

# RESEARCHING YOUR ROOTS IN NORTHERN MEXICO (AUGUST 2017)

BY JOHN P. SCHMAL



# NORTHERN MEXICO TODAY

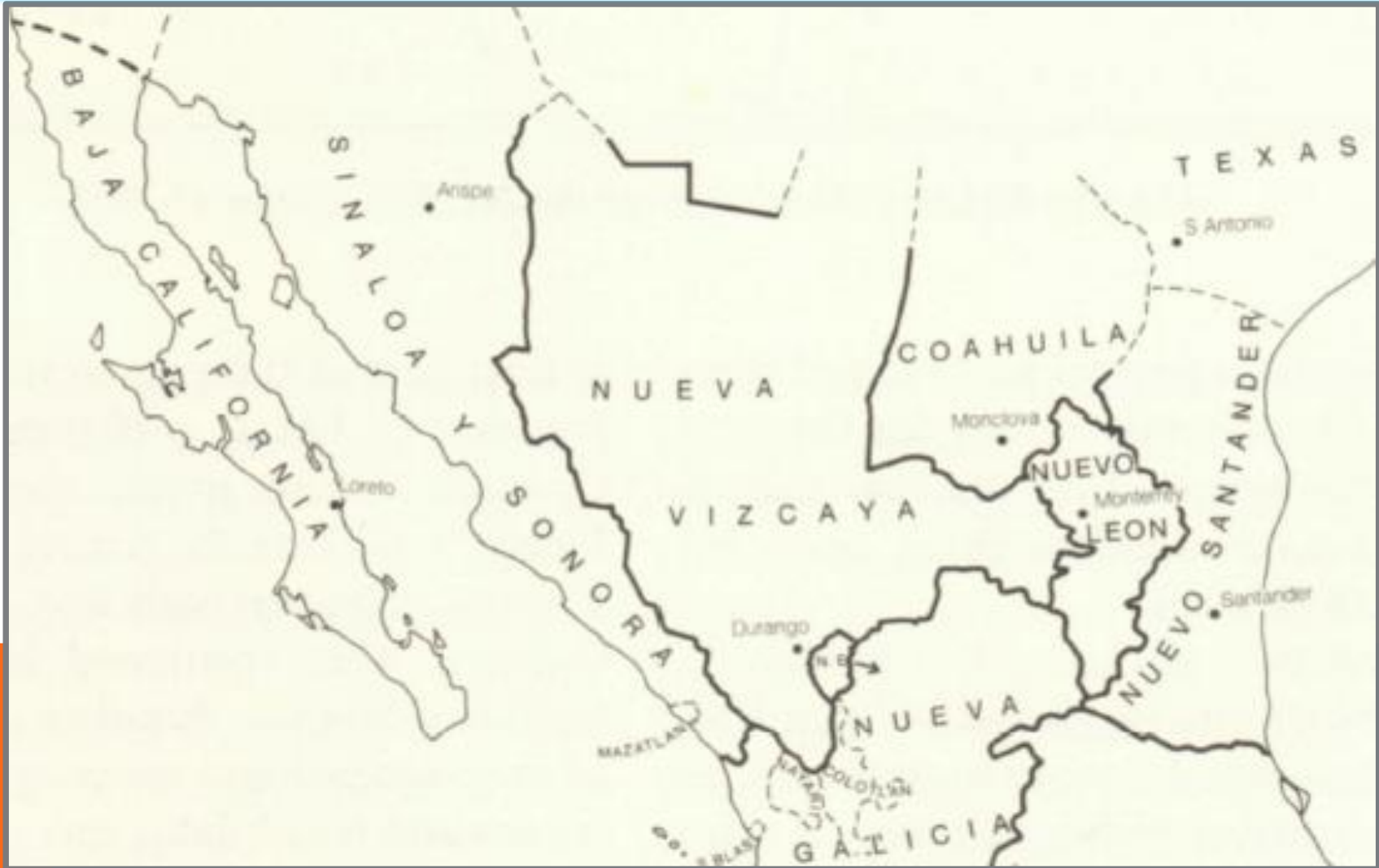


Source: WikiVoyage, "Northern Mexico."

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# COLONIAL MEXICO POLITICAL JURISDICTIONS

Sinaloa y Sonora was detached from Nueva Vizcaya in 1733. Coahuila was separated from Nueva Vizcaya and became a province in 1716.



Source: Peter Gerhard, "The North Frontier of New Spain" (1982).

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# NORTHERN MEXICO ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS

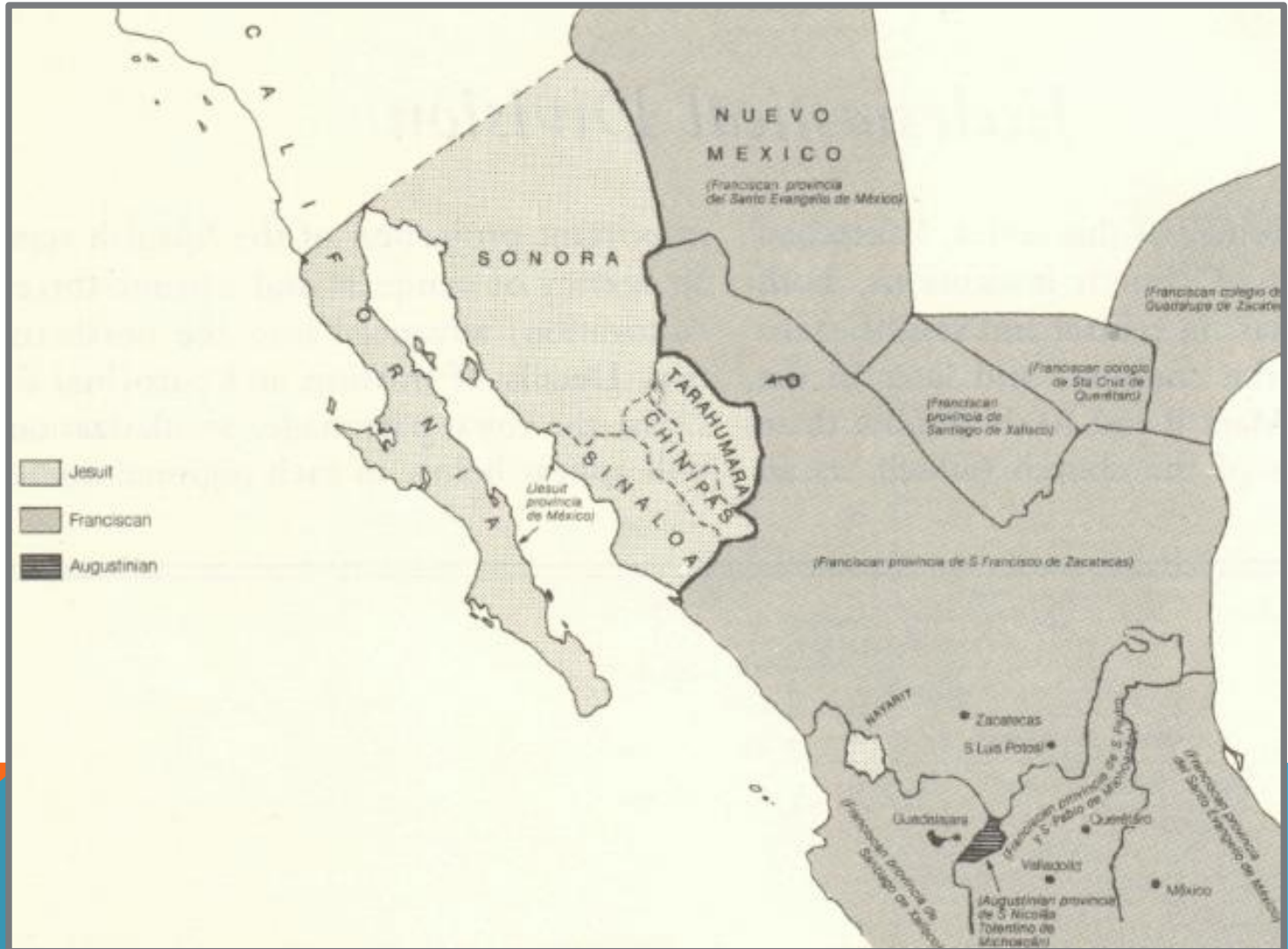


Peter Gerhard's "North Frontier of New Spain" is the primary English language source of information for historical data on specific northern Mexican jurisdictions, with regards to their indigenous populations, Spanish settlement, racial mix, church activities, encomiendas and settlements.

# NORTHERN MEXICO MISSIONARY DISTRICTS (1767)

In 1767, the Jesuits were expelled from the entire Americas by the King of Spain.

Hundreds of mission establishments, schools and colleges had to be turned over to the Franciscan and Dominican missionary orders or were converted to other purposes.

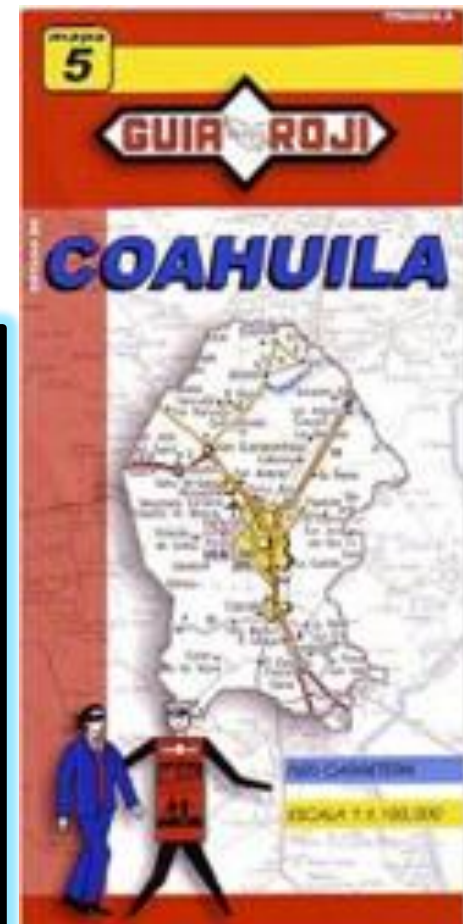


# LOCATION ANALYSIS

## LOCATION ANALYSIS

The ultimate goal of researching your Northern Mexican roots is to learn everything you can about the region your ancestors came from. Examples:

- Get a detailed map that shows municipio boundaries to study the surrounding towns, cities and ranchos. (**Guia Roji maps recommended** – from Amazon.com).
- Study the area history by checking resources on Amazon.com and Borderlands Books and bookfinder.com using specific key words.
- Check the Family History Library Catalog for the availability of church and civil records



# THE “ENCICLOPEDIA DE LOS MUNICIPIOS”



The Encyclopedia of Municipios of Mexico offers information about each of the 2,440 municipios located throughout the 31 Mexican states, as well as the 16 Delegaciones of the Federal District.

Each municipio description usually contains a short chronology of historical events (Cronología de Hechos Historicos) as well as a short history of the municipio (Reseña Histórica). Usually the history gives the name of the local indigenous tribe and discusses the establishment of local churches, missions and presidios.

Many of the descriptions provide a map of the municipio showing place names, and you will also find out the names of surrounding municipios (under Localización).

To locate the state of your choice, simply google three words:

1. Enciclopedia
2. Municipios
3. The State of your choice (i.e., Tamaulipas, Sonora, etc.).

# NORTHERN MEXICO CATHOLIC CHURCH RECORDS

## Parish Archives:

- Were confiscated as part of the overall confiscation of church property following Mexican Revolution.
- Many were microfilmed by the LDS with permission of the Mexican government in 1960s and 1970s.
- Are now back under control of Catholic Church.

## Availability of Parish Archives to Researchers:

- At the whim of the parish priest and his availability and willingness.
- Are often difficult to access. Some parish books have detached and out-of-order pages. Other records have suffered water damage or are missing altogether.
- But **LDS Resources are extensive and can be studied online** at:
- <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/list#page=1&region=MEXICO>
- The **Hispanic Heritage Project** is working with local parishes and archives in Sonora and Chihuahua to film more records. Check out their website: <http://www.hh-p.org/>



# NORTHERN MEXICO GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH THROUGH FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY RECORDS

## WHAT IS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE ONLINE?

State	Record Images	Indexed Records*	Catholic Baptisms	Catholic Marriages
Coahuila	1.8 million	1.4 million	567,407	137,062
Chihuahua	2.3 million	2.05 million	1.03 million	286,224
Sonora	1.4 million	790,000	265,023	54,419
Nuevo Leon	1.6 million	1.6 million	964,000	219,000
Tamaulipas	1.7 million	1.4 million	787,760	187,473
All Mexico	93.9 million	72 million	35.3 million	6 million

Source: Family History Library, "Mexico Indexed Historical Records."

\* Some events (baptisms and marriages) may have been indexed more than once.

# RACIAL CLASSIFICATIONS IN COLONIAL MEXICO

In most parishes, racial classifications were made strictly on sight and not based on actual knowledge of the person's pedigree. It is likely that in many cases the classifications were applied indiscriminately and were primarily based on skin color, as well as facial features, type of clothing worn and the barrio where they lived.

## Casta terms for miscegenation in Spanish America

Parent	Black	Peninsular	Peninsular	Amerindian	Black
	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
<i>1st generation</i>	mulato	criollo	mestizo	zambo	
	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
<i>2nd generation (with one Spanish parent)</i>	morisco	criollo	castizo	moreno	
<i>2nd generation (with one Amerindian parent)</i>	chino	mestizo	cholo	cambujo	
<i>2nd generation (with one black parent)</i>	negro fino	mulato	cimarrón	prieto	

Term	Description
Español	A person who appears to be of European ancestry (French / Spanish / German)
Indio	A person with indigenous ancestry
Negro	An African person who may or may not be a slave (esclavo)
Mulatto	Half European & half African. This person may or may not be a slave (esclavo) or free (libre).
Mestizo	Half European & half Indian. Eventually it came to mean all mixed people.
Coyote	Indio con mestizo: A person who is $\frac{3}{4}$ Indian and $\frac{1}{4}$ European
Morisco	Blanco con mulata: $\frac{3}{4}$ European and $\frac{1}{4}$ African – one white parent and one mulato parent
Tresalba	Indio con mestiza: “Three White” – same as Morisco. Very rarely used
Lobo	Indo con negra: A person with $\frac{3}{4}$ Indians and $\frac{1}{4}$ African ancestry

Sources: Ilona Katzew, "[Casta Painting: Identity and Social Stratification in Colonial Mexico](#)" (New York University, 1996); Familysearch.org, "Spanish Genealogical Word List: Racial Terminology." Online: [https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Spanish\\_Genealogical\\_Word\\_List](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Spanish_Genealogical_Word_List).

# SONORA



Sonora is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest state.

Area: 180,833 square km.

Percent of Mexico's Territory: 9.15%

No. of Municipios: 72

2010 Population: 2.9 million  
inhabitants

Percent of Mexican Population: 2.4%

Capital: Hermosillo

Sonora's western region has several large municipios (Caborca, Pitiquito, Hermosillo and Guaymas among them). While recent civil records are available for many municipios, the FHL has microfilm for only a few Sonora Catholic Churches, and there are significant gaps in many of their parish archives.

# SONORA GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

## Sonora Records through the Family History Library

Catholic Church	21 locations
How far back?	Few locations go back before 1700 (Alamos: 1696; Magdalena: 1698). Most Sonora church records go back to the late 1700s. Many of these parish books have gaps and may not be inclusive of the entire parish.
Problems with Catholic Church Records	There are many gaps in the records and there are some records that have not been filmed. In some cities baptisms may go back to the 1700s, but marriages only go back to the 1800s. Examples: Guaymas baptisms go back to 1783, marriages only go back to 1846. For Hermosillo, baptisms go back to 1783, marriages to 1814.
Civil Records	81 locations
Problems with Civil Records	Some of the earlier civil records have gaps and some films may have many sections which are usually not in perfect chronological order.
Publications	Patricia Velasco Wilkes wrote two volumes of <b>“Out of the Past: Sinaloa y Sonora (1717-1797)”</b> that talk extensively about Alamos, its history, mining operations and parish. It includes extensive data on many Alamos surnames.

# THE MISSION 2000 DATABASE

The **Mission 2000 Database** is a searchable database of Spanish mission records of the Pimería Alta (southern Arizona and northern Sonora) containing baptisms, marriages, and burials from the 1600s to the 1800s. Sample citations are shown below:

<https://home.nps.gov/applications/tuma/search.cfm>

<b>Surname:</b> Ronstadt	<b>Given Name:</b> Friderich Agustus	<b>Sex:</b> M
<b>Place of Birth:</b> Emden, Germany	<b>Date of Birth:</b>	<b>Order:</b>
<b>Place of Death:</b>	<b>Date of Death:</b>	<b>Cause of Death:</b>
<b>Race or Tribe:</b> Tudesco	<b>Residence:</b> Topahue; Altar; Magdalena; Tucson	<b>Title:</b> Viudo de Concepción Quiroga; Marido de Margarita Redondo; Involved in Sonoran politics after Mexican Independence
<b>Place of Service:</b>	<b>Burial Place:</b>	<b>Translation:</b>

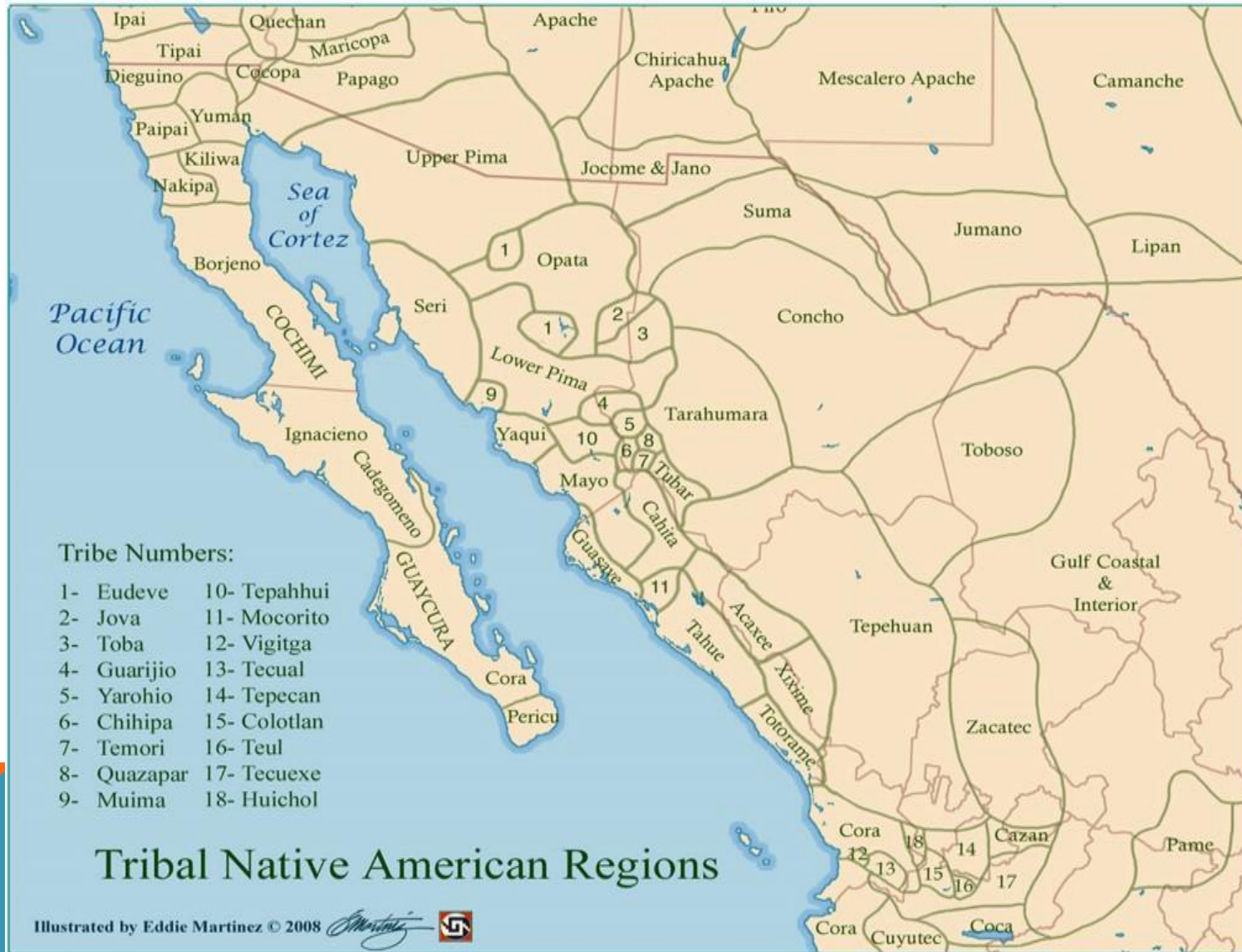
**Notes:** He managed Manuel Gándara's hacienda at Topahui. He was later a military officer under Gándara's rival, Colonel José María Elias Gonzales, and a sergeant major under General Ignacio Pesqueira, another of Gándara's competitors for the governorship of Sonora.

<b>Surname:</b> Carmona	<b>Given Name:</b> José	<b>Sex:</b> M
<b>Place of Birth:</b>	<b>Date of Birth:</b>	<b>Order:</b>
<b>Place of Death:</b> Terrenate	<b>Date of Death:</b> 07/23/1797	<b>Cause of Death:</b> Killed by Apaches
<b>Race or Tribe:</b> Opata	<b>Residence:</b> Bacoachi	<b>Title:</b> Soldado de Bacoachi; Marido de María Eusebio Verdugo
<b>Place of Service:</b> Bacoachi	<b>Burial Place:</b> Terrenate	<b>Translation:</b> (Spanish)

**Notes:** "In the year of the Lord, 1797, on July 23rd ecclesiastical burial was provided the body of José Carmona in the Presidio of Santa María. He was an Opata soldier of this company. He died the day before in an attack by the Apaches. His unfortunate death was made known to me on the 27th of the said month and year. He was married to María Eusebia Verdugo and for the truth of all, I sign on the said day, the 27th. Fr. Antonio Beneitez"

# SONORA INDIGENOUS GROUPS AT CONTACT

The native people occupying the Sinaloa and Sonora coastal region at contact spoke eighteen closely related dialects of the Cáhita language group. They numbered about 115,000. Today only three of these dialects still survive: The Yaquis, Mayos and Guarijios.



# EARLY SONORA RECORDS

Colonial records in Sonora used a range of racial classifications. In Hermosillo, on June 20, 1784, a Yaqui child (Hiagui de Potam) was baptized by his parents who were from Rahum. On July 6, another family baptized their child, who was classified as a “parvulo de razon” – a non-Indian child (probably Spanish).

34  
Maria Seduc  
de Rahum  
Hiagui

En veinte de Junio de 1784 baptize solemnem<sup>te</sup> a una parva<sup>g</sup>.  
nacio al medio dia del 16 del expressado mes, y se le puso el nombre de  
Maria Seducis, hija de Josef Susacamea, y Magdalena Juguigui Hiaguis  
de Rahum: Padrinos Peronimo Sonome Hiagui de Potam, y Rosa Secama  
de Vicam quienes adverti el parentesco espiritual etc. y p<sup>o</sup>. g<sup>o</sup>. corte lo fi-  
me en dho dia mes, y año ut supra =

M. f. . . Ant<sup>o</sup> Suarez

Julio de 1784 =

35  
Pablo Manacial  
parva<sup>o</sup> de Razon

En seis de Julio de 1784, Jo el infrascrito baptize solemnem<sup>te</sup> etc aun  
parva<sup>o</sup> g<sup>o</sup>. nacio el 30 del mes anterior y se le puso el nombre de Pablo Manacial  
al hilo lez<sup>mo</sup> de Josef Ant<sup>o</sup> Martinez, y Brigida Lopez de Vaxo Vecino de esta Villa  
de S<sup>ta</sup> Pedro del P<sup>o</sup>. Abuelos Paternos Josef Matias Martinez, y Juana Coata Precioso  
difunto, y Vecinos del R. de S<sup>ta</sup> Josef de Exacia = Maternos Ant<sup>o</sup> Lopez de Manzo ya  
difunto, y Varula Cervantes Vecinos tambien de dho R<sup>o</sup>. Padrinos D<sup>no</sup> Fran<sup>co</sup> Nav<sup>o</sup>  
Moneno, y D<sup>na</sup> Maria Bombasa Perez Semano conyuges, y Vecinos de esta Villa  
quienes adverti el parentesco espiritual etc. y p<sup>o</sup>. g<sup>o</sup>. corte lo firme

# SONORA INDIANS: ALTAR

Some Indigenous people had important events (baptisms & marriages) recorded in the towns where they were born and raised. But many Indians also sought employment in regions outside of their native lands, such as Altar. Hence, you find records for Pimas, Opatas and Yaquis side-by-side in cities some distance from their traditional homelands.

634  
Maxiano=  
Pabulo=  
Pima=  
En diez y seis dias del mes de Junio de mil seiscientos ochenta y nueve en este Pueblo de la Puxi<sup>a</sup> Concep<sup>ta</sup> de Cadonca se dio sepultura eclesial<sup>e</sup> a un Pabl<sup>o</sup> q<sup>e</sup> murio el dia antes, llamado Maxiano, hijo legitimo de Cyprian Conroy y de Michaela Castañena, ya difunta, Indio de este Pueblo. Para q<sup>e</sup> conste lo firmo en este dia, mes, y año ut supra:  
Fr. Ant<sup>o</sup> Ramos

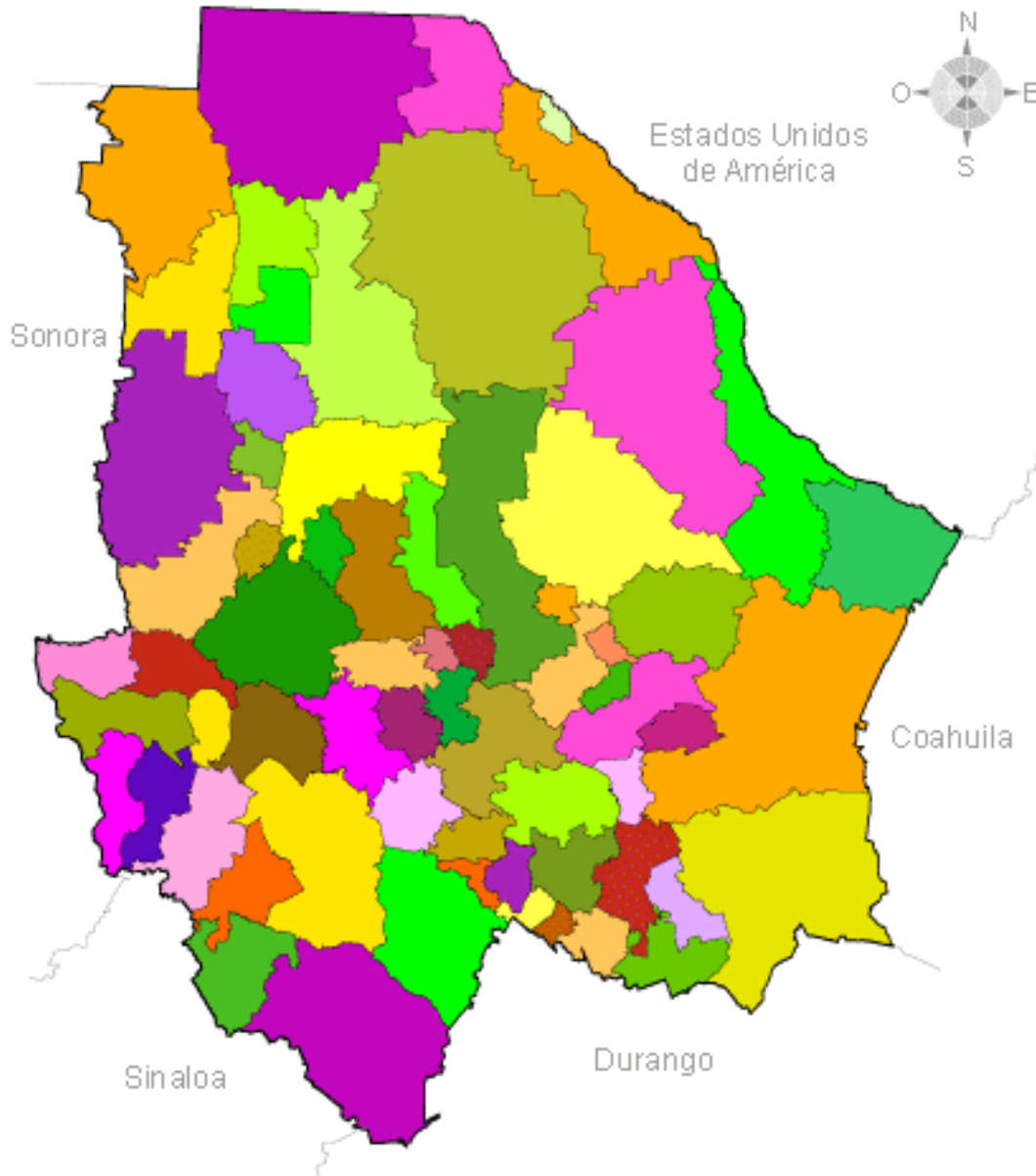
635  
Juan Ygn.<sup>o</sup>=  
Pabulo=  
opata=  
En veinte dias del mes de Junio de mil seiscientos ochenta y nueve en este Pueblo de la Puxi<sup>a</sup> Concep<sup>ta</sup> de Cadonca se dio sepultura eclesial<sup>e</sup> a un Pabl<sup>o</sup> q<sup>e</sup> murio el dia antes, llamado Juan Ygn<sup>o</sup> de unos quatro años de edad, hijo legitimo de Fran<sup>co</sup> el Pakasio, y de Catha<sup>a</sup> Sanchez, el Opatas y ella Yaqui. Para q<sup>e</sup> conste lo firmo en este dia, mes, y año ut supra:  
Fr. Ant<sup>o</sup> Ramos

636  
Secundis=  
Pabulo=  
Yaqui=  
En veinte y cinco dias del mes de Junio de mil seiscientos ochenta y nueve en este Pueblo de la Puxi<sup>a</sup> Concep<sup>ta</sup> de Cadonca se dio sepultura eclesial<sup>e</sup> a una Pabl<sup>o</sup> de unos quatro años q<sup>e</sup> murio el dia antes, llamada Secundis, hija legitima de Nicolas Guirreza y de Maria Yaqui, Yaqui del Pueblo de Troin. Para q<sup>e</sup> conste lo firmo en este dia, mes, y año ut supra:  
Fr. Ant<sup>o</sup> Ramos

637



# CHIHUAHUA



**Chihuahua is the largest state.**

**Area: 247,455 square km.**

**Percent of Mexico's Territory: 12.6%**

**No. of Municipios: 67**

**2010 Population: 3.6 million inhabitants**

**Percent of Mexican Population: 3.2%**

**Capital: The City of Chihuahua**

**The City of Chihuahua City had 809,232 inhabitants in 2010, representing one-quarter (22.8%) of the state's total population.**

# CHIHUAHUA GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

## Chihuahua Records through the Family History Library

Catholic Church Records	55 locations
How far back?	<p>More than 30 Chihuahua parishes have records that go back to the 1700s, and some of the largest cities have records back to their earliest years: <b>Cusihuiachi (1670), Chihuahua (1709), Parral (1632) and Allende (1662)</b>. Chihuahua was established in 1707, and its church records began soon after (1709). The Parral silver mines were discovered in 1631, and their records go back to 1632. Although the mines of Santa Barbara were first discovered in 1567, their church records only go back to 1679.</p>
Problems with Catholic Church Records	<p>With the exception of some of the larger cities, many Chihuahua church records with the FHL are incomplete collections, with some sporadic and out-of-order records and gaps that cross many years.</p>
Civil Records	<p>117 locations. The larger municipios usually have good coverage, while smaller areas have spotty records.</p>

# CHIHUAHUA: ANCESTORS FROM SPAIN

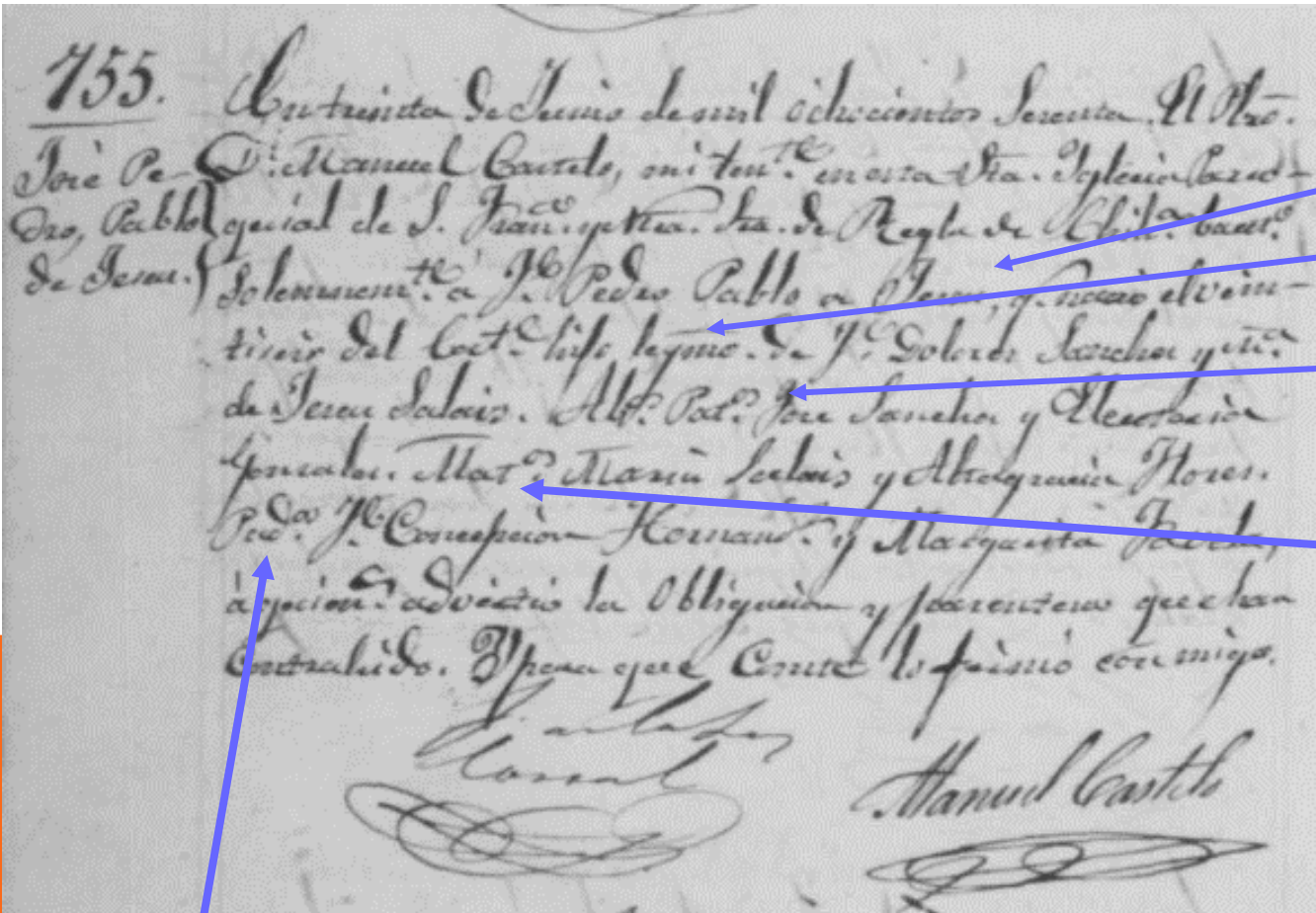
Many ancestors may be classified as “Español” but only a few are actually born in España. To locate Spanish-born ancestors, use the DRSW database or find documents that note a place of origin. An example from Hidalgo de Parral from 1787 is shown below.

Jose del Parual, solemnem. <sup>te</sup> por palabras de  
presencia, desposé en D<sup>ha</sup> Y<sup>a</sup> a D<sup>no</sup> Andres  
Gil, y Pardo, español, natural de la Villa de  
Matute, en los Reynos de Carr. y Paurog.  
de esta D<sup>ha</sup> Y<sup>a</sup> hijo leg<sup>mo</sup> de D<sup>no</sup> Andres Gil, y  
de D<sup>na</sup> Josefa Pardo, y a D<sup>na</sup> Anna Josefa de  
Basoco, tambien española, natural y Paurog  
de D<sup>ha</sup> Y<sup>a</sup> hija legitimada de D<sup>no</sup> Juan Baso-

Andres Gil y Pardo,  
Español, native of  
the Villa of Matute,  
in the Kingdom of  
Castilla.

# CHIHUAHUA: ABUELOS PATERNOS

In Chihuahua, showing abuelos in bautismos started shortly after 1800. In Ciudad de Chihuahua, Parral and Santa Barbara the abuelos started circa 1801-02. Smaller towns started later. However, in other states, such as Coahuila, some parishes did not start showing abuelos until the 1840s. Sonora state's church records rarely showed abuelos.



Child's Name

The Parents

Abuelos Paternos

Abuelos Maternos

Padrinos

# Chihuahua's Indigenous People at Contact

The original inhabitants of Chihuahua belonged to a wide range of nomadic and seminomadic groups of hunters, most of which are now culturally extinct. According to the American anthropologist, Edward H. Spicer (1906-1983), the Spaniards recognized the following as the primary language groups:

<b>Tarahumaras</b>	<b>Warihios (Guarijios)</b>	<b>Conchos</b>
<b>Janos</b>	<b>Sumas</b>	<b>Tobosos</b>
<b>Apaches (who arrived in the area by the 1650s)</b>		

In referencing the **“ethnic complexity of the region,”** William B. Griffen’s **“Indian Assimilation in the Franciscan Area of Nueva Vizcaya”** provides 127 tribal names for indigenous bands and tribal groups in the area the Spaniards referred to as the **“Greater Conchería.”** However, because this list included **“possible alternate designations”** of some groups, Griffen only offers detailed descriptions of 89 bands and tribal groups in all. However, Griffen also cautions that a large number of these groups **“are not placeable, linguistically or geographically, except within rather broad limits.”**

# Indigenous Chihuahua at Contact



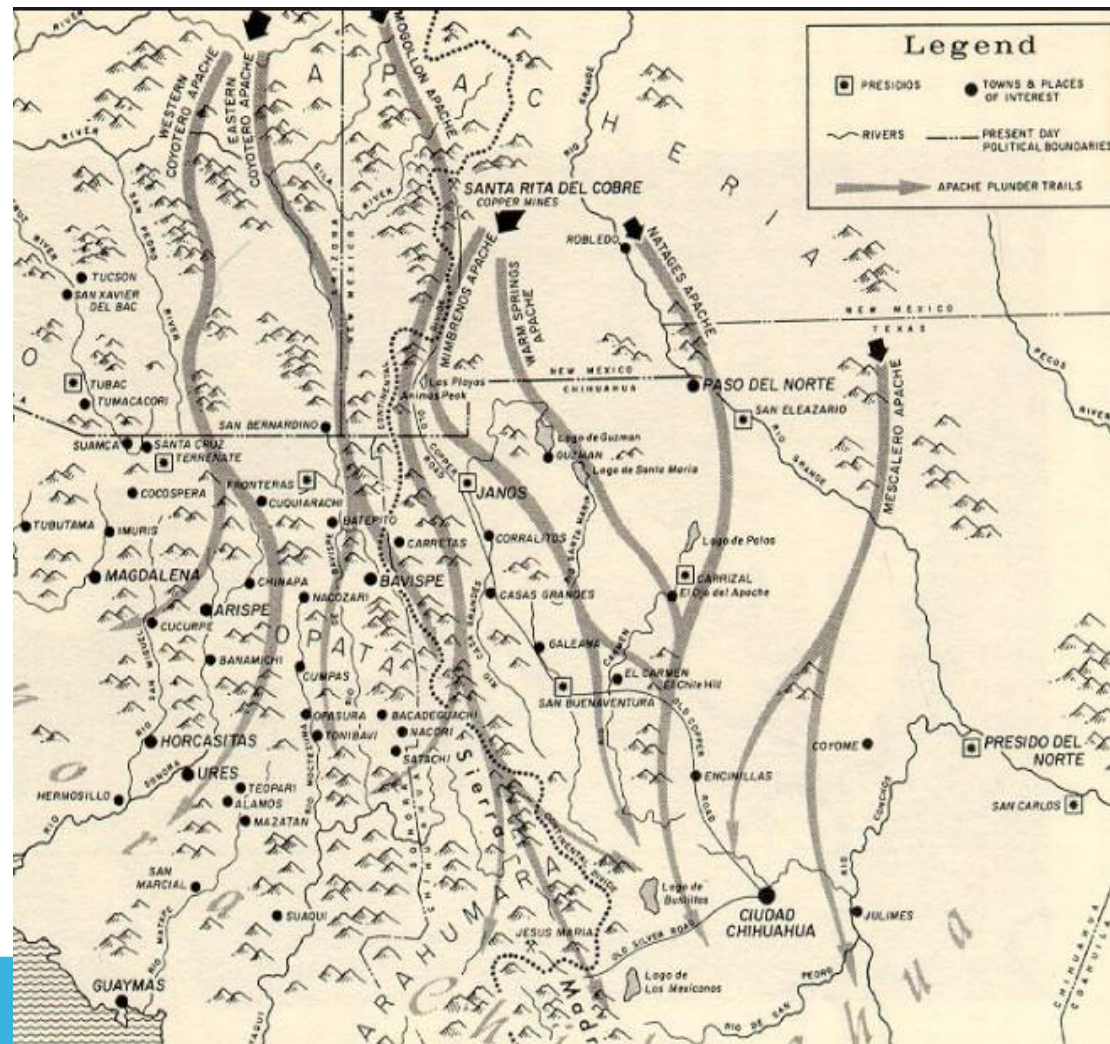
Source: Wikipedia, "Conchos." Online: <https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conchos>

# The Apaches and their Effect on the Mission System

The Apaches were hunter-gatherers related linguistically to the Athapaskan speakers of Alaska. Over time, the Apache raids in Chihuahua, Coahuila, Texas and Nuevo León displaced many of the nomadic hunter-gatherer groups, including the Sumas, Mansos, Chinarras, Jócomes, Janos and the Coahuiltecan.

In addition, epidemic diseases depleted the indigenous populations, making them even more vulnerable to their highly-mobile Apache enemy.

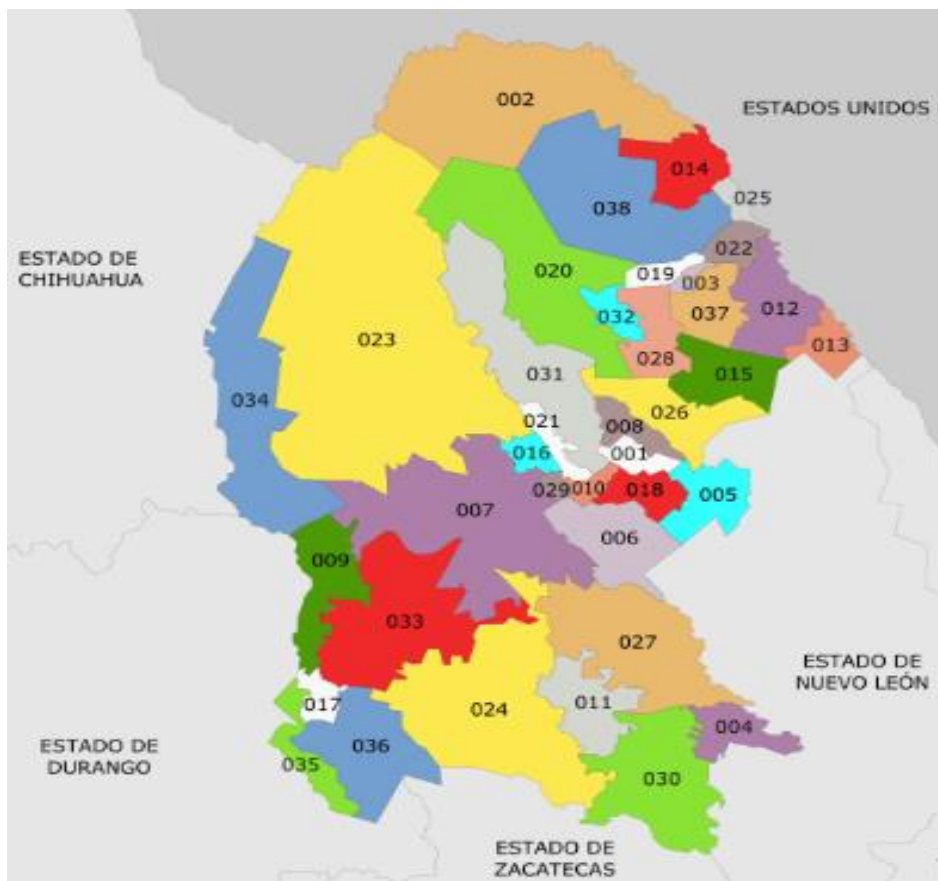
Eventually, the numerous Spanish missions in the region would provide a refuge for the displaced and declining Indian populations. In the mission system, local Indians mixed with displaced groups from Coahuila, Chihuahua and Texas. This displacement created an unusual ethnic mix that led to the assimilation of many of the Northern Mexican Indians.



Source: The Texas State Historical Association (TSHA) and The University of Virginia; Image included in accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107.

Source: Cynthia Radding, "The Colonial Pact and Changing Ethnic Frontiers in Highland Sonora, 1740-1840," in Donna J. Guy and Thomas E. Sheridan (eds.), *Contested Ground: Comparative Frontiers on the Northern and Southern Edges of the Spanish Empire*, pp. 52-66. (Tucson: The University of Arizona Press, 1998)

# COAHUILA



Coahuila is the third largest state.

Area: 151,562 square km.

Percent of Mexico's Territory: 7.7%

No. of Municipios: 38

2010 Population: 3 million inhabitants

Percent of Mexican Population: 2.5%

Capital: Saltillo

In 2010, Saltillo had a population of 725,123 in 2010, representing almost one-quarter (24.5%) of the state's total population.

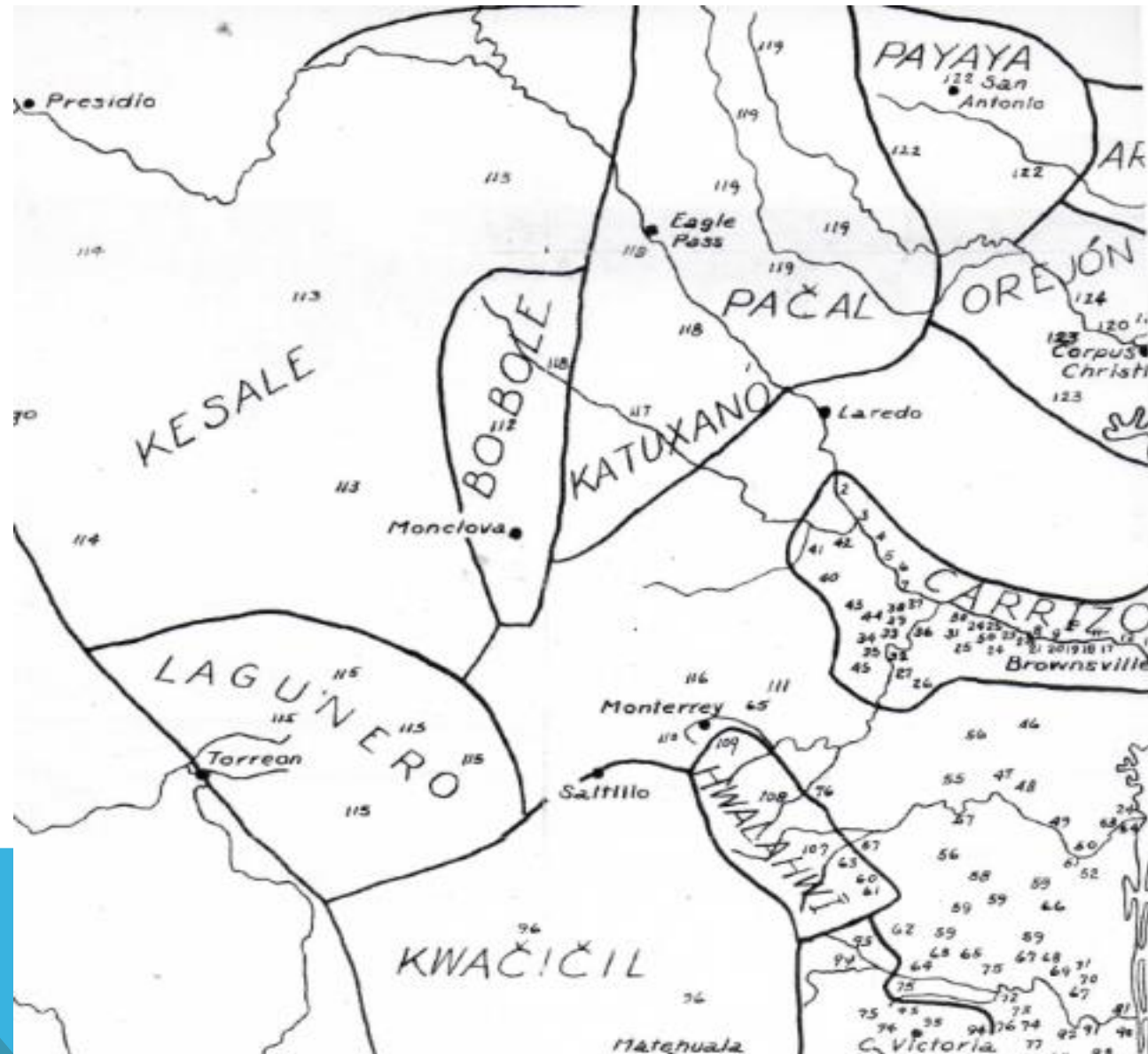
Los Bexarenos sells 41 publications for Coahuila, including 25 indexes for baptisms and marriages.

Coahuila has many large municipios, including Ocampo (23), Parras (24), Acuña (2) and Ramos Arizpe (27). Extensive civil registration is available for all four of these municipios and for many others. Catholic Church records for Ocampo and Acuña are not available through the FHL, but they are for Parras (1683) and Ramos Arizpe (1783). Torreon was a stopping-point for many migrants going north but it was only established in 1883 when the railroad came through, and its records only go back to 1893.



# The Major Coahuiltecans Tribes

The 1955 Master's Thesis by Frederick Henry Ruecking for the University of Texas, "The Coahuiltecan Indians of Southern Texas and Northeastern Mexico" provided the following map of the major tribal groups in northeastern Mexico during the Eighteenth Century.



Source: Frederick Henry Ruecking, "The Coahuiltecan Indians of Southern Texas and Northeastern Mexico" (August 1955: Master's Thesis: The University of Texas).

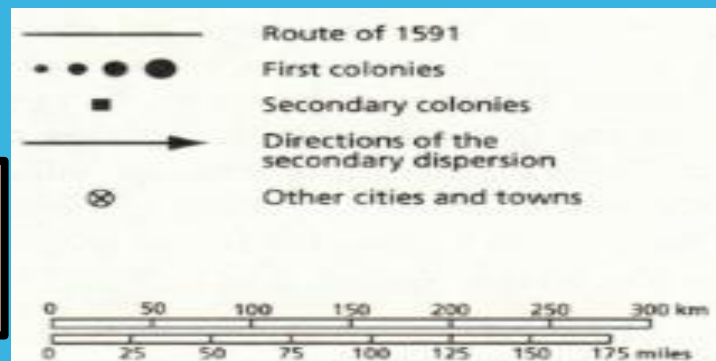
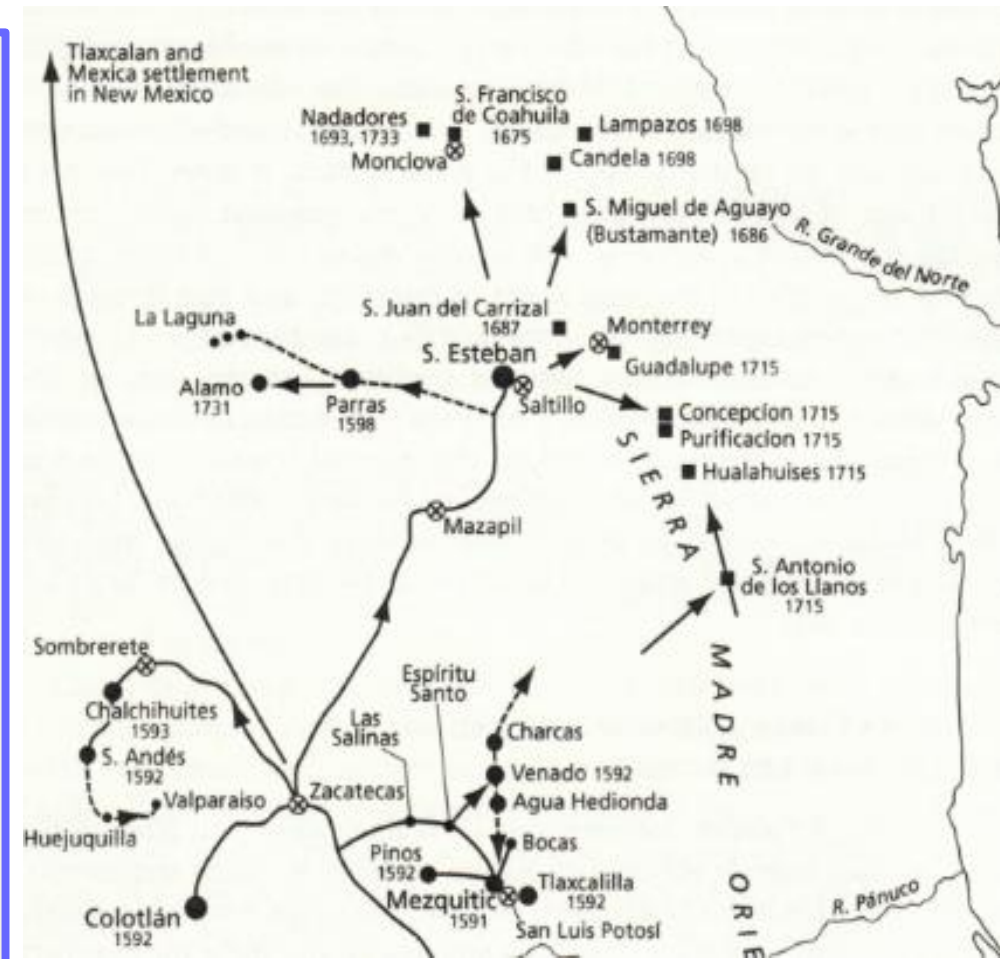
# THE TLAXCALAN SETTLEMENTS OF THE NORTH

The Spanish-Tlaxcalan alliance began with the conquest of the Aztecs (1519-1521), but evolved into a “stable, institutionalized pact” in which “Tlaxcala became a state within the empire.” Starting in 1591, the Tlaxcalans established numerous colonies on the northern frontier.

The Tlaxcalan settlements in the north served as military outposts, sites for agricultural and infrastructural development, and centers for civilizing and Christianizing northern Indians.

Serving as soldiers, colonists and emissaries of Christianity and civilization, the Tlaxcalans jealously guarded their autonomy and their residential segregation from other peoples.

Sources: Sean F. McEnroe, “From Colony to Nationhood in Mexico” (2012); Sean F. McEnroe, “Spain’s Tlaxcalan Vassals: Citizenship and State Formation on Mexico’s Northern Frontier (2009: UC Berkeley Dissertation).



# TLAXCALANS COLONIES OF THE NORTH

## Examples of Tlaxcalan Settlements in Northern Mexico

Place	State	Known Years of Settlement
San Esteban de la Nueva Tlaxcala (near Saltillo)	Coahuila	1591, 1766 & 1777
Santa Maria de las Parras Tizatlan	Coahuila	1598
San Cristóbal de Los Hualahuises	Nuevo Leon	1646 & 1715
San Juan de Tlaxcala (near Cadereyta)	Nuevo Leon	1646
San Antonio de los Llanos (near Hidalgo)	Tamaulipas	1663
San Miguel de Aguayo (Bustamante)	Nuevo Leon	1666 & 1686
San Francisco de la Nueva Tlaxcala (near Monclova)	Coahuila	1675, 1690 & 1766
Nuestra Señora de La Punta de los Lampazos	Nuevo Leon	1698
Nadadores	Coahuila	1693 & 1733
La Purificación and La Concepción (in the Valle del Pilón, Montemorelos)	Nuevo Leon	1715

Sources: Tomas Martínez Saldaña, "La Expansión Tlaxcalteca al Septentrión Colonial Novohispano" (2000); David Bergen Adams, *The Tlaxcalan Colonies of Spanish Coahuila, Nuevo Leon* (1971); Eugene B. Segó, "Six Tlaxcalan Colonies on New Spain's Northern Frontier: A Comparison of Success and Failure" (Ph.D. Dissertation: Indiana University, 1990).

# TLAXCALANS IN SALTILLO

Tlaxcalans were proud of their autonomous communities and maintained their identity throughout the colonial period. Here, in the Tlaxcalan parish church, **San Esteban del Saltillo de la Nueva Tlascala**, in 1684, two **“indios Tlascaltecos”** from the barrio of Concepción baptized their son, Juan. The baptisms of San Esteban Protomártir go back to 1673, while marriages go back to 1713. The records for the main Saltillo church start in 1684 (baptisms) and 1703 (marriages).

Juan indio tlascal  
Mecico

Fra. Lorenzo Nieto

Por veinte y nueve de Enero de año de mil seiscientos y ochenta y quatro, Baptise y puso los Obis. D. Hieronimo, en esta Iglesia Parochial de los naturales de S. Esteban del Saltillo de la Nueva Tlascala, a Juan hijo de Fran. Martin de Melchora Juana indios Tlascaltecos del barrio de la Concepcion fueron sus Padres Matrias de chabes. Y M. Ramon a los quales di' entender el parentesco espiritual que abian contraido con su lejado P. y madre del dicho, y la obligacion que tenian de doctrinarlos. Se Baptizo al dicho Juan

firmes de  
Fra. Lorenzo Nieto

# NUEVO LEON



**Nuevo Leon is the 13th largest state.**

**Area: 64,156 square km.**

**Percent of Mexico's Territory: 3.3%**

**No. of Municipios: 51**

**2010 Population: 5.1 million inhabitants**

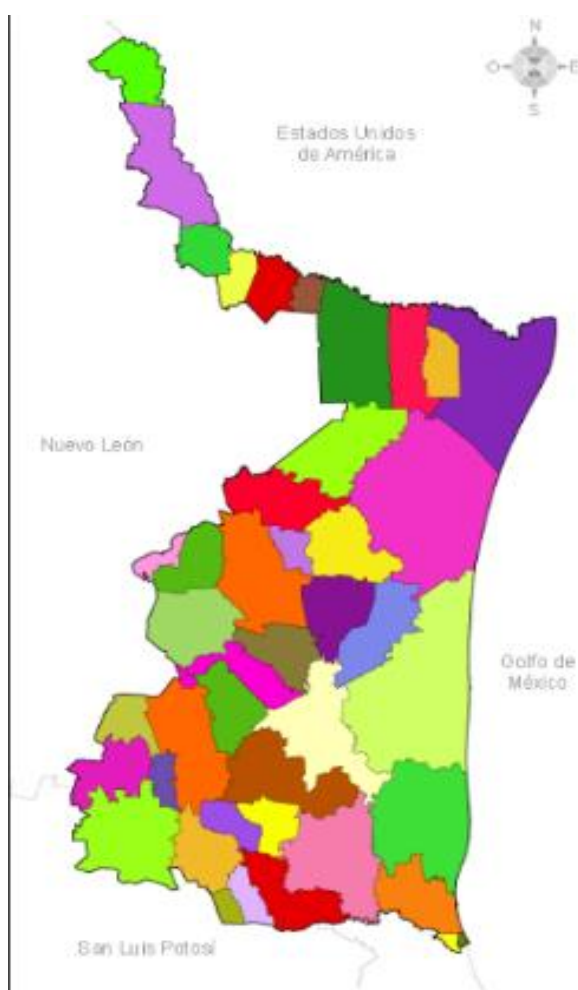
**Percent of Mexican Population: 4.3%**

**Capital: Monterrey**

**In 2010, Monterrey had a population of 1,135,512, representing almost one-fifth (22.5%) of the state's total population.**

**Nuevo Leon's municipios have good coverage in the FHL, with many civil registration records going back to the 1860s. Church records for 35 Nuevo Leon parishes are available, many of which go back to the 1700s. **Los Bejarenos has 15 Coahuila publications (indexes, censuses, protocols), six of which are for Monterrey, where the Catholic Church records go back to 1667.****

# TAMAULIPAS



**Tamaulipas Leon is the 6th largest state.**

**Area: 80,249 square km.**

**Percent of Mexico's Territory: 4.1%**

**No. of Municipios: 43**

**2010 Population: 3.4 million inhabitants**

**Percent of Mexican Population: 2.9%**

**Capital: Ciudad Victoria**

**In 2010, Ciudad Victoria had a population of 305,155, representing 8.9% of the state's total population.**

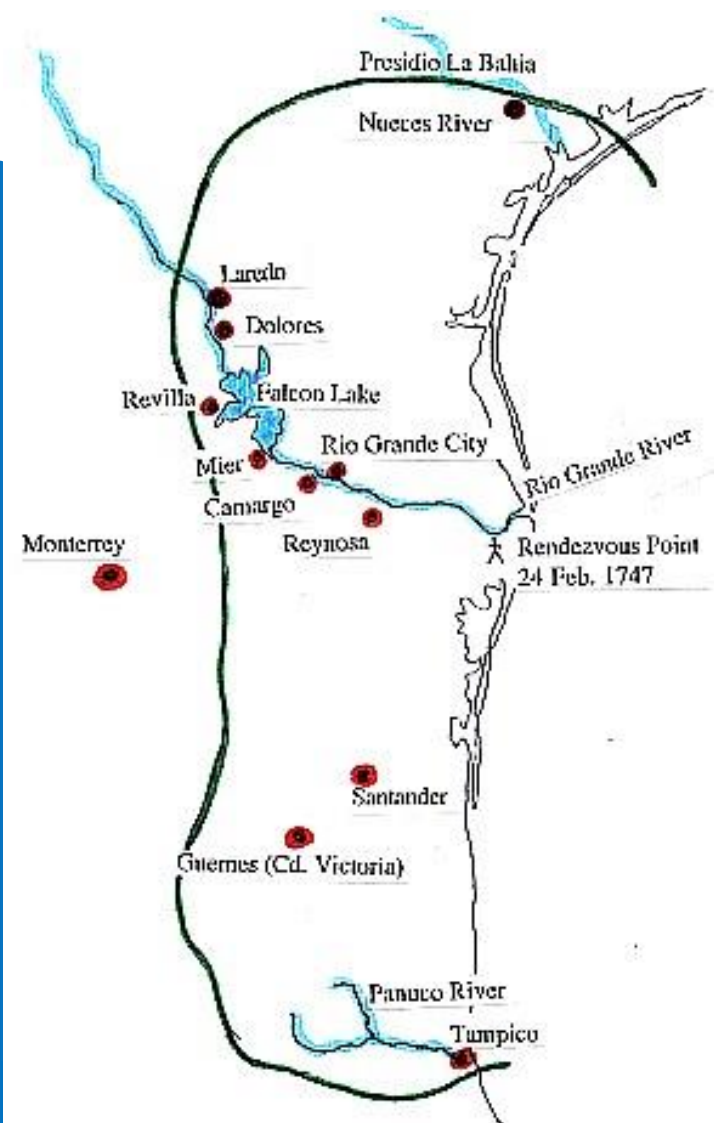
**The FHL has civil records for nearly all of Tamaulipas' municipios, and most of those records go back to the 1870s and 1880s. The FHL has Catholic Church records for 28 Tamaulipas cities and towns, of which more than half reach back to the 1700s. Ciudad Victoria's church records go back to 1751, while Tampico's start in 1740 (with their baptisms from 1894 to 1934 indexed on microfilm by the FHL).**

# NUEVO SANTANDER

**Nuevo Santander** was established by Jose de Escandon, who recruited successful farmers and ranchers in northern Mexico to move to land along the Rio Grande. The initial caravan was headed by Escandon and left Queretaro in December 1748; it was comprised of 750 soldiers and 2500 colonizers.

**Between 1747-1755, the Spanish created 23 towns and 15 missions straddled along the Rio Grande River.**

In all, 6,000 colonists took up residence in this region. By 1800, Nuevo Santander had one city, 25 villas, 3 mining districts, 17 haciendas, 437 ranchos and eight missions – and consisted of about 30,000 people. Many famous Tejano families – de la Guerra, de la Pena, Benavidez, Villarreal, Leal, Montemayor, Longoria, Trevino and Guerra – were part of the original settlements.



# FUNDADORES DE NUEVA SANTANDER

Villas del Norte de Tamaulipas	First Census	FHL Church Baptisms Begin	FHL Church Marriages Begin	FHL Civil Registration Begins
Aguayo (Ciudad Victoria)	October 3, 1750	1751	1752	1860
Burgos	July 5, 1750	1834	1750	1860
Camargo	May 31, 1750	1796	1751	1800
Cruillas	May 10, 1766	1767	1822	1872
Laredo (U.S.)	July 23, 1757	1789	1791	N.A.
Mier	March 1, 1753	1767	1767	1860
Revilla (Guerrero)	January 25, 1753	1751	1753	1874
Reynosa*	June 16, 1750	N.A.	N.A.	1860
San Fernando	July 15, 1750	1812	1755	1874
Santander (Jimenez)	Sept. 3, 1750	1749	1771	1769
Soto La Marina	August 27, 1750	1831	1831	1791

Sources: Guillermo Garamendia L., "Fundadores de Tamaulipas, 1748-1770" (1991: Monterrey); Family History Library: Tamaulipas Records.

\* Reynosa was destroyed by a flood in Sept. 1800 and a new church was not built until 1810. Borderlandsbooks sells "Libro de Matrimonios de Reynosa, 1790-1811," written by Mario J. Davila.



# NORTHEASTERN INDIANS

In Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon and Coahuila, many Indians are referred to with the generic term “indio” or “india.” Some are specifically called “indios de este pueblo” (or mission). But others may be referred to by a tribal group. In the June 1732 marriage record from Tula, Tamaulipas, a Yndio Chichimeco man is getting married to an Yndia Chichimeca woman from the “Nacion Pisona.” Tula is in southwestern Tamaulipas next to SLP. In a few towns, one tribal group may be abundant in the records (i.e., Pames in Santander Jimenez, Tamaulipas).

En el año del Sr. de Setecientos y Treinta y dos día ocho del mes de Junio en esta N.ª P.ª Parrochia de S. S. Ant. de Tula, habiendo precedido las tres amonestaciones que dispone el Sr. Concilio de Trento y en virtud de este Indio Chichimeco de este Pueblo llamado Juan de Exe.ª y Yndia Chichimeca de Nacion Pisona llamada Maria Rosa de la Cruz y de Domingo de la Cruz, hijos de Pedro Christiano y Felipe de la Cruz, Sebastian de la Cruz, y Ju. Ant. de la Cruz, mas otros de este Pueblo y posej. ante lo firme enato día mes y año

Ju. Ant. de Torre Blanca

# ANCESTRY.COM: MEXICAN CIVIL RECORDS

Ancestry.com now offers an impressive collection of Mexican civil registration for births, marriages and deaths from 1861 to the 1950s and 1960s.

Name:	Antonio Dávila Martínez
Gender:	Hombre (Male)
Age:	25
Birth Year:	abt 1895
Registration or Marriage Date:	17 abr. 1920 (17 Apr 1920)
Registration or Marriage Place:	Saltillo, Coahuila (Coahuila de Zaragoza), México (Mexico)
Spouse:	Maria Dolores Olivares
Father:	Rafael Dávila
Mother:	Francisca Martinez

The collection “Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas, Mexico, Selected Parish Records, 1751-1880” includes marriage, baptism, and death records from nine Mexican parishes:

Nuevo Leon	Nuevo Leon	Tamaulipas	Tamaulipas
Agualeguas	Sabina Hidalgo	Camargo	Matamoros
Cadereyta	Vallecillo	Guerrero	Mier
Cerralvo			

# THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG



Family Tree

Search

Memories

Indexing

Records

Family Tree

Genealogies

Catalog

Books

Wiki

## FamilySearch Catalog

Always check this catalog for the availability of records for your ancestral town or hacienda. If you do not find anything, search for the nearest-known town or the capital of the municipio your town is in (as noted on your Guia Roji map).

<https://familysearch.org/catalog-search>

You can search by the following criteria:

- Place Name (City, Municipio)
- Last Names (Surname)
- Titles (of books or microfilm)
- Authors
- Subjects
- Keywords (you can combine Places and Surnames)

# SEARCHING INDIVIDUAL INDEXES

## Santa Cruz (Rosales), Chihuahua Catalog Entry

### Subjects

#### Locality Subjects

[Mexico, Chihuahua, Rosales - Church records](#)

[Mexico, Chihuahua, Saucillo - Church records](#)

The magnifying glass by three films below means those films can be searched individually.

Location

Family History Library

### Film Notes (This family history center has 8 of 8 films/fiche.)

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film/DGS	Format
Bautismos 1767-1780, 1798-1811, 1816-1830, 1841-1863	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	International B1 High Density	162577	 
Bautismos 1863-1877	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	International B1 High Density	162578 Items 1-3	 
Confirmaciones, 1873-1930	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	International B1 High Density	162578 Item 4	 
Bautismos 1888-1891 y 1881-1886 (fuera de orden), 1877-1880, 1891-1921	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	International Film	162579	
Bautismos 1921-1953	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	International Film	162580	

# THE DRSW DATABASE: A VALUABLE RESOURCE

The University of Arizona's "**Documentary Relations of the Southwest**" consists of a master index to several collections of Spanish colonial documents. It includes:

**THE BIOFILE**: a biographical listing of nearly 20,000 persons living in the greater Southwest and northern "New Spain" in centuries past.

[Collections](#) › [Documentary Relations of the Southwest](#) › [Biofile](#) › [Browse by name](#)

## Browse by name

- Choose - ▼

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- [AC](#) (101)
- [AD](#) (4)
- [AG](#) (119)
- [AH](#) (6)
- [AI](#) (3)
- [AL](#) (376)
- [AM](#) (55)
- [AN](#) (122)
- [AP](#) (51)
- [AQ](#) (4)
- [AR](#) (473)
- [AS](#) (22)
- [AT](#) (15)
- [AU](#) (5)
- [AV](#) (42)

# DRSW BIOFILE: SEARCHING FOR INDIVIDUALS

<a href="#">Name</a> ▲	<a href="#">Birth</a>	<a href="#">Death</a>
<a href="#">ZALDIVAR, FRANCISCO ANTONIO BERNARDINO</a>		
<a href="#">ZALDIVAR, JOSEPH</a>		
<a href="#">ZALDIVAR, JUAN DE</a>	N.D.: GUADALAJARA, SPAIN	1598 Dec: ACOMA/KILLED BY INDIANS
<a href="#">ZALDIVAR, PEDRO</a>		
<a href="#">ZALDIVAR, VICENTE</a>		
<a href="#">ZALDIVAR, VICENTE DE</a>	N.D.: ZACATECAS	
<a href="#">ZAMBRANO ORTIZ, PEDRO</a>	1586: CANARY ISLANDS	
<a href="#">ZAMBRANO, CIPRIANO</a>	1757: PINOS (SIERRA DE)	
<a href="#">ZAMBRANO, JOSE MARIA</a>	1766: SAN FERNANDO	
<a href="#">ZAMBRANO, JUAN JOSE</a>		1818: N.P.
<a href="#">ZAMBRANO, MANUEL</a>	N.D.: MEXICO CITY	
<a href="#">ZAMBRANO, PATRICIO</a>	1748: PINOS (SIERRA)	
<a href="#">ZAMBRANO, PEDRO</a>	1762: SAN FERNANDO	
<a href="#">ZAMBRANO, PEDRO</a>	1596: VILLA DE RIBERA, EXTREMADURA-ESPANA	1652 Sep 28: SANTA CRUZ DE MAYO, SINALOA

# DRSW BIOFILE: SURNAME GROUPINGS

<a href="#">MOLINA, GASPAR DE</a>	1723: BALAGUER, CATALONIA, SPAIN	
<a href="#">MOLINA, GUADALUPE</a>	N.D.: N.P.	
<a href="#">MOLINA, JOSE</a>	1748: N.P.	
<a href="#">MOLINA, JOSE FRANCISCO JAVIER</a>	1694: ANTEQUERA, ANDALUCIA - ESPANA	1741 Apr 21: SANTO TOMAS DE LOS TARAHUMARES
<a href="#">MOLINA, JOSE JOAQUIN</a>	N.D.: LA CIENEGA (SAN PABLO)	
<a href="#">MOLINA, JOSEPH</a>		
<a href="#">MOLINA, JOSEPH</a>	1732: N.P.	
<a href="#">MOLINA, JOSEPH JOAQUIN</a>	N.D.: LA CIENEGA	
<a href="#">MOLINA, JOSEPHA DE</a>	N.D.: SAN BARTOLOME	1720 Jun 09: PARRAL

# DRSW: SAMPLE CITATION: MILITARY RECORDS

PORTILLO, MIGUEL

**BID Number:** 16100

**Birth:** 1771: CIENEGA DE LOS OLIVAS (CHIHUAHUA)

**Notes:** TWENTY-THREE YEARS, TWO MONTHS AND SEVEN DAYS OF MILITARY SERVICE IN FIRST AND THIRD FLYING COMPANIES AND IN THE PRESIDIAL COMPANY OF SANTA FE. PARTICIPATED IN THREE CAMPAIGNS AND VARIOUS SALLIES RESULTING IN DEATHS OF TWENTY-NINE INDIANS OF BOTH SEXES AND RECOVERING ONE-HUNDRED- THIRTY MOUNTS.

**Occupation:** 1812 Dec 31: SANTA FE (PRESIDIO)/DON, (SECOND) ALFEREZ

1788 Oct 24: N.P./SOLDADO

1797 Nov 10: N.P./RIFLEMAN (CARABINERO)

1798 Jun 01: N.P./CABO

1800 Jan 01: N.P./SARGENTO

1809 Jan 26: N.P./ALFEREZ

**Source:** PRIMARY SOURCE

**Sources:** AZU FILM 2182, SANM REEL 17, FR. 0339, 0647.



# FINDING PASAJEROS A INDIAS

The Index of the Lists of Passengers from Spain to the Americas (1509-1559). Each volume of the Catálogos has an index of pasajeros either at the end or the beginning of the book (or film). The years 1560 to 1599 have been published in book form and are available in some libraries. To access the Pasajeros, go to the Familysearch.org catalog:

1. Go to Spain
2. Go to this subtopic: Spain - Emigration and immigration ( 75), and go to the second entry.
3. Direct Link:  
<https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/349326?availability=Family%20History%20Library>










Vol. 1. (1509-1534)	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	International Film	277577 Item 1	
Vol. 2. (1535-1538)	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	International Film	277577 Item 2	
Vol. 3. (1539-1559) .	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	International Film	277578	
OTRA FILMACION . Vol. 1 (1509-1534)	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	International Film	1410933 Item 4	
Vol. 2. (1535-1539)	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	International Film	1410933 Item 5	
Vol. 3. (1539-1559)	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	International Film	1410934 Item 1	

# FINDING THE ORIGINALS

Also under **Spain: Emigration and Immigration: Pasajeros a Indias: Libros de asientos** – These are the originals of the passengers to the Americas. The online FHL films run from 1509 to 1701:

<https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/20763?availability=Family%20History%20Library>

Film Notes (This family history center has 22 of 22 films/fiche.)

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film/DGS	Format
Legajo 5536, libros 1-4, años 1509-1542	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	International Film	1223690	
Legajo 5536, libros 5 al fin, años 1536-1542	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	International Film	1223691	
Legajo 5537, libros 1-2, años 1553-1562	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	International Film	1223692	
Legajo 5537, libros 3 al fin, años 1553-1571	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	International Film	1223693	
Legajo 5538, libros 1-2, años 1576-1620	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	International B1 High Density	1223694	
Legajo 5538, libros 3 al fin, años 1590-1591	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	International Film	1223695	
Legajo 5539, libros 1-2, años 1607-1625	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	International Film	1223696	
Legajo 5539, libros 3,5, años 1621-1675	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	International B1 High Density	1223697	
Legajo 5540(A), libros 1-2, años 1661-1681	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	International Film	1223698	

# FINDING PASAJEROS THROUGH THE PARES DATABASE

PARES (Portal of Spanish Archives) In this portal you can find many kinds documents, including passengers to the Indies up to 1820. The website is at this link:

<http://pares.mcu.es/>

Select the Simple Search option (Búsqueda Sencilla). A search example for “Terrazas” in the Pasajeros collection:



Ayuda

Buscar : pasajero a indias: terrazas

Fecha: desde 1620 hasta 1640

Todos los registros  Registros digitalizados  Registros no digitalizados

La búsqueda mostrará los 100 resultados más relevantes

Limpiar formulario Buscar

# PARES PASAJEROS RESULTS PAGE

	TÍTULO	SIGNATURA	FECHA CREACIÓN	FECHA FORMACIÓN	DIG.
<input type="checkbox"/>	ANDRES DE TERRAZAS	CONTRATACION,5225B,N.40		1576-4-19	
<input type="checkbox"/>	DIEGO DE TERRAZAS DELGADILLO	CONTRATACION,5239,N.2,R.2		1592-1-27	
<input type="checkbox"/>	JUAN DE TERRAZAS	CONTRATACION,5276A,N.49		1603-2-5	
<input type="checkbox"/>	JUAN DE TERRAZAS	CONTRATACION,5331,N.49		1613-6-27	
<input type="checkbox"/>	MARIA DE TERRAZAS	CONTRATACION,5272,N.1,R.75		1602-6-4	
<input type="checkbox"/>	HERNANDO MARTIN	CONTRATACION,5272,N.1,R.76		1602-6-5	
<input type="checkbox"/>	LUCAS GOMEZ RONQUILLO	CONTRATACION,5242,N.1,R.26		1593-1-30	

## Sample Citation from the Above Results: Maria de Terrazas (June 4, 1602):

Expediente de información y licencia de pasajero a indias de ***María de Terrazas, vecina de Talavera***, hija de Pedro de la Barreda y María de Terrazas, viuda de Diego de Frías Roldán, con sus hijas Francisca de Frías y María de Terrazas, vecinas de Talavera, a Nueva España.

Talavera is in Toledo, España.