



Australian Government
Department of Education and Training

In Focus: Mexico

The landscape

Mr Niclas Jönsson
Counsellor (Education & Science) Latin America

Australian International Education Conference
Melbourne, 20 October 2016

Department of Education and Training, Brasilia

- Education & Science Office for Latin America established at Australian Embassy, Brasilia in October 2014
- Responsible for the Department of Education and Training's engagement in Latin America
- Exploring opportunities for closer cooperation in education, training, science and research
- Promoting two-way student, academic and researcher mobility



Australia – Mexico: 50 years of diplomatic relations



Mexico



Economic snapshot

	Mexico	Australia
Population	127 million	24 million
GDP US\$ (2015)	\$1.15 billion	\$1.34 billion
GPD per capita PPP (2015)	\$16,502	\$43,655
GDP growth	2.5%	3.3%
Unemployment	4.0%	5.6%
Major import AUS/MEX	Education (AU\$60m)	Personal travel (AU\$96)



Senate committee report

Australia's relationship with Mexico

- Report handed down by *Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee* on 2 December 2015
- TORs included opportunities for enhanced relations, enhanced trade and investment ties, and increased collaboration in education
- 47 submissions and a public hearing in October 2015
 - Australian Academy of Science, Australian Industry Group, Australia-Latin America Business Council, Mexican Embassy, Universities Australia



Findings

Australia's relationship with Mexico

4.10 Various opportunities exist for Australian providers not only in student mobility but VET and English language training

4.12 However, Mexico presents greater challenges than most other Latin American markets given the student preference to be educated in Mexico [and] its proximity to competitors

4.16 With forecast growth, a young population, expanding middle class and substantial student population the country presents significant opportunities for education providers

4.18 The committee supports an increase in joint initiatives between Australia and Mexico and encourages Australian universities to review their programs for potential joint recognition with their Mexican counterparts.



Mexico: National Development Plan

- *Quality Education* one of its five national targets in its National Development Plan 2013–2018
- Reforms mainly focused on schools and high schools
 - Improving teaching, school policy, evaluation and assessment of teachers
- National English Program in primary school (2015)
- Improve education quality through ICT
 - Plan to increase tertiary education participation from 30% (2012) to 50% (2018) by creation of national digital (on-line) university



Energy scholarships

- Mexico needs to produce 135,000 skilled workers and professionals to service the energy industry
- CONACYT has announced up to 60,000 scholarships between 2015 – 2018
 - 12,000 places for postgraduate study
 - Small number of places overseas
 - Sustainable energy & hydrocarbon



Education overview

- In 2015, only 16% of adults in Mexico had attained tertiary education
 - Lowest percentage in OECD
- Large earnings differential for graduates
 - Bachelor's degree 200% gain
 - Master's and doctoral degree 300% gain
- Gender distribution across fields of education
 - 46% of STEM graduates are women
 - However, third-largest gender gap in earnings in OECD

Source: OECD: Education at a Glance 2016



Education overview

- Expenditure in education low in absolute terms, but relatively high share of GDP
 - \$US3,400 per student (OECD average \$US10,500)
- Total education expenditure 5.2% of GDP
 - Slightly below other Latin American countries
- Public expenditure on education 17%
 - 2nd highest share in OECD
- 32% of expenditure on tertiary education from private sources (households)
- Tertiary student enrolments increased by 26% between 2008 and 2013

Source: OECD: Education at a Glance 2016



University Rankings Mexico

University	QS World	QS Lat Am	Times HE	Shanghai JT
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México	128	4	501-600	151-200
Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey	206	7	501-600	
Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México	601-650	39		
Universidad Iberoamericana	651-700	23		
Universidad de Guadalajara	701+	5	801+	
Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana	701+	30		
Instituto Politécnico Nacional	701+	32		



Mexican publication metrics 2010-14

- 58,631 Web of Science documents
- 1,164 joint publications with Australia (Rank: 41)
- 101 joint agreement between Mexican and Australian unis (UA: 2014)

Country	Number of documents
1. USA	2,029,727
2. China	943,888
10. Australia	268,200
31. Mexico	58,631



Mexican tertiary-level student mobility

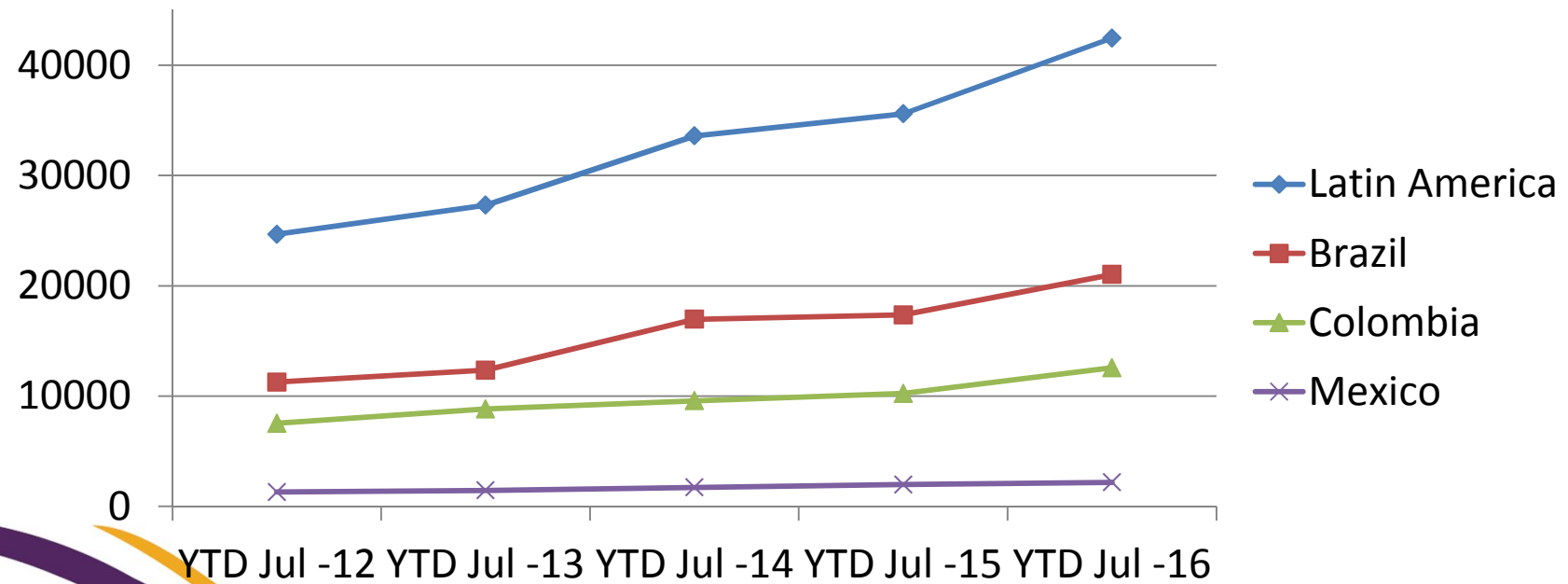
- 27,118 students abroad in 2014
- 8,020 students hosted
- Very low mobility ratios

Destination country	Students
1. United States	14,051
2. Spain	2,470
3. France	2,181
8. Australia	598

Source: <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Pages/international-student-flow-viz.aspx>



Student enrolments Latin America 2012-16



Mexican student data - Enrolments

	YTD Jul -12	YTD Jul -13	YTD Jul -14	YTD Jul -15	YTD Jul -16
Higher Ed	541	528	541	530	570
VET	213	284	399	513	625
ELICOS	254	255	373	412	421
Schools	26	56	60	75	51
Other	277	329	355	454	512
TOTALS	1,311	1,452	1,728	1,984	2,179



Mexican student data – Enrolments 2016

Field of Education (HE)

Management & Commerce 205
Natural & Physical Sciences 75
Society and Culture 65
Engineering & Related Technologies 53

State (All)

New South Wales 795
Victoria 584
Queensland 316
South Australia 34

Level of Study (HE)

Masters Degree (Coursework) 341
Bachelor Degree 105
Doctorial Degree 98
Diploma 7

In summary

Enrolments (All) ↑ 9.8%
Enrolments (HE) ↑ 7.5%
Masters (CW) ↑ 9.6%
Commencements (HE) ↑ 3.3%



Endeavour Scholarships and Fellowships

- 45 scholars between 2007-2015

	Applications	Awards
2014	59	11
2015	88	7
2016	164	TBD



MOU on Education, Research and VET, April 2015



Bi-lateral activities

- Australian Research Council, July 2016
 - CONACYT, Mexican Academy of Science, Tech de Monterrey
- CONACYT
 - Visit to Australia, September 2016; Research workshops 2017
- Meeting with SEP, October 2016
 - Implementation of MOU
- Engagement with Mexican Academy of Science
 - MOU with AAS (April 2015), PhD Exchange Program (Jun-Jul 2017)



Multilateral activities

- APEC Cross-Border Higher Education Data Collection, Arequipa May 2016
- APEC Education Ministers' Meeting, 5-6 Oct 2016
 - New APEC Education Strategy
- APEC Quality Assurance in Online Education project, Bali 1-3 Nov 2016
- APEC Tourism Occupational Standards Project, Australia Nov 2016
- Pacific Alliance
 - Transport and Logistics Occupational Standards, Lima Sep 2016
 - International Trainer and Assessor Courses, Lima Oct 2016



International priorities: Mexico (SEP)

- Systems and governance
 - Qualifications frameworks, recognition of qualifications, quality assurance
- Remote and on-line education
- Understanding disruptive technologies and their impact on education
- Teacher quality and training: mentoring of new teachers
- Increased two-way exchange and mobility
- Reforming the VET system



In summary

- Underdeveloped bi-lateral relationship
- Major Mexican Government commitment to education
- Pockets of excellence in Mexican system
- Features of HE system includes large number of STEM students and large private (household) investment
- Awareness of Australia as an education and research partner is increasing



¡Gracias!



MEXICO –
AUSTRALIA
1966-2016

Email: niclas.jonsson@dfat.gov.au

