

## MÉXICO: Hechos y Cifras

### Population 2002:

Total: 101,000,000 (aprox.)

### Population growth rate:

1970-1980	2.6
1980-1990	2.0
1990-2000	1.9

### Sex distribution:

Men: 47%

Women: 53%

### Distribución por edad:

0-14	34%
15-64	60.6%
65+	5%

### Main Cities and population:

Mexico City	8,605,239*
Monterrey	1,110,997
Guadalajara	1,646,319
Tijuana	1,210,820
Puebla	1,346,916
Ciudad Juárez	1,218,817
Morelia	1,054,314
Merida	705,055

### Population working/sector:

Primary: 16.3 million

Secondary: 28.7 million

Tertiary: 55 million

### Languages:

Spanish and Indigenous Languages (Maya, Nahuatl, Mixteco, Zapoteco, Tzotzil, Otomi and Tzotzal)

English is widely spoken in business circles.

### Religions:

Catholic 88.8%, non Catholic 7.7%, without religion: 3.5%

### Measures:

Metric System

### Area:

1.9 million sq. Km. of which 11.2 thousand km are coastline; 3,152 km border the US, 956 km border Guatemala and 193 km border Belize.

### Currency:

Mexican peso

### Average Exchange Rate:

1 Euro = 12.0 Mexican pesos (July 2003); 1USD = 10.20 pesos mexicanos (July, 2003)

### Official Name:

Estados Unidos Mexicanos. The country is divided in 31 federal status and a Federal District.

### States:

Aguascalientes, Baja California, Baja California Sur, Campeche, Coahuila, Colima, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Durango, Guanajuato, Guerrero, Hidalgo, Jalisco, Estado de México, Michoacan, Morelos, Nayarit, Nuevo León, Oaxaca, Puebla, Queretaro, Quintana Roo, San Luis Potosi, Sinaloa, Sonora, Tabasco, Tamaulipas, Tlaxcala, Veracruz, Yucatán, Zacatecas.

### Form of Government:

Based on its Political Constitution of 1917. Mexico is a Federal, Representative and Democratic Republic with three levels of government (local, state and federal) and divided into three independent branches: the executive, the legislature and the judiciary.

**The Executive:**

The President of Mexico is elected for a six-year term through direct vote by the citizens, and nominated by a political party. The current president of Mexico is Vicente Fox Quesada of the National Action Party (PAN).

**Legislature:**

A bicameral legislature consisting of a Chamber of Deputies and a Senate. The Chamber of Deputies is made up of 300 members elected by relative majority and 200 elected every three years, by proportional representation. The Senate is made up of four Senators from each State and four from the Federal District. Three are elected by relative majority and one is assigned to the first minority. The Senate is replaced every six years.

**Judiciary:**

Formed by the Supreme Court of Justice, the Circuit of Courts (Collegiate and Unitarian), Federal Council, and the District Courts.

The Nation's Supreme Court of Justice has 11 Ministers. The Ministers remain in their positions for 15 years and can only be removed at the end of their duties.

If a person has acted as a Minister, he or she may not be elected again for a new period, unless he or she has acted as an interim Minister.

The President of the Supreme Court of Justice is elected every four years for a maximum of one term in office.

**National elections:**

Presidential elections were last held in July 2000 (next elections will take place in July 2006); Senate elections were last held in July 2000 for all of the seats (next to be held in the summer of 2006); the Chamber of Deputies elections were held on June 2003.

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