

Mexico

Statistical profile

Figure 1. Statistical profile



	Population growth 2008-2019 (%)	Growth in employment 2008-2016 (%)	GVA per worker (1 000 USD ppp)	GVA manufacturing share (%)	Hospital beds per 1 000 inhabitants
Regions with a city >250K	1.6 (0.7)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Regions near a city >250K	1.8 (0.3)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Regions with/near a city <250K	1.6 (0.2)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Remote regions	1.5 (0.5)	NA	NA	NA	NA

Note: OECD average is presented in parenthesis. The OECD average in the table has been made with 33 countries with available data.

Source: (OECD, 2020^[1]) OECD Regional Statistics (database), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/region-data-e>.

Policy framework and Institutional setting of rural development

Rural Definition

- ❖ Mexico does not have a single formal definition of what is rural for policymaking purposes. While the National Statistics Agency has developed some criteria based on the number of inhabitants (rural localities are those with less than 2,500 people), ministries such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development do not guide its policies based on that

criteria. Instead the guiding principle is the kind of activities performed by the beneficiaries of public programs (agriculture, animal husbandry etc), without emphasis on the size of their community.

National rural policy

- ❖ Mexico does not have an explicit national rural policy. Instead, there is a set of different policies aimed at improving conditions related to rural development (e.g. agricultural production policies or land-tenure policies). The overarching policy related with rural development is the “Special Programme for Sustainable Rural Development” (“Programa Especial Concurrente para el Desarrollo Rural Sustentable”-- PEC). This policy was defined by the 2001 Law for Sustainable Rural Development (LDRS) with the aim to guaranteeing the welfare of rural people. At the beginning (1st year) of each Federal Administration, PEC is designed and approved. Once approved, it is yearly funded with federal fiscal resources approved by Congress.

Lead ministry(ies) and other co-ordination bodies in charge

Table 1. Main institutions in charge of rural development policies at the national level

Ministries/Committees (most important first)	Role
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER)	Planning, funding, and implementation of agricultural and rural development programs and activities.
Ministry of Agrarian, Territory, and Urban Development (SEDATU)	Planning, coordinate and implement policies on land-use management and housing. It's in charge of the Registro Agrario Nacional (RAN), which is the national registry of socially-owned land (the so-called “ejido”). RAN is important for rural development planning since more than 50% of agricultural lands are still under the ejido regime
Ministry of Welfare (SEDESOL)	Planning, coordination and implementation of social policies. It's in charge of the implementation of “Prospera”, a program that supports poor and extremely poor people in urban and rural areas through conditional cash transfers.
Inter-Ministerial Commission for Sustainable Rural Development	Planning, coordination, and evaluation of programs implemented at the federal level with sustainable rural development as their primary objective

Table 2. Main institutions in charge of rural development policies at the sub-national level

Institutions	Role
State-level government agencies	Implementation
State Governments	Planning and implementation.

Key objectives in rural policy and delivery mechanisms

- Mexico's rural development policy allocates a high degree of importance to economic and social areas (Table 3). Table 4 shows the main priorities of its rural policy.

The main delivery mechanisms to conduct implement rural policies are dedicated grants programmes.

Table 3. Relevance of sectors in rural development policy

Policy areas	Weight on rural policy	Average OECD
Economic	40%	40%
Social	40%	30%
Environment	20%	30%

Note: Self-reported responses from country delegate to the question: “Please grade from 1 to 10 the importance rural development policies in your country assigns to economic, social and environmental areas”.

Source: OECD (2018), “Responses to the institutional survey on rural policy in OECD countries”.

Table 4. Relevant objectives in rural development policy

Top objectives	Programmes	Main financial mechanisms to support the strategy
Agricultural production	Agriculture Promotion Programme, Livestock Development Programme, Livestock Credit Programme. For all those programs, the main instrument is providing financial support aimed at increasing either their input-use, new technology adoption, or increasing machinery stocks to increase agricultural production	Subsidies and loans
Innovation support to “rural” sectors	The “Programa de Fomento a la Agricultura” includes subsidies that are granted to support training and technological innovation. Public agricultural universities and research institutes engaging in R&D activities, training, technology adoption, education, and extension services.	Spending in agricultural universities; R&D spending in public institutions complemented with some subsidies.

Note: Objectives presented are the objectives with higher scores in the survey responses. Mexico rated only two objectives for rural development policy.

Source: OECD (2018), “Responses to the institutional survey on rural policy in OECD countries”.