



## Colorado: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment September 2012

### Exports Support Jobs for Colorado's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 3.6 percent of Colorado's total private-sector employment. Nearly one-quarter (22.9 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Colorado depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

### Exports Sustain Thousands of Colorado Businesses

A total of 4,494 companies exported from Colorado locations in 2009. Of those, 3,974 (88 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated over one-quarter (29 percent) of Colorado's total exports of merchandise in 2009.

### Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Colorado

In 2009, foreign-controlled companies employed 79,000 Colorado workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Colorado in 2009 included the United Kingdom, Canada, France, and Switzerland.

Foreign investment in Colorado was responsible for 4.2 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2009.

### Colorado Depends on World Markets

Colorado's export shipments of merchandise in 2011 totaled \$7.3 billion.

The state's largest market was Canada. Colorado posted merchandise exports of \$1.5 billion to Canada in 2011, 21 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. Canada was followed by Mexico (\$755 million), China (\$635 million), Japan (\$393 million), and Netherlands (\$317 million).

The state's largest merchandise export category is computers and electronic products, which accounted for \$2 billion of Colorado's total merchandise exports in 2011. Other top merchandise exports are food products (\$1.2 billion), machinery (\$845 million), chemicals (\$679 million), and miscellaneous manufactured products (\$450 million).

### Colorado's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the following metropolitan areas in Colorado recorded merchandise exports: Denver-Aurora-Broomfield (\$3.8 billion), Greeley (\$1.2 billion), Colorado Springs (\$1.1 billion), Boulder (\$947 million), Fort Collins-Loveland (\$813 million), Pueblo (\$142 million), and Grand Junction (\$121 million).