



The new era of migrations 2005

Characteristics of international migration in Mexico



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National Population Council

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International migration has been a phenomenon of enormous transcendence in the history of humanity. In recent decades, linked to the context of increasing globalization, there are indications suggesting that the characteristics of international migration flows are significantly different from those observed in previous times, in terms of the causes, magnitudes, modalities and implications. For this reason, it is frequently said that we are currently confronting a “new era” of international migrations.

This “new era” of international migration is not exempt from profound implications, tensions and challenges. Issues such as national security, economic development, and protecting the rights of migrants present vital challenges to the societies involved.

In Mexico —simultaneously a country of origin, transit and destination of international migration— there are a number of particularly complex situations. Beyond its well-known tradition of providing asylum and receiving significant contingents of European, South American and Central American immigrants at different points throughout the 20th century, Mexico confronts complicated challenges derived from a considerable flow of *transmigrants* —most of whom are undocumented— who enter and cross national territory on their way to the United States, as well as consideration emigration of Mexicans to the United States.

For countries of origin, migration implies the loss of valuable human capital. The efforts, talents and enterprising spirit of migrants should be dedicated to their own homeland. Creating opportunities for personal development is the most effective way to offer a long-lasting solution to the phenomenon of migration, and consequently, it is vital that this issue be incorporated

into the broader framework of promoting growth in production and employment, as well as in trade and productive investment.

If we take into consideration the extraordinary complexity of migration processes from and to Mexico, and the likelihood that these processes will continue, it becomes necessary to confront this phenomenon with new tools and with comprehensive approaches, and to promote greater knowledge and understandings of its causes and consequences.

With this goal in mind, the *Consejo Nacional de Población* (National Population Council) presents in this volume a series of important indicators regarding the magnitude, evolution, characteristics, modalities, causes and consequences of international migration in Mexico. The challenge to be confronted is no less relevant because of the differences between the various sources of information and the variety of methodologies used and estimates made by the institutions and entities dedicated to studying migration around the world, in Latin America, in the United States and in Mexico. We are certain that the contents of this book will contribute toward stimulating objective analysis and balanced reflection upon the reality of migration in Mexico, thereby contributing to the development of imaginative proposals in this area.

The new era of migration 2005 is the book translation, with the same title, published by CONAPO in 2004, but data have been updated with the most recent sources of information.

Elena Zúñiga Herrera
Secretary General
Consejo Nacional de Población
(National Population Council)

International migration constitutes one of the major global phenomena of our times. The mobility of persons is increasingly greater in our contemporary world, and includes crossing international borders and moving to even far away countries.

International migration occurs primarily among countries with historic links of a social, economic or cultural nature, leading to the formation of regional migratory systems.

Most populational movements in all the geographic regions of the world correspond to motivations linked to the search for better living conditions, and there are diverse, complex structural factors underlying this quest. Migration is also influenced by other factors, including situations of generalized violence, leading to movements of population under forced, involuntary conditions.

The primary determinants of international displacements lie in the interaction of factors that are linked together, such as the supply/expulsion of the labor force from countries of origin, and the demand/attraction in countries of destination, plus the functioning of complex social and family networks.

Currently, international migration flows are increasingly more numerous, and they are significantly different from those occurring in previous periods. The varied range of expressions in this “new era” of migrations includes:

- (i) A continent like Europe that experiences a mutation in its long tradition of emigration, to become a region that receives numerous immigration flows.
- (ii) The gradual predominance, especially since the 1960s, of flows of Latin American, Caribbean and Asian immigrants to the United States.
- (iii) The structuring of a new focal point of immigration in the Persian Gulf, due to the oil crisis of the 1980s.
- (iv) Beginning in the last quarter of the 20th century, the formation of a new region of immigration in the Pacific: not only in Australia and New Zealand —traditionally countries with immigration— but also Japan, plus the four industrial tigers (Taiwan, Singapore, South Korea and Hong Kong), and more recently, Malaysia and Thailand.

This new map—which reveals a strong tendency toward the diversification of routes of origin and destination— seems to point to a genuine internationalization of migration, correlating to a scenario of globalization, and leading to a situation in which broad segments of the population respond increasingly rapidly to distant information and opportunities originating beyond national borders.

This emerging context presents transcendental challenges to modern States. While barriers to the unrestricted circulation of capital and commodities have tended to fade away, there is strong vigilance over the borders of receiving countries, and obstacles are erected to impede the entrance of workers attracted by the intense labor demand.

Currently, there is practically no country in the world that is able to escape the dynamics of migrations or remain detached from its consequences

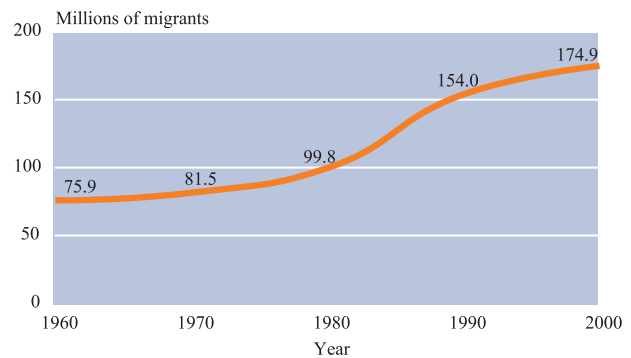
It is estimated that in the year 2000, approximately 175 million persons were living in a country other than their country of birth. This figure is nearly 100 million higher than what had been registered four decades earlier.

The increase in the population of international migrants intensified significantly during the 1980s.

The volume of international migrants increased during the period from 1980 to 1990 at an annual rhythm of 4.3 percent, while during the period from 1960 to 1970, this figure was only 0.7 percent.

During the last decade of the 20th century, the dynamic of growth in the numbers of migrants around the world rose by 1.3 percent annually, representing an increase of nearly 21 million persons in this population during this period.

Volume of international migrants, 1960-2000



Source: United Nations, World Economic and Social Survey 2004, *International Migration*, New York, 2004.

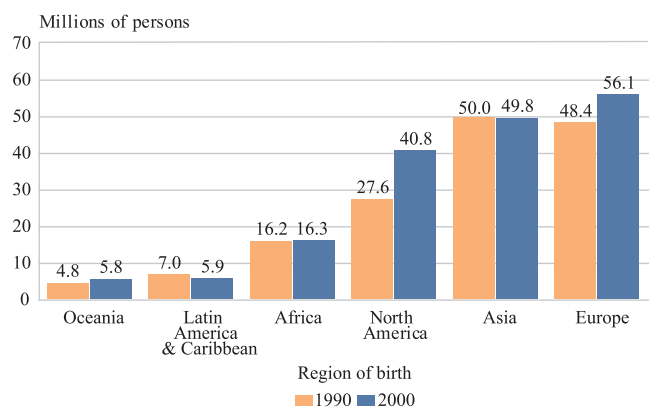
Europe, Asia and North America are the regions with the greatest numbers of international migrants

International migration has extended throughout the entire world, in nearly all the regions of the planet.

Available data indicate that in the year 2000 the regions with the greatest concentrations of international migrants were Europe (56 million), Asia (50 million) and North America (41 million). During the 1990s, Europe and North America experienced the largest increases.

- Nearly 60 percent of the world’s immigrants resided in the most developed countries in the year 2000.
- In that same year, approximately 84 percent of international immigrants were concentrated in Europe, Asia and North America.
- Between 1990 and 2000, the number of immigrants in North America increased by nearly 48 percent, while Europe registered an increase of 16 percent.

Volume of international immigrants, by region, 1990 and 2000



Source: United Nations, *International Migration Report 2002*, New York, 2002.

1

Countries receiving migrants

The United States is the main country receiving migrants

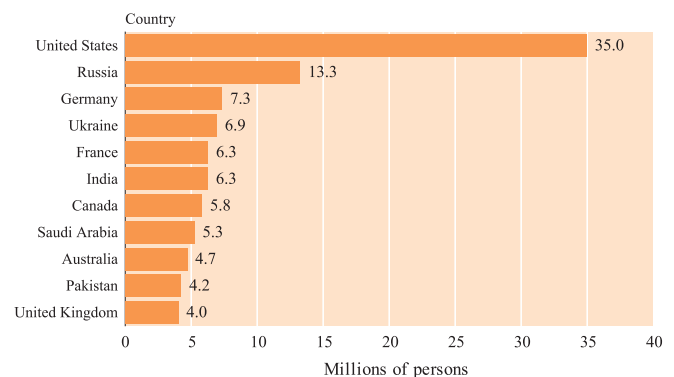
A characteristic of contemporary migration is that displacements of population are produced mostly from developing countries to more developed countries.

The primary receiving countries are those with higher levels of competitiveness at the international and regional levels, with more consolidated work markets, and higher standards of living, among other aspects.

- The United States is the main country receiving migrants in the world. In the year 2000, 35 million immigrants were living there.

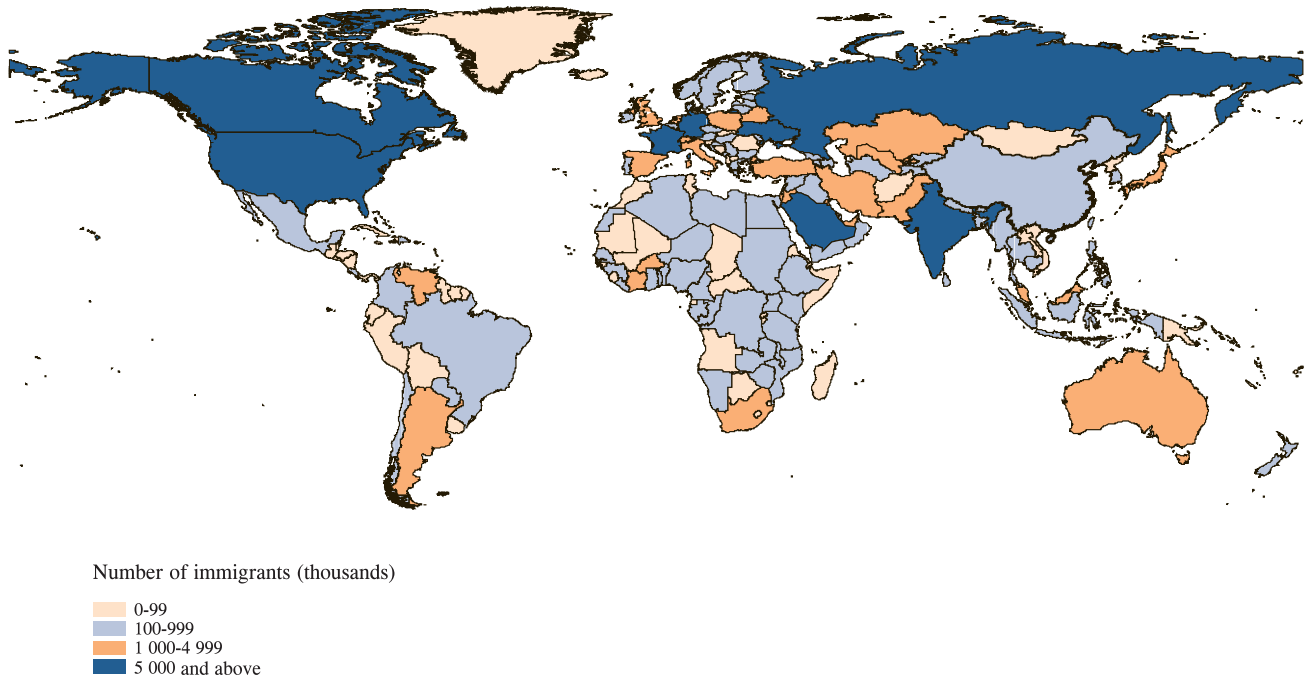
- The next country in terms of number of immigrants is the Russian Federation, with 13 million, followed by Germany, with 7 million.

Volume of immigrants by country, 2000



Source: United Nations, *International Migration Report 2002*, New York, 2002.

Number of immigrants per country, 2000



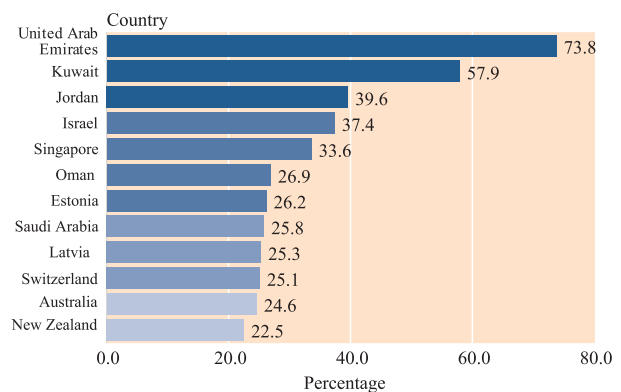
Source: United Nations, *International Migration Report 2002*, New York, 2002.

More than half of the populations of the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait is comprised of immigrants

There are countries especially noteworthy for their high percentages of immigrants with respect to their total populations.

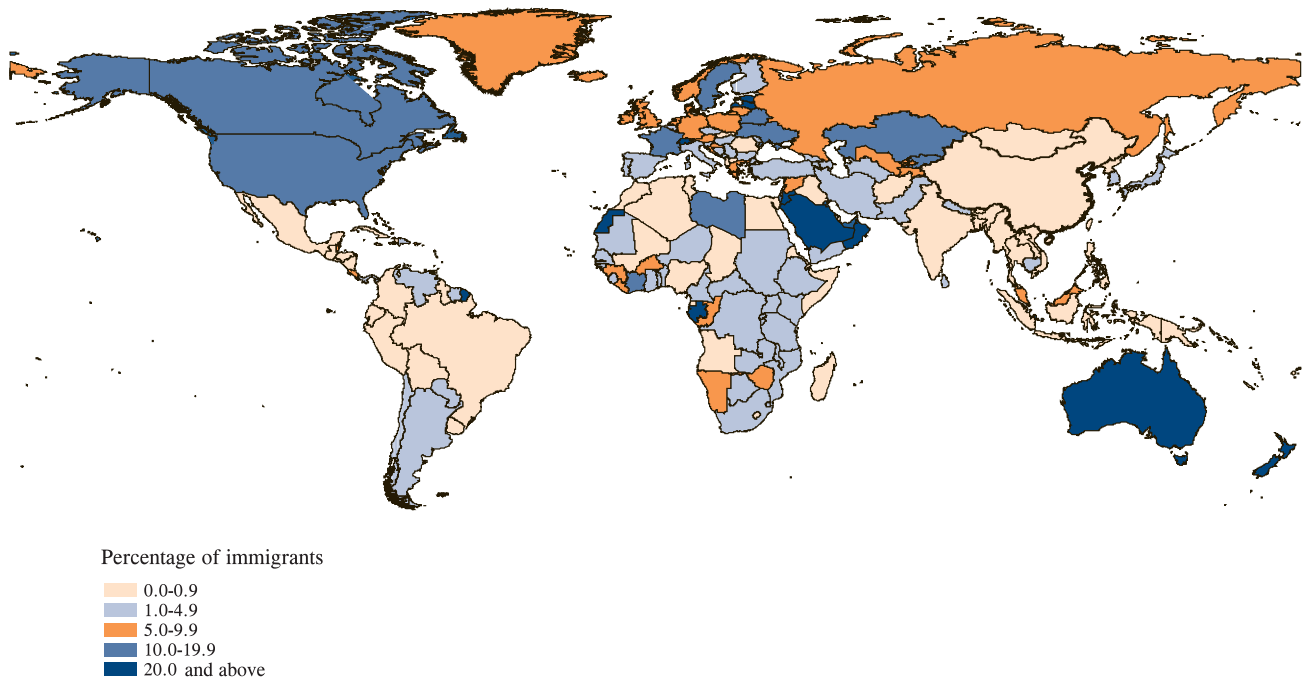
- In some Western Asian countries, the immigrant population surpasses the native population, as in the case of the United Arab Emirates (74%) and Kuwait (58%).
- In Australia and New Zealand the population born in other countries is as high as 25 and 23 percent, respectively.
- In Estonia, Latvia and Switzerland, nearly a fourth of their populations are composed of immigrants.

Percentage representing immigrants in relation to total population of receiving country, for selected countries, 2000



Note: Countries included are those with a million or more inhabitants.
Source: United Nations, *International Migration Report 2002*, New York, 2002.

Percentage of immigrants in relation to total population of each country, 2000



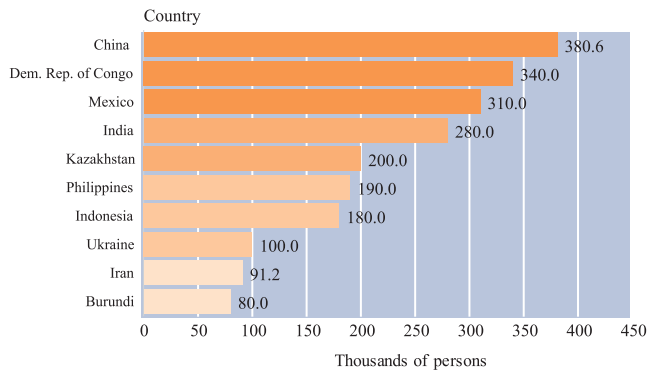
Source: United Nations, *International Migration Report 2002*, New York, 2002.

China, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mexico are the primary sending countries

Mexico is among the ten countries of the world with the greatest annual net loss of population due to international migration. It is in third place, surpassed only by China and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

In each of these three countries, the annual net loss during the five-year period from 1995 to 2000 was higher than 300 000 persons per year.

Countries with the greatest net losses due to migration, annual averages for 1995-2000 period



Source: United Nations, *International Migration Report 2002*, New York, 2002.

The history of Latin America and the Caribbean is inextricably linked to migrations and intense commercial, financial, scientific and technical contact with the rest of the world

The countries of this region have been historically open to migrations, and have provided refuge to millions of migrants when national conflicts, world wars or changes in political regimes have placed the integrity of individuals in danger for reasons of religion, race, or political affiliation or ideology.

More recently, international migration in the Latin American and Caribbean region has manifested some important changes and characteristics, including the following:

- (i) The flows of migrants from this region intensified during the second half of the 20th century, and the patterns of origin and destination have been in a process of transformation.
- (ii) The United States is the primary destination for migrants from this region. It is sufficient to point out that the number of emigrants to that country was multiplied by seven between 1970 and 2000.
- (iii) Extra-continental migration, or in other words, migration originating in the region and directed toward other continents, has also intensified and diversified.
- (iv) Intra-regional migration persists and links societies with profound asymmetries.
- (v) The profile of Latin American and Caribbean migrants is increasingly more heterogeneous.

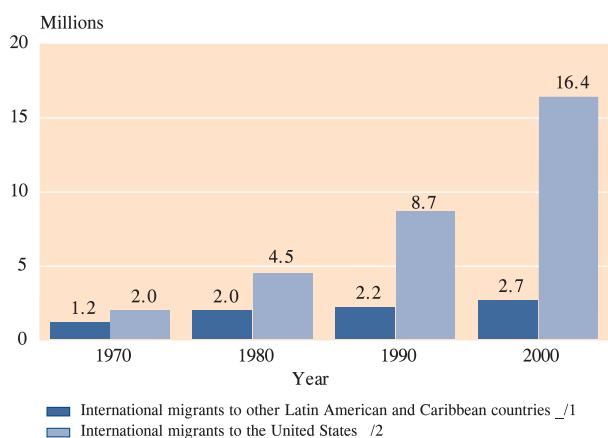
The migration that originates in Latin America and the Caribbean constitutes one of the most complex, challenging realities

Latin America is a major region sending emigrants to various countries and continents.

It is estimated that nearly 22 million persons born in the region reside in a country other than their country of birth.

The majority of Latin American and Caribbean migrants (three out of every four) reside in the United States.

International migrants from Latin America and the Caribbean: intra-regional migration and to the United States, 1970-2000



Sources: 1_/ CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, 5-percent sample 2000.

2_/ CEPAL, *Panorama Social de América Latina y el Caribe*, 2004.

Migration from Latin America and the Caribbean to Europe has intensified in recent decades, and the primary destinations are Spain, the United Kingdom, Holland and Italy.

As well, the presence of many persons from Latin America and the Caribbean has extended to countries such as Canada, in the American continent, and to other continents, in countries such as Australia, Israel and Japan.

Latin American and Caribbean immigrants in Europe and other selected countries, 2000

Country with presence of immigrants	Population
Total for countries (with information)	2 825 348
Australia	74 649
Canada	575 955
Israel	78 259
Japan	284 691
Total for Europe	1 811 794
Germany	87 614
Austria	2 308
Belgium	4 962
Denmark	865
Spain	840 104
France	41 714
Holland	157 745
Italy	116 084
Norway	14 937
Portugal	25 531
United Kingdom	500 000
Sweden	19 930

Source: CEPAL, *Panorama Social de América Latina y el Caribe*, 2004.

Immigrants from Latin America and the Caribbean have become the largest group among the resident foreign population in the United States

Latin America and the Caribbean constitute the region that contributes the greatest number of immigrant residents in the United States, surpassing other sending regions.

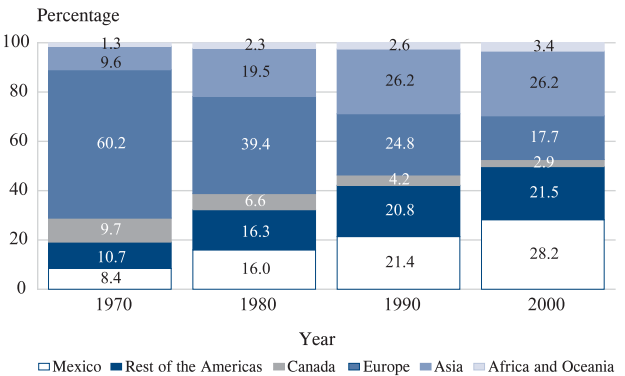
In 1970 the greatest number of immigrants in the United States were still of European origin, representing nearly two thirds of all the immigrants in that country.

Three decades later, practically half (49.7%) of the foreigners residing in the United States are originally from Latin America or the Caribbean.

The largest migration flows to the United States originate in Latin American and Caribbean countries that are located geographically close to that country.

Mexico is by far the first country on the list of the major countries sending migrants to the United States, followed by some Latin Caribbean and Central American countries.

Distribution of resident foreign population in the United States, by region or country of birth, 1970-2000



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, 15-percent sample 1970, 5-percent sample 1980, 1990 and 2000.

Latin American and Caribbean resident population in the United States, by sub-region or country of origin, 1970-2000

Region of birth	Resident immigrant population in the United States			
	1970	1980	1990	2000
Total immigrants ¹	10 438 869	13 976 990	20 626 450	33 055 462
Latin America and the Caribbean	2 000 574	4 492 998	8 680 362	16 431 875
Central America	120 490	382 410	1 192 929	2 093 242
Mexico	878 680	2 235 207	4 409 033	9 325 452
Caribbean	724 548	1 281 147	1 974 717	3 015 971
South America	276 856	594 234	1 103 683	1 997 210
Rest of immigrants	8 438 295	9 483 992	11 946 088	16 623 587

Note: 1 / Not including those who did not specify their country of birth.

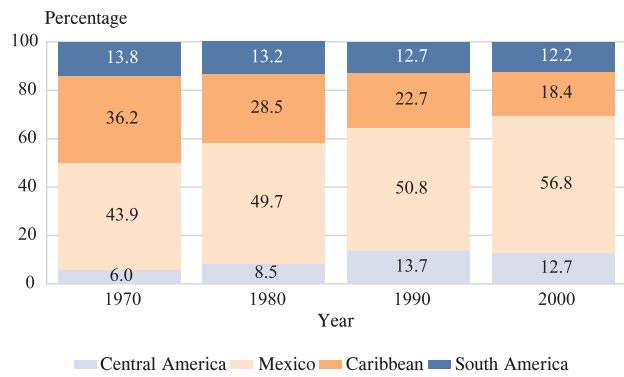
Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *15-percent sample 1970, 5-percent sample 1980, 1990 and 2000*.

Nearly three fifths of Latin American and Caribbean migration to the United States is Mexican in origin

In the regional context, Mexico continues to be the primary country sending migrants to the United States.

Since 1980, Mexicans have represented just over half of the total immigrants originating from the region. The countries next on the list are Cuba and the Dominican Republic, which contribute 5.4 and 4.2 percent of the total immigrants, respectively.

Distribution of Latin American and Caribbean resident population in the United States, by sub-region or country of birth, 1970-2000



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, 15-percent sample 1970, 5-percent sample 1980, 1990 and 2000.

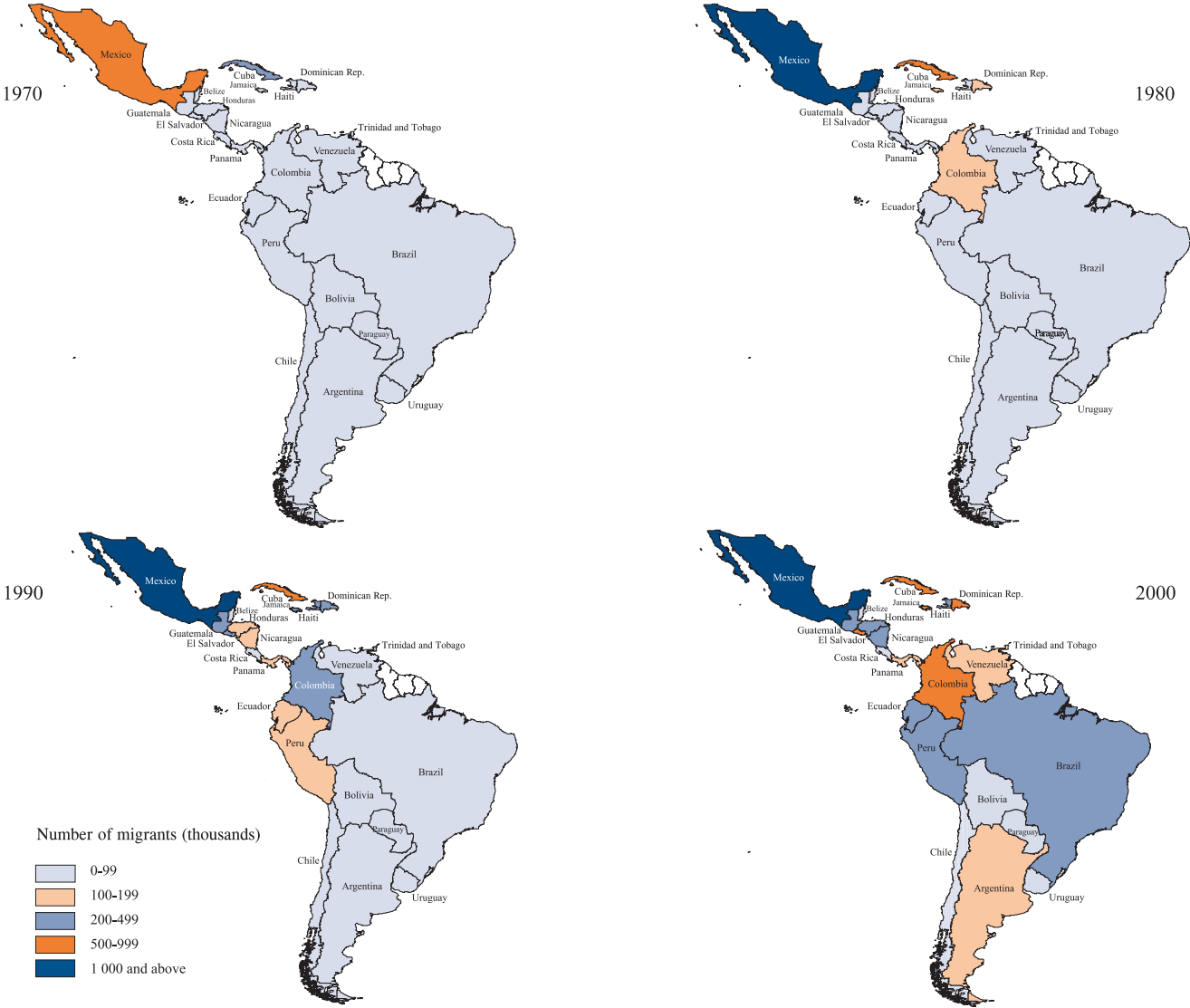
The Central American and Mexican populations living in the United States register the greatest increases during the last three decades

The size of the migrant population from Central American countries has multiplied more than 16 times during the last three decades.

The number of Mexican migrants has multiplied by nearly ten times.

South Americans have multiplied their numbers by more than six times, and immigrants from the Caribbean have multiplied their numbers by three.

Volume of population born in Latin America and the Caribbean resident in the United States, by country of origin, 1970-2000



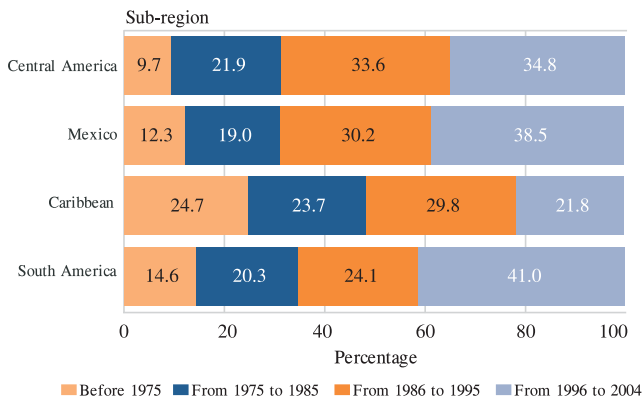
Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, 15-percent sample 1970, 5-percent sample 1980, 1990 and 2000.

Most of the Latin American and Caribbean migrants living in the United States arrived there recently

More than half of the Latin American and Caribbean migrants residing in the United States arrived there since 1986.

Of immigrants originating from the Caribbean, one out of every two entered the United States since 1986. In the case of immigrants originating from South America, this proportion is nearly two thirds.

Distribution of Latin American and Caribbean immigrants residents in the United States, by sub-region of origin and period of arrival, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

The migrants living in the United States represent a significant proportion of the total population of their countries of origin

The loss of population represented by emigration to the United States has significant demographic effects on the countries of origin.

The more than 9 million Mexican migrants living in the United States in the year 2000 represented approximately 9.4 percent of the population living in Mexico that year.

In Central America, countries such as Belize and El Salvador registered highly significant proportions in this regard: 18 and 13 percent, respectively.

And, the number of migrants from Honduras, Nicaragua and Guatemala living in the United States was equivalent to 4 percent of the respective populations in those countries.

Jamaica, the Dominican Republic and Cuba constitute the most seriously affected countries in the Caribbean region: the equivalent of 22.0, 8.3 and 7.9 percent, respectively, of the populations in those countries was living in the United States in the year 2000.

Percentages representing Latin American and Caribbean populations residents in the United States in relation to the total populations of their countries of origin, 2000



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, 5-percent sample 2000; and CELADE, *Proyecciones de población, 1950-2050*. Available at this web page: www.eclac.cl/celade/proyecciones/basedatos BD.htm

The profile of immigrants differs according to the place of origin

Of the population born in the region that is residing in the United States, there are more males than females: specifically, there are 111 men for every 100 women. This characteristic is fundamentally associated with Mexican and Central American migration, since in contrast, among immigrants from the Caribbean and South American countries, there are 85 and 100 men, respectively, for every 100 women.

Practically half of the immigrants from the region are of an economically active age (between 25 and 44 years of age).

The age structure of the population from Mexico and Central America is similar to the regional pattern. Immigrants from the Caribbean and South America are characterized by an older age structure (average age of 44 and 38 years, respectively, in relation to an average age of 36 years for the overall region).

Mexican and Central American immigrants have levels of schooling that are equivalent to 12 years or less, at 86% and 76%, respectively. In contrast, South American

immigrants have higher levels of schooling: slightly over half have more than 12 years of schooling.

The population of 15 years of age and older from the region maintains an elevated level of economic participation (nearly 70 percent). The largest proportion of unemployed workers is found among Mexicans and Central Americans, and the smallest proportion among South Americans.

Most immigrants from the region are incorporated into activities in the tertiary sector. Immigrants from South America and the Caribbean participate predominately in this sector (86% and 78%, respectively).

Approximately two thirds of the employed Mexican and Central American population works in tertiary sector activities.

With the exception of Mexican migrants, there is basically no economic participation by immigrants from the region in the primary sector.

Latin American and Caribbean population and the population born in Mexico resident in the United States, by selected characteristics, 2004

Characteristics	Total	Latin America and the Caribbean			
		Central America	Mexico	Caribbean	South America
Sex	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Males	52.7	53.0	55.2	45.9	50.1
Females	47.3	47.0	44.8	54.1	49.9
Male index	111	113	123	85	100
Age groups	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 to 14 years	7.3	5.1	8.6	4.6	7.8
15 to 24 years	15.8	16.3	17.5	11.3	14.0
25 to 44 years	48.7	52.3	52.2	38.2	43.8
45 years and over	28.1	26.2	21.8	45.9	34.3
Average age (years)	36.0	36.2	34.2	43.7	38.3
Schooling ¹	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 10 years	39.9	41.3	52.7	19.5	12.1
10 to 12 years	35.5	34.2	32.9	42.8	36.7
Technical / Higher ²	12.8	13.8	09.1	18.0	19.9
Professional and graduate	11.9	10.7	05.3	19.7	31.2
Condition ³	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Economically active population	68.6	73.0	68.6	63.0	72.6
Employed	63.9	69.2	63.4	58.2	69.0
Unemployed	4.7	3.8	5.2	4.7	3.6
Economically inactive population	31.4	27.0	31.4	37.0	27.4
Sector of activity	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Primary	3.0	0.5	5.0	0.3	0.1
Secondary	29.9	31.2	36.1	14.1	21.9
Tertiary	67.1	68.3	58.9	85.6	78.0

Notes: 1_ / Population of 25 years and over.

2_ / Including technical careers, and those who have attended or graduated from universities.

3_ / Population of 15 years and over.

Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

Intra-regional migration flows

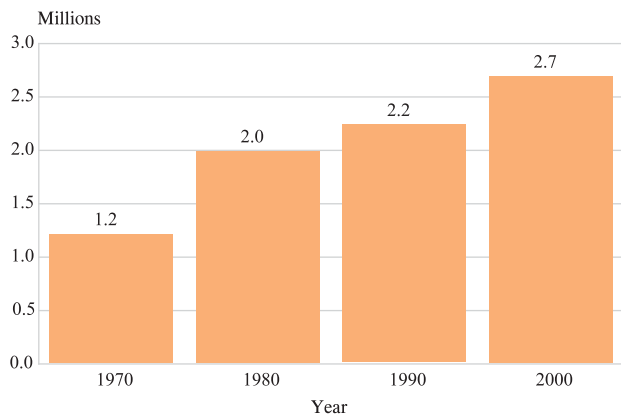
There is a long historic tradition of exchanges of population among Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Among the most significant intra-regional migration flows are the following:

- Argentina has traditionally received migrants from neighboring countries such as Bolivia, Paraguay, Chile and Uruguay.
- Colombians are registered as moving to bordering countries such as Venezuela, Ecuador and Panama. Social violence in Colombia has become an important factor that provokes significant displacements of the population.
- Costa Rica receives flows of immigrants from Nicaragua, and this tendency was especially intense in the 1970s and 1980s due to the armed conflicts in Nicaragua.
- Belize receives immigrants from El Salvador and Guatemala.
- Increasingly, Central American migrants use Mexico as a transit platform territory on their way to the United States.
- The migration of Haitians to the Dominican Republic is one of the most significant migration flows in the Caribbean region.

There was a vigorous increase in intra-regional migration between 1970 and 1980 (approximately 64%). In contrast, there has been only a modest increase during the last two decades.

Volume of intra-regional migrants from Latin America and the Caribbean, 1970-2000



Source: CEPAL, *Panorama Social de América Latina y el Caribe*, 2004.

Underlying the emigration of Mexicans to the United States —historically characterized as a primarily labor process— there are diverse and complex structural factors, such as the economic asymmetry and interdependence between the two countries.

Since the early 1970s, modifications began to emerge in the emigration of Mexicans to the United States, in terms of magnitude, modalities and characteristics, consequently opening up a new cycle in the dynamics of this phenomenon.

During recent decades, there has been a significant increase in the intensity and magnitude of this migration. Both the Mexican areas of origin and the US areas of destination, as well as the corresponding migration routes, have multiplied and become more diversified. At the same time, this migration has begun to take on a more permanent (and less circular) nature, and it has become increasingly more urban.

The configuration of these transformations in migration patterns should be understood within the notion of “changes within continuity”. In other words, these transformations maintain connecting lines to historic patterns, and do not signify a break with previous patterns or a diametrical change of course.

The emergence of new migration patterns between Mexico and the United States is linked to some important economic, social, demographic and political transformations, such as: successive economic crises and the restructuring of Mexico’s economic model; the change to an increasingly

more urban country; profound transformations in the US economy, especially during the 1990s; the anticipated and unanticipated consequences from the application of US immigration policy; the economic impact from trade agreements and treaties with the United States and other countries; and the general context of increasing globalization.

Migration between Mexico and the United States can be classified, according to time factors, into two major groups:

- (i) Individuals who migrate to the United States and set up a fairly established residence in this neighboring country to the north (permanent migrants or settlers); and
- (ii) Migrant workers who do not have an established residence in the United States, but who regularly enter and exit US territory, to work or look for work (temporary migrants or sojourners).

This distinction is more a matter of degree than of type, since many temporary migrants may eventually become permanent migrants. However, this is a relevant distinction since it allows for defining some conceptual boundaries that are helpful when measuring or interpreting the results of this migration, and evaluating its effects on the communities of origin and of destination.

An attempt will be made in this chapter and the following two chapters to identify some of the primary characteristics of the members of both of these groups.

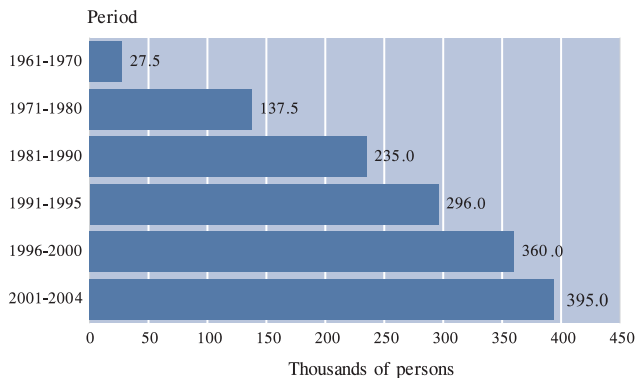
The net balance of migration reached unprecedented figures in Mexico in the four-year period from 2001 to 2004

An initial expression of the new migration patterns is the notable increase in the magnitude and intensity of the phenomenon of Mexico-United States migration.

There was a notable increase in the annual net loss of Mexican population due to migration to the United States during the last four decades of the last century. This migration increased from an annual average of slightly less than 30 000 persons during the 1961-1970 period, to 395 000 persons during the 2001-2004 period.

This last figure reveals a net loss that is 13 times higher than that observed in the 1960s.

Annual net loss of Mexican population due to Mexico-United States migration, by period, 1961-2004



Source: 1961 to 1995: Commission Reform-USA and SRE-Mexico, 1997, *Estudio Binacional México-Estados Unidos sobre Migración*; from 1995 to 2004: CONAPO estimates based on *Proyecciones de Población 2000-2050*, 2002.

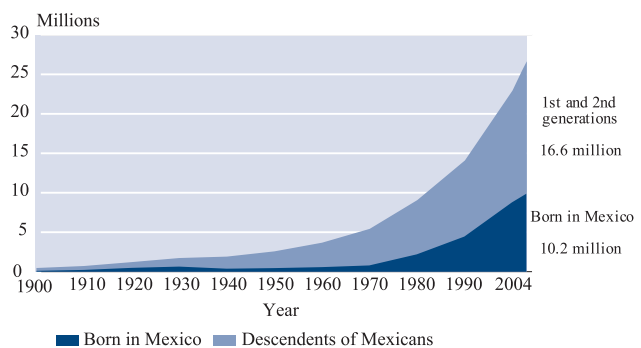
Between 1970 and 2004, the population of Mexican origin residing in the United States increased from 5.4 million to 26.8 million

The rhythm of the growth of the Mexican population residing in the United States during the last three decades is unprecedented in Mexico's demographic history.

There were 879 000 persons in this population in 1970, and this number increased to 10.2 million by 2004.

If the descendants of Mexican immigrants are also considered in these figures, it is estimated that the population of Mexican origin residing in the United States increased from 5.4 million to 26.8 million in this same period. Of the latter, 16.6 million were born in the United States (8.3 million children were born to Mexican immigrants, and 8.3 million are second generation and beyond).

Mexican population or population of Mexican origin resident in the United States, 1900-2004



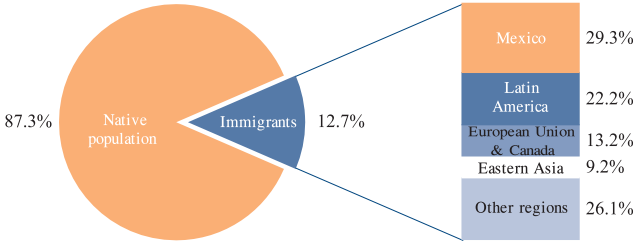
Source: From 1900 to 1990: based on Rodolfo Corona Vázquez, *Estimación de la población de origen mexicano que reside en Estados Unidos*, El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, November 1992. 2004 figure: CONAPO, *Proyecciones de población 2000-2050*, 2002; and U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

Mexicans constitute the main national group of immigrants in the United States

The 10.2 million Mexican residents in the United States in 2004 represent 3.7 percent of the total US population, and approximately 29 percent of the immigrant population.

These figures identify Mexico as the country with the greatest number of its national residents in the United States, at a higher percentage than any of the world’s major regions: Latin America (22%), European Union and Canada (13%), and Eastern Asia (9%).

Resident population in the United States, by country or region of birth, 2004



Total resident population in the United States: 288 280 465

Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

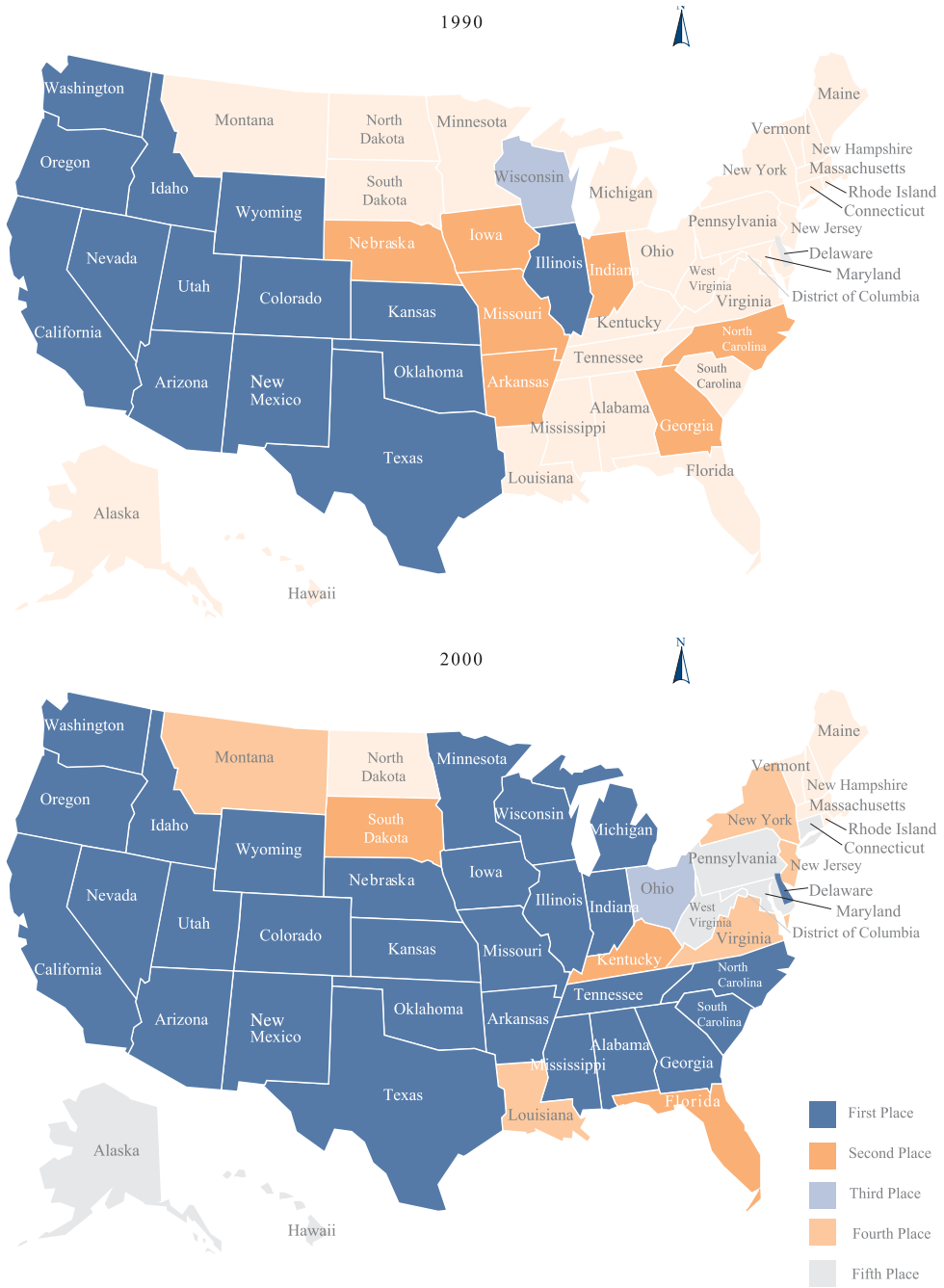
The predominance of the Mexican population among the immigrant population in the United States is reproduced throughout most of US territory

The growing intensity of migration has contributed to increasing the visibility of Mexicans in nearly the entire US territory.

While in 1990, Mexicans were among the five most numerous groups of immigrants in 23 states (in the US), by 2000 their presence had extended to 42 states.

Mexican immigrants are the most numerous of all immigrant groups in 29 states, and are in second place in three other states, in third place in one state, in fourth place in five states, and in fifth place in four states.

US states in which Mexican immigrants are among the five largest immigrant groups, 1990 and 2000



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, 5-percent sample, 1990 and 2000.

3

Regions of destination

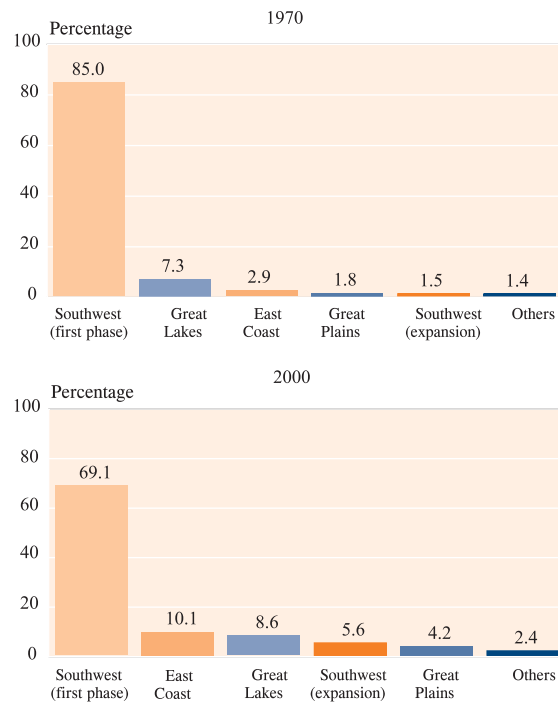
The increasing diversification in the regional destination of Mexican immigration in the United States constitutes one of the most novel features of the “new era” of migration between the two countries

The notable increase in the number of Mexicans in the United States is no longer restricted to the traditional receiving regions, but instead this migration has expanded throughout the entire territory of Mexico’s neighboring country (see Regionalization in the Annexes).

The region made up of California, Texas, Arizona and New Mexico, defined as the “first phase” Southwest region, has continued over time to register the greatest concentration of Mexicans. However, this region is noticeably losing relative importance in this regard. Thus, while in 1970, 85 percent of native Mexicans were concentrated in this region —and this percentage was maintained at a fairly similar level until 1990— this figure had decreased to 69 percent by the year 2000.

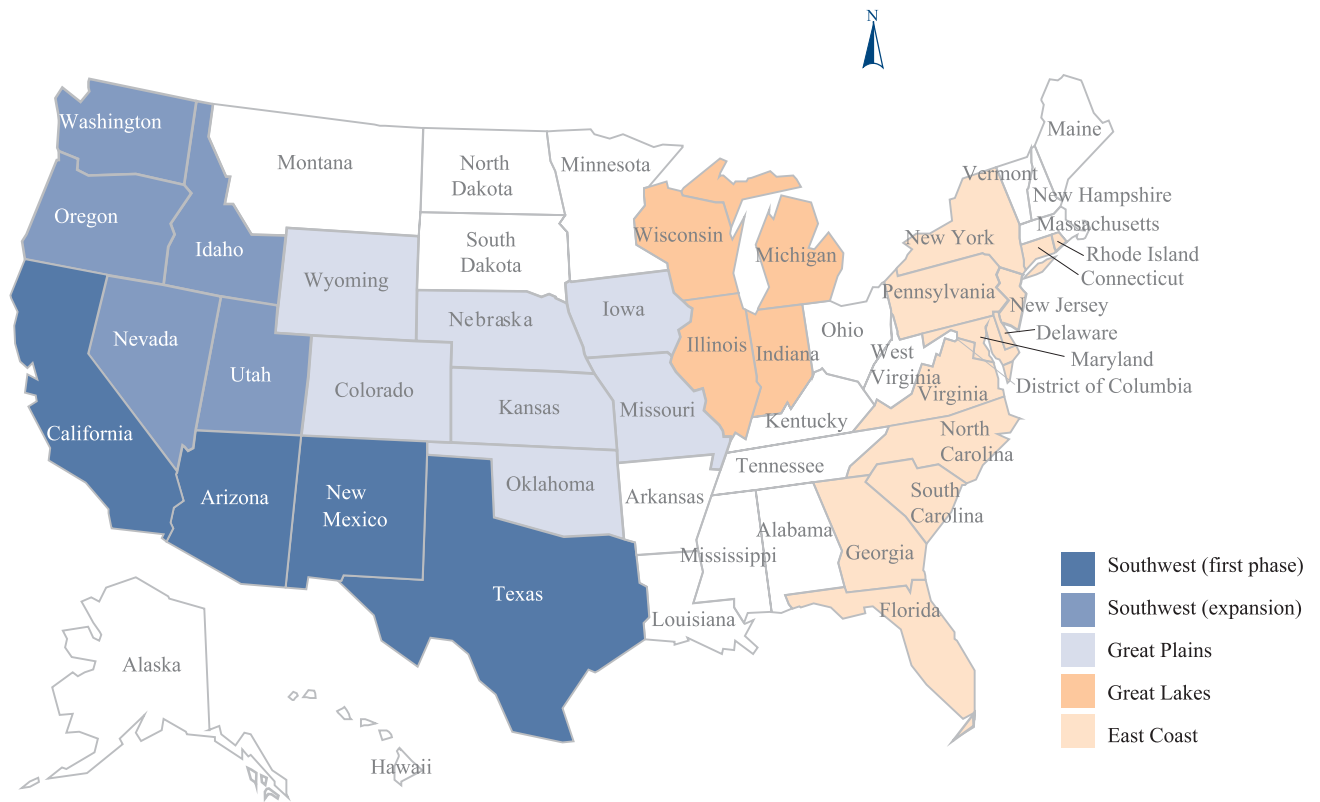
At the same time, the East Coast region absorbs 10 percent of Mexicans residing in the United States; the Great Lakes region, 9 percent; the new “expansion” Southwest region, 5.6 percent; the Great Plains region, 4.2 percent; and other regions, 2.4 percent.

Distribution of Mexican population resident in the United States, by region of residence, 1970 and 2000



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, 15-percent sample 1970, and 5-percent sample 2000.

Regions of residence of Mexican population in the United States

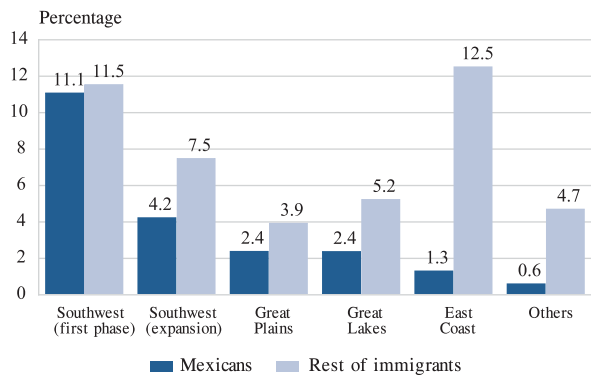


Source: CONAPO, estimates based on Durand, Jorge and Douglas S. Massey, *Clandestinos. Migración México-Estados Unidos en los albores del Siglo XXI*, 2003.

More than one out of every ten persons residing in the border states of the US Southwest region are Mexicans

The relative importance of Mexican migrants in relation to the total population for each region is particularly visible in the “first phase” and “expansion” Southwest regions (11.1% and 4.2%, respectively).

Proportion represented by Mexican immigrants and immigrants of other nationalities, with respect to the total population of region of residence, 2004

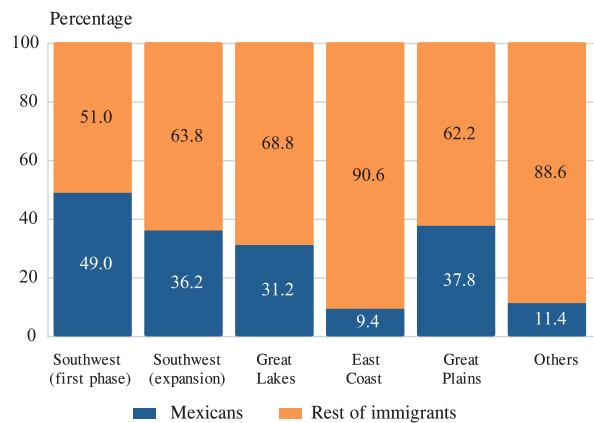


Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

Nearly five out of every ten immigrants residing in the US Southwest region are Mexicans

There is no doubt that Mexican immigrants are the most numerous among the foreign population in the United States, in both the “first phase” Southwest and Great Plains regions (49% and 38%), as well as in the “expansion” Southwest (36%) and the Great Lakes (31%) regions.

Distribution of resident foreign population in the United States, by national origin, according to region of residence, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

The migration of Mexicans to the United States takes place at the national level in both countries

The incorporation of new micro-regions, municipalities and states that were not involved in international migration—or only marginally so—only two or three decades ago, signifies that this is no longer a regional process, but a clearly national one.

The consequences of the spreading of the migration phenomenon can now be observed in almost Mexico’s entire national territory.

- In the year 2000 it was only possible to find small archipelagos consisting of 93 municipalities that did not register any intensity at all in migration to the United

States, and they were primarily located in Mexico’s South-Southeast region.

- In the remaining 2 350 municipalities, there was already some type of contact with the United States, to a greater or lesser degree. Of this total, 492 municipalities registered high or very high migration intensity; 392 registered medium intensity, and 1 466 municipalities exhibited low or very low migration intensity.

This fact constitutes one of the most important changes characterizing the “new era” of migration.

Regionalization of Mexico, by origin of migration



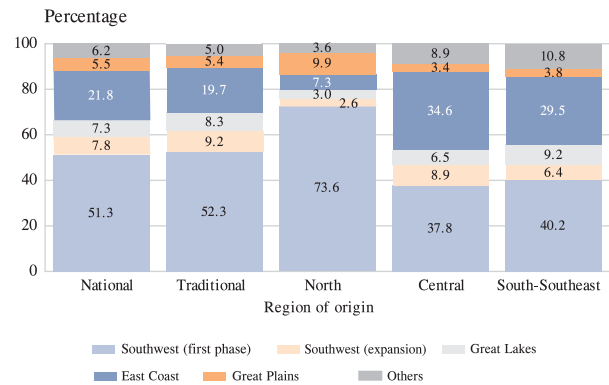
Source: Estimates by CONAPO, 2004.

The areas of origin and destination of migration are more diversified, and migration routes have multiplied

Data provided by the Migration Module in the National Employment Survey (*Encuesta Nacional de Empleo-ENE*) of 2002, in reference to the migration flows originating in various regions of Mexico during the five-year period from 1997 to 2002, corroborates the diversification of destinations in the United States.

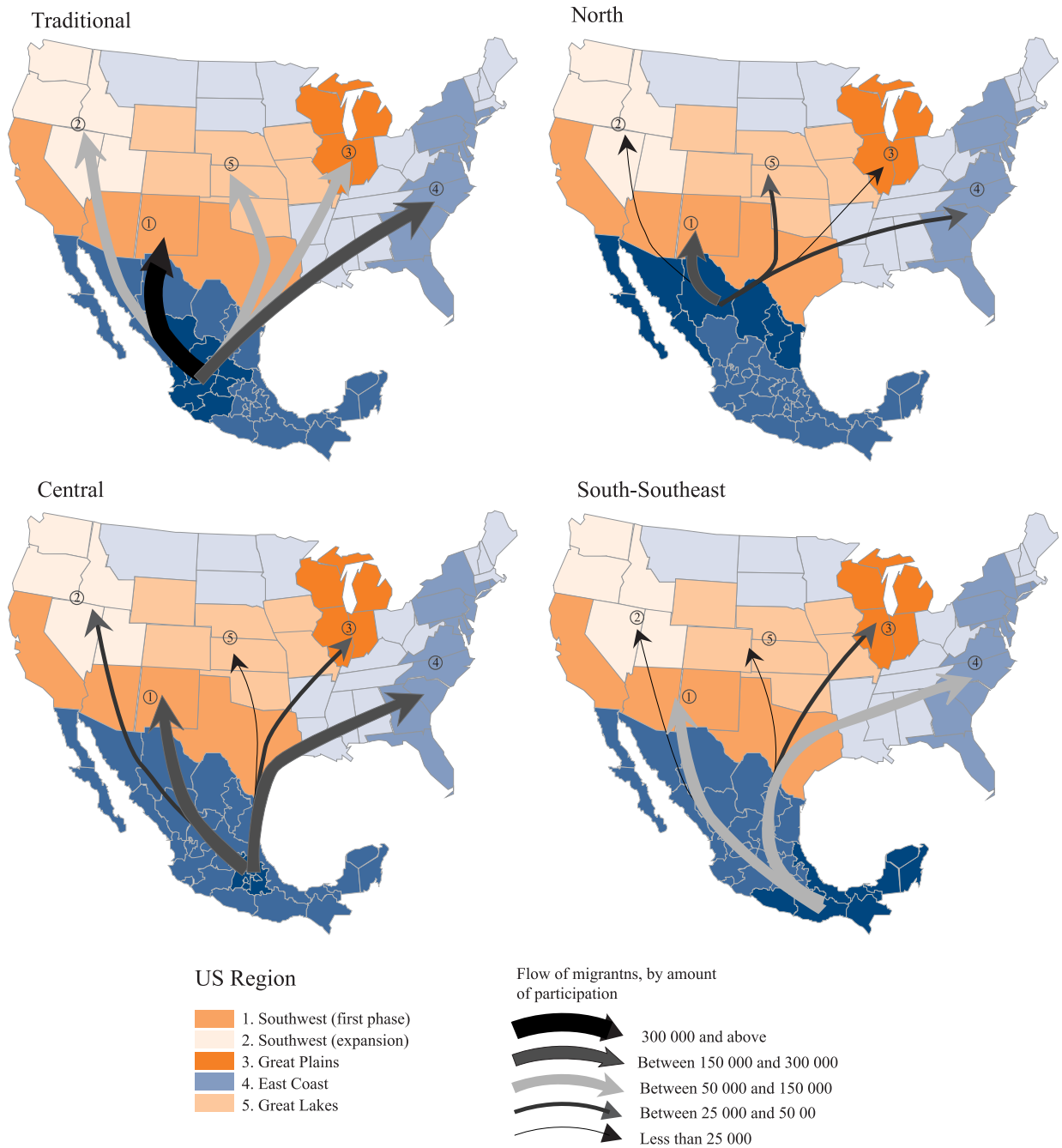
- The primary migration flows from Mexico’s four regions (North, Central, Traditional and South-Southeast) are directed toward the “first phase” Southwest region of the United States.
- The region made up of the US East Coast states is emerging as the second most important destination, with flows of more than 150 000 migrants from 1997 to 2002, originating from the Traditional and Central regions of Mexico, and more than 50 000 originating from the South-Southeast region.
- The Great Lakes and Great Plains regions of the United States are poles of attraction for migrants from the Traditional, Central and South-Southeast regions of Mexico.

Mexican population that established residence in the United States between 1997 and 2002, by region of origin, according to region of destination, 2002



Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI *Encuesta Nacional de Empleo (ENE)*, Migration Module, 2002.

Principal Mexico-United States migration flows, by region of origin, according to region of destination, 1997-2002



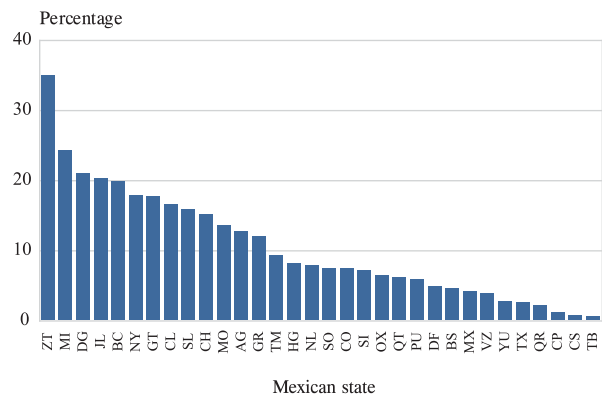
Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, *Encuesta Nacional de Empleo (ENE)*, Migration Module, 2002.

A significant proportion of the population of some Mexican states is residing in the United States

In order to have an approximate idea of the magnitude of the migration phenomenon in some Mexican states, it is important to point out, for example, that in 2004, the population born in Zacatecas and residing in the United States represented 35 percent of the population residing in that state.

After Zacatecas, the Mexican states with the next largest numbers of migrants residing in the United States are Michoacan (its migrants represent one out of every four); Durango, Jalisco, and Baja California (one out of every five); Nayarit and Guanajuato (one out of every six).

Percentage representing the population resident in the United States in relation to the population resident in the Mexican state of origin, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on *Proyecciones de Población 2000-2050*, 2002.

Most Mexican immigrants are young men at economically active ages

The differences between the demographic structures of the native population and immigrant populations are notorious.

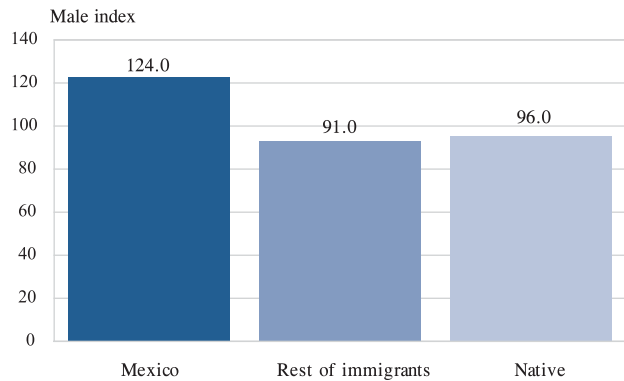
The pyramid of the population born in the United States presents a profile in which two out of every three (64%) are of adult age. The population with ages at the two extremes —both less than 15 years of age (23%) and 65 years of age and older (13%)— make up the remaining third.

There are more females than men, with 96 men for every 100 women.

In contrast, the composition of the immigrant population by age and sex registers an extensive concentration at the ages between 20 years and 44 years. This corresponds to the fact that primarily young adults are involved in migration, with limited participation by the population at the two age extremes.

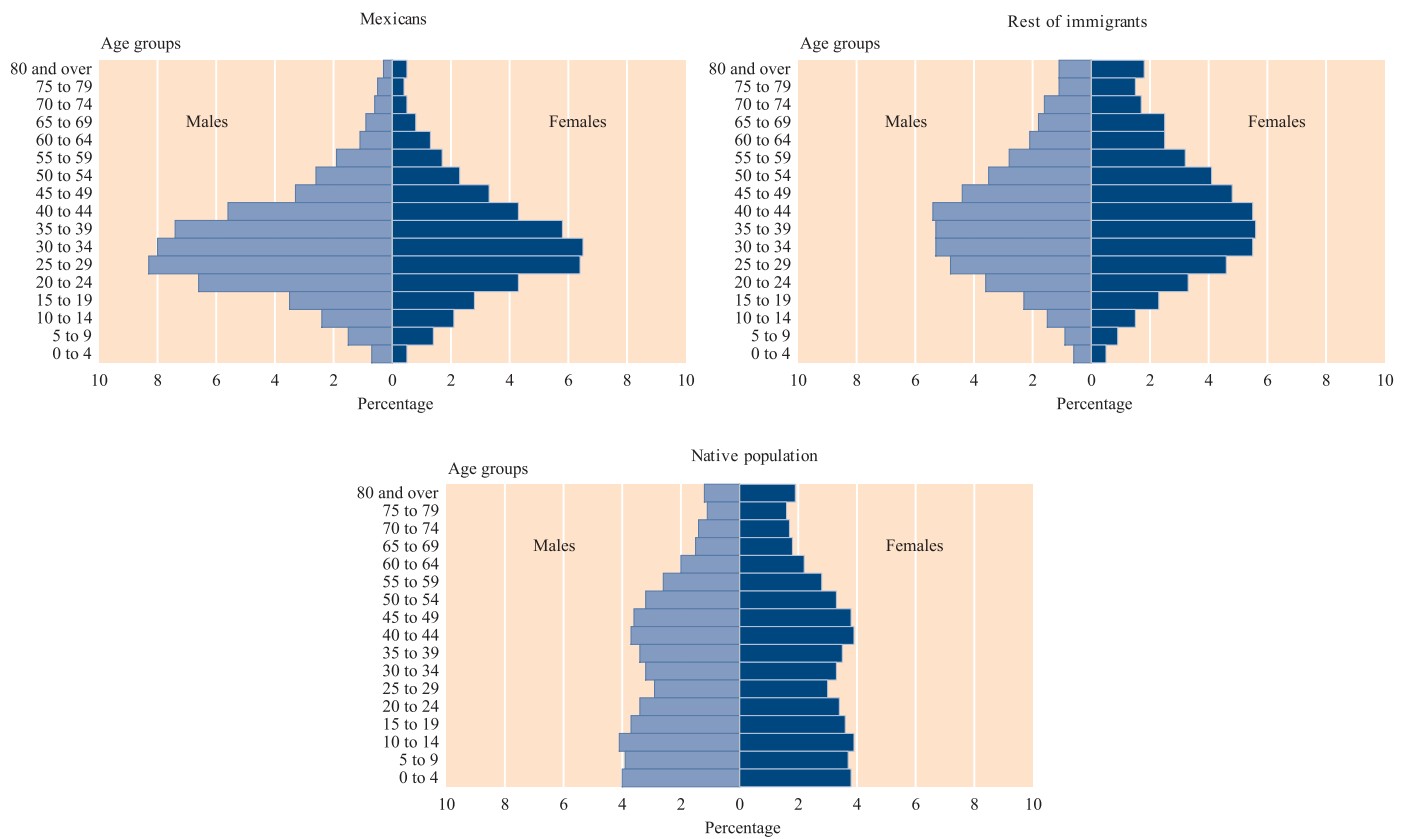
The Mexican immigrant population is characterized by its predominantly economic profile, with a concentration of young people and adults (70% are between 15 and 44 years of age), and more men than women (124 men for every 100 women).

Male index for native and immigrant populations (from Mexico and other countries), residents in the United States, 2000



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, 5-percent sample, 2000.

Pyramids of native and immigrant populations (from Mexico and other countries), residents in the United States, 2000



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, 5-percent sample 2000.

Slightly more than half of Mexican immigrants who are 25 years old and over have less than ten years of schooling

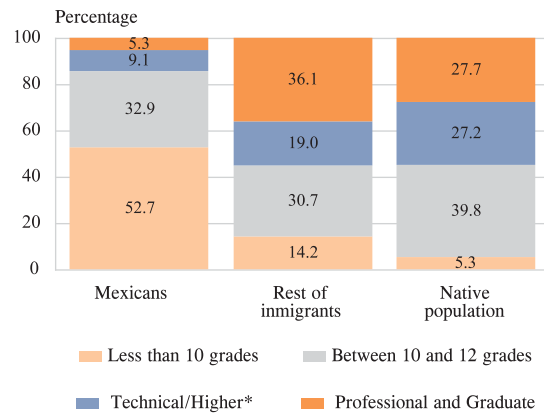
Mexican immigrants have a disadvantageous situation in terms of education, in relation to the rest of immigrants and to natives of the United States.

- Approximately 53 percent of immigrants who were born in Mexico and who are older than 24 years of age have up to nine years of schooling, and 33 percent have between ten and twelve years of schooling. In other words, the level of schooling for 86 percent of Mexicans is up to 12 years.
- In contrast, the proportions corresponding to the rest of immigrants and to natives of the United States are 45 percent in both cases.

This disadvantageous situation for Mexicans is also established by the fact that only five percent has a professional or graduate level of schooling. This proportion is seven times below that of the rest of immigrants and six times below that of the native population.

Because Mexicans lag behind educationally, their participation in the labor market is in low-skilled activities, and this means they receive low wages, and their integration into US society is under less favorable conditions.

Distribution of native and immigrant populations (from Mexico or other countries), 25 years old and over, residents in the United States, according to level of schooling, 2004



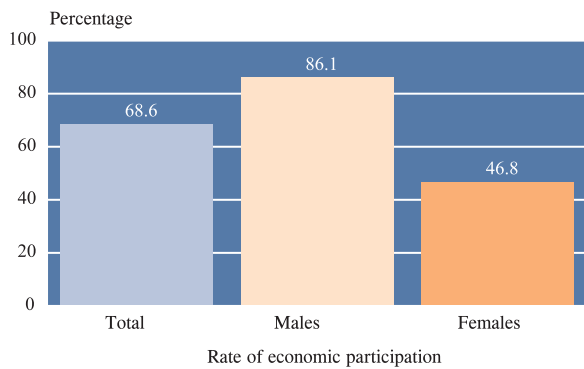
Note: *Level associated with occupational, professional and university programs.
 Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, March 2004.

There is a demand in the US labor market for the Mexican work force

Mexican emigration to the United States is strongly determined by the profound, marked contrasts between the two countries in terms of wages and employment. Once Mexicans are in the United States, they register high levels of participation in economic activities. In this regard, the 2004 *Current Population Survey* provides the following data:

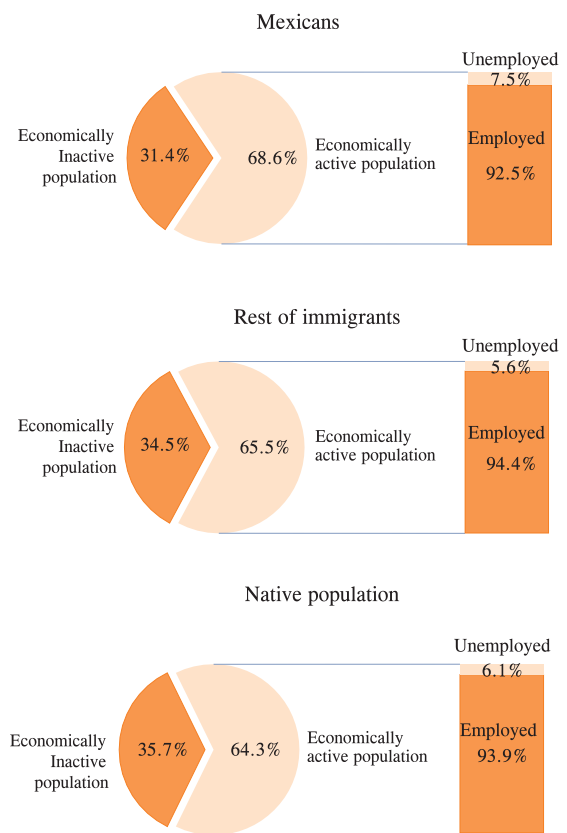
- More than two out of every three Mexican immigrants who are of 15 years of age and older, and who are residing in the United States, are economically active. This signifies that 6.2 million Mexican residents of 15 years of age and older, residing in that country, carry out some type of labor activity.
- Approximately 90 percent of the economically active population born in Mexico and residing in the United States is employed. This indicator reveals the considerable demand in the US labor market for the Mexican work force.

Rate of economic participation of Mexican population, 15 years old and over, resident in the United States, by sex, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

Native and immigrant populations (from Mexico and other countries), 15 years old and over, residents in the United States, by economic activity, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

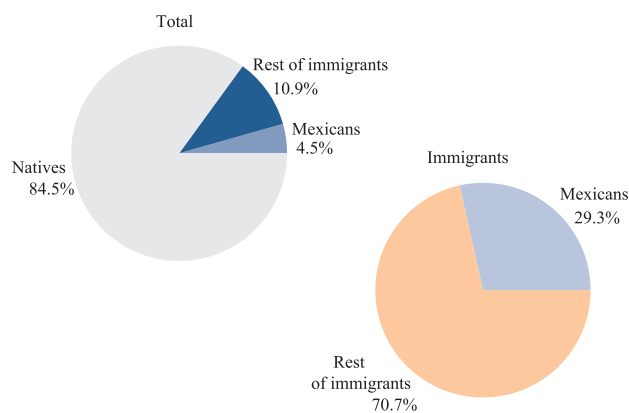
Approximately five percent of the US labor force is made up of Mexican immigrants

Mexican immigrants play a fundamental role in the US economy.

Of the 137.4 million persons employed in the United States, 6.2 million were born in Mexico, and represent 4.5 percent of the total labor force and 29.3 percent of the immigrant labor force in the United States.

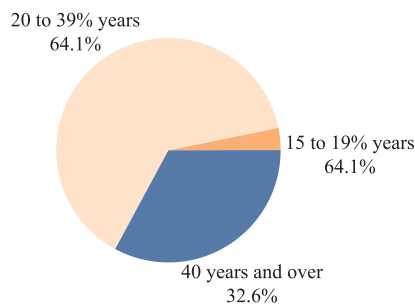
- Most of the Mexican labor force in the United States is composed of males (70.5%).
- Nearly two thirds of employed Mexicans are young adults, with ages between 20 and 39 years.

Distribution of employed native and immigrant populations (from Mexico and other countries), 15 years old and over and residents in the United States, and distribution of employed immigrant population, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

Distribution of employed Mexican population resident in the United States, 15 years old and over, by age groups, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

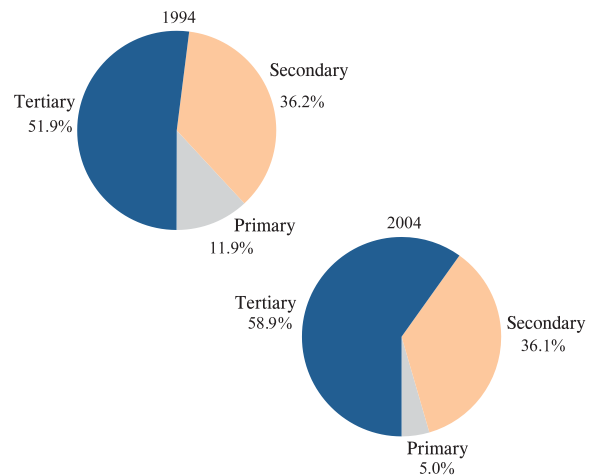
Mexican migrants work primarily in activities in the secondary and tertiary sectors

One of the important changes in Mexican migration to the United States is the greater diversification in terms of employment and sector in migrants' place of destination.

The presence of Mexican workers in agricultural jobs in the United States has diminished significantly, while their presence has increased in the secondary and tertiary sectors.

- Between 1994 and 2004, the participation of Mexicans in the primary sector decreased from 11.9 to 5.0 percent.
- The participation of Mexican workers in the tertiary sector increased from 52 to 59 percent in this same period.

Distribution of employed population born in Mexico and resident in the United States, 15 years old and over, by sector of activity, 1994 and 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, March 1994 and 2004.

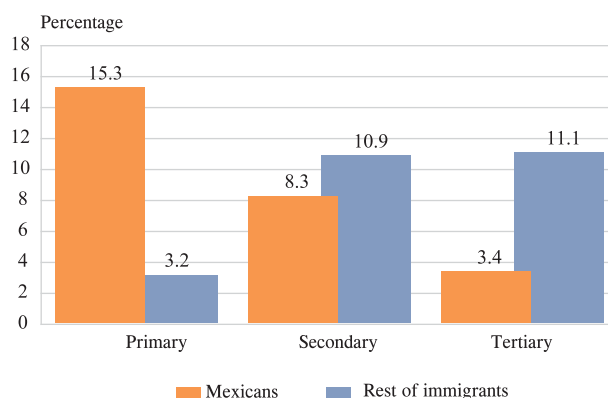
One out of every thirteen workers in the primary sector in the United States is Mexican

Slightly more than 15 percent of the workers in the US primary sector are Mexican, and 83 percent of the immigrants who work in this sector are Mexican immigrants.

Approximately 8 percent of the labor force in the secondary sector are Mexican workers, and 43 percent of the foreign population working in this sector are Mexican workers.

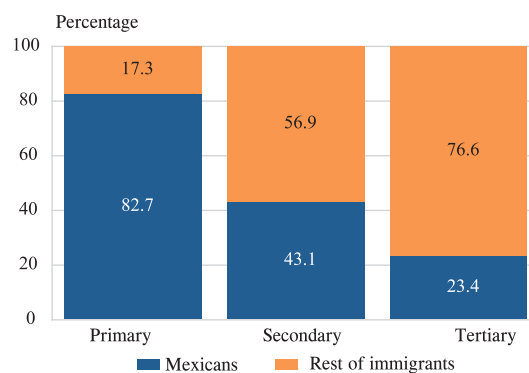
There is less presence of Mexican workers in the tertiary sector, both in relation to all workers in this sector, and to the immigrant labor force working in this sector (3.4% and 23.4%, respectively).

Proportion represented by the foreign labor force (Mexicans and other nationalities), in relation to the total resident labor force in the United States, by sector of activity, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, March 2004.

Distribution of the Mexican labor force and that of other countries in relation to the total resident foreign labor force in the United States, by sector of activity, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, March 2004.

Mexicans tend to be concentrated in manual occupations with low remuneration

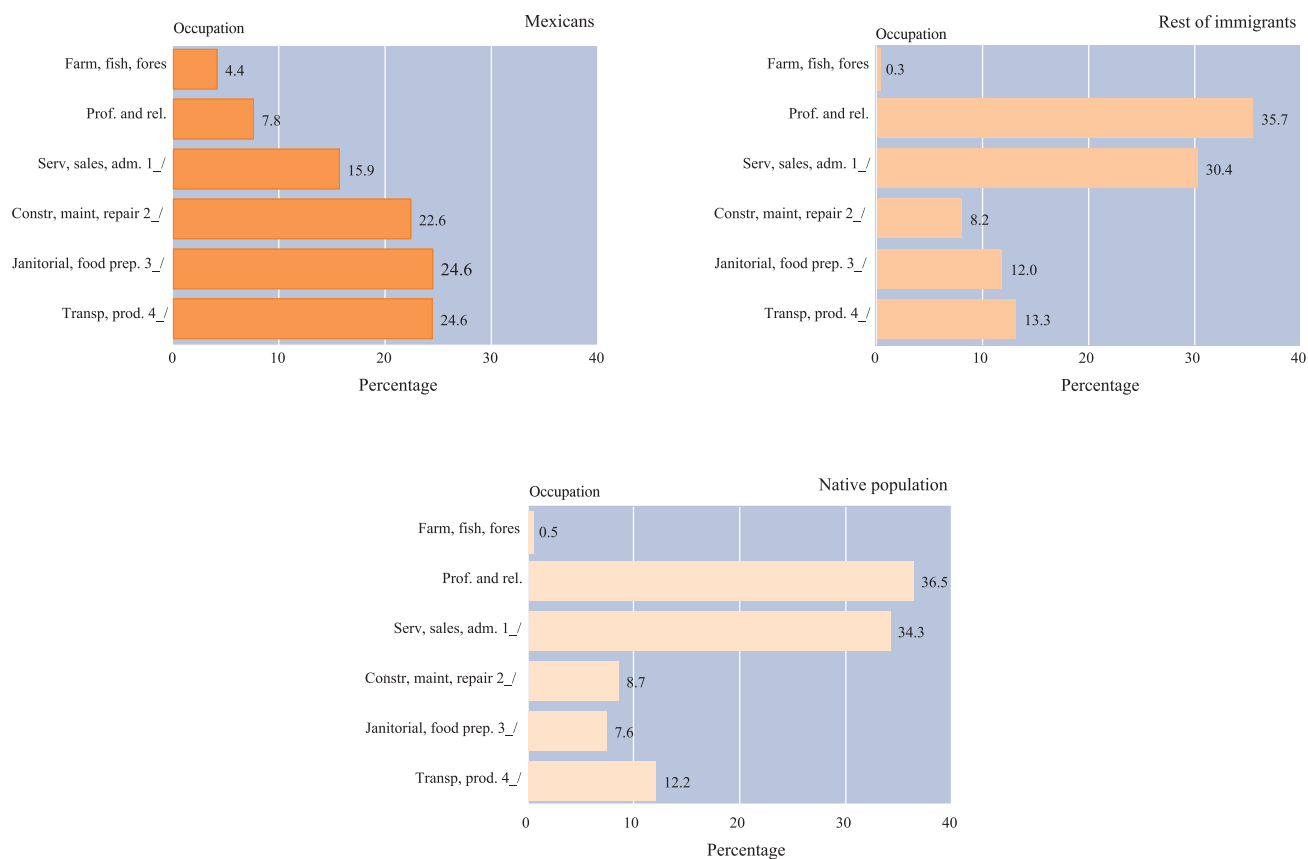
Mexican immigrants are characterized by working at mostly manual occupations with little specialization:

- Nearly 25 percent are in occupations involving food preparation and janitorial tasks.
- A similar proportion (25%) works at occupations in production and transportation.
- Slightly less than 23 percent work at occupations in construction, maintenance and repair.

These indicators contrast with those characterizing other immigrants, as well as the population born in the United States. Thus, for example, only 8 percent of Mexicans are in professional positions (managers, administrators, professionals and technicians), while among other immigrants, this figure is almost 36 percent.

Finally, it is especially revealing that a significant number of Mexican migrants tend to work at less skilled jobs than those they carried out in Mexico before going to the United States. This is indicative of the impact of the enormous wage gap between the two countries on the decision to emigrate.

Distribution of native and immigrant population (from Mexico and other countries) employed, 15 years old and over, resident in the United States, by category of occupation, 2004



Notes: 1_/_ Including health care services, protection-oriented occupations such as detectives, inspectors, police, supervisors, correctional officers, etc., and occupations involving child care, hair styling, funeral services, recreational services, animal care, etc.

2_/_ Including production operators and supervisors, electrical and electrical-mechanical assemblers, metal structure builders, computer operators and programmers.

3_/_ Including doormen, janitors, domestic workers.

4_/_ Including transportation and mobile occupations.

Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, March 2004.

There are niches in the US labor market for the Mexican labor force

There are a number of generally low-skilled, low-waged occupations that are labor niches for the Mexican labor force.

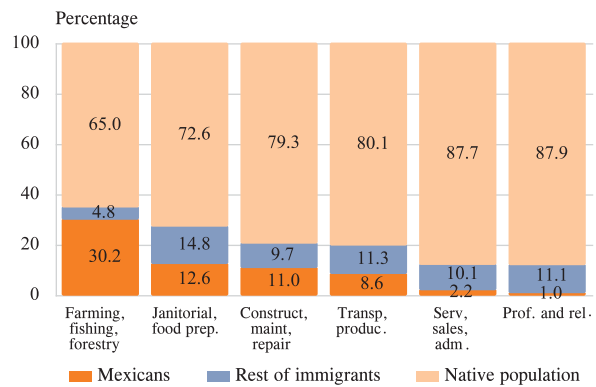
Participation by Mexican immigrants is particularly notable in janitorial work and food preparation; transportation and production; and construction, maintenance and repair.

Their participation is also significant in farming, fishing and forestry activities, in which nearly one out of every three workers is a native of Mexico.

In relation to other immigrants, there is a nearly total predominance of Mexicans in agricultural occupations, and nearly half of immigrant workers in the occupations listed above are Mexican workers.

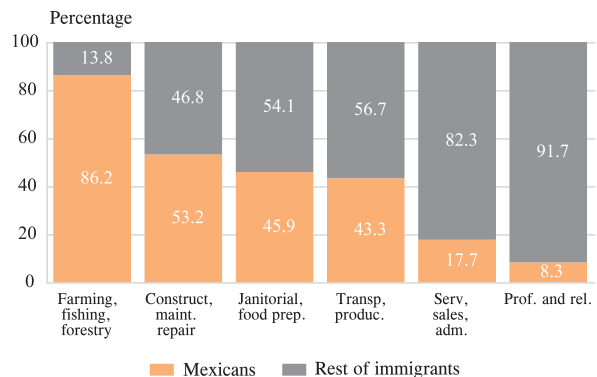
In contrast, the participation of Mexican workers in professional services and in services, sales and administration is more reduced, representing 8 and 18 percent of all immigrants employed in these occupation areas, respectively.

Distribution of employed population, 15 years old and over, resident in the United States, by occupation category, according to migration status (native or immigrant from Mexico or from other countries), 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, March 2004.

Distribution of the foreign employed population, 15 years old and over, by occupation category, and according to national origin (from Mexico or other countries), 2004



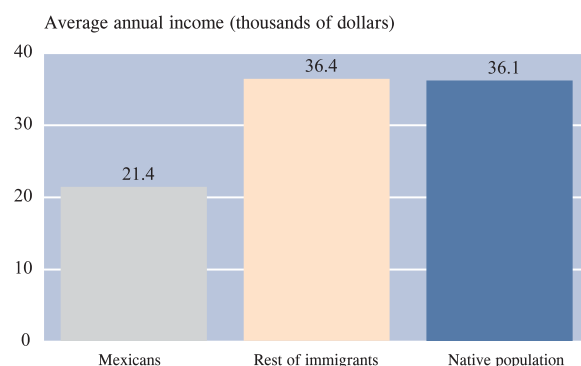
Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, March 2004.

The average income received by Mexican immigrants is much lower than that received by immigrants from other countries and by natives of the United States

Almost all the Mexican immigrants residing in the United States work as waged workers. Their average annual income is slightly above US \$21 000, and this amount is 41 percent lower than the average received by immigrants from other countries and by US natives (US \$36 000).

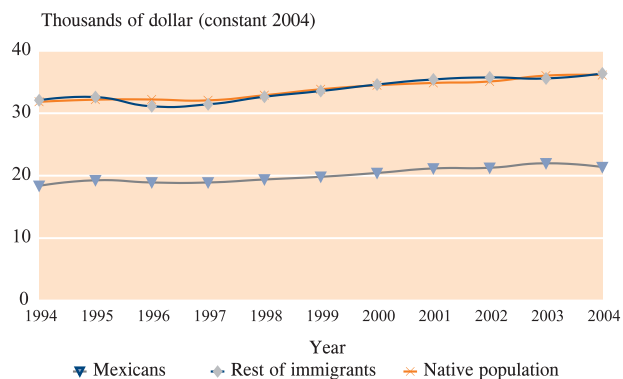
- In the period from 1994 to 2004, slightly over 90 percent of Mexican immigrants were incorporated into the labor market as waged workers.
- During the same period, a slight increase was observed in the wages of Mexican immigrants.
- There is, however, a considerable difference between the wages or income of Mexican immigrants with those of the rest of the population residing in the United States.

Average annual income (in dollars) of the resident population in the United States, by migration status (native population and immigrant population from Mexico and other countries), 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (CPS), March 2004.

Average annual income (in dollars) of the resident population in the United States, by migration status (native and immigrant populations from Mexico and other countries), 1994-2004



Note: This graph reflects constant income based on the U. S. National Consumers Price Index, 2004 base.

Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (CPS), March 2004.

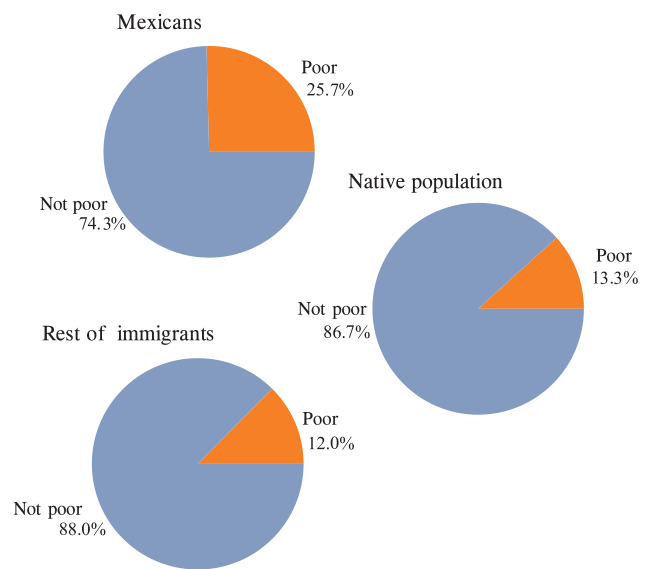
Approximately one out of every four Mexicans residing in the United States lives in conditions of poverty

The proportion of Mexicans living in a situation of poverty —according to US standards— is more than double that registered for the population born in the United States (12.0%), and nearly doubles that registered by immigrants of other nationalities (13.3%).

In absolute terms the number of Mexicans living in the United States in a situation of poverty is 2.8 million.

The higher rate of poverty among Mexicans is even more notable if it is taken into account that even though Mexicans represent only 3.7 percent of the total US population, they represent 8 percent of the population living in a situation of poverty.

Native and immigrant populations (from Mexico and other countries) residents in the United States, by poverty status, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

Slightly more than half of Mexican immigrants residing in the United States are not covered by any health system

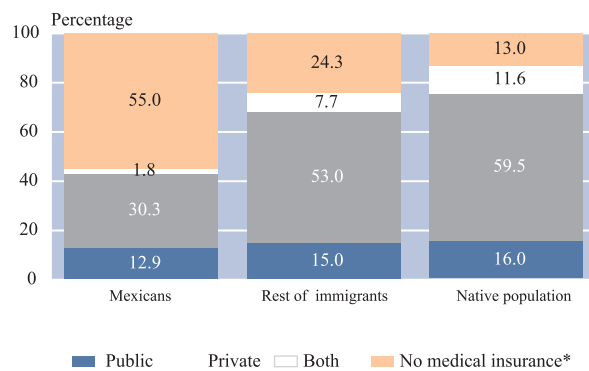
Mexican immigrants confront numerous barriers to access to public and private health systems.

The available data reveals their disadvantageous position in relation to other populations: 55 percent of Mexicans, or 5.9 million persons, have no health coverage. The proportions corresponding to immigrants of other nationalities and to the population born in the United States are 24 and 13 percent, respectively.

The group of Mexicans most affected by this situation corresponds to persons between the ages of 15 and 64—the group in which most Mexicans, or 9.3 million, are concentrated. Only 43 percent of this group has health coverage.

Factors such as nationality, lack of documents for residing or working in the United States, and working in occupations with low skills and low remuneration affect the possibilities for obtaining this type of protection.

Native and immigrant populations (from Mexico and other countries) residents in the United States, by types of medical insurance coverage, 2004



Note: *Not registered in a public program for medical assistance, and have not contracted private medical insurance.
 Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, March 2004.

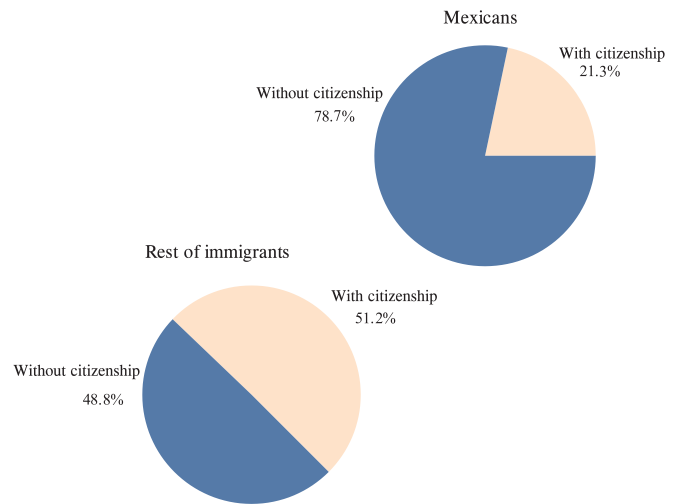
One out of every five Mexicans has US citizenship

Obtaining US citizenship is an element that contributes to the integration of Mexican immigrants.

The proportion of persons born in Mexico who have obtained US citizenship is lower than for other groups of immigrants.

Approximately one out of every five Mexicans has US citizenship, in contrast with one out of every two among immigrants of other nationalities.

Resident foreign population in the United States, by national origin (from Mexico or other countries), according to citizenship status, 2004



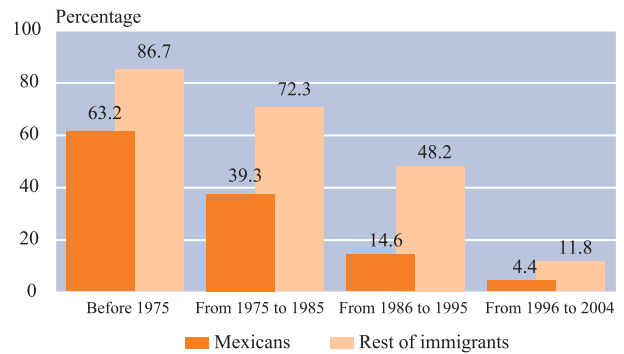
Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

The low rate of citizenship among Mexicans in comparison to other immigrants continues to persist, even among groups with a similar length of time in the United States

The low rate of citizenship among Mexicans (21.3%) may be linked to the composition of immigration from Mexico, according to the amount of time in the United States.

However, even when the periods of time in which immigrants entered the United States are similar to that of other immigrants, the levels of citizenship continue to be lower.

Foreign population with US citizenship, by national origin (from Mexico and other countries), according to period of time during which US was entered, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

Among the most important expressions of the “new era” of migration between Mexico and the United States is the decline in the mechanisms for the circular movement of this phenomenon, and the more permanent nature of Mexican migration to its neighboring country. This is manifested in an increasing number of households headed by Mexicans established in the United States.

A deeper look at the information on the magnitude and characteristics of the domestic units of Mexicans residing in the United States makes it possible to address the phenomenon of migration in a more comprehensive way. For example, the household, used as a unit for analysis, includes all the persons residing there, independently of their country of birth.

This approach allows for identifying the modalities through which Mexican immigrants settle in the United States, their reproductive patterns, the conformation of their families, and their residential arrangements. It also makes it possible to examine the conditions in which we find the processes of Mexican immigrants and their families integrating into US society.

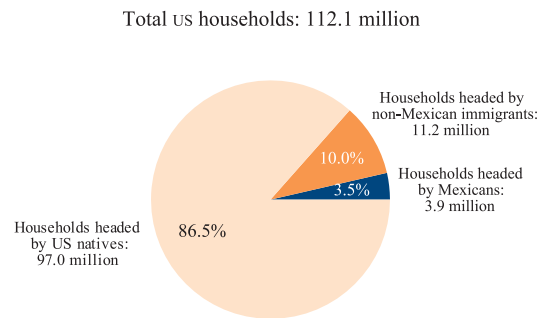
With the objective of distinguishing between households headed by immigrants (Mexican and non-Mexican) and households headed by US natives, a typology of these households has been established. It specifies the country of birth for the reference person or head of household who, according to the Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), is the person who owns or rents the housing in question. Three categories of households have been defined:

- Mexican household, when the reference person is a native of Mexico.
- Immigrant household, when the reference person is a native of a foreign country other than Mexico.
- US household, when the reference person is a native of the United States.

In the United States there are 3.9 million households headed by Mexicans by birth

According to the CPS 2004, there are approximately 112.1 million households in the United States, of which 3.9 million are Mexican households, 11.2 million are headed by immigrants from other countries, and 97.0 million are headed by US natives. In relative terms, this signifies 3.5, 10.0 and 86.5 percent of the total households, respectively.

Distribution of US households, according to migrant status of head of household (native, Mexican immigrant, immigrant from other countries), 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

The households headed by Mexicans are characterized by greater complexity in their structure and composition

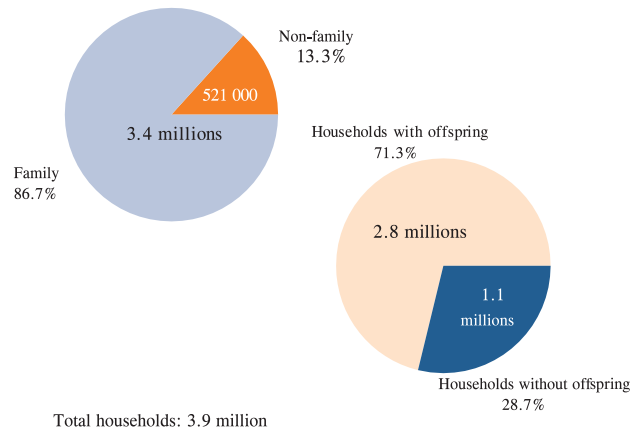
The great majority of households headed by Mexicans are family-type households (87%), or in other words, domestic units composite of persons who have some type of family bond with the head of the household.

This contrasts with information on households headed by US natives (only two thirds have this characteristic), who are more likely to form households consisting of a single person. This characteristic is also shared, although to a major degree, with households of non-Mexican immigrants.

Even though the majority of Mexican households are nuclear households, there is a tendency to form more complex structures, associated with greater willingness to provide shelter to relatives (and non-relatives). In fact, nearly one out of every three Mexican households is an extended or composite household.

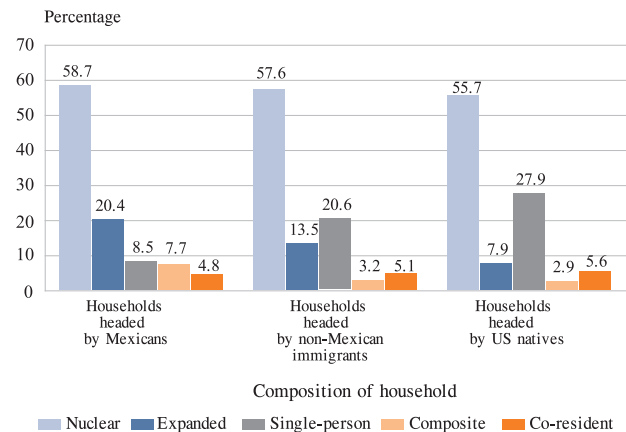
This feature constitutes one of the most notorious differences in relation to households of other nationalities and of US natives, and is significantly associated with the functioning of complex social and family networks of protection and support.

Households headed by persons born in Mexico: family and non-family; and with and without offspring, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

Distribution of households by type and composition, 2004



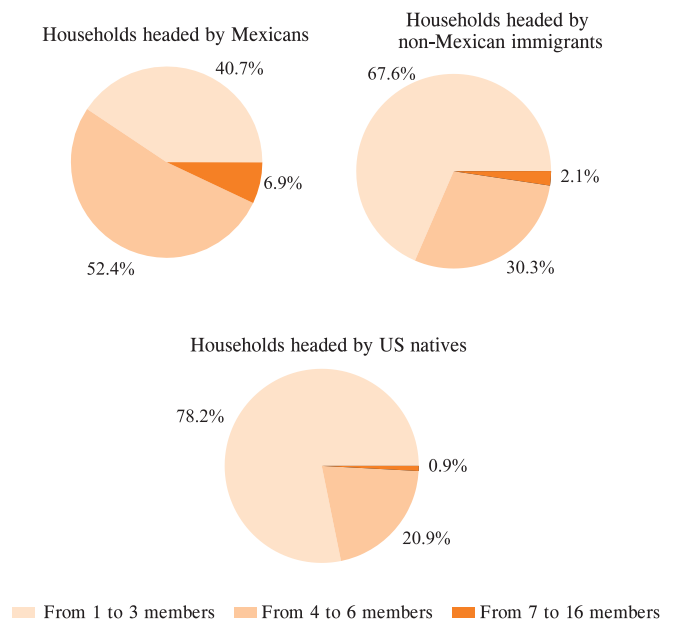
Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

Mexican households are larger in size

Households headed by Mexicans are characterized by their tendency to be composite of a greater number of persons: more than half of these households are made up of between four and six persons, while in the households of other immigrants and US natives, the corresponding proportions are quite lower.

Also, approximately seven percent of Mexican households are composite of between seven and 16 members, a characteristic that is practically non-existent among households of US natives.

Distribution of households, by type, according to size of household, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

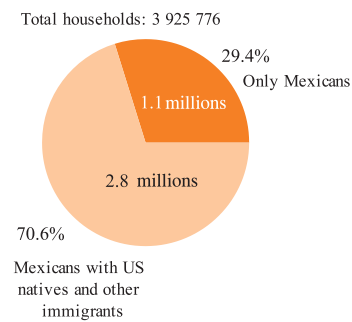
Approximately seven out of every ten Mexican households include persons born in the United States

Of a total of 3.9 million households headed by Mexicans, only 1.1 million (29%) are composite exclusively of Mexican natives, while in the remaining households, representing seven out of every ten, there are persons of other nationalities —fundamentally US natives— with an average of two persons of this nationality in each household.

Only 62 percent of persons making up households headed by Mexicans were born in Mexico, while nearly 37 percent are of US nationality (most of them are offspring of migrants), and slightly less than one percent are of other nationalities.

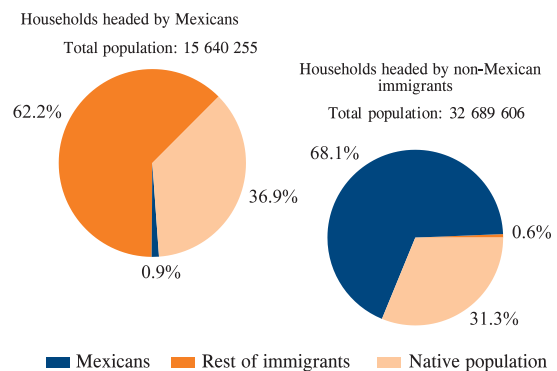
In contrast, the proportion of US residents in households headed by other immigrants is slightly less than that found in Mexican households (31%).

Distribution of households headed by persons born in Mexico, by origin of household members, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, March 2004.

Distribution of resident population in households of immigrants (Mexican and non-Mexican), according to origin, 2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, March 2004.

Social disparities related to citizenship are reproduced within households headed by Mexicans

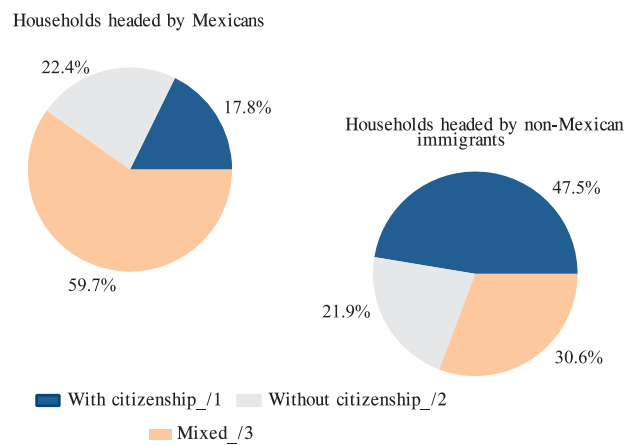
In a society like the US society, in which obtaining citizenship is a necessary factor for a wide variety of political, economic and social rights, the reduced proportion of persons with US citizenship characterizing groups of Mexican immigrants contributes to maintaining them in a state of vulnerability.

The lack of US citizenship affects 82 percent of Mexican households: in 60 percent, there are persons both with and without US citizenship, and in 22 percent, none of the members have US citizenship.

An issue that may contribute to generating tensions and conflicts within households (between parents and offspring, between sisters and brothers, or even with other family members) is whether or not household members are US citizens.

- This situation may present itself in nearly six out of every ten Mexican households, a figure that is nearly double that of the domestic units of other immigrants.
- In contrast, in only approximately 18 percent of Mexican households, all members have US citizenship. However, this is a predominant characteristic of households of immigrants of other nationalities (47.5%).

Distribution of households headed by Mexican and non-Mexican immigrants residing in the United States, according to whether members have US citizenship, 2004



Notes: 1_ / All members are US citizens.
 2_ / No members are US citizens.
 3_ / There is least one US citizen and one non-US citizen.
 Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, March 2004.

Mexican households present the lowest rates of health service coverage

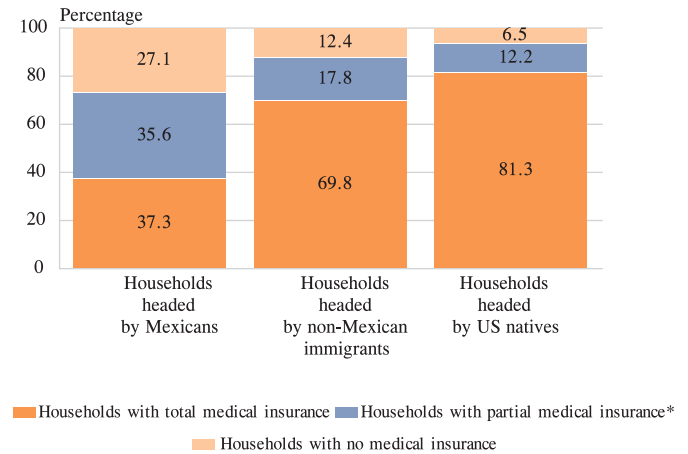
In contrast with households of immigrants of other nationalities and of US natives —characterized by more favorable rates of health coverage— the following is found in domestic units with the presence of Mexican immigrants:

- Only 37 percent of Mexican households have health coverage for all their members.
- Close to 36 percent of Mexican households register a situation in which only some of the members have health coverage, while others do not.
- And 27 percent confront a situation of enormous vulnerability, since none of the members are covered by any health service.

This situation is especially concerning for households including children. The available data indicate the following:

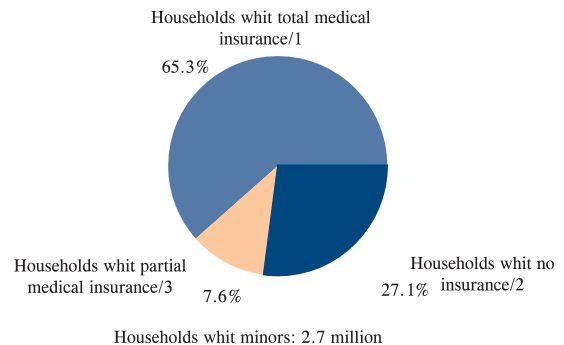
- Slightly less than a third of households (27%) are characterized by a situation in which none of the children have health coverage.
- Approximately 12 percent of households have health coverage for only some of the minors present. In this case, those who tend to have health coverage are those who were born in the United States, while those who have no health coverage are often those born in Mexico.

Distribution of households established in the United States, according to types of medical insurance coverage, 2004



Note: * At least one of the members is registered in a public program for medical assistance or has contracted private medical insurance, and at least one has not. Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, March 2004.

Distribution of Mexican-headed households with members under the age of 18, by medical insurance coverage of the minors, 2004



Note: 1/ All the minors are covered by some medical insurance system, private or public. 2/No minor is covered by any medical insurance system, private or public. 3/At least one minor is a beneficiary of a public medical assistance program or private medical insurance, and at least one has not. Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, March 2004.

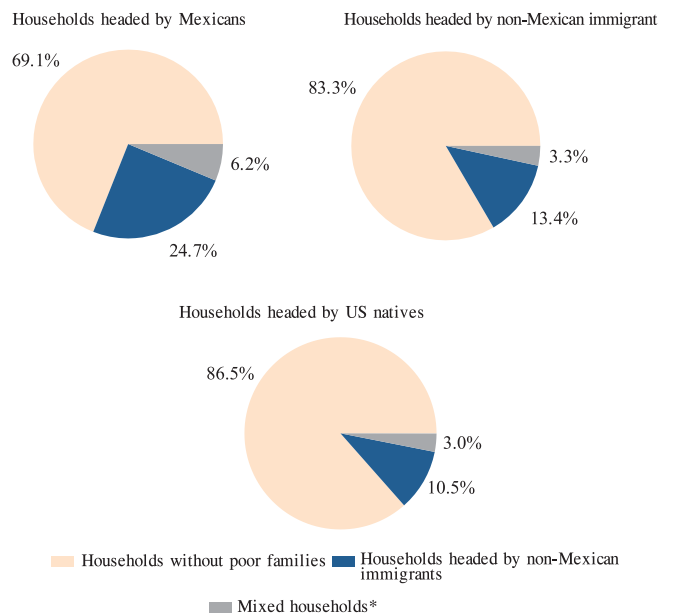
The highest rates of poverty are registered in households headed by Mexicans

Nearly 31 percent of households headed by Mexicans are characterized by a situation of poverty, and a total of 4.4 million persons reside in these households.

The proportion of Mexican households composite exclusively of poor families is significantly higher than that observed in the households of other immigrants and of US natives (25, 13 and 11%, respectively).

The coexistence of poor and not poor families within households is a situation found more frequently among Mexicans.

Distribution of households established in the United States, by poverty status, 2004



Notes: * Households composed of both poor and not poor families.
 Source: CONAPO estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey* (CPS), March 2004.

The following analysis of recent tendencies in temporary migration is based on the results from the first nine years of the Survey on Migration at Mexico's Northern Border (*Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México-EMIF*). The survey addresses the flows of temporary workers who maintain their residence in Mexico and travel periodically to the United States with the intention of working or seeking work, as well as the flows of "returnees," or those who return to Mexico after having worked in the United States for a period of time not longer than three years.

It is important to point out that while the EMIF survey offers the best systematic, ongoing observation of migration flows of Mexicans to the United States — thus making it possible to make inferences regarding temporary flows— this source of data, due to its very nature, adequately records rather specific types of sub-populations and movements, and this could introduce biases in the information reported. For example, it refers fundamentally to migration flows over land, involving migrants with few resources, and it is quite effective in capturing the displacements of the undocumented population. It should be pointed out that the weak participation of women registered by surveys such as the EMIF may be due to the fact that they use other mechanisms and ways of migrating, and likely have longer migration cycles.

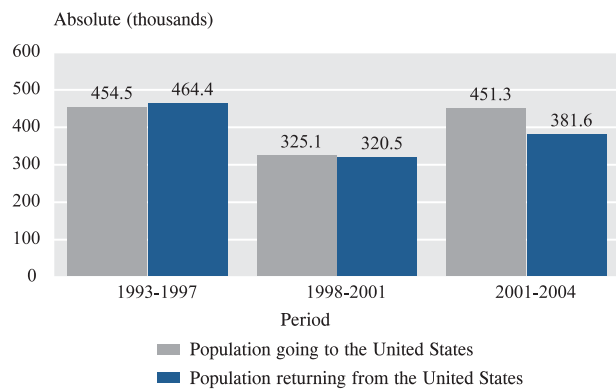
The flow of Mexican workers in both directions involves to nearly 830 000 displacements annually

The displacements recorded by the EMIF register variations over time.

In the periods from 1993 to 1997 and from 1998 to 2001, a notable decrease was observed in the to-and-from flows.

Nevertheless, the annual trips to and from the United States demonstrated another increase in the period from 2001 to 2004, with an increase on the average to nearly 830 000 displacements (451 000 movements to the United States, and 382 000 back to Mexico).

Number of labor displacements of Mexican migrants, by the direction of the flow, according to time period, 1993-2004

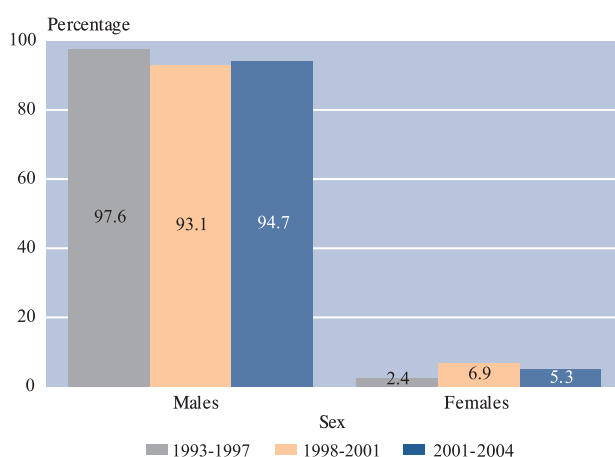


Source: CONAPO estimates based on STyPS, CONAPO, INM and EL COLEF, *Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México* (EMIF), 1993-2004.

The flow of temporary workers is made up of males of young ages

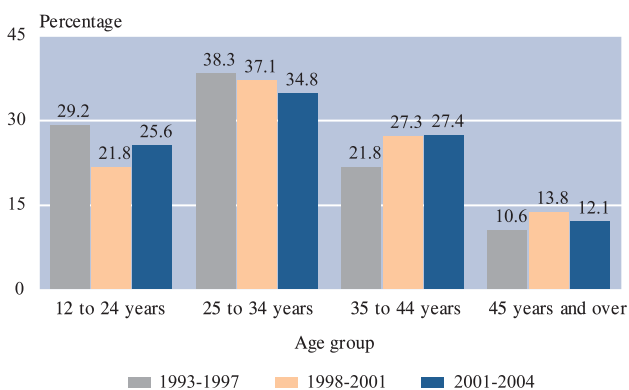
- Participating in the flow to the United States is a considerable majority of males (approximately 95 out of every 100), although females have doubled their participation in recent years.
- Young people in productive ages constitute the primary source of migration: close to 90 percent are between 12 and 44 years of age, with an average age that rose from 31 to 32 years of age in recent years.

Distribution of migrants going to the United States, by sex, according to time period, 1993-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on STYPS, CONAPO, INM and EL COLEF, *Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México (EMIF)*, 1993-2004.

Distribution of migrants going to the United States, by age group, according to time period, 1993-2004

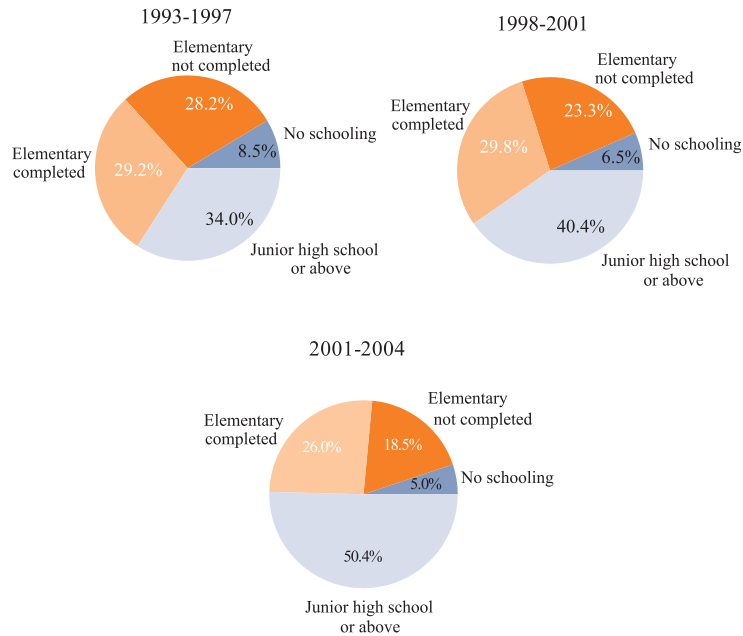


Source: CONAPO estimates based on STYPS, CONAPO, INM and EL COLEF, *Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México (EMIF)*, 1993-2004.

Educational levels of migrants are mostly below junior high school

- With some variations, in recent years one out of every four migrants has not completed elementary school or has no schooling at all.
 - The proportion of migrants who have completed elementary school decreased from 29 to 26 percent, between 1993-1997 and 2001-2004.
 - Also observed is an increase in the proportion of migrants who have finished junior high school or beyond, from 34 percent in the 1993-1997 period, to 50 percent in the 2001-2004 period.
- Over this same course of time, the average level of schooling of migrants rose from six to seven years.

Distribution of migrants going to the United States, by level of schooling, according to time period, 1993-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on STyPS, CONAPO, INM and EL COLEF, *Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México (EMIF)*, 1993-2004.

The regions of origin of temporary migrants have diversified

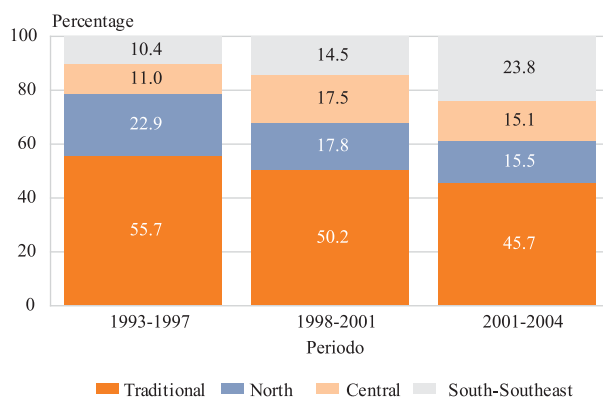
The traditional region of emigration maintains first place among regions expelling population.

Its contribution to the flow of temporary migrants has diminished, basically as a result of the increasing incorporation of persons from the South-Southeast region in the dynamic of migration to the United States.

Recent evolution confirms the configuration of a “new geography” of the zones of origin of migration in Mexico, now expanded to nearly the entire national territory.

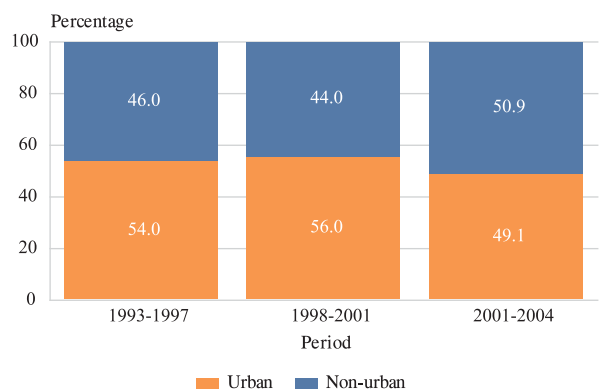
The presence of workers of urban origin in migration flows to the United States has been predominant throughout the past decade. Nevertheless, in the most recent years, the participation of migrants from localities with less than 15 000 inhabitants has increased.

Distribution of migrants going to the United States, by region of origin, according to time period, 1993-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on STyPS, CONAPO, INM and EL COLEF, *Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México (EMIF)*, 1993-2004.

Distribution of migrants going to the United States, by locality of origin, according to time period, 1993-2004



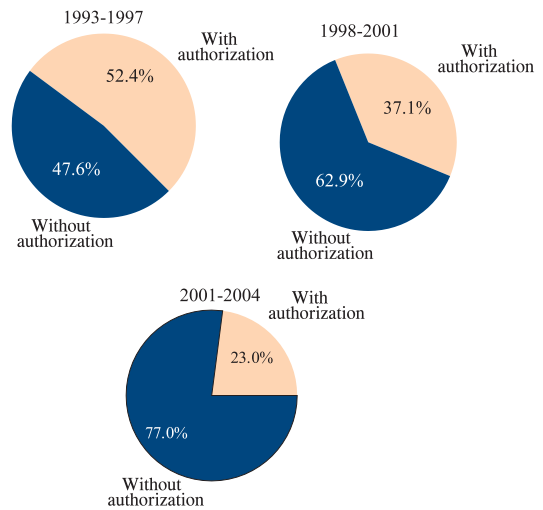
Source: CONAPO estimates based on STyPS, CONAPO, INM and EL COLEF, *Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México (EMIF)*, 1993-2004.

Undocumented migration has become the predominant modality in the temporary flow from Mexico to the United States

Migrants without authorization to enter the United States represented 48 percent of the temporary flow in the 1993-1997 period, while this figure increased to 77 percent for the 2001-2004 period.

While undocumented Mexican migration has a long tradition, recent figures indicate that this pattern has become the predominant modality.

Distribution of temporary migrants returning from the United States, by whether they have authorization to enter that country, according to time period, 1993-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on STyPS, CONAPO, INM and EL COLEF, *Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México (EMIF)*, 1993-2004.

During recent decades the circular nature of migration movement between Mexico and the United States has been diminishing

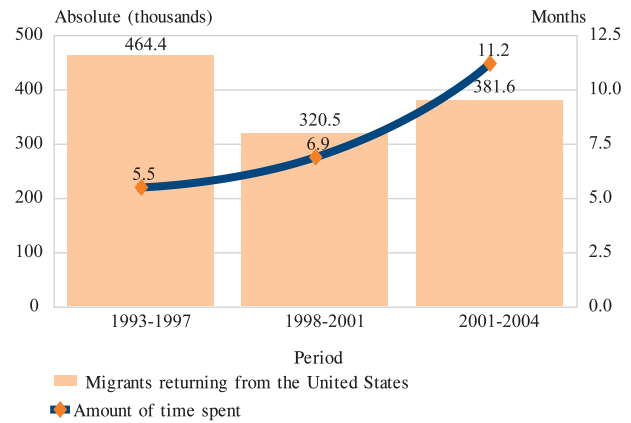
One of the most characteristic features of this “new era” is that the mechanisms for circular movement of migration are no longer effective, with the consequent change to a modality of more permanent migration.

This new pattern is evident due to the increase in the time that migrants spend in the United States and to the incorporation of persons without previous experience in the migration flow.

The average time that temporary migrants spend in the United States has more than doubled over the last ten years: from 5.5 months in 1993-1997, to 11.2 months in 2001-2004.

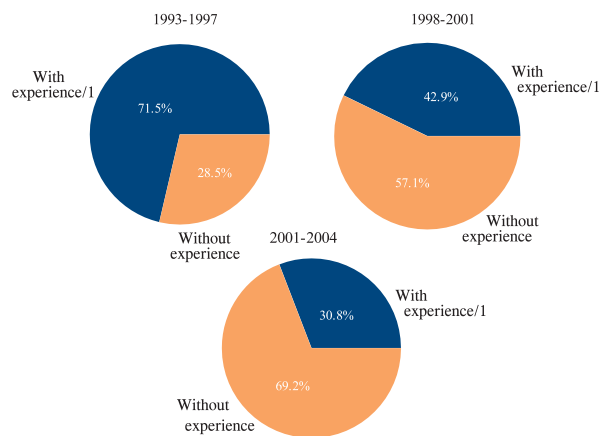
The relative presence of persons with migration experience in the temporary flow diminished drastically from 72 to 43 percent between the 1993-1997 period and the 1998-2001 period, and represented only 31 percent in the 2001-2004 period.

Average annual number of migrants returning from the United States, by amount of time spent in that country, according to time period, 1993-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on STyPS, CONAPO, INM and EL COLEF, Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México (EMIF), 1993-2004.

Distribution of migrants returning from the United States, by prior migration experience, according to time period, 1993-2004



Note: 1_/ With prior migration experience refers to migrants for whom this trip to the United States represented at least the second such trip.

Source: CONAPO estimates based on STyPS, CONAPO, INM and EL COLEF, Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México (EMIF), 1993-2004.

The great majority of temporary Mexican workers are incorporated into the US labor market without having the required documentation

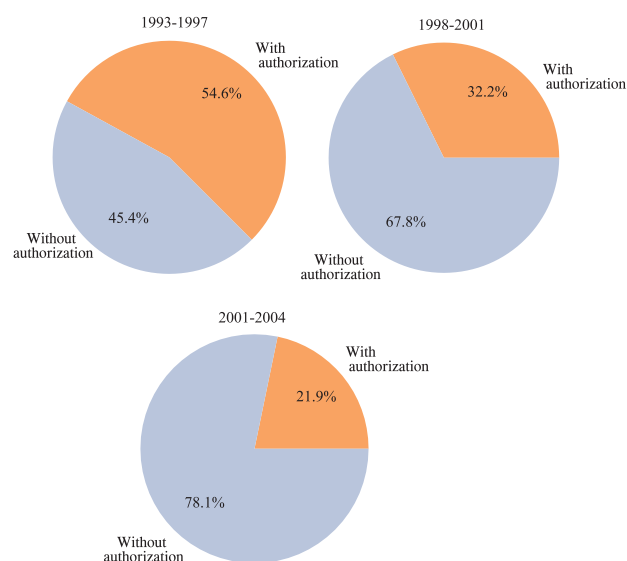
In addition to the increase in the flow of undocumented persons entering the United States, there is an increasing presence of migrant workers who participate in the US labor market without having the necessary authorization.

Available information indicates that nearly all temporary migrants in the last decade have been able to obtain a job. However, more than seven out of every nine migrants (78%) in the 2001-2004 period did not have the required documents to work, a proportion much higher than that registered in the 1993-1997 period (45%).

These figures are indicative of a *de facto* demand for Mexican workers, in clear contradiction with the *de jure* policy that restricts their entrance into the country and restricts the hiring of undocumented migrants in the job market.

The high numbers of undocumented Mexican migrants going to the United States constitutes a decisive obstacle to the favorable integration of migrants.

Distribution of migrants returning from the United States and who worked, by whether they had the necessary documents to work in that country, according to time period, 1993-2004



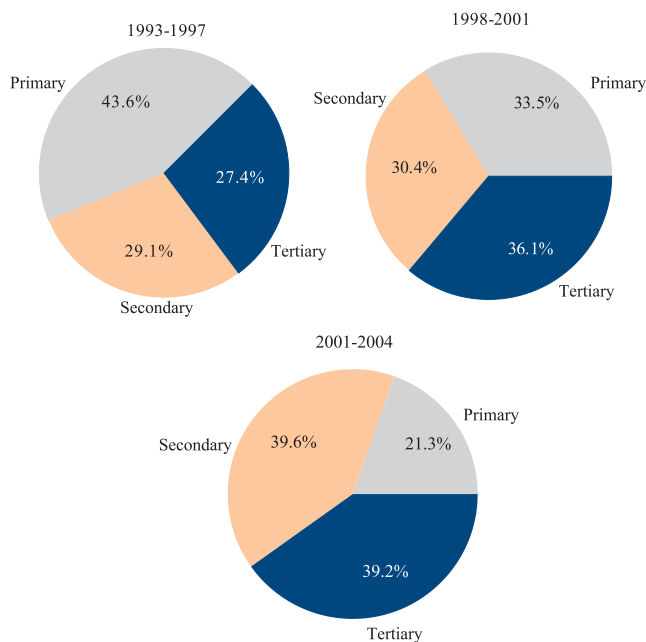
Source: CONAPO estimates based on STyPS, CONAPO, INM and EL COLEF. *Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México (EMIF)*, 1993-2004.

Currently, only a fifth of temporary migrants working in the United States are employed in the primary sector

Within the set of characteristics giving shape to a new profile of temporary migration, there is a more diversified distribution of Mexicans in productive sectors in the place of destination.

Between the 1993-1997 and 2001-2004 periods, there was a significant decrease in the percentage of workers employed in the primary sector, from 44 to 21 percent, and at the same time, there was a notable increase in the number of persons employed in the secondary and tertiary sectors.

Distribution of migrants returning from the United States and who worked, by sector of activity in the United States, according to time period, 1993-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on STyPS, CONAPO, INM and EL COLEF, *Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México* (EMIF), 1993-2004.

Social and family networks contribute toward maintaining and reproducing migration flows

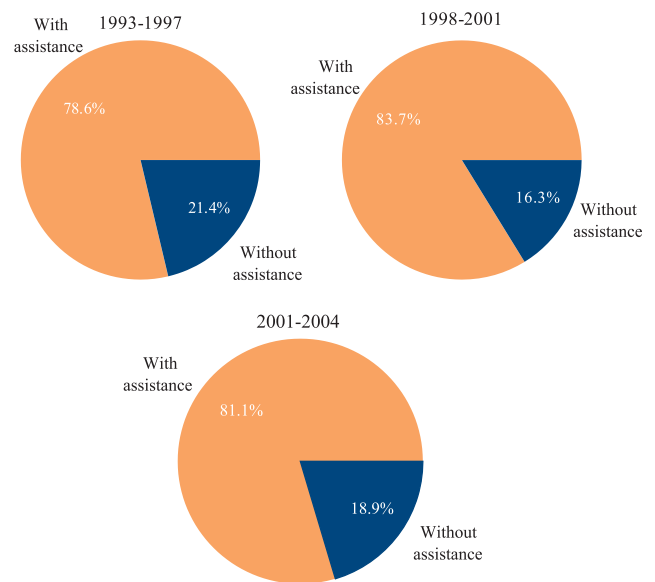
In addition to the factors of supply and demand of Mexican workers, there is a set of complex social relationships and networks that operate among individuals, organizations and communities and that link migrants' places of origin and places of destination, and that contribute toward reproducing and perpetuating migration movement.

One of the ways in which these social networks operate consists of providing support to migrants for moving to the United States, and in some cases, for becoming established in the place of destination. This translates into financial assistance, lodging, food and assistance in obtaining a job, among other aspects.

This process will be repeated later for new migrants, thus strengthening the bonds of reciprocity.

Currently, eight out of every ten temporary migrants who have family members or friends in the United States received this type of assistance.

Distribution of migrants returning from the United States and who have family members or friends in that country, by whether they received assistance from networks in that country, according to time period, 1993-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on STyPS, CONAPO, INM and EL COLEF. *Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México (EMIF)*, 1993-2004.

One of the most notable expressions of the phenomenon of international migration and of the functioning of complex social networks consists of the remittances sent by migrants to their places of origin.

These resources have increased alongside the growing magnitude of international migration. The absolute and relative magnitudes of this phenomenon are reaching increasingly significant dimensions. And this reality reveals the importance of these remittances as a source of foreign currency and as vital support for the members of millions of households in the countries where migration originates.

Remittances play a determining role in the economies of the countries where migration originates, and for most of those countries, constitute one of the primary foreign financial flows. It is acknowledged, however, that the economic impact from remittances is expressed predominantly at the regional and local levels.

The magnitude of the volume of remittances has increasingly sparked interest, since government authorities as well as entrepreneurs and civil society organizations, recognize their potential as a factor in development.

Remittances have a significant impact on household incomes, and contribute toward raising the standards of living of household members. These resources play an important role in diminishing poverty and promoting social and human development.

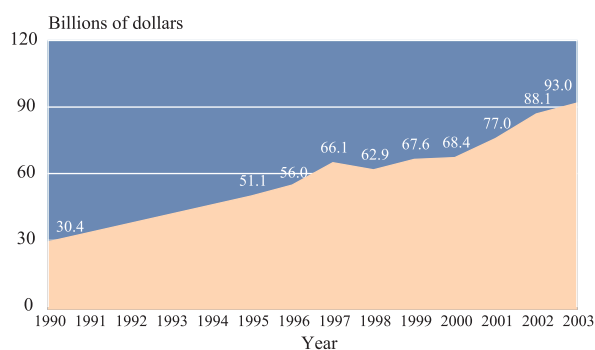
Attention is increasingly placed on designing policies that will make it possible to channel these resources into investments in infrastructure and into the development of productive activities that will generate employment in communities of origin.

The amount of remittances sent by migrants to developing countries has tripled in the last decade

The World Bank estimates that the amount of remittances sent to developing countries has tripled in the last decade, increasing from US \$30.4 billion in 1990, to US \$93 billion in 2003.

Available data indicate that the increase in remittances has been particularly accelerated during the last three years, a period corresponding to 40 percent of the increase registered during the last 13 years.

Amount of remittances sent by migrants to developing countries, 1990-2003 (billions of dollars)



Source: CONAPO, estimates based on World Bank, 2004.

Remittances constitute an important source of income for the economies of developing countries

For developing countries as a whole, remittances are equivalent to 1.5 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and 8 percent of Domestic Investment. As well, the flows of remittances rank second only to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), among sources of foreign financing in developing countries.

Amount of remittances received by developing countries—and their importance measured as a proportion of selected items—and the amount of remittances sent, 2002 (billions of dollars)

Type of remittances	2002
Total remittances received and other transfers	126.1
Total remittances received	88.1
% of GDP	1.5
% of imports	5.1
% of domestic investment	8.0
% of net foreign direct investment	66.2
% of net official financing	250.0
Other transfers	38.0
Total remittances sent	28.0
Total remittances sent, excluding Saudi Arabia	12.1

Source: International Monetary Fund, 2002, and World Bank, 2002 and 2003.

The Latin American and Caribbean region receives a third of all remittances sent to developing regions

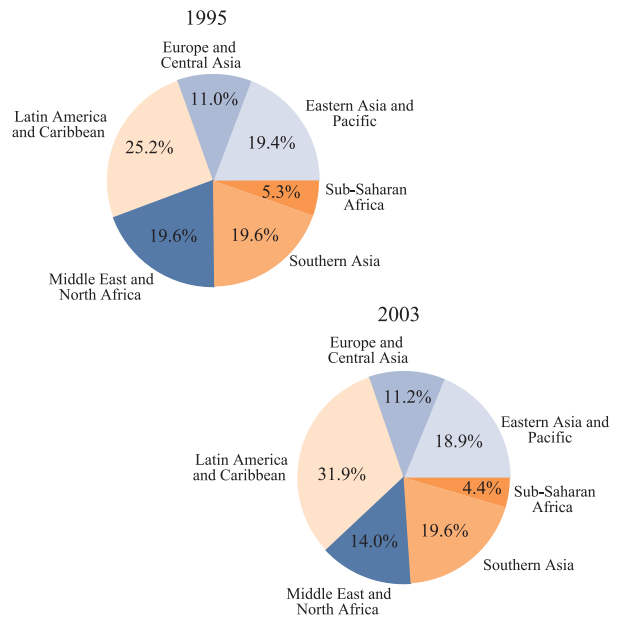
Millions of households in developing countries receive support from family members working in developed countries in North America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

In recent years, and increasingly so, the Latin American and Caribbean region has been the region receiving the greatest proportion of the total remittances sent to developing countries (31.9% in 2003). The increase in the flow of remittances to the region has particularly accelerated in recent years.

Southern Asia ranks second among regions receiving the most remittances, and it receives a fifth of the total amount.

In contrast, the region receiving the smallest amount of remittances is Sub-Saharan Africa (with just over 4%).

Distribution of remittances received in developing countries, by region of destination, 1995 and 2003



Source: CONAPO, estimates based on World Bank, 2004.

Mexico is one of the main countries receiving remittances, and the United States is the main sending country

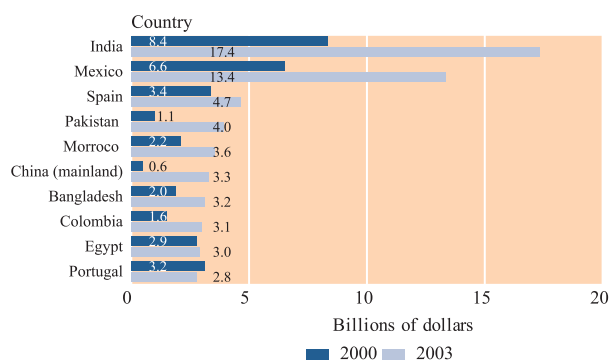
According to data from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, India and Mexico are the primary countries receiving remittances, with US \$17.4 billion and nearly US \$13.4 billion, respectively, received in 2003.

Mexico was in second place among countries receiving the greatest amount of remittances in 2000, and three years later, had maintained the same position.

The United States and Saudi Arabia are the primary sending countries in the world. Large amounts of money are sent from those two countries in this way, since they have many migrant workers who send money to their family members.

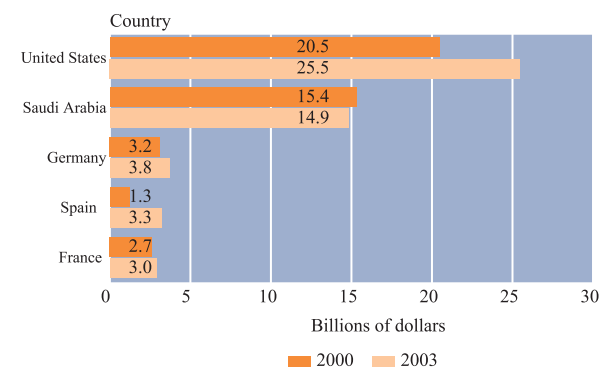
In 2003, a total of US \$25 billion was sent in remittances from the United States, and this figure was nearly US \$15 billion in the case of Saudi Arabia.

Main countries receiving remittances, 2000 and 2003



Source: CONAPO, estimates based on International Monetary Fund, *Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook*, Washington, D. C., 2004; and World Bank, "When Money Really Matters-Remittances Vital to South Asia," at www.worldbank.org.in

Main countries sending remittances, 2000 and 2003



Source: CONAPO, estimates based on International Monetary Fund, *Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook*, Washington, D. C., 2004.

The economic importance of remittances is increasingly visible in receiving countries

For many countries, income from remittances is extremely important economically. Especially outstanding are the cases of Jordan and El Salvador, where remittances received in 2002 correspond, respectively, to 21 and 14 percent of the GDP, and 69 and 64 percent of exports.

In the case of Mexico, income from remittances in 2002 represented 1.5 of the GDP and 6.1 percent of export income, respectively.

Figures from Banco de México indicate that remittances represented approximately 2.3 and 2.5 percent of the GDP, in 2003 and 2004, respectively.

4

International remittances and economic indicators, and their relative importance in selected countries, 2002

Country	Gross Domestic Product ¹	Exports ²	Remittances ²	Remittances as a percentage of:	
				Gross Domestic Product	Exports
	(Billions of dollars)				
Mexico	637	161	9.8	1.5	6.1
India	510	53	8.3	1.6	15.8
Spain	653	126	4.0	0.6	3.1
Pakistan	59	10	3.6	6.0	36.3
Portugal	122	27	3.2	2.7	11.9
Egypt	90	7	2.9	3.2	40.6
Morocco	36	8	2.9	8.0	36.7
Bangladesh	48	6	2.8	6.0	46.9
Colombia	81	12	2.4	2.9	19.1
Dominican Republic	22	5	1.9	8.9	37.4
Turkey	184	40	1.9	1.1	4.9
El Salvador	14	3	1.9	13.5	64.2
Jordan	9	3	1.9	20.7	69.4
Brazil	452	60	1.7	0.4	2.8

Note: Figures on remittances correspond to the "workers' remittances" item.

Source: 1/ Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD), *Informe sobre Desarrollo Humano*, 2004.

2/ International Monetary Fund, *Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook*, Washington, D.C., 2003.

In only thirteen years, the total amount of remittances received in Mexico has increased by five times

According to Banco de México estimates, remittances sent to Mexico have increased from nearly US \$2.5 billion in 1990, to nearly US \$13.4 billion in 2003, and to over US \$16.6 billion in 2004.

During the 1990s, Mexico registered a significant increase in the amount of remittances received primarily from the United States, with annual growth rates of approximately 10 percent.

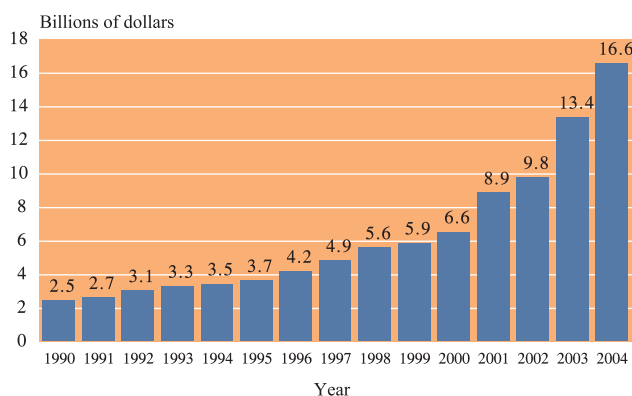
The initial years of the new century are characterized by great dynamism in remittances, with a growth rate much above that observed in previous years (annual growth rates are nearly 24%). Between 2002 and 2003 alone, remittances received in Mexico increased by over US \$3.5 billion, and from 2003 to 2004, they increased by over US \$3.2 billion.

The accumulated amount of remittances received in Mexico over the last fifteen years is nearly US \$95 billion (at current prices).

It is important to point out that remittances have increased at much greater rates than those of migration.

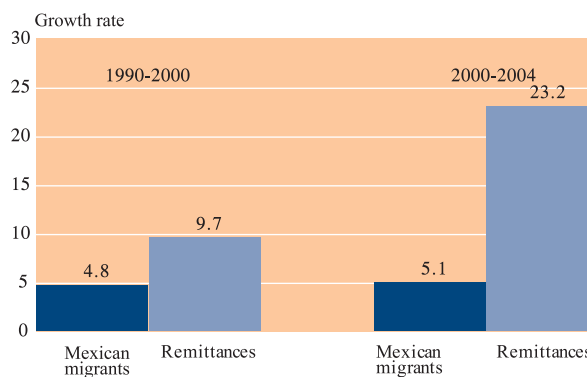
The greater dynamism in remittances —particularly visible in the most recent years— may be associated (among other factors) with the fact that more remittances are being sent via intermediary financial institutions, and it may also reflect the considerable reduction in the operational costs involved in monetary transfers between the two countries.

Amount of remittances in Mexico, 1990-2004



Source: Estimates by Banco de México, at www.banxico.org.mx

Annual average growth rates of the population born in Mexico and residing in the United States, and of remittances in Mexico, 1990-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on *Proyecciones de Población 2000-2050*, 2002, and Banco de México, at www.banxico.org.mx

In Mexico income from remittances surpasses income from agricultural exports and tourism

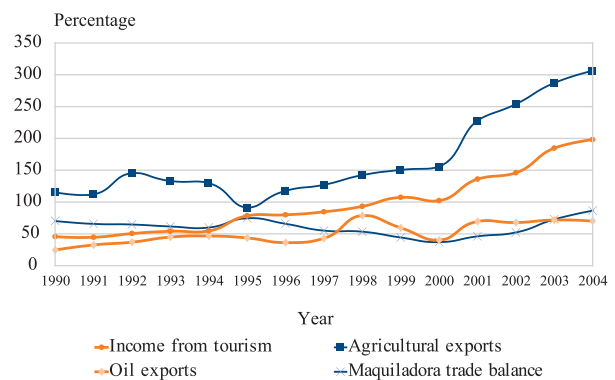
During the last two decades, remittances have become a flow of foreign currency that is extremely important for the Mexican economy. It is one of the main items in the balance of payments, and it contributes to reactivating regional and local economies.

A comparison of the flow of remittances with certain national macroeconomic indicators demonstrates the relevance of these resources.

In 2004, the money sent by migrants to their families represented approximately 70 percent of oil exports and 87 percent of the surplus in the maquiladora trade balance, and surpassed the income derived from tourism by 98 percent.



Percentage represented by remittances in relation to other sources of foreign currency, 1990-2004



Source: Estimates by Banco de México, *Indicadores económicos y financieros*, at www.banxico.org.mx

More than half of the remittances sent from the United States are concentrated in six Mexican states

According to information from Banco de México, all of Mexico's states receive remittances from abroad, and in all of the states, the increase in these remittances in comparison to the amounts registered in 1995 has been highly significant.

In 2004 each of four Mexican states (Michoacan, Guanajuato, Jalisco and Mexico) received more than a billion dollars through remittances, and in fact, the amount received in Michoacan was more than two billion dollars.

Although in 2004 more than half of the remittances were concentrated in only six states (Michoacan, Guanajuato, Jalisco, state of Mexico, Puebla and Mexico City), remittances in the rest of the country's states have become increasingly important and visible.

Thus, for example, while in 1995 nearly 40 percent of remittances was concentrated in three of the states with the strongest tradition of migration (Michoacan, Jalisco and Guanajuato), the percentage corresponding to these three states had decreased to 31 percent by 2004.

The states of Veracruz and Chiapas—in which participation in international migration had been only marginal until recently—moved up from ranking 15th and 27th among all Mexican states in 1995, to ranking 7th and 11th in 2004, respectively. The state of Mexico, for its part, is currently ranked in 4th place.

Based on these figures, the average per capita amount from remittances in Michoacan rose to US \$521 in 2004, while in Guanajuato and Zacatecas, this amount was US \$305 and \$298.

Amount of family remittances per Mexican state, 1995, 2003 and 2004 (millions of current dollars)

Mexican state	1995		2003		2004		Rank order		
	Absolute	Relative	Absolute	Relative	Absolute	Relative	1995	2003	2004
National total	3 673	100.0	13 397	100.0	16 613	100.0			
Michoacan de Ocampo	597	16.2	1 692	12.6	2 196	13.2	1	1	1
Guanajuato	376	10.2	1 210	9.0	1 532	9.2	3	3	2
Jalisco	467	12.7	1 299	9.7	1 419	8.5	2	2	3
Mexico	161	4.4	1 040	7.8	1 385	8.3	7	4	4
Puebla	178	4.8	792	5.9	956	5.8	6	6	5
Mexico City	196	5.3	850	6.3	954	5.7	5	5	6
Veracruz - Llave	76	2.1	776	5.8	950	5.7	15	7	7
Guerrero	224	6.1	688	5.1	826	5.0	4	8	8
Oaxaca	159	4.3	658	4.9	804	4.8	8	9	9
Hidalgo	72	1.9	506	3.8	615	3.7	16	10	10
Chiapas	20	0.5	361	2.7	500	3.0	27	11	11
Zacatecas	114	3.1	348	2.6	422	2.5	11	12	12
Morelos	131	3.6	343	2.6	400	2.4	9	13	13
San Luis Potosi	120	3.3	326	2.4	393	2.4	10	14	14
Queretaro de Arteaga	71	1.9	229	1.7	337	2.0	17	17	15
Sinaloa	110	3.0	258	1.9	315	1.9	13	15	16
Aguascalientes	114	3.1	232	1.7	297	1.8	12	16	17
Nuevo Leon	38	1.0	167	1.2	282	1.7	22	22	18
Durango	77	2.1	211	1.6	278	1.7	14	18	19
Tamaulipas	47	1.3	189	1.4	241	1.5	21	21	20
Nayarit	58	1.6	198	1.5	238	1.4	20	19	21
Chihuahua	64	1.8	192	1.4	220	1.3	19	20	22
Tlaxcala	27	0.7	136	1.0	174	1.0	25	23	23
Coahuila de Zaragoza	68	1.8	117	0.9	155	0.9	18	25	24
Baja California	31	0.8	125	0.9	149	0.9	23	24	25
Sonora	28	0.8	105	0.8	147	0.9	24	26	26
Colima	22	0.6	98	0.7	127	0.8	26	27	27
Tabasco	5	0.1	73	0.5	95	0.6	29	28	28
Yucatan	11	0.3	52	0.4	80	0.5	28	30	29
Quintana Roo	3	0.1	71	0.5	72	0.4	32	29	30
Campeche	4	0.1	37	0.3	37	0.2	31	31	31
Baja California Sur	4	0.1	18	0.1	17	0.1	30	32	32

Source: CONAPO, estimates based on Banco de México, *Notas sobre las remesas familiares en México*, 1995, and *Indicadores económicos*, at www.banxico.org.mx

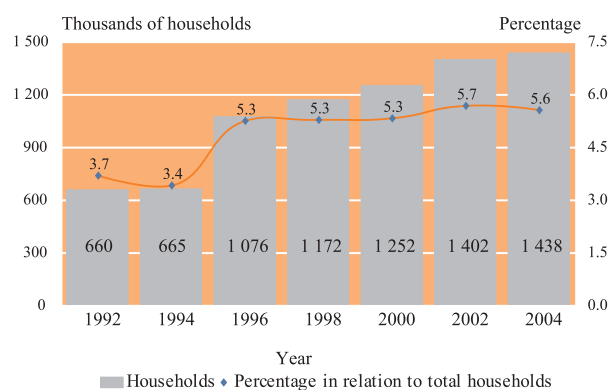
One out of every 18 Mexican households receives remittances from abroad

Although in recent years considerable efforts have been made to improve the estimations of flows of remittances, official statistics may be omitting some items, thus underestimating their magnitude (for example, excluding transfers conducted through informal channels), and at the same time these statistics may be overestimating remittances, by including monetary transfers that are not necessarily related to migration.

When other sources of information are taken into account, such as those from household surveys, the amount of remittances diminishes considerably. Based on figures from the National Survey on Household Income and Expenses (*Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares-ENIGH*), it is estimated that family remittances received from abroad increased from nearly US \$1.4 billion to over US \$4.2 billion, between 1992 and 2004. During this period of time, the number of households receiving remittances doubled, increasing from 660 thousands to 1.4 million, with a total of 5.9 million persons benefiting directly from remittances in 2004.

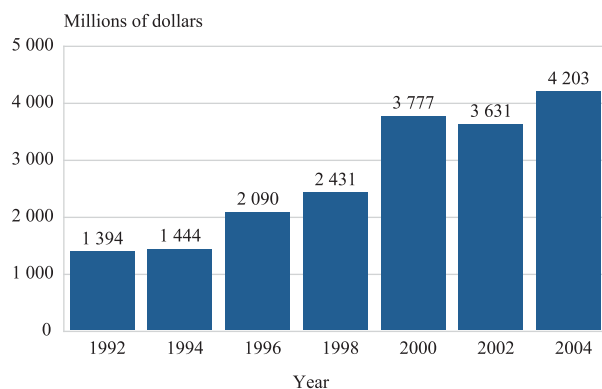
The economic crisis of 1995 was reflected in a considerable increase in the number of households using migration as an option to confront the deterioration in living conditions in Mexico. Between 1994 and 1996 alone, the number of households receiving remittances rose by more than 400 thousands increasing from 665 thousands to 1.076 millions.

Number of households receiving remittances in Mexico, 1992-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, *Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares* (ENIGH), 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004.

Total amount of international remittances received in Mexican households (millions of dollars), 1992-2004



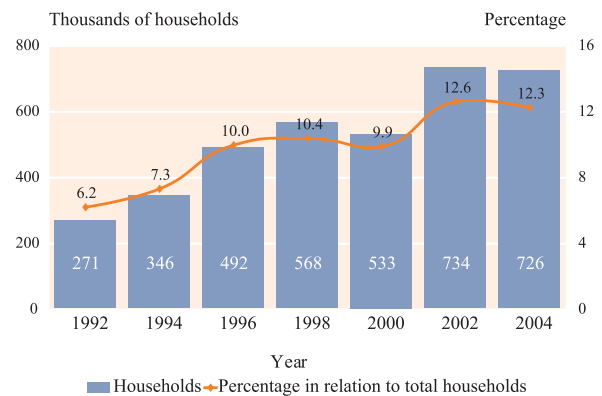
Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, *Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares* (ENIGH), 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004.

In rural communities, one out of every eight households receives remittances from abroad

Slightly over half of the households receiving remittances (51%) are located in rural communities (of less than 2 500 inhabitants). In these communities, approximately 726 000 domestic units receive remittances, representing 12.3 percent of the total domestic units in localities of this size.

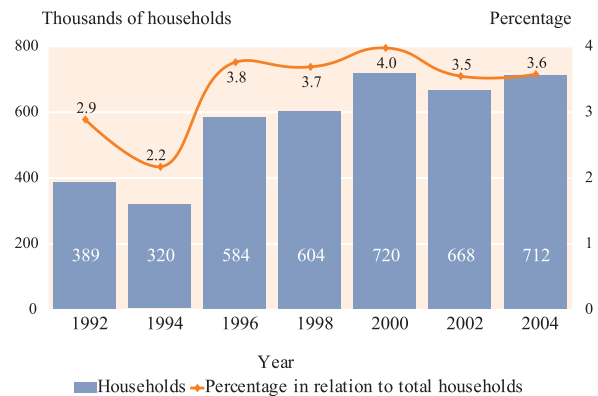
Households receiving monetary transfers from abroad and located in communities of 2 500 or more inhabitants (semi-urban and urban) amount to slightly over 700 000 (3.6%).

Number of households receiving remittances in Mexican localities with less than 2 500 inhabitants, 1992-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, *Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares* (ENIGH), 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004.

Number of households receiving remittances in Mexican localities with 2 500 inhabitants or more, 1992-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, *Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares* (ENIGH), 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004.

The number of households receiving remittances has increased throughout the country

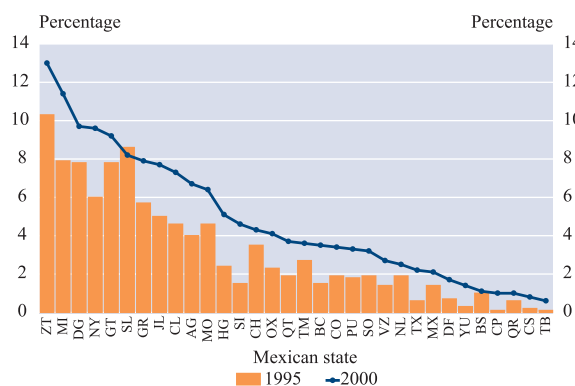
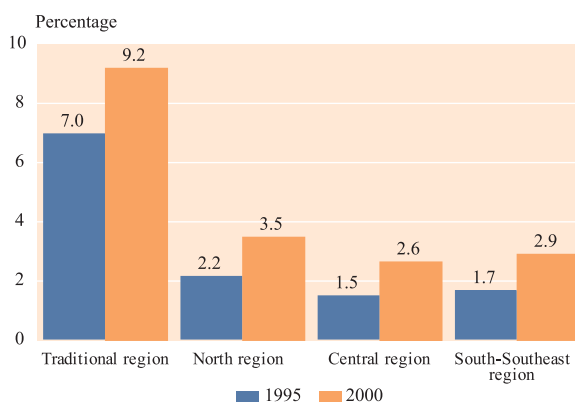
All of Mexico’s states have registered an increase in the number of households receiving remittances.

Zacatecas, Michoacan, Durango, Nayarit, Guanajuato and San Luis de Potosi —belonging to a region with a strong tradition of migration— are especially noteworthy due to the proportion of households receiving remittances, ranging between eight and 13 percent.

The proportion of households receiving these resources in the states of Guerrero and Morelos is also quite significant. These two states are located in the South-Southeast and Central regions of Mexico, respectively, and have entered into the dynamics of migration to the United States more recently.

In the region of the country with the strongest tradition of migration, nine percent of households receive remittances. Next in ranking order is the North region, with 3.5 percent, followed by the South-Southeast region with 2.9 percent, and the Central region with 2.6 percent.

Proportion of households receiving remittances, by region and state of residence, 1995 and 2000



Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, *Conteo de Población y Vivienda 1995*, and *XII Censo General de Población y Vivienda 2000*.

The amount of remittances received by households is an annual average of US \$2 922

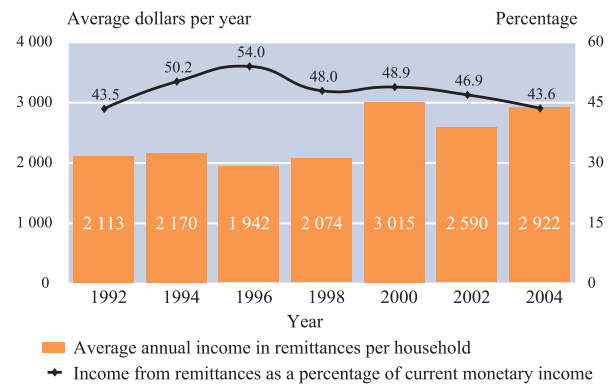
The average annual amount of income from remittances in households receiving these resources rose to US \$2 922 in 2004. In households located in communities with less than 2 500 inhabitants, this amount was US \$2 414, and in households located in communities with 2 500 inhabitants or more, this amount rose to US \$3 440.

Households use most of their income from remittances to satisfy basic needs and for other types of domestic consumption, including expenses that, in reality, constitute investment in human capital (education and health, among other areas).

Remittances also contribute important resources for the development of communities with a tradition of migration, with important effects on regional and local economic activity.

It is estimated that less than ten percent of remittances is dedicated to savings or investment in production.

Average annual amount of income from international remittances, and the corresponding percentage in relation to the current monetary income of households, 1992-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, *Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares* (ENIGH), 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004.

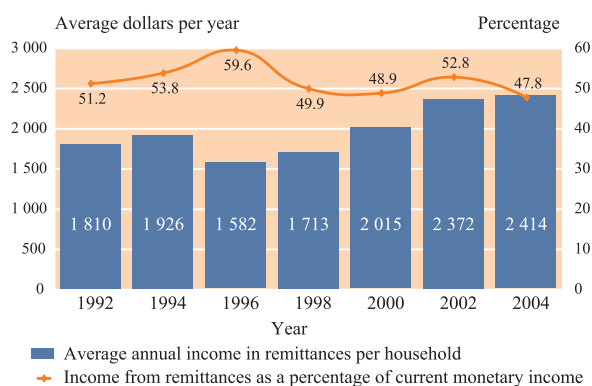
For many households, remittances become a determining factor in family income

The transfers of remittances from migrants to their families fulfill a determinant role in sustaining the households receiving them, since on the average, these resources represent 35.5% of the current total income and nearly half of the current monetary income (43.6%).

The relative importance of these resources is greater in localities with less than 2 500 inhabitants, since the amount of remittances is equivalent to an average of 48% of the monetary income of households. The proportion corresponding to households in localities with 2 500 or more inhabitants is 41 percent.

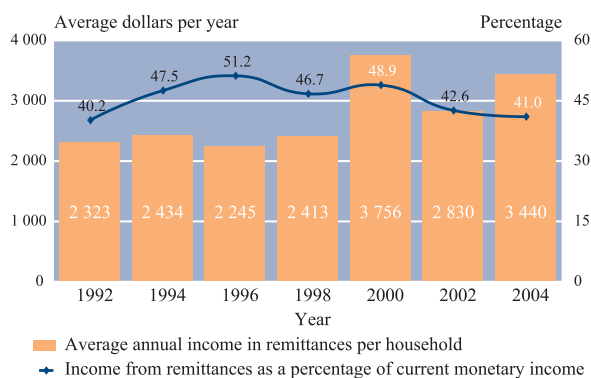
It is important to highlight that for one out of every eight receiving households, remittances constitute the only source of monetary income, making these households highly vulnerable to the possibility of an interruption in the flow of these resources.

Average annual amount of income from international remittances, and the corresponding percentage in relation to the current monetary income of households, in localities with less than 2 500 inhabitants, 1992-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, *Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares (ENIGH)*, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004.

Average annual amount of income from international remittances, and the corresponding percentage in relation to the current monetary income of households, 1992-2004



Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, *Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares (ENIGH)*, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004.

A frequent issue mentioned when addressing the topic of remittances is the cost of sending them

A process of reducing the costs of transferring remittances has taken place during recent years, and according to PROFECO, these costs have diminished significantly in the last five years.

In a sample of businesses in Chicago, the average cost was reduced from US \$21.80 in 1999, to US \$11.30 in the second half of 2004, for every transfer of US \$300.00.

In Dallas, the cost was reduced from US \$27.10 to \$12.60 in the period mentioned above; in Houston, it was reduced from US \$21.80 to \$12.60; in Indianapolis, it dropped from US \$42.10 to \$11.00; in Los Angeles, the cost was reduced from US \$28.30 to \$11.60; in Miami, from US \$27.40 to \$12.40; in New York, from US \$27.00 to \$12.00; and in Sacramento, it dropped from \$32.40 to \$11.60.

The immigration flows into Mexico have not played a determinant role in the dynamics of the country's demographic evolution.

The contemporary profile of immigration in Mexico has been characterized by a tradition of providing asylum and refuge. Especially outstanding in this regard are the following: the flow of exiles from the Spanish Civil War in the 1930s, numbering more than 21 000 immigrants, plus hundreds of immigrants from Europe during the Second World War; also, Guatemalan refugees in 1954, fleeing their country after the overthrow of President Jacobo Arbenz; and then, beginning in the 1970s, thousands of exiles and refugees escaping military dictatorships in South and Central American countries; and more recently, Guatemalans expelled from their country due to situations of violence there.

Over the last three or four decades, Mexico's southern border has become the scene of major flows of migrants from Central America, particularly Guatemala. Especially in recent years, this border has increasingly become a transit zone for Central Americans who are on their way to the United States—most of whom lack legal documents or authorization to enter that country.

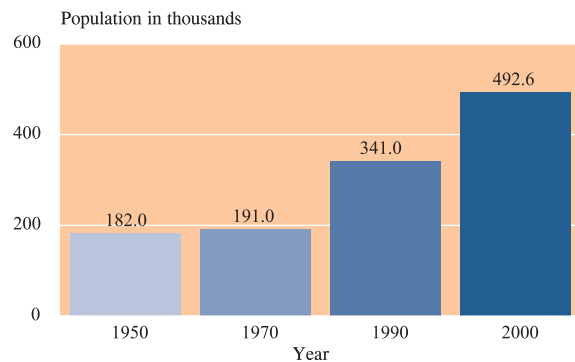
Due to the nature of this phenomenon, it is difficult to precisely quantify the amount of and to identify the primary characteristics of the persons making up this undocumented migration flow.

Immigration in Mexico has been a phenomenon involving small numbers of persons

According to data from population and housing censuses in Mexico, there were approximately 100 000 foreigners living in the country at the beginning of the 19th century, increasing to 116 000 by the end of the first decade of the 20th century. In 1921, after the Mexican Revolution, the number of foreigners decreased to 108 000, to then increase again, to 182 000 by 1950.

The resident foreign population in Mexico represents 0.5 percent of the country's total population.

Foreign-born resident population in Mexico, 1950, 1970, 1990 and 2000



Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, *Censo General de Población y Vivienda*, 1950, 1970, 1990 and 2000.

The majority of immigrants are natives of the United States

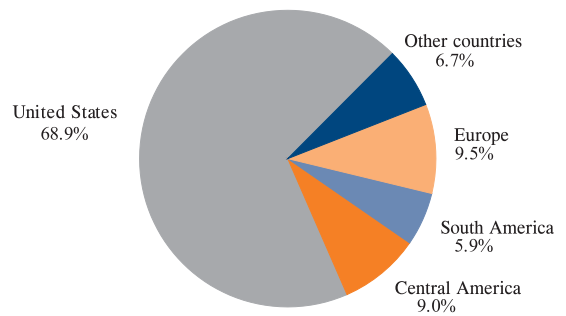
Information from the 2000 census reveals that the great majority of immigrants come from the United States (69%).

Ranking next, in order of importance, are immigrants from Europe (9.5%), Central America (9.0%) and South America (5.9%). The countries especially notable in these regions are Guatemala and Spain, with 5.6 and 4.1 percent of the total foreigners in the country, respectively.

The greatest proportion of immigrants from the United States are significantly linked to the return of Mexican migrants who lived in the United States, and had children there —who are classified in Mexico as foreign-born population.

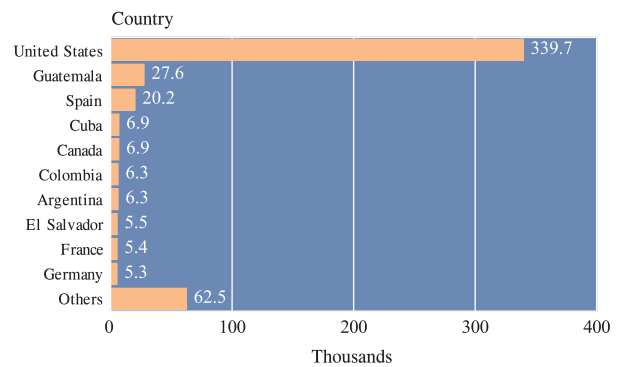


Foreign-born resident population in Mexico, by region of birth, 2000



Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, “Muestra del diez por ciento”, XII Censo General de Población y Vivienda, 2000.

Foreign-born resident population in Mexico, by country of birth, 2000



Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, “Muestra del diez por ciento”, XII Censo General de Población y Vivienda, 2000.

The geographic location of foreigners living in Mexico varies according to their region of origin

The foreign population is concentrated in only a few of the country's states. Eight out of every ten foreigners reside in 13 states, and one out of every two reside in only five states: Baja California, Mexico City, Jalisco, Chihuahua and Tamaulipas.

The distribution of immigrants in national territory varies according to their country of origin. More than half of US natives are concentrated in the border states, and nearly

three out of every ten are concentrated in five states in the region characterized by a strong tradition of migration.

The majority of Central American immigrants—who are mostly Guatemalans—reside in the country's southern states (especially Chiapas, followed by Campeche and Quintana Roo), and also in Mexico City, while South Americans and Europeans are basically concentrated in Mexico City and the state of Mexico.

Distribution of foreign resident population in Mexico, by state of residence, according to region of birth, 2000

State of residence	Total	Region of birth				
		United States	Central America	South America	Europe	Other country
Population, total and by region	492 617	339 717	44 098	29 018	46 570	33 214
Percentage of total, by region	100.0	69.0	9.0	5.9	9.5	6.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Baja California	12.9	17.4	2.6	3.5	2.3	3.5
Mexico City	11.1	2.9	9.5	39.9	40.6	30.2
Jalisco	10.4	11.7	3.1	8.3	6.9	13.3
Chihuahua	9.1	12.4	0.7	0.6	1.1	4.1
Tamaulipas	7.1	10.0	0.8	0.7	0.6	1.6
Mexico	5.6	2.9	6.9	16.2	14.7	9.6
Michoacan de Ocampo	4.5	6.2	0.4	1.1	0.8	0.7
Nuevo Leon	3.9	4.0	2.4	6.5	2.7	3.6
Chiapas	3.7	0.1	39.0	0.4	0.8	0.7
Guanajuato	3.7	4.5	1.1	1.6	1.9	3.4
Sonora	3.3	4.5	0.7	0.2	0.7	1.3
Puebla	2.2	1.8	1.8	3.2	4.4	2.6
Coahuila de Zaragoza	2.2	2.6	0.9	0.9	1.7	1.4
Zacatecas	1.9	2.5	0.3	0.7	0.2	1.9
Quintana Roo	1.7	0.5	6.5	3.6	4.2	2.9
Morelos	1.7	1.3	0.5	2.5	3.8	2.9
Durango	1.6	2.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	1.4
Guerrero	1.5	1.9	0.3	0.4	0.9	1.1
Campeche	1.5	0.1	15.7	0.2	0.1	0.3
Other states	10.5	10.6	6.7	9.2	11.5	13.6

Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, "Muestra de diez por ciento", *XII Censo General de Población y Vivienda, 2000*, with totals adjusted to the Census population.

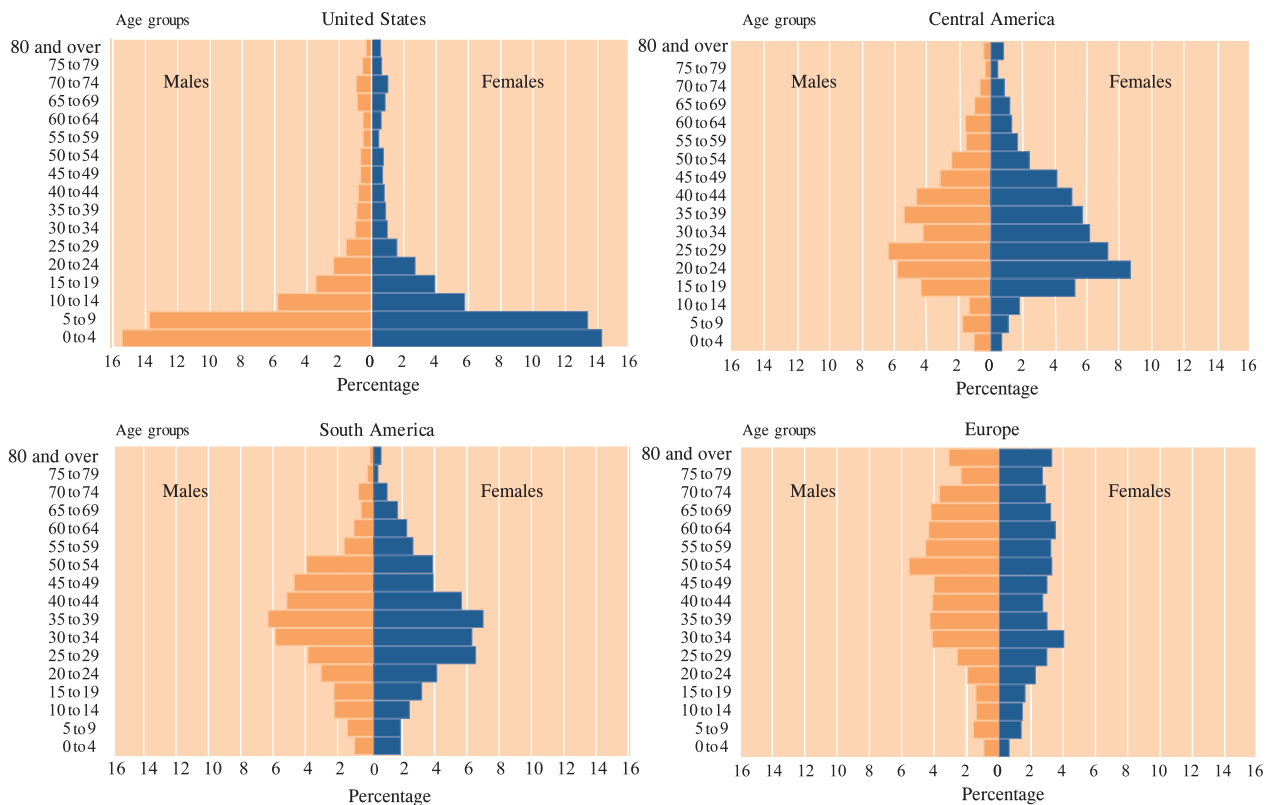
US immigrants are characterized by a younger age structure

Linked to the return of Mexican emigrants, the age structure of immigrants from the United States is predominantly young: 68.4 percent are under 15 years of age.

In contrast to the above, the profile of immigrants from Central and South America is concentrated within a young range of labor ages, and the profile for immigrants from European countries points to an older age structure. The latter suggests that immigration from overseas has not been very significant in recent years.



Pyramids of foreign resident population in Mexico, by region of birth, 2000



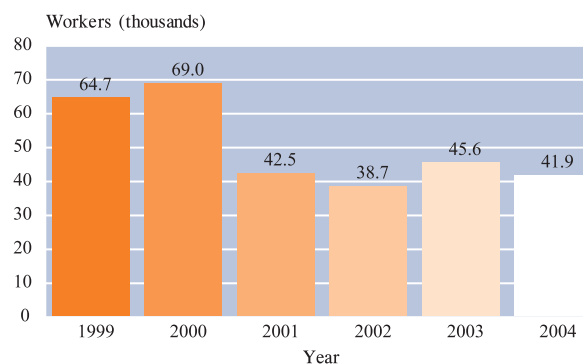
Source: CONAPO estimates based on INEGI, "Muestra del diez por ciento", XII Censo General de Población y Vivienda, 2000.

Migration at the southern border is increasing

During the last two decades, the dynamics of migration at Mexico's southern border have been intensifying, as a result of the increased flows of Central American migrants. These flows have been made up of Guatemalan refugees, temporary agricultural workers from Guatemala, and transmigrants who use Mexico as a springboard to their final destination—the United States.

In recent years, there is a tendency toward decreasing numbers of Central American agricultural workers entering Mexican territory every year—most of whom are Guatemalans. Figures from the National Migration Institute (Instituto Nacional de Migración) indicate that their numbers decreased from 69 000 to 42 000, from 2000 to 2004.

Number of documented agricultural workers who enter Mexico annually, 1999-2004



Source: Data basis from the National Migration Institute (Instituto Nacional de Migración), *Estadísticas migratorias*, May 2005.

Mexico is a transit country for a growing number of migrants, mostly from Central America

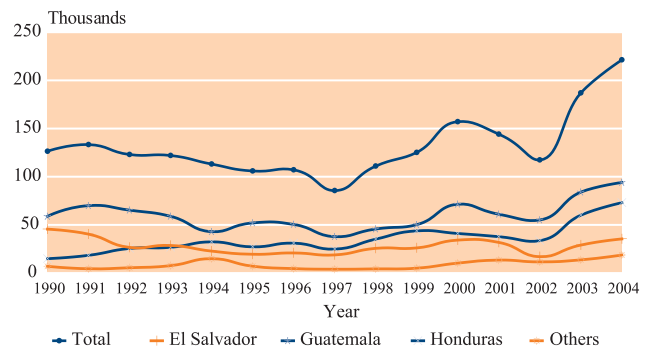
In recent years, and increasingly so, the southern border has become a transit zone for migrants whose destination is the United States—and most of whom do not have the necessary authorization.

Due to the surreptitious characteristics of these migration flows, it is difficult to make a precise estimation of their numbers. Nevertheless, based on statistics related to the numbers of foreigners returned to their countries of origin by migration authorities, we can approximately estimate the magnitude of the flow of undocumented persons entering Mexico.

Since 1990, the annual average number of occasions in which undocumented foreigners are returned has increased significantly, from 157 000 occurrences in 2000, to 221 000 occurrences in 2004.

Available data indicate that the flow of undocumented migrants involves primarily Central Americans, and of that group, mostly Guatemalans, followed by Hondurans, and Salvadorans.

Occasions on which undocumented foreigners are rejected or returned by Mexican migration authorities, according to country of origin, 1990-2004



Source: Data basis from the National Migration Institute (Instituto Nacional de Migración), *Estadísticas migratorias*, 1996, 1999, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005.

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Poverty in the United States	The US Census Bureau uses the poverty index that was adopted by the <i>Federal Interagency Committee</i> in 1969, and then slightly modified in 1981. The modified index specifies a range of income that defines the poverty line or “threshold,” adjusted on the basis of family size, number of offspring under the age of 18, the age of the head of household, and the age of household members who are unrelated individuals. The poverty index is updated annually to reflect changes in the consumer price index. The average poverty threshold for a family of four in 2004 was a total annual income of US \$19 484.
Health coverage	According to the CPS glossary of terms, “coverage” signifies being registered in some medical assistance program. For the purposes of analysis, individuals considered to have health coverage are those who are signed up with a medical assistance public program (Medicare or Medicaid) or who have contracted private medical insurance.
Emigrants:	Persons who leave a country or place of origin to reside in another.
Households:	The group of persons related or unrelated to each other who habitually reside in the same particular housing and are sustained by shared spending on food.
• Nuclear households:	Composed of a head of household and his/her spouse with unmarried children or without children, or by a head of household and his/her descendents.
• Extended households:	Composed of a nuclear family and some other relative (not spouse or offspring), independently of the type of family relationship.
• Composite households:	Composed of nuclear or extended families plus another individual who is not related to the head of household.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-resident households: 	Composed only by individuals who are not related to the head of household.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single-person households: 	Composed of a single person.
Family and non-family households:	<p>Family: at least one of the household members is related to the head of household;</p> <p>Non-family: none of the household members are related to the head of household.</p>
Households headed by Mexicans in the United States:	Households in which the head of the domestic unit is a person who was born in Mexico.
Households headed by immigrants in the United States:	Households in which the head of the domestic unit is an immigrant who was born in a country other than Mexico.
Current monetary income:	Income received in cash for waged work, from one's own business, from production cooperatives, from rents, interest, dividends and royalties, from transfers received that do not constitute payment for work, and other current income.
Current total income:	Consists of current monetary income plus an estimate of the market value of the private, final consumer products and services from one's own business, as well as in kind payments, gifts and the rent assigned to one's own home.
Immigrants:	Persons who arrive in a country or place of destination other than their own, to reside there.
Circular migration:	Repeated displacements carried out by migrants between their country of origin and country of destination.
"Return" migration:	Migrants returning to their country of origin, after having remained a determined period of time in another country.

Glossary

Undocumented migration:	Movement of persons to a country that is not their country of origin, without possessing the necessary documentation to enter, remain in or work in that country.
International migration:	Displacement of persons, involving crossing international borders in order to make a change in their habitual place of residence.
Net migration:	Net effect from immigration and emigration on the population in an area in a determined period of time. This net effect may be positive, null or negative, and in the last case, it is also referred to as Net Migration Loss.
Population of Mexican origin residing in the United States:	Divided into three groups: a) population born in Mexico; b) first generation population, which is the population born in the neighboring country, but of Mexican parents; and c) second generation population, composed of persons who were born in the United States and who acknowledge their Mexican origin, even though neither they nor their parents were born in Mexico.
Refugees:	Persons who are granted asylum or protection by a State within its territory for reasons of fear, persecution or grave danger. Among the benefits granted are: they are not returned to their country of origin, they are given permission to remain in the territory of the country offering refuge, and norms related to humane treatment are respected.
Remittances:	Monetary transfers by migrants to their places of origin.
Transmigrants:	Persons who travel through the territory of a country (without seeking to establish themselves there), to use it as a springboard in their attempt to enter another country.

Regionalization in the United States and Mexico

Regions of destination of Mexican migration to the United States¹

United States

Southwest “First phase”	Southwest “Expansion”	Great Lakes	Great Plains	East Coast	Other
Arizona	Idaho	Illinois	Colorado	North Carolina	Alabama
California	Nevada	Indiana	Iowa	South Carolina	Alaska
New Mexico	Oregon	Michigan	Kansas	Connecticut	Arkansas
Texas	Utah	Wisconsin	Missouri	Delaware	North Dakota
	Washington		Nebraska	District of Columbia	South Dakota
			Oklahoma	Florida	Hawaii
			Wyoming	Georgia	Kentucky
				Maryland	Louisiana
				New Jersey	Maine
				New York	Massachusetts
				Pennsylvania	Minnesota
				Rhode Island	Mississippi
				Virginia	Montana
					New Hampshire
					Ohio
					Tennessee
					Vermont
					West Virginia

Regionalization of the origin of Mexican migration to the United States

Mexico

Central	North	South-Southeast	Traditional
Hidalgo	Baja California	Campeche	Aguascalientes
Mexico City	Baja California Sur	Chiapas	Colima
Mexico	Coahuila de Zaragoza	Guerrero	Durango
Morelos	Chihuahua	Oaxaca	Guanajuato
Puebla	Nuevo Leon	Quintana Roo	Jalisco
Queretaro de Arteaga	Sinaloa	Tabasco	Michoacan de Ocampo
Tlaxcala	Sonora	Veracruz-Llave	Nayarit
	Tamaulipas	Yucatan	San Luis Potosi
			Zacatecas

¹ Defined by Durand, Jorge and Douglas S. Massey, *Clandestinos. Migración México-Estados Unidos en los albores del siglo XXI*, 2003.

Abbreviations

Acronyms

BANXICO	Banco de México
CELADE	Centro Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Demografía
CEPAL	Centro Económico para América Latina y el Caribe
CONAPO	Consejo Nacional de Población
CPS	Current Population Survey
DI	Domestic Investment
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
EL COLEF	El Colegio de la Frontera Norte
EMIF	Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México
ENE	Encuesta Nacional de Empleo
ENIGH	Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GDP	Gross National Product
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INEGI	Instituto Nacional de Estadística Geografía e Información
INM	Instituto Nacional de Migración
PNUD	Programa de Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo
PROFECO	Procuraduría Federal del Consumidor
SRE	Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores
STyPS	Secretaría del Trabajo y Previsión Social

Mexica States

AG	Aguascalientes	MO	Morelos
BC	Baja California	NY	Nayarit
BS	Baja California Sur	NL	Nuevo Leon
CP	Campeche	OX	Oaxaca
CO	Coahuila de Zaragoza	PU	Puebla
CL	Colima	QT	Queretaro de Arteaga
CS	Chiapas	QR	Quintana Roo
CH	Chihuahua	SL	San Luis Potosi
DF	Mexico City	SI	Sinaloa
DG	Durango	SO	Sonora
GT	Guanajuato	TB	Tabasco
GR	Guerrero	TM	Tamaulipas
HG	Hidalgo	TX	Tlaxcala
JL	Jalisco	VZ	Veracruz-Llave
MX	Mexico	YU	Yucatan
MI	Michoacan de Ocampo	ZT	Zacatecas

XII Censo General de Población y Vivienda 2000

Mexico's *Censo General de Población y Vivienda* (General Population and Housing Census) is a project conducted by the *Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática* (INEGI, the National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Information). The census is conducted every ten years (in the years ending in zeros), and is aimed at generating the necessary demographic, socioeconomic and cartographic information for the country, with the maximum detail possible by geographic area.

To conduct the *XII Censo General de Población y Vivienda 2000*, two types of questionnaire were used: a basic and an expanded. The expanded questionnaire was directed exclusively at a probabilistic sample of approximately 2.2 million homes in the entire country. It contained the questions from the basic questionnaire plus additional questions oriented toward developing more specific knowledge of certain aspects of the population, and including a special section on international migration.

Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares (ENIGH)

The *Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares* (ENIGH, the National Survey of Household Income and Expenses) is a project of the Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática (INEGI, the National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Information) of the Mexican government. It has been conducted periodically since 1977, and is aimed at providing information regarding the amount and structure of income and spending of Mexican households.

The information gathered makes it possible to arrive at estimates regarding the amount of international remittances received by Mexican households, as well as to construct a series of sociodemographic and economic indicators regarding households and household members.

Encuesta Nacional de Empleo (ENE)

The *Encuesta Nacional de Empleo* (ENE, the National Employment Survey) is a joint project of the Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática (INEGI, the National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Information) and the Secretaría del Trabajo y Previsión Social (STYPS, the Ministry of Labor). It has been conducted periodically since 1988, and is aimed

at obtaining information regarding the employment characteristics of the national population.

The basic questionnaire for 2002 included a module on international migration, making it possible to quantify and characterize the migration flows of Mexicans to the United States.

Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México (EMIF)

The *Encuesta sobre Migración en la Frontera Norte de México* (EMIF, the Survey on Migration at Mexico's Northern Border) is a joint project of the Secretaría del Trabajo y Previsión Social (STYPS, the Ministry of Labor), Consejo Nacional de Población (CONAPO, National Population Council), Colegio de la Frontera Norte (EL COLEF, the Northern Border College), Instituto Nacional de Migración (INM, the National Migration Institute) and Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores (SRE, the Foreign Relations Ministry). This survey has been conducted on an ongoing and systematic basis since 1993, and is aimed at further developing knowledge regarding the labor migration of Mexicans to the United States.

The EMIF directly measures and characterizes labor migration flows between Mexico and the United States in both directions, as well as flows of labor migrants from within the country to communities along the country's northern border.

Financial and economic information from the Banco de México

Banco de México is the financial institution responsible for making estimates of the remittances registered in the Balance of Payments. One of the four major sections making up the Balance of Payments is the Current Account, in which the foreign currency entering and leaving the country is registered, including that generated by transfers from foreign countries.

Banco de México considers family remittances to consist of all unilateral transfers from a resident abroad to a resident in Mexico.

Sistema de Estadísticas Migratorias

The *Sistema de Estadísticas Migratorias* (System of Migration Statistics) is an information system of the Instituto Nacional de Migración (INM, the National Migration Institute), which is a decentralized technical

Sources of information

entity of the Secretaría de Gobernación (Interior Ministry). This system is aimed at obtaining, processing, evaluating and disseminating statistical information regarding migration that is generated by all areas of the Institute. Most of the information contained in the document is sent by INM regional and local offices to INM central offices, through databases in which the information registered includes: applications processed, the number of foreigners rejected and expelled from the country, as well as the arrival of Mexicans who are repatriated from the United States. Statistics regarding the presence of foreigners includes monthly information from 1989 to 2004 in relation to the principal migration variables.

United States Census 2000

The US Population Census is a project of the Census Bureau that has been conducted every ten years (in the years ending in zeros) since 1790.

The Census for the year 2000 included an expanded complementary questionnaire that was applied to households. The questionnaire, directed at a representative sample of the resident population in the United States, focused on the place of birth, citizenship status and year of arrival of the individuals living in each housing unit at the time the census questionnaire was applied, even if those individuals declared they had another place to live.

Current Population Survey

The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a survey conducted by the Department of Labor Statistics of the US Census Bureau on an ongoing basis since the 1950s. This survey is primarily aimed at generating information regarding the characteristics of the labor force and the conditions of the country's labor market.

In its monthly surveys, the CPS inquires as to residents' country of birth, their citizenship *status*, and the year they entered the United States, making it possible to measure and characterize the immigrant population. In the survey conducted in March of every year, a supplement

is added with questions regarding the socioeconomic and demographic profile of the immigrant population. Currently, data from the supplement survey for the years from 1994 to 2004 is available.

15-percent sample and 5-percent sample

The *15-percent sample* and *5-percent sample* refer to specific high-precision samples of the resident population in the United States that have been constructed by the Census Bureau and are subject to study in the ten-year population censuses. These samples have been applied in the censuses from 1850 to 2000. The series of data includes information regarding a wide range of population characteristics, including fertility, marriage, immigration, domestic migration, economic participation, occupational structure, education, ethnic group, and household composition. The available information from each sample varies according to the questions included that year.

The new era of migrations 2005

Characteristics of international migration in Mexico

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