



2013

A COMMUNITY OF CONTRASTS

Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Los Angeles County



ASIAN AMERICANS
ADVANCING
JUSTICE

LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES
COUNTY



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ORGANIZATIONAL DESCRIPTIONS

The mission of Asian Americans Advancing Justice (“Advancing Justice”) is to promote a fair and equitable society for all by working for civil and human rights and empowering Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) and other underserved communities. Building upon the legacy of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, Advancing Justice – Los Angeles is the nation’s largest legal and civil rights organization for Asian Americans and NHPI. Founded in 1983, Advancing Justice – Los Angeles serves more than 15,000 individuals and organizations every year. Through direct services, impact litigation, policy advocacy, leadership development, and capacity building, Advancing Justice – Los Angeles 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 – Los Angeles is based in downtown Los Angeles, with satellite offices in Orange County and Sacramento. Visit: www.advancingjustice-la.org. Our affiliates include Asian Americans Advancing Justice – AAJC (Washington, DC), Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Asian Law Caucus (San Francisco), and Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Chicago.

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

WELCOME

Los Angeles endures as one of the nation's largest and most diverse metropolitan areas. Throughout its history, Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) have transformed the region through their labor and investment in family and the economy. Today Los Angeles County is home to more Asian Americans than any other county in the United States and the country's largest Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Indonesian, Korean, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, and Thai American populations. Representing over 45 ethnic groups speaking 28 languages, our diverse communities continue to shape what Los Angeles will become.

Yet the social and economic diversity that stands as our community's hallmark isn't always apparent to elected officials, government agencies, foundations, and others tasked with developing and carrying out informed public policy. Many see our communities as a monolithic whole, consistently among the most well educated and successful. This perception masks tremendous social and economic diversity; the social service needs of low-income Southeast Asian and NHPI communities are very different than those of higher income Taiwanese or Indian Americans. Failure to recognize these differences renders some of the most disadvantaged Americans invisible to policy makers.

To promote a better understanding of our communities, *A Community of Contrasts: Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Los Angeles County* compiles the latest data on Asian Americans and NHPI. The report provides data on important topics such as immigration, language, education, income, housing, and health disaggregated by ethnic group in an effort to shed light on Asian Americans and NHPI most in need. Armed with this information, we hope policy makers will act to address our community's very real concerns.

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 Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles (author and principal researcher) (Kristin Sakaguchi, Dan Ichinose, Betty Hung, Joanna Lee, Pamela Stephens, and An Le) and the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON) (Mark Masaoka), as well as those organizations who provided critical feedback on content, including Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy (AAPIP); APAIT Health Center; Center for the Pacific Asian Family (CPAF); Office of California State Assemblymember Ed Chau; Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC); Khmer Girls in Action (KGA); Korean Resource Center (KRC); Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC); South Asian Network (SAN); and Thai Community Development Corporation (Thai CDC). All photos in the report were taken by M. Jamie Watson.

INTRODUCTION

Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) have a long history in Los Angeles— from the establishment of “Old Chinatown” near what is now Union Station in the late 1800s to the resettlement of Cambodian refugees in Long Beach in the late 1970s and the growth of Native Hawaiian, Samoan American, and Chamorro American populations. Today Los Angeles County’s combined Asian American and NHPI community is the largest in the country. As growth in the county’s total population wanes, the number of Asian Americans and NHPI living here continues to increase dramatically.

Understanding the needs of diverse Asian American ethnic groups and NHPI as a distinct racial group is critical to serving these growing communities. While some came to this country as credentialed professionals, many came with skills that proved a poor fit in a new economy. Asian Americans and NHPI often share experiences with immigration, language barriers, and discrimination but can differ significantly in their economic status, employment, and educational attainment.

Data on Asian Americans and NHPI as racial groups often mask the needs of the most disadvantaged in our community; for example, Southeast Asians have the lowest per capita incomes of any racial or ethnic group countywide. Yet data that capture differences between ethnic groups and for NHPI as a distinct racial group can be difficult to access and interpret. This leaves elected officials, government agencies, and foundations without the information they need to craft informed public policy on our communities.

A Community of Contrasts: Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Los Angeles County addresses this critical problem by bringing together the latest data on our communities. The report does two things.

First, it provides key characteristics of Asian American and NHPI communities disaggregated by ethnic group. Recognizing significant social and economic diversity within Asian American and NHPI communities, we include data on immigration, language, education, income, housing, and health disaggregated for 30 ethnic groups. These disaggregated data are critical to understanding the unique needs of some of Los Angeles County’s most disadvantaged.

Second, the report makes the data accessible to community organizations, policy makers, foundations, businesses, and others looking to better understand and serve Asian American and NHPI communities. By soliciting feedback on content from key stakeholders in the community, government, and philanthropy; consolidating important data from disparate government and academic sources; and presenting them in a way that is easy to digest, the report makes a valuable contribution to the public’s understanding of our diverse communities.

While the report relies most heavily on data from the United States Census Bureau, particularly the 2010 Census and American Community Survey, it draws from numerous other sources. These include the Center for the Study of Immigration Integration at the University of Southern California, California Department of Education, California Department of Public Health, and California Health Interview Survey.

Together these data paint a more nuanced picture of two of Los Angeles County’s fastest-growing and most diverse racial groups. They will help key stakeholders better respond to and serve our community of contrasts.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Los Angeles County is home to the nation's largest Asian American population, numbering nearly 1.5 million and making up 15% of the county's total population. There are over 54,000 Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) countywide, the largest NHPI population in the continental United States. *A Community of Contrasts: Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Los Angeles County* provides community organizations, policy makers, foundations, businesses, and others with essential data on and policy recommendations supporting these diverse communities. Highlights include the following:

While Los Angeles County's overall population growth is stagnant, large Asian American and NHPI communities continue to grow.

Los Angeles County's total population grew only 3% between 2000 and 2010. In stark contrast, its Asian American population grew 20% over the decade, significantly faster than any other racial group; Latinos grew 11% and NHPI grew 9%, while the number of Whites countywide decreased 8%. In 2000, there were 7 majority Asian American cities countywide; there are now 13 (12 of which are in the San Gabriel Valley). Among Asian American and NHPI ethnic groups, South Asians and Fijian Americans are the county's fastest growing. As Los Angeles becomes even more diverse, programs that promote positive human relations and alleviate intergroup tensions are needed more than ever before.

Asian American and NHPI business owners countywide are creating jobs.

There are over 180,000 Asian American-owned and 2,800 NHPI-owned businesses in Los Angeles County. Asian American-owned businesses alone employ nearly 360,000 Americans, issuing over \$10 billion in payroll. From 2002 to 2007, the number of people employed by these businesses grew 31%. Among Asian American and NHPI ethnic groups, Chinese, Korean, and Filipino Americans own the greatest number of businesses.

While record numbers of Asian Americans countywide are registering to vote and casting ballots, there is considerable untapped potential in Asian American and NHPI communities to influence the political process.

As Asian American and NHPI populations in Los Angeles County continue to grow, so too does their political participation. The number of Asian Americans who voted countywide increased from over 210,000 in 2000 to a record number 290,000 in 2008. Yet Asian Americans and NHPI have not reached their full political potential. Over 120,000 Asian American immigrants who obtained legal permanent residence between 1985 and 2005 and are eligible to naturalize have not. Language barriers limit access to information about the electoral process, candidates, and ballot measures. Funding to community organizations that offer culturally and linguistically competent naturalization assistance to Asian Americans and NHPI remains critical. Language assistance provisions in both the federal Voting Rights Act and state election code are important to promoting increased participation in the electoral process.

More immigrant than any other racial group countywide, Asian Americans benefit from effective implementation of immigration reform and broader immigrant integration efforts.

Nearly two-thirds of Asian Americans in Los Angeles County were born outside the United States, a rate higher than any other racial group; roughly one-fifth of NHPI countywide are foreign-born. Between 2000 and 2010, about 310,000 Asian American and 1,300 NHPI legal permanent residents settled in Los Angeles County, most of these from the Philippines, China, and Korea. An estimated 130,000 Asian Americans countywide are undocumented; courts in the city of Los Angeles have deported more people to Asia or the Pacific Islands than those in any other city nationwide. Asian American and NHPI communities benefit from effective local implementation of federal immigration reform, efforts to address anti-immigrant discrimination, and immigrant integration programs.

Language barriers prevent Asian Americans and NHPI from accessing critical services.

Over one million people in Los Angeles County speak an Asian or Pacific Island language. Of those, over 530,000 Asian Americans and 4,100 NHPI are limited English proficient (LEP) and experience some difficulty communicating in English that affects their ability to access basic services. Among ethnic groups, a majority of Korean, Burmese, Vietnamese, Taiwanese, and Cambodian Americans countywide are LEP. Local policies and practices that make services more accessible through translation and interpretation into Asian and Pacific Island languages should be strengthened; as budget cuts threaten English for speakers of other languages courses, greater investment in English language acquisition for Asian American and NHPI youth and adults is also needed.

Educational outcomes vary greatly among Asian Americans and NHPI.

Many assume that all Asian Americans and NHPI have high levels of formal education. Yet data disaggregated by ethnic group show that their educational outcomes are mixed. Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Laotian Americans are less likely than all racial or ethnic groups except Latinos to have earned a high school degree. Tongan Americans are least likely among racial or ethnic groups to hold a bachelor's degree. In fall 2012, applicants from 15 Asian American or NHPI ethnic groups, including Samoan, Thai, Filipino, Cambodian, and Vietnamese Americans, were less likely than Whites to be admitted to UCLA. Expanding access to bilingual instruction and dual immersion programs, supporting the meaningful involvement of LEP parents in their children's education, and establishing policies that promote equal opportunity and diversity in public education are all important ways of addressing these disparities.

Asian Americans and NHPI have been impacted by the economic crisis and will be hurt by further cuts to social service programs serving low-income communities.

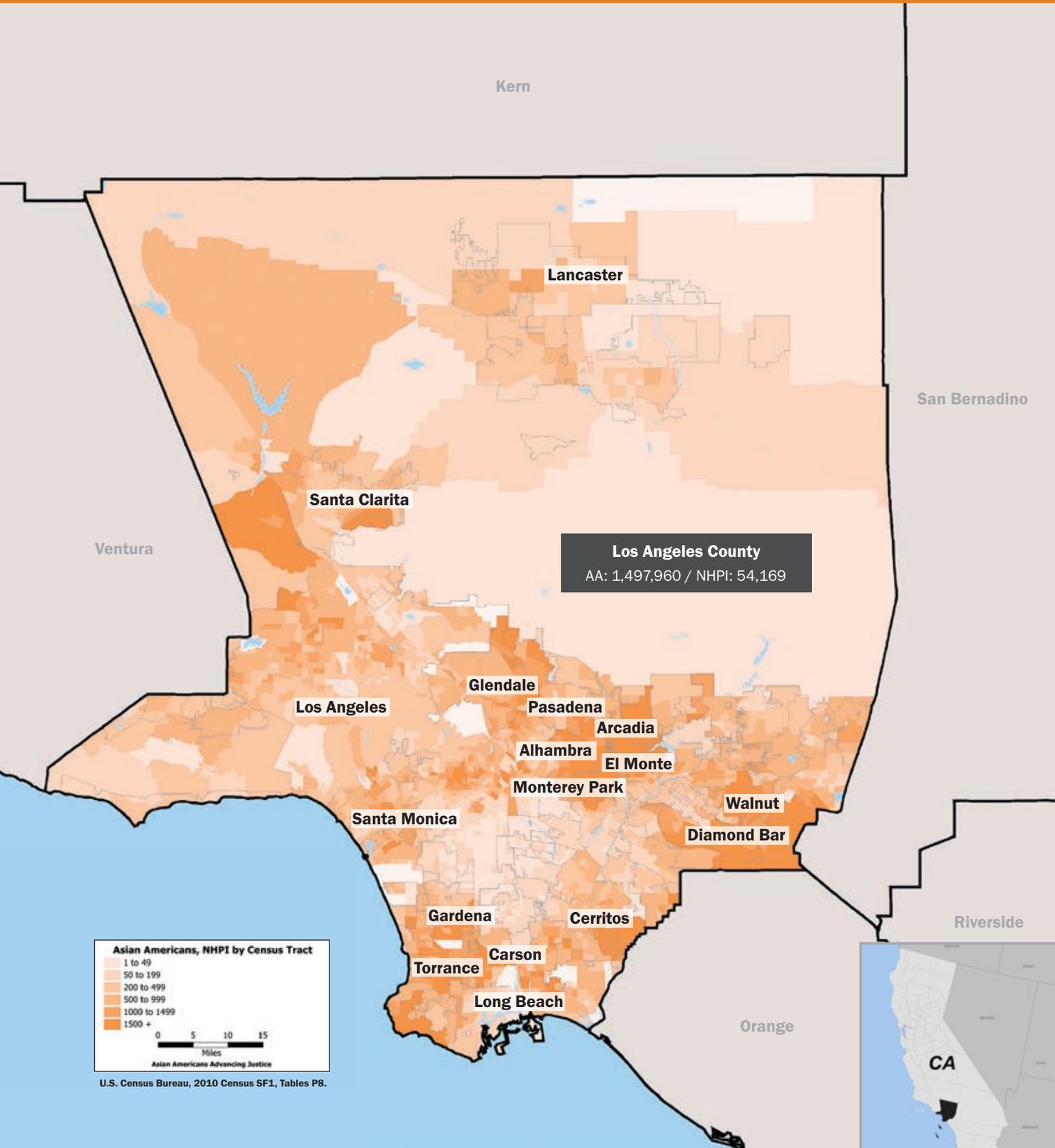
Between 2007 and 2011 the number of unemployed Asian Americans in Los Angeles County grew 89%; the number of unemployed NHPI grew 111%. Over the same period, the number of Asian Americans and NHPI living below the poverty line countywide grew 20% and 84%, respectively. Today both Asian Americans and NHPI fare worse than Whites across multiple measures of income; over half of Tongan Americans and one quarter of Cambodian Americans countywide live below the poverty line. Poverty rates among Asian Americans are highest in El Monte, Long Beach, Pomona, Alhambra, and Rosemead, while poverty among NHPI is highest in Compton, Long Beach, and Los Angeles. CalWORKS, Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI), In-Home Supportive Services, and MediCal are all critical to the survival of growing numbers of Asian Americans and NHPI without work, as are culturally and linguistically accessible workforce development programs.

Asian Americans and NHPI in Los Angeles County continue to face housing challenges.

Only 40% of NHPI in Los Angeles County are homeowners, a rate comparable to that of Blacks or African Americans and Latinos. Asian Americans are less likely than Whites to own homes. Among racial and ethnic groups countywide, Mongolian, Nepalese, Samoan, Bangladeshi, Tongan, Cambodian, and Korean Americans are least likely to be homeowners, while Sri Lankan, Vietnamese, and Bangladeshi American households are most likely to spend 30% or more of their income on rent. Laws protecting those facing eviction or foreclosure are needed; legal remedies should be accessible to the LEP. Funding strategies that address the loss of redevelopment agencies and decreasing federal assistance should also be explored.

Asian Americans and NHPI are disproportionately impacted by certain types of disease yet are less likely to be insured.

Asian Americans are the only racial group for whom cancer is the leading cause of death. The number of people countywide who die from diabetes is decreasing among all racial groups except NHPI. Yet both Asian Americans and NHPI are less likely than Blacks or African Americans and Whites to have health insurance; over one in three Korean Americans in Los Angeles County are uninsured, a rate highest among racial or ethnic groups. Government, foundation, and private funding are needed to support culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach and education to Asian American and NHPI communities around available health coverage options.





Population by Race & Hispanic Origin

Los Angeles County 2010,
Ranked by Population

Race and Hispanic Origin	Number	%
Latino	4,687,889	48%
White	2,728,321	28%
Asian American	1,497,960	15%
Black or African American	948,337	10%
AIAN	140,764	1%
NHPI	54,169	1%
Total Population	9,818,605	100%

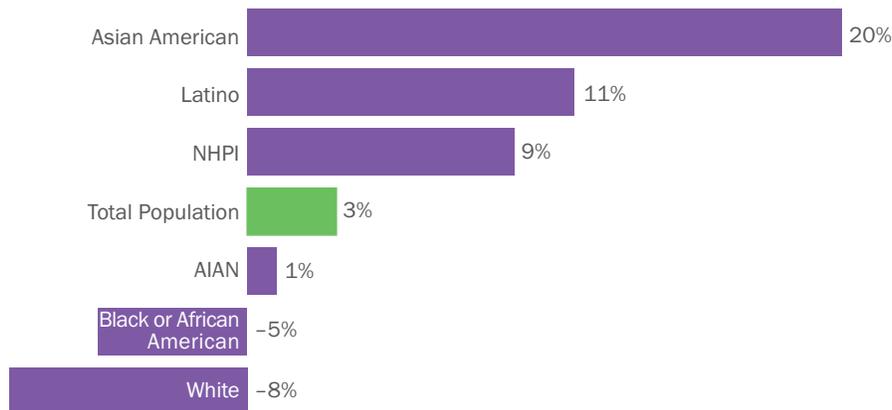
U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF1, Tables P5 and P6.

Note: Figures for each racial group include both single race and multiracial people, except for White, which is single race, non-Latino. Figures do not sum to total.

- Los Angeles County has the largest Asian American population of any county in the United States, numbering nearly 1.5 million and making up 15% of the county's total population. Over a quarter of California's Asian American population resides here.¹
- Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) make up nearly 1% of all people countywide and number over 54,000, the most of any county on the continent. A fifth of California's NHPI population is in Los Angeles County.²

Population Growth by Race & Hispanic Origin

Los Angeles County 2000 to 2010



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

- Between 2000 and 2010, Los Angeles County's Asian American population grew 20%, faster than any other racial group and nearly twice as fast as the Latino population. The NHPI population grew 9%. In contrast, White and Black or African American populations both decreased in size over the decade.
- Over half (52%) of NHPI countywide are multiracial, a rate higher than any other racial group. Approximately 10% of Asian Americans are multiracial, compared to only 4% of the total population.³
- While the median age of Asian Americans (38) is above the county average (35), the median age of NHPI (29) is well below. Approximately 30% of the NHPI population are youth (under 18), a proportion higher than all other racial groups, except Latinos (32%).⁴
- From 2000 to 2010, Los Angeles County's total senior (65 and over) population increased 15%. In contrast, NHPI and Asian American senior populations countywide grew 59% and 50%, respectively, more than any other racial group over the decade.⁵

The Asian American population grew nearly *twice* as fast as any other racial group countywide.

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

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF1, Table P6.

²Ibid.

³Ibid., Tables QT-P3, QT-P6, QT-P8, QT-P9, P8, and P9.

⁴U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF2, Table DP-1.

⁵U.S. Census, Bureau 2000 Census SF2, Table DP-1; 2010 Census SF1, Table DP-1.



Asian American Population, Growth

by Top 15 Cities, Los Angeles County 2000 to 2010,
Ranked by Population

City	Number	%	Growth
Los Angeles	483,585	13%	19%
Long Beach	67,961	15%	8%
Torrance	55,499	38%	29%
Alhambra	45,395	55%	8%
Monterey Park	41,284	68%	8%
Glendale	36,832	19%	8%
Arcadia	34,416	61%	38%
Rosemead	33,107	62%	24%
Cerritos	31,691	65%	1%
Diamond Bar	30,478	55%	21%
Rowland Heights	30,088	61%	18%
El Monte	29,188	26%	31%
West Covina	29,177	28%	14%
Carson	25,296	28%	16%
San Gabriel	24,672	62%	23%

NHPI Population, Growth

by Top 15 Cities, Los Angeles County 2000 to 2010,
Ranked by Population

City	Number	%	Growth
Los Angeles	15,031	0.4%	14%
Long Beach	7,498	1.6%	-5%
Carson	3,088	3.4%	-9%
Torrance	1,363	0.9%	23%
Hawthorne	1,337	1.6%	32%
Lakewood	1,265	1.6%	37%
Bellflower	954	1.2%	22%
Glendale	915	0.5%	74%
Compton	899	0.9%	-23%
Lancaster	877	0.6%	62%
Santa Clarita	795	0.5%	28%
Gardena	767	1.3%	1%
Palmdale	763	0.5%	64%
Norwalk	752	0.7%	14%
Pomona	681	0.5%	2%

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

- The city of Los Angeles has the largest Asian American (483,585) and NHPI (15,031) populations of any city in both Los Angeles County and the entire state of California. Among cities countywide, the next largest Asian American populations are in Long Beach, Torrance, Alhambra, and Monterey Park.¹
- Monterey Park is proportionally more Asian American than any other city countywide; 68% of its total population is Asian American. No city is proportionally more NHPI than Carson, whose total population is more than 3% NHPI.
- There are now 13 incorporated or unincorporated cities in Los Angeles County with majority Asian American populations: Monterey Park (68%), Walnut (66%), Cerritos (65%), San Gabriel (62%), Rosemead (62%), Rowland Heights (61%), Arcadia (61%), Temple City (57%), San Marino (56%), Diamond Bar (55%), Alhambra (55%), East San Gabriel (52%), and South San Gabriel (52%). There were only 7 in 2000. Cerritos is the only majority Asian American city outside the San Gabriel Valley.²
- Santa Clarita's Asian American population is the county's fastest growing; the number of Asian Americans living there increased 85% between 2000 and 2010. Among cities with 5,000 or more Asian Americans, Asian American populations in La Crescenta–Montrose (56%), Lancaster (53%), Temple City (52%), and Pasadena (49%) were the next fastest growing over the decade.³
- Among cities with 500 or more NHPI, NHPI populations in Glendale (74%), Palmdale (64%), Lancaster (62%), Lakewood (37%), and Lawndale (35%) experienced the fastest growth from 2000 to 2010.

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF1, Table QT-P6.

²U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1, Table QT-P6; 2010 Census SF1, Table QT-P6.

³ibid.



Population by Ethnic Group

Los Angeles County 2010

Ethnic Group	Number
Chinese (except Taiwanese)	403,730
Filipino	374,285
Korean	230,876
Japanese	138,983
Vietnamese	104,024
Indian	92,179
Taiwanese	45,808
Cambodian	37,450
Thai	29,792
Samoan	16,535
Native Hawaiian	13,257
Indonesian	13,001
Pakistani	10,930
Guamanian or Chamorro	6,084
Sri Lankan	5,380
Burmese	5,254
Bangladeshi	5,162
Laotian	4,067
Tongan	3,253
Mongolian	1,539
Malaysian	1,496
Fijian	1,306
Nepalese	1,229
Hmong	760
Singaporean	417
Okinawan	363
Tahitian	277
Palauan	100
Bhutanese	42
Marshallese	27

U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 SF1, Tables PCT7 and PCT10; 2010 Census SF2, Table PCT1.

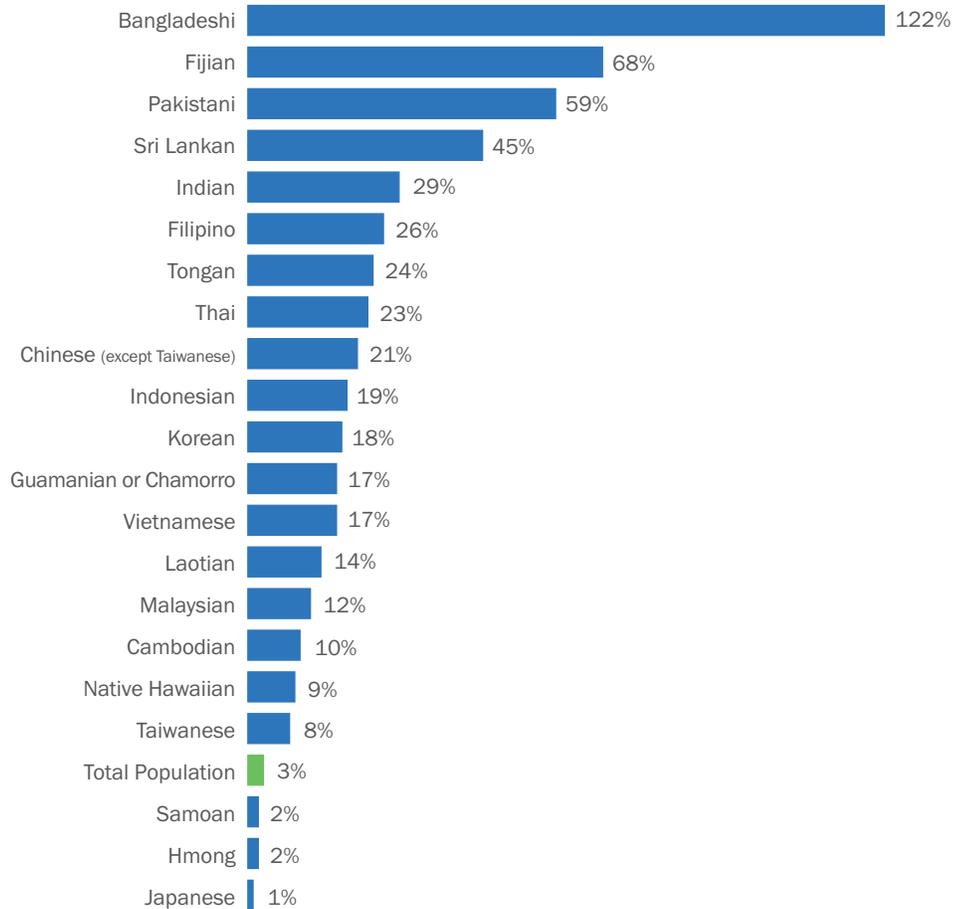
- Chinese Americans are Los Angeles County's largest Asian American ethnic group and make up over a quarter of the Asian American population. They are followed in size by Filipino, Korean, Japanese, and Vietnamese American populations.

⁴U.S. Census, Bureau, 2010 Census SF1, Table DP-1.

⁵Ibid., Tables QT-P3, QT-P6, QT-P8, QT-P9, P8, and P9.

Population Growth by Ethnic Group

Los Angeles County 2000 to 2010



U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1, Tables PCT7 and PCT10; 2010 Census SF1, Tables PCT7 and PCT10; 2010 Census SF2, Table PCT1.

Note: Figures for ethnic groups excluded if (1) groups did not meet 2000 Census population threshold for reporting or (2) number less than 100 in 2010.

- Samoan Americans are the county's largest NHPI group and make up nearly a third of the NHPI population. Native Hawaiians and Guamanian or Chamorro, Tongan, and Fijian Americans follow in size.
- Los Angeles County's fastest-growing Asian American ethnic groups are South Asian (Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, and Indian Americans). The Bangladeshi American population grew 122% between 2000 and 2010, a rate faster than any other racial or ethnic group.
- Among NHPI groups countywide, the Fijian American population grew fastest, increasing 68% over the decade.
- More than 39% of Tongan and 38% of Samoan Americans are youth, and 19% of Japanese Americans are seniors, proportions higher than any other racial or ethnic group.⁴
- Among ethnic groups, Native Hawaiians (68%) and Marshallese Americans (52%) are most likely to be multiracial.⁵

Businesses

by Race and Hispanic Origin, Los Angeles County 2007,
Ranked by Number of Businesses

Race and Hispanic Origin	All Businesses (Number)	Revenues (\$1,000)	Employees (Number)	Annual Payroll (\$1,000)
White	516,685	\$301,566,371	1,483,973	\$57,220,802
Latino	225,791	\$30,683,743	155,420	\$4,557,116
Asian American	183,090	\$81,830,223	356,288	\$10,392,385
Black or African American	59,677	\$11,288,900	34,289	\$1,138,356
AIAN	14,160	-	-	-
NHPI	2,803	-	-	-
Total	1,046,940	\$1,140,276,465	3,952,654	\$176,799,947

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 do not sum to total. Some data not reported due to suppression or large standard error.



- In 2007, Asian Americans owned over 180,000 businesses in Los Angeles County, a 30% increase since 2002; NHPI owned over 2,800.¹
- Asian American–owned businesses countywide employ nearly 360,000 Americans, paying out over \$10 billion in payroll. These businesses employ more persons and dispense more in payroll than businesses owned by any other racial group except for Whites.
- The number of people employed by Asian American business owners increased by 31% from 2002 to 2007.²
- Chinese Americans own nearly 62,000 businesses, a third of all Asian American–owned businesses. Korean Americans own over 31,000 businesses, Filipino Americans own nearly 29,000 businesses, Vietnamese Americans own nearly 18,000 businesses, Indian Americans own nearly 17,000 businesses, and Japanese Americans own over 16,000 businesses.³
- Native Hawaiians own over 1,300 businesses, the most among NHPI ethnic groups.⁴
- The top three industries for Asian American–owned businesses are professional, scientific, and technical services; health care and social assistance; and retail trade.⁵
- The top three industries for NHPI–owned businesses are administrative support and waste management and remediation services; arts, entertainment, and recreation; and retail trade.⁶

*In 2007, Asian American–owned businesses in
Los Angeles County employed nearly **360,000**.*

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01; 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0200A1.

²Ibid.

³U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, Table SB0700CSA01.

⁴Ibid.

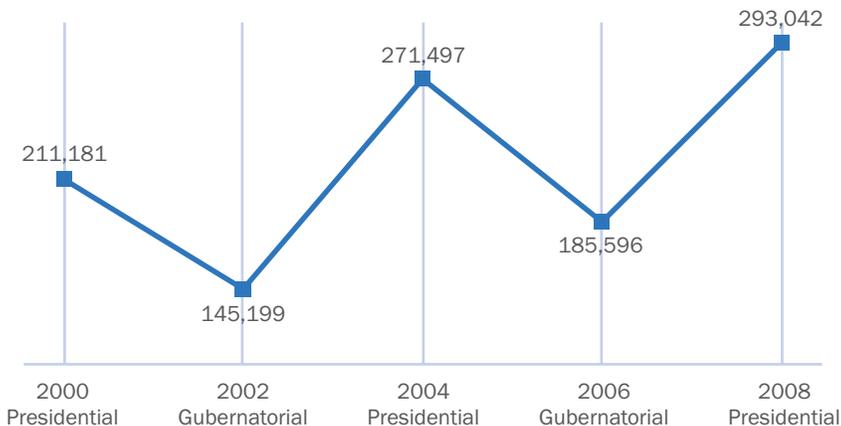
⁵Ibid.

⁶Ibid.



Asian American Voters

Los Angeles County 2000 to 2008



Los Angeles County Voter Files (2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2008), Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center.



- In Los Angeles County, the number of Asian Americans voting increased from over 200,000 in 2000 to a record number 290,000 in 2008, a 39% increase. In the 2008 general election, Asian Americans made up 10% of those registered to vote and 9% of those casting ballots.⁶
- Approximately 61% of Asian American immigrants countywide are citizens; the number of naturalized Asian Americans has grown 26% since 2000. About 56% of NHPI immigrants are citizens.⁷
- Among Asian American ethnic groups, Vietnamese (79%), Taiwanese (74%), and Laotian American (73%) immigrants are most likely to be citizens.⁸

- There are over 120,000 Asian American immigrants in Los Angeles County who obtained legal permanent residence between 1985 and 2005 and are eligible to naturalize but have not yet become American citizens. Over 96% of these immigrants are of voting age. Immigrants from the Philippines, China, and South Korea make up the largest number of noncitizen Asian immigrants eligible to naturalize.⁹
- California State Assembly District 49, including the west San Gabriel Valley cities of Alhambra, Monterey Park, Rosemead, and San Gabriel, was redrawn in 2011 to become the state's first legislative district in which Asian Americans made up over half of those

eligible to register to vote. Ed Chau was elected to represent the district in 2012.¹⁰

- State Assembly District 64, which includes Carson and Compton, is home to about 4,700 NHPI, the largest number of NHPI residents in any State Assembly district in Southern California.¹¹
- Located in the west San Gabriel Valley, California's Congressional District 27 is approximately 38% Asian American and represented by Congresswoman Judy Chu, the first Chinese American woman ever elected to Congress.¹²

⁶Los Angeles County Voter Files (2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2008), Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center.

⁷U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF4, Table PCT44; 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B05003.

⁸U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B05003.

⁹University of Southern California, Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration. 2011. Note: One is generally eligible to naturalize after holding LPR status for five years. Additional criteria, such as "good moral character," knowledge of civics, and basic English, must also be met. Data include the top eight Asian countries of origin only.

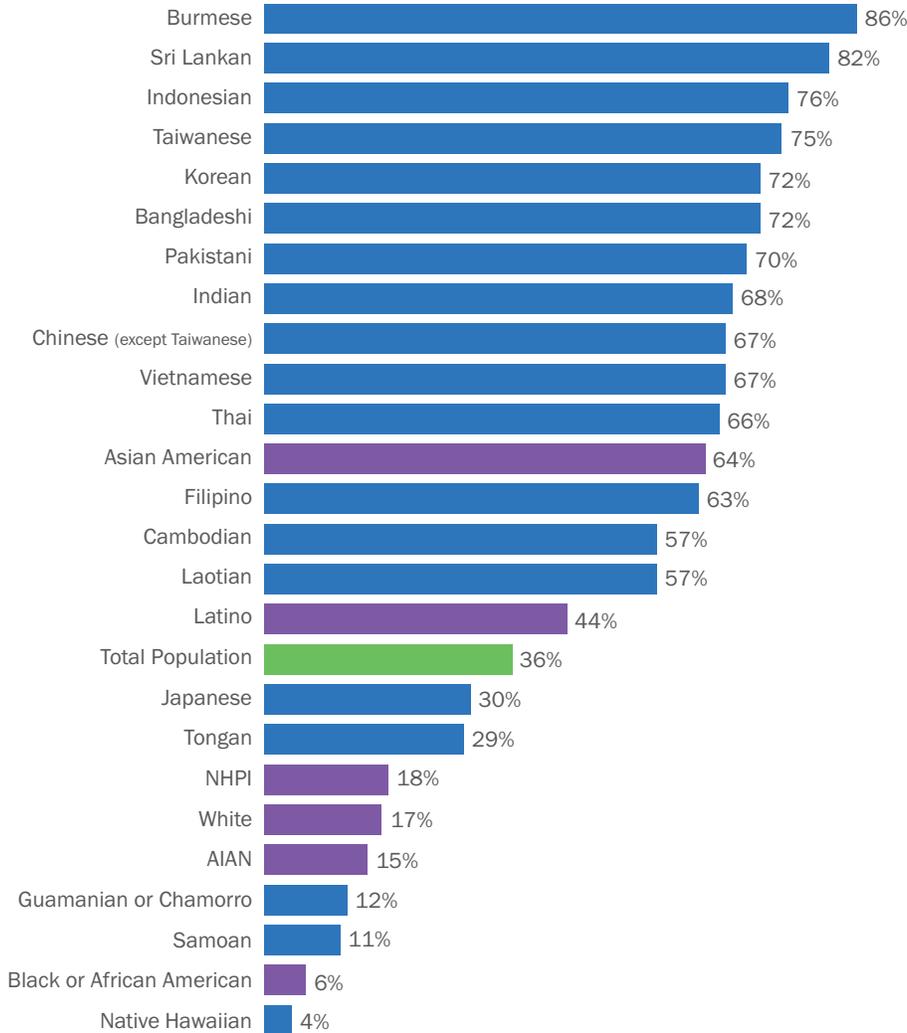
¹⁰California Citizens Redistricting Commission Final Maps, August 15, 2011. Note: A "majority-minority" district is determined in part by a district's minority citizen voting age or eligible voting population.

¹¹Ibid.

¹²Ibid.

Foreign-Born

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, Los Angeles County 2006–2010



U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B05003.

- There are more Asian American immigrants in Los Angeles County than in any other county nationwide.¹
- Nearly 930,000 Asian Americans and over 7,700 NHPI living in Los Angeles County are immigrants.²
- Nearly two-thirds of all Asian Americans countywide are foreign-born, the highest rate among racial groups. Nearly one-fifth of NHPI are foreign-born.
- Among Asian Americans, Burmese (86%) and Sri Lankan Americans (82%) are proportionally most foreign-born. Japanese Americans are the only Asian American ethnic group that is majority native-born; 70% were born in the United States.
- NHPI groups tend to be native-born. Among NHPI, Tongan Americans (29%) are most likely to be foreign-born.
- Asian American youth are also more likely to be foreign-born than youth of other racial backgrounds; approximately 15% are immigrants. Among ethnic groups, South Asian youth are most likely to be foreign-born.³
- Over a quarter of Asian American immigrants and over one-third of NHPI immigrants countywide entered the country in 2000 or later, rates higher than all other racial groups.⁴

No racial group in Los Angeles County is more immigrant than Asian Americans.

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B05003.

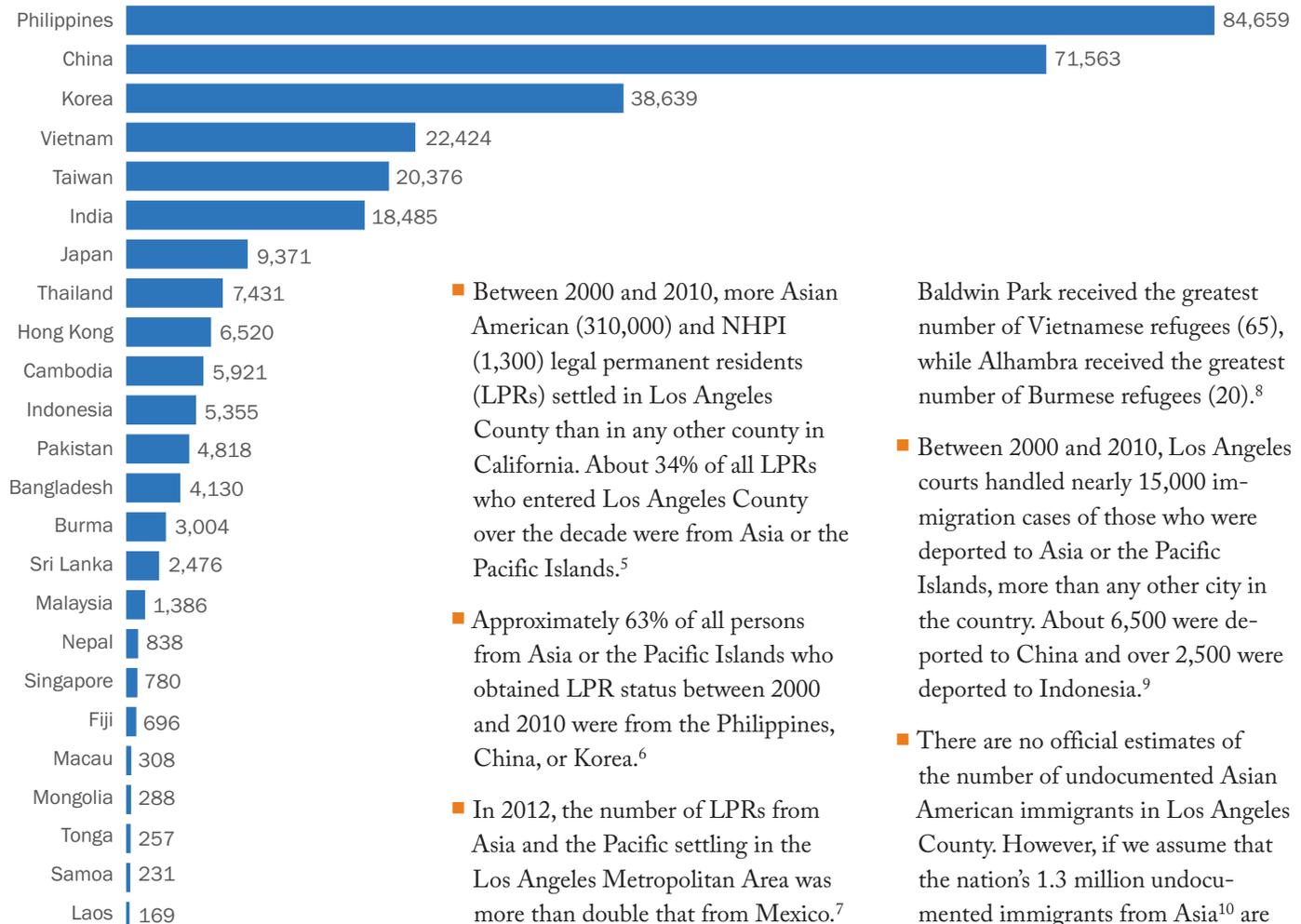
²Ibid.

³Ibid.

⁴Ibid., Table B05005.

Legal Permanent Residents

by Asian Countries or Pacific Islands of Birth, Los Angeles County 2000–2010



U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Immigration Statistics.

Note: Korea figures include North and South Korea. Figures for countries or islands excluded if data are suppressed for one or more years between 2000 and 2010.

- Between 2000 and 2010, more Asian American (310,000) and NHPI (1,300) legal permanent residents (LPRs) settled in Los Angeles County than in any other county in California. About 34% of all LPRs who entered Los Angeles County over the decade were from Asia or the Pacific Islands.⁵
- Approximately 63% of all persons from Asia or the Pacific Islands who obtained LPR status between 2000 and 2010 were from the Philippines, China, or Korea.⁶
- In 2012, the number of LPRs from Asia and the Pacific settling in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area was more than double that from Mexico.⁷
- From 2002 to 2012, 677 refugees from Asia settled in Los Angeles County, including 479 from Vietnam and 98 from Burma. Countywide, Long Beach received the greatest number of refugees from Asia (70); Baldwin Park received the greatest number of Vietnamese refugees (65), while Alhambra received the greatest number of Burmese refugees (20).⁸
- Between 2000 and 2010, Los Angeles courts handled nearly 15,000 immigration cases of those who were deported to Asia or the Pacific Islands, more than any other city in the country. About 6,500 were deported to China and over 2,500 were deported to Indonesia.⁹
- There are no official estimates of the number of undocumented Asian American immigrants in Los Angeles County. However, if we assume that the nation's 1.3 million undocumented immigrants from Asia¹⁰ are geographically distributed in ways consistent with its Asian American foreign-born population, there could be at least 130,000 undocumented Asian Americans living in Los Angeles County.¹¹

⁵U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Immigration Statistics. 2011.

⁶Ibid.

⁷U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Immigration Statistics. 2013.

⁸U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement. June 2013.

⁹Syracuse University, Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse. June 2013. Note: Deportees include all completed cases in immigration courts for all charges.

¹⁰Hoefler, Michael, Nancy Rytina, and Bryan C. Baker. January 2010. "Estimates of the Unauthorized Immigrant Population Residing in the United States: January 2011." U.S. Department of Homeland Security Population Estimates March 2012.

¹¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B05003. Note: Approximately 10% of all foreign-born Asian Americans nationwide live in Los Angeles County.



**Asian & Pacific Island
Language Speakers**

Los Angeles County 2006–2010

Language	Number
Chinese	331,246
Tagalog	223,572
Korean	183,700
Vietnamese	74,689
Japanese	57,376
Pacific Island languages	31,723
Khmer	28,194
Thai	21,874
Other Asian languages	20,130
Hindi	19,952
Urdu	9,695
Gujarati	8,960
Laotian	3,134
Hmong	870

U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B16001.

Note: Chinese includes Cantonese, Mandarin, and other Chinese dialects.

- Over 1 million people in Los Angeles County speak an Asian or Pacific Island language.¹
- Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, and Japanese are the most commonly spoken Asian languages countywide.
- Over 76% of Asian Americans speak a language other than English, a rate second only to Latinos (83%). Over 40% of NHPI speak a language other than English.²
- Among Asian Americans, Burmese (91%), Taiwanese (90%), Vietnamese (86%), Korean (86%), and Bangladeshi Americans (85%) are most likely to speak a language other than English at home.³
- Among NHPI, about 63% of Tongan and 54% of Samoan Americans speak a language other than English at home.⁴



Over *1 million* people in

Los Angeles County speak an Asian or Pacific Island language.

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B16001.

²Ibid., Table B16004.

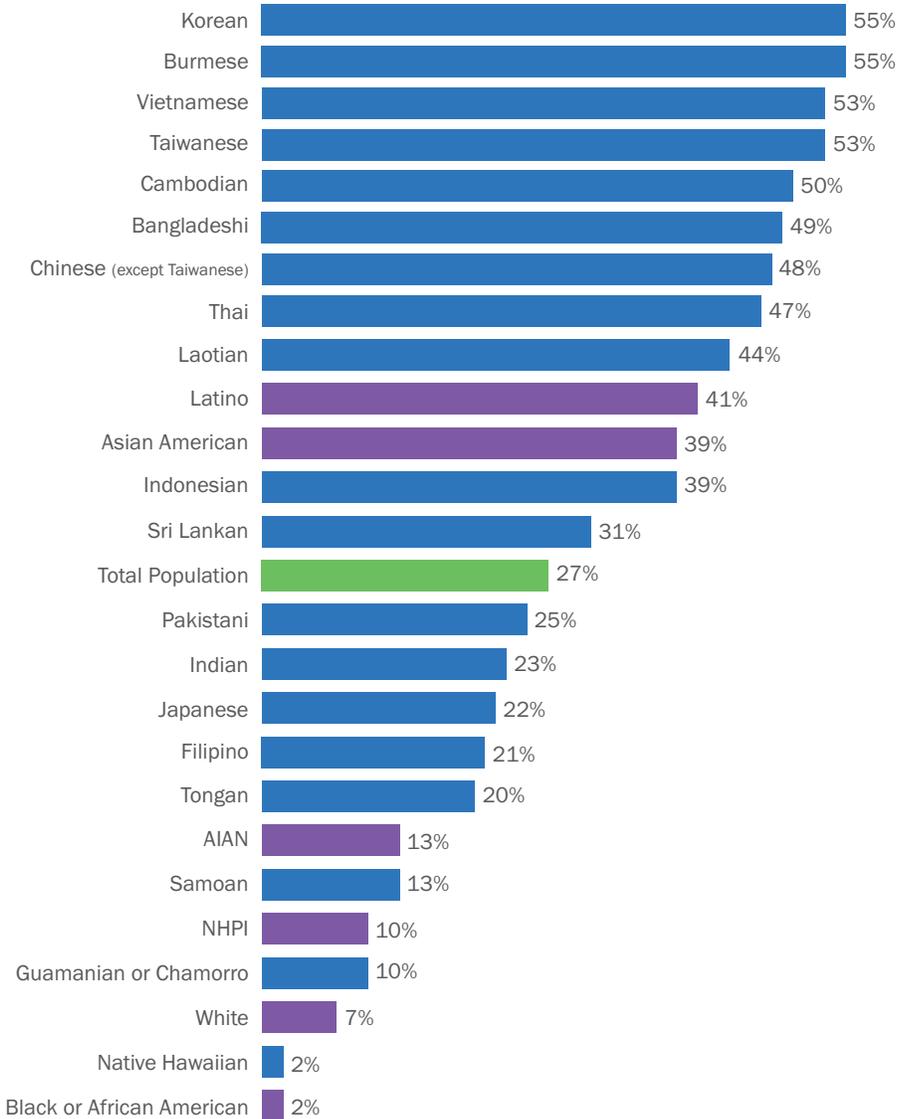
³Ibid.

⁴Ibid.



- Over 530,000 Asian Americans in Los Angeles County are limited English proficient (LEP), a 6% increase since 2000. Over 39% of Asian Americans countywide are LEP, a rate second only to Latinos. One out of every 10 NHPI is LEP.⁵
- Among Asian Americans, a majority of Korean (55%), Burmese (55%), Vietnamese (53%), Taiwanese (53%), and Cambodian Americans (50%) countywide are LEP, rates higher than any other racial or ethnic group.
- Approximately 67% of Asian American seniors are LEP, a rate higher than any other racial group. Additionally, 92% of Cambodian, 90% of Taiwanese, 89% of Korean, 87% of Vietnamese, and 82% of Chinese American seniors are LEP.⁶
- Since 2000, growth in the number of LEP has been most dramatic among Sri Lankan (213%) and Bangladeshi Americans (103%).⁷
- Asian American households in Los Angeles County have the highest rates of linguistic isolation. In 28% of Asian American households countywide, every member 14 years or older is LEP, a rate similar to that of Latino households (27%). Korean American households (47%) have the highest rate of linguistic isolation, followed by Bangladeshi (40%), Burmese (36%), Vietnamese (35%), Taiwanese (34%), Chinese (33%), and Thai American (33%) households.⁸

Limited English Proficiency for the Population 5 Years & Older by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, Los Angeles County 2006–2010



U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B16004.

Over **530,000** Asian Americans

in Los Angeles County are

limited English proficient.

⁵U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF4, Table PCT38; 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B16004.

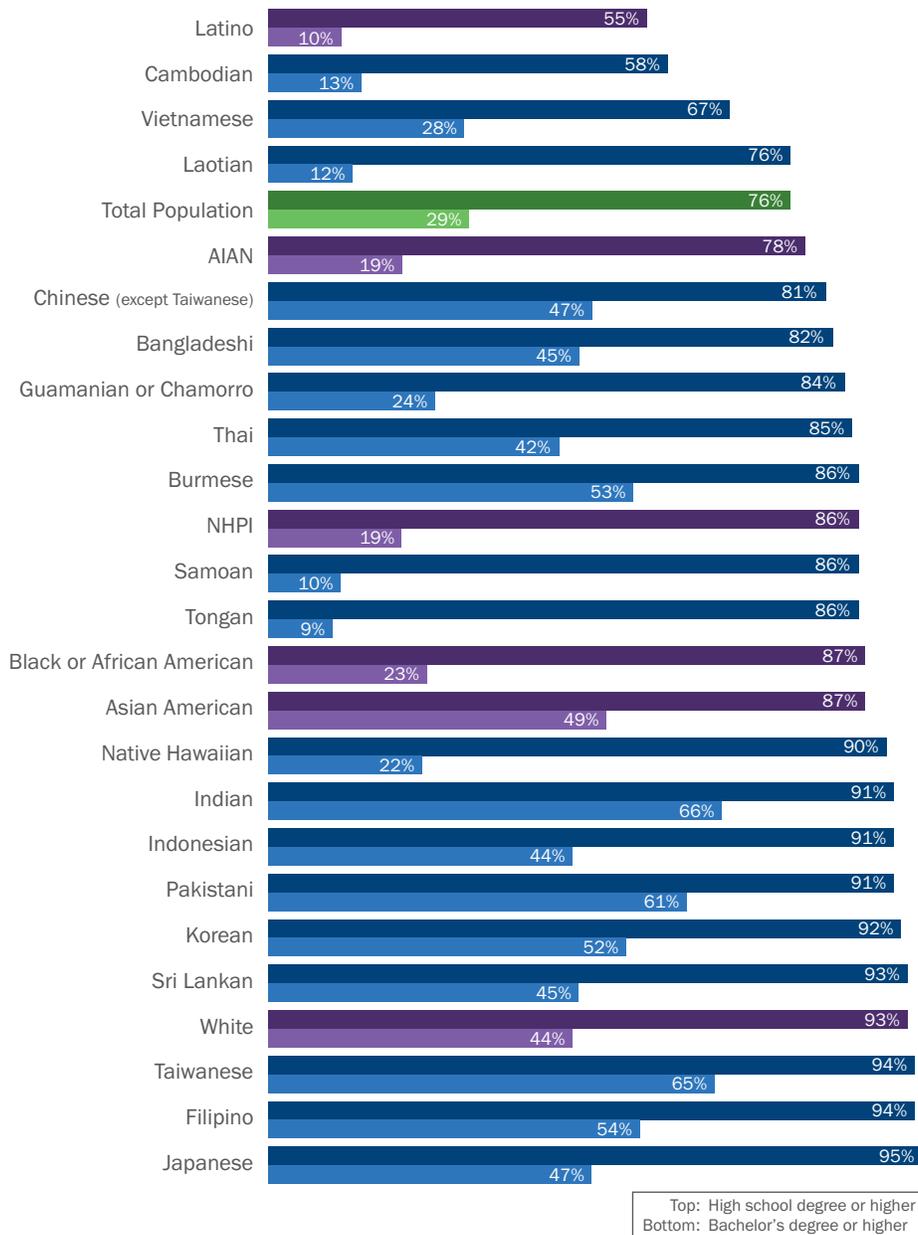
⁶U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B16004.

⁷U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF4, Table PCT38; 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B16004.

⁸U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B16002.

Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years & Older

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, Los Angeles County 2006–2010, Ranked by Percent Holding a High School Degree or Higher



U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B15002.

- In Los Angeles County, both Asian American (87%) and NHPI (86%) adults age 25 years and older are less likely than Whites (93%) to hold a high school diploma or have received their GED. NHPI (19%) are less likely than Blacks or African Americans (23%) to hold a bachelor's degree.
- Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Laotian Americans have the lowest educational attainment among Asian American ethnic groups; only Latinos are less likely to have a high school degree.
- Tongan Americans are the least likely of all racial and ethnic groups to have a college degree.
- Cambodian, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Tongan, Laotian, and Thai American women are considerably less likely to have a high school diploma or GED than men belonging to the same ethnic group. Pakistani, Bangladeshi, and Korean American women are less likely to have a college degree than their male counterparts. In contrast, Filipino American women are more likely to have a college degree than their male counterparts.¹

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B15002. Note: Differences between men and women are noted when greater than 10 percentage points.

K–12 English Language Learners

by Top 10 Asian or Pacific Island Languages,
Los Angeles County 2009–2010,
Ranked by Number of Students

Language	Students	Bilingual Teachers: Student	Bilingual Aide: Student
Cantonese	6,305	0:6,305	1:175
Korean	6,182	1:147	1:97
Mandarin	4,884	1:1,628	1:122
Tagalog	4,397	0:4,397	1:59
Vietnamese	3,896	0:3,896	1:169
Khmer	1,782	0:1,782	1:162
Japanese	1,697	1:424	1:131
Thai	679	0:679	1:340
Urdu	565	0:565	1:565
Punjabi	395	0:395	1:99
All AA or PI languages	33,503	1:684	1:121
Spanish	360,609	1:351	1:60
Total	409,761	1:379	1:62

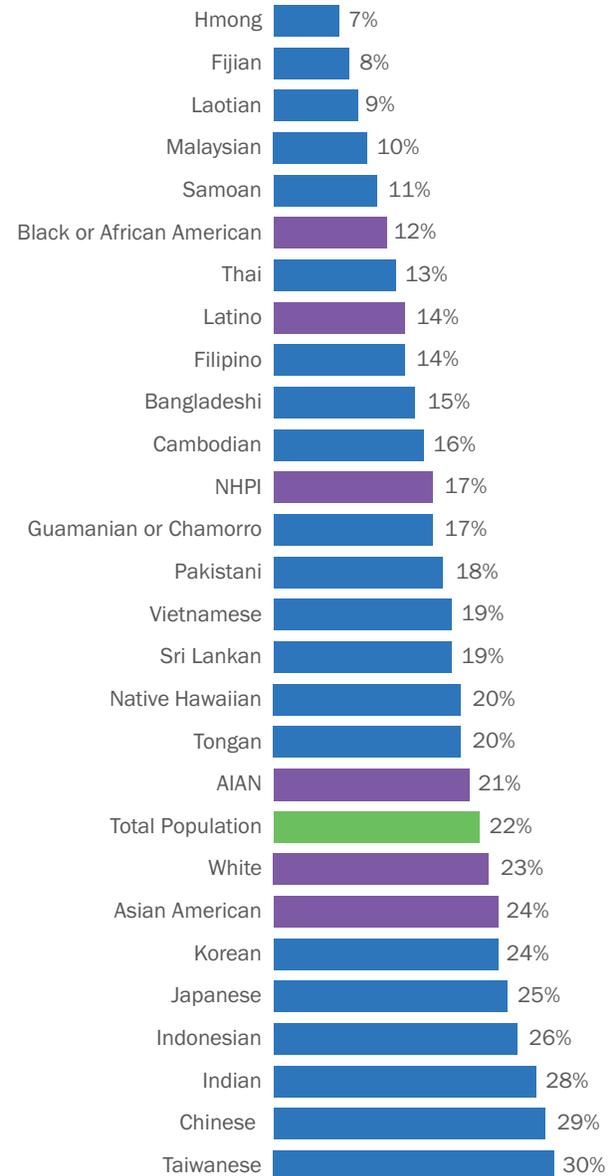
California Department of Education, 2009–2010, Tables “Number of English Learners by Language” and “EL Staff by School.”

Note: Aides are bilingual paraprofessionals. Bilingual teachers are those providing primary language instruction and hold a California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) bilingual authorization.

- Over 8% of English language learner (ELL) students in Los Angeles County K–12 public schools speak an Asian or Pacific Island language. In contrast, only 5% of bilingual teachers and 4% of teaching aides countywide speak an Asian or Pacific Island language. There are no teachers providing bilingual instruction in Cantonese, Tagalog, or Vietnamese.²
- Approximately 88% of Asian American and 94% of NHPI students in grades K–12 countywide are enrolled in public schools, compared to 78% of Whites.³
- Only 44% of Cambodian American and Native Hawaiian children between the ages of 3 and 4 are enrolled in preschool, rates lower than children of all other racial and ethnic groups.⁴
- For the 2006–2010 high school cohort, only 65% of NHPI in Los Angeles County public high schools graduated, a rate similar to Latinos. One in four NHPI dropped out of high school, a rate second only to Blacks or African Americans.⁵

UCLA Freshman Admission Rates

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, Fall 2012



University of California, Los Angeles, Office of Analysis and Information Management, Fall 2012.

- Freshmen applicants from 15 Asian American or NHPI ethnic groups, including Samoan, Thai, Filipino, Cambodian, and Vietnamese Americans, were less likely than Whites to be admitted to UCLA.

²California Department of Education, 2009–2010. Table: “Number of English Learners by Language.”

³U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B14002.

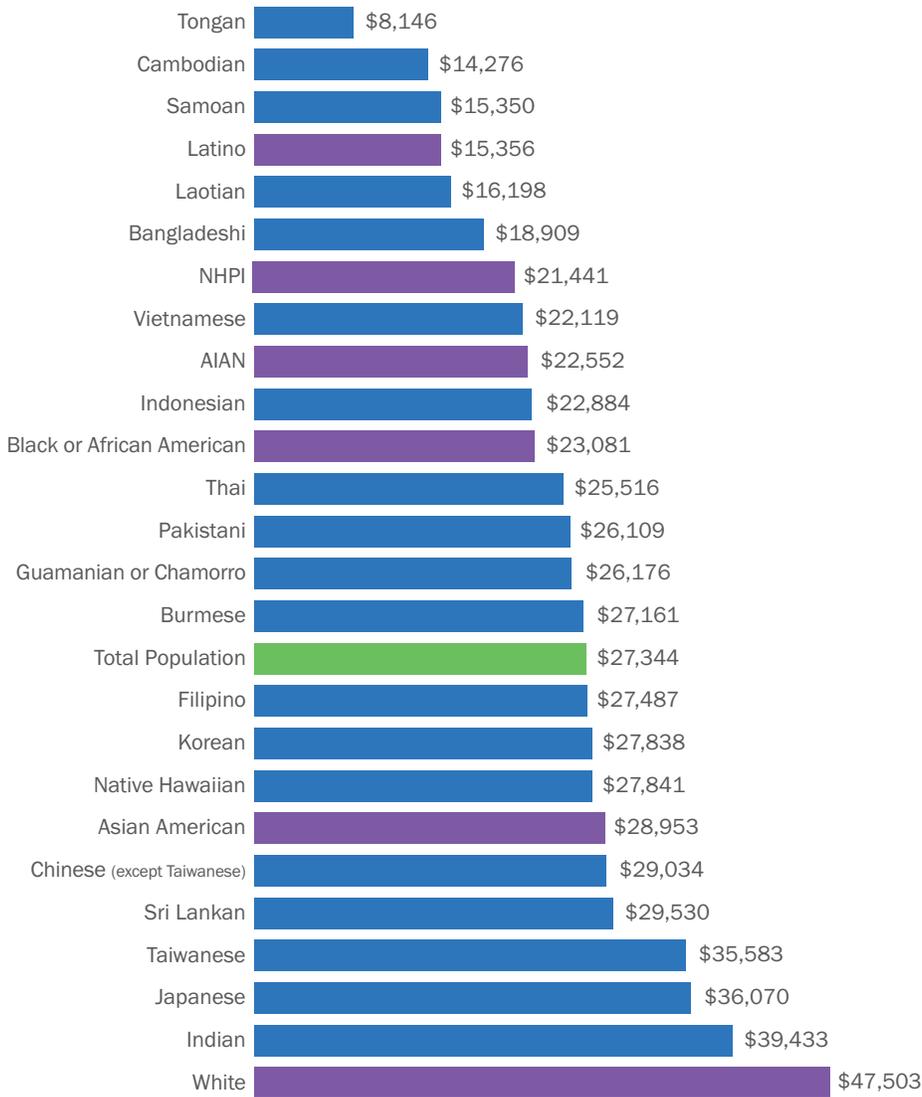
⁴Ibid., Table B14003.

⁵California Department of Education, 2009–2010. “Cohort Outcome Summary Report by Race/Ethnicity.”



Per Capita Income

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, Los Angeles County 2006–2010



U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B19301.

- Asian Americans in Los Angeles County fare worse than Whites across multiple measures of income. Asian Americans have a higher poverty rate than Whites (11% versus 9%), a greater proportion who are low-income (27% versus 21%), and a lower per capita income (\$28,953 versus \$47,503).
- About 13% of NHPI countywide live in poverty and 31% are low-income. Per capita, NHPI earn \$21,441, less than all other racial group except Latinos.
- Across multiple measures of income, Tongan and Cambodian Americans fare worse than all other racial groups.
- Approximately 16% of Asian American families in Los Angeles County have three or more workers contributing to income, a significantly higher proportion than White families (10%).¹
- About 19% of NHPI families have three or more workers, higher than all other racial groups except Latinos (20%). Over 30% of Samoan American families have three or more workers contributing to income, higher than all other racial and ethnic groups.²
- Nearly 10,000 Asian American households countywide receive public assistance income.³
- Among Cambodian American households, nearly 15% receive public assistance income⁴ and 20% receive food stamps,⁵ rates that are both higher than all other racial groups.

The number of NHPI living in poverty

countywide increased 84%

between 2007 and 2011.

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B23009.

²Ibid.

³Ibid., Table B19057.

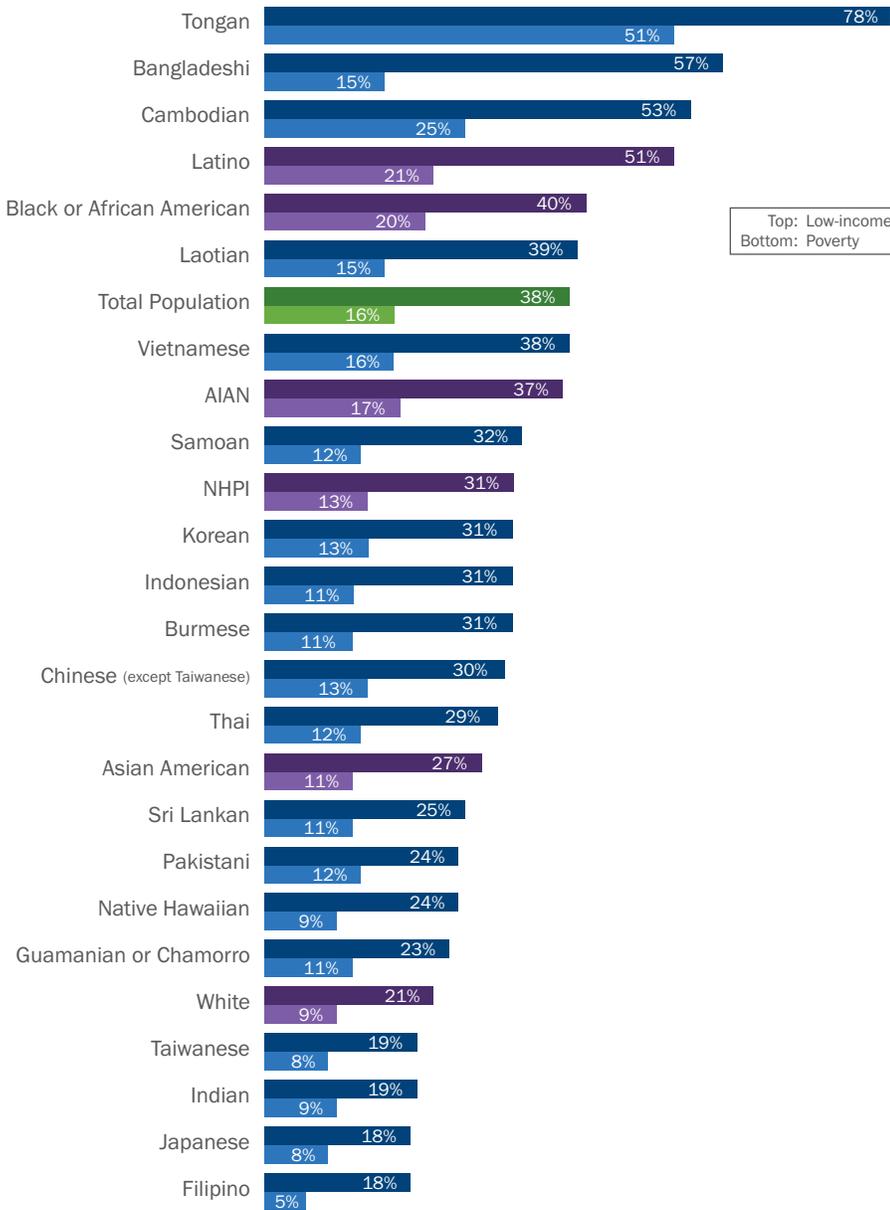
⁴Ibid.

⁵Ibid., Table B22001.



Poverty & Low-Income

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, Los Angeles County 2006–2010,
Ranked by Percent Low-Income



U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table C17002.

*Over half of Tongan Americans
countywide live below the poverty line.*

- From 2007 to 2011, the number of Asian Americans living in poverty in Los Angeles County increased 20%; the number of NHPI living in poverty increased 84%. In contrast, the total number living below the poverty line countywide grew 11% over the same period.⁶
- Over 150,000 Asian Americans and nearly 6,000 NHPI in Los Angeles County live below the poverty line; nearly 380,000 Asian Americans and over 13,000 NHPI are low-income.⁷
- Approximately 23% of Korean, 19% of Cambodian, and 17% of Chinese American seniors in Los Angeles County live below the poverty line, a proportion greater than all other racial groups.⁸
- About 47% of Tongan and 33% of Cambodian American youth countywide are living in poverty, rates higher than all racial groups.⁹
- Over 58% of Tongan American women are living in poverty, a rate higher than any other racial or ethnic group.¹⁰
- Among cities with 5,000 or more Asian Americans, poverty rates among Asian Americans are highest in El Monte (18%), Long Beach (18%), Pomona (16%), Alhambra (15%), and Rosemead (15%). Among cities with 500 or more NHPI, poverty rates among NHPI are highest in Compton (25%), Long Beach (23%), and Los Angeles (17%).¹¹

⁶U.S. Census Bureau, 2005–2007 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Table S0201; 2009–2011 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Table S0201.

⁷U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table C17002.

⁸Ibid., Table B17001.

⁹Ibid.

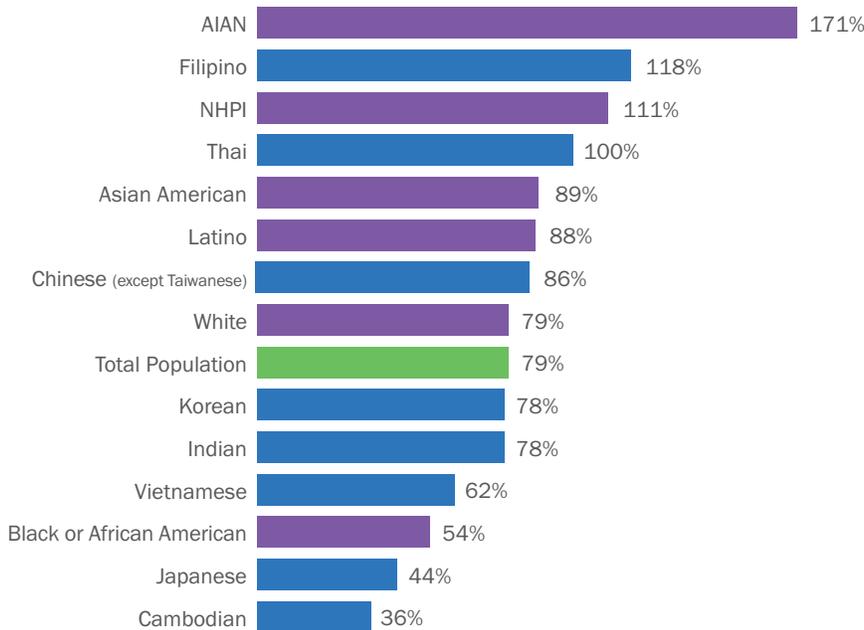
¹⁰Ibid.

¹¹Ibid.



Growth in the Number of Unemployed

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group,
Los Angeles County 2007 to 2011



U.S. Census Bureau, 2005–2007 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Table S0201; 2009–2011 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Table S0201.

From 2007 to 2011,

the number of unemployed

Asian Americans and NHPI

*increased 89% and
111%, respectively.*

- From 2007 to 2011, the number of unemployed Asian Americans in Los Angeles County increased 89%; the number of unemployed NHPI increased 111%.
- Among Asian Americans, Filipino, Thai, and Chinese Americans experienced the greatest growth in the number of unemployed.
- In 2011, the unemployment rate was 9.2% for Asian Americans and 14.6% for NHPI.¹
- The top three industries in which Asian Americans are employed are health care and social assistance, manufacturing, and retail trade. The leading industries among NHPI workers are transportation and warehousing, retail trade, and health care and social assistance.²
- Nearly 31% of Filipino and 28% of Tongan Americans in Los Angeles County work in the health care and social assistance industry; no other racial or ethnic group countywide is as concentrated in an industry.³
- Nearly 63,000 Asian Americans have health care professions. Additionally, Asian Americans make up the largest proportion of registered nurses in Los Angeles County (42%).⁴

¹U.S. Census Bureau 2009–2011 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Table S0201.

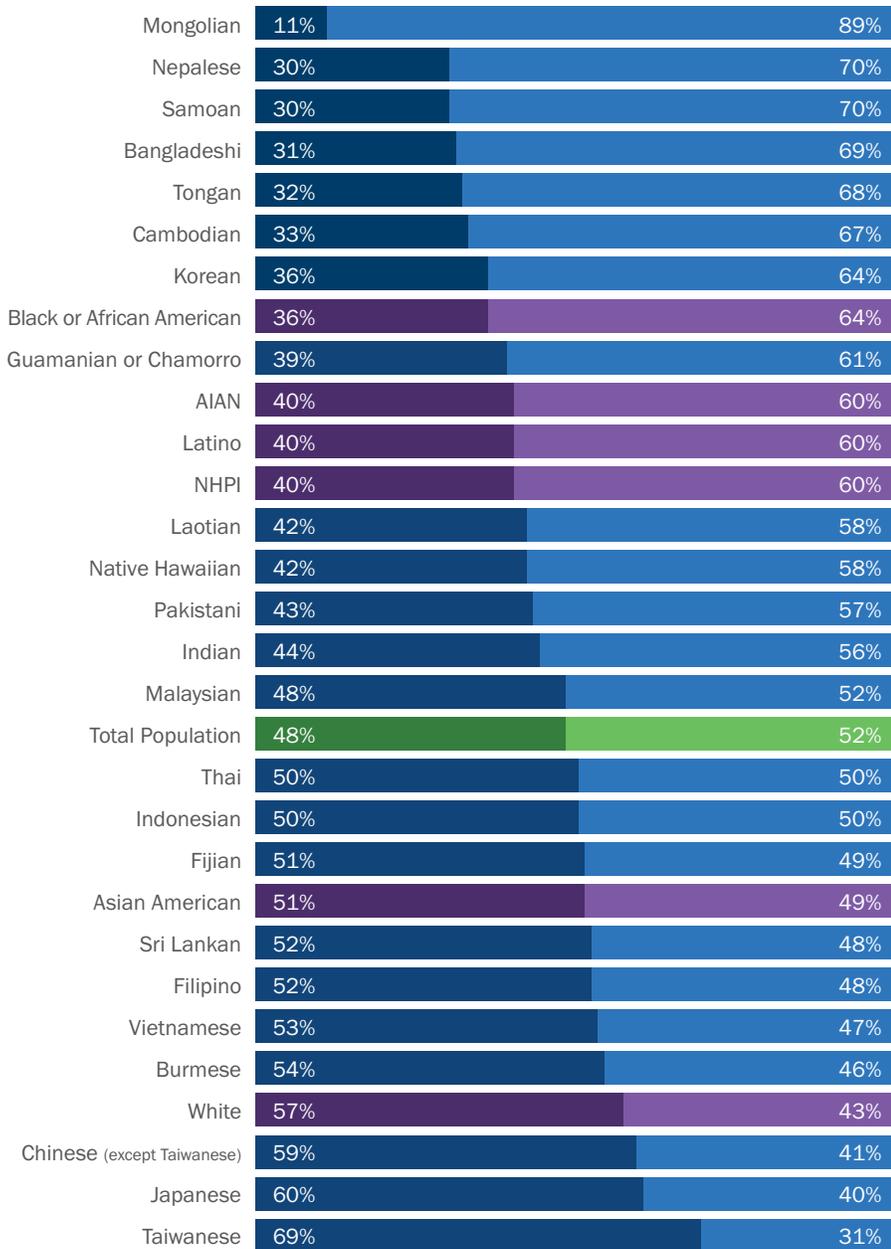
²U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table C24030.

³Ibid.

⁴U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, EEO Tabulation, Table 2R.

Homeowners & Renters

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, Los Angeles County 2010



U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF2, Table HCT2.

Left: Homeowner
Right: Renter

⁵U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF2, Tables HCT2 and HCT3.

⁶U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B25070. Note: High housing burden is defined as spending 30% or more of household income on rent.

⁷University of California, Los Angeles, Asian American Studies Center. May 2013. "Asian American Homeownership and Foreclosure in East San Gabriel Valley: An Analysis of a Los Angeles County Community."

⁸Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority. 2007 and 2011. "Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Report." Note: The Los Angeles Continuum of Care includes all of Los Angeles County except the cities of Long Beach, Pasadena, and Glendale, which had insufficient data.

- While Asian Americans (51%) in Los Angeles County have lower homeownership rates than Whites (57%), only 40% of NHPI county-wide own their own homes, the same rate as Latinos.

- Mongolian, Nepalese, Samoan, Bangladeshi, Tongan, Cambodian, and Korean Americans have the lowest homeownership rates of any racial or ethnic group.

- Asian Americans (2.9) and NHPI (3.4) have average household sizes greater than both Blacks or African Americans (2.5) and Whites (2.2). Tongan (5.3), Samoan (4.5), and Cambodian Americans (4.0) have the largest household sizes of any racial or ethnic group, including Latinos (3.9).⁵

- Over 110,000 Asian American households and over 2,800 NHPI households spend 30% or more of their household income on rent. Sri Lankan (60%), Vietnamese (60%), and Bangladeshi Americans (59%) all have a high housing burden that is greater than any other racial or ethnic group. About 36% of Vietnamese Americans spend 50% or more on rent.⁶

- In the east San Gabriel Valley, Asian American homeowners had the highest rate of foreclosure after defaulting and the greatest decrease of homeownership rates, compared to other racial groups.⁷

- From 2007 to 2011, the number of homeless Asian Americans and NHPI in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care increased 40%. In comparison, the total number of homeless decreased 34%.⁸



Leading Causes of Death

by Race and Ethnic Group, Los Angeles County 2005–2010

Race and Ethnic Group	Leading Causes of Death					
	No. 1 Cause % of total for group		No. 2 Cause % of total for group		No. 3 Cause % of total for group	
Asian American	Cancer	28%	Heart disease	27%	Stroke	8%
Cambodian	Heart disease	23%	Cancer	22%	Stroke	9%
Chinese	Cancer	30%	Heart disease	24%	Stroke	8%
Filipino	Heart disease	31%	Cancer	27%	Stroke	9%
Hmong	Heart disease	50%	Cancer	17%	Hypertention	17%
Indian	Heart disease	34%	Cancer	21%	Stroke	7%
Japanese	Heart disease	32%	Cancer	25%	Stroke	8%
Korean	Cancer	31%	Heart disease	23%	Stroke	8%
Laotian	Cancer	46%	Heart disease	22%	Stroke	6%
Thai	Cancer	34%	Heart disease	23%	Stroke	7%
Vietnamese	Cancer	31%	Heart disease	21%	Stroke	10%
NHPI	Heart disease	31%	Cancer	22%	Stroke	7%
Guamanian or Chamorro	Cancer	29%	Heart disease	27%	Stroke	10%
Native Hawaiian	Heart disease	24%	Cancer	24%	Lung disease	8%
Samoan	Heart disease	32%	Cancer	21%	Diabetes	7%
Total Population	Heart disease	29%	Cancer	23%	Stroke	6%

California Department of Public Health Death Public Use Files 2005–2010. Note: Chinese figures include Taiwanese.

- In Los Angeles County, Asian Americans are the only racial group for whom cancer is the leading cause of death; for all other groups, heart disease is the leading cause of death.¹
- Alzheimer’s disease is the fastest-growing cause of death for Asian Americans countywide; Asian Americans also have higher causes of death from the disease than all other racial groups. Among all ethnic groups, the rate of growth was highest in Korean American deaths.²
- Diabetes is the fastest-growing cause of death for NHPI in Los Angeles County. In contrast, the number of deaths caused by diabetes for all other racial groups decreased between 2005 and 2010.³
- According to the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, breast cancer rates among Asian American and Pacific Islander women in Los Angeles County significantly grew from 1976 to 2006 and increased most rapidly among Japanese and Filipino American women.⁴
- In Los Angeles County, Native Hawaiians and Samoan Americans have among the highest overall rates of cancer.⁵
- From 2005 to 2010, the number of Asian American suicide deaths increased 39% countywide.⁶ In 2011, 23% of Asian American youth considered suicide, more than any other racial group.⁷

¹California Department of Public Health, Death Public Use Files, 2005–2010.

²Ibid.

³Ibid.

⁴University of Southern California, Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. 2009. “Cancer in Los Angeles County, Trends by Race/Ethnicity, 1976–2006.”

⁵Ibid.

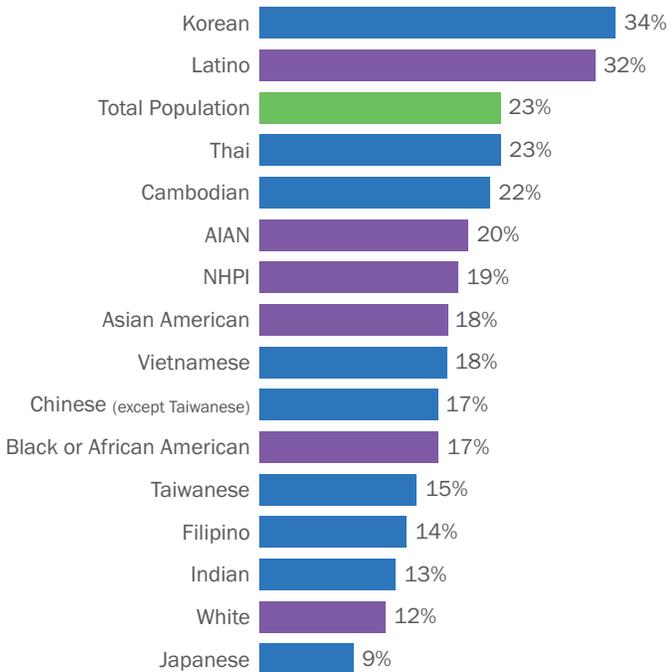
⁶California Department of Public Health, Death Public Use Files, 2005–2010.

⁷Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, 2011.



Uninsured

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group,
Los Angeles County 2009–2011



U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2011 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Table S0201.

- Over 270,000 Asian Americans and nearly 9,100 NHPI in Los Angeles County do not have health insurance. Asian Americans and NHPI are more likely to be uninsured than Blacks or African Americans and Whites.⁸
- Over one in three Korean Americans lack health insurance, the highest rate among all racial and ethnic groups.
- About 38% of Cambodian Americans countywide are covered by public insurance, a rate higher than any other racial or ethnic group.⁹
- Nearly one in five Asian Americans do not have a usual source of care when sick or in need of health advice, compared to one in ten Whites.¹⁰
- Approximately 26% of Asian American women (30 years or older) countywide have never had a mammogram, compared to 15% of White women.¹¹
- About 24% of Asian American women in Los Angeles County have never received a Pap test, a rate higher than any other racial group.¹²

Over 270,000
Asian Americans and
nearly 9,100 NHPI
in Los Angeles County
do not have health insurance.



⁸U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2011 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Table S0201.

⁹Ibid.

¹⁰California Health Interview Survey, 2009.

¹¹Ibid.

¹²California Health Interview Survey, 2007.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

How can government agencies, community organizations, and others better serve Los Angeles County's large and growing Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) communities? The following policy recommendations serve as a starting point for improving the delivery of services to two of the county's most diverse racial groups.

Human Relations

Los Angeles County's population is one of the most diverse in the country. In addition to residents from a myriad of racial and ethnic backgrounds, the region is home to many religions and a large lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and queer (LGBTIQ) community. While this diversity is a tremendous asset, Los Angeles has a history of civil unrest caused in large part by structural inequalities and lack of equal access to economic opportunity. Policy makers should promote more positive human relations by:

- Increasing funding to local human relations commissions, including programs that address intergroup tensions and respond to complaints of discrimination and harassment.
- Strengthening successful community-based programs that prevent hate violence and respond to hate crimes and incidents, ensuring adequate foundation, corporate, and government funding.
- Improving law enforcement investigations of hate crime and incidents by both adopting language access policies that enable limited English proficient (LEP) survivors to report hate crimes and incidents and train officers to follow clear protocols on how to respond to such reports.

Civic Engagement

As Asian American and NHPI communities in Los Angeles County grow, more are becoming citizens, registering to vote, and casting ballots. Asian American immigrants have above-average rates of naturalization. A record number of Asian Americans countywide cast ballots during the 2008 General Election. Yet significant hurdles to their full political participation remain. Many who have met the requirements to naturalize will need help becoming U.S. citizens. Asian American voter registration and turnout still lags behind that of other racial groups. Policy makers should promote the civic engagement of Asian Americans and NHPI by:

- Providing government, foundation, and corporate funding to community organizations that offer culturally and linguistically competent naturalization assistance, voter registration, and voter education to Asian Americans and NHPI. Because civic engagement work is most effective when conducted on an ongoing basis, funding for such work should be provided for multiyear periods rather than only during election cycles.
- Conducting outreach to (1) increase awareness of language assistance available to voters under Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act, particularly among Cambodian, Indian, Thai American, and other communities newly covered in 2016; (2) promote the secretary of state's online voter registration website, which will be made available in eight Asian languages in 2014; and (3) educate voters about the county's new voting system, which the county registrar will roll out middecade.
- Replacing both Los Angeles City and County advisory redistricting bodies with independent commissions that have final authority for establishing legislative boundaries. Any redrawing of legislative boundaries countywide should comply with the federal Voting Rights Act; keep communities of interest intact; refrain from subordinating community interests to those of incumbents, candidates, or political parties; be transparent; and provide opportunities for full and meaningful public participation.

Immigration

Asian American communities in Los Angeles are more immigrant than any other; 64% are foreign-born. Immigrants from Asia and throughout the Pacific continue to arrive in large numbers. Given the integral role immigrants play in Los Angeles, it is critical that policy makers work to protect the rights of both legal and undocumented immigrants. Immigrant integration must remain a core budget priority for local governments despite the ongoing fiscal crisis. Immigrant integration efforts should be strengthened by:

- Providing government, foundation, and corporate funding to community-based organizations to help eligible immigrants legalize their status if immigration reform is enacted at the federal level. Free and low-cost civics and English language classes are also needed.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Adopting laws that prevent discrimination against documented and undocumented immigrants in employment, housing, education, and basic public services. Immigrants should be protected from threats of arrest and deportation in retaliation for asserting their rights to fair housing, employment, and education; significant penalties should be levied against those who retaliate.
- Ending programs that authorize state and local police to enforce federal immigration laws. These programs divert scarce resources, increase localities' exposure to liability, and exacerbate fear in communities already distrustful of police.
- Adequately funding the City of Los Angeles's Office of Immigrant Affairs, which centralizes coordination of policies and programs that promote immigrant integration and counter anti-immigrant discrimination. Los Angeles County should establish a similar office.

Language

There are over 530,000 LEP Asian Americans living in Los Angeles County; over 39% of Asian Americans countywide experience some challenge communicating in English that impacts their ability to access basic services. Though California enacted one of the first laws in the nation to require access to government services for LEP residents in 1972, audits of the Dymally-Alatorre Act in 1999 and 2010 showed drastic deficits in its implementation. Language rights policies should be strengthened and investments in English language acquisition for youth and adults made through:

- Enacting language access ordinances that improve local governments' ability to serve all residents equally. The cities of Oakland and San Francisco have adopted municipal ordinances to improve access to services through, for example, bilingual assistance and language interpretation.
- Increased government funding for free and low-cost adult English language programs.

Education

The educational needs of Asian Americans and NHPI in Los Angeles are complex, with the successes of some overshadowing significant challenges faced by others. While some Asian American and NHPI adults are among the most educated, others are among those least likely to hold high

school and bachelor's degrees. Among K-12 students, English language learners lack access to teachers and teacher's aides bilingual in Asian and Pacific Island languages. Among applicants to UCLA, some Asian American and NHPI ethnic groups, including Filipino Americans, have among the lowest rates of admission. The educational needs of Asian Americans and NHPI in Los Angeles County should be addressed by:

- Increasing and stabilizing funding for K-12, adult, and public higher education, including community colleges and both the California State University and University of California systems, to ensure public education is accessible and affordable to Asian American and NHPI communities. Robust financial aid programs, targeted outreach, and in-language resources for parents are critical.
- Expanding access to bilingual instruction and dual immersion programs in languages commonly spoken by students, while providing LEP students priority enrollment. For example, bilingual instruction and dual immersion programs should exist in both Spanish and Khmer in Long Beach, where both populations are sizeable.
- Increasing funding and support for bilingual teachers and teacher's aides in languages other than Spanish.
- Supporting opportunities for meaningful parental involvement in their children's education, including providing LEP parents with quality translation of school documents and interpretation at school meetings and events. Schools should be encouraged to voluntarily translate materials into languages that do not meet the 15% threshold for mandatory translation; a lower threshold of 5% would be more appropriate.
- Adopting and enforcing antihate and antibullying policies at both the school district and school levels and providing relevant training to teachers and school administrators.

Income and Employment

Like all Angelenos, Asian Americans and NHPI have been impacted by the economic crisis. The number of unemployed and poor Asian Americans and NHPI in Los Angeles County has grown dramatically in recent years. Tongan and Cambodian Americans have poverty rates

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

higher than any other racial or ethnic groups countywide; over half of Tongan Americans live below the poverty line. Many Asian American and NHPI poor are unable to access good jobs because of limited English proficiency or their immigration status. The economic conditions of Asian Americans and NHPI should be improved by:

- Preserving and strengthening social safety net programs such as CalWORKS, Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI), In-Home Supportive Services, and MediCal.
- Instituting language-access policies for workforce development programs, including those that support CalWORKS, to ensure equal access to training, skills development, English for speakers of other languages classes, job placement services, and good living-wage jobs.
- Investing greater public funding to ensure vigorous enforcement of employment and labor laws by local agencies, especially in low-wage industries where wage theft and health and safety violations are rampant. Effective antiwage theft ordinances are needed to enforce workers' legal rights, including the right to organize for better wages and conditions without retaliation, and level the playing field for responsible businesses.
- Including Asian Americans and NHPI in equal opportunity programs, such as minority public contracting programs, to counter discrimination in hiring, retention, and promotion.
- Enacting stronger policies and programs that create good, living-wage jobs. These jobs should be accessible to those who are LEP or face other barriers to employment.
- Supporting small businesses and small business development with government loans and financing, multi-lingual training programs and technical assistance, and information on responsible employment practices.

Housing

Homeownership is a dream that has eluded many Asian Americans and NHPI in Los Angeles. Asian Americans and NHPI are less likely than Whites countywide to own homes; some, including Samoan, Cambodian, and Korean Americans, are among those least likely to be homeowners. Disproportionate numbers of Asian American and

NHPI renters struggle to find affordable housing, while many live in overcrowded households. For Asian Americans and NHPI, the human right to housing should be protected by:

- Enacting legislation to create legal remedies and private causes of action for tenants facing lenders intent on clearing postforeclosed properties, regardless of what rights the occupants have to remain in place.
- Exploring funding strategies, such as local permanent housing trust funds, to address the loss of redevelopment agencies and decreasing federal assistance. This will help address diminishing revenue streams and lending facilities dedicated to securing affordable housing for working class families, seniors, and persons with disabilities.
- Revisiting the feasibility of housing policies such as inclusionary housing and exploring the promotion of affordable housing development through land-use entitlement incentives (e.g., the further reduction of parking requirements).
- Providing more resources and visibility to court mediation programs for homeowners facing foreclosure.
- Ensuring language access in the court system for low-income individuals facing possible eviction or foreclosure. Local housing departments and programs, such as the Rent Escrow Account Program, should provide in-language community education and assistance to LEP tenants to ensure they can assert their legal right to safe and decent housing.

Health

Asian Americans and NHPI are disproportionately impacted by disease. Asian Americans are the only racial group in Los Angeles County for whom cancer is the leading cause of death; diabetes is the fastest-growing cause of death among NHPI. Yet some Asian American and NHPI ethnic groups are disproportionately uninsured, and many lack access to culturally and linguistically appropriate health care. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) has the potential to provide greater access to quality affordable health insurance and culturally and linguistically appropriate services, reducing health disparities for Asian Americans and NHPI throughout the state. The health of Asian Americans and NHPI should be promoted by:

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Ensuring that all patients receive understandable and respectful health care information, services, and treatment in their primary language and in a manner compatible with their cultural health beliefs. Effective communication between patients and providers is critical to the provision of patient and family-centered care.
- Supporting culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach and education to Asian American and NHPI individuals and small businesses around available health coverage options under the ACA. This should include information on how to enroll in and retain coverage.
- Funding innovative programs under the ACA that help reduce costs and promote the use of preventive health care services. Programs that improve access to health care by moving toward a more effective, efficient single-payer, universal health care system for all Californians are particularly important.
- Maintaining and expanding publicly funded safety-net programs and providers, including primary care providers, community clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers, and public hospitals. These are critical to ensuring access to health care for low-income, immigrant, and LEP populations.
- Increasing governmental funding for social services. Addressing the social determinants of health can help reduce costs and achieve far better health outcomes.

Data Collection

Data collected and reported only by race mask real social and economic differences between Asian American and NHPI ethnic groups, contributing to unmet needs in the most disadvantaged of our communities. While data disaggregated by Asian American and NHPI ethnic group are critical to the fair allocation of resources and effective delivery of services, they are often unavailable to community organizations, policy makers, foundations, businesses, and other important stakeholders. More informed public policy on Asian American and NHPI communities can be achieved by:

- Releasing an annual report card on the social and economic well-being of Los Angeles County residents. To inform regional policies that promote social and economic equity for all residents, the report card should contain data on income, poverty, language, education, and other key characteristics disaggregated by racial

and ethnic group. Where possible, disaggregation by gender, immigration status, and sexual orientation is also important.

- Collecting and reporting data in ways consistent with 1997 revisions to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Statistical Policy Directive 15, which call for data on Asian Americans and NHPI to be collected and reported on as two distinct racial groups.
- Collecting and reporting data on distinct Asian American and NHPI ethnic groups. City and county government agencies and local school districts should look to state law for guidance; all state agencies are required to disaggregate data for Cambodian, Chamorro, Chinese, Filipino, Indian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Native Hawaiian, Samoan, and Vietnamese Americans, while the Departments of Industrial Relations and Fair Employment and Housing are required to further disaggregate data for Bangladeshi, Fijian, Hmong, Indonesian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, Thai, and Tongan Americans.
- Survey research efforts adopting methodologies that produce detailed and accurate data on Asian American and NHPI communities at the local level. These practices include translating and administering questionnaires and providing assistance to respondents in Asian American and NHPI languages, as well as oversampling Asian Americans and NHPI to ensure adequate sample sizes by race and ethnic group.

GLOSSARY

Asian countries

Defined as 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.

bilingual aides and teachers

Bilingual aides are bilingual paraprofessionals. Bilingual teachers are those providing primary language instruction and hold a California Commission on Teaching Credentialing (CCTC) bilingual authorization.

high renter housing burden

Households are considered to have a high burden when 30% or more of household income is spent on housing costs, which include rent and utilities.

legal permanent resident (LPR)

A person who has immigrated legally but is not an American citizen. This person has been admitted to the United States as an immigrant and issued an LPR card, commonly known as a “green card.” One is generally eligible to naturalize after holding LPR status for five years. Additional criteria, such as “good moral character,” knowledge of civics, and basic English, must also be met.

limited English proficient (LEP)

Persons who speak English less than “very well.”

linguistic isolation

Defined as households that have no one age 14 and over who speaks English only or speaks English “very well.”

low-income

Determined as people who fall below 200% of the income-to-poverty ratio, or an individual with income for the past 12 months who is less than twice the poverty threshold (e.g., \$44,226 for a family of four with two children under age 18). This measurement is used to determine eligibility for many needs-based social services, including Social Security, Medicaid, and food stamps.

Pacific Islands

Defined as including American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Guam, Hawai'i, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu.

per capita income

The mean income computed for every man, woman, and child in a particular group in the past 12 months. It is derived by dividing the total income of a particular group by the total population of that group.

poverty

A measure of income relative to the federal poverty threshold (the poverty line). Adjusted for family size, the 2010 Census Bureau poverty threshold was \$22,113 annually for a family of four with two children under the age of 18.

refugees and asylees

People who moved to the United States to escape persecution in their country of origin. Refugees are those who applied for admission while living outside the United States.

seniors

Persons age 65 years and over.

unemployment rate

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

youth

Persons under age 18.

Appendix A

POPULATION AND POPULATION GROWTH

By Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group Ranked by 2010 Population

Race and Hispanic Origin	2000		2010		% Growth 2000 to 2010
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	
Latino	4,242,213	45%	4,687,889	48%	11%
White	2,959,614	31%	2,728,321	28%	-8%
Asian American	1,245,019	13%	1,497,960	15%	20%
Black or African American	999,747	11%	948,337	10%	-5%
AIAN	138,696	1%	140,764	1%	1%
NHPI	49,514	1%	54,169	1%	9%
Total Population	9,519,338	100%	9,818,605	100%	3%

Asian American Ethnic Groups	2000		2010		% Growth 2000 to 2010
	Number	% of AA	Number	% of AA	
Chinese (except Taiwanese)	334,764	27%	403,730	27%	21%
Filipino	296,708	24%	374,285	25%	26%
Korean	195,150	16%	230,876	15%	18%
Japanese	138,080	11%	138,983	9%	1%
Vietnamese	89,080	7%	104,024	7%	17%
Indian	71,265	6%	92,179	6%	29%
Taiwanese	42,537	3%	45,808	3%	8%
Cambodian	34,032	3%	37,450	3%	10%
Thai	24,151	2%	29,792	2%	23%
Indonesian	10,899	1%	13,001	1%	19%
Pakistani	6,885	1%	10,930	1%	59%
Sri Lankan	3,716	0.3%	5,380	0.4%	45%
Burmese	NR	NR	5,254	0.4%	NR
Bangladeshi	2,327	0.2%	5,162	0.3%	122%
Laotian	3,569	0.3%	4,067	0.3%	14%
Mongolian	NR	NR	1,539	0.1%	NR
Malaysian	1,330	0.1%	1,496	0.1%	12%
Nepalese	NR	NR	1,229	0.1%	NR
Hmong	745	0.1%	760	0.1%	2%
Singaporean	NR	NR	417	0.03%	NR
Okinawan	NR	NR	363	0.02%	NR
Bhutanese	NR	NR	42	0.003%	NR
Asian American Total	1,245,019	100%	1,497,960	100%	20%

NHPI Ethnic Groups	2000		2010		% Growth 2000 to 2010
	Number	% of NHPI	Number	% of NHPI	
Samoan	16,163	33%	16,535	31%	2%
Native Hawaiian	12,166	25%	13,257	24%	9%
Guamanian or Chamorro	5,188	10%	6,084	11%	17%
Tongan	2,627	5%	3,253	6%	24%
Fijian	778	2%	1,306	2%	68%
Tahitian	NR	NR	277	1%	NR
Palauan	NR	NR	100	0.2%	NR
Marshallese	NR	NR	27	0.05%	NR
NHPI Total	49,514	100%	54,169	100%	9%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1 Tables P8, P9, PCT7, and PCT10; 2010 Census SF1 Tables P5, P6, PCT7, and PCT10; 2010 Census SF2 PCT1 (for Mongolian, Palauan, Okinawan, Singaporean, and Tahitian).

Note: Figures for each racial group include both single race and multiracial people, except for White, which is single race, non-Latino. Figures do not sum to total. NR=No report. Ethnic group did not meet 2000 Census population threshold for reporting.

Appendix B

SELECTED POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

By Race and Hispanic Origin

Youth (<18)	Seniors (65+)		Foreign-Born		Limited English Proficiency		High School Degree or Higher		Bachelor's Degree or Higher		
SF2 DP-1	SF2 DP-1		ACS 5-Year B05003		ACS 5-Year B16004		ACS 5-Year B15002		ACS 5-Year B15002		
Latino	32%	White	18%	Asian American	64%	Latino	41%	Latino	55%	Latino	10%
NHPI	30%	Asian American	13%	Latino	44%	Asian American	39%	AIAN	78%	NHPI	19%
AIAN	27%	Black or African American	11%	NHPI	18%	AIAN	13%	NHPI	86%	AIAN	19%
Black or African American	26%	AIAN	7%	White	17%	NHPI	10%	Black or African American	87%	Black or African American	23%
Asian American	20%	NHPI	7%	AIAN	15%	White	7%	Asian American	87%	White	44%
White	15%	Latino	6%	Black or African American	6%	Black or African American	2%	White	93%	Asian American	49%
Total Population	24%	Total Population	11%	Total Population	36%	Total Population	27%	Total Population	76%	Total Population	29%

By Asian American and NHPI Ethnic Group

Youth (<18)	Seniors (65+)		Foreign-Born		Limited English Proficiency		High School Degree or Higher		Bachelor's Degree or Higher		
SF2 DP-1	SF2 DP-1		ACS 5-Year B05003		ACS 5-Year B16004		ACS 5-Year B15002		ACS 5-Year B15002		
Tongan	39%	Japanese	19%	Burmese	86%	Korean	55%	Cambodian	58%	Tongan	9%
Samoan	38%	Korean	14%	Sri Lankan	82%	Burmese	55%	Vietnamese	67%	Samoan	10%
Guamanian or Chamorro	33%	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	13%	Indonesian	76%	Vietnamese	53%	Laotian	76%	Laotian	12%
Tahitian	32%	Taiwanese	13%	Taiwanese	75%	Taiwanese	53%	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	81%	Cambodian	13%
Hmong	32%	Burmese	12%	Korean	72%	Cambodian	50%	Bangladeshi	82%	Native Hawaiian	22%
Native Hawaiian	30%	Filipino	12%	Bangladeshi	72%	Bangladeshi	49%	Guamanian or Chamorro	84%	Guamanian or Chamorro	24%
Bangladeshi	28%	Okinawan	12%	Pakistani	70%	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	48%	Thai	85%	Vietnamese	28%
Pakistani	27%	Sri Lankan	10%	Indian	68%	Thai	47%	Burmese	86%	Thai	42%
Cambodian	26%	Vietnamese	9%	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	67%	Laotian	44%	Samoan	86%	Indonesian	44%
Laotian	26%	Thai	9%	Vietnamese	67%	Indonesian	39%	Tongan	86%	Bangladeshi	45%
Mongolian	23%	Indonesian	9%	Thai	66%	Sri Lankan	31%	Native Hawaiian	90%	Sri Lankan	45%
Vietnamese	23%	Indian	8%	Filipino	63%	Pakistani	25%	Indian	91%	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	47%
Filipino	23%	Tahitian	8%	Cambodian	57%	Indian	23%	Indonesian	91%	Japanese	47%
Fijian	22%	Native Hawaiian	7%	Laotian	57%	Japanese	22%	Pakistani	91%	Korean	52%
Indonesian	22%	Cambodian	7%	Japanese	30%	Filipino	21%	Korean	92%	Burmese	53%
Indian	21%	Malaysian	7%	Tongan	29%	Tongan	20%	Sri Lankan	93%	Filipino	54%
Nepalese	20%	Fijian	7%	Guamanian or Chamorro	12%	Samoan	13%	Taiwanese	94%	Pakistani	61%
Sri Lankan	20%	Laotian	6%	Samoan	11%	Guamanian or Chamorro	10%	Filipino	94%	Taiwanese	65%
Japanese	20%	Pakistani	6%	Native Hawaiian	4%	Native Hawaiian	2%	Japanese	95%	Indian	66%
Chinese (except Taiwanese)	19%	Tongan	5%								
Korean	19%	Bangladeshi	5%								
Malaysian	17%	Guamanian or Chamorro	5%								
Thai	17%	Samoan	5%								
Burmese	17%	Mongolian	4%								
Taiwanese	16%	Singaporean	4%								
Okinawan	15%	Nepalese	2%								
Singaporean	13%	Hmong	2%								

SHADED = Faring below non-Latino Whites

BOLD = Faring below the area average

BLUE = Faring below all major racial and ethnic groups

For youth, seniors, homeownership, and household size, data are from the 2010 Decennial Census Summary File 2. For youth and seniors, only groups with more than 100 persons were included. For homeownership and household size, only groups with more than 200 households were included.

For insurance, data are from the 2009–2011 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates. For all other variables, data are from the 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Fewer ethnic groups are available from the American Community Survey because of data instability and smaller sample size. Only groups with more than 4,000 persons are included, except for Tongan Americans.

Appendix B

SELECTED POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

By Race and Hispanic Origin

Per Capita Income		Poverty Rate		Low-Income		Homeownership		Household Size		Uninsured	
ACS 5-Year B19301		ACS 5-Year C17002		ACS 5-Year C17002		SF2 HCT2		SF2 HCT2 & HCT3		ASC 3-Year S0201	
Latino	\$15,356	Latino	21%	Latino	51%	Black or African American	36%	Latino	3.9	Latino	32%
NHPI	\$21,441	Black or African American	20%	Black or African American	40%	AIAN	40%	NHPI	3.4	AIAN	20%
AIAN	\$22,552	AIAN	17%	AIAN	37%	Latino	40%	AIAN	3.1	NHPI	19%
Black or African American	\$23,081	NHPI	13%	NHPI	31%	NHPI	40%	Asian American	2.9	Asian American	18%
Asian American	\$28,953	Asian American	11%	Asian American	27%	Asian American	51%	Black or African American	2.5	Black or African American	17%
White	\$47,503	White	9%	White	21%	White	57%	White	2.2	White	12%
Total Population	\$27,344	Total Population	16%	Total Population	38%	Total Population	48%	Total Population	3.0	Total Population	23%

By Asian American and NHPI Ethnic Group

Per Capita Income		Poverty Rate		Low-Income		Homeownership		Household Size		Uninsured	
ACS 5-Year B19301		ACS 5-Year C17002		ACS 5-Year C17002		SF2 HCT2		SF2 HCT2 & HCT3		ASC 3-Year S0201	
Tongan	\$8,146	Tongan	51%	Tongan	78%	Mongolian	11%	Tongan	5.3	Korean	34%
Cambodian	\$14,276	Cambodian	25%	Bangladeshi	57%	Nepalese	30%	Samoan	4.5	Thai	23%
Samoan	\$15,350	Vietnamese	16%	Cambodian	53%	Samoan	30%	Cambodian	4.0	Cambodian	22%
Laotian	\$16,198	Bangladeshi	15%	Laotian	39%	Bangladeshi	31%	Laotian	3.7	Vietnamese	18%
Bangladeshi	\$18,909	Laotian	15%	Vietnamese	38%	Tongan	32%	Bangladeshi	3.7	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	17%
Vietnamese	\$22,119	Korean	13%	Samoan	32%	Cambodian	33%	Vietnamese	3.6	Taiwanese	15%
Indonesian	\$22,884	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	13%	Korean	31%	Korean	36%	Pakistani	3.5	Filipino	14%
Thai	\$25,516	Samoan	12%	Indonesian	31%	Guamanian or Chamorro	39%	Burmese	3.4	Indian	13%
Pakistani	\$26,109	Pakistani	12%	Burmese	31%	Laotian	42%	Guamanian or Chamorro	3.4	Japanese	9%
Guamanian or Chamorro	\$26,176	Thai	12%	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	30%	Native Hawaiian	42%	Filipino	3.3		
Burmese	\$27,161	Guamanian or Chamorro	11%	Thai	29%	Pakistani	43%	Nepalese	3.2		
Filipino	\$27,487	Indonesian	11%	Sri Lankan	25%	Indian	44%	Fijian	3.2		
Korean	\$27,838	Burmese	11%	Pakistani	24%	Malaysian	48%	Thai	3.0		
Native Hawaiian	\$27,841	Sri Lankan	11%	Native Hawaiian	24%	Thai	50%	Sri Lankan	2.9		
Chinese (except Taiwanese)	\$29,034	Native Hawaiian	9%	Guamanian or Chamorro	23%	Indonesian	50%	Indonesian	2.9		
Sri Lankan	\$29,530	Indian	9%	Taiwanese	19%	Fijian	51%	Malaysian	2.9		
Taiwanese	\$35,583	Japanese	8%	Indian	19%	Sri Lankan	52%	Chinese (except Taiwanese)	2.9		
Japanese	\$36,070	Taiwanese	8%	Japanese	18%	Filipino	52%	Taiwanese	2.9		
Indian	\$39,433	Filipino	5%	Filipino	18%	Vietnamese	53%	Indian	2.9		
						Burmese	54%	Native Hawaiian	2.7		
						Chinese (except Taiwanese)	59%	Mangolian	2.7		
						Japanese	60%	Korean	2.6		
						Taiwanese	69%	Japanese	2.2		

Appendix C

ASIAN AMERICAN AND NHPI POPULATIONS, TOP 50 CITIES

Asian American Population

City	2000		2010		% Growth 2000 to 2010
	Number	% of City	Number	% of City	
Los Angeles	407,444	11%	483,585	13%	19%
Long Beach	63,181	14%	67,961	15%	8%
Torrance	42,919	31%	55,499	38%	29%
Alhambra	41,870	49%	45,395	55%	8%
Monterey Park	38,205	64%	41,284	68%	8%
Glendale	34,241	18%	36,832	19%	8%
Arcadia	25,026	47%	34,416	61%	38%
Rosemead	26,772	50%	33,107	62%	24%
Cerritos	31,263	61%	31,691	65%	1%
Diamond Bar	25,217	45%	30,478	55%	21%
Rowland Heights	25,400	52%	30,088	61%	18%
El Monte	22,272	19%	29,188	26%	31%
West Covina	25,488	24%	29,177	28%	14%
Carson	21,754	24%	25,296	28%	16%
San Gabriel	20,083	50%	24,672	62%	23%
Pasadena	15,097	11%	22,513	16%	49%
Hacienda Heights	20,012	38%	20,891	39%	4%
Temple City	13,457	40%	20,412	57%	52%
Walnut	17,310	58%	19,258	66%	11%
Santa Clarita	9,940	7%	18,381	10%	85%
Gardena	16,621	29%	16,602	28%	-0.1%
Lakewood	12,332	16%	15,136	19%	23%
Burbank	10,510	10%	14,398	14%	37%
Pomona	12,222	8%	14,312	10%	17%
Norwalk	12,935	13%	13,787	13%	7%
Rancho Palos Verdes	11,454	28%	13,481	32%	18%
Baldwin Park	9,336	12%	11,190	15%	20%
Redondo Beach	7,047	11%	10,324	15%	47%
Santa Monica	7,280	9%	10,262	11%	41%
Bellflower	7,904	11%	9,846	13%	25%
La Mirada	7,499	16%	9,481	20%	26%
Downey	9,211	9%	8,898	8%	-3%
South Pasadena	7,001	29%	8,844	35%	26%
Lancaster	5,767	5%	8,839	6%	53%
Palmdale	5,733	5%	8,430	6%	47%
East San Gabriel	6,176	43%	7,739	52%	25%
Montebello	7,756	12%	7,359	12%	-5%
San Marino	6,515	50%	7,349	56%	13%
West Carson	5,764	27%	7,304	34%	27%
Culver City	5,411	14%	6,906	18%	28%
Hawthorne	6,487	8%	6,624	8%	2%
Covina	5,231	11%	6,488	14%	24%
Artesia	4,746	29%	6,408	39%	35%
La Crescenta-Montrose	3,743	20%	5,830	30%	56%
La Cañada Flintridge	4,564	22%	5,711	28%	25%
Claremont	4,454	13%	5,480	16%	23%
Glendora	3,683	7%	4,980	10%	35%
Monrovia	3,037	8%	4,752	13%	56%
Azusa	3,210	7%	4,739	10%	48%
Stevenson Ranch	NR	NR	4,520	26%	NR

NHPI Population

City	2000		2010		% Growth 2000 to 2010
	Number	% of City	Number	% of City	
Los Angeles	13,144	0.4%	15,031	0.4%	14%
Long Beach	7,863	1.7%	7,498	1.6%	-5%
Carson	3,401	3.8%	3,088	3.4%	-9%
Torrance	1,106	0.8%	1,363	0.9%	23%
Hawthorne	1,012	1.2%	1,337	1.6%	32%
Lakewood	925	1.2%	1,265	1.6%	37%
Bellflower	781	1.1%	954	1.2%	22%
Glendale	525	0.3%	915	0.5%	74%
Compton	1,167	1.2%	899	0.9%	-23%
Lancaster	542	0.5%	877	0.6%	62%
Santa Clarita	621	0.4%	795	0.5%	28%
Gardena	758	1.3%	767	1.3%	1%
Palmdale	464	0.4%	763	0.5%	64%
Norwalk	658	0.6%	752	0.7%	14%
Pomona	665	0.4%	681	0.5%	2%
Inglewood	612	0.5%	597	0.5%	-2%
Redondo Beach	468	0.7%	580	0.9%	24%
Paramount	575	1.0%	574	1.1%	-0.2%
West Covina	518	0.5%	520	0.5%	0.4%
Lawndale	378	1.2%	510	1.6%	35%
Downey	445	0.4%	494	0.4%	11%
Pasadena	419	0.3%	476	0.3%	14%
West Carson	395	1.9%	444	2.0%	12%
Burbank	344	0.3%	405	0.4%	18%
Cerritos	354	0.7%	366	0.7%	3%
Santa Monica	236	0.3%	361	0.4%	53%
La Mirada	253	0.5%	353	0.7%	40%
Diamond Bar	260	0.5%	335	0.6%	29%
Whittier	297	0.4%	319	0.4%	7%
Alhambra	296	0.3%	308	0.4%	4%
Lynwood	341	0.5%	294	0.4%	-14%
Hacienda Heights	251	0.5%	290	0.5%	16%
El Monte	278	0.2%	282	0.2%	1%
South Whittier	285	0.5%	282	0.5%	-1%
Rowland Heights	376	0.8%	271	0.6%	-28%
Lomita	212	1.1%	256	1.3%	21%
Covina	244	0.5%	255	0.5%	5%
Culver City	217	0.6%	255	0.7%	18%
Signal Hill	253	2.7%	226	2.1%	-11%
Glendora	177	0.4%	222	0.4%	25%
Lennox	363	1.6%	218	1.0%	-40%
Altadena	134	0.3%	214	0.5%	60%
Azusa	214	0.5%	202	0.4%	-6%
Arcadia	251	0.5%	191	0.3%	-24%
Montebello	145	0.2%	190	0.3%	31%
South Gate	200	0.2%	185	0.2%	-8%
Del Aire	118	1.3%	179	1.8%	52%
Baldwin Park	203	0.3%	178	0.2%	-12%
Monterey Park	165	0.3%	176	0.3%	7%
Monrovia	162	0.4%	174	0.5%	7%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1, Table QT-P6; 2010 Census SF1, Table QT-P6. Note: Stevenson Ranch was not a Census Designated Place in 2000.

Measuring the characteristics of racial and ethnic groups

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

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

While the 2010 Census Summary File 1 includes counts of the population and housing units, some ethnic groups are suppressed in other Census Bureau products. For example, the 2010 Census Summary File 2 suppresses groups with fewer than 100 persons in a geography; the American Community Survey also suppresses groups due to sampling sizes. To help ensure that the housing characteristics presented in the report accurately reflect an ethnic group, for the 2010 Summary File 2 tables we include groups with 200 or more households and more than 100 persons in the geography. For the 2006–2010 5-Year Estimates from the American Community Survey, only groups with more than 4,000 people in the geography were included due to data stability. However, for this report Tongan Americans were included because of their significant numbers in Los Angeles County.

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 (ACS) 2005–2007 and 2009–2011 3-Year Estimates and 2006–2010 5-Year Estimates, and 2007 Survey of Business Owners. Other data in the report include data from the Asian American Studies Center of the University of California, Los Angeles; Asian Pacific American Legal Center; California Citizens Redistricting Commission; California Department of Social Services—Refugee Programs Bureau; Center for the Study of Immigration Integration of the University of Southern California; California Department of Education's California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System and 2009–2010 Language Census; California Department of Public Health; California Health Interview Survey; Centers for Disease Control; Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority; Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center of the University of Southern California; Office of Analysis and Information Management of the University of California, Los Angeles; Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse of Syracuse University; U.S. Department of Homeland Security; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Refugee Resettlement; and Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System.

Various reports are also cited. Where data on population characteristics were available from multiple sources, data from ACS were preferred, given its inclusion of data disaggregated by Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander ethnic groups.

Publications are available in print or on the Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles website (www.advancingjustice-la.org), where they can be downloaded or printed free of charge. For questions about ordering reports, please call (213) 977-7500.

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