

BALLOT  
BOX

# Asian Americans at the Ballot Box

*The 2006 General Election in Orange County*



ASIAN PACIFIC  
AMERICAN  
LEGAL CENTER  
OF  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



ocapica



Cyrus Chung Ying Tang  
Foundation

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### Asian Pacific American Legal Center

The Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California was founded in 1983 and is the largest organization in the country focused on providing multilingual, culturally sensitive legal services, education, and civil rights support to Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs). APALC's mission is to advocate for civil rights, provide legal services and education, and build coalitions to positively influence and impact AAPIs and to create a more equitable and harmonious society. APALC works on a range of issues affecting AAPIs and immigrants, including workers rights, consumer rights, immigration, citizenship, domestic violence, hate crimes, health care, language access, and voting rights.

APALC is affiliated with the Asian American Justice Center (formerly known as NAPALC) in Washington, D.C.

[www.apalc.org](http://www.apalc.org)

### Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance

The Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance (OCAPICA) is dedicated to enhancing the health, and social and economic well-being of Asians and Pacific Islanders in Orange County, California. Established in 1997, OCAPICA works to improve and expand the community's opportunities through service, education, advocacy, organizing and research. These community-driven activities seek to empower Asians and Pacific Islanders to define and control their lives and the future of their community.

[www.ocapica.org](http://www.ocapica.org)

### Cyrus Chung Ying Tang Foundation

The Chung Ying Tang Foundation's mission is to foster greater understanding and mutual respect between the United States and China through effective investment in community service and cultural exchanges. It is involved in the promotion of education and healthcare for Americans and supports civic activities that enable Asian immigrants to better integrate into American society.

[www.tangfoundation.org](http://www.tangfoundation.org)

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# Welcome

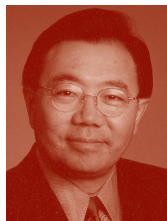
Orange County's Asian American community is large and growing larger every day.

As our community grows more established, more Asian Americans are becoming acculturated to civic life here. Asian Americans in Orange County are taking the oath of citizenship, registering to vote, voting, and even running for (and being elected to) public office in record numbers.

To better understand and promote the political participation of the county's fastest growing major racial group, the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California (APALC) and Orange County Asian Pacific Islander Community Alliance (OCAPICA) have partnered to bring you *Asian Americans at the Ballot Box: The 2006 General Election in Orange County*.

The report provides a snapshot of Asian American political participation in Orange County during the 2006 General Election and answers a number of important questions. How many Asian Americans voted, both countywide and by city? How large was the Asian American immigrant electorate? Were Asian Americans more likely to vote at the polls or by mail? As the 2008 Presidential Election approaches, the report will help community organizations, political campaigns, and others working to encourage political participation among Asian Americans better utilize limited resources to target assistance to those most in need.

APALC and OCAPICA would like to extend a special thanks to the Cyrus Chung Ying Tang Foundation for its ongoing support of this important research.



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# Key Findings

## ***Asian Americans make up a large proportion of Orange County's electorate***

Asian Americans made up 14% of those registered to vote and 11% of those casting ballots in Orange County during the 2006 General Election. In some cities, Asian Americans made up an even larger proportion of the electorate: Asian Americans made up 48% of registered voters and 43% of those casting ballots in Westminster and 38% of registered voters and 35% of those casting ballots in Garden Grove. While Vietnamese American voter turnout approached the turnout of all registered voters countywide, voter mobilization efforts targeting low-propensity registered voters, particularly the young and foreign-born, are needed if Asian Americans as a whole are to realize their full potential as participants in the political process.

## ***Voting by mail is critical to Asian American voter engagement***

While 48% of all voters in Orange County's 2006 General Election voted by mail, approximately 61% of Asian Americans countywide did so. Use was particularly high among Vietnamese American voters, 72% of whom cast absentee ballots. To facilitate access, community organizations and the Orange County Registrar of Voters should ensure that the process of voting by mail be fully accessible to Asian American voters, particularly the limited-English proficient and seniors.

## ***Most Asian American voters were born outside the United States***

Approximately 78% of Asian American registered voters and 80% of Asian Americans casting ballots in the 2006 General Election countywide were born outside the United States. By Asian American ethnic group, only Japanese American voters were not predominantly foreign-born. Given the disproportionate number of Asian American voters whose first language is not English, written and oral assistance to voters in Asian languages remain critical to the political participation of thousands of Asian Americans in Orange County.

# Introduction and Glossary of Terms

## Growth in Orange County's Asian American population has led to changes in the county's political landscape.

The United States Census Bureau estimates there were nearly 519,000 Asian Americans living in Orange County in 2006, making the county's Asian American population the state's third largest behind Los Angeles and Santa Clara Counties. Over 17% of the county's residents were Asian American.

The Asian American population in Orange County is not only large, but growing. Between 2000 and 2006, the county's Asian American population grew 22%. By comparison, the county's total population grew only 5% over the same six-year period.

Among counties in California that were home to 100,000 or more Asian Americans in 2000, only Asian American communities in Sacramento and Contra Costa Counties grew at a faster rate.<sup>1</sup>

Growth in Orange County's Asian American population has led to changes in the county's political landscape. Not only are more Asian Americans registering to vote and casting ballots, but greater numbers are running for public office. In 2004, an emerging Asian American electorate in Garden Grove, Westminster, and surrounding areas propelled the election of the California State Assembly's first Vietnamese American representative. In the 2006 General Election, 13 of 28 Asian American candidates running for office in Orange County won.

Yet the political potential of the Asian American community has not been fully realized. In the 2004 General Election, Asian American voter turnout in Orange County lagged five percentage points behind that of all registered voters countywide.<sup>2</sup> While work to address these disparities is critical, the resources available to voter mobilization efforts targeting Asian American communities are

limited. To make the best use of limited resources, voter mobilization efforts must understand how to effectively target those most in need of assistance.

*Asian Americans at the Ballot Box: The 2006 General Election in Orange County* compiles information on Asian American political participation in Orange County during the 2006 General Election. Drawing on analyses of data from the Orange County Registrar of Voters, the report documents Asian American voter registration and turnout during the last gubernatorial election.

*Asian Americans at the Ballot Box* fills an important niche in the scholarship on Asian American political participation by providing user-friendly data which can be used to both track trends in voter registration and turnout countywide and facilitate the targeting of local voter registration and get-out-the-vote efforts by city, ethnic group, age, nativity (native versus foreign-born), and gender.

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2007. *2006 Population Estimates*. [www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php](http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php).

<sup>2</sup> APALC, 2006. *Asian Americans at the Ballot Box: The 2004 General Election*. Los Angeles, CA: APALC.

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Registered Voters:** Those who were registered to vote by October 23, 2006 and eligible to vote in the 2006 General Election.

**Voters:** Registered voters who cast ballots in the 2006 General Election.

**Voter Turnout:** Percent of registered voters who cast ballots in the 2006 General Election.

# Voter Registration and Turnout Overview

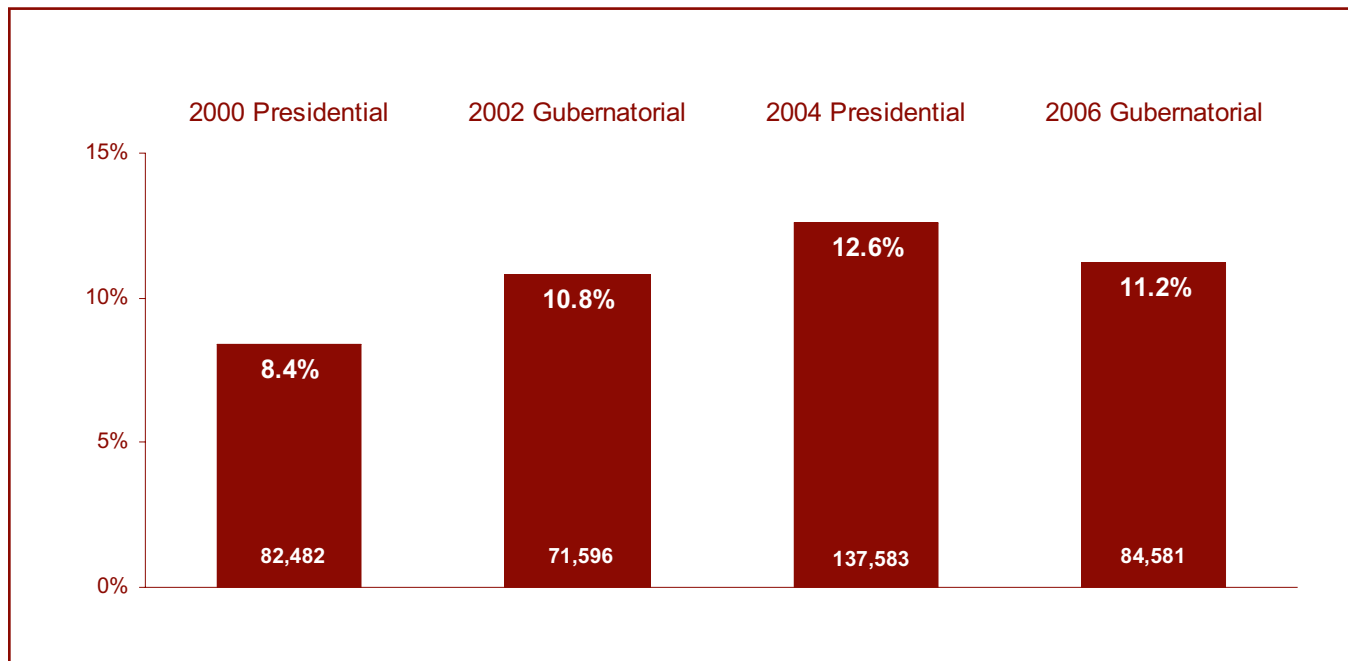
**The 2006 General Election** featured a number of statewide and local contests, including the race for Governor of California. While the election lacked the public interest associated with a Presidential contest (voter turnout in Orange County was 51% during the 2006 General Election, compared to 73% during the 2004 General Election), nearly 760,000 voters countywide cast ballots.

An analysis of data from the Orange County Registrar of Voters shows that Asian Americans made up 14% of all registered voters and 11% of those casting ballots in Orange County during the 2006 General

Election. Between the 2002 and 2006 General Elections, the number of Asian American voters in Orange County grew over 18%. In contrast, the number of all voters in Orange County grew 14% over the same period.

**Asian Americans made up 14% of all registered voters and 11% of those casting ballots countywide.**

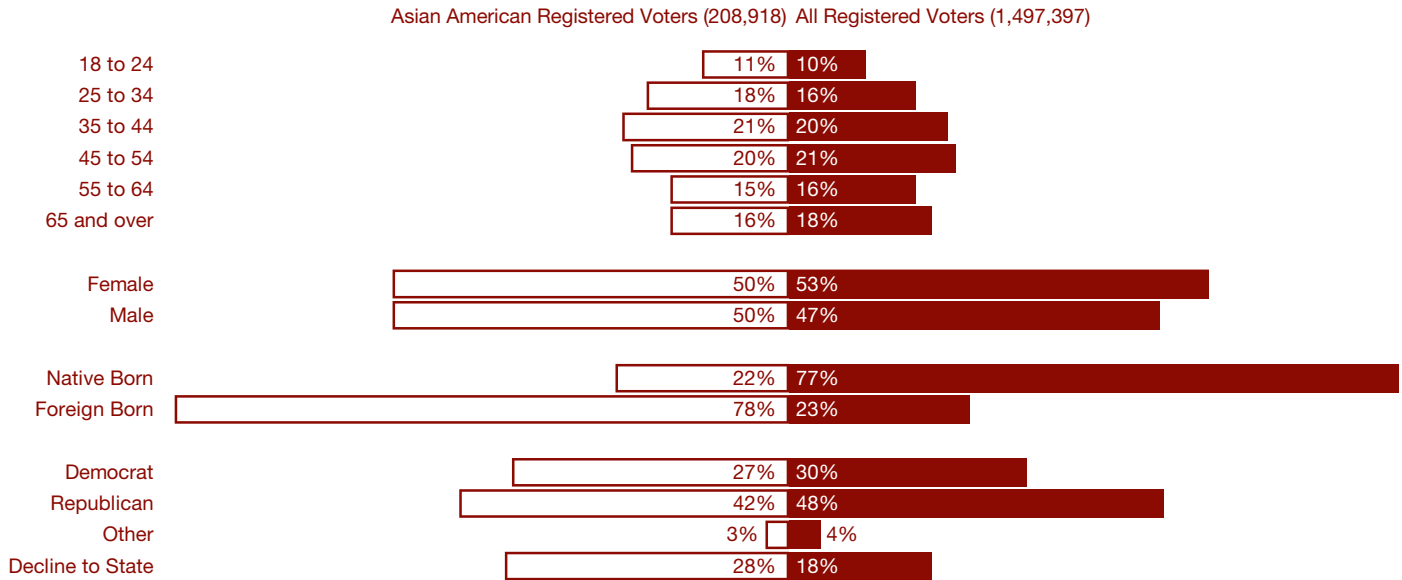
**Figure 1: Asian American Voters as Proportion of All Voters in Orange County 2000 through 2006 General Elections**



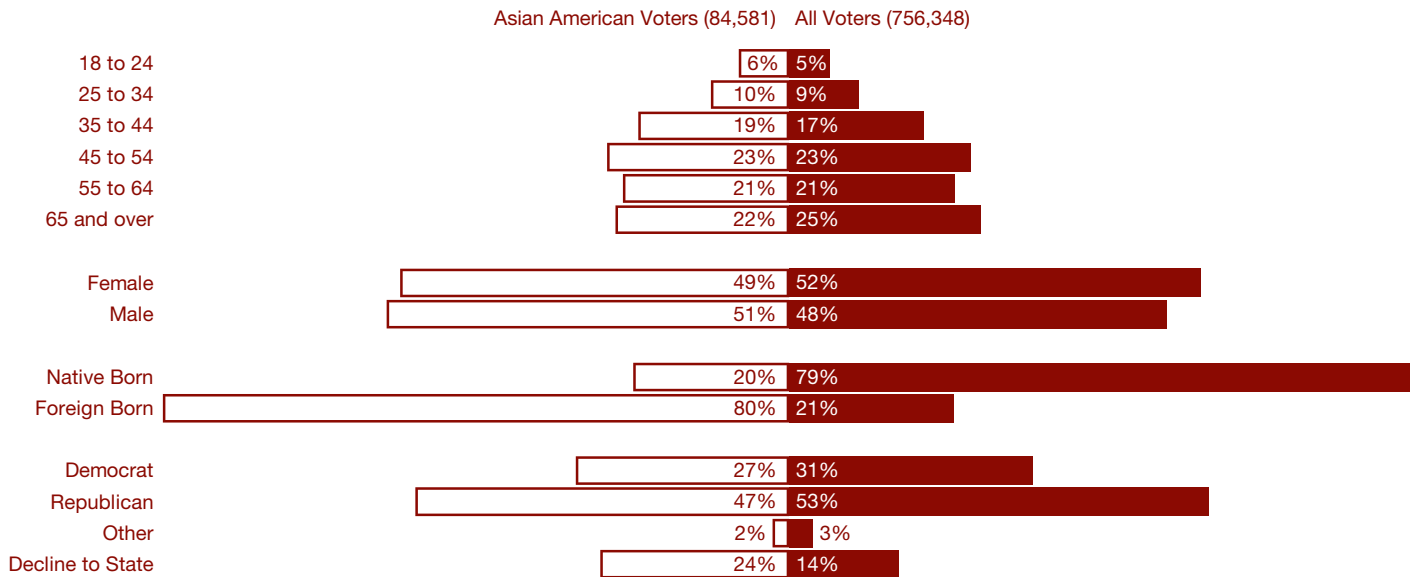
Source: Orange County Voter Files (2001, 2003, 2005, 2007), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

# Voter Registration and Turnout Overview

**Figure 2: Demographics of Asian American Registered Voters, Orange County, 2006 General Election**



**Figure 3: Demographics of Asian American Voters, Orange County, 2006 General Election**



Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center



# Voter Registration and Turnout Overview

The Asian American electorate in Orange County differed from the total electorate in two important ways.

First, roughly 80% of both Asian American registered voters and voters were born outside the United States. In contrast, just over one-fifth of all registered voters and voters countywide were foreign-born.

Secondly, the Asian American electorate was also more likely to be unaffiliated with a political party. Roughly one in four Asian American registered voters and voters held no affiliation to a political party, compared to roughly one-sixth of all registered voters and voters.

Like Orange County's electorate generally, Republicans outnumbered Democrats among all Asian American ethnic groups countywide with the exception of Indian Americans, nearly half of whom were registered as Democrats. Among Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, and Vietnamese Americans, registered voters younger than 35 were more evenly distributed between Democrats, Republicans, and the unaffiliated, while older registered voters were more strongly Republican.

Consistent with county population trends, Orange County's Asian American electorate is disproportionately Vietnamese American. Approximately 41% of Asian American registered voters and 47% of Asian American voters during the 2006 General Election were of Vietnamese ancestry. Chinese Americans made up the second largest number of both registered voters and voters countywide.

**Table 1: Asian American Registered Voters by Ethnic Group in Orange County, 2006 General Election**

GROUP	Registered Voters	% of Asian American Registered Voters
Asian Indian	10,822	5%
Cambodian	2,045	1%
Chinese	36,190	17%
Filipino	20,307	10%
Japanese	12,928	6%
Korean	21,209	10%
Vietnamese	86,333	41%
<b>TOTAL ASIAN AMERICAN</b>	<b>208,918</b>	<b>100%</b>

NOTE: Figures do not include all Asian American ethnic groups, will not sum to total.

Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

**Table 2: Asian American Voters by Ethnic Group in Orange County, 2006 General Election**

GROUP	Voters	% of Asian American Voters
Asian Indian	3,982	5%
Cambodian	599	1%
Chinese	15,089	18%
Filipino	8,321	10%
Japanese	7,454	9%
Korean	7,489	9%
Vietnamese	39,621	47%
<b>TOTAL ASIAN AMERICAN</b>	<b>84,581</b>	<b>100%</b>

NOTE: Figures do not include all Asian American ethnic groups, will not sum to total.

Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

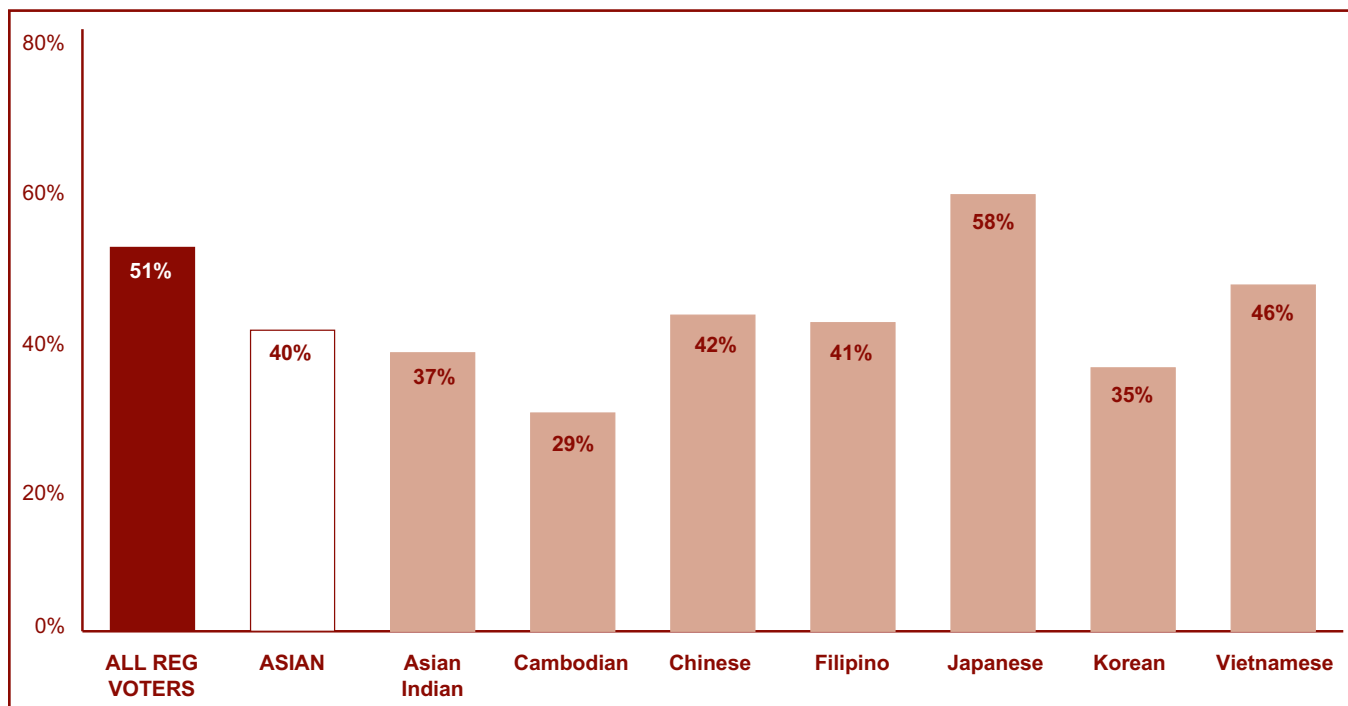
# Voter Registration and Turnout By Ethnic Group

The voter turnout of Vietnamese Americans approached that of all registered voters in Orange County.

Despite the community's growth, Asian American turnout in Orange County still lags behind that of all registered voters. While just over half of all registered voters cast ballots on Election Day, only 40% of Asian American registered voters did so.

Some Asian American ethnic groups were more likely to vote than others. Japanese American registered voters had a higher turnout rate than all registered voters countywide, with 58% casting ballots. The voter turnout of Vietnamese American registered voters, Orange County's largest Asian American ethnic group, approached that of all registered voters. Other Asian American ethnic groups, including Cambodian, Korean, and Indian Americans, voted at lower rates.

Figure 4: Asian American Voter Turnout\* by Ethnic Group in Orange County, 2006 General Election



\*Voter turnout represents the percent of registered voters eligible to vote in the 2006 General Election who cast ballots in that election. Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

# Voter Registration and Turnout By Geography

**While Garden Grove was home to the largest number** of both Asian American registered voters (28,000) and voters (12,000), Westminster's electorate was proportionally more Asian American, with 48% of registered voters and 43% of voters citywide being of Asian ancestry.

Countywide, voter registration in four major cities (Westminster, Garden Grove, Fountain Valley, and Irvine) were one-quarter or more Asian American, while voters in two major cities (Westminster, Garden Grove) were one-quarter or more Asian American.

Voter turnout was highest in Garden Grove, where Vietnamese American candidates ran for (and won) seats on the Garden Grove City Council and Garden Grove Unified School District. Approximately 44% of Asian American and 49% of Vietnamese American registered voters citywide cast ballots.

**Voter registration in four major cities were one-quarter or more Asian American.**

**Table 3: Asian American Registered Voters, Voters, Turnout by City, 2006 General Election**

CITY	# Asian American Registered Voters	% Registered Voters Asian American	# Asian American Voters	% Voters Asian American	Asian American Voter Turnout*
Garden Grove	27,705	38%	12,152	35%	44%
Irvine	24,627	26%	9,008	19%	37%
Westminster	21,668	48%	9,349	43%	43%
Anaheim	17,459	13%	7,061	12%	40%
Santa Ana	13,804	15%	5,223	14%	38%
Huntington Beach	11,120	9%	4,449	7%	40%
Fullerton	9,475	14%	3,387	10%	36%
Fountain Valley	9,329	27%	3,859	21%	41%
Orange	6,231	10%	2,537	7%	41%
Buena Park	5,486	16%	1,822	12%	33%
Cypress	4,316	16%	1,743	13%	40%
Tustin	4,194	14%	1,436	10%	34%
Yorba Linda	3,899	10%	1,571	7%	40%
Mission Viejo	3,670	6%	1,540	5%	42%
Costa Mesa	3,486	6%	1,308	5%	38%
<b>Orange County</b>	<b>208,918</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>84,581</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>40%</b>

\* Voter turnout represents the percent of registered voters eligible to vote in the 2006 General Election who cast ballots in that election.  
Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

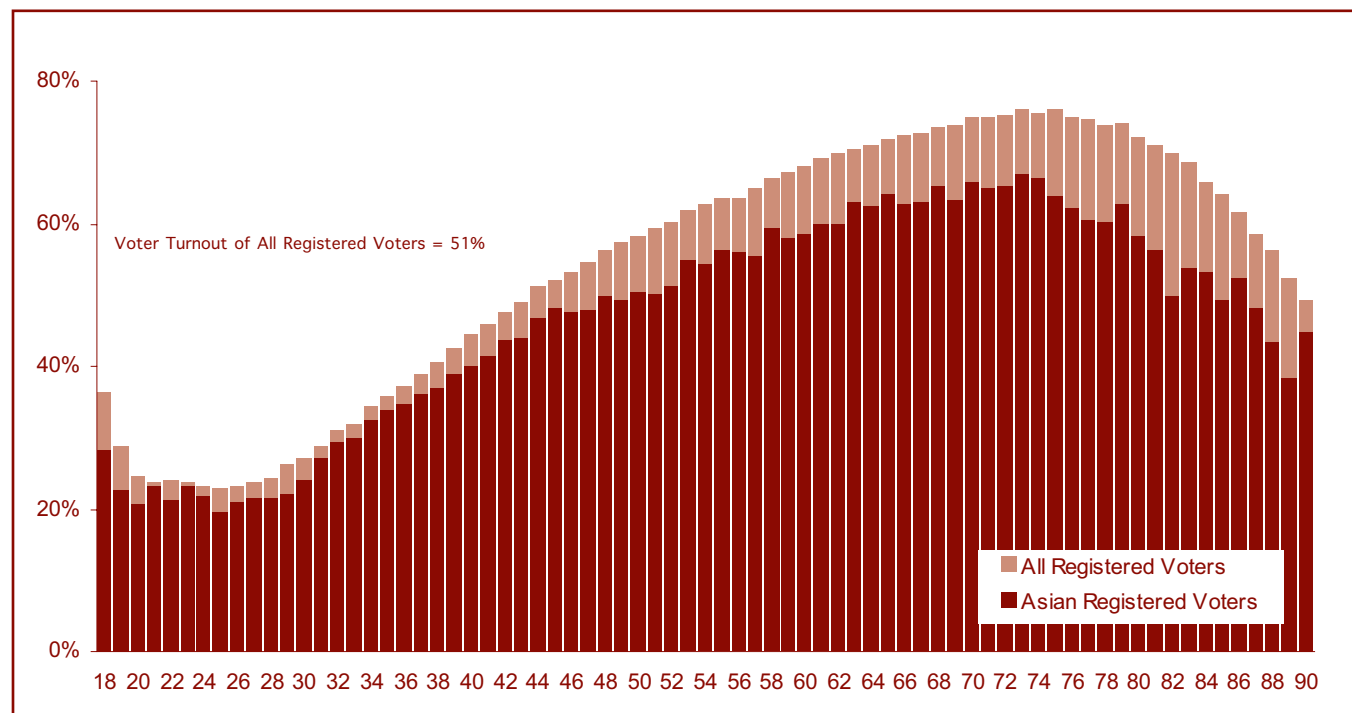
# Voter Registration and Turnout By Age

Disparities in turnout between Asian American and all senior registered voters were pronounced.

**Asian American voter turnout by age** resembled that of the total electorate, with younger registered voters being less likely to vote than older registered voters.

During the 2006 General Election, only 23% of Asian American registered voters 18 to 24 cast ballots. In contrast, 61% of Asian American registered voters 65 and over cast ballots. Yet the turnout of young Asian American registered voters approached that of all young registered voters (23% versus 25%), while disparities in turnout between Asian American and all senior registered voters was more pronounced (61% versus 70%).

Figure 5: Voter Turnout\* by Age in Orange County, 2006 General Election



\* Voter turnout represents the percent of registered voters eligible to vote in the 2006 General Election who cast ballots in that election. Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

# Voter Registration and Turnout By Nativity

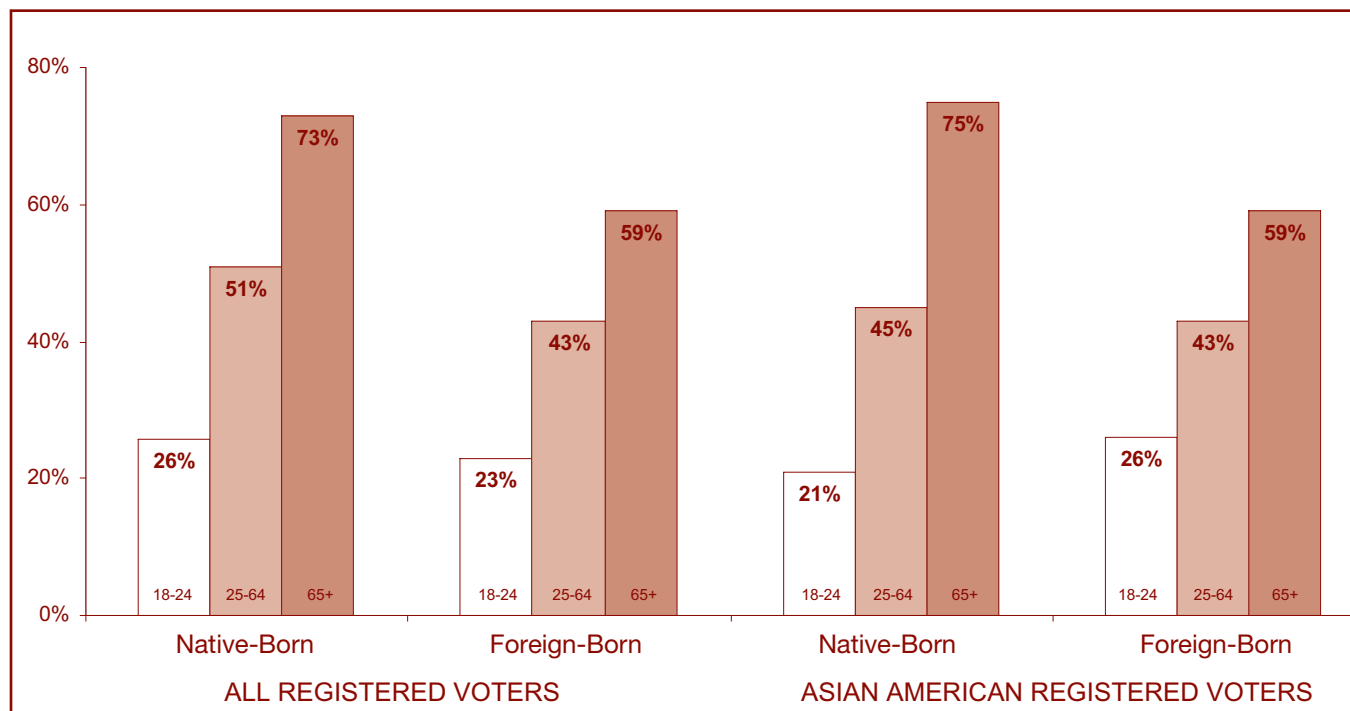
**Roughly 80% of Asian American registered voters and voters in Orange County's 2006 General Election were foreign-born.** In contrast, only 23% of all registered voters and 21% of all voters countywide were born outside the United States.

Comparing the turnout of native versus foreign-born registered voters by age shows that the turnout of foreign-born Asian American registered voters exceeded that

of native-born Asian American registered voters only among those 18 to 24 years-of-age. While nativity appears to have had little impact on turnout among those 25 to 64, foreign-born Asian American registered voters 65 years and over were far less likely to vote than their native-born counterparts (59% versus 75% voter turnout).

**Nearly 68,000 Asian American immigrants countywide cast ballots in the 2006 General Election.**

**Figure 6: Voter Turnout\* by Age, Nativity in Orange County, 2006 General Election**



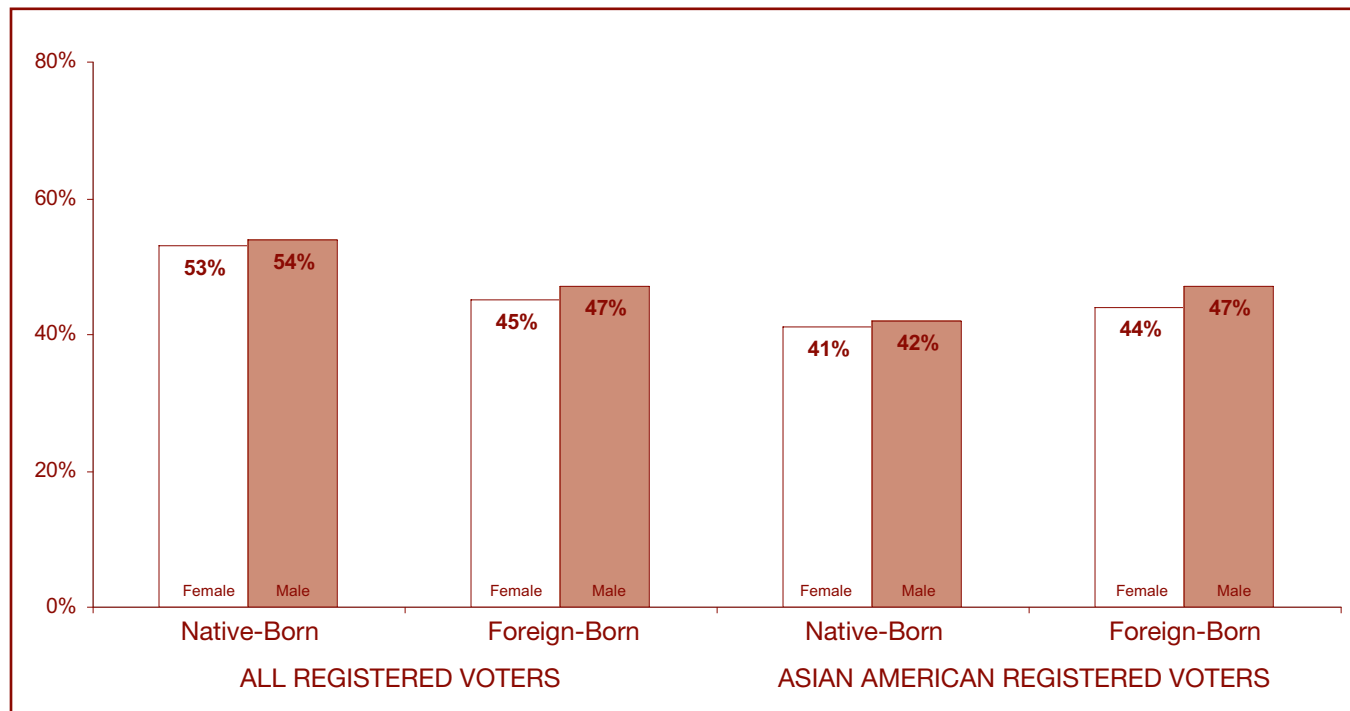
\* Voter turnout represents the percent of registered voters eligible to vote in the 2006 General Election who cast ballots in that election. Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

# Voter Registration and Turnout By Gender

While turnout among Asian American women registered to vote approached that of Asian American men registered to vote, it lagged by a single percentage point among the native-born (41% versus 42%) and three percentage points among the foreign-born (44% versus 47%).

Women made up half of both Asian American registered voters and voters countywide during the 2006 General Election.

**Figure 7: Voter Turnout\* by Gender, Racial and Ethnic Group in Orange County, 2006 General Election**



Voter turnout represents the percent of registered voters eligible to vote in the 2006 General Election who cast ballots in that election. Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

# Voter Registration and Turnout

## Voting by Mail

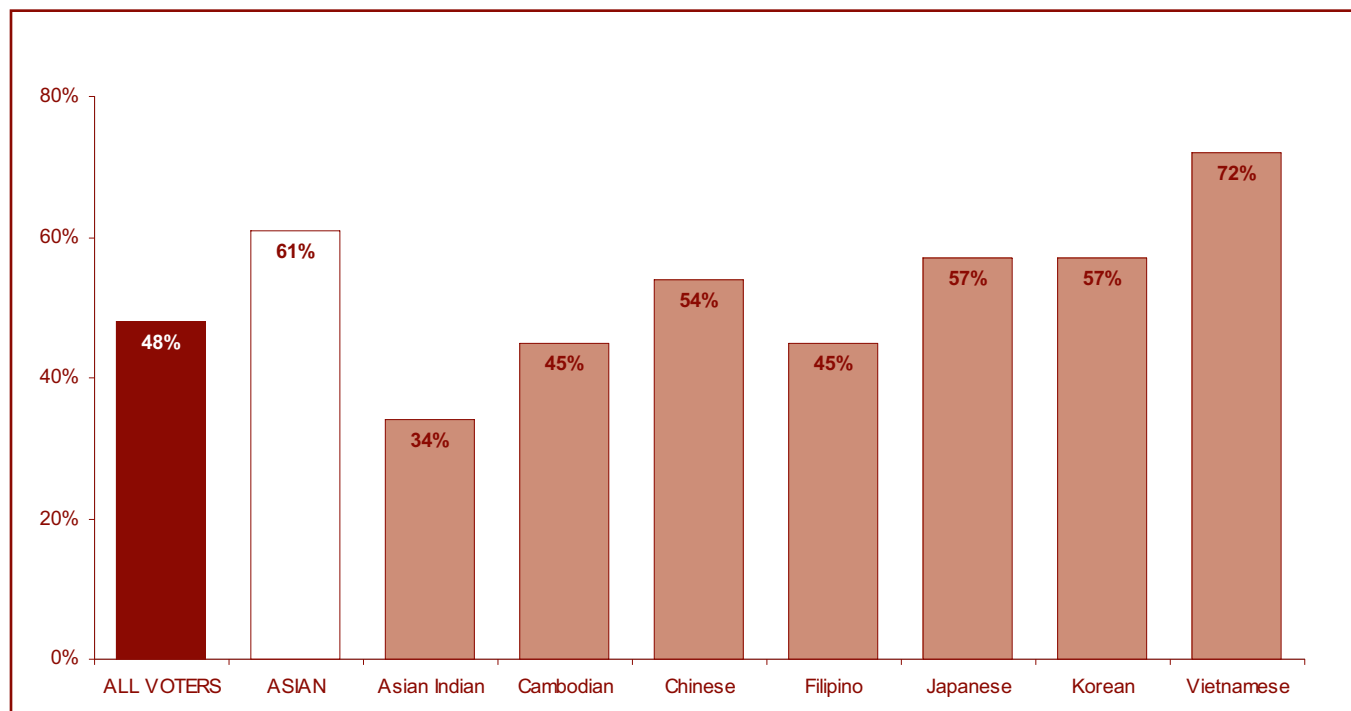
**In Orange County, nearly half of all voters in the 2006 General Election voted by mail.**

Voting by mail is even more common among Asian American voters. Approximately 61% of Asian American voters countywide cast absentee ballots. Voting by mail was most common among Vietnamese American voters, 72% of whom voted by mail. In contrast, only 34% of Indian American voters cast absentee ballots.

Permanent absentee voters (PAV) are registered voters who have chosen to vote by mail in every election. Asian Americans registered as PAV were far more likely to vote than their non-PAV counterparts. Over 77% of Asian Americans registered as PAV cast ballots in the 2006 General Election. In contrast, only 41% of Asian Americans not registered as PAV voted.

Approximately  
61% of  
Asian  
American  
voters  
countywide  
voted by mail.

**Figure 12: Percent of Voters Voting by Mail by Racial and Ethnic Group in Orange County, 2006 General Election**



Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

# Policy Recommendations

I found out I went to the wrong voting place. I didn't know where to go, so I just went back home and didn't vote.

—Korean American  
focus group participant

I like to vote absentee because I don't drive and can be at home... I feel I have more time and can make a good decision. At the polling place, it's too confusing and I feel so much pressure to hurry.

—Vietnamese American  
focus group  
participant

## **Engage in Voter Mobilization Efforts Targeting Asian American Communities**

Asian Americans continue to grow as a proportion of Orange County's electorate and can now influence the outcome of select Congressional, State Senate, and State Assembly elections. In communities like Westminster and Garden Grove, Asian Americans have the power to dictate the course of city council and school board races.

Yet this power has not been fully realized. Turnout rates among Asian American registered voters still lag behind those of all registered voters. As the 2008 Statewide Primary and Presidential Elections approach, community organizations should prepare to engage in voter mobilization efforts targeting low-propensity Asian American registered voters and others unlikely to be targeted by political campaigns. Such efforts need to engage voters in Asian languages, work to demystify the voting process, and provide voters with the information they need to make informed decisions about candidates and ballot measures.

## **Make Voting by Mail Fully Accessible**

Voting by mail promotes access to the ballot for thousands of voters in Orange County, including the limited-English proficient living areas where bilingual voter assistance is lacking and those who are unfamiliar or uncomfortable with voting procedures at the polls. In the 2006 General Election, nearly half of all voters, 61% of Asian American voters, and 72% of Vietnamese American voters countywide voted by mail. Asian Americans registered as permanent absentee voters (PAV) were far more likely to vote than those who were not.

Community organizations and the Orange County Registrar of Voters should continue to promote use of the absentee ballot among Asian American voters, particularly the limited-English proficient and seniors. Promoting use of the absentee ballot should include both (1) the dissemination of information on how to apply, how to become a permanent absentee voter (PAV), when absentee ballots should be returned, and the voter's right to cast absentee ballots at polling places on Election Day, and (2) outreach efforts to encourage limited-English proficient PAV voters to request translated materials in advance of election day. All voters, however, should continue to have the right to vote in person at a polling place, where translated materials and bilingual poll workers are often available to assist those who face language barriers.



# Policy Recommendations

## **Ensure Voter Assistance in Asian Languages**

Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act requires Orange County to provide assistance to voters in Chinese, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Evidence shows that Asian American voters need and use the assistance mandated under federal law. Approximately 80% of Asian Americans voting in the 2006 General Election in Orange County were born outside the United States. During the 2004 General Election, 37% percent of Asian American voters countywide were limited-English proficient and 62% of Vietnamese Americans voting used some form of bilingual voter assistance to cast their ballot.

Given the overwhelming need for and use of bilingual voter assistance, community organizations should continue to work closely with the Orange County Registrar of Voters to ensure translated materials and bilingual poll workers are made available to limited-English proficient Asian American voters, as required under federal law. In addition, the California Secretary of State's Elections Division should work with Orange County election officials to implement a seldom enforced state voting rights law that determines coverage at the precinct level, potentially providing assistance to voters in languages beyond those required under federal law.

I like to put  
my Chinese  
and English  
sample ballots  
side-by-side.  
The Chinese  
ballot helps  
me understand  
the complicated  
information better.

— Chinese American  
focus group participant

# Methodology

## **Orange County Voter File**

Information on Asian American voter registration and turnout was drawn from the Orange County Voter File, purchased from the Orange County Registrar of Voters on December 26, 2006 under strict disclosure limitations. These data include information on every voter in Orange County, including their location, age, place of birth, and party affiliation. APALC estimated the racial and ethnic background of Asian American voters by matching voter names to ethnic name lists developed through an analysis of over 15 million birth and death records obtained from the California Department of Health Services.

# Fact Sheets

Asian Indian American Voters

Cambodian American Voters

Chinese American Voters

Filipino American Voters

Japanese American Voters

Korean American Voters

Vietnamese American Voters

# Fact Sheet

## Asian Indian American Voters, Orange County 2006

### **Asian Indian Americans voting in the 2006 General Election were...**

**79% Foreign-Born**  
**7% 18 to 24**  
**43% Female, 57% Male**  
**46% Democrat, 25% Republican**  
**27% Decline to State**  
**34% Absentee Voters**

Indian American voters were the only Asian American electorate in Orange County in which Democrats outnumbered Republicans and were the least likely to vote by mail.

Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

### BY CITY

**Table IN1: Largest Number of Asian Indian American Registered Voters by City, Orange County, 2006 General Election**

CITY	Registered Voters		Voters		Asian Indian Am Voter Turnout*
	# Asian Indian Am	% Asian Indian Am	# Asian Indian Am	% Asian Indian Am	
Irvine	1,913	2%	724	1%	38%
Anaheim	1,394	1%	441	1%	32%
Fullerton	742	1%	286	1%	39%
Buena Park	667	2%	170	1%	25%
Huntington Bch	493	<1%	206	<1%	42%
Yorba Linda	490	1%	204	1%	42%
Orange	430	1%	132	<1%	31%
Mission Viejo	409	1%	180	1%	44%
Cypress	298	1%	133	1%	45%
Tustin	292	1%	84	1%	29%
<b>Orange Co</b>	<b>10,822</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>3,982</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>37%</b>

### BY NATIVITY / AGE

**Table IN2: Turnout\* of Asian Indian American Registered Voters by Nativity and Age, Orange Co., 2006 General Election**

	Age			All Asian Indian Am Voters
	18 to 24	25 to 64	65 & Over	
Native-Born	23%	35%	73%	32%
Foreign-Born	16%	38%	48%	39%
<b>All Asian Indian Am Voters</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>37%</b>

\* Turnout represents the percent of registered voters eligible to vote in the 2006 General Election who cast ballots in that election.

# Fact Sheet

## Cambodian American Voters, Orange County 2006

### ***Cambodian Americans voting in the 2006 General Election were...***

**66% Foreign-Born**  
**8% 18 to 24**  
**49% Female, 51% Male**  
**32% Democrat, 47% Republican**  
**17% Decline to State**  
**45% Absentee Voters**

There were just over 2,000 Cambodian American registered voters in Orange County during the 2006 General Election, with the largest number residing in the city of Santa Ana.

Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

### **BY CITY**

**Table CA1: Largest Number of Cambodian American Registered Voters by City, Orange County, 2006 General Election**

CITY	Registered Voters		Voters		Cambodian Am Voter Turnout*
	# Cambodian Am	% Cambodian Am	# Cambodian Am	% Cambodian Am	
Santa Ana	341	<1%	43	<1%	13%
Garden Grove	172	<1%	48	<1%	28%
Anaheim	168	<1%	59	<1%	35%
Irvine	161	<1%	30	<1%	19%
Westminster	109	<1%	34	<1%	31%
Huntington Bch	84	<1%	29	<1%	35%
Cypress	84	<1%	31	<1%	37%
Orange	78	<1%	28	<1%	36%
Buena Park	78	<1%	21	<1%	27%
Fullerton	67	<1%	23	<1%	34%
<b>Orange Co</b>	<b>2,045</b>	<b>&lt;1%</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>&lt;1%</b>	<b>29%</b>

### **BY NATIVITY / AGE**

**Table CA2: Turnout\* of Cambodian American Registered Voters by Nativity and Age, Orange Co, 2006 General Election**

	Age			All Cambodian Am Voters
	18 to 24	25 to 64	65 & Over	
Native-Born	14%	39%	79%	32%
Foreign-Born	11%	29%	39%	28%
<b>All Cambodian Am Voters</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>29%</b>

\* Turnout represents the percent of registered voters eligible to vote in the 2006 General Election who cast ballots in that election.

# Fact Sheet

## Chinese American Voters, Orange County 2006

### **Chinese Americans voting in the 2006 General Election were...**

- 75% Foreign-Born**
- 6% 18 to 24**
- 48% Female, 52% Male**
- 22% Democrat, 43% Republican**  
**32% Decline to State**
- 54% Absentee Voters**

Chinese Americans constitute the second largest Asian American electorate in Orange County, with the largest number residing in Irvine.

Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

#### **BY CITY**

**Table CH1: Largest Number of Chinese American Registered Voters by City, Orange County, 2006 General Election**

CITY	Registered Voters		Voters		Chinese Am Voter Turnout*
	# Chinese Am	% Chinese Am	# Chinese Am	% Chinese Am	
Irvine	8,783	9%	3,351	7%	38%
Anaheim	2,462	2%	1,038	2%	42%
Huntington Bch	2,170	2%	897	1%	41%
Garden Grove	2,131	3%	924	3%	43%
Fullerton	1,875	3%	764	2%	41%
Westminster	1,782	4%	809	4%	45%
Fountain Valley	1,507	4%	629	3%	42%
Santa Ana	1,486	2%	577	2%	39%
Yorba Linda	1,061	3%	429	2%	40%
Orange	1,000	2%	446	1%	45%
<b>Orange Co</b>	<b>36,190</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>15,089</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>42%</b>

#### **BY NATIVITY / AGE**

**Table CH2: Turnout\* of Chinese American Registered Voters by Nativity and Age, Orange County, 2006 General Election**

	Age			All Chinese Am Voters
	18 to 24	25 to 64	65 & Over	
Native-Born	22%	47%	77%	41%
Foreign-Born	22%	41%	55%	42%
<b>All Chinese Am Voters</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>42%</b>

\* Turnout represents the percent of registered voters eligible to vote in the 2006 General Election who cast ballots in that election.

# Fact Sheet

## Filipino American Voters, Orange County 2006

### *Filipino Americans voting in the 2006 General Election were...*

- 68% Foreign-Born**
- 5% 18 to 24**
- 55% Female, 45% Male**
- 33% Democrat, 45% Republican**
- 20% Decline to State**
- 45% Absentee Voters**

While the largest number of Filipino American registered voters were found in Anaheim, 4% of the electorate in Buena Park was Filipino American.

Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

#### BY CITY

**Table FI1: Largest Number of Filipino American Registered Voters by City, Orange County, 2006 General Election**

CITY	Registered Voters		Voters		Filipino Am Voter Turnout*
	# Filipino Am	% Filipino Am	# Filipino Am	% Filipino Am	
Anaheim	2,709	2%	1,098	2%	41%
Irvine	1,717	2%	659	1%	38%
Buena Park	1,476	4%	570	4%	39%
Huntington Bch	1,008	1%	437	1%	43%
Santa Ana	1,000	1%	387	1%	39%
Fullerton	975	1%	377	1%	39%
Garden Grove	923	1%	365	1%	40%
Cypress	823	3%	354	3%	43%
Orange	805	1%	343	1%	43%
Mission Viejo	722	1%	286	1%	40%
<b>Orange Co</b>	<b>20,307</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>8,321</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>41%</b>

#### BY NATIVITY / AGE

**Table FI2: Turnout\* of Filipino American Registered Voters by Nativity and Age, Orange County, 2006 General Election**

	Age			All Filipino Am Voters
	18 to 24	25 to 64	65 & Over	
Native-Born	20%	41%	69%	38%
Foreign-Born	17%	42%	52%	43%
<b>All Filipino Am Voters</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>41%</b>

\* Turnout represents the percent of registered voters eligible to vote in the 2006 General Election who cast ballots in that election.

# Fact Sheet

## Japanese American Voters, Orange County 2006

### *Japanese Americans voting in the 2006 General Election were...*

**18% Foreign-Born**  
**3% 18 to 24**  
**53% Female, 47% Male**  
**35% Democrat, 49% Republican**  
**15% Decline to State**  
**57% Absentee Voters**

Though smaller in number, Japanese American registered voters have the highest turnout rate of any other Asian American ethnic group in Orange County.

Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

### BY CITY

Table JA1: Largest Number of Japanese American Registered Voters by City, Orange County, 2006 General Election

CITY	Registered Voters		Voters		Japanese Am Voter Turnout*
	# Japanese Am	% Japanese Am	# Japanese Am	% Japanese Am	
Huntington Bch	1,433	1%	820	1%	57%
Irvine	1,343	1%	706	1%	53%
Anaheim	874	1%	510	1%	58%
Fountain Valley	644	2%	392	2%	61%
Cypress	588	2%	355	3%	60%
Fullerton	569	1%	323	1%	57%
Orange	543	1%	327	1%	60%
Garden Grove	464	1%	259	1%	56%
Mission Viejo	420	1%	254	1%	60%
Laguna Niguel	404	1%	212	1%	52%
<b>Orange Co</b>	<b>12,928</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>7,454</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>58%</b>

### BY NATIVITY / AGE

Table JA2: Turnout\* of Japanese American Registered Voters by Nativity and Age, Orange County, 2006 General Election

	Age			All Japanese Am Voters
	18 to 24	25 to 64	65 & Over	
Native-Born	25%	58%	76%	60%
Foreign-Born	13%	47%	60%	50%
<b>All Japanese Am Voters</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>58%</b>

\* Turnout represents the percent of registered voters eligible to vote in the 2006 General Election who cast ballots in that election.



# Fact Sheet

## Korean American Voters, Orange County 2006

### ***Korean Americans voting in the 2006 General Election were...***

- 86% Foreign-Born**
- 4% 18 to 24**
- 50% Female, 50% Male**
- 32% Democrat, 43% Republican**
- 24% Decline to State**
- 57% Absentee Voters**

With the largest number in Irvine and Fullerton, approximately 86% of Korean Americans casting ballots countywide were foreign-born.

Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

#### **BY CITY**

**Table KO1: Largest Number of Korean American Registered Voters by City, Orange County, 2006 General Election**

CITY	Registered Voters		Voters		Korean Am Voter Turnout*
	# Korean Am	% Korean Am	# Korean Am	% Korean Am	
Irvine	3,611	4%	1,308	3%	36%
Fullerton	3,105	5%	986	3%	32%
Anaheim	1,742	1%	652	1%	37%
Garden Grove	1,700	2%	614	2%	36%
Buena Park	1,353	4%	405	3%	30%
Cypress	840	3%	278	2%	33%
Huntington Bch	795	1%	323	1%	41%
La Palma	666	8%	220	5%	33%
Orange	658	1%	273	1%	41%
Tustin	483	2%	124	1%	26%
<b>Orange Co</b>	<b>21,209</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>7,489</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>35%</b>

#### **BY NATIVITY / AGE**

**Table KO2: Turnout\* of Korean American Registered Voters by Nativity and Age, Orange County, 2006 General Election**

	Age			All Korean Am Voters
	18 to 24	25 to 64	65 & Over	
Native-Born	14%	32%	74%	26%
Foreign-Born	12%	34%	54%	38%
<b>All Korean Am Voters</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>35%</b>

\* Turnout represents the percent of registered voters eligible to vote in the 2006 General Election who cast ballots in that election.

# Fact Sheet

## Vietnamese American Voters, Orange County 2006

### ***Vietnamese Americans voting in the 2006 General Election were...***

**96% Foreign-Born**  
**6% 18 to 24**  
**48% Female, 52% Male**  
**23% Democrat, 53% Republican**  
**22% Decline to State**  
**72% Absentee Voters**

By far the largest Asian American electorate in Orange County, approximately 72% of Vietnamese Americans casting ballots in the 2006 General Election voted by mail.

Source: Orange County Voter File (December 26, 2006), Orange County Registrar of Voters and Asian Pacific American Legal Center

### **BY CITY**

**Table VI1: Largest Number of Vietnamese American Registered Voters by City, Orange County, 2006 General Election**

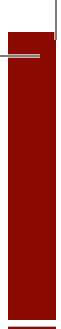
CITY	Registered Voters		Voters		Vietnamese Am Voter Turnout*
	# Vietnamese Am	% Vietnamese Am	# Vietnamese Am	% Vietnamese Am	
Garden Grove	19,779	27%	9,700	28%	49%
Westminster	16,666	37%	7,759	35%	47%
Santa Ana	9,016	10%	3,774	10%	42%
Anaheim	6,848	5%	3,269	6%	48%
Fountain Valley	5,202	15%	2,301	13%	44%
Huntington Bch	4,014	3%	1,567	2%	39%
Irvine	3,888	4%	1,634	3%	42%
Orange	2,200	3%	944	3%	43%
Stanton	1,980	14%	1,053	18%	53%
Costa Mesa	1,325	2%	620	2%	47%
<b>Orange Co</b>	<b>86,333</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>39,621</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>46%</b>

### **BY NATIVITY / AGE**

**Table VI2: Turnout\* of Vietnamese American Registered Voters by Nativity and Age, Orange County, 2006 General Election**

	Age			All Vietnamese Am Voters
	18 to 24	25 to 64	65 & Over	
Native-Born	22%	25%	64%	23%
Foreign-Born	32%	46%	64%	48%
<b>All Vietnamese Am Voters</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>46%</b>

\* Turnout represents the percent of registered voters eligible to vote in the 2006 General Election who cast ballots in that election.



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