

Global FDI flows continued to decline in 2023

- **Global FDI flows dropped by 7% in 2023**, to USD 1 364 billion, continuing on a declining trend and remaining below pre-pandemic levels for the second consecutive year.
- **Downswings were recorded in 2023 for more than two-thirds of OECD economies and other countries, in particular the People's Republic of China (hereafter 'China), who received record-low FDI flows** in a general context of ongoing geopolitical tensions and high interest rates.
- **Overall, FDI flows in non-OECD G20 economies dropped by 46% in 2023.**
- **Despite this general downward trend, the United States, Brazil and Canada were the top three FDI destinations worldwide in 2023.**
- **OECD equity flows remained below any level recorded since 2005**, partly reflecting a slowdown in new investment activity.
- **Cross-border Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) activity continued on a downward trend**, hitting a ten-year record low in 2023, as the overall economic and geopolitical environment kept deteriorating.
- **In general, greenfield investment activity stalled in 2023**, yet trends diverged between advanced economies (AEs) and emerging and developing economies (EMDEs). Capital expenditures and the number of announced projects dropped by around 20% in advanced economies, while they were up by 21% and 9% in EMDEs, respectively

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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, by industry sector, and for resident SPEs as well as information on inward FDI positions by ultimate investing country. Detailed data for 2022 are now available.

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Recent developments

In 2023, global FDI flows dropped by 7%, to USD 1 364 billion, maintaining their downward trajectory and remaining below pre-pandemic levels for the second year in a row (Figure 1).¹ In 2023, FDI inflows decreased in more than two-thirds of OECD economies; nevertheless, significant drops in other economies also played a role in the total downturn. In particular, amid an environment of ongoing geopolitical and economic unrest, and hints that foreign investors may have been divesting their Chinese assets in 2023, FDI flows to China fell to historically low levels (see Figure 3). FDI equity flows, often associated with new investment, remained low (Section 2), partly reflecting slower M&A activity (Section 4) and a halting of greenfield investment announcements, although trends for the latter diverged among different groups of economies. Prospects for 2024 remain uncertain, with M&A deal values continuing to plunge in Q1 2024, particularly in EMDEs.

Figure 1 shows annual global FDI flows from 1999 to 2023 as well as quarterly and half-year trends from 2019 to 2023.² Looking at half-year values, global FDI flows were up by 84% in the first half of 2023, from very low levels in the second half of 2022, before dropping by 18% in the second half of 2023.³ A

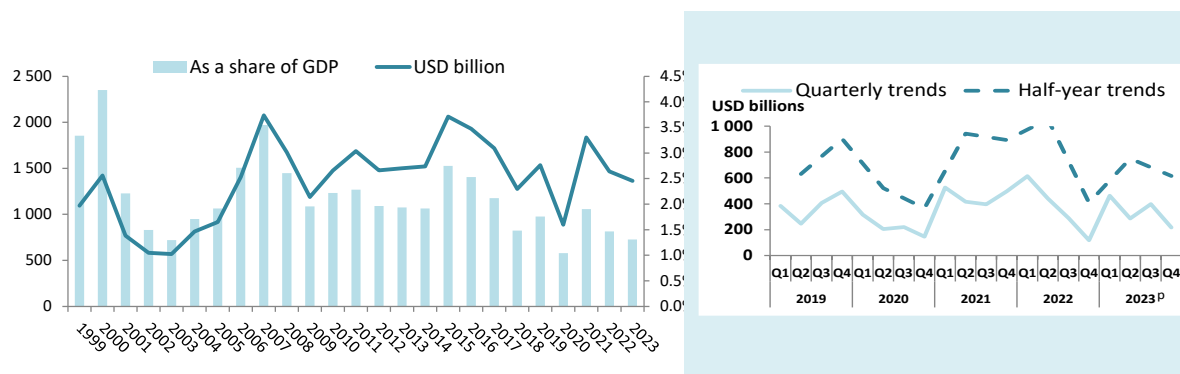
¹ By definition, inward and outward FDI worldwide should be equal but, in practice, there are statistical discrepancies between inward and outward FDI. Unless otherwise specified, references to 'global FDI flows' refer to the average of these two figures.

² The measure was constructed using FDI statistics on a directional basis whenever available, supplemented by data on an asset/liability basis when needed. See Notes for tables 1 to 3 on page 13 for details. Data are as of 15 April 2024.

³ Large withdrawals of capital by an MNE in Luxembourg were recorded in H2 2022, see [FDI in Figures –April 2023](#).

review of quarterly data shows that much of the drop in global FDI flows took place in the second and last quarters of 2023.⁴

Figure 1: Global FDI flows, 1999-2023

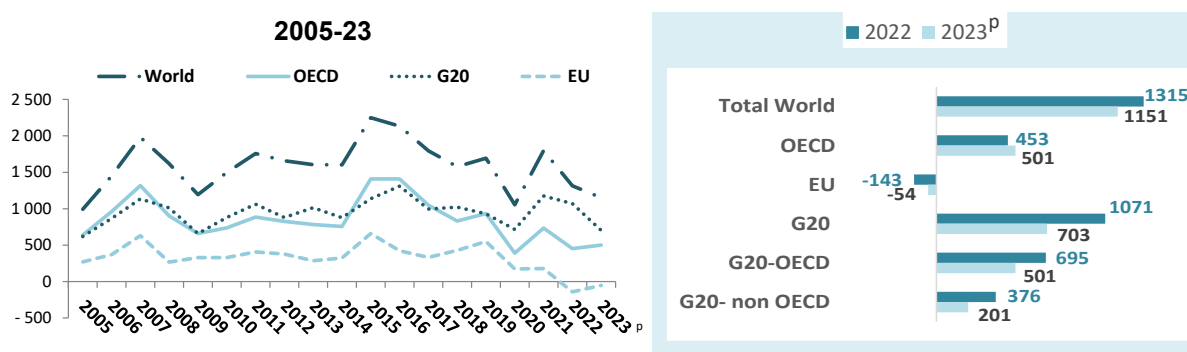


Source: OECD International Direct Investment Statistics database.

Inflows

In the OECD area, FDI inflows increased overall by 11% to USD 501 billion (Figure 2). This growth is largely due to increases from major disinvestments in Luxembourg in 2022 (See Figure 7). Nonetheless, this masks the fact that more than two-thirds of OECD economies recorded lower FDI inflows in 2023. The countries with the largest decrease (more than USD 20 billion, see Figure 3) were Australia and the United States, attributed to lower reinvestment of earnings in both, decreased equity flows in the former and movements in intra-company loans in the latter. Sweden also recorded important falls, largely due to lower equity inflows. Major disinvestments recorded in the Netherlands in 2023, as well as in Luxembourg in the previous year, explain negative values in FDI inflows of the EU group for the second year in a row; yet important disinvestments were also recorded in the United Kingdom.⁵

Figure 2: FDI inflows to selected areas, 2005-23 (USD billion)



Notes: p=preliminary.

Source: OECD International Direct Investment Statistics database.

FDI inflows to **G20** economies decreased by 34%. They dropped by 28% in OECD G20 economies, and by 46% in non-OECD G20 economies, largely driven by reductions in China and, to a lesser extent, India. FDI flows fell to their lowest levels in China, turning negative in the third quarter of the year, partly due to movements in intra-company loans but there are also signs that foreign investors may have been

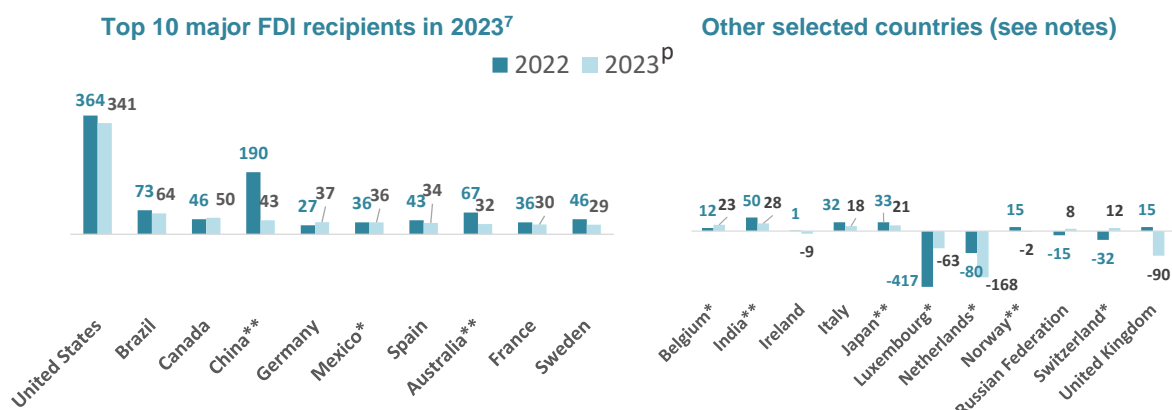
⁴ Quarterly FDI flows data are typically more volatile as they are often affected by few large transactions during the quarter.

⁵ Disinvestments were due to negative equity (except for the United Kingdom) and debt components. See Section 2 for more insights on the Netherlands and notes on page 13 for more details on the reasons why inflows and outflows can be negative.

selling their assets in 2023, in a general context of ongoing geopolitical tensions and high interest rates. Equity disinvestments also affected FDI flows in India, which hit a ten-year record low.⁶

Despite this general downward trend in most economies, the United States remained the top destination for FDI inflows worldwide in 2023 (USD 341 billion), followed by Brazil (USD 64 billion) and Canada (USD 50 billion).⁷

Figure 3: FDI inflows to selected countries, 2022-23 (USD billion)

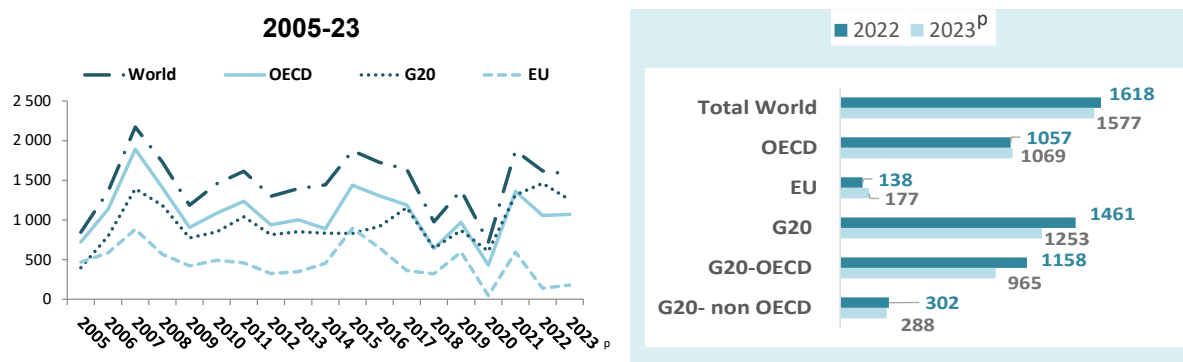


Notes: 'Other selected countries' recorded increases or decreases of more than USD 10 billion in their FDI inflows between 2022 and 2023. * Data exclude resident SPEs. **Asset/liability basis.
Source: OECD International Direct Investment Statistics database.

Outflows

FDI outflows from the OECD area increased by 1% to USD 1 069 billion (see Figure 4), concealing a composition effect in which Luxembourg and Switzerland saw increases from large disinvestments in 2022 while many other countries recorded important declines. Specifically, Australia experienced large drops (mostly in the form of equity flows) from historically high outflows in 2022 (see Figure 7). The United Kingdom, Germany and Korea also reported reductions in FDI outflows: while in the United Kingdom these were largely due to movement in intra-company loans; in Germany and Korea, drops mostly reflected lower equity outflows and reinvestment of earnings, respectively (See Figure 9).

Figure 4: FDI outflows from selected areas, 2005-23 (USD billion)



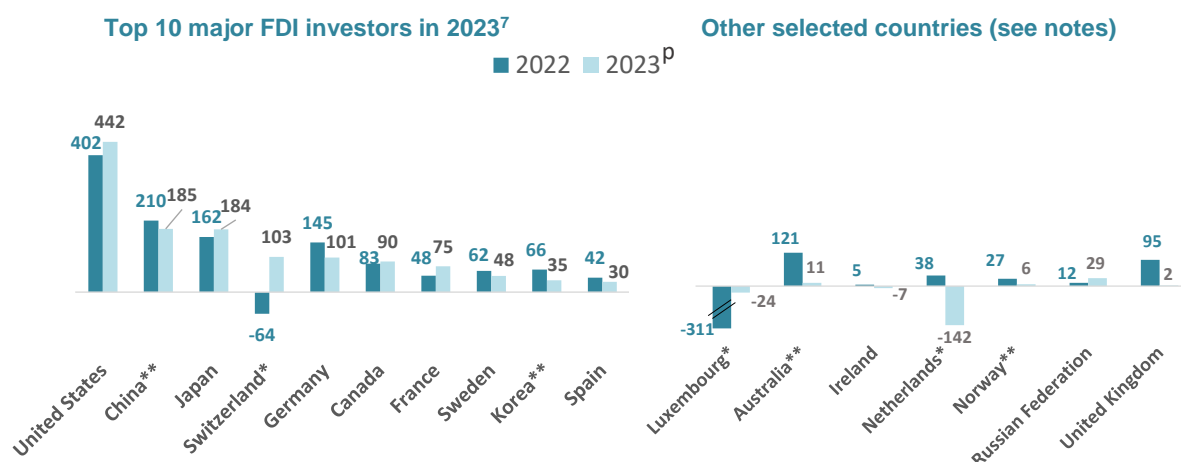
Source: OECD International Direct Investment Statistics database.

⁶ According to data from the Reserve Bank of India, in 2023, gross measures of FDI equity investment flows dropped by 25%, with disinvestments peaking. It is harder to assess what drives the lower inflows in China, as equity flows and reinvestment of earnings are not available separately. However, various articles highlight the fact that foreign investors might be selling their Chinese assets, at least in the short-term: <https://www.ft.com/content/bcb1d331-5d8e-4cac-811e-eac7d9448486>; <https://www.asiafinancial.com/foreign-direct-investment-in-china-falls-80-to-three-decade-low>; <https://fortune.com/2024/02/19/how-big-china-foreign-direct-investment-economy-2023/>.

⁷ Hong-Kong, China and Singapore are not listed as major FDI sources and recipients, 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 and from other economies.

In 2023, at USD 442 billion, the United States was the major source of FDI outflows worldwide, followed by China (USD 185 billion) and Japan (USD 184 billion).⁷

Figure 5: FDI outflows from selected countries, 2022-23 (USD billion)



Notes: 'Other selected countries' displayed in this chart recorded more than USD 10 billion increases or decreases in their FDI outflows between 2022 and 2023. * Data exclude resident SPEs. **Asset/liability basis.

Source: OECD International Direct Investment Statistics database.

2 OECD equity capital FDI flows⁸

In 2023, FDI equity inflows to OECD countries increased marginally from negative levels recorded in the previous year, yet they remained below any levels observed since 2005 (Figure 6). Fluctuations between large investment and disinvestment operations involving holding companies located in Luxembourg and the Netherlands continued to impact the trends in OECD equity inflows and outflows in 2023. In particular, the Netherlands saw significant negative levels of FDI equity flows in and out of the country in 2023, as **some multinationals relocated their conduit activities to other countries in the last quarter of the year. This may have been done in anticipation of the introduction of a global minimum tax rate in 2024, which may have led to a revision of corporate structures across countries.**⁹

Except for the above-mentioned countries, FDI equity flowing to OECD economies fell by 22% from 2022 to 2023, in part due to weaker M&A activity, which reached a record low in 2023 as the global economic and geopolitical climate continued to worsen (Section 4). FDI equity flows in Australia and Sweden more than halved compared to peak levels in 2022 (Figure 7); in fact, half of the top ten cross-border M&A deals completed in 2022 targeted these economies. There were also notable decreases in France, after a prosperous 2022 in which significant equity capital operations involving various European investors occurred in the finance sector.¹⁰

Overall, in 2023, at USD 128 billion, the United States was the main OECD recipient of FDI equity flows, followed by United Kingdom (USD 40 billion) and Canada (USD 29 billion).

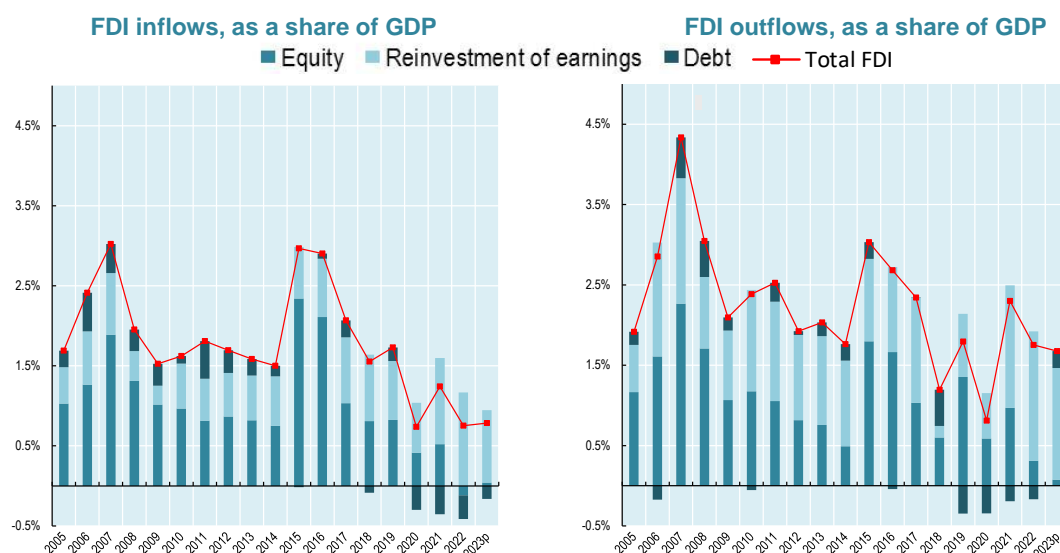
⁸ Financial flows consist of three components: equity capital, reinvestment of earnings, and intracompany debt (see notes on page 12 for a description of each component). Equity capital is of particular interest because it often drives much of the volatility in FDI flows and because it is often associated with new investments, such as greenfield or M&As (discussed in Section 4). OECD FDI equity, reinvestment of earnings and debt flows are estimated using FDI instruments reported by OECD countries. See notes to Figure 6 for more detail.

⁹ Disinvestments transactions (i.e., negative FDI equity inflows and outflows) impacted not only Dutch Special Purpose Entities, but, more generally, financial holding companies, both of which constitute the most part of the corporate structure of multinationals. See <https://www.dnb.nl/en/statistical-news/snr-2024/conduit-activities-in-the-netherlands-declined-in-fourth-quarter-of-2023/>

¹⁰ See : https://www.banque-france.fr/system/files/2023-08/bdp_2022_ra.pdf and [OECD FDI statistics database](https://www.oecd.org/di/) (for FDI flows by economic activity in 2022).

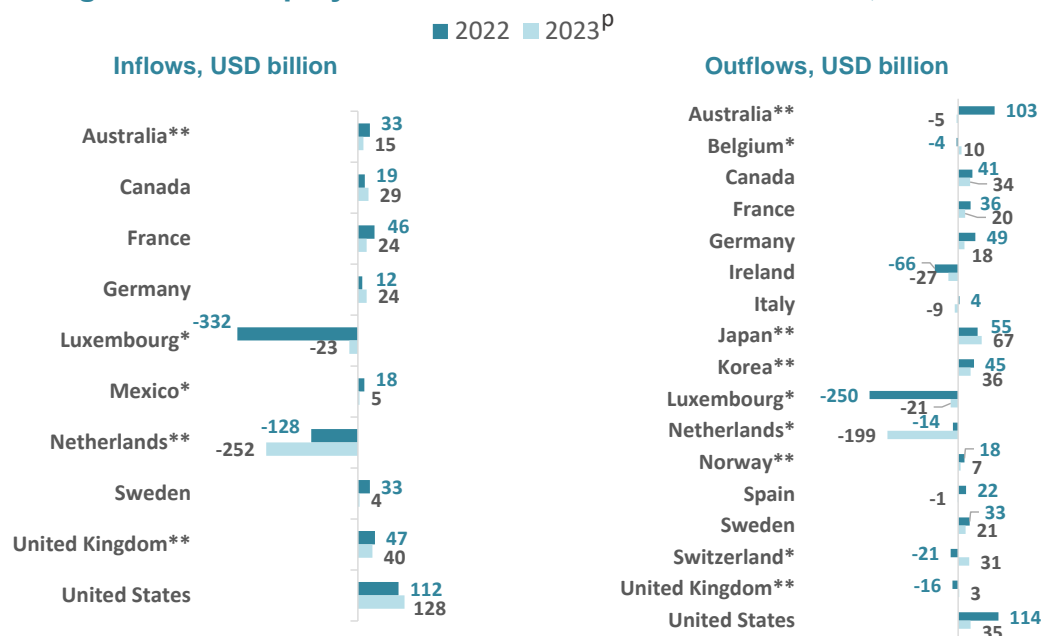
FDI equity outflows from OECD countries decreased by 41% when excluding Luxembourg and the Netherlands. Trends in these two countries contributed significantly to year-on-year fluctuations in total FDI flows. The drop was partly driven by lower equity flowing out of the United States and Australia. The downswing in the United States in 2023 was partially caused by US investors' reduced new investment activity (Section 4). In Australia, FDI equity outflows dropped from record-high levels after a major cross-border M&A deal was closed in 2022 (See [FDI in Figures – October 2022](#)). Among OECD countries, Japan was the largest source of FDI equity outflows with USD 67 billion in 2023, followed by Korea (USD 36 billion) and the United States (USD 35 billion).

Figure 6: OECD FDI flows by instruments, 2005-23



Notes: p: preliminary estimates. OECD FDI equity, reinvestment of earnings (RE) and debt flows are estimated using FDI instruments reported by OECD countries, on directional (DP) or asset/liability (AL) basis in accordance with FDI flows shown in Table 1. Non-reported FDI aggregates by instrument on DP basis were estimated using equity and RE reported on AL basis. Source: *OECD International Direct Investment statistics database*.

Figure 7: FDI equity flows of selected OECD countries, 2022-23



Notes: Countries displayed in this chart either recorded more than USD 20 billion equity flows in 2023; or more than USD 10 billion increase or decrease in FDI equity flows between 2022 and 2023. * Data exclude resident SPEs. **Asset/liability basis. Source: *OECD International Direct Investment Statistics database*.

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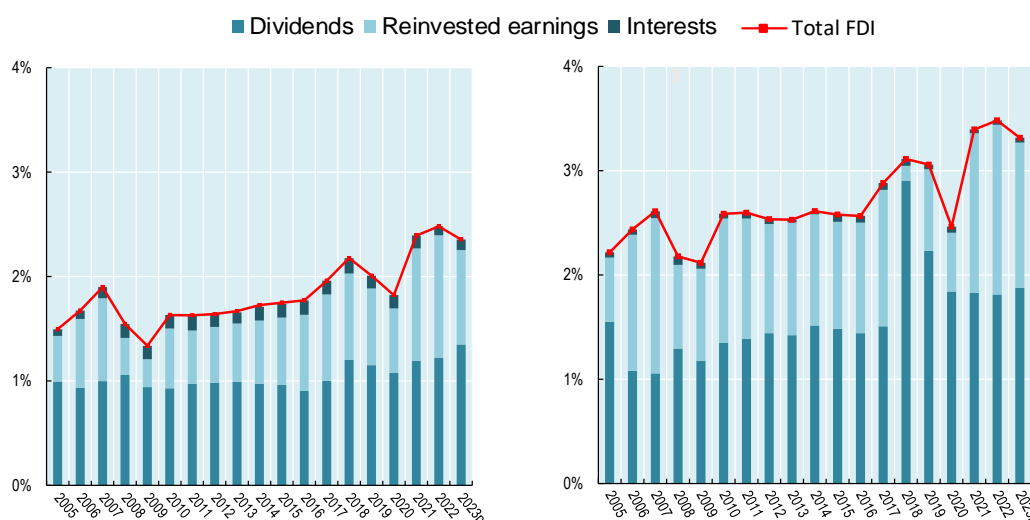
Recent trends in FDI income of OECD countries

FDI income consists of a foreign investor's share in the earnings of its affiliates and net interest from intercompany debt. Changes in earnings reflect changes in profitability of the investment. Earnings are further broken down into dividends and reinvested earnings. FDI income and its components are estimated using data reported by OECD countries.¹¹

FDI income payments in the OECD area peaked in 2022 and climbed by a further 1% in 2023, accounting for 2.4% of the OECD area's GDP.¹² OECD FDI income receipts also increased by 1%, accounting for 3.3% of OECD GDP, compared to 3.5% in 2022 (Figure 8).

Figure 8: OECD FDI income by components, 2005-23

FDI income payments (inward), as a share of GDP **FDI income receipts (outward), as a share of GDP**



Notes: p: preliminary estimates. OECD FDI dividends, reinvested earnings and interest are estimated using FDI income components reported by OECD countries, on directional basis (DP) or asset/liability basis (A/L) in accordance with total FDI income shown in Table 3. Non reported FDI income aggregates by component on DP basis were estimated using dividends and RE reported on AL basis. Non-reported FDI income components were estimated using RE reported for FDI flows and by distributing dividends and interests equally or by distributing total FDI income equally among the three components. Source: *International Direct Investment statistics database*.

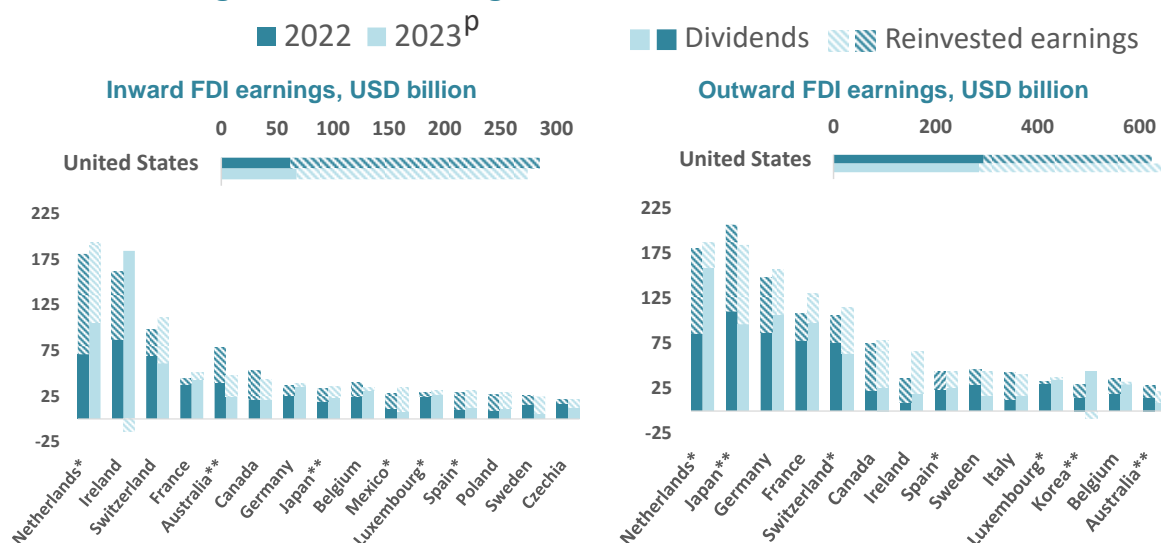
In 2023, OECD earnings on inward FDI also stalled compared to the peak registered in 2022. The United States, the Netherlands and Ireland remained the largest sources for OECD FDI earnings payments (Figure 9). Overall, foreign parents received 60% of OECD earnings on inward FDI, up from 51% in 2022. As a result, dividend payments increased by 17% and reinvested earnings decreased by 18%, compared to 2022. There were particularly large amounts of earnings repatriated by foreign parents from their Irish affiliates, resulting in negative inflows of reinvested earnings in Ireland.

Earnings on outward FDI grew by a modest 1% in 2023, partly driven by FDI earnings of US, French and Irish-owned affiliates abroad, which increased by more than USD 20 billion in each case (Figure 9). In contrast, important downturns were recorded in Japan. Overall, 57% of those earnings were distributed to OECD parents, slightly more than in 2022 (53%). As a result, dividend receipts increased by 11% and reinvested earnings decreased by 10%, compared to 2022.

¹¹ See notes to Figure 8 for more detail. Interest is not discussed separately since it tends to be a small share of total income.

¹² Detailed data at the sectoral level for 2022 show that much of the rise in income payments on inward FDI in OECD countries was observed in the manufacturing sector, yet, mining and quarrying also recorded important increases.

Figure 9: FDI earnings of selected countries, 2022-23



Notes: Countries displayed in this chart recorded more than USD 20 billion of income on inward and outward equity in 2023. Countries who do not report 2023 FDI income on equity to the OECD could not be displayed. Data for the United States are displayed 1separately due to scale differences. *Data exclude resident SPEs; **Asset/liability basis. Source: *OECD International Direct Investment Statistics database*.

4 Cross-border M&A and announced greenfield projects

Equity capital flows are closely tied to new investment, regardless of the mode of entry (cross-border M&A and greenfield investment) and divestment by foreign direct investors. **In 2023, cross-border M&A activity hit a record low for the past ten years as the global economic and geopolitical landscape continued to weaken.**¹³ Completed deal values and the number of deals dropped by 43% and by 18%, respectively. **The slowdown affected both advanced economies (AEs) and EMDEs.** Completed cross-border M&A deal values fell by 46% in AEs and by 32% in EMDEs, whereas the number of concluded deals declined by around 18% in both groups (Figure 10.a).

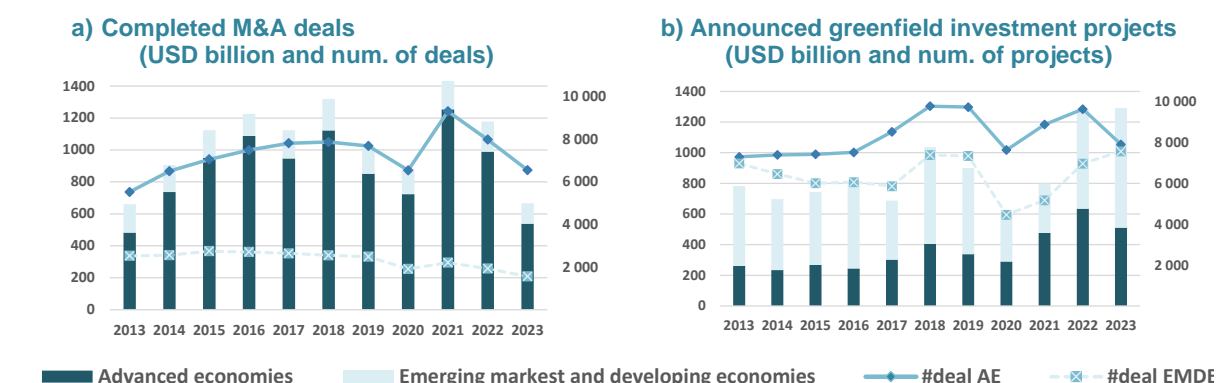
Despite an overall slowdown, significant transactions were still recorded in 2023 with the largest deals, in terms of value, targeting Viet Nam, Switzerland and Australia. These transactions included the following mergers: Black Spade (Hong Kong) a company in the financial sector with VinFast Auto Ltd (Viet-Nam), a manufacturer and exporter of electronic vehicles, for USD 23 billion; Koninklijke DSM NV (Netherlands), a Dutch multinational in health, nutrition and materials with Firmenich International SA (Switzerland), a cosmetics retailer, for USD 21 billion; and Newmont Corp (United States), an American gold mining company with Newcrest Mining Ltd (Australia), a gold ore mine operator, for USD 20 billion. **The overall fall in cross-border M&A deal values in 2023 was felt across all sectors,** although the healthcare and discretionary consumption sectors showed important increases in EMDEs. **Cross-border deal making activity was also fairly concentrated in a handful of countries.** More than half of completed M&A deal values in 2023 targeted just five economies (the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Australia and Switzerland). Viet Nam ranked sixth and was the top targeted economy among EMDEs, followed by Brazil and China. Despite a reduced M&A activity compared to 2022, as concluded deals and the number of deals dropped by 53% and 35%, respectively, the United States remained the top (ultimate) investing economy.

Looking ahead, amid heightened geopolitical tensions, continued high core inflation rates, tighter financial conditions and reduced economic prospects, **cross-border M&A activity continued to decline in the first quarter of 2024, particularly in EMDEs,** where concluded deal values and the

¹³ See OECD (2023), OECD Economic Outlook, Volume 2023 Issue 2: <https://doi.org/10.1787/7a5f73ce-en>

number of deals fell by about 17%, sparing only discretionary consumption and the industrial sector (where concluded deals increased).

Figure 10. Cross-border investment activity, 2013-23*

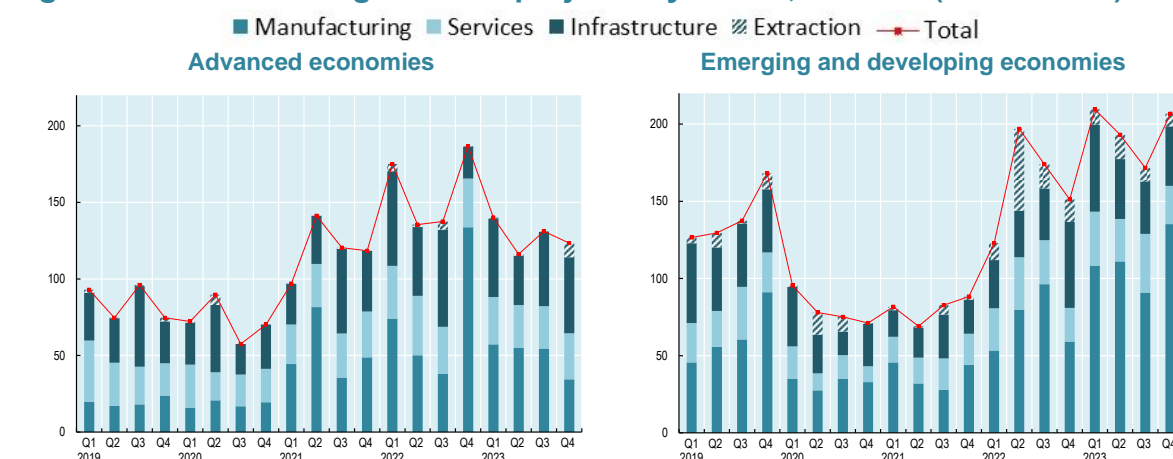


Note: * The number of deals or announced projects is reported on the left-hand-side scale. 'Advanced economies' and 'Emerging and developing economies' follow the IMF definitions.

Source: Refinitiv and FT fDI Market databases, OECD calculations.

Announced greenfield investment (GI) projects in 2023 stalled, yet trends diverged between AEs and EMDEs. Capital expenditures and the number of announced projects dropped by around 20% in AEs, while they were up by 21% and 9% in EMDEs, respectively (Figure 10.b). The largest increase in EMDEs was observed in the manufacturing sector (up by 55%), driven by a major project in renewable energy to construct green hydrogen plants in Mauritania, and projects to build a quartz sand processing plant and a large capacity refinery in Indonesia. Important projects in artificial intelligence (AI) were also announced in Malaysia, Germany, and Australia.¹⁴ About one third of total capital expenditure in 2023 targeted five economies (the United States, India, the United Kingdom, Indonesia and Germany); and the top five (immediate) investing economies (the United States, China, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United Arab Emirates) accounted for 47% of total capital expenditure in 2023.

Figure 11. Announced greenfield projects by sector, 2019-23 (USD billion)



Notes: This chart represents announced capital expenditures by sector, in USD billion. 'Advanced economies' and 'Emerging and developing economies' are defined as per the IMF definition.

Source: FT fDI Markets database, OECD calculations.

¹⁴ Amazon web Services announced plans to launch important cloud infrastructure in Malaysia; Virtus announced plans to open a data centre campus on the outskirts of Berlin to provide cloud and AI services in Europe; and Microsoft announced plans to expand its cloud computing and AI infrastructure in Australia over the next two years.

Income on outward FDI (receipts)

Income on inward FDI (payments)

Table 3

In USD millions	2 017	2 018	2 019	2 020	2 021	2 022	2023 ^a	2 017	2 018	2 019	2 020	2 021	2 022	2023 ^a
OECD¹	1 460 442	1 666 369	1 652 586	1 303 742	2 006 179	2 096 880	2 115 072	993 413	1 165 010	1 085 002	964 689	1 414 020	1 494 206	1 502 203
Australia ²	14 578	16 933	16 967	14 716	22 312	28 278	22 373	37 927	44 983	42 994	25 641	49 335	79 937	49 872
Austria*	15 260	15 238	16 984	13 545	24 639	16 512	17 136	15 987	16 220	15 671	7 750	18 295	14 915	15 513
Belgium	28 221	37 564	37 831	26 530	39 943	37 531	33 841	28 057	38 457	39 185	30 883	42 961	40 425	35 424
Canada	54 143	63 033	61 616	56 971	78 242	82 689	86 964	37 274	41 885	40 773	23 809	47 216	55 518	45 424
Chile	4 252	5 009	5 683	231	6 395	9 426	6 371	14 316	16 827	15 994	15 797	22 694	20 377	19 328
Colombia ²	3 935	3 986	4 490	2 538	3 891	3 829	4 083	7 346	10 576	9 228	3 257	8 010	15 583	11 689
Costa Rica	74 (A)	107 (A)	135 (A)	93	67	93	101	2 590 (A)	2 771 (A)	3 247 (A)	2 782	3 398	4 054	5 748
Czechia	4 665	4 194	5 619	2 176	4 661	5 904	5 343	19 127	19 260	20 343	15 597	21 512	22 176	22 254
Denmark*	13 256	15 499	15 461	14 571	23 338	21 780	19 254	6 134	6 695	7 414	5 435	8 956	9 231	8 560
Estonia	485	697	716	622	1 139	789	815	1 737	1 944	2 004	1 773	2 467	2 408	2 984
Finland	8 836	10 202	13 653	12 868	16 529	15 542	14 788	8 426	7 765	8 323	6 307	10 281	8 281	7 800
France	77 145	95 033	106 372	59 562	121 647	112 304	133 537	36 341	40 914	31 695	27 995	50 656	45 497	52 509
Germany	94 789	137 233	143 260	85 298	140 723	146 445	152 796	45 912	46 858	38 271	30 717	48 554	46 966	50 279
Greece	1 099	694	935	956	1 585	1 978	1 922	1 452	1 552	1 868	1 696	2 917	3 738	4 051
Hungary*	2 058	1 894	2 185	1 737	2 659	3 142	3 743	10 335	10 576	9 264	8 557	11 065	10 046	12 080
Iceland*	302	364	324	246	282	138	171	40	- 42	- 267	- 360	396	421	- 290
Ireland	17 470	19 828	17 406	16 707	31 220	32 907	64 453	75 987	93 028	94 837	105 624	147 738	167 545	178 870
Israel ^{2,5}	7 202	7 740	6 797	4 450	8 940	10 227	10 608	5 586	6 311	7 894	6 654	13 133	11 350	12 333
Italy	24 782	29 994	33 203	21 550	34 799	43 125	38 451	19 621	20 410	22 398	7 258	12 856	19 494	21 790
Japan	120 205	130 295	136 709	116 020	189 517 (A)	209 360 (A)	188 763 (A)	33 302	34 928	33 504	27 582	38 096 (A)	35 400 (A)	39 849 (A)
Korea ²	12 566	13 066	16 721	13 827	30 635	30 403	36 294	12 515	13 951	12 483	12 420	20 144	20 933	14 671
Latvia*	213	122	101	116	369	604	995	1 385	1 826	1 602	1 115	2 071	2 077	2 676
Lithuania	166	303	230	319	397	180	670	1 944	2 193	2 318	2 233	3 367	3 171	3 722
Luxembourg*	9 893	23 329	16 761	31 241	41 291	36 145	40 224	10 672	22 552	18 603	33 412	37 922	29 254	31 781
Mexico*	4 724	5 374	6 169	4 932	5 923	9 710	7 281	18 947	23 228	25 207	21 951	21 421	28 005	34 342
Netherlands*	104 301	132 947	107 574	107 705	169 983	187 385	190 240	77 959	98 264	94 114	120 220	138 737	177 998	185 404
New Zealand	523	392	609	735	1 264	1 344	1 193	7 208	6 978	5 810	4 971	8 385	7 921	6 658
Norway ²	10 063	13 518	6 109	1 399	4 704	16 376	16 032	11 433	14 088	13 848	5 921	3 777	19 210	14 110
Poland*	2 288	2 205	2 301	1 373	4 012	6 581	1 603	21 419	23 500	23 372	22 381	31 217	28 875	32 281
Portugal*	3 694	4 418	2 786	2 819	4 267	4 090	4 443	6 223	8 397	7 261	5 101	6 578	7 786	9 106
Slovak Republic	391	424	356	334	586	526	541	4 330	4 553	5 029	3 470	6 108	4 140	4 493
Slovenia	220	357	376	282	647	564	495	1 255	1 566	1 618	1 136	2 004	2 098	1 833
Spain	36 232	43 159	42 952	28 664	44 041	42 951	43 936	28 808	32 971	33 370	25 311	34 098	31 225	33 014
Sweden	30 745	34 933	34 681	32 619	48 227	48 601	47 537	22 166	24 955	23 391	22 002	27 513	26 952	26 687
Switzerland*	93 439	103 691	90 732	76 409	105 510	109 405	115 382	89 291	103 640	100 214	78 478	103 467	98 853	111 677
Türkiye	299	958	815	1 103	1 578	2 217	2 277	3 283	3 234	3 495	1 931	4 438	4 295	3 998
United Kingdom	113 394	125 920	129 747	64 064	185 278	191 061	149 525	74 333	100 332	57 851	77 060	98 703	79 296	87 600
United States	544 536	565 717	567 217	484 414	604 937	626 739	650 892	192 748	216 867	210 776	170 825	303 534	308 755	302 086
*Data excludes SPEs. Corresponding data below including SPE's⁴:														
Austria	11 841	13 381	16 334	13 271	28 279	16 904	17 523	12 346	14 631	15 732	7 941	18 517	15 075	15 729
Chile	4 252	5 009	5 683	231	6 395	9 426	6 371	14 316	16 827	15 994	15 797	22 694	20 377	19 328
Denmark	13 761	15 928	15 689	14 671	23 855	22 498	19 725	6 573	7 121	7 647	5 535	9 473	9 944	9 031
Hungary	7 386	5 948	8 812	3 501	10 094	11 226	10 048	15 598	14 541	15 825	10 128	18 182	17 903	18 199
Iceland	302	366	324	246	282	138	171	39	- 41	- 266	- 359	386	423	- 288
Latvia	218	152	113	117	369	604	996	1 392	1 856	1 610	1 109	2 077	2 081	2 686
Luxembourg	151 674	179 764	155 827	140 415	144 070	111 980	113 388	127 045	149 793	127 480	121 999	130 851	98 498	101 191
Netherlands	234 712	288 845	232 641	169 061	231 308	238 670	240 469	205 029	253 701	213 199	172 519	191 737	223 130	225 327
Portugal	3 845	4 580	3 019	2 879	4 327	4 143	4 636	6 396	8 396	7 314	5 169	6 524	8 013	9 160
Switzerland	102 659	110 039	102 586	79 198	108 904	114 732	124 065	96 532	115 215	107 422	79 132	110 814	107 308	116 045

For notes to this table refer to page 13

Source: OECD and IMF

OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs - Investment Division

Notes for Tables 1 to 3

Data are updated as of 15 April 2024.

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

Tables 1, 2 and 3 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). 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 intra-company 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—intra-company 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, intra-company debt is often the most difficult aspect of financial flows to explain. **FDI financial transactions may result in negative flows for three reasons.** First, if there is disinvestment in assets—that is, the direct investor sells its interest in a direct investment enterprise to a third party or back to the direct investment enterprise. Second, if the parent borrowed money from its affiliate or if the affiliate paid off a loan from its direct investor. Third, if reinvested earnings are negative. Reinvested earnings are negative if the affiliate loses money or if the dividends paid out to the direct investor are greater than the income recorded in that period.

Direct investment income is part of the return on the direct investment position; that is, the return on equity and debt investment. **FDI income payments** measure the total returns within a year on direct investment stocks paid by enterprises in the reporting economy to their foreign investors. **FDI income receipts** measure the total returns within a year on direct investment stocks received by investors in the reporting economy from their direct investment enterprises abroad.

Breaks in series were introduced in Table 1 and Table 3 to provide users with more complete historical series on FDI financial and income flows. These breaks in series correspond for most countries to the implementation of OECD Benchmark Edition 4th Edition (BMD4).

For data going back to 2005 in Tables 1, 2 and 3 (in Excel format), see www.oecd.org/investment/statistics.htm.

1. OECD, European Union, EU27 (excluding the United Kingdom), 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) and Income on inward and outward FDI (Table 3) 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. FDI positions for 2023 include positions at end-2022 when 2023 data are not available.

Resident SPEs from Austria, Belgium (except FDI income), Chile, Denmark, Hungary, Iceland, Korea (FDI positions only), Latvia, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway (FDI positions only), Portugal, Spain (FDI positions only), Sweden (FDI positions only) and Switzerland 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, EU28 starting from 2013 and EU27 (excluding the United Kingdom) starting from 2020.

2. **Data series on asset/liability basis:** The data series is on an asset/liability basis as opposed to directional basis for Australia, Colombia, Israel, Korea, Norway and for the following non-OECD countries: Argentina, China, India, Saudi Arabia and South Africa.

3. **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 2023 were estimated using the overall growth rate observed between, respectively, Q2 and Q3 2023 and Q3 and Q4 2023. 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.

4. **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, Costa Rica, Japan and Mexico. The information is available separately for Austria, Chile, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Korea, Latvia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. 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, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, New Zealand, Poland, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Türkiye, and the United States.

5. 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.

6. Data for 2023 for Saudi Arabia was not available at the time of writing.

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. To receive news and e-alerts about OECD work on international investment, follow the subscription procedure at www.oecd.org/investment/investmentnews.htm.

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