



Arizona: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment

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Exports Support Jobs for Arizona's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 4.3 percent of Arizona's total private-sector employment. Over one-quarter (25.6 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Arizona depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

Exports Sustain Thousands of Arizona Businesses

A total of 5,359 companies exported from Arizona locations in 2009. Of those, 4,772 (89 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated over one-quarter (28 percent) of Arizona's total exports of merchandise in 2009.

Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Arizona

In 2009, foreign-controlled companies employed 73,100 Arizona workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Arizona in 2009 included Canada, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, and France.

Foreign investment in Arizona was responsible for 3.6 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2009.

Arizona Depends on World Markets

Arizona's export shipments of merchandise in 2011 totaled \$17.5 billion.

The state's largest market was Mexico. Arizona posted merchandise exports of \$5.7 billion to Mexico in 2011, 32.8 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. Mexico was followed by Canada (\$2.1 billion), China (\$1 billion), Japan (\$837 million), and United Kingdom (\$789 million).

The state's largest merchandise export category is computers and electronic products, which accounted for \$5 billion of Arizona's total merchandise exports in 2011. Other top merchandise exports are transportation equipment (\$2.7 billion), machinery (\$1.7 billion), agricultural products (\$1 billion), and minerals and ores (\$1 billion).

Arizona's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Arizona recorded merchandise exports: Phoenix-Mesa-Glendale (\$10.9 billion), Tucson (\$2.3 billion), Yuma (\$327 million), and Prescott (\$49.9 million). The metropolitan areas of Flagstaff and Lake Havasu City-Kingman were also likely major metropolitan exporters for Arizona in 2011; however export value totals are not available due to federal disclosure regulations.