Timeline

1619  Dutch ship brings 20 Africans to Jamestown, Va., the first enslaved Africans in the U.S.

1793  Eli Whitney’s new cotton gin increases demand for slaves

1793  Congress passes Fugitive Slave Act, making it a federal crime to assist a slave trying to escape

1808  Congress bans importation of slaves

1820  Missouri Compromise bans slavery above the southern border of the state

1831  Nat Turner leads largest slave rebellion prior to Civil War

1849  Harriet Tubman escapes to Philadelphia and subsequently helps about 300 enslaved people to freedom via the Underground Railroad

1857  In Dred Scott v. Sanford, U.S. Supreme Court declares that Blacks are not citizens of the U.S. and that Congress cannot prohibit slavery

1859  John Brown leads raid of U.S. Armory and Arsenal at Harpers Ferry, W.Va.

1861  South secedes from Union and Civil War begins

1863  President Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring “all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free”

1865  Civil War ends

1865  Thirteenth Amendment is ratified, prohibiting slavery

1868  Fourteenth Amendment is ratified, allowing Blacks to become citizens

1870  Fifteenth Amendment is ratified, guaranteeing that right to vote cannot be denied because of race, color or previous condition of servitude

1870  Hiram Revels becomes first Black member of Congress

1896  U.S. Supreme Court rules in Plessy v. Ferguson that segregation doesn’t violate the 14th Amendment’s equal-protection clause as long as conditions provided are “separate but equal”

1900  William H. Carney becomes first Black to be awarded Medal of Honor

1909  NAACP is founded

1926  Carter G. Woodson establishes “Negro History Week”

1940  Hattie McDaniel becomes first Black to win an Academy Award

1947  Jackie Robinson becomes first Black to play Major League Baseball

1950  Ralph J. Bunche becomes first Black to win the Nobel Peace Prize

1953  Willie Thrower becomes first Black to play quarterback in the National Football League

1954  In Brown v. the Board of Education of Topeka, U.S. Supreme Court rules that racial segregation in public schools violates the 14th Amendment

1955  Two white men who confessed to murdering a 14-year-old Black boy, Emmett Till, for allegedly whistling at a white woman are acquitted by an all-white jury
1955  Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat on a bus to a white man in Montgomery, Ala., leading to the Montgomery Bus Boycott

1957  Little Rock Nine integrate Little Rock Central High School in Arkansas

1960  Four Black students stage famous sit-in at a whites-only Woolworth’s lunch counter in Greensboro, N.C.

1961  Freedom rides begin from Washington, D.C.

1962  James Meredith becomes first Black student to enroll at the University of Mississippi. Violence prompts President Kennedy to send in 5,000 federal troops

1963  More than 200,000 people march on Washington, D.C., in the largest civil-rights demonstration in U.S. history; Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gives his “I Have a Dream” speech

1963  Four young Black girls are killed in the bombing of a Birmingham, Ala., church

1964  President Johnson signs Civil Rights Act of 1964, giving the government more power to protect citizens against race, religion, sex or national-origin discrimination

1965  Malcolm X, former minister in the Nation of Islam and civil-rights activist, is assassinated

1965  Thousands participate in three protest marches from Selma to Montgomery, Ala., for Black voting rights

1965  President Johnson signs Voting Rights Act of 1965

1967  Thurgood Marshall becomes first Black U.S. Supreme Court justice

1967  In Loving v. Virginia ruling, Supreme Court declares law prohibiting interracial marriages to be unconstitutional

1968  Dr. King is assassinated

1968  President Johnson signs Civil Rights Act of 1968, which prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental and financing of housing

1972  Shirley Chisholm becomes first major-party Black candidate to run for president

1983  Vanessa Williams becomes first Black Miss America

1984  Reverend Jesse Jackson becomes first Black to make serious bid for presidency

1986  First observation of Dr. King’s birthday as a national holiday

1990  Douglas Wilder of Virginia becomes first Black to be elected governor


1993  Dr. Joycelyn Elders becomes first Black Surgeon General

2001  General Colin Powell becomes first Black Secretary of State

2009  Barack Obama becomes first Black president

2014  Hundreds gather in various protests across the country after grand juries decline to indict Michael Brown’s and Eric Garner’s killers
Facts & Figures

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

Black U.S. Population

41.6 million (13.2% of total population)

61.8 million* (14.7% of total population)

*projected

**BUSINESS**

Blacks in Management

DiversityInc Top 50

U.S.

9.3%

6.4%

Blacks in Senior Management

DiversityInc Top 50

U.S.

6.8%

2.9%

Blacks on Boards of Directors

DiversityInc Top 50

Fortune 500

10.9%

7.4%

Fortune 500 CEOs (1% Black)

Kenneth C. Frazier, Merck & Co.

Roger Ferguson, TIAA-CREF

Kenneth I. Chenault, American Express

Don Thompson*, McDonald’s

Ursula M. Burns, Xerox

*Will retire March 1

DiversityInc Top 50 CEOs (6% Black)

Bernard Tyson, Kaiser Permanente (No. 4)

Kenneth C. Frazier, Merck & Co. (No. 14)

Roger Ferguson, TIAA-CREF (No. 36)

**FINANCES**

Median Income

Blacks

$34,815

Whites

$57,684

Latinos

$41,508

Asians

$72,472

American Indians

$36,641

Buying Power

Blacks

$1.1 T

Latinos

$1.7 T

Asians

$769.5 B

American Indians

$100.1 B

Total Population

$1.5 T

Projected Percent Change in Buying Power (2014–2019)

Blacks

23.4%

Latinos

32.1%

Asians

31.5%

American Indians

29.2%

Total Population

21.3%

10 States With Most Black Buying Power

- New York
  - $103.8 billion

- Texas
  - $99.1 billion

- California
  - $80.5 billion

- Georgia
  - $78.6 billion

- Florida
  - $78.5 billion

- Maryland
  - $66.9 billion

- North Carolina
  - $52.5 billion

- Illinois
  - $48.1 billion

- Virginia
  - $47.5 billion

- New Jersey
  - $41.9 billion
EDUCATION

Age 25 and Up With at Least a High-School Diploma

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<th>2013</th>
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<td>Blacks</td>
<td>80.3%</td>
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<td>Latinos</td>
<td>67.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asian-Americans</td>
<td>92.2%</td>
<td>77.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Indians</td>
<td>82.2%</td>
<td>90.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whites</td>
<td>89.4%</td>
<td>88.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>78.8%</td>
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Age 25 and Up With at Least a Bachelor's Degree

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<td>18.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latinos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asian-Americans</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Indians</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whites</td>
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<td>Total Population</td>
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HEALTH DISPARITIES

Life Expectancy

<p>| | |</p>
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<td>74.7 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latinos</td>
<td>81.4 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whites</td>
<td>78.8 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>78.7 years</td>
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</table>

Sources: Alliance for Board Diversity, Centers for Disease Control, DiversityInc, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Fortune, National Center for Education Statistics, Selig Center for Economic Growth, U.S. Census Bureau’s 2013 American Community Survey

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