Abstract
This article analyzes the evolution of income wage inequality, measured by the Gini coefficient, in 12 urban areas of Mexico—by population and state gross domestic product (GDP)—from 1987 to 2002, and the relationship with other variables associated with the process of economic liberalization, such as commercial openness (CO), exports, foreign direct investment (FDI), and GDP by state manufacturer. We contrast the relationship between variables with the Kuznets' inverse "U" hypothesis using panel data analysis, cross section and time series in the regional analysis (urban zones and federal states).

Keywords
Wage inequality, economic liberalization, urban areas, Gini coefficient, Urban Employment National Survey.