HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH 101

In 2014, Hispanic children made up **24%** of the U.S.'s total population—the largest minority group in the country.

(Source: http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/103-child-population-by-race?loc=1&loct=2#detailed/1/any/false/869/68,69,67,12,70,66,71,72/423,424)

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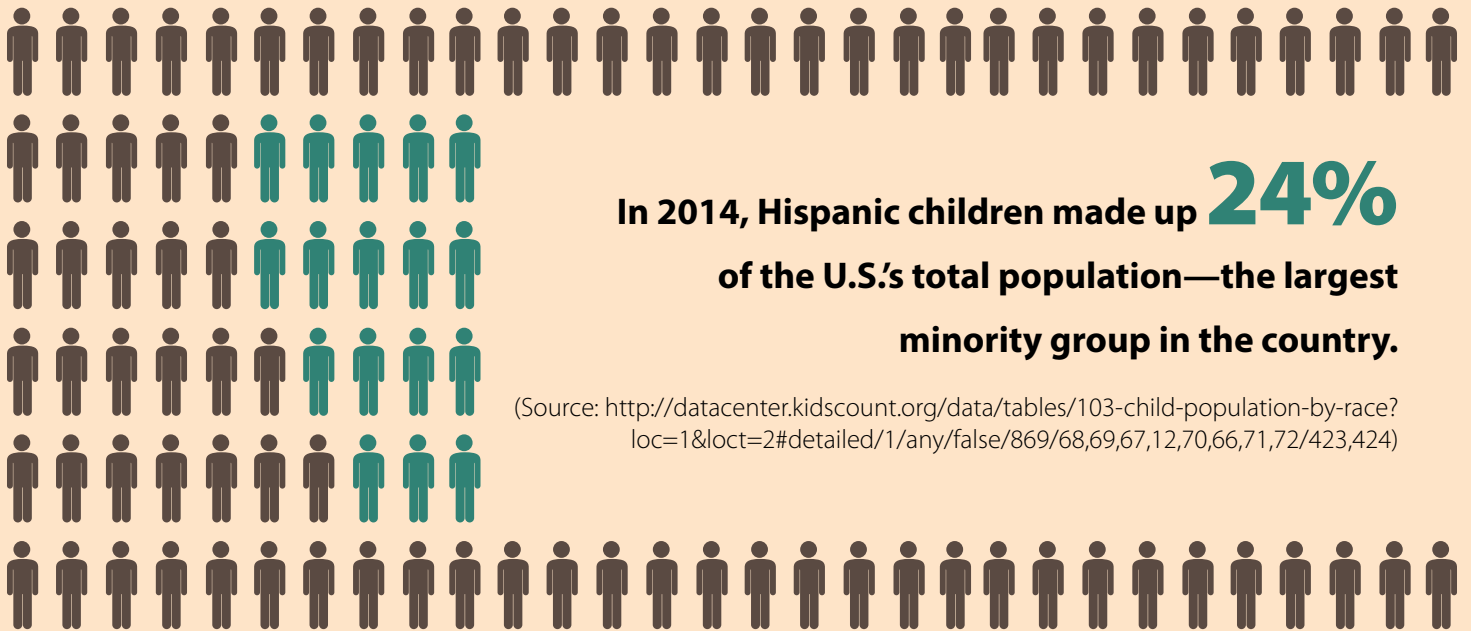**Do you know why Hispanic Heritage Month is from September 15 – October 15?**

We begin celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month on **September 15**, which is the anniversary of independence for 5 countries:

Costa Rica

El Salvador

Guatemala

Honduras

Nicaragua

Mexico's Independence Day is **September 16** and **Chile's** is **September 18**. We extend into October because **October 12** is known as "**El Dia de la Raza**," or "The Day of the Race." It is a day celebrating the many nationalities present in the history of Mexico, Central America, and South America including Native Americans such as the Mayas, Aztecs and Incas; and European nationalities such as Spanish, Portuguese, and French.

What is the difference between Hispanic and Latino?

The U.S. government distinguishes Hispanic and Latino as terms to define regions of origin and not a person's race. (source: http://womeninbusiness.about.com/od/businessetiquette/a/pc-hispanic.htm)

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, being **Hispanic** refers to someone whose origins are from: Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Central America and the countries of South America where Spanish is the primary language.

Latinos are considered individuals from countries (or cultures) within the bounds of Latin America.

Brazilians are considered to be Latino, but are not considered to be Hispanic. Latino has come to be used interchangeably with Hispanic in the United States. Neither term should be used to describe a person's race.