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Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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## Biden warns of 'unconstitutional chaos' due to Texas abortion ban

WASHINGTON, Sept 2 (Reuters) - A Texas law imposing a near-total ban on abortion that the U.S. Supreme Court allowed to stand will cause "unconstitutional chaos" by infringing on a right that women have exercised for almost a half-century, President Joe Biden warned on Thursday.

The court, with a 6-3 conservative majority, also raised questions about how it will rule on a more sweeping upcoming case that could curb abortion rights nationwide, as it left in place the ban on abortion after the sixth week of pregnancy.

Texas' ban has so far survived legal challenges partly because of an unusual feature that leaves enforcement up to individual citizens, who could collect cash bounties of at least \$10,000 for bringing successful lawsuits against women who seek abortion after their sixth week of pregnancy or those who help them.

Civil rights advocates warned that concept could cause havoc if it is adopted by other states or applied to other contentious rights, such as gun ownership.

"It unleashes unconstitutional chaos and empowers self-anointed enforcers to have devastating impacts," Biden, a Democrat, said in a statement directing federal agencies to act to protect the right to abortion enshrined in the high court's landmark 1973 Roe v. Wade decision. "Complete strangers will now be empowered to inject themselves in the most private and personal health decisions faced by women."

By a 5-4 vote, the justices late on Wednesday denied an emergency request by abortion and women's health providers for an injunction on enforcement of the ban while litigation continues.

The ban took effect early on Wednesday and prohibits abortion at a point when many women do not even realize they are pregnant. The law could still be blocked at some other stage.

The law would amount to a near-total ban on the procedure in Texas - the second-most-populous U.S. state - as 85% to 90% of abortions are obtained after six weeks of pregnancy, and would probably force many clinics to close, abortion rights groups said.



One of the court's six conservatives, Chief Justice John Roberts, joined its three liberals in dissent.

"The court's order is stunning," liberal Justice Sonia Sotomayor wrote in a dissenting opinion.

"Presented with an application to enjoin a flagrantly unconstitutional law engineered to prohibit women from exercising their constitutional rights and evade judicial scrutiny, a majority of justices have opted to bury their heads in the sand."

In an unsigned explanation, the court's majority said the decision was "not based on any conclusion about the constitutionality of Texas's law" and allowed legal challenges to proceed.

A majority of Americans believe abortion should be legal in the United States, according to Reuters/Ipsos polling. In a June survey, some 52% said it should be legal in most or all cases, with just 36% saying it should be illegal in most or all cases.

The Republican president of Florida's state Senate, Wilton Simpson, told local station WFLY-TV on Thursday that he planned to follow Texas' lead and bring up a similar abortion ban in the body's

next session.

Biden, a Roman Catholic who has shifted to the left on abortion in recent years to be more in line with his party, said the White House would look at what steps the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Justice can take to respond to the Texas law. The Office of the White House Counsel and Biden's Gender Policy Council will also review the matter.

### POLARIZING ISSUE

Abortion remains a deeply polarizing issue, with a majority of Democrats supporting abortion rights and most Republicans opposing them. The number of abortions reported to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has dropped in recent decades, to roughly 620,000 in 2018, the most recent figures, down from 790,000 in 2009. Congress has the power to legalize abortion nationwide, and House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi blasted the Texas law and vowed to take up a bill to do so when Congress returns later this month.

"Its purpose is to destroy Roe v. Wade, and even refuses to make exceptions for cases of rape and incest," Pelosi said. "This ban necessitates codifying Roe v. Wade."

She called the measure in the law relying on enforcement by individual citizen's lawsuits "a cynical, backdoor attempt by partisan lawmakers to evade the Constitution."

Democrats hold narrow majorities in Congress, but passage in the House would not guarantee success in the Senate, which requires 60 of its 100 members to agree on most legislation. Democrats hold 50 seats in that chamber, with Vice President Kamala Harris holding a tie-breaking vote.

The court decision illustrates the impact of Republican former President Donald Trump's three conservative appointees to the nation's highest court, who have tilted it further to the right. All were in the majority. A ban like Texas' has never been permitted in any state since the Supreme Court decided Roe v. Wade.



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# Global stock benchmark at new high, dollar slips

NEW YORK, Sept 3 (Reuters) - Big tech shares edged higher on Friday, helping a benchmark world stock index post a sixth consecutive closing high, after a weak U.S. jobs report likely pushed back the timetable for when the Federal Reserve reduces its massive support of the economy.

Labor Department data that showed wages increasing more than expected in August raised inflation fears and led longer-dated Treasury yields to jump, while gold advanced to a more than a 2-1/2-month high as the dollar eased.

MSCI's all-country world index (.MIWD0000PUS), which is heavily weighted to big U.S. tech, notched a new record as Apple Inc (AAPL.O), Amazon.com Inc (AMZN.O), Google parent Alphabet Inc and Facebook Inc (FB.O) advanced. The tech gains also helped the Nasdaq (.IXIC) set a fresh closing high.

The Dow Industrials (.DJI) and S&P 500 (.SPX) fell as slower U.S. jobs growth raised questions about the pace of the recovery. But a Fed taper announcement is off the table in September, said Lee Ferridge, North American head of multi-asset strategy at State Street Global Markets. "Support from the Fed for these markets is going to persist. Taper starts later rather than sooner. That's positive for equities, that's positive for risk," he said.

"As long as the Fed is printing, then that means that the equity markets are supported by the whole QE liquidity argument," Ferridge said.

U.S. employers created the fewest jobs in seven months in August as the Delta variant hurt the leisure and hospitality sector, but a 0.6% increase in wages showed underlying strength in the economy, the jobs report showed. read more

Nonfarm payrolls increased by 235,000 in August, well short of the 728,000 forecast by economists in a Reuters poll. But the unemployment rate fell to 5.2% from 5.4% in July.



MSCI's ACWI, which is 60% U.S. equities, rose 0.11% to 746.46, while the Nasdaq gained 0.21%.

The S&P 500 index (.SPX) edged 0.03% lower and the Dow Jones Industrials (.DJI) fell 0.2%. The broad STOXX Europe 600 index (.STOXX) of pan-regional stocks closed down 0.56%.

Euro zone business activity, meanwhile, remained strong last month, IHS Markit's survey showed, suggesting the bloc's economy could be back to pre-COVID-19 levels by year-end despite fears about the Delta variant. read more

The European Central Bank meets next week amid calls from several hawkish members to

slow its pandemic-era asset purchase program. A Reuters poll sees the bank announcing a cut to its asset purchases, given a recent spike in inflation. read more

Yields on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note rose 3 basis points to 1.324% as the U.S. labor report showed a jump in hourly earnings, a potential sign of future inflation.

The dollar index dropped to a low of 91.941, its lowest level since Aug. 4, and was last down 0.09% at 92.1320.

The euro traded flat at 1.1875. Markets are starting to react to the potential for more sustained euro zone inflation and

reduced stimulus from the ECB.

The yen slid 0.19% to 109.72.

JAPAN JUMPS, CHINA EASES panese shares jumped after officials said Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga would step down, setting the stage for a new premier after a one-year tenure marred by an unpopular COVID-19 response and rapidly dwindling public support. read more

Japan's TOPIX stock index (.TOPX) rose to a 30-year high and was last up 1.61%, with the Nikkei (.N225) gaining 2%. Asian shares are still off their peaks from earlier in the year however, and lagging those elsewhere.

## Editor's Choice



Caldor Fire burns near Pioneer, California. REUTERS/Fred Greaves



Afghan refugees board a bus that will take them to a processing center, upon arrival at Dulles International Airport in Dulles, Virginia. REUTERS/Evelyn Hockstein



Agents of the National Migration Institute (INM) detain a migrant during an operation to halt the progress of a caravan of migrants and asylum seekers from Central America and the Caribbean as they moved toward Mexico City where they hoped to seek expedited asylum proceedings, in Mapastepec, in Chiapas state, Mexico. REUTERS/Jacob Garcia



A day after U.S. forces completed its troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, an Afghan man in uniform boards a bus taking refugees to a processing center upon their arrival at Dulles International Airport in Dulles, Virginia. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque



A man helps to lift a scooter of a man, as he fell at a waterlogged street after heavy rains in New Delhi, India. REUTERS/Anushree Fadnavis

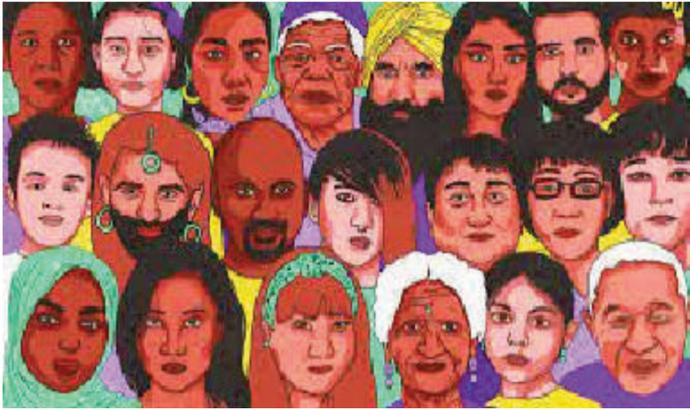


A guest attends the preview of the 'Banksy: Genius or Vandal?' exhibit in New York City. REUTERS/Brendan McDermid

# 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**

Currently, more than 22 million people of Asian descent live in the U.S., making up approximately 7% of the nation's population. They trace their heritage to different regions around the world, with people of East Asian and Southeast Asian descent making up the largest shares, though no group makes up a majority. More than 1.5 million Pacific Islanders, who descend from Micronesia, Melanesia or Polynesia, live in the U.S. as well.

#### ASIAN AMERICANS TRACE THEIR HERITAGE TO DIFFERENT REGIONS OF THE WORLD



Source: Bureau of the Census, "Asian alone or in any combination by selected groups, 2012," available at <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/data/ipedsonline/tables/1198602012.asp>, accessed March 2018.

#### 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

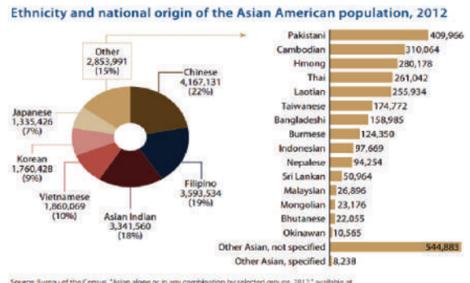
Academics and activists trace the term “Asian American” to 1968, when students at the University of California, Berkeley, founded the Asian American Political Alliance. At the time, the group sought to unite students of Japanese, Chinese and Filipino descent to fight for political and social recognition.

“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.

#### MANY ETHNICITIES FALL UNDER THE ASIAN AMERICAN UMBRELLA



Source: Bureau of the Census, "Asian alone or in any combination by selected groups, 2012," available at <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/data/ipedsonline/tables/1198602012.asp>, accessed March 2018.

#### 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.**

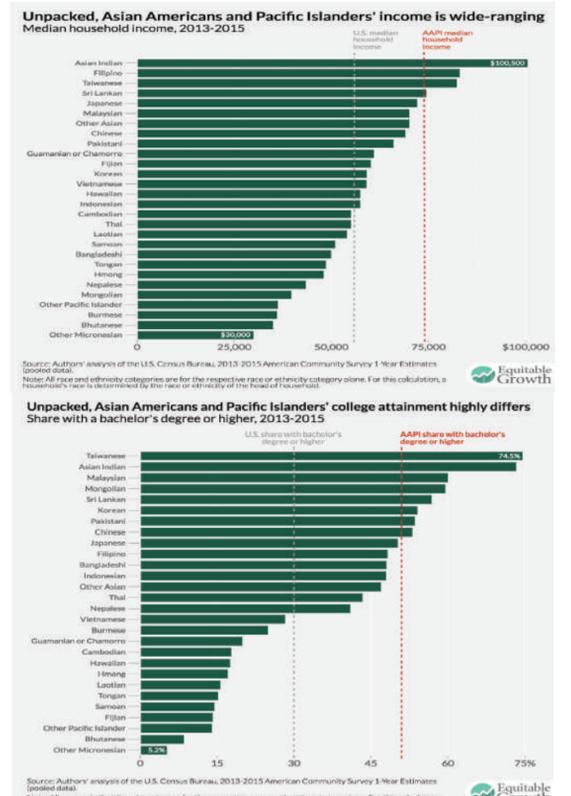
These numbers have risen rapidly in recent years. The Asian American population is the fastest-growing racial or ethnic group in the U.S., growing by 81% from 2000 to 2019. The Hispanic population saw the second-fastest growth, at 70%, followed by Native Hawaiians and Pacific

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

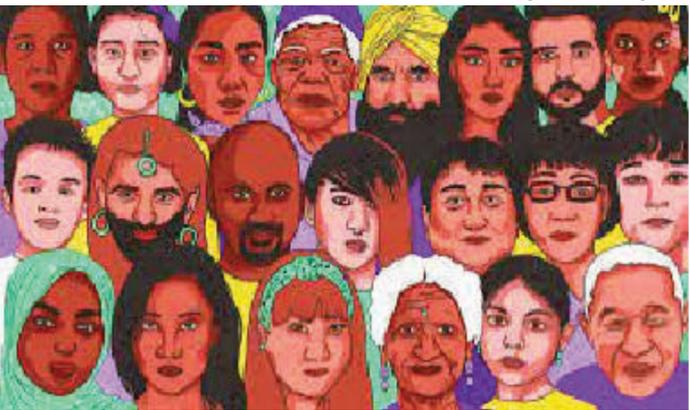
**Credit:** Connie Hanzhang Jin/NPR

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# COMMUNITY

(Article Continues From Above)

### 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**

#### AMERICANS 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	223,000	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.

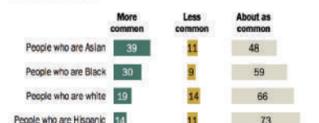
**Myth: Asian Americans Face Less Systemic Racism And Discrimination**

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

#### About four-in-ten Americans say it is more common for people to express racist views about people who are Asian than before COVID-19

% saying it is... for people to express racist or racially insensitive views about each of the following groups in our society compared to before the coronavirus outbreak:



\*Asian adults were interviewed in English only. Note: Share of respondents who don't offer an answer not shown. White, Black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020. \*Many Black and Asian Americans say they have experienced discrimination amid the COVID-19 outbreak.

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



In response, the House of Representatives passed the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act on May 18. The bill would have the Justice Department appoint a point person to expedite the review of hate crimes related to COVID-19. It would also direct resources toward making the reporting of hate crimes more accessible.

Despite increased news coverage of various attacks against Asian Americans and the upcoming legislation, the LAAUNCH survey, which was conducted between March 29 to April 14, found that 37% of white Americans were not aware of increased incidents of hate crimes.

But anti-Asian bias and discrimination are not new to the pandemic. To understand the current climate, it's important to look at historical context. In past periods of national tension, especially during times when the U.S. has been at war with Asian countries, anti-Asian racism has similarly risen.

**Myth: Asian Americans are fairly represented in leadership positions**

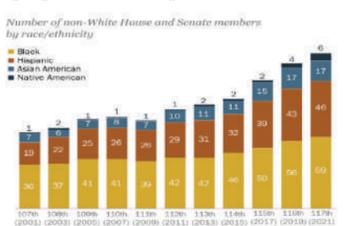
The recent LAAUNCH survey also found that almost half of Americans incorrectly believe that Asian Americans are over-represented or fairly represented in senior positions within American companies, politics, media or other realms.

In reality, Asian Americans are underrepresented in these positions of power, holding about 3% of these positions in comparison with composing 7% of the U.S. population, a report from The New York Times found last year.

More specifically, Asian Americans have the lowest degree of representation in political office compared with any other racial or ethnic group.

#### Asian Americans Are The Most Politically Underrepresented Group

**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%.**



Note: Nonvoting delegates and commissioners are excluded. Figures for the 117th Congress are as of Jan. 20, 2021. Asian Americans include Pacific Islanders, and Hispanic are of any race. Members who have more than one racial or ethnic identity for the above groups are counted in each applicable group. Source: Congressional Research Service, CD Staff Call, Brookings Institution.

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/>)