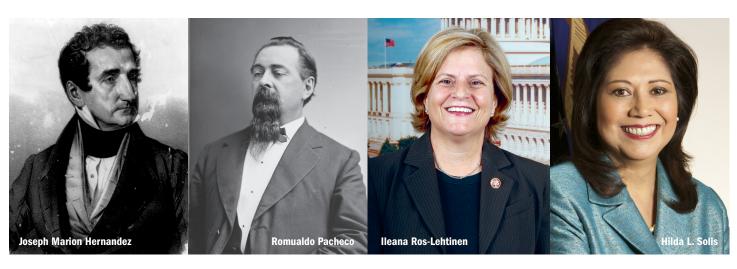
ispanic Heritage Month is celebrated annually from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 by recognizing the history, culture and contributions of Latino Americans. Hispanic Heritage Week was commemorated in 1968 by President Lyndon Johnson and expanded to a month in 1988.



1/02	Christophor Columbus, ship lands on San Salvador and Cuba
1492 1690	Christopher Columbus' ship lands on San Salvador and Cuba First permanent Spanish settlement is established in Texas
1790	Latino colonists settle California
1820	Mexico gains independence from Spain, including settlements in California, Arizona, Texas, Colorado and New Mexico. American settlers begin moving into Mexican territories
1822	Joseph Marion Hernandez becomes first Latino member of Congress
1829	Slavery is abolished in Mexico; Texas begins independence movement
1845	Texas is annexed by the United States
1846	Mexican-American War begins
1848	Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo cedes Texas, California, Arizona, New Mexico, parts of Colorado, Utah and Nevada to the United States. Nearly 75,000 Latinos choose to remain in the United States
1868	Fourteenth Amendment to Constitution declares all people of Latino origin born in the United States as U.S. citizens
1876	California's Romualdo Pacheco becomes the first Latino in the House of Representatives
1898	Spain signs Treaty of Paris, transfers Cuba, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Philippines to the United States
1910	Mexican Revolution begins; hundreds of thousands of Mexicans immigrate to the United States
1917	Jones Act extends U.S. citizenship to all Puerto Ricans
1917	During World War I, "temporary" Mexican farm workers, railroad laborers and miners enter the United States to work
1928	New Mexico's Octaviano Larrazolo becomes first Latino U.S. senator
1943 1950	During World War II, Mexico supplies temporary farm workers, known as braceros, to the United States to help ease labor shortage  Puerto Rico becomes a U.S. commonwealth
1954	Hernandez v. Texas: U.S. Supreme Court decision deems "Hispanic" a separate class of people suf-
1959	fering discrimination  Fidel Castro takes power in Cuba
1965	Mexico and the United States allow corporations to operate assembly plants on the border to
1972	provide jobs for Mexicans displaced when bracero program ends  Romana Acosta Bañuelos becomes first
1973	Latina U.S. treasurer  Roberto Clemente becomes first Latino inducted into Baseball Hall of Fame
1974	Equal Educational Opportunity Act for public schools introduces bilingual education to Latino
1975	students  Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1975 make bilingual ballots a requirement in certain areas
1986	Immigration Reform and Control Act enables undocumented immigrants, under certain condi-
	tions, to gain legal status, makes it illegal for employers to knowingly hire undocumented immigrants
1988	Lauro Cavazos becomes first Latino secretary of education
1989	Ileana Ros-Lehtinen becomes first Latina elected to Congress
1990	Antonia C. Novello becomes first Latino and first woman U.S. surgeon general
1993	Federico Peña is appointed secretary, Department of Transportation; Henry Cisneros, secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Norma Cantú, assistant secretary for Civil Rights, Department of Education
1994	North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) goes into effect, eliminating all tariffs between trading partners Canada, Mexico and the United States
2002	Latino-owned businesses grow 31 percent from 1997 to 2002, compared with a national average of 10 percent
2003	At 37.1 million, Latinos officially become nation's largest "minority" group
2005	Alberto Gonzales is confirmed as first Latino U.S. attorney general
2009	Sonia Sotomayor becomes first Latino U.S. Supreme Court justice
2009	Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis becomes first Latina Cabinet member
2010	Arizona law requires immigrants to carry registration documents at all times and requires police to question people if there's reason to suspect they're in the United States illegally. Justice department files lawsuit against Arizona
2011 April	U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit rules against Arizona, blocking most contentious parts of state's immigration law from going into effect
July	California now has the largest Latino population of any state (14.4 million)

Museum, tolerance.org, U.S. Census Bureau