

Mexico's total production in tons of non-timber products was as follows between 1985 and 1989:

PRODUCT	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Resins	43,463	30,410	44,180	43,443	36,296
Fibers	6,171	7,394	6,257	6,914	3,047
Rhizome	1,970	3,912	3,129	1,388	1,081
Wax	657	2,058	1,387	1,983	1,385
Gum	186	220	392	548	834
Other	14,587	17,055	17,859	52,512	31,445
TOTAL	67,034	61,049	73,204	106,788	74,088

The decrease in production during 1989 is due to the longstanding and structural problems of Mexico's forestry sector described above, in addition to a lack of policy definitions by the central government, the trade liberalization policies, which have brought about a strong competition of imported wood products, and a decrease in technical services for the forestry sector.

4.3 TRADE BALANCE

Total imports of materials and manufactured products increased 42% during 1989, from \$444.7 million to \$631.7 million, mostly because local production was unable to cover demand due to the above mentioned factors. This upward trend in imports has been felt since 1982, when imports were at their all time low of \$176.7 million as a result of the economic crisis and the high import barriers imposed by the government at the time. Imports have steadily increased since then, although 1988 showed a slight decrease brought about by a reduction in imports of pulp and paper waste products used in the manufacture of paper.

TABLE 6
MEXICO'S IMPORTS OF WOOD AND LUMBER PRODUCTS
(000 U.S. dollars)

	1986	1987	1988	1989
RAW MATERIALS	37,512	26,349	52,260	54,059
Firewood & charcoal	239	185	2,408	2,487
Wood squared	905	1,462	2,382	2,460
Lumber with a primary process	36,368	24,702	47,470	49,112
MANUFACTURED WOOD	13,306	17,161	31,441	32,532
Boards	5,418	11,256	22,318	22,558
Other	7,888	5,905	9,123	9,974