

NATIONAL IMMIGRATION PROJECT

Lawyers for the Movement

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Mexico DOS Human Rights Report Comparison

2023 Report	2024 Report	Notes
Executive Summary		
<p>There were no significant changes in the human rights situation in Mexico during the year.</p> <p>Significant human rights issues included credible reports of: unlawful or arbitrary killings, including extrajudicial killings; enforced disappearance; torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment by security forces; harsh and life-threatening prison conditions; arbitrary arrest or detention; serious problems with the independence of the judiciary; serious restrictions on freedom of expression and media freedom, including violence against journalists and enforcement of or threat to enforce criminal libel laws to limit expression; serious government corruption; extensive gender-based violence, including domestic or intimate partner violence, sexual violence, workplace violence, child, early, and forced marriage, femicide, and other forms of such violence; crimes involving violence or threats of violence targeting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or intersex persons; crimes involving violence or threats of violence targeting persons with disabilities; and significant or systematic restrictions on workers' freedom of association, including crimes of violence and intimidation against workers.</p> <p>The government generally took credible steps to identify and punish officials who may have committed human rights abuses.</p> <p>Criminal elements, including local and transnational gangs and narcotics traffickers, were significant perpetrators of violent crimes and committed acts of homicide, torture, kidnapping, extortion, human trafficking, bribery, intimidation, and other threats, resulting in high levels of violence and exploitation. The government investigated and prosecuted some of these crimes, but the majority remained uninvestigated and unprosecuted.</p>	<p>There were no significant changes in the human rights situation in Mexico during the year.</p> <p>Significant human rights issues included credible reports of: arbitrary or unlawful killings; disappearances; torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment; arbitrary arrest or detention; serious restrictions on freedom of expression and media freedom, including violence or threats of violence against journalists and enforcement of or threat of criminal or civil charges in order to limit expression; and violence or threats against labor activists or union members.</p> <p>The government took credible steps to identify and punish officials who committed human rights abuses; however, impunity and extremely low rates of prosecution remained a problem for all crimes, including human rights abuses. There were media reports some government agents were complicit with international criminal gangs, and prosecution and conviction rates were low for abuses involving these agents.</p> <p>Criminal elements, including local and transnational gangs and narcotics traffickers, were significant perpetrators of violent crimes and committed acts of homicide, enforced disappearances, torture, kidnapping, extortion, human trafficking, human smuggling, bribery, intimidation, and other threats, resulting in high levels of violence and exploitation. The government investigated and prosecuted some of these crimes, but the majority remained uninvestigated and unprosecuted.</p>	<p>2024 report removes language on abuses against LGBTQ+ persons, lack of independence surrounding the judiciary, gender-based violence, barriers to sexual and reproductive health services, etc.</p>
<p>Section 1. Respect for the Integrity of the Person</p>	<p>Section 1. Life</p>	<p>2024 report has updated section headers.</p>

a. Arbitrary Deprivation of Life and Other Unlawful or Politically Motivated Killings	a. Extrajudicial Killings	
There were several reports that government entities or their agents committed arbitrary or unlawful killings, including extrajudicial killings, during the year.	There were several reports government entities or their agents committed arbitrary or unlawful killings during the year.	The 2023 report lists 4 different instances of reports regarding Extrajudicial killings.
No similar language in this report	Most reports of arbitrary killings involved military and police forces firing on vehicles or structures, resulting in civilian casualties, at times while engaged in firefights with criminal actors. Most incidents did not result in criminal charges. Arbitrary killings were difficult to successfully prosecute.	The 2023 report does not mention arbitrary killings involving the military or police forces.
On February 26, members of the Secretariat of National Defense's (SEDENA) 16th Motorized Calvary Regiment shot at a vehicle in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, killing five civilians and wounding one other. On April 10, a civilian federal judge ordered the detention of four SEDENA soldiers on charges of attempted homicide in the incident. Additional SEDENA soldiers could face lesser charges for not preventing the incident.	No similar language in this report	The 2023 report was extensive on examples of Arbitrary or Unlawful Killings, while the 2024 report did not.
On June 6, a media outlet published an article and video in which soldiers appeared to commit extrajudicial killings of five civilians in Nuevo Laredo on May 18. According to sources, the civilians, who were members of the transnational criminal organization Cartel del Noreste, shot at the soldiers in a vehicle chase. SEDENA confirmed the soldiers were members of the 3rd Special Forces Section. Sixteen soldiers, including the commanding officer, were confined in a military prison while military and civilian judicial authorities conducted investigations.	No similar language in this report	The 2023 report was extensive on examples of Arbitrary or Unlawful Killings, while the 2024 report did not.
On March 18, authorities found the body of Jose Portillo Gil "El Chueco," who had been shot and killed in Sinaloa. Portillo Gil allegedly killed two Jesuit priests and a tour guide in Cerocahui, Chihuahua State, in June 2022. As of October, authorities had not arrested the individuals who killed Portillo Gil, and the investigation continued.	No similar language in this report	The 2023 report was extensive on examples of Arbitrary or Unlawful Killings, while the 2024 report did not.
The Mexican Center for Environmental Law 2022 report noted a rise in violence against environmental defenders, who were victims of intimidation, kidnapping, and homicide. In April, attackers kidnapped and killed environmental defender, activist, and legal representative Naua don Eustasio Alcalá in Michoacán State. Alcalá had advocated against mining exploitation in his community San Juan Huitzontla, Michoacán, without prior consultation. The community previously obtained a favorable ruling that suspended mining concessions in 2022.	No similar language in this report	The 2023 report was extensive on examples of Arbitrary or Unlawful Killings, while the 2024 report did not.
On October 25, a judge sentenced 11 security officials to 50 years in prison for the killing of 19 persons, many of whom were migrants, in Camargo, Tamaulipas State, in 2021. The officers were found guilty of aggravated homicide, abuse of authority, and committing crimes while performing administrative duties.	On March 31, in Chiapas, there was an exchange of gunfire between National Guard agents and an armed group in the community of Niños Héroes. Nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) the Fray Bartolomé de Las Casas Human Rights Center and Centro de Derechos Humanos Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez reported 25 individuals were killed, including civilians awaiting ferry transportation; these organizations called for an investigation. Authorities stated a total of 10 individuals, including civilians, were killed. No criminal charges were brought against agents of the National Guard involved in the incident.	The 2023 and 2024 reports present different examples of killings committed by officials; both reach the same conclusion: no criminal charges were brought against them.
b. Disappearance	c. Disappearance and Abduction	

<p>There were reports of numerous enforced disappearances by criminal groups, sometimes with allegations of collusion with authorities. Investigations, prosecutions, and convictions of enforced disappearance crimes were rare. Enforced disappearance was a persistent problem throughout the country, especially in areas with high levels of cartel- or gang-related violence.</p>	<p>There were reports of numerous enforced disappearances by criminal groups, sometimes with allegations of collusion with authorities. Investigations, prosecutions, and convictions of enforced disappearance crimes were rare. Enforced disappearance was a persistent problem throughout the country, especially in areas with high levels of cartel- or gang-related violence. According to NGO reports, disappearances were a generalized and systematic practice.</p>	<p>Both reports document the same content. 2024 adds, " According to NGO reports, disappearances were a generalized and systematic practice."</p>
<p>Federal and state databases tracking enforced disappearances were incomplete and had data-sharing problems; forensic systems were highly fragmented among the local, state, and federal levels; and the volume of unsolved cases was far greater than the forensic systems were capable of handling. In its data collection, the government often merged statistics on forcibly disappeared persons with missing persons not suspected of being victims of enforced disappearance, making it difficult to compile accurate statistics on the extent of the problem.</p>	<p>Federal and state databases tracking enforced disappearances were incomplete and had data-sharing problems; forensic systems were highly fragmented among the local, state, and federal levels; and the volume of unsolved cases was far greater than the forensic systems were capable of handling. In its data collection, the government often merged statistics on forcibly disappeared persons with missing persons not suspected of being victims of enforced disappearance, making it difficult to compile accurate statistics on the extent of the problem.</p>	<p>Both reports document the same content.</p>
<p>On August 24, the Interior Secretariat's National Commission for the Search of Persons published the official registry of victims of enforced disappearance, totaling 113,188 victims between 1964 and August 2023. The registry, published in 2013 by the Enrique Peña Nieto administration, was removed from public access in 2019 after President Andrés Manuel López Obrador classified the information as "reserved." The registry reported police or military members had deprived 733 registered victims of liberty since the registry was first published, including 33 others who were seen in a public ministry agency before their enforced disappearance. The registry also reported 522 migrants disappeared while traveling through the country.</p>	<p>The National Search Commission maintained a National Registry of Missing and Unlocated Persons, which contained information on more than 115,000 enforced disappearances and missing persons. Members of the Mechanism for Truth and Historical Clarification, a panel of five independent experts, noted the Secretariat of National Defense (SEDENA) refused to grant access to certain information.</p>	<p>The National Registry of Missing and Unlocated Persons was 113,188 in the 2023 report and has now increased to 115,000 in the 2024 report.</p>
<p>The government made efforts to prevent, investigate, and punish acts of enforced disappearance involving government agents. From January to August 2022, the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH) received seven complaints accusing government agents of enforced disappearances, including three against the army and three against the Attorney General's Office.</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report does not include information on the government's efforts to prevent, investigate, and punish acts of enforced disappearance involving government agents.</p>

<p>In August 2022, Undersecretary of Human Rights Alejandro Encinas released a report confirming the 2014 enforced disappearances of 43 students from the Ayotzinapa Rural Teachers' College in Iguala, in the state of Guerrero, was a "state" crime. The report found various local, state, and federal officials – by commission or omission – were involved in carrying out or covering up crimes in conjunction with the atrocities. Following several arrests in 2022, the Attorney General's Office reissued 17 arrest warrants in June for additional suspects who were previously suspended in October 2022. Sixteen warrants were issued for military personnel and one for a suspect who had asylum in a neighboring country. On June 25, authorities arrested Gualberto Ramírez, who oversaw the initial investigation of the students' enforced disappearances in 2014 as the former head of the antikidnapping unit of the former Special Prosecutor's Office for Organized Crime Investigation. Ramírez was charged with torture and investigation mismanagement. On July 6, the Attorney General's Office arrested retired General Rafael Hernández Nieto, the second-highest-ranking detainee and former commander of the 41st Infantry Battalion in Iguala, for enforced disappearance and participation in organized crime, but on August 22, a judge released him. As of November, no suspects had been convicted for their involvement.</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report does not mention reports of disappearances of students as a result of a "state" crime at the Ayotzinapa Rural Teachers College in Iguala.</p>
<p>In July, the Interdisciplinary Group of Independent Experts, appointed by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), presented its sixth and final report on Ayotzinapa. The report determined the 43 students were not involved with criminal groups and stated members of the former Center for Investigation and National Security, former Prosecutor General's Office antikidnapping unit, SEDENA, and the Secretariat of the Navy withheld key information during the investigation, including their presence at the scene when the students were forcibly disappeared. The report determined SEDENA refused to comply with President López Obrador's order to provide crucial information, including telephone and message records.</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report does not mention reports of disappearances of students as a result of a "state" crime at the Ayotzinapa Rural Teachers College in Iguala.</p>
<p>On September 27, Undersecretary Encinas presented the Presidential Ayotzinapa Truth and Justice Commission's second report, which outlined areas controlled by criminal organizations in Guerrero and pointed to possible student locations. Encinas stated there was no evidence linking any of the students to the criminal organization Guerreros Unidos and confirmed SEDENA's involvement in the students' enforced disappearance.</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report does not mention reports of disappearances of students as a result of a "state" crime at the Ayotzinapa Rural Teachers College in Iguala.</p>
<p>The National Search Commission reported carrying out 5,194 exhumations as of July 21; 2,404 bodies were identified and 1,437 were returned to their families. In May, authorities reported finding 30 clandestine graves in Tecoman, Colima, that contained at least 53 bodies and hundreds of bone fragments.</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report does not mention exhumations.</p>
<p>Since 2020, perpetrators killed seven relatives of disappeared victims in alleged retaliation for their efforts to find family members. On May 2, Teresa Magueyal, who was searching for her son, was killed in Guanajuato. The Attorney General's Office opened an investigation into the case, but no suspects were charged as of October.</p>	<p>Civil society organizations and families who searched for disappeared persons did so at great personal risk, including death. According to media reports, on January 15, an armed group entered the home of Lorenza Cano Flores, a member of United Salamanca Searching for Disappeared, a group of families searching for missing family members and others. The group killed Cano's son and spouse, and Cano was reported missing following the January incident. Cano had received several threats for searching for her brother José Francisco, who disappeared in 2018.</p>	<p>Both reports document examples of the risks people took to search for disappeared persons.</p>

On August 21, government authorities reportedly violently removed relatives of disappeared persons who participated in a protest outside the Queretaro Attorney General's Office. The protesters demanded the government allow access to government services, including Forensic Medical Services and Social Reintegration Centers, to search for the disappeared.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention government authorities violently removing relatives of disappeared persons who participated in a protest.
c. Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and Other Related Abuses	a. Torture and Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	2024 report under section 3. Security of the Person
Federal law prohibited torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, as well as the admission of confessions obtained through illicit means as evidence in court. Despite these prohibitions, there were reports that security forces tortured detainees.	Federal law prohibited torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, as well as the admission of confessions obtained through illicit means as evidence in court. Despite these prohibitions, there were reports security forces abused detainees.	The 2023 and 2024 reports document the same content.
Civil society groups reported torture was a generalized practice. In 2022, the Mexican Commission for the Defense and Promotion of Human Rights stated that human rights organizations received approximately 9,500 complaints for torture and inhuman treatment. Victims most often accused municipal police, public security, and state attorney general's offices of torture or inhuman treatment. Between January and April, the CNDH registered 20 complaints of torture and 94 of arbitrary detention committed by personnel in the Secretariat of Security, National Guard, Attorney General's Office, armed forces, and the National Migration Institute	Civil society groups reported torture was a generalized practice. According to official information published by the National Registry of the Crime of Torture, which collected information from the federal government and 28 of the 32 states, there were 1,465 investigations initiated for the crime of torture from January 1 to June 30. Civil society organizations stated individuals in migratory detention reported cases of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, including the provision of spoiled food, sensory deprivation, and sleep interruptions due to lights being turned on full time. According to the National Registry of the Crime of Torture, 2,044 instances of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment were logged from January to July in detention facilities. Civil society groups also reported sexual abuse during detention. The institutions with the highest number of complaints were the Mexican Institute of Social Security and SEDENA with eight, and the Decentralized Administrative Body for Prevention and Social Readaptation of the Secretariat of Security and Civilian Protection with seven. The civil society group Fundar reported impunity for torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment was prevalent among the security forces.	Both reports document that civil society groups reported torture was a generalized practice, including different examples. The 2023 report mentions the human rights organizations receiving approximately 9,500 complaints for torture or inhuman treatment, while the 2024 report documents 2,044 complaints.
There were accusations of sexual abuse committed by authorities during arrest and detention. In March, authorities published new guidelines for the Mechanism for Monitoring Cases of Sexual Torture against Women, in response to a recommendation from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Civil society organizations reported that despite publishing the new guidelines, the mechanism was not operating sufficiently, administrators had met only once, and no new cases had been reviewed as of July 31.	Additionally, according to information provided by the National Registry of the Crime of Torture, cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment or punishment and sexual exploitation by government agents were reported in detention facilities.	Both reports mention accusations of sexual abuse and exploitation by authorities in detention facilities. The 2023 report outlines guidelines to prevent this, whereas the 2024 report does not.
On July 13, authorities detained Adolfo Karam, the former judicial police director of Puebla, accused of torturing Lydia Cacho, who exposed former Puebla Governor Mario Marín and several business leaders' involvement in a child sex trafficking ring in 2005. Marín remained in detention as of October.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention examples of authorities being detained for torturing persons.
Impunity for torture was prevalent among the security forces. Nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) stated that authorities failed to investigate torture allegations adequately. As of August 14, the Attorney General's Office was investigating more than 2,600 torture-related inquiries and conducting 700 investigations.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention impunity for torture among security forces.
Prison and Detention Center Conditions	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report eliminated the section on Prison and Detention Center Conditions.

Conditions in prisons and detention centers were often harsh and life threatening.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report eliminated the section on Prison and Detention Center Conditions.
<u>Abusive Physical Conditions:</u> According to the NGO Legal Assistance for Human Rights, some federal and state prisons were grossly overcrowded. The state of Mexico had the highest rate of overcrowding at 242 percent capacity.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	- 2023 report: under subheading "abusive physical conditions". The 2024 report removed the section on Abusive Physical Conditions and its content.
Authorities reportedly transferred individuals from one prison to another without prior notice and without the possibility of prisoners or family members challenging the transfers. Women inmates said transfers to a prison in the state of Morelos left them without the possibility of receiving visits. The CNDH and the National Mechanism reported human rights abuses of women in that prison, particularly their rights to physical and mental health, and made recommendations to prison authorities to reduce the prison population and provide adequate health, education, work, and exercise resources for inmates. Access to sleeping and medical areas was limited.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	- 2023 report: under subheading "abusive physical conditions". The 2024 report removed the section on Abusive Physical Conditions and its content.
Civil society organizations stated that individuals in migratory detention reported cases of threats and degrading treatment, spoiled food, generally bad conditions, and sensory deprivation, deprivation of vital needs, and difficulty sleeping due to lights being turned on full time.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	- 2023 report: under subheading "abusive physical conditions". The 2024 report removed the section on Abusive Physical Conditions and its content.
On March 27, 40 migrants died and 27 were seriously injured after a fire at a migrant detention center in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, administered by the National Institute of Migration. The fire allegedly started after detained migrants set fire to their mattresses to protest overcrowded detention conditions, lack of sufficient food, and water shortages. Video footage showed migration agents failed to unlock doors of the holding cell where migrants were trapped.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	- 2023 report: under subheading "abusive physical conditions". The 2024 report removed the section on Abusive Physical Conditions and its content.
Criminal groups reportedly continued to oversee illicit activities from within penitentiaries, and rival drug cartel members often fought in prisons. In January, during a violent prison break, armed criminal gunmen opened fire in a Ciudad Juarez prison, resulting in the deaths of seven prisoners, 10 guards, and two gunmen. During the confrontation, 25 prisoners escaped.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	- 2023 report: under subheading "abusive physical conditions". The 2024 report removed the section on Abusive Physical Conditions and its content.
The CNDH found many prisons did not provide sufficient care for elderly persons, women and minors living with them, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV or AIDS, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or intersex (LGBTQI+) persons.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	- 2023 report: under subheading "abusive physical conditions". The 2024 report removed the section on Abusive Physical Conditions and its content.
<u>Administration:</u> Authorities did not always conduct investigations into credible allegations of mistreatment.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Administration.
<u>Independent Monitoring:</u> The government permitted independent monitoring of prison conditions by the International Committee of the Red Cross, the CNDH, and state human rights commissions.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Independent Monitoring.
d. Arbitrary Arrest or Detention	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention Arbitrary Arrest or Detention and its content.

Federal law prohibited arbitrary arrest and detention and provided for the right of any person to challenge the lawfulness of their arrest or detention in court; however, the government sometimes failed to observe these requirements.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention Arbitrary Arrest or Detention or its content.
Arrest Procedures and Treatment of Detainees	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention Arrest Procedures, the treatment of Detainees, or its content.
The constitution allowed any person to arrest another if a crime was committed in their presence. A warrant for arrest was not required if an official detained a person in the act of committing a crime. Bail was available for most crimes, except 22 crimes, including violent offenses, and crimes involving criminal groups. In most cases, the law required detainees to appear before a judge for a custody hearing within 48 hours of arrest, during which authorities had to produce sufficient evidence to justify continued detention. This requirement was not followed in all cases, particularly in remote areas of the country. In cases involving criminal groups, the law allowed authorities to hold suspects up to 96 hours before requiring them to seek judicial review.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention Arrest Procedures, the treatment of Detainees, or its content.
The procedure known in Spanish as arraigo (a constitutionally permitted form of pretrial detention employed during the investigative phase of a criminal case before probable cause was fully established) allowed, with a judge's approval, for certain suspects to be detained prior to filing formal charges.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention Arrest Procedures, the treatment of Detainees, or its content.
Detainees complained police made arrests arbitrarily without a warrant, denied them access to family members and to counsel, and held them in isolation for several days. Police occasionally failed to provide impoverished detainees access to counsel during arrests and investigations as provided for by law.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention Arrest Procedures, the treatment of Detainees, or its content.
<u>Arbitrary Arrest:</u> Allegations of arbitrary detentions occurred throughout the year. The IACHR, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, and NGOs expressed concerns regarding arbitrary detention and the potential for it to lead to other human rights abuses.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention Arrest Procedures, the treatment of Detainees, or its content.
<u>Pretrial Detention:</u> Lengthy pretrial detention was a problem, and authorities did not always promptly release those detained unlawfully. The law provided time limits and conditions on pretrial detention, but federal authorities sometimes failed to comply with them since caseloads far exceeded the capacity of the federal judicial system. Abuses of time limits on pretrial detention were endemic in state judicial systems. In November 2022, the Supreme Court eliminated automatic pretrial detention for fraud and tax crimes. Activists claimed the decision did not go far enough to protect habeas corpus rights, while local legal experts noted the decision could hinder the government's ability to curb financial crimes. The UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights documented cases in the states of Mexico and Chiapas in which detainees remained in pretrial detention for more than 12 years.	Lengthy pretrial detention was a problem, and authorities did not always promptly release those detained unlawfully. The law provided time limits and conditions on pretrial detention, but federal authorities sometimes failed to comply with those time limits and conditions. Caseloads far exceeded the capacity of the federal judicial system. Abuses of time limits on pretrial detention were endemic in state judicial systems.	2024 report under section 2 subheading Prolonged Detention without Charges. Both reports cover the same content; the 2023 report explains the Supreme Court's 2022 decision to eliminate automatic pretrial detention for fraud and tax crimes.
In May, authorities rearrested Daniel García Rodríguez, who was accused of murder in 2001. Rodríguez was previously arrested and held in pretrial detention for more than 17 years before being released with an ankle monitor in 2019. He remained in pretrial detention as of October.	In June, Brenda Quevedo, who was accused of kidnapping and homicide, was released from prison after more than 15 years in preventive detention without being tried. An investigation by the National Human Rights Commission found Quevedo was tortured while in pretrial detention.	Both reports document the prolonged pretrial detention of individuals, using different examples.

As of August 9, Verónica Razo had been in pretrial detention for 12 years, awaiting trial for allegedly kidnapping and participating in criminal group activities. In 2022, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention called for her release, and the Federal Defense Public Institute maintained that police sexually tortured her and forced her to plead guilty. Brenda Quevedo Cruz remained in pretrial detention as of October, despite a 2020 announcement by authorities they would release her. Quevedo Cruz had been detained without trial since 2007 for allegedly participating in organized crime activities and for kidnapping.	No similar language in this report	Both reports document the prolonged pretrial detention of individuals, using different examples.
e. Denial of Fair Public Trial	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report eliminated the section on Denial of Fair Public Trial and its content.
Although the constitution and law provided for an independent judiciary, court decisions were susceptible to improper influence by both private and public entities, particularly at the state and local level, as well as by transnational criminal organizations. Authorities sometimes failed to respect court orders, and arrest warrants were sometimes ignored, consistent with the lack of judicial independence and rule of law throughout the legal system. Across the criminal justice system, many actors lacked the necessary training and capacity to carry out their duties fairly and consistently in line with the principle of equal justice.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report eliminated the section on Denial of Fair Public Trial and its content.
President López Obrador and other government actors verbally attacked the judiciary, particularly the Supreme Court, criticizing judges who ruled against the administration on numerous occasions. In March, during a massive rally in Mexico City, government supporters burned an effigy of Chief Justice Norma Piña, accusing her of corruption. In May, Veracruz Governor Cuitlahuac García led a demonstration in Mexico City where supporters carried coffins with the names of seven of the 11 Supreme Court justices and accused them of siding with conservative opponents and ruling against administration priorities.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report eliminated the section on Denial of Fair Public Trial and its content.
On June 16, the National Guard detained Judge Angélica Sánchez Hernández without an arrest warrant in Mexico City for alleged crimes against public faith and influence peddling after she ordered the release of murder suspect Itiel Palacios from pretrial detention. A federal judge ordered her immediate release after concluding local authorities violated the suspension of an injunction Hernández obtained on July 9. Authorities previously arrested Sánchez Hernández on June 5 for allegedly shooting at police officers, which she denied, and was later released. She remained under house arrest while the investigations continued.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report eliminated the section on Denial of Fair Public Trial and its content.
Trial Procedures	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Trial Procedures and its content.
The law provided for the right to a fair and public trial, and the judiciary generally enforced the right.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Trial Procedures and its content.
Defendants had the right to an attorney of their choice at all stages of criminal proceedings. By law, attorneys were required to meet professional qualifications to represent a defendant. Not all public defenders were qualified, however, and often the state public defender system was understaffed. According to the Center for Economic Research and Teaching, most criminal suspects did not receive representation until after their first custody hearing, thus making individuals vulnerable to coercion to sign false statements prior to appearing before a judge.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Trial Procedures and its content.

Defendants had the right to free assistance of an interpreter, if needed, although interpretation and translation services for speakers of Indigenous languages were not always available. According to the Indigenous Professional Center for Advice, Advocacy, and Translation, Indigenous defendants who did not speak Spanish sometimes were unaware of the status of their cases and were convicted without fully understanding the documents they were instructed to sign.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Trial Procedures and its content.
Political Prisoners and Detainees	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Political Prisoners and Detainees.
There were no reports of political prisoners or detainees.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Political Prisoners and Detainees.
f. Transnational Repression	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention Transnational Repression.
g. Property Seizure and Restitution	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention Property Seizure and Restitution.
h. Arbitrary or Unlawful Interference with Privacy, Family, Home, or Correspondence	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention h. Arbitrary or Unlawful Interference with Privacy, Family, Home, or Correspondence and its content.
The law prohibited arbitrary or unlawful interference with privacy, family, home, or correspondence and required search warrants. There were some complaints that authorities conducted illegal searches or illegal destruction of private property.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention h. Arbitrary or Unlawful Interference with Privacy, Family, Home, or Correspondence and its content.
Section 2. Respect for Civil Liberties	Section 2. Liberty	2024 report has updated section headers.
a. Freedom of Expression, Including for Members of the Press and Other Media	a. Freedom of the Press	2024 report has updated section headers.
The law provided for freedom of expression, including for members of the press and other media, and the government generally respected this right. The government continued exerting significant pressure due to being a source of advertising revenue for many media organizations, which at times influenced coverage.	The law provided for freedom of speech, including for members of the press and other media, and the government generally respected this right. NGOs reported President Andres Manuel López Obrador stigmatized journalists or took actions that made some journalists feel unsafe. The government exerted significant pressure on some media outlets through its ability to direct advertising revenue, which at times influenced coverage in local and national media.	The 2023 and 2024 reports document the same content. The 2024 report adds, "NGOs reported President Andres Manuel López Obrador stigmatized journalists or took actions that made some journalists feel unsafe."
<u>Freedom of Expression</u> : Independent media were active and expressed a wide variety of views without restriction but often self-censored due to fear of reprisals from government officials and transnational criminal organizations.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not have a section on Freedom of Expression.
Official discrediting of press workers continued. Politicians, including President López Obrador, publicly discredited and criticized such journalists, presenting them as biased, partisan, and corrupt. The administration continued to showcase a weekly "Who's Who in Lies" segment in the president's morning press conference to expose journalists who allegedly reported fake news. In 2022, the NGO Article 19 registered at least 176 disparaging comments from the President's Office directed toward media outlets, journalists, and civil society organizations. Several journalists cited constant threats. Reyna Haydee Ramirez, a journalist for the news agency Communication and Information on Women (CIMAC), said the president's discourse caused listeners to interpret his words as an "order to attack." Ramirez was subsequently barred from attending the president's morning conferences.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention official discrediting of press workers.

<p><u>Violence and Harassment:</u> Journalists were killed or subjected to physical attacks, cyberattacks, harassment, and intimidation (especially by state agents and transnational criminal organizations) in response to their reporting. This limited media's ability to investigate and report, since many of the reporters who were killed covered crime, corruption, and local politics. High levels of impunity, including for killings or attacks on journalists, resulted in self-censorship and reduced freedom of expression and the press.</p>	<p>Journalists were killed or subjected to physical attacks, cyberattacks, harassment, and intimidation, especially by state agents and transnational criminal organizations. These attacks limited media's ability to investigate and report, since many of the reporters who were killed covered crime, corruption, and local politics. High levels of impunity, including for killings or attacks on journalists, resulted in self-censorship and reduced freedom of expression.</p>	<p>Found in the 2024 report under Section 2. Liberty under the subheading "Physical Attacks, Imprisonment, and Pressure".</p>
<p>According to civil society representatives, as of September 25, at least four journalists were killed: Marco Aurelio Ramírez (Puebla), Luis Martín Sánchez (Nayarit), Nelson Matus (Guerrero), and Jesús Gutiérrez Vergara (Sonora). In addition, on July 8, journalist Luis Marín Sánchez Íñiguez was found dead in Tepic, Nayarit. The correspondent for the daily newspaper La Jornada and media site Crítica Digital Noticias disappeared from his home on July 5. The state attorney general's office confirmed he was killed possibly due to his work in journalism. Two of his colleagues, who were also reported missing, were found alive on July 8-9.</p>	<p>According to civil society representatives, at least five journalists were killed during the year: Roberto Carlos Figueroa (in Morelos) on May 3, Víctor Alfonso Culebro Morales (in Chiapas) on July 2, Alejandro Alfredo Martínez Noguez (in Guanajuato) on August 4, Mauricio Cruz Solís (in Michoacán) on October 29, and Patricia Ramírez González (in Colima) on October 30.</p>	<p>Found in the 2024 report under Section 2. Liberty under the subheading "Physical Attacks, Imprisonment, and Pressure".</p>
<p>On July 6, journalist Juan Carlos Hinojosa disappeared in Nanchital, Veracruz; the case remained unsolved as of October.</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report provides fewer examples than the 2023 report.</p>
<p>On July 15, unidentified attackers shot at independent journalist María Luisa Estrada and her daughter in Guadalajara, Jalisco. Estrada and her daughter were unharmed, but Estrada said a police officer at the crime scene cautioned her regarding her crime and corruption reporting and described the attack as a warning.</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report provides fewer examples than the 2023 report.</p>
<p>The Interior Secretariat registered 72 verbal and physical attacks against journalists in 2022, 42 percent of which the secretariat attributed to public servants. The most common aggressions were intimidation and harassment, followed by threats and physical attacks, according to civil society groups. In November 2022, CIMAC reported a 210 percent increase in attacks against women in journalism from January 2019 to July 2022, compared with 2012-18, which CIMAC noted was the period of the previous presidency. CIMAC found most common attacks against women in journalism were stigmatization, intimidation, and harassment online and in person.</p>	<p>As of June, the Secretariat of the Interior registered at least 15 reports of verbal and physical attacks against journalists under the secretariat protection mechanism. The most common forms of aggression against journalists were intimidation and harassment, followed by threats and physical attacks, according to civil society groups.</p>	<p>Found in the 2024 report under Section 2. Liberty under the subheading "Physical Attacks, Imprisonment, and Pressure".</p>
<p>Between 2019 and June 2022, the Office of the Special Prosecutor for Crimes against Journalists, a unit in the Attorney General's Office, charged 186 persons with crimes against journalists. As of October, the Attorney General's Office prosecuted only 16 cases. Since its inception, the Special Prosecutor's Office took to trial only 21 percent of the 1,629 cases it opened. Digital media journalists covering stories such as crime, corruption, and human rights violations experienced physical violence and online abuse. Online discrimination, harassment, and threats were problems particularly for women journalists and politicians, as well as any individual and organizations advocating for women's rights.</p>	<p>From January 1 to November 30, 2023, the NGO Communication and Information on Women registered 184 cases of aggression against women journalists for their work. The NGO found the most common attacks against women in journalism were stigmatization, intimidation, and harassment online and in person.</p>	<p>Found in the 2024 report under Section 2. Liberty under the subheading "Physical Attacks, Imprisonment, and Pressure".</p>

<p><u>Censorship or Content Restrictions for Members of the Press and Other Media, Including Online Media:</u> Human rights groups reported that some state and local governments censored media. Journalists reported altering their coverage due to a lack of government protection, attacks against members of media and newsrooms, and threats or retributions against their families, among other reasons. There were reports of journalists practicing self-censorship due to threats from criminal groups and government officials.</p>	<p>Human rights groups reported some state and local governments censored media. There were reports of journalists practicing self-censorship due to threats from criminal groups and government officials. Journalists reported altering their coverage due to a lack of government protection, attacks against members of media and media outlets, and threats of retribution against their families, among other reasons.</p>	<p>Found in the 2024 report under Section 2. Liberty under the subheading "Censorship by Governments, Military, Intelligence, or Police Forces, Criminal Groups, or Armed Extremist or Rebel Groups".</p>
<p>Freedom of expression advocacy groups reported the government, despite reductions in its advertising budgets, continued to have a strong financial impact and influence on the largest media companies. The civil society groups Fundar and Article 19 underscored a lack of federal government transparency in selecting media outlets for public advertising, noting that 55 percent of its budget went to only 10 media outlets in 2022.</p>	<p>Advertising contracts were sometimes used as a control mechanism by different levels of government. Freedom of expression advocacy groups reported the government, despite reductions in its advertising budgets, continued to exert strong financial influence over the largest media companies. The civil society group Fundar underscored a lack of federal government transparency or equity in selecting media outlets for public advertising, noting 55 percent of the government's advertising budget went to only 10 media outlets in 2023. From January 1 to March 31, there were three instances of denials or suspensions of public advertising to media outlets in response to editorial content.</p>	<p>Found in the 2024 report under Section 2. Liberty under the subheading "Censorship by Governments, Military, Intelligence, or Police Forces, Criminal Groups, or Armed Extremist or Rebel Groups".</p>
<p><u>Libel/Slander Laws:</u> There were no federal criminal laws against defamation, libel, or slander; however, nine states had criminal laws regarding these three acts. In four states, the crimes of defamation and libel were prosecuted, with penalties ranging from three days to five years in prison and fines for committing defamation or slander, both considered "crimes against honor." Slander was punishable under the criminal laws of five states, with sentences ranging from three months to six years in prison and fines. Twenty-five states had laws protecting authorities from alleged insults. Five states had laws that restricted the publishing of political caricatures or "memes" but seldom enforced them. In addition to criminal libel and defamation laws, civil law defined "moral damage" as similar to defamation concerning harm to a person's "feelings, affections, beliefs, dignity, honor, reputation, and privacy," according to the NGO Committee to Protect Journalists.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report eliminated the section on Libel/Slander Laws.</p>
<p>On April 25, President López Obrador repealed the 1917 Law on Printing Crimes, which previously increased punishments for insults against the president, congress, army, and other institutions.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report eliminated the section on Libel/Slander Laws.</p>
<p><u>Nongovernmental Impact:</u> Criminal groups exercised grave influence over media outlets and reporters, threatening individuals who published critical views of criminal groups. Concerns persisted regarding criminal groups' use of physical violence in retaliation for information posted online, which exposed journalists, bloggers, and social media users to the same level of violence faced by traditional journalists. According to organizations defending journalists, the number of attacks against the press by organized crime groups continued to increase. A civil society organization registered at least 86 attacks by criminal organizations and reported at least 13 of the 16 journalist homicides from 2022 to July were possibly linked to criminal groups.</p>	<p>In some regions, criminal groups exercised significant influence over media outlets and reporters, threatening individuals who published views critical of criminal groups. Concerns persisted regarding criminal groups' use of physical violence in retaliation for information posted online, which exposed bloggers and social media users to the same level of violence faced by traditional journalists. In its report released in February, Article 19 identified 57 attacks against journalists in 2023 perpetrated by individuals associated with transnational criminal organizations.</p>	<p>Found in the 2024 report under Section 2. Liberty under the subheading "Censorship by Governments, Military, Intelligence, or Police Forces, Criminal Groups, or Armed Extremist or Rebel Groups".</p>
<p>In June, Chiapas press outlets reported alleged members of criminal groups hung banners in various places around the state to intimidate media.</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report gives fewer examples than the 2023 report.</p>
<p>Internet Freedom</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report does not have a section on Internet Freedom.</p>
<p>The government did not restrict or disrupt access to the internet or block or filter online content.</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report does not have a section on Internet Freedom.</p>

<p>According to Freedom House’s Freedom on the Net Report 2023, state and nonstate actors increasingly used legal threats and other methods to pressure social media platforms, web-hosting providers, and individual users to remove content. Article 19 recorded 12 removals of journalistic content in 2022. In April, Supreme Court Judge Yasmín Esquivel Mossa filed a complaint against journalist Lourdes Mendoza, who tweeted photographs of Mossa vacationing in Canada, accompanied by critical comments regarding the judge. Mossa asked a court to order the removal of the photographs and to delete Mendoza’s account on X (formerly called Twitter), on the grounds that her minor son appeared in one of them and the comments allegedly incited hatred. The court ordered Mendoza and other journalists to remove or blur the photographs to protect the identity of Mossa’s son but did not force Mendoza to delete her account.</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report does not have a section on Internet Freedom.</p>
<p>NGOs alleged provisions in laws threatened the privacy of internet users by forcing telecommunication companies to retain data for two years, providing real-time geolocation data to police, and allowing authorities to obtain metadata from private communications companies without a court order. While the Supreme Court upheld the provisions, it noted the need for authorities to obtain a judicial warrant to access user metadata.</p>	<p>An NGO that tracked attacks on journalists reported at least 142 instances of stigmatization of journalists and publication of the personal information of journalists without their consent.</p>	<p>Found in the 2024 report under Section 2. Liberty under the subheading "Physical Attacks, Imprisonment, and Pressure".</p>
<p>Unidentified users and bots on X posted threats against journalists who asked “difficult” questions of government officials during press engagements and in some cases disseminated the journalists’ identities and media outlets and made veiled threats.</p>	<p>Civil society activists stated unidentified users and bots on X (formerly Twitter) also regularly posted threats against journalists who asked “difficult” questions of government officials during press engagements and in some cases disseminated the journalists’ personal information to other media outlets and made veiled threats. Activists asserted this behavior resulted in self-censorship in favor of government positions.</p>	<p>Found in the 2024 report under Section 2. Liberty under the subheading "Physical Attacks, Imprisonment, and Pressure".</p>
<p>The Freedom on the Net 2023 reported online campaigns amplified support for President López Obrador and trolled his perceived rivals or users who questioned or criticized him. In March, the digital news site Animal Político reported that pro-López Obrador accounts disseminated more than 20,000 tweets in an online smear campaign against the recently elected president of the Supreme Court, Norma Lucía Piña Hernández, who often ruled against López Obrador’s government in judicial decisions. Many of the tweets used the hashtag #PiñaMadrinaDeLosNarcos (#PiñaGodmotherOfTheNarcos) to make unsubstantiated links between Piña and drug trafficking.</p>		<p>The 2024 report does not mention online campaigns.</p>
<p>b. Freedoms of Peaceful Assembly and Association</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section on Freedoms of Peaceful Assembly and Association.</p>
<p>The law provided for the freedoms of peaceful assembly and association, and the government generally respected these rights, with some exceptions. Twelve states had laws restricting public demonstrations. There were reports of security forces using excessive force against demonstrators. Government failures to investigate and prosecute attacks on protesters and human rights defenders resulted in impunity for these crimes, consistent with high impunity rates for all crimes. Amnesty International and other NGOs reported that acts of excessive use of force and arbitrary detention occurred against women protesters, especially those protesting gender-based violence.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section on Freedoms of Peaceful Assembly and Association.</p>
<p>On August 5, the National Guard allegedly removed and seized property from protesters in front of the Secretariat of the Interior. The protesters had participated in a sit-in for months, and during their removal, police confiscated a protester’s camper and a car.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section on Freedoms of Peaceful Assembly and Association.</p>

In February, President López Obrador criticized demonstrators who gathered peacefully in Mexico City to protest cuts to election funding. According to news sources, the president called the demonstrators “allies of drug cartels” and accused them of pickpocketing in the capital’s main plaza.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Freedoms of Peaceful Assembly and Association.
c. Freedom of Religion	d. Violations in Religious Freedom	See the Department of State’s International Religious Freedom Report at https://www.state.gov/international-religious-freedom-reports .
d. Freedom of Movement and the Right to Leave the Country	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Freedom of Movement and the Right to Leave the Country.
Federal law provided for freedom of internal movement, foreign travel, emigration, and repatriation, and the government generally respected these rights.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Freedom of Movement and the Right to Leave the Country.
<u>In-country Movement</u> : There were numerous instances of armed groups limiting the movements of migrants, including by threats and acts of kidnapping, extortion, and homicide. Criminal groups dominated migrant smuggling operations and often kidnapped, threatened, and extorted migrants to pay a fee for facilitating northbound travel. On August 17, international organizations in Ciudad Juárez reported an increase in extortion and kidnappings by smugglers.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Freedom of Movement and the Right to Leave the Country.
e. Protection of Refugees	c. Protection to Refugees	
The government cooperated with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other humanitarian organizations in providing protection and assistance to refugees, asylum seekers, and other persons of concern.	The government cooperated with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other humanitarian organizations in providing protection and assistance to refugees, returning refugees, or asylum seekers, as well as other persons of concern.	The 2023 and 2024 reports document the same content.
<u>Access to Asylum</u> : Federal law provided for granting asylum, refugee status, or complementary protection to those fleeing persecution or facing possible threats to their life, security, or liberty in their country of origin. The government had an established procedure for determining refugee status and providing protections. The government worked with UNHCR to improve access to refugee status determinations, improve shelter and reception conditions for vulnerable migrants and asylum applicants, and support local integration programs (including access to school, work, and other social services) for those approved for refugee and complementary protection status.	<u>Provision of First Asylum</u> : The law provided for the granting of asylum or refugee status, and the government had a system for providing protections to refugees.	The 2024 report only states that the law provides for the granting of asylum, whereas the 2023 report examines in depth how the government enforced this law.
<u>Abuse of Refugees and Asylum Seekers</u> : The press, international organizations, and NGOs reported targeting and victimization of migrants and asylum seekers by criminal groups and in some cases by police, immigration officers, and customs officials. There were numerous instances of criminal groups extorting, threatening, or kidnapping asylum seekers and other migrants. In many parts of the country, human smuggling organizations wielded significant power, and media alleged frequent collusion among local authorities. There were credible reports of gender-based violence against migrants. There were also credible reports of officially recognized asylum seekers being denied movement across the country and detained by migration authorities. Civil society groups reported migration authorities did not provide information regarding access to request asylum and migratory regularization and, in some cases, dissuaded migrants from pursuing such alternatives.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Abuse of Refugees and Asylum Seekers.

The government did not detain migrant children and generally exempted accompanying adults from detention to preserve family unity. Child protection authorities lacked sufficient capacity to shelter and process migrant children and families, but the government made progress to improve shelter space for children and strengthen child protection authorities. During the year, the National System for Integral Family Development transferred 1.1 billion pesos (\$67 million) to 26 states to strengthen their capacity to respond to child migration. In May, the government declared it had completed the construction of 58 of the 90 shelters planned.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Abuse of Refugees and Asylum Seekers.
The government increased efforts to target human smuggling organizations, with limited results. In November 2022, the Attorney General's Office arrested the Los Panchos human smuggling leader and main collaborators. The Attorney General's Office carried out arrests in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua; Silao, Guanajuato; and the state of Mexico. In May, the Attorney General's Office arrested three alleged smugglers in the state of Nuevo León. Authorities found 17 migrants with the smugglers and identified 11 others at a safe house.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Abuse of Refugees and Asylum Seekers.
Obstacles to accessing international protection related most closely to capacity limitations and lack of coordination among the relevant agencies, as opposed to official government policy.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Abuse of Refugees and Asylum Seekers.
f. Status and Treatment of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Status and treatment of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).
There were 386,000 IDPs as a result of conflict and violence in 2022, according to NGOs. The states of Chiapas, Michoacan, and Zacatecas together accounted for almost 90 percent of the total number of IDPs. Of the IDPs in Chiapas, Indigenous peoples in Chenalhó and Frontera Comalapa represented a significant number.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Status and treatment of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).
Land conflicts, social and ethnic violence, or local political disputes also caused significant displacement. Forced internal displacement disproportionately affected Indigenous communities.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Status and treatment of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).
The Mexican Commission for the Defense and Promotion of Human Rights recorded the highest incidence of forced internal displacement in 2022 in Frontera Comalapa and La Trinitaria, Chiapas, where 4,250 IDPs across seven communities fled criminal gang violence. On May 25, the news outlet Aristegui Noticias reported families fled these regions to escape violence between Sinaloa and Jalisco Nueva Generación cartels vying for control of the border with Guatemala.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Status and treatment of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).
The government, in conjunction with international organizations, made efforts to promote the safe, voluntary return, resettlement, or local integration of IDPs. The National Institute for Indigenous People had a program to assist displaced Indigenous and Afro-Mexican women.	<u>Resettlement</u> : Refugees could naturalize after five years; for Latin American nationals the period was three years. UNHCR reported the high cost of the naturalization fee was a problem for refugees. UNHCR also reported the centralization of the naturalization procedure was an obstacle, since there were only five offices that provided this service and transportation could be costly.	For further information about IDPs in the country, please see the materials of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center: https://www.internal-displacement.org .
Section 3. Freedom to Participate in the Political Process	Section 3. Security of the person	2024 report has updated section headers.
Federal law provided citizens the ability to choose their government through free and fair periodic elections held by secret ballot and based on universal and equal suffrage.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed all content from Section 3 on Freedom to Participate in the Political Process.
Elections and Political Participation	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed all content from Section 3 on Freedom to Participate in the Political Process.

<u>Abuses or Irregularities in Recent Elections</u> : International observers considered the most recent national elections to be generally fair and free of abuses and irregularities.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed all content from Section 3 on Freedom to Participate in the Political Process.
Section 4. Corruption in Government	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	2024 report has updated section headers.
The law provided criminal penalties for corruption by officials. The government generally enforced the law effectively, but there were numerous reports of government corruption.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed Section 4, "Corruption in Government."
<u>Corruption</u> : In February, the Federal Commission for the Protection against Sanitary Risks announced it fired 11 public servants for alleged collusion with private entities, after finding they had destroyed evidence and shared confidential information regarding the institution's internal deliberations with outside parties. This resulted from an investigation of allegations against commission officials for corrupt operations awarding pharmaceutical bids alleged to have occurred in 2021.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed Section 4, "Corruption in Government."
In June, the Secretariat of Public Administration announced an audit had found irregularities amounting to \$550 million regarding transactions by the Mexican Food Security Agency under the Secretariat for Agriculture and Rural Development. The case continued under investigation as of August.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed Section 4, "Corruption in Government."
Between December 2018 and June, the Secretariat of Public Administration received more than 127,000 complaints related to failure to comply with regulations and duties, misuse and authority abuse, and negligence or lack of attention in the performance of duties, of which approximately 114,000 were resolved.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	For additional information about corruption in the country, please see the Department of State's Investment Climate Statement for the country, and the Department of State's International Narcotics Control Strategy Report, which includes information on financial crimes.
Section 5. Governmental Posture Towards International and Nongovernmental Monitoring and Investigation of Alleged Abuses of Human Rights	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed Section 5, "Governmental Posture Towards International and Nongovernmental Monitoring and Investigation of Alleged Abuses of Human Rights".
A variety of domestic and international human rights groups generally operated without government restriction to monitor or investigate human rights conditions or cases and publish their findings. Government officials were mostly cooperative and responsive to the views of these groups. President López Obrador, however, chastised civil society groups at the morning press conferences he hosted daily. Some NGOs alleged individuals who organized campaigns to discredit human rights defenders at times acted with tacit support from government officials.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed Section 5, "Governmental Posture Towards International and Nongovernmental Monitoring and Investigation of Alleged Abuses of Human Rights".
<u>Retribution against Human Rights Defenders</u> : On January 15, human rights defenders Ricardo Lagunes and Antonio Díaz disappeared in Colima after advocating against mining company Ternium. While searching for her brother who disappeared in 2020, Esthela Guadalupe Estrada Ávila, an activist and member of a collective of relatives of disappeared persons, disappeared on March 29 in Tlajomulco de Zúñiga, Jalisco. On April 21, Indigenous human rights defender Alejandro Ortiz Vázquez was forced into a vehicle with four armed men in Metlatónoc, Guerrero; as of October, his whereabouts remained unknown	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed Section 5, "Governmental Posture Towards International and Nongovernmental Monitoring and Investigation of Alleged Abuses of Human Rights".

<p><u>Government Human Rights Bodies:</u> The CNDH was a semiautonomous federal agency funded by the legislature to monitor and act on human rights abuses. The CNDH could call on government authorities to impose administrative sanctions or pursue criminal charges against officials, but it was not authorized to impose penalties or legal sanctions. Civil society groups questioned the CNDH's independence and effectiveness. They noted the CNDH failed to speak out regarding pressing concerns such as the role of the military in public security activities.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed Section 5, "Governmental Posture Towards International and Nongovernmental Monitoring and Investigation of Alleged Abuses of Human Rights".</p>
<p>All states had their own human rights commissions. The state commissions were funded by state legislatures and were semiautonomous. Some civil society groups, however, asserted that state commissions were subservient to the state executive branch. State commissions did not have uniform reporting requirements, making it difficult to compare state data and therefore compile nationwide statistics. The CNDH could take on cases from state-level commissions if it received a complaint that the state commission did not adequately investigate the case. The independence and effectiveness of the commissions varied widely.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed Section 5, "Governmental Posture Towards International and Nongovernmental Monitoring and Investigation of Alleged Abuses of Human Rights".</p>
<p>Section 6. Discrimination and Societal Abuses</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report does not mention any content on Discrimination and Societal Abuses.</p>
<p>Women</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report does not mention any content on Women.</p>
<p><u>Rape and Domestic Violence:</u> Federal law criminalized the rape of men and women, including spousal rape and domestic or intimate partner rape and other forms of domestic and sexual violence, as well as so-called corrective rape of LGBTQI+ persons. Conviction carried penalties of up to 20 years' imprisonment. Spousal rape was criminalized in 27 of the 32 states. The government did not enforce the law effectively. There were high rates of impunity for these crimes, consistent with high impunity rates for all crimes.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section on Rape and Domestic Violence.</p>
<p>Federal law prohibited domestic violence, including gender-based violence, and stipulated penalties between six months' and four years' imprisonment. The law included media and digital violence as a form of gender-based violence. Of the 32 states, 29 stipulated similar penalties, although sentences were often more lenient. Federal law criminalized spousal abuse. State and municipal laws addressing domestic violence largely failed to meet the required federal standards and often were unenforced.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section on Rape and Domestic Violence.</p>
<p>The National Commission to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women was responsible for leading government programs to combat domestic violence. In addition to shelters, women's external assistance centers provided services including legal, psychological, and protective; however, the number of cases far surpassed institutional capacity. Legal experts said the country lacked sufficient psychological and anthropological experts to issue the appropriate expert reports that judges required in femicide and domestic violence cases. Federal funding assisted the operation of more than 69 shelters, external attention centers, emergency houses, and transition houses. NGOs operated 85 percent of the facilities, and government organizations operated the remaining 15 percent.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section on Rape and Domestic Violence.</p>

Other Forms of Gender-based Violence or Harassment: Femicide was a federal offense punishable by 40 to 70 years in prison. It was also a criminal offense in all states. The Executive Secretariat of the National Public Security System reported more than 1,290 killings of women, including 426 femicides, from January to June.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Rape and Domestic Violence.
Federal law prohibited sexual harassment and provided for fines from 250 to 5,000 times the minimum daily wage, but the law was not effectively enforced. Of the 32 states, 24 criminalized sexual harassment, and all states had provisions for punishment when the perpetrator was in a position of power.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Rape and Domestic Violence.
According to a report by Animal Político, in 2022 at least 90 women were attacked with acid or gasoline.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	- 2023 report: under subheading "other forms of gender-based violence or harassment"
<u>Discrimination:</u> The law provided women the same legal status and rights as men and "equal pay for equal work performed in equal jobs, hours of work, and conditions of efficiency." The government did not enforce the law effectively. Women tended to earn substantially less than men did for the same work. Women were more likely to experience discrimination in wages, working hours, and benefits. Afro-Mexican and Indigenous women reported structural inequality in their daily lives. Job announcements specifying desired gender, age, marital status, and parental status were common.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Discrimination.
<u>Reproductive Rights:</u> There were no confirmed reports of coerced abortion or involuntary sterilization on the part of government authorities.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report removed the section on Reproductive Rights.
The CNDH observed recurrent cases of obstetric violence during childbirth in the forms of neglect and physical abuse, sometimes with serious consequences on women's sexual and reproductive health. As of October, the CNDH issued 51 recommendations to improve or address the denial of health services, including physical and psychological abuse, performance of risky procedures, and inadequate neonatal evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment for diseases.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report removed the section on Reproductive Rights.
Federal authorities supported access to contraceptive methods, including for the purpose of family planning, but states' efforts varied widely. Barriers to accessing contraceptives stemmed from lack of knowledge, poverty, lack of access to health services, and sexual violence from family members, strangers, or friends.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report removed the section on Reproductive Rights.
Government health service providers in 21 states said they were obligated by law to offer sexual and reproductive emergency health services for survivors of sexual violence within 120 hours of the sexual assault. Emergency contraception and postexposure prophylaxis were available in all states, including for survivors of sexual assault. Nevertheless, women nationwide faced obstacles to accessing emergency services due to health providers' personal objections to emergency contraception or misunderstanding of their legal obligations to provide services.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report removed the section on Reproductive Rights.
Authorities reported the cause of most maternal deaths nationwide was obstetric hemorrhage (21 percent), followed by hypertension (15 percent), and abortion (8 percent). Factors associated with maternal deaths included parents with lower levels of education, inadequate hospital infrastructure and human capacity, and lack of access to maternity care, especially for pregnant women living in rural areas. Southern states reported the lowest access to skilled health care during pregnancy due to geographic, financial, and cultural barriers.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report removed the section on Reproductive Rights.

A 2022 report based on a survey in five states pointed out the main barriers to menstrual health were stigma, lack of sanitation, and access to information. It found 69 percent of menstruating persons had little or no information when their first period occurred, and 15 percent lacked access to menstrual products.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report removed the section on Reproductive Rights.
The National Population Council reported that in 2022, there were more than 350,000 pregnancies in women younger than age 19, of which approximately 9,200 were in girls ages 15 or younger (98 percent in girls ages 13-14). The states with the majority of cases were Chiapas, Coahuila, Guerrero, and Veracruz. Authorities attributed high adolescent birth rates to low economic status, social inequities, school dropout, low usage of contraceptives, sexual abuse, and child marriages. Sometimes family members arranged marriages for girls younger than 18, although it was illegal nationwide.	There were no reports of coerced abortion or involuntary sterilization on the part of government authorities.	The 2024 report is found in Section 1b. Coercion in Population Control.
Systemic Racial or Ethnic Violence and Discrimination	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention Systemic Racial or Ethnic Violence and Discrimination.
Nonetheless, discrimination was common against racial and ethnic minorities, including Black and Afro-Mexican persons. All states had additional laws against discrimination. A 2019 constitutional reform recognized Afro-Mexicans as an ethnic group. The government did not enforce the law effectively.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention Systemic Racial or Ethnic Violence and Discrimination.
According to a 2021 report by the National Council to Prevent Discrimination (CONAPRED), in Mexico City dark-skinned individuals experienced the most discrimination, followed by Indigenous peoples.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention Systemic Racial or Ethnic Violence and Discrimination.
The National Statistical Institute (INEGI) reported that 2 percent of the population (2.5 million) self-identified as Afro-Mexican. INEGI's 2022 National Survey on Discrimination found 36 percent of Afrodescendants older than 12 faced discrimination in the last 12 months. The survey also reported 38 percent of Afrodescendants older than 12 said their rights were respected 'little' and 28 percent that their rights were denied in the past five years. A 2022 report from the Black Alliance for Just Immigration found Black migrants faced widespread racial discrimination from individuals and authorities, particularly in accessing employment and services. Black migrants reported migration authorities detained Black migrants for longer periods than other migrants.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report does not mention Systemic Racial or Ethnic Violence and Discrimination.
Indigenous Peoples	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report contains no content regarding Indigenous Peoples.
CONAPRED's 2017 national survey on discrimination found 65 percent of Indigenous persons considered their rights were respected "little or not at all." The CNDH reported Indigenous women were among the most vulnerable groups in society. They often experienced racism and discrimination and were frequently victims of violence. Due at least in part to services offered only in the Spanish language, Indigenous persons generally had limited access to health care, education services, and legal means to seek justice. In 2022, the National Council for the Evaluation of Social Development Policy published a report that found 65 percent of Indigenous peoples lived in poverty and 26 percent in extreme poverty.	No similar language in this report	The 2024 report contains no content regarding Indigenous Peoples.

<p>In mid-July, the government resumed construction of the Mayan Train, a dual cargo-passenger railroad to cross the Yucatán Peninsula through Indigenous lands, citing a 2021 decree deeming all public infrastructure to be a matter of national security, which limited the ability of civil society and Indigenous groups to use legal avenues to halt the project. Several Indigenous communities brought legal actions to oppose the construction, many of which were dismissed or denied. In December 2022, the United Nations published a press release citing concerns regarding the Mayan Train's construction impact on the rights of Indigenous peoples, land and natural resources, and cultural and health rights. On May 7, the civil society group El Sur Resiste (The South Resists) issued a statement describing how police and military agents threatened them while they raised awareness regarding megaprojects, such as the Isthmus of Tehuantepec Interoceanic Corridor and the Mayan Train.</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report contains no content regarding Indigenous Peoples.</p>
<p>The constitution provided Indigenous persons the right to self-determination, autonomy, and education. Conflicts arose from the interpretation of Indigenous communities' self-governing "normative systems." Uses and customs laws applied traditional practices to resolve disputes, choose local officials, and collect taxes, with limited federal or state government involvement. Communities and NGOs representing Indigenous groups criticized the government for failing to consult Indigenous communities adequately when making decisions regarding extractive industry and natural resource development projects on Indigenous lands.</p>	<p>No similar language in this report</p>	<p>The 2024 report contains no content regarding Indigenous Peoples.</p>
<p>Children</p>	<p>b. Protection of Children</p>	
<p><u>Birth Registration:</u> Failure to register births could result in the denial of public services such as education or health care.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section on Birth Registration.</p>
<p><u>Child Abuse:</u> The law provided for protection against child abuse. There were numerous reports of child abuse. The government generally enforced the law effectively. The National Program for the Integral Protection of Children and Adolescents, mandated by law, was responsible for coordinating the protection of children's rights at all levels of government.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section on Child Abuse.</p>
<p><u>Child, Early, and Forced Marriage:</u> The legal minimum marriage age was 18. Enforcement, however, was inconsistent across the states. With a judge's consent, children could marry at younger ages. According to a 2022 investigation by the news outlet La Lista, at least 153,000 child marriages took place between 2010 and 2021. On March 15, the senate approved legislation that criminalized forced child marriage and stipulated a penalty of up to 22 years in prison. On April 26, federal law authorities reformed the federal penal code to prohibit forced cohabitation of minors and persons with intellectual disabilities, with punishments of eight to 15 years' imprisonment and possibly higher penalties if the victim identified as Indigenous or Afro-Mexican.</p>	<p><u>Child Marriage:</u> The legal minimum marriage age was 18, but enforcement was inconsistent across the states. In some states, with a judge's consent, children could marry at younger ages. In 2022, according to the National Statistics Institute, 237,175 girls ages 12-17 were married or living with their partners.</p>	<p>The 2024 report only mentions the minimum age for Child Marriage and not the consequences.</p>

<p><u>Sexual Exploitation of Children</u>: The law prohibited the sale, grooming, or use of children for commercial sexual exploitation, including sex trafficking, and authorities generally enforced the law. Nonetheless, NGOs and media reported occurrences of sexual exploitation of minors, including child sex tourism in resort towns and northern border areas. Authorities estimated 21,000 children were kidnapped annually for sexual exploitation. The statute of limitations did not apply for sexual crimes against minors, including child pornography distribution, child sex tourism, corruption of minors, pederasty, sexual abuse, and rape.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section on Sexual Exploitation of Children.</p>
<p>Antisemitism</p>	<p>d. Acts of Antisemitism and Antisemitic Incitement</p>	<p>2024 report has updated section headers.</p>
<p>The Jewish population numbered 58,876 (according to the 2020 INEGI survey). The community experienced low levels of antisemitism. In January, civil society organizations and activists protested against the Greek band Der Strumer, accused of being a neo-Nazi group, who was set to perform but later canceled its January 13 show in Guadalajara. In June, local media reported multiple swastikas and Nazi insignias painted around Morelia, Michoacan. Between January and June 30, the civil society organization Central Committee (Comité Central) found 3 percent of social media content mentioning Jewish persons was antisemitic.</p>	<p>The Jewish population numbered 58,876, according to the 2020 National Statistics Institute survey. Starting in October 2023, the community experienced an increase in antisemitic rhetoric, including in public graffiti and on social media. Civil society organizations reported a campaign on Instagram to boycott restaurants and businesses owned by Jewish community members. Protests and other events supporting Palestinians increased, with organizers at times reportedly supporting violence and hate speech against Jewish persons. Some of the pro-Palestinian events turned violent. On May 28, protesters outside the Israeli embassy in Mexico City injured 18 police officers and damaged property in the embassy's vicinity.</p>	<p>For further information on incidents in the country of antisemitism, whether or not those incidents were motivated by religion, and for reporting on the ability of Jews to exercise freedom of religion or belief, please see the Department of State's International Religious Freedom Report at https://www.state.gov/religiousfreedomreport/.</p>
<p>Jewish community representatives reported good cooperation with the government in addressing instances of antisemitic acts.</p>	<p>Jewish community representatives reported good cooperation with the government in addressing instances of antisemitic acts.</p>	<p>Both reports document the same content.</p>
<p>Trafficking in Persons</p>	<p>e. Trafficking in Persons</p>	<p>See the Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report at https://www.state.gov/trafficking-in-persons-report/.</p>
<p>Acts of Violence, Criminalization, and Other Abuses Based on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Expression, or Sex Characteristics</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section of Acts of Violence, Criminalization, and Other Abuses Based on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Expression, or Sex Characteristics and all of its content.</p>
<p>Criminalization: No laws criminalized consensual same-sex sexual conduct between adults, cross-dressing, or other sexual or gender characteristic-related behavior. There were no reports that neutral laws (e.g., on statutory rape, immorality, or loitering) were disproportionately applied to LGBTQI+ persons.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section of Acts of Violence, Criminalization, and Other Abuses Based on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Expression, or Sex Characteristics and all of its content.</p>

<p><u>Violence and Harassment:</u> There were reports the government did not always investigate and punish those complicit in abuses against LGBTQI+ persons, especially outside Mexico City. Civil society groups claimed police routinely subjected LGBTQI+ persons to mistreatment while in custody.</p> <p>In 2022, there were 87 killings of individuals who identified as LGBTQI+, of whom 48 were transgender, that could have been motivated by their sexual identity, according to civil society groups.</p> <p>On July 15, assailants killed Ulises Nava Juárez, LGBTQI+ rights defender and head of the Department of Sexual Diversity at the Autonomous University of Guerrero, as he left the National Congress of Strategic Litigation for the Defense of Rainbow Quotas, in Aguascalientes. As of July 31, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights documented seven killings of human rights activists, two of whom were LGBTQI+ advocates.</p> <p>According to CONAPRED, the most frequent forms of aggression LGBTQI+ persons experienced were verbal violence; denial of entry, services, and rights; and killings.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section of Acts of Violence, Criminalization, and Other Abuses Based on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Expression, or Sex Characteristics and all of its content.</p>
<p><u>Discrimination:</u> Federal law prohibited discrimination against LGBTQI+ individuals. The government generally did not enforce the law. A Mexico City municipal law provided increased penalties for hate crimes based on sexual orientation and gender identity. As of November 16, Mexico City and the states of Baja California, Campeche, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Colima, Guanajuato, Morelos, Querétaro, San Luis Potosí, and Yucatán allowed LGBTQI+ couples and families adoption rights.</p> <p>The 2021 National Survey of Sexual Diversity and Gender found that of three million employed LGBTQI+ individuals, one-third reported experiencing discrimination in the past 12 months. In March, a professor who identified as gay was fired for alleged sexual misconduct in Álvaro Obregón, Durango, prompting student protests that the school's director had filed false charges against him. From January to August 23, CONAPRED registered 22 reports of discrimination against LGBTQI+ persons.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section of Acts of Violence, Criminalization, and Other Abuses Based on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Expression, or Sex Characteristics and all of its content.</p>
<p>Availability of Legal Gender Recognition: Twenty states permitted adult individuals and eight states allowed children 12 years and older to update names and gender markers via a simple administrative process. In May, for the first time, the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs issued passports with "X" as a third sex designation option.</p>	<p>Section eliminated in 2024 report.</p>	<p>The 2024 report removed the section of Acts of Violence, Criminalization, and Other Abuses Based on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Expression, or Sex Characteristics and all of its content.</p>

<p><u>Involuntary or Coercive Medical or Psychological Practices</u>: Sixteen states banned so-called conversion therapy practices. According to INEGI, 14 percent of transgender persons and 10 percent of lesbian, gay, and bisexual persons were subjected to so-called conversion therapy practices. Civil society organizations reported that, as part of the treatment process, LGBTQI+ persons undergoing so-called conversion therapy practices were often isolated, beaten, given electroshocks, and made to undergo hormone or steroid therapies, among other actions.</p> <p>Medically unnecessary surgeries and treatment continued to be done on infants and children born with sex characteristics that did not align with either a typical male or female body. There were no reports of such surgeries done on nonconsenting intersex adults.</p>	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section of Acts of Violence, Criminalization, and Other Abuses Based on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Expression, or Sex Characteristics and all of its content.
<p><u>Restrictions of Freedom of Expression, Association, or Peaceful Assembly</u>: There were no reports of restrictions on freedom of expression, association, or peaceful assembly related to LGBTQI+ matters.</p>	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section of Acts of Violence, Criminalization, and Other Abuses Based on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Expression, or Sex Characteristics and all of its content.
<p>Persons with Disabilities</p>	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Persons with Disabilities and its entire content.
<p>Public buildings and facilities often did not comply with the law requiring access for persons with disabilities. Federal law prohibited discrimination against persons with physical, sensory, intellectual, and mental disabilities. The government did not effectively enforce the law. According to the 2021 INGEI survey on the dynamics of household relationships, 73 percent of the six million women and girls older than 15 who identified having disabilities reported experiencing violence. On June 7, the government enacted the National Code of Civil and Family Procedures, championed by disability advocacy groups. The legislation established the right to independently decide and make decisions with appropriate support for persons with disabilities older than 18.</p>	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Persons with Disabilities and its entire content.
<p>The law prohibited discrimination against persons with disabilities, and the government approved the National Work and Employment Program for People with Disabilities 2021-2024, aimed at strengthening labor inclusion of persons with disabilities and supporting the employment of persons with disabilities in decent work. Nevertheless, employment discrimination against individuals with disabilities continued.</p>	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Persons with Disabilities and its entire content.
<p>The education system provided education for students with disabilities nationwide. Nevertheless, children with disabilities attended school at a lower rate than those without disabilities.</p>	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Persons with Disabilities and its entire content.
<p>Voting centers for federal elections were generally accessible for persons with disabilities, and ballots were available with a braille overlay for federal elections in Mexico City, but these services were inconsistently available for local elections elsewhere in the country.</p>	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Persons with Disabilities and its entire content.
<p>The law required the Secretariat of Health to promote the creation of long-term institutions for persons with disabilities in distress, and the Secretariat of Social Development was required to establish institutions to care for, protect, and house poor, neglected, or marginalized persons with disabilities. NGOs reported authorities had not implemented programs for community integration.</p>	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Persons with Disabilities and its entire content.

Abuses occurred in institutions and care facilities housing persons with mental disabilities, including those for children. Abuses included the use of physical and chemical restraints; physical and sexual abuse; human trafficking, including forced labor; enforced disappearance; and the illegal adoption of institutionalized children. Persons with disabilities were vulnerable to abuse from staff members, other patients, or guests at facilities where there was inadequate supervision. Documentation supporting the identity and origin of those staying in the facilities was lacking, and access to justice was limited, according to NGOs. NGOs reported no changes in the mental health system to create community services or any efforts by authorities to have independent experts monitor human rights abuses in psychiatric institutions.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Persons with Disabilities and its entire content.
Institutionalized persons with disabilities often lacked adequate medical care and rehabilitation services, privacy, and clothing. They often ate, slept, and bathed in unhygienic conditions.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Persons with Disabilities and its entire content.
Other Societal Violence or Discrimination	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Other Societal Violence or Discrimination and its content.
The Catholic Multimedia Center reported criminal groups harassed Roman Catholic priests and religious leaders of other denominations in some parts of the country and subjected them to extortion, death threats, and intimidation. On May 22, authorities found Catholic priest Javier Garcia Villafana shot and killed in his car on the Cuitzeo-Huandacareo highway in Michoacán. Government officials stated the harassment of Catholic priests and evangelical Protestant pastors reflected high levels of generalized violence throughout the country and not targeted attacks based on religious beliefs.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Other Societal Violence or Discrimination and its content.
According to Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Catholic-majority communities sometimes discriminated against, harassed, threatened, and displaced individuals who left Catholicism or belonged to other faith communities, in addition to denying them basic services and destroying their property. On August 20, authorities in Simojovel, Chiapas, detained Presbyterian pastor Gilberto Diaz Pérez for his work, and villagers allegedly threatened to set fire to Diaz if he did not pay a fine. Diaz was released on August 26 in exchange for three other members of the Presbyterian Church, including his wife, who were released the same day after the Chiapas Interior Ministry and municipal authorities reached an agreement that Diaz would not preach in the community.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report removed the section on Other Societal Violence or Discrimination and its content.
Section 7. Worker Rights	Section 2b. Worker Rights	
a. Freedom of Association and the Right to Collective Bargaining	Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining	
The law provided for the right of workers to form and join independent unions, collectively bargain, and conduct legal strikes, and it prohibited antiunion discrimination. The government continued to strengthen freedom of association protections, promote union democracy, and improve the ability of workers to bargain collectively. By law, all groups, including agricultural and migrant workers, were protected equally.	The law provided for the right of workers to form and join independent unions, collectively bargain, and conduct legal strikes, and prohibited antiunion discrimination.	The 2024 report covers pages 6-14 on Worker Rights (out of the 20-page report). The 2023 report covers pages 49-58 on Worker Rights (out of 58 page report). Both reports devote significant time to workers' rights, which seem irrelevant to persons seeking asylum in Mexico.