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Abbreviations and acronyms

AIDS	Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
BANXICO	Banco de México (Bank of Mexico)
CLUNI	Federal Identification Number for Civil Society Organizations
CNDH	National Human Rights Commission
CNSP	National Council for Public Security
CONAPO	National Population Council
CONAPRED	National Council for the Prevention of Discrimination
CONEVAL	National Council for the Evaluation of Social Development Policy
CPGMDH	Commission on Government Human Rights Policy
CPI	Consumer price index
CSO	Civil society organization
DF	Federal District
DOF	Official Gazette of the Federation
EAP	Economically active population
EMIF Norte	Survey on Migration in the Northern Border Region of Mexico
ENIGH	National Household Income and Expenditure Survey
ENOE	National Occupational and Employment Survey
GDP	Gross domestic product
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
IACHR	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
ICESI	Citizens' Institute for Public Security Studies
IMSS	Mexican Social Security Institute
INDESOL	National Institute for Social Development
INEGI	National Statistics and Geography Institute
INPC	National Price and Quotation Index
ISSSTE	Institute for Social Security and Services for State Workers
OAS	Organization of American States
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
PND	National Development Plan

PNDH	National Human Rights Programme
REPUVE	Public Vehicle Registry
SCJN	Federal Supreme Court of Justice
SCP	Policing Career Service
SHCP	Ministry of Finance and Public Credit
SSP	Ministry of Public Security
SUIC	Unified Criminal Information System
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

I. Introduction

1. Population dynamics in Mexico have reached an advanced transition stage marked by a decline in fertility and a moderate decrease in mortality. This trend has been ongoing for at least thirty years, but has intensified significantly in the last decade. The downward trend in both fertility and mortality has resulted in increased life expectancy among the Mexican population, but has also led to progressive population ageing.

2. The country's development has been characterized by substantial progress with regard to education, an increase in the proportion of population with access to health services and slow but steady economic growth. The global financial crisis that began in 2008 has been a significant drag on economic growth. However, the impact of the economic downturn on the well-being of the population has been offset by an increase in social spending, which has prevented a dramatic rise in the poverty rate and helped to expand the coverage of basic services.

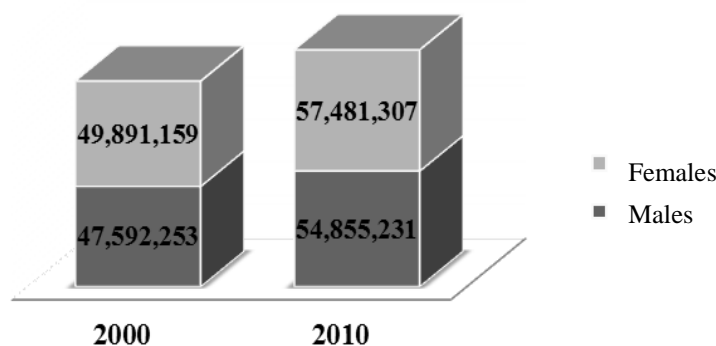
3. As concerns the protection of human rights, Mexico has made significant headway in harmonizing laws, notably through a reform of the constitutional provisions on human rights, enacted on 10 June 2011. This reform extended constitutional protection to the rights enshrined in the international human rights treaties to which Mexico is a party, thus enhancing the legal framework for protection of human rights and giving those treaties a new de facto standing. While legislative recognition is not sufficient to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights for the entire population, it is undeniably a first step in that direction. Constitutional reforms have also been introduced with respect to criminal justice and *amparo* proceedings.

II. General information about the State

A. Demographic, social and economic characteristics of the State

1. Demographic characteristics

4. Mexico's current demographic situation reflects significant changes in phenomena such as fertility, mortality and migration. According to the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), the Mexican population grew from 97,483,412 in 2000 to 112,336,538 in 2010. Of the latter number, 57,481,307 were female and 54,855,231 male.



Source: INEGI, Population and Housing Censuses 2000 and 2010.

5. The average annual population growth rate from 2005 to 2010 was 1.8 per cent, higher than in the previous five-year period, when the rate was 1 per cent.
6. With regard to the population structure by age group, in 2000 the 0–14 age group made up 34.2 per cent of the total national population; by 2010 the figure had fallen to 29.4 per cent. Persons 60 years of age and over accounted for 7.2 per cent of the total in 2000 and 9 per cent in 2010, reflecting the steady ageing of the country's population.

Percentage distribution of the population by major age groups

<i>Age group</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2010</i>
0–14	34.2	29.4
15–24	20.0	18.7
25–44	28.1	29.5
45–59	10.5	13.4
60+	7.2	9.0

Source: National Population Council estimates based on the Population and Housing Census for 2000 and 2012.

7. The median age of the population increased for both sexes between 2005 and 2010, rising from 23 to 25 among men and from 25 to 26 among women (INEGI).
8. Concerning the age structure of the youth population, in 2009 there were 9.6 million individuals under 4 years of age, 17 million aged 5–12, 6.4 million aged 13–15 and 4.2 million aged 16–17. As to the sex distribution of this population, 19 million were male and 18.3 million female, 49.1 per cent and 50.9 per cent, respectively, of the total.
9. Chiapas, Guerrero, Aguascalientes and Oaxaca are the states with highest proportions of child and adolescent population: persons under the age of 18 account for 40.5, 39.7, 37.7 and 37.6 per cent, respectively, of the total population in those states. The Federal District and the states of Nuevo León and Baja California Sur have the smallest proportions of under-18 population: 26.9, 32.3 and 32.6 per cent of the total, respectively.
10. Fertility is one of the variables affecting population structure. The average number of children born to Mexican women has been declining for the past two decades. The total fertility rate fell from 3.35 children in 1992 to 2.24 in 2009. Peak fertility continues to occur among women aged 20–24, although fertility rates in that age group increasingly resemble those found among women aged 25–29.
11. The birth rate, meanwhile, has fallen more rapidly, owing largely to increasingly widespread use of contraceptives. In 1990, Mexico had a birth rate of 28.8 births per 1,000 population; by 2006 the figure had dropped markedly, to 19.0, and more recently has declined even further. In 2011 the birth rate was 17.8 per 1,000, a reduction of 38.19 per cent with respect to 1990 and of 6 per cent with respect to 2006 (INEGI).
12. Infant mortality is one of the main sociodemographic indicators reflecting the living conditions and socioeconomic development of a population. Nationwide, between 2000 and 2011 this indicator decreased 30 per cent, falling from 19.4 to 13.7 deaths per 1,000 live births. The sharp decline in infant mortality in Mexico has played an important role in rising life expectancy (INEGI).
13. The declines in general mortality and infant mortality have mainly been reflected in increased life expectancy at birth. Between 1990 and 2011 average life expectancy in the Mexican population rose by over five years, increasing from 70.6 to 75.6 years. With regard to life expectancy by sex, women outlive men almost everywhere in the world. In

Mexico in 2010, women lived on average about five years longer than men (77.9 versus 73.2 years) (INEGI).

14. Analysis of the age structure of mortality reveals a shift towards a higher proportion of deaths in later stages of the life course. In early 2000 a total of 396,830 deaths were recorded; a decade later the number was estimated at around 537,000.

15. The mortality rate for 2000 and 2010 was estimated at 4.9 and 5.0 deaths per 1,000 population, respectively. Life expectancy at birth was 73.9 years (71.3 for males and 76.5 for females) in 2000; it increased to 75.4 years in 2010 (73.1 for males and 77.8 for females).

16. The recent trends in fertility and mortality, in addition to affecting the growth of the population and changing its age composition, explain the gradual ageing process that the country is experiencing.

17. Migration is another of the demographic factors that lead to changes in the size, structure and geographic distribution of the population. It is a major phenomenon in Mexico in terms of both movement of people within the country and continuous and growing outward migration, particularly to the United States of America.

18. Data from the Survey on Migration in the Northern Border Region of Mexico (EMIF Norte) conducted by the National Population Council (CONAPO) show a total of 492,000 attempted border crossings by Mexicans into the United States of America in 2010. That figure was 42 per cent lower than in 2007, 34 per cent lower than in 2008 and 22 per cent lower than in 2009, reflecting the downward pattern that has followed a general upward trend during the period 2002–2007. Data from INEGI's National Occupational and Employment Survey (ENOE) confirm this trend: the number of people migrating to the United States of America decreased from 751,000 to 376,000 per year between 2007 and 2010, a reduction of 50 per cent over a three-year period.

Migration from Mexico to the United States of America (USA)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Outward migration to USA</i>	<i>Inward migration from USA</i>	<i>Net migration Mexico–USA</i>
2006	941 048	428 821	-512 227
2007	751 473	393 264	-358 209
2008	604 976	395 459	-209 517
2009	477 223	330 032	-147 191
2010	375 852	280 508	-95 344

Source: Estimates of the Centre for Migration Studies of the National Migration Institute, based on quarterly data from INEGI, National Occupational and Employment Survey (ENOE), 2006–2010.

2. Social characteristics

Households and housing

19. According to the INEGI Population and Housing Census 2010, there were 28,607,568 inhabited private dwellings,¹ with an average of 3.9 persons per dwelling. With regard to housing conditions, 86.3 per cent of the inhabited dwellings had walls constructed

¹ Inhabited private dwelling: A private dwelling which at the time of the census had habitual residents who form households. The term also encompasses any enclosure, space, shelter or mobile or makeshift dwelling in which people reside.

of solid materials, 6.2 per cent had a dirt floor, 91.5 per cent had piped water and 97.8 per cent had electricity.

20. According to the INEGI data, the number of Mexican households² counted in the 2010 census totalled 28.2 million. Of that number, 21.2 million were headed by men and the remaining 6.9 million by women; 64 per cent were nuclear households, 24 per cent extended households, 1 per cent composite households, 1 per cent co-resident households and 9 per cent one-person households (INEGI).³

Health

21. Data from the Ministry of Health indicate that at the end of the first half of 2011 a total of 18,020,669 families in the 31 states and the Federal District were covered by the *Seguro Popular* national health insurance programme.

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Unit of measure</i>	<i>Statistic</i>
Population covered by the health services system, 2010	Number of people	72 514 513
Population covered by the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS), 2010	Number of people	35 380 021
Population covered by the Institute for Social Security and Services for State Workers (ISSSTE), 2010	Number of people	7 190 494
Population covered by <i>Seguro Popular</i> , 2009	Number of families	9 384 843
Medical personnel providing patient care in public health care institutions, 2008	Thousands	159.8
Registered beds in public health care institutions, 2008	Thousands	79.0
Women aged 15–49 using contraceptive methods, 2009	Percentage of all women aged 15–49	49.9
Human resources employed in private health care facilities, 2008	Thousands	147.4
Population with some type of disability, 2010	Number of people	4 527 784
Population with some type of disability, 2010	Percentage of the total population	4.03
Infant mortality rate, 2010	Per 1,000 live births	14.2
Life expectancy at birth, 2010	Years	75.4
Public expenditure on health, 2008	Percentage of total GDP	3.2
Private expenditure on health, 2005	Percentage of total GDP	3.4

Sources: <http://www.inegi.org.mx/est/contenidos/espanol/proyectos/integracion/inegi324.asp?s=est&c=11722#seis>, <http://www.inegi.org.mx/sistemas/mexicocifras/default.aspx?src=487>.

² Household: A unit consisting of one or more persons, who may or may not be related by kinship and who habitually reside in the same private dwelling.

³ Nuclear households are those formed by parents and children or by a mother or father alone with children; a couple living together with no children is also considered a nuclear household. Extended households are those formed by a nuclear family plus other relatives (aunts and uncles, cousins, siblings, in-laws, etc.). Composite households are those formed by a nuclear or extended family, plus people not related to the household head. One-person households are those composed of a single person. Co-resident households consist of two or more people unrelated to one another.

22. In 2009, males accounted for 55.9 per cent of all deaths and females for 43.9 per cent. While that signified a slight change with respect to 2007 (55.6 per cent and 44.7 per cent for males and females, respectively), the pattern of marked excess male mortality persists (INEGI).

23. Mexico continues to register high mortality from respiratory and cardiovascular disorders, congenital malformations of the circulatory system and infections in children under 1 year of age. Among preschool children, intestinal infectious diseases and transport accidents are the leading causes of death, followed by congenital anomalies and intestinal infectious diseases, the latter being preventable at low cost (INEGI).

24. Another area that should be highlighted is the effort to prevent high mortality from transport accidents and intentional injuries among adolescents and young people, as well as infectious and parasitic diseases among men aged 25–44. High rates of the latter are due largely to the increase in HIV infection and AIDS, a disease that has created new challenges for the Mexican health system. Among women in the 25–44 age group, the incidence of malignant tumours is rising year by year.

New and cumulative AIDS cases, by age and year of diagnosis

	1983–2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<1	566	67	58	53	56	50	51	33	31	21
1–4	697	92	94	75	84	86	72	48	51	36
5–9	385	34	39	33	37	36	31	21	20	20
10–14	292	16	18	15	16	15	17	12	15	14
15–19	1 339	134	154	154	127	157	163	169	157	154
20–24	7 663	793	843	773	841	844	784	716	639	616
25–29	14 782	1 454	1 383	1 388	1 453	1 490	1 410	1 276	1 089	1 024
30–34	16 413	1 580	1 637	1 581	1 577	1 590	1 434	1 248	1 060	1 030
35–39	13 110	1 427	1 349	1 360	1 471	1 384	1 225	1 089	857	846
40–44	8 879	1 071	1 014	1 106	1 084	1 111	902	803	708	732
45–49	5 772	662	651	719	719	786	632	617	485	437
50–54	3 815	460	431	438	481	468	394	391	282	307
55–59	2 459	283	273	298	281	299	241	240	191	181
60–64	1 469	202	173	176	153	163	142	116	97	89
65 and over	1 365	156	171	146	207	186	139	131	80	88
Unknown	938	15	13	14	13	4	7	4	0	0
Total	79 944	8 446	8 301	8 329	8 600	8 669	7 644	6 914	5 762	5 595

Source: Ministry of Health, Directorate General for Epidemiology (DGE). National Registry of AIDS Cases. Data as of 30 June 2011. Processed by Ministry of Health, National Centre for the Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS (CENSIDA).

25. Diseases of the digestive system are becoming increasingly frequent in Mexico, especially among men aged 45 years and older and among older adults. These diseases include cirrhosis and chronic liver diseases, which are closely correlated with consumption of alcoholic beverages (CONAPO).

26. Pursuant to agreement 5 of the thirtieth regular session of the National Council for Public Security (CNSP), held on 30 June 2011, a group was created to formulate proposals

regarding addiction and educational alternatives for young people, the aim being to promote the establishment of common goals between the federal and state governments for the prevention and treatment of addiction and to encourage young people's enrolment in upper-level secondary education and facilitate their entry into the labour market.

Education

27. The following tables contain key figures on the educational system in the Mexico.

<i>Education indicator^f</i>	<i>2005–2006</i>	<i>2006–2007</i>	<i>2007–2008</i>	<i>2008–2009</i>	<i>2009–2010</i>	<i>2010–2011^p</i>	<i>2011–2012^e</i>
Total for education system	32 312 386	32 956 583	33 447 443	33 609 314	33 976 261	34 384 971	34 895 427
Basic education	24 979 618	25 380 505	25 516 150	25 603 563	25 596 861	25 666 451	25 851 143
Basic as percentage of education system total	% 77.3	77.0	76.3	76.2	75.3	74.6	74.1
Coverage (3–14 years)	% 94.3	96.8	98.5	100.2	101.7	103.5	105.9
Coverage (3–15 years)	% 87.3	89.4	91.0	92.5	93.7	95.3	97.4
Net enrolment ratio (3–14 years)	% 91.8	94.3	96.1	97.8	99.4	104.5	105.0
Pre-primary education	4 452 168	4 739 234	4 745 741	4 634 412	4 608 255	4 641 060	4 670 216
% of education system total	% 13.8	14.4	14.2	13.8	13.6	13.5	13.4
Enrolment ratio, 3-year-olds	% 24.7	30.6	34.3	38.3	39.5	43.4	46.4
Enrolment ratio, 4-year-olds	% 80.0	88.9	93.1	97.2	98.9	101.1	100.0
Enrolment ratio, 5-year-olds	% 92.8	96.8	99.8	96.2	98.4	97.7	100.0
Enrolment ratio, children aged 3, 4 and 5	% 66.6	73.0	76.4	77.6	79.1	80.9	82.2
Coverage (3–5 years)	% 66.9	73.9	77.2	78.0	79.3	81.1	82.4
Net enrolment ratio (3–5 years)	% 66.6	73.0	76.4	77.6	79.1	80.9	82.2
Primary education	14 548 194	14 585 804	14 654 135	14 815 735	14 860 704	14 887 845	14 984 921
% of education system total	% 45.0	44.3	43.8	44.1	43.7	43.3	42.9
Dropout rate	% 1.3	1.5	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.7
Failure rate	% 4.3	4.2	4.1	3.8	3.5	3.4	3.3
Percentage completing primary but not meeting requirements for secondary	% 18.0	16.9	16.4	15.9	16.3	15.0	14.5
Completion efficiency	% 91.8	91.7	92.4	94.0	94.5	95.0	94.8
Completion rate	% 102.8	103.6	103.5	102.3	103.3	103.8	109.2
Coverage (6–11 years)	% 109.8	110.0	110.7	113.0	115.1	117.7	121.5
Coverage (6–12 years)	% 94.1	94.4	95.1	97.0	98.6	100.6	103.4
Net enrolment ratio (6–11 years)	% 101.1	101.2	101.4	103.3	105.5	108.1	111.6
Incomplete schools (schools not offering instruction at all grade levels)	% 16.1	15.8	15.3	15.2	15.4	15.3	15.3

<i>Education indicator^f</i>		2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008	2008–2009	2009–2010	2010–2011 ^p	2011–2012 ^e
One-teacher schools	%	22.5	22.3	22.4	22.1	22.1	22.6	22.5
Secondary education		5 979 256	6 055 467	6 116 274	6 153 416	6 127 902	6 137 546	6 196 006
% of education system total	%	18.5	18.4	18.3	18.3	18.0	17.8	17.8
Transition rate	%	94.9	95.4	95.2	95.5	95.7	96.5	98.0
Dropout rate	%	7.7	7.4	7.1	6.4	6.0	5.6	5.4
Completion efficiency	%	78.2	78.2	78.6	81.4	82.2	82.9	83.7
Completion rate	%	75.5	76.7	78.2	81.9	83.3	84.1	84.1
Proportion of potential demand met	%	91.6	91.4	91.7	92.0	92.6	93.2	94.1
Coverage (12–14 years)	%	91.1	92.5	93.8	94.8	94.9	95.5	96.5
Coverage (13–15 years)	%	91.8	93.0	94.2	95.2	95.3	95.9	97.2
Net enrolment ratio (12–14 years)	%	78.0	80.0	81.5	82.4	82.8	83.7	84.9
Upper-level secondary education		3 658 754	3 742 943	3 830 042	3 923 822	4 054 709	4 187 528	4 282 987
% of education system total	%	11.3	11.4	11.5	11.7	11.9	12.2	12.3
Transition rate	%	95.3	95.6	95.4	96.9	96.4	96.7	96.8
Dropout rate	%	16.5	16.3	16.3	15.9	14.9	14.5	13.9
Failure rate	%	34.7	34.9	34.3	35.0	33.6	33.2	32.7
Completion efficiency	%	58.3	58.0	58.9	60.9	62.0	63.3	63.7
Proportion of potential demand met	%	84.2	84.7	84.8	85.3	85.5	86.3	86.6
Completion rate	%	42.0	42.7	44.1	45.4	47.1	49.6	52.3
Coverage (15–17 years)	%	57.7	58.8	60.1	61.6	63.8	66.2	68.0
Coverage (16–18 years)	%	58.6	59.7	60.9	62.3	64.4	66.7	68.5
Net enrolment ratio (15–17 years)	%	44.0	46.2	47.8	48.9	51.7	53.2	54.5
Higher education		2 446 726	2 528 664	2 623 367	2 705 190	2 847 376	2 981 313	3 145 806
% of education system total	%	7.6	7.7	7.8	8.0	8.4	8.7	9.0
Transition rate	%	79.9	78.7	80.1	79.4	82.5	83.0	83.9
Dropout rate	%	7.6	7.5	9.6	7.6	8.3	8.2	8.0
Coverage (including post-graduate level) (18–23 years)	%	20.8	21.4	22.1	22.7	23.8	24.8	26.1
Coverage (excluding post-graduate level) (18–22 years)	%	23.2	23.9	24.6	25.1	26.3	27.5	28.9
Coverage (including post-graduate level) (19–24 years)	%	21.2	21.8	22.5	23.1	24.2	25.2	26.5
Coverage (excluding post-graduate level) (19–23 years)	%	23.7	24.3	25.0	25.6	26.8	27.9	29.3
Vocational training		1 227 288	1 304 471	1 477 884	1 376 739	1 477 315	1 549 679	1 615 491
% of education system total	%	3.8	4.0	4.4	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.6

<i>Education indicator¹</i>		2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008	2008–2009	2009–2010	2010–2011 ^p	2011–2012 ^e
Other indicators								
Illiteracy ²	%	8.3	8.1	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.4	0.0
Average years of schooling		8.1	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.8

Source: DGPP/SEP statistical questionnaire, form 911; INEA.

¹ Excluding average years of schooling measured by grades completed.

² Information as of 31 December of each year (INEA).

^e Figures are estimates.

^p Preliminary figures, as information on vocational training not available until the end of the 2010–2011 academic year.

Percentage of population aged 5 and over attending school, by sex and age group

<i>Age group sex</i>	2000	2005	2010
Total	31.9	31.7	30.4
Males	33.3	32.9	31.4
Females	30.6	30.5	29.4
5-year-olds	71	85.3	87.3
Males	70.8	85.2	87.2
Females	71.2	85.4	87.5
6–12 years	93.8	96.1	96.2
Males	93.9	96	96.1
Females	93.8	96.1	96.4
13–15 years	76.6	82.5	85.9
Males	77.7	82.4	85.3
Females	75.4	82.5	86.4
16–19 years	41.4	47.8	51.2
Males	42.3	47.9	50.7
Females	40.6	47.6	51.7
20–24 years	17.7	20.8	22
Males	19.1	22.2	22.8
Females	16.4	19.6	21.3
25–29 years	6	5.9	6.1
Males	6.7	6.5	6.6
Females	5.3	5.3	5.6
30 and over	2	2.1	1.7
Males	2	1.9	1.5
Females	2	2.2	1.8

Source: INEGI. Population and Housing Censuses for 2000 and 2010, Second Survey of Population and Housing, 2005.

School-age population aged 3–24, by sex and age group

<i>Sex age group</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2010</i>
Total	45 460 324	44 898 388	47 276 312
3–5 years	6 696 125	6 506 759	6 535 234
6–12 years	15 494 206	14 968 088	15 516 889
13–15 years	6 296 758	6 537 062	6 570 144
16–19 years	7 902 101	7 921 850	8 761 774
20–24 years	9 071 134	8 964 629	9 892 271
Males	22 579 345	22 346 374	23 699 432
3–5 years	3 394 484	3 302 950	3 316 316
6–12 years	7 857 769	7 602 066	7 876 190
13–15 years	3 157 403	3 290 541	3 314 466
16–19 years	3 866 089	3 897 377	4 379 256
20–24 years	4 303 600	4 253 440	4 813 204
Females	22 880 979	22 552 014	23 576 880
3–5 years	3 301 641	3 203 809	3 218 918
6–12 years	7 636 437	7 366 022	7 640 699
13–15 years	3 139 355	3 246 521	3 255 678
16–19 years	4 036 012	4 024 473	4 382 518
20–24 years	4 767 534	4 711 189	5 079 067

Source: INEGI. Population and Housing Censuses for 2000 and 2010, Second Survey of Population and Housing, 2005.

Percentage distribution of the population aged 15 and over, by level of education and sex

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2010</i>
Population aged 15 and over	62 842 638	68 802 564	78 423 336
No schooling ^a	10.2	8.4	7.2
Incomplete primary ^b	18	14.3	12.6
Complete primary ^c	19.1	17.7	16
Incomplete secondary ^d	5.3	4.3	5.2
Complete secondary ^e	18.9	21.7	22.3
Upper-level secondary ^f	16.7	18.5	19.3
Post-secondary ^g	10.9	13.6	16.5
Males	30 043 824	32 782 806	37 656 281
No schooling ^a	8.7	7.2	6.2
Incomplete primary ^b	17.7	14.2	12.4
Complete primary ^c	18.4	16.9	15.5
Incomplete secondary ^d	6	4.9	5.8
Complete secondary ^e	19.6	22.3	22.7
Upper-level secondary ^f	16.2	18.4	19.3

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2010</i>
Post-secondary ^g	12.6	14.8	17.2
Females	32 798 814	36 019 758	40 767 055
No schooling ^a	11.6	9.6	8.1
Incomplete primary ^b	18.2	14.5	12.7
Complete primary ^c	19.9	18.4	16.5
Incomplete secondary ^d	4.6	3.7	4.6
Complete secondary ^e	18.2	21	21.9
Upper-level secondary ^f	17.1	18.6	19.3
Post-secondary ^g	9.4	12.4	15.9

Source: Population and Housing Censuses for 2000 and 2010, Second Survey of Population and Housing, 2005.

The percentage distribution of the population aged 15 years and over by educational attainment and sex does not equal 100 per cent owing to lack of specific data in some cases. Figures are for the following census dates: 14 February (2000), 17 October (2005) and 12 June (2010).

^a Includes the pre-primary, or kindergarten, population.

^b Includes the population having successfully completed 1–5 years of primary school.

^c Includes the population having successfully completed 6 years of primary school.

^d Includes the population having successfully completed 1–2 years of secondary school or equivalent.

^e Includes the population having successfully completed 3 years of secondary school or equivalent.

^f Includes the population with at least a secondary-school diploma or equivalent.

^g Includes the population with at least a first-level university degree or equivalent and the population with a post-graduate degree.

28. In 2010 Mexico had a literacy rate of 92.4 per cent of its total population, with an adult illiteracy rate of 7.6 per cent of the total population. In 2011 total school enrolment was 34,384,971.

29. The education budget increased from 519,023 million pesos in 2007 to 520,602.98 million in 2010, of which 318,612.07 million pesos were allocated to basic education, 61,795.94 million pesos to upper-level secondary education and 82,754.98 million pesos to higher education. The remainder was allocated to other educational services. For the 2010–2011 school year, education accounted for 6.7 per cent of gross domestic product.⁴

Poverty and inequality

30. Between 2008 and 2010 the number of people living in poverty increased from 48.8 million to 52 million.

Poverty incidence, number of people living in poverty and average number of deprivations, 2008 and 2010

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Percentage</i>		<i>Number of people (millions)</i>		<i>Average number of deprivations</i>	
	<i>2008</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2010</i>
Poverty						

⁴ See: www.diputados.gob.mx/cedia/sia/se/SE-ISS-38-10.pdf.

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Percentage</i>		<i>Number of people (millions)</i>		<i>Average number of deprivations</i>	
	<i>2008</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2010</i>
Population living in poverty	44.5	46.2	48.8	52.0	2.7	2.5
Population living in moderate poverty	33.9	35.8	37.2	40.3	2.3	2.1
Population living in extreme poverty	10.6	10.4	11.7	11.7	3.9	3.7
Population with social deprivations	33.0	28.7	36.2	32.3	2.0	1.9
Population with income deprivations	4.5	5.8	4.9	6.5	0.0	0.0
Non-poor population with no deprivations	18.0	19.3	19.7	21.8	0.0	0.0
<i>Social deprivation</i>						
Population with at least one social deprivation	77.5	74.9	85.0	84.3	2.4	2.3
Population with at least three social deprivations	31.1	26.6	34.1	29.9	3.7	3.6
<i>Indicators of social deprivation</i>						
Failure to complete required minimum level of schooling	21.9	20.6	24.1	23.2	3.2	3.0
Lack of access to social services	40.8	31.8	44.8	35.8	2.9	2.8
Lack of access to social security protection	65.0	60.7	71.3	68.3	2.6	2.5
Deficient quality and inadequate space in housing	17.7	15.2	19.4	17.1	3.6	3.5
Lack of basic services in housing	19.2	16.5	21.1	18.5	3.5	3.3
Insufficient access to food	21.7	24.9	23.8	28.0	3.3	3.0
<i>Well-being</i>						
Population with income below the minimum well-being threshold	16.7	19.4	18.4	21.8	3.0	2.7
Population with income below the well-being threshold	49.0	52.0	53.7	58.5	2.5	2.2

Source: CONEVAL estimates on the basis of the Socioeconomic Conditions Module (MCS) of the National Household Income and Expenditure Survey (ENIGH) for 2008 and 2010.

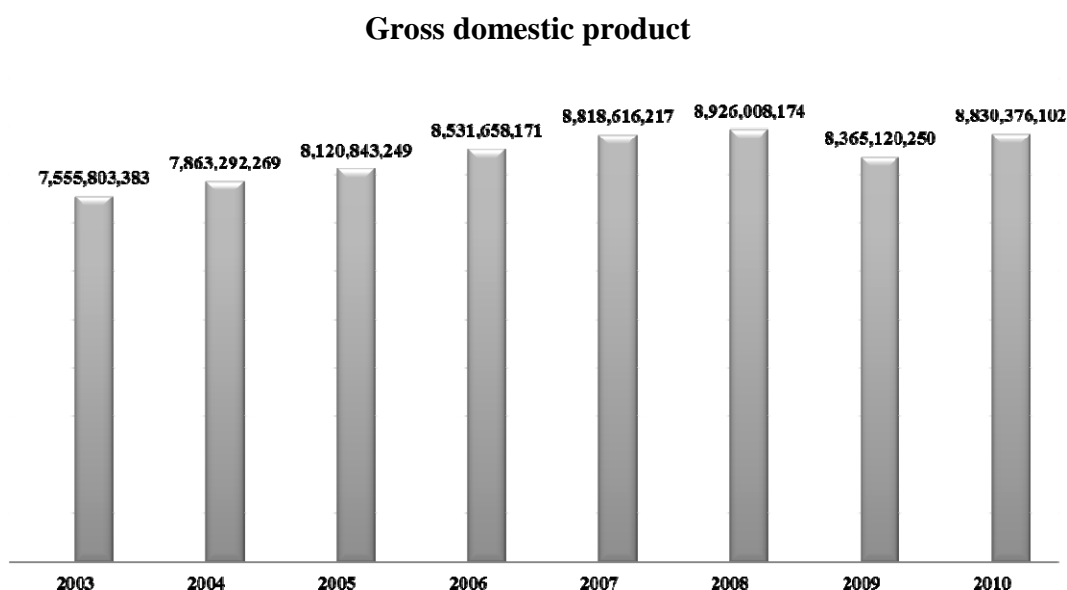
Note: The estimates use expansion factors adjusted to reflect the final results of the 2010 Population and Housing Census, estimated by INEGI.

31. The original allocation for poverty alleviation programmes in 2011 was 259,210 million pesos. Between January and September of the same year, 211,155 million pesos had been expended, which represented 73.5 per cent of the revised annual amount (SHCP).

32. Between 2008 and 2010 Mexico's Gini coefficient showed very little change, rising from 0.506 to 0.510, which indicates that there was no significant modification in the distribution of wealth in the country during the period.

3. Economic characteristics

33. Gross domestic product details are shown in the following figure.



Gross domestic product at market prices (thousands of pesos at 2003 prices).

34. The consumer price index in October 2011 showed a rise of 3.2 per cent with respect to October 2010.

35. Inflation has fluctuated, reaching its highest levels in 2004 and 2008. The following table shows inflation statistics for 2003–2011.

Inflation as measured by the National Price and Quotation Index (INPC)

<i>INPC general index</i>	
2003	3.98
2004	5.19
2005	3.33
2006	4.05
2007	3.76
2008	6.53
2009	3.57
2010	4.40
2011	3.82

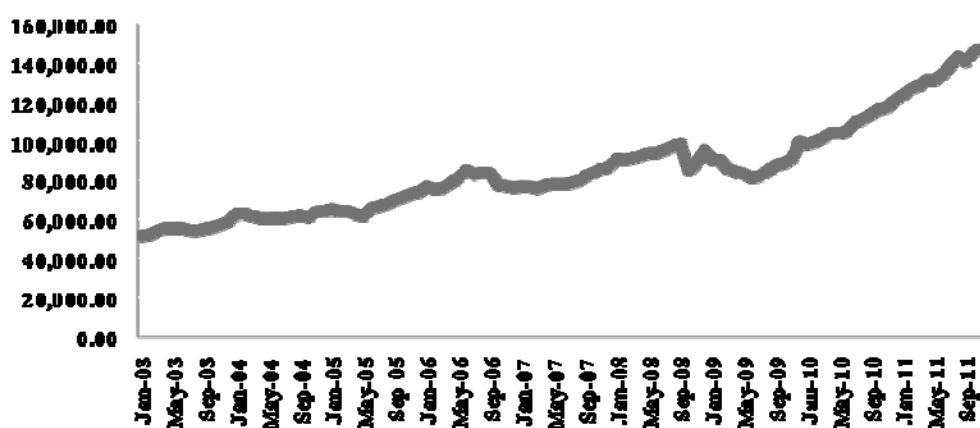
Source: Banco de México (BANXICO).

36. At the close of the third quarter of 2011, the balance of the federal Government's net debt totalled 3,795,662,500,000 pesos. Of that amount, 79 per cent comprised domestic debt and the remaining 21.01 per cent, external debt. As a percentage of GDP, the federal Government debt amounted to 26.2 per cent, an increase of 1.2 percentage points over the figure for the end of 2010 (25 per cent); domestic debt and external debt made up 20.7 and 5.5 percentage points, respectively, of the figure for 2011 (SHCP).

37. The monetary base stood at 692,000,000,000 pesos in December 2011. That amount represents a real increase of 9.3 per cent as compared with December 2010. Net domestic credit, meanwhile, showed a negative balance of 1,248,000,000,000 pesos, a 7.9 per cent real decrease in absolute terms with respect to the negative balance of 678,530,000,000 pesos recorded in March 2009.

38. Net foreign currency assets totalled 1,899,000,000,000 pesos in October 2011, an increase of 62,010,000,000 over the same period in 2009 (INEGI, BANXICO).

Foreign currency reserves (millions of United States dollars)



Source: BANXICO, report on international reserves and foreign currency liquidity.

39. The economically active population in Mexico makes up 59.08 per cent of the total population,⁵ the highest percentage in the country's history and a slight increase from 2009, when the figure was 58.7 per cent. Of the total economically active population, 13.5 per cent work in the primary sector, 22.4 per cent in the secondary sector and 57.89 per cent in the tertiary sector. These proportions reflect the fact that the country is a bigger producer of trade and services than of manufactured goods (INEGI).

	<i>Fourth quarter of 2010</i>	<i>Fourth quarter of 2009</i>	<i>Fourth quarter of 2008</i>	<i>Fourth quarter of 2007</i>	<i>Fourth quarter of 2006</i>
Economically active population	46 292 056	47 041 909	45 178 213	45 621 685	44 447 032
Employed population	43 809 329	44 535 314	43 255 617	44 005 604	42 846 141
Unemployed population	2 482 727	2 506 595	1 922 596	1 616 081	1 600 891
Population not economically active (Millions of people)	33 796 655	32 270 849	32 572 406	30 816 664	30 717 100

Source: INEGI.

40. As of 31 October 2011, the number of workers affiliated with the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS) totalled 15,371,316, an increase of 677,220 (4.4 per cent) with respect to the previous year. Seasonally adjusted figures show that in the third quarter of 2011, 78.21 per cent of the employed population was working in the formal sector. During the period from January to March 2010, the unemployment rate stood at 5.68 per cent of the

⁵ INEGI figures for the third quarter of 2011.

economically active population, lower than the rate of 5.7 per cent recorded for the same period in the previous year.

41. According to data provided by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, in November 2011 there were 1,393 registered trade unions.⁶

B. Constitutional, political and legal structure of the State

42. The Constitution of the United Mexican States provides that the country is a representative, democratic and federal republic composed of 31 states and a Federal District, which is the seat of the federal Government. Each state is free, sovereign and autonomous and has its own constitution.

43. The powers of the federal Government are separated functionally among three branches: executive, legislative and judicial. The same separation of powers exists at the local level.

1. Executive branch

44. The President of the Republic heads the executive branch of government and is elected for a six-year term by direct vote of the population over the age of 18. The President chooses his or her own cabinet ministers, of whom there are currently 18.

2. Legislative branch

45. The legislative branch is divided into two chambers: the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate. The Chamber of Deputies has 500 members, 300 of whom are elected by direct suffrage and 200 by proportional representation. Deputies are elected for a three-year term and may not seek re-election. The Senate has 128 members: 64 from the majority party, 32 from the leading minority party and 32 representing other parties in proportion to their share of the national vote. Each state is represented by three senators, as is the Federal District (96 senators total, comprising 75 per cent of the Senate). Senators serve six-year terms.

3. Judicial branch

46. The judiciary is composed of the Supreme Court of Justice, the multi-judge and single-judge circuit courts, the district courts and the Council of the Federal Judiciary, which was created as part of the constitutional reform of December 1994, the aim of which was to strengthen the Mexican judiciary and render it more efficient by enhancing its constitutional powers and increasing the autonomy of judicial bodies and the independence of judges.

47. The Council of the Federal Judiciary, as defined by the constitutional amendment, was established on 2 February 1995. It is responsible for administration, supervision, and discipline of the country's judiciary, excluding the Supreme Court of Justice and the Electoral Tribunal. It also assigns territorial jurisdiction and, as appropriate, jurisdiction over particular matters to the multi-judge and single-judge circuit courts and the district courts.

48. On 11 June 1999, several articles of Mexico's Constitution were amended, including article 100, which establishes that the Council of the Federal Judiciary is an organ of the

⁶ For a list of the trade unions registered in Mexico, see:
http://registrodeasociaciones.stps.gob.mx/regaso/ConsultaRegAsociaciones_1A.asp.

Mexican judiciary that is independent in technical matters and in its actions and decisions. With the aim of securing the Council's independence and ensuring changes in the way it is run, the reform was accompanied by the appointment of new Council members.

Incidence of crime and administration of justice

49. The Ministry of Public Security (SSP) notes in the National Public Security Programme 2008–2012⁷ that accurate information on victimization is essential in order to estimate the number of crimes committed in a specific geographic area during a given period, which will in turn make it possible to estimate the “dark figure” — i.e., crimes that go unreported — and provide input for additional situation assessments to support the design of strategies and policies aimed at reducing threats to public security.

50. The starting point for the identification of mechanisms and concrete actions to address the problem of crime is quantitative data and qualitative information on the incidence of crime and its consequences and impacts on society. In the period between 2007 and 2010, a total of 6,542,196 suspected criminal offences were reported.

51. In 2010, the reported crime rate was 1,533 crimes per 100,000 population. In the same year, the states with the highest number of reported crimes per 100,000 population were Baja California, Tabasco, Quintana Roo, Yucatán and Baja California Sur. The states of Campeche, Tlaxcala, Chiapas, Veracruz and Nayarit, had the lowest levels.

52. The Executive Secretariat of the National Public Security System, in its summary of crime statistics for state and federal jurisdictions for 1997–2011, indicates that in 2010 approximately 1,838,000 crimes were reported; 7.2 per cent of them fell under federal jurisdiction, including health-related offences (55.12 per cent), offences related to possession of firearms (17 per cent) and property offences (15.51 per cent), while 92.8 per cent were ordinary offences coming under state jurisdiction, including theft (43.3 per cent), injury (13.5 per cent) and other offences (26.3 per cent).⁸

National prison system

53. The national prison system comprises 479 detention centres, of which six are operated by the federal Government. These establishments have a total capacity of 163,867.

54. The prison population has increased steadily, its rate of growth outpacing virtually all prison expansion and/or modification efforts.

55. According to federal prison system statistics, the national prison population in September 2011 numbered 230,258 inmates, of which 46,374 had been tried under federal jurisdiction, while the remaining 183,884 had come under state jurisdiction. In other words, about 80 per cent of the prison population comes under state jurisdiction.

56. Of the total prison population, 129,727 inmates (56.34 per cent) have been sentenced; the remainder are awaiting sentencing.

57. The proportion of inmates tried in state courts was 32.91 per cent; only 10.75 per cent of all inmates had been tried in federal courts.⁹

58. Under the Federal Criminal Code, a prison sentence consists of deprivation of physical liberty for a period ranging from 3 days to 60 years. An additional penalty

⁷ See: www.ssp.gob.mx/portalWebApp/ShowBinary?nodeId=/BEA%20Repository/414002//archivo.

⁸ See: www.secretariadoejecutivo.gob.mx/es/SecretariadoEjecutivo/Resumen_Incidencia_Delictiva_del_fuero_comun_y_fuero_federal_19972010.

⁹ See: www.ssp.gob.mx/portalWebApp/ShowBinary?nodeId=/BEA%20Repository/365162//archivo.

extending the term of imprisonment may be imposed only when the inmate has committed a new crime while incarcerated. The sentence is to be served in the prisons or other institutions or places designated for that purpose by law or by the authority responsible for carrying out the penalty, in keeping with the judgement rendered by the relevant court.

Criminal justice statistics

59. The Government of Mexico, through the National Institute of Statistics and Geography, has been compiling criminal justice statistics on an ongoing basis in order to respond promptly to the growing number of requests it receives for comparable, up-to-date sociodemographic information over time for the national, state and municipal levels.

60. The criminal justice statistics published by the Government in 2010¹⁰ relate mainly to persons who, according to court records, have been prosecuted and sentenced. The figures are derived from data supplied by the courts of first instance in criminal matters located throughout the country. They provide a basic social and demographic picture of the population prosecuted, identifying their level of criminal responsibility for the offences that led to their prosecution.

Persons prosecuted, by jurisdiction and year

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
State jurisdiction	181 006	176 927	180 222	177 261	167 906	157 836
Federal jurisdiction	33 147	31 442	31 829	34 856	37 417	41 976
Total	214 153	208 369	212 051	212 117	205 323	199 812

Source: Criminal justice statistics for the United Mexican States, INEGI, 2010.

Persons sentenced, by jurisdiction and year

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
State jurisdiction	139 524	133 689	135 446	134 221	126 264	120 177
Federal jurisdiction	28 694	29 300	28 464	28 010	28 700	36 224
Total	168 218	162 989	163 910	162 231	154 964	156 401

Source: Criminal justice statistics for the United Mexican States, INEGI, 2010.

Citizen perceptions regarding security

61. People in Mexico remain concerned about the possibility of becoming crime victims. In urban areas, 72.5 per cent of respondents surveyed report feeling unsafe in the cities in which they reside. People feel most unsafe on public transport (78.2 per cent) and in the streets (73.8 per cent). They report feeling safest when at home (81 per cent) and at work (61.9 per cent).

¹⁰ Available at: www.inegi.org.mx/prod_serv/contenidos/espanol/bvinegi/productos/continuas/sociales/judiciales/2011/judiciales_2010.pdf.

62. The Seventh National Public Security Survey, conducted by the Citizens' Institute for Public Security Studies (ICESI) in 2009, found that in that year 10.9 per cent of respondents nationwide reported have been the victims of a crime, 13.7 per cent of Mexican households had been victims of a crime at least once, and in 4.2 per cent of those households the victims had been minors.

Progress in crime prevention and assurance of public security

63. Criminals have diversified their modus operandi, which has enabled them to circumvent the prevention and prosecution capabilities of the institutions responsible for public security in the country. In response, the Government has made interagency and intergovernmental work and coordinated action by authorities of the federal Government, the states, the Federal District and the municipalities the backbone of public policy aimed at ensuring the security that Mexican society demands.

64. The Ministry of Public Security, in its fourth annual report (2010), notes that the country has a unified criminal information system that enables the police to access criminal information and records stored in the databases of the police forces and other institutions and organizations involved in public security. All 32 states of the country have access to the unified system, which contains data from police records, judicial and ministerial orders, driving licences, the Public Vehicle Registry, records on stolen and recovered vehicles, prison records, firearm registration records, and fingerprint and voice records, among other sources.

65. In addition to compiling and centralizing reliable information on the incidence of crime, the Government has striven to professionalize the police forces as a major part of its efforts to ensure the security of the population. The Ministry of Public Security reports that the number of officers incorporated into the Policing Career Service (*Servicio de Carrera Policial*) in 2006 totalled 11,711. For 2012 the Ministry's goal is to raise the number by 62,389. The number of incoming police personnel evaluated from September 2009 to July 2010 totalled 43,677.¹¹

Police officers per 100,000 population, 2009¹²

<i>Federal entity</i>	<i>Workforce (Number of officers)</i>	<i>Number of officers per 100,000 population</i>
Country as a whole	514 638	479
Federal police force	50 546	47
Aguascalientes	3 862	338
Baja California	12 034	380
Baja California Sur	3 984	705
Campeche	3 005	378
Chiapas	16 040	356
Chihuahua	8 791	259
Coahuila	7 057	268
Colima	3 073	511
Durango	4 828	311

¹¹ *Cuarto Informe de Labores* (Fourth Annual Report), Ministry of Public Security.

¹² *Informe del Resultado de la Fiscalización Superior de la Cuenta Pública* (Public accounts audit report), 2009.

<i>Federal entity</i>	<i>Workforce (Number of officers)</i>	<i>Number of officers per 100,000 population</i>
Federal District	100 668	1 139
Guanajuato	16 845	334
Guerrero	11 614	370
Hidalgo	8 132	336
Jalisco	23 673	337
Mexico (state)	66 229	446
Michoacán	13 438	339
Morelos	8 493	507
Nayarit	3 265	337
Nuevo León	15 304	344
Oaxaca	13 081	368
Puebla	17 439	309
Querétaro	4 120	239
Quintana Roo	6 513	496
San Luis Potosí	10 052	405
Sinaloa	8 923	336
Sonora	10 289	410
Tabasco	12 330	601
Tamaulipas	10 894	341
Tlaxcala	4 584	404
Veracruz	22 148	304
Yucatán	8 946	465
Zacatecas	4 438	322

66. Another noteworthy example of the Government's commitment to ensuring public security is the increase in the federal budget for security-related activities, which rose from 89,255,600,000 pesos in 2010 to 106,918,100,000 pesos in 2011, according to figures from the approved national expenditures budgets and a report entitled *El Presupuesto Público Federal para la Función de Seguridad Pública 2010–2011* (The Federal Public Budget For Public Security Activities in 2010–2011), produced by the Centre for Documentation, Information and Analysis for the sixtieth legislative session of the House of Deputies and published in October 2010.

C. Relations with civil society organizations

67. In Mexico, civil society organizations (CSOs) are recognized as such under the Federal Act to Promote the Activities of Civil Society Organizations.¹³ The Act was published in the *Official Gazette of the Federation* on 9 February 2004.

¹³ CSO activities covered under the Act include: (i) social assistance; (ii) feeding programmes; (iii) civic activities; (iv) legal assistance; (v) support for indigenous communities; (vi) promotion of gender equity; (vii) support for people with disabilities; (viii) cooperation for community development; (ix) support for the protection and promotion of human rights; (x) promotion of sports activities; (xi)

68. The National Institute for Social Development (INDESOL) is the federal authority with primary responsibility for implementing the Act, although the Act itself entrusts other federal administrative agencies and entities with certain functions in relation to the promotion of the activities of civil society organizations, which is viewed as a cross-cutting undertaking for the Government as a whole, not an isolated function of a particular institution. One of the mandates established by the Act is the creation of the Federal Registry of Civil Society Organizations, which serves as a source of reliable information about the number of such organizations operating in Mexico and about their activities.

69. Organizations that are listed in the Registry (currently 16,763) are assigned a federal identification number for civil society organizations (*Clave Única de Registro Federal de las Organizaciones de la Sociedad Civil* (CLUNI)). A total of 278 organizations holding a CLUNI engage in activities relating to children.¹⁴

III. General framework for the protection and promotion of human rights

A. Acceptance of international human rights norms

70. Mexico is a party to all nine basic international human rights instruments and their optional protocols and recognizes the competence of all of the human rights oversight bodies, including their authority to receive individual complaints and communications and to conduct investigations. The Government meets its periodic reporting responsibilities and responds to the comments and recommendations made by treaty bodies. Mexico is also a party to other relevant instruments concerning international humanitarian law, refugees, stateless persons, international criminal law and the right to work and to various conventions of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

71. In addition, Mexico is party to the principal inter-American human rights instruments, and in 1998 accepted the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. It takes part in legal actions filed within the inter-American system, striving to achieve amicable solutions. The Inter-American system has afforded additional opportunities for victims to be heard and has also served as an efficient mechanism for instituting precautionary and provisional measures with federal and state authorities. Since 2001, Mexico has maintained a standing open invitation to all international human rights mechanisms, both global and regional, to visit the country. During this period, Mexico has received 33 visits from representatives of those mechanisms (18 from United Nations bodies and 10 from inter-American bodies), as well as five visits from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Between 2007 and 2011, the Government received 104 urgent appeals from such mechanisms, to which it responded promptly. It is also open to international scrutiny from civil society organizations.

promotion and provision of health care and other health-related services; (xii) support for environmental protection and promotion of sustainable development at regional and community level; (xiii) support in the use of natural resources; protection of the environment, flora and fauna; preservation and restoration of the ecological balance; and promotion of sustainable development at the regional and community levels in rural and urban areas; (xiv) promotion of educational, cultural, artistic, scientific and technological activities; (xv) promotion of actions to improve the population's economic well-being; (xvi) participation in civil protection activities; (xvii) provision of support for the creation and strengthening of organizations engaged in development activities.

¹⁴ For more information, see: www.osc.gob.mx/portal/buscador.aspx.

72. Official visits from representatives of United Nations mechanisms:
- (a) Special Rapporteur on the right to food (13 to 20 June 2011);
 - (b) Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (18 to 31 March 2011);
 - (c) Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers (1 to 15 October 2010);
 - (d) Special Rapporteur on the right to education (8 to 18 February 2010);
 - (e) Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression (9 to 24 August 2010);
 - (f) Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (28 August to 13 September 2008), in accordance with Article 16 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
 - (g) Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (9 to 18 March 2008);
 - (h) Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (4 to 14 May 2007);
 - (i) Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences (21 to 25 February 2005);
 - (j) Expert Mission of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua (October 2003);
 - (k) Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (19 to 25 October 2003), in compliance with Article 8 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
 - (l) Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people (1 to 18 June 2003);
 - (m) Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (27 October to 10 November 2002);
 - (n) Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons (18 to 28 August 2002);
 - (o) Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (25 February to 6 March 2002);
 - (p) Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context (4 to 15 March 2002);
 - (q) Committee against Torture (23 August to 12 September 2001);
 - (r) Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers (13 to 23 May 2001).
73. Official visits from representatives of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) of the Organization of American States (OAS):
- (a) Special Rapporteur on Migrant Workers and Their Families (25 July to 2 August 2011);
 - (b) Special Rapporteur for Mexico and IACHR Coordinator for the Mesoamerica Region (26 to 30 September 2011);
 - (c) Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression (9 to 24 August 2010);

- (d) President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Special Rapporteur for Mexico (6 to 11 August 2007);
- (e) President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Special Rapporteur for Mexico (11 to 13 April 2007);
- (f) Special Rapporteur for Mexico and Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (24 to 31 August 2005);
- (g) Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression (18 to 26 August 2003);
- (h) Special Rapporteur on Migrant Workers and Their Families (25 July to 1 August 2002);
- (i) Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women (11 to 13 February 2002);
- (j) President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (2 to 5 July 2001).

74. Private visits and academic activities by United Nations or OAS mechanisms (2007–2009):

- (a) Special Rapporteur of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights for Freedom of Expression (2009);
- (b) Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression (2009);
- (c) Special Rapporteur on the right to food (2009);
- (d) Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people;
- (e) Special Rapporteur on adequate housing (2007).

75. Visits by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights:

- (a) Visit by Ms. Navi Pillay (2 to 9 July 2011);
- (b) Visit by Ms. Louise Arbour (5 to 8 February 2008) on the occasion of the signing of the agreement between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the United Mexican States on the continuation of its activities in Mexico;
- (c) Visit by Ms. Louise Arbour (30 June to 1 July 2005);
- (d) Visit of Ms. Mary Robinson (30 June to 2 July 2002) on the occasion of the signing of the agreement between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Government of the United Mexican States concerning the establishment of an office in Mexico;
- (e) Visit by Ms. Mary Robinson (2 December 2000) on the occasion of the signing of a technical cooperation agreement with Mexico.

76. During the current administration, numerous international nongovernmental organizations have visited Mexico, including Amnesty International (August 2007, September 2008, January and June 2009); an international mission on attacks against journalists and the media (April 2008); Human Rights Committee of the Bar of England and Wales (November 2009); Peace Brigades International (November 2010); Committee to Protect Journalists (June 2008 and September 2010), Human Rights Watch (February 2008, April and October 2009, February and December 2010 and November 2011); Consejo General de la Abogacía Española (General Council of Spanish Lawyers) (October 2009); Nobel Women's Initiative (February 2010); Inter American Press Association

(March 2007 and September 2010); and Comisión Civil Internacional de Observación por los Derechos Humanos (International Civil Commission for Human Rights) (February 2008), among others.

77. In 2002, at the invitation of the Government, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights established an office in Mexico. The Office's contributions have included an assessment of the human rights situation in Mexico in 2003 and advisory support for the development of the National Human Rights Programme 2008–2012. The Office maintains agreements and extensive relations with the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the federal Government, the state governments, academia and civil society.

78. On 6 February 2008 a new agreement was signed with OHCHR for the continuation of its activities in Mexico. The agreement, which will remain in force until 2012, establishes powers and duties for monitoring the human rights situation in the country and priorities for the Office's cooperation with the Government.

79. The International Committee of the Red Cross set up an office in Mexico in 1998, which in 2002 became a regional office.

80. Mexico promotes the highest international human rights standards within the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations, supports the participation of civil society organizations and advocates gender mainstreaming. The Government has put forward initiatives on the human rights of migrants, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples and on promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the context of counterterrorism activities.

81. The table below shows the status of ratification the international human rights instruments to which Mexico is a party.

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), 1966	23 March 1981		The Government of Mexico acceded to the Covenant with the understanding that article 8 would be applied in the Mexican Republic in conformity with the procedure established in the applicable provisions of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States	No
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966	23 March 1981		Yes	No
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, (ICERD), 1965	Signed 1 November 1966 Ratified 20 February 1975		No	No

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), 1979	Signed 17 July 1980 Ratified 23 March 1981	16 September 1996	The Government of Mexico accepted the provisions of the Convention on the understanding that they would be applied in Mexico in accordance with the modalities and procedures prescribed by Mexican legislation	No
Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), 1984	Signed 18 March 1985 Ratified 23 January 1986	15 March 2002	No	No
Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989	Signed 26 January 1990 Ratified 21 September 1990	22 September 1997	No	No
International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICMW), 1990	Signed 22 May 1991 Ratified 8 March 1999		Interpretive declaration: “Upon ratifying the Convention, the Government of the United Mexican States reaffirms its political will to ensure international protection of the rights of all migrant workers. All the provisions of the Convention will be applied in conformity with its national legislation” Reservation: The Government of the United Mexican States registered a reservation with regard to article 22, paragraph 4, of this Convention, insofar as it refers to the application of article 33 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States and article 125 of the General Population Act	No
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol	Signed 30 March 2007 Ratified 30 March 2007		No	No
Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, concerning individual petition	15 March 2002		No	No

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty	26 September 2007		No	No
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, concerning individual complaints and inquiry procedures	Signed 10 December 1999 Ratified 15 March 2002		No	No
Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, concerning regular visits by national and international institutions to places of detention, 2002	Signed 23 September 2003 Ratified 11 April 2005		No	No
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.	Signed 7 September 2000 Ratified 15 March 2002		The Government of Mexico made a declaration relative to article 3, paragraph 2 of the Optional Protocol, specifying the requirements for voluntary recruitment of its nationals and the exceptions for early enlistment in the armed forces The Government of Mexico also submitted an interpretive declaration relative to article 4 of the Optional Protocol, stating that any responsibility deriving from the recruitment of children under 18 years of age or their use in hostilities by non-governmental armed groups lies solely with such groups	No
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography	Signed 7 September 2000 Ratified 15 March 2002		No	No

82. Conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO) signed and ratified by Mexico.

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
C6. Night Work of Young Persons (Industry) Convention, 1919	Ratified on 20 May 1937 and denounced on 20 June 1956 in order to ratify Convention No. 90	The Convention was revised and updated in 1948 by Convention No. 90	The Government of Mexico ratified Convention No. 90, which superseded Convention No. 6 The declaration submitted by Mexico to the ILO in reference to the first paragraph of article 7 of the Convention states that the age limit under Mexican law is 16 years	
C7. Minimum Age (Sea) Convention, 1920	Ratified on 17 August 1948 and denounced on 18 July 1952 in order to ratify Convention No. 58, which revised Convention No. 7	The Convention was revised and updated by Convention No. 58	The Government of Mexico denounced Convention No. 7 in order to ratify Convention No. 58	Mexican law was amended by a decree issued on 20 November 1962. Section II, paragraph A of article 123 of the Mexican Constitution, prohibits work by minors under the age of 16 in unhealthy or dangerous conditions, and section III prohibits the employment of minors under the age of 14. The latter prohibition is general and also applies to work on maritime vessels
C8. Unemployment Indemnity (Shipwreck) Convention, 1920	Ratified on 20 May 1947	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C9. Placing of Seamen Convention, 1920	Ratified on 1 September 1939	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C11. Right of Association (Agriculture) Convention, 1921	Ratified on 20 May 1937	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
C12. Workmen's Compensation (Agriculture) Convention, 1921	Ratified on 1 November 1937	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C13. White Lead (Painting) Convention, 1921	Ratified on 17 January 1938	ILO does not amend conventions.	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C14. Weekly Rest (Industry) Convention, 1921	Ratified on 7 January 1938	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C16. Medical Examination of Young Persons (Sea) Convention, 1921	Ratified on 9 March 1938	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C17. Workmen's Compensation (Accidents) Convention, 1925	Ratified on 12 May 1934	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C19. Equality of Treatment (Accident Compensation) Convention, 1925	Ratified on 12 May 1934	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C21. Inspection of Emigrants Convention, 1926	Ratified on 9 March 1938	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C22. Seamen's Articles of Agreement Convention, 1926	Ratified on 12 May 1934	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C23. Repatriation of Seamen Convention, 1926	Ratified on 12 May 1934 and denounced on 15 March 2002	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	Mexico denounced the Convention in order to ratify Convention No. 166 concerning the Repatriation of Seafarers (Revised), 1987
C26. Minimum Wage-Fixing Machinery Convention, 1928	Ratified on 12 May 1934	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C27. Marking of Weight (Packages Transported by Vessels) Convention, 1929	Ratified on 12 May 1934	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
C29. Forced Labour Convention, 1930	Ratified on 12 May 1934	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C30. Hours of Work (Commerce and Offices) Convention, 1930	Ratified on 12 May 1934	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C32. Protection against Accidents (Dockers) Convention (Revised), 1932	Ratified on 12 May 1934 and denounced on 10 February 1982 in order to ratify Convention No. 152	ILO does not amend conventions	The Government of Mexico denounced Convention No. 32, which was revised, in order to ratify Convention No. 152	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C34. Fee-Charging Employment Agencies Convention, 1933	Ratified on 21 February 1938 and denounced on 1 March 1991 in order to ratify Convention No. 96	ILO does not amend conventions	The Government of Mexico denounced Convention No. 34 in order to ratify Convention No. 96	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C42. Workmen's Compensation (Occupational Diseases) Convention (Revised), 1934	Ratified on 20 May 1937	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C43. Sheet-Glass Works Convention, 1934	Ratified on 9 March 1938	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C45. Underground Work (Women) Convention, 1935	Ratified on 21 February 1938	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C49. Hours of Work (Glass-Bottle Works) Convention, 1935	Ratified on 21 February 1938	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C52. Holidays with Pay Convention, 1936	Ratified on 9 March 1938	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C53. Officers' Competency Certificates Convention, 1936	Ratified on 1 September 1939	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
C55. Shipowners' Liability (Sick and Injured Seamen) Convention, 1936	Ratified on 15 September 1939	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C56. Sickness Insurance (Sea) Convention, 1936	Ratified on 1 February 1984	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C58. Minimum Age (Sea) Convention (Revised), 1936	Ratified on 18 July 1952	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C62. Safety Provisions (Building) Convention, 1937	Ratified on 4 July 1941	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C63. Convention concerning Statistics of Wages and Hours of Work, 1938	Ratified on 16 July 1942 and denounced on 24 April 1988 in order to ratify Convention No. 160	ILO does not amend conventions	The Government of Mexico denounced Convention No. 63 in order to ratify Convention 160	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C80. Final Articles Revision Convention, 1946	Ratified on 20 April 1948	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C87. Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948	Ratified on 1 April 1950	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C90. Night Work of Young Persons (Industry) Convention (Revised), 1948	Ratified on 20 June 1956	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C95. Protection of Wages Convention, 1949	Ratified on 27 September 1955	ILO does not amend conventions	Excluding Article 11 by virtue of the ratification of Convention No. 173 (acceptance of Part II)	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C96. Fee-Charging Employment Agencies Convention (Revised), 1949	Ratified on 1 March 1991	ILO does not amend conventions	Accepted the provisions of Part III	No derogations, restrictions or limitations
C99. Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery (Agriculture) Convention, 1951	23 August 1952	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
C100. Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951	23 August 1952	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C102. Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952	12 October 1961	ILO does not amend conventions.	No reservations or declarations	
C015. Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957	1 June 1959	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C106. Weekly Rest (Commerce and Offices) Convention, 1957	1 June 1959	ILO does not amend conventions	The Government has declared that the Convention also applies to persons employed in the establishments specified in Article 3, paragraph 1	
C107. Indigenous and Tribal Populations Convention, 1957	Ratified on 1 June 1959 and denounced on 5 September 1990 in order to ratify Convention No. 169	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C108. Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention, 1958	11 September 1961	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C110. Plantations Convention, 1958	20 June 1960	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C111. Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958	11 September 1961	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C112. Minimum Age (Fishermen) Convention, 1959	9 August 1961	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C115. Radiation Protection Convention, 1960	19 October 1983	ILO does not amend conventions.	No reservations or declarations	
C116. Final Articles Revision Convention, 1961	3 November 1966	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
C118. Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962	6 January 1978	ILO does not amend conventions	Mexico has accepted Branches (a) to (g)	
C120. Hygiene (Commerce and Offices) Convention, 1964	18 June 1968	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C123. Minimum Age (Underground Work) Convention, 1965	29 August 1968	ILO does not amend conventions	Minimum age specified: 16 years	
C124. Medical Examination of Young Persons (Underground Work) Convention, 1965	29 August 1968	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C169. Indigenous and Tribal Populations Convention, 1989	5 September 1990	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C131. Minimum Wage Fixing Convention, 1970	18 April 1973	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C134. Prevention of Accidents (Seafarers) Convention, 1970	2 May 1974	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C135. Workers' Representatives Convention, 1971	2 May 1974	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C140. Paid Educational Leave Convention, 1974	17 February 1977	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C141. Rural Workers' Organisations Convention, 1975	28 June 1978	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C142. Human Resources Development Convention, 1975	28 June 1978	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C144. Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976	28 June 1978	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C150. Labour Administration Convention, 1978	10 February 1982	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
C152. Occupational Safety and Health (Dock Work) Convention, 1979	10 February 1982	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C153. Hours of Work and Rest Periods (Road Transport) Convention, 1979	10 February 1982	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C155. Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981	1 February 1984	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C159. Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Disabled Persons) Convention, 1983	5 April 2001	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C160. Labour Statistics Convention, 1985	18 April 1988	ILO does not amend conventions.	Articles 7–9, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Part II accepted pursuant to Article 16, paragraph 2, of the Convention	
C161. Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985	17 February 1987	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C163. Seafarers' Welfare Convention, 1987	5 October 1990	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C164. Health Protection and Medical Care (Seafarers) Convention, 1987	5 October 1990	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C166. Repatriation of Seafarers Convention (Revised), 1987	5 October 1990	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C167. Safety and Health in Construction Convention, 1988	5 October 1990	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C169. Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989	5 September 1990	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C170. Chemicals Convention, 1990	17 September 1992	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	
C172. Working Conditions (Hotels and Restaurants) Convention, 1991	7 June 1993	ILO does not amend conventions	No reservations or declarations	

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
C173. Protection of Workers' Claims (Employer's Insolvency) Convention, 1992	24 September 1993	ILO does not amend conventions	The Government of Mexico has accepted the obligations of part II.	
C182. Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999	30 June 2000	ILO does not amend conventions.	No reservations or declarations	

83. The table below contains information on the status of ratification of other international instruments to which Mexico is a party, in particular (i) the conventions of the Hague Conference on Private International Law and (ii) the Geneva Conventions and other treaties on international humanitarian law.

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction	20 June 1991			
Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of Intercountry Adoption	14 September 1994		Mexico submitted a declaration relating to articles 6, 17, 21, 22, 28 and 34.	
Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Geneva Convention)	29 October 1952			
Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Geneva Convention)	29 October 1952			
Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Geneva Convention)	29 October 1952			
Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Geneva Convention)	29 October 1952			

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
Protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the protection of victims of international armed conflicts (Protocol I)	10 March 1983			
Protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the adoption of an additional distinctive emblem (Protocol III)	7 July 2008			
Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Ottawa Convention)	9 June 1998			
Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction	8 April 1974			
Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW)	11 February 1982	Mexico accepted amendment to article 1 on 22 May 2003		
Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I of the CCW)	11 February 1982			
Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II of the CCW)	11 February 1982			

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Acceptance of amendments</i>	<i>Reservations and declarations</i>	<i>Derogations, restrictions or limitations</i>
Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III of the CCW)	11 February 1982			
Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction	29 August 1994			
Convention on Cluster Munitions	6 May 2009			

84. The Government of Mexico recognized the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights through a decree published in the *Official Gazette* on 24 February 1999. Hence, the United Mexican States recognizes as fully and legally binding the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court in matters relating to the interpretation or application of the American Convention on Human Rights.

85. The table below shows cases involving Mexico before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, as of December 2011.

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Inter-American Court of Human Rights

<i>Cases before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights</i>	<i>Active</i>
Petitions not admitted	77
Petitions admitted by the Commission subject to confidential report	12
Cases with confidential report	2
Cases with published report on which recommendations being followed up	7
Petitions resolved through an amicable settlement	7
Precautionary measures	
Ordered by the Commission	37
Pending resolution	52
Subtotal	194
Cases before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights	
Cases before the Court in which judgements are being carried out	6

<i>Cases before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights</i>	<i>Active</i>
Provisional measures ordered by the Court in force and addressed by the Mexican authorities	3
Requests for information	1
Subtotal	10
Total	204

86. Judgements are being carried out in six cases involving Mexico brought before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and provisional measures are being implemented in three cases measures; in one case, a request for information has been submitted asking the Court to assess the validity of provisional measures.

87. The Government of Mexico is also taking steps to address 304 individual cases reported to the United Nations.

B. Legal framework for the protection of human rights at the national level

88. The Federal Government is firmly convinced that the consolidation of democracy hinges on recognition and full respect for human rights, since only in this way can comprehensive development and genuine well-being be achieved for every individual and for society as a whole.

89. Mexico has an extensive regulatory and institutional framework for the protection of human rights, which has evolved and grown stronger as a result of a social dynamic at both the national and international levels characterized by growing dialogue between civil society and the Government. This has led, in the last decade, to greater collective and individual awareness of the importance of respect for and promotion and protection of human rights.

90. Human rights gained a place on the Mexican public agenda only in 1980s. This occurred as a result of pressure on the Mexican Government by national and international social movements, which launched a process of major change in the political life of the country. To date, Mexico has achieved significant progress with respect to the regulatory and institutional framework for human rights.

91. During the last decade, Mexico's Constitution¹⁵ has been amended several times in order to respond to the needs of the population. Noteworthy amendments during the period include, in chronological order: under article 4, recognition of a set of specific rights for children (2000 and 2011);¹⁶ under article 2, express prohibition of any form of discrimination, and under article 2, recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples (2001);¹⁷ under article 3, expansion of basic, free and compulsory education from kindergarten to

¹⁵ Available at: www.ordenjuridico.gob.mx/Constitucion/cn16.pdf.

¹⁶ The amendment to article 4 available at: www.ordenjuridico.gob.mx/Publicaciones/CDs2009/CDConstitucion/html/r-148.html y http://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5213826&fecha=12/10/2011.

¹⁷ The amendment to article 2 available at: www.ordenjuridico.gob.mx/Publicaciones/CDs2009/CDConstitucion/html/r-151a.html.

secondary school (2002);¹⁸ under article 113, recognition of the State's obligation to redress violations of individual rights (2002, but did not enter into force until 2004);¹⁹ under article 18, reform of the juvenile justice system (2005);²⁰ under article 22, abolition of the death penalty (2005);²¹ under article 6, establishment of the foundations and principles for the exercise of the right of access to information (2007); and under article 16, recognition of the right to protection of personal information (2009).²²

92. The most recent period has seen the enactment of three major constitutional amendments with positive impact on human rights: reform of the public security and criminal justice system (2008), reform of *amparo* proceedings (2011) and human rights reform (2011). The gradual implementation of these reforms will lead to significant progress in the harmonization of national legislation with international human rights law.

93. These constitutional and legislative reforms represent an important first step in what is expected to be a long process, entailing profound changes in the structure and functioning of the State apparatus. While the evolution of the legal framework for the protection of human rights in Mexico deserves to be celebrated as a triumph achieved through the efforts of both State institutions and civil society, continued joint work and cooperation by all stakeholders will be required.

94. A human rights reform published in the *Official Gazette* on 18 June 2008 laid the foundation for the establishment of a new criminal justice system in Mexico, one in which the rights of both victims and accused persons are respected. This reform has thus strengthened due process.

95. In particular, the reform launched a transition from an inquisitorial criminal justice system to an adversarial one with oral trials. Such a shift calls for acceptance of the principle that an accused person is presumed to be innocent until he or she has been found guilty by judgement of the judge hearing the case. Other changes include recognizing the right of the accused to choose to make a statement or to remain silent and prohibiting all incommunicado detention, intimidation and torture; establishing the inadmissibility of any confession made without the assistance of legal counsel and any evidence obtained in violation of the fundamental rights of the accused; ensuring a prompt trial, in accordance with the nature of the offence; establishing the defendant's right to, and the State's obligation to ensure, an adequate defence; recognizing the right of the accused to be tried in open court; limiting the time the accused can be held in pretrial detention (*arraigo*); appointing supervisory judges; defining the concept of *flagrante delicto*; establishing the requirement that prosecutors must obtain search warrants from a judicial authority; and regulating private communications. In addition, the reform adopted in 2008 provided for alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in criminal matters, established rules regarding reparation in criminal matters, transformed the social rehabilitation system and established the principle that punishment must be in proportion to the crime or the legally protected interest in question.

¹⁸ The amendment to article 3 available at:

www.ordenjuridico.gob.mx/Publicaciones/CDs2009/CDCConstitucion/html/r-153.html.

¹⁹ The amendment to article 113 available at:

www.ordenjuridico.gob.mx/Publicaciones/CDs2009/CDCConstitucion/html/r-152.html.

²⁰ The amendment to article 18 available at:

www.ordenjuridico.gob.mx/Publicaciones/CDs2009/CDCConstitucion/html/r-165.html.

²¹ The amendment to article 22 available at:

www.ordenjuridico.gob.mx/Publicaciones/CDs2009/CDCConstitucion/html/r-164a.html.

²² The amendment to article 16 available at:

www.ordenjuridico.gob.mx/Publicaciones/CDs2009/CDCConstitucion/html/r-187.html.

96. In view of the scope of the changes required, it was decided that the reform would be implemented over a period of eight years. To date, seven states have adopted the adversarial criminal justice system and another three were scheduled to do so in 2011.²³ The remaining 22 states are in various stages of planning for the implementation of the constitutional reforms in the areas of public security and criminal justice or are in the early stages of reaching political agreement among the authorities and institutions involved. It is important to note that this reform is central to the fight against impunity in Mexico. The new criminal justice system has given rise to new and better tools for strengthening prosecutorial and police investigations in the fight against organized crime, in keeping with international standards.

97. Another very important legislative measure introduced in the area of human rights during this six-year period is the reform of the constitutional provisions relating to the writ of *amparo*. This reform, published in the *Official Gazette* on 6 June 2011, introduced amendments to articles 94, 103, 104 and 107. Its importance lies in the fact that it modified the aim of the writ of *amparo*, which previously was limited to protection of individual rights, but now encompasses the human rights enshrined in the Constitution and all relevant international instruments to which Mexico is a party. The reform also paves the way for collective *amparo* actions, since it extends protection to people other than those directly affected by replacing the current requirement of a “legal interest” (a direct, personal interest) in order to institute *amparo* proceedings with a requirement of a “legitimate interest” (individual or collective legal interest).

98. As a result of this reform, in most cases *amparo* actions will now apply generally to anyone meeting certain criteria and will not be restricted to the party instituting the action. The reform envisages that a writ of *amparo* can be used to protect people against general rules, acts or omissions by public authorities or private parties, regardless of whether the action is filed individually or jointly by two or more people, thus developing the concept of collective interest, which is fundamental to the effective protection of social rights. The reform also provides for sanctions to ensure greater effectiveness in the enforcement of judgements, including the removal or criminal prosecution of an official or authority who fails to comply with an *amparo* decision.

99. Moreover, the *amparo* reform establishes that the Congress must adjust any secondary legislation arising from the constitutional reform within four months of its publication in the *Official Gazette*. The aim of this reform is to ensure that all members of society are able to benefit from the administration of justice and the constitutional protections and to strengthen the capacity of judicial institutions to protect and uphold the human rights enshrined in the Constitution and in international instruments. Respect for the human rights protected as individual rights under the federal Constitution can thus be ensured through the writ of *amparo*. In addition, the Supreme Court hears constitutional challenges and unconstitutionality actions and has, under article 97 of the Constitution, the power to act as a finder of fact on matters potentially constituting serious violations of constitutionally protected individual rights.

100. For its part, the constitutional reform enacted on 10 June 2011 represents an important advance with respect to human rights and clearly demonstrates the Mexican State’s respect for and recognition of these rights. The reform amended articles 1, 3, 11, 15, 18, 29, 33, 89 and 102 of the Mexican Constitution.

²³ The adversarial system began operating in Yucatán on 8 November 2011 and in Guanajuato on 1 September. In Hidalgo, planning and training are under way in preparation for the adoption of the system.

101. The Constitution establishes — under its title one, which concerns human rights — that all persons under the jurisdiction of the State are entitled to full enjoyment of the human rights recognized by the Constitution and by the international human rights treaties to which Mexico is a party. The reform also mandates the inclusion of human rights in public education and establishes the obligation of the authorities to promote, respect, protect and uphold those rights.

102. The reform regulates the restriction of human rights, prohibits their suspension and establishes the rights that may not be restricted under any circumstances. It also amends the constitutional provisions concerning the rights of non-nationals, establishing that they shall enjoy the rights granted to them by the Constitution, including the right of asylum and the right to a hearing before the executive branch may exercise its power to expel them.

103. Lastly, the constitutional reform affords protection to agencies working to protect human rights. Mexican authorities must now disclose their reasons for failing, in a particular situation, to follow the recommendations issued by such agencies. Similarly, each state must ensure that its human rights agencies have budgetary autonomy, legal personality and their own resources. Additionally, the reform envisages participation by society in electing the members of the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH), which is empowered to investigate, when deemed appropriate by the executive branch, acts potentially constituting serious violations of human rights.

104. Another noteworthy legislative reform is the amendment of the Federal Criminal Code and the Federal Code of Criminal Procedure in August 2010, which broadened the scope of compensation for violations of freedom of personal development, personal freedom and normal psychosexual development; eliminated the possibility of release on parole for individuals convicted of corruption, pornography, sex tourism, paedophilia and procuring for prostitution involving persons under 18 years of age; and classified corruption, pornography, sex tourism, paedophilia and procuring for prostitution involving persons under 18 years of age as serious crimes.

105. In October 2008, the executive branch of the federal Government put forward a constitutional reform initiative aimed at empowering federal authorities to try criminal cases normally falling under state jurisdiction when they relate to violations of national security, human rights or freedom of expression and when such cases, because of the way in which they are committed and their impact on society, transcend the local level. The aim of this reform was to prevent impunity in such cases. The Chamber of Deputies, meeting in plenary session on 11 November 2011, approved the proposed reform, which amends article 73, section XXI of the Constitution, giving the federal Government jurisdiction over crimes against journalists.

106. The list of rights contained in the Constitution has been fully incorporated into the constitutions of the country's 32 federal entities, either through an express clause recognizing the federal constitutional rights and international treaties or through an extensive list of recognized rights. However, there remain challenges in harmonizing local constitutions and legislation with respect to human rights.

107. The death penalty was abolished in 2005 through amendments to article 14, second paragraph, and article 22, first paragraph of the Constitution. The death penalty had not been applied in Mexico since 1961, and as part of the strengthening of human rights, on 16 April 2004 the Senate adopted an amendment removing it from the Code of Military Justice. In 2007 Mexico deposited its instrument of ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, adopted in New York on 15 December 1989, which establishes the commitment of the States adopting the Protocol not to execute any person within their

jurisdiction and to take all necessary measures to abolish the death penalty within their jurisdiction.

C. Framework within which human rights are promoted at the national level

108. The National Development Plan 2007–2012, the implementation of which is obligatory for the federal Government, includes a strategy incorporating a gender perspective aimed at ensuring full respect for human rights and promoting their protection through harmonization of laws, prioritization of attention to vulnerable groups, campaigns for human rights and the development of a specific programme on the matter.

109. Among the efforts undertaken to strengthen human rights in the country, on 31 August 2008 the Government of Mexico published by decree the National Human Rights Programme 2008–2012, which was developed following an inclusive process of consultation involving 29 federal administrative agencies, human rights experts, academics and members of civil society.

110. The Programme incorporates a gender perspective and includes strategies, lines of action, indicators and targets aimed at: (a) strengthening the human rights perspective in public policies of the federal Government, (b) strengthening and institutionalizing legal and administrative mechanisms to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights, (c) developing a culture oriented towards respect for and protection of human rights and (d) strengthening compliance with international obligations arising from human rights treaties and instruments.

111. Implementation of the programme is mandatory for federal Government officials within their respective areas of responsibility. This obligation also extends to parastatals, in accordance with the applicable legal provisions.

112. The National Human Rights Programme provides for the creation of a system for evaluating the human rights activities of federal administrative entities and agencies. The Ministry of the Interior, through the Commission on Government Human Rights Policy (CPGMDH), is responsible for periodically reviewing the Programme's progress, the results of its implementation and its impact on the achievement of the objectives of the National Development Plan and for making any needed course corrections.

113. The Commission on Government Human Rights Policy, created by means of a presidential order published in the *Official Gazette* on 11 March 2003,²⁴ is a permanent body which serves as a forum for dialogue between federal administrative authorities and civil society organizations for the formulation of public policies on human rights.

114. At a meeting on 18 December 2008, the members of the Commission agreed to establish a Subcommittee for Monitoring and Evaluation of the National Human Rights Programme. The Subcommittee comprises a technical group and four working groups, which monitor and evaluate work undertaken in respect of each of the objectives set out in the Programme. The Subcommittee was formally established on 29 January 2009. Its membership includes 38 federal institutions and 25 civil society organizations.²⁵

115. The national human rights institution in Mexico is the National Human Rights Commission, established in 1990. The Commission is in full compliance with the Paris

²⁴ www.dof.gob.mx/index.php?year=2003&month=03&day=11.

²⁵ For additional information see: www.derechoshumanos.gob.mx/es/Derechos_Humanos/Comision_de_Politica_Gubernamental_en_Materia_de_Derechos_Humanos.

Principles relating to the status of national institutions and has an “A” rating. An additional 32 human rights institutions have been established in the states and the Federal District: 17 enjoy full autonomy and have their own legal personality and resources, nine have technical and budgetary autonomy, and six state-level public agencies are autonomous only with respect to the recommendations they make. Achieving the full autonomy of these state institutions, as stipulated in the human rights reforms adopted in 2011, remains a challenge.

116. From January 2007 to December 2011, the National Human Rights Commission issued a total of 396 recommendations, of which 287 (72.47 per cent) were accepted. The highest percentage of recommendations accepted was in 2011, when the Commission issued 95 recommendations, of which 87 (91.6 per cent) were accepted.

117. Of the recommendations issued in 2011, 75 were directed at federal administrative agencies and 95 per cent of those recommendations were accepted.

118. The Federal Institute for Access to Public Information was established in 2003 to ensure universal access of public information.

D. Reporting process at the national level

119. The Government has always complied with the guidelines for reporting to the treaty bodies of the United Nations in keeping with Mexico’s obligations as a State party to the various international instruments which it has signed and ratified.

120. The lead agency in the subject area concerned has primary responsibility for producing Mexico’s report to the respective treaty body, although the Ministry of Foreign Affairs plays a supporting role in compiling the reports and in some circumstances functions as the lead agency, such as, for example, in the case of reports on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols and the report submitted to the Human Rights Council for the universal periodic review process.

121. In the specific case of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the National System for Comprehensive Family Development and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, jointly coordinated the preparation of Mexico’s combined fourth and fifth periodic reports.

E. Information on non-discrimination and equality

122. For the Government of Mexico, protection and promotion of the human rights of individuals and, especially, the elimination of all forms of discrimination are priorities.

123. Mexico has signed and ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. The Convention was adopted and opened for signature and ratification by the General Assembly on 21 December 1965. In accordance with its article 19, the Convention entered into force on 4 January 1969. Mexico signed it on 1 November 1966 and ratified it on 20 February 1975.

124. On 16 September 1996, Mexico accepted the amendments to article 8 of the Convention, adopted on 15 January 1992 during the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention.

125. Mexico has recognized the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under the procedure referred to in article 14 of the Convention. The decree approving Mexico’s declaration to that effect was published in the *Official Gazette* on 17 January 2002.

126. To date, the Government of Mexico has complied with the submission of all its periodic reports. Mexico's combined 16th and 17th periodic reports were submitted in June 2010. Its appearance before the Committee took place in February 2012.

127. The fight against discrimination is an essential aspect of the effort to consolidate democracy in Mexico. Consequently, the government has promoted legislative, judicial, administrative and other measures in order to address the discrimination that is known to exist in the country. The purpose of the legislative reforms against discrimination introduced to date has been to put in place protection mechanisms designed to eliminate long-standing forms of discrimination and at the same time to prevent and neutralize the negative effects of more recent events and issues. Mexican law prohibits all forms and manifestations of discrimination, including racial discrimination and xenophobia.

128. An amendment to article 1 of the Constitution, published on 14 August 2001, added a third paragraph containing a clause prohibiting discrimination on grounds of ethnic or national origin, sex, age, disability, social status, health status, religion, opinions, preferences, marital status or any other form of discrimination that might undermine human dignity or seek to nullify or impair the rights and freedoms of individuals. The aim of this amendment is to protect and compensate all individuals and groups who, because of some type of prejudice or structural condition, are in a position of disadvantage.

129. On 26 November 2002, the federal Government proposed the Federal Act to Prevent and Eliminate Discrimination, which was adopted unanimously and published in the *Official Gazette* on 11 June 2003. This Act gave rise to the establishment of the National Council for the Prevention of Discrimination (CONAPRED), which formally came into being on 27 March 2004, as the federal agency responsible for implementing non-discrimination policy throughout the country.

130. The Federal Act to Prevent and Eliminate Discrimination contains provisions aimed at preventing and eliminating all forms of discrimination and promoting equality of opportunity and treatment. It also lists discriminatory forms of conduct that are prohibited and sets out positive and compensatory measures that public bodies and federal authorities should take in order to ensure equality of opportunity for various groups that historically have been disadvantaged.

131. The Act stipulates that discrimination will be understood to mean any distinction, exclusion or restriction on the basis of ethnic or national origin, sex, age, disability, social or economic status, health condition, pregnancy, language, religion, opinions, preferences sex, marital status or any other basis that might impair or nullify the recognition or exercise of rights or real equality of opportunity. Discrimination is also understood to include xenophobia and anti-Semitism in all its manifestations.

132. Other recent laws have amended the non-discrimination provisions of the Constitution and the Federal Act to Prevent and Eliminate Discrimination.

133. Since the addition in 2001 of the third paragraph of article 1 of the Constitution, various states have also amended their constitutions, expressly prohibiting discrimination or establishing the right of equality.

134. Currently 17 federal entities have anti-discrimination laws.²⁶ Another 10 states expressly prohibit any form of discrimination in accordance with article 4 of the Federal

²⁶ Baja California Sur, Campeche, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Colima, Durango, Federal District, Guerrero, Hidalgo, Mexico (state), Michoacán, Nayarit, San Luis Potosí, Tamaulipas, Yucatán, Zacatecas.

Act to Prevent and Eliminate Discrimination,²⁷ and nine prohibit discrimination or inequality in general terms or for specific reasons or circumstances.²⁸

State anti-discriminatory laws, 2011

<i>No.</i>	<i>Federal entity</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>	<i>Date of publication</i>	<i>Date of entry into force</i>
1	Baja California Sur	14 December 2006	31 December 2006	Six months following publication
2	Campeche	21 June 2007	4 July 2007	Three months following publication
3	Chiapas	3 April 2009	3 April 2009	The day following publication
4	Chihuahua	14 June 2007	7 July 2007	1 January 2008
5	Coahuila	26 June 2007	24 August 2007	The day following publication
6	Colima	10 June 2008	14 June 2008	The day following publication
7	Durango	15 December 2009	24 December 2009	Three days following publication
8	Federal District ²⁹	27 April 2006	19 July 2006	The day following publication
9	Guerrero	12 June 2007	20 February 2009	1 April 2009
10	Hidalgo	14 February 2008	10 March 2008	The day following publication
11	Mexico (state)	26 December 2006	17 January 2007	The day following publication
12	Michoacán	18 December 2008	20 February 2009	The day following publication
13	Nayarit	6 December 2005	10 December 2005	The day following publication
14	San Luis Potosí	9 September 2009	19 September 2009	Sixty calendar days following publication
15	Tamaulipas	15 December 2004	29 December 2004	The day following publication
16	Yucatán	24 June 2010	6 July 2010	365 days following publication
17	Zacatecas	29 June 2006	29 July 2006	The day following publication

²⁷ Coahuila, Durango, Guanajuato, Hidalgo, Mexico (state), Michoacán, Nuevo León, Quintana Roo, Tabasco and Yucatán.

²⁸ Chiapas, Jalisco, Morelos, Nayarit, Oaxaca, Puebla, Querétaro, San Luis Potosí and Veracruz.

²⁹ On 10 September 2009 article 138 of the Federal District Penal Code was amended to include section VIII, which establishes that the offences of homicide and bodily harm will be classified according to whether they were committed with unfair advantage, treachery, premeditation or for purposes of retribution and by the means employed, the brutality of the offence, whether the perpetrator was in a voluntarily altered state and whether the act was motivated by hate. Section VIII further provides that a crime of hatred exists when the act is committed for reasons relating to the victim's social or economic status; relationship, affiliation or association with a particular social group; ethnic or social origin; nationality or place of origin; colour or any other genetic characteristic; sex or gender; language; religion; age; opinions; disability; health status; physical appearance; sexual orientation, gender identity; marital status; or occupation or activities.

135. Legislation in 18 states prohibits discrimination on the basis of ethnic or national origin and legislation in 19 states prohibits discrimination on the basis of race: Baja California Sur, Campeche, Durango, Guanajuato, Hidalgo, Jalisco, Mexico (state), Michoacán, Morelos, Nuevo León, Oaxaca, Puebla, Quintana Roo, San Luis Potosí, Sonora, Tabasco, Tlaxcala, Veracruz and Yucatán.

136. Concerning affirmative action, the State has the obligation to introduce mechanisms designed to uphold the rights of and rectify the wrongs suffered by people who have historically been marginalized or subject to discrimination. Chapter 3 of the Federal Act to Prevent and Eliminate Discrimination details the State's duties with regard to ensuring equal opportunities for specific vulnerable groups.
