



# MEXICO: CRIME AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION FACT SHEET

## OVERVIEW

Under the U.S.-Mexico Bicentennial Framework for Security, Public Health, and Safe Communities, the U.S. and Mexican Governments prioritized reducing crime and violence that threaten public security and harm local communities. In 2023, Mexico recorded 29,651 homicides. Concurrently, other violent and property crimes, such as assaults, muggings, public disturbances, and robbery, fuel citizen insecurity. Crime and violence disproportionately affect Mexico's young people, who are both victims and perpetrators of crime in mutually reinforcing cycles of violence often fueled by organized criminal groups.

## OBJECTIVE: IMPROVE SYSTEMS TO PREVENT CRIME AND VIOLENCE

### GOAL ONE

USAID partners with the Mexican Government authorities, civil society, the private sector, and academia to prevent crime and the escalation of violence. USAID supports community violence prevention programs that address citizen security needs and enable conditions for reconciliation and peace.

### GOAL TWO

USAID invests in high-risk youth to reduce their vulnerability, prevent recruitment by Transnational Criminal Organizations (TCOs), and foster reintegration into their communities.

### GOAL THREE

USAID supports developing and strengthening local institutions to prevent violence and reduce crime. By expanding the Civic Justice model and evidence-based policing strategies, USAID fosters local systems' capacities to build trust with communities and disrupt criminal paths at early stages.

## ACTIVITIES

**Violence Prevention and Reduction Activity (Chemonics International, Inc.), 2020-2024.** This activity partners with municipal governments to reduce crime and violence in their communities by shifting from punitive criminal justice to preventative and proactive civic justice and problem-oriented policing.

**Awareness and Opportunities for Women in Prison Activity (La Cana, Proyecto de Reinserción Social), 2021-2024.** This activity supports the rehabilitation and reintegration of young female detainees to reduce their likelihood of future violent behavior and recidivism. The activity provides job skills training and wellness treatment to female youth in detention centers to increase their professional and social capabilities and facilitate their transition into their communities after detention. The activity also improves the working conditions of female inmates and promotes ethical businesses within prisons.

**Financing Local Police under Civic Justice (Mexico Evalua, Centro de Analisis de Politicas Publicas), 2021-2024.** Through strategic alliances with the private sector, donor partners, civil society, federal and state government representatives, and local actors in the municipalities of Mexicali and Ensenada, this activity seeks to improve the working conditions of police and strengthen police capacity to respond effectively to local security demands. It focuses on resolving and mitigating conflict, insecurity, and violence within target communities.

**A Community-based Approach for Reinsertion (Innovations for Poverty Action), 2024 -2026.** This activity uses a community-based approach to advance reconciliation and reinsertion into communities of youth in conflict with the law and at-risk youth. It mitigates youth violence by engaging youths' primary networks—such as families—and municipal law enforcement agencies to expand and strengthen reinsertion opportunities.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AS A RESULT OF USAID SUPPORT

**67**

**cities** across **13 states** received USAID support for civic justice, with direct technical assistance provided in **32 cities** and collaborative efforts undertaken in **35 others.**



**8,700**

high risk youth received USAID's support from Oct. 2022 - Sept. 2023 to move away from a life of crime in 30 municipalities across 12 states

**6-69**

**percent reduction** in priority crimes rates in selected sectors of **seven cities**

