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Asian and Hispanic immigrants more likely to own homes in U.S.

By Genaro C. Armas THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Asians and Hispanics who immigrate to the United States and become naturalized citizens are more likely to own homes than members of the same groups who are born in the country, the Census Bureau

reported Tuesday. About 63 percent of foreignborn Hispanics who are naturalized citizens owned their homes in 2002, compared with 54 percent of Latinos born in the United States, the bureau said. The difference was even greater between naturalized immigrant Asians and native-born Asians: 70 percent to 57 percent.

Like U.S. homeownership overall, rates in these race and ethnic groups have increased generally since the mid-1990s, helped by falling interest rates and an economy that was booming for most of the period.

Still, some experts were mildly surprised that people born outside the country were more apt to own homes than native-born people in the same racial or ethnic

Possible explanations include a strong desire among immigrants to own homes, said Robert Lang, a metropolitan develop-ment and planning professor at

Virginia Tech University.
"Remember what we export in terms of pop culture often revolves around owning a home, especially older popular culture about suburbia," Lang said. "A lot of people come to this country eager to participate fully in American life."

Generally, immigrants in the country longer, regardless of citizenship status, are more likely be homeowners. For instance, 60 percent of naturalized citizens who arrived in 1975 or later owned their homes, compared with 77 percent of those who arrived before 1975.

Waiting longer helps people build savings that can be used on down payments, said Janis Bowdler, housing policy analyst for the National Council of La

Raza, a Hispanic advocacy group.

And while the foreign-born population is concentrated in urban areas in gateway states like New York and California, Bowdler noted sizable increases were evident in the immigrant population over the 1990s in more affordable states such as North Carolina and Nevada.

"Generally, homeownership

in many foreign countries requires a much larger down payment than in the United States, and many immigrants are surprised by the opportunity," said Lawrence Yun, senior economist at the National Association of Realtors.

The Census Bureau study found the overall homeownership rate rose from 64 percent in 1994 to a record high of 67.9 percent in

Rates were also at record levels for non-Hispanic whites, regardless of citizenship status (74.5 percent), as well as Asians (54.7 percent) and Hispanics (48.2 percent). The 47.3 rate for blacks in 2002 was less than a half-point lower than in 2001.

Between 1994 and 2002, the homeownership rate rose from

Home of their own Naturalized Asians, Hispanic and blacks are more likely to own homes than their native-born counterparts, according the Census Bureau.

U.S. born Naturalized citizen Non-citizen Asian and Pacific Island

56.5%

Hispanic (of any race) 53.8% 62.7%

51.4%

Non-hispanic white 46.1%

SOURCE: U.S. Census Burea

65.7 percent to 70.3 percent for all native-born residents, regardless of race or ethnicity; from 66.8 percent to 67.6 percent among naturalized citizens; and from 32.9 percent to 34.9 percent among noncitizens.

There were similar increases across most race and ethnic cate gories, although homeownership for U.S.- born Asians declined from 62 percent to about 57 percent. A large number of Asians live in some of the most expensive metropolitan areas in the country, including New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Findings come from a year long survey of about 60,000 homes. Questions about citizenship status on this survey were first asked in 1994.

Deliberation

Continued from page 1

along the University Drive exit of the Earl Rudder Freeway.

Another estimate of 82 mph was given by a witness for the prosecution Friday morning, as reported in the Bryan-College Station Eagle. An engineer who does accident-reconstruction consulting work later testified Thompson was traveling between 68 mph and 72 mph.

The driver's blood alcohol level in the initial test, which took place one hour and 15 minutes after the accident, was three times the legal limit of .08, and it was .222 three hours later, as reported in the Eagle.

The attorneys for the defense and prosecution spent a significant amount of Monday debating whether the second blood test should be admitted as evidence.

Because the second test was taken without the consent of the driver and without a court order, the defense argued it was invalid

for court purposes. Prosecutors disagreed, saying the officers' actions of taking another test were legitimate because the longer officers waited for a warrant, the more Thompson's blood alcohol level would have decreased.

"That's a reasonable thing to ask," said Assistant District Attorney Shane Phelps of the blood withdrawal, as reported in the Eagle. Phelps also said the jury

could use Thompson's refusal to submit as evidence what he was thinking at the time. Both Garza and Thompson

were taken to St. Joseph Regional Health Center after the accident.

Defense attorneys Jim James and Cameron Reynolds doubted the reliability of the machine that was used for the test at St. Joseph's, as reported in the Eagle. The medical techinicans who ran the machine testified that it was producing accurate results.

One of the five A&M students who served as witnesses in

the case estimated that Thompson had 24 beers over the 12-hour span he had been drinking. The defense called this statement a guess.

Two students reported to police that they had notice Thompson driving his truck aggressively earlier the evening of June 8.

One of the Thompson's pasengers earlier in the night, Tiffany Powell, recalled that she told Thompson: "I don't feel like going through the wind shield tonight," the Eagle report ed. She said he responded by saying, "Don't worry, I won't do anything to hurt my truck."

Intoxication manslaughter is punishable by two years of probation to 20 years in prison.

The jury also decide Monday that Thompson's vehicle was used as a deadly weapon, Phelps said. This charge means Thompson wil have to serve at least half of any prison sentence he receives before he will be eligible for parole.

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Progestasert	2.0	
CopperT 380A	0.8	
Condom (without spermicide)	2	
	6	18
	6	18
Withdrawal	4	18
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		85

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Recall

Continued from page 1

Long lines were reported at polling places through the day.
By late afternoon, Tem
Carbaugh, a spokeswoman for the Secretary of State, said a turnout of 60 percent was likely, higher than the 50.7 percent who voted in last November's gubernatorial election.

Re-elected last year with less than 50 percent of the vote, Davis fell victim to a groundswell of discontent.

The actor's improbable rise to political power played out before a rapt international audience. He announced his candidacy in August on "The Tonight Show With Jay Leno" after aides said it was certain he wouldn't run.

Other major candidates seeking to replace Davis were the Democratic lieutenant governor, Cruz Bustamante, conservative Republican state Sen. Tom McClintock and Green Party candidate Peter Camejo.

The campaign included a parade of bit players among the 135 candidates, including Hustler publisher Larry Flynt, former child actor Gary Coleman, a pui licity-hungry porn actress who wanted to tax breast implants and an artist who dressed in all blue and described his candidacy as the

ultimate piece of performance att.
"I'm horrified at the thought that Schwarzenegger can be our governor," said Gretchen Purser. 25, of Berkeley, who voted against recall. "I'm sick of Republicans trying to take over

The Dennis otball program With a 2-3 re the hands of esn't seem to I was I proba

ow how to har Indeed France In his first s anchione's tea 98, the Hor anchione's firs son also awa ar at Alabama At TCU and sons of the tv programs. F

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