

per capita consumption will grow to 19 kgs per person, while population growth is estimated at 2.3% per annum. These two effects will translate into an annual increase in apparent consumption of plastic resins of 8% per annum. This growth rate is further supported by the trend toward substituting plastics for traditional materials, such as metals, wood and glass. This will represent increasing sales for both local and foreign suppliers of these materials.

Additionally, several companies presently operating in Mexico, most of which are multinational firms, are investing significant amounts in new plants in Mexico, in order to supply the local market and take advantage of export opportunities that will open as a result of the North American Free Trade Agreement presently under negotiation.

Total installed capacity, production, import, export and apparent consumption, in tons, by type of resins, in 1989 was as follows:

**TABLE 5**  
**1989 APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF SELECTED PLASTIC RESINS**  
(000 tons)

PRODUCT	INST. CAPACITY	PROD.	IMPORT	EXPORT	APP. CONSUMP
Low den. polyethylene	339.0	340.0	37.5	0	377.5
High den. polyethylene	200.0	97.1	105.9	0	203.0
Polyvinyl chloride	308.0	263.0	10.9	138.2	135.7
Polypropylene	0	0	105.2	0	105.2
Polystyrene	182.0	113.3	6.3	33.4	86.2
Urea resins	109.3	75.6	0.2	0.1	75.7
Polyurethanes	66.5	35.3	1.1	0	36.4
Unsaturated polyester	37.5	21.5	0.6	0.7	21.4
Phenolic resins	35.0	14.6	1.0	0.3	15.3
ABS	45.0	13.5	2.4	4.0	11.9
Melamine resins	13.4	9.0	0.6	0	9.6
Epoxy resins	13.7	5.3	4.2	0.1	9.4
Polyethylene terephthalate	19.4	18.7	0.1	9.4	9.4
Polymethyl methacrylate	11.4	10.0	1.4	3.3	8.1
Cop AC Vinyl chloride	11.0	5.8	0.3	1.4	4.7
Polyamide	7.3	2.6	1.0	0.4	3.2
Alkyd resins	5.0	1.4	0.4	0.5	1.3
Polycarbonate	0	0	1.0	0	1.0
Polytetrafluoride ethylene	0	0	0.2	0	0.2
Coverings & adhesives	146.5	97.7	5.7	6.2	97.2
Other	150.0	17.6	36.0	24.0	29.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1700.0</b>	<b>1142.0</b>	<b>322.0</b>	<b>222.0</b>	<b>1242.0</b>

Source: IMPI