

The Asian Population: 2000

Issued February 2002

Census 2000 Brief

C2KBR/01-16

By
Jessica S. Barnes and
Claudette E. Bennett

Census 2000 showed that the United States population was 281.4 million on April 1, 2000. Of the total, 11.9 million, or 4.2 percent, reported Asian.¹ This number included 10.2 million people, or 3.6 percent, who reported only Asian and 1.7 million people, or 0.6 percent, who reported Asian as well as one or more other races. Census 2000 asked separate questions on race and Hispanic or Latino origin. Hispanics who reported their race as Asian, either alone or in combination with one or more races, are included in the numbers for Asians.

This report, part of a series that analyzes population and housing data collected from Census 2000, provides a portrait of the Asian population in the United States and discusses its distribution at both the national and subnational levels. It begins by discussing the characteristics of the total Asian population and then focuses on the detailed groups, for example:

¹ In this report, the term "reported" is used to refer to the answers provided by respondents, as well as responses assigned during the editing and imputation processes. The Asian population includes many groups who differ in language, culture, and length of residence in the United States. Some of the Asian groups, such as the Chinese and Japanese, have been in the United States for several generations. Other groups, such as the Hmong, Vietnamese, Laotians, and Cambodians, are comparatively recent immigrants.

Figure 1.

Reproduction of the Question on Race From Census 2000

6. What is this person's race? Mark one or more races to indicate what this person considers himself/herself to be.

White

Black, African Am., or Negro

American Indian or Alaska Native — Print name of enrolled or principal tribe. ↗

Asian Indian Japanese Native Hawaiian

Chinese Korean Guamanian or Chamorro

Filipino Vietnamese Samoan

Other Asian — Print race. ↗ Other Pacific Islander — Print race. ↗

Some other race — Print race. ↗

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 questionnaire.

Asian Indian, Chinese, and Japanese. This report is based on data from the Census 2000 Summary File 1.² The text of this report discusses data for the United States, including the 50 states and the District of Columbia.³

The term "Asian" refers to people having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent (for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam). Asian groups are not limited to nationalities, but include ethnic terms, as well.

² Data from the Census 2000 Summary File 1 were released on a state-by-state basis during the summer of 2001.

³ Data for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico are shown in Table 2 and Figure 3.

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

Helping You Make Informed Decisions

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

United States
Census
2000

The first United States decennial census in 1790 collected data on race, but no distinction was made for people of Asian descent. Data have been collected on the Chinese population since the 1860 census and on the Japanese population since the 1870 census. The racial classification was expanded in the 1910 census to obtain separate figures on other groups such as Filipinos and Koreans. However, data on these other groups were collected on an intermittent basis through the 1970 census. Asian Indians were classified as White and the Vietnamese population was included in the “Other” race category in the 1970 census.

In the 1980 census, there were six separate response categories for Asians: Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, and Vietnamese. These same six categories appeared on both the 1990 and Census 2000 questionnaires. Also, for Census 2000, a separate “Other Asian” response category was added with a write-in area for respondents to indicate specific Asian groups not included on the questionnaire.

The question on race was changed for Census 2000.

All U.S. censuses have obtained information on race for every individual, and for the past several censuses, the responses reflect self-identification. For Census 2000, however, respondents were asked to report *one or more* races they

considered themselves and other members of their households to be.⁴

Because of these changes, the Census 2000 data on race are not directly comparable with data from the 1990 census or earlier censuses. Caution must be used when interpreting changes in the racial composition of the United States population over time.

The Census 2000 question on race included 15 separate response categories and 3 areas where respondents could write in a more specific race (see Figure 1). For some purposes, including this report, the response categories and write-in answers were combined to create the five standard Office of Management and Budget race categories, plus the Census Bureau category of “Some other race.” The six race categories include:

- White;
- Black or African American;
- American Indian and Alaska Native;
- Asian;
- Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander; and
- Some other race.

⁴ Other changes included terminology and formatting changes, such as spelling out “American” instead of “Amer.” for the American Indian or Alaska Native category and adding “Native” to the Hawaiian response category. In the layout of the Census 2000 questionnaire, the seven Asian response categories were alphabetized and grouped together, as were the four Pacific Islander categories after the Native Hawaiian category. The three separate American Indian and Alaska Native identifiers in the 1990 census (i.e., Indian (Amer.), Eskimo, and Aleut) were combined into a single identifier in Census 2000. Also, American Indians and Alaska Natives could report more than one tribe.

For a complete explanation of the race categories used in Census 2000, see the Census 2000 Brief, *Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin*.⁵

The data collected by Census 2000 on race can be divided into two broad categories: the race alone population and the race in combination population.

People who responded to the question on race by indicating *only one* race are referred to as the race *alone* population. For example, respondents who reported their race as one or more Asian detailed groups, but no other race, would be included in the Asian *alone* population.⁶

Individuals who reported *more than one* of the six races are referred to as the race *in combination* population. For example, respondents who reported they were “Asian **and** Black or African American” or “Asian **and** White **and** American Indian and Alaska Native”⁷ would be included in the Asian *in combination* population.

⁵ *Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2000*, U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Brief, C2KBR/01-1, March 2001, is available on the U.S. Census Bureau’s Internet site at www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/briefs.html.

⁶ Respondents reporting a single detailed Asian group, such as “Korean” or “Filipino,” would be included in the Asian *alone* population. Respondents reporting more than one detailed Asian group, such as “Chinese and Japanese” or “Asian Indian and Chinese and Vietnamese” would also be included in the Asian *alone* population. This is because all of the detailed groups in these example combinations are part of the larger Asian race category.

⁷ The race in combination categories are denoted by quotations around the combination with the conjunction **and** in bold and italicized print to indicate the separate races that comprise the combination.

Table 1.
Asian Population: 2000

(For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf)

Race	Number	Percent of total population
Total population	281,421,906	100.0
Asian alone or in combination with one or more other races	11,898,828	4.2
Asian alone	10,242,998	3.6
Asian in combination with one or more other races	1,655,830	0.6
Asian; White	868,395	0.3
Asian; Some other race	249,108	0.1
Asian; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	138,802	-
Asian; Black or African American	106,782	-
All other combinations including Asian	292,743	0.1
Not Asian alone or in combination with one or more other races	269,523,078	95.8

- Percentage rounds to 0.0.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File1.

The maximum number of people reporting Asian is reflected in the Asian alone or in combination population.

One way to define the Asian population is to combine those respondents who reported only Asian with those who reported Asian as well as one or more other races. This creates the Asian *alone or in combination* population. Another way to think of the Asian *alone or in combination* population is the total number of people who identified entirely or partially as Asian. This group is also described as people who reported Asian, whether or not they reported any other races.

Census 2000 provides a snapshot of the Asian population.

Table 1 shows the number and percentage of Census 2000 respondents who reported Asian alone as well as those who reported Asian and at least one other race.

Of the total United States population, 10.2 million people, or 3.6 percent, reported only Asian.

An additional 1.7 million people reported Asian and at least one other race. Within this group, the most common combinations were “Asian *and* White” (52 percent), followed by “Asian *and* Some other race” (15 percent), “Asian *and* Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander” (8.4 percent) and “Asian *and* Black or African American” (6.4 percent). These four combination categories accounted for 82 percent of all Asians who reported two or more races. Thus, 11.9 million people, or 4.2 percent of the total population, reported Asian alone or in combination with one or more other races.

The Asian population increased faster than the total population between 1990 and 2000.

Because of the changes made to the question on race in Census 2000, there are at least two ways to present the change in the total number of Asians in the United States. They include: 1) the difference in the Asian population between 1990 and 2000 using the race alone concept for 2000, and 2) the difference in the Asian

population between 1990 and 2000 using the race alone or in combination concept for 2000. These comparisons provide a “minimum-maximum” range for the change in the Asian population between 1990 and 2000.

The 1990 census counted 6.9 million Asians. Using the Asian alone population in 2000, this population increased by 3.3 million, or 48 percent, between 1990 and 2000. If the Asian alone or in combination population is used, an increase of 5.0 million, or 72 percent, results. Thus, from 1990 to 2000, the range for the increase in the Asian population was 48 percent to 72 percent. In comparison, the total population grew by 13 percent, from 248.7 million in 1990 to 281.4 million in 2000.

THE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF THE ASIAN POPULATION

The following discussion of the geographic distribution of the Asian population focuses on the Asian alone or in combination population in the text. As the upper bound of the Asian population, this group includes all respondents who reported Asian, whether or not they reported any other race.⁸ Hereafter, in the text of this section, the term “Asian” will be used to refer to those who reported Asian whether they reported one or more than one race. However, in the tables and graphs, data for both the Asian alone and alone or in combination populations are shown.

⁸ The use of the *alone or in combination* population in this section does not imply that it is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. In general, either the *alone* population or the *alone or in combination* population can be used, depending on the purpose of the analysis. The Census Bureau uses both approaches.

About one-half of the Asian population lived in the West.⁹

According to Census 2000, of all respondents who reported Asian, 49 percent lived in the West, 20 percent lived in the Northeast, 19 percent lived in the South, and 12 percent lived in the Midwest (see Figure 2).

The West had the highest proportion of Asians in its total population as well as the largest total Asian population: 9.3 percent of all respondents in the West reported Asian, compared with 4.4 percent in the Northeast, 2.3 percent in the South, and 2.2 percent in the Midwest (see Table 2).

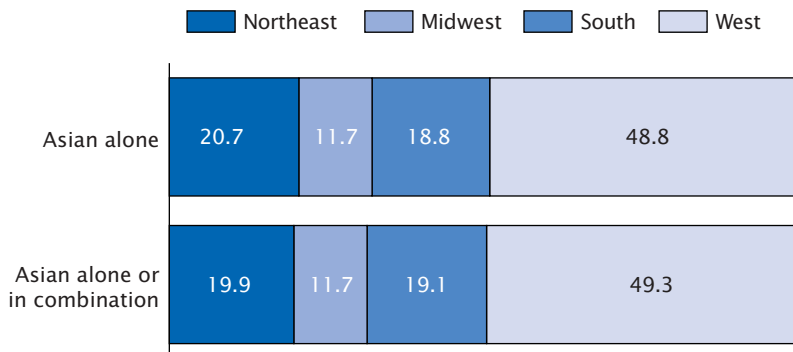
Over half of all people who reported Asian lived in just three states.

Over half (51 percent) of the Asian population lived in just three states: California, New York, and Hawaii, which accounted for 19 percent of the total population. California, by far, had the largest Asian population (4.2 million), followed by New York (1.2 million), and Hawaii (0.7 million). The ten states with the largest Asian populations in 2000 were: California, New York, Hawaii, Texas, New Jersey, Illinois, Washington, Florida, Virginia, and Massachusetts (see Table 2). Combined, these states represented 75 percent of the

⁹ The West region includes the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. The Northeast region includes the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont. The South region includes the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia, a state equivalent. The Midwest region includes the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Figure 2.
Percent Distribution of the Asian Population by Region: 2000

(For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1.

Asian population, but only 47 percent of the total population in the United States.

The Asian population exceeded the U.S. level of 4.2 percent of the total population in nine states. Five states were in the West — Hawaii (58 percent), California (12 percent), Washington (6.7 percent), Nevada (5.6 percent), and Alaska (5.2 percent); two states were in the Northeast — New Jersey and New York (both 6.2 percent); and two states were in the South — Maryland (4.5 percent), and Virginia (4.3 percent). No states in the Midwest had Asian populations greater than the U.S. national average of 4.2 percent.

In nine states, Asians represented less than 1 percent of the total population. Four of those states were located in the South: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and West Virginia. Two were in the Midwest: North Dakota and South Dakota. Two were in the West: Montana and Wyoming. Maine was the only state in the Northeast with an Asian population less than 1 percent.

The Asian population was concentrated in counties in the West, especially in Hawaii and California.

Of the 3,141 counties in the United States, 122 counties had Asian populations greater than the national average of 4.2 percent, of which 39 counties had at least twice the national average. The overwhelming majority of counties (2,382) had lower concentrations of Asians (less than 1 percent).

Not surprisingly, the counties with the highest concentration of Asians (over 25 percent) were in Hawaii. Honolulu county, by far, had the highest proportion of Asians (62 percent). Three other counties in Hawaii were more than 47 percent Asian, followed by two counties each in Alaska, and the San Francisco Bay area in California.

Although Asians resided in an array of counties, the largest concentrations tended to be found in coastal and/or urban counties, while smaller concentrations were scattered throughout the United States (see Figure 3). The majority of the counties with Asian

Table 2.
**Asian Population for the United States, Regions, and States, and for Puerto Rico:
 1990 and 2000**

(For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf)

Area	1990			2000						
	Total population	Asian population		Total population	Asian alone population		Asian alone or in combination population		Asian in combination population	
		Number	Percent of total population		Number	Percent of total population	Number	Percent of total population	Number	Percent of Asian alone or in combination population
United States	248,709,873	6,908,638	2.8	281,421,906	10,242,998	3.6	11,898,828	4.2	1,655,830	13.9
Region										
Northeast	50,809,229	1,324,865	2.6	53,594,378	2,119,426	4.0	2,368,297	4.4	248,871	10.5
Midwest	59,668,632	755,403	1.3	64,392,776	1,197,554	1.9	1,392,938	2.2	195,384	14.0
South	85,445,930	1,094,179	1.3	100,236,820	1,922,407	1.9	2,267,094	2.3	344,687	15.2
West	52,786,082	3,734,191	7.1	63,197,932	5,003,611	7.9	5,870,499	9.3	866,888	14.8
State										
Alabama	4,040,587	21,088	0.5	4,447,100	31,346	0.7	39,458	0.9	8,112	20.6
Alaska	550,043	17,814	3.2	626,932	25,116	4.0	32,686	5.2	7,570	23.2
Arizona	3,665,228	51,699	1.4	5,130,632	92,236	1.8	118,672	2.3	26,436	22.3
Arkansas	2,350,725	12,125	0.5	2,673,400	20,220	0.8	25,401	1.0	5,181	20.4
California	29,760,021	2,735,060	9.2	33,871,648	3,697,513	10.9	4,155,685	12.3	458,172	11.0
Colorado	3,294,394	57,122	1.7	4,301,261	95,213	2.2	120,779	2.8	25,566	21.2
Connecticut	3,287,116	50,078	1.5	3,405,565	82,313	2.4	95,368	2.8	13,055	13.7
Delaware	666,168	8,888	1.3	783,600	16,259	2.1	18,944	2.4	2,685	14.2
District of Columbia	606,900	10,923	1.8	572,059	15,189	2.7	17,956	3.1	2,767	15.4
Florida	12,937,926	149,856	1.2	15,982,378	266,256	1.7	333,013	2.1	66,757	20.0
Georgia	6,478,216	73,764	1.1	8,186,453	173,170	2.1	199,812	2.4	26,642	13.3
Hawaii	1,108,229	522,967	47.2	1,211,537	503,868	41.6	703,232	58.0	199,364	28.3
Idaho	1,006,749	8,492	0.8	1,293,953	11,889	0.9	17,390	1.3	5,501	31.6
Illinois	11,430,602	282,569	2.5	12,419,293	423,603	3.4	473,649	3.8	50,046	10.6
Indiana	5,544,159	36,660	0.7	6,080,485	59,126	1.0	72,839	1.2	13,713	18.8
Iowa	2,776,755	25,037	0.9	2,926,324	36,635	1.3	43,119	1.5	6,484	15.0
Kansas	2,477,574	30,708	1.2	2,688,418	46,806	1.7	56,049	2.1	9,243	16.5
Kentucky	3,685,296	16,983	0.5	4,041,769	29,744	0.7	37,062	0.9	7,318	19.7
Louisiana	4,219,973	40,173	1.0	4,468,976	54,758	1.2	64,350	1.4	9,592	14.9
Maine	1,227,928	6,450	0.5	1,274,923	9,111	0.7	11,827	0.9	2,716	23.0
Maryland	4,781,468	138,148	2.9	5,296,486	210,929	4.0	238,408	4.5	27,479	11.5
Massachusetts	6,016,425	142,137	2.4	6,349,097	238,124	3.8	264,814	4.2	26,690	10.1
Michigan	9,295,297	103,501	1.1	9,938,444	176,510	1.8	208,329	2.1	31,819	15.3
Minnesota	4,375,099	76,952	1.8	4,919,479	141,968	2.9	162,414	3.3	20,446	12.6
Mississippi	2,573,216	12,679	0.5	2,844,658	18,626	0.7	23,281	0.8	4,655	20.0
Missouri	5,117,073	39,271	0.8	5,595,211	61,595	1.1	76,210	1.4	14,615	19.2
Montana	799,065	3,958	0.5	902,195	4,691	0.5	7,101	0.8	2,410	33.9
Nebraska	1,578,385	11,945	0.8	1,711,263	21,931	1.3	26,809	1.6	4,878	18.2
Nevada	1,201,833	35,232	2.9	1,998,257	90,266	4.5	112,456	5.6	22,190	19.7
New Hampshire	1,109,252	9,121	0.8	1,235,786	15,931	1.3	19,219	1.6	3,288	17.1
New Jersey	7,730,188	270,839	3.5	8,414,350	480,276	5.7	524,356	6.2	44,080	8.4
New Mexico	1,515,069	13,363	0.9	1,819,046	19,255	1.1	26,619	1.5	7,364	27.7
New York	17,990,455	689,303	3.8	18,976,457	1,044,976	5.5	1,169,200	6.2	124,224	10.6
North Carolina	6,628,637	49,970	0.8	8,049,313	113,689	1.4	136,212	1.7	22,523	16.5
North Dakota	638,800	3,317	0.5	642,200	3,606	0.6	4,967	0.8	1,361	27.4
Ohio	10,847,115	89,723	0.8	11,353,140	132,633	1.2	159,776	1.4	27,143	17.0
Oklahoma	3,145,585	32,002	1.0	3,450,654	46,767	1.4	58,723	1.7	11,956	20.4
Oregon	2,842,321	64,232	2.3	3,421,399	101,350	3.0	127,339	3.7	25,989	20.4
Pennsylvania	11,881,643	135,784	1.1	12,281,054	219,813	1.8	248,601	2.0	28,788	11.6
Rhode Island	1,003,464	18,019	1.8	1,048,319	23,665	2.3	28,290	2.7	4,625	16.3
South Carolina	3,486,703	21,399	0.6	4,012,012	36,014	0.9	44,931	1.1	8,917	19.8
South Dakota	696,004	2,938	0.4	754,844	4,378	0.6	6,009	0.8	1,631	27.1
Tennessee	4,877,185	30,944	0.6	5,689,283	56,662	1.0	68,919	1.2	12,257	17.8
Texas	16,986,510	311,918	1.8	20,851,820	562,319	2.7	644,193	3.1	81,874	12.7
Utah	1,722,850	25,696	1.5	2,233,169	37,108	1.7	48,692	2.2	11,584	23.8
Vermont	562,758	3,134	0.6	608,827	5,217	0.9	6,622	1.1	1,405	21.2
Virginia	6,187,358	156,036	2.5	7,078,515	261,025	3.7	304,559	4.3	43,534	14.3
Washington	4,866,692	195,918	4.0	5,894,121	322,335	5.5	395,741	6.7	73,406	18.5
West Virginia	1,793,477	7,283	0.4	1,808,344	9,434	0.5	11,873	0.7	2,439	20.5
Wisconsin	4,891,769	52,782	1.1	5,363,675	88,763	1.7	102,768	1.9	14,005	13.6
Wyoming	453,588	2,638	0.6	493,782	2,771	0.6	4,107	0.8	1,336	32.5
Puerto Rico	3,522,037	(X)	(X)	3,808,610	7,960	0.2	17,279	0.5	9,319	53.9

X Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1; 1990 Census of Population, *General Population Characteristics* (1990 CP-1).

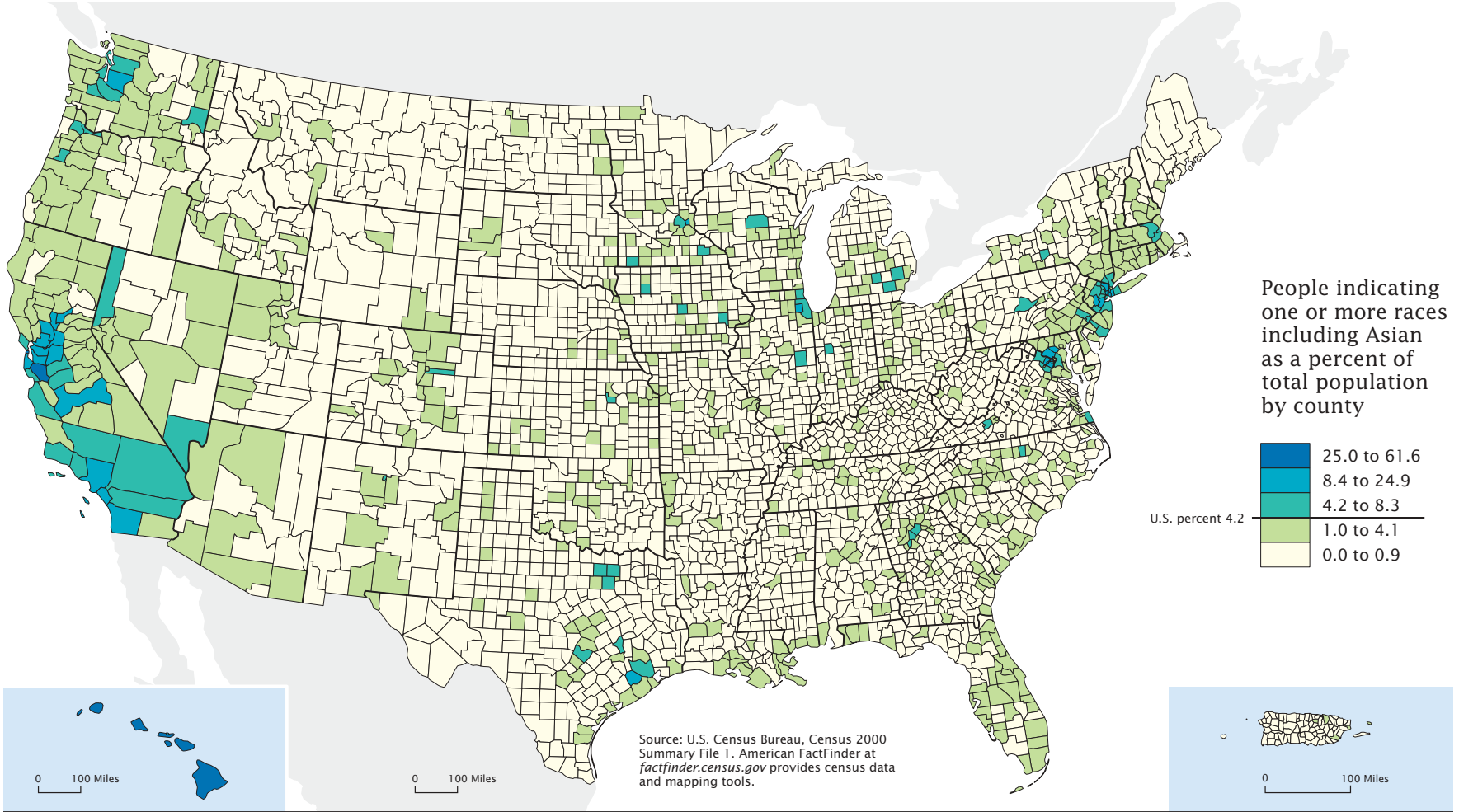
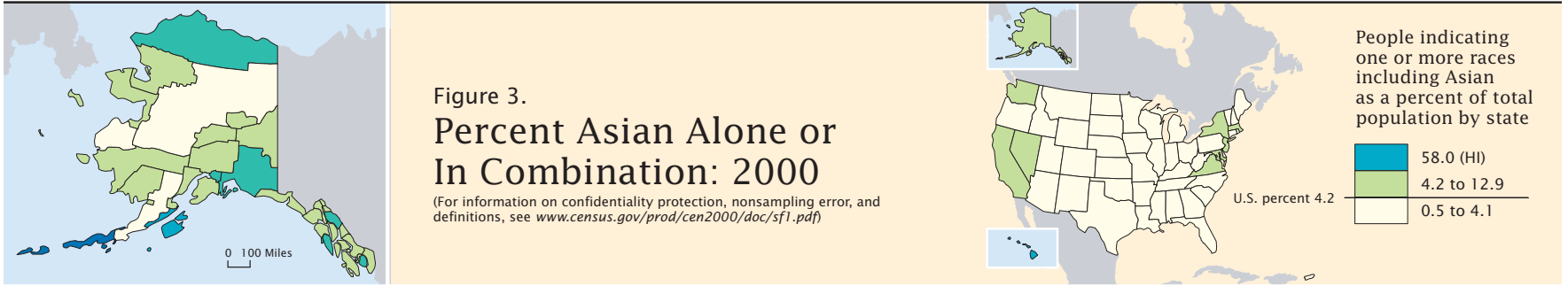


Table 3.
Ten Largest Places in Total Population and in Asian Population: 2000

(For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf)

Place	Total population		Asian alone		Asian alone or in combination		Percent of total population	
	Rank	Number	Rank	Number	Rank	Number	Asian alone	Asian alone or in combination
New York, NY.....	1	8,008,278	1	787,047	1	872,777	9.8	10.9
Los Angeles, CA.....	2	3,694,820	2	369,254	2	407,444	10.0	11.0
Chicago, IL.....	3	2,896,016	7	125,974	7	140,517	4.3	4.9
Houston, TX.....	4	1,953,631	8	103,694	8	114,140	5.3	5.8
Philadelphia, PA.....	5	1,517,550	11	67,654	12	74,435	4.5	4.9
Phoenix, AZ.....	6	1,321,045	34	26,449	30	33,194	2.0	2.5
San Diego, CA.....	7	1,223,400	6	166,968	6	189,413	13.6	15.5
Dallas, TX.....	8	1,188,580	27	32,118	27	36,665	2.7	3.1
San Antonio, TX.....	9	1,144,646	48	17,934	42	24,046	1.6	2.1
Detroit, MI.....	10	951,270	94	9,268	84	12,361	1.0	1.3
San Jose, CA.....	11	894,943	3	240,375	3	257,571	26.9	28.8
San Francisco, CA.....	13	776,733	4	239,565	4	253,477	30.8	32.6
Seattle, WA.....	24	563,374	10	73,910	9	84,649	13.1	15.0
Honolulu, HI*.....	46	371,657	5	207,588	5	251,686	55.9	67.7
Fremont, CA.....	85	203,413	9	75,165	10	80,979	37.0	39.8

* Honolulu, HI, is a census designated place and is not legally incorporated. See footnote 10.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1.

populations more than twice the national average were predominantly concentrated in suburbs of large metropolitan areas such as Seattle, Washington; Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay area of California; New York, New York; Newark, New Jersey; Washington, DC; Chicago, Illinois; Houston, Texas; and the Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, metropolitan area. Concentrations of Asians outside the suburbs of large metropolitan areas were typically located near colleges and universities.

Los Angeles county was the only county with over one million Asians. Honolulu county was the only other county with an Asian population over one-half million.

The two places with the largest Asian populations were New York and Los Angeles.¹⁰

Census 2000 showed that, of all places in the United States with 100,000 or more population, New York had the largest Asian population with 872,777, followed by Los Angeles with 407,444 (see Table 3). Eight places had Asian populations over 100,000: five in the West, and one each in the Northeast, Midwest, and the South.

Of the ten largest places in the United States, San Diego had the largest proportion of Asians (15 percent), followed by Los Angeles and New York with 11 percent each. Asians represented 1.3 percent of the total population in Detroit, the lowest percentage

among the country's ten largest cities.

Among places of 100,000 or more population, the highest proportion of Asians was in Honolulu (68 percent) as shown in Figure 4. One additional place, Daly City, California, had over one-half of its population reporting Asian. The ten places with the highest proportion of Asians ranged from 29 percent in San Jose, California, to 68 percent in Honolulu, Hawaii. All ten places were in the West; nine of them were in California.

ADDITIONAL FINDINGS ON THE ASIAN POPULATION

Which Asian group was the largest?

According to Census 2000, Chinese was the largest detailed Asian group in the United States. This is true for both the alone and the alone or in combination populations. There were 2.3 million people who reported only Chinese and an additional 0.4 million

¹⁰ Census 2000 showed 245 places in the United States with 100,000 or more population. They included 238 incorporated places (including 4 city-county consolidations) and 7 census designated places that were not legally incorporated. For a list of these places by state, see www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/phc-t6.html.

people who reported Chinese with at least one other race or Asian group. A total of 2.7 million people reported Chinese alone or in combination with one or more other races or Asian groups (see Table 4).

Filipinos and Asian Indians were the next two largest specified Asian groups. There were 1.9 million people who reported Filipino alone and an additional 0.5 million who reported Filipino in combination with one or more other races or Asian groups. This gives a total of 2.4 million people who reported Filipino alone or in combination with at least one other race or Asian group. About 1.7 million people reported only Asian Indian and an additional 0.2 million reported Asian Indian in combination with one or more other races or Asian groups. A total of 1.9 million people reported Asian Indian alone or in combination with at least one other race or Asian group.

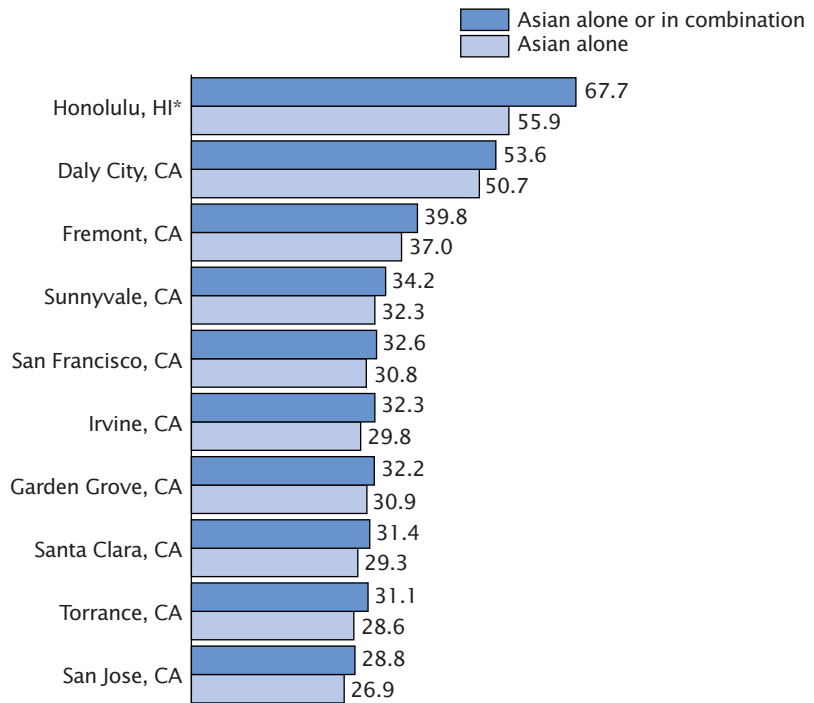
Combined, Chinese, Filipinos, and Asian Indians accounted for 58 percent of all respondents who reported a single Asian group. Of all Asian groups mentioned in race combinations, these three groups accounted for 57 percent of all responses.

Among the largest Asian groups, which was most likely to be in combination with one or more other races or Asian groups?

Of the six largest specified Asian groups, Japanese were most likely to report one or more other races or Asian groups. Of all respondents who reported Japanese, either alone or in combination, 31 percent reported one or more other races or Asian groups (see Figure 5). This included 4.8 percent who reported Japanese with one or more other

Figure 4.
Ten Places of 100,000 or More Population With the Highest Percentage of Asians: 2000

(For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf)



* Honolulu, HI, is a census designated place and is not legally incorporated. See footnote 10.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1.

Asian groups, 21 percent who reported Japanese with one or more other races, and 4.8 percent who reported Japanese in addition to one or more other races and Asian groups (see Table 4). Vietnamese were least likely to be in combination with one or more other races or Asian groups. Of all respondents who reported Vietnamese, 8.3 percent reported one or more other races or Asian groups.

Were there differences in median age between the Asian alone and the Asian in combination populations and the total U.S. population?

The median age of the total U.S. population was 35.3 years. The overall median age for people who reported Asian alone was

32.7 years, which was 2.6 years younger than the total population. Those who reported Asian in combination with one or more races had a median age of 31.1 years, which was 4.2 years younger than the total.

ABOUT CENSUS 2000

Why did Census 2000 ask the question on race?

The Census Bureau collects data on race to fulfill a variety of legislative and program requirements. Data on race are used in the legislative redistricting process carried out by the states and in monitoring local jurisdictions' compliance with the Voting Rights Act. These data are also essential for evaluating federal programs that promote equal

Table 4.
Asian Population by Detailed Group: 2000

(For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf)

Detailed group	Asian alone		Asian in combination with one or more other races		Asian detailed group alone or in any combination ²
	One Asian group reported ¹	Two or more Asian groups reported ²	One Asian group reported	Two or more Asian groups reported ²	
Total	10,019,405	223,593	1,516,841	138,989	11,898,828
Asian Indian	1,678,765	40,013	165,437	15,384	1,899,599
Bangladeshi	41,280	5,625	9,655	852	57,412
Bhutanese.....	183	9	17	3	212
Burmese	13,159	1,461	1,837	263	16,720
Cambodian	171,937	11,832	20,830	1,453	206,052
Chinese, except Taiwanese.....	2,314,537	130,826	201,688	87,790	2,734,841
Filipino	1,850,314	57,811	385,236	71,454	2,364,815
Hmong.....	169,428	5,284	11,153	445	186,310
Indo Chinese	113	55	23	8	199
Indonesian	39,757	4,429	17,256	1,631	63,073
Iwo Jiman	15	3	60	-	78
Japanese.....	796,700	55,537	241,209	55,486	1,148,932
Korean.....	1,076,872	22,550	114,211	14,794	1,228,427
Laotian.....	168,707	10,396	17,914	1,186	198,203
Malaysian	10,690	4,339	2,837	700	18,566
Maldivian.....	27	2	22	-	51
Nepalese.....	7,858	351	1,128	62	9,399
Okinawan	3,513	2,625	2,816	1,645	10,599
Pakistani	153,533	11,095	37,587	2,094	204,309
Singaporean.....	1,437	580	307	70	2,394
Sri Lankan.....	20,145	1,219	2,966	257	24,587
Taiwanese.....	118,048	14,096	11,394	1,257	144,795
Thai	112,989	7,929	27,170	2,195	150,283
Vietnamese.....	1,122,528	47,144	48,639	5,425	1,223,736
Other Asian, not specified ³	146,870	19,576	195,449	7,535	369,430

- Represents zero.

¹The total of 10,019,405 respondents categorized as reporting only one Asian group in this table is lower than the total of 10,019,410 shown in Table PCT5 (U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1 100-Percent Data, see factfinder.census.gov). This table includes more detailed groups than PCT5. This means that, for example, an individual who reported "Pakistani and Nepalese" is shown in this table as reporting two or more Asian groups. However, that same individual is categorized as reporting a single Asian group in PCT5 because both Pakistani and Nepalese are part of the larger Other specified Asian group.

²The numbers by detailed Asian group do not add to the total population. This is because the detailed Asian groups are tallies of the number of Asian responses rather than the number of Asian respondents. Respondents reporting several Asian groups are counted several times. For example, a respondent reporting "Korean and Filipino" would be included in the Korean as well as the Filipino numbers.

³Includes respondents who checked the "Other Asian" response category on the census questionnaire or wrote in a generic term such as "Asian" or "Asiatic."

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, special tabulations.

access to employment, education, and housing and for assessing racial disparities in health and exposure to environmental risks. More broadly, data on race are critical for research that underlies many policy decisions at all levels of government.

How do data from the question on race benefit me, my family, and my community?

All levels of government need information on race to implement

and evaluate programs, or enforce laws. Examples include: the Native American Programs Act, the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act, the Public Health Act, the Healthcare Improvement Act, the Job Partnership Training Act, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Fair Housing Act, and the Census Redistricting Data Program.

Both public and private organizations use race information to find areas where groups may need

special services and to plan and implement education, housing, health, and other programs that address these needs. For example, a school system might use this information to design cultural activities that reflect the diversity in their community. Or a business could use it to select the mix of merchandise it will sell in a new store. Census information also helps identify areas where residents might need services of particular importance to certain racial

or ethnic groups, such as screening for hypertension or diabetes.

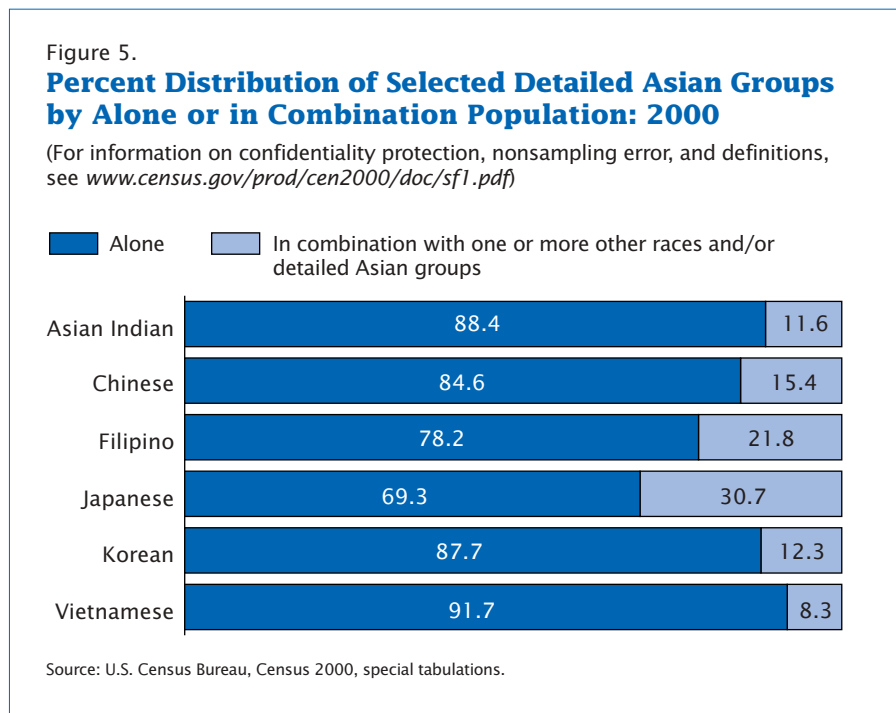
FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on race in the United States, visit the U.S. Census Bureau’s Internet site at www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/race.html.

Race data from the Census 2000 Summary File 1 were released on a state-by-state basis during the summer of 2001. The Census 2000 Summary File 1 data are available on the Internet via factfinder.census.gov and for purchase on CD-ROM and DVD.

For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf or contact our Customer Services Center at 301-763-INFO (4636).

For more information on specific races in the United States, go to www.census.gov and click on “Minority Links.” This Web page includes information about Census 2000 and provides links to reports based on past censuses and surveys focusing on the social and economic characteristics of the



Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander populations.

Information on other population and housing topics is presented in the Census 2000 Brief series, located on the U.S. Census Bureau’s Web site at www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/briefs.html. This series presents

information on race, Hispanic origin, age, sex, household type, housing tenure, and other social, economic, and housing characteristics.

For more information about Census 2000, including data products, call our Customer Services Center at 301-763-INFO (4636), or e-mail webmaster@census.gov.

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
Washington, DC 20233

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Penalty for Private Use \$300

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
U.S. Census Bureau
Permit No. G-58