



MAURITIUS

# Economic and Social Indicators

An Occasional Paper

ISSUE NO. 141

27 March 1992

1 □ THE EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE (EPZ)

4th Quarter 1991

2 □ ROAD TRANSPORT & ROAD ACCIDENT STATISTICS

Year 1991

180

ESI

5874

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGIONAL CO-OPERATION  
PORT LOUIS  
MAURITIUS

## Export Processing Zone - 4th Quarter 1991

### 1. Introduction

This issue presents the results of the Quarterly (4th quarter) Employment Survey in the EPZ enterprises. Data available on the trade performance of the EPZ sector are also given.

### 2. Employment evolution, 4th quarter 1991

During the 4th quarter, total employment in the EPZ sector recorded a slight increase of around 500 only, of whom the majority were male workers. Male employment rose by 600 while that of female dropped by 100. The number of enterprises operating however, stayed at 586 as 9 enterprises started operation whilst 8 others closed down.

As at December 1991, the EPZ Sector had a workforce of 90,900 of whom more than two thirds or 63,000 were female workers and 27,900 male workers. The total included 2,065 outworkers and 1,150 expatriates.

### 3. Employment evolution, year 1991

During the year 1991, 52 new enterprises were set up and 34 closed down which brought the total number of active companies to 586. Total employment increased by only 1% or 1,000, to attain 90,900. The breakdown by sex shows a reduction of about 1,400 in male employment and an increase of 2,400 in that of female workers.

Employment creation in the EPZ Sector has slowed down considerably during the last four years increasing by some 3,000 only, from 87,900 in 1987 to 90,900 last year. During the same period a constant reduction in male employment is noted: on average a loss of some 1,000 has been reported every year, whilst female employment has maintained a steady growth of around 2,000 each year.

Analysis at firm level shows the continued high mobility of workers among EPZ firms. Firms which were expanding enrolled 8,800 additional workers while the new ones recruited 3,100, resulting in the creation of 11,900 additional jobs. This addition was however almost totally offset by reductions of some 10,900 reported by other firms: 2,100, by companies which stopped activities and 8,800 by others which were working with a reduced staff.

Employment by product groups shows reduction in the pullover sector which reported a further loss of 1,400 workers in 1991. Other sectors which registered fall in employment were "Watches and clocks", -166, "Leather and leather products", -86 and "Optical and electrical goods", -89.

These reductions were however offset by an increase of 2,100 in the other garments sector, and additional recruits in a few other sectors as follows: "Textile yarn and fabrics", +267; "Food", +115 and "Wood and paper products", +105.

#### 4. Analysis of new enterprises and closures

Table 11 on new enterprises by product groups shows that, of the 52 that started operating in 1991, 30 were in the non-textile sector - an indication of diversification away from textile.

Also, most of the closures, 24 out of 34, were operating in the pullover and made-up garment sector.

#### 5. Distribution of enterprises by size of employment

The table on the distribution of EPZ firms by employment size indicates that over half of the enterprises had each a workforce of 50 workers or fewer but accounted for only 7% of total employment.

On the other hand, there were 16 large companies each employing more than 1,000 workers which constituted 30% of the workforce.

#### 6. Exports and imports

EPZ exports in 1991 increased in nominal terms by 6% to attain Rs 12,136 million compared to Rs 11,474 million the previous year. In volume terms, exports grew by only 1% compared to 6% in 1990.

The import bill however, was lower than expected amounting to Rs 7,100 million in 1991. Imports of machinery fell by Rs 75 million and were valued at Rs 719 million; raw materials also dropped by Rs 200 million to about Rs 6,350 million.

Consequently, a substantial increase was recorded in net EPZ exports which went up by Rs 1,100 million or 23% to reach Rs 5,100 million. The ratio of net exports to exports correspondingly rose to 42% from 36% in 1990 and only 17% in 1989.

Central Statistical Office,  
Ministry of Economic Planning and Development,  
PORT LOUIS.

March 1992

## EPZ ENTERPRISES & EMPLOYMENT 1986-1991

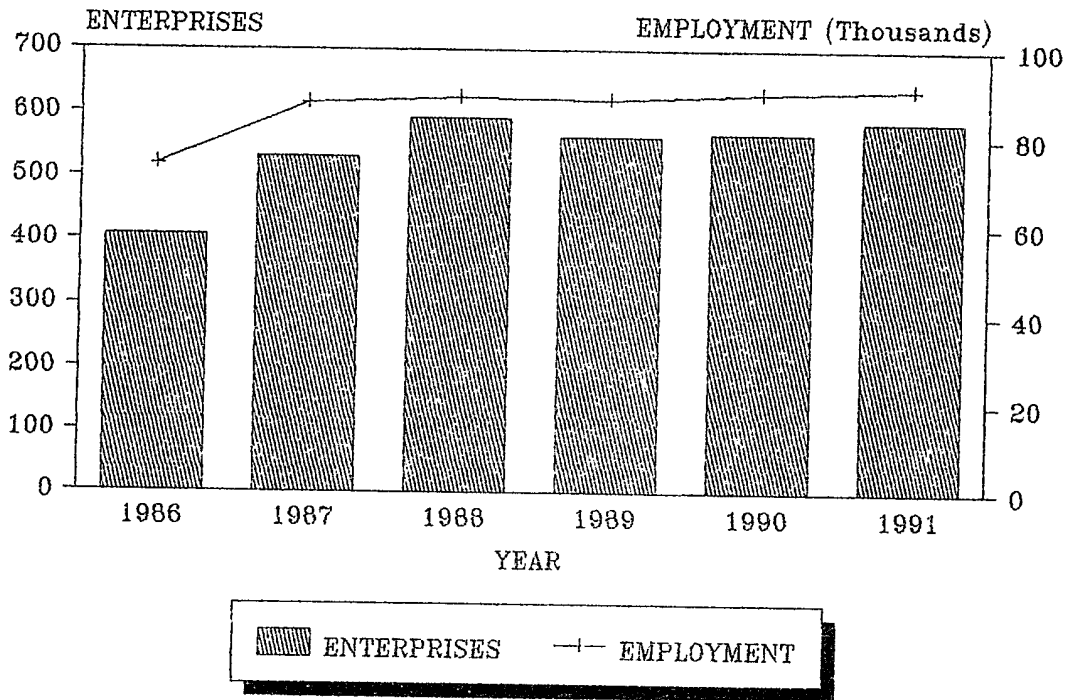


FIG 1

## EPZ EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR DECEMBER 1991

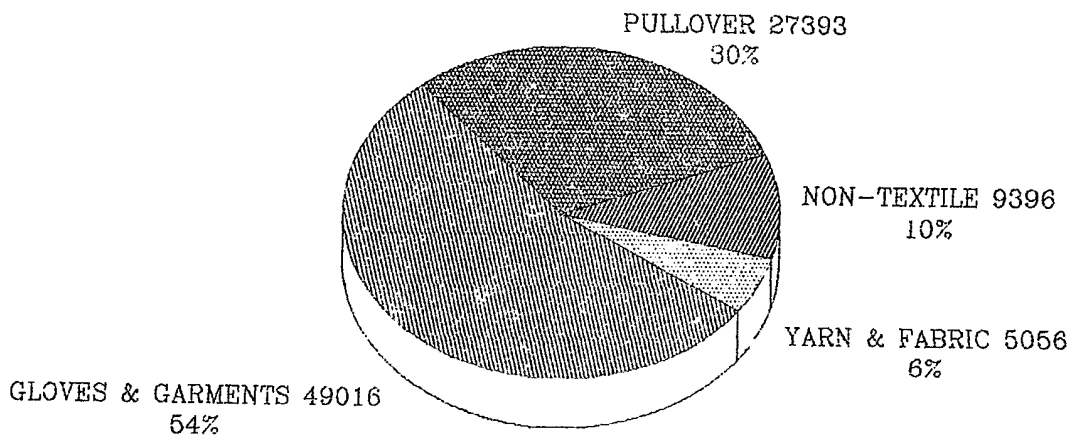


FIG 2

# EPZ IMPORT & EXPORT 1986-1991

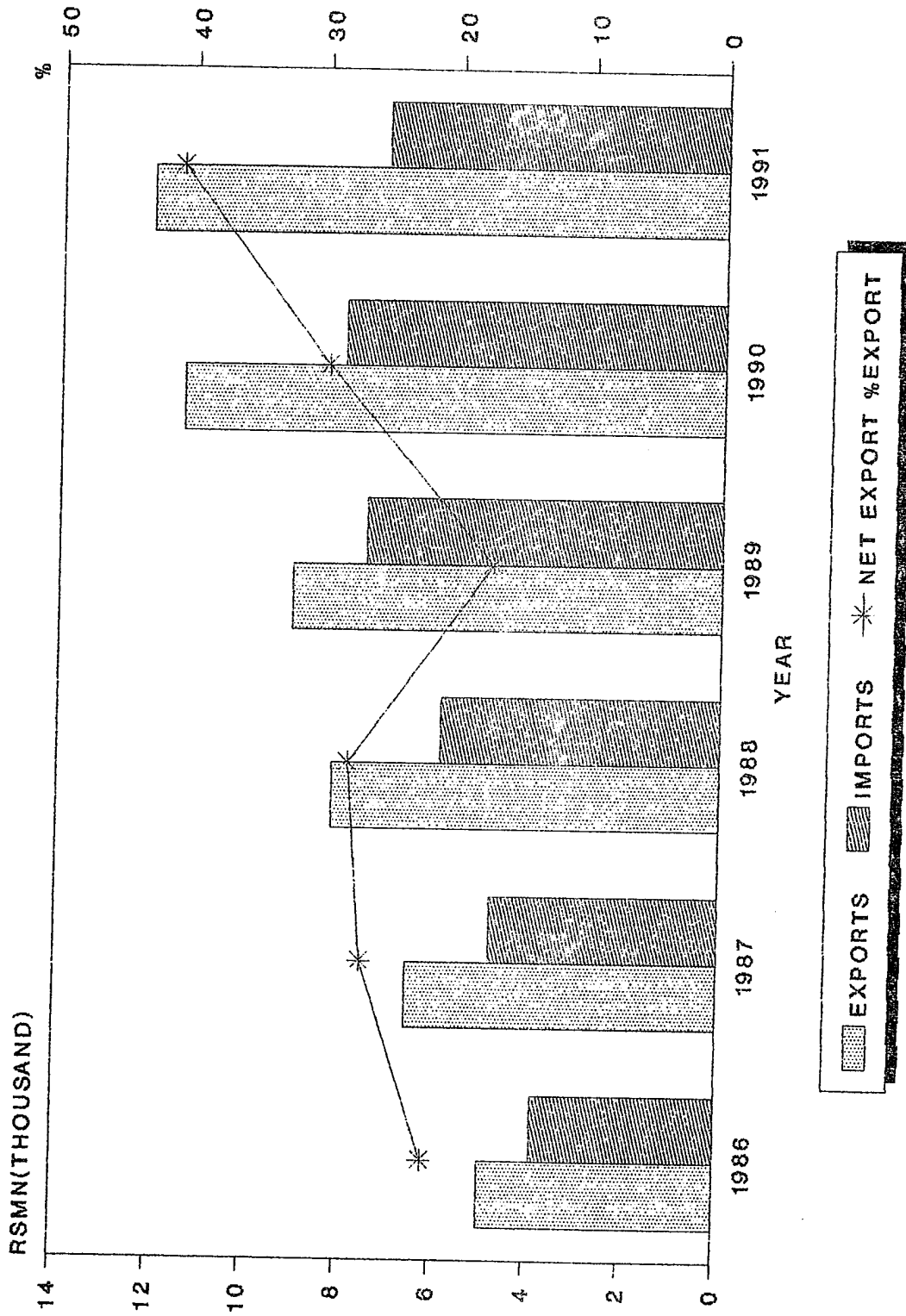


FIG 3

Main Indicators of EPZ Sector 84 - 91

Particulars	Year							
	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
1. No. of enterprises as at December	195	290	408	531	591	563	568	586
2. Employment as at December	37,522	53,951	74,015	87,905	89,080	88,658	89,906	90,861 <sup>1/</sup>
3. Exports for calendar year (Rs mn)	2,151	3,283	4,951	6,567	8,176	9,057	11,474	12,136
4. Imports for calendar year (Rs mn)	1,650	2,530	3,863	4,801	5,890	7,502	7,348	7,068
5. Net exports for calendar year (Rs mn)	501	753	1,088	1,766	2,286	1,555	4,126	5,068
6. Net exports % exports (%)	23.3	22.9	22.0	26.9	28.0	17.2	36.0	42.0
7. Value added (Rs mn)	865	1,333	1,860	2,585	3,125	3,450	4,070 <sup>2/</sup>	4,615 <sup>2/</sup>
8. Growth rate (%)	+32.9	+30.0	+34.9	+22.0	+12.0	+6.0	+9.0 <sup>2/</sup>	+7.0 <sup>2/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup> Provisional

<sup>2/</sup> September 1991 estimates

Table 1 - EPZ :- Employment as at September 1991 and December 1991 by category of enterprise and by sex

Category of enterprise*	Number of enterprises as at end of .....		Employment as at end of .....										Net change		
	September 1991	December 1991	September 1991 1/			December 1991 2/			Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total							
Large <sup>3/</sup>	484	496	26,891	60,662	87,553	27,466	60,877	88,345	+577	-215	+792				
Small	98	87	289	223	512	256	195	451	-33	-28	-61				
Outworkers <sup>4/</sup>	3	3	72	2,193	2,265	138	1,927	2,065	+66	-266	-200				
Total	585	586	27,252	63,078	90,330	27,862	62,999	90,861	+610	-79	+531				

\* Category of enterprise

Large : Enterprise employing 10 or more persons

Small : Enterprise employing less than 10 persons

Outworkers : Persons working at their home, on materials provided by enterprise

1/ Revised

2/ Provisional

3/ Employment data include around 1,100 expatriates at September 1991 and 1,150 at December 1991

4/ Number of enterprises relate to enterprises employing exclusively outworkers, whilst employment refers to total number of persons employed as outworkers

Table 2 - EPZ:- Employment as at December 1990 and December 1991 by category of enterprise and by sex

Category of enterprise*	Number of enterprises as at end of .....		Employment as at end of .....										
	December 1990		December 1991		December 1990			December 1991 <sup>1/</sup>			Net change		
	December 1990	December 1991	Net change	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Large <sup>2/</sup>	476	496	+20	28,763	58,408	87,171	27,468	60,877	88,345	-1,295	+2,469	+1,174	
Small	89	87	-2	264	197	461	256	195	451	-8	-2	-10	
Outworkers <sup>3/</sup>	3	3	-	249	2,025	2,274	138	1,927	2,065	-111	-98	-209	
TOTAL	568	586	+18	29,276	60,630	89,906	27,862	62,999	90,861	-1,414	+2,369	+955	

\* Category of enterprise

Large : Enterprise employing 10 or more persons

Small : Enterprise employing less than 10 persons

Outworkers : Persons working at their home, on materials provided by enterprise

<sup>1/</sup> Provisional

<sup>2/</sup> Employment data include around 1,150 expatriates at December 1991

<sup>3/</sup> Number of enterprises relate to enterprises employing exclusively outworkers, whilst employment to total number of persons as outworkers



Table 3 - Employment evolution in the EPZ sector during the 4th quarter 1991<sup>1/</sup>

Description	Number of enterprises	Employment
1. <u>SITUATION AS AT END OF SEPTEMBER 1991</u>	585	90,330
2. Total employment creation	...	+3,597
of which through:		
Expansion <sup>2/</sup> of existing enterprises	(30)	3,383
New enterprises	9	214
3. Total loss	...	-3,066
of which through:		
Reduction in activities of existing enterprises	(27)	2,508
Closing down of enterprises	8	478
4. Net change	+1	+531
5. <u>SITUATION AS AT END OF DECEMBER 1991</u>	586	90,861

<sup>1/</sup> Provisional

<sup>2/</sup> No. of enterprises relates to those which have increased their workforce by 25 or more employees whilst employment relates to total expansion

Table 4 - Employment evolution in the EPZ sector during the year 1991

Description	Number of enterprises	Employment
1. SITUATION AS AT END OF DECEMBER 1990	568	89,906
2. Total employment creation of which through: Expansion <u>1/</u> of existing enterprises New enterprises	...  (61) 52	+11,869  8,817 3,052
3. Total loss of which through: Reduction in activities/ of existing enterprises Closing down of enterprises	...  (72) 34	-10,914  8,786 2,128
4. Net change	+18	+955
5. SITUATION AS AT END OF DECEMBER 1991	586	90,861

1/ No. of enterprises relates to those which have increased their workforce by 25 or more employees whilst employment relates to total expansion

Table 5 - EPZ: - Analysis of net change in employment during period September 1991 - December 1991 by product group

Product group	Employment as at end of .....		Net change in employment
	September <sup>1/</sup>	December <sup>2/</sup>	
1. Food	1,155	1,276	+121
2. Flowers	593	615	+22
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	5,156	5,056	-100
4. Wearing apparels	75,301	76,409	+608
of which (a) pullovers	(27,679)	(27,393)	(-286)
(b) gloves & other garments	(48,122)	(49,016)	(+894)
5. Leather products and footwear	1,290	1,250	-40
6. Wood and paper products	660	622	-38
7. Optical goods	492	518	+26
8. Watches, electronic watches and clocks	658	684	+26
9. Electric and other electronic products	344	371	+27
10. Jewellery and related articles	1,453	1,418	-35
11. Toys and carnival articles	1,043	1,037	-6
12. Other	1,685	1,605	-80
<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>90,330</b>	<b>90,861</b>	<b>+531</b>

1/ Revised

2/ Provisional

Table 6 - EPZ: - Analysis of net change in employment during period December 1990 - December 1991<sup>1/</sup> by product group

Product group	Employment as at end of .....		Net change in employment
	December 1990	December <sup>1/</sup> 1991	
1. Food	1,161	1,276	+115
2. Flowers	544	615	+71
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	4,789	5,056	+267
4. Wearing apparels	75,709	76,409	+700
5. of which (a) pullover	(28,802)	(27,393)	(-1,409)
(b): gloves & other garments	(46,907)	(49,016)	(+2,109)
5. Leather products and footwear	1,336	1,250	-86
6. Wood and paper products	517	622	+105
7. Optical goods	570	518	-52
8. Watches, electronic watches and clocks	850	684	-166
9. Electric and other electronic products	408	371	-37
10. Jewellery and related articles	1,380	1,418	+38
11. Toys and carnival articles	978	1,037	+59
12. Other	1,664	1,605	-59
T O T A L	89,906	90,861	+955

<sup>1/</sup> Provisional

Table 7 - EPZ - Employment evolution by product group and sex, (December 1989 - December 1991)

Product group	December 1989			December 1990			December 1991 1/		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1. Food	425	496	921	410	751	1,161	442	834	1,276
2. Flowers	192	229	421	253	291	544	296	319	615
3. Textile yarn and fabric	2,710	1,541	4,251	3,066	1,723	4,789	3,363	1,893	5,056
4. Wearing apparels	23,396	51,805	75,201	22,264	53,445	75,709	20,678	55,751	76,409
of which (a) pullovers	(6,988)	(22,638)	(29,626)	(6,123)	(22,679)	(28,802)	(5,399)	(21,994)	(27,393)
(b) gloves & other garments	16,408	(29,167)	(45,575)	(16,141)	(30,766)	(46,907)	(15,279)	(33,737)	(49,016)
5. Leather products and footwear	261	981	1,242	346	990	1,336	289	961	1,250
6. Wood and paper products	344	196	540	316	207	517	386	236	622
7. Optical goods	360	227	587	359	211	570	307	211	518
8. Watches, electronic watches and clocks	216	687	903	210	640	850	191	493	684
9. Electric & other electronic products	147	84	231	190	216	408	196	175	371
10. Jewellery & related articles	1,227	495	1,722	908	472	1,380	887	531	1,418
11. Toys and carnival articles	73	823	896	94	884	978	97	940	1,037
12. Other	981	754	1,735	866	798	1,664	730	675	1,605
T O T A L	30,332	58,318	88,650	29,276	60,630	89,906	27,862	62,999	90,861

1/ Provisional

Table 8 - EPZ:- Number of enterprises by product group, Quarter v Series, (year 1991)

Product group	1990				1991			
	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
1. Food	13	13	13	13	14	14	15	15
2. Flowers	36	42	43	43	44	46	49	49
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	31	31	31	32	37	37	36	36
4. Wearing apparels	340	344	346	339	337	336	333	332
of which (a) Pullovers	(58)	(58)	(59)	(56)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(51)
(b) Gloves and other garments	(282)	(286)	(287)	(283)	(283)	(282)	(279)	(281)
5. Leather products and footwear	12	13	13	13	13	12	12	11
6. Wood and paper products	14	15	16	15	16	17	19	20
7. Optical goods	4	5	5	6	7	7	7	6
8. Watches, electronic watches and clocks	5	5	6	6	6	6	7	8
9. Electric & other electronic products	9	12	13	12	14	14	14	15
10. Jewellery and related articles	17	18	19	19	19	19	20	19
11. Toys and carnival articles	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
12. Other	59	60	61	62	63	62	65	67
T O T A L	548	566	574	568	578	578	585	586

Table 9 - EPZ:- Employment by product group, Quarterly Series, (years 1990 and 1991)

Product group	1990				1991			
	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
1. Foot	969	971	955	1,161	1,052	1,155	1,155	1,276
2. Flowers	473	477	499	544	561	567	593	615
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	4,387	4,360	4,221	4,733	5,536	5,541	5,156	5,056
4. Wearing apparels	76,237	76,397	74,798	75,709	74,913	74,426	75,801	76,409
of which (a) pullovers	(29,415)	(29,591)	(28,837)	(28,802)	(28,367)	(27,918)	(27,679)	(27,393)
(b) gloves and other garments	(46,822)	(46,806)	(45,961)	(46,907)	(46,546)	(46,508)	(48,122)	(49,016)
5. Leather products and footwear	1,295	1,424	1,402	1,336	1,438	1,360	1,290	1,250
6. Wood and paper products	474	511	539	517	481	600*	660	622
7. Optical goods	465	479	494	570	540	510	492	518
8. Watches, electronic watches & clocks	940	966	851	850	839	703	658	684
9. Electric & other electronic products	254	349	465	408	441	441	344	371
10. Jewellery & related articles	1,673	1,589	1,336	1,380	1,482	1,443	1,453	1,418
11. Toys & carnival articles	396	1,031	1,000	978	1,030	1,034	1,043	1,037
12. Other	1,692	1,657	1,698	1,664	1,595	1,526	1,685	1,605
T O T A L	89,755	90,211	88,258	89,906	89,908	89,306	90,330	90,261

\* Increase in figure is due partly to a change in classification

1/ Provisional

Table 10 - Distribution of EPZ enterprises by employment size - as at December 1991<sup>1/</sup>

Employment size	No. of enterprises			No. of persons employed		
	Number	%	Cum. %	Number	%	Cum. %
Under 10	87	14.8	14.5	481	0.5	0.5
10 - 50	223	38.1	53.8	5,855	6.4	6.9
51 - 100	95	16.2	69.8	5,704	6.3	13.2
101 - 300	103	17.6	87.0	19,097	21.0	34.2
301 - 500	34	5.8	92.7	13,190	14.5	48.7
501 - 1,000	28	4.8	97.4	19,552	21.6	70.3
1,000 and above	16	2.7	100.0	26,982	29.7	100.0
T o t a l	586	100.0	100.0	90,861	100.0	100.0

<sup>1/</sup> Provisional



Table 11 -- New enterprises & employment created by product group -- year (1989 - 1991)

Product Group	1989		1990		1991	
	No. of Enterprises	Employment	No. of Enterprises	Employment	No. of Enterprises	Employment
1. Food	2	89	1	12	3	134
2. Flowers	5	23	10	73	6	55
3. Textile yarn & fabrics	6	517	10	1,179	1	34
4. Wearing apparels	<u>38</u>	<u>3,251</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>1,009</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>2,344</u>
of which (a) pullover	(4)	(302)	(2)	(105)	(1)	(777)
(b) gloves and other garments	(34)	(2,949)	(17)	(904)	(20)	(1,567)
5. Leather products & Footwear	5	252	3	77	-	-
6. Wood & paper products	4	123	2	80	4	72
7. Optical goods	-	-	3	38	1	15
8. Watches, electronic watches and clocks	-	-	1	10	2	23
9. Electric and other electronic products	5	82	5	139	5	62
10. Jewellery and related articles	3	48	3	35	1	19
11. Toys & carnival articles	1	33	1	96	-	-
12. Other	10	227	4	106	8	294
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>4,645</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>2,854</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>3,052</b>

Table 12. Closures and employment lost by product group - year (1989 - 1991)

Product Group	1989		1990		1991	
	No. of Enterprises	Employment	No. of Enterprises	Employment	No. of Enterprises	Employment
1. Food	--	--	1	108	1	12
2. Flowers	--	--	--	--	--	--
3. Textile yarn & fabrics	7	499	8	688	1	300
4. Wearing apparels	<u>83</u>	<u>5,469</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>2,528</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>1,477</u>
of which (a) pullovers	(9)	(1,591)	(5)	(645)	(4)	(149)
(b) gloves and other garments	(74)	(3,878)	(34)	(1,883)	(19)	(1,328)
5. Leather products & footwear	4	114	2	589	2	35
6. Wood and paper products	5	72	1	12	2	38
7. Optical goods	--	--	1	61	1	19
8. Watches, electronic watches and clocks	--	--	1	36	--	--
9. Electric and other electronic products	2	24	2	20	--	--
10. Jewellery and related articles	--	--	1	458	1	10
11. Toys & carnival articles	1	22	--	--	--	--
12. Other	5	86	1	3	3	237
<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>6,286</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>4,503</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>2,128</b>

Table 13 -- EPZ:-- Number of enterprises and employment -- quarterly series (1984 - 1991)

YEAR	Number of enterprises as at end of				Employment as at end of			
	March	June	September	December	March	June	September	December
1984	153	161	184	197	28,954	32,686	35,748	37,532
1985	215	237	257	290	43,134	46,669	50,218	53,951
1986	321	343	377	408	63,010	66,000	70,519	74,015
1987	437	472	500	531	78,007	82,740	85,685	87,905
1988	554	579	586	591	90,590	91,617	90,738	89,080
1989	573	575	564	563	89,286	89,265	88,669	88,650
1990	548	566	574	568	89,755	90,211	88,258	89,906
1991	578	578	585	586	89,908	89,306	90,330	90,861