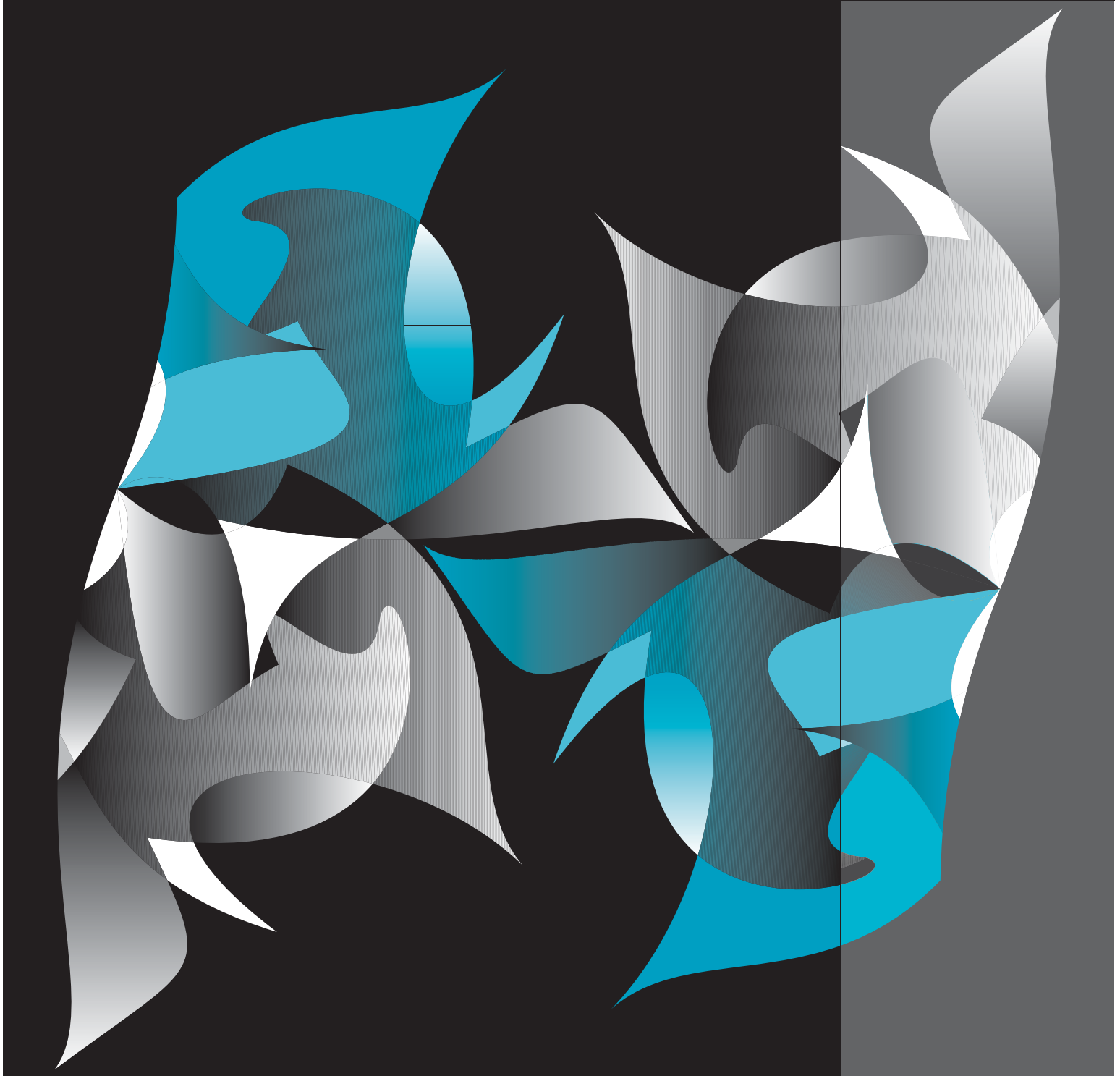


# The American Community— Asians: 2004

*American Community Survey Reports*

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U S C E N S U S B U R E A U

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U.S. Department of Commerce  
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# The American Community— Asians: 2004

## INTRODUCTION

This report presents a portrait of the Asian population in the United States.<sup>1</sup> It is part of the American Community Survey (ACS) report series. Information on demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics in the tables and figures are based on data from the 2004 ACS Selected Population Profiles and Detailed Tables.<sup>2</sup> The data for the Asian population are based on responses to the 2004 ACS question on race, which asked all respondents to report one or more races.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In the federal government, the category "Asian" refers to people having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. It includes people who indicated their race or races as "Asian Indian," "Chinese," "Filipino," "Korean," "Japanese," "Vietnamese," or "Other Asian," or wrote in entries such as Burmese, Hmong, Pakistani, or Thai.

<sup>2</sup> The 2004 ACS datasets, including Selected Population Profiles and Detailed Tables, are available online in the American FactFinder at <<http://factfinder.census.gov>>.

<sup>3</sup> For further information on the content and format of the questionnaire, see <[www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/SQuest03.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/SQuest03.pdf)>.

Table 1.  
**Household Population by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2004**

(Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))

Race and Hispanic origin	Population	Percent of total population	Margin of error <sup>1</sup> (±)
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>285,691,501</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>
White alone, not Hispanic .....	192,362,875	67.3	0.01
Asian alone .....	12,097,281	4.2	0.02
Not Hispanic .....	11,955,401	4.2	0.02
Hispanic .....	141,880	0.1	0.01
Asian alone or in combination .....	13,466,479	4.7	0.02
Not Hispanic .....	13,138,804	4.6	0.02
Hispanic .....	327,675	0.1	—
Asian in combination .....	1,369,198	0.5	0.01
Not Hispanic .....	1,183,403	0.4	0.01
Hispanic .....	185,795	0.1	—
Asian <b>and</b> White .....	881,813	0.3	0.01

(X) Not applicable.  
— Represents or rounds to zero.

<sup>1</sup> This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, produces the 90-percent confidence interval around the estimate.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

The 2004 ACS estimated the number of Asians to be 13.5 million, or 4.7 percent of the U.S. household population (Table 1).<sup>4</sup> The number of individuals who reported Asian as their only race was 12.1 million, or 4.2 percent of the population. About another 1.4 million reported their race as Asian and one or more other races, including 882,000 people who reported their race as Asian **and** White.<sup>5</sup> The Asian-alone-or-in-combination population included 328,000 Hispanics, and the Asian-alone population included 142,000 Hispanics.<sup>6</sup>

Data are reported for both the Asian-alone and the Asian-alone-or-in-combination populations. In this report, respondents who reported Asian and no other race are included in the single-race or Asian-alone population (i.e., including those who reported their race as one or more detailed Asian groups but no non-Asian race). Respondents who reported Asian either alone or with one or more other race categories are included in the Asian-alone-or-in-combination population. The report also includes data for the non-Hispanic segments of these populations. Data on individuals who reported that they were Asian **and** White, a part of the in-combination population, are shown separately in this report in the Asian **and** White category.

<sup>4</sup> This report discusses data for the United States, including the 50 states and the District of Columbia; it does not include data for Puerto Rico.

<sup>5</sup> The race-in-combination categories use the conjunction **and** in bold and italicized print to link the race groups that compose the combination.

<sup>6</sup> The estimates in this report are based on responses from a sample of households. Estimates may vary from the actual values because of sampling error and other factors. All comparative statements have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90-percent confidence level unless otherwise noted.

Table 2.  
**Asian Household Population by Detailed Group: 2004**

(Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))

Detailed group	Population	Percent of Asian alone population	Margin of error <sup>1</sup> (±)
<b>Asian alone</b> .....	<b>12,097,281</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>
Asian Indian .....	2,245,239	18.6	0.48
Bangladeshi .....	50,473	0.4	0.11
Cambodian .....	195,208	1.6	0.19
Chinese, except Taiwanese .....	2,829,627	23.4	0.61
Filipino .....	2,148,227	17.8	0.54
Hmong .....	163,733	1.4	0.20
Indonesian .....	52,267	0.4	0.09
Japanese .....	832,039	6.9	0.29
Korean .....	1,251,092	10.3	0.50
Laotian .....	226,661	1.9	0.30
Malaysian .....	11,458	0.1	0.03
Pakistani .....	208,852	1.7	0.25
Sri Lankan .....	22,339	0.2	0.05
Taiwanese .....	70,771	0.6	0.10
Thai .....	130,548	1.1	0.13
Vietnamese .....	1,267,510	10.5	0.50
Other Asian <sup>2</sup> .....	250,666	2.1	0.19
Other Asian, not specified <sup>3</sup> .....	140,571	1.2	0.15

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, produces the 90-percent confidence interval around the estimate.

<sup>2</sup> Includes Bhutanese, Burmese, Indochinese, Iwo Jiman, Madagascar, Maldivian, Nepalese, Okinawan, and Singaporean.

<sup>3</sup> Includes entries such as Asian American, Asian, and Asiatic.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201, and Detailed Tables, B02006.

The term “Asian” is used to refer to the Asian-alone population and the term “non-Hispanic White” is used to refer to the White-alone, not Hispanic population. Similarly, references to population groups such as Asian Indian refer to the single-race or “alone” segments of those populations.

The Asian population is not homogeneous; it includes many groups that differ in language and culture, and many people having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent.

People who reported one or more Asian groups on the ACS question on race, such as Asian Indian or

Japanese, are included as Asians. Among Asians, Chinese (excluding those of Taiwanese origin) were the largest group with a population of 2.8 million, or 23 percent of the Asian-alone population. Asian Indians were the second-largest group, with a population of 2.2 million, or 19 percent of the Asian-alone population (Table 2). Filipinos were the third-largest group, with a population of 2.1 million, or 18 percent of the population. These three groups—Chinese, Asian Indians, and Filipinos—accounted for about 60 percent of the Asian population. Other sizable populations included 1.3 million Vietnamese and 1.3 million Koreans.

## What Is the American Community Survey?

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a new nationwide survey designed to provide reliable, timely information for local communities on how they are changing. This survey is a critical element in the U.S. Census Bureau's 2010 Decennial Census Program. The ACS collects detailed information on the characteristics of the population and housing on an ongoing sample basis. These data previously were collected in census years in conjunction with the decennial census. Since the ACS is conducted every year, rather than once every 10 years, it will provide more current data throughout the decade.

Fully implemented in 2005, the ACS is the largest household survey in the United States, with an annual sample size of about 3 million housing unit addresses throughout the country. Release of annual estimates from the ACS began in 2006 for all geographic areas with a population of 65,000 or more; 3-year period estimates will begin in 2008 for areas and populations as small as 20,000; and 5-year period estimates will start in 2010 for census tracts, block groups, and small populations. All estimates, including the 3-year and 5-year period estimates, are planned to be updated every year.

During the testing program (2000 to 2004), the ACS sampled approximately 800,000 addresses per year and produced estimates for the United States, states, and essentially all places, counties, and metropolitan areas with at least 250,000 people.

The data contained in this report are based on the ACS sample interviewed in 2004. The population represented (the population universe) is limited to the household population and excludes the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on the ACS sample design and other ACS topics, visit [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html).

The Census Bureau's population estimates program releases official population estimates of the U.S. resident population by sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin. For information on the Census Bureau's population estimates program, visit [www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php](http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php). The ACS estimates in this report pertain to the household population only (i.e., the total population, excluding the group quarters population). Therefore, the ACS estimate of the Asian population shown in this report should not be viewed as the official measure of this population.

Because Asians are a heterogeneous group, variation within the Asian population is also discussed. This report includes data for the following specific groups that each had populations of 250,000 or more: Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, and Vietnamese. Together, these groups account for nearly 90 percent of the total Asian population. In the future, as the ACS goes to full implementation and multiple-year estimates are produced, more information about additional groups may be available.

## HIGHLIGHTS

While Asians resided in every state in 2004, most lived in a handful of states. About 35 percent of Asians lived in California, 10 percent in New York, and 6 percent in Texas. Together, these three states accounted for more than 50 percent of the Asian population.

Compared with the non-Hispanic White population, the Asian population had a larger proportion of younger people. Asians were also more likely to be married than non-Hispanic Whites, and a larger proportion of their households were family households. Compared with non-Hispanic White women, Asian women were more likely to

have given birth in the past 12 months.

Asians also had a larger proportion of college graduates and higher median incomes. A larger proportion of Asians were employed in management, professional, and related occupations. Asians generally spoke only English at home or spoke English very well. About 7 of every 10 Asians were U.S. citizens, whether by birth or naturalization.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup> The summary statistics mentioned in these highlights often refer to different segments of the Asian-alone population. For example, birth rates are estimated for women 15 to 50 years old, and educational attainment refers to the population aged 25 and older. The figures in the report contain information on the universe for each statistic.

## Understanding Data on Race and Hispanic Origin From the 2004 American Community Survey

The 2004 American Community Survey (ACS) followed the federal standards for collecting and presenting data on race and Hispanic origin established by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in 1997. In accordance with these standards, which mandate that race and Hispanic origin are two separate and distinct concepts, the ACS asked both a Hispanic-origin question and a race question.\* The first question asked respondents if they were Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino. The next question asked respondents to indicate the race or races they considered themselves to be.\*\*

The questions about race and Hispanic origin on the 2004 ACS are comparable with those on Census 2000. In both, the Hispanic-origin question preceded the race question, and respondents were asked to select one or more race categories. The 2004 ACS question on race included 15 separate response categories and two areas where respondents could write in a more specific race group. In addition to White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Some Other Race, 7 of the 15 response categories are Asian and 4 are Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. OMB recognizes five standard race categories: White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. The response categories and write-in answers can be combined to create the five OMB race categories plus Some Other Race, as well as all combinations of two or more races. The “Some Other Race” category was included

\* For further information, see <[www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/1997standards.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/1997standards.html)>.

\*\* Race and Hispanic origin, as used by the Census Bureau, reflect self-identification by individuals according to the group or groups with which they most closely identify. The categories are sociopolitical constructs that include racial, ethnic, and national-origin groups. For more details, see <[www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/2004/usedata/Subject\\_Definitions.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/2004/usedata/Subject_Definitions.pdf)>.

in Census 2000 and also in the 2004 ACS for respondents who were unable to identify with 1 of the 5 OMB race categories.

Because the 2004 ACS allowed respondents to report more than one race, two basic ways of defining a race group are possible. A group such as Asian may be defined as those who reported Asian and no other race (the race-alone or single-race concept) or as those who reported Asian regardless of whether they also reported another race (the race-alone-or-in-combination concept).

Race and Hispanic origin are treated as two separate and distinct concepts in the federal statistical system. People in each race group may be either Hispanic or not Hispanic, and people of Hispanic origin may be any race. The Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches for showing data on race and ethnicity. The text of this report compares the population and housing characteristics for the single-race Asian population with those of the White-alone, not Hispanic population. However, this does not imply that this approach is the Census Bureau’s preferred method for analyzing data on race. In the graphics and tables of this report, several approaches for measuring race are shown. These approaches illustrate the overlapping concepts for measuring race. The specific measures shown are: 1) the single-race Asian population; 2) the single-race Asian, not Hispanic population; 3) the Asian-alone-or-in-combination population; 4) the Asian-alone-or-in-combination, not Hispanic population; and 5) the Asian **and** White population (the largest Asian race combination).

Because Hispanics may be any race, data in this report for Asians overlap slightly with data for Hispanics. Data from the ACS show that, in 2004, Hispanic Asians composed approximately 1 percent of the single-race Asian population.

Among Asian groups, Japanese had the highest median age and were more likely to speak only English at home. Asian Indians and Vietnamese had the largest proportions of children (under age 18). Nearly two-thirds of foreign-born

Asian Indians entered the United States in 1990 or later. Nearly one-half of Asians had a bachelor’s degree or more education. Asian Indians and Filipinos had the highest median household income. The poverty rate was highest

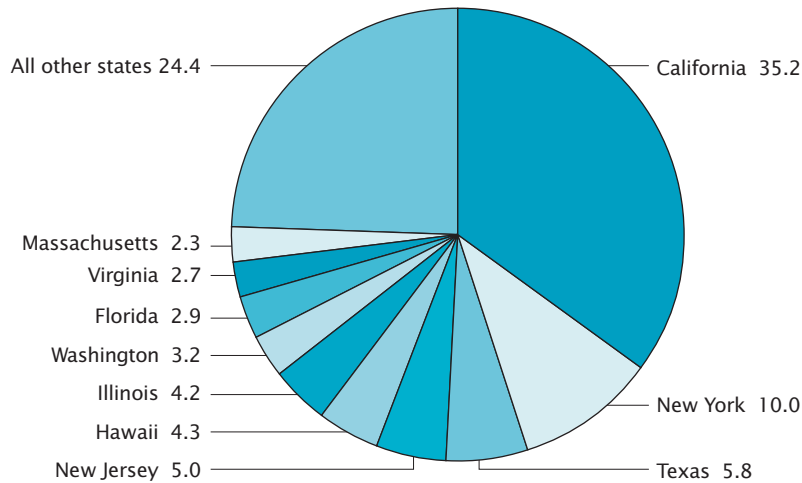
among Koreans, Vietnamese, and Chinese. The median value of Asian owner-occupied homes was \$300,000 or higher for all groups except Vietnamese.

## A majority of Asians resided in three states.

Figure 1.

### Asian Household Population by State: 2004

(Percent distribution of Asian-alone population. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



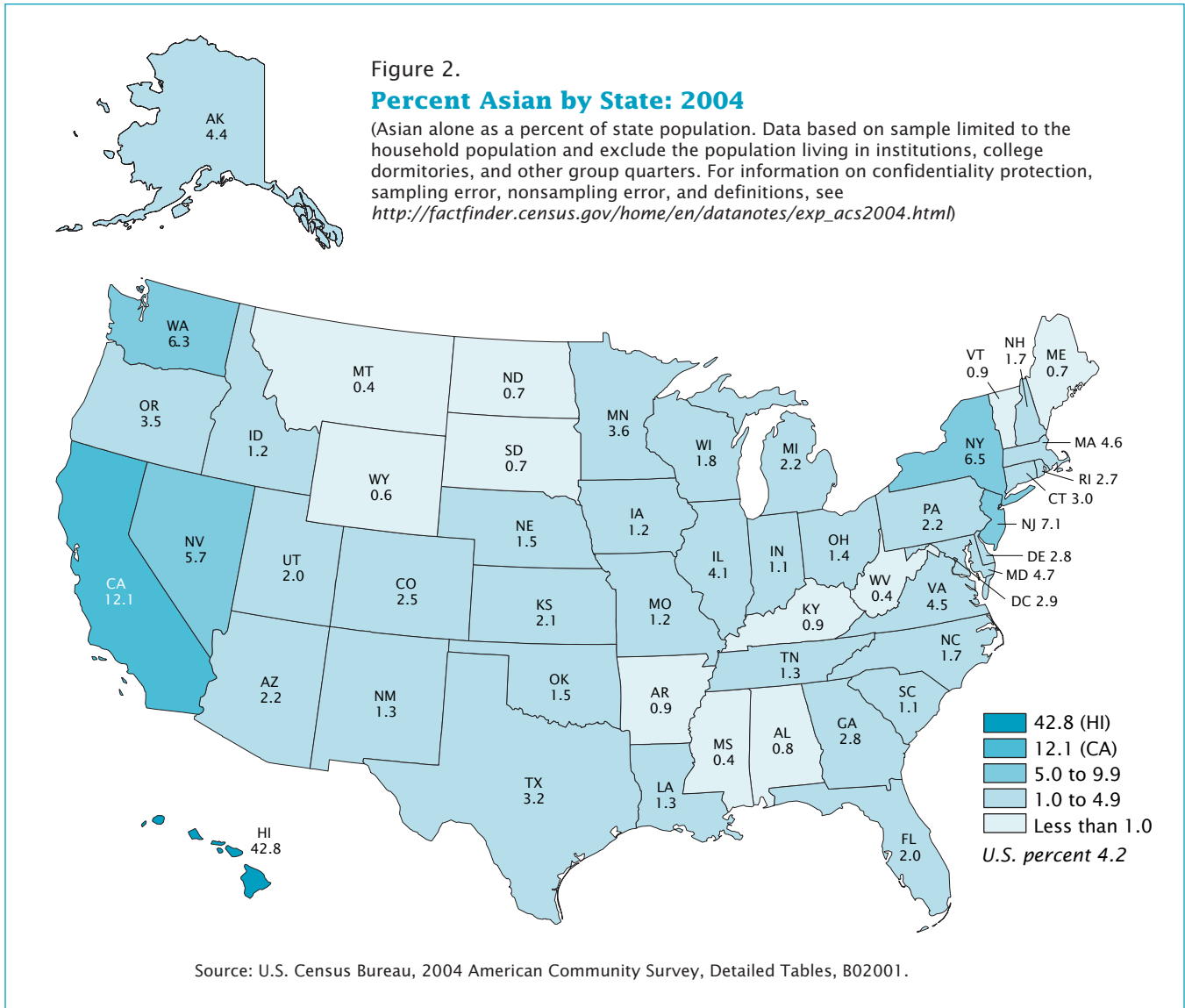
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

- In 2004, about one-half of Asians in the United States lived in three states—California, New York, and Texas.
- California, with about 35 percent, had more than one-third of the Asian population, followed by New York (about 10 percent) and Texas (about 6 percent).
- The ten states with the largest Asian populations in 2004 were California, New York, Texas, New Jersey, Hawaii, Illinois, Washington, Florida, Virginia, and Massachusetts. Combined, these states represented about three-fourths of the total Asian population.



**Asians accounted for more than 40 percent of the total household population in Hawaii.**

- Asians represented about 4 percent of the U.S. household population. Among the states, Hawaii had the highest Asian proportion in its population (about 43 percent). Asians accounted for about 12 percent of the population in California.
- Four additional states had Asian populations of about 5 percent or higher (New Jersey, New York, Washington, and Nevada).
- In all other states and the District of Columbia, about 5 percent or less of the population was Asian.



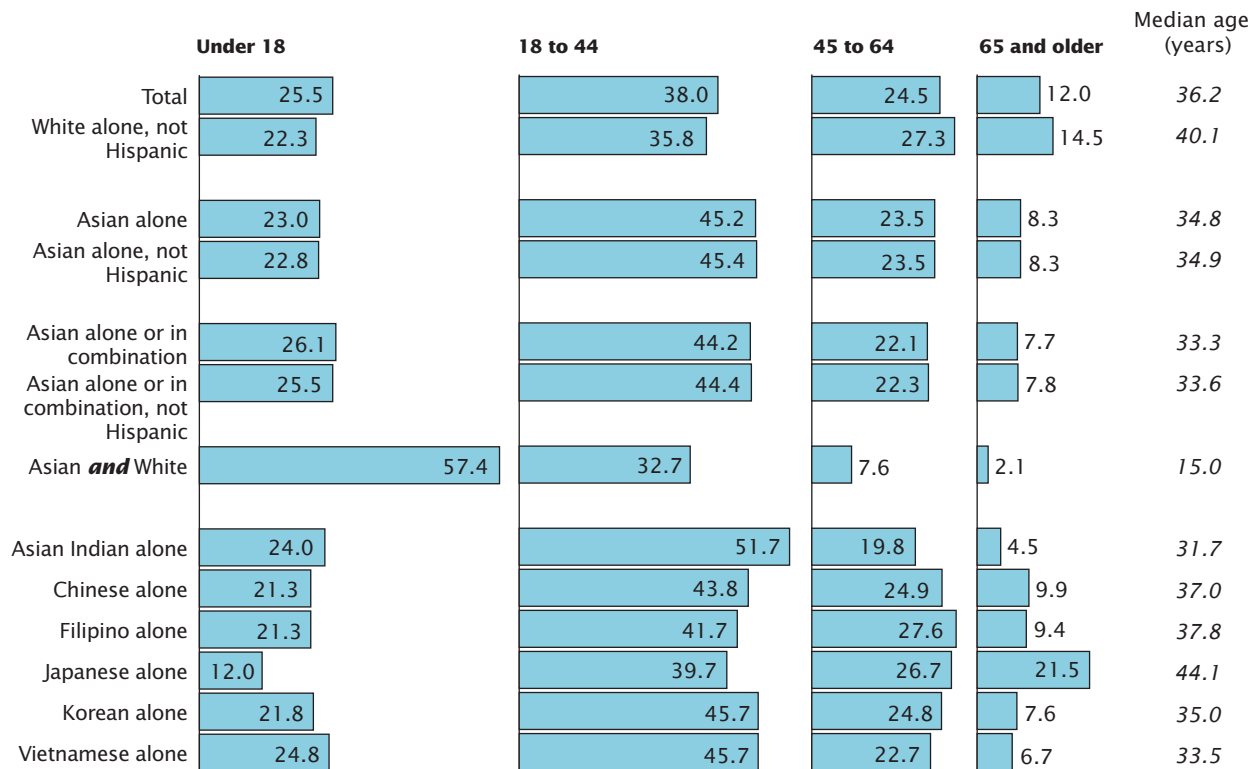


## The median age of Asians was about 5 years younger than that of non-Hispanic Whites.

- In 2004, Asians had a median age of 34.8 years, about 5 years younger than the median age of the non-Hispanic White population, 40.1 years.
- The Asian population had a larger proportion of people in the 18-to-44 age group than the non-Hispanic White population (about 45 percent compared with about 36 percent).
- More than 1 of every 5 Asians and Whites were children (under 18). About 8 percent of Asians were 65 and older, compared with about 15 percent of non-Hispanic Whites.
- Among the specific Asian groups shown in this report, Japanese had the highest median age, 44.1 years, and Asian Indians had the lowest, 31.7 years. Vietnamese and Asian Indians had the largest proportions of children.

Figure 3.  
**Selected Age Groups and Median Age: 2004**

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

## About 6 of every 10 Asians were married.

- In 2004, about 62 percent of Asians aged 15 and older were married, compared with about 57 percent of non-Hispanic Whites aged 15 and older.<sup>8</sup>

- Asians were less likely than non-Hispanic Whites to be separated, widowed, or divorced (about 10 percent compared with about 19 percent).

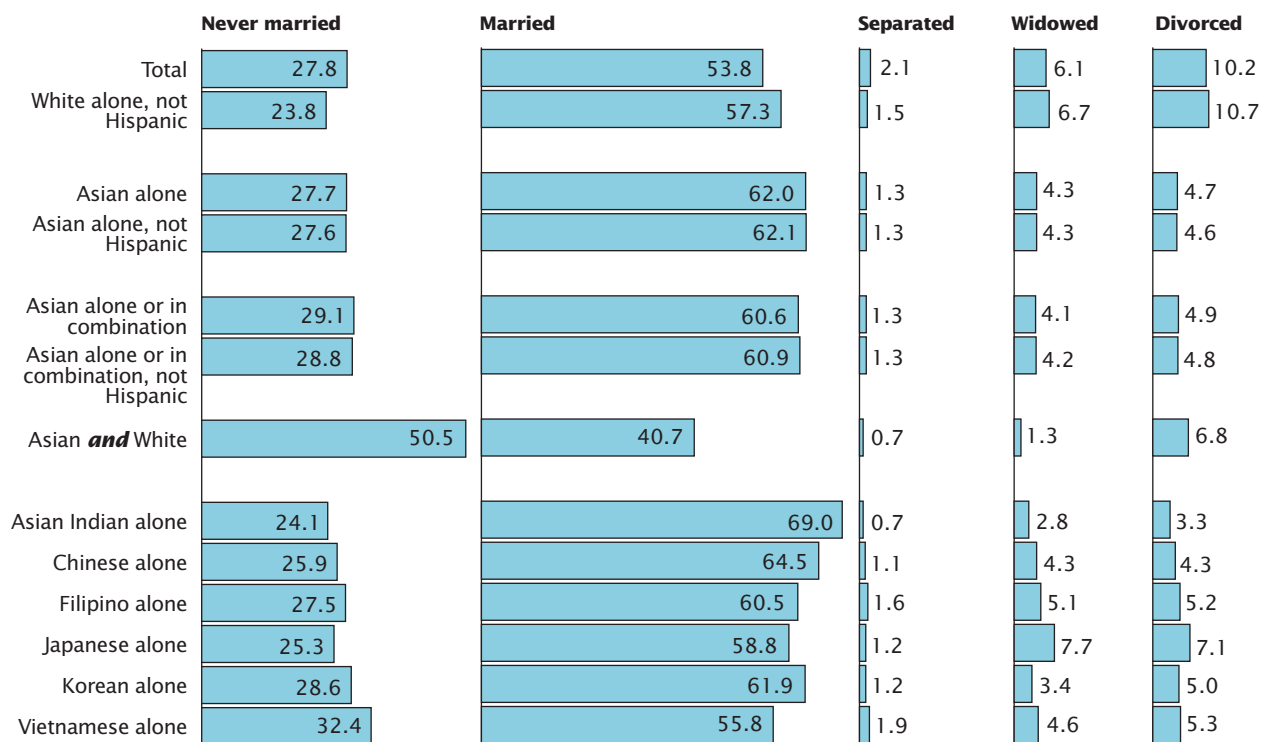
Vietnamese were least likely to be married (about 56 percent). About 15 percent of Japanese were separated, widowed, or divorced.

- Among the specific Asian groups shown, Asian Indians were most likely to be married (about 69 percent) and

<sup>8</sup> Differences between the age distributions of Asians and non-Hispanic Whites may affect marital status patterns.

Figure 4.  
**Marital Status: 2004**

(Percent distribution of population 15 and older. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



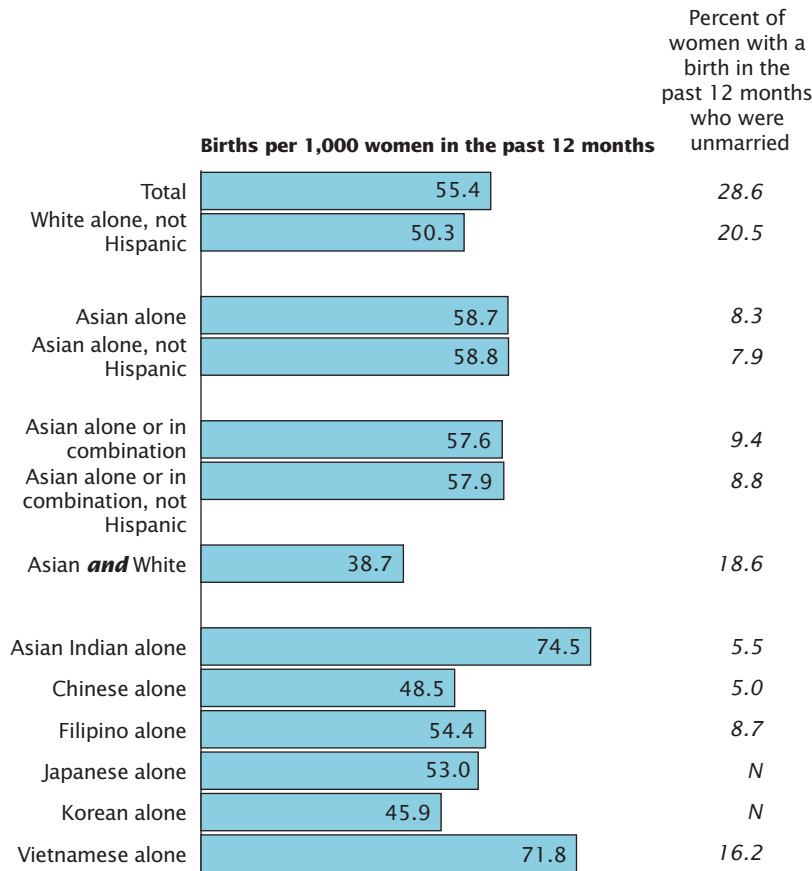
Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

**Asian women were more likely to have given birth in the past 12 months than non-Hispanic White women.**

Figure 5.  
**Fertility: 2004**

(Of every 1,000 women aged 15 to 50, the number who had given birth in the 12 months preceding the survey, based on the race and Hispanic origin of the mother. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Note: An "N" entry indicates that data cannot be displayed because the number of sample cases is too small.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

- Asian women had a higher fertility rate than non-Hispanic White women.<sup>9</sup> About 59 of every 1,000 Asian women aged 15 to 50 had given birth in the 12 months prior to being surveyed, compared with about 50 of every 1,000 non-Hispanic White women aged 15 to 50.
- About 8 percent of Asian mothers who had given birth were unmarried, compared with about 20 percent of non-Hispanic White mothers.
- Among the specific Asian groups, Asian Indian women (with 74 out of every 1,000 women) and Vietnamese women (with 72 out of every 1,000 women) had the highest fertility rates.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>9</sup> Of every 1,000 women aged 15 to 50, the number who had given birth in the 12 months preceding the date of the survey, whether in 2003 or 2004.

<sup>10</sup> The fertility rates of Asian Indian women and Vietnamese women are not statistically different.

## Asian households were more likely than non-Hispanic White households to be family households.

- About three-quarters of Asian households and about two-thirds of non-Hispanic White households were family households.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> A household is a person or a group of people who occupy a housing unit as their current residence. A family household consists of a householder and one or more people living together in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. It may also include people unrelated to the householder. There are three types of family households in the survey data: married couple, female householders with no husband present, and male householders with no wife present. In addition, there are nonfamily households, such as a person living alone or with unrelated individuals.

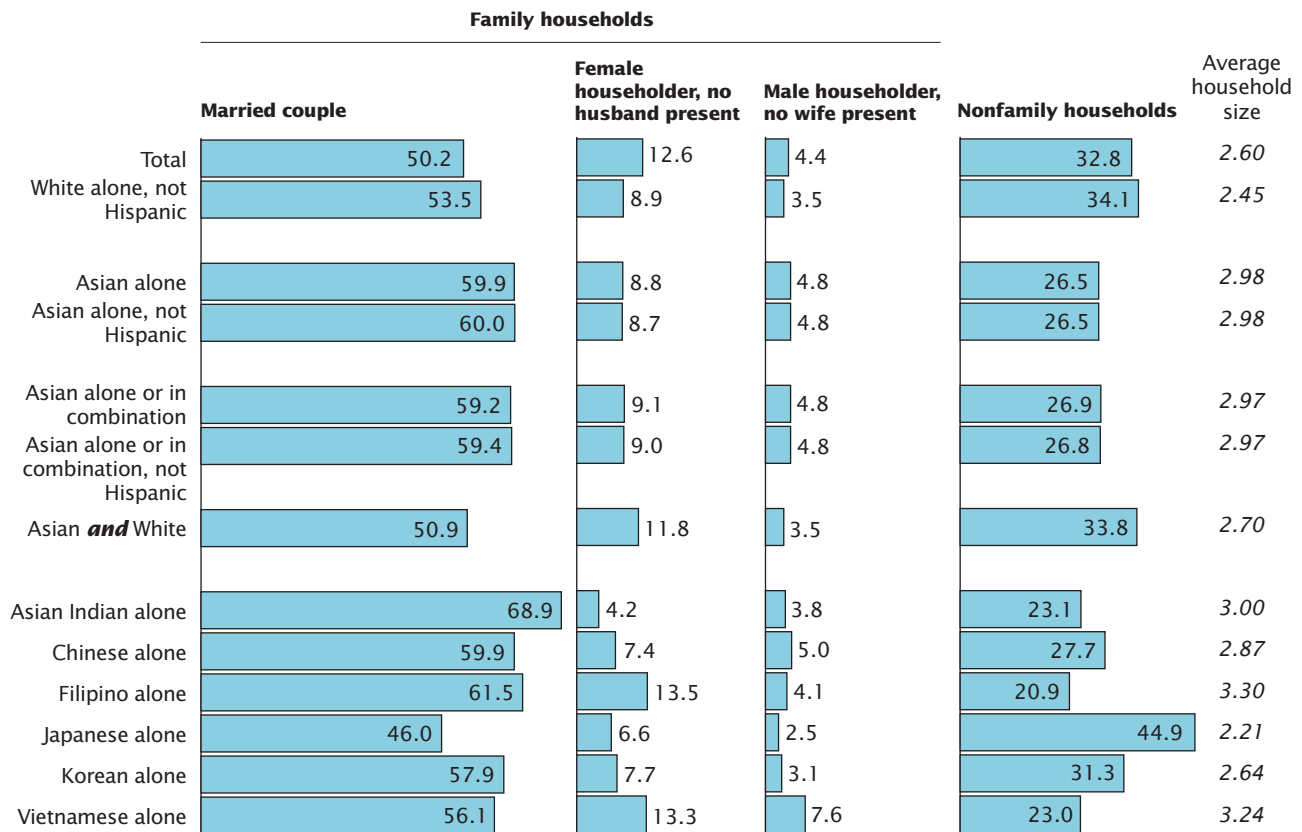
- A higher proportion of Asian households (about 60 percent) than non-Hispanic White households (about 53 percent) were maintained by married couples. A similar proportion of Asian households and non-Hispanic White households were families maintained by a woman with no husband present.
- Married-couple family households were the predominant household type among the specific Asian groups, except for

Japanese households. Filipinos, Vietnamese, and Asian Indians had the lowest percentages of nonfamily households (about 21 percent to about 23 percent).

- Asian households consisted of 3.0 people on average, compared with 2.5 people on average in non-Hispanic White households. Japanese households, with 2.2 people on average, were the smallest Asian households.

Figure 6.  
**Household Type: 2004**

(Percent distribution. Household type is shown by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201, and Detailed Tables, B11001.

## About one-third of Asians were native.<sup>12</sup>

- More than two-thirds of Asians were U.S. citizens, either through birth (about 33 percent) or naturalization (about 37 percent). Among non-Hispanic

<sup>12</sup> Nativity is determined by U.S. citizenship status and place of birth. Natives are those born in the United States, Puerto Rico, or a U.S. island area (the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or born abroad of a U.S. citizen parent. All other individuals are considered foreign born.

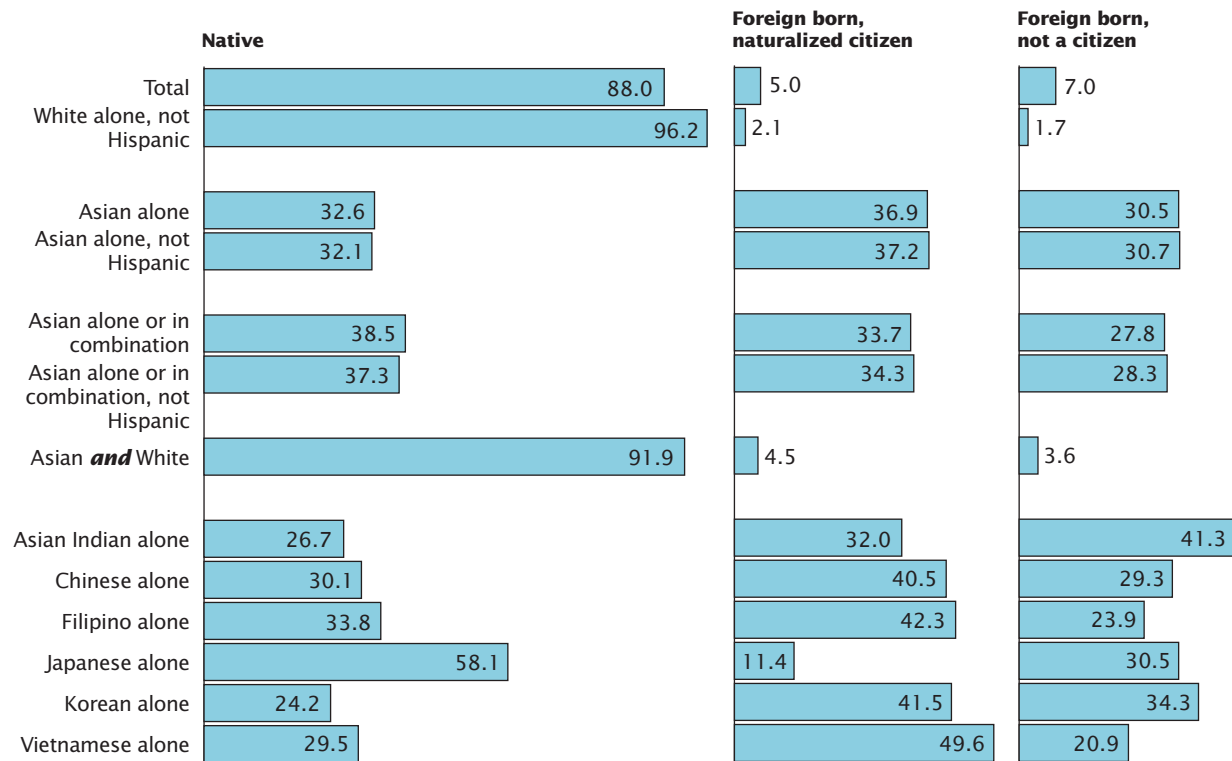
Whites, about 96 percent were native, about 2 percent were U.S. citizens through naturalization, and the remaining 2 percent were born abroad and not U.S. citizens.

- Among the specific Asian groups, Japanese had the highest proportion of natives (about 58 percent) and Koreans had the lowest (about 24 percent).

- More than one-half of foreign-born Asians were naturalized citizens. Vietnamese had the largest proportion of naturalized citizens (about 50 percent) and the smallest proportion of people who were foreign born and not U.S. citizens (about 21 percent).
- Asian Indians were more likely to be foreign born and non-U.S. citizens (about 41 percent) than other Asian groups.

Figure 7.  
**Nativity and Citizenship Status: 2004**

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))

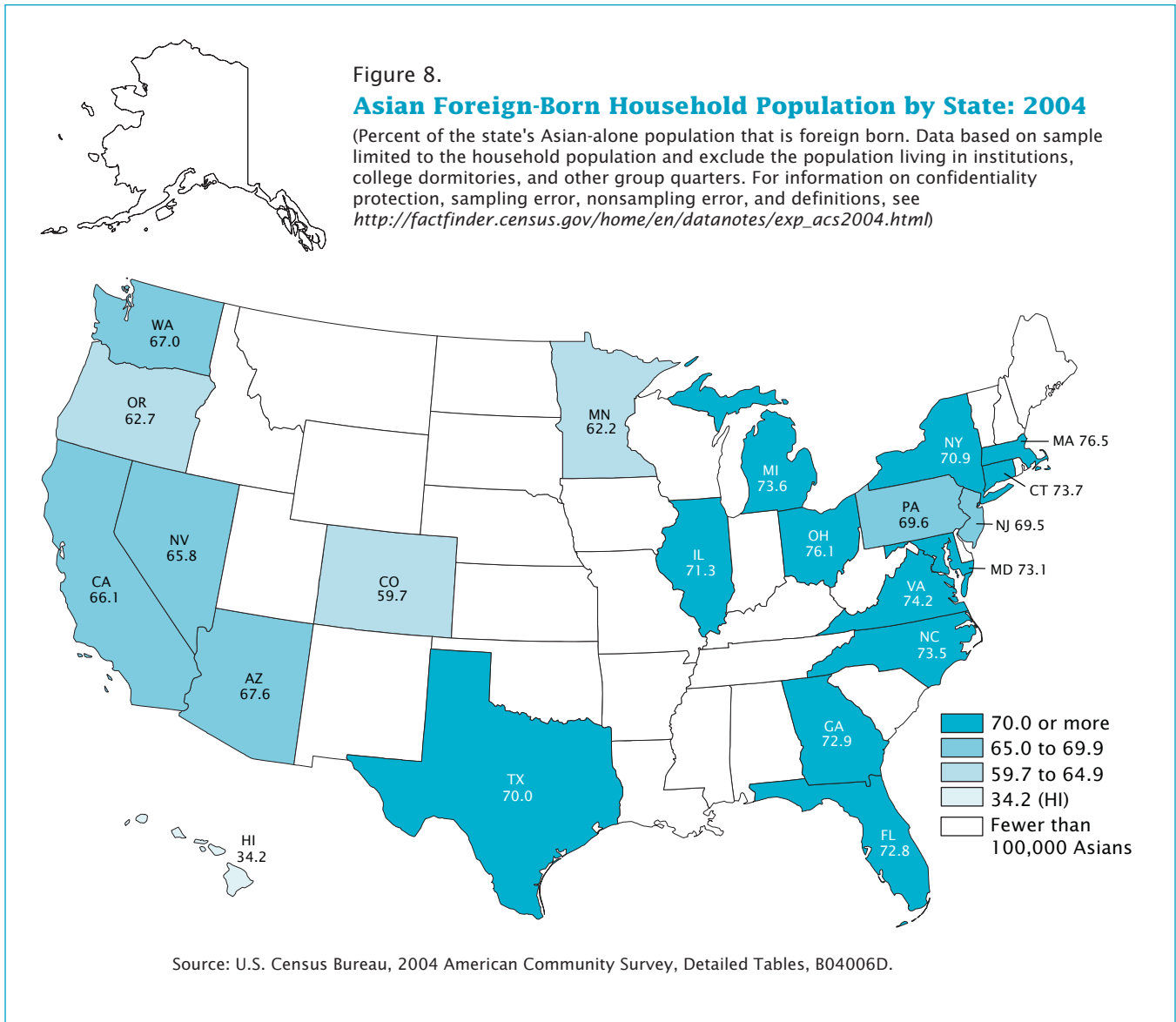


Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

**More than 60 percent of the Asian population in most states was foreign born.**

- Among states with at least 100,000 Asians, the percentage of the Asian population that was foreign born was at or above the national level (about 67 percent) in most states.
- Hawaii was the only state in which less than half of the Asian population was foreign born (about 34 percent).



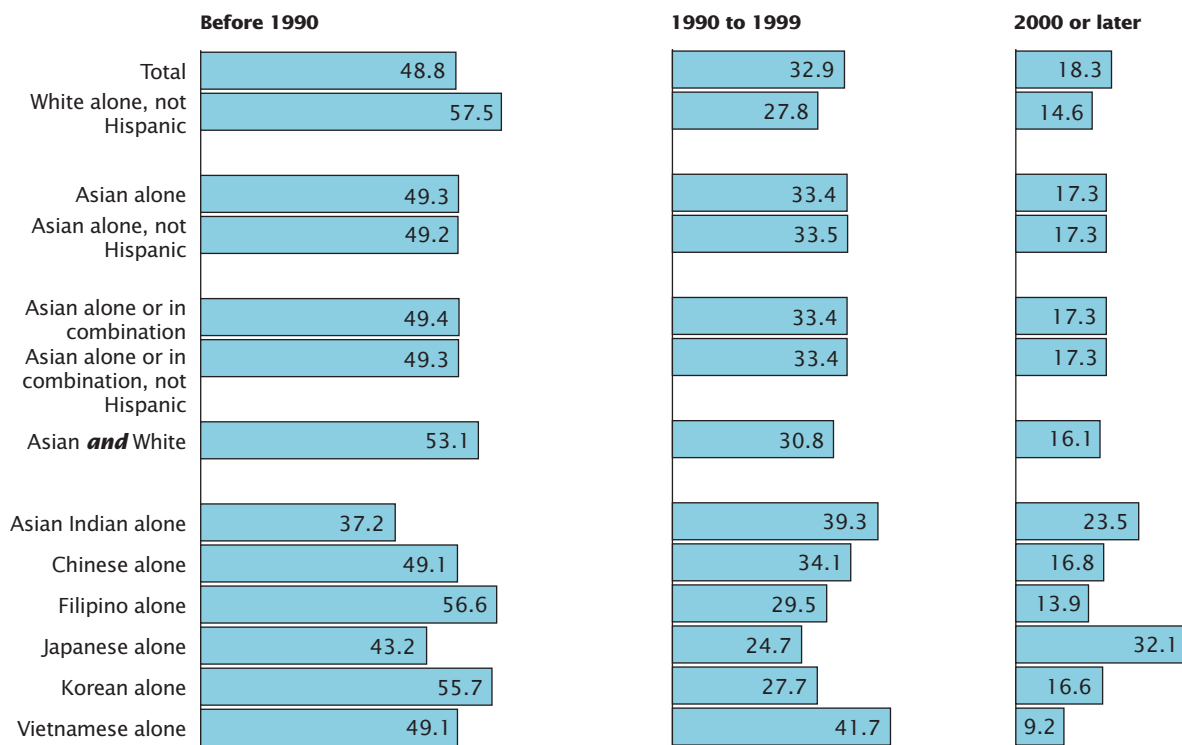
## About half of foreign-born Asians arrived in the United States since 1990.

- About 33 percent of foreign-born Asians entered during the 1990s and about 17 percent arrived in 2000 or later. The majority of foreign-born non-Hispanic Whites entered the United States prior to 1990.
- Among the specific Asian groups shown, about one-half or more of foreign-born Asian Indians, Chinese, Japanese, and Vietnamese entered the United States in the 1990s or later. About one-third of foreign-born Japanese arrived in 2000 or later.

Figure 9.

### Foreign Born by Year of Entry: 2004

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.



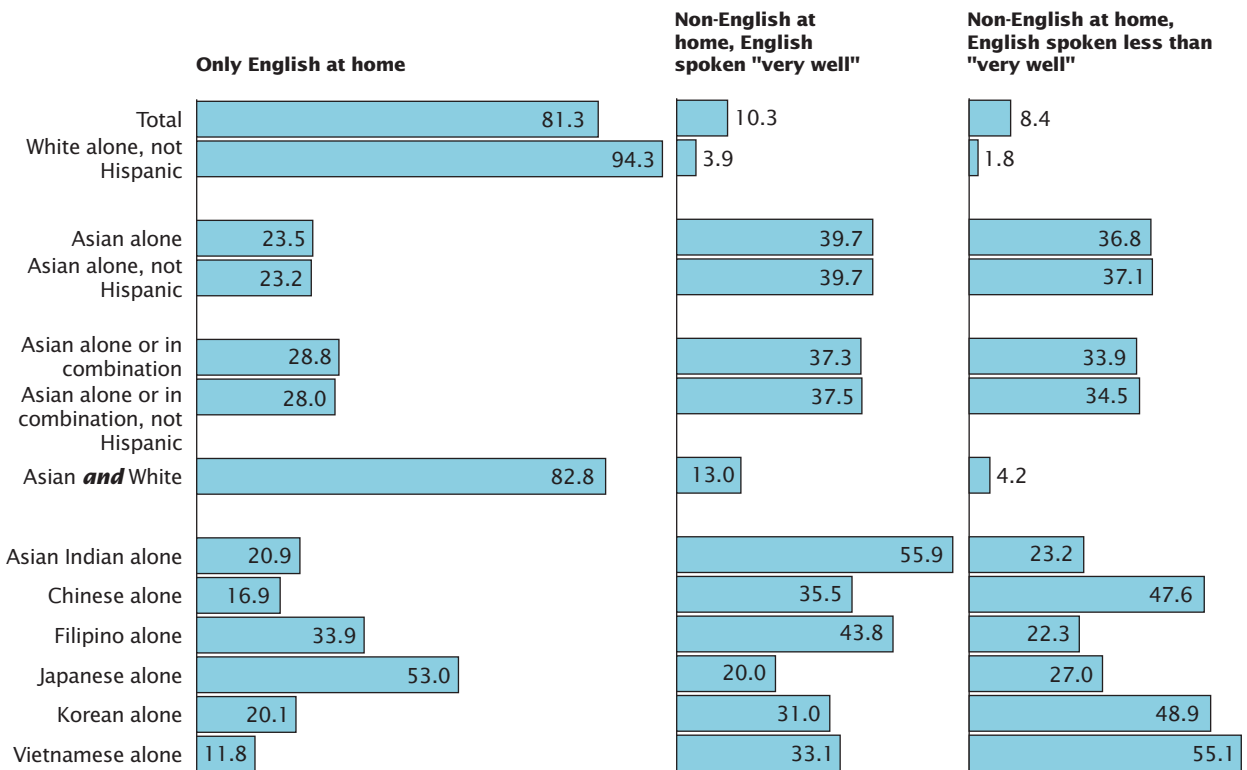
## A majority of Asians spoke only English at home or spoke English very well.

- About 63 percent of Asians aged 5 and older spoke only English at home or spoke English very well, compared with about 98 percent of non-Hispanic Whites aged 5 and older.
- About 77 percent of Asians spoke a language other than English at home, compared with about 6 percent of non-Hispanic Whites.
- Among the specific Asian groups, the proportion of Asians who spoke a language other than English at home ranged from about 47 percent for Japanese to about 88 percent for Vietnamese.

Figure 10.

### Language Spoken at Home and English-Speaking Ability: 2004

(Percent distribution of population 5 and older. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



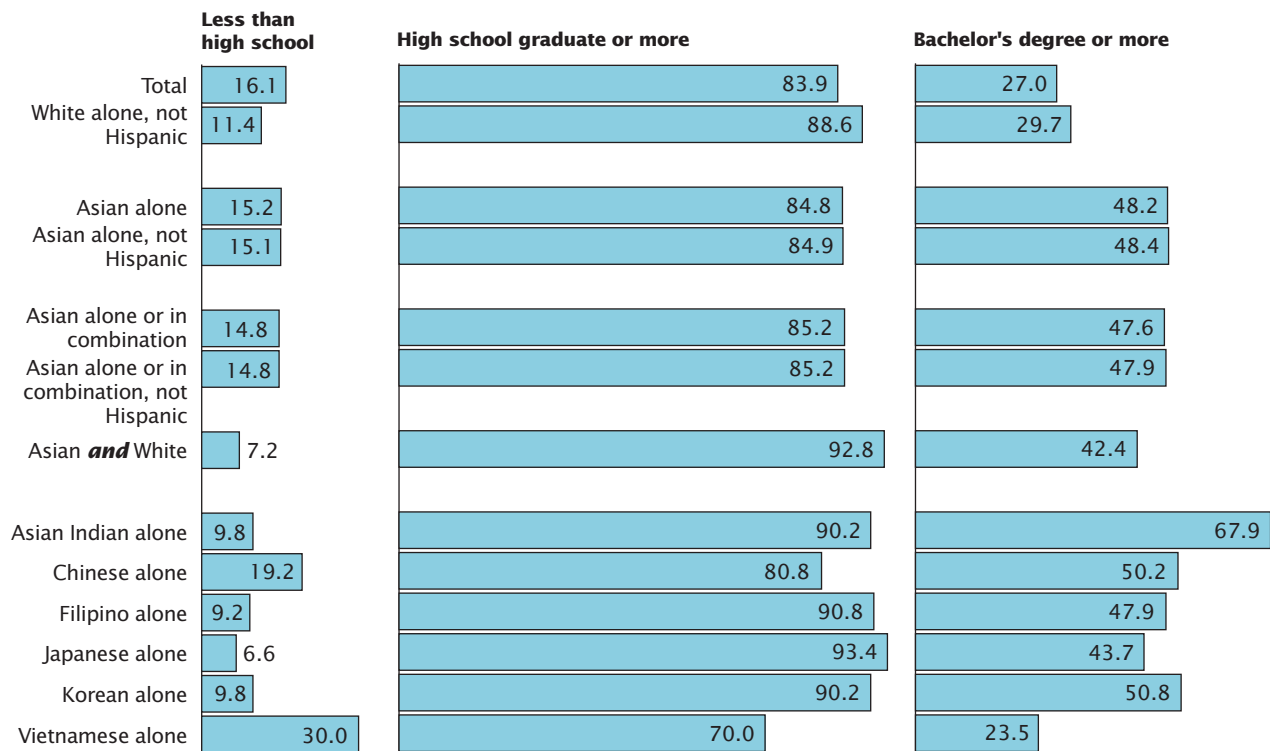
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

## Almost one-half of Asians had a bachelor's degree or more education.

- About 85 percent of Asians aged 25 and older were high school graduates and about 48 percent had a bachelor's degree or more education. Among non-Hispanic Whites aged 25 and older, about 89 percent were high school graduates and about 30 percent had a bachelor's degree or more education.
- Among the specific Asian groups shown, about 90 percent or more of Asian Indians, Filipinos, Japanese, and Koreans aged 25 and older were high school graduates. About two-thirds of Asian Indians had a bachelor's degree or more education.

Figure 11.  
**Educational Attainment: 2004**

(Percent of population 25 and older. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



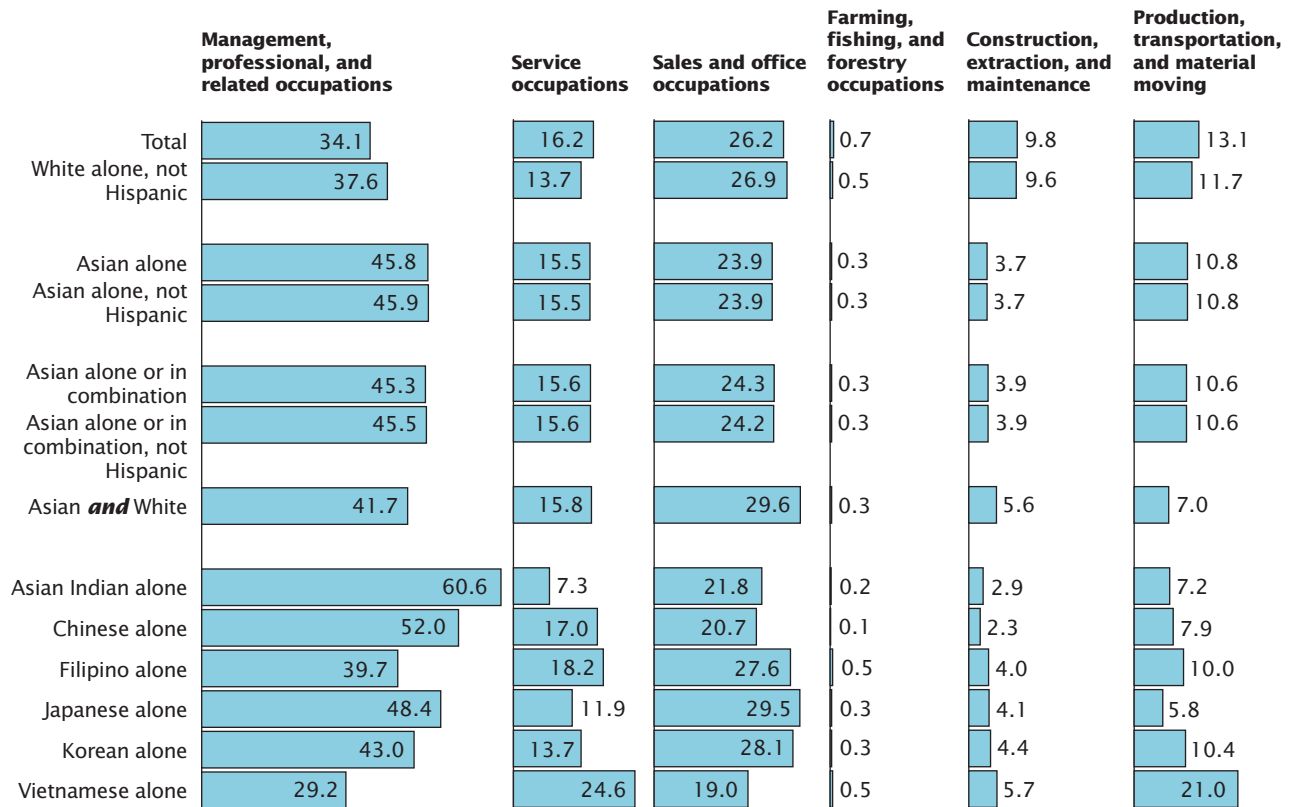
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

## Close to one-half of Asians worked in management, professional, and related occupations.

- About 46 percent of civilian employed Asians aged 16 and older worked in management, professional, and related occupations, compared with about 38 percent of civilian employed non-Hispanic Whites aged 16 and older.
- Asian workers were less likely than non-Hispanic White workers to be employed in sales and office occupations; farming, fishing, and forestry occupations; construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations; or production, transportation, and material moving occupations.
- Among the specific Asian groups, about 61 percent of Asian Indian workers were in management, professional, and related occupations, followed by Chinese workers (about 52 percent) and Japanese workers (about 48 percent). About 21 percent of employed Vietnamese workers were in production, transportation, and material moving occupations.

Figure 12.  
**Occupation: 2004**

(Percent distribution of civilian employed population 16 and older. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



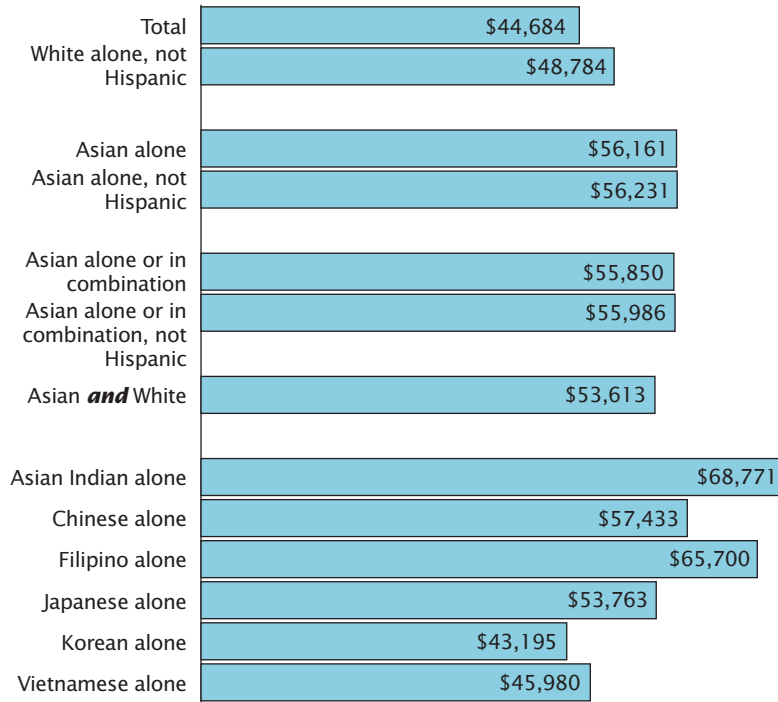
Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

**The median income of Asian households exceeded that of non-Hispanic White households.<sup>13</sup>**

Figure 13.  
**Median Household Income: 2004**

(Household income in the past 12 months in 2004 inflation-adjusted dollars. Housing units are classified by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

- The median income of Asian households in the 12 months prior to being surveyed was about \$56,200. This was about \$8,000 higher than the median income of non-Hispanic White households, which was about \$48,800.
- Among the specific Asian groups shown, median incomes of Asian Indian households and Filipino households were about \$10,000 higher than the median income of all Asian households.

<sup>13</sup> Data reflect the median income of households in the 12 months prior to being surveyed. Income is expressed in 2004 inflation-adjusted dollars. It is based on the distribution of the total number of households and includes those with no income. Households are classified by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder.

## The poverty rate was higher for Asians than for non-Hispanic Whites.<sup>14</sup>

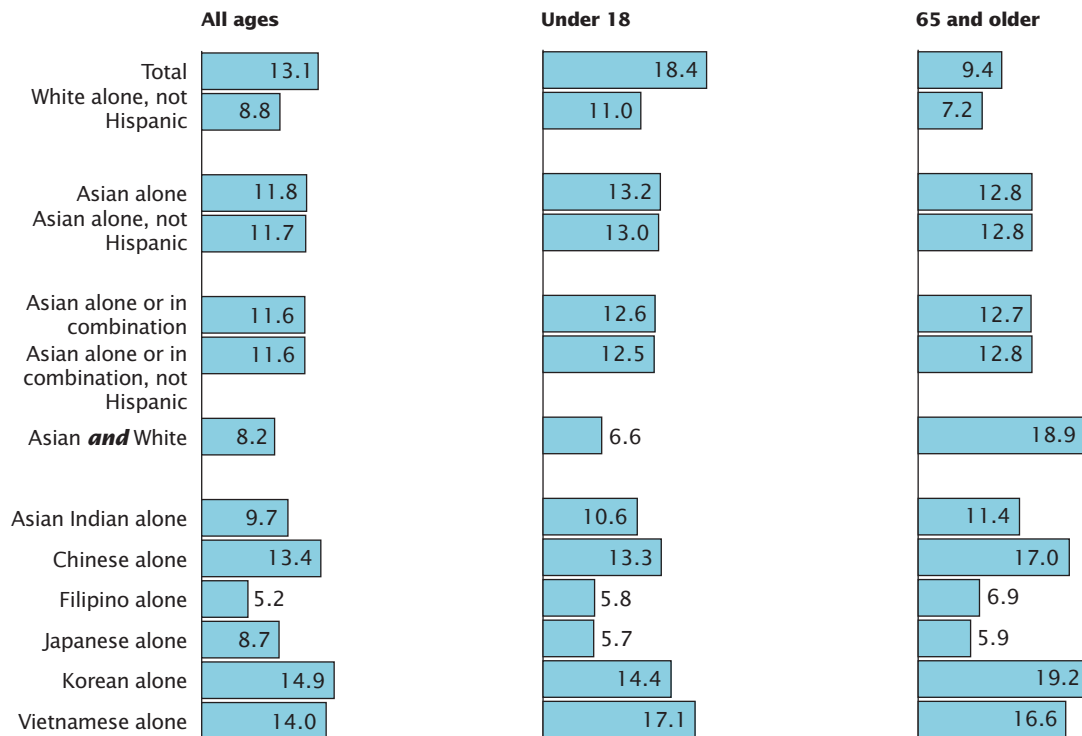
- About 12 percent of Asians were living below the poverty level in the 12 months prior to being surveyed, compared with about 9 percent of non-Hispanic Whites.
- Among Asians, the poverty rate was about 10 percent or less for Asian Indians, Filipinos, and Japanese. The poverty rate for Chinese, Koreans, and Vietnamese was about 13 percent or higher.
- Asian children (under age 18) and Asians aged 65 and older had similar poverty rates. About 13 percent of Asian children and about 11 percent of non-Hispanic White children lived in poverty. Among people aged 65 and older, the poverty rate was about 13 percent for Asians and about 7 percent for non-Hispanic Whites. Filipinos and Japanese had the lowest poverty rates among Asian children, as well as among Asians 65 and older.

<sup>14</sup> In accordance with the U.S. Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Statistical Policy Directive 14, the Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty. If a family's total income is less than the threshold for the family, then that family and every individual in it are considered to be in poverty. For example, the poverty threshold for a family of three with

one child under 18 for the 1-year period preceding the ACS interview was \$14,974. Poverty status was determined for all individuals except for unrelated individuals under 15 years old. The official poverty definition uses money income before taxes and does not include capital gains or noncash benefits. For more information on poverty in the ACS, see <[www.census.gov/prod/2005pubs/acs-01.pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/2005pubs/acs-01.pdf)> and <[www.census.gov/acs/www/UseData/Def/Poverty.htm](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/UseData/Def/Poverty.htm)>.

Figure 14.  
**Poverty Rate by Age Group: 2004**

(Percent of specific group in poverty in the past 12 months. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



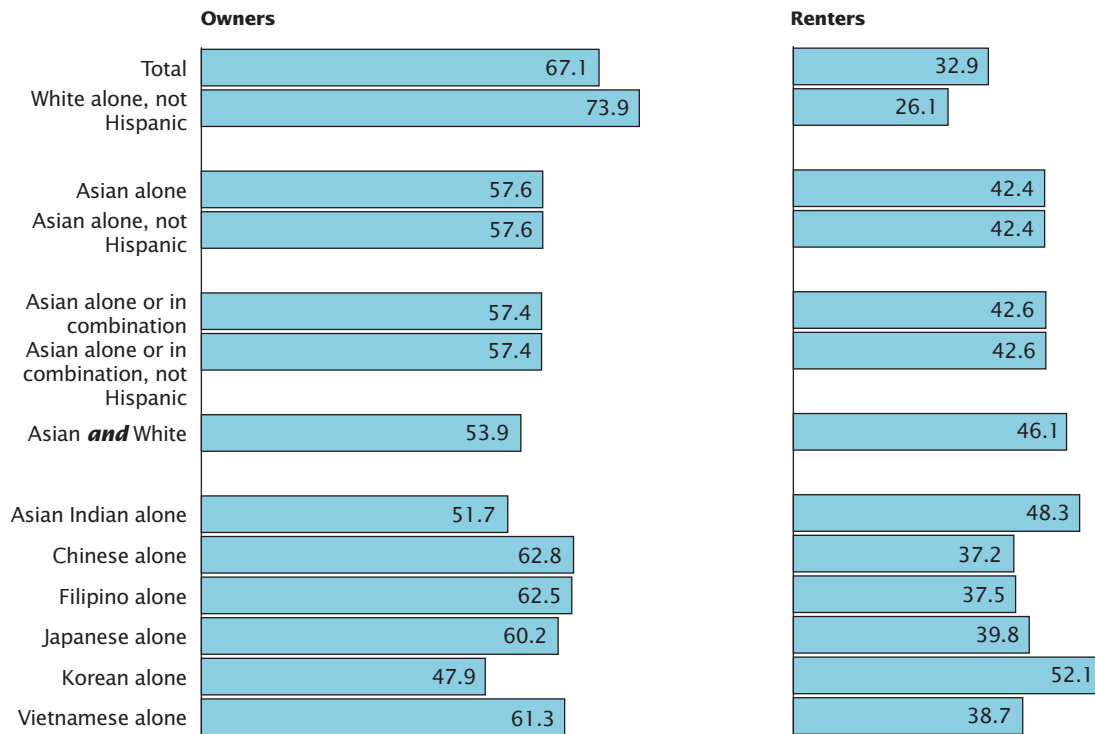
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

**More than one-half of Asian households lived in owner-occupied homes.**

- A majority of Asian households (about 58 percent) lived in owner-occupied homes and about 42 percent lived in renter-occupied homes. In comparison, about 74 percent of non-Hispanic White households lived in owner-occupied homes.
- Among the specific Asian groups shown, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, and Vietnamese households had the highest proportion of owner-occupied homes. Korean households had the highest percentage of renter-occupied homes.

Figure 15.  
**Housing Tenure: 2004**

(Percent of occupied housing units. Housing tenure is shown by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

**The median value of owner-occupied homes for Asian households was twice that of non-Hispanic White households.**

- The median value of Asian owner-occupied homes was about \$306,000. This was about twice the median value of non-Hispanic White owner-occupied homes (about \$154,000).<sup>15</sup>
- The median values of owner-occupied homes for most of the

Asian household groups was about \$300,000 or more.

- The median monthly rental payment of Asian households in renter-occupied homes was about \$854, compared with about \$693 for non-Hispanic White households.<sup>16</sup> The median

rental payment made by Asian households was about \$800 or more for most of the Asian household groups. Japanese households had the highest median monthly rental payment (\$931).<sup>17</sup>

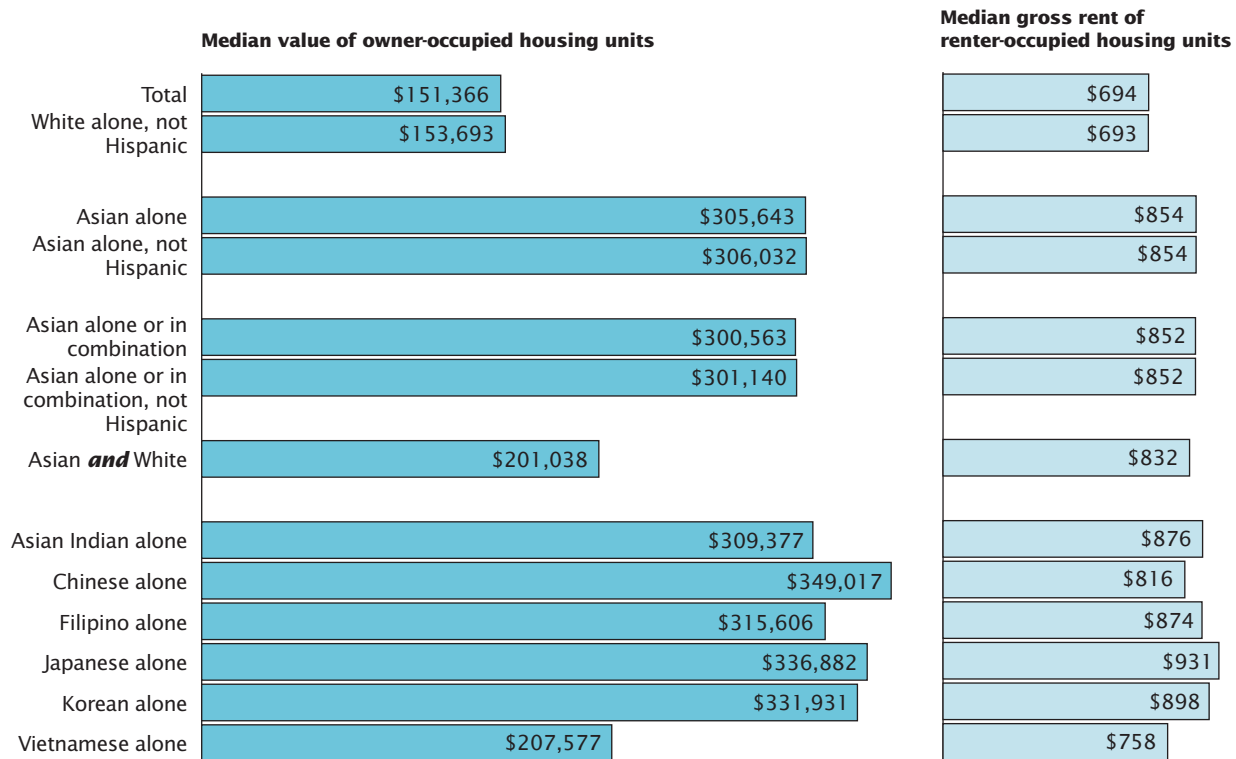
<sup>15</sup> Differences between the geographic distribution of Asians and non-Hispanic Whites may affect home values and rental costs.

<sup>16</sup> The monthly rental payment represents gross rent (i.e., the amount of the contract rent plus the estimated average monthly cost of utilities and fuels).

<sup>17</sup> The median monthly rental payments for Japanese households and Korean households are not statistically different.

Figure 16.  
**Selected Housing Characteristics: 2004**

(Housing units are classified by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.



## Asian workers were more likely than non-Hispanic White workers to use public transportation or to carpool to work.

- In 2004, about 69 percent of Asian workers aged 16 and older drove alone and about 14 percent carpooled to work. Among non-Hispanic White workers aged 16 and older, about 81 percent drove alone and about 8 percent carpooled to work. Public transportation was used to commute by a higher proportion of Asian workers (about 10 percent) than

non-Hispanic White workers (about 3 percent).<sup>18</sup>

- Among the specific Asian groups, Chinese workers were among the most likely to use public transportation for commuting. Chinese workers were also among the least likely to drive alone to work, while Japanese and Vietnamese workers were

among the most likely.

Vietnamese workers and Filipino workers were among the most likely to carpool to work.

- The mean travel time to work for Asian workers was 28 minutes, compared with 24 minutes for non-Hispanic White workers.

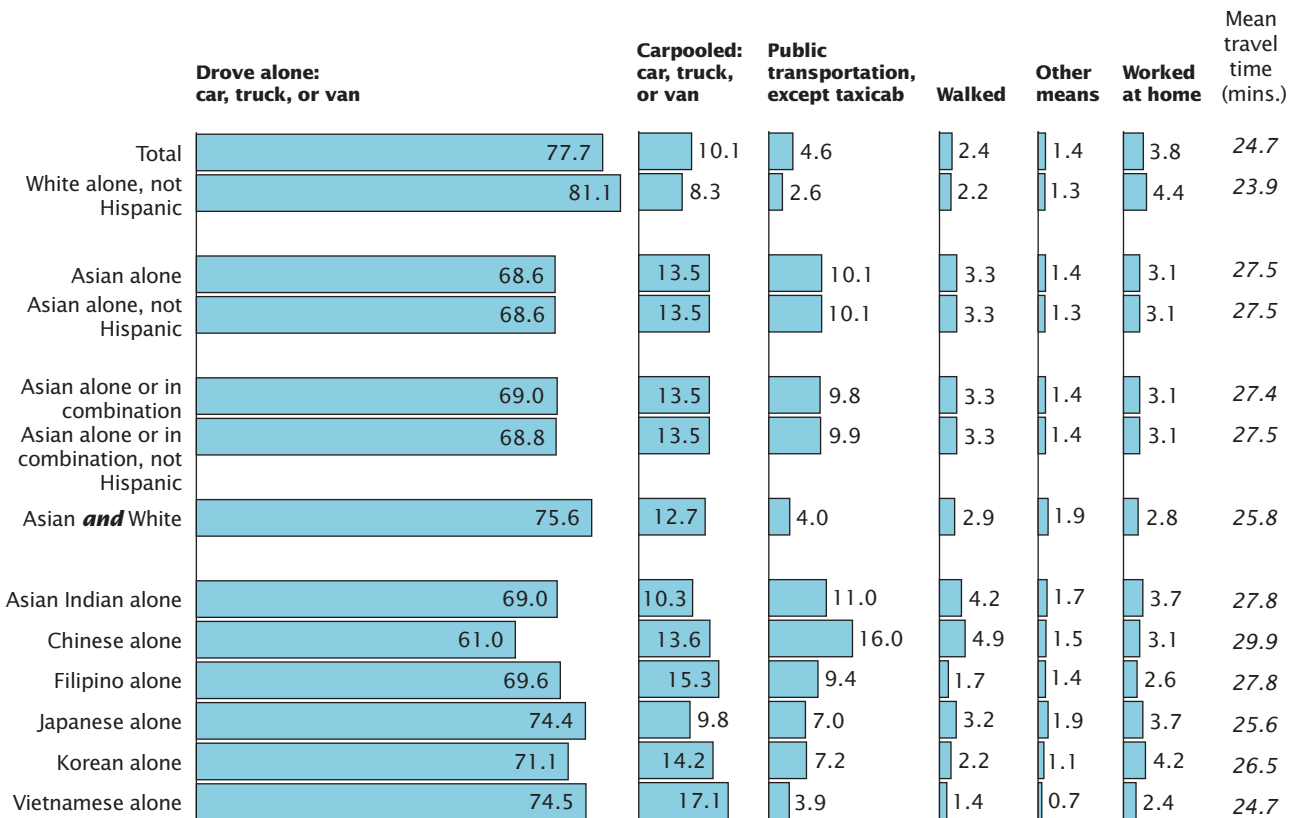
- The mean travel time to work for the specific Asian groups fell between about 25 minutes to about 30 minutes.

<sup>18</sup> Differences between the geographic distribution of Asians and non-Hispanic Whites may affect commuting patterns.

Figure 17.

### Commuting to Work: 2004

(Percent of workers 16 and older. Data based on sample limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp\\_acs2004.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp_acs2004.html))



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

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## SOURCE OF THE DATA AND ACCURACY OF THE ESTIMATES

The findings presented in this report are based on the ACS sample interviewed in 2004. The data in this report are based on the population living in households that were included in the ACS sample. The 2004 ACS did not collect information from people living in group quarters, which include correctional facilities, hospitals, college dormitories, group homes, and overnight shelters.

The 2004 ACS used a two-stage stratified sample of approximately 838,000 housing units and the occupants of these units. ACS figures are estimates based on this sample and approximate the actual figures that would have been obtained by interviewing the entire household population using the same methodology. The estimates from the 2004 ACS sample may differ from other samples of housing units and people within those housing units. The process of sampling ensures the integrity and the representativeness of sample survey results but also results in sampling error. Sampling error is the deviation of a sample estimate from the average of all possible samples.

In addition to sampling error, other types of errors, specifically, nonsampling errors, may be introduced during any of the operations used to collect and process survey data. For example, operations such as editing, reviewing, or keying data from questionnaires may introduce error into the estimates. Nonsampling errors may affect the data in two ways. Errors that are introduced randomly increase the variability of the data. Systematic errors that are consistent in one direction introduce bias into the results of a sample survey. The Census Bureau protects against the effect of systematic errors on survey estimates by conducting extensive research and evaluation programs on sampling techniques, questionnaire design, and data collection and processing procedures. The primary sources of error and the processes instituted to control error in the 2004 ACS are described in further detail in the Accuracy of the Data (2004) explanation located at <[www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2004.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2004.pdf)>.

Sampling errors and some types of nonsampling errors are estimated by the measure of standard error. The sample estimate and its estimated standard error permit the

construction of interval estimates with a prescribed confidence that the interval includes the average result of all possible samples. All comparison statements in this ACS 2004 report have undergone statistical testing, and comparisons are significant at the 90-percent confidence level unless otherwise noted.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Further information from the 2004 ACS is available from the American FactFinder on the Census Bureau's Web site. More than 1,000 tables are available, including population profiles for race, Hispanic-origin, and ancestry groups.

The Internet address is <<http://factfinder.census.gov>>. For information on confidentiality protection, also see <[www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2004.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2004.pdf)>.

For more information on the Asian population, visit <[www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/race/api.html](http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/race/api.html)>.

## CONTACT

For additional information, contact the Racial Statistics Branch at 301-763-2402 or via e-mail <[pop@census.gov](mailto:pop@census.gov)>.



