

World Investment Report 2024

Investment Facilitation and Digital Government

Country Fact Sheet:

Republic of Korea

Foreign direct investment (FDI) overview, selected years

(Millions of dollars and per cent)

FDI flows	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Growth rate, 2022-2023 %	As a percentage of gross fixed capital formation				
							2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Republic of Korea											
Inward	9 634	8 765	22 060	25 045	15 178	-39.4	1.9	1.7	3.8	4.7	2.7
Outward	35 239	34 832	66 001	65 799	34 541	-47.5	7.1	6.8	11.5	12.2	6.3
<i>Memorandum</i>											
Singapore											
Inward	97 533	74 857	126 674	141 118	159 670	13.1	113.3	102.3	131.2	136.6	143.4
Outward	67 776	39 793	61 368	52 230	62 997	20.6	78.7	54.4	63.5	50.6	56.6
Australia											
Inward	38 536	14 162	23 855	63 366	29 874	-52.9	12.2	4.6	6.3	16.1	7.1
Outward	8 719	5 607	3 100	118 050	9 822	-91.7	2.8	1.8	0.8	30.0	2.3
Japan											
Inward	13 755	11 768	34 294	34 194	21 433	-37.3	1.1	0.9	2.7	3.1	2.0
Outward	232 627	99 708	208 985	162 126	184 022	13.5	17.8	7.7	16.3	14.7	16.8
Other developed economies											
Inward	83 589	59 773	103 277	153 549	86 632	-43.6	3.7	2.7	4.3	6.9	3.8
Outward	285 068	145 374	286 977	356 989	237 568	-33.5	12.6	6.5	11.9	16.0	10.5
Developed countries and economies											
Inward	1 024 750	337 595	731 843	426 198	460 231	8.0	8.5	2.9	5.6	3.2	3.3
Outward	1 045 960	396 035	1 376 095	1 023 157	1 051 211	2.7	8.7	3.4	10.5	7.6	7.4
World*											
Inward	1 729 239	984 578	1 621 808	1 355 749	1 327 648	-2.1	7.7	4.5	6.4	5.2	4.9
Outward	1 444 809	779 507	1 881 922	1 574 724	1 542 472	-2.0	6.4	3.5	7.5	6.0	5.7

FDI Stock	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Growth rate, 2022-2023 %	As a percentage of gross domestic product				
							2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Republic of Korea											
Inward	241 657	260 801	280 085	272 328	284 146	4.3	14.6	15.9	15.4	16.3	16.6
Outward	456 004	515 403	605 076	647 568	682 023	5.3	27.6	31.3	33.3	38.7	39.8
<i>Memorandum</i>											
Singapore											
Inward	1 739 025	2 003 724	2 224 171	2 326 998	2 632 364	13.1	461.4	573.3	512.4	466.8	525.0
Outward	1 195 054	1 426 843	1 560 559	1 638 614	1 792 289	9.4	317.1	408.3	359.5	328.7	357.4
Australia											
Inward	726 119	783 821	763 568	776 764	807 427	3.9	52.3	57.4	46.1	45.0	46.4
Outward	579 424	604 671	624 879	655 344	710 639	8.4	41.7	44.3	37.7	38.0	40.8
Japan											
Inward	223 810	250 070	241 125	225 367	246 801	9.5	4.4	4.9	4.8	5.3	5.9
Outward	1 780 246	1 884 824	1 935 653	1 948 555	2 132 578	9.4	34.8	37.3	38.4	45.8	50.6
Other developed economies											
Inward	1 436 957	1 572 787	1 601 971	1 601 299	1 684 888	5.2	16.4	18.1	17.3	19.0	20.0
Outward	2 937 941	3 126 505	3 284 241	3 370 045	3 651 606	8.4	33.5	36.0	35.5	40.0	43.3
Developed countries and economies											
Inward	24 807 730	30 006 576	32 855 485	29 591 913	33 434 653	13.0	46.1	56.9	55.8	49.1	52.7
Outward	27 313 864	32 096 339	34 190 634	31 177 995	34 404 485	10.3	50.8	60.9	58.0	51.7	54.2

World*											
Inward	36 150 805	41 892 770	47 156 148	44 375 102	49 130 846	10.7	41.4	49.2	48.7	44.2	47.0
Outward	35 009 321	40 717 981	43 385 944	40 569 644	44 380 560	9.4	40.3	48.2	45.1	40.6	42.7

Cross-border merger and acquisition (M&A) overview, 2020–2023

(Millions of dollars)

Region/economy	Sales (net)					Purchases (net)				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	Growth rate, 2022-2023 %	2020	2021	2022	2023	Growth rate, 2022-2023 %
Republic of Korea	-1 877	8 119	5 880	2 595	-55.9	7 648	- 713	5 056	4 150	-17.9
<i>Memorandum</i>										
Singapore	2 020	45 375	11 135	6 503	-41.6	17 252	16 716	19 730	14 640	-25.8
Australia	10 363	18 464	54 175	24 125	-55.5	6 808	21 925	128 957	14 799	-88.5
Japan	-1 245	-9 856	9 173	7 752	-15.5	18 022	59 722	6 232	26 536	325.8
Other developed economies	19 643	43 566	88 515	41 435	-53.2	31 929	92 843	151 424	58 174	-61.6
Developed countries and economies	388 581	624 070	599 315	301 936	-49.6	393 223	672 645	633 867	295 949	-53.3
World*	474 864	737 452	706 572	378 370	-46.4	474 864	737 452	706 572	378 370	-46.4

Announced greenfield investment project overview, 2020–2023

(Millions of dollars)

Region/economy	As destination					As source				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	Growth rate, 2022-2023 %	2020	2021	2022	2023	Growth rate, 2022-2023 %
Republic of Korea	4 501	7 152	13 777	17 132	24.4	9 644	34 055	87 668	41 214	-53.0
<i>Memorandum</i>										
Singapore	6 928	13 306	18 279	11 355	-37.9	33 706	18 866	22 449	31 583	40.7
Australia	20 705	14 475	70 111	44 121	-37.1	4 901	16 878	35 410	19 973	-43.6
Japan	8 662	24 785	9 042	30 831	241.0	33 696	44 582	44 570	53 306	19.6
Other developed economies	37 529	81 831	97 086	94 431	-2.7	53 999	99 482	179 800	125 059	-30.4
Developed countries and economies	343 853	536 858	687 018	630 989	-8.2	481 497	682 488	964 471	914 158	-5.2
World*	640 585	829 693	1 309 067	1 380 401	5.4	640 585	829 693	1 309 067	1 380 401	5.4

Source: UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 2024* (<https://unctad.org/wir> or <https://unctad.org/fdistatistics>).

*Excluding Caribbean offshore financial centres and special-purpose entities in reporting countries.

This fact sheet and additional information on the *World Investment Report 2024* and the Report itself can be found at:

<https://unctad.org/wir>

The sources for all this information are the *World Investment Report 2024* and UNCTAD FDI/MNE database.

This database can be found at:

<https://unctad.org/fdistatistics>

The *World Investment Report 2024 (WIR24)* (Sales No.E.24.II.D.11, ISBN: 9789210031349 and eISBN: 9789213589748) may be obtained from UN Sales Offices or from UN sales agents in many countries. Price: US\$ 85.00 (50% discount for residents in developing economies and 75% discount for residents in least developed countries). Customers who would like to buy the book, or obtain quotations for large quantities, should enquire from the sales offices.

For more information, please contact: Astrit Sulstarova, Chief, Trends and Data Section, Investment Research Branch, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UNCTAD, tel: +41 22 917 4969, or e-mail: astrit.sulstarova@unctad.org; or UNCTAD Communications and External Relations Section, tel: +41 22 917 5828, or e-mail: unctadpress@unctad.org