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[https://www.100test.com/kao\\_ti2020/133/2021\\_2022\\_\\_E8\\_B5\\_96\\_E4\\_B8\\_96\\_E9\\_9B\\_84\\_E9\\_c96\\_133236.htm](https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/133/2021_2022__E8_B5_96_E4_B8_96_E9_9B_84_E9_c96_133236.htm) Lesson 19 , Asian Americans. In the last census conducted by the U.S. government in 1990 , one fact caught many people by surprise : the percentage of Asian Americans had grown faster than any other segment of the population. European Americans had , as expected , continued their slow decline in percentage of the total US population , though they were still dominant at about 76%. Black Americans had stabilized at about 12% of the population. Hispanics had continued their fast growth and were , at 9% , aimed at toppling Black Americans as the countrys largest minority group. The growth in Asian Americans , however , surged from only 2% of the total US population in the 1980 census to 3% in 1990. By the year 2000 at least 4% of Americans will be of Asian ancestry. This relatively huge increase has caught many demographers by surprise. Clearly a new force is developing in US demography , but few people seem to appreciate its implications. The Asian Americans are here and are here to stay , but exactly who are they , and what does their rapid increase mean for the country as a whole ? As a multi-ethnic nation , it should not be surprising that Asian Americans are becoming an increasingly large and important sector of the "rainbow nation" some Americans prefer to think of their country as. Indeed , the only surprise about this segment growing so fast is why it has not occurred sooner. After all , Asia is home to 60% of all the people in the

world. However , Asia is also a vast land , encompassing East , Southeast , South , and West Asia , each region significantly different from its neighbors. Further , there is no sense of unity within Asia , as there is , say , among European or Latin American countries. Indeed , the term "Asian Americans" is more a fiction of the European mind , since people from this area unfailingly refer to themselves as Chinese , Japanese , Filipino , etc , rather than as Asian-Americans. For more than 100 years , three primary groups of Asians emigrated to the United States : Japanese , Chinese , and Filipino. However , since the end of the Vietnam War , other groups from Asia have become increasingly prominent , especially those from Vietnam , Korea , and India. In addition , Iranians and Israelis from Southwestern Asia have also entered the US in large numbers. The patterns of Asian immigration have changed greatly over the past 30 years. In 1970 , 96% of Asian Americans were Chinese , Japanese , or Filipino ; as of 1997 , this percentage had dropped to 55% ! In that year , 24% of Asian Americans claimed Chinese ancestry , 21% Filipino , and 10% Japanese. The "newcomers" among Asian Americans include the Indians at 13% , Vietnamese at 11% , and Koreans also at 11%. What real numbers are we talking about ? There were estimated to be nearly 9600000 Asian Americans in the US in 1997. With such a high growth rate , there will be more than 10 million of them this year and perhaps 32 million in 2050 ( about 8% of the total US population at that time ) 。 Where do Asian Americans live ? Currently , an astounding 40% of this regional group lives in

California. Other states with relatively large Asian American populations include New York , Hawaii , Texas , New Jersey , Washington ( the state ) , and Illinois ( which contains Chicago ) 。 Overall , the West is home to 54% of all Asian Americans , the Northeast 19% , the South 16% , and the Midwest 11%. What about future trends ? As Asian nations continue to prosper , it is likely that they will contribute more to US immigration , especially from Southeast Asia and India. All of these groups continue to have above-average birth rates. On the other hand , Chinese and Japanese Americans have very low birth rates ; consequently , the percentage of these ethnic groups among the total will continue to fall. All in all , America can look forward to an increasingly large number of Asians enriching their new home with their diligence , investment , and diverse cultural contributions. 100Test 下载频道 开通 , 各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 [www.100test.com](http://www.100test.com)