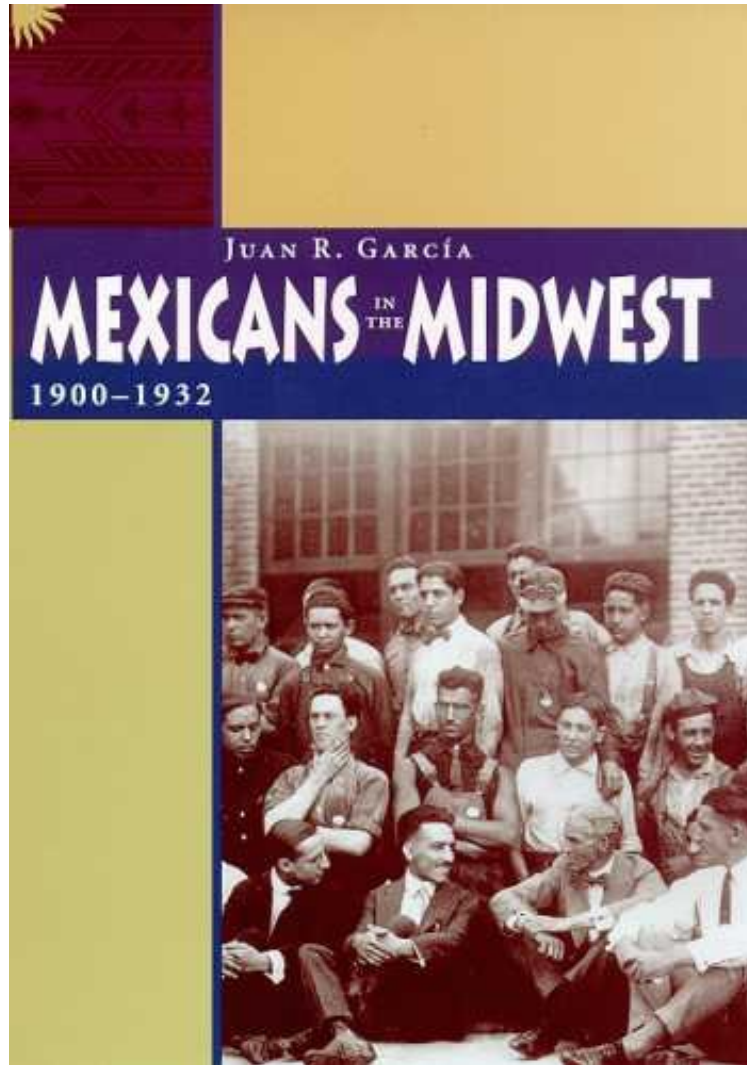


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Mexicans in the Midwest, 1900-1932

Juan R. Garca

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Juan R. Garca : Mexicans in the Midwest, 1900-1932 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mexicans in the Midwest, 1900-1932:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An extensive and meticulous academic studyBy Midwest Book ReviewMexicans In The Midwest 1900-1932 by Juan R. Garcia (Head of the Department of History, University of Arizona) is a scholarly examination of Mexican migration to the American Midwest, and the conditions under which the migrants lived, including (but not limited to) poor, overcrowded, or virtually nonexistent housing and racial discrimination. An extensive and meticulous academic study of everything from songs and poetry to (often brutal) labor conditions, citizenship issues, and so much more, Mexicans In The Midwest 1900-1932 is a confidently

recommended and fact-filled contribution which has earned a welcome entry in to scholarly and academic library American Regional History and Chicano/American Cultural Studies reference collections.

Early in this century, a few Mexican migrants began streaming northward into the Midwest, but by 1914--in response to the war in Europe and a booming U.S. economy--the stream had become a flood. Barely a generation later, this so-called Immigrant Generation of Mexicans was displaced and returned to the U.S. Southwest or to Mexico. Drawing on both published works and archival materials, this new study considers the many factors that affected the process of immigration as well as the development of communities in the region. These include the internal forces of religion, ethnic identity, and a sense of nationalism, as well as external influences such as economic factors, discrimination, and the vagaries of U.S.-Mexico relations. Here is a book that persuasively challenges many prevailing assumptions about Mexican people and the communities they established in the Midwest. The author notes the commonalities and differences between Mexicans in that region and their compadres who settled elsewhere. He further demonstrates that although Mexicans in the Midwest maintained a strong sense of cultural identity, they were quick to adopt the consumer culture and other elements of U.S. life that met their needs. Focusing on a people, place, and time rarely covered before now, this wide-ranging work will be welcomed by scholars and students of history, sociology, and Chicano studies. General readers interested in ethnic issues and the multicultural fabric of American society will find here a window to the past as well as new perspectives for understanding the present and the future.

"A must for scholars in the field of Mexican American studies. . . . A gripping narrative of the beginning of the Mexican migration to the Midwest and the conditions under which these migrants lived. He describes social and economic forces that shaped their lives, such as discrimination and overcrowded housing, as well as the mechanisms through which they survived." #151;Choice"Will be of great interest to scholars and students with diverse interests. . . . A 'must read' for students of Latin American, United States, and regional history; ethnic and diplomatic history; and those persons wishing to learn more about Mexicans in the Midwestern United States." #151;Journal of the West"An important book on a significant and neglected topic . . . Garcia's work takes a fundamental step in recording the part Mexicans played in the development of the Midwest." #151;Great Plains Quarterly"A solid general treatment of a Mexican generation in the Midwest and is sure to be widely consulted by both scholars and a general audience." #151;Journal of History