

World Investment Service

A complete foreign investment decision-support service

The new World Investment Service is brought to you by the Economist Intelligence Unit, in collaboration with Bureau van Dijk Electronic Publishing (BvDEP). This innovative new service provides essential support for all your investment decisions, from research and planning to monitoring and analysis. World Investment Service features a detailed database containing flows of investment by country and industry, overseas mergers and acquisitions and business costs. The service covers the world's 60 largest economies and provides detailed full-text reports covering the political and economic background, business environment, foreign investment regulations and trends in foreign investment.

World Investment Service helps you understand not just the current conditions—it also identifies the future opportunities and risks that may impact on your investments. Drawing on the Economist Intelligence Unit's renowned macroeconomic forecasts and forward-looking analysis—such as the Business Environment Rankings—World Investment Service provides a detailed picture of the country as an investment destination over a five-year horizon.

Key features:

- Access to a comprehensive database containing flows of investment by country and industry.
- Detailed FDI forecasts by country for the next five years.
- Content is fully customisable. You can build your own reports by choosing the sections you want to include, the countries you want to compare against and even project the costs associated with your investment.
- A unique blend of data and analysis to support foreign investment decisions.

How will you benefit from using World Investment Service?

- Access detailed research to support your overseas investment plans and monitor existing investments.
- Build your own detailed, investment-orientated country reports to support initial research or as part of due diligence.

- Track and benchmark countries' performance as investment destinations.
- Anticipate future trends in foreign investments with our five year forecasts.
- Identify the countries which are most attractive for foreign investment in particular industries.
- Compare the cost of your existing or planned investment across 60 countries.
- Do all of this with one service and with simple-to-use technology.

Which data series does World Investment Service provide?

As with all our products, World Investment Service provides reliable, accurate, timely and comparable statistics. They are checked and vetted by our teams of country experts with the rigour you expect. This is especially important for foreign investment statistics, where inconsistencies are rife and definitions non-standard. This service provides the best data drawn from the most reliable sources – leaving you time to worry about your investment rather than the data.

280 variables are provided for each country, divided into four major categories. The following series are available.

The economy

- **MARKET SIZE AND GROWTH:** population, nominal GDP, GDP per head, GDP (% change), GDP growth per head
- **MACROECONOMIC STABILITY:** consumer prices, budget balance, public debt, current-account balance, current-account balance/GDP, exchange rate, real effective exchange rate
- **INTERNATIONAL TRADE:** goods: exports, goods: imports, services: credit, services: debit
- **COMPETITIVENESS:** average wages, labour costs, unit labour costs level, productivity of labour

- **BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT RANKINGS:** overall business environment rating, market opportunities rating, macroeconomic environment rating, political environment rating, infrastructure rating, policy towards private enterprise rating, labour market rating, tax regime rating, financing rating, foreign trade and exchange regime rating, policy environment for foreign investment rating

Business costs

- **NEW STAFF:** top management, middle management, senior sales, professional/administration/junior management, sales, clerical/technicians, manual/junior clerical, productivity adjustment
- **RELOCATING STAFF:** salary equivalents, housing monthly rents, annual school fees
- **OFFICE AND INDUSTRIAL RENTS:** office rents, industrial rents, construction costs (office/industrial unit)
- **TRANSPORT COSTS:** diesel, gasoline, air freight costs, sea freight costs
- **UTILITIES:** electricity, natural gas, water, telephone connection, telephone subscription, local call rates, VoIP call rates, ADSL connection, ADSL rental
- **CORPORATE TAX RATES:** corporate tax standard rate, general sales tax, personal taxes
- **TRAVEL COSTS:** average cost of business trip, fixed return airfares

Foreign direct investment

- **FDI TOTAL FLOWS AND STOCKS:** inward direct investment, equity capital, reinvested earnings, other capital, inward FDI flow/GDP, inward FDI flow (% of fixed investment), inward FDI flow per head, inward FDI stock, inward FDI stock/GDP, inward FDI stock per head, outward direct investment, outward FDI flow/GDP, outward FDI stock, outward FDI stock/GDP, net direct investment flows
- **FDI, INFLOWS BY COUNTRY:** levels of direct investment from up to 60 countries
- **FDI, INFLOWS BY INDUSTRY:** levels of direct investment into 25 industry sectors

Mergers & acquisitions

- **TOTAL DEALS:** value of total deals, number of total deals
- **VALUE OF DEALS, BY TYPE:** acquisition, management buy-in, management buy-out, merger, de-merger, minority stake

- **VALUE OF DEALS, BY COUNTRY OF ACQUIROR:** value of deals for each of 60 countries
- **VALUE OF DEALS, BY INDUSTRY:** value of deals for each of 25 industry sectors

What analysis does World Investment Service provide?

In addition to providing a vast amount of data, World Investment Service also allows access to foreign investment reports. These full-text reports provide a detailed assessment of a country to support an investment decision and allow you to place the data into context. It is also customisable, meaning the report you create can be tailored to your specific business, country and industry interests. Report content is split into seven sections:

1. Politics and the economy

Political background

- Analysis of the stability of global political institutions:
 - Is there a recognised process to ensure a smooth and orderly transfer of power?
 - Is there a well-established separation of powers between the branches of government?
 - To what extent are there checks on excessive executive power?
- Catalogue of all important political events from the past five years

Economic background

Analysis of:

- The most important industrial and agricultural sectors.
- The geographical distribution of economic activity.
- Main trading partners.
- Any noticeable factors in the expenditure division of GDP, such as high levels of private consumption.

Comparative economic indicators

- Customisable data, allowing you to compare main economic indicators across countries, according to your own defined reference set of countries.

Political and economic outlook

- Overview of global political and economic five-year forecasts, including key changes.

Key economic forecasts

Customisable table of key five-year forecast series covering:

- Economic growth.
- Interest rates.
- Inflation.
- Exchange rates.
- The current account.

2. Business environment

Business environment rankings: summary

- Analysis of the attractiveness of business environments to multinational corporations through a standard framework.
- Examination of a country's overall ranking in relation to those of its main competitors.
- Summary of the main trends in business conditions.

Specific business operations risks

- Security risk
- Political security risk
- Government effectiveness risk
- Legal and regulatory risk
- Macroeconomic risk
- Foreign trade and payment risk
- Financial risk
- Tax policy risk
- Labour market risk
- Infrastructure risk

3. Business costs

Business costs comparison

A comparative table showing:

- Salary costs
- Rent and construction costs (industrial and commercial)
- Utility costs
- Transport costs
- Corporate tax rates

The table can be customised to show total costs based on the cost profile of your investment and compared against your selected reference countries.

4. Foreign investment trends

Foreign investment overview

Overview of the main trends in foreign investment:

- Total stocks and flows.
- Origin and distribution of flows by country and industry.
- Determinants of FDI.
- Potential going forward.

Policy towards foreign investment

Forward-looking assessment of governments' attitudes towards foreign investment and whether they are likely to become more or less friendly over the next five years.

Major foreign investments

Examples of major recent successful foreign investments.

5. Foreign investment data and forecasts

Foreign investment, total stocks and flows

Customisable table showing inflows by country, for the past and next five years.

Foreign investment, flows by country

Customisable table showing inflows by country, for the past five and next five years.

Foreign investment, flows by industry

Customisable table showing inflows and outflows for selected countries by industry, over the last five years.

6. Crossborder mergers & acquisitions

Customisable table showing crossborder mergers and acquisitions over the last five years and latest year-to-date broken down by:

- type (acquisition, minority stake, etc.)
- country
- industry
- top deals

Data are updated daily based on information drawn from the BvDEP Zephyr mergers & acquisitions database.

7. Making an investment

Foreign investment regulations

Textual summary of the regulatory environment including analysis of government attitude to foreign investment and approval of foreign investments.

Setting up a plant

An outline of the processes and highlights of any restrictions on setting up a physical plant, including:

- Building and other permits
- Environmental law
- Acquisition of real estate
- Local content requirements

Legal/corporate considerations

- Textual outline of how to go about establishing a local company or branch.
- Outline of any controls or notification requirements that apply to mergers.

Which countries does World Investment Service cover?

Americas

Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, United States, Venezuela

Africa and the Middle East

Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Israel, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, South Africa

Asia and Australasia

Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam

Eastern Europe

Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine

Western Europe

Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom

How to order

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