



Profile of New York City’s Filipino Americans

Introduction

Using data from 2006-2010 and 2011-2015 American Community Survey (ACS) Selected Population Tables and the 2010 U.S. census, this profile outlines characteristics and trends among New York City’s Filipino American population.¹ It presents statistics on population size and changes, immigration, citizenship status, educational attainment, English ability, income, poverty, health insurance, and housing. Comparisons with New York City’s general population are provided for context.

New York City’s Filipino population was the fourth largest Asian ethnic group in New York City, behind Chinese, Indians and Koreans. Relative to all residents, Filipinos in New York City were more likely to be:

- working-age adults,
- better educated,
- proficient in English,
- higher income, and
- living in overcrowded housing.

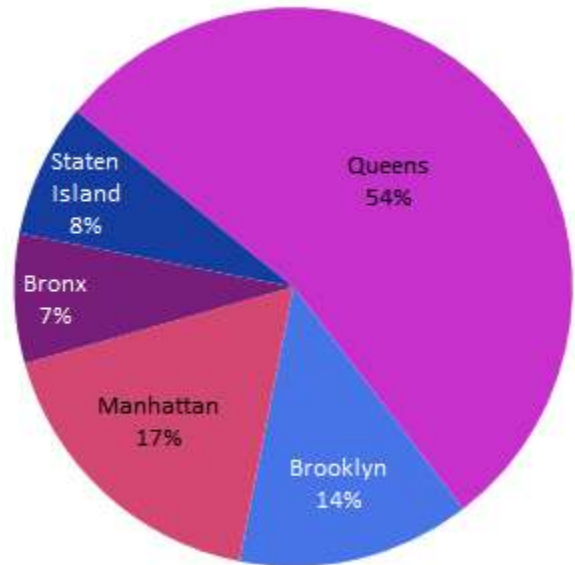


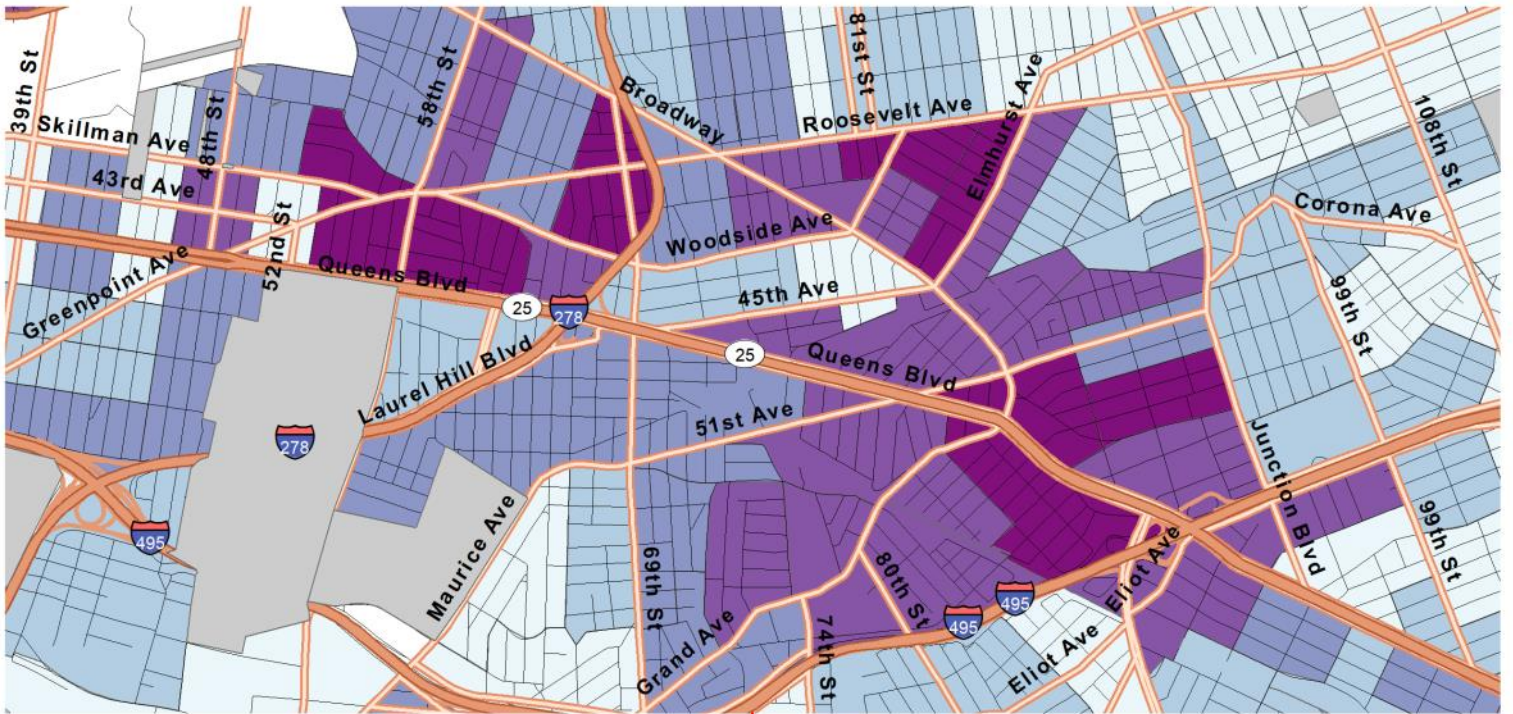
Figure 1: Filipino Population by Borough

Population

From 2010 to 2015, the Filipino alone or in combination population in New York City increased by 5 percent from 81,200 to 85,065 – a faster growth than the city’s overall 4 percent increase but less than the 13 percent growth of the total Asian population. The Filipino population alone population increased by 0.3 percent from 72,156 in 2010 to 72,398 in 2015.

New York City was home to 60 percent of New York State’s Filipino residents. The majority (54 percent) of Filipino New Yorkers lived in Queens (Figure 1). The remainder lived mostly in Manhattan and Brooklyn. The share of Filipino population among the five boroughs did not appreciably change from 2010 to 2015. The neighborhoods with the largest Filipino populations include Woodside, Elmhurst, Fresh Meadows, Jamaica Estates, and Queens Village in Queens Borough (see maps).

Facts on Filipino Population in New York City	
Alone or in-Combination Population	85,065
Percent Change from 2010 to 2015	4%
Immigration and Citizenship	
Percent of Population Foreign Born	65%
Percent of Foreign Born Who are Citizens	62%
Educational Attainment for Adults Age 25 or Older	
Percent of Adults without High School Diploma	5%
Percent of Adults with a Bachelor’s Degree	65%
Limited English Proficiency	
Percent of Population Age 5 or Older	18%
Income	
Median Household Income	\$86,935
Median Family Income	\$95,881
Per Capita Income	\$38,179
Poverty	
Percent of Total Population Living in Poverty	9.2%
Percent of Children Living in Poverty	9.7%
Percent of Seniors Living in Poverty	12.3%



Woodside and Elmhurst, Queens Borough

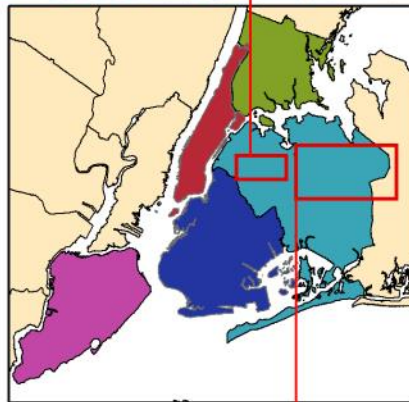
Legend

Landmarks

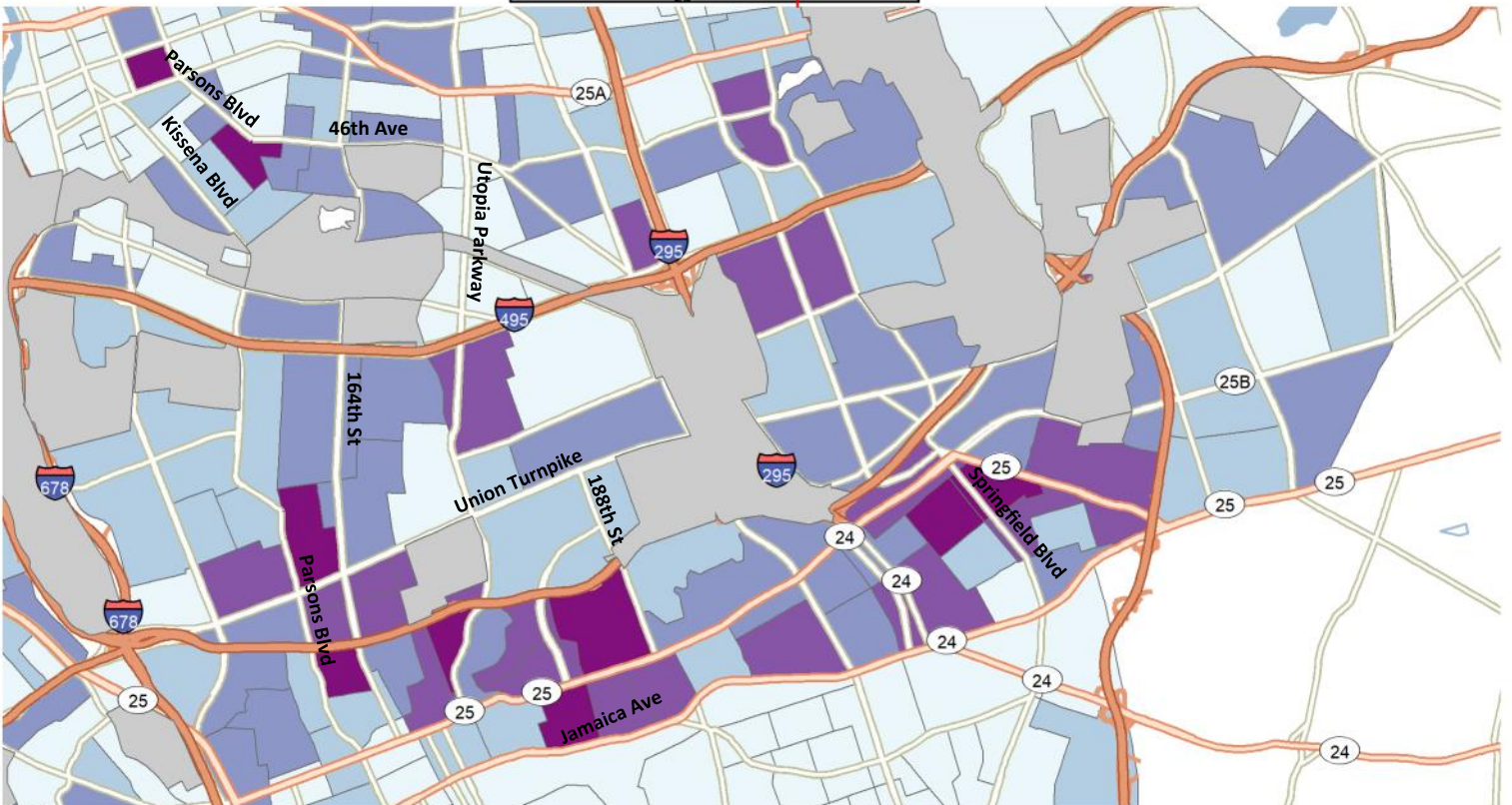
Filipino Population

As Percent of Total Population

- 0% - 0.8%
- 0.9% - 2.4%
- 2.5% - 4.8%
- 4.9% - 10%
- 10.1% - 22.3%



Fresh Meadows, Jamaica Estates and Queens Village, Queens Borough



In 2015, working-age adults (age 18 to 64) were a larger share of New York City’s Filipino population, comprising 69 percent, compared with 66 percent of all city residents. Children (under 18 years of age) and seniors (age 65 or older) each constituted 18 and 13 percent of the city’s Filipino population, compared with 21 percent and 13 percent, respectively, of the citywide population in those age groups.

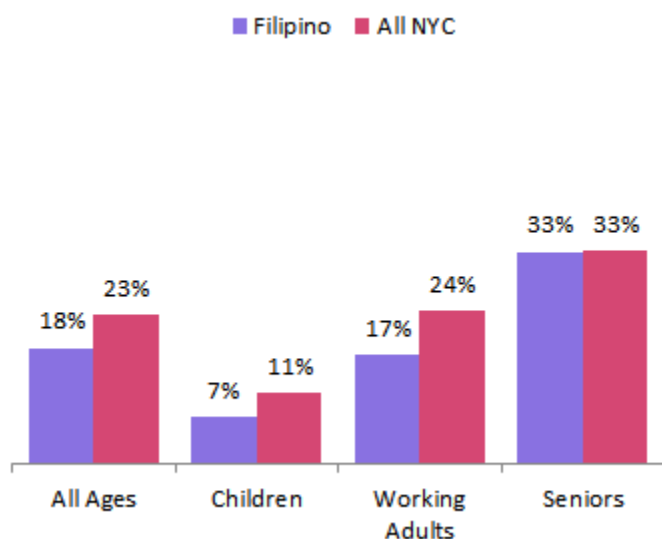
Immigration and Citizenship

About 65 percent of New York City’s Filipinos in 2015 were foreign-born, compared to 37 percent of all city residents. Filipino immigrants in New York City were less likely to be recent arrivals with only 7 percent arriving in 2010 or later, less than the city’s 10 percent rate. Of all the city’s foreign-born Filipino residents, 62 percent were naturalized citizens, greater than the city’s 53 percent of all foreign-born New Yorkers.

Education

Filipinos in 2015 had more schooling than the city’s general population. Of the city’s 63,266 Filipino adults, only 5 percent had not graduated from high school, significantly lower than 20 percent of all adults citywide.² Also, 3 percent of Filipino adults in New York City had less than a ninth-grade education – a third of the 10 percent rate for all adult New Yorkers.

Figure 2: Limited English Proficiency Rates



At the high end of the educational spectrum, 87 percent of Filipino adults in New York City had some sort of post-secondary education, greater than half (56 percent) of all city adults. About two thirds (65 percent) of Filipino adults in New York City had a bachelor’s degree or higher, almost double the rate of 36 percent for all city adults.

English Proficiency

New York City’s Filipino residents had a lower incidence of limited English proficiency (LEP) than New Yorkers as a whole in 2015.³ Less than two-fifths (18 percent) of the city’s Filipinos spoke English “well,” “not well” or “not at all” – less than the 23 percent rate for New Yorkers overall (Figure 2). Filipino seniors had LEP rates that matched the overall senior LEP rate for the city.

Income

Filipino New Yorkers had higher incomes compared to New York City residents overall for all income gauges.⁴ The Filipino median household income was \$86,935, greater than the \$53,373 median for the entire city population. Median family income was \$95,881 for Filipinos, higher than the city’s median family income of \$59,285. Additionally, Filipino per capita income was \$38,179 – above the per capita income of \$33,078 citywide.

Poverty

The poverty rates for Filipino residents in relation to the total New York City population were lower overall.⁵ Among all Filipinos in the city, 9.2 percent lived below the poverty line, compared with the general New York City poverty rate of 20.6 percent. One in ten (9.7 percent) of Filipino children in New York City experienced poverty, compared with 29.5 percent of all city children. Also, 8.5 percent of working-age Filipino adults and 12.3 percent of elderly Filipinos in the city lived in poverty, lower than 18.1 percent and 18.8 percent, respectively, for residents city-wide in those age groups.

Health Insurance Coverage

Filipino New Yorkers were less likely to be without health insurance coverage, with only 9.6 percent uninsured, compared with 12.4 percent for the general population. Among children, only 2.7 percent of Filipinos were uninsured, compared to 3.6 percent of all children. Filipinos relied much more on private insurance options than the general population, with 74.4 percent of Filipinos having private insurance coverage compared to only 55.0 percent of all New Yorkers.

Housing

Filipino New Yorkers in 2015 had a larger average household size than households in general (2.98 people versus 2.65 people). Filipino households were slightly more likely to be overcrowded than households in general, with 11 percent of Filipino households and 9 percent of households in general having more than one occupant per room.

Filipino households had higher rates of owning homes compared to New York City households in general. Almost two-fifths (38 percent) of households owned their homes, compared with 32 percent homeowners in the city overall.

Endnotes

¹ Data sources used in this brief were 2011-2015 American Community Survey Selected Population Tables, and are for the Filipino Alone or in Any Combination category, unless otherwise noted. Statistics from 2010 used 2006-2010 American Community Survey Selected Population Tables.

² For educational attainment, adults were defined as people age 25 or older.

³ “Limited English Proficiency” refers to individuals age 5 years and older who reported speaking English well, not well, or not at all.

⁴ Household income refers to the income of all occupants of a housing unit. Family income referred to the earnings of a group of two or more people (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage, or adoption and residing together.

⁵ Families and individuals were classified as below the poverty line if their total family income or unrelated individual income over the last 12 months was less than the poverty threshold specified for the applicable family size, age of householder, and number of related children younger than 18 present for the year and month the data was collected. For these thresholds, please see <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-poverty-thresholds.htm>.

Technical Notes

Race Categories

Beginning with the Census 2000, the Census Bureau collects data in which respondents were allowed to mark more than one race. For example, 2000 data include results for single-race as well as multiple-race responses. “Filipino Alone” corresponds to the respondents who reported only Asian Indian and no other race category. “Alone” should be considered the minimum population size in any analysis that uses Census Bureau data.

To be as inclusive as possible, this profile uses “Filipino Alone or in Any Combination” numbers where possible. “Alone or in Any Combination” corresponds to the responses (not respondents) that included Filipino, either alone or in any combination with other Asian groups or other race categories. If a respondent selected Filipino and another racial group (e.g., Filipino and black), that individual, while excluded from the “Filipino Alone” count, was tallied in the “Alone or in Any Combination” count for Asian Indian and the other racial group. Hence, some overlap in the “In Any Combination” numbers occurred. “Alone or in Any Combination” should be considered the maximum population size in any analysis that uses Census Bureau data.

About This Profile

This is one of a series of Asian American population profiles prepared by the Asian American Federation Census Information Center (CIC) to increase understanding of the rapidly-growing and diverse Asian American population in the New York metropolitan area.

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

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

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