



AAIPP Bulletin

November 2025

Election 2025

The mayoral election in New York City as well as the gubernatorial elections in New Jersey and Virginia have caught much national media attention and political chatters this month. Of interest to observe is how Asian Americans voted in these elections.

According to the Associated Press, [Zohran Mamdani won the mayoral race by 50.4% of the votes](#) and will become the city's first Muslim and Asian American/South Asian mayor. A CNN exit poll shows that [Mamdani won 65% of the Asian votes](#). Preliminary results from another exit poll conducted by Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF) and Asian American Federation (AAF) indicate that [nearly half \(49.1%\) of Asian American voters voted for Mamdani](#). It is worth noting that, in the AALDEF-AAF poll, an overwhelming majority (87.2%) of South Asian voters cast their ballots for Mamdani and that 20 percent of Asian American voters who voted for President Trump in 2024 voted for Mamdani. In addition, a significant share of Asian American voters, 35% in the CNN poll and 51% in the AALDEF-AAF poll, did not vote for the Asian American mayoral candidate.

In the New Jersey gubernatorial election, [Mikie Sherrill won 56.9% of the votes](#), according to the Associated Press. As reported in a CNN exit poll, an overwhelming majority [\(82%\) of Asian voters voted for Sherrill](#).

In the Virginia races, the Associated Press reports that [Abigail Spanberger won 57.5% of the votes](#) to become Virginia's first female governor, while Ghazala Hashmi will be Virginia's first Muslim and South Asian Lieutenant Governor. [80% of Asian voters cast their ballots for Spanberger](#), according to a CNN exit poll.

Both Sherrill and Spanberger are centrist Democrats, while Mamdani is a Democratic socialist. The poll results may suggest that Asian American voters on the whole tend to be in favor of candidates who hold centrist views and speak to practical daily-life issues.

Immigrant Voters on Immigration Enforcement

A recent [KFF/New York Times 2025 survey of immigrants](#), conducted from August 28th to October 20th, looks at how America's foreign-born voter population — citizens and

noncitizens — views the state of immigration enforcement as the Trump administration continues efforts to ramp up detentions and deportations on a mass scale. The partisan identity of immigrant voters is mixed, with one quarter (25%) identifying as Republicans, just over a third (36%) identifying as Democrats, and four in ten saying they are either independent (34%) or don't identify with either major U.S. political party (5%).

Most immigrant voters in the United States, 61 percent, support President Trump's efforts at the southern border. At the same time, fewer immigrant voters approve of the tactics used to carry out raids beyond the border. Large majorities of immigrant voters disapprove of many of President Trump's immigration enforcement actions, including deporting immigrants to countries they are not from (80%), efforts to end birthright citizenship (69%), using federal immigration agents wearing masks or plainclothes during immigration enforcement activities (67%), and increasing efforts to deport more people living in the U.S. illegally (53%).

Four in ten immigrant voters say the U.S. is too tough in enforcing immigration laws, and 59 percent disapprove of how Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is handling its job. While close to half (46%) feel that current immigration enforcement "is necessary," large shares also say they feel "angry" (49%) and "afraid" (39%) about what is happening, and fewer feel "satisfied" (28%) or "proud" (19%).

Two-thirds (64%) of immigrant voters say immigrants who are in the U.S. illegally "strengthen our country because of their hard work and talents," while about a third (35%) say "they are a burden on our country because they take our jobs, housing, and health care."

About half (51%) of immigrant voters say immigrants in the U.S. were better off under President Biden, 20 percent say better off under President Trump, and 29 percent say "makes no difference." Almost six in ten (56%) immigrant voters say "the U.S. used to be a great place for immigrants, but that is no longer true," and 42 percent say "the U.S. is a great place for immigrants."

For some insights on Americans' views of immigrants, see a New York Times review of recent polls of the general public on [how Americans feel about immigrants and immigration](#).

Health Care Experiences of Immigrant Adults

A recent KFF/New York Times survey explores [health and health care experiences of immigrant adults during the second Trump administration](#). Below are several key findings:

- Since January 2025, four in ten (40%) immigrant adults overall and nearly eight in ten (77%) likely undocumented immigrants say they have experienced negative health impacts due to immigration-related worries. 27% of Asian immigrant adults say the same.
- Overall, 15% of immigrant adults report being uninsured as of 2025, with higher uninsured rates among immigrant adults who are likely undocumented (46%) and

lawfully present (21%) compared to naturalized citizens (7%). 8% of Asian immigrant adults report being uninsured.

- The share of immigrant adults who said they avoided applying for a government program that helps pay for food, housing, or health care in the past 12 months because they did not want to draw attention to their or a family member's immigration status rose from 8% to 12% between 2023 and 2025. Among Asian immigrant adults, the increase was from 4% in 2023 to 6% in 2025.
- The share of immigrant adults who reported skipping or postponing health care in the past 12 months increased from 22% to 29% between 2023 and 2025.
- Most immigrant adults say they have a usual source of care, with three in ten saying they use a community health center. Among Asian immigrant adults, 52% report using private doctors and 25% using community health centers.

Recent Releases

[Mapping America's Immigration Needs: A County-Level Model for Matching Migrants to Local Economies](#)

Niskanen Center (November 20, 2025)

America's immigration system has long lacked a way to connect migrants with the local communities that need them most. To change this, the Niskanen Center's Migration Match Index (MMI) is a first-of-its-kind tool that meets that need. Drawing on quantitative indicators of both local demand and capacity, the MMI maps where migration can do the most good for migrants seeking opportunity, for fading communities in need of renewal, and for the nation's broader strength and competitiveness.

[Religiousness varies a lot by race among Democrats, relatively little among Republicans](#)

Pew Research Center (November 20, 2025)

In general, U.S. adults who are Republican or lean toward the GOP are more religious than Democrats and Democratic leaners. At the same time, among Democrats, religiousness differs widely by race and ethnicity. Among Republicans, there is less variation.

Asian Republicans are somewhat less religious than White, Black and Hispanic Republicans. Still, 51% of Asian Republicans fall into the high or medium-high categories on Pew's scale of religiousness. White and Asian Democrats tend to be less religious than both Black and Hispanic Democrats.

[State of the States 2025: Insights on Healthcare in America](#)

West Health-Gallup Center for Healthcare in America (November 17, 2025)

This inaugural study offers a comprehensive picture of healthcare across all 50 states and the District of Columbia (D.C.), uncovering dramatic differences in how Americans across the nation experience healthcare in terms of cost, quality and access. Based on responses to 27 questions answered by nearly 20,000 Americans nationwide, the study ranks each state's performance for its residents' overall healthcare experiences.

[How Americans Are Thinking About Aging](#)

Pew Research Center (November 6, 2025)

The U.S. population is aging rapidly. From 2004 to 2024, the share of Americans ages 65 and older increased from 12.4% to 18.0%, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Based on a survey of 8,750 U.S. adults from Sept. 2 to 8, 2025, this research offers an understanding of how Americans are thinking about aging, covering perceptions of aging, income and the aging experience, aging and financial concerns, as well as control over aging.

[A Year Ahead of the Midterms, Americans' Dim Views of Both Parties](#)

Pew Research Center (October 30, 2025)

This survey of U.S. adults conducted September 22-28, 2025 finds that neither the Republican nor Democratic Party is widely seen as having good ideas. Both parties are viewed by majorities as too extreme and not governing honestly and ethically.

Black (43%), Hispanic (37%) and Asian adults (35%) are more likely to say the Democratic Party, but not the Republican Party, represents their interests well than to say the reverse. Black (33%), Hispanic (29%) and Asian (27%) adults are also more likely than White adults (22%) to say *neither* party represents their interests well.

[Immigration Data Portal](#)

Last Updated: October 29, 2025

Center for Immigration Studies

This data portal identifies and consolidates government agencies' most recent immigration statistics into one location.



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

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