

**THE FORBES 400 HIT THE \$1 TRILLION MARK IN AGGREGATE INCOME,
AS A RECORD 313 BILLIONAIRES MAKE THE LIST**

NEW YORK, NY (September 22, 2004)—For the first time since 2000, “the combined net worth of the nation's wealthiest climbed to \$1 trillion, up \$45 billion in 12 months,” according to *Forbes*. This was aided in no small part by the inclusion of 313 billionaires—the most ever—on this year's list. Up 5% from 2003, 2004's grand total reflects the strong influence of the world of finance and investing, which claims 24 of the 45 new members of the 400. With \$750 million needed to earn a place on the list, the tech giants are well represented once again in the top 10, with Bill Gates (#1) and Paul Allen (#3) retaining their 2003 spots, and Michael Dell (#9) and Lawrence Ellison (#10) trading places as they remain in the ranking's highest echelon. Repeating at #2 is Warren Buffett, the biggest gainer in dollars from last year, up \$5 billion. The person with the largest increase percentage-wise is casino mogul Steve Wynn at 100%—earning \$1.3 billion, up from last year's \$650 million—ascending to #215 from his previous #377 spot. For more, visit www.forbes.com.

The Top 10 and the wealth that put them there:

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>WEALTH</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>2003 RANK</u>
1	Bill Gates	\$48 billion	Microsoft	1
2	Warren Buffett	\$41 billion	Berkshire Hathaway	2
3	Paul Allen	\$20 billion	Microsoft; investments	3
4	Helen R. Walton	\$18 billion	Wal-Mart	4
5	S. Robson Walton	\$18 billion	Wal-Mart	5
6	John T. Walton	\$18 billion	Wal-Mart	6
7	Jim C. Walton	\$18 billion	Wal-Mart	7
8	Alice L. Walton	\$18 billion	Wal-Mart	8
9	Michael Dell	\$14.2 billion	Dell	10
10	Lawrence Ellison	\$13.7 billion	Oracle	9

The biggest money loser from last year, remaining in the 400, is Amazon's Jeff Bezos (#38), who dropped \$800 million during the last 12 months. Those notables who lost big enough to be counted in the 54 drop-offs from 2003 include: Disney honcho Michael Eisner; buyout king, and former *Forbes* 400 perennial, Theodore Forstmann; BET's Robert Johnson; and Monster.com's Andrew McKelvey.

Included among the brand-new members on the list are those with family fortunes, namely 10 Pritzkers (Hyatt) and 5 SC Johnsons (floor wax), all billionaires. The most prominent of 9 returnees to the list might be first-lady hopeful Teresa Heinz Kerry, whose inherited fortune is estimated at the list minimum of \$750 million. On the flip side are those whose family fortunes divided their wealth, leaving them off the list entirely, including the "old money" names of DuPont, Mellon and Rockefeller (p. 66).

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