



Population Demographics

- **Total Population: 51,543**
- **Median Age: 37.1**
- **Black: 93.1%**
- **Hispanic or Latinx: 2.4%**
- **Asian: 0.4%**
- **White: 2.8%**

Economic Profile

- **Owner Occupied: 17.0%**
- **Renter Occupied: 61.5%**
- **Median Household Income: \$29,890**

Education Statistics

- **No Highschool: 10.2%**
- **Highschool: 25.4%**
- **Associate's Degree: 9.0%**
- **Bachelor's Degree: 13.9%**
- **Graduate Degree: 10.5%**

Before the community came to be known as South Shore in the 1920s, it was inhabited by several Algonquian peoples, including the Mascouten and Miami. After the expulsion of Native Americans, it became a collection of settlements in southern Hyde Park Township. Today it is predominantly a middle-class African American community on the city's south side. It was at one time promoted as a vacation spot for wealthy Chicagoans and a destination for the elite.

The neighborhood's jewel, the South Shore Cultural Center, was formerly known as the South Shore Country Club, and "had stables, a nine-hole golf course, tennis courts, a bowling green, and a private beach on Lake Michigan." While many of those amenities still exist, the Cultural Center is now a hub of activity for the entire community, offering not only an unmatched setting for a wedding, but "dance programs ranging from step-in to ballet to country-western line-dance, as well as classes in painting, ceramics and cooking, and a variety of productions in its 600-seat Paul Robeson Theatre."

CAROL BRAUN

The first African American woman elected to the United States Senate lived in South Shore during her political career.

ETA FOUNDATION

One of Chicago's leading African American cultural performing arts institute, ETA Creative Arts Foundation, is in South Shore.

OBAMA'S SPEECH

Barack Obama held his acceptance speech for the 2008 residential nomination in South Shore at the Avalon Regal Theatre.