



## Washington: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment

February 2013

### Exports Support Jobs for Washington's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 8.6 percent of Washington's total private-sector employment. Two-fifths (40.2 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Washington depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

### Exports Sustain Thousands of Washington Businesses

A total of 8,551 companies exported from Washington locations in 2010. Of those, 7,746 (91 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated one-quarter (25 percent) of Washington's total exports of merchandise in 2010.

### Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Washington

In 2010, foreign-controlled companies employed 92,300 Washington workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Washington in 2010 included Germany, Canada, United Kingdom, and Japan.

Foreign investment in Washington was responsible for 4.0 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2010.

### Washington Depends on World Markets

Washington's export shipments of merchandise in 2012 totaled \$75.5 billion.

The state's largest market was China. Washington posted merchandise exports of \$14.2 billion to China in 2012, 18.8 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. China was followed by Japan (\$9.0 billion), Canada (\$8.3 billion), United Arab Emirates (\$5.1 billion), and Korea (\$3.4 billion).

The state's largest merchandise export category is Transportation Equipment, which accounted for \$38.2 billion of Washington's total merchandise exports in 2012. Other top merchandise exports are Agricultural Products (\$12.0 billion), Petroleum & Coal Products (\$3.8 billion), Computer & Electronic Products (\$3.7 billion), and Food & Kindred Products (\$3.3 billion).

### Washington's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Washington recorded merchandise exports: Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue (\$41.1 billion), Bellingham (\$1.5 billion), Mount Vernon-Anacortes (\$1.5 billion), Longview (\$1.3 billion), Yakima (\$1.1 billion), Kennewick-Pasco-Richland (\$1 billion), Spokane (\$761 million), Olympia (\$440 million), Wenatchee-East Wenatchee (\$422 million), Bremerton-Silverdale (\$65.9 million)

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.