

General Notes to the Tables

- A “U.S. affiliate” is a U.S. business enterprise in which a single foreign person owns or controls, directly or indirectly, 10 percent or more of the voting securities if the enterprise is incorporated or an equivalent interest if the enterprise is unincorporated. “Person” is broadly defined to include any individual, corporation, branch, partnership, associated group, association, estate, trust, or other organization and any government (including any corporation, institution, or other entity or instrumentality of government). A “foreign” person is any person resident outside the United States—that is, outside the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and all U.S. territories and possessions.
- A “majority-owned U.S. affiliate” is a U.S. affiliate that is owned more than 50 percent by foreign direct investors.
- A “foreign parent” is the first person outside the United States in a U.S. affiliate’s ownership chain that has a direct investment interest in the affiliate.
- An “ultimate beneficial owner” (UBO) is that person, proceeding up a U.S. affiliate’s ownership chain, beginning with and including the foreign parent, that is not owned more than 50 percent by another person.
- A “foreign parent group” consists of (1) the foreign parent, (2) any foreign person, proceeding up the foreign parent’s ownership chain, that owns more than 50 percent of the person below it, up to and including the UBO, and (3) any foreign person, proceeding down the ownership chain(s) of each of these members, that is owned more than 50 percent by the person above it.
- The statistics in this report cover the universe of U.S. affiliates of foreign companies. The one exception is number counts of U.S. affiliates, which cover affiliates with total assets, sales, or net income (or loss) greater than \$15 million.
- The statistics are on a fiscal year basis. The fiscal year of an affiliate is defined as the financial-reporting year that ended in the calendar year. Unless otherwise specified, all balances are as of the close of fiscal year 2008.
- To ascertain the subindustries in an industry grouping, see tables I.A 2 and II.A 2.
- To ascertain the countries in a geographical area, see tables I.A 3 and II.A 3.
- The European Union (27) comprises Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.
- OPEC is the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. In 2008, its members were Algeria, Angola, Ecuador, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Venezuela.
- In the tables in which the employment data are disaggregated by state, “other U.S. areas” consists of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, U.S. offshore oil and gas sites, and all other outlying U.S. areas; the “foreign” category consists of the employees of U.S. affiliates working abroad for more than one year.
- In the tables in which the data are disaggregated by the industry of the ultimate beneficial owner, “government and government-related entities” consists of foreign governments, government-owned or government-sponsored agencies, quasi-government organizations, and government-run pension funds.
- An asterisk “(*)” indicates a nonzero value between –\$500,000 and \$500,000 or fewer than 50 employees.
- Detail may not add to the total, because of rounding.
- A “(D)” indicates that the data have been suppressed to avoid the disclosure of data of individual companies. For employment cells that have been suppressed, a letter in the data cell indicates an employment size range; the ranges are indicated at the bottom of the tables.
- See the footnotes following the last table.