

All-time richest Americans

To compile this list, each individual's wealth was calculated (in billions) at its peak. The figure was compared to the U.S. gross domestic product at the time and converted to 2006 dollars. So if John D. Rockefeller were alive today his wealth would be many times greater than Bill Gates's.

-  John D. Rockefeller (1839–1937)
\$305.3
-  Andrew Carnegie (1835–1919)
\$281.2
-  Cornelius Vanderbilt (1794–1877)
\$168.4
-  John Jacob Astor (1763–1848)
\$110.1
-  Stephen Girard (1750–1831)
\$95.6
-  Richard B. Mellon (1858–1933)
\$82.3
-  A. T. Stewart (1803–1876)
\$80.8
-  Frederick Weyerhäuser (1834–1914)
\$72.2
-  Marshall Field (1834–1906)
\$60.1
-  Sam Walton (1918–1992)
\$58.6
-  Jay Gould (1836–1892)
\$58.2
-  Henry Ford (1863–1947)
\$54.3
-  Bill Gates (1955–)
\$53.0
-  Andrew W. Mellon (1855–1937)
\$50.5
-  Warren Buffett (1930–)
\$46.0