

The United States dominates Mexico's import markets for both finished products and raw materials. In 1994, the American market share was about 87 percent for both categories.

Canadian sales have traditionally been small. Exports have grown rapidly over the past few years although at less than US \$40 million in 1994, they remain small in absolute terms. Total exports of plastics products to Mexico grew by 28 percent in 1993 and by another 62 percent in 1994. About one-third of Canada's 1994 exports were primary materials. This category was dominated by ethylene polymers, which alone accounted for 22 percent of total exports.

In the finished and semi-finished category, the most important product group was plates, sheets, film, foil, tape and strip, which are represented in the Harmonized System (HS) categories 3919 and 1920. Packing and packaging material is another major export, although sales have fallen slightly over the past few years. Sales of fully finished products such as kitchenware have been growing, although they remain small in absolute terms. Canada's import market share in 1994 was about 1 percent for primary materials and slightly less than that for finished and semi-finished products.

MEXICAN IMPORTS FROM THE WORLD US \$ MILLIONS

Plastics-related Raw Materials	1992	1993	1994
Resins and other primary forms	879	979	1,189
Polymers of ethylene	199.0	245.8	313.6
Polymers of propylene or other olefins	130.4	117.7	132.0
Polymers of styrene	77.9	107.3	130.8
Polymers of vinyl chloride or other halogenated olefins	38.8	36.8	43.6
Polymers of vinyl acetate or other vinyl esters	41.4	44.6	45.3
Acrylic polymers	62.3	72.4	92.6
Polyacetals	116.5	131.5	168.6
Polyamides	13.5	15.4	22.8
Amino-resins, phenolic resins and polyurethanes	32.6	36.0	44.6
Silicones	53.6	59.0	75.9
Other resins	16.0	14.6	19.6
Cellulose and derivatives	38.9	39.5	43.3
Natural polymers and related products	47.9	50.8	49.1
Ion exchangers	10.6	7.5	7.1

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