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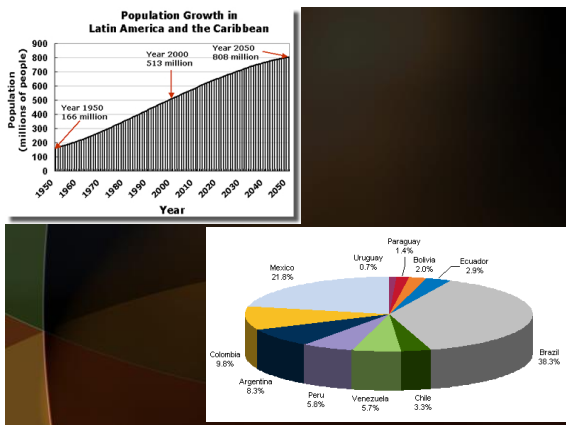
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### Population

- 393 million live in South America
- 154 million live in Middle American-most live on the Mexican Plateau
- Mexico is the most populated Spanish-speaking nation in the world

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### Native American Beginnings

- First to settle present-day Latin America
- Built great civilizations long before the Europeans arrived
- Major groups were the Mayans, Aztecs, and Incas

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# Human Geography



# 10-1

# MEXICO

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## Aztecs

- By 1500, civilization dominated Middle America
- Located in central Mexico
- Capital Tenochtitlán (ruins are under present-day Mexico City)
- Agriculture - farmed on artificial floating islands
- Complex political system
- Stone pyramids



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### Government Today

Enrique Peña Nieto is shown speaking at a podium. Behind him is a sign that reads "POLÍTICA NACIONAL TURÍSTICA". To the right of the image is a bulleted list of facts about his presidency.

- Enrique Peña Nieto was elected President in 2012
- Member of the Institutional Revolutionary Party

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### Population & Urbanization

- Mexicans are moving to cities for economic opportunities
- Jobs in cities pay more than in rural areas
- 113 million Mexicans in 2013

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### Economy

- 2 main challenges facing Mexico:
  - Attempting to close a long-standing gap between rich & poor people
  - Attempting to develop a modern industrial economy (traditionally it has been an agricultural society)

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### Economy

- Large industry based on its oil reserves - Gulf of Mexico
- Manufacturing along the border with the U.S.
- Maquiladoras - factories that assemble imported materials into finished products that are then exported, mostly to the U.S.
- Products include electronic equipment, clothing, & furniture



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### Economy - NAFTA

- Member of the North American Free Trade Agreement with the U.S. and Canada
- Created a zone of cooperation on trade & economic issues - expected to contribute to Mexico's prosperity



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### Mexican Life Today

- Emigration
  - Shares 2,000 mile border with U.S.
  - Many workers leave Mexico in search of work
  - Impact on family life - separates families
  - Often, after a year or two working in the U.S., they return home with savings to help improve living conditions for their extended families

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### Mexican Life Today

- Work & School
  - Shortage of jobs due to rapidly growing population & government policies
  - Without education & training, young workers cannot find good jobs
  - 85% of school-age children attend school

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**Human Geography**

# 10-2 CENTRAL AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

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**Mayans**

- Located on the Yucatan Peninsula - area included southern Mexico & northern Central America
- Advanced farming
- Architecture
- Astronomy
- Mathematics



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**Spanish in Central America**

- When the Spanish conquered the Aztecs it opened the door to Central America
- Spain ruled Central America until the 19<sup>th</sup> century

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### European Influences in the Caribbean

- Islands were settled and claimed by many European powers
- Spanish settled some of the islands and established sugar plantations
- Attempted to use the natives as forced labor, but many died from disease and mistreatment
- To replace the natives, the European slave traders brought Africans by force and put them to work on plantations

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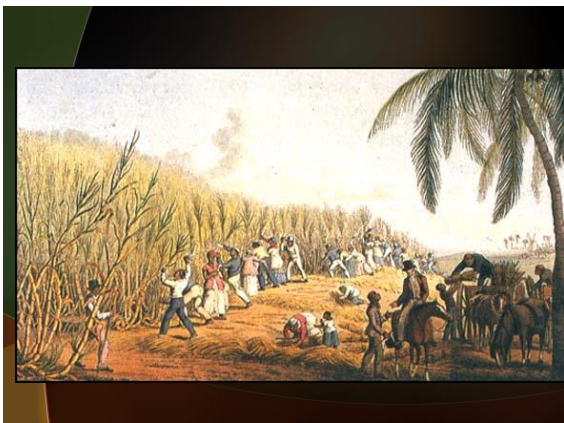
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### A Colonial Mosaic

- By the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Spanish, French, British, Dutch, & Danish all claimed islands
- Most were there to profit from the sugar trade

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### Caribbean Independence

- 1<sup>st</sup> independence movement began as a slave revolt in Haiti
- Haiti was a French colony with an important sugar industry
- By 1804, Haiti had received independence from France
- Jamaica & Trinidad and Tobago did not achieve full independence from Great Britain until 1962

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### Culture of Central America

- Blends two major elements: Native American influences with those of Spanish settlers
- Spanish language
- Catholicism is the major religion
- Spanish took away land from the natives, cut down forests, cleared land for grazing livestock, introduced new crops (wheat), built towns, created large farms & ranches = altered the way of life in the region

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### Culture of the Caribbean

- Spanish, French, British, Danish, Dutch existed side by side with the African and Native Americans
- Religions - Catholic & Protestant, as well as Santeria, which combines certain African practices & rituals with Catholic elements
- Voodoo is practiced in Haiti
- Spanish is most common language, but also French (Haiti), English (Jamaica), and some Dutch and Danish

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### Economy

- The Caribbean
  - Sugar cane plantations
  - Other export crops: bananas, citrus fruits, coffee, and spices
- Central America
  - Commercial farming
  - Produce 10% of the world's coffee and bananas

TOURISM - is also important in both areas

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### Coffee



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### Economy

- Trade is important because of the Panama Canal
- Connects the Atlantic and Pacific oceans
- Crossroads of world trade

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## Panama Canal



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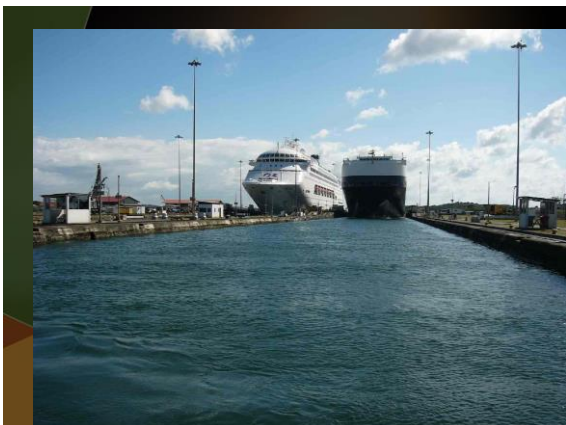
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## Population

- Central America
- Between 30 and 40 million people
- Most people make their living on farms and live in rural areas
- The Caribbean
- Between 40 and 45 million people
- Many are densely populated (Cuba - 11 million people)
- Most live in urban areas

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**Human Geography**

# SPANISH-SPEAKING SOUTH AMERICA

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**The Inca**

- Located in the Andes Mountains
- Capital was at Cuzco in Peru
- Terraced farming
- Great building skills
- Road system that was about 20,000 miles long and crossed mountains and deserts to link the empire
- Domesticated the llama and alpaca

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**Manchu Picchu**



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### Arrival of the Spanish

- 1<sup>st</sup> Europeans came in the late 1400s
- Searching for trade routes and riches
- Exposed natives to diseases
- Forced them to work in mines and on plantations
- Disease and hard work killed thousands of Native Americans

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### Government

- Oligarchy (govt. by few) and military rule have characterized many countries of South America since they won their independence from Spain
- Authoritarian rule delayed the development of democracy
- Strong militaries, underdeveloped economies, and social class divisions still exist in the region today

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### Economy

- Colombia & Venezuela - oil reserves
- Peru - fishing
- Ecuador - shrimp
- Bolivia - tin, zinc, & copper
- Argentina - grain & livestock
- Uruguay - farming
- Paraguay - soybeans, cotton, animal hides

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### Venezuelan Oil Refinery



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### Human Geography

# BRAZIL

Population 203 million

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### Portuguese Conquest

- Arrived in the early 1500s
- Hoped to find gold or silver, but were disappointed when they could find neither
- Created sugar plantations
- Patterns of settlement were along the coast
- Same story, forced natives to work and brought African slaves

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## Independence

- Brazil remained a Portuguese colony from 1500 to 1822

## CULTURE

- Language - Portuguese
- Religion - Roman Catholic (Brazil has the largest Catholic population in the world)
- Protestants make up almost 20% of the population

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## Economy

- Industrial power - natural resources (iron, bauxite, etc)
- One of the largest steel plants in the region
- Leading maker of automobiles (over ½ the cars use ethanol, a fuel that comes from sugar cane and is less expensive than imported oil)

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A worker cuts sugar cane in São Paulo State, one of Brazil's biggest cane-growing regions. Ethanol from cane is cheaper than that made from corn.




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### Migration to the Cities

- People who move to the cities are looking for a better life, higher paying jobs, broader education, & decent health care
- Most do not find these because they are uneducated and unskilled.
- By 1995, more than 75% of people live in the cities

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### Rio de Janeiro



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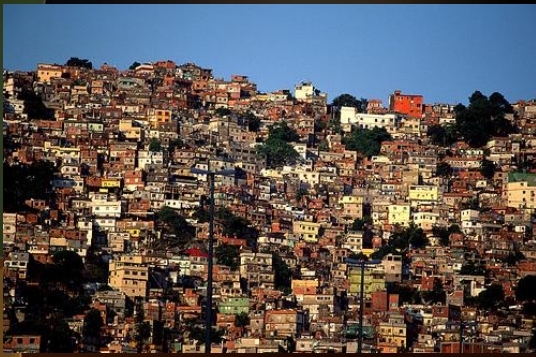
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### Favela in Rio de Janeiro



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### Sao Paulo



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### Migration to the Interior

- About 80% of the people live within 200 miles of the sea
- Government is encouraging settlement of the interior
- Relocated the capital city to Brasilia in the interior in the 1960's to encourage growth

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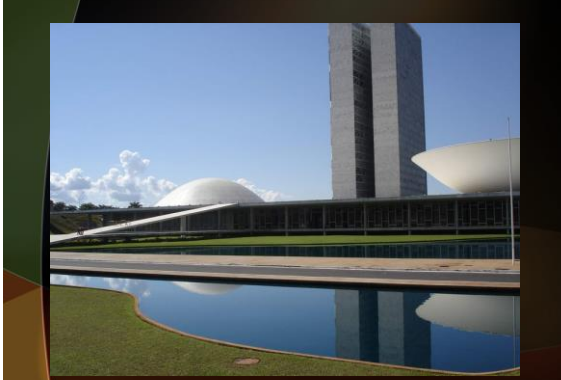
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### Brasilia – National Congress



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## Urbanization

- In Brazil and the rest of Latin America, the cities are experiencing a population explosion
- Problems as a result are:
  - Poverty
  - Slums
  - Crime
  - Shortages of housing
  - Shortages of food - malnutrition
  - Inadequate healthcare

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