



# SNAPSHOTS OF DIVERSITY

Insights into Nevada's Growing Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Communities

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**APIA  
NEVADA**



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# Foreword

With origins in the Silver State tracing as far back as the 1850s, Nevada's Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) communities are deeply interwoven throughout the state's storied history. As an essential contributor to Nevada's thriving economy and rich cultural landscape, the AANHPI population has played an indispensable role in shaping the very foundation upon which Nevada continues to grow and evolve.

In our dedication to advocating for the wellbeing and equity of AANHPI Nevadans, we firmly believe that progress can only begin when our constituent communities are truly seen and understood as unique cultural entities — unified under an umbrella, perhaps, but also vastly distinct. To this end, we take every opportunity to emphasize the importance of data disaggregation — that is, breaking down data into smaller, specific subcategories such as AANHPI ethnicities; this helps reveal patterns, disparities, and trends that may not be visible in the overall dataset. This report is written with that conviction held close; where possible, data is disaggregated to promote the understanding that each community presents with differing needs that often do not adhere to the "average case" scenarios conveyed by blanket AANHPI statistics.

Though these statistics offer valuable insights on a broader scale, it's important to remember that the numbers scattered across these pages represent the lives and experiences of real people. The challenges and triumphs reflected in these numbers serve as a testament to the continued perseverance of AANHPI individuals as they continue to forge new paths in this wonderful state we call home.

By sharing these findings, we hope to create opportunities for dialogue, advocacy, and policy change that accurately reflect the diverse realities of AANHPI Nevadans. We also strive to ensure that the experiences of these individuals are not overlooked, but are instead woven into efforts aimed at addressing the systemic inequities faced by Nevada's AANHPI communities.

**ERIC JENG**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



# Acknowledgements

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Dr. Horohito Norhatan, One APIA Nevada's Research Director, who conceptualized and laid the groundwork for this data report. We would also like to thank the dedicated researchers, including the Youth Organizing Fellows, who worked tirelessly on this publication; their contributions — in the form of extensive data aggregation, transformation, and visualization — constituted the very heart and soul of this research project. Their diligence and attention to detail have been instrumental in shaping the outcomes of our work.

Additionally, we extend our deepest gratitude towards the Alliance for Youth Action, whose generous endowment towards our Youth Organizing Fellowship made this entire project feasible; their investment towards our mission has been crucial in expanding our capacity for youth engagement.

As an organization, One APIA Nevada remains committed to nurturing the potential of AANHPI youth through critical skill development; in doing so, we aim to cultivate a strong pipeline of future community leaders and advocates that have the capacity to drive meaningful public policy improvements across Nevada. Through the support of the Alliance, this objective continues to be achievable.

Last but not least, we earnestly extend all due credit to the wonderful staff at Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC) — their 2015 report on AANHPI socioeconomic data, *A Community of Contrasts*, constituted an exemplary precedent upon which we modeled this very publication.



# Introduction

The Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) communities have a lengthy and complex history within the United States. Though Native Hawaiians are a group indigenous to Hawai'i (and thus the U.S.), the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities are mainly composed of immigrants as well as their descendants. While some of these immigrants came to the United States in pursuit of economic opportunity, others arrived as refugees fleeing political persecution or instability — an oft-forgotten detail with residual effects that still resonate within certain communities even generations later.

The AANHPI population is an incredibly diverse group that originates from more than 70 distinct countries. Many Asian Americans can trace their roots back to widely-recognized countries such as China, Japan, and India while others hail from countries that are often absent from wider American discourse, such as Bhutan, Sri Lanka, and Kyrgyzstan. Similarly, the Pacific Islander population includes peoples from countries that carry name recognition among the American public — such as Samoa, Fiji, and Papua New Guinea — as well as countries outside this jurisdiction, such as Palau, Vanuatu, and Kiribati.

Due to the vast diversity present within the AANHPI population, it stands to reason that social and economic factors also present a wide level of variance across AANHPI ethnicities. This, of course, is inconsistent with the harmful and reductive “model minority” stereotype that is all too often directed towards Asian American populations— the blanket generalization that, despite the disadvantages that arise from being a minority group, Asian Americans are a high-achieving monolith in terms of socioeconomic status. The truth is much more nuanced; though some Asian American ethnic groups are well-to-do both economically and educationally, others present a high percentage of individuals that struggle with poverty, unemployment, and low educational attainment rates. However, because policymakers often base their allocation of resources upon data that amalgamates the AANHPI population into a singular bloc — that is, data that places a rose-tinted lens on the lived reality of many AANHPI individuals — these disadvantaged persons often slip through the cracks and end up unable to access the resources that they so desperately need.

This report aims to tease apart those monolithic generalizations into disaggregated data that distinguishes between AANHPI ethnic groups (wherever said data is available). By doing so, this report is able to convey statistics related to various socioeconomic factors within the AANHPI community — namely, data regarding demographics, economic contributions, civic engagement, immigration and naturalization, language, education, income, employment, housing, and health — in a much more nuanced and thorough capacity. In this way, generalized statistics



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about the AANHPI community (as a unified entity) are still conveyed, but are presented alongside ethnicity-level breakdowns that reveal the plight of those constituent communities that especially struggle with socioeconomic inequality.

By presenting this detailed portrait of the AANHPI community, this report aims to provide useful demographic information about said community to policymakers, community leaders, government agencies, and other interested stakeholders. In doing so, the hope exists that the contents of this report will assist in advocating for and directing resources — such as English proficiency improvement programs, affordable housing programs, small business incentives, and all manner of other public assistance programs — to those communities that need them most.

Considering the broad scope of data conveyed, this report draws upon a wide variety of sources from government agencies and educational institutions. A large portion of the data is sourced from publications by the U.S. Census Bureau, which includes surveys such as the 2020 Census, the 2010 Census, the American Community Survey (ACS), and the Annual Business Survey (ABS). Other sources include state government entities (such as the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services [DHHS], the Nevada Secretary of State, and the Nevada Department of Public Safety), state legislative entities (such as the Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau [LCB]), federal government entities (such as the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities [NIMHD]), and state educational entities (such as the Nevada Department of Education and the University of Nevada, Reno — School of Public Health).

By utilizing the comprehensive primary data collected and compiled by these institutions, this report provides a consolidated resource that assembles those vast libraries of data into a single, digestible publication. Sit back as we guide you through the wonderfully complex *snapshots of diversity* that define the lived experiences of individuals within the AANHPI community.



# Executive Summary

*Snapshots of Diversity: Insights into Nevada's Growing Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Communities* provides a quantitative glimpse into Nevada's multifaceted Asian American and NHPI (Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander) communities. By extracting meaningful metrics from raw data and comparing them to historical figures, notable statistics and trends begin to emerge, revealing the socioeconomic diversity — as well as the areas of critical need — within those AANHPI communities.

Additionally, as of the creation of this report, the 83rd (2025) Legislative Session of the Nevada State Legislature is underway. This presents a valuable opportunity to highlight newly-proposed bills that aim to fulfill the demonstrated needs of Nevada's AANHPI population by ensuring equitable access to essential resources and addressing other longstanding disparities.

Many of these socioeconomic insights and pertinent bills are outlined in the summaries below:

## **Asian Americans and NHPI are two of the fastest-growing racial groups in Nevada.**

According to 2023 Census Bureau population estimates, Nevada houses roughly 400,000 Asian Americans and more than 55,000 NHPI. In recent years, these communities have experienced a significant uptick in size — since the 2010 Census, the NHPI and Asian American populations have increased by 104% and 89%, respectively — a rate that greatly outpaces the growth rate of the general population (64%) within that timeframe. As the AANHPI community begins to constitute a larger presence of the general populace, it becomes increasingly important for policymakers to take heed of the diverse and changing needs of its constituent ethnic groups.

## **Nevada's growing Asian American and NHPI communities have become vital economic forces that contribute billions of dollars to the economy through business ownership and job creation.**

Asian Americans and NHPI are steadily becoming significant pillars of Nevada's economy. Data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Business Survey shows that the number of Asian American-owned businesses doubled (+109%) between 2012 and 2021, while NHPI-owned businesses nearly tripled (+187%) during this time frame. These AANHPI-owned businesses contribute significantly to the state's economy — altogether, they generate more than five billion dollars annually and



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employ nearly 50,000 Nevadans. By creating and/or expanding access to small business programs in a way that is linguistically-inclusive and culturally-appropriate, this growing drive for entrepreneurship among the AANHPI community can be nurtured to great benefit for both AANHPI individuals and Nevada's economy at large.

## **Due to rising naturalization and voter participation rates, Nevada's Asian American and NHPI populations wield more political power than ever before.**

As Nevada's Asian American and NHPI populations continue to expand, a growing proportion are gaining citizenship, registering to vote, and expressing their opinions at the polls. In fact, naturalization rates have climbed considerably in recent years, with 69% of Asian American immigrants and 61% of NHPI immigrants now holding U.S. citizenship. Some AANHPI immigrant groups even boast naturalization rates as high as 91% (Taiwanese Americans) or 82% (Laotian Americans).

For many who naturalize, their new status as U.S. citizens affords them the right to vote — leading to a corresponding increase in eligible voters as AANHPI naturalization rates rise. These upward trends coincide with an even sharper rise in AANHPI voter registration and turnout — over the last decade, the former has doubled and the latter has nearly tripled.

Due to the rapid expansion of Nevada's AANHPI electorate as well as their increasing interest in voter participation, Asian Americans and NHPI now wield enough political influence to drastically alter the outcome of elections. For example, in the 2024 U.S. Senate race, the AANHPI voting-age population exceeded the margin of victory by an order of magnitude — with the Asian American and NHPI electorates an incredible 11.36 times and 1.45 times larger than that winning margin, respectively. At the state level, some figures from the 2024 election venture even further off the charts — astonishingly, there are legislative districts where the Asian American electorate was nearly 50 times larger than the winning margin of those races.

Harnessing this political power relies on widespread voter participation among the AANHPI electorate. To facilitate this participation, the following measures should be taken:

- Government entities and community organizations should focus on implementing citizenship assistance and voter mobilization programs — tailored specifically toward Asian American and NHPI communities — in order to nurture the mounting enthusiasm for naturalization and voting displayed by these communities. These entities should also offer similarly-tailored civics education



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initiatives in order to deepen understanding of elections and citizenship, emphasize their significance, and frame them within a broader context. **Senate Bill 133** (of Nevada's 83rd Legislative Session) aims to bolster and expand such initiatives by allocating nearly one million dollars to the Nevada Center for Civic Engagement.

- The relevant government bodies should integrate linguistic accommodations — including ready access to translated materials, interpretation services, and bilingual staff — into the naturalization and voting processes, with special attention afforded to Asian American and NHPI ethnic groups that have large populations and low English proficiency rates. Though current federal requirements (i.e., Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965) aim to address these language needs, they often fall short due to stringent criteria and data shortcomings; if enacted, **Assembly Bill 367** would bridge these gaps by dramatically improving access to linguistic accommodations for Nevada voters.
- Laws that protect voters and safeguard polling locations should be enhanced; additionally, electoral activities and sites should be closely monitored to ensure the strict enforcement of these laws. Together, these efforts would ensure that all individuals, regardless of demographic, have equitable access to the voting process and are able to express their opinions at the polls without coercion or undue influence. **Assembly Bill 105** aims to support this objective by prohibiting firearm possession at election sites.

## Immigration continues to be a primary driver of growth for Nevada's Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

Nevada's Asian American population is predominantly composed of immigrants, with 52% of Asian Americans being foreign-born. Taiwanese Americans (64%) are especially likely to be immigrants, followed by Indian (61%), Thai (54%), and Chinese Americans (54%). Among the NHPI population, Tongan Americans (18%) are most likely to be immigrants, followed by Samoan (11%) and Micronesian Americans (8%).

Thanks to their strong work ethic and community-oriented values, AANHPI immigrants provide invaluable contributions to Nevada's socioeconomic landscape. For example, a sizable proportion pursue opportunities in entrepreneurship and healthcare, thus promoting economic growth and community wellbeing. Additionally, Asian American and NHPI immigrants are known for having strong ties to their local communities; in times of hardship, many are quick to join forces with others in their communities to provide mutual aid and other forms of communal support. In the same vein, many immigrants with the ability to vote actively use this



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privilege to support candidates and policies that positively impact their communities.

Due to their remarkable tenacity and their cultural penchant for social betterment, Asian American and NHPI immigrants serve as valuable additions to Nevada's workforce and communities. As such, policymakers, government institutions, and other stakeholders should seek to encourage continued immigration from Asian and NHPI countries, as well as offer support to existing immigrants, by adopting the following strategies:

- Stakeholders should enhance available pathways to immigration, permanent residency, and citizenship. This includes refining access to employment-based immigration, H-2A visas for temporary agricultural workers, the Diversity Immigrant Visa program (i.e. the "green card lottery"), and refugee/asylum status; doing so would allow for a greater range of occupational, ethnic, and experiential diversity among the immigrant population.
- In order to aid existing immigrants, officials should implement or improve initiatives that benefit them; such initiatives include family reunification programs, immigrant legalization processes, and the general decriminalization of immigration. In this vein, **Assembly Bill 217 (AB217)** would significantly benefit immigrant youth; it seeks to ensure that all are afforded equitable access to education — regardless of immigration status — by prohibiting immigration enforcement in Nevada's public schools. Although this protection was long upheld by the 2011 "Sensitive Locations" federal policy, it was recently revoked by the current United States presidential administration; as such, **AB217** must be enacted if this provision is to be reestablished for Nevada schools.
- Stakeholders should ensure ready access to immigrant integration programs; by providing ESL (English as a Second Language) classes, cultural orientation initiatives, and workforce development, these integration programs provide newcomers with crucial support and guidance as they learn to navigate their new environment and become self-sufficient members of their communities.

**Considerable segments of Nevada's Asian American and NHPI populations continue to face language barriers, making language translation services a crucial necessity in accessing essential resources.**

Many Asian Americans and NHPI speak a native tongue other than English, a trait often accompanied by being Limited English Proficient (LEP). In fact, nearly a quarter (23%) of Asian Americans are LEP, a rate that quickly skyrockets when



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focusing on the elderly population — 40% of Asian American seniors and 12% of NHPI seniors are LEP, with an incredible *three-quarters* of Vietnamese and Pakistani American seniors exhibiting the same characteristic. Additionally, nearly 1 in 5 households that speak an Asian or Pacific Island language are linguistically isolated — that is, none of the adults in the household are proficient in English. These notable figures demonstrate a dire need for linguistic accessibility in all aspects of life, a necessity that becomes especially imperative in terms of ensuring universal access to social services and other vital resources. The criticality of language accommodations in this arena cannot be overstated — without these provisions, large swaths of the population would be unable to access key resources and services that may be crucial to their wellbeing. As such, government officials and policymakers should ensure that adequate funding is allocated towards linguistic accessibility — to include real-time interpretation services, translation of written materials, the hiring and training of bilingual employees, and language-specific informational campaigns. **Assembly Bill 127** aims to do exactly that by providing five million dollars in grants to Nevada counties and cities for the purpose of implementing language access plans.

## Asian Americans and NHPI face unique educational challenges related to degree attainment rates, access to college, and language differences.

Contrary to common assumptions, Asian Americans and NHPI are only about as likely as Whites to hold a high school diploma (91%), with some AANHPI ethnicities — such as Laotian and Cambodian Americans (75% and 78%) — displaying rates lower than most racial groups. With respect to higher education, only 19% of NHPI adults hold a bachelor's degree, a rate well below Nevada's average of 27%. Concerningly, recent trends seem to mimic these systemic patterns: NHPI graduation rates — both at the high school and college levels — have plummeted in recent years and continue to remain low; this unfortunate development may be tied to financial instability as well as the high rates of chronic absenteeism among NHPI high schoolers.

Besides these difficulties with educational attainment, many AANHPI individuals also struggle with limited English proficiency and the educational issues — such as academic underachievement — that develop as a result. In fact, 1 in 6 Asian American grade-schoolers is an English Language Learner (ELL) — a proportion exceeded only by Hispanic students.

Given this range of educational challenges, the question arises as to how they can be addressed; the answer lies in directing resources towards several key initiatives:



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- Firstly, government entities and other stakeholders should increase funding towards public schools in low-income and immigrant-dense communities. Critically, a reasonable portion of this funding should be allocated towards resources that alleviate the linguistic and cultural barriers faced by immigrant students — resources such as ESL (English as a Second Language) classes, cultural orientation programs, instructors qualified to teach such material, and software applications that translate audio in real time. **Senate Bill 115** aims to achieve this by providing stipends to teachers of bilingual education programs; it also ensures their expertise by mandating that these teachers hold an endorsement from the Department of Education. With adequate access to such teachers and resources, ELL students will be able to engage more effectively with lectures and other academic materials, thus allowing them to master educational concepts and remain on par with their peers.
- Secondly, stakeholders should allot more public funding towards student success programs at higher education institutions — especially those programs that cater to underrepresented populations. These programs focus on recruiting and retaining students by supplying crucial resources such as financial aid and educational support; for individuals from underprivileged communities, the availability of such resources can open the doors of opportunity to an otherwise inaccessible college education.

**As the economy recovers from the damaging effects of COVID-19, many Asian Americans and NHPI continue to struggle with unemployment and poverty — an unfortunate reality that challenges the “model minority” myth.**

Though Asian Americans and NHPI increasingly contribute to wider economic development, some individuals continue to face economic adversity on a more personal level. Between 2010 to 2021, the number of unemployed Asian Americans and NHPI escalated by 21% and 12%, respectively. Of those unemployed in 2023, around 17% of Asian Americans were out of work for an estimated 6 months. Additionally, 1 in 4 (25%) Asian Americans and nearly 1 in 3 (31%) NHPI are low-income, with nearly half of the Cambodian, Samoan, and Taiwanese American populations being low-income. These concerning statistics signify the need for improved access to workforce development and social welfare programs (such as assistance for food, housing, and healthcare) via three frequently-neglected avenues: language translation services, cultural sensitivity, and targeted awareness campaigns.



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## Contrary to widely-held stereotypes, Asian Americans and NHPI in Nevada struggle to access affordable housing as well as homeownership.

Nearly half of NHPI (47%) and Asian American (43%) households are housing-cost burdened — that is, they are forced to spend more than 30% of their income on housing costs. Many AANHPI ethnicities, such as Taiwanese (66%) and Samoan Americans (57%), face an even greater disadvantage in this department.

Additionally, AANHPI households tend to be more crowded than average, with NHPI averaging 3.36 people per household and Asian Americans averaging 3.19 (compared to the statewide average of 2.65). Though this disparity can be partially accounted for via cultural norms, the high rates of housing-cost burden among the AANHPI community shed light on the financial necessity of these densely-packed living conditions — and yet, even with such cost-saving measures in place, the rates of housing-cost burden among AANHPI households remain concerningly high. Furthermore, only 41% of NHPI are homeowners, a rate lower than all other racial groups except for Blacks or African Americans. Many of these challenges can be mitigated by expanding and improving access to available housing resources — such as rental/mortgage assistance vouchers, public housing allotment, and first-time homebuyer programs — through improved language access, increased cultural consciousness efforts, and directed informational campaigns. Special care should also be taken to ensure the enforcement of tenant protections such as rent control and fair eviction practices. Lastly, resource availability can be improved by expanding the incentives geared towards housing developers who build affordable housing developments.

## Nevada's Asian American and NHPI populations are disproportionately affected by certain medical phenomena; however, many still face barriers to accessing healthcare.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Asian American and NHPI communities endured high rates of premature death, a threefold increase in hate crimes, and rising food insecurity — effects that continue to have a lasting impact as these communities work to recover. As the pandemic has subsided, other health issues persist among the AANHPI population; examples include incredibly high rates of tuberculosis, higher-than-average rates of low birth weight in infants, and a sharp uptick in cancer cases (+35% versus +2% in the general population) over the last decade. Heart disease, cancer, and strokes remain the leading causes of death among these communities, and the number of individuals affected by these conditions continues to grow as the AANHPI population expands.



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Additionally, mental health surveys reveal concerning trends in regards to violence exposure — more than two-thirds of Asian American youth have experienced parental-inflicted physical or verbal abuse, while one-third of NHPI youth have witnessed violence in their communities. NHPI youth also attempt suicide at unusually high rates, with 50% of those individuals requiring medical treatment after the fact.

Given these health disparities, health insurance proves to be a crucial necessity for the AANHPI population; without it, many of these individuals struggle to afford essential healthcare. Data from 2013 reveals concerning statistics in this regard, with 31% of NHPI and 18% of Asian Americans lacking health insurance. Fortunately, due to the subsequent rollout of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) and its sweeping improvements to healthcare access, those uninsured rates significantly improved to a less critical 7% and 8% by 2023. Despite this marked improvement, these figures still tell a story of healthcare inequity; in fact, many immigrants remain uninformed about or otherwise unable to access the benefits afforded by the ACA.

To help close this remaining gap in coverage, community organizations should strive to raise awareness of the ACA and its provisions by conducting outreach to AANHPI communities in ways that are culturally and linguistically appropriate. Government entities can also work to resolve this issue by expanding ACA access to all individuals (including undocumented immigrants) and ensuring the enforcement of the ACA's anti-discrimination provisions. Together, these efforts would help ensure that all AANHPI individuals are able to access the fundamental right that is healthcare.

Additionally, **Senate Bills 182 and 188** aim to address other health disparities faced by AANHPI communities. **Senate Bill 182** mandates adequate staffing at certain Nevada hospitals by establishing a maximum ratio for the number of patients that may be assigned to medical personnel. With the unprecedented — and continuing — surge in AANHPI cancer cases over the last decade, this quality control measure is increasingly essential to maintaining high standards of care. Additionally, **Senate Bill 188** requires certain healthcare providers and facilities to provide language assistance to individuals who are Limited English Proficient (LEP); this ensures that immigrants — who make up the vast majority of the LEP population — have more equitable access to healthcare.



# Demographics

## Population by Race

Nevada 2020 and 2023, Ranked by Population

Race	Number (2020)	Percent (2020)	Number (2023)	Percent (2023)
White	1,425,952	46%	1,451,584	45%
Latino	890,257	29%	956,401	30%
Black or African American	375,198	12%	414,509	13%
Asian American	353,593	11%	392,622	12%
AIAN	105,790	3%	91,989	3%
NHPI	52,532	2%	55,195	2%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>3,104,614</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,194,176</b>	<b>100%</b>

U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census DHC, Tables P5 and P6. State Population by Characteristics: 2020–2024 (SC-EST2023-SRIIIH)

Note: The numbers for each racial group include both single-race and mixed-race individuals, except for White, which includes only single-race non-Latino individuals. As a result, figures do not sum to the total.

- Between 2010 and 2020, Nevada's Asian American population increased from 207,775 people to 353,593 (+70%). The NHPI population also grew significantly, from 27,088 to 52,532 (+94%).<sup>1,2</sup>
- Between 2020 and 2023, the substantial growth rates continued — Nevada's Asian American population ballooned by 11% (353,593 to 392,622), the highest growth rate out of all racial groups. The NHPI population also grew 5% (52,532 to 55,195) during this period.<sup>2,3</sup>
- Asian Americans make up 13% of the Las Vegas metro area's total population, while NHPI make up 2%. Comparatively, Asian Americans make up 7% of the Reno metro area's total population, while NHPI make up 1%.<sup>6</sup>

**AIAN:** American Indian(s) and Alaska Native(s)

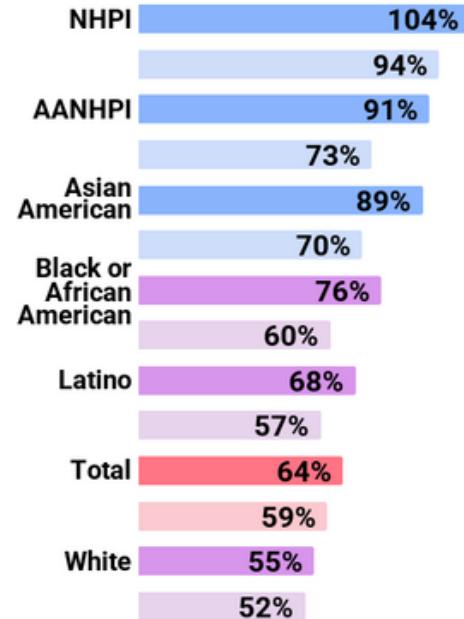
**NHPI:** Native Hawaiian(s) and Pacific Islander(s)

**AANHPI:** Asian American(s) and NHPI

## Population Growth by Race

Nevada: 2010–2023 & 2010–2020

**Top: 2010–2023 Bottom: 2010–2020**



U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF1, Tables P5 and P6. 2020 Census DHC, Tables P5 and P6. State Population by Characteristics: 2020–2024 (SC-EST2023-SRIIIH)

Note: Due to its status as an outlier (250% and 205%) for this data point (thus visually skewing the graph), the "AIAN" racial group has been excluded.

- Out of all counties in Nevada, Clark County boasts the largest number of Asian Americans (303,237) and NHPI (43,515). Washoe County takes second place with 39,485 Asian Americans and 6,303 NHPI.<sup>2,4</sup>

*Asian Americans and NHPI are two of the fastest-growing racial groups in Nevada.*



# Demographics

## Population by Ethnicity

Nevada 2020

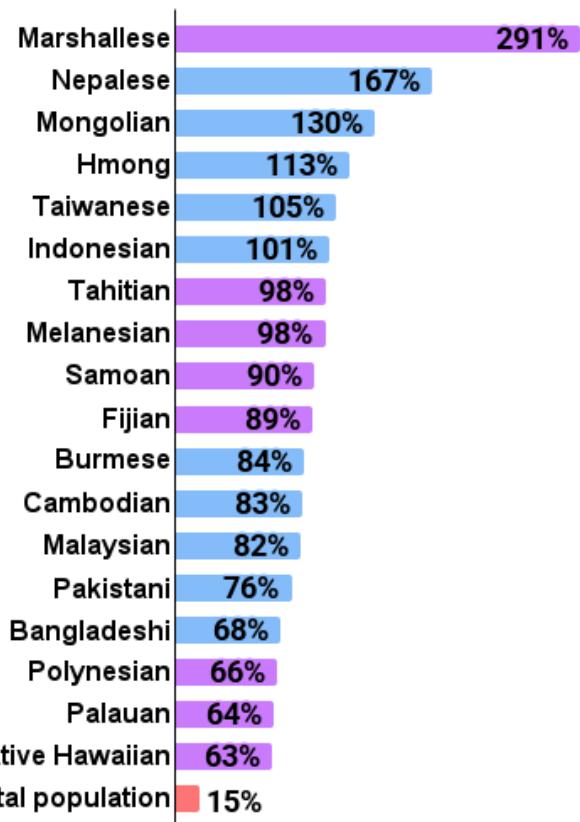
Ethnic Group	Number (2020)
Filipino	181,595
Chinese (except Taiwanese)	59,900
Polynesian	37,806
Japanese	30,878
Native Hawaiian	26,628
Korean	24,491
Vietnamese	19,671
Indian	16,656
Thai	10,769
Samoan	9,989
Micronesian	9,173
Chamorro	6,655
Laotian	3,603
Pakistani	3,148
Taiwanese	3,024
Cambodian	2,981
Indonesian	2,336
Tongan	2,240
Afghan	1,877
Sri Lankan	971
Guamanian	940
Bangladeshi	810
<b>Total AANHPI Population*</b>	<b>406,125</b>

U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census DHC, Table T01001.  
2020 Census DHC, Table P6.

\* Individuals who belong to multiple AANHPI ethnicities are counted more than once; thus, this figure is slightly higher than the actual AANHPI population total.

## Population Growth by Ethnicity

Nevada 2010 to 2020



U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF2, Table PCT1. 2020 Census DHC, Table T01001.

- Filipino (181,595) and Chinese Americans (59,900) are the largest AANHPI ethnic groups in Nevada, making up 45% and 15% of the total AANHPI population, respectively.<sup>2 5</sup>
- Polynesians (37,806) and Native Hawaiians (26,628) are the largest NHPI ethnic groups in Nevada, making up 9% and 7% of Nevada's AANHPI population, respectively.<sup>2 5</sup>
- 34% of NHPI in Nevada are youth under the age of 18, a proportion larger than all other racial groups. In addition, about 23% of Asian Americans are under the age of 18.<sup>7</sup>
- Approximately 15% of Asian Americans and 8% of NHPI are seniors (65 years or older).<sup>7</sup>

1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF1, Table P6.

2. U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census DHC, Table P6.

3. U.S. Census Bureau, State Population by Characteristics: 2020-2024 (SC-EST2023-SR11H)

4. U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census (P.L. 94-171) Redistricting Data Summary Files

5. U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census DHC, Table T01001.

6. U.S. Census Bureau. "TOTAL POPULATION." American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Selected Population Detailed Tables, Table B01003, 2021

7. U.S. Census Bureau. "SEX BY AGE." American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Selected Population Detailed Tables, Table B01001, 2021



# Economic Contributions

## Businesses

by Race, Nevada 2021, Ranked by Number of Businesses

Race	All Businesses	Revenues	Employees	Annual Payroll
White	235,804	≥ 5 B	531,664	\$26,596,404
Asian American	45,349	≥ 5 B	49,230	\$1,909,954
Black or African American	39,140	\$1 B – \$5 B	12,606	\$616,943
AIAN	5,108	\$500 M – \$1 B	2,918	\$125,836
NHPI	3,075	\$150 M – \$500 M	326	\$16,863
<b>Total</b>	<b>328,476</b>	<b>≥ 5 B</b>	<b>596,744</b>	<b>\$29,266,000</b>

US Census Bureau, 2021 Annual Business Survey Statistics for Employer and Nonemployer Firms, Table AB2100NESD01

Note: M = Millions and B = Billions

- From 2012 to 2021, the percentage of Nevada businesses owned by AANHPI individuals rose from 9% to 12%. <sup>1,2</sup>
  - Between 2012 and 2021, the number of Asian American-owned businesses increased by 109% (from 21,000 to 45,000). In this timeframe, the number of NHPI-owned businesses also increased by a whopping 187% (from 1,072 to 3,075). <sup>1,2</sup>
  - Out of all counties in Nevada, Clark County hosts the largest number of Asian American businesses (8,583) and NHPI businesses (198). Washoe County follows the lead with 1,324 Asian American businesses and 16 NHPI businesses. <sup>3</sup>
  - Clark County is home to 96% of the NHPI businesses in Nevada as well as 86% of Asian American-owned businesses. Washoe County follows the lead with 2% of Nevada's NHPI businesses and 12% of the state's Asian American-owned businesses. <sup>3</sup>
- Between 2012 and 2021, the number of Asian American businesses doubled; NHPI businesses nearly tripled.*
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1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 Annual Business Survey Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics series Statistics for Employer and Nonemployer Firms, Table AB2100NESD01

2. U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 Survey of Business Owners Statistics for All U.S. Firms, Table SB1200CSAO1

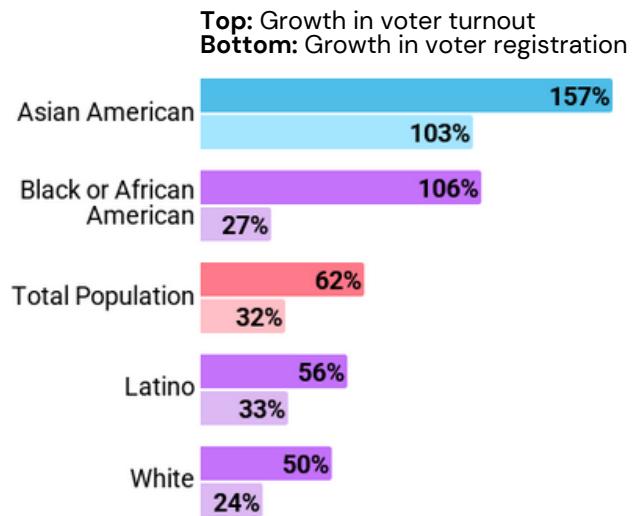
3. U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 Annual Business Survey Statistics for Employer Firms, Table CSAOIC



# Civic Engagement

## Growth in Voter Turnout and Voter Registration

by Race and Hispanic Origin, Nevada 2014 to 2022,  
Ranked by Growth in Voter Registration



U.S. Census Bureau, November 2014 Current Population Survey, Table 4b; November 2022 Current Population Survey, Table 4b.

**Note:** 2022 is the most recent election for which voter turnout and registration data is available; 2014 was chosen as the year for prior comparison because it is as close as possible to ten years prior while similarly being a midterm election year (like 2022).

**Note 2:** Each racial group (in the visualizations and text of this section) includes both single-race and mixed-race individuals, except for White, which includes only single-race non-Latino individuals; this is to partially correct for Latino individuals being counted throughout all racial groups. Without this adjustment, "White" would by far include the largest number of double-counted Latino individuals.

- Both Asian American and NHPI immigrants are becoming increasingly enthusiastic about gaining U.S. citizenship, which affords them the ability to vote. In 2010, only 49% of NHPI immigrants had naturalized; by 2021, even with the overall rise in the NHPI immigrant population, this rate had increased to 61%. Similarly, the naturalization rate among Asian American immigrants increased from 61% in 2010 to 69% in 2021.<sup>3 4</sup>
- The AANHPI electorate possesses enough voting power to sway the outcome of elections at all levels (federal, state, and local). For example, in the 2024 U.S. Senate and U.S. presidential races, the AANHPI voting-age population exceeded the margin of victory (MOV)\* multiple times over — with the Asian American voting-age population constituting an astonishing 1136% and 594% of the MOV, and the NHPI electorate corresponding to an appreciable 145% and 76% of the MOV.<sup>5 6 7</sup>

- Between 2014 and 2022, there was a massive increase in the number of Asian Americans registered to vote (+103%); astoundingly, the number who actually voted nearly tripled (+157%).<sup>1 2</sup>
- Even after accounting for population growth, statistics show that voter participation has drastically increased among the Asian American community. Out of those eligible to vote, the proportion of those who actually registered to vote increased from 42% in 2014 to 59% in 2022. Similarly, the proportion of registered Asian Americans who actually voted increased from about half (51%) to two-thirds (64%) during that time frame.<sup>1 2</sup>
- As of 2022, approximately 120,000 Asian Americans are registered to vote.<sup>2</sup>

*In 2022, about two-thirds (64%) of registered Asian Americans voted – an increase from half (51%) in 2014.*

\* The Margin of Victory (MOV) is the difference between the number of votes cast for the winning candidate and the number of votes cast for the second-place candidate.



# Civic Engagement

## Asian American Voting Power

by Contested Seat, Nevada, 2024 General Election

Contested Seat	Margin of Victory (MOV)	Asian American Voting-Age Population (AA VAP)	AA VAP is how much larger than MOV?
U.S. President	46,008	273,326	5.94x
U.S. Senate	24,059	273,326	11.36x
State Senate District 11	1,053	34,429	32.70x
State Assembly District 41	257	12,290	47.82x
State Assembly District 12	277	6,679	24.11x

U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census 119th Congressional District Summary File, Table P10. Nevada Secretary of State, Silver State General Election Results 2024, U.S. Senate; U.S. Presidential Race; Nevada State Senate; Nevada State Assembly.

- The extent of AANHPI voting power becomes incredibly apparent when considering various state-level races. In the 2024 general election, the Asian American voting-age population constituted an unbelievable 3270%, 4782%, and 2411% of the MOV in the races for State Senate District 11 and State Assembly Districts 41 and 12, respectively. In these same races, the NHPI electorate equated to 271%, 780%, and 256% of the MOV.<sup>5 8 9</sup>
- An examination of Nevada's four congressional districts (each represented by a member of the U.S. House of Representatives) reveals that Asian Americans make up 21% of the voting-age population in Congressional District 3 which includes the western half of Las Vegas and 10% in Congressional District 1 (which includes the eastern half of Las Vegas, most of Henderson, and all of Boulder City). Similarly, Congressional District 3 exhibits the largest NHPI voting-age population (more than 12,000).<sup>5</sup>
- Nevada State Senate Districts 11, 9, and 8 which encompass Summerlin South and the Southwest region of the Las Vegas Valley feature the largest proportions of Asian American voting-age population statewide (30%, 26%, and 18%, respectively). Districts 12 and 11 (which encompass the southwest and south central areas of the Valley) contain the largest NHPI voting-age populations (3,352 and 2,858).<sup>5 10</sup>
- Nevada State Assembly Districts 8, 9, and 35 — which mainly encompass the Southwest region of the Las Vegas Valley — feature the largest proportions of Asian American voting-age population statewide (34%, 29%, and 26%, respectively). Districts 41 and 8 — which include Henderson and southwest portions of the Valley — contain the largest NHPI voting-age populations (2,005 and 1,537).<sup>5 10</sup>

1. U.S. Census Bureau, November 2014 Current Population Survey, Table 4b.

2. U.S. Census Bureau, November 2022 Current Population Survey, Table 4b.

3. U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B05002.

4. U.S. Census Bureau, 2017–2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B05002.

5. U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census 119th Congressional District Summary File, Table P10.

6. Nevada Secretary of State, Silver State General Election Results 2024, U.S. Senate.

7. Ibid., U.S. Presidential Race.

8. Ibid., Nevada State Senate.

9. Ibid., Nevada State Assembly.

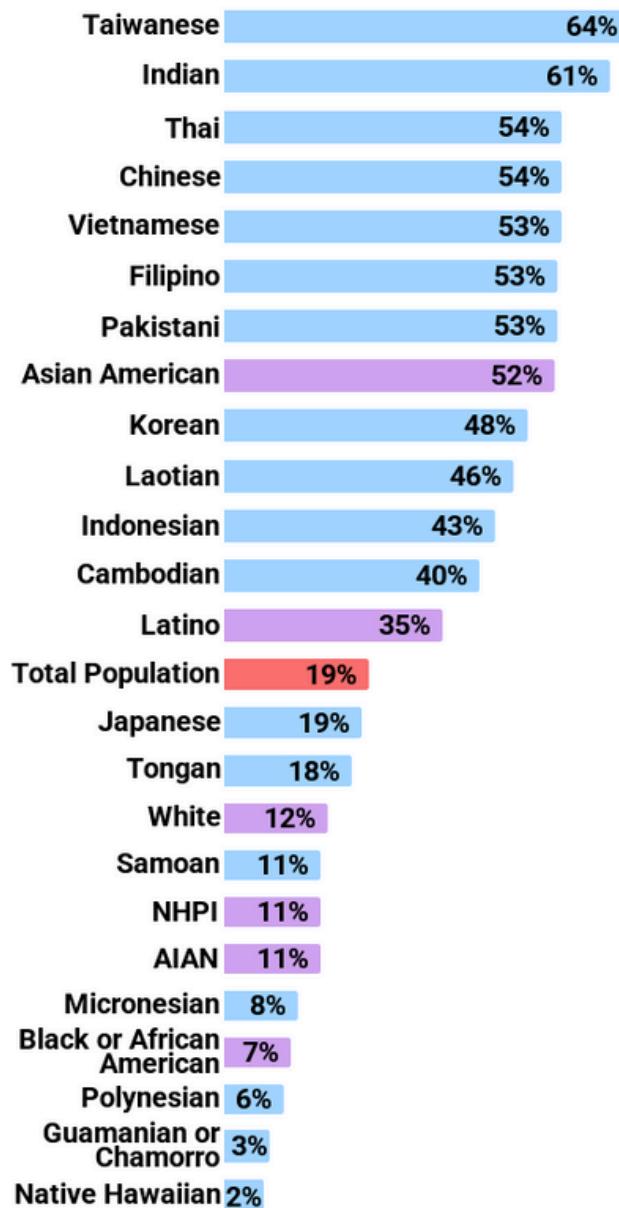
10. Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau, 2023. "Who's My Legislator / What's My District".



# Immigration

## Foreign-Born

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group,  
Nevada 2017–2021



U.S. Census Bureau. "PLACE OF BIRTH BY NATIVITY AND CITIZENSHIP STATUS." American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Selected Population Detailed Tables, Table B05002, 2021

- 52% (~172,900) of Asian Americans and 11% (~4,900) of NHPI in Nevada are immigrants.<sup>1</sup>

- Among Asian American ethnic groups, Taiwanese Americans (64%) are composed of the highest proportion of immigrants (foreign-born individuals); the next highest proportions are held by Indian (61%), Thai (54%), Chinese (54%), and Vietnamese Americans (53%).<sup>1</sup>
- Among NHPI ethnic groups, Tongan Americans (18%) boast the highest composition of immigrants (foreign-born individuals) in their population; next up are Samoan (11%), Micronesian (8%), Polynesian (6%), and Chamorro Americans (3%).<sup>1</sup>
- About 21% (39,153) of Nevada's Asian American immigrant population came to the U.S. between 2000 and 2009; 21% (39,605) also immigrated during the following decade (between 2010 and 2021).
- Among Asian American ethnic groups, Pakistani (36%), Indian (34%), Chinese (26%), Filipino (19%), and Vietnamese Americans (19%) hold the highest percentage of immigrants that arrived in the U.S. between 2010 and 2021.<sup>2</sup>
- About 13% (1,198) of Nevada's NHPI immigrant population came to the U.S. between 2000 and 2009, while 8% (746) of immigrants entered between 2010 and 2021.
- Among NHPI ethnic groups, Tongan (15%), Polynesian (10%), Native Hawaiian (9%), Samoan (6%), and Micronesian Americans (4%) hold the highest percentage of immigrants that arrived in the U.S. between 2010 and 2021.<sup>2</sup>



# Immigration

- More than one-third (36%) of the statewide Asian American population are naturalized citizens — a proportion that far exceeds that of all other races. Additionally, 7% of the statewide NHPI population are naturalized citizens, a proportion exceeded only by Latinos (14%) and Asian Americans.<sup>1</sup>
- The high proportion of naturalized citizens within the general AANHPI population is not solely caused by levels of immigration that surpass other races; in fact, when focusing solely on the immigrant populations (versus the entire racial groups), Asian American immigrants (69%) and NHPI immigrants (61%) are more likely to become citizens than immigrants of all other racial groups.<sup>1</sup>
- The top Asian countries of birth for immigrants obtaining their Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) status in Nevada during 2022 were the Philippines (28%), China (7%), India (3%), South Korea (2%), and Vietnam (1%).<sup>3</sup>
- Both Asian American and NHPI immigrants are becoming increasingly enthusiastic about gaining U.S. citizenship. In 2010, only 49% of NHPI immigrants had naturalized; by 2021, even with the overall rise in the NHPI immigrant population, this rate had increased to 61%. Similarly, the naturalization rate among Asian American immigrants increased from 61% in 2010 to 69% in 2021.<sup>1</sup>

*Over 90% of  
Taiwanese  
immigrants in  
Nevada have  
become  
citizens.*

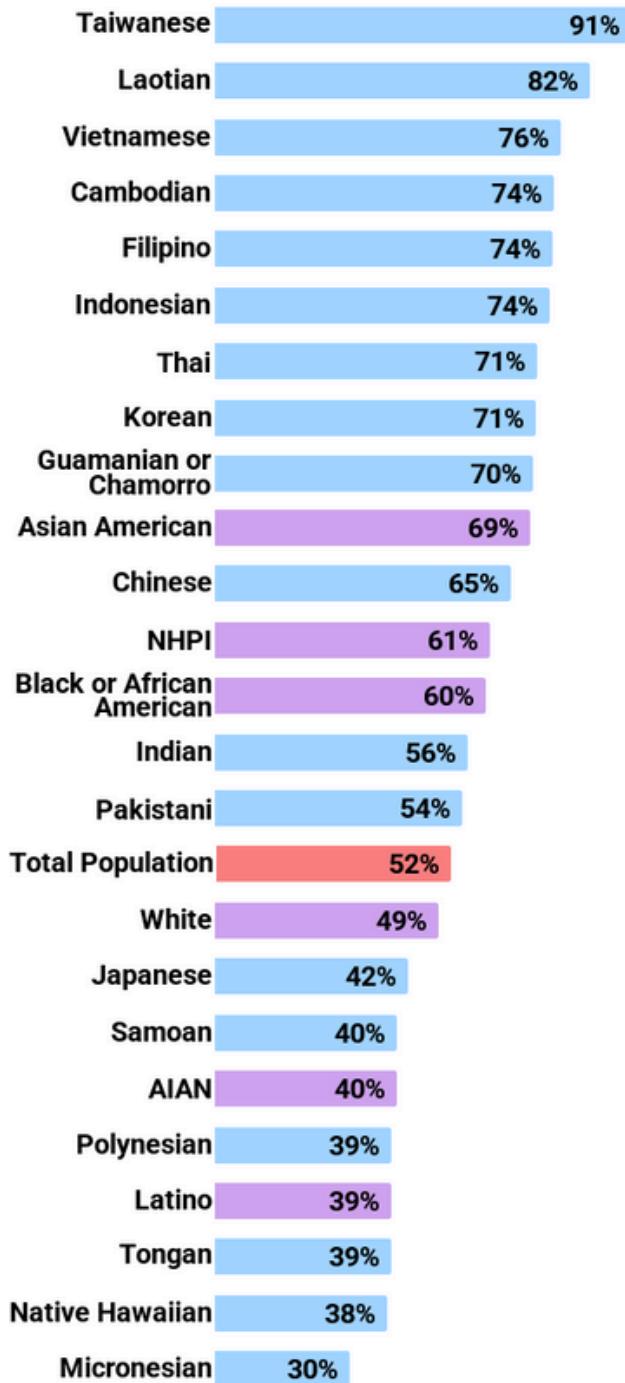
<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. "PLACE OF BIRTH BY NATIVITY AND CITIZENSHIP STATUS." 2006–2010 and 2017–2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Selected Population Detailed Tables, Table B05002.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. "PERIOD OF ENTRY BY NATIVITY AND CITIZENSHIP STATUS IN THE UNITED STATES." 2017–2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Selected Population Detailed Tables, Table B05005.

<sup>3</sup> Department of Homeland Security. "Persons Obtaining Lawful Permanent Resident Status During Fiscal Year 2022 by State/Territory of Residence and Selected Characteristics". Office of Immigration Statistics.

## Percent of Immigrants Naturalized

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group,  
Nevada 2017–2021



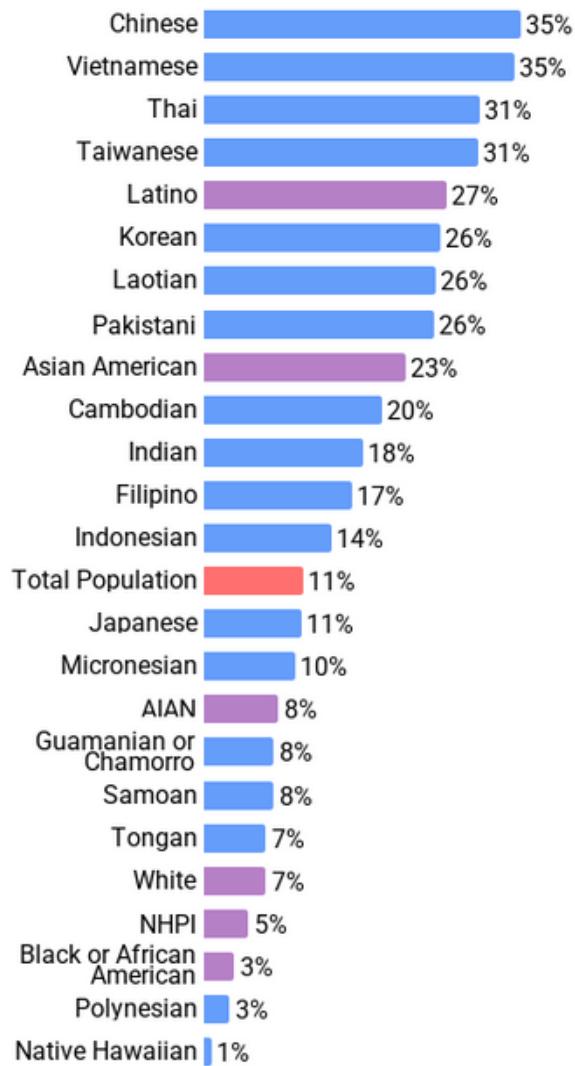
U.S. Census Bureau. "PLACE OF BIRTH BY NATIVITY AND CITIZENSHIP STATUS." 2017–2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Selected Population Detailed Tables, Table B05002



# Language

## Rates of Limited English Proficiency (LEP) in The Population ≥5 Years of Age

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, Nevada 2017–2021



US Census Bureau, 2017–2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B16004

**Three-quarters (75%) of Vietnamese and Pakistani American seniors are Limited English Proficient (LEP).**

- An estimated 174,701 of Nevada residents speak an Asian or Pacific Island language at home. The majority (69%) of these individuals are between the ages of 18 and 64.<sup>1</sup>
- Statewide, the Asian languages with the most speakers are Tagalog (85,897), Chinese languages including Mandarin and Cantonese (35,235), Korean (11,715), Vietnamese (10,885), and Japanese (6,813).<sup>2</sup>
- Nearly a quarter (23%) of Asian Americans and 5% of NHPI are Limited English Proficient (LEP). Seniors (65+ years of age) are most likely to be LEP; in fact, 40% of Asian American seniors and 12% of NHPI seniors are LEP.
- An astonishing three-quarters (75%) of Vietnamese and Pakistani American seniors are LEP; Cambodian (69%), Korean (62%), and Laotian American seniors (62%) also exhibit LEP rates higher than 60%.
- Among AANHPI youth, Pakistani (15%), Vietnamese (11%), and Chinese American youth (10%) display the highest LEP rates.
- Out of the statewide AANHPI population, Chinese (35%), Vietnamese (35%), Thai (31%), and Taiwanese Americans (31%) exhibit the highest proportion of LEP individuals.
- Among NHPI ethnic groups, Micronesian (10%), Guamanian or Chamorro (8%), Samoan (8%), and Tongan Americans (7%) present with the highest LEP rates.
- 17% of households that speak an Asian or Pacific Island language are linguistically isolated. The highest rates of linguistic isolation occur among Chinese (32%), Vietnamese (26%), and Korean-speaking (26%) households.<sup>4</sup>
- During the 2023–2024 school year, only 6% of English-learner NHPI students were deemed to be proficient in the language via Nevada's English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA); this rate falls short of all other racial groups, including Hispanic (7%) and Black students (10%).<sup>5</sup>

1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2019–2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Subject Tables, Table S1601. "Language Spoken at Home".

2. U.S. Census Bureau, 2019–2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables, Table B16001. "Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over".

3. U.S. Census Bureau, 2017–2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables, Table B16004. "AGE BY LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY ABILITY TO SPEAK ENGLISH FOR THE POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER".

4. U.S. Census Bureau, 2019–2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables, Table B16002. "Detailed Household Language by Household Limited English Speaking Status".

5. Nevada Department of Education, 2023–2024 Nevada Accountability Report Card ([nevadareportcard.nv.gov](http://nevadareportcard.nv.gov)). ("Assessment" → "ELPA").

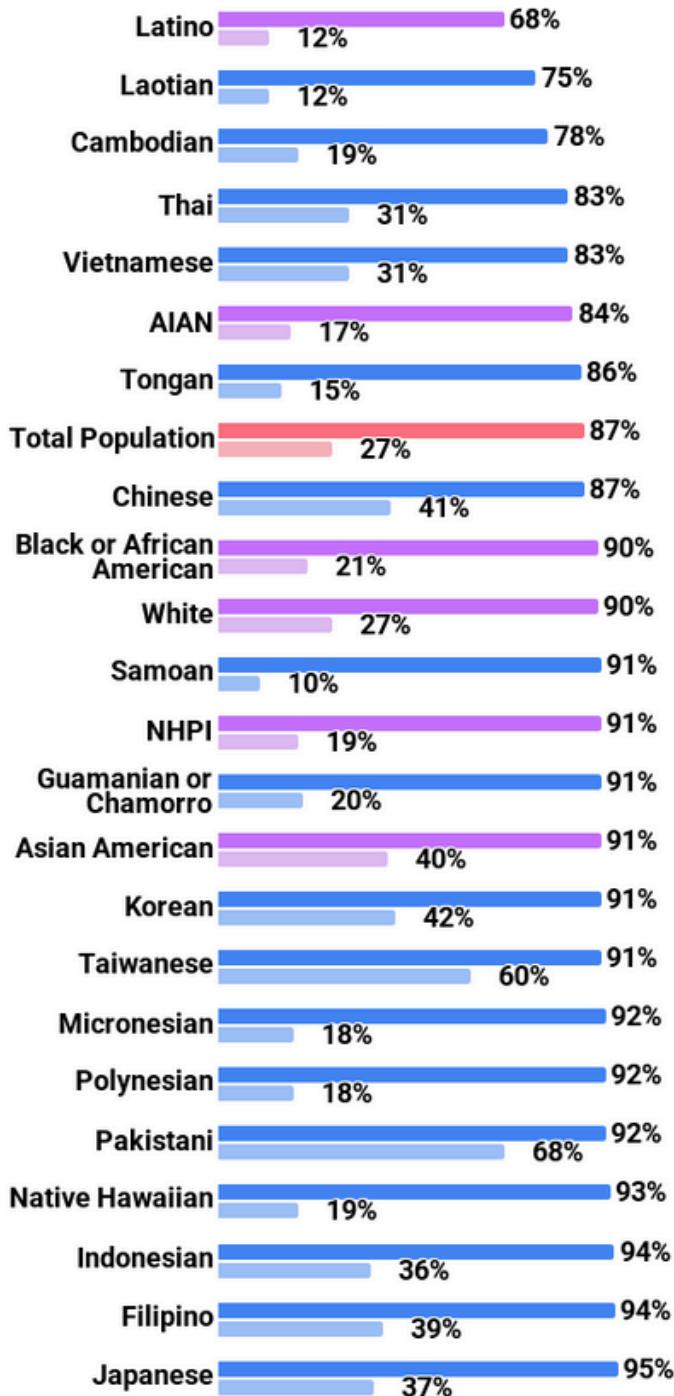


# Education

## Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Older

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group,  
Nevada 2017–2021, Ranked by Percent Holding  
a High School Degree or Higher

**Top:** High school degree or higher  
**Bottom:** Bachelor's degree or higher



U.S. Census Bureau, 2017–2021 American Community Survey  
5-Year Estimates, Table B15002

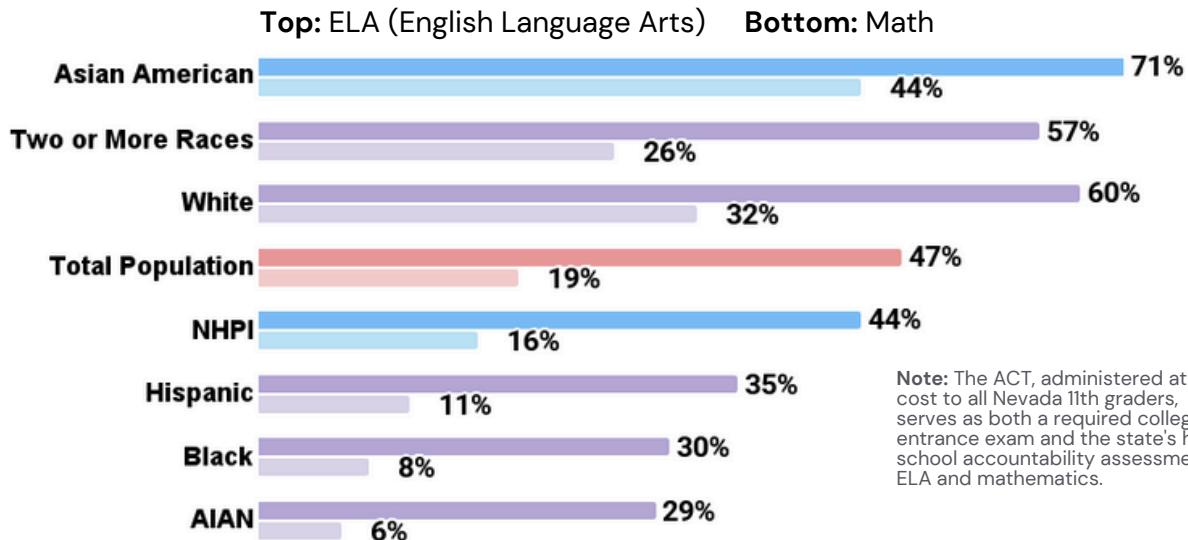
- Statewide, Asian American (91%) and NHPI (91%) adults aged 25 years and older are only slightly more likely than Whites (90%) to hold a high school diploma.<sup>6</sup>
- Among Asian American ethnic groups, Laotian American (75%) adults are the least likely to hold a high school diploma, with a rate lower than that of the average population (87%).<sup>6</sup>
- Only 19% of NHPI adults hold a bachelor's degree, a rate lower than most other racial groups except for Latinos (12%) and AIAN (17%).<sup>6</sup>
- While 40% of the general Asian American population holds a bachelor's degree, this statistic is notably lower among the Laotian (12%), Cambodian (19%), Vietnamese (31%), Thai (31%), Indonesian (36%), Japanese (37%), and Filipino American (39%) adult populations.<sup>6</sup>
- Asian Americans and NHPI comprise 6% (26,940) and 1% (6,396) of Nevada's 2025 K–12 public school enrollment total, respectively.<sup>4</sup>
- 16% of Asian American K–12 students are English learners; this percentage is larger than that of the total population (15%) and is higher than all other racial groups except Hispanics (27%).<sup>5</sup>
- In 2023, only 80% of NHPI high school seniors actually graduated; this rate was lower than that of all other racial groups except for Black (71%) and AIAN (65%) students.<sup>2</sup>
- Between the 2018–19 and 2022–23 school years, the number of Asian American and NHPI educators in Clark County increased by 75% and 37%, respectively.<sup>4</sup>
- During the 2022–23 school year, 6% of the student population and 7% of licensed personnel in Clark County were Asian American.<sup>4</sup>



# Education

## Math and English Proficiency of 11th Graders

by Race, Nevada 2023-2024



Nevada Department of Education. 2023-2024 Accountability Report ("Nevada Report Card"). Achievement.

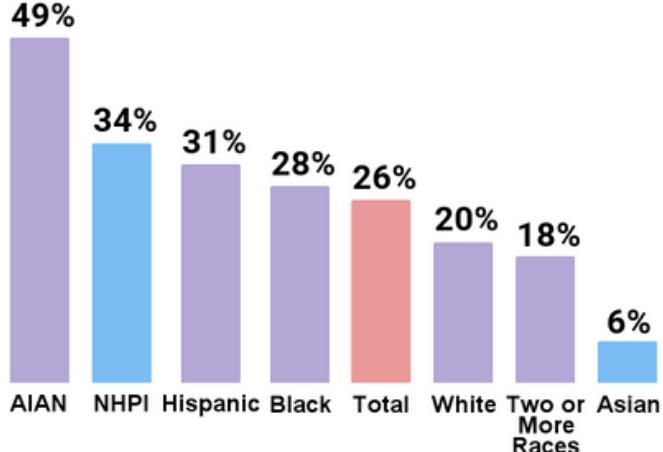
**Note:** The ACT, administered at no cost to all Nevada 11th graders, serves as both a required college entrance exam and the state's high school accountability assessment for ELA and mathematics.

- Except for those in the "two or more races" category (31%), NHPI juniors of the 2023-24 school year displayed the largest gap in proficiency (28%) between ELA and Math scores on the ACT. Asian American students (27%) display a similarly concerning gap.<sup>3</sup>
- NHPI students (34%) demonstrate the highest rate of chronic absenteeism apart from AIAN students (49%); this rate exceeds that of Hispanic (31%), Black (28%), and White students (20%).<sup>1</sup>
- In 2022 and 2023, NHPI students at Nevada's higher education institutions exhibited the lowest graduation rates (23% and 29%) out of all racial groups.<sup>7</sup>

*NHPI students exhibit the lowest college graduation rates (23% in 2022; 29% in 2023) out of all racial groups.*

## Chronic Absenteeism

by Race, Nevada 2023-2024



**Note:** Chronic absenteeism is defined by the percentage of students who miss 10% or more of school days per year (with or without a valid excuse).

1. Nevada Department of Education. 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Nevada Accountability Report Card ([nevadareportcard.nv.gov](http://nevadareportcard.nv.gov)). "Chronic Absenteeism".

2. Ibid. "Cohort 4Yr Graduation Rates (Reported for Prior School Year)".

3. Ibid. "Assessment" -> "CCR".

4. Ibid. (Demographics).

5. Ibid. "Demographic Profile" -> "English Learners".

6. U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B15002.

7. NSHE Institutional Research Office, NSHE Institutions Graduation Rates. ("Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity - All NSHE Institutions")



# Income

- Around 80,400 Asian Americans and 14,000 NHPI in Nevada are low-income. Additionally, over 31,600 Asian Americans and 5,800 NHPI live in poverty.<sup>1</sup>
- Among Asian American ethnic groups, Cambodian Americans take the lead in low-income rates (43%), followed by Taiwanese (40%), Pakistani (34%), and Thai Americans (30%).<sup>1</sup>
- Samoan Americans (19%), Polynesian Americans (15%), and Native Hawaiians (14%) lead NHPI ethnic groups in high poverty rates.<sup>1</sup>
- Between 2010 and 2021, the percentage of Asian Americans living in poverty increased by 2%; the NHPI percentage also grew by 1%.<sup>2</sup>
- In Clark County, the percentage of Asian Americans living in poverty grew by 2% from 2010 to 2021, thus outpacing the growth of the Asian American population at large; this uptick was caused by a staggering increase of over 13,700 individuals living in poverty.<sup>2,3</sup>
- On average, NHPI earn less per capita income than Asian Americans (\$25,062 versus \$33,225); both groups earn less than Whites (\$38,408).<sup>2</sup>
- NHPI live in poverty at higher rates than Whites (13% versus 11%). Similarly, NHPI are more likely to be low-income than Whites (31% versus 27%).<sup>1,2</sup>
- NHPI youth are more likely to live below the poverty line than Asian American youth (15% vs. 10%).<sup>2</sup>

*Nearly half  
(43%) of  
Cambodian  
Americans are  
low-income.*

1. U.S. Census Bureau. "RATIO OF INCOME TO POVERTY LEVEL IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS." American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Selected Population Detailed Tables, Table C17002, 2021

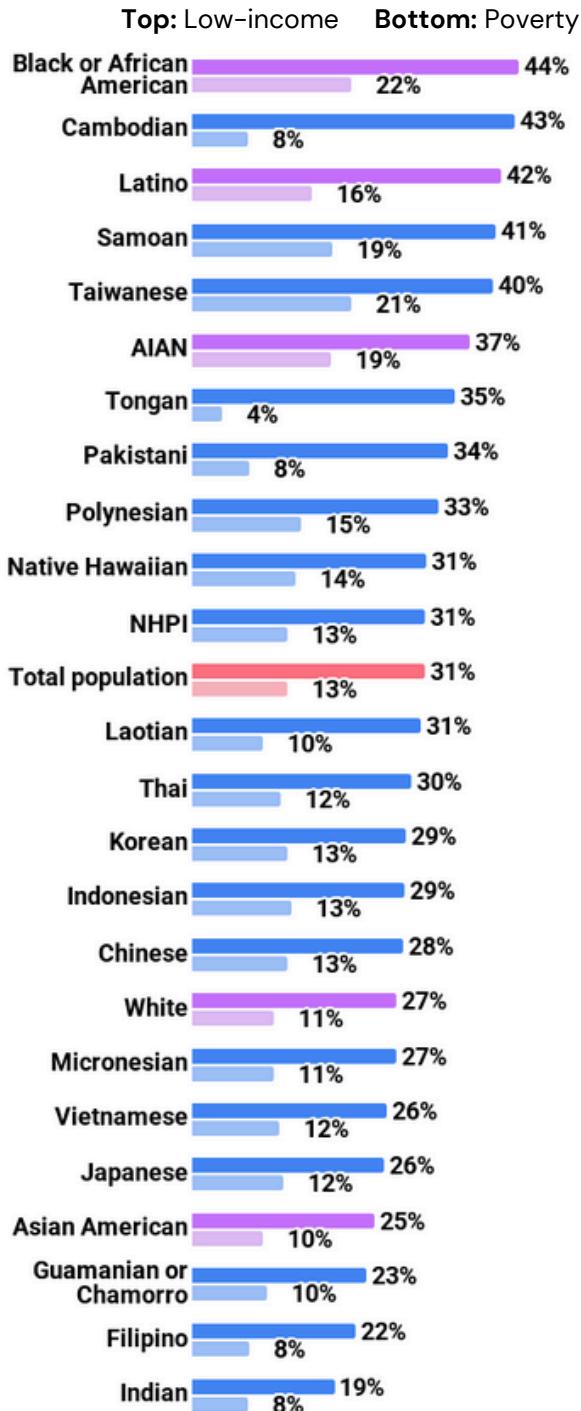
2. U.S. Census Bureau. "SELECTED ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS." American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Selected Population Data Profiles, Table DPO3, 2010-2021

3. U.S. Census Bureau. "SELECTED POPULATION PROFILE IN THE UNITED STATES." American Community Survey, ACS 1-Year Estimates Selected Population Profiles, Table SO201, 2010-2021

\* Note: Calculations were made by taking the percentage of those in poverty by the total population of Asian Americans for that year, and subtracting the products together.

## Low-Income & Poverty

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, Nevada 2017-2021, Ranked by Percent Low-Income



Note: "Low-income" refers to individuals whose incomes fall below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

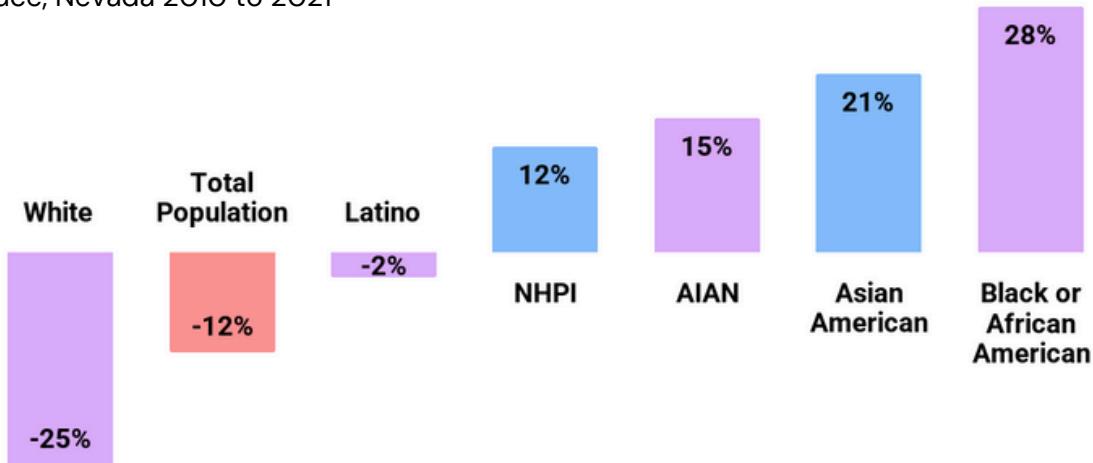
U.S. Census Bureau. ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table C17002, 2021



# Employment

## Growth in the Number of Unemployed

by Race, Nevada 2010 to 2021



U.S. Census Bureau. "SELECTED ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS." American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Selected Population Data Profiles, Table DPO3, 2021

- The unemployment rate among Nevada's AANHPI population is increasing at a concerning pace. Between 2010 to 2021, the number of unemployed Asian Americans escalated by 21%, an increase higher than all other racial groups except for Black or African Americans (28%). The number of NHPI unemployed also grew by 12%.<sup>1</sup>
- Out of the statewide Asian American population, 6% are unemployed. Similarly, 8% of NHPI are unemployed.<sup>1</sup>
- Of those unemployed in 2023, around 17% of Asian Americans were out of work for an estimated 6 months, a percentage higher than Black or African Americans (13%) as well as Hispanics (13%).<sup>2</sup>
- Most Asian Americans (81%; 130,581) and NHPI (84%; 16,864) work for private for-profit businesses. Additionally, many Asian Americans (9%; 14,232) and NHPI (5%; 944) work for their own business (whether incorporated or unincorporated). A large swath of Asian Americans (10%; 15,687) and NHPI (10%; 1,988) also work for various government organizations.<sup>4</sup>
- Asian Americans and NHPI are most commonly employed in the same three industries — accommodation and food services (19% and 13%); healthcare and social assistance (17% and 11%); and arts, entertainment and recreation (11% and 10%).<sup>3</sup>

- Between 2010 and 2021, the industries that saw the greatest growth in Asian American workers were agriculture, hunting, and mining (298%); manufacturing (137%); and professional, scientific, administrative, and waste management (105%).<sup>1</sup>
- The industries that experienced the highest increase in NHPI workers between 2010 and 2021 were manufacturing (155%); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (151%); and professional, scientific, administrative, and waste management (150%).<sup>1</sup>
- The most common occupations for Asian Americans in Nevada are jobs in management, science, and arts (35%); service jobs (30%); and sales/office jobs (23%).<sup>1</sup>
- The top occupations among Nevada's NHPI population are jobs in management, science, and arts (29%); sales and office jobs (28%); and service jobs (23%).<sup>1</sup>

1. U.S. Census Bureau. "SELECTED ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS." American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Selected Population Data Profiles, Table DPO3, 2010-2021

2. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. "Unemployed people by gender, race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and duration of unemployment, 2023 annual averages. Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment, Table 26, 2023

3. U.S. Census Bureau. "SEX BY INDUSTRY FOR THE CIVILIAN EMPLOYED POPULATION 16 YEARS AND OVER." American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Selected Population Detailed Tables, Table C24030, 2021

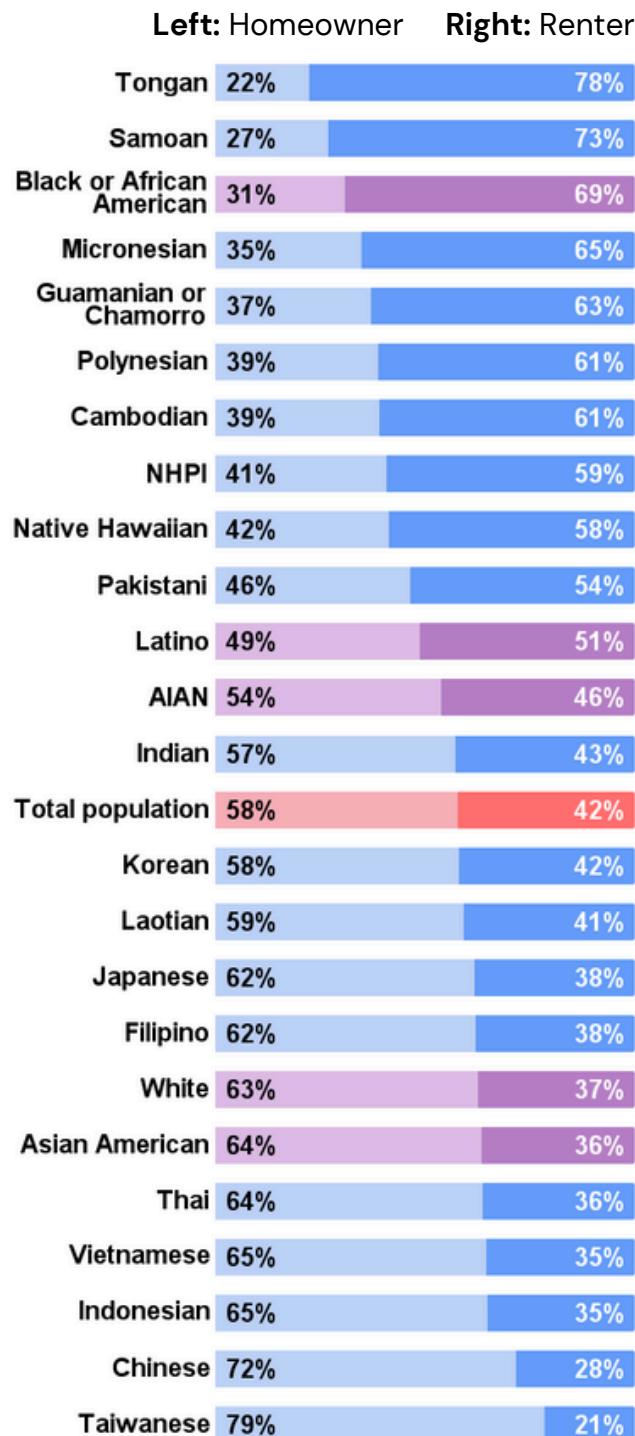
4. U.S. Census Bureau. "SEX BY CLASS OF WORKER FOR THE CIVILIAN EMPLOYED POPULATION 16 YEARS AND OVER." American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Selected Population Detailed Tables, Table B24080, 2021



# Housing

## Homeowners and Renters

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group,  
Nevada 2021



U.S. Census Bureau. (2021). TENURE.  
American Community Survey. Table B25003

- Only 41% of NHPI are homeowners, a rate lower than all other racial groups except for Blacks or African Americans (31%). The lowest homeownership rates belong to Tongan (22%) and Samoan Americans (27%), with rates much lower than any racial group.<sup>1</sup>
- Nearly half (43%) of Asian American households are housing-cost burdened; the highest rates belong to Taiwanese Americans, for whom a whopping two-thirds (66%) are housing-cost burdened. Indonesian (56%), Laotian (56%), and Chinese Americans (52%) also display high rates of housing-cost burden.<sup>5</sup>
- About half (47%) of NHPI households are housing-cost burdened, with Samoan (57%) and Tongan Americans (53%) taking the lead.<sup>5</sup>
- In Reno, homeownership rates for Asian Americans (43%) and NHPI (18%) fall below those of the general population (48%).<sup>1</sup>

*Two-thirds (66%)  
of Taiwanese  
Americans are  
housing-cost  
burdened.*



# Housing

- Despite making up 11% of the state's total population, Asian Americans only occupy 9% of housing units, leading to a higher proportion of people per household. Similarly, although NHPI make up 2% of Nevada's total population, they only occupy 1% of housing units.<sup>1,2</sup>
- NHPI (3.36) and Asian American (3.19) households contain more people than the statewide average (2.65); Taiwanese Americans (1.83) are the only AANHPI ethnicity below that average. Samoan Americans sit at the high end with a remarkable 5.20 people per household.<sup>2</sup>
- Despite the higher-than-average number of people per household, AANHPI homes are no bigger than average — more AANHPI homes (5%) contain multiple inhabitants per room than the statewide average (4%).<sup>4</sup>
- Multigenerational households are a cultural norm among many AANHPI ethnicities; as a result, family households are more prevalent among Asian American (69%) and NHPI (70%) homes as compared to the statewide average (64%).<sup>3</sup>

1. U.S. Census Bureau. "TENURE." 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B25003

2. U.S. Census Bureau. "TOTAL POPULATION IN OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS BY TENURE." 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B25008

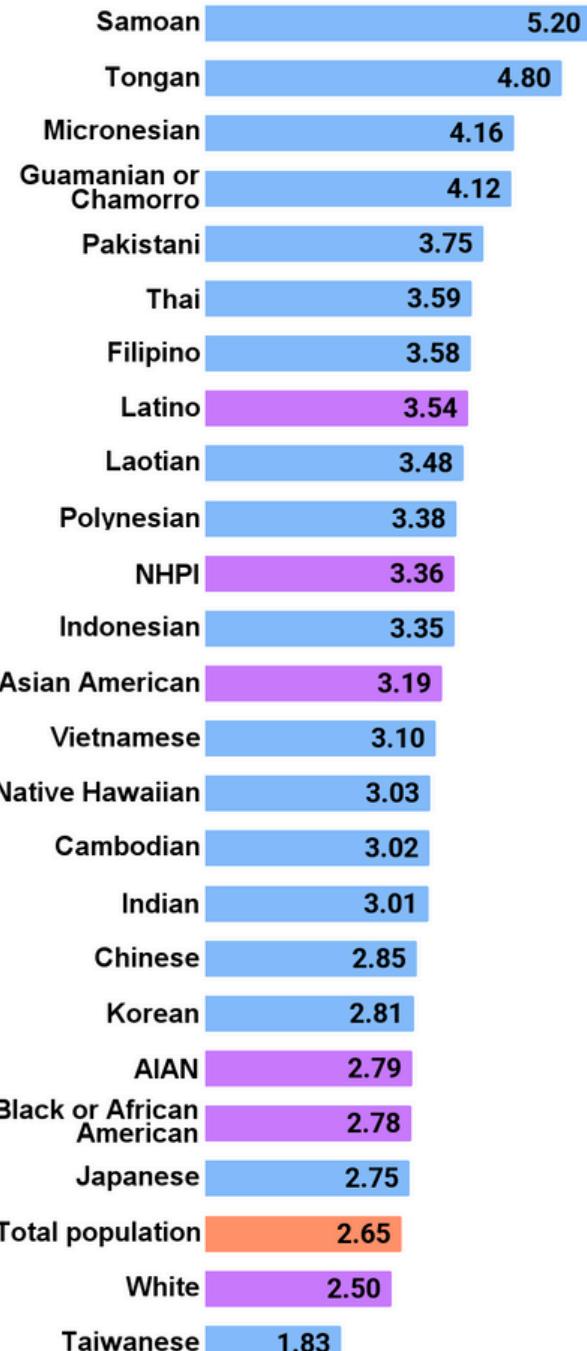
3. U.S. Census Bureau. "HOUSEHOLD TYPE (INCLUDING LIVING ALONE)." 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B11001

4. U.S. Census Bureau. "TENURE BY OCCUPANTS PER ROOM". 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B25014

5. U.S. Census Bureau, 2017–2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B25070.

## People per Household

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, Nevada 2021



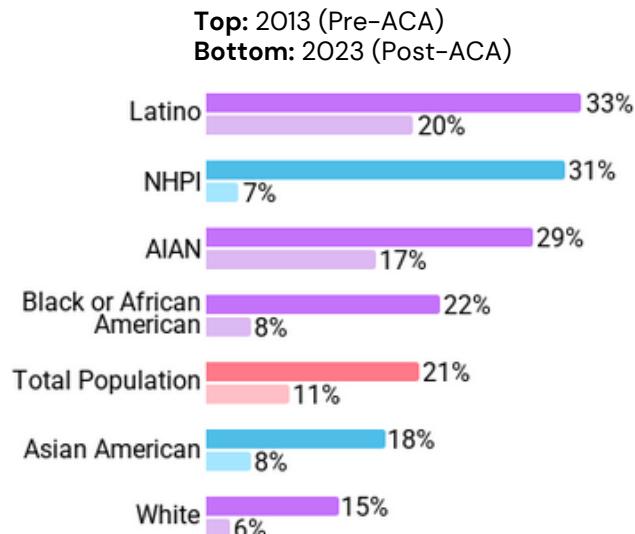
U.S. Census Bureau, 2017–2021  
American Community Survey  
5-Year Estimates, Tables  
B25003 and B25008.



# Health

## Uninsured

by Race and Hispanic Origin, Nevada 2013 and 2023,  
Ranked by Percent Uninsured in 2013



U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 and 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table S2701.

**Note:** To offset the inclusion of Latino individuals in all other racial groups, "White" (the racial group with the most Latino individuals) only includes non-Latino individuals. Additionally, due to limited data, all racial groups only include single-race individuals.

- 8% (~23,000) of Asian Americans and 7% (~1,568) of NHPI in Nevada do not have health insurance.<sup>1</sup>
- Although 77% of Asian Americans rank "access to health services" as one of their top health priorities, a 2021 survey found that 8% of AANHPI respondents had been unable to afford a doctor visit within the last year.<sup>3 7</sup>

*Due to ACA provisions, the rate of NHPI without health insurance dropped from 31% in 2013 to 7% in 2023.*

- Asian Americans and NHPI in Nevada have greatly benefited from the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) expansion of healthcare coverage. In 2013, 31% of NHPI did not have health insurance; by 2023, this statistic had substantially decreased to a mere 7%, representing a 24% improvement — the largest improvement among all racial groups. Similarly, the subset of Asian Americans without health insurance decreased from 18% to 8% during this time.<sup>1 2</sup>
- Asian Americans still rely on ACA provisions to stay insured; despite making up only 12% of Nevada's population, Asian Americans constitute 16% of individuals insured through the ACA-created Health Insurance Marketplace.<sup>10 11</sup>
- AANHPI continue to contract tuberculosis at extremely high rates compared to the rest of the population; despite making up only 14% of Nevada's population in 2023, AANHPI accounted for a whopping 61% of the state's tuberculosis cases during the same year. Filipinos accounted for 85% of those AANHPI cases and 51% of all tuberculosis cases statewide.<sup>10 12</sup>
- In 2021, only 34% of AANHPI children completed their combined 7-vaccine series (a highly-recommended staple of early-childhood vaccination) by the age of 24 months; this rate is lower than most other racial groups, including Latinos (51%) and Blacks or African Americans (37%).<sup>4</sup>



# Health

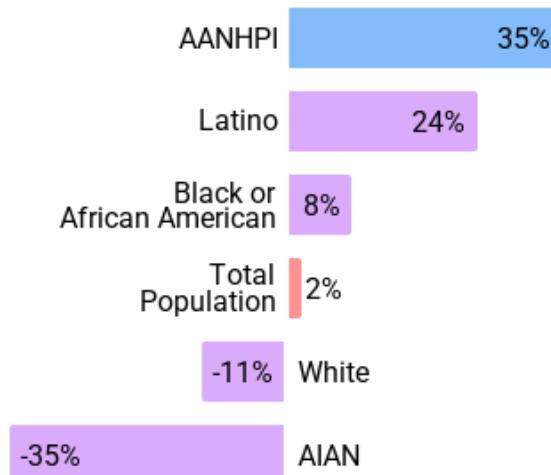
- Between 2010 and 2019, the number of cancer cases among AANHPI increased by 35% — an uptick significantly outpacing that of all other racial groups. This increase includes a rise in lung and bronchus cancer (+70%), female breast cancer (+48%), colorectal cancer (+18%), and prostate cancer cases (+12%). In comparison, there was only a 2% uptick in the number of cancer cases among the general population.<sup>8</sup>
- AANHPI infants are more likely than most to be born at a low birth weight (LBW), which increases the lifelong likelihood of health issues. Out of the four most recent years studied (2018 – 2021), AANHPI infants have consistently held the second-highest LBW rate; in 2021, this constituted 93 out of every 100,000 AANHPI births, a rate only surpassed by Blacks or African Americans (127 per 100,000).<sup>5 9</sup>
- Heart disease (24%) was the leading cause of death for Nevada's AANHPI population between the years of 2018 and 2022; the next leading causes of death were cancer (18%) and consequences of cerebrovascular disease (7%) such as strokes.<sup>13</sup>

*During COVID-19, anti-Asian hate crimes nearly tripled (a 167% increase) compared to pre-pandemic rates.*

- In 2022, 10% of the statewide AANHPI population was diagnosed with COVID-19 — the highest rate out of all racial groups.<sup>14</sup>

## Increase in Cancer Incidence

by Race and Hispanic Origin, Nevada 2010–2019



Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Analytics and Office of Minority Health and Equity. "Minority Health Report 2023". Table 13.

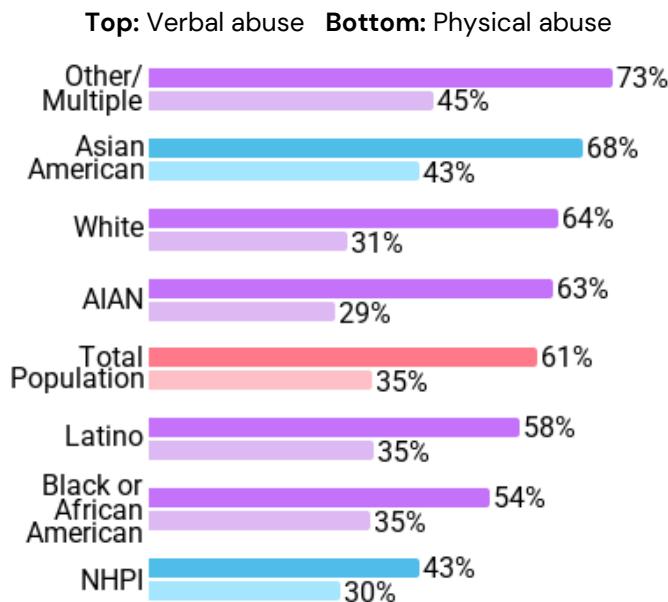
- In 2020, COVID-19 quickly became the second leading cause of death for AANHPI; by the following year (2021), it had become the **number one** cause of death. In fact, a staggering 24% of all AANHPI deaths in 2021 were caused by COVID-19; this rate surpassed that of all other races except Hispanics (27%).<sup>15</sup>
- By far, AANHPI were most severely impacted by premature mortality due to COVID-19. Nevada's AANHPI community emerged from the pandemic with 4,932 years of potential life lost (YPLL) per 100,000 individuals — a figure that far exceeded the next-highest rate (3,128 years per 100,000 individuals) exhibited by Hispanics.<sup>16</sup>
- Between 2019 and 2020, anti-Asian hate crimes in Nevada nearly tripled (a 167% increase). This elevated rate remained steady throughout the following year (2021).<sup>17</sup>
- Due to the economic difficulties caused by COVID-19, there was a noticeable upturn in Asian Americans (+26%) and NHPI (+23%) applying for food benefits (through Nevada's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program — "SNAP") during the first half of 2020.<sup>6</sup>



# Health

## Rates of Parental-Inflicted Abuse Among High School Students

by Race and Hispanic Origin, Nevada 2023,  
Ranked by Percent Who Have Experienced Verbal Abuse



University of Nevada, Reno — School of Public Health.  
“2023 Nevada High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey  
(YRBS) State Report”. Tables 17 and 19.

- Out of all high school students, Asian Americans experience some of the highest levels of physical abuse (43%) and verbal abuse (68%) from parental figures — rates surpassed only by students in the multiracial/unspecified race category (45% and 73%).<sup>18</sup>

*Asian American high school students report high rates of parental-inflicted physical abuse (43%) and verbal abuse (68%).*

- A 2023 survey found that nearly one in six (16%) NHPI high school students had actually attempted suicide within the past year — a rate higher than all other racial groups except for AIAN (19%). Of these students, 50% had to seek medical attention due to injuries sustained during their suicide attempt.<sup>19</sup>
- The poor mental health outcomes among NHPI are accompanied by increased exposure to violence in their localities. More than one-third (34%) of NHPI high school students surveyed had personally witnessed a violent assault (physical attack, beating, stabbing, or shooting) in their neighborhood — a figure that surpassed all other racial groups.<sup>20</sup>

1. U.S. Census Bureau. 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates Subject Tables, Table S2701.

2. Ibid, 2013.

3. Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, “Nevada State Health Assessment 2022”. Table 12.

4. Ibid, “Immunizations”. Page 52.

5. Ibid, “Low Birth Weight”. Page 36.

6. Ibid, “Food Insecurity”. Page 20.

7. Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Analytics and Office of Minority Health and Equity. “Minority Health Report 2023”. Figure 12.

8. Ibid, Table 13.

9. Ibid, Figure 75.

10. U.S. Census Bureau. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023 (SC-EST2023-SRT1H).

11. Kaiser Family Foundation. “Marketplace Plan Selections by Race/Ethnicity”, Open Enrollment 2024. Nevada.

12. Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Office of State Epidemiology. “Nevada 2023 Tuberculosis (TB) Fast Facts”. Page 5.

13. National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, HD Pulse. All Causes of Death Rates Table for Nevada by County. Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (Non-Hispanic/Latino), Both Sexes, All Ages, 2018-2022.

14. Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Analytics. “Symptoms of the Disease: The Epidemiological, Economic, and Public Health Impacts of COVID-19 on the Battle Born State”. April 2024. Table 1.

15. Ibid, Tables 3 and 4 (and text preceding Table 4).

16. Ibid, Table 6.

17. Nevada Department of Public Safety, Nevada Crime Statistics. Hate Crime 2019, 2020, and 2021. Nevada.

18. University of Nevada, Reno — School of Public Health. “2023 Nevada High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) State Report”. Tables 17 and 19.

19. Ibid, Tables 29 and 30.

20. Ibid, Table 25.



# About the Authors

## Advisor

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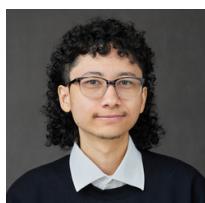


### Dr. Horohito Norhatan

Dr. Horohito Norhatan currently serves as Research Director and Northern Nevada Manager for One APIA Nevada. Dr. Norhatan brings forth a wealth of experience that is derived, in part, from his extensive academic background—he possesses a PhD in Basque Studies and Political Science from the University of Nevada, Reno, and is currently pursuing a second PhD in Comparative Public Administration and Public Policy at the same institution. His relevant research interests encompass collaborative governance, public policy, intergovernmental relationships, community economic development, worker self-management, and sustainable development. Throughout his academic career, Dr. Norhatan has conducted multiple investigations into the impact of the cooperative business model on poverty alleviation and job creation in the Basque region of Northern Spain.

## Project Leads

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### Alano Peirce

- Project Lead (full project)
- All data + text sections, editing, design/aesthetics

Alano Peirce is currently a senior pursuing his B.S. in Computer Science at Western Governors University. Prior to working at One APIA Nevada, he held a range of technical positions with organizations such as NASA and International Game Technology (IGT). In addition to his enthusiasm for all things analytical, Alano possesses a drive for activism born out of his lived experience as a member of various marginalized communities. Due to these ostracizing facets of his identity, Alano grew up feeling like an outsider among society at large; as he grew older and began to venture beyond the confines of his upbringing, he finally found a sense of belonging through meaningful involvement within said communities. Through these experiences, Alano was introduced to the inherent camaraderie and intoxicating sense of purpose that are intrinsic to community-based activism; he was instantly hooked and soon found himself desiring deeper immersion into the world of progressive advocacy. As a newly-designated Research Specialist and Community Organizer with One APIA Nevada, Alano hopes to use his fervor for activism to fight for positive change on behalf of the AANHPI community as well as other marginalized populations.



# About the Authors



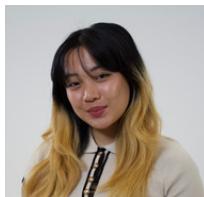
## Olivia Ngo

- **Project Lead (first half of project timeline)**
- **Data sections: "Immigration", "Language"**

Olivia Ngo graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Nevada, Reno with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Musical Theatre. Born and raised in Reno, she strongly believes that Nevada's diverse population is one of the state's greatest traits. Combining her passions for creativity and advocacy, she is driven to uplift all political perspectives through her work in the Nevada political landscape. After graduation, Olivia worked with One APIA Nevada during the 2024 election cycle as a Senior Community Organizer; her responsibilities included door-to-door canvassing, registering voters, and hosting nonpartisan voter engagement events aimed towards the AANHPI and Northern Nevada collegiate populations. Out of all things in the political realm, Olivia is especially interested in education and elections policy.

## Researchers

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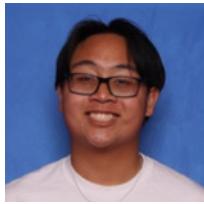
## Abigail Herrera

- **Data sections: "Immigration", "Income", "Employment"**

Abigail Herrera is a sophomore majoring in social work and minoring in public health at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). During the summer of 2024, she began her journey with One APIA Nevada as an intern; she now works with the organization as a Youth Community Organizer. Throughout her time growing up in Las Vegas, Abigail has volunteered with a wide variety of Asian American-led organizations to help advance social advocacy initiatives; these experiences allowed her to gain a firsthand understanding of the unique disparities and needs faced by the various communities within Nevada's AANHPI population. As a proud Filipina American, Abigail continues to stay heavily involved with AANHPI-centered initiatives and philanthropy on the UNR campus; upon graduating, she hopes to continue her work in this arena — most especially, advocating for Asian cultural competency at a state and local level — through a future career in social work.



# About the Authors



## Cody Arao

**Data sections: "Civic Engagement", "Housing"**

Cody Arao is a junior majoring in mechanical engineering and minoring in mathematics at the University of Nevada, Reno. He currently works for One APIA Nevada as a Youth Organizing Fellow. As a first-generation Filipino American who was born and raised in Reno, Nevada, Cody feels a deep connection to Nevada's AANHPI community. He is particularly passionate about deconstructing the "model minority" myth that haunts the AANHPI community, since this perceived prominence within society often stands in the way of resource access for many struggling AANHPI individuals. He strives to promote the understanding that, like all other communities, AANHPI populations face adversities within various socioeconomic arenas; thus, they deserve the same level of resource allocation afforded to similarly disadvantaged populations.



## Cevan Louie

**Data sections: "Language", "Education"**

Cevan Louie is a high school senior at the Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas. As a Chamorro American, Cevan is deeply passionate about Pasifika representation within the domains of politics and higher education. In line with this interest, she has played a key role in co-presenting and passing vital legislation in support of initiatives such as financial literacy and catalytic converter protection. Additionally, Cevan serves as the founder and executive director of the Las Vegas Asian Student Union — an organization that unites seventeen distinct Asian Student Union groups from various schools throughout the Las Vegas valley. On top of that, Cevan has spent the last four years serving a trio of organizations — the Asian Community Development Council (ACDC), Asian Pacific American Advocates, and One APIA Nevada — as Lead Youth Volunteer Coordinator, a role she has balanced while founding and subsequently leading Nevada's chapter of "Dear Asian Youth". Cevan strongly believes that access to higher education is instrumental in equipping young people for long-term success; driven by this firm conviction as well as a commitment to educational equity, Cevan aspires to work in higher education to help break down the systemic barriers faced by Pacific Islander students.



# About the Authors



## Dylan Dang

Data sections: "Health"

Dylan Dang is a third-year pre-medical student majoring in kinesiology at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). At UNR, he is actively involved in campus leadership as the Vice Chair of the Student Engagement Committee within the Pre-Health Student Advisory Council, where he works to support and connect aspiring healthcare professionals. Additionally, Dylan serves as the Vice President of Lambda Psi Rho, an Asian-interest (but not Asian-exclusive) fraternity that fosters cultural awareness and performs acts of service for the surrounding community. With a strong passion for healthcare and community engagement, Dylan strives to become a physician who makes a meaningful impact in underserved areas. Currently, Dylan works for One APIA Nevada as a Youth Organizing Fellow.



## Natalie Nguyen

Data section: "Education"

Natalie Nguyen is a pre-law senior pursuing her B.A. in Political Science and B.A. in Economics at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. As a first-generation Vietnamese American, Natalie has a drive to learn all that she can about issues affecting the AANHPI community. Stemming from this drive, Natalie dedicated her university thesis towards analyzing the effects of immigration on Asian American identity. With goals to go to law school and further engage in public policy, Natalie hopes to continue her advocacy efforts and personally demonstrate the power of the AANHPI voice. Natalie initially joined One APIA Nevada as a Youth Organizing Fellow during the 2024 election cycle; through this role, she engaged in door-to-door canvassing, organized community events, and engaged with voters and elected officials about crucial topics such as immigration and education. She has since transitioned into her new role of Administrative Assistant for the organization.



## Janina Mae Baldovino

Data section: "Economic Contributions"

Janina Mae Baldovino is a sophomore studying public health and nursing at the University of Nevada, Reno. She currently works for One APIA Nevada as a Youth Organizing Fellow. In 2015, Janina moved from the Philippines to Las Vegas, Nevada, in order to continue her studies. This proved to be a rather formative experience — new to the United States, she struggled to learn English and fit in with the other students



# About the Authors

at her elementary school; because of this, she often found herself on the receiving end of overt racism and other unjust treatment. Due to these adversities, Janina became passionate about creating safe environments for Filipino Americans as well as individuals of other AANHPI ethnicities. In addition to her career aspirations of working in the healthcare industry, Janina strives to be a strong voice for diversity, equity, and inclusion; by contributing to such initiatives as Snapshots of Diversity, Janina hopes to do just that — and to continue making a difference for Nevada's AANHPI community.



**Winston Wei**

**Data section: "Civic Engagement"**

Winston Wei is a current high school senior at Northwest Career and Technical Academy with a deep passion for public policy and political science. His commitment to civic engagement and activism has driven him to take on leadership roles with various advocacy initiatives such as working to foster youth participation in the democratic process, championing language access for the AANHPI community, and shaping policy discussions at both the local and state levels. Through his work with One APIA Nevada and his leadership role in organizations such as the Nevada High School Democrats of America, Winston has dedicated himself to bridging the gap between young people and the political process. Whether directing voter registration efforts, organizing large-scale events, or advocating for legislative change, he believes in the power of community-driven action to create meaningful impact. Winston's interest in public policy stems from both lived experience and belief in the power of governance to uplift marginalized voices. His journey through the world of activism has reinforced his dedication to ensuring that civic engagement is accessible, inclusive, and genuinely transformative. As he continues to delve deeper into the field, Winston hopes to leverage his passion for policy to drive forward initiatives that empower underrepresented communities and foster a more engaged electorate.



**Nelson Chen**

**Data sections: "Health"**

Nelson Chen is a freshman majoring in accounting at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He is an ardent advocate for the AANHPI community because of his firmly-held belief in a classic adage — “be the change you want to see in the world”. In line with this philosophy, Nelson volunteered for the Asian Community Development Council



# About the Authors

(ACDC) for three years before joining One APIA Nevada as a Youth Organizing Fellow. In his free time, Nelson enjoys playing video games as well as One Piece TCG (a card game) with his friends.



**Mahika Ram**

**Data section: "Demographics"**

Mahika Ram is a junior at Reno High School who aspires to pursue a university major in business or a pre-medical field. As an Indian American who proudly places a great deal of importance on her ethnic heritage, Mahika is passionate about advocating for her Indian American community as well as the AANHPI population at large. In line with this interest, Mahika decided to join One APIA Nevada as a Youth Organizing Fellow during the summer of 2024 — a position she thoroughly enjoys. In her free time, Mahika enjoys reading, running, and playing golf.

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# APIA NEVADA

**BUILDING POWER FOR AANHPIS  
IN NEVADA**

Founded in 2018, One APIA Nevada is a grassroots nonprofit organizing & advocating to empower everyday **Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander** (AANHPI) Nevadans.

One APIA Nevada coordinates AANHPI community organizing, in-state electoral efforts of local and national organizations, develop leaders for civic representation, and uplifts the voices of the AANHPI community through issue advocacy and education.