

Mexican workers live in extreme poverty

77 percent of Mexican people who work live in misery because their incomes are not enough to get even the basic products they need to eat and feed their families

An analysis made by UNAM mentions that extreme poverty is not an exclusive issue for people with no jobs, but also for those who have one because the money they make is not enough to buy even the basic products in the basket of goods. CMT in order to face this problem develops strategies to help people who need assistance in issues of health, housing, food, basic services, among others; which also encourages motivation in Mexican people.

Notwithstanding they have a job, 41 million 567 thousand 104 million Mexicans live in extreme poverty, that is to say, they cannot even buy the recommended products in the basket of goods (CAR).

The previous fact is explained in the diagnosis made by the Center for Multidisciplinary Analyses of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), which is responsible for the Rate of Employed People in Extreme Poverty (TPOPE), a result of the interrelationship between employed people, their levels of incomes, and the price of the products in the basket of goods.

In the last trimester in 2020, the employed people in extreme poverty in the country increased to 41 million 567 thousand 104 people, which represents a TPOPE of 77.9 percent of the employed people in the whole country. In other words, from 2018 to 2020, the sector of employed people in poverty increased 12.19 percent, which means that in the first two years of the current government in Mexico, four million 519 thousand 89 employed workers became part of the ones living in extreme poverty.

“If we compare the absolute numbers in 2020 to the ones in 2006, when the employed people in extreme poverty were 18 million 554 thousand 765, we can see that it increased to 23 million 12 thousand 339 employed workers in extreme poverty”, the study performed by UNAM mentions.

This is the way every year one million 643 thousand employed workers become part of extreme poverty. Nevertheless, over the last two years the annual average on the increase of employed workers in extreme poverty was two million 250 thousand.

In the fourth trimester in 2020, we could see that in 30 states in the country the TPOPE was over 70 percent, which is an evident sign of the deterioration of working conditions and the living situation of employed workers, as affirmed in the analysis.

Two states are over 90 percent, Chiapas with a TPOPE of 92.6 percent, that is to say, one million 897 thousand 717 employed workers living in extreme poverty, and Guerrero with one million 394 thousand 277 workers, which means a TPOPE of 91.3 percent. It is important to mention that Oaxaca is really close to that number as the TPOPE in that state is 89 percent.



Sexennial deterioration

In 2006 there were 18 million 554 thousand 765 employed workers in extreme poverty conditions, that is to say, the TPOPE in the country was 42.2 percent. That year, one person needed 1.7 minimum wages to buy the products in the basket of goods, as it represented a daily expense of 80.83 pesos, and people got 48.67 pesos as their everyday income, as detailed in the study.

The Rate of Employed People in Extreme Poverty increased to 66.2 percent, in other words, 32 million 315 thousand 444 people were already in extreme poverty conditions, and that represented an increase of 74 percent compared to the numbers in 2006. In order to understand this point, that year people needed three minimum wages to get a CAR, whose price per day was 188.99 pesos and the minimum wage was 62.33 pesos.

In 2018 the number of employed Mexican people doubled, that means more than 37 million people, compared to 18 million people in 2006, a TPOPE of 68.4 percent.

Employed people in extreme poverty

Total	2006	2012	2018	2020
Total of employed people in extreme poverty	18,554,765	32,315,444	37,048,015	41,567,104
Total of employed people	43,942,607	48,822,271	54,194,608	53,331,429
Rate of employed people in extreme poverty in the country	42.2%	66.2%	68.4%	77.9%



What is CAR?

The recommended basket of goods (CAR) was developed by Dr. Abelardo Ávila Curiel, member of the National Institute of Nutrition Salvador Zubirán, and it consists of 40 different meals, it does not consider the expenses to prepare them, the monthly rent to pay, expenses in transportation, clothes, shoes, personal hygiene, and many other things related to the expenses in a family; only the money spent on food was considered.



CAR considers the everyday expenses for a Mexican family made up of four people (two adults, a teenager, and one child), and it takes into consideration nutritional aspects, diets, traditions, and cultural habits.

CMT, actions that promote welfare

The numbers revealed by UNAM show that it is necessary to help millions of people who became vulnerable as a result of social deprivation. Most of them have a job, but the wage is not enough and many times they are not even able to buy the food they need.

Each strategy, program, and delivery developed by Congregación Mariana Trinitaria, A.C., (CMT) is focused on the social welfare of people. Those people who day after day make the most to succeed are not alone, they have our support.

More than 90 programs are developed by CMT and they are focused on different problems so, a subsidized water container helps people to solve a problem related to having access to water, a sack of cement means one step closer to a decent house for many families, and a liter of milk allows people to have a better diet.

Either in Puebla, where hundreds of solar heaters were delivered by the program Alianza Felicidad to contribute to save energy and money, or in Durango with the program “Conéctate” (Get connected) to benefit thousands of workers to keep their jobs in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic; CMT always gives responses to the society.

The most important public university in Mexico, UNAM, identifies the needs; and Congregación Mariana Trinitaria increases the resources used by the government and private institutions, and collaborates with the society to develop programs to fulfil those needs.