



## Rhode Island: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment

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### Exports Support Jobs for Rhode Island's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 2.7 percent of Rhode Island's total private-sector employment. Over one-seventh (15.1 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Rhode Island depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

### Exports Sustain Thousands of Rhode Island Businesses

A total of 1,435 companies exported from Rhode Island locations in 2009. Of those, 1,284 (89 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated nearly two-thirds (64 percent) of Rhode Island's total exports of merchandise in 2009.

### Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Rhode Island

In 2009, foreign-controlled companies employed 23,800 Rhode Island workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Rhode Island in 2009 included the United Kingdom, France, Japan, and Switzerland.

Foreign investment in Rhode Island was responsible for 5.9 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2009.

### Rhode Island Depends on World Markets

Rhode Island's export shipments of merchandise in 2011 totaled \$2.3 billion.

The state's largest market was Canada. Rhode Island posted merchandise exports of \$643 million to Canada in 2011, 28. percent of the state's total merchandise exports. Canada was followed by Germany (\$233 million), Mexico (\$158 million), Turkey (\$134 million), and China (\$98.6 million).

The state's largest merchandise export category is waste and scrap, which accounted for \$695 million of Rhode Island's total merchandise exports in 2011. Other top merchandise exports are primary metal manufactures (\$311 million), chemicals (\$256 million), miscellaneous manufactured products (\$217 million), and machinery (\$169 million).

### Rhode Island's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Rhode Island recorded merchandise exports: Providence-New Bedford-Fall River (including parts of Massachusetts) exported \$7.1 billion.