



At a Glance: AAPIs in New York City, NY

- ✓ In New York, Asian Americans are 7% of the population.
- ✓ New York City is home to 1,425,504 AAPIs, more AAPIs than any other city in the US, and they make up more than 12% of the city's population.
- ✓ The New York Asian American voting eligible population has markedly expanded by 20 percent from 2004 to 2008.
- ✓ AAPI voters can make a significant impact in national elections, and have already impacted local elections, with the number of AAPI elected officials on the rise.
- ✓ Asian Americans still face socioeconomic and language barriers to voter participation.

A Large AAPI Population with Growing Clout

- ✓ The Asian American voting eligible population of New York state has increased greatly, from 627,000 in 2004 to 754,000 in 2008, a 20% increase.
- ✓ There are 1,425,504 AAPIs in New York, constituting over 7% of the population.
- ✓ New York's AAPI population is highly concentrated in New York City and its boroughs, with 72% of New York's Asian Americans residing there.
- ✓ In New York City, Asian Americans make up 12% of the population.

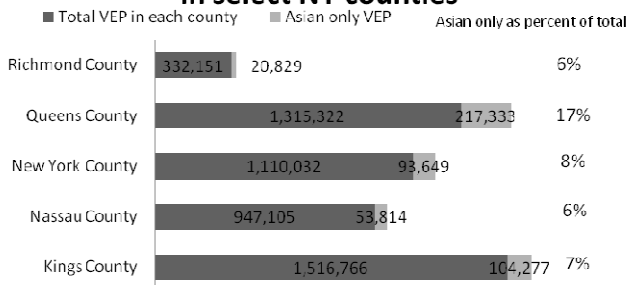
Asian Americans in Local NYC Office

- ✓ John Liu became the first Asian American elected to city-wide office in 2009, as the city's Comptroller.
- ✓ Along with Liu, other Asian Americans have been elected to the New York City Council, including Peter Koo and Margaret Chin.

Socioeconomic Challenges

- ✓ Foreign born AAPIs make up 76% (664,750) of the AAPI population.
- ✓ Approximately 44% of Asian American households are linguistically isolated,⁴ that is, every household member older than 14 has some difficulty with English.
- ✓ Educational disparities abound; approximately 53% of Cambodians and 42% of Chinese 25 years and younger have less than a high school degree.

Asian only voting eligible population in select NY counties



Key Elections in New York

- ✓ In the last midterm cycle, AAPI voters had the potential to influence six Congressional District races.
- ✓ In Districts 13, 19, and 25, the number of voting eligible AAPI voters exceeded the vote difference.
- ✓ In Districts 3, 26, 29, the number of voting eligible AAPI voters approached the vote difference.

Challenges to Voter Participation

- ✓ In AALDEF's 2008 exit poll of 16,665 AAPI voters, 81% were foreign born.
- ✓ Only 23% were native English speakers, and 39% were limited English proficient.
- ✓ New York City's South Asian population has increased dramatically, but 50% of Bengali speakers in Brooklyn are limited English proficient.
- ✓ About one out of every three AAPI voters was a first-time voter.
- ✓ Of the Asian voting eligible population, only 40% registered to vote in 2008.

¹ Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, 2008.

¹American Community Survey, US Census, 2006-2008, and Community Population Survey, 2004, 2008.

²A Community of Contrasts, Asian American Justice Center and Asian Pacific American Legal Center, 2006. Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, Access to Democracy: A Report on the 2008 Elections, 2008.