Where are Asian people from?

(Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-based Violence)

Central Asia
Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan.

West Asia
(Middle East) Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

East Asia
China, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Taiwan, and Tibet. Also includes Okinawans.

Southeast Asia
Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, The Philippines (also regarded as Pacific Islanders), Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, East Timor, Thailand, and Vietnam. Also includes Hmong and Mien people.

South Asia
Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

South Asia
Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Central Asia
Arabia, Syria, Türkiye, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

West Asia
(Middle East) Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

East Asia
China, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Taiwan, and Tibet. Also includes Okinawans.

Southeast Asia
Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, The Philippines (also regarded as Pacific Islanders), Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, East Timor, Thailand, and Vietnam. Also includes Hmong and Mien people.

Utah's Asian Population

(U.S. Census, 2020)

Population

Central Asia
273

South Asia
15,832

Southeast Asia
26,525

Other Asian/Multiple (U.S. Census, 2020)

4,781

Top 10 Counties in Utah by Asian percentage of population

6%

4%

2%

0%

Salt Lake
Davis
Utah
Summit
Wasatch
Cache
Tooele
Wasatch
Washington
Grand
Washatch

One Japanese American mother’s perspective on disability services:

“It is amazing to me, coming from Japan. We are not even supposed to question our professor. That’s how we are raised. We will not even question our parents or talk back to them. Now, we are supposed to speak up for our child! It is hard, even someone like me who has lived here so many years. We are afraid because we don’t feel safe. It’s like the professionals will cut us off because if we make them mad then they won’t see our child anymore.”

(Jegatheeson, 2010)

6 Values common to many Asians that impact education and disability issues:

Group orientation: Belief in equality and resistance to singling people out, even if to provide extra support.

Strong family ties: Traditionally, extended families live together. Decisions are often made as family, largely based on the father’s opinions.

Emphasis on education: This value holds for all, whether there is a disability or not.

Respect for authority: Any authority figure or older person is not questioned.

Humility: It can be difficult to receive praise or share knowledge unprompted.

Belief in religion or karma: This can be the main reason for underrepresentation in special education classes. Families can fail to acknowledge disabilities that are not outwardly visible and blame developmentally inappropriate behaviors on bad parenting rather than acknowledging possible disabilities.

(Cui & Turnbull, 2003)

12.4% of Utahans consider themselves to be Asian. That’s 2.5% of the state’s population.

(U.S. Census, 2020)

The importance of these Asian cultural values may vary for first- vs. second-generation individuals.

For references, visit cei.utah.com/muldinet-utah

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