



<b>Area</b>	761,610 Sq. Mi. (about 3 times the size of Texas) the world's 13 <sup>th</sup> largest country
<b>Capital</b>	Mexico City
<b>Population</b>	126 million – 10 <sup>th</sup> most populous country in the world
<b>Ethnic Groups</b>	23.2 million people identify themselves as indigenous people
<b>Religions</b>	78% Catholic, 11% Protestant, 11% No religion
<b>Human Dev Index</b>	.758 (86 <sup>th</sup> ); (v. USA .921 – 21 <sup>st</sup> )
<b>Currency</b>	Mexican Peso
<b>GDP</b>	\$1.2 trillion (world's 15 <sup>th</sup> largest)
<b>GDP per cap</b>	\$10,045.7 (upper middle-income country)
<b>Services</b>	64% of the economy (mostly financial services and tourism)
<b>Industries</b>	32% of the economy (mostly automotive, oil and electronics)
<b>Agriculture</b>	4% of the economy
<b>Major Trading Partner</b>	United States
<b>Organizations:</b>	Member of UN, the G20, the OECD, the WTO, the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, the OAS, and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, US-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement

Mexican history dates back as far as 10,000 years. Spain conquered Mexico around 1521. Mexico gained independence from Spain in 1821. The current constitution was adopted in 1917 following the Mexican Revolution.

The United Mexican States are a federation whose government is representative, democratic, and republican based on a presidential system. There are three levels of government - federal, state, and municipal. The president is popularly elected. The parliament has 500 members of a Chamber of Deputies and 128 Senators. Court justices are appointed by the president and approved by the Senate. The thirty-one states must have a republican form of government with three branches - executive, legislative with a unicameral congress, and judiciary including a state Supreme Court of Justice. They also have their own civil and judicial codes.

Tourism is a major part of the economy. In 2021, Mexico was the second most visited country (31.9 million) and generated the 9th highest income from tourism in the world (19.8 billion USD).

People of Mexican origin remain the largest group of immigrants in the US, accounting for about 11.3% of the US population.

**Fun Facts:** Has 35 properties and 11 cultural expressions inscribed in UNESCO's Heritage Lists, including Mexican cuisine and Mariachi music. The Sea of Cortez/Gulf of California is known as the "Aquarium of the World" for its incredibly diverse array of marine life. The National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) is the oldest in North America (1551). Has the world's smallest volcano and largest pyramid. 68 different indigenous languages spoken. The meteor that killed the dinosaurs hit the Yucatan Peninsula. Guillermo Gonzalez-Camarena, the inventor of color TV, was born in Mexico. Is the 5<sup>th</sup> most megadiverse country in the world.