The Census Bureau projects that minority groups will become the majority in the United States by 2043.

**Keywords**

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**Citation**

Transcript

Minorities Become the Majority by 2043

BRIAN WILLIAMS, anchor (Beijing):

We mentioned a moment ago new numbers from the US Census Bureau tonight are projecting America will become more diverse more quickly than was previously thought. The experts now say minority groups will become the majority in the United States by the year 2043. The report tonight from NBC's Tom Costello.

TOM COSTELLO reporting:

In Miami today, the Ruiz family was celebrating a new arrival.

Ms. VENESSA ROJAS (New Mother): I'm excited and I'm scared, and I'm, oh, I'm so a little bit of everything.

COSTELLO: A little girl named Daichelem. Her parents say she will be the first of four.

Mr. MICHAEL RUIZ (New Father): I mean, it's the greatest feeling in the world to just hold your newborn baby in your hands.

COSTELLO: And she's joining a population that is changing fast. Today 304 million people live in the United States. By 2039, 400 million. The Census Bureau reports that while whites make up two-thirds of the population today, minorities as a whole will outnumber whites by 2042. By 2050, the country will be 46 percent white. The Hispanic population expected to grow the most, projected to triple in size, from 46 million today to 132 million by 2050, when nearly 1 in 3 Americans will be Hispanic.

Ms. LINDA JACOBSEN (Population Reference Bureau): Well, it's not only current immigrants, but the children of immigrants that are fueling that rapid increase in the Hispanic population.

COSTELLO: The number of African-Americans also expected to increase from 41 million today to 65 million in 2050, while the Asian population will climb from 15 million today to 40 million. And something else, by 2030, and that's just 22 years away, 1 in 5 Americans will be over the age of 65. That means that a much smaller and a racially diverse workforce will need the education, the opportunities to replace the retiring baby boomers.

Mr. WILLIAM FREY (Brookings Institution Demographic Expert): The good thing about these
projections is we know that this is coming, but now it's time to get to work and make sure that we're prepared for it.