A Comparative Approach to Explaining Gender Disparities in Asian American and Asian Canadian Politics: Supplementary Materials

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Building the datasets: identifying race and ethnicity

Datasets and replication files are posted at `https://github.com/fanlu2020/AsianUS_CA`. In the case of APAICS's original dataset, information on ethnicity is incomplete and in the case of Johnson, Tolley, Thomas, and Bodet (2021)'s original dataset, there is distinction between whites and non-whites but no information on race/ethnicity of non-whites. Since it is misleading to fill in this information based solely on names or physical appearance, research assistants and I follow Johnson, Tolley, Thomas, and Bodet (2021) in searching for racial/ethnic information from official candidate websites, media interviews, and social media posts. If we cannot determine a candidate's racial/ethnic background from at least two sources, we count them as 'undetermined'. For APAICs, we are able to complete information on ethnicity for all Asian candidates. For the Canadian dataset, 40 non-white candidates remain 'undetermined'. I do not include them in the analyses.

I do not include a mixed race category for both theoretical and empirical reasons. Theoretically, the experiences and public perceptions of biracial/multiracial candidates vary according to their combination of racial backgrounds. For example, Tricia Shimamura, who ran for city council in New York's District 5, identifies and looks both Japanese and Hispanic (Puerto Rican). In contrast, Sonia Chang-Diaz, who served in the Massachusetts Senate from the 2nd Suffolk district, identifies as both Hispanic and Asian (Chinese) but looks more Hispanic. In fact, Chang-Diaz's mother is white, her father is from Costa Rica, and her great-grandfather is Chinese. Though both candidates are technically mixed race, their experiences and perceptions of them are different. As for Asians of mixed ethnicity, we categorize TJ Cox, who is Filipino/Chinese as Filipino; Sam Kong, who is

Korean/Japanese as East Asian; Linh Song, who is Vietnamese/Laotian as Southeast Asian.

Empirically, the American Community Survey includes categories for "blank alone or in any other combination". However, this category does not specify which combination of racial backgrounds. The population estimates for these categories are also small enough that they do not change the substantive findings of this paper.

Additional analyses

Tables A.1 and A.2 present the number of candidates, the number of winners, and success rates by gender and ethnic category.

Table A.1: Electoral outcomes of Asian American candidates split by gender and ethnicity

	Asian F	Asian M	SE A. F	SE A. M	South A. F	South A. M	East A. F	East A. M
Local								
# of candidates	84	93	21	15	28	33	35	45
# wins	30	34	4	5	10	10	16	19
Success rate (%)	35.7	36.5	19.0	33.3	35.7	30.3	45.7	42.2
Statewide								
# of candidates	58	98	17	14	13	26	28	58
# wins	45	67	13	6	9	18	23	43
Success rate (%)	77.5	68.3	76.4	42.8	69.2	69.2	82.1	74.1
Federal								
# of candidates	32	49	7	7	12	26	13	16
# wins	7	6	1	0	1	3	5	3
Success rate (%)	21.8	12.2	14.2	0	8.3	11.5	38.4	18.7

Data: U.S. local, state, and federal elections 2019-2021. I identify 415 candidates, but the analysis is only based on 414 because I cannot identify the gender of Qinglan Jiang.

Table A.2: Electoral outcomes of Asian Canadian candidates split by gender and ethnicity

Variable	Asian F	Asian M	SE A. F	SE A. M	South A. F	South A. M	East A. F	East A. M
# of candidates	115	223	10	19	69	156	36	48
# wins	41	55	3	1	24	44	14	10
Success rate (%)	35.6	24.6	30.0	5.2	34.7	28.2	38.8	20.8

Data: Canadian federal elections 2008-2019. 338 candidates

Table A.1 shows most candidates, primary winners and general election winners in the U.S. are East Asians. Furthermore, even though there are more East Asian male than female candidates at all three levels of office, East Asian women achieve higher election success rates. In contrast to the U.S., Table A.2 shows most Asian Canadian candidates and eventual general election winners are South Asians, followed by East Asians and lastly, Southeast Asians. It is possible Southeast Asians are the least descriptively represented within Asian American and Canadian politics because they arrived to North America at a later time period. However, as with South and East Asian Canadians, among Southeast Asians who run for office, women are more successful than men.