

THE REGION OF WESTERN MEXICO

1995 ESTIMATES

State	Sq. km.	Population
Aguascalientes	5,589	862,335
Colima	5,455	487,324
Jalisco	80,137	5,990,054
Nayarit	27,621	895,975
Sinaloa	58,000	2,424,745
Total	176,802	10,660,433

Source: Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática (INEGI), National Institute for Statistics, Geography and Informatics.

JALISCO

Jalisco has the third-largest economy among Mexico's 31 states and the Federal District. Jalisco has a population of 5.9 million, and an area of 80,000 square kilometres. Its capital, Guadalajara, is the second-largest metropolitan area after Mexico City. It is responsible for more agricultural and livestock production than any other state.

A strategic location on the Pacific Coast, combined with a number of *maquiladora* zones, has created a good location for exporting industries. As a result, Jalisco is a major electronics manufacturing centre, responsible for about 60 percent of Mexico's computer production. Processed foods, beverages, textiles and autoparts represent other major state products.

The metropolitan region of Guadalajara is considered by many to be Mexico's most livable city. The weather is nearly ideal, it has good schools, an interesting cultural environment and it is only a three-hour drive to Mexico City.

NAYARIT

Nayarit is a small state located on the Pacific Coast northwest of Guadalajara. It is Mexico's principal tobacco producer, totalling about three-quarters of national production. It is also an important producer of sugar, fruit and timber. The northern part of the state has a well-developed agribusiness sector, which is linked to the state of Sinaloa. There are gold, silver and lead mines in the state as well as related processing facilities.