

Social Progress Index 2022: Revised figures by federal entity

Press release

November 23rd, 2023

For the fifth consecutive year, the Economic Observatory *México, ¿cómo vamos?* presents the **Social Progress Index (SPI)** for Mexico. This index evaluates the progress in the well-being of individuals across the 32 states of Mexico since 2015. In this way, the SPI not only paints a picture of the latest year but also unfolds an eight-year-long narrative of stories depicting progress and social stagnation in the states, by comparing the progress among states and within each state over time.

In 2022, recovery was achieved following the pandemic...

In 2022, the **national SPI score was estimated at 65.6 out of 100 possible points**. This marks the **year with the highest score** on record; the previous peak in the series occurred in 2019 (prior to the impact of the pandemic) with a score of 65. However, it is crucial to distinguish between the pre-pandemic and post-pandemic periods within the same series

Between 2015 and 2019, improvements in the country's social progress were observed, with a cumulative increase of 2.2 points during that period. Subsequently, in the critical years of the pandemic's impact, there were significant declines in social progress in the country; between 2019 and 2021, the decline was 2.1 points, essentially **erasing all the previous gains in social progress**. Now, in the post-pandemic period, there is a **slight improvement of 0.6 points compared to the levels observed in 2019**.

Social Progress Index, 2022
2015 - 2022

years	National	AGS	BC	BCS	CAMP	COAH	COL	CHPS	CHIH	CDMX	DGO	GTO	GRO	HGO	JAL	MEX	MICH	MOR	NAY	NL	OAX	PUE	QRO	QROO	SLP	SIN	SON	TAB	TAM	TLAX	VER	YUC	ZAC
2015	62.8	69	67.9	67.7	60	65	67.3	50.1	65	73.2	64.2	60.8	47.3	60	68.2	64.6	58.7	59.6	61.2	70.9	49.3	58.9	69.1	66	60.9	64.6	67.2	56.2	64.7	65.8	55.7	60.9	61.9
2016	63.1	70.3	69.4	69	60.4	67.1	63.8	51.9	67.1	75.3	65.7	62.5	47.3	61.3	69	63.9	59.8	61	63.9	69.5	48.1	59.6	67	66.7	61.3	65.2	67.2	57.6	64.9	63.4	55.1	63.2	62.6
2017	63.7	70.2	68.6	67.4	61.3	67.5	65.5	52.7	66.7	74.5	65.7	63.2	47.8	61.2	69.3	66.2	59.8	61.9	62.9	70.2	49.6	61.3	68.5	66.9	60.6	68	68.7	58	64.7	64.2	55.5	65.2	62.1
2018	64.5	71.9	68.5	70.1	60.7	68.8	66.1	52.7	67.2	76.4	65.3	64.1	50	62.2	70.7	66.1	61.2	63.2	62	72.7	51.1	62.8	68.5	67	62.6	66.7	70.1	57.2	67.5	65.8	56.3	64.3	63.5
2019	65	72.9	69.6	69.2	62	70.1	64.8	53.7	67.3	76.4	65	63.6	48.2	63.3	70.4	66	61.2	63.5	64.8	73.2	52.2	63.1	69.8	66.7	62.7	68	69.5	58	69.3	64.9	55.5	66.8	64.4
2020	63.6	69.9	68.5	69.7	59.6	67.8	66.7	53.4	62.5	73.4	65.8	61.1	49.6	62.9	69.2	62.7	60	59.8	63.4	72.4	49.9	60.5	71	63.7	58.2	66	66.2	56.4	66.6	64.2	56.4	65.1	60.1
2021	62.9	71.5	68.4	67.9	59.5	68.6	64.6	53.3	66.2	74.5	64.1	61	49.5	60.6	68.8	61.7	58.3	59	63.8	71	48	57.9	68.5	64.9	59.9	65.6	65.3	59.4	66.6	64.1	53.3	64.8	61.4
2022	65.6	74.5	70.6	72.1	62.5	71.2	66.1	56.1	68.2	78.9	65.4	64.7	50.9	63.3	72.1	67.5	62.9	63.6	65.2	72.4	51.9	63.7	71.5	68.8	62.9	71.4	67	60.7	70.4	65.7	56.5	69.1	64.8

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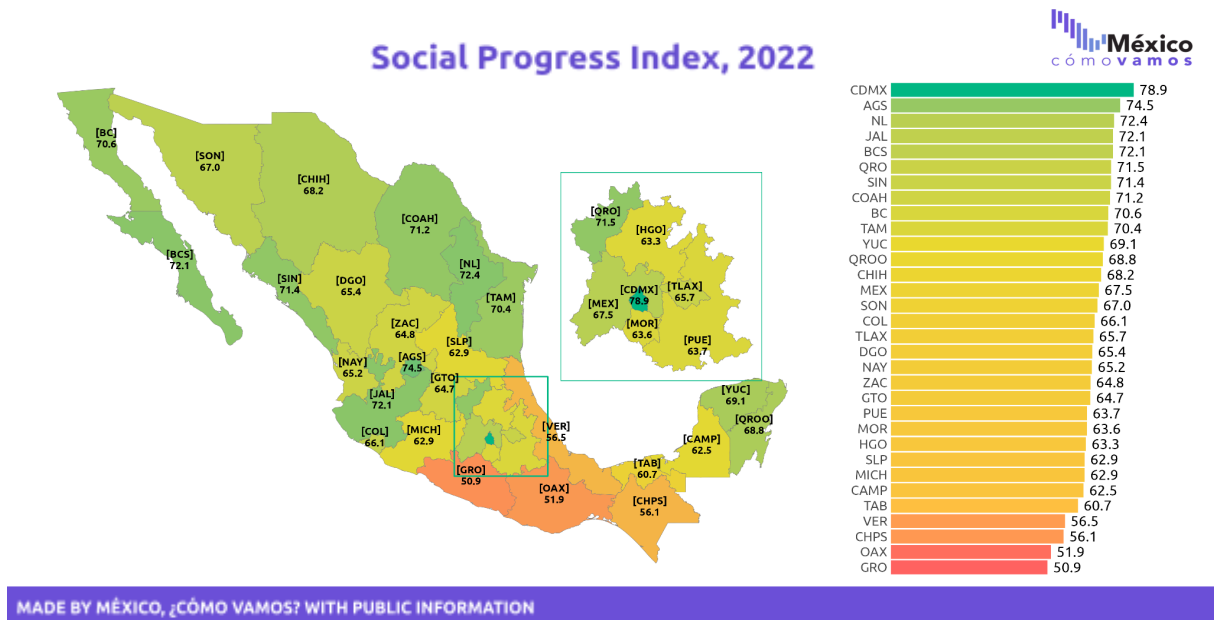
... but not in all the country's states

When comparing 2022 with the results from 2019 (pre-pandemic), a **recovery** and improvement in their SPI score is observed in **29 states**, while three are still lagging behind compared to 2019: **Sonora, Nuevo León, and Oaxaca**.

2022: year of improvements

In the specific case of performance in 2022 compared to 2021, all states experienced increases. Notable advancements were observed in Sinaloa, Estado de México, Puebla, Morelos and Michoacán.

The top five performing states in 2022 are **Mexico City, Aguascalientes, Nuevo León, Jalisco, and Baja California Sur**. On the other hand, the five states with the poorest performance are **Guerrero, Oaxaca, Chiapas, Veracruz and Tabasco** — the first three mentioned have consistently had the lowest performance since records for the Index began.

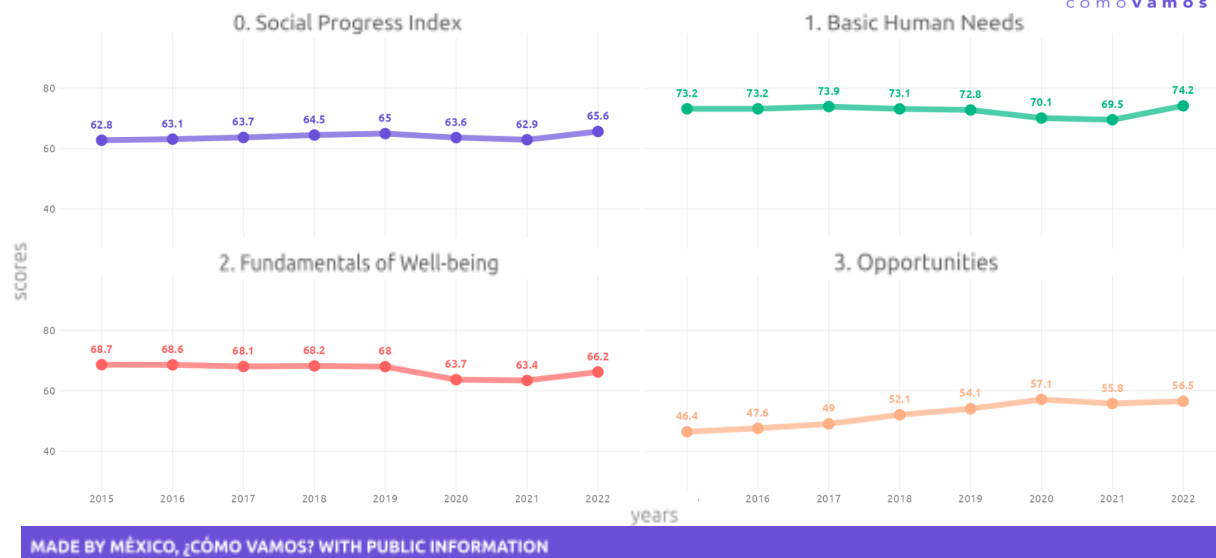


The three dimensions of the 2022 SPI

Between 2019 and 2022, progress is observed in: **Basic Human Needs** and **Opportunities**, while in the **Fundamentals of Well-being** there is still a lag compared to pre-pandemic levels. **Basic Human Needs** and **Fundamentals of Well-being** are the dimensions where a significant impact of the pandemic was observed, as their components include rates of mortality related to infectious diseases, circulatory diseases, diabetes, etc. On the other hand, the **Opportunities** dimension does not show a direct impact from the pandemic, although it is important to note that it is the dimension with the lowest score within the index.

SPI scores and dimensions

National | 2015 - 2022



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Findings

The analysis conducted in the SPI shows that, **while a high level of per capita GDP is a necessary condition for social progress, it is not sufficient** if not accompanied by public policies aimed at taking advantage of available economic resources in a sustainable manner in order to drive inclusive social development. Likewise, the relationship between the SPI's dimensions with labor poverty is clear: if more people face this situation, the lower the state's score will be.

When analyzing the percentage of the population in each state reporting a lack of access to health services, it is observed that as the percentage of the population with this deficiency increases, the state shows a lower SPI score. It is important to mention that in 2022, there was a very significant increase in the percentage of the population with this deficiency, as a consequence of a significant decrease in the population affiliated with public institutions, regardless of their employment status. This **deterioration in access to health services**, specifically public services, has significant implications in the medium run in terms of progress and social mobility, especially in states with a greater lag.

Additionally, indicators related to integration with global value chains at the state level are contrasted with the SPI. This analysis further shows that nearshoring investments are concentrated in states with high scores in social progress, which possess the necessary infrastructure to engage in international trade and a robust human capital to address labor needs. Meanwhile, there are states that lack the conditions to benefit from nearshoring, as is the case in the southern and southeastern regions of Mexico. Thus, **nearshoring alone is not sufficient to translate into inclusive social progress**; the involvement of all three levels of government is essential to create the necessary conditions for social progress, enabling more states to benefit from investment flows and preventing the widening of social progress gaps in our country.

Finally, the impact of the pandemic in 2020 and 2021 across the country's states serves as evidence of **the importance of achieving greater social progress** and specifically, closing persistent gaps. When assessing changes in per capita GDP and the SPI score between 2019 and 2021, years in which the most significant impact of the pandemic was concentrated, it stands out that among the 30 states that experienced a decline in their SPI score, **the pandemic's impact on social progress was more pronounced in states with lower per capita GDP.**

In this group of states experiencing significant losses, Guerrero demonstrated resilience in the context of the pandemic by showing an increase in its SPI despite a decline in its per capita GDP. This resilience is attributed to the fact that its increase in mortality rates, considered in the index, was lower than observed in other states, particularly in densely populated areas such as Mexico City. However, it is important to note that the state had already shown a decrease of 1.8 points in its SPI from 2018 to 2019, and as of 2022, it ranks 32nd among all states. Therefore, the observed resilience should be approached with caution and within the context of the state's conditions in response to the pandemic shock. In the face of a different crisis, such as **Hurricane Otis** in 2023, the impact on social progress can be very significant due to the destruction of economic units and, consequently, **employment**. Guerrero is a state where more than **70% of the employed population is in the informal labor market**. If this informality were to intensify as a consequence of the damage caused by Hurricane Otis, the implications for social progress would be alarming.

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Technical Note: What is the Social Progress Index?

The Social Progress Index (SPI) is the first holistic measurement of a country's social performance that is independent of economic factors. The Index is based on a range of social and environmental indicators that capture three dimensions of social progress: **Basic Human Needs**, **Fundamentals of Well-being**, and **Opportunities**.

Although this measure is independent of economic indicators, it does not seek to replace them but rather to complement them. Its main purpose is to evaluate the questions that truly matter in people's lives: *Do I have a home that provides protection? Do I have enough food to eat? Do I have access to education?*

México, ¿cómo vamos?, along with the **Social Progress Imperative** initiative, presents the SPI series for Mexico from 2015 to 2022 with the aim of providing a precise measurement tool and influencing public policies for social development that focus resources on the specific needs of each state in the country.

The Economic Observatory *México, ¿cómo vamos?* is a growing collective of social scientists, mainly Economists, that seeks to boost sustained economic growth in order to achieve more and better jobs and promote well-being for all people. We trust that what matters is to keep going forward; to know how we're doing and what can be improved, not just where we are.

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