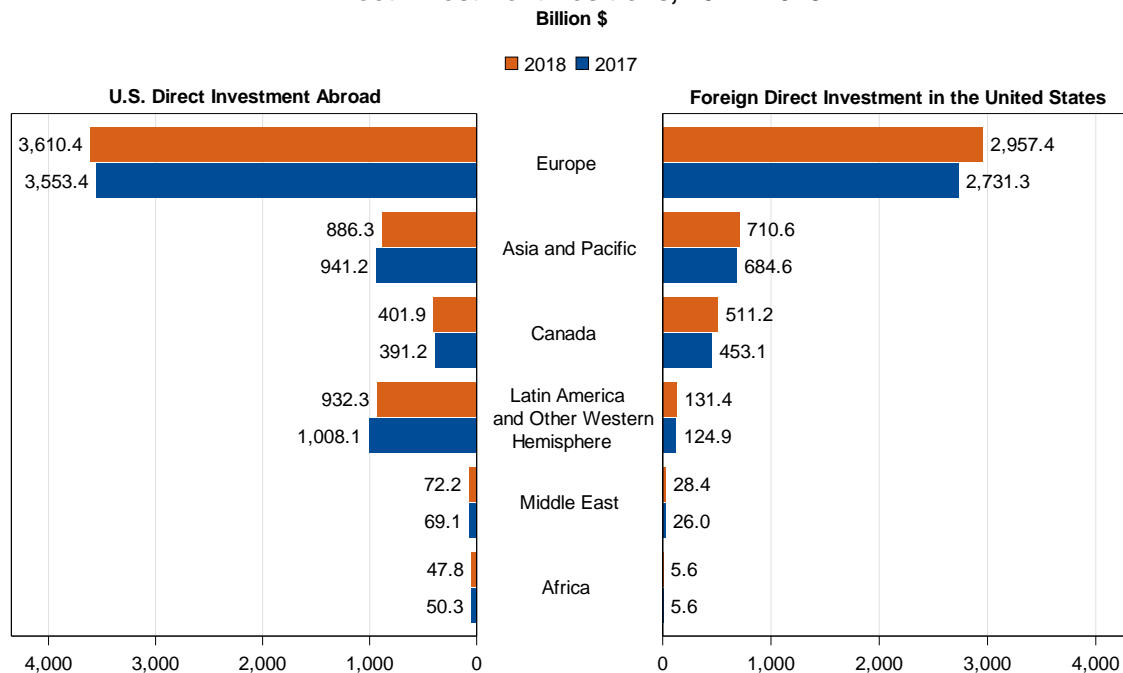


## Direct Investment by Country and Industry, 2018

The **U.S. direct investment abroad** position, or cumulative level of investment, decreased \$62.3 billion to \$5.95 trillion at the end of 2018 from \$6.01 trillion at the end of 2017. The decrease was due to the repatriation of accumulated prior earnings by U.S. multinationals from their foreign affiliates, largely in response to the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. The decrease reflected a \$75.8 billion decrease in the position in Latin America and Other Western Hemisphere, primarily in Bermuda. By industry, holding company affiliates owned by U.S. manufacturers accounted for most of the decrease.

The **foreign direct investment in the United States** position increased \$319.1 billion to \$4.34 trillion at the end of 2018 from \$4.03 trillion at the end of 2017. The increase mainly reflected a \$226.1 billion increase in the position from Europe, primarily the Netherlands and Ireland. By industry, affiliates in manufacturing, retail trade, and real estate accounted for the largest increases.

### Direct Investment Positions, 2017–2018



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Other highlights from the direct investment statistics for 2018:

- The U.S. direct investment abroad position decreased for the first time since 1982 due to repatriations of \$776.5 billion by U.S. multinationals. By country, nearly half of the repatriations were from Bermuda and the Netherlands. By industry, U.S. multinationals in chemical manufacturing and computer and electronic products manufacturing repatriated the most.
- The foreign direct investment in the United States position was concentrated in the U.S. manufacturing sector, which accounted for 40.8 percent of the position.

BEA statistics—including GDP, personal income, the balance of payments, foreign direct investment, the input-output accounts, and economic data for states, local areas, and industries—are available on the BEA Web site: <https://www.bea.gov/>. [E-mail alerts](#) are also available.

NOTE: The next release in this series will present data for 2019 and will be available July 2020.