



Delaware: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment September 2012

Exports Support Jobs for Delaware's Workers

Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 3.2 percent of Delaware's total private-sector employment. Nearly one-fifth (18.8 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Delaware depend on exports for their jobs (2009 data latest available).

Exports Sustain Thousands of Delaware Businesses

A total of 907 companies exported from Delaware locations in 2009. Of those, 773 (85 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated over one-fifth (21 percent) of Delaware's total exports of merchandise in 2009.

Foreign Investment Creates Jobs in Delaware

In 2009, foreign-controlled companies employed 30,400 Delaware workers. Major sources of foreign investment in Delaware in 2009 included the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, and Switzerland.

Foreign investment in Delaware was responsible for 8.5 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2009.

Delaware Depends on World Markets

Delaware's export shipments of merchandise in 2011 totaled \$5.5 billion.

The state's largest market was Canada. Delaware posted merchandise exports of \$1.5 billion to Canada in 2011, 27.2 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. Canada was followed by United Kingdom (\$929 million), China (\$465 million), Japan (\$373 million), and Germany (\$263 million).

The state's largest merchandise export category is chemicals, which accounted for \$2.8 billion of Delaware's total merchandise exports in 2011. Other top merchandise exports are computers and electronic products (\$608 million), transportation equipment (\$362 million), machinery (\$334 million), and plastics and rubbers (\$279 million).

Delaware's Metropolitan Exports

In 2011, the metropolitan area of Dover exported \$60.8 million in merchandise. Dover is the only metropolitan area with counties exclusively in Delaware. Wilmington is included in the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington metropolitan area, which also contains counties in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maryland. In 2011, the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington metropolitan area exported \$26.2 billion in merchandise.