



The World's Billionaires

The World's Billionaires is an annual ranking of people who are billionaires, i.e., they are considered net worth of US\$1 billion or more, by the American business magazine *Forbes*. The list was first published in March 1987.^[1] The total net worth of each individual on the list is estimated and is cited in United States dollars based on their documented assets and accounting for debt and other factors. Royalty and dictators whose wealth comes from their positions are excluded from these lists.^[3] This ranking is an index of the wealthiest documented individuals, excluding any ranking of those with wealth that is not able to be completely ascertained.^[4]

In 2018, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos was ranked at the top for the first time and became the first centibillionaire included in the ranking,^[5] surpassing Microsoft founder Bill Gates, who had topped the list 18 of the previous years. In 2022, after topping the list for four years, Bezos was surpassed by Elon Musk.^[6] In 2023, Musk in turn surpassed by French businessman Bernard Arnault, after topping the list for just a year. Arnault became the first French person to top the list.^[7]

Methodology

Each year, *Forbes* employs a team of over 50 reporters from a variety of countries to track the activities of the world's wealthiest individuals^[8] and sometimes groups or families – who share wealth. Preliminary surveys are sent to those who may qualify for the list. According to *Forbes*, they received three types of responses: some people try to inflate their wealth, others cooperate but leave out details, and some refuse to answer any questions.^[9] Business deals are then scrutinized and estimates of valuable assets – land, homes, vehicles, artwork, and other property made. Interviews are conducted to vet the figures and improve the estimate of an individual's holdings. Stocks and positions in a publicly traded stock are priced to market on a date roughly a month before publication. Private companies are priced by the prevailing price-to-sales or price-to-earnings ratios. Known debt is subtracted from assets to get a final estimate of an individual's estimated worth in United States dollars. Since stock prices fluctuate rapidly, an individual's true wealth and ranking at the time of publication may vary from their reported worth when the list was compiled.^[8]

When a living individual has dispersed his or her wealth to immediate family members it is included under a single listing (as a single "family fortune") provided that individual (the grantor) is still living. However, if a billionaire's fortune has been dispersed, it will not appear as a single listing, and each recipient will only be listed if his or her own total net worth is over a \$1 billion (his or her net worth will not be combined with family members).^[8] Royal families and dictators that have their wealth contingent on a position are always excluded from the lists.^[10]

Annual rankings

The rankings are published annually in March, so the net worths listed are snapshots taken at that time of year.













Legend

Icon	Description
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Icon	Description
—	Has not changed from the previous ranking.
▲	Has increased from the previous ranking.
▼	Has decreased from the previous ranking.













2024

The 38th annual Forbes list of the world's billionaires found a record 2,781 billionaires with a total net worth of \$2.6 trillion from 2023, which held the previous record for the highest net worth gain on the list, surpassing 2022. More members are wealthier compared to the previous year, including Mark Zuckerberg, whose net worth increased by \$1.5 billion.

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Primary source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Bernard Arnault & family</u>	\$233 billion ▲	75	 <u>France</u>	<u>LVMH</u>
2 —	<u>Elon Musk</u>	\$195 billion ▲	52	 <u>South Africa</u>  <u>Canada</u>  <u>United States</u>	<u>Tesla</u> , <u>SpaceX</u>
3 —	<u>Jeff Bezos</u>	\$194 billion ▲	60	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Amazon</u>
4 ▲	<u>Mark Zuckerberg</u>	\$177 billion ▲	39	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Meta Platforms</u>
5 ▼	<u>Larry Ellison</u>	\$141 billion ▲	79	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Oracle Corporation</u>
6 ▼	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$133 billion ▲	93	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
7 ▼	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$128 billion ▲	68	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
8 ▲	<u>Steve Ballmer</u>	\$121 billion ▲	68	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
9 —	<u>Mukesh Ambani</u>	\$116 billion ▲	66	 <u>India</u>	<u>Reliance Industries</u>
10 ▲	<u>Larry Page</u>	\$114 billion ▲	51	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Google</u>













2023

In the 37th annual *Forbes* list of the world's billionaires, the list included 2,640 billionaires with a total net worth of \$2.5 trillion from 2022. Over half of the list is less wealthy compared to the previous year, including Elon Musk, who lost \$1.5 billion. The French citizen was in the top position as well as a non-American for the first time since 2013 when the Microsoft founder. Like in 2022, counted 15 under 30 billionaires with the richest of them being Red Bull heir Mark Mateschitz. Clemente Del Vecchio, heir to the Luxottica fortune shared with his six siblings and stepmother, and gaming giant Nexon, both under-20s.^[11]

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Primary source(s) of wealth
1 ▲	<u>Bernard Arnault & family</u>	\$211 billion ▲	74	 <u>France</u>	<u>LVMH</u>
2 ▼	<u>Elon Musk</u>	\$180 billion ▼	51	 <u>South Africa</u>  <u>Canada</u>  <u>United States</u>	<u>Tesla</u> , <u>SpaceX</u>
3 ▼	<u>Jeff Bezos</u>	\$114 billion ▼	59	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Amazon</u>
4 ▲	<u>Larry Ellison</u>	\$107 billion ▲	78	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Oracle Corporation</u>
5 —	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$106 billion ▼	92	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
6 ▼	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$104 billion ▼	67	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
7 ▲	<u>Michael Bloomberg</u>	\$94.5 billion ▲	81	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Bloomberg L.P.</u>
8 ▲	<u>Carlos Slim & family</u>	\$93 billion ▲	83	 <u>Mexico</u>	<u>Telmex</u> , <u>América Móvil</u> , <u>Grupo Carso</u>
9 ▲	<u>Mukesh Ambani</u>	\$83.4 billion ▼	65	 <u>India</u>	<u>Reliance Industries</u>
10 ▼	<u>Steve Ballmer</u>	\$80.7 billion ▼	67	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>













2022

In the 36th annual *Forbes* list of the world's billionaires, the list included 2,668 billionaires with a total net worth of \$10.7 trillion.

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Primary source(s) of wealth
1 ▲	Elon Musk	\$219 billion ▲	50	 South Africa  Canada  United States	Tesla , SpaceX
2 ▼	Jeff Bezos	\$177 billion ▼	58	 United States	Amazon
3 —	Bernard Arnault & family	\$158 billion ▲	73	 France	LVMH
4 —	Bill Gates	\$129 billion ▲	66	 United States	Microsoft
5 ▲	Warren Buffett	\$118 billion ▲	91	 United States	Berkshire Hathaway
6 ▲	Larry Page	\$111 billion ▲	49	 United States	Google
7 ▲	Sergey Brin	\$107 billion ▲	48	 United States	Google
8 ▼	Larry Ellison	\$106 billion ▲	77	 United States	Oracle Corporation
9 ▲	Steve Ballmer	\$91.4 billion ▲	66	 United States	Microsoft
10 —	Mukesh Ambani	\$90.7 billion ▲	64	 India	Reliance Industries







2021

In the 35th annual *Forbes* list of the world's billionaires, the list included 2,755 billionaires with a total net worth of \$10.7 trillion. These billionaires had more wealth than they possessed last year.^{[12][13]}

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	Jeff Bezos	\$177 billion ▲	57	 United States	Amazon
2 ▲	Elon Musk	\$151 billion ▲	49	 South Africa  Canada  United States	Tesla , SpaceX
3 —	Bernard Arnault & family	\$150 billion ▲	72	 France	LVMH
4 ▼	Bill Gates	\$124 billion ▲	65	 United States	Microsoft
5 ▲	Mark Zuckerberg	\$97 billion ▲	36	 United States	Meta Platforms
6 ▼	Warren Buffett	\$96 billion ▲	90	 United States	Berkshire Hathaway
7 ▼	Larry Ellison	\$93 billion ▲	76	 United States	Oracle Corporation
8 ▲	Larry Page	\$91.5 billion ▲	48	 United States	Google
9 ▲	Sergey Brin	\$89 billion ▲	47	 United States	Google
10 ▲	Mukesh Ambani	\$84.5 billion ▲	63	 India	Reliance Industries

2020

In the 34th annual *Forbes* list of the world's billionaires, the list included 2,095 billionaires with a total net worth of \$9.7 trillion; 51% of these billionaires had less wealth than they possessed last year.^[14] The list was finalized during the COVID-19 pandemic.^[14]

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	Jeff Bezos	\$113 billion ▼	56	 United States	Amazon
2 —	Bill Gates	\$98 billion ▲	64	 United States	Microsoft
3 ▲	Bernard Arnault & family	\$76 billion —	71	 France	LVMH
4 ▼	Warren Buffett	\$67.5 billion ▼	89	 United States	Berkshire Hathaway
5 ▲	Larry Ellison	\$59 billion ▼	75	 United States	Oracle Corporation
6	Amancio Ortega	\$55.1 billion ▼	84	 Spain	Inditex , Zara

6	Amancio Ortega	\$55.1 billion	84	Spain	Inditex, Zara
7	Mark Zuckerberg	\$54.7 billion	35	United States	Facebook, Inc.
8	Jim Walton	\$54.6 billion	71	United States	Walmart
9	Alice Walton	\$54.4 billion	70	United States	Walmart
10	S. Robson Walton	\$54.1 billion	77	United States	Walmart

2019

In the 33rd annual *Forbes* list of the world's billionaires, the list included 2,153 billionaires with a total from 2018.^[15] The U.S. continued to have the most billionaires in the world, with a record of 609, while and Taiwan).^[15]

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1	Jeff Bezos	\$131 billion	55	United States	Amazon
2	Bill Gates	\$96.5 billion	63	United States	Microsoft
3	Warren Buffett	\$82.5 billion	88	United States	Berkshire Hathaway
4	Bernard Arnault	\$76 billion	70	France	LVMH
5	Carlos Slim	\$64 billion	79	Mexico	América Móvil, Grupo Carso
6	Amancio Ortega	\$62.7 billion	82	Spain	Inditex, Zara
7	Larry Ellison	\$62.5 billion	74	United States	Oracle Corporation
8	Mark Zuckerberg	\$62.3 billion	34	United States	Facebook, Inc.
9	Michael Bloomberg	\$55.5 billion	77	United States	Bloomberg L.P.
10	Larry Page	\$50.8 billion	45	United States	Google

2018











In the 32nd annual *Forbes* list of the world's billionaires, the aggregate wealth of the top 20 richest pe fortunes combined.^[16] A record of 2,208 billionaires were in the ranking and the total wealth was \$9.1 tri as the top billionaire due to Amazon's rising stock price that resulted in one person's biggest one-year gain The U.S. had the most billionaires in the world, with 585, while China was catching up with 476 whe excluding those three places.^[16] Forbes excluded Al-Walid bin Talal and all other Saudi billionaires due 2017–19 Saudi Arabian purge.^[17]

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1	Jeff Bezos	\$112 billion	54	United States	Amazon
2	Bill Gates	\$90 billion	62	United States	Microsoft
3	Warren Buffett	\$84 billion	87	United States	Berkshire Hathaway
4	Bernard Arnault	\$72 billion	69	France	LVMH
5	Mark Zuckerberg	\$71 billion	33	United States	Facebook, Inc.
6	Amancio Ortega	\$70 billion	81	Spain	Inditex, Zara
7	Carlos Slim	\$67.1 billion	78	Mexico	América Móvil, Grupo Carso
8	Charles Koch	\$60 billion	82	United States	Koch Industries
8	David Koch	\$60 billion	77	United States	Koch Industries
10	Larry Ellison	\$58.5 billion	73	United States	Oracle Corporation

2017











On the 30th anniversary of the *Forbes* list of the world's billionaires, for the fourth year in a row, Bill Ga

a record of 2,043 people on the list, which is the first time over 2,000 people were listed. This included 199 women, and there were 56 people under 40 and it had a record of 227 women.^[18] The number of billionaires increased over 30 years of tracking billionaires globally.^[5] Added together, the total net worth for 2017's billionaires was the first time after 12 years that Carlos Slim was not within the top five. The U.S. had the most billionaires (including Hong Kong, Taiwan or Macau), Germany had 114, and India had the fourth most with 101; India

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$86.0 billion ▲	61	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
2 ▲	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$75.6 billion ▲	86	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
3 ▲	<u>Jeff Bezos</u>	\$72.8 billion ▲	53	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Amazon</u>
4 ▼	<u>Amancio Ortega</u>	\$71.3 billion ▲	80	 <u>Spain</u>	<u>Inditex</u> , <u>Zara</u>
5 ▲	<u>Mark Zuckerberg</u>	\$56.0 billion ▲	32	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Facebook, Inc.</u>
6 ▼	<u>Carlos Slim</u>	\$54.5 billion ▲	77	 <u>Mexico</u>	<u>América Móvil</u> , <u>Grupo Carso</u>
7 —	<u>Larry Ellison</u>	\$52.2 billion ▲	72	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Oracle Corporation</u>
8 ▲	<u>Charles Koch</u>	\$48.3 billion ▲	81	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Koch Industries</u>
8 ▲	<u>David Koch</u>	\$48.3 billion ▲	76	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Koch Industries</u>
10 ▼	<u>Michael Bloomberg</u>	\$47.5 billion ▲	75	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Bloomberg L.P.</u>

2016

For the third year in a row, Bill Gates was named the richest man in the world by *Forbes'* 2016 list of the world's billionaires. Microsoft had claimed the top spot. Amancio Ortega rose from last year's position of number four to second the second consecutive time,^[22] while Mexican telecommunication mogul Carlos Slim slipped from last year's fifth to seventh. Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook^[24] and Michael Bloomberg of Bloomberg L.P.,^[25] appeared for the first time on the list at eighth and ninth positions, respectively. Zuckerberg became the youngest top 10 billionaire this year at the age of 32, up from 28 in their previous year's positions, with Ellison dropping to seventh from fifth, and the Kochs falling to ninth and tenth.

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$75.0 billion ▼	60	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
2 ▲	<u>Amancio Ortega</u>	\$67.0 billion ▲	79	 <u>Spain</u>	<u>Inditex</u>
3 —	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$60.8 billion ▼	85	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
4 ▼	<u>Carlos Slim</u>	\$50.0 billion ▼	76	 <u>Mexico</u>	<u>América Móvil</u> , <u>Grupo Carso</u>
5 ▲	<u>Jeff Bezos</u>	\$45.2 billion ▲	52	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Amazon</u>
6 ▲	<u>Mark Zuckerberg</u>	\$44.6 billion ▲	31	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Facebook, Inc.</u>
7 ▼	<u>Larry Ellison</u>	\$43.6 billion ▼	71	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Oracle Corporation</u>
8 ▲	<u>Michael Bloomberg</u>	\$40.0 billion ▲	74	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Bloomberg L.P.</u>
9 ▼	<u>Charles Koch</u>	\$39.6 billion ▼	80	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Koch Industries</u>
9 ▼	<u>David Koch</u>	\$39.6 billion ▼	75	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Koch Industries</u>

2015

In the 29th annual *Forbes* list of global billionaires, a record 1,826 billionaires were named with an aggregate net worth of \$5.6 trillion, up from \$5.2 trillion the previous year. 46 of the billionaires in this list were under the age of 40. A record number of 290 people joined the list, including 171 from China, which produced a world-leading 71 newcomers. The United States came in second, with 57; followed by Germany with 114. The United States had the largest number of billionaires with 526. Russia went down to 88 from 111 in 2014. Russia had 100 self-made billionaires. Self-made billionaires made up the largest number of people on the list with 1,191 positions, followed by inherited wealth with 391. The number of billionaires who inherited a portion but were still working to increase their wealth was 244.

Bill Gates was named the richest man in the world by *Forbes'* annual list of the world's billionaires. This spot. Carlos Slim came in second for the second consecutive time. Warren Buffett of Berkshire Hathaway moved from position from the previous year to number four. Larry Ellison, the founder of Oracle, rounded off the top eight. America's Evan Spiegel, co-founder of photo messaging app Snapchat, became the youngest billionaire in his position as the oldest billionaire included in the list.^[28] Mark Zuckerberg, the founder of Facebook, and Thor Bjorgolfsson, in the list after a gap of five years. Guatemala had a billionaire, Mario Lopez Estrada, for

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$79.2 billion ▲	59	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
2 —	<u>Carlos Slim</u>	\$77.1 billion ▲	75	 <u>Mexico</u>	<u>América Móvil</u> , <u>Grupo Carso</u>
3 ▲	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$72.7 billion ▲	84	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
4 ▼	<u>Amancio Ortega</u>	\$64.5 billion ▲	78	 <u>Spain</u>	<u>Inditex</u>
5 —	<u>Larry Ellison</u>	\$54.3 billion ▲	70	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Oracle Corporation</u>
6 —	<u>Charles Koch</u>	\$42.9 billion ▲	79	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Koch Industries</u>
6 —	<u>David Koch</u>	\$42.9 billion ▲	74	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Koch Industries</u>
8 ▲	<u>Christy Walton</u>	\$41.7 billion ▲	66	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Walmart</u>
9 ▲	<u>Jim Walton</u>	\$40.6 billion ▲	66	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Walmart</u>
10 ▲	<u>Liliane Bettencourt</u>	\$40.1 billion ▲	92	 <u>France</u>	<u>L'Oreal</u>

2014

Gates added \$9 billion to his fortune since 2013 and topped the *Forbes* 2014 billionaire list. He had topped one ranking was in 2009.^[30] Mexican telecommunication mogul Carlos Slim came in second place after Ortega placed third for the second consecutive year. American investor Warren Buffett was in the top 10. Christy Walton was the highest ranking woman, placing ninth overall.^[1] Aliko Dangote of Nigeria became the first African on the list with a net worth of \$25 billion.^[3]

A total of 1,645 people made the 2014 billionaire list, representing a combined wealth of \$6.4 trillion.^[31] 100 newcomers.^[1] 100 people listed in 2013 failed to make the list.^[31] The number of women on the list rose to 10. 70 percent were self-made, 13 percent achieved their wealth through inheritance alone, and 21 percent through a mix of both.

The United States had 492 billionaires on the list, the most of any country.^[31] It also had the most newcomers with 152, while Russia was third with 111.^[31] Algeria, Lithuania, Tanzania, and Uganda were added to the list. 19 people drop off the list, 19, due to a period of high inflation in the country.^[3]











No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 ▲	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$76.0 billion ▲	58	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
2 ▼	<u>Carlos Slim & family</u>	\$72.0 billion ▼	74	 <u>Mexico</u>	<u>América Móvil</u> , <u>Grupo Carso</u>
3 —	<u>Amancio Ortega</u>	\$64.0 billion ▲	77	 <u>Spain</u>	<u>Inditex</u>
4 —	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$58.2 billion ▲	83	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
5 —	<u>Larry Ellison</u>	\$48.0 billion ▲	70	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Oracle Corporation</u>
6 —	<u>Charles Koch</u>	\$40.0 billion ▲	78	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Koch Industries</u>
6 —	<u>David Koch</u>	\$40.0 billion ▲	73	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Koch Industries</u>
8 ▲	<u>Sheldon Adelson</u>	\$38.0 billion ▲	80	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Las Vegas Sands</u>
9 ▲	<u>Christy Walton & family</u>	\$36.7 billion ▲	65	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Walmart</u>
10 ▲	<u>Jim Walton</u>	\$34.7 billion ▲	65	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Walmart</u>

2013

Carlos Slim topped the 2013 billionaire list, marking his fourth consecutive year at the top. Gates remained second, with a gain of \$19.5 billion was the largest of anyone on the list.^[32] Warren Buffett failed to make the top three. Renzo Rosso was among the top newcomers, debuting with an estimate net worth of \$3 billion.^[33]

A global rise in asset prices led *Forbes* editor Randall Lane to declare "It [was] a very good year to be a billionaire" while John Marsden who fell from seventh to 100th, suffering the largest net loss of anyone on the list.^[32] Overall, net gainers outnumbered net losers (441).

A record total of 1,426 people made the 2013 list, representing \$5.4 trillion of assets.^[34] Of those, 442 were new to the list. The Asia-Pacific region had 386 billionaires and Europe 366. The list also featured a record number of newcomers, 210, representing \$1.1 trillion a billion dollars of assets in 2013, and eight others from the 2012 list died. The Asia-Pacific region had the most deaths. The 2013 list featured 138 women, of which 50 came from the United States. A majority of the list (961 in total) inherited their wealth, and 281 (20 percent) achieved their fortune through a combination of inheritance and entrepreneurship. The first person from that country to be included in this list.






No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Carlos Slim & family</u>	\$73.0 billion ▲	73	 <u>Mexico</u>	<u>América Móvil</u> , <u>Grupo Carso</u>
2 —	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$67.0 billion ▲	57	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
3 ▲	<u>Amancio Ortega</u>	\$57.0 billion ▲	76	 <u>Spain</u>	<u>Inditex Group</u>
4 ▼	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$53.5 billion ▲	82	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
5 ▲	<u>Larry Ellison</u>	\$43.0 billion ▲	68	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Oracle Corporation</u>
6 ▲	<u>Charles Koch</u>	\$34.0 billion ▲	77	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Koch Industries</u>
6 ▲	<u>David Koch</u>	\$34.0 billion ▲	72	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Koch Industries</u>
8 ▲	<u>Li Ka-shing</u>	\$31.0 billion ▲	84	 <u>Hong Kong</u>	<u>Cheung Kong Holdings</u>
9 ▲	<u>Liliane Bettencourt & family</u>	\$30.0 billion ▲	90	 <u>France</u>	<u>L'Oréal</u>
10 ▼	<u>Bernard Arnault</u>	\$29.0 billion ▼	63	 <u>France</u>	<u>LVMH</u>





2012

Carlos Slim topped the 2012 list, marking this third consecutive year at the top. Gates placed second but net worth fell. Gates' rose \$5 billion. Warren Buffett remained in third place. Bernard Arnault of France was the top-riser. Pliego was the greatest gainer in terms of dollars, adding \$9.2 billion to his fortune and moving up to number 11. Sara Blakely became the youngest self-made female billionaire ever.^[36] Colombia's Alejandro Sarmiento added \$9.5 billion stake in Santo Domingo Group from his father.^[35] India's Lakshmi Mittal was the largest loser. The price of steelmaker ArcelorMittal fell sharply.^[35] As a result, he failed to make the top 10 for the first time. Li Ka-shing.^[37]

A record total of 1,226 people made the 2012 list, representing 58 countries. Of those, 126 were newcomers. The Asia-Pacific region had the greatest number of billionaires with 425. Russia had 96 people on the list, while China had 95.^[35] Georgia's Ilkashvili was the greatest gainer. John Marsden was the largest loser. John Marsden stock prices in Asia contributed to 117 former billionaires falling from the list worldwide. Twelve others lost more than \$1 billion (441).^[37]

To coincide with the release of the 2012 list, *Forbes* announced a then-new "Billionaire Real-Time Ticker" to track the net worth of the world's richest people in real time.^[35]

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Carlos Slim & family</u>	\$69.0 billion ▼	72	 <u>Mexico</u>	<u>América Móvil</u> , <u>Grupo Carso</u>
2 —	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$61.0 billion ▲	56	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
3 —	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$44.0 billion ▼	81	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
4 —	<u>Bernard Arnault</u>	\$41.0 billion ▲	63	 <u>France</u>	<u>LVMH Moët Hennessy • Louis Vuitton</u>
5 ▲	<u>Amancio Ortega</u>	\$37.5 billion ▲	75	 <u>Spain</u>	<u>Inditex Group</u>

6 ▼	Larry Ellison	\$36.0 billion ▲	67	 United States	Oracle Corporation
7 ▲	Eike Batista	\$30.0 billion ▲	55	 Brazil	EBX Group
8 ▲	Stefan Persson	\$26.0 billion ▲	64	 Sweden	H&M
9 ▲	Li Ka-shing	\$25.5 billion ▲	83	 Hong Kong	Cheung Kong Holdings
10 ▲	Karl Albrecht	\$25.4 billion ▲	92	 Germany	Aldi

2011

In the 25th annual *Forbes* list of global billionaires, Slim added \$20.5 billion to his fortune, the most of any person on the list. His net worth is now estimated at \$74 billion. Gates remained in second place with \$56 billion, while Warren Buffett was third with \$50 billion. Microsoft's net worth fell from \$342 billion in 2010. According to *Forbes* editor Kerry Dolan, "media and technology billionaires dominated the list, reflecting the public's enthusiasm for all things social" since the 2010 list.^[38] However, Nigerian commodity mogul Aliko Dangote's net worth increased 557 percent to \$13.5 billion. Mark Zuckerberg was one of seven Facebook-related billionaires on the list, rising from 52nd. Facebook co-founder [Dustin Moskovitz](#) was the youngest person on the list. Aged 26, eight days after his 26th birthday, his estimated fortune of \$2.7 billion. [IKEA](#) founder [Ingvar Kamprad](#) was the largest loser as he saw his fortune fall from 11th to 162nd overall.

A record 1,210 billionaires made the 2011 list, representing a combined wealth of \$4.5 trillion, up from \$3.8 trillion in 2010. Of the 1,210 billionaires, 413, came from the United States. China had the second most billionaires with 115, while India had 75. Europe, passing Europe as a region for the first time since the 1990s. The 2011 list included 214 newcomers and the return of 100 former billionaires.

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	Carlos Slim	\$74.0 billion ▲	71	 Mexico	América Móvil , Grupo Carso
2 —	Bill Gates	\$56.0 billion ▲	55	 United States	Microsoft
3 —	Warren Buffett	\$50.0 billion ▲	80	 United States	Berkshire Hathaway
4 ▲	Bernard Arnault	\$41.0 billion ▲	62	 France	LVMH Moët Hennessy • Louis Vuitton
5 ▲	Larry Ellison	\$39.5 billion ▲	66	 United States	Oracle Corporation
6 ▼	Lakshmi Mittal	\$31.1 billion ▲	60	 India	Arcelor Mittal
7 ▲	Amancio Ortega	\$31.0 billion ▲	74	 Spain	Inditex Group
8 —	Eike Batista	\$30.0 billion ▲	53	 Brazil	EBX Group
9 ▼	Mukesh Ambani	\$27.0 billion ▼	54	 India	Reliance Industries
10 ▲	Christy Walton & family	\$26.5 billion ▲	62	 United States	Walmart

2010

Slim narrowly eclipsed Gates to top the billionaire list for the first time. Slim saw his estimated worth surge 35 percent. Gates' estimated wealth rose \$13 billion to \$53 billion, placing him second. Warren Buffett was third with \$50 billion. Microsoft's net worth fell from \$342 billion in 2009. According to *Forbes* editor Kerry Dolan, "media and technology billionaires dominated the list, reflecting the public's enthusiasm for all things social" since the 2009 list.^[41] At age 25, Mark Zuckerberg was the youngest person on the list. Facebook co-founder [Dustin Moskovitz](#) was the youngest person on the list. Aged 26, eight days after his 26th birthday, his estimated fortune of \$2.7 billion. [IKEA](#) founder [Ingvar Kamprad](#) was the largest loser as he saw his fortune fall from 11th to 162nd overall.

A total of 1,011 people made the 2010 list. The United States accounted for 403 billionaires, followed by China with 115, while including Hong Kong, placed second.^[40] A total of 55 countries were represented on the 2010 list. India had 75 billionaires.^[41] Eighty-nine women made the list, but only 14 of them were self-made.^[41] The combined net worth of the 1,011 billionaires was \$3.8 trillion, while the average net worth was \$3.5 billion.^[9]

The 2010 list featured 164 re-entries and 97 true newcomers.^[9] Asia accounted for more than 100 of the new entries, up from 89 in 2009, and 30 people fell off the list. 13 others died.^[40] Of the 89 women, 12 were newcomers in 2010. [Susan K. Komen](#) signed that the world's economy was recovering from the [Great Recession](#).^[9]

In June 2010, Gates and Buffett announced the [Giving Pledge](#), a promise to give the majority of their net worth to charity. The pledge was signed by 20 of the world's 100 wealthiest people, including Gates, Buffett, and Bill and Melinda Gates.

signatories, but some of the signatories have since died. Most of the signers of the pledge are billionaires, and

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 ▲	Carlos Slim & family	\$53.5 billion ▲	70	 Mexico	América Móvil , Grupo Carso
2 ▼	Bill Gates	\$53.0 billion ▲	54	 United States	Microsoft
3 ▼	Warren Buffett	\$47.0 billion ▲	79	 United States	Berkshire Hathaway
4 ▲	Mukesh Ambani	\$29.0 billion ▲	53	 India	Reliance Industries
5 ▲	Lakshmi Mittal	\$28.7 billion ▲	60	 India	Arcelor Mittal
6 ▼	Larry Ellison	\$28.0 billion ▲	66	 United States	Oracle Corporation
7 ▲	Bernard Arnault	\$27.5 billion ▲	61	 France	LVMH Moët Hennessy • Louis Vuitton
8 ▲	Eike Batista	\$27.0 billion ▲	53	 Brazil	EBX Group
9 ▲	Amancio Ortega	\$25.0 billion ▲	74	 Spain	Inditex Group
10 ▼	Karl Albrecht	\$23.5 billion ▲	90	 Germany	Aldi Süd








2009

During the [Great Recession](#), the world's billionaires lost \$2 trillion in net worth and the list became 30% s

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 ▲	Bill Gates	\$40.0 billion ▼	53	 United States	Microsoft
2 ▼	Warren Buffett	\$37.0 billion ▼	78	 United States	Berkshire Hathaway
3 ▼	Carlos Slim	\$35.0 billion ▼	69	 Mexico	América Móvil , Grupo Carso
4 ▲	Larry Ellison	\$22.5 billion ▼	64	 United States	Oracle Corporation
5 ▲	Ingvar Kamprad	\$22.0 billion ▼	83	 Sweden	IKEA
6 ▲	Karl Albrecht	\$21.5 billion ▼	89	 Germany	Aldi Süd
7 ▼	Mukesh Ambani	\$19.5 billion ▼	52	 India	Reliance Industries
8 ▼	Lakshmi Mittal	\$19.3 billion ▼	58	 India	Arcelor Mittal
9 ▲	Theo Albrecht	\$18.8 billion ▼	87	 Germany	Aldi Nord , Trader Joe's
10 ▲	Amancio Ortega	\$18.3 billion ▼	73	 Spain	Inditex Group







2008

[Facebook](#) founder [Mark Zuckerberg](#), four years after starting the company, joined the list at 23 to become

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 ▲	Warren Buffett	\$62.0 billion ▲	77	 United States	Berkshire Hathaway
2 ▲	Carlos Slim	\$60.0 billion ▲	68	 Mexico	América Móvil , Grupo Carso
3 ▼	Bill Gates	\$58.0 billion ▲	52	 United States	Microsoft
4 ▲	Lakshmi Mittal	\$45.0 billion ▲	57	 India	Arcelor Mittal
5 ▲	Mukesh Ambani	\$43.0 billion ▲	51	 India	Reliance Industries
6 ▲	Anil Ambani	\$42.0 billion ▲	48	 India	Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group
7 ▼	Ingvar Kamprad	\$31.0 billion ▼	81	 Sweden	IKEA
8 ▲	Kushal Pal Singh	\$30.0 billion ▲	76	 India	DLF Group
9 ▲	Oleg Deripaska	\$28.0 billion ▲	40	 Russia	Rusal
10 ▲	Karl Albrecht	\$27.0 billion ▲	88	 Germany	Aldi Süd








2007

Forbes recorded a then record of 946 billionaires. There were 178 newcomers, as well as the first billiona previous year's billionaires became richer. The billionaires' net worth increased in 2007 by \$900 billion to

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	Bill Gates	\$56.0 billion ▲	51	 United States	Microsoft
2 —	Warren Buffett	\$52.0 billion ▲	76	 United States	Berkshire Hathaway
3 —	Carlos Slim	\$49.0 billion ▲	67	 Mexico	América Móvil , Grupo Carso
4 —	Ingvar Kamprad	\$33.0 billion ▲	80	 Sweden	IKEA
5 —	Lakshmi Mittal	\$32.0 billion ▲	56	 India	Arcelor Mittal
6 ▲	Sheldon Adelson	\$26.5 billion ▲	73	 United States	Las Vegas Sands
7 —	Bernard Arnault	\$26.0 billion ▲	58	 France	LVMH
8 ▲	Amancio Ortega	\$24.0 billion ▲	71	 Spain	Inditex Group
9 ▲	Li Ka-shing	\$23.0 billion ▲	78	 Hong Kong	Cheung Kong Holdings , Hutchison Whampoa
10 ▲	David Thomson	\$22.0 billion ▲	49	 Canada	Thomson Corporation








2006

Free cash used by consumers from home equity extraction, known as the [real estate bubble](#) created a total worldwide.^[45]

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	Bill Gates	\$52.0 billion ▲	50	 United States	Microsoft
2 —	Warren Buffett	\$42.0 billion ▼	75	 United States	Berkshire Hathaway
3 ▲	Carlos Slim	\$30.0 billion ▲	66	 Mexico	América Móvil , Grupo Carso
4 ▲	Ingvar Kamprad	\$28.0 billion ▲	79	 Sweden	IKEA
5 ▼	Lakshmi Mittal	\$23.5 billion ▼	55	 India	Mittal Steel Company
6 ▲	Paul Allen	\$22.0 billion ▲	53	 United States	Microsoft
7 ▲	Bernard Arnault	\$21.5 billion ▲	57	 France	LVMH Moët Hennessy • Louis Vuitton
8 ▼	Al-Waleed bin Talal	\$20.0 billion ▼	49	 Saudi Arabia	Kingdom Holding Company
9 ▲	Kenneth Thomson	\$19.6 billion ▲	82	 Canada	Thomson Corporation
10 ▲	Li Ka-shing	\$18.8 billion ▲	77	 Hong Kong	Cheung Kong Group , Hutchison Whampoa

2005

The net worth of 2005's 691 billionaires was \$2.2 trillion. More than half of them had self-made fortunes.^[1]

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	Bill Gates	\$46.5 billion ▼	49	 United States	Microsoft
2 —	Warren Buffett	\$44.0 billion ▲	74	 United States	Berkshire Hathaway
3 ▲	Lakshmi Mittal	\$25.0 billion ▲	54	 India	Mittal Steel Company
4 ▲	Carlos Slim	\$23.8 billion ▲	65	 Mexico	América Móvil , Grupo Carso
5 ▼	Al-Waleed bin Talal	\$23.7 billion ▲	49	 Saudi Arabia	Kingdom Holding Company
6 ▲	Ingvar Kamprad	\$23.0 billion ▲	79	 Sweden	IKEA
7 ▼	Paul Allen	\$21.0 billion —	52	 United States	Microsoft

8 ▼	<u>Karl Albrecht</u>	\$18.5 billion ▼	85	<u>Germany</u>	<u>Aldi Süd</u>
9 ▲	<u>Larry Ellison</u>	\$18.4 billion ▼	60	<u>United States</u>	<u>Oracle Corporation</u>
10 —	<u>S. Robson Walton</u>	\$18.3 billion ▼	61	<u>United States</u>	<u>Walmart</u>

2004

The founders of Google, Sergey Brin and Larry Page, became billionaires at age 30.

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$46.6 billion ▲	48	<u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
2 —	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$42.9 billion ▲	73	<u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
3 —	<u>Karl Albrecht</u>	\$23.0 billion ▲	84	<u>Germany</u>	<u>Aldi Süd</u>
4 ▲	<u>Al-Waleed bin Talal</u>	\$21.5 billion ▲	47	<u>Saudi Arabia</u>	<u>Kingdom Holding Company</u>
5 ▼	<u>Paul Allen</u>	\$21.0 billion ▲	51	<u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
6 ▲	<u>Alice Walton*</u>	\$20.0 billion ▲	55	<u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
6 ▲	<u>Helen Walton*</u>	\$20.0 billion ▲	84	<u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
6 ▲	<u>Jim Walton*</u>	\$20.0 billion ▲	56	<u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
6 ▲	<u>John Walton*</u>	\$20.0 billion ▲	58	<u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
6 ▲	<u>S. Robson Walton*</u>	\$20.0 billion ▲	60	<u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>

* Each hold an essentially equal share in Walmart.

2003

Oprah Winfrey became the first female African-American billionaire.

























No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$40.7 billion ▼	47	<u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
2 —	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$30.5 billion ▼	72	<u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
3 —	<u>Karl and Theo Albrecht</u>	\$25.6 billion ▼	83	<u>Germany</u>	<u>Aldi</u>
4 —	<u>Paul Allen</u>	\$20.1 billion ▼	50	<u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
5 ▲	<u>Al-Waleed bin Talal</u>	\$17.7 billion ▼	46	<u>Saudi Arabia</u>	<u>Kingdom Holding Company</u>
6 ▼	<u>Larry Ellison</u>	\$16.6 billion ▼	58	<u>United States</u>	<u>Oracle Corporation</u>
7 ▼	<u>Alice Walton*</u>	\$16.5 billion ▼	54	<u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
7 ▼	<u>Helen Walton*</u>	\$16.5 billion ▼	83	<u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
7 ▼	<u>Jim Walton*</u>	\$16.5 billion ▼	55	<u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
7 ▼	<u>John Walton*</u>	\$16.5 billion ▼	57	<u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
7 ▼	<u>S. Robson Walton*</u>	\$16.5 billion ▼	59	<u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>

* Each hold an essentially equal share in Walmart.

2002

As a result of the market crash caused by the Dot-com bubble, 83 billionaires dropped off the list from the

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$52.8 billion ▼	46	<u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
2 —	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$35.0 billion ▲	71	<u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>

3 	<u>Karl and Theo Albrecht</u>	\$26.8 billion 	82	 <u>Germany</u>	<u>Aldi</u>
4 	<u>Paul Allen</u>	\$25.2 billion 	49	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
5 	<u>Larry Ellison</u>	\$23.5 billion 	57	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Oracle Corporation</u>
6 	<u>Jim Walton*</u>	\$20.8 billion 	54	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
7 	<u>John Walton*</u>	\$20.7 billion 	56	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
8 	<u>Alice Walton*</u>	\$20.5 billion 	53	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
8 	<u>S. Robson Walton*</u>	\$20.5 billion 	58	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
8 	<u>Helen Walton*</u>	\$20.5 billion 	82	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>

* Each hold an essentially equal share in Walmart.

2001































In 2001, BET founder Robert L. Johnson became the first ever African-American billionaire.^[47]

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$58.7 billion 	45	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
2 	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$32.3 billion 	70	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
3 	<u>Paul Allen</u>	\$30.4 billion 	48	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
4 	<u>Larry Ellison</u>	\$26.0 billion 	56	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Oracle Corporation</u>
5 	<u>Karl and Theo Albrecht</u>	\$25.0 billion 	81	 <u>Germany</u>	<u>Aldi</u>
6 	<u>Al-Waleed bin Talal</u>	\$20.0 billion 	44	 <u>Saudi Arabia</u>	<u>Kingdom Holding Company</u>
7 	<u>Jim Walton*</u>	\$18.8 billion 	53	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
8 	<u>John Walton*</u>	\$18.7 billion 	55	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
9 	<u>S. Robson Walton*</u>	\$18.6 billion 	57	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
10 	<u>Alice Walton*</u>	\$18.5 billion 	52	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
10 	<u>Helen Walton*</u>	\$18.5 billion 	81	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>











* Each hold an essentially equal share in Wal-Mart. Had he been alive in 2001, Sam Walton would have been

2000

Gates became the first American to take the top spot of the world's billionaires in 1995 with a net worth of \$41 billion. He remained at the top of the list through the dot-com bubble's height in 1999 when his fortune peaked at \$90 billion. After the dot-com bubble started to collapse, he remained at the top of the list.

No.	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$60.0 billion 	44	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
2 	<u>Larry Ellison</u>	\$47.0 billion 	55	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Oracle Corporation</u>
3 	<u>Paul Allen</u>	\$28.0 billion 	47	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
4 	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$25.6 billion 	69	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
5 	<u>Karl and Theo Albrecht</u>	\$20.0 billion 	80	 <u>Germany</u>	<u>Aldi</u>
6 	<u>Al-Waleed bin Talal</u>	\$20.0 billion 	43	 <u>Saudi Arabia</u>	<u>Kingdom Holding Company</u>
7 	<u>S. Robson Walton</u>	\$20.0 billion 	57	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
8 	<u>Masayoshi Son</u>	\$19.4 billion 	43	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Softbank Capital</u> , <u>SoftBank Mobile</u>
9 	<u>Michael Dell</u>	\$19.1 billion 	35	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Dell</u>
10 	<u>Kenneth Thomson</u>	\$16.1 billion 	77	 <u>Canada</u>	<u>The Thomson Corporation</u>

1999

No. ^[48]	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	Bill Gates	\$90.0 billion ▲	43	 United States	Microsoft
2 ▲	Warren Buffett	\$36.0 billion ▲	68	 United States	Berkshire Hathaway
3 ▲	Paul Allen	\$30.0 billion ▲	46	 United States	Microsoft
4 ▲	Steven Ballmer	\$19.5 billion ▲	43	 United States	Microsoft
5 ▲	Philip Anschutz	\$16.5 billion ▲	59	 United States	The Anschutz Corporation
6 ▲	Michael Dell	\$16.5 billion ▲	34	 United States	Dell
7 ▲	S. Robson Walton	\$15.8 billion	55	 United States	Wal-Mart
8 —	Al-Waleed Bin Talal	\$15.0 billion ▲	42	 Saudi Arabia	Kingdom Holding Company
9 ▲	Karl and Theo Albrecht	\$13.6 billion ▲	79	 Germany	Aldi
10 ▲	Li Ka-shing & family	\$12.6 billion ▲	71	 Hong Kong	CK Asset Holdings ^[49]











1998

No. ^[48]	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	Bill Gates	\$51.0 billion ▲	43	 United States	Microsoft
2 —	Walton family	\$48.0 billion ▲	—	 United States	Wal-Mart
3 —	Warren Buffett	\$33.0 billion ▲	67	 United States	Berkshire Hathaway
4 ▲	Paul Allen	\$21.0 billion ▲	45	 United States	Microsoft
5 ▲	Kenneth Thomson	\$14.4 billion ▲	74	 Canada	Woodbridge Co. Ltd. ^[50]
6 ▲	Jay and Robert Pritzker	\$13.5 billion ▲	—	 United States	Hyatt ^[51]
7 ▲	Forrest Mars Sr. & family	\$13.5 billion ▲	94	 United States	Mars, Inc. ^[52]
8 ▲	Al-Waleed Bin Talal	\$13.3 billion ▲	41	 Saudi Arabia	Kingdom Holding Company
9 ▼	Lee Shau-kee	\$12.7 billion ▼	70	 Hong Kong	Henderson Land Development ^[53]
10 ▼	Karl and Theo Albrecht	\$11.7 billion ▲	78	 Germany	Aldi

1997

No. ^[48]	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 ▲	Bill Gates	\$36.4 billion ▲	42	 United States	Microsoft
2 ▼	Walton family	\$27.6 billion ▲	—	 United States	Wal-Mart
3 —	Warren Buffett	\$23.2 billion ▲	66	 United States	Berkshire Hathaway
4 ▲	Lee Shau-kee	\$14.7 billion ▲	69	 Hong Kong	Henderson Land Development ^[54]
5 ▲	Paul Allen	\$14.1 billion ▲	44	 United States	Microsoft
6 ▲	Kwok brothers	\$12.3 billion ▲	48	 Hong Kong	Sun Hung Kai Properties ^[55]
7 ▲	Haas family	\$12.3 billion ▲	—	 United States	Levi Strauss & Co ^[56]
8 ▲	Forrest Mars Sr. & family	\$12.0 billion ▲	93	 United States	Mars, Inc. ^[57]
9 ▲	Karl and Theo Albrecht	\$11.5 billion ▲	77	 Germany	Aldi
10 ▼	Tsai Wan-lin & family	\$11.3 billion ▼	73	 Taiwan	Cathay Life Insurance ^[58]

1996

No. ^[48]	Name	Net worth (USD)	Age	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Walton family</u>	\$22.9 billion ▼	—	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
2 —	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$18.0 billion ▲	41	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
3 —	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$15.3 billion ▲	65	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
4 ▲	<u>Oeri, Hoffman & Sacher families</u>	\$13.1 billion ▲	—	 <u>Switzerland</u>	<u>Roche</u> ^[57]
5 ▲	<u>Lee Shau-kee</u>	\$12.7 billion ▲	68	 <u>Hong Kong</u>	<u>Henderson Land Development</u>
6 ▲	<u>Tsai Wan-lin & family</u>	\$12.2 billion ▲	72	 <u>Taiwan</u>	<u>Cathay Life Insurance</u> ^[56]
7 ▲	<u>Kwok brothers</u>	\$11.2 billion ▲	—	 <u>Hong Kong</u>	<u>Sun Hung Kai Properties</u>
8 ▲	<u>Li Ka-shing & family</u>	\$10.6 billion ▲	68	 <u>Hong Kong</u>	<u>CK Asset Holdings</u> ^[49]
9 ▼	<u>Yoshiaki Tsutsumi</u>	\$9.2 billion ▲	62	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Seibu Railway</u> ^[58]
10 ▲	<u>Karl and Theo Albrecht</u>	\$9.0 billion ▲	76	 <u>Germany</u>	<u>Aldi</u> ^[59]

1995











No. ^[48]	Name	Net worth (USD)	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Walton family</u>	\$23.5 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
2 ▲	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$12.9 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
3 ▲	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$10.7 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
4 ▼	<u>Hans and Gad Rausing</u>	\$9.0 billion —	 <u>Sweden</u>	<u>Tetra Pak</u>
5 ▼	<u>Yoshiaki Tsutsumi</u>	\$9.0 billion ▲	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Seibu Corporation</u>
6 ▲	<u>Paul Sacher & Hoffman family</u>	\$8.6 billion ▲	 <u>Switzerland</u>	<u>Hoffmann-La Roche</u>
7 ▲	<u>Tsai Wan-lin & family</u>	\$8.5 billion ▲	 <u>Taiwan</u>	<u>Lin Yuan Group</u>
8 ▲	<u>Kenneth Thomson</u>	\$6.5 billion ▲	 <u>Canada</u>	<u>Thomson Corporation</u>
9 ▲	<u>Lee Shau-kee</u>	\$6.5 billion	 <u>Hong Kong</u>	<u>Henderson Land Development</u>
10 ▲	<u>Chung Ju-yung</u>	\$6.2 billion	 <u>South Korea</u>	<u>Hyundai</u>

1994










No. ^[48]	Name	Net worth (USD)	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Walton family</u>	\$22.6 billion ▼	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
2 ▲	<u>du Pont family</u>	\$9.0 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>DuPont</u>
3 ▲	<u>Hans and Gad Rausing</u>	\$9.0 billion ▲	 <u>Sweden</u>	<u>Tetra Pak</u>
4 ▼	<u>Yoshiaki Tsutsumi</u>	\$8.5 billion ▼	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Seibu Corporation</u>
5 ▲	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$8.2 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
6 ▲	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$7.9 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
7 ▲	<u>Paul Sacher & Hoffman family</u>	\$7.8 billion ▲	 <u>Switzerland</u>	<u>Hoffmann-La Roche</u>
8 ▲	<u>Tsai Wan-lin & family</u>	\$7.5 billion ▲	 <u>Taiwan</u>	<u>Lin Yuan Group</u>
9 ▲	<u>Karl and Theo Albrecht</u>	\$7.3 billion ▲	 <u>Germany</u>	<u>Aldi</u>
10 ▲	<u>Carlos Slim</u>	\$6.6 billion ▲	 <u>Mexico</u>	<u>América Móvil, Grupo Carso</u>

1993











1993

No. ^[48]	Name	Net worth (USD)	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Walton family</u>	\$25.3 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
2 ▲	<u>Mars family</u>	\$9.2 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Mars, Inc.</u>
3 —	<u>Yoshiaki Tsutsumi</u>	\$9.0 billion ▼	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Seibu Corporation</u>
4 ▲	<u>du Pont family</u>	\$8.6 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>DuPont</u>
5 ▲	<u>Minoru and Akira Mori</u>	\$7.5 billion ▲	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Mori Building Company</u>
6 ▲	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$7.4 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
7 ▲	<u>Samuel and Donald Newhouse</u>	\$7.0 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Advance Publications</u>
8 ▲	<u>Sid and Lee Bass & brothers</u>	\$6.8 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Richardson Gasoline</u>
9 ▲	<u>Warren Buffett</u>	\$6.6 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Berkshire Hathaway</u>
10 ▼	<u>Erivan Haub</u>	\$6.2 billion ▼	 <u>Germany</u>	<u>Tengelmann Group</u>

1992

No. ^[48]	Name	Net worth (USD)	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Walton family</u>	\$23.8 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
2 —	<u>Taikichiro Mori</u>	\$13.0 billion ▼	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Mori Building Company</u>
3 —	<u>Yoshiaki Tsutsumi</u>	\$10.0 billion ▼	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Seibu Corporation</u>
4 ▲	<u>Hans and Gad Rausing</u>	\$7.0 billion ▲	 <u>Sweden</u>	<u>Tetra Pak</u>
5 ▲	<u>Erivan Haub</u>	\$6.9 billion ▲	 <u>Germany</u>	<u>Tengelmann Group</u>
6 ▲	<u>Haniel family</u>	\$6.4 billion ▲	 <u>Germany</u>	<u>Franz Haniel & Cie.</u>
7 ▲	<u>Bill Gates</u>	\$6.4 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>
8 ▲	<u>David Sainsbury & family</u>	\$6.2 billion ▲	 <u>United Kingdom</u>	<u>Sainsbury's</u>
9 ▼	<u>Kenneth Thomson</u>	\$6.2 billion ▼	 <u>Canada</u>	<u>Thomson Corporation</u>
10 —	<u>Shin Kyuk-ho</u>	\$6.0 billion —	 <u>South Korea</u>	<u>Lotte Corporation</u>

1991

No. ^[48]	Name	Net worth (USD)	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 ▲	<u>Walton family</u>	\$18.5 billion ▲	 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
2 —	<u>Taikichiro Mori</u>	\$15.0 billion ▲	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Mori Building Company</u>
3 ▼	<u>Yoshiaki Tsutsumi</u>	\$14.0 billion ▼	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Seibu Corporation</u>
4 —	<u>du Pont family</u>	\$10.0 billion —	 <u>United States</u>	<u>DuPont</u>
5 —	<u>Hans and Gad Rausing</u>	\$9.0 billion ▼	 <u>Sweden</u>	<u>Tetra Pak</u>
6 —	<u>Kitaro Watanabe</u>	\$7.7 billion ▼	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Azabu Building</u>
7 —	<u>Paul Reichmann & brothers</u>	\$7.1 billion ▼	 <u>Canada</u>	<u>Olympia & York</u>
8 ▲	<u>Kenneth Thomson</u>	\$6.8 billion ▲	 <u>Canada</u>	<u>Thomson Corporation</u>
9 ▼	<u>Kenkichi Nakajima</u>	\$6.1 billion ▼	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Heiwa Corporation</u>
10 ▼	<u>Shin Kyuk-ho</u>	\$6.0 billion ▼	 <u>South Korea</u>	<u>Lotte Corporation</u>

1990

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No. ^[48]	Name	Net worth (USD)	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Yoshiaki Tsutsumi</u>	\$16.0 billion ▲	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Seibu Corporation</u>
2 —	<u>Taikichiro Mori</u>	\$14.6 billion ▲	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Mori Building Company</u>
3 —	<u>Walton family</u>	\$13.5 billion ▲	🇺🇸 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
4 ▲	<u>du Pont family</u>	\$10.0 billion ▲	🇺🇸 <u>United States</u>	<u>DuPont</u>
5 ▲	<u>Hans and Gad Rausing</u>	\$9.6 billion ▲	🇸🇪 <u>Sweden</u>	<u>Tetra Pak</u>
6 ▲	<u>Kitaro Watanabe</u>	\$9.2 billion ▲	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Azabu Building</u>
7 ▼	<u>Paul Reichmann & brothers</u>	\$9.0 billion ▲	🇨🇦 <u>Canada</u>	<u>Olympia & York</u>
8 ▲	<u>Kenkichi Nakajima</u>	\$8.4 billion ▲	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Heiwa Corporation</u>
9 ▼	<u>Shin Kyuk-ho</u>	\$7.5 billion ▼	🇰🇷 <u>South Korea</u>	<u>Lotte Corporation</u>
10 —	<u>Eitaro Itoyama</u>	\$5.8 billion ▼	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Shin Nihon Kanko</u>

1989


No. ^[60]	Name	Net worth (USD)	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1 —	<u>Yoshiaki Tsutsumi</u>	\$15.0 billion ▼	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Seibu Corporation</u>
2 —	<u>Taikichiro Mori</u>	\$14.2 billion ▼	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Mori Building Company</u>
3 ▲	<u>Sam Walton & family</u>	\$8.7 billion ▲	🇺🇸 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
4 ▼	<u>Reichmann brothers</u>	\$8.0 billion ▼	🇨🇦 <u>Canada</u>	<u>Olympia & York</u>
4 —	<u>Shin Kyuk-ho</u>	\$8.0 billion —	🇰🇷 <u>South Korea</u>	<u>Lotte Corporation</u>
6 ▲	<u>Hirotomo Takei & family</u>	\$7.8 billion ▲	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Chisan</u>
7 ▲	<u>Kitaro Watanabe</u>	\$7.0 billion+ ▲	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Azabu Building</u>
8 ▼	<u>Haruhiko Yoshimoto& family</u>	\$7.0 billion ▼	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Real estate</u>
8 ▲	<u>Hans and Gad Rausing</u>	\$7.0 billion ▲	🇸🇪 <u>Sweden</u>	<u>Tetra Pak</u>
10 ▼	<u>Eitaro Itoyama</u>	\$6.6 billion ▲	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Shin Nihon Kanko</u>

1988

No. ^[61]	Name	Net worth (USD)	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
1	<u>Yoshiaki Tsutsumi</u>	\$18.9 billion	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Seibu Corporation</u>
2	<u>Taikichiro Mori</u>	\$18.0 billion	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Mori Building Company</u>
3	<u>Reichmann brothers</u>	\$9.0 billion	🇨🇦 <u>Canada</u>	<u>Olympia & York</u>
4	<u>Shin Kyuk-ho</u>	\$8.0 billion	🇰🇷 <u>South Korea</u>	<u>Lotte Corporation</u>
4	<u>K. C. Irving</u>	\$8.0 billion	🇨🇦 <u>Canada</u>	<u>Irving Oil</u>
6	<u>Haruhiko Yoshimoto</u>	\$7.8 billion	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Real estate</u>
7	<u>Sam Walton</u>	\$6.5 billion	🇺🇸 <u>United States</u>	<u>Wal-Mart</u>
8	<u>Tsai Wan-lin</u>	\$5.6 billion	🇹🇼 <u>Taiwan</u>	<u>Lin Yuan Group</u>
9	<u>Eitaro Itoyama</u>	\$5.0 billion+	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Shin Nihon Kanko</u>
10	<u>Kitaro Watanabe</u>	\$5.2 billion	● <u>Japan</u>	<u>Azabu Building</u>

1987

No. ^[62]	Name	Net worth (USD)	Nationality	Source(s) of wealth
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1	<u>Yoshiaki Tsutsumi</u>	\$20 billion	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Seibu Corporation</u>
2	<u>Taikichiro Mori</u>	\$15 billion	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Mori Building Company</u>
3	<u>Shigeru Kobayashi</u>	\$7.5 billion	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Shuwa Corporation</u>
4	<u>Haruhiko Yoshimoto</u>	\$7.0 billion	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Real estate</u>
5	<u>Salim Ahmed bin Mahfouz</u>	\$6.2 billion	 <u>Saudi Arabia</u>	<u>National Commercial Bank</u>
6	<u>Hans</u> and <u>Gad Rausing</u>	\$6.0 billion	 <u>Sweden</u>	<u>Tetra Pak</u>
7	<u>Paul Reichmann</u>	\$6.0 billion	 <u>Canada</u>	<u>Olympia & York</u>
8	<u>Yohachiro Iwasaki</u>	\$5.6 billion	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Real estate</u>
9	<u>Kenneth Thomson</u>	\$5.4 billion	 <u>Canada</u>	<u>Thomson Corporation</u>
10	<u>Keizo Saji</u>	\$4.0 billion	 <u>Japan</u>	<u>Suntory</u>

Statistics

The dot-com bubble created the most paper wealth for some billionaires. However, once the dotcom Billionaires' fortunes were hit even harder by the Great Recession; 2009 was the first time in five years the strong performance of the financial markets and global economic recovery have erased financial assets lo soar in the early 2010s.^{[65][66]}

Number and combined net worth of billionaires by year^[67]

Year	Number of billionaires	Group's combined net worth
2024 ^[2]	2,781	\$14.2 trillion
2023 ^[7]	2,640	\$12.2 trillion
2022 ^[6]	2,668	\$12.7 trillion
2021 ^[12]	2,755	\$13.1 trillion
2020	2,095	\$8.0 trillion
2019	2,153	\$8.7 trillion
2018	2,208	\$9.1 trillion
2017	2,043	\$7.7 trillion
2016	1,810	\$6.5 trillion
2015 ^[19]	1,826	\$7.1 trillion
2014 ^[68]	1,645	\$6.4 trillion
2013 ^[69]	1,426	\$5.4 trillion
2012	1,226	\$4.6 trillion
2011	1,210	\$4.5 trillion
2010	1,011	\$3.6 trillion
2009	793	\$2.4 trillion
2008	1,125	\$4.4 trillion
2007	946	\$3.5 trillion
2006	793	\$2.6 trillion
2005	691	\$2.2 trillion
2004	587	\$1.9 trillion
2003	476	\$1.4 trillion
2002	497	\$1.5 trillion

2001	538	\$1.8 trillion
2000	470	\$898 billion
Sources: <i>Forbes</i> . ^{[19][68][67][69]}		

See also

- Bloomberg Billionaires Index
- List of centibillionaires
- List of cities by number of billionaires
- List of countries by number of billionaires
- List of wealthiest animals
- List of wealthiest families
- List of wealthiest religious or spiritual leaders

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