



**Asian American Federation  
of New York**

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**CENSUS PROFILES SHOW LESS ENGLISH ABILITY, LARGER HOUSEHOLDS  
AND MORE RECENT POPULATION GROWTH FOR ASIAN AMERICANS  
IN ALL NEW YORK CITY BOROUGHS THAN FOR GENERAL POPULATIONS**

**Asian American Federation Analysis Also Reveals Borough-to-Borough Diversity**

**NEW YORK** – Asian American populations in all New York City boroughs in 2000 had lower English skills, larger households and higher recent growth rates than general borough populations, according to census-based borough profiles released today by the Asian American Federation of New York, a nonprofit leadership organization.

At the same time, despite these and other shared characteristics, the demographic portraits point out major differences among and within Asian borough populations.

Based on 2000 and 1990 census results, including recently released data, the borough profiles (at [www.aafny.org](http://www.aafny.org)) are part of a series of population profiles prepared by the Federation's Census Information Center (CIC).

Analysis of the new profiles reveals the following traits common to Asian populations in all boroughs (referring to Census 2000 data unless stated otherwise):

- Asians had higher rates of "Limited English Proficiency" (LEP) than general borough populations. Incidences for overall Asian populations ranged from 37 percent (in Staten Island) to 58 percent (in Brooklyn), and proportions of elderly Asians facing English limitations were as high as 80 percent (in Brooklyn).
- Asian households, with average sizes varying from 2.25 people (in Manhattan) to 3.54 members (in Brooklyn), tended to be larger than borough households as a whole.
- Asian populations' growth rates from 1990 to 2000, ranging from 39 percent (in the Bronx) to 87 percent (in Brooklyn), exceeded those of overall borough populations. In every borough, Bangladeshi and Malaysian Americans were among the five fastest-growing Asian groups percentage-wise.
- Asians were much more apt to be immigrants than borough residents as a whole. Also, Asians immigrating in the last 20 years had become U.S. citizens faster than general immigrant populations arriving in that time frame.
- Chinese, Indian, Filipino and Korean Americans were among the five largest Asian groups in all boroughs.

On the other hand, Asian borough populations were diverse in other respects. For example, regarding 2000 census information unless noted:

- Queens and Brooklyn had the highest Asian population growth rates and largest shares of Asian immigrants. However, Queens Asians had higher incomes, more education and better English skills than Asian Brooklynites.
- Asians in the Bronx had higher incomes by all measures than Bronx residents overall. Yet Bronx Asians, along with Asian Brooklynites, had lower incomes than Asians in other boroughs.
- In addition to lower incomes, Brooklyn Asians also had less schooling than Asians in other boroughs.
- Asian Staten Islanders were least likely to be foreign-born. Also, Staten Island's Asian immigrants tended to have lived in the United States longer and were more apt to be U.S. citizens than Asians in other boroughs.
- Manhattan's Asian population showed evidence of a socioeconomic split. While Asian Manhattanites had the highest per capita income among Asian borough populations, they also had the second-highest poverty rate. In addition, Manhattan had the second-highest percentage of Asians without a high school diploma, as well as the second-highest proportion of Asians with post-secondary education, among the boroughs.

The Asian American Federation of New York is a nonprofit leadership organization that works to advance the civic voice and quality of life of Asian Americans in the New York metropolitan area. Established in 1990, the Federation supports and collaborates with 35 member agencies to strengthen community services, promotes strategic philanthropy within the Asian American community, and conducts research and advocacy concerning critical issues.

The Federation's Census Information Center (CIC) is the only such U.S. Census Bureau-designated center in the Northeast that focuses on serving Asian Americans. Opened in 2000, the center provides census information, conducts data and policy analysis, and promotes census participation. The Citigroup Foundation and the C.J. Huang Foundations have funded the center's profile series.

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