

# ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICANS IN IOWA: 2007

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.

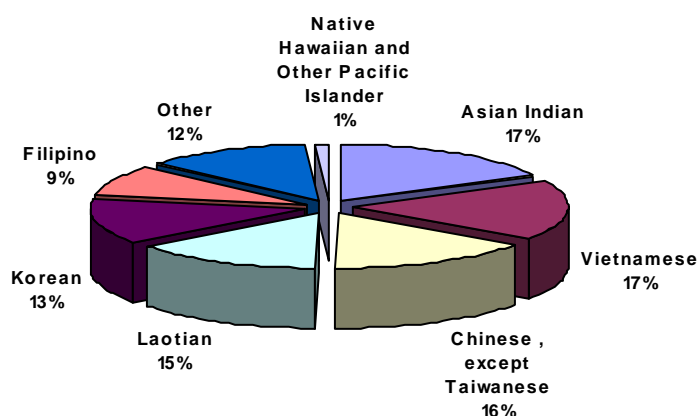
## 49,565

The number of Iowa residents in 2005 who say they are Asian or Asian in combination with one or more other races. This group comprises 1.7 percent of the total population. The number Iowa residents who say they are Asian alone was 43,010.

## 2,290

The number of Iowa residents in 2005 who say they are native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander or native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander in combination with one or more other races. This group comprises 0.1 percent of the total population. The number Iowa residents who say they are native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone was 1,287.

Asian/Pacific Islanders Population: 2005



## 5,444

The numeric change in the Asian population from 2000 to 2005. This is a 14.5 percent increase for the period.

## 141

The numeric change in population for native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders from 2000 to 2005. This is a 12.3 percent increase for the period.

## Age Distribution

### 32.6%

The percentage of the native Hawaiian and other Pacific islander population that are under 18 in 2005; 3.3 percent are 65 or over. Meanwhile, 24.5 percent of people identifying themselves as Asian are under 18; 4.6 percent are 65 or over.

## 96,480

The projected number of Iowa residents who will identify themselves as either Asian or native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander in 2030 according to Woods & Poole Economics, Inc.

## Coming to America

### 29,775

The number of Iowa residents in 2005 who were born in Asia. Asian-born residents comprise 28.9 percent of the state's total foreign-born population.

### 49.4%

The percentage of Iowa's foreign-born in 2005 from Asia who are naturalized citizens. The corresponding rate for the foreign-born population as a whole is 32.4 percent.

### 5,205

The estimated number of foreign-born people from Vietnam in 2005. Next to Mexico, Vietnam 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 Korea, India, China, and the Philippines.

## EDUCATION

### 10,095

The number Asians enrolled in the state's elementary and high schools during the 2005-2006 school year.

### 40.1%

Percent increase in Asian enrollment between the 1991-1992 school year and 2005-2006.

### 47.7%

The percentage of Asians in 2005, 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 lowans in this age group is 23.8 percent.

### 83.5%

The percentage of Asians in 2005, age 25 and over, who are high school graduates. The corresponding rate for all lowans in this age group is 89.6 percent.



### 23.4%

The percentage of Asians in 2005, 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 7.3 percent.

## Serving Our Nation

1,010

*The number of Asian-American military veterans in 2005.*

## Families

### 10,209

The number of families with householders who reported their race as Asian in 2005.

### 2,883

The numeric change in families with householders who reported their race as Asian between 2000-2005. This is a 39.4 percent increase for the period.

### 10.1 %

The percentage of Asian families with children under 18 headed by a single parent in 2005. The corresponding percentage for the state is 24%.

### 19.3 %

The percentage of native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islander families with children under 18 headed by a single parent in 2005.

## LANGUAGES

### 5,387

The number of people who speak Laotian at home in 2005. Laotian is the most widely spoken Asian language in the state. Also among the top 10 most frequently spoken languages are: Vietnamese (4,981); Chinese (4,617); and Korean (2,502).

### 2,726

The number of people who speak Tagalog at home in 2005.

### 724

The number of Vietnamese speaking English Language Learners in Iowa's public and non-

public schools during the 2005-2006 school year. The number of Laotian speaking English Language Learners in Iowa's public and non-public schools during the 2005-2006 school year was 456 and the number of Tagalog speaking English Language Learners was 52.

**3.5**  
*The average family size for those who reported their race as Asian in 2000. The average family size in the state of Iowa is 3.0.*

## INCOME AND POVERTY

### \$51,644

The median income of households in 2005 whose householders reported their race as Asian. The median household income for all lowans is \$43,609.

### \$31,237

The median income of households in 2005

whose householders reported their race as native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.

### 13.9%

The poverty rate in 2005 for those who reported their race as Asian. The corresponding rate for Iowa as a whole is 10.9 percent.

## COUNTIES AND CITIES

### 12,026

The number of Asians in Polk county in 2005, which has the largest population of this race of any Iowa county. Polk county has both the largest population and the largest numerical increase (1,904) of people in this group between 2000 and 2005.

Story county is where Asians make up the highest proportion of the total population (5.6 percent).

### 288

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

Wayne county is where native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders make up the largest proportion (0.2 percent) of the total population.

### 6,946

The number of Asians in the city of Des Moines in 2000, which has the largest population of this race of any city in Iowa.

### 95

The number of Des Moines residents who reported their race as native Hawaiian and/or other Pacific Islander in 2000, the largest population of this race in any city in Iowa

### 9.1 %

The percentage of the total population of Lakeside, Iowa who reported their race as Asian in 2000. This is the largest percentage of all cities in Iowa.

### 2.8 %

The percentage of the total population of Bode, Iowa who reported their race as Native Hawaiian and/or other Pacific Islander in 2000. This is the largest percentage of all cities in Iowa.

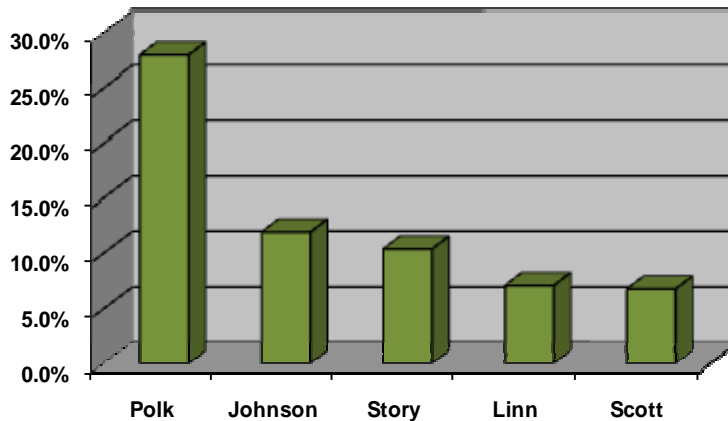
#### Percentage of all Asians in Iowa: Top 5 Cities of Residence: 2000

Des Moines	19.0%
Ames	10.7%
Iowa City	9.6%
Sioux City	6.5%
Cedar Rapids	5.8%

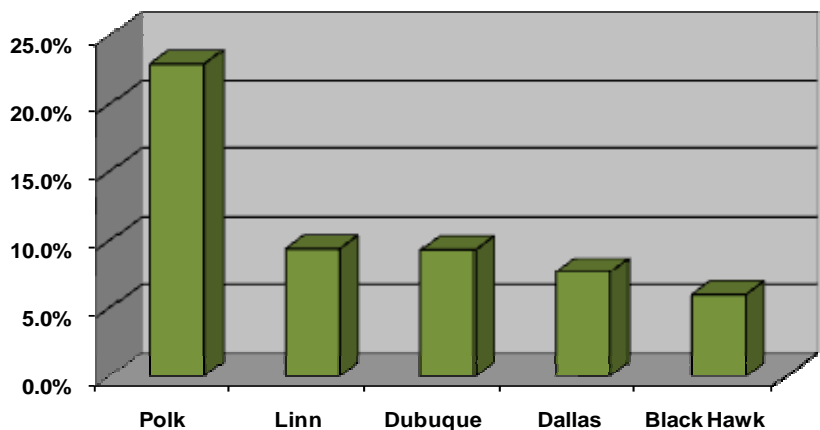
#### Percentage of all Native Hawaiian /Other Pacific Islanders in Iowa: Top 5 Cities of Residence: 2000

Des Moines	9.4%
Cedar Rapids	7.7%
Dubuque	6.4%
Altoona	4.2%
Waterloo	3.4%

Percentage of all Asians in Iowa: Top 5 Counties of Residence: 2005



Percentage of all Native Hawaiians and/or Other Pacific Islanders in Iowa: Top 5 Counties of Residence: 2005



State Data Center of Iowa  
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**We're on the web!**  
[www.iowadatacenter.org](http://www.iowadatacenter.org)  
[www.iowacapi.org](http://www.iowacapi.org)

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**American Community Survey (ACS) Note:** Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters.

Data Source (unless otherwise noted) :  
U.S. Census Bureau,  
2005 American Community Survey  
U.S. Decennial Census 1990 and  
2000  
Photos by the U.S. Census Bureau

## EMPLOYMENT

**5.2 %**

The unemployment rate in 2000 for those who reported their race as Asian. The unemployment rate for all Iowans is 4.2%.

**19 %**

The unemployment rate in 2000 for those who reported their race as native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.

### Occupation

**40.5 %**

The percent of Asian and/or native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders in 2005 in the management, professional, and related occupations field.

### Business

**1,786**

The number of Asian-owned firms in Iowa in 2002.

**30**

The number of Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander-owned firms in Iowa in 2002.

**4.3%**

The percent increase in Asian and of Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander-owned firms between 1997 and 2002.

Source: 2002 Survey of Business Owners

## HOUSING

**\$95,600**

The median home value for those who reported their race as Asian in 2000. The corresponding value for the state is \$82,500.

**\$77,100**

The median home value for those who reported their race as native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islander in 2000.

**53.2 %**

The percentage of those householders in 2005 who reported their race as Asian who own their home. The corresponding percentage for the state is 73.1%.

**Occupations by Percent of Population: 2005**

