



# The Asian Community in New York State

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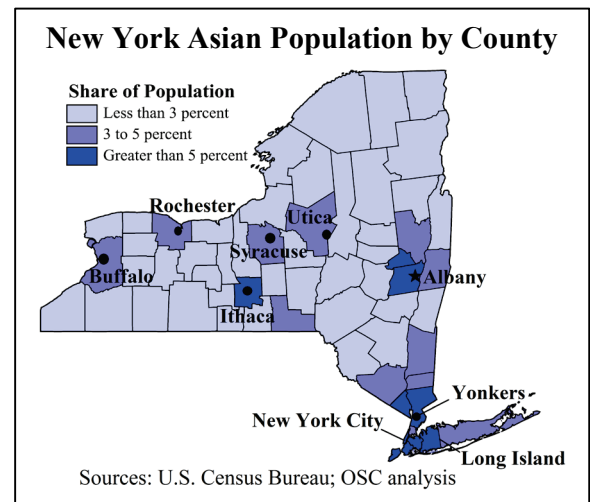
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The Asian community is the fastest growing racial or ethnic group in New York State. The number of Asian New Yorkers (1.8 million) has more than doubled since 1990, and Asians accounted for 9 percent of the State’s population in 2014. Immigrants represented nearly two-thirds of the Asian population (the highest share of any racial or ethnic group), nearly three times more than the share of immigrants in the general population. The Asian community accounted for 87 percent of the growth in the State’s population between 2000 and 2014. While the community as a whole is slightly younger than the general population, its fastest-growing segment was people aged 65 and older, which has nearly tripled since 2000.

People of Chinese descent made up the largest share of Asian New Yorkers (39 percent), followed by those of Indian descent (22 percent). The four largest nationalities – Chinese, Indians, Filipinos (7.6 percent) and Koreans (7.3 percent) – made up three-quarters of the Asian population in New York. Since 1990, the Chinese population has grown the most (by 430,000) and the Indian population grew the fastest (by 188 percent). Population growth was even faster for some nationalities that accounted for smaller shares of the Asian population, such as Burmese (or Myanmarese), Bangladeshis and Pakistanis.

Most Asian New Yorkers (71 percent) live in New York City, accounting for 15 percent of the City’s population in 2014. In some neighborhoods (e.g., Chinatown, Flushing and Bayside), they represented more than 40 percent of the population. In recent decades, the Asian population has grown faster in the rest of the State than in New York City. Albany, Buffalo, Ithaca, Rochester, Syracuse and Utica now have sizable Asian populations (see map). The ten counties with the highest concentrations of Asian New Yorkers were Queens (27 percent), New York (14 percent), Kings (13 percent), Tompkins (12 percent), Nassau (10 percent), Richmond (9 percent), Rockland (7 percent), Westchester (7 percent), Albany (7 percent) and Schenectady (6 percent).



In 2014, 44 percent of all Asian New Yorkers aged 25 and over had a bachelor’s degree or higher (compared to the statewide average of 35 percent). Educational attainment was even greater for the descendants of Asian immigrants who were born in the United States, with more than two-thirds holding a bachelor’s degree or higher.

Asian New Yorkers had a lower unemployment rate than the statewide average in 2014 and a slightly higher median household income (\$60,000 compared to the statewide average of \$58,800). Asian New Yorkers were well-represented among higher-paying occupations, such as pharmacists (31 percent), financial analysts (23 percent), computer programmers (23 percent), physicians and surgeons (22 percent) and accountants (18 percent), but also had a large presence in certain lower-paying occupations, such as personal care services (58 percent), taxi drivers (32 percent) and cashiers (15 percent).

## Asian-Owned Businesses in New York State

The number of Asian-owned businesses in New York State more than doubled between 1997 and 2012, increasing from 122,750 to 245,000 (see figure). Chinese and Indian-owned businesses were responsible for two-thirds of the increase. The majority of these businesses were small, like most businesses in New York and in the nation. By 2012, Asian-owned businesses made up 12 percent of all businesses in the State.

The growth in the number of Asian-owned businesses accelerated between 2002 and 2012, increasing by 69 percent, a much faster rate than all other businesses (13 percent). Growth was even higher in construction, finance, education and transportation.

Asian-owned businesses accounted for significant shares of a number of business sectors, such as transportation (26 percent), wholesale and retail trade (16 percent), personal services (15 percent), leisure and hospitality (14 percent), construction (12 percent), business services (9 percent), finance (8 percent) and manufacturing (8 percent).

In 2012, Asian-owned businesses generated more than \$81 billion in sales, 166 percent higher than 10 years earlier (see figure). In contrast, sales at all other businesses rose by only 24 percent during this period.

