A Child is a Child: Examining California’s Children’s Health Inequities

May Series: AANHPI Children’s Health Fact Sheet

1. **Percentage of race/ethnicity to overall population**

* As of 2018, there are 8,957,937[[1]](#footnote-0) total children, and 1,025,964[[2]](#footnote-1) (11.4%) Asian American children (under 18 years old)
* 33,232 (0.3%) of Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander children.[[3]](#footnote-2)

1. **Percentage in an Immigrant Family**

* In 2018, there were 869,713 or 87%[[4]](#footnote-3) of Asian American children living with at least one foreign-born parent in California.
* In 2018, there were 13,722[[5]](#footnote-4) or 44% of Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander children living with at least one foreign-born parent.

1. **Percentage in Poverty**
   1. In 2018, 9.3%[[6]](#footnote-5) (94,496)[[7]](#footnote-6) of Asian American children experienced poverty, 20.6%[[8]](#footnote-7) (6,768)[[9]](#footnote-8) of Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander children experience poverty compared to 17.4% of the general child population[[10]](#footnote-9) (under 18 years old).
2. **Health Insurance Coverage Rate**

* As of 2018, 97.2% Asian American children aged 0-18 had health insurance coverage, and 2.8% Asian American children in CA are uninsured. 97.4% of Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander children aged 0-18 head health insurance coverage, and 2.6% are uninsured.[[11]](#footnote-10)

1. **Health Access**

* In CA, 10.5% of API children do not have a usual source of care; 21.7% use a clinic or hospital; 4.3% of API children use the emergency room, urgent care, or other.[[12]](#footnote-11)

1. **Nutrition Access**
   * A recent study assessing the prevalence of food insecurity among Asian American subgroups using California Health Interview Survey results found that the highest prevalence of food insecurity was noted among the Vietnamese subgroup (16.4%) and lowest among the Japanese subgroup (2%); and that being foreign-born also related to being food insecure among Chinese, Filipino, South Asian, Japanese, and Vietnamese subgroups when compared to their US-born counterparts.[[13]](#footnote-12)

* In CA, in 2018, 120,491 (6%) of AAPI households participate in CalFresh compared to 552,140 (28%) White children[[14]](#footnote-13) and 3,912,714 of *all* children in CA[[15]](#footnote-14)

1. **Oral Health**

* In California, 44% of low-income Asian Americans and Pacific Islander (AAPI) preschoolers had developed early childhood caries, one of the highest rates among all ethnic/racial groups.  AAPI children were also significantly more likely than White children to have teeth in suboptimal condition. [[16]](#footnote-15)

1. **Mental Health**

* In CA, 26.6% of Asian American and 40.8% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander students reported feeling depressed compared to 27.6% of White children.[[17]](#footnote-16)

**10. Language Access**

* Of the top 10 most common languages spoken at home by English Learners in CA schools, 7 of them are Asian languages. Over 100,000 students in CA public schools speak one of the following languages: Mandarin, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Filipino, Hmong, Korean, and Punjabi. [[18]](#footnote-17)
* In California, 42% of Asian Americans are Limited English Proficient (LEP), compared to 26% of all Californians. Among subgroups, this disparity is even more striking: 50% of Chinese Americans and over 60% of Vietnamese Americans surveyed were LEP.[[19]](#footnote-18)

Notes

1. U.S. Census Bureau. “Children Characteristics, California: Total Population.” 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, table S0901, accessed February 9, 2020, <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?g=0400000US06&t=Children&tid=ACSST1Y2018.S0901&y=2018&hidePreview=true&vintage=2018&cid=S0901_C01_001E> [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. U.S. Census Bureau. “Selected Population Profile in the United States, California: Asian alone.” 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, table S0201, accessed February 27, 2020,

   [https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?t=012 - Asian alone %28400-499%29%3AAge and Sex%3APopulations and People%3ARace and Ethnicity&tid=ACSSPP1Y2018.S0201&vintage=2018&g=0400000US06&hidePreview=true&cid=S0201\_001E](https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?t=012%20-%20Asian%20alone%20%28400-499%29%3AAge%20and%20Sex%3APopulations%20and%20People%3ARace%20and%20Ethnicity&tid=ACSSPP1Y2018.S0201&vintage=2018&g=0400000US06&hidePreview=true&cid=S0201_001E) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
3. U.S. Census Bureau. “Selected Population Profile in the United States, California: Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander alone.” 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, table S0201, accessed February 27, 2020, <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?t=050%20-%20Native%20Hawaiian%20and%20Other%20Pacific%20Islander%20alone%20%28500-599%29%3AAge%20and%20Sex%3APopulations%20and%20People%3ARace%20and%20Ethnicity&tid=ACSSPP1Y2018.S0201&vintage=2018&g=0400000US06&hidePreview=true&cid=S0201_001E> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
4. U.S. Census Bureau. “Nativity of Parent.” 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Accessed April 27 2020, <https://data.census.gov/mdat/#/search?ds=ACSPUMS1Y2018&cv=RAC1P&rv=NOP(1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8)&nv=ucgid&wt=PWGTP&g=0400000US06> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
5. U.S. Census Bureau. “Nativity of Parent.” 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Accessed April 27 2020, <https://data.census.gov/mdat/#/search?ds=ACSPUMS1Y2018&cv=RAC1P&rv=NOP(1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8)&nv=ucgid&wt=PWGTP&g=0400000US06> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
6. U.S. Census Bureau. “Selected Population Profile in the United States, California: Asian alone.” 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, table S0201, accessed February 27, 2020

   <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?t=012%20-%20Asian%20alone%20%28400-499%29%3AAge%20and%20Sex%3APopulations%20and%20People%3ARace%20and%20Ethnicity&tid=ACSSPP1Y2018.S0201&vintage=2018&g=0400000US06&hidePreview=true&cid=S0201_001E> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
7. U.S. Census Bureau. “Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Sex by Age” <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?g=0400000US06&tid=ACSDT1Y2018.B17001D&y=2018&t=Poverty&vintage=2018&hidePreview=false&cid=S1701_C01_001E> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
8. U.S. Census Bureau. “Selected Population Profile in the United States, California: Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander alone.” 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, table S0201, accessed February 27, 2020, <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?t=050%20-%20Native%20Hawaiian%20and%20Other%20Pacific%20Islander%20alone%20%28500-599%29%3AAge%20and%20Sex%3APopulations%20and%20People%3ARace%20and%20Ethnicity&tid=ACSSPP1Y2018.S0201&vintage=2018&g=0400000US06&hidePreview=true&cid=S0201_001E> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
9. U.S. Census Bureau. “Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Sex by Age, California: Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander alone.” 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, table C17001E, accessed February 27, 2020” <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?g=0400000US06&t=Poverty&tid=ACSDT1Y2018.C17001E&hidePreview=false&vintage=2018&cid=S1701_C01_001E> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
10. U.S. Census Bureau. “Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months, California.” 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, table S1701, accessed November 4, 2019<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?g=0400000US06&tid=ACSST1Y2018.S1701&t=Poverty&hidePreview=false&vintage=2018&cid=S1701_C01_001E> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
11. “Health Insurance Coverage, by Race/Ethnicity.” Kidsdata.org, a Program of Lucile Packard Foundation for Children’s Health, accessed April 20, 2020. [https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/752/health-insurance65-race/table](https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/752/health-insurance65-race/table#fmt=1145&loc=2,127,1657,331,1761,171,2168,345,357,324,369,362,360,2076,364,356,217,354,1663,339,2169,365,343,367,344,366,368,265,349,361,4,273,59,370,326,341,338,350,2145,359,363,340&tf=95&ch=200,201,7,11,726,10,72,9,73) [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
12. “Usual Source of Health Care, by Race/Ethnicity.” Kidsdata.org, a Program of Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, accessed November 20, 2019, <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/1993/usual-source-care-race/table#fmt=2492&loc=2&tf=109&ch=8,9,1295,1292,1293,1294&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc> [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
13. Becerra, M., et al. “The Overlooked Burden of Food Insecurity Among Asian Americans: Results from the California Health Interview Survey,” August 15, 2018. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6121379/> [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
14. “CalFresh (Food Stamp) Participation, by Race/Ethnicity” Kidsdata.org, a Program of Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, accessed December 2, 2019, <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/801/food-stamps-race/table#fmt=2360&loc=2&tf=108&ch=7,11,1141,10,9,73,127&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc> [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
15. “CalFresh (Food Stamp) Participation” Kidsdata.org, a Program of Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, accessed November 20, 2019, [https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/742/food-stamps/table - fmt=2261&loc=2&tf=108&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc](https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/742/food-stamps/table#fmt=2261&loc=2&tf=108&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc) [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
16. Huong Le et al., “Oral Health Disparities and Inequities in Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders” National Institute of Health, June 2017, accessed December 5, 2019, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5497891/#bib4>. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
17. “Depression-Related Feelings, by Race/Ethnicity.” Kidsdata.org, a Program of Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, 2017 accessed November 20, 2019, [https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/388/depression-race/table - fmt=534&loc=2&tf=93&ch=7,11,70,10,72,9,73,127,1177,1176&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc](https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/388/depression-race/table#fmt=534&loc=2&tf=93&ch=7,11,70,10,72,9,73,127,1177,1176&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc). [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
18. [“English Learners in Public Schools, but Top 10 Languages Spoken.”](https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/45/languages-top10/table#fmt=474&loc=2,127,347,1763,331,348,336,171,321,345,357,332,324,369,358,362,360,337,327,364,356,217,353,328,354,323,352,320,339,334,365,343,330,367,344,355,366,368,265,349,361,4,273,59,370,326,333,322,341,338,350,342,329,325,359,351,363,340,335&tf=88&ch=10) Kidsdata.org, accessed April 21, 2020 [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
19. California Health Interview Survey: Health Profiles. <http://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/health-profiles/race_ethnicity/Pages/dashboard.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-18)