Race at home:
Links between history, household composition, and identity among Asian Americans in 2010
Ummul-Kiram Kathawalla, Carolyn A. Liebler, and Victoria Bao Lee, University of Minnesota

1) How do households with Asian Americans compare to other groups?

Household composition is a different experience depending on household size.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Non-Hispanic</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>American Indian</th>
<th>Pacific Islander</th>
<th>Some other race</th>
<th>Multiple races</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14,456,000</td>
<td>196,782,960</td>
<td>37,704,030</td>
<td>2,248,480</td>
<td>481,260</td>
<td>602,340</td>
<td>5,950,130</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Household composition is different depending on household size:
- Non-Hispanic
- Asian
- White
- Black
- American Indian
- Pacific Islander
- Some other race
- Multiple races

2) Variation across 65 groups

3) How did historical and contemporary experiences help create this household homogeneity and diversity?

1. What does “Asian American” household homogeneity and diversity look like compared to other U.S. groups?
2. How do specific subgroups within “Asian American” vary in their household homogeneity and diversity?
3. How did historical and contemporary experiences help create this household homogeneity and diversity?

We use the 2010 Census from IPUMS-USA (Ruggles et al., 2017) to explore household homogeneity and diversity among Asian Americans.

Personal & family history

Household homogeneity, diversity, & size

Identity & self-categorization

Group’s immigration history

Racial and ethnic identity and self-categorization develop based on group, family, and personal histories (among other things). Household racial/ethnic composition and size provide a theoretical and empirical link between macro-level social, historical processes and micro-level processes of identity and self-categorization.

Research Fellowship Program (NSF 00039202).

Institutes of Health (NIH P2C HD041023) to the Minnesota Population Center, which funded a Diversity Fellowship.

Teresa Toguchi Swartz gave helpful guidance on our research. We are grateful to a Center Grant from the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF 00039202).

Chinese local average household homogeneity

Vietnamese local average household homogeneity

Asian Indian local average household homogeneity

Vietnamese tend to live in more homogenous households. Many were granted admission to the US through refugee status and immigrated as families after the Vietnam War.

Asian Indians tend to live in homogenous households. The Asian Indian population grew in the US after the 1965 Immigration Act. Through this, many Asian Indians entered the US as skilled workers with their families. The Act allowed for immigration through family reunification which can be seen in more homogenous households.

Household racial/ethnic composition and size provides insight to understanding history, identity and self-categorization. Considering household composition allows researchers to gain understanding of the context that people experience their ethnic/racial identity.

Chinese: Chinese tend to live in more homogenous households as families migrated to the US. Although they are one of the first Asian groups to the US, anti-Asian legislation prevented migration and intermarriage. Chinese Americans are relatively likely to live in co-ethnic neighborhoods.

Cambodians and Laotians spent time together in refugee camps awaiting placement in the US. This, along with cultural and historical connections between the groups, heightens their co-residence with other Asians.