

High-density Polyethylene	%	Polyvinyl Chloride	%
Home articles	37	Pipes and tubes	29
Large containers	19	Bottles	13
Boxes	12	Flexible film	11
Leisure	8	Decoration	9
Food containers	6	Shoes	8
Industrial	6	Cable	5
Pharmaceuticals	5	Profiles and hoses	5
Medium containers	4	Textile coverings	4
Other	3	Rigid film	3
		Other	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: *Asociación Nacional de la Industria Química (ANIQ)*, National Association of the Chemical Industry.

## COMPETITION

*Domestic firms can supply most of Mexico's basic plastic products, but the industry relies on imports for a wide variety of advanced materials.*

American and European suppliers are the most important competition for Canada in Mexican plastics markets. Mexican manufacturers of finished and semi-finished plastics products are able to supply the market for lower-end products, but the nation relies on imports for more sophisticated ones. Similarly, in the case of resins, Mexico has a large production capability in the traditional commodity resins, but is dependent on imports for the newer and more sophisticated products.

Domestic producers of resins and materials have responded to the increased demand with new production capacity. For example, there was no polypropylene produced in Mexico until 1991, when *Petróleos Mexicanos (PEMEX)*, the national oil company, began production. By 1992, imports of this product had been cut in half. Similarly, imports of low-density polyethylene (LPDE) have been sharply reduced as new *PEMEX* production facilities have come on line.