

The Effects of Emigration on Mexico

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Immigration vs. Emigration

- You immigrate to a country.
- You emigrate from a country.

Emigrate

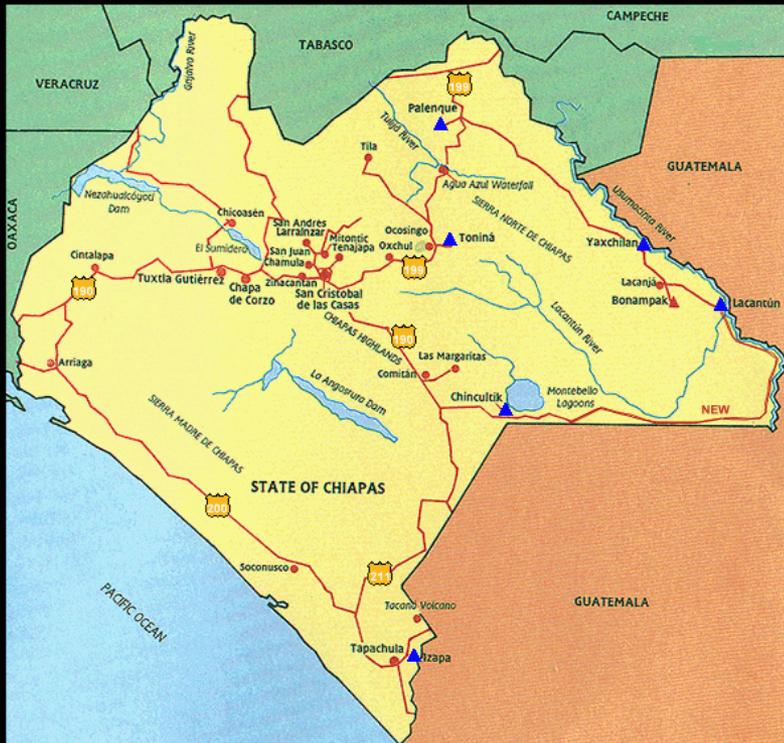


Immigrate

Remittances

- Remittances are contributions sent home by immigrants living abroad.
- Remittances are reported to be both the third largest source of income for Mexico (after petroleum and tourism) and the tenth. They account for between \$6–18 billion a year. **Why do you think the statistics vary so much??**
- In many Mexican states, there is a program called *Dos por Uno*. The state contributes two pesos for each peso contributed by migrants living abroad via remittances for projects like roads, bridges, and public works.

Economic Impact



- In regions like Chiapas, there is no real industry.
- Most men aspire to go to the United States and earn money to return and improve their communities.

Cultural Impact

- Many migrants from Mexico travel back and forth between the U.S. and Mexico, and bring with them traditions from both countries.
- The house at right is made out of cement, but designed to look like the wood-siding houses of the Northeastern United States.



Cultural Impact, cont.

- Much of Mexico today is very rural.
- Citizens spoke of how the desires of people changed after they spent time in the United States. They became more concerned with newer fashions, gadgets, and music.
- In many Mexican towns, you can find “NY style pizza,” just like in many American cities, you can find Mexican *taquerias*.



Impact on Families



- The National Population Council of Mexico estimates that one in 10 Mexican families is dependent upon remittances as their main source of income.
- These children lived in a town where there were almost no men left of working age. The children were raising chickens to supplement the income provided by **remittances** and their mothers' work.

What kind of emotional impact do you think it might have for fathers to emigrate?

Raising future migrants?

- Some Mexican families have taken to naming their children with American names, to make the transition to the United States easier in later years.
- English is the most commonly taught second language.

*Is this similar or different from the goals of parents living in the United States?
What do you think?*