

History of Mexico

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Government

1. President Andres Manuel
2. Relatively recent switch from single party system (PRI, Institutional Republic Party, held uninterrupted power from 1929-2000). Since 2000, more oppositional parties have showed up, perhaps revealing a more truly democratic system.
3. Federal Presidential Republic
4. Legislative, Judicial, Executive branches of govt.

Economy

1. 11th largest economy in the world, worth \$2.5 trillion
2. GDP per capita, \$19,900
3. Exports: \$409.8 billion, 79.9% to US
4. Imports: \$420.8 billion, 46.4% from US, 17.7% from China, 4.3% from Japan
5. Rapidly developing infrastructure growth, increasing ownership from the private sector
6. Macroeconomic stability, still large class divisions

Population

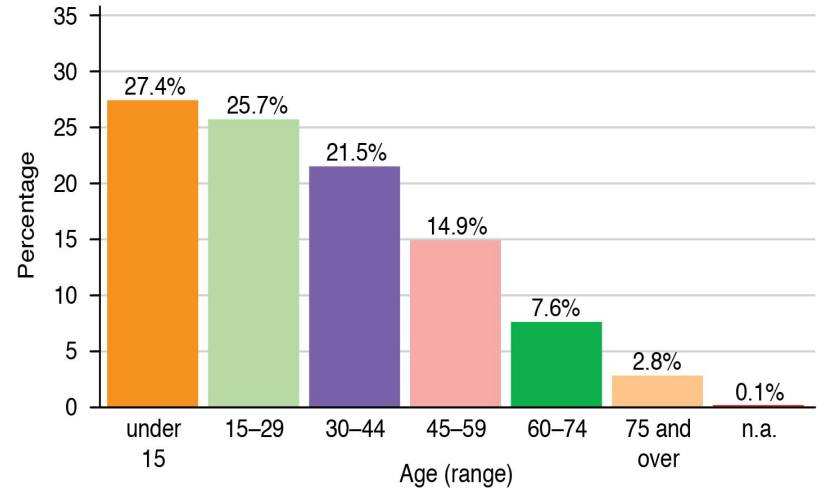
There is 126 million people total (80.2% live in urban areas)

Ethnicity - Majority amerindian spanish (62%)

Language - Spanish

Religion - Roman Catholic (82.7%)

Age breakdown (2015)



Geography

Large variety of ecosystems ranging from swamps to deserts. Over half the country is above an elevation of 3300 feet. The central mass is a plateau flanked by mountain ranges on the East and West. Northern area of the plateau is arid and thinly populated even though it occupies 40 percent of Mexico



General History

- Had many early civilizations such as the Mayans and Aztecs
- Taken over by Spanish conquistadors and the Catholic Church
- In 1823 Antonio López de Santa Anna established 19 states and four territories
- He served till 1836 fighting in stopping Texas from leaving with the battle of the Alamo
- Was under French control for a period of 1800's
- In 1876 Porfirio Díaz took over and helped build some infrastructure but mostly benefited the wealthy and ignored the poor
- Mexican revolution in 1910 and lasted 10 years with 2 million casualties, in 1934 Lázaro Cárdenas became president and helped better the country through WW2
- Now with new factories being opened the wealth gap is decreasing but still must combat the major drug trafficking problems