



## Asian American, Native Hawaiians & Pacific Islanders Fact Sheet

### Overall AA and NHPI Stats<sup>1</sup>:

- According to the US Census 2019, there was an estimated 22.9 million Asian Americans, 1.6 million Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific Islanders, together accounting for 7.2% of the nation's population.
  - The Chinese (except Taiwanese, 5.2 million) population was the largest Asian group, followed by Asian Indian (4.6 million), Filipino (4.2 million), Vietnamese (2.2 million), Korean (1.9 million) and Japanese (1.5 million).
- Asian Americans are the fastest-growing race group in the United States.
- Nearly 1/3 of Asian Americans have limited English proficiency.

### Medicare Enrollment:

- As an aggregated group, Asian and Pacific Islander Medicare enrollees in 2019 totaled nearly 2,250,000, which is 3.49% of the total Medicare population.<sup>2</sup>
- Asian Americans represent the 4th largest demographic enrolled in Medicare, according to 2019 data. This population grew by approximately 11% from 2017 to 2019, which is the highest increase in percentage compared to White, Black, and Hispanic beneficiaries.<sup>3</sup>
- Over 400,000 Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese Medicare beneficiaries indicated that they do not speak English at home.<sup>4</sup>
- Documents in Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese are third, fourth, and fifth most downloaded (after English and Spanish) materials on, medicare.gov.<sup>5</sup>
- Only 0.21% of 2019 Rural Medicare Population (11 million) are Asian or Pacific Islander.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2021/asian-american-pacific-islander.html>

<sup>2</sup> Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Chronic Conditions Data Warehouse, <https://www2.ccwdata.org/web/guest/home/>

<sup>3</sup> Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Chronic Conditions Data Warehouse, <https://www2.ccwdata.org/web/guest/home/>

<sup>4</sup> Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey, Survey File data. Baltimore, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2019.

<sup>5</sup> Office of Communications, Partner Relations Group, Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services.

<sup>6</sup> Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Chronic Conditions Data Warehouse, <https://www2.ccwdata.org/web/guest/home/>

- In 2019, Asian/Pacific Islander beneficiaries reported worse health care experiences than White beneficiaries did on the majority (6/7) of patient experience measures.<sup>7</sup>

### **ASPE Analysis on Uninsured Trends for AA and NHPI Community<sup>8</sup>**

- The uninsured rate for the AA and NHPI population decreased from 14.7% in 2013 to 6.8% in 2019. This 54% reduction in the uninsured rate was the largest improvement among any racial or ethnic group during this time period.
- Uninsured rates vary greatly among AA and NHPI subgroups, ranging from 2.8% for Japanese Americans to 10% for Korean Americans and 12.3% for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in 2019.
  - These differences can be explained by variation in employment, employer size, and income. For example, Korean and Vietnamese Americans are more likely to be self-employed – 9.5% for Korean Americans and 8.3% for Vietnamese Americans, compared to 5.2% for Asian Americans overall, 3.7% for NHPIs, and 6.4% for non-Hispanic Whites.
- AA and NHPIs enrolled in Marketplace health insurance coverage at rates much higher than their share of the overall population during open enrollment in 2019. That year, in the 39 states using HealthCare.gov, AA and NHPIs were 4% of the population, but 11% of Marketplace enrollees among those reporting their race.
  - In addition, under the American Rescue Plan (ARP), more than 150,000 uninsured AA and NHPIs now have access to zero-dollar premium health plans on HealthCare.gov and 197,000 uninsured AA and NHPIs have become newly eligible for premium savings.
- The number of AA and NHPI patients seen in community health centers increased from 1.08 million in 2013 to 1.28 million in 2018, an increase of 18.7%, compared to an increase of 13.5% for all patients.
  - The ARP awarded community health centers more than \$6 billion to expand health centers' operational capacity during the pandemic and beyond.
- Though AA and NHPIs had the lowest overall cancer incidence rate, research shows that they have high rates of liver cancer and stomach cancer.
- AA and NHPIs also have the highest hepatitis B-related mortality rate and incidence of tuberculosis (16.7 cases per 100,000 compared to 0.5 cases per 100,000 for non-Hispanic Whites, as of 2019).
- Data on disease prevalence rates for specific AA and NHPI subgroups are limited, but certain select studies demonstrate large health disparities among the subgroups.
  - The rate of diagnosed diabetes was 9.2% for Asian Americans, compared to 7.6% for non-Hispanic Whites in 2017-18, but as high as 12.2% for Asian Indians and 10.4% for Filipinos and as low as 5.6% for Chinese.

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<sup>7</sup> 2021 Annual Report, *Racial, Ethnic, and Gender Disparities in Health Care in Medicare Advantage*, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. <https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/Downloads/Health-Disparities-Racial-and-Ethnic-Disparities-by-Gender-National-Report.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> <https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/private/pdf/265581/aspe-uninsured-trends-aapi-ib.pdf>

- The rate of undiagnosed diabetes was 4.6% for Asian Americans, compared to 2.5% for non-Hispanic Whites in 2013-2016.
- Cervical cancer incidence rates were 7 to 10 times higher for Vietnamese, Samoans, and Laotians, compared to non-Hispanic Whites in 1998-2002.

### **Ethnic Group: Chinese**

- In 2019, over 7 million Medicare beneficiaries reported speaking a language other than English at home; of those 2.8% speak Chinese.
- Uninsured Rate: 6% of Chinese Americans are uninsured<sup>9</sup>
- Medicare Enrollment Numbers: Based on Census Data, approximately 620,000 Medicare beneficiaries self-reported as Chinese<sup>10</sup>
- Medicaid/CHIP Enrollment Numbers: Based on Census Data, approximately 760,000 Medicaid/CHIP beneficiaries self-reported as Chinese<sup>11</sup>

### **Ethnic Group: Vietnamese**

- In 2019, over 7 million Medicare beneficiaries reported speaking a language other than English at home; of those 1.4% speak Vietnamese
- Uninsured Rate: 8.3% of Vietnamese Americans are uninsured<sup>12</sup>
- Medicare Enrollment Numbers: Based on Census Data, approximately 260,000 Medicare beneficiaries self-reported as Vietnamese<sup>13</sup>
- Medicaid/CHIP Enrollment Numbers: Based on Census Data, approximately 440,000 Medicaid/CHIP beneficiaries self-reported as Vietnamese<sup>14</sup>

### **Ethnic Group: Korean**

- In 2019, over 7 million Medicare beneficiaries reported speaking a language other than English at home; of those 1.4% speak Korean
- Uninsured Rate: 10% of Korean Americans are uninsured<sup>15</sup>
- Medicare Enrollment Numbers: Based on Census Data, approximately 230,000 Medicare beneficiaries self-reported as Korean<sup>16</sup>
- Medicaid/CHIP Enrollment Numbers: Based on Census Data, approximately 210,000 Medicaid/CHIP beneficiaries self-reported as Korean<sup>17</sup>

<sup>9</sup> <https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/private/pdf/265581/aspe-uninsured-trends-aapi-ib.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> ACS 1-Year Estimates 1-Year Estimates-Public Use Microdata Sample 2019

<sup>11</sup> Coverage estimates by subgroup are from the American Community Survey, and may include some reporting error in coverage type. Medicaid/CHIP in the survey includes “Medicaid, Medical Assistance, or any kind of government-assistance plan for those with low incomes.”

[https://data.census.gov/mdat/?#/search?ds=ACSPUMS1Y2019&cv=HINS4\(1\),RAC1P&rv=RAC2P&wt=PWGTP](https://data.census.gov/mdat/?#/search?ds=ACSPUMS1Y2019&cv=HINS4(1),RAC1P&rv=RAC2P&wt=PWGTP)

<sup>12</sup> <https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/private/pdf/265581/aspe-uninsured-trends-aapi-ib.pdf>

<sup>13</sup> ACS 1-Year Estimates 1-Year Estimates-Public Use Microdata Sample 2019

<sup>14</sup> Coverage estimates by subgroup are from the American Community Survey, and may include some reporting error in coverage type. See footnote 11.

<sup>15</sup> <https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/private/pdf/265581/aspe-uninsured-trends-aapi-ib.pdf>

<sup>16</sup> ACS 1-Year Estimates 1-Year Estimates-Public Use Microdata Sample 2019

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