



THEME: “Power in Unity: Strengthening Communities Together”

Asian Americans trace their ancestry to over 20 countries in Asia, and can trace their roots in the U.S. to immigrants as early as the 1840s.

Asian Americans span diverse national origins, languages, religious and cultural backgrounds across central, east, south and southeast Asia, ranging from recent immigrants and refugees to third-generation Americans and beyond.

The six largest ethnic groups among Asian Americans are Chinese Americans at 22%, Indian Americans at 21%, Filipino Americans at 19%, Vietnamese Americans at 9%, Korean Americans at 8%, and Japanese Americans at 7%.

Pacific Islander Americans are Americans of Pacific Islander descent, including Native Hawaiians. There were about 662,417 Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander Americans as of 2023.

Pacific Islanders are the Indigenous people of the Pacific Island regions of Polynesia, Melanesia and Micronesia. This includes the U.S. state of Hawaii, along with U.S. territories American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Efforts to recognize Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders trace back to 1979 when former President Jimmy Carter issued a proclamation recognizing Pacific/Asian American Heritage Week. In 1990, Congress and former President George H. W. Bush expanded the recognition to a month, and in 1992, Congress passed a law making the month an annual recognition.

Note: Statistical data is according to Pew Research