



Oregon: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment

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Exports Support Jobs for Oregon's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 5.1 percent of Oregon's total private-sector employment. Nearly one-quarter (23.3 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Oregon depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

Exports Sustain Thousands of Oregon Businesses

A total of 4,717 companies exported from Oregon locations in 2009. Of those, 4,198 (89 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated nearly one-third (30 percent) of Oregon's total exports of merchandise in 2009.

Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Oregon

In 2009, foreign-controlled companies employed 43,900 Oregon workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Oregon in 2009 included Germany, the United Kingdom, Japan, and Switzerland.

Foreign investment in Oregon was responsible for 3.2 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2009.

Oregon Depends on World Markets

Oregon's export shipments of merchandise in 2011 totaled \$18.3 billion.

The state's largest market was China. Oregon posted merchandise exports of \$3.2 billion to China in 2011, 17.3 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. China was followed by Canada (\$2.7 billion), Malaysia (\$2.2 billion), Japan (\$1.6 billion), and Korea (\$1.1 billion).

The state's largest merchandise export category is computers and electronic products, which accounted for \$6.5 billion of Oregon's total merchandise exports in 2011. Other top merchandise exports are agricultural products (\$2.8 billion), chemicals (\$1.7 billion), machinery (\$1.6 billion), and transportation equipment (\$920 million).

Oregon's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Oregon recorded merchandise exports: Salem (\$509 million), Eugene-Springfield (\$464 million), Corvallis (\$338 million), Medford (\$133 million), and Bend (\$87.3 million). Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro (including some parts of Washington) exported \$20.9 billion.