

# BARRIERS TO JUSTICE:

## ASIAN AMERICANS & PACIFIC ISLANDERS WANT GREATER PROTECTION OF THEIR CIVIL RIGHTS

A new Stop AAPI Hate survey conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago, a non-partisan and independent non-profit research institution, finds nearly half of people from Asian American and Pacific Islander communities have faced discrimination or unfair treatment. Among those who have experienced discrimination, most cited race, ethnicity, national origin, skin color, or language as a main factor of their unfair treatment, while about a third mentioned sex or gender identity/expression, and two in ten said religion was the main reason for unfair treatment.



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The findings track well with a growing body of research demonstrating the rise of hate experienced by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>1,2,3</sup> Hate may include civil rights violations, such as discrimination on the basis of a protected characteristic; hate incidents that are not criminal, such as being called a racial slur by a stranger; as well as hate crimes, which are crimes committed against people or groups on the basis of protected characteristics.

The consequences can be stark – half of those who faced discrimination reported negative effects on their mental health, 45% said discrimination changed their sense of belonging and roughly a

### Four Things You Should Know

About the Stop AAPI Hate poll conducted by NORC Among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the U.S.:

- 1) Nearly half experienced discrimination or unfair treatment, and most said the experience either negatively impacted their mental health, strained relationships, or changed their sense of belonging.
- 2) Yet only one in five reported the violation and a majority of those who reported said the process was difficult.
- 3) A majority wanted to know more about their rights and trust community groups serving Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and civil rights agencies as places to report and learn more.
- 4) About seven in ten believed new civil rights laws are needed to reduce discrimination against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

<sup>1</sup> Levin, B., & Grisham, K. (2021). Anti-Asian Hate Crime Reported to Police in America's Largest Cities: 2019 & 2020. Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism CSUSB.

<sup>2</sup> Stop AAPI Hate. (2022). Two Years and Thousands of Voices: What Community-Generated Data Tells Us About Anti-AAPI Hate.

<sup>3</sup> Department of Justice. (2022). Raising Awareness of Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents During the COVID-19 Pandemic.

quarter said their experience strained close relationships. Around a third of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who endured discrimination reported changing behavior like switching a job or school, or shopping at a different location. The same proportion said they took action to feel safer like taking a self-defense class or carrying a whistle or weapon, and 15% said they have become more civically engaged.

Though Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders experience discrimination and suffer consequences as a result, they also encounter challenges when seeking help with potential civil rights violations. For instance, only 21% of those who experienced discrimination reported the violation, while six in ten of those who experienced and then reported said the process was difficult, and less than half were satisfied by the outcome.

Further, more than half of those who experienced discrimination did not report because they felt reporting would not make much of a difference, about a third did not report because they were unsure of where to go or what to do, and a similar share thought reporting the incident would take up too much time.

Most (64%) Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders said they would feel more comfortable reporting a violation if they had a better understanding of their rights and how to enforce them. About four in ten wanted someone in government to make it easier to report violations or someone in the community to provide support during the reporting process.

About seven in ten wanted new civil rights laws to prevent discrimination against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

The study also sought to understand how Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders think about experiences of hate, civil rights violations, how to handle them, and the remedies available. While most could identify some characteristics and settings that are explicitly protected by civil rights statutes, fewer than half identified language, citizenship, and veteran status as protected classes. Similarly, about eight in ten said calling the police is the appropriate course of action for enforcing civil rights, which may not be an appropriate pathway for instances where no crime has been committed.

The nationwide study was conducted by NORC on behalf of Stop AAPI Hate from November 30, 2022 - December 22, 2022, using TrueNorth®, which combines a sample from AmeriSpeak®, the probability-based panel of NORC at the University of Chicago, with non-probability panel samples. In addition, Pacific Islanders were sampled at a higher rate than their proportion of the population to support analyses. Online interviews were conducted in English, Chinese Traditional, Chinese Simplified, Vietnamese, and Korean with 1,203 Asian Americans and 128 Pacific Islanders aged 18 and older living in the United States for a total sample of 1,331. The margin of sampling error is +/- 3.86 percentage points.

Other key findings include:

- Of the Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who experienced discrimination<sup>4</sup>
  - 47% reported this occurred at their workplace or as a job applicant, and 58% of them said the offender was a supervisor or manager.
  - 51% reported this occurred as a customer at a business.
    - 45% said the discrimination took place at a restaurant or café, 42% in a retail store, 17% in an event venue, 16% in a hotel/motel/inn, 14% in a gas station, 5% in a rideshare, and 3% in a homestay.
    - 71% said the offender was the business or an employee, 40% said it was another customer, and 13% said it was vendor who does not work at the business.
  - 36% reported discrimination as a student.
    - 52% said the discrimination took place at a high school, 39% at a college or university, 35% in a middle school, and 27% at an elementary school.
    - 55% said the offender was another student, 43% said it was a teacher or professor, 35% noted other school staff, while 18% cited a parent of another student.
  - 26% said it occurred on public transit, and 66% of them said the offender was another transit rider, while 41% said transit staff treated them unfairly.
  - 26% were members of the public seeking services with the government; the most cited location for discrimination in a government office was the DMV (42%).
  - 23% were treated unfairly when buying or renting housing. When identifying who was discriminating against them, 38% said a landlord, 26% said a seller, 23% said a real-estate agent, 23% said a tenant, and 20% said a mortgage lender.

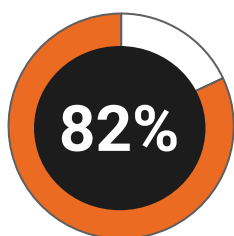
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<sup>4</sup> Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who said they experienced discrimination were provided a variety of follow-up questions aimed at unpacking the context of where discrimination occurs. This design enabled participants to denote multiple instances of discrimination.

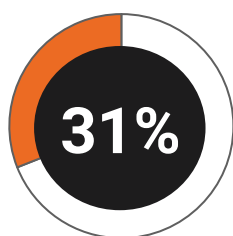
## HALF OF ASIAN AMERICANS & PACIFIC ISLANDERS EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION—MOST SAY IT WAS BASED ON RACE OR RELATED CHARACTERISTICS.

**Eight in ten AA & PI adults said they were discriminated against because of their race, ethnicity, national origin, skin color, or language**

Percent of AA & PI adults who experienced discrimination



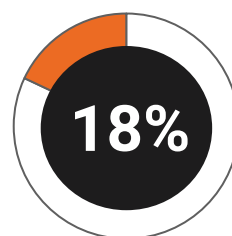
Race, ethnicity, national origin, skin color, language



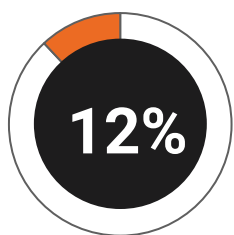
Sex, gender, gender identity/expression



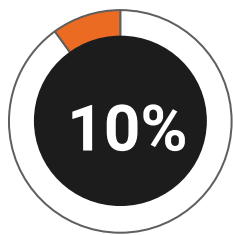
Religion



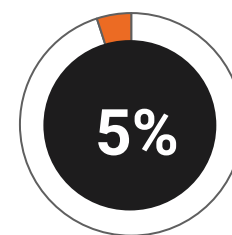
Immigration/citizenship status



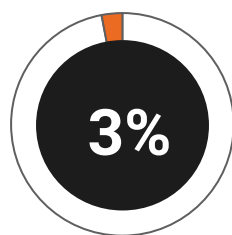
Age (40 or over)



Sexual orientation



Disability



Veteran status

**Question:** Why do you think you were discriminated against or treated unfairly?

**Source:** NORC poll conducted November 30 to December 22, 2022, with 1,203 Asian American & 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and older nationwide.



Nearly half (49%) of Asian American and Pacific Islander adults said they have been discriminated against or treated unfairly because of a protected characteristic. The survey defined “protected characteristic” as a specific characteristic about a person for which civil rights laws offer protection against discrimination or unfair treatment. Respondents were given a list of protected characteristics (such as race, sex, and disability) and asked whether they have ever been discriminated against or treated unfairly because of any protected characteristic.

Many Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders cited race and ethnicity as drivers of discrimination. Of those who experienced discrimination or unfair treatment, more than 8 in 10 cited race, ethnicity, national origin, skin color, or language as the protected characteristic they think the discrimination

was based on. Nearly a third reported sex, gender, or gender identity or expression as a factor, while about one in five said their unfair treatment was motivated by their religion or immigration status.

Younger people, or those aged 18-29, were more likely than older adults to report having experienced discrimination (63% vs. 46%, 48%, and 39%, respectively). Those under 30 were also more likely than their older counterparts to experience sex or gender discrimination (47% vs. 25%, 29%, 17%) and unfair treatment for having a disability (9% vs. 4%, 5%, and 1%).

Similarly, those born within the United States were more likely than those born in another country to say they had experienced discrimination (56% vs. 43%). However, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders born outside of the United States were more than twice as likely to experience discrimination because of their immigration status (27% vs. 11%).

## ASIAN AMERICANS & PACIFIC ISLANDERS FACE DISCRIMINATION ACROSS A VARIETY OF EVERYDAY SETTINGS.

### AA & PI adults were most commonly discriminated against in businesses, at work, or at school

Percent of AA & PI adults who experienced discrimination



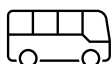
51% were customers



47% were employees or job applicants



36% were students



26% were riders of public transit



26% were seeking services from the government



23% were renters or buyers of housing

**Question:** Have you been discriminated against or treated unfairly based on a protected characteristic as a ... ?

**Source:** NORC poll conducted November 30 to December 22, 2022, with 1,203 Asian American & 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and older nationwide.



- Among those who have been discriminated against as a customer of a business, 71% said the offender was the business or an employee, 40% said it was another customer, and 13% said it was a vendor who does not work at the business.
- The top types of businesses in which respondents said this had happened were restaurants/cafés (45%) and retail stores (42%), followed by event venues (17%), hotels, motels, or inns (16%), gas stations (14%), rideshares (5%), and homestays (3%). The percentage of those who said they experienced discrimination in a rideshare nearly doubled to 9% for those respondents born

outside of the U.S. Fifty-nine percent were discriminated against at a small business and 47% experienced discrimination at a big box store or other chain business.

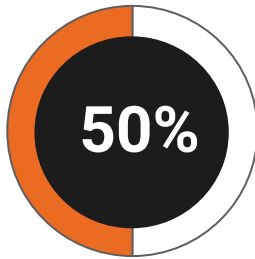
- Among those who experienced discrimination as an employee or job applicant, the top reported offender was a supervisor or other manager-level staff (58%), followed by a colleague or coworker (35%), the human resource department (29%), and a customer or patron at the respondent's workplace (27%).
- Of those who have been discriminated against as a student, 55% said the offender was another student, 43% said it was a teacher or professor, 35% noted other school staff, while 18% cited a parent of another student.
  - The educational setting with the highest rate of reported discrimination was high school (52%), followed by college or university (39%), middle school (35%), and elementary school (27%).
  - The majority said the discrimination happened at a public school (80%), compared to a private school (17%).
- For discrimination on public transit, 66% said the offender was another transit rider, while 41% said they were treated unfairly by transit staff.
- Of those who have experienced discrimination as a member of the public seeking services with the government, the top reported offender was a government agency or employee (63%), and 41% said another customer treated them unfairly.
  - The most cited location for discrimination in a government office was the DMV (42%). Thirty-one percent said they were discriminated against at a police station or while interacting with police, 28% said at the post office, and 20% said discrimination happened while voting.
- When it comes to experiencing discrimination when buying or renting housing, the most often cited offender was a landlord (38%). Roughly a quarter mentioned sellers (26%), real-estate agents (23%), or tenants (23%), while one in five (20%) referenced a lender as the main offender.

## **MANY ASIAN AMERICANS & PACIFIC ISLANDERS SAID DISCRIMINATION HURT THEIR MENTAL HEALTH OR CHANGED THEIR SENSE OF BELONGING.**

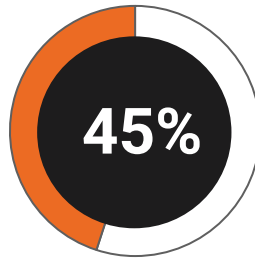
Asian American and Pacific Islander adults said certain changes occurred in their lives due to having experienced discrimination or unfair treatment. Half of those who experienced discrimination said it negatively impacted their mental health, such as feeling sad, stressed, anxious, or depressed. More than four in ten said discrimination changed their sense of belonging, while roughly a quarter said their experience strained close relationships. Nearly a third of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who endured discrimination reported making changes, like switching a job or school, or shopping at a different location. The same proportion said they took an action to feel safer like taking a self-defense class or carrying a whistle or weapon, and 15% said they have become more civically engaged.

## Half of AA & PI adults who experienced discrimination said their mental health was negatively impacted

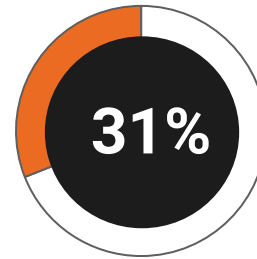
Percent of AA & PI adults who experienced discrimination



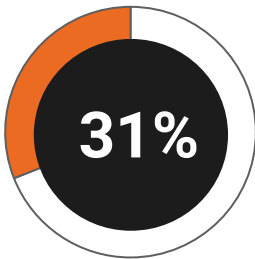
I experienced negative effects on my mental health



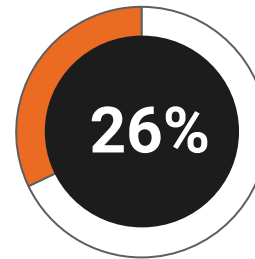
It changed my sense of belonging to my school, workplace, or other community



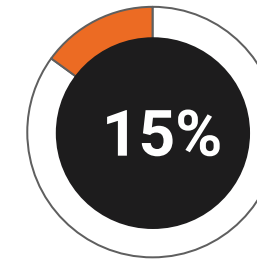
I felt less safe and/or took steps to feel safer



I changed my behavior, like changing schools, jobs, or where I shop



My personal relationships were strained



I became more civically or politically active

**Question:** Have any of the following happened to you because you experienced discrimination or unfair treatment?

**Source:** NORC poll conducted November 30 to December 22, 2022, with 1,203 Asian American & 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and older nationwide.



## **JUST A FIFTH OF THOSE WHO EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION REPORTED IT**

Among Asian American and Pacific Islander adults who experienced what they believed was a civil rights violation, only 21% said they reported it. Of the individuals who reported a violation, six in ten said it was difficult to do so.

Nearly half (45%) of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who experienced and reported discrimination informed a supervisor at work or a member of Human Resources. In addition, 38% reported it to the police, a district attorney, or another prosecutor; 26% reported it to a government agency that enforces civil rights laws; 24% reported it to a teacher, principal, or school district; and 19% reported it to a landlord or other housing provider.

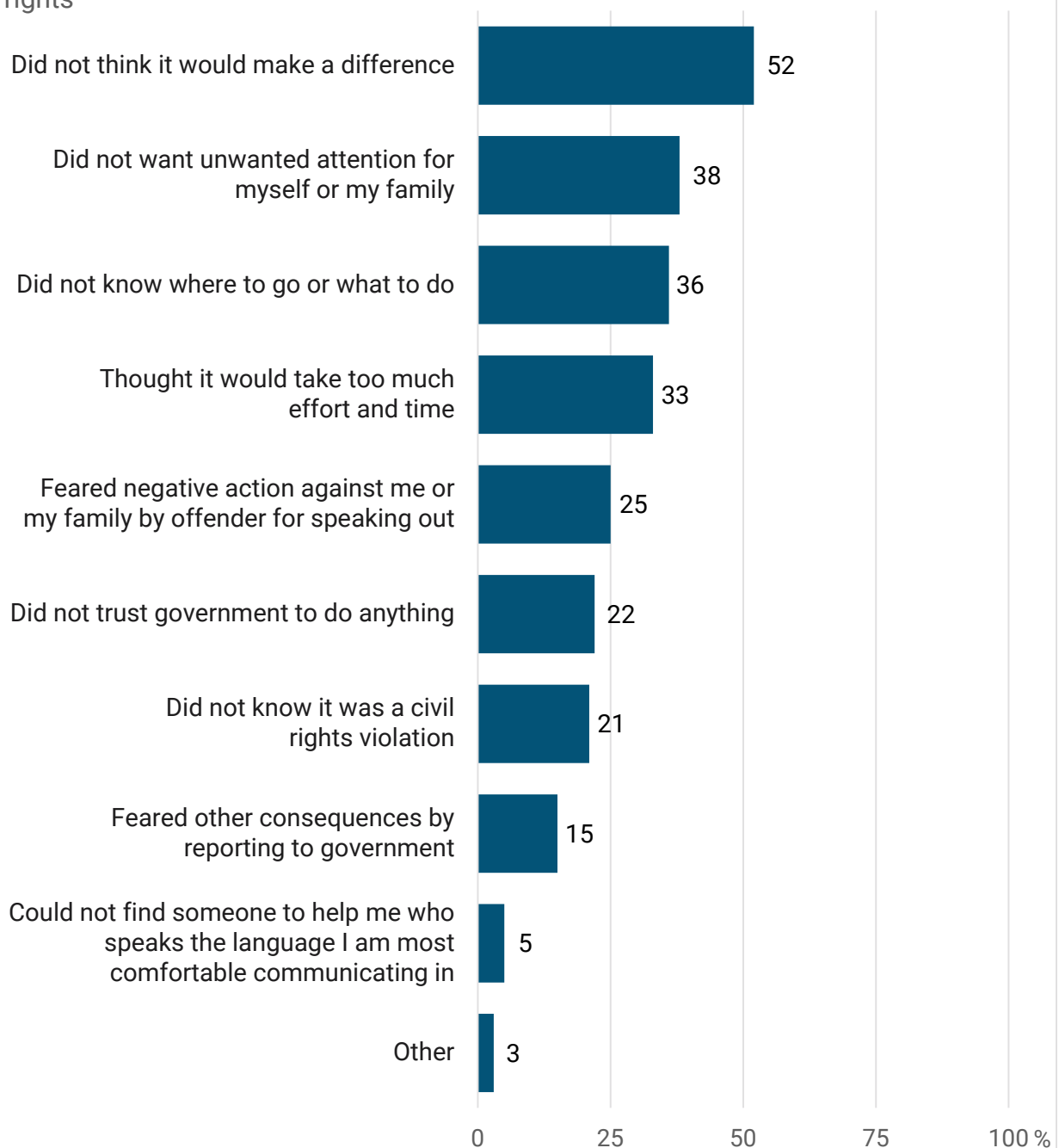
Out of those who reported a violation, 37% said their report was investigated and 33% said it was resolved. Twenty-one percent said they were referred to services that could help them, and twenty-eight percent said nothing happened as a result of reporting a civil rights violation. Fewer say the offender or the government took negative action against them or their family for reporting (11% and 9%, respectively). Only 47% said they were satisfied with the outcome.

Half of those who have experienced discrimination or unfair treatment but did not report what they believed to be a violation of their civil rights said they did not think it would make a difference; almost four in 10 feared unwanted attention for themselves or their families, more than a third were unsure of where to go or what to do, and nearly as many thought reporting the incident would take up too much time. A quarter feared that the offender would take negative action against them or their family for speaking out, about a fifth did not trust the government to do anything, and about as many did not know it was a civil rights violation.



## More than half of AA & PI adults who experienced, but did not report discrimination cited thinking it wouldn't make a difference

Percent of AA & PI adults who experienced, but did not report a violation of their civil rights



**Question:** Why didn't you report?

**Source:** NORC poll conducted November 30 to December 22, 2022, with 1,203 Asian American & 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and older nationwide.



Of those who reported a civil rights violation, 88% said they also shared their experience with someone outside of the formal report. Fifty-nine percent of those who told someone outside a formal report said they also told a family member or friend, 35% told a colleague, and 25% said they reported it to a community, advocacy, or civil rights organization serving Asians, Asian Americans, and/or Pacific Islanders (8% reported to Stop AAPI Hate and 20% to another advocacy organization). Fewer shared their story on social media or told a therapist (18% and 17%, respectively). About one in ten told an attorney (12%), religious leader (11%), or the press (10%).

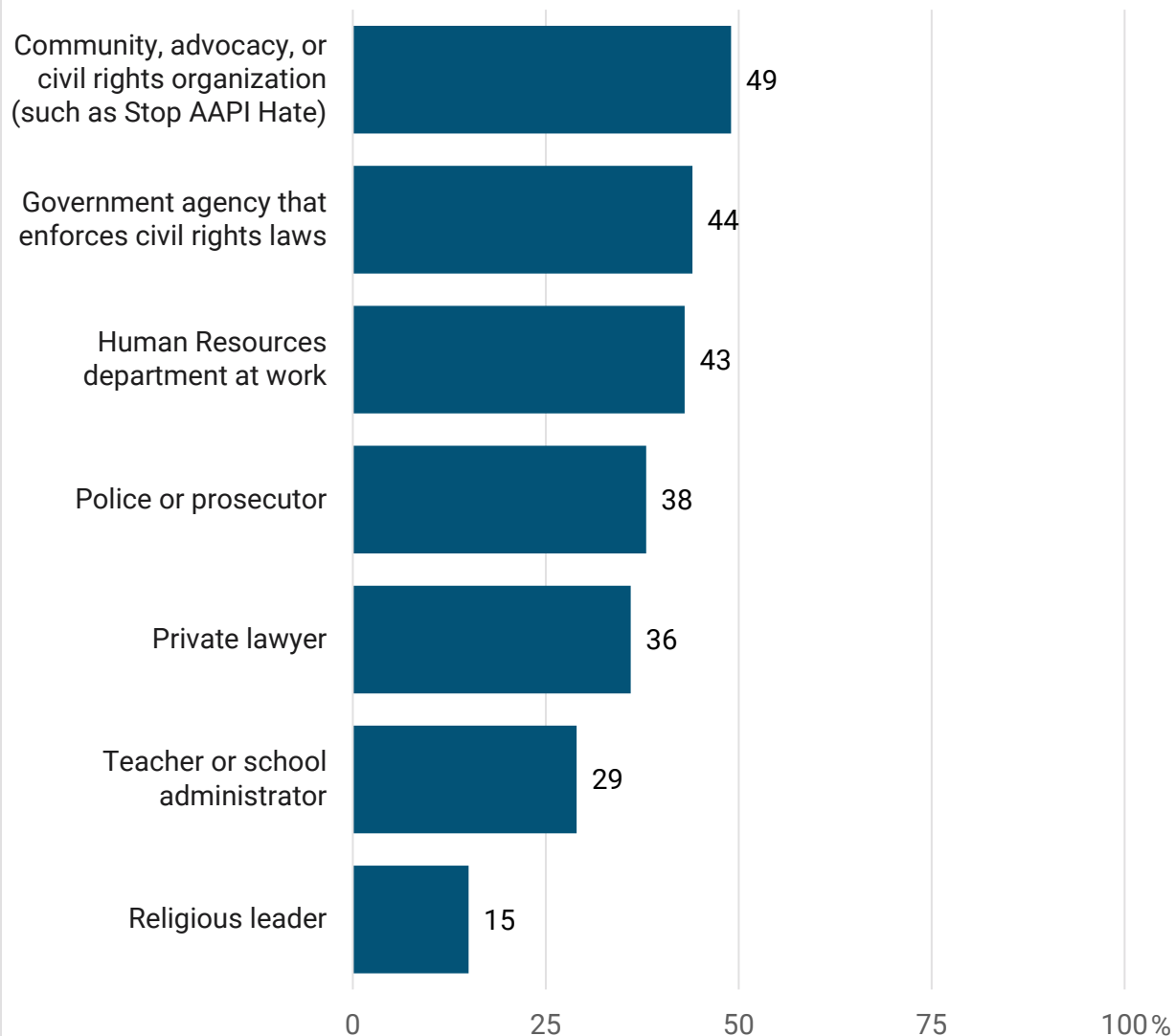
### **ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER ADULTS WOULD FEEL MOST COMFORTABLE REPORTING CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND LEARNING ABOUT CIVIL RIGHTS FROM AA & PI SERVING COMMUNITY AND ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS.**

Community, advocacy, or civil rights organizations serving Asians, Asian Americans, or Pacific Islanders, such as Stop AAPI Hate, were most often cited as the entity to which Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders would feel comfortable reporting a civil rights violation.

About four in ten (44%) Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders might approach a government agency that enforces civil rights laws, a human resources department (43%), or the police or a prosecutor with their civil rights violation (38%). Roughly a third would feel comfortable reporting to a private lawyer, 29% said a teacher, administrator, or staff at school, while just 15% would be comfortable with approaching a religious leader to report discrimination.

## AA & PI adults would feel most comfortable reporting civil rights violations to advocacy organizations serving AA & PI communities

Percent of AA & PI adults



**Question:** Who would you feel comfortable reporting a civil rights violation to? *Select all that apply.*

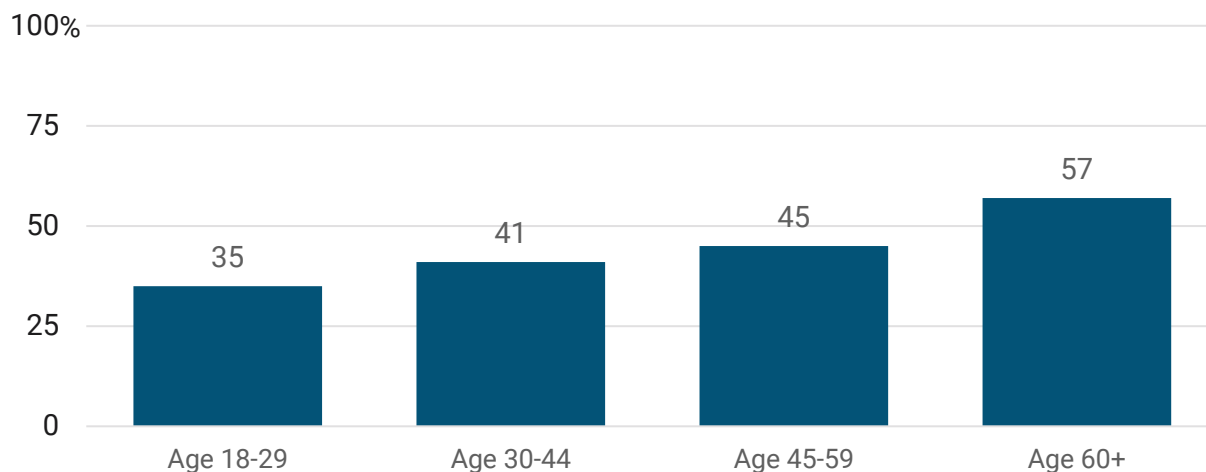
**Source:** AP-NORC poll conducted November 30, 2022 to December 22, 2022 with 1,203 Asian American & 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and older nationwide.



Older Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders said they feel more comfortable reporting to government agencies than younger generations. Thirty-five percent of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders under 30 said they would feel comfortable reporting civil rights violations to a government agency compared to 41% of those aged 30-44, 45% of those aged 45-59, and 57% of those aged 60 or older.

## Older AA & PI adults feel more comfortable reporting civil rights violations to government agencies than younger AA & PI adults

Percent of AA & PI adults



**Question:** [A government agency that enforces civil rights laws (such as Department of Justice)] Who would you feel comfortable reporting a civil rights violation to?

**Source:** AP-NORC poll conducted November 30, 2022 to December 22, 2022 with 1,203 Asian American & 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and older nationwide.



Community, advocacy, or civil rights organizations serving Asians, Asian Americans, or Pacific Islanders were also the most trusted source (57%) for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to learn more about their rights, followed by a government agency that enforces civil rights (54%). Thirty-nine percent trusted their workplace human resources department, 35% trusted a private lawyer, 30% trusted the police, 24% trusted a school staff, and 15% trusted religious leaders. Seven percent of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders said they trusted no one to learn more about their rights.

## MOST ASIAN AMERICANS & PACIFIC ISLANDERS WANTED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THEIR CIVIL RIGHTS AND UNDERSTANDING THOSE BETTER WOULD HELP THEM REPORT.

Six in ten Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders wanted to know more about their civil rights. Three-quarters of those who answered the survey in a language other than English said they wanted to learn more about their rights compared to just 59% of English language survey takers. Similarly, two-thirds of those born outside the U.S. said they want this knowledge compared to just over half (54%) of those born in the U.S.

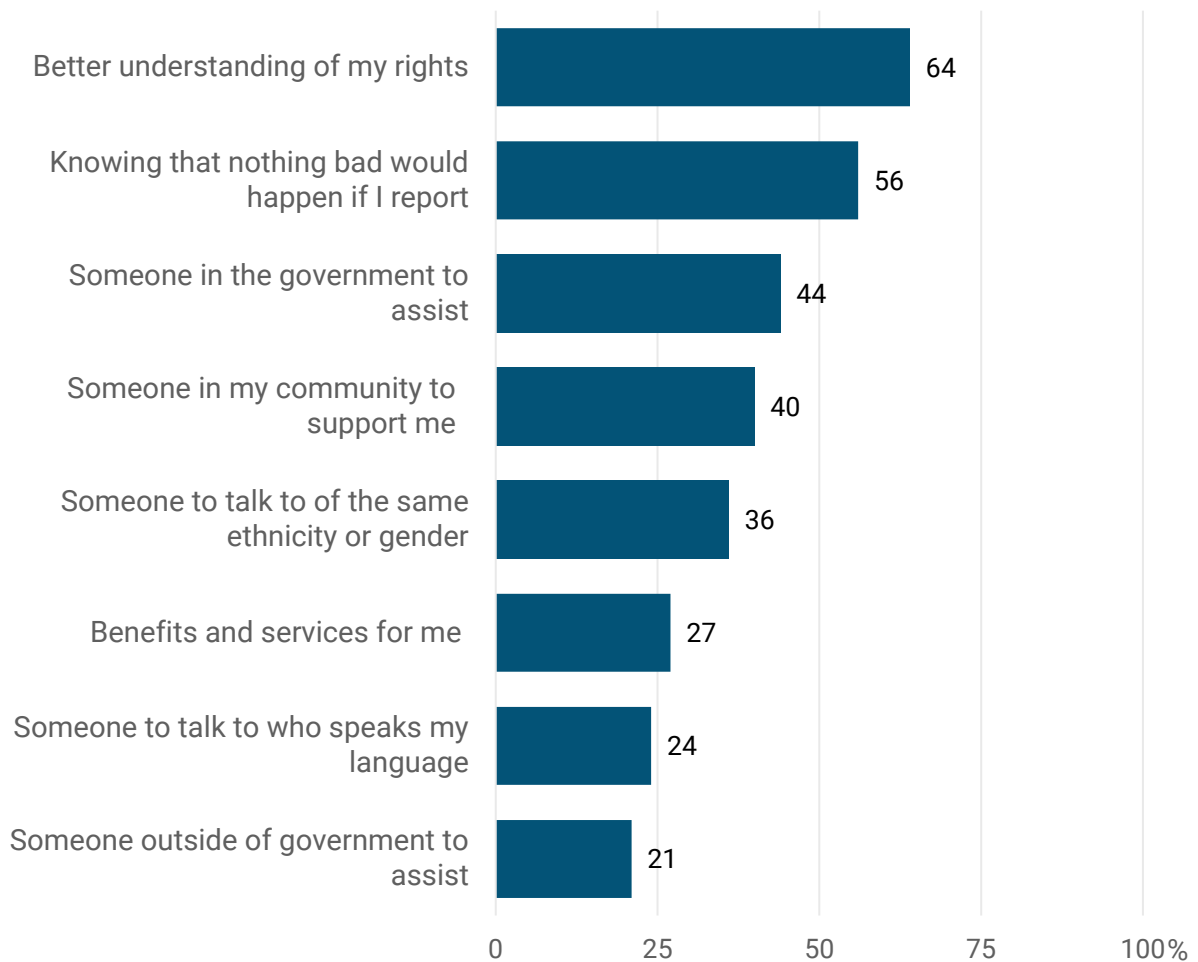
Sixty-four percent said that having a better understanding of their rights and how to enforce them would help them feel more comfortable reporting a civil rights violation. Fifty-six percent of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders said that knowing that nothing bad would happen to them or to their families as a result would make them more likely to report.

Forty-four percent of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders said that having someone in government to report violations to would make them more likely to report. About four in ten also said that having someone in their community to provide them support during the reporting process or talking to someone with similar personal characteristics would help them.

Those who answered the survey in a language other than English were three times as likely as those who took the survey in English to say that having someone to talk to in their own language would make them feel more comfortable reporting (60% vs 20%). Additionally, those born outside of the United States were about twice as likely as those born in this country to say having someone to talk to in their own language would make them feel more comfortable reporting (31% vs 17%).

### AA & PI adults say a better understanding of their rights would help them report more civil rights violations

Percent of AA & PI adults



**Question:** What would make you feel more comfortable reporting a civil rights violation?  
*Select all that apply.*

**Source:** NORC poll conducted November 30 to December 22, 2022, with 1,203 Asian American & 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and older nationwide.



## **YOUTUBE, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND OTHER WEBSITES WERE PREFERRED PLACES TO LEARN MORE.**

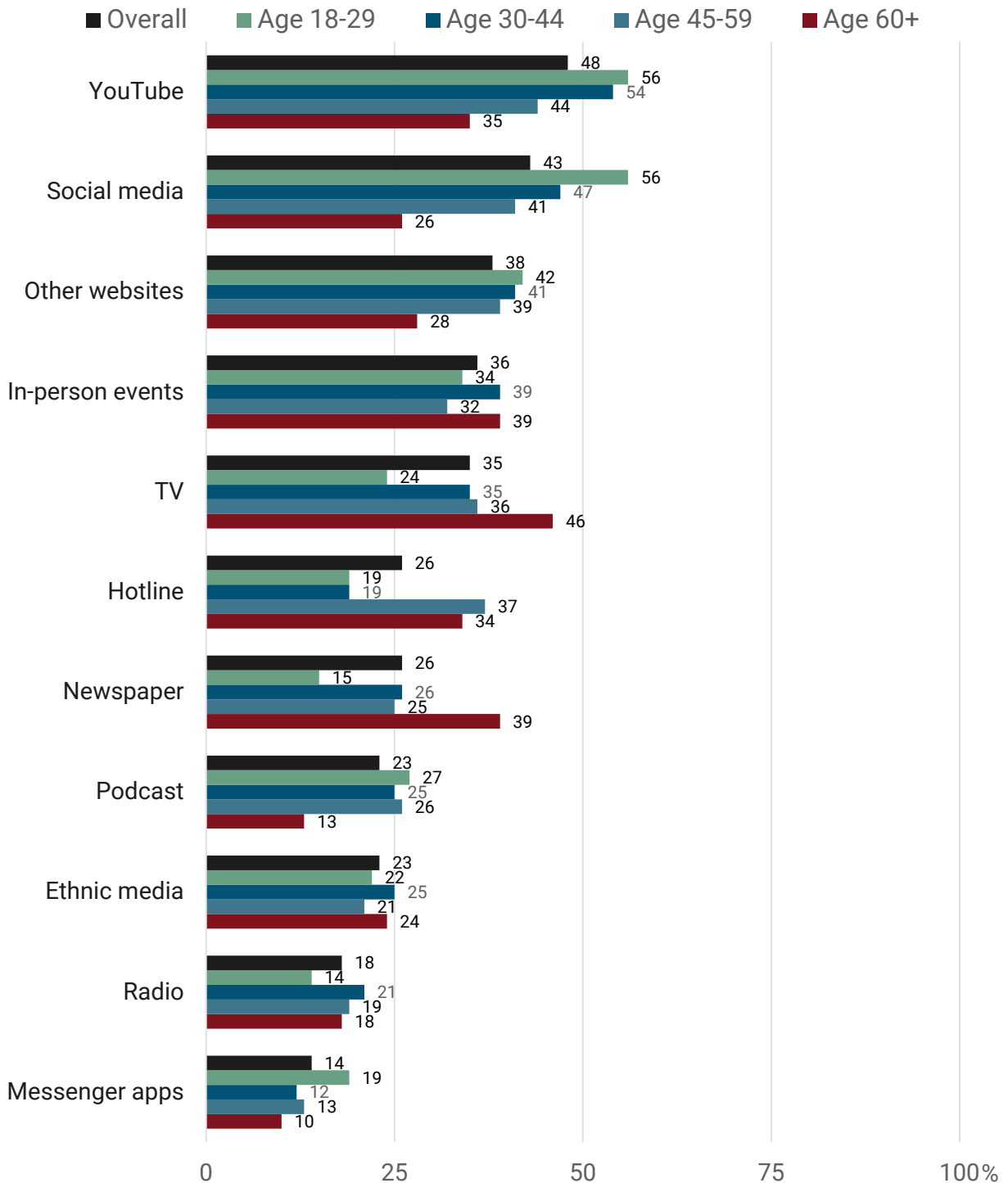
YouTube, social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and Twitter, and other websites such as blogs were the most popular media for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to learn more about their civil rights.

Those born outside the United States were more likely to opt for YouTube (52%) or ethnic media (28%) compared to those born in the United States (44% and 18% respectively).

Different generations of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have preferences for different media platforms. While adult Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders under age 60 preferred YouTube, social media, and other websites, those age 60 and older preferred TV, in-person events, and newspapers.

## Younger AA & PIs were more likely to turn to YouTube, social media, and websites to learn their rights

Percent of AA & PI adults



**Question:** Which of these would be most helpful to you in learning more about your civil rights and how to enforce them? *Select all that apply.*

**Source:** NORC poll conducted November 30 to December 22, 2022, with 1,203 Asian American & 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and older nationwide.

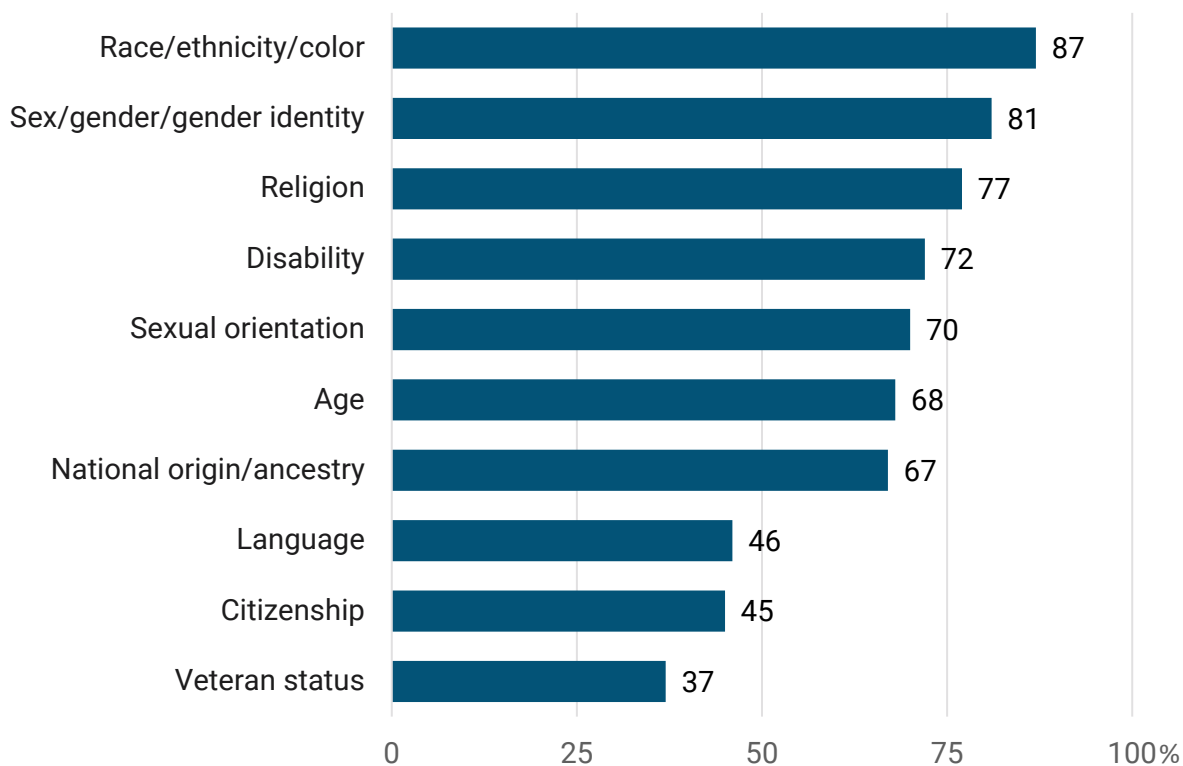


## ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER ADULTS HAVE A GENERAL SENSE OF CIVIL RIGHTS PROTECTIONS, BUT SOME STRUGGLED TO IDENTIFY KEY PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS AND SETTINGS.

Respondents were asked about their knowledge of civil rights protections against discrimination or unfair treatment based on certain personal characteristics and across various settings. While most Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders identified specific personal characteristics that are protected by civil rights laws, fewer than half were aware that citizenship, language, and veteran status are protected by law. Respondents who took the survey in a language other than English were more likely than English language survey takers to select language as a protected characteristic (60% vs. 45%).

### AA & PI adults knew several characteristics protected by civil rights laws, but fewer identify language, citizenship, and veteran status as protected classes

Percent of AA & PI adults who correctly identified certain characteristics as protected



**Question:** Laws that protect your civil rights make it illegal to discriminate or treat people unfairly based on certain characteristics about a person. What do you think these "protected characteristics" include?

**Source:** NORC poll conducted November 30 to December 22, 2022, with 1,203 Asian American & 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and older nationwide.

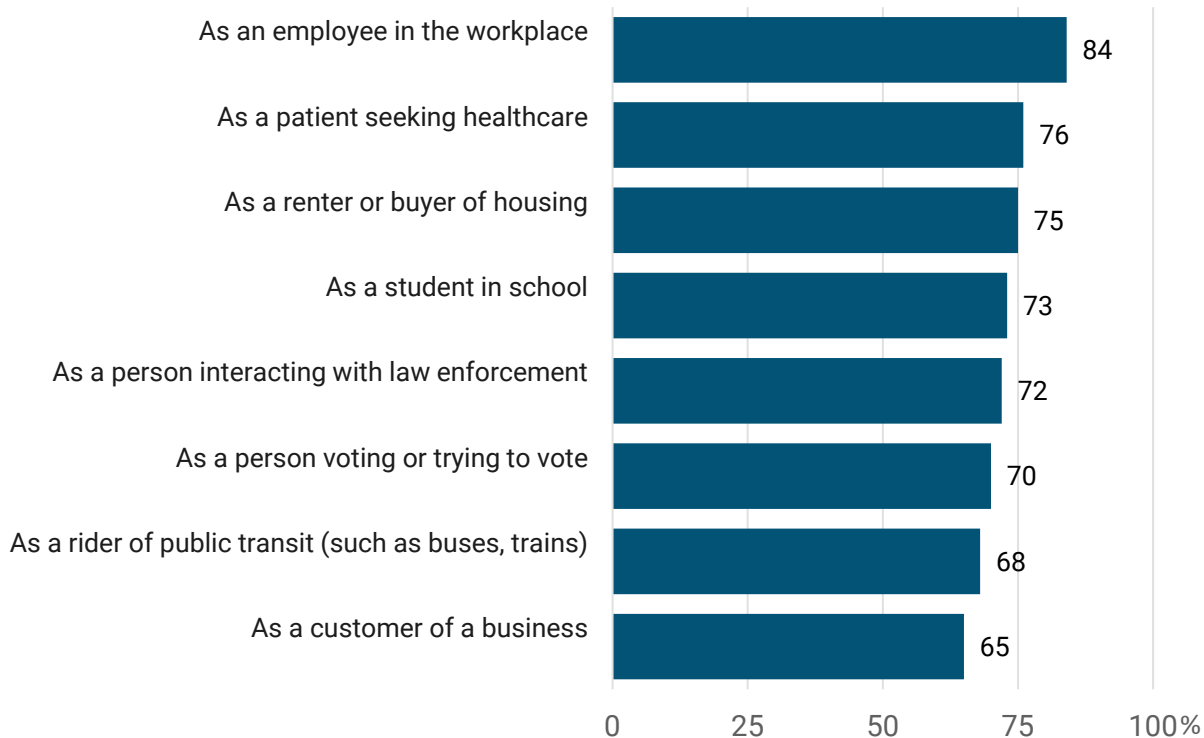




When looking at where discrimination or unfair treatment based on a protected characteristic is illegal, most respondents knew that each setting is protected but had the hardest time identifying that they are protected by civil rights laws when voting, riding public transit, or shopping as a customer at a business. Those born outside the United States were more likely than those born in the country to say that discrimination at the workplace is illegal (87% vs. 81%).

## Many AA & PI adults knew various settings are protected by civil rights laws

Percent of AA & PI adults who identified certain settings as "protected"



**Question:** Laws that protect your civil rights made it illegal to discriminate or treat people unfairly based on protected characteristics in various settings. What do you think are some of the settings where discrimination or unfair treatment is illegal?

**Source:** NORC poll conducted November 30 to December 22, 2022, with 1,203 Asian American & 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and older nationwide.



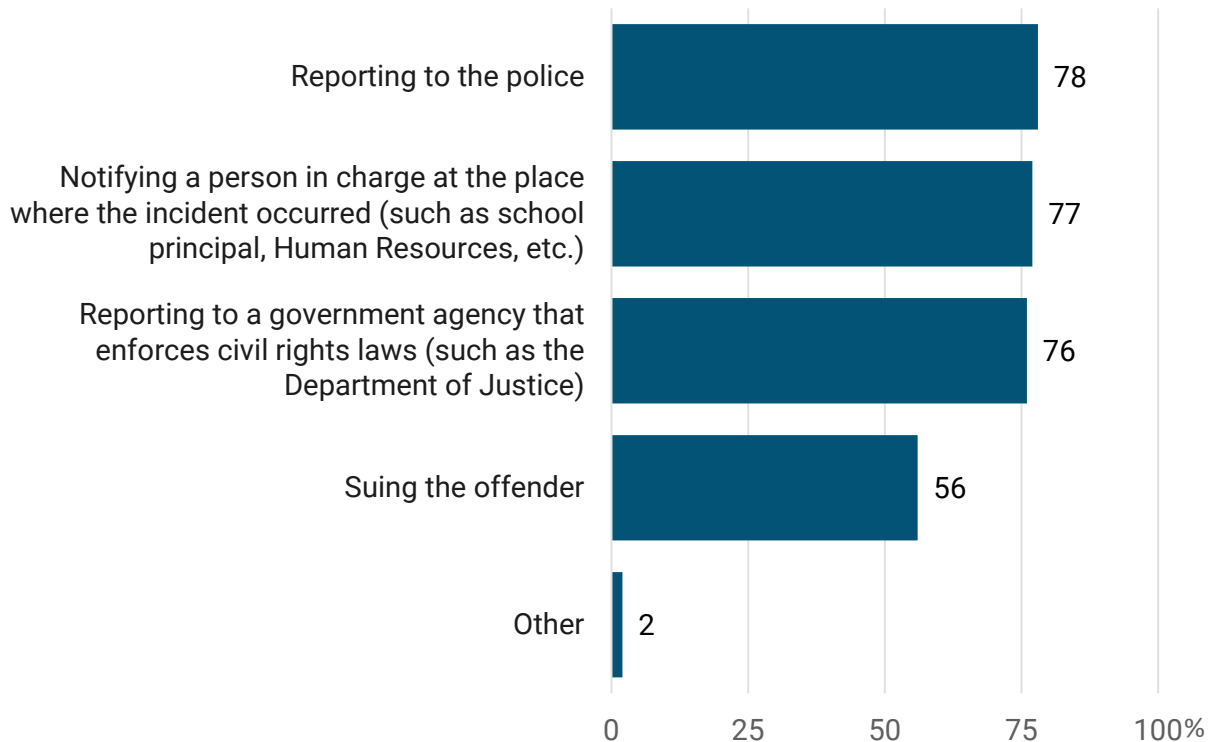
## ASIAN AMERICANS & PACIFIC ISLANDERS IDENTIFIED A RANGE OF POSSIBLE ACTIONS IF THEIR CIVIL RIGHTS ARE VIOLATED, BUT REPORTING TO THE POLICE WAS OFTEN AT THE TOP OF THE LIST.

Nearly eight in ten said they would report to the police. This may not be the most appropriate course of action since the police do not enforce civil rights laws. Similar proportions said they would notify the person in charge of where the incident occurred, or report to a government agency that enforces civil rights laws, while 56% thought suing the offender was an appropriate action.

Those who experienced discrimination were more likely to suggest reporting to a government agency that enforces civil rights laws (80% vs. 72%) as a viable action. Those aged 60 and older were also more likely than those under 30 to say that reporting to a government agency that enforces civil rights laws is an action that they can take (80% vs. 69%).

### Reporting to the police was seen as the most appropriate course of action to enforce civil rights, which may not be suitable in instances where no crime was committed

Percent of AA & PI adults who identified certain actions if civil rights were violated



**Question:** What actions do you think you can take if your civil rights have been violated?

**Source:** NORC poll conducted November 30 to December 22, 2022, with 1,203 Asian American & 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and older nationwide.



Respondents were also asked about their knowledge of remedies available to someone who has experienced a violation of their civil rights. Most Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders thought the government can help to remedy civil rights violations, including making the offending organization do something to address the harm and making the offender do something to stop or address the harm done. Nearly half acknowledged permission to sue as a remedy, about a third identified a financial award, while just 27% noted being provided with an in-kind benefit, like free schooling, as a remedy.

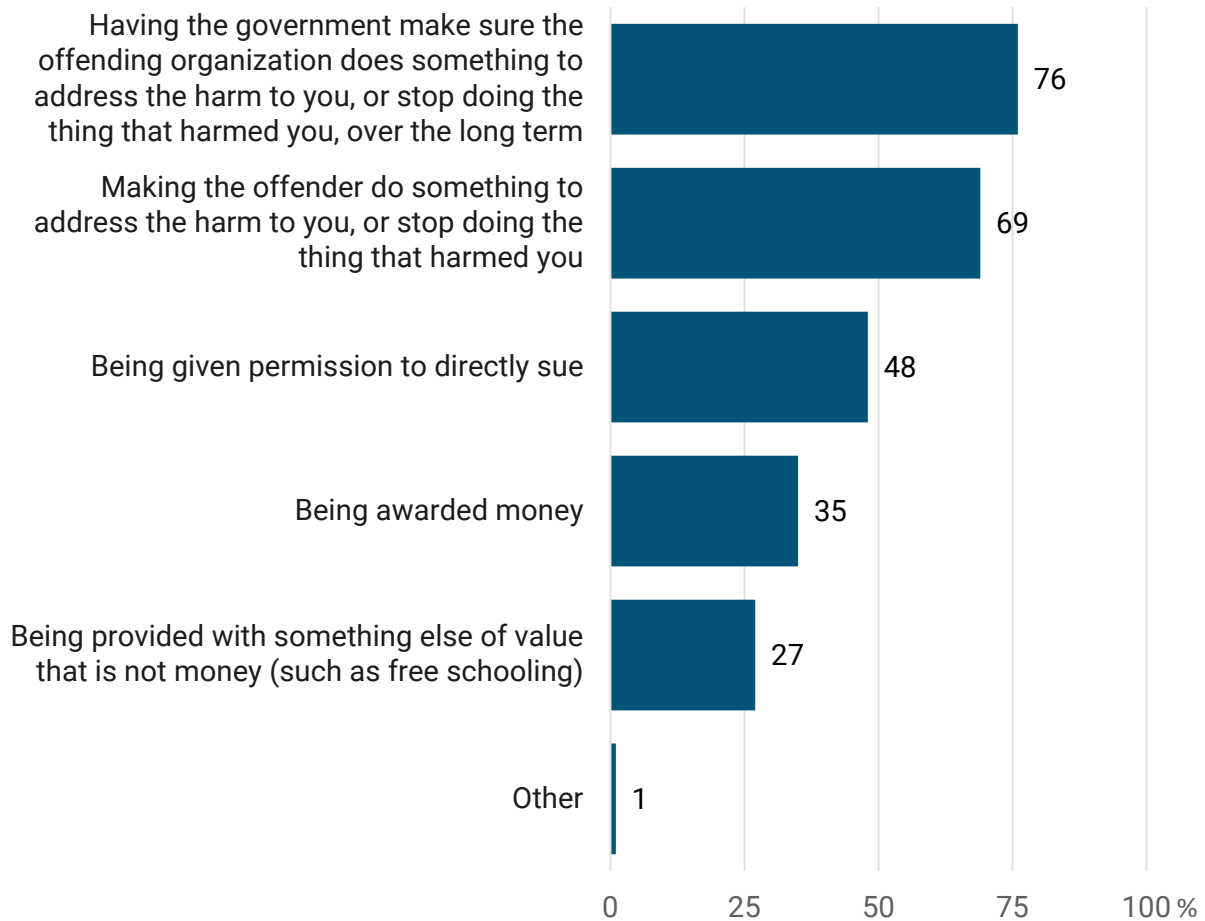
Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders aged 60 or older were more likely than those under 30 to identify permission to directly sue the offender as a remedy (53% vs. 41%), as were those who took the

survey in a language other than English compared to those who took the survey in English (66% vs 46%).

Those born outside the United States were less likely than those born in the United States to identify being awarded money as a possible remedy (31% vs 40%).

### About 3 in 4 AA & PI adults think that government action is a remedy for violations of civil rights

Percent of AA & PI adults who identify certain remedies if civil rights are enforced



**Question:** What remedies do you think you can take if your civil rights are enforced?

**Source:** NORC poll conducted November 30 to December 22, 2022, with 1,203 Asian American & 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and older nationwide.



## **ASIAN AMERICANS & PACIFIC ISLANDERS IDENTIFIED EXPERIENCES WITH HATE AS HATE CRIMES MORE OFTEN THAN AS CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS OR HATE INCIDENTS THAT ARE NOT CRIMES.**

Hate experienced by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders may include civil rights violations, such as discrimination based on a protected characteristic, hate incidents that are not criminal such as being called a racial slur by a stranger, and hate crimes, which are crimes motivated by bias as defined by law. To understand how Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders think about experiences with hate, respondents were presented with four hypothetical scenarios where a member of one of the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities experienced prejudice.

- 1) Refusal of service: A restaurant employee refuses to serve an Asian American family, kicks them out, and says, “No Chinese allowed. We don’t want COVID-19 here.”
- 2) Vandalism: A person breaks the windows of an Asian-owned business and writes racial slurs all over the walls.
- 3) Physical assault: A person punches a Samoan woman on the sidewalk, yelling racial slurs.
- 4) Verbal harassment: A person repeatedly screams racial and sexual slurs at a Vietnamese woman waiting for a bus on the sidewalk without physically hurting her or threatening to physically hurt her.

Then, respondents were asked to identify the scenario as one or more of the following categories: a hate crime, a violation of the person’s civil rights, or a noncriminal hate incident.

Overall, more than 8 in 10 Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders identified vandalism (89%) and physical assault (82%) as hate crimes. But more than half of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders also identified scenarios where no crime had been committed, such as the refusal of service (66%) or the verbal harassment (56%), as hate crimes.

Potential civil rights violations were identified by smaller percentages of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. Scenarios such as the refusal of service (57%), vandalism (52%), or physical assault (55%) scenarios were identified as civil rights violations. Vandalism and physical assault could both be civil rights violations under California law and possibly other states’ laws. Even fewer Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders identified scenarios as non-criminal hate incidents, such as refusal of service (37%) or verbal harassment (50%).

## **MOST ASIAN AMERICANS & PACIFIC ISLANDERS SOUGHT GREATER ACCOUNTABILITY FROM OFFENDERS.**

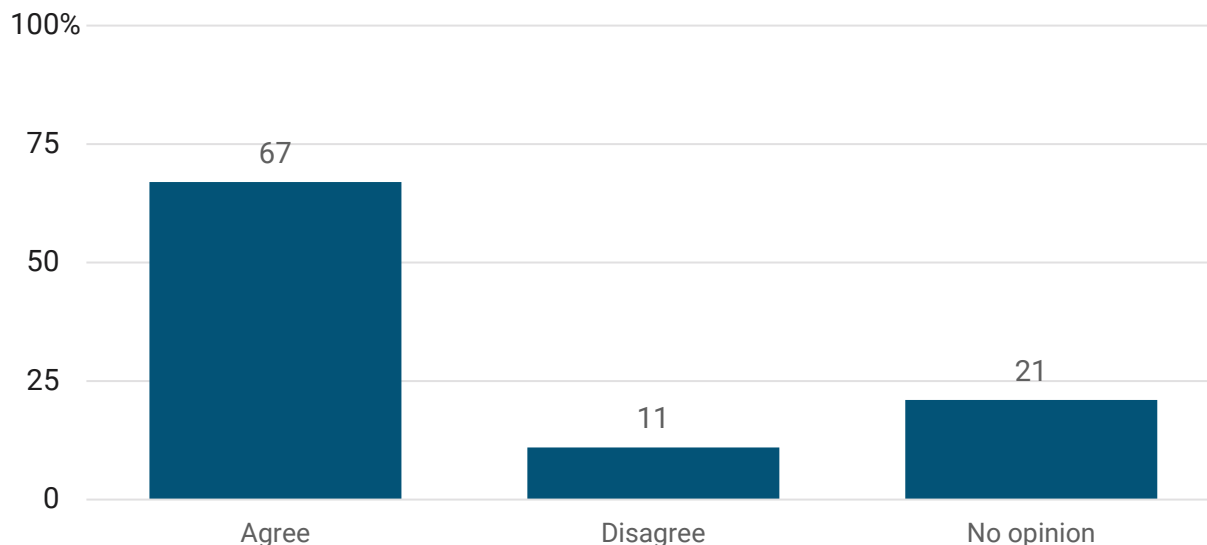
Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders were asked what a satisfactory outcome would look like if their civil rights were violated. Sixty-four percent said that holding the offending person accountable would suffice. Sixty-one percent said that making a difference for others going through the same thing would look like a satisfactory outcome. Sixty percent said holding the offending organization accountable, 48% said an apology from the offender(s), 45% said feeling heard by someone with power, 27% said publicity, and 23% said money for them would serve as a reasonable outcome.

## A MAJORITY OF ASIAN AMERICANS & PACIFIC ISLANDERS AGREED THAT NEW CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS ARE NEEDED TO PREVENT DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS.

Sixty-seven percent of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders agreed that new civil rights laws are needed to reduce discrimination and unfair treatment against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

### Most AA & PI adults believe new civil rights laws are needed

Percent of AA & PI adults



**Question:** Do you think new civil rights laws are needed to prevent or reduce discrimination and unfair treatment against Asians, Asian Americans, and/or Pacific Islanders, or not?

**Source:** AP-NORC poll conducted November 30, 2022 to December 22, 2022 with 1,203 Asian American & 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and older nationwide.



## STUDY METHODOLOGY

This survey was conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago, a non-partisan and independent non-profit research institution, on behalf of and funded by Stop AAPI Hate, a fiscally sponsored project of Chinese for Affirmative Action. Data were collected using TrueNorth®, which combines a sample from AmeriSpeak®, the probability-based panel of NORC at the University of Chicago, with non-probability panel samples from Lucid and GC Global. 1, 331 interviews for this survey were conducted via the web between November 30, 2022 - December 22, 2022 - 1,203 Asian American adults and 128 Pacific Islander adults age 18 and over, representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Any reported differences between subgroups have been confirmed as statistically significant differences at the  $p < 0.05$  level in both multivariate regression and bivariate significance testing. In all models, multivariate significance testing controls for age, gender, race/ethnicity, education, income,

language choice, U.S. region, residence in a metropolitan area or California, language, whether a person experienced discrimination, whether a person reported discrimination, and place of birth (in the U.S. or outside the U.S.).

Demographic Category	Subcategory	Unweighted (%)	Weighted (%)	Benchmark (%)
<b>Age</b>	18 - 34	36.5	33.2	33.2
	35 - 49	27.9	28.8	28.8
	50 - 64	22.4	21.7	21.7
	65 Plus	13.1	16.3	16.3
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	Asian Indian	17.0	19.2	19.2
	Chinese	24.7	20.2	20.2
	Filipino	13.7	13.2	13.2
	Japanese	6.2	4.2	4.2
	Korean	7.4	5.9	5.9
	Vietnamese	7.7	8.5	8.5
	Pacific Islander	9.6	5.3	5.3
	Other Asian	13.6	23.4	23.4
<b>Language</b>	Chinese Traditional	3.2	3.2	4.7*
	Chinese Simplified	3.3	2.2	
	Vietnamese	2.2	2.5	2.5
	Korean	2.3	1.8	1.3
	Other Asian Language	N/A	N/A	4.6**
	English-Speaking	89.0	90.3	86.9
<b>Place of birth</b>	Born outside the U.S.	47.5	50.2	63.5
	U.S. born	52.3	49.6	36.5
<b>Education Status</b>	Some College or Less	39.2	46.7	46.9
	Bachelor's Degree or higher	60.8	53.3	53.1
<b>Gender</b>	Male	49.1	46.6	47.2
	Female	49.9	52.1	52.8
	Gender Nonconforming/Nonbinary	0.7	1.1	N/A***

\*ACS reports a combined benchmark for Chinese Traditional and Chinese Simplified.

\*\*ACS provides a benchmark that includes other Asian languages (e.g., Japanese, Tagalog, etc.), which were not fielded in this NORC study.

\*\*\*To date, ACS only has benchmarks for the male and female categories.

Pacific Islanders were sampled at a higher rate than their proportion of the population to support analyses. The study recruited additional respondents with limited English proficiency into the survey, to compensate for under-representation on people with LEP in the survey panels.

The survey was offered in English, Chinese Traditional, Chinese Simplified, Vietnamese, and Korean. AmeriSpeak and Lucid respondents were offered the survey in all 5 languages. The GC Global sample was offered the survey in the non-English languages only. The survey was self-administered by the respondent online via the Web. Final data was weighted using NORC's TrueNorth Calibration methodology.

The probability sample source is AmeriSpeak®, NORC's probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. During the initial recruitment phase of the panel, randomly selected U.S. households were sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame and then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, and field interviewers (face to face). The panel provides sample coverage of approximately 97% of the U.S. household population. Those excluded from the sample include people with P.O. Box-only addresses, some addresses not listed in the USPS Delivery Sequence File, and some newly constructed dwellings.

Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 540 completed the survey. Panel members were invited by email or by phone from an NORC telephone interviewer. Respondents were offered a small monetary incentive (\$2) for completing the survey. The final stage completion rate is 26.2 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 20.3 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 78.9 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 4.2 percent.

Lucid and GC Global provided 791 non-probability interviews with Asian American and Pacific Islander adults age 18 and over. The non-probability sample was derived based on quotas related to age, race and ethnicity, and gender.

For panel recruitment, Lucid uses invitations of all types, including email invitations, phone alerts, banners, and messaging on panel community sites, to include people with a diversity of motivations to take part in research. Because non-probability panels do not start with a frame where there is known probability of selection, standard measures of sampling error and response rates cannot be calculated. Quality assurance checks were conducted to ensure data quality.

In total, 77 interviews were removed for nonresponse to at least 50% of the questions asked of them, for completing the survey in less than one-third the median interview time for the full sample, or for straight-lining all grid questions asked of them. These interviews were excluded from the data file prior to weighting. Once the sample had been selected and fielded, and all the study data were collected and made final, a raking process was used to adjust for any survey nonresponse in the probability sample, as well as any noncoverage or under and oversampling in both probability and non-probability samples resulting from the study-specific sample design. Raking variables for both the probability and non-probability samples included age, gender, census region, race/ethnicity, and education. Population control totals for the raking variables were obtained from the 2021 Current Population Survey. The weighted data reflect the Asian American and Pacific Islander populations age 18 and over residing in the U.S.

In order to incorporate the non-probability sample, NORC used TrueNorth calibration, an innovative hybrid calibration approach developed at NORC based on small area estimation methods in order to explicitly account for potential bias associated with the non-probability sample. The purpose of TrueNorth calibration is to adjust the weights for the non-probability sample to bring weighted distributions of the non-probability sample in line with the population distribution for characteristics correlated with the survey variables. Such calibration adjustments help to reduce potential bias, yielding more accurate population estimates.

The weighted AmeriSpeak sample and the calibrated non-probability sample were used to develop a small area model to support domain-level estimates, where the domains were defined by race/ethnicity, age, gender, and education.

The model included covariates, domain-level random effects, and sampling errors. The covariates were external data available from other national surveys, such as health insurance, internet access, voting behavior, and housing type from the American Community Survey or the Current Population Survey.

Finally, the combined AmeriSpeak and non-probability sample weights were derived such that for the combined sample, the weighted estimate reproduced the small domain estimates (derived using the small area model) for key survey variables.

The overall margin of sampling error for the combined sample is +/- 3.9 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups.

Sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error, and there may be other unmeasured error in this or any other survey.

Additional information on the TrueNorth approach can be found here:

<https://amerispeak.norc.org/our-capabilities/Pages/TrueNorth.aspx>.

## **ABOUT NORC AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**

NORC at the University of Chicago is an independent research institution that delivers reliable data and rigorous analysis to guide critical programmatic, business, and policy decisions. Since 1941, NORC has conducted groundbreaking studies, created and applied innovative methods and tools, and advanced principles of scientific integrity and collaboration. Today, government, corporate and nonprofit clients around the world partner with NORC to transform increasingly complex information into useful knowledge.

NORC conducts research in five main areas: Economics; Markets, and the Workforce; Education, Training and Learning; Global Development; Health and Well-Being; and Society, Media and Public Affairs.

## **ABOUT STOP AAPI HATE**

The Stop AAPI Hate coalition was founded by AAPI Equity Alliance, Chinese for Affirmative Action, and San Francisco State University's Asian American Studies Department. Our mission is to advance equity, justice, and power by dismantling systemic racism and building a multiracial movement to end hate against Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.