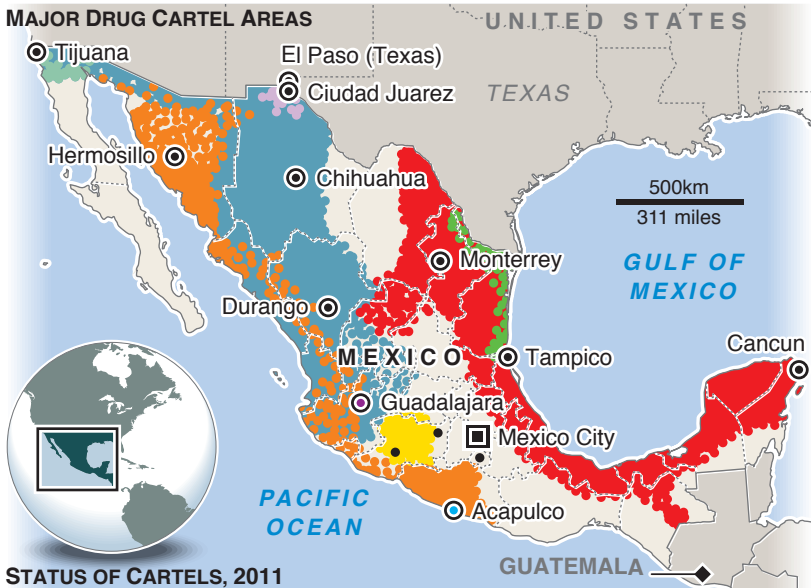


New top dog in Mexico's drug cartels

Los Zetas has toppled *Sinaloa Federation* to become Mexico's biggest drug cartel, preferring brutal violence to the latter's bribery and corruption. Most smaller drug gangs have been subsumed by either *Los Zetas* or *Sinaloa*, turning them into the predominant criminal forces in the country

MAJOR DRUG CARTEL AREAS



STATUS OF CARTELS, 2011

Los Zetas

Now operates in 17 states. No major territory loss

Sinaloa Federation

Lost security chief and main arms supplier

Gulf Cartel

Weakened by infighting. Allied to *Sinaloa*

La Familia Michoacana

Eclipsed by *Knights Templar*

Knights Templar

New cartel, allied to *Sinaloa*

Independent Cartel of Acapulco

Damaged by leader's arrest

Cartel de Jalisco Nueva Generacion

Allied to *Sinaloa*

Juarez Cartel

Weak but controls main entry points to *El Paso*

Cartel Pacifico Sur

Quieter of late. Allies of *Los Zetas*

Arellano Felix Organisation

Reluctant subsidiary of *Sinaloa*

DRUG-RELATED HOMICIDES

Total since 2007: **Likely to top 50,000**



Source: Stratfor

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