

2017

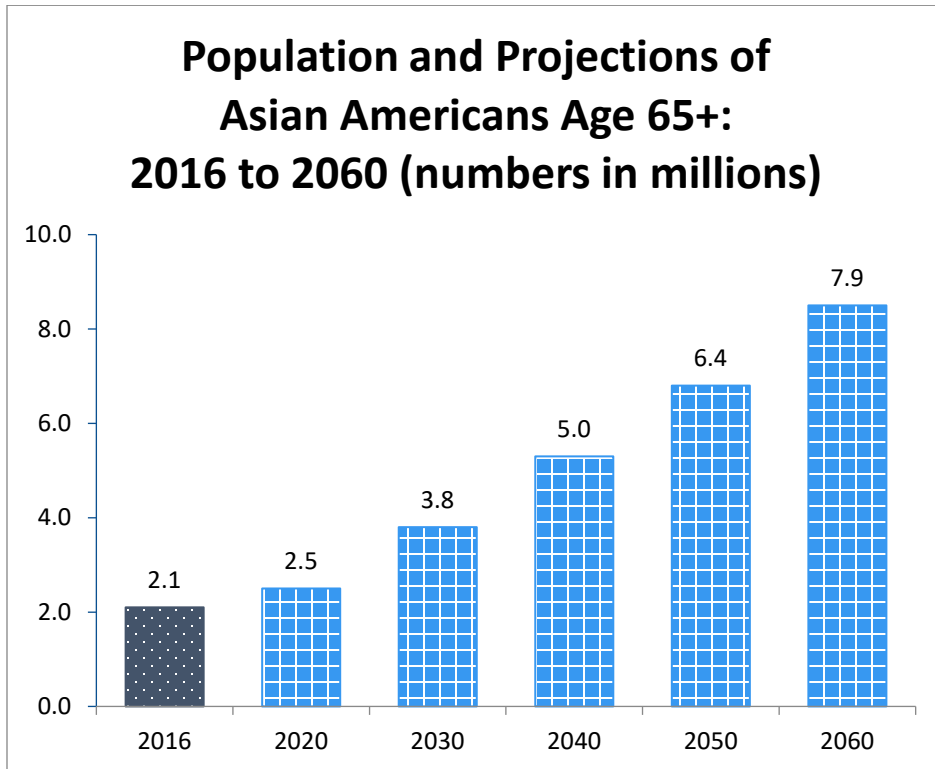
# Profile of Asian Americans Age 65 and Over



The Administration for Community Living, which includes the Administration on Aging, is an operating division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

## Introduction

In 2016, there were 49.2 million Americans age 65 and over and 6.4 million age 85 and over. The population age 65 and over is expected to increase to 94.7 million by 2060. The population age 85 and over (6.4 million) is expected to almost triple to 19 million during the same period. Among the population age 65 and over, there were 126 women for every 100 men. At age 85 and over, this ratio increased to 187 women for every 100 men. Along with these general trends for America's older population, the Asian American older population is also growing.



*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates, 2016 and Population Projections, 2017*  
*Note: Increments in years are uneven. Lighter bars indicate projections.*

The non-Hispanic Asian American population age 65 and over was 2,111,472 in 2016 and is projected to grow to 7.9 million by 2060. In 2016, Asian Americans made up 4% of the older population. By 2060, the percentage is projected to be 8%.

## Centenarians

In 2016, there were 4,248 Asian Americans age 100 years and over (1,273 men and 2,975 women) comprising 5% of all centenarians.

## Residence

In 2016, 60% (1,258,906) of older Asian Americans lived in four States: California (811,264), New York (196,243), Hawaii (130,636), and Texas (120,763).

## **Education**

The past decade has seen a significant increase in educational attainment among older adults, including Asian Americans. In 2017, 79% of the Asian American population age 65 and over had finished high school, and 37% had a bachelor's degree or higher. In 1998, 65% had finished high school and 22% had a bachelor's degree or higher. The percentage of older Asian Americans in 2017 who had a bachelor's degree or higher (37%) was higher than for the overall older population (30%).

## **Marital Status**

In 2017, 61% of older Asian Americans (non-Hispanic) were married, 23% were widowed, 6% were divorced, 5% were separated (including married, spouse absent), and 5% had never been married.

## **Living Arrangements**

In 2015, 78% of older Asian American men lived with their spouses, 10% lived with other relatives, 3% lived with non-relatives, and 10% lived alone. For older Asian American women, 52% lived with their spouses, 26% lived with other relatives, 1% lived with non-relatives, and 20% lived alone.

## **Income and Poverty**

In 2016, households containing families headed by Asian Americans age 65 and over reported a median income of \$66,116. The comparable figure for all older households was \$58,559. The median personal income for older Asian American men was \$26,196 and \$14,696 for older Asian American women. The comparable figures for all older persons were \$31,618 for men and \$18,380 for women. The poverty rate in 2016 for Asian Americans age 65 and over was 11.8% while the rate for all older Americans was 9.3%.

## **Disability Status**

In 2016, 31% of older Asian Americans had one or more disabilities.

## **Health Insurance**

In 2016, 31% of older Asian Americans had both Medicare and supplemental private health insurance, and 20% were covered by both Medicare and Medicaid. In comparison, 47% of all older adults had both Medicare and supplemental private health insurance, and 7% were covered by both Medicare and Medicaid.

## **Participation in Older Americans Act (OAA) Programs**

In 2016, state and Area Agencies on Aging provided services to a total of 11 million persons age 60 and over. Consistent with requirements of the OAA, considerable emphasis was placed on services to persons with the greatest social and economic need, including members of racial and ethnic minority groups, and especially those who are poor. Among the older persons who received Title III OAA home and community-based registered services, 4% were Asian Americans.

## Notes

The sources for the data in this report come from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates; Population Projections; Current Population Survey, 2017 Annual Social and Economic Supplement; American Community Survey. Administration for Community Living, State Program Report data.

This report includes data on the age 65 and over population unless otherwise noted. The phrases “older adults” or “older persons” refer to the population age 65 and over.

Numbers in this report may not add up due to rounding.

Age-adjusted estimates are used when available.

The data presented in this report refer to the noninstitutionalized population except where noted.

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