

Young people in Mexico live in poverty and suffer from discrimination

About 17.5 million young people live in poverty according to data provided by CONEVAL, and 3.6 million of them live in extreme poverty

CONAPRED warns that young people are seen as a threat, and they are being excluded from the opportunities regarding employability and education and unfortunately, women are the most affected ones.

There are 30 million young people (between 15 to 29 years old) living in Mexico, and half of them live in poverty. This is the main problem they have to face according to the National Council to Prevent Discrimination (CONAPRED).

This organism warns that young people face a problem of structural discrimination caused by the state, the society, and the private sectors, as they are seen as a threat to social cohesion. Most of the time, they are excluded from opportunities in employability and education; additionally, their rights are not recognized, especially the ones regarding sex and reproduction.

“It is common that young people face discrimination due to their social conditions, physical appearance (related to economic situations most of the time), the school where they study, the place they live in, or even their social media posts. All those actions cause that most young people in Mexico stay in situations of poverty, and they could not get access to social success”, mentions CONAPRED.

Due to different kinds of shortcomings, and according to the National Council for Evaluation of Social Development Policy (CONEVAL), 67.3 percent of young people have no access to social security, 24.6 percent due to the lack of food, 22.2 percent due to poor basic services at home, 22.5 percent due to health services, 13.8 percent due to low-quality spaces at home, and 13.8 percent due to educational lags.

This analysis made by CONAPRED highlights that almost all the young people in the country (98.4 percent) know how to read and write, however, only less than half of the population between 15 and 24 years old (46.1 percent) go to school, according to data from 2018.

Furthermore, we have to mention that young people do not have total access to high-quality medical services. For instance, only the third part (32.3 percent) have access to ISSSTE, IMSS, or the health services provided by PEMEX or other similar institutions.



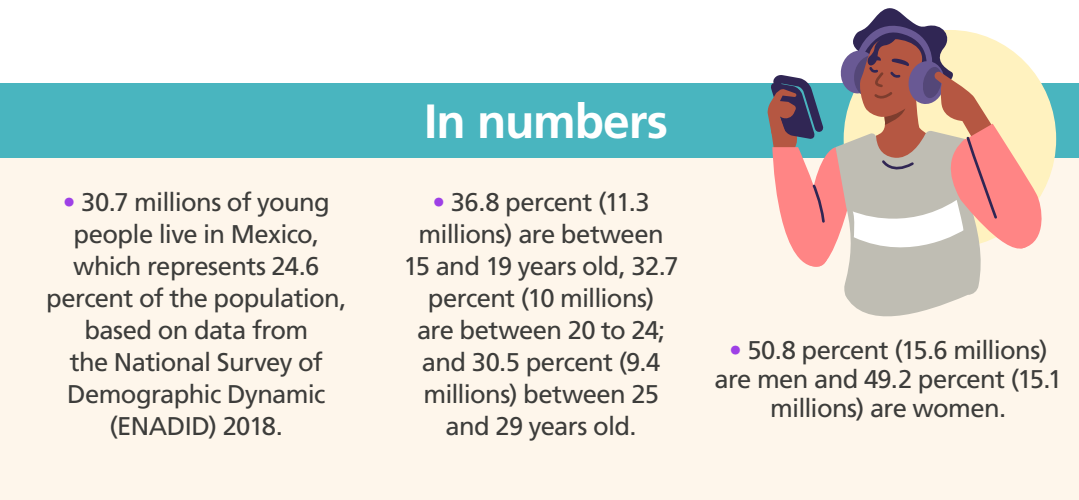
Moreover, almost 3 out of 10 (31.9 percent) of young people mentioned that they suffered discrimination due to their age at least once over the last five years, and they also mentioned that the areas where they suffer from discrimination are streets and public transportation facilities, as well as in their jobs, or at school.

The survey highlights that almost a fifth part of young people (17.5 percent) mentions that they suffered discrimination in social media. Due to this excluding patterns, young people are more aware of the way discrimination takes place in Mexico so, they became more supportive to policies regarding inclusion.

CMT and the young people

Congregación Mariana Trinitaria, A.C. (CMT) in its Welfare Ecosystem, in the network called Art, Culture, Sports, and Youth, offers different types of support and integral solutions to create opportunities for the integral development of young people, in particular those in situations of vulnerability.

CMT knows that young people often suffer from marginalization and vulnerability. Day after day, they face problems like: employment, informal and precarious jobs, school dropouts, poverty, and marginalization. They are not included at all, neither their importance to economic, political and social development in the country, which are completely forgotten. Owing to those circumstances, CMT develops support programs to face these problems.



Gender gaps



Getting a job is a torture for young people in Mexico, CONAPRED mentions that in 2018 about 5.4 millions of young people did not have opportunities to study or get a job. Most of them (91.2 percent) were women and they had to live that situation because they had to take care of somebody or they needed to be in charge of the chores at home.

“The population between 18 to 29 who are economically active faces a huge gender gap: while 8 out of 10 young men get a salary (78 percent), less than the half of young women (45.9 percent) are able to get one”, as revealed in data from CONAPRED 2018.

In the country, the population of adult people who do not have a job ascends to 1.8 percent, while in young people between 25 to 29 years old the number doubles (3 percent), and for people between 18 to 29, the number triples (6 percent).

Discrimination

Considering the National Survey on Discrimination 2017, two thirds of the population in the country (63.7 percent) believe that it is correct “to call the police when you see a group of young people gathered in a corner”. As a consequence, almost two fifths of young people (38 percent) believe that people do not have any respect for their rights.

Solutions CMT		
Subnetwork	Component	Integral Solutions
1. Construction and equipment of infrastructure 	Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Digital centersDigital librariesInfrastructure to provide access to internet
	Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Improvement of infrastructure for young peopleExpansion of infrastructureRemodeling of infrastructure
	Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Furniture in infrastructure for young peopleTechnological equipment in infrastructure for young people (computers, modems, software, etc.)
2. Tools for young people 	Tools for technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Digital equipment (computers, printers, tablets, cameras, etc.)Internet service and connectivitySoftware and programs for digital devices