

UC Berkeley

PIMSA Tenth Anniversary Academic and Financial Report

2003-2013



Prepared by the Health Initiative of the Americas with the support of the California Program on Access to Care, School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley

PIMSA TEN YEAR REPORT

2003-2013

INTRODUCTION: A POPULATION SHARED BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES

With Mexico providing the highest proportion of migrants in the United States—accounting for over 11.9 million Mexican immigrants and 21.8 million Mexican Americans residing in the U.S. in 2012—Mexico’s relationship with the U.S. is unique. It is estimated that roughly 10% of Mexico’s population resides in the United States, emphasizing the impact of migration in both countries. In the United States, Mexican workers are a pivotal segment of the American labor force, thus contributing to its economic well-being with more than half of all Latinos 16 and older currently employed. This strong presence translates into financial benefits for Mexico, whose garnered remittances account for the country’s second highest source of foreign income. In addition, this dynamic has serious implications for both countries, especially in terms of health. Mexican immigrants are less likely to have health insurance than any other ethnic group in the United States; an issue that is exacerbated by their legal status.

As of 2012, 53.5% of Mexicans in the U.S. were uninsured compared to 10.8% among non-Hispanic Whites. Unfortunately, limited access to health care and preventative services can have detrimental effects on health for Mexican immigrants, who are one of the most vulnerable ethnic groups in the United States. Furthermore, the circulatory nature of Mexican migration, in which migrants go back and forth from the U.S. to Mexico, only increases the risk for spreading diseases and the possibility of a future epidemic within both countries if this issue is not properly addressed.

WHAT IS PIMSA?

In 2002, key research and funding institutions from Mexico and the United States recognized the health of Mexican migrants as a mutual responsibility given the major contributions to the economic and social development of both the United States and Mexico. As a result, the Research Program on Migration and Health, (PIMSA for its Spanish acronym), was created. This program began as a collaborative effort between the Mexican Secretariat of Health (SSA) and the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT for its Spanish acronym), and the Health Initiative of the Americas (HIA) along with other University of California (UC) programs in the United States, to address the previously neglected area of migration and health within a current political context. The objective of PIMSA is to generate comprehensive knowledge in the field of migration and health by funding joint binational research in order to educate and influence key decision-makers to create policies that improve the health and quality of life for immigrants in the U.S. and Mexico.

In addition, a bi-national consortium was formed to oversee the main operations of PIMSA. The duties of the consortium include: identifying focus areas, determining selection procedures for grantees, and contributing to the general financial fund that provides grants.

BINATIONAL RESEARCH

PIMSA fosters knowledge through the funding of collaborative research between the United States and Mexico to better understand the role of migration and its impact on the health of Mexican-origin migrants and their families. Prior to PIMSA, considerable data on Mexican migration and health already existed. However, both topics were almost exclusively studied independently. This was problematic, as research had failed to acknowledge the role, influence, and impact that the migration process has on one’s health and vice-versa. PIMSA was the first program aimed at fostering research on the two subjects in tandem. Priority research areas for PIMSA currently include Mental Health, Chronic Diseases, Infectious Diseases, Women’s Health, Access to Care and Occupational Health.

In 2003, PIMSA successfully launched its first Call for Proposals and allocated \$214,723 in grants among six binational research teams. Priority research topics included mental health, chronic diseases, infectious diseases, women’s health, vulnerable populations, and access to health. In 2009, as a means to generate more interest in this topic, PIMSA also began funding graduate dissertations. Since then, PIMSA has expanded the number of grants and participating institutions as well as the scope of work.

A pivotal component of PIMSA is its commitment to translating research into action. With the help of a policy expert, grantees receive training on how to interpret research findings into effective policy recommendations that can engage and educate policymakers. The trainer is also available to provide technical assistance to researchers in preparation for policy briefings. PIMSA research has provided numerous studies that have enriched and fostered the field of migration and health.

PIMSA PARTNERS 2003-2013	
SECRETARIA DE SALUD DE MEXICO (SSA)	UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA (UA)
CONSEJO NACIONAL DE CIENCIA Y TECNOLOGIA (CONACYT)	UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA (UC)
HEALTH INITIATIVE OF THE AMERICAS (HIA)	UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA (U OF M)
UC CALIFORNIA PROGRAM ON ACCESS TO CARE (CPAC)	UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTÓNOMA DE MÉXICO (UNAM)
BETTY IRENE MOORE SCHOOL OF NURSING UC DAVIS HEALTH SYSTEM	UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO (UNM)
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK (SUNY)	UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

REVIEW PROCESS

For ten years, PIMSA has continued to capture interest from partners and applicants on both sides of the border who see the importance and need for further research in the field of migration and health. The Request for Proposals (RFP) is launched electronically each year and promoted among partners' institutions and key networks of collaborators from both countries. Letters of Intent (LOIs) are always mandatory. Once received, the LOIs pass through a review process by the Funding Committee, comprised of representatives of institutions responsible for PIMSA funding.

Promising submissions are invited to submit a full proposal. At this time, suggestions are often made to applicants to strengthen their proposals according to PIMSA objectives and guidelines. Applicants are given approximately eight weeks to complete their full proposal.

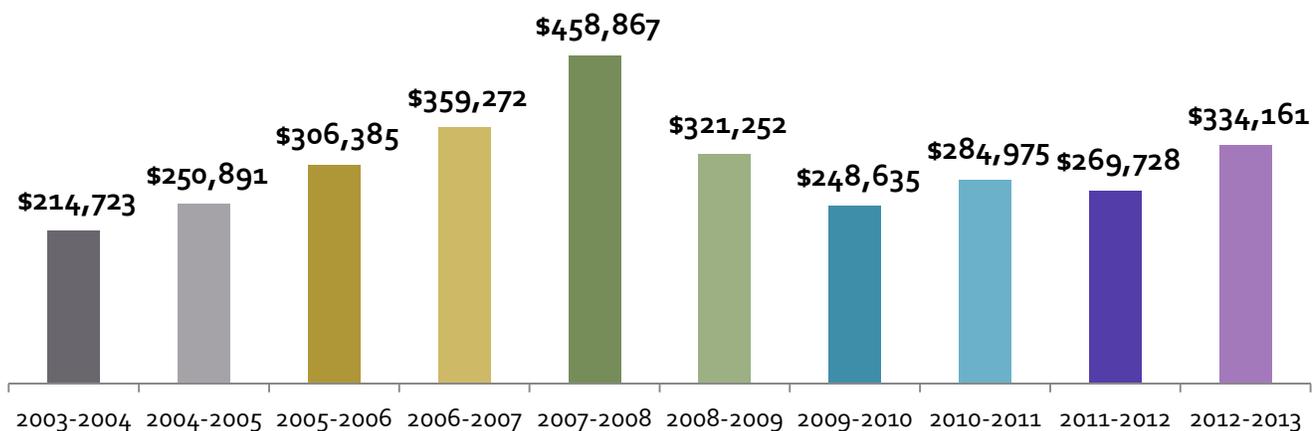
Proposals are then peer-reviewed by a binational panel of academic and policy experts and scored using an electronic platform. In addition to a numerical scoring section, written comments and recommendations are also included. PIMSA administrators conduct a series of conference calls by health priority area with a team of binational reviewers in order to receive verbal assessments of the projects. All of this data as compiled gives PIMSA administrators the needed information to produce a summary document for the Funding Committee to select successful applications.

Once decisions are made, PIMSA administrators contact applicants and inform them on the results. For those who were selected, conditions are at times provided to strengthen their research projects, based in part on the anonymous notes of reviewers.

RESULTS

To date, PIMSA has granted funding to 96 binational teams of researchers from 34 Mexican and 25 U.S. institutions and to 20 graduate students to support their dissertation projects. The total funding invested amounts to \$3,048,889. In addition, grantees have reported receiving \$5,110,004 in outside funding to support their PIMSA research studies and expand previous PIMSA research findings.

PIMSA FUNDING: 2003-2013



Source: PIMSA Archives

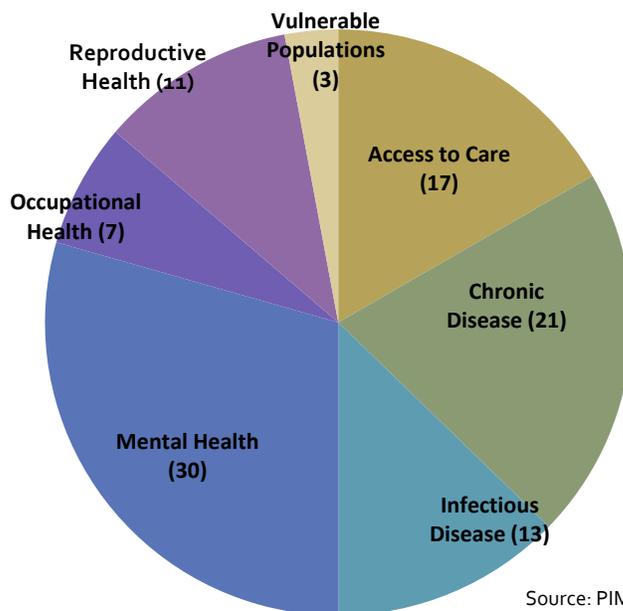
The success of this program—which initially prompted the expansion of the program beyond the University of California— has attracted new partners nationwide to join this collaborative effort (see Appendix A for a complete list of Mexican and U.S. institutions that have been funded).

Research findings from grantees have appeared in some of the most prestigious journals in Mexico and the United States. These results have also been released as public policy documents, which aim to influence policy change in immigrant health issues.

Furthermore, findings from these studies have been used to create fact sheets, in-depth reports on migration and health, and other HIA publications that served health professionals and the community at large.

A PIMSA evaluation found that interviewed policy leaders were familiar with these publications, but most importantly, found them helpful, relevant, and integral to this field. The majority of these policy leaders also expressed an overwhelming satisfaction with the publications and noted PIMSA as fulfilling a substantial gap in the limited information and data available on migrant health issues.

PIMSA PROJECTS BY PRIORITY AREA



Source: PIMSA Archives

“Their greatest accomplishment is diplomatic, (PIMSA) has made huge strides in helping to initiate and maintain connections between both governments (U.S. and Mexico), nonprofits, and others that need to communicate with one another.” -Policy analyst

PIMSA has also served as a catalyst by bringing various sectors together, which include: researchers, key stakeholders, policymakers and advocates, community health workers, and students. The data gathered from an external evaluation (funded by the California Endowment) revealed that 80% of surveyed PIMSA researchers had experienced an increase in their interactions with other researchers from the U.S. and Mexico, as well as in their ability to disseminate their research to academic audiences (70%). Additionally, two-thirds of these researchers notably stated that as a result of their policy training provided by PIMSA they were better able to translate their research findings into action through the development of policy recommendations that inform policymakers in both the U.S. and Mexico. For example, several policy briefings with research findings and collaborations developed from PIMSA have been conducted to inform legislators and key stakeholders on issues related to migration and health.

Policy briefings that have resulted from PIMSA research, support, and collaboration include:

- Advancing the Health of Imperial County through Public Policy, El Centro, CA, February 2009
- Advancing the Quality of Life in Monterey County through Public Policy, Salinas, CA, November 2009
- Promotoras as Agents of Change during Public Health Emergencies, Sacramento, CA, January 2010
- Dangerous and Essential: Migration, Work and Health, Washington, DC, June 2010
- Health Care Reform Implementation: A New Era of Access and Opportunities for Latinos in California, Sacramento, CA, January 2010
- Immigration Reform: Challenges and Opportunities, Washington, DC, October 2013

The annual Binational Policy Forum on Migration and Global Health, an event that has gained international status and prestige, highlights PIMSA research every year. Since 2003, PIMSA grantees are invited to present their research findings and facilitate workshops, all within a policy context, to a diverse group of people from various sectors that include: representatives from federal, state, and community organizations, elected officials, union leaders, researchers, professors, students, federal and state agency directors, media organizations, and other key public and private stakeholders. This forum ultimately serves as an opportunity to educate and engage prominent policymakers on current health issues afflicting the Mexican migrant and immigrant population. Last year's forum took place in Washington, DC, October 1st and PIMSA grantees participated in the three workshops that were held during the event forum. We anticipate having binational research teams present their findings at the upcoming 2014 forum in Yucatan, Mexico.

"They (PIMSA) brought me in contact with policy people whom I don't normally interact with, giving me an insight into their ideas and perspective." – PIMSA Grantee

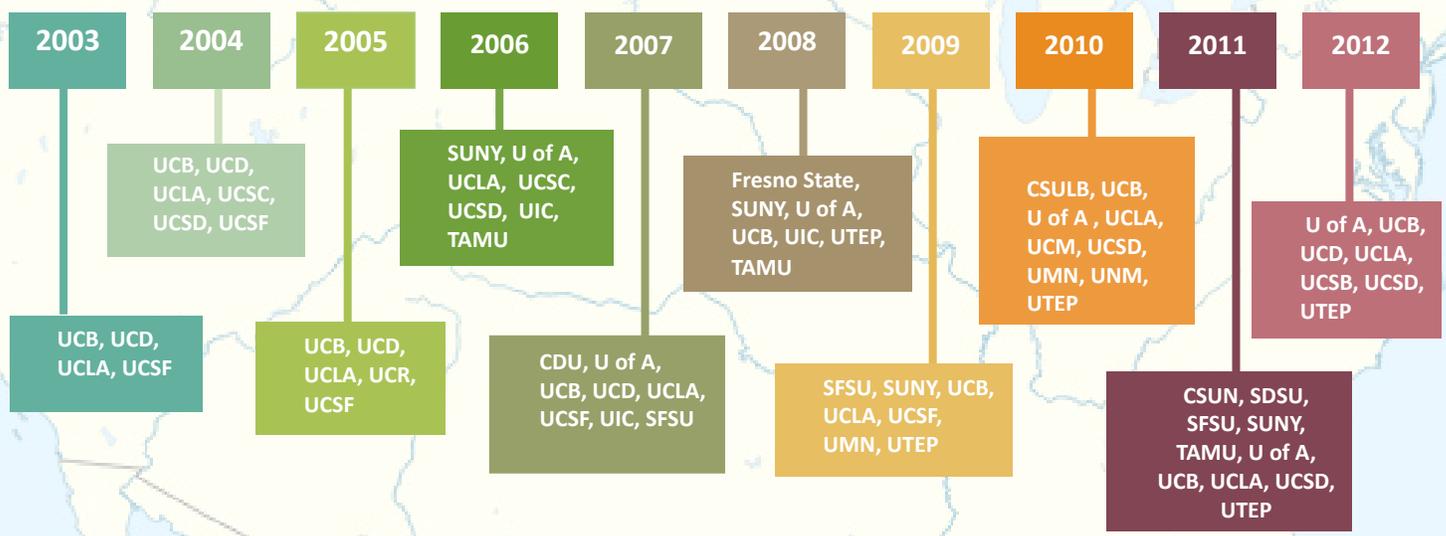
The continued accomplishments of PIMSA have attracted the attention of the *Salud Pública de México* (SPM) (Public Health of Mexico)—an international, indexed, peer-reviewed publication by Mexico's prestigious National Institute of Public Health. With more than 50 years of existence, SPM has become

one of the most important worldwide scientific research journals specializing in public health issues in Latin America. To commemorate PIMSA, SPM published a special edition on migration and health made up of 11 articles by PIMSA grantee teams representing diverse disciplines including economics, public health, anthropology, and epidemiology, among others. The studies included cover topics ranging from disparities in access to care and exposure to disease to changes in lifestyle habits and the health effects of processes of adaptation and acculturation. The results of these studies are particularly important for policy makers from both countries in addition to migrants themselves, their families and their communities.

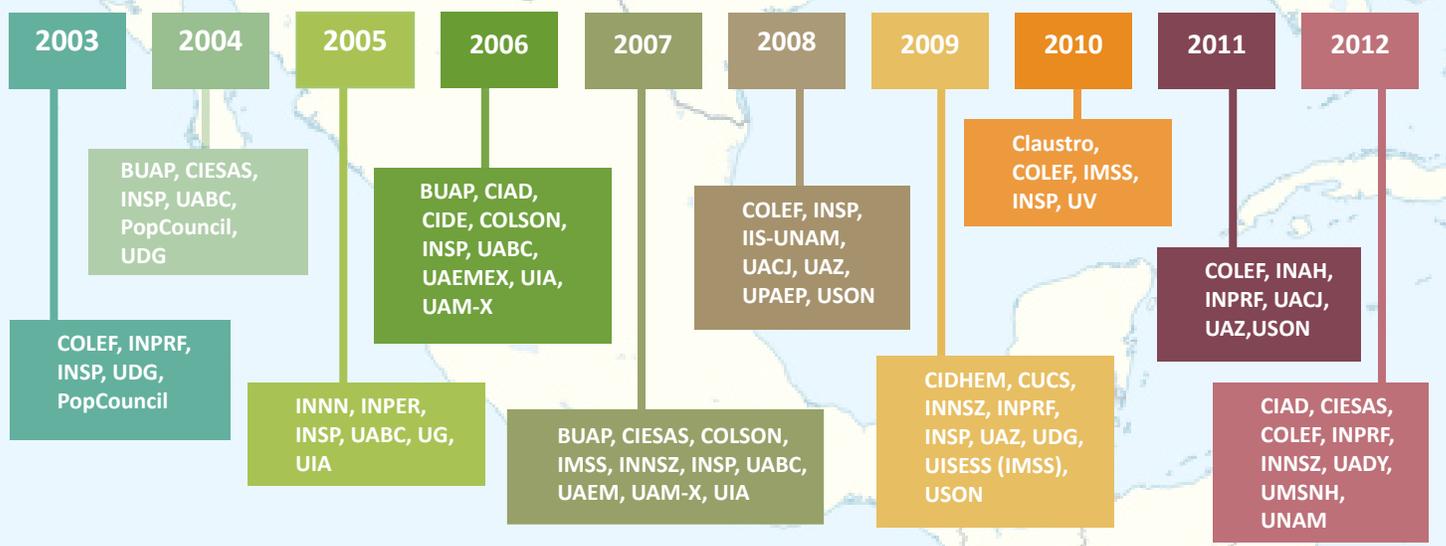
WHAT DEFINES A COUNTRY? THE BORDER OR THE LOCATION OF ITS PEOPLE?

For Mexico, this question is easily answered by its continuous commitment, support, and investment in PIMSA to improve the health of its population regardless of borders. For a decade, world renowned and prestigious institutions from both countries have been working diligently to reduce health disparities and improve access to health services at the policy level by fostering knowledge in a field that until recently had been overlooked. Given the current state of health of the Mexican population, research focusing on the impact of migration on health has the potential to provide essential knowledge for the scientific community, policymakers, and academic sectors on both sides of the border to better address issues relating to migrant health. The leadership and partnership of institutions from both countries is what has made PIMSA the leader in the field of migration and health that it is today.

U.S. INSTITUTIONS (25)



INSTITUCIONES MEXICANAS (35)



Description of Acronyms (in alphabetical order)
Descripción de las siglas (en orden alfabético)

BUAP- Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla
 CDU- Charles Drew University
 CIAD- Centro de Investigación en Alimentación y Desarrollo
 CIDE- Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas
 CIESAS- Centro de Investigación y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social
 Claustro- Claustro Universitario de Chihuahua
 COLEF- Colegio de la Frontera Norte
 COLSON- El Colegio de Sonora
 CSULB- California State University, Long Beach
 CSUN- California State University, Northridge
 CUCS- Centro Universitario de Ciencias de Salud
 Fresno State- California State University, Fresno
 IIS-UNAM- Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales de UNAM
 IMSS- Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social
 INAH- Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia
 INNN- Instituto Nacional de Neurología y Neurocirugía

INNSZ- Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Médicas y Nutrición Salvador Zubirán
 INPER- Instituto Nacional de Perinatología
 INPRF- Instituto Nacional de Psiquiatría
 INSP- Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública
 PopCouncil- Population Council
 SDSU- San Diego State University
 SFSU- San Francisco State University
 SUNY- State University of New York
 TAMU- Texas A&M University
 U of A- University of Arizona
 UABC- Universidad Autónoma de Baja California
 UACJ- Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez
 UADY- Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán
 UAEM- Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Morelos
 UAEMEX- Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México
 UAM-X- Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Xochimilco
 UAZ- Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas
 UCB- University of California, Berkeley
 UCD- University of California, Davis
 UCI- University of California, Irvine

UCLA- University of California, Los Angeles
 UCM- University of California, Merced
 UCR- University of California, Riverside
 UCSB- University of California, Santa Barbara
 UCSC- University of California, Santa Cruz
 UCSD- University of California, San Diego
 UCSF- University of California, San Francisco
 UDG- Universidad de Guadalajara
 UG- Universidad de Guanajuato
 UIA- Universidad Iberoamericana
 UIC- University of Illinois, Chicago
 UISESS- Unidad de Investigación Social, Epidemiológica y de Servicios de Salud (IMSS)
 UMN- University of Minnesota
 UMSNH- Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo
 UNAM- Universidad Autónoma de México
 UNM- University of New Mexico
 UPAEP- Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla
 USON- Universidad de Sonora
 UTEP- University of Texas at El Paso
 UV- Universidad Veracruzana

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Institutions Funded by PIMSA 2003-2013

U.S. Institutions (Full Proposals & Doctoral Dissertations)	Access to Care	Chronic Disease	Infectious Disease	Mental Health	Occupational Health	Reproductive Health	Vulnerable Populations	# of Grants
California State University Northridge (CSUN)				1				1
California State University, Fresno (Fresno State)		1						1
California State University, Long Beach (CSULB)				1				1
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CDU)			1					1
San Diego State University (SDSU)	1			2				3
San Francisco State University (SFSU)			3					3
State University of New York, Albany (SUNY)	2							2
State University of New York, Cobleskill (SUNY)					1			1
State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center (SUNY)						1		1
Texas A&M University (TAMU)		2					1	3
University of Arizona (UA)	2	2	1	4	2	1		12
University of California, Berkeley (UCB)	2	4		2	1	1		10
University of California, Davis (UCD)	3	2		3	1	2		11
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)	2	3	3	2	2	1		13
University of California, Merced (UCM)				1				1
University of California, Riverside (UCR)				1				1
University of California, San Diego (UCSD)	1		1	4		1		7
University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)		3	2	1		2		8
University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)		1		1				2
University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC)	2			1				3
University of Illinois, Chicago (UIC)		2				1		3
University of Minnesota (UMN)		1		2				3
University of New Mexico (UNM)	1							1
University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)	1		2	4		1	2	10
TOTAL	17	21	13	30	7	11	3	102

Mexican Institutions (Full Proposals & Doctoral Dissertations)	Access to Care	Chronic Disease	Infectious Disease	Mental Health	Occupational Health	Reproductive Health	Vulnerable Populations	# of Grants
Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla (BUAP)	1			2				3
Centro de Investigación en Alimentación y Desarrollo, AC (CIAD)					1			1
Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE)			1					1
Centro de Investigación y Docencia en Humanidades del Estado de Morelos (CIDHEM)	1							1
Centro de Investigación y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social (CIESAS)	1			3				4
Claustro Universitario de Chihuahua (CLAUSTRO)			1					1
Colegio de la Frontera Norte (COLEF)	1	3	2					6
El Colegio de Sonora (COLSON)	1					1		2
El Colegio de Sonora (COLSON)/Centro de Investigación en Alimentación y Desarrollo (CIAD)					1			1
Instituto de Investigaciones Dr. José María Luis Mora (IIDJMLM)				1				1
Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (IIS-UNAM)				1			1	2
Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social- Chihuahua (IMSS)	1							1
Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social-Morelos (IMSS)		1				1		2
Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Centro Yucatán (INAH)				1				1
Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Médicas y Nutrición Salvador Zubirán (INNSZ)		2	1					3
Instituto Nacional de Neurología y Neurocirugía (INNN)				1				1
Instituto Nacional de Perinatología (INPER)		1						1
Instituto Nacional de Psiquiatría Ramón de la Fuente (INPRF)				4				4
Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública (INSP)	4	4	2			3		13
Instituto Politécnico Nacional (IPN)				1				1
Population Council (PopCouncil)						2		2
Programa de Investigación sobre Cambio Climático/Universidad Autónoma de México (UNAM)	1							1
Unidad de Investigación Social, Epidemiológica y de Servicios de Salud, IMSS- Jalisco (UISESS)		1						1
Universidad Autónoma de Baja California (UABC)		2	1	2				5
Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez (UACJ)			1			1	1	3
Universidad Autónoma de México (UNAM)				1				1
Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán (UADY)	1							1
Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas (UAZ)			2		1	1		4
Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México (UAEMEX)		1						1
Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Morelos (UAEM)		1						1
Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Xochimilco (UAM-X)	2		1					3
Universidad de Guadalajara (UDG)	1			1	1	1	1	5
Universidad de Guadalajara, Centro Universitario de Ciencias de Salud (CUCS)				1				1
Universidad de Guanajuato (UG)		1						1
Universidad de Sonora (USON)	1		1	1				3
Universidad Iberoamericana (UIA)	2			1				3
Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo (UMSNH)				1				1
Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla (UPAEP)						1		1
Universidad Veracruzana (UV)				1				1
Grand Total	18	17	13	23	4	11	3	89

PIMSA PUBLICATIONS (SELECTED)

AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION	JOURNAL OF POLICY ANALYSIS
HEALTH PROMOTION PRACTICE	JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND PUBLIC	JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND MEDICINE
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF HEALTH PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT	MIGRACIONES INTERNACIONALES
JOURNAL OF BORDERLANDS	REVISTA DE INVESTIGACION DE LA DIVISION DE CIENCIAS SOCIALES
JOURNAL OF CONSULTING AND CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY	REVISTA LATINOAMERICANA DE PSIQUIATRIA
JOURNAL OF CONTRACEPTION	SALUD PUBLICA DE MEXICO
JOURNAL OF CONTRACEPTION, OBSTETRICS, & GYNECOLOGY	SPRINGER SCIENCE
JOURNAL OF IMMIGRANT AND MINORITY HEALTH	THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CONTINUING SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

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