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**Presentation title:** Characteristics of prisoners at 14 Federal Centers for Social Reintegration “CEFERESOS” in Mexico

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With a rate of 164 prisoners per 100,000 population, Mexico occupies the 97th position in the world in prisoner population. Compared to United States or El Salvador, with rates of 665 y 604 respectively, imprisonment rates in Mexico are the lowest in Latin America. Prisoner populations have decreased steadily from 2011 to 2016. From a 103.4% saturation, to 32% under installed capacity in 2018. Methods: With the aim of characterizing the population at 14 Federal Social Reintegration Centers (Ceferesos), we conducted a cross-sectional survey that involved 3,264 male prisoners in 6 different regions. Questions on motives for imprisonment, sentencing and judicial situation, socio demographics, economic and employment history, history of domestic violence and drug use, as well as mental health aspects were included. Results: Mean age of prisoners was 37 years (SD=10), range 18-94. Almost half (47%) have not been sentenced. Prior to imprisonment, 73% were married and had children, and 75% were main providers of their homes. Regarding crimes, 40% were drug offences, 28% unspecified crimes, 16% kidnapping, 8% homicide, 6% robbery, 2% rape, and 1% forgery. Although regional variations exist, on average, 26% of inmates were imprisoned for major crimes, 7.1% for minor crimes, and 42% for drug related crimes. Regarding schooling, 90% completed primary school, 61% completed secondary school and 18% high school. Under 6% had bachelor's or higher degrees. History of domestic violence was found in 40% of respondents. Findings suggest a relationship between history of domestic violence and depression. Discussion: The prisoner population in Mexico is comprised mainly of poor, uneducated, and vulnerable groups of society are over represented. These are young people of which almost half have not been sentenced and the majority are serving time for drug or minor offences. Knowledge based policies and programs are needed.