Hispanic Heritage Month 2014: Sept. 15–Oct. 15

In September 1968, Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week, observed during the week that included Sept. 15 and Sept. 16. Congress expanded the observance in 1989 to a monthlong celebration (Sept. 15 – Oct. 15) of the culture and traditions of those who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central America, South America and the Caribbean.

Sept. 15 is the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on Sept. 16 and Sept. 18, respectively.

Population

54 million
The Hispanic population of the United States as of July 1, 2013, making people of Hispanic origin the nation’s largest ethnic or racial minority. Hispanics constituted 17 percent of the nation’s total population.
Source: 2013 Population Estimates
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2013_PEP ASR6H&prodType=table>

1.1 million
Number of Hispanics added to the nation’s population between July 1, 2012, and July 1, 2013. This number is close to half of the approximately 2.3 million people added to the nation’s population during this period.
Source: 2013 Population Estimates
National Characteristics: Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic origin
<http://www.census.gov/popest/data/national/asrh/2013/index.html>, See first bullet under “Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin”
2.0%
Percentage increase in the Hispanic population between 2012 and 2013.
Source: 2013 Population Estimates
National Characteristics: Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic origin
<http://www.census.gov/popest/data/national/asrh/2013/index.html>, See first bullet under “Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin”

128.8 million
The projected Hispanic population of the United States in 2060. According to this projection, the Hispanic population will constitute 31 percent of the nation’s population by that date.
Source: Population Projections

2nd
Ranking of the size of the U.S. Hispanic population worldwide, as of 2010. Only Mexico (120 million) had a larger Hispanic population than the United States (54 million).
Source: International Data Base
<http://www.census.gov/population/international/data/idb/informationGateway.php>

64%
The percentage of those of Hispanic origin in the United States who were of Mexican background in 2012. Another 9.4 percent were of Puerto Rican background, 3.8 percent Salvadoran, 3.7 percent Cuban, 3.1 percent Dominican and 2.3 percent Guatemalan. The remainder was of some other Central American, South American or other Hispanic/Latino origin.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey: Table B03001
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_12_1YR_B03001&prodType=table>

States and Counties

34.4 years
Median age of Hispanics in Florida, the highest of any state in the country.
Source: 2013 Population Estimates
State Characteristics: Median Age by Race and Hispanic Origin
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2013_PEP ASR6H&prodType=table>

10 million
The estimated population for those of Hispanic origin in Texas as of July 1, 2013.
Source: 2013 Population Estimates
State Characteristics: Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin
<http://www.census.gov/popest/data/national/asrh/2013/index.html>
The number of states with a population of 1 million or more Hispanic residents in 2013 — Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, New York and Texas.
Source: 2013 Population Estimates
State Characteristics: Population by Race and Hispanic Origin
<http://www.census.gov/popest/data/national/asrh/2013/index.html>

55%
The percentage of all the Hispanic population that lived in California, Florida and Texas as of July 1, 2013.
Source: 2013 Population Estimates
State Characteristics: Population by Race and Hispanic Origin
<http://www.census.gov/popest/data/national/asrh/2013/index.html>

47.3%
The percentage of New Mexico’s population that was Hispanic as of July 1, 2013, the highest of any state.
Source: 2013 Population Estimates
State Characteristics: Population by Race and Hispanic Origin
<http://www.census.gov/popest/data/national/asrh/2013/index.html>

14.7 million
The Hispanic population of California. This is the largest Hispanic population of any state.
Source: 2013 Population Estimates

4.8 million
Los Angeles County had the largest Hispanic population of any county in 2013.
Source: 2013 Population Estimates
<http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/population/cb14-118.html>

50,000
Miami-Dade County in Florida had the largest numeric increase of Hispanics from 2012 to 2013.
Source: 2013 Population Estimates
<http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/population/cb14-118.html>

22
Number of states in which Hispanics were the largest minority group. These states were Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.
Source: 2013 Population Estimates, PEPSR6H and PEPSR5H
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2013_PEPSR5H&prodType=table> and
Families and Children

11.9 million
The number of Hispanic family households in the United States in 2013.
Source: Families and Living Arrangements: Table F1
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/families/files/cps2013/tabF1-hisp.xls>

62.4%
The percentage of Hispanic family households that were married-couple households in 2013. For the total population in the U.S., it was 73.2 percent.
Source: Families and Living Arrangements: Table F1
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/families/files/cps2013/tabF1-hisp.xls>
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/families/data/cps2013F.html>

58.5%
The percentage of Hispanic married-couple households that had children younger than 18 present in 2013, whereas for the nation it was 40.3 percent.
Source: Families and Living Arrangements: Table F1
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/families/files/cps2013/tabF1-hisp.xls>
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/families/data/cps2013F.html>

65.1%
Percentage of Hispanic children living with two parents in 2013, whereas nationwide it was 68.5 percent.
Source: Families and Living Arrangements: Table C9
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/families/files/cps2013/tabC9-hispanic.xls>
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/families/data/cps2013C.html>

43.1%
Percentage of Hispanic married couples with children under 18 where both spouses were employed in 2013, whereas nationwide it was 58.0 percent.
Source: Families and Living Arrangements: Table FG-1
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/families/data/cps2013FG.html>

Spanish Language

38.3 million
The number of U.S. residents 5 and older who spoke Spanish at home in 2012. This is a 121 percent increase since 1990 when it was 17.3 million. Those who hablan español en casa constituted 13.0
percent of U.S. residents 5 and older. More than half (58 percent) of these Spanish speakers spoke English “very well.”


73.9%
Percentage of Hispanics 5 and older who spoke Spanish at home in 2012.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey: Table B16006 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_12_1YR_B16006&prodType=table>

Income, Poverty and Health Insurance

$39,005
The median income of Hispanic households in 2012.

25.6%

29.1%
The percentage of Hispanics who lacked health insurance in 2012, down from 30.1 percent in 2011

Education

64.0%
The percentage of Hispanics 25 and older that had at least a high school education in 2012.
Source: American Community Survey: 2012 Table S0201 (Hispanic Origin) <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_12_1YR_S0201&prodType=table>

13.8%
The percentage of the Hispanic population 25 and older with a bachelor’s degree or higher in 2012.
4 million
The number of Hispanics 25 and older who had at least a bachelor’s degree in 2012.
Source: American Community Survey: 2012 Table C1502I
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_12_1YR_C15002I&prodType=table>

1.3 million
Number of Hispanics 25 and older with advanced degrees in 2012 (e.g., master’s, professional, doctorate).
Source: American Community Survey: 2012 Table B150021 (Hispanic origin)
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_12_1YR_B15002I&prodType=table>

6.8%
Percentage of students (both undergraduate and graduate) enrolled in college in 2012 who were Hispanic.
Source: School Enrollment Data Current Population Survey: October 2012, Table1
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/school/data/cps/2012/tables.html>

23.3%
Percentage of elementary and high school students that were Hispanic in 2012.
Source: School Enrollment Data Current Population Survey: October 2012, Table 1
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/school/data/cps/2012/tables.html>

Foreign-Born

35.6%
Percentage of the Hispanic population that was foreign-born in 2012.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table: S0201
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/S0201//popgroup~400>

64.3%
Percentage of the 10.3 million noncitizens under the age of 35 who were born in Latin America and the Caribbean and are living in the United States in 2010-2012.

Jobs

67.1%
Percentage of Hispanics or Latinos 16 and older who were in the civilian labor force in 2012.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table: S0201 (Hispanic) and B23002i
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tables/services/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_12_1YR_S0201&prodType=table>
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tables/services/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_12_1YR_B23002I&prodType=table>

19.5%
The percentage of civilian employed Hispanics or Latinos 16 and older who worked in management, business, science and arts occupations in 2012.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table C24010I
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/C24010I>?

Voting

8.4%
The percentage of voters in the 2012 presidential election who were Hispanic. Hispanics comprised 7 percent of voters in 2010.
Source: News Release: Census Bureau Reports Hispanic Voter Turnout Reaches Record High for Congressional Election
<http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/voting/cb11-164.html> and Voting and Registration in the Election of November 2012: Table 2

Serving our Country

1.2 million
The number of Hispanics or Latinos 18 and older who are veterans of the U.S. armed forces.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey: Table B21001I
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tables/services/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_12_1YR_B21001I&prodType=table>

Businesses

Source for statements in this section: Statistics for All U.S. Firms by Industry, Gender, Ethnicity, and Race for the United States, States, Metro Areas, Counties, and Places: 2007, Table SB0700CSA01
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tables/services/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=SBO_2007_00CSA01&prodType=table> Data for 2012 are being collected.

2.3 million
The number of Hispanic-owned businesses in 2007, up 43.6 percent from 2002.
$350.7 billion
Receipts generated by Hispanic-owned businesses in 2007, up 58.0 percent from 2002.

23.7%
The percentage of businesses in New Mexico in 2007 that were Hispanic-owned, which led all states. Florida (22.4 percent) and Texas (20.7 percent) were runners-up.

Following is a list of observances typically covered by the Census Bureau’s Facts for Features series:

- African-American History Month (February)
- Valentine’s Day (Feb. 14)
- Women’s History Month (March)
- Irish-American Heritage Month (March)/St. Patrick’s Day (March 17)
- Earth Day (April 22)
- Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month (May)
- Older Americans Month (May)
- Cinco de Mayo (May 5)
- Mother’s Day
- Hurricane Season Begins (June 1)
- Father’s Day
- The Fourth of July (July 4)
- Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act (July 26)
- Back to School (August)

Editor’s note: The preceding data were collected from a variety of sources and may be subject to sampling variability and other sources of error. Facts for Features are customarily released about two months before an observance in order to accommodate magazine production timelines. Questions or comments should be directed to the Census Bureau’s Public Information Office: telephone: 301-763-3030 or e-mail: <PIO@census.gov>.