



# Hispanic Facts and Figures for the Nation

## Celebrando Nuestra Herencia

**Celebrating Our Heritage  
Hispanic Heritage Month  
September 15 – October 15, 2019**

### Hispanics in the United States

Hispanics are the largest minority group in the United States, representing 18.3% of the U.S. population.

There are 54.5 million Hispanics living in the U.S. today.

Mexican Americans are the largest Hispanic sub-group, comprising 63% of the Hispanic population.

The fast-growing Hispanic population increased by 43 percent between 2000 and 2010—a much higher rate than the general population increase of 4.9 percent.

Twenty one states in which Hispanics were the largest minority group are Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington and Wyoming.

*Information above retrieved from U.S. CENSUS Bureau*

The Hispanic population is very young. The modal age for Hispanics in the USA is age 9. The modal age for non-Hispanic Whites is 57.

The economic clout of Hispanics has risen from \$212 billion on 1990, to \$798 billion in 2006 and is expected to be almost \$1.7 trillion in 2020.

Hispanic buying power is increasing at a rate 3 times higher than non-Hispanics. (Humphreys, Selig Center).

### Facts and Figures for New Mexico Hispanics

The highest proportion of Hispanic residents in the nation is in the state of New Mexico, whose population is approximately 48.5% Hispanic. (2016 Census estimate)

Hispanics also comprise approximately 48% of the City of Albuquerque. (ACS)

Hispanics in New Mexico are also relatively young, as the median age for Hispanics in New Mexico is 28 compared to 35 for non-Hispanics. (ACS)

New Mexico has the greatest Hispanic representation in state government with over 40 percent of New Mexico's state legislators are Hispanic.

Hispanics comprise over 40% of the student body at UNM, over 60% at CNM and over 70% of NM Public Schools.

### Local & National Hispanic Advocacy Organizations

Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce (AHCC)	CHCI
American GI Forum	MALDEF
Comadre a Comadre	ENLACE-NM
De Colores NM	HACER
Hispanic Roundtable of NM (HRTNM)	HACU
Hispanic Statement of Cooperation (HSOC)	HELP-NM
Hispanic Women's Council	MANA
Independent Producers (NM Chapter)	NA Latino
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)	NALEO
Mujeres de LULAC	SWOP
National Council of La Raza (NCLR)	YDI
Ser de New México (SER)	

### Notable Hispanic-American Scientists

- Luis Walter Alvarez, Noble Prize-winning physicist
- Franklin Chang-Diaz, Astronaut
- Sid Gutierrez, Astronaut
- Mario Molina, Nobel Prize-winning Chemist
- Carlos Noriega, Astronaut
- Ellen Ochoa, Astronaut
- Severo Ochoa, Nobel Prize-winning Biochemist
- Ambassador Jim Sweeney, Scientist
- Jose M. Hernandez, Astronaut

### New World & New Mexican Explorers

In 1492, Explorer Christopher Columbus (1451 - 1506) discovered the Americas while leading an expedition under the crown of Spain. The ships were named the Niña, the Pinta and the Santa Maria. This was the beginning of over 500 years of Hispano contributions to the Americas and is often regarded as the most significant event of the 2nd Millennium.

In 1518 Spanish Explorer Hernan Cortéz (1485 -1547) In 1518, discovered Mexico and led an expedition into Mexico in 1519. Cortéz fathered the first "Mestizo" or mixed blood son with Doña Marina or La Malinche, an Aztec Indian woman. A "Mestizo" is a mixture of Spanish and Native American descent and 95% of Hispanos today in the southwest are considered "Mestizos".

Francisco Vasquez de Coronado (1510-1544). He led the Expedition in 1539 across the eastern border of what is now Arizona, across New Mexico through what is now Albuquerque, Bernalillo (City of Coronado), Santa Fe and through Las Vegas all the way to modern day Kansas City. He was in search of a City made of Gold named Cibola. Although he never discovered the City of Gold, he led one of the greatest expeditions in New Spain.

Don Juan de Oñate (1552-1626) was a Spanish explorer, colonial Governor of the New Spain (present-day Mexico) province of New Mexico and founder of various settlements in the present day southwest of the United States. He is known as New Mexico's first Governor and "The Last Conquistador". His expedition introduced domestic animals, including horses, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, all farm animals and fruit trees to the Americas. His expedition brought the first guitars, violins, farming tools and much more.

In 1690, Diego de Vargas (1643 - 1704) was appointed Governor of New Mexico; he is most famous for leading the mostly peaceful re-conquest of the territory in 1692 following the Pueblo Revolt of 1680.

### Famous Hispanics of New Mexico

Rudolfo Anaya, author	Chuy Martinez, musician
Manuel Armijo, NM Governor	Steve Ontiveros, baseball player
Jimmy Santiago Baca, author	Katherine Ortega, U.S. Treasurer
Juan Bautista de Anza, NM Governor	Ed Lujan, Businessman
Maria Benetiz, flamenco dancer	Dr. George Sanchez, Educator
Fray Angelico Chavez, poet, artist, historian	Albino Perez, NM Governor
Edward Condon, physicist	Mari Lucy Jaramillo, Ambassador
Jesuita Aragon, Midwife	Alisa Valdez-Rodriguez, Author
Sidney Gutierrez, astronaut	Edward L. Romero, Ambassador to Spain
Maria and Julian Martinez, potter	Ruben Salaz Marquez, Author
Frank Ortiz, Ambassador	Eva Encinas Sandoval, dancer and founder, National Institute of Flamenco
Junio Lopez, Businessman	Rep. Samuel Vigil, Former Pres. of LCC
George Arellanes, Businessman	

### Hispanic Civil Rights Leaders from New Mexico

Ralph Arellanes	Dr. George Sanchez
Dr. Lawrence Roybal	Pablo Martinez
Loretta Armenta	Chris Baca
Padre Antonio Jose Martinez	Jose Martinez
Dr. Henry Casso	Chuck Montano
Sen. Dennis Chavez	Juan Jose Peña
Patricia L. Chavez	Dr. Jennifer Gomez-Chavez
Joseph Gutierrez	Millie Santillanes
Dolores Huerta	Louis and Isabelle Tellez
Connie Martinez	Christine Trujillo
Donaldo "Tiny" Martinez	Evangeline Trujillo
Felix Martinez Donaldo	Dennis Montoya
Irma Ruiz	Marcella Arellanes and Arellanes Family

### Hispanic-American Medal of Honor Recipients

Lucian Adams	Baldomero Lopez	Elmelindo Rodriguez-Smith
Bruce Anderson	Jose M. Lopez	<b>Santiago J. Erevia</b>
John P. Baca	Carlos James Lozada	Jose Rodela
David B. Berkeley	Benito Martinez	Candelario Garcia
Philip Bazaar	Joe P. Martinez*	Lernard L. Alvarado
Roy P. Benavidez	Jose B. Nisperos	Felix M. Conde Falcon
Jose Calugas	Eugene Arnold Obregon	Ardie R. Copas
Mike Coladillo	John Ortega	Jesus S. Duran
Rudolph Davilia	Miguel Keith	Joe R. Baldonado
Josep H. Decastro	Manuel Perez Jr.	Victor H. Espinoza
Reginald B. Desiderio	Leroy Petry *	Eduardo C. Gomez
Emilio A. De La Garza Jr	Alfred Rascon	Juan E. Negron
Ralph E. Diaz	Louis R. Rocco*	Mike C. Pena
Cleto Rodriguez	Joseph C. Rodriguez	Demesio Rivera
Daniel Fernandez*	Euripides Rubio	Miguel A. Vera
Fernando Luis Garcia	Alejandro Renteria Ruiz*	Pedro Cano
Macario Garcia	Hector Santiago-Colon	Joe Gandara
Edward Gomez	France Silva	Salvador J. Lara
Harold Gonzalves	Telesforo Trinidad	Manuel V. Mendoza
Alfredo Cantu Gonzalez	Jose F. Valdez*	Sgt Leroy Petry
David M. Gonzales	M. Sandro Vargas Jr.	Miguel Keith
Ambrosio Guillen	Cleto Rodriguez	Jose Francisco Jimenez
Silvestre S. Herrera	Rouee Versace	Maximo Yabes
Rodolfo P. Hernandez	Ysmael R. Villegas	

## New Mexican Hispanics in Politics

Padre Antoino Jose Martinez

- The first and only American to serve as a Legislator under Spanish, Mexican and American Governments. Padre Martinez was born in Taos, NM in 1793.

Governor Don Ezequiel C de Baca (1864-1917)

- New Mexico's First Hispano Governor since statehood in 1912.

Governor Octaviano Ambrosio Larrazolo (1859-1930)

- Fourth NM Governor (1919-1920) who was responsible for writing the NM Constitution in 1912 naming NM as an official bilingual state where both English and Spanish will be treated with "Perfect Equality". The only Hispano in the history of the United States to serve both Governor of a State (1919-1920) and U.S. Senator (Elected 1928).

Senator Dennis Chavez (1888-1962)

- The first American-born Hispanic Senator and represented NM for 27 years in the U.S. Senate. Sen. Chavez represented NM in the U.S. Senate from 1935-1962. Chavez was the only minority in the chamber at the time. The civil rights legislation of the 1960's grew directly out of Chavez's efforts in the 1940's as he became an advocate for minorities nationwide. Senator Chavez wrote the Fair Labor Standards Act in the 1940's which did not pass but became the language and the basis for the Civil Rights Act of 1964 & 1965.

Rep. Benigno Cardenas Hernandez (1862-1954)

- First Hispanic from N.M. to serve as a full member of Congress. He served in the 64<sup>th</sup> and 66<sup>th</sup> Congresses beginning in 1917.

Rep. Antonio Manuel Fernandez (1902-1956)

- Democrat elected to the 78<sup>th</sup> Congress and who served to the 85<sup>th</sup> Congress until his death. Under the direction of Joint Committee on Printing, he supported the Hispanic Division of the Library of Congress.

Governor Jerry Apodaca

- Elected Governor in 1975, becoming the first Hispanic governor in the U.S. since 1918. Apodaca was appointed to a national level position by President Jimmy Carter, who named him Chair of the President's Council on Physical Fitness in 1978.

Governor Toney Anaya

- Elected Governor in 1983 after serving as Attorney General. Declared NM a sanctuary for political refugees as a response to the turmoil in Central America in the mid 1980's.

Raymond G. Sanchez

- First elected Speaker in 1983, then again from 1987 - 2001. Raymond Sanchez has been the longest serving Speaker of the House in New Mexico's history and that is also the longest term for a Hispano in the country.

Rebecca Vigil-Giron

- Vigil-Giron was first elected New Mexico Secretary of State in 1986 at age 31, becoming the highest ranking Hispanic woman elected official in the country. She was re-elected New Mexico Secretary of State in 1998 and served through 2006 when she was term limited.

Patricia Madrid

- In 1978 she became the first woman elected to sit as a district court judge in New Mexico. In 1998, she became the first woman elected Attorney General of the State of New Mexico. She was re-elected in 2002.

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham

- Former Congresswoman, Secretary of Health and Human Services and Bernalillo County Commissioner was elected to office of Governor in 2018.

## New Mexican Hispanics in Politics Cont.

NM Senator Linda Lopez, New Mexico State Senate, 1997-present.

Hector Balderas, Current Attorney General

Howie Morales, Lt. Governor of New Mexico

Congresswoman Xochitl Torres Small, 2nd Congressional District

Congressman Ben Ray Lujan, 3rd Congressional District

U.S. Ambassador to Spain Mr. Ed Romero

U.S. Congressman Manuel Lujan served in Congress from 1969-1989. U.S.

Secretary of Interior from 1989-1993

Lt. Governor, U.S. Congressman & U.S. Senator Joseph Montoya, served in U.S.

Congress from 1957-1964, U.S. Senator from 1964-1977.

Roberto Mondragón, Lt. Governor 1971-1983, musician and activist

Representative Antonio Maestas, 2007-present

Representative Samuel Vigil, New Mexico House, 1971

## Hispanics in the U.S. Military have fought in every war for the United States since the American Revolutionary War.

### American Revolutionary War (1775-1783)

Spain and her superior naval fleet and ground soldiers were instrumental and fundamental in defeating the British. They fought the British in North America, the Caribbean, Central America and Europe.

### War of 1812

Spanish speaking soldiers served the U.S. in America's second war for Independence against the British.

### Mexican-American War (1846-1848)

Hispanos fought on both sides of this war. The Treaty of Guadalupe, Hidalgo was produced as a result of this war. Many Hispanos still wait for all aspects of this Treaty, especially with regard to Land Grants, to be fully realized and honored.

### American Civil War (1861-1865)

Spanish speaking soldiers fought on both sides of the Civil War and were vital players in the defeat of the Confederate forces at the Battle of Apache Pass (Glorieta), often known as the "Gettysburg of the West". U.S. Admiral David Farragut was the son of an officer of the Spanish Navy and the First US Navy Admiral.

### Spanish American War (1898)

The first NM Calvary was headquartered in Las Vegas, NM. The first NM Calvary charged up Kettle Hill led by Lieutenant Colonel "Teddy" Roosevelt.

### World War I (1914-1918)

Over 200,000 Hispanics served in WWI, the majority of them were Mexican – Americans. David Barkley Cantu, a Mexican-American from TX, was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions near Pouilly, France on November 9, 1918.

### World War II (1939-1945)

Over half a million Hispanic men and women served during WW II. Dr. Miguel Encinias born and raised in Las Vegas, NM, is the only Hispano in the U.S. and one of only 5 American pilots to have flown combat missions in 3 different Wars: WW II, the Korean War and Vietnam War. He successfully flew 248 Combat missions.

### Korean War (1950-1953)

Over 150,000 Hispanics served in the Korean War. Colonel Manuel Fernandez became a 14 victory ace in the first jet-age air war.

### Vietnam War (1959-1973)

Over 80,000 Hispanics served with distinction in Viet Nam. Hispanics made up 25% of the casualties in Vietnam, at a time when Hispanics made up less than 5% of the entire U.S. population. Everett Alvarez Jr. was the first U.S. Pilot shot down over

## Hispanics in the U.S. Military have fought in every war for the United States since the American Revolutionary War Cont.

### Persian Gulf War (1990-1991)

More than 20,000 Hispanic men and women participated in operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm during the Persian Gulf War.

### Iraq and Afghanistan

In today's military, Hispanos continue to answer our nation's call to service and duty. Hispanos make up approximately 25% of our troops involved in combat and hazardous duty operations. An estimated 20% of the casualties during these wars have been Hispanic.

## Hispanic-Americans in Entertainment & Arts (Below are just a few go to nhccnm.org for more Hispanic Entertainers)

Christina Aguilera, pop singer

Isabel Allende, writer

Julia Alvarez, writer

Desi Arnaz, actor & producer

Rudolfo Anaya, writer

Ana Baca, author

Judy Baca, artist

Joan Baez, singer & activist

Jean-Michel Basquiat, artist

Ruben Blades, musician, composer & actor

Fernando Bujones, ballet dancer

Vicki Carr, singer

Lynda Carter, actress

Sandra Cisneros, writer

Celia Cruz, singer

Sammy Davis, Jr., singer & actor

Dolores Del Rio, actress

Cameron Diaz, actress

Gloria Estefan, pop singer

Emilio Estevez, actor

America Ferrera, actor

Andy Garcia, actor

Jerry Garcia, musician

Rupert Garcia, artist

Salma Hayek, actress

Rita Hayworth, actress

Oscar Hijuelos, writer

Maria Hinojosa, journalist

Lorenzo Antonio, singer

Raul Julia, actor

Jose Limon, dancer & choreographer

George Lopez, comedian & actor

Jennifer Lopez, actor & singer

Mario Lopez, actor

Trini Lopez, singer

Cheech Marin, actor

Ricky Martin, singer

Ricardo Montalban, actor

Rita Moreno, actress, singer & dancer

Edward James Olmos, actor

Anna Pacheco, publisher

Rosie Perez, actress

Anthony Quinn, actor

Jose Quintero, theater director

Geraldo Rivera, talk-show host & journalist

Paul Rodriguez, actor & comedian

Linda Ronstadt, singer

Carlos Santana, guitar & singer

Selena Quintanilla, singer

Charlie Sheen, actor

Martin Sheen, actor

Jimmy Smits, actor

Richard Serra, sculptor

Louis Santeiro, writer

Gary Soto, writer

Lupe Velez, actress

Raquel Welch, actress

Sparx, singers



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