

## Timeline of African-American Civil Rights Movement

Year	Location	Event
1896	Washington, DC	Supreme Court endorses the doctrine of “separate but equal” allowing legalized segregation across the United States
1909	New York, NY	Multi-racial coalition forms the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) to fight discrimination
1933	Washington, DC	Thurgood Marshall graduates law school at Howard University
1939	Washington, DC	With the aid of Eleanor Roosevelt and Charles Hamilton Houston, famous African-American opera singer Marion Anderson performs an open-air concert on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial to 75,000 people after being barred from singing to an integrated audience at Constitution Hall by the Daughters of the American Revolution. The concert is broadcast to millions on the radio.
1947	Brooklyn, NY	Jackie Robinson becomes the first African-American to play in Major League baseball.
1948	Washington, DC	The Supreme Court declares restrictive covenants that keep African-Americans out of white neighborhoods illegal.
1948	Washington, DC	President Truman signs Executive Order 9981 integrating the Armed Forces
1948	Philadelphia, PA	President Truman supports inclusion of civil rights in the party platform. Many Southern Democrats walk out of the convention and go on to form the Democratic States Rights Party that nominates Strom Thurmond as a candidate for president. The “Dixiecrats” take four southern states in the general election and fail to stop Truman from getting a second term.
1954	Washington, DC	The Supreme Court rules in <i>Brown v. the Board of Education</i> that “separate but equal,” when applied to public education, was unconstitutional under the 14 <sup>th</sup> amendment.
1955	Mississippi	14 year old Emmett Till is beaten, shot and lynched by whites after allegedly saying "bye, baby" to a white woman in a store in Mississippi.
1955	Montgomery, AL	Rosa Parks refuses to give up her bus seat to a white man, precipitating the Montgomery bus boycott, led by Martin Luther King, Jr.
1956	Washington, DC	Supreme Court declares segregation on buses illegal
1957	Little Rock, AR	President Eisenhower orders federal troops mobilize to protect the nine African American students at Central High School from white mobs trying to block them from entering the school.

1960	Greensboro, NC	Lunch counter sit-in by four college students spread sit-in protests throughout the South. On April 17, the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) is founded to support and train student protestors.
1961	Alabama	Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) organizes integrated Freedom Rides into the South to test court orders barring segregation in interstate transportation. Riders are savagely beaten in Birmingham and Montgomery, Alabama
1962	Oxford, Mississippi	James Meredith becomes first African American student admitted to the University of Mississippi
1962	Albany, Georgia	Civil rights campaign is unsuccessful in ending segregation because the sheriff refused to use violence against the protestors
1963	Birmingham, AL	MLK organizes a boycott of Birmingham businesses that refuse to serve African-Americans and civil disobedience actions. King is arrested and writes "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." High school students fill in for arrested protestors and are themselves sent to jail.
1963	Washington, DC	On June 11 <sup>th</sup> President Kennedy addresses the nation and calls civil rights a moral issue. He announces he will submit a Civil Rights bill to Congress.
1963	Jackson, Mississippi	Medgar Evers, NAACP field secretary in Jackson, Miss., murdered on June 12 <sup>th</sup> .
1963	Washington, DC	Over a quarter of a million people participate in the March on Washington on August 28, 1963, and hear Martin Luther King Jr. deliver his "I Have a Dream" speech.
1963	Birmingham, AL	The 16 <sup>th</sup> Street Baptist Church is bombed on Sept. 15, killing four African American girls attending Sunday school
1963	Dallas, TX	President Kennedy is assassinated and LBJ becomes President
1964	Mississippi	SNCC organizes a Freedom Summer, a voter education and registration project conducted by integrated groups of students from around the country. Two white students, Andrew Goodman and Michael Scherner, and an African American civil rights worker, James Chaney, are murdered and their bodies buried in small dam. The FBI searches for the bodies all summer.
1964	Washington, DC	LBJ signs the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
1964	Atlantic City, NJ	Civil Rights leaders organize a mock election running a slate of civil rights delegates against the white Democratic party delegates to the Democratic National Convention. 80,000 African-Americans register and participate. The Democratic Party Committee refuses to seat the MFDP delegates at the convention on national television brining attention to voting rights.
1964	Washington, DC	LBJ wins the presidential election but loses five southern states

1965	Selma, Alabama	Bloody Sunday on the Edmund Pettis Bridge is on March 7 <sup>th</sup> . Marchers finish the march to Montgomery on March 25.
1965	Washington, DC	LBJ signs the Voting Rights Act of 1965 on August 6 <sup>th</sup> .
1965	Los Angeles, CA	Watts Riots break out after an altercation with California Highway Patrol at a traffic stop five days after the Voting Rights Act is signed.
1965	New York, NY	Malcolm X is assassinated by men with ties to the Nation of Islam
1966	Mississippi	SNCC leader Stokely Carmichael uses the phrase “black power” for the first time, dividing the Civil Rights movement.
1967	Detroit, MI	A police raid on a black power headquarters sparks a race riot that kills 43 people. There are 164 other racial disturbances around the country that year.
1967	Washington, DC	Thurgood Marshall becomes the first African American justice of the Supreme Court.
1968	Memphis, TN	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is assassinated.
1968	Washington, DC	Richard Nixon is elected President of the United States running on a law and order campaign; Governor George Wallace runs as an independent on a segregation platform. He carries five southern states and 13.5% of the popular vote. The only southern states the Democrats win is Texas.
1971	Washington, DC	Supreme Court upholds busing as a legitimate means for ending segregation in public schools.
1973	Washington, DC	In <i>Keyes v. School District No. 1, Denver, Colorado</i> , the Supreme Court rules that Denver’s public schools have been intentionally segregated by the school board and requires the district to come up with a system-wide remedy.