



California

A brief background

Fast Facts

- Third largest state in U.S.
- Most populous state in U.S.
- Largest economy in the U.S.
 - If California were a country, it would have the 5th highest GDP*





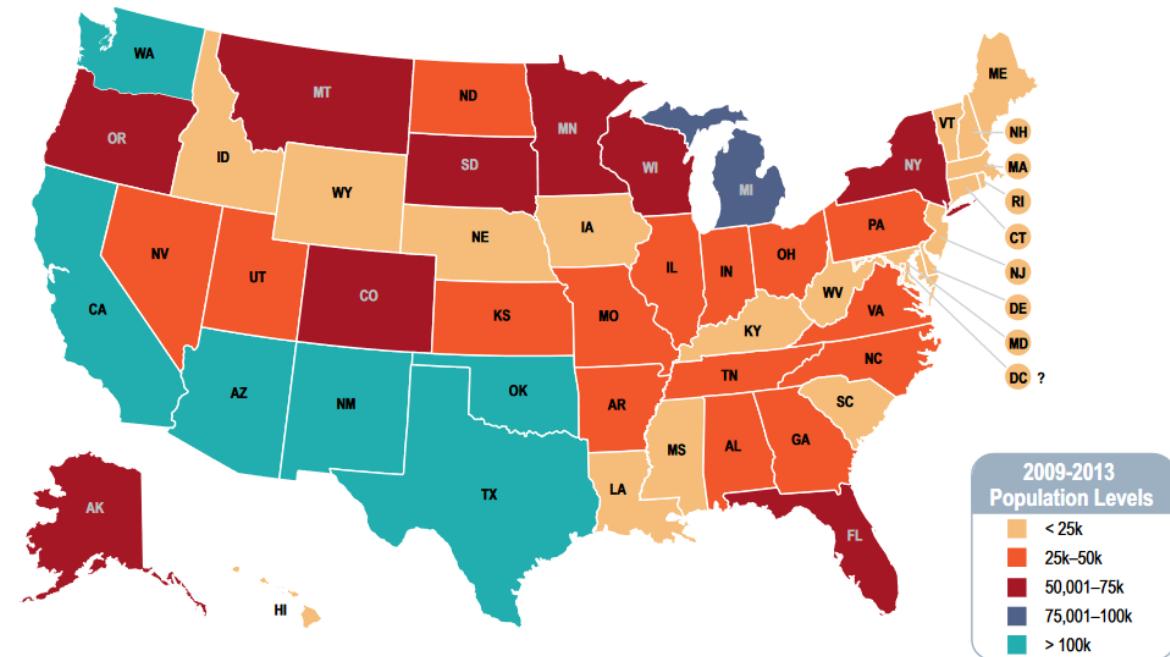
California Indian Pre-contact Tribal Territories

Native Americans in California

Tribal Population

The map below shows the population of individuals who self-identify as American and Alaska Natives in each state.

2009-2013 American Indian and Alaska Native State Populations



*Map does not show funded territories or tribes.

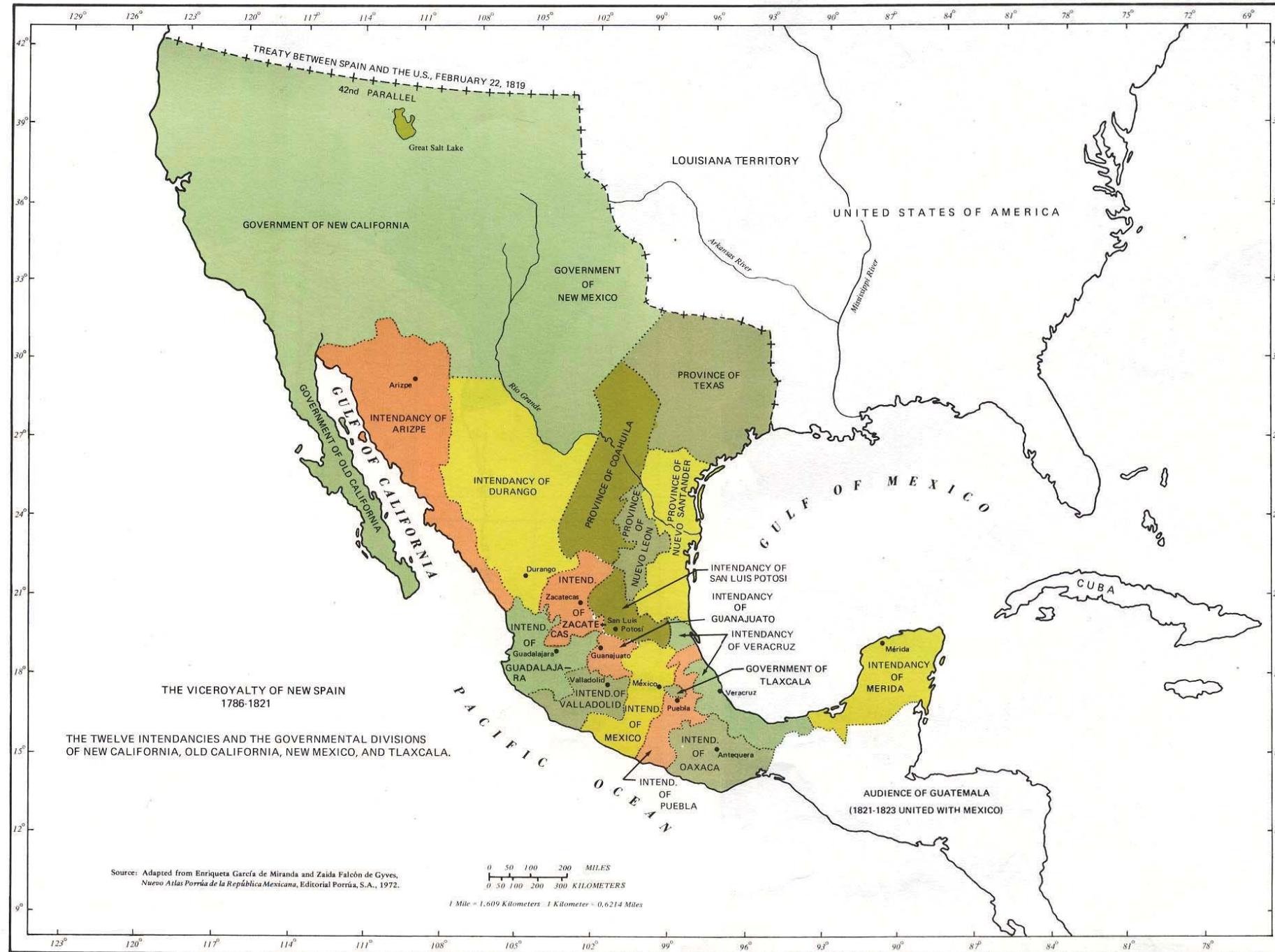
TABLE 1: 10 states with the highest percentage of American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) affiliated with federally recognized tribes



The Historic Missions, Presidios & Pueblos of California



The Viceroyalty of
New Spain 1786-
1821, from Perry-
Castañeda Library,
Univ. of Texas
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/atlas_mexico/new_spain_viceroyalty.jpg



Bear Flag Revolt: June-July 1846

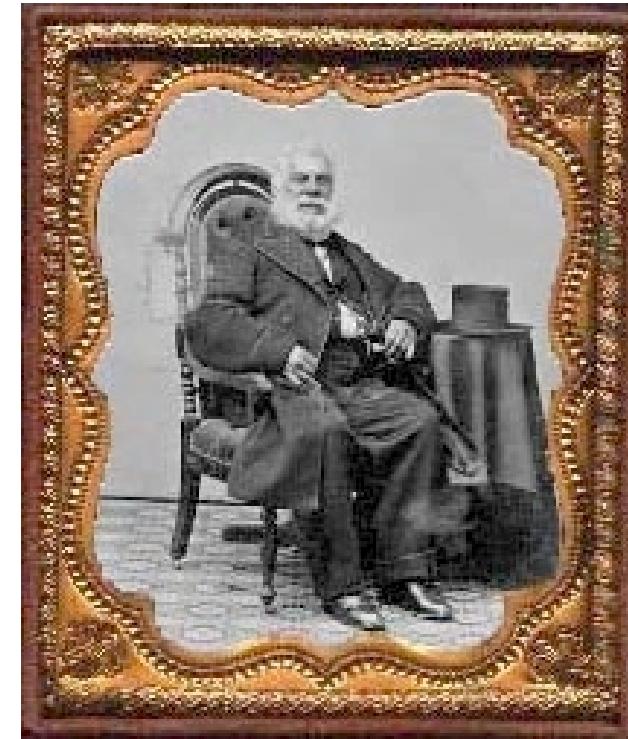


CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC



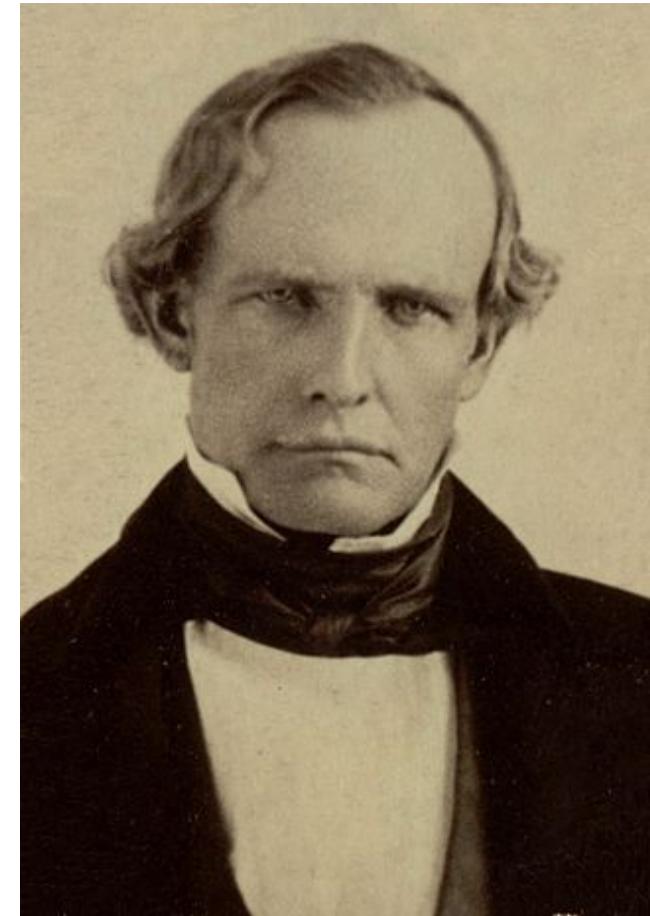
Transition from Mexico to U.S.

- Last Mexican governor of California: Pio Pico
 - Mixed Spanish, African, Indian ancestry
 - Served until the Mexican-American War began in 1846
- Learn more from [KCET story about Pio Pico](#)
 - Which notes that over half of the founders of Los Angeles were of African descent



California's first governor

- Peter Burnett
 - First to be elected governor
 - Served December 1849-January 1851 (resigned)
 - Advocated for banning Blacks from California
 - Advocated genocide of Native Americans in the state



Gold Discovery

- January 24, 1848







Colton Hall, Monterey

1849 California Constitutional Convention

- Met in Monterey
- 48 men, representatives from 10 districts
- Not all delegates spoke English; translation provided
- Delegates: “Thirty-six ...were born in the United States; six were native-born Californios, and the remaining came from Spain, Ireland, Scotland, France, and Switzerland.”
(<https://www.monterey.org/museums/Monterey-History/Constitutional-Convention>)





1849 Constitution

- White male suffrage, 21 years and older
 - The legislature could vote (2/3 vote) to allow Native Americans to vote (“Indians or the descendants of Indians”)
- Constitution published in English and Spanish and all laws to be published in English and Spanish
- Slavery banned (vote was unanimous in the convention)
 - Though they considered whether to ban blacks from California*
 - And slavery continued “unofficially”**
- California archives include scans of both English and Spanish versions of the 1849 Constitution and the journals and papers of the delegates at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/collections/constitutions/1849/>

California Joined US as a Free State

- California joined the United States as a “free,” non-slavery state
- Remained with the Union during the Civil War
 - Thomas Starr King thought to have helped California remain in the Union



1879 Constitution

- The 1879 Constitution is the current constitution
 - Written during an era of anti-immigrant sentiment
 - New constitution did not include previous bilingual requirement
 - Parts of the constitution were ruled unconstitutional
 - Has been heavily amended

Opportunity and Exclusion in California



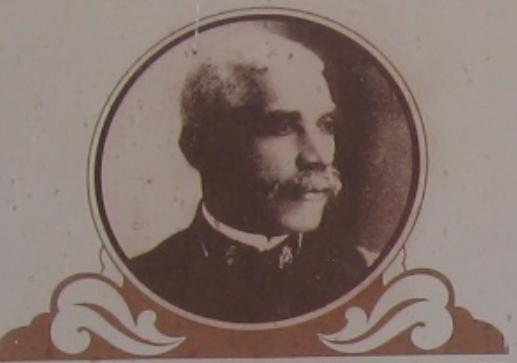
Freedom in California



The Monroe family: William, Grant, Pearley, Andrew Jr. (top); Cordelia, James, Andrew Sr., Sarah (middle); Garfield (bottom)

AFRICAN AMERICAN SETTLERS

According to the Gooch-Monroe oral history, Peter and Nancy Gooch came to Coloma as slaves in 1849. In 1850 California was admitted to the union as a free state, so Peter and Nancy gained their freedom. Peter Gooch worked in construction and at odd jobs, and Nancy did domestic chores for the miners. By 1861 Nancy had saved enough money to buy freedom for her son, Andrew Monroe.



Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park

Born a slave in Louisville, Kentucky in 1842, Colonel Allen Allensworth became an eloquent champion of the rights of blacks. As a boy, he was punished for learning to read and write, education that was forbidden for slaves. During the Civil War, he escaped from slavery and worked for the Union Army as a civilian nurse, then joined the U.S. Navy.

After leaving the service in 1865, Allensworth was ordained a Baptist minister. In 1871, he married Josephine Leavell, an educated woman who helped him in his work. He returned to the military in 1886 as a U.S. Army chaplain, serving with the all-black 24th Infantry. When he retired in 1906, he was a lieutenant-colonel, the highest ranking black in the armed forces.

Upon retirement, Allensworth lectured widely about the need for blacks to become self-sufficient. He envisioned a town where blacks could start a new life together, and helped form the California Colony and Home Promoting Association to select a townsite. The group found a suitable location in southwestern Tulare County and filed the township site plans on August 3, 1908. The town of Allensworth was born.



Mining Agriculture Commerce Education

Since the earliest Spanish expeditions, blacks have been part of California's history. They helped explore and settle the new territory, and participated in its government. Under racially tolerant Spanish and Mexican rule, blacks and people of mixed blood rose to leadership positions, and even became governors of California.

In 1846, blacks took part in the American conquest of California, but found the new state hostile to them. Blacks were forbidden to vote, testify against whites, or homestead lands. Former slaves could be returned to their old masters under the fugitive slave law.

Many blacks, both free and slave, came to California as miners during the gold rush. Slaves worked for their owners during the day, then mined for gold at night to buy freedom for themselves and their families.

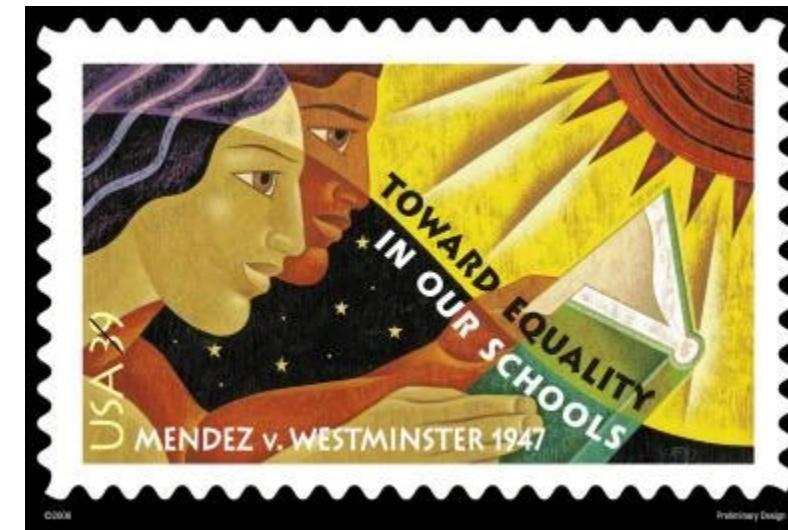
California blacks rode for the Pony Express, fought in the Civil War, and went to court for the right to ride public streetcars. As early as 1852, they organized to fight unjust laws. Denied access to education, they established their own schools. They started churches, newspapers, farms, and businesses, and despite all obstacles, claimed their place in California.

Colonel Allensworth's House in Allensworth, California



Segregation in California

- Segregation in schools and other facilities included citizens in multiple groups from different backgrounds: Black, Latino (at the time generally called “Mexicans”), Asian...
- Segregation officially ended in California ended with the *Mendez v. Westminster* case, which pre-dated the *Brown v. Board of Education*



2007 commemorative stamp

Image from US Post Office and <http://www.uscourts.gov/educational-resources/educational-activities/background-mendez-v-westminster-re-enactment>

California was a leader in US in exclusion of Asians

Sample editorial cartoon from 1919



▲ ARTHUR BUEL | 1919

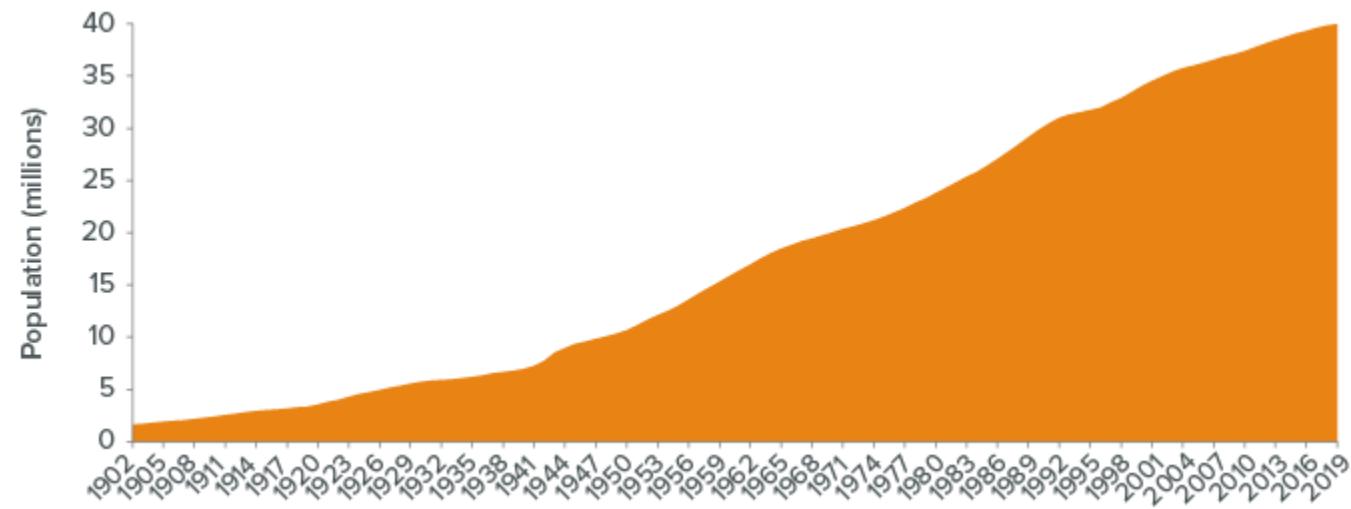
Like some of The Bee's past editorial positions, some of its past cartoons do not make us proud. This one lent support to the California Alien Land Law, which prevented Asian ownership of land. It passed in 1920.

Some examples

- Anti-Chinese sentiment in California helped pass the U.S. Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882
- Segregation
- Barring immigration, citizenship, marriage between races
- Incarceration of Japanese-Americans during World War II

Who lives in California?

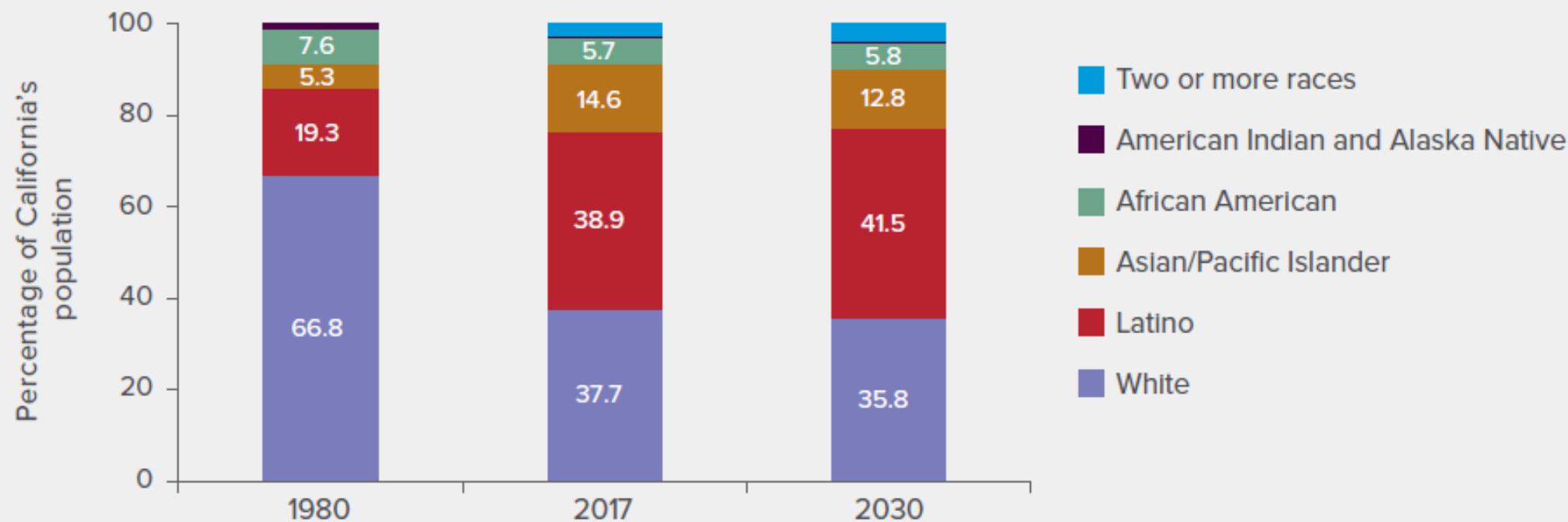
California's Total Population



Source: Public Policy Institute of California, <https://www.ppic.org/publication/californias-population/>

Californian's Ethnicity: Past, Present, Future

LATINOS HAVE BECOME CALIFORNIA'S LARGEST ETHNIC GROUP

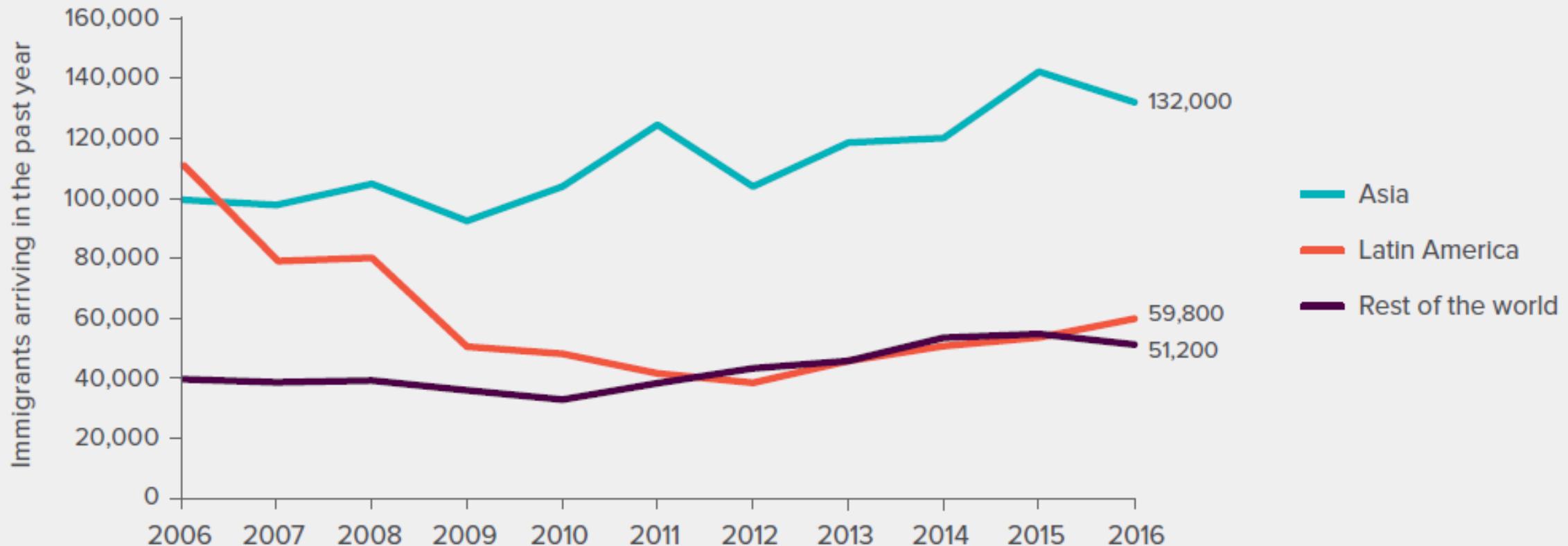


SOURCES: 1980 Census; Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States, States, and Counties: April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2016; and California Department of Finance projections.

"Population," from Public Policy Institute of California, January 2018

Where Immigrants to California Come From

ASIA HAS SURPASSED LATIN AMERICA AS THE LEADING SOURCE OF NEW IMMIGRANTS



SOURCE: American Community Survey.

“Population,” from Public Policy Institute of California, January 2018