

# ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICANS IN IOWA: 2014

MAY 2014

In 1978, a joint congressional resolution established Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. The first 10 days of May were chosen to coincide with two important anniversaries: the arrival in the United States of the first Japanese immigrants (May 7, 1843) and the completion of the transcontinental railroad (May 10, 1869). In 1992, Congress expanded the 10-day observance to a month-long celebration.

**3.55**

*The average family size for those who reported their race as Asian. The average family size in the state of Iowa is 2.98.*

**71,919**

The number of Iowa residents in 2012 who say they are Asian or Asian in combination with one or more other races. This group comprises 2.3 percent of Iowa's total population.

**66.8%**

The percent change in the Asian population from 2000 to 2012. This is a 28,800 numeric increase for the period.

**110,014**

The projected number of Iowa residents who will identify themselves as either Asian or native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander in 2040 according to Woods & Poole Economics, Inc.

**4,537**

The number Iowa residents who say they are native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone or in combination with one or more races in 2012. This group comprises 0.15 percent of Iowa's total population.

**106.6%**

The percent change in population for native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders alone or in combination from 2000 to 2012. This is a numeric increase of 2,341 for the period.

## Coming to America

**33.5%**

The percent of Iowa's foreign born population in 2012 who were born in Asia.

**77.2%**

The percentage of Iowa's Asian foreign-born who entered the United States since 1990.

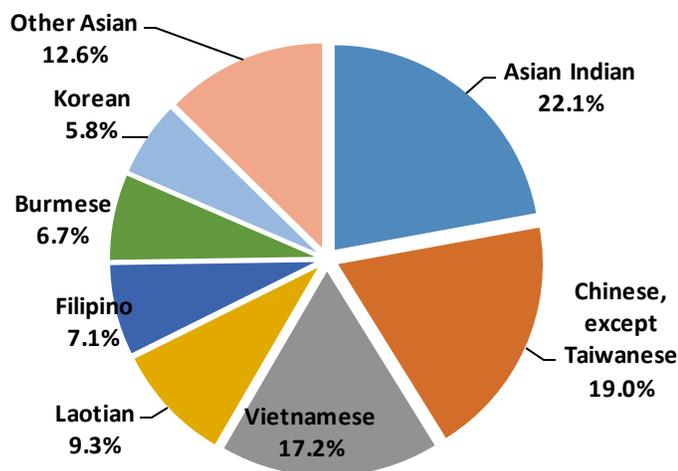
**38.7%**

The percentage of Iowa's foreign-born in 2012 from Asia who are naturalized citizens. The corresponding rate for the foreign-born population as a whole is 38.6 percent.

**9,706**

The estimated number of foreign-born people from India in 2012. After Mexico, India is the leading country of birth for the state's foreign-born. Also among the top 10 countries of birth for Iowa's foreign-born population are China, Korea, Vietnam, and the Philippines.

**Iowa's Asian Population: 2012**



# Counties and cities

## Top 5 Counties of Residence for all Asians in Iowa: 2012

Polk	16,925	28.2%
Johnson	7,405	12.3%
Story	5,724	9.5%
Linn	4,337	7.2%
Scott	3,673	6.1%

## Top 5 Counties of Residence for all Native Hawaiians and/or Other Pacific Islanders in Iowa: 2012

Polk	427	16.2%
Dubuque	257	9.8%
Black Hawk	230	8.7%
Linn	193	7.3%
Woodbury	182	6.9%

## Percentage of all Native Hawaiian /Other Pacific Islanders in Iowa: Top 5 Cities of Residence: 2010

Dubuque	13.4%
Waterloo	9.8%
Des Moines	7.4%
Cedar Rapids	7.3%
Sioux City	5.1%

## Percentage of all Asians in Iowa: Top 5 Cities of Residence: 2010

Des Moines	16.9%
Ames	9.7%
Iowa City	8.8%
Cedar Rapids	5.3%
West Des Moines	5.1%

## 16,925

The number of Asians in Polk county in 2012, which has the largest population of this race of any Iowa county. Polk county has both the largest population and the largest numerical increase (7,067) of people in this group between 2000 and 2012

Jefferson county is where Asians make up the highest proportion of the total population (8.9 percent).

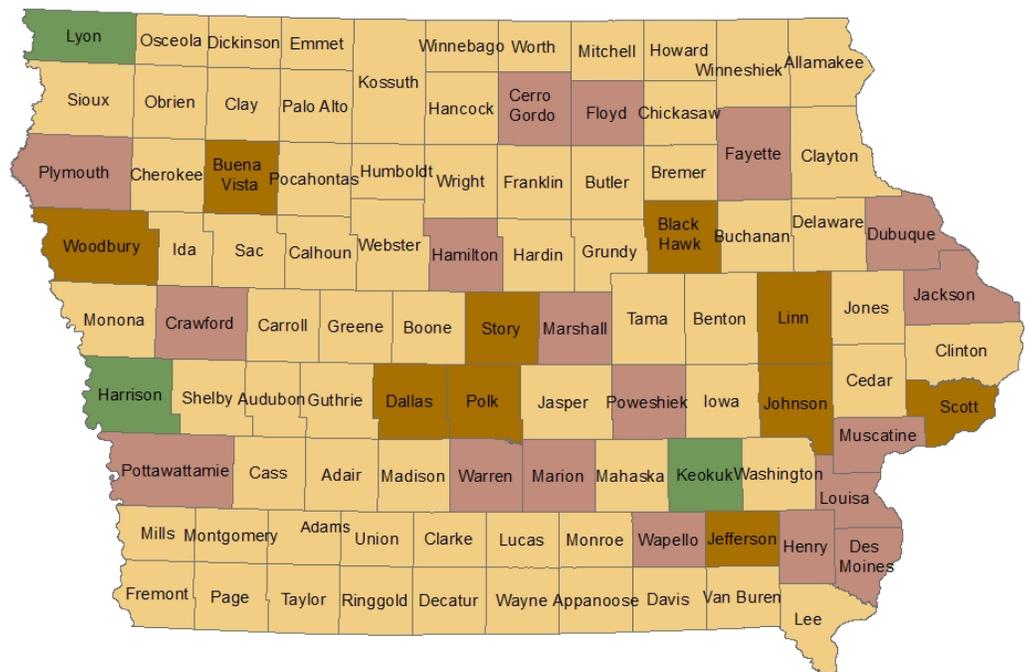
## 427

The number of native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders in Polk county in 2012, which leads all counties in Iowa.

Buena Vista county is where native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders make up the largest proportion (0.7 percent) of the total population.



## Population Change for Asian and Pacific Islanders in Iowa: 1990-2012



### Numeric Change

■ Population Decrease   
 ■ No change   
 ■ 1 - 99   
 ■ 100 - 999   
 ■ Over 1,000

# Education

**13,100**

The number Asian and Pacific Islanders enrolled in the state's elementary and high schools during the 2013-2014 school year.

**62.0%**

Percent increase in enrollment between the 1999-2000 school year and 2013-2014.

Source: Iowa Department of Education

**49.7%**

The percentage of Asians in 2012, age 25 and over, who have a bachelor's or higher degree education.

Asians have the highest proportion of college graduates of any race or ethnic group in the state. The corresponding rate for all

Iowans in this age group is 26.3 percent.



**85.2%**

The percentage of Asians in 2012, age 25 and over, who are high school graduates. The corresponding rate for all

**25.5%**

The percentage of Asians in 2011, age 25 and over, who have a graduate degree (e.g., master's, Ph.D., M.D. or J.D.). The corresponding rate for all adults in the age group is 8.2 percent.

## Languages

**10,460**

The number of people who speak Chinese at home in 2012. Chinese is the most widely spoken Asian language in the state. Also among the top 10 most frequently spoken languages are: Vietnamese (8,484), Laotian (4,749); Hindi (3,101); and Tagalog (2,265)

## Age Distribution

**20.9%**

The percentage of the native Hawaiian and other Pacific islander population that are under 18; 7.7 percent are 65 or over.

Source: 2008-2012 American Community Survey

24.0 percent of people identifying themselves as Asian are under 18; 5.4 percent are 65 or over.

Source: 2012 American Community Survey

## Families

**11,645**

The number of families with householders who reported their race as Asian in 2012.

**4,319**

The numeric change in families with householders who reported their race as Asian between 2000-2012. This is a 59.0 percent increase for the period.

**369**

The number of families with householders who reported their race as Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander in 2012.

**103.9%**

The percent change in families with householders who reported their race as Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander between 2000-2012.

# Income and poverty

**\$56,397**

The median income of households in 2012 whose householders reported their race as Asian. The median household income for all Iowans is \$50,957.

**\$39,686**

The median income of households whose householders reported their race as native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders

**16.7%**

The poverty rate in 2012 for those who reported their race as Asian. The poverty rate for those who reported their race as native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islander was 47.7. The corresponding rate for Iowa as a whole is 12.7 percent.

# Employment

State Data Center of  
Iowa a program of Iowa  
Library Services/State  
Library

Miller Building  
1112 E. Grand Ave  
Des Moines, Iowa 50327  
Phone: 800-248-4483  
Fax: 515-242-6543  
E-mail: census@lib.state.ia.us



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[www.iowadatacenter.org](http://www.iowadatacenter.org)  
[www.iowacapi.org](http://www.iowacapi.org)

Office of Asian and Pacific  
Islander Affairs

Iowa Department of Human Rights  
Lucas State Office Building  
321 E 12th Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319  
Phone: 800-922-8917  
515-281-4219  
Fax: 515-242-6119  
Email: info@iowacapi.org

## Business

**2,834**

The number of Asian-owned firms in Iowa in 2007.

**178**

The number of Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander-owned firms in Iowa in 2007.

**73.0%**

The percent increase in Asian and of Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander-owned firms between 1997 and 2007.

Source: 2007 & 1997 Survey of Business Owners Survey SBO is conducted every 5 years, with 2007 being the most current dataset available.

**5.0 %**

The unemployment rate in 2012 for those who reported their race as Asian. The unemployment rate for all Iowans is 5.3%.

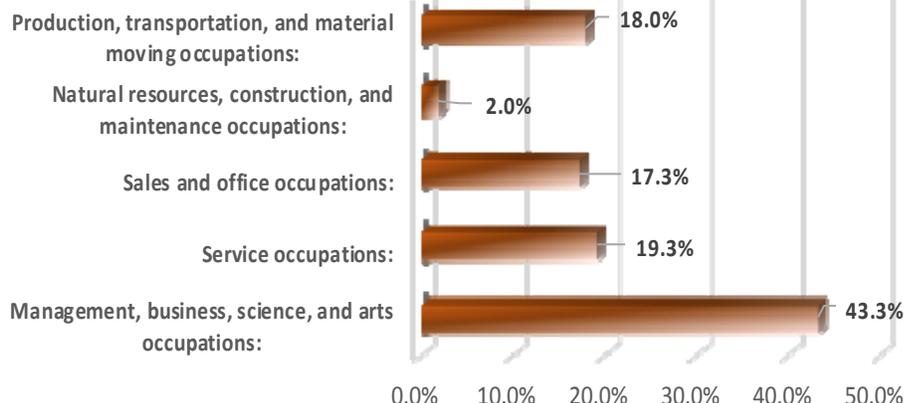
Source: 2012 American Community Survey

**10.4 %**

The unemployment rate in for those who reported their race as native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.

Source: 2008- 2012 American Community Survey

## Asian Occupation: 2012



## Vital Statistics

**20.5**

The Asian/Pacific Islander birth rate per 1,000 population in 2012. The birth rate per 1,000 for the state was 12.5.

**209.2**

The Asian/Pacific Islander rate of out-of-wedlock births per 1,000 live births in 2012. The rate of out-of-wedlock births per 1,000 live births for the state was 352.7.

**31.2**

The Asian/Pacific Islander rate of births for mothers under age 20 per 1,000 live births in 2012. The rate for the state was 66.8.

**2.5**

The Asian/Pacific Islander death rate per 1,000 population in 2012. The death rate per 1,000 for the state was 9.2.

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

**Serving Our**

**Nation**

**605**

The number of Asian-American military veterans in 2012.

Data Source (unless otherwise noted) :  
U.S. Census Bureau,  
2012 American Community Survey  
U.S. Decennial Census 1990,  
2000 and 2010  
Photos by the U.S. Census Bureau