

(Baystate Exports...from page 2)

all major markets except Europe. Otherwise, increased demand for the state's hi-tech, biotech, and more traditional manufacturing sectors varied greatly by world region.

Latin America posted gains in all three areas. The NAFTA partners absorbed increasing amounts of industrial machinery and plastics. Biotech and photographic equipment boosted exports to

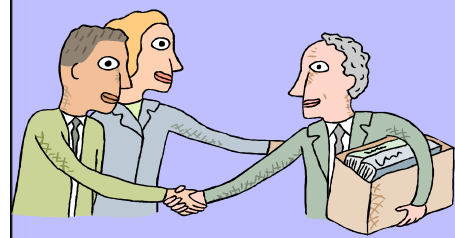
Europe. Hi-tech electronics and instruments drove sales in Asia, Africa, and Australia. Massachusetts' increased strength in developing markets and more diverse export product mix resulted in healthy second quarter growth and will help buffer state exports against future shocks in any single sector or market.

	Industry Ranking (\$Val Q2 2002)	\$Incr	%Incr	Industry in leading
		Q1-Q2	Q1-Q2	\$increases Q2 2002
	Total all Commodities ***	367.6	9.8	
1	Electric Machinery	61.3	5.9	Can, Mex, Lat Am, Asia, Afr, Aus
2	Optic, Photo, Medical Instrments	34.7	4.6	Asia, Afr, Aus
3	Industrial Machinery, Incl Computers	21.1	2.9	Can, Mex, Lat Am
4	Plastics And Articles Thereof	26.7	14.9	Can, Mex
5	Pharmaceutical Products	36.3	28.9	Lat Am, Eur
6	Organic Chemicals (Hormones)	88.4	131.1	Eur
7	Paper & Paperboard & Articles	1.5	1.8	
8	Tools, Cutlery (Primarily Razors)	3.7	5.2	Aus
9	Precious Metals	14.4	35.7	
10	Fish, Crustaceans	3.4	8.1	
11	Photographic Equipment	25.6	132.3	Eur
16	Iron and Steel	4.8	21.4	Asia

***Dollars in Millions

A Fond Farewell...

The State Data Center bids a fond farewell to Richard Wagner who was the Associate Director at MISER. Dick has taken a position at Western New England College as the new Director of Institutional Research. We will miss his knowledge, support, candor, humor and most of all his friendly, down to earth style. Good luck Dick!



Massachusetts State Data Center Newsletter

Vol. 4, Issue 3

November 2002

A Publication of MISER, the Massachusetts Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Defining Poverty for Census 2000

by John Gaviglio, State Data Center Manager

The Census Bureau's *Summary File 3 (SF3)* contains many tables that list counts of families, households and individuals that are above or below the poverty level. Poverty status is determined by comparing a household's long form income data to 48 income thresholds arranged in a two dimensional matrix--family size by presence of children. If a family's aggregate income in 1999 was below the income threshold indicated for its family size and composition in the matrix, it is

determined to be below poverty. The following individuals did not have their poverty status determined:

- Institutionalized people
- People in military group quarters
- People in college dormitories
- Unrelated individuals under 15 years old (foster children)

The original poverty thresholds were developed by the Social Security Administration in 1964. They are now produced by Census and updated on a yearly basis for the Current Population Survey. They are the official poverty measure to be used for Federal statistical work per the Office of Management and Budget's Directive 14.

For more information see Appendix B-34 of the Summary File 3 documentation or go to: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/poverty/povdef.html>

104773
MISER 128 Thompson Hall
University of Massachusetts
200 Hicks Way
Amherst, MA 01003-9277

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



*This Newsletter is produced by the Massachusetts Institute for Social and Economic Research (MISER)
128 Thompson Hall
University of Massachusetts
200 Hicks Way
Amherst, MA 01003-9277*

*Data Center Manager: John Gaviglio
Editor: Deb Furioni
Phone: (413) 545-3460
FAX: (413) 545-3686
Email: miser@miser.umass.edu
Web Page:
<http://www.umass.edu/miser/dataop>*

*Our Boston office location:
McCormack Building Room 1004
Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02133
Phone: (617) 727-4537
FAX: (617) 727-4660
Email: wmurray@miser.umass.edu*

Poverty Thresholds in 1999, by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years

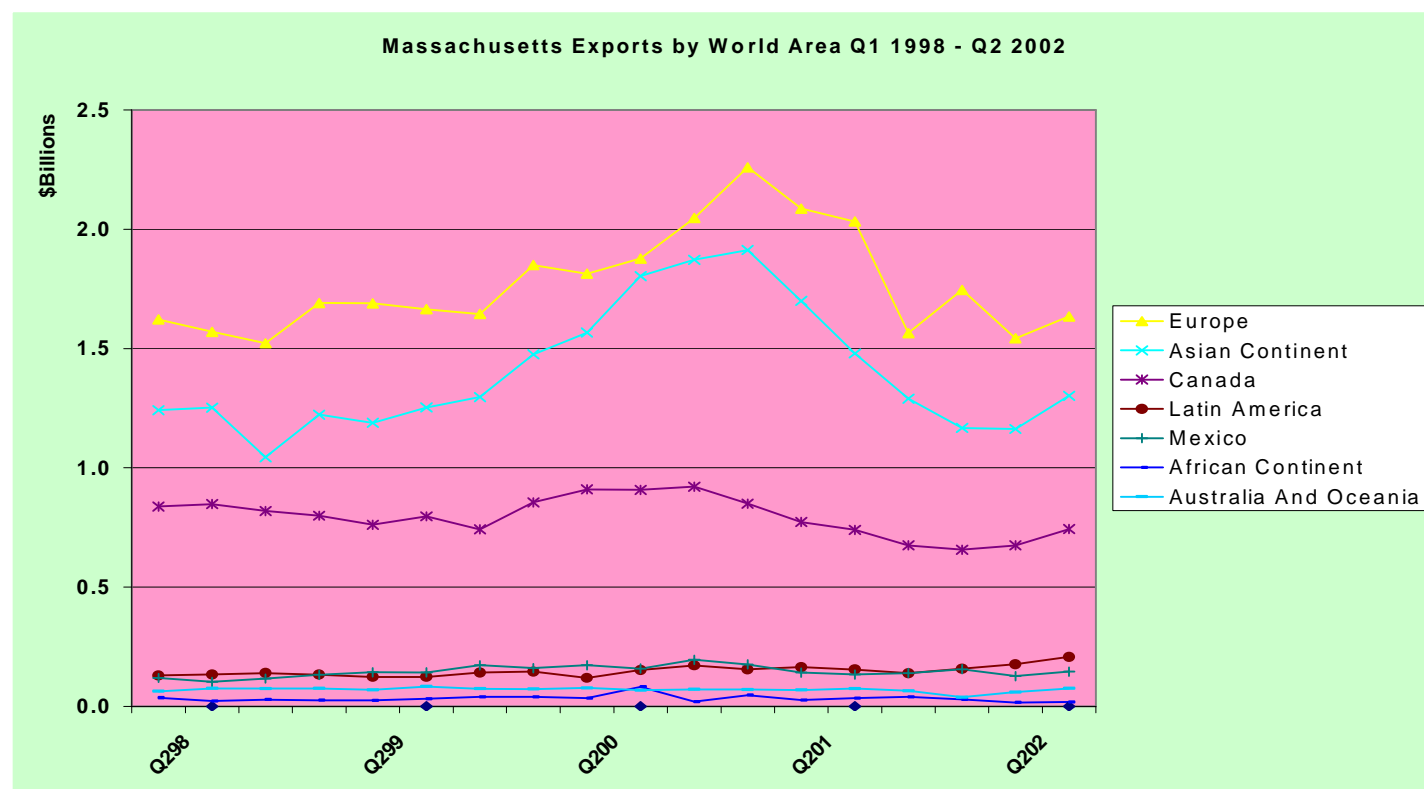
Size of family unit	Weighted average threshold	Related children under 18 years								
		None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight or more
One person (unrelated individual)....	8,501									
Under 65 years.....	8,667	8,667								
65 years and over.....	7,990	7,990								
Two people.....	10,869									
Householder under 65 years.....	11,214	11,156	11,483							
Householder 65 years and over.....	10,075	10,070	11,440							
Three people.....	13,290	13,032	13,410	13,423						
Four people.....	17,029	17,184	17,465	16,895	16,954					
Five people.....	20,127	20,723	21,024	20,380	19,882	19,578				
Six people.....	22,727	23,835	23,930	23,436	22,964	22,261	21,845			
Seven people.....	25,912	27,425	27,596	27,006	26,595	25,828	24,934	23,953		
Eight people.....	28,967	30,673	30,944	30,387	29,899	29,206	28,327	27,412	27,180	
Nine people or more.....	34,417	36,897	37,076	36,583	36,169	35,489	34,554	33,708	33,499	32,208

Source: U. S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey.

For data on poverty for Massachusetts cities and towns, go to: <http://www1.miser.umass.edu/datacenter/Census2000/6threlease.html>

Baystate Exports Pick up Steam in Second Quarter

by Carla Miller, Foreign Trade Data Analyst



Demand for Massachusetts-made products picked up steam around the globe in the second quarter of 2002. Worldwide, Massachusetts' shipments grew by 9.8%, the state's second highest quarter-to-quarter increase in four and half years.

Second quarter growth was strongest in some of the state's smaller markets: Australia (26%), Latin America (18%), and Mexico (15%). On the other hand, second quarter 2002 shipments were well below same quarter shipments of a year

ago. Huge declines in Europe and Asia, the state's largest regional export destinations, easily offset gains in the smaller markets. Massachusetts' exports to Canada, though slightly higher than in the same quarter in 2001, have generally trended downward. Canada remains Massachusetts' largest single trading partner by far, but the state's share of the Canadian market is shrinking. While US exports to Canada grew 6.2% and world exports to Canada 10.4% from 1998-2001,

Massachusetts exports fell 13.9%.

Slow to moderate growth in the state's leading export industries, electronics, instruments, and industrial machinery and computers, was buoyed by strong gains in second tier Massachusetts industries including plastics, pharmaceuticals, organic chemicals, precious metals and photographic equipment. Electric machinery was a growth leader in

(continued on page 4)

Did you know?

The EEO File is planned for release in the Fall of 2003 and will contain similar information as did comparable files from the 1970, 1980 and 1990 censuses.

One Hundred Years of Change, Growth and Information

by Deb Furioni, Data Specialist

The first census ever taken was in 1790. The information was handwritten and at times up to the discretion of the Census Taker. On March 6, 1902, Congress established a permanent "Census Office" in the Interior Department. Its mission: to carry out a continuing program of censuses and other data collection. Since that time the Census has continued to improve the method for how it counts our nation's population, tracks demographic, economic and social trends, and collects and disseminates that information.

As the population soared from 80 million in 1902 to 284 million in 2001 the Census Bureau's method for data collection, storage and dissemination changed continually to keep up with the demand for data. Handwritten forms soon gave way to punch cards. In 1951 UNIVAC I (Universal Automatic Computer) the first electronic computer used by a civilian government agency, helped process the 1950 census making the punch card obsolete. This was the beginning of the computer age. Improvements continued in the early 1950's with the development of film optical-sensing machines which read the



darkened little circles on microfilm of completed census questionnaires.

Census 2000 implemented a highly sophisticated, optical data-capture system that achieved a 99-percent accuracy rate in record time. Plans for Census 2010 may allow for enumerators to be equipped with a mobile computing device, a Global Positioning System (GPS). This GPS will allow for housing units to be located by their geographic coordinates.

The Census Bureau has repeatedly broken new ground in statistical and survey methodology.

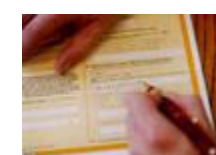
The 1940 Census was the first decennial census to incorporate probability sampling. Probability sampling allowed for the addition of a number of questions to be

asked of a small percentage of the enumerated population. This method still allowed for extreme accuracy in data response while at the same time saving considerable time and resources. Currently, a 1-in-6

long form sample is administered during the decennial census and the Census Bureau also conducts about 120 surveys a year and publishes about 1,500 reports. During any census or survey, the Bureau has been diligent in maintaining optimal confidentiality of all information obtained from respondents. This reputation for confidentiality has remained constant throughout the first 100 years and is a key reason for why respondents continue to participate in all surveys and censuses.

Take some time to browse this interesting part of the Bureau's website. One can only imagine what innovative ideas and use of technology the Census Bureau will pioneer over the next 100 years.

For more information and many archived pictures/memorabilia go to: <http://www.census.gov/mso/www/centennial/pio1.htm>



The Massachusetts State Data Center Newsletter gratefully acknowledges both the Census Bureau's Public Information and Marketing Services Offices as the original and official source of information and photographs in this article.

Did you know?

In 1999, 1 in 11 families (6,620,945) were below poverty in the U.S. according to the Census.