



## Oklahoma: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment

### September 2012

#### Exports Support Jobs for Oklahoma's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 4.9 percent of Oklahoma's total private-sector employment. Nearly one-quarter (22.5 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Oklahoma depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

#### Exports Sustain Thousands of Oklahoma Businesses

A total of 2,404 companies exported from Oklahoma locations in 2009. Of those, 2,044 (85 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated nearly one-third (32 percent) of Oklahoma's total exports of merchandise in 2009.

#### Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Oklahoma

In 2009, foreign-controlled companies employed 34,300 Oklahoma workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Oklahoma in 2009 included France, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Germany.

Foreign investment in Oklahoma was responsible for 2.8 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2009.

#### Oklahoma Depends on World Markets

Oklahoma's export shipments of merchandise in 2011 totaled \$6.2 billion.

The state's largest market was Canada. Oklahoma posted merchandise exports of \$1.9 billion to Canada in 2011, 31.2 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. Canada was followed by Mexico (\$523 million), Japan (\$405 million), China (\$367 million), and Singapore (\$169 million).

The state's largest merchandise export category is machinery, which accounted for \$1.5 billion of Oklahoma's total merchandise exports in 2011. Other top merchandise exports are computers and electronic products (\$837 million), transportation equipment (\$668 million), fabricated metal products (\$560 million), and food products (\$466 million).

#### Oklahoma's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Oklahoma recorded merchandise exports: Tulsa (\$3.1 billion), Oklahoma City (\$1.6 billion), and Lawton (\$12.4 million). Fort Smith (including some parts of Arkansas) exported \$428 million.