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978-0-521-88953-7 - Hispanics in the United States: A Demographic, Social, and Economic History, 1980-2005

Laird W. Bergad and Herbert S. Klein

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Hispanics in the United States

A Demographic, Social, and Economic History, 1980–2005

In 1980 the U.S. government began to systematically collect data on Hispanics. By 2005 the Latino population of the United States had become the nation's largest minority; it is projected to comprise about one-third of the total U.S. population in 2050. Using census data and other statistical source materials, this book examines the transformations in the demographic, social, and economic structures of Latino Americans in the United States between 1980 and 2005. Unlike most other studies, this book presents data on transformations over time, rather than a static portrait of specific topics at particular moments. Latino Americans are examined over this twenty-five-year period in terms of their demographic structures, changing patterns of wealth and poverty, educational attainment, citizenship and voter participation, occupational structures, employment, and unemployment, among other themes. The result is a detailed socioeconomic portrait by region and over time that indicates the basic patterns that have led to the formation of a complex national minority group that has become central to U.S. society.

Laird W. Bergad is Distinguished Professor in the Department of Latin American and Puerto Rican Studies at Lehman College and the Ph.D. Program in History at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Bergad is the founding and current director of the CUNY Center for Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino Studies at the Graduate Center. His previously published books include *Coffee and the Growth of Agrarian Capitalism in Nineteenth-Century Puerto Rico*; *Cuban Rural Society in the Nineteenth Century: The Social and Economic History of Monoculture in Matanzas*; *The Cuban Slave Market, 1790–1880* (co-author); *The Demographic and Economic History of Slavery in Minas Gerais, Brazil, 1720–1888*; and *The Comparative Histories of Slavery in Brazil, Cuba, and the United States*.

Herbert S. Klein is the author of some 20 books and 155 articles in several languages on Latin America and on comparative themes in social and economic history. Among these books are four comparative studies of slavery, the most recent of which are *African Slavery in Latin America and the Caribbean* (co-author), *The Atlantic Slave Trade*, and *Slavery and the Economy of São Paulo, 1750–1850* (co-author). He has also published books on such diverse themes as *The American Finances of the Spanish Empire, 1680–1809*, and *A Population History of the United States* and is co-author of *Brazil Since 1980* and *Mexico Since 1980*.

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This book is dedicated to our grandchildren

Rafael Joshua Goldstein

and

Benjamin Alexander Klein

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