

IRANIAN AMERICANS

There is an estimated 1 million Iranian Americans that are part of and add value to the fabric of America. Although there have been waves of immigration to the U.S. from Iran, the majority of Iranian Americans migrated to the U.S. following the 1979 Iranian Revolution. They are trusted community members that hold inherently democratic values and have the best interests of the United States at heart. Iranian Americans contribute to all levels of U.S. society, including military service, law enforcement, and government. They are especially prominent in the fields of science, technology innovation, medicine, finance, law, and business.

EDUCATION

86% of Iranian Americans hold at least one college degree

Source: PAAIA 2017 National Public Opinion Survey of Iranian Americans

The Iranian American Contributions Project (IACP) estimates that Iranian American



publications have been cited nearly 2,384,858 times



inventors have filed for over 4,000 patents

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Small Business Administration (SBA) conducted a 2011 study that found Iranian Americans are among the top 20 immigrant groups with the highest rate of business ownership, contributing substantially to the U.S. economy.

33,570 active Iranian American business owners

\$2.56 billion: the total net income generated by Iranian Americans

21.5% Iranian American small business ownership rate

EMPLOYMENT

1 in 3 Iranian American households have annual incomes of over \$100k (1/5 for whole US pop)

50% of all working Iranian Americans are in professional & managerial jobs, more than all other groups

1/3rd are employed in industries related to educational services, healthcare, and social assistance

Source: Multicultural America Encyclopedia (Bayor 2011) & U.S. Census Bureau

ECONOMIC IMPACT



Iranian Americans have helped found public companies whose net worth is over \$100 bil



Iranian Americans have founded/held senior positions at many major U.S. companies

These companies include many Fortune 500 companies such as Uber, GE, Intel, Citigroup, Verizon, Motorola, Google, and AT&T. The combined market cap of these organizations is \$609 billion.

Source: The Iranian Studies Group at MIT & The IACP

PHILANTHOPY

Iranian Americans feel that they should give back to the country that has given them so much. They are well-known to contribute their time and resources to a variety of worthy causes like arts, culture, & education.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Iranian Americans have served in senior capacities for Republican and Democratic administrations. Many have been elected to state and local governments across the nation, including serving in positions like Lieutenant Governor and Mayor.

Iranian Americans have also dedicated their lives to defending America, having served in all branches of the military, as well as first responders. The longest serving Special Forces A-Team soldier in U.S. history is an Iranian American. Additionally, the first responder on the scene during the tragic San Bernardino terrorist attack was an Iranian American medic working with the SWAT team.



ABOUT PAAIA

The Public Affairs Alliance of Iranian Americans (PAAIA) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, nonsectarian organization that serves the interests of Iranian Americans and represents the community before U.S. policymakers and the American public at large.

We work to expand opportunities for the active participation of Iranian Americans in the democratic process at all levels of government and in public debate, provide opportunities for advancement for our next generation, educate the American public and policymakers on the Iranian American community and their opinions, and foster greater understanding between the people of Iran and the United States.

IA-100 is PAAIA's active national leadership network and conducts a variety of initiatives that benefit both the Iranian American community and U.S. society at large.

IAPAC is PAAIA's connected political action committee which promotes and contributes to the election of candidates that support the interests of Iranian Americans. It also helps to elect Iranian American candidates running for political office.