

TABLE 6
TOTAL APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT
(000 of dollars)

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1994p
Production	4,907	5,215	8,504	9,354	10,976
+Imports	5,214	12,494	23,664	26,823	37,392
-Exports	858	1,078	1,323	1,661	2,745
TOTAL	9,263	16,631	30,845	34,516	45,623

3.2.1 IMPORTS

Mexico is highly dependent on imports in this branch, since local production is limited to a small number of relatively simple tools. and, in general, repair shops prefer imported equipment and tools due to their quality and reliability. This is shown in the fact that, in 1990, imports of equipment amounted to \$26.8 million, representing a 79% share of the total market, as opposed to a local production of only \$9.3 million. In 1989, imports amounted to \$23.7 million, or 77% of total demand. By 1994, they are expected to grow to \$37.4 million.

TABLE 7
IMPORTS OF MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT
(000 of dollars)

	1987	1988	1989	1990
Car washing machines	942	2,944	5,192	3,997
Wheel alignment systems	684	1,229	2,044	1,525
Jacks and hoists	156	1,090	977	1,274
Tyre removing equipment	181	383	516	673
Compressors	40	90	168	152
*General purpose equipment	1,427	2,670	4,900	6,604
Gas analyzers	267	1,592	6,905	8,796
Ignition analyzers	392	582	303	366
Motor checking apparatus	43	312	1,036	1,764
*General purpose instruments	1,082	1,602	1,623	1,627
TOTAL	5,214	12,494	23,664	26,778

* Note: General purpose equipment includes wrenches, pneumatic and hydraulic tools. General purpose instruments include oscilloscopes and multimeters.

Specially important were imports of gas analyzers, which grew over threefold, from \$1.6 million dollars in 1988 to \$6.9 million in 1989, and another 27% in 1990, basically as a result of the need for equipment to verify polluting levels. Car washing machinery imports also grew significantly, from \$2.9 to \$6.9 million dollars, at a rate of 76.4%, but decreased again in 1990.