



Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States Aged 65 Years and Older: Population, Nativity, and Language

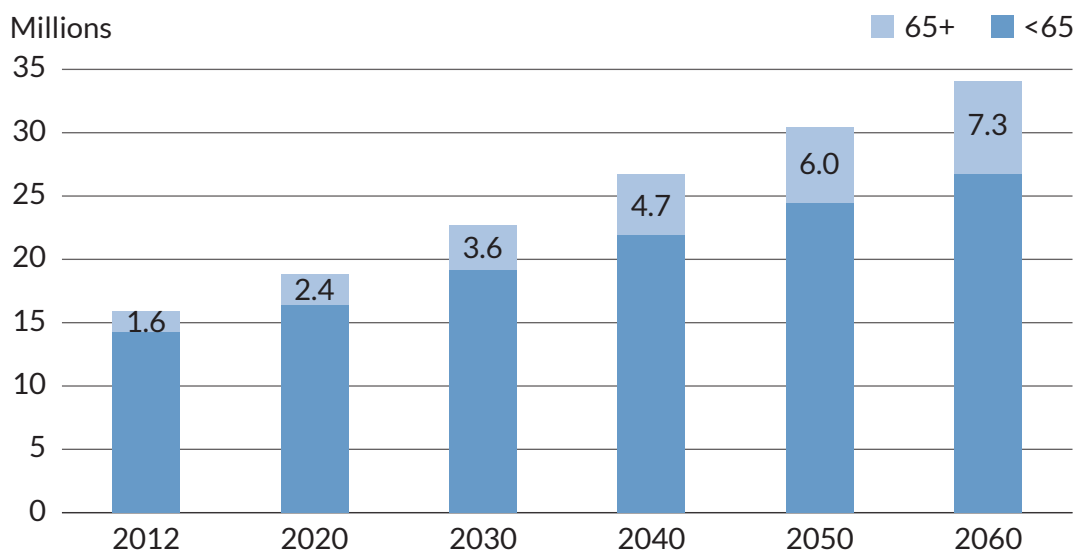
Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) are one of the fastest growing populations of older adults in the United States. California, New York, and Hawaii have the largest AAPI older adult populations. The most recent statistics reveal that AAPIs make up about 4% of the total older adult U.S. population, and about 9% of the total AAPI population. The five largest ethnic groups among Asian elders are Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Indian, and Korean. Approximately 85% of AAPIs aged 65 and older are foreign-born, and 65% are naturalized citizens.

AAPIs speak over 40 different languages and dialects. Only 15% of AAPIs aged 65 years and older speak English at home, and over half (60%) have limited English proficiency. Additionally, a significant proportion (31%) of AAPIs aged 65 years and older 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 1.6 million AAPIs, or 10% of the total AAPI population, were aged 65 years and older in 2012. Over the next 50 years, the number of AAPIs aged 65 and older is expected to grow 352% to 7.3 million, making up about 21% 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, 65 Years and Older



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

Between 2000 and 2010, there was a 73% growth in the Asian older adult population (aged 65+), and a 50% growth in the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (NHPI) older population.

Table 1: U.S. Populations by Race and Hispanic Origin (Alone), 65 Years and Older

Race/Hispanic Origin (Alone)	2000 Estimated Count	2000 Percent of U.S. Population 65+	2010 Estimated Count	2010 Percent of U.S. Population 65+	Percent Growth
Asian	800,795	2.3	1,386,626	3.4	73
NHPI*	20,821	0.1	31,213	0.1	50
White	30,405,538	86.9	34,139,237	84.8	12
Hispanic	1,733,591	5.0	2,781,624	6.9	60
Black	2,822,950	8.1	3,438,397	8.5	22
AIAN**	138,439	0.4	207,060	0.5	50
Total	34,991,753	100	40,267,984	100	15

* 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

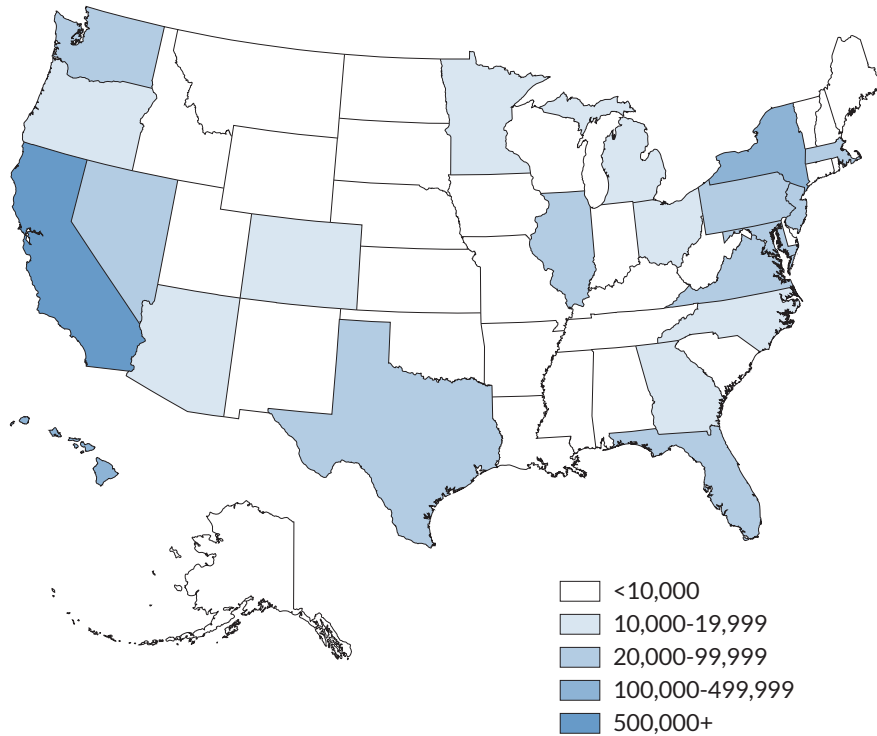
- Between 2000 and 2010, there was a 72% growth in the older Asian alone-or-in-combination population, from 861,725 to 1,483,289.
- Between 2000 and 2010, there was a 56% growth in the older NHPI alone-or-in-combination population, from 43,802 to 68,225.

Table 2: States with the Highest Growth of AAPIs from 2000 to 2010, 65 Years and Older

State	2000 Population	2010 Population	Percent Growth
Nevada	7,840	22,773	190
Georgia	7,291	19,799	172
Delaware	833	2,217	166
North Carolina	4,504	11,925	165
South Carolina	1,689	4,334	157
Florida	17,212	41,550	141
Texas	27,756	66,634	140
Arizona	6,243	14,606	134
Alabama	1,466	3,384	131
Tennessee	2,502	5,684	127
Virginia	14,542	32,936	126
New Jersey	25,822	56,739	120
Indiana	2,540	5,573	119
Kentucky	1,306	2,834	117
Pennsylvania	11,558	24,800	115

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

Figure 2: AAPI Population by State, 65 Years and Older



- Approximately 54% of the AAPI population aged 65 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, 65 Years and Older

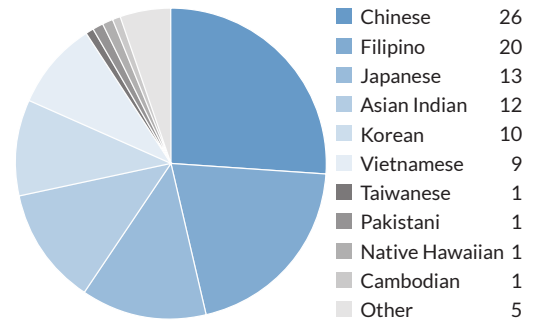
State	Number	Percent of AAPI 65+ Population
Total AAPI 65+ Population	1,417,839	100
California	570,761	40
New York	128,539	9
Hawaii	124,685	9
Texas	66,634	5
New Jersey	56,739	4
Illinois	51,097	4
Washington	46,568	3
Florida	41,550	3
Virginia	32,936	2
Maryland	28,779	2
Pennsylvania	24,800	2
Massachusetts	24,496	2
Nevada	22,773	2
Georgia	19,799	1
Michigan	16,134	1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

Population Statistics by AAPI Ethnic Sub-groups

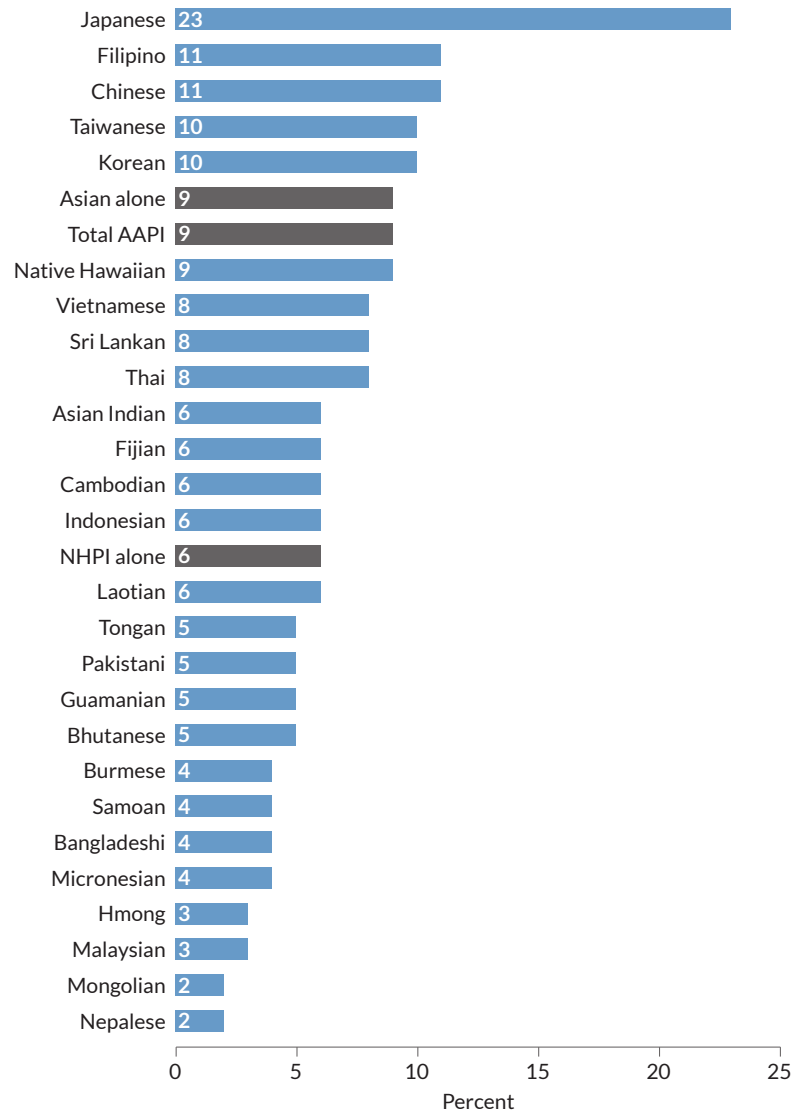
Figure 3: Percent of AAPI Population by Ethnic Group, 65 Years and Older

- AAPIs 65+ make up about 4% of the total U.S. older population, and about 9% of the total AAPI population.
- Chinese are the largest Asian American ethnic group aged 65 years and older (26% of AAPI elders), with a population of 366,761.
- “Other” includes: Thais, Laotians, Hmong, Micronesians, Bangladeshis, Samoans, Guamanians, Burmese, Indonesians, and Sri Lankans.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

Figure 4: Percent of AAPI Ethnic Group Aged 65 Years and Older

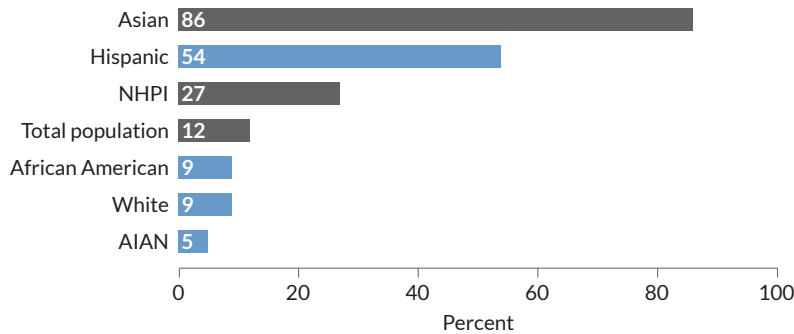


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

- Approximately 9% of the total AAPI population and 9% of Asians alone are aged 65 years and older.
- About 6% of NHPIs are aged 65 years and older.
- Among Asian ethnic groups, the Japanese have the largest percentage of older persons aged 65 years and older (23%).
- About one in 10 Filipinos, Chinese, Taiwanese, and Koreans are 65 years of age and older.
- Ethnic groups such as Nepalese, Mongolian, Malaysian, Hmong, Bangladeshi, Micronesian, Burmese, and Samoan Americans tend to be younger populations with less than 5% of their populations aged 65 and over.

Nativity

Figure 5: Percent of Population who are Foreign-Born* by Race and Hispanic Origin, 65 Years and Older



- Approximately 86% of older Asian Americans (65+) are foreign-born, more than any other racial group in the U.S.
- By comparison, 54% of Hispanics/Latinos and 9% 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

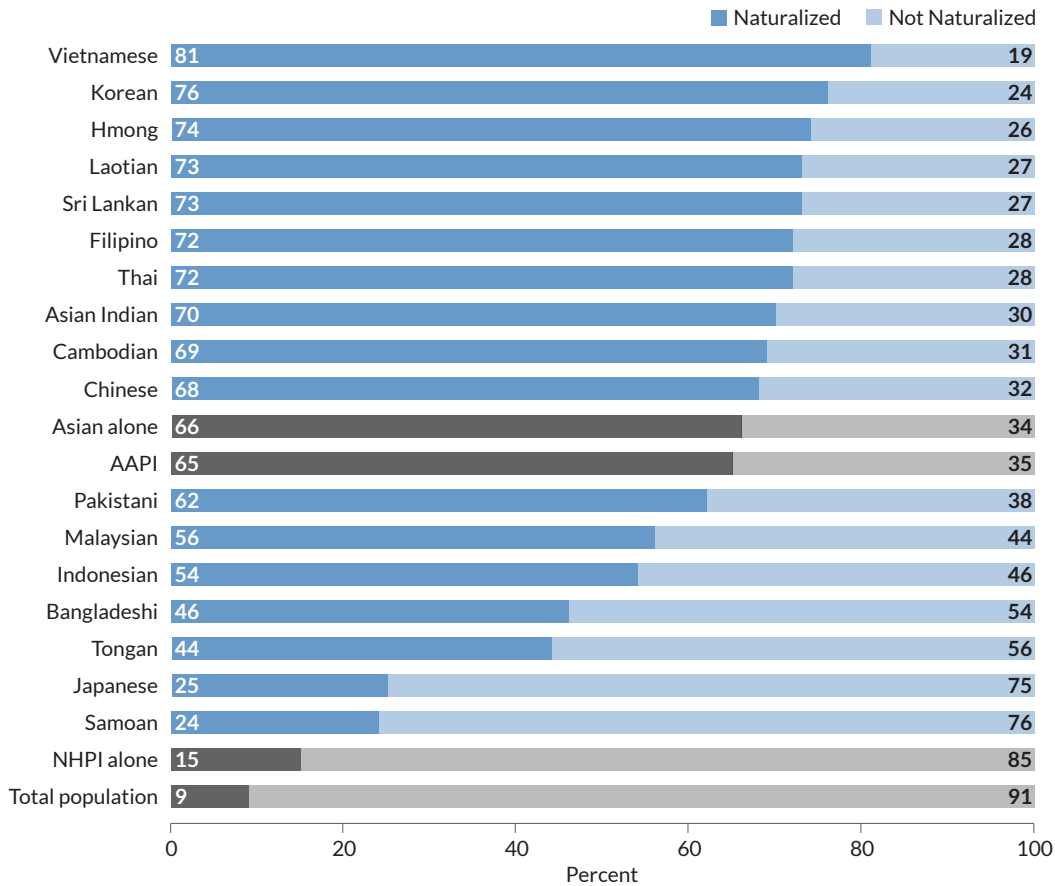
Table 4: AAPI Ethnic Populations who are Foreign-Born, 65 Years and Older

Ethnic Group	Number Foreign-Born	Percent Foreign-Born
Bangladeshi	3,654	99.1
Cambodian	14,816	98.9
Vietnamese	130,076	98.5
Indonesian	3,754	97.7
Asian Indian	173,159	97.6
Sri Lankan	2,743	97.2
Thai	12,798	96.9
Laotian	11,576	96.8
Pakistani	16,094	96.6
Korean	139,712	96.6
Hmong	6,784	95.6
Filipino	280,084	92.6
Tongan	1,741	91.1
Malaysian	547	89.7
Chinese	340,791	89.4
Japanese	62,562	34.6
Samoaan	1,548	32.6

- Bangladeshis, Cambodians, Vietnamese, Indonesians, Asian Indians, and Sri Lankans have the largest percentage (over 97%) of foreign-born, as almost all of these older adults (65+) 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, 65 Years and Older



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 65 years and older are naturalized U.S. citizens.
- More than 70% of Asian Indians, Thais, Filipinos, Sri Lankans, Laotians, Hmong, Koreans, and Vietnamese aged 65 years and older are naturalized U.S. citizens.
- A majority of foreign-born AAPIs aged 65 years and older have been in the United States for 21 or more years. For example, more than 80% of Koreans, Laotians, Thais, Cambodians, and Japanese came to the U.S. in 1990 or earlier. In contrast, 38% of Malaysians, 36% of Bangladeshis, 26% of Sri Lankans, and 25% of Pakistanis have been in the U.S. for 0-10 years.

Language

Table 5: Languages Spoken at Home by AAPIs, 65 Years and Older

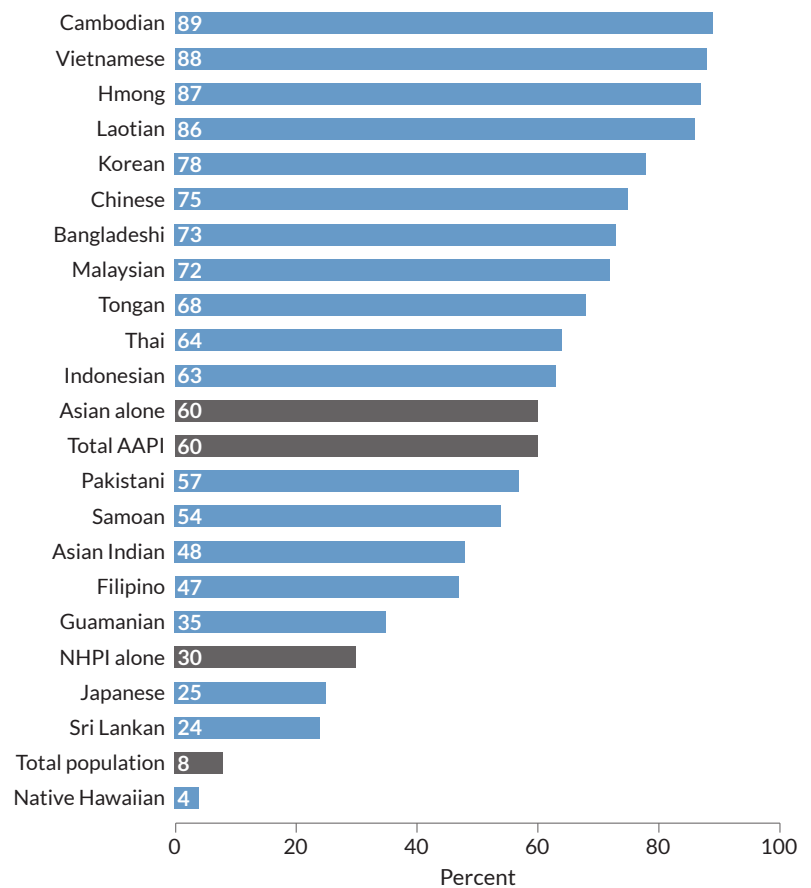
Language	Number of Speakers
Chinese	321,208
Tagalog	242,777
Korean	131,102
Vietnamese	123,905
Japanese	76,071
Hindi	37,945
Gujarati	37,709
Punjabi	25,441
Urdu	21,010
Ilocano	20,391
Formosan	15,023
Cambodian	14,464
Thai	11,194
Malayalam	9,598
Laotian	9,492
Other*	71,590

* Includes Pacific Islander languages.

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

- Asian Americans speak many languages. Only 15% of AAPIs (65+) speak English at home, and 73% speak an Asian or Pacific Islander language.
- The largest group of languages spoken by older AAPIs (65+) is comprised of languages from China (321,208 speakers). This includes Cantonese (63,180 speakers) and Mandarin (40,420 speakers).
- A significant number of Asian elders 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*, 65 Years and Older

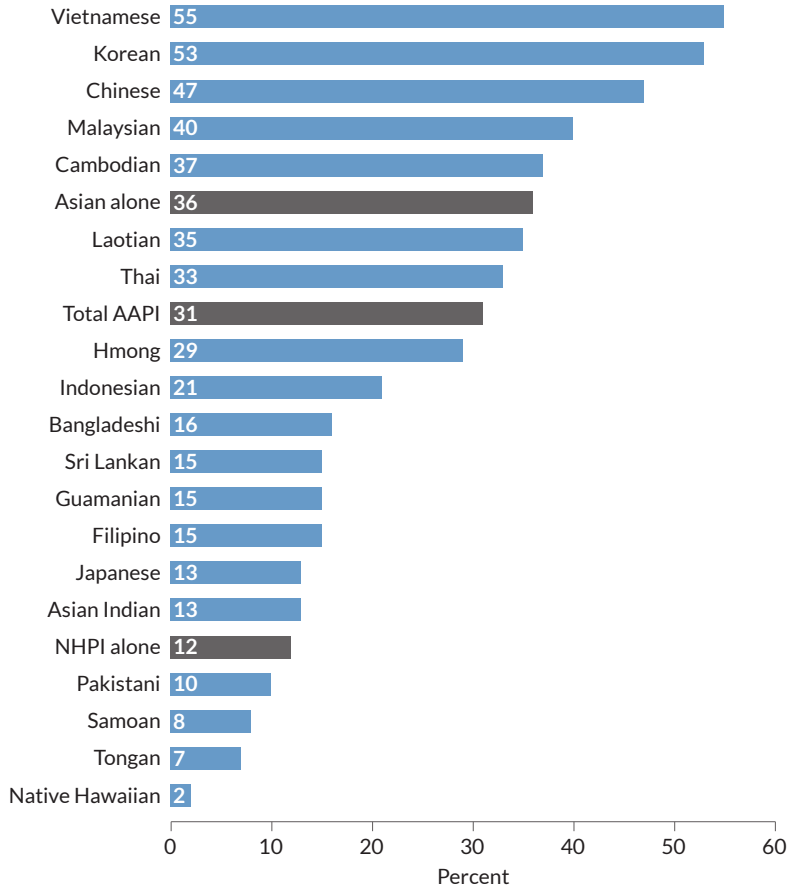


* An individual who is limited English proficient is one who speaks English less than "very well."

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

- Approximately 60% of Asian elders are limited English proficient, more than Hispanics/Latinos (57%), AIANs (16%), Whites (6%), and African Americans (3%). By comparison, about 30% of NHPI older adults are limited English proficient.
- Over 85% of Cambodian, Vietnamese, Hmong, and Laotian older Americans are limited English proficient.
- Over two-thirds of Korean, Chinese, Bangladeshi, Malaysian, and Tongan elders are limited English proficient.
- Among the most English proficient Asian ethnic groups, about one in four Japanese and Sri Lankan older adults are limited English proficient.

Figure 8: Percent of AAPI Older Adults who Reside in Linguistically Isolated Households*, 65 Years and Older



* 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 36% of Asian elders (65+) live in linguistically isolated households.
- Over half of Vietnamese (55%) and Korean American older adults (53%) are linguistically isolated.
- Nearly one half of Chinese older adults and two out of five Malaysian elders are linguistically isolated.
- About a third or more of Cambodian, Laotian, and Thai elders are linguistically isolated.
- Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander elders have lower rates of linguistic isolation (12%) overall.

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