



THE UCLA CENTER FOR HEALTH POLICY RESEARCH



Achieving Health Equity for Asians, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders

ASHEcon

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BUILDING KNOWLEDGE. INFORMING POLICY. IMPROVING HEALTH.

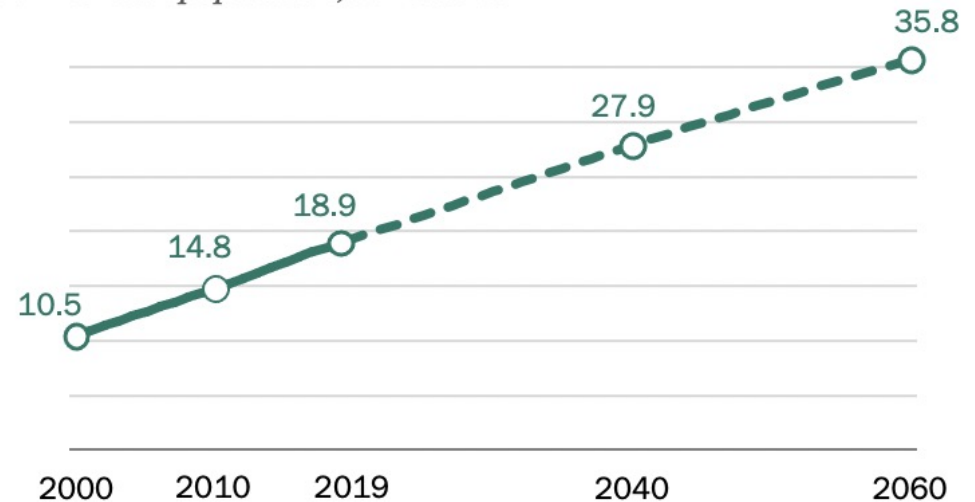
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Preliminaries

- Asians—fastest growing (between 2009 to 2019) major racial/ethnic group
 - 24 M “any mention” (7% of US Pop)
 - 17% multiracial; ¼ US multiracial pop
 - Asians projected to be the largest immigrant group by 2055 (PEW); 14% unauthorized immigrants
 - >20 places of origin
 - 66% speak a language other than English at home.
- NHPIs
 - 1.6 M “any mention” (.5% of US Pop)
 - 57% multiracial
 - >22 places of origin
 - Often in “other” or “API” or “multiracial”

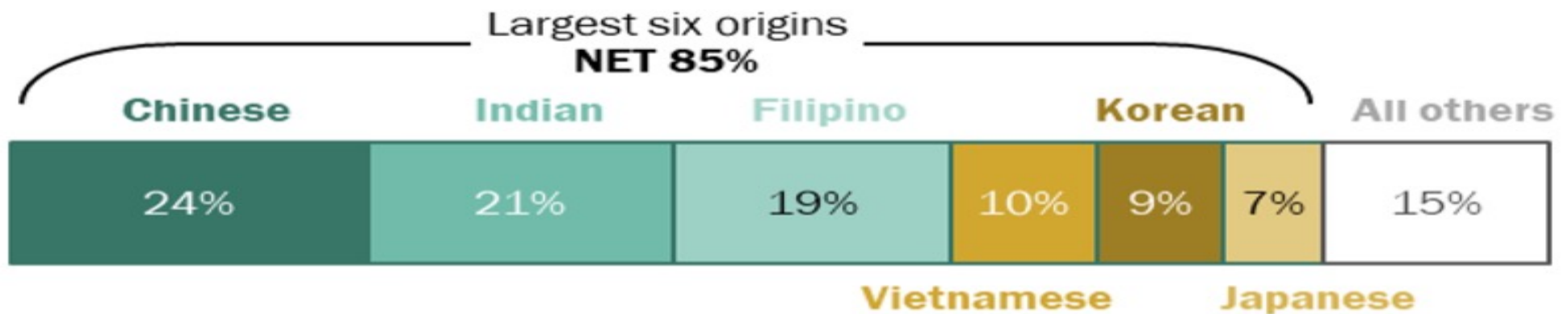
... and their population is projected to pass 35 million by 2060

Asian American population, in millions



Six origin groups make up 85% of all Asian Americans

% of the U.S. Asian population that is...



Note: “All others” includes the 3% of U.S. Asians in the category “Other Asian, not specified.” “Chinese” includes those identifying as Taiwanese. For more about measuring the Taiwanese population in the U.S., read “How many Taiwanese live in the U.S.? It’s not an easy question to answer.” Figures do not add to 100% because individuals identifying with more than one Asian group are included in all groups. Figure for all origin groups includes mixed-race and mixed-group populations, regardless of Hispanic origin.

Source: Pew Research Center analysis of 2019 American Community Survey 1-year estimates (Census data).

Asian: Selected Demographics

Source: Census Bureau 2021. American Community Estimates 2019 1-year IPUMS USA file. Note estimates for Okinawan in "Other Asian".

| | Single race | Multi race | % Multi-racial | Total | % of Asian Pop | % of US Pop |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Asian Indian | 4,240,466 | 365,084 | 7.9% | 4,605,550 | 20.6% | 1.40% |
| Bangladeshi | 198,628 | 9,572 | 4.6% | 208,200 | 0.9% | 0.06% |
| Bhutanese | 23,017 | 1,126 | 4.7% | 24,143 | 0.1% | 0.01% |
| Burmese | 173,586 | 15,522 | 8.2% | 189,108 | 0.8% | 0.06% |
| Cambodian | 258,052 | 80,585 | 23.8% | 338,637 | 1.5% | 0.10% |
| Chinese, except Taiwanese | 4,216,922 | 955,570 | 18.5% | 5,172,492 | 23.1% | 1.58% |
| Filipino | 2,983,596 | 1,227,844 | 29.2% | 4,211,440 | 18.8% | 1.28% |
| Hmong | 308,803 | 18,040 | 5.5% | 326,843 | 1.5% | 0.10% |
| Indonesian | 81,269 | 48,060 | 37.2% | 129,329 | 0.6% | 0.04% |
| Japanese | 755,672 | 728,514 | 49.1% | 1,484,186 | 6.6% | 0.45% |
| Korean | 1,461,843 | 446,210 | 23.4% | 1,908,053 | 8.5% | 0.58% |
| Laotian | 192,689 | 61,615 | 24.2% | 254,304 | 1.1% | 0.08% |
| Malaysian | 21,449 | 16,828 | 44.0% | 38,277 | 0.2% | 0.01% |
| Mongolian | 21,530 | 5,340 | 19.9% | 26,870 | 0.1% | 0.01% |
| Nepalese | 189,399 | 8,481 | 4.3% | 197,880 | 0.9% | 0.06% |
| Okinawan | 2,955 | 11,158 | 79.1% | 14,113 | 0.1% | 0.01% |
| Pakistani | 506,193 | 48,009 | 8.7% | 554,202 | 2.5% | 0.17% |
| Sri Lankan | 47,936 | 7,876 | 14.1% | 55,812 | 0.2% | 0.02% |
| Taiwanese | 187,756 | 38,515 | 17.0% | 226,271 | 1.0% | 0.07% |
| Thai | 224,463 | 118,454 | 34.5% | 342,917 | 1.5% | 0.66% |
| Vietnamese | 1,873,707 | 309,028 | 14.2% | 2,182,735 | 9.8% | 0.01% |
| Other Asian, specified | 7,730 | 3,475 | 31.0% | 11,205 | 0.1% | 0.00% |
| Other Asian, not specified | 173,060 | 566,113 | 76.6% | 739,173 | 3.3% | 0.23% |
| Two or more Asian | 486,263 | (486,263) | | | | |
| Overlapping categories | | (870,057) | | (870,057) | | |
| Total Asian | 18,636,984 | 3,734,699 | 16.7% | 22,371,683 | | 6.8% |
| Total U.S. population | 316,930,628 | 11,308,895 | 3.4% | 328,239,523 | | 100% |

Table 1. Population Estimates of the Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Population in the United States, 2019

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey 2019 1-year from: <https://data.census.gov/> accessed 24 April 2021

NHPI: Selected Demographics

Source: Census Bureau 2021. American Community Estimates 2019 1-year IPUMS USA file. Note estimates for Okinawan in "Other Asian".

| | Single Race | Multi-Race | %Multi-Racial | Total NHPI Pop | % of NHPI Pop | % of US Pop |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Polynesian: | | | | | | |
| Native Hawaiian | 198,734 | 408,276 | 67.3% | 607,010 | 40.7% | 0.18% |
| Samoan | 112,845 | 91,795 | 44.9% | 204,640 | 13.7% | 0.06% |
| Tongan | 43,090 | 24,131 | 35.9% | 67,221 | 4.5% | 0.02% |
| Other Polynesian | 5,294 | 16,878 | 76.1% | 22,172 | 1.5% | 0.01% |
| Micronesian: | | | | | | |
| Guamanian or Chamorro | 78,323 | 82,450 | 51.3% | 160,773 | 10.8% | 0.05% |
| Marshallese | 30,729 | 3,414 | 10.0% | 34,143 | 2.3% | 0.01% |
| Other Micronesian | 62,273 | 11,987 | 16.1% | 74,260 | 5.0% | 0.02% |
| Melanesian: | | | | | | |
| Fijian | 37,712 | 12,971 | 25.6% | 50,683 | 3.4% | 0.02% |
| Other Melanesian | 480 | 1,237 | 72.0% | 1,717 | 0.1% | 0.00% |
| Other Pacific Islander | 37,813 | 232,586 | 86.0% | 270,399 | 18.1% | 0.08% |
| Two or More NHPI | 21,390 | | | | | |
| Total NHPI population | 628,683 | 864,335 | 57.9% | 1,493,018 | 100.00% | 0.45% |
| Total US population | 316,930,628 | 11,308,895 | 3.40% | 328,239,523 | | 100.00% |

A non-exhaustive list w/ rollup

NHPI

- **Melanesian:** Fijian, Melanesian, Papua New Guinean, Solomon Islander, Ni-Vanuatu
- **Micronesian:** Chamorro, Marshallese, Mariana Islander, Palauan, Carolinian, Kosraean, Micronesian, Pohnpeian, Saipanese, I-Kiribati, Chuukese, Yapese
- **Polynesian:** Native Hawaiian, Samoan, Tongan, Tahitian, Tokelauan

Asian

- **East Asian:** Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Taiwanese, Mongolian, Okinawan
- **Southeast Asian:** Burmese, Cambodian, Hmong, Indonesian, Laotian, Malaysian, Thai, Filipino, Vietnamese
- **South Asian:** Asian Indian, Bangladeshi, Bhutanese, Nepalese, Pakistani, Sri Lankan

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Summary File 1, Technical Documentation, SF1/10-4(RV).

Source: IOM 2009
<https://www.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/publications/files/iomracereport.pdf>

Sources of Market Failures

- Transaction cost
 - Preferred language, limited English proficiency
 - Immigration status , multigenerational HH increase search costs, disease exposure, eligibility
- Imperfect information
 - Aggregated data (Asians and NHPI subgroups)
 - Suppressed data (NHPIs)
 - Incomplete data on country of origin, immigration history, language, US tenure, generation status
- Barriers to entry
 - Model minority myth
 - Xenophobia/Perpetual Foreigner Stereotype/Hate Incidents



TRANSACTION COSTS

IMMIGRATION STATUS, MULTIGENERATIONAL HH & LEP

Selected Demographic Indicators per Asian Subgroup

Source: Census Bureau 2021. American Community Estimates 2019 1-year IPUMS USA file. Note estimates for Okinawan in "Other Asian".

Asian: Selected SES

Source: Census Bureau 2021. American Community Estimates 2019 1-year IPUMS USA file. Note estimates for Okinawan in "Other Asian".

| | Median Age | Income as % of Poverty ¹ | % Essential Workers ² | % Uninsured | % Multi-gen. HH ³ | % Immigrant ⁴ | %LEP ⁵ |
|------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Asian Indian | 34 | 4.0 | 27% | 5% | 19% | 72% | 18% |
| Bangladeshi | 33 | 2.7 | 44% | 9% | 40% | 74% | 45% |
| Bhutanese | 33 | 2.8 | 55% | 8% | 71% | 88% | 65% |
| Burmese | 29 | 2.1 | 51% | 12% | 26% | 79% | 62% |
| Cambodian | 36 | 3.1 | 50% | 10% | 37% | 58% | 35% |
| Chinese | 39 | 3.4 | 33% | 6% | 21% | 70% | 43% |
| Filipino | 43 | 3.7 | 49% | 6% | 34% | 68% | 20% |
| Hmong | 26 | 2.6 | 47% | 8% | 35% | 37% | 31% |
| Indonesian | 40 | 3.5 | 36% | 10% | 26% | 73% | 24% |
| Japanese | 52 | 3.8 | 29% | 3% | 17% | 44% | 22% |
| Korean | 40 | 3.4 | 37% | 10% | 18% | 72% | 38% |
| Laotian | 38 | 2.9 | 53% | 8% | 32% | 56% | 34% |
| Malaysian | 37 | 3.0 | 33% | 11% | 11% | 90% | 22% |
| Mongolian | 32 | 2.5 | 39% | 30% | 9% | 78% | 45% |
| Nepalese | 30 | 2.8 | 44% | 13% | 22% | 82% | 49% |
| Pakistani | 31 | 3.2 | 39% | 9% | 36% | 68% | 25% |
| Sri Lankan | 37 | 3.6 | 31% | 8% | 21% | 81% | 22% |
| Taiwanese | 40 | 3.8 | 23% | 6% | 14% | 70% | 32% |
| Thai | 42 | 3.3 | 49% | 10% | 25% | 77% | 44% |
| Vietnamese | 40 | 3.1 | 53% | 8% | 33% | 69% | 48% |
| Other Asian 2+Asian | 29 | 3.4 | 39% | 6% | 20% | 43% | 20% |
| Other Race 2+Race | 20 | 3.5 | 36% | 6% | 16% | 20% | 7% |
| Range | 20-52 | 2.1-4.0 | 27%-55% | 3%-30% | 9%-71% | 20%-90% | 7%-65% |
| Total Asian population | 35 | 3.5 | 38% | 6% | 23% | 60% | 27% |
| Total U.S. population | 38 | 3.1 | 35% | 9% | 18% | 15% | 8% |

NHPI: Selected SES

Source: Census Bureau 2021. American Community Estimates 2019 1-year IPUMS USA file. Note estimates for Okinawan in "Other Asian".

| | Median Age | Income as % of Poverty ¹ | %College Grad ² | %Uninsured | %Multi-generational HH ³ | %Immigrant ⁴ | %LEP ⁵ |
|------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Polynesian: | | | | | | | |
| Native Hawaiian | 37 | 2.79 | 18.8% | 9.1% | 22.5% | 5.5% ⁶ | 2.7% |
| Samoan | 32 | 2.86 | 16.5% | 11.3% | 27.2% | 40.5% | 12.1% |
| Tongan | 32 | 2.65 | 19.3% | 14.4% | 36.7% | 38.5% | 17.7% |
| Micronesian: | | | | | | | |
| Guamanian or Chamorro ⁷ | 35 | 2.98 | 21.7% | 9.7% | 26.7% | 54.7% | 7.1% |
| Other Micronesian ⁸ | 20 | 1.77 | 10.7% | 21.5% | 43.6% | 57.0% | 27.2% |
| Melanesian: | | | | | | | |
| Fijian ⁹ | 40 | 3.74 | 19.3% | 10.8% | 38.3% | 76.4% | 18.5% |
| Other Pacific Islander | 28 | 2.64 | 21.9% | 18.6% | 22.6% | 54.8% | 23.0% |
| Two+ Races | 26 | 3.07 | 28.0% | 6.9% | 21.1% | 16.4% | 5.1% |
| Range | 20-40 | 1.77-3.74 | 10.7-28.0 | 6.9-21.5 | 21.1-43.6 | 5.5-76.4 | 2.7-27.2 |
| Total NHPI population | 29 | 2.97 | 23.9% | 9.1% | 23.3% | 24.8% | 7.9% |
| Total US population | 38 | 3.13 | 33.1% | 9.4% | 18.2% | 15.3% | 8.2% |

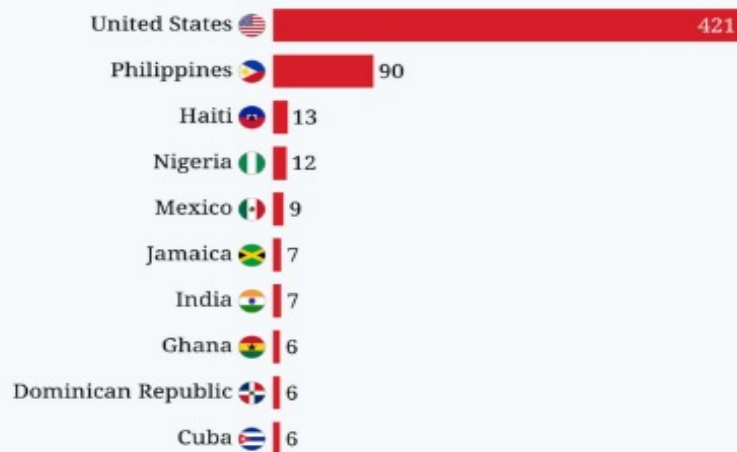
IMPERFECT INFORMATION

NEED FOR DATA DISAGGREGATION

Filipinx/a/o & COVID-19

Immigrants Make up More Than a Third of U.S. Healthworker Deaths

U.S. healthcare worker deaths from COVID-19 by country of origin up to December 23, 2020*



* Out of 2,921 worker deaths documented, country of origin data was available for 660
Source: The Guardian/Kaiser Health News



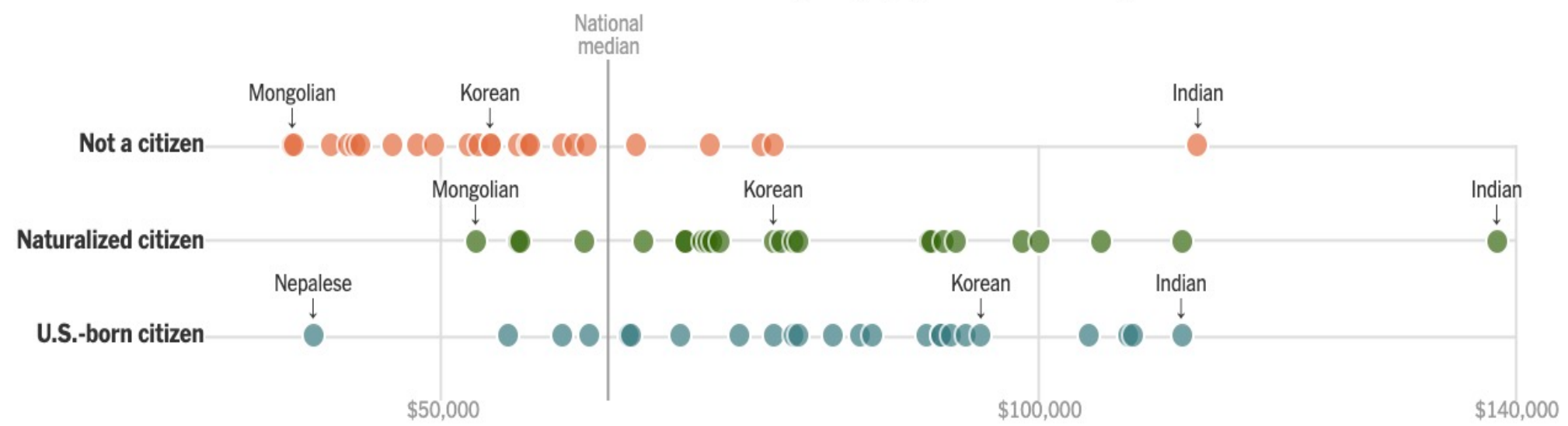
INQUIRER.NET 

Outsized Toll by Many Measures

- *Guardian/Kaiser National data:*
 - 3% (from ACS 2019) of healthcare workers but 21% (9/421) of HC Worker Deaths
- *National Nurses United Survey*
 - 4% of RN population but 31.5 % of RN Deaths
- *California Vital Stats Data*
 - 3% of population but 31% of COVID-19 Healthcareworker deaths

Range of Median HH Income

Median household income of Asian groups, by U.S. citizenship status



NY Times Analysis of 2020 Census

May 2021

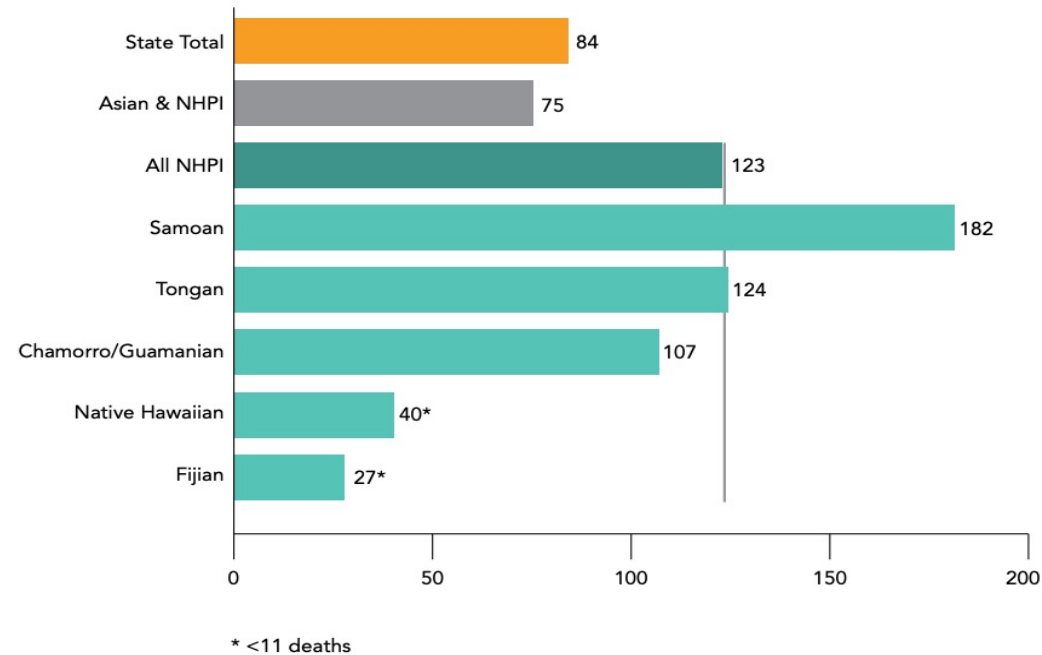
Disaggregating California's COVID-19 Data for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders and Asians

Ninez A. Ponce, Riti Shimkhada, and 'Alisi Tulua

Exhibit 1

California COVID-19 Crude Mortality Rate (Deaths per 100,000) for Non-Latino Single-Race NHPIs, All Ages, Jan. 1, 2020–Dec. 31, 2020

“Death rates per 100,000 are higher for the Samoan subgroup compared to the aggregated NHPI category.”



BARRIERS TO ENTRY

HATE INCIDENTS

California Health Interview Survey 2020—Asian, NHPI sample

- **Hate incidents** — 6.8% of Asian and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander adults reported directly experiencing a hate incident due to COVID-19 over the last 12 months.
- 1 in 4 (26%) Asian and Pacific Islander adults reported witnessing another Asian or Pacific Islander person being treated unfairly due to their race, ethnicity, or national origin.

National stats from *AAPI Data* <https://aapidata.com/>

- Having people ask “where [are] you from, assuming it’s not from the U.S.” was much higher for Asian Americans (64%) and Pacific Islanders (51%) than the national average (20%), and among non-Hispanic Whites (7%)
- Being “encouraged to Americanize or Whiten one’s name” was also significantly higher for Pacific Islanders (27%) and Asian Americans (20%) than the national average (7%)
- Pacific Islanders (41%) and Asian Americans (31%) are also more likely than the national average (22%) and non-Hispanic Whites (17%) to have people “intentionally mispronounce” their name
- Pacific Islanders (24%) are significantly more likely than Asian Americans (10%) or Americans more generally (10%) to be spit or coughed upon

Measurement Is Key to Achieving Health Equity



The U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Directive 15, 1997

Ethnicity

- Hispanic or Latino
- Not Hispanic or Latino

The OMB standards explain that the specified race and ethnicity categories are socio-political constructs and should not be interpreted as being scientific or anthropological in nature.

“In no case shall the provisions of the standards be construed to limit the collection of data to the categories described above. The collection of greater detail is encouraged . . .”

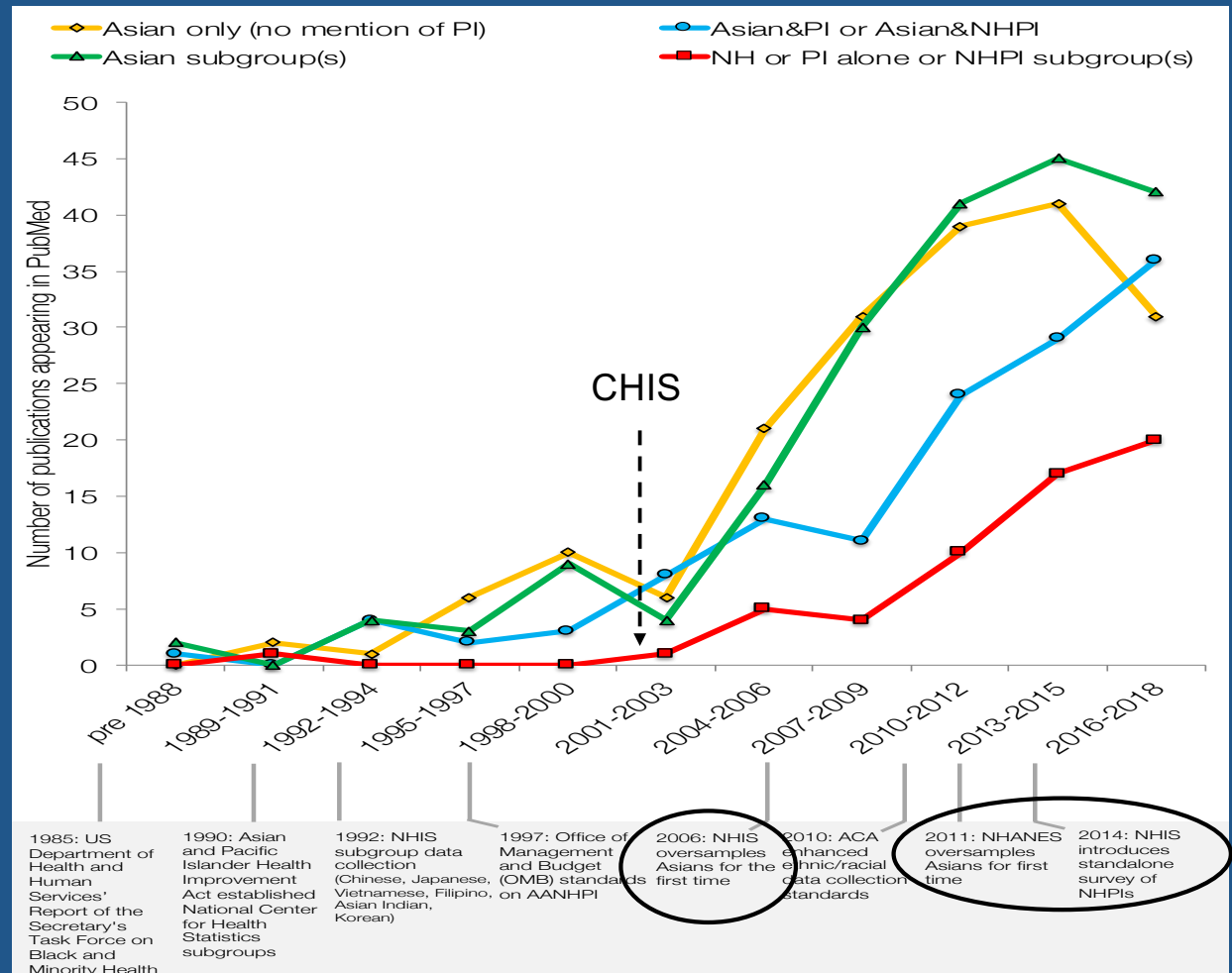
source: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/09/30/2016-23672/standards-for-maintaining-collecting-and-presenting-federal-data-on-race-and-ethnicity>

Race

- 5 minimum categories:
 - American Indian or Alaska Native (AIAN)
 - Asian
 - Black or African American
 - Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (NHPI)
 - White
- Can select one or more races

Importance of Policy and Guidance on Disaggregation Practices

- Guidelines are necessary but not sufficient
- Federal or state mandates on uniform reporting across agencies needed
- Research community resources and better datasets spur studies



**DATA AND MEASUREMENT ARE TOOLS
FOR INFORMING PRIORITIES BUT MUST BE
SALIENT TO COMMUNITIES IT
REPRESENTS, BE INCLUSIVE, AND
ACCESSIBLE TO ACHIEVE SOCIAL JUSTICE
GOALS**

Thank You

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