

Jim Crow Laws: Texas

[Close](#)

Twenty-seven Jim Crow laws were passed in the Lone Star state. The state enacted one anti-segregation law in 1871 barring separation of the races on public carriers. This law was repealed in 1889.

1866: Education [Constitution]

All taxes paid by blacks to go to maintaining African schools. Duty of the legislature to "encourage colored schools."

1866: Railroads [Statute]

"All railroad companies shall attach one passenger car for the special accommodation of freedmen."

1871: Barred segregation on public carriers [Statute]

Public carriers prohibited from making any distinctions in the carrying of passengers. Penalty: Misdemeanor punishable by a fine from \$100 to \$500, or imprisonment from 30 to 90 days, or both.

1876: Voting rights [Constitution]

Required electors to pay poll tax.

1879: Miscegenation [Statute]

Confirmed intermarriage law passed in 1858. Penalty applied equally to both parties.

1889: Railroads [Statute]

Railroad companies required to maintain separate coaches for white and colored passengers, equal in comfort. Penalty: Passengers refusing to sit where assigned were guilty of a misdemeanor, and could be fined between \$5 and \$20.

1891: Railroads [Statute]

Separate coach laws strengthened. Separate coaches for white and Negro passengers to be equal in all points of comfort and convenience. Designed by signage posted in a conspicuous place in each compartment. Trains allowed to carry chair cars or sleeping cars for the exclusive use of either race. Law did not apply to streetcars. Penalty: Conductors who failed to enforce law faced misdemeanor charge punishable by a fine from \$5 to \$25. The railroad company could be fined from \$100 to \$1,000 for each trip. Passengers who refused to sit in designated areas faced fines from \$5 to \$25.

1907: Streetcars [Statute]

Required all streetcars to comply with the separate coach law passed in 1889. Penalty: Streetcar companies could be fined from \$100 to \$1,000 for failing to enact law. A passenger wrongfully riding in an improper coach was guilty of a misdemeanor, and faced fines from \$5 to \$25.

1909: Railroads [Statute]

Depot buildings required to provide separate waiting areas for the use of white and Negro passengers.

1914: Railroads [Statute]

Negro porters shall not sleep in sleeping car berths nor use bedding intended for white passengers.

1915: Miscegenation [State Code]

The penalty for intermarriage is imprisonment in the penitentiary from two to five years.

1919: Public accommodations [Statute]

Ordered that Negroes were to use separate branches of county free libraries.

1922: Voting Rights [Statute]

"?in no event shall a Negro be eligible to participate in a Democratic party primary election held in the State of Texas?"
Overturned in 1927 by U.S. Supreme Court in Nixon v. Herndon.

1925: Education [Statute]

Required racially segregated schools.

1925: Public accommodations [Statute]

Separate branches for Negroes to be administered by a Negro custodian in all county libraries.

1925: Miscegenation [Penal Code]

Miscegenation declared a felony. Nullified interracial marriages if parties went to another jurisdiction where such marriages

were legal.

1926: Public carriers [Statute]
Public carriers to be segregated.

1935: Health Care [Statute]
Established a state tuberculosis sanitarium for blacks.

1935: Public carriers [State Code]
Directed that separate coaches for whites and blacks on all common carriers.

1943: Public carriers [State Code]
Ordered separate seating on all buses.

1949: Employment [Statute]
Coal mines required to have separate washrooms.

1950: Public accommodations [Statute]
Separate facilities required for white and black citizens in state parks

1951: Voting rights [Constitution]
Required electors to pay poll tax.

1951: Miscegenation [Statute]
Unlawful for person of Caucasian blood to marry person of African blood. Penalty:Two to five years imprisonment.

1952: Health Care [Statute]
Establishment of TB hospitals for blacks.

1953: Public carriers [Penal Code]
Public carriers to be segregated.

1956: Public accommodations [Municipal Ordinance]
Abolished previously required segregation in the city of San Antonio's swimming pools and other recreational facilities.

1958: Education [Statute]
No child compelled to attend schools that are racially mixed. No desegregation unless approved by election. Governor may close schools where troops used on federal authority.