

Fact Sheet: African Americans in the United States

The term Black is used by the U.S. Census to refer to the Black or African American population, and refers to people having origins in any of the Black race groups of Africa. It includes people who reported "Black, African American, or Negro" or wrote in entries such as African American, Fro American, Nigerian, or Haitian. The 2002 US Census Population Report for the Black population reported that there were 281.4 million persons that comprised the population of the United States, and of this population, 36.4 million were Black.

- ❑ The Black population represents 13% of the total us population. Of this number, 34.7 people reported only Black in addition to 1.8 million who reported Black as well as one or more other races.
- ❑ Between 1990 and 2000, the Black population increased by 21.5% if mixed race categories are included, or 15.6% if Black alone is the basis.
- ❑ The majority of the Black population lived in the South. Over half of the Black population, or 54%, lived in the South, while 19% lived in the Midwest, 18% in the Northeast and 10% lived in the West.
- ❑ Nearly two thirds, (58%) of Blacks lived in ten states. The ten states with the largest populations were New York, California, Texas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, North Carolina, Maryland, Michigan, and Louisiana. Five sates (New York, 3.2 million), California , Texas and Florida (about 2.5 million each(and Georgia (2.4 million) had populations greater than 2 million. In the South, ten states had Black populations of over 1 million persons and when totaled, represented 475 of the Black population in the country (Texas, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Maryland, Louisiana, Virginia, south Carolina, Alabama, and Mississippi).
- ❑ The cities with the largest Black populations were New York and Chicago. New York had the largest Black population, at 203 million. Chicago was the next city with the highest Black population, at 1.1 million. Together, New York and Chicago account for 9% of the total Black population. Three other cities had populations between 500,000 and 1 million: Detroit, Philadelphia, and Houston.
- ❑ Baltimore (65.2), Memphis (61.9), Washington DC (61.3) and New Orleans (67.9) were places where the Black population comprised over 50% of the city's population. Among Black Hispanics who reported being of more than one race, half indicated they were Black or African American and "Some other race," followed by a "White" at 27%, "White and American Indian/Alaska Native" at 6%, and "White and Some other race" at 5%. Black Hispanics were more likely than Black non-Hispanics to report two or more races, at 1 million persons reporting Black and Hispanic.
- ❑ People who reported Black as well as one or more other races were more likely to be under age 18.

- ❑ The Black population is younger than the non-Hispanic White population. In 2002, 33% were under age 18, compared with 23% of the White population under the age of 18 years. For persons 65 years and older, only 8% of Blacks were in this age category, versus 14% of non-Hispanic Whites.
- ❑ More than one third of the foreign born population in the United States is from Mexico or another Central American country. Among the foreign born, 52.2% are from Latin America. The foreign born population from Central America, including Mexico, accounted for more than two-thirds of the foreign born from Latin America. The foreign born from Latin America is more likely to live in the West than in any other region of the United States (US Census Foreign Born Population).
- ❑ Black family households tend to be larger than those of non-Hispanic whites. In 2002, among married-couple families, 33% had two members compared with 47% of non-Hispanic White families. These families were more likely to have five or more members, at 20%, than their non-Hispanic White counterparts, at 12%. The portions of Black families maintained by women with five or more members were 11%, while the portions of non-Hispanic White families maintained by women with five or more members was at 5%.
- ❑ Although more Black men (34.8) were high school graduates than Black women (33.3), more Black women over the age of 25 had attained a bachelor's degree (17.3% for women and 16.4% for men). Among non-Hispanic whites, these numbers were 27.3 for women and 31.7 for men.

References

US Census, The Black Population: 2000

US Census, The Black Population in the United States: March, 2002

Contact:

Mary L. Olvera

New Business & Client Services

Cultural Marketing Public Relations

A TMJ Global, Inc. Company

<http://www.culturalmarketingpr.com>

<http://www.culturalmarketingpr.com/contact.php>

phone: 312 / 235-2078