



## Asian Americans

### *The Places We Came From*



## CHINA

中华人民共和国 or 中国 – Zhong Guo

### Country Facts

★ **Capital:** Beijing

**Official language:** Mandarin

**Major ethnic groups:** Han (92%), Zhuang, Manchu, Hui

**Population estimate:** 1.3 billion

**Government:** Socialist Republic

### *Did You Know?*

- China has more people than any other country, and the Chinese are the largest Asian American group in the United States.
- The Chinese civilization is one of the oldest in the world and is credited with inventing paper, fireworks and the compass.
- Chinese New Year is one of the favorite holidays. People celebrate with noisy firecrackers and by spending time with their families, wearing new clothes, and giving money to children in red envelopes so young people will be lucky in the coming year.



*Firecrackers and an envelope used to give new year's money to children.*



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## JAPAN

日本 – Nihon

### Country Facts

🌐 **Capital:** Tokyo

**Official language:** Japanese

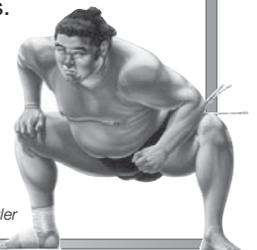
**Major ethnic groups:** Japanese (99%), Korean, Chinese, Ainu, Ryukyuan, Burakumin

**Population estimate:** 127.4 million

**Government:** Parliamentary Democracy and Constitutional Monarchy

### *Did You Know?*

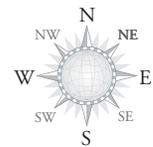
- Japan is about the same size as the state of California but has three times as many people. Eighty percent of Japanese people live in urban areas.
- Japanese people enjoy traditional foods such as miso soup, sushi (dried seaweed paper and rice wrapped with fish or vegetables), and oyako donburi (chicken and egg over rice). They also eat foods from other countries, like curry and burgers.
- Although sumo is Japan's national sport, baseball is the most popular spectator sport.
- Most Japanese Americans live in the state of Hawaii.



Sumo wrestler

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## KOREA (South Korea)

대한민국

### Country Facts

📍 **Capital:** Seoul

**Official language:** Korean

**Major ethnic group:** Korean

**Population estimate:** 49 million

**Government:** Presidential Republic

### \* Did You Know? \*

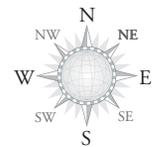
- Korea was divided into North and South Korea in 1945 after World War II.
- South Korea has the fourth largest economy in Asia and is a global leader in electronics.
- Tae Kwon Do is a popular martial art form introduced to the United States from Korea and the national sport, but baseball is the most popular spectator sport.
- The largest Korean community outside Korea is in Los Angeles, California. The state of Georgia has one of the fastest-growing Korean communities in the country.





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## TAIWAN

中華民國 or 台灣

### Country Facts

📍 **Capital:** Taipei

**Official language:** Mandarin

**Major ethnic group:** Han (98%)

**Population estimate:** 22.9 million

**Government:** Semi-Presidential System

### *Did You Know?*

- Taiwan is an island with mountains in the east and flat plains in the west where most people live. The population of Taiwan is a mix of the original Taiwanese groups and more recent immigrants from mainland China.
- Taipei 101 is a building with 101 floors and is the tallest completed skyscraper in the world as of 2007. It is designed to withstand the typhoon winds and earthquakes that are common in Taiwan.
- Basketball, baseball and badminton are very popular sports in Taiwan.

