

April 2016

FDI increases by 25% in 2015, with corporate and financial restructuring playing a large role

- **In 2015, global FDI flows increased by 25%** to USD 1.7 trillion, reaching their highest level since the global financial crisis began in 2007.
- **Part of this increase was the result of financial and corporate restructuring** rather than of new, productive investments. For example, global FDI flows were boosted by record levels of FDI inflows in the United States in the first half of 2015 which were partly driven by cross-border M&As designed to reduce companies' US tax obligations.
- **OECD FDI inflows almost doubled** compared to 2014, mostly due to large inflows in Ireland, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United States. Investors from those countries were also responsible for the 35% increase in OECD outflows. These countries appear among the top destinations and top sources of FDI worldwide in 2015.
- **OECD FDI flows for resident special purpose entities (SPEs) decreased** in 2015 by around 10%.
- **FDI inflows to the G20 as a whole increased by 26%**. FDI flows to OECD G20 economies increased by 81% but were partly offset by a 13% drop in FDI inflows to non-OECD G20 economies. As a result of these changes, the share of the non OECD G20 countries in global inflows dropped from about one-third to just over one-fifth.

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Did you know?

Detailed FDI statistics by partner country and by industry for 2014 are available in the online **OECD FDI database** (see pre-defined queries). You will find detailed information on inward and outward FDI flows, income and positions by main destination or recipient country, and by industry sector, as well as detailed information for resident SPEs. Find also information on inward FDI positions by ultimate investing country, and on FDI by main industry sector cross-classified by region.

1 Recent developments

Global FDI flows¹ increased by 25% in 2015, to USD 1 730 billion. This was the highest level recorded since 2007 and the start of the financial crisis. Figure 1 shows global FDI flows from 1999 to 2015 and includes a focus for recent quarters Q1 2014-Q4 2015 and half year trends. The measure was constructed using FDI statistics on a directional basis whenever available, supplemented by measures on an asset/liability basis when needed.² Aside from the 3% drop observed in 2014 (see [FDI in Figures – April 2015](#)), global FDI flows have been on an upward trend since 2012 and have never been so close to their pre-crisis level, although they remain about one sixth below (USD 1 730 billion compared to USD 2 091 billion in 2007).

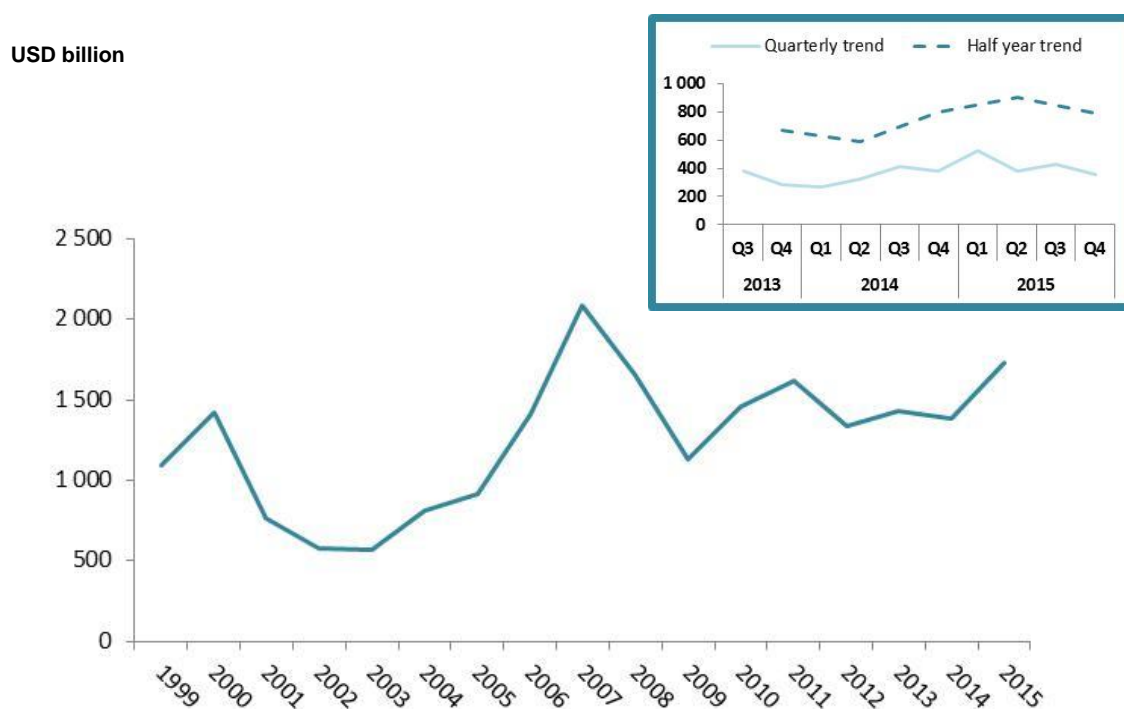
¹ By definition, inward and outward FDI worldwide should be equal. However, in practice, there are statistical discrepancies between inward and outward FDI. Unless otherwise specified, references to 'global FDI flows' refer to the average of these two figures.

² See Notes for tables 1 and 2 on page 12 for details. Data are as of 13 April 2016.

FDI flows peaked in the first quarter of 2015 due to inward FDI flows to the United States hitting a record-level (at USD 200 billion) and due to Hong Kong, China's net incurrence of FDI liabilities of USD 71 billion. Global FDI flows fluctuated during the last three quarters of 2015 but remained above USD 350 billion in each quarter. FDI flows increased by 15% in Q3 2015 and decreased by 17% in Q4 2015, representing an overall decrease of 12% in the second half of 2015 compared to the first half of the year. However, the level recorded in the second half of 2015 remained stable compared to the second half of 2014.

Nevertheless, some of the increase in global FDI flows in 2015 is the result of financial and corporate restructuring rather than productive investment. For example, the global increase was largely due to FDI inflows to the United States hitting record levels in 2015, which were not just driven by the country's improved economic performance but also by cross-border M&As designed to reduce companies' US tax obligations (see [FDI in Figures – October 2015](#)). In addition, record levels of FDI inflows to Hong-Kong, China, Switzerland and Ireland as well as record levels of outflows from the Netherlands (excluding flows from resident SPEs), Switzerland and Ireland also played a large role in the global increase. While companies in these countries were involved in cross-border M&As, corporate and financial restructurings can also impact FDI flows for these countries because they are common destinations for redomiciled companies, and they often play a large role in intragroup lending³. In addition, for the first time since the financial crisis, inflows to the OECD and the non-OECD G20 countries diverged: inflows to the OECD surged but those to the non-OECD G20 dropped.

Figure 1: Global FDI flows from 1999 to 2015 (USD billion)



Source: OECD International Direct Investment Statistics database

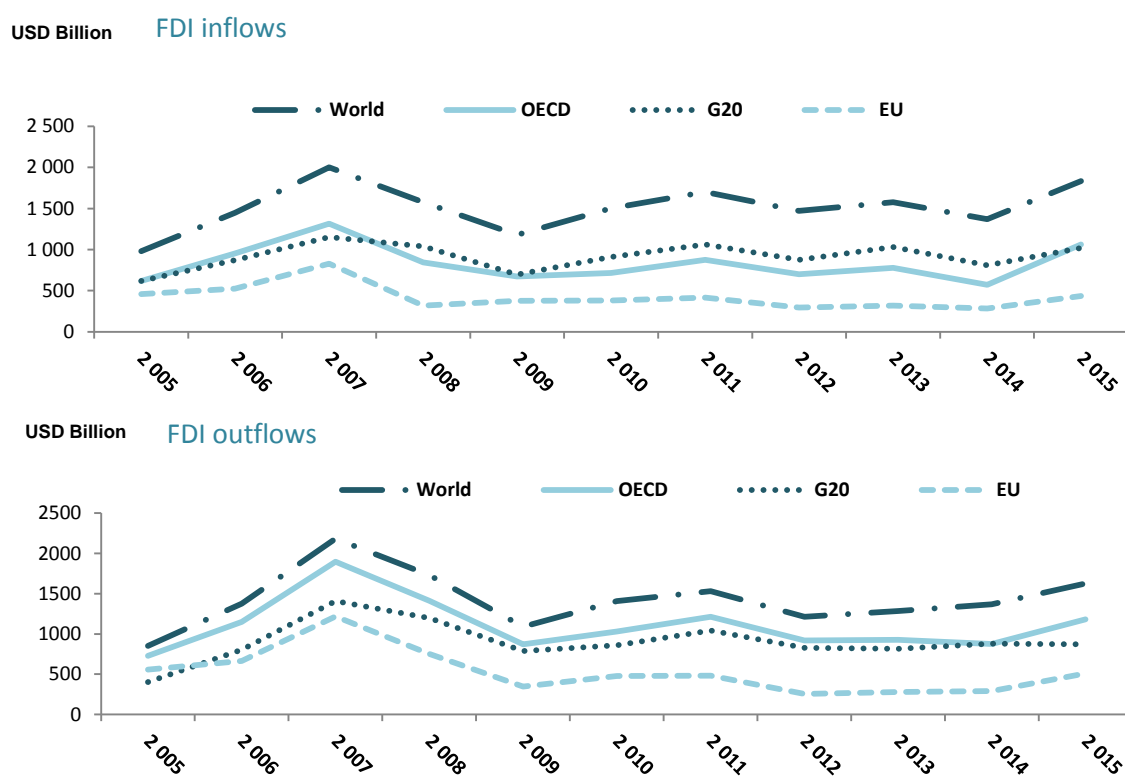
³ See more details on redomiciled companies and corporate inversions at: www.cso.ie/en/media/csoie/surveysandmethodologies/documents/pdfdocs/Redomiciled,PLCs,in,the,Irish,Balance,of,Payments.pdf and www.bea.gov/scb/pdf/2015/02%20February/0215_corporate_inversions_and_the_international_and%20national_accounts.pdf

FDI flows by region

In 2015, FDI flows into the **OECD** area increased by 86% compared to 2014, from USD 572 billion to USD 1 063 billion, and FDI outflows were up 35% from USD 875 billion to USD 1 183 billion (Figure 2). FDI inflows to the OECD area accounted for 58% of global FDI inflows, compared to 41% in 2014 and 49% in 2013. FDI inflows received by the United States in the first quarter largely accounted for the increased share of the OECD area. OECD FDI outflows accounted for 73% of global FDI outflows, higher than in 2014 (64%) but comparable to 2013. FDI flows into **EU** countries increased by 54% (from USD 282 billion to USD 434 billion) and outflows increased by 75% (from USD 290 billion to USD 508 billion); however, these levels remain below levels reached before the financial crisis. FDI inflows to the **G20** as a whole increased by 26% from USD 808 billion to USD 1 020 billion while FDI outflows from the G20, at USD 871 billion, remained stable. However, the situation varies across G20 OECD and non-OECD sub-groups: FDI flows to OECD G20 economies increased by 81% but were partly offset by a 13% drop in FDI inflows received by the non-OECD G20 economies. FDI outflows from OECD-G20 economies decreased by 3% while FDI outflows from the non-OECD G20 economies increased by 4%.

The record levels of FDI flows the United States received in the first quarter of 2015 made it the largest recipient of FDI inflows worldwide in 2015, followed by China (the largest recipient of FDI worldwide in 2010-2014), Switzerland and Ireland (due to record levels of FDI inflows for both countries in 2015). The United States remained by far the largest source of FDI worldwide, followed by China, Japan, Switzerland, the Netherlands (excluding investments from Special Purpose Entities) and Ireland.⁴

Figure 2: FDI flows for 2005-2015 (USD billion)



Source: OECD International Direct Investment Statistics database and IMF.

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.

FDI inflows by region

OECD FDI inflows almost doubled in 2015 (to USD 1 063 billion) compared to 2014, reaching their highest level since the beginning of the financial crisis. However, they remain 19% below their peak level in 2007 (at USD 1 316 billion). They increased by 55% in the first half of the year (to USD 571 billion) from the second half of 2014 and then dropped by 14% (to USD 492 billion) in the second half of the year.

The increase in the first half of the year was largely due to record levels of FDI inflows into the United States in the first quarter of 2015 (to USD 200 billion) due to some large cross-border deals⁵ (see [FDI in Figures – October 2015](#)). **In the second half of the year** FDI inflows to the United States dropped to USD 95 billion. **FDI inflows into the OECD as a whole dropped but remained high**, largely due to Ireland and Switzerland recording significant FDI inflows and net incurrence of liabilities respectively in the last quarter of 2015 (to USD 72 billion and USD 65 billion respectively). Overall in 2015, the largest OECD recipients of FDI inflows were therefore the United States (USD 385 billion), Switzerland (USD 121 billion) and Ireland (USD 101 billion). FDI inflows received by other major OECD recipients increased in 2015: FDI flows received by the Netherlands increased by 39% (from USD 52 billion to USD 73 billion excluding flows in resident Special Purpose Entities), they nearly tripled in France (from USD 15 billion to USD 43 billion), they recovered from net disinvestments in Germany (from USD -7 billion to USD 13 billion). In contrast, FDI flows dropped by 17% in Canada (from USD 59 billion to USD 49 billion), by 33% in Spain (from USD 33 billion to USD 22 billion), by 44% in Australia (from USD 40 billion to USD 22 billion) and by 25% in the United Kingdom (from USD 52 billion to USD 40 billion).

FDI financial flows consist of three components: equity capital, reinvestment of earnings, and intercompany debt.⁶ For the 20 economies that reported detail by FDI components⁷ for 2015, accounting for 72% of total OECD FDI inflows: total equity inflows more than tripled compared to 2014 and intercompany debt flows recovered from net disinvestments representing respectively 68% and 9% of total flows received by those economies, while reinvestment of earnings decreased by 13%, accounting for 23% of the total. The increase in equity capital was due to its role in the large M&A deals in the first half of 2015. However, the situation varies across countries. The increase of FDI equity flows was largely due to equity transactions in the United States which reached USD 225 billion and to a lesser extent to equity transactions in the Netherlands (USD 61 billion), in France (USD 37 billion), and in Ireland (USD 40 billion). Intercompany debt inflows were boosted by increases in the United States (USD 82 billion) but also in Germany and Ireland where debt inflows were up. Reinvestment of earnings fell, driven by decreases in the United States (from USD 50 billion to USD 43 billion). In Switzerland, the second largest OECD recipient of FDI flows in 2015, net incurrence of equity and debt liabilities both rose to USD 53 billion.

In the non-OECD G20 countries, FDI inflows in 2015 increased by 30% in India compared to 2014 (from USD 34 billion to USD 44 billion) but declined elsewhere: by 69% in South Africa (to USD 1.8 billion), by 29% in Indonesia (to USD 16 billion), by 23% in Brazil (to USD 75 billion) and by 7% in China (to USD 250 billion). FDI flows to Russia reached particularly low levels in 2015 (they dropped by 63% to USD 11 billion), largely due to a drop in reinvested earnings (from USD 21 billion to USD 11 billion). FDI inflows in Saudi Arabia were USD 5.9 billion in the first three quarters of 2015, slightly below their level a year earlier⁸.

⁵ See www.actavis.com/news/news/thomson-reuters/actavis-completes-allergan-acquisition; and www.wsj.com/articles/medtronic-to-book-500-million-restructuring-charge-1443476397.

⁶ For more information on FDI components, please see the notes on page 12.

⁷ On a directional basis.

⁸ Argentina is excluded from the G20 aggregate FDI from Q2 2015 onwards. See note 1 on page 12 for more details.

FDI outflows by region

FDI outflows from the OECD area increased by 35% in 2015 compared to 2014 (to USD 1 183 billion). They were on an increasing trend since the first quarter of 2014, but dropped in the last quarter of 2015 (from USD 341 billion to USD 262 billion). However, the situation varies across countries. FDI outflows from Japan increased by 13% (to USD 129 billion) and rose to above USD 100 billion from three countries: Ireland (to USD 102 billion), the Netherlands (to USD 113 billion excluding investments from Dutch Special Purpose Entities), and Switzerland (net acquisition of FDI assets reached a peak at USD 122 billion). These developments were offset by decreases in outward investments from other major OECD investors: FDI outflows from the United States decreased from USD 337 billion to USD 320 billion; from Germany decreased from USD 99 billion to USD 76 billion; from France decreased from USD 43 billion to USD 35 billion. The United Kingdom recorded net disinvestments for the third consecutive year, of USD -61 billion. Major OECD investors in 2015 were therefore the United States, Japan, Switzerland, the Netherlands and Ireland, accounting for 66% of OECD outflows.

FDI financial flows consist of three components: equity capital, reinvestment of earnings, and intercompany debt.⁶ For the 20 economies who reported FDI components⁷ for 2015, accounting for 71% of total OECD FDI outflows: total equity outflows increased by 52%, accounting for one third of the total outflows and intercompany debt flows almost tripled (accounting for 16% of the total) while reinvestment of earnings decreased by 16% (47% of the total). The increase in equity capital flows was largely due to its role in the large M&A deals in 2015. As for FDI inflows, the situation varies across countries. The increase in FDI equity outflows was driven by increases from Ireland where equity outflows reached USD 60 billion mostly in the pharmaceutical sector (compared to net disinvestments in 2014), and to a lesser extent from Canada and the Netherlands where equity outflows increased by around 20% (to USD 37 billion and to 67 billion excluding resident SPEs respectively), from France where equity outflows more than tripled to USD 23 billion and from the United States where equity outflows more than doubled to USD 18 billion. Equity outflows from Germany were stable at about USD 60 billion. The increase in intercompany debt flows was driven by switches from negative debt flows in 2014 to positive debt flows, in particular in the Netherlands and the United States. The decrease in reinvestment of earnings was largely due to a 15% drop in the United States (to USD 294 billion) caused by a drop in earnings. In Switzerland, the second largest OECD investor in 2015, net incurrence of equity and debt liabilities rose to respectively USD 61 billion and USD 37 billion.

In the non-OECD G20 economies, FDI outflows from China increased by 53% (to USD 188 billion) while they dropped elsewhere: FDI outflows decreased by 57% from Russia (to USD 27 billion), by 48% from Brazil (to USD 13 billion), by 30% from India and South Africa (to respectively USD 6.9 billion and USD 5.3 billion) and by 12% from Indonesia (to USD 6.3 billion). FDI outflows from Saudi Arabia were USD 3.8 billion in the first three quarters of 2015, a level comparable to 2014.

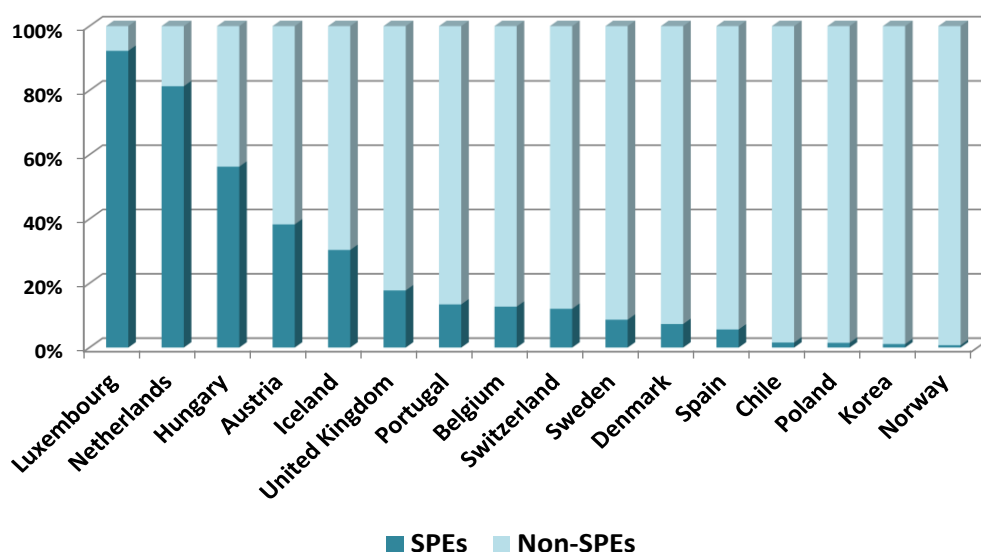
2 FDI in resident special purpose entities

An important feature of the OECD Benchmark Definition 4th edition is to identify FDI flows and positions of resident SPEs separately. 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.⁹ Figure 3 shows

⁹ For more details see the OECD note on how MNEs channel investments through multiple countries.

the percentage of inward positions accounted for by resident SPEs at-end 2015 when available (at end-2014 otherwise).

Figure 3: Share of FDI into SPEs and non-SPEs, at-end 2015



Source: OECD International Direct Investment Statistics database

FDI positions excluding resident SPEs are now available for 16 OECD countries: SPEs are not significant in Korea, Chile, Poland and Norway, accounting for less than 5% of FDI in these economies, while resident SPEs in Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Hungary, Austria and Iceland account for 30% or more of their inward investment. SPEs play smaller, but still significant, roles in investment for the United Kingdom¹⁰, Portugal, Belgium, Switzerland, Sweden, Denmark and Spain. Overall, FDI positions in SPEs hosted by these 16 countries represent 52% of their total inward FDI position at-end 2015.

FDI flows in and from SPEs are volatile because they are often involved in individual large deals. They dropped in 2015 (by around 10%) but the situation varies across countries. For example FDI flows into and from Luxembourg SPEs rose to respectively USD 226 billion and USD 265 billion in 2015, due to large increases in the third quarter of 2015. After large fluctuations in 2013 and 2014, FDI flows in/from resident Dutch SPEs further decreased in 2015 (to USD 18 billion and USD -35 billion). Large increases recorded in the third quarter were offset by large net disinvestments in the last quarter. Transactions in both quarters were largely with Luxembourg. FDI flows in/from Hungarian SPEs dropped to negative levels in 2015 (from USD 1.2 billion and USD 1.3 billion to USD -5.3 billion and USD -6.8 billion) due to large reimbursements of intercompany loans and to large net disinvestments in equity recorded in the last quarter of 2015, while flows in and from Danish and Polish SPEs remained negative. There were large net disinvestments in equity in Portuguese SPEs in 2015 (total inflows were USD -1.4 billion), compared to very limited inflows recorded in 2012-2014 (less than USD 0.3 billion). Investment flows in/from Austrian SPEs reached respectively USD 2.0 billion and USD 2.4 billion compared to less than 0.6 billion in 2014. Investment flows in/from Chilean and Icelandic SPEs remain very limited in 2015.

¹⁰ According to data reported in February 2015.

3

Spotlight: Return on inward FDI by sector

Rates of return indicate the gain or loss on an investment. In the context of FDI, it is an indicator that helps to analyse the profitability of enterprises. However, many other factors should also be taken into account, such as cyclical or structural factors or developments in that sector of economic activity. In addition, the MNE seeks to maximise its global profits in deciding where to invest, where to produce, and where to realise its income. As such, the global strategy of the investing enterprises can influence the country-by-country rates of return. The rate of return on FDI is defined here as the ratio of income on inward FDI (income on equity, or earnings, and interest from debt) over total inward FDI stock in each sector because investors receive income on the total stock of investment in a country and not just the most recent flows.

Historically, the analysis of rates of return was hampered by the lack of comparability in the valuations of positions. Specifically, positions reported on an historical cost basis likely understated the current value of the investments because the investments would likely have increased in value over time. This would result in higher rates of return on older investments compared to newer investments. With the implementation of the most recent international standards for compiling FDI statistics, more and more countries are reporting market value estimates of FDI positions; this enables an improved analysis of rates of return.

At-end 2015, the stock of inward FDI in the OECD¹¹ stood at USD 15.9 trillion. For many countries, preliminary estimates for 2015 show a decrease in their stock of inward FDI at-end 2015 from end 2014. However, in most cases, this is due to the strengthening of the US dollar as the national currency values of the positions actually increased. For example, the USD/EUR exchange rate increased 10% from 2014 to 2015, the USD/CAD rate increased 19%, and the USD/CZK rate increased 9%. This also happened for the positions of many countries at the end of 2014 when compared to end of 2013. For the 19 countries that reported FDI income for 2015, income on inward FDI decreased by 14% in 2015 compared to 2014. Earnings, representing 86% of total income payments, dropped by 16%.

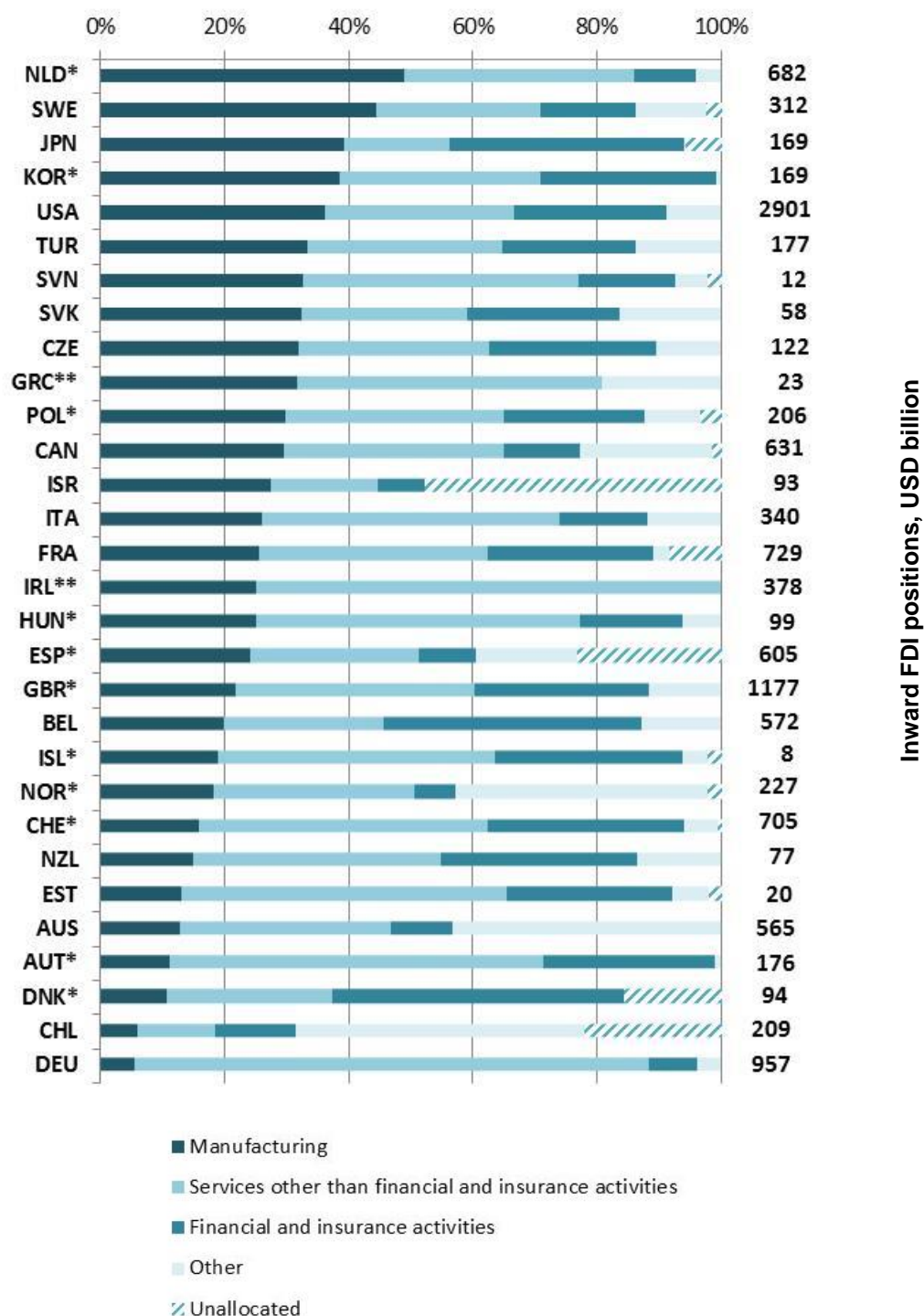
Figure 4 shows inward FDI stocks by sector at-end 2014 (at end-2013 if 2014 was not available) for the 30 OECD countries who have reported this information. Figure 5 shows the 2014 rates of return on inward FDI by sector for selected OECD countries who have reported information on FDI income by industry.

The importance of specific sectors varies across countries. The highest shares of FDI in manufacturing are in the Netherlands, Sweden, Japan and Korea. The highest shares (over 40%) in 'other', which includes primary industries such as mining and agriculture and also water and electricity, are in Chile, Australia and Norway. The highest shares (over 40%) of financial and insurance services are in Luxembourg, Denmark, Portugal and Japan (excluding FDI in Luxembourg, Danish and Portuguese SPEs).

The highest shares (over 50%) in 'services other than financial and insurance activities' are in Germany, Austria, Estonia and Hungary. Generally, the share of FDI in manufacturing exceeds the share of that industry in a country's GDP, indicating the importance of FDI in manufacturing, while it is generally lower for 'services other than financial and insurance activities' (see [FDI in Figures – April 2015](#) for more details).

¹¹ Preliminary estimates using data at end-2015 when available, at-end 2014 otherwise.

Figure 4: Inward FDI positions by sector for OECD countries, at-end 2014¹



Notes:

1. 2014 or latest available year. Excluding position data for Finland and Mexico who did not report FDI position by industry and for Luxembourg and Portugal for which FDI positions by industry were reported as non-publishable. Total inward positions correspond to totals reported as part of FDI statistics by industry and can differ from total inward positions aggregates included in Table 2, which are derived from International Investment Position statistics. Differences can be due to various reasons, for example revision schedules or valuation methods.

*Data exclude resident Special Purpose Entities

**Inward FDI position in the financial and insurance sector at-end 2014 was negative for Greece and confidential for Ireland. Therefore, this sub-sector is not separated from services for those two countries.

Source: OECD International Direct Investment statistics database

The highest rates of return on inward FDI (all sectors) in 2014 are recorded in Ireland (14%), the Czech Republic (13%), Japan (10%) and Poland (10%). The highest rates of return in the manufacturing sector are in Ireland (25%), Austria (19%) and Chile (18%), compared to 4% in the Netherlands, who has the highest share of FDI in the manufacturing sector. The highest rates of return in 'other' are in Japan (18%) and the Czech Republic (18%), compared to 7% in Chile, who has the highest share of FDI in 'other'. The highest rates of return in financial and insurance services are in Norway (17%), Japan (11%) and the Czech Republic (11%), compared to 7% in Denmark, who counts among countries who have the largest share of FDI in this sector. The highest rates of return in 'services other than financial and insurance activities' are in Japan (18%), Chile (11%), Poland (10%) and the Czech Republic (10%), compared to 9% in Austria, who counts among countries who have the highest share of FDI in this sector.

Given the high volatility of FDI income, it would be useful to analyse rates of return over several years.¹² This should be possible as more historical data becomes available, as well as more coverage of FDI income by industry and instruments.

Figure 5: Rates of return on inward FDI by sector, selected OECD countries, 2014¹

	Manufacturing	Services excl. Finance and insurance	Finance and insurance	Other	Total	
					Rate of return	Inward FDI position, USD billion
IRL**	24.7%	5.8%		0.0%	14%	378
CZE	16.2%	10.0%	10.7%	17.5%	13%	122
JPN	5.1%	17.8%	10.7%	18.2%	10%	169
POL*	13.3%	10.3%	7.4%	3.5%	10%	206
HUN*	15.2%	8.4%	5.7%	3.9%	9%	99
EST	13.0%	7.9%	9.9%	4.7%	9%	20
AUT*	18.7%	9.1%	3.5%	7.7%	9%	176
SWE	7.6%	8.2%	8.1%	3.0%	7%	312
CHL	18.0%	11.3%	0.2%	7.4%	7%	209
DNK*	4.4%	3.0%	7.4%		7%	94
GBR*	5.1%	4.0%	8.1%	8.0%	6%	1 177
USA	6.2%	4.7%	5.7%	6.6%	6%	2 901
AUS	7.5%	2.0%	8.6%	4.8%	5%	565
NOR*	4.3%	2.8%	17.2%	5.2%	5%	227
NLD*	3.9%	6.2%	1.6%	9.3%	5%	682
BEL	6.5%	6.1%	4.4%	3.1%	4%	572
ITA	4.2%	2.9%	3.9%	2.1%	3%	340
ESP*	4.7%	4.2%	3.0%	0.1%	3%	605
SVN	12.7%	-2.5%	-17.7%	-7.3%	0%	12
ISL*	1.3%	4.1%	-9.3%	3.5%	-1%	8
KOR*	-0.7%	-0.9%	-0.2%	-0.7%	-1%	169
GRC**	-6.7%	-3.3%		5.0%	-2%	23

Notes: 1. Or latest available year. Total inward positions correspond to totals reported as part of FDI statistics by industry and can differ from total inward positions aggregates included in Table 2, which are derived from International Investment Position statistics. Differences can be due to various reasons, for example revision schedules or valuation methods.

*Data exclude resident Special Purpose Entities. **Inward FDI position in the financial and insurance sector at-end 2014 was negative for Greece and confidential for Ireland. Therefore, this sub-sector is not separated from services for those two countries.

Source: OECD International Direct Investment statistics database

¹² It would also be better to look at the return on equity, i.e. earnings, specifically rather than total income. However, earnings by industry are only available for a very limited number of countries in the OECD FDI database.

FDI outward flows

FDI inward flows

Table 1

In USD millions	2 010	2 011	2 012	2 013	2 014	2015 ^p	2 010	2 011	2 012	2 013	2 014	2015 ^p
OECD¹	1 028 831	1 213 394	920 566	926 218	874 950	1 182 927	715 133	873 964	698 825	776 542	571 811	1 063 370
Australia	19 803	1 716	6 737	1 580	3	- 16 741	36 442	58 906	58 970	56 946	39 613	22 268
Austria*	9 585	21 933	13 114	15 565	5 066	12 403	2 576	10 625	3 990	5 719	9 326	3 838
Belgium	- 8 313	46 413	33 834	23 063	5 010	38 554	43 233	78 329	6 518	13 678	- 8 704	31 035
Canada	34 721	52 144	55 875	54 863	55 758	67 224	28 399	39 667	43 119	71 732	58 581	48 672
Chile*	10 226	12 470	17 252	8 780	11 857	15 550	15 220	16 815	24 960	18 170	21 161	20 028
Czech Republic	1 168	- 328	1 794	4 021	1 620	2 306	6 147	2 323	8 000	3 641	5 492	1 223
Denmark*	1 382	11 278	7 359	7 174	8 401	13 219	- 9 167	11 488	418	1 050	3 471	3 643
Estonia	167	- 1 455	1 054	431	- 230	306	1 509	1 006	1 566	546	507	208
Finland	10 189	5 016	7 546	- 2 401	- 563	-212 (A)	7 359	2 552	4 156	- 169	17 303	18 619 (A)
France	48 158	51 462	31 574	24 993	42 871	35 075	13 891	31 671	16 985	42 884	15 192	42 890
Germany	125 453	78 002	62 188	39 166	98 502	75 933	65 646	67 573	28 190	10 479	- 6 866	13 327
Greece	1 558	1 774	678	- 785	904	379	330	1 144	1 741	2 817	1 671	- 290
Hungary*	1 173	4 713	11 717	1 870	3 521	1 534	2 195	6 315	14 427	3 406	7 489	1 271
Iceland*	- 2 368	18	- 3 205	460	- 257	- 599	245	1 107	1 025	397	447	- 136
Ireland	22 350	- 1 166	22 573	29 020	43 137	101 634	42 807	23 566	45 275	44 889	31 136	100 560
Israel ^{2,4}	8 656	9 166	3 257	5 502	3 667	9 742	6 335	8 728	8 468	12 448	6 738	11 565
Italy	32 657	53 677	7 992	25 107	26 318	27 612	9 179	34 355	93	24 268	19 718	14 996
Japan ⁶	56 276	107 550	122 514	135 745	113 699	128 698	- 1 252	- 1 757	1 732	2 303	2 092	- 2 251
Korea ²	28 280	29 705	30 632	28 360	28 039	27 640	9 497	9 773	9 496	12 767	9 274	5 042
Luxembourg*	20 842	9 052	2 771	25 278	23 438	39 378	35 661	13 302	4 423	15 368	12 074	24 600
Mexico	15 050	12 636	22 470	13 138	8 304	8 072	26 369	23 746	20 306	45 726	25 629	28 382
Netherlands*	68 363	34 818	6 174	69 960	55 971	113 449	- 7 185	24 391	20 121	51 363	52 200	72 663
New Zealand	716	2 524	- 457	524	71	213	- 61	4 222	3 396	1 831	2 493	- 986
Norway ²	30 520	14 412	26 274	8 855	20 847	13 035	21 238	10 895	27 179	1 975	5 531	- 10 619
Poland*	6 149	1 028	2 905	- 451	1 975	4060 (A)	12 800	15 953	12 441	3 626	12 532	7438 (A)
Portugal*	- 9 956	13 917	- 8 096	- 1 035	4 539	7 979	1 507	5 997	8 963	2 405	7 630	7 381
Slovak Republic	946	491	- 73	- 313	- 123	- 183	1 770	2 146	2 826	- 604	- 332	803
Slovenia	- 19	200	- 258	- 214	264	- 65	106	1 088	339	- 151	1 061	994
Spain ²	38 393	45 248	- 2 479	25 947	45 372	47 386	40 331	32 412	24 667	45 065	32 959	22 038
Sweden	20 364	29 912	28 977	30 075	8 565	23 732	141	12 946	16 349	4 859	3 562	12 588
Switzerland	85 718	48 098	43 307	38 553	- 3 331	122 262 (A)	28 750	28 282	15 983	646	6 644	120 823 (A)
Turkey	1 469	2 330	4 106	3 528	6 655	4 770	9 086	16 136	13 283	12 283	12 135	16 436
United Kingdom	48 075	95 577	20 769	- 18 770	- 81 854	- 61 445	58 180	42 196	55 626	47 589	52 478	39 536
United States	301 080	419 061	339 693	328 628	336 936	320 029	205 850	236 068	193 795	216 588	111 577	384 786
Total World^{1,3}	1 407 730	1 529 340	1 214 774	1 283 176	1 368 398	1 625 967	1 504 548	1 700 161	1 469 741	1 577 613	1 399 691	1 833 077
European Union (EU)¹	477 494	480 371	255 658	279 003	289 967	507 537	380 283	414 862	293 966	319 016	281 935	433 920
G20 countries¹	860 275	1 041 993	825 460	815 832	880 507	870 808	910 858	1 063 103	874 646	1 032 504	807 685	1 019 924
G20-OECD countries¹	711 021	903 861	704 549	636 338	635 232	616 866	461 288	558 334	441 595	543 566	339 422	614 083
G20 -non OECD countries¹	149 253	138 132	120 910	179 494	245 275	253 941	449 570	504 770	433 051	488 938	468 263	405 841
Argentina ¹	965	1 488	1 055	890	1 806		11 333	10 840	15 324	11 301	4 599	
Brazil ²	26 763	16 067	5 208	14 942	26 040	13 498	88 452	101 158	86 607	69 181	96 895	75 075
China	57 954	48 421	64 963	72 971	123 130	187 801	243 703	280 072	241 214	290 928	268 097	249 859
India ²	15 968	12 608	8 553	1 766	9 951	6 947	27 397	36 499	23 996	28 153	33 870	44 000
Indonesia	2 664	7 713	5 422	6 652	7 077	6 250	13 771	19 241	19 138	18 817	21 866	15 508
Russia	41 116	48 635	28 423	70 685	64 203	27 498	31 668	36 868	30 188	53 397	29 152	10 765
Saudi Arabia ^{2,7}	3 907	3 430	4 402	4 943	5 396	3 804	29 233	16 308	12 182	8 865	8 012	5 905
South Africa ²	- 84	- 229	2 885	6 646	7 671	5 349	4 014	3 783	4 403	8 296	5 772	1 772
*Data excludes SPEs. Corresponding data below including SPEs⁴:												
Austria	- 14 065	32 533	20 492	6 703	5 051	14 780	- 21 694	17 184	7 372	- 3 765	9 955	5 803
Chile	10 534	13 617	17 040	8 388	11 803	15 513	16 583	16 674	24 977	17 878	21 231	20 176
Denmark	- 1 423	9 627	- 13 008	6 960	7 600	11 910	- 12 547	9 598	- 18 592	605	2 171	2 156
Hungary	- 41 146	21 436	12 358	- 2 819	4 813	- 5 224	- 37 264	23 628	15 050	- 2 745	8 704	- 4 001
Iceland				460	- 295	- 594				412	439	- 128
Luxembourg	205 556	374 294	369 305	518 540	235 198	304 222	222 023	412 774	410 089	709 000	193 338	250 784
Netherlands	210 620	388 351	257 720	417 751	98 586	78 251	135 774	349 932	259 371	370 492	129 847	90 759
Poland	6 148	3 677	- 2 660	- 1 346	1 595	2 832 (A)	12 799	18 290	7 130	2 734	11 934	6 211 (A)
Portugal	- 9 783	13 447	- 8 210	- 2 043	4 108	8 167	2 424	7 435	8 873	2 672	7 616	6 031

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 millions	2 010	2 011	2 012	2 013	2 014	2015 ^a	2 010	2 011	2 012	2 013	2 014	2015 ^a
OECD¹	16 779 580	16 826 158	18 180 409	19 796 071	19 421 407	19 196 765	13 127 667	13 335 082	14 668 535	16 085 637	16 369 068	15 923 646
Australia	449 768	418 814	476 426	456 993	446 589	396 443	527 096	554 931	614 542	568 094	562 815	537 367
Austria*	181 636	193 133	209 533	231 840	216 556	208 269	160 614	152 760	164 696	178 828	176 597	164 789
Belgium*			419 640	465 528	439 575				486 226	482 946	415 718	
Canada	998 466	891 619	972 042	1 102 293	1 120 477	1 078 333	983 889	862 698	953 503	961 995	954 489	756 038
Chile*	48 084	59 376	73 005	83 044	88 581	84 872	151 058	157 090	181 016	195 078	204 151	204 566
Czech Republic	14 923	13 214	17 368	20 627	18 490	18 481	128 505	120 569	136 494	134 085	121 512	113 057
Denmark*	165 369	176 071	183 985	190 661	177 398		96 985	98 406	98 293	94 486	97 220	
Estonia	5 545	4 805	6 064	6 787	6 114	6 063	15 551	16 349	18 934	21 202	19 711	18 914
Finland				145 333	117 307					88 763	93 896	
France	1 172 979	1 247 922	1 307 605	1 360 308	1 279 019	1 230 756	630 692	698 832	717 253	796 500	729 107	703 086
Germany	1 383 601	1 432 696	1 346 487	1 440 954	1 408 535	1 404 275	959 200	988 551	863 416	952 649	843 008	792 491
Greece	42 623	48 041	44 960	36 300	30 492		35 025	29 058	24 763	25 850	22 531	
Hungary*	22 315	26 357	37 717	38 452	39 060	38 503	90 851	85 331	104 009	108 517	98 885	92 132
Iceland*	11 481	11 711	9 093	9 503	8 415	7 153	11 025	11 754	9 325	7 367	7 889	7 273
Ireland			412 012	538 755	634 726	793 441			364 569	392 921	378 181	435 501
Israel ^{2,4}	68 972	70 783	71 172	76 726	79 686	89 347	61 180	65 327	76 527	88 161	93 279	104 370
Italy				533 906	485 316					364 965	346 805	
Japan ⁶	831 110	955 854	1 037 700	1 118 009	1 169 077		214 890	225 785	205 754	170 713	169 436	
Korea ²	144 032	172 413	202 875	238 812	265 729	277 057	135 500	135 178	157 876	180 860	179 205	173 683
Luxembourg*				101 283	130 192					91 397	180 424	
Mexico	121 557	114 755	148 450	139 642	143 852	139 607	363 791	338 995	376 348	394 727	389 672	354 996
Netherlands*	968 130	996 012	1 001 416	1 144 235	1 040 035	1 074 320	588 071	610 643	628 120	770 988	715 667	707 064
New Zealand	16 053	19 007	19 529	18 740	18 998	17 262	57 365	64 444	71 472	75 209	76 652	66 055
Norway*				198 677	230 721					196 448	226 632	
Poland*	16 407	18 928	26 102	27 725	24 938		187 602	164 424	198 953	229 167	205 581	
Portugal*	43 968	54 412	49 587	51 200	43 686		84 869	84 979	98 698	108 181	93 031	
Slovak Republic	3 456	4 021	4 765	4 829	2 987	2 563	50 327	51 978	55 118	58 021	52 485	48 164
Slovenia	8 147	7 826	7 533	7 142	6 454	5 473	10 667	11 490	12 202	12 269	12 298	11 847
Spain*				513 326	492 642					604 681	541 424	
Sweden*				395 850	349 817					353 408	284 746	
Switzerland	1 041 313	1 109 816	1 192 900	1 193 976	1 067 905		610 852	690 859	736 686	782 639	764 113	
Turkey	22 506	27 652	30 936	33 318	39 505	44 541	187 148	136 607	190 128	149 778	177 603	145 296
United Kingdom	1 574 643	1 625 966	1 593 820	1 579 928	1 513 215	1 538 154	1 057 145	1 145 700	1 428 091	1 490 033	1 744 222	1 457 427
United States	4 809 587	4 514 327	5 222 874	6 291 370	6 285 320	5 982 787	3 422 293	3 498 726	3 915 538	4 954 713	5 390 081	5 587 969
Total World^{1,3}	20 184 201	20 315 343	22 453 013	24 400 345	24 461 062	21 326 406	22 269 780	23 393 513	25 742 046	28 084 693	28 815 581	20 577 855
European Union (EU)¹	8 336 286	8 538 461	8 775 680	9 122 505	8 708 046	8 845 799	6 748 791	6 920 993	7 509 066	7 947 634	7 707 087	7 314 709
G20 countries¹	13 049 881	13 144 011	14 319 323	15 983 630	16 028 937	15 875 986	12 282 234	12 789 637	13 935 792	15 462 905	16 028 988	15 678 804
G20-OECD countries¹	11 997 904	11 921 679	12 874 195	14 295 533	14 156 634	13 746 346	8 809 698	8 941 112	9 786 033	10 985 027	11 486 445	11 024 595
G20 -non OECD countries¹	1 051 977	1 222 332	1 445 128	1 688 097	1 872 303	2 129 640	3 472 536	3 848 525	4 149 760	4 477 878	4 542 543	4 654 209
Argentina ¹	30 328	32 891	32 916	34 326	36 150		87 552	98 941	100 438	109 887	82 216	
Brazil ²	191 349	206 187	270 864	300 791	299 748	310 425	682 346	696 408	743 964	747 891	762 050	630 518
China	317 210	424 780	531 900	660 480	882 640	1 129 300	1 569 604	1 906 908	2 068 000	2 331 238	2 599 102	2 842 300
India ²	96 911	109 519	118 072	119 838	131 524		205 603	206 373	224 987	226 543	252 818	
Indonesia	6 672	6 204	12 401	19 350	24 320		160 735	184 804	211 635	230 818	219 301	
Russia		315 742	332 836	385 328	307 200			408 942	438 195	471 481	272 243	
Saudi Arabia ^{2,7}	26 528	29 958	34 359	39 303	44 699		176 378	186 758	199 032	207 897	215 909	
South Africa ²	83 248	97 051	111 779	128 681	146 023		179 564	159 391	163 509	152 123	138 904	
*Data excludes SPEs. Corresponding data below including SPEs⁴:												
Austria	281 582	296 958	327 843	350 722	326 269	317 603	259 375	251 818	275 539	293 458	280 091	267 181
Belgium	328 656	301 459	441 721	491 171	459 950		366 403	321 150	512 659	553 162	476 379	
Chile	51 162	63 264	76 191	85 896	91 435	87 415	154 625	160 836	184 505	198 327	207 470	207 827
Denmark	181 880	191 104	194 977	201 623	186 241		110 821	109 521	107 210	103 550	104 913	
Hungary	147 239	165 300	190 480	189 995	171 025	158 571	212 881	226 003	248 015	247 778	222 601	210 730
Iceland				13 856	11 570	10 268				11 746	11 077	10 445
Luxembourg				2 990 057	2 979 815					2 466 094	2 345 792	
Netherlands	4 020 547	4 362 774	4 709 122	5 304 026	4 871 333	4 502 175	3 178 272	3 503 696	3 824 017	4 354 035	4 084 323	3 778 724
Norway				199 806	232 522					198 192	228 328	
Poland	24 214	29 174	30 899	30 657	27 155		195 409	174 661	203 333	232 014	208 636	
Portugal	62 285	61 450	56 637	58 864	50 284		114 992	103 755	115 871	124 205	107 470	
Spain				540 298	516 511					638 992	573 776	
Sweden	374 399	379 286	389 229	422 263	374 496		347 163	349 058	373 444	386 105	311 786	

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 13 April 2016.

p: preliminary data **(A):** asset/liability figure used for 2015 only **:** break in series

Tables 1 and 2 show FDI statistics at the aggregate level on directional basis except for selected countries for which the asset/liability series is used (see note 2). Data for 2015 for Finland, Poland and Switzerland 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 intercompany 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—intercompany 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, intercompany debt is often the most difficult aspect of financial flows to explain.

For the first time in this April 2016 edition, breaks in series were introduced in Table 1 in order to provide users with more complete historical series on FDI financial flows. Those 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 in tables 1 and 2 back to 2005 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 2015 include positions at end-2015 or at-end 2014 when 2015 data are not available.

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

The government of Argentina declared a state of emergency in the national statistical system on 7 January 2016. As a consequence, Argentina's Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos (INDEC) has temporarily suspended publication of certain official statistics under its responsibility, pending reorganisation and Argentina has been excluded from the calculation of the G20 aggregate from Q2 2015 onwards (see www.boletinoficial.gob.ar).

- Data series on asset/liability basis:** The data series is on asset/liability basis as opposed to directional basis for Israel, Korea, Norway (Table 1 only) and Spain (Table 1 only) and for the following non-OECD countries: Brazil, India, Saudi Arabia and South Africa.
- World aggregate:** are based on available data at the time of update as reported to the OECD and IMF. Missing data for countries for Q3 and Q4 2015 were estimated using the overall growth rate observed between, respectively, Q2 2015 and Q3 2015 and Q3 2015 and Q4 2015. 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.
- 2015 data for Saudi Arabia correspond to the first three quarters of 2015.

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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