



Massachusetts: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment

February 2013

Exports Support Jobs for Massachusetts's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 4.9 percent of Massachusetts's total private-sector employment. Over one-quarter (27.6 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Massachusetts depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

Exports Sustain Thousands of Massachusetts Businesses

A total of 9,182 companies exported from Massachusetts locations in 2010. Of those, 8,324 (91 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated over one-third (37 percent) of Massachusetts's total exports of merchandise in 2010.

Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Massachusetts

In 2010, foreign-controlled companies employed 177,500 Massachusetts workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Massachusetts in 2010 included United Kingdom, Netherlands, Canada, and Germany.

Foreign investment in Massachusetts was responsible for 6.3 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2010.

Massachusetts Depends on World Markets

Massachusetts's export shipments of merchandise in 2012 totaled \$25.5 billion.

The state's largest market was Canada. Massachusetts posted merchandise exports of \$3.4 billion to Canada in 2012, 13.3 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. Canada was followed by United Kingdom (\$2.6 billion), Japan (\$2.0 billion), China (\$1.9 billion), and Germany (\$1.8 billion).

The state's largest merchandise export category is Computer & Electronic Products, which accounted for \$7.3 billion of Massachusetts's total merchandise exports in 2012. Other top merchandise exports are Chemicals (\$3.4 billion), Machinery, Except Electrical (\$3.4 billion), Miscellaneous Manufactured Commodities (\$3.1 billion), and Primary Metal Manufactures (\$1.9 billion).

Massachusetts's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Massachusetts recorded merchandise exports: Worcester (\$2.4 billion), Springfield (\$949 million), Pittsfield (\$478 million), Barnstable Town (\$127 million), Boston-Cambridge-Quincy (\$22.3 billion, portions of this MSA are shared with one or more other states)