



# SOUTHEAST ASIAN DATA & TRENDS ANALYSIS

Facts & Community  
Trends Report



# Executive Summary

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# DEMOGRAPHICS

Southeast Asian (SEA) refers to individuals who identify with one or more ethnic groups originating from countries in the Southeast Asian region, including Burma, Cambodia, the Philippines, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam. The most populous migration of SEAs to the United States followed the end the Vietnam War in April 1975.

Rhode Island is home to about 17,000 SEAs, which include individuals who identify as Burmese, Cambodian, Filipino, Hmong, Laotian, Thai, and Vietnamese. SEAs make up about half of the Asian population in Rhode Island and 1.6% of the total population.

Cambodians make up the highest population of SEAs in Rhode Island followed by Filipinos, Laotians, Vietnamese, Hmong, Thai, and Burmese. The majority of SEAs in Rhode Island reside in Cranston, Providence, Warwick, and Woonsocket cities, indicative of the overall Asian population. While the largest populations of SEAs are in Providence, a higher percentage of Laotians live in Woonsocket.

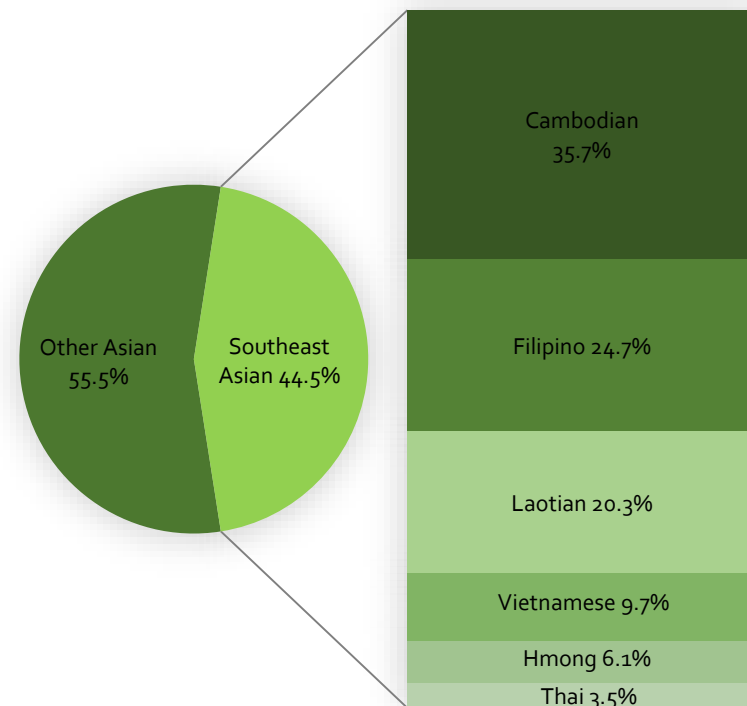


Top: A community member performs a traditional Cambodian instrument at CSEA's 2012 New Year celebration

## Population Estimates of Southeast Asians in Rhode Island

	Population
Burmese	108
Cambodian	5,961
Filipino	4,117
Hmong	1,015
Laotian	3,380
Thai	591
Vietnamese	1,615
Asian	36,763
<b>Total Rhode Island</b>	<b>1,052,567</b>

## Distribution of Southeast Asian Ethnicities in Rhode Island



Source: US Census Bureau, 2010 Census Population Estimates

Note: Race and ethnicity data throughout this report include "Alone or in any combination" categories

## Southeast Asian Population by Cities & Towns

City/Town	Asian	Burmese	Cambodian	Filipino	Hmong	Laotian	Thai	Vietnamese
Barrington	570	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bristol	275	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Burrillville	124	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central Falls	189	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charlestown	102	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coventry	403	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cranston	4,625	-	1,592	537	-	162	-	223
Cumberland	936	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
East Greenwich	629	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
East Providence	940	-	-	138	-	-	-	-
Johnston	685	-	-	-	-	165	-	-
Lincoln	701	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Middletown	695	-	-	266	-	-	-	-
Narragansett	188	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Newport	578	-	-	235	-	-	-	-
North Kingstown	490	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Providence	856	-	-	117	-	-	-	-
North Smithfield	153	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pawtucket	1,462	-	157	201	-	-	-	123
Portsmouth	405	-	-	153	-	-	-	-
Providence	13,128	-	3,339	702	673	1,213	241	334
Smithfield	357	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Kingstown	988	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tiverton	202	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Warren	102	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Warwick	2,266	-	217	394	100	-	-	145
West Greenwich	106	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
West Warwick	773	-	-	180	-	-	-	-
Westerly	704	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Woonsocket	2,584	-	202	126	-	1,430	-	249
Remainder of State	547	108	454	1068	242	410	350	541
Rhode Island	36,763	108	5,961	4,117	1,015	3,380	591	1,615

Source: US Census Bureau, 2010 Census Population Estimates

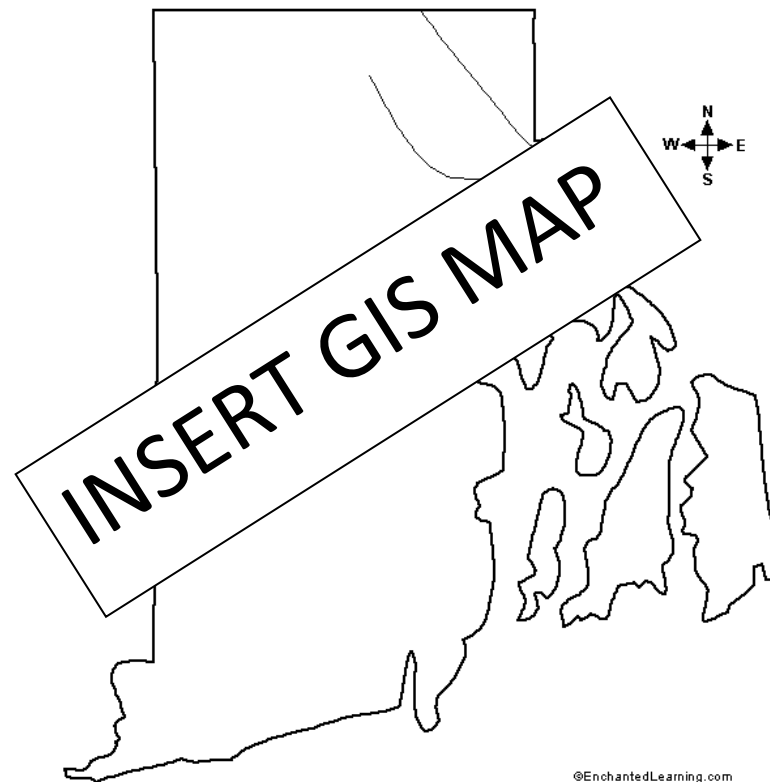
Note: Cities and towns with population numbers less than 100 are computed collectively as "Remainder of State"

## Southeast Asian Population by County

County	Asian	Burmese	Cambodian	Filipino	Hmong	Laotian	Thai	Vietnamese
Bristol County	947	-	-	119	-	-	-	-
Kent County	4,117	-	318	723	153	137	-	205
Newport County	1,978	-	-	750	-	-	-	111
Providence County	26,976	-	5,536	2,160	848	3,187	413	1,163
Washington County	2,685	-	-	365	-	-	-	106
Remainder of State	60	-	107	-	52	56	178	30
Rhode Island	36763	108	5,961	4117	1,015	3,380	591	1,615

Source: US Census Bureau, 2010 Census Population Estimates

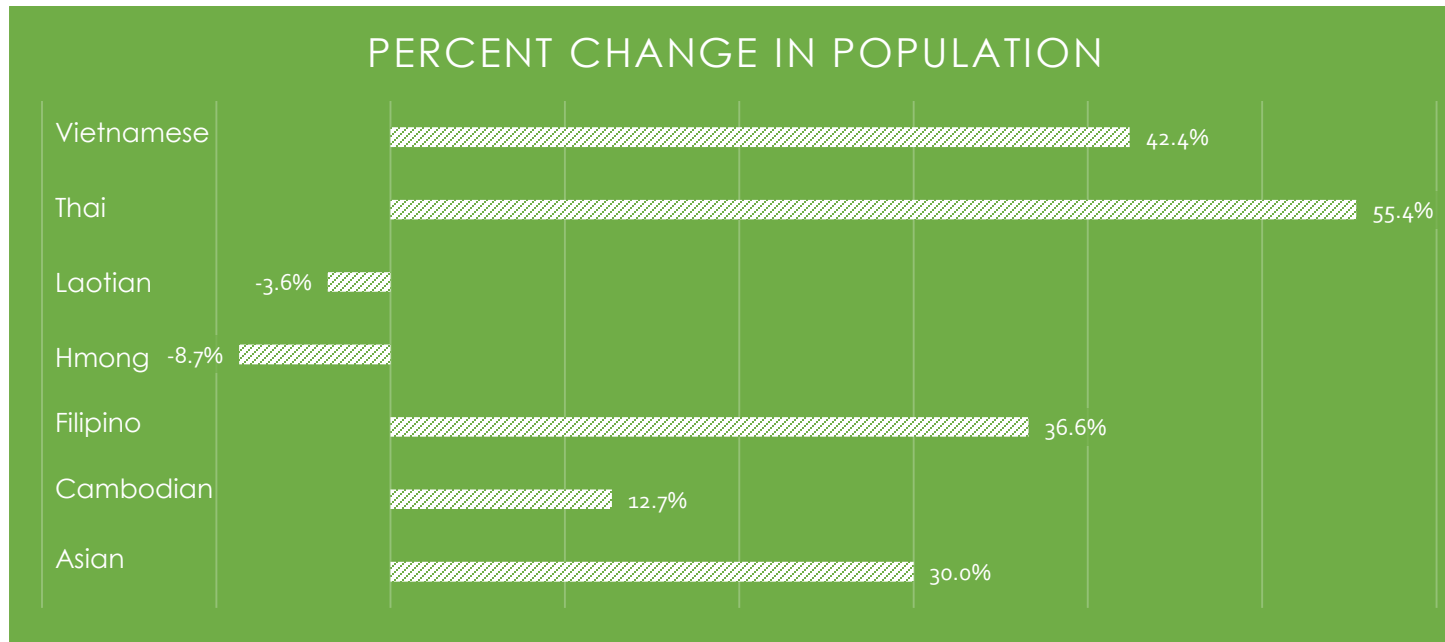
Note: Counties with population numbers less than 100 are computed collectively as "Remainder of State"



## Population Growth

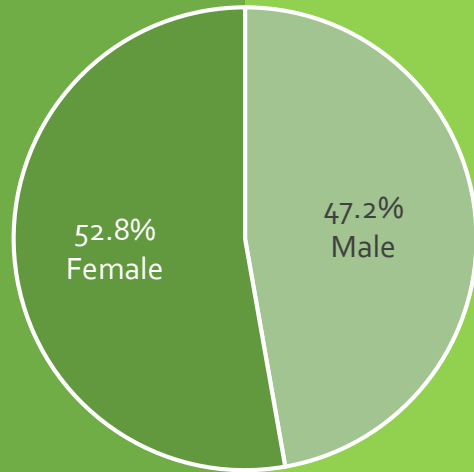
	Population in 2000	Population in 2010	Population Change 2000-2010
<b>Asian</b>	28,290	36,763	8,473
<b>Burmese</b>	-	108	-
<b>Cambodian</b>	5,290	5,961	671
<b>Filipino</b>	3,015	4,117	1,102
<b>Hmong</b>	1,112	1,015	-97
<b>Laotian</b>	3,507	3,380	-127
<b>Thai</b>	380	591	211
<b>Vietnamese</b>	1,134	1,615	481

From 2000 to 2010, the total Asian population in Rhode Island grew by about 30%. From 28,000 to nearly 37,000. Among Southeast Asian subgroups, the highest growing populations included the Thai community at a 55% growth and the Vietnamese community at a 42% growth. The highest population decline was in the Hmong community at a 9% decrease and the Laotian community at a 4% decrease from 2000 to 2010.



Sources:  
 US Census Bureau, 2010 Census Population Estimates  
 US Census Bureau, 2000 Census Population Estimates

## Southeast Asian Male:Female Ratio



## Median Age:

Asian	27.4
Burmese	29.2
Cambodian	26.2
Filipino	30.7
Hmong	23.6
Laotian	29
Thai	24.8
Vietnamese	27.9

## Community Characteristics

	% Male in Population	% Female in Population
<b>Asian</b>	47.2%	52.8%
<b>Burmese</b>	49.1%	50.9%
<b>Cambodian</b>	47.8%	52.2%
<b>Filipino</b>	45.0%	55.0%
<b>Hmong</b>	49.7%	50.3%
<b>Laotian</b>	49.1%	50.9%
<b>Thai</b>	40.6%	59.4%
<b>Vietnamese</b>	47.5%	52.5%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2010 Census Population Profile



*Left: Community members participate in a CSEA Seatbelt Safety Education Outreach session at the Laotian Community Center of Rhode Island*



# Family Characteristics

	Total Households	Family Households
<b>Asian</b>	10316	6993
<b>Burmese</b>	35	27
<b>Cambodian</b>	1430	1209
<b>Filipino</b>	1111	754
<b>Hmong</b>	213	179
<b>Laotian</b>	886	755
<b>Thai</b>	150	78
<b>Vietnamese</b>	387	315

Source: US Census Bureau, 2010 Census Household & Family Profile

## Family Size:

Asian	3.55
Burmese	3.48
Cambodian	4.07
Filipino	3.37
Hmong	5.12
Laotian	3.87
Thai	3.69
Vietnamese	3.61

## Language Spoken at Home for Population 5 Years & Older\*

	English Only	Language Other than English	Asian & Pacific Islander Language
<b>Asian</b>	27.1%	72.9%	62.6%
<b>Cambodian</b>	15.4%	84.6%	83.8%
<b>Filipino</b>	49.2%	50.8%	47.9%
<b>Hmong</b>	5.1%	94.9%	94.9%
<b>Laotian</b>	9.8%	90.2%	88.8%
<b>Thai</b>	25.2%	74.8%	65.4%
<b>Vietnamese</b>	27.0%	73.0%	70.6%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, Selected Social Characteristics 5 Year Estimates

Note: American Community Survey data not available for Burmese throughout this report.

Southeast Asian families come in all shapes and sizes. The average family size in the Rhode Island Southeast Asian community consists of about 3-5 family members. A smaller percentage of Southeast Asian Rhode Islanders speak English as the primary language at home. The majority of Cambodians, Hmong, Laotians, Thai, and Vietnamese speak a language other than English, namely a native Asian & Pacific Islander language in the home.

# CITIZENSHIP

Southeast Asians in Rhode Island first arrived to the Ocean state as refugees following multiple war-torn atrocities in Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam in 1975. The first wave of immigrants occurred in the 1980s and followed throughout the following decade while subsiding in the last decade.

Today, the majority of SEAs in Rhode Island are foreign born, while the proportion of Southeast Asians born in the United States continue to rise across each Southeast Asian subgroup. The majority of foreign-born Southeast Asians in Rhode Island immigrated to the United States before 2000.

The Center for Southeast Asians is committed to fostering civic engagement in the SEA community of Rhode Island and frequently offers citizenship classes for individuals seeking naturalization.



## PLACE OF BIRTH

	% US Born	% Foreign Born
<b>Asian</b>	44.3%	55.7%
<b>Cambodian</b>	47.2%	52.8%
<b>Filipino</b>	48.9%	51.1%
<b>Hmong</b>	48.0%	52.0%
<b>Laotian</b>	40.0%	60.0%
<b>Thai</b>	53.7%	46.3%
<b>Vietnamese</b>	58.2%	41.8%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey Selected Social Characteristics 5 Year Estimates



*Top: Hmong youth dancers at a community event.*

*Left: A member of the Cambodian community demonstrates a traditional folk instrument.*

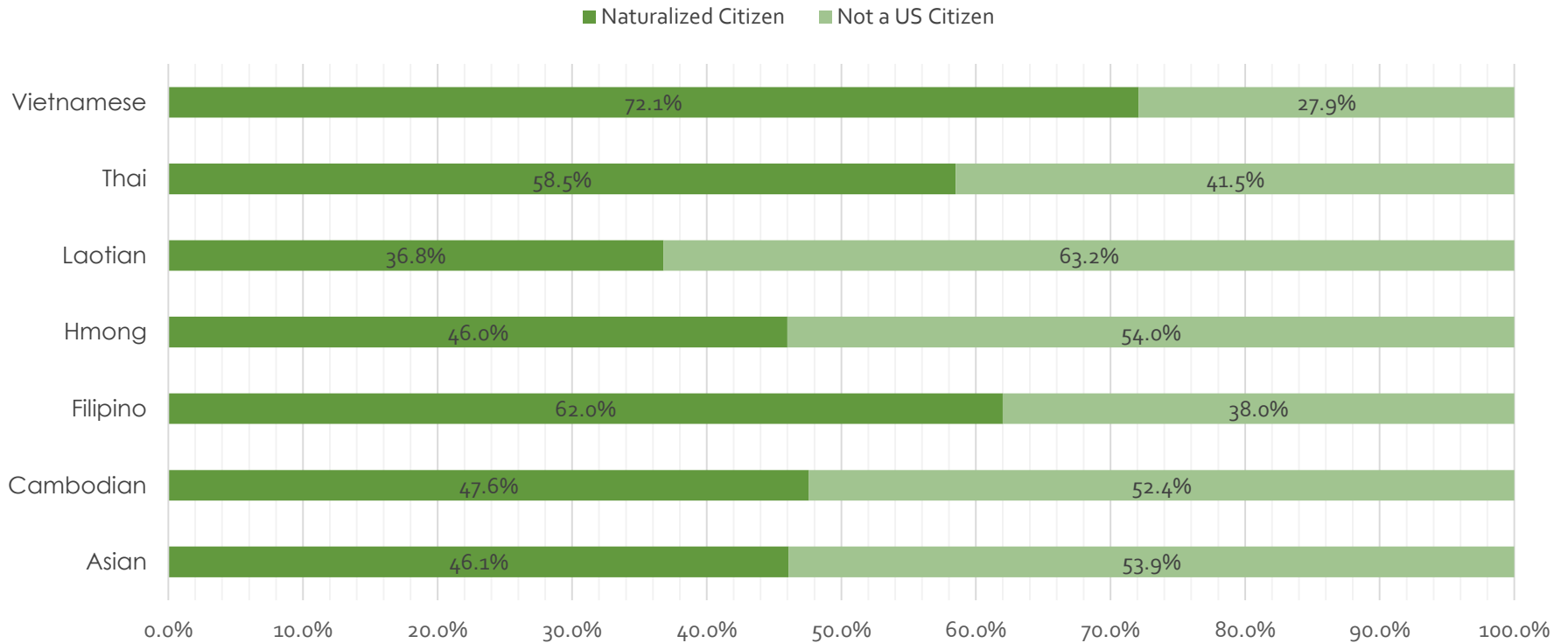
## YEAR OF ENTRY FOR FOREIGN BORN POPULATION



Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey Selected Social Characteristics, 5 Year Estimates

Among the Southeast Asian community Rhode Island, a higher proportion of foreign born individuals entered the United States before 2000. This is indicative of historical immigration patterns, as the largest population of Southeast Asians arrived in the United States in the late 1970s to throughout the 1980s as refugees from war-torn countries. From 2000 to present day, the proportion of foreign born Southeast Asians has significantly decreased compared to the first quarter century following the Vietnam War.

# Citizenship Status of Foreign Born Population



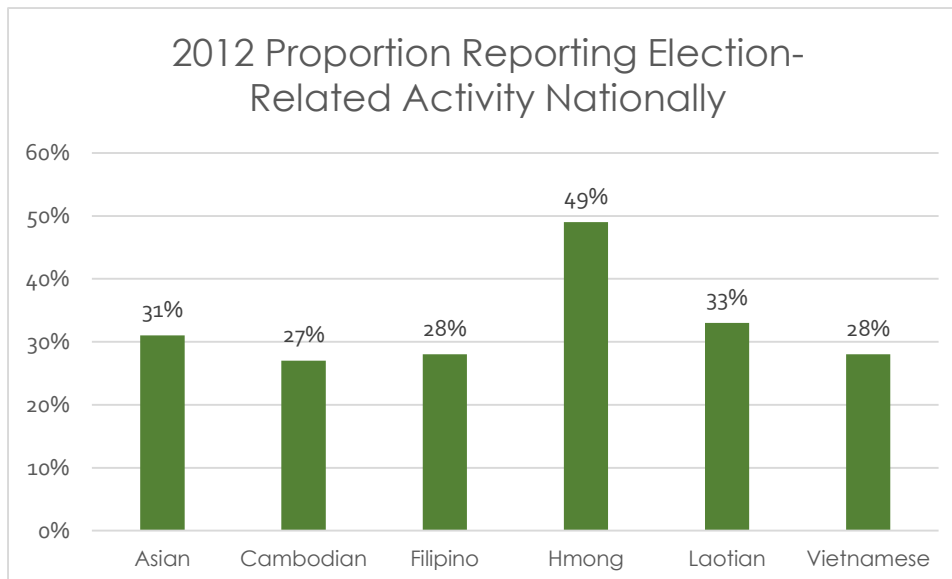
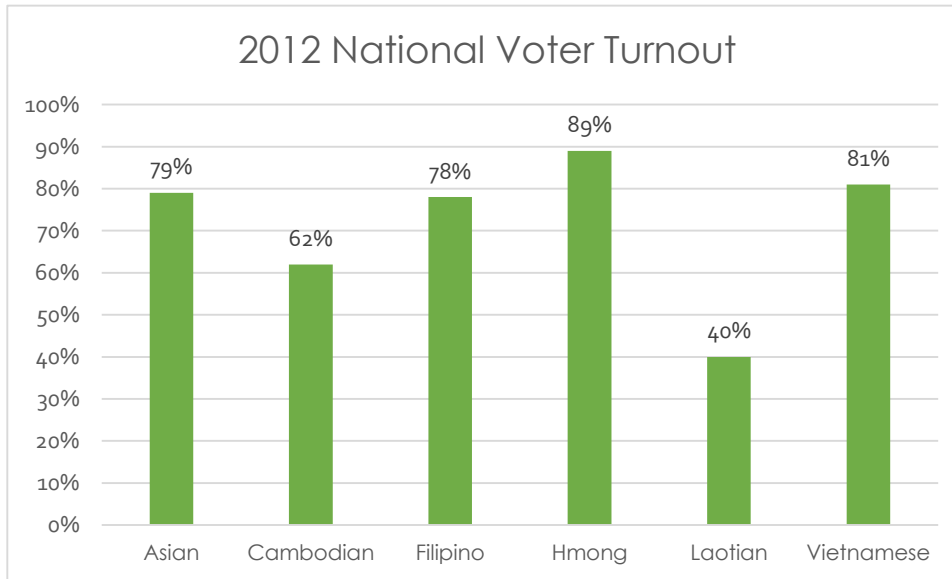
Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, Selected Social Characteristics 5 Year Estimates



The citizenship status of Southeast Asians in Rhode Island vary across each ethnic group. As a whole, the majority of foreign-born Southeast Asians residing in Rhode Island have not yet been naturalized as United States citizens. The Filipino, Thai, and Vietnamese community have higher proportions of foreign-born individuals who have been naturalized. Foreign-born members of Cambodian, Hmong, and Laotian communities yield a lower percentage of naturalized citizenship compared to all other Southeast Asians subgroups.

Left: Community members attend the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of CSEA in 2013.

# 2012 Voting Trends



While data is currently unavailable for Southeast Asian voter turnout in Rhode Island, civic engagement data in Southeast Asian communities across the United States highlight the variance across Southeast Asian ethnic groups. According to the 2012 Asian American and Pacific Islander Post-Election Survey, a lower proportion of Southeast Asian communities nationally reported some election-related contact from candidate campaigns, political parties, or other election interest groups, which speaks to the low levels of outreach and mobilization by election groups towards the Southeast Asian community. In terms of voter turnout, the 2012 election saw the highest turnout rates among the Filipino-American, Hmong-American, and Vietnamese American communities, while the voter turnout rates for the Cambodian-American and Laotian-Americans were relatively lower.

Source: 2012 Asian American and Pacific Islander Post-Election Survey

# EDUCATION

As a whole, Asian Americans in Rhode Island have a relatively higher education level compared to the rest of the Ocean State. A majority of the Asian population in Rhode Island have a high school diploma. In terms of higher education, a higher percentage of Asians in Rhode Island have a bachelor's degree or higher compared to Rhode Island. A higher percentage of Asians in Rhode Island also have a graduate or professional degree compared to the state.

However, there are glaring differences in educational attainment across Southeast Asian subgroups compared to the Asian aggregate and Rhode Island. The proportions of individuals with a high school diploma, bachelor's degree, and graduate or professional degrees are lower in Cambodians, Hmong, Laotians, and Vietnamese compared to all Asians and all of Rhode Island.

At a glance, Asian Americans may appear to have higher educational attainment compared to the overall state population; however, disparities in higher and professional education persist among members of the Southeast Asian community in Rhode Island.



Educational Attainment of Population 25 Years & Older

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT	Rhode Island		Asian	
	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<b>Population 25 years and over</b>	708,598	100%	19,094	100%
<b>Less than 9th grade</b>	49,398	7%	2,420	12.7%
<b>9th to 12th grade, no diploma</b>	66,400	9.4%	1,508	7.9%
<b>High school graduate or equivalent</b>	199,935	28.2%	3,892	20.4%
<b>Some college, no degree</b>	124,247	17.5%	2,002	10.5%
<b>Associate's degree</b>	53,660	7.6%	738	3.9%
<b>Bachelor's degree</b>	130,781	18.5%	4,426	23.2%
<b>Graduate or professional degree</b>	84,177	11.9%	4,108	21.5%
<b>Percent high school graduate or higher</b>	-	83.7%	-	79.4%
<b>Percent bachelor's degree or higher</b>	-	30.3%	-	44.7%
<b>Percent graduate or professional degree</b>	-	11.9%	-	21.5%

Source: US Census, American Community Survey Selected Social Characteristics 2006-2010

## Educational Attainment of Population 25 Years & Older by Southeast Asian Subgroups

	Cambodian		Filipino		Hmong		Laotian		Thai		Vietnamese	
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<b>Population 25 years and over</b>	2,383	100%	2,835	100%	404	100%	1,728	100%	576	100%	773	100%
<b>Less than 9th grade</b>	828	34.7%	99	3.5%	121	30.0%	464	26.9%	34	5.9%	72	9.3%
<b>9th to 12th grade, no diploma</b>	329	13.8%	58	2.0%	7	1.7%	343	19.8%	0	0.0%	131	16.9%
<b>High school graduate or equivalent</b>	739	31.0%	743	26.2%	48	11.9%	472	27.3%	90	15.6%	226	29.2%
<b>Some college, no degree</b>	278	11.7%	545	19.2%	101	25.0%	169	9.8%	126	21.9%	37	4.8%
<b>Associate's degree</b>	64	2.7%	141	5.0%	0	0.0%	93	5.4%	0	0.0%	68	8.8%
<b>Bachelor's degree</b>	109	4.6%	919	32.4%	95	23.5%	179	10.4%	137	23.8%	207	26.8%
<b>Graduate or professional degree</b>	36	1.5%	330	11.6%	32	7.9%	8	0.5%	189	32.8%	32	4.1%
<b>Percent high school graduate or higher</b>	-	51.4%	-	94.5%	-	68.3%	-	53.3%	-	94.1%	-	73.7%
<b>Percent bachelor's degree or higher</b>	-	6.1%	-	44.1%	-	31.4%	-	10.8%	-	56.6%	-	30.9%
<b>Percent graduate or professional degree</b>		1.5%		11.6%		7.9%		0.5%		32.8%		4.1%

Source: US Census, American Community Survey Selected Social Characteristics 2006-10

## School Enrollment Estimates of Population 3 Years & Older In Rhode Island

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT	Rhode Island		Asian	
	Estimate	%	Estimate	%
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	284,670	100%	13,632	100%
Nursery school, preschool	15,590	5.5%	552	4%
Kindergarten	12,243	4.3%	875	6.4%
Elementary school (grades 1-8)	100,984	35.5%	3,818	28%
High school (grades 9-12)	56,475	19.8%	2,145	15.7%
College or graduate school	99,378	34.9%	6,242	45.8%

## School Enrollment Estimates of Population 3 Years by Southeast Asian Ethnicities

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT	Cambodian		Filipino		Hmong		Laotian		Thai		Vietnamese	
	Estimate	%	Estimate	%	Estimate	%	Estimate	%	Estimate	%	Estimate	%
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	1,859	100%	1,671	100%	354	100%	890	100%	285	100%	815	100%
Nursery school, preschool	54	2.9%	12	0.7%	17	4.8%	28	3.1%	0	0%	109	13.4%
Kindergarten	76	4.1%	185	11.1%	22	6.2%	108	12.1%	10	3.5%	21	2.6%
Elementary school (grades 1-8)	750	40.3%	648	38.8%	159	44.9%	409	46.0%	87	30.5%	197	24.2%
High school (grades 9-12)	611	32.9%	365	21.8%	13	3.7%	107	12.0%	25	8.8%	168	20.6%
College or graduate school	368	19.8%	461	27.6%	143	40.4%	238	26.7%	163	57.2%	320	39.3%

Source: US Census, American Community Survey Selected Social Characteristics 2006-10



District	# of Asian Students	Total in District	% of District
Barrington	158	3370	4.7%
Beacon Charter School	5	230	2.2%
Blackstone Academy	5	165	3.0%
Blackstone Valley Prep, A RI Mayoral Academy	17	767	2.2%
Bristol Warren	37	3437	1.1%
Burrillville	19	2409	0.8%
Central Falls	4	2732	0.1%
Chariho	32	3403	0.9%
Coventry	28	5103	0.5%
Cranston	754	10664	7.1%
Cumberland	99	4648	2.1%
Davies Career and Tech	5	833	0.6%
East Greenwich	110	2391	4.6%
East Providence	70	5364	1.3%
Exeter-West Greenwich	13	1712	0.8%
Foster-Glocester	3	1193	0.3%
Glocester	5	560	0.9%
Highlander	14	314	4.5%
International Charter	1	326	0.3%
Jamestown	13	490	2.7%
Johnston	86	3029	2.8%
Kingston Hill Academy	2	180	1.1%
Learning Community	2	561	0.4%
Lincoln	33	3238	1.0%
MET Career and Tech	14	868	1.6%
Middletown	83	2423	3.4%
Narragansett	14	1452	1.0%
Newport	23	2102	1.1%
North Kingstown	66	4138	1.6%
North Providence	96	3450	2.8%
North Smithfield	24	1750	1.4%
Paul Cuffee Charter School	33	688	4.8%
Pawtucket	115	8733	1.3%
Portsmouth	45	2658	1.7%
Providence	1236	23872	5.2%
R.I. School for the Deaf	1	69	1.4%
Rhode Island Nurses Institute Middle College	2	202	1.0%
Scituate	13	1511	0.9%
Smithfield	25	2410	1.0%
South Kingstown	64	3412	1.9%
Tiverton	15	1895	0.8%
Trinity Academy for the Performing Arts	1	103	1.0%
Urban Collaborative	4	145	2.8%
Warwick	258	9675	2.7%
West Warwick	75	3421	2.2%
Westerly	104	3067	3.4%
Woonsocket	305	6024	5.1%
<b>Total Rhode Island</b>	<b>4131</b>	<b>142481</b>	<b>2.9%</b>

## 2012 – 13 Enrollment by District

The Rhode Island Department of Education currently does not have data available for school enrollment broken down by Southeast Asian ethnicities. Thus, enrollment data includes aggregate data for all Asian students in each district. For the 2012-2013 school year, Asian students made up about 3% of the K-12 student population in Rhode Island. The school districts with the largest Asian student population include Providence, Cranston, Woonsocket, Warwick, and Barrington districts. The districts with the highest proportion of Asian students include Cranston, Providence, Woonsocket, Barrington, and East Greenwich districts. Given all other available demographic data, we would expect that the majority of Southeast Asian students attend schools in Providence, Cranston, Warwick, and Woonsocket districts.

# English Language Learners

During the 2012-2013 school year, Asian students made up about 7.5% of the total English Language Learner (ELL) student population. About 4% of the ELL student population reported speaking a Southeast Asian language at home. While there were 661 ELL Asian students, 53% of these students spoke a Southeast Asian language at home with the largest proportion of SEA ELL students speaking Khmer.

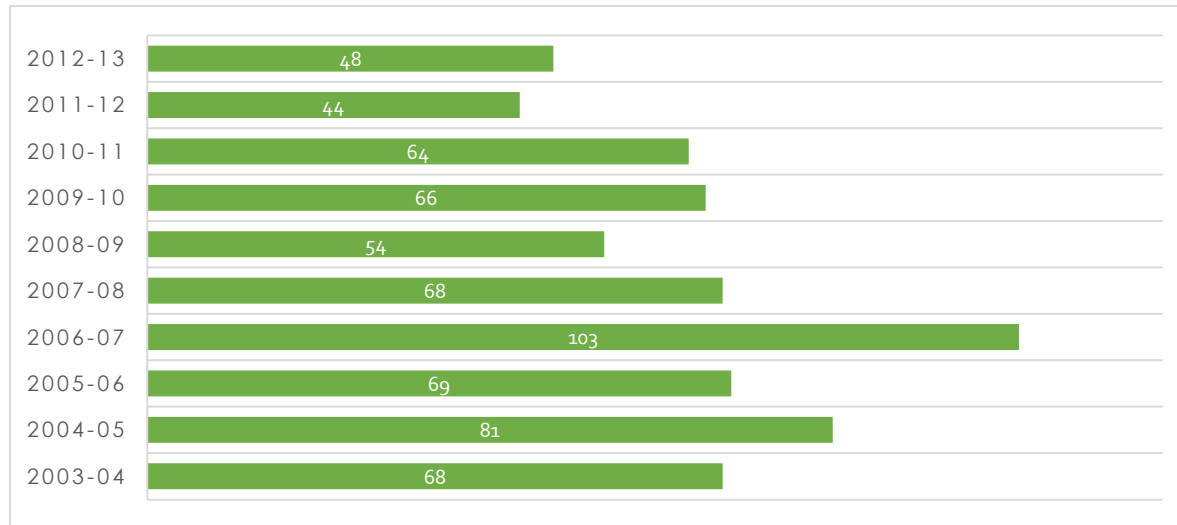
Southeast Asian English Language Learner Student Population by Language Spoken at Home 2012-13

Language at Home	Number of ELL Students	%
Burmese	18	2.7%
Filipino*	29	4.4%
Hmong	38	5.8%
Khmer	160	24.2%
Lao	55	8.3%
Thai	3	0.45%
Vietnamese	47	7.1%
<b>Total Southeast Asian ELL Students</b>	350	53%
<b>Total Asian ELL Students</b>	661	100%
<b>Total Southeast Asian ELL Students</b>	350	3.95%
<b>Total Asian ELL Students</b>	661	7.46%
<b>Total ELL Students in Rhode Island</b>	8,855	100%

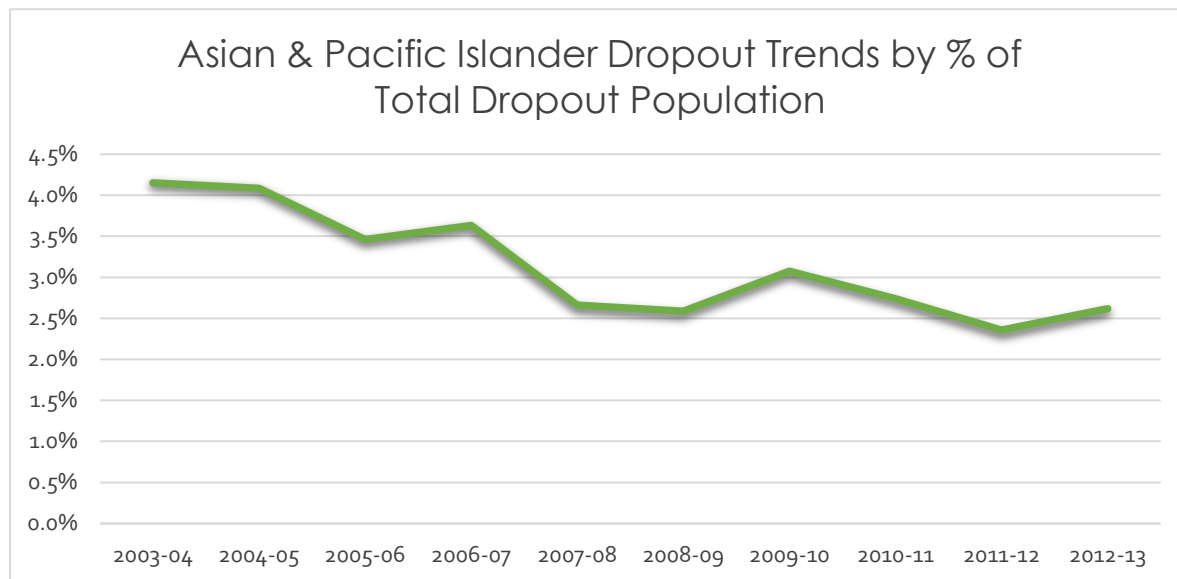
\*Includes *Other Philippines Language* and *Tagalog*

Source: Rhode Island Department of Education

## High School Dropout Trends for Asian students in Rhode Island 2003-2013



### Asian & Pacific Islander Dropout Trends by % of Total Dropout Population



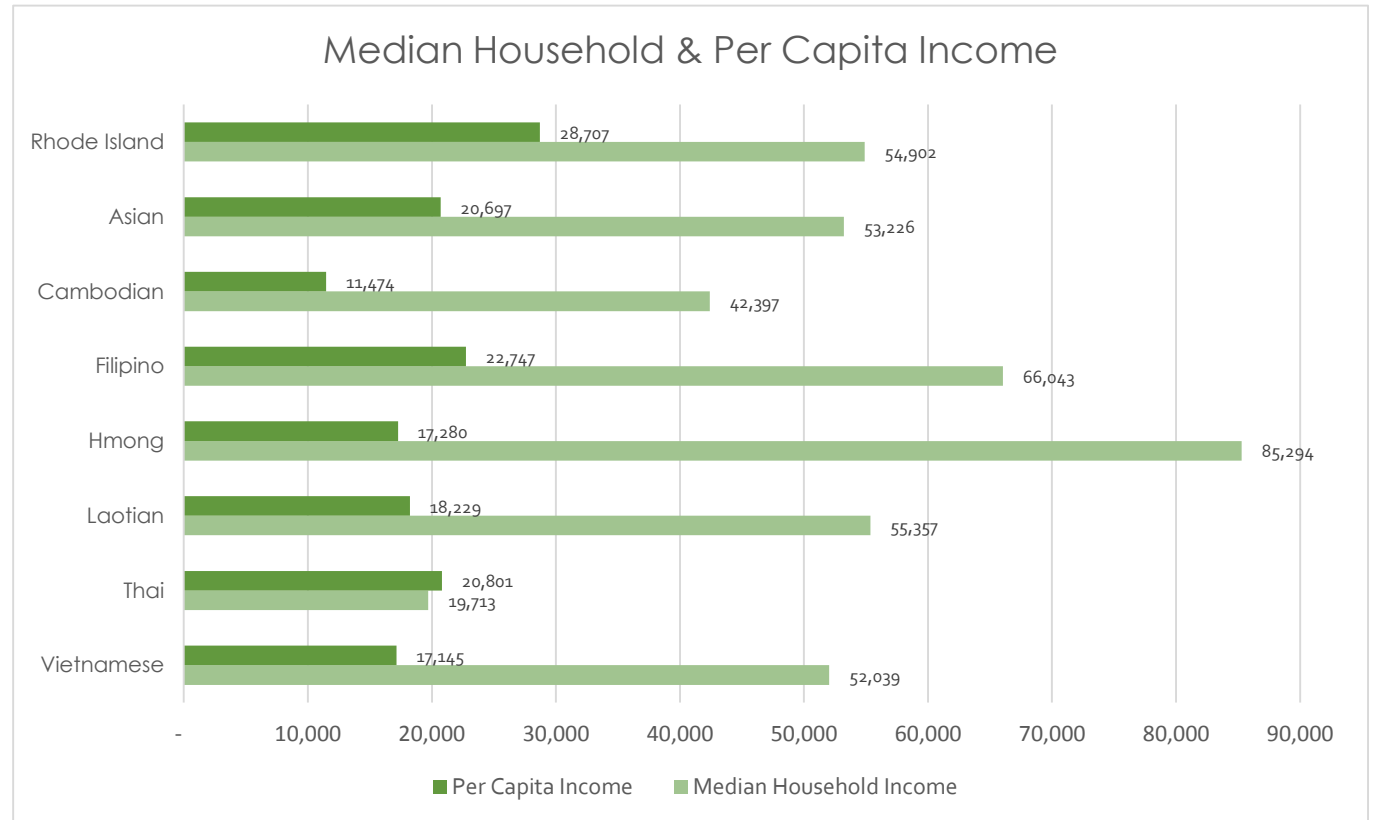
# High School Dropout Trends

The Rhode Island Department of Education currently does not provide breakdown of dropout data by ethnicity. Numbers and rates are obtained and calculated as part of an aggregate of Asian and Pacific Islander (API) students. These dropout trends represent students in 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades who did not complete high school. Over the past 10 years, the high school dropout count for API students in Rhode Island has been steady at an average of about 60 dropouts per year, with the highest number of API dropouts during the 2006-07 school year. Relative to the total dropout population, the percentage of API dropouts has decreased in the past 10 years. During the 2012-13 school year, APIs made up 2.6% of the total dropout population in Rhode Island.

# ECONOMICS

Economic differences exist among Southeast Asians in Rhode Island; median household income and per capita income vary between different Southeast Asian ethnic groups. Among households report the highest median household income while Thai households report the lowest median household income relative to all other SEA groups. Filipinos report the highest income per capita while Cambodians report the lowest income per capita relative to all other SEA groups.

Southeast Asians contribute daily to the economy of Rhode Island. Thai individuals are largely employed in management, business, science and arts occupations while more Vietnamese are employed in service and natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations compared to all other SEA groups. In the SEA community, the majority of jobs in production, transportation, and material moving belong to Laotians and the majority of sales and office occupations belong to Filipinos.

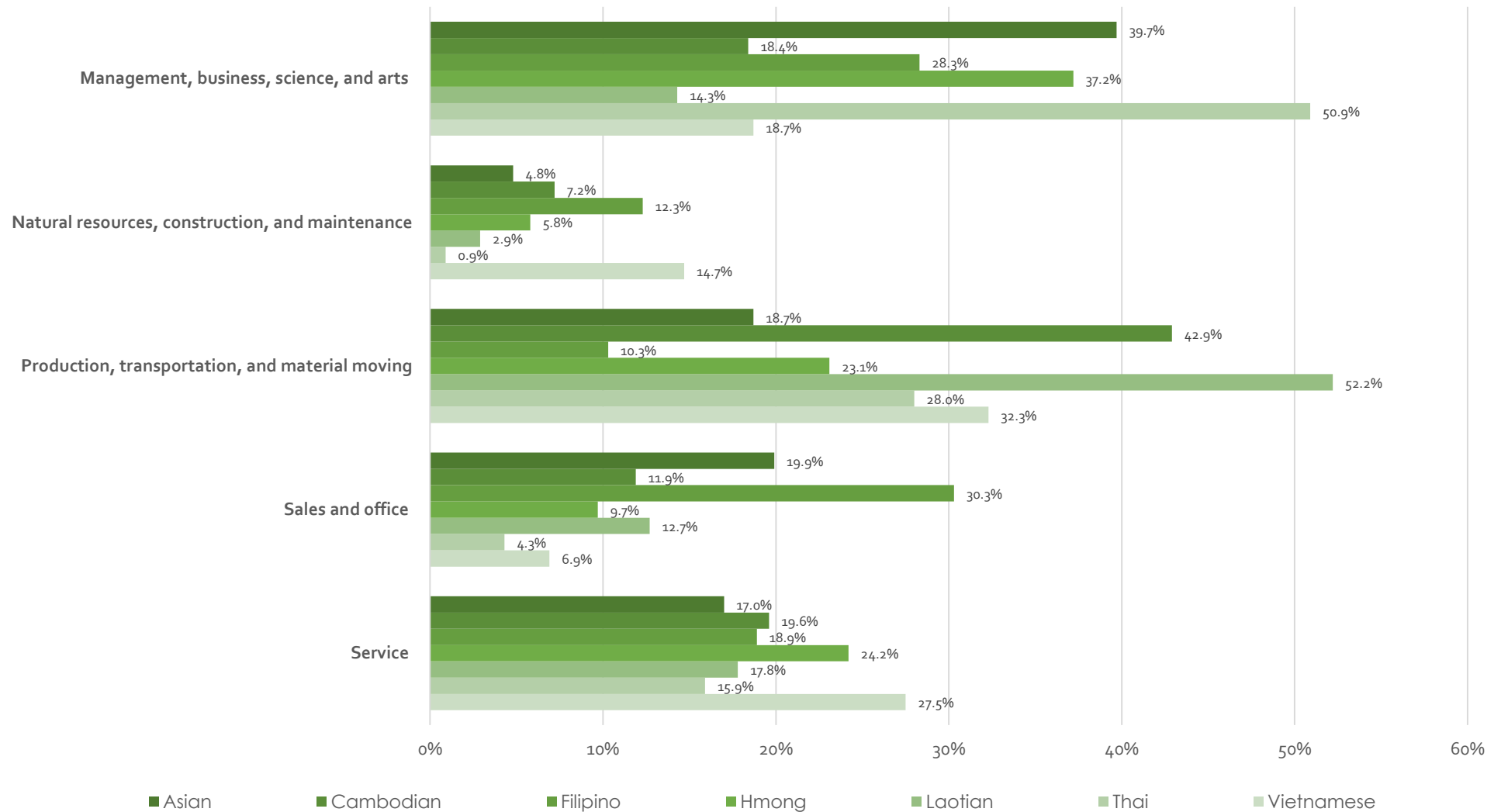


Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, Selected Economic Characteristics 5 Year Estimates

*Right: Owners of Narin Market in Providence which caters largely to the Southeast Asian community.*



## Occupations of Rhode Island Southeast Asians (Civilian Employed Population 16 Years & Older)\*



Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey Selected Economic Characteristics 5 Year Estimates

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding

## Industry Spread of Rhode Island Southeast Asians (Civilian Employed Population 16 Years & Older)

	Asian	Cambodian	Filipino	Hmong	Laotian	Thai	Vietnamese
<b>Agriculture, forestry, fishing &amp; hunting, &amp; mining</b>	0.1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2.1%
<b>Construction</b>	2.8%	5.3%	2.7%	5.8%	0%	0%	8.8%
<b>Manufacturing</b>	22.4%	46.8%	25.0%	28.6%	52.9%	16.1%	35.3%
<b>Wholesale trade</b>	1.4%	0.9%	0%	0%	1.9%	0%	1.3%
<b>Retail trade</b>	12.9%	10.2%	10.1%	4.7%	6.6%	4.3%	5.8%
<b>Transportation &amp; warehousing, &amp; utilities</b>	1.5%	0.3%	3.0%	0%	2.7%	4.7%	0%
<b>Information</b>	0.3%	0.4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1.6%
<b>Finance, insurance, real estate &amp; rental &amp; leasing</b>	4.8%	2.1%	7.8%	3.9%	0.9%	0%	4.8%
<b>Professional, scientific, management, administrative, &amp; waste management services</b>	9.0%	9.6%	11.1%	9.2%	3.9%	27.1%	4.2%
<b>Educational, health care, &amp; social assistance</b>	27.6%	8.9%	23.7%	19.4%	16.2%	10.1%	7.5%
<b>Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, &amp; food services</b>	12.7%	13.3%	8.6%	24.2%	14.0%	36.8%	11.0%
<b>Other services, except public administration</b>	2.9%	1.1%	6.2%	0%	0%	0.9%	14.4%
<b>Public administration</b>	1.7%	1.1%	1.9%	4.2%	1.0%	0%	3.4%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, Selected Economic Characteristics 5 Year Estimates

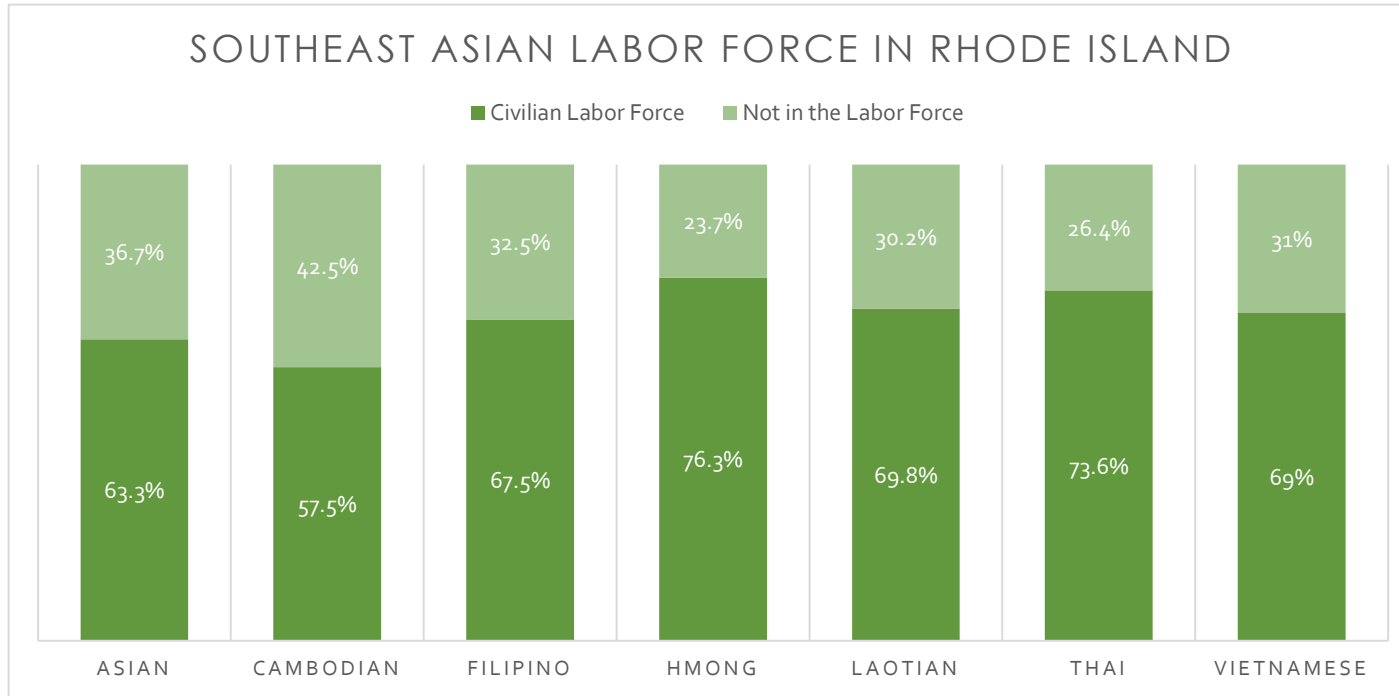
Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

The majority of Cambodians, Filipinos, Hmong, Laotians, and Vietnamese work in the manufacturing industry while the majority of Thai individuals work in arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, & food services. A considerable proportion of Filipinos and Laotians also work in the education, health care, and social assistance.

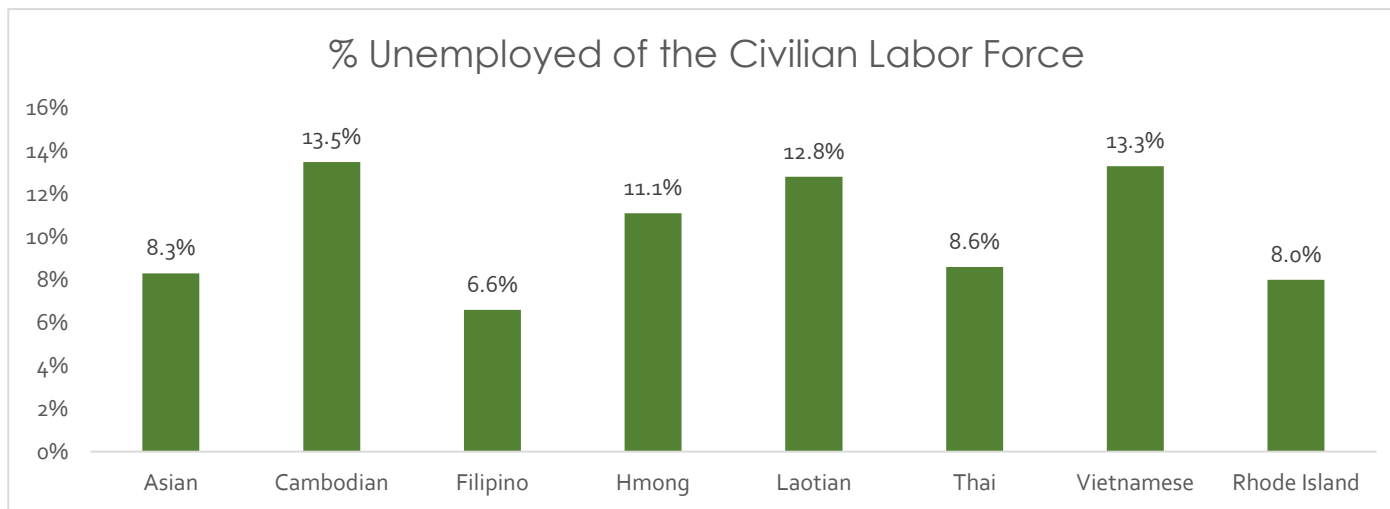
*Left: The owner and manager of Pho Paradise, a restaurant in south Providence known for its authentic Vietnamese dishes and other Southeast Asian culinary favorites.*



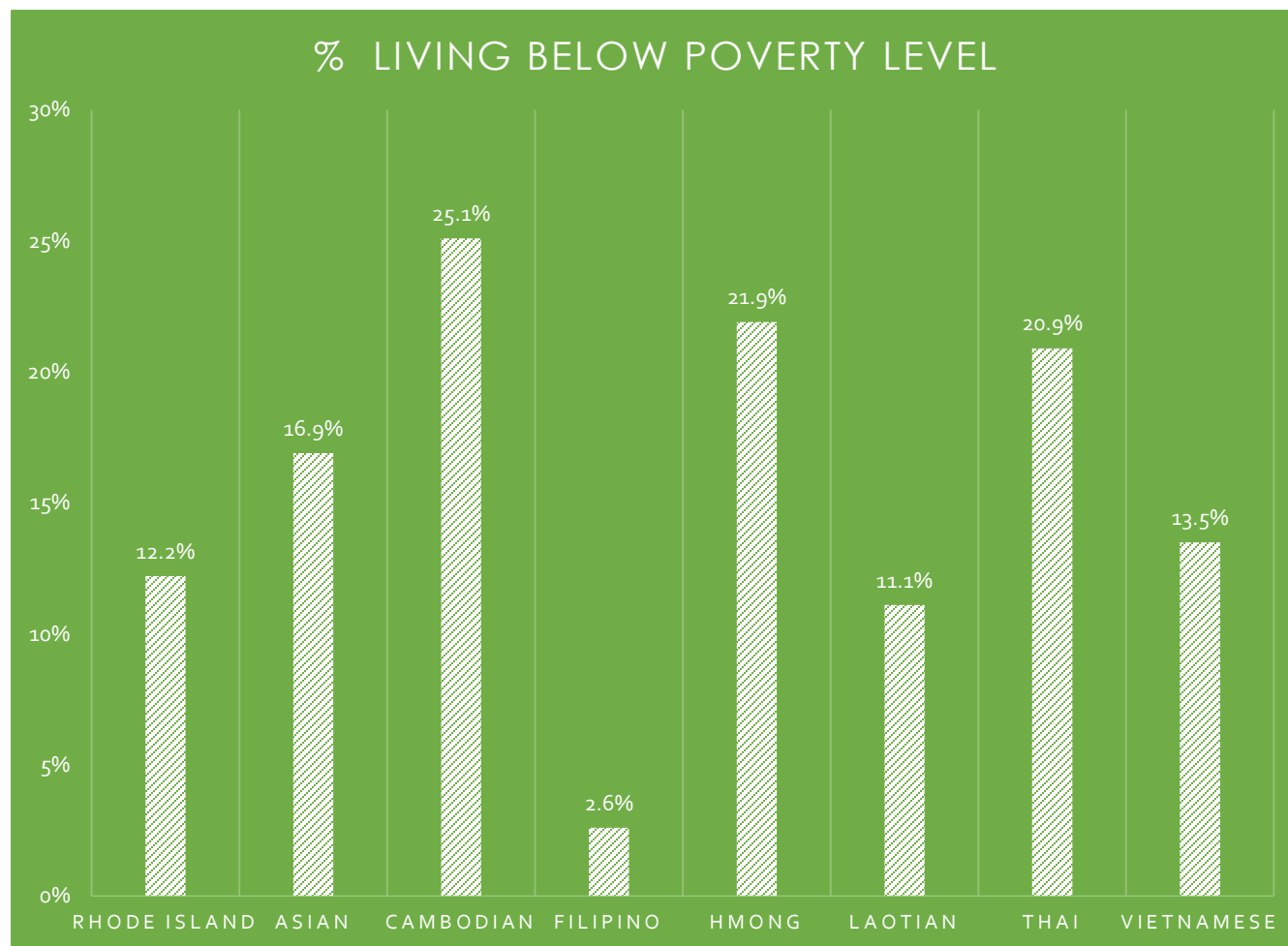
## Employment Status



While the unemployment rate for Asians in Rhode Island is comparable to the remainder of the states, unemployment is higher among several Southeast Asian subgroups. According to the American Community Survey, a higher percentage of Cambodians and Vietnamese in the civilian workforce are unemployed. While the unemployment rate for Filipinos is lower than that of Rhode Island, the Hmong, Laotian, and Thai communities yield higher unemployment rates. As of November 2013, the unemployment rate in Rhode Island was 9%. Current data on unemployment is not available for every Southeast Asian group; however, unemployment trends and estimates from 2006 to 2010 can predict similar rates in the Southeast Asian community relative to the state.



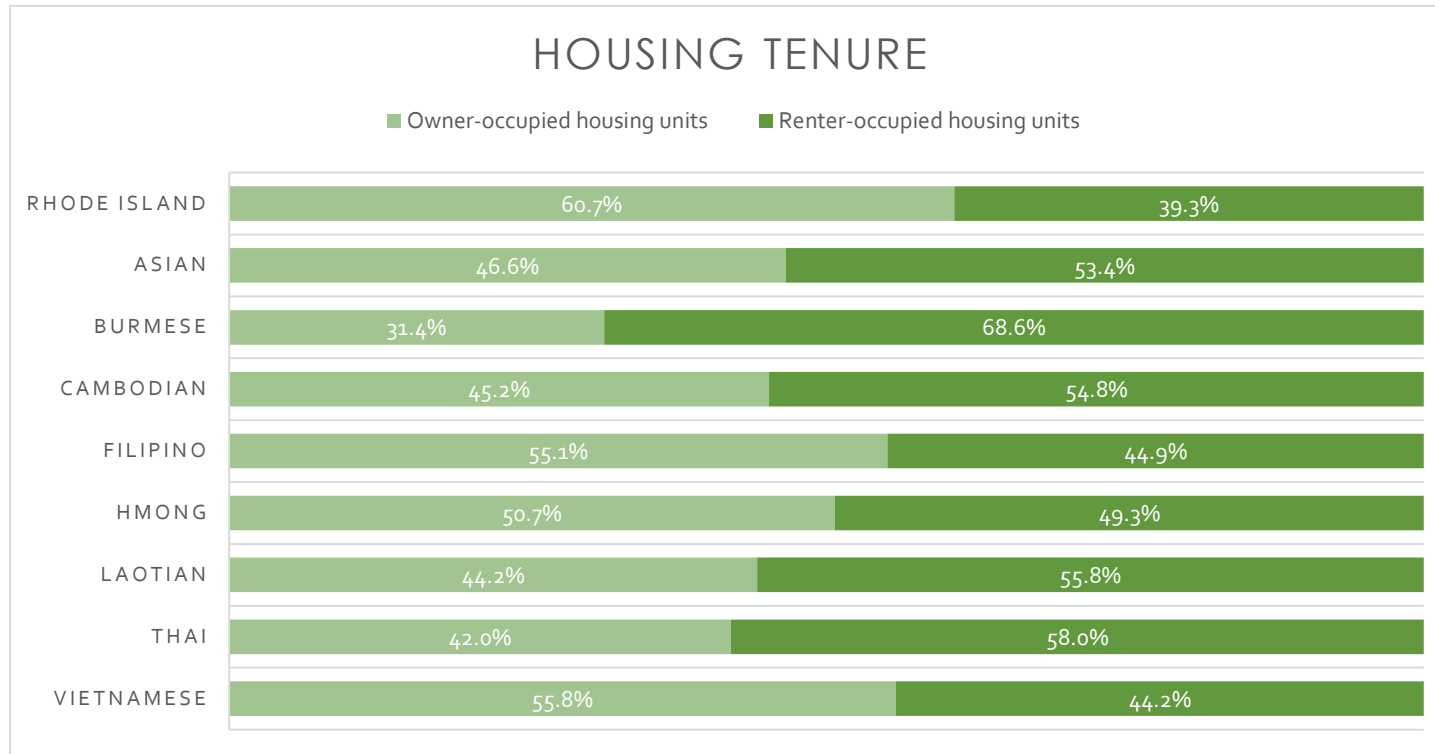
According to the American Community Survey, a higher proportion of Cambodians in Rhode Island are living below the poverty level. While similarly high percentages are apparent in the Hmong, Thai, and Vietnamese communities, Filipinos yield the lowest proportion of individuals living in poverty. Compared to the state, a lower percentage of Laotians are living below the poverty line while a higher proportion of Asians overall are living in poverty. These findings are supported by other socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of Southeast Asians highlighted throughout this FACTs Report.



Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, Selected Economic Characteristics 5 Year Estimates



# Housing Characteristics



In Rhode Island, there are more Asian renters than homeowners. According to the 2010 United States Census, the ratio of owner-occupied housing units to renter-occupied housing units was about 3:2. In contrast, a majority of Southeast Asian housing units are renter-occupied with the exception of Filipino, Hmong, and Vietnamese households. More Burmese, Cambodians, Laotians, and Thai households are renters than homeowners.

	Owner-occupied housing units	Renter occupied housing units
<b>Asian</b>	4,803	5,513
<b>Burmese</b>	11	24
<b>Cambodian</b>	647	783
<b>Filipino</b>	612	499
<b>Hmong</b>	108	105
<b>Laotian</b>	392	494
<b>Thai</b>	63	87
<b>Vietnamese</b>	216	171

Source: US Census Bureau, 2010 Census Households and Housing Tenure Profile

# PUBLIC SAFETY

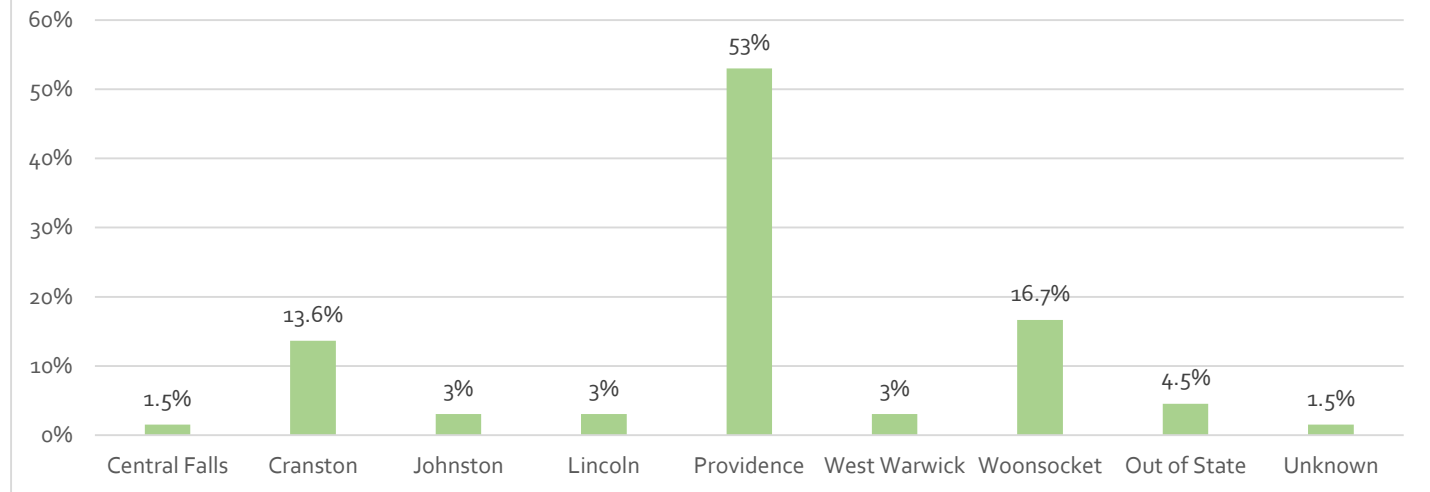
Public safety concerns all communities in Rhode Island. With the current available data, the Rhode Island Department of Corrections reports that the Asian inmate population at the Adult Correctional Institute (ACI) is 1.8% of the total population with 66 inmates. The mean age of Asian individuals serving time at the ACI is 32.

The majority of Asian inmates at the ACI resided in Providence prior to sentencing, followed by Woonsocket and Cranston cities.

While data currently does not delve into Southeast Asian specific groups, public safety deserves more attention particularly in poorer neighborhoods and communities where Southeast Asians reside.



## LAST RESIDENCE OF ASIAN INMATES



Source: Rhode Island Department of Corrections

Asian Inmates: 66

Percentage of total population at the ACI: 1.8%

Mean age: 32

# Gang Violence

	Sentenced or Awaiting Trial	Probation or Parole
<b>4/5<sup>th</sup>'s Mafia</b>	-	1
<b>Asian Pride</b>	1	-
<b>Dark Side Raskals</b>	1	1
<b>Hanover Street Boyz</b>	7	2
<b>Laos Pride</b>	2	4
<b>Oriental Rascals</b>	3	11
<b>Original Crip Gangster</b>	7	2
<b>Tiny Rascals Gang</b>	6	3
<b>Young Bloods</b>	9	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>31</b>

Source: Rhode Island Department of Corrections, Office of Inspections and Special Investigations Unit

Gender Ratio: 95.5% Male; 0.5% Female

Age range: 83.6% ages 20-29

Gang violence is an issue that affects the public safety of the Southeast Asian community and other communities, particularly in neighborhoods of lower socioeconomic status. According to the Rhode Island Department of Corrections, there are 36 individuals sentenced or awaiting trial at the Adult Correctional Institute (ACI) who are affiliated with an Asian gang as of June 2013. There are 31 individuals in Asian-affiliated gangs on probation or parole. The majority of Asian-gang affiliated individuals at the ACI are male ages 20-29.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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We also acknowledge our working group members and individuals from the various community organization and state departments for their feedback and guidance throughout the entire SEA DATA project.

The contributions of all involved in this project will be instrumental in building a stronger Southeast Asian community and a stronger Rhode Island. For all involved in this SEA DATA initiative, we thank you.



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City of Providence Office of Public Safety

Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth, and Families

Rhode Island Department of Transportation

Rhode Island Department of Corrections

Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General

Photography by Adam Stoltman and Center for Southeast Asians

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*The mission of the Center for Southeast Asians is to promote the prosperity, heritage, and leadership of Southeast Asians in Rhode Island.*

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