



ASIAN AMERICANS ADVANCING JUSTICE

Factsheet: 2016 New Section 203 Coverage and Asian Americans

On December 5, 2016, the Census Bureau updated the Section 203 determinations based on 2010-2014 American Community Survey Data. Part of the federal Voting Rights Act, Section 203 requires jurisdictions designated in the determinations to provide bilingual voting assistance to Asian Americans, Latinos, American Indians and Alaskan Natives. Prior Section 203 determinations, including the last one released in 2011, were made every ten years based on decennial census data. Section 203 was amended in 2006 to provide that Section 203 determinations will now be made every five years based on American Community Survey data. The American Community Survey data is an ongoing survey that the Census Bureau conducts to collect data on the American population every year.

Under the new Section 203 determinations, jurisdictions within twelve states are covered for Asian American language groups, which includes an additional state not previously covered for Asian American language groups:

States with covered jurisdictions under 2011 Section 203 determinations	States with covered jurisdictions under new 2016 Section 203 determinations
Alaska	Alaska
California	California
Hawaii	Hawaii
Illinois	Illinois
Massachusetts	Massachusetts
Michigan	Michigan
Nevada	Nevada
New Jersey	New Jersey
New York	New York
Texas	Texas
Washington	Virginia*
	Washington

* States that did not have previous Section 203 coverage for Asian American language groups.

Section 203 now covers 45 Asian American populations located in 27 counties, boroughs, census areas or cities, including six new Asian American populations that have been added to Section 203 coverage since the last list was released in 2011 (*see chart at end of factsheet*).

There are currently seven Asian American language groups covered by Section 203, including the addition of Cambodian (as indicated by an asterisk) and the elimination of Japanese and “Other Asian – not specified” categories previously covered in 2011:

Covered language group	Number of political subdivisions covered for language group in 2011	Number of political subdivisions covered for language group in 2016
Asian Indian	3	3
Bangladeshi	1	1
Chinese	16	18
Filipino	9	8
Korean	4	4
Vietnamese	7	9
Cambodian*	—	2
Japanese	2	—

* Language added since 2011 Section 203 Determinations.

Coverage for these seven language groups are as follows:

<u>Language group</u>	<u>Political subdivision and state covered by Section 203 in 2016</u>
Asian Indian	Cook County, Illinois (Chicago) Middlesex, New Jersey* Queens County, New York
Bangladeshi	Hamtramck City, Michigan
Cambodian	Lowell City, Massachusetts* Los Angeles County, California*
Chinese	Alameda County, California Contra Costa County, California* Los Angeles County, California Orange County, California Sacramento County, California San Diego County, California* San Francisco County, California San Mateo County, California Santa Clara County, California Honolulu County, Hawaii

<u>Language group</u>	<u>Political subdivision and state covered by Section 203 in 2016</u>
	Cook County, Illinois (Chicago) Malden City, Massachusetts* Quincy City, Massachusetts Kings County, New York (Brooklyn) New York County, New York (Manhattan) Queens County, New York (Queens) Harris County, Texas (Houston) King County, Washington (Seattle)
Filipino	Aleutians East Borough, Alaska Aleutians West Census Area, Alaska Alameda County, California Los Angeles County, California San Diego County, California Santa Clara County, California Honolulu County, Hawaii Clark County, Nevada
Korean	Los Angeles County, California Orange County, California Bergen County, New Jersey Queens County, New York (Queens)
Vietnamese	Alameda County, California Los Angeles County, California Orange County, California San Diego County, California Santa Clara County, California Harris County, Texas (Houston) Tarrant County, Texas* Fairfax County, Virginia* King County, Washington (Seattle)

* Newly covered language group under Section 203.

2016 Section 203 Determinations For Asian American Language Groups

Jurisdiction	Covered Asian American Language Group
Alaska:	
Aleutians East Borough	Filipino
Aleutians West Census Area	Filipino
California:	
Alameda County	Chinese, Filipino, Vietnamese
+ style="padding-left: 20px;">Los Angeles County	Cambodian*, Chinese, Filipino, Korean, Vietnamese
Orange County	Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese
Sacramento County	Chinese
San Diego County	Chinese, Filipino, Vietnamese
San Francisco County	Chinese
San Mateo County	Chinese
Santa Clara County	Chinese, Filipino, Vietnamese
++ Hawaii:	
+++ style="padding-left: 20px;">Honolulu County	Chinese, Filipino
Illinois:	
Cook County	Asian Indian, Chinese
Massachusetts:	
Lowell City	Cambodian
Malden City	Chinese*
Quincy City	Chinese
Michigan:	
Hamtramck City	Bangladeshi
Nevada:	
Clark County	Filipino
New Jersey:	
Bergen County	Korean
Middlesex	Asian Indian*
New York:	
Kings County	Chinese
New York County	Chinese
Queens County	Asian Indian, Chinese, Korean
Texas:	
Harris County	Chinese, Vietnamese
Tarrant County	Vietnamese*
Virginia:	
Fairfax County	Vietnamese*

Washington:
King County

Chinese, Vietnamese

- * Asian American language groups marked with an asterisk are newly covered under Section 203.
- + Asian Indian, Japanese, and Other Asian-Not Specified are no longer covered in Los Angeles County, California.
- ++ Filipino is no longer covered in Maui County
- +++ Japanese eliminated from coverage in Honolulu County, Hawaii.