



Montana: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment February 2013

Exports Support Jobs for Montana's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 2.3 percent of Montana's total private-sector employment. Nearly one-sixth (15.6 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Montana depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

Exports Sustain Thousands of Montana Businesses

A total of 857 companies exported from Montana locations in 2010. Of those, 766 (89 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated nearly four-fifths (79 percent) of Montana's total exports of merchandise in 2010.

Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Montana

Major sources of foreign investment in Montana in 2010 included United Kingdom, Canada, France, and Japan.

Montana Depends on World Markets

Montana's export shipments of merchandise in 2012 totaled \$1.6 billion.

The state's largest market was Canada. Montana posted merchandise exports of \$634 million to Canada in 2012, 40.3 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. Canada was followed by Korea (\$173 million), China (\$105 million), Belgium (\$83 million), and Taiwan (\$74 million).

The state's largest merchandise export category is Chemicals, which accounted for \$327 million of Montana's total merchandise exports in 2012. Other top merchandise exports are Minerals & Ores (\$261 million), Machinery, Except Electrical (\$219 million), Petroleum & Coal Products (\$149 million), and Agricultural Products (\$107 million).

Montana's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Montana recorded merchandise exports: Great Falls (\$114 million), Billings (\$102 million), Missoula (\$75.5 million)