



AAIPP Bulletin

May 2025

New AAIPP Survey: AAPI Voters' Views on the First 100 Days of President Trump's Second Term

This national survey of Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) registered voters was conducted May 2-7 to provide detailed understanding of their views on Donald Trump's job performance as president as well as how his administration is handling specific policy issues during his first 100 days of the second term. Issues covered include the economy, inflation, immigration, DEI, government efficiency, and foreign policy.

Overall, a majority of AAPI voters are dissatisfied with Donald Trump's presidency in the first 100 days of his second term. The contrasts in views are more pronounced by party affiliation or political leaning than by any other characteristics such as age, education, or income level.

- 58.8% of AAPI voters disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president, including 45.5% indicating strong disapproval. 31.7% approve.

Democrats largely disapprove (85.5%), and independents also disapprove but to a lesser extent (56.9%). Meanwhile, Republicans largely approve (72%). Approval is also expressed by a majority (61%) of voters who switched their support from President Biden to President Trump in the last presidential election.

- A plurality (47.3%) of AAPI voters say that their family's economic situation has become worse during the past 100 days. 65% of Democrats say worse. Independents are split between worse and about the same, 48% and 41% respectively. Among Republicans, 44% say about the same, 37.8% better, and 18.3% worse. Among Biden-to-Trump switch voters, 40.1% say about the same, 30.3% better, and 29.6% worse.

With economic issues being most important concerns when they vote, AAPI voters are generally dissatisfied with President Trump's handling of the economy, inflation, as well as tariffs & trade.

- 54.4% of AAPI voters disapprove of the way President Trump is handling jobs and the economy, while 32% approve. Based on what they have seen and experienced during the past 100 days, 54.7% indicate that they are less confident in the Trump administration's ability to handle jobs and the economy.

- 62.3% of AAPI voters disapprove (including 51% expressing strong disapproval) of the way President Trump is handling tariffs and trade, while 27.4% approve. 61.4% oppose President Trump's tariff policies. 65.9% believe that President Trump's tariffs will lower economic growth and increase prices. Looking forward, 61.7% indicate that they are less confident in the Trump administration's ability to handle tariffs and trade issues.

AAPI voters have split views on President Trump's immigration policies. Yet, in general, AAPI voters disapprove of the President's approaches to deportations of immigrants.

This survey was conducted by the U.S. Immigration Policy Center of University of California, San Diego. More detailed findings, including topline results, are available on AAIPP's [website](#).

What Happened in 2024

In their review of Catalyst's recent report [What Happened in 2024](#), Amy Walter and Carrie Dann of Cook Political Report [write](#) that Vice President Kamala Harris' 2024 loss was due to two key factors: She lost roughly two points of support among those who turned out in 2020, and new and infrequent voters who tend to be younger and more diverse than the electorate at large failed to materialize for Democrats as they had in previous elections.

Overall, Harris performed six points worse among men than President Biden did in 2020. But that falloff was significantly more pronounced among Latino men (-12) and Black men (-7). The slippage among AAPI men was -6 points.

Harris' vote share among women was essentially the same as what Biden received in 2020, except for a noticeable decline in support from Latinas (-7). She also slightly underperformed Biden among AAPI women (-4) and failed to do any better with Black women than Biden did.

Among all young voters, Harris underperformed Biden by six points, but the gap was much larger among younger Latino (-12) and AAPI (-9) voters. Among Black and white younger voters, the drop-off in support from 2020 was less severe (-4).

The Shifting of the Asian American Electorate

[Data from the Cooperative Election Study](#), which is the largest academic survey focused on American elections, shows that Asian American voters have steadily shifted rightward in presidential elections since 2016, from 72% voting Democratic in 2016 to 66% in 2024.

Young Asian American voters ages 18-29 have a higher percentage of voting for the Democratic candidate than those in other age groups. In 2024, about three in four young Asian American voters voted for Kamala Harris, and only 22% voted for Donald Trump. While there exists the age divide, the rightward shift among young Asian

American voters from 2020 to 2024 is evident as well. The percentage of young Asian Americans voting for the Republican candidate increased by 8 percentage points in that four-year span.

The gender gap has also widened since 2016. In those three election cycles, nearly three-in-four Asian American women voted for the Democratic presidential candidate, while the share of Asian American women voting for the Republican nominee increased by about 5 percentage points between 2016 and 2020. The Republican share for 2024 is practically the same as that of 2020.

Among Asian American men, the percentage who voted for the Democratic candidate dropped from 72.5% in 2016 to 64.7% in 2020, and again to 61.1% in 2024. Meanwhile, those voting for the Republican candidate increased by about 11 percentage points between 2016 and 2020, and 3 percentage points between 2020 and 2024.

Asian American Vote Patterns in Presidential Elections: 2008 - 2024					
	2008	2012	2016	2020	2024
Democratic	69.4%	64.6%	72.1%	68.5%	66.0%
Republican	29.8%	34.9%	22.5%	30.0%	31.1%
18 - 29					
Democratic		72.7%	78.9%	85.5%	74.4%
Republican		26.2%	15.4%	12.8%	21.9%
30 - 44					
Democratic			70.0%	72.2%	65.6%
Republican			21.6%	25.8%	30.1%
45 - 64					
Democratic		68.3%	70.7%	63.1%	63.4%
Republican		31.4%	25.5%	35.1%	34.0%
65+					
Democratic					62.4%
Republican					36.0%
Men					
Democratic		58.2%	72.5%	64.7%	61.1%
Republican		40.7%	21.4%	32.3%	35.2%
Women					
Democratic	67.8%	71.8%	71.8%	71.5%	70.4%
Republican	32.2%	28.2%	23.4%	28.1%	27.5%

Source: The Cooperative Election Study's Cumulative file (produced by
by Shiro Kuriwaki).

Recent Releases

[AAPI adults are concerned about changes to college landscape and intergenerational progress](#)

AP-NORC/AAPI Data Poll (May 21, 2025)

This new AP-NORC/AAPI Data poll finds few AAPI adults are optimistic about an improving standard of living for themselves or for future generations. AAPI adults continue to view a college degree as essential or important to improving their future prospects, including the ability to change jobs more easily in the long term (88%), getting a good job to support a family (88%), increasing wealth and minimizing debt (87%), or being an informed and engaged citizen (78%).

[Americans' Trust in One Another](#)

Pew Research Center (May 8, 2025)

This data essay from the Pew Research Center explores the levels of trust among Americans, as well as the contributing factors to less trust such as political polarization, internet and technology, news and information, diversity, inequality, religion, how and where time is spent, and social trust and generational change.

Americans trust each other less than they did a few decades ago. The share of adults who said “most people can be trusted” declined from 46% in 1972 to 34% in 2018, according to the General Social Survey. Racial and ethnic differences stand out: Black (21%) and Hispanic Americans (23%) tend to express lower levels of trust than White (40%) and Asian Americans (38%).

[Five Years of the STAATUS Index 2025](#)

The Asian American Foundation (May 1, 2025)

With a national sample of 4,909 Americans, this survey shows a stark disconnect between many Americans' beliefs about Asian Americans and the reality of Asian Americans' lived experiences. 48% of Americans think Asian Americans are treated fairly, but 40% believe that Asian Americans are more loyal to their countries of origin than to the U.S.

[A Snapshot of Asian Wealth in America](#)

Urban Institute (May 1, 2025)

Based on the 2022 Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF), which is sponsored by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve, Urban Institute's data analysis finds that Asian American families on average have similar financial portfolios to white families, although there is substantial variation. Asian families have a lot of debt, which appears to boost their asset accumulation and may be a primary way for them to achieve key financial milestones. The data analysis highlights what wealth gaps and inequities among Asian families might mean for the economy moving forward.

[The Fertility of Immigrants and Natives in the United States, 2023](#)

Center for Immigration Studies (May 1, 2025)

This analysis of the 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) collected by the Census Bureau shows that the fertility of both immigrants and the U.S.-born has declined in the last 15 years. The fertility of immigrant women is somewhat higher than that of the U.S.-born; however, the presence of immigrants has only a small impact on raising overall fertility in the United States. In 2003, Asian immigrants have the lowest fertility (1.73) of any immigrant group. Likewise, U.S.-born Asians have the lowest fertility (1.53) than any other major U.S. born group.

Strangers in the Land: Exclusion, Belonging, and the Epic Story of The Chinese in America

Michael Luo

Penguin Random House (April 29, 2025)

This book offers a narrative history of the Chinese in America that traces the sorrowful theme of exclusion and documents their more than century-long struggle to belong.

Michael Luo follows the Chinese from these the middle of the nineteenth century to modern times, as they persisted in the face of bigotry and persecution, revealing anew the complications of our multiracial democracy.

Disaggregated colorectal cancer mortality among Asian American subgroups between 2005-2020

AACR Journals (April 21, 2025)

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in Asian Americans. This study analyzes colorectal cancer mortality by disaggregated Asian racial subgroup.

Asian subgroups demonstrated substantial heterogeneity in colorectal cancer mortality. Relative to the non-Hispanic White group, Asian Indian Americans had the lowest rate, and Japanese Americans the highest rate.

The Emerging Financial Security Crisis Facing Older Adults Across New York State

Center for an Urban Future (February 2025)

This report examines the alarming financial challenges facing New York's rapidly growing older population and outlines urgent policy solutions to address this crisis.

Over the past decade, the number of older New Yorkers living in poverty has surged nearly 50 percent, nearly half of the state's older adults report having no retirement income, and hundreds of thousands lack access to Social Security benefits. Hispanic older adults have the highest poverty rate at 23.1 percent, followed by Asian (22.3 percent), Black (16 percent), and white older adults (8.3 percent).

ABOUT AAIPP

The Asian American Institute for Public Policy (AAIPP) is a national, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to advancing equality and full participation for Asian Americans. It works to amplify Asian American voice and thought leadership to address community concerns and to contribute pragmatic solutions to vital social, economic, and political issues in America. Through an inclusive perspective and a politically balanced approach, AAIPP seeks to promote reasoned dialogue and informed policy discourse that is guided by empirical research and critical analysis. www.aaipp.org

Contact: Cao K. O, President cao@aaipp.org