



Maine: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment September 2012

Exports Support Jobs for Maine's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 3.3 percent of Maine's total private-sector employment. Over one-sixth (17.1 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Maine depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

Exports Sustain Thousands of Maine Businesses

A total of 1,329 companies exported from Maine locations in 2009. Of those, 1,158 (87 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated over one-third (37 percent) of Maine's total exports of merchandise in 2009.

Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Maine

In 2009, foreign-controlled companies employed 30,000 Maine workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Maine in 2009 included Canada, Switzerland, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

Foreign investment in Maine was responsible for 6.0 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2009.

Maine Depends on World Markets

Maine's export shipments of merchandise in 2011 totaled \$3.5 billion.

The state's largest market was Canada. Maine posted merchandise exports of \$1.1 billion to Canada in 2011, 32.4 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. Canada was followed by Malaysia (\$927 million), China (\$275 million), United Kingdom (\$128 million), and Korea (\$127 million).

The state's largest merchandise export category is computers and electronic products, which accounted for \$1.1 billion of Maine's total merchandise exports in 2011. Other top merchandise exports are paper products (\$671 million), transportation equipment (\$359 million), fish products (\$280 million), and forestry products (\$136 million).

Maine's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Maine recorded merchandise exports: Portland-South Portland-Biddeford (\$1.7 billion), Lewiston-Auburn (\$119 million), and Bangor (\$113 million).