

STEEL INDUSTRY

The Mexican steel industry has undergone drastic changes in recent years. In 1982, the Mexican government began to relax its control over steel production by privatizing more than 50 steel production facilities, converting others to different uses and closing down the least efficient.

As in other industries, the devaluation of the peso has sharply cut domestic demand while stimulating exports. According to an executive of *Hylsa*, a major steel producer, domestic demand for steel has fallen by as much as a quarter in 1995. *Hylsa* exported 6 percent of its production in 1994, but expects to export 25 percent in 1995.

MEXICAN STEEL PRODUCERS, 1992

Company	Domestic Market Shares (percentage)
Altos Hornos de México (AHMSA)	34
HYLSA	24
Siderúrgica Lázaro Cardenas "Las Truchas" (SICARTSA)	18
Tubos de Acero de México, (TAMSA)	7
Other micro and mini steel firms	17
Siderúrgica de Guadalajara	
Acero San Luis	
Transformadora de Acero	
Compañía Mexicana de Perfiles y Tubos	
Mexinox	

PACKAGING AND BOTTLING INDUSTRY

The packaging and bottling industry has around 350 companies. The largest companies include:

- *Grupo Femsa*
- *Envases Cuautitlán*
- *VISA*
- *Envases y Productos Plásticos*
- *Plásticos Furbi*
- *Cartón Plast*
- *Vitro Envases*
- *Pyn*
- *Plásticos Lynsa*
- *Gil*