

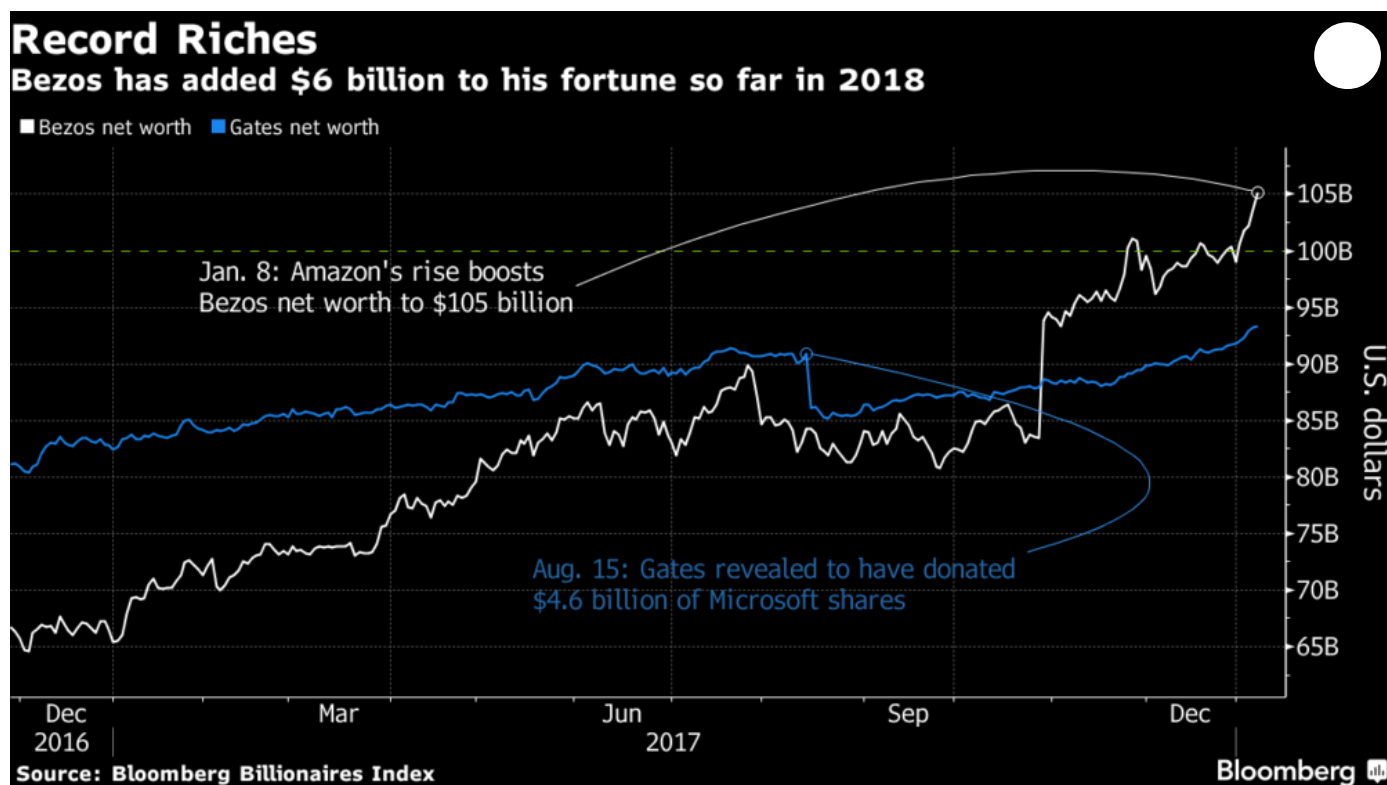
## Jeff Bezos Is Now Worth More Than Bill Gates Ever Was

By **Tom Metcalf**

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- Internet retailer's shares have risen 6.6% in January
- Gates is only other person to have built 13-figure fortune

Jeff Bezos <<https://www.bloomberg.com/billionaires/id/1642252>>'s net worth reached \$105.1 billion Monday on the [Bloomberg Billionaires Index](https://www.bloomberg.com/billionaires/) <<https://www.bloomberg.com/billionaires/>> as Amazon.com Inc. shares added to a 12-month surge that's [lifted](#) the online shopping giant's market value by almost 57 percent.



Amazon shares have risen 6.6 percent this year, with a [report](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-01-05/amazon-maintains-holiday-dominance-despite-stepped-up-pressure) <<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-01-05/amazon-maintains-holiday-dominance-despite-stepped-up-pressure>> showing the Seattle-based company captured 89 percent of online spending among dominant holiday retailers in the five-week period beginning the day after Thanksgiving in the U.S.

The latest jump has pushed Bezos's fortune definitively above the high reached by Microsoft Corp.'s [Bill Gates](https://www.bloomberg.com/billionaires/id/1390479) <<https://www.bloomberg.com/billionaires/id/1390479>> in 1999. The Amazon founder [passed](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-10-27/bezos-seizes-title-of-world-s-richest-person-after-amazon-soars) <<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-10-27/bezos-seizes-title-of-world-s-richest-person-after-amazon-soars>> Gates in October with a net worth of \$93.8 billion and his fortune crossed \$100 billion for the first time a month later when the holiday shopping season kicked off on Black Friday.

Gates, 62, would have a net worth of more than \$150 billion if he'd held onto assets that he's given away, largely to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. He has given away almost 700 million Microsoft shares and \$2.9 billion of cash and other assets since 1996, according to an analysis of his publicly disclosed giving.

## How Jeff Bezos Became the King of E-Commerce

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This Bloomberg Profile looks into how Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos grew his business after building it inside his garage.  
(Source: Bloomberg)

Bezos also controls closely held space exploration business Blue Origin and the Washington Post.

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