

wiiw Database on Foreign Direct Investment in Central, East and Southeast Europe

This database has been established and is maintained by the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw).

The wiiw Database on Foreign Direct Investment in Central, East and Southeast Europe provides a systematic overview of FDI in the new EU member states, the Southeast European countries and the European CIS members. More than 3700 time series are regularly updated as soon as new data are released. A detailed description of the content is given below.

In addition to this online database, wiiw issues a yearly publication (available in hardcopy, PDF) by the same title as well as a CD-ROM in May each year, including all available FDI data plus an analysis of recent developments and prospects of FDI in the region. For details see www.wiiw.ac.at.

Description, methodological guidelines, definitions

Countries covered :

EU member states	Southeast Europe	European CIS
Bulgaria	Albania	Belarus
Czech Republic	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Moldova
Estonia	Croatia	Russia
Hungary	Macedonia	Ukraine
Latvia	Montenegro	
Lithuania	Serbia	
Poland		
Romania		
Slovak Republic		
Slovenia		

FDI indicators provided:

- FDI total: inflow/outflow, inward/outward stock in EUR and USD
- FDI by form: inflow/outflow, inward/outward stock in EUR
- FDI by country: inflow/outflow (some countries), inward/outward stock in EUR
- FDI by activity: inflow/outflow (some countries), inward/outward stock (NACE A-Q, DA-DN, 15-37) in EUR

Foreign direct investment

According to the IMF Balance of Payments Manual, Revision 5, capital investment abroad is regarded as foreign direct investment if the purpose is to establish and maintain permanent equity relations with a foreign company and at the same time to exercise a noticeable influence on the management of that company. The share of a foreign investor must make up at least 10 per cent of the target firm's equity capital and can be as much as 100 per cent.

Currency

The main data set is in euro, independently of the currency used by the source. If not published by the source, flow data are converted by the annual average exchange rate (as described in the time series) and stock data by the end-of-year exchange rate.

Data coverage

The new EU member states (NMS) and the accession and candidate countries now follow the IMF definition and methodological guidelines, but deviations were frequent in the past. Their data cover all three forms of FDI (equity investment, reinvested earnings, other investment – see below). Most Western Balkan countries still fail to report all the forms of FDI. Any methodological break or change over time is described in the text of the respective time series.

Forms of FDI

- equity investment in cash and kind,
- reinvested earnings,
- other capital, mainly loans from the parent company to the subsidiary.

The text of the time series provides information on what form of FDI is included in the flow and stock data of the individual countries.

Distribution of FDI by economic activity and host/home country

Economic activity is given by NACE Rev. 1 classification at 1-digit level for the whole economy (A-Q) and at 2-digit level for the manufacturing industry (DA-DN, 15-37).

The home country is the investor's country of origin, the host country is the target country of investment. These data are available based on company surveys reporting FDI stocks mainly with one year delay. In the absence of National Bank data, we rely on 'registration data' obtained from the statistical offices or investment promotion agencies. This was done in the case of Albania, of Romania until 2006, and for Russia. The amount of FDI broken down by industries and investing countries may, therefore, differ from the National Bank data.

Host- and home-country statistics

These usually differ concerning the amount of FDI flows and stocks. Registration of flows in time may differ and the same transaction may be booked for different years. The country of destination or origin may differ as well. The wiiw FDI Database only relies on host-country statistics and covers, e.g., Austrian FDI in the region in the way the individual host countries of the region report it.

Time coverage

The database covers all years from 1990 onwards for which data are available.

Source of flow data

We rely first of all on the National Banks of the FDI host countries. According to international standards, the balance of payments published by the National Banks contains the information on FDI inflows and outflows. Both these figures are in net terms, investment minus dis-investment.

Source of stock data

FDI stock data are contained in the international investment position provided by the National Banks. They rely on company surveys, which also reveal the investing country and the main economic activity of the host company. These data are usually available with one year delay. The National Banks may provide preliminary data by aggregating flows in the local currency and converting them to euro using the end-of-period exchange rate. (A strengthening euro may 'devalue' past stocks while a weak year-end euro may result in a jump in FDI stocks larger than the annual inflow.)

List of abbreviations

Country codes (referring to ISO codes except for Montenegro, Serbia)

AL	Albania
BY	Belarus
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina
BG	Bulgaria
HR	Croatia
CZ	Czech Republic
EE	Estonia
HU	Hungary
LV	Latvia
LT	Lithuania
MK	Macedonia
MD	Moldova
ME	Montenegro
PL	Poland
RO	Romania
RU	Russia
CS	Serbia
SK	Slovakia
SI	Slovenia
UA	Ukraine

Other abbreviations:

.	not available
USD mn	US dollar million (10 ⁶)
EUR mn	euro million (10 ⁶)
BOP	Balance of Payments
IIP	International Investment Position
EU-15	European Union (15 countries)
EU-27	European Union (27 countries)
NACE	Nomenclature générale des activités économique dans les communautés européennes, rev. 1

Sources used

BOA	Bank of Albania (www.bankofalbania.org)
NBBY	National Bank of Belarus (www.nbrb.by)
CBBH	Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina (www.cbbh.gov.ba)
BNB	National Bank of Bulgaria (www.bnb.bg)
HRNB	Croatian National Bank (www.hnb.hr)
CZNB	Czech National Bank (www.cnb.cz)
NBE	National Bank of Estonia (www.eestipank.info)
HNB	National Bank of Hungary (www.mnb.hu)
NBLV	Bank of Latvia (www.bank.lv)
NBLT	Bank of Lithuania (www.lb.lt)
NBM	National Bank of Macedonia (www.nbrm.gov.mk)
NBMD	National Bank of Moldova (www.bnm.md)
CBCG	Central Bank of Montenegro (www.cb-cg.org)
PNB	National Bank of Poland (www.nbp.pl)
RNB	National Bank of Romania (www.bnro.ro)
NTRV	National Trade Register Office (belongs to Ministry of Justice)
CBR	Central Bank of Russia (www.cbr.ru)
FSSS	Federal State Statistics Service (www.gks.ru)
NBS	National Bank of Serbia (www.nbs.yu)
SKNB	National Bank of Slovakia (www.nbs.sk)
BSI	Bank of Slovenia (www.bsi.si)
NBUA	National Bank of Ukraine (www.bank.gov.ua)
SSCU	State Statistics Committee of Ukraine (www.ukrstat.gov.ua)