

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

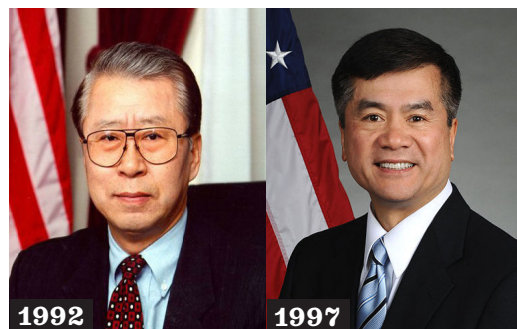
- 1959** Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii becomes first Japanese American in Congress
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- 1964** Patsy Takemoto Mink of Hawaii becomes first nonwhite woman in Congress
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- 1965** Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 eliminates national-origins quota system
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- 1975** Vietnam War ends, leading to large migration of Southeast Asians
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- 1979** First Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week is celebrated
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- 1985** Ellison S. Onizuka becomes first Asian American astronaut in space
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- 1986** Gerald Tsai of American Can becomes first Asian American CEO of a Fortune 500 company
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- 1988** Civil Liberties Act of 1988 pays surviving Japanese American internees \$20,000 each
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- 1989** Amerasian Homecoming Act allows children born to Vietnamese mothers and U.S. servicemen to immigrate
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- 1992** Jay Kim of California becomes first Korean American in Congress
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- 1997** Gary Locke of Washington becomes first Asian American governor of mainland state
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- 1999** Andrea Jung of Avon becomes first nonwhite woman CEO of a Fortune 500 company
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- 2000** Secretary of Commerce Norman Mineta becomes first Asian American Cabinet member
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- 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
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- 2007** Bobby Jindal of Louisiana becomes first Indian American governor
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- 2009** President Barack Obama appoints three Asian Americans to Cabinet
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- 2010** Apolo Anton Ohno becomes most decorated American Winter Olympian, with eight medals
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- 2010** Nikki Haley of South Carolina becomes first woman Indian American governor
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- 2013** Kevin Tsujihara of Warner Bros. becomes first nonwhite CEO of a major Hollywood studio
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- 2014** First Asian American U.S. Marine Officer, Maj. Kurt Chew-Een Lee, dies at the age of 88.
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- 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”
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- 2016** California Attorney General Kamala Harris (D) is elected to be the first Indian American to serve in the Senate
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- 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)
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- 2018** Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.) becomes the first sitting senator to give birth while in office



1985

Ellison S. Onizuka



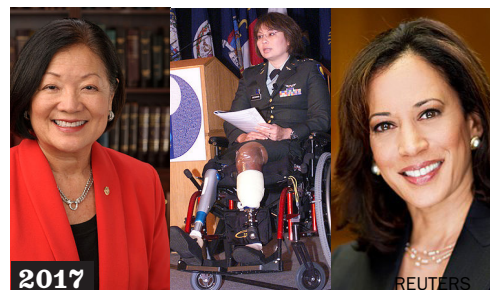
1992

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.)