

## OHIO: EMERGING ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITIES

### BACKGROUND DEMOGRAPHICS

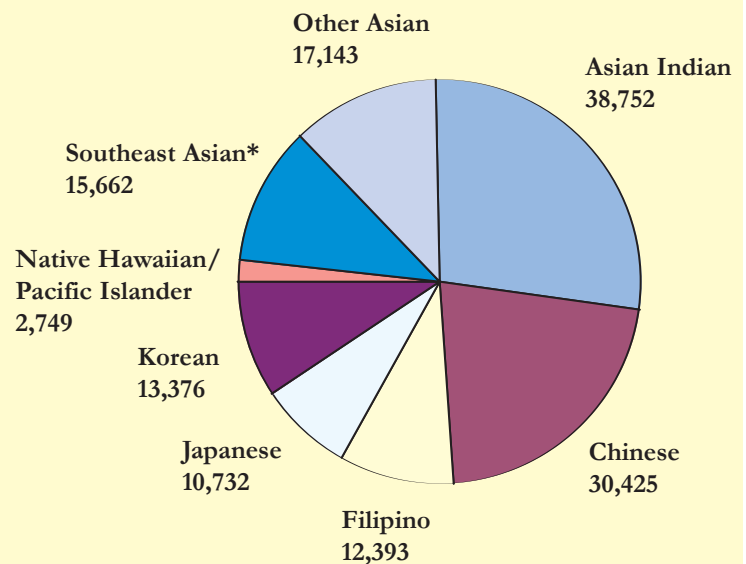
Ohio has approximately 135,000 Asian American and Pacific Islander residents, making up 1.2% of the state's total population. Over half of the AAPIs are concentrated in just five metropolitan areas: Columbus (Franklin County), Cleveland (Cuyahoga County), Cincinnati (Hamilton County), Akron (Summit County), and Dayton (Montgomery County).

The largest ethnic group in Ohio is Asian Indian (Indo-Pakistani). Other significant groups include Chinese, Korean, and Filipino.

Recently there have been increasing numbers of Southeast Asians (Cambodian, Hmong, Laotian, and Vietnamese). Many Southeast Asians arrived in the U.S. as refugees. Some were resettled in Ohio. Others were resettled elsewhere, then migrated to Ohio for better job opportunities, lower costs of living, to rejoin family members, or to find already established ethnic communities.

### OHIO'S AAPI POPULATION

(Census 2000)

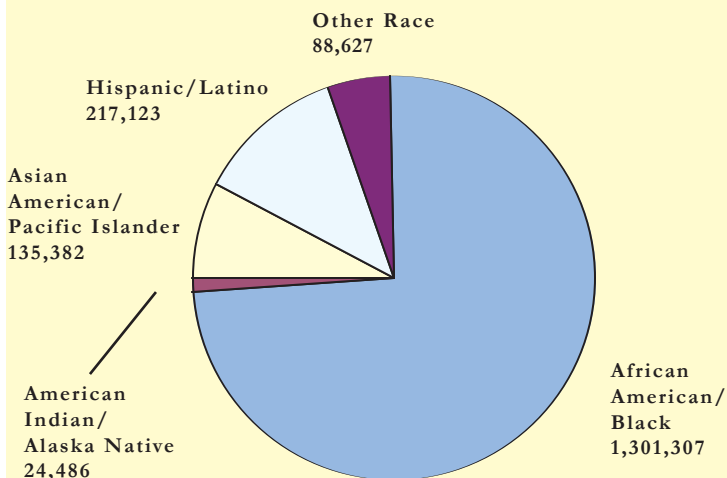


\* Southeast Asian includes 2,725 Cambodian, 376 Hmong, 2,749 Laotian and 9,812 Vietnamese

Between 1990 and 2000 Ohio's population grew by 4.7%. Its AAPI population grew by 48.5%, making it the state's second fastest growing minority group after Hispanics.

### OHIO'S MINORITY POPULATIONS

(Census 2000)



Population information is based on Census Bureau data for categories "Asian alone" and "Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Alone." For information on combinations with one or more other races, please see Summary File 1 (PCT 7 and PCT 10) at [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).

### COUNTIES RANKED BY AAPI POPULATION

(Census 2000)

County	No. of AAPIs	% AAPI	Change (1990-2000)
Franklin	33,250	3.1	+71.1%
Cuyahoga	25,583	1.8	+41.5%
Hamilton	13,844	1.6	+50.5%
Summit	7,741	1.4	+55.2%
Montgomery	7,537	1.3	+28.0%
Lucas	5,619	1.2	+12.8%
Butler	5,262	1.6	+97.9%
Greene	3,046	2.1	+42.8%
Stark	2,116	0.6	+38.4%
Lake	2,089	0.9	+44.4%

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### ISSUES / NEEDS

(Identified through community meetings and in-depth interviews)

#### **Data**

There is a shortage of disaggregate data collected for the diverse AAPI populations in Ohio. There is a need for an overall assessment of who the population is, what its needs are, the differences in culture, and how it relates to health care.

#### **Access**

Language and cultural issues pose great barriers to health care. There is a need for both qualified medical interpreters and cultural competency training for service providers. This includes training for social service as well as medical service providers on the specific concerns of AAPIs.

#### **Health Issues**

Access to primary care is an overarching concern. Community leaders have also identified the following specific health issues for AAPIs: cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer, and tuberculosis (in new arrivals). There are also concerns about health literacy for those who are non- and limited-English proficient. With a growing elderly population community leaders cite the need for adult day-care, socialization/ nutrition programs, and transportation services.

#### **Mental Health and Substance Use**

Mental health issues include high rates of depression among AAPIs. Some of this has been attributed to cultural adjustment and language barriers. Regardless, there seems to be a reluctance to seek help due to stigma as well as a lack of culturally appropriate mental health services. Alcohol and tobacco use have also been cited as community concerns.

#### **Capacity/Resources**

Community leaders have expressed a desire for more funding for community capacity building, education in grant writing, policy writing, policy management, and leadership management of community groups. There is also a need for more services for the elderly and low wage earners who do not qualify for public assistance.

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### SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS (Census 2000)

#### Household Income (in 1999 dollars)

	<u>White</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>NH/PI*</u>
<\$15,000	13.4%	18.1%	21.9%
\$15-34,999	26.5%	17.8%	17.2%
\$35-74,999	39.1%	32.4%	39.7%
>\$75,000	21.0%	31.7%	21.2%

#### Poverty Status

Proportion whose 1999 income was below federal poverty level:

<u>White</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>NH/PI*</u>
8.2%	12.8%	18.8%

#### Per Capita Income (in 1999 dollars)

<u>White</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>NH/PI*</u>
\$22,089	\$24,912	\$12,919

#### Educational Attainment

	<u>White</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>NH/PI*</u>
Less than high school	15.8%	13.4%	21.5%
High school diploma only	56.4%	23.3%	52.0%
Associate's degree or higher	27.8%	63.3%	26.5%

#### Median Family Income (in 1999 dollars)

<u>White</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>NH/PI*</u>
\$51,910	\$61,775	\$42,833

#### Linguistic Isolation

78.3% of AAPIs age 5 and older speak a language other than English at home.

Of these, 44.4% rated their ability to speak English as less than "very well."

\* Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

### MINORITY HEALTH CONTACT IN OHIO

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