

treated. The derogatory word “Chicano” developed into one of pride used by activists as well as in the community (Parillo, 2014).

- f. Between 1981 and 1990, approximately one million Mexicans legally immigrated to the United States. The number of undocumented Mexican immigrants has also risen in recent decades, and although many are deported, it doesn’t lessen the flow of the migration due to political and economic unrest in Mexico and available work in the United States (Englekirk, 2014).

2. Modern Mexican American Life

Today, new immigrants seek out relatives when they arrive in the United States and are met with help including temporary housing and possible employment. Mexican American families are patriarchal, male dominant, and respectful toward elders. Unity and family honor are important (Englekirk, 2015).

3. Puerto Rican American History

Puerto Rican American make up the second largest Hispanic or Latino American group in the United States.

- a. Congress established a civil government in Puerto Rico in 1898, and in 1915, President Woodrow Wilson granted American citizenship to Puerto Ricans. The American government implemented health, infrastructure support, and economic policies to draw U.S. businesses to Puerto Rico (Green, 2007).
- b. In World War II, Puerto Rico was a critical location for the U.S. Navy. There was a political uprising for independence in the 1950s, but it lost its luster after the 1959 communist revolt in Cuba (Green, 2007).
- c. Overpopulation and lack of employment drove Puerto Ricans to the United States between 1947 and 1957 (Mekeel, 2007).
- d. In the 1980s, rising crime rates and unemployment in Puerto Rico spurred immigration to the United States. By 1990, 2.7 million Puerto Rican Americans were living in the United States, making them the second largest Hispanic group in the country (Green, 2015).
- e. Younger, better educated, and wealthier Puerto Rican immigrants have arrived in the United States since 1990, especially in the Midwest and South. New York City has consistently been the top migration destination for the immigrants, although in recent years, Florida, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and the city of Chicago have seen significant Puerto Rican American numbers (Mekeel, 2007).

4. Modern Puerto Rican American Life