

HF4488/SF4245 INVEST IN ASIAN MINNESOTANS

COALITION OF ASIAN AMERICAN LEADERS (CAAL)

Over the past two years, the combination of anti-Asian hate incidents and COVID-19 has led to devastating economic impacts in Asian Minnesotan communities. **HF4488/SF4245 will invest in Asian Minnesotans to build strong and resilient communities.**

Asian Minnesotans Confront Economic Consequences of Hate and Pandemic

- Nearly **50 percent of Asian Minnesotans** indicated that they or a loved one had been personally impacted by an incident of anti-Asian hate. ¹
- **43 percent of Asian small businesses** were unable to pay bills for their businesses; **72 percent of Asian small businesses** had either decreased or no revenue; **50 percent of Asian small businesses** had to reduce their business hours and/or temporarily close. ²
- While direct capital support is critical, **additional navigation support, language access, and technical assistance** is needed to ensure businesses can access government programs and grants. ²

HF4488/SF4245 Invests in Building Economic Resilience for Asian Minnesotans

HF4488/SF4245 will invest in Asian Minnesotans to rebuild strong and resilient communities. The legislation would grant resources to the Coalition of Asian American Leaders to provide grants, outreach and technical assistance to Asian MN small businesses, nonprofits and families to strengthen our workforce and build financial wealth and conduct research on the ongoing economic effects of the pandemic.

"I am grateful for CAAL because without them, I would not have known about some of the resources available to help small businesses like mine. CAAL convenings helped me learn more about grant programs that I qualified for and connected me to others who were dealing with similar issues."

— Kim Kevin Sin, CAAL leader and small business owner from Rochester, MN

With Minnesota's \$9 billion budget surplus, now is the time for bold leadership and historic investments in the health, safety, and economic well-being of Asian Minnesotans.



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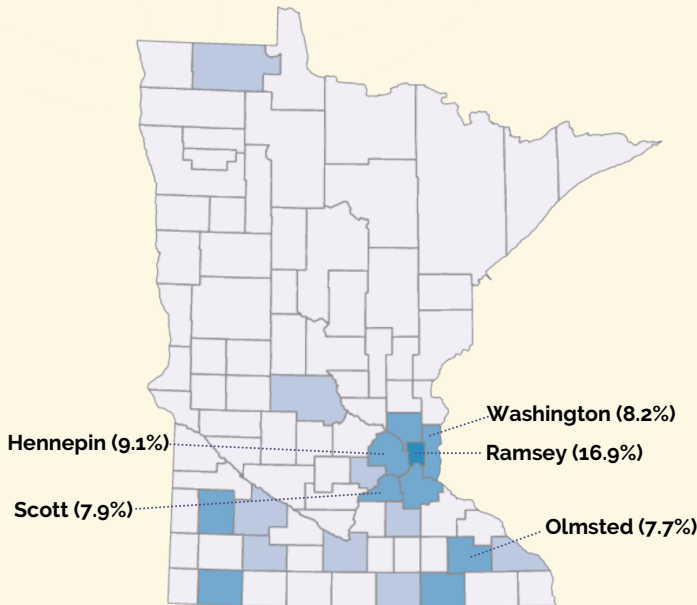
WHO ARE ASIAN MINNESOTANS?

LEARN MORE AT [CAALMN.ORG/RESOURCES](https://caalmn.org/resources)

In 2020, there were **357,704 Asians in Minnesota**, or **6.3%** of the population. Asian Minnesotans are one of the fastest growing populations in the state.

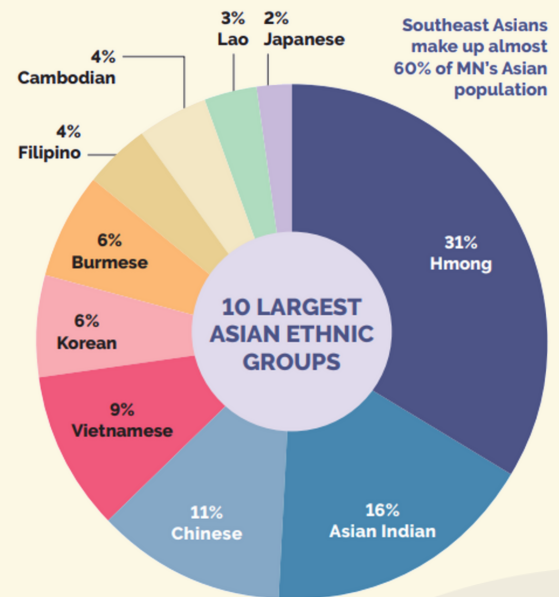
PROPORTION OF ASIANS IN MINNESOTA BY COUNTY

U.S. Census Bureau (2020)



THE TEN LARGEST ASIAN ETHNIC GROUPS

Van Dort (2017)



Asian Minnesotans are a diverse, powerful and growing population, with a combined purchasing power of \$8 billion and more than 15,000 businesses³. As the state's youngest population with a median age of 29, Asian Minnesotans are also a growing voting bloc: **From 2012 to 2018, the number of eligible AAPI voters in Minnesota grew by 43% compared to a 5% growth rate for the overall population.**⁴

Yet when we disaggregate our data, we see deep disparities, and the health, economic and safety impacts of the pandemic on Asian Minnesotans have been profound.

- Data show that Asian Minnesotan households have the highest average median income (\$66,780), but within that aggregate data is a wide income gap. The average for Burmese Minnesotans is only \$25,823, while for Laotian Minnesotans it is \$51,559 and for Hmong Minnesotans it is \$51,559. Moreover, Asian Minnesotans under age 18 are six times more likely to be living in poverty compared to the total population.⁵
- A 2021 report by CAAL and the Hmong Public Health Association found disproportionate COVID-19 mortality rates among Hmong, Karen and Karen Minnesotans. 49% of COVID-19 deaths from the Asian community were from the Hmong community.⁶
- When asked about the biggest issue facing Asian Minnesotans in a Change Research study of AAPI Minnesotans, 62% said racism/discrimination or safety/hate crimes.

With Minnesota's \$9 billion budget surplus, we are asking our elected leaders to step forward with bold and meaningful investments in the health, safety and economic well-being of Asian Minnesotans.

1 CAAL (2022). Annual Network Survey

2 CAAL (2020). Small Business Survey

3 Corrie, B. (2020, April 23). Fact Sheet on Asian Minnesotan Economy. <https://coveideconomics.org/2020/04/23/fact-sheet-on-asian-minnesotan-economy/amp/>

4 APIA Vote. (2020). 2020 State Fact Sheet: Minnesota. <https://www.apivote.org/sites/default/files/2020-02/Minnesota-2020.pdf>

5 CAAL (2021). Redefining Wealth Through Communal and Cultural Assets. <https://caalmn.org/community/economics/economics-report-2021/>

6 CAAL and HPHA (2021). A Race to Close the Disproportionate COVID-19 Death Rates in Minnesota's Asian Community. <https://caalmn.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/CAAL-HPHA-Covid-Report-Fin-041921.pdf>