STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COMMISSION ON
ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER
AMERICAN AFFAIRS

AAPI DATA

2025 Fact Sheet: Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in California

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2025 Fact Sheet: AANHPIs in California

Key Facts To Know

Population Growth
- California is proud to be home to over 7.3 million Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (AANHPIs).
- Asian Americans grew by over 25% from 2010 to 2020 in California, one of the fastest-growing racial groups.

Voting Eligibility
- 55% of Asian Americans and 63% of NHPIs in California are eligible to vote.
- 81% of Native Hawaiians and 79% of Chamorros are eligible to vote.
- 38% of Asian Americans are U.S. citizens under age 18.

Language Access
- Asian Americans have higher rates of limited English proficiency (LEP) than Latinos or NHPIs.
- Mongolian, Burmese, Vietnamese, Afghan, and Chinese populations have the highest LEP rates.
- Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog/Filipino, and Korean are the most common languages spoken by California's LEP residents.

Education
- Several groups, including Hmong, Cambodian, Tongan, and Samoan have lower education attainment than the statewide average.

Poverty
- NHPI, Afghan, Hmong, Cambodian, Samoan, and Mongolian residents have poverty rates well above the statewide average.

1. Population Counts and Estimates

	Share of CA pop. (2020)	Population Count (2020)	Population Count (2010)	Pop Growth Rate (2010-20)
Asian American	15.41%	7,045,163	5,556,592	26.79%
Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander	0.74%	337,617	286,145	17.99%

Source: AAPI Data's analysis of 2020 Decennial Census, AAPI Data's analysis of 2010 Decennial Census. Includes race alone and in combination with other races.

How to Use this Data

The California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs (CAPIAA) and AAPI Data share a unified commitment on leveraging disaggregated data as a framework for inclusive policymaking, institutional investment, and transformation. We encourage policymakers, educators, researchers, advocates, and community leaders to engage with this data as a strategic tool to better understand the diverse experiences of the Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) communities. This data provides a critical foundation for understanding AANHPI communities and identifying equity gaps in social, economic, educational, and civic participation.

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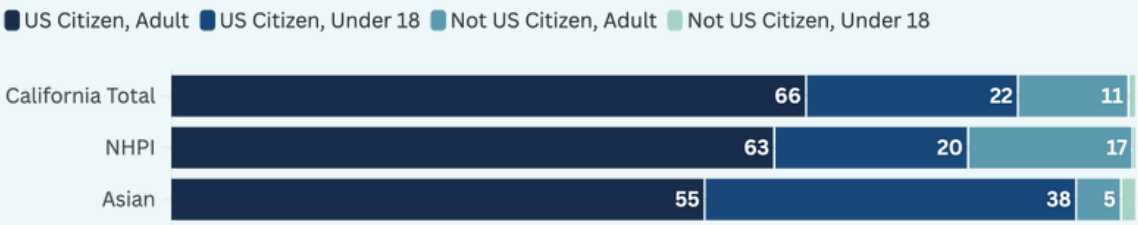
2. Largest Asian American and Pacific Islander Ethnic Groups, 2020

Asian American			
Chinese	1,789,648	Bangladeshi	18,486
Filipino	1,741,613	Mien	17,478
Asian Indian	902,621	Mongolian	10,251
Vietnamese	798,624	Malaysian	9,160
Korean	564,015	Singaporean	3,619
Japanese	469,915		
Taiwanese	147,923	**Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander**	
Cambodian	123,949	Native Hawaiian	95,165
Hmong	107,458	Samoan	68,747
Pakistani	85,907	Chamorro	40,015
Thai	83,172	Fijian	38,170
Afghan	75,583	Tongan	26,899
Laotian	63,384	Guamanian	7,675
Indonesian	56,872	Marshallese	2,865
Burmese	25,100	Palauan	1,819
Nepalese	19,677	Tahitian	1,404
Sri Lankan	18,794	Maori	1,129

Source: AAPI Data's analysis of 2020 Decennial Census, Includes race alone and in combination with other races

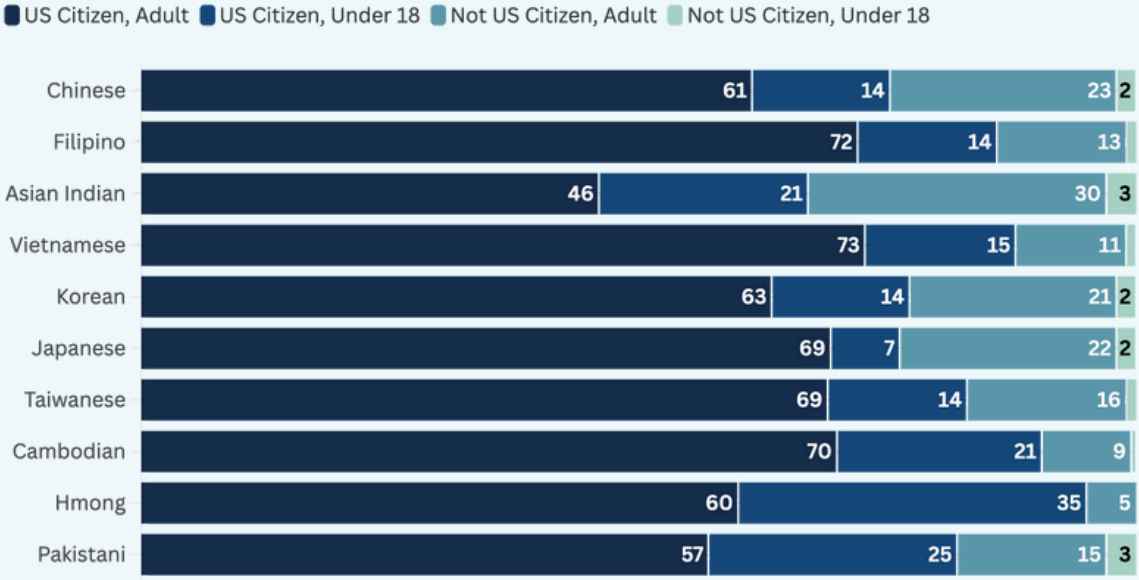
Note: While the Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) communities are not included in this data due to current U.S. Census Bureau classifications, CAPIAA and AAPI Data affirm our commitment to the MENA communities and acknowledges their unique experienes and contributions. Their absence in this data should not be interpreted as exclusion from our policy priorities.

3. Voting Eligibility



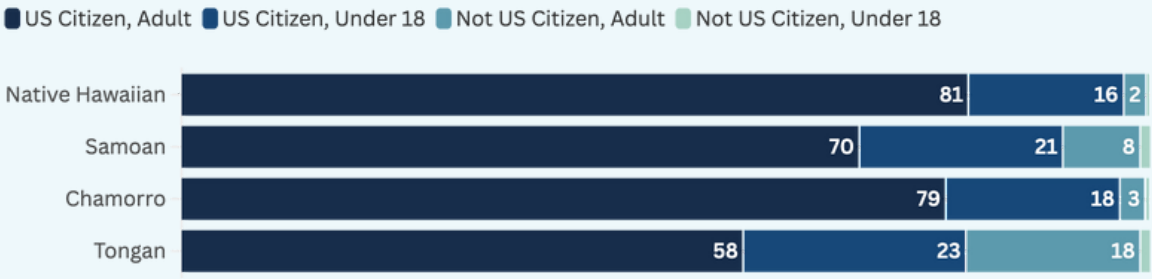
Source: AAPI Data's Community Data Explorer, featuring analysis of the 2023 5-year American Community Survey via IPUMS.

4. Voting Eligibility of Top 10 Largest Asian American Groups



Source: AAPI Data's analysis of the 2023 5-year American Community Survey via IPUMS
Note: Includes race alone. Figures are in percent and may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

5. Voting Eligibility of Largest Pacific Islander Groups



Source: AAPI Data's analysis of the 2023 5-year American Community Survey via IPUMS
Note: Includes race alone. Figures are in percent and may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

2025 Fact Sheet: AANHPIs in California

6. Year of Migration for Foreign Born

Year	Total	Share of AAPI Foreign-Born
Before 1990	1,258,609	32.80%
1990-1999	739,270	19.30%
2000-2009	795,385	20.70%
2009-2019	918,052	23.90%
2020-Present	125,517	3.30%

Data Source: Source: AAPI Data's analysis of the 2023 5-year American Community Survey via IPUMS

7. Limited English Proficient (LEP)

	Total LEP	LEP as Share of Population Group
Asian	1,817,679	32.5%
Hispanic/Latino	4,039,203	27.8%
NHPI	15,176	9.5%
Detailed Origin Groups by Share %		
Mongolian	3,946	53.8%
Burmese	9,969	52.7%
Vietnamese	327,867	49.3%
Afghan	27,533	44.8%
Chinese	613,040	41.9%

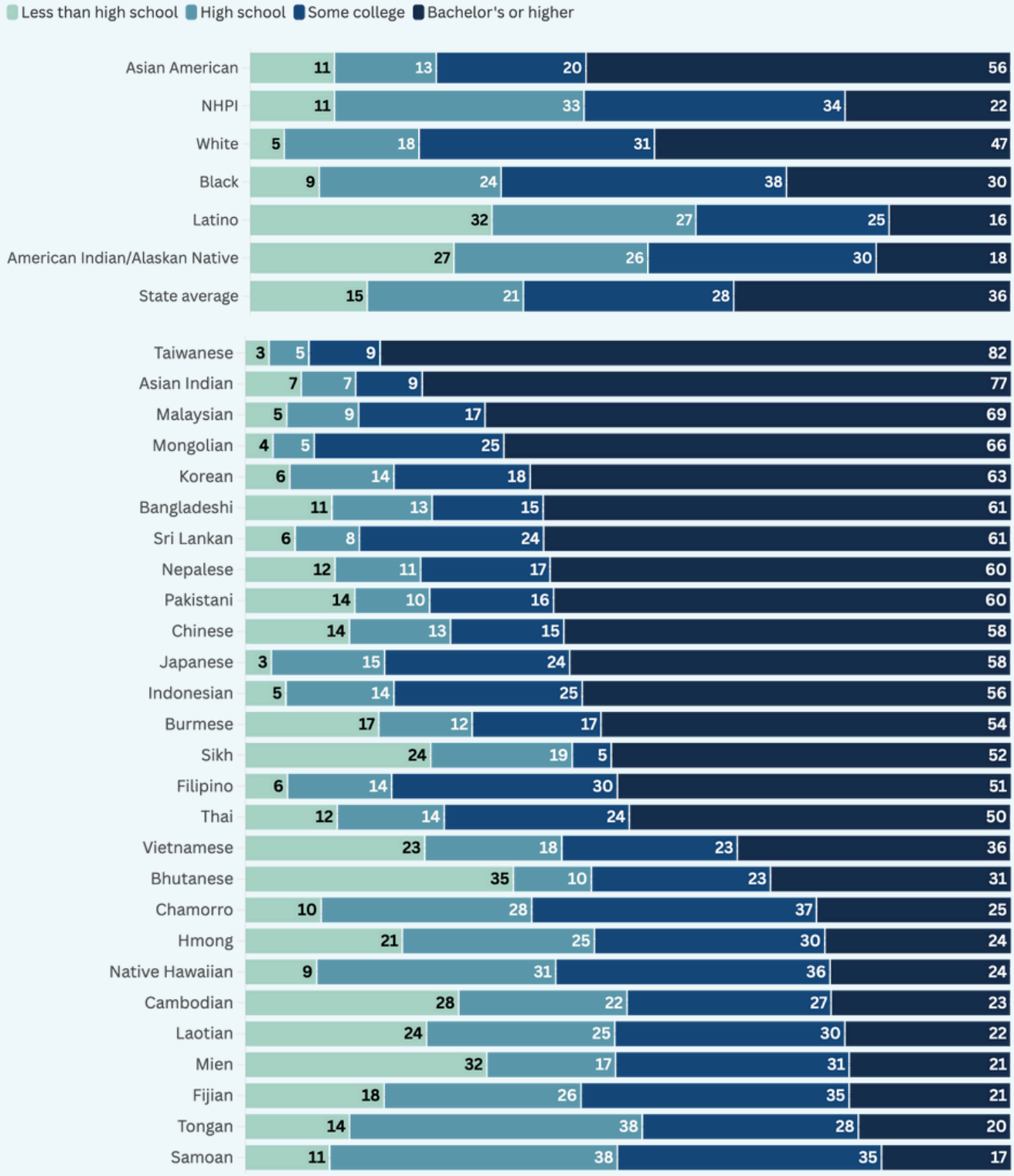
Top 15 AANHPI Languages

Among U.S. Residents who are limited English proficient or speak English less than 'very well'

	Total LEP	LEP as Share of Population Group
Chinese (incl. Mandarin, Cantonese)	666,215	52.3
Vietnamese	332,237	59
Tagalog (incl. Filipino)	250,931	32.6
Korean	192,856	54.3
Punjabi	62,338	41.2
Japanese	55,501	41.8
Thai, Lao, other Tai-Kadai languages	41,525	53.9
Ilocano, Samoan, Hawaiian, or other Austronesian languages	40,794	34.1
Khmer	35,571	51
Hindi	35,186	17.1
Hmong	32,670	43.2
Urdu	15,092	26.1
Nepali, Marathi, or other Indic languages	13,293	21.5
Gujarati	13,108	24.2
Telugu	11,499	15.7

Source: AAPI Data's Community Data Explorer, featuring analysis of the 2023 5-year American Community Survey via IPUMS.
Limited English Proficiency is determined for persons age 5 and older.

8. Educational Attainment



Source: AAPI Data's Community Data Explorer, featuring analysis of the 2023 5-year American Community Survey via IPUMS.
Educational attainment is determined for populations age 25 and older.

9. Poverty Rate

	% Below FPL	100-199% of FPL
CA Average	10.8%	15.9%
NHPI	12.7%	16.5%
Asian	9.1%	11.2%
Detailed Origin Groups by Share %		
Afghan	31.3%	25.3%
Hmong	17.4%	19.6%
Cambodian	14.8%	22.0%
Samoan	14.6%	14.9%
Mongolian	13.9%	26.9%

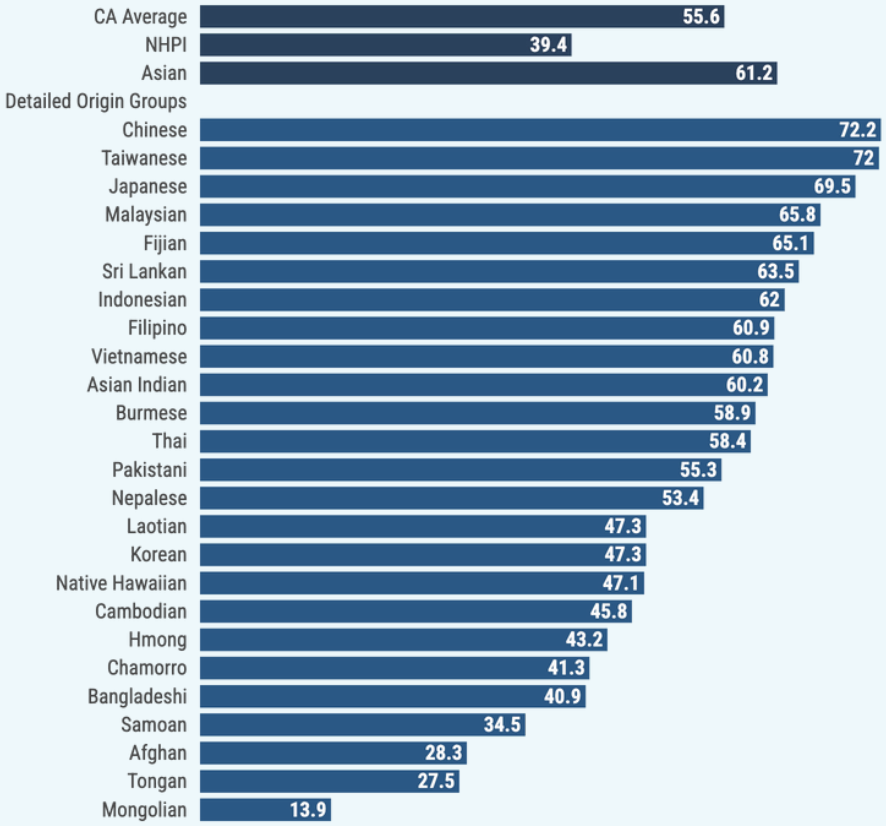
Source: AAPI Data's Community Data Explorer, featuring analysis of the 2023 5-year American Community Survey via IPUMS.

10. Health Insurance Coverage

All Ages	With Public Insurance	No Health Insurance
CA Average	29.4	7.1
NHPI	28.5	8.7
Asian	23.4	4.1
Highest Groups Without Coverage		
Mongolian	45	17.9
Tongan	39.5	14.7
Samoan	31.3	8.9
Thai	27.4	8.3
Native Hawaiian	27.4	8.3

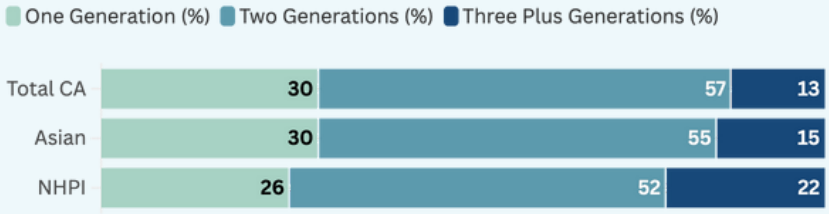
Source: AAPI Data's analysis of the 2023 5-year American Community Survey via IPUMS;
Includes race alone and detailed group alone; information on public insurance recipients excludes those who also receive private insurance.

11. Homeownership



Source: AAPI Data's Community Data Explorer, featuring analysis of the 2023 5-year American Community Survey via IPUMS.

12. Generations in Household



Source: AAPI Data's Community Data Explorer, featuring analysis of the 2023 5-year American Community Survey via IPUMS.

13. Business Ownership

Race	Asian American	Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander
Number of AA & NHPI-Owned Businesses in 2022	174,335	2,381
Estimated Number of Employees in 2022	1,352,108	16,609
Estimated Annual Payroll in 2022	$69.9 million	$788,057
Estimated Receipts in 2022	$348.4 million	$3.7 million

Source: 2022 Annual Business Survey, US Census Bureau.

14. Population Counts and Estimates by County

County	Asian American (2020)	Share of Total Population (2020)	Growth Rate (2010 - 2020)	Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander (2020)	Share of Total Population (2020)	Growth Rate (2010 - 2020)
Alameda County	605,813	32.0%	27%	25,113	1.33%	11%
Alpine County	41	3.0%	63%	20	1.47%	100%
Amador County	1,100	2.5%	33%	291	0.65%	39%
Butte County	14,054	5.9%	18%	1,565	0.66%	26%
Calaveras County	1,393	2.7%	32%	347	0.68%	50%
Colusa County	462	1.8%	6%	169	0.64%	18%
Contra Costa County	260,407	19.5%	31%	13,771	1.03%	26%
Del Norte County	1,223	3.9%	1%	190	0.60%	57%
El Dorado County	13,482	6.3%	35%	1,209	0.56%	31%
Fresno County	128,989	10.9%	22%	4,541	0.38%	21%
Glenn County	890	2.7%	0%	127	0.38%	46%
Humboldt County	5,957	3.9%	25%	1,199	0.78%	36%
Imperial County	4,604	2.0%	9%	457	0.20%	19%
Inyo County	460	2.2%	22%	96	0.45%	52%

County	Asian American (2020)	Share of Total Population (2020)	Growth Rate (2010 - 2020)	Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander (2020)	Share of Total Population (2020)	Growth Rate (2010 - 2020)
Kern County	57,985	5.5%	25%	3,957	0.37%	24%
Kings County	8,433	4.7%	8%	1,062	0.60%	32%
Lake County	1,860	2.4%	34%	438	0.56%	13%
Lassen County	974	2.7%	44%	560	1.57%	56%
Los Angeles County	1,697,762	14.6%	12%	55,817	0.48%	3%
Madera County	5,403	3.0%	29%	591	0.32%	19%
Marin County	24,218	8.2%	23%	1,469	0.50%	23%
Mariposa County	506	2.6%	37%	121	0.63%	56%
Mendocino County	2,804	2.7%	26%	451	0.43%	26%
Merced County	24,508	7.3%	11%	1,897	0.57%	26%
Modoc County	152	1.6%	22%	83	0.87%	53%
Mono County	336	2.3%	9%	109	0.73%	67%
Monterey County	36,583	7.0%	8%	4,451	0.85%	13%
Napa County	13,607	8.5%	18%	964	0.60%	15%
Nevada County	2,946	2.6%	32%	536	0.47%	34%
Orange County	792,539	21.6%	25%	22,306	0.61%	13%

County	Asian American (2020)	Share of Total Population (2020)	Growth Rate (2010 - 2020)	Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander (2020)	Share of Total Population (2020)	Growth Rate (2010 - 2020)
Placer County	47,830	10.4%	43%	3,473	0.76%	43%
Plumas County	398	1.8%	35%	144	0.66%	70%
Riverside County	216,709	7.6%	25%	18,653	0.65%	24%
Sacramento County	336,343	18.5%	28%	31,838	1.75%	24%
San Benito County	3,640	4.8%	38%	482	0.63%	47%
San Bernardino County	216,837	8.4%	29%	15,629	0.61%	14%
San Diego County	516,944	13.4%	21%	35,912	0.93%	15%
San Francisco County	328,095	33.9%	12%	7,090	0.73%	13%
San Joaquin County	161,869	17.9%	28%	10,952	1.21%	30%
San Luis Obispo County	16,310	5.0%	25%	1,578	0.49%	32%
San Mateo County	259,674	30.0%	23%	14,239	1.64%	-6%
Santa Barbara County	35,717	6.7%	23%	2,304	0.43%	14%
Santa Clara County	819,560	37.9%	25%	15,510	0.72%	7%
Santa Cruz County	19,090	6.1%	18%	1,536	0.49%	21%
Shasta County	8,533	4.2%	31%	1,072	0.53%	33%
Sierra County	76	2.0%	67%	38	1.02%	76%

County	Asian American (2020)	Share of Total Population (2020)	Growth Rate (2010 - 2020)	Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander (2020)	Share of Total Population (2020)	Growth Rate (2010 - 2020)
Siskiyou County	1,369	2.8%	36%	250	0.50%	14%
Solano County	91,344	17.3%	18%	9,463	1.79%	18%
Sonoma County	33,025	5.9%	24%	4,119	0.74%	21%
Stanislaus County	45,272	7.0%	24%	7,682	1.19%	17%
Sutter County	20,274	17.9%	23%	761	0.67%	14%
Tehama County	1,617	2.2%	36%	373	0.50%	48%
Trinity County	2,382	13.5%	92%	91	0.52%	27%
Tulare County	22,087	3.9%	14%	1,756	0.31%	21%
Tuolumne County	1,582	2.6%	37%	423	0.69%	49%
Ventura County	83,994	8.4%	18%	5,078	0.51%	20%
Yolo County	37,465	14.8%	17%	2,357	0.93%	16%
Yuba County	7,636	8.1%	20%	907	0.96%	35%

Source: AAPI Data's analysis of 2020 Decennial Census, Includes race alone and in combination with other races

ABOUT CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON APIA AFFAIRS

The California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs (CAPIAA) is a state agency dedicated to elevating the political, economic, and social issues of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. CAPIAA advises the Governor, Legislature, other state agencies and departments on issues relating to APIA communities, and works to foster understanding, inclusivity, and collaboration across the state. **Learn more at capiaa.ca.gov.**

ABOUT AAPI DATA

AAPI Data is a leading research and policy organization producing accurate data to shift narratives and drive action toward enduring solutions for Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities. AAPI Data aspires to transform public and private systems to ensure that all AA and NHPI communities are recognized, valued and prioritized. **Learn more at: aapidata.com.**

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Fact sheet on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in California created by AAPI Data in collaboration with CAPIAA.

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