

Different Models for Liberalisation: The Case of Mexico

SE

Lorenza Martínez Trigueros February, 2012

1. Introduction

- 2. Trade liberalisation in Mexico
- 3. Benefits from trade
- 4. Final remarks

International trade is a key determinant for economic growth

"Policies toward foreign trade are among the more important factors promoting economic growth and convergence in developing countries" IMF (1997, 84).

International Trade

Use of comparative advantages

Efficient use of resources

Dissemination of knowledge and technology

Attracts FDI

1. Introduction

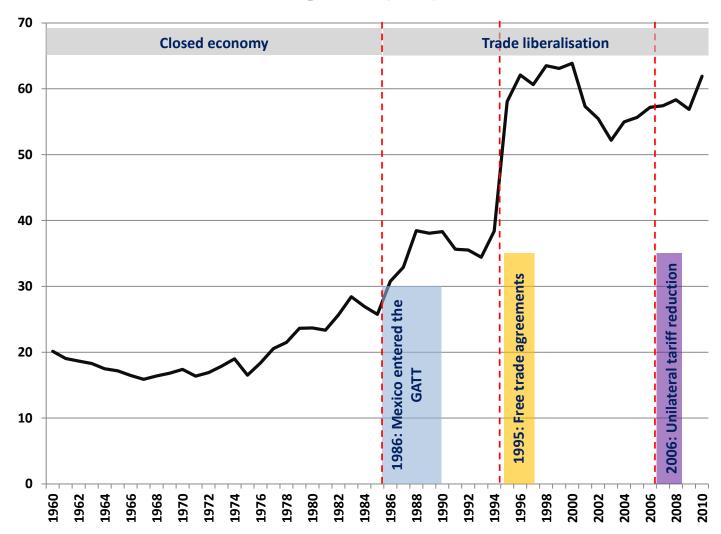
2. Trade liberalisation in Mexico

- a) From a closed economy to the GATT signature
- b) Free trade agreements
- c) Trade simplification
- 3. Benefits from trade
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Trade liberalisation process in Mexico has gone through four main stages

Trade liberalisation in goods and services

Total foreign trade (X+M) as GDP%



Source: The World Bank and Banxico

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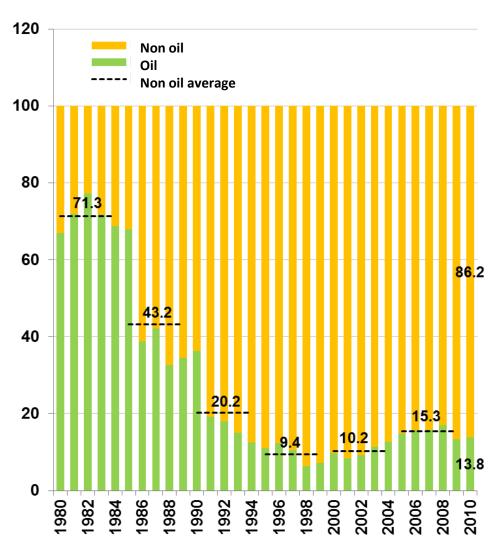
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Trade liberalization, among other factors, trigger the growth and diversity of exports

Structure of Mexican Exports, 1980-2010

(Percentage)



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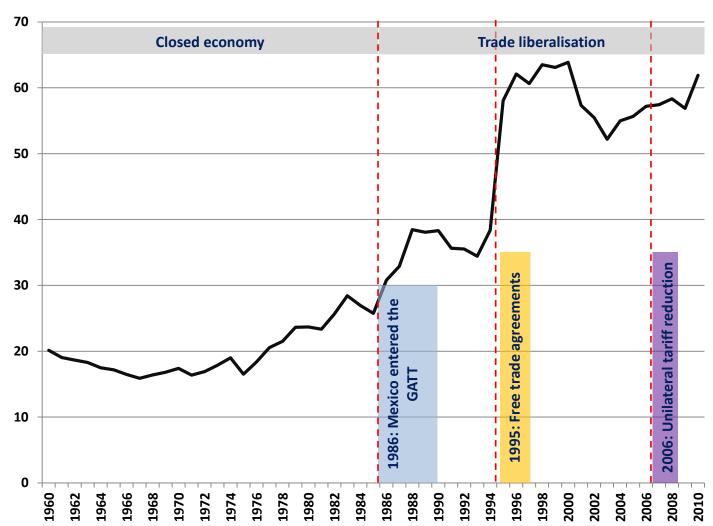
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FTAs brought a new impulse to the export sector

Trade liberalisation in goods and services

Total foreign trade (X+M) as GDP%

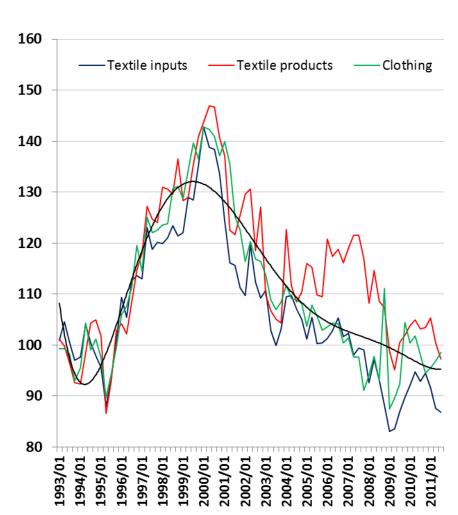


Source: The World Bank and Banxico

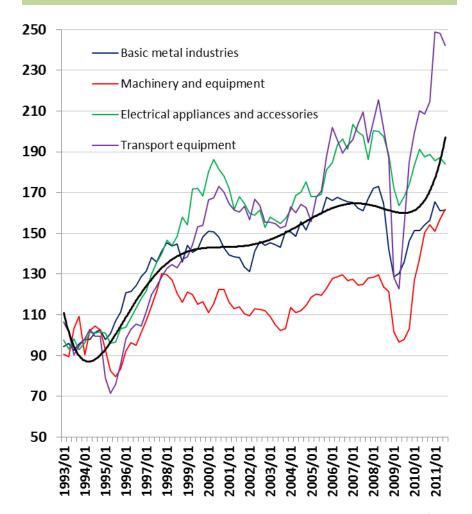
FTAs brought trade creation, but also trade diversion

Gross Domestic Product for specific industries

(Index 100=1994; seasonally adjusted)



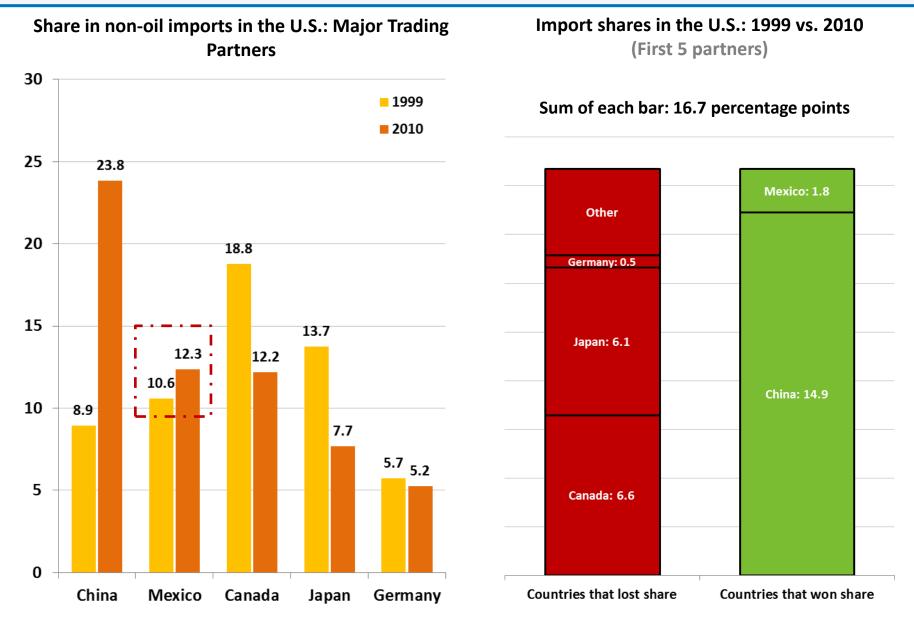
As other industries have been growing...



Source: INEGI

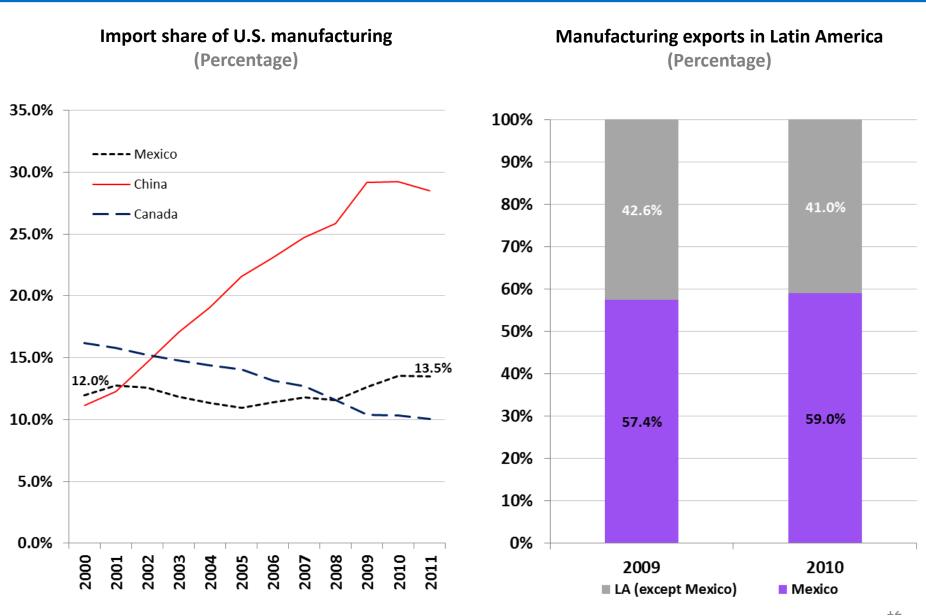
Note: The black line refers to the trend (polynomial of degree 6) for the average of the industries specified for each graph.

Despite China's entry into the WTO in 2001, Mexico is the only country that has gained participation in the U.S. non oil imports.



Source: UN COMTRADE

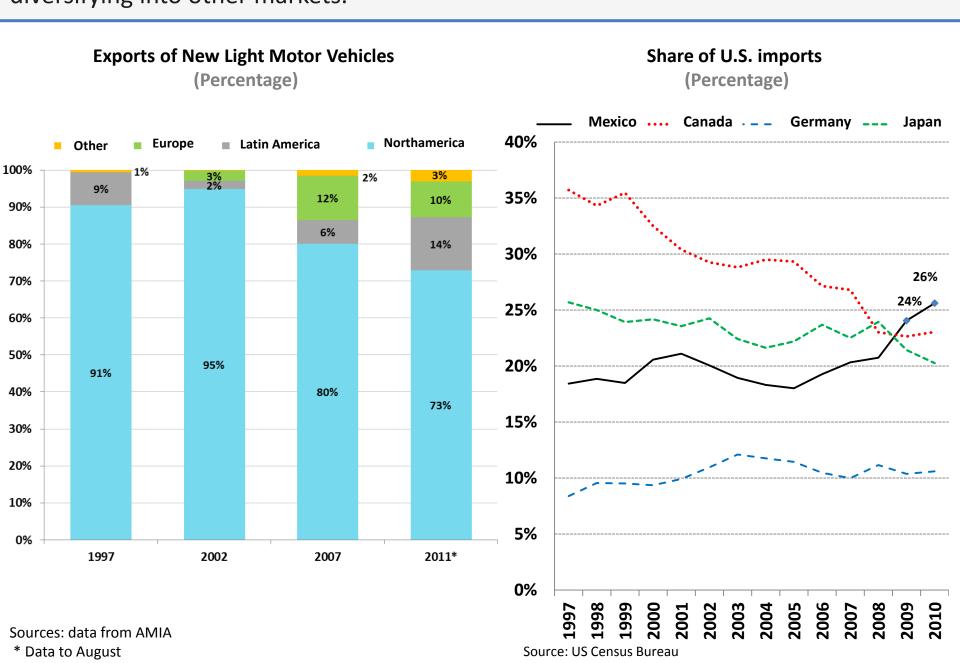
Moreover, Mexico has maintained a good performance in the global market of manufactures



Source: Based on data from U.S. Census Bureau

Source: Based on data from UN COMTRADE

Specifically, some sectors that have achieved an important position in the U.S. are diversifying into other markets.



but.....the tariff scheme became complex, leading to high costs and distortions

 To maintain the competitiveness of the industrial plant, special programs by sector (PROSECs) were established:



- ✓ They exempt tariff payments to certain sectors and companies in order to enable the use of more efficient supply sources worldwide at no additional cost.
- ✓ They did **generate distortions, inequities and inefficiencies.** The artificial deterioration of the competitive position SMEs was particularly relevant as well as the high cost of managing those programs.
- Therefore, before 2008, the tariff scheme was characterised by:

Full liberalisation with countries with whom we have treaties and high commercial protection with those countries that we didn't.

As a result of the different tariff combinations, there were over 150 000 tariff rates:

- (i) there were over 12,000 tariffs on single products,
- (ii) specific rules were handled for each of the 12 FTAs we have
- (iii) Furthermore, 24 sectorial programs (PROSECs) were handled as well as particular tariff benefits with annual seasonality (Rule 8th and import quotas).

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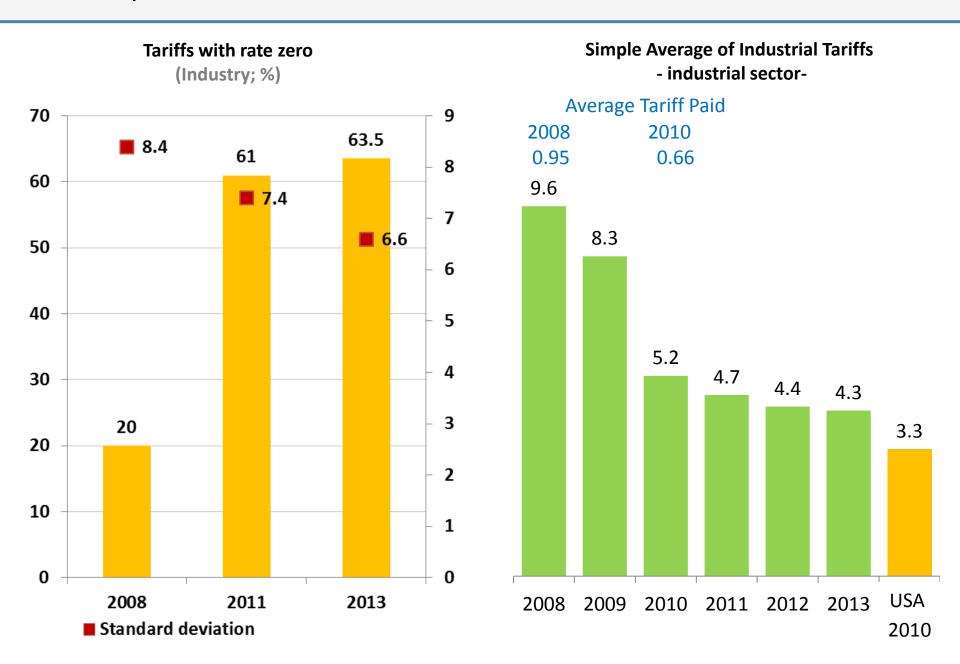
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The most recent reform involves trade facilitation and it has 3 strategies

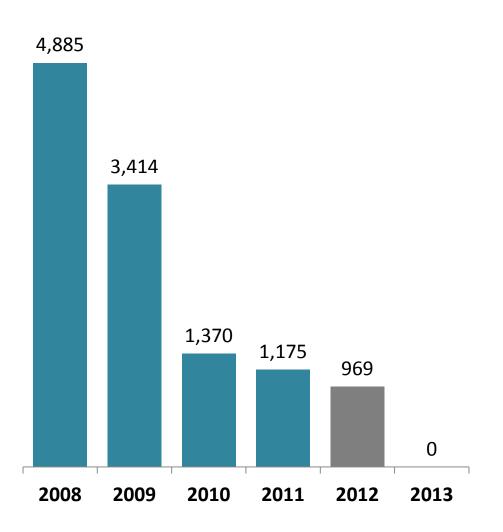
Tariff simplification The elimination of waiver programs The simplification of foreign trade and customs operations

Tariff simplification



Elimination of waiver programs: PROSECs

Changes in the number of tariff in PROSEC, 2008-2013



REMOVAL OF PROSEC

The fractions included in the PROSEC's will be reduced from 4,885 in 2008 to zero in 2013.

SIMPLIFICATION OF RULE 8

The tariff lines included in the Rule 8 will be reduced according to the elimination of the PROSECs.

Customs Facilitation: Single window system

Advantages of Implementing:

1. Reduces transaction costs

- One single delivery information window
- Every procedure is electronic
- The information will be delivered only once

2. Increases transparency

 The information and requirements of each procedure will be defined clearly and explicitly.

3. Increases security

- Has the Electronic Advanced Signature
- Low risk of permits falsification

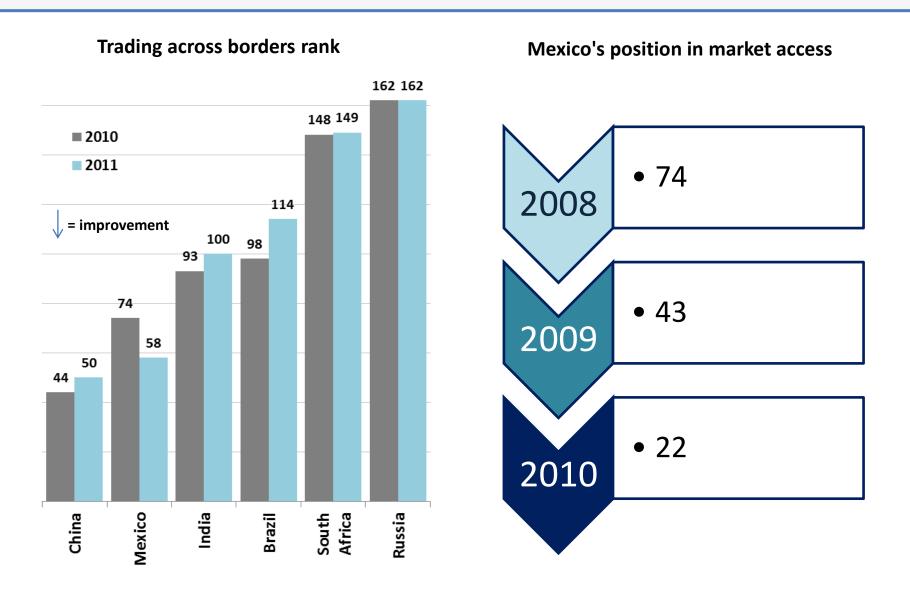
4. Facilitates information flow through countries

Easy implementation of single petition

5. Reduces Risk Corruption

The personal contact will be eliminated.

The trade simplification will have a direct effect on competitiveness.



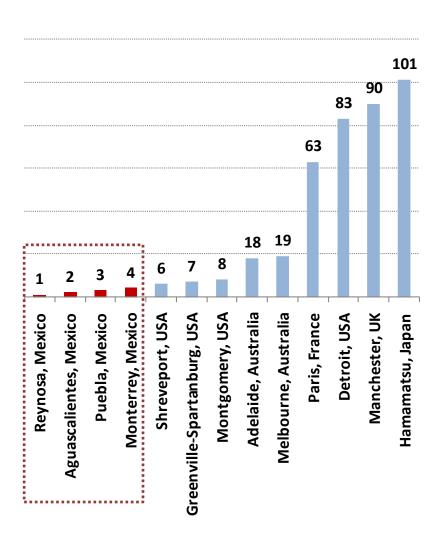
Source: World Economic Forum. Market access sub index in the Enabling Trade Index.

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Mexico has become a top manufacturer in the automotive industry

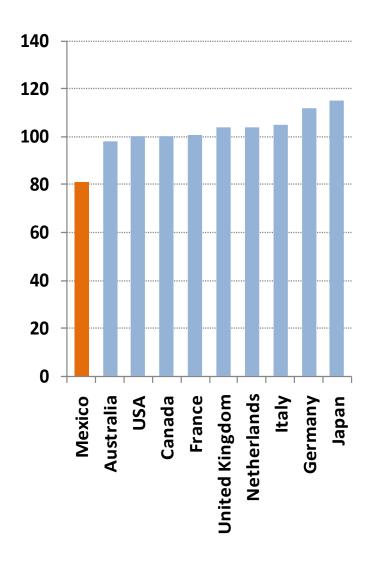
Position in automotive parts assembly by city

(Position of 102 considered cities)

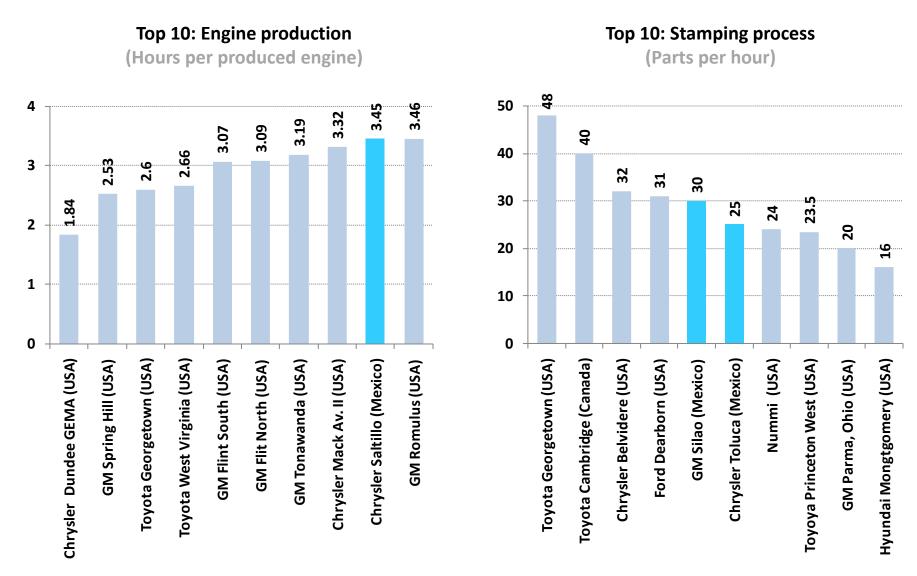


Advantage in automotive assembly costs

(Index 100 = USA)



Mexico has developed high performance plants that can be compared with the best plants worldwide

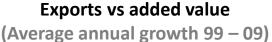


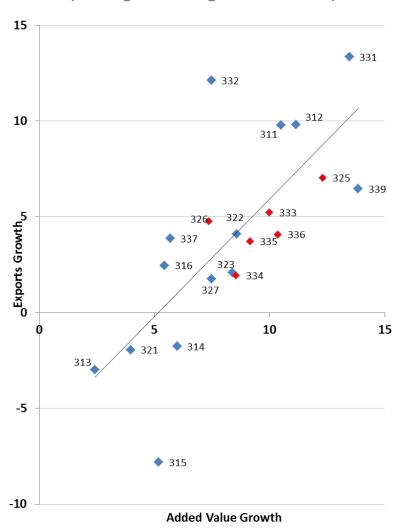
Source: Oliver Wyman Automotive Consulting Services.

The Harbor Report, June 2008.

Note: Considers 61 Plants in North America, Europe y South America in 36 cities.

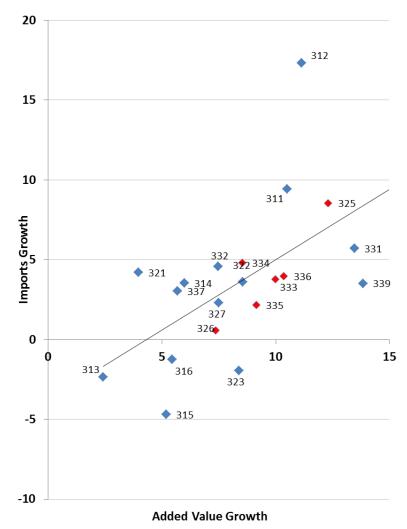
Moreover, a positive relation is observed between trade and the development of industries with high added value.





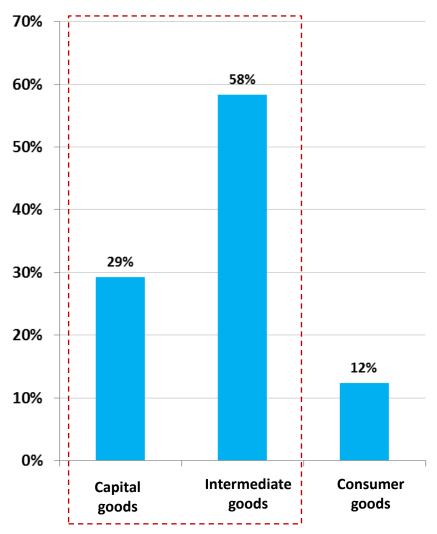
Imports vs added value





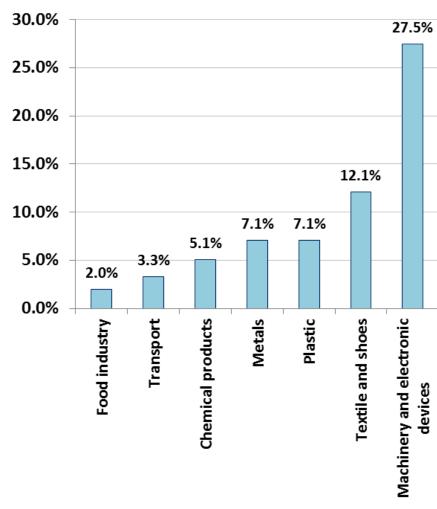
China has provided inputs or machinery for domestic production, which turns into products with added value.

Imports from China by type of good in manufacturing (Percentage)



Imports from China. Selected industries

(Percentage of total imports)



Source: UN COMTRADE

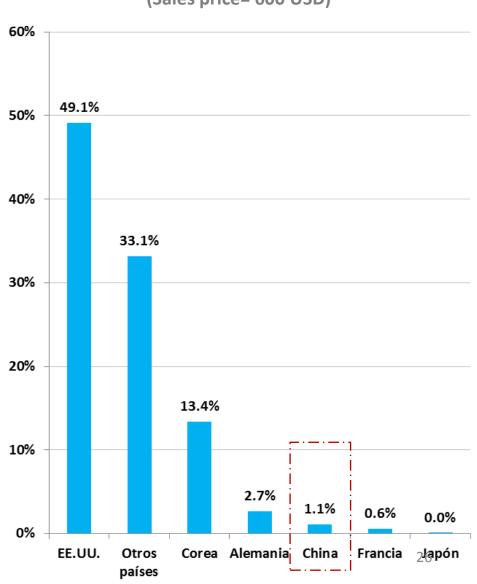
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In some products emerging economies are still assemblers, getting a very low share of the whole value

iPhone: "Designed by Apple in California. Assembled in China"



Value decomposition for iPhone 4
(Sales price= 600 USD)



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Final remarks

- ✓ Mexico, as other emerging economies, followed an export led development strategy
 - 1. Closed economy with free trade areas restricted to export firms
 - 2. Liberalization became in stages: entrance to GATT, FTAs and unilateral tariff reduction
- ✓ Mexico has developed a strong exporter sector moving from low value added sectors to high value added ones
- ✓ Mexican exporter sector is part of global supply chains, importing a significant amount of its inputs
- ✓ The challenge is to keep on scaling in the value chain by adding the contribution of design and development

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