

California's AAPI Electorate in 2012

There were 3,297,000 AAPI citizens of voting age, comprising 14% of the state's CVAP.



Population Facts

- From 2000-2010, the AAPI citizen voting age population (CVAP) in CA grew by 38%.
- This AAPI growth rate compares to 10% for the statewide population.
- Largest AAPI ethnic groups in CA include: Filipino (1.5 mln), Chinese (1.5 mln), Vietnamese (687,000), Indian (638,000), Korean (526,000), and Japanese (426,000).
- California is home to 286,145 NHPs, more than any other state except Hawaii.
- AAPI youth (ages 18-29) comprise 17% of the AAPI CVAP population in CA.
- AAPIs age 50 and up comprise 26% of the AAPI CVAP population in CA.

Counties with Highest AAPI Populations (by pop size)

	% of AAPIs in county	Size of AAPI population	% of AAPI CVAP in county	Size of AAPI CVAP
Los Angeles	14%	1,360,665	14%	790,015
Santa Clara	32%	553,935	28%	289,500
Orange	18%	529,225	18%	314,720
Alameda	28%	395,580	24%	220,425
San Diego	11%	336,270	10%	201,340
San Francisco	34%	267,570	31%	179,685
Sacramento	15%	210,910	13%	116,475
San Mateo	26%	181,675	25%	111,510

Challenges to Voter Participation

- 71% of Asian Americans in California speak a language other than English at home; of those, about half speak English less than "very well."



Socioeconomic Challenges

- About 721,000 Asian Americans (14%) and 28,000 NHPs (19%) in CA lack health insurance.
- About 493,000 Asian Americans in CA live in poverty.
- About 17,000 Pacific Islanders in CA live in poverty.

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in California



California is home to 6,129,000 AAPIs, making up about 15% of the state

Data compiled by Rachel Wu and Sono Shah. Additional assistance provided by

AAPI DATA

Voter Engagement and Identification

- Voter contact is a large, unmet need among AAPIs. In the 2012 AAPI Post-Election Survey of registered voters, 74% of Pacific Islanders and 69% of Asian Americans received no contact about the election, compared to 64% of Latinos, 61% of African Americans, and 57% of whites who were not contacted.
- Among those contacted, Democrats had the most reach (50%), followed by Republicans (42%) and nonpartisan community organizations (25%).
- In California, the lack of contact among Asian Americans was even higher, at 80% of registered voters.
- There is also a large opportunity for voter education through contact. In the same survey of registered voters, 47% of Asian Americans and 37% of Pacific Islanders did not declare an identification with either political party, compared to 20% of African Americans, 31% of Latinos, and 36% of whites.

Importance of Language Access

Turnout is 9% lower for Limited-English Proficient (LEP) than non-LEP registered voters according to the 2012 AAPI Post-Election Survey, and 63% say that Asian language support at polling places would be useful.

Multilingual Voter Hotline

If you, or anyone you know, has difficulty with language access or needs any other type of voting assistance (including questions about polling locations or voting procedures), please call the National Asian American Voter Hotline at 1-888-API-VOTE (1-888-274-8683).

Data on growth of AAPI CVAP from report by New Organizing Institute Education Fund. Data on AAPI poverty rates from reports by National CAPACD. Data on uninsurance rates from reports by Asian & Pacific Islander Health Forum. Language access, voter engagement and identification data from the 2012 AAPI Post-Election Survey. All other data are derived from the 2010 Census and the most recently available American Community Survey data from FactFinder or calculations using Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS), using race "alone or in combination" data for Asians and NHPIs.