

The U.S. – Mexico Border Region Presents: Baja California



Featuring mountains, deserts, dormant volcanoes and waters teeming with marine life, the Baja peninsula is an extremely biodiverse environment. Between the mountains of the peninsular ranges are various valley regions that are rich in agriculture, resulting in a productive and affluent horticulture industry. Additionally, known for its beach territory, the state is famous for its fish tacos and whale watching. Five municipalities join to form the state -

Ensenada, Mexicali, Tecate, Tijuana and Rosarito. In 2017, Baja California's population reached over 3 million¹, accounting for 2.9% of Mexico's total population.

Baja California – U.S. Border

Baja California borders the Pacific Ocean on the west; Sonora, Arizona, and the Gulf of California on the east; Baja California Sur to the south; and California to the north. Baja California shares six land ports of entry throughout its border with California. This includes Tijuana, Baja California with San Diego, California; Tijuana, Baja California with Otay Mesa, California; Tecate, Baja California with Tecate, California; Mexicali, Baja California with Calexico, California; Mexicali, Baja California with Calexico, California (Eastern border checkpoint); and Los Algodones, Baja California with Andrade, California.

Baja California Economy

The National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI by its name in Spanish) is a Mexican government agency dedicated to collect, coordinate and report on statistical and geographical information across the nation, such as the population Census every decade². According to INEGI, in 2016, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of Baja California recorded more than \$23 billion, which was 3.4% of Mexico's national GDP. The tertiary sector, or service sector, which includes wholesale and retail trade, real estate services, and transportation contributed 55% of the states' GDP. In 2017, the state received 1,440 million dollars in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), mostly directed toward the manufacturing industry.

¹Retrieved from Mexico's Department of Investment and Trade at

http://mim.promexico.gob.mx/work/models/mim/Documentos/PDF/mim/FE_BAJA_vfi.pdf

² Retrieved from the National Institute of Statistics and Geography <https://www.inegi.org.mx/>



BORDER LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Baja California Legislature

Baja California's Legislature is a unicameral assembly of representatives of the people, called the State Congress. The Congress of the State is formed by Deputies who work full-time and are elected every three years. There are seventeen districts where Deputies of relative majority are elected through citizen votes, and eight Deputies are elected by the principle of proportional representation, totaling twenty-five state legislators. In Mexico, the state election dates differ depending on the state and aren't necessarily held at the same time as the federal elections. In Baja California, all twenty-five deputies will begin their legislative service on June 2, 2019³.

Currently, the legislature consists of 64% male and 35% female Deputies, twenty-five committees, including a Border and Migration Issues Committee, and eight political parties. The National Action Party (PAN), a conservative political party, holds the majority in Baja California, as well as in the states of Chihuahua and Tamaulipas on the U.S. – Mexico border, and six other Mexican states. The remaining political parties are the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD), Labor Party (PT), Citizens Movement (MC), National Regeneration Movement (MORENA), Party of Baja California (PBC), and Party Transform (Transformemos).

Along the U.S. – Baja California border, the districts and their respective Deputies are Dip. María Trinidad Vaca Chacón (representing district I - Mexicali), Dip. Eva María Vásquez Hernández (representing district II - Mexicali), Dip. Victoria Bentley Duarte (representing district III - Mexicali), Dip. José Félix Arango Pérez (representing district IV - Mexicali), Dip. Andrés De la Rosa Anaya (representing district V - Mexicali), Dip. Sergio Tolento Hernández (representing district VI - Mexicali), Dip. Edgar Benjamín Gómez Macías (representing district VII - Tecate), Dip. Alfa Peñaloza Valdez (representing district VIII - Tijuana), Dip. Mónica Hernández Álvarez (representing district IX - Tijuana), Dip. Raúl Castañeda Pomposo (representing district XII - Tijuana) and Dip. Carlos Alberto Torres (representing district XIII - Tijuana)⁴. For more information regarding the Baja California Legislature, visit their website [HERE](#).

Up Next: California

³ Retrieved from <https://www.ine.mx/voto-y-elecciones/elecciones-2019/baja-california-2019/>

⁴ Retrieved from http://www.congresobc.gob.mx/w22/index_diputados.html