

Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders: Affordable Housing

Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders (AAPI) and Older Adults: Demographics in LA County

- Los Angeles County has the largest Asian American population of any county in the United States, numbering nearly 1.5 million and making up 15 percent of the county's total population. Over a quarter of California's Asian American population resides in Los Angeles. Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) comprise nearly one percent of all people countywide and number over 54,000—the most of any county on the United States.¹
- Between 2000 and 2010, the county's Asian American population grew 20 percent, faster than any other racial group and nearly twice as fast as the Latino population. The NHPI population grew 9 percent. In contrast, the White and African American populations decreased in size.¹
- From 2000 to 2010, the county's senior (65 and over) population grew significantly by 15 percent. However, the NHPI and Asian American senior populations grew even more significantly by 59 percent and 50 percent, respectively—more than any other racial group.¹

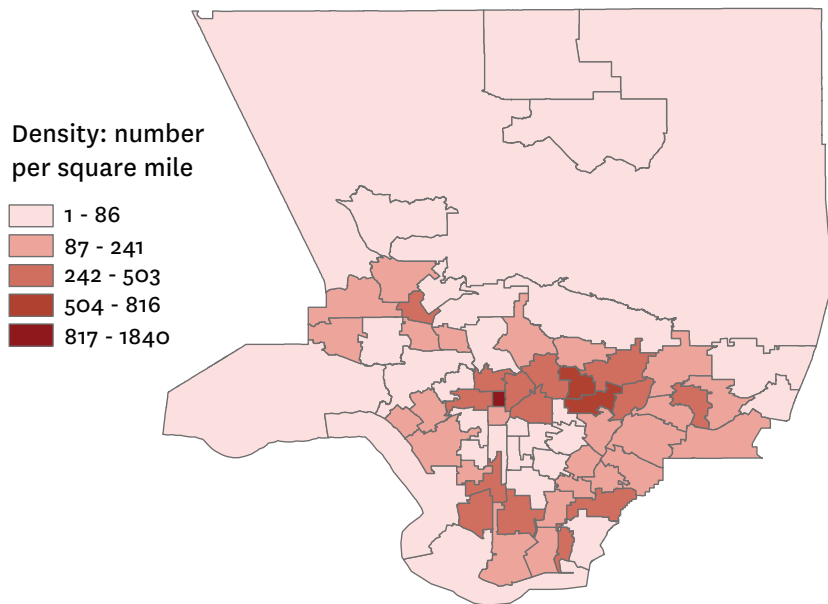


AAPIs and Older Adults: Housing in LA County

- A recently published study concluded that the county has the least affordable rent in America. Other reports, based on the portion of a renters' income that goes to pay rent, rate California as the worst state for renters and mortgage payers.²
- Median rents in Los Angeles County have risen more than 25 percent since 2000, while median household income has fallen slightly over the same time period.²
- As of 2013, the county had the highest median rent burden in the nation at 47 percent. On average, renters in Los Angeles are paying 47 percent of their income for rent.²
- AAPIs face significant levels of discrimination in their search for affordable housing in large U.S. metropolitan areas.³
- Asian Americans (51 percent) in Los Angeles County have lower homeownership rates than Whites (57 percent), and only 40 percent of NHPIs countywide own their own homes.¹
- Among racial and ethnic groups countywide, Mongolian, Nepalese, Samoan, Bangladeshi, Tongan, Cambodian and Korean Americans are the least likely to be homeowners. Sri Lankan, Vietnamese, and Bangladeshi American homes are most likely to spend 30 percent or more of their income on rent.¹
- Over 110,000 Asian American households and over 2,800 NHPI households spend 30 percent or more of their household income on rent. Sri Lankan (60 percent), Vietnamese (60 percent) and Bangladeshi Americans (59 percent) all have a high housing burden, which is greater than any other racial or ethnic group. About 36 percent of Vietnamese Americans spend 50 percent or more on rent.¹

- In the East San Gabriel Valley, Asian American homeowners had the highest rate of foreclosure after defaulting and the greatest decrease of home-ownership rates, compared to other racial groups.¹
- From 2007 to 2011, the number of homeless Asian Americans and NHPIs in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care increased by 40 percent. In comparison, the total homeless population decreased by 34 percent.¹
- According to the 2010 U.S. Census, 639,500 households were headed by AAPI adults aged 65 years or older. Of these, 35 percent were renters and 65 percent were homeowners. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines affordability as spending no more than 30 percent of monthly income on housing, rent or otherwise.⁴
- Approximately 40 percent of AAPIs aged 65 years or older spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing, which includes either rent or monthly owner costs.⁴
- AAPI ethnic groups have rates of overcrowding that far exceed those of the other racial groups. Overcrowded households are defined as more than one person per room—not including bathrooms.⁴
- Older racial and ethnic minorities—particularly Asians and Hispanics—are more likely to live in relatives' homes as they age than Whites.⁴

Asian American/Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: Ages 60+



American Community Survey 2011-2013, U.S. Census Bureau: Los Angeles County

References

¹ *A Community of Contrast: Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Los Angeles County.* (2013). Advancing Justice—Los Angeles.

² Ray, R., Ong, P., & Jimenez, S. (2014). *Impacts of the Widening Divide: Los Angeles at the Forefront of the Rent Burden Crisis.* Center for the Study of Inequality, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs.

³ Turner, M., Ross, S., Bednarz, B., Herbig, C., & Lee, S. (2003). *Discrimination in Metropolitan Housing Markets: Phase 2 - Asians and Pacific Islanders.*

⁴ *Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States Aged 65 Years and Older: Economic Indicators.* (2013). National Asian Pacific Center on Aging.

For More Information

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