



A U S T R A L I A A N D

Mexico



Strong bilateral relationship with growing trade and investment.

Key engagement

Substantial investment and commercial ties across education and research, food and agribusiness, infrastructure finance, mining technology and services, and close cooperation in multilateral fora.

Outlook

Mexico is forecast to be among the world's top 15 economies in 2030.

Bilateral relations

Australia and Mexico established diplomatic relations in 1966. Australia has an Embassy in Mexico City.

Mexico has an Embassy in Canberra and Honorary Consuls in New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia.

People-to-people links between Australia and Mexico have deepened in recent years, with high numbers of Australians visiting Mexico and increasing numbers of Mexican students choosing to study in Australia.

Australia is working closely with Mexico on our shared interests in combatting the narcotics trade through the Australian Federal Police office in Mexico.

Foreign relations

Australia and Mexico are members of the G20, APEC, MIKTA, OECD, WTO, UN, and UN organisations.

Mexico has 13 free trade agreements covering 50 countries (and trading networks spanning north, south, east, and west), making it one of the world's broadest networks of free trade agreements.

Mexico was elected as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for 2021-22. Mexico also sits on the UN Human Rights Council and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and has been reelected to ECOSOC for the 2021-2024 term.



Foreign Policy White Paper:
<https://www.fpwhitepaper.gov.au>

FAST FACTS



Mexican visitors to Australia ([2020 Dept of Home Affairs](#)) # **3,000**



Australian visitors to Mexican (primary destination) ([2020 Dept of Home Affairs](#)) # * **9,200**



Resident Australian population born in Mexico ([2016 Census](#)) **4,871**



Australian residents of Mexican descent ([2016 Census](#)) **7,414**



Mexican students in Australia ([2020 Dept of Education](#)) **2,446**

Australian Embassy in Mexico

Ruben Dario 55

Col. Polanco

Mexico City 11580, Mexico

Tel: 52-55-11012200

General: australianembassy.mexico@dfat.gov.au

[f](#) [Australia en México, Centroamérica, Cuba y República Dominicana](#)

[t](#) [@AusEmbMex](#)

This data is owned by Home Affairs. They provide quarterly updates to this data on their website

* Mexico reports the number of Australian visitors as 20,187 in 2020 (politicamigratoria.gob.mx)

High level engagement

2021	October – Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Tehan met Mexican Minister of Economy Clouthier in Rome
2021	February – Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Tehan spoke with Mexican Minister of Economy Clouthier (virtual)
2020	January – Mexican Parliamentary delegation visit to Canberra, Australia.
2019	November – Senator The Hon. Scott Ryan, President of the Senate visit to Mexico

Public diplomacy

In 2020-21, the Council on Australia-Latin America Relations ([COALAR](#)) provided grants to a range of institutions and practitioners to support collaborative projects between Australia and Mexico.

The Australian Embassy in Mexico promotes the strong and growing people-to-people connections between Australia and Mexico, such as through the [#AussiesInMexico](#) and [#MexicanosEnOz](#) social media campaign and publication of the book [Journeys: Australian Women in Mexico](#).

Through the [Direct Aid Program \(DAP\)](#), the Australian Government supports projects coordinated by civil society, which empower women and girls, and advocate for the rights of indigenous communities, persons with disabilities and LGBTIQ+ communities. DAP funds have also been used to help many of these disadvantaged groups recover from the economic impacts of COVID-19. The Australian Embassy in Mexico has hosted a number of webinars in collaboration with sponsored NGOs to highlight the outcomes of these projects. In 2020-21, the government is sponsoring eight projects throughout Mexico.

Economic diplomacy

Mexico has a growing economy, whose skilled workforce, key role in supply chains, and near-shoring opportunities are increasingly recognised by multinationals as valuable components of resilient, sustainable economic recovery.

With over 80 per cent of its exports going to the United States, Mexico is keen to diversify its trade and investment relationships, including in the Asia Pacific region.

An Agriculture Counsellor commenced work in 2019 to build agricultural engagement in areas of mutual interest and progress agriculture market access opportunities.

An Education Counsellor commenced in 2018 to leverage and grow education and research relationships between Australia and Pacific Alliance countries.

Australia and Mexico have a growing trade relationship. Both countries are party to the [Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership \(CPTPP\)](#), Australia's first free trade agreement with Mexico.

Mexico became the first country to ratify the [Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership \(CPTPP\)](#) in April 2018. The CPTPP



Agreements with Mexico

2020	MoU on Indigenous Cooperation
2019	Tax Information Exchange Agreement
2018	Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)
2015	MoU on Education, Research and Vocational Education and Training
2010	Air Services Agreement
2010	MoU on Cooperation in Agriculture
2010	MoU on Mining
2009	MoU on Political Consultations
2005	MoU on Energy
2004	Double Taxation Agreement

entered into force for Australia, Canada, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand and Singapore in December 2018.

Australia is also negotiating a free trade agreement with Mexico through the [Pacific Alliance Free Trade Agreement](#).

Further economic and trade information can be found in our [Economic Factsheet for Mexico](#).

Business

Mexico presents significant opportunities for Australia as both look to diversify markets. Key growth sectors include resources and energy, defence, advanced manufacturing, education and research, infrastructure finance, food and agribusiness. There are 71 operating affiliates of Australian companies in Mexico, which generate more than 2,000 jobs in Mexico.

In recent years, Australia has emerged as Mexico's seventh largest source of new foreign investment with significant engagement in the infrastructure and energy sectors. This follows BHP's landmark investment in 2017 to explore the Trion oilfield in the Gulf of Mexico.

Mexico is Australia's largest merchandise trading partner in Latin America. Major Australian exports to Mexico include fertilisers, ores and concentrates, and non-electric engines. Major Australian imports from Mexico include passenger motor vehicles, medical instruments, telecommunications equipment and parts, and computers.

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