



Asian American Federation

New York City Council Districts and Asian Communities (2018)

Introduction

As our City Council starts this new term with 11 new members and 40 returning members, the Asian American Federation has compiled data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS) on the Asian populations for each of the City Council Districts.¹ We will highlight the growth in each district's Asian population and highlight the Asian languages most commonly spoken in each district.

Overall Asian Population

The Asian population continues to be the fastest growing major race and ethnic group in New York City. According to the most recent Census Bureau population estimates, the Asian population in New York City reached 1.23 million in 2015, accounting for nearly 15 percent of the city's population.

The Asian population continues to spread out across the city. Out of the 51 Council Districts, Asian New Yorkers represent 10 percent or more of the population in 26 Council Districts.

Table 1 summarizes the Asian population data by City Council Districts from the 2015 ACS, with seven Council Districts having more than 50,000 Asian residents. Council District 20, centered in Flushing, remains the district with the largest Asian population, followed by District 23 in Northeast Queens around Oakland Gardens; District 1 in Lower Manhattan (including Chinatown); District

25, which includes Jackson Heights, Queens; District 38 encompassing Sunset Park, Brooklyn; and District 24, which include parts of Jamaica, Queens.

Almost three in four Asian New Yorkers are immigrants. Overall, 26 percent of all immigrants citywide are Asians. Council District 20 has the highest percent of Asian immigrants among all immigrant populations, accounting for 79 percent of all immigrants in the district. District 1 has the second largest Asian immigrant population, with 66 percent of all immigrants, followed by District 23 at 60 percent; District 19 at 54 percent; District 38 at 51 percent; and District 43 at 48 percent.

As Asian immigrants and their families become more established, they have become a growing part of the potential voter base, comprising 11 percent of the total voting-age citizen population in New York City. Asians represent 10 percent or more of voting-age citizens in 21 out of 51 districts.

Asian voting-age citizens comprise 20 percent or more of the overall voting-age citizen population in the following districts: Council District 20, the only district where Asians are the majority (55 percent) of the total voting-age citizen population; District 25, accounting for 35 percent, followed by District 23 at 34 percent; District 1 at 29 percent; District 24 at 27 percent; District 29 and District 19 each at 24 percent; District 43 and 38 each at 23 percent; and District 26 at 22 percent.

¹The data source for this briefing paper is the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year Estimates.

Asian Population in New York City

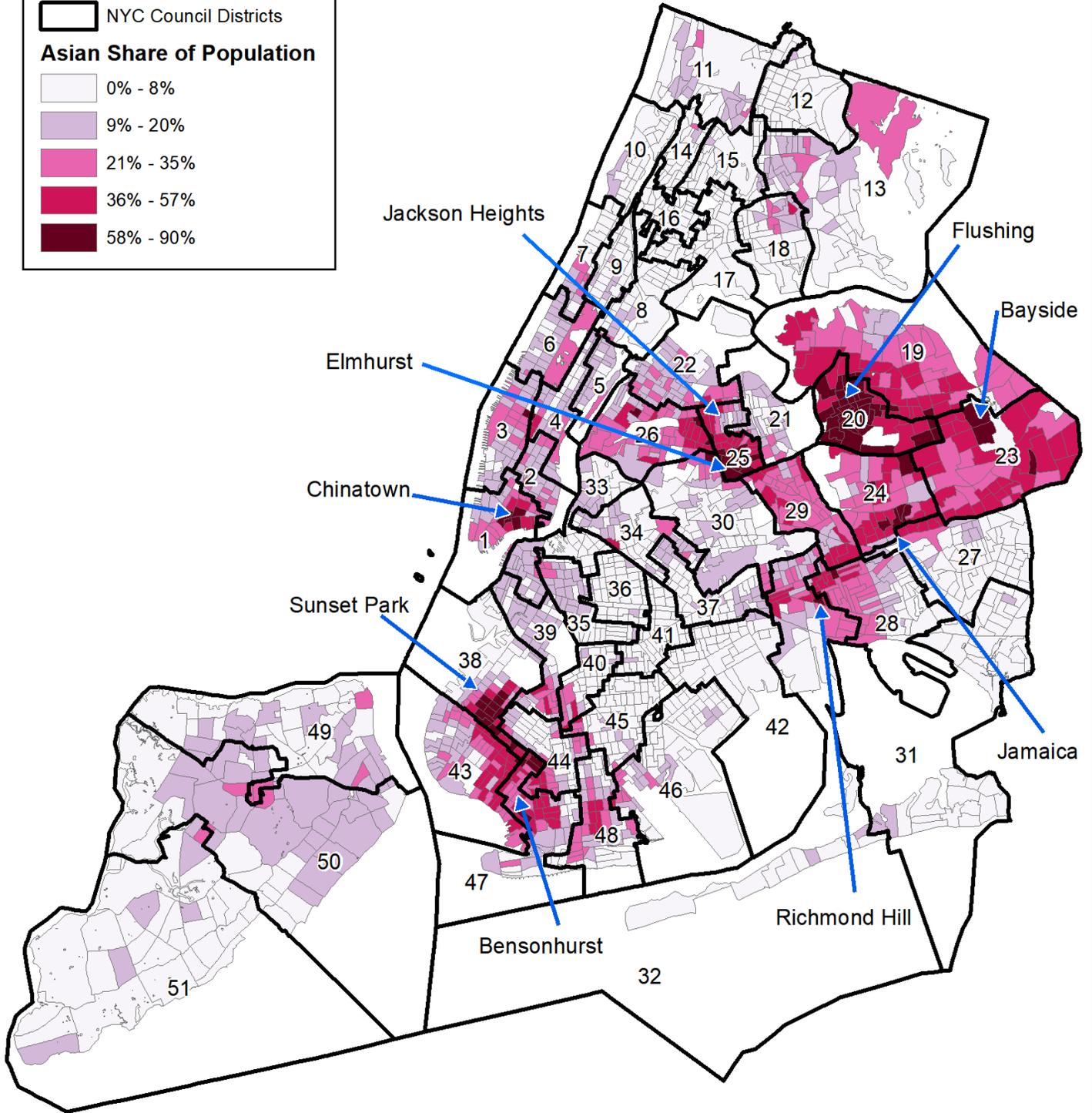


Legend

 NYC Council Districts

Asian Share of Population

-  0% - 8%
-  9% - 20%
-  21% - 35%
-  36% - 57%
-  58% - 90%



Produced by the Asian American Federation Census Information Center
 Sources: 2015 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

Highlights for Asian Groups

The overall Asian population numbers disguise the diversity and disparate residential patterns that underlie the Asian community. **Table 2** presents the Asian ethnic group population for each City Council District. This section highlights which City Council Districts have the most population for each of the larger Asian groups.

Bangladeshis are the fifth largest Asian group, with almost 62,000 city residents. Three Council Districts with the largest Bangladeshi populations are District 24 in Queens, with over 10,000 people, followed closely by Districts 25 and 26, with over 6,000 each. Outside of Queens, District 18 in the Bronx and District 39 in Brooklyn have large populations of Bangladeshis. Fourteen Council Districts have more than 1,000 Bangladeshi residents.

Chinese remain the largest Asian group in the city, making up about 46 percent of all Asians.² District 20 in Flushing, District 1 in Lower Manhattan, District 38 encompassing Sunset Park, and District 43 around Bensonhurst each have more than 40,000 Chinese residents. Chinese New Yorkers are increasingly dispersed across the city, with at least 1,000 residing in 43 Council Districts.

Filipinos are the fourth largest Asian group in the city. District 25 in Queens has the largest Filipino population, followed by Districts 26, 24, and 23. At least 1,000 Filipinos reside in 28 of the City Council Districts.

Indians, the second largest Asian group, are found in large numbers in almost all the districts. At least 1,000 Indians reside in 48 of the City Council Districts. The districts with the largest Indian populations are all in Queens. Districts 23, 28, and

32 all have more than 20,000 Indian New Yorkers.

The districts with the most **Japanese** are concentrated in Manhattan and Queens. Districts 2 and 3 have the most Japanese, with just over 2,000 each. Ten Council Districts have more than 1,000 Japanese New Yorkers.

Koreans are the third largest Asian group in the city. The two largest districts are Districts 19 and 20, each with more than 16,000 Korean residents. At least 1,000 Koreans reside in 22 of the City Council Districts.

Pakistanis are largely split between Brooklyn and Queens. The district with the most Pakistani residents is District 44 in Brooklyn, with 5,279 Pakistani residents, followed closely by District 48, with 4,728. Nineteen Council Districts have more than 1,000 Pakistani New Yorkers.

A few districts have concentrations of more than 1,000 residents for several of the smaller Asian groups in the city. **Nepalese** residents have almost 2,000 residents each in Districts 25 and 26 in Queens. More than 1,000 **Taiwanese** residents live in Districts 19 and 20 in Queens. District 25 in Queens also has more than 1,200 **Thai** residents. District 13 in the Bronx has 1,435 **Vietnamese** residents.

Languages Spoken

Table 3 shows the variety of Asian language groups spoken in the city, as categorized by the Census Bureau. The Census Bureau asks for languages spoken at home and does not include literacy measures for non-English languages. The broad language groups reported here only hint at the wide variety of languages spoken in New York City.

Chinese is the most common Asian language

² Chinese population in this report excludes those who identified as Taiwanese, who are tabulated separately.

spoken in the city. However, the variety of dialects spoken and the usage of traditional and simplified scripts present further challenges when reaching out to the Chinese-speaking population. District 20 in Flushing has the largest Chinese-speaking population, at 67,464 speakers, followed by District 38 around Sunset Park in Brooklyn, with 42,523 Chinese speakers; District 1 covering Manhattan's Chinatown, with 39,984 speakers; and District 43, with 38,058 Chinese speakers. Thirty-eight City Council Districts have more than 1,000 Chinese-speaking residents.

When combined, the **South Asian** languages are the second largest group of Asian languages in the city. The Census Bureau reports several of these languages separately.

- **Urdu** is the fifth largest Asian language group in the city. District 48 in Brooklyn has the most Urdu speakers, with 4,332, and District 44 is close behind, with 4,200. Nineteen City Council Districts have more than 1,000 Urdu-speaking residents.
- **Hindi**, also mostly spoken by Indians in the city, is the seventh largest Asian language group. District 23 in Queens has the most Hindi speakers, with 3,481; followed by District 29, with 3,381; and District 25, with 2,738. Eight City Council Districts have more than 1,000 Hindi-speaking residents.
- **Gujarati**, mostly spoken by Indians in the city, is the tenth largest Asian language group. Only two City Council Districts have more than 1,000 Gujarati speakers: District 23 in Queens, with 1,427 speakers, and District 20, with 1,104.
- **Other Indic languages**, the second most common Asian language category in the city, are represented mainly by Bengali (mostly

spoken by Indians and Bangladeshis), Punjabi (mostly spoken by Indians and Pakistanis), and Nepali. District 25 in Queens has the largest number of speakers of other Indic languages, with 14,109; followed closely by District 24, with 13,974 speakers, and District 26, with 12,290. Twenty-six City Council Districts have more than 1,000 residents who speak one of these other Indic languages.

- Other South Asian languages are part of the **other Asian languages** category below.

Korean is the third most common Asian language in the city. District 20 in Queens has the largest number of Korean speakers, at 15,464; followed by District 19, with 14,798 speakers, and District 23, with 8,530 speakers. Nineteen City Council Districts have more than 1,000 Korean speakers.

Tagalog is the fourth largest Asian language group in the city. District 25 in Queens has the largest number of Tagalog speakers, at 4,717; followed by District 26, with 4,467 speakers; District 24, with 3,766 speakers; and District 23, with 3,353 speakers. Seventeen City Council Districts have more than 1,000 Tagalog speakers.

Japanese is the eighth largest Asian language group in the city. Japanese-speaking residents are spread across lower Manhattan fairly evenly, with between 1,200 to 1,700 speakers residing in Districts 1 through 6. Additional pockets of Japanese speakers are found in Queens in Districts 22, 26, and 29. Nine City Council Districts have more than 1,000 Japanese speakers.

Vietnamese is the ninth largest Asian language group in the city. District 13 in the Bronx has the most Vietnamese speakers, at 1,289 residents.

Citywide, of the remaining Asian languages reported separately by the Census Bureau, there

are fewer than 10,000 speakers of **Khmer** and **Thai**, and fewer than 500 speakers of **Hmong** and **Laotian**.

Asian languages not mentioned above are grouped into the category of **other Asian languages**. In New York City, public use microdata from the ACS reveals that this category includes primarily **Malayalam, Tamil, and Telugu**, which are mostly spoken by Indians and Sri Lankans, and is the sixth largest Asian language group. District 23 in Queens has the largest number of people who speak these languages, at 3,642 residents, followed by District 26, with 3,576; District 48 in Brooklyn, with 2,648; and District 25, with 2,625 speakers. Thirteen Council Districts have more than 1,000 speakers of these other Asian languages.

About this Briefing Paper

Data citations from this paper should include the following acknowledgement: “Data derived from analysis by the Asian American Federation Census Information Center.”

For more information regarding this paper, contact the Asian American Federation Census Information Center at (212) 344-5878 x219 or visit www.aafederation.org/cic.

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Table 1: Asian Population by New York City Council Districts

Council District	Council Member	2015 Population		2010 Population		2015 Population			
		Asian	Percent Asian	Asian	Percent Asian	Asian Immigrants	Asian Share of All Immigrants	Asian Voting-Age Citizens	Asian Share of All Voting-Age Citizens
1	Chin	61,789	36%	63,832	38%	41,020	66%	35,076	29%
2	Rivera	27,430	17%	26,398	16%	16,038	43%	15,557	12%
3	Johnson	27,364	15%	24,257	14%	15,643	35%	14,655	11%
4	Powers	19,336	13%	18,438	12%	11,548	33%	9,803	9%
5	Kallos	19,173	12%	18,000	11%	10,452	28%	9,068	7%
6	Rosenthal	17,319	11%	16,244	10%	9,650	27%	8,104	7%
7	Levine	8,188	5%	6,383	4%	4,594	7%	3,704	3%
8	Ayala	14,195	8%	11,004	7%	8,934	19%	6,739	6%
9	Perkins	13,791	8%	11,402	7%	8,091	20%	5,379	4%
10	Rodriguez	3,948	3%	3,931	3%	2,099	3%	1,964	2%
11	Cohen	12,838	8%	12,899	8%	8,190	15%	5,391	5%
12	King	3,811	2%	3,683	2%	2,288	3%	2,053	2%
13	Gjonaj	14,987	8%	13,598	8%	9,296	20%	6,721	6%
14	Cabrera	5,383	3%	5,785	4%	3,451	5%	2,070	3%
15	Torres	4,434	3%	4,958	3%	2,679	4%	1,945	2%
16	Gibson	2,677	1%	2,826	2%	1,300	2%	863	1%
17	Salamanca	2,908	2%	2,574	1%	1,577	3%	921	1%
18	Diaz, Sr.	13,745	8%	12,414	7%	7,920	14%	6,041	6%
19	Vallone	52,074	32%	45,528	29%	35,067	54%	25,914	24%
20	Koo	107,864	68%	106,133	66%	84,930	79%	44,523	55%
21	Moya	25,293	15%	23,468	14%	18,903	18%	10,505	16%
22	Constantinides	21,264	15%	21,159	14%	13,382	23%	10,329	10%
23	Grodenschik	67,027	43%	59,900	40%	43,027	60%	36,674	34%
24	Lancman	59,838	34%	52,586	31%	40,852	47%	29,331	27%
25	Dromm	58,720	37%	59,161	36%	44,350	44%	27,977	35%
26	Van Bramer	47,371	29%	46,659	29%	34,031	41%	19,725	22%
27	Miller	17,092	10%	12,905	8%	11,161	16%	7,343	7%
28	Adams	29,099	18%	29,317	20%	19,205	26%	13,050	14%
29	Koslowitz	47,551	32%	44,139	30%	31,990	43%	23,655	24%
30	Holden	15,645	10%	14,474	9%	10,624	18%	8,463	8%
31	Richards	5,088	3%	4,099	3%	3,240	6%	2,412	2%
32	Ulrich	36,557	21%	29,491	18%	24,142	35%	17,829	16%

Note: **Bold** districts have new Council Members for 2018.

Table 1: Asian Population by New York City Council Districts

Council District	Current Council Member	2015 Population		2010 Population		2015 Population			
		Asian	Percent Asian	Asian	Percent Asian	Asian Immigrants	Asian Share of All	Asian Voting-Age	Asian Share of All Voting-Age
33	Levin	13,508	7%	10,498	6%	6,204	18%	6,959	6%
34	Reynoso	14,065	8%	12,860	8%	8,442	15%	7,197	7%
35	Cumbo	12,289	7%	8,853	6%	6,475	15%	5,065	5%
36	Cornegy	5,503	4%	4,024	3%	2,946	8%	2,190	2%
37	Espinal	10,012	6%	11,672	7%	6,227	10%	4,703	5%
38	Menchaca	55,042	34%	53,311	34%	39,617	51%	17,584	23%
39	Lander	23,818	15%	22,042	14%	13,136	30%	10,349	10%
40	Eugene	10,196	7%	9,114	6%	5,819	9%	3,830	4%
41	Ampry-Samuel	3,097	2%	1,677	1%	1,773	3%	1,058	1%
42	Barron	3,418	2%	3,973	2%	2,036	4%	1,428	1%
43	Brannan	53,484	30%	43,060	25%	36,954	48%	26,619	23%
44	Yeger	32,681	19%	28,873	18%	22,185	33%	16,385	18%
45	Williams	6,415	4%	5,169	4%	3,825	5%	2,840	3%
46	Maisel	13,354	8%	11,507	7%	8,412	12%	7,726	6%
47	Treyger	36,949	23%	32,788	20%	25,333	33%	19,147	19%
48	Deutsch	26,226	17%	24,271	15%	17,238	20%	13,798	14%
49	Rose	14,890	9%	14,993	9%	9,439	23%	7,651	7%
50	Matteo	21,986	14%	19,663	13%	13,746	32%	11,770	11%
51	Borrelli	10,305	6%	8,926	6%	6,474	24%	5,788	5%

Note: **Bold** districts have new Council Members for 2018.

Table 2: Asian Ethnic Group Population by New York City Council Districts

Council District	Bangladeshi	Burmese	Cambodian	Chinese, excl. Taiwanese	Filipino	Indian	Indonesian	Japanese
1	254	69	57	46,182	812	3,897	106	1,494
2	119	61	16	13,375	1,065	3,480	56	2,130
3	209	31	41	9,700	1,635	4,433	59	2,107
4	69	0	10	5,283	1,646	3,873	0	1,838
5	29	0	38	5,973	1,692	4,053	0	1,410
6	74	0	10	5,785	1,180	2,649	32	1,357
7	19	0	3	2,520	1,088	1,430	0	442
8	421	40	9	5,424	1,421	1,467	23	1,152
9	333	30	27	4,750	605	2,459	38	762
10	9	0	6	800	515	847	17	353
11	1,894	28	255	1,675	1,036	3,097	9	161
12	200	40	375	222	212	1,565	0	22
13	1,398	17	321	2,386	2,054	3,704	1	59
14	843	0	7	443	1,165	1,256	0	86
15	135	0	60	509	282	1,229	2	95
16	572	0	0	218	158	501	0	14
17	206	0	34	811	38	583	3	128
18	4,507	0	136	1,137	223	4,077	0	30
19	267	78	17	24,552	1,712	2,659	8	649
20	955	127	30	72,253	2,550	7,165	153	304
21	2,595	204	0	10,665	2,297	5,053	161	122
22	2,843	68	90	3,802	2,349	3,399	66	1,193
23	1,754	90	0	16,520	4,461	23,497	0	87
24	10,218	22	168	19,918	5,259	11,774	83	164
25	6,550	607	4	20,917	5,810	11,505	828	558
26	6,265	250	18	13,208	5,692	7,510	592	1,723
27	4,540	0	0	627	1,418	6,821	0	5
28	1,631	40	18	1,041	550	21,061	8	34
29	1,076	634	85	20,073	3,138	11,130	633	1,484
30	552	37	14	6,854	2,282	2,839	66	120
31	194	0	0	1,281	483	1,950	0	16
32	1,476	0	0	4,484	2,484	21,473	43	17
33	158	0	9	4,109	716	2,084	63	623
34	334	0	0	7,171	1,180	1,184	39	590
35	489	5	10	4,610	378	1,655	21	670
36	586	17	0	1,404	241	875	11	223
37	927	117	0	3,070	740	2,487	0	286
38	585	146	62	47,696	872	1,864	61	185
39	2,397	39	46	7,651	706	4,642	50	764
40	921	351	28	1,372	385	1,738	29	251
41	350	0	24	894	129	526	0	22
42	450	0	0	1,093	59	985	0	0
43	448	337	28	43,479	943	1,661	92	254
44	656	112	111	21,767	191	1,841	16	64
45	329	20	34	1,238	255	932	10	52
46	40	15	0	7,846	1,049	1,398	12	47
47	312	256	197	29,607	241	1,398	40	192
48	382	257	49	14,213	1,183	2,059	0	35
49	164	9	48	3,660	2,628	3,363	22	99
50	0	0	0	11,030	2,172	3,427	0	24
51	192	0	75	4,083	1,015	1,033	0	68

Note: **Bold** districts have new Council Members for 2018.

Table 2: Asian Ethnic Group Population by New York City Council Districts

Council District	Korean	Malaysian	Nepalese	Pakistani	Sri Lankan	Taiwanese	Thai	Vietnamese
1	2,652	270	0	298	123	419	78	511
2	2,828	37	0	277	151	230	65	227
3	4,124	82	21	257	14	361	438	474
4	2,448	138	26	581	44	443	125	156
5	1,853	18	33	182	0	337	98	225
6	1,908	11	0	26	189	313	262	209
7	610	4	0	36	0	29	26	126
8	1,522	3	86	224	59	151	2	228
9	1,532	55	0	189	32	240	78	170
10	249	0	0	14	0	45	38	101
11	1,170	0	23	974	0	46	67	182
12	166	0	0	124	93	0	7	158
13	313	0	18	1,382	10	0	215	1,435
14	179	0	0	136	0	13	14	191
15	180	0	73	376	0	0	21	636
16	71	0	0	32	0	22	30	48
17	85	0	0	67	0	23	0	76
18	381	0	0	173	228	0	53	521
19	16,561	100	19	372	50	1,296	131	334
20	16,091	314	0	1,891	261	1,806	160	337
21	620	90	367	1,174	27	25	295	62
22	2,165	0	175	1,620	11	172	328	382
23	9,698	190	129	2,900	751	545	273	85
24	1,667	123	132	3,789	106	738	86	284
25	2,229	234	2,039	2,297	116	283	1,231	297
26	4,501	141	1,986	539	46	311	587	347
27	108	0	0	705	163	48	2	259
28	65	18	19	834	59	8	86	106
29	2,076	103	286	1,624	45	475	385	434
30	611	4	120	331	13	130	82	269
31	158	0	0	120	0	137	2	49
32	161	46	33	1,744	219	18	78	204
33	1,222	16	16	186	24	272	104	299
34	843	0	307	167	0	121	183	377
35	1,092	31	28	117	29	196	136	188
36	343	28	55	71	38	36	56	52
37	571	0	62	126	0	26	18	199
38	529	249	0	560	0	69	115	508
39	765	12	0	1,381	10	128	193	223
40	525	0	173	1,987	0	74	99	94
41	116	0	6	305	0	0	0	16
42	85	0	0	64	0	0	21	66
43	1,215	11	0	2,453	0	13	48	408
44	321	25	0	5,279	0	10	11	273
45	70	0	32	2,278	139	9	18	0
46	237	0	0	1,123	0	2	6	397
47	442	0	0	2,309	0	106	21	440
48	530	0	0	4,728	7	19	83	815
49	806	10	34	1,222	792	0	14	266
50	1,239	119	29	1,207	521	25	154	423
51	1,799	0	65	603	104	29	51	108

Note: **Bold** districts have new Council Members for 2018.

Table 3: Asian Language Speakers by New York City Council Districts

Council District	Gujarati	Hindi	Urdu	Other Indic languages	Chinese	Japanese	Korean	Khmer	Thai	Vietnamese	Other Asian languages	Tagalog
1	294	934	415	732	39,984	1,376	1,592	33	35	267	600	385
2	123	822	146	663	11,279	1,751	1,649	16	45	162	661	462
3	239	1,351	162	479	7,281	1,673	3,022	25	193	354	872	515
4	337	753	440	584	3,843	1,685	1,686	43	85	59	714	1,137
5	251	860	207	396	4,446	1,252	1,203	32	74	130	953	861
6	308	793	66	272	4,327	1,246	1,535	32	247	123	503	636
7	30	276	22	173	2,003	401	405	3	15	56	303	732
8	110	340	272	873	4,523	995	1,228	0	2	70	308	956
9	131	724	264	649	4,087	875	1,173	27	44	128	430	291
10	33	13	0	252	562	341	197	6	20	16	85	249
11	207	412	769	2,949	1,360	198	1,087	162	67	154	356	906
12	16	70	245	553	256	2	168	365	7	89	54	258
13	21	377	1,098	2,628	2,035	51	282	310	152	1,289	537	1,734
14	0	100	178	1,057	286	154	117	7	14	164	223	1,046
15	20	70	448	666	374	23	192	60	27	584	243	208
16	0	0	87	799	241	47	10	0	30	78	70	159
17	0	84	0	538	796	209	71	24	0	73	32	61
18	0	103	295	5,772	978	57	271	72	53	441	263	224
19	166	503	356	762	22,849	567	14,798	17	124	245	703	1,300
20	1,104	1,618	1,849	3,750	67,464	328	15,464	14	125	341	1,074	2,043
21	127	807	1,279	5,268	8,828	101	543	0	212	71	884	2,096
22	138	289	1,210	4,696	2,794	1,209	1,719	90	538	301	1,297	1,617
23	1,427	3,481	2,877	8,661	14,347	80	8,530	13	181	98	3,642	3,353
24	603	2,271	3,414	13,974	17,763	126	1,395	110	67	225	1,070	3,766
25	870	2,738	2,439	14,109	17,362	407	2,098	4	1,260	244	2,625	4,717
26	271	2,035	540	12,290	9,636	1,421	3,710	9	581	277	3,576	4,467
27	136	180	621	5,798	542	6	117	0	6	172	210	1,179
28	29	1,363	788	8,585	827	95	55	18	38	67	471	435
29	389	3,381	1,931	3,898	16,696	1,263	1,657	67	292	154	1,372	2,163
30	65	246	524	1,183	5,992	43	525	14	33	233	361	1,327
31	21	68	115	307	1,261	37	150	0	0	49	65	271
32	89	625	1,320	9,484	4,256	35	140	11	41	178	562	1,746
33	125	418	272	475	2,876	500	715	0	54	155	331	253
34	16	188	93	979	5,516	536	558	0	68	178	545	408
35	92	326	181	661	3,526	481	533	0	102	93	410	169
36	39	60	89	1,123	1,103	307	252	0	14	16	314	88
37	15	254	88	3,298	2,603	237	342	0	15	145	374	426
38	132	192	412	1,270	42,523	175	391	62	102	397	520	540
39	95	266	1,047	5,009	6,482	681	334	46	191	53	586	271
40	6	61	1,521	2,091	905	249	375	28	94	125	961	182
41	0	13	168	683	814	20	86	10	0	23	35	24
42	0	37	219	1,258	930	80	106	0	21	63	5	39
43	173	283	2,067	1,043	38,058	219	851	66	6	373	1,110	650
44	0	230	4,200	1,402	19,950	54	226	104	14	210	2,056	279
45	25	106	2,053	674	989	69	79	34	9	0	390	218
46	59	433	1,019	521	6,469	46	179	0	6	307	642	698
47	0	126	2,134	674	26,044	78	295	161	21	406	1,371	181
48	30	284	4,332	1,506	12,084	29	446	32	11	686	2,648	577
49	50	589	1,303	1,682	3,014	139	713	27	1	223	1,215	1,761
50	465	884	1,173	921	9,442	78	1,016	28	75	274	1,383	1,383
51	123	132	716	466	3,300	66	1,703	64	43	105	575	628