

World Investment Report 2026

International investment in a turbulent era

Fact Sheet:

Least developed countries

Foreign direct investment (FDI) overview, selected years

(Millions of dollars and per cent)

FDI flows	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2024-2025 Growth rate %	As a percentage of gross capital formation				
							2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Least developed countries											
Inward	26 297	22 411	33 708	35 639	43 109	21.0	1.4	1.2	2.0	2.3	1.9
Outward	- 164	390	1 189	1 142	1 028	-10.0	-0.1	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.3
<i>Memorandum</i>											
LDCs: Africa											
Inward	18 064	15 077	24 874	27 274	33 382	22.4	5.4	4.0	6.5	7.2	8.0
Outward	- 364	203	1 101	898	811	-9.7	-0.5	0.1	1.1	0.8	0.6
LDCs: Asia											
Inward	8 153	7 247	8 780	8 304	9 643	16.1	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5
Outward	196	184	81	191	202	5.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-
LDCs: LAC											
Inward	51	39	24	20	12	-39.1	1.6	1.3	0.8	0.8	0.3
Outward	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LDCs: Oceania											
Inward	29	48	31	41	72	73.5	7.4	13.8	7.9	10.7	13.1
Outward	5	2	8	53	15	-71.5	1.3	0.8	2.4	17.2	2.9
Developing economies*											
Inward	890 534	919 470	857 832	882 574	900 795	2.1	6.6	6.6	6.1	6.2	2.1
Outward	503 405	543 933	502 657	581 318	672 802	15.7	4.1	4.4	4.0	4.5	1.6
World*											
Inward	1 777 123	1 437 432	1 320 858	1 531 691	1 624 259	6.0	6.7	5.2	4.6	5.3	2.8
Outward	1 884 784	1 535 101	1 227 404	1 651 395	1 863 570	12.8	7.5	5.9	4.5	6.0	3.3
As a percentage of gross domestic product											
FDI Stock	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2024-2025 Growth rate %	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Least developed countries											
Inward	404 276	419 949	453 330	484 844	535 157	10.4	31.7	29.0	30.6	32.6	34.7
Outward	22 776	24 052	23 752	27 295	28 821	5.6	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.6	2.6
<i>Memorandum</i>											
LDCs: Africa											
Inward	286 391	296 867	323 051	348 889	389 464	11.6	44.0	38.8	40.0	42.5	46.1
Outward	20 148	21 339	20 939	21 775	23 094	6.1	5.0	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2
LDCs: Asia											
Inward	115 243	120 350	127 488	133 128	142 710	7.2	19.1	18.3	19.6	20.8	21.5
Outward	2 551	2 635	2 735	5 388	5 576	3.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	-	1.0
LDCs: LAC											
Inward	2 001	2 041	2 065	2 070	2 082	0.6	9.5	10.3	10.5	7.9	6.2
Outward	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LDCs: Oceania											
Inward	640	691	726	757	901	19.1	34.2	36.4	36.1	35.2	39.6
Outward	78	78	78	131	151	14.9	4.3	4.3	4.0	6.3	6.8
Developing economies*											
Inward	13 788 457	14 375 384	15 309 195	15 903 431	18 263 729	14.8	35.9	35.4	36.7	36.9	41.7
Outward	8 616 610	8 791 817	9 251 705	9 864 412	11 891 848	20.6	22.8	21.9	22.4	23.1	27.5
World*											
Inward	46 552 115	43 703 488	47 715 403	50 525 882	57 834 319	14.5	47.6	43.0	45.0	45.9	51.2
Outward	37 556 504	35 775 838	38 253 953	39 493 293	46 022 250	16.5	38.7	35.4	36.2	36.0	40.9

