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U.S. Metropolitan Area Exports, 2015

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U.S. Metro Exports: 2015 Highlights

US Metro Exports: 2015 Highlights

U.S. Metro Areas Export more than \$1.3 Trillion of Goods in 2015

- In 2015, merchandise exports to the world from 388 U.S. Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) totaled \$1.33 trillion, of which 156 MSAs exported more than \$1 billion. Goods exports from non-metropolitan areas totaled an additional \$172.0 billion.
- Goods exports from metropolitan areas account for 89 percent of total U.S. merchandise exports. Since 2009, metropolitan areas have accounted for nearly 90% of U.S. merchandise exports each year.
- The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX metropolitan area was the top goods exporter in 2015, shipping \$97.1 billion abroad. This area's top export was refined petroleum and coal products (\$27.0 billion), followed by chemicals (\$26.1 billion) and machinery (\$12.1 billion).
- Within the Houston, TX metro area, Harris County was the largest exporting county, accounting for \$80.2 billion, 83 percent, of Houston's goods exports. Harris County is the largest single-county exporter in the in U.S.
- Other major metro area exporters were New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA (\$95.6 billion); Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA (\$67.2 billion); Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA (\$61.8 billion); and Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI (\$44.8 billion).

119 Metro Areas Recorded Export Growth in 2015

- The Seattle, WA metropolitan area reported the largest dollar growth in exports, with exports up \$5.3 billion in 2015 to a record \$67.2 billion.
- 63 metro areas had record levels of exports in 2015.

Exports from U.S. Metropolitan Areas Up Over 40 Percent Since 2009

- Merchandise exports from U.S. metro areas have increased 42 percent over the 2009 export figure of \$936.3 billion.

U.S. Metro Areas Benefit from Existing and New FTAs

- NAFTA remains a major market for metropolitan area exports, with all reporting MSAs exporting goods to NAFTA countries in 2015.
- Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI was the largest metropolitan exporter to Canada in 2015, with \$15.1 billion of goods exports to Canada.
- El Paso, TX represented the largest metropolitan area exporter to Mexico in 2015, exporting \$21.1 billion of merchandise to Mexico.
- 99 MSAs each exported more than \$1 billion to TPP partners.

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U.S. Metro Area Exports in 2015

In 2015, merchandise trade exports to the world from the 388 U.S. Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) totaled \$1.33 trillion, with merchandise exports from non-metropolitan “rural” areas totaling an additional \$172.0 billion. As a whole, the U.S. exported \$1.5 trillion in goods and \$751 billion in services in 2015.

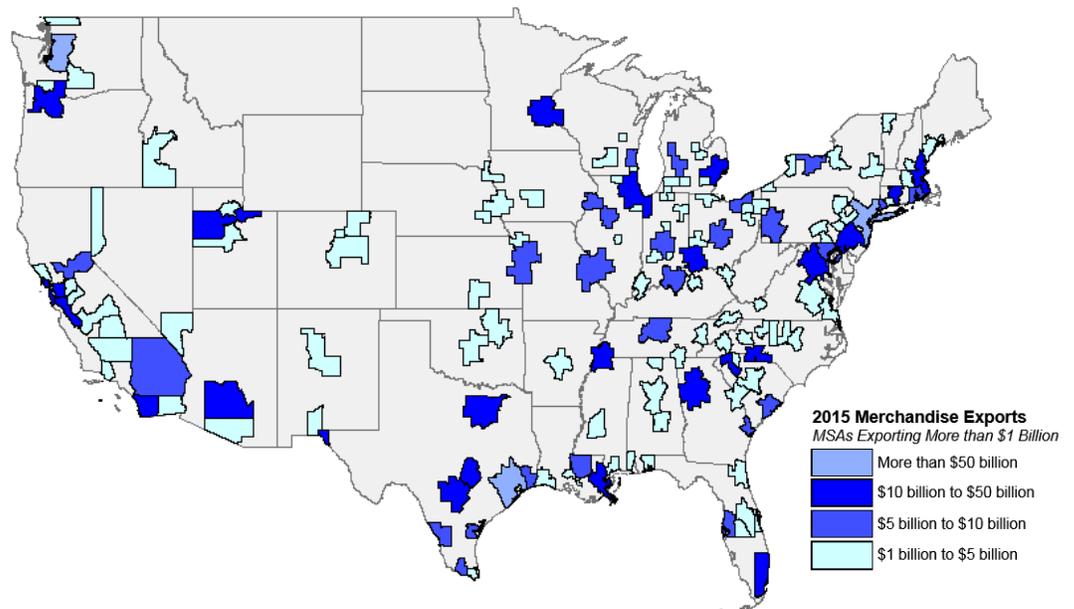
The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX metropolitan area reported the highest goods export value, shipping \$97.1 billion of merchandise abroad in 2015. Other major metro area exporters were New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA (\$95.6 billion); Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA (\$67.2 billion); Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA (\$61.8 billion); and Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI (\$44.8 billion).

Export values by county are available for the top 50 metropolitan areas. In the Houston metropolitan area, Harris County reported the largest export value. At \$80.2 billion, Harris County accounted for 83 percent of all reported goods exports from this metro area in 2015. Other top exporting counties were Los Angeles County within the Los Angeles, CA area (\$42.8 billion); and New York County (Manhattan) within the New York, NY area (\$39.2 billion).



Of exports from the Houston metro area came from Harris County in 2015.

156 Metro Areas Exported More than \$1 Billion each in 2015



*Tuscaloosa, AL export value is suppressed in 2015.



Growth in exports from U.S. metropolitan areas 2009-2015

A total of 119 metropolitan areas (31 percent of MSAs) recorded positive growth in exports in 2015, compared to the previous year. Seven major metropolitan areas expanded exports by \$1 billion or more in 2015, and an additional nine metropolitan areas posted export increases above \$500 million. Nineteen metropolitan areas registered export increases in the \$100 million to \$499 million range in 2015.

The Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA area showed the largest annual dollar growth in exports, with exports growing \$5.3 billion (or 9 percent) compared to the previous year. Other metropolitan areas that showed significant dollar growth in exports included El Paso, TX (up \$4.5 billion); Salt Lake City, UT (up \$2.0 billion); and Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN (up \$1.8 billion)

Among the top 50 exporting metro areas, Salt Lake City, UT saw the fastest rate of growth in 2015, with goods exports increasing by 24.1 percent. This growth was largely due to increased exports of primary metal manufacturing. Other top 50 metropolitan areas showing rapid export growth in 2015 were Laredo, TX (up 24.0 percent); El Paso, TX (up 22.3 percent); Sacramento--Roseville--Arden-Arcade, CA (up 13.4 percent); and Charleston-North Charleston, SC (up 10.1 percent).

Since the initiation of the President's National Export Initiative, merchandise exports from MSAs have increased by 42.3 percent over the 2009 U.S. export figure of \$936.3 billion. The Houston, Seattle, New York, New Orleans, El Paso, Chicago, and Detroit metropolitan areas all saw their exports increase by more than \$15 billion during this period. Among the top 50 metropolitan area exporters, five MSAs saw their exports more than triple since 2009: Charleston-North Charleston, SC (up 343.6%); Beaumont-Port Arthur, TX (up 274.8%); San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX (up 262.6%); Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC (up 238.4%); El Paso, TX (up 217.0%).

Metro Areas Benefit from FTAs

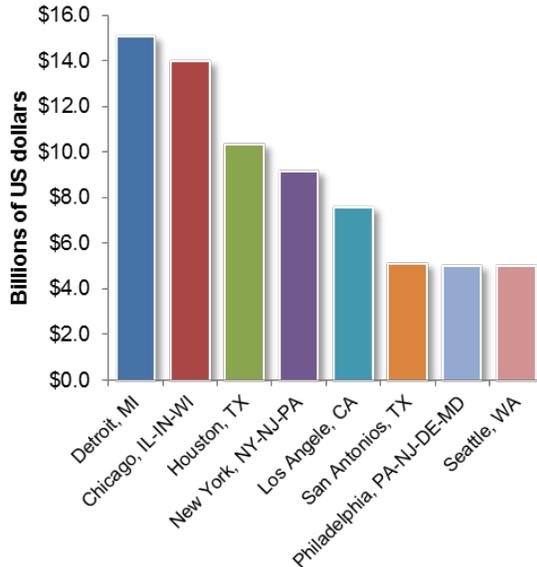
Current FTA partners account for a large share of exports for many metropolitan areas; FTA countries account for at least half of exports for 195 MSAs and three quarters of exports for 42 metro areas.

As in the national trade figures, metropolitan area exports were strongest to our North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners: Canada and Mexico. Detroit represented the largest metropolitan area exporter to Canada in 2015, with exports from Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI totaling \$15.1 billion that year. Other major metropolitan area exporters to Canada in 2015 included Chicago (\$14.0 billion) and Houston (\$10.3 billion).

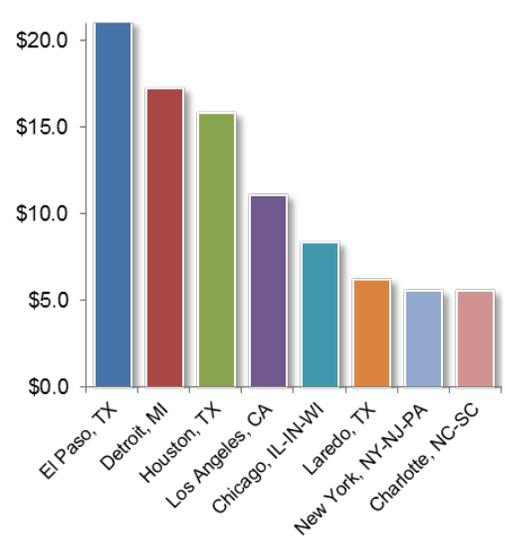
El Paso, TX ranked as the largest exporter to Mexico with exports totaling \$21.1 billion in 2015.

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The number of U.S. free trade agreements (FTAs) currently in force

Top MSA Exporters to Canada, 2015

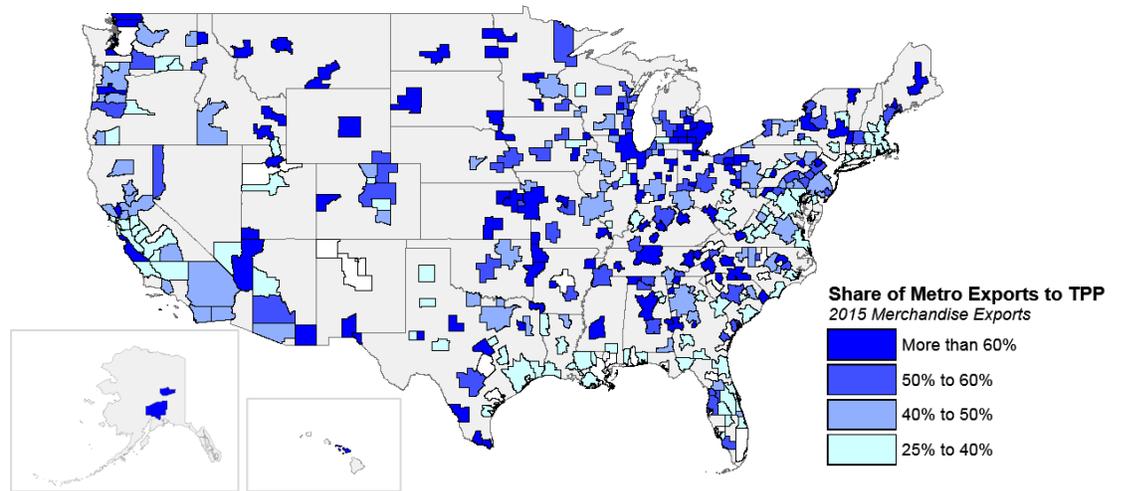


Top MSA Exporters to Mexico, 2015



Proposed FTA markets are also major trading partners for US metropolitan areas. More than 90 percent of metropolitan areas ship at least one-quarter of their merchandise exports to the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) countries. The metro areas with the largest merchandise exports to TPP countries were Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX (\$36.2 billion); Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI (\$33.8 billion); Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA (\$28.0 billion). The metro areas with the largest shares of exports going to TPP countries were Bismarck, ND (94.8%); Battle Creek, MI (93.5%); Flint, MI (92.4%); and El Paso, TX (92.3%).

TPP Countries Account for More Than 25 Percent of Exports from 354 Metro Areas



The European Union is a major market for many metro areas, accounting for more than a quarter of exports from 71 metropolitan areas. New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA was the largest exporter to the EU in 2015, with businesses from this area selling \$22.7 billion of goods to the EU. European Union accounted for over half of merchandise exports from San Juan-Carolina-Caguas, PR; Norwich-New London, CT; Bloomington, IN; Ponce, PR; Gainesville, FL; and Madera, CA.

Additional Tables

Top MSA Exporters by 2015 Merchandise Export Value (in billions of US dollars)

	Metropolitan Area	2014	2015	14-'15 \$ Chg	14-'15 % Chg
1	Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX	119.0	97.1	-21.9	-18%
2	New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA	105.3	95.6	-9.6	-9%
3	Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA	61.9	67.2	5.3	8.5%
4	Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA	75.5	61.8	-13.7	-18%
5	Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI	47.3	44.8	-2.5	-5%
6	Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI	50.3	44.3	-5.9	-12%
7	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL	38.0	33.3	-4.7	-12%
8	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	28.7	27.4	-1.3	-5%
9	New Orleans-Metairie, LA	34.9	27.0	-7.9	-23%
10	San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA	26.9	25.1	-1.8	-7%
11	El Paso, TX	20.1	24.6	4.5	22.3%
12	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	26.3	24.2	-2.1	-8%
13	Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN	22.3	24.1	1.8	8.3%
14	Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH	23.4	21.3	-2.0	-9%
15	San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA	21.1	19.8	-1.3	-6%
16	Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI	21.2	19.6	-1.6	-7%
17	San Juan-Carolina-Caguas, PR	19.3	19.3	0.0	-0.1%
18	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA	19.9	19.2	-0.7	-4%
19	Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA	18.7	18.8	0.2	1.0%
20	San Diego-Carlsbad, CA	18.6	17.4	-1.1	-6%
21	San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX	25.8	15.9	-9.9	-38%
22	Greenville-Anderson-Mauldin, SC	15.2	14.9	-0.3	-1.9%
23	Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC	12.9	14.0	1.1	8.5%
24	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	13.1	13.9	0.8	6.5%
25	Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	12.8	13.8	1.1	8.3%

Top MSA Export Growth by 2014–15 Dollar Change (in billions of US dollars)

	Metropolitan Area	2014	2015	14-'15 \$ Chg	14-'15 % Chg
1	Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA	61.9	67.2	5.3	8.5%
2	El Paso, TX	20.1	24.6	4.5	22.3%
3	Salt Lake City, UT	8.4	10.4	2.0	24.1%
4	Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN	22.3	24.1	1.8	8.3%
5	Laredo, TX	6.3	7.8	1.5	24.0%
6	Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC	12.9	14.0	1.1	8.5%
7	Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	12.8	13.8	1.1	8.3%
8	Sacramento--Roseville--Arden-Arcade, CA	7.1	8.1	1.0	13.4%
9	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	13.1	13.9	0.8	6.5%
10	Memphis, TN-MS-AR	11.0	11.8	0.8	7.4%
11	Evansville, IN-KY	3.8	4.5	0.7	19.4%
12	Austin-Round Rock, TX	9.4	10.1	0.7	7.4%
13	El Centro, CA	3.5	4.2	0.6	18.2%
14	Charleston-North Charleston, SC	5.9	6.5	0.6	10.1%
15	Beaumont-Port Arthur, TX	8.2	8.8	0.6	6.8%
16	Kankakee-Bradley, IL	0.8	1.3	0.6	73.9%
17	Las Vegas-Henderson-Paradise, NV	2.5	2.9	0.4	16.2%
18	Savannah, GA	5.1	5.4	0.4	7.0%
19	Daphne-Fairhope-Foley, AL	0.5	0.9	0.3	65.6%
20	Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, PA-NJ	3.2	3.4	0.3	9.1%
21	Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson, IN	9.5	9.8	0.3	2.8%
22	Las Cruces, NM	1.3	1.6	0.2	18.4%
23	Oshkosh-Neenah, WI	1.1	1.3	0.2	19.9%
24	Tucson, AZ	2.3	2.5	0.2	9.2%
25	Arecibo, PR	0.3	0.5	0.2	59.2%

All data in this report reflects exports of goods from major U.S. metropolitan areas, as defined by the Bureau of the Census. These data are based on an Origin of Movement (OM) ZIP-code-based series.

For more information on ITA's Metropolitan Export Series including a complete methodology and FAQs, visit the Metropolitan Export Series Homepage

<http://www.trade.gov/mas/ian/metroreport>

To download data or view the full database, visit:

<http://tse.export.gov/metro>

Please direct questions and comments to:

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