

SOUTHEAST ASIAN AMERICAN ELDERS #TELLACL



In 2016, the US Administration for Community Living (ACL) requested feedback on their state plans on aging, which provide funding and support for older Americans.



SEARAC, along with the members of the Diverse Elders Coalition, collected thousands of comments from our communities about how ACL should serve diverse elders.



SEARAC's community includes elders who came to the US as **refugees** from Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam.

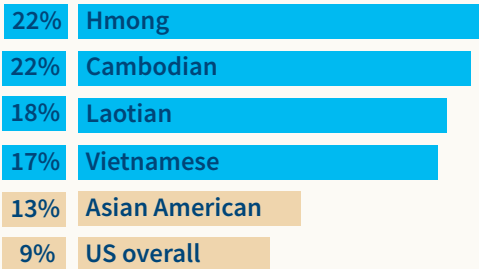


Southeast Asian American elders are

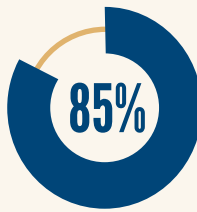
2x

as likely to live in poverty than elders overall.

Poverty rates for individuals 65 and over:

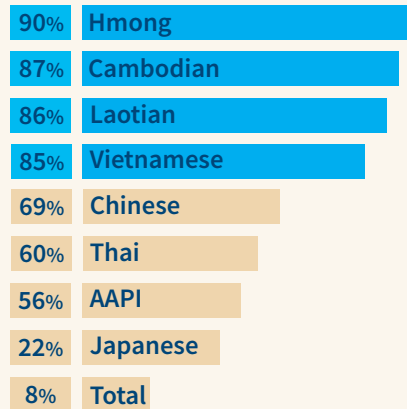


Source: 2010 Census

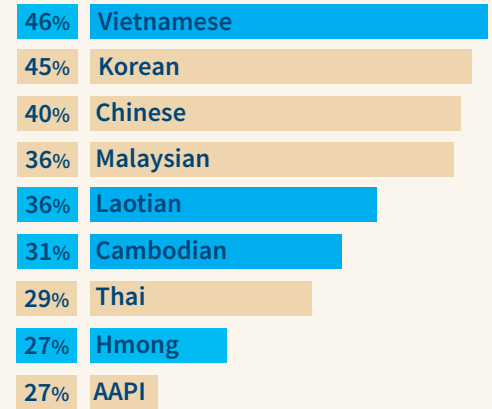


Over 85% of Vietnamese, Laotian, Cambodian, and Hmong older Americans are limited English proficient.

Percent of AAPI Older Adults who are Limited English Proficient



Percent of AAPI Older Adults in Linguistically Isolated Households



Many of these elders live in households where no one speaks English.

Source: US Census '09-11 ACS, 3-year estimates

SEARAC has collected over

400

comments in four languages from Southeast Asian American community members and submitted them to the ACL.

Comments from the community pointed overwhelmingly to the need for **in-language assistance, in-person assistance, and comprehensive services from community-based organizations.**

“My parents need help. **Life is hard with no English.** They do not offer Khmer anywhere else to help us.” – **Anry H.**

“**I need assistance with everything:** making appointments, filling out forms, reading my mail and taking me to appointments.” – **Phiun S.**



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