

Timeline



1878
Anti-Chinese political cartoon published in 1878 in retaliation against Chinese presence in California



1898
Wong Kim Ark, who went all the way to the Supreme Court to fight a challenge to his citizenship



1946
Wing Ong, the first Asian American elected to state office

- 1763** First recorded settlement of Asians in the United States: Filipinos in Louisiana

- 1790** First recorded Indian immigrant in U.S.

- 1820** First recorded Chinese immigrant in U.S.

- 1847** Yung Wing becomes first Chinese to graduate from U.S. college (Yale)

- 1848** California Gold Rush leads to first large-scale Chinese immigration

- 1854** California Supreme Court rules that Chinese cannot testify against whites

- 1858** California bars Chinese immigrants

- 1865** Central Pacific Railroad Company hires first of 12,000 Chinese workers

- 1869** First Transcontinental Railroad

- 1869** First Japanese settlers arrive on the U.S. mainland, in California

- 1870** Naturalization Act of 1870 restricts naturalized citizenship to whites and Blacks

- 1878** California Circuit Court rules that "Mongolians" are not eligible for naturalization

- 1879** California's Second Constitution prohibits the employment of Chinese

- 1882** Chinese Exclusion Act suspends immigration of Chinese laborers for 10 years

- 1885** First recorded Korean immigrants

- 1886** In *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, Supreme Court rules that law with unequal impact on different groups is discriminatory

- 1898** U.S. assumes control of the Philippines and Hawaii after winning Spanish-American War

- 1898** In *United States v. Wong Kim Ark*, Supreme Court upholds 14th Amendment, that all people born in U.S. are citizens

- 1906** San Francisco Board of Education segregates Chinese, Japanese and Korean schoolchildren

- 1907** Executive Order 589 prevents Japanese and Koreans from entering U.S. mainland

- 1922** In *Takao Ozawa v. United States*, Supreme Court rules that Japanese cannot be naturalized

- 1923** In *United States v. Bhagat Singh Thind*, Supreme Court rules that Asian Indians cannot be naturalized

- 1924** Immigration Act of 1924 effectively prohibits immigration of all Asians

- 1942** Executive Order 9066 results in 120,000 Japanese Americans being sent to internment camps

- 1943** Congress repeals Chinese Exclusion Act and grants naturalization rights

- 1946** Luce-Celler Act permits Filipinos and Indians to immigrate and grants them naturalization rights

- 1946** Wing Ong is first Asian American elected to state office (Arizona)

- 1949** U.S. grants 5,000 educated Chinese refugee status after Communist takeover of China

- 1956** Dalip Singh Saund of California becomes first Indian American in Congress

- 1959** Hiram Fong of Hawaii becomes first Chinese American in Senate

Timeline continued

1959 Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii becomes first Japanese American in Congress

1964 Patsy Takemoto Mink of Hawaii becomes first nonwhite woman in Congress

1965 Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 eliminates national-origins quota system

1975 Vietnam War ends, leading to large migration of Southeast Asians

1979 First Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week is celebrated

1985 Ellison S. Onizuka becomes first Asian American astronaut in space

1986 Gerald Tsai of American Can becomes first Asian American CEO of a Fortune 500 company

1988 Civil Liberties Act of 1988 pays surviving Japanese American internees \$20,000 each

1989 Amerasian Homecoming Act allows children born to Vietnamese mothers and U.S. servicemen to immigrate

1992 Jay Kim of California becomes first Korean American in Congress

1997 Gary Locke of Washington becomes first Asian American governor of mainland state

1999 Andrea Jung of Avon becomes first nonwhite woman CEO of a Fortune 500 company

2000 Secretary of Commerce Norman Mineta becomes first Asian American Cabinet member

2001 Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao becomes first woman Asian American Cabinet member

2001 Dr. Wen Ho Lee, a U.S. citizen, is charged with spying for China; a federal judge later apologizes to Lee for being “led astray” by the Department of Justice

2007 Bobby Jindal of Louisiana becomes first Indian American governor

2009 President Barack Obama appoints three Asian Americans to Cabinet

2010 Apolo Anton Ohno becomes most decorated American Winter Olympian, with eight medals

2010 Nikki Haley of South Carolina becomes first woman Indian American governor

2013 Kevin Tsujihara of Warner Bros. becomes first nonwhite CEO of a major Hollywood studio

2014 First Asian American U.S. Marine Officer, Maj. Kurt Chew-Een Lee, dies at the age of 88.

2015 House of Representatives unanimously passes legislation to remove all references to “Orientals” in federal law and replace the term with “Asian American Pacific Islanders”

2016 California Attorney General Kamala Harris (D) is elected to be the first Indian American to serve in the Senate

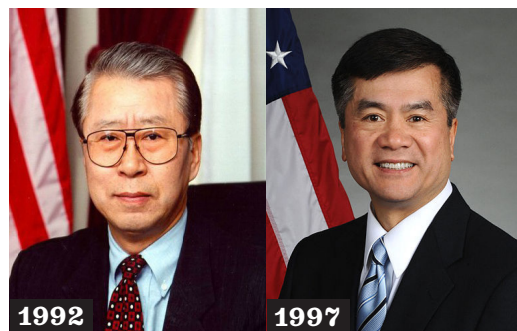
2017 For the first time, three Asian American women sit on the Senate: Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii), Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.) and Sen. Kamala Harris (D)

2018 Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.) becomes the first sitting senator to give birth while in office



1985

Ellison S. Onizuka



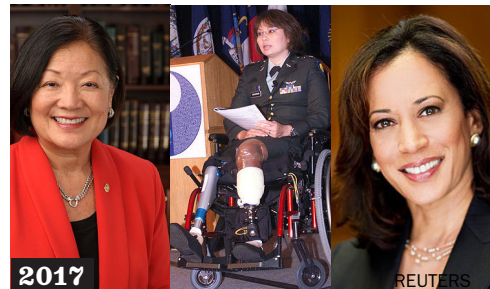
1992

1997

Left: Jay Kim; right: Gary Locke



Maj. Kurt Chew-Een Lee of the U.S. Marine Corps



2017

REUTERS

Left to right: Sens. Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii), Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.) and Kamala Harris (D-Calif.)