Mexico

Urban i
Mexico Urban lecture
Mexico as a Megacity world megacities
  sensory experience
  structure/size population
    11 daily newspapers
    1000 museums
    a million restaurants/cafes?
  Film industry/bookstores/publishing
Museo Templo Mayor, Zocalo
3 questions:
why is Mexico City so big?

what environmental problems does Mexico confront?

how does Mexico continue to function?
Why So Much Growth?
Urban growth rates Phenomenal
1955-2 million
1975-8 million
1995-22 million
2000- ???
What causes/What effects?

How Big IS Mexico City?
Urban Expansion in Mexico City

**Growth of a Megacity**

Mexico City is one of the fastest growing megalopolis cities in the world. These satellite images show the transformation Mexico City underwent between 1973 and 2000. Areas of urban infrastructure appear as shades of purple while natural vegetation is shown in green. In 1973 Mexico City had a population of about 9 million. In the ensuing years, the city expanded into surrounding areas. The forests in the mountains west and south of the city suffered significant deforestation as the urban sprawl progressed. By 1986, Mexico City’s population had soared to 14 million. In 1999, Mexico City had a population of 17.9 million, making it the second largest metropolitan area in the world behind Tokyo, Japan. The Mexican megalopolis is expected to reach 20 million in the next few years.

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why is Mexico City so big?
history and politics of centralization
pre-Conquest
early colonial
19th century
post-revolutionary
contemporary scene
politics of centralization
culture