



Asian Americans and COVID-19 Pandemic

ARCH Meeting
 August 20, 2020

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Disparities in COVID-19 Incidence Among Racial/Ethnic Groups in Hotspot Counties June 5–18

TABLE 3. Proportion of cumulative COVID-19 cases compared with proportion of population in 79 counties identified as hotspots during June 5–18, 2020 with racial/ethnic disparities* — 22 states February–June 2020

Racial/Ethnic group	Mean of estimated differences, † % (range)	Mean of estimated ratios of proportion of cases to proportion of population‡ (range)
Hispanic/Latino	30.2 (8.0–68.2)	4.4 (1.2–14.6)
Black/African American	14.5 (2.3–31.7)	2.3 (1.2–7.0)
American Indian/Alaska Native	39.3 (16.4–57.9)	4.2 (1.9–6.4)
Asian	4.7 (2.7–6.8)	2.9 (2.0–4.7)
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4.5 (0.1–31.5)	8.5 (2.7–18.4)

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<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6933e1.htm>

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National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)

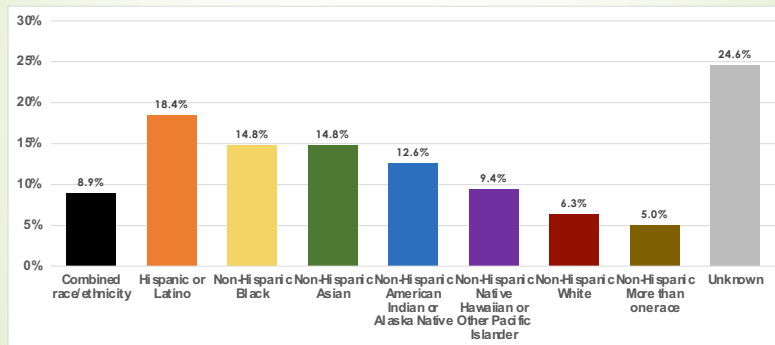
- Publicly available data on provisional deaths for COVID-19, by week and state based on death certificate data
- Data by age category, race and Hispanic origin at national and state level
- Includes COVID-19 deaths from February 1 to July 29, 2020 (accessed on 8/4/20)

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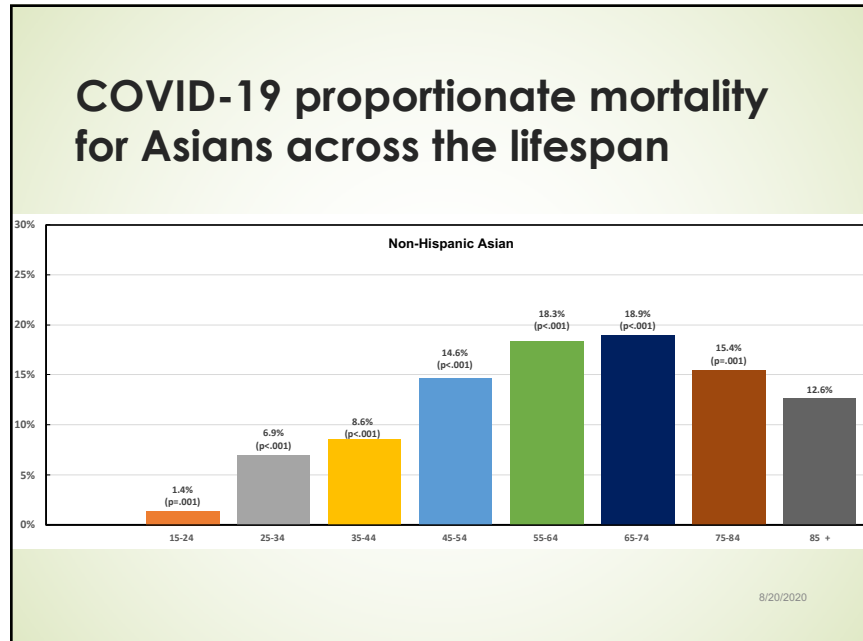
COVID-19 Proportionate Mortality

COVID deaths / # total deaths



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Asian American Research Center on Health
www.AsianARCH.org

High Mortality from COVID-19 among Asian Americans in San Francisco and California
Research Brief

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
The City and County of San Francisco had 1,754 cases of COVID-19 and 31 deaths as of May 5, 2020. Asian Americans accounted for 13.7% of cases but 52% of the deaths. Among those infected, 6.7% have died, the highest proportion of all racial/ethnic groups. Understanding reasons for these disparities is critical for risk stratification of patients and protecting communities particularly vulnerable to COVID-19.

Why has coronavirus taken such a toll on SF's Asian American community? Experts perplexed over high death rate

Joseph Palomino | May 20, 2020 | Updated: May 21, 2020 9:17 a.m.

HEALTH AFFAIRS BLOG

RELATED TOPICS:
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| POPULATION HEALTH

Asian Americans Facing High COVID-19 Case Fatality

8/20/2020
Brandon W. Yan, Fiona Ng, Janet Chu, Janice Tsoh, Tung Nguyen
JULY 13, 2020 | 10.1377/hlthaff.20200708.894552

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Exhibit 1. Cases and deaths among Asian Americans compared to the overall population.

State/County	Percent of Cases (Asian)	Percent of Deaths (Asian)	# of Deaths (Asian)	Case Fatality (Asian)	Case Fatality (Overall)	percent of Pop Asian
California	7.0 percent	15.0 percent	855	8.4 percent	2.6 percent	15.3 percent
New Jersey	5.1 percent	5.6 percent	724	13.9 percent	7.7 percent	10.0 percent
Washington	6.0 percent	9.0 percent	112	7.8 percent	3.9 percent	9.3 percent
Nevada ^a	8.2 percent	15.4 percent	75	7.3 percent	2.5 percent	8.7 percent
Massachusetts ^a	2.1 percent	2.6 percent	211	9.2 percent	7.4 percent	7.1 percent
Illinois	2.9 percent	4.7 percent	327	7.8 percent	4.8 percent	5.9 percent
Santa Clara County, CA	15.1 percent	33.3 percent	53	7.4 percent	3.3 percent	38.3 percent
San Francisco County, CA	11.7 percent	46.0 percent	23	5.2 percent	1.3 percent	34.1 percent
Los Angeles County, CA	3.8 percent	16.4 percent	529	13.6 percent	3.2 percent	15.4 percent
New York City ^a	3.9 percent	7.6 percent ^b	1419 ^b	17.1 percent ^b	8.7 percent ^b	13.9 percent
Clark County, NV ^a	6.5 percent	16.8 percent	73	6.6 percent	2.6 percent	10.4 percent
Chicago, IL ^a	2.7 percent	4.6 percent	119	10.4 percent	5.0 percent	6.4 percent
Missing Data						
Hawaii	29.9 percent	NR	NR	NR	1.9 percent	37.6 percent
New York ^a (excluding NYC)	NR	4.0 percent	265	NR	3.5 percent	4.0 percent

^a Values reflect combined Asian American and Pacific Islander data.
^b Reflects confirmed deaths ONLY. An additional 4,607 probable deaths, including 410 among Asians, are not included.
 Notes: NR = not reported. Asian case and death proportions are taken over the total, which includes counts from unknown race. Actual proportions are likely higher. Data were accessed July 3-5, 2020 at the state or local government's public websites.

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Los Angeles Times

SUB 37

CALIFORNIA

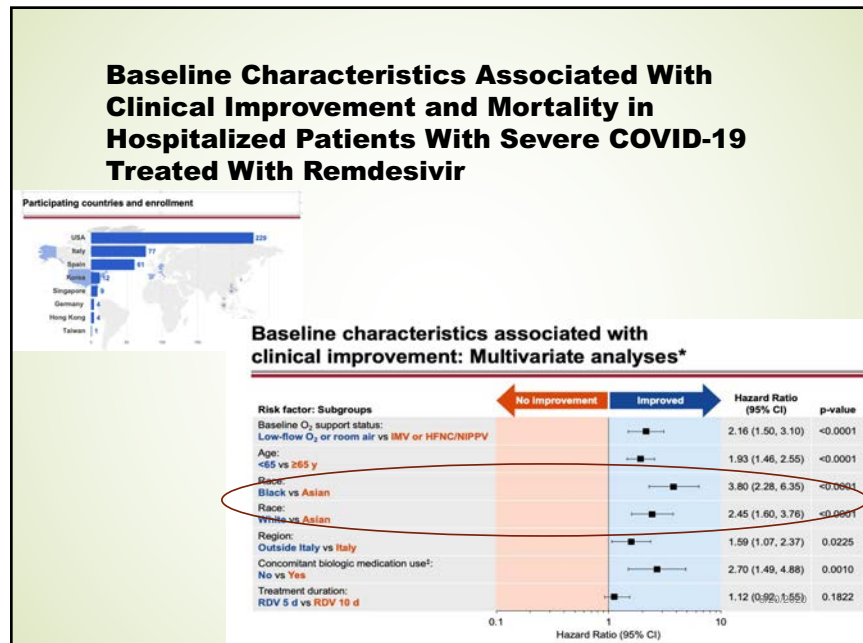
Little noticed, Filipino Americans are dying of COVID-19 at an alarming rate

- Filipinos are 1/4 of CA Asian population but has 1/3 of the COVID deaths
- Out of 49 known Filipino Americans with COVID in Southern California, 19 have died
- Likely due to high co-morbidities, exposure from working essential jobs

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-07-21/filipino-americans-dying-covid>

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Asian Americans and the COVID-19 Pandemic: Racism

- ▶ Stop AAPI Hate
 - ▶ Over 1900 reports of racist incidents in 8 weeks
 - ▶ 800 incidents in California in 3 months: 81 assaults, 64 potential civil rights violation
 - ▶ Report at: <http://www.asianpacificpolicyandplanningcouncil.org/stop-aapi-hate/>

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A Sampling of Shamefulness

While waiting in line to enter a [a warehouse retail] in Austin, TX, I heard a random person behind me shout at me "Get out of line and go back to your own country! We don't want your chink germs!" Rather than defend me, others in line either turned away or chuckled.(Austin)

Student in our medical school class is posting some disturbing memes blaming Chinese people and stereotyping them for COVID.

Next door neighbor yelled "North Korean Coronavirus f**ker!" repeatedly before attempting to run me over with his Jeep. He was arrested for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. His wife came on to my property after his arrest and threaten me with firearms.(Fort Worth)

http://www.asianpacificpolicyandplanningcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/STOP_AAPI_Report-Texas_7.23.2020.pdf

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More Shamefulness

In the elevator of my apartment complex, two individuals, a male and a female without a face covering on them, started to harass us, saying "This f--king virus came from your mother--king country" and "You nasty as roaches" to me and my minor children, because I was trying to maintain social distance as much as possible from these two individuals. (Los Angeles)

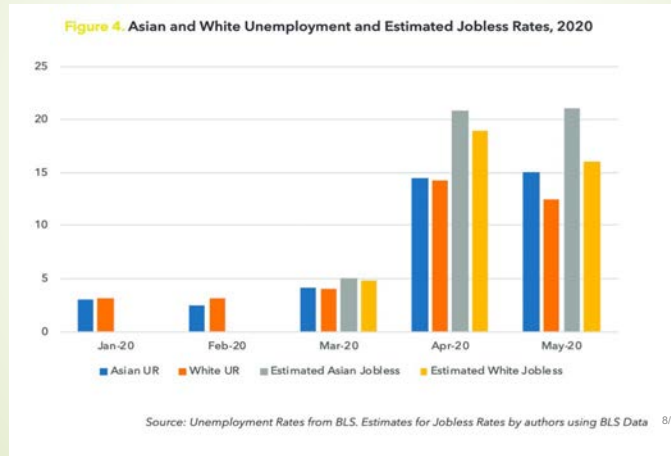
I was standing in an aisle at [hardware store] when suddenly I was struck from behind. Video surveillance verified the incident in which a White male using his bent elbow struck my upper back. Subsequent verbal attacks occurred with him saying, "Shut up, you Monkey! "F--k you, Chinaman" "Go back to China," and "...bringing that Chinese virus over here." (San Francisco)

http://www.asianpacificpolicyandplanningcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/CA_Report_6_30_20.pdf

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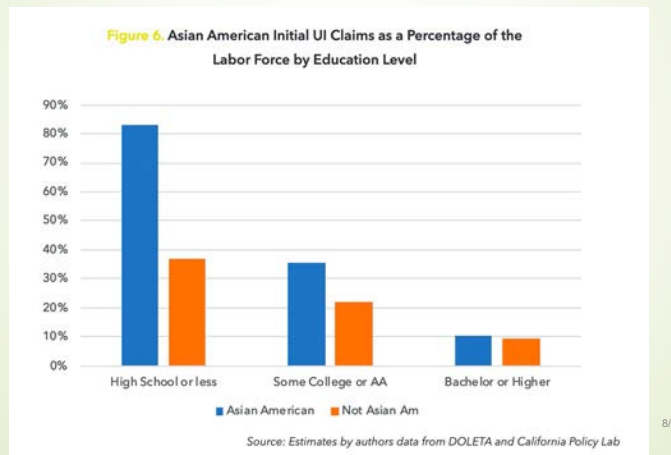
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Economic Impact on Asian Americans in California



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Economic Impact on Asian Americans in California



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Mental Health, Substance Use, and Suicidal Ideation During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, June 24–30, 2020

- Web-based survey of 5,412 adults (9,896 total, response rate 54.7%)
- Among 256 Asian American respondents (English only?):
 - 31.9% reported at least 1 mental/behavioral problem
 - 6.6% considered suicide in last 30 days
 - 6.7% started/increased substance use to cope with pandemic-related stress or emotions
 - Not significantly different from whites but lower than Black, Latinx

8/20/2020
<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6932a1.htm>

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Mental Health, Substance Use, and Suicidal Ideation During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, June 24–30, 2020

All respondents

- At least 1 mental/behavioral health problem: 41%
 - 75% of age 18-24 and 52% of age 25-44
 - 44% Black and 52% Latinx
 - 66% of those with < high school education
 - 54% of essential workers and 66% of unpaid caregivers
- Considered suicide in last 30 days
 - 25% of age 18-24
 - 30% of those with < high school education
 - 22% of essential workers and 31% of unpaid caregivers

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<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6932a1.htm>

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Mental Health, Substance Use, and Suicidal Ideation During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, June 24–30, 2020

- ▶ Started/increased substance use to cope with pandemic-related stress
 - ▶ 25% of age 18-24 and 16% age 25-44
 - ▶ 22% of those with < high school education
 - ▶ 25% of essential workers
 - ▶ 33% of unpaid caregivers

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<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6932a1.htm>

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TABLE 3. Odds of incidence* of symptoms of adverse mental health, substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19 pandemic, and suicidal ideation in the third survey wave, by essential worker status and unpaid adult caregiver status among respondents who completed monthly surveys from April through June (N = 1,497) — United States, April 2–8, May 5–12, and June 24–30, 2020

Symptom or behavior	Essential worker [†] vs. all other employment statuses (nonessential worker, unemployed, retired)				Unpaid caregiver for adults [§] vs. not unpaid caregiver			
	Unadjusted		Adjusted [¶]		Unadjusted		Adjusted**	
	OR (95% CI) ^{††}	p-value ^{††}	OR (95% CI) ^{††}	p-value ^{††}	OR (95% CI) ^{††}	p-value ^{††}	OR (95% CI) ^{††}	p-value ^{††}
Symptoms of anxiety disorder ^{§§}	1.92 (1.29–2.87)	0.001	1.63 (0.99–2.69)	0.056	1.97 (1.25–3.11)	0.004	1.81 (1.14–2.87)	0.012
Symptoms of depressive disorder ^{§§}	1.49 (1.00–2.22)	0.052	1.13 (0.70–1.82)	0.606	2.29 (1.50–3.50)	<0.001	2.22 (1.45–3.41)	<0.001
Symptoms of anxiety disorder or depressive disorder ^{§§}	1.67 (1.14–2.46)	0.008	1.26 (0.79–2.00)	0.326	1.84 (1.19–2.85)	0.006	1.73 (1.11–2.70)	0.015
Symptoms of a TSRD related to COVID-19 ^{¶¶}	1.55 (0.86–2.81)	0.146	1.27 (0.63–2.56)	0.512	1.88 (0.99–3.56)	0.054	1.79 (0.94–3.42)	0.076
Started or increased substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19	2.36 (1.26–4.42)	0.007	2.04 (0.92–4.48)	0.078	3.51 (1.86–6.61)	<0.001	3.33 (1.75–6.31)	<0.001
Serious consideration of suicide in previous 30 days	0.93 (0.31–2.78)	0.895	0.53 (0.16–1.70)	0.285	3.00 (1.20–7.52)	0.019	3.03 (1.20–7.63)	0.019

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<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6932a1.htm>

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SOS (Same Old Slide) for Asian American Health Data: COVID Pandemic

- Not enough data
- Data not collected in Asian languages
- Lack of data disaggregation by national origin
- Lead to (mistaken) perception that Asian Americans do not have disparities, resulting in lack of resources to collect better data or to address (unmeasured) disparities

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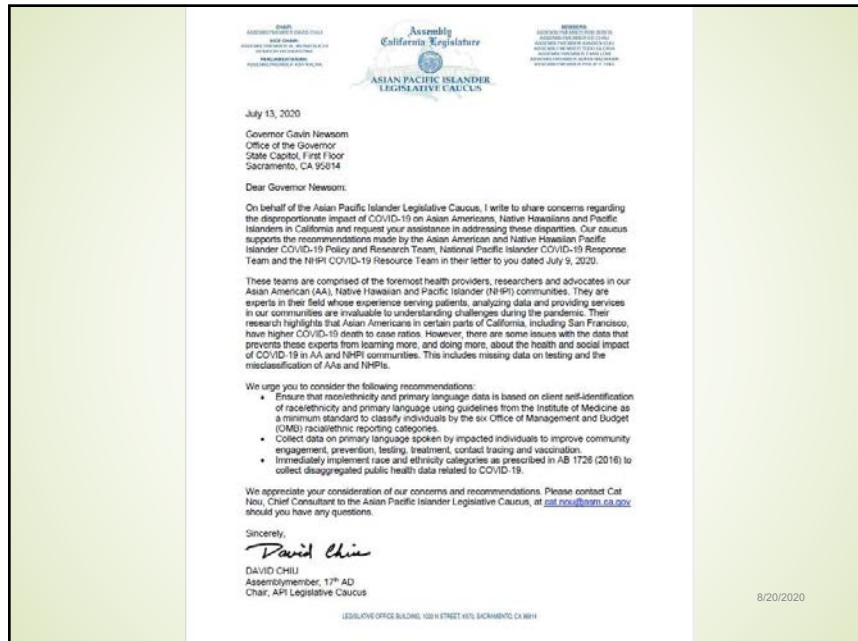
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Data in Service of Advocacy, Advocacy for Data and Services



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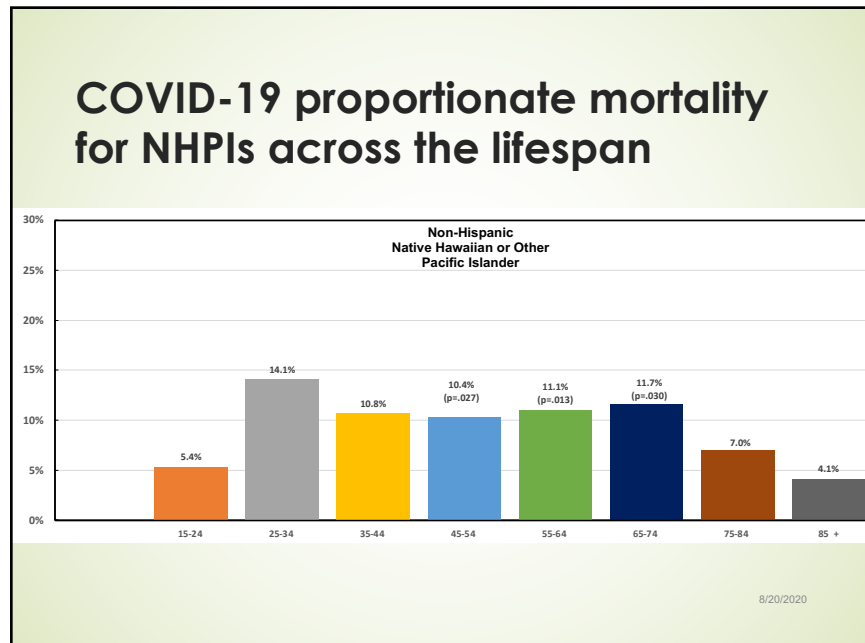
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