



Illinois - Belgium

TRADE AND INVESTMENT STATISTICS

Exports are a Vital Part of Illinois' Economy^A

- Preliminary Illinois exports totaled over \$80.82 billion in 2024, a 2.5% increase from 2023, and a 35.2% increase from 2019. The preliminary agricultural adjusted figure for 2024 is \$81.97 billion, a 0.9% increase from 2023 and a 32.2% increase from 2019.
- Illinois is the largest exporting state in the Midwest and the 4th largest in the nation, using agricultural adjusted figures provided by Census Bureau/USDA cash receipts.^C
- 13 out of top 20 export industries increased since 2023.
- 18 out of top 20 export industries increased since 2019.
- 12 of the top 20 Illinois export partner countries have seen gains since 2023.
- 19 of the top 20 Illinois export partner countries have seen gains since 2019.
- Export activities support over 800K jobs in Illinois.^B

Top 5 Industries for Illinois Exports in 2024 (in billions)

Illinois' Top 5 Export Industries (63.74% of total)	2024 Annual Exports	Change Since 2023	Change Since 2019
Chemicals	\$15.68	2.7%	62.1%
Machinery, Except Electrical	\$12.50	-4.5%	14.2%
Computer and Electronic Products	\$9.88	2.7%	27.1%
Transportation Equipment	\$8.35	6.0%	23.7%
Agricultural Products	\$5.10	15.7%	152.2%
Total All Industries	\$80.82 Billion	2.5%	35.2%

Top 5 Countries for Illinois Exports in 2024 (in billions)

Illinois' Top 5 Partner Countries (57.69% of total)	2024 Annual Exports	Change Since 2023	Change Since 2019
Canada	\$19.83	-4.4%	26.4%
Mexico	\$13.00	0.6%	39.7%
Australia	\$4.71	7.5%	35.8%
China	\$4.67	5.8%	60.1%
Germany	\$4.42	-1.7%	33.5%
Total All Partner Countries	\$80.82 Billion	2.5%	35.2%

Total Trade between Illinois and Belgium in 2024

- Illinois exports to Belgium totaled \$944.1 million in 2024, a 5.6% decrease from 2023 and a 14.3% decrease from 2019. Belgium is Illinois' 16th largest export market.
- Illinois ranks 13th among the 50 U.S. states in exports to Belgium.
- Illinois imports from Belgium totaled \$422.5 million in 2024, a 15.0% decrease from 2023 and a 18.1% increase since 2019. Belgium is Illinois' 34th largest import market.
- Illinois ranks 14th among the 50 U.S. states in imports from Belgium.

Top 5 Industries for Illinois Exports to Belgium in 2024

Export Industries (75.0% of Total)	2024 Annual Exports (Millions)	Change Since 2023	Change Since 2019
Chemicals	\$200.8	-2.6%	-25.8%
Machinery, Except Electrical	\$188.8	-14.8%	-40.8%
Waste And Scrap	\$175.6	32.7%	187.2%
Transportation Equipment	\$97.7	-19.6%	-38.7%
Fabricated Metal Products, Nesoi	\$45.5	-18.5%	-19.0%
Total All Industries	\$944.1 Million	-5.6%	-14.3%

Top 5 Industries for Illinois Imports from Belgium in 2024

Import Industries (79.0% of Total)	2024 Annual Imports (Millions)	Change Since 2023	Change Since 2019
Chemicals	\$121.6	-1.4%	22.3%
Primary Metal Manufacturing	\$92.3	15.1%	714.2%
Food and Kindred Products	\$56.7	9.1%	71.6%
Machinery, Except Electrical	\$33.1	-11.1%	-31.4%
US Returns/Reimports	\$29.9	-48.1%	-57.7%
Total All Industries	\$422.5 Million	-15.0%	18.1%

Belgian Foreign Direct Investment in Illinois^D

- Illinois ranks #2 in the nation and Chicago ranks #1 amongst largest metro areas for new and expanding corporate locations.
- Illinois is home to over 2,682 foreign firms with unique 11,232 locations that employ more than 552,695 Illinois residents.
- Belgian firms employ 2,564 Illinoisans at 70 distinct locations for 21 subsidiaries.
- Belgium is Illinois' 25th largest FDI partner by employment.

Top Belgian Firms with Employment in Illinois^{D*}

Firm Name	Number of Employees
Solvay	706
Bpost	432
Showpad	334
Warcoing Holding	250
Anheuser-Busch InBev	242

Top Illinois Firms with Employment in Belgium^{D**}

Firm Name	Number of Employees
Mondelez International, Inc.	2,660
Baxter International Inc.	1,492
Abbott Laboratories	496
Amstead Industries Incorporated	316
Griffith Foods Group Inc.	221

A: Export Data Source – World Institute for Strategic Economic Research (WISERTrade) via Census Bureau February 2025, preliminary.

B: Export Employment Source – DCEO-REMI analysis using data from: Dun and Bradstreet, Census Bureau, NAR, The Trade Partnership via the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and Moody's Analytics data. This statistic will be updated in spring 2025.

C: Export statistics are based on Origin of Movement methodology by the Census Bureau which collects information from the Customs and Border Protection from bills of lading. Has a known and important shortcoming especially regarding agriculture consolidation and consolidation in general at coastal ports. Logistics companies and commodity trading firms may be the exporter of record even though the products came from a different state/producer.

D: Foreign Direct Investment Data Source – Dunn and Bradstreet March 2025 (preliminary) *FDI employment data (domestic) is subject to market fluctuations and data modeling. **IL Foreign country employment reporting based on very modeled data and may show regional HQ employment rather than country level.