



# Demographic Growth of People of Color

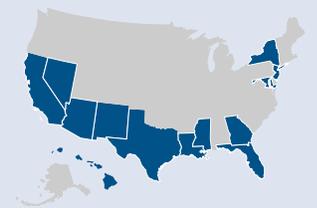
By Progress 2050

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The United States will soon have no clear racial or ethnic majority. Several of America's largest states have already crossed this threshold, and more will do so in the next few decades. This demographic shift offers many benefits to American society, such as expanding the labor force as the Baby Boomer generation retires. In the next few decades, most of the growth in the American workforce will come from the Latino and Asian American communities, which will continue to grow more quickly than the non-Hispanic white population.

- **By 2044,<sup>1</sup> the majority of the U.S. population will be people of color.** According to analysis of Bureau of the Census projections, by 2044, the United States will have no clear racial or ethnic majority. According to new population projections, whites will make up 49.7 percent<sup>2</sup> of the population, followed by Latinos at 25 percent,<sup>3</sup> African Americans at 12.7 percent,<sup>4</sup> and Asians at 7.9 percent.<sup>5</sup> 3.7 percent<sup>6</sup> of the population will identify as multiracial.
- **Several states' populations are already majority people of color, and many are well on their way.** People of color currently constitute the majority of the populations in California, Texas, Hawaii, and New Mexico. People of color in another eight states—including Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, and New York—make up more than 40 percent of the statewide populations.<sup>7</sup>
- **The Latino and Asian populations are the fastest-growing populations in the United States.** Between 2000 and 2010, the country's Asian population grew by 46 percent.<sup>8</sup> During the same time period, the Latino population grew by 43 percent.<sup>9</sup> By 2050, the Latino population is expected to exceed 100 million<sup>10</sup> individuals, while the Asian population is expected to grow to approximately 42 million<sup>11</sup> individuals.

In 2014, people of color made up more than **40%** of the population in thirteen states



- **The population of people who identify as multiracial will sharply increase.** Those who identify as two or more races are expected to increase from 7.5 million to 26.7 million individuals between 2012 and 2060.<sup>12</sup> The largest category of multiracial people is made up of 1.8 million<sup>13</sup> individuals who identify as black and white.
- **People of color will grow in number and expand their share of the labor force.** From 2010 to 2030, people of color will represent the largest share of workforce growth and will account for 120 percent of total net workforce growth.<sup>14</sup> The share of total net growth in the Hispanic/Latino workforce is expected to be the highest of all racial and ethnic groups, reaching close to 78 percent. Asians and Pacific Islanders will account for 25 percent of total net workforce growth, and blacks will comprise 17 percent.<sup>15</sup>

By 2060, the population of multiracial people will grow to

26.7 million

## Endnotes

1 William H. Frey, "New Projections Point to a Majority Minority Nation in 2044," Brookings Institution, December 12, 2014, available at <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/the-avenue/posts/2014/12/12-majority-minority-nation-2044-frey>.

2 Ibid.

3 Ibid.

4 Ibid.

5 Ibid.

6 Ibid.

7 Karen R. Humes, Nicholas A. Jones, and Roberto R. Ramirez, "Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2010" (Washington: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011), available at <http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-02.pdf>.

8 Elizabeth M. Hoefel and others, "The Asian Population: 2010" (Washington: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012), available at <http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-11.pdf>.

9 Sharon R. Ennis, Merarys Ríos-Vargas, and Nora G. Albert, "The Hispanic Population: 2010" (Washington: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011), available at <http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-04.pdf>.

10 Bureau of the Census, *Table 10. Projections of the Population by Sex, Hispanic Origin, and Race for the United States: 2015 to 2060* (U.S. Department of Commerce, 2014), available at <http://www.census.gov/population/projections/data/national/2014/summarytables.html>.

11 Ibid.

12 Ibid.

13 William H. Frey, "Our rising white-black multiracial population," Brookings Institution, February 23, 2015, available at <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/the-avenue/posts/2015/02/23-rising-white-black-multiracial-population-frey>.

14 Dowell Myers, Stephen Levy, and John Pitkin, "The Contributions of Immigrants and Their Children to the American Workforce and Jobs of the Future" (Washington: Center for American Progress, 2013), available at <https://cdn.americanprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/OurFutureTogetherUpdated.pdf>.

15 Ibid.