

It is estimated that there are some 950 robots in Mexico, about 550 of which are in the automotive and autoparts industries. Another 300 are in educational institutions and the rest are found in several different manufacturing industries. Virtually all of the robots in Mexico are imported, although about 30 have been custom-fabricated in Mexico.

The total robotics market was estimated by the United States Department of Commerce at about US \$21 million in 1993 and was projected to reach US \$24 million in 1994.

Artificial intelligence is a key factor distinguishing a robot from a numerically-controlled (NC) machine tool. So far, this aspect of robotics has not yet been fully exploited in Mexico. Typically, robots are used in potentially dangerous processes such as assembling, welding and smelting.

### ROBOTS IN USE IN THE MEXICAN AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

Brand Name	Number	Percent	Origin
Asea Brown Boveri (ABB)	32	5.2	Sweden
Cincinnati Milacron	7	1.1	U.S.
Fanuc	147	23.7	Japan
Kawasaki	315	50.9	Japan
Miller	1	0.2	U.S.
Motoman	19	3.1	Japan
Nachi	21	3.4	Japan
Unspecified	77	12.4	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

**Source:** Asociación Nacional de las Industrias del Plástico (ANIPAC) National Association of the Plastics Industry, Asociación Mexicana de Distribuidores de Maquinaria (AMDIMA), Mexican Association of Machinery Distributors.