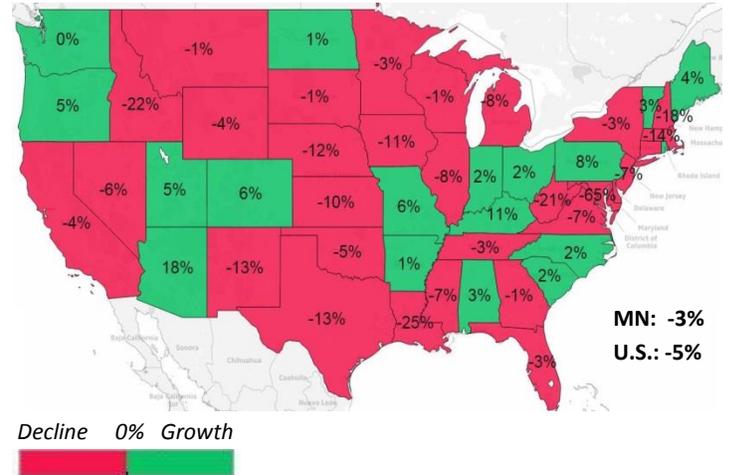


State Exports Declined 3 Percent in the First Quarter of 2015

- Minnesota exports (including agricultural, mining and manufactured products) were valued at \$4.9 billion, and fell 3.1 percent between the first quarters of 2014 and 2015, less than the U.S. decline of 5.1 percent.
- State exports grew in few of the top 10 markets and in few of the top 10 products. Mexico, Korea and Singapore were bright spots for growth.
- Referring to the manufacturing sector alone, Minnesota manufactured exports were valued at about \$4.6 billion in the first quarter of 2015 and fell 3.1 percent during this period. U.S. manufactured exports also fell, by 3.8 percent.

Figure 1. Weak Export Trends in Many States



Export Growth in Medical Products, Miscellaneous Grains/Seeds, and Aircraft Parts

- Between the first quarters of 2014 and 2015, **optics and medical** (up \$89 million), **miscellaneous grains/seeds** (up \$34 million), **aircraft parts** (up \$16 million) and **glass** (up \$13 million) gained the most in value.
- The state’s four largest markets for **optics/medical products** – **Belgium** (up 11 percent to \$118 million), **China** (up 28 percent to \$118 million), **Japan** (up 31 percent to \$116 million) and **Korea** (up 92 percent to \$78 million) – contributed the most to export growth. **Optic fiber** (up 91 percent, led by **Korea** and **Japan**) and **medical/surgical instruments** (up 9 percent, led by **Japan**, **Belgium** and **China**) had the largest export gains.
- Exports of **miscellaneous grains/seeds** surged 60 percent due to stronger sales of **sunflower seeds** (up 111 percent, especially to **France** where sales grew by 1,663 percent to \$11 million) and **soybean meal** (up 218 percent, especially to **Mexico** where sales grew by 397 percent to \$14 million).
- **Aircraft parts** sales grew 14 percent to \$128 million. Steep declines in **Luxembourg** (down \$17 million), **Mexico** (down \$6 million) and **France** (down \$5 million) were countered by large gains in **Singapore** (\$28 million) and **New Zealand** (up \$17 million). Markets that gained \$2 million to \$3 million were the **U.K.** (exports of \$7 million), the **Philippines** (\$3 million), **Vietnam** (\$2 million) and **Australia** (\$4 million).
- **Glass** exports were up 62 percent, to \$33 million. **Canada** and **China** drove growth in **multiple-walled insulating glass products** (up 197 percent to \$20 million), which accounted for 61 percent of glass exports.
- **Machinery** exports fell by almost \$100 million as demand plunged over 40 percent in **Belgium**, **Japan** and **Australia**, and by 13 percent in **Canada**. **Spraying equipment, computer and office machine parts, and construction equipment** were most affected.
- Although exports of **vehicles** fell 17 percent to **Canada**, the top market, and fell by more than \$10 million to **Italy** and **Finland**, they grew by more than 50 percent to **Mexico** and **Belgium**, second and third largest markets.
- **Meat** exports consisted mainly of **pork** (56 percent), **poultry** (20 percent) and **edible animal offal** (18 percent). **Korea** (up 42 percent) and **Mexico** (up 59 percent) were growth markets in meat, especially **pork**, which helped offset declines in **China** (down 33 percent), **Japan** (down 36 percent) and **Australia** (down 69 percent).

Figure 3. Major Export Markets for Minnesota’s Meat

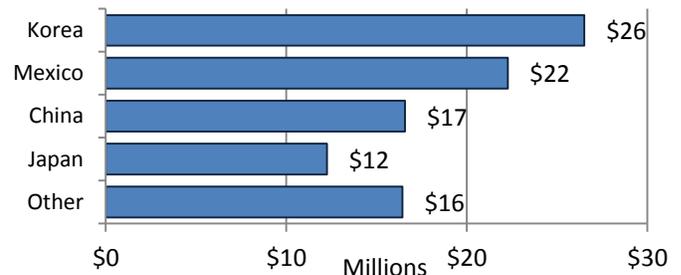
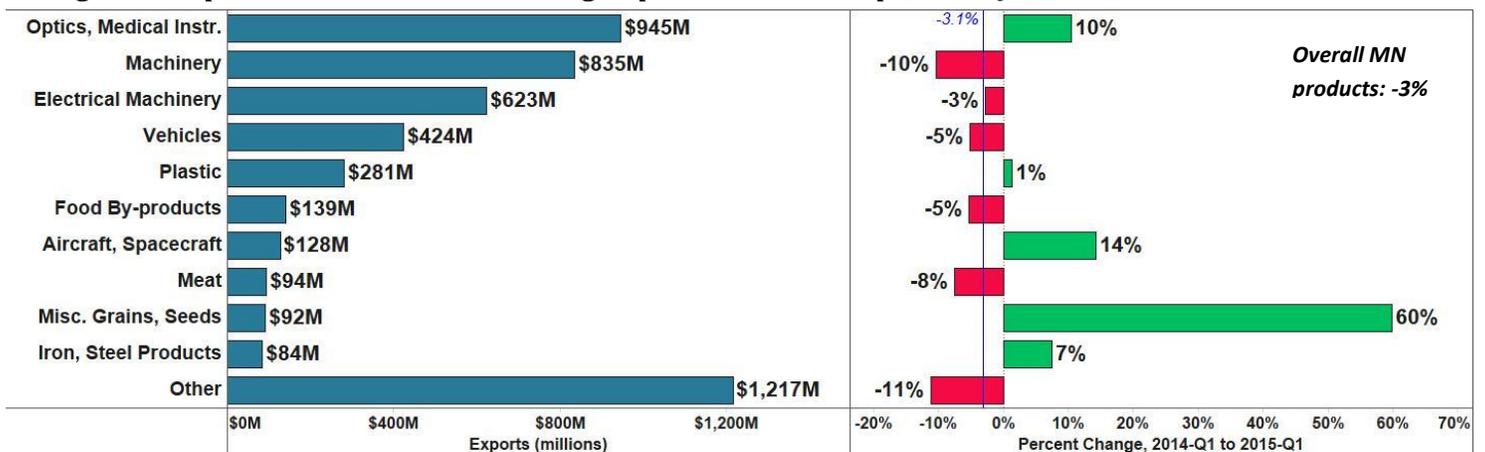


Figure 4. Export Growth is Limited Among Top 10 Product Groups, First Quarter 2015



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, 651-259-7180). Since 2011, the quarterly and annual statistics reports have primarily covered export data based on the Harmonized Tariff System (Schedule B), collected by the U.S. Department of Commerce (USDOC) and distributed by the Global Trade Information Services. Reports are available on DEED’s website at “Export and Trade Statistics” (<http://mn.gov/deed/data/export-stats/>).