

EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS

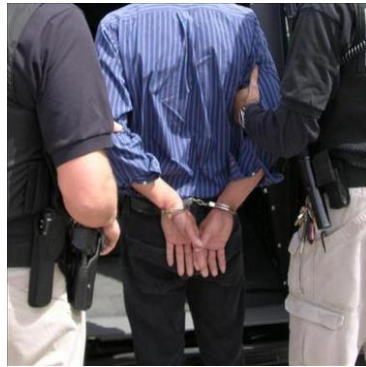
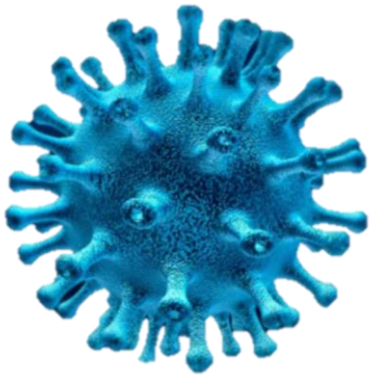
MEXICO

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COUNTRY CHARACTERISTICS



Population:

128.6 million (Est. 2020)

Political Structure: Federal Republic

Political Subdivisions:

- Mexico City
- 31 states
- 2,467 municipalities (2020)

Criminal Justice Systems

- 32 Local Justice Systems
- Federal
- Military

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM REFORM: TRANSITION

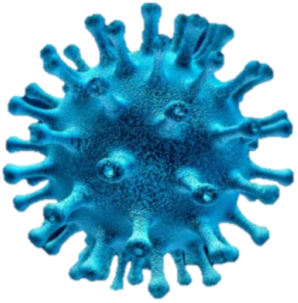
WRITTEN
(1917-2008)

ACUSATORIAL-ADVERSARIAL
(2008)



CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM CHALLENGES

1. Legal framework
2. Institutionalization
3. Resources
4. Training
5. Violence
6. Covid-19



COVID IN MEXICO

1. First cases Mid March
2. Federal Restrictions: March 30-April 30
3. Federal restrictions ended up extended until until the end of June
4. Some states and municipalities followed the regulations other issued their own
 - Fines
 - Administrative detentions

SEMÁFORO DE RIESGO



EFFECTS ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE

During the pandemic certain crimes continued to increase

- Domestic violence included 911 calls
- Possession of drug crimes
- Homicides and Femicides

Robberies decreased

Pretrial detention increased

State courts and the Federal courts published decisions that suspended terms and only allowed essential hearings (those dealing with arrests).

Prison authorities suspended all types of visitors, including defense lawyers.

Positive COVID cases increased within the prison population.

EFFECTS ON POLICE: CHALLENGES

INTERNAL

- Internally, police departments adopted their own restrictions
- Police corporations did allow people that have risk factors to go home
- Less police, longer hours, over worked
- No clear protocols to assist
- No clear protocols to protect vulnerable populations

EFFECTS ON POLICE: CHALLENGES

EXTERNAL

- Administrative arrests of people not wearing masks
- Fines
- In several municipalities, citizens organized themselves to limit mobility (entering and leaving municipalities)
- Lack of information
- Lack of coordination with other institutions
- Lack of protocols for contact tracing

LESSONS LEARNED



1. Could you speak to one or two examples of gaps that COVID exposed or reinforced at either an institutional or operational level within the police?
2. Describe some of the biggest challenges to public safety the police have had to address as a result of COVID?
3. How have police departments innovated and adapted out of necessity to ensure they respond to these emerging public safety challenges while also ensuring they continue to be responsive to routine aspects/demands of their jobs?
4. Of these adaptations you mentioned what do you think could be maintained and scaled to inform longer-term, more durable changes to enable the police to meet the next pandemic
5. What are the roadblocks to sustainability? What resources/attitudes or other factors need to change to ensure durable change?