



## North Dakota: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment September 2012

### Exports Support Jobs for North Dakota's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 3. percent of North Dakota's total private-sector employment. Over one-seventh (14.5 percent) of all manufacturing workers in North Dakota depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

### Exports Sustain Thousands of North Dakota Businesses

A total of 876 companies exported from North Dakota locations in 2009. Of those, 751 (86 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated over two-fifths (41 percent) of North Dakota's total exports of merchandise in 2009.

### Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in North Dakota

In 2009, foreign-controlled companies employed 10,900 North Dakota workers. Major sources of foreign investment in North Dakota in 2009 included Canada, France, the Netherlands, and Japan.

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

### North Dakota Depends on World Markets

North Dakota's export shipments of merchandise in 2011 totaled \$3.4 billion.

The state's largest market was Canada. North Dakota posted merchandise exports of \$2.2 billion to Canada in 2011, 64.5 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. Canada was followed by Mexico (\$178 million), Belgium (\$88.9 million), Australia (\$83.2 million), and Germany (\$67.7 million).

The state's largest merchandise export category is machinery, which accounted for \$1 billion of North Dakota's total merchandise exports in 2011. Other top merchandise exports are oil and gas (\$741 million), agricultural products (\$552 million), food products (\$237 million), and transportation equipment (\$202 million).

### North Dakota's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in North Dakota recorded merchandise exports: Bismarck (\$64 million). Fargo (including some parts of Minnesota) exported \$731 million, while Grand Forks (including some parts of Minnesota) exported \$176 million.