



Asian American Federation

Demographic Profile of Richmond Hill: 2015

Asian American Federation Census Information Center

Introduction

This profile of the Indian and Asian populations of the Richmond Hill and South Ozone Park neighborhoods highlights one of the fastest growing Asian neighborhoods in New York City.¹ For this profile, we defined our study area to be Community Districts 9 and 10 in Queens, which encompasses the large Indo-Caribbean community centered around Richmond Hill and South Ozone Park. We used the Census Bureau’s classification of “Asian Indian” as a proxy for the Indo-Caribbean community because there is not a consensus method for Indo-Caribbeans to self-identify their unique cultural and migration history in Census Bureau surveys.

Population

From 2000 to 2013, both the Indian and Asian populations grew much faster than the total population in the study area. Asians now represent 1 in 4 residents in the neighborhood, while Indians make up more than 1 in 7 residents.

Population in 2013	
Total Population	281,263
Growth in Total Population from 2000-2013	4%
Asian Population	69,328
Growth in Asian Population from 2000-2013	25%
Indian Population	28,176
Growth in Indian Population from 2000-2013	52%

Immigration

Both Indian and Asian residents in Community Districts 9 and 10 were more likely to be immigrants than the general population. While immigrants made up less than half (48 percent) of the total population in the study area, 74 percent of Indians and 72 percent of Asians were immigrants. Both Indian and Asian immigrants were more likely to have arrived in the United States in 1980 or later compared to immigrants in general.

Decade of Entry for Immigrants	All Groups	Indian	Asian
Before 1980	14%	5%	7%
1980-1989	24%	22%	24%
1990-1999	30%	36%	34%
2000 or Later	32%	37%	35%

Language

English proficiency was higher among the Indian population, with 18 percent having limited English proficiency (LEP).² The general population had an LEP rate of 19 percent, while the Asian population had an LEP rate of 24 percent.

Education

Indian and Asian adults were more likely to have dropped out of high school than the general population.³

Educational Attainment for Adults	All	Indian	Asian
No High School	22%	29%	26%
High School Diploma or Equivalent	33%	31%	28%
Some College	15%	10%	10%
Associate's Degree or Higher	30%	31%	36%

Both Indian and Asian children in grade school were more likely to enroll in public schools compared to the general child population. For children in general, 86 percent were enrolled in public schools, compared to 91 percent of Indian children and 89 percent of Asian children.

Income and Poverty

Indian and Asian households had lower median household incomes than the general median household income of \$60,452. Indian median household income was lowest at \$54,273. Asian median household income was \$58,133.

Both Indian and Asian communities saw higher poverty rates than the general population, in particular among children and seniors.⁴

Poverty Rates	All Groups	Indian	Asian
Total	14%	19%	18%
Children	19%	27%	24%
Seniors	11%	21%	20%

Housing

Asian households were slightly more likely to own their homes than households in general. For all households, the homeownership rate was 55 percent, compared to 59 percent for Asian households and 54 percent for Indian households.

Indian and Asian residents were also more likely to live in overcrowded households.⁵ While 16 percent of all residents lived in overcrowded housing, one in four Asian and Indian residents lived in overcrowded housing.

Indian and Asian households faced higher housing cost burdens than households in general. While only half

of all households had housing costs that were greater than 30 percent of household income, 59 percent of Indian households and 54 percent of Asian households devoted more than 30 percent of their household income to housing.

Footnotes

¹ Data sources used in this brief were the 2009-2013 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata and the Census 2000.

² “Limited English Proficiency” refers to individuals who reported speaking English “well,” “not well,” or “not at all.”

³ For educational attainment, adults were defined as people age 25 or older.

⁴ The poverty definition used in this profile is the federal poverty threshold as used by the U.S. Census Bureau for their statistical products.

⁵ The commonly accepted definition of crowded housing is more than one occupant per room.

About this Profile

Through this series of demographic profiles, the Asian American Federation Census Information Center seeks 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.”

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