

Mexico



Note: This map is for illustrative purposes and is without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory covered by these maps.

The OECD, in cooperation with the EU, has developed a harmonised definition of functional urban areas (FUAs). Being composed of a city (or core) and its commuting zone, FUAs encompass the economic and functional extent of cities based on daily people's movements (OECD, 2012); (Dijkstra, Poelman, & Veneri, 2019). The definition of FUA aims at providing a functional/economic definition of cities and their area of influence, by maximising international comparability and overcoming the limitation of using purely administrative approaches. At the same time, the concept of FUA, unlike other approaches, ensures a minimum link to the government level of the city or metropolitan area.

FUAs are listed below by size, according to four classes:

- Small FUAs, with population between 50,000 and 100,000
- Medium-sized FUAs, with population between 100,000 and 250,000
- Metropolitan FUAs, with population between 250,000 and 1.5 million
- Large metropolitan FUAs, with population above 1.5 million

A city is a group of local administrative units (i.e. LAU for European countries, such as municipality, local authorities, etc.) where at least 50% of its population live in an urban centre. An urban centre is defined as a cluster of contiguous grid cells of one square kilometer with a density of at least 1,500 inhabitants per square kilometer and a population of at least 50,000 inhabitants overall.

The commuting zone is composed of the local administrative units for which at least 15% of their workforce commute to the city. Commuting zones of the functional areas are identified based on commuting data (travel from home-to-work). Commuting data are also used to define whether more than one city share the same commuting zone in a single polycentric functional urban area.

The list of functional urban areas takes into account the results of the consultation with the European National Statistical Institutes launched by Eurostat in June 2011 on the definition of cities and by the OECD with Delegates from the Working Party on Territorial Indicators. This list of functional urban areas may be reviewed on the basis of additional comments provided by countries. The OECD Metropolitan Database provides a set of economic, environmental, social and demographic modelled indicators on around 700 OECD metropolitan areas (functional urban areas with 250 000 or more inhabitants).

Additionally, interactive maps, histograms and summary profiles of each metropolitan area are available on the [OECD Regions and Cities Data Visualisation tool](#).

The population grid used to create the FUAs in Mexico is the 2015 Global Human Settlement (GHS) grid. The geographic building blocks are the Municipios. Commuting data comes from the 2015 Mexican Inter-Census Survey.

Table 1. List of functional urban areas

FUA name	FUA code	Population in 2015 (GHS)	Share of population living in the city (%)
Acapulco de Juarez	MEX22	877 000	100
Acuna	MEX86	153 000	100
Aguascalientes	MEX21	902 000	100
Ahome	MEX34	564 000	82
Apatzingan	MEX89	137 000	100
Apizaco	MEX70	204 000	60
Benito Juarez	MEX28	784 000	100
Cajeme	MEX41	458 000	100
Campeche	MEX58	284 000	100
Carmen	MEX64	245 000	100
Celaya	MEX29	694 000	78
Chiautla	MEX92	61 000	100
Chihuahua	MEX18	908 000	100
Chilpancingo de los Bravo	MEX53	347 000	81
Ciudad Valles	MEX75	185 000	100
Coatzacoalcos	MEX44	370 000	91
Colima	MEX56	315 000	100
Comitan de Dominguez	MEX82	169 000	100
Cordoba	MEX48	355 000	80

Cuauhtemoc	MEX77	182 000	100
Cuautla	MEX52	342 000	54
Cuernavaca	MEX14	1 030 000	89
Culiacan	MEX16	954 000	100
Delicias	MEX83	154 000	100
Durango	MEX30	661 000	100
Ensenada	MEX36	535 000	100
Fresnillo	MEX67	238 000	100
Guadalajara	MEX02	5 263 000	81
Guadalupe	MEX43	435 000	81
Hermosillo	MEX20	900 000	100
Hidalgo del Parral	MEX91	114 000	100
Iguala de la Independencia	MEX85	160 000	100
Irapuato	MEX33	632 000	98
Juarez	MEX10	1 386 000	100
La Paz	MEX57	296 000	100
Lagos de Moreno	MEX80	175 000	100
Lazaro Cardenas	MEX74	201 000	100
Leon	MEX07	1 657 000	100
Los Cabos	MEX55	353 000	100
Matamoros	MEX35	532 000	100
Mazatlan	MEX40	484 000	100
Merida	MEX09	1 484 000	70
Mexicali	MEX13	1 047 000	100
Mexico City	MEX01	20 535 000	98
Minatitlan	MEX51	351 000	87
Monclova	MEX54	323 000	100
Monterrey	MEX03	5 356 000	95
Morelia	MEX17	972 000	82
Navojoa	MEX78	178 000	100
Nogales	MEX65	248 000	100
Nuevo Laredo	MEX42	427 000	100
Oaxaca de Juarez	MEX24	876 000	64
Orizaba	MEX39	506 000	58
Othon P. Blanco	MEX66	239 000	100
Pachuca de Soto	MEX32	702 000	73
Piedras Negras	MEX81	167 000	100

Poza Rica de Hidalgo	MEX37	539 000	39
Puebla	MEX04	2 710 000	89
Puerto Vallarta	MEX59	297 000	100
Queretaro	MEX08	1 591 000	69
Reynosa	MEX25	855 000	84
Salamanca	MEX60	303 000	100
Saltillo	MEX27	832 000	100
San Cristobal de las Casas	MEX68	224 000	100
San Francisco del Rincon	MEX72	216 000	100
San Juan del Rio	MEX61	287 000	100
San Luis Potosi	MEX11	1 365 000	85
San Luis Rio Colorado	MEX71	206 000	100
San Martin Texmelucan	MEX73	205 000	78
Solidaridad	MEX69	225 000	100
Tampico	MEX23	848 000	100
Tapachula	MEX45	367 000	100
Tehuacan	MEX50	346 000	86
Tepic	MEX38	500 000	88
Teziutlan	MEX88	134 000	100
Tianguistenco	MEX76	185 000	97
Tijuana	MEX06	1 755 000	100
Tlaxcala	MEX47	351 000	75
Toluca	MEX05	2 385 000	64
Torreon	MEX12	1 249 000	100
Tulancingo de Bravo	MEX63	288 000	61
Tuxpan	MEX84	157 000	100
Tuxtla Gutierrez	MEX31	630 000	100
Uriangato	MEX87	154 000	79
Uruapan	MEX49	366 000	100
Veracruz	MEX19	907 000	81
Victoria	MEX46	363 000	100
Villahermosa	MEX15	1 050 000	72
Xalapa	MEX26	845 000	67
Zamora	MEX62	276 000	74
Zapotlan el Grande	MEX90	124 000	87
Zitacuaro	MEX79	182 000	100

Note: This document includes information as of 2022.

References

Dijkstra, L., H. Poelman and P. Veneri (2019), "The EU-OECD definition of a functional urban area", OECD Regional Development Working Papers, No. 2019/11, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/d58cb34d-en>.

OECD (2012), Redefining "Urban": A New Way to Measure Metropolitan Areas, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264174108-en>.