New Foreign Direct Investment in the United States, 2014 - 2016

Expenditures by foreign direct investors to acquire, establish, or expand U.S. businesses were $373.4 billion in 2016, down $66.2 billion, or 15 percent, from $439.6 billion in 2015.

- Expenditures for acquisitions were $365.7 billion, expenditures to establish new U.S. businesses were $5.6 billion, and expenditures to expand existing foreign-owned businesses were $2.2 billion.

- Total greenfield investment expenditures—expenditures to either establish a new U.S. business or to expand an existing foreign-owned U.S. business—for investments initiated in 2016 which include both first-year expenditures and planned spending in other years, totaled $22.0 billion.

- Employment at newly acquired, established, or expanded foreign-owned businesses in the United States was 480,800 employees.

With this release, the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) is introducing statistics on planned and actual expenditures for greenfield investments. The new statistics are available on BEA’s website.