

# Eritrea

## Nationalities:

Eritrean



## DC Area Population:

Approximately 20,000-40,000

**Language:** Tigrinya, Arabic, and English

**Religion:** Ethiopian Orthodox

Muslim

**Person of Peace:** None Identified Yet

## Information on the group in DC:

In the Metro Washington, DC area, there are approximately 20,000-40,000 Eritreans. The exact number is difficult to pinpoint because Eritreans are easily confused with Ethiopians. Eritreans and Ethiopians look exactly the same in their physical appearance. Much of their food and culture is also very similar; however, they speak different languages. Many Eritrean refugees came to America in the 1990s, following the war between Ethiopia and Eritrea. Most Eritreans work in hotels or as taxi drivers, while many others have opened their own restaurants, coffee shops, or markets. These family businesses are the best places to engage Eritreans.

