

MAINE: Benefits of the International Affairs Budget



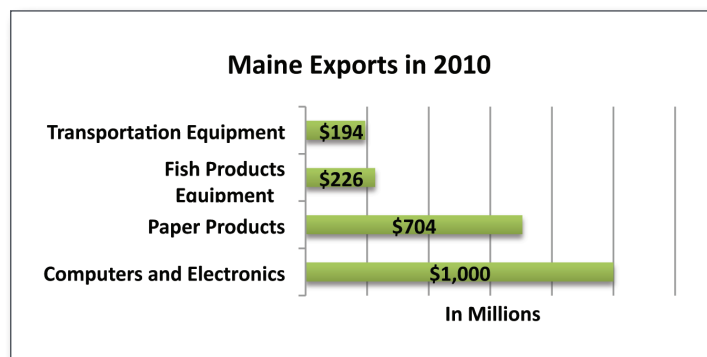
Maine exports a diverse range of goods and services to the rest of the world. From state of the art semiconductors to wood and paper products to seafood, Maine exports are big for business, supporting thousands of jobs in a variety of industries. Developing nations such as Malaysia, China, Brazil, Mexico, and South Africa are among the top international markets purchasing products made in Maine.

Job Creation

- Trade supported more than **180,000 jobs** in Maine in 2008, or about 20% of total jobs, up from 7.5% in 1992.
- Almost one-sixth (15.6%) of all manufacturing workers in Maine **depended on exports** for their jobs.
- In 2008, nearly **30,000 people in Maine** were employed by U.S. affiliates of companies that are at least 50% foreign-owned.

Exports and Growth

- Maine exported **\$3.1 billion** in merchandise to foreign markets in 2010. Maine's largest market in 2010 was Canada (\$1.0 billion), followed by Malaysia (\$850 million), China (\$333 million), the Netherlands (\$109 million), and South Korea (\$99 million).
- In 2008, over **1,400 companies** exported goods from Maine. Of these, **86% were small and medium-sized enterprises** with fewer than 500 employees.
- **Agricultural** exports are important to Maine's economy, totaling more than **\$470 million** in 2010.
- Since 2007, the U.S. Export-Import Bank has financed over **\$220 million** in exports from **eight companies in seven communities** in Maine.
- Since 1971, Overseas Private Investment Corporation has invested nearly **\$9 million** in companies throughout Maine.



Education and Research

- In 2008-2009, more than **1,200 students** studied abroad, a 6.2% increase over the previous academic year.
- During 2009-2010, about 1200 international students were enrolled in Maine colleges and universities and contributed **\$37 million** to the Maine economy.

Global Engagement

- Since 1961, nearly **1,700 Peace Corps volunteers** from Maine have served in dozens of countries overseas.

