



# Trade Means Growth for Nebraska

**International trade—exports and imports of goods and services—supports 260,000 jobs in Nebraska, or about 1 in 5 total jobs in the state.**

Key facts about trade and jobs:

- The share of Nebraska jobs supported by trade has nearly doubled since the early 1990s.
- Jobs in export-intensive industries offer compensation that averages about 16 percent higher than other jobs.
- Imports let American families stretch their budgets and help U.S. manufacturers keep costs down and competitiveness up.
- Nearly 1,800 Nebraska companies exported in 2022. Nationally, 97% of trading firms are small-and medium sized enterprises.
- Since 2008, companies that import or export goods have accounted for 3 out of 5 new American jobs.

**Nebraska companies exported \$13 billion in goods and services in 2023 to nearly 170 markets around the world.**

Top Markets for Nebraska Exports, 2023 (millions of dollars)

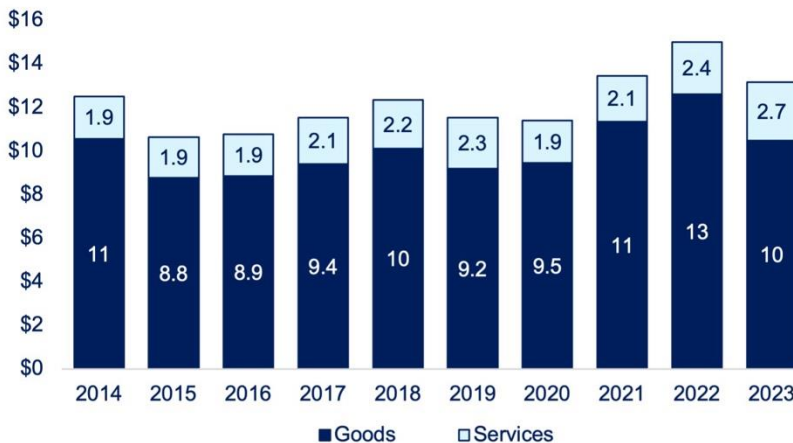
Country	Goods	Services	Total
China	\$1,830	\$135	\$1,965
Canada	\$1,659	\$234	\$1,893
Mexico	\$1,671	\$122	\$1,793
Japan	\$1,018	\$152	\$1,170
Korea	\$628	\$60	\$688
Other	\$3,673	\$1,996	\$5,669

America's FTA partners account for just 6% of the world's population but purchased 47% of Nebraska's goods exports in 2023.

Nebraska's goods exports to Belgium were \$264 million in 2023, an increase of over 150% since 2014.

The United Kingdom was the top export market for services exports in 2023 at \$293 million.

Nebraska Exports, 2014-2023 (billions of dollars)



Nebraska's total goods and services exports increased by \$658 million (5.3%) between 2014 and 2023.

In 2023, Nebraska exported \$10 billion in goods and \$2.7 billion in services — a 10-year high for services.

Most services export growth has been driven by digital trade, which is allowing more Nebraska companies to reach customers abroad more easily.



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## Top Goods and Services Exports from Nebraska, 2023 (millions of dollars)

Sector	Exports
Agricultural Products	3,441
Food & Kindred Products	3,137
Machinery	1,111
Chemicals	819
Royalties & License Fees	555
Insurance	530
Other	3,584

Nebraska's top food and agricultural exports in 2023 were soybeans (\$2.0 billion) and corn (\$1.2 billion).

Nebraska's top machinery exports in 2023 were harvesters and similar agricultural equipment (\$587 million) and irrigation equipment (\$215 million).

Nebraska's exports of digitally tradable services reached \$2.0 billion in 2023.

## Foreign-headquartered companies directly employ 38,600 Nebraska workers.

### Nebraska Workers Employed at Foreign-Owned Companies by Sector, 2021

Sector	Jobs
Manufacturing	19,100
Retail Trade	2,900
Wholesale Trade	2,700
Finance and Insurance	2,400
Information	800
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	600
Other	10,100

Japanese-owned companies employ the most Nebraska workers (5,500), followed by British-owned companies (4,500).

Each job at a foreign-owned company typically supports three other U.S. jobs indirectly.

In 2021, U.S. affiliates of foreign-owned companies employed 8 million Americans, exported \$412 billion in goods, and spent \$78 billion on R&D.

#### Data Sources

**Nebraska jobs supported by trade:** Trade Partnership Worldwide for Business Roundtable, [https://s3.amazonaws.com/brit.org/Business-Roundtable\\_TradeandAmericanJobs2022.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/brit.org/Business-Roundtable_TradeandAmericanJobs2022.pdf).

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**Nebraska exporting companies:** U.S. Census Bureau, "Profile of U.S. Importing and Exporting Companies," <https://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/Press-Release/edb/edbrel2022.pdf>.

**Goods traders job creation:** Kamal, Fariha, Ouyang, Wei, Handley, Kyle, "The rise of exporters and importers in US job growth: Insights from newly released data," <https://cepr.org/voxeu/columns/rise-exporters-and-importers-us-job-growth-insights-newly-released-data>.

**Nebraska goods and services export data:** Trade Partnership Worldwide's *CDxports* database, <https://tradepartnership.com/data/cdxports-and-cdxjobs/>.

**Nebraska FDI data:** U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Activities of U.S. Affiliates of Foreign Multinational Enterprises"; <https://www.bea.gov/international/di1fdiop>.