

Structure, performance and new investments abroad of Italian multinational enterprises

Year 2013, new investments 2014-2015

Data refer to 2013 for the business structure and economic activities carried out abroad by Italian-controlled enterprises, and to 2014-2015 for new investments abroad with a majority share, including information on their geographical and business functions breakdown.

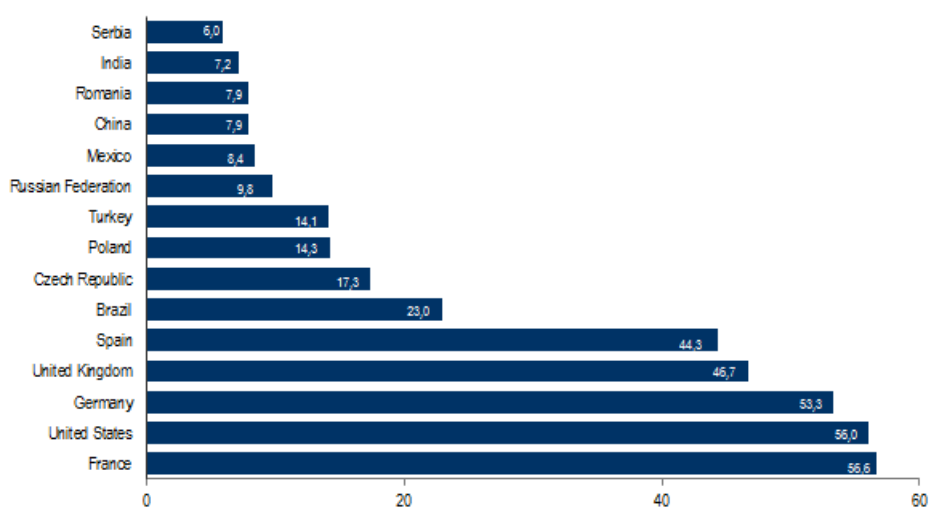
In 2013, 22,004 Italian foreign affiliates operated in more than 160 countries. These enterprises employed about 1.8 million persons, and generated a turnover of 542 billion euros. The economic relevance of these enterprises, as compared to resident businesses, was equal to 15.1% of turnover, and 18.7% of turnover excluding the purchase of goods and services, where this latter variable represents a rough proxy for value added.

Italian foreign affiliates in manufacturing accounted for almost 6,600 enterprises, representing slightly more than a half of Italian affiliates active in non financial services. However, their relevance as compared to resident businesses is remarkable than non-financial services.

Industrial activities carried out abroad by MNEs were more remarkable in United States (130 thousands employed by Italian affiliates), Romania (90 thousands persons), Brazil (89 thousands) and China (79 thousands), while services activities carried out abroad by MNEs were mainly located in the United States (111 thousands) and Germany (70 thousands).

Per capita labour cost in Italian foreign affiliates was particularly low in Serbia (6.0 thousand euro), India (7.2 thousand euro), Romania and China (7.9 thousand euro) while it was higher in France (56.6 thousand euro), United States (56.0 thousand euro) and Germany (53.3 thousand euro).

FIGURE 1. LABOUR COST OF MANUFACTURING ITALIAN FOREIGN AFFILIATES



Goods and services exported in other countries (including Italy) by Italian-controlled enterprises resident abroad and active in industrial sectors accounted for more than 33.8% of their turnover.

Remarkable is the share of exported turnover to Italy in the Made in Italy sector: manufacture of textiles and textile products (45.2%), manufacture of wearing apparel (40.3%), manufacture of furniture and other manufacturing (25.1%).

R&D expenditure accounted for abroad by MNEs was mainly located in the North America.

In 2014-2015, more than 61.4% of MNEs operating in industrial and about 53% in services planned new foreign investments abroad.

Finally, MNEs highlighted that access to new markets was the main reason for new investments abroad.

For more details please refer to the Italian version

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