



If you would like to share news or information with our readers, please send the unique stories, business

news organization events, and school news to us including your name and phone number in case more information is needed.

For news and information consideration, please send to News@scdaily.com or contact
John Robbins 281-965-6390
Jun Gai 281-498-4310

Publisher: Wea H. Lee
President: Catherine Lee
Editor: John Robbins

Address: 11122 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77072
E-mail: News@scdaily.com



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

Wednesday, July 07 2021|

Feature: COVID-19 comeback locks free spirited Aussies at home

SYDNEY, July 6 (Xinhua) -- Like many Australians, Sydneysider Suzan Saroukos is a beach lover who enjoys regular sunbathing trips to the beach, but her favourite spot, Bondi beach, once an iconic tourist hotspot in Sydney, has now been roped off as a COVID-19 hotspot.

Peace has been disrupted once again for Aussies after the Delta variant hit the country's most populous city Sydney in mid-June.

By June 25, just after Australia's second-most populous city Melbourne ended its lockdown, authorities in the state of New South Wales (NSW) decided to put Sydney into lockdown.

The decision came after a surge of the local transmission since June 16, when the index case for the Bondi cluster, a driver who transported international flight crew, was found to be infected with the Delta variant.

The outbreak quickly spread to four other states and territories across Australia, bursting Australia's bubble that in the past had kept it largely detached from the global pandemic.

It has been almost half a year since the first outbreak ended in Sydney. The recent increase in cases has brought Aussies' memories back to the first time they were under lockdown. It has also been a realization of the ways in which their lifestyles have been forever changed.

It was 8:30 a.m. when Saroukos rushed downstairs to collect her parcel, a fifth set of pajamas, the latest addition to her wardrobe full of robes in all colours. Delighted, Saroukos crowned herself "pajama queen."

"I used to be 'office queen.' I like to dress up in the office, to be sharp," Saroukos told Xinhua.

From scented candles to blankets, after realizing more than a year ago that she would be forced to change her daily life, Saroukos has started to collect housewares in an effort to spruce up her apartment.

"I used to go to the gym, but I put on weight during the lockdown, so I bought the fitness bicycle, dumbbells, and yoga mat to do gym at home. I also bought an air fryer to make sure that I eat healthily," Saroukos said.

"I can get a tan at home too. I bought many beauty supplies to help," she said.

With a sunshade, a long lounge chair, a tray, cushions and plants, Saroukos has even converted her outside balcony into her own private "beach," a place for her to read and get a tan under the sunshine on the weekend.



"I adjust myself. Moving everything home during lockdown makes me feel happier. I like my homely and cosy home."

Colin Chan, an educator in his 50s living in Sydney's inner west, told Xinhua that since the implementation of restrictions he has felt less inclined to make travel plans or try new things in the community because he knows the restrictions might change at any time.

"Me and my partner used to try new things, we did Latin dance for a while and then we did Yoga in glebe; now I wouldn't be inclined to try new things until I have my full vaccine."

"I used to go to the gym two or three times a week with a mate of mine, now, we still talk over the phone but it is not the same. My friendships feel a lot less personal," he said.

The recent lockdown in Sydney has forced Chan to cancel a trip to Cairns in the Australian state of Queensland he had planned. He is now planning to spend more time looking after his plants and having barbecues at home with his housemates.

Just as being at the beach and out in the sun makes Aussies feel free, having a drink and listening to live music at a pub is how Aussies wind down after work. For Aussies, pubs are more than just a place for eating and drinking.

Lachlan MacLaine-Cross is an accountant based in Melbourne, and at night, he is also the lead singer of Moonshifter, a band that used to perform in pubs twice a month.

Cross said spending time in pubs is a way that Australian people get together.

"It's a way that we see our mates ... Some bars are just taking in DJs, but a lot of pubs, particularly in Melbourne, have live music ... There is a huge restaurant culture in Melbourne," Cross said.

Cross said his band was trying to build momentum with audiences before the pandemic and hoped to roll over to the next show and keep the momentum going, but in past months every time he was just getting started the cord would suddenly get pulled.

The state of Victoria was the epicenter of Australia's second wave, and the state endured its fourth lockdown last month.

"A gig would get cancelled or an entire festival would be cancelled. The last time we shut down Melbourne, none of those performances were aired," Cross said.

Instead of being surrounded by

crowds and noise in pubs, Cross's only audience now is his wife and cat. He is trying to use the time to reflect on himself and prepare for his next time on stage.

"(I am) trying to use the time effectively, so there's a lot of preparation to get a song ready for audiences. And it's not just the song itself, it can be the production, the visual image that goes with it, so I've just been thinking about what music I want to release in the context of the music."

Despite a long time away from beaches and pubs, Cross, Chan and Saroukos are still engaged in both their work and hobbies, focusing on self-development, adapting to every change in life, and waiting for Australia to "un-mask."

"Just be positive, if we can't change anything, the most important thing is that we keep a good mindset. Every day is a blessing now," Saroukos said

敬請關注我們的新媒體賬號

Follow us on social media



Southern News
美南新聞



公共頁
美南網



今日頭條
美國美南網



抖音
美國美南網



美國美南網



Facebook Page:
Southern News
美南新聞



Tik Tok ID:
Southern News
Group



Instagram ID:
Southern News

WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

CORONAVIRUS DIARY

07/06/2021



Wea H. Lee
Wealee@scdaily.com

Chairman of International District Houston Texas
Publisher Southern Daily Wea H. Lee

Southern News Group Chairman / CEO
Chairman of International Trade & Culture Center
Republic of Guiana Honorary consul at Houston Texas



More Asians Need To Enter The Political Arena



More than one and one-half years after the coronavirus pandemic, our community has changed. Because of so many hate crimes and economic reasons, many people choose to go back to Asia

because they are disappointed with what is happening in America.

Last week we had the honor to greet Texas Senator John Whitmire in our media center. We also told the

senator how worried we are these days in our community. Senator Whitmire is a very senior senator. He has served in the U.S. Senate for thirty-eight years.

In the conversation, I

told the senator that the people in our area are very worried about what is going on in the community. Many politicians have used the virus as a shameful stigma towards Asian Americans. The huge impact of hate crimes has also changed the domestic political and economic landscape. We must understand that participation in politics is the way to protect our rights.

meet with a group of minority media leaders. We are also so glad Representative Wu is doing a great job for our community. We need to give him more support, including financially and by going out to vote.

Many Asian families need to let their next generations become politicians, instead of just becoming doctors.

The world is changing. Asian American should take more political paths.

Texas State Representative Gene Wu also joined us to



Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

Editor's Choice



Spike Lee, Jury President of the 74th Cannes Film Festival, holds a film clapper before the opening of the Cannes film festival. REUTERS/Eric Gaillard



Relatives and friends of Jonathan and Eduardo, two youths killed during an alleged confrontation between police and members of organized crime according to local media, attend their funeral in Amatlan de los Reyes, state of Veracruz, Mexico. REUTERS/Oscar Martinez



Youth activists, many of whom began their trek in Paradise, California, gather and listen to 17-year-old activist and organizer, Ema Govea (center) before continuing their march across the Golden Gate Bridge to the home of House of Representative Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senator Dianne Feinstein to highlight their demand of the creation of the Civilian Climate



Healthcare workers ride on a makeshift raft during the house to house vaccination of bedridden citizens for the coronavirus, in Valenzuela City, Metro Manila, Philippines. REUTERS/Lisa Marie David



A confiscated pet lion poses with a dog as it arrived back home from the Phnom Tamao Wildlife Rescue Center after Prime Minister Hun Sen ordered authorities to return the animal in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. REUTERS/Cindy Liu



Emergency personnel look on as smoke rises from a plastic factory after an explosion in Samut Prakan, outside Bangkok, Thailand. REUTERS/Soe Zeya Tun

Southern

DAILY

Make Today Different

BUSINESS

Celebrating Asian American And Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Six Charts That Shed Light On Images Of Asian Americans Held By Many



By Connie Hanzhang Jin - NPR Writer

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

“Smart.” “Hard-working.” “Nice.” Those were among the adjectives that respondents offered up in a recent poll when asked to describe Asian Americans. The poll, conducted by the nonprofit Leading Asian Americans to Unite for Change (LAAUNCH), was another all-too-familiar reminder that Asian Americans are still perceived as the “model minority.” Since the end of World War II, this myth about Asian Americans and their perceived collective success has been used as a racial wedge — to minimize the role racism plays in the struggles of other minority groups, such as Black Americans. Characterizing Asian Americans as a model minority flattens the diverse experiences of Asian Americans into a singular, narrow narrative. And it paints a misleading picture about the community that doesn’t align with current statistics. Here’s a look at some common misconceptions driven by the model minority myth.

Myth: Asian Americans are a single monolithic group



(Continued From Page C3)

Six Charts That Shed Light On Images Of Asian Americans Held By Many



INDIAN AMERICAN HOUSEHOLDS ARE THE HIGHEST-EARNING GROUP, WITH A MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF \$127,000 A YEAR. ON THE OTHER END OF THE SCALE, BURMESE AMERICAN HOUSEHOLDS ARE THE LOWEST-EARNING GROUP, WITH A MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF \$46,000 A YEAR.

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

In fact, a 2018 Pew Research Center study found that Asian Americans were the most economically divided racial or ethnic group in the U.S., with Asian Americans in the top 10th of the income distribution making 10.7 times more than those in the bottom 10th.

Myth: Asian Americans immigrate to the U.S. in the “right” way

More than half of those who identify as Asian American and at least 17% of Pacific Islanders were born outside the U.S., according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The Asian American community has the highest proportion of immigrants of any ethnic or racial group in the United States. Yet, Asian Americans are often overlooked in debates about immigration reform. Asians have a wide range of reasons for immigrating to the U.S., including those coming as refugees or asylum-seekers. Out of the almost 11 million estimated undocumented immigrants in the U.S., around 1.5 million (14%) are from Asia, according to the Migration Policy Institute.

A LARGE NUMBER OF ASIANS IN

AMERICA ARE UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANTS

Out of the top 10 most common origin countries for unauthorized immigrants in the U.S., an estimated one million people come from India, China or the Philippines.

ORIGIN COUNTRY	EST. NUMBER OF UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANTS	SHARE OF TOTAL
Mexico	5,572,000	51%
El Salvador	750,000	7%
Guatemala	580,000	5%
India	469,000	4%
Honduras	402,000	4%
China	394,000	4%
Philippines	233,000	2%
Dominican Republic	191,000	2%
Colombia	182,000	2%
Brazil	145,000	1%

NOTES Data as of 2018. Source: Migration Policy Institute Credit: Connie Hanzhang Jin/NPR

Heightened immigration enforcement has also impacted Asian Americans. From 2015 to 2018, Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrested about 15,000 immigrants from Asia, according

NOTES

The U.S. Census Bureau classifies a person of Asian descent as anyone who traces their heritage to a subset of countries in the continent of Asia. But there may be people outside of this classification who self-identify as Asian.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey

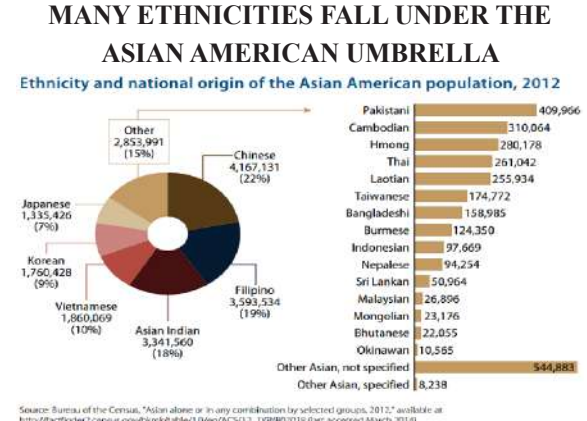
Credit: Connie Hanzhang Jin/NPR

Academics and activists trace the term “Asian American” to 1968, when students at the University of California, Berkeley, founded the Asian American Political Alliance. At the time, the group sought to unite students of Japanese, Chinese and Filipino descent to fight for political and social recognition.

“Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders” (AAPI) is a term that has its roots in the 1980s and ‘90s, when the U.S. Census Bureau used the “Asian Pacific American” classification to group Asians, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders together. In 1997, the bureau disaggregated the categories into “Asian” and “Pacific Islander.”

Scholars and activists have critiqued both terms for masking differences in histories and needs among communities, as well as supporting the myth that Asian Americans are a monolithic group.

Within these regional groups, a huge variety of ethnicities exist within the Asian American community. People who identify their heritage as Chinese, Indian or Filipino make up the largest share.



NOTES

Ethnicities with fewer than 100,000 people not shown. The U.S. Census Bureau classifies a person of Asian descent as anyone who traces their heritage to a subset of countries in the continent of Asia. But there may be people outside of this classification who self-identify as Asian.

These numbers have risen rapidly in recent years. The Asian American population is the fastest-growing racial or ethnic group in the U.S., growing by 81% from 2000 to 2019. The Hispanic population saw the second-fastest growth, at 70%, followed by Native Hawaiians and Pacific

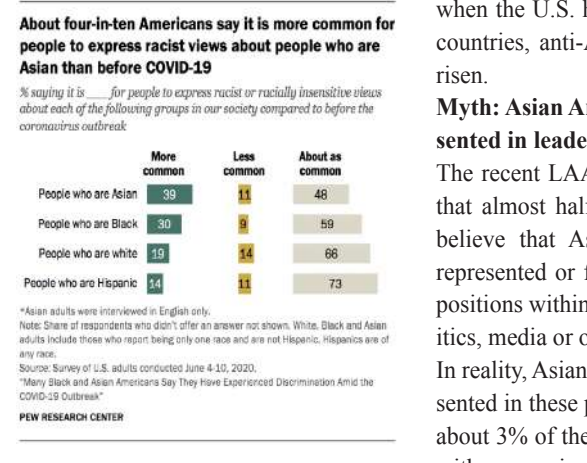
BUSINESS

to a report by the nonprofit Asian Americans Advancing Justice. The report also found that Southeast Asian immigrants were three to four times more likely to be deported for old criminal convictions compared with other immigrant groups. Out of the approximately 16,000 Southeast Asians with final removal orders in that period, more than 13,000 had removal orders that were based on old criminal convictions.

Myth: Asian Americans Face Less Systemic Racism And Discrimination

Since the coronavirus pandemic started, hate crimes and violence against Asian Americans have increased. In an April survey conducted by the Pew Research Center, 32% of Asian American adults — a greater percentage than any other racial or ethnic group — said that they feared someone might threaten or physically attack them.

ASIAN AMERICANS AND OTHER GROUPS REPORT NEGATIVE EXPERIENCES SINCE THE START OF THE PANDEMIC



Share of respondents who say each of the following has happened to them since the coronavirus outbreak because of their race or ethnicity.

NOTES

Asian American adults were interviewed in English only. Sample does not include Pacific Islanders.

Source: Pew Research Center survey of U.S. adults conducted April 5-11.

Credit: Connie Hanzhang Jin/NPR

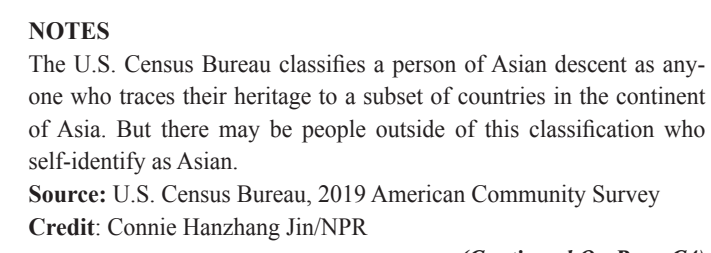
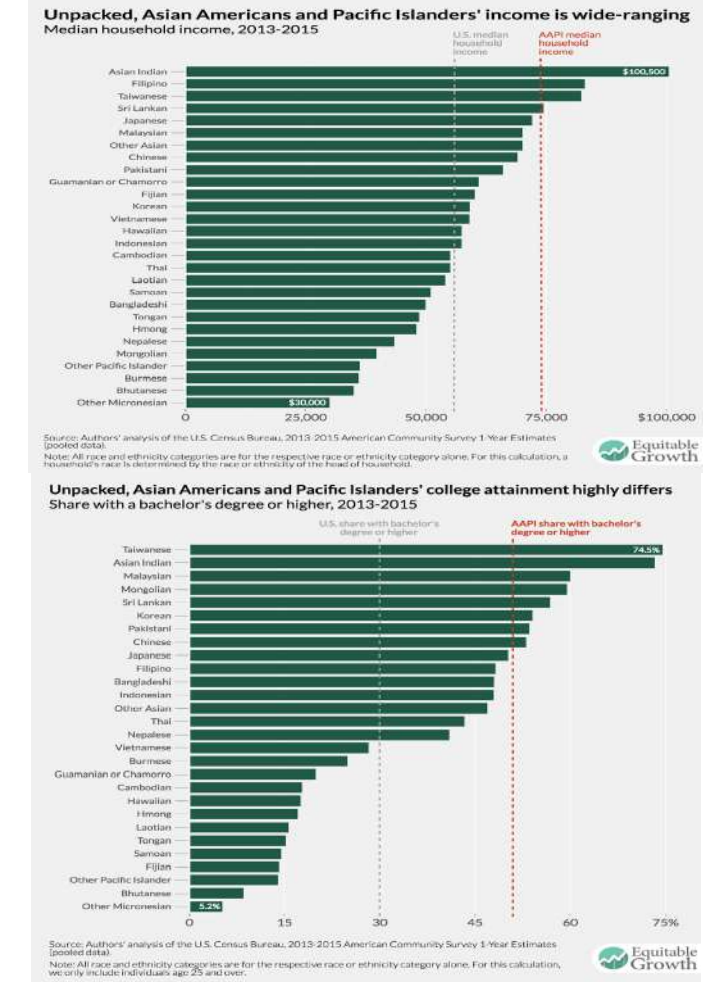
Islanders, at 60%. The white population grew by only 1% in that time.

Myth: Asian Americans are high earning and well educated

Asian Americans have a median household income of around \$78,000 a year, which is higher than the national median of about \$66,000. However, that overall statistic obscures large differences among different Asian-origin groups.

These economic disparities are partially driven by similar disparities in education levels among Asian Americans. The highest-earning groups — Indian American and Taiwanese American households — also have the highest levels of education, while the lowest-earning groups have comparatively lower levels of education.

Key Disparities In Income And Education Among Different Asian American Groups



NOTES

The U.S. Census Bureau classifies a person of Asian descent as anyone who traces their heritage to a subset of countries in the continent of Asia. But there may be people outside of this classification who self-identify as Asian.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey

Credit: Connie Hanzhang Jin/NPR

(Continued On Page C4)

Southern

DAILY

Make Today Different

BUSINESS

(Continued From Page C3)

Six Charts That Shed Light On Images Of Asian Americans Held By Many



INDIAN AMERICAN HOUSEHOLDS ARE THE HIGHEST-EARNING GROUP, WITH A MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF \$127,000 A YEAR. ON THE OTHER END OF THE SCALE, BURMESE AMERICAN HOUSEHOLDS ARE THE LOWEST-EARNING GROUP, WITH A MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF \$46,000 A YEAR.

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

In fact, a 2018 Pew Research Center study found that Asian Americans were the most economically divided racial or ethnic group in the U.S., with Asian Americans in the top 10th of the income distribution making 10.7 times more than those in the bottom 10th.

Myth: Asian Americans immigrate to the U.S. in the “right” way

More than half of those who identify as Asian American and at least 17% of Pacific Islanders were born outside the U.S., according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The Asian American community has the highest proportion of immigrants of any ethnic or racial group in the United States. Yet, Asian Americans are often overlooked in debates about immigration reform. Asians have a wide range of reasons for immigrating to the U.S., including those coming as refugees or asylum-seekers. Out of the almost 11 million estimated undocumented immigrants in the U.S., around 1.5 million (14%) are from Asia, according to the Migration Policy Institute.

A LARGE NUMBER OF ASIANS IN

AMERICA ARE UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANTS

Out of the top 10 most common origin countries for unauthorized immigrants in the U.S., an estimated one million people come from India, China or the Philippines.

ORIGIN COUNTRY	EST. NUMBER OF UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANTS	SHARE OF TOTAL
Mexico	5,572,000	51%
El Salvador	750,000	7%
Guatemala	580,000	5%
India	469,000	4%
Honduras	402,000	4%
China	394,000	4%
Philippines	233,000	2%
Dominican Republic	191,000	2%
Colombia	182,000	2%
Brazil	145,000	1%

NOTES Data as of 2018. Source: Migration Policy Institute Credit: Connie Hanzhang Jin/NPR

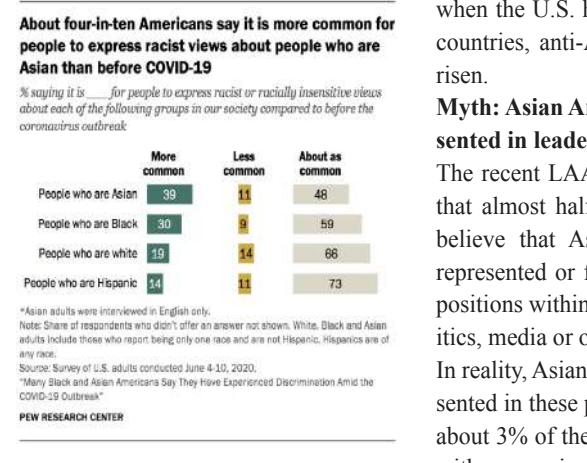
Heightened immigration enforcement has also impacted Asian Americans. From 2015 to 2018, Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrested about 15,000 immigrants from Asia, according

to a report by the nonprofit Asian Americans Advancing Justice. The report also found that Southeast Asian immigrants were three to four times more likely to be deported for old criminal convictions compared with other immigrant groups. Out of the approximately 16,000 Southeast Asians with final removal orders in that period, more than 13,000 had removal orders that were based on old criminal convictions.

Myth: Asian Americans Face Less Systemic Racism And Discrimination

Since the coronavirus pandemic started, hate crimes and violence against Asian Americans have increased. In an April survey conducted by the Pew Research Center, 32% of Asian American adults — a greater percentage than any other racial or ethnic group — said that they feared someone might threaten or physically attack them.

ASIAN AMERICANS AND OTHER GROUPS REPORT NEGATIVE EXPERIENCES SINCE THE START OF THE PANDEMIC



Share of respondents who say each of the following has happened to them since the coronavirus outbreak because of their race or ethnicity.

NOTES

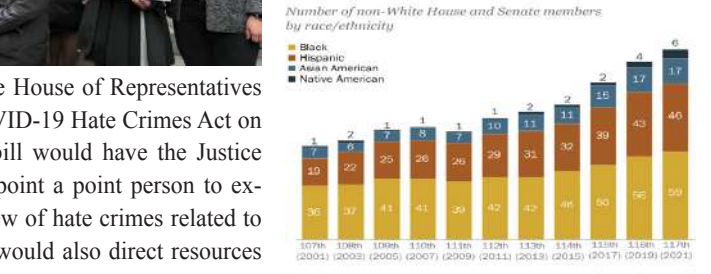
Asian American adults were interviewed in English only. Sample does not include Pacific Islanders.

Source: Pew Research Center survey of U.S. adults conducted April 5-11.

Credit: Connie Hanzhang Jin/NPR

Heightened immigration enforcement has also impacted Asian Americans. From 2015 to 2018, Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrested about 15,000 immigrants from Asia, according

When it comes to holding elected office, as of last year Asian Americans were underrepresented relative to their population by a differential of -85%. White people were overrepresented by 46%.



Asian Americans are even underrepresented in states with a high concentration of Asian American residents, like New York and California, according to a report by the Reflective Democracy Campaign. Especially since the start of collective activism among Asian Americans in the 1960s, Asian Americans have had a rich history of political activism and involvement. But that history has not always translated to greater representation in political leadership.



One finding in the LAAUNCH survey may point to answers: 92% of Americans polled said they were comfortable with Asian Americans as doctors or friends, but only 85% said they were comfortable with an Asian American as a boss and 73% as a president of the United States. Despite these perceptions, Asian Americans are pushing forward. Asian Americans increased their voter turnout rate by more than any other racial or ethnic group in the 2020 election and in part helped Joe Biden win Georgia. In that same year, 158 Asian Americans ran for state legislatures, the highest number since the 2018 midterms. (Courtesy https://www.npr.org/)