



Alaska: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment

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Exports Support Jobs for Alaska's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 1.6 percent of Alaska's total private-sector employment. Nearly one-tenth (7.3 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Alaska depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

Exports Sustain Thousands of Alaska Businesses

A total of 338 companies exported from Alaska locations in 2010. Of those, 266 (79 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated nearly one-fifth (19 percent) of Alaska's total exports of merchandise in 2010.

Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Alaska

In 2010, foreign-controlled companies employed 13,600 Alaska workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Alaska in 2010 included United Kingdom, Japan, Canada, and France.

Foreign investment in Alaska was responsible for 5.6 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2010.

Alaska Depends on World Markets

Alaska's export shipments of merchandise in 2012 totaled \$4.6 billion.

The state's largest market was China. Alaska posted merchandise exports of \$1.3 billion to China in 2012, 29.1 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. China was followed by Japan (\$790 million), Korea (\$691 million), Canada (\$462 million), and Germany (\$274 million).

The state's largest merchandise export category is Fish & Other Marine Products, which accounted for \$2.2 billion of Alaska's total merchandise exports in 2012. Other top merchandise exports are Minerals & Ores (\$1.6 billion), Petroleum & Coal Products (\$195 million), Oil & Gas (\$168 million), and Forestry Products, Neso (\$151 million).

Alaska's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Alaska recorded merchandise exports: The metropolitan areas of Anchorage and Fairbanks were likely major metropolitan exporters for Alaska in 2011; however an export value total is not available due to federal disclosure regulations.