



## Virginia: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment

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

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 3. percent of Virginia's total private-sector employment. over one-sixth (17.4 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Virginia depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

#### Exports Sustain Thousands of Virginia Businesses

A total of 5,509 companies exported from Virginia locations in 2010. Of those, 4,754 (86 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated over one-quarter (28 percent) of Virginia's total exports of merchandise in 2010.

#### Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Virginia

In 2010, foreign-controlled companies employed 140,800 Virginia workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Virginia in 2010 included United Kingdom, Japan, France, and Germany.

Foreign investment in Virginia was responsible for 4.8 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2010.

#### Virginia Depends on World Markets

Virginia's export shipments of merchandise in 2012 totaled \$18.2 billion.

The state's largest market was Canada. Virginia posted merchandise exports of \$3.1 billion to Canada in 2012, 17.1 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. Canada was followed by China (\$2.0 billion), United Kingdom (\$1.1 billion), Mexico (\$1.1 billion), and Germany (\$921 million).

The state's largest merchandise export category is Chemicals, which accounted for \$3.0 billion of Virginia's total merchandise exports in 2012. Other top merchandise exports are Transportation Equipment (\$2.4 billion), Computer & Electronic Products (\$2.4 billion), Machinery, Except Electrical (\$1.8 billion), and Food & Kindred Products (\$1.2 billion).

#### Virginia's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Virginia recorded merchandise exports: Richmond (\$5.1 billion), Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford (\$994 million), Roanoke (\$660 million), Lynchburg (\$424 million), Danville (\$313 million), Charlottesville (\$249 million), Harrisonburg (\$122 million), Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News (\$2.6 billion, portions of this MSA are shared with one or more other states), Winchester (\$297 million, portions of this MSA are shared with one or more other states)

Prepared by the Office of Trade and Industry Information, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. For more resources please see [www.trade.gov/mas/ian](http://www.trade.gov/mas/ian).

Sources include resources from the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration, Bureau of the Census, and Bureau of Economic Analysis. For detailed information on each section, please see our footnotes.