

Demographics



The Colorado Lotus Project frames its work around seven areas to better understand the strengths and disparities faced by Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (AANHPI) communities. These include demographics, health, housing, income and economic opportunity, education, crime and justice, and democracy.

This fact sheet highlights data and community voices related to demographics. Demographic information helps policymakers and leaders better understand who makes up Colorado's AANHPI community, including their ethnicities and languages, along with nuanced factors such as identity and representation.

Spotlights

1. Colorado has a large and diverse AANHPI community living throughout the state.

Chinese, Filipino, and Indian are the largest self-identified Asian groups living in Colorado. Native Hawaiian, Chamorro, and Samoan are the largest self-identified Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander groups living in the state. Overall, about 260,000 people in Colorado identify as Asian (either Asian alone or in combination with another race or ethnicity, including Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander). Over 22,000 identify as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (either alone or in combination with another race or ethnicity, including Asian).¹

2. People from Bhutan, Burma (now known as Myanmar), and Nepal are the most recent immigrants from Asian countries.

In Colorado, these groups are among the most recent populations to have emigrated from Asian countries in the past 10 years.¹

3. AANHPI people in Colorado feel invisible.

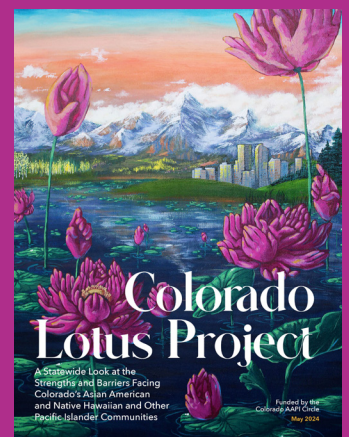
"Immigrants are more than just one dimension, we are several dimensions. [It's] not just who we are and where we are born. Nobody really asked us, 'Why [did] you [come] to this country?' People assume why you came here, and you're automatically placed as a second-class citizen.

We feel invisible, not valued, or dismissed." – Participant in the Southeast Asian-identifying focus group

Colorado Lotus Project:

A Statewide Look at the Strengths and Barriers Facing AANHPI Coloradans

The Colorado Lotus Project is an effort to uplift the unique voices and experiences of Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (AANHPI) people living in Colorado, and to tear down the idea that the AANHPI community is a monolith. The goal of this work is to call attention to the need for better data and to achieve a more equitable allocation of resources.



For more data, a better understanding of the experiences of the people behind the numbers, and the methodology for reporting, read the full Colorado Lotus Project report colo.health/COlotus

AANHPI Identities of People Living in Colorado, 2021¹



AANHPI Identity / Number of People*

🌀 Bangladeshi – 565	🌀 Malaysian – 458
🌀 Bhutanese – 1,833	🌀 Marshallese – 185
🌀 Burmese – 4,095	🌀 Mongolian – 1,332
🌀 Cambodian – 3,624	🌀 Native Hawaiian – 8,479
🌀 Chamorro – 3,987	🌀 Nepalese – 6,738
🌀 Chinese – 47,254	🌀 Okinawan – 126
🌀 Fijian – 489	🌀 Pakistani – 3,155
🌀 Filipino – 38,358	🌀 Samoan – 2,877
🌀 Hmong – 4,068	🌀 Sri Lankan – 972
🌀 Indian – 35,926	🌀 Taiwanese – 2,635
🌀 Indonesian – 2,857	🌀 Thai – 6,061
🌀 Japanese – 26,006	🌀 Tongan – 602
🌀 Korean – 33,978	🌀 Vietnamese – 33,914
🌀 Laotian – 2,876	

* Includes people with multiple AANHPI identities



¹ United States Census Bureau. American Community Survey, 2021: ACS 5-Year Estimates. (2021)