

More than the half of the mexican population have no social security benefits

Mexico is one of the countries with the lowest rates in social security services compared to other countries such as Chile, Canada, Costa Rica, the United States; among others.

Congregación Mariana Trinitaria has created a defined and functional structure that involves all those factors that affect issues such as health, social development, economic and welfare.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Mexico was target of another one: precarious jobs for young people, low incomes, and lack of social security services. According to data from INEGI, about 51% of young people do not have access to social security.

The International Youth Organization for IberoAmerica considers 5 transitional tracks for young people in order to get into labor market

Source: Organismo Internacional de Juventud para Iberoamérica (OIJ)

- a. Non-viable track, with no social inclusion or options for the future.
- b. Assimilated track, related to the “flexible market”, in other words, the jobs that assume the conditions of the market.
- c. Track to drug trafficking, violence, and organized crime.
- d. Track of the incorporated ones, with people who could get social guarantees, job security, and decent educational conditions.
- e. Track of privileged youth.

In general terms, considering the young and adult population, the International Labour Organization (ILO) mentions that 80% of the world population lacks a reasonable social security coverage. In addition, more than half of the world population does not have access to basic sanitary assistance, and only 29% has full coverage.

On the other hand, 68% of people of retiring age around the world receives a kind of pension benefit, except in countries with low incomes, where it reduces to 20%.

Compared to other countries, Mexico is in the lowest positions related to social protection issues. The National Council for the Evaluation of Social Development (CONEVAL) estimates that 71.7 million people do not have access to social security services, which represents 57.3% of the total population.

If we compare those numbers, we will be able to confirm the weaknesses of social systems. For instance, in Chile or Costa Rica almost 70% of their population has social protection coverage; while Canada is the leader in America, as 99.8% of its population has at least one kind of coverage.

What is social security?

It is the protection that society offers to people in order to guarantee their access to sanitary assistance and social security, especially to elderly people, people without a job, sick or handicapped people, the ones who suffered an injury in their jobs, people under maternity conditions, or the ones who faced the loss of the main breadwinner.

Conversely, Mexico also has important lags on public expenses allocated to social protection systems. If we compare it to other countries in the region like Argentina, Brazil, or Uruguay; we may see that they allocate up to 10% of their GDP to social protection; while Mexico allocates only 2% of its GDP.

Lack of social security coverage for Mexican people is a consequence of informal and precarious jobs. We have to remember that informal activities represent about 28% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in Mexico.

Organizations like the United Nations (UN) mention that with well-designed and implemented social protection systems, the countries may strengthen human capital and improve productivity, reduce inequalities, reinforce resilience and close the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

Every year, one hundred million people face extreme poverty conditions after paying medical expenses, as mentioned on the last report of the WHO



CMT in action

Congregación Mariana Trinitaria (CMT) created a solid and functional structure that includes all the factors that have an impact on issues like health, social and economic development, and welfare. For that reason, it designed a programmatic environment that leads to integral actions and solutions related to social security, generation of self-employment, and access to health systems.

A clear example is its Productive and Financial Inclusion Network, which includes a component to provide technical training through workshops to develop strategies and abilities to create decent jobs, and it also provides training in topics related to leadership for micro and small companies. All those actions complemented with financial elements and subsidies, contribute to incubate and accelerate productive community actions.

Moreover, due to the current binational agreement between CMT and Fuerza Migrante, support will be given to communities of migrant people living in the USA and their families in Mexico to guarantee better access to health systems and social security.

On the other hand, the health model “Listening to the Body” created by the CMT founder, Dr. Catalina Mendoza Arredondo, is an option for people who do not have access to social security systems or private medical assistance. The model is used to assist people who suffer from some diseases that may not need allopathic medication; but it may also work as a complement to improve the processes of attention and quality of life of people facing aggressive treatments to combat cancer or other serious diseases. It is important to mention that this model is not a cure for those complaints, but the combination of it with allopathic treatments increases the welfare level of patients who got authorization from their doctors to do so.

The lack of access to social security is one of the indicators that determine if a person is in poverty and vulnerable conditions. Other important indicators are: educational lagging, quality on housing, access to health and food, as well as basic public services (electricity, water, and drainage).

That is why it is important to take actions to improve public policies in topics related to decent jobs, social security, and reduction of educational lagging. As mentioned before, a solid social protection system allows people, especially vulnerable sectors, to face crises, improve their labor productivity, and invest in health prevention.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) considers that social security may be measured in eight areas

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|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1
Sickness benefits | 3
Retirement benefits | 5
Benefits for the family | 7
Disability benefits |
| 2
Benefits in case of unemployment | 4
Benefits in case of accidents at work or diseases as a consequence of professional activities | 6
Maternity benefits | 8
Death and funeral benefits |