

The most recent estimate (1989) of global sales for software is about US\$78 billion. Sales can be approximately divided as 56% in North America (\$43 billion), 32% in Western Europe, 5% in Japan, and 7% in the rest of the world.

Recent growth of activity by Japan into the software acquisition market as well as more aggressiveness by Taiwan and Singapore in seeking strategic partners in the North American software industry should change these statistics significantly. Currently, the USA is the only major software producer that has a significant positive software products trade balance.