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## **10 WEALTHIEST AMERICANS of 2013**

**According to Forbes, it has taken only a decade for the collective net worth of the nation's 400 richest individuals to double, to \$2.02 trillion. The group members' average net worth: \$5 billion.**

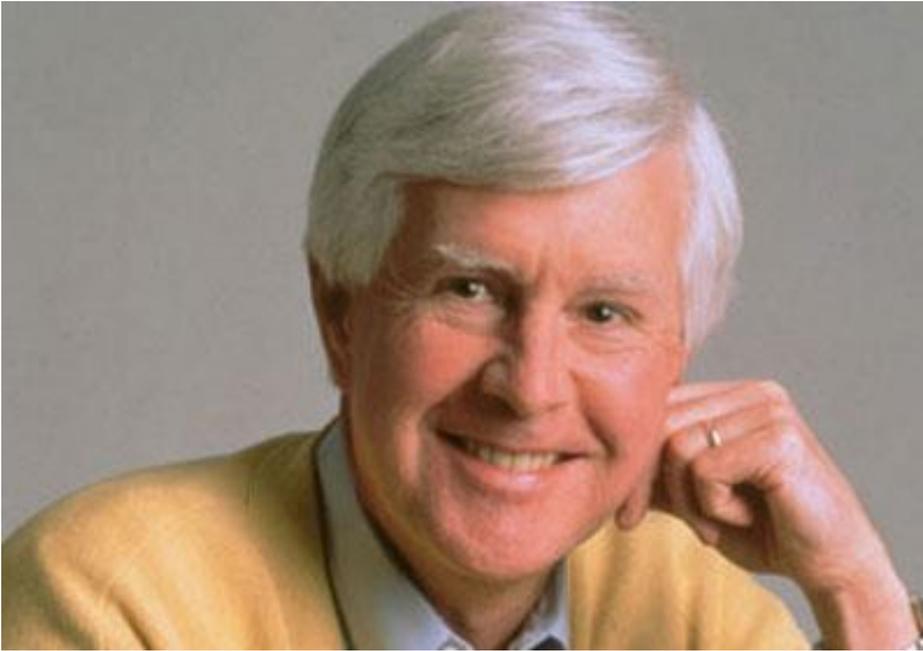
Microsoft co-founder and Chairman Bill Gates is the richest American for the 20th consecutive year and has reclaimed the title of world's richest person from Carlos Slim of Mexico, according to Forbes' closely watched list of the nation's wealthiest individuals.

Facebook's hot stock pumped up Mark Zuckerberg's fortune by \$9.6 billion and put him back into the top 20 after missing that cut last year.

This year's biggest percentage gainer is Workday's David Duffield, whose fortune more than tripled to \$6.4 billion. Just behind him in terms of percentage jump was the entrepreneur Elon Musk, now worth \$6.7 billion and ranked 61st.

The 400 wealthiest Americans are worth a record \$2.02 trillion in 2013, roughly equivalent to the gross domestic product of Russia. That is a gain of \$300 billion from a year ago, and more than double the collective net worth of the wealthiest 400 Americans a decade ago.

The average net worth of list members is a staggering \$5 billion, \$800 million more than a year ago. The minimum net worth needed to make the 400 list was \$1.3 billion. The last time it was that high was in 2008, just before the financial crisis. Because the bar is so high, 61 American billionaires didn't make the cut.



David Duffield

There are 20 newcomers to the list. Among the notables are Michael Rubin, whose online sports merchandise retailer Fanatics recently attracted venture capital investors at a sky-high



Michael Rubin

valuation; Jeff Sutton, who owns a number of the priciest store fronts on New York's Fifth Avenue and in Times Square; and 35 yr. old Robert Pera, one of just nine under 40, whose wireless networking gear-maker Ubiquiti Networks surged after a strong earnings announcement in August. At the time he tweeted this lyric from a Jay-Z song: "And as for the critics/Tell me I don't get it/Everybody can tell you how to do it/They never did it."

Only 30 people from last year's list are poorer than a year ago. Twenty-nine people dropped out of the ranks and four people died. Of those 29, only 15 saw their fortunes drop, including T. Boone Pickens, whose costly bets on wind energy lost him his billionaire status, and Manoj Bhargava, whose 5-Hour Energy drink firm has been hit by lawsuits and falling revenues. The rest simply couldn't keep up with the rising tide. Washington Redskins owner Dan Snyder is one of the billionaires who didn't qualify this year despite a rise in his fortune.



## No. 1: Bill Gates

**Net worth:** \$72 billion

**Source of wealth:** **Microsoft** ([MSFT](#)), investments (Microsoft is the publisher of MSN Money)

**Age:** 57

**Residence:** Medina, Washington.

Gates remains atop the Forbes 400 list of richest Americans, a perch he first held in 1994, despite giving away \$28 billion, most of it to the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**.

He's again the world's richest person, having reclaimed that title from Mexico's Carlos Slim earlier this year.

Gates bolstered his foundation's efforts to eradicate polio in April, securing \$335 million in pledges from six billionaire comrades, including \$100 million each from Slim and Michael Bloomberg.

Microsoft represents less than a fifth of his fortune. Gates' investment firm, **Cascade**, owns chunks of tractor maker **Deere** (DE), Canadian National Railway (CNI) and Mexican soft drinks bottler **Coca-Cola Femsá** (KOF).



## No. 2: Warren Buffett

**Net worth:** \$58.5 billion

**Source of wealth:** **Berkshire Hathaway** (BRK.A)

**Age:** 83

**Residence:** Omaha, Nebraska.

Neither age nor prostate cancer seems to slow Buffett; a year after completing radiation treatment, he is still doing huge deals. His investment vehicle Berkshire Hathaway picked up iconic ketchup maker **H.J. Heinz** for \$23.2 billion in June in a deal with Brazilian billionaire Jorge Paulo Lemann. A Berkshire subsidiary is buying Nevada's **NV Energy** (NVE) for \$5.6 billion in cash.

Buffett gave away an additional \$2 billion of Berkshire stock to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in July, bringing his lifetime giving to nearly \$20 billion. Despite the gift, he saw his fortune rise \$12.5 billion, more than any other member of the Forbes 400, thanks to a 34% appreciation in Berkshire shares.



### **No. 3: Larry Ellison**

**Net worth:** \$41 billion

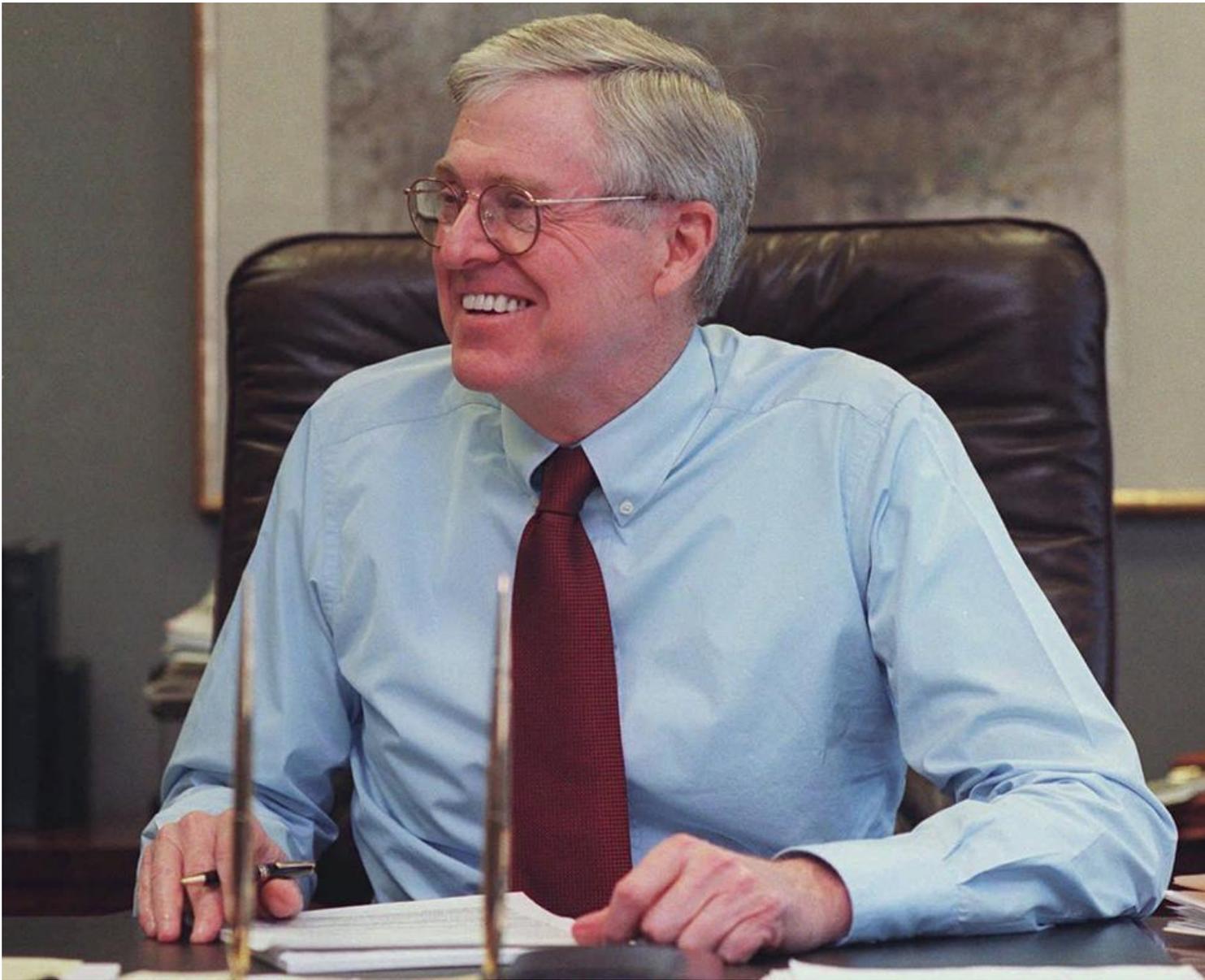
**Source of wealth:** Oracle ([ORCL](#))

**Age:** 69

**Residence:** Woodside, California.

Little gets in the way of Larry Ellison's ambition or prevents him from speaking his mind. In a televised interview in August, the Oracle founder said that **Apple's** ([AAPL](#)) best days are behind it after the passing of [Steve Jobs](#), a close friend, and that **Google's** ([GOOG](#)) alleged infringement on Oracle's patents in its Android software was "absolutely evil."

His dream of a winning second America's Cup sailing trophy was dealt a serious blow recently when a jury found the Oracle team guilty of cheating and docked it 2 points. He collects houses on Carbon Beach in Malibu, Calif, and owns of 98% of Hawaii's Lanai island. Ellison has donated \$445 million to his medical foundation to support research on aging and age-related diseases.



**No. 4 (tie): Charles Koch**

**Net worth:** \$36 billion

**Source of wealth:** Diversified businesses

**Age:** 77

**Residence:** Wichita, Kansas.

Charles Koch is chairman and chief executive of **Koch Industries**, the country's second-largest private company, with annual sales of \$115 billion. He and his brother David, with whom he shares the fortune, keep finding ways to drive liberals crazy, though they failed to in their free-spending campaign to make Barack Obama a one-term president.

The latest frenzy was over the brothers' widely reported (but never confirmed) interest in buying the Los Angeles Times and Chicago Tribune as platforms for their political views. Charles studied nuclear and chemical engineering at MIT.



#### **No. 4 (tie): David Koch**

**Net worth:** \$36 billion

**Source of wealth:** Diversified businesses

**Age:** 73

**Residence:** New York, New York

David Koch is New York City's richest resident. He and his brother Charles derive their fortune from **Koch Industries**, a conglomerate with interests in manufacturing, chemicals, energy, real estate and other businesses.

The brothers reinvest 90% of the company's earnings to keep it growing. This year, Koch Industries agreed to buy **Molex** ([MOLX](#)), a maker of electronics components, for \$7.2 billion, as well as cellulose fibers producer **Buckeye Technologies** ([BKI](#)) for \$1.5 billion.

David is a prostate cancer survivor, and he has contributed more than \$200 million to the search for a cure. Like his brother, he studied chemical engineering at MIT.



## **No. 6: Christy Walton**

**Net worth:** \$35.4 billion

**Source of wealth:** Wal-Mart Stores ([WMT](#))

**Age:** 58

**Residence:** Jackson, Wyoming.

Christy Walton is once again the world's richest woman. She inherited her wealth when her husband, John Walton, a Green Beret and medic in the Vietnam War, died in an airplane crash in 2005. She inherited a huge chunk of Wal-Mart shares.

But it is her husband's investment in **First Solar** ([FSLR](#)) that boosts her fortune ahead of the other Waltons. That lead, which had narrowed when First Solar stock tanked a couple of years ago, has once again widened, as shares of the solar systems provider rose 57% in the past year.



**No. 7: Jim Walton**

**Net worth:** \$33.8 billion

**Source of wealth:** Wal-Mart Stores ([WMT](#))

**Age:** 65

**Residence:** Bentonville, Arkansas.

The combined fortune of Wal-Mart founder Sam Walton's heirs is up 27%, or \$28.9 billion, from a year ago, thanks to a change in control of the shares held by their late mother's trust. Shares of Wal-Mart are up only 2%.

The discount retailing giant, founded in 1962, employs 2.2 million people in 11,000 stores worldwide, making the company the world's largest private employer.



**No. 8: Alice Walton**

**Net worth:** \$33.5 billion

**Source of wealth:** Wal-Mart Stores ([WMT](#))

**Age:** 63

**Residence:** Fort Worth, Texas.

Alice Walton's Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art has hosted 1 million visitors since opening its doors in 2011 in Bentonville, Ark. The museum features works spanning five centuries from such icons as Andy Warhol, Norman Rockwell and Georgia O'Keeffe.



### **No. 9: S. Robson Walton**

**Net worth:** \$33.3 billion

**Source of wealth:** **Wal-Mart Stores** ([WMT](#))

**Age:** 69

**Residence:** Bentonville, Arkansas.

S. Robson Walton has been chairman of the growing and prosperous retailer since Wal-Mart was founded in 1962.

The past 12 months have been trying, however, as company employees have organized protests against low wages in 15 cities across the United States. Wal-Mart also has endured criticism for its connection to a bribery scandal in Mexico.



## No. 10: Michael Bloomberg

**Net worth:** \$31 billion

**Source of wealth:** **Bloomberg** financial data and media

**Age:** 71

**Residence:** New York, New York

The world's richest mayor ends his 12-year run atop the Big Apple in December. His next act is anyone's guess, but Bloomberg is expected to continue to insert himself into the national debate over gun control, an issue on which he has been outspoken.

His fortune is up \$6 billion since last year, thanks to the performance of **Bloomberg**, the financial data company he founded in 1982 after being fired from investment bank **Salomon Brothers**. He owns 88% of the company, which last year generated \$7.9 billion in revenue. He also owns at least 10 homes, in New York City, Westchester County, N.Y., Bermuda, Vail, Colo., and the tony New York area of the Hamptons.

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