



## Factsheet on the Iranian-American Community

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### Estimated Population in the U.S. (Source: 2000 Census, July 2003 update)

Persons claiming primary and secondary Iranian ancestry: 338,266 \*

\* The Iranian-American community believes there may be serious underestimation of the actual population due to adverse perceptions of Iranian-Americans on claiming Iranian ancestry. Higher bound of the uncertainty range is estimated at 540,000 people.

### Educational Attainment (Source: 1990 Census, 2000 Census data not yet available)

High School Diploma and Higher	90.8%	(Second highest among 67 ancestry groups)
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	56.2%	(Second highest among 67 ancestry groups)
Master's Degree of Higher	26.2%	(Highest among 67 ancestry groups)

### Income Levels (1990 Census data, 2000 data not available)

Median household income: \$36, 800 (20% more than National average)

Median family income: \$42,000 (20% more than National average)

### Iranian-Americans and the U.S. Economy

Iranian-Americans have founded and served in senior leadership positions of many major U.S. companies, many of them in the Fortune 500. The following ten Iranian-Americans have been engaged in the senior leadership of companies worth over \$1000 Billion.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Company Value (in US\$ billion)</u>	<u>2002 Fortune 500 Rank</u>
Golnar Motaharipour	VP for LD	General Electric	284.2	2
Shaygan Kheradpir	CIO	Verizon	90.9	4
Hossein Eslambolchi	CTO	AT&T	200.2	8
Nasser Greyeli	VP for Technology	INTEL	202.2	18
Ali Sajassi	Chief Architect	CISCO	139.2	35
Behrooz Abdi	VP& GM for SPS	Motorola	31.7	43
Bahram Mahbod	VP for e-services	Oracle Corporations	67.2	88
Farhad Shakib	VP & GM	Nortel Networks	17.8	95
Behrooz Zarrabi	Manager	Lucent Technologies	12.7	133
Pierre Omidyar	Founder and CEO	Ebay	5.2	445

Source: Corporate Governance Websites and Reuter company value estimates 2003

### Iranian-Americans and the U.S. Academia

Hundreds of Iranian-American tenured and tenure-track academics are teaching and doing research at top-ranking universities in the U.S. According to a preliminary list compiled by the MIT Iranian Studies Group Research Team, there are over 500 Iranian-American academics teaching at Universities such as MIT, Harvard, Carnegie Melon, Yale, Princeton, University of California System (Los Angeles, Berkeley, Irvine, San Diego), Stanford, USC, Georgia Tech, University of Wisconsin, University of Michigan, University of Illinois, California Institute of Technology, Boston University, University of Maryland, George Washington University, and hundreds of other universities and colleges throughout the United States.

*The Iranian Studies Group at MIT is currently undertaking a research project aimed at a comprehensive overview of the role of Iranian-Americans in the American Society. For more information on the Iranian Studies Group, please contact: Ali Mostashari [amostash@mit.edu](mailto:amostash@mit.edu) and visit our website at <http://web.mit.edu/ig>*