

New Challenges *for* Bay Area Philanthropy

Asian & Pacific Islander Communities

AAPIP

ASIAN AMERICANS / PACIFIC ISLANDERS IN PHILANTHROPY

A REPORT BY THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL CHAPTER

OCTOBER 2003

Copyright © 2003
Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy
Northern California Regional Chapter
All rights reserved

For more information, please contact
AAPIP / Northern California Regional Chapter
c/o National AAPIP Office
88 Kearny Street, Suite 1850
San Francisco, California 94108
415 273.2760 tel / 415 273.2765 fax / www.aapip.org

FUNDERS FOR THIS REPORT

- The California Endowment
- Chevron Texaco Foundation
- Community Foundation of Silicon Valley
- East Bay Community Foundation
- Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Foundation
- Sherry Hirota, Trustee, The California Endowment
- Marin Community Foundation
- Peninsula Community Foundation
- The San Francisco Foundation

ABOUT AAPIP

Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy is a national membership association dedicated to building bridges between philanthropy and Asian Pacific Islander (API) communities. Our members include foundations and corporations, the staff and trustees of grantmaking institutions, and representatives of nonprofit organizations. Founded in 1990, we serve as a catalyst for the increased participation and leadership of APIs in the philanthropic sector and as a resource for API nonprofit organizations. AAPIP strives to:

- Educate grantmakers about API issues, communities, and concerns.
- Advocate for increased philanthropic resources for API communities.
- Promote the expansion of giving in API communities.
- Increase API trustee and staff representation in philanthropy.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL CHAPTER

The Northern California Regional Chapter serves members from the San Francisco Bay Area as well as the Sacramento and Central Valley regions. Our primary focus is to connect foundation staff and trustees with community organizations. Programs include “Meet the Grantmaker” sessions, panel discussions that bring together grantmakers and nonprofit leaders, and presentations on issues that affect API communities.

4 Foreword by Michael Omi, Ph.D.

5 Introduction by AAPIP Northern California Regional Chapter Co-Chairs

6 Executive Summary

8 Growing and Diverse API Communities: What the 2000 Census Reveals

9 National Profile

11 California Profile

12 San Francisco Bay Area Regional Profile

17 Profiles of the Nine Bay Area Counties

22 Call to Philanthropy: Recommendations

26 Conclusions and Implications

27 Endnotes

29 Appendix: Census 2000, Data Sources, Ethnic Media

31 Acknowledgments: Authors, Community Partners, and Funders

“While the growth of API groups in the Bay Area is dramatic, APIs still remain invisible to most philanthropists.”

MICHAEL OMI, PH.D.,
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

The numbers do indeed speak. While the U.S. Census is popularly regarded as a bureaucratic exercise in counting heads, the political impact of Census figures is enormous. Census results determine the drawing of legislative boundaries, the number of congressional representatives from each state, and the allocation of nearly \$185 billion in federal funds to state and local programs.

In providing a collective portrait of who we are, the Census divides and clusters people into groups. Group categories are based on age, sex, citizenship, household income, and marital status, among others. None of these categories, however, submits itself to such intense scrutiny, vigorous debate, and political controversy as that of race and ethnicity.

Data from Census 2000 dramatically underscore the popular understanding of the “changing face of America” with respect to the nation’s racial and ethnic composition. The growth of a multiplicity of racial groups is clear. The challenge is to understand this demographic diversity in relation to the dominant Black/White discourse of race and racism. This challenge is most vital in the San Francisco Bay Area region, where newcomers arrive from every part of the world.

This report situates Asians and Pacific Islanders in today’s racial landscape to expand our collective understanding of the complexity of contemporary racial dynamics. While the growth of API groups in the Bay Area is dramatic, APIs still remain invisible to most philanthropists. Beliefs that APIs are a “model minority” with few social disadvantages, or that APIs “look after their own” with unique social networks, breed neglect when it comes to funding priorities.

We cannot stress enough the importance of analyzing disaggregated data. Aggregate data often disguise important socioeconomic differences among API ethnic groups. In the 1990s, for example, Native Hawaiians, along with other Pacific Islanders, realized that their inclusion in the API Census category was not serving their interests. Only 11% of Pacific Islanders 25 years or older had bachelor’s degrees compared to about 40% of Asians. The median household income was \$33,955 for Pacific Islanders and \$41,583 for Asians. Lobbying efforts resulted in splitting the API category into two to create a distinct “Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander” category for the Census.

The most profound change to the question on race was the allowance in Census 2000 for individuals to check “one or more races” to describe themselves. Largely driven by the increase in “mixed race/multiracial” individuals, it reflects a shifting consciousness away from the belief in a single, mono-racial identity.

Despite its flaws, the Census continues to provide us with an intriguing map of the existing racial landscape, how different groups are situated in this field, and a sense of the conditions of their existence. But the numbers alone don’t speak. They have to be carefully interpreted. That is what this report seeks to do.

Michael Omi, Ph.D.
University of California, Berkeley

When the AAPIP Northern California Regional Chapter conceived this project in 2000, we were seizing the opportunity to analyze timely data from the 2000 Census. The new data would reveal important information about APIs in the San Francisco Bay Area region. Our goal was to publish a report that could serve as a tool for our AAPIP members and foundation colleagues.

We partnered with Census information centers, such as GreenInfo Network, Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum, and Chinese American Voter Education Committee. Where the Census could not provide answers, we culled from other research to fill in the gaps. And where there were no data, we turned to community leaders to hear the voices of experienced activists in the field.

In the course of our research, we found that the once-invisible face of APIs is now becoming visible. So too are the issues concerning our communities.

This report is the first to analyze 2000 Census data for the Bay Area’s API communities. As such, it begins the important journey of understanding the dynamics of a dramatically shifting Bay Area population. With support from foundations, it will take the next few years to continue analyzing disaggregated data for subsequent reports. The forthcoming examinations will uncover the unique characteristics of the many API ethnic groups.

We hope philanthropists will become more aware of APIs by conversing with community leaders and increasing the role of API professionals in philanthropic institutions. This report is presented to funders to use as a tool for generating discussions within their institutions on the implications of the new demographics on their own philanthropy. Ultimately, we hope philanthropists will create policies and programs that include APIs as a target population for grantmaking.

The reality of a burgeoning and highly diverse API population—supported by 2000 Census data—is important to understand in the context of grantmaking. APIs continue to receive a disproportionately low share of funding from private, corporate, and public philanthropies. The recommendations in this report offer concrete actions to address this disparity.

Finally, this report’s focus in no way intends to pit the needs of one community against the equally important needs of another. We hope that the research on APIs and our recommendations to funders will benefit all underserved communities as they seek a share of philanthropy’s resources.

Dianne Yamashiro-Omi
Fatima Angeles
 Co-chairs

“A fundamental challenge is strengthening the API voice so it cannot be ignored by those outside the API communities.”

PAUL ONG, PH.D.,
 UNIVERSITY OF
 CALIFORNIA, LOS
 ANGELES



California's diversity and immigrant-rich history are underscored by the fact that for the first time there is no majority ethnic or racial population in the state.

This report gives a face and voice to the diverse Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities in the Bay Area. The research examines data from the 2000 Census and other statistical studies. Commentaries by community representatives broaden the portraits of APIs and explain the complexity of their needs. Following brief national and California profiles is a detailed picture of API communities in the San Francisco Bay Area region. The recommendations in this report challenge philanthropy to develop API communities through increased grantmaking and community partnerships.

NATIONAL PROFILE

According to the 2000 Census, there are close to 11.9 million Asians in the U.S., representing 4.2% of our nation's 282 million people. Pacific Islanders number close to 874,000, or 0.3% of the population. Over 2.1 million, or 16.7% of APIs, are multiracial. Among racial/ethnic groups, APIs experienced the fastest growth between 1990 and 2000. Asians increased at a rate of 72% while Pacific Islanders grew at a rate of 140%, outpacing the 58% growth rate of Hispanics. Of the API population, 67% are foreign-born. Approximately 1.32 million APIs—almost 13% of the API population—live below the poverty level.

CALIFORNIA PROFILE

The number of APIs in California rose to 4.4 million between 1990 and 2000, growing at a rate of 53.7%. APIs now represent 12.9% of the state's 34 million people. Over 500,000, or 11% of APIs, are multiracial. Mirroring national Census figures, 66% of APIs are immigrants. California's diversity and immigrant-rich history are underscored by the fact that for the first time there is no majority ethnic or racial population in the state. Seventy-nine percent of API residents speak a language other than English at home. Despite having the highest median household income of any racial group in California, 12.8% of Asians and 13.2% of Pacific Islanders live in poverty—percentages notably high when compared with 7.8% for Non-Hispanic Whites.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA REGIONAL PROFILE

Between 1990 and 2000, the number of APIs grew at a rate of 48.3% to total 1.31 million, representing roughly 20% of the Bay Area population. Approximately 174,000 residents identify themselves as Asian multiracial. The API and Hispanic populations increased while the other categories of racial/ethnic populations experienced a decline. The Bay Area is shifting from a single Non-Hispanic White majority to a diverse population of racial and ethnic communities.

“Being responsive to API communities takes strategic investment by foundations. The first step in understanding traditionally overlooked populations is to uncover the data and understand the profiles, and then to conduct significant outreach to these communities.”

MICHAEL P. LEE, CONSULTANT

The arrival of immigrants from all parts of the world accounts for much of the rising numbers. Immigrants represent 27.4% of the region’s residents—up from 19.5% in 1990. Asians make-up almost 60% of the foreign-born population.

Over 950,000, or 80% of APIs, speak a language other than English at home. The inability to speak English is an isolating factor for low income immigrants. The disparities between rich and poor APIs are glaring. For every API household that earns a high income, there is another trapped at the margins.

CALL TO PHILANTHROPY

With the growth in API Bay Area communities comes increasing needs. Yet, the phenomenal increase in the number of API residents in the Bay Area has not been matched by foundation grants. A forthcoming report from the AAPIP national office researches this disparity, finding that during the 1990s, Bay Area nonprofits serving APIs received only 0.8% of U.S. foundation grants.

The following recommendations propose ways for philanthropy to assist underserved communities. Although focused on APIs, the recommendations have practical applications for other racial and ethnic communities in the Bay Area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Designate APIs as a target population in grantmaking.** Examine whether or not grantmaking is inclusive and responsive to the growing API communities and their needs.
- **Promote research on API communities.** Understand the multiple facets of API communities with data gathering, critical examination, and outreach to community leaders.
- **Strengthen API leadership and organizations.** Support leadership development, organizational infrastructures, and civic participation.
- **Build bridges between philanthropy and API communities.** Embark on a two-fold strategy of initiating partnerships with API community leaders and recruiting APIs as trustees, board members, senior staff, and donors.

CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

What was once an invisible community is now very visible and diverse. This report challenges Bay Area philanthropists to recognize this reality by including APIs in grantmaking programs and policies. AAPIP’s research requires philanthropy to address the disparity between the increasing API populations and current low levels of fundings. Equally important is to address the disparities in social and economic well-being among API ethnic groups.





Asians and Pacific Islanders (APIs) in the United States form a complex and diverse community. Census 2000 recognizes over 40 different nationalities and ethnicities as API.¹ The diversity of the API community is most striking in the San Francisco Bay Area region, the historic port of entry for newcomers from all of Asia and the Pacific Islands.

The 2000 Census offers one of the most comprehensive illustrations of the U.S. today. Its bank of data documents the multiculturalism and range of experience of the American public. It also underscores the disparities across ethnic and racial groups, among men and women, young and old, middle-class and poor.

Yet, the numbers alone will never give a full portrait of APIs and the issues they confront. Community groups have noted the limitations of Census information—for example, the undercount of immigrant communities. The creation of multiple race categories also makes data comparisons for 1990 and 2000 statistically difficult.

To develop profiles of API communities, the research for this report examined data on population growth, immigration, language, income, and poverty.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF API IMMIGRATION TO THE U.S.

EXCLUSIONARY AND SOCIAL CONTROL policies shaped the Asian and Pacific Islander communities in the U.S. Laws enforcing the social status of APIs as “foreigners” and “a race of permanent aliens” gradually gave way to an opening up of policies influenced by the economy and world events.

Early legislation limited the growth of API communities in the U.S. The 1875 Page Law barred the entry of all Chinese women to the U.S., and the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Law suspended the entry of Chinese laborers until 1943. The California Alien Land Laws of 1913 and 1920, prohibiting “aliens ineligible for citizenship” from owning land, restricted the participation of API immigrants from acquiring property and assets. Executive Order 9066 forcibly subjected all West Coast persons of Japanese ancestry to internment camps during World War II, fracturing the Japanese American community for decades.

The passage of the 1965 Immigration Act allowed family reunification and the arrival of skilled workers and professionals. The first wave of immigrants under the post-1965 laws were from China, Hong Kong, Korea, and the Philippines. The end of American military involvement in Southeast Asia prompted an unprecedented flight of refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. Many Southeast Asians coming in recent years—including the Hmong, Mien, lowland Laotians, and Cambodians—suffer a higher incidence of post-traumatic stress disorder, fragmented families, and health problems caused by years of war and dislocation.

The face of API communities in America once again changed as the high-tech boom of the 1990s brought skilled workers and professionals from Asia, including South Asians from India and Pakistan. Many in the South Asian community now face unemployment and the expiration of H-1 visas during the recent recession that hit the high-tech industry hard.

For Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, immigration to the mainland grew in large part because of their status as U.S. nationals and the perceived economic opportunities in the continental U.S.

“Because we have a more diverse immigrant population, it’s extremely challenging to develop organizational strategies that promote unity among groups with historic animosity against each other. Only in this country are we lumped together with expectations that we can all get along.”

YOUNG SHIN, ASIAN IMMIGRANT WOMEN ADVOCATES

Information from the ethnic media and the public health, education, and welfare fields helped fill the gaps left by the Census. Most importantly, this project encompassed close to three years of dialogue with API community leaders to complement the data analysis with their experiences.

This report begins with a national overview, followed by a look at the changing demographics in the State of California. An analysis of current population trends in the San Francisco Bay Area includes statistical snapshots of each of the nine counties within the region. Threaded throughout the demographic profiles are the voices of community leaders articulating the issues that confront Bay Area nonprofit organizations. The recommendations at the end of this report offer strategies for funders to become better acquainted with APIs and to help develop vital communities through increased grantmaking.

NATIONAL PROFILE

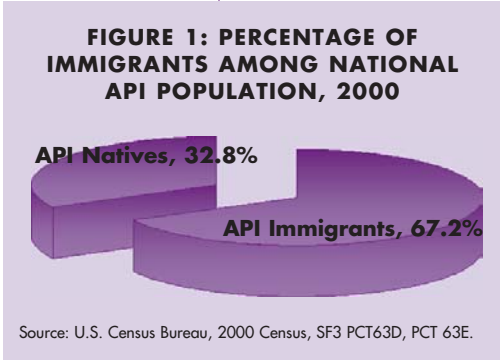
During the past ten years, the United States experienced an astounding growth in population, with over 32.7 million new residents. According to the 2000 Census, **there are close to 11.9 million Asians² in the U.S., representing 4.2% of our nation’s 282 million people. Pacific Islanders number close to 874,000, or 0.3% of the national population.³**

Among the nation’s ethnic groups, APIs experienced the fastest growth between 1990 and 2000. **The national Asian population increased at a 72% growth rate and Pacific Islanders at 140%,⁴ outpacing the 58% growth rate of Hispanics.⁵** In some states where APIs were virtually invisible, the increasing numbers present new challenges in race relations, social services, and community institutions.

Of particular note is the rise in the number of APIs who are of mixed heritage. At 2.1 million⁶—or 16.7% of the API population—they make up the second-largest API group, second in number only to the 2.3 million individuals who report themselves as “Chinese alone.” **If demographic trends continue, APIs with mixed race/mixed ethnicity backgrounds will constitute the largest API group by the 2010 Census.⁷**

Immigration is a significant factor in the growth of API communities. The 2000 Census estimates that over **67% of APIs are foreign-born.⁸**

The Census reports a wide disparity in income levels for APIs. Although the data show that Asians and Pacific Islanders have one of the highest median household incomes among all race and Hispanic origin groups



“Just like South Asians and Pacific Islanders, Southwest Asians—or Middle Easterners—also struggle to have their needs reflected under the API umbrella. The lack of systematic data collection is a great barrier in allocating resources and devising programs that can effectively serve our community.”

JAVID SYED, ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER WELLNESS CENTER

**COMMUNITY VOICES:
ANTI-ASIAN VIOLENCE**

THE NATIONAL ASIAN Pacific American Legal Consortium and its affiliates documented 507 bias-motivated hate crimes against APIs in 2001—a 23% increase over those documented in 2000.

The upsurge in anti-Asian violence is attributable in part to the backlash following the tragic terrorist attacks on September 11th.

A large majority of hate incidents targeted South Asian Americans, and more particularly, Sikh Americans. South Asian Americans, including Indians and Pakistanis, were targeted because they looked like the September 11th terrorists. Sikhs, a religious group whose members are mostly of South Asian descent, were especially targeted because many of their men wear turbans and long beards as part of their religious observance, similar to the widely publicized image of Osama Bin Laden.

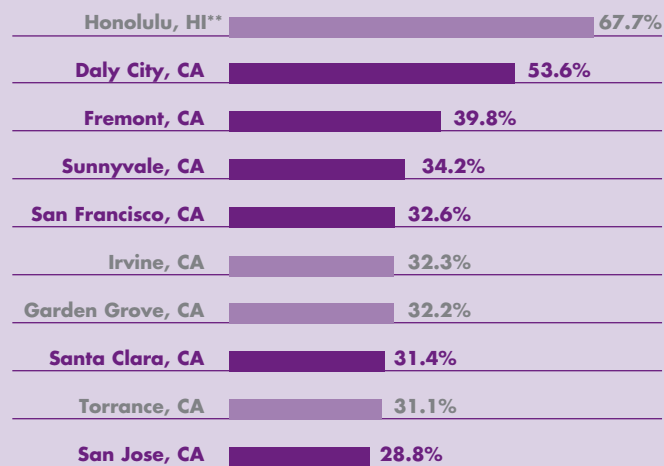
nationwide, approximately 1.32 million APIs—almost 13% of the composite API population—live below the poverty level (\$16,895 for a family of four). Furthermore, the median per capita income of Pacific Islanders is \$15,054, a figure comparable to that of Blacks at \$14,437.

Poverty rate is often a misunderstood indicator of socioeconomic well-being, hiding communities in need if data are not disaggregated. For example, 12.6% of Asians and 17.7% of Pacific Islanders live below the poverty level, compared to the national percentage of 14.2%.⁹ However, a disaggregated analysis of poverty rates for API groups reveals that **64% of Hmong, 43% of Cambodians, 35% of Laotians, and 26% of Vietnamese live below the poverty level.**¹⁰ The economic conditions among API ethnic groups vary greatly, begging a detailed investigation to understand the distinctions.

NATIONAL ASIAN SETTLEMENT PATTERNS

The U.S. Census Bureau published a report that examines the national settlement trends of Asian populations. In listing the ten highest ranking cities with large Asian communities, **the San Francisco Bay Area ranked as one of the most popular regions for settlement** (see Figure 2). Six of the ten places with populations of 100,000 or more with the highest percentage of Asian residents are cities located in the San Francisco Bay Area.

FIGURE 2: TOP TEN CITIES (POPULATION 100,000 OR MORE) WITH HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF ASIANS,* 2000



* Asian in combination with other races.

** Honolulu, HI is a Census-designated place and is not legally incorporated.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF1.

“The growth of our communities in California is exciting and daunting. Never have we been more diverse ethnically, culturally, linguistically, politically, and economically.”

DIANE CHIN, FORMERLY WITH CHINESE FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

CALIFORNIA PROFILE

California had the largest population growth of any state in the nation, adding close to 4.1 million new residents between 1990 to 2000 for a total of 34 million. During this period, **the number of APIs rose to 4.4 million, or 12.9% of the total state population—a growth rate of 53.7%.**¹¹ APIs of mixed heritage now number more than 500,000, or 11% of California APIs.

Mirroring national Census figures, **the increasing numbers among California Asians is due to the arrival of newcomers from overseas. Of the total state Asian population, 66% are immigrants,** compared to 65% in 1990. Furthermore, 73% of the state’s Asian immigrant population arrived within the past two decades.

By contrast, immigration plays a lesser role in the growth of the Pacific Islander community, with 26% of Pacific Islanders born abroad.

California’s diversity and immigrant-rich history are underscored by the fact that for the first time **there is no majority ethnic or racial population in the state.**¹² The critical mass of different groups living together within California’s boundaries is drastically remaking the state’s social, economic, and political profile. API communities are a major part of this evolving complexion.

According to the 2000 Census, **79% of API residents over the age of four in California speak a language other than English at home.** Of this group, 23% speak English “not well” or “not at all.” Furthermore, 31% of households with residents ages 14 and over who speak an Asian or Pacific Islander language are considered linguistically isolated by the Census Bureau.¹³

Despite having the highest median household income of any racial group in California (\$55,366 annual gross income), **12.8% of Asians and 13.2% of Pacific Islanders live in poverty—percentages notably high when compared with 7.8% for Non-Hispanic Whites.**¹⁴ Disaggregated data, however, reveal a bleaker picture for particular API ethnic groups in California, with **63% of Hmong, 51% of Laotians, 47% of Cambodians, and 16% of Pacific Islanders living in poverty.**¹⁵

SNAPSHOTS

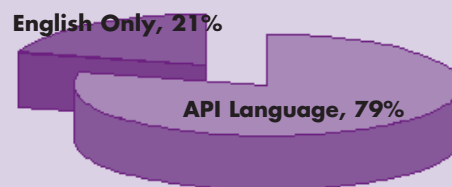
API COMMUNITIES IN CALIFORNIA

- **Over 900,000 Chinese reside in California, growing in population by 28.7% since 1990.***
- **The number of Vietnamese residents grew by 61.5% to total 447,000, representing 11.7% of the state’s API population.**
- **Tongans represent less than 1% of APIs but grew by over 100% in the past decade, totaling more than 12,000 residents.**
- **The Korean community consists of almost 346,000 residents, or 9.1% of the total API population, and grew by 33.1% since the last Census.**
- **Asian Indians number 315,000, representing 11.3% of the API population, with a growth rate of over 200%.**

* Taiwanese was not an ethnic category in 1990, so many residents may have selected Chinese as their ethnicity. Census 2000 created the Taiwanese category to remedy the distinction between the two ethnicities.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF1. The figures are based on the “Asian alone” category.

FIGURE 3: PERCENTAGE OF CALIFORNIA APIS WHO SPEAK A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME, 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF1.

“We are seeing just in the past two years people from 24 different countries who have accessed our services. They are coming from all over, and obviously we don’t have the staff to cover all these different cultures and languages.”

AMOR SANTIAGO, FORMERLY WITH ASIAN AMERICANS FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA REGIONAL PROFILE

The San Francisco Bay Area—comprised of the nine counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma—experienced phenomenal population growth. The region welcomed more than 760,000 new residents between 1990 and 2000 to bring the total population to 6.8 million.

BAY AREA COUNTY GROWTH RATES

Between 1990 and 2000, the number of APIs grew at a rate of **48.3%** to **1.31 million**, representing roughly **20%** of the total Bay Area population.

Table 1 shows the growth rates of Bay Area county populations by race and ethnicity.

By way of comparison, the Hispanic community grew by 42.4%. **While the API and Hispanic populations increased, other categories of racial/ethnic populations in the Bay Area experienced an overall decline.** The number of Black residents declined at a rate of 3.7% to a total of 497,000, the Native American community decreased by 18.5% to 24,700, and the number of Whites¹⁶ declined at a rate of 7.3% to 3.39 million.

TABLE 1: GROWTH RATES OF RACIAL/ETHNIC POPULATIONS IN BAY AREA COUNTIES, 1990-2000

	TOTALS	API	HISPANIC	BLACK	NATIVE AMERICAN	WHITE
Bay Area	12.6%	48.3%	42.4%	-3.7%	-18.5%	-7.3%
Alameda	12.9%	62.9%	50.7%	-5.3%	-21.5%	-13.1%
Contra Costa	18.1%	43.4%	83.8%	19.3%	-17.9%	-1.9%
Marin	7.5%	25.9%	52.5%	-7.7%	-4.7%	-0.02%
Napa	12.2%	14.9%	84.5%	30.9%	-6.6%	-3.9%
San Francisco	7.3%	17.6%	8.7%	-23.0%	-23.3%	0.5%
San Mateo	8.9%	41.6%	35.0%	-30.1%	-34.2%	-10.1%
Santa Clara	12.4%	71.7%	28.2%	-15.4%	-21.3%	-14.4%
Solano	15.9%	29.1%	52.9%	31.3%	-11.1%	-6.4%
Sonoma	18.1%	42.8%	92.9%	16.1%	-5.1%	4.4%

The population figures are for those who indicated one race category, even if they checked off more than one ethnic group within a race group. An individual who checked off two Asian ethnic boxes (e.g., Chinese AND Japanese) would be counted as a single race individual belonging in the Asian race category. Percentages will not total 100% due to the exclusion of “two or more race” and “other” categories in the figures.

The population figures for Hispanic/Latino are calculated ones. The Hispanic/Latino group is not considered a race, but an ethnicity in the Census.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census, STF1: P01,P10, P12US; 2000 Census, SF3: P17.

The growing API and Hispanic communities in Alameda, Contra Costa, and Santa Clara counties account for almost 80% of the huge population growth in the Bay Area. API communities experienced growth between 1990 and 2000 in all nine counties, ranging from a rate of 14.9% in Napa County to 71.7% in Santa Clara County.

TABLE 2: RACIAL AND ETHNIC POPULATIONS, FOR STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND BY COUNTIES, 2000

	TOTAL	ASIAN/ PACIFIC ISLANDER		HISPANIC		BLACK		NATIVE AMERICAN		WHITE		TWO OR MORE RACES		OTHER	
		#	% TOTAL	#	% TOTAL	#	% TOTAL	#	% TOTAL	#	% TOTAL	#	% TOTAL	#	% TOTAL
State of CA	33,871,648	3,752,596	11.1%	10,966,556	32.4%	2,181,926	6.4%	178,984	.5%	15,816,790	46.7%	903,115	2.7%	71,681	.2%
Bay Area	6,783,760	1,312,155	19.3%	1,315,175	19.4%	497,205	7.3%	24,733	.4%	3,392,204	50.0%	223,837	3.3%	18,451	.3%
Alameda	1,443,741	301,131	20.9%	273,910	19.0%	211,124	14.6%	5,306	.4%	591,095	40.9%	56,499	3.9%	4,676	.3%
Contra Costa	948,816	105,838	11.2%	167,776	17.7%	86,851	9.2%	3,648	.4%	549,409	57.9%	32,658	3.4%	2,636	.3%
Marin	247,289	11,408	4.6%	27,351	11.1%	6,946	2.8%	630	.3%	194,254	78.6%	5,982	2.4%	718	.3%
Napa	124,279	3,895	3.1%	29,416	23.7%	1,527	1.2%	642	.5%	85,932	69.1%	2,641	2.1%	226	.2%
San Francisco	776,733	241,775	31.1%	109,504	14.1%	58,791	7.6%	2,020	.3%	338,909	43.6%	23,154	3.0%	2,580	.3%
San Mateo	707,161	149,425	21.1%	154,708	21.9%	23,778	3.4%	1,546	.2%	352,355	49.8%	23,132	3.3%	2,217	.3%
Santa Clara	1,682,585	431,811	25.7%	403,401	24.0%	44,475	2.6%	5,270	.3%	744,282	44.2%	49,824	3.0%	3,522	.2%
Solano	458,614	14,614	3.2%	79,511	17.3%	6,116	1.3%	3,477	.8%	341,686	74.5%	12,289	2.7%	921	.2%
Sonoma	394,542	52,258	13.2%	69,598	17.6%	57,597	14.6%	2,194	.6%	194,282	49.2%	17,658	4.5%	955	.2%

These figures represent those who indicated one race category populations.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF1 P4. Data analysis by Metropolitan Transportation Commission, www.bayareacensus.ca.gov.

RACIAL AND ETHNIC POPULATIONS

Table 2 displays 2000 Census population figures for Bay Area counties by racial and ethnic groups. **The shift from a single White majority to a diverse population of various racial and ethnic communities is rapidly taking place in the Bay Area.** Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo, and Sonoma counties now join San Francisco County as places where the White population is not the majority. **The California Department of Finance predicts that by 2005, the Non-White population in the Bay Area will outgrow the White population.**¹⁷

Growth rates and population figures from Tables 1 and 2 reveal the following snapshots:

- Santa Clara County's API community is the largest in the Bay Area, numbering almost 432,000 to make up 26% of the county's population. Since the last Census count, Santa Clara County's API community experienced a growth rate of 71.7%, the highest among all nine counties.
- Alameda County's API growth rate of 62.9% is second only to Santa Clara County's. Numbering 301,000, APIs represent 21% of the population.
- San Francisco County has the largest API population percentage of all the Bay Area counties, with 242,000 APIs representing 31% of the total population.
- Sonoma and Contra Costa counties experienced the largest percentage population growth of all the Bay Area counties at 18%, with API communities growing at a rate of approximately 43% in each county.

The California Department of Finance predicts that by 2005, the Non-White population in the Bay Area will outgrow the White population.

TABLE 3: GROWTH RATES FOR SELECT API POPULATIONS IN THE BAY AREA, 1990-2000

API POPULATION	1990	2000	GROWTH RATE
Hmong	68	867	1175.0%
Asian Indian	49,960	143,306	186.8%
Tongan	3,291	6,679	102.9%
Vietnamese	84,662	146,253	72.7%
Thai	3,730	5,732	53.7%
Melanesian	2,709	3,923	44.8%
Chinese	330,489	457,735	38.5%
Korean	41,163	56,724	37.8%
Filipino	257,947	321,333	24.6%
Samoan	7,578	9,361	23.5%
Laotian	10,478	11,516	9.9%
Micronesian	6,458	5,951	7.9%
Japanese	79,177	74,505	-5.9%
Cambodian	11,483	10,462	-8.9%
Native Hawaiian	9,913	5,422	-45.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF3 P17.

Table 3 lists total numbers and rates of growth in the past decade for select API communities in the Bay Area. This sampling shows that the six most populous Asian ethnic groups are Chinese, Filipino, Vietnamese, Japanese, Asian Indian, and Korean. **The combined populations of these six ethnic groups represent almost 93% of the total number of APIs.**

Looking at growth rates, the Hmong community is the fastest growing Asian ethnic group in the Bay Area, increasing at a rate of 1175%. The number of Asian Indian residents almost tripled at a rate of 187% while the number of Vietnamese increased at a rate of 73%. Over ten API ethnic populations experienced double-digit growth from 1990 to 2000.

Among Pacific Islanders, the combination of the five largest groups—Melanesian, Micronesian, Native Hawaiian, Samoan, and Tongan—represents over 88% of the total Pacific Islander community in the Bay Area. Of

particular note, the number of Tongan residents in the region nearly doubled in size over the past decade.

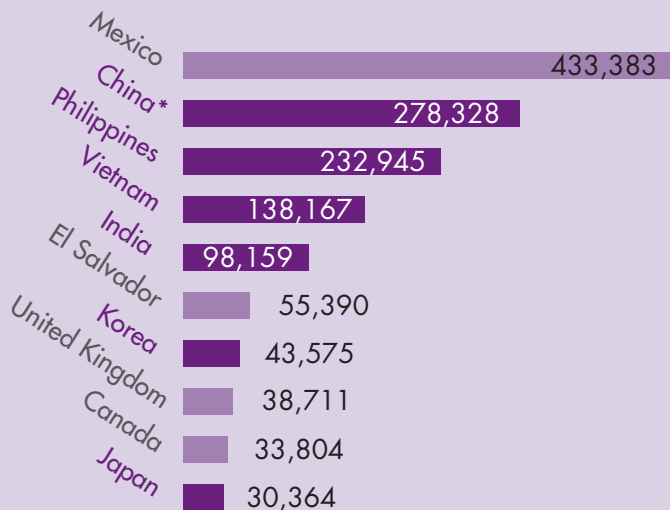
Multiracial APIs now comprise 174,000 Bay Area residents—a number equivalent to more than the populations of Berkeley and East Palo Alto combined.¹⁸ The growth is highly significant, although incompatibility in data collection between the 1990 and 2000 Census makes it difficult to calculate a growth rate for multiracial APIs.

IMMIGRATION

A large part of the Bay Area's rising numbers is due to the arrival of immigrants from all parts of the world. The foreign population represents 27.4% of the region's total population, up

from 19.5% in 1990. The Bay Area's foreign population is twice the national average of 11% and greater than California's 26%.

FIGURE 4: BAY AREA IMMIGRANTS BY COUNTRY
TOP TEN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF THE FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION, BY NUMBER OF RESIDENTS BORN IN EACH COUNTRY



*Includes subtotals for Hong Kong (51,257) and Taiwan (50,164).
Note: Data are from the 2000 Census and cover the nine Bay Area counties.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau/San Francisco Chronicle.

“With a foot in two nations, two cultures, two worlds, immigrant children face a wrenching struggle to create bicultural, bilingual selves. Often they do so with little support and amidst great pressures.”

FROM AAPIP'S 1997 REPORT,
AN INVISIBLE CRISIS: THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN YOUTH

With four out of every ten San Francisco Bay Area residents born in another country, the Census shows that Asians represent almost 60% of the foreign-born population (see Figure 4 on the previous page). The percentage of APIs who are foreign-born is 67%, with one in ten APIs residing in a foreign country as recently as five years ago.

MULTILINGUAL & MULTICULTURAL

Over 950,000, or 80% of the Bay Area's API residents, speak a language other than English at home. Of this population, 20% describe themselves as speaking English “not well” or “not at all.”

The inability to speak English is an isolating factor for low income immigrants. For adults, it means limitations on obtaining jobs and career advancement. For seniors, it decreases access to health and social services. For youth, it leads to social isolation and educational obstacles. Language as a barrier also compounds existing problems, such as substance abuse, domestic violence, and youth delinquency.

Language creates discord among generations of families. For many API immigrants, the dependency on children to translate for their parents and elders can lead to the reversal of parent-child roles and dysfunction in families.

School district information on English Learners—the state's category for students who report a primary language other than English spoken at home—provides a backdrop for the wide range of languages spoken by API immigrant families. For example, in San Francisco, with a public school enrollment of over



COMMUNITY VOICES: CHILDREN TRANSLATING FOR THEIR PARENTS

EXCERPT from testimony by Grace Zeng, 16 years old, before the California State Assembly Select Committee on Language and Access to Government Services, February 2002:

“My family moved to the U.S. from China about nine years ago. I am the oldest child in my family, which means my family expected me to help them translate. Translating from one language to another is very difficult. Every time when I'm translating for my parents I'm afraid I will translate something wrong, and that my mistakes will hurt my family.

“Not only is translating hard, but it also causes a lot of tension between me and my parents. My parents do not like to rely on me, and they know that I am tired of translating for them. Recently, my father and I argued because I didn't want to miss school to go to the DMV to help him get his California ID renewed.

“I'm not just speaking for myself, but for the thousands of children and youth whose families depend on them to translate when they go to the hospitals, DMV, court, or other government agencies.”

“In San Francisco and Oakland, APIs make up only 25% of the overall CalWORKs population, yet roughly 70% of families facing welfare cuts are APIs.”

VICTOR HWANG, ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER LEGAL OUTREACH
IN **ASIANWEEK**, JANUARY 1, 2003



58,500 students in 2000–2001, there were 16,650 English Learner students, of whom 9,780, or 53.8%, were API children. The API languages spoken included, among others, Cantonese, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Toisanese, Korean, Cambodian, Mien, Lao, Hindi, Punjabi, Thai, Indonesian, Burmese, Japanese, and the Pacific Islander languages of Tongan, Samoan, and Chamorro.¹⁹

INCOME AND POVERTY

Asians and Whites may boast the greatest concentration of wealth but not all ethnicities among the Bay Area’s API households are big earners. Glaring disparities exist between rich and poor. **For every API household that earns a high income, there is another trapped at the margins.** According to an analysis of 2000 Census by Professor Paul Ong of the University of California, Los Angeles, 42,000 Asian households in the Bay Area had an annual income below \$15,000 while 48,000 had an annual income of at least \$150,000. At the bottom are over 104,000 Asians living below the poverty line.²⁰

For families dependent on CalWORKs assistance, the California Budget Project (CBP) documents the disproportionate hardship on APIs. In its December 2002 report, CBP describes the first population of adult recipients who will “time-out” in January 2003 and no longer receive state-funded cash assistance. According to the report, **adults who do not speak English as their primary language—in particular, those who speak Cambodian, Cantonese, Laotian, Mien, Tagalog, Mandarin or Vietnamese—disproportionately represent those who will reach the time limit and face welfare cuts.**²¹

COMMUNITY VOICES: LANGUAGE BARRIERS

CHINESE FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION relates these incidents of immigrants whose inability to speak English barred them from access to appropriate services:

A Mandarin-speaking garment worker filed a complaint with the State Labor Commissioner against her employer for back wages and overtime. She neither spoke nor read English, yet the State Labor Commissioner never provided her with translated forms or an interpreter. When her case came before an English-speaking investigating officer for a settlement conference, the worker was forced to rely upon her employer, the very person she was suing, to interpret for her.

A 52-year-old Korean-speaking woman had a gynecology appointment at a county hospital. A community-based agency called ahead to request a Korean language interpreter for her. She arrived at her appointment, but the hospital did not provide her with an interpreter or bilingual worker. Instead, the hospital staff asked a 16-year-old boy in the waiting room, a complete stranger, to be the interpreter for her gynecology appointment.

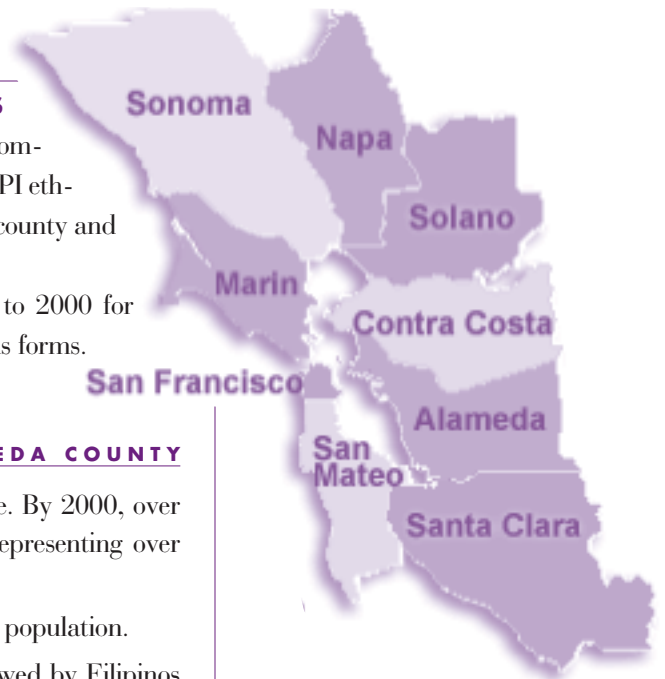
“We would like to say to foundations, how can we get you to the community to look at our problems, know our needs? Don’t look at us as a ‘model minority’ and think that we don’t have any needs.”

ANNI CHUNG, SELF-HELP FOR THE ELDERLY

PROFILES OF THE NINE BAY AREA COUNTIES

A combination of information from the U.S. Census and community research paints a demographic profile of each county’s API ethnic groups. The profiles reveal the diversity of APIs within each county and throughout the Greater Bay Area.

All population growth rates are for the period from 1990 to 2000 for individuals who marked the “one race” category on their Census forms.



ALAMEDA COUNTY

- In 1990, 53.2% of Alameda County’s population were White. By 2000, over half of the county’s residents were Non-White, with APIs representing over one fifth of this population.
- APIs number 301,131, accounting for 20.9% of the county’s population.
- Chinese make up the largest API ethnic group at 35%, followed by Filipinos at 24%, Asian Indians at 14%, APIs of mixed heritage at 14%, and Vietnamese at 8%.
- Over the last decade, Alameda County’s Vietnamese population grew at a rate of 78%, the Chinese community experienced a 60% growth rate, and the Asian Indian population increased at a rate of 180%.
- One third of API households are linguistically isolated, more than any other ethnic group in Alameda County.²²
- One in four “English Learners” is API, with literacy in languages as diverse as Vietnamese, Tagalog, Cantonese, Hindi, Punjabi, and Hmong.
- The per capita incomes of Asians and Pacific Islanders are \$24,335 and \$16,485, respectively. Almost one in ten API residents lives below the federal poverty level for a family of four.



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

- Contra Costa County’s APIs gained a large foothold in this area. Whereas ten years ago the API population barely reached 74,000, by the 2000 Census close to 106,000 APIs, or 11.2% of the total population, call Contra Costa County their home.
- Filipinos represent the largest API group at 33% of the API population, followed by Chinese at 26%, APIs of mixed heritage at 17%, and Asian Indians at 11%.

“People from the Middle East need an identity here in America. Do we call these communities Southwest Asians? That’s a question for community leaders—and an important one when it comes to philanthropy’s funding of API programs.”

SHILPA PATEL, FORMERLY WITH ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER AMERICAN HEALTH FORUM

COMMUNITY VOICES: ADVOCACY AND ORGANIZING

THE ASIAN PACIFIC Environmental Network’s recent publication, “Fighting Fire with Fire,” relates the Laotian Organizing Project’s (LOP) major grassroots, environmental justice campaign for Southeast Asians in Contra Costa County. A major chemical explosion in March 1999 at the Chevron oil refinery in Richmond, followed by two more leaks in June and July, revealed the county’s in-adequate emergency response system and the daily health risks faced by residents living in this industrial zone. Many of the area’s residents were poorly informed of emergency safety procedures. Among those most impacted were limited English-speaking residents. In response, LOP organized the community to implement a multilingual emergency phone-alert system. After a lengthy campaign, Contra Costa County’s Health Services and Board of Supervisors implemented a system to keep the community informed.

- The Asian Indian population doubled in the past ten years, while the Vietnamese community grew by 88%. The number of Pacific Islanders grew by almost 40% to become the third largest API ethnic group in terms of percentage growth.
- Of Contra Costa County’s Asian population, more than 67% are foreign-born.
- Although 54% of female-headed Asian households in this county have children under the age of 18 living with them, the percentage is considerably higher at almost 75% for Native Hawaiian female-headed families.
- Almost one in five Asian residents does not speak English at home and speaks English “not well” or “not at all.”
- Close to 60% of Contra Costa County’s Asian children between the ages of 5 and 17 speak a language other than English at home.
- Pacific Islander children under the age of 18 represent almost 40% of this ethnic group living in poverty.

MARIN COUNTY

- APIs represent 4.6% of Marin County’s overall population, numbering 11,408 residents.
- APIs of mixed heritage constitute the largest ethnic group of the county’s API population, followed by Chinese at 30%, Japanese at 15%, and Filipino and Asian Indians at 12% each.
- The API community grew by over 26%—more than three times the rate of the total population growth in the county.
- The number of Vietnamese residents doubled in size between 1990 and 2000.
- Sixty percent of Marin County’s APIs are foreign-born, compared with only 17% of the county’s total population.
- While Asian and Pacific Islander residents in Marin County have the highest per capita income in the Bay Area (\$37,300 for Asians and \$26,600 for Pacific Islanders), more than 20% of these ethnic groups have an education equivalent to only a high school diploma or less.
- Asian households paid the largest percentage of their income towards rent in 1999 (28.8%), more than in any other county in the Bay Area.

“While people who considered themselves ‘White only’ accounted for a little more than one-third of San Francisco’s population, they make up about 72% of voters. Asian Americans make up 31% of the population, but only 18% of the city’s voters.”

DAVID LEE, CHINESE AMERICAN VOTER EDUCATION COMMITTEE
IN ASIANWEEK, SEPTEMBER 8, 2000

NAPA COUNTY

- There are now 3,895 API residents in Napa County, comprising 3.2% of the total population.
- Filipinos make up the largest group, representing 44% of the API population, followed by Chinese at 13%, Japanese at 11%, and Koreans at 8%.
- Emerging ethnicities include Southeast Asians and Guamanians.
- While the number of APIs in Napa County remains small at just under 4,000, it is twice as large as the number of Black and Native American residents combined.

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

- APIs account for more than 31% of San Francisco County’s 241,775 residents. The largest API group is Chinese at 63% of the API population, followed by Filipinos at 17%, Japanese at 5%, and Vietnamese at 4%.
- The number of Asian Indians, Vietnamese, Thai, Hmong, and Samoans grew significantly, ranging in growth rates from 20% to 80%.
- Samoans and Melanesians from the Pacific Islands experienced major growth at 76.4% and 182.5%, respectively. This countywide growth is considerably more than the statewide growth of Samoans at 32.4% and Melanesians at 38.2%.
- Koreans, the sixth largest API ethnic group in the Bay Area, experienced an increase of 17.5% in San Francisco.
- Over 12,000 API seniors age 65 or older are living below the poverty level in the Bay Area, a third of whom reside in San Francisco County.
- Pacific Islander communities experienced a 6% unemployment rate in San Francisco County, twice the 3% countywide average.
- AIDS cases among APIs in San Francisco have been rising steadily: 35% are Filipino, 26% are Chinese, 13% are Japanese, 8% are Southeast Asian, and 8% are Pacific Islander.²³
- Forty-six percent of Asians under the age of 65 are medically uninsured; 33% are currently enrolled with Medi-Cal/Healthy Families.²⁴

SNAPSHOTS

API COMMUNITIES IN BAY AREA CITIES

- **The API population doubled in at least four Bay Area cities: Cupertino, Fremont, Saratoga, and San Leandro.**
- **The five cities with the largest API communities are Cupertino, Daly City, Fremont, Hercules, and San Francisco.**
- **In Milpitas and Daly City, APIs constitute over 50% of the population.**
- **The Asian Indian population grew dramatically in many cities, especially in Fremont, San Francisco, San Jose, and Sunnyvale.**
- **The Filipino community doubled in Antioch and San Leandro.**
- **The Japanese population, which experienced an overall decrease in size in the Bay Area, grew in Burlingame (63.1%), Cupertino (30%), San Ramon (154.9%), and Sunnyvale (17.7%).**
- **San Francisco is home to the Bay Area’s largest Taiwanese and Pakistani communities.**

Source: Asian alone categories, U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF1.

“In 1998, we served 150 clients. In 2002, we served 300 to 400 people. The major and drastic change is the number of Pacific Islanders flooding major cities with their issues. This is one of the challenges facing East Palo Alto.”

DEE UHILA, PACIFIC ISLANDER OUTREACH



SAN MATEO COUNTY

- Even though San Mateo County grew modestly, its ethnic makeup changed significantly. Non-Hispanic Whites represented 60% of the population in 1990 but decreased to 49.8% by 2000. The two emerging populations of Hispanics and APIs countered the decline in both the White and Black populations.
- API residents total 149,425, representing 21.1% of the county's total.
- Filipinos account for 40% of the API population, followed by Chinese at 32%, Asians of mixed heritage at 18%, and Asian Indians at 7%.
- Chinese and Filipino residents witnessed increases in their communities by over 40% and 30%, respectively.
- Pacific Islanders experienced growth by almost 14%.
- The greatest increase occurred in the Asian Indian community, which grew at a rate of 178%.
- Sixty-five percent of Asians and 25% of Pacific Islanders are foreign-born. One out of ten APIs immigrated to the U.S. within the past five years.
- Twenty percent of San Mateo County's Asian population living below the poverty line are children under the age of 18, while 43% of the Pacific Islander population living below the poverty line are children.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

- APIs number 431,811 in Santa Clara County, accounting for 25.7% of the population. Chinese represent 25% of the county's APIs, followed by Vietnamese at 23% and Asian Indians at 15%.
- Over the past decade, more than 10,000 Koreans relocated to Santa Clara and Alameda counties. Santa Clara County is now home to the largest Korean community in the Bay Area.
- Asian Indians are the fastest growing group among APIs in this area, increasing at a rate of almost 240% since the 1990 Census.
- The Vietnamese population grew at a rate of 83%.
- Seventy-one percent of the county's Asian residents are foreign-born, with 155,000 who are not U.S. citizens.

“In Laotian and other Southeast Asian communities, there are two or three families sharing one house or a two bedroom apartment. The situation is undermining the physical health of seniors and children.”

SARY TATPAPORN, LAOTIAN FAMILY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, INC.

- Approximately 20% of the county’s residents over the age of five speak an Asian language at home, compared to 13% in 1990.
- The percentage of residents who speak a language other than English increased from 33% to 45%; 31% of households speaking an Asian or Pacific Islander language are linguistically isolated.
- Asian and Pacific Islander children represent 27% and 26%, respectively, of the total APIs living in poverty, compared to their White counterparts at 25%.
- APIs under the age of 65 are more likely to be medically uninsured than Non-Hispanic Whites (23% to 13%).

SOLANO COUNTY

- APIs represent 13.5% of the Solano County population, numbering 52,258 residents.
- The Filipino community remains the largest in Solano County, representing 70% of APIs, followed by Chinese at 6% and Asian Indians at 5%.
- The significant growth of Asian Indian, Filipino, Vietnamese, and Samoan communities accounts for the county’s rising population.

SONOMA COUNTY

- The number of APIs in Sonoma County is 14,614, making up 3.2% of the population.
- The largest API group in this county is Chinese at 20%, followed by Filipinos at 18% and Japanese at 11%.
- Thai, Vietnamese, and Samoan communities in Sonoma County doubled in size, while the Asian Indian community tripled in number.
- Seventy-five percent of Asian female-headed households live with children under the age of 18; for Pacific Islander female-headed households, the percentage with children under 18 is 62%.
- Twenty-five percent of Pacific Islanders over the age of 25 are not high school graduates.²⁵

**COMMUNITY VOICES:
YOUTH SERVICES**

ASIAN YOUTH PROMOTING Advocacy & Leadership—AYPAL—provides a safe haven for at-risk API youth in Oakland. Most of the teens in the program are from immigrant families. They find it difficult to juggle school, work, and family life on top of the challenging journey through adolescence.

One of AYPAL’s success stories is about two young women who almost dropped out of high school. Their school counselors told them that they would not graduate on time. They came to AYPAL’s counselor, ready to quit school and work full time to help their families. AYPAL’s counselor met with their school counselors to develop a better solution for the young women, and in June 2002 the students graduated with the rest of their classmates. They now attend a community college with hopes of entering accredited four-year universities.

COMMUNITY VOICES: CLOSING THE GAP

A FORTHCOMING report by the AAPIP national office looks at the correlation between significant API population shifts and grant-making contributions in California. Initial findings reveal a wide disparity in the 1990s between the growth in percentage of API populations in the Bay Area and that of dollars granted to nonprofits and main-stream social service agencies that serve APIs. By the end of the decade, APIs comprised almost 20% of the region's population. However, philanthropic giving to Bay Area organizations serving APIs was only 0.8% by U.S. foundations.²⁶ The report finds that nonprofits serving API communities did not receive funding proportionate to their numbers.

The research in this report verifies that APIs comprise one of the fastest growing segments of the American population. This is most apparent in the San Francisco Bay Area, with 1.31 million APIs representing 20% of the region's total.

With the growth in API communities comes increasing needs. Bay Area nonprofit organizations on the front lines face unique challenges in serving API communities. Age-old issues include cultural, socioeconomic, and linguistic barriers. Adding to the difficulties are underfunding, understaffing, and shifting demographics that require continually innovative solutions. Long-existing organizations must integrate new services to meet the changing needs while new nonprofits struggle with lack of experience and fragile infrastructures.

The growth of API communities in the Bay Area has not been matched by grants from philanthropy. A forthcoming report from the AAPIP national office researches this disparity (see sidebar at left), finding that during the 1990s, Bay Area nonprofits serving APIs received only 0.8% of U.S. foundation grants.

The following recommendations suggest ways to more effectively assist underserved communities. The recommendations are: (1) **Designate APIs as a target population in grantmaking;** (2) **Promote research on API communities;** (3) **Strengthen API leadership and organizations;** and (4) **Build bridges between philanthropy and API communities.**

Although focused on APIs, the following recommendations have practical applications for other racial and ethnic communities in the Bay Area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Designate APIs as a target population in grantmaking.

Philanthropists must examine whether or not their grantmaking is inclusive and responsive to the needs of Bay Area API populations. AAPIP's research on Bay Area philanthropy points to a major discrepancy in dollars allocated to API nonprofits. We urge colleagues to take action to close the gap and target funds to address the critical needs within API communities.

☛ *Review grant portfolios to assess if APIs are included and if the grants reflect emerging populations and their needs.* Are grants assisting programs that are fighting the high rates of poverty and unemployment among refugees and Pacific Islanders? Are there projects that address serious mental health needs, especially those related to isolation, post traumatic stress, and hate violence?

“We found that 70% of Cambodians and 57% of Hmong did not grasp a medical situation because it was not explained in their own language. The vast majority of immigrants polled did not know it was their civil right to request an interpreter in a medical situation.”

IGNATIUS BAU, FROM A RECENT SURVEY OF CALIFORNIA IMMIGRANTS FOR THE CALIFORNIA ENDOWMENT

- **Examine the breadth of existing services and the extent of unmet needs.** Take a closer look at the complexities of specific API communities. Do monolingual Vietnamese seniors have access to culturally appropriate health services in Contra Costa County? Are there programs that support immigrant Hmong youth in Alameda County?
- **Develop policies and practices to insure inclusiveness in grant dollars for Bay Area’s APIs.** Closing the gap begins with assessing whether current approaches to grantmaking are relevant, accessible, and culturally sensitive to ethnic populations. Have funders examined their current grant-making practices in the context of the Bay Area’s shifting demographics? Is outreach targeted to API nonprofits?

2. Promote research on API communities.

Funders must develop research methodologies that enable them to understand API communities. Understanding traditionally overlooked communities requires gathering information from a variety of sources, developing in-depth profiles of these communities, and then reaching out to the nonprofits that will create effective programs. Remember, however, that data-driven grantmaking has its flaws. Funders are encouraged to promote education and research on API communities with the following methods:

- **Collect and analyze data from the 2000 Census and other statistical research to understand API communities.** The complexity of API ethnic groups requires the investigation of disaggregated data. For example, there are higher levels of poverty among API subgroups than in other ethnic populations—facts often hidden by the general API poverty data.
- **Explore new ways to gather information about understudied API populations that are often overlooked by funding sources.** Convene community leaders to hear their experiences and insights. Become familiar with the ethnic media as sources for issues of importance to specific API groups.
- **Fund projects that study the roles of culture, language, race, ethnicity, gender and racial barriers within API ethnic groups** to improve the quality of services and the general well-being of communities.
- **Correct the discrepancy in data collection practices and bolster the analysis of disaggregated data at the local and state levels.** Encourage think tanks, academic institutions, and government agencies to increase disaggregated data collection on APIs and to enlarge their sample sizes to include more APIs.

ABSENCE OF DATA

FUNDERS RELY on data to help determine need. However, the absence of data easily hides the existence of problems, a common occurrence for API communities. If there are no data or results from research studies, how do foundations know about important issues that affect a community? API populations that are understudied in research are often ignored in funding. Critical thinking requires a new way of gathering information to identify areas of need.

“It’s often a dance nonprofits must do to keep up with what funders are looking for. We haven’t gotten to the point where foundations are willing to fund us just to keep us vibrant as an organization, as an institution in the community.”

LILLIAN GALEDO, FILIPINOS FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION



3. Strengthen API leadership and organizations.

Without a strategic investment in the development of API leadership and non-profit organizations, the needs of API communities will continue to be unheard. Strong leadership is critical to building strong communities. Philanthropy must take a proactive role in nurturing a new generation of leaders.

- ***Support API leaders with funding and programs that promote leadership training, sabbaticals, and networking.*** The increasing challenges of managing nonprofits has created a crisis in the unprecedented turnover in executive leadership. This leadership vacuum has dire implications for the survival of nonprofits. What role can foundations play in supporting existing API leaders and cultivating the next generation of emerging leaders?
- ***Invest in the infrastructures of API nonprofits with operating, strategic planning, capacity building, and technical assistance grants.*** This includes providing grants for long-time nonprofits to meet the shifting needs of API communities and supporting struggling groups with organizational capacity-building.
- ***Support leadership development to promote civic participation.*** The absence of constituent representation within Bay Area local governments and in key decision-making posts in all counties except San Francisco County is striking. How can funders work with API communities to build civic leadership that gives a larger voice to a growing constituency?

COMMUNITY VOICES: CULTURAL & LINGUISTIC COMPETENCY

ASIAN COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (ACMHS) secured a contract to conduct language interpretation for a mainstream health clinic. At this clinic, a Southeast Asian woman had been treated for depression for nearly two years with only medication management. A lay interpreter translated for her during her office visits with her doctor. An ACMHS staff person trained in both mental health and substance abuse issues recognized that the patient was in great distress. Breaking the rigid translation protocol, the staff person asked the woman why she was depressed. She revealed that she had an adult son who was using drugs and staying home all day. He frequently abused his parents, threatening to kill them if they did not pay for his food and drugs. With this discovery, ACMHS obtained the appropriate care and support she needed. The son was eventually removed from the home and placed in a treatment facility. The woman’s depression soon resolved.

“In assessing funding priorities, it is important to recognize the role art plays in the well-being of our communities”

NANCY HOM, KEARNY STREET WORKSHOP

4. Build bridges between philanthropy and API communities.

Among the steps for building bridges between philanthropy and API communities are the following: (1) establish partnerships with community leaders and (2) increase the role of API professionals in philanthropic institutions. Developing programs, policies and avenues that invite the input of API leaders and donors can be one of the most proactive ways to help shape healthier communities.

- ***Initiate alliances with APIs through partnerships with community leaders***, giving APIs a venue to articulate important issues. Invite API representatives to brainstorming sessions on grantmaking strategies, neighborhood profiles, needs assessments, and the identification of important concerns.
- ***Develop API board/trustee membership, senior staff, donors, and advisory committee members*** to broaden the funding base and bring the knowledge of API leadership into philanthropy.
- ***Train philanthropy board members, trustees, and staff in cultural competency*** to develop skills in working with individuals and groups of diverse backgrounds. Take proactive measures to institutionalize culturally competent practices. Create policies that promote and identify API community needs.
- ***Create culturally relevant approaches to donor development that will serve the needs of wealthy APIs who wish to donate funds to their communities.*** Foundations can serve as the bridge that brings API philanthropists to their communities with funding and other resources. Affiliated with philanthropic institutions, API donors can also voice their insights on API concerns and culturally unique community characteristics.



COMMUNITY VOICES: ART & CULTURE

KEARNY STREET WORKSHOP'S **Angel Island Project** explores the stories of Chinese immigrants who were interrogated at the Angel Island Immigration Station from 1910 to 1940. The exhibition's contemporary mixed media premiered onsite at the Angel Island Immigration Station in June 2000. It traveled to eight different venues and is now at Ellis Island in New York.

Thousands of people from a variety of cultures and ages have been deeply moved by the story of the Chinese immigrants. Encouraged by the narratives in the exhibit, some of the former detainees have come forward to reveal their own immigration experiences. Many have returned to Angel Island with their children and grandchildren, who are hearing their elders' stories for the first time.

Artistic endeavors such as the **Angel Island Project** prove the power of art to make a difference—celebrating cultures, embracing the nation's diverse heritage, and building bridges across communities.

When philanthropy delves deeper into the various and unique characteristics of API communities—through research, partnerships with community leaders, and bringing API donors, trustees, and senior staff into grant-making institutions—then the gap between philanthropic dollars and the expanse of API needs will begin to close.

The data in this report present two main implications: (1) the growing API communities demand attention by philanthropists and (2) API communities are diverse and complex, requiring research to understand API disaggregated needs as a first step towards effective grantmaking.



RECOGNIZING APIS IN GRANTMAKING

API communities grew rapidly over the past decade—at a rate of almost 54% in California and over 48% in the Bay Area. What was once an invisible community is now very visible and diverse. Indeed, APIs can no longer be left out of the discussions on race relations and the policies that follow. With their growing presence in the Bay Area, overlooking APIs can have serious repercussions for our region’s well-being.

DIVERSITY OF API POPULATIONS

The diversity of API communities is often concealed when disaggregated data are not collected. For example, poverty data show that 13% of California Asians live in poverty. However, disaggregated data show that the percentages are far higher for specific ethnic groups: 63% of Hmong, 51% of Laotians, 47% of Cambodians, and 16% of Pacific Islanders live in poverty. The model minority stereotype creates the illusion that all APIs are able to advance through their own resources. Yet, the data in this report reveal glaring disparities in social and economic well-being among API ethnic groups.

AAPIP’s research requires philanthropy to address the disparity between current low levels of funding and the increasing API populations. Philanthropists must also improve their internal cultural competency to effectively address API issues. This report challenges foundations in the Bay Area to shift their grant-making methodologies and to recognize APIs in policies and programs.

As philanthropists become more knowledgeable about APIs, they will uncover a range of needs specific to each ethnic community—and a range of solutions to meet those needs.

- 1 Unless otherwise noted, all race and population data were collected from information from GreenInfo on August 2002. Updated information used from U.S. Census 2000 Summary Files 1, 2, 3, and 4 were based upon searches through www.census.gov and American FactFinder.
- 2 In 2000, individuals were able to mark more than one race category. Thus, the range in population size for a race category varies from “one race” to “one race in combination with another.” The data in this report, unless otherwise noted, are from the category “one race in combination with another.”
- 3 In the 1990 Census, API was one race category. In 2000, the API population was segregated into two distinct racial categories: “Asian” and “Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander” (Pacific Islander).
- 4 The Asian population’s growth nationwide is 48% for “Asian alone” and 72% for “Asian in combination with other races.” For the Pacific Islander population, the nationwide growth rate ranged from 9% to 140% for Pacific Islanders who only marked one race or in combination with another, respectively.
- 5 The Census currently does not recognize “Hispanic” as a racial category. Therefore, all population figures for the Hispanic population are calculated ones, as determined by responses to Census questions asking about Hispanic origin.
- 6 Data obtained from a series of Census briefs on racial and ethnic populations including “The Asian Population: 2000” by Jessica S. Barnes and Claudette E. Bennett issued February 2002 and “The Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Population: 2000” by Elizabeth M. Grieco in December 2001.
- 7 Lai, Eric and Arguelles, Dennis, eds, *The New Face of Asian Pacific America: Numbers, Diversity and Change in the 21st Century*, (Los Angeles: *AsianWeek* and UCLA Asian American Studies Center, 2003).
- 8 Data on foreign-born for national, California, and Bay Area profiles gathered from “Place of birth” question on the Census survey; figures are from “one race only” category.
- 9 Data source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF3 P08, P159D, P159E. Percentage of population is only for those respondents whose poverty status could be determined.
- 10 KaYing Yang, Southeast Asian Resource Action Center, personal correspondence (January 24, 2000).
- 11 This figure represents respondents who marked “Asian” and “Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander” only or in combination with another race. The range of growth for the API population varies from 33.9% (API alone) to 53.7% (API alone and in combination with other races). Source: www.census.gov, U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF1.
- 12 California Department of Finance, *Race/Ethnic Population Estimates: Components of Change for California Counties*, April 1990–July 1997, Sacramento, California, June 1999.
- 13 Data collected from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF3, Data Table P20, PCT62D, PCT62E. A linguistically isolated household is one in which no member 14 years old and over (1) speaks only English or (2) speaks a non-English language and speaks English “very well.” In other words, all members 14 years old and over have at least some difficulty with English. Furthermore, many South Asian languages are excluded from the API category, thus providing a possible undercount of linguistic isolation in API communities.

- 14 Proctor, B. and Dalaker, J. in "Poverty in the United States: 2001, Current Population Reports" P60-219, (U.S. Census Bureau) 2002.
- 15 Chow, May, "Upcoming Welfare Cut to Hurt APA Families" in *AsianWeek*, January 3, 2003.
- 16 The "White" category is an abbreviation of the term "Non-Hispanic White," which differentiates ethnic populations of Non-Hispanic and Hispanic Whites. For a more detailed discussion on racial categories, please refer to the U.S. Census Bureau website at www.census.gov.
- 17 See State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1970-2040. Sacramento, CA, December 1998
- 18 Data source: www.census.gov U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF1 P8, PCT7 and PCT10.
- 19 Data source: California Department of Education Dataquest, a database for state educational facts and enrollment.
- 20 Based on tabulations by Paul Ong from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF3. SF3 provides statistics on social, economic, and housing characteristics based on the long-form questionnaire for the 2000 Census, which was administered to about one in six households. The statistics reported in the text are based on aggregated data for the "Asian alone" and "Pacific Islander alone" categories for three metropolitan areas: San Francisco, Oakland, and San Jose.
- 21 California Budget Project, "Timing Out: CalWORKs Recipients Face the State's Five Year Time Limit," *Welfare Reform Update* (December 2002).
- 22 "California County Briefs: Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Alameda" by the Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF) (San Francisco: September 2002).
- 23 HIV Seroepidemiology and Surveillance Section. Quarterly AIDS Surveillance Report, March 2000. San Francisco Department of Health, 2000.
- 24 "California County Briefs: San Francisco, California Health Information Survey" by the APIAHF (San Francisco: September 2002).
- 25 Data source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF3 P148E.
- 26 Census Bureau (1990 and 2000 Census), Geolytics and The Foundation Center. The search set is based on the Foundation Center's grants sample database, which includes grants of \$10,000 or more awarded to organizations by a sample of 846 larger foundations for circa 1991 and 1,016 larger foundations for circa 1999. For community foundations, only discretionary grants are included. Grants to individuals are not included in the file. Data include only grants providing a benefit for Asians or Pacific Islanders awarded to recipient organizations based in California.

CENSUS 2000 RACE CATEGORIES, DEFINED

“White” refers to people having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East or North Africa. It includes people who indicated their race or races as “White” or wrote in entries such as Irish, German, Italian, Lebanese, Near Easterner, Arab, or Polish.

“Black or African American” refers to people having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa. It includes people who indicated their race or races as “Black, African American, or Negro,” or wrote in entries such as African American, Afro American, Nigerian, or Haitian.

“American Indian and Alaska Native” refers to people having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintain tribal affiliation or community attachment. It includes people who indicated their race or races by marking this category or writing in their principal or enrolled tribe, such as Rosebud Sioux, Chippewa, or Navajo.

“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.

“Pacific Islander” refers to people having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands. It includes people who indicated their race or races as “Native Hawaiian,” “Guamanian or Chamorro,” “Samoan,” or “Other Pacific Islander,” or wrote in entries such as Tahitian or Mariana Islander.

“Some other race” was included in Census 2000 for respondents who were unable to identify with the five Office of Management and Budget race categories. Respondents who provided write-in entries such as Moroccan, South African, Belizean, or a Hispanic origin (for example, Mexican, Puerto Rican, or Cuban) are included in the “Some other race” category. (Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin, Census 2000 Brief, p. 2)

DATA SOURCES FOR RESEARCH ON API COMMUNITIES

NATIONAL

- The United States Census Bureau—census.gov
 - Census Bureau’s API site—census.gov/population/www/socdemo/race/api.html
 - Data on race, Hispanic origin, age, sex, household type, housing tenure, and other social, economic, and housing characteristics in the Census 2000 Brief series—census.gov/population/www/cen2000/briefs.html
 - Data on specific race and Hispanic origin groups, including information about Census 2000 and links to reports based on past censuses and surveys focusing on the social and economic characteristics of the Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and Hispanic origin populations—census.gov and click on Minority Links.s

CALIFORNIA

- California Census Research Data Center—ccrdc.ucla.edu
- California Department of Education, Dataquest—data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest
- California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit—dof.ca.gov/html/Demograp/repndat.htm
- California State Library—countingcalifornia.cdlib.org/
- University of California, Los Angeles: Asian American Studies Center, APA Community Development Data Center—sscnet.ucla.edu/aasc/
- University of California, Los Angeles: California Health Information Survey—chis.ucla.edu

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

- Association of Bay Area Governments—abag.ca.gov/abag/overview/datacenter/popdemo
- The Metropolitan Transportation Commission—bayareacensus.ca.gov

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CENSUS INFORMATION CENTERS

- Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum Inc.—apiahf.org
- ASIAN, Inc.—asianinc.org
- California Indian Manpower Consortium, Inc.—aic-chicago.org/cimc/
- Chinese American Voter Education Committee—cavec.org
- GreenInfo Network—greeninfo.org

BAY AREA API MEDIA IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE

- Asian Journal—asianjournal.com (Filipino)
- AsianWeek—asianweek.com (API)
- Hokubei Mainichi—hokubei.com (Japanese)
- India-West—indiawest.com (South Asian)
- Indolink.com (South Asian)
- KCNS TV, Channel 38 (Chinese)
- KoreAm Journal—koreajournal.com (Korean)
- Mienh.net (Iu-Mien)
- New Asian American Magazine (API)
- New California Media, Pacific News Service—ncmonline.com, pacificnews.org (multiethnic)
- Nichi Bei Times—nichibeitimes.com (Japanese)
- Pakistanlin.com (South Asian)
- Philippine News—philnews.com (Filipino)

We gratefully acknowledge the long-lasting commitment of the individual members of the AAPIP Northern California Regional Chapter subcommittee to this three-year project. Under the coordination of Dianne Yamashiro-Omi of The California Endowment, the members who worked diligently on this project since its beginning in 2000 include Winnie Chu, consultant; Marjorie Fujiki, Peninsula Community Foundation; Michael P. Lee, consultant; Ging Louie, consultant; Dee Dee Nguyen, formerly with The San Francisco Foundation; Shilpa Patel, formerly with Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum; and Lisa Hirai Tsuchitani, Ph.D., consultant.

We thank Michael Omi, Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, and Paul Ong, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, for their invaluable contributions. Professor Omi crafted the foreword to position the purpose of this report for our readers. Professor Ong provided insights and statistics that helped frame the report's presentation.

Dee Dee Nguyen spent long hours researching and analyzing the data for the final presentations in this report, with assistance from Melany Dela Cruz of the Asian American Studies Center at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Elaine Joe assisted in writing the final report and designing the pages. Arlene Joe provided invaluable editing attention.

Representatives from philanthropy reviewed the drafts and gave us their perceptive comments. We are very grateful to Ruth Brousseau, The California Wellness Foundation; Don Jen, Marin Community Foundation; Thomas Layton, Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation; Ron Rowell, The San Francisco Foundation; and Robert Uyeki, East Bay Community Foundation. AAPIP also thanks Christopher Dougherty, Prisca T. Garellick, and the staff of The California Endowment for their assistance throughout.

Peggy Saika, Maria Kong, Maria Bawanan Merzoian, and Pronita Gupta of the AAPIP national office never wavered in their vital support.

AAPIP extends our heartfelt gratitude to the community representatives who were eloquent in putting a face on specific ethnic communities through their own experiences in the field: Anni Chung, Self-Help for the Elderly; Firoza Chic Dabby, Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence of the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum; Lillian Galedo, Filipinos for Affirmative Action; Nancy Hom, Kearny Street Workshop; Richard Konda, Asian Law Alliance; David Lee, Chinese American Voters Education Committee; John Manzon-Santos, Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center; Linda Okahara, Asian Health Services; Amor Santiago, formerly with Asian Americans for Community

Involvement; Young Shin, Asian Immigrant Women Advocates; Sary Tatpaporn, Laotian Family Community Development, Inc.; Dee Uhila, Pacific Islander Outreach; Ted Wang, Chinese for Affirmative Action; and David Young, formerly with Asian Community Mental Health Services.

Finally and most importantly, we thank the funders who expressed their faith in our project. We hope this report will prove useful in improving philanthropy's grantmaking policies for API communities.

- The California Endowment
- Chevron Texaco Foundation
- Community Foundation of Silicon Valley
- East Bay Community Foundation
- Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Foundation
- Sherry Hirota, Trustee, The California Endowment
- Marin Community Foundation
- Peninsula Community Foundation
- The San Francisco Foundation

REPORT CREDITS

DESIGN

Elaine Joe

PHOTOGRAPHS

All photos by Elaine Joe except page 8, courtesy NAATA, from the film "Bittersweet Survival," and pages 17 & 25, Chris Jennings

PRINTING

Coast Litho, Oakland, Calif.
Printed on recycled paper with soy-based inks