

**ECONOMIC
CHARACTERISTICS
OF ASIAN AMERICANS
IN THE NEW YORK
METROPOLITAN AREA**



**THE ASIAN AMERICAN FEDERATION OF NEW YORK
NOVEMBER 10, 2005**

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**Asian American Federation of New York
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Research Team

Howard Shih, Data Manager,
Census Information Center, Asian American Federation of New York

Carol Peng, Deputy Director of Research,
Asian American Federation of New York

Anna Lee, Research Assistant,
Asian American Federation of New York

Laura Abbott, Editorial Consultant

Ramon Gil Art & Design, Report Design

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For More Information

For more information regarding this report, please contact Howard Shih, data manager, Asian American Federation of New York Census Information Center, at (212) 344-5878, ext. 19 or howard@aafny.org, or visit www.aafny.org/cic/.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary1

Introduction7

I. Asian Americans in the Work Force11

 Labor-Force Participation and Unemployment12

 Hours and Weeks Worked18

 Public Sector, Private Sector and Self-Employment21

 Occupations23

 Industries34

II. Asian American Earnings, Income and Poverty45

 Earnings and Income46

 Poverty Rates51

III. Asian American Home Ownership55

 Home Ownership Rates55

 Housing Values56

 Mortgage Payments57

 Owner Costs58

Highlight: Asian American Top Executives61

Highlight: Asian Americans in Finance and Insurance63

Highlight: Asians in Apparel Industry65

Technical Note67

Appendix A: Study Area69

Executive Summary

Overview

This report provides a first-of-its-kind economic profile of Asian Americans in the New York Metropolitan Area,¹ based on census information. The document takes an unprecedented in-depth look at the work, income and housing characteristics of the rapidly-growing but under-examined Asian population in the New York region, in an effort to inform local employment practices and policy-making.

Information in this report is derived from analysis of Census 2000 long-form data on employment, work status, worker class, occupation, industry, earnings and income, poverty, home ownership, housing values, mortgage costs, and owner costs. The long form was sent to 1 in 6 Americans.

As the fastest-growing racial group in the New York metropolitan area from 1990 to 2000, Asians played an important role in the local economy in the last decade and continue to do so. The Asian population grew from 868,597 in 1990 to 1,587,782 in 2000 – an 83 percent increase. Also in that decade, Asians' share of the total Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (CMSA) population rose from 4.6 percent to 7.5 percent.

This report presents economic statistics on two levels: 1) for the region's Asian population as a whole, and 2) for the six largest Asian ethnic groups in the metropolitan area. As of the 2000 census, those ethnic group populations were: Chinese (524,507), Indians (453,896), Koreans (179,344), Filipinos (176,902), Japanese (59,456), and Pakistanis (57,957).

Key Findings for Asian Americans Overall

Census 2000 shows that Asians participated actively in the economy of the New York metropolitan region. While Asians were slightly more likely to be employed than the general population, significant portions of Asians held lower-paying service and manufacturing jobs. As a result, Asians had lower median earnings and incomes than the general population.

Also, Asians were less likely to own their homes than the region's residents as a whole, which is likely related to their lower incomes. However, among those Asian who were homeowners, median housing values and monthly mortgage payments were higher than for the general population.

¹ In this report, the New York Metropolitan Area is defined as the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (New York CMSA) used for Census 2000.

Major findings are as follows:

Employment

- **Asians participated in the labor force² at a higher rate than the general population.** The proportion of Asians in the work force was 64 percent, compared with 62 percent of the general population.
- **Asians had a lower unemployment rate than the general population.³** The overall Asian unemployment rate was 5.7 percent, compared with 6.7 percent for the entire regional population.

Occupations

- **For the following occupational groups more than a fifth of workers were Asian:**
 - Textile, apparel and furnishings workers (30 percent of workers were Asian)
 - Life and physical scientists (26 percent)
 - Physicians and surgeons (23 percent)
 - Motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers (22 percent)
 - Computer specialists (21 percent)
- **Asian men and women were more heavily represented in certain occupations than the total male and female populations, as follows:**
 - **Men:**
 - Motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers, accounted for 3.1 percent of jobs for Asian men, compared with 1.1 percent of jobs for all men.
 - Cooks and food preparation workers comprised 3 percent of jobs for Asian men, while only 1.5 percent of jobs for all men.
 - **Women:**
 - Textile, apparel and furnishings workers constituted 6.3 percent of female Asian employees, far exceeding 1.3 percent of all working women.
 - Computer specialists comprised 4.9 percent of jobs for Asian women, compared with 1.8 percent of jobs for all employed women.
 - Accountants and auditors was the occupational category for 4.1 percent of female Asian employees, while 1.8 percent of all women worked in this field.

Industries

- **For the following industry groups more than a fifth of employees were Asian:**
 - Apparel manufacturing (35 percent of all employees were Asian)
 - Gasoline stations (21 percent)
- **Asians were more heavily represented in certain industry groups relative to the total population:**
 - Accommodation and food services (8.1 percent of jobs held by Asians, compared with 4.8 percent of jobs held by the total labor force)
 - Apparel manufacturing (3.7 percent of jobs held by Asian, compared with 0.8 percent of jobs held by the total labor force)
 - Personal and laundry services (3.1 percent of jobs held by Asians, compared with 1.5 percent of jobs held by the total labor force)

² Participants in the labor force are defined as people who are working or actively seeking work.

³ People not working but actively seeking work are categorized as unemployed. On the other hand, people not working and not actively seeking work, who may include students, homemakers and discouraged workers, are not in the labor force and therefore are not counted as unemployed.

Earnings and Income

- Asians had lower median earnings and family income than the general population.
 - Median earnings for Asians were \$27,097, compared with \$29,983 for the total population.
 - The median family income for Asians was \$58,196, lower than \$60,254 for the general population.
- The median income for Asian households, at \$53,185, was higher than \$50,795 for all households. This relationship – contrary to those cited immediately above – likely reflected the fact that Asians had a larger average household size, indicating additional earners in many households.

Poverty

- **Asians had higher poverty rates than the general population.** Overall, 14 percent of Asians, compared with 13 percent of all regional residents, lived in poverty. Asian senior citizens and immigrants experienced higher poverty rates, as well as greater poverty gaps in relation to the general population and Asians as a whole.
 - For people age 65 to 74, poverty rates were 18 percent for Asians and 10 percent for the general population. For people older than 74, poverty rates were 21 percent for Asians and 12 percent for the general population.
 - The poverty rate for Asian immigrants overall was 16 percent, surpassing rates for the general population and the entire Asian population. Within the Asian foreign-born population, poverty was most prevalent for the most recent immigrants and people who were not naturalized U.S. citizens.
- **Asian poverty correlated with particular occupations.** Asian workers living in poverty were most apt to be employed as:
 - Textile, apparel and furnishings workers (9.8 percent of impoverished Asian employees)
 - Cashiers (6.4 percent of Asian workers in poverty)
 - Cooks and food preparation workers (5.2 percent of impoverished Asian employees)

Home Ownership

- Asians were less likely to own their homes and less apt to own single-family houses than the general population.
 - Only 44 percent of Asian homes were owner-occupied, compared with 53 percent of all homes in the region.
 - Two-thirds of Asian homeowners lived in single-family houses, compared with three-quarters of the region's entire homeowner population.
- **Asian homeowners were more likely to have a mortgage on their home.** Some 85 percent of Asian single-family homeowners had mortgages, exceeding 71 percent of all single-family homeowners. Of single-family homeowners who had mortgages, 23 percent of homeowners in general had second mortgages or home-equity loans on their property compared to only 18 percent of Asian homeowners.
- **Median housing values among Asian homeowners were higher than for the general population.** More than 60 percent of Asian owners of single-family homes lived in houses valued at \$200,000 or more, compared with just over half of all single-family homeowners.
- **Asians had higher median monthly mortgage payments than the population in general.** Among households with first mortgages, the median monthly payment for Asian households was \$1,399, compared with \$1,209 for the entire population. For households with a second mortgage or a home equity loan, the median monthly payment for Asians was \$461, compared with \$377 for the general population.

Key Findings for Six Largest Asian Ethnic Groups

The census analysis revealed diverse economic characteristics among the six largest Asian ethnic groups and, in some cases, among population segments within those groups. Some ethnic populations generally were on solid financial footing while others experienced circumstances worthy of further examination.

It should be noted that although this section points out concentrations of ethnic groups in certain occupations and industries, members of all major Asian ethnic groups could be found across the spectrum of the New York metropolitan economy.

Chinese

With a larger portion of the working population in occupations and industries associated with lower pay (especially apparel manufacturing and food service) than in the general population, Chinese as a whole were not faring as well as the general population.

- **Employment:** Chinese have a difference of 0.1 percent between the unemployment rates of men and women, representing the smallest difference among the general population and the six largest Asian ethnic groups.
- **Occupations:**
 - While Chinese constituted 2.5 percent of the total regional labor force, they held 22 percent of all textile, apparel and furnishings jobs. This occupational group was the most common among Chinese women, who held 14 percent of jobs in the category.
 - Food preparation and serving-related occupations accounted for 15 percent of all jobs for Chinese men.
- **Industries:**
 - The accommodation and food services industry employed 31,409 Chinese, three-quarters of whom were men.
 - Apparel manufacturing employed 21,399 Chinese, 77 percent of whom were women.
- **Income:** Chinese had lower incomes and earnings across all measures than the general population (Table ES-1).
- **Poverty:** Chinese households had a higher poverty rate (18 percent) than the general population (13 percent).

Filipinos

With much Filipino employment linked to health-care services which is in growing demand, Filipinos overall experienced better economic circumstances than the general population.

- **Employment:** Filipinos were more active in the economy and more likely to be employed than the general population. Labor-force participation among Filipinos was 70 percent; higher than 62 percent for the general population. The Filipino unemployment rate was 4.4 percent, compared with 6.7 percent region-wide.
- **Occupations:** While Filipinos constituted 0.83 percent of the labor force:
 - 9.3 percent of registered nurses were Filipino, holding 16,424 jobs. More than 25 percent of employed Filipino women were working as registered nurses, compared with 3.7 percent of all women.
 - 3.4 percent of physicians and surgeons were Filipino, representing 2,704 jobs.
 - 3.4 percent of health technologists and technicians were Filipino, holding 3,889 jobs.
- **Industries:** The largest employer of Filipinos was the health-care sector, accounting for more than one-third of Filipino employment (33,284 jobs).
- **Income:** In relation to the general population, Filipinos had higher household and family incomes but, apparently due to larger Filipino households, slightly lower per capita income (Table ES-1).
- **Poverty:** The Filipino household poverty rate was 4 percent, roughly one-third of the general poverty rate.

Indians

With a large portion of Indian men working as physicians and computer specialists, Indians as a whole were better off than the general population. However, Indian women experienced much higher unemployment rates than Indian men.

- **Employment:** The overall Indian unemployment rate was 5.7 percent. A large employment gap existed between Indian men and women, with unemployment rates of 4.7 percent and 7.4 percent, respectively.
- **Occupations:** Although Indians comprised 2.1 percent of the labor force:
 - 10.4 percent of physicians and surgeons were Indian, holding 8,228 jobs.
 - 9.3 percent of computer specialists were Indian, with 25,751 employed in that occupation. Computer specialists accounted for 15 percent of all jobs for Indian men, compared with 4 percent of jobs for all men.
- **Income:** Relative to the general population, Indians had higher household and family incomes but, evidently because of larger households, lower per capita income (Table ES-1).
- **Poverty:** The overall Indian poverty rate was 11 percent, lower than the general poverty rate of 13 percent. The poverty rate for Indian households headed by senior citizens slightly exceeded the rate for seniors overall, while the opposite was true for households led by younger people.

Japanese

With a higher percentage of men working as top executives, Japanese overall had better economic conditions than the general population. However, Japanese women were less likely to be part of the labor market than their general-population and Asian peers.

- **Employment:** Japanese women had a labor-force participation rate of 48 percent, less than for all Asian women and women in general; compared to 78 percent of Japanese men who were in the work force.
- **Occupations:** Although Japanese represented 0.28 percent of the labor force, they held 1 percent of top executive positions. While only 2.7 percent of jobs held by all men were top executives, 10 percent of jobs for Japanese men were top executive positions.
- **Income:** Japanese had higher incomes and earnings across all gauges than the general population (Table ES-1).
- **Poverty:** The overall Japanese poverty rate (14 percent) is relatively low. However, more than one-third of Japanese younger than 65 and living in non-family households or group quarters were below the poverty line, compared with 19 percent of the general population with those attributes.

Koreans

In relation to the general population, Koreans tended to have lower incomes despite having lower unemployment than all Asians and the general population. Koreans were more likely to operate small businesses engaged in retail sales and services.

- **Employment:** Nearly one-quarter of Korean men and 17 percent of Korean women were self-employed, compared with 12 percent of all men and 6 percent of all women.
- **Occupations:**
 - While Koreans had a 0.85 percent share of the labor force, 7.3 percent of personal appearance workers, of whom 93 percent were women, were Korean.
 - For Korean men, 14 percent of jobs were in other sales and related occupations, including supervisors.
- **Industries:** Personal and laundry services employed 11,929 Koreans, representing 14 percent of all Korean jobs.
- **Income:** Koreans had lower incomes and earnings across all measures than the general population (Table ES-1).
- **Poverty:** Korean senior citizens had a poverty rate of 21 percent, almost double the 11 percent rate for the general elderly population. On the other hand, Koreans younger than 65 had a poverty rate nearly equal to their age group in the general population.

Pakistanis

Pakistanis as a whole fared worse economically than the general population, and experiences varied widely based on gender. Among gender-related traits, while Pakistani men participated in the labor force and had an unemployment rate similar to other Asian men, Pakistani women were less represented in the labor force than women in general and Asian women overall.

- **Employment:**
 - Self-employment was common for Pakistani men, with 17 percent in that category. Pakistani men had a work-force participation rate of 75 percent and an unemployment rate of 5.7 percent.
 - Pakistani women were less likely to be employed or to work full-time than Pakistani men, women in general or Asian women as a whole.
 - Fewer than 3 in 10 Pakistani women were in the work force, compared with more than half of all women.
 - Pakistani women had a 12 percent unemployment rate, greatly surpassing 7 percent for women in general.
 - About one-third of working Pakistani women held part-time jobs, in contrast with roughly one-fourth of all working women.
- **Occupations:** While Pakistanis made up 0.27 percent of the labor force:
 - 4.4 percent of all motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers, with 2,678 jobs, were Pakistani. All Pakistanis in this occupational group were men, and this job category accounted for 15 percent of jobs held by Pakistani men.
 - 0.7 percent of cashiers, representing 1,213 jobs, were Pakistani. Nearly one-fifth of working Pakistani women were cashiers (435 jobs) or retail sales workers, other than cashiers (344 jobs).
- **Industries:** The other-transportation industry group accounted for 15 percent of Pakistani employment, compared with 2 percent of employment for the general population.
- **Income:** Pakistanis had lower incomes and earnings across the board than the general population (Table ES-1).
- **Poverty:** More than one-fifth (21 percent) of Pakistani households were impoverished, far exceeding 13 percent for the general population.

**Table ES-1: Median Income and Earnings Measures
in 1999 for New York CMSA by Race, Gender and Ethnicity**

	Total Population	All Asians	Chinese	Filipinos	Indians	Japanese	Koreans	Pakistanis
Median Earnings	\$29,983	\$27,097	\$22,478	\$34,732	\$30,043	\$39,245	\$25,824	\$23,243
– Men	\$35,730	\$30,262	\$25,305	\$31,793	\$34,180	\$54,144	\$29,797	\$25,687
– Women	\$25,026	\$24,330	\$20,754	\$36,961	\$23,981	\$27,851	\$21,830	\$15,536
Household Income	\$50,795	\$53,185	\$46,368	\$76,260	\$61,179	\$55,317	\$44,059	\$43,894
Family Income	\$60,254	\$58,196	\$49,515	\$84,050	\$64,359	\$84,987	\$48,876	\$44,889
Per Capita Income	\$26,604	\$22,733	\$20,850	\$26,587	\$24,674	\$36,415	\$20,805	\$15,605

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Introduction

This report uses Census 2000 data⁴ to quantify and characterize the participation of Asian Americans in the economy of the New York metropolitan area. In this document, the region is defined as the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (New York CMSA) used for the 2000 census. Appendix A specifically describes the New York CMSA.

Asian American statistics are compared with those for the general population in the region to offer context and call attention to Asian overrepresentation or under-representation. Data also are presented by gender, illustrating some important differences.

In addition to presenting data on all Asians in the region, this report focuses on the six largest Asian ethnic groups in the New York CMSA as of Census 2000: Chinese,⁵ Filipino, Indian,⁶ Japanese, Korean and Pakistani Americans. These groups were substantially larger than other Asian ethnic populations in the New York area.

Population Background

The Asian American population in the region grew from 868,597 in 1990 to 1,587,782 in 2000 – an 83 percent increase. Also, Asian Americans became a larger share of the total CMSA population, rising from 4.6 percent of the population in 1990 to 7.5 percent in 2000. As of the 2000 census, Asians constituted 6.2 percent of the households and 7.0 percent of the families in the New York CMSA (Table 2).⁷ Nearly three-quarters of Asians in the region were foreign-born, compared with one-quarter of all residents.

As shown in Table 2, while the majority of the general population in the CMSA lived outside New York City, more than half of all Asian families and households lived in the five boroughs. By ethnic population, considerably more than half of Chinese and Pakistani people lived in New York City; Koreans were split evenly between the city and its suburbs; and the majority of the Filipino, Indian and Japanese population resided outside the city. However, more than half of Japanese households were in the city, reflecting the smaller average size of Japanese households in the city in relation to those in the suburbs.

4 The report is based largely on Census 2000 Summary Files 2 and 4. These files contain detailed data on Asian ethnic groups. Summary File 2 contains information on 100 percent counts of the population while Summary File 4 includes additional socioeconomic data collected in the 1-in-6 population sample taken using the Census Long Form.

5 In 2000, Chinese population numbers did not include the Taiwanese population.

6 The U.S. Census Bureau uses "Asian Indian" to mean people indicating their race as Asian Indian, Bengalese, Bharat, Dravidian, East Indian or Goanese. This report uses "Indian" for this population group, based on the population's preference.

7 A household is defined as a person or group of people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence. The number of households equals the number of occupied housing units in a census. The race of a household is determined by the head of household reported in the census. A family includes a householder and one or more other people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. Families are considered to be a subset of households.

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

Table 3 compares the average household size for population groups in the entire CMSA, in New York City and in the suburbs. Asian ethnic groups other than Japanese had larger households on average than the general population, with Pakistani households exceptionally larger.

Table 2: Population, Households and Families in New York CMSA

Population Group	Population	Households	Families	Foreign Born	% of Population Group That Is Foreign-Born
Total Population in CMSA	21,199,865	7,735,264	5,226,932	5,144,245	24%
% of CMSA Population in New York City	38%	39%	35%	56%	36%
Asians Alone or in Combination	1,587,782	478,487	366,506	1,166,894	73%
% of Asian Population in New York City	55%	57%	54%	57%	76%
% of Total Residents Who Are Asian	7.5%	6.2%	7.0%	22.7%	
% of New York City Residents Who Are Asian	10.9%	9.0%	10.7%	23%	
% of Suburban Residents Who Are Asian	5.4%	4.4%	5.0%	22.1%	
Ethnicity Alone or in Combination (Sorted by Population Size)					
Chinese	524,507	160,757	123,709	376,159	72%
% of Population in New York City	71%	72%	71%	75%	75%
Indian	453,896	134,084	109,775	339,908	75%
% of Population in New York City	45%	45%	43%	46%	76%
Korean	179,344	56,610	42,238	137,755	77%
% of Population in New York City	50%	55%	51%	52%	80%
Filipino	176,902	50,628	38,198	128,877	73%
% of Population in New York City	35%	40%	35%	37%	77%
Japanese	59,456	24,317	11,959	41,803	70%
% of Population in New York City	44%	56%	36%	45%	72%
Pakistani	57,957	14,223	11,809	44,473	77%
% of Population in New York City	59%	60%	58%	60%	78%

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 2

Table 3: Average Household Sizes by Race and Ethnicity

Population Group	New York CMSA	New York City	Suburbs
All Races	2.68	2.59	2.73
All Asians	3.19	3.13	3.26
Chinese	3.15	3.19	3.05
Filipino	3.19	2.82	3.44
Indian	3.38	3.40	3.36
Japanese	2.11	1.69	2.65
Korean	2.92	2.77	3.11
Pakistani	4.15	4.09	4.23

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 2

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

This report consists of three main sections:

- I. **Asian Americans in the Work Force:** This section covers labor-force participation; unemployment; extent of employment; and worker classes, occupations and industries in which Asians work.
- II. **Asian American Earnings, Income and Poverty:** The second section includes three parts. Part 1 covers earnings and income characteristics, including distribution, for the Asian population overall and by such factors as nativity, ethnicity and gender. Next, poverty rates, in relation to household type, age group, ethnicity, nativity, citizenship status and recency of immigration are presented. Finally, association of high poverty rates with certain occupations and industries, and of high income with other job and industry categories for Asian Americans are investigated.
- III. **Asian American Home Ownership:** The final section summarizes home-ownership rates, housing values, mortgage rates and owner costs.

I. Asian Americans in the Work Force

This section describes Asian contributions to the labor force in the New York metropolitan region, which also may be viewed in terms of Asian representation or presence. Data are presented by gender, age group and ethnicity, as well as in relation to the general regional population.

The following text and tables provide information on labor-force participation, unemployment rates, classes of workers, and occupations and industries in which Asians were employed as of the 2000 census.

Key findings of this analysis include:

- Asians overall participated in the labor force at a slightly higher rate and had lower unemployment rates than the general population.
- However, some Asian population segments were less prevalent in the labor force and/or had higher unemployment rates than others, possibly indicating difficulty finding work. Notably, Pakistani women had the highest unemployment rate, and they were least likely to participate in the labor force, work full-time or work for the entire year. In addition, unemployment ran high for Indian and Pakistani senior citizens despite their active participation in the labor market.
- Asians as a whole were slightly more apt to be self-employed than the general population, and self-employment was substantially higher among Koreans and Pakistanis than among New York-area residents as a whole. Nearly one-quarter of Korean men had their own businesses.
- Asians were less likely than the overall population to work for nonprofit organizations or for state or local governments but participated about equally in federal-government jobs.
- Asians were overrepresented in certain higher-income professions, such as doctors, scientists, computer specialists and accountants, as well as lower-income occupations, such as cooks and food-preparation workers; personal-care workers; textile, apparel and furnishings workers; and motor-vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers. Computer specialist was the most popular occupation for all Asians and Asian men, while registered nurse was the most common occupation for Asian women.
- Asian workers were concentrated in particular industries. Health care; professional, scientific and technical services; finance and insurance; accommodation and food services were the industry categories employing the largest numbers of Asians in the metropolitan region. The apparel-manufacturing sector had the highest percentage of Asians in its work force compared to other industry sectors.

Labor-Force Participation and Unemployment

Overall, Asians contributed actively to the New York-area economy, with slightly higher labor-force participation and lower unemployment rates than the general population. In 2000, 64 percent of Asians participated in the economy, compared with 62 percent of the general population (Table 4). The Asian unemployment rate was 5.7 percent, compared with 6.7 percent for the general population. Asians were 7.7 percent of the total civilian labor force.

Foreign-born Asians had the same labor-participation rate and a lower unemployment rate (5.1 percent) compared to Asians overall.

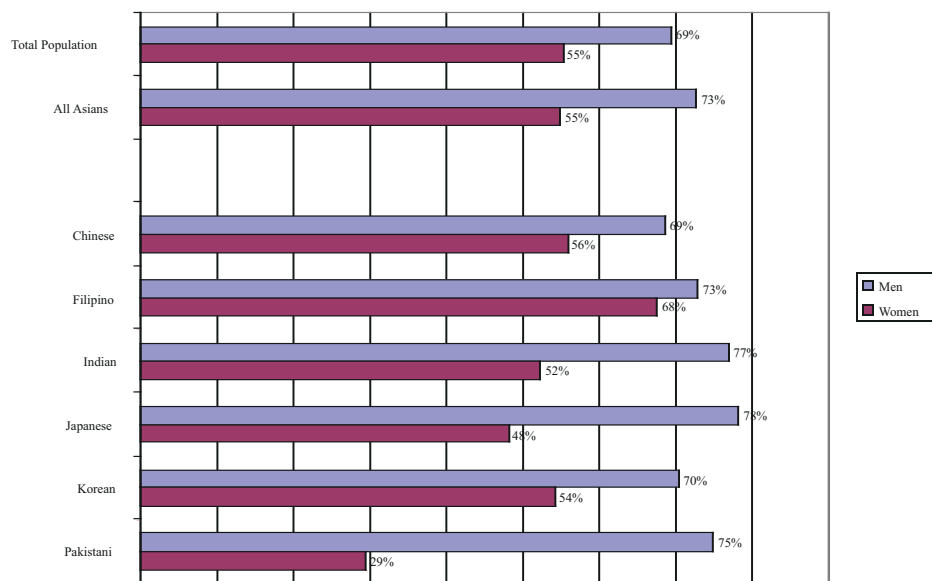
As indicated in Figure 1 and Table 3, higher labor-force participation and lower unemployment rates of Asian men accounted for most of the divergences in these statistics for the Asian and general populations. Asian men had a much higher labor-force participation rate than men in the general population (73 percent versus 69 percent), while Asian women and women overall participated at the same rate (55 percent). In addition, Figure 2 reveals a much lower unemployment rate for Asian men (5.3 percent) than for men overall (6.4 percent), while unemployment rates for Asian women and the total female population (6.2 percent and 6.9 percent, respectively) were more similar.

Despite such favorable findings for Asians overall, deeper analysis of the six largest Asian ethnic groups reveals much diversity within the Asian work force and some population segments in need. Further study should be undertaken to identify causes of extremely low labor-market participation and low unemployment, which may include fewer opportunities, hiring bias and/or cultural factors.

For example:

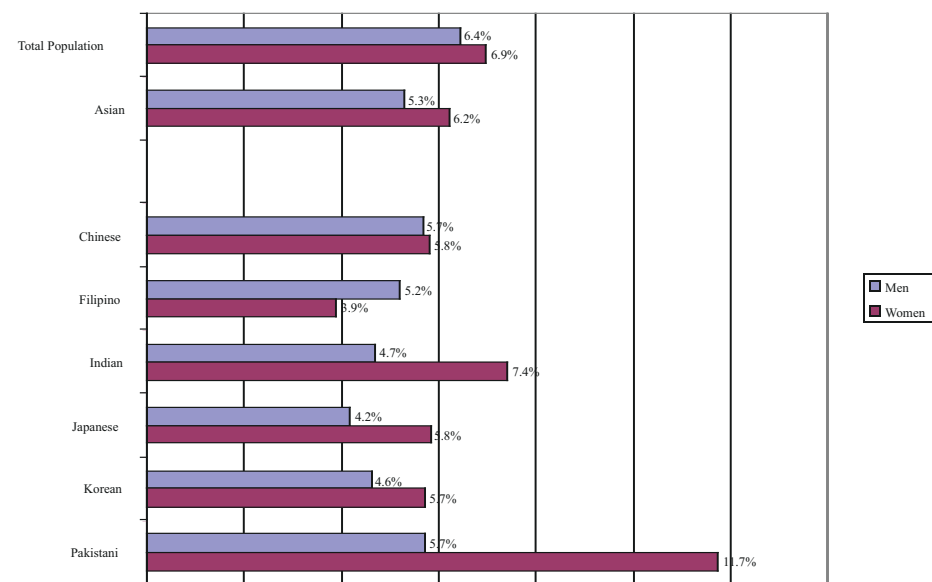
- Japanese and Pakistani women were much less likely to participate in the labor market than other Asian women, and Indian and Pakistani women had higher unemployment rates than other female Asian workers (Figure 1 and Figure 2). By far, Pakistani women had the lowest participation rate (29 percent) and the highest unemployment rate (11.7 percent) for all ethnic- and gender-based population groups examined, including Asians and the general population.
- Filipino women had exceptionally high labor-force participation rates and low unemployment rates.
- Asian men age 25 to 64 had a higher work-force participation rate than men in their age group overall (Figure 3). Asian men in this age bracket were largely responsible for labor force participation rates, for all Asian men and all Asians, exceeding those for the total male population and the general population.
- Filipinos and Indians age 65 and older had the highest labor-force participation rates among Asians their age but also had the highest unemployment rates among elderly Asians (Figure 3). These figures indicate a need or desire for employment but limited opportunities.
- Japanese women 16 to 64 years old had the second-lowest work-force participation rates for women in the largest Asian ethnic groups (Figure 3). However, elderly Japanese women had the highest participation rate for their age group, the entire Asian population and the general population.
- Japanese senior citizens of both genders had the highest labor-force participation rates for their age group, as well as low unemployment rates (Figure 3). In contrast, young Japanese participated in the labor market to a lesser extent, and Japanese men age 16 to 24 had the second-highest unemployment rate (25.7 percent) among all Asian ethnic groups analyzed (after elderly Pakistani women).

Figure 1: Labor-Force Participation Rates for New York CMSA by Gender and Ethnicity



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Figure 2: Unemployment Rates for New York CMSA by Gender and Ethnicity



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

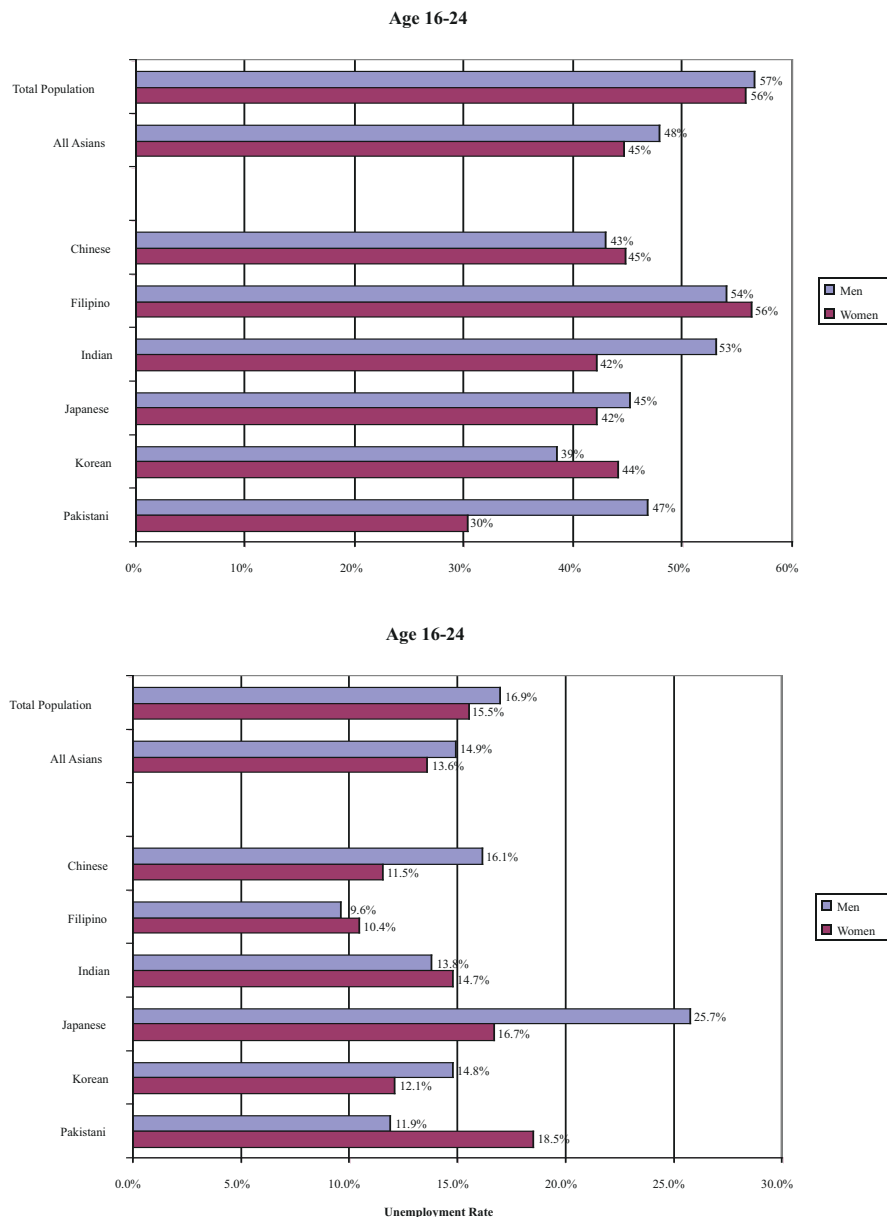
ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

Table 4: Employment Status of New York CMSA Residents Age 16 or Older

Employment Status	Total Population		Asians		Foreign-Born Asians				
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
In Labor Force:	10,214,547	5,391,316	4,823,231	786,803	439,116	347,687	692,754	391,762	300,992
In Armed Forces	13,462	11,520	1,942	597	521	76	350	304	46
Civilian:	10,201,085	5,379,796	4,821,289	786,206	438,595	347,611	692,404	391,458	300,946
Employed	9,520,481	5,034,197	4,486,284	741,552	415,492	326,060	657,147	373,322	283,825
Unemployed	680,604	345,599	335,005	44,654	23,103	21,551	35,257	18,136	17,121
Not in Labor Force	6,293,411	2,379,358	3,914,053	451,520	165,853	285,667	393,234	138,884	254,350
Total Population									
Age 16 or Older	16,507,958	7,770,674	8,737,284	1,238,323	604,969	633,354	1,085,988	530,646	555,342
Labor-Force Participation	62%	69%	55%	64%	73%	55%	64%	74%	54%
Unemployment Rate	6.7%	6.4%	6.9%	5.7%	5.3%	6.2%	5.1%	4.6%	5.7%

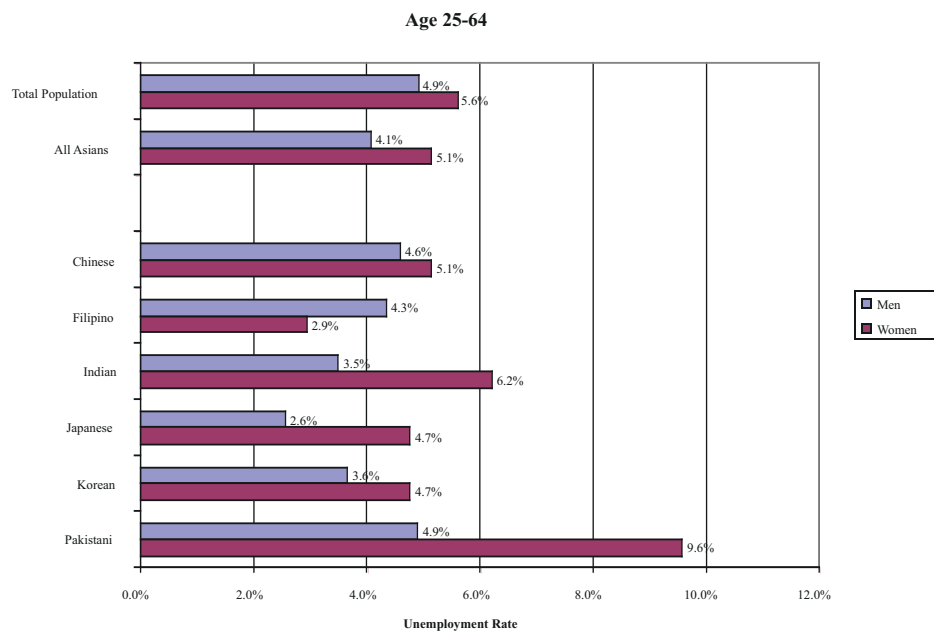
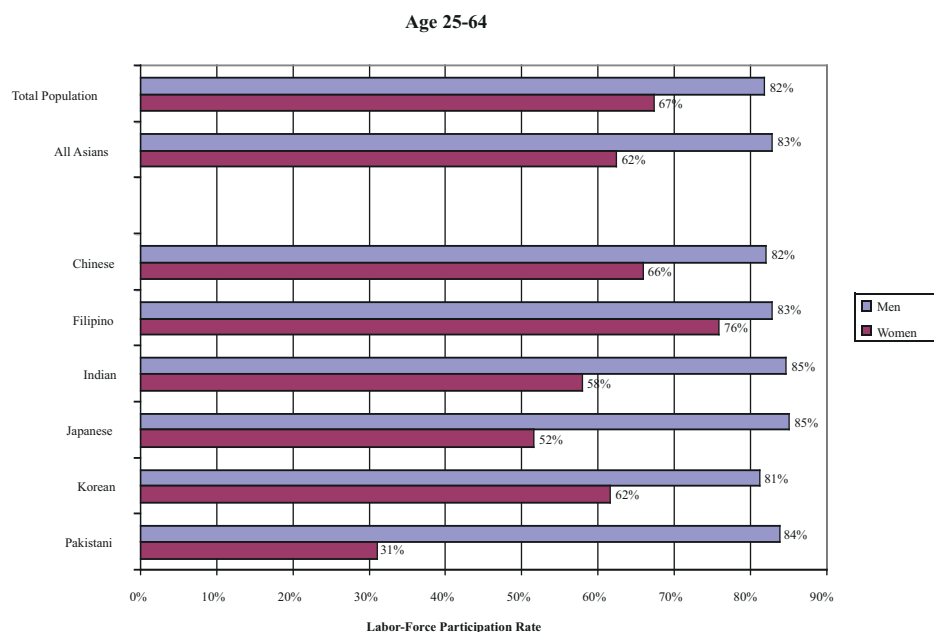
Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Figure 3: Labor-Force Participation and Unemployment Rates for New York CMSA by Age Group, Gender and Ethnicity



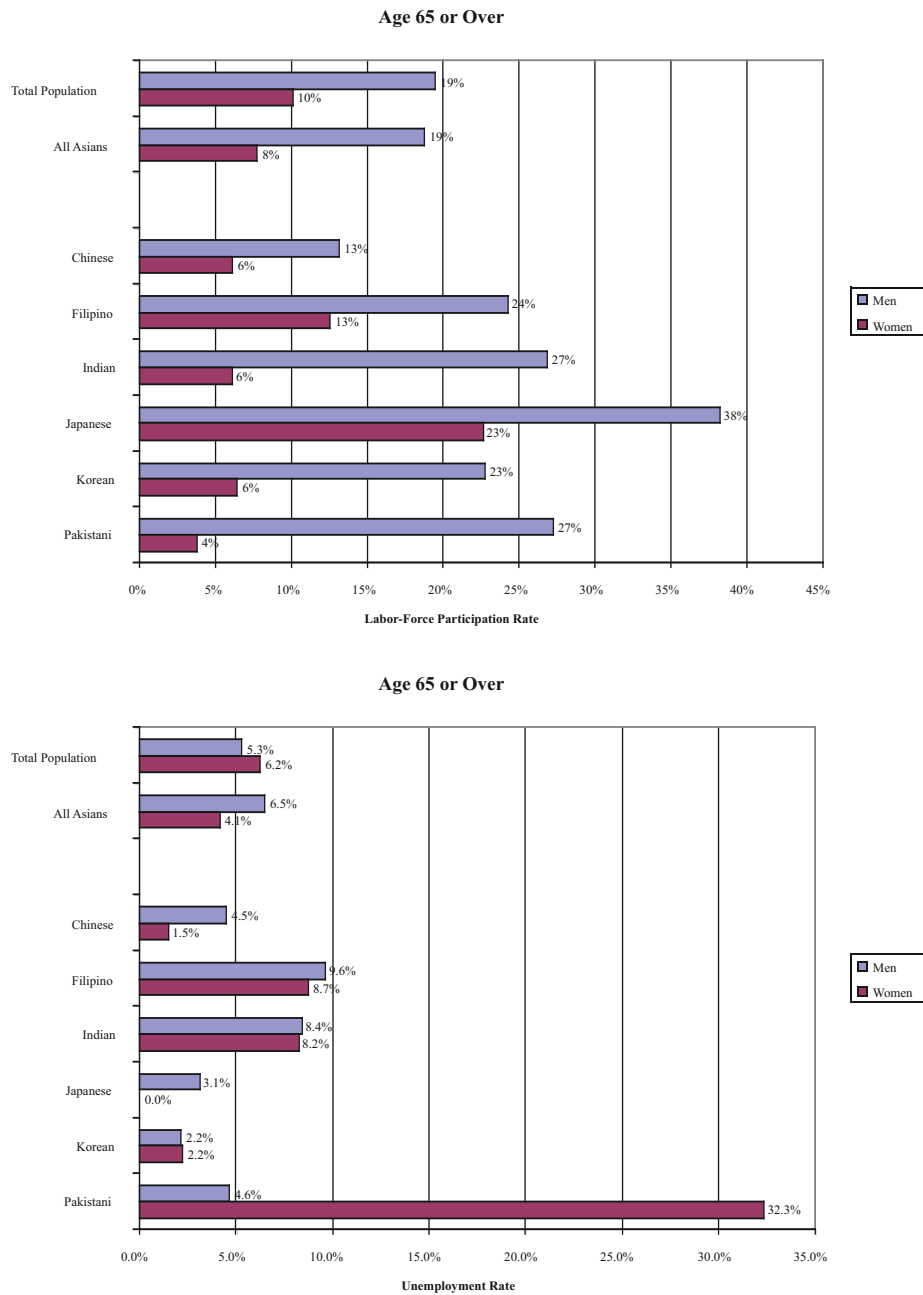
Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Figure 3: Labor-Force Participation and Unemployment Rates for New York CMSA by Age Group, Gender and Ethnicity (continued)



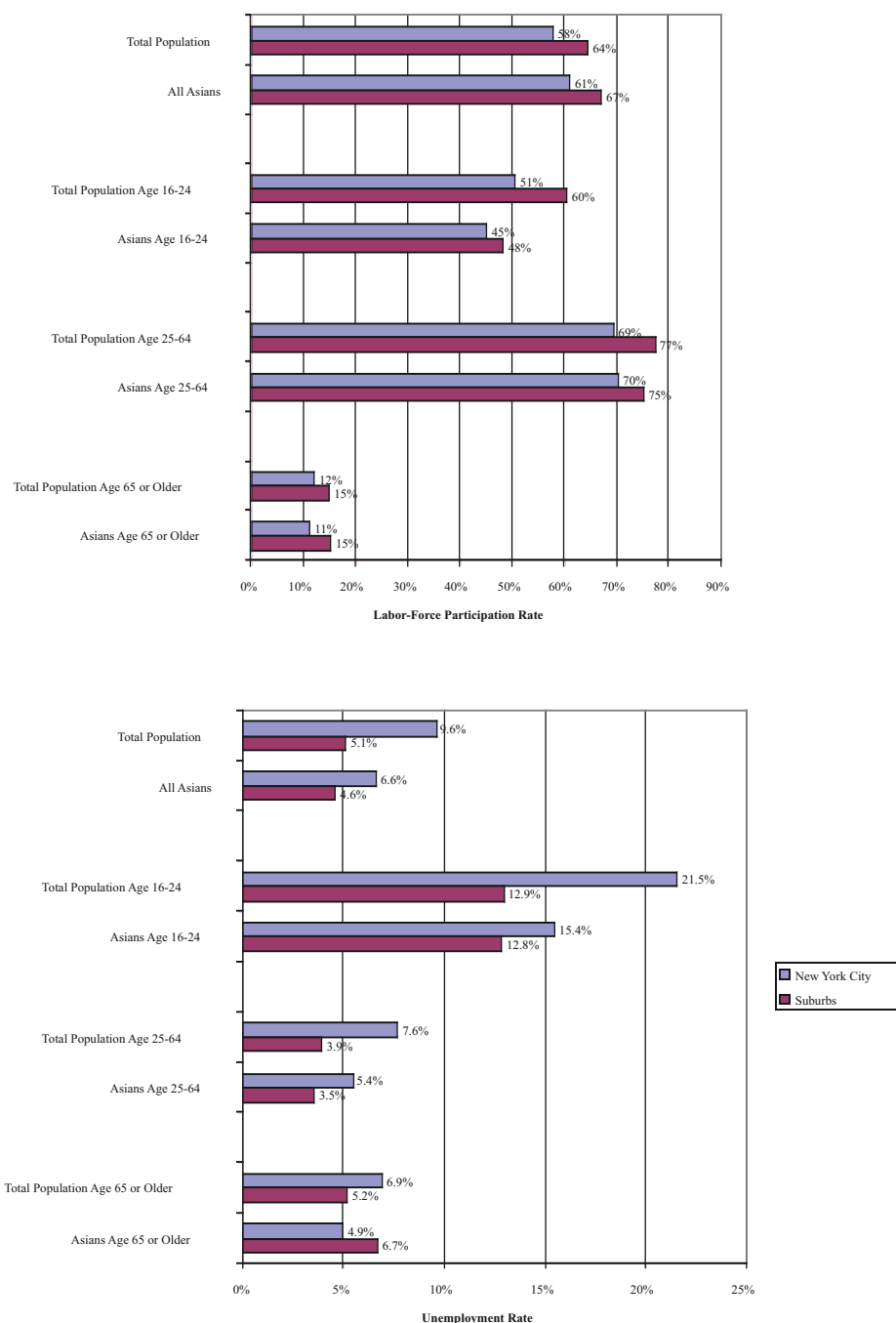
Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Figure 3: Labor-Force Participation and Unemployment Rates for New York CMSA by Age Group, Gender and Ethnicity (continued)



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Figure 4: Labor-Force Participation and Unemployment Rates for New York City and Suburbs by Race, Age Group and Gender



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

For both Asians and the general population, labor-force participation by suburban residents outpaced that of New York City residents (Figure 4). For working-age adults (age 16 to 24 and 25 to 64), the gap between suburban and city work-force participation was smaller for Asians than for the general population. Participation rates for Asian seniors in the suburbs and the city were comparable to those for total elderly populations in the same geographic areas.

Unemployment rates were higher for city residents than suburban residents, for both the total population and Asians, for all but one age group. In the exception, among Asian senior citizens, suburbanites had an unemployment rate of 6.7 percent, exceeding 4.9 percent for city residents. Elderly suburban Asians also were more apt to be unemployed than senior suburban residents in general.

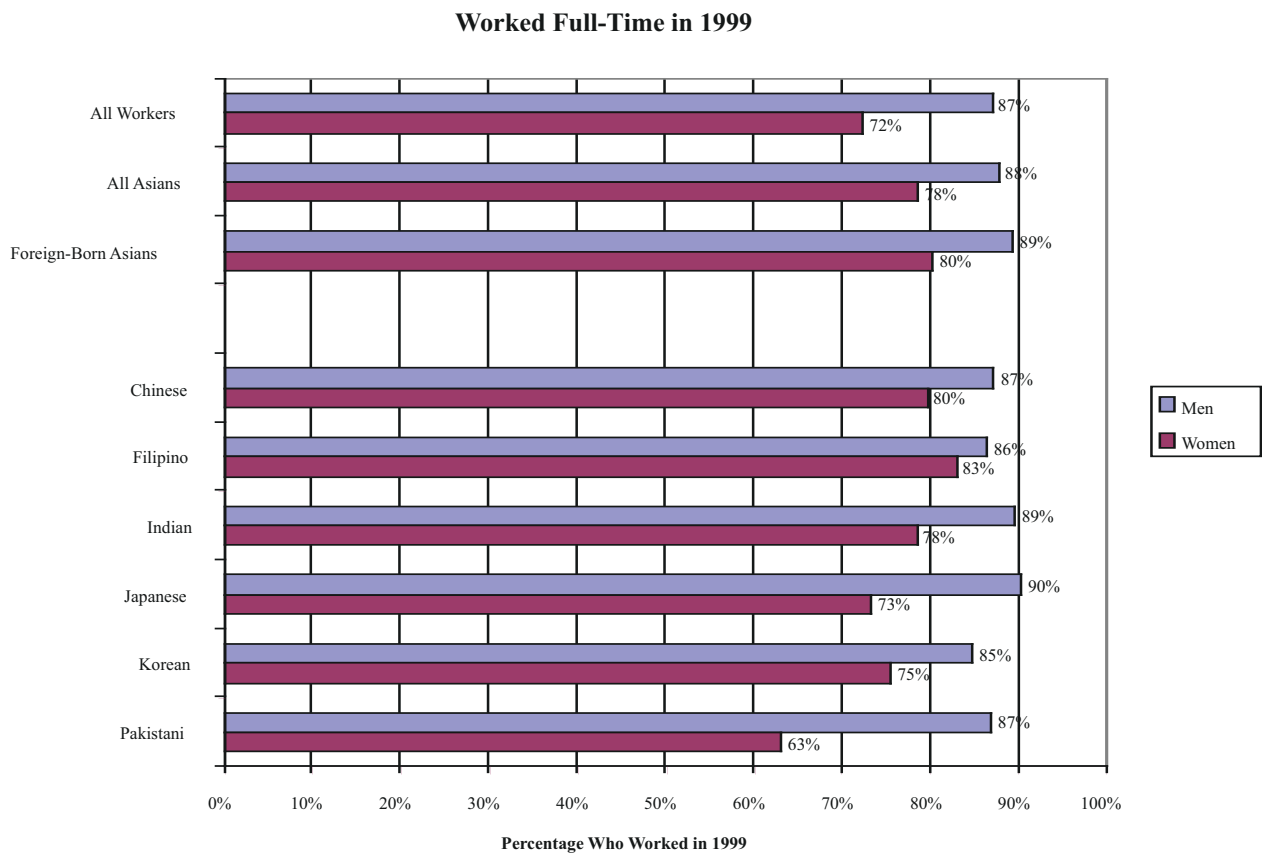
Hours and Weeks Worked

Asians were more likely to work at full-time jobs than the general population. However, Asians also were less apt to work a full year than the general population, indicating underemployment.⁸

Pakistani women were much more likely to have part-time jobs and work less than a full year than any other group examined in this report.

Figure 5 shows similar percentages of Asian men and men in general held full-time jobs. However, Asian women were more likely to work full-time than women as a whole. Foreign-born Asians were slightly more apt to have full-time jobs than the total Asian population.

Figure 5: Percentage of Full-time Workers in New York CMSA by Race, Nativity, Ethnicity and Gender

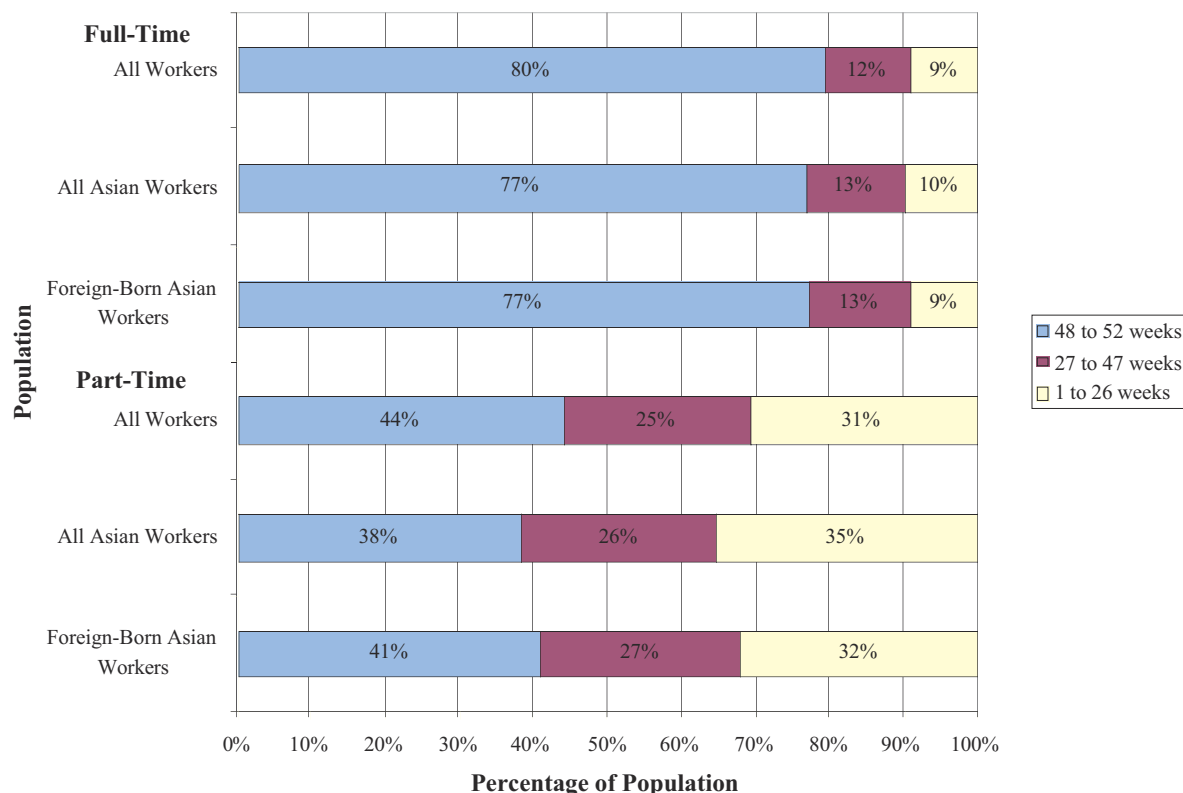


Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4 and Advanced Query

Asian workers overall were less likely to work the whole year than workers in general, as shown in Figure 6. Foreign-born Asians part-time workers were apt to work more weeks than the all Asian part-time workers.

⁸ In Census 2000, full-time workers were defined as those who reported working 35 or more hours in a typical week. A full year of work was defined as 48 to 52 weeks in 1999.

Figure 6: Share of Weeks Worked by Full-Time and Part-Time Workers in New York CMSA by Ethnicity and Nativity



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4 and Advanced Query

Note: Numbers may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Examination of Figure 7 for gender-based differences reveals that fewer than 4 in 10 Asian women working part-time worked the whole year, in contrast with almost half of all female part-time workers. Asian men also were slightly less likely to work the entire year than the general male working population.

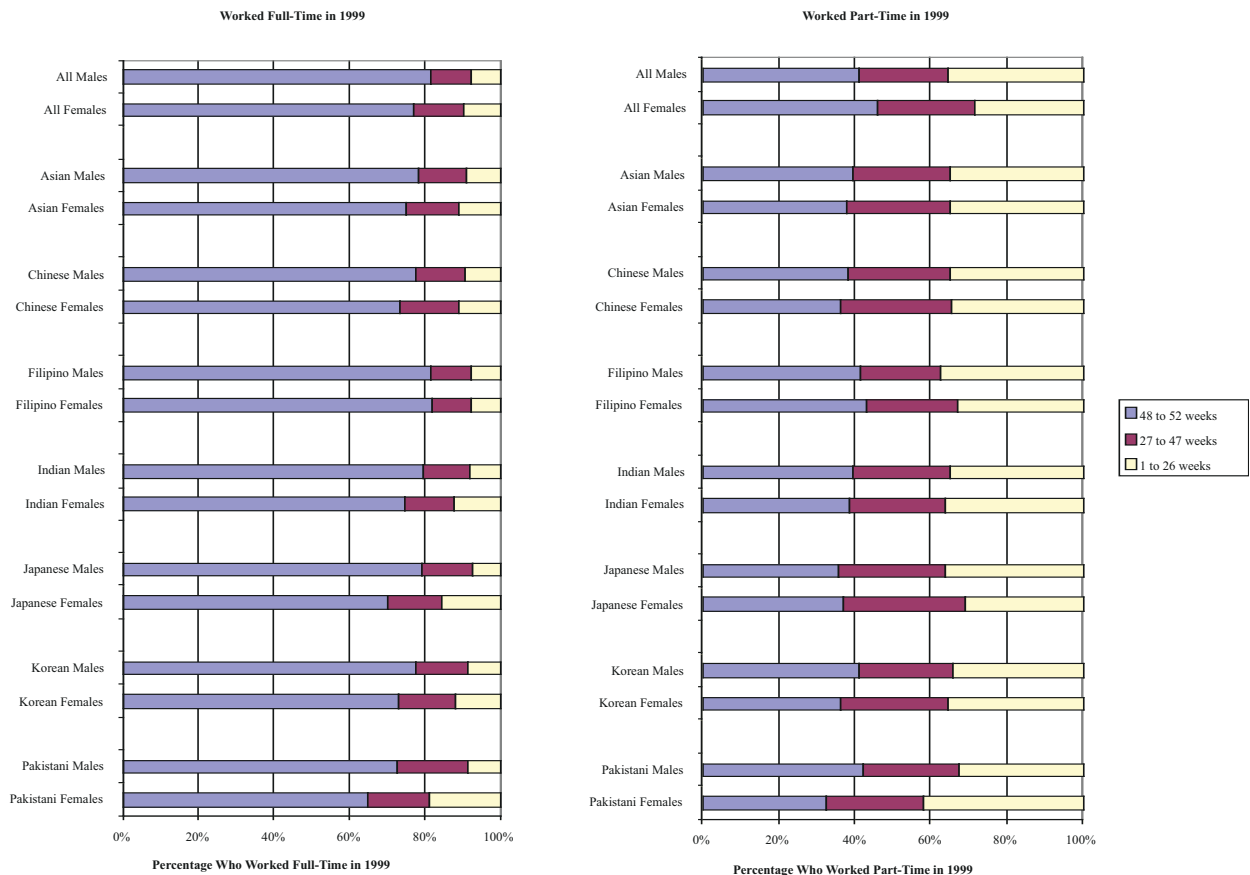
Among Asian ethnic groups, Pakistani full-time workers – both men and women – were least likely to work the entire year. For Pakistani women, only 65 percent of full-time workers worked 48 to 52 weeks, compared with 75 percent of all Asian women employed full-time and 70 percent of Japanese women employed full-time, who were the ethnic group with the next lowest percentage. Only 72 percent of Pakistani men employed full-time worked 48 to 52 weeks during the year, compared to 78 percent for all Asian men employed full-time and 77 percent for the Chinese and Korean men employed full-time, who were the ethnic groups with the next lowest percentages.

However, 91 percent of Pakistani men who worked full-time worked more than half of the year (27 to 52 weeks), matching the percentage of all Asian men working full-time. In addition, Pakistani women working part-time were least likely among women in the six largest Asian ethnic groups to have worked the entire year (33 percent of Pakistani women compared to 38 percent for all Asian women working part-time), while Pakistani men working part-time were most apt among Asian men to have worked the whole year (42 percent of Pakistani men compared with 39 percent of all Asian men).

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

Filipino full-time and part-time workers of both genders were most likely among the six largest Asian ethnic groups to have worked the whole year. The gap between Filipino women and their peers was especially large. While 82 percent of full-time Filipino women worked the whole year, only three-quarters of all Asian women and 74 percent of Indian women (the group with second highest percentage) worked full-time the whole year. Among part-time workers, 43 percent of Filipino women worked the whole year, compared to 38 percent of Asian women and 39 percent of Indian women (the group with the second highest percentage).

Figure 7: Share of Weeks Worked by Full-Time and Part-Time Workers in New York CMSA by Gender and Ethnicity



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4 and Advanced Query

Public Sector, Private Sector and Self-Employment

Analysis of Census 2000 data on classes, or categories, of work for New York-area residents reveals differences between Asians and the general population, as well as variations within the Asian population.

Among the findings:

- Larger percentages of Asians were self-employed or worked unpaid in family businesses than the total worker population. Moreover, Koreans were more than twice as likely to be self-employed as Asians overall, with Pakistanis close behind. Nearly a quarter of Korean men were self-employed.
- As Table 5 shows, Asians comprised almost 1 in 10 self-employed business owners in the New York area and close to 1 in 5 people who worked for family businesses without pay.
- Asians were underrepresented in state and local government jobs, but the federal government employed Asians approximately in proportion to their presence in the labor force.
- Foreign-born Asians were more likely to work for themselves or in family businesses than Asians born in the United States. While immigrants constituted 89 percent of the Asian work force, 95 percent of all Asian owners of incorporated businesses and 92 percent of all Asian unpaid family workers were born outside the United States
- On the other hand, Asian private not-for-profit and state and local government workers were more apt to be born in America than foreign-born, and Asian immigrants were underrepresented in these categories in relation to their presence in the Asian worker population.

Table 5: Classes of Workers by Race and Nativity

Class of Workers	All Workers	All Asian Workers	% of Class of Workers	Foreign born Asian Workers	% of All Asian Workers
Private for-profit wage and salary workers:	6,755,171	582,713	8.6%	518,871	89%
Employee of private company	6,381,805	547,542	8.6%	485,418	89%
Self-employed in own incorporated business	373,366	35,171	9.4%	33,453	95%
Private not-for-profit wage and salary workers	768,998	50,080	6.5%	42,225	84%
Local government workers	912,381	32,279	3.5%	27,636	86%
State government workers	316,599	17,049	5.4%	14,606	86%
Federal government workers	206,276	17,348	8.4%	15,481	89%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	539,643	38,327	7.1%	35,237	92%
Unpaid family workers	21,413	3,756	17.5%	3,441	92%
Totals	9,520,481	741,552	7.8%	657,497	89%

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Examination of the same indicators by gender in reveals some variation (Table 6). While 7.3 percent of all female workers were Asian, 11.1 percent of self-employed women in their own incorporated businesses were Asian. In contrast, Asian men represented 8.9 percent of both all male employees of private companies and all men self-employed in their own incorporated businesses. Asian women were underrepresented in not-for-profit organizations to a greater degree than Asian men. While Asians overall were overrepresented among unpaid family workers, Asians made up a larger percentage of men in this worker class (18.8 percent) than women in this category (16.6 percent).

Table 6: Classes of Workers in New York CMSA by Race and Gender

Class of Workers	All Workers Men	Women	Asian Workers Men	% of All Male Workers	% of All Women	Female Workers
Private for-profit wage and salary workers:	3,748,836	3,006,335	333,327	8.9%	249,386	8.3%
Employee of private company	3,462,597	2,919,208	307,824	8.9%	239,718	8.2%
Self-employed in own incorporated business	286,239	87,127	25,503	8.9%	9,668	11.1%
Private not-for-profit wage and salary workers	268,547	500,451	21,208	7.9%	28,872	5.8%
Local government workers	405,020	507,361	15,537	3.8%	16,742	3.3%
State government workers	143,142	173,457	8,634	6.0%	8,415	4.9%
Federal government workers	118,712	87,564	10,013	8.4%	7,335	8.4%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	340,809	198,834	25,052	7.4%	13,275	6.7%
Unpaid family workers	9,131	12,282	1,721	18.8%	2,035	16.6%
Totals	5,034,197	4,486,284	415,492	8.3%	326,060	7.3%

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Tables 7 and 8 present the distribution of workers in the largest Asian ethnic groups by gender. Asians were more concentrated in private industry than the entire regional work force and were underrepresented among government workers. High percentages of Japanese women, Koreans and Pakistanis were self-employed or worked unpaid for family members.

Table 7: Percentage of Population Sub-Groups in New York CMSA, by Gender and Class of Workers

Population Sub-Group	Private Wage & Salary Workers	Government Workers	Self-employed Workers	Unpaid Family Workers
All Workers	75.1%	15.1%	9.6%	0.2%
All Asian Workers	80.6%	9.0%	9.9%	0.5%
Foreign-Born Asians	80.3%	8.8%	10.4%	0.5%
By Gender				
All Men	74.1%	13.2%	12.5%	0.2%
All Women	76.2%	17.1%	6.4%	0.3%
All Asian Men	79.2%	8.2%	12.2%	0.4%
All Asian Women	82.4%	10.0%	7.0%	0.6%
Chinese Men	81.0%	8.4%	10.1%	0.5%
Chinese Women	84.3%	9.0%	6.2%	0.5%
Filipino Men	82.6%	10.7%	6.4%	0.2%
Filipino Women	83.3%	12.4%	4.2%	0.1%
Indian Men	78.8%	9.4%	11.6%	0.2%
Indian Women	82.7%	11.7%	5.1%	0.5%
Japanese Men	82.7%	4.9%	12.3%	0.1%
Japanese Women	80.7%	7.9%	10.4%	1.0%
Korean Men	69.8%	4.6%	24.6%	1.1%
Korean Women	75.6%	6.6%	15.9%	1.9%
Pakistani Men	78.2%	4.5%	16.9%	0.4%
Pakistani Women	81.7%	9.7%	8.2%	0.4%

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Table 8: Classes of Workers in New York CMSA by Gender and Ethnicity

	Chinese		Filipino		Indian		Japanese		Korean		Pakistani	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Private for-Profit Wage and Salary Workers:												
Employee of Private Company	105,818	90,761	32,296	38,324	107,118	59,926	12,618	9,234	32,266	29,715	14,436	3,285
Self-Employed in Own Incorporated Business	98,849	87,535	31,156	37,567	98,700	58,100	11,797	8,843	27,298	26,987	12,928	3,108
Private Not-for-Profit Wage and Salary Workers	6,174	8,301	3,207	7,723	6,316	6,752	924	1,190	2,413	3,053	626	323
Local Government Workers	3,898	4,938	1,884	3,611	7,170	4,790	258	473	632	1,155	372	316
State Government Workers	2,639	2,446	879	1,682	3,334	2,633	248	287	548	681	191	75
Federal Government Workers	4,325	2,797	1,693	1,435	2,013	1,773	255	224	765	793	214	18
Self-Employed Workers in Own Not-Incorporated Business	6,175	3,875	1,527	1,548	7,052	2,210	1,067	896	5,488	3,602	1,426	168
Unpaid Family Workers	612	623	93	58	329	375	18	122	459	755	62	16
Totals	129,641	113,741	41,579	54,381	133,332	78,459	15,388	12,426	42,571	39,754	17,327	4,201

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Occupations

In Census 2000, Asians in the New York region reported working in a wide range of occupations, with clustering in both high- and low-end job categories. Although Asians were overrepresented in certain professions associated with high-level skills and high earnings, such as doctors, computer specialists and accountants, Asians also had a disproportionately large presence in low-wage occupations, such as cooks, personal-care workers, motor-vehicle operators and textile workers.

Table 9 shows the 10 largest occupational groups for Asians, out of 93 census categories. The most popular group for Asian men was computer specialists – the fourth-ranked job classification for all men in the labor force. Computer specialists accounted for 10 percent of all jobs for Asian men, compared with 4 percent of jobs for all men. For Asian women, the most common category was registered nurses, ranked sixth for all female workers. While 4 percent of working women in general were registered nurses, 8 percent of working Asian women were in this field.

Several occupational groups represented important sources of jobs for Asians. Motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers, accounted for 3.1 percent of jobs for Asian men, compared with 1.1 percent of jobs for all men. Cooks and food preparation workers accounted for 3.0 percent of jobs for Asian men, compared with 1.5 percent of jobs for all men. For Asian women, textile, apparel, and furnishings workers were 6.3 percent of employment, but only 1.3 percent of employment for all women. Computer specialist accounted for 4.9 percent of jobs for Asian women, compared to 1.8 percent for all women. While only 1.8 percent of all employed women worked as accountants and auditors, 4.1 percent of Asian women were in this field.

Table 9: 10 Largest Occupational Groups by Employment of Asian Americans, by Gender

Occupations	All Workers	Occupation Ranking All All Workers	Asian Workers
Both Genders			
Computer specialists	277,766	7	59,257
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors ⁱ	358,339	3	33,743
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors ⁱⁱ	447,133	1	29,747
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers ⁱⁱⁱ	412,594	2	27,775
Textile, apparel and furnishings workers	91,405	41	27,503
Registered nurses	176,935	17	27,374
Other production occupations, including supervisors ^{iv}	242,473	10	24,820
Accountants and auditors	175,245	18	23,996
Cashiers	168,388	19	21,257
Retail sales workers, except cashiers	250,783	9	19,889
Men			
Computer specialists	199,147	4	43,391
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	215,263	2	23,988
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	246,426	1	18,105
Other production occupations, including supervisors	156,610	9	14,561
Motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers ^v	57,330	32	12,860
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	136,301	10	12,514
Cooks and food preparation workers	75,130	23	12,384
Material recording, scheduling, dispatching and distributing workers	162,688	7	11,682
Engineers	81,516	19	11,385
Sales representatives: services, wholesale and manufacturing	199,827	3	11,187
Women			
Registered nurses	165,412	6	24,719
Textile, apparel and furnishings workers	59,137	25	20,477
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	310,832	2	17,233
Computer specialists	78,619	22	15,866
Accountants and auditors	79,744	21	13,354
Cashiers	115,113	11	11,831
Secretaries and administrative assistants	320,802	1	10,393
Other production occupations, including supervisors	85,863	19	10,259
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	143,076	8	9,755
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	166,168	5	9,670

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

In turn, several occupational groups were highly dependent on Asians to fill positions. To identify those occupations, occupational groups were ranked by the Asian share of total employment. Table 10 shows that Asians were clustered in a mix of professional and front-line service and manufacturing occupations.

Among professional occupations, Asians constituted more than one-quarter of all life and physical scientists, although Asians constituted only 7.8 percent of the total regional work force. Asians also represented over 20 percent of physicians and surgeons as well as computer specialists. On the service and manufacturing side of the economy, 30 percent of textile, apparel and furnishings workers and 22 percent of motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers, were Asian.

Among Asians, some occupational groups showed clear gender differences. Most of these groups followed the same gender patterns as the general population. For example, well over 70 percent of computer specialists were men for Asians and the general population. Also, over 90 percent of registered nurses were women for both groups.

However, a number of occupational groups showed significant differences in gender patterns compared to the general population. For waiters and waitresses, 41 percent of workers in general were men compared to 64 percent of Asian workers who were men. For cooks and food preparation workers, 66 percent of

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

workers in general were men while 82 percent of Asian workers were men. For accountants and auditors, 46 percent of workers in general were women while 56 percent of Asian workers were women. Among textile workers, 65 percent of all workers were women and 74 percent of Asian workers were women.

Table 10: 10 Occupational Groups With Highest Shares of Asian Americans, by Gender

Occupations	All Workers Population	Asian Workers Population	Share of Occupation
Both Genders			
Textile, apparel, and furnishings workers	91,405	27,503	30.1%
Life and physical scientists	47,122	12,139	25.8%
Physicians and surgeons	79,053	18,201	23.0%
Motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers	60,209	13,025	21.6%
Computer specialists	277,766	59,257	21.3%
Registered nurses	176,935	27,374	15.5%
Personal appearance workers	66,607	10,178	15.3%
Life, physical, and social science technicians	16,616	2,428	14.6%
Other health diagnosing and treating practitioners			
and technical occupations	60,126	8,603	14.3%
Engineers	90,997	12,985	14.3%
Men			
Life and physical scientists	28,689	7,052	25%
Registered nurses	11,523	2,655	23%
Motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers	57,330	12,860	22%
Computer specialists	199,147	43,391	22%
Textile, apparel and furnishings workers	32,268	7,026	22%
Physicians and surgeons	54,552	11,150	20%
Waiters and waitresses	39,281	7,736	20%
Cashiers	53,275	9,426	18%
Cooks and food preparation workers	75,130	12,384	16%
Therapists	9,292	1,500	16%
Women			
Textile, apparel and furnishings workers	59,137	20,477	35%
Physicians and surgeons	24,501	7,051	29%
Life and physical scientists	18,433	5,087	28%
Computer specialists	78,619	15,866	20%
Other health-diagnosing and -treating practitioners			
and technical occupations ^{vi}	25,247	4,699	19%
Engineers	9,481	1,600	17%
Accountants and auditors	79,744	13,354	17%
Life, physical and social science technicians	7,416	1,210	16%
Personal-appearance workers	51,259	8,132	16%
Architects, surveyors and cartographers	5,121	773	15%

Source: *Census 2000 Summary File 4*

To identify any occupations in which Asians may face employment hurdles, occupational groups were ranked by the share of Asians in them. For instance, Table 11 illustrates that local and state government jobs had low proportions of Asians, reflecting findings from the worker-class analysis in Table 5.

Discrepancies involving Asian representation among female secretaries and administrative assistants as well as teachers merit closer study. For women overall, the most common occupational group was secretaries and administrative assistants, while preschool through middle school teachers came in third among professions. However, Asians represented only 3.2 percent of female workers in the secretarial/assistant category and 2.4 percent of female teachers although Asian women made up 7.3 percent of the female labor force. Among men in general, lawyers, building and grounds cleaning and maintenance workers, and law enforcement workers were some of the most prevalent occupational groups. However, the shares of Asians in these large occupational groups were much smaller than the percentage of Asian men in the male labor pool (8.3 percent).

Table 11: Occupational Groups With Lowest Shares of Asian Americans, by Gender

Occupations	All Workers Population	Asian Workers Population	Share of Occupation
Men			
Teachers: special education	2,196	10	0.5%
Firefighting and prevention workers, including supervisors	25,106	136	0.5%
Extraction workers	1,276	12	0.9%
Aircraft and traffic control occupations	4,892	62	1.3%
Pipelayers, plumbers, pipefitters and steamfitters	32,298	411	1.3%
Law enforcement workers, including supervisors	100,213	1,332	1.3%
Construction trades workers, except carpenters, electricians, painters, plumbers and construction laborers	68,248	961	1.4%
Teachers: secondary school	26,575	471	1.8%
Agricultural workers, including supervisors	5,407	100	1.8%
Other material-moving workers, except laborers	30,030	620	2.1%
Bus drivers	34,747	802	2.3%
Electricians	44,614	1,131	2.5%
Fishing, hunting and forestry occupations	2,316	60	2.6%
Buildings and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	196,781	5,217	2.7%
Woodworkers	7,851	212	2.7%
Teachers: preschool, kindergarten, elementary and middle school	56,131	1,532	2.7%
Lawyers	79,730	2,224	2.8%
Supervisors, construction and extraction workers	50,212	1,412	2.8%
Judges, magistrates, and other judicial workers	3,003	87	2.9%
Farmers and farm managers	3,857	112	2.9%
Women			
Extraction workers	73	-	0.0%
Fishing, hunting and forestry occupations	54	-	0.0%
Bus drivers	17,382	104	0.6%
Law enforcement workers, including supervisors	20,503	207	1.0%
Painters and paperhangers	1,901	23	1.2%
Teachers: special education	14,198	241	1.7%
Aircraft and traffic control occupations	582	10	1.7%
Other protective service workers, including supervisors	27,843	537	1.9%
Teachers: secondary school	40,575	891	2.2%
Teachers: preschool, kindergarten, elementary and middle school	221,415	5,358	2.4%
Rail and water transportation workers	1,350	33	2.4%
Communications equipment operators	10,202	264	2.6%
Counselors, social workers, and other community and social service specialists	93,812	2,510	2.7%
Farmers and farm managers	1,477	41	2.8%
Firefighting and prevention workers including supervisors	287	8	2.8%
Judges, magistrates and other judicial workers	1,815	54	3.0%
Electricians	938	28	3.0%
Supervisors, construction and extraction workers	1,506	47	3.1%
Construction trades workers, except carpenters, electricians, painters, plumbers and construction laborers	957	31	3.2%

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

Returning to the 10 largest occupational groups for Asians in the metropolitan region, Table 12 depicts distribution of workers by city or suburban residency. For example, most Asian textile workers lived in the city and textile occupations were the most popular category for Asian city residents, but this job class ranked 32nd for suburban Asian workers. In addition, registered nurses constituted the third most popular occupation for suburban Asians but ranked 10th among Asian city residents.

For Asian men, motor-vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers and cooks and food preparations workers were the third and fourth most common occupations for city residents but came in 28th and 23rd, respectively, for suburbanites. On the other hand, engineering, ranked fourth among suburban Asian men but 26th for their city counterparts. For Asian women, computer specialists ranked second among suburbanites but 13th for city residents.

Table 12: Residents of New York City and Suburbs for 10 Largest Occupational Groups for Asian Americans

Occupations	All Asian Workers	Asian Workers in NYC	NYC Ranking	Asian Workers in Suburbs	Suburban Ranking
Both Genders					
Computer specialists	59,257	17,428	2	41,829	1
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	33,743	17,365	3	16,378	2
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	29,747	16,892	4	12,855	5
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	27,775	13,071	6	14,704	4
Textile, apparel and furnishings workers	27,503	24,189	1	3,314	32
Registered nurses	27,374	11,080	10	16,294	3
Other production occupations, including supervisors	24,820	14,013	5	10,807	8
Accountants and auditors	23,996	11,919	8	12,077	6
Cashiers	21,257	12,440	7	8,817	12
Retail sales workers, except cashiers	19,889	11,057	11	8,832	11
Men					
Computer specialists	43,391	13,058	1	30,333	1
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	23,988	12,611	2	11,377	2
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	18,105	8,218	5	9,887	3
Other production occupations, including supervisors	14,561	8,063	7	6,498	6
Motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers	12,860	10,781	3	2,079	28
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	12,514	7,186	8	5,328	8
Cooks and food preparation workers	12,384	10,011	4	2,373	23
Material recording, scheduling, dispatching and distributing workers	11,682	6,902	9	4,780	13
Engineers	11,385	2,664	26	8,721	4
Sales representatives: services, wholesale and manufacturing	11,187	6,166	13	5,021	11
Women					
Registered nurses	24,719	10,020	2	14,699	1
Textile, apparel and furnishings workers	20,477	18,457	1	2,020	25
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	17,233	9,706	3	7,527	3
Computer specialists	15,866	4,370	13	11,496	2
Accountants and auditors	13,354	6,512	5	6,842	4
Cashiers	11,831	6,698	4	5,133	5
Secretaries and administrative assistants	10,393	6,067	6	4,326	9
Other production occupations, including supervisors	10,259	5,950	7	4,309	10
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	9,755	4,754	11	5,001	6
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	9,670	4,853	10	4,817	7

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Occupations by Ethnic Groups

Chinese Americans

Significant portions of the Chinese American community were working as food service and textile workers. Food preparation and serving related occupations⁹ accounted for 15 percent of all jobs for Chinese men. The second and third most popular occupational groups were “cooks and food preparation workers” and “other food preparation and serving workers, including supervisors.” Textile, apparel, and furnishings jobs represented 14 percent of all jobs for Chinese women. Over twice as many Chinese American women were employed as textile, apparel, and furnishings workers (16,217 women) than as computer specialists (6,888 women), the second most popular category.

While Chinese Americans were 2.5 percent of the labor force, Chinese accounted for 22.2 percent of all textile, apparel and furnishings workers. In addition, 11.8 percent of life and physical scientists, 8.2 percent of cooks and food preparation workers and 7.4 percent of computer specialists were Chinese.

Table 13: 10 Occupational Groups by Employment of Chinese Americans (Except Taiwanese) by Gender

Occupations	All Workers	Occupation Ranking for All Workers	Chinese American Workers
Both Genders			
Computer specialists	277,766	7	20,511
Textile, apparel and furnishings workers	91,405	41	20,314
Other production occupations, including supervisors	242,473	10	10,038
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	447,133	1	9,858
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	412,594	2	9,625
Accountants and auditors	175,245	18	9,295
Cooks and food preparation workers	113,145	32	9,248
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	358,339	3	7,269
Other food preparation and serving workers, including supervisors	98,848	38	7,060
Waiters and waitresses	96,937	39	6,291
Men			
Computer specialists	199,147	4	13,623
Cooks and food preparation workers	75,130	23	8,138
Other food preparation and serving workers, including supervisors	68,145	26	6,458
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	246,426	1	6,271
Other production occupations, including supervisors	156,610	9	5,351
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	215,263	2	4,765
Waiters and waitresses	39,281	42	4,270
Textile, apparel and furnishings workers	32,268	50	4,097
Engineers	81,516	19	3,955
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	136,301	10	3,681
Women			
Textile, apparel and furnishings workers	59,137	25	16,217
Computer specialists	78,619	22	6,888
Accountants and auditors	79,744	21	6,377
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	310,832	2	6,177
Other production occupations, including supervisors	85,863	19	4,687
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	166,168	5	3,354
Secretaries and administrative assistants	320,802	1	3,343
Cashiers	115,113	11	3,188
Bookkeeping, accounting and auditing clerks	111,104	13	2,767
Life and physical scientists	18,433	53	2,550

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

⁹ Cooks and food preparation workers, waiters and waitresses, food- and beverage-serving workers, and other food preparation and serving workers, including supervisors, are classified by the U.S. Census Bureau as food preparation and serving-related occupational groups.

Filipino Americans

Healthcare occupations were important to Filipino Americans. Over 25 percent of Filipino workers were working in healthcare-related occupations¹⁰, compared to 5 percent of all workers. In particular, 27 percent of working Filipino women were registered nurses. Over five times as many Filipino American women (14,614) were employed as registered nurses than the second most popular occupational group for Filipino women, “other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors” with 2,649 workers.

While Filipinos represented 0.83 percent of the labor force, 9.3 percent of registered nurses, 3.4 percent of physicians and surgeons, and 3.4 percent of health technologists and technicians were Filipino. Of all male nurses, 15.7 percent were Filipino. For female nurses, 8.8 percent were Filipino.

Table 14: 10 Occupational Groups by Employment of Filipino Americans by Gender

Occupations	All Workers	Occupation Ranking for All Workers	Filipino American Workers
Both Genders			
Registered nurses	176,935	17	16,424
Computer specialists	277,766	7	4,872
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	447,133	1	4,721
Health technologists and technicians	113,806	31	3,889
Accountants and auditors	175,245	18	3,425
Material recording, scheduling, dispatching and distributing workers	230,054	11	2,924
Physicians and surgeons	79,053	45	2,704
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	412,594	2	2,513
Retail sales workers, except cashiers	250,783	9	2,481
Buildings and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	310,190	5	2,468
Men			
Computer specialists	199,147	4	3,248
Material recording, scheduling, dispatching and distributing workers	162,688	7	2,272
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	136,301	10	2,072
Registered nurses	11,523	76	1,810
Health technologists and technicians	30,463	51	1,617
Accountants and auditors	95,501	16	1,489
Physicians and surgeons	54,552	34	1,434
Retail sales workers, except cashiers	124,553	12	1,336
Other production occupations, including supervisors	156,610	9	1,276
Engineers	81,516	19	1,124
Women			
Registered nurses	165,412	6	14,614
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	310,832	2	2,649
Health technologists and technicians	83,343	20	2,272
Secretaries and administrative assistants	320,802	1	2,110
Accountants and auditors	79,744	21	1,936
Computer specialists	78,619	22	1,624
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	168,592	4	1,618
Bookkeeping, accounting and auditing clerks	111,104	13	1,462
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	166,168	5	1,446
Buildings and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	113,409	12	1,364

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

¹⁰ Healthcare-related occupations included the following occupational groups defined by the Census Bureau: physicians and surgeons, registered nurses, therapists, other health diagnosing and treating practitioners and technical occupations, and health technologists and technicians.

Indian Americans

In 2000, computer specialists accounted for 15 percent of all jobs for Indian men, compared to 4 percent of jobs for all men. Nearly three times as many Indian men were employed as computer specialists, than the next largest occupational group (Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors). For Indian women, computer specialists were also the most popular occupational group, accounting for 7 percent of jobs, with registered nurses not far behind with 6.5 percent of jobs.

Indian Americans were well-represented in a number of occupational groups. While making up 2.1 percent of the labor force, Indians were 10.4 percent of physicians and surgeons, 9.5 percent of motor vehicle operators, except bus drivers, and 9.3 percent of computer specialists.

Table 15: 10 Occupational Groups by Employment of Indian Americans by Gender

Occupations	All Workers	Occupation Ranking for All Workers	Indian American Workers
Both Genders			
Computer specialists	277,766	7	25,751
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	358,339	3	9,983
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	447,133	1	9,165
Physicians and surgeons	79,053	45	8,228
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	412,594	2	7,640
Cashiers	168,388	19	7,072
Other production occupations, including supervisors	242,473	10	6,858
Accountants and auditors	175,245	18	6,270
Motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers	60,209	55	5,742
Retail sales workers, except cashiers	250,783	9	5,661
Men			
Computer specialists	199,147	4	20,127
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	215,263	2	7,836
Motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers	57,330	32	5,678
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	246,426	1	5,611
Physicians and surgeons	54,552	34	4,994
Engineers	81,516	19	4,191
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	136,301	10	4,170
Other production occupations, including supervisors	156,610	9	4,157
Accountants and auditors	95,501	16	3,976
Cashiers	53,275	35	3,635
Women			
Computer specialists	78,619	22	5,624
Registered nurses	165,412	6	5,101
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	310,832	2	4,995
Cashiers	115,113	11	3,437
Physicians and surgeons	24,501	48	3,234
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	168,592	4	2,986
Other production occupations, including supervisors	85,863	19	2,701
Retail sales workers, except cashiers	126,230	9	2,556
Secretaries and administrative assistants	320,802	1	2,473
Health technologists and technicians	83,343	20	2,443

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Japanese Americans

The largest numbers of Japanese men were employed in management, financial and sales-related occupations, including top executive¹¹ positions. Top executives represented 10 percent of jobs for Japanese men, compared to 2.7 percent of jobs for all men. Of the 1,768 Japanese employed as top executives, 88 percent were men. Art and design workers were the most popular occupational category for Japanese women, followed by other management occupations. Among Japanese art and design workers, 65 percent were women.

While Japanese Americans represented only 0.28 percent of the labor force, Japanese Americans were 1.1 percent of art and design workers, 1.1 percent of life and physical scientists, 1.0 percent of top executives, and 1.0 percent of architects, surveyors and cartographers.

Table 16: 10 Occupational Groups by Employment of Japanese Americans by Gender

Occupations	All Workers	Occupation Ranking for All Workers	Japanese American Workers
Both Genders			
Top executives	177,382	16	1,768
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	412,594	2	1,699
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	358,339	3	1,467
Sales representatives: services, wholesale and manufacturing	300,056	6	1,317
Computer specialists	277,766	7	1,304
Art and design workers	104,295	34	1,188
Advertising, marketing, promotions, public relations and sales managers	120,067	28	1,042
Accountants and auditors	175,245	18	1,016
Media and communications workers	119,318	29	991
Business operations specialists	223,781	12	908
Men			
Top executives	136,033	11	1,553
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	246,426	1	1,033
Computer specialists	199,147	4	1,004
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	215,263	2	923
Sales representatives: services, wholesale and manufacturing	199,827	3	797
Advertising, marketing, promotions, public relations and sales managers	62,816	27	703
Financial managers	57,876	31	614
Other food preparation and serving workers, including supervisors	68,145	26	534
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	136,301	10	444
Business operations specialists	105,333	13	431
Women			
Art and design workers	54,571	29	778
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	166,168	5	666
Secretaries and administrative assistants	320,802	1	628
Accountants and auditors	79,744	21	611
Media and communications workers	57,256	27	575
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	143,076	8	544
Sales representatives: services, wholesale and manufacturing	100,229	15	520
Business operations specialists	118,448	10	477
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	310,832	2	458
Waiters and waitresses	57,656	26	360

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

11 The top executive occupational group is defined by the Census Bureau as chief executives (CEO, CFO, board chairman, college president, etc.), general and operations managers, and legislators.

Korean Americans

Nearly three times as many Korean American men were employed in the other sales and related occupations, including supervisors, category as the next most common occupation, computer specialists. For Korean men, 14 percent of all jobs were in other sales and related occupations, including supervisors. Korean women were most likely to be personal-appearance workers; sales and related occupations, including supervisors, were a distant second. For Korean personal appearance workers, 93 percent were women.

Korean Americans represented 0.85 percent of the labor force. Koreans were 7.3 percent of personal appearance workers, 4.6 percent of religious workers, and 4.1 percent of textile, apparel, and furnishings workers.

Table 17: 10 Occupational Groups by Employment of Korean Americans by Gender

Occupations	All Workers	Occupation Ranking for All Workers	Korean American Workers
Both Genders			
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	358,339	3	8,751
Personal appearance workers	66,607	52	4,872
Textile, apparel and furnishings workers	91,405	41	3,709
Cashiers	168,388	19	3,244
Retail sales workers, except cashiers	250,783	9	3,193
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	412,594	2	3,140
Computer specialists	277,766	7	2,802
Other production occupations, including supervisors	242,473	10	2,742
Sales representatives: services, wholesale and manufacturing	300,056	6	2,606
Top executives	177,382	16	2,423
Men			
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	215,263	2	6,038
Computer specialists	199,147	4	2,122
Textile, apparel, and furnishings workers	32,268	50	1,876
Top executives	136,033	11	1,843
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	246,426	1	1,838
Sales representatives: services, wholesale and manufacturing	199,827	3	1,820
Other production occupations, including supervisors	156,610	9	1,814
Retail sales workers, except cashiers	124,553	12	1,531
Cashiers	53,275	35	1,129
Physicians and surgeons	54,552	34	1,086
Women			
Personal appearance workers	51,259	31	4,509
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	143,076	8	2,713
Cashiers	115,113	11	2,115
Textile, apparel, and furnishings workers	59,137	25	1,833
Retail sales workers, except cashiers	126,230	9	1,662
Registered nurses	165,412	6	1,641
Art and design workers	54,571	29	1,514
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	310,832	2	1,354
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	166,168	5	1,302
Accountants and auditors	79,744	21	1,286

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Pakistani Americans

Twice as many Pakistani men worked as motor-vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers, than in the second most popular occupational group, other sales and related occupations, including supervisors. Motor vehicle operators accounted for 15 percent of all jobs for Pakistani men. The most common occupational categories for Pakistani women were cashiers and other retail sales workers, followed by computer specialists and physicians. Nearly a fifth of working Pakistani women were either cashiers or retail sales workers, except cashiers.

Pakistani Americans were 0.27 percent of the labor force. Pakistanis were 4.4 percent of all motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers, 2.2 percent of all other transportation occupations, 1.1 percent of physicians and surgeons, and 0.7 percent of cashiers.

Table 18: 10 Occupational Groups by Employment of Pakistani Americans by Gender

Occupations	All Workers	Occupation Ranking for All Workers	Pakistani American Workers
Both Genders			
Motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers	60,209	55	2,678
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	358,339	3	1,516
Computer specialists	277,766	7	1,219
Cashiers	168,388	19	1,213
Retail sales workers, except cashiers	250,783	9	1,114
Physicians and surgeons	79,053	45	843
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	412,594	2	817
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	447,133	1	610
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	167,251	20	566
Sales representatives: services, wholesale and manufacturing	300,056	6	530
Men			
Motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers	57,330	32	2,678
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	215,263	2	1,372
Computer specialists	199,147	4	1,011
Cashiers	53,275	35	778
Retail sales workers, except cashiers	124,553	12	770
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	246,426	1	691
Physicians and surgeons	54,552	34	666
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	161,549	8	521
Sales representatives, services, wholesale and manufacturing	199,827	3	475
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	136,301	10	449
Women			
Cashiers	115,113	11	435
Retail sales workers, except cashiers	126,230	9	344
Computer specialists	78,619	22	208
Physicians and surgeons	24,501	48	177
Information and record clerks, except customer service representatives	156,760	7	163
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	310,832	2	161
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	143,076	8	144
Teachers: preschool, kindergarten, elementary and middle school	221,415	3	138
Other production occupations, including supervisors	85,863	19	135
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	166,168	5	126

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Industries

The six largest industry groups in the New York CMSA were among the 10 most popular sectors for Asian workers. Healthcare represented 13 percent of all Asian employment, professional, scientific, and technical services employed 10 percent of all Asian workers, and finance and insurance represented 9 percent. These groups were followed by accommodation and food services at 8 percent, educational services at 5 percent and apparel manufacturing at 4 percent. These six industry groups account for 49 percent of all Asian employment.

Table 19 presents the 10 industry groups, out of 89 total Census industry groups, which employed the largest number of Asians in the region. For comparison, Table 19 also displays rankings for those industry groups based on total-work force employment. As shown, Asians were well-represented in the six highest ranked industry groups. However, large numbers of Asians also worked in industry groups with smaller total employment, such as personal and laundry services, computer and electronics manufacturing for men, and apparel manufacturing and chemical manufacturing for women.

The professional, scientific and technical services and accommodation and food services industry groups each accounted for 10 percent of employment for Asian men. The health-care sector provided 19 percent of all jobs for Asian women – almost twice as large as the next largest industry, finance and insurance.

Table 19: 10 Largest Industry Groups by Employment of Asian Americans, by Gender

Industries	All Employees	Industry Ranking for All Employees	Asian American Employees
Both Genders			
Health care	1,022,128	1	95,096
Professional, scientific and technical services ^{vii}	780,370	3	72,909
Finance and insurance	741,201	4	68,709
Accommodation and food services	459,204	6	59,710
Educational services	880,012	2	37,400
Apparel manufacturing	79,796	25	27,623
Other transportation ^{viii}	258,088	9	26,089
Personal and laundry services	145,953	17	23,169
Food and beverage stores	208,127	11	22,559
Construction	504,520	5	17,379
Men			
Professional, scientific and technical services	422,697	2	44,609
Accommodation and food services	269,153	5	43,092
Finance and insurance	376,358	3	37,014
Health care	265,072	6	32,150
Other transportation	199,839	9	23,130
Educational services	274,912	4	16,201
Construction	458,859	1	15,665
Food and beverage stores	124,800	11	15,115
Personal and laundry services	58,592	21	9,782
Computer and electronic products manufacturing	71,084	18	8,715
Women			
Health care	757,056	1	62,946
Finance and insurance	364,843	3	31,695
Professional, scientific and technical services	357,673	4	28,300
Educational services	605,100	2	21,199
Apparel manufacturing	54,355	22	20,605
Accommodation and food services	190,051	5	16,618
Personal and laundry services	87,361	12	13,387
Food and beverage stores	83,327	13	7,444
Social assistance ^{ix}	175,309	6	6,910
Chemical manufacturing	65,249	18	6,605

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

While total employment data shows which industries provided the most jobs to Asians, examining the percentage of Asian workers in each industry group reveals which industries were reliant on Asian workers to fill positions. Industry groups were ranked in Table 20 by their percentage of Asian workers. The apparel manufacturing had the highest share of Asian workers, who constituted 35 percent of employment in the industry. Gasoline stations followed with Asian representing 21 percent of employment. For comparison, Asians were 7.7 percent of the total civilian labor force.

Three industry groups accounted for a disproportionately large share of Asian employment. Accommodation and food services supplied 8.1 percent of Asian employment compared to 4.8 percent of all employment. Apparel manufacturing was 3.7 percent of Asian employment, compared to 0.8 percent of all employment. Personal and laundry services were 3.1 percent of Asian employment but accounted for only 1.5 percent of all employment.

Gender differences also exist between industry groups. Other industries with high proportions of Asian men included retail segments, such as those for gas stations; book store and news dealers; and jewelry, luggage and leather goods/retail trade, as well as service sectors, such as those for personal and laundry services and accommodation and food services. Personal and laundry services; jewelry, luggage and leather goods/retail trade; the U.S. Postal Service; and certain wholesale industry groups employed large shares of Asian women.

Table 20: 10 Industry Groups With Highest Shares of Asian Americans, by Gender

Industries	All Employees Population	Asian American Employees Population	Share of Industry
Both Sexes			
Apparel manufacturing	79,796	27,623	35%
Gasoline stations	18,451	3,807	21%
Wholesale trade: farm product raw materials	503	98	19%
Wholesale trade: apparel, piece goods and notions	34,421	6,699	19%
Wholesale trade: miscellaneous durable goods	31,433	5,817	19%
Personal and laundry services	145,953	23,169	16%
Retail trade: jewelry, luggage and leather goods	20,738	3,036	15%
Wholesale trade: miscellaneous nondurable goods	50,935	7,257	14%
Book stores and news dealers	14,406	2,033	14%
Retail trade: sewing, needlework and piece goods	3,186	417	13%
Men			
Apparel manufacturing	25,441	7,018	28%
Gasoline stations	15,506	3,487	22%
Wholesale trade: farm product raw materials	414	82	20%
Wholesale trade: apparel, piece goods and notions	16,597	3,267	20%
Wholesale trade: miscellaneous durable goods	17,867	3,262	18%
Retail trade: sewing, needlework and piece goods	1,203	210	17%
Book stores and news dealers	7,185	1,253	17%
Personal and laundry services	58,592	9,782	17%
Accommodation and food services	269,153	43,092	16%
Retail trade: jewelry, luggage and leather goods	9,890	1,551	16%
Women			
Apparel manufacturing	54,355	20,605	38%
Wholesale trade: apparel, piece goods and notions	17,824	3,432	19%
Wholesale trade: miscellaneous durable goods	13,566	2,555	19%
Wholesale trade: farm product raw materials	89	16	18%
Water transportation	1,056	175	17%
Textile mills and textile products manufacturing	13,491	2,096	16%
Personal and laundry services	87,361	13,387	15%
Retail trade: jewelry, luggage and leather goods	10,848	1,485	14%
Wholesale trade: miscellaneous nondurable goods	18,399	2,291	12%
U.S. Postal Service	26,686	3,255	12%

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

Table 21 shows industry groups with the lowest shares of Asian employees, including several sectors popular with the total regional work force. Why Asians were under-represented in those industries should be investigated more closely for causes, which may include issues with hiring and retaining Asians and/or attracting them to particular sectors or related occupations.

For example:

- Asian men and women had a relatively small presence in public administration, and Asian women were underrepresented in educational services. These facts correlate with low percentages of Asians in state and local government jobs (depicted in Table 5).
- Low Asian representation in the administrative and support, and waste management services industry corresponds with the small presence of Asians in buildings and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations (shown in Table 11).
- Asian men as a whole were underrepresented in the truck transportation, motor-vehicle and parts dealers, and construction categories, which employed more than 50,000 total male workers in the region.
- Asian women overall had a small presence in the arts, entertainment and recreation, educational services and social assistance sectors which were employed large numbers of women in general.

Table 21: Industry Groups in New York CMSA That Have Lowest Shares of Asian Americans, by Gender

Industries	All Employees Population	Asian Employees Population	Share of Industry Workers
Men			
Fuel dealers	3,730	30	0.8%
Mining	2,702	28	1.0%
Hardware, plumbing and heating equipment, and supplies	7,009	110	1.6%
Alcoholic beverages	8,220	188	2.3%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	11,070	269	2.4%
Recyclable materials	5,631	140	2.5%
Utilities	48,866	1,241	2.5%
Petroleum and petroleum products	7,518	217	2.9%
Rail transportation	16,058	509	3.2%
Vending machine operators	1,918	61	3.2%
Truck transportation	59,834	2,023	3.4%
Beverage and tobacco products	7,922	269	3.4%
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	58,128	1,976	3.4%
Lumber and construction materials	5,822	198	3.4%
Construction	458,859	15,665	3.4%
Public administration	250,393	8,652	3.5%
Wood products	5,968	208	3.5%
Building materials, hardware, and lawn and garden equipment stores	40,396	1,415	3.5%
Transportation equipment	29,278	1,161	4.0%
Administrative and support, and waste management services	199,912	7,941	4.0%
Women			
Farm supplies	352	4	1.1%
Fuel dealers	1,357	22	1.6%
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	13,401	295	2.2%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	4,765	125	2.6%
Hardware, plumbing and heating equipment, and supplies	2,963	95	3.2%
Building materials, hardware, and lawn and garden equipment stores	15,479	530	3.4%
Educational services	605,100	21,199	3.5%
Management of companies and enterprises	2,623	92	3.5%
Public administration	174,521	6,156	3.5%
Wood products	1,493	55	3.7%
Mining	941	35	3.7%
Lumber and construction materials	1,578	59	3.7%
Furniture and home furnishings and household appliances	19,269	721	3.7%
Construction	45,661	1,714	3.8%
Petroleum and petroleum products	2,549	96	3.8%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	77,642	2,965	3.8%
Metal	16,692	645	3.9%
Social assistance	175,309	6,910	3.9%
Utilities	11,868	474	4.0%
Paper	7,326	295	4.0%

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

A comparison of city residents to suburban residents in Table 22 reveals differences between Asians and their neighbors as well as differences between Asians living in the city and the suburbs.

A number of industry groups which were not popular among the general population employed a large number of Asians. Apparel manufacturing, personal and laundry services, and food and beverage stores were among the ten largest employers of Asians living in the city while none of the three ranked higher than 15th among New York City residents. In the suburbs, computer and electronics products manufacturing, chemical manufacturing, and personal and laundry services were among the ten largest employers of Asians, but were not in the top ten of suburban residents in general.

While city and suburban Asian Americans shared a number of industry groups among the ten largest employers, Asians living in the city were also employed in less technology-oriented industries than their peers in the suburbs. The apparel manufacturing, other transportation and construction industry groups were among the top ten largest employers of New York City Asians, but were not among the top ten for suburban Asian Americans. In contrast, computer and electronics products manufacturing and chemical manufacturing were the sixth and seventh largest employers of suburban Asian Americans but do not rank in the top ten employers of Asian American city residents.

Table 22: Employment of Asian Americans in 10 Largest Industry Groups for Asians in New York CMSA, by New York City or Suburban Residency

Industries	All Employees	Industry Ranking for All Employees	Asian Employees
Employers of New York City Residents			
Health care	391,494	1	43,072
Accommodation and food services	192,944	5	42,325
Finance and insurance	277,110	3	35,939
Professional, scientific, and technical services	271,963	4	30,047
Apparel manufacturing	53,145	18	24,629
Educational services	281,074	2	18,972
Other transportation	128,846	8	18,692
Personal and laundry services	57,270	17	14,141
Food and beverage stores	64,825	15	12,594
Construction	139,385	7	12,521
Employers of Suburban Residents			
Health care	630,634	1	52,024
Professional, scientific, and technical services	508,407	3	42,862
Finance and insurance	464,091	4	32,770
Educational services	598,938	2	18,428
Accommodation and food services	266,260	7	17,385
Chemical manufacturing	129,370	11	13,412
Computer and electronic products manufacturing	97,746	16	10,077
Food and beverage stores	143,302	9	9,965
Personal and laundry services	88,683	19	9,028
Broadcasting and telecommunications	137,616	10	8,793

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Industries by Ethnic Groups

Chinese Americans

The accommodation and food-services industry employed nearly twice as many Chinese men as the next most popular sector, finance and insurance. Men were 75 percent of Chinese workers in the accommodation and food services industry group. Chinese women were concentrated in apparel manufacturing; finance and insurance; health care; and professional, scientific and technical services. Women represented 77 percent of Chinese workers in apparel manufacturing and 65 percent of Chinese workers in health-care.

Apparel manufacturing was especially reliant on Chinese American workers, who accounted for 27 percent of all workers in the industry group.

Table 23: 10 Largest Industry Groups by Employment of Chinese Americans (Except Taiwanese), by Gender

Industries	All Employees	Industry Ranking for All Employees	Chinese American Employees
Both Genders			
Accommodation and food services	459,204	6	31,409
Finance and insurance	741,201	4	26,157
Professional, scientific and technical services	780,370	3	22,654
Apparel manufacturing	79,796	25	21,399
Health care	1,022,128	1	16,946
Educational services	880,012	2	13,331
Miscellaneous manufacturing	137,805	19	5,850
Other transportation	258,088	9	5,814
Construction	504,520	5	5,578
Personal and laundry services	145,953	17	5,307
Men			
Accommodation and food services	269,153	5	23,708
Finance and insurance	376,358	3	12,671
Professional, scientific and technical services	422,697	2	12,066
Health care	265,072	6	5,997
Educational services	274,912	4	5,678
Apparel manufacturing	25,441	41	4,832
Construction	458,859	1	4,808
Other transportation	199,839	9	4,583
Food and beverage stores	124,800	11	3,056
Broadcasting and telecommunications	119,957	12	2,901
Women			
Apparel manufacturing	54,355	22	16,567
Finance and insurance	364,843	3	13,486
Health care	757,056	1	10,949
Professional, scientific and technical services	357,673	4	10,588
Accommodation and food services	190,051	5	7,701
Educational services	605,100	2	7,653
Miscellaneous manufacturing	58,895	19	3,000
Personal and laundry services	87,361	12	2,871
Chemical manufacturing	65,249	18	2,422
Social assistance	175,309	6	2,332

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Filipino Americans

The health-care industry was the most popular sector among Filipinos, accounting for more than a third of all Filipino employment. While Filipinos were only 0.83 percent of the labor force, they provided 3.3 percent of the workers in the health-care industry. Almost six times as many Filipino women worked in the health-care industry as in the next largest industry group, finance and insurance.

Table 24: 10 Largest Industry Groups by Employment of Filipino Americans, by Gender

Industries	All Employees	Industry Ranking for All Employees	Filipino American Employees
Both Genders			
Health care	1,022,128	1	33,284
Professional, scientific and technical services	780,370	3	7,938
Finance and insurance	741,201	4	7,690
Educational services	880,012	2	3,866
Accommodation and food services	459,204	6	3,587
Public administration	424,914	7	2,504
Chemical manufacturing	143,487	18	2,000
Administrative and support, and waste management services	334,913	8	1,724
Private households	59,509	33	1,620
Social assistance	206,712	12	1,590
Men			
Health care	265,072	6	8,901
Professional, scientific and technical services	422,697	2	4,121
Finance and insurance	376,358	3	3,589
Accommodation and food services	269,153	5	2,211
Educational services	274,912	4	1,295
Other transportation	199,839	9	1,264
Public administration	250,393	7	1,156
Construction	458,859	1	1,029
Chemical manufacturing	78,238	17	976
U.S. Postal Service	55,388	24	961
Women			
Health care	757,056	1	24,383
Finance and insurance	364,843	3	4,101
Professional, scientific and technical services	357,673	4	3,817
Educational services	605,100	2	2,571
Private households	55,064	21	1,471
Accommodation and food services	190,051	5	1,376
Public administration	174,521	7	1,348
Social assistance	175,309	6	1,272
Chemical manufacturing	65,249	18	1,024
Administrative and support, and waste management services	135,001	8	783

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Indian Americans

The health-care, professional, scientific, and technical services and finance and insurance industry groups employed the most Indians in 2000. The health-care sector employed the most Indian women – twice as many female workers as worked in the next most popular industry, finance and insurance.

One additional industry group of note is gasoline stations. Indian Americans accounted for 2,220 employees or 12 percent of all employees for this industry group.

Table 25: 10 Largest Industry Groups by Employment of Indian Americans, by Gender

Industries	All Employees	Industry Ranking for All Employees	Indian American Employees
Both Genders			
Health care	1,022,128	1	29,707
Professional, scientific and technical services	780,370	3	26,705
Finance and insurance	741,201	4	19,840
Other transportation	258,088	9	10,776
Accommodation and food services	459,204	6	10,532
Educational services	880,012	2	9,932
Food and beverage stores	208,127	11	7,237
Chemical manufacturing	143,487	18	5,851
Construction	504,520	5	5,598
Men			
Professional, scientific and technical services	422,697	2	19,302
Finance and insurance	376,358	3	12,007
Health care	265,072	6	11,262
Other transportation	199,839	9	10,071
Accommodation and food services	269,153	5	7,898
Food and beverage stores	124,800	11	5,296
Construction	458,859	1	5,221
Educational services	274,912	4	4,700
Chemical manufacturing	78,238	17	3,712
Computer and electronic products manufacturing	71,084	18	3,168
Women			
Health care	757,056	1	18,445
Finance and insurance	364,843	3	7,833
Professional, scientific and technical services	357,673	4	7,403
Educational services	605,100	2	5,232
Accommodation and food services	190,051	5	2,634
Chemical manufacturing	65,249	18	2,139
Food and beverage stores	83,327	13	1,941
Social assistance	175,309	6	1,855
Department and other general stores	69,779	16	1,809
Miscellaneous manufacturing	58,895	19	1,628

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Japanese Americans

Japanese Americans were concentrated in the finance and insurance and the professional, scientific and technical services sectors. Among the 10 top industries for Japanese workers were three media sectors: broadcasting and telecommunications; arts, entertainment and recreation; and publishing, motion picture and sound recording. The last category was unique among the six ethnic groups as a major employer of both men and women.

While Japanese Americans were 0.28 percent of the labor force, Japanese were 1.6 percent of total employment in the miscellaneous durable goods wholesale trade¹² industry group.

Table 26: 10 Largest Industry Groups by Employment of Japanese Americans, by Gender

Industries	All Employees	Industry Ranking for All Employees	Indian American Employees
Both Genders			
Finance and insurance	741,201	4	3,994
Professional, scientific and technical services	780,370	3	3,613
Educational services	880,012	2	2,243
Accommodation and food services	459,204	6	1,943
Health care	1,022,128	1	1,476
Publishing, and motion picture and sound recording industries	177,758	14	944
Arts, entertainment and recreation	177,176	15	934
Administrative and support, and waste management services	334,913	8	858
Broadcasting and telecommunications	198,963	13	746
Computer and electronic products manufacturing	109,086	21	695
Men			
Finance and insurance	376,358	3	2,472
Professional, scientific and technical services	422,697	2	2,067
Accommodation and food services	269,153	5	1,166
Educational services	274,912	4	1,055
Computer and electronic products manufacturing	71,084	18	527
Health care	265,072	6	515
Administrative and support, and waste management services	199,912	8	467
Broadcasting and telecommunications	119,957	12	425
Arts, entertainment and recreation	99,534	14	370
Publishing, and motion picture and sound recording industries	89,652	15	363
Women			
Professional, scientific and technical services	357,673	4	1,546
Finance and insurance	364,843	3	1,522
Educational services	605,100	2	1,188
Health care	757,056	1	961
Accommodation and food services	190,051	5	777
Publishing, and motion picture and sound recording industries	88,106	9	581
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	77,642	15	564
Administrative and support, and waste management services	135,001	8	391
Public administration	174,521	7	322
Broadcasting and telecommunications	79,006	14	321

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

¹² Miscellaneous durable goods wholesale trade includes sporting and recreational goods wholesalers, toy and hobby goods wholesalers, jewelry, watch, precious stone and precious metal wholesalers, and other durable goods wholesalers.

Korean Americans

Large numbers of Koreans worked in industries usually associated with small businesses: personal and laundry services, as well as food and beverage stores. Personal and laundry services were especially important to the Korean community, representing 14 percent of all Korean jobs. Korean Americans provided 8.2 percent of the workers in the personal and laundry services industry group.

Also noteworthy were significant numbers of Koreans of both genders in religious, grantmaking, civic, professional and similar organizations.

Table 27: 10 Largest Industry Groups by Employment of Korean Americans, by Gender

Industries	All Employees	Industry Ranking for All Employees	Korean American Employees
Both Genders			
Personal and laundry services	145,953	17	11,929
Professional, scientific and technical services	780,370	3	6,745
Health care	1,022,128	1	6,387
Food and beverage stores	208,127	11	6,006
Finance and insurance	741,201	4	5,878
Accommodation and food services	459,204	6	4,732
Educational services	880,012	2	4,155
Apparel manufacturing	79,796	25	2,219
Clothing and apparel including shoes retail trade	100,420	23	2,200
Religious, grantmaking, civic, professional and similar organizations	149,126	16	1,910
Men			
Personal and laundry services	58,592	21	4,366
Food and beverage stores	124,800	11	3,696
Professional, scientific and technical services	422,697	2	3,519
Finance and insurance	376,358	3	3,175
Accommodation and food services	269,153	5	2,582
Health care	265,072	6	2,116
Educational services	274,912	4	1,703
Construction	458,859	1	1,443
Other transportation	199,839	9	1,422
Religious, grantmaking, civic, professional and similar organizations	61,562	19	1,141
Women			
Personal and laundry services	87,361	12	7,563
Health care	757,056	1	4,271
Professional, scientific and technical services	357,673	4	3,226
Finance and insurance	364,843	3	2,703
Educational services	605,100	2	2,452
Food and beverage stores	83,327	13	2,310
Accommodation and food services	190,051	5	2,150
Apparel manufacturing	54,355	22	1,328
Clothing and apparel including shoes retail trade	65,615	17	1,163
Religious, grantmaking, civic, professional and similar organizations	87,564	10	769

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Pakistani Americans

More than twice as many Pakistani men were employed in the other transportation category as in the next largest industry group, health care, reflecting the large number of Pakistani men who were motor-vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers. Other transportation accounted for 15 percent of Pakistani employment, compared with 2 percent of employment in general. Health care and educational services employed the highest numbers of Pakistani women, for whom department and other general stores, as well as in food and beverage stores, also were popular workplaces.

While Pakistanis were 0.27 percent of the labor force, they provided 3.0 percent of the workers in gasoline stations, and 1.2 percent of workers in other transportation.

Table 28: 10 Largest Industry Groups by Employment of Pakistani Americans, by Gender

Industries	All Employees	Industry Ranking for All Employees	Pakistani American Employees
Both Genders			
Other transportation	258,088	9	3,218
Health care	1,022,128	1	2,066
Professional, scientific and technical services	780,370	3	1,451
Accommodation and food services	459,204	6	1,292
Finance and insurance	741,201	4	1,257
Construction	504,520	5	1,257
Food and beverage stores	208,127	11	1,194
Educational services	880,012	2	788
Department and other general stores	108,194	22	628
Gasoline stations	18,451	61	553
Men			
Other transportation	199,839	9	3,127
Health care	265,072	6	1,379
Construction	458,859	1	1,232
Professional, scientific and technical services	422,697	2	1,182
Accommodation and food services	269,153	5	1,088
Finance and insurance	376,358	3	983
Food and beverage stores	124,800	11	969
Gasoline stations	15,506	53	533
Administrative and support, and waste management services	199,912	8	459
Repair and maintenance	102,438	13	395
Women			
Health care	757,056	1	687
Educational services	605,100	2	480
Finance and insurance	364,843	3	274
Professional, scientific and technical services	357,673	4	269
Department and other general stores	69,779	16	249
Food and beverage stores	83,327	13	225
Accommodation and food services	190,051	5	204
Apparel manufacturing	54,355	22	118
Social assistance	175,309	6	116
Publishing, and motion picture and sound recording industries	88,106	9	105

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

II. Asian American Earnings, Income and Poverty

Analysis of Census 2000 data on earnings, income and poverty for Asians in the New York CMSA adds further depth to the picture of Asian economic contributions and conditions. This section presents statistics on earnings and income measurements, distribution of wealth, and poverty rates.

Comparisons are made between the Asian population at large and the entire regional population, as well as within the Asian work force. Examination reveals broad economic gaps among Asian population segments, based on ethnicity; gender; age group; household type; city or suburban residency; nativity; citizenship status; and, for immigrants, time living in the United States.

This section also considers high poverty rates and high incomes in relation to particular occupations and industries.

Key Findings:

- Asian Americans had lower median earnings and family incomes than the general population.
- Chinese and Pakistani Americans had lower income and earnings across all measures than the general population. Japanese Americans had higher income and earnings across all measures than the general population. Indian and Filipino Americans had higher household and family incomes than the general population, but larger household sizes for those two groups lowered per capita income relative to the general population.
- Asian Americans had higher poverty rates than the general population. The poverty rate for married-couple Asian family households was nearly double the rate for the general population. Senior Asian Americans households also had higher poverty rates than all senior households, with nearly double the rate for some household categories.
- Chinese and Pakistani American households had higher poverty rates than the other Asian groups and the general population. Filipino American households had the lowest poverty rates which were a third smaller than the general poverty rate. Japanese Americans had relatively low poverty rates compared to their peers. Indian American households lead by a householder under 65 years of age had lower poverty rates than the general population. For senior Indian households, the opposite was true.
- More recent Asian immigrants had higher poverty rates than Asian immigrants who had been in the United States for much longer. Non-citizen immigrants had nearly double the poverty rate as naturalized immigrants.
- A high percentage of Asian workers living in impoverished households were in low-wage service occupations, such as cooks, cashiers, or waitresses, or in the apparel manufacturing industry. Successful Asian workers earning \$100,000 or more in 1999 were well-represented in the finance and insurance or health care industry sectors. The most popular occupations for high-income Asian workers included physicians, computer specialists, and management occupations.

Earnings and Income

The Census Bureau defines earnings as wages, salaries and net income from self-employment. This section provides earnings information for workers age 16 or older.

The Bureau defines income to include earnings, as well as interest, dividends, net rental or royalty income or income from estates and trusts; Social Security or railroad retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); public assistance or welfare payments; retirement, survivor or disability pensions; and all other income.

Census 2000 data show that Asians had lower median earnings, median family income and per capita income but higher median household income than New York CMSA residents overall.

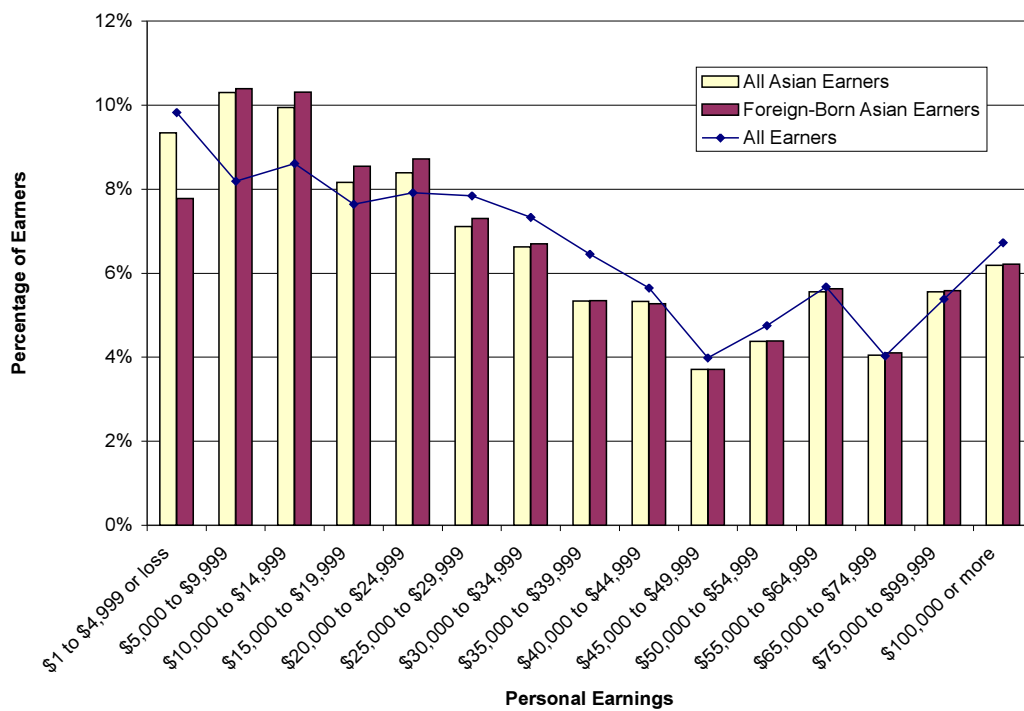
Asian workers had median earnings of \$27,097, compared with \$29,983 for all workers in the region. As shown in Figure 8, the Asian population had a higher percentage of people earning \$5,000 to \$24,999 per year than the general population.

New York City or suburban residency affected earnings. Asian workers living in the city had lower median earnings (\$21,957) than city workers overall (\$26,530). However, suburban Asian workers had higher median earnings (\$35,390) than all workers living in the suburbs (\$32,031) and the city.

For foreign-born Asians, median earnings were \$27,244, slightly exceeding median earnings for all Asians. The difference between the medians is shown in Figure 8 by the lower percentage of foreign-born Asians in the lowest income category (\$1 to \$4,999 or loss). Otherwise, earnings for foreign-born and U.S.-born Asians were distributed similarly. Median earnings for foreign-born Asians also surpassed those for all foreign-born workers in the region (\$24,102).

Per capita income for Asians, at \$22,733, fell short of the \$26,604 for the entire regional population.

Figure 8: Distribution of Personal Earnings in 1999 for New York CMSA



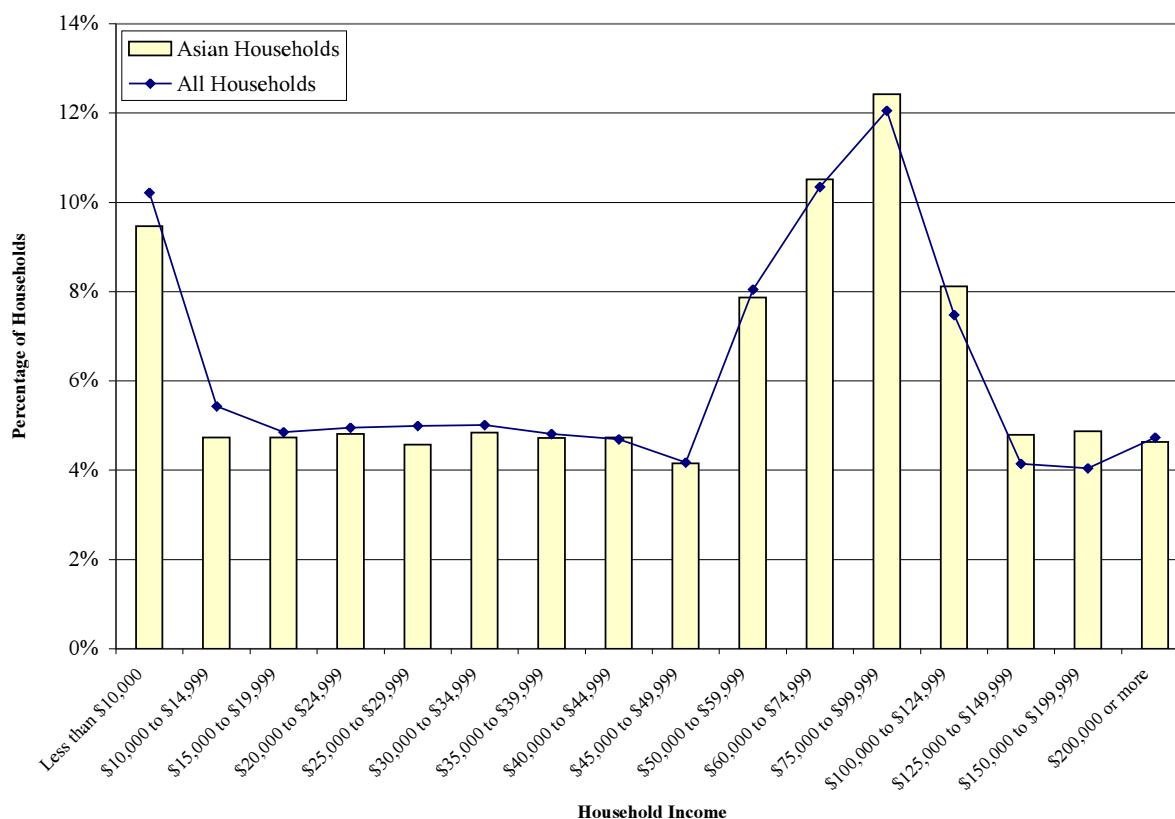
Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

On the other hand, the Asian median household income for the New York CMSA, at \$53,185, was higher than the \$50,795 for all households in the New York area. The median income for Asian households in New York City (\$40,978) exceeded that for all households in the city (\$38,293) but was much lower than for suburban Asian households (\$73,584). Asian suburbanites' median household income also surpassed that for all suburban residents (\$59,905).

Household-income distribution was similar for Asians and the general population (Figure 9), with only small percentage differences at the lowest and highest income levels.

Figure 9: Distribution of Household Income in 1999 for New York CMSA

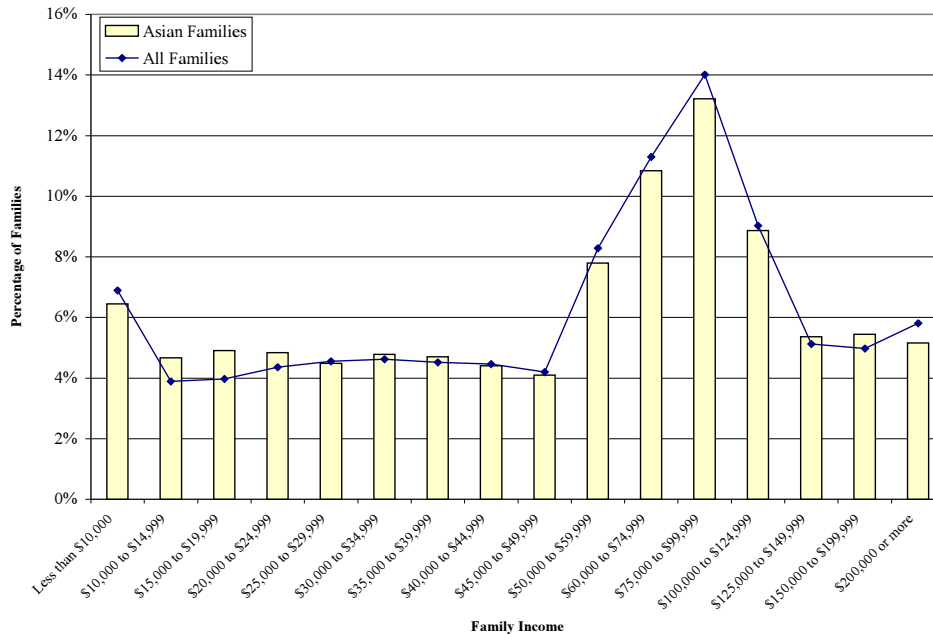


Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Median family income for Asians region-wide was \$58,196, slightly lower than \$60,254 for the entire population. Asians living in the city had a median family income of \$41,901, nearly identical to \$41,887 for all city families.

However, median family income for Asians in the suburbs was \$80,169, much higher than \$70,552 for all suburban families. As with personal earnings, a higher percentage of Asian families earned \$10,000 to \$24,999 than the general population (Figure 10).

Figure 10: Distribution of Family Income in 1999 for New York CMSA



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Among the six major Asian ethnic groups, only Japanese had higher median earnings and incomes than the general population across all measures. Chinese, Koreans and Pakistanis had median earnings and incomes lower than those for the general population. Filipinos and Indians had higher median earnings, median household income and median family income but, because of larger households, slightly lower per capita incomes than the general population.

Pakistanis had the lowest median household income, median family income and per capita income of the Asian ethnic groups. Chinese had the lowest median earnings, followed by Pakistanis and Koreans. Median earnings by gender show that Pakistani women had the lowest median earnings among the six ethnic groups. Pakistani women had median earnings of \$15,536, compared to \$20,754 for Chinese women who were the second lowest earnings. A smaller gap in median earnings existed between Pakistani men with \$25,687 and Chinese men who had the lowest median earnings among the six ethnic groups with \$25,305.

Overall, Asian men had median earnings of \$30,262 – 24 percent higher than Asian women (\$24,330). This gender gap was smaller than the 43 percent difference between male and female median earnings for the general population. Filipino women had higher median earnings than their male counterparts among the six ethnic groups.

Table 29: Median Earnings and Income Measures in 1999 for New York CMSA by Race, Gender and Ethnicity

	Total CMSA Population	All Asians	Chinese	Filipino	Indian	Japanese	Korean	Pakistani
Median Earnings:	\$29,983	\$27,097	\$22,478	\$34,732	\$30,043	\$39,245	\$25,824	\$23,243
Men	\$35,730	\$30,262	\$25,305	\$31,793	\$34,180	\$54,144	\$29,797	\$25,687
Women	\$25,026	\$24,330	\$20,754	\$36,961	\$23,981	\$27,851	\$21,830	\$15,536
Household Income	\$50,795	\$53,185	\$46,368	\$76,260	\$61,179	\$55,317	\$44,059	\$43,894
Family Income	\$60,254	\$58,196	\$49,515	\$84,050	\$64,359	\$84,987	\$48,876	\$44,889
Per Capita Income	\$26,604	\$22,733	\$20,850	\$26,587	\$24,674	\$36,415	\$20,805	\$15,605

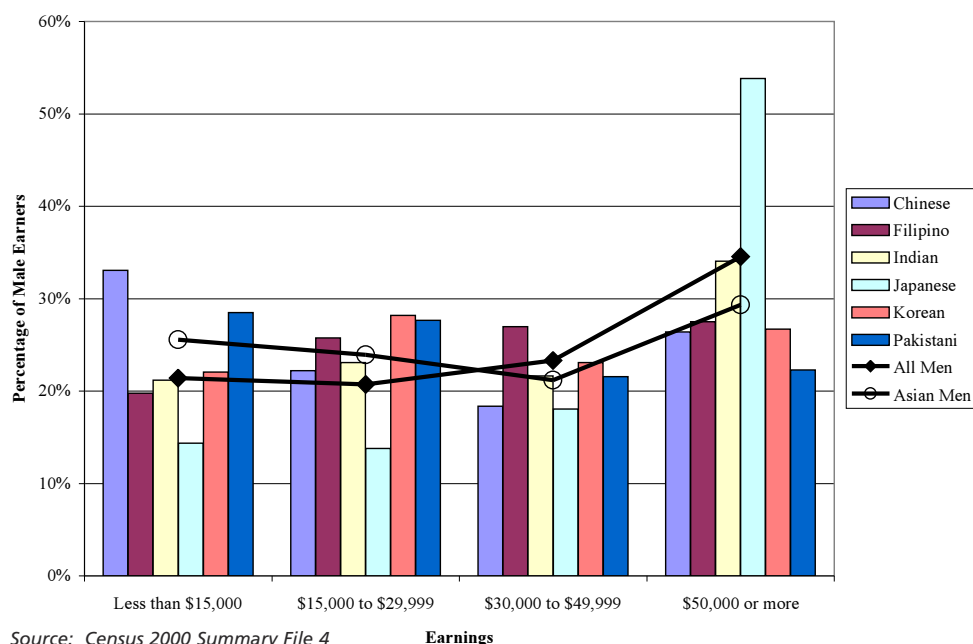
Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4 (red indicates values lower than for total population)

Figures 11 and 12 illustrate earnings distributions by gender and ethnicity. Asian men were more apt to earn less than men in general, with half the population earning less than \$30,000 per year. For the ethnic groups, the distribution of earnings for Indian and Japanese men shared a similar concentration at higher income levels, matching the general population. Earnings for Chinese men were distributed in a U-shaped

pattern, with clustering below \$15,000 and at \$50,000 and above. Earnings for Filipino and Korean men were close to evenly distributed among the income groups. Pakistani men had higher percentages in the lower income brackets than in the higher ranges.

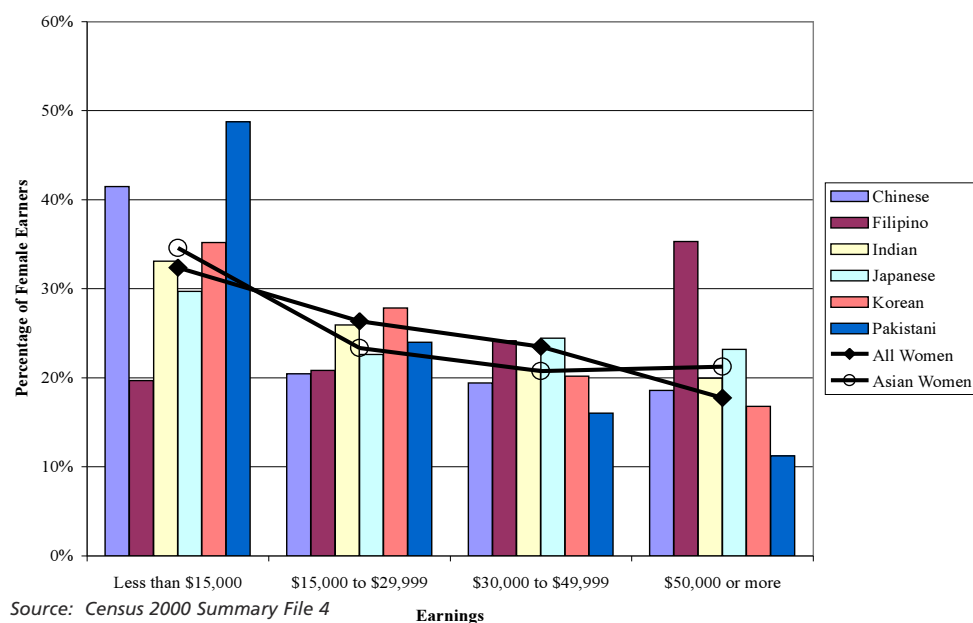
The opposite was true for women; about one-third of all female workers in the region earned less than \$15,000 (Figure 12). Slightly higher percentages of all Asian women earned below \$15,000 and \$50,000 or more than women in general. In the only radically different pattern among Asian ethnic groups, about one-third of Filipino women earned more than \$50,000 – a distribution more similar to that for men than for other women. Chinese, Korean and Pakistani women had higher portions of their populations earning less than \$15,000 than the general female population.

Figure 11: Distribution of Earnings for Men by Ethnicity



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

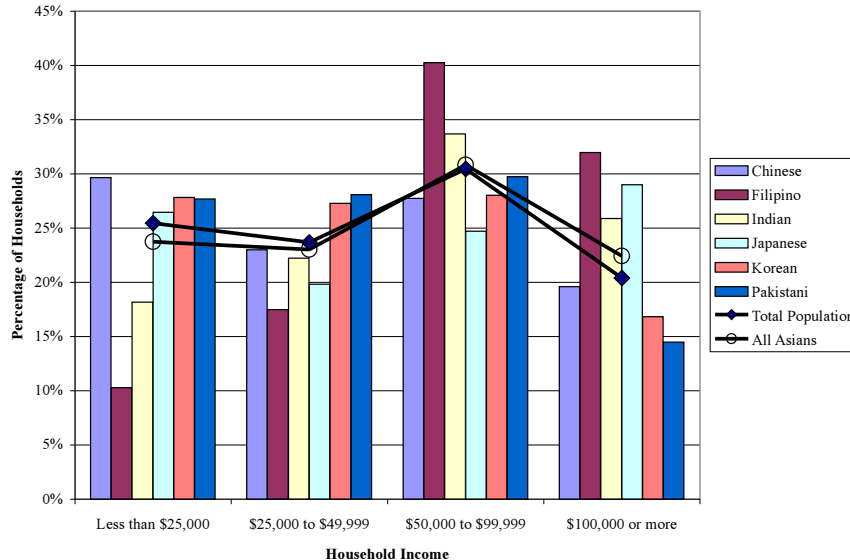
Figure 12: Distribution of Earnings for Women by Ethnicity



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

The distribution of household income among Asian ethnic groups (Figure 13) displays three patterns. In the first pattern, Filipino, Indian and Japanese households had a higher percentage of households with incomes of \$50,000 or more than the general population. In the second situation, Chinese showed evidence of an income gap among rich and poor households, with a similar percentage of households with incomes of \$50,000 or more as the general population but a much larger percentage of households with incomes of less than \$25,000. In the third pattern, Koreans and Pakistanis had a higher percentage of households in lower income groups than the general population.

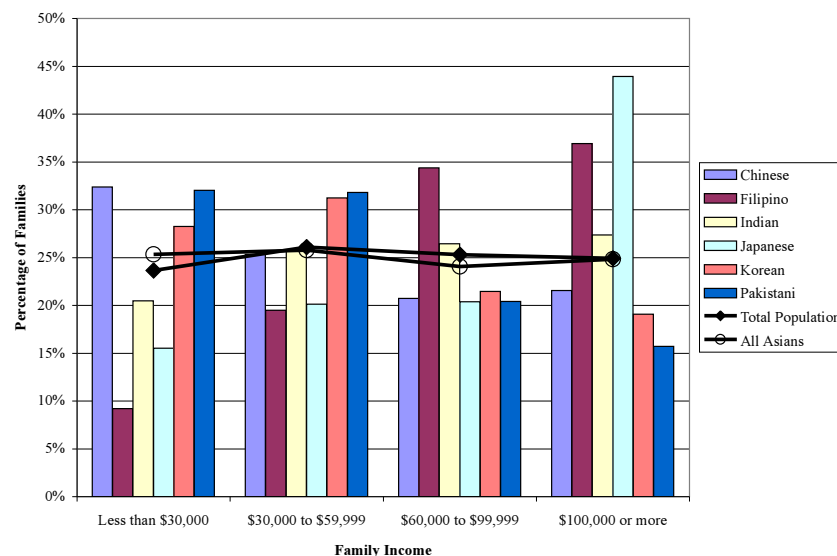
Figure 13: Distribution of Household Income by Ethnicity



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Distribution of family income among ethnic groups mirrors that for household income in many ways but with Chinese patterns closer to those of Koreans and Pakistanis. Indian, Filipino and Japanese had larger percentages of families in the higher-income ranges (\$60,000 to \$99,999 and \$100,000 or more) than the general population. Chinese had a greater percentage of families in the lowest income group (less than \$30,000) than the general population. Koreans and Pakistanis had larger shares of families in the two lower income groups than the total regional population.

Figure 14: Distribution of Family Income by Ethnicity



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Poverty Rates

Overall, Asians in the New York CMSA had higher poverty rates than the general population. Of all Asians in the region, nearly 14 percent lived below the poverty line, compared with almost 13 percent of all New York-area residents.

However, separate comparisons of New York City and suburban residents (Table 30) show that Asians had lower poverty rates than the general population in each geographic area. Asian and total-population rates, respectively, were about 20 percent and 21 percent for the city and roughly 7 percent and 8 percent for the suburbs.

Therefore, region-wide poverty figures for Asians were higher than the poverty rates for the general population because a higher proportion of Asians lived in the city, where poverty rates were greater than the suburbs.

Table 30 also reveals differences based on household type and age group. Single-parent Asian households had lower poverty rates than their counterparts in the general population, while married-couple Asian households were more likely to experience poverty than similar households in the general population. Asian senior citizens had higher poverty rates than seniors in the general population, especially if they were living in nonfamily households or group quarters.

Table 30: Poverty Rates for New York CMSA by Household Type, Age Group, and City or Suburban Residency

Place of Residence Type of Household	Entire New York CMSA		New York City		Suburbs	
	Total Population	Asian Americans	Total Population	Asian Americans	Total Population	Asian Americans
Total population:	12.9%	13.9%	21.2%	19.7%	7.8%	6.7%
Younger Than Age 65:	13.2%	13.6%	21.7%	19.4%	7.9%	6.6%
In Married-Couple Family Households	6.7%	11.2%	13.4%	17.5%	3.7%	4.5%
In Other Family Households:	27.5%	19.9%	34.8%	22.9%	19.8%	14.1%
Male Householder, No Wife Present	17.6%	17.8%	21.7%	20.7%	14.1%	11.7%
Female Householder, No Husband Present	30.5%	21.3%	38.2%	24.4%	21.7%	15.5%
In Nonfamily Households and Group Quarters	19.4%	24.8%	23.0%	26.9%	16.0%	20.7%
Age 65 to 74:	10.0%	17.5%	17.3%	22.7%	6.0%	8.6%
In Married-Couple Family Households	4.7%	14.2%	9.7%	19.8%	2.6%	5.7%
In Other Family Households:	12.1%	13.7%	17.8%	15.9%	7.0%	8.2%
Male Householder, No Wife Present	9.9%	15.7%	14.7%	17.4%	6.1%	10.8%
Female Householder, No Husband Present	12.9%	12.5%	18.8%	15.0%	7.3%	7.0%
In Nonfamily Households and Group Quarters	21.0%	44.5%	29.3%	48.0%	15.0%	35.8%
Age 75 or older:	12.0%	21.1%	18.3%	26.9%	8.7%	10.4%
In Married-Couple Family Households	4.8%	13.6%	8.2%	18.4%	3.4%	6.7%
In Other Family Households:	8.8%	16.7%	13.5%	18.7%	5.5%	11.3%
Male Householder, No Wife Present	7.9%	19.5%	12.0%	21.4%	5.3%	13.5%
Female Householder, No Husband Present	9.1%	15.1%	14.0%	17.0%	5.6%	10.3%
In Nonfamily Households and Group Quarters	21.1%	53.6%	28.6%	58.2%	16.3%	36.4%

Source: Census 2000 SF4

Poverty rates show diverse conditions among the largest Asian ethnic groups (Table 31). Among findings:

- More than 1 in 5 Pakistani households were living below the poverty line.
- Fewer than 1 in 20 Filipino households were impoverished.
- Among elderly Asians, Filipinos and Japanese faced less poverty than their peers. About 1 in 4 Chinese senior citizens and one-fifth of Korean and Pakistani seniors were living below the poverty level.
- Younger Indians had lower poverty rates than their peers in the general population, but elderly Indians were more apt to experience poverty than seniors in general.

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

As Table 32 illustrates, foreign-born Asians had a higher overall poverty rate (about 16 percent) than the entire population and Asians overall in the region. Poverty rates for Asians born outside the United States also corresponded to when they arrived in this country, with poverty most common among most recent immigrants. In addition, Asian noncitizens were almost twice as apt to live in poverty as Asians who were naturalized U.S. citizens.

Table 31: Poverty Rates for New York CMSA by Household Type, Age Group and Ethnicity

Type of Household	Total CMSA Populations	Chinese Americans	Filipino Americans	Indian Americans	Japanese Americans	Korean Americans	Pakistani Americans
Total Population:	12.9%	17.6%	4.4%	11.4%	14.0%	13.1%	21.0%
Younger Than Age 65:	13.2%	17.0%	4.2%	11.3%	14.4%	12.6%	21.1%
In Married-Couple Family Households	6.7%	15.1%	2.2%	9.3%	6.2%	8.7%	20.4%
In Other Family Households:	27.5%	22.5%	8.2%	20.2%	18.9%	20.3%	22.5%
Male Householder, No Wife Present	17.6%	22.7%	8.9%	15.3%	10.1%	16.0%	19.9%
Female Householder, No Husband Present	30.5%	22.4%	8.0%	24.8%	21.6%	22.2%	28.8%
In Nonfamily Households and Group Quarters	19.4%	25.2%	13.2%	20.8%	33.9%	31.4%	26.4%
Age 65 or Older:	10.9%	24.0%	7.3%	12.7%	7.0%	21.3%	18.6%
In Married-Couple Family Households	4.8%	19.0%	3.9%	9.5%	0.7%	15.0%	16.4%
In Other Family Households:	10.5%	16.7%	7.8%	14.8%	2.7%	15.3%	26.8%
Male Householder, No Wife Present	8.9%	18.1%	8.3%	14.7%	4.3%	19.9%	17.4%
Female Householder, No Husband Present	11.0%	15.9%	7.7%	14.8%	2.3%	12.1%	65.9%
In Nonfamily Households and Group Quarters	21.1%	57.1%	25.7%	40.1%	20.5%	61.4%	35.8%

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Table 32: Poverty Rate for Foreign-Born Asian Americans by Citizenship Status and Time of Entry

	Foreign-Born Asians in Poverty	Poverty Rate
Total	831,965	16.2%
Naturalized citizen:	266,728	11.4%
Entry 1995-March 2000	18,172	19.7%
Entry 1990-1994	40,187	16.1%
Entry 1985-1989	42,437	12.1%
Entry 1980 -1984	44,214	11.9%
Entry before 1980	121,718	9.5%
Not a citizen:	565,237	20.2%
Entry 1995-March 2000	254,005	24.8%
Entry 1990-1994	141,419	19.0%
Entry 1985-1989	80,980	17.3%
Entry 1980-1984	42,472	17.4%
Entry before 1980	46,361	14.5%

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Occupations and Industries for Asian Americans in Poverty

To gain a better understanding of the status of Asians living in poverty, their occupations and industries were analyzed to offer insight into their access to economic opportunities.

The greatest number of Asians below the poverty level held manufacturing and front-line service jobs (Table 33). One-third of all textile, apparel and furnishings workers in poverty were Asian. Asians constituted more than 1 in 4 impoverished motor-vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers. About 16 percent of workers in poverty in each of three food service occupations (cooks and food preparation workers; waiters and waitresses; and other food preparation and serving workers, including supervisors) were Asian.

About 31 percent of impoverished computer specialists were Asian, far exceeding Asians' 21 percent share of jobs in this sector. Consistent with these figures and as shown in Table 35, Asians had less than their share of high-income computer specialists in the region (about 19 percent of these workers).

Table 33: Most Popular Occupations for Asian American Workers Below Poverty Level

Occupation	Workers Below Poverty Line	Asian Workers Below Poverty	% of Workers in Poverty	% of Workers Who Are Asian
Textile, apparel and furnishings workers	26,821	8,918	33.3%	30.1%
Cashiers	55,534	5,821	10.5%	12.6%
Cooks and food preparation workers	29,631	4,789	16.2%	13.4%
Retail sales workers, except cashiers	38,983	3,914	10.0%	7.9%
Other production occupations, including supervisors	36,043	3,860	10.7%	10.2%
Waiters and waitresses	21,119	3,511	16.6%	12.4%
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	26,844	3,454	12.9%	9.4%
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	39,259	3,220	8.2%	6.7%
Motor vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers	11,812	3,152	26.7%	21.6%
Other food preparation and serving workers, including supervisors	18,661	2,951	15.8%	12.2%
Computer specialists	7,780	2,377	30.6%	21.3%

Source: Census Bureau Advanced Query

In terms of industries, Asians in poverty were employed primarily in the accommodations and food services industry and in apparel manufacturing. Disproportionately large percentages of Asians in two other industries were impoverished. In the finance and insurance sector, nearly 12 percent of employees in poverty were Asian, compared with Asians' 9 percent share of all workers in that industry. Similarly, for professional, scientific and technical services, 14 percent of employees below the poverty line were Asian, while 9 percent of all workers in the sector were Asian.

Table 34: Industries With Most Asian American Employees Below Poverty Level

Industry	Employees Below Poverty Line	Asian Employees Below Poverty Line	% of Employees Below Poverty Line Who Are Asian	% of Employees Who Are Asian
Accommodations and food services	102,047	15,241	14.9%	13.0%
Apparel manufacturing	20,866	8,723	41.8%	34.6%
Educational services	59,365	5,295	8.9%	4.2%
Health care	87,930	4,841	5.5%	9.3%
Professional, scientific and technical services	33,575	4,725	14.1%	9.3%
Food and beverage stores	39,194	4,277	10.9%	10.8%
Other transportation	30,131	4,122	13.7%	10.1%
Personal and laundry services	24,897	3,797	15.3%	15.9%
Construction	53,595	3,411	6.4%	3.4%
Finance and insurance	24,759	2,844	11.5%	9.3%

Source: Census Bureau Advanced Query

Occupations and Industries for High-Income Asian Americans

At the other end of the economic spectrum, successful Asian workers with earning \$100,000 or more in 1999 were most likely to be employed in the finance and insurance or the health care industry sector. Most popular occupations for high-income Asian workers included physicians (15 percent of high-income Asian workers), computer specialists (13 percent), and top executives (8 percent).

When the percent of high-income workers who were Asian in an occupational group is compared to the percent of all workers in that group, Asians were underrepresented in the occupational groups that employed the most high-income Asians. For example, while 23% of physicians and surgeons were Asian, only 18.6 percent of those making over \$100,000 were Asian. (Table 35). Among computer specialist, 18.7 percent of high-income workers were Asian compared with 21.3 percent who were Asian. Asians were 13.7 percent of all accountants and auditors but only made up 6.7 percent of accountants and auditors who made more than \$100,000.

Similarly, Table 36 reports the industries with the most Asian employees with incomes greater than \$100,000. Most of these industries had percentages of high-income Asians lower than percentages of their employees who were Asian. The exceptions were health care, broadcasting and telecommunications, and public administration.

Table 35: Most Popular Occupations for Asian American Workers With Incomes Greater Than \$100,000

Occupation	High-Income Workers	Asian Workers With High Incomes	% of High Income Workers Who Are Asian	% of Workers Who Are Asian
Physicians and surgeons	45,637	8,498	18.6%	23.0%
Computer specialists	41,577	7,790	18.7%	21.3%
Other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	77,816	4,686	6.0%	6.7%
Top executives	84,018	4,413	5.3%	6.9%
Other sales and related occupations, including supervisors	45,624	2,939	6.4%	9.4%
Sales representatives: services, wholesale and manufacturing	75,351	2,818	3.7%	5.8%
Financial managers	32,261	2,526	7.8%	8.7%
Business operations specialists	35,575	1,972	5.5%	6.8%
Accountants and auditors	28,073	1,894	6.7%	13.7%
Other financial specialists	26,828	1,701	6.3%	8.0%

Source: Census Bureau Advanced Query

Table 36: Industries With Most Asian American Employees With Incomes Greater Than \$100,000

Industry	High- Income Employees	Asian High-Income Employees	% of High-Income Employees Who Are Asian	% of Employees Who Are Asian
Finance and insurance	169,786	12,916	7.6%	9.3%
Health care	85,497	11,950	14.0%	9.3%
Professional, scientific and technical services	157,353	9,477	6.0%	9.3%
Chemical manufacturing	24,008	1,993	8.3%	10.6%
Broadcasting and telecommunications	27,972	1,834	6.6%	6.6%
Computer and electronic products	17,311	1,716	9.9%	11.5%
Educational services	37,527	1,193	3.2%	4.2%
Accommodations and food services	9,520	1,159	12.2%	13.0%
Public administration	23,605	883	3.7%	3.5%
Real estate and rental and leasing	23,964	794	3.3%	4.5%

Source: Census Bureau Advanced Query

III. Asian American Home Ownership

The primary source of wealth for all American households is equity in homes. This section looks at Census 2000 home-ownership data for the New York area.

Asians were less likely to own their homes than the general population, but Asians who did own homes were more apt to have a mortgage and higher owner costs.

Home Ownership Rates

According to Census 2000, 44 percent of Asians in the New York metropolitan area owned their home, while 53 percent of the general population owned their home (Table 37).

However, patterns varied between the city and suburbs. In the city, 34 percent of Asians owned their homes, slightly surpassing 30 percent of all residents. The reverse was true in the suburbs, where home-ownership rates were 56 percent for Asians and 68 percent for the general population.

Of the Asian households that owned their housing units, only 67 percent were in specified owner-occupied housing units (single-family houses), compared with 75 percent of the general population.¹³

The six largest Asian ethnic groups in the region divide into two groups based on home ownership rates. Chinese, Filipino and Indian Americans owned homes at a rate above the general Asian rate. Japanese, Korean and Pakistani Americans owned homes at a rate much less than the general Asian rate. However, Pakistani American owners were more likely than any of the other groups own single-family housing.

Table 37: Home Ownership, Mortgage Status and Owner Costs for New York CMSA by Ethnic Group

	Total Population	All Asians	Chinese	Filipino	Indian	Japanese	Korean	Pakistani
Home-Ownership Rate	53%	44%	49%	53%	45%	25%	31%	33%
Specified Owner-Occupied Rate	75%	67%	60%	77%	71%	64%	66%	91%

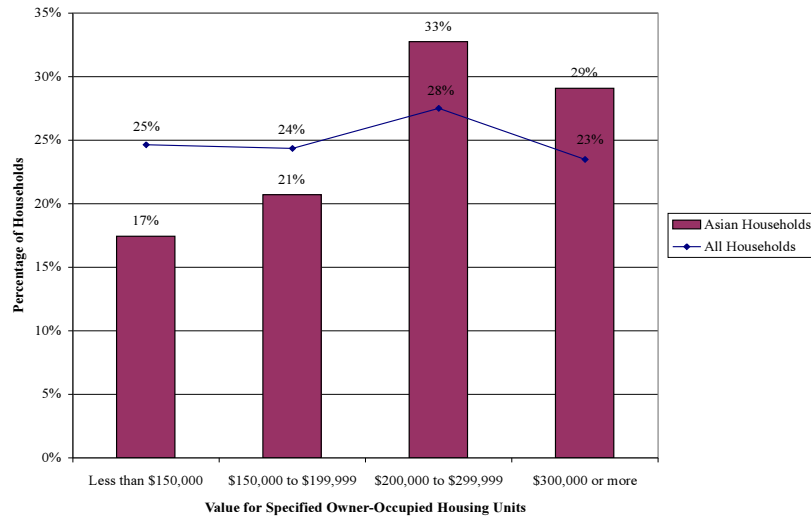
Source: Census 2000 Summary File 2 and 4 (red indicates rates and percentages lower than for total population)

13 Specified owner-occupied housing units are described as either a one-family home detached from any other house, or a one-family house attached to one or more houses on fewer than 10 acres with no business on the property.

Housing Values

Census 2000 asked respondents for the price at which they believed their primary residence could be sold at the date of the census (April 1, 2000). Based on these self-reported home values (in Figure 15), Asians were more likely to own more expensive homes than the general population.

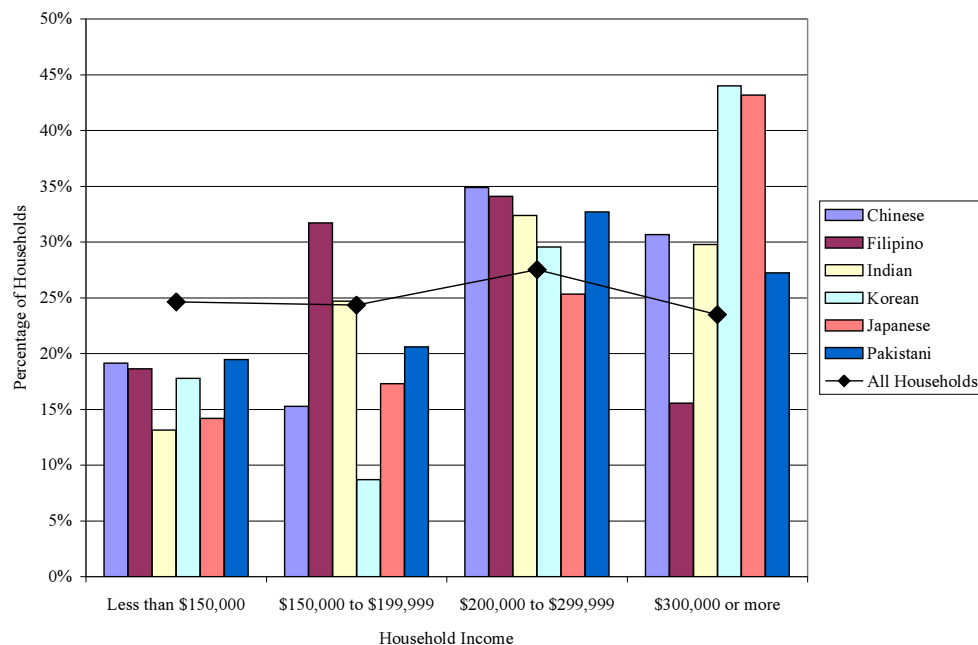
Figure 15: Self-Reported Housing Values for New York CMSA



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Figure 16 charts the distribution of housing values for the six largest Asian ethnic groups. It shows that all these populations except Filipinos were likely to own houses valued at \$300,000 or more than New York-area residents in general. Filipinos were less apt than the other Asian groups to own houses in the most expensive category (valued at \$300,000 or more).

Figure 16: Distribution of Self-Reported Housing Values for New York CMSA by Ethnicity



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Mortgage Payments

Eight in 10 Asian homeowners in the New York CMSA had a mortgage or similar debt, compared with 7 in 10 homeowners in the general population (Table 38). All six of largest Asian ethnic groups had greater percentages of homeowners with mortgages than the general population, with Filipinos at 92 percent of all homeowners having mortgages.

Among homeowners with mortgages, second mortgages and home-equity loans were less common among Asian homeowners compared to the general population. While 23 percent of homeowners with mortgages in general and 18 percent of Asian homeowners with mortgages had second mortgages and home-equity loans, 27 percent of Filipino homeowners had them.

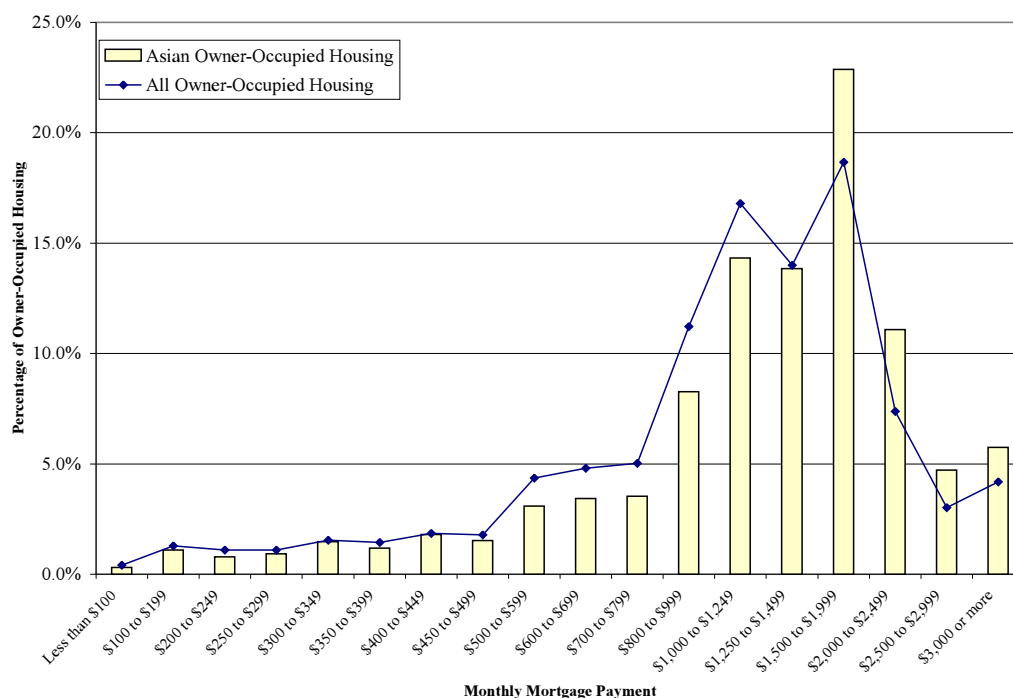
Table 38: Percentage of Specified Owner-Occupied Housing With Mortgages by Ethnicity

	Total Population	All Asians	Chinese	Filipino	Indian	Japanese	Korean	Pakistani
Households with Mortgages	71%	85%	78%	92%	89%	77%	88%	88%
Households With Mortgages Who Had Second Mortgages or Home-Equity Loans	23%	18%	13%	27%	19%	14%	19%	17%

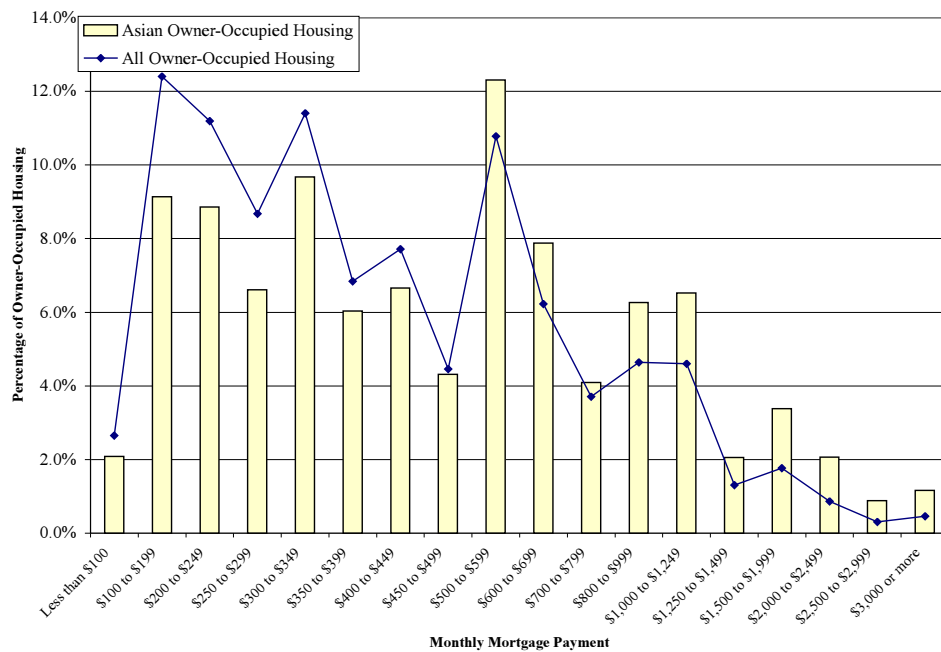
Source: Census 2000 Summary File 2 and 4 (red indicates rates and percentages lower than for total population)

Asian homeowners were likely to have higher mortgage payments. The median monthly mortgage payment for Asian households with a first mortgage was \$1,399, compared with \$1,209 for all households in the region with a first mortgage. The median monthly payment for Asian households with a second mortgage or home equity loan was \$461, compared with \$377 for all households with second mortgages. Figure 17 and Figure 18 illustrate the distribution of monthly payments for first and second mortgages.

Figure 17: Distribution of Monthly Payments for First Mortgages



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Figure 18: Distribution of Monthly Payments for Second Mortgages or Home Equity Loans

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Owner Costs

Selected monthly owner costs are defined by the Census Bureau to include mortgages and debts on the property, real estate taxes and costs for property insurance, utilities, and fuels.

For owner-occupied single-family homes, the median share of owner costs for Asian households with a mortgage was 25.5 percent of income, compared with 24.2 percent for all households with a mortgage (Table 39).

Table 39: Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs as a Percentage of Household Income in 1999 for New York CMSA by Ethnic Group

	Total Population	All Asians	Chinese	Filipino	Indian	Japanese	Korean	Pakistani
All Housing Units	21.9%	23.7%	22.7%	22.9%	24.2%	22%	27.9%	26.1%
Housing Units With a Mortgage	24.2%	25.5%	25.3%	23.6%	25.8%	23.5%	29.6%	27.6%
Housing Units Without a Mortgage	14.7%	10.9%	11.9%	<10%	<10%	14.7%	12%	13.3%

Source: Census 2000 Summary File 2 and 4 (red indicates rates and percentages lower than for total population)

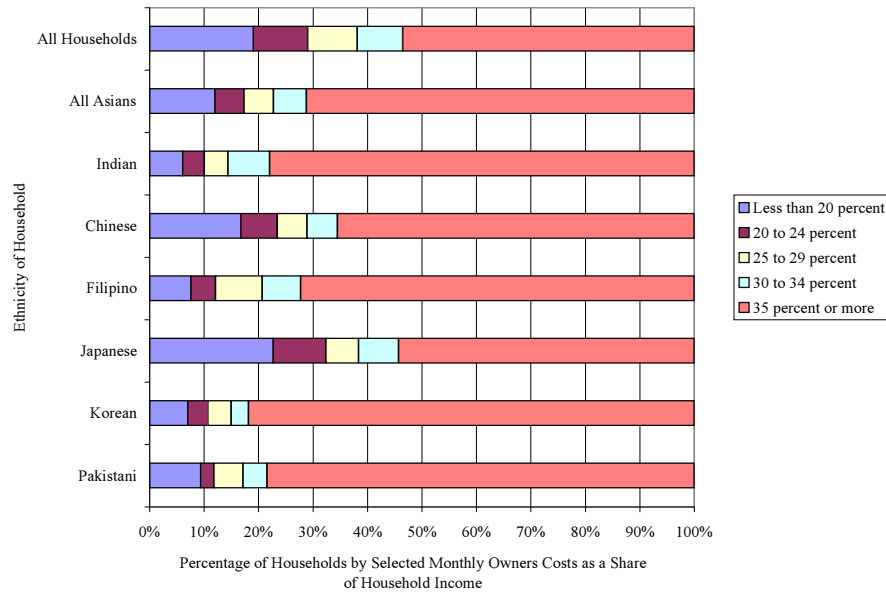
On the other hand, Asian households without a mortgage had a lower median share of owner costs (10.9 percent of household income) than all households without a mortgage (14.7 percent).

These statistics combined with the monthly mortgage data in the previous section reflect that mortgages represented a greater cost burden for Asian homeowner compared to homeowners in general. However, once mortgages were paid off, Asian households tended to have lower home-ownership costs.

Owner costs placed a heavier burden on lower-income Asian households owning homes than on lower-income households region-wide. More than 70 percent of Asian households with incomes of less than \$50,000 devoted 35 percent or more of their incomes to owner costs, compared to slightly more than half of households in general in the same income group and ownership burden (Figure 19). Higher-income Asian households also tended to spend more of their incomes on owner costs than all households with comparable incomes (Figure 21).

For the six largest Asian ethnic groups, lower-income households faced heavy monthly owner cost burdens. Japanese households with incomes less than \$50,000 managed to have a distribution of monthly owner costs similar to the general population. The remaining ethnic groups had a higher proportion of households devoting 35 percent or more of household incomes to owner costs than the general population. In addition to the Japanese, only Chinese households in the lower income bracket fared better than Asian households in general.

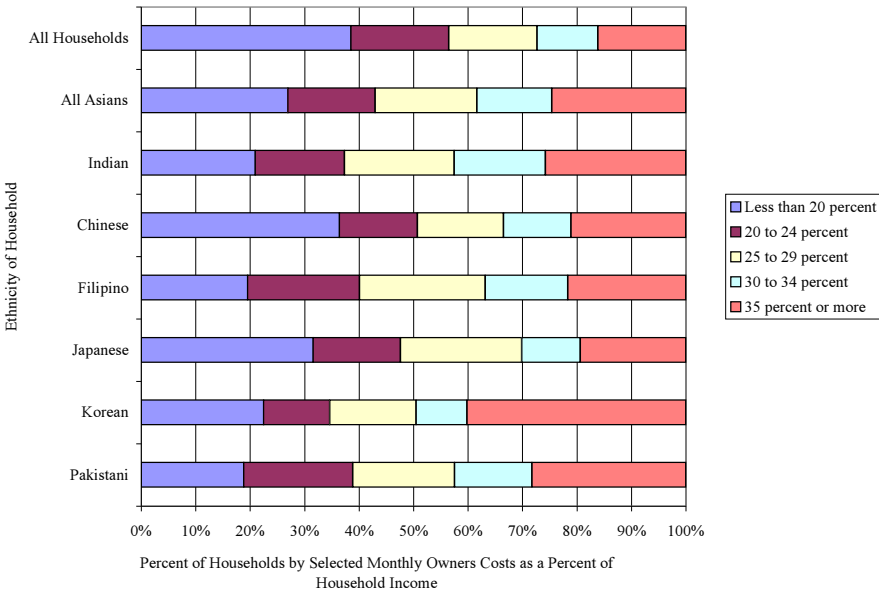
Figure 19: Distribution of Selected Monthly Owner Costs for Households With Incomes of Less than \$50,000



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

For households with incomes from \$50,000 to \$99,999, all six Asian ethnic groups had a higher proportion of households with 35 percent or more of household income budgeted for owner costs. Only Chinese and Japanese households were less burdened with owner costs than Asian households overall. The Filipino population had fewer households devoting 35 percent or more of their income to owner costs but had large percentages of households spending 20 to 24 percent and 25 to 29 percent of income on home ownership.

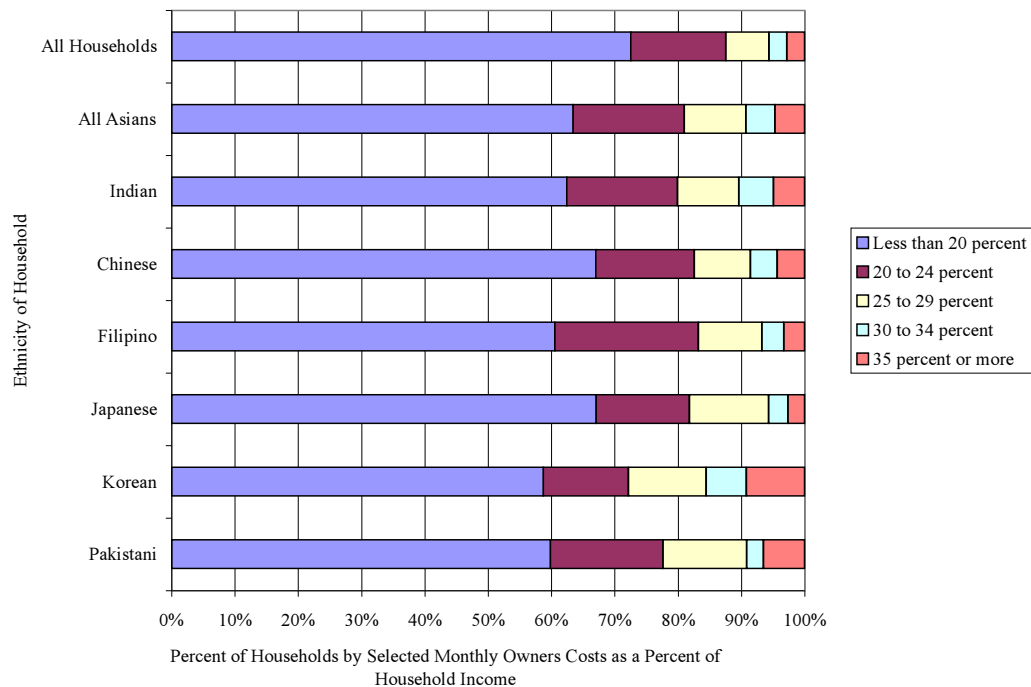
Figure 20: Distribution of Selected Monthly Owner Costs for Households With Incomes From \$50,000 to \$99,999



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

Home ownership for Asian households with incomes of \$100,000 or greater represented less of a burden with respect to household incomes than for other income groups. However, compared to all households with incomes of \$100,000 or greater, higher percentages of Asian households were devoting more of their income to owner costs. About 4 in 10 Filipino, Korean and Pakistani households in the upper income brackets spent 20 percent or more of their incomes on owner costs, compared with fewer than 3 in 10 households in the general population. Nearly 1 in 10 Korean households spent 35 percent or more of its income on owner costs.

Figure 21: Distribution of Selected Monthly Owner Costs for Households With Incomes of \$100,000 or More



Source: Census 2000 Summary File 4

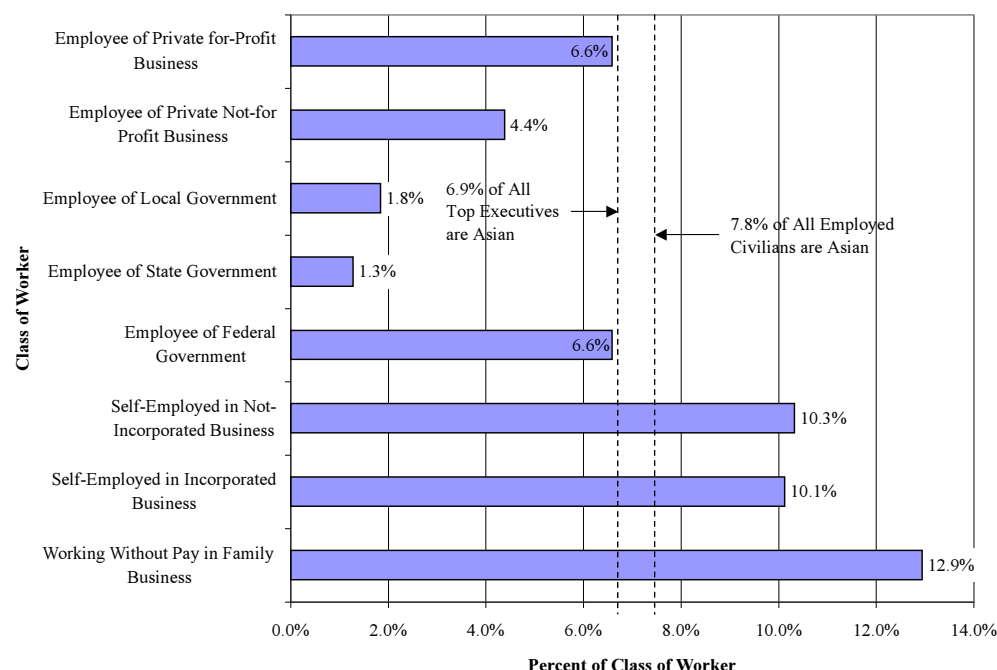
Highlight: Asian American Top Executives

Census 2000 classified chief executives, general and operations managers, and legislators as top executives. This category includes owners and managers who head small business establishments whose duties are primarily managerial. It excludes first-line supervisors/managers of retail sales workers and workers in other small businesses.

Overall, Asians in the New York area were slightly underrepresented in the top executive category, filling 6.9 percent of these positions, while making up 7.8 percent of civilian workers (Figure TE-1).

However, Asians constituted a disproportionately large share of self-employed top executives (10 percent).

Figure TE-1: Percentage of Asian Top Executives by Class of Worker



Source: Census 2000 Advanced Query

Asian top executives were concentrated in a number of industries (Table TE-1). Because of confidentiality issues,¹⁴ employment data for top executives is available only by broader major industry group categories. While Asians represent 7.8 percent of the regional work force, Asian top executives only represent 7.8 percent or more of top executives in six out of twenty major industry groups: wholesale trade; retail trade; accommodation and food services; other services (excluding public administration); management of companies and enterprises; and agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industry groups. For major industry groups, such as finance and insurance; professional, scientific and technical services; and information, fewer than 7.8 percent of their top executives were Asian.

¹⁴ Specified owner-occupied housing units are described as either a one-family home detached from any other house, or a one-family house attached to one or more houses on fewer than 10 acres with no business on the property.

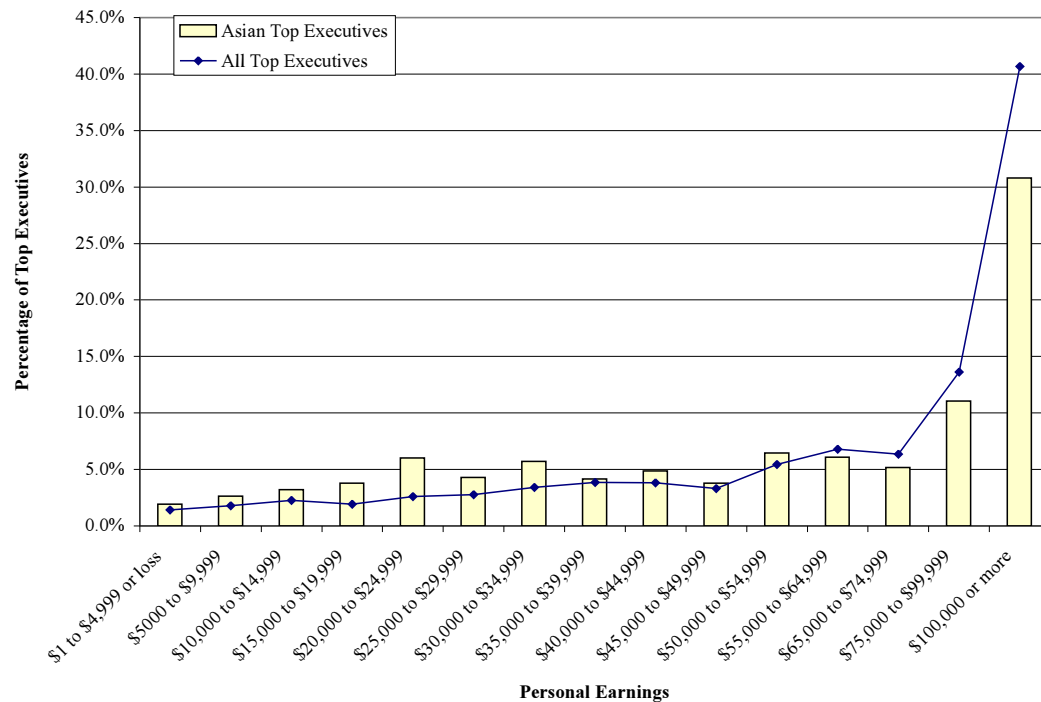
Table TE-1: Top Executive Employment by Major Industry Group

Major Industry Groups	Asian Top Executives	All Top Executives	% of All Top Executives Who Are Asian
Wholesale trade	2,453	17,337	14.1%
Finance and insurance	2,044	27,721	7.4%
Manufacturing	1,731	27,254	6.4%
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,288	18,892	6.8%
Retail trade	1,206	15,528	7.8%
Information	691	14,109	4.9%
Transportation and warehousing	585	7,594	7.7%
Accommodation and food services	579	4,843	12.0%
Other services, except public administration	534	6,180	8.6%
Administrative and support, and waste management services	285	6,533	4.4%
Real estate and rental and leasing	214	4,818	4.4%
Construction	166	8,078	2.1%
Health care and social assistance	142	4,369	3.3%
Public administration	140	4,412	3.2%
Educational services	102	3,652	2.8%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	86	3,880	2.2%
Management of companies and enterprises	35	449	7.8%
Utilities	13	1,505	0.9%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	10	118	8.5%
Mining	0	110	0.0%

Source: Census 2000 Advanced Query

Asian executives were paid substantially less than executives in general. Median earnings for Asian top executives were \$60,777, compared with \$81,362 for all top executives. In the highest earnings bracket, Asians were under-represented compared to top executives overall (Figure TE-2).

Figure TE-2: Distribution of Earnings for Top Executives



Source: Census 2000 Advanced Query

Highlight: Asian Americans in Finance and Insurance

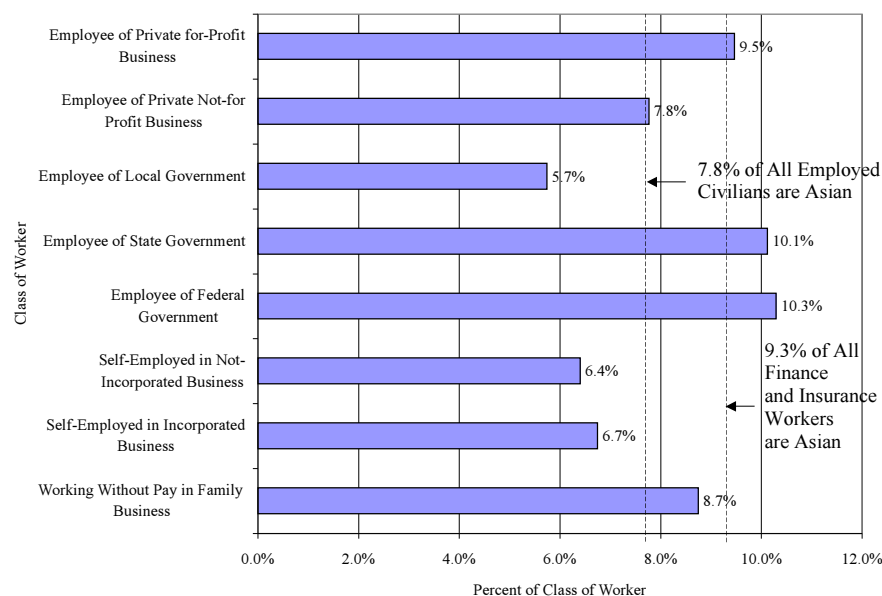
New York City has often been acknowledged as the financial and insurance center of the nation's \$8.5 trillion economy. In 2000, the city was home to offices of 20 of the top 25 foreign branches of international banks, eight of the world's 10 largest securities firms, and 219 international banks representing every major country. In addition, at the time of Census 2000, five of the country's 10 largest insurance companies were based in the city.

In 2000, the financial and insurance industry employed nearly 8 percent of the total work force in the New York metropolitan area, making this sector the fourth largest employer in the region.

The significance of the financial and insurance industry for the New York area parallels the importance of this sector for the region's Asian population. Close to 1 in 10 Asians worked in this industry, making it the third-largest regional employer of Asians, after health care and professional, scientific and technical services.

Nearly 10 percent of workers in the finance and insurance work force were Asian, exceeding the 7.8 percent share of Asians in the entire regional labor market. Asians were well-represented in the private, for-profit segment, as well as the state and federal government sectors, of the finance and insurance industry.

Figure FI-1: Percentage of Asian Americans in Finance and Insurance Industry by Class of Worker



Source: Census 2000 Advanced Query

Asians had a large presence in many prominent occupations in the finance and insurance industry (Table FI-1). They were well-represented among computer specialists; accountants and auditors; financial managers; and financial clerks, except bookkeeping, accounting and auditing clerks. However, Asians were a bit under-represented among sales representatives, business operations specialists, and top executives in the industry.

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

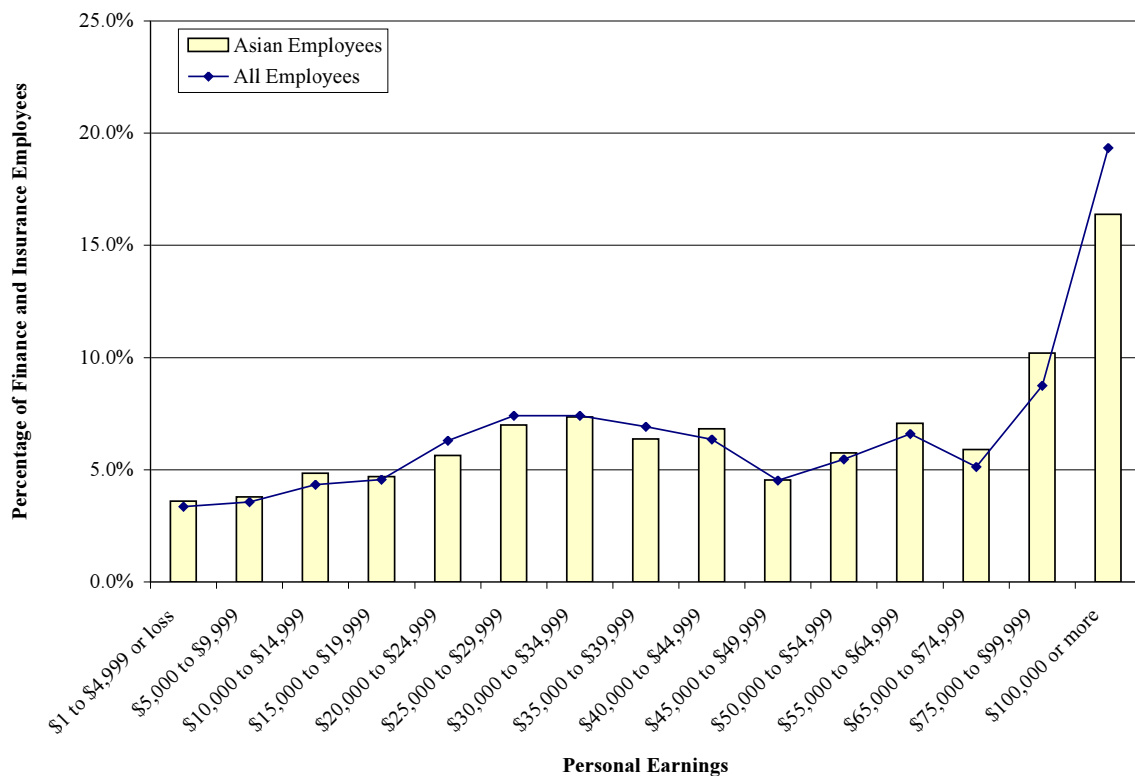
The distribution of earnings for Asians in the finance and insurance industry was similar to that for the entire industry in the region. One point of divergence was the top earnings bracket of \$100,000 or more, in which Asians fell nearly three percentage points short of the mark. Median earnings for Asians in the industry were \$44,801, slightly higher than the industry-wide median of \$44,756.

Table FI-1: 10 Largest Occupations for Asian Americans in Finance and Insurance Industry

Occupation	Asians	All Employees	Percent of Occupation
Computer specialists	12,596	56,136	22.4%
Sales representatives: services, wholesale and manufacturing	7,330	117,287	6.2%
Accountants and auditors	6,838	41,128	16.6%
Other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors	6,752	79,390	8.5%
Other financial specialists	6,066	69,915	8.7%
Financial managers	5,878	59,786	9.8%
Financial clerks, except bookkeeping, accounting and auditing clerks	3,263	32,023	10.2%
Business operations specialists	2,706	41,238	6.6%
Top executives	2,044	27,721	7.4%
Bookkeeping, accounting and auditing clerks	1,836	16,911	10.9%

Source: Census 2000 Advanced Query

Figure FI-2: Distribution of Earnings for Employees in Finance and Insurance Industry



Source: Census 2000 Advanced Query

Highlight: Asians in Apparel Industry

Asians play a disproportionately large role in the apparel-manufacturing industry in the New York area, comprising more than one-third of the work force in this sector as of Census 2000.

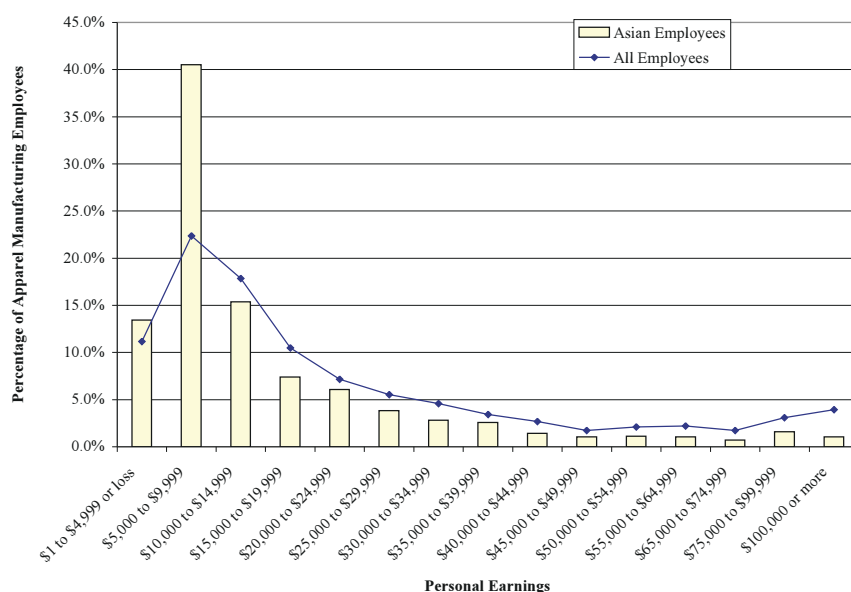
Also, 3 in 10 Asian employees in the industry group were living below poverty level. Thus, any changes in the industry will have a significant impact on Asian employment and poverty in the region.

According to the New York State Department of Labor, the number of employees in the apparel industry in New York City has declined steadily from an annual average of 90,300 in 1990 to 31,700 in 2004, using data from the Current Employment Statistics Survey. Additional information from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages confirms the downturn. The number of reporting units (usually representing a single place of business) fell from 3,243 in 2000 to 2,202 in 2003, with employment dropping from 57,178 to 33,463.

While employment decreased, average annual wages increased from \$27,736 in 2000 to \$37,909 in 2003. Average wages rise only if the ratio of high-wage jobs (with wages above the mean) to low-wage jobs increases, translating into an increase in the number of high wage jobs or a reduction of low-wage jobs which is more likely given the overall fall in employment in the industry.

The loss of additional lower-skilled jobs would have a major impact on Asians in the industry. According to Census 2000, median earnings for Asians working in the apparel-manufacturing sector were \$9,549, compared with \$14,461 for all apparel workers. The distribution of earnings for workers in this industry (Figure AM-1), which shows nearly twice as many Asians as total employees in the second-lowest bracket, confirms that Asian employees are likely to hold the lower-wage jobs. Asians would have borne the brunt of work-force reductions in the last 15 years.

Figure AM-1: Distribution of Earnings for Apparel-Manufacturing Employees



Source: Census 2000 Advanced Query

Technical Note

The 2000 census was the first decennial census in which respondents were allowed to mark more than one race. As a consequence, Census 2000 race information is far more complicated than such data from previous censuses. For example, 2000 information includes results for single-race as well as multiple-race responses. "Asian Alone" corresponds to the respondents who reported exactly one Asian group and no other race category. "Alone" should be considered the minimum population size in any analysis that uses Census 2000 data. To be as inclusive as possible, this report uses "Asian Alone or in Any Combination" numbers.

"Alone or in Any Combination" corresponds to the responses (not respondents) that included the selected Asian group, either alone or in any combination with other Asian groups or other race categories. If a respondent selected an Asian group and another racial group (e.g., Korean and black), that individual, while excluded from the "Asian Alone" count, was tallied in the "Alone or in Any Combination" count for the Asian group and the other racial group. Hence, some overlap in the "In Combination" numbers occurred. "Alone or in Any Combination" should be considered the maximum population size in any analysis that uses Census 2000 data.

Descriptions of Miscellaneous Census Occupation and Industry Groups

- i The "other sales and related occupations, including supervisors" category includes sales supervisors, models, demonstrators, product promoters, real estate brokers and agents, sales engineers, telemarketers, door-to-door sales workers, news and street vendors, and other unclassified sales workers.
- ii The "other office and administrative support workers, including supervisors" category includes supervisors/managers of office and administrative support workers, as well as computer operators; data-entry keyers; word processors and typists; desktop publishers; insurance claims- and policy-processing clerks; mail clerks and mail-machine operators, except U.S. Postal Service employees; general office clerks; office-machine operators, except computer operators; proofreaders and copy markers; statistical assistants; and all other office and administrative support workers.
- iii The "other management occupations, except farmers and farm managers" category includes construction managers; education administrators; engineering managers; food-service managers, funeral directors; gaming managers; lodging managers; medical-and health-services managers; natural-sciences managers; postmasters and mail superintendents; property, real estate and community-association managers; social-and community-service managers;; and all other managers.
- iv The "other production occupations, including supervisors" category includes supervisors of production and operating workers, as well as chemical-processing machine setters, operators, and tenders; crushing, grinding, polishing, mixing and blending workers; cutting workers; extruding, forming, pressing and compacting machine setters, operators and tenders; furnace, kiln, oven, drier and kettle operators and tenders; inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers and weighers; jewelers and precious-stone and metal workers; medical, dental and ophthalmic laboratory technicians; packaging and filling machine operators and tenders; painting workers; photographic process workers and processing-machine operators; semiconductor processors; cementing- and gluing-machine operators and tenders; cleaning, washing and metal-pickling equipment operators and tenders; cooling-and freezing-equipment operators and tenders; etchers and engravers; molders, shapers and casters, except metal and plastic workers; paper-goods machine setters, operators and tenders; tire builders; helpers/production workers; and all other production workers.

- v The “motor-vehicle operators, except bus and truck drivers” category includes ambulance drivers and attendants who are not emergency medical technicians; taxi drivers; chauffeurs; and other unclassified motor-vehicle operators.
- vi Other “health-diagnosing and -treating practitioners and technical occupations” category includes chiropractors, dentists, dietitians, nutritionists, optometrists, pharmacists, physician assistants, podiatrists, veterinarians, and other healthcare practitioners and technical workers.
- vii The “professional, scientific and technical services” industry category includes legal services; accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping and payroll services; architectural, engineering and related services; specialized design services; computer-systems design and related services; management, scientific and technical consulting services; scientific research and development services; advertising and related services; veterinary services; and other professional, scientific and technical services.
- viii The “other transportation” industry category includes bus service and urban transit, taxi and limousine service, pipeline transportation, scenic and sightseeing transportation, services incidental to transportation, and couriers and messengers.
- ix The “social assistance” industry category includes individual and family services; community food and housing, and emergency services; vocational-rehabilitation services; and child-day care services.

Appendix A: Study Area

New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA CMSA

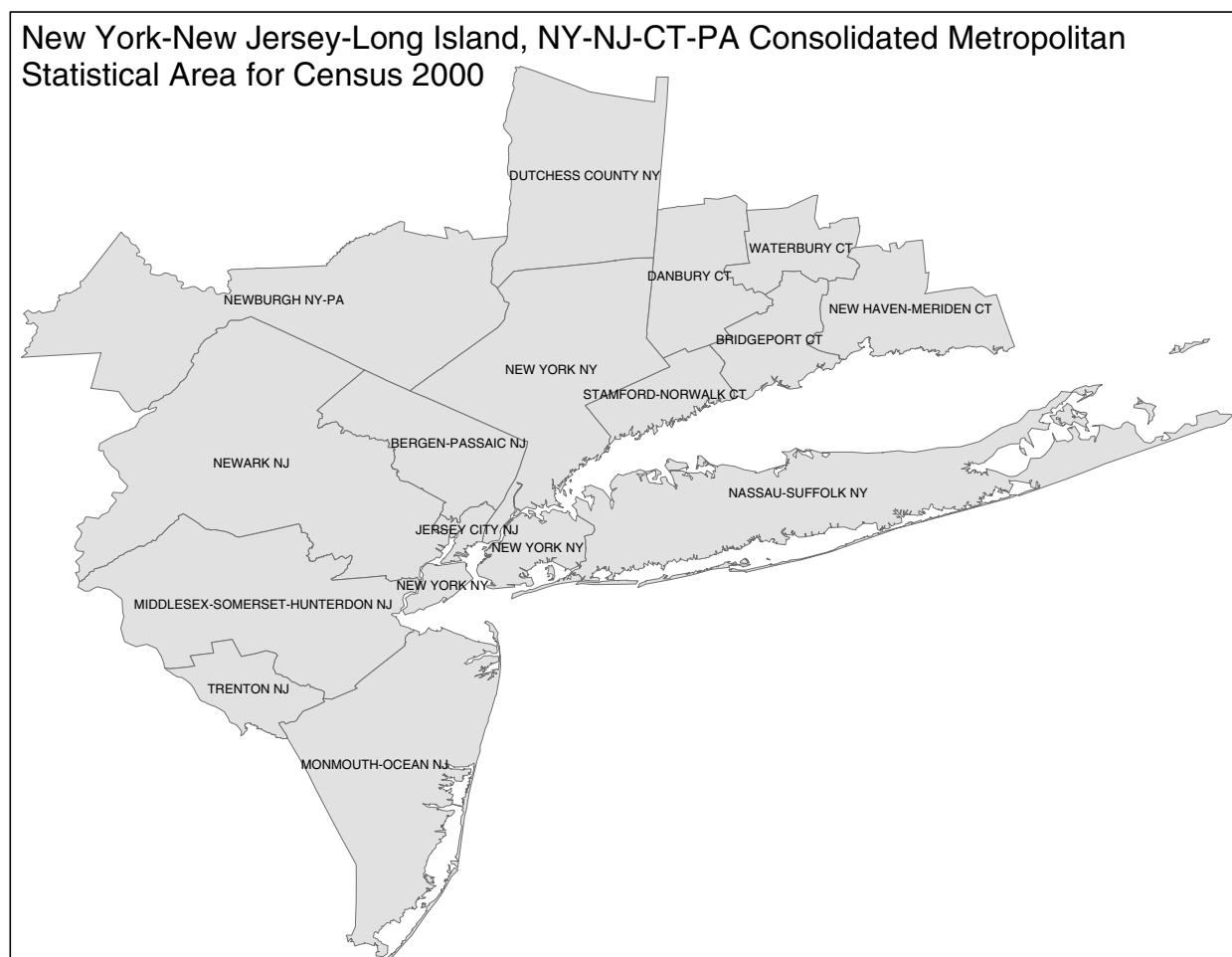
Source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau

PMSA= Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area

PMSA FIPS CODE	State/ County FIPS CODE	City/ Town FIPS CODE	Metropolitan Area and Component Names
875			Bergen-Passaic, NJ PMSA
875	34003		<i>Bergen County</i>
875	34031		<i>Passaic County</i>
1160			Bridgeport, CT PMSA
1160	9001		<i>Fairfield County (pt.)</i>
1160	9001	8000	Bridgeport city
1160	9001	23890	Easton town
1160	9001	26620	Fairfield town
1160	9001	48620	Monroe town
1160	9001	68100	Shelton city
1160	9001	74190	Stratford town
1160	9001	77200	Trumbull town
1160	9009		<i>New Haven County (pt.)</i>
1160	9009	1150	Ansonia city
1160	9009	3250	Beacon Falls town
1160	9009	19480	Derby city
1160	9009	47500	Milford city
1160	9009	58300	Oxford town
1160	9009	67610	Seymour town
1930			Danbury, CT PMSA
1930	9001		<i>Fairfield County (pt.)</i>
1930	9001	4720	Bethel town
1930	9001	8980	Brookfield town
1930	9001	18430	Danbury city
1930	9001	50860	New Fairfield town
1930	9001	52980	Newtown town
1930	9001	63480	Redding town
1930	9001	63970	Ridgefield town
1930	9001	68310	Sherman town
1930	9005		<i>Litchfield County (pt.)</i>
1930	9005	8210	Bridgewater town
1930	9005	52630	New Milford town
1930	9005	65930	Roxbury town
1930	9005	79720	Washington town
2281			Dutchess County, NY PMSA
2281	36027		<i>Dutchess County</i>
3640			Jersey City, NJ PMSA
3640	34017		<i>Hudson County</i>
5015			Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon, NJ PMSA
5015	34019		<i>Hunterdon County</i>
5015	34023		<i>Middlesex County</i>
5015	34035		<i>Somerset County</i>
5190			Monmouth-Ocean, NJ PMSA
5190	34025		<i>Monmouth County</i>
5190	34029		<i>Ocean County</i>
5380			Nassau-Suffolk, NY PMSA
5380	36059		<i>Nassau County</i>
5380	36103		<i>Suffolk County</i>
5480			New Haven-Meriden, CT PMSA
5480	9007		<i>Middlesex County (pt.)</i>
5480	9007	15350	Clinton town
5480	9007	40710	Killingworth town
5480	9009		<i>New Haven County (pt.)</i>
5480	9009	4580	Bethany town
5480	9009	7310	Branford town
5480	9009	14160	Cheshire town
5480	9009	22910	East Haven town
5480	9009	34950	Guilford town
5480	9009	35650	Hamden town
5480	9009	44560	Madison town
5480	9009	46450	Meriden city

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

5480	9009	52000	New Haven city
5480	9009	53890	North Branford town
5480	9009	54870	North Haven town
5480	9009	57600	Orange town
5480	9009	78740	Wallingford town
5480	9009	82800	West Haven city
5480	9009	87700	Woodbridge town
5600			New York, NY PMSA
5600	36005		Bronx County
5600	36047		Kings County
5600	36061		New York County
5600	36079		Putnam County
5600	36081		Queens County
5600	36085		Richmond County
5600	36087		Rockland County
5600	36119		Westchester County
5640			Newark, NJ PMSA
5640	34013		Essex County
5640	34027		Morris County
5640	34037		Sussex County
5640	34039		Union County
5640	34041		Warren County
5660			Newburgh, NY-PA PMSA
5660	36071		Orange County, NY
5660	42103		Pike County, PA
8040			Stamford-Norwalk, CT PMSA
8040	9001		Fairfield County (pt.)
8040	9001	18850	Darien town
8040	9001	33620	Greenwich town
8040	9001	50580	New Canaan town
8040	9001	55990	Norwalk city
8040	9001	73000	Stamford city
8040	9001	83430	Weston town
8040	9001	83500	Westport town
8040	9001	86370	Wilton town
8480			Trenton, NJ PMSA
8480	34021		Mercer County
8880			Waterbury, CT PMSA
8880	9005		Litchfield County (pt.)
8880	9005	4930	Bethlehem town
8880	9005	75730	Thomaston town
8880	9005	80490	Watertown town
8880	9005	87910	Woodbury town
8880	9009		New Haven County (pt.)
8880	9009	46940	Middlebury town
8880	9009	49880	Naugatuck borough
8880	9009	62290	Prospect town
8880	9009	69640	Southbury town
8880	9009	80000	Waterbury city
8880	9009	87560	Wolcott town



ABOUT THE ASIAN AMERICAN FEDERATION OF NEW YORK

The Asian American Federation of New York is a nonprofit leadership organization that works to advance the civic voice and quality of life of Asian Americans in the New York metropolitan area. Established in 1990, the Federation supports and collaborates with 37 member agencies to strengthen community services, promotes strategic philanthropy within the Asian American community, and conducts research and advocacy concerning critical issues.

Strengthening Community Service Organizations

The Federation augments the ability of its member agencies to address community needs and concerns. Primary forms of capacity-building support include:

- Management and technical assistance, especially in fund raising, financial management, information technology and organizational planning, to help members increase their effectiveness and improve their business practices;
- Access to resources, such as grants, training opportunities, volunteer consultants and donated computer equipment;
- Connections and collaboration opportunities to facilitate peer support; shared arrangements; and inter-agency cooperation on advocacy, fundraising and service planning; and
- Advocacy on policy issues that affect the well-being of Asian Americans and the ability of member agencies to meet community needs.

Asian American Philanthropy & Community Fund

A New Heritage of Giving, a Federation-sponsored initiative, encourages Asian Americans to contribute time, talents and financial resources to Asian American community organizations. This program links community assets with community needs via:

- Presentations and speaker panels on Asian American issues and ways to get involved;
- Networking events and other efforts to connect volunteers with community agencies;
- Giving circles, aimed at building the next generation of philanthropists; and
- A unique resource at www.asianamericanphilanthropy.org.

The Asian American Community Fund, created and managed by the Federation, provides meaningful ways for donors to invest in programs that advance the status and well-being of Asian Americans. Unrestricted gifts, as well as contributions to such specific fields of interest as elder care and civic participation, are welcome. A panel of grant-making professionals is responsible for funding recommendations.

Research

The Federation studies, raises awareness of and promotes solutions regarding Asian American community issues, living conditions and needs. Major channels for this work are:

- Research projects, including needs assessments, program evaluations, neighborhood-based service planning and design, and community economic analyses, to provide sound frameworks for program planning and development and for policy recommendations;
- The Federation's Census Information Center (CIC), the only federally-designated Asian American-focused center of its kind in the Northeast, which offers a searchable online databank, responds to inquiries, and publishes population profiles and issue briefs; and
- Briefings, forums, and participation on committees and task forces to share research findings and census information, help implement research-based policy recommendations, and foster dialogue on issues.

Asian American Federation of New York

120 Wall Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10005

Tel: (212) 344-5878 | Fax: (212) 344-5636

Email: info@aafny.org | Website: www.aafny.org



**ASIAN AMERICAN FEDERATION
OF NEW YORK**

**120 WALL STREET, 3RD FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10005**

TEL: (212) 344-5878

FAX: (212) 344-5636

EMAIL: INFO@AAFNY.ORG

WEBSITE: WWW.AAFNY.ORG