

Regarding the Pharmaceutical industry, this sector is mainly devoted to formulating, breaking-up, packing and distributing drugs, since they are not manufactured in Chile. Therefore, imports are very important in this sector. In 1984, imported consumer and intermediate pharmaceutical goods were US\$ 26.6 Million and in 1989, US\$ 32.7, a 23% increase. The largest firm in the market is Laboratorio Chile.

Detergents manufacturers, mainly Unilever and Procter & Gamble, imported US\$ 20.3 M in chemicals used in their processes in 1989. (Sodium Tripolyphosphate, Carboximetil-Cellulose and Dodecilbenzene)

The Plastic sector (356), is a growing industry in Chile. It is composed by 452 companies which give employment to 22,500 workers. Today, there are 45 companies with more than 500 employees each, as compared to only two firms in 1982. This trend to larger companies is in line with technological changes, new export oriented business (requiring larger scale of production) and investment by foreign companies.

According to ASIPLA, an industrial association which groups the largest companies of the plastic sector, imports of intermediate goods, raw materials and finished products by its associates have increased by almost 100% between 1984 and 1989.

Main imports are plastic resins like PE/HD, PE/LD, PVC/E, PVC/S and PVC/C. The following table shows origin and volume for main imports:

MAIN IMPORTS BY THE PLASTIC INDUSTRY

<u>Product</u>	<u>Volume</u> (MTONS)	<u>Principal Country of Origin</u>
PE/HD	21,995	BRAZIL, USA, SAUDI ARABIA
PE/LD	14,628	USA, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL
PVC/E	2,350	SPAIN, MEXICO
PVC/S	22,478	COLOMBIA, ARGENTINA, S. AFRICA
PVC/C	1,608	USA
PVC/PVA	1,458	MEXICO, USA, S.AFRICA
PS/HI	5,358	COLOMBIA, BRAZIL, VENEZUELA
PS/GP	3,707	COLOMBIA, BRAZIL
EPS	887	HOLLAND, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL
PP	13,649	USA, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL

Capital equipment imported by the plastic sector during the last four years adds to US\$ 44 Millions, with US\$ 16,3 in 1989. Main suppliers of equipment are Germany, Taiwan, Austria and Brazil.