



PERCSPECTIVES ON POLICY

TEXAS: THE EXPORTING POWERHOUSE

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Texas is the exporting powerhouse among all U.S. states and has been the leading export state in the country for the past 21 years. With a commanding presence in Oil and Gas, but also in a host of manufacturing industries including Petroleum and Coal Products, about 10.6% of the Texas GDP is comprised of state energy exports. The Lone Star state exported 68% of U.S. energy exports to the world in 2023 and, along with Louisiana, exported a large proportion of its Oil and Gas industry and Petroleum Industry products worldwide.

By a large margin, the top export from Texas is from the Oil and Gas industry. In 2023, the industries with the highest dollar value of exports were Oil and Gas, Petroleum and Coal Products, Chemicals, Computer & Electronic Products, and Transportation Equipment. These five industry groups represent 78% of the total export value of goods shipped out of Texas to other countries. While Oil and Gas exports were the largest among these top five industries, the other four industries are all part of the manufacturing sector.

Figure 1 lists the top five industries with their export values in 2023. Of the total export value of goods and services leaving Texas, 65% was from the manufacturing industry. In this group, Petroleum and Coal Products tops the list at \$70.02B dollars, which

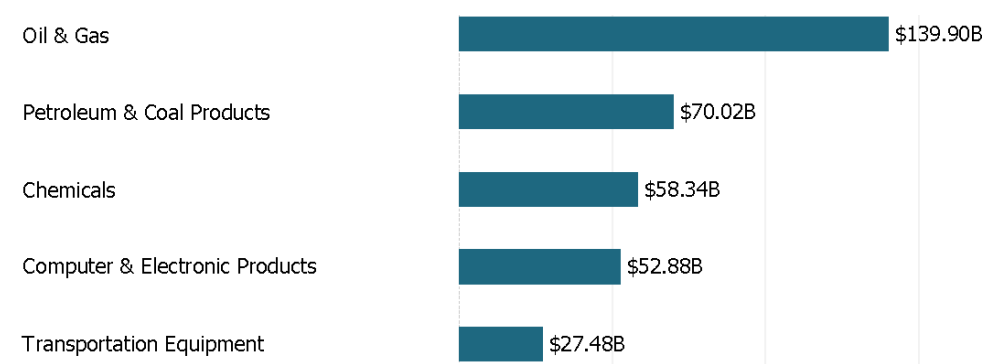
is 59% of the total U.S. exports of Petroleum and Coal Products and 15% of all Texas exports. The other big Texas export industries in the manufacturing sector – Chemicals, Computer and Electronic Products, and Transportation Equipment – represent 13%, 12%, and 6%, respectively, of all Texas exports.

Figure 2 graphs the value of exports from these top five Texas exporting industries from 2006 to 2023. The nominal value of Oil and Gas exports increased by an astounding 11,865% from 2006 to 2023, and that industry is now the largest single source of Texas export value. This large increase in the export value of the Oil and Gas Industry is prominent from the year 2016 and is a result of the repeal of the export ban on crude oil exports in December 2015 by the Obama Administration. This action allowed the domestic shale crude oil producers (mainly from the Permian and Eagle Ford basins) to sell their excess production of light crude oil in the global market. This led to the increase in the export value of Oil and Gas by 908% in Texas, and by 1,616% in Louisiana, between 2016 and 2023. Over this same time frame, exports of Oil and Gas from the remaining 48 states experienced a 60% increase.

Other industries experienced growth but to a lesser extent. From 2006 to 2023, nominal export values from the Petroleum and Coal Products industry increased by 445%, followed by an increase of 103% for the Chemicals industry. Export values from Transportation Equipment increased 80%, and those from Computer and Electronic Products increased 50%.

In total, the U.S. exported \$2,019 billion worth of goods and services

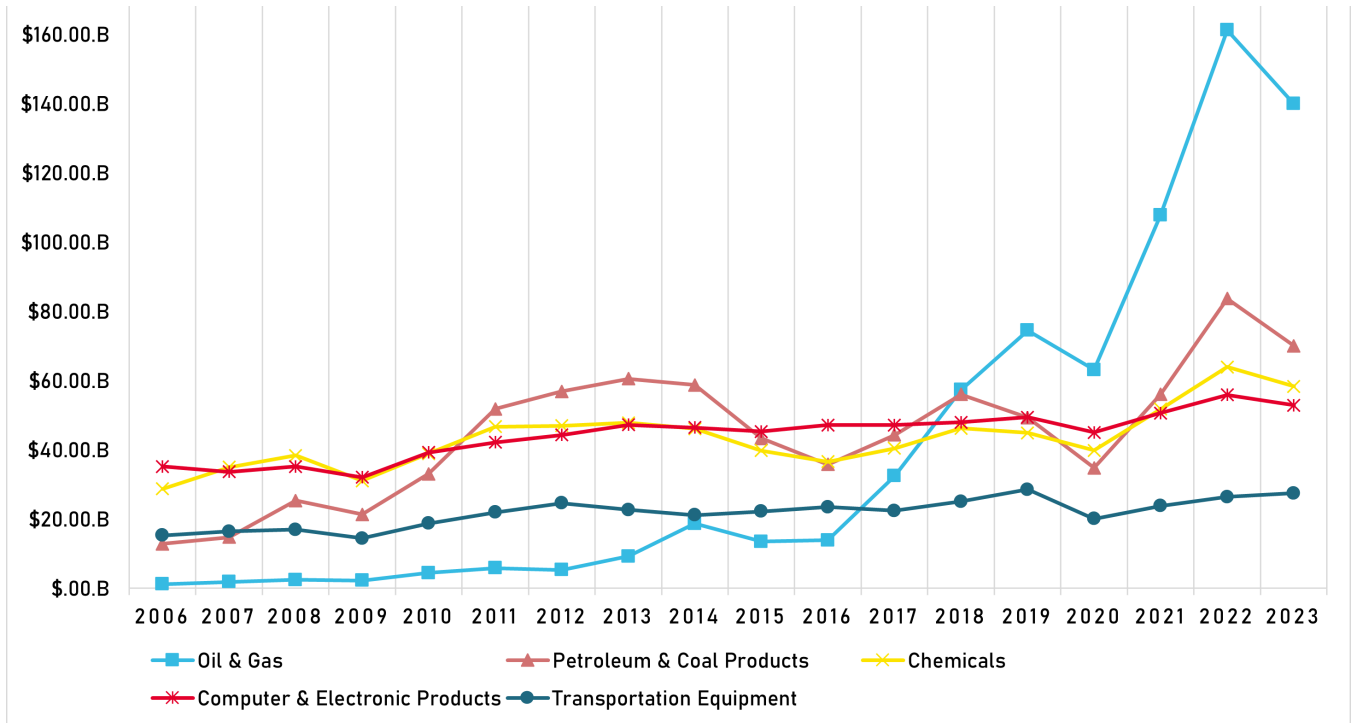
FIGURE 1. TOP 5 EXPORTS OF TEXAS IN 2023



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, USA Trade Online.



FIGURE 2. EXPORT VALUES FOR THE TOP 5 EXPORT INDUSTRIES FROM TEXAS 2006-2023



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, USA Trade Online.

to the rest of the world in 2023. Just over 22% of this, or \$445 billion, was exported from Texas alone. This makes Texas by far the largest exporting state. California was a distant second, providing 8% of U.S. exports by dollar value.

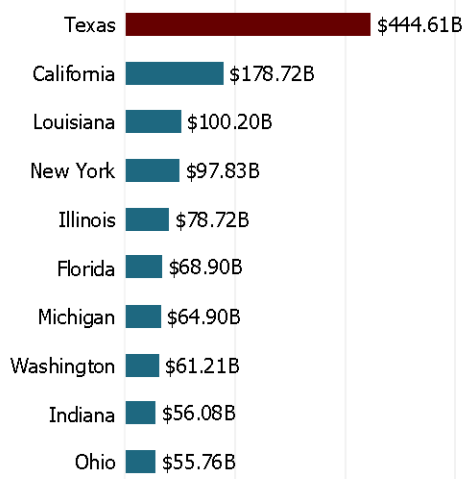
Figure 3 graphs the top ten exporting states in terms of the export value of traded goods and

services in 2023, as well as the proportion of exports to GDP for these same ten states.

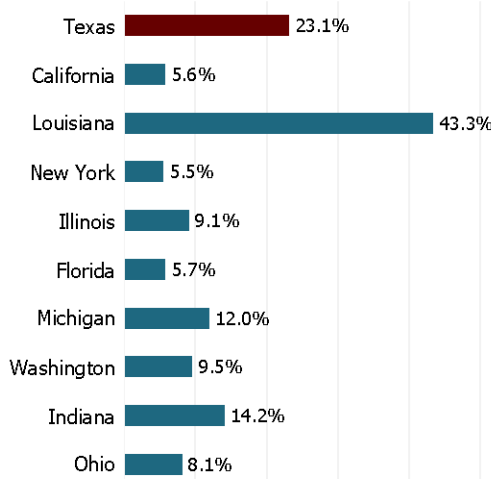
Not only is Texas the largest exporter among the U.S. states, but exports from Texas have been growing faster than for the U.S. as a whole. From 2006 to 2023, exports from Texas increased 195% in nominal terms, rising from \$228 billion to \$445 billion.

FIGURE 3. EXPORT AND PROPORTION OF EXPORT TO GDP

States by Export Value (2023)



Proportion of Export to GDP

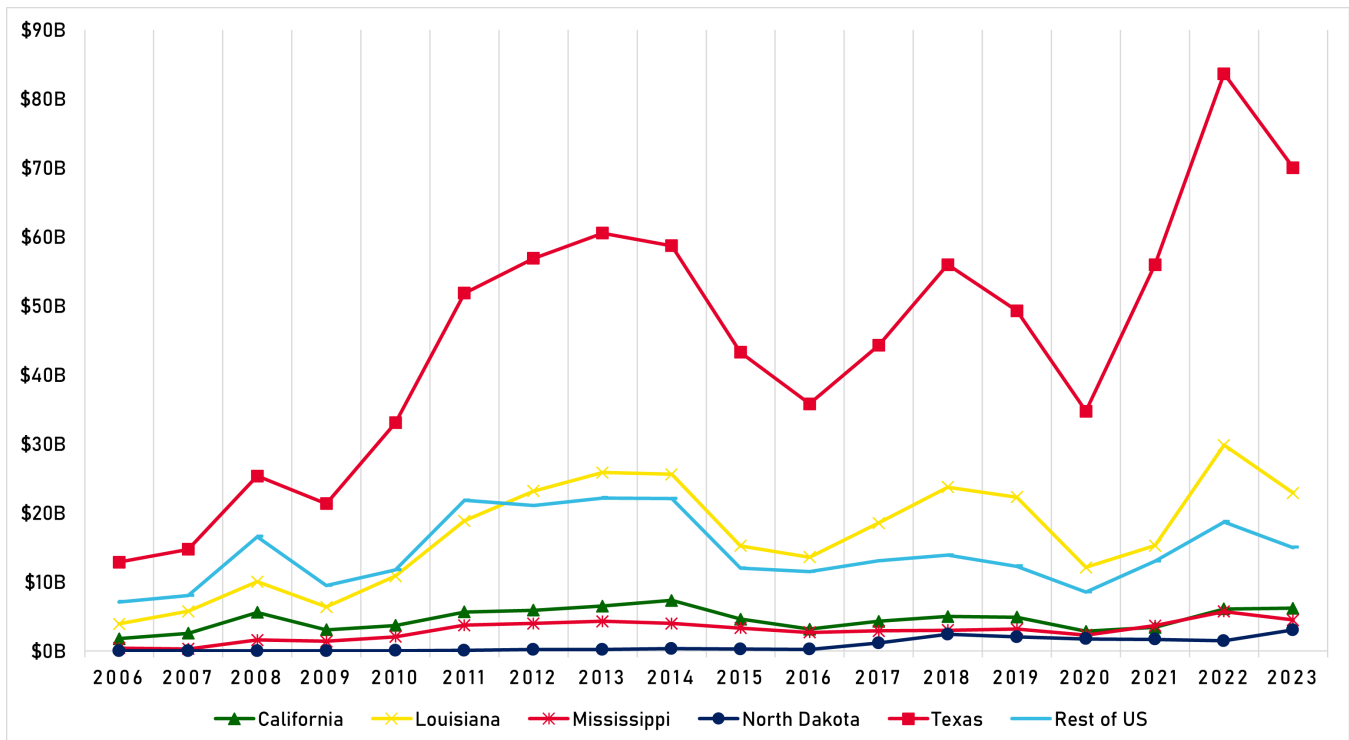


Over that same period, exports from the rest of the U.S. increased by 80%, from \$874 billion to \$1,574 billion.

Texas exports are large in absolute number, but also represent a large share of the Gross Domestic Product (or GDP) of the state. Exports comprised 23% of Texas GDP in 2023, whereas exports were only 11% of U.S. GDP.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, USA Trade Online.

FIGURE 4. TOP 5 STATES WITH THE LARGEST EXPORT VALUE FOR PETROLEUM PRODUCT INDUSTRY, 2006-2023



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, USA Trade Online.

Among the individual states, only Louisiana had a higher ratio of exports to GDP at 43% of state GDP.

Texas constitutes 75% of the Oil and Gas exports from the U.S. to other countries and Louisiana represents 18% of the U.S. total, so that these two states are 93% of all U.S. Oil and Gas exports. The rest of the US contributes the remaining 7%.

The Petroleum and Coal Products industry constitutes the refineries which process crude oil into a variety mix of products ranging from gasoline to distillate. Texas exports 57.6% of the U.S. total Petroleum and Coal Products worldwide. Louisiana follows with 18.8%, followed by California at 5.1%, Mississippi at 3.7%, North Dakota and Washington at 2.5% each, and the rest of the U.S. contributes 10%.

Figure 4 graphs the top five states with the highest export value for Petroleum and Coal Products from 2006 to 2023. These export values trend upward but show a large degree of volatility over time. With the increase in domestic oil production (thanks to the shale boom) in 2009, U.S. refineries started exporting more of their production to meet the demand for fuel oils on the world market, which largely continued up to 2014. The drop in petroleum export values in 2016 was largely due to a fall in crude oil prices.

The COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 led to a reduction in demand, followed by a sharp increase due to high demand for gasoline from European Union countries after the start of Russia's war with Ukraine.

Texas exports are shipped all over the world. As of 2023, more than one-third of Texas exports went to North America, and the lion's share of that went to Mexico, which was the destination for 29.1%, or \$129.5 billion, of all Texas' exports. Texas' second largest trading partner was Canada at \$35.8 billion, followed by The Netherlands at \$26.5 billion, China at \$26.4 billion, and South Korea at \$21 billion. North America, Europe, and Asia were big destinations for Texas products, but South America also had a significant share of Texas shipments at 12%. In fact, Texas products were shipped to every continent save Antarctica, and some Texas products probably ended up in Antarctica as well.



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