

Foreign Direct Investment Stock Statistics

On behalf of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology, the Deutsche Bundesbank has been collecting foreign direct investment stocks on an annual basis since 1976. In accordance with the provisions of the Foreign Trade and Payments Act in conjunction with the Foreign Trade and Payments Regulation, there exists a legal obligation to report above the defined exemption limits. Currently, cross-border participating interests are to be reported if they constitute at least 10 % of the capital shares or voting rights in a direct investment enterprise which has a balance sheet total of more than (the equivalent of) 3 million Euro.

The participating interests of German investors in enterprises abroad as well as the participating interests of foreign investors in German enterprises are subject to this survey. Moreover, indirect participating interests are recorded. These consist of e.g. a foreign investor's participating interests held by German enterprises in which the foreign investor has a majority participating interest.

In addition to the foreign direct investment stocks, the sector of economic activity, the annual turnover, the number of employees and important balance sheet items of the enterprise, in which a participating interest exists, are recorded.

The results of the foreign direct investment stock statistics are presented in our Special Statistical Publication 10 "Foreign Direct Investment Stock Statistics" as well as in press releases and articles in the monthly report of the Bundesbank.