

**Data on Minnesota Exports for First Quarter 2020 – Published May 2020**

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# Exports Gain in 5% in First Quarter

* Minnesota exports (including agricultural, mining and manufactured products) were valued at $5.6 billion, increasing 5% (or about $278 million) between the first quarters of 2019 and 2020.
* U.S. exports of goods slid 3% during this period. Although exports dropped from 24 states, they grew or were unchanged for the remaining states and the District of Columbia.
* Minnesota *manufactured* exports jumped 6% to $5.5 billion in the first quarter of 2020, while U.S. manufactured exports dipped 5%.

Figure 1**.** Exports Up in 21 States; Flat in 6 States, DC

 

***MN: +5%***

***U.S.: -3%***

 *Decline 0% Growth*



## *Canada and Markets in Asia and Latin America Help Bolster Minnesota Exports*

* **North American** exports surged 21%. Export growth of 43% to **Canada** – primarily due to **mineral fuels** – overshadowed a 15% decline to **Mexico** – as sales of **machinery,** **iron/steel** goods and **plastics** sank.
* Exports increased moderately by 4% to **Asia**. Strong gains to **Korea** (up 17%), **Taiwan** (up 44%), **Japan** (up 7%) and **Thailand** (up 21%) masked struggling sales to **China** (down 5%) and **the Philippines** (down 22%).
* Exports to **Europe** contracted 9% to $1.3 billion, as sales shrank in **Turkey** (down 63%), **the U.K.** (down 13%), **Germany** (down 5%), **Switzerland** (down 22%) and **France** (down 8%). **Ireland** (up 10%) and **Poland** (up 25%, ranked 24th) were bright spots among larger European markets.
* Exports rebounded in **Central and South America** ($235 million, up 6%), supported by key markets such as **Brazil** ($66 million, up 32%), **Costa Rica** ($62 million, up 20%) and **Peru** ($13 million, up 43%).
* Minnesota sales slumped to the **Australia-Pacific** region ($127 million, down 10%), the **Middle East** ($88 million, down 16%) and **Africa** ($41 million, down 6%), as exports reversed course in **Australia** (down 11%), **South Africa** (down 32%), **Saudi Arabia** (down 32%) and **Israel** (down 18%).

#### Figure 2. Exports and Trends Among Minnesota’s Top 10 Markets, First Quarter 2020



## *Mineral Fuels, Meat, Plastics, Aircraft and Precious Metals Lead in Gains*

* Exports of **mineral fuels** (up 1,874%) were volatile, spiking to $515 million to Canada.
* Global sales of **meat** leaped 53% to $121 million, propelled by **China** (up 625%) and **Japan** (up 45%). **Fresh, chilled or frozen pork** ($91 million, up 72%) steered growth and accounted for 75% of the state’s meat exports.
* Demand for **plastics** expanded 8%, driven by **the** **Netherlands** (up 162%), **China** (up 21%), **Germany** (up 10%) and **Costa Rica** (up 149%), and despite a drop of 28% to **Mexico**. **Primary polyester resins** and **adhesive** **plastic sheets, film** jumped the most.

Figure 3. Minnesota’s Major Markets for Meat

* Robust sales of **civilian aircraft and parts** in **China**, **Korea** and **Mexico** lifted **aircraft** exports by 19%.
* Outreach in **Germany** and **Taiwan** led to **stone, plaster, cement** exports increasing 10% to $106 million.
* Among food segments, **Mexico** generated export growth for **dairy, eggs** ($36 million, up 33%) and **fats, oils** ($23 million, up 64%). Sales of **food by-products** ($146 million, up 5%) had solid traction in markets such as **Indonesia** (up 127%), **Korea** (up 78%) and **Thailand** (up 59%),but slipped in **Japan**, **Chile** and **Vietnam**.
* **China** (up 43%), **Japan** (up 36%), **Germany** (up 65%) and **Korea** (up 18%) spurred gains in **organic chemicals**.
* Bleak sales of **blood products** and **bandages** to **China,** **Germany** and **Singapore** disrupted **pharmaceuticals**.
* Demand tumbled for **electrical equipment** (down $81 million – influenced by **the Philippines, Turkey** and **Canada**); **machinery** (down $77 million – largely due to **Mexico, China** and **Australia**); **cereals** (down $31 million – shaped by **Canada** and **Japan**); and **vehicles** (down $25 million – dragged down by **Mexico**).
* Also losing ground were exports of **wood pulp** ($41 million, down 36%) in **Indonesia** and **India**; **ores, slag, ash** ($17 million, down 47%) in **Canada**; and **glass** ($27 million, down 35%) in **Canada** and **Switzerland**.

#### Figure 4. Exports and Trends Among Minnesota’s Top 10 Products, First Quarter 2020



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| Minnesota Quarterly Export Statistics is the most current resource available for tracking the state’s manufactured export trends and is prepared for the Minnesota Trade Office (MTO) by the Department of Employment and Economic Development’s (DEED) Economic Analysis Unit (Thu-Mai Ho-Kim). The quarterly and annual statistics reports primarily cover export data based on the Harmonized Tariff System (Schedule B), collected by the U.S. Department of Commerce (USDOC) and distributed by IHS Maritime & Trade. Reports are available on DEED’s website at “Export and Trade Statistics” (<http://mn.gov/deed/data/export-stats/>). |

\*Growth in exports of mineral fuels (up 1,874%) was omitted from the chart to minimize distortion.