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Government Reports Increase In Number Of Maquiladora Plants In January-may 1993

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According to the government statistics agency (Instituto Nacional de Estadisticas, Geografia e Informatica, INEGI), the number of maquiladora plants operating in Mexico had increased to 2,158 as of May 1993, an increase of 29 plants compared with 2,129 as of year-end 1992. The total includes 423 plants involved in the manufacture of electronic goods and accessories, compared with 416 such facilities at year-end 1992. In addition, 404 maquiladoras were involved in the production of clothing and textiles, nine more than at the end of 1992. Another 304 plants assembled furniture and accessories at the end of May, compared with 293 such operations at the end of December 1992. Of the other operations, 299 produce metal and wood products and 172 assemble and reconstruct transportation equipment. All the listed activities comprised almost 75% of the maquiladora activity. According to INEGI statistics, the maquiladora operations employed almost 546,000 workers as of the end of May, compared with about 511,000 at the end of December. During the last five months, the largest number of new maquiladora-related jobs were created in two states: Chihuahua (up 10,675) and Baja California (up 7,420), while much smaller increases were reported in Sonora and Tamaulipas. Coahuila actually lost 431 jobs since the end of 1992. (Sources: La Jornada, 08/20/93; Notimex, 08/19/93, 08/20/93)

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