

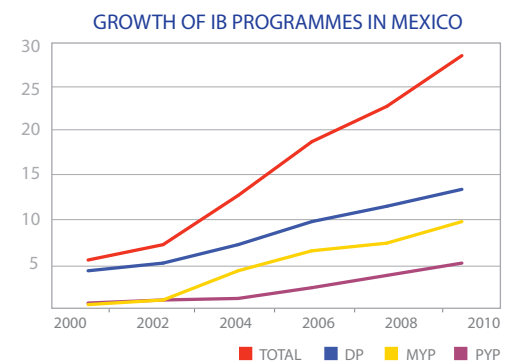
MEXICO

A DYNAMIC PRESENCE: GROWTH AND CHARACTERISTICS OF IB WORLD SCHOOLS

When was the first IB programme authorized in Mexico, and how has the IB grown in the country?

The first IB Diploma Programme (DP) was authorized in 1980 at Instituto Educativo Olinca, a private school in Mexico City. Over the next two decades, sixteen more schools adopted the DP. In 2000, Instituto Educativo Olinca and the Colegio Ciudad de México, both in Mexico City, were the first in the country to authorize the Middle Years Programme (MYP). In the same year, the first Primary Years Programme (PYP) began operating at the Colegio Ciudad de México and The Churchill School.

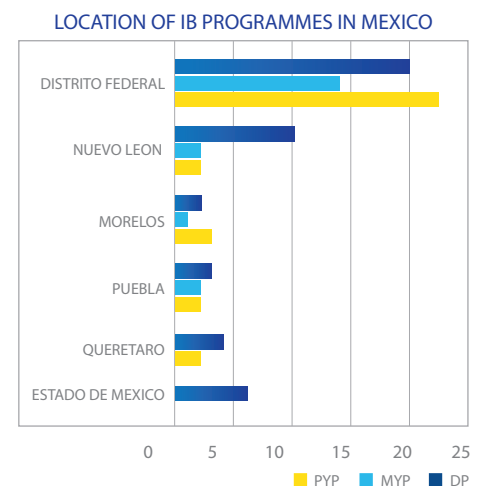
Since 2000, IB programmes in Mexico have grown exponentially, doubling between 2000 and 2004, and more than doubling since then.



How many IB World Schools are present in Mexico today, and where are they located?

There are currently 82 IB World Schools in Mexico, implementing 114 IB programmes (given that some schools implement several at once). All of these schools are private except for three: Centro de Enseñanza Media de la Universidad Autónoma (Aguascalientes), Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo de Educación Bilingüe (Monterrey), and Escuela Prep. Federal Lázaro Cárdenas (B. California).

Thirty-five IB World Schools in Mexico are located in Mexico City (Distrito Federal), and nearly half (49%) of all IB programmes are concentrated there. Twelve IB World Schools are in the state of Nuevo León, 6 each in Querétaro and the Estado de México, 5 in Morelos and 3 in Puebla. The remaining 15 schools are in Baja California (2), Chihuahua (2), Aguascalientes, Coahuila, Guanajuato, Jalisco, Michoacán, Oaxaca, Sinaloa, San Luis Potosi, Tabasco, Tlaxcala and Toluca (1 each).

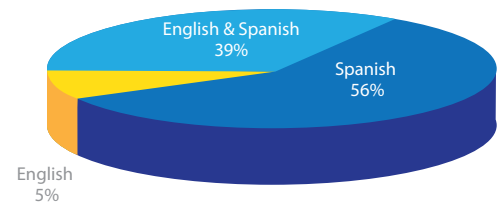


Which IB programmes are currently implemented, and what is their main language of instruction?

The DP accounts for almost half (47%) of all IB programmes in the country. Nine IB World Schools implement the entire IB continuum of programmes, 5 in Mexico City, 2 in Puebla, 1 in Michoacán and 1 in Tabasco.

More than half of Mexico's IB programmes are taught primarily in Spanish, and many use both English and Spanish as their main languages of instruction. Only 4 IB World Schools implement their IB programmes primarily in English: Churchill College, El Colegio Británico (Edron Academy), Greengates School and Churchill School.

MAIN LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION OF IB PROGRAMMES

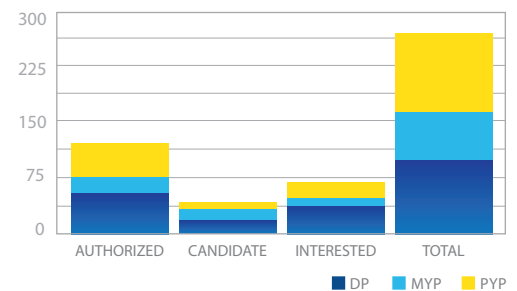


What are the prospects for future growth of IB programmes in the country?

The total number of IB programmes in Mexico may more than double in future, reaching 253, given that there are currently 29 candidates for authorization, and 110 have expressed interest in becoming candidates.

The DP is likely to continue growing at a steady pace, while the MYP may triple, given the large number of both candidate and interested schools. The PYP's presence may also more than double.

NUMBER OF PROSPECTIVE IB PROGRAMMES

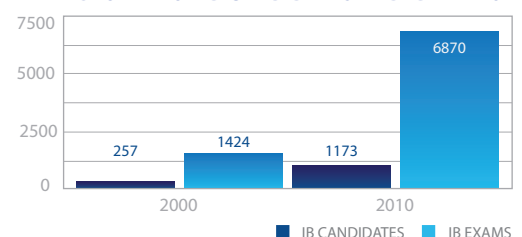


A RECORD OF SUCCESS IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION: ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

How has the number of IB candidates and IB exams taken grown over the past decade?

The total number of IB candidates in Mexico has grown by 356% over the past decade, while the total number of IB exams taken has also grown by 382% over the same period.

GROWTH OF IB CANDIDATES AND IB EXAMS



How have IB World Schools and students been recognized as examples of academic excellence?

- An IB student at the ITESM High School, Estado de México Campus, is one of 21 students from around the world who presented proposals on how to face the current economic crisis at the 2009 G-20 meeting. This initiative is part of the British Council-sponsored Global Changemakers Network, and Ochoa was also selected last year to participate in another British Council-backed event, "Road to Davos," in which 60 international students met to discuss global problems.
- In 2008, Frida Vásquez Hernández, a Colegio Williams student, won a scholarship to attend the 2008 Norman Borlaug Foundation conference in Des Moines, Iowa, where leading scientists gather with Borlaug, a Nobel Prize winner, to discuss issues related to sustainable agriculture. Her winning presentation discusses the creation of rain-water deposits for agricultural plots.

A RECORD OF HIGH ACHIEVEMENT AT MEXICO'S PUBLIC IB WORLD SCHOOLS

The Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo de Educación Bilingüe (CIDEB), part of the Autonomous University of Nuevo León (UANL), is a public high school that has provided students with a technical diploma as bilingual educators for the past ten years. According to the Dean of UANL, the high school adopted the IB Diploma Programme as part of an effort to support the high school's international outlook and to raise the standards of the university's high school to a world-class level. Three generations of CIDEB graduates have now successfully obtained the IB Diploma, while simultaneously covering the local curriculum and obtaining their diploma as bilingual educators. CIDEB teachers have high expectations from these students, and hope that the high school will serve as a model for other public schools, which are often wary of losing the values embedded in national programs. According to one UANL professor, CIDEB shows that national programs can be maintained within a broader international framework, which prepares students to be better citizens.

The Escuela Preparatoria Federal Lázaro Cárdenas, founded in 1946, was the first high school in Baja California, and prominent figures in the state's politics, business and culture are among its graduates. In the early 1970s, it was one of the pilot schools of President Echeverría's educational reforms. In 1973, the school came under direct federal control, after the President visited the school and was impressed by its advances, as well as by students' efforts to demand better installations. In 1982, the school innovated again by adopting the IB Diploma Programme, becoming one of the first schools in Mexico to do so. It has maintained high standards, and in 2008, its scores on the national student assessment (ENLACE) ranked first among all federally-controlled high schools, and among all state high schools. In the same year, two IB students were among a few chosen to participate in national physics and biology contests, in order to select Mexico's student representatives for an international competition in these subjects.

Sources: Esperanza Armendáriz, "Egresada primera generación de Bachillerato Internacional," Noticias UANL, 2 de octubre de 2006, at: http://noticias.uanl.mx/descripcion.php?id_not=3966 Esperanza Armendáriz, "Egresada segunda generación de Bachillerato Internacional," Noticias UANL, 11 de septiembre de 2007, at: http://noticias.uanl.mx/descripcion.php?id_not=4725 José Gabriel Rivera Delgado, "Preparatoria Lázaro Cárdenas: Primera escuela de nivel medio superior en Tijuana," El Mexicano, 13 de diciembre de 2008, at: <http://www.el-mexicano.com.mx/suplementos/bienes-raices/2008/12/13/preparatoria-lazaro-cardenas-primera-escuela-de-nivel-medio-superior-en-tijuana.aspx> "Gana prepa Lázaro Cárdenas prueba ENLACE," Frontera, 10 de octubre 2008, at: <http://www.frontera.info/edicionimpresa/ejemplaresanteriores/20081010/HOM8.pdf> Lorena Arellano, "Iran 2 alumnos de 'la Lázaro' a concurso nacional," Frontera, 9 de diciembre de 2008, at: <http://cursos.lazarocardenas.edu.mx/mod/forum/discuss.php?d=288>

- A team from Colegio Alamos won one of the Tournament Awards at the 2009 VEX Robotics Regional Championship in Querétaro, and has thus qualified for the VEX Robotics World Championship to take place in Texas, USA, in May 2009.
- The Liceo de Monterrey was the Mexican school selected to take part in the Harvard-sponsored HACIA Democracy 2008 event, where 450 students from 10 countries in the Americas discuss regional political and social issues. It has taken part in the event again in 2009. A student from the Liceo, José Carlos Vera Garza, also won first prize in the 2008 National Mathematics Olympiad.

How have IB students and schools contributed to the community?

- In their final year, MYP students at The Churchill School conduct an interdisciplinary project on the Purépecha indigenous group of central Mexico, living in their communities for a week and critically analyzing the changes their culture has undergone. Students have also acquired greater awareness about the precarious economic conditions of this indigenous group. Groups of Purépecha visit the school to participate in a crafts market, where they sell some of their goods.



- The American School Foundation, which implements all three IB programmes, provides training to 720 public school teachers per year, through its Community Enrichment Academies, a partnership with the Mexican Ministry of Education (SEP) and corporate donors such as HSBC, Motorola Foundation and AT&T. The SEP fully accredits teacher training courses provided by the American School, in technology, English, arts and environment science instruction.

- The Instituto Educativo Olinca has worked with the “Las Peñitas” School, in a Mazahua indigenous community near Toluca, for several years. In 2007, 150 students and 30 coordinators from IB schools across Latin America taking part in an “Inter-CAS” event visited the Mazahua community, discussed their social and economic problems, painted the school and weighed the children to report on rates of malnutrition, among other activities.

RECOGNITION OF THE IB ADVANTAGE: STATE AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES

How do government policies and legislation support IB programmes?

- According to a 1983 agreement approved by the National Ministry of Education (SEP), the IB may be implemented in private and state Mexican schools. Schools are free to implement the IB in the two last years of the Mexican high school system, provided all subjects required by the government have been completed by 10th grade.

- In the case of IB students coming from abroad, the IB Diploma is recognized as equivalent to a Mexican high school diploma, but it must be legalized by authorities in Switzerland. Students must also prove that they have successfully completed 10th grade subjects required by the Mexican system, or obtain a re-validation of subjects taken abroad at this level.

How do universities and colleges in Mexico recognize the rigor of IB courses?

According to the IBO's recognition policy database, the following 4 Mexican higher education institutions recognize that IB Diploma graduates fulfill the requirements for entry. Two of these universities also grant credit to IB courses.

University	IB Diploma accepted as basic credential for admission	Admission or exemption from entrance exams for IB Diploma holders	Course credits possible for some or all Higher Level IB courses	Course credits possible for some or all Standard Level IB courses
Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla (BUAP)	Yes	No	No	No
Escuela Bancaria y Comercial	Yes	Yes (plus 50% scholarship)	No	No
Universidad de Monterrey	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes