



Massachusetts: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment

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Exports Support Jobs for Massachusetts's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 4.9 percent of Massachusetts's total private-sector employment. Over one-quarter (27.6 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Massachusetts depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

Exports Sustain Thousands of Massachusetts Businesses

A total of 8,797 companies exported from Massachusetts locations in 2009. Of those, 7,937 (90 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated nearly two-fifths (38 percent) of Massachusetts's total exports of merchandise in 2009.

Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Massachusetts

In 2009, foreign-controlled companies employed 185,000 Massachusetts workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Massachusetts in 2009 included the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Canada, and France.

Foreign investment in Massachusetts was responsible for 6.6 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2009.

Massachusetts Depends on World Markets

Massachusetts's export shipments of merchandise in 2011 totaled \$27.7 billion.

The state's largest market was Canada. Massachusetts posted merchandise exports of \$3.7 billion to Canada in 2011, 13.5 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. Canada was followed by United Kingdom (\$3.2 billion), China (\$2.1 billion), Germany (\$2.1 billion), and Japan (\$2 billion).

The state's largest merchandise export category is computers and electronic products, which accounted for \$7.7 billion of Massachusetts's total merchandise exports in 2011. Other top merchandise exports are machinery (\$3.7 billion), chemicals (\$3.4 billion), miscellaneous manufactured products (\$3.2 billion), and primary metal manufactures (\$2.7 billion).

Massachusetts's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Massachusetts recorded merchandise exports: Worcester (\$2.4 billion), Springfield (\$949 million), Pittsfield (\$478 million), and Barnstable Town (\$127 million). Several metropolitan area exporters included some counties in Massachusetts. Boston-Cambridge-Quincy (including some parts of New Hampshire) exported \$22.3 billion, while Providence-New Bedford-Fall River (including some parts of Rhode Island) exported \$7.1 billion.

Prepared by the Office of Trade and Industry Information, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. For more resources please see www.trade.gov/mas/ian.

Sources include resources from the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration, Bureau of the Census, and Bureau of Economic Analysis. For detailed information on each section, please see our footnotes.