

## Presentation

Upon concluding the search and rescue activities in the buildings collapsed in the September 19<sup>th</sup> earthquakes, the Federal government disclosed that up to October 4<sup>th</sup>, 369 deaths caused by the earthquake had been recorded. Of this figure, 228 deaths occurred in Mexico City, 73 in Morelos, 45 in Puebla, 15 in the State of Mexico, six in Guerrero and one in Oaxaca.<sup>1</sup> Among the figures, there appear questions about why the government was surpassed by civil society in responding and act to remove the remains and save lives in Mexico City. Why only the millennials were the only ones that stood up for Mexico City? How many died in the earthquake? How many lost a parent? How many parents lost a child? How many buildings and houses fell down? How many resources is needed to rebuild Mexico City and other states that suffered damage from the earthquake? Where have domestic and international private and governmental donations gone? Why more women died in S19?<sup>2</sup> What next, how to start, who turn to, and where to start a new life? Will there be a massive moving from Mexico City to the State of Mexico or other states? But, what occurred and when are the adjoining states going to receive support? Or for Oaxaca, Guerrero and Chiapas, where there are many earthquakes?

No doubt, many are the questions without an answer and very little has been asked about a mass migration toward the rest of the country, but specifically toward the state of Mexico as the state closest to Mexico City.

Between 1940 and 1980, the Metropolitan Zone of the Valley of Mexico (MZVM)<sup>3</sup> as a consequence of the industrial development fostered by the Mexican State via the model industrialization from Imports Substitution, after this Mexico City population reduced after the 1985 earthquake, and

<sup>1</sup> See “La cifra final de fallecidos por sismo 19/S en el país llegó a 369”, available at <http://www.jornada.unam.mx/ultimas/2017/10/05/la-cifra-final-de-fallecidos-por-sismo-19-s-en-el-pais-llego-a-369-1578.html>

<sup>2</sup> See “¿Por qué murieron más mujeres el 19S?”, available at <http://www.nexos.com.mx/?p=34076>

<sup>3</sup> The Metropolitan Zone of Mexico City has changed over time: for instance, Unikel stated that between 1930-1970, the municipalities of the state of Mexico that belonged to this nucleus were: Coacalco, Cuatitlán, Chimalhuacán, Ecatepec, Nezahuacóyotl, La Paz, Tlalnepantla, Tlaxiaco and Zaragoza. See La dinámica del crecimiento de la ciudad de México Luis Unikel, available at <http://revistas.bancomext.gob.mx/rce/magazines/751/7/RCE7.pdf>. Currently, CONAPO states that the State of Mexico has three metropolitan zones, the one of the Valley, Toluca and Santiago Tanguistenco. See “Delimitación de las zonas metropolitanas de México 2010”, available at [http://www.conapo.gob.mx/es/CONAPO/Zonas\\_metropolitanas\\_2010](http://www.conapo.gob.mx/es/CONAPO/Zonas_metropolitanas_2010)

over the 1990's it recovered its expansion, at moderate pace nevertheless. It is worth underscoring that in this respect some researchers recognize that the central city which has had a depopulation process owing to the 1985 earthquake, expressed in negative growth rates and at the same time, the expansion of the metropolitan area toward the State of Mexico is recognized.<sup>4</sup> Such expansion has a scope of megalopolitan nature as it reaches some of the closest cities such as Puebla, Pachuca, Toluca or Cuernavaca. In the present circumstances and tendencies it is considered that the formation of a megalopolis of Mexico City not only has been possible with the city of Toluca, it has also been feasible with other close cities. Despite in the 1970's it was deemed unfeasible, nowadays it is a reality because of distances, crossing topographies. The clearest example is the construction of the high-speed interurban train between Mexico City and Toluca, which suppresses the geographic obstacle between these cities. However, there are other means of transport and communication that eliminate barriers between nearby cities and the global city (the web).

All of this makes it possible the departure of the great city's inhabitants toward other states, but mainly to the state of Mexico. But, how much will the state of Mexico and its metropolitan zones grow? Undoubtedly, the absolute growth will be ascending owing to factors of natural growth (births-deceases),<sup>5</sup> but mainly its social growth. It is enough to say that in 1950, 5.3 percent of the population declared being born in another state and in 2015, 33.4 percent was not born in the State, this is to say 5.4 million people. This population is equivalent to the population of Chiapas, or Uruguay and Jamaica together in 2015.<sup>6</sup> This sort of increases (absolute and relative) only occur by immigration or the transfer of population caused by change of residence from one locality to another.<sup>7</sup> Indubitably, the combination of demographic determinants has played an important role as they have placed the State of Mexico as the most populated state since 1980, but underscoring social growth.

Indeed, the demographic growth of the State of Mexico coincides with other factors such as the closeness to Mexico City (metropolis), with the

<sup>4</sup> See Estructura Urbana de la Ciudad de Estructura Urbana de la Ciudad de México, Rodolfo Montaño, available at <http://www-cpsv.upc.es/documents/EstructuraUrbanadelaCiudaddeMexico.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> In 2015, 303,778 births and 77,813 deceases were recorded, see INEGI, Población, hogares y vivienda, available at <http://www3.inegi.org.mx/sistemas/temas/default.aspx?s=est&c=17484>

<sup>6</sup> See <http://poblacion.population.city/world/la>

<sup>7</sup> See Pimienta-Lastra, Rodrigo; Vera-Bolaños, Marta; Tapia-Quevedo, Jorge; Orozco Hernández, María Estela Evolución histórica de la población del Estado de México Quivera, vol. 17, no. 2, July- December, 2015, pp. 109-138 Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México Toluca, Mexico.

policy of administrative, economic and demographic decentralization from the 1980's.<sup>8</sup> This means that the largest part of the demographic growth of the State of Mexico, is explained by factors associated with location and new destinations of industrial plants, of service activities and mainly administrative and informal activities that were accompanied by immigration toward the metropolitan area; conversely, Toluca has recently become the most attractive, which is associated with its municipalities' economic dynamism.<sup>9</sup>

Most of the inhabitants of the state concentrate in the metropolitan zones (of Mexico City, Toluca and Tianguistenco), and that many of them mainly come from Mexico City, it is enough to say that residents of the State of Mexico in 2015, 3.4 million people declared being born in Mexico City and the rest in other states. In terms of percentage it means 24 percent of the total population of the state in that year.

With these data, generally, if it is supposed that there will be a growth similar to that of 1980-1990 (from the earthquake), the State of Mexico will hold around 20 and 25 million people by 2030 and 3.5 of them will be in the Metropolitan Zone of Toluca and Santiago Tianguistenco; 17.5 million in the metropolitan zone of Mexico City and the rest in rural zones of the state. Obviously, this is accompanied by new elements of mobility such as transport and information technology, which affect the size of this population and implies great challenges in economic, social and cultural terms for the state. Challenges that the corresponding government will have to bear in mind for political social purposes.

As it is noticed migration is the variable that socio-demographically transforms a country and a proof is the texts presented in this issue related to international migration that affects the age structure and adds to aging contextualized by social exclusion and inequality processes.

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<sup>8</sup> See INEI, 1990, "Memorias de la IV Reunión Nacional de Investigación Demográfica en México", available at [https://books.google.com.mx/books?id=poHdDAAAQBAJ&pg=PA3330&lpg=PA3330&dq=descentralizacion+demografica+y+econ%C3%B3mica+de+mexico&source=bl&ots=4d89m\\_YxGx&sig=h9kZ7U2vmqyWQXAk6B2M-Max-wfs&hl=es-419&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjMyf249ofXAhXojlQKHeGmC9QQ6A-EIQTAI#v=onepage&q=descentralizacion%20demografica%20y%20econ%C3%B3mica%20de%20mexico&f=false](https://books.google.com.mx/books?id=poHdDAAAQBAJ&pg=PA3330&lpg=PA3330&dq=descentralizacion+demografica+y+econ%C3%B3mica+de+mexico&source=bl&ots=4d89m_YxGx&sig=h9kZ7U2vmqyWQXAk6B2M-Max-wfs&hl=es-419&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjMyf249ofXAhXojlQKHeGmC9QQ6A-EIQTAI#v=onepage&q=descentralizacion%20demografica%20y%20econ%C3%B3mica%20de%20mexico&f=false). In CONAPO, 2000, "Prospectiva demográfica y económica de México y sus efectos sobre la pobreza", available at [http://www.conapo.gob.mx/en/CONAPO/Prospectiva\\_demografica\\_y\\_economica\\_de\\_Mexico\\_y\\_sus\\_efectos\\_sobre\\_la\\_pobreza](http://www.conapo.gob.mx/en/CONAPO/Prospectiva_demografica_y_economica_de_Mexico_y_sus_efectos_sobre_la_pobreza). Also in COESPO, 1993, Estado Actual de la migración interna e internacional de los oriundos del Estado de México, Toluca.

<sup>9</sup> See González Becerril, Juan Gabino - Montoya Arce, Bernardino Jaciel - Sandoval Forero, Eduardo Andrés, 2016, "Poblamiento y despoblamiento: dos caras de la desigualdad sociodemográfica en el estado de México", available at <http://repositorio.cepal.org/handle/11362/40819>