



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Victoria Pike Bond
Phone: 415-488-7195
Email: Victoria@BeaconEcon.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TEXAS EXPORTERS SUFFERED IN PANDEMIC-PLAGUED 2020, BUT STATE IS IN NO DANGER OF LOSING ITS SPOT AS AMERICA'S TOP EXPORTING STATE

2020 Fall-Off in Exports Less Severe In Texas Than In New York, Florida And Other Major Exporting States

February 11, 2021—LOS ANGELES, CA—In a year of unmatched economic decline, unprecedented job losses, and thousands of business closures, Texas exporters were not spared from the pain but endured better than many, according to a new analysis released today by Beacon Economics.

In 2020, Texas's merchandise export trade plunged 15.1% from 2019 levels, a tumble driven by the COVID-19 pandemic's extraordinary drag on economic activity as well as pressure from U.S. tariff disputes with major trading partners, and severe economic setbacks in Mexico and Canada, Texas's two largest export markets.

Still, the state's export industry has not experienced the staggering declines some major exporting states have endured. The 2020 fall-off in Texas exports was steeper than the 12.9% decline in the nation overall, but not as sharp as the 18.2% drop sustained by both New York and Florida and much less severe than Michigan's 21.2% descent or the 31.6% nosedive suffered by Washington State.

"The Lone Star State is in no danger of losing its rank as the number one exporting state in the U.S., a status it's enjoyed since overtaking California in 2003," said Jock O'Connell, Beacon Economics' International Trade Advisor and the report's author. "Texas now exports as much as the next three largest exporting states combined."

- MORE -

KEY FINDINGS:

- In 2020, Texas's exports of manufactured goods totaled \$154.14 billion, a 17.7% drop from \$187.30 billion one year earlier.
- Exports of non-manufactured goods (typically farm produce and raw materials) amounted to \$74.45 billion, down 12.4% from \$84.95 billion in 2019.
- Re-exports (shipments of goods that had previously been imported to the U.S.) were valued at \$50.70 billion, off by 12.9% from \$58.24 billion in 2019.
- Since the four-decade-old Federal ban on the export of crude oil was lifted in 2015, crude oil shipments from Texas have jumped from a 2.2% share to a 22.8% share of all Texas's export trade.
- Apart from an 8.1% uptick in exports of Agricultural Products, in 2020, Texas exports declined in every major category.
- Although the top five destination markets in 2010 were the same ten years later (Mexico, Canada, China, South Korea, Japan), the share of Texas exports going to other countries has increased from 44.2% to 55.4%.
- Texas imported less merchandise in 2020 as well. Imports were down by 15.9%. Declines among the state's top ten imports ranged from a slim 0.7% in Electrical Equipment and Appliances to a deep 37.6% drop in Petroleum and Coal Products.

###

**Beacon Economics is an independent economic research and consulting firm based in Los Angeles.
Learn more at WWW.BEACONECON.COM.**