INTRODUCTION

Socioeconomic inequity is an undeniable reality, which leads to the existence of vulnerable groups. Inequalities in the various spheres lead to the search for the eradication of poverty and to the protection of those who suffer disadvantages. In the case of governments, one way of doing so is to issue the necessary legal regulations.

Many are the definitions that are given of vulnerable groups; however,
all of them imply belonging to a certain group that is in conditions of inequality with respect to the majority, which puts it at a disadvantage. Pérez Contreras refers to vulnerable groups as all those who, because of their age, sex, economic condition, physical characteristics, cultural or political circumstance, are at greater risk of their rights being violated; and also as those who, because of their poverty, ethnicity, health status, age, gender or disability, are in a situation of greater defenselessness to face life’s problems and do not have the necessary resources to satisfy their basic needs.

In both definitions, the list of vulnerability indicators should be understood as non-limiting, which means that other circumstances not expressly mentioned and having similar characteristics or consequences may be added, such as unemployment, sexual preference, religious affiliation, visual capacity, body mass, family status, marital status and any other possible. The first case refers to people who, due to specific circumstances, may be affected when their rights are violated; the second, to people, who, due to similar circumstances, are unable to solve, with their own resources, the situations of need they face.

Some vulnerable groups receiving attention from various agencies, such as civil society organizations and government agencies, are: the elderly, women, and children, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and migrants.

I. CONCEPTUALIZATION

Several are the legal concepts that can be considered related to vulnerable groups. Some of them are: private and public social beneficence; social care; welfare; health insurance; and social security, among others.

Social beneficence, which appears in the Middle Ages, is the help which in former times was given to the needy, which if lent was lent by private individuals was private; if, instead, it corresponded to the State, was public.

Social assistance is a function of the State to protect the population from the risks associated with insalubrity, disease, malnutrition,
abandonment, environmental pollution and other social ills affecting the health and safety of life of the individuals\textsuperscript{4}.

Social welfare is understood as the set of public or private actions aimed at the protection of the general population in general and the workers and their families in particular against contingencies or disasters arising from unforeseen situations\textsuperscript{5}.

The concept of social security is defined as the legal instrument of Labor Law, whereby a public institution is bound through a fee, tax or otherwise, paid by employers, workers and the State, or only one of them, to provide the insured or their beneficiaries, who must be workers or economically weak elements, medical care, a pension or subsidy, when any of the occupational hazards or social risks arise\textsuperscript{6}.

Social security is the economic and human effort of the State, the employer and the workers for the well-being of the community, granted through the institutions responsible for social security, health, housing, recreation, culture, seeking the improvement of a dignified life during and after his/her productive and labor activity, for his/her benefit or that of his/her relatives the benefit of him, his relatives\textsuperscript{7}.

II. CONTEXT

Vulnerable groups and their problems have been made visible through political agendas, social agendas and research agendas. Such is the case of the elderly, whose population in Mexico has been increasing and will continue to grow (See Tables 1 and 2).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1 Total population 1950-2050.</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25,791,017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 years and more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,419,685</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


\textsuperscript{4} Ibidem.
\textsuperscript{5} Ibidem, at 253.
\textsuperscript{7} GEORGE MELÉNDEZ & LEÓN MAGNO, INTRODUCCIÓN AL DERECHO DE LA SEGURIDAD SOCIAL, BENEMÉRITA 55 (Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, México 2004).
Table 2 Population aging 1950-2050.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60-64</td>
<td>554,071</td>
<td>917,853</td>
<td>1,611,317</td>
<td>3,116,466</td>
<td>3,889,755</td>
<td>8,064,358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-69</td>
<td>334,197</td>
<td>702,563</td>
<td>1,183,651</td>
<td>2,317,265</td>
<td>2,987,316</td>
<td>7,143,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-74</td>
<td>240,788</td>
<td>488,253</td>
<td>827,027</td>
<td>1,873,934</td>
<td>2,207,466</td>
<td>6,127,306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75 and over</td>
<td>290,629</td>
<td>589,929</td>
<td>1,366,193</td>
<td>2,747,714</td>
<td>3,351,784</td>
<td>11,092,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1,419,685</td>
<td>2,698,598</td>
<td>4,988,188</td>
<td>10,055,379</td>
<td>12,436,321</td>
<td>32,427,197</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The term “aging” is relatively new. Until the eighteenth century there was a mystical conception of the old, especially since there were few and there were fewer who were over fifty. The progress of science, and therefore the extension of the life span, makes this concept arise. Aging can be both individual and populational. Demographic aging refers to the increase in the elderly within the population structure, this process is mainly determined by the reduction of fertility rates (births) and secondly by the decrease in mortality rates (deaths). Old age is a stage of life: we begin to grow old from birth itself. People who are age 60 or older are called “elderly” or “seniors”. The minimum base varies from one legal order to another, establishing 60, 65 and even 70 years.

Depending on the sense that communities give to their existence and the value system they possess, significance is given to old age, expressing itself in the behavior towards it. In Mexico, in the pre-hispanic towns, the elders represented an authority for the community and were kept within the family. The modernization of society has as a consequence changes in the family structure and with it, the way of approaching the situation of the elderly. Unlike the youth culture of the past half century, older adults will impact the lifestyle of the end of the 21st century. The progressive aging of the population is one of the biggest challenges governments and society is facing.... The change in the structure of the population by age in our country will translate into a series of challenges. The increase in older adults, demands their attention in social security, health, economic, labor and education, among others (See Figure 1). This will surely give way to new regulations.

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9 Ibidem, at 25.
In recent years, attention to vulnerable groups, including older adults, is growing in the legislative agendas of public policies, with special attention to processes of social vulnerability of families, groups and individuals, as well as in the work of civil society organizations and the general population. This is valid both at national and international level.

On December 14th, 1990, the General Assembly of the United Nations, in resolution 45/106, designated October 1st as the International Day of Older Persons.

The World Elder Abuse Awareness, June 15, was officially recognized by the United Nations General Assembly on December 19th, 2011, as a way of inviting reflection on Member States and society on the grievances suffered by this sector of the population and action for their protection and well-being.

III. NORMATIVITY

In legal matters, regulations regarding the support that can be granted to the elderly are framed in the Law of Social Assistance and the Social Security Law.

There are substantial differences between the Law of Social Assistance and the Law of Social Security.

In the Law of Social Assistance, the beneficiaries are not predetermined, but it describes them only those nationals who are in a
situation of vulnerability in accordance with the law which may apply; the entity obligated to provide the support is indicated in the law; the amount and periodicity of the support, is determined in the budget designated to the referred entity; the recipients of the support are generally not obliged to cover any contribution; the potential beneficiary has no action to claim the delivery of the support that would have been indicated.

In Social Security Law, directly related to Labor Law and Bureaucratic Law, the insured must provide a subordinate personal service, that is, must be subject to a working relationship or a bureaucratic relationship. In this way, both the insured and the beneficiaries will be subject to the support established by the laws. In this case the obligated entity is previously determined; the beneficiaries are individually identified; the type of support, which may be in money or in kind, is predetermined, as is its periodicity; the insured and their respective employers are obliged to cover a fee directly related to the amount of the wage received and paid; the government also covers a contribution; the beneficiaries have action to claim the corresponding benefit.

A. Social Welfare Law


1. Law on the Rights of the Elderly

It is a law of public order, of social interest and of general observance throughout Mexico. It establishes a concurrent competence, between the Federation, the Federal Entities and the Municipalities, for its application and monitoring.

The purpose of this law is to guarantee seniors, who are sixty years of age or older, domiciled or in transit, in the Mexican Republic, the following rights: integrity, dignity and preference, legal certainty, health, food and family, education, work, social assistance, participation, popular denunciation, access to services.

Among the objectives of the national policy on older adults are to

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10 It was issued by President Vicente Fox Quesada, published in Diario Oficial de la Federación (DOF), on June 25, 2002, which began its validity thirty days after it.
emphasize: to promote the conditions for greater physical and mental well-being so that they can fully exercise their capacities within the family and society; guarantee equal opportunities and a dignified life, promoting the defense and representation of their interests; establish the bases for planning and concertation of actions between public and private institutions, to achieve a coordinated operation in the programs and services provided to this sector of the population; foster in the family, the State and society, a culture of appreciation of old age to achieve a dignified treatment; promote the active participation of older adults in the formulation and implementation of public policies affecting them; foster the permanence, when they wish, of older adults in their family and community.

This legal system creates the National Institute of Senior Citizens (INAPAM, by its initials in Spanish) as a decentralized public agency of the Federal Public Administration, with legal personality, own property and technical and management autonomy for the fulfillment of its attributions, objectives and purposes, which is the rector of the national policy in favor of older adults.

Some INAPAM programs are: INAPAM Card; Training for Work and Leisure Occupation; Comprehensive Care Centers; Cultural Centers; INAPAM Clubs; Hostels and Day Nurseries; INAPAM in your neighborhood; Employment for Seniors; Education for health.

The benefits of the INAPAM card: The National Institute of Senior Citizens maintains a constant commitment with various providers to offer discounts on health services, food, transportation, clothing, home, recreation and culture, and miscellaneous items. It aims to protect the economy of older adults.

INAPAM develops training alternatives in the production of articles of various kinds, for self-consumption or small-scale production, with which, in addition to occupying their free time, the elderly can obtain extra income. There are craft workshops, crafts and plastic arts, which are taught in INAPAM’s cultural centers and clubs.

One of the actions that have been carried out successfully is the opening of Training Centers in Basic Computer Science, through which it is covered the objective of bringing older adults to the new technologies. The purpose of these centers is to train seniors in the handling of computer equipment packages, specifically office, and Internet programs, which is an invaluable tool for updating, easy access to paid activity and extends the possibilities of communication.

INAPAM is the link with service providers and companies that want to hire people aged 60 and over who want to stay active through job
opportunities. Employment for older adults aims to sensitize society and especially employers to promote exclusive employment opportunities for older adults.

2. Federal Law to Prevent and Eliminate Discrimination

This is a law of public order and social interest. Its purpose is to prevent and eliminate all forms of discrimination against any person under the terms of Article 1 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, as well as to promote equality of opportunity and treatment.

The Federal Law to Prevent and Eliminate Discrimination contains positive and compensatory measures in favor of equal opportunities, specifically addressed to women, girls and boys, people over 60, people with disabilities and the indigenous population.

This Act creates the National Council for Preventing Discrimination (CONAPRED by its initials in Spanish), as a decentralized agency, sectored to the Ministry of the Interior, with legal personality and own assets, whose purpose is, among others: to contribute to cultural, social and democracy development of the country; formulate and promote public policies for equality of opportunities and treatment in favor of persons located in the national territory, and coordinate the actions of agencies and entities of the Federal Executive Branch in the prevention and elimination of discrimination.

The actions of CONAPRED to fulfill its mission are, among others: procedures and services; orientation and complaints; distribution of materials and publications; distance education; traditional face-to-face education.

3. General Law of Social Development

It is a law of public order and social interest, of observance throughout the nation.

The purpose of this ordinance is to guarantee the full exercise of the social rights enshrined in the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States (CPEUM by its initials in Spanish), ensuring the access of all the

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11 It was issued by President Vicente Fox Quesada, published in DOF on June 11, 2003, which began its validity the following day.
13 It was issued by President Vicente Fox Quesada, published in DOF on January 20, 2004, which began on the following day.
population to social development; indicate the obligations of the Government, establish the institutions responsible for social development and to define the general principles and guidelines to which the national social development policy must be subject; establish a national social development system in which municipalities, federal entities and federal governments participate; establish mechanisms for evaluation and follow-up of the programs and actions of the national social development policy, and promote the establishment of instruments of access to justice through popular denunciation of social development.

The General Law of Social Development creates the National Council for Evaluation of Social Development Policy (CONEVAL by its initials in Spanish), which is a decentralized public body, with legal personality, own property, technical and management autonomy in accordance with the Federal Law of Parastatal entities. Its purpose is to regulate and coordinate the evaluation of Social Development Policies and Programs, which implement public agencies, and establish the guidelines and criteria for the definition, identification and measurement of poverty, guaranteeing transparency, objectivity and technical rigor in this activity.

4. Social Welfare Law

It expressly states that this legal system is based on the provisions on social assistance contained in the General Health Law, in order to comply with it, guaranteeing the concurrence and collaboration of the Federation, the Federative Entities, Mexico City and the social and private sectors.

All the children, adolescents; women; indigenous migrants, displaced or in vulnerable situation; the migrants; the elderly in helplessness, incapacity, marginalization or subject to mistreatment; people with some type of disability or special needs; dependents of persons deprived of their liberty, terminally ill, alcoholic or drug dependent; the victims of the commission of crimes; the destitute; alcoholics and drug dependent; and where appropriate, persons affected by natural disasters, are subjects of the social assistance.

Understood as basic services in health in the matter of social assistance, are, among others: the promotion of the development, the improvement and the familiar integration; the collaboration or aid to the competent labor authorities in the monitoring and application of the labor legislation applicable to the childhood; nutritional counseling and complementary food

\[14\] It was issued by President Vicente Fox Quesada, published in DOF on September 2, 2004, which began its validity the following day.
for the poor and the population in marginalized areas; support for women during gestation or breastfeeding periods, with special attention to adolescents in situations of vulnerability; abandonment prevention and the protection to the subjects that suffer it; prevention of disability, habilitation, rehabilitation and integration into the productive or active life of people with some type of disability; the promotion of actions and social participation for community improvement, and the analogues and related to the above that tends to modify and improve social circumstances that prevent the individual and families integral development.

The National System for the Integral Development of the Family (DIF by its initials in Spanish) is regulated as a decentralized public body, with its own patrimony and legal personality, referred to in the General Health Law.

Among the functions of this body, the following should be noted: to develop a National Social Assistance Program in accordance with the provisions of the Planning Law, the National Development Plan guidelines, and other planning instruments of the Federal Public Administration.

5. General Health Law\(^\text{15}\).

This norm regulates the National Health System that is constituted by the dependencies and entities of the Public Administration, both federal and local, and the physical or moral persons of the social and private sectors, who provide health services, as well as by the mechanisms of coordination of actions, and aims to fulfill the right to health protection.

It has, among others, the following objectives: to contribute to the social welfare of the population through social assistance services, mainly to abandoned children, elderly homeless and people with disabilities, to promote their well-being and their incorporation into an economic and social balanced life.

This law creates the Social Protection System in Health (SPSS by its initials in Spanish), which arises from the need to provide an alternative of social protection in health through a new scheme of public health insurance for the population that currently does not have access to mechanisms of social protection in health such as social security. This is part of the strategy to guarantee comprehensive access to public health services for all Mexicans under an universal health insurance system, regardless of their social, labor and economic status. The reform also reflects the health sector’s challenge of coping with the financial pressures arising from the

\(^{15}\) It was issued by President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado, published in DOF on February 7, 1984, beginning its validity on July 1st, 1984.
demographic, epidemiological, technological, economic and political transitions experienced by our country\textsuperscript{16}.

All Mexicans have the right to be incorporated into the Social Health Protection System in accordance with Article Four of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, regardless of their social status. This article regulates legal equality between men and women. It has undergone several reforms and additions; establishes in the fourth paragraph that everyone has the right to health protection.

Social protection in health is a mechanism by which the State will ensure effective, timely, quality access, without disbursement at the time of use and without discrimination to medical—surgical, pharmaceutical and hospital services that fully meet the needs of health, through the combination of interventions for health promotion, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation, selected on a priority basis according to criteria of safety, effectiveness, cost-effectiveness, adherence to professional ethical standards and social acceptability. As a minimum, external consultation services should be considered at the first level of care, as well as external consultation and hospitalization for the basic specialties of: internal medicine, general surgery, obstetrics, pediatrics and geriatrics, at the second level of care.

Families and persons who are not beneficiaries of social security institutions or do not have any other mechanism of social security in health, must be incorporated into the Social Health Protection System that corresponds to them according to their domicile, which will provide them the health protection actions to which this law refers.

The protection unit shall be the family unit, which for the purposes of this Act may be integrated in any of the following ways: by the spouses; by both the concubines; by the father and/or the mother not united in a marriage bond or concubinage and by other cases of holders and their beneficiaries that the General Health Council determines based on the degree of dependency and coexistence that justify its temporary or permanent assimilation to a family nucleus. Children and adopted children under the age of eighteen; minors of that age who are part of the household and are related in consanguinity with the persons mentioned above; and the direct ascendants in a straight lineover sixty-four, living in the same dwelling and economically dependent on them, in addition to children up to

twenty-five years of age, single, who prove to be students, or disabled dependents, are considered members of the family nucleus.

B. Social Security Laws

Among the normative provisions that stand out in the Social Security Law, in relation to the elderly, are mentioned: Social Security Law and Law of the Institute of Security and Social Services of State Workers.

1. Social Security Law\textsuperscript{17}

In relation to the elderly, this norm regulates the insurance of retirement, unemployment in advanced age, and unemployment in old age. There is unemployment in old age when the insured is deprived of paid work from the age of sixty. To enjoy benefits in this field it is required for the insured to have a minimum of one thousand two hundred and fifty weekly contributions to the Institute. The unemployed worker who is sixty years of age or older and does not meet the mentioned contribution weeks can withdraw the balance of his individual account in a single exhibition or continue to contribute until the necessary weeks for his/her pension to operate. The contingency consisting in the unemployment in advanced age obliges the Institute to grant the following benefits: pension; medical assistance, under the terms of Chapter IV of the Social Security Law; family allowances, and care assistance.

The right to receive unemployment benefits in old age starts from the day on which the insured meets the requirements set forth in the Act, provided that he/she requests the grant of said pension and proves that he/she has been deprived of work.

Insured persons who meet the established requirements may use the resources in their individual account for the purpose of receiving an advanced age unemployment pension. For this purpose they can choose one of the following options: contract with the insurance institution of their choice an annuity, which will be updated annually in February according to the National Consumer Price Index, and keep the balance of their individual account in a Retirement Fund Administrator and carry out scheduled withdrawals.

\textsuperscript{17} It was issued by President Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, published in DOF on December 21, 1995, beginning its validity on January 1\textsuperscript{st}, 1997.
The old age branch entitles the insured to the granting of the following benefits: pension; medical assistance, under the terms of Chapter IV of the Social Security Law; family allowances, and care assistance. In order to be entitled to the benefits of old-age insurance, the insured is required to be sixty-five years of age and has at least one thousand two hundred and fifty weekly contributions recognized by the Institute. If the insured is sixty-five years or more and does not meet the contribution weeks mentioned, the interested person can withdraw the balance of his/her individual account in a single exhibition or continue to quote until he/she covers the weeks necessary for his/her pension to operate. If the insured listed a minimum of seven hundred fifty weeks, he/she will be entitled to sickness and maternity insurance benefits in kind. The granting of the old-age pension can only be made at the request of the insured and will be covered from the date on which the interested person has left work. Insured persons who meet the established requirements can have their individual account in order to enjoy an old age pension. For this purpose he/she can choose one of the following options: contract with a public, social or private insurance company of their choice an annuity, which will be updated annually in February according to the National Consumer Price Index, and keep the balance of their individual account in a Retirement Fund Administrator and make scheduled withdrawals from the fund.

The Social Security Act of 1997, unlike the 1973 Law, repealed by the former, went from the distribution system to the capitalization system. In the distribution system, the pension that was granted was financed in part by contributions from active workers, employers and the federal or local government, as the case may be, that is, the contributions went to a common fund with which pensions were financed, the amount of which was not necessarily related to what was contributed during the working life. In the individual capitalization system, each right-holder owns an account in which their contributions, those of employers and those of the federal or local government are deposited. These contributions are capitalized and earning profitability, being in charge of a Retirement Funds Administrator (AFORE by its initials in Spanish), which are regulated by the National Commission for the Retirement Savings System (CONSAR by its initials in Spanish). At the end of the active life of a worker, the capital is returned to the interested person, to his/her surviving beneficiaries in one of the pension modalities that the laws regulate.
2. Law of the Institute of Social Security and Services of State Workers

Workers are entitled to a retirement insurance before reaching the age and time of contribution established, provided that the pension that is calculated in the annuity system is more than thirty percent higher than the guaranteed pension, once covered the survival insurance premium for their family members entitled. The annuity is updated annually in February according to the National Consumer Price Index.

The pensioner is entitled to receive the surplus of the resources accumulated in his individual account in one or more exhibitions, only if the pension that is granted is more than thirty percent higher than the guaranteed pension, once the insurance premium of survival for their entitled family members is covered. The disposition of the account as well as its income is exempt from the payment of contributions.

There is unemployment in old age when the worker is deprived of work from the age of sixty.

In order to receive unemployment benefits in advanced age, the worker must have a minimum of twenty-five years of contribution recognized by the Institute.

The unemployed worker who is sixty years old or older and does not meet the contribution years can withdraw the balance of his individual account in a single exhibition or continue to contribute until he has covered the years necessary to operate his pension.

The contingency consisting in the advanced age unemployment obliges the Institute to grant: pension, and health insurance.

The old-age insurance entitles the worker to the granting of: pension, and health insurance.

To qualify for the benefits of old-age insurance, it is required that the worker or pensioner for work or disability risks has reached the age of sixty-five and is recognized by the Institute for a minimum of twenty-five years of contributions.

In the event that the worker or pensioner is sixty-five years of age or older and does not meet the contribution years indicated in the preceding paragraph, he may withdraw the balance of his Individual Account in a single exhibition or continue to quote up to cover the years necessary for his/her pension to operate.

The granting of the old-age pension can only be made at the request of

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18 It was issued by President Felipe de Jesús Calderón Hinojosa, published in DOF on March 31, 2007, which began to be valid the day after its publication, with the exception of articles 42, 75, 101, 140, 193 and 199, which entered into force on January 1st, 2008.
the worker and is covered from the date on which he or she ceased to work or the term of the rent that the interested person had been enjoying because he/she was pensioned for work or disability risks ends, provided that he/she complies with the requirements indicated.

Workers who meet the established requirements can have their Individual Account in order to enjoy an Old Age Pension. For this purpose they can choose one of the following options: contract with an Insurer of their choice a pension insurance that grants them a life annuity, which will be updated annually in the month of February according to the National Consumer Price Index, or keep the balance of their individual account in the National Pension Fund of State Employee (PENSIONISSSTE by its initials in Spanish) or in an administrator and carry outscheduled withdrawals.

This legal system also modified the quote system, going from the previous system of distribution to the current system of individual capitalization.

C. Other Norms

To the provisions of the Social Assistance Law and the Social Security Law referred to above, is added, as regards the guardianship of the elderly, the social security laws of: the states of the Mexican Republic, the Armed forces and that of the members of the Mexican foreign service, as well as various Mexican Official Norms (NOM by its initials in Spanish), among which may be cited:

- Official Mexican Norm NOM169-SSA-1998. For Food Social Assistance to Risk groups.\(^{19}\)
- Official Mexican Norm NOM-233-SSA1-2003. It establishes the architectural requirements to facilitate access, transit, use and permanence of persons with disabilities in outpatient and hospital health care facilities of the National Health System.\(^{20}\)
- Official Mexican Norm NOM-168-SSA1-1998. From the Clinical Record.\(^{21}\)

It represents the instrument for the regulation of the clinical record and guides the development of a culture of quality, allowing the uses: medical, legal, teaching, research, evaluation, administrative and statistical.

Official Mexican Norm NOM-167-SSA 1-1997, for the provision of

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\(^{19}\) Published in DOF on November 19, 1999.  
\(^{20}\) Published in DOF on December 16, 2003.  
\(^{21}\) Published in DOF on September 14, 1999.
social assistance services for children and older adults.\textsuperscript{22}

\textbf{Conclusions}

Demographic aging is a reality in Mexico. It is estimated that in a century, the participation of the group of people 60 years and older in proportion to the total population, will almost quadruple, according to projections, from 5.5\% in 1950 to 21.5 in 2050.

Attention to this population group requires the participation of different orders and sectors of government and society. For this purpose, the national policy on older adults, which is part of the Law on the Rights of the Elderly, has as its ultimate goal the general well-being of older adults.

This legal system creates the National Institute of Older Persons (INAPAM), which is the rector of the national policy in favor of older adults, as a decentralized public agency of the Federal Public Administration, with legal personality, own property and technical and management autonomy for the fulfillment of its attributions, objectives and purposes. Its objectives include establishing the basis for planning and concerted actions between public and private institutions to achieve a coordinated operation in the programs and services provided to this sector of the population and to promote in the family, the State and society, a culture of appreciation of old age in order to achieve a dignified treatment.


Therefore, the ways of being able to count in old age with economic support are:

1. Depend on the social assistance systems, which are subject to the budget allocated to the institutions that provide the support.

2. Depending on the social security systems that have passed from the distribution to the capitalization system, so that the amount of a pension and the time of payment depend on the amount workers contribute to their pension fund or on the agreements with insurance companies.

3. Depending on the support of the family or a Civil Society Organization (CSOs).

\textsuperscript{22} Published in DOF on November 17, 1999.