

System adopted in 1988. Official import prices are no longer applicable, nor the 5% export development tax, and import duties were lowered from a maximum of 100% in 1982 to 20% since January 1988. The weighted average tariff rate is now 10.4%. The automotive and computer industries have also been liberalized, through the elimination of prior import permits, to allow free entry of products in these industries. The approval of the North American Free Trade Agreement will further strengthen trade between Canada, the United States and Mexico.

According to official data from the Mexican Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development (SECOFI), Mexico's trade balance in 1990 dropped once again to a \$3 billion deficit from -\$645 million in 1989. Exports increased by 17.5% in 1990, from \$22.8 billion to \$26.8 billion, while imports grew 27.3%, from \$23.4 billion to \$29.8 billion in 1990, having already increased 23.8% in 1989 and 54.9% in 1988. As of August 1991, total exports for the year amounted to \$18.3 billion and imports to \$23.6 billion.

Total Mexican imports from Canada increased 24% in 1989 and decreased 1.5% in 1990. Total Canadian exports to Mexico amounted to Cdn\$594 million, while total Canadian imports from Mexico were valued at Cdn\$1,730 million in 1990. According to Mexican figures, in 1989, 1.9% of Mexico's imports came from Canada, while 1.2% of its exports were to Canada. This makes Canada Mexico's fifth largest exporter and sixth largest importer.

3. TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN MEXICO

Mexico's telecommunications services are provided by two entities, the Secretariat for Communications and Transportation (Secretaría de Comunicaciones y Transportes-SCT), through the recently created Telecomunicaciones de México (TELECOMM) and the now privatized Teléfonos de México (TELMEX).

TELECOMM provides:

Telephone service to small towns (under 1,500 inhabitants)
Distribution of the following signals:

- Television
- Teleaudition
- Telegraph
- Voice and data

International telegraph

Telex

Data transmission

Facsimile and telephotography

Marine radio

Time sharing

Satellite communications