

direct investment statistics for 1994 placed U.S. direct investment stock in Argentina at US\$4.4 billion for year end 1993.⁶⁸

Canadian investment in Argentina is also growing. The Canadian Embassy in Argentina estimates that Canadian companies have roughly \$1 billion of direct investment in Argentina. Much of this is in the energy and telecommunications sectors.⁶⁹

The latest OECD investment statistics available (Table 3) show that in 1992 the investment of the U.S. in Argentina was the largest of any of the G-7 countries.⁷⁰ Without more recent, comprehensive statistics, these data and those of the U.S. Embassy show that the U.S. is most probably the most important foreign investor in Argentina.

Portfolio investment is even harder to measure than direct investment. However, the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires has again estimated that U.S. portfolio investment was US\$ 6.3 billion in December 1994.⁷¹ This estimate is probably still a good approximation of present U.S. portfolio holdings in Argentina. The confidence of U.S. portfolio investors in Argentina seems to have largely returned following the Mexican peso crisis of December 1994. *Euromoney* magazine surveyed 50 major U.S. institutional investors in March 1995. Argentina ranked seventh on their list of favourite foreign markets, the highest ranking for any developing country. Many planned either to make a first investment in Argentina or to increase their exposure as a percentage of their total portfolio. Few planned to reduce their exposure to Argentina as a percentage of their total portfolio.⁷²

⁶⁸ "Argentina - U.S. Investment Statistics" in the National Trade Data Bank CD Rom. This report was based on a 2 December 1994 report by the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires.

⁶⁹ Embassy of the Republic of Argentina, Ottawa and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, *The Argentine Economy, Investment Opportunities and Trade Relations with Canada* (Ottawa: January 1995), p. 29.

⁷⁰ A Canadian direct investment value is not available from this source because its relatively small size (as recorded in the early 1990s) would reveal information on individual companies' investments.

⁷¹ "Argentina - U.S. Investment Statistics" in the National Trade Data Bank CD Rom. This report was based on a 2 December 1994 report by the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires.

⁷² "And Our Survey Says...", *Euromoney*, April 1995, pp. 54-6.