



## Iowa: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment September 2012

### Exports Support Jobs for Iowa's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 7.1 percent of Iowa's total private-sector employment. Over one-fifth (21.2 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Iowa depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

### Exports Sustain Thousands of Iowa Businesses

A total of 2,447 companies exported from Iowa locations in 2009. Of those, 2,008 (82 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated over one-quarter (27 percent) of Iowa's total exports of merchandise in 2009.

### Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Iowa

In 2009, foreign-controlled companies employed 46,000 Iowa workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Iowa in 2009 included the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Japan, and Germany.

Foreign investment in Iowa was responsible for 3.7 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2009.

### Iowa Depends on World Markets

Iowa's export shipments of merchandise in 2011 totaled \$13.3 billion.

The state's largest market was Canada. Iowa posted merchandise exports of \$4.1 billion to Canada in 2011, 30.5 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. Canada was followed by Mexico (\$2.2 billion), Japan (\$976 million), Germany (\$594 million), and China (\$575 million).

The state's largest merchandise export category is machinery, which accounted for \$3.8 billion of Iowa's total merchandise exports in 2011. Other top merchandise exports are food products (\$2.9 billion), agricultural products (\$1.2 billion), chemicals (\$1.2 billion), and transportation equipment (\$842 million).

### Iowa's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Iowa recorded merchandise exports: Des Moines-West Des Moines (\$970 million), Cedar Rapids (\$881 million), Iowa City (\$317 million), Ames (\$256 million), Waterloo-Cedar Falls (\$220 million), and Dubuque (\$150 million). Davenport-Moline-Rock Island (including some parts of Illinois) exported \$6.7 billion, while Omaha-Council Bluffs (including some parts of Nebraska) exported \$2.7 billion, and Sioux City (including some parts of Nebraska and South Dakota) exported \$2.6 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](http://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.