

**Hispanic Facts of the Day
September 2012**



**DEFENSE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE
DIRECTORATE OF RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES**

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Author Biography

Ms. Dawn Smith is a research editor in the Technology Development & Clearinghouse Management directorate (J-93) at the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI). She was responsible for compiling the information contained in this report. Her main research interests involve communication within a culture and the family. Ms. Smith received her Bachelor Degree in Interpersonal/Organizational Communications from the University of Central Florida.

September Facts of the Day 2012		
Date	Fact	Source
1	President Barack Obama said, "From those who trace their roots to America's earliest days to those who recently came to the United States carrying nothing but hope for a better life, Hispanics have always been integral to our national story...America is a richer and more vibrant country because of the contributions of Hispanics, and during National Hispanic Heritage Month, we celebrate the immeasurable impact they have made on our Nation."	http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/09/15/presidential-proclamation-national-hispanic-heritage-month-2011
2	Created in 1997, the Smithsonian Latino Center works with the Smithsonian museums, research centers, programs, and almost 200 affiliates nationwide to ensure that Latino culture, achievement, and contributions are celebrated and recognized. The Smithsonian Latino Center ensures that Latino contributions to the arts, sciences, and humanities are highlighted, understood, and advanced through the development and support of public programs, research, museum collections, and educational opportunities at the Smithsonian Institution.	http://latino.si.edu/aboutus/
3	Half of all women working as full-time wage and salary workers earned \$669 or more per week in 2010. This median weekly wage was 81.2 percent of that earned by men. Hispanic women earned the least, with half of all Hispanic women earning \$508 or more per week (half earning less).	http://www.dol.gov/_sec/media/reports/femalelaborforce/
4	As of September 20, 2010, Hispanics made up 9.5 percent of all reserve forces including the National Guard.	deomi.org
5	In 1963, Miami's Coral Way Elementary School offered the nation's first bilingual education program in public schools, thanks to a grant from the Ford Foundation.	http://www.tolerance.org/latino-civil-rights-timeline
6	According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the number of Hispanics or Latinos 18 and older who are veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces was 1.1 million as of 2010.	http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/cb11-ff18.html

7	Postage stamps help tell the story of America’s rich and diverse heritage. Since 1869, Hispanic themes have been featured on more than 50 stamps.	http://www.america.gov/hispanics-us.html
8	In addition to community events, a number of U.S. government agencies celebrate the month with special events and projects. The U.S. Library of Congress has a web page dedicated to Hispanic Heritage Month. The library is also involved in the creation of an oral history of America—StoryCorps Historias—focused specifically on recording the diverse stories and life experiences of Latinos in the United States.	U.S. Census Bureau
9	In 1968, Latino high school students in Los Angeles staged walkouts protesting unequal treatment by the school district. Prior to the walkouts, Latino students were routinely punished for speaking Spanish on school property, not allowed to use the bathroom during lunch, and discouraged from continuing education. Walkout participants were subjected to police brutality and public ridicule; 13 were arrested on charges of disorderly conduct and conspiracy. However, the walkouts eventually resulted in school reform and an increased college enrollment among Latino youth.	http://www.tolerance.org/latino-civil-rights-timeline
10	In 1967, Articles of Incorporation were filed in San Antonio for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, the first national Chicano civil rights legal organization.	http://www.civilrights.org/resources/civilrights101/chronology.html
11	In 1975, Congress expanded the U.S. Voting Rights Act, requiring language assistance at polling locations.	http://www.civilrights.org/resources/civilrights101/chronology.html
12	Forty-three men of Hispanic heritage were awarded the Medal of Honor. Of those 43, two were presented to members of the United States Navy, 13 to members of the United States Marine Corps, and 28 to members of the United States Army. Twenty-five Medals of Honor were presented posthumously.	Congressional Medal of Honor Society

13	<p>On May 1, 2006, hundreds of thousands of Latino immigrants and others participated in the Day Without Immigrants, boycotting work, school, and shopping, to symbolize the important contributions immigrants make to the American economy.</p>	<p>http://www.tolerance.org/latino-civil-rights-timeline</p>
14	<p>In 1954, the Supreme Court ruled in <i>Hernandez v. Texas</i> that Hispanics have equal protection under the 14th Amendment of the Constitution. The victory provided a legal avenue for Hispanic Americans to combat discrimination.</p>	<p>http://www.civilrights.org/resources/civilrights101/chronology.html</p>
15	<p>In September 1968, Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week, which at the time, was to be observed during the week that included September 15th and 16th. In 1988, President Ronald Reagan expanded the observance to become Hispanic Heritage month, beginning on September 15th and ending on October 15th.</p>	<p>U.S. Census Bureau</p>
16	<p>In the United States, we observe Hispanic Heritage month by celebrating the culture and traditions of U.S. residents who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico, and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central America, South America, and the Caribbean.</p>	<p>U.S. Census Bureau</p>
17	<p>September 15th was chosen as the starting point of Hispanic Heritage Month because it is the anniversary of independence for five Latin American countries—Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico declared its independence on September 16th, and Chile on September 18th.</p>	<p>U.S. Census Bureau</p>

18	According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Hispanics of Mexican, Puerto Rican, and Cuban descent remain the nation's three largest Hispanic country-of-origin groups. However, while the relative position of these groups has remained unchanged since 2000, the next four Hispanic subgroups—Salvadorans, Dominicans, Guatemalans, and Colombians—grew faster during the last decade.	U.S. Census Bureau
19	The Hispanic population of the United States on July 1, 2050 is projected to be 132.8 million. According to this projection, Hispanics will constitute 30 percent of the nation's population by that date.	http://www.factmonster.com
20	At nearly 23 million, people of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity represented 15 percent of the U.S. labor force in 2011. By 2020, Latinos are expected to comprise 19 percent of the U.S. labor force.	http://www.dol.gov/_sec/media/reports/hispaniclaborforce/
21	The Hispanic population of the United States as of April 1, 2010 was 50.5 million, making people of Hispanic origin the nation's largest ethnic or racial minority. Hispanics constituted 16.3 percent of the nation's total population. In addition, there are 3.7 million residents of Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory.	http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/cb11-ff18.html
22	According to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, roughly 56 percent of all homeless veterans are African American or Hispanic, despite only accounting for 12.8 percent and 15.4 percent of the U.S. population respectively.	http://www.nchv.org/background.cfm
23	Hispanic origin groups differ from each other in a number of ways. According to the Pew Research Center, U.S. Hispanics of Mexican origin have the lowest median age, at 25 years, while Hispanics of Cuban origin have the highest median age, at 40 years.	http://www.hispanictrending.net/hispanic_facts_and_figures/
24	Eight Hispanic women have served in Congress, all in the House, and seven of them serve in the 112th Congress. Of these, two are sisters.	http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL30261.pdf

25	<p>In 1945, eight years before <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i>, Mexican Americans in Orange County, California won a similar victory over California school districts in <i>Mendez v. Westminster</i>, in which the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit found that separate Mexican schools were unconstitutional.</p>	<p>http://www.tolerance.org/activity/tale-two-schools</p>
26	<p>In 1967, Jose Angel Gutierrez founded the Mexican American Youth Organization in San Antonio, Texas. The group would become La Rasa Unida Party, the first Chicano political party.</p>	<p>http://www.civilrights.org/resources/civilrights101/chronology.html</p>
27	<p>Overall, the 10 largest Hispanic origin groups — Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Salvadorans, Dominicans, Guatemalans, Colombians, Hondurans, Ecuadorians, and Peruvians—make up 92 percent of the U.S. Hispanic population.</p>	<p>http://www.hispanictrending.net/hispanic_facts_and_figures/</p>
28	<p>President Barack Obama said, "The future of America is inextricably linked to the future of our Hispanic community. Our country thrives on the diversity and ingenuity of all our people, and our ability to out-innovate, out-educate, and out-build the rest of the world will depend greatly on the success of Hispanics. This month, as we honor their struggles and successes, let us recommit to ensuring our Nation remains a place big enough and bold enough to accommodate the dreams and prosperity of all our people."</p>	<p>http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/09/15/presidential-proclamation-national-hispanic-heritage-month-2011</p>
29	<p>The usage of Hispanic as an ethnic indicator in the U.S. is believed to have come into mainstream prominence following inclusion of a question in the 1980 U.S. Census, which asked people to voluntarily identify if they were of "Spanish/Hispanic origin or descent." The term Hispanic is currently used to refer to Spanish-speaking people in the United States of any race.</p>	<p>Diversity Jobs</p>

30	<p>Hispanic subgroups also differ in their states, regions and counties of geographic concentration. Mexicans, Salvadorans and Guatemalans are largely concentrated in Western states, while Cubans, Colombians, Hondurans and Peruvians are largely concentrated in the South. The largest numbers of Puerto Ricans, Dominicans, and Ecuadorians are in the Northeast.</p>	<p>http://www.hispanictrending.net/hispanic_facts_and_figures/</p>
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