



# Mexico

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On The World Watch List

**“We were afraid. We heard the mob say they were going to burn down our house.”**

– Ascuncion, Mexican believer.

Score: 64/100

Very High

Violence:		75%
Church Life:		62%
National Life:		64%
Community Life:		73%
Family Life:		49%
Private Life:		62%

Region:	Latin America
Leader:	President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador
Persecution Level:	Very High
Christian Population:	128,229,000 (98%)
Main Religion:	Christianity
Source of Persecution:	Organised Crime and Corruption

## The Rule Of Criminals

The increasing presence of criminal groups and their struggle for territorial control means Christians face constant risk of violence. Believers are perceived as a threat to criminal activities because they oppose corruption and drug use and reject the requests of criminal organisations. Christians who are outspoken about the hope of Jesus are often targeted by gangs, who try to remove any obstacle in their quest for control.

In indigenous communities, anyone who decides to abandon the community's religious beliefs can face rejection, fines, incarceration or forced displacement. Churches have been attacked and graffitied by protesters who resent Christian ethics and their influence.

## The Fate Of Indigenous Women

Persecution against Christians inside indigenous communities occurs particularly in the southern part of the country. In some indigenous communities, forced marriage is still common despite the government trying to eradicate it. This puts indigenous Christian women particularly at risk.

## How can we pray for Mexico?

Pray for Christian leaders as they serve their communities in places where they are targets of organised crime.

Pray for softening of hearts among local leaders, and that Christians would be a light to those who lead them.

Pray for provision for those who have been displaced because of their faith in Jesus.

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