

Direct Investment - Characteristics Data Report

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Oesterreichische Nationalbank, Research Desk

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1 Data Set Description

This documentation provides an overview of the data set titled “Direct Investment - Characteristics”. It specifically delves into the interpretation of variables and their corresponding values within the data set, gathered through the reporting forms of the Cross-Border Shareholders and Equity Holdings Survey - AWBES.

Direct investment (DI) pertains to holdings in enterprises across borders, in which the investor holds at least a 10% share in the voting capital. Beyond this threshold, the investor is presumed to have a more enduring engagement with the enterprise.

The standard analytical perspective distinguishes between “outward direct investment” (ODI) and “inward direct investment” (IDI). In ODI, a resident invests in a foreign enterprise, while in IDI, foreigners invest in Austrian enterprises. Typically, an investor injects equity capital and/or group loans into an enterprise. Consequently, ODI results in “claims” on the foreign enterprise, while IDI results in “liabilities” to the foreign investor. This metadata catalog is designed to capture the characteristics of Austrian companies involved in direct investment. Unlike the “Direct Investment - Inward” and “Direct Investment - Outward” data sets, which analyze relational dynamics, this data set specifically focuses on identifying the attributes of Austrian parent companies investing abroad and Austrian subsidiaries that receive foreign investment. By merging this data set with the aforementioned data sets, users can gain a comprehensive overview of Austrian firms and their direct investment behavior.

During the initial processing of DI data, the data collector calculates and generates additional elements and attributes following international guidelines. This facilitates the transmission of DI data to international entities through the Bank’s reporting.

1.1 Unit of Analysis

The unit of analysis/content “Direct Investment - Characteristics” are equity holdings of domestic and foreign shareholders in enterprises, banks, or other legal entities in Austria.

1.2 Temporal Coverage

The data set ranges from 1989 onwards.

1.3 Geographical Coverage

Austria, World (Countries).

1.4 Legal Framework

The Austrian concept for the determination of direct investment is generally based on the guidelines of the responsible international organizations, i.e., the International Monetary Fund’s Balance of Payments Manual or the OECD’s benchmark definition in the respective latest version.

The DI is based on the following legal framework:

- IMF Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual¹

¹See for further information: [International Monetary Fund - IMF](#)

- REGULATION (EC) No 184/2005 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 12 January 2005 on Community statistics concerning balance of payments, international trade in services and foreign direct investment
- GUIDELINE OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK of 9 December 2011 on the statistical reporting requirements of the European Central Bank in the field of external statistics
- REGULATION (EU) No 549/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 21 May 2013 on the European system of national and regional accounts in the European Union²
- Devisengesetz 2004³

1.5 Versions

The latest version of the DI Characteristics data set is FDI_Characteristics_00_T0V0P0, meaning that to date, no significant changes have been made by the Research Desk to the Direct Investment (DI) data set.

2 Data Collection

2.1 Data Collection Mode

Via online form.

2.2 Data Provider

Oesterreichische Nationalbank, Statistics Department - External Statistics, Financial Accounts and Monetary and Financial Statistics Division

2.3 Change in the Method of Data Collection

The data contains certain time-series breaks which are attributable primarily to changes in the collection method.

Technical changes

The first significant restructuring occurred in 2006: The method of data collection for the transactions was changed to direct reporting, whereas previously much of the data was derived from bank transactions. That was essentially the beginning of the current Cross-border shareholders and holdings - transactions (AWBET) and Cross-border assets and liabilities (AWFUV) reports. Property transactions were also collected directly for the first time (currently AWVLM).

Afterwards, there were repeated minor changes (new categories, changed versions, new technical reporting options etc.) the basic structure however remained unchanged.⁴

²See for further information: [EU-Recht - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](http://europa.eu)

³See for further information: [RIS Informationsangebote \(bka.gv.at\)](http://bka.gv.at) (only available in German)

⁴See [Neuerungen im außenwirtschaftsstatistischen Meldewesen - Oesterreichische Nationalbank \(OeNB\)](#) (only available in German)

2.4 Frequency

Yearly.

2.5 Sample Size

Foreign/domestic DI shareholder or foreign/domestic DI equity interest (proportionate nominal capital EUR 100,000 or EUR 10 million total assets).

2.6 Access to the Data

Conditions for Research Proposals

A research proposal is thoroughly reviewed to assess the feasibility of the research project based on the existing research data. This pertains to the suitability of the available data to address the research questions stated in the project description. The research project must be of public interest, i.e., without commercial purpose.

Data Access Mode

Our data access modes cater to the diverse needs of researchers, ensuring both data security and usability. For the Direct Investment data sets we offer the following access mode/s:

- Remote Data Execution

In the remote data execution access mode, researchers are provided with a structural data set, preserving the same variable names as the original data set but populated with fictitious values. Researchers are encouraged to compose a program code, utilizing either R or Python upon request, to conduct data analysis using this data set. Subsequently, the OeNB applies the generated code to the original data and, following a confidentiality assessment, delivers the results.

All access modes offered at the Research Desk provide a combination of flexibility and security, enabling the researchers to maximize the utility of the data while preserving its confidentiality and integrity.

Research Contract

Upon meeting the prerequisites specified in the research proposal, a research agreement is established. This agreement formally solidifies the partnership between the OeNB, the researcher, and the research institution.

Citation

Source: Oesterreichische Nationalbank, <Name of the individual data set used (abbreviation used consistently, if applicable)>, <time range used of the individual data set>

3 Description of Variables

3.1 Overview

Rname	Description
year	year
domesticId	domestic firm's ID
domesticState	state in which the domestic firm is located
domesticZipCode	ZIP Code of the domestic firm
domesticLegalStatus	domestic firm's legal structure
domesticOENACE	domestic firm's OENACE
domesticSector	domestic firm's economic sector.
specialPurposeEntity	whether the corporate group is classified as Special Purpose Entity (SPE)
UBOCountry	the country in which the Ultimate Beneficial Owner (UBO) is situated. In some cases the ultimate beneficial owner can be an international organisation. In that case the UBOCountry is denoted as intOrganisation.
domesticFBNR	registration number of the domestic company
domesticEmployee	total number of employees of the domestic firm
domesticMarketValue	market value of the domestic firm. 0 if not known. Not available for the years 1989 and 1990.
domesticExportGoodsTotal	total value of goods the domestic firm exports
domesticExportServiceTotal	total value of services the domestic firm exports
domesticImportGoodsTotal	total value of goods the domestic firm imports
domesticImportServiceTotal	total value of services the domestic firm imports
domesticManagement	domestic firm's profit from management services
domesticTax	domestic firm's taxes on Income and Profit
dividendTotal	value of dividends the domestic counterpart earns in total from its direct relationships
domesticCrossborderClaims	value of corporation's foreign total claims
domesticCrossborderLiabilities	value of corporation's foreign total liabilities
domesticClaims	domestic firm's receivables and other assets
domesticProfit	domestic firm's profit
domesticEquity	domestic's total equity. If the domestic firm is listed on a stock exchange market, domesticEquity equals market value. Otherwise domesticEquity equals the reported equity in the balance sheet
domesticCapitalReserve	domestic firm's total value of capital reserves
domesticTotalAssets	domestic firm's total assets
domesticOperatingProfit	domestic firm's operating profit,, only available from 2014 onward

3.2 Details

Below is a detailed overview of the variables and their characteristics, outlined across the following dimensions:

- Description
- Time span
- Data type

Time span gives the period the variable is available for. Due to changes in reporting requirements some information may not be accessible for the entire period. Data type defines the way the information is represented. Whether it is a character or numeric Variable.

domesticId

Description	domestic firm's ID
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	character
Unique Values	14414

year

Description	year
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	34

domesticState

Description	state in which the domestic firm is located
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	character
Unique Values	9

domesticZipCode

Description	ZIP Code of the domestic firm
Time span	1989-2016
Data type	character
Unique Values	1179

domesticOENACE

Description	domestic firm's OENACE
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	character
Unique Values	711

domesticSector

Description	domestic firm's economic sector.
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	character
Unique Values	36

specialPurposeEntity

Description	whether the corporate group is classified as Special Purpose Entity (SPE)
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	2

UBOCountry

Description	the country in which the Ultimate Beneficial Owner (UBO) is situated. In some cases the ultimate beneficial owner can be an international organisation. In that case the UBOCountry is denoted as intOrganisation.
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	character
Unique Values	113

domesticFBNR

Description	registration number of the domestic company
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	character
Unique Values	16107

domesticEmployee

Description	total number of employees of the domestic firm
Time span	1989-2021
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	2910

domesticMarket Value

Description	market value of the domestic firm. 0 if not known. Not available for the years 1989 and 1990.
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	15323

domesticExportGoods Total

Description	total value of goods the domestic firm exports
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	20896

domesticExportService Total

Description	total value of services the domestic firm exports
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	11532

domesticImportGoods Total

Description	total value of goods the domestic firm imports
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	25096

domesticImportService Total

Description	total value of services the domestic firm imports
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	11236

domesticManagement

Description	domestic firm's profit from management services
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	3063

domesticCapitalReserve

Description	domestic firm's total value of capital reserves
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	5880

domesticProfit

Description	domestic firm's profit
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	16318

domesticEquity

Description	domestic's total equity. If the domestic firm is listed on a stock exchange market, domesticEquity equals market value. Otherwise domesticEquity equals the reported equity in the balance sheet
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	30973

domesticTotalAssets

Description	domestic firm's total assets
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	39599

domesticOperatingProfit

Description	domestic firm's operating profit,, only available from 2014 onward
Time span	2006-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	11328

domesticTax

Description	domestic firm's taxes on Income and Profit
Time span	2006-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	4985

domesticCrossborderClaims

Description	Total amount of cross-border intra-group receivables of the domestic company.
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	14699

domesticCrossborderLiabilities

Description	Total amount of cross-border intra-group liabilities of the domestic company.
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	12538

domesticLegalStatus

Description	domestic firm's legal structure
Time span	1989-2022
Data type	character
Unique Values	21

dividendTotal

Description	value of dividends the domestic counterpart earns in total from its direct relationships
Time span	2006-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	5522

domesticClaims

Description	domestic firm's receivables and other assets
Time span	2014-2022
Data type	numeric
Unique Values	3187
