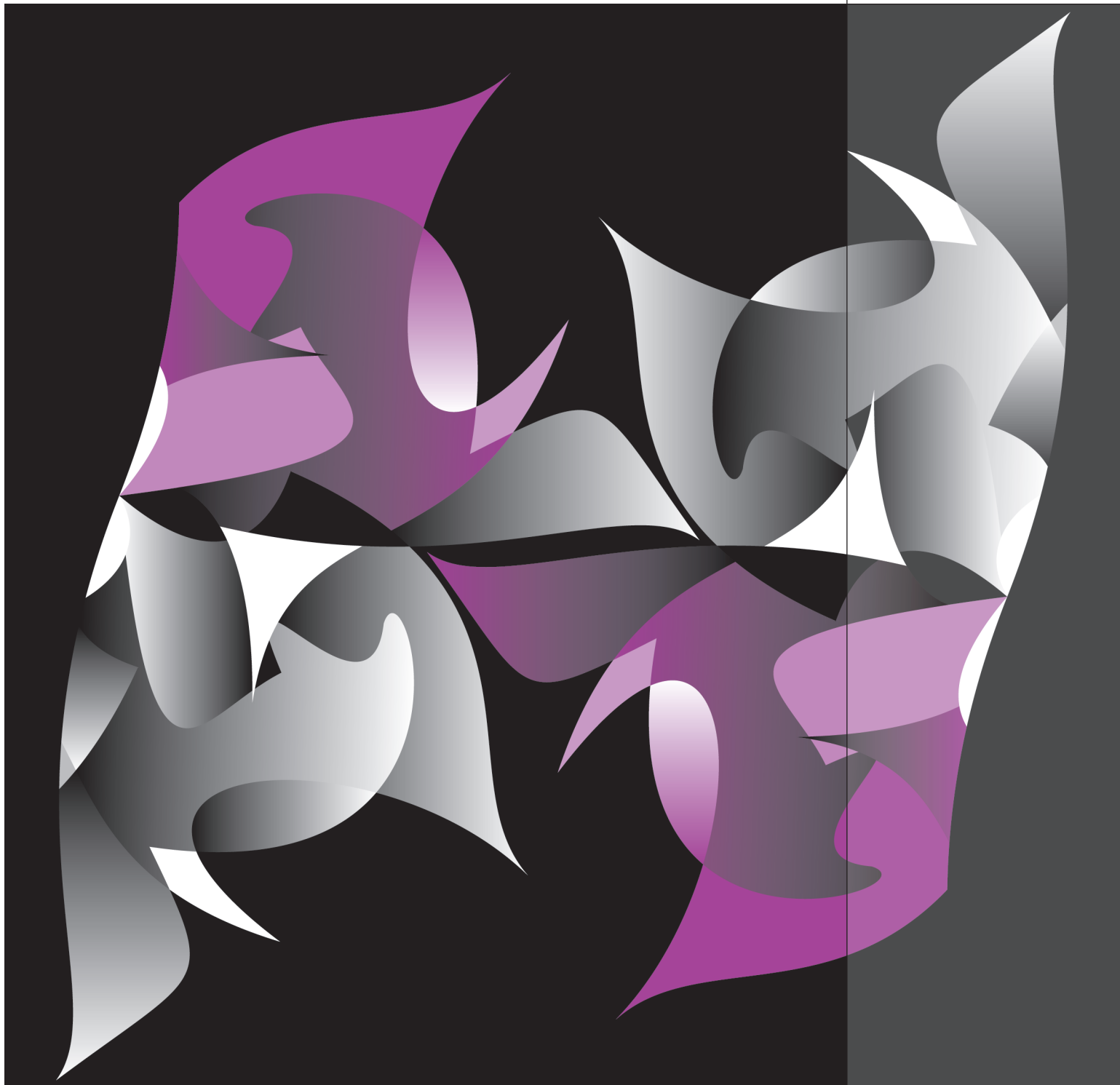


# The American Community— Pacific Islanders: 2004

*American Community Survey Reports*

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**U S C E N S U S B U R E A U**

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# The American Community— Pacific Islanders: 2004

## INTRODUCTION

This report presents a portrait of the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander population in the United States.<sup>1</sup> It is part of the American Community Survey (ACS) report series. Information on demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics in the tables and figures is based on data from the 2004 ACS Selected Population Profiles and Detailed Tables.<sup>2</sup> The data for the Pacific Islander population are based on responses to the 2004 ACS question on race, which asked all respondents to report one or more races.<sup>3</sup>

The 2004 ACS estimated the number of Pacific Islanders to be about 743,000, or 0.26 percent of the U.S. household population (Table 1).<sup>4</sup> The number of individuals who reported Pacific Islander as their only race was about 404,000, or 0.14 percent of the population. About another 339,000 reported their race as Pacific Islander and

<sup>1</sup> In the federal government, the category “Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander” refers to people having origins in any of the original peoples of the Pacific Islands (for example, Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or Tonga). It includes people who indicated their race or races as “Native Hawaiian,” “Guamanian or Chamorro,” “Samoan,” or “Other Pacific Islander,” or wrote in entries such as Tahitian, Mariana Islander, or Chuukese.

<sup>2</sup> The 2004 ACS datasets, including Selected Population Profiles and Detailed Tables, are available online in the American FactFinder at <<http://factfinder.census.gov>>.

<sup>3</sup> For further information on the content and format of the questionnaire, see <[www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/SQuest03.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/SQuest03.pdf)>.

<sup>4</sup> This report discusses data for the United States, including the 50 states and the District of Columbia; it does not include data for Puerto Rico.

Table 1.  
**Household Population by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2004**

(Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))

Race and Hispanic origin	Population	Percent of total population	Margin of error <sup>1</sup> (±)
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>285,691,501</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>(X)</b>
White alone, not Hispanic .....	192,362,875	67.33	0.01
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone .....	403,832	0.14	0.01
Not Hispanic .....	364,656	0.13	0.01
Hispanic .....	39,176	0.01	—
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone or in combination .....	743,314	0.26	0.01
Not Hispanic .....	653,707	0.23	0.01
Hispanic .....	89,607	0.03	—
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander in combination .....	339,482	0.12	0.01
Not Hispanic .....	289,051	0.10	0.01
Hispanic .....	50,431	0.02	—

(X) Not applicable.  
— Rounds to 0.00.

<sup>1</sup> This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, produces the 90-percent confidence interval around the estimate.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

one or more other races. The Pacific Islander-alone-or-in-combination population included about 90,000 Hispanics, and the Pacific Islander-alone population included about 39,000 Hispanics.<sup>5</sup>

Data are reported for both the Pacific Islander-alone and the Pacific Islander-alone-or-in-combination populations. In this report,

<sup>5</sup> The estimates in this report are based on responses from a sample of households. Estimates may vary from the actual values because of sampling error and other factors. All comparative statements have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90-percent confidence level unless otherwise noted.

respondents who reported Pacific Islander and no other race are included in the single-race or Pacific Islander-alone population (i.e., including those who reported their race as one or more detailed Pacific Islander groups but no non-Pacific Islander race). Respondents who reported Pacific Islander either alone or with one or more other race categories are included in the Pacific Islander-alone-or-in-combination population. The report also includes data for the non-Hispanic segments of these populations.

The term “Pacific Islander” is used to refer to the Native Hawaiian and

Other Pacific Islander-alone population and the term “non-Hispanic White” is used to refer to the White-alone, not Hispanic population. Similarly, references to population groups such as Samoan refer to the single-race or “alone” segments of those populations.

The Pacific Islander population is not homogeneous; it includes many groups that differ in language and culture, and they primarily represent people of Polynesian, Micronesian, and Melanesian backgrounds. People who reported one or more Pacific Islander groups on the ACS question on race, such as Samoan or Tongan, are included as Pacific Islanders.

Polynesians numbered about 260,000 and include Native Hawaiians, Samoans, Tongans, and other Polynesian groups (Table 2). Micronesians numbered about 100,000 and include primarily Guamanians or Chamorros and other Micronesian groups such as Mariana Islanders, Marshall Islanders, and Palauans. Melanesians numbered about 23,000 and are predominantly Fijian and include other Melanesian groups such as Papua New Guineans.

Native Hawaiians were the largest Pacific Islander group, with a population of 155,000 or 38 percent of the Pacific Islander-alone population. Guamanians or Chamorros, with a population of 68,000, represented about 17 percent of the Pacific Islander-alone population. Samoans, with a population of 61,000, represented about 15 percent of the Pacific Islander-alone population.<sup>6</sup> These three groups—Native Hawaiians, Guamanians or

<sup>6</sup> There is no statistical difference between the percentages of Guamanians or Chamorros and Samoans in the total Pacific Islander-alone population.

Table 2.

**Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Household Population by Detailed Group: 2004**

(Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))

Detailed group	Population	Percent of Pacific Islander-alone population	Margin of error <sup>1</sup> (±)
<b>Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone .....</b>	<b>403,832</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>
Polynesian .....	256,406	63.5	5.12
Native Hawaiian .....	154,666	38.3	4.43
Samoan .....	60,520	15.0	3.14
Tongan .....	39,052	9.7	2.41
Other Polynesian .....	2,168	0.5	0.41
Micronesian .....	101,335	25.1	4.10
Guamanian or Chomorro .....	68,336	16.9	3.49
Other Micronesian .....	32,999	8.2	2.49
Melanesian .....	22,912	5.7	2.11
Fijian .....	22,840	5.7	2.10
Other Melanesian .....	72	—	0.03
Other Pacific Islander .....	23,179	5.7	1.43

(X) Not applicable.  
— Rounds to 0.0.

<sup>1</sup> This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, produces the 90-percent confidence interval around the estimate.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables, B02007.

Chamorros, and Samoans—accounted for about 70 percent of the Pacific Islander population. In the future, as the ACS goes to full implementation and multiple-year estimates are produced, more information about additional groups may be available.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

The majority of Pacific Islanders resided in two states in 2004—Hawaii and California. Most of the Pacific Islander-alone population lived in California (about 30 percent), with about another 26 percent in Hawaii. In comparison, Pacific Islanders who reported one or more races were most likely to live in Hawaii (about 37 percent), followed by California (about 23 percent).

Compared with the non-Hispanic White population, the Pacific

Islander population had a larger proportion of younger people and a smaller proportion of older people. Pacific Islanders were more likely never to have married than non-Hispanic Whites, and a larger proportion of their households were family households. Compared with non-Hispanic White women, Pacific Islander women were more likely to have given birth in the past 12 months.<sup>7</sup>

Most Pacific Islanders were high school graduates and about 1 of every 7 had a bachelor's degree or more education. Compared with non-Hispanic White workers, Pacific Islanders were less likely to be

<sup>7</sup> The summary statistics mentioned in these highlights often refer to different segments of the Pacific Islander-alone population. For example, birth rates are estimated for women 15 to 50 years old, and educational attainment refers to the population aged 25 and older. The figures in the report contain information on the universe for each statistic.

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## What Is the American Community Survey?

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a new nationwide survey designed to provide reliable, timely information for local communities on how they are changing. This survey is a critical element in the U.S. Census Bureau's 2010 Decennial Census Program. The ACS collects detailed information on the characteristics of the population and housing on an ongoing sample basis. These data previously were collected in census years in conjunction with the decennial census. Since the ACS is conducted every year, rather than once every 10 years, it will provide more current data throughout the decade.

Fully implemented in 2005, the ACS is the largest household survey in the United States, with an annual sample size of about 3 million housing unit addresses throughout the country. Release of annual estimates from the ACS began in 2006 for all geographic areas with a population of 65,000 or more; 3-year period estimates will begin in 2008 for areas and populations as small as 20,000; and 5-year period estimates will start in 2010 for census tracts, block groups, and small populations. All estimates, including the 3-year and 5-year period estimates, are planned to be updated every year.

During the testing program (2000 to 2004), the ACS sampled approximately 800,000 addresses per

year and produced estimates for the United States, states, and essentially all places, counties, and metropolitan areas with at least 250,000 people.

The data contained in this report are based on the ACS sample interviewed in 2004. The population represented (the population universe) is limited to the household population and excludes the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on the ACS sample design and other ACS topics, visit [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html).

The Census Bureau's population estimates program releases official population estimates of the U.S. resident population by sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin. For information on the Census Bureau's population estimates program, visit [www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php](http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php). The ACS estimates in this report pertain to the household population only (i.e., the total population, excluding the group quarters population). Therefore, the ACS estimate of the Pacific Islander population shown in this report should not be viewed as the official measure of this population.

employed in management, professional, and related occupations and more likely to be employed in sales and office occupations.

About 1 of every 5 Pacific Islanders lived below the poverty level, compared with about 1 of every 10 non-Hispanic Whites. Pacific Islanders were more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to rent their

homes. Pacific Islanders generally spoke only English at home or spoke English very well. Most Pacific Islanders were U.S. citizens, whether by birth or naturalization.

## Understanding Data on Race and Hispanic Origin From the 2004 American Community Survey

The 2004 American Community Survey (ACS) followed the federal standards for collecting and presenting data on race and Hispanic origin established by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in 1997. In accordance with these standards, which mandate that race and Hispanic origin are two separate and distinct concepts, the ACS asked both a Hispanic-origin question and a race question.\* The first question asked respondents if they were Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino. The next question asked respondents to indicate the race or races they considered themselves to be.\*\*

The questions about race and Hispanic origin on the 2004 ACS are comparable with those on Census 2000. In both, the Hispanic-origin question preceded the race question, and respondents were asked to select one or more race categories. The 2004 ACS question on race included 15 separate response categories and two areas where respondents could write in a more specific race group. In addition to White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Some Other Race, 7 of the 15 response categories are Asian and 4 are Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. OMB recognizes five standard race categories: White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. The response categories and write-in answers can be combined to create the five OMB race categories plus Some Other Race, as well as all combinations of two or more races. The “Some Other Race” category was included in Census 2000 and also in the 2004 ACS for respondents who

were unable to identify with 1 of the 5 OMB race categories.

Because the 2004 ACS allowed respondents to report more than one race, two basic ways of defining a race group are possible. A group such as Pacific Islander may be defined as those who reported Pacific Islander and no other race (the race-alone or single-race concept) or as those who reported Pacific Islander regardless of whether they also reported another race (the race-alone-or-in-combination concept).

Race and Hispanic origin are treated as two separate and distinct concepts in the federal statistical system. People in each race group may be either Hispanic or not Hispanic, and people of Hispanic origin may be any race. The Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches for showing data on race and ethnicity. The text of this report compares the population and housing characteristics for the single-race Pacific Islander population with those of the White-alone, not Hispanic population. However, this does not imply that this approach is the Census Bureau’s preferred method for analyzing data on race. In the graphics and tables of this report, several approaches for measuring race are shown. These approaches illustrate the overlapping concepts for measuring race. The specific measures shown are: 1) the single-race Pacific Islander population; 2) the single-race Pacific Islander, not Hispanic population; 3) the Pacific Islander-alone-or-in-combination population; and 4) the Pacific Islander-alone-or-in-combination, not Hispanic population.

Because Hispanics may be any race, data in this report for Pacific Islanders overlap with data for Hispanics. Data from the ACS show that, in 2004, Hispanic Pacific Islanders composed approximately 10 percent of the single-race Pacific Islander population.

\* For further information, see [www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/1997standards.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/1997standards.html).

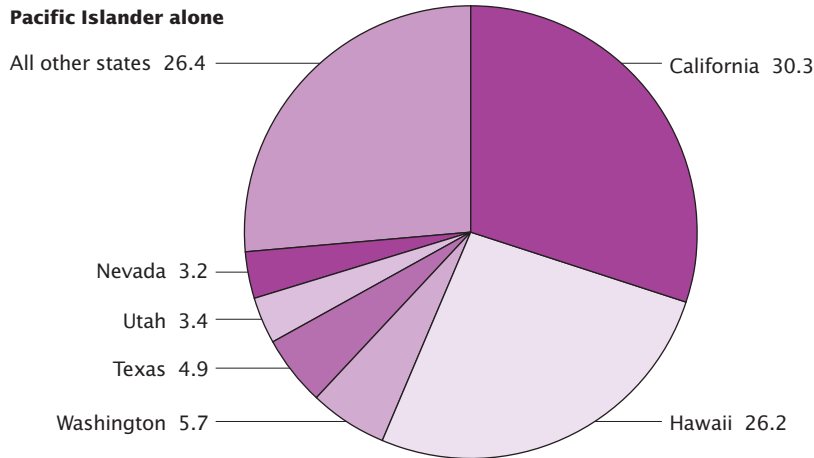
\*\* Race and Hispanic origin, as used by the Census Bureau, reflect self-identification by individuals according to the group or groups with which they most closely identify. The categories are sociopolitical constructs that include racial, ethnic, and national origin groups. For more details, see [www.census.gov/acs/Downloads/2004/usedata/Subject\\_Definitions.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/Downloads/2004/usedata/Subject_Definitions.pdf).

**The majority of Pacific Islanders lived in two states—Hawaii and California.**

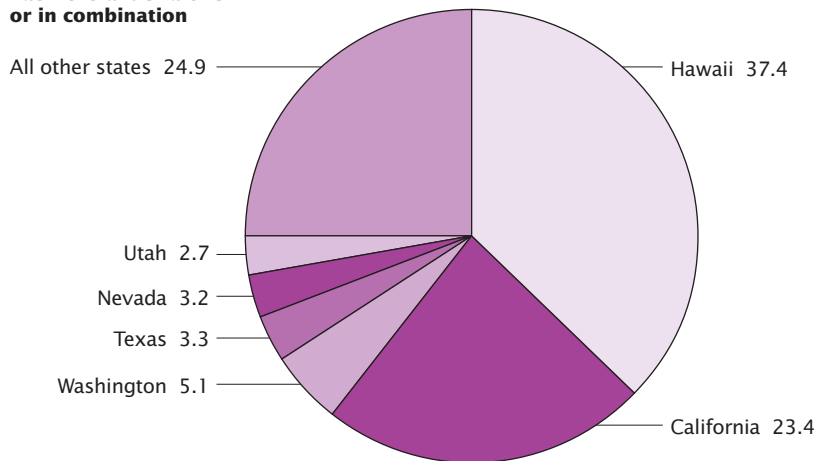
Figure 1.  
**Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Household Population by State: 2004**

(Percent distribution of Pacific Islander population. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))

**Pacific Islander alone**



**Pacific Islander alone or in combination**



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.  
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

- In 2004, Pacific Islanders were most likely to live in either Hawaii or California. Most of the Pacific Islander-alone population lived in California (about 30 percent), with about another 26 percent in Hawaii. In comparison, Pacific Islanders who reported one or more races were most likely to live in Hawaii (about 37 percent), followed by California (about 23 percent).
- Several other states also shared relatively larger proportions of the Pacific Islander-alone population and the Pacific Islander-alone-or-in-combination population (Washington, Texas, Utah, and Nevada).<sup>8</sup>
- Combined, these six states represented about three-fourths of the Pacific Islander-alone population, as well as the Pacific Islander-alone-or-in-combination population.

<sup>8</sup> The proportion of single-race Pacific Islanders in Nevada was not significantly larger than the proportion of Pacific Islanders in Oregon or Virginia; the proportion of single-race Pacific Islanders in Utah was not significantly larger than the proportion of Pacific Islanders in Virginia (not shown).



**Hawaii had a larger proportion of Pacific Islanders than any other state.**

- The Pacific Islander-alone population represented about 0.14 percent of the U.S. household population, and the Pacific Islander-alone-or-in-combination population represented about 0.26 percent.
- The state of Hawaii had the largest proportion of single-race

Pacific Islanders in its household population (about 9 percent), as well as Pacific Islanders who reported one or more races (about 23 percent).

- States in the West (including Hawaii, Utah, Nevada, Alaska, Washington, California, and Oregon) tended to have relatively

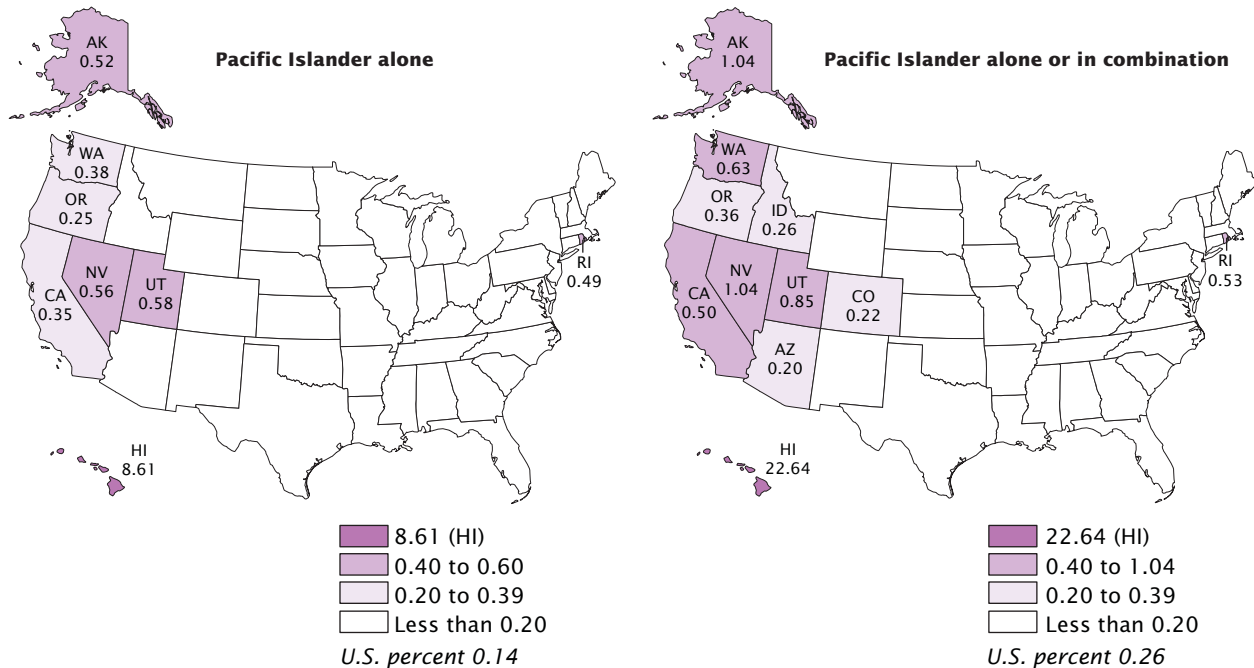
larger proportions of Pacific Islanders in their populations.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>9</sup> The proportion of single-race Pacific Islanders in Oregon and the proportion of Pacific Islanders who reported one or more races in Idaho, Colorado, and Arizona were not significantly higher than 0.2 percent. Some of the states shown in the range 0.20 to 0.39 are not statistically different from one or more states that are not shown.

Figure 2.

**Percent Pacific Islander by State: 2004**

(Pacific Islander-alone population, and Pacific Islander-alone-or-in-combination population, as a percent of state population. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201, and Detailed Tables, B02001 and B02012.

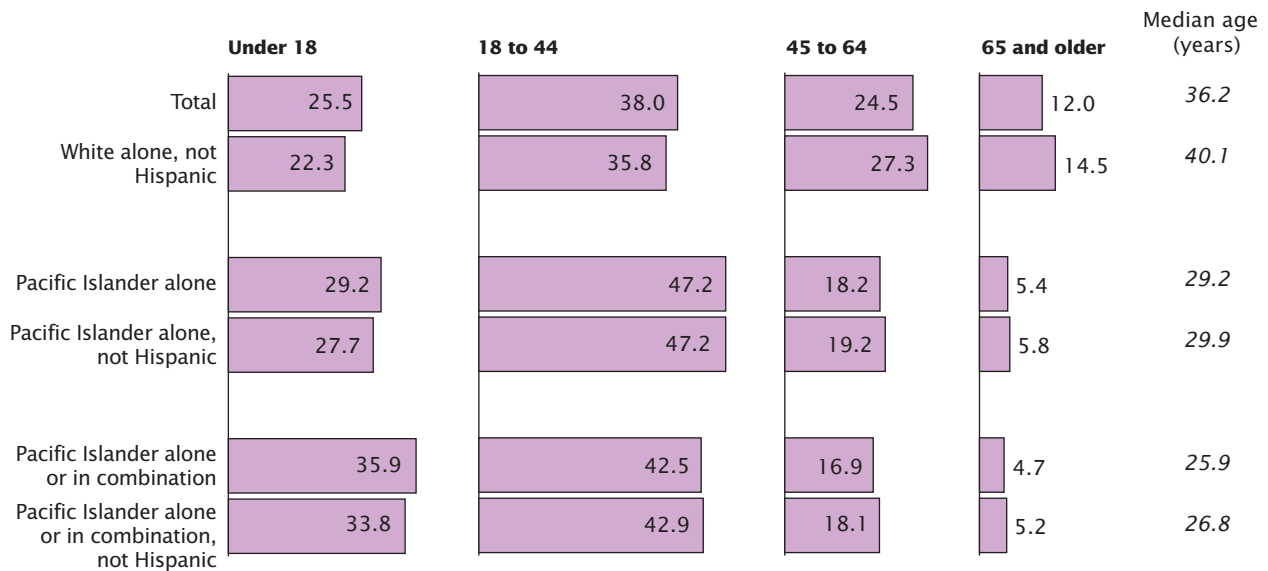


**The median age of Pacific Islanders was about 11 years younger than that of non-Hispanic Whites.**

- In 2004, Pacific Islanders had a median age of 29.2 years, about 11 years younger than the median age of the non-Hispanic White population, 40.1 years.
- The Pacific Islander population had a larger proportion of young people and a smaller proportion of older people than the non-Hispanic White population.
- About 29 percent of Pacific Islanders were children (under 18), compared with about 22 percent of non-Hispanic Whites. About 5 percent of Pacific Islanders were 65 and older, compared with about 15 percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

**Figure 3. Selected Age Groups and Median Age: 2004**

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

## About one-third of Pacific Islanders had never married.

- In 2004, about 53 percent of Pacific Islanders aged 15 and older were married, compared with about 57 percent of non-Hispanic Whites aged 15 and older.<sup>10</sup>
- Pacific Islanders (about 33 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic Whites (about 24 percent) never to have married.
- About 1 of every 8 Pacific Islanders was separated, widowed, or divorced, compared with about 1 of every 5 non-Hispanic Whites.

<sup>10</sup> Differences between the age distributions of Pacific Islanders and non-Hispanic Whites may affect marital status patterns.

Figure 4.  
**Marital Status: 2004**

(Percent distribution of population 15 and older. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



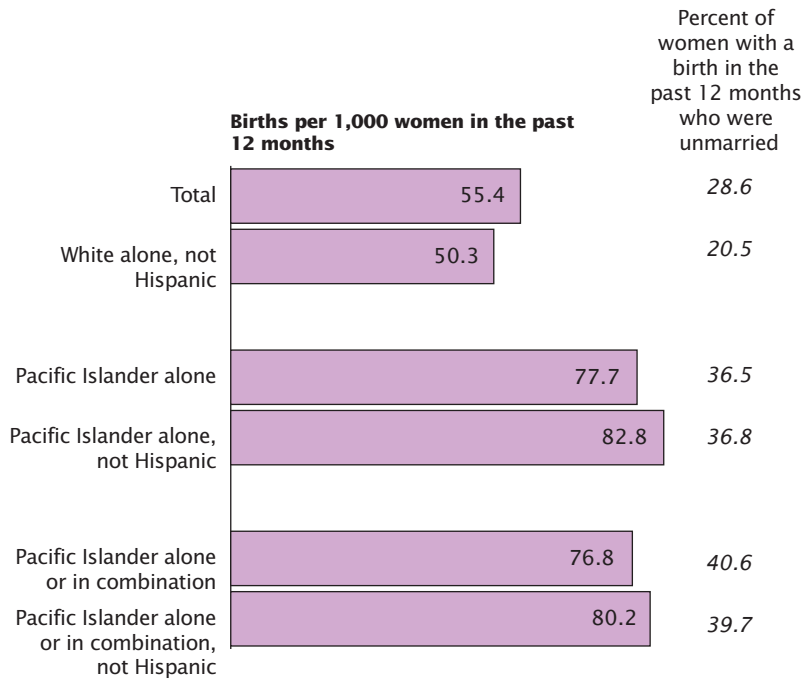
Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

**Pacific Islander women were more likely to have given birth in the past 12 months than non-Hispanic White women.**

Figure 5.  
**Fertility: 2004**

(Of every 1,000 women aged 15 to 50, the number who had given birth in the 12 months preceding the survey, based on the race and Hispanic origin of the mother. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

- Pacific Islander women had a higher fertility rate than non-Hispanic White women.<sup>11</sup>
- About 78 of every 1,000 Pacific Islander women aged 15 to 50 had given birth in the 12 months prior to being surveyed, compared with about 50 of every 1,000 non-Hispanic White women aged 15 to 50.
- About 36 percent of Pacific Islander mothers who had given birth were unmarried, compared with about 20 percent of non-Hispanic White mothers.

<sup>11</sup> Of every 1,000 women aged 15 to 50, the number who had given birth in the 12 months preceding the date of the survey, whether in 2003 or 2004.

**Pacific Islander households were more likely than non-Hispanic White households to be family households.**

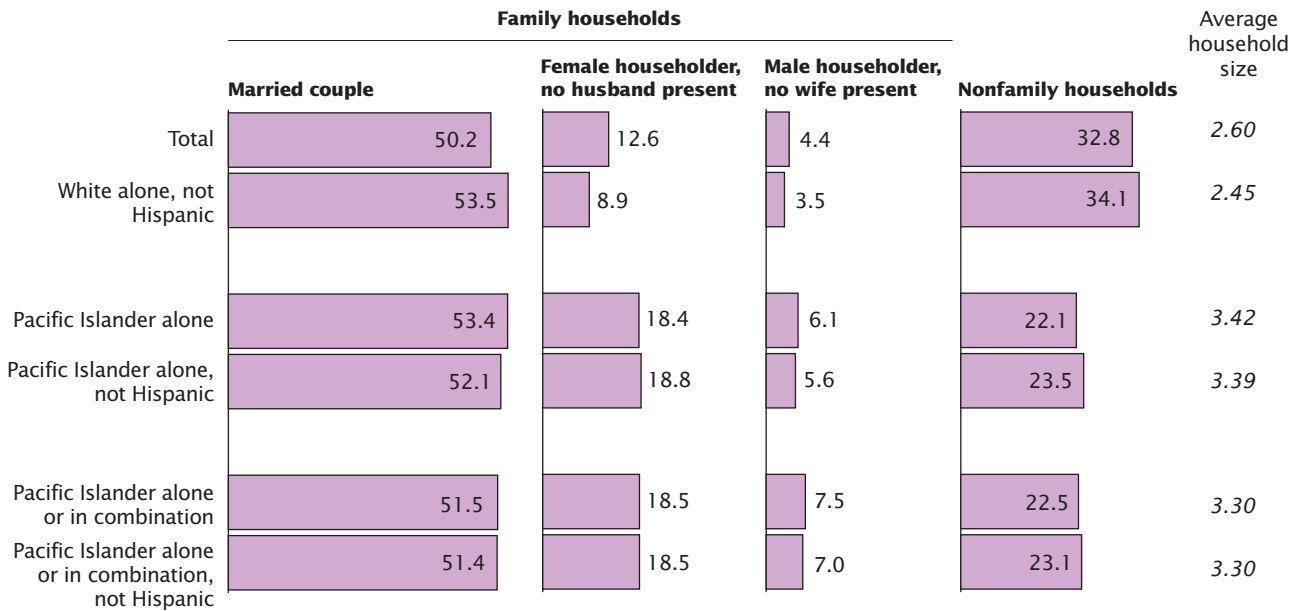
- About 78 percent of Pacific Islander households and about 66 percent of non-Hispanic White households were family households.<sup>12</sup>
- A similar proportion of Pacific Islander households and non-Hispanic White households were maintained by married couples.
- About 1 of every 5 Pacific Islander households was a family maintained by a woman with no husband present, compared with about 1 of every 10 non-Hispanic White households.
- Pacific Islander households consisted of 3.4 people on average, compared with 2.5 people on average in non-Hispanic White households.

<sup>12</sup> A household is a person or a group of people who occupy a housing unit as their current residence. A family household consists of a householder and one or more people living together in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. It may also include people

unrelated to the householder. There are three types of family households in the survey data: married couple, female householders with no husband present, and male householders with no wife present. In addition, there are non-family households, such as a person living alone or with unrelated individuals.

Figure 6.  
**Household Type: 2004**

(Percent distribution. Household type is shown by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201, and Detailed Tables, B11001.

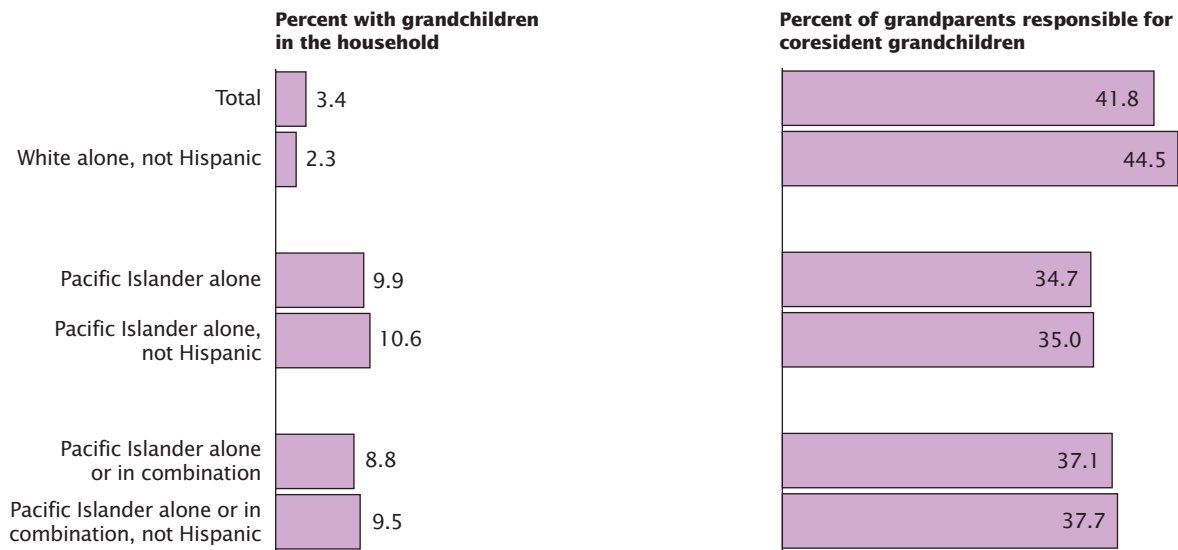
**Pacific Islanders were more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to live with grandchildren.**

- About 10 percent of Pacific Islanders aged 30 and older were grandparents living in the same household with their coresident grandchildren younger than 18. In comparison, about 2 percent of non-Hispanic Whites aged 30 and older were grandparents living in the same household with their coresident grandchildren younger than 18.
- About 35 percent of Pacific Islander grandparents who lived with their coresident grandchildren were also responsible for their care.

Figure 7.

**Responsibility for Grandchildren Under 18 Years: 2004**

(Percent of people 30 and older. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

**About 8 of every 10 Pacific Islanders were native.<sup>13</sup>**

- About 78 percent of Pacific Islanders were native, compared

with about 96 percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

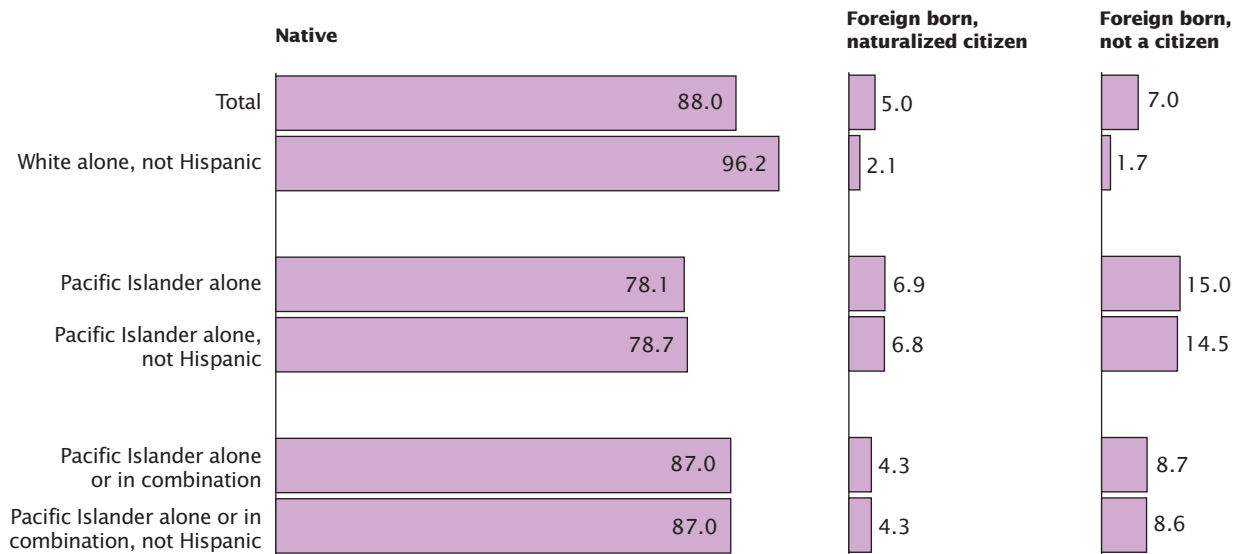
- In addition, about 7 percent of Pacific Islanders were U.S. citizens through naturalization, compared with about 2 percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

<sup>13</sup> Nativity is determined by U.S. citizenship status and place of birth. Natives are those born in the United States, Puerto Rico, or a U.S. island area (the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or born abroad of a U.S. citizen parent. All other individuals are considered foreign born.

**Figure 8.**  
**Nativity and Citizenship Status: 2004**

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

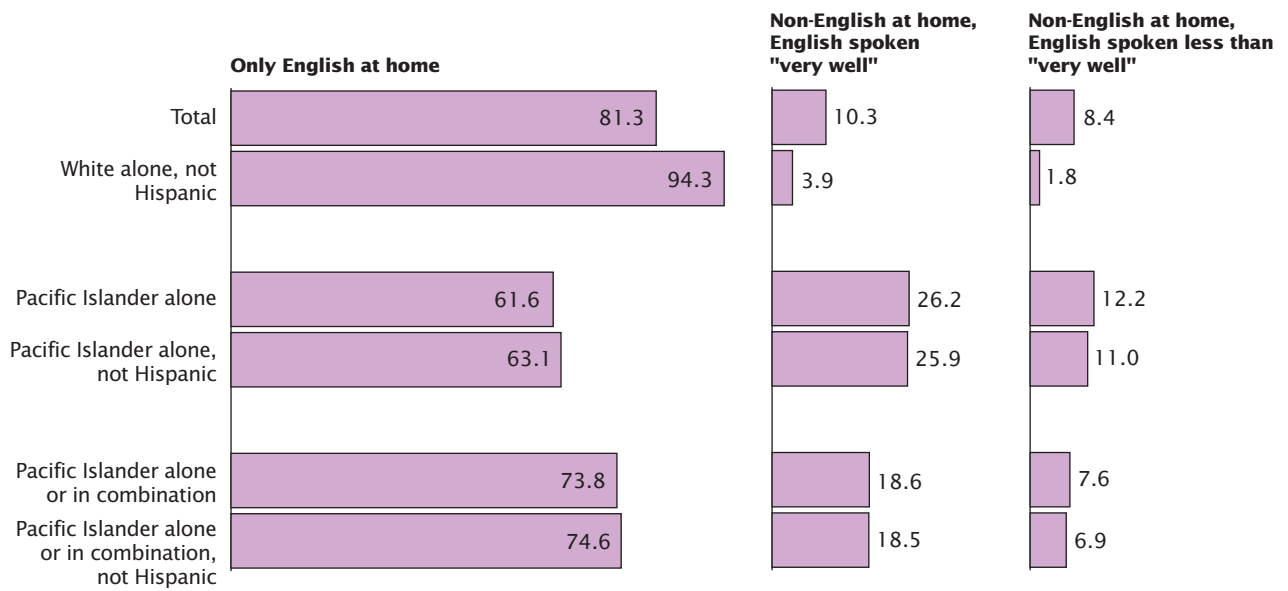
**A majority of Pacific Islanders spoke only English at home or spoke English very well.**

- About 62 percent of Pacific Islanders aged 5 and older spoke only English at home, compared with about 94 percent of non-Hispanic Whites aged 5 and older.
- About another 26 percent of Pacific Islanders spoke a language other than English at home and spoke English very well, compared with about 4 percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

Figure 9.

**Language Spoken at Home and English-Speaking Ability: 2004**

(Percent distribution of population 5 and older. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.



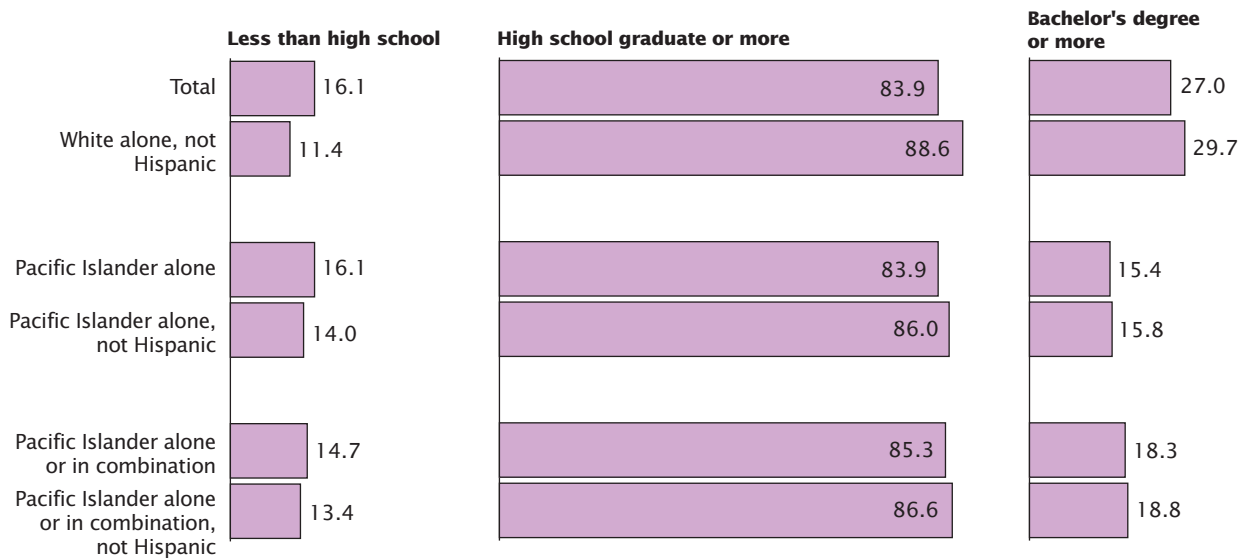
**More than four-fifths of Pacific Islanders were high school graduates.**

- About 84 percent of Pacific Islanders aged 25 and older were high school graduates and about 15 percent had a bachelor's degree or more education.
- Among non-Hispanic Whites aged 25 and older, about 89 percent were high school graduates and about 30 percent had a bachelor's degree or more education.

Figure 10.

**Educational Attainment: 2004**

(Percent of population 25 and older. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

**Pacific Islanders were more likely to work in sales and office occupations than in other occupations.**

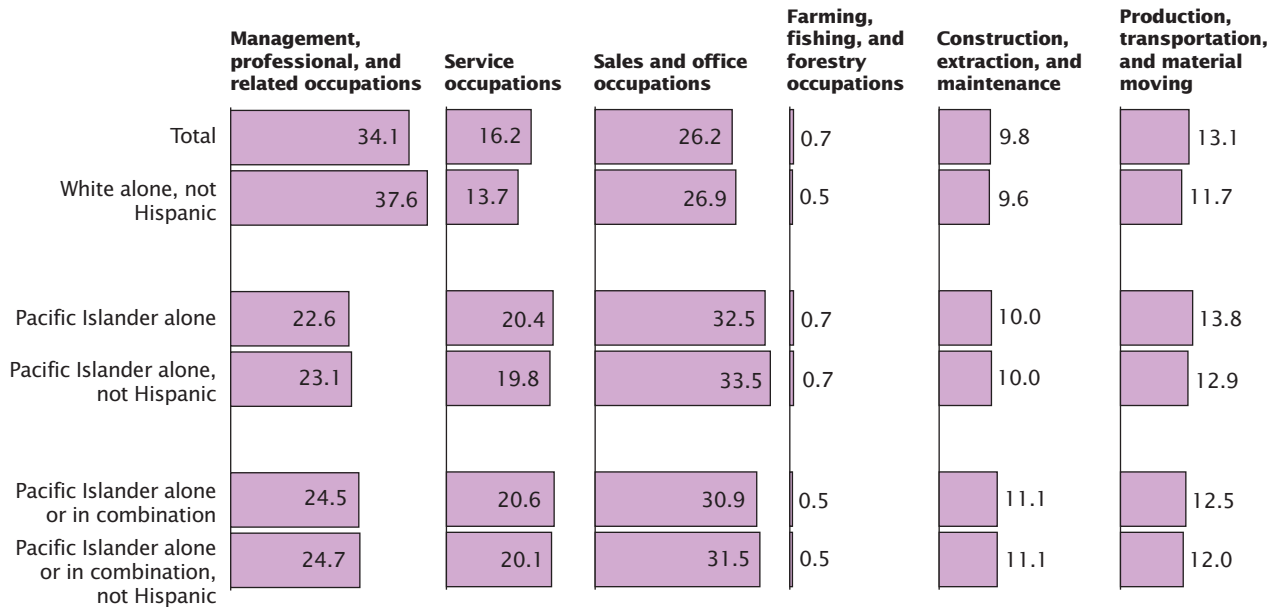
- About 33 percent of civilian employed Pacific Islanders aged 16 and older worked in sales and office occupations, compared with about 27 percent of civilian employed non-Hispanic Whites aged 16 and older.
- About 20 percent of Pacific Islander workers and about 14 percent of non-Hispanic White workers were in service occupations.
- About 23 percent of Pacific Islander workers and about 38 percent of non-Hispanic

White workers were in management, professional, and related occupations.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>14</sup> The percentage of Pacific Islanders who worked in service occupations was not significantly different from the percentage who worked in management, professional, and related occupations.

Figure 11.  
**Occupation: 2004**

(Percent distribution of civilian employed population 16 and older. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

**The median incomes of Pacific Islander households and non-Hispanic White households were similar.<sup>15</sup>**

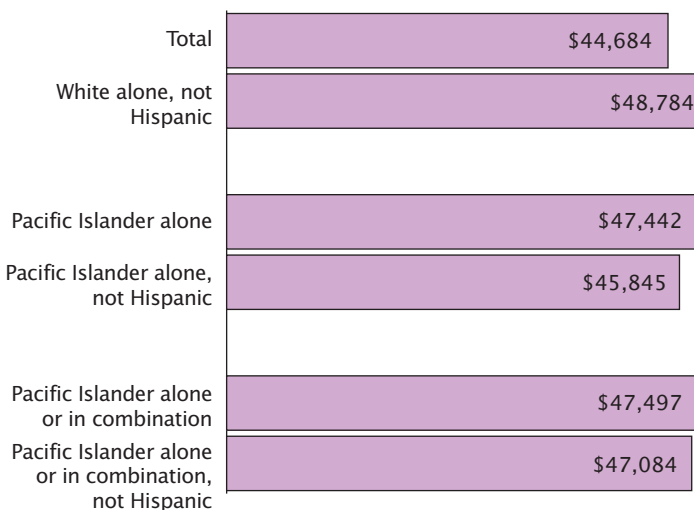
- The median income of Pacific Islander households in the 12 months prior to being surveyed was about \$47,400. This was similar to the median income of non-Hispanic White households, which was about \$48,800.

<sup>15</sup> Data reflect the median income of households in the 12 months prior to being surveyed. Income is expressed in 2004 inflation-adjusted dollars. It is based on the distribution of the total number of households and includes those with no income. Households are classified by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder.

Figure 12.

**Median Household Income: 2004**

(Household income in the past 12 months in 2004 inflation-adjusted dollars. Housing units are classified by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

**The poverty rate was higher for Pacific Islanders than for non-Hispanic Whites.<sup>16</sup>**

- About 18 percent of Pacific Islanders were living below the poverty level in the 12 months

prior to being surveyed, compared with about 9 percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

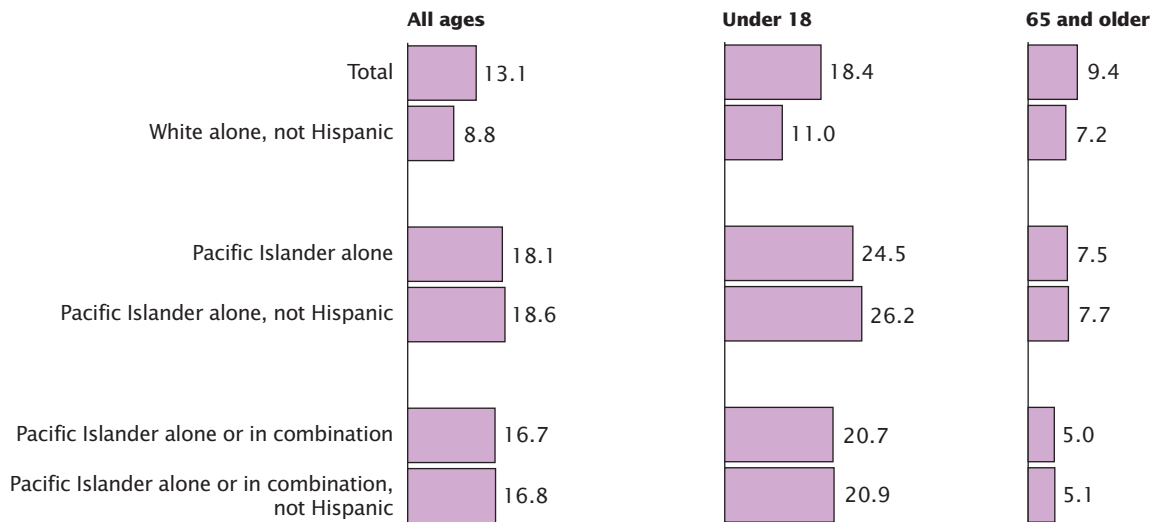
- The poverty rate was generally higher for children (under age 18). About 25 percent of Pacific Islander children and about 11 percent of non-Hispanic White children lived in poverty.
- The poverty rate was lower for people aged 65 and older. Similar proportions (about 7 percent) of Pacific Islanders and non-Hispanic Whites in this age group were living below the poverty level.

<sup>16</sup> In accordance with the U.S. 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 who is in poverty. If a family's total income is less than the threshold for the family, then that family and every individual in it are considered to be in poverty. For example, the poverty threshold for a family of three with one child under 18 for the 1-year period

preceding the ACS interview was \$14,974. Poverty status was determined for all individuals except for unrelated individuals under 15 years old. The official poverty definition uses money income before taxes and does not include capital gains or noncash benefits. For more information on poverty in the ACS, see <[www.census.gov/prod/2005pubs/acs-01.pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/2005pubs/acs-01.pdf)> and <[www.census.gov/acs/www/UseData/Def/Poverty.htm](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/UseData/Def/Poverty.htm)>.

Figure 13.  
**Poverty Rate by Age Group: 2004**

(Percent of specific group in poverty in the past 12 months. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



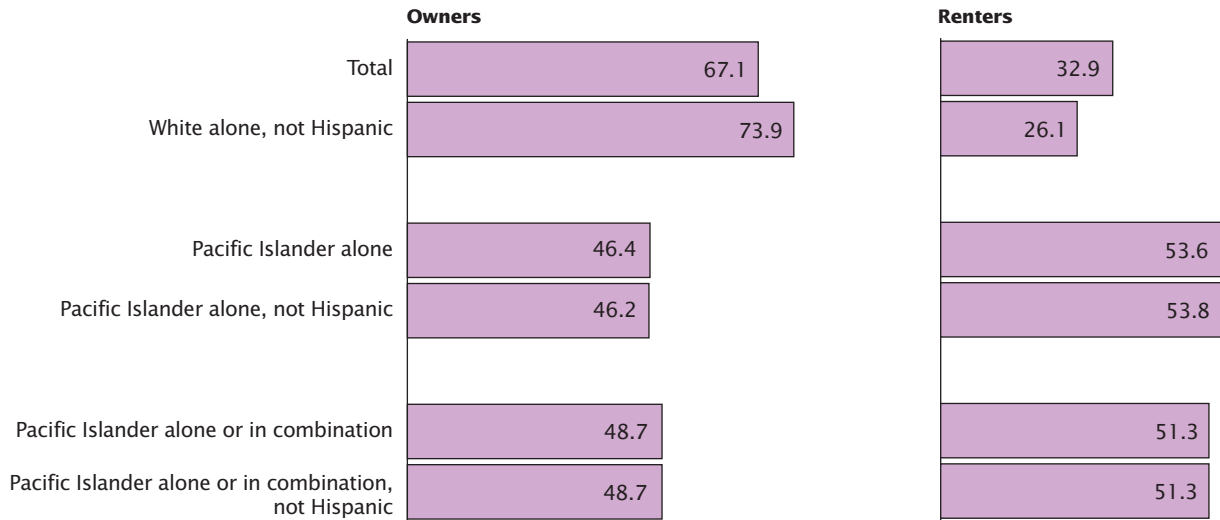
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

**About one-half of Pacific Islander households lived in owner-occupied homes.**

- About one-half of Pacific Islander households lived in owner-occupied homes, compared with about three-quarters of non-Hispanic White households.
- About one-half of Pacific Islander households lived in renter-occupied homes, compared with about one-quarter of non-Hispanic White households.

Figure 14.  
**Housing Tenure: 2004**

(Percent of occupied housing units. Housing tenure is shown by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

**Pacific Islander owner-occupied homes had higher median values than non-Hispanic White owner-occupied homes.**

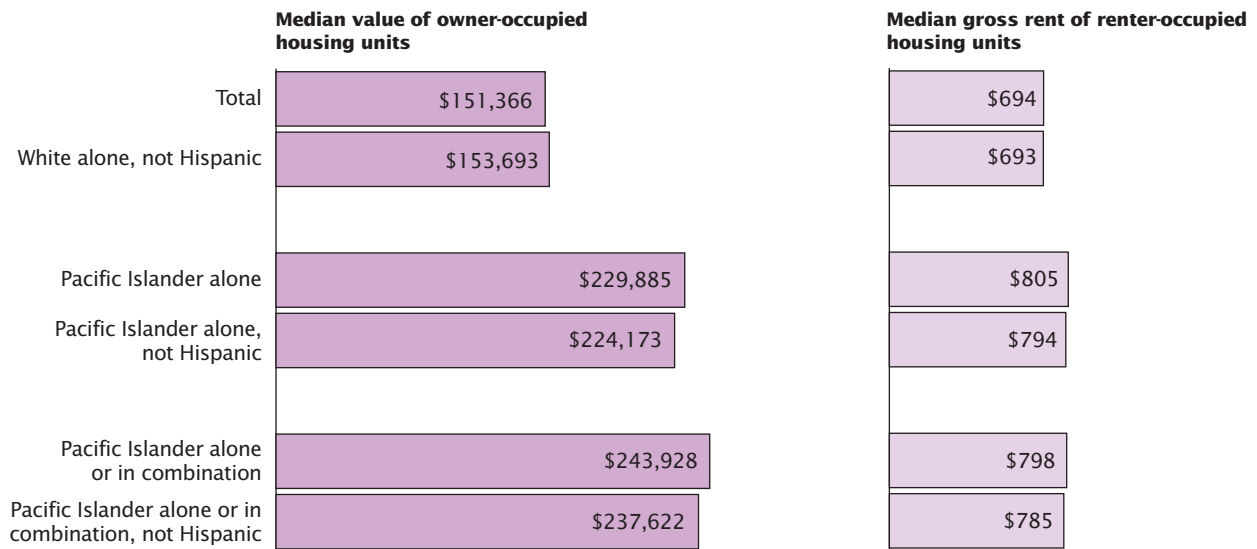
- The median value of Pacific Islander owner-occupied homes was about \$230,000. This was higher than the median value of non-Hispanic White owner-occupied homes (about \$154,000).<sup>17</sup>
- The median monthly rental payment of Pacific Islander households in renter-occupied homes was about \$805, compared with about \$693 for non-Hispanic White households.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Differences between the geographic distribution of Pacific Islanders and non-Hispanic Whites may affect home values and rental costs.

<sup>18</sup> The monthly rental payment represents gross rent (i.e., the amount of the contract rent plus the estimated average monthly cost of utilities and fuels).

Figure 15.  
**Selected Housing Characteristics: 2004**

(Housing units are classified by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

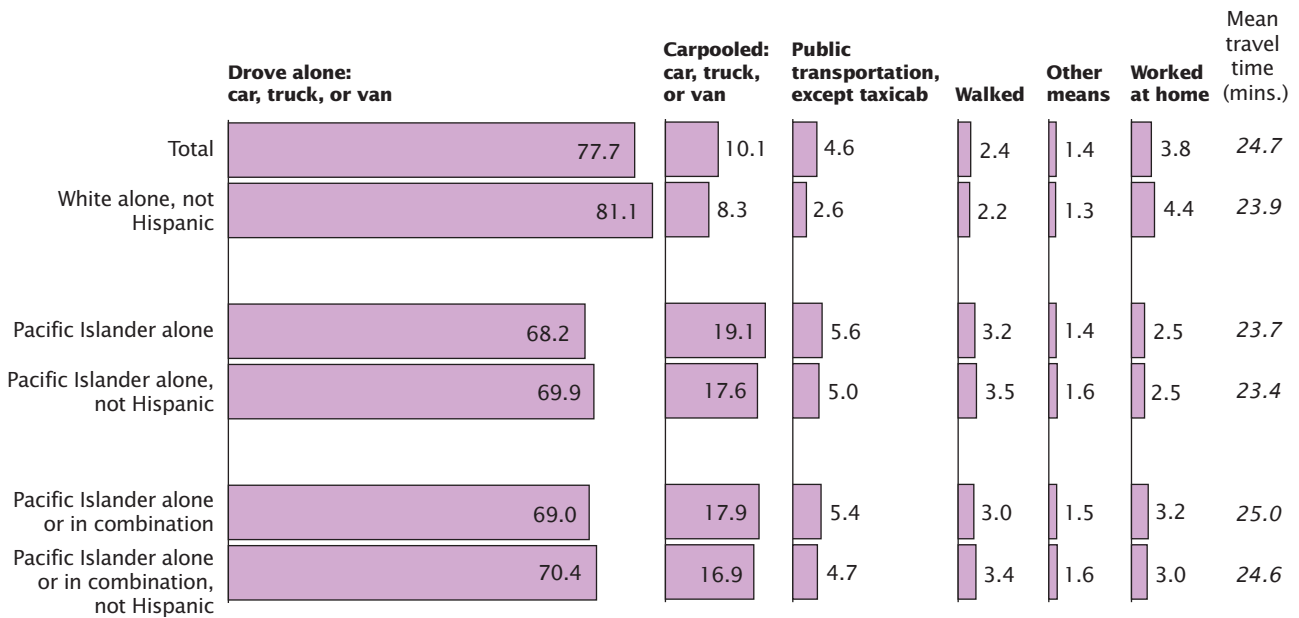
**Pacific Islander workers were more likely than non-Hispanic White workers to use public transportation or to carpool to work.**

- In 2004, about 68 percent of Pacific Islander workers aged 16 and older drove alone and about 19 percent carpooled to work.
- Among non-Hispanic White workers aged 16 and older, about 81 percent drove alone and about 8 percent carpooled to work.<sup>19</sup>
- Public transportation was used to commute by about 6 percent of Pacific Islander workers and about 3 percent of non-Hispanic White workers.
- The mean travel time to work was similar for Pacific Islander workers and non-Hispanic White workers (about 24 minutes).

<sup>19</sup> Differences between the geographic distribution of Pacific Islanders and non-Hispanic Whites may affect commuting patterns.

Figure 16.  
**Commuting to Work: 2004**

(Percent of workers 16 and older. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.



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## SOURCE OF THE DATA AND ACCURACY OF THE ESTIMATES

The findings presented in this report are based on the ACS sample interviewed in 2004. The data in this report are based on the population living in households that were included in the ACS sample. The 2004 ACS did not collect information from people living in group quarters, which include correctional facilities, hospitals, college dormitories, group homes, and overnight shelters.

The 2004 ACS used a two-stage stratified sample of approximately 838,000 housing units and the occupants of these units. ACS figures are estimates based on this sample and approximate the actual figures that would have been obtained by interviewing the entire household population using the same methodology. The estimates from the 2004 ACS sample may differ from other samples of housing units and people within those housing units. The process of sampling ensures the integrity and the representativeness of sample survey results but also results in sampling error. Sampling error is the deviation of a sample estimate from the average of all possible samples.

In addition to sampling error, other types of errors, specifically, nonsampling errors, may be introduced during any of the operations used to collect and process survey data. For example, operations such as editing, reviewing, or keying data from questionnaires may introduce error into the estimates. Nonsampling errors may affect the data in two ways. Errors that are introduced randomly increase the variability of the data. Systematic errors that are consistent in one direction introduce bias into the results of a sample survey. The Census Bureau protects against the effect of systematic errors on survey estimates by conducting extensive research and evaluation programs on sampling techniques, questionnaire design, and data collection and processing procedures. The primary sources of error and the processes instituted to control error in the 2004 ACS are described in further detail in the Accuracy of the Data (2004) explanation located at [www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2004.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2004.pdf).

Sampling errors and some types of nonsampling errors are estimated by the measure of standard error. The sample estimate and its estimated standard error permit the construction of interval estimates

with a prescribed confidence that the interval includes the average result of all possible samples. All comparison statements in this ACS 2004 report have undergone statistical testing, and comparisons are significant at the 90-percent confidence level unless otherwise noted.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Further information from the 2004 ACS is available from the American FactFinder on the Census Bureau's Web site. More than 1,000 tables are available, including population profiles for race, Hispanic-origin, and ancestry groups. The Internet address is <http://factfinder.census.gov>.

For information on confidentiality protection, also see [www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2004.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2004.pdf).

For more information on the Pacific Islander population, visit [www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/race/api.html](http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/race/api.html).

## CONTACT

For additional information, contact the Racial Statistics Branch at 301-763-2402 or via e-mail [pop@census.gov](mailto:pop@census.gov).

