

A Child is a Child: A Snapshot of California's Children's Health

May 2024: Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Children's Health Fact Sheet Citations

Masked Health Inequities

The design and implementation of data collection systems and tools often neglect to include NHPI community expertise, and as a result, NHPI data are insufficiently or inaccurately collected, aggregated together with Asian American (AA) data, or not collected at all.¹ An accurate understanding of the health, strengths, and challenges of NHPI children in California is impossible without data that is community-centered, separated from AA communities, and disaggregated by NHPI subgroups (Native Hawaiian, Fijian, Marshallese, etc.).² Additionally, data collection systems often use single-race definitions for racial categories when a majority of NHPIs identify as multiracial, resulting in estimates that undercount NHPIs.³ These issues lead to a masking of differences and hidden health disparities, outcomes, and access gaps among NHPI children and families. For those reasons, the data presented in this snapshot is unique to children from AA communities, separated from NHPI communities, and disaggregated into AA subgroups unless otherwise specified due to several sources aggregating AA data together with NHPI data. To learn more about how data systems can be more equitable for NHPI communities, visit the UCLA's Center For Health Policy Research NHPI Data Policy Lab's [NHPI Data Policy Platform: No Health Equity without Data Equity](#).

Protective Factors

NHPI children and youth come from diverse and resilient cultural and linguistic backgrounds despite facing a legacy of systemic racism, colonization of their land and forced displacement. Systems and policy-makers should identify and build on NHPI communities' strengths, resources, and expertise. Community-defined protective factors – conditions or attributes that help mitigate or eliminate risks to health defined by community members themselves – are strengths that can help prevent and reduce health inequities impacting children from historically marginalized communities by guiding the development of community-centered interventions that utilize these unique strengths and address persistent challenges.

- **Strong and supportive family relationships** and higher levels of family cohesion have been related to lower risk of lifetime suicide attempt among youth from Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander backgrounds.⁴
- **Being connected to, embracing and being immersed in NHPI cultural values, beliefs and customs** protects against substance abuse and poor mental health among Hawaiian youth. Departure from NHPI cultural values and beliefs is associated with negative outcomes, such as poor self-esteem and high rates of suicide or suicide related behaviors.⁵

¹ <https://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/publications/Documents/PDF/2023/NHPI-Data-Policy-Platform-report-mar2023.pdf>

² <https://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/publications/Documents/PDF/2023/NHPI-Data-Policy-Platform-report-mar2023.pdf>

³ <https://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/publications/Documents/PDF/2023/NHPI-Data-Policy-Platform-report-mar2023.pdf>

⁴ https://www.researchgate.net/publication/232569823_Lifetime_Suicidal_Ideation_and_Suicide_Attempts_in_Asian_Americans

⁵ https://www.cfwlaboratory.com/uploads/1/3/9/5/139563007/native_hawaiian_and_pacific_islander_children_in_foster_care_a_descriptive_study_of_an_overlooked_child_welfare_population_.pdf

- **Support from native healers** has facilitated increased access to services that address mental issues that Native Hawaiian youth face.⁶
- **Relationships with peers** among NHPI adolescents have decreased the risk of engaging in substance abuse.⁷

Population

California, 2017-2021 American Community Survey (5-year estimates)

- There are at least 99,489 CA CHILDREN AND YOUTH under 18 who identify as Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI), including those who also identify with another RACE OR ETHNICITY, making up at least 1% of the state's nearly 9 MILLION children.⁸
 - 28,989 identify as NHPI alone
 - 28,872 identify as NHPI and Latine
 - 3,587 identify as NHPI and black
 - 25,806 identify as NHPI and other
 - 12,235 identify as NHPI and white
- California is home to more Guamanian or Chamorro, Fijian, Samoan, and Tongan Americans than any other state in the country.⁹ More Native Hawaiians live in California than any state on the continent.¹⁰
- NHPI children and youth under 18 in CA identify with the following ancestry:¹¹
 - 11,933 identify as Native Hawaiian
 - 3,084 identify as Chamorro
 - 11,497 identify as Samoan
 - 4,810 identify as Tongan
 - 5,192, identify as Fijian
 - 629 identify as Marshallese

⁶ 1 Bell, C. K., Goebert, D. A., Andrade, N. N., Johnson, R. C., McDermott, J. F., Hishinuma, E. S., . . . Miyamoto, R. H. (2001). Sociocultural factors influencing adolescent preference and use of native Hawaiian healers. *Complementary Therapies in Medicine*, 9(4), 224–231.

⁷ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8831443/>

⁸ U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Decennial Census, Public Use Microdata Sample. Tables PL 94-171, Tables P1, P2, P3, and P4.

⁹ <https://www.ajsocal.org/our-reports-and-research/nhpi-california/>

¹⁰ <https://www.ajsocal.org/our-reports-and-research/nhpi-california/#:~:text=More%20Native%20Hawaiians%20live%20in.and%20Guamanian%20or%20Chamorro%20Americans.>

¹¹ Ancestry subgroups are derived from the ancestry variables in the American Community Survey. Ancestry refers to a person's ethnic origin, heritage, descent, or "roots," which may reflect their place of birth or that of previous generations of their family. The ancestry question allowed respondents to report one or more ancestry groups. Generally, only the first two responses reported were coded. The ancestry tabulation includes both responses, but persons are only counted once. U.S. Census Bureau 2017-2021 American Community Survey (5-year Estimates), Public Use Microdata Sample, Demographic Research Unit custom tabulation. On file with The Children's Partnership.

California, 2021 ACS 1-year estimates

- Over 1 in 3 (38%) NHPI children live in **IMMIGRANT FAMILIES** with at least one parent or guardian who was born outside of the United States.¹²
- 91% of all AANHPI children are U.S. citizens.¹³
- 13% or 142,000 AANHPI children were born outside of the US.¹⁴
- Over 1 in 3 (37% or 296,000) of AANHPI children are bilingual.¹⁵

Health Coverage and Access

California, 2021 ACS 1-year estimates

- 97% of NHPI children have health insurance coverage, leaving at least 1,061 NHPI children who remain **UNINSURED**.¹⁶

California, 2023, CA Department of Health Care Services

- 349,631 AANHPI children and youth under 20 are enrolled in **MEDI-CAL**, making up about 6% of total children and youth enrolled.¹⁷

California, 2021 CA Health Interview Survey

- 1 in 10 (11% or 3,000) NHPI children do not have a usual source of care when they are sick or need health advice.¹⁸

National

- Nationally, NHPI people are more likely to be covered by **MEDICAID** than by **PRIVATE INSURANCE**. Across the US, half (50%) of NHPI children are enrolled in either Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).¹⁹

¹² ACS 2021 1 year estimates <https://data.census.gov/mdat/#/search?ds=ACSPUMS1Y2021&cv=NOP%281.2,3,4,5,6,7,8%29&rv=ucgid.RAC1P&wt=PWGTP&g=0400000US06>

¹³ The Urban Institute. Data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series datasets drawn from the 2021 American Community Survey. <https://children-of-immigrants-explorer.urban.org/pages.cfm>

¹⁴ The Urban Institute. Data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series datasets drawn from the 2021 American Community Survey. <https://children-of-immigrants-explorer.urban.org/pages.cfm> Accessed April 2023

¹⁵ The Urban Institute. Data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series datasets drawn from the 2021 American Community Survey. <https://children-of-immigrants-explorer.urban.org/pages.cfm> Accessed April 2023

¹⁶ <https://data.census.gov/table?t=Health+Insurance&g=040XX00US06&y=2021&tid=ACSDT1Y2021.B27001E>

¹⁷ <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/Documents/Childrens-Health-Dashboard-March2023.pdf>

¹⁸ https://ask.chis.ucla.edu/AskCHIS/tools/_layouts/AskChisTool/home.aspx#/results - Have usual place to go to when sick, NHPI only, pooling together 2019, 2020, 2021. Accessed May 4, 2023. Statistically unstable.

¹⁹ <https://www.kff.org/racial-equity-and-health-policy/issue-brief/health-care-disparities-among-asian-native-hawaiian-and-other-pacific-islander-nhopi-people/>

COVID-19

California, CA Department of Public Health, May 2024

- At least 9,829 NHPI children and youth under 17 have had or currently have COVID-19, making up .6% of cases. NHPI children have died from COVID-19 at higher rates than their share of CA's child population: NHPI children and youth make up 2% of deaths impacting children despite making up only 0.3% of our state's child population.²⁰
- Across all ages, the current COVID-19 case rate for NHPI people is 82% higher than statewide – 5% higher than in 2022.²¹

Economic Well-being

California, 2021 ACS 1-year estimates

- 26% or 8,837 NHPI children live below the FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL, compared to 16% of all children in CA.²²

California, 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates

- The poverty rate among Tongan American children is 22%, similar to Native Americans and Alaska Natives (AIAN, 23%).²³
- About 53% of single NHPI mothers are considered “income inadequate,” meaning that they do not earn enough to cover their families’ basic needs.²⁴

California, 2020 ACS 5-year estimates

- Among all NHPI communities with or without children, Marshallese have the highest poverty rates and Fijians have the lowest.²⁵
- NHPI households are twice as likely to be living in overcrowded housing as white households (13% vs. 6%).²⁶

²⁰ “COVID-19 Age, Race and Ethnicity Data,” [Ca.gov, 2023, https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Age-Race-Ethnicity.aspx](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Age-Race-Ethnicity.aspx). Accessed May 12th, 2024.

²¹ <https://covid19.ca.gov/equity/>

²² U.S. Census Bureau. “Poverty Status in the Past 12 months by age, California: Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander alone.” 2021 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, table B17020E, accessed April 2023. <https://data.census.gov/table?t=Poverty&g=040XX00US06&tid=ACSDT1Y2021.B17020E>

²³ https://www.ajsocal.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Communities_of_Contrast_California_2013.pdf

²⁴ https://www.ajsocal.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Communities_of_Contrast_California_2013.pdf

²⁵ <http://aapidata.com/blog/2022-ca-hhs-needs-report/>

²⁶ <http://aapidata.com/blog/2022-ca-demographic-report/>

California, 2021 ACS 1-year estimates

- In California, over 1 in 3 (35%) of AANHPI children are burdened by **HOUSING** and **UTILITY COSTS**.²⁷
- 30% of AANHPI children live in households that **DO NOT OWN THEIR HOME**.²⁸

California, 2021

- 26% or 8,837 NHPI children live below the FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL, compared to 16% of all children in CA.²⁹
- Nearly 1 in 4 or 22% of Tongan American children experience poverty, similar to Native Americans and Alaska Natives (23%).³⁰
- Among all NHPI communities with or without children, Marshallese have the highest poverty rates and Fijians have the lowest.³¹
- In California, over 1 in 3 (35%) of AANHPI children are BURDENED BY HOUSING and UTILITY COSTS.³²
- 30% of AANHPI children live in households that DO NOT OWN THEIR HOME.³³
- NHPI households are twice as likely to be living in OVERCROWDED HOUSING as white households (13% vs. 6%).^{34***}

National

Nationally, NHPI slightly over 1 in 3 NHPI families OWN THEIR HOME (38%), significantly below the homeownership rate of white families (66%).³⁵

Mental Health

California, CA Healthy Kids Survey, 2017-2019

- Slightly over 1 in 3 (34%) NHPI youth in 7, 9, and 11th grades in CA public schools report feeling **DEPRESSED**.³⁶

²⁷ <https://children-of-immigrants-explorer.urban.org/pages.cfm> The Urban Institute. Data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series datasets drawn from the 2021 American Community Survey.

²⁸ <https://children-of-immigrants-explorer.urban.org/pages.cfm> The Urban Institute. Data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series datasets drawn from the 2021 American Community Survey.

²⁹ U.S. Census Bureau. "Poverty Status in the Past 12 months by age, California: Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander alone." 2021 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, table B17020E, accessed April 2023. <https://data.census.gov/table?t=Poverty&g=040XX00US06&tid=ACSDT1Y2021.B17020E>

³⁰ https://www.ajsocal.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Communities_of_Contrast_California_2013.pdf

³¹ https://www.ajsocal.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Communities_of_Contrast_California_2013.pdf

³² <https://children-of-immigrants-explorer.urban.org/pages.cfm> The Urban Institute. Data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series datasets drawn from the 2021 American Community Survey.

³³ <https://children-of-immigrants-explorer.urban.org/pages.cfm> The Urban Institute. Data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series datasets drawn from the 2021 American Community Survey.

³⁴ <https://children-of-immigrants-explorer.urban.org/pages.cfm> The Urban Institute. Data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series datasets drawn from the 2021 American Community Survey.

***These are examples of areas where disaggregated data that separates AA from NHPI communities is needed to unmask health inequities.

³⁵ https://www.nationalcapacd.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/NationalCAPACD_HousingCounselingReport_final_031221.pdf

³⁶ “Depression-Related Feelings, by Race/Ethnicity.” Kidsdata.org, a Program of Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, 2017-2019 accessed April 2022, <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/388/depressive-feelings-race/table#fmt=534&loc=2&tf=134&ch=7,11,70,10,72,9,73,127,1177,1176&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc> citing data from WestEd, California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) and Biennial State CHKS. California Dept. of Education (Aug. 2020).

- 18% of NHPI 7th graders and 22% of NHPI 11th graders have considered suicide, **above the state average** (15% and 16%).³⁷

California, CHIS, 2021

- 40% of NHPI teens report needing help for **EMOTIONAL/MENTAL HEALTH** problems such as feeling **SAD, ANXIOUS OR NERVOUS**. Yet, the vast majority—67%—of NHPI teens did **NOT RECEIVE PSYCHOLOGICAL/EMOTIONAL COUNSELING**.³⁸

California, 2023

- 40% of NHPI teens report needing help for EMOTIONAL/MENTAL HEALTH problems such as feeling SAD, ANXIOUS OR NERVOUS.^{39*}
- The vast majority – 67% – of NHPI teens did NOT RECEIVE PSYCHOLOGICAL/ EMOTIONAL COUNSELING.⁴⁰

California, 2017-2019

- Slightly over 1 in 3 (34%) NHPI youth in 7, 9, and 11th grades in CA public schools report feeling DEPRESSED.⁴¹
- 18% of NHPI 7th graders and 22% of NHPI 11th graders in CA public schools have considered suicide, above the state average (15% and 16%).⁴²

Food Access

Community and Family Wellbeing

School Success & Safety

Hate and Discrimination

³⁷ 2017-2019 CA Healthy Kids Survey <https://calschls.org/reports-data/public-dashboards/secondary-student/> Accessed May 4, 2023

³⁸ https://ask.chis.ucla.edu/AskCHIS/tools/_layouts/AskChisTool/home.aspx#/results

³⁹ https://ask.chis.ucla.edu/AskCHIS/tools/_layouts/AskChisTool/home.aspx#/results

*Statistically unstable

⁴⁰ https://ask.chis.ucla.edu/AskCHIS/tools/_layouts/AskChisTool/home.aspx#/results

⁴¹ “Depression-Related Feelings, by Race/Ethnicity.” Kidsdata.org, a Program of Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, 2017-2019 accessed April 2022, <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/388/depressive-feelings-race/table#fmt=534&loc=2&tf=134&ch=7,11,70,10,72,9,73,127,1177,1176&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc> citing data from WestEd, California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) and Biennial State CHKS. California Dept. of Education (Aug. 2020).

⁴² https://ask.chis.ucla.edu/AskCHIS/tools/_layouts/AskChisTool/home.aspx#/results

UPDATED NATIONAL:

From March 19, 2020 to December 31, 2021, a total of 10,905 hate incidents against Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) persons were reported to Stop AAPI Hate. Of the hate incidents reflected in this report, 4,632 occurred in 2020 (42.5%) and 6,273 occurred in 2021 (57.5%).⁴³

Verbal harassment (63.0%) continues to make up the biggest share of total incidents reported.⁴⁴

Physical assault (16.2%) comprises the second largest category of total reported incidents followed by the deliberate avoidance of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (16.1%).

- Civil rights violations — e.g., workplace discrimination, refusal of service, being barred from transportation, and housing-related discrimination — account for 11.5% of total incidents.⁴⁵

Hate incidents reported by women make up 61.8% of all reports.⁴⁶

Youth (0 to 17 years old) report 9.9% of incidents of the total incidents.⁴⁷

Experiences of racism, hate and discrimination adversely affect the health and well-being of marginalized populations and are major public health issues impacting NHPI communities.

Nationally, AAPI communities have experienced a surge in experiences of hate and discrimination. From March 2020 to March 2022, a total of 11,467 hate incidents against AAPI people were reported to [Stop AAPI Hate](#). 1 in 5 PIs experienced a hate incident in 2020 or 2021.⁵² 67% incidents involved harassment, such as verbal or written hate speech or inappropriate gestures.⁵³ 58% of PIs believe a community-based solution is the most effective solution in addressing anti-AAPI hate.⁵⁴

Nationally, 1 in 3 to 1 in 2 NHPI people report experiencing discrimination during their lifetime:⁵⁵

- Over 1 in 7 NHPI people (13%) have experienced discrimination accessing health care at least once.⁵⁶
- Nearly 1 in 4 (24%) have experienced discrimination at school at least 2 times.⁵⁷
- 1 in 5 NHPI people have experienced discrimination on the street or in a public setting at least once.⁵⁸

⁴³ <https://stopaapihate.org/national-report-through-december-31-2021/>

⁴⁴ <https://stopaapihate.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/22-SAH-NationalReport-3.1.22-v9.pdf>

⁴⁵ <https://stopaapihate.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/22-SAH-NationalReport-3.1.22-v9.pdf>

⁴⁶ <https://stopaapihate.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/22-SAH-NationalReport-3.1.22-v9.pdf>

⁴⁷ <https://stopaapihate.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/22-SAH-NationalReport-3.1.22-v9.pdf>

⁵² <https://stopaapihate.org/year-2-report/>

⁵³ <https://stopaapihate.org/year-2-report/>

⁵⁴ <https://stopaapihate.org/year-2-report/>

⁵⁵ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9838348/>

⁵⁶ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9838348/>

⁵⁷ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9838348/>

⁵⁸ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9838348/>

Chinese Americans continue to report the most hate incidents (42.8%) of all ethnic groups, followed by Korean (16.1%), P/Filipinx (8.9%), Japanese (8.2%), and Vietnamese Americans (8.0%).⁴⁸

San Francisco's police department has reported an [increase of more than 500%](#) in reported hate crimes against Asian American Pacific Islander people.⁴⁹

An analysis of hate crime events motivated by an anti-Asian bias reported to the DOJ in the last five years (2016 through 2020) found that:⁵⁰

- The number of reported anti-Asian hate crime events in California has increased since 2016
- The number of reported anti-Asian hate crime events increased by 107% in 2020, from 43 in 2019 to 89 in 2020.
- The highest number of anti-Asian hate crime events reported to the DOJ occurred in March and April 2020 as California declared a state of emergency to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Overall, the most common kind of anti-Asian hate crime reported across years 2016 and 2020 was violent crime, with a 125% increase from 32 in 2019 to 72 in 2020.
- Simple assault and intimidation were the most common type of violent crimes reported to the DOJ across the five-year span.

⁴⁸ <https://stopaapihate.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/22-SAH-NationalReport-3.1.22-v9.pdf>

⁴⁹ <https://calmatters.org/commentary/2022/03/support-two-bills-in-the-legislature-to-stop-aapi-hate-crimes/>

⁵⁰ <https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/anti-asian-hc-report.pdf>

- The number of reported anti-Asian property hate crime events (arson, burglary, destruction, damage, vandalism) increased by 55% in 2020; from 11 in 2019 to 17 in 2020.
- For years 2016 to 2020, property damage was the most common type of property crimes reported to the DOJ.

2020, individuals were victimized in 18 different California counties. Of those counties, San Luis Obispo County had the highest rate of victimization per 10,000 Asian residents (the share of the population most vulnerable to anti-Asian hate crime events). Alameda County had the lowest victimization rate per 10,000 residents.

Experience discrimination⁵¹

- when getting hired or getting a job:
 - 4+ times: 10.6%
 - 2-3 times: 12.4%
- Experience discrimination at school:
 - 4+ times: 14.9%
 - 2-3 times: 24%
- Experience discrimination at work:
 - 4+ times: 12%
 - 2-3 times: 13.9%
- Experience discrimination getting medical care:
 - 4+ times: 17.4%
 - 2-3 times: 16.4%
- Experience discrimination on the street or in a public setting:

⁵¹ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9838348/>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4+ times: 15.4% ○ 2-3 times: 17% ● Experience discrimination from the police or in the courts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4+ times: 10.4% ○ 2-3 times: 10% 	
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Oral Health

<p>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 groups⁵⁹</p> <p>Among Asian American/NHPI children, 17 percent experience untreated decay and 50 percent experience tooth decay, compared to 14 percent and 40 percent of white children, respectively.⁶⁰</p> <p>Nearly 1 in 2 (48%) young AA children in Los Angeles county have tooth decay compared to nearly 1 in 3 (32%) white children. 1 in 5 AA children in L.A. County have untreated tooth decay.⁶¹</p>	<p>44% of low-income AANHPI preschoolers have EARLY TOOTH DECAY—one of the highest rates among all racial groups in CA.</p> <p>50% of AANHPI third graders have experienced tooth decay and 17% have experienced untreated tooth decay, compared to 40% and 14% of white children, respectively.⁶⁴</p>
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⁵⁹ 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>.

⁶⁰ 2018-19 CA Smiles Survey <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/Dr8PHEt56Q2hkceFimXuscAu>

⁶¹ http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/ohp/docs/SmileSurvey2020_Final_info.pdf

⁶⁴ 2018-19 CA Smiles Survey <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/Dr8PHEt56Q2hkceFimXuscAu>

1 in 5 AA children in Los Angeles County have untreated tooth decay.⁶²

63

Missed school due to dental problem in past year	
Yes	6.3% (2.7 - 10.0) 21,000
No	93.7% (90.0 - 97.3) 316,000
Total	100.0% 337,000

Over 21,000 or 6% of AANHPI teens missed school due to a dental problem in the past year compared to 8% of white children.⁶⁵

Language Access

27.3% of AA children (2,206,269) live in a household with a primary language that is not English. 24.7% of all children living in a household with a primary language that is not English.⁶⁶

Asian languages make up five of the top 12 non-English languages spoken in California. These languages and their respective ranks are Chinese (two), Vietnamese (three), Korean (four), Tagalog (seven), and Japanese (12).⁶⁷

AANHPI children often translate for their parents and other family members in order to receive health care because of difficulty accessing translated materials and interpretation services and navigating the health care system.

⁶² http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/ohp/docs/SmileSurvey2020_Final_info.pdf

⁶³ 2021 CA Health Interview Survey

⁶⁵ 2021 CA Health Interview Survey

⁶⁶ <https://www.childhealthdata.org/browse/survey/results?q=8389&r=6&q=832>

⁶⁷ Anderson, Jeremy (2021). Brief AAPI Demographic Enrollment. *CSBA Research and Policy Brief*. <https://bit.ly/3LegWhu>

According to research by CPEHN and Asian Americans Advancing Justice-LA, AAPI communities still lack adequate access to translated materials and interpretation services when interacting with the health care system⁶⁸

Almost one in five NHPI adults (19.9%) in California reported that they found it “somewhat difficult” or “very difficult” to understand written information from their doctor’s office (CHIS, 2007)⁶⁹ – “Given the large confidence intervals, these results should be interpreted with caution”

[National] In 2019, about 3 in 10 (30.8 percent) Asian American adults and 1 in 8 (12.1 percent) Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (NHPI) adults had LEP, compared with 32.9 percent of Hispanic adults, 3.1 percent of Black adults, and 1.4 percent of white adults. An estimated 14.9 percent of Asian American adults lived in a household in which all members ages 14 and older reported having LEP.⁷⁰

In CA, 47% of NHPI households speak a language other than English at home.⁷¹ At least 50,000 people speak NHPI languages in the state of CA.⁷² Among NHPI national origin groups, Tongan and Fijian Americans have the highest rates of limited English proficiency (21% and 20%, respectively).⁷³

Almost one in five NHPI adults (19.9%) in California report that they find it “somewhat difficult” or “very difficult” to understand written information from their doctor’s office.⁷⁴

chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://aapidata.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Health-Mental-Health-and-Social-Service-Needs-of-AANHPIs-main-draft-6-23-2022.pdf

Data Note: All data is from California unless otherwise noted. The Children’s Partnership collected Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander children and youth’s data from the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2021 American Community Survey’s 1-year and 5-year estimates, the 2019, 2020, and 2021 CA Health Interview Survey, the CA Department of Education, the CA Department of Public Health, and a few other discrete sources. Full citations can be found at: bit.ly/ACHildIsAChild

⁶⁸ “Asian American and Pacific Islander Experiences Accessing Health Care,” https://cpehn.org/assets/uploads/2020/12/aapi_fact_sheet_final.pdf

⁶⁹ https://www.apiahf.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/NHPI_Report08a_2010-1.pdf

⁷⁰ <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/many-asian-american-and-native-hawaiian-pacific-islander-adults-may-face-health>

⁷¹ https://aapidata.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/CA_State_of_AANHPIs_Report_2022.pdf

⁷² https://aapidata.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/CA_State_of_AANHPIs_Report_2022.pdf

⁷³ https://aapidata.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/CA_State_of_AANHPIs_Report_2022.pdf

⁷⁴ https://www.apiahf.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/NHPI_Report08a_2010-1.pdf