

International Trade and Globalisation

www.oecd.org/trade/its – www.oecd.org/daf/internationalinvestment – www.oecd.org/sti/ind

Foreign direct investment (FDI) plays a key role in the process of global economic integration. It provides an important source of capital and a means for creating stable and long-lasting links between home and host economies. Direct investment serves well development as well as growth and employment prospects. It promotes transfer of technology, and contributes to productivity and income growth.

OECD *International Direct Investment Statistics* gathers detailed statistics for FDI to and from OECD countries by source and destination of investment world-wide, and by economic activity of the recipient in the host economy.

These data are essential for a meaningful interpretation of investment trends for the purpose of policy analysis and for informed decision-making. The statistics include inward and outward financial flows and income flows as well as direct investment stocks.

DID YOU KNOW ...That OECD FDI flows fell by 35% between 2007 to 2011 to USD 855 billion inflows and USD 1274 outflows, a trend which is likely to continue in 2012?

In its quarterly releases, OECD *FDI in Figures* provides timely estimates of global investment flows and stocks by OECD and G20 economies.

Find out more

- OECD (2013), *Monthly Statistics of International Trade*.
- OECD (2013), *OECD International Direct Investment Statistics*.
- OECD (2012), *Statistics on International Trade in Services*.
- OECD (2010), *Measuring Globalisation: OECD Economic Globalisation Indicators 2010*.
- OECD (2008), *OECD Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment 2008: Fourth Edition*.
- OECD (2005), *Measuring Globalisation: OECD Handbook on Economic Globalisation Indicators*.
- *AMNE Database – Activities of Multinational Enterprises*.
- *International Trade by Commodity Statistics* (database).
- *Monthly Statistics on International Trade* (database).
- *Statistics on International Trade in Services* (database).

The *OECD Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment* sets the world standards for direct investment statistics and serves as a point of reference for national compilers and users of statistics. These standards are updated, as required, to bring the concepts and definitions into line with macro-economic statistics, and to reflect effectively any developments which may occur in the financing structures of multinational enterprises.

The *OECD International Trade in Services* database seeks to provide annual balance of payments data by type of service at the most detailed level and partner country for the OECD member countries, and selected non-OECD countries.

OECD Monthly Statistics of International Trade includes aggregate trade indicators, volume, unit value and price indices by product category, trade flows by SITC (Standard International Trade Classification) sections, and total trade flows by partner countries.

The *OECD International Trade by Commodity (ITCS)* database provides, in cooperation with the UN, annual statistics on bilateral imports and exports by OECD countries for about 5 300 products.

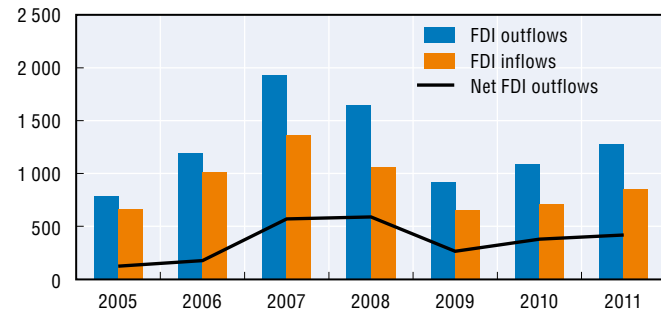
The joint *OECD-Eurostat Trade by Enterprise Characteristics (TEC)* database contains annual international trade flows (i.e., exports and imports) and the number of enterprises engaged in international trade, according to characteristics of trading

firms (e.g., size, economic sector, partner zones and countries, etc.)

The *OECD Activities of Multinational Enterprises (AMNE)* database presents detailed data on the activities of foreign affiliates in OECD countries. The increasing importance of foreign affiliates in the economies of many host countries is apparent from the measures provided – notably production, employment, value added, R&D expenditure, labour compensation and exports. For a large number of OECD countries the database contains statistics by industrial activity according to country of origin (inward investment) or location (outward investment).

Recovery in Foreign Direct Investment since Crisis

Billion USD



Source: OECD International Direct Investment Statistics Database.