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Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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California reels from back-to-back shootings that killed 18

HALF MOON BAY, Calif., Jan 24 (Reuters) - A deadly rampage by a 67-year-old suspect in Northern California was likely an act of workplace violence, authorities said on Tuesday, offering fresh details about the second in back-to-back mass shootings that killed 18 people and horrified the nation.

In two separate shootings within three days, 11 people were killed at a Los Angeles-area dance hall and seven others were murdered at two farms in the seaside town of Half Moon Bay near San Francisco.

Authorities said they still were trying to determine motives for both shootings.

Preliminary evidence indicated that the massacre in Half Moon Bay was a case of workplace violence and that the gunman had used a legally-owned weapon. In the Southern California shootings, officials have declined to make any statement regarding a possible motive.

The suspects in both attacks are men of retirement age, much older than typical perpetrators of deadly mass shootings that have become routine in the United States.



U.S. FDA proposes limits on lead in processed baby food U.S. to test nuclear-powered spacecraft by 2027
On Monday, a gunman in Half Moon Bay opened fire on employees at Mountain Mushroom Farm, where he had previously worked, and Concord Farms, about a mile away.

The suspect, 67-year-old Chunli Zhao, was taken into custody later after he was found sitting in his vehicle, parked outside a sheriff's station. Authorities said they believe he had come to surrender.

He killed seven and wounded one, and all of his victims were Hispanic and Asian Americans, San Mateo County Sheriff Christina Corpus told reporters on Tuesday.

"All of the evidence we have points to this being the instance of workplace violence," Corpus said.

Zhao had threatened a co-worker in the past, according to court records obtained by the San Francisco Chronicle. In 2013, a roommate and colleague at a San Jose restaurant sought and secured a restraining order after telling a judge that Zhao had assaulted him and made death threats, the newspaper reported on Tuesday. The court order is no longer in effect.

San Mateo County jail listed pending charges against Zhao as deliberate and premeditated murder, attempted murder in the first degree, and discharging a firearm with enhancement for "most violent felonies."

Zhao was expected to be formally charged on Wednesday and was due to make his first appearance in court at the Hall of Justice in Redwood City at 1:30 pm on Wednesday.

In a statement on Tuesday, President Joe Biden renewed his call for Congress to ban assault weapons.

"Even as we await further details on these shootings, we know the scourge of gun violence across America requires stronger action," he said.

Mass shooting in coastal city of Half Moon Bay

News of the Half Moon Bay shooting broke as detectives were still investigating the Saturday night shooting at Star Ballroom Dance Studio in Monterey Park, just east of downtown Los Angeles, which occurred in the midst of the predominantly Asian American city's Lunar New Year celebrations.

Authorities identified the gunman as Huu Can Tran, 72, and said he fatally shot 10 people and wounded 10 others at the Star Ballroom, where he was a frequent patron. An 11th person died in the hospital from their wounds.

Tran then drove to a second dance hall nearby, but was unable to inflict further damage because the club's operator wrestled his weapon away. He fled in a white cargo van.

Police cornered him about 12 hours later in Torrance, south of Los Angeles, and then he fatally shot himself.

LETHAL RECORD

By the time the Los Angeles County Coroner released the full list of Monterey Park victims on Tuesday, tributes from relatives and friends were pouring in. Many victims were regulars at that dance studio, a haven for locals looking to exercise and socialize. In a statement, the family of Valentino Marcos Alvero remembered the Filipino man as a loving grandfather and "the life of any party."

Among the 11 victims were two fishermen from Taiwan, according to the Taiwanese consulate in Los Angeles, and multiple Chinese citizens, according to the Chinese consulate.

It ranked as the deadliest mass shooting ever in Los Angeles County, according to Hilda Solis, a member of the county Board of Supervisors.

By comparison, the 1984 massacre of 21 people at a McDonald's restaurant in San Diego stands as the greatest loss of life from a single California shooting.

The two latest shootings were also notable for the age of the suspects, one in his late 60s, another in his early 70s.

A database of 185 mass shootings between 1966 and 2022 maintained by the nonprofit Violence Project includes just one carried out by someone 70 or older - a retired miner who killed five people in Kentucky in 1981.

Los Angeles County Sheriff Robert Luna told reporters on Monday that investigators had collected 42 bullet casings and a large-capacity ammunition magazine from the dance studio.

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WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

01/24/2023

The Tragedy Is Not Over Yet

The tragedy in Monterey Park, California, sadly continues as one more person has lost his life. A total of 11 people were killed and nine were seriously injured. The whole nation is mourning because of the tragedy.

President Biden announced that the national flag would fly at half-mast and he said that he will mobilize all federal agencies to fully assist the local police.

The murderer, surnamed Tran, was once a truck driver. When he tried to go to another celebration event at a second location and take more lives,



he was forcibly expelled by a young man. Otherwise, the consequences would have been even more unimaginable.

again? This has become a national crisis.

We call on everyone to lend your helping hand and send your condolences to our brothers and sisters in California, especially in this time of the Lunar New Year.

Tonight the city government of Monterey Park will hold a large memorial service to mourn the dead. How are we going to stop these tragedies from happening



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Southern DAILY Make Today Different

Editor's Choice



Riot police stand guard as demonstrators including teachers, health workers, workers' unions members and members of the opposition march to demand better salaries, as the government of President Nicolas Maduro faces renewed challenges in its attempt to fight inflation, in Caracas, Venezuela. REUTERS/Leonardo Fernandez



A survey vessel sails past wind turbines at the Burbo Bank offshore wind farm near New Brighton, Britain. REUTERS/Phil Noble



A man carries an empty water tank through a flooded area after the impact of the tropical storm Julia, in Progreso, Honduras. REUTERS/Yoseph Amaya



People gather for a candle light vigil after a mass shooting during Chinese Lunar New Year celebrations in Monterey Park, California. REUTERS/David Swanson



Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and Argentina's President Alberto Fernandez attend a bilateral agreement signing ceremony, during Lula da Silva's first official visit abroad since his inauguration, at the Casa Rosada presidential palace in Buenos Aires, Argentina. REUTERS/Agustin Marcarian



Ukrainian servicemen fire a 2S7 Pion self-propelled gun toward Russian positions, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, on a frontline near Bakhmut in Donetsk region, Ukraine. REUTERS/Oleksandr Ratushniak

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.

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.

ASIAN AMERICANS TRACE THEIR HERITAGE TO DIFFERENT REGIONS OF THE WORLD



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.

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

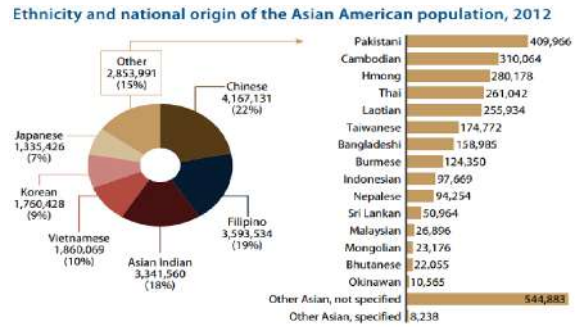
Credit: Connie Hanzhang Jin/NPR Academics and activists trace the term “Asian American” to 1968, when students at the University of California, Berkeley, founded the Asian American Political Alliance.

“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.

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 Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States, 2012” available at https://factfinder2.census.gov/servlet/HIST_01?_lang=en&_ss=1&_ds=1&_tid=1&_cid=1119&_all_geo_types=N&_geo=001US&_h=1&_lang=en

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.

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.

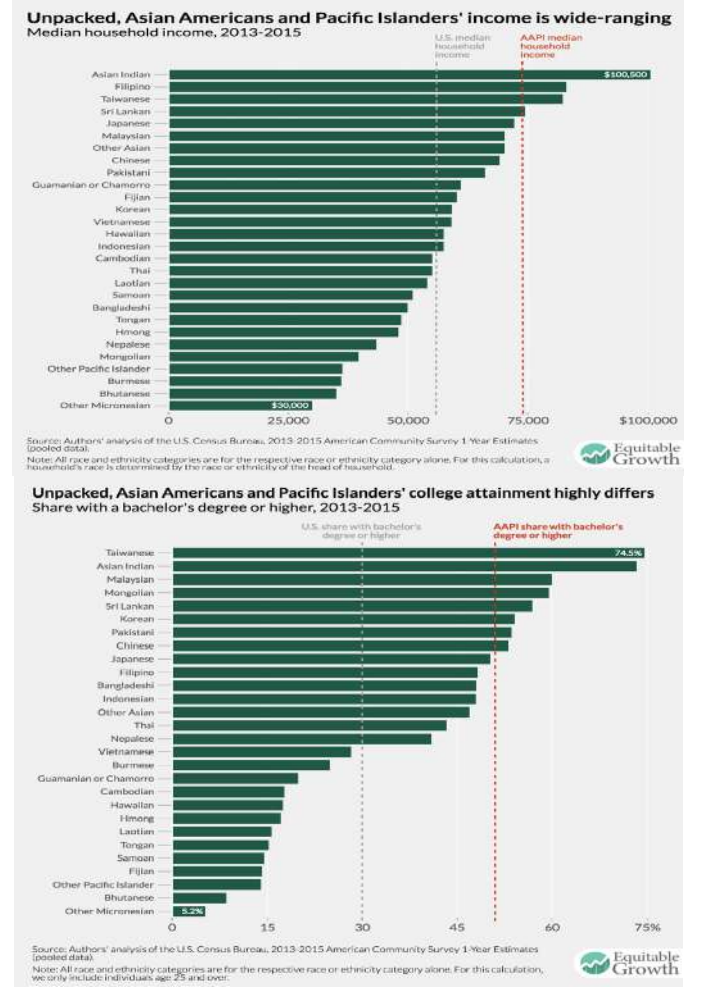
Islanders, at 60%. The white population grew by only 1% in that time.

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.

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.

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

Credit: Connie Hanzhang Jin/NPR

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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.

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.

Table with 3 columns: ORIGIN COUNTRY, EST. NUMBER OF UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANTS, SHARE OF TOTAL. Includes Mexico (5,572,000), El Salvador (750,000), Guatemala (500,000), India (469,000), Honduras (402,000), China (394,000), Philippines (233,000), Dominican Republic (191,000), Colombia (182,000), Brazil (145,000).

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.

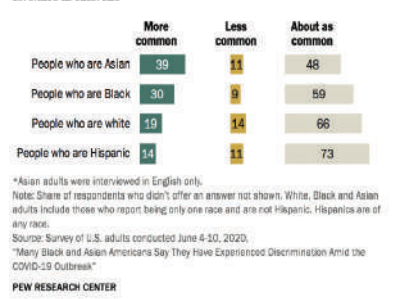
The report also found that Southeast Asian immigrants were three to four times more likely to be deported for old criminal convictions compared with other immigrant groups.

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



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.

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

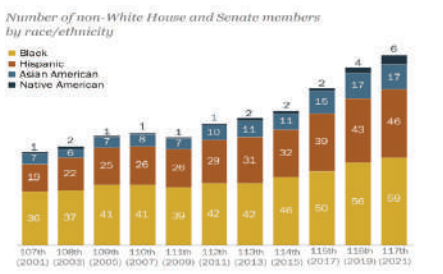
The recent LAAUNCH survey also found that almost half of Americans incorrectly believe that Asian Americans are over-represented or fairly represented in senior positions within American companies, politics, media or other realms.

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 Hispanics 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, CRF Roll 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 mid-terms. (Courtesy https://www.npr.org/)