

Introduction

This data supplement outlines the various data sources used for the study and summarizes the difficulties encountered as the analysis for the Global and Canadian Investment Trends was conducted. The data supplement is broken down into two parts. The first part deals with the various sources used for the compendium report and the associated country reports. Section 2 contains the data tables used in preparing the report. Finally, in Appendix A to the data supplement, data tables for a number of countries which were not selected for detailed study are outlined. For ease of reference, list of tables was prepared on the first page of Section 2 of the data supplement report.

Data sources used in the report

The main global data source for the study is the *International Monetary Fund Balance of Payments Statistics*. It was chosen as the most comprehensive and consistent source of investment and trade data currently available to analysts. It is published yearly by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which is based in Washington. This data is verified and adjusted for consistency by the IMF.

The alternative global data source for investment data is the *United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on Transnational Corporation and Investment* (UNCTAD), which maintains a database which provides data on investment flows and stocks for selected countries and for selected time periods. The UNCTAD group is also the author of a number of publications related to global investment trends including the *World Investment Report*, which summarizes investment trends and related issues, and the *World Investment Directory* (Volumes I-IV) which provide country tables and analysis for developed and developing countries from various regions of the world. However, this data source appears to be based on unadjusted national data sources and consequently provides uneven coverage depending on the country. For example, no UNCTAD data more recent than 1989 could be found for two of the seven developed countries covered by the report. The UNCTAD data is even less consistent for developing countries. In addition, the definitions used in the data breakdowns by industry types vary from country to country, and as does the types of industries for which data is available. The UNCTAD investment database proved to be a good source of global data, but a poor source of comparative data.