



# AB 1726 (Bonta) Fact Sheet

## *Accounting for Health and Education in API Demographics*

### The AHEAD Act

#### Summary

AB 1726, the AHEAD Act, uncovers health and education disparities in the California Asian Pacific Islander (API) population.

#### Background

California is home to the nation's largest Asian American and second largest Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) populations. The Census Bureau, which has identified 23 distinct communities within the Asian American population and 19 within the NHPI population, calculates that each population grew by 34% and 29%, respectively, between 2000 and 2010.

#### Problem

Despite the diversity of California's large API population, state agencies only disaggregate demographic data for a few of the major API groups. By failing to measure a large portion of the API population, California is unable to track the progress of the most disadvantaged segments of that population.

Recent studies demonstrate that some subpopulations within the API community have fallen behind in important measurements of public health and education. For example, although aggregate data shows the average API individual tends to have health insurance and is on track to obtaining a four-year degree, disaggregated data demonstrates that Koreans, Cambodians, and Thai Americans have a higher percentage of being uninsured, and that Vietnamese, Laotian, Cambodian and Hmong American adults have the lowest educational attainment of Asian American ethnic groups statewide.

Without disaggregated data, policymakers and researchers must rely on less detailed data released by state agencies or local data that may be collected inconsistently in different jurisdictions.

#### Solution

AB 1726 takes a critical and necessary step for the API Community by requiring higher education institutions and public health agencies to disaggregate data for additional API groups.

AB 1726 requires California Community Colleges, California State University, the University of California, the Department of Public Health, and the Department of Healthcare Services collect and release disaggregated demographic data for the following populations: Bangladeshi, Hmong, Indonesian, Malaysian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, Thai, Fijian, and Tongan Americans. The data collected will include rates on admission, enrollment, completion and graduation in the education field, and disease rates, health insurance coverage, and birth and death rates for the health field.

#### Support

Abriendo Puertas, Opening Doors  
Alameda County Health Pipeline Partnership  
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum  
Asian American Cancer Support Network  
Asian American Drug Abuse Program, Inc  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Asian Law Caucus  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice-California  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Los Angeles  
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance-San Diego  
Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership (APPEAL)  
Budget Partnership  
California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce  
California Asian Pacific Islander  
California Pan Ethnic Health Network (CPEHN)  
Canal Alliance  
Chinatown Public Health Center  
Chinese for Affirmative Action  
Communications and Health Policy  
Community Health for Asian Americans  
Community Health Partnership  
East Bay Asian Youth Center (EBAYC)  
Empowering Pacific Islander Communities  
Fathers & Families of San Joaquin  
Fresno Interdenominational Refugee Ministries (FIRM)  
Full Circle Project at Sacramento State  
Global Refugee Awareness Healing Center  
Healthy House Within a MATCH Coalition  
Hmong National Development  
Iu-Mien Community Services  
Khmer Girls in Action  
Khmer Parent Association  
Korean Churches for Community Development

Korean Resource Center  
Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc.  
Madera Coalition for Community Justice  
Multicultural Council of America  
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum  
National Pacific Islander Education Network (NPIEN)  
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Alliance  
NICOS Chinese Health Coalition  
Pacific Islander Health Partnership PALS for Health  
Refugee & Immigration Ministries- Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ) in the US and Canada Services,  
Immigrant Rights, and Education Network (SIREN)  
Southeast Asia Resource Action Center  
Stone Soup Fresno  
Taulama For Tongans  
Thai Health And Information Services, Inc  
The Cambodian Family Community Center  
TOFA Inc.  
Tongan American Youth Foundation  
United Cambodian Community  
Urban Strategies Council

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