

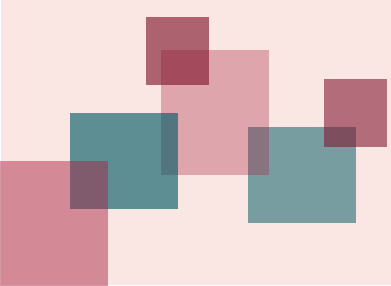
State of Asian and Pacific Islanders San Francisco

Bhupendra Sheoran

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Executive Summary

The "State of Asian and Pacific Islanders in San Francisco" report offers an in-depth exploration into the sociocultural and economic landscapes surrounding one of the largest Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities in the United States. San Francisco stands on the forefront, both demographically and culturally, with APIs comprising a significant and growing portion of the city's population. This unique demographic distinction makes the findings of this report particularly compelling and positions San Francisco as a potential role model for other urban areas experiencing rapid growth among API populations.

Using data from the 2010 and 2020 decennial Census alongside other significant community surveys, peer-reviewed journal articles, non-traditional media, and in-depth interviews with key stakeholders, the report offers a nuanced breakdown of demographic trends, socioeconomic struggles, and the multifaceted community life that defines the API population of San Francisco.

Between 2010 and 2020, the API demographic in San Francisco expanded from 35.8% to 37.5% of the city's total population, marking the highest growth among all racial and ethnic groups. This burgeoning population represents not only a diverse tapestry of cultures and identities but also a critical mass whose challenges and successes can inform policy frameworks nationwide. Despite numerical growth, APIs in San Francisco contend with significant socioeconomic hurdles, including systemic barriers to economic mobility, housing instability, and health disparities.

Economically, the API community encounters systemic barriers to upward mobility, with a significant portion earning low wages and struggling with underemployment, especially among immigrants and the elderly. Housing instability is pronounced due to the high living costs in San Francisco, which leaves many API members in precarious living conditions, such as Single Resident Occupancies and overcrowded housing. This situation creates a barely visible, yet critical, crisis of "hidden homelessness."

On the health front, there is significant concern about both physical and mental health disparities. Cultural stigma and lack of access to culturally competent healthcare exacerbate these issues, leaving many community members without necessary care. The aging demographic within the API community also presents unique challenges, particularly as older APIs tend to live in isolation and face both economic and health vulnerabilities without adequate support structures.

There's also a growing issue around cultural displacement, where APIs feel a loss of cultural identity due to gentrification and changes in demographic compositions of historically API San Francisco neighborhoods. This impacts community cohesion and individual identities, making cultural and community-based support crucial.

The report also highlights the role of a robust community organizational structure within the API communities that advocate for better services and policies. However, these organizations themselves often face limitations due to insufficient support and recognition from wider institutional frameworks. Despite being a significant voting bloc in San Francisco, API communities have historically been underrepresented in local politics, which has contributed to a lack of advocacy and legislative support for their specific needs. This underrepresentation is misaligned with APIs' growing population and significant socio-economic contributions to the city, leading to disproportionately low influence on public policy decisions that affect their lives directly.

In all these areas, the need for more granular and nuanced data is a recurring theme. Such data are vital for effective policymaking and for designing programs that accurately address the specific needs of the diverse API population groups.

Developing strategic long-term research initiatives and ensuring the participation of APIs in these research and policy dialogues is crucial. Enhanced data collection efforts, alongside better advocacy for inclusive policymaking and funding allocations, are essential steps recommended to ensure APIs' diverse needs are met systematically and empathetically.

Finally, the release of the "State of Asian and Pacific Islanders in San Francisco" report comes at a particularly critical juncture, following the COVID-19 pandemic, which has dramatically reshaped socioeconomic and cultural landscapes across the globe. The pandemic exposed and exacerbated many of the systemic issues already present within marginalized communities, including the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) population in San Francisco. This report is crucial now as it provides an essential platform to shed light on the unique challenges faced by the API community, particularly those related to economic, health, and safety concerns. In the wake of the pandemic, there has been a worrying rise in anti-Asian sentiment and hate crimes, deeply impacting the community's sense of safety and belonging. These incidents highlight the urgent need for a comprehensive understanding and response to the underlying factors contributing to such discrimination and violence.

By addressing the multifaceted challenges and opportunities within San Francisco's API communities, this report aims to engage policymakers to drive informed decision-making and resource allocation. The goal is to not only uplift the API community in San Francisco but also to set a precedent for other cities navigating similar demographic changes. The insights from this report can foster an inclusive and equitable environment in San Francisco that may serve as an inspiring model for urban areas nationwide.

Introduction and Methodology

San Francisco is a city renowned for its cultural and ethnic diversity and vibrant community dynamics. Among the most dynamic of these groups are the Asian Pacific Islanders (API), whose presence and contributions enrich the city's social, economic, and cultural fabric. This report aims to delve into the multifaceted aspects of the API community in San Francisco, exploring demographic trends, socioeconomic challenges, cultural dynamics, and policy implications that shape their experiences.

San Francisco's API community is diverse, encompassing a wide array of ethnic groups including Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, and others from the Asia-Pacific region. Each group brings its unique heritage, cultural practices, languages, challenges, and strengths—all contributing to the colorful mosaic of the city's population. Understanding the state of APIs in San Francisco requires a nuanced approach that appreciates this diversity and the distinct experiences of each subgroup.

Over the past decade, the API population in San Francisco has witnessed various transformations—demographically, economically, and socially. Population growth, changes in immigration patterns, and socioeconomic shifts have all played critical roles in shaping the community's current state. In shaping this comprehensive report, data from the U.S. Census and the American Community Survey served as foundational elements, augmented by peer-reviewed journal articles, media reports, and reliable sources from city agencies. Our methodologies incorporated both qualitative and quantitative approaches to provide a nuanced depiction of the API populations in San Francisco. This mixed-methods strategy allowed for a detailed analysis of demographic growth, employment conditions, health outcomes, educational engagement, and more.

Acknowledging the indispensable role of disaggregated data, we utilized information provided by innovative sources that segment data specifically for API subgroups. Such disaggregation is crucial as it enables a more precise understanding of the unique challenges and needs that vary among different ethnicities within the API umbrella. We extend special thanks to those organizations and researchers who have meticulously collected and presented this disaggregated data. Their efforts pave the way for more informed and effective policymaking. However, our research faced limitations due to the unavailability of certain disaggregated data sets, particularly in areas like mental health and housing. The absence of detailed subgroup data hinders a complete assessment of API needs and challenges. This gap underscores the urgent need for more strategic initiatives to enhance data collection efforts, focusing on the diverse subpopulations within the API community.

The goal of this report is not only to provide a substantive overview of the current state of APIs in San Francisco but also to foster a deeper understanding among policymakers, community leaders, and stakeholders to drive informed decision-making and resource allocation. By comprehensively addressing these issues, we aim to foster a dialogue that can lead to meaningful changes and promote a more inclusive and equitable environment for all residents of San Francisco. With a commitment to data-driven insights and community-focused solutions, this report seeks to be a catalyst for positive transformation in the API community and beyond. This endeavor is crucial for enhancing the quality of life and ensuring the equitable treatment of APIs in San Francisco, thereby enriching the entire city's sociocultural landscape.

For this purpose, this report has been divided into two sections:

1. In the first section we use Census and American Community Survey data and integrate it with peer reviewed journal articles, media reports and data from reliable city agencies to provide a comprehensive view of the demographic and socioeconomic profile of the API community in San Francisco. In most places, we have provided a brief commentary derived from the data (depicted in graphs and related graphics) but in other places, we have provided the data and left space for readers to interpret and use the statistics in guiding their specific work area.
2. However, data by itself does not tell the whole story. We also conducted in-depth interviews with key community leaders and stakeholders who are deeply embedded in and serving API populations in San Francisco to better tell the story of APIs' lived experiences. The synthesis of these interviews provides key insights, gives meaning to the numbers, and provides direction for developing recommendations.

Overall, the report underscores the critical socioeconomic issues and cultural challenges faced by the API communities. There is urgent need for targeted actions to address these challenges, advocating for a holistic approach to uplift the API community in San Francisco by acknowledging their unique cultural, social, and economic dimensions.

Census and Secondary Data Review

The following review provides data snapshots of Asian and Pacific Islander populations in San Francisco, including population growth and composition; socioeconomic status; housing; health and safety; and community engagement. It highlights shifts in many of these areas over the past two decades.

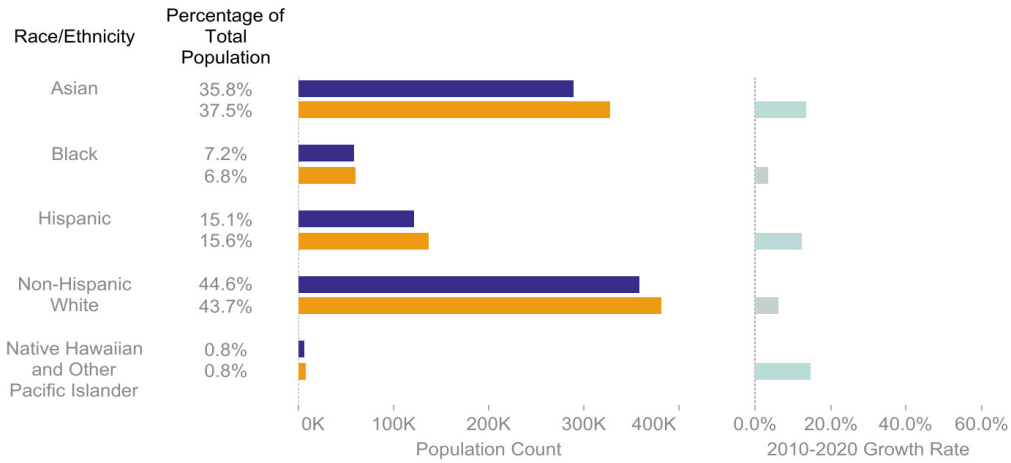
Beginning with the 2000 Census, the Census Bureau allows respondents to indicate more than one race. This report uses the major racial groups alone or in combination with one or more races category in the Census in order to be inclusive of those who identify with more than one racial or ethnic identity. For example, Asian alone or in combination includes mixed race populations with Asian heritage, regardless of Hispanic origin. Hence, some overlap could occur in the alone or in combination Census categories.

This report uses data from the 2010 and 2020 decennial Census to calculate population size for major racial or ethnic groups, alone or in combination. The 2015 and 2022 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS) are used to analyze major racial or ethnic groups (except for population size) and Asian ethnic groups. Since PUMS does not provide alone or in combination data for all the API ethnic groups, we use the alone Census category for these groups. For example, Chinese alone corresponds to the respondents who reported only Chinese and no other ethnic or racial category. If a respondent selected Chinese and another racial group (e.g., Chinese and Black), that individual is excluded from the Chinese alone count. Alone should be considered the minimum population size in any analysis that uses Census Bureau data. Currently, ACS reports 20 Asian ethnic groups, including Bangladeshi, Bhutanese, Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese (except Taiwanese), Taiwanese, Filipino, Hmong, Indian, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Malaysian, Mongolian, Nepalese, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Thai, and Vietnamese. The ACS has categories for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders that includes Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (includes people with origins in Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands) and other Pacific Islander (includes people who identify as Fijian, Chamorro, Marshallese, Other Micronesian, Other Polynesian, Samoan, or Tongan)

1. Population

Population, San Francisco County, CA

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group



This is the only chart that uses Decennial Census data, all the other charts use ACS PUMS. Please see methodology for more details.

By Asian Ethnic Group

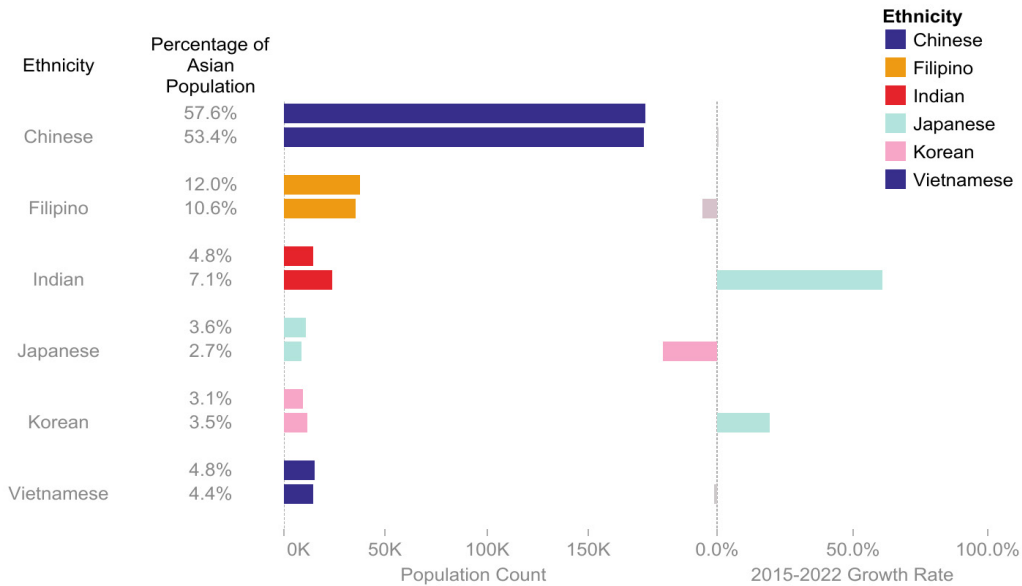


Figure 1. Population, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2010-2020 growth rate) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2015-2022 growth rate)

Growth of the API Community in San Francisco:

San Francisco has long been home to a diverse API population, with communities representing various ethnic backgrounds such as Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, and more contributing to the city's multi-cultural fabric. The San Francisco Community Health Needs Assessment 2022 reports:

“About four in ten San Franciscans identify as white (41%), three in ten as Asian (34%), one in ten as mixed race (10%), and 5% as Black. 16% identify as Hispanic or Latino of any race. This pattern has changed dramatically over the decades, with increases in the percent of San Franciscans identifying as Asian and Hispanic and decreases in the percent identifying as Black or African American.”¹

The API population has grown over the years. Between 2010 and 2020, The Asian alone population share in San Francisco grew from 35.8% to 37.5% (percentage of total S.F. population). This was the highest growth rate among all races/ethnicities. Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders remained constant at 0.8% of the total S.F. population. (See Figure 1, upper chart.)

Shifts in Ethnic Composition:

The API community in San Francisco has seen some shifts in terms of dominant ethnic groups. A breakdown of Asian ethnicities shows that Indians demonstrated the highest growth rate (percentage of Asian population) between 2015 and 2022, increasing from 4.8% to 7.1%, followed by Korean (3.1% to 3.5%). The Chinese population, historically one of the largest API communities in San Francisco, showed a decrease (57.6% to 53.4%), as did the Filipino population (12% to 10.6%). (See Figure 1, lower chart.)

Even so, the Chinese community continues to be the majority Asian ethnicity in San Francisco at 37.5%.

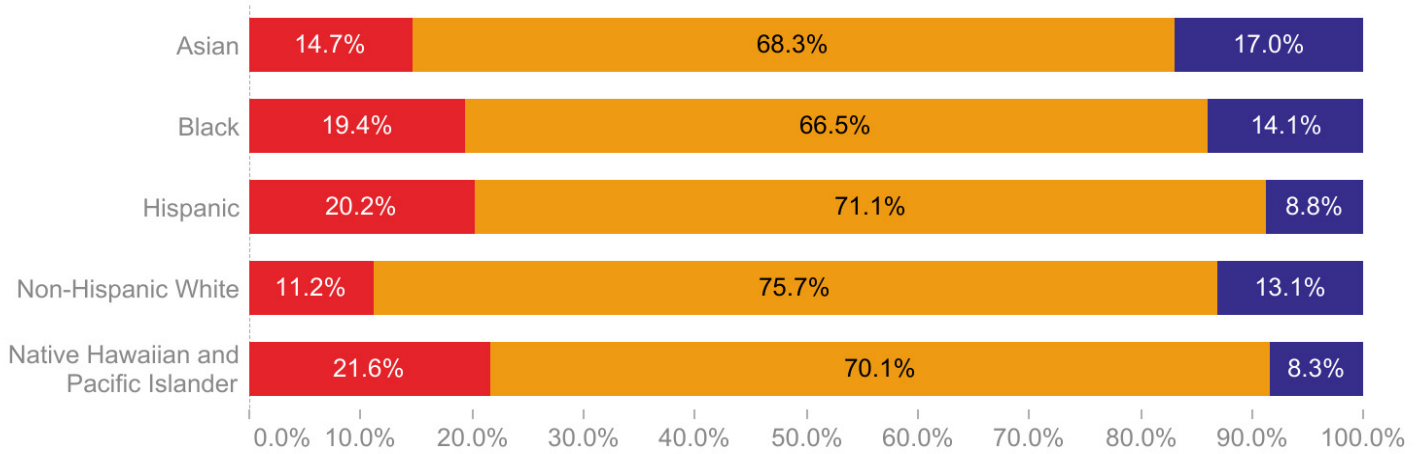
Generational Shifts:

Age Breakdown, San Francisco County, CA

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group

Senior
Adult
Child

Year
2015



By Asian Ethnic Group

Year
2015

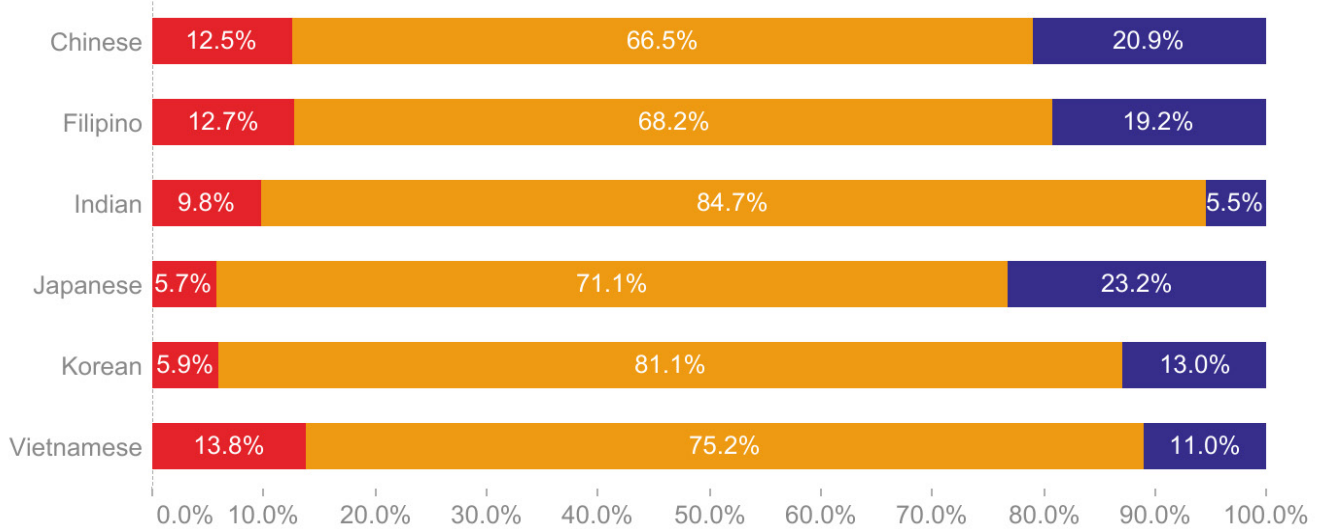


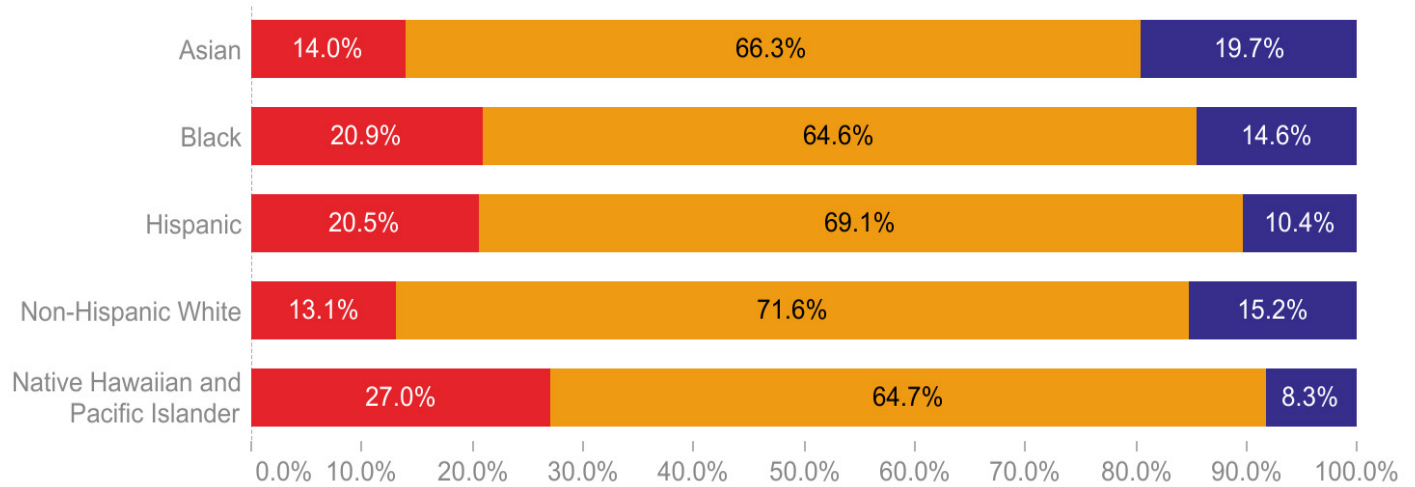
Figure 2. Age Breakdown, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2015) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2015)

Age Breakdown, San Francisco County, CA

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group

Year
2022

Senior
Adult
Child



By Asian Ethnic Group

Year
2022

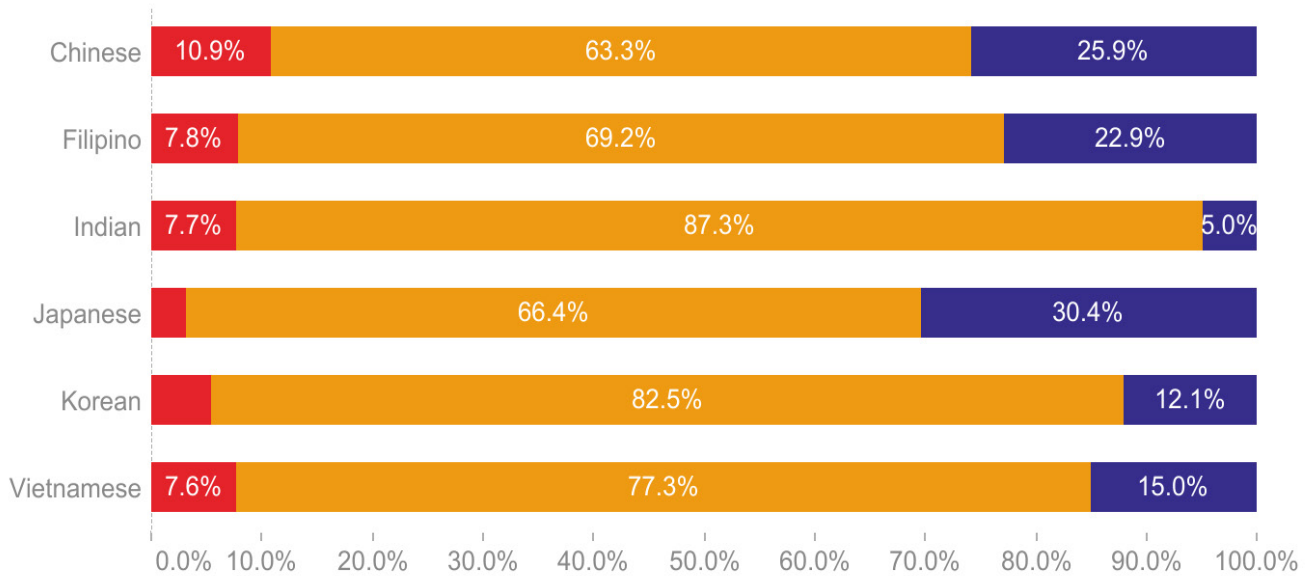


Figure 3. Age Breakdown, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2022) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2022)

From 2015 to 2022, the Asian alone population continues to have the highest proportion of seniors (17% and 19.7%), compared to other racial or ethnic groups. Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders are equally consistent in having the highest proportion of children (21.6% and 27%), compared to other groups. (See Figures 2 and 3)

Changes in the age breakdown from 2015 to 2022 are not consistent across the major Asian ethnicities. Asian saw the senior population increase (growth rate of 15%) and a drop in the child (~5%) and adult populations (~3%). At the same time, there was significant growth in the child population among Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (up 25%), while there was a reduction for all the other Asian ethnicities. The majority of Asian ethnicities saw an increase in their senior populations from 2015 to 2022; the growth rate was especially significant for the Japanese and Chinese communities. (See Figure 4, below.)

In this figure, decreases from 2015-2022 are indicated in orange, increases in green.

	Child		Adult		Senior	
	2015	2022	2015	2022	2015	2022
Asian alone or in any other combination	14.70%	14.00%	68.30%	66.30%	17.00%	19.70%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone or in any other combination	21.60%	27.00%	70.10%	64.70%	8.30%	8.30%
Chinese	12.50%	10.90%	66.50%	63.30%	20.90%	25.90%
Filipino	12.70%	7.80%	68.20%	69.20%	19.20%	22.90%
Indian	9.80%	7.70%	84.70%	87.30%	5.50%	5.00%
Japanese	5.70%	3.20%	71.10%	66.40%	23.20%	30.40%
Korean	5.90%	5.40%	81.10%	82.50%	13.00%	12.10%
Vietnamese	13.80%	7.60%	75.20%	77.30%	11.00%	15.00%

Figure 4. Age Breakdown, San Francisco County, CA Asian Alone and Asian Ethnic Groups (2015-2022)

Younger generations may have different cultural influences and identities compared to their parents or grandparents, leading to a dynamic and evolving community landscape.

2. Immigration and Citizenship Status

Immigrants, San Francisco County, CA

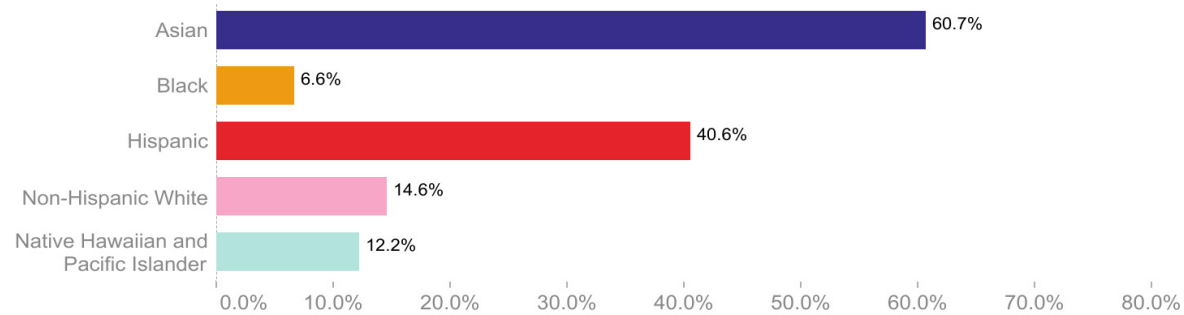
Immigrants, San Francisco County, CA

% of Population as Foreign Born

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group

Year

2015



By Asian Ethnic Group

Year

2015

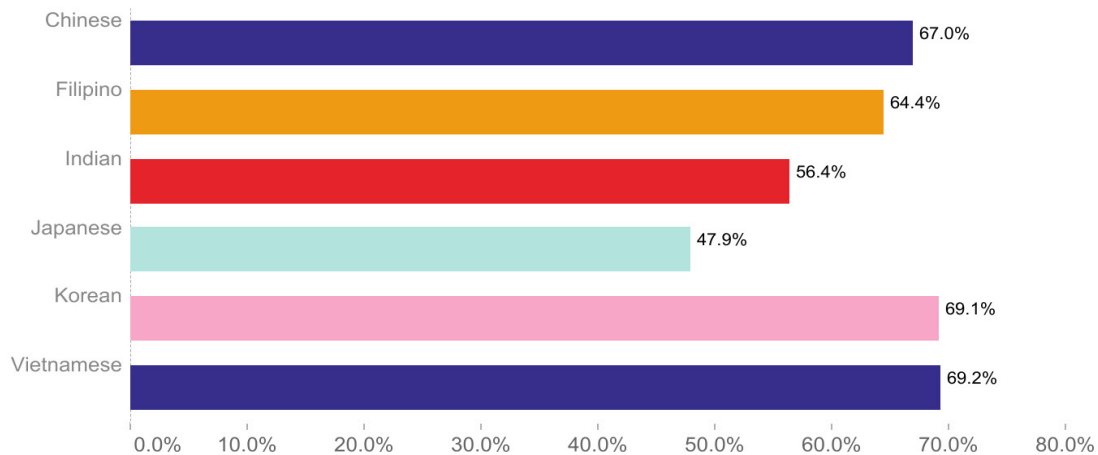


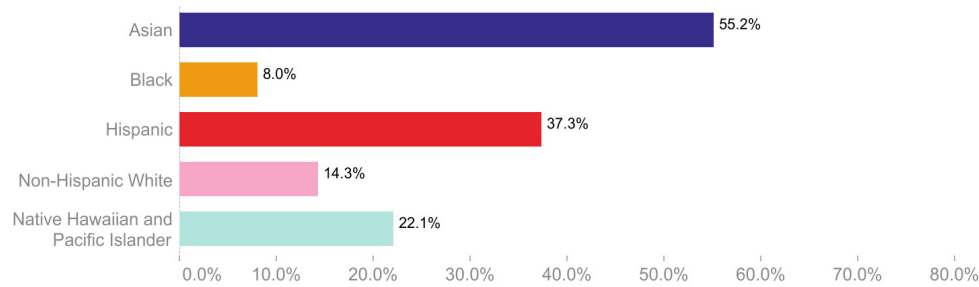
Figure 5. Immigrants, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2015) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2015)

Immigrants, San Francisco County, CA

% of Population as Foreign Born

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group

Year
2022



By Asian Ethnic Group

Year
2022

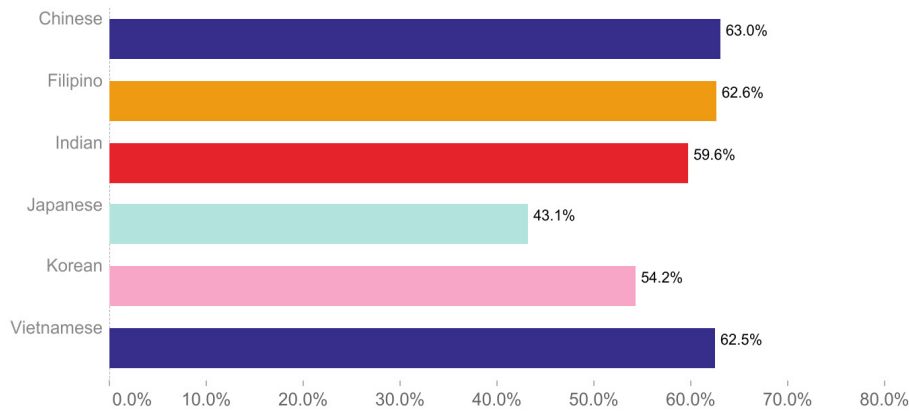


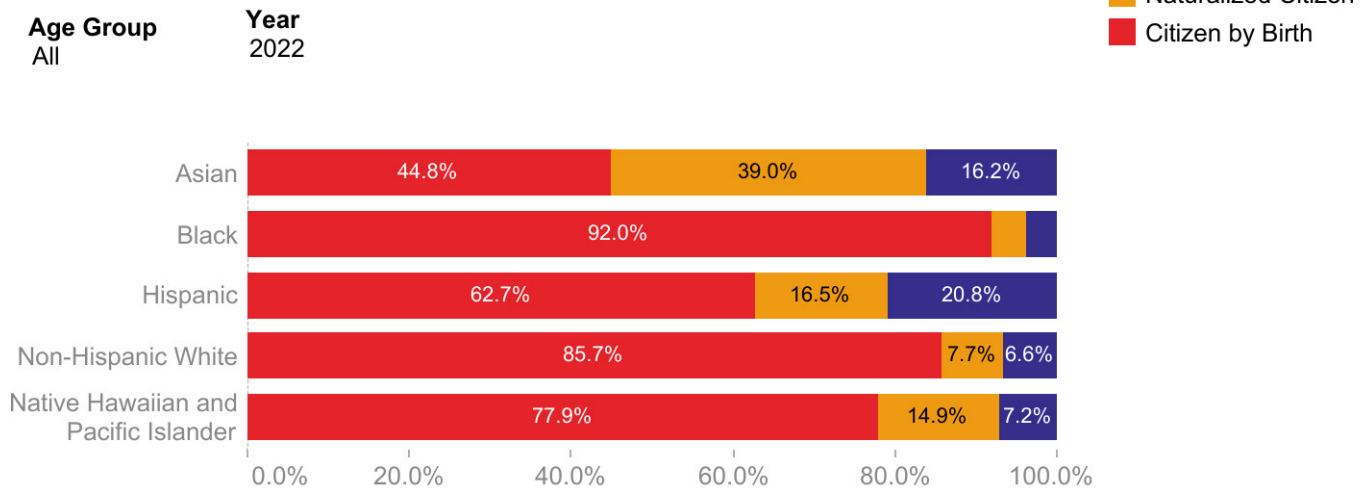
Figure 5. Immigrants, San Francisco County, CA
by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2015) and
By Asian Ethnic Group (2015)

Immigration: From 2015 to 2022, the majority of Asian ethnicities reported a drop in reported numbers of immigrants (foreign born). The largest decline was seen among Japanese (down 10%) and Korean (down 22%). Indians saw an increase of 5.57%. (See Figures 5 and 6). Among all races/ethnicities, Asians rank as number two (behind Hispanics) reporting not being an American citizen by birth. Asians are the highest ranked in being naturalized citizens among all races/ethnicities, by a significant margin.

Citizenship:

Citizenship Status, San Francisco County, CA

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group



By Asian Ethnic Group

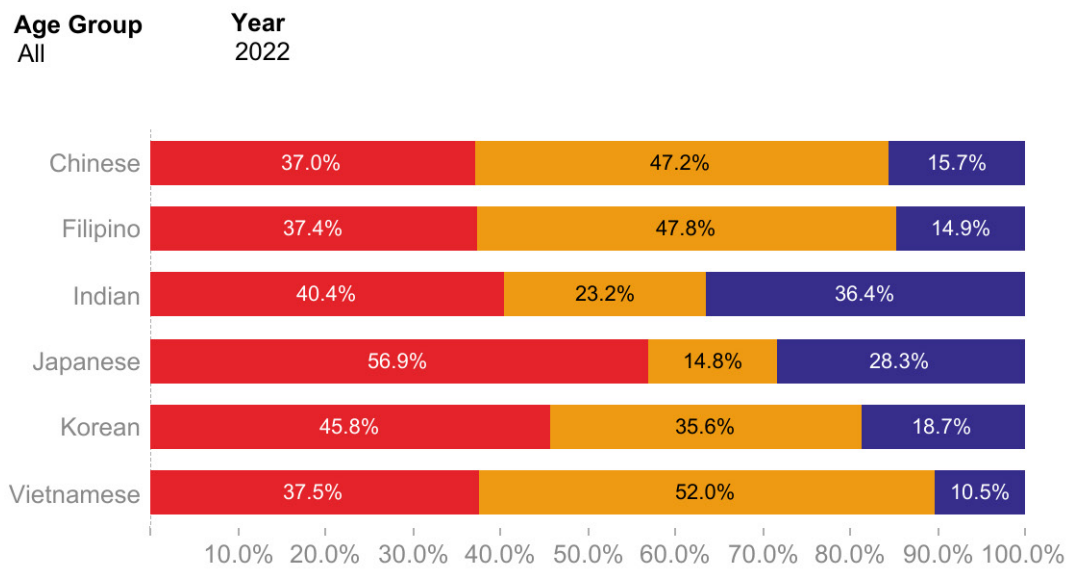


Figure 8. Citizenship Status, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2022) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2022)

Between 2015 and 2022, there has been an increase of 14% among Asians who reported being citizens by birth. This increase is consistent across most Asian ethnicities, except Indian, which saw a decline of 7%. The largest increase was seen among Koreans (48%). (See Figures 7 and 8)

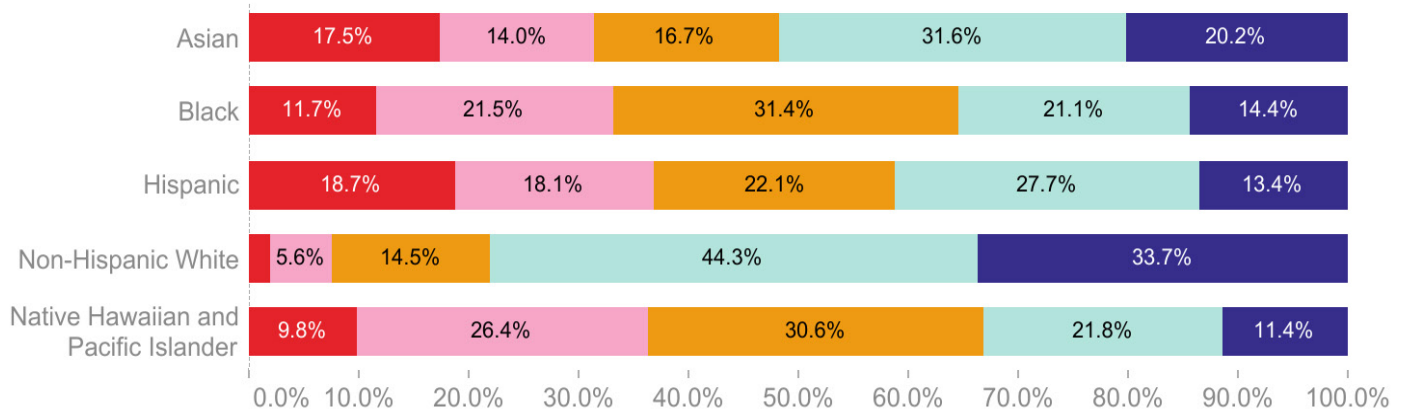
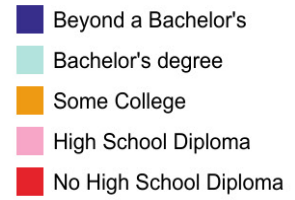
3. Educational Status, English Proficiency, and Digital Access

Educational Status, San Francisco County, CA

% of Population 25 Years Old and Over

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group

Year
2022



By Asian Ethnic Group

Year
2022

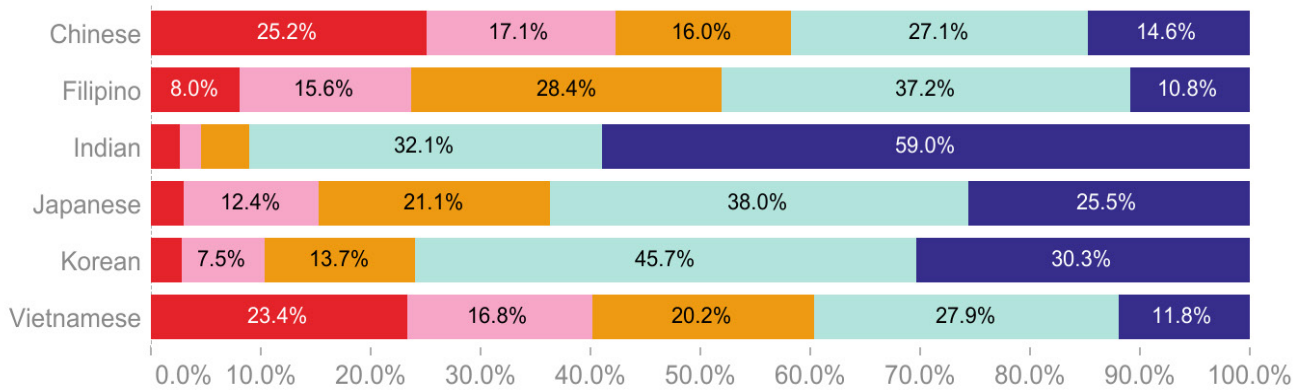
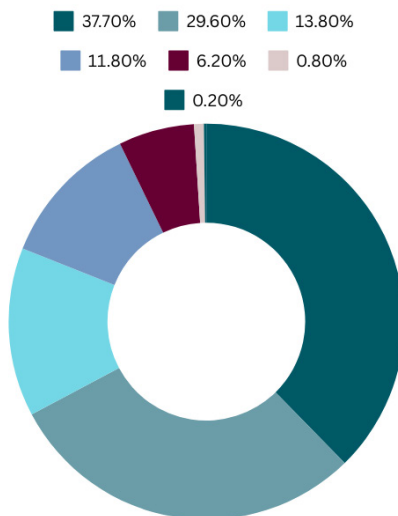


Figure 9. Educational Status, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2022) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2022)

Education: While Asians are second only to Non-Hispanic Whites in attaining a Bachelor and above education (51.8%), they are also closely matched to Hispanics in terms of not having a high school diploma. Among Asian subgroups, Indians have the highest educational attainment, while Chinese and Vietnamese communities have the highest numbers of not having a high school diploma. (See Figure 9)

Students at San Francisco Unified School District: The student body at the schools served by San Francisco Unified School District is 37.7% Asian or Asian/Pacific Islander, the largest race/ethnicity group represented (almost 8% more than the 2nd largest Hispanic group). (See Figure 10, below).²

Enrollment by Diversity



●	37.70%	Asian or Asian Pacific Islander
●	29.60%	Hispanic/Latino
●	13.80%	White
●	11.80%	Two or more races
●	6.20%	Black or African American
●	0.80%	Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
●	0.20%	American Indian or Alaska Native

Figure 10. Students at San Francisco Unified School District Enrollment by Diversity (Data is based on the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years.)

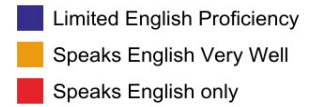
The Asian population continues to have the lowest English proficiency in San Francisco County, with 35% reporting limited English proficiency. Among the Asian subgroups, the Chinese and Vietnamese ethnicities have the highest limited English proficiency, closely mirroring the low educational attainment numbers. (See Figure 11, below.)

² Source: U.S. News & World Report <https://www.usnews.com/education/k12/california/districts/san-francisco-unified-111777>

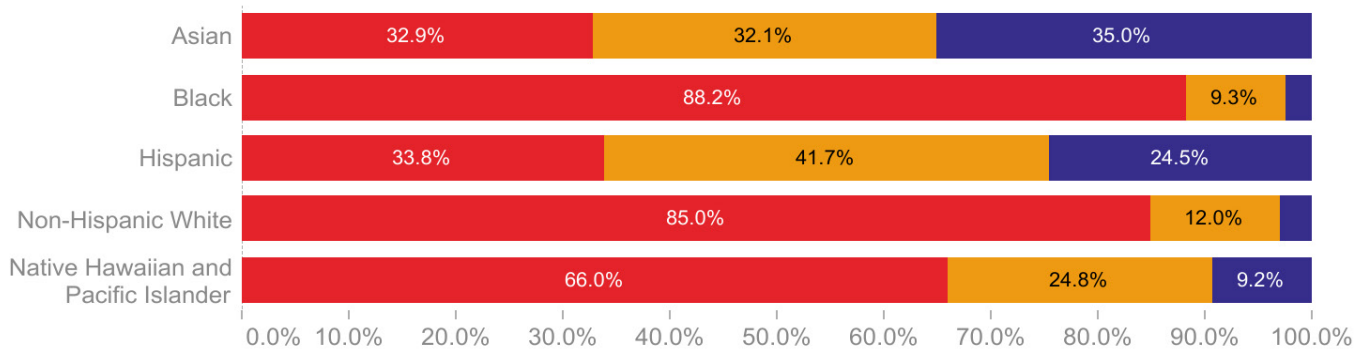
English Proficiency, San Francisco County, CA

% of Population 5 Years Old and Over

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group



Age Group: All
Year: 2022



By Asian Ethnic Group

Age Group: All
Year: 2022

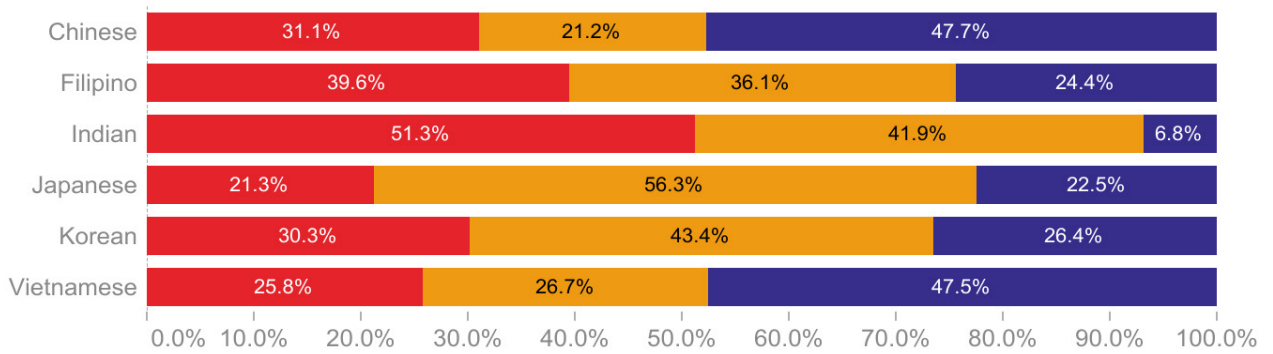


Figure 11. English Proficiency, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2022) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2022)

Digital Access: Asian alone (Source: ACS 2022)

Access to Devices	Estimate
Total:	111,942
Has one or more types of computing devices:	105,115
Desktop or laptop	93,489
Desktop or laptop with no other type of computing device	2,253
Smartphone	100,751
Smartphone with no other type of computing device	7,875
Tablet or <u>other</u> portable wireless computer	77,287
Tablet or other portable wireless computer with no other type of computing device	857
<u>Other</u> computer	5,934
Other computer with no other type of computing device	14
No Computer	6,827

Access to Internet	Estimate
Total:	111,942
With an Internet subscription	99,361
Dial-up with no other type of Internet subscription	184
Broadband of any type	99,177
Cellular data plan	94,229
Cellular data plan with no other type of Internet subscription	9,517
Broadband such as cable, fiber optic or DSL	88,125
Broadband such as cable, fiber optic or DSL with no other type of Internet subscription	4,574
Satellite Internet service	4,966
Satellite Internet service with no other type of Internet subscription	97
Other service with no other type of Internet subscription	45
Internet access without a subscription	1,853
No Internet access	10,728

The majority of the Asian-alone population in San Francisco is well-equipped with both devices and internet access, particularly smartphones and broadband subscriptions. This high level of digital penetration positions the community well for engaging with digital health solutions. However, the data also reveals a persistent gap, particularly in device ownership and internet access, which may be linked to socio-economic factors. For instance, while most individuals own smartphones, some still lack desktops or tablets, which could affect their ability to fully engage in telehealth or other digital health interventions that may require more robust computing devices. These gaps represent opportunities for intervention, particularly in the context of digital health solutions. Expanding access to both devices and affordable internet subscriptions, as well as ensuring that digital health solutions are mobile-optimized and accessible to all, will be key to addressing health disparities and improving the overall health outcomes for this community.

4. Employment

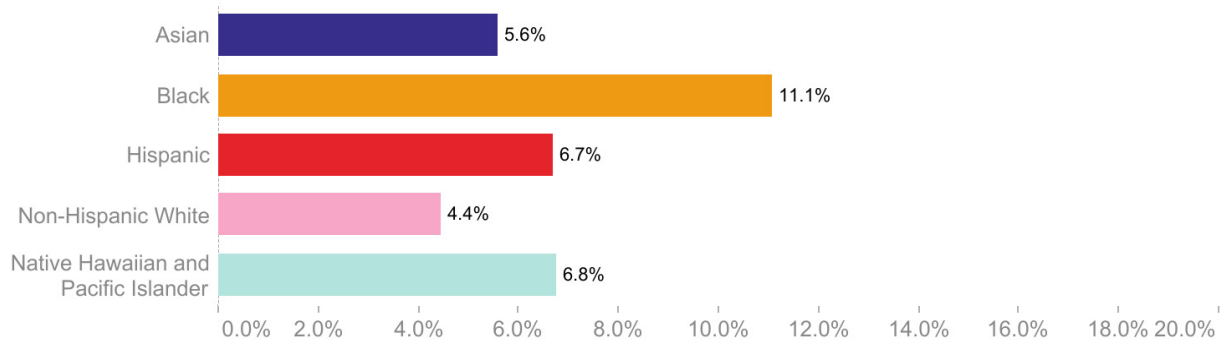
Unemployment Rate, San Francisco County, CA

% of Population 16 Years Old and Over in Civilian Labor Force

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group

Year

2022



By Asian Ethnic Group

Year

2022

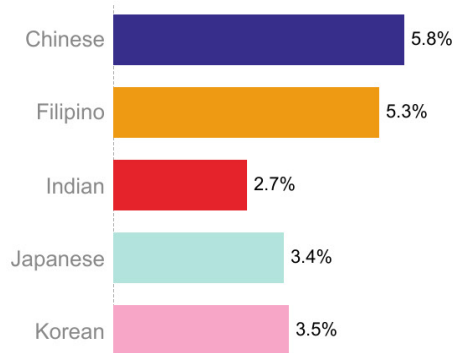


Figure 13. Unemployment Rate, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2022) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2022)

While the overall unemployment rate among the Asian population is not as high as that of other communities of color, the Vietnamese population shows an unemployment rate that is the highest in San Francisco at 12% (Figure 13)

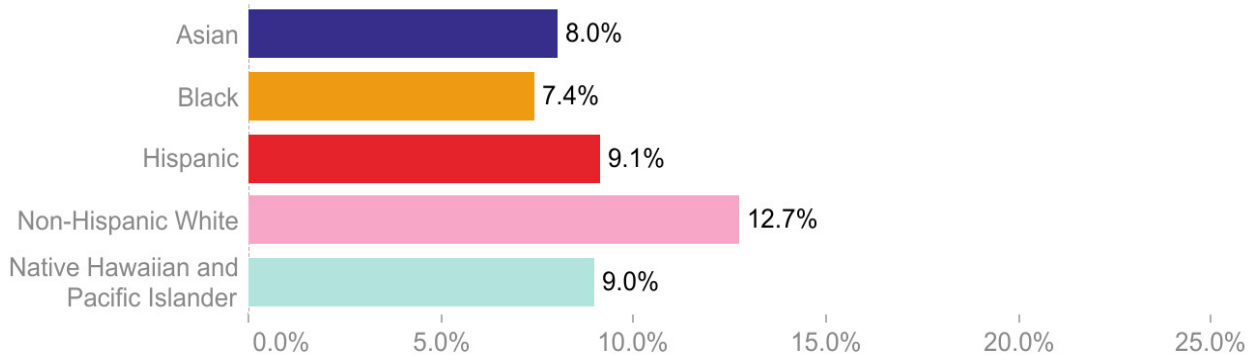
While only 8% of Asians only report being self-employed, the numbers across different Asian subgroups vary. (See Figure 14)

Self-Employment, San Francisco County, CA

% of Civilian Employed Population as Self-Employed

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group

Year
2022



By Asian Ethnic Group

Year
2022

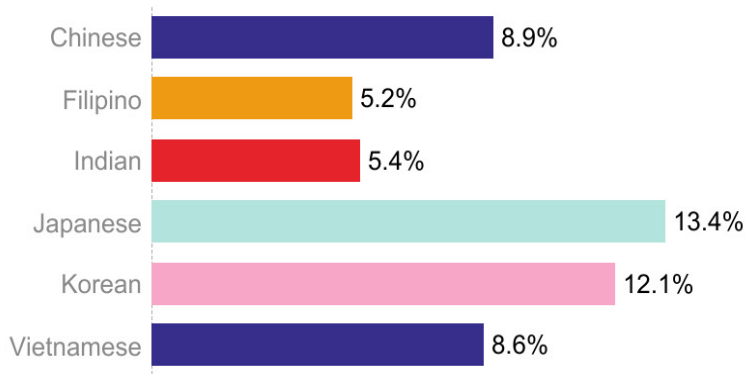


Figure 14. Self-Employment, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2022) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2022)

Asians are second only to Non-Hispanic Whites in being represented in Professional, Scientific, and Management jobs; they are also highly represented in the Health Care and Social Assistance industries. Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders are represented highest in Entertainment/Accommodations/Food Services, Retail, and Transportation and Warehousing. Differences across Asian subgroups can also be seen from industry to industry. (See Figures 15 and 16, below.)

Industry, San Francisco County, CA

% of Civilian Employed Population

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group

Year

2022

Industry	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic White	Native Hawaiian and Pacific Isla..
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	0.0%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%	0.4%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation, and Accommodation and Food Services	9.3%	9.1%	14.6%	6.8%	16.0%
Construction	2.7%	2.9%	5.9%	2.7%	5.1%
Educational Services	6.7%	10.5%	7.4%	8.8%	4.5%
Finance and Insurance, Real Estate and Renting and Leasing	8.9%	6.6%	4.6%	9.3%	4.7%
Health Care and Social Assistance	11.0%	9.4%	8.6%	7.0%	5.7%
Information	5.3%	4.9%	4.1%	7.9%	3.4%
Manufacturing	5.4%	2.9%	4.7%	4.8%	5.9%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	0.0%			0.0%	
Other Services, Except Public Administration	3.8%	3.8%	6.3%	3.3%	5.7%
Professional, Scientific, and Management, and Administrative and Waste Mngement Services	23.0%	21.4%	19.0%	32.6%	14.8%
Public Administration	3.9%	5.7%	4.2%	2.4%	5.8%
Retail Trade	9.0%	10.0%	9.8%	7.4%	11.8%
Social Services	3.2%	5.0%	4.0%	1.8%	5.2%
Transportation and Warehousing	5.6%	6.4%	4.5%	2.4%	8.8%
Utilities	0.6%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%	
Wholesale Trade	1.5%	1.1%	1.8%	1.8%	2.1%

Figure 15. Industry, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2022)

By Asian Ethnic Group

Year

2022

Industry	Chinese	Filipino	Indian	Japanese	Korean	Vietnamese
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	0.1%					0.1%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation, and Accommodation and Food Services	10.8%	8.1%	3.5%	4.3%	7.0%	12.1%
Construction	3.5%	2.1%	0.6%	2.5%	1.0%	1.8%
Educational Services	6.9%	5.9%	7.8%	11.2%	4.6%	5.0%
Finance and Insurance, Real Estate and Renting and Leasing	8.7%	9.4%	9.4%	10.4%	10.8%	9.3%
Health Care and Social Assistance	10.5%	17.5%	7.0%	12.2%	11.6%	8.7%
Information	4.4%	2.6%	11.5%	3.1%	7.8%	4.7%
Manufacturing	5.5%	5.3%	7.8%	4.7%	4.0%	4.5%
Other Services, Except Public Administration	4.0%	3.9%	2.9%	4.6%	3.9%	7.4%
Professional, Scientific, and Management, and Administrative and Waste Management Services	19.6%	15.6%	39.8%	25.0%	30.4%	18.8%
Public Administration	4.3%	5.8%	0.8%	2.5%	1.1%	6.5%
Retail Trade	9.0%	9.9%	4.1%	13.8%	9.6%	10.4%

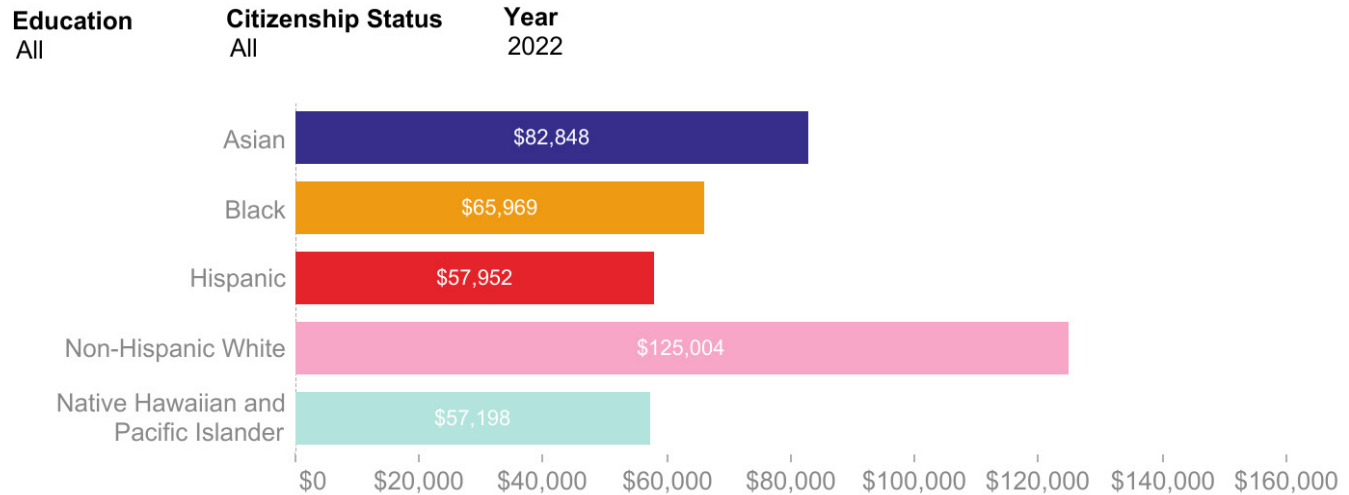
Figure 16. Industry, San Francisco County, CA by Asian Ethnic Group (2022)

5. Income, Poverty, and Food Security

Personal Income, San Francisco County, CA

Median Personal Income of Civilian Employed Population 25 Years Old and Over with Positive Earnings

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group



By Asian Ethnic Group

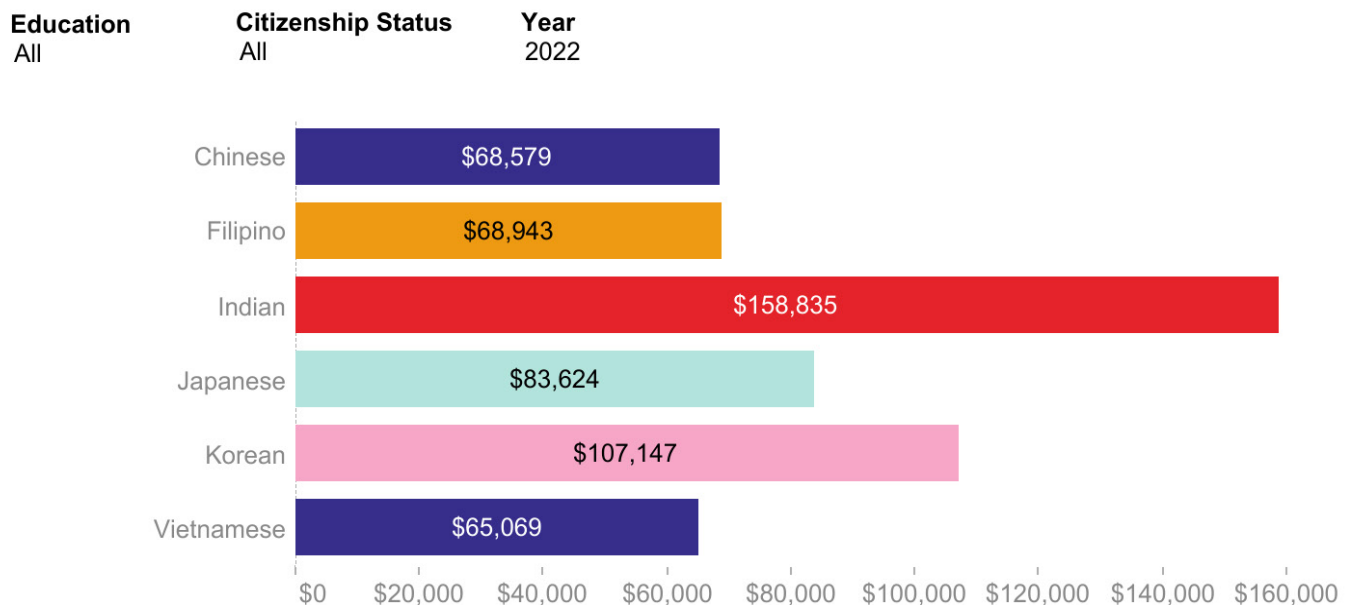
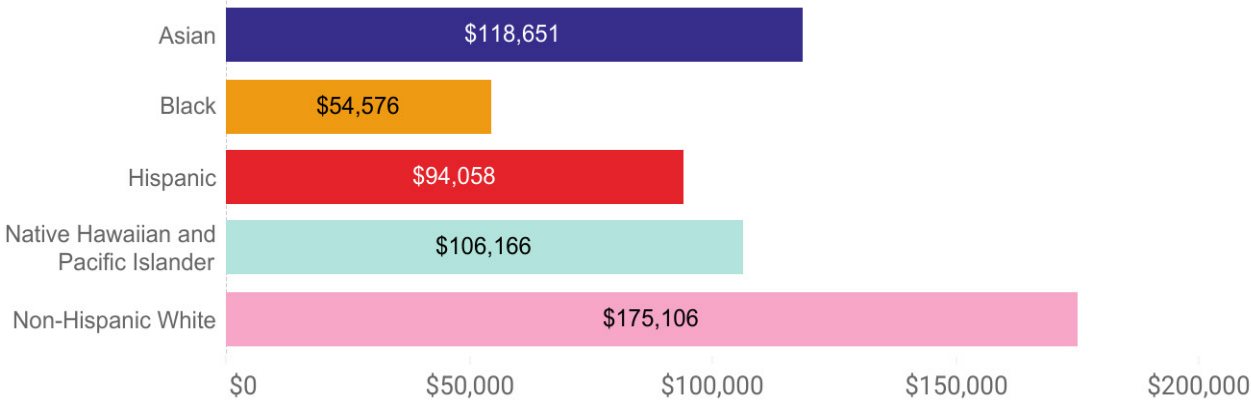


Figure 17. Personal Income, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2022) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2022)

Asians have the second-highest personal income among major racial/ethnic groups, but still trail Non-Hispanic Whites by a significant margin. Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders have the lowest personal income across all major groups. Among Asian subgroups, Indians have the highest personal income. (See Figure 17)

Median Household Income, San Francisco County, CA

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group
Year
2022



By Asian Ethnic Group
Year
2022

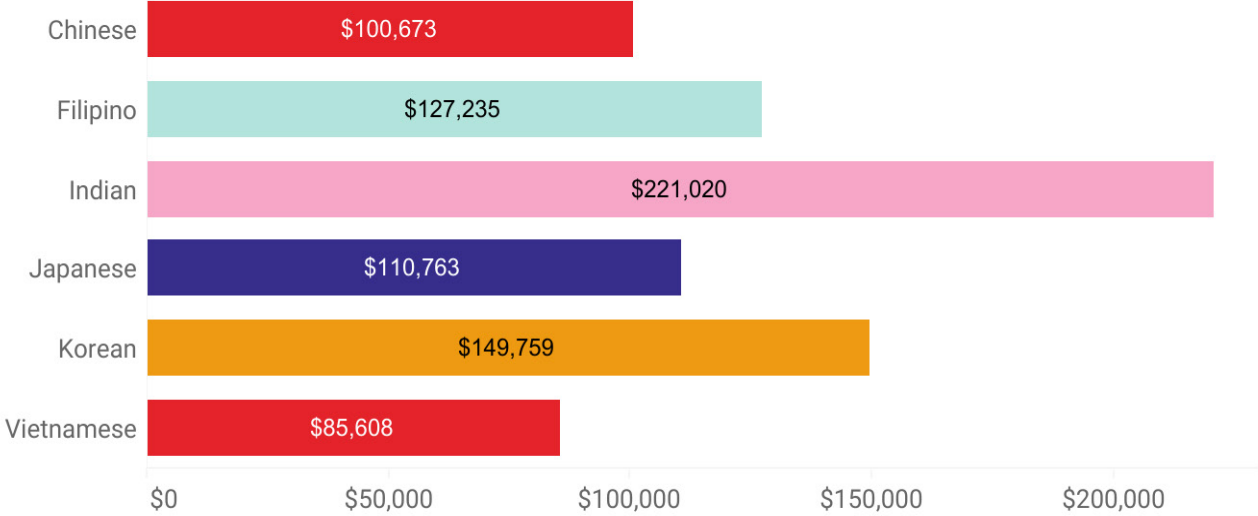


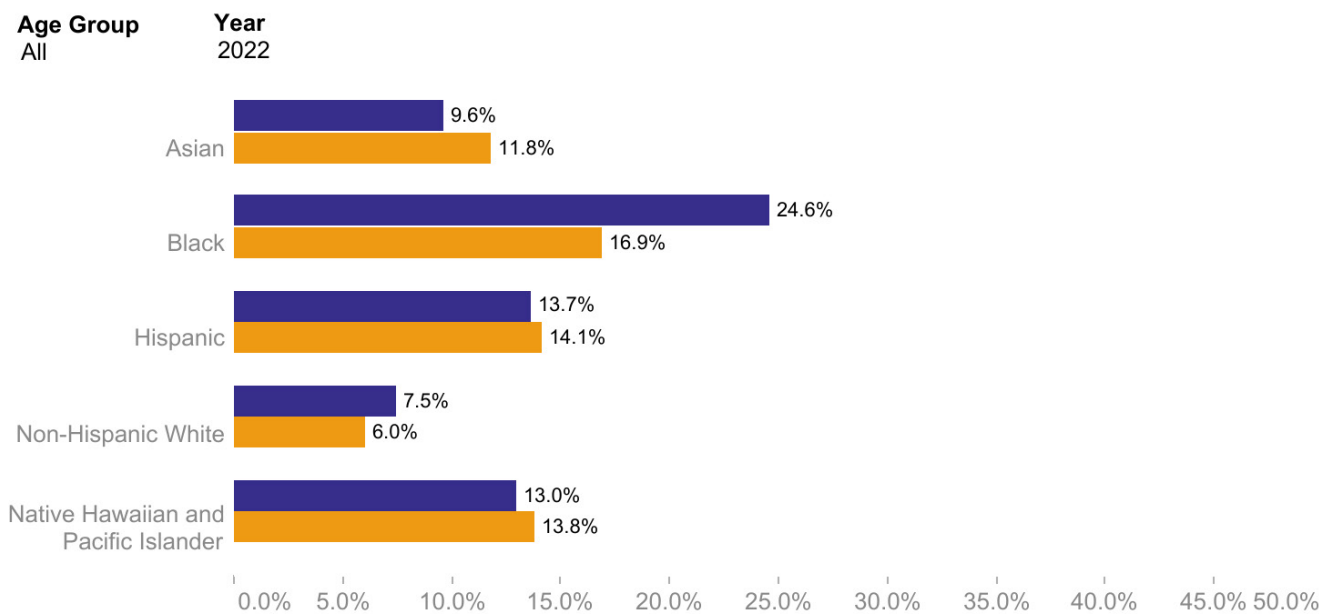
Figure 18. Median Household Income, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2022) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2022)

In and Near Poverty Rate , San Francisco County, CA

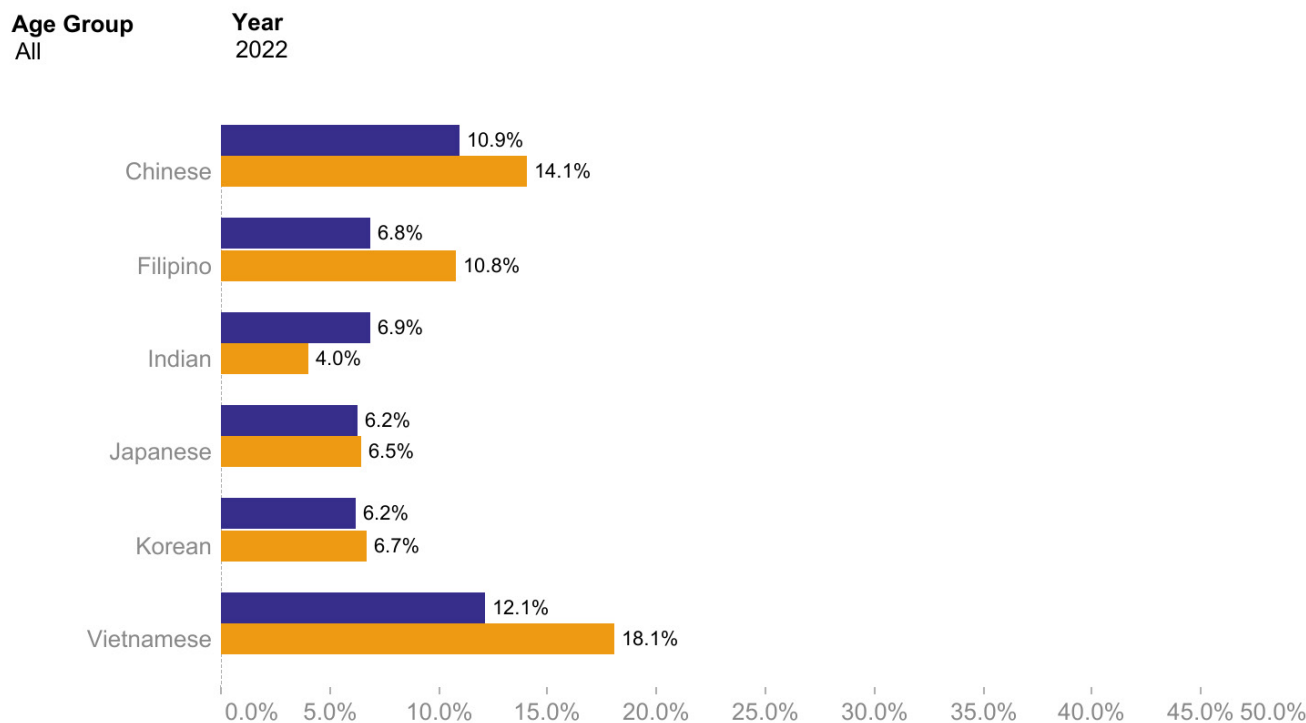
% of Population for Whom Poverty Status is Determined

■ In poverty
■ Near poverty

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group



By Asian Ethnic Group



For individuals who are under 15 and are either living in a housing unit but are unrelated to the householder or are living in select group quarters, poverty status is not determined.

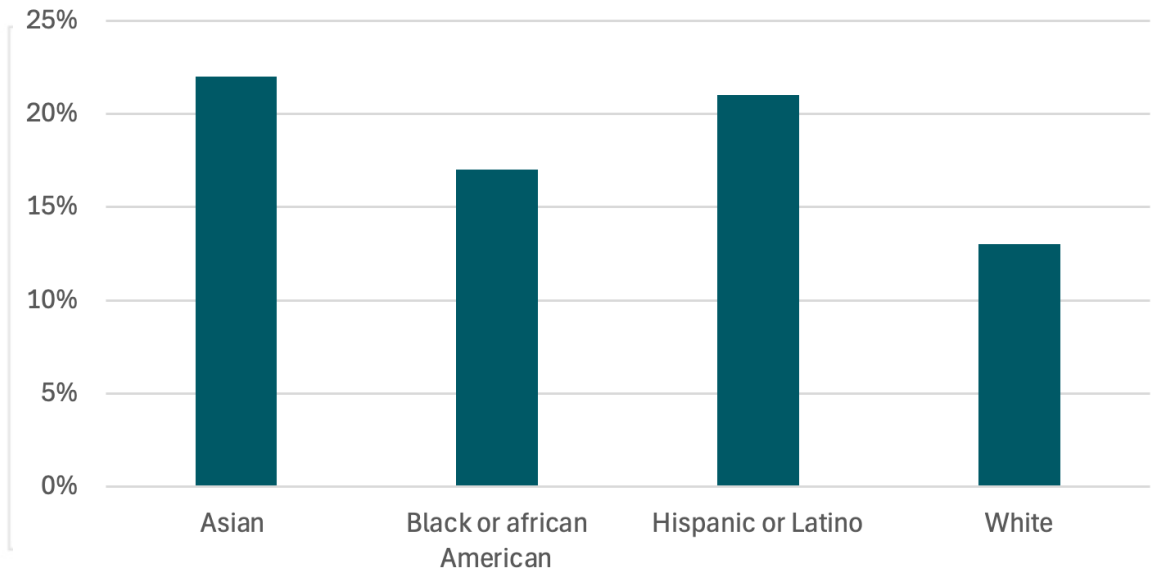
In poverty is defined as having an income below 100% of the poverty threshold. Near poverty is defined as having above 100% of the poverty

Figure 19. In and Near Poverty Rate, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2022) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2022)³

³ Poverty is defined as at or below 100% of the poverty threshold. Near poverty is defined as above 100% but below 200% of the poverty threshold. These two groups are exclusive to each other. Following the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) Statistical Policy Directive 14, the Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine poverty thresholds.

Food Security

Percent of Seniors 75 and Older in San Francisco Below 100% FPL by Race/Ethnicity, 2017 – 2021



Note: FPL = Federal Poverty Level. Poverty data were not available for American Indian or Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander residents because the population sizes were too small. Estimates are pooled from 5 years of data.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Figure 20. Seniors Living Below Poverty in San Francisco by Race/Ethnicity (2017-2021)

Food Security: Despite San Francisco’s reputation for affluence, food insecurity remains a pressing issue among certain segments of the Asian population. (See Figure 21, below.)

Table 4: Total Number of Individuals/Households Served by Reporting Department Programs, by Race/Ethnicity, FY 22-23

	Total sample	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian ^a	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino, all races	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander ^a	White	Multi-race	Other	Unknown
	n (%ME)	n (%ME)	n (%ME)	n (%ME)	n (%ME)	n (%ME)	n (%ME)	n (%ME)	n (%ME)	n (%ME)
Total population in San Francisco for which poverty is established (% Margin of Error)	852,231 (± 0.1)	4,179 (±18.1)	294,351 (±0.7)	43,704 (±0.3)	129,574 (±0.2)	3,094 (±15.4)	370,416 (±0.6)	71,346 (±4.2)	65,141 (±4.2)	N/A
Total population below 100% FPL (% Margin of Error)	87,874 (±0.4)	1,300 (±12.6)	29,342 (±0.7)	11,524 (±2.5)	17,236 (±1.3)	448 (±6.5)	28,687 (±0.6)	6,873 (±1.0)	9,700 (±1.9)	N/A

The official poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated for inflation using the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U). The official poverty definition uses money income before taxes and does not include capital gains or noncash benefits (such as public housing, Medicaid, and food stamps).

	Department	Program name	Total sample	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian [®]	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino, Hawaiian all races	Native other Pacific Islander*	White	Multi-race	Other	Unknown
			n	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
Financial Resources	DPH	Black Infant Health (BIH) Grocery vouchers	120	0	0	120 (100%)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Financial Resources	DPH	Healthy Food Purchasing Supplement [†]	14,839	38 (0.3%)	941 (6.3%)	432 (2.9%)	883 (6%)	0	226 (1.5%)	1,064 (7.2%)	76 (0.5%)	11,179 (75.3%)
Financial Resources	DPH	Wic [®]	11,723	0(0%)	3,282 (28%)	1,120 (9.6%)	6,777 (57.8%)	103 (0.9%)	441 (3.8%)	0	0	0
Financial Resources	HSA	CalFresh - BFS	130,468	345 (0.3%)	31,784 (24.4%)	11,724 (9%)	15,038 (11.5%)	3,391 (2.6%)	11,731 (9%)	101 (0.1%)	0	5,696 (4.4%) 50,658 (38.8%)
Financial Resources	HSA	Grocery Vouchers - CFAT [®]	3,044	21 (0.7%)	1,055 (34.7%)	362 (11.9%)	1,155 (37.9%)	0	204 (6.7%)	69 (2.3%)	55 (1.8%)	123 (4%)
Food Access	HSH	Shelter and Navigation Center Meals	4,050	187 (4.6%)	112 (2.8%)	795 (19.6%)	1,009 (24.9%)	59 (1.5%)	1,374 (33.9%)	207 (5.1%)	Unknown	307 (7.6%)
Food Access	HSH	Safe Sleep Site Meals	939	40 (4.3%)	24 (2.6%)	184 (19.6%)	180 (19.2%)	17 (1.8%)	428 (45.6%)	44 (4.7%)	0	22(2.3%)
Food Access	HSH	Food Pantry in Permanent Supportive Housing ^{††}	255	0%	13 (5.1%)	72 (28.2%)	30 (11.8%)	Less than 11	97 (38%)	20 (7.8%)	Less than 11	0
Food Access	DCYF	Afterschool Meals/Child and Adult Food Program At-Risk (CACFP)	2,524	0%	512 (20.3%)	459 (18.2%)	894 (35.4%)	57 (2.3%)	171 (6.8%)	214 (8.5%)	132 (5.2%)	85 (3.4%)
Food Access	DCYF	Summer Meals Program (SFSP - Summer Food Service Program)	3,531	0 (0%)	924 (26.2%)	660 (18.7%)	1,162 (32.9%)	55 (1.6%)	159 (4.5%)	293 (8.3%)	122 (3.5%)	156 (4.4%)

Figure 21. Individuals Served by Food Access Programs by Race/Ethnicity (2022-2023)

Although the following analysis is national, it's likely to be reflected in the food insecurity issues facing APIs in San Francisco.

“Systemic racism, discrimination, forced displacement, and structural inequities all contribute to food insecurity in many communities of color including the Asian American and Pacific Islander demographic.

The AAPI community represents origins from dozens of countries from a large geographic area encompassing Asia and the Pacific islands... Here are three facts about how hunger affects Asian American and Pacific Islanders.

1. 1 in 5 Pacific Islanders face hunger

Food insecurity varies greatly among Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, with some households experiencing higher rates. Pacific Islanders, or individuals from the Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia islands (which include Hawaii), face hunger at a rate of approximately 19% (or 1 in 5).

2. 1 in 17 Asian Americans experience food insecurity

Food insecurity rates are lower among Asian individuals overall (approximately 6%, or 1 in 17), but rates vary across different Asian identities. For example, food insecurity affects nearly 3% of Chinese individuals, nearly 9% of Filipino individuals, and nearly 13% of individuals who report another Asian identity than those listed. ⁴

3. Disparities are more significant among recent immigrants from select Asian or Pacific Island nations

⁴“3 facts about hunger in the AAPI community,” by Abbie Wilson, Feeding America, May 25, 2022 <https://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-blog/3-fast-facts-about-hunger-aapi-community-1> (based on analysis conducted by Dr. Craig Gundersen for Feeding America using data from the Current Population Survey, 2016-2020)

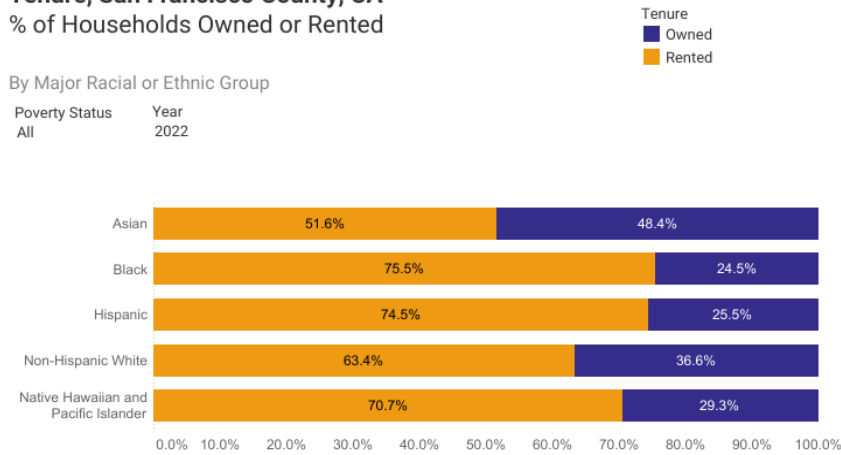
Food insecurity rates are often higher among recent immigrant communities. Individuals who have a parent or were themselves born in Bhutan, Afghanistan and Nepal face hunger at some of the highest rates among Asian American and Pacific Islanders living in America. For example, 30% of recent immigrants from Bhutan experienced food insecurity.”

Narrowing it down to the state of California, the highest prevalence of food insecurity was found among Vietnamese (16.42%) and the lowest prevalence was among Japanese (2.28%). A significant relationship was noted between prevalence of food insecurity and low acculturation for Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese subgroups. Language spoken at home was significantly associated with food insecurity. For example, among Chinese, being food insecure was associated with being bilingual (prevalence ratio [PR] = 2.51) or speaking a non-English language at home (PR = 7.24), while among South Asians, it was associated with speaking a non-English language at home was also related to higher prevalence (PR = 3.62), as compared to English speakers only. Likewise, being foreign-born also related to being food insecure among Chinese (PR = 2.31), Filipino (PR = 1.75), South Asian (PR = 3.35), Japanese (PR = 2.11), and Vietnamese (PR = 3.70) subgroups, when compared to their US-born counterparts.⁵

7. Housing

Tenure, San Francisco County, CA

% of Households Owned or Rented



By Asian Ethnic Group

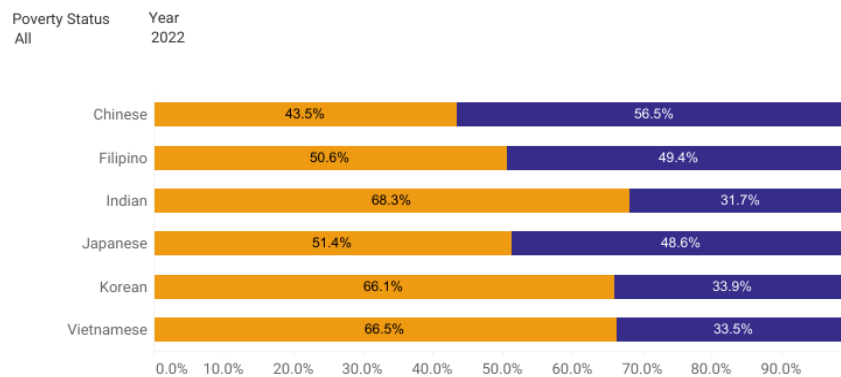


Figure 22. Tenure, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2022) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2022)

⁵ Becerra, Monideepa B.; Kapella Mshigeni, Salome; Becerra, Benjamin J. “The Overlooked Burden of Food Insecurity among Asian Americans: Results from the California Health Interview Survey,” International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, August 7, 2018. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6121379/>

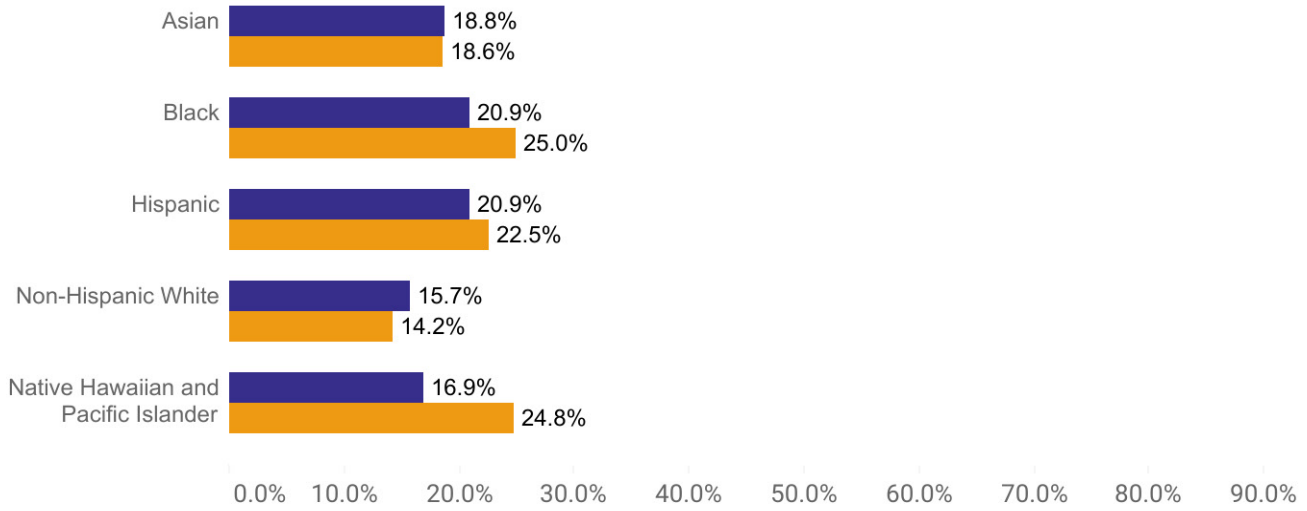
Rent Burden, San Francisco County, CA

% of Rental Households being Rent Burdened or Severely Rent Burdened

Rent Burden
■ Rent Burdened
■ Severely Burdened

By Major Racial or Ethnic Group

Year
2022



By Asian Ethnic Group

Year
2022

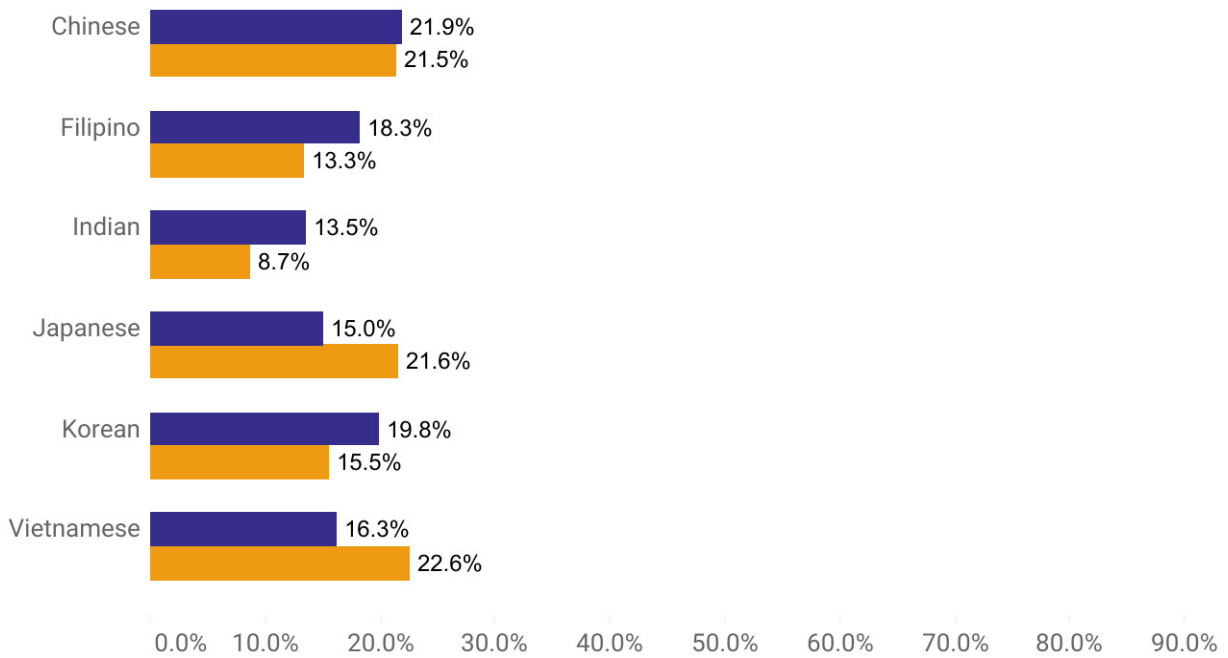


Figure 23. Rent Burden, San Francisco County, CA by Major Racial and Ethnic Group (2022) and By Asian Ethnic Group (2022)

8. Health

The San Francisco ZIP codes with the highest rates of diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease hospitalizations were 94130, 94124, 94102, 94134, 94103, 94112, and 94115. Five of these ZIP codes lie in key API neighborhoods.⁶ (See Figure 24, below.)

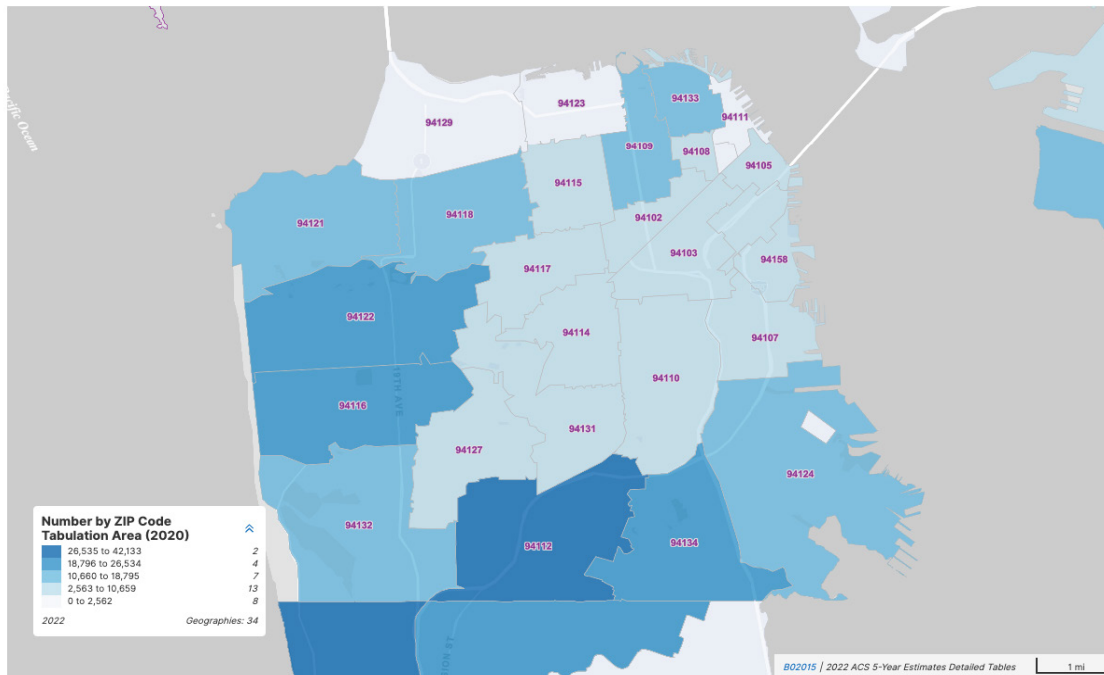


Figure 24. Asian Only Population by Zip Code (2020)

Key API Neighborhoods:

NORTH: Chinatown, Downtown, Civic Center, Nob Hill, North Beach, Russian Hill, Telegraph Hill, Tenderloin, SoMa

Zip Codes: 94133, 94109, 94108, 94102, and 94103

SOUTH: Visitacion Valley, Bayview/ Hunter's Point, Excelsior, Ocean View, Crocker Amazon, Portola, Silver Terrace

Zip Codes: 94112, 94134, and 94124

WEST: Outer Richmond, Inner Richmond, Outer Sunset, Inner Sunset, Lakeshore, Parkside

Zip Codes: 94121, 94118, 94122, 94116 and 94132.

⁶ 2023 San Francisco Biennial Food Security and Equity Report https://www.sf.gov/sites/default/files/2024-01/2023%20San%20Francisco%20Biennial%20Food%20Security%20and%20Equity%20Report%20-%20FINAL_0.pdf

Health Indicators: Disability and Lack of Insurance

	Disability rate		<u>Un-insured rate</u>	
	2015	2022	2015	2022
Asian alone or in any other combination	9.9%	10.7%	8.5%	2.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone or in any other combination	10.0%	11.4%	8.3%	4.6%
Chinese	11.3%	12.1%	8.3%	2.7%
Filipino	11.6%	15.1%	8.4%	3.8%
Indian	3.3%	2.7%	5.1%	3.1%
Japanese	8.3%	13.4%	5.5%	1.1%
Korean	7.3%	7.1%	10.8%	2.8%
Vietnamese	8.6%	12.8%	10.1%	3.9%

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Public Use Microdata Sample (personal level data)

Figure 25. Health Indicators (2015-2022)

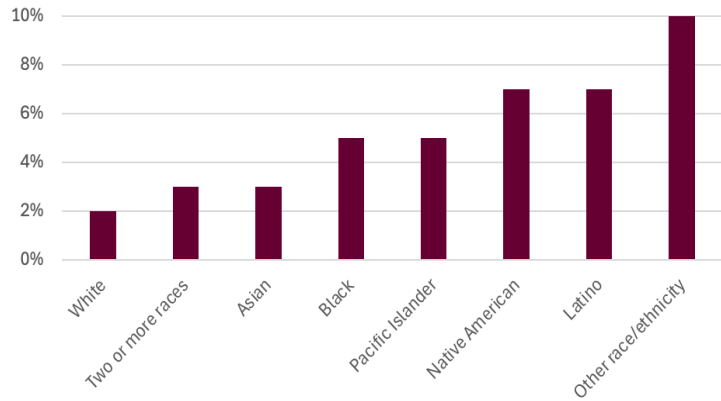
Between 2015 and 2022, we observed shifts in both disability and insurance rates among API communities in San Francisco. Disability rates increased among Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities by about 1%. We observed increases across most API groups except Indian and Koreans.

Uninsured rates decreased across the board for Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities with Korean and Vietnamese communities showing the highest decrease. This is probably linked to changes in healthcare policy, increased outreach efforts, and improvements in the affordability and accessibility of health-care during this period in the US.

Access to Healthcare:

Although insurance coverage in San Francisco is generally high, with only 4% of people uninsured thanks to the Affordable Care Act and Healthy San Francisco, coverage varies widely by race/ethnicity. (See Figure 35, below.)

Figure 35. Uninsured by Race/Ethnicity



¹⁴ Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Intervention Grants Program FY 2019-2020 Program Highlights <https://www.sfgov.org/dosw/sites/default/files/FY%2019-20%20GBV%20Report%20-%20Final%20Draft%2012.2.pdf>

Most San Franciscans (87%) have a usual source of healthcare. However, only half as many Pacific Islanders (48%) do. (See Figure 36, below.)

Usual Source of Care

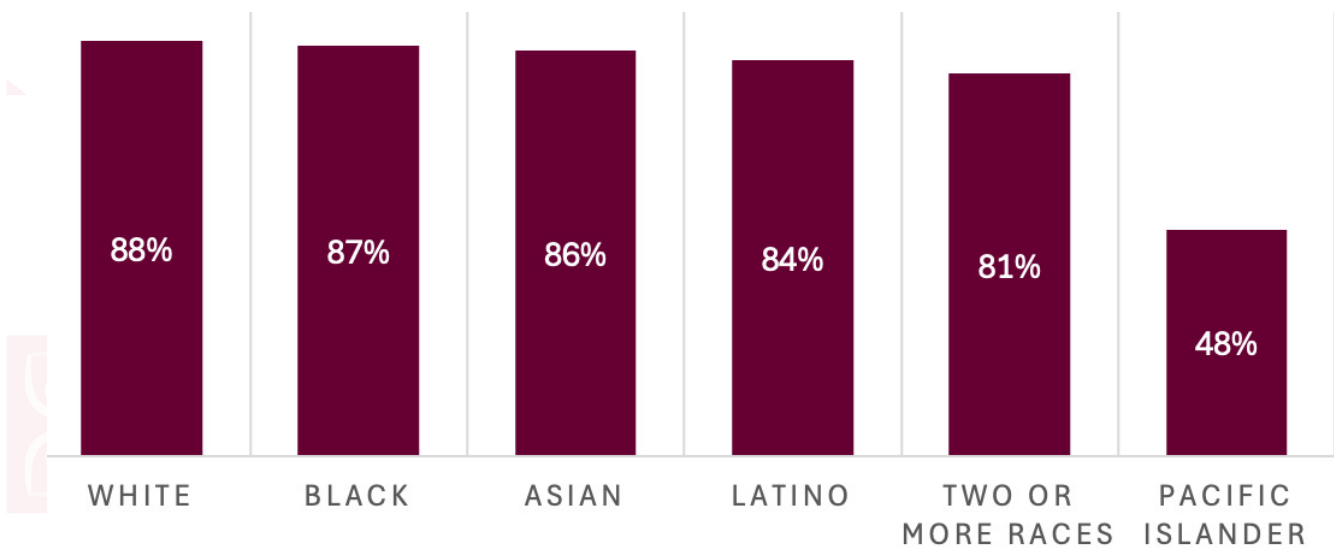


Figure 35. Usual Source of Care by Race/Ethnicity
Source: California Health Interview Survey, 2011-2019

Preventable Hospitalizations per 100,000 People

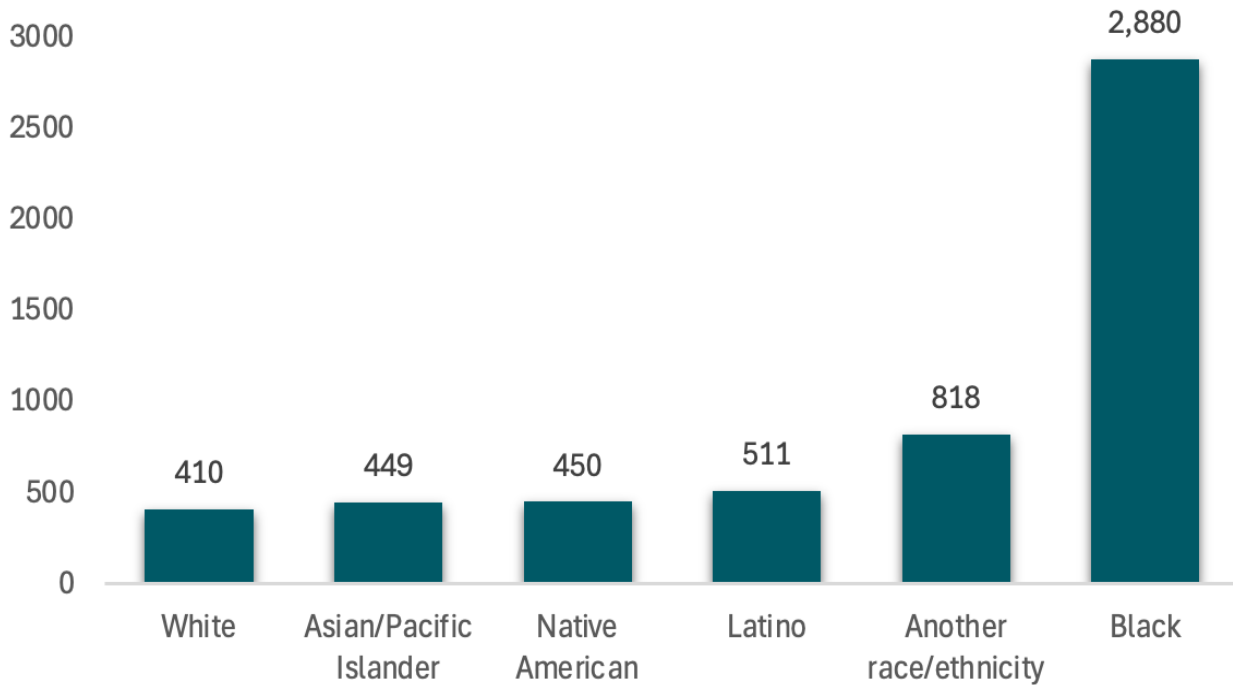


Figure 36. Preventable Hospitalizations by Race/Ethnicity

Exhibit 3.3: Participant Demographics by Ethnicity, FY 21-22

Healthy San Francisco Enrollment:

Overall participant enrollment has reduced from 44% in 2011 to 9% in 2022. API communities make up only 9% of enrollees in FY 2021-2022. (See Figure 26, on the right)⁷

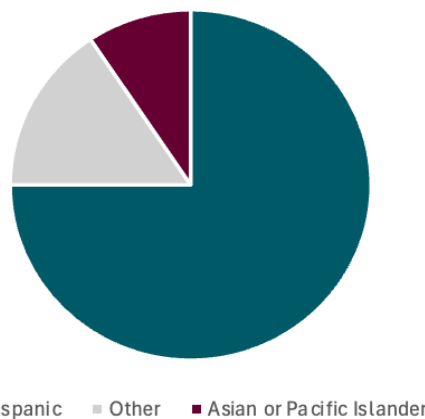
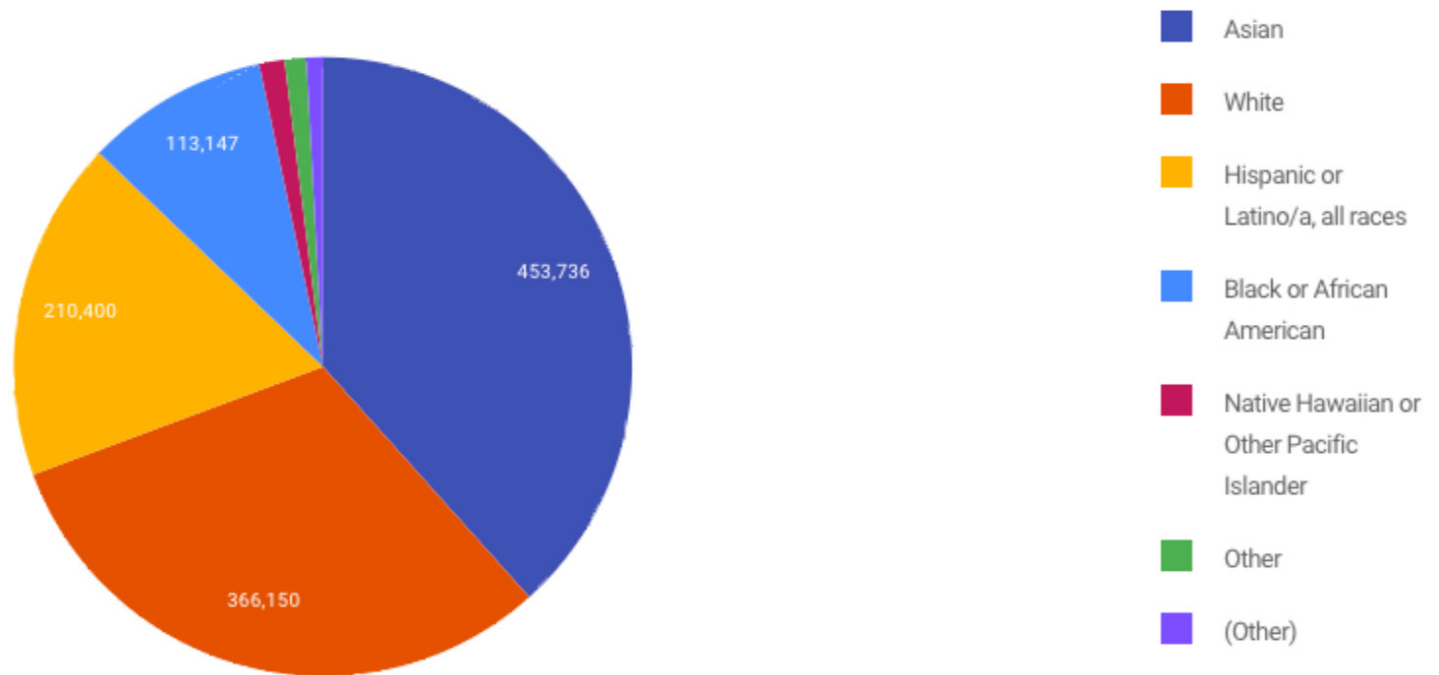


Figure 26. Healthy San Francisco Enrollment (2021-2022)

Healthy San Francisco is a city-run health access program designed to provide affordable health care to uninsured and underinsured residents of San Francisco. The program was established to address the health care needs of individuals who don't have health insurance or whose insurance does not provide adequate coverage, especially for low- and middle-income residents.

COVID-19:

A key health indicator during the COVID pandemic was cumulative deaths measured over time since the start of the pandemic in 2020. Asians showed the highest number of cumulative deaths from COVID, showing the vulnerability of this group in terms of exposure, lack of access to services including vaccinations and treatment, and overall low health literacy. (See Figure 27, below.)



(Data source: data.sfgov.org)

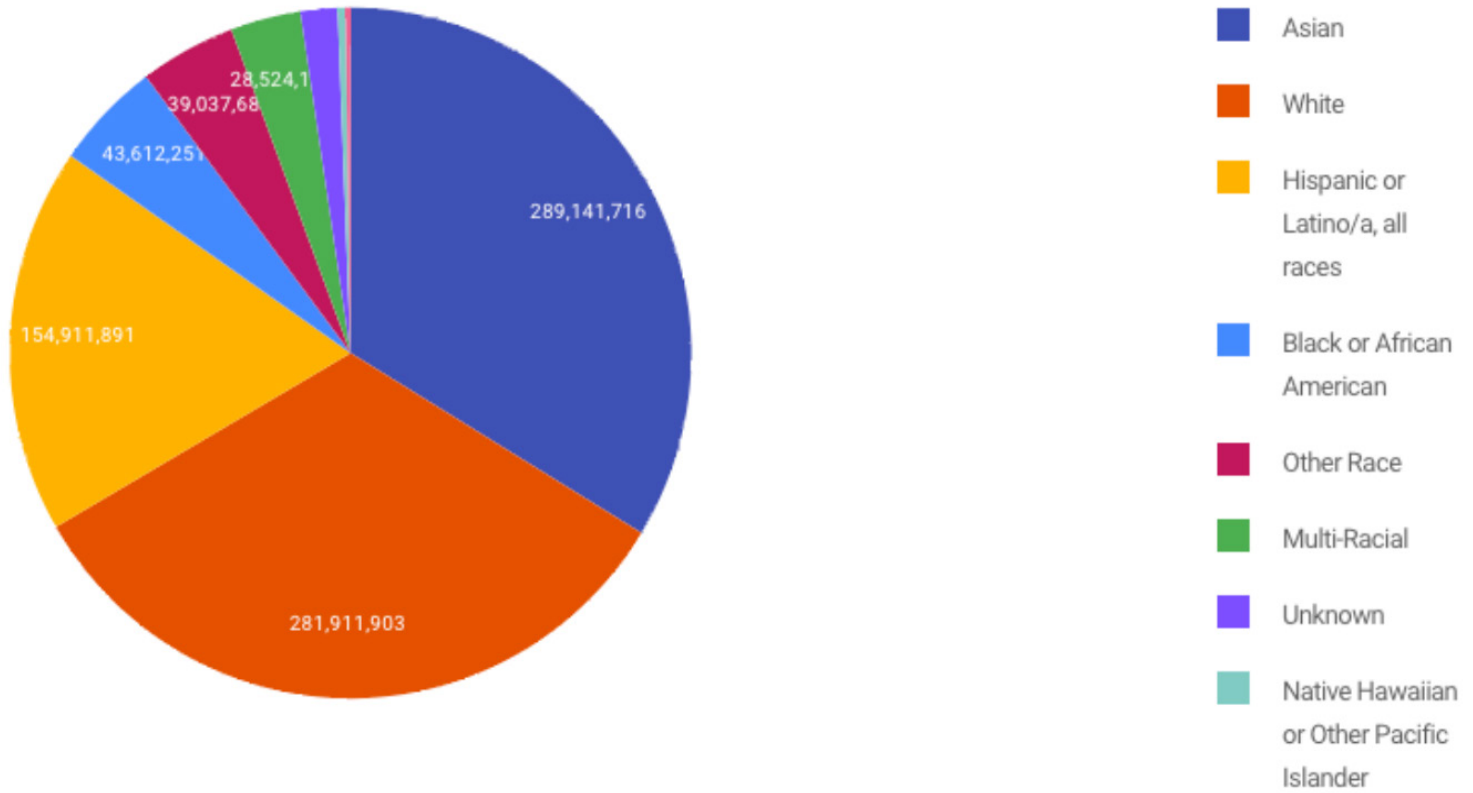
Figure 27. COVID Deaths in San Francisco by Race/Ethnicity

At the start of the pandemic, The San Francisco Chronicle reported on the grim toll the coronavirus was taking on San Francisco's Asian American community, which had a high death rate among those who tested positive for the disease and at the time accounted for half of COVID-related fatalities.⁸

Research from the Asian American Research Center on Health (ARCH) indicated several possible reasons for the high case-to-death ratio among Asian Americans in San Francisco, including limited access to health care, higher rates of underlying health conditions, and an older population.⁹

The situation was all the more puzzling because at the same time, APIs were the group that received the most vaccinations among all S.F. residents. (See Figure 28, below.)

⁷ Healthy San Francisco Annual Report 2021-2022 https://healthysanfrancisco.org/wp-content/uploads/2021_22_HSF_Annual_Report.pdf



(Data source: data.sfgov.org)

Figure 28. COVID Vaccinations in San Francisco by Race/Ethnicity

Preterm Birth Disparities:

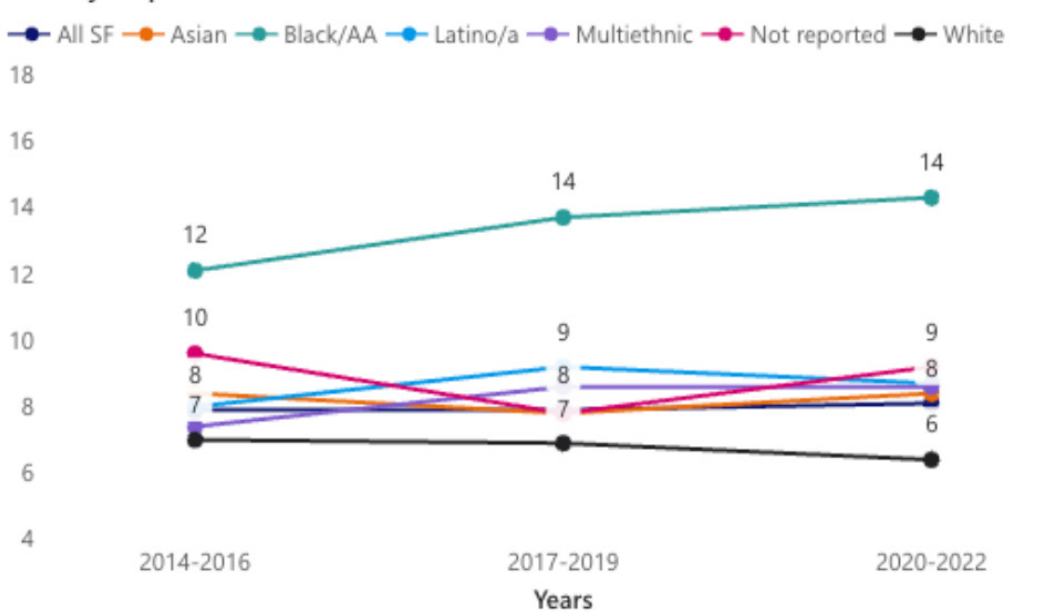
Over the past ten years, in San Francisco, risk of preterm birth varied significantly by race/ethnicity. Asian, Black or African American, and Latino/a pregnant people experienced significantly more preterm births than White pregnant people. Risk of preterm birth was about 30 percent higher for Asian and Latino/a pregnant people than for White pregnant people. (See Figure 29, below.)

⁸“ Why has coronavirus taken such a toll on SF’s Asian American community? Experts perplexed over high death rate,” by Joaquin Palomino, May 21, 2020 <https://www.sfchronicle.com/health/article/Why-has-coronavirus-taken-such-a-toll-on-SF-s-15282096.php>

ARCH website <https://asianarch.org/>

Percentage of births born preterm (before 37 weeks of pregnancy) by race-ethnicity and 3-year period

- Select group:
- All SF
 - Asian
 - Black/AA
 - Latino/a
 - Multiethnic
 - Not reported
 - White



Percentage of births born preterm by race-ethnicity and 3-year period (95% Confidence Interval)

San Francisco residents	2014-2016	2017-2019	2020-2022
All SF	7.9 (7.6-8.2)	7.9 (7.6-8.3)	8.1 (7.7-8.4)
Asian	8.4 (7.8-8.9)	7.8 (7.2-8.4)	8.4 (7.7-9.1)
Black/AA	12.1 (10.2-14.1)	13.7 (11.6-15.8)	14.3 (12.0-16.6)
Latino/a	8.0 (7.2-8.7)	9.2 (8.3-10.0)	8.7 (7.8-9.5)
Multiethnic	7.4 (5.8-9.0)	8.6 (6.9-10.3)	8.6 (6.9-10.4)
Not reported	9.6 (7.1-12.2)	7.8 (6.2-9.4)	9.2 (7.9-10.4)
White	7.0 (6.5-7.5)	6.9 (6.4-7.4)	6.4 (5.9-6.9)

City and County of San Francisco
Birth data updated annually

Figure 29. Preterm Births San Francisco

Mental Health: The existing body of literature on mental health issues among API communities is marred by the lack of high-quality, up-to-date data and insufficient degrees of disaggregation especially at city and county levels. Such a knowledge gap hinders our ability to develop culturally and linguistically tailored intervention, and in turn, API communities has been subject to mental health disparities and mental health services disparities.¹⁰

Nationally, representative epidemiological data for mental health issues among APIs are sparse, and when data on APIs are collected, it is often not broken down for subgroups. Moreover, the available disaggregated data are mainly focused on the largest subgroups (e.g., Chinese and Filipinos), making it difficult to capture meaningful information about subgroups with smaller population sizes. Existing national studies suggest that APIs experience a similar or a lower rate of mental health issues compared to their non-Hispanic White counterparts.¹¹

According to one large epidemiological study, about 17.30% of Asian Americans met DSM diagnostic criteria for at least one psychiatric disorder in their lifetime, and about one in ten could be diagnosed with at least one psychiatric disorder over the past twelve months.¹²

In 2018, about 2.1% of Pacific Islanders—compared to 3.7% of non-Hispanic Whites—reported serious psychological distress in the past 30 days. About 6.9% of Pacific Islander adults—compared to 7.8% of non-Hispanic White adults—had a major depressive episode.¹³

Table 1. Rates (95% Confidence Intervals) of mental health hospitalization per 100,000 population of people of female sex ages 20-44 years in SF.

	All	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latinx	White	Asian or Pacific Islander
Depressive disorders					
2017	514 (481-546)	1641 (1352-1929)	897 (786-1007)	511 (461-561)	181 (149-213)
2018	530 (497-563)	1988 (1674-2302)	862 (754-970)	510 (460-560)	191 (158-224)
2019	523 (490-556)	1877 (1574-2179)	760 (658-863)	502 (452-552)	207 (172-241)
2017-2019	522 (503-541)	1837 (1663-2012)	840 (778-902)	508 (479-536)	193 (174-212)
Suicidal ideation/attempt or intentional self-harm					
2017	105 (90-119)	423 (277-570)	145 (101-190)	96 (74-117)	51 (34-69)
2018	120 (104-135)	594 (422-766)	121 (80-161)	98 (76-120)	70 (50-90)
2019	132 (116-148)	710 (524-896)	143 (99-187)	115 (91-139)	53 (36-70)
2017-2019	119 (110-128)	578 (480-676)	136 (111-161)	103 (90-116)	58 (48-69)
Alcohol-related disorders					
2017	145 (128-162)	582 (410-754)	188 (137-238)	190 (160-220)	*
2018	142 (125-159)	581 (411-751)	124 (83-165)	179 (150-209)	*
2019	147 (129-164)	735 (546-925)	157 (111-204)	174 (145-203)	*
2017-2019	145 (135-155)	634 (531-736)	156 (130-183)	181 (164-198)	22 (15-28)

Data were analyzed by SFDPH MCAH Epidemiology. Rates were calculated using numerators estimated from Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, hospital discharge data⁷ and U.S. Census Bureau population estimates as denominators (Table CC-EST2019-ALLDATA).¹¹ Mental Health Definitions: Clinical Classification Software Refined (MBD002, MBD012, MBD017).¹⁰ Depressive and alcohol-related disorders capture primary and secondary diagnoses. Suicide ideation/attempt or intentional self-harm captures primary and secondary diagnoses as well as external causes of morbidity. Asian or Pacific Islander, Black or African American and White are non-Hispanic or non-Latino/a; Hispanic or Latino/a are of any race. *Cell size is too small (n ≤ 15) to report an estimate.

Figure 30. Mental Health of Women Ages 20-24 in San Francisco

¹⁰ Park M. A Brief Review of Mental Health Issues among Asian and Pacific Islander Communities in the U.S. *Asian Pac Isl Nurs J.* 2021;5(4):248-250. doi: 10.31372/20200504.1124. PMID: 33791412; PMCID: PMC7993882.

¹¹ Office of Minority Health. (2020). Minority population profiles. Retrieved from <https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=2&lvlID=26> (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7993882/#R10>)

¹² Spencer, M. S., Chen, J., Gee, G. C., Fabian, C. G., & Takeuchi, D. T. (2010). Discrimination and mental health-related service use in a national study of Asian Americans. *American Journal of Public Health, 100*(12), 2410–2417. 10.2105/AJPH.2009.176321 (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7993882/#R13>)

Table 2. Percentage (95% Confidence Intervals) of middle and high school students self-reporting mental health outcomes in 2017-2019¹²

	High School				Middle School		
	Total n	Sad or Hopeless Feelings	Considered Suicide (Past Year)	Attempted Suicide (Past Year)	Total n	Considered Suicide (Ever)	Attempted Suicide (Ever)
All ¹	8,046	31 (28-34)	17 (14-19)	8 (6-11)	5,472	22 (19-25)	7 (6-8)
All ²	7,904	26 (24-28)	13 (11-14)	8 (7-9)	5,556	19 (17-22)	6 (5-8)
All	15,950	29 (27-31)	15 (13-16)	8 (7-10)	11,028	21 (19-23)	7 (6-8)
Female	7,563	34 (32-37)	17 (15-18)	7 (5-8)	5,280	25 (22-29)	9 (7-11)
Male	8,251	23 (21-26)	13 (11-15)	9 (7-11)	5,694	16 (14-19)	5 (3-6)
Gay or Lesbian	303	53 (42-64)	33 (19-46)	*	110	50 (31-68)	*
Bisexual	1,068	58 (51-64)	43 (36-50)	18 (12-25)	448	62 (54-71)	20 (12-27)
Heterosexual	12,989	24 (23-26)	11 (10-13)	6 (5-8)	8,132	20 (18-21)	6 (5-7)
Transgender ³	144	59 (40-78)	50 (30-69)	*	--	*	*
Hispanic/Latinx	2,402	35 (30-40)	12 (9-15)	11 (7-16)	1,588	22 (18-26)	8 (6-11)
Black	1,078	31 (25-37)	13 (8-18)	12 (6-19)	754	29 (14-32)	*
White	1,571	33 (27-49)	18 (15-22)	7 (4-10)	1,385	17 (12-21)	6 (3-11)
Chinese	4,987	18 (16-21)	11 (9-13)	3 (2-5)	2,995	18 (15-21)	5 (3-6)
Filipino	882	38 (31-45)	16 (11-21)	7 (3-11)	446	34 (25-43)	9 (5-13)
Other Asian	1,144	23 (17-29)	17 (12-22)	*	788	20 (14-26)	*
Multiple, Hispanic/Latinx	1,670	36 (30-40)	18 (13-24)	17 (12-23)	1,264	22 (18-27)	10 (7-13)
Multiple, Non-Hispanic/Latinx	1,431	36 (30-42)	22 (16-28)	8 (5-12)	1,151	24 (19-30)	7 (3-10)

All data in the table are weighted estimates calculated by SFDPH-MCAH Epidemiology using the CDC Youth Risk Behavior Survey¹² 2017-2019, unless otherwise indicated (unweighted n: HS=4,713; MS=3,932). ¹ Data in this row are from 2019 only (unweighted n: HS=2,169; MS=2,305). ² Data in this row are from 2017 only (unweighted n: HS=2,544; MS=1,627). ³ Data in this row are from 2015-2019 (unweighted n=68).

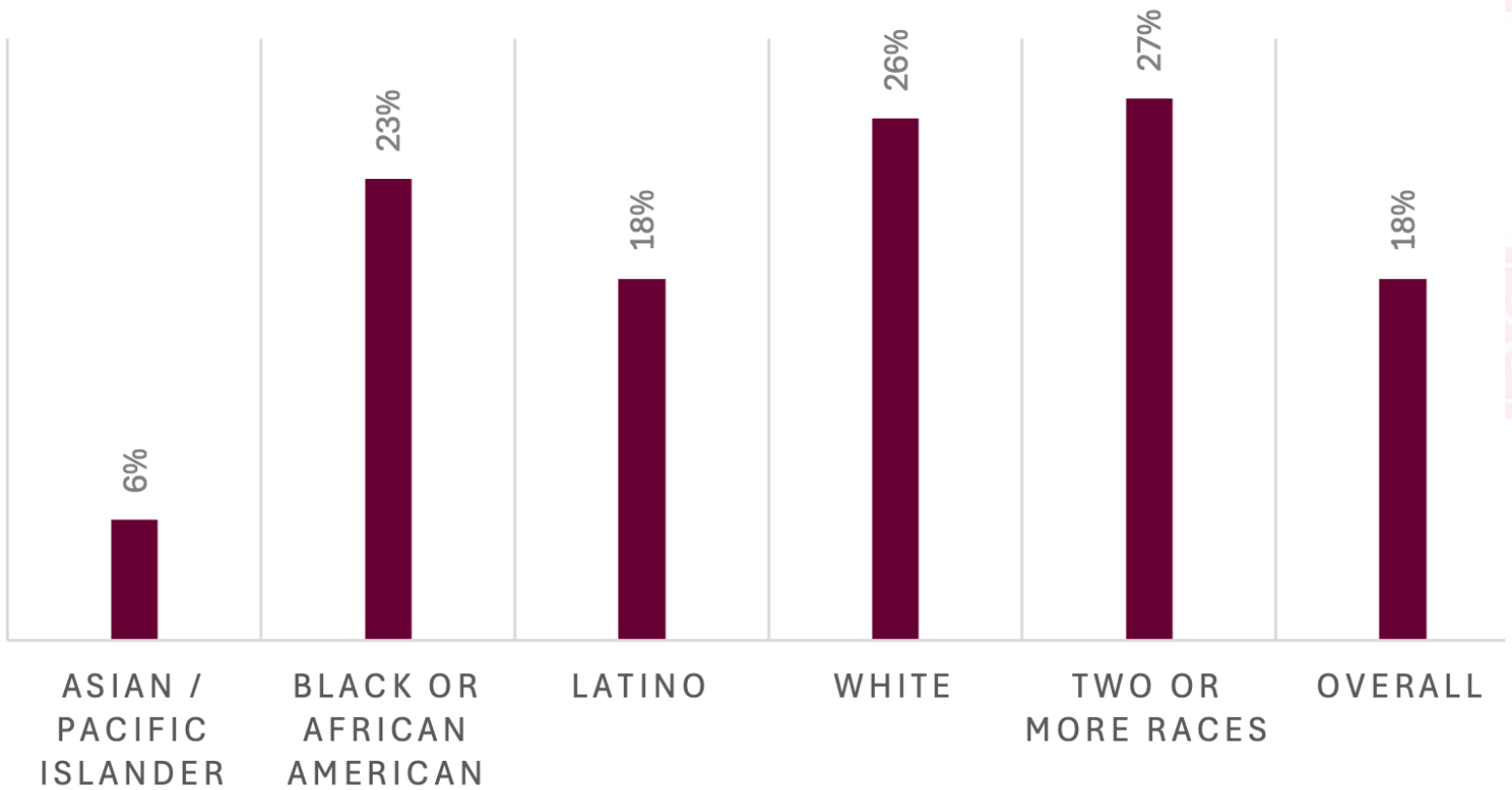
* Statistically unstable estimate (n<20). Cell sizes were too small to report estimates for American Indian/Alaska Native and Pacific Islander.

Figure 31. Mental Health of Adolescents in San Francisco

¹³ Office of Minority Health. (2020). Minority population profiles. Retrieved from <https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=2&lvlID=26> (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7993882/#R10>)

There are racial disparities in accessing support and care for mental/emotional or alcohol/drug issues, with API San Franciscans the least likely to have visited a mental health professional. (See Figure 32, below.)

Adults Who Got Help for Mental/Emotional or Alcohol/Drug Issues (%)

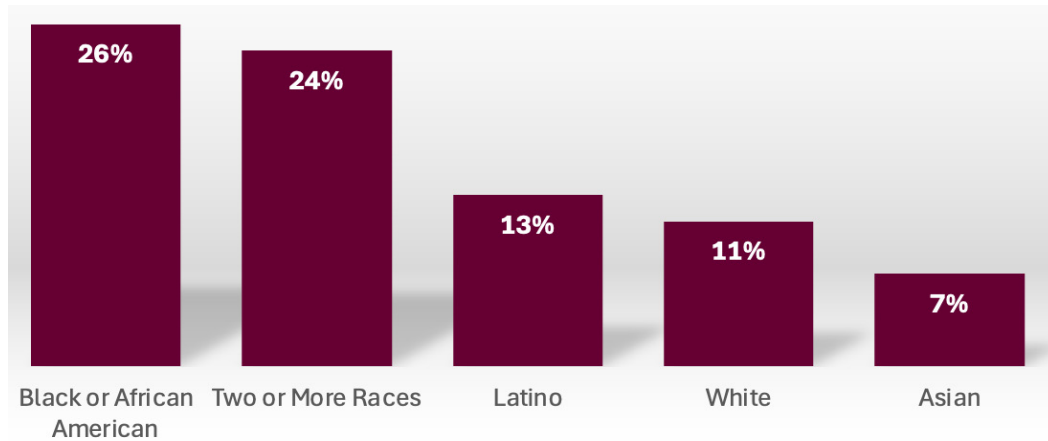


Source: Advancement Project California; Race Counts, 2022. California Health Interview Survey (2011-2019) data

Figure 32. Adults Who Got Help for Mental/Emotional or Alcohol/Drug Issues

In San Francisco, surveyed Black communities report the highest percentage of serious psychological distress; surveyed Asian communities reported the lowest.

Percent who reported serious psychological distress during past year



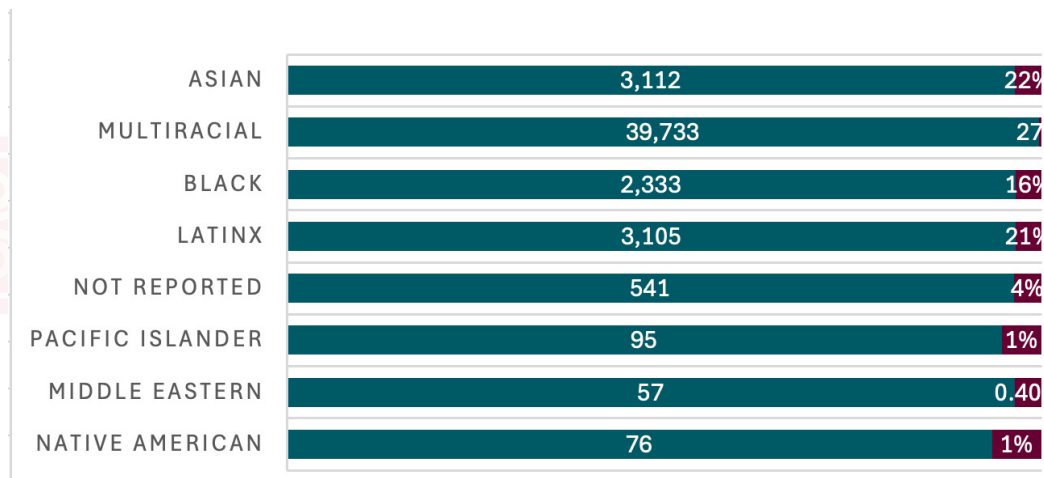
Source: California Health Interview Survey, 2015-2020

Figure 33. Percent Who Reported Serious Psychological Distress During Past Year

9. Domestic and Family Violence

For the first time in 2019, data about the demographics of victims/survivors of elder and dependent abuse, including race/ethnicity, is available from Adult Protective Services. Below, Figure 14 provides the breakdown of the race/ethnicity of victims/survivors in substantiated cases in FY 2018 and FY 2019.

San Francisco’s Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Prevention and Intervention Grants Program reported serving 3,112 Asian clients and 95 Pacific Islanders in FY 2019-2020. Together, this made up almost 23% of all GBV clients served, higher than both Black and Latinx groups.¹⁴ (See Figure 34, below.)



10. Community Safety and Hate Crimes

According to the Stop AAPI Hate Center, nearly 1,900 hate crimes against Asian Americans were reported by victims, and around 69% of cases were related to verbal harassment, including being called the “Chinese Coronavirus.” While 12.6% of the overall incidents reported to the group were physical assaults, 64.2% involved verbal harassment. Women reported 64.8% of the total incidents, according to an ABC News report. Another 7.3% of the incidents involved online harassment, while 10.3% involved workplace discrimination, refusal of service and being barred from public transportation.

Yet, most of the evidence marveled on spikes in anti-Asian American hate crime during the COVID-19 pandemic has been descriptive. “Unfortunately, there’s no uniform database for collecting anti-Asian attacks, most of the data that we have is based on self-reporting from a website called Stop AAPI Hate, as well as our website at StandAgainstHatred.org,” John C. Yang, the president and executive director of civil rights group Asian Americans Advancing Justice-AAJC, told ABC News. “But these are only voluntary, and only as good as the outreach that can be done by us as nonprofit organizations.”

Using data from four U.S. cities that have large Asian American populations (New York, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington D.C.), one study found that hate crime against Asian Americans increased considerably in 2020 compared with that of 2019. Specifically, hate crime against Asian Americans temporarily surged after March 16, 2020, when the blaming labels including “Kung flu” or “Chinese Virus” were used publicly. However, the significant spike was not sustained over the follow-up time period available for analysis.¹⁵

Against the backdrop of continued rhetoric and violence stemming from COVID-19 and rising U.S. China tensions, APIs are still confronted with pervasive discrimination and racism in the US. The 2023 STAATUS Index builds upon two consecutive years of research to better understand how perceptions towards APIs are evolving over time. Nationally, key results include:

- ❖ The majority of Asian Americans report feeling unsafe in the U.S. because of their race/ethnicity, especially on public transportation, but also in their neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces.
- ❖ Of all the racial groups surveyed, Asian Americans—especially young, Asian American women—are the least likely to feel they completely belong and are accepted in the U.S. The top reason cited was racial discrimination, followed by the lack of representation of Asian American leaders in the workplace.

The national level trends are mirrored—and sometimes amplified—in the experiences and statistics concerning biases and anti-Asian hate in San Francisco.

¹⁵ Han, Sungil; Riddell, Jordan R.; Piquero, Alex R., “Anti-Asian American Hate Crimes Spike During the Early Stages of the COVID-19 Pandemic,” *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, February 2023 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9168424/>

¹⁶ STAATUS Index 2023: Attitudes toward Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, The Asian American Foundation <https://www.taaf.org/projects/staatus-index-2023>

Hate Crime Victim Demographics Change from 2020 to 2021

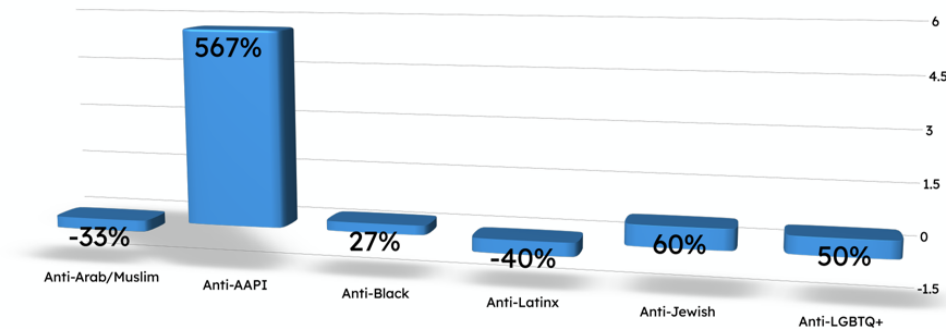


Figure 37. San Francisco Hate Crime Victim Demographics Change from 2020-2021

San Francisco officials received 60 reports of hate crimes against AAPI people in the city during 2021, a more than 500% increase compared to the nine incidents reported in 2020. Between March 2020 and March 31, 2022, Stop AAPI Hate recorded nearly 11,500 reports of hate incidents against Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) persons across the U.S. ¹⁷

11. Civic Engagement

The San Francisco API Voter Profile: In San Francisco, more than 90% of voters receive English-language materials. The next most common language is Chinese (including Mandarin and Cantonese), at 6%.

Case Highlight: Voter participation in the February 2022 school board recall was highest among those receiving Chinese-language materials, at 46%, compared with 35% of those with English materials. One reason for the uptick in Chinese turnout could be the ability for noncitizens to vote in school board elections. The Chinese/Asian Pacific Islander Voter Outreach Task Force registered hundreds of mostly monolingual Chinese voters, many of whom were first-time noncitizen voters ¹⁸. This relatively large Chinese-language turnout in February 2022 resulted in a shift of 2 to 3 percentage points in its voter composition. While those receiving Chinese-language materials made up 5% to 6% of all voters in the September 2021 and June 2022 elections, they comprised 8% of the school board recall electorate. Meanwhile, the share of voters requesting English materials was two percentage points lower in February than in the other two elections. (See Figures 38 and 39, below.)

¹⁷ "Anti-Asian racism still haunts San Francisco community," by Kiara Alfonseca, Alysha Webb, and Julian Kim, ABC News, March 3, 2023. <https://abcnews.go.com/US/anti-asian-racism-haunts-san-francisco-community/story?id=97526311>

¹⁸ "S.F.'s Asian American voters were crucial in the school board recall. Here's why," by Roland Li and Gwendolyn Wu, San Francisco Chronicle, February 21, 2022 <https://www.sfchronicle.com/sf/article/S-F-s-Asian-American-voters-were-crucial-in-16928806.php>

Turnout by election material language

Of voters requesting election materials in each language, the percentage who voted in each of the last three citywide elections

Language	Sep. 2021	Feb. 2022 ▼	June 2022
Chinese	59%	47%	46%
Tagalog	68%	41%	47%
Japanese	67%	40%	50%
English	68%	36%	47%
Thai	56%	31%	39%
Spanish	62%	26%	34%
Vietnamese	51%	24%	31%
Korean	49%	22%	31%
Overall turnout	68%	36%	46%

Source: San Francisco Department of Elections

Table only shows languages with at least 100 voters requesting materials in that language.

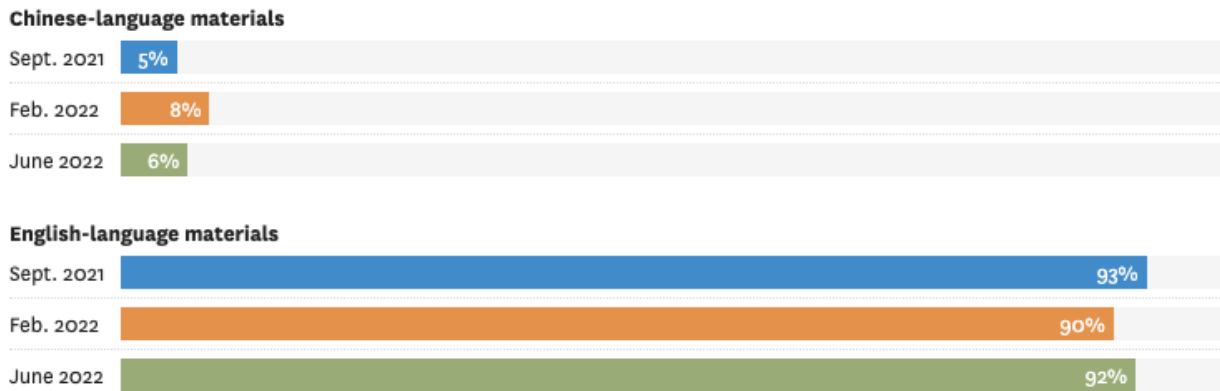
Figure 38. Voter Turnout by Election Material Language

While a difference of two points is not enough to change election results, other data points to the crucial role Chinese speakers and other Asian Americans played in the run-up to the election—about one-third of the 80,000 signatures collected to trigger the recall came from Asian Americans.¹⁹

¹⁹ “Who is supporting the S.F. Board of Education recall? Here’s what the data shows,” by Nami Sumida, Data Visualization Developer, San Francisco Chronicle, Feb 15, 2022 <https://www.sfchronicle.com/sf/article/Who-is-supporting-the-S-F-Board-of-Education-16779875.php>

Composition of voters by language

Share of each electorate that requested Chinese- and English-language election materials



Source: San Francisco Department of Elections

Figure 39. Composition of Voters by Language

Elected Representatives: Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) elected representation has declined sharply in the past decade. In 2024, “the battle for control of one of San Francisco’s most reliable “Chinese seats,” in particular, reflects seismic demographic and attitude shifts in a city that’s long served as a beacon of Asian American political power. After a dozen years representing the 19th Assembly District, which includes the city’s west side and is more than 40% Asian American, Democrat Phil Ting will be termed out in November. Since 2002, the district has elected three consecutive Chinese American representatives.”

“In the mid-2010s, lawmakers of Asian descent secured a majority of San Francisco’s top offices, including the mayoral post and two Assembly seats, as well as five of eleven positions on the board of supervisors. Yet today, as Asian Americans have become a formidable voting bloc across the country, only two API leaders retain their seats in government.”

San Francisco is a bastion of liberal politics, and the Democrats who rule City Hall fall along a progressive-moderate divide. Most elected Asian Americans have been progressives, who have had the upper hand for decades. But attitudes have shifted since the pandemic.

Exit polls and studies have shown that contentious issues like education and public safety have driven Asian American voters to the center. In 2022, Chinese American voters fed up with distance learning and the surge in anti-Asian hate incidents drove the successful recall campaigns of three school board members and [a progressive District Attorney].”²²

²⁰ “Chinese American political power shrinks at San Francisco’s top offices,” by Han Li, The San Francisco Standard, August 18, 2023 <https://sfstandard.com/2023/08/18/chinese-american-political-representation-san-francisco/>

²¹ “San Francisco, once a stronghold of Asian American politics, struggles to find its next AAPI leaders,” by Claire Wang, NBC News, February 12, 2024 <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/asian-america/asian-americans-san-francisco-inclined-politics-california-rcna136426>

²² *ibid*

12. Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders in San Francisco

There is a significant data gap when it comes to Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) communities, particularly in San Francisco. This lack of comprehensive data impacts our understanding and ability to address the unique challenges faced by the NHPI populations. Several factors contribute to this data scarcity:

- ❖ **Aggregated Data Categories:** Often, NHPI data is aggregated under broad racial categories such as "Asian and Pacific Islander." This grouping obscures the distinct experiences and needs of NHPI communities, leading to a lack of targeted insights and policy responses.
- ❖ **Limited Research Focus:** Compared to larger ethnic groups, there is less academic and governmental focus on NHPI, resulting in fewer studies and surveys that capture their specific socioeconomic, health, and educational conditions.
- ❖ **Cultural and Geographic Barriers:** The smaller size and unique geographic dispersion of the NHPI population pose challenges in data collection, especially in ensuring that smaller subgroups are well-represented in research and surveys.
- ❖ **Need for Disaggregated Data:** There is an urgent need for more disaggregated and longitudinal data to track changes and interventions' impacts over time on NHPI communities. This detailed data could help in effectively addressing health disparities, socio-economic challenges, and cultural preservation needs.

Addressing these data challenges is crucial for developing informed policies and interventions that cater specifically to NHPI communities' needs, ensuring fair representation and support in local and national initiatives. In this report we are excited to include the Kāpasa Fet'u Community Needs Assessment Report. The infographics below provide a succinct overview and more details can be access at <https://kapasa.carrd.co/>

Adapted from the Kāpasa Fet'u Community Needs Assessment Report (<https://kapasa.carrd.co/>)

KĀPASA PĒTU'U

COMMUNITY-LED NEEDS ASSESSMENT

PURPOSE & KEY RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The purpose of this assessment was to determine the needs, gaps, trends, and strengths of Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander (NHPI) youth and young adults in San Francisco.

- What are the experiences of NHPI youth and young adults at school, at home, and in their communities?
- What are the barriers or challenges to their overall wellness and mental health?
- What are the strengths and gaps of current services and resources for NHPI youth and young adults?

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW



ASSESSMENT
PLANNING
OCT 21-JAN 22



RESEARCH
TRAINING
JAN 22 - AUG 22



DATA
COLLECTION
MAY 22 - JUL 22



DATA
ANALYSIS
JUL 22 - AUG 22



IMPLEMENTATION
SEPT 22 -
ONGOING

PACIFIC INDIGENOUS RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES WERE USED TO CONDUCT
GROUP TALANOA, 1-ON-1 INTERVIEWS & SURVEYS WITH

217

Youth & Young Adults
Ages 12 - 24, Living Across SF



Average Age: 16, NHPI Alone 60%
Mixed NHPI 40%, Female 47%, Male 46%,
Fluid/Trans/Unsure 2%, LGBTQ 7%

105

Parents & Caretakers



Ages ranged 20-63
Mothers, fathers, grandparents, caretakers
Parents of infants to young adult

43

Community Leaders
& Service Providers



From fields including housing, education,
media, businesses, technology,
churches, health & more

FINDINGS

Youth Identity & Wellness

- 1) Youth are proud & face challenges related to their NHPI identity. They learn about NHPI culture in different spaces, face racial discrimination, and deal with pressures based on gender, being mixed, or LGBTQ.
- 2) A lack of academic support, relevance and representation in school leads NHPI youth and young adults to feel isolated and less engaged. Inadequate support for families of students with learning differences and remote learning during the Covid-19 pandemic were key challenges.
- 3) Many factors impact the mental wellness of NHPI youth & young adults including family dynamics and experiences with violence and loss. Limited awareness and access to services leads to a reliance on relationships, music and substance use.
- 4) Violence in and against Pacific Islander communities greatly impacts NHPI youth and young adults. They struggle in dealing with the loss of loved ones and lack support & tools for grief.

Family Experiences

- 5) Affordability and access to resources, feeling safe in their communities, balancing work and home, and having social support through church and local programs affect parents and family dynamics. Parents need resources in these areas.
- 6) Economic inequality greatly impacts NHPI families. The cost of living affects access to basic needs such as housing, food, healthcare, transportation, & has forced some families to move outside of San Francisco and commute for work, school, and access to NHPI programs.

Community Programs

- 7) Strengths of current programs include skilled staff with strong relationships with youth, interwoven cultural elements, and opportunities to build community with other young people.
- 8) Gaps in programs include capacity limitations and areas of focus which inequitably impact LGBTQ youth and youth with learning differences. Youth and young adults also want to learn more about Pacific language, history, traditions and protocols.
- 9) Programs need sustainable funding, relatable and skilled staff, buildings in good physical condition, and ability to serve different parts of San Francisco/Bay Area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

- 1) Local school districts should support the expansion of Pacific curriculum and cultural programs.
- 2) Increase the capacity of local teachers and school district staff to support NHPI students.
- 3) Hire Academic Navigators to help parents and family members with topics such as IEPs, college access, etc
- 4) Improve pre-existing and new strategic partnerships between K-12, higher education, trade/vocational programs, and CBOs.

MENTAL HEALTH & VIOLENCE

- 5) Support outreach to NHPI communities about mental health services & ensure mental health services are accessible and relevant to NHPI community.
- 6) Prioritize violence prevention, intervention, and support with grief.
- 7) Support the development of a peer-to-peer leadership program to offer support to families experiencing grief.
- 8) Address systemic and pervasive issues of economic and housing injustice.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

- 9) Efforts should be made to further understand the needs of diverse communities within the NHPI category, especially Chamorro, Native Hawaiians, Tongans, Fijians, Micronesians and mixed-race NHPIs.
- 10) Enhance the engagement of churches with schools & CBOs to offer coordinated services to youth and their families.
- 11) Increase career exploration and employment opportunities by strengthening CBO and workforce partnerships.
- 12) Develop a community dashboard and directory of local and national NHPI resources and services for families.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

- 13) Dedicate attention to programs that focus on healing from loss, mentorship, cultural history and other topics
- 14) Provide programs for parents that focus on addressing topics such as generational differences, shame, trauma, violence and mental health.
- 15) Build programs focused on Samoan language development for, youth, and young adults, parents and staff.
- 16) Ensure staff are relatable and have shared experiences with youth. Community members who have experiences with incarceration, gun violence, learning differences, grief and loss should be prioritized in future hiring & current program staff should be supported to increase their capacity.

FUNDING & INVESTMENTS

- 17) Increase funding for San Francisco-based agencies serving NHPI youth and young adults.
- 18) Invest in improving the current building that houses the Samoan Community Development Center and ensure all other NHPI organizations are allocated adequate office and program space.
- 19) Replicate NHPI Programming currently offered in specific neighborhoods in San Francisco across the city.
- 20) Support additional opportunities for community led research, that can examine pre-existing data and collect additional data on specific topics and vast identities included in Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities.



For more information visit: kapasa.carrd.co
or email kapasafetuuresearch@gmail.com



Key Insights:

Based on the data review, and in-depth interviews with key leaders and stakeholders representing APIs in San Francisco, the following themes are presented for review and discussion to guide evidence-based actions related to policy, program design, and resource allocation.

1. Data and Research: There is a significant need for more comprehensive data and research about the API community. Interviewees discussed the lack of sufficient data, which hampers effective policy making and advocacy efforts. Our discussions and analysis of community concerns highlighted critical gaps in available data that hamper the ability to make informed decisions and advocate effectively for necessary changes within and on behalf of the API community.

For data to be effective and usable, it must be:

- ❖ **Disaggregated:** There is a significant need for data that goes beyond broad categories and delves into the specific needs and challenges faced by various subgroups within the API community. This kind of comprehensive, detailed data is essential for understanding nuanced issues such as socioeconomic disparities, health inequalities, and educational needs.
- ❖ **Longitudinal:** The community would benefit from research that tracks changes over time, providing insights into trends and long-term impacts of policies and community changes on API populations. This can inform more strategic planning and intervention.
- ❖ **Geographically Specific:** Information about particular API sub-populations in distinct neighborhoods or living conditions is lacking. There's a need for localized research efforts that address unique geographic circumstances, which can often be overshadowed by more generalized City/County-wide research.

Disaggregation Plus

AAPIData, in partnership with the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA), launched the 2022 Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Roadmap for Data Equity in Federal Agencies. This report is largely centered on the concept of “Disaggregation Plus,” meaning that improved federal standards for data collection by detailed origins remain a high priority, but that the focus has expanded to include other important aspects of data equity such as timeliness, accessibility, human-centered design, community inclusion, and federal agency recognition of subject-matter expertise and population expertise—among community organizations and researchers alike. It calls for:

- ❖ **Access to Existing Data Sources:** Increased access to existing data repositories among community organizations and researchers can amplify their ability to conduct necessary research and advocacy;
- ❖ **Funding for Research Initiatives:** Securing funding for targeted research initiatives within the API community is essential, particularly prioritizing budget allocations to ensure that data collection and analysis are sustained; and
- ❖ **Utilization of Data in Policymaking:** Ensuring that the collected data is effectively used to influence and shape policies is crucial. Data should be presented to policymakers in a manner that underscores the critical needs and potential interventions that could benefit the API community.

The full text of the report can be found at aapidata.com/reports.

2. Economic Security and Employment: The API community faces challenges and systemic barriers in securing stable, equitable economic opportunities and employment. Interviewees frequently mentioned challenges such as job security, income inequality, and poverty among the API populations they work with. The transcripts reveal several layers of complexity, highlighting the intricate interplay between socioeconomic factors, systemic barriers, and the API community's resilience.

Employment challenges include:

- ❖ **Sector-Specific Concentrations and Underemployment:** The API community often finds employment in specific sectors such as technology, hospitality, and health care. However, there is a notable concentration in low-wage jobs, particularly among some ethnic subgroups, recent immigrants, and older community members who may not have high proficiency in English.
- ❖ **Educational Attainment and Job Placement:** High levels of educational attainment in some segments of the API population do not always correlate with better job opportunities, leading to underemployment or employment in sectors that do not match their qualifications. Despite high educational achievements, there's significant underemployment among highly educated API individuals, indicating a mismatch between educational qualifications and job opportunities.
- ❖ **Barriers to Advancement:** API individuals face barriers to career advancement, which stem from various factors, including racial discrimination, limited access to professional networks, and cultural biases in the workplace.
- ❖ **Language and Cultural Barriers:** These barriers affect not only employment opportunities but also hinder entrepreneurial endeavors. APIs who seek to start their own businesses often grapple with challenges such as access to capital, navigating regulatory environments, and competing in markets that may not fully understand or value culturally specific products or services.
- ❖ **Immigration and Legal Status:** Non-citizens or recent immigrants often face legal barriers that restrict their employment opportunities. Such barriers prevent them from securing well-paying jobs, further exacerbating economic disparities within the community.

Economic vulnerabilities include:

- ❖ **Poverty and Economic Strain:** Despite the stereotype of the 'model minority,' a significant portion of the API community experiences economic strain, with families living at or below the poverty line. This economic vulnerability impacts other aspects of life, including access to education, health care, and stable housing.
- ❖ **Impact on Health:** Economic struggles have a direct impact on the health outcomes of individuals within the API community. Lower income correlates with higher health risks, and the stress associated with economic instability can exacerbate mental health issues.

Advocacy and community support highlights include:

- ❖ **Role of Community Organizations:** Community organizations play a pivotal role in supporting API individuals through job training, advocacy for workers' rights, and programs designed to improve financial literacy. These organizations are crucial in bridging the gap between API individuals and the broader economic opportunities available.
- ❖ **Policy Advocacy:** There's a need for continued advocacy to push for policies that reduce economic disparity and enhance job opportunities. This involves not only addressing direct employment issues but also tackling broader systemic factors that influence economic security, such as housing affordability, healthcare access, and educational opportunities.

The API community in San Francisco exhibits a wide range of socioeconomic statuses. Some individuals are successful professionals contributing to the city's economic development, others face challenges related to income inequality, housing affordability, and educational access. Interview conversations paint a picture of a community grappling with multiple challenges on its path to achieving economic stability and equitable employment opportunities.

3. Food Security: Despite San Francisco's reputation for affluence, food insecurity remains a pressing issue among certain segments of the Asian population.

Economic factors influencing food insecurity include:

- ❖ Despite the overall prosperity of San Francisco, income inequality persists, particularly among minority communities, including Asians.
- ❖ APIs are more likely to be employed in front-line service jobs with insufficient wages.
- ❖ Higher living costs in San Francisco prevent many APIs from affording nutritious and culturally relevant food, exacerbating their situation of food insecurity.
- ❖ Rising housing costs, coupled with stagnant wages, may force individuals and families to allocate a larger portion of their income to housing, leaving less money available for food purchases.
- ❖ San Francisco's API population, making up 34% of the city's total inhabitants, includes a disproportionately high number of low-income residents—42% of the city's low-income demographic belong to APIs (API Council, 2018).

“We (APIs) constitute over 42% of those living in poverty. I think that is the biggest eyes wide open that doesn't get enough attention, whether it's from City Hall or from the foundation world.” — Cally Wong, Executive Director API Council

Barriers to access to affordable and healthy food include:

- ❖ Food deserts (i.e., limited access to affordable quality food) are a significant challenge faced by many Asian communities in San Francisco, particularly in neighborhoods with high concentrations of low-income residents. Although areas such as SOMA, Richmond, and Sunset are resource-rich (with approximately 23%, 21%, and 19% of food assets, respectively), areas like Japantown and Visitacion Valley have much fewer resources (with 4% and 1%, respectively).
- ❖ Limited access to affordable and culturally appropriate grocery stores is also a challenge. There's a lack of such options, especially in neighborhoods away from cultural hubs like Chinatown and Japantown.
- ❖ Language barriers may further hinder access to information about available food assistance programs and resources, preventing individuals from accessing vital support services.
- ❖ Only a small fraction of food outlets (19%) in API dense neighborhoods accept SNAP or WIC, essentials for low-income families seeking assistance.
- ❖ Cultural factors such as dietary preferences and traditions may also influence food purchasing decisions, with some Asian households prioritizing culturally specific ingredients that may be more expensive or less readily available.
- ❖ Significant portions of the API community, especially elders and immigrants, face challenges accessing services due to language barriers and lack of technological access or knowledge.
- ❖ APIs are often left out of large-scale data collection efforts, consequently skewing policy priorities and resource allocation away from their actual needs.

Social and cultural factors include:

- ❖ Asian cultural values, such as self-reliance and reluctance to seek assistance, may contribute to underreporting of food insecurity within the community.
- ❖ Stigma associated with accessing food assistance programs or utilizing food banks may deter individuals from seeking help, exacerbating their food insecurity.
- ❖ Social isolation, particularly among elderly Asian immigrants, can compound food insecurity by limiting access to social networks and support systems.
- ❖ These barriers become starker when considering that despite such high levels of poverty, APIs utilize safety net services, including those related to food security, at markedly lower rates than other demographic groups. This underutilization contributes to persistent food security issues among the community.

“I think the one thing that got elevated during the pandemic was this increased awareness about food security being actually a really critical issue for the (API) community in San Francisco.”

— Lina Sheth, Community Expert

Assets within API communities that help mitigate these challenges include:

- ❖ **Diverse Food Establishments:** San Francisco hosts a range of food establishments, from international grocery stores to local markets, catering to the needs of various API subgroups.
- ❖ **Strong Network of CBOs:** Community-based organizations (CBOs) strongly advocate for and provide tailored food services, often bypassing cultural and language barriers more effectively than broader governmental programs. Trust in these organizations is strong; about 25% of API residents have been engaged with local CBOs for over three years, trusting and relying on them for food access.
- ❖ **Existing Collaborative Networks:** Coalitions and collaboratives focusing on food justice are on the rise in San Francisco, aiming for systemic change in food equity.
- ❖ **Cultural Connection:** API markets, restaurants, and stores are integral not only for food but also for maintaining cultural ties and supporting local economies.
- ❖ **Community-Led Transformation:** Efforts continue as community alliances push towards integrating cultural appropriateness into food justice initiatives, leveraging CBO networks and advocating for significant policy shifts to address the root causes of food insecurity among APIs.

4. Housing and Homelessness: The housing and homelessness situation among API communities in San Francisco presents a complex issue marked by several nuanced factors. For example, interviewees identified the issue of affordable housing and the hidden homelessness among APIs due to cultural family arrangements. The public discourse and policy narrative surrounding housing and homelessness often overlooks how APIs are impacted.

API families and individuals often face specific hurdles related to housing affordability and quality. Notably, while APIs might not appear prominently in visible street homelessness, many live in increasingly precarious housing situations, such as Single-Room Occupancies (SROs) or in overcrowded, multigenerational homes. A notable percentage of the API population, particularly immigrants and low-income families, resort to living in SROs due to housing affordability issues. These accommodations often lack basic facilities and privacy, highlighting the need for more humane living conditions. While technically considered "housed," these individuals often hover on the brink of homelessness, lacking security and adequate living standards.

Housing challenges include:

- ❖ **Economic Pressures and Migration:** The economic vulnerability of large segments of the API population contributes significantly to housing insecurity. Affordability remains a critical issue, with APIs, especially those in low-wage jobs, facing significant challenges in securing affordable housing. The high cost of living in San Francisco exacerbates this issue, making it difficult for many APIs to find stable and affordable accommodation. Such economic pressures not only exacerbate the risk of homelessness but also drive migration patterns, where APIs move out of San Francisco to nearby regions like San Mateo and Santa Clara seeking more affordable living conditions. This movement also relates to the availability and accessibility of community-supportive infrastructure in these regions.
- ❖ **Political and Social Recognition:** There is a noticeable gap in political and social acknowledgment when it comes to addressing API specific housing and homelessness issues. Despite the significant number of APIs living in poverty, the unique challenges faced by this community often do not receive proportional attention or resources. This lack of visibility in data and discourse potentially stems from cultural and familial structures that mask the severity of poverty and housing instability among APIs, compared to some other ethnic groups.
- ❖ **Systemic and Institutional Barriers:** Disparities in housing access are influenced by immigration status, racial prejudices, and economic disparities. Additionally, the responses to general citywide housing and homelessness issues often do not fully consider the specific needs or circumstances of API populations, leading to inadequate support and solutions.

Assets and opportunities include:

- ❖ **Community and Advocacy Responses:** API-focused organizations and community groups in San Francisco are pivotal in providing support and advocacy in response to these challenges. These entities are crucial in providing immediate assistance and services, striving to fill the gaps left by broader systemic shortcomings. They also work to enhance API visibility and push for tailored policy interventions.

The housing and homelessness situation among APIs in San Francisco reflects broader socioeconomic challenges intertwined with unique cultural and community-specific dynamics.

- ❖ **Health (Including Mental Health) Concerns:** Many interviewees pointed out health disparities and mental health issues within the API community. They highlighted the need for better access to healthcare services and mental health support, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and its continuing impact.

5. Health concerns among API communities in San Francisco may include:

- ❖ **Chronic Diseases:** Asian Americans, like other populations, may face challenges related to chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular diseases. The risk factors for these conditions can be influenced by lifestyle, genetics, and access to healthcare.
- ❖ **Infectious Diseases:** Some Asian American communities may face a higher risk of infectious diseases, including Hepatitis B, Tuberculosis (TB), and certain respiratory infections. Immunization rates and access to preventive care can impact the prevalence of these diseases.
- ❖ **Language and Cultural Barriers:** Limited English proficiency and cultural differences may create barriers to healthcare access. These barriers can result in delayed diagnosis, difficulties in understanding medical instructions, and challenges in navigating the healthcare system.

- ❖ **Access to Healthcare:** Socioeconomic factors and issues such as health insurance coverage and affordability, can impact the overall health of Asian Americans in San Francisco. Uninsured or underinsured individuals may delay seeking medical care, leading to more advanced stages of illnesses.
- ❖ **Nutritional Health:** Dietary habits can influence health outcomes. Some Asian American populations may face challenges related to nutrition, including issues of obesity or malnutrition. Traditional diets may be influenced by cultural practices that impact overall health.
- ❖ **Elderly Health Issues:** Aging populations may experience unique health challenges, including chronic diseases, mobility issues, and mental health concerns. Cultural attitudes towards elder care and healthcare decision-making may also play a role.
- ❖ **Economic Vulnerability and Health:** The intersection of economic vulnerability and health outcomes is stark. Interviewees noted that while Asians might not have the highest poverty rates statistically, the absolute number of Asians living in poverty is the highest in San Francisco. This is troubling as economic struggles directly correlate with negative health outcomes. Individuals in impoverished circumstances often face barriers to accessing quality healthcare and may prioritize immediate economic needs over health.

Mental health concerns include:

- ❖ **Mental Health Stigma and Service Access:** The stigma surrounding mental health within the API community has traditionally limited discussions and acceptance of mental health challenges. This, coupled with cultural norms that might discourage outward expressions of emotional distress, makes it difficult for many to seek help. However, the increase in mental health discourse during the COVID-19 pandemic did bring some shift in perceptions, making it somewhat more acceptable to discuss and seek help for mental health issues.
- ❖ **Systemic Support Gaps:** Despite the growing acknowledgment of mental health issues, there remains a systemic gap in adequate supportive services. Funding for mental health support fluctuated wildly, largely influenced by immediate crises such as the pandemic, without foresight for long-term needs. CBOs often see spikes in demand for services when public or governmental support wanes, suggesting that the existing infrastructure is not meeting community needs effectively.
- ❖ **Influence and Representation:** The data and reported issues often fail to translate into policy changes and resource allocation due to a lack of influence and representation. As discussed, there may be a gap in how data is leveraged in public forums or in policymaking spheres to drive attention and resources toward pressing issues such as poverty and mental health within the API community. This underscores a broader issue of visibility and voice, where even when data clearly illustrates significant challenges, the capacity to influence decisions and policy is limited.
- ❖ **Emerging Trends in Response and Needs:** Looking forward, the API community needs a robust increase in culturally competent mental health services that are readily accessible. This includes expanding language-appropriate services and community-based programs that understand and respect the unique cultural dynamics that influence help-seeking behavior. Additionally, as economic challenges continue to intersect deeply with health outcomes, comprehensive social programs that address these interconnected issues are vital for improving overall community well-being.

It's important to note that health issues can vary among different Asian ethnic groups, and generalizations may not capture the full spectrum of health concerns within the community. To address health disparities, culturally competent healthcare services, community outreach, and educational programs tailored to the needs of specific Asian American subgroups are crucial.

6. Community Safety and Hate Crimes: The rise in anti-Asian hate incidents and racism, particularly as exacerbated by the pandemic, remains a significant concern. Interviewees discussed the need for community solidarity, advocacy, and public education to combat racism.

"If people feel like they can't walk in their neighborhood or go out, an elderly person cannot go and walk around to get their exercise. If people feel like they can't take public transit without being harassed or fear being accosted going to and from work or to and from school, it is going to be very, very difficult to get to many of these other issues."

— Cynthia Choi, Co-Executive Director, Chinese for Affirmative Action

❖ **The Pandemic Effect:** Following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, intimations—and even accusations—that the novel coronavirus is an “Asian” or “Chinese” virus have been linked to anti-Asian American hate crime, potentially leaving members of this group not only fearful of being victimized but also at risk for victimization. Currently, Anti-Asian hate incidents are reportedly down across the country, but the trauma and reality of this hate remains. According to a San Francisco Chronicle report, In the post-pandemic era, many older residents still don't feel safe, even though [reported hate crimes targeting Asian people are down](#) from their 2021 peak.²³

❖ **Challenges in Reporting:** The Coalition for Community Safety and Justice was formed in 2019 from four nonprofits to address public safety concerns in the AAPI community. The Coalition's team of rapid-response advocates provided services to 73 AAPI residents in 2023. Most were victims of property crimes, like home break-ins without an obvious racial motive. Those who experienced harassment in public spaces would also not be considered victims of hate crimes. San Francisco police investigated 14 incidents that it believed merited anti-Asian hate crime charges in 2023. By comparison, there were six such incidents in 2022, 60 in 2021 and 10 in 2020. As of February 2024, of the 41 hate crime cases pending in the SF district attorney's office, 25 are race-based crimes and 13 are anti-Asian hate crimes, said Nancy Tung, chief of the Vulnerable Victims Unit.

7. Implications of an Aging API Population: The issue of an aging API community in San Francisco was highlighted across the interviews as a significant concern.

The need to ensure the well-being of API seniors resonates on multiple levels:

- ❖ **Housing and Living Conditions:** Many elders in the API community live in Single Resident Occupancies (SROs) or in other marginal housing situations that do not offer the quality of living that is conducive to well-being, especially for seniors. While seniors in these kinds of living situations are technically considered housed, they are essentially just a step away from homelessness.
- ❖ **Economic Stability:** Economic security is a persistent concern, as many seniors are on fixed incomes that do not adequately cover the high cost of living in San Francisco. The lack of economic mobility affects their access to necessary services and sustains a cycle of poverty among elderly APIs.
- ❖ **Healthcare Access and Utilization:** Access to culturally competent healthcare services remains a hurdle for many elderly APIs. There are barriers due to language, mobility, and sometimes the availability of appropriate services that understand and integrate cultural sensitivities crucial for effective healthcare.
- ❖ **Social Isolation:** Social isolation is exacerbated by housing conditions and sometimes the cultural and linguistic barriers that prevent elderly APIs from engaging fully with community resources. Interviewees pointed out that family structures often shift, with younger generations moving away for work or better living conditions, leaving the elderly without traditional support systems.
- ❖ **Cultural Displacement:** The changing dynamics of neighborhoods, including Chinatown, which has historically been a cultural hub for APIs, affect the elderly significantly. The loss of cultural landmarks and community centers contributes to a sense of displacement and loss of community belonging.

²³“SF leaders tout steep drop in anti-Asian hate crimes,” by Nora Mishanec, San Francisco Chronicle, January 13, 2023 <https://www.sfchronicle.com/sf/article/S-F-leaders-tout-steep-drop-in-anti-Asian-hate-17711920.php>

8. Education and Youth Engagement: API youth in San Francisco face multifaceted challenges, including academic pressure, mental health needs, and lack of representation in planning and policy.

Key patterns and systemic issues include:

- ❖ **Educational Challenges and Support Needs:** API youth face numerous educational challenges, which are amplified by both socioeconomic factors and multicultural backgrounds. During the pandemic, these challenges were intensified as many students struggled with remote learning, faced technological barriers, and dealt with significant mental health issues.
- ❖ **Educational Support Services:** CBOs, while essential, often find themselves in reactive roles, attempting to fill gaps left by the school systems, such as providing mental health services, technical assistance, and supplemental educational programs. This reactionary approach highlights the systemic inadequacy in addressing the holistic needs of API students.
- ❖ **Mental Health Concerns:** Mental health is an escalating issue within the API youth community. The synthesis of interviews reveals an increasing awareness of and need for mental health services—an issue that existed before but was exacerbated by the isolation and stresses of the COVID-19 crisis. Stigmatization of mental health issues within API communities often hinders the effective addressing of these concerns. CBOs and schools are called upon to not only provide crisis intervention but also proactively support mental wellness through educational programs and accessible services.
- ❖ **Technological Access and Literacy:** The digital divide was stark during the shift to remote learning, impacting many API students who lacked access to reliable internet or computing devices. CBOs often had to step in to provide necessary technological support, indicating a gap in school resources and preparedness. This aspect of technological literacy and access is crucial, as it relates both to educational outcomes and broader socioeconomic stability and upward mobility for API families.
- ❖ **Role of CBOs in Education and Youth Development:** CBOs are seen as vital in supporting API youth, compensating for deficiencies in the public education system. They provide a broad spectrum of services including after-school bilingual programs, college prep, career guidance, and cultural enrichment activities. These organizations are critical in fostering environments that promote academic and personal growth for API students, often navigating cultural nuances and barriers unseen in mainstream services.
- ❖ **Intersectional and Multicultural Considerations:** Educational strategies and youth programs for APIs in San Francisco need to address the multicultural and diverse nature of the community. Disaggregated data and tailored approaches are necessary to meet the varied needs of the expansive API demographic, which includes numerous ethnicities with different cultural backgrounds, languages, and educational expectations. The need for culturally competent teaching staff and school administrators is consistently highlighted.
- ❖ **Future Directions and Policy Development:** Strategic, policy-level adjustments are required to provide systemic solutions that go beyond interim fixes. There is a call among interviewees for comprehensive educational reforms, investment in community resources, and policies that address the root causes of disparities faced by API youth. This might involve greater funding for CBOs, policies that integrate technology access into educational equity frameworks, and expanding mental health services within school systems tailored to the unique needs of API students.

In conclusion, there are critical gaps in support systems and resources for API youth. The role of CBOs underscores a community resiliently navigating through systemic challenges, yet clearly there is a need for broader structural changes to meet the demands of a diverse and growing population.

9. Cultural Sensitivity and Representation: There's a pronounced need for greater cultural understanding and sensitivity of API communities and representation in politics, media, and community leadership. This issue encompasses the nuances of cultural identity within the various API subgroups in San Francisco and the ongoing struggle for equity and understanding in a multicultural society.

Solutions must address:

- ❖ **Representation in Data and Decision-Making:** API communities are often inadequately represented in data collection, which in turn affects policy making and resource allocation. Such inadequate representation includes lack of disaggregated data and can lead to a one-size-fits-all approach in services and programs that do not accurately address the specific needs of diverse ethnic subgroups under the API umbrella. Initiatives to disaggregate data to reflect the nuances within the community are crucial for more effective policy and programming that cater to the specific needs of different ethnic subgroups.
- ❖ **Media Stereotypes and Public Perception:** API communities continue to combat stereotypes that are perpetuated by mainstream media. These stereotypes often skew public perception, leading to a limited understanding of the breadth and depth of API cultures and experiences. This issue ties into the broader challenges of cultural representation where media portrayal plays a pivotal role in shaping how communities are viewed and treated in society.
- ❖ **Cultural Preservation and Education:** Maintaining cultural heritage while integrating into the broader San Francisco milieu can be challenging for API individuals and families. Cultural festivals, language classes, history education, and community centers play a significant role in cultural preservation. They serve not just to educate young APIs about their heritage but also act as a bridge for the non-API populace to better understand and appreciate these cultures, fostering a more inclusive community.
- ❖ **Tech Industry Impact:** The influx of tech industry professionals, many of whom are of Asian descent, has influenced the demographics of certain San Francisco neighborhoods. Areas like Silicon Valley have attracted a significant number of Asian American professionals due to the concentration of technology companies. Other APIs may be displaced by population shifts and rising housing costs.
- ❖ **Professional and Political Representation:** There is a notable need for greater professional and political representation of APIs in San Francisco. Increased visibility in these areas can lead to greater influence and advocacy for issues that are pertinent to the API communities. Political engagement and professional advancement are seen as key avenues through which APIs can exert influence and enact changes beneficial to their communities.
- ❖ **Intersectionality and Alliances with Other Marginalized Groups:** The diverse identities within the API communities—such as gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, and more—intersect in complex ways that require nuanced approaches to advocacy and support. Moreover, solidarity and alliances with other marginalized groups acknowledge shared struggles and foster a broader coalition for equity, strengthening advocacy efforts for civil rights and social justice.
- ❖ **Generational and Cultural Gaps:** Navigating differences across generations, especially between older immigrants and their American-born children, presents challenges in maintaining cultural coherence and understanding. This often affects family dynamics, educational expectations, and community engagement, and requires sensitive approaches to bridge gaps and build unified community narratives.

"(API) Political representation in San Francisco right now is at a low ebb... We have one supervisor who faces a tough race. There are hopes that there will be another, well, be actually the first Asian American in District 3."
— Malcolm Yeung, Executive Director CCDC

10. Policy Advocacy and Support: There is an urgent need for more robust advocacy efforts to influence policies that reflect the unique challenges faced by the API community and its different subgroups. Like other ethnic communities, APIs in San Francisco may face unique challenges, such as language barriers, cultural adaptation, and discrimination. Advocacy groups and community organizations continue to work towards addressing these issues and promoting inclusivity. Despite being a significant portion of the population, APIs are underrepresented in local politics, and the translation of API needs into policy action often lags.

Challenges include:

- ❖ **Underrepresentation in Political Spheres:** Historically, the fluctuation in API representation in local politics has impacted the degree to which API concerns are addressed in policies.

“APIs are an afterthought in the SF policy arena.”

—Lina Sheth, Technical Expert.

- ❖ **Racial Stereotypes and Misconceptions:** Persistent stereotypes, such as the "model minority" myth, complicate the true understanding of the diverse and often critical needs within the API communities. Such misconceptions can lead to significant policy oversights.
- ❖ **Economic Issues:** Economic challenges particular to APIs, including business ownership dynamics, highlight the specific needs that may not be evident or prioritized in broader economic strategies.

Opportunities include:

- ❖ **Policy Advocacy:** API leaders and communities have been pivotal in advocating for more nuanced and effective policies.
- ❖ **Coalition Building:** API communities in San Francisco actively engage in coalition building with other minority groups to amplify their voices and ensure a collaborative approach to policy advocacy.
- ❖ **Data Disaggregation:** A significant advocacy point involves pushing for disaggregated data to reveal the nuanced realities of different API subgroups, allowing for more targeted policy interventions.
- ❖ **Education and Awareness:** There is a strategic movement towards educating policymakers and the broader public about the unique challenges faced by APIs, aiming to influence policy changes at various government levels.

Success stories include:

- ❖ **Community-Based Organizations:** CBOs play an instrumental role in not only providing direct services but also in mobilizing advocacy efforts towards policy change. Their deep community ties and understanding of localized needs make them effective advocates.
- ❖ **Strategic Use of Data:** Advocates use comprehensive API-related data to challenge existing stereotypes and push for equitable resource distribution and appropriate policy development, reflecting the actual needs and contributions of API communities. Conversations painted a picture of a resilient and evolving API community in San Francisco that is deeply engaged in enhancing its policy advocacy strategies. While APIs face challenges deepened by systemic issues and cultural misconceptions, the responses are characterized by robust community organizing, collaborations, and an unwavering commitment to policy change.

Recommendations

The review of key insights from the "State of Asian and Pacific Islanders in San Francisco" report highlights the necessity for several targeted actions to address the socioeconomic and cultural challenges faced by the API communities. The recommendations below are intended to guide policymakers, community leaders, and stakeholders in developing effective strategies for support and empowerment:

1. Data Enhancement:

- ❖ Advocate for more disaggregated data collection that delves into the specific needs of various API subgroups. This data will enable more precise policy development and resource allocation to address unique challenges.
- ❖ Support longitudinal studies to monitor trends over time, providing strategic insights into long-term impacts and community changes.
- ❖ Encourage geographically specific research to address the unique circumstances of API sub-populations in distinct neighborhoods.

2. Economic Security and Employment:

- Addressing issues of economic security and employment require a multi-faceted approach that includes community support, educational programs tailored to meet the specific needs of the community, policy advocacy, and a broader societal shift towards inclusivity and equity in employment practices.
- ❖ Implement policy changes to enhance job opportunities and economic security for APIs, addressing sector-specific concentrations, underemployment, and barriers to advancement.
 - ❖ Enhance support systems to address language and cultural barriers affecting employment and entrepreneurship.

3. Food Security:

- ❖ Improve access to affordable, nutritious, and culturally relevant food by addressing food deserts and enhancing the availability of culturally appropriate grocery stores in API-dense neighborhoods.
- ❖ Increase awareness and engagement with food assistance programs, reducing stigma and language barriers that hinder access.

4. Housing and Homelessness:

- ❖ Effectively addressing housing issues requires enhanced visibility and representation of APIs in public and political discourse, targeted policy actions that acknowledge and address the particular needs of the API community, and sustained support from both community institutions and broader municipal resources. As such, a multifaceted approach that incorporates data-driven insights, community experiences, and holistic policy frameworks is essential to mitigate the housing challenges faced by the API community in San Francisco.
- ❖ Develop targeted housing solutions that consider the unique cultural preferences and needs of APIs, addressing issues such as overcrowded housing and Single-Room Occupancies (SROs). Advocate for increased political and social recognition of API-specific housing challenges to ensure proportional attention and resource allocation.

5. Health:

- ❖ Enhance access to culturally competent healthcare services and mental health support, emphasizing the need for both immediate and long-term care solutions.
- ❖ Increase funding for mental health services tailored to API communities, expanding language-appropriate & community-based programs.

6. Community Safety and Hate Crimes:

- ❖ Foster community solidarity and advocacy to combat racism and address the rise in anti-Asian hate incidents through public education and policy changes.
- ❖ Improve reporting and response mechanisms for hate crimes to ensure comprehensive tracking and intervention.

7. Civic Engagement and Representation:

- ❖ Addressing the theme increasing the representation of APIs in San Francisco needs a multipronged approach. It requires the commitment to understand and address the unique needs of the diverse API population, ensuring they are appropriately represented in all areas of social engagement and decision-making.
- ❖ Promote increased political and professional representation of APIs to ensure their voices are heard and concerns addressed in decision-making processes.
- ❖ Encourage API community involvement in policy advocacy and coalition building to amplify their influence and achieve more equitable outcomes.

8. Education and Youth Engagement:

- ❖ Data-driven approaches, culturally sensitive policies, and comprehensive community engagement outlines a pathway toward more equitable educational opportunities and support systems for API youth in San Francisco.
- ❖ Implement educational reforms and resource investment to address the multicultural needs of API youth, emphasizing mental health support and technological access.
- ❖ Support Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) in providing tailored educational and developmental programs for API youth.

9. Cultural Sensitivity and Preservation:

- ❖ Efforts to enhance media representation, foster cultural preservation, boost political and professional representation, and build alliances across different marginalized groups are essential steps toward achieving greater cultural sensitivity and equity.
- ❖ Enhance media representation and public perception of APIs by combating stereotypes and promoting cultural heritage awareness.
- ❖ Support cultural preservation efforts through community programs and initiatives that foster inclusive understanding and appreciation.

10. Policy/Advocacy:

- ❖ More APIs could be encouraged to participate in politics at every level to ensure their voices and concerns are adequately represented.
- ❖ Continue to strengthen intra-community relationships across API subgroups to unify their advocacy efforts. It is critical to highlight API community contributions to San Francisco's economy, culture, and vitality and to demand funding for an API-centered initiative blueprint guided by the social determinants of health.
- ❖ Utilize technology and new media to enhance advocacy efforts, reach younger demographics, and influence public opinion in more dynamic ways.

These recommendations aim to foster a comprehensive and coordinated approach to uplift the API community, ensuring their diverse needs are met. By implementing these strategies, San Francisco can continue to be a beacon of inclusive development and positive change.



Photo Credit: Samoan Community Development Center



Photo Credit: Mark Shigenaga



Photo Credit: Self-Help for the Elderly



Photo Credit: Samoan Community Development Center



Photo Credit: Gum Moon Women's Residence Hall



Photo Credit: Mark Shigenaga



Photo Credit: Community Youth Center



Photo Credit: Mark Shigenaga



Photo Credit: Southeast Asian Development Center



Photo Credit: Bayanihan Equity Center



Photo Credit: Jenny Bach



Photo Credit: Edge on the Square and Joyce Xi

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