



Mexico Update

Westminster Biblical Missions

MAY 2021



*Jesus Es La Respuesta
(Jesus Is The Answer) Church*

COVID UPDATE

The virus situation in Mexico was worse at the end of January than it had been since the height of the pandemic last August, with 14 states being at the highest alert level of "Red," with Mexico City being the hardest hit. The situation had been getting better by the end of last year, but this second wave has been more severe than expected.

The international "Covid Performance Index" ranked 98 countries worldwide on the effectiveness of their response to the pandemic. Mexico ranked second to last, with only Brazil ranking worse.

Mexico's official case count is about 2 million, but according to the National Autonomous University (UNAM), the actual count is estimated to be at the very least 17 million, and as high as 53 million. The

discrepancy is because of the very low testing rate in Mexico. And of course it is also felt that this contributes to a significantly underestimated Covid death-toll in Mexico.

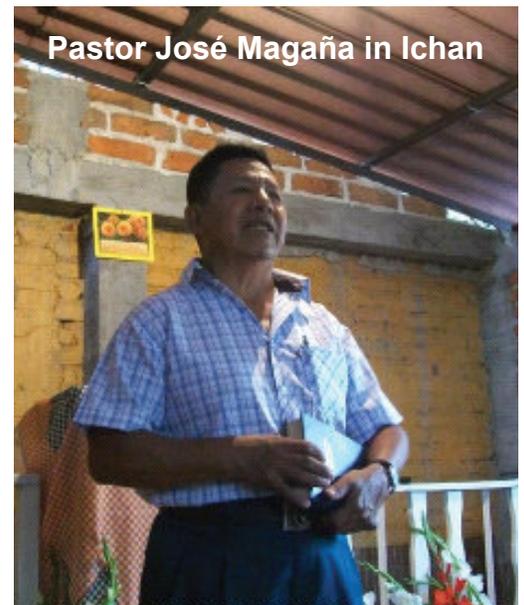
The total number of overall deaths in Mexico was 52% higher in 2020 than in previous years, with their excess deaths far outstripping those of the US, and nearly twice as high as Brazil. Peru, Ecuador, and Bolivia were also very hard-hit in terms of excess deaths, underscoring the severe toll the virus has had on Latin-America.

We thank the Lord for recent improvement, particularly in Mexico City, which has graduated from "Red" (Maximum Risk) to "Orange" (High Risk) as of February 27, with a significant drop in hospital occupancy, allowing the government to somewhat ease the restrictions there. As long as strict protocols are observed, restaurants, libraries, galleries, and other places of public gathering were allowed to re-open. Thankfully, Churches can now meet for worship, as long as they

maintain those protocols.

Most of our brothers that we work with there, both in Mexico City and in the P'urepecha region, have been spared from infection. David and Patty Custodio, in Paracho, did get the virus, and thankfully have fully recovered.

Paracho, Cheran, Cheranastico, Morelia, and Ichan continue to be the leading towns for reformation among the P'urepecha. Our help is welcomed there, and they are very open to the teachings of the Reformation, both from us and from Misael and the Seminario Teológico Juan Calvino. The seminary is doing great work for Reformation in Mexico, with very few resources, and we are thankful that they are willing to lend their help to our work among the P'urepecha. We rejoice that our P'urepecha brothers are showing initiative in the Lord's work, and



Pastor José Magaña in Ichan

progress continues to be measured and steady.

At the Seminario Teológico Juan Calvino in Mexico City, they are continuing to find innovative and creative ways to continue bringing the truth of God's Word to bear on a troubled world. With the

government regulations in response to the severity of the pandemic ranging from distancing protocols and masks, to near total lockdowns, it is hard to maintain a consistent and reliable method of teaching. Fortunately, the folks at the seminary have a pretty good technological edge, which is improving all the time.

My Fall trip last year had to be cancelled, but we did still hold a "virtual" conference, using a live video-conference over a few different venues. The tech people at the seminary did a great job, and we had very few technical problems with the

setup. Misael served as my interpreter, and that went much better than I had anticipated, given the limitations of the format. The conference subject was Heinrich Bullinger and the later Zurich Reformation. Attendance was quite good, and we actually reached more people

and enable them to be able to reach people that might not otherwise be reached under more normal circumstances. Pray that God will be pleased to increase these brothers' knowledge, their love, their faith, their holiness, and their boldness for the Gospel. Pray

that God will use them, both in Mexico City, and in the P'Urepecha territory, to bring many of His elect to faith in Christ, from within their spheres of influence in all those tiny towns and cities.

Thank you for your faithful prayers for our labors there in Mexico, and for your own faithful labors within your own spheres of influence. Dios le bendiga – God bless you.



than we usually do in our physical conference format. (And we were able to reach a number of people who would not otherwise have been able to attend, from around the country.)

Please continue to pray with me that the Lord will have His hand of protection on these brothers,

In Christ's Service and Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Higgins".

Bill Higgins

Field Secretary



Please send donations to:
Westminster Biblical Missions, Inc.
P.O. Box 212
Rising Sun, Maryland 21911

Make checks payable to "WBM"
Note "Mexico" on your check
Or Use PayPal on our web site at
www.wbminc.org and go to "Donations"
and then Mexico



<http://wbminc.org/index.php/our-fields/mexico>