

Importation of buses wil reach U.S. \$ 187 million in 2011 .

In 2011, 2,379 buses will be imported (urban and intercity) for the sum of U.S. \$ 187.2 million (20% to grow.), exceeding 2,060 units imported in 2010. Higher imports of buses are explained by the good performance of the economy (7.0% to grow in 2011), higher expectation of expected flow of passengers due to an increment of the economic activity and tourism, the decline in exchange rate which makes the acquisition of bus imports cheaper and the growing preference of passengers for new units, safer and offering better services.



Between January and November 2010, 1925 buses were imported (U.S. \$ 134.3 million), 22.0% higher than those imported in the same period in 2009, in which 1578 units were bought (U.S. \$ 75.8 million) corresponding to 79% in urban buses and the rest to inter-provincial buses. This increase was due to increased investment in new inter-provincial buses (especially for tourism). The main imported interprovincial bus brands were: Mercedes Benz (64.1% of part. in imported units between Jan-Nov 2010), Scania (15.2%), Golden Dragon (7.4%) and Volvo (6 , 1%). Also, during this time bus chassis were imported U.S. \$ 51.1 million (1,665 units), 77.6% over the same period last year.