



Mexican Spanish Children's Speech Development

SPANISH (Mexican)

Multilingual Children's Speech Development

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Spanish (Mexican) Authors

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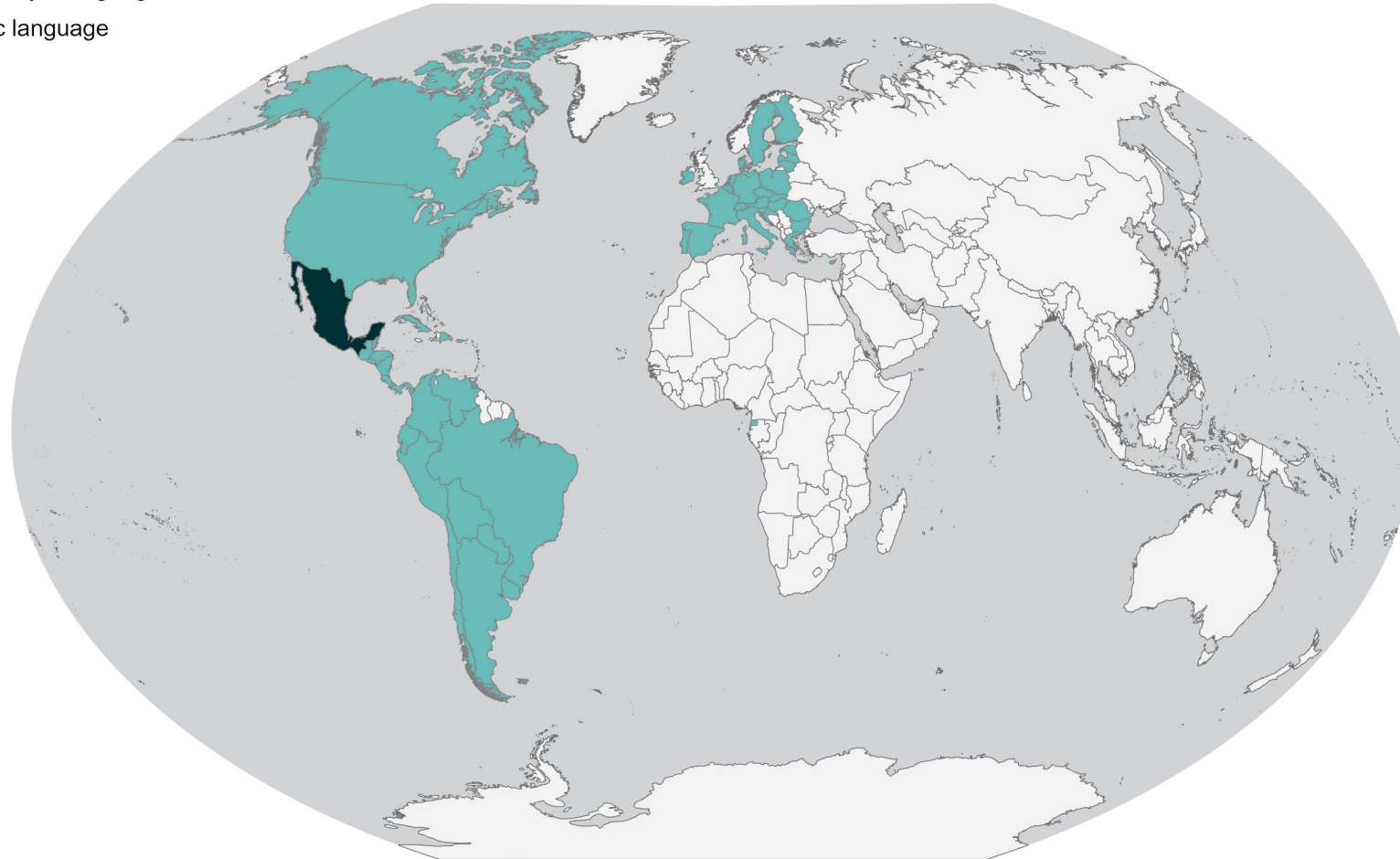
Source: Chávez-Peón, M. & Auza B., A. (forthcoming). Spanish (Mexican) speech development. In S. McLeod (Ed.). *The Oxford handbook of speech development in languages of the world*. Oxford University Press.

Spanish (Mexican)

- **Commonly spoken in**
 - Mexico, Spain, Latin and South American countries
- **Dialects and variants**
 - Mexican, Iberic, Peruvian, Colombian and each of all South American countries
- **Writing**
 - Left to right. Latin alphabet (Roman script).
 - Spanish does not have tones

Spanish (Mexican) Map

- Official / major language
- Diasporic language



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Spanish (Mexican) Speech Components

- **Consonants (17):** /p, t, k; b, d, g; s, f, x; ʝ; m, n, ɲ; l; tʃ, r, r/
- **Consonant clusters (many):** /pr, br, tr, dr, kr, gr, pl, bl, kl, gl/
- **Vowels (5):** /i, e, a, o, u/;
rising diphthongs /ua, ue, uo, ia, ie, io/
falling diphthongs /ai, ei, oi, au, eu, ou, iu, ui/
- **Tones (0):** Not applicable
- **Phonotactic restrictions:** $C_{(0-2)}V_{(0-1)}C_{(0-2)}$
- **Prosody:** Spanish stress position varies within different syllables and is lexically contrastive. Spanish has been described as a quantity-sensitive language with trochaic rhythm. Sentences typically have falling intonation and questions typically have rising intonation (Martin, 2019).

Spanish (Mexican) Age of Acquisition

- **Consonants**
 - Early /1;6/ Middle /3;0/ Late /5;0/
- **Consonant clusters**
 - 3;5
- **Vowels**
 - 1;0
- **Tones**
 - None

Spanish (Mexican) Speech Development

- **Percentage correct**
 - 90% consonants correct by 5 years of age
- **Intelligibility**
 - To date there is no study of Mexican Spanish-speaking children's intelligibility
- **Common phonological patterns**
 - Stopping (e.g., mesa /'mesa/ → ['meta]),
 - Fronting (e.g., cabeza /kabesa/ → [ta'beta])
 - Backing where back vowels intervene in changing the point of articulation of [p], [b] and [f] to [k], [g] y [x], respectively: puerta /puerta/ → [kwérta] 'door'; jugando /xugando/ → [xubando] 'playing';
 - Long-distance assimilation (consonant harmony)
 - Regressive: vamos /'bamos/ → ['mamoθ] 'let's go', dormir /dor'mir/ → [no'mi] 'to sleep'
 - Progressive: nube /'nube/ → ['nume] 'cloud' (Flores & Ramírez, 2016; Oropeza, 2021)

Spanish (Mexican) Children with Speech Sound Disorders

■ Also called

- trastorno de los sonidos del habla → speech sound disorder
- trastorno fonológico → phonological disorder
- problema de articulación → articulation disorder
- apraxia del Desarrollo → childhood apraxia of speech
- disartria → dysarthria

■ Research has focused on

- Assessment, transcription, interventions
- Phonological acquisition, phonological comorbidity, phonetic/phonological assessment, cleft lip and palate (CLP)

■ Studies (examples)

- Dos mediciones de producción fonológica para la identificación de comorbilidad y grado de severidad en los Trastornos de los Sonidos del Habla en niños mexicanos (Auza et al., under revision)

Spanish (Mexican) Speech Assessments

- **Bilingual English-Spanish Assessment (BESA) (phonology subtest)**
Peña, E. D., Gutiérrez-Clellen, V. F., Iglesias, A., Goldstein, B. A., & Bedore, L. M. (2014)
AR-Clinical Publications
- **PLS-5: Preschool Language Scales**, Fifth edition, Spanish edition
Zimmerman, I. L., Steiner, V. G., & Pond, R. E. (2012), Pearson
- **Manual técnico de la Prueba de evaluación fonética-fonológica – PEFF**, adaptación mexicana (Susánibar & Auza, in process). Susanibar, F., & Dioses, A., (2022)
Manual técnico de la Prueba de evaluación fonética-fonológica – PEFF, versión 1.0. GIUNTIEOS
- **Goldman-Fristoe Test of Articulation**, Third Edition, Spanish
Goldman, R., & Fristoe, M.(2017). Pearson

Spanish (Mexican) Speech Interventions

- Mostly, traditional articulation therapy and phonetic and/or phonological intervention
- The complexity-based approach (Rvachew & Bernhardt, 2010; Storkel, 2018) has been employed with Spanish-speaking children for some time

Reference

Book chapter

- Chávez-Péon, M. & Auza, B. (forthcoming). Spanish (Mexican) speech development. In S. McLeod (Ed.). *The Oxford handbook of speech development in languages of the world*. Oxford University Press.

Presentation

- Auza, B., & Chávez-Peón, M. (2023). *Spanish (Mexican): Multilingual children's speech development*. Charles Sturt University, Australia.
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