

FDI drops 18% in 2017 as corporate restructurings decline

- **Global FDI flows decreased by 18%** to USD 1 411 billion in 2017 compared to 2016.
- In the fourth quarter of 2017, **FDI flows reached their lowest level since 2013** (USD 280 billion).
- **Inflows to the OECD decreased by 37%**, largely driven by decreases in the United Kingdom and the United States from high levels in 2016. **Outflows from the OECD decreased by a more modest 4%**.
- In contrast, **FDI inflows to non-OECD G20 economies increased by 3%** while **FDI outflows decreased by 33%** as FDI outflows from China declined for the first time since 2005.
- The United States remained the largest source of FDI worldwide by a long stretch, followed by Japan, China, the United Kingdom, Germany and Canada.
- China, after being a net outward direct investor for the first time in 2016, became a net inward investor in 2017.
- Although the majority of OECD countries account for a smaller share of global GDP than they did at the start of the global financial crisis, most still account for a larger share of global inward and outward FDI, indicating that they remain among the more financially integrated economies in the world.

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Find latest FDI data online

Detailed FDI statistics by partner country and by industry are available from **OECD's online FDI database** (see pre-defined queries). Find detailed information on inward and outward FDI flows, income and positions by main destination or source country, and by industry sector, as well as detailed information for resident SPEs and information on inward FDI positions by ultimate investing country. New data for 2016 are available since January 2018.

1 Recent developments

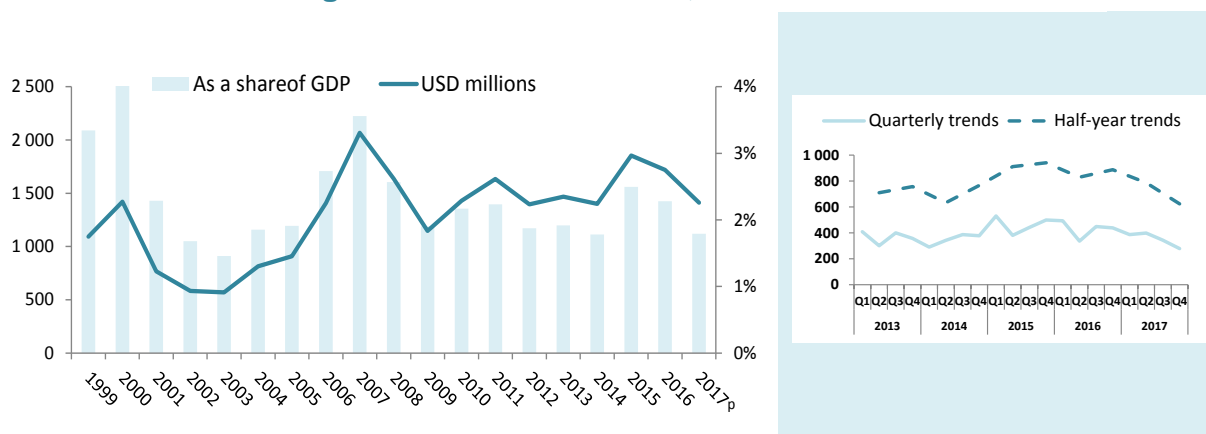
In 2017, global FDI flows¹ decreased by 18% compared to 2016, to USD 1 411 billion. This represents 1.8% of global GDP, compared to 2.3% in 2016 and 2.5% in 2015, but is comparable to levels recorded between 2012 and 2014. FDI flows into the United States dropped to USD 287 billion after reaching more than USD 450 billion in 2015 and 2016. The high levels in 2015 and 2016 were partly due to financial and corporate restructuring, but it is also likely that the possibility of tax reform decreased incentives to engage in these types of transactions in 2017. The US tax reform will have both immediate and long term impacts on direct investment. For example, it probably boosted FDI flows in 2017 by increasing the amount of earnings US MNEs reinvested in their foreign affiliates as repatriations fell in the fourth quarter in anticipation of more favourable tax treatment in 2018. Looking ahead, this is likely to reduce FDI flows in 2018 as US companies repatriate cash due to the one-time tax on undistributed foreign earnings included in the tax reform. Estimates of the amount of overseas

¹ By definition, inward and outward FDI worldwide should be equal, but in practice, there are statistical discrepancies between inward and outward FDI. Unless otherwise specified, references to 'global FDI flows' refer to the average of these two figures.

cash held by US MNEs vary, but all indications are that it is substantial.² However, the impact of these repatriations of cash on the foreign operations of US MNEs is likely to be minimal because they involve the sale or disposal of financial, as opposed to real, assets. The longer term effects of the tax reform are more difficult to predict. Apart from developments in the United States, the United Kingdom recorded its lowest level of FDI inflows since 2005 (USD 15 billion) after reaching a record level in 2016, largely due to Anheuser-Busch InBev acquiring SABMiller ([FDI in Figures – April 2017](#)).

Figure 1 shows global FDI flows from 1999 to 2017 and includes a focus for recent quarters Q1 2013-Q4 2017 and half-year trends.³ Quarterly analysis of global FDI flows trends is complicated by the high volatility of the flows, which are often affected by a few very large deals during a specific quarter. Looking at half-year values, FDI flows dropped throughout 2017. In the second half of 2017, they were 21% lower than in the first half of 2017 and lower than any half-year levels recorded since 2013.

Figure 1: Global FDI flows, 1999-2017



Source: OECD International Direct Investment Statistics database

Inflows

By region, FDI flows into the **OECD** area decreased by 37%, from USD 1 200 billion to USD 760 billion in 2017 (Figure 2). FDI inflows to the OECD area accounted for 54% of global FDI inflows, down from 63% in 2016 and 59% in 2015 but above the average 47% recorded in 2012-2014.

FDI flows into **EU** countries decreased by 45% (from USD 531 billion to USD 290 billion) and dropped to negative levels in the last quarter of 2017 due to widespread decreases and large net disinvestments recorded in Ireland and Luxembourg (excluding resident SPEs) in that quarter.

FDI inflows to the **G20** as a whole decreased by 27% from USD 1 208 billion to USD 877 billion, but trends diverged across the G20 sub-groups: FDI flows to OECD G20 economies decreased by 39% but were partly offset by a 3% increase in FDI inflows to non-OECD G20 economies.

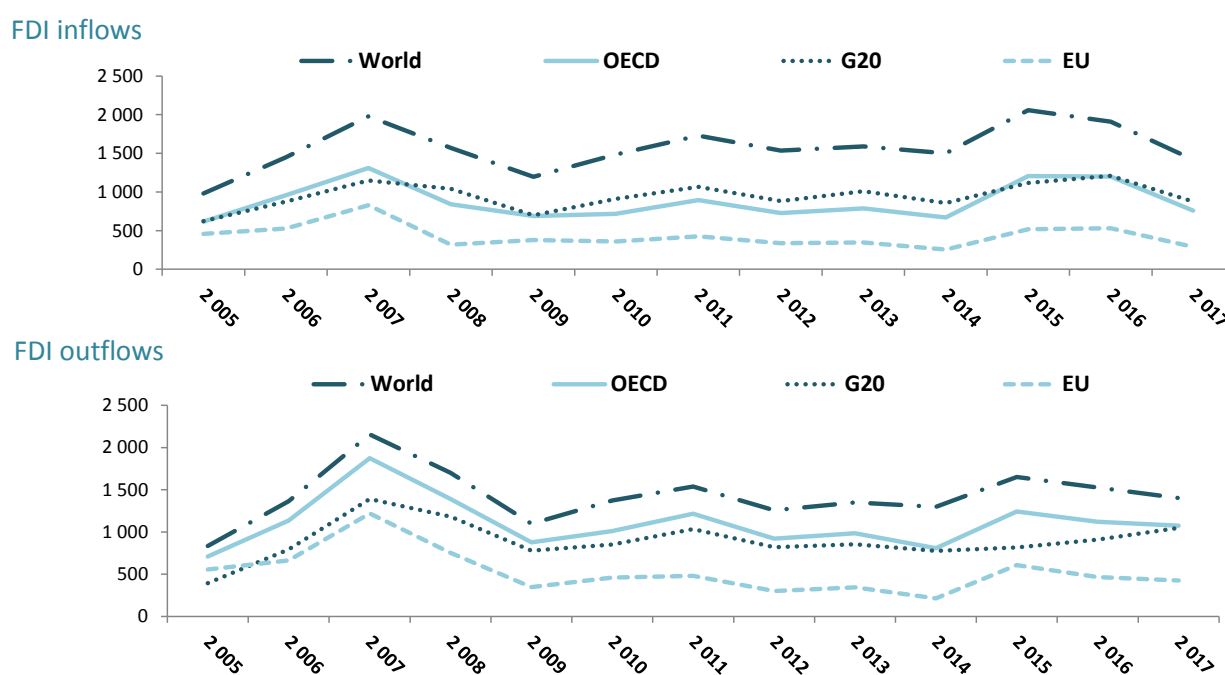
In 2017, the major FDI recipients worldwide were the United States (USD 287 billion) followed by China (USD 168 billion), Brazil (USD 63 billion), the Netherlands (USD 58 billion excluding resident SPEs), France (USD 50 billion), Australia (USD 49 billion), Switzerland (USD 41 billion) and India (USD 40 billion).⁴

² [Bloomberg estimates](#) that the 50 US MNEs with the largest overseas cash holdings hold USD 925 billion outside of the United States. [Goldman Sachs](#) estimates that US tech companies have undistributed overseas earnings of \$3.1 trillion.

³ The measure was constructed using FDI statistics on a directional basis whenever available, supplemented by measures on an asset/liability basis when needed. See Notes for tables 1 and 2 on page 12 for details. Data are as of 10 April 2018.

⁴ Hong-Kong, China and Singapore are not listed as major FDI sources and recipients respectively because it is thought that these economies are not the ultimate destinations or sources of a significant amount of their flows; instead these flows pass through on their way to other economies.

Figure 2: FDI flows, 2005-2017 (USD billion)



Source: OECD International Direct Investment Statistics database and IMF.

The 37% decrease in OECD FDI inflows was driven by large decreases in the United Kingdom and in the United States from very high levels in 2016. The decrease was also widely spread among twenty other OECD countries but was particularly large in Belgium (from USD 30 billion to USD 0.8 billion), Luxembourg (from USD 45 billion to USD 7 billion excluding resident SPEs), the Netherlands (from USD 86 billion to USD 58 billion excluding resident SPEs) and Spain (from USD 32 billion to USD 6 billion). In contrast, FDI flows increased by almost USD 20 billion in Austria (from USD -9 billion to USD 10 billion excluding resident SPEs), France (from USD 35 billion to USD 50 billion), Germany (from USD 12 billion to USD 30 billion) and Ireland (from USD 13 billion to USD 29 billion).

Examining financial flows by component--equity capital, reinvestment of earnings, and intracompany debt--can shed further light on FDI developments within the OECD (Figure 3).⁵ **FDI equity flows in OECD countries fell by more than half in 2017** after reaching very high levels in 2015 and 2016. Equity capital inflows represented 0.8% of OECD GDP and 49% of total OECD inflows in 2017, compared to 1.6% and 65% respectively in 2016. Equity flows in the United States accounted for 50% of total equity flows in the OECD in 2017, while equity flows in Australia, France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom combined accounted for an additional 32%. Large decreases in equity flows in Ireland, the United Kingdom and the United States and to a lesser extent in Canada, Luxembourg and the Netherlands were partly offset by increases in Austria, Germany and Hungary.

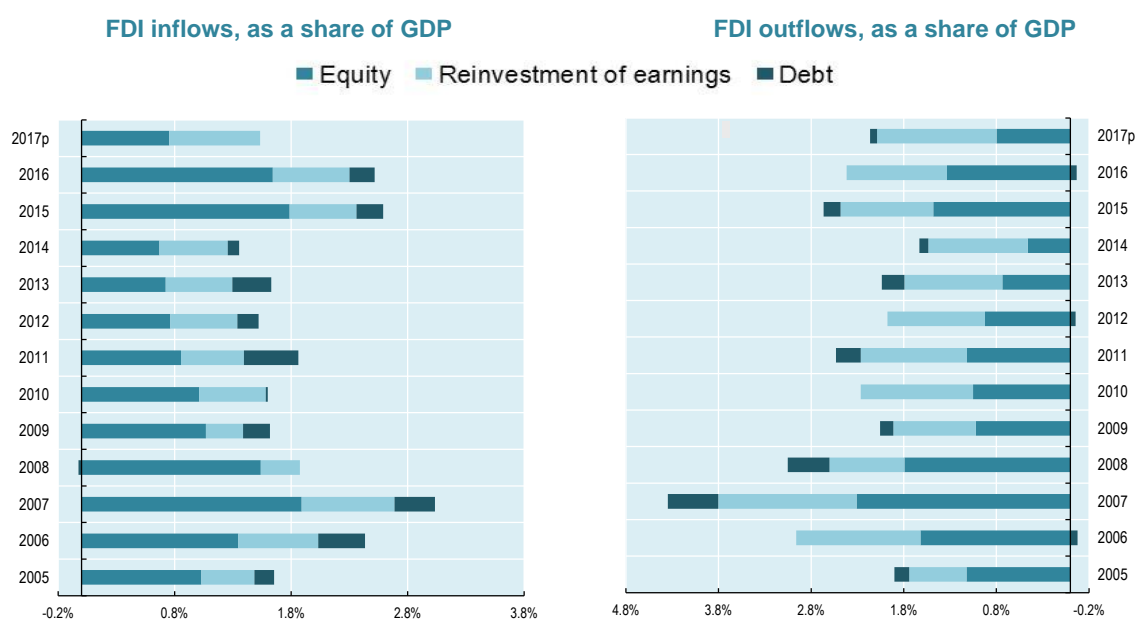
In contrast to equity and total inflows, reinvestment of earnings in foreign affiliates resident in OECD countries increased by 23% in 2017.⁴ Reinvestment of earnings represented 0.8% of OECD area GDP, a level comparable to 2007. They represented 50% of total OECD inflows in 2017, while they fluctuated between 18% and 43% in 2005-2016. The increase in 2017 was largely due to increases in Ireland, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States; reinvestment of earnings increased by more than USD 10 billion in each country. Reinvestment of

⁵ OECD FDI equity, reinvestment of earnings and debt flows are estimated using FDI instruments reported by OECD countries, on directional basis or asset/liability basis in accordance to total FDI flows series included in Table 1 on page 10. See notes to Figure 3 for more details.

earnings in the United States and Ireland accounted for, respectively, 28% and 15% of total reinvested earnings of foreign affiliates in OECD countries while reinvested earnings in Australia, Canada, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom combined accounted for an additional 30%.

Intracompany debt flows were very limited in the OECD as a whole in 2017 (USD -0.6 billion).⁴ Intracompany debt flows are the most volatile component of FDI and can also be subject to significant revisions. Moreover, trends vary widely across countries. In 2017, sixteen OECD economies recorded negative intracompany debt flows, which were almost fully offset by positive movements in the other economies. The United States recorded negative intracompany debt inflows for the first time since 2005 (at USD -7 billion), mostly due to resident affiliates extending loans to their foreign parents.

Figure 3: OECD FDI flows by instruments, 2005-2017



Notes: p: preliminary estimates. OECD FDI equity, reinvestment of earnings and debt flows are estimated using FDI instruments reported by OECD countries, on directional basis or asset/liability basis in accordance to total FDI flows series included in Table 1 on page 10. For countries who did not report FDI aggregates by instrument on directional basis, they were estimated using equity and reinvestment of earnings reported on asset/liability. For countries who did not report FDI instruments to the OECD, instruments were estimated using data on instruments available from the IMF BOP database; or by using instrument shares observed in non-revised data for historical years. Missing instruments for 2017 were collected from national sources websites directly when available, or were estimated by distributing total FDI equally among instruments.

Source: OECD International Direct Investment statistics database

The 3% increase in FDI inflows to non-OECD G20 countries was partly due to large increases in Indonesia where FDI inflows increased five-fold to USD 23 billion, their highest level since 2005. There were also increases in Argentina (from USD 3 billion to USD 12 billion) and Brazil (from USD 58 billion to USD 63 billion). In contrast, FDI flows decreased by 1% in China (to USD 168 billion), by 10% in India (to USD 40 billion), by 32% in Russia (to USD 25 billion), and by 41% in South Africa (to USD 1.3 billion). FDI flows in Saudi Arabia were USD 4.6 billion in the first three quarters of 2017, 15% below their level of a year earlier.

Outflows

FDI outflows from the OECD area declined by 4% in 2017 (to USD 1 073 billion) due to decreases in outflows from the Netherlands, which were partly offset by increases from the United Kingdom and the United States. OECD FDI outflows accounted for 77% of global FDI outflows (Figure 2).

EU outflows decreased by 9% (from USD 465 billion to USD 425 billion) and accounted for 30% of global FDI outflows. In contrast, FDI outflows from the **G20** increased by 15%, from USD 909 billion to USD 1 050 billion. However, the situation varies widely within the G20 sub-groups: FDI outflows increased by 33% from G20 OECD economies while they decreased by 33% from non-OECD G20 economies, largely driven by decreases from China.

The United States remained by far the largest source of FDI worldwide, followed by Japan, China, the United Kingdom, Germany and Canada.³ While China was a net outward direct investor for the first time in 2016, it was a net inward investor in 2017.

The 4% decrease in outflows from OECD countries was driven by decreases from the Netherlands (from USD 172 billion to USD 23 billion) and to a lesser extent from Switzerland (from USD 73 billion to USD -15 billion), Finland (from USD 26 billion to USD 1.5 billion) and Spain (from USD 50 billion to USD 27 billion). These decreases were partly offset by increases in outflows from the United Kingdom which reached USD 100 billion after three consecutive years of negative outflows. Large increases were also recorded in the United States (from USD 300 billion to USD 363 billion) and Germany (from USD 47 billion to USD 77 billion). In other countries, outflows increased by more than USD 10 billion in Austria (from USD -3 billion to USD 11 billion, excluding from resident SPEs); in Japan (from USD 145 billion to USD 160 billion) and in Sweden (from USD 6 billion to USD 24 billion).

Equity investment flows from OECD countries decreased by 38% in 2017.⁴ Outward equity capital flows represented 0.8% of OECD GDP in 2017, compared to 1.3% in 2016 and 1.5% in 2015. However, they remain higher than levels recorded in 2013 and 2014 at 0.7% and 0.5% of OECD GDP. In 2017, equity capital outflows represented 37% of total OECD FDI outflows. The drop in 2017 was largely driven by net disinvestments compared to high levels of equity which were recorded in 2016 from selected countries: in the Netherlands, equity outflows dropped from USD 132 billion in 2016 to USD -5 billion in 2017; in Ireland they dropped from USD 49 billion to USD -2 billion; and in Switzerland they dropped from USD 14 billion to USD -33 billion. In other countries, equity outflows decreased by more than USD 10 billion in Belgium, Finland, Germany and Luxembourg (excluding resident SPEs). Partly offsetting were increases in equity outflows from the United Kingdom.

Earnings reinvested by OECD area parents in their foreign affiliates abroad increased by 24% in 2017.⁴ Reinvested earnings represented 1.3% of OECD area GDP, the highest level since 2007. Reinvestment of earnings represented 60% of total OECD area outflows compared to 46% in 2016, 38% in 2015 and 66% in 2014. Earnings reinvested by US parents in their foreign affiliates abroad increased by 15%, reaching the highest level since 2005 (at USD 345 billion). They accounted for 54% of the total earnings reinvested by OECD area parents in their foreign affiliates and were likely boosted by the US tax reform. Reinvestment of earnings by parents in Japan, Canada, the United Kingdom and Germany accounted for an additional 20% of the total. In other countries, parents in Belgium, France, Ireland and Sweden reinvested more than USD 10 billion of earnings in their foreign affiliates.

Intracompany debt outflows recovered from negative levels recorded in 2016.⁴ Outward intracompany debt flows represented 0.1% of GDP in 2017, a level comparable to 2009 and 2014. As indicated for inflows, this component is highly volatile, varies widely across countries and can be subject to significant revisions. The development in 2017 was partly due to shifts from large negative intracompany debt outflows recorded in 2016: in Belgium from USD -13 billion to USD 3 billion; in Germany from USD -31 billion to USD -3 billion; in Ireland from USD -33 billion to USD 1 billion; in Luxembourg from USD -18 billion to USD 3 billion; and in the United States from USD -29 billion to USD -12 billion. Intracompany debt outflows remained negative in Germany and the United States, largely due to foreign affiliates extending loans to their German and US parents.

In non-OECD G20 economies, FDI outflows decreased by 33% while they increased by 33% in the OECD G20 economies. This was largely driven by FDI outflows from China, which declined for the

first time since 2005, falling by more than half to USD 102 billion. Equity outflows combined with earnings reinvested by Chinese parents abroad dropped from USD 147 billion to USD 100 billion, while intracompany debt outflows dropped from USD 69 billion to USD 2 billion. In the other non-OECD G20 economies, FDI outflows increased: by 75% from South Africa (to USD 7.8 billion), by 34% from Russia (to USD 36 billion), they more than doubled from India (to USD 11 billion), and by 32% from Argentina (to USD 1.2 billion). They shifted from negative levels in Indonesia (to USD 3 billion), and they increased but remained negative from Brazil (at USD -1.4 billion), largely due to Brazilian affiliates continuing to extend loans to their foreign parents. FDI outflows from Saudi Arabia were USD 3.9 billion in the first three quarters of 2017, 50% below their level of a year earlier.

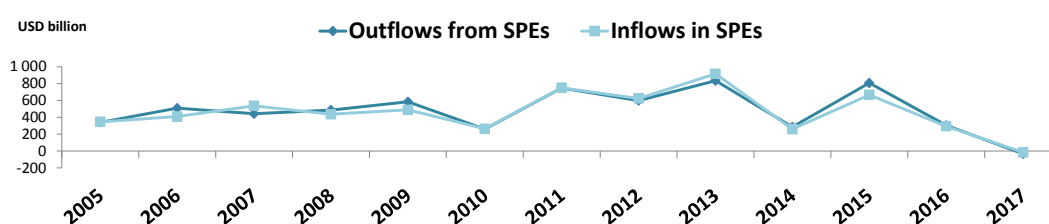
2 FDI in resident special purpose entities

SPEs are entities with little or no physical presence or employment in the host country but that provide important services to the MNE in the form of financing or of holding assets and liabilities. MNEs often channel investments through SPEs in one country before they reach their final destination in another country. By excluding investment into resident SPEs, countries have a better measure of FDI into their country that is likely to have a real impact on their economy.⁶

FDI flows in and from SPEs are volatile due to the role SPEs play in the internal financing of MNEs and can be particularly affected by individual large deals. Moreover, it is very difficult for national compilers to collect information related to SPEs. Therefore, FDI flows in and from resident SPEs can be subject to substantial revisions. Figure 4 shows annual trends of FDI inflows and outflows to and from SPEs of the 17 OECD countries that reported the information.

FDI flows in and from SPEs in 2017 were very limited. The very low levels observed in 2017 are due to widely diverging trends between the two major hosts of OECD area SPEs: very large negative flows in and from Luxembourg SPEs (USD -295 billion and USD -263 billion respectively) were almost fully offset by very large flows in and from Dutch SPEs (USD 269 billion and USD 254 billion respectively). In addition, the largest SPEs in Iceland were liquidated. As a result, the share of SPEs in Iceland's total inward position fell from 25% at the end of 2016 to only 4% at the end of 2017.

Figure 4: FDI inflows and outflows to and from OECD area SPEs, 2005-2017



Notes: Includes data for Austria, Belgium, Chile, Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Iceland, Korea, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. FDI flows in and from SPEs are not available for selected countries and years but it was assumed that it would not have a major impact on the overall totals given that data for Luxembourg and the Netherlands, the major SPE hosts, are available for the full period 2005-2017.

Source: OECD International Direct Investment statistics database

3 Spotlight on inward FDI by ultimate investor

Traditionally FDI statistics are presented according to the immediate investing country^p, but this can obscure the ultimate source of the FDI in a country due to the complicated ownership structures of some MNEs. Presenting the statistics by ultimate investing country (UIC) identifies the countries of investors that ultimately control the investments in a country and, thus, bear the risks and reap the

⁶ For more details, see the OECD note on how MNEs channel investments through multiple countries.

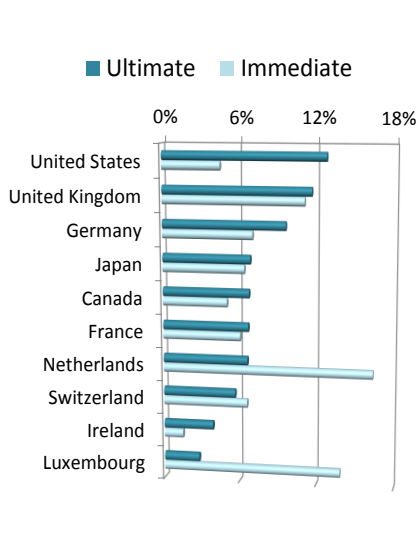
rewards of the investment. The presentation by ultimate instead of immediate investing country can result in substantial changes in the distribution of inward positions by country.

Sixteen countries reported information on inward FDI stocks by UIC, but it is expected that more countries will start to publish these statistics as they provide valuable information on the financial linkages between countries. Figure 5.1 shows that the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan, Canada and France all become more important sources of FDI when looking at the UIC while the Netherlands, Switzerland, Ireland and Luxembourg become less important. These patterns are consistent with the first set of countries passing capital through the second set of countries, often via SPEs, before reaching its final destination.

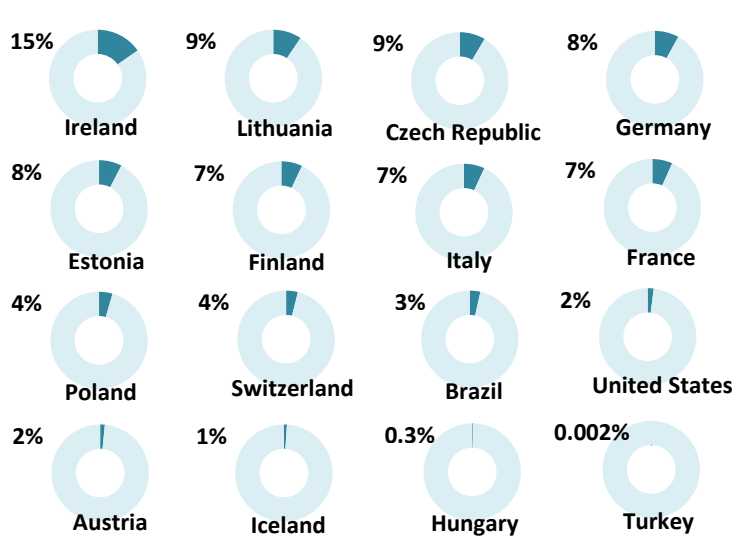
The presentation by UIC also identifies the share of round-tripping in FDI; round-tripping occurs when funds that have been channeled abroad by resident investors are returned to the domestic economy in the form of direct investment. There are several different reasons that round-tripping occurs. First, if it is difficult for local investors to receive preferential treatment offered to attract foreign investors, then they may engage in round-tripping to receive these benefits. Second, some economies have controls on capital movements or exchange rates that may lead domestic investors to round-trip to have more flexibility in managing their capital. Third, in economies without well-developed capital markets, domestic investors may invest overseas to access better financial services and then return the funds to the home economy. Fourth, if an economy has investment treaties that give greater protections to foreign investors, domestic investors may round-trip to ensure their investments receive these greater protections. Finally, some investors may just want to conceal their identity. Some of these could indicate a problem with a countries investment policy regime. Figure 5.2 shows that in about half of countries where data are available, round tripping is not significant, accounting for less than 5% of inward investment, but for the other half, it plays a larger role in their inward FDI.

Figure 5: Inward FDI positions by ultimate investing country, at end 2017

5.1. Major ultimate versus immediate investors



5.2. Share of round-tripping in total inward FDI



Notes: At-end 2017 or latest available year. Figure 5.1 shows major ultimate versus immediate investors, as a share of total inward FDI positions of Austria, Brazil, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States. Figure 5.2 shows round tripping as a share of total inward FDI positions of each country. For Brazil, Switzerland and Turkey, equity positions are allocated to the ultimate counterparty while debt positions are allocated to the immediate counterparty.

Source: Central Bank of Brazil, Central Statistics Office of Ireland, Central Bank of Turkey and OECD International Direct Investment statistics database

4

Spotlight on FDI in OECD and G20 countries since the financial crisis

At-end 2017, stocks of OECD area outward and inward FDI were estimated at USD 22.9 trillion and USD 20.1 trillion, representing respectively 46% and 40% of OECD area GDP, as compared to respectively 37% and 30% in 2007. At-end 2017, OECD area outward and inward positions represented respectively 79% and 65% of global FDI positions, while OECD area GDP represented 44% of global GDP compared to 52% in 2007.⁷ The present section will focus on the inward and outward FDI and GDP of OECD and G20 economies in the 10 years since the global financial crisis started in 2007.

Figure 6 shows inward and outward FDI positions of OECD and G20 countries as a share of global inward and outward FDI respectively. Figure 7 shows OECD and G20 countries GDP as a share of global GDP.

Most OECD countries accounted for a smaller share of global GDP in 2017 than they had in 2007 at the start of the financial crisis, with the exceptions of Turkey, Ireland, Poland and Israel. The largest decreases (relative to their share of GDP in 2007) were in Greece, Spain, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Japan and Finland. In contrast, some of the non-OECD members of the G20 accounted for a larger share as they grew more quickly than the OECD countries; China had the largest increase, followed by India, Indonesia, and Saudi Arabia.

Given the diverging rates of growth between OECD countries and these large, emerging economies, it is not surprising that these countries saw an increase in their share of global inward FDI positions while most OECD countries' share of global inward FDI stocks decreased between 2007 and 2017. Within the OECD area, Chile, Ireland, Switzerland and the United States were exceptions, but, for these latter three, some of the increase was due to financial and corporate restructuring within MNEs.

Some of the non-OECD G20 countries have also become more important outward investors, particularly China which increased its share of global outward FDI from less than 1% to 5%. India, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia and South Africa also increased their share of global outward FDI. In contrast, most OECD countries' share of global outward FDI decreased except for Chile, the Czech Republic, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland and Turkey.

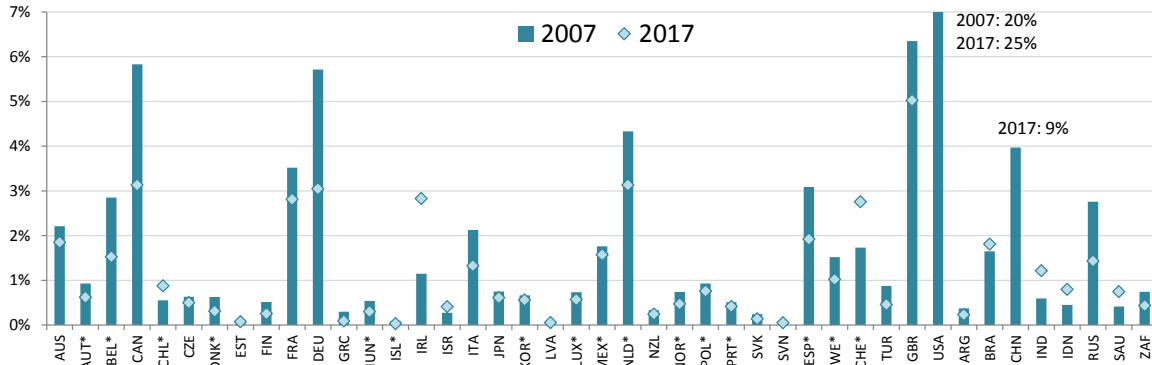
Despite these changes, several OECD countries continue to account for larger shares of inward and outward FDI than of GDP, indicating that they remain among the more financially integrated economies in the world. For inward, these countries include Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. For outward, these countries include Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. In contrast, all non OECD G20 economies account for smaller shares of inward and outward FDI than of GDP.

⁷ Source : Author calculations using GDP at current prices and current purchasing power parities from the OECD Annual National Accounts database and the IMF World Economic Outlook database

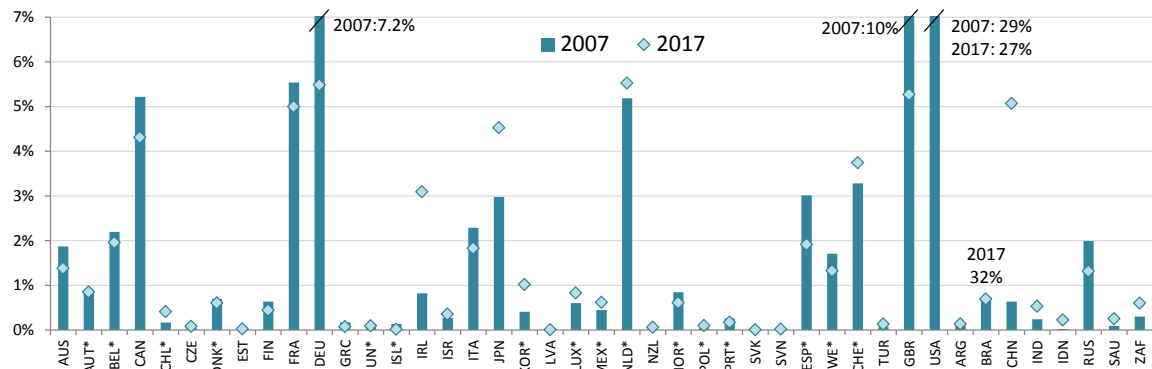
Figure 6: Inward and outward FDI positions of OECD and G20 countries, 2007 and 2017

As a share of global inward and outward FDI positions

Inward FDI



Outward FDI

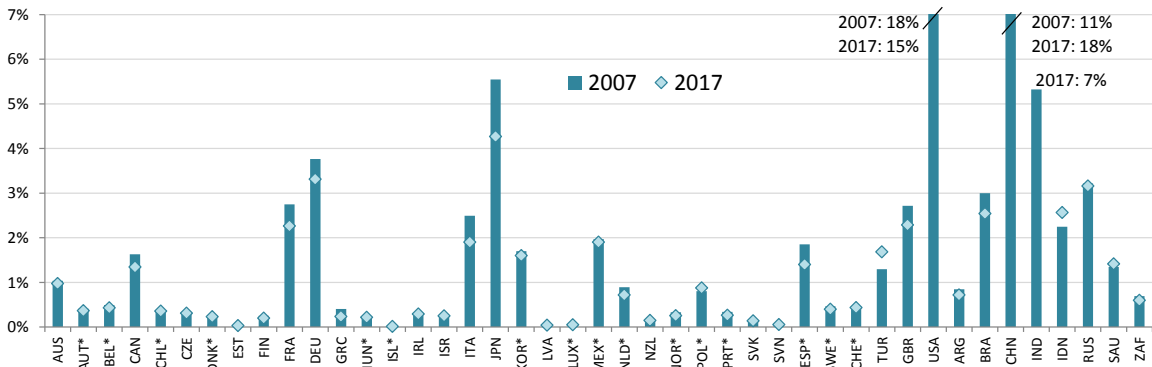


Notes: Positions at-end 2017 or latest available year. *: data exclude resident SPEs. When FDI positions excluding SPEs were not available for 2007, there were estimated using the share of SPEs for the reference year when information was first available (2013 for most countries).

Source: OECD International Direct Investment statistics database

Figure 7: GDP of OECD and G20 countries, 2007 and 2017

As a share of global GDP



Source: Author calculations using GDP at current prices and current purchasing power parities from the OECD Annual National Accounts database and the IMF World Economic Outlook database

FDI outward flows

FDI inward flows

Table 1

In USD millions	2 011	2 012	2 013	2 014	2 015	2 016	2017 ^a	2 011	2 012	2 013	2 014	2 015	2 016	2017 ^a
OECD¹	1 217 567	919 953	985 605	806 665	1 241 583	1 121 447	1 073 214	895 354	728 352	788 863	669 070	1 206 968	1 200 472	759 827
Australia	1 716	7 889	1 441	307	- 16 700	6 011	7 399 (A)	58 907	59 540	56 273	40 326	19 480	48 186	48 882 (A)
Austria*	22 004	13 060	15 598	- 665	6 875	- 3 055	11 359	10 820	4 003	5 813	4 800	1 131	- 8 923	9 642
Belgium	46 413	33 834	29 480	- 3 681	39 844	22 296	20 913	78 329	6 518	25 188	- 12 392	23 876	30 300	801
Canada	52 144	55 875	57 364	60 273	67 862	73 557	76 966	39 667	43 118	69 371	59 008	45 631	37 297	24 237
Chile*	15 781	19 557	10 576	12 107	14 715	5 806	4 687	21 804	29 159	21 442	24 390	19 745	11 153	6 719
Czech Republic	- 328	1 794	4 021	1 620	2 488	2 182	1 623	2 323	8 000	3 641	5 492	465	9 815	7 409
Denmark*	11 278	7 349	7 162	8 249	9 126	11 348	13 202	11 457	644	1 045	4 680	3 383	- 244	- 1 288
Estonia	- 1 455	1 054	513	43	156	352	19	1 006	1 566	769	656	13	915	784
Finland	5 016	7 546	- 2 401	1 182	- 16 587	25 614	1 460	2 552	4 156	- 169	18 270	1 484	11 641	1 061
France	51 462	35 453	20 365	49 785	53 206	63 214	58 135	31 671	16 069	34 264	2 669	45 355	35 155	49 812
Germany	78 002	62 188	39 492	91 720	97 719	46 790	77 483	67 573	28 190	12 796	- 3 005	22 804	12 321	29 859
Greece	1 774	678	- 785	3 015	1 578	- 1 478	679	1 144	1 741	2 817	2 683	1 268	3 118	4 054
Hungary*	4 713	11 717	1 887	3 867	- 16 200	- 8 552	322	6 315	14 427	3 404	7 806	- 14 758	- 5 855	2 491
Iceland*	18	- 3 205	460	- 257	- 31	- 1 147	- 85	1 107	1 025	397	447	709	- 427	- 5
Ireland	- 1 166	22 573	29 360	41 440	168 359	30 652	18 620	23 566	46 940	46 616	37 417	215 829	12 542	28 983
Israel ^{2,4}	7 401	2 276	3 858	4 526	10 969	13 072	6 276	8 653	9 018	11 842	6 049	11 336	11 903	18 955
Italy	53 677	7 992	25 130	26 318	22 314	17 746	4 418	34 355	93	24 267	23 224	19 631	22 236	17 083
Japan ⁵	107 550	122 514	135 745	129 157	128 698	145 230	160 425	- 1 757	1 732	2 303	10 622	- 2 251	11 388	10 428
Korea	29 705	30 632	31 488	19 994	18 490	30 508	31 676 (A)	9 773	9 496	6 083	- 917	3 076	7 415	17 053 (A)
Latvia	61	193	413	389	18	144	91	1 454	1 111	904	779	710	149	723
Luxembourg*	9 052	2 771	22 085	34 207	28 226	44 340	41 169	13 302	4 423	19 612	22 746	11 322	45 110	6 625
Mexico*	13 273	22 897	14 730	5 403	10 668	1 604	5 083	25 221	21 730	48 492	28 672	34 858	29 755	29 695
Netherlands*	34 818	6 174	69 692	59 360	194 092	172 004	23 203	24 391	20 121	51 094	44 977	69 577	85 746	57 853
New Zealand	2 682	- 433	530	472	- 59	62	582	4 229	3 502	1 860	2 437	- 244	2 911	3 572
Norway	19 901	19 791	6 213	32 939	30 947	3 092	4 779 (A)	20 608	16 655	- 5 916	19 504	- 2 515	- 3 900	- 4 860 (A)
Poland*	1 028	2 905	- 451	4 701	3 172	7 912	3 027	15 953	12 441	3 626	17 612	13 063	13 418	4 860
Portugal*	13 917	- 8 095	- 190	- 93	4 824	2 267	- 2 333	5 997	8 951	2 443	3 099	9 060	6 843	6 744
Slovak Republic	491	- 73	- 313	43	6	248	350	2 146	2 826	- 604	- 512	106	- 295	2 277
Slovenia	200	- 258	- 214	275	267	287	107	1 088	339	- 151	1 050	1 675	1 260	702
Spain ²	45 248	- 2 479	27 553	41 929	65 266	50 173	27 291	32 412	24 667	52 161	33 330	34 288	31 736	5 586
Sweden	29 912	28 977	30 279	9 162	14 401	5 929	24 308	12 946	16 349	4 125	4 032	6 902	12 185	15 399
Switzerland	48 098	43 572	38 568	55	93 898	72 506	- 14 909	25 857	28 969	646	9 352	81 991	48 328	40 986
Turkey	2 330	4 106	3 536	6 667	4 811	2 745	2 626	16 136	13 743	13 462	12 739	18 661	12 926	10 752
United Kingdom	95 578	20 767	40 483	- 151 368	- 83 497	- 22 505	99 665	42 196	55 626	51 673	24 704	32 723	196 034	15 098
United States	415 271	338 363	321 937	313 524	281 661	300 496	362 598	242 155	211 467	217 274	212 324	476 684	468 330	286 854
Total World^{1,3}	1 538 581	1 256 364	1 348 459	1 296 827	1 650 743	1 527 869	1 402 637	1 728 106	1 535 270	1 588 928	1 501 920	2 057 817	1 909 828	1 419 482
European Union (EU)¹	481 804	299 534	344 563	214 226	607 469	464 983	425 423	424 946	336 348	347 418	253 451	519 177	531 044	290 202
G20 countries¹	1 033 836	819 078	855 084	775 095	815 265	909 246	1 050 176	1 065 661	883 346	1 008 100	856 217	1 117 568	1 208 037	876 820
G20-OECD countries¹	900 709	708 676	691 712	551 779	585 231	665 395	886 474	565 897	460 804	536 258	410 366	716 650	881 044	539 753
G20-non OECD countries¹	133 127	110 401	163 372	223 315	230 033	243 851	163 701	499 764	422 542	471 842	445 851	400 917	326 994	337 068
Argentina ²	1 488	1 055	890	1 921	875	887	1 168	10 840	15 324	9 822	5 065	11 759	3 260	11 857
Brazil	11 062	- 5 301	- 1 180	2 230	3 092	- 7 433	- 1 351	96 152	76 098	53 564	73 366	64 291	57 935	62 713
China	48 421	64 963	72 971	123 130	174 391	217 203	101 914	280 072	241 214	290 928	268 097	242 489	170 557	168 224
India ²	12 608	8 553	1 766	11 687	7 515	5 048	11 256	36 499	23 996	28 153	34 576	44 008	44 458	39 978
Indonesia	7 713	5 422	6 652	7 077	5 937	- 12 215	2 912	19 241	19 138	18 817	21 811	16 641	3 921	23 063
Russia	48 635	28 423	70 685	64 203	27 090	26 951	36 032	36 868	30 188	53 397	29 152	11 858	37 176	25 284
Saudi Arabia ^{2,7}	3 430	4 402	4 943	5 396	5 390	8 936	3 935	16 308	12 182	8 865	8 012	8 141	7 453	4 625
South Africa ²	- 229	2 885	6 646	7 671	5 744	4 474	7 835	3 783	4 403	8 296	5 772	1 729	2 235	1 325
*Data excludes SPEs. Corresponding data below including SPEs⁴:														
Austria	32 532	20 492	6 704	- 2 586	- 1 823	- 34 295	12 195	17 182	7 371	- 3 765	29	- 8 140	- 35 698	10 427
Chile	17 760	18 364	10 232	13 326	14 515	6 254	5 135	21 658	28 100	21 168	24 262	19 541	11 163	6 730
Denmark	9 598	- 13 017	6 948	6 862	7 402	18 033	12 808	9 590	- 18 358	635	3 586	2 060	6 871	- 2 365
Hungary	21 436	12 358	- 2 747	5 211	- 30 766	45 295	- 4 061	23 628	15 050	- 2 687	9 031	- 27 844	48 241	- 1 659
Iceland			460	- 295	- 29	- 1 122	- 3 101			412	439	670	- 402	- 3 023
Luxembourg	374 294	369 305	472 281	244 278	817 087	209 004	- 253 738	412 774	410 089	622 084	202 371	625 699	212 624	- 255 962
Netherlands	388 351	257 720	468 440	133 005	238 786	277 075	292 204	349 932	259 371	381 217	130 519	149 172	177 492	311 735
Poland	3 677	- 2 660	- 1 346	4 598	1 928	8 645	2 998	18 290	7 130	2 734	17 509	11 819	14 151	4 830
Portugal	13 447	- 8 208	- 1 205	- 523	5 575	2 714	- 2 410	7 435	8 860	2 703	2 999	6 926	6 309	6 947

For notes to this table refer to page 12

Source: OECD and IMF

OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs - Investment Division

FDI outward positions

FDI inward positions

Table 2

	In USD million			As a share of GDP (%)			In USD million			As a share of GDP (%)		
	2 015	2 016	2017 ^P	2 015	2 016	2017 ^P	2 015	2 016	2017 ^P	2 015	2 016	2017 ^P
OECD¹	19 629 050	20 443 178	22 891 266	42.1	42.9	46.2	16 698 559	17 950 856	20 182 380	35.8	37.6	40.7
Australia	390 278	401 501		31.3	30.8		535 933	576 029		43.0	44.2	
Austria*	210 530	206 186	248 272	55.1	52.8	59.7	164 897	154 199	192 802	43.2	39.5	46.3
Belgium*	590 438	568 673		129.7	121.5		524 095	475 046		115.1	101.5	
Canada	1 097 053	1 251 958		70.3	81.5		796 651	974 227		51.1	63.4	
Chile*	105 135	114 313	119 467	43.4	46.3	45.4	229 650	247 129	272 375	94.7	100.0	103.5
Czech Republic	18 591	19 426	23 908	10.0	9.9	11.1	116 628	121 855	155 111	62.4	62.4	71.9
Denmark*	168 880	176 000		56.1	57.3		91 482	97 116		30.4	31.6	
Estonia	6 218	6 576	7 700	27.6	28.2	29.7	18 862	19 369	23 151	83.6	83.0	89.3
Finland	94 545	111 107	129 622	40.7	46.6	51.5	81 627	80 733	79 208	35.1	33.8	31.5
France	1 268 228	1 279 632	1 451 697	52.1	51.9	56.3	687 394	704 872	874 542	28.2	28.6	33.9
Germany	1 336 566	1 346 911	1 593 975	39.6	38.7	43.3	786 242	790 337	948 582	23.3	22.7	25.8
Greece	27 288	22 432		14.0	11.6		26 951	28 383		13.8	14.7	
Hungary*	35 322	24 419	28 611	28.7	19.4	20.6	84 822	80 550	93 332	69.0	64.0	67.1
Iceland*	7 637	6 058	5 519	45.1	29.9	22.2	7 851	9 841	10 092	46.4	48.6	40.6
Ireland	909 668	841 981	899 500	313.0	276.2	276.2	888 221	842 910	880 178	305.6	276.5	270.3
Israel ^{2,4}	84 696	98 112	103 769	28.3	30.9	29.8	99 313	107 295	128 819	33.2	33.8	37.0
Italy	468 366	473 221	532 922	25.6	25.5	27.6	340 515	347 482	413 256	18.6	18.7	21.4
Japan	1 228 767	1 315 146		28.0	26.6		174 146	190 544		4.0	3.8	
Korea*	276 100	296 641		20.0	21.0		168 923	174 979		12.2	12.4	
Latvia	1 424	1 524	1 793	5.3	5.5	5.9	14 743	14 184	17 233	54.7	51.4	57.0
Luxembourg*	199 988	226 605	241 427	346.1	386.5	380.1	211 475	208 674	178 052	366.0	355.9	280.3
Mexico*	146 824	149 178		12.6	13.9		501 999	473 512		42.9	44.0	
Netherlands*	1 229 815	1 397 758	1 604 921	162.2	179.8	194.8	739 274	832 632	974 730	97.5	107.1	118.3
New Zealand	17 026	16 740	18 044	9.7	9.1	9.0	66 605	70 403	76 412	37.9	38.1	38.0
Norway*	172 432	178 314		44.6	48.1		147 487	147 359		38.1	39.7	
Poland*	22 281	27 076	29 433	4.7	5.7	5.6	183 869	185 042	237 129	38.5	39.3	45.2
Portugal*	48 041	47 384	51 541	24.1	23.1	23.7	104 783	104 976	130 314	52.5	51.2	59.9
Slovak Republic	2 462	2 651		2.8	3.0		46 016	43 740		52.6	48.7	
Slovenia	5 997	6 023	6 913	13.9	13.5	14.2	12 642	13 650	16 033	29.4	30.5	32.9
Spain*	466 260	492 051		38.9	39.8		516 344	519 870	596 944	43.1	42.0	45.5
Sweden*	352 517	357 421	384 818	70.8	69.5	71.5	290 001	283 149	316 991	58.2	55.0	58.9
Switzerland*	1 038 853	1 088 413		152.9	162.8		763 551	856 902		112.4	128.1	
Turkey	35 602	38 356		4.1	4.4		157 899	142 719		18.4	16.5	
United Kingdom	1 557 448	1 491 974	1 531 704	54.0	56.3	58.4	1 408 010	1 475 525	1 563 889	48.8	55.7	59.6
United States	6 007 773	6 361 419	7 799 045	33.2	34.2	40.3	5 709 658	6 555 622	7 807 032	31.5	35.2	40.3
Total World^{1,3}	24 844 653	26 383 380	29 055 342	33.4	35.0	36.9	26 385 733	28 515 392	31 118 568	35.5	37.8	39.5
European Union (EU)¹	9 320 688	9 425 234	10 431 608	56.8	57.2	60.4	7 881 478	7 977 584	8 984 812	48.0	48.4	52.0
G20 countries¹	15 800 510	16 791 932	18 960 585	27.2	28.3	30.5	15 591 911	17 125 608	19 131 519	26.9	28.9	30.7
G20-OECD countries¹	13 813 006	14 405 936	16 393 002	35.2	35.8	39.4	11 267 371	12 405 848	14 154 928	28.7	30.8	34.0
G20 -non OECD countries¹	1 987 505	2 385 995	2 567 582	10.6	12.5	12.4	4 324 540	4 719 760	4 976 591	23.0	24.8	24.1
Argentina ²	37 843	39 735		6.0	7.3		79 773	72 110		12.6	13.2	
Brazil	184 909	201 767		10.3	11.2		429 842	563 291		23.8	31.4	
China	1 095 909	1 357 390	1 472 982	10.0	12.1	12.3	2 696 344	2 755 147	2 901 446	24.5	24.5	24.3
India ²	139 038	144 086	155 341	6.7	6.4	6.4	282 617	318 487	377 683	13.5	14.1	15.5
Indonesia	29 351	59 134	65 871	3.4	6.3	6.5	222 410	249 859	248 510	25.8	26.8	24.5
Russia	282 651	334 275	382 278	20.7	26.1	26.0	262 748	393 910	446 595	19.2	30.7	30.4
Saudi Arabia ²	63 121	73 973		9.6	11.4		224 050	231 502		34.2	35.8	
South Africa ²	154 683	175 635		48.7	59.4		126 755	135 453		39.9	45.8	
*Data excludes SPEs. Corresponding data below including SPEs⁴:												
Austria	291 068	254 943	299 825	76.2	65.2	72.1	243 403	204 946	251 197	63.7	52.4	60.4
Belgium	610 211	590 557	690 836	134.1	126.2	139.8	551 774	500 240	566 926	121.2	106.9	114.7
Chile	109 809	119 053	124 281	45.3	48.2	47.2	232 225	249 715	275 291	95.8	101.1	104.6
Denmark	189 334	202 578		62.8	66.0		112 894	124 266		37.5	40.5	
Hungary	146 444	192 555	192 509	119.2	153.0	138.4	197 304	239 123	246 777	160.6	190.1	177.4
Iceland	11 079	9 519	5 914	65.5	47.0	23.8	11 293	13 302	10 485	66.7	65.6	42.2
Korea	276 153	296 690		20.0	21.0		169 659	175 350		12.3	12.4	
Luxembourg	4 413 713	4 431 738	4 487 442	7 638.2	7 558.7	7 064.9	3 699 718	3 725 064	3 731 752	6 402.6	6 353.4	5 875.2
Netherlands	4 936 957	5 125 821	6 151 723	651.3	659.5	746.5	4 020 797	4 133 237	5 071 815	530.4	531.8	615.4
Norway	174 388	181 044		45.1	48.8		149 473	149 467		38.7	40.3	
Poland	23 589	29 195	31 661	4.9	6.2	6.0	185 177	187 161	239 357	38.8	39.7	45.6
Portugal	57 085	55 976	60 980	28.6	27.3	28.0	118 078	116 615	143 640	59.2	56.8	66.0
Spain	492 514	527 272	597 264	41.1	42.6	45.5	543 899	552 472	644 430	45.4	44.7	49.1
Sweden	369 409	372 917	402 195	74.2	72.5	74.7	311 934	300 747	335 962	62.6	58.5	62.4
Switzerland	1 136 649	1 196 781	1 272 414	167.3	179.0	186.9	886 726	985 724	1 060 321	130.5	147.4	155.8

For notes to this table refer to page 12

Source: OECD and IMF

OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs - Investment Division

Notes for tables 1 to 2

Data are updated as of 10 April 2018.

p: preliminary data |: break in series
(A): asset/liability figure used for 2017 only

Tables 1 and 2 show FDI statistics at the aggregate level on a directional basis except for selected countries for which the asset/liability series is used (see note 2). Data for 2017 in Table 1 for Australia, Korea and Norway correspond to asset/liability figures, while data for earlier years correspond to directional figures. For more information on the two presentations for FDI, see [Asset/liability versus directional presentation](#). FDI terms are defined in the [FDI Glossary](#).

Financial flows consist of three components: equity capital, reinvestment of earnings, and intracompany debt. Equity capital is often associated with new investments, such as greenfield or M&As, even though it can also reflect extensions of capital or financial restructuring. Nevertheless, equity capital flows are often taken as a sign of the amount of new investments related to FDI. Reinvestment of earnings is the portion of earnings that the parent decides to reinvest in the affiliate rather than receive as a dividend and can be an important source of financing for affiliates. This component of financial flows tends to be the least volatile. Changes in the reinvestment of earnings reflect both changes in the earnings of affiliates and in the amount of earnings that parents choose to distribute. The reinvestment ratio is the share of earnings that the parent reinvests. It can be an indication of the parent's perception of investment opportunities available to the affiliate: if the parent sees the opportunity to make profitable investments in its affiliates, the parent might choose to reinvest more money in them. However, many other factors can influence the share of earnings reinvested. For example, if the parent is in need of cash, they might pay higher dividends. The third component of financial flows—intracompany debt—is the most volatile component of financial flows and is often driven by the short term financing needs within a company rather than larger overall macroeconomic phenomena. As such, intracompany debt is often the most difficult aspect of financial flows to explain.

Breaks in series were introduced in Table 1 to provide users with more complete historical series on FDI financial flows. These breaks in series correspond for most countries to the implementation of OECD Benchmark Edition 4th Edition (BMD4) except for Germany, for which the whole data series is according to BMD4, and the breaks in series correspond to a different recording of transactions between fellow enterprises. Data used before the breaks in series correspond to unrevised BMD3 FDI aggregates.

For data going back to 2005 in tables 1 and 2, (in Excel format), see www.oecd.org/investment/statistics.htm.

1. OECD, European Union (EU28), World, G20 aggregates:

FDI outward and inward flows (Table 1) were compiled using directional figures when available. Missing quarterly directional figures were approximated using the ratio between annual asset liability and directional figures; or by distributing annual directional figures equally among the four quarters; or using unrevised historical data. When directional figures were not available and could not be approximated, asset liability figures were used.

FDI outward and inward stocks (Table 2) were compiled using directional figures when available. Missing directional figures were approximated using unrevised historical data. When directional figures were not available and could not be approximated, asset liability figures were used. Data for 2017 include positions at end-2017 or at-end 2016 when 2017 data are not available.

Resident SPEs from Austria, Belgium (FDI positions only), Chile, Denmark, Hungary, Iceland, Korea (FDI positions only), Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway (FDI positions only), Poland, Portugal, Spain (FDI positions only), Sweden (FDI positions only) and Switzerland (FDI positions only) are excluded.

The European Union aggregate corresponds to member country composition of the reporting period: EU15 for data up to and including 2003, EU25 for data between 2004 and 2006, EU27 for data between 2007 and 2012 and EU28 starting from 2013.

- Data series on asset/liability basis:** The data series is on an asset/liability basis as opposed to directional basis for Israel and Spain (Table 1 only) and for the following non-OECD countries: Argentina, India, Saudi Arabia and South Africa.
- World aggregate:** is based on available data at the time of update as reported to the OECD and IMF. Missing data for countries for Q3 and Q4 2017 were estimated using the overall growth rate observed between, respectively, Q2 2017 and Q3 2017 and Q3 2017 and Q4 2017. Growth rates were calculated from data for OECD countries, for non-OECD G20 countries, and for 50 non-OECD and non-G20 countries in Q3 and 15 non-OECD and non-G20 countries in Q4. World totals for FDI positions are based on available FDI data at the time of update as reported to OECD and IMF for the year ended or the latest available year. By definition, inward and outward FDI worldwide should be equal. However, in practice, there are statistical discrepancies between inward and outward FDI. Unless otherwise specified, references to "global FDI flows" refer to the average of these two figures.
- Special purpose entities (SPEs):** Information on resident SPEs for Estonia and Sweden (FDI flows only) is confidential. This information is not yet available separately for Canada, Ireland and Mexico. The information is available separately for Austria, Chile, Denmark, Hungary, Iceland, Korea, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. However, the information is not displayed in the tables for all countries, due to limited availability of historical data or to differences in data vintages. Resident SPEs are not present or not significant in Australia, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Turkey, and the United States.
- The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.
- Directional flows for Japan: only annual data reflect annual revisions, so the sum of quarters may not add up to the annual data.
- Data for 2017 Saudi Arabia corresponds to the first three quarters of the year.

FDI in Figures is published twice yearly. For queries, please contact investment@oecd.org. Find data and more detailed FDI statistics at www.oecd.org/investment/statistics.htm.

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