

Most of these West African and Africans have elected to become part of mainstream white America; others have chosen to live in separate communities and remain culturally distinct. To the dismay of native-born blacks, most of these dark-skinned foreigners also refused to take part in a struggle with which they did not identify nor view as their own. Although their skin color matched the dark skin of the native-born blacks, their foreign speech patterns and accents, along with their dress, provided these black foreigners access to many of the advantages of American culture inaccessible to native-born blacks prior to the 1960s civil rights movement.⁴⁷

Table 5. Africans Obtaining Legal Permanent Resident Status by Selected Country of Last Residence in Fiscal Years 1960 to 2011

Region and country of last residence	1960 to 1969	1970 to 1979	1980 to 1989	1990 to 1999	2000 to 2009	2010	2011	Total 1960-2011
Africa	23,780	71,405	141,987	346,410	759,734	98,246	97,429	1,538,991
Egypt	5,581	23,543	26,744	44,604	81,564	9,822	9,096	200,954
Ethiopia	804	2,588	12,927	40,097	87,207	13,853	13,985	171,461
Liberia	841	2,391	6,420	13,587	23,316	2,924	3,117	52,596
Morocco	2,880	1,967	3,471	15,768	40,844	4,847	4,249	74,026
South Africa	4,360	10,002	15,505	21,964	32,221	2,705	2,754	89,511
Other Africa	9,314	30,914	76,920	210,390	494,582	64,095	64,228	950,443

Note: Official recording of immigration to the United States began in 1820 after the passage of the Act of March 2, 1819. Data for 1960 to 2011 refer to country of last residence. Because country boundaries may have changed, data for a particular country may not refer to the same geographic area over time. Fiscal Year 1976 covers 15 months ending September 30, 1976.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Immigration Statistics, 2011 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, September 2012, Table 2, pages 9-11. Also available as .xls table at <http://www.dhs.gov/yearbook-immigration-statistics-2011-1>.