

Foreign Direct Investment BMD4 FDI aggregates

■ Data source(s) used

Source used: OECD and IMF.

■ Reference period

Breaks in series (indicated with a 'B' flag) 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.

■ Other data characteristics

In 2014, many countries implemented the latest international guidelines for compiling foreign direct investment (FDI) statistics:

OECD's [Benchmark Definition of FDI, 4th edition \(BMD4\)](#)

IMF's [Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, 6th edition \(BPM6\)](#)

The new OECD database for FDI statistics according to BMD4 is structured as followed:

FDI main aggregates – Summary

FDI statistics by partner country and by industry - Summary

FDI financial flows

FDI financial flows, main aggregates BMD4

FDI financial flows by partner country BMD4

FDI financial flows by industry BMD4

FDI income

FDI income, main aggregates BMD4

FDI income by partner country BMD4

FDI income by industry BMD4

FDI positions

FDI positions, main aggregates BMD4

FDI positions by partner country BMD4

FDI positions by industry BMD4

For more details on the database structure, please consult [OECD database on FDI statistics according to BMD4 - Structure and content](#).

■ Statistical population

FDI statistics cover all entities in an FDI relationship. An FDI relationship is established when an investor in one country acquires 10% or more of the voting power in a business enterprise in another country. The investor is also called a direct investor or a parent and the business enterprise is called a direct investment enterprise or an affiliate. The 10 percent criteria is used to establish that the direct investor has a significant degree of influence over the operations of the direct investment enterprise.

The FDI population includes affiliates that are directly and indirectly owned by the parent. In direct ownership, the parent owns the 10% or more voting power itself. In indirect ownership, the parent controls an affiliate that in turn owns 10 percent or more of the voting power in another enterprise.

The FDI population also includes enterprises that are not in a direct investment relationship themselves but have a direct investor in common. Called fellow enterprises, they are included because, even though there is no direct investment relationship between the two, any transactions between them likely resulted from the influence that their common direct investor has on both of their operations.