



Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States Aged 55-64 Years: Population, Nativity, and Language

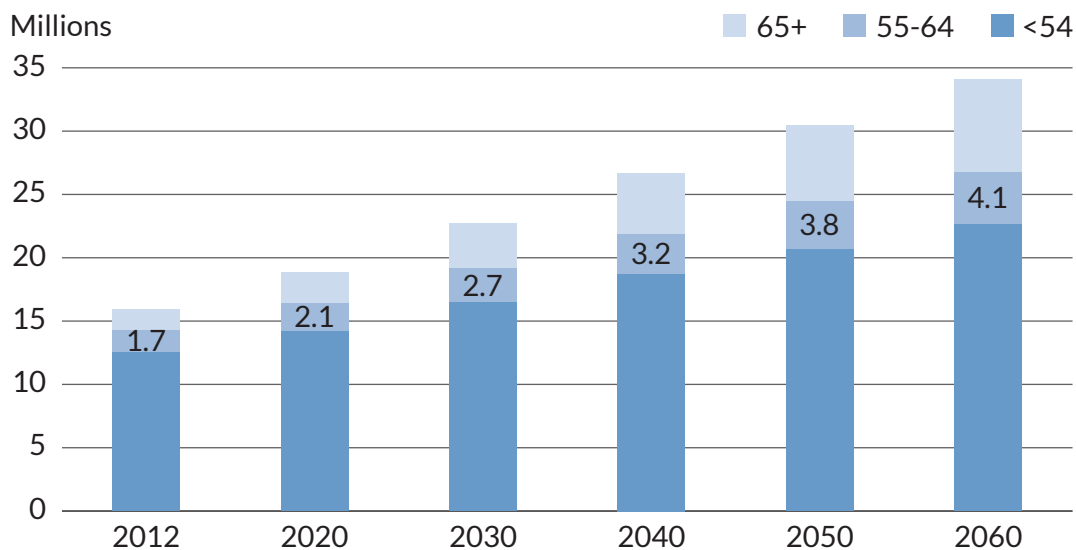
Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) are one of the fastest growing populations of older adults in the United States. Individuals aged 55-64 represent an important segment of the older adult population who are not eligible for senior benefits, such as Medicare and Social Security. California, New York, and Hawaii have the largest AAPI older adult populations. The most recent statistics reveal that AAPIs make up about 4% of the total U.S. population aged 55-64, and about 10% of the total AAPI population. The five largest ethnic groups among Asians aged 55-64 years are Chinese, Filipino, Indian, Vietnamese, and Korean. Approximately 87% of AAPIs aged 55-64 years are foreign-born, and 64% are naturalized citizens.

AAPIs speak over 40 languages and dialects. Only 15% of AAPIs aged 55-64 years speak English at home, and over half (53%) have limited English proficiency. Additionally, nearly a quarter (23%) are linguistically isolated, which means that all members of the household speak English less than “very well.” These data indicate the need for linguistically appropriate services for Asian elders.

Population Statistics by Race and Hispanic Origin

Approximately 1.7 million AAPIs, or 11% of the total AAPI population, were aged 55-64 years in 2012. Over the next 50 years, the number of AAPIs aged 55-64 is expected to grow 136% to 4.1 million, making up about 12% of the total AAPI population in 2060. The older Asian population is one of the fastest growing older populations in the U.S.

Figure 1: U.S. AAPI Population Projection, 55-64 Years Old



Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2012), based on 2010 Census

Between 2000 and 2010, there was a 98% growth in the Asian older adult population (aged 55-64), and an 82% growth in the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (NHPI) older population.

Table 1: U.S. Populations by Race and Hispanic Origin (Alone), 55-64 Years Old

| Race/Hispanic Origin (Alone) | 2000 Estimated Count | 2000 Percent of U.S. Population 55-64 | 2010 Estimated Count | 2010 Percent of U.S. Population 55-64 | Percent Growth |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Asian | 776,544 | 3.2 | 1,534,091 | 4.2 | 98 |
| NHPI* | 23,570 | 0.1 | 42,833 | 0.1 | 82 |
| White | 20,053,089 | 82.6 | 29,255,521 | 80.2 | 46 |
| Hispanic | 1,710,440 | 7.0 | 3,213,817 | 8.8 | 88 |
| Black | 2,370,110 | 9.8 | 3,892,515 | 10.7 | 64 |
| AIAN** | 157,720 | 0.6 | 272,682 | 0.7 | 73 |
| Total | 24,274,684 | 100 | 36,482,729 | 100 | 50 |

* Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, ** American Indian/Alaska Native.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Census

Population Growth by Race Alone-or-in-Combination

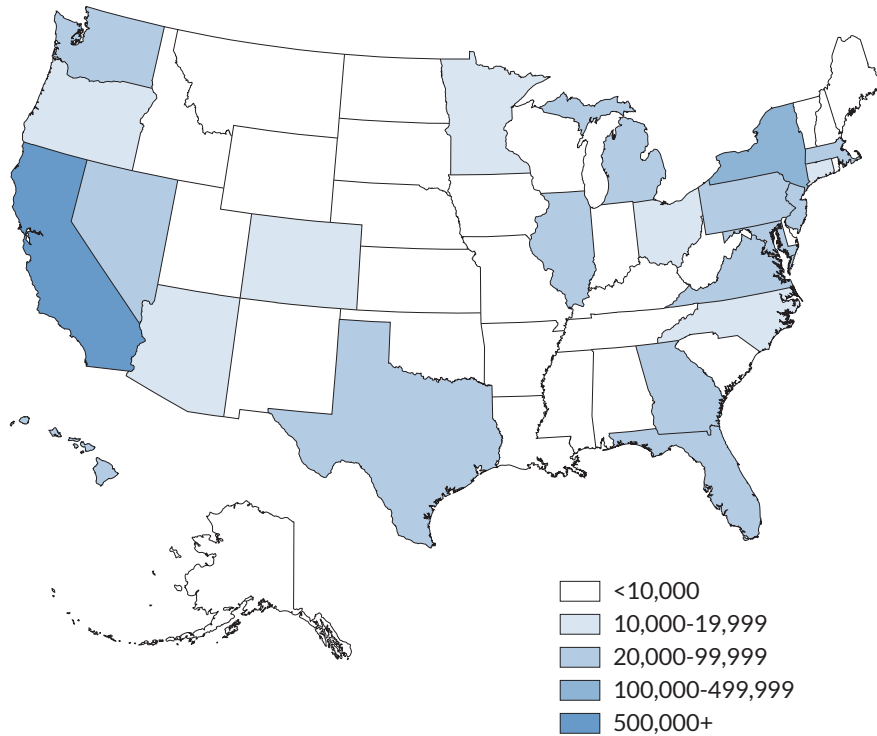
- Between 2000 and 2010, there was a 98% growth in the older Asian alone-or-in-combination population 55-64 years of age, from 838,474 to 1,656,697.
- Between 2000 and 2010, there was an 85% growth in the older NHPI alone-or-in-combination population, from 46,991 to 87,025.

Table 2: States with the Highest Growth of AAPIs from 2000 to 2010, 55-64 Years Old

| State | 2000 Population | 2010 Population | Percent Growth |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Nevada | 9,036 | 26,668 | 195 |
| New Hampshire | 881 | 2,279 | 159 |
| Arizona | 6,862 | 17,393 | 153 |
| North Carolina | 6,647 | 16,774 | 152 |
| Arkansas | 1,322 | 3,292 | 149 |
| Idaho | 791 | 1,968 | 149 |
| Georgia | 11,355 | 27,823 | 145 |
| Vermont | 260 | 636 | 145 |
| Texas | 37,836 | 92,517 | 145 |
| Alaska | 2,031 | 4,764 | 135 |
| Florida | 21,836 | 50,724 | 132 |
| Alabama | 2,185 | 4,969 | 127 |
| Utah | 2,734 | 6,117 | 124 |
| Maine | 564 | 1,258 | 123 |
| South Carolina | 2,739 | 6,050 | 121 |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Census

Figure 2: AAPI Population by State, 55-64 Years Old



- Approximately 58% of the AAPI population aged 55-64 years and older live in California, New York, and Hawaii.
- Illinois, New Jersey, Texas, Hawaii, New York, and California have AAPI older adult populations over 50,000.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

Table 3: States with Largest AAPI Populations, 55-64 Years Old

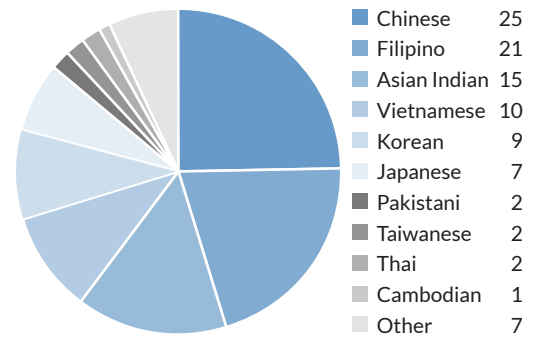
| State | Number | Percent of AAPI 55-64 Population |
|------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Total AAPI 55-64 Population | 1,576,924 | 100 |
| California | 579,636 | 37 |
| New York | 152,873 | 10 |
| Texas | 92,517 | 6 |
| Hawaii | 92,303 | 6 |
| New Jersey | 72,377 | 5 |
| Illinois | 61,957 | 4 |
| Washington | 53,212 | 3 |
| Florida | 50,724 | 3 |
| Virginia | 41,879 | 3 |
| Maryland | 33,588 | 2 |
| Pennsylvania | 31,330 | 2 |
| Massachusetts | 28,214 | 2 |
| Georgia | 27,823 | 2 |
| Nevada | 26,668 | 2 |
| Michigan | 20,106 | 1 |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

Population Statistics by AAPI Ethnic Sub-groups

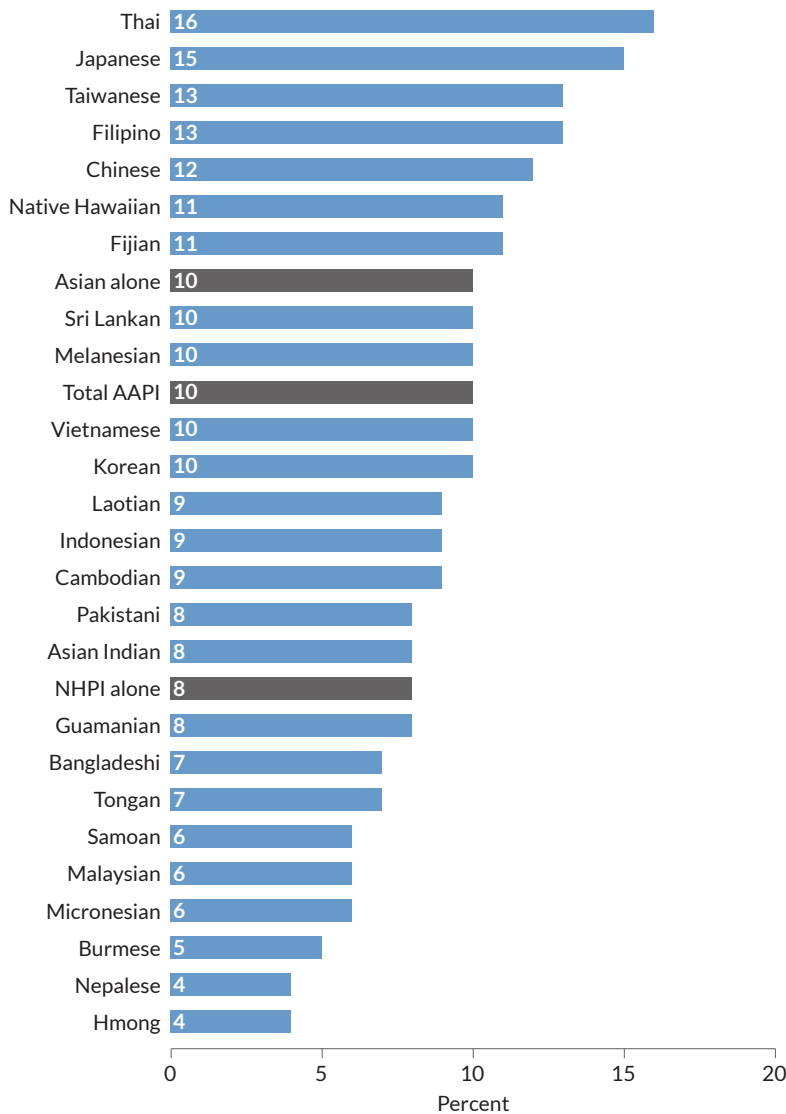
Figure 3: Percent of AAPI Population by Ethnic Group, 55-64 Years Old

- AAPIs 55-64 make up about 4% of the total U.S. older population, and about 10% of the total AAPI population.
- Chinese are the largest Asian American ethnic group aged 55-64 years (25% of AAPI elders), with a population of 391,364.
- “Other” includes: Native Hawaiians, Laotians, Hmong, Bangladeshis, Micronesians, Samoans, Guamanians, Indonesians, Burmese, and Sri Lankans.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

Figure 4: Percent of AAPI Ethnic Group Aged 55-64 Years Old

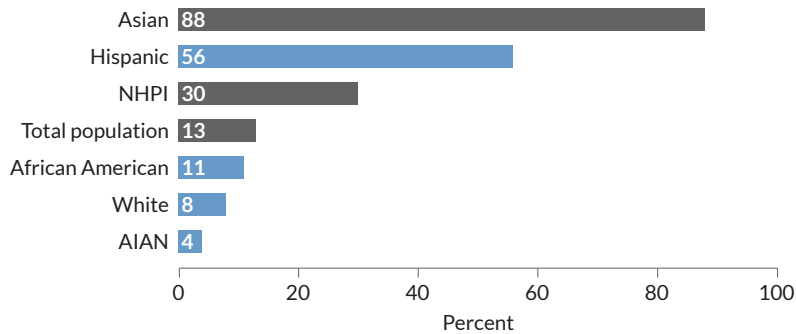


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

- Approximately 10% of the total AAPI population and 10% of Asians alone are 55-64 years of age.
- About 8% of NHPIs are 55-64 years of age.
- Among Asian ethnic groups, Thais have the largest percentage of older persons aged 55-64 years (16%).
- Similarly, over one in 10 Japanese, Taiwanese, Filipino, Chinese, Native Hawaiian, and Fijian are aged 55-64 years.
- Ethnic groups such as Hmong, Nepalese, Burmese, Micronesians, Malaysians, and Samoan Americans tend to be younger ethnic populations with less than 7% of their population 55-64 years.

Nativity

Figure 5: Percent of Population who are Foreign-Born* by Race and Hispanic Origin, 55-64 Years Old



- Approximately 88% of older Asian Americans (55-64 years) are foreign-born, more than any other racial group in the U.S.
- By comparison, 56% of Hispanics/Latinos and 8% of non-Hispanic Whites were born abroad.

* According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the term “foreign-born” refers to anyone who is not a U.S. citizen at birth. An individual who is “native-born” was born in the United States, Puerto Rico, a U.S. Island Area (including American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or the U.S. Virgin Islands), or abroad to U.S. citizen parent(s).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey (ACS), 3-Year Estimates

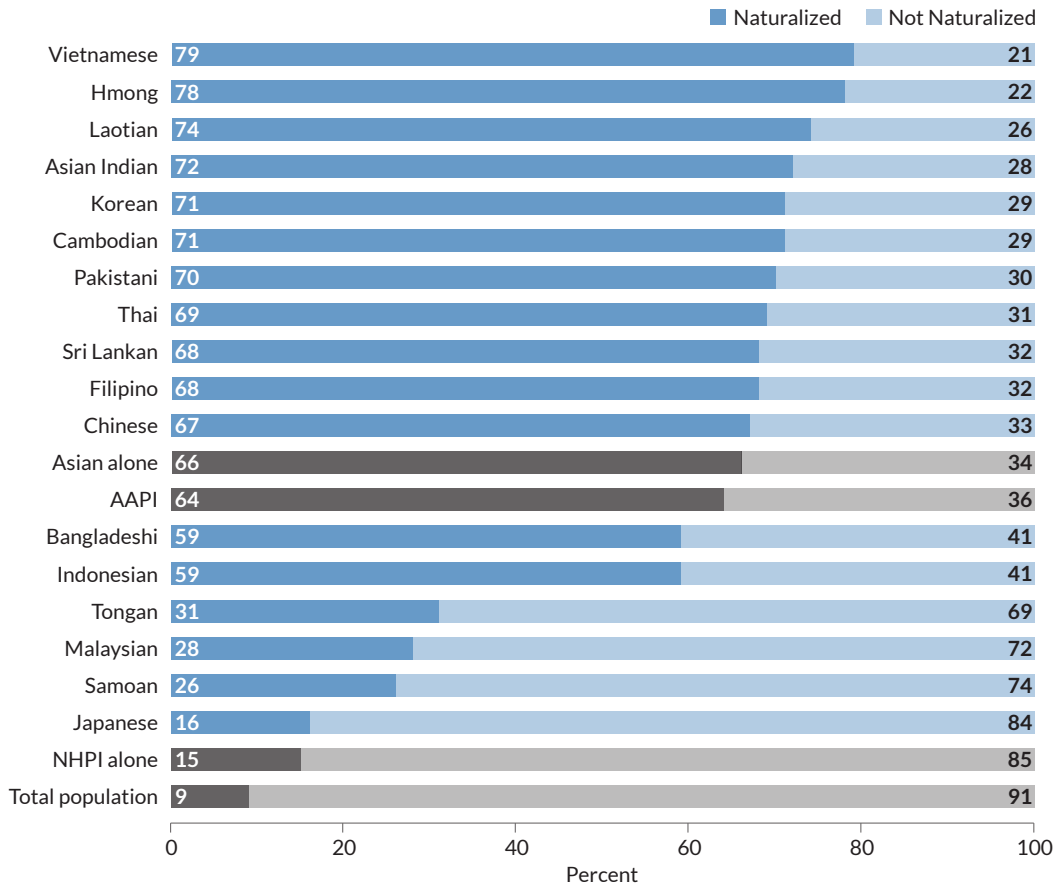
Table 4: AAPI Ethnic Populations who are Foreign-Born, 55-64 Years Old

| Ethnic Group | Number Foreign-Born | Percent Foreign-Born |
|--------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Malaysian | 973 | 100.0 |
| Hmong | 9,276 | 99.1 |
| Sri Lankan | 4,258 | 98.5 |
| Vietnamese | 164,593 | 98.3 |
| Bangladeshi | 8,397 | 98.3 |
| Cambodian | 21,173 | 98.1 |
| Thai | 26,653 | 98.1 |
| Laotian | 15,810 | 97.9 |
| Pakistani | 29,044 | 97.3 |
| Asian Indian | 224,274 | 97.2 |
| Korean | 140,975 | 97.1 |
| Indonesian | 5,030 | 95.4 |
| Tongan | 3,275 | 91.0 |
| Filipino | 297,362 | 90.3 |
| Chinese | 356,477 | 87.9 |
| Samoan | 2,646 | 34.1 |
| Japanese | 38,659 | 34.1 |

- Malaysians, Hmong, Sri Lankans, Vietnamese, Bangladeshis, Cambodians, and Thais have the largest percentage (over 98%) of foreign-born, as almost all of these older adults (55-64 years) were born outside the U.S.
- Among Asians, Japanese is the only ethnicity with mostly native-born elders.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 ACS, 3-Year Estimates

Figure 6: Percent of Foreign-Born Population who have Naturalized by AAPI Ethnic Groups, 55-64 Years Old



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 ACS, 3-Year Estimates

- Naturalized citizens are foreign nationals who have become citizens of the U.S. after fulfilling requirements established by Congress in the Immigration and Nationality Act.
- About two-thirds (66%) of foreign-born Asian Americans aged 55-64 years are naturalized U.S. citizens.
- More than 70% of Cambodians, Koreans, Asian Indians, Laotians, Hmong, and Vietnamese aged 55-64 years are naturalized U.S. citizens.
- A majority of foreign-born AAPIs aged 55-64 years have been in the United States for 21 or more years. For example, about 90% of Laotians, 86% of Samoans, 85% of Tongans, 84% of Cambodians, 83% of Japanese, and 82% of Thais came to the U.S. in 1990 or earlier. In contrast, 33% of Bangladeshis, 28% of Malaysians, and 19% of Sri Lankans have been in the United States for 0-10 years.

Language

Table 5: Languages Spoken at Home by AAPIs, 55-64 Years Old

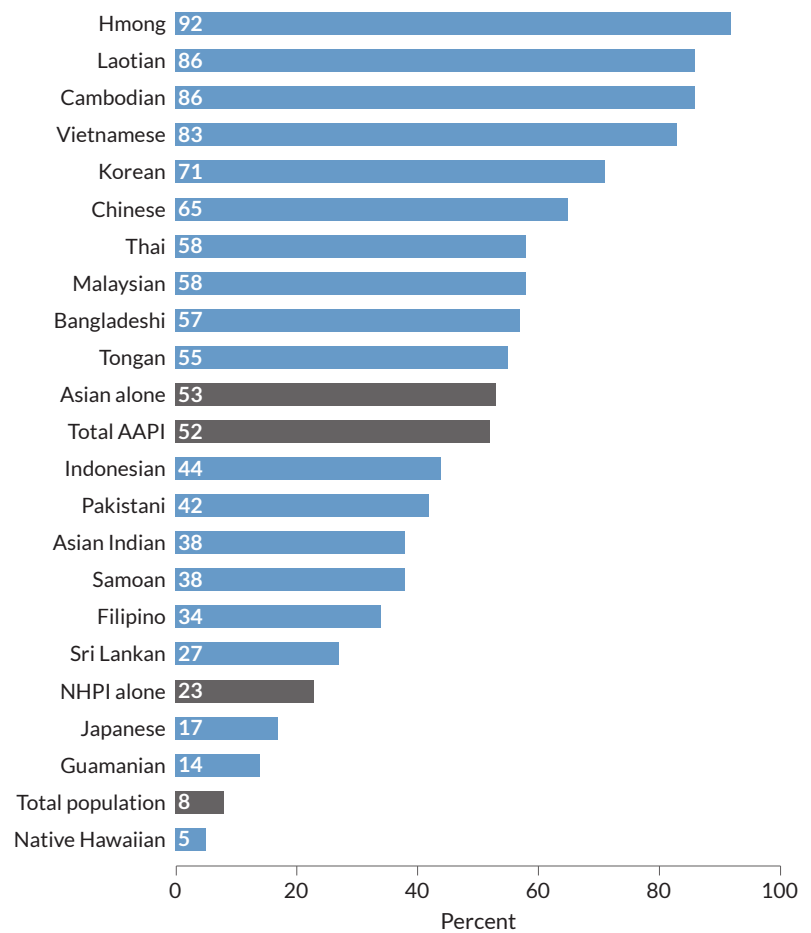
| Language | Number of Speakers |
|------------|--------------------|
| Chinese | 338,214 |
| Tagalog | 264,090 |
| Vietnamese | 160,573 |
| Korean | 132,583 |
| Hindi | 50,125 |
| Gujarati | 46,730 |
| Urdu | 36,538 |
| Japanese | 34,550 |
| Punjabi | 27,062 |
| Thai | 24,444 |
| Cambodian | 21,740 |
| Bengali | 18,319 |
| Malayalam | 16,415 |
| Laotian | 15,813 |
| Formosan | 15,378 |
| Other* | 105,048 |

* Includes Pacific Islander languages.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 ACS, 3-Year Estimates

- Asian Americans speak many languages. Only 15% of AAPIs 55-64 years speak English at home, and 71% speak an Asian or Pacific Islander language.
- The largest group of languages spoken by AAPIs 55-64 years is comprised of languages from China (338,214 speakers). This includes Cantonese (63,735 speakers) and Mandarin (48,918 speakers).
- A significant number of Asians aged 55-64 speak Vietnamese, Korean, or a language from India (Hindi, Gujarati, Punjabi, Urdu, and Malayalam).

Figure 7: Percent of AAPI Population who are Limited English Proficient*, 55-64 Years Old

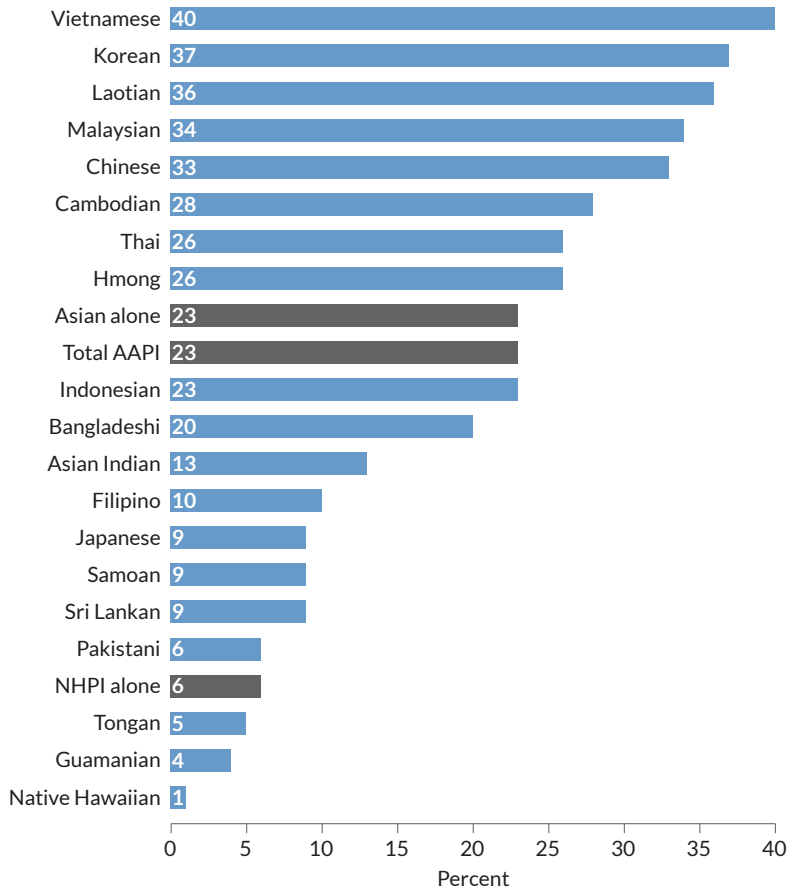


* An individual who is limited English proficient is one who speaks English less than "very well."

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 ACS, 3-Year Estimates

- Approximately 53% of Asians aged 55-64 are limited English proficient, more than Hispanics/Latinos (50%), AIANs (8%), Whites (5%), and African Americans (3%).
- By comparison, about 23% of NHPIs aged 55-64 are limited English proficient.
- Over 85% of Cambodian, Laotian, and Hmong Americans aged 55-64 are limited English proficient.
- Over two-thirds of Korean and Vietnamese elders are limited English proficient.
- Among the most English proficient Asian ethnic groups, about one in four Sri Lankans and one in five Japanese adults 55-64 years are limited English proficient.

Figure 8: Percent of AAPI Older Adults who Reside in Linguistically Isolated Households*, 55-64 Years Old



* A linguistically isolated household is one in which all members 14 years of age and older speak English less than “very well.”

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 ACS, 3-Year Estimates

- Approximately 23% of Asian Americans aged 55-64 years live in linguistically isolated households.
- Nearly two out of five Vietnamese (40%), Korean (37%), and Laotian Americans (36%) aged 55-64 are linguistically isolated.
- About a third of Chinese (33%) and Malaysian (34%) Americans aged 55-64 are linguistically isolated.
- Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders aged 55-64 have lower rates of linguistic isolation (6%) overall.

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