POLICING in Mexico

State and municipal police per 100,000 population

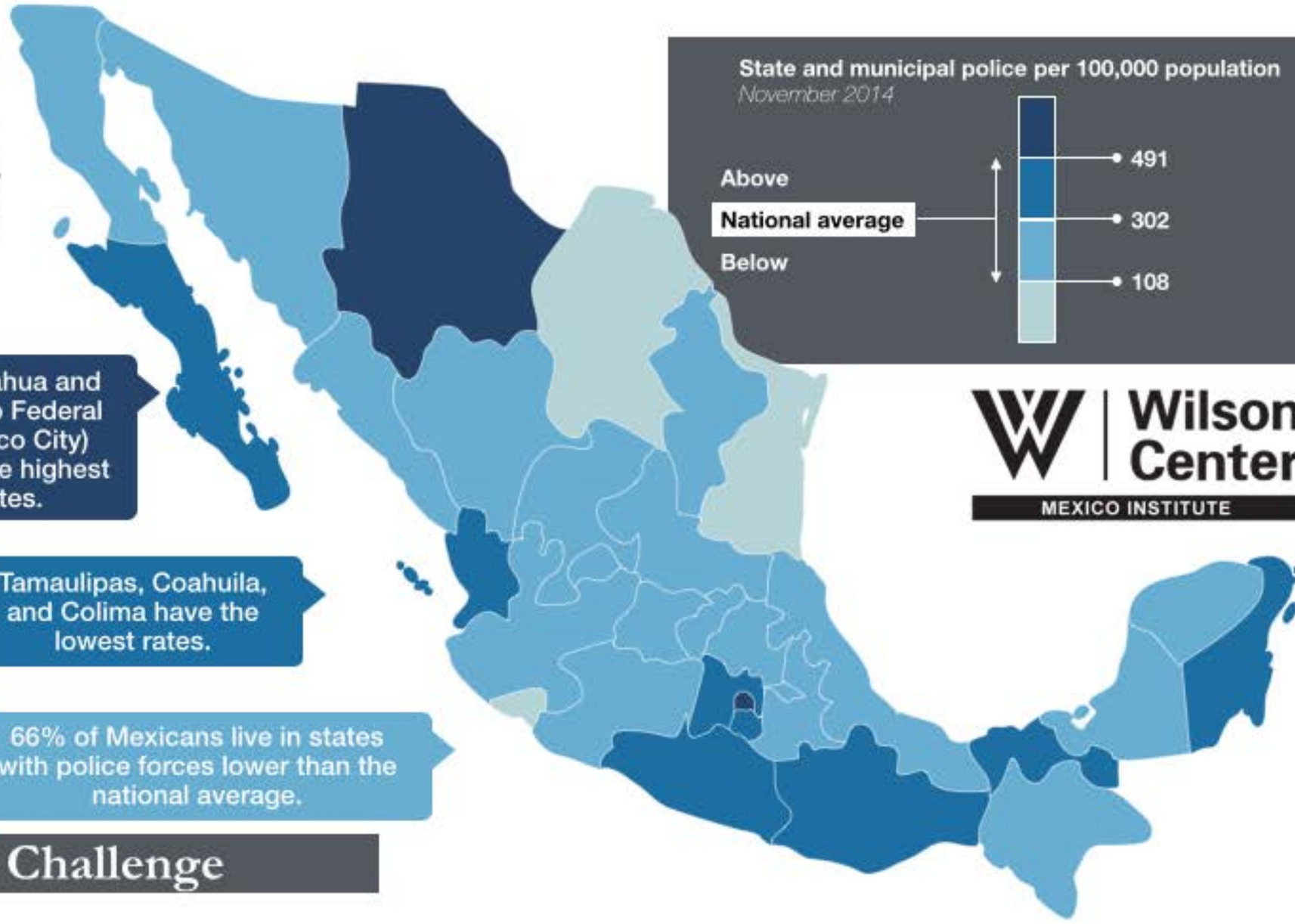
State	Police forces	Rate
Chihuahua	6,188	951
Distrito Federal	84,111	950
México	73,361	483
Chiapas	12,936	471
Baja California Sur	2,789	438
Quintana Roo	5,602	423
Tabasco	8,223	367
Guerrero	11,596	342
Nayarit	3,376	311
Morelos	5,467	308
Yucatán	5,819	298
San Luis Potosí	7,540	292
Sinaloa	7,530	272
Hidalgo	7,151	268
Baja California	8,090	256
Oaxaca	9,722	256
Nuevo León	11,811	254
Jalisco	18,231	248
Campeche	1,946	237
Querétaro	4,208	230
Aguascalientes	2,718	229
Tlaxcala	2,636	225
Veracruz	16,534	216
Michoacán	8,917	205
Puebla	11,333	196
Guanajuato	10,251	187
Sonora	4,553	171
Zacatecas	2,499	168
Durango	2,475	152
Tamaulipas	3,427	105
Coahuila	4,759	99
Colima	2,240	66

Above national average

Below national average

Methodological notes:

1) For the heat map, the thresholds for each segment were decided according to the standard deviation from the national average. The source for all the information was the *Sistema Nacional de Seguridad Pública*.
2) United Nations data from the Criminal Justice System Resources (http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/statistics/crime.html)



Wilson Center
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The Challenge

Trust in authorities, in particular police, is a **key driver for a permanent rule of law.**

Among the challenges that Mexico has both at the local and the federal levels is building capable and trustable police forces and **increasing the quality and skills of the law enforcement personnel.**

On the other side, it is also a matter of quantity. According to data from the United Nations, the average police force rate is around 328 per 100,000 population and Mexico has 355 if all forces are counted (i.e. Federal Police, Gendarmerie, and other special forces plus local agencies).

However, **at the local level, the situation is neither homogeneous nor encouraging. The national average is 302 policemen. Only 9 states have a rate higher than the national average, whereas 3 states have less than 108 police forces per 100,000 population.**