ASIAN AMERICANS IN CONNECTICUT

CENSUS 2000

CITIZENSHIP, INCOME, POVERTY, EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

By

Anjana Narayan

Data Source: U.S. Census 2000

Series Editor: Bandana Purkayastha, Ph.D.

Asian American Studies Institute
University of Connecticut
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INTRODUCTION

This report of *Asian Americans in Connecticut* contains data drawn from the 2000 U.S. Census relating to population characteristics, income, poverty, employment and education for the State of Connecticut. The primary data set used to compile this report is Summary File 3, which consists of detailed tables of Census 2000 on social, economic and housing characteristics, compiled from a sample of approximately 19 million housing units. Although this report focuses on Asian Americans in Connecticut, important information on Asian Americans in the United States has been included.

The report is organized into the following Sections.

Section I. Population

Section II. Income

Section III. Poverty

Section IV. Employment

Section V. Education

The U.S. Census releases data in stages. Additional reports on population, housing, social and economic characteristics of Asian Americans in Connecticut may be issued when the data is released. In the meanwhile, we hope this report will help the reader identify available sources of information and data on Asian Americans in Connecticut to conduct further research in these areas.
SUMMARY

• Out of the total Asian American population in Connecticut 74% are foreign born.

• The largest contributors to Connecticut's Asian-born population are China, India, Philippines and Vietnam.

• 55% of Connecticut's Asian American foreign-born population are not citizens.

• 57% of Asian Americans in Connecticut speak English "very well".

• 53% Asian American householders earn more than $60,000 annually compared to 47% White households in Connecticut.

• Asian American per capita income ($27,948) is markedly lower than that of Whites ($31,505) in Connecticut.

• 8% Asian Americans live below the poverty line in Connecticut.

• Out of the total Asian American population living below the poverty line in Connecticut, 51% are women.

• The percent of female headed households living below the poverty line in Connecticut is higher (19%) than male headed households (4%).

• The Asian American labor force participation in Connecticut is 69% and is higher than the Whites (67%).

• Out of the total Asian American civilian population in Connecticut, 95% are employed.

• Males constitute 56% of the civilian employed in Connecticut.

• With regard to the educational attainment of the population 25 years and over, Asian Americans have the highest percentage of people with a bachelor's and graduate/professional degrees.

• The high school graduation rate for Asian American women (54%) age 25 years and over in Connecticut exceeds that of men (46%).
I. POPULATION

![Figure 1. Place of Birth for Asian Americans](image)

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the foreign-born population includes people who were not U.S. citizens at birth. Among the total population of 82,277 Asian Americans in Connecticut, 74% (60,861) are foreign-born. In the United States, 69% of the Asian American population is foreign-born.

Asian-born residents comprise 19% and 27% of the foreign born population in Connecticut and the United States, respectively.

![Figure 2. Nativity Status for Asian Americans](image)

Out of the 21,416 native Asian Americans, only 4% (849) were born outside the United States, among which 87% (742) were born abroad of American parent(s).

With regard to place of birth for other races, 8% Whites, 14% African Americans, and 23% Hispanics are foreign-born.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Connecticut</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Regions</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data
The largest contributors to Connecticut's Asian-born population are China, India, Philippines and Vietnam.
Out of the 60,861 foreign born Asian Americans in Connecticut, 33,453 (55%) are not citizens. In the United States, on the other hand, 40.3% of foreign-born Asian Americans are naturalized citizens.

82% of the Asian Americans who entered the United States between 1990 and 2000 and reside in Connecticut are not citizens.

Table 2. Citizenship Status by Race and Latino Origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not a Citizen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian American</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data
71% of Asian Americans within the age group 5-17 years who speak other languages, speak English "very well". 55% of Asian Americans in the age group 18-64 years are very proficient in the English language. However, 20% of Asian Americans over the age of 65 are not proficient in English. Out of the total Asian American population 5 years and over (75,777), those who speak only English make up 20% (15,354).

Table 3. English Proficiency Among Asian Americans (Connecticut and United States)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Connecticut</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very well</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>48.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Well</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>29.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not well</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at all</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data
With regard to household income of Asian Americans in 1999, 53% earn more than $60,000 annually, compared to 47% of White households, 26% African American households, and 22% Hispanic / Latino households earning that income.

In Connecticut, 8% Asian American households earn less than $10,000, which is higher than the White households, among whom only 6% earn less than $10,000.

In the United States, 32.7% of Asian households have incomes of $75,000 or more, compared with 25% of White households earning that income.

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data

10% of African American households have incomes less than $10,000
17% Hispanic/Latino households have incomes less than $10,000

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data
Figure 13. Household Income in 1999 of Asian American Householders Under 25 years

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data

Figure 14. Household Income in 1999 of Asian American Householders Between the Ages of 25-34 Years

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data

Figure 15. Household Income in 1999 of Asian American Householders Between the Ages of 35-44 Years

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data
Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data
Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data

Table 4. Per Capita Income in 1999 by Race and Latino Origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asian American</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>African American</th>
<th>Latino</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$ 27,948</td>
<td>$31,505</td>
<td>$16,685</td>
<td>$13,123</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data

Table 5. Median Household Income in 1999 by Race and Latino Origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asian American</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>African American</th>
<th>Latino</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$61,587</td>
<td>$57,518</td>
<td>$35,104</td>
<td>$32,075</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data

Table 6. Median Family Income in 1999 by Race and Latino Origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asian American</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>African American</th>
<th>Latino</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$70,007</td>
<td>$70,258</td>
<td>$39,257</td>
<td>$32,437</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data

Asian American per capita income is markedly lower than that of Whites in Connecticut.

Similarly, Asian American per capita income in the United States is lower ($21,823) as compared to the Whites ($23,918).

However, the median household income and the median family income approach that of Whites.

Aggregate Income in 1999:
Whites : $87,514,143,900
African Americans : $5,103,981,100
Hispanic/Latino : $4,185,392,100

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data
61% of Asian American householders in Connecticut have a family income of $60,000 or more, while only 4% have family incomes less than $10,000. These figures approach that of Whites. (Refer to the table below)

Table 7. Family Income in 1999 by Race and Latino Origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Less than $10,000</th>
<th>More than $60,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian American</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whites</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data
III. POVERTY

While the Asian American poverty in Connecticut is low at 8%, the percent of Whites living below the poverty line is lower at 5%.

In the United States, Asian American poverty hit a new low at 10.7%, while the percent of Whites living in poverty is 7.8%.

Table 8. Poverty Status by Race and Latino Origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asian Americans</th>
<th>Whites</th>
<th>African American</th>
<th>Hispanic/Latino</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: US Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data

Table 9. Poverty Status by Sex, Race and Latino Origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian Americans</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whites</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: US Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data

Percent of People in Poverty (1999-2001)
Connecticut- 7.4%
United States- 11.6%


Poverty Rate by Race and Latino Origin in 2001 for United States
Whites: 7.8%
African Americans: 22.7%
Asian American and Pacific Islanders: 10.2%
Hispanics/Latino: 21.4%

Out of the total population (6,679) of Asian Americans living below the poverty line, 51% are women and 49% are men.

With regard to the poverty status by family type, the percent of female head of households living below the poverty line is higher (19%) than male head of households (4%).

The poverty rate in the United States in 2001 was 11.7%, up from 11.3% in 2000.

The number of people living below poverty thresholds in the United States rose from 32.9 million in 2000 to 31.6 million in 2001.

In the United States, the poverty rate for Non-Hispanic Whites rose from 7.4% in 2000 to 7.8% in 2001.


IV. EMPLOYMENT

The Asian American labor force participation in Connecticut is 69% and is higher than for Whites (67%), out of which men form 56% of the labor force. Among Asian Americans not in the labor force, 67% are women. Out of the total Asian American civilian population, 95% are employed. Males constitute 56% of the civilian employed.

In the United States, Asian American participation in the labor force closely matches that of Whites (67.2%). The rate of Asian American employment in the U.S. is 96.1%; Whites at 96.6%, with unemployment rates at 3.9% and 3.4%, respectively.

Labor Force Participation for Asian Americans 16 years and older by Race and Latino Origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race and Latino Origin</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian Americans</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whites</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African Americans</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data
Among the Asian American women in the labor force, 42% have children under age 18.

67% of Asian Americans with a disability are employed in Connecticut. Males constitute 62% of the employed Asian American population with a disability status.
V. EDUCATION

With regard to the educational attainment of the population 25 years and over, Asian Americans have the highest percentage of people with bachelor’s and graduate/professional degrees (52%), followed by Whites (33%), African Americans (13%) and Hispanics (12%). However, the percentage of Asian Americans with less than a high school education is higher than the Whites. The percentage of Hispanics with less than a high school education is highest at 41%.

Table 10. Educational Attainment by Race and Latino Origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>White</th>
<th>African American</th>
<th>Asian American</th>
<th>Hispanic/Latino</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 9th grade</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th-12th grade, no diploma</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college, no degree</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associates degree</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate or Professional Degree</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data
The high school graduation rate for Asian American women (54%) aged 25 and over exceeds that of men (46%) in Connecticut.

However, the percentage of Asian American women (64%) with less than a high school degree is more than men (36%).

Furthermore, the percentage of Asian American women (39%) with graduate or professional degrees is also lower than men (61%). Similarly, in the United States, the percentage of Asian American men (59%) with graduate and professional degrees exceeds that of women (41%).

With regard to school enrollment by type of school, the percentage of Asian Americans attending public school is higher between kindergarten and high school. However, the same is not true for nursery/pre-school (57%) and college (53%), where the percentage of Asian Americans attending private schools is higher.
GLOSSARY

Ability to speak English
For a respondent who speaks a language other than English at home, refers to his/her assessment of his ability to speak English, from "very well" to "not at all."

Aggregate
The sum of the values for each of the elements in the universe. For example, aggregate household income is the sum of the income of all households in a given geographic area. Aggregates are frequently used in computing mean values (mean equals aggregate divided by universe count).

Citizenship status
Citizen
People who indicate that they were born in the United States, Puerto Rico, a U.S. Island Area, or abroad of a U.S. citizen parent(s) are citizens.

People who indicate that they are U.S. citizens through naturalization are also citizens.

Naturalized citizens are foreign-born people who identify themselves as naturalized. Naturalization is the conferring, by any means, of citizenship upon a person after birth.

Not a citizen
People who indicate they are not U.S. citizens.

Educational attainment
Refers to the highest level of education completed in terms of the highest degree or the highest level of schooling completed.

Employed
Employed includes all civilians 16 years old and over who were either (1) "at work" -- those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession, worked on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business; or (2) were "with a job but not at work" -- those who did not work during the reference week but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other personal reasons. Excluded from the employed are people whose only activity consisted of work around the house or unpaid volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations; also excluded are people on active duty in the United States Armed Forces. The reference week is the calendar week preceding the date on which the respondents completed their questionnaires or were interviewed. This week may not be the same for all respondents.
Foreign born
*Foreign born population*
People who are not U.S. citizens at birth.

Native population
People born in either the United States, Puerto Rico, or a U.S. Island Area such as Guam or the U.S. Virgin Islands, or people born in a foreign country to a U.S. citizen parent(s).

Disability
A long-lasting physical, mental, or emotional condition. This condition can make it difficult for a person to do activities such as walking, climbing stairs, dressing, bathing, learning, or remembering. This condition can also impede a person from being able to go outside the home alone or to work at a job or business.

Labor force
The labor force includes all people classified in the civilian labor force, plus members of the U.S. Armed Forces (people on active duty with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard). The Civilian Labor Force consists of people classified as employed or unemployed.

Median income
The median income divides the income distribution into two equal groups, one having incomes above the median, and other having incomes below the median.

Per capita income
Average obtained by dividing aggregate income by total population of an area.

Place of birth
The U.S. state or foreign country where a person was born. Used in determining citizenship.

Poverty
Following the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB’s) Directive 14, the Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor. If the total income for a family or unrelated individual falls below the relevant poverty threshold, then the family or unrelated individual is classified as being "below the poverty level."

REFERENCES

U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF-3) 100 Percent Data