African American constitute just over 12.3% of the entire US population. The southern states, stretching from the Tidewater through to the banks of the Mississippi continue to have higher than average African America population, an historic reminder of the slave populations that worked the tobacco farms and cotton plantations.

In Megalopolis approximately one of very ten persons is classified as African America, although a smaller figure than the national average, there are areas of significant concentrations. Three stand out. Baltimore at 422.8% above the national mean [NM]), Prince George's MD (409.8% above NM) and Washington DC (387.8% above NM). Secondary areas of concentrating occur in urban areas; Philadelphia, New York and Boston. African Americans in Megalopolis tend to be more urban than rural. This pattern reflects the waves of African Americans who moved from the rural South to the urban North in search of economic opportunities and social freedoms. Higher than average figures are found along the central urban spine of the region from Washington, DC to New York with much lower than average figures in the rural more peripheral counties. New England, apart from the Boston area, has a lower than averages representation of African Americans. In Megalopolis, as in the nation as a whole, there is a southern bias to the concentrations of African Americans.