



Maine: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment

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Exports Support Jobs for Maine's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 3.3 percent of Maine's total private-sector employment. Over one-sixth (17.1 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Maine depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

Exports Sustain Thousands of Maine Businesses

A total of 1,347 companies exported from Maine locations in 2010. Of those, 1,196 (89 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated over two-fifths (41 percent) of Maine's total exports of merchandise in 2010.

Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Maine

In 2010, foreign-controlled companies employed 30,400 Maine workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Maine in 2010 included Canada, Switzerland, Germany, and United Kingdom.

Foreign investment in Maine was responsible for 6.2 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2010.

Maine Depends on World Markets

Maine's export shipments of merchandise in 2012 totaled \$3.1 billion.

The state's largest market was Canada. Maine posted merchandise exports of \$1.3 billion to Canada in 2012, 43.1 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. Canada was followed by Malaysia (\$468 million), China (\$248 million), Japan (\$126 million), and Korea (\$76 million).

The state's largest merchandise export category is Paper, which accounted for \$632 million of Maine's total merchandise exports in 2012. Other top merchandise exports are Computer & Electronic Products (\$590 million), Transportation Equipment (\$379 million), Fish & Other Marine Products (\$292 million), and Forestry Products, NesoI (\$163 million).

Maine's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Maine recorded merchandise exports: Portland-South Portland-Biddeford (\$1.7 billion), Lewiston-Auburn (\$119 million), Bangor (\$113 million)