

# NEWS



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## **Summary Estimates for Multinational Companies: Employment, Sales, and Capital Expenditures for 2003**

*U.S. multinational companies (MNCs)* employed 30.1 million workers worldwide in 2003, of which 21.8 million were employed in the United States by U.S. parent companies and 8.4 million were employed abroad by majority-owned foreign affiliates. The employment of U.S. parents accounted for about one-fifth of total U.S. employment in private industries. Capital expenditures by U.S. MNCs totaled \$435.7 billion; U.S. parents accounted for \$319.3 billion and majority-owned foreign affiliates accounted for \$116.4 billion. Sales by U.S. parent companies totaled \$6,614.3 billion, and those by majority-owned foreign affiliates totaled \$2,948.5 billion.

*Majority-owned U.S. affiliates of foreign MNCs* employed 5.2 million workers in 2003, accounting for 5 percent of total U.S. employment in private industries. Capital expenditures by these affiliates totaled \$109.0 billion and their sales totaled \$2,130.7 billion.

For both U.S. MNCs and the majority-owned U.S. affiliates of foreign MNCs, employment decreased for the third consecutive year in 2003. Employment by U.S. MNCs decreased 1.2 percent in 2003, following a 1.9-percent decrease in 2002 and a 3.0-percent decrease in 2001. U.S. parent companies more than accounted for the decreases in all three years; their employment decreased 2.1 percent in 2003, following a 3.0-percent decrease in 2002 and a 4.1-percent decrease in 2001. Employment by majority-owned foreign affiliates of U.S. MNCs increased 1.2 percent in 2003, following a 1.0-percent increase in 2002 and a 0.1-percent increase in 2001. Employment by majority-owned U.S. affiliates of foreign MNCs decreased 3.5 percent in 2003, following a 3.0-percent decrease in 2002 and a 1.1-percent decrease in 2001. During the same period, total U.S. employment in private industries decreased 0.4 percent in 2003, following decreases of 1.3 percent in 2002 and 0.4 percent in 2001.

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Note: This news release is available on BEA's Web site at [www.bea.gov/bea/rels.htm](http://www.bea.gov/bea/rels.htm).

Capital expenditures of U.S. MNCs and majority-owned U.S. affiliates also decreased in 2003: Those of U.S. MNCs decreased 2.1 percent (following a 16.5-percent decrease in 2002) and those of majority-owned U.S. affiliates decreased 2.1 percent (following an 8.5-percent decrease in 2002). For U.S. MNCs, the decrease in capital spending in 2003 was more than accounted for by a 4.4-percent decrease in spending by U.S. parent companies; capital expenditures by majority-owned foreign affiliates of U.S. MNCs increased 4.8 percent. Sales by both U.S. MNCs and majority-owned U.S. affiliates increased in 2003, following decreases in 2002.

U.S. parent companies accounted for 72 percent of the worldwide employment of U.S. MNCs in 2003, compared to shares of 73 percent in 2002 and 74 percent in 2001. The U.S.-parent share of the worldwide capital expenditures of U.S. MNCs in 2003 was 73 percent, compared to shares of 75 percent in 2002 and 79 percent in 2001. The U.S.-parent share of MNC activity can change for a number of reasons, and the changes do not uniformly correspond to either additions to, or subtractions from, employment and capital expenditures in the United States. Examples of factors that might be associated with a change in the parent and affiliate shares of MNC activity include different rates of economic growth in the United States and in specific markets where investment is occurring abroad, the creation of new market opportunities abroad that cannot be served by exports from the United States, and changes in the foreign-currency value of the U.S. dollar. Additional discussion of data and analytical considerations may be found in an article published in the March 2004 issue of the *Survey of Current Business*.

*Revisions.*--The MNC estimates for 2002 presented in this release supercede preliminary estimates that were released in the summer of 2004. For U.S. parent companies, the estimates of employment were revised down 0.9 percent, the estimates of capital expenditures were revised down 2.1 percent, and the estimates of sales were revised down 1.1 percent. For majority-owned foreign affiliates, the estimates of employment were revised up 1.0 percent, the estimates of capital expenditures were revised down 1.8 percent, and the estimates of sales were revised down 0.9 percent. For majority-owned U.S. affiliates of foreign MNCs, the estimates of employment were revised up 0.1 percent, the estimates of capital expenditures were revised down 0.4 percent, and the estimates of sales were revised down 0.6 percent.

#### Advance MNC Estimates

For the second consecutive year, the Bureau of Economic Analysis is releasing advance summary estimates of employment, sales, and capital expenditures by U.S. parent companies, by their foreign affiliates, and by U.S. affiliates of foreign MNCs. Estimates based on more complete source data, including country and industry detail, will be released later this year.

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## TECHNICAL NOTE

The estimates presented in this release were constructed from data collected by BEA in two distinct surveys of MNC operations: (1) a survey of U.S. MNCs that covers the operations of both U.S. parent companies and their foreign affiliates, and (2) a survey of the operations of U.S. affiliates of foreign MNCs. Because a U.S. parent company may itself be foreign-owned, there is some duplication between the data on U.S. parent companies and on U.S. affiliates; thus, to avoid duplication, data on U.S. parents and U.S. affiliates should not be added together to produce U.S. totals.

The estimates presented here pertain to nonbank U.S. parent companies and their majority-owned nonbank foreign affiliates, and to majority-owned nonbank U.S. affiliates of foreign MNCs. Data on all nonbank U.S. and foreign affiliates, including affiliates that are not majority-owned, will be presented in the *Survey of Current Business* later this year. The most recent data show that nonbank foreign affiliates that were not majority-owned employed 1.5 million workers, and nonbank U.S. affiliates that were not majority-owned employed 0.5 million workers, in 2002. Data on banks are collected only in benchmark years. The most recent data on U.S. parents and foreign affiliates in banking were presented in *U.S. Direct Investment Abroad: Final Results from the 1999 Benchmark Survey*. These data show that U.S. bank parents employed 1.0 million workers, and that bank and nonbank foreign affiliates of U.S. bank parents, plus bank affiliates of U.S. nonbank parents, together employed 0.2 million workers in 1999. The most recent data on U.S. affiliates in banking were presented in *Foreign Direct Investment in the United States: Preliminary Results from the 2002 Benchmark Survey*. These data show that U.S. affiliates that were banks employed 0.1 million workers in 2002. Final results from the 2002 benchmark survey of foreign direct investment in the United States are scheduled to be released later this year. For both U.S. bank affiliates of foreign companies and foreign bank affiliates of U.S. companies, almost all of the employment was by majority-owned affiliates.

In addition to presenting data collected directly in its surveys of MNC operations, BEA uses data collected on costs incurred and profits earned in production to estimate the value added of U.S. parent companies, of majority-owned foreign affiliates, and of majority-owned U.S. affiliates of foreign companies. Value added estimates indicate the contribution of parents or affiliates to gross domestic product in the United States or in foreign host countries. The latest estimates of the value added of U.S. parent companies and majority-owned foreign affiliates, which cover the year 2002, are presented in "U.S. Multinational Companies: Operations in 2002," in the July 2004 issue of the *Survey of Current Business*. The latest estimates of the value added of majority-owned U.S. affiliates of foreign companies, which also cover 2002, are presented in "Operations of U.S. Affiliates of Foreign Companies: Preliminary Results from the 2002 Benchmark Survey," in the August 2004 issue of the *Survey*.

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(202) 606-5306	Gross domestic product
(202) 606-5303	Personal income and outlays
(202) 606-5362	U.S. international transactions

Table 1. Employment, Capital Expenditures, and Sales by Nonbank U.S. Multinational Companies, 1988-2003

	Thousands of employees			Millions of dollars				
	U.S. multinational companies	U.S. parents	Majority-owned foreign affiliates	Capital expenditures/1/			Sales/2/	
				U.S. multinational companies	U.S. parents	Majority-owned foreign affiliates	U.S. parents	Majority-owned foreign affiliates
1988	22,498.1	17,737.6	4,760.5	223,814	177,203	46,611	2,828,209	927,886
1989	23,879.4	18,765.4	5,114.0	260,488	201,808	58,680	3,136,837	1,019,966
1990	23,785.7	18,429.7	5,356.0	274,614	213,079	61,535	3,243,721	1,208,349
1991	23,345.4	17,958.9	5,386.5	269,221	206,290	62,931	3,252,534	1,242,635
1992	22,812.0	17,529.6	5,282.4	272,049	208,834	63,215	3,330,886	1,291,649
1993	22,760.2	17,536.9	5,223.3	271,661	207,437	64,224	3,480,778	1,275,775
1994	24,272.5	18,565.4	5,707.1	303,364	231,917	71,447	3,990,013	1,435,901
1995	24,499.7	18,576.2	5,923.5	323,616	248,017	75,599	4,235,578	1,693,836
1996	24,867.0	18,790.0	6,077.0	340,510	260,048	80,462	4,478,970	1,868,588
1997	26,358.0	19,878.0	6,480.0	398,037	309,247	88,790	4,886,330	1,972,515
1998	26,592.9	19,819.8	6,773.1	411,155	317,184	93,971	4,970,138	1,971,909
1999/3/	30,772.6	23,006.8	7,765.8	483,032	369,728	113,304	5,975,478	2,218,945
2000	32,056.6	23,885.2	8,171.4	506,950	396,313	110,637	6,695,166	2,507,433
2001	31,087.9	22,907.0	8,180.9	533,325	422,303	111,022	6,786,610	2,614,080
2002/4/	30,486.1	22,221.8	8,264.3	445,204	334,093	111,111	6,358,984	2,526,620
2003/5/	30,129.7	21,765.8	8,363.9	435,711	319,318	116,393	6,614,315	2,948,543
Percent change at annual rates:								
1988-2000	3.0	2.5	4.6	7.1	6.9	7.5	7.4	8.6
2000-2001	-3.0	-4.1	0.1	5.2	6.6	0.3	1.4	4.3
2001-2002	-1.9	-3.0	1.0	-16.5	-20.9	0.1	-6.3	-3.3
2002-2003	-1.2	-2.1	1.2	-2.1	-4.4	4.8	4.0	16.7

1. Total expenditures for property, plant, and equipment.

2. An MNC-wide total for sales is not provided because transactions among and within MNCs would be duplicated.

3. Break-in-series. (See the technical note on page 121 of the December 2002 issue of the *Survey of Current Business* for details.)

4. These estimates update those published in the July 2004 issue of the *Survey of Current Business*. (Those estimates, in turn, updated the advance summary estimates released on April 16, 2004.) Revised estimates based on more complete source data are scheduled to be released later this year.

5. Advance estimates. Preliminary estimates based on more complete source data are scheduled to be released later this year.

NOTE: The data presented in this table cover nonbank U.S. MNCs only. Bank parents and affiliates are not required to report in BEA's annual surveys of the operations of U.S. MNCs. Some limited data on the operations of bank parents and affiliates (including employment and sales) are reported in benchmark surveys of U.S. direct investment abroad conducted by BEA every five years. The latest benchmark survey results cover the year 1999.

The first year of a consistent annual time series of data on the operations of both U.S. MNCs and majority-owned U.S. affiliates of foreign MNCs is 1988; prior to that year, annual data on majority-owned U.S. affiliates was unavailable.

Table 2. U.S.-Parent Share of Selected Measures of the Operations  
of Nonbank U.S. Multinational Companies

[Percent]

	Employment	Capital expenditures
1988 .....	78.8	79.2
1989 .....	78.6	77.5
1990 .....	77.5	77.6
1991 .....	76.9	76.6
1992 .....	76.8	76.8
1993 .....	77.1	76.4
1994 .....	76.5	76.4
1995 .....	75.8	76.6
1996 .....	75.6	76.4
1997 .....	75.4	77.7
1998 .....	74.5	77.1
1999 .....	74.8	76.5
2000 .....	74.5	78.2
2001 .....	73.7	79.2
2002/1/ .....	72.9	75.0
2003/2/ .....	72.2	73.3

1. These estimates update those published in the July 2004 issue of the *Survey of Current Business*. (Those estimates, in turn, updated the advance summary estimates released on April 16, 2004.) Revised estimates based on more complete source data are scheduled to be released later this year.

2. Advance estimates. Preliminary estimates based on more complete source data are scheduled to be released later this year.



Table 3. Employment, Capital Expenditures, and Sales by Majority-Owned Nonbank U.S. Affiliates of Foreign Companies, 1988-2003

	Thousands of employees	Millions of dollars	
		Capital Expenditures <sup>1/</sup>	Sales
1988 .....	3,119.0	42,355	739,128
1989 .....	3,573.4	51,490	863,538
1990 .....	3,841.7	61,812	995,013
1991 .....	3,991.3	60,097	1,008,388
1992 .....	3,903.9	52,787	1,049,942
1993 .....	3,851.7	53,371	1,112,693
1994 .....	3,954.0	60,317	1,210,837
1995 .....	4,022.6	64,778	1,311,210
1996 .....	4,155.6	77,890	1,423,715
1997 .....	4,269.1	88,313	1,478,221
1998 .....	4,669.5	109,365	1,622,946
1999 .....	5,064.3	114,767	1,792,520
2000 .....	5,656.5	112,986	2,051,878
2001 .....	5,594.3	121,665	2,070,234
2002/2/ .....	5,425.4	111,373	2,030,962
2003/3/ .....	5,234.6	109,016	2,130,716
Percent change at annual rates:			
1988-2000 .....	5.1	8.5	8.9
2000-2001 .....	-1.1	7.7	0.9
2001-2002 .....	-3.0	-8.5	-1.9
2002-2003 .....	-3.5	-2.1	4.9

1. Total expenditures for property, plant, and equipment.

2. These estimates update those published in the August 2004 issue of the *Survey of Current Business*. (Those estimates, in turn, updated the advance summary estimates released on April 16, 2004.) Final estimates for 2002 are scheduled to be released later this year.

3. Advance estimates. Preliminary estimates based on more complete source data are scheduled to be released later this year.

NOTES: The data presented in this table cover nonbank affiliates only. Bank affiliates are not required to report in BEA's annual surveys of the operations of U.S. affiliates of foreign companies. Some limited data on the operations of bank affiliates (including employment and sales) are reported in benchmark surveys conducted by BEA every five years. Selected data on bank affiliates from the 2002 benchmark survey were published in the August 2004 issue of the *Survey of Current Business*.

In contrast to the presentation in Table 1 for U.S. multinational companies (which includes data for U.S. parent companies), this table does not include data on foreign parent companies or totals for foreign multinational companies, because they are not covered in BEA's surveys.

The first year of a consistent annual time series of data on the operations of both U.S. MNCs and majority-owned U.S. affiliates of foreign MNCs is 1988; prior to that year, annual data on majority-owned U.S. affiliates was unavailable.

Chart 1. U.S.-Parent Share of Employment by Nonbank U.S. Multinational Companies, 1988-2003

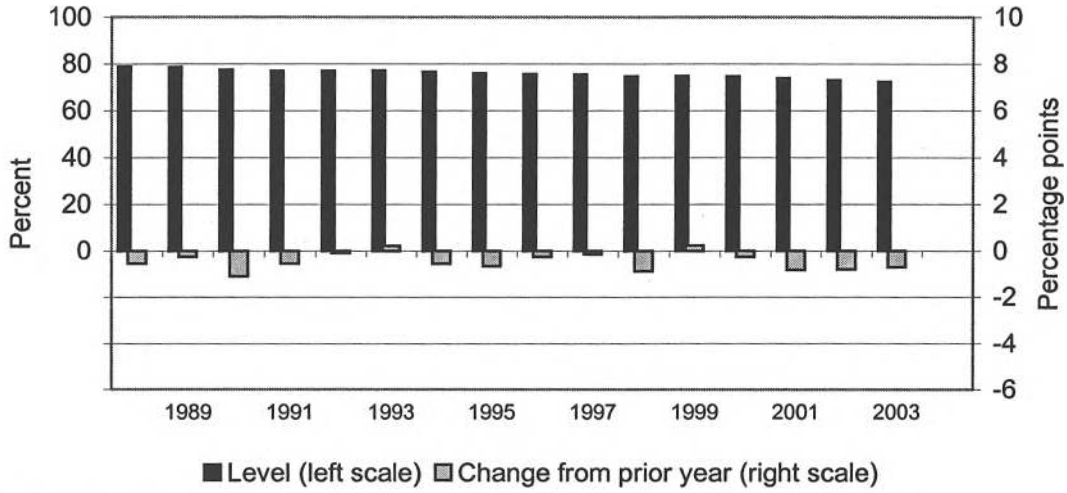




Chart 2. U.S.-Parent Share of Capital Expenditures by Nonbank U.S. Multinational Companies, 1988-2003

