

PERSISTENT HARM, PRESSING NEEDS

JULY 2025

Executive Summary

In 2024, anti-Asian American and anti-Pacific Islander (anti-AA/PI)¹ racism remained alarmingly widespread in California. Around half (48%) of AA/PI adults in California said they experienced a hate act² based on their race, ethnicity, or nationality in 2024—according to Stop AAPI Hate’s January 2025 survey with NORC at the University of Chicago, a nonpartisan research organization. With little change from 2023, the continued high levels of anti-AA/PI hate in California signal a persistent and deeply rooted problem—one that shows no signs of abating and may worsen in the face of mounting political backlash. Escalating threats to immigrant communities deeply impact AA/PI communities in California, where nearly two-thirds (63%) of Asian people and one-third (33%) of Pacific Islander people are immigrants.³ As federal attacks on immigrant communities expand and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts are rolled back—including the suppression of disaggregated data collection—maintaining accurate, community-driven records of racialized hate is more critical than ever. The absence of reliable data allows harm to persist unchecked and leaves policy responses dangerously out of step with community realities.

This report presents findings from a sample of 515 Californians, drawn from a national survey of 1,598 Asian American and Pacific Islander adults conducted January 7–15, 2025, using NORC’s Amplify AAPI® Panel—the largest and most representative public opinion panel of AA/PI communities. To illustrate the lived experiences behind the numbers, the report includes accounts submitted to the [Stop AAPI Hate reporting center](#) by AA/PI Californians in 2024. In 2024, Stop AAPI Hate received 152 unique reports of anti-AA/PI hate acts that occurred in California, accounting for one-third (33%) of all reports last year. This brings the total number of reports from California between 2020 and 2024 to 4,495.

¹ In this report, we abbreviate “Asian American and Pacific Islander” as “AA/PI.” We use a slash between “AA” and “PI” to heighten the visibility of Pacific Islander communities who are often invisibilized when lumped together with Asian Americans. Pacific Islander (“PI”) includes Native Hawaiian people.

² “Hate act” is a term used by Stop AAPI Hate to refer to any event motivated by bias or prejudice, whether explicit or implicit, against a person or group’s actual or perceived identity(ies) that inflicts individual or community harm. This includes hate crimes and non-criminal hate incidents.

³ Stop AAPI Hate’s analysis of the American Community Survey 2023 5-year microdata sample accessed through IPUMS USA, University of Minnesota, www.ipums.org.

Key Findings for AA/PI Adults in California

Hate Remained Widespread and Harmful

- **Hate Happened Everywhere:** AA/PI adults in California experienced hate across many settings—most often online, in public spaces, and in businesses.
- **Hate Took a Deep Toll:** Among those who experienced hate, 4 in 10 reported negative impacts on their health. Nearly as many said it harmed their sense of belonging—whether in school, the workplace, their community, or the country.

Systemic Gaps: Reporting and Response

- **Most Hate Acts Went Unreported:** Despite many hate acts potentially qualifying as hate crimes or civil rights violations, 72% of AA/PI adults did not report them to a formal authority.
- **Barriers to Reporting Were High:** The top reasons for not reporting included believing the hate act was not serious enough (68%), thinking it would not make a difference (68%), or feeling it would take too much time or effort (53%). Alarming, half of those who thought the hate act was not serious enough experienced a potential hate crime or civil rights violation.
- **More Support Was Needed:** 34% of AA/PI adults who experienced hate received support, but another 38% needed help—including mental health care, safety training, and legal help—and did not receive it.

Community Response and Rising Concern

- **AA/PI Communities Are Taking Action:** Two-thirds of AA/PI adults took part in efforts to resist or reduce racism in 2024—and just as many plan to engage in policy action in 2025 to combat hate and racism.
- **AA/PI Communities Brace for Increased Hostility:** A majority of AA/PI adults anticipate worsening conditions over the next four years under the Trump administration: 61% expect greater hostility toward immigrant communities, 56% foresee rising racial tensions, and 57% anticipate more harmful foreign policies. Over half (53%) expect an increase in anti-AA/PI hate acts.

Recommendations

Policymakers

- **Condemn** anti-immigrant hate, a major form of anti-AA/PI hate.
- **Defend** immigrant communities through policymaking.
- **Strengthen** state and local civil rights enforcement.
- **Invest** in an expansion of culturally informed care and support for AA/PI communities.

Community Members

- **Know** your rights.
- **Speak up** and report hate.
- **Connect** with an AA/PI organization.
- **Combat** racist or xenophobic misinformation.
- **Participate** in civic engagement and advocacy.



Stop AAPI Hate is a U.S.-based coalition dedicated to ending racism and discrimination against AA/PI people. We strive to advance the multiracial movement for equity and justice by building power for our communities, working in solidarity with other communities of color, and advocating for comprehensive solutions that tackle the root causes of race-based hate. Our work includes four strategy areas: data & research, policy & advocacy, strategic communications, and community care.

[STOPAAPIHATE.ORG](https://stopaapihate.org)

Full Report

