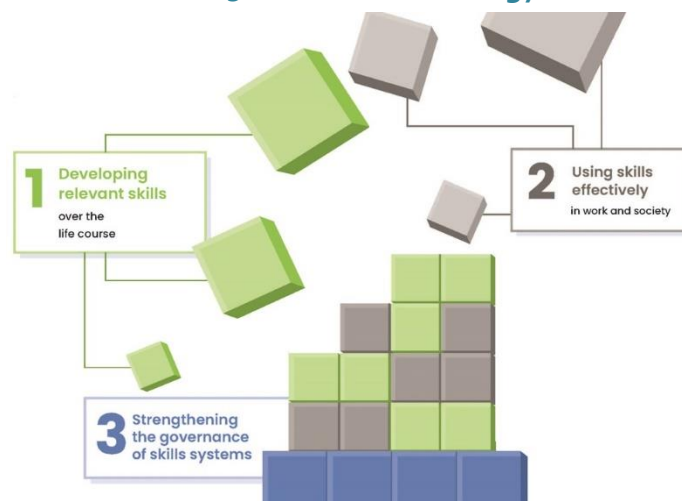




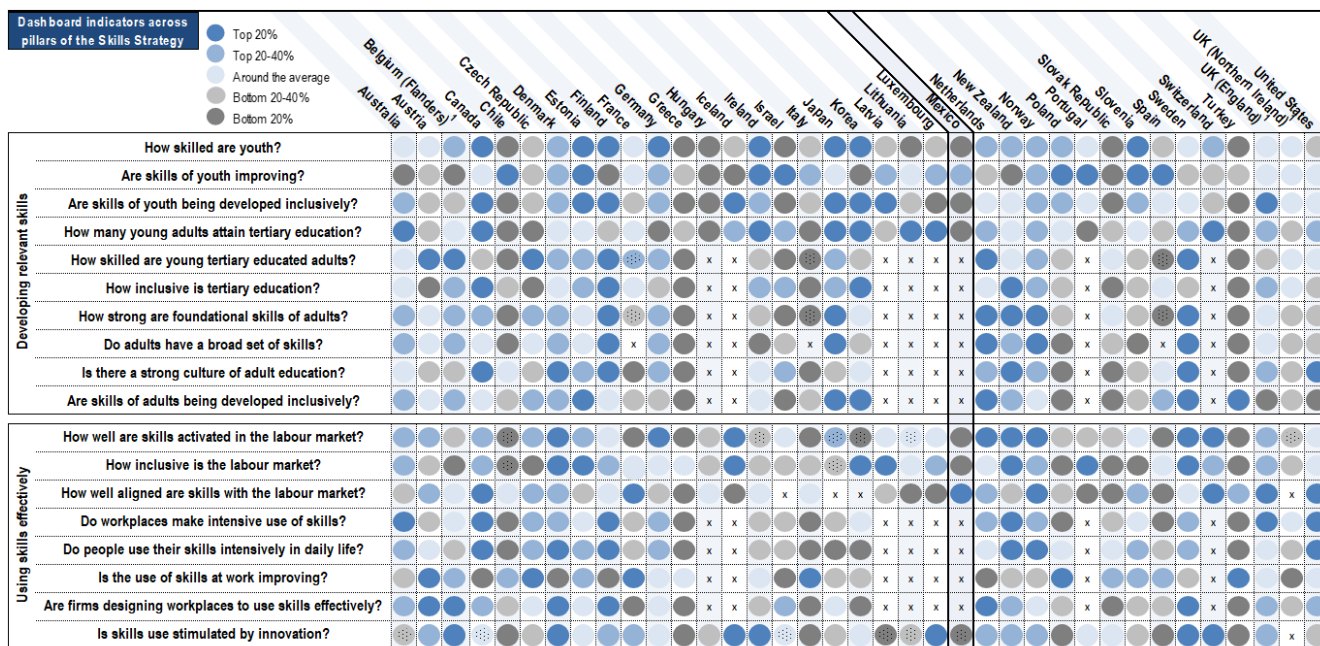
### 2019 OECD Skills Strategy: Mexico

Since its launch in 2012, the OECD Skills Strategy has provided countries with a strategic and comprehensive approach to assessing their skills challenges and opportunities. The 2019 OECD Skills Strategy incorporates lessons learned from applying the OECD Skills Strategy framework in eleven countries, including new evidence about the implications of so-called megatrends, such as globalisation, digitalisation, population ageing or migration. It also accounts for new evidence about skills policies that work under the proper governance arrangements, including effective co-ordination and accountability mechanisms, efficient funding from different sources and information systems. This document describes the key findings for Mexico.

### The 2019 OECD Skills Strategy



### OECD Skills Strategy Dashboard: summary indicators of skills performance



Notes: Indicators are selected, aggregated and normalised in a way to ensure that a higher value and being among the “Top 20%” reflects better performance. Colours in the dashboard represent the quintile position of the country in the ranking, with dark grey indicating performance at the bottom, and dark blue indicating performance at the top of the ranking. The “x” indicates insufficient or no available data for the underlying indicators, and dotted circles indicate missing data for at least one underlying indicator. Only OECD sources have been used (see OECD (2019) for overview).

1. For Belgium (Flanders), United Kingdom (England and Northern Ireland), a combination of regional (PISA and PIAAC) and national data have been used.

Note on Israel: The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and are under the responsibility of relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.

### Mexico’s skills performance

The Skills Strategy Dashboard provides a snapshot of Mexico’s comparative skills performance. Mexico enjoys of an open economy with a strong macroeconomic framework that has allowed for moderate economic growth in recent years. Mexico has one of the largest and most complex education systems in the OECD and while the country has

recently engaged in important policy reforms to its skills system, many of these reforms need time to mature. For example, in 2017 Mexico introduced the New Education Model, which included reforms to the curriculum of compulsory education to ensure that students are able to develop the skills required in the 21st century, focusing on

developing socio-emotional skills and core competencies. In 2012, Mexico made upper secondary education compulsory with the initial goal of attaining universal coverage by 2022. Significant progress has also been made in increasing attainment in upper secondary and tertiary education, and Mexico has one of the largest shares of students entering science-related tertiary education across OECD countries.

Despite this progress, Mexico still faces significant skills challenges. The Skills Strategy Dashboard shows that Mexico's performance on most measures of skills development ranks at the bottom 20% of OECD countries. Results from the OECD Programme for International Students Assessment (PISA), show that the performance of 15-year-old students in reading, mathematics and science remains well below the OECD average. Despite the increase in enrolment rates and education attainment, upper-secondary drop-out rates remains very high and the share of Mexican adults with at least upper secondary education remains below the OECD average. In addition, Mexico has the lowest share of tertiary-educated population across OECD countries.

Mexico would benefit from improving the inclusiveness of its skills development and use. In Mexico, the socio-economic background of youth has a stronger influence on their skills development than in all other OECD countries.

As for skills activation and the inclusiveness of the labour market, Mexico still has much room for improvement. Indeed, labour force participation rates have increased recently but are well below the OECD average and there are large differences between men and women (women have one of the lowest participation rates of the OECD). Moreover, there is a stubbornly large proportion of labour market informality.

Despite some improvements, the share of youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) is one of the highest among OECD countries and the labour market performs poorly compared with other OECD countries in terms of job quality, equity and of inclusiveness.

Mexico has taken important steps to address many of these challenges; including a legislation reform that has made the question of quality and equity in education a priority for education services.

Still, Mexico could benefit from a renewal of its strategic vision for the future to ensure that all of its people have the skills to respond to the challenges and opportunities of a complex and rapidly changing world. A whole-of-government approach is needed to achieve this aim.

### Key recommendations for improving the performance of countries' skills system

#### Developing relevant skills over the life course: Making skills systems responsive

- Making each stage of learning a foundation for success in the next
- Enabling policies to support learning in adulthood
- Supporting teachers to become lifelong learners
- Financing adult learning
- Harnessing the power of technology as a tool for learning

#### Using skills effectively in work and society: Making the most of everyone's potential

- Make full use of everyone's skills
- Making the most of migrants' skills
- Activating skills to build more inclusive and cohesive societies
- Making intensive use of skills in work
- Aligning skills with the needs of the economy and society
- Aligning skills policies with industrial and innovation policies

#### Strengthening the governance of skills systems: Tackling increased complexity

- Promoting co-ordination, co-operation and collaboration across the whole of government
- Engaging stakeholders throughout the policy cycle
- Building integrated information systems
- Aligning and co-ordinating financing arrangements

#### Further reading

OECD (2019), *OECD Skills Strategy 2019: Skills to shape a better future*, OECD Publishing, Paris, [//doi.org/10.1787/9789264313835-en](https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264313835-en).

OECD (2019), *OECD Skills Outlook 2019: Thriving in a Digital World*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/df80bc12-en>.

OECD(2019), *OECD Economic Surveys: Mexico 2019*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/a536d00e-en>.

OECD (forthcoming), *Strengthening the Governance of Skills Systems*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

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