



**DEMOGRAPHIC SNAPSHOT OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE GULF COAST:
Hurricanes Rita and Katrina-Affected Areas**

Estimated Total Number of Asian Americans in Hurricane Katrina-Impacted Tri-State Area:
52,863¹

Estimated Total Number of Asian Americans in Hurricane Rita-Impacted Area: **7,677**

Estimated Total Number of Asian Americans in Hurricanes Katrina and Rita-Impacted Areas:
45,263

LOUISIANA

Greater New Orleans Metropolitan Area and Surrounding Parishes (Counties)

Impacted Parishes	Census 2000	ACS 2005	2006 LPHI Survey (Post Katrina Estimate)²
Jefferson	16,111	15,333	15,270
Plaquemines	832	N/A	134
St. Tammany	1,969	2,659	1,374
Orleans	12,370	10,655	6,607
St. Bernard	1,241	N/A	0
Estimated Total Asian Americans in Impact Area	32,523	Not Enough Data	23,385

37,910 Asian Americans in Louisiana speak another language besides English³
19,282 Asian Americans in Louisiana speak English less than “very well”⁴

¹ Total estimated population statistics are drawn from United States Census 2000. Note that also Census numbers also tend to underreport population numbers, especially ethnic minorities due to the language barriers.

² Louisiana Public Health Institute Survey, released January 2006

³ All language data is drawn from the American Community Survey of 2005

⁴ Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals, according to the government’s current definition, “have a limited ability to speak, read, write or understand the English language.” This has been traditionally measured as the ability to speak English less than very well. The Director of the Census determines limited English proficiency based upon information included on the long form of the decennial census. The long form asks respondents whether they speak a language other than English at home, and those that do are asked to evaluate their own English proficiency by choosing one of the four answers provided to the question of how well they speak English – “very well,” “well,” “not well,” or “not at all.”

The Census Bureau has determined that **most respondents overestimate their English proficiency** and therefore, those who answer other than “very well” are deemed LEP.

MISSISSIPPI

Biloxi, Gulfport, D'Iberville

Impacted Counties	Census 2000	ACS 2005
Hancock County	465	N/A
Harrison County	6,060	6,332
Estimated Total Asian Americans in Impact Area	6,525	Not Enough Data

2,204 Asian Americans in Mississippi speak another language besides English
1,062 Asian Americans in Mississippi speak English less than “very well”

ALABAMA

Mobile County

Impacted County	Census 2000	ACS 2005
Mobile County	6,215	7,255
Estimated Total Asian Americans in Impact Area	6,215	7,255

22,681 Asian Americans in Alabama speak a language other than English
11,859 Asian Americans in Alabama speak English less than “very well”

TEXAS

Port Arthur/Beaumont Metropolitan Area

Impacted County	Census 2000	ACS 2005
Jefferson County	7,677	7,426
Estimated Total Asian Americans in Impact Area	7,677	7,426

451,387 Asian Americans in Texas speak a language other than English
208,346 Asian Americans in Texas speak English less than “very well”