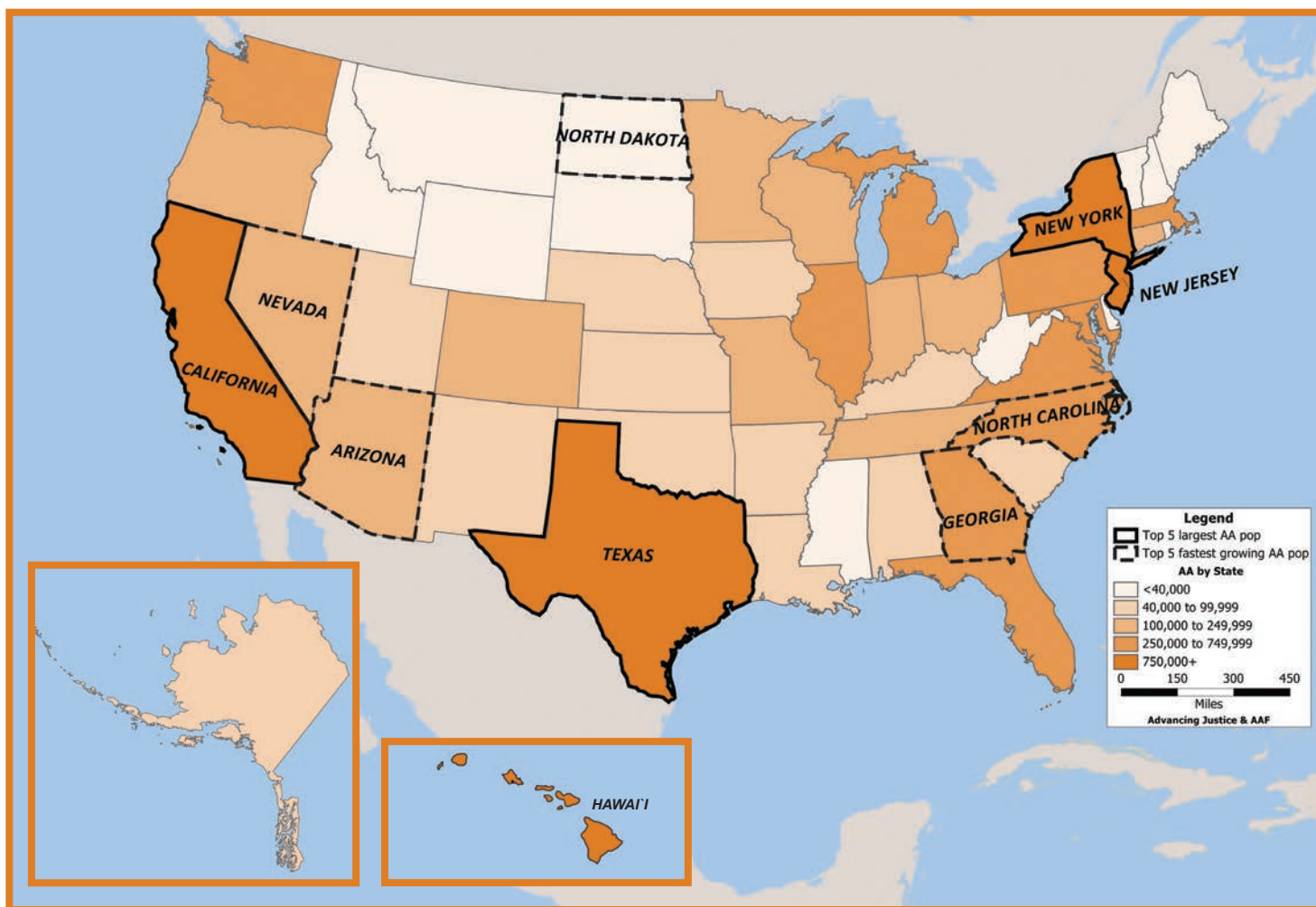
³ U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF1, Tables P5 and P6; 2012 National Population Projections, Table 4.

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1, Table PCT7; 2010 Census SF1, Table PCT7.

⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1, Table PCT10; 2010 Census SF1, Table PCT10.

*Asian Americans were
the fastest-growing
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between 2000 and 2010.*

Asian American Population, Growth



U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1, Table QT-P6; 2010 Census SF1, Table QT-P6.

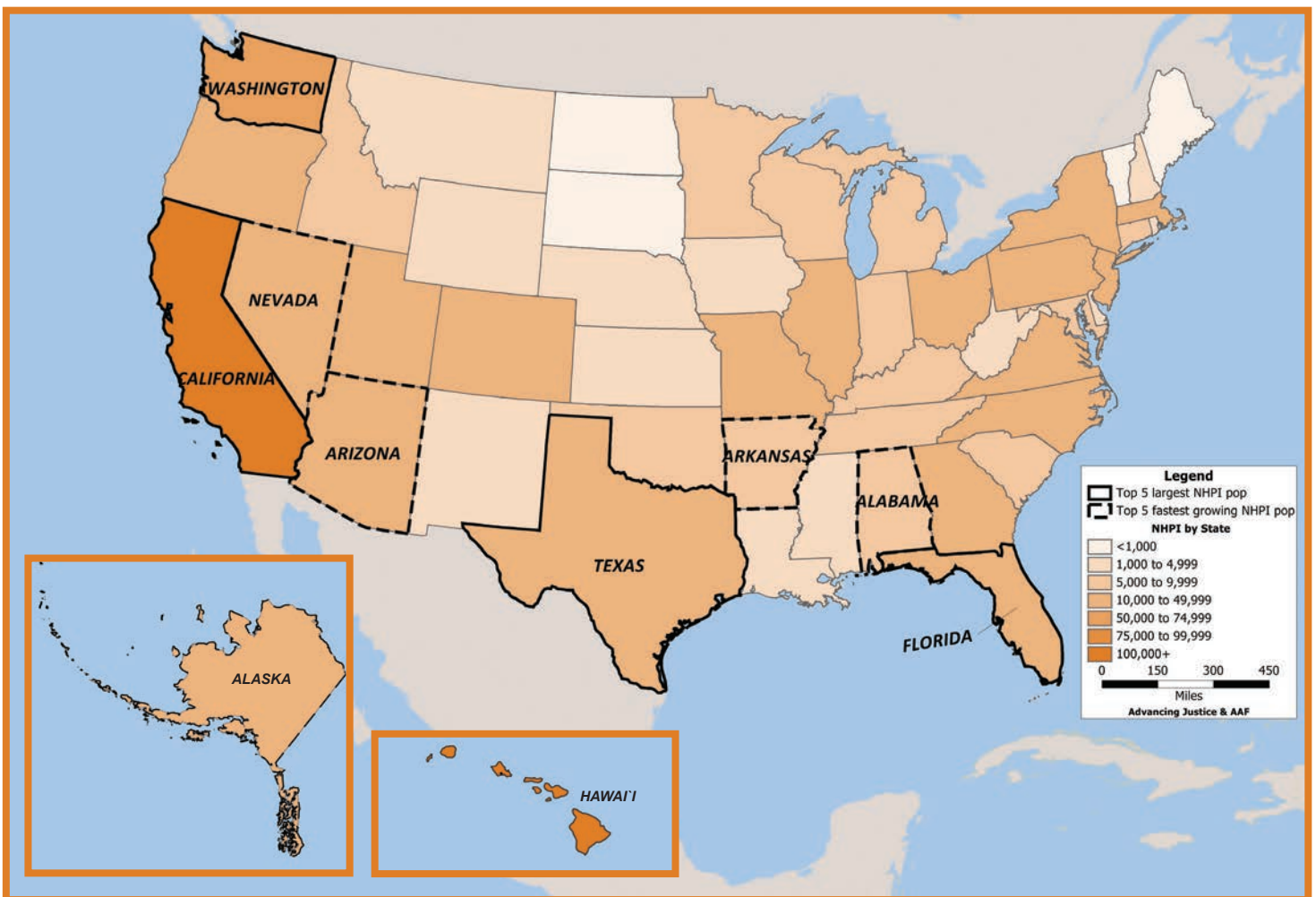
- California, New York, Texas, New Jersey, and Hawai`i are home to the largest Asian American populations in the country. Hawai`i is the only state whose population is majority Asian American (57%).
- Between 2000 and 2010, Asian American populations grew fastest in Nevada (116%), Arizona (95%), North Carolina (85%), North Dakota (85%), and Georgia (83%).¹
- Asian Americans are the fastest-growing racial group in Nevada, Arizona, New Hampshire, Texas, Florida, Connecticut, Colorado, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Illinois, Michigan, New York, and California.²

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1, Table P9; 2010 Census SF1, Table P6.

² U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1, Tables P8 and P9; 2010 Census SF1, Tables P5 and P6.

Arkansas, Nevada, Alaska, Arizona, and Alabama are home to the nation's fastest-growing Pacific Islander populations.

NHPI Population, Growth



U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1, Table QT-P6; 2010 Census SF1, Table QT-P6.

- Hawai`i, California, Washington, Texas, and Florida have the largest NHPI populations of any state. Over a quarter (26%) of Hawai`i residents are NHPI.
- NHPI populations in Arkansas (151%), Nevada (102%), Alaska (102%), Arizona (87%), and Alabama (87%) experienced the fastest growth from 2000 to 2010.
- NHPI were the fastest-growing racial group in Arkansas, Alaska, Wyoming, and New Mexico from 2000 to 2010.³

³ U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1, Tables P8 and P9; 2010 Census SF1, Tables P5 and P6.

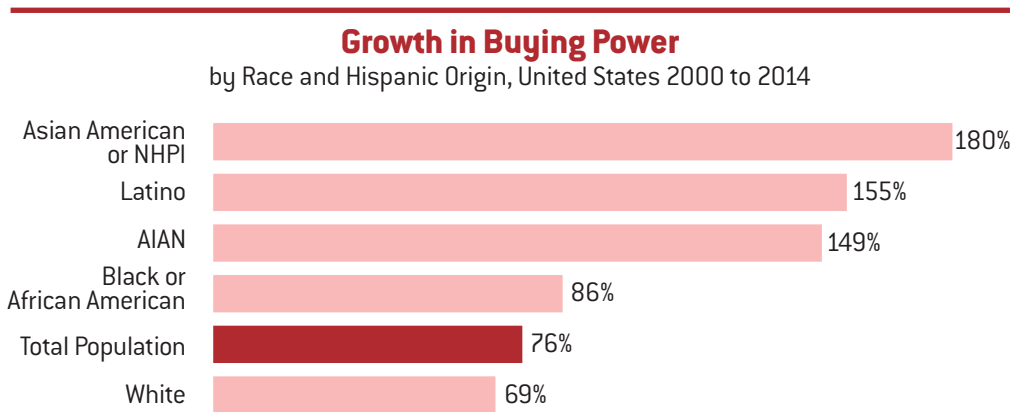
consumers

Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) consumers are a rapidly growing force in the country's economy. As their communities have grown, so has their collective buying power, or disposable income after taxes. Yet Asian Americans and NHPI have also been hit hard by the Great Recession, with the net worth of Asian American households decreasing significantly in recent years.

*Asian American and NHPI
buying power increased 180%
between 2000 and 2014.*

Population growth has driven a dramatic increase in Asian American and NHPI buying power and an expanded economic presence in the nation’s consumer market.¹

- From 2000 to 2014, Asian American and NHPI buying power in the United States grew 180% to \$770 billion.²
- Asian American and NHPI buying power has been growing faster than the population: from 2000 to 2014, the Asian American and NHPI population grew 58%.³
- Asian American and NHPI buying power is 6% of the nationwide total, an increase from 3.8% in 2000.⁴
- The largest Asian American and NHPI consumer markets are in California (\$250 billion), New York (\$70 billion), Texas (\$56 billion), New Jersey (\$46 billion), and Illinois (\$30 billion). There are 16 states in which Asian American and NHPI buying power exceeds \$10 billion; in 2019, there will be 20 states.⁵
- Asian American and NHPI buying power grew fastest from 2000 to 2014 in South Dakota (363%), Washington, DC (316%), Arkansas (305%), North Dakota (300%), and Nevada (277%).⁶
- Indian (25%), Chinese (23%), and Filipino Americans (16%) have the highest share of Asian American buying power nationwide.⁷



Humphreys, Jeffrey M. 2014. “The Multicultural Economy 2014.” University of Georgia, Selig Center for Economic Growth. Note: Figures are for single race. Asian American and NHPI data are not available separately. White figures include Latino.

¹ Buying power is disposable income for spending after taxes, not including savings or borrowed money.
² Humphreys, Jeffrey M. 2014. “The Multicultural Economy 2014.” University of Georgia, Selig Center for Economic Growth. Note: Figures are for single race.
³ Ibid.
⁴ Ibid.
⁵ Ibid.
⁶ Ibid.
⁷ Humphreys, Jeffrey M. September 2014. “The Multicultural Economy: Special Focus on Asian Buying Power by Subgroup 2014.” University of Georgia, Selig Center for Economic Growth. Note: Figures are for single race/ethnicity.

Asian American households saw net worth drop by more than half during the Great Recession.

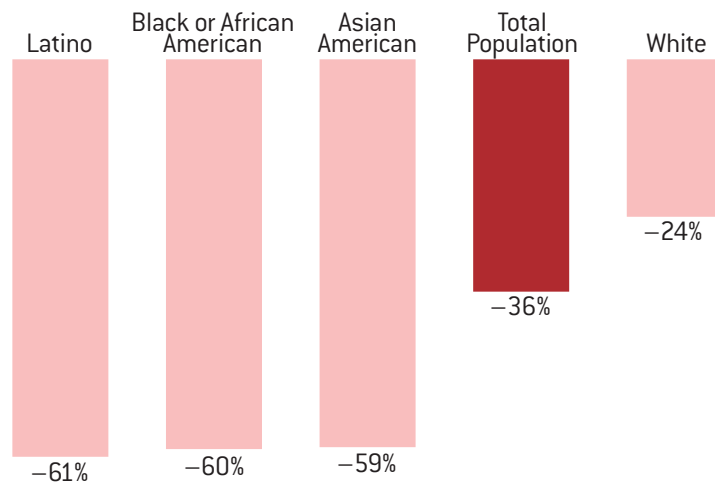


Despite growing buying power, Asian American households saw net worth drop by more than half during the Great Recession. These declines were driven by decreases in home and business equity.

- The median net worth of Asian American households fell dramatically from nearly \$176,000 in 2005 to just under \$72,000 in 2010.
- Median value of home equity held by Asian American households fell from \$230,415 in 2005 to \$128,943 in 2010.¹
- Median value of business equity held by Asian American households fell from \$11,521 in 2005 to \$5,158 in 2010.²

Change in the Median Net Worth of Households

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2005 to 2010



U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2005 Panel, Wave 6; 2008 Panel, Wave 7. Note: Figures are for single race. White figures exclude Latinos.

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2005 Panel, Waves 3 and 6; 2008 Panel, Waves 4, 7, and 10.
² Ibid.

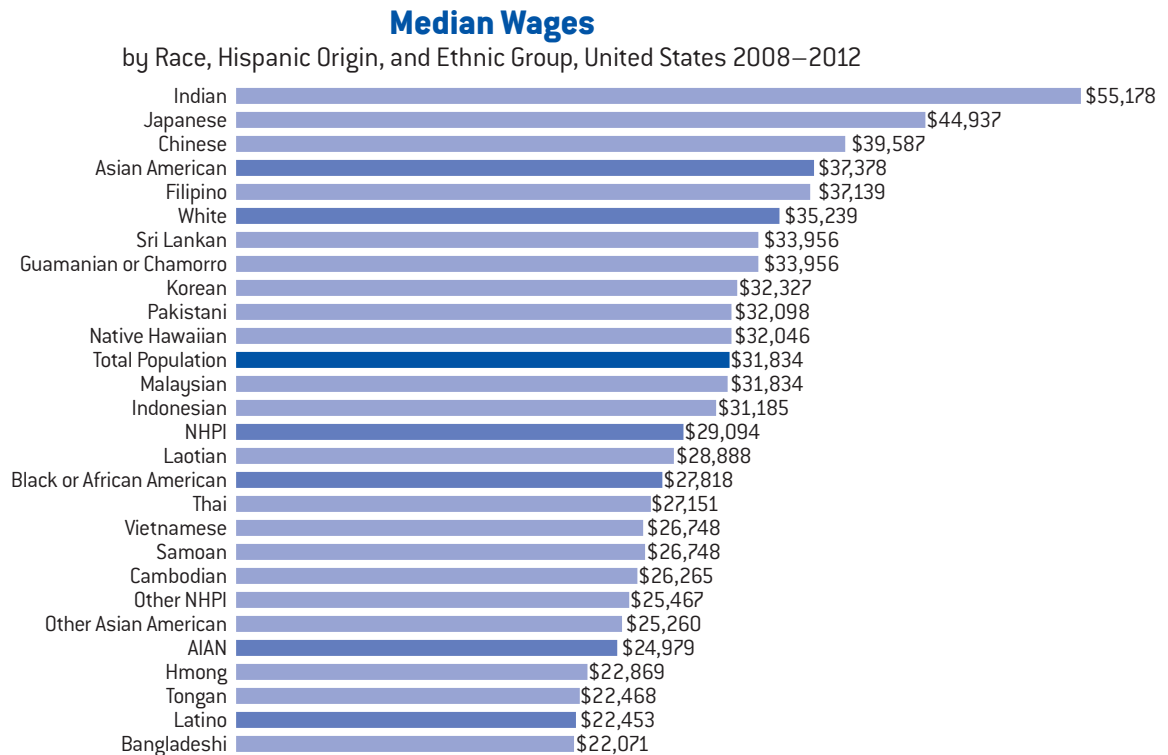
workforce

Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) contribute to the economy through their participation in America's workforce across a broad range of industries and in both white- and blue-collar occupations. Asian Americans make up nearly 6% of the nation's civilian employed population age 16 and older, while NHPI make up less than 1%.¹ The overwhelming majority of Asian American workers are immigrants; 74% of Asian American and 20% of NHPI workers are foreign-born.² Contrary to "model minority" stereotypes, increasing numbers are low-wage workers.

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

² Ibid.

The diversity of median wages among Asian American and NHPI groups points to different employment patterns.



U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample. Note: Figures for each racial group include both single race and multiracial people, except for White, which is single race, non-Latino. Figures for Asian American and NHPI ethnic groups are for single ethnicity. Chinese figure includes those who identified as Taiwanese.

While the previous chapter highlighted continued growth in Asian American buying power, median wages suggest that the growth in buying power is not equally distributed among Asian American and NHPI ethnic groups. The diversity of median wages among Asian American and NHPI groups points to different employment patterns, which we will examine in the following pages. A closer look at median wage data shows that:

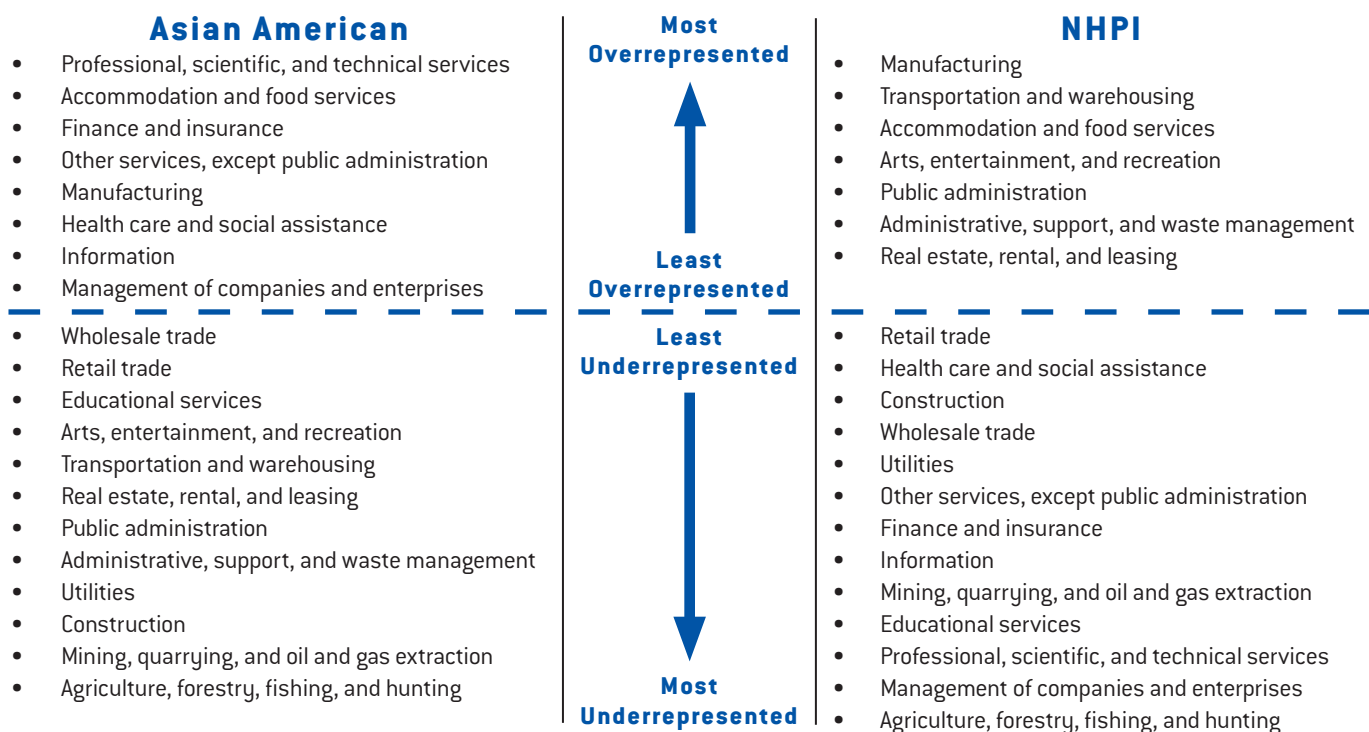
- Bangladeshi American workers have the lowest median wages among all racial and ethnic groups examined.
- NHPI have median wages below the country’s average.
- Eight Asian American ethnic groups and three NHPI ethnic groups have median wages lower than that of the total population.
- A recent U.S. Department of Labor report found that many of the differences in wages between Asian Americans and Whites disappear when workers with similar educational levels and those living in the same geographies are compared.¹

¹U.S. Department of Labor. August 2014. “The Economic Status of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the Wake of the Great Recession.”

Asian Americans work in all sectors of the economy, overrepresented in industries from professional to food services.

Representation of Asian American and NHPI Workers, Age 16 Years & Older

by Major Industry Group, United States 2008–2012, Ranked by Representation Index



U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Asian Americans and NHPI work in all sectors of the economy. Yet certain industries are more likely than others to attract Asian American and NHPI workers.

- Asian American workers are most overrepresented in professional, scientific, and technical services; accommodation and food services; and finance and insurance major industry groups.
- Asian American workers are most underrepresented in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting; mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction; and construction.
- NHPI workers are most overrepresented in manufacturing, transportation and warehousing, and accommodation and food services.
- NHPI workers are most underrepresented in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting; management of companies and enterprises; and professional, scientific, and technical services.

Immigrants play a vital role across industries most dependent on Asian American workers.

Specific Industries with Highest Proportion of Asian American Workers

by Top 10 Industries, United States 2008–2012, Ranked by Percent Asian American Workers

Industry	Asian American Workers	
	% of Workforce	% Immigrant
Nail salons and other personal care services	38%	93%
Electronic component and product manufacturing, n.e.c.	22%	88%
Computer systems design and related services	20%	86%
Computer and peripheral equipment manufacturing	19%	83%
Internet publishing and broadcasting and web search portals	17%	65%
Software publishing	17%	80%
Communications, and audio and video equipment manufacturing	17%	88%
Cut and sew apparel manufacturing	17%	92%
Taxi and limousine service	16%	96%
Electronic auctions	16%	84%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Specific Industries with Highest Proportion of NHPI Workers

by Top 10 Industries with 100 or more NHPI, United States 2008–2012

Industry	NHPI Workers
	% of Workforce
Air transportation	1.3%
Traveler accommodation	1.0%
National security and international affairs	0.9%
Investigation and security services	0.8%
Miscellaneous general merchandise stores	0.7%
Services incidental to transportation	0.6%
Bus service and urban transit	0.6%
Other amusement, gambling, and recreation industries	0.5%
Residential care facilities, without nursing	0.5%
Clothing stores	0.5%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

The distribution of Asian American and NHPI workers across major industry groups only provides a general overview of Asian American and NHPI contributions. Taking a deeper look at the industry data reveals the specific sectors that are highly dependent on Asian American and NHPI workers. Immigrants play a vital role across industries most dependent on Asian American workers.

- Nearly two in five nail salon workers and other personal care service workers are Asian American; one in five workers in many tech sector manufacturing and design industries are Asian American.
- Immigrants are the majority share of Asian American workers in each of the industry sectors listed in the table.
- The highest proportions of NHPI workers are in travel and tourism-related industries, retail stores, and residential care facilities.

Vietnamese Americans make up over one-quarter of all employees in the nail salon and personal care services industry.

Industries with Most Workers & Greatest Representation
by Asian American and NHPI Ethnic Group, United States 2008–2012

Ethnic Group	Industry with Most Workers	Industry with Greatest Representaion		
		Industry	% of Industry	% of All Workers
Native Hawaiian	Construction (6,238)	Scenic and sightseeing transportation	0.9%	0.05%
Guamanian or Chamorro	Restaurants and other food services (2,422)	Tire manufacturing	0.2%	0.02%
Samoan	Construction (2,559)	Fishing, hunting, and trapping	0.5%	0.03%
Tongan	Construction (2,141)	Knitting fabric mills and apparel knitting mills	0.4%	0.01%
Bangladeshi	Restaurants and other food services (6,869)	Taxi and limousine service	1%	0.03%
Cambodian	Restaurants and other food services (10,319)	Apparel accessories and other apparel manufacturing	1%	0.08%
Chinese	Restaurants and other food services (205,247)	Wholesale electronic markets and agents and brokers	7%	1.2%
Filipino	Hospitals (220,836)	Hospitals	3%	1.0%
Hmong	Restaurants and other food services (8,052)	Knitting fabric mills and apparel knitting mills	1%	0.06%
Indian	Computer systems design and related services (190,747)	Computer systems design and related services	11%	1.0%
Indonesian	Restaurants and other food services (5,042)	Wholesale electronic markets and agents and brokers	0.2%	0.02%
Japanese	Elementary and secondary schools (24,577)	Scenic and sightseeing transportation	2%	0.3%
Korean	Restaurants and other food services (59,408)	Dry cleaning and laundry services	7%	0.5%
Laotian	Restaurants and other food services (6,661)	Fiber, yarn, and thread mills	0.9%	0.06%
Malaysian	Restaurants and other food services (1,191)	Furniture and home furnishing merchant wholesalers	0.1%	0.007%
Pakistani	Hospital (8,488)	Taxi and limousine service	4%	0.1%
Sri Lankan	Colleges and universities, including junior colleges (2,502)	Electronic auctions	0.1%	0.02%
Thai	Restaurants and other food services (22,297)	Nail salons and other personal care services	0.4%	0.07%
Vietnamese	Nail salons and other personal care services (100,993)	Nail salons and other personal care services	27%	0.5%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

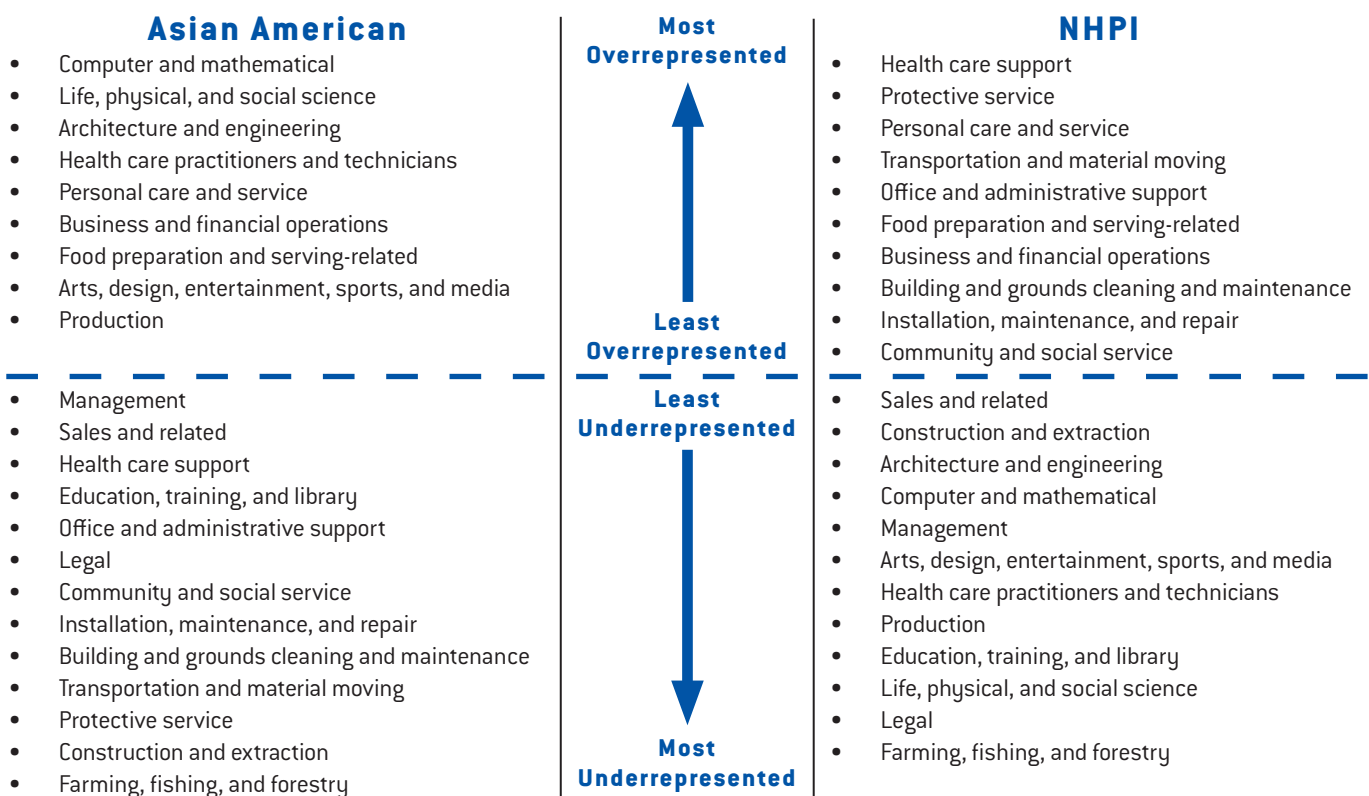
Disaggregating industry employment data by ethnic group reveals the wide-ranging presence of Asian Americans and NHPI across the economy. These data show that construction is the most common industry for three of four NHPI groups and that restaurants and other food services is most common for 9 of 15 Asian American groups.

- Hospitals are the largest employers of Filipino and Pakistani Americans.
- Elementary and secondary schools are the largest employers of Japanese Americans. Sri Lankan Americans are most commonly employed in colleges and universities.
- For Indian American workers, computer systems design and related services are the largest employers.
- Asian American and NHPI workers are overrepresented in a wider variety of industries compared to the industry’s share of workers overall.
 - o The taxi and limousine service industry is highly dependent on South Asians for employees. Along with Bangladeshi and Pakistani American workers being most overrepresented, almost 6% of the industry’s workers were Indian Americans.
 - o Vietnamese Americans make up 27% of all nail salon and other personal care services employees.

Asian Americans are overrepresented in a number of white- and blue-collar occupations.

Representation of Asian American and NHPI Workers, Age 16 Years & Older

by Major Occupation Group, United States 2008–2012, Ranked by Representation Index



U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Asian American and NHPI workers are employed in white- and blue-collar occupations across many industries. Yet certain occupations attract more Asian Americans and NHPI than others.

- Asian American workers are most overrepresented in computer and mathematical; life, physical, and social science; architecture and engineering; health care practitioner and technician; and personal care and service occupations.
- Asian American workers are most underrepresented in farming, fishing, and forestry; construction and extraction; and protective service occupations.
- NHPI workers are most overrepresented in health care support, protective service, personal care and service, transportation and material moving, and office and administrative support occupations.
- NHPI workers are most underrepresented in farming, fishing, and forestry occupations and legal occupations.

More than half of all miscellaneous personal appearance workers are Asian Americans.

A more detailed look at occupations reveals several occupations with high proportions of Asian American workers. The mix of occupations is diverse including science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields, as well as service and manufacturing workers.

- Among the 20 occupations with the highest proportion of Asian American workers, 15 are in STEM fields, 3 are in the services fields, and 2 are in manufacturing.
- More than half of all miscellaneous personal appearance workers are Asian American.
- The 10 occupations with the highest proportion of NHPI workers are largely blue-collar with a mix of security-related, health care support, clerical, warehouse, food preparation, and grounds maintenance occupations.

Specific Occupations with High Proportion of Asian American Workers

by Top 10 Occupations, United States 2008–2012, Ranked by Percent Asian American Workers

Detailed Occupation	Asian American Workers	
	% of Workforce	% Immigrant
Miscellaneous personal appearance workers	55%	94%
Medical scientists	32%	90%
Software developers, applications and systems software	31%	90%
Health diagnosing and treating practitioners, all other	28%	85%
Physical scientists, all other	27%	87%
Computer hardware engineers	25%	88%
Gaming services workers	25%	86%
Miscellaneous mathematical science occupations	20%	86%
Tailors, dressmakers, and sewers	20%	96%
Chemists and materials scientists	20%	86%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

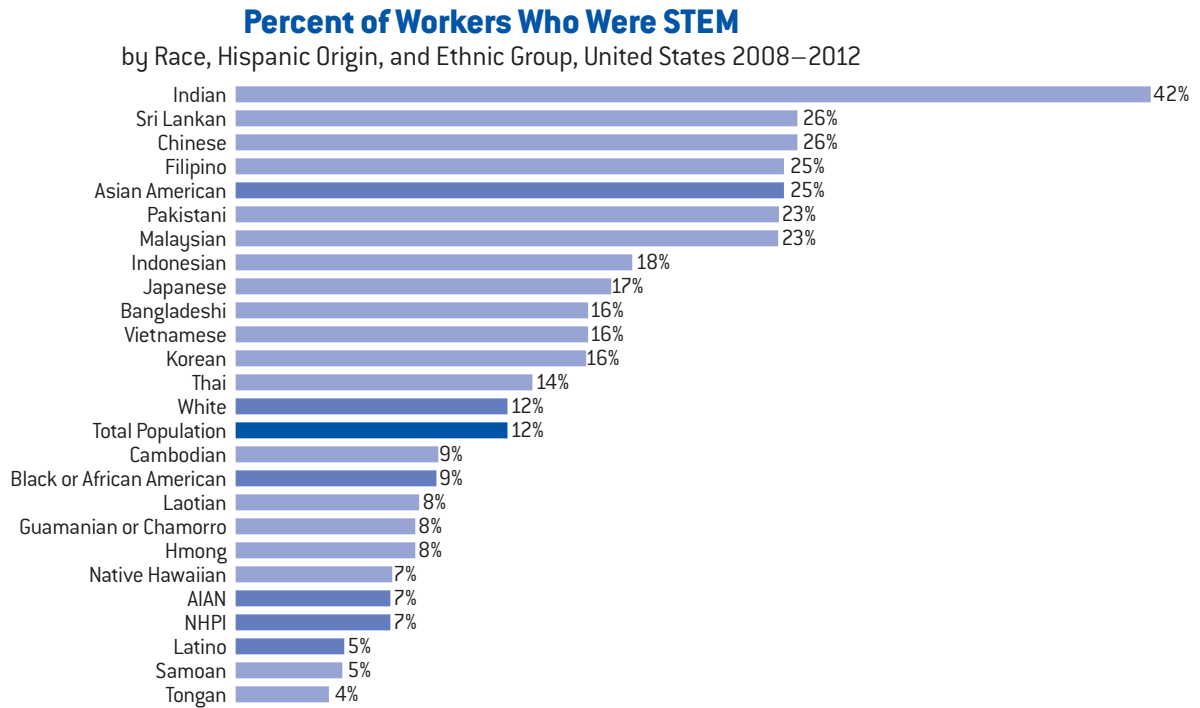
Specific Occupations with High Proportion of NHPI Workers

by Top 10 Occupations with 100 or more NHPI, United States 2008–2012

Detailed Occupation	NHPI Workers
	% of Workforce
Compliance officers, security, transport security, lifeguards	0.7%
Personal care aides	0.7%
Medical assistants and other health care support occupations	0.6%
Stock clerks and order fillers	0.6%
Food preparation workers	0.5%
Hand laborers and material movers	0.5%
Office clerks, general	0.5%
Cashiers	0.4%
Police and sheriff's patrol officers	0.4%
Grounds maintenance workers	0.4%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

A quarter of all jobs held by Asian Americans are in STEM fields.



U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample. Note: Figures for Asian American and NHPI ethnic groups are for single ethnicity. Chinese figure includes those who identified as Taiwanese.

The conventional wisdom of Asian Americans holding a disproportionate large share of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) jobs is largely borne out in the data, with some key exceptions.

- A quarter of all jobs held by Asian Americans are in STEM fields.
- Asian Americans represented 12% of all STEM workers and only 5% of all non-STEM workers.¹
- Immigrants make up a larger share of Asian American STEM workers compared to Asian American workers in other fields. Among Asian American STEM workers, 80% were immigrants compared to 72% of Asian American non-STEM workers.²

- NHPI are less likely to be STEM workers. About 0.2% of STEM workers are NHPI, while they are 0.3% of the entire workforce.³

Despite the high overall representation of Asian American workers in STEM fields, some Asian American ethnic groups are not well represented in STEM fields.

- Indian, Chinese, and Filipino Americans account for 77% of all Asian American STEM workers.⁴
- Cambodian, Hmong, and Laotian American workers are found in STEM fields at a similar percentage as Black or African American workers.⁵

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample. Note: Figures use the Census Bureau's definition of STEM occupations.
²Ibid.
³Ibid.
⁴Ibid.
⁵Ibid.

The number of low-income Asian American and NHPI workers grew faster than any other racial group from 2006 to 2012.

Data on workers living in low-income households⁶ show that the number of low-income Asian American and NHPI workers grew faster than any other group from 2006 to 2012.

- The number of poor Asian American workers increased 38%, from 2006 to 2012.
- Three in four Asian American low-income workers are immigrants.
- The growth of native-born Asian American low-income workers was greater than the growth of immigrant Asian American low-income workers.

Employed Workers Living in Low-Income Households
by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Nativity, United States 2006 to 2012,
Ranked by 2012 Low-Income Worker Population

Race, Hispanic Origin, and Nativity	2006	2012	% Growth 2006 to 2012
White	14,326,005	15,540,568	8%
Latino	7,293,212	8,967,931	23%
Black or African American	4,603,396	5,342,598	16%
Asian American	1,205,577	1,664,748	38%
Immigrant	949,327	1,251,480	32%
Native-Born	256,250	413,268	61%
NHPI	81,364	NR	NR
Pacific Islander	NR	83,613	NR
Native Hawaiian	NR	51,854	NR
AIAN	521,843	626,740	20%
Total	27,807,111	31,790,287	14%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample; 2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample. Note: NR = No report. NHPI data for 2012 are unavailable due to change in how Census Bureau reports NHPI data. Figures for each ethnic group include both single race and multiracial people, except for White, which is single race, non-Latino.

⁶Low-Income households have a total household income less than twice the federal poverty level.

Many Asian American low-income workers are employed as postsecondary teachers.

Industries with the Most Asian American Workers from Low-Income Households

by Top 10 Industries, United States 2008–2012,
Ranked by Number of Low-Income Asian American Workers

Industries (Rank among All Low-Income Workers)	Low-Income Asian American Workers	
	Number	% Immigrant
Restaurants and other food services (1)	237,944	78%
Colleges and universities, including junior colleges (7)	103,125	75%
Nail salons and other personal care services (81)	69,968	94%
Grocery stores (4)	56,844	82%
Construction (2)	38,677	77%
Hospitals (6)	35,940	69%
Elementary and secondary schools (3)	31,796	67%
Traveler accommodation (12)	30,028	82%
Department stores and discount stores (5)	27,999	66%
Beauty salons (22)	26,287	86%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Industries with the Most NHPI Workers from Low-Income Households

by Top 10 Industries, United States 2008–2012,
Ranked by Number of Low-Income NHPI Workers

Industries (Rank among All Low-Income Workers)	Low-Income NHPI Workers	
	Number	% Immigrant
Restaurants and other food services (1)	14,124	27%
Construction (2)	5,875	21%
Elementary and secondary schools (3)	3,964	20%
Grocery stores (4)	3,816	27%
Department stores and discount stores (5)	3,805	25%
Traveler accommodation (12)	3,094	38%
Colleges and universities, including junior colleges (7)	2,961	19%
Hospitals (6)	2,743	20%
Other amusement, gambling, and recreation industries (13)	2,567	20%
Services to buildings and dwellings (11)	1,949	45%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Low-income workers from Asian American and NHPI communities depend on a different mix of industries and occupations for their livelihoods compared to average low-income workers.

- By industry, low-income Asian American workers are more likely to be employed in the nail salon and other personal care services and beauty salon industries than low-income workers in general.
- Many Asian American low-income workers are employed as postsecondary teachers, an occupation not traditionally thought of as low-income. In more typical occupations, low-income Asian American workers are more likely than low-income workers in general to be personal appearance workers, food preparation workers, and personal care aides.

Low-income NHPI workers are more likely to take personal care aide and stock clerk jobs.

Occupations with the Most Asian American Workers from Low-Income Households

by Top 10 Occupations, United States 2008–2012,
Ranked by Number of Low-Income Asian American Workers

Industries (Rank among All Low-Income Workers)	Low-Income Asian American Workers	
	Number	% Immigrant
Cashiers (1)	97,064	77%
Miscellaneous personal appearance workers (61)	70,925	95%
Waiters and waitresses (3)	57,911	71%
Cooks (2)	53,867	86%
Postsecondary teachers (29)	51,986	88%
Retail salespersons (6)	49,059	64%
First-line supervisors of retail sales workers (13)	36,212	82%
Personal care aides (15)	33,943	86%
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides (5)	28,911	83%
Food preparation workers (20)	28,498	74%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Occupations with the Most NHPI Workers from Low-Income Households

by Top 10 Occupations, United States 2008–2012,
Ranked by Number of Low-Income NHPI Workers

Industries (Rank among All Low-Income Workers)	Low-Income NHPI Workers	
	Number	% Immigrant
Cashiers (1)	6,132	29%
Janitors and building cleaners (4)	3,767	44%
Cooks (2)	3,537	36%
Retail salespersons (6)	3,358	21%
Personal care aides (15)	2,962	45%
Hand laborers and material movers (9)	2,959	27%
Waiters and waitresses (3)	2,904	9%
Stock clerks and order fillers (17)	2,817	24%
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides (5)	2,750	43%
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers (8)	2,549	26%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

- Industries that attract low-income NHPI workers are similar to those that attract all low-income workers.
- Low-income NHPI workers are more likely to take personal care aide and stock clerk and order-filler jobs than low-income workers in general.

*Union membership increases wages and benefits,
particularly for Asian American
and NHPI workers in
the lowest-paying occupations.*



Asian American and NHPI workers are becoming a larger proportion of the unionized workforce, growing from 3% of all union workers in 1989 to 5% in 2009.¹

- Asian American and NHPI workers (13%) are less likely to be unionized, compared to all workers (14%).²
- For Asian American and NHPI workers with similar age, education, gender, state of residency, and industry, union membership increases wages and benefits, particularly for Asian American and NHPI workers in the lowest-paying occupations.
 - Wages for Asian American and NHPI workers in unions are 14% higher than nonunion Asian American and NHPI workers. For Asian American and NHPI workers in the 15 lowest-paying occupations, unionized workers earned 20% more than Asian American and NHPI workers in similar nonunionized jobs.³
 - Unionized Asian American and NHPI workers are 28% more likely to have health insurance coverage and 52% more likely to have a retirement plan. For Asian American and NHPI workers in the 15 lowest-paying occupations, unionized Asian American and NHPI workers are 61% more likely to have health insurance coverage and twice as likely to have a retirement plan.⁴

¹Schmitt, John, Hye Jin Rho, and Nicole Woo. January 2011. "Unions and Upward Mobility for Asian American and Pacific Islander Workers." Center for Economic and Policy Research.

²Ibid.

³Ibid.

⁴Ibid.

BUSINESSES

businesses

Nearly 1 in 10 Asian Americans in the workforce are self-employed.¹ The growing number of businesses owned by Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) is creating jobs and making significant contributions to the nation's economic growth, with immigrant entrepreneurs and small businesses playing critical roles. While some of these businesses have become among the nation's most successful, Asian Americans and NHPI remain underrepresented in the leadership of Fortune 500 corporations.

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

There are over 1.5 million Asian American– and nearly 38,000 NHPI-owned businesses in the United States.

Businesses

by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2007,
Ranked by Number of Businesses

Race and Hispanic Origin	Businesses	Revenues	Employees	Annual Payroll
White	20,100,926	\$9,816,196,729,000	50,113,990	\$1,754,224,020,000
Latino	2,260,269	\$350,661,243,000	1,908,161	\$54,295,508,000
Black or African American	1,921,864	\$135,739,834,000	909,552	\$23,334,792,000
Asian American	1,549,559	\$506,047,751,000	2,807,771	\$79,230,459,000
AIAN	236,691	\$34,353,842,000	185,037	\$5,930,247,000
NHPI	37,687	\$6,319,357,000	37,801	\$1,217,138,000
Total	26,294,860	\$10,949,461,875,000	56,626,555	\$1,940,572,945,000

U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01. Note: Some business owners did not report a race. Businesses are categorized based on the race of majority owner(s). Majority owner(s) who report more than one race or ethnicity are counted more than once. Figures include employer and nonemployer businesses. Figures do not sum to total. Total does not include publicly held businesses.

Asian American–owned businesses nationwide generate more revenue, employ more workers, and dispense more annual payroll than businesses belonging to any other racial group, after White-owned businesses. More than 4 in 5 Asian American business owners are immigrants.

- There are over 1.5 million Asian American–owned businesses, making up 6% of all businesses nationwide. These businesses generate over \$506 billion in revenue, employ over 2.8 million workers, and dispense over \$79 billion in payroll annually.¹
- There are nearly 38,000 NHPI-owned businesses nationwide, generating over \$6 billion in revenue, employing nearly 38,000 workers, and dispensing over \$1.2 billion in payroll annually.²
- California, New York, Texas, New Jersey, and Florida have the largest number of Asian American–owned businesses. Nearly half (49%) of all businesses in Hawai`i are Asian American owned, a proportion higher than any other state.³
- There are more NHPI-owned businesses in Hawai`i, California, New York, Florida, and Washington than any other state. One in 10 businesses in Hawai`i are NHPI owned, a proportion higher than any other state.⁴
- Approximately 82% of Asian American business owners were not born in the United States, a rate far above all other racial groups; 26% of NHPI business owners are immigrants. Nationwide, only 14% of business owners were not born in the United States.⁵

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01.

²Ibid.

³Ibid.

⁴Ibid.

⁵Ibid., Table SB0700CSCB009.

The number of Asian American–owned businesses increased 40% between 2002 and 2007, more than twice the national rate.

The number of Asian American– and NHPI-owned businesses are growing at top rates nationwide. These businesses are growing fastest in states with emerging Asian American and NHPI populations.

- Nationwide the number of Asian American–owned businesses increased 40% between 2002 and 2007, more than twice the national rate (17%); the number of NHPI-owned businesses increased 30%.⁶
- Among Asian American ethnic groups for whom data were available, the number of businesses owned by Vietnamese (56%) and Chinese Americans (48%) grew the fastest from 2002 to 2007. The number of businesses owned by Indian (38%), Filipino (30%), and Japanese Americans (25%) also grew significantly over the period.⁷
- The number of businesses owned by Samoan Americans (36%) and Native Hawaiians (26%) grew the fastest among NHPI ethnic groups.⁸
- Among states with 5,000 or more Asian American–owned businesses, growth in the number of Asian American–owned businesses was fastest in Nevada (98%), Kentucky (72%), Georgia (72%), Alabama (62%), and Arizona (60%).⁹
- Among states with 300 or more NHPI-owned businesses, growth in the number of NHPI-owned businesses was fastest in Georgia (551%), Missouri (236%), Michigan (148%), North Carolina (136%), and Nevada (86%).¹⁰

Asian American–Owned Businesses

by Top 10 States with 5,000 or more Asian American–Owned Businesses, United States 2002 to 2007, Ranked by Percent Growth

State	Number	Growth
Nevada	17,542	98%
Kentucky	5,559	72%
Georgia	46,222	72%
Alabama	6,908	62%
Arizona	16,333	60%
Florida	64,931	57%
Connecticut	11,081	55%
Tennessee	11,178	54%
Missouri	9,752	53%
South Carolina	6,658	51%

NHPI-Owned Businesses

by Top 10 States with 300 or more NHPI-Owned Businesses, United States 2002 to 2007, Ranked by Percent Growth

State	Number	Growth
Georgia	1,145	551%
Missouri	323	236%
Michigan	487	148%
North Carolina	451	136%
Nevada	582	86%
Oregon	636	82%
Washington	1,197	64%
Colorado	633	62%
Utah	691	61%
Pennsylvania	410	41%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200A1; 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01.

⁶U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200A1; 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01.

⁷U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200CSASIAN03; 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01.

⁸U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200CSNHPI03; 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01.

⁹U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200A1; 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01.

¹⁰U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200A1; 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01.

Asian American–owned businesses made up 21% of new businesses in the accommodation and food services industry.



The number of Asian American– and NHPI-owned businesses is growing across industries, both in sectors with high numbers of Asian American– and NHPI-owned businesses and those where these businesses have more recently been established.

- The top three industries for Asian American–owned businesses are professional, scientific, and technical services (210,000); retail trade (190,000); and health care and social assistance (160,000).¹
- The top three industries for NHPI-owned businesses are construction (5,000), retail trade (3,900), and health care and social assistance (3,700).²
- Approximately 18% of all businesses in the accommodation and food services industry are Asian American owned, the largest proportion among all industries. Asian American–owned businesses in the industry employ 900,000 nationwide.³
- Asian American–owned businesses made up 21% of new businesses (established between 2002 and 2007) in the accommodation and food services industry, 12% of new businesses in wholesale trade, and 9% of new businesses in health care and social assistance.⁴
- Nationwide, there are 85 banks owned by Asian Americans or NHPI, approximately 44% of all minority-owned banks nationwide.⁵
- In a case study of San Francisco and Atlanta, the Asian American Contractor Empowerment Project found that Asian American–owned businesses have particularly low rates of participation in government contracting due to discrimination and lack of race-conscious policies.⁶

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01.

²Ibid.

³Ibid.

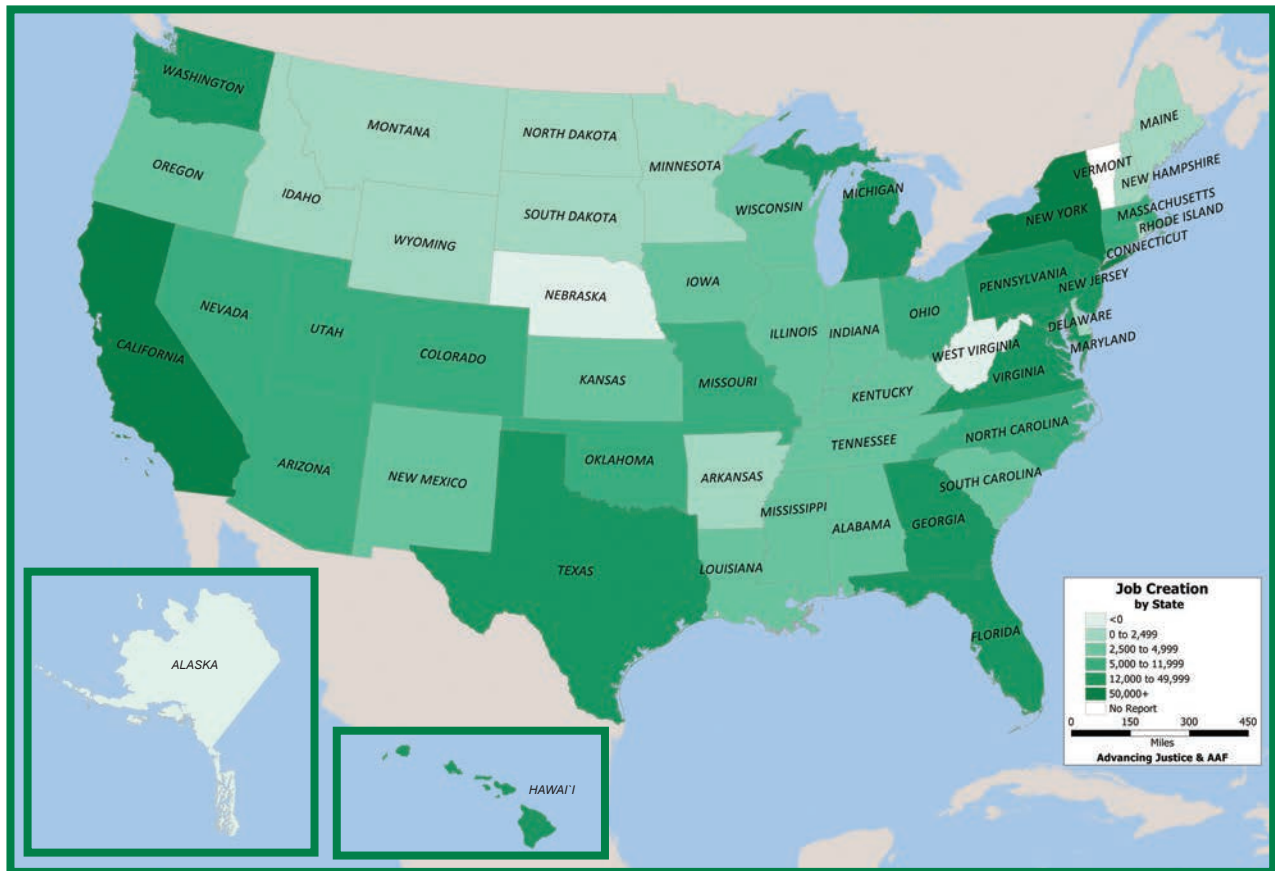
⁴U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSCB10.

⁵Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, March 31, 2014. “Minority Depository Institutions.” U.S. Department of the Treasury. Note: Figures are for financial institutions, which include savings banks, commercial banks, loan associations, and credit unions.

⁶Asian Americans Advancing Justice - AAJC. 2010. *Accurate Data: Next Step in Giving Asian Pacific Americans Equal Access to Public Contracts*. Washington, DC: Asian Americans Advancing Justice - AAJC.

Asian American–owned businesses employ over 2.8 million workers nationwide.

Job Creation by Asian American–Owned Businesses
United States 2002 to 2007



U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200A1; 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01.

As the number of Asian American– and NHPI-owned businesses have grown, so have the number of workers they employ.

- Asian American–owned businesses employ over 2.8 million workers nationwide. NHPI-owned businesses employ nearly 38,000.⁷
- Between 2002 and 2007, Asian American– and NHPI-owned businesses created 590,000 and 8,500 jobs, respectively. The number of workers employed by Asian American–owned businesses increased 27% over that

five-year period; the number employed by NHPI-owned businesses increased 29%.⁸

- Asian American immigrant-owned businesses are more likely to have paid employees. About 36% of Asian American immigrant-owned businesses have paid employees, a rate above all businesses owned by the native-born (26%) and the national average (20%).⁹
- States with the largest number of workers employed by Asian American–owned businesses include California (910,000), New York (220,000), and Texas (210,000).¹⁰

⁷U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01.

⁸U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200A1; 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01.

⁹Fairlie, Robert W. May 2012. "Immigrant Entrepreneurs and Small Business Owners, and Their Access to Financial Capital." Office of Advocacy, Small Business Administration.

¹⁰U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01.

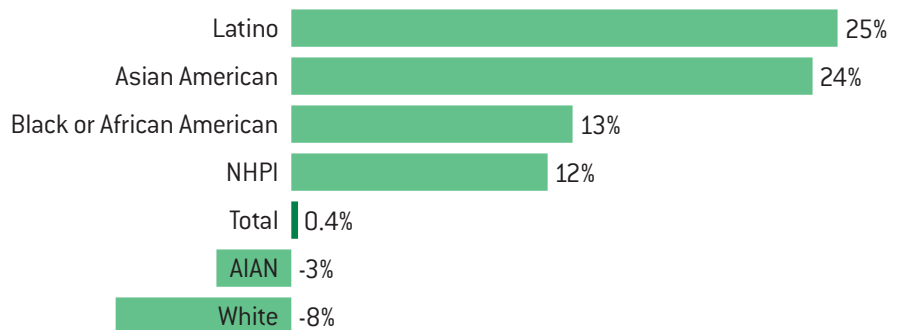
The number of workers employed by Asian American– and NHPI-owned small businesses increased 24% and 12%, respectively, from 2002 to 2007.

Most Asian American– and NHPI-owned businesses are small businesses, and overwhelming numbers are among the smallest. The growth of these small businesses is seen across industries and in the increasing number of workers they employ.

- Nearly 400,000 Asian American–owned businesses are classified as small businesses by the Small Business Administration (having fewer than 500 employees), a number higher than any racial group, except for Whites. The number of Asian American–owned small businesses increased 24% between 2002 and 2007, a rate above all racial groups except for Latinos (25%). Nationwide, these small businesses make up 8% of all small businesses, generate \$420 billion in revenue, employ 2.6 million workers, and dispense over \$72 billion in payroll.¹
- Among Asian American–owned small businesses, the overwhelming majority are among the smallest: 66% have fewer than 5 employees and 94% have fewer than 20 employees. These rates are among the lowest among all racial groups. In comparison, 62% of White-owned businesses have fewer than 5 employees and 90% have fewer than 20 employees.²
- There are more than 4,100 NHPI-owned small businesses nationwide, an increase of 12% between 2002 and 2007. These small businesses generate over \$5.2 billion in revenue, employ over 37,000 workers, and dispense over \$1.2 billion in payroll each year.³
- Among NHPI-owned small businesses, 63% have fewer than 5 employees and 91% have fewer than 20 employees.⁴

Growth in the Number of Small Businesses

By Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2002 to 2007



U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200CSC0SUM16; 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Tables SB0700CSA10 and SB0700CSA11. Note: Some business owners did not report a race. Businesses are categorized based on the race of majority owner(s). Majority owner(s) who report more than one race or ethnicity are counted more than once. Figures do not include non-employer firms. The U.S. Small Business Administration defines a small business as one with fewer than 500 employees, which accounts for 99.7% of all employer firms.

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200CSC0SUM16; 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Tables SB0700CSA10 and SB0700CSA11.

²U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Tables SB0700CSA10 and SB0700CSA11.

³U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200CSC0SUM16; 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Tables SB0700CSA10 and SB0700CSA11.

⁴U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Tables SB0700CSA10 and SB0700CSA11.

Half of Asian American–owned small businesses were established in 2000 or after.



The health of small businesses is critical to the success of the nation’s economy. Many Asian American– and NHPI-owned businesses face barriers in succeeding in the competitive market.

- Many Asian American and NHPI small businesses are newly established. Half of Asian American–owned small businesses were established in 2000 or after; over a quarter (27%) of NHPI-owned small businesses were established in 2000 or after.⁵
- About 48% of Asian American–owned small businesses conduct transactions in a language other than English, compared to 17% of all small businesses. Approximately 6% of NHPI-owned small businesses conduct transactions with customers in a language other than English.⁶
- Among Asian American–owned small businesses, Chinese is the most common language used in transactions with customers, following English. About 13% of Asian American–owned small businesses use Chinese to conduct transactions with customers. Spanish (12%), Korean (8%), Vietnamese (4%), and Hindi/Urdu (4%) are also top languages used in transactions.⁷
- Approximately 18% of Asian American– and 14% of NHPI-owned small businesses obtain capital to start or acquire the business through a loan from a bank or financial institution.⁸
- Asian American business owners are more likely than Whites to be denied credit, even after controlling for credit history, credit score, and wealth.⁹

⁵U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSCB12.

⁶Ibid., Table SB0700CSCB45.

⁷Ibid.

⁸Ibid., Table SB0700CSCB15.

⁹Robb, Alicia. April 2013. “Access to Capital among Young Firms, Minority-Owned Firms, Women-Owned Firms, and High-Tech Firms.” Office of Advocacy, Small Business Administration.

Some Asian American– and NHPI-owned businesses have grown to become among the nation’s most successful. This section highlights some businesses that have succeeded in becoming leaders in their respective industries.

AKIRA

- Founded: 2002 by Jon Cotay, Eric Hsueh, and Erikka Wang
- Headquarters: Chicago, Illinois
- Managing Partners: Jon Cotay, Eric Hsueh, and Erikka Wang

AKIRA is an innovative women’s and men’s fashion retailer based in Chicago. AKIRA has grown into a lifestyle empire with an 18-store chain and an international e-tail website. AKIRA gives back to the community by hosting and promoting fashion events in partnership with various charities.

AME Cloud Ventures

- Founded: 2012 by Jerry Yang
- Headquarters: Silicon Valley, California
- Founding Partner: Jerry Yang

After cofounding Yahoo! in 1995, Jerry Yang went on to establish AME Cloud Ventures in 2012. The venture fund seeks to help start-up technology companies build infrastructure and value. Yang also sits on Stanford University’s Board of Trustees and is a Board Observer for Lenovo. In 2007, Yang and wife Akiko Yamazaki provided a \$75 million gift to Stanford to support multidisciplinary programs in science and medicine.

Direct Agents

- Founded: 2003 by Dinesh Boaz and Josh Boaz
- Headquarters: New York, New York
- Managing Directors: Dinesh Boaz and Josh Boaz

Direct Agents provides a multichannel customer acquisition solution that delivers customized online advertising campaigns for brand advertisers, specializing in helping clients acquire new customers and generate sales. Direct Agents cares deeply about New York City and its community members. Every month Direct Agents offers opportunities to volunteer and participate in events that focus on the community. Direct Agents and its employees have donated their time and resources to several city organizations including New York Cares, the Bowery Mission, and City Harvest.

East West Bank

- Founded: 1973
- Headquarters: Pasadena, California
- Chairman and CEO: Dominic Ng

East West Bank is a full-service commercial bank serving consumers and businesses throughout the United States and in Greater China. Established in 1973 as a single branch serving immigrant communities in Los Angeles’s Chinatown, East West Bank has grown to become the largest bank based in Southern California, with nearly \$29 billion in assets and over 130 branches in the United States and China. Its community programs aim to promote and revitalize small businesses, foster financial education and self-empowerment, and enhance the quality of life for all.

Englewood Lab

- Founded: 2003 by David C. Chung
- Headquarters: Englewood, New Jersey
- CEO: David C. Chung

Englewood Lab is one of the nation’s leading research and development contract manufacturing companies specializing in skin care products. Its clients include such industry leaders as Elizabeth Arden, Estee Lauder Group/Beauty Bank, Revive, and Strivectin. Founder and CEO David Chung has been a prominent supporter of community foundations and an active board member of several community-based organizations.

Golden Stella

- Founded: 1986 by Jay and Stella Eun
- Headquarters: Atlanta, Georgia
- CEO: Jay Eun

Golden Stella is the nation’s leading fashion jewelry, accessories, and sterling silver wholesale company. Jay and Stella Eun have long supported the programs of the Asian American Legal Advocacy Center of Georgia, helping ensure Atlanta’s Asian American and Pacific Islander community has access to critical legal services.

JM Eagle

- Founded: 2007 by Walter Wang
- Headquarters: Los Angeles, California
- President and CEO: Walter Wang

Formed in 2007 when Walter Wang’s J-M Manufacturing acquired PW Eagle, JM Eagle is now the world’s largest manufacturer of plastic pipe. The company employs more than 1,000 in its corporate headquarters and manufacturing plants throughout North America. Embracing corporate responsibility, JM Eagle is committed to providing clean and safe drinking water to those in developing countries, with projects throughout Africa and in Honduras and Thailand. In partnership with his wife Shirley, Wang also established the first endowed chair focused on U.S.-China relations and Chinese American studies at UCLA.

Panda Restaurant Group

- Founded: 1983 by Andrew Cherng
- Headquarters: Rosemead, California
- Co-Chairman of the Board and Co-CEO: Andrew Cherng and Peggy Cherng, PhD

Panda Restaurant Group, Inc. is the largest and fastest-growing Asian restaurant company in the nation, with locations throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, and Mexico. Panda Restaurant Group began as Panda Inn in 1973, founded in Pasadena by Andrew Cherng and his father, Master Chef Ming-Tsai Cherng. Through its Panda Cares initiative, the company has donated millions of dollars to nonprofit organizations, schools, and children’s hospitals to serve the health and education needs of underserved children.

Plastpro

- Founded: 1994 by Shirley Wang
- Headquarters: Los Angeles, California
- CEO: Shirley Wang; President: Franco An

Plastpro is a leading American manufacturer of fiberglass entry doors, with a headquarters in Los Angeles and 200,000 square-foot production facility in Ashtabula, Ohio. The company has partnered with organizations like Habitat for Humanity to donate materials and products in support of the rebuilding of homes in low-income communities and those impacted by natural disasters. In partnership with her husband Walter, Wang also established the first endowed chair focused on U.S.-China relations and Chinese American studies at UCLA.

Tang Industries

- Founded: 1971 by Cyrus Tang
- Headquarters: Las Vegas, Nevada
- CEO: Cyrus Tang

Founded by Cyrus Tang in 1971, Tang Industries is a diversified holding company that includes National Materials L.P., a steel processing and fabricating company, GF Furniture, and Curatek Pharmaceuticals. Through three foundations, Tang has donated \$150 million to support education, health care, and community development in the United States and China.

Tronex International

- Founded: 1989
- Headquarters: Mount Olive, New Jersey
- President and CEO: Donald L. Chu

Tronex is a leading global medical-based manufacturer that provides innovative disposable personal protective equipment (PPE). Tronex delivers focused expertise in providing advanced cross-contamination control and infection-prevention solutions to diverse business segments. Tronex supports local, national, and global philanthropic organizations that also strive to make a positive impact in the world, such as MAP International, a global health organization engaged in disaster relief and humanitarian efforts.

Willy, Nanayakkara, Rivera & Goins

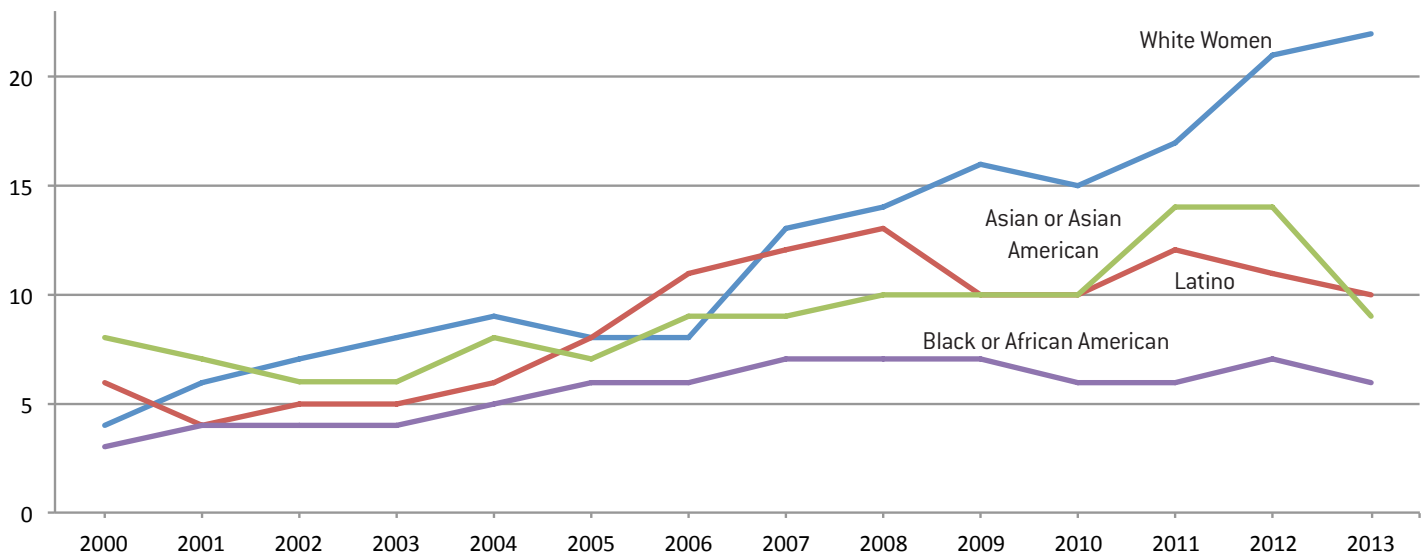
- Founded: 1985 by George R. Willy
- Headquarters: Houston, Texas
- Principal Attorney: George R. Willy

Willy, Nanayakkara, Rivera & Goins is a full-service immigration law firm, also practicing commercial law, family law, labor law, and selected criminal cases. Founded in Houston, Willy, Nanayakkara, Rivera & Goins now provides services in San Antonio, Texas, and Atlanta, Georgia. Having long recognized the importance of making immigration equitable for everyone, founder and principal attorney George R. Willy has been involved in efforts to enact comprehensive immigration reform and serves on the board of Asian Americans Advancing Justice - AAJC.

Asian Americans and NHPI remain underrepresented in the leadership of Fortune 500 companies.

Fortune 500 CEOs

By Race, Hispanic Origin, and Gender, United States 2000 to 2013



Zweigenhaft, Richard L. August 2013. "Diversity Among CEOs and Corporate Directors: Has the Heyday Come and Gone?" *WhoRulesAmerica.net*; personal communication with Richard L. Zweigenhaft and G. William Domhoff.

Although there are many successful Asian American– and NHPI-owned businesses, Asian Americans and NHPI continue to be underrepresented in leadership positions in the nation’s most successful businesses. Despite making up large proportions of the workforce in Fortune 500 industries, Asian Americans and NHPI remain underrepresented among CEOs and corporate directors.

- In early 2014, there were 9 Asian or Asian American CEOs of Fortune 500 companies, making up only 1.8% of all Fortune 500 CEOs.
- The highest number of Asian or Asian American CEOs of Fortune 500 companies was in 2011 and 2012, when there were 15.¹
- About 2.4% of corporate directors of Fortune 500 companies are Asian American.²
- In early 2012, the number of Asian Americans and NHPI on Fortune 500 boards made up 2.6% of all board seats; this number increased 25% from 115 to 144 since 2010. From 2010 to 2012, the number of Fortune 500 companies with Asian American and NHPI boards of directors increased 16% (from 98 to 114).³

¹Zweigenhaft, Richard L. and G. William Domhoff. April 2014. "Trends at the Top: The New CEOs Revisited." *thesocietypages.org*.

²Zweigenhaft, Richard L. August 2013. "Diversity Among CEOs and Corporate Directors: Has the Heyday Come and Gone?" *WhoRulesAmerica.net*.

³Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc. 2012. *2012 API Representation on Fortune 500 Boards*.

As Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) communities continue to grow dramatically throughout the country, so too do Asian American and NHPI contributions to our nation's economy. Through their participation in America's labor force and entrepreneurial activity, Asian Americans and NHPI are helping our nation recover from the most serious economic crisis in recent memory. The following policy recommendations serve as a starting point for efforts to support and strengthen these critical contributions.

Consumers

Among the fastest-growing racial groups in the United States, Asian Americans and NHPI command growing buying power. Yet our communities have also been impacted by the economic crisis. Asian American net worth has fallen dramatically since the recession, primarily as a result of declining home equity; the median value of home equity held by Asian American households fell from over \$230,000 in 2005 to nearly \$130,000 in 2010. To ensure the financial health of Asian American and NHPI communities, policy makers should:

- Support financial literacy programs targeting Asian American and NHPI communities in culturally and linguistically appropriate ways.
- Ensure the availability and cultural and linguistic accessibility of housing counseling services to Asian Americans and NHPI.
- Protect limited-English proficient consumers against fraud by requiring the translation of certain contracts into Asian and Pacific Island languages and educating Asian American and NHPI communities about federal and state consumer protection laws.
- Preserve and strengthen social safety net programs such as CalWORKS, Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI), In-Home Supportive Services, and MediCal.
- Institute language-access policies for workforce development programs, ensuring equal access to training, skills development, English for speakers of other language classes, job placement services, and good living-wage jobs.
- Invest greater public funding in the vigorous enforcement of employment and labor laws by local agencies, especially in low-income industries where wage theft and health and safety violations are rampant.
- Adopt comprehensive immigration reform that expands opportunities for both high-skilled and less-skilled workers to come to the United States, reunites families, and provides a pathway to citizenship for the undocumented.

Workforce

Overwhelmingly immigrants, Asian American and NHPI workers make critical contributions to the economy through their labor in both professional and low-income occupations. While data from the U.S. Census Bureau show Asian Americans are overrepresented in computer, mathematical, life, physical, and social science occupations, they also indicate an overrepresentation in personal care and service occupations. To address the needs of Asian Americans and NHPI in the labor force, particularly the increasing number of low-income workers, policy makers should:

Businesses

Guided by immigrant entrepreneurs and small businesses, Asian American- and NHPI-owned businesses are creating jobs and making real contributions to economic growth. While some Asian American- and NHPI-owned businesses have grown to become among the nation's most successful, Asian Americans and NHPI remain underrepresented in the leadership of Fortune 500 corporations. To support the contributions of Asian American and NHPI entrepreneurs and promote diversity in corporate leadership, policy makers should:

- Support small businesses and small business development with government loans and financing, multicultural training programs and technical assistance, and information on responsible employment practices.
- Include Asian Americans and NHPI in equal opportunity programs, such as minority public contracting programs, to counter discrimination in hiring, retention, and promotion.

Asian countries

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

Asian American–owned business

Business where Asian Americans own 51 percent or more of the equity, interest, or stock of the business.

buying power

Disposable income that is available for spending after taxes, not including savings or borrowed money.

civilian employed population

United States residents 16 years old and over who work as paid employees, not in the active-duty military.

industry

Classifications based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), the standard used by federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments for the purpose of collecting, analyzing, and publishing statistical data related to the United States business economy.

low-income worker

A worker who lives in a household where total household income is less than twice the federal poverty level. For example in 2012, all workers living in a household of two adults and two children with an annual household income less than \$46,566 would be defined as low-income.

NHPI-owned business

Business where NHPI own 51 percent or more of the equity, interest, or stock of the business.

nonemployer

Businesses that have no paid employment and payroll.

Pacific Islands

Including American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Hawai`i, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

publicly held

Corporate enterprises owned by many shareholders who hold a collective interest in the equity of the company in the form of shares of stock. Capital may be raised by selling ownership shares to the general public.

representation index

This index is used to measure the proportional representation of Asian American and NHPI workers relative to all other workers for a given industry or occupation. For example, to calculate the Representation Index for Asian American workers in an industry the percent of Asian American workers in that industry is divided by the percent of non-Asian American workers in that industry, and then multiplied by 100. A Representation Index value greater than 100 means that Asian Americans are overrepresented in an industry or occupation. A Representation Index value less than 100 means that Asian Americans are underrepresented in an industry or occupation.

small business

Defined by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) as a business with fewer than 500 employees, which accounts for 99.7% of all employer firms. For government programs and contracting, small businesses are defined by individual industry “size standards” determined by the SBA.

STEM

Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics

Major Industry Group

by Employed Workers, Age 16 Years and Older, United States 2008–2012, Ranked by Total Workers

Major Industry Group	Employed Workers			Representation Index	
	Total Workers	Asian American	NHPI	Asian American	NHPI
Health care and social assistance	19,157,632	1,255,509	58,954	114	84
Retail trade	16,433,660	905,164	56,673	96	94
Manufacturing	15,079,978	988,746	31,594	114	179
Educational services	13,318,967	672,306	33,295	88	68
Accommodation and food services	10,059,584	754,702	48,025	131	131
Construction	9,236,626	177,169	27,668	33	82
Professional, scientific, and technical services	9,133,477	877,077	19,716	167	59
Other services, except public administration	7,033,462	471,542	19,319	117	75
Public administration	6,995,396	296,263	30,606	74	120
Finance and insurance	6,829,724	472,369	18,414	121	74
Administrative and support and waste management services	5,897,154	198,137	23,996	59	111
Transportation and warehousing	5,875,023	281,194	29,584	83	138
Wholesale trade	4,027,420	226,505	11,812	98	80
Information	3,135,437	205,039	8,376	114	73
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	2,985,403	150,571	14,228	88	131
Real estate and rental and leasing	2,733,658	124,935	9,975	80	100
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting	1,938,288	27,568	3,458	25	49
Utilities	1,231,161	41,127	3,547	58	79
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	762,397	12,973	921	30	73
Management of companies and enterprises	106,090	6,533	193	107	50

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample. Note: Representation Index values over 100 mean group is overrepresented in the occupational category. Values under 100 mean group is underrepresented.

Specific Industries of Asian American Workers

by Top 50 Industries, United States 2008–2012

Specific Industry	Number
Restaurants and other food services	608,038
Hospitals	549,996
Colleges and universities, including junior colleges	382,463
Computer systems design and related services	343,621
Elementary and secondary schools	233,649
Construction	177,169
Grocery stores	176,154
Banking and related activities	164,134
Electronic component and product manufacturing, n.e.c.	147,963
Nail salons and other personal care services	141,680
Traveler accommodation	137,996
Insurance carriers and related activities	129,103
Other health care services	125,892
Architectural, engineering, and related services	111,408
Offices of physicians	109,199
Management, scientific, and technical consulting services	109,118
Department stores and discount stores	109,103
Other amusement, gambling, and recreation industries	106,201
Real estate	105,869
Securities, commodities, funds, trusts, and other financial investments	104,540
Nursing care facilities	86,717
Pharmacies and drug stores	82,268
Scientific research and development services	81,517
Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services	76,380
Clothing stores	74,606
Outpatient care centers	74,062
Legal services	74,006
Beauty salons	73,906
Individual and family services	73,038
Justice, public order, and safety activities	69,400
Medical equipment and supplies manufacturing	67,900
Pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing	63,789
National security and international affairs	63,064
Non-depository credit and related activities	60,752
Postal service	60,480
Offices of dentists	59,649
Child day care services	58,529
Motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment manufacturing	53,295
Other schools and instruction, and educational support services	50,496
Home health care services	50,462
Gasoline stations	50,346
Executive offices and legislative bodies	48,631
Administration of human resource programs	47,864
Radio, TV, and computer stores	47,817
Computer and peripheral equipment manufacturing	46,460
Dry cleaning and laundry services	45,800
Groceries and related products merchant wholesalers	43,216
Wired telecommunications carriers	41,689
Cut and sew apparel manufacturing	41,469
Religious organizations	41,048

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Specific Industries of NHPI Workers

by Top 20 Industries, United States 2008–2012

Specific Industry	Number
Restaurants and other food services	32,512
Construction	27,668
Elementary and secondary schools	19,591
Hospitals	18,946
Traveler accommodation	14,551
Colleges and universities, including junior colleges	11,451
Justice, public order, and safety activities	10,262
Grocery stores	9,820
Department stores and discount stores	9,790
National security and international affairs	9,424
Other amusement, gambling, and recreation industries	9,351
Real estate	7,607
Air transportation	7,405
Banking and related activities	6,731
Individual and family services	6,059
Nursing care facilities	5,876
Truck transportation	5,768
Investigation and security services	5,691
Other health care services	5,668
Insurance carriers and related activities	5,122

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Major Occupational Group

by Employed Workers, Age 16 Years and Older, United States 2008–2012, Ranked by Total Population

Major Occupational Group	Employed Workers			Representation Index	
	Total Workers	Asian American	NHPI	Asian American	NHPI
Office and administrative support occupations	25,465,200	918,685	75,922	80	120
Sales and related occupations	20,768,842	877,910	48,070	97	93
Management occupations	16,015,017	773,044	32,232	98	81
Transportation and material moving occupations	11,475,676	266,412	34,501	53	121
Production occupations	11,264,848	505,762	20,773	103	74
Food preparation and serving related occupations	11,162,812	518,182	32,611	114	117
Education, training, and library occupations	10,736,141	425,025	19,294	85	72
Construction and extraction occupations	10,340,490	120,025	23,167	27	90
Business and financial operations occupations	9,604,412	569,774	27,920	128	117
Health care practitioners and technical occupations	8,756,147	734,282	16,277	172	75
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	7,835,166	177,643	21,771	53	112
Personal care and service occupations	6,963,208	428,394	22,691	150	131
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	5,846,246	154,798	16,013	56	110
Health care support occupations	4,425,199	181,444	14,694	89	134
Computer and mathematical occupations	3,992,927	641,101	8,575	362	86
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	3,349,255	149,826	6,672	104	80
Architecture and engineering occupations	3,043,371	310,669	6,695	222	88
Community and social service occupations	2,794,812	86,400	7,152	63	103
Protective service occupations	2,339,281	40,642	7,659	34	132
Legal occupations	1,897,779	77,210	3,049	80	65
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1,514,301	15,733	2,082	26	55
Life, physical, and social science occupations	1,445,933	172,468	2,534	268	70

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample. Note: Representation Index values over 100 mean group is overrepresented in the industry. Values under 100 mean group is underrepresented.

Specific Occupations of Asian American Workers

by Top 50 Occupations, United States 2008–2012

Specific Occupation	Number
Software developers, applications and systems software	276,466
Registered nurses	252,615
Cashiers	239,844
Computer occupations, other than computer programmer, software developer, or database administrator	238,897
Accountants and auditors	229,898
Managers, all other	188,830
First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	182,441
Retail salespersons	179,270
Physicians and surgeons	173,164
Postsecondary teachers	173,059
Miscellaneous personal appearance workers	143,049
Waiters and waitresses	141,894
Cooks	126,346
Secretaries and administrative assistants	115,159
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	108,994
Customer service representatives	105,627
Food service managers	95,179
Elementary and middle school teachers	93,398
Computer programmers	83,517
Janitors and building cleaners	81,298
Personal care aides	80,247
Lawyers, clerks, paralegals, legal support	77,210
Financial managers	72,178
Engineers, all other	71,568
Office clerks, general	70,230
Miscellaneous assemblers and fabricators	70,194
Stock clerks and order fillers	69,837
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	68,703
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	68,408
First-line supervisors of non-retail sales workers	67,884
Management analysts	66,006
Maids and housekeeping cleaners	65,808
First-line supervisors of office and administrative support workers	64,709
Chefs and head cooks	63,834
Computer and information systems managers	62,999
Food preparation workers	62,329
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	62,040
Production workers, all other	61,958
Designers	60,767
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing	56,444
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	54,273
Other teachers and instructors	54,061
Compliance officers, security, transport security, lifeguards	53,683
Chief executives	53,518
Childcare workers	50,437
Business operations specialists	49,669
Physical scientists, all other	48,720
Receptionists and information clerks	48,250
Marketing and sales managers	48,070
Pharmacists	47,552

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Specific Occupations of NHPI Workers

by Top 20 Occupations, United States 2008–2012

Specific Occupation	Number
Cashiers	14,744
Retail salespersons	10,586
Secretaries and administrative assistants	9,894
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	9,833
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	9,762
Compliance officers, security, transport security, lifeguards	9,364
Customer service representatives	9,175
Janitors and building cleaners	9,112
First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	9,045
Stock clerks and order fillers	8,432
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	8,354
Cooks	8,227
Waiters and waitresses	7,541
Managers, all other	7,271
Personal care aides	6,773
Registered nurses	6,035
Office clerks, general	5,900
Elementary and middle school teachers	5,782
Maids and housekeeping cleaners	5,340
Computer occupations, other than computer programmer, software developer, or database administrator	5,335

U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Businesses

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, United States 2007, Ranked by Number of Businesses

	Businesses	Revenues	Employees	Annual Payroll
White	20,100,926	\$9,816,196,729,000	50,113,990	\$1,754,224,020,000
Latino	2,260,269	\$350,661,243,000	1,908,161	\$54,295,508,000
Black or African American	1,921,864	\$135,739,834,000	909,552	\$23,334,792,000
Asian American	1,549,559	\$506,047,751,000	2,807,771	\$79,230,459,000
Chinese	423,650	\$142,430,082,000	781,421	\$20,709,930,000
Indian	308,491	\$151,787,438,000	844,177	\$26,638,526,000
Vietnamese	229,159	\$28,826,762,000	164,333	\$3,741,507,000
Korean	192,509	\$78,265,621,000	423,660	\$10,059,019,000
Filipino	163,163	\$20,119,442,000	141,916	\$4,521,220,000
Other Asian	144,484	\$42,393,393,000	241,197	\$5,830,980,000
Japanese	108,338	\$39,329,933,000	209,250	\$7,171,622,000
AIAN	236,691	\$34,353,842,000	185,037	\$5,930,247,000
NHPI	37,687	\$6,319,357,000	37,801	\$1,217,138,000
Native Hawaiian	21,141	\$4,129,776,000	25,829	\$793,267,000
Other Pacific Islander	8,956	\$1,216,903,000	-	-
Guamanian or Chamorro	3,616	\$623,211,000	3,954	-
Samoan	3,008	\$379,997,000	1,894	\$57,712,000
Total businesses classifiable by race	26,294,860	\$10,949,461,875,000	56,626,555	\$1,940,572,945,000
Publicly held, foreign owned, not for profit	798,048	\$19,082,058,036,000	60,683,564	\$2,882,243,692,000
Total	27,092,908	\$30,031,519,910,000	117,310,118	\$4,822,816,636,000

U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01. Note: Some business owners did not report a race. Businesses are categorized based on the race of majority owner(s). Majority owner(s) who report more than one race or ethnicity are counted more than once. Figures include employer and nonemployer businesses. Figures do not sum to total. Total includes publicly held businesses. Some data are not reported due to suppression or large standard error.

Asian American– and NHPI-Owned Businesses by State

Asian American–Owned Businesses

by State, United States 2002 to 2007, Ranked by 2007 Number of Businesses

State	2002		2007		% Growth 2002 to 2007
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	
California	371,530	13%	508,969	15%	37%
New York	145,108	9%	196,825	10%	36%
Texas	77,834	5%	114,297	5%	47%
New Jersey	51,957	8%	67,755	9%	30%
Florida	41,258	3%	64,931	3%	57%
Illinois	44,477	5%	59,367	5%	33%
Hawai`i	44,924	47%	56,872	49%	27%
Georgia	26,925	4%	46,222	5%	72%
Virginia	30,457	6%	44,576	7%	46%
Washington	26,890	6%	37,373	7%	39%
Maryland	26,184	6%	35,881	7%	37%
Pennsylvania	22,631	3%	31,313	3%	38%
Massachusetts	18,081	3%	26,578	5%	47%
Michigan	15,337	2%	21,589	3%	41%
North Carolina	13,695	2%	20,157	3%	47%
Ohio	13,740	2%	18,198	2%	32%
Nevada	8,872	5%	17,542	8%	98%
Arizona	10,215	3%	16,333	3%	60%
Colorado	10,910	2%	14,482	3%	33%
Oregon	9,046	3%	12,647	4%	40%
Minnesota	7,700	2%	11,371	2%	48%
Tennessee	7,241	2%	11,178	2%	54%
Connecticut	7,170	2%	11,081	3%	55%
Louisiana	8,218	3%	10,365	3%	26%
Missouri	6,376	1%	9,752	2%	53%
Indiana	6,078	1%	8,756	2%	44%
Alabama	4,270	1%	6,908	2%	62%
Wisconsin	4,957	1%	6,785	2%	37%
Oklahoma	4,583	2%	6,736	2%	47%
South Carolina	4,414	2%	6,658	2%	51%
Kentucky	3,236	1%	5,559	2%	72%
Kansas	3,547	2%	4,833	2%	36%
Utah	2,824	2%	4,646	2%	65%
Mississippi	2,921	2%	4,002	2%	37%
Arkansas	2,013	1%	3,322	1%	65%
New Mexico	2,364	2%	3,321	2%	40%
District of Columbia	2,411	5%	3,278	6%	36%
Delaware	1,895	3%	2,989	4%	58%
Iowa	1,786	1%	2,834	1%	59%
Nebraska	1,456	1%	2,277	1%	56%
New Hampshire	1,528	1%	2,211	2%	45%
Alaska	1,908	3%	2,148	3%	13%
Rhode Island	1,529	2%	1,999	2%	31%
West Virginia	1,234	1%	1,526	1%	24%
Idaho	1,111	1%	1,269	1%	14%
Maine	833	1%	1,107	1%	33%
Vermont	434	1%	649	1%	50%
Montana	511	1%	646	1%	26%
South Dakota	300	0.4%	452	1%	51%
North Dakota	277	1%	412	1%	49%
Wyoming	401	1%	398	1%	-1%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200A1; 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01. Note: Total does not include publicly held businesses.

NHPI-Owned Businesses

by State, United States 2002 to 2007, Ranked by 2007 Number of Businesses

State	2002		2007		% Growth 2002 to 2007
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	
Hawai`i	8,359	8.7%	11,403	9.9%	36%
California	7,074	0.2%	9,174	0.3%	30%
New York	3,005	0.2%	1,852	0.1%	-38%
Florida	1,480	0.1%	1,772	0.1%	20%
Washington	728	0.2%	1,197	0.2%	64%
Texas	1,391	0.1%	1,196	0.1%	-14%
Georgia	176	0.03%	1,145	0.1%	551%
Utah	429	0.2%	691	0.3%	61%
Oregon	350	0.1%	636	0.2%	82%
Colorado	391	0.1%	633	0.1%	62%
Nevada	313	0.2%	582	0.3%	86%
Illinois	656	0.1%	569	0.1%	-13%
Michigan	196	0.03%	487	0.1%	148%
New Jersey	448	0.1%	453	0.1%	1%
North Carolina	191	0.03%	451	0.1%	136%
Tennessee	NR	NR	415	0.1%	NR
Pennsylvania	291	0.03%	410	0.04%	41%
Virginia	423	0.1%	405	0.1%	-4%
Missouri	96	0.02%	323	0.1%	236%
Maryland	83	0.02%	294	0.1%	254%
Massachusetts	NR	NR	260	0.05%	NR
Alabama	96	0.03%	254	0.1%	165%
South Carolina	41	0.01%	213	0.1%	420%
Alaska	152	0.3%	186	0.3%	22%
Iowa	17	0.01%	178	0.1%	947%
Indiana	114	0.03%	177	0.04%	55%
Oklahoma	282	0.1%	150	0.05%	-47%
New Mexico	140	0.1%	134	0.1%	-4%
Louisiana	NR	NR	125	0.03%	NR
Connecticut	167	0.1%	104	0.03%	-38%
Arkansas	61	0.03%	92	0.04%	51%
Kentucky	60	0.02%	85	0.03%	42%
Mississippi	126	0.1%	72	0.03%	-43%
Maine	NR	NR	51	0.04%	NR
New Hampshire	17	0.01%	47	0.04%	176%
Delaware	17	0.03%	36	0.1%	112%
Rhode Island	NR	NR	34	0.04%	NR
North Dakota	2	0.004%	25	0.04%	1150%
Nebraska	9	0.01%	17	0.01%	89%
West Virginia	10	0.01%	9	0.01%	-10%
Wyoming	23	0.04%	9	0.02%	-61%
South Dakota	13	0.02%	8	0.01%	-38%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200A1; 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01. Note: Total does not include publicly held businesses. States with suppressed 2007 data were not included. NR = Not reported. Data did not meet 2002 threshold for reporting.

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 any combination” population unless otherwise noted. Exceptions include the measurement of the White population, which is defined here as non-Latino White “alone” unless otherwise noted. Also, “Latino” is used consistently to refer to Hispanics or Latinos.

Workforce data come from Census Bureau’s 2008–2012 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates analyzed from Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) files, which are population and housing unit records with individual response information. The data used from these files are also multiracial, except for White, which is single race and non-Latino. However, ethnic group data from PUMS files are “alone.”

Business data come from the Census Bureau’s Survey of Business Owners (SBO). The SBO questionnaire was mailed to a random sample of businesses selected from a list of all firms operating during 2007 with receipts of \$1,000 or more, except for those in selected industries. Firms with more than one domestic establishment are counted in each industry and geographic area in which they operate but only once in the total for the sector and the totals at the national and state levels. Business ownership is defined as having 51 percent or more of the stock or equity in the business. Businesses could be tabulated in more than one racial group because the sole owner was reported to be of more than one race, the majority owner was reported to be of more than one race, or a majority combination of owners was reported to be of more than one race. Publicly held and other firms that are not classifiable by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status include publicly held enterprises, foreign-owned corporations, and not-for-profit establishments.

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 2000 and 2010 Decennial Census, American Community Survey 2006–2010 5-Year Estimates (selected population tables), 2008–2012 5-Year Estimates (Public Use Microdata Sample), 2004 Panel and 2008 Panel of the Survey of Income and Program Participation, and 2002 and 2007 Survey of Business Owners. Other data in the report include data from Asian American Justice Center; Center for Economic and Policy Research; Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc.; Selig Center for Economic Growth of the University of Georgia; U.S. Small Business Administration; *thesocietypages.org*; U.S. Department of Labor; and *WhoRulesAmerica.net* at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Publications are available in print or on the Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles (www.advancingjustice-la.org) or Asian American Federation (www.aafederation.org) websites, where they can be downloaded or printed free of charge.

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