



city of
bristol

News Release

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Region rounds out Top 5 in exports growth in U.S.

The Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) including Kingsport/Bristol TN/VA rounds out the top five U.S. Metropolitan Export areas in the country in terms of export growth. This is according to a report released this week by the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration.

The MSA exported goods worth \$5.6 billion, a \$1.5 billion increase or 37.4 percent increase over 2012's total of \$4.1 billion. "As exports continue to rise in our area, we can demonstrate to prospective businesses that they can successfully sell their goods abroad while supporting our local economy. I was thrilled to see our metropolitan area place in the top 5 nationwide in exports growth, I think this only proves that the region is an exciting place for businesses to locate and prosper," said Bill Sorah, City Manager.

A total of 208 metropolitan areas recorded positive growth in exports in 2013, compared to the previous year. Only two MSA's in the state of Tennessee were in the top 5, Kingsport/Bristol TN/VA and metro Nashville including Davidson County/Murfreesboro/Franklin, TN. Tennessee exports supported more than 150,000 jobs in 2013. The report states that in 2013, US exporters reached an all-time record of \$2.3 trillion in goods and services exports, supporting 11.3 million U.S. jobs.

The top export sectors in our region according to the International Trade Association report are machinery, primary metal manufacturing, mining (except gas and oil), and manufacturing and transportation equipment. The top export markets are Turkey, Netherlands, Ukraine, China, and South Korea.

While large areas like Houston, New York and Los Angeles contribute greatly to the value of exports from metropolitan areas sent around the world, exports are also an important economic driver in small markets such as this region.

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