The Working Lives and Struggles of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in California

Filipino Americans

About the Survey

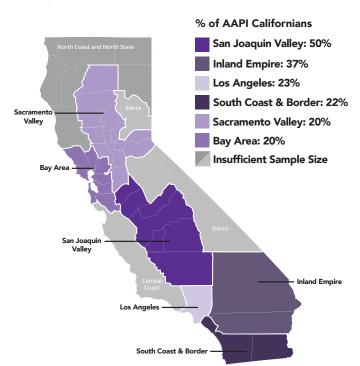
In November 2019, researchers from PRRI and AAPI Data released a landmark report on Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) workers in California. The survey of 2,684 AAPI California residents explored experiences and perspectives of workers, many of whom are struggling with poverty.

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are the fastest-growing racial groups (and working-age population) in California and the nation. Between 2010 and 2017, most new immigrants (56%) to California came from Asia.

As with other racial and ethnic groups, the research tells the story of "two Californias" — one where some AAPI workers are financially stable and another in which AAPI workers report struggle significantly. This brief highlights key findings relevant to Filipino American workers in California from the full report.

AAPI California Workers Struggling with Poverty Within Each Region

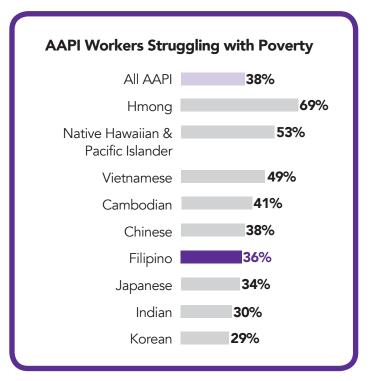
In California, the highest proportion of Filipino American adults reside in the Bay Area (27%) and Los Angeles County (27%).

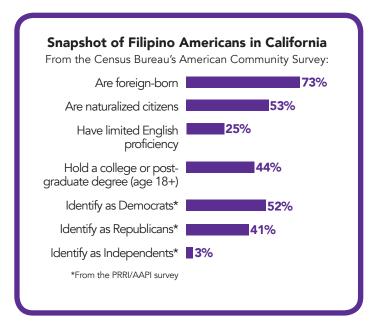


Key Findings



Nearly FOUR IN 10 AAPI workers in California are struggling with poverty.





Economic Hardships and Concerns

Share of Filipino American workers in California who experienced hardships in the past 12 months:



50% helped parents or in-laws financially



34% reduced meals or cut back on food to save money



25% had difficulty paying rent or mortgage



(5) 25% were not able to pay a monthly bill



24% put off seeing a doctor or buying medicine

Share of Filipino American workers in California who are:



worried that they or someone in their family will be unable to afford housing **53%**



worried that they or someone in their family will lose health insurance 44%



worried that they or someone in their family will **be deported** 10%

Views on the American Dream and Economic Mobility Among Filipino Americans in California

66% still believe in the American Dream (if you work hard, you'll get ahead), compared to 62% of all AAPI Californians

64% of struggling Filipino American workers in California believe in the American Dream

44% believe it is harder to achieve the American Dream here than in other states.

57% would encourage young people to leave their community for better opportunities

47% agree that hard work is not a guarantee of success, compared to 55% of all AAPI Californians

Hardships on the Job

Share of Filipino American workers in California who said they or someone in their household experienced the following in the past 12 months:





Experienced racial discrimination or bias at work 19%

overtime without pay 14%





Experienced discrimination or bias related to gender or sexual orientation at work





Felt vulnerable due to immigration status 8%



Had wages withheld by an employer without cause 8%

Views on the Economy, Employers, and Policymakers

Share of Filipino American workers in California believe that:

The U.S. economy unfairly favors the wealthy 76%

Public officials do not care what they think 73%

Employers generally see them as replaceable 62%

It is important to organize so that employers do not take advantage of them **81%**

For more data and survey methodology, please see the full report, in English, at: irvine.org/learning/aapi