

# INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS FACTS

## ABOUT FLORIDA

Florida is a major gateway for merchandise trade between North America, Latin America, the Caribbean, and other world regions. In 2016, **goods valued at US\$142.8 billion entered or exited the United States through Florida's two U.S. Customs Districts.**

*(U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Division)*

Widely-recognized as a global hub for the Western Hemisphere, **Florida accounts for 24% of total U.S. trade with Latin America and the Caribbean.**

*(U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Division)*

Florida is home to **nearly 60,000 exporting companies—second only to California. One out of every five, or 20%, of the nation's companies that export are located in Florida.**

*(U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Division)*

Florida ranks **7<sup>th</sup> in the nation in state-origin exports** (i.e. those actually produced, or with significant value-added, in the state), which reached **US\$52.0 billion** in 2016.

*(U.S. Census Bureau)*

Florida ranks **3<sup>rd</sup> among all U.S. states in high-tech exports**, reaching **US\$12.0 billion** in 2016.

*(Enterprise Florida)*

International trade supports **2.5 million Florida jobs related to exporting and importing and grew 3.2 times faster than total employment from 2004 to 2014.**

*(The Business Roundtable)*

The state is a **diplomatic hub** with **consulates from over 87 countries, 78 bi-national chamber of commerce, and over 250 sister-city relationships.**

*(Enterprise Florida)*

Foreign-owned companies employed **266,500 Floridians** in 2014, the **6<sup>th</sup> highest in the nation, and 1<sup>st</sup> in the Southeast.**

*(Bureau of Economic Analysis)*

**Miami is one of the nation's leading centers for international banking.** Numerous foreign and domestic banks active in international trade and finance have offices in Florida.

Florida is the **world's telecommunications gateway to Latin America and the Caribbean:** a multitude of undersea and terrestrial fiber optic cables converge in Florida, ensuring unparalleled global connectivity.

**Florida ranks number two in the nation for infrastructure.**

*(U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation)*

Florida sits at the nexus of transportation links in the Americas. The state's **15 deepwater seaports, 19 commercial airports, and 50+ officially-designated multimodal connectors** ensure the seamless movement of people and goods between any two points on the planet.

Florida is home to the **second largest foreign trade zone network in the nation with 21 facilities** around the state.

*(U.S. Department of Commerce)*

Florida is home to **hundreds of airports**, including commercial service airports and general aviation airports. Florida's airports have numerous direct flights to all key Latin American and Caribbean destinations, most major European cities, and one-stop air services to the Asia/Pacific region.

**Florida has over 5 million speakers of languages other than English.**

*(U.S. Census Bureau)*

Learn more about Florida's global advantages: [enterpriseflorida.com/international](http://enterpriseflorida.com/international)