



مركز الإحصاء  
STATISTICS CENTRE



Foreign Investment in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi by Region

2016



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## Introduction

The annual publication of Foreign Investment by region of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi is one of the foremost reports published by the Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi. Foreign Investment statistics contribute to the comprehensive planning and development process and support decision-making in the Emirate.

This publication presents the end-of-year balance of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) statistics in the three regions of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi – Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and Al Dhafra – by economic activity in 2016, as well as Portfolio investment balance and the balance of Other foreign investment. It also includes Foreign Direct Investment statistics by group of countries and country of origin in the three regions of the Emirate. The importance of this publication is that it includes a number of statistical indicators according to the regions of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, which helps to follow the trends of these foreign investments. It also allows for more specialized and in-depth analysis and prediction of the future impact of foreign investment, as well as aiding in the development of integrated plans and strategies to achieve sustainable development in line with the Abu Dhabi Plan.

The technical notes section provides an explanation of the main terms and technical concepts used in foreign investment statistics. We urge readers to refer to it when reading the statistics and information contained in the publication.

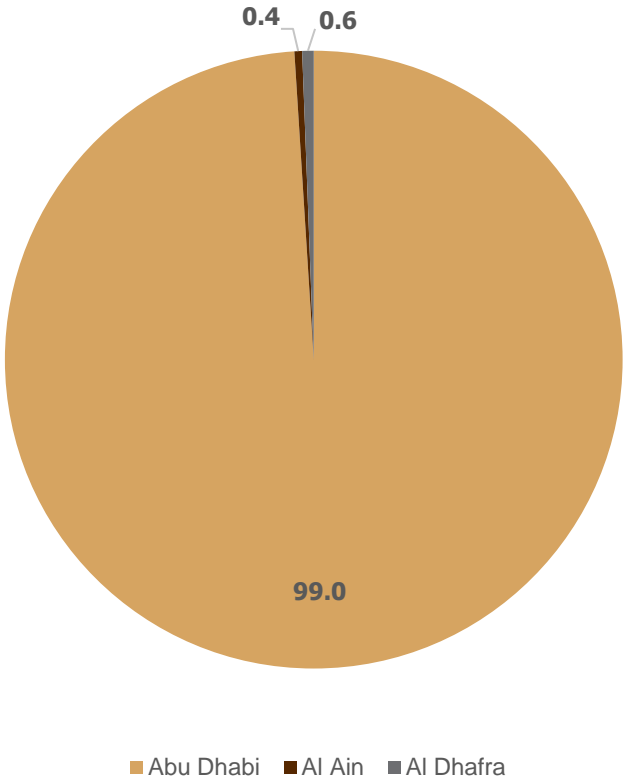
## Executive Summary

- The value of Foreign Direct Investment in the Abu Dhabi region increased by 14.5% to AED 99,867 million in 2016, representing 99.0% of the total FDI in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi compared with AED 87,201 million in 2015, while total FDI in Al Dhafra amounted to AED 652 million in 2016 compared with AED 586 million the previous year. In the Al Ain region, FDI increased from AED 308 million in 2015 to AED 368 million in 2016.
- European countries recorded the highest contribution of the total FDI stock in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in 2016. Their contribution in the Abu Dhabi region represented 44.0% of the total FDI stock, 0.2% in Al Ain and 0.6% in Al Dhafra.
- The United Kingdom ranked first in terms of the top foreign investment countries in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi with its value of FDI in the Abu Dhabi region totalling AED 14,502 million including AED 652 million invested into Al Dhafra. This was followed by Austria with investments worth AED 14,355 million, while France ranked third with investments amounting to AED 7,752 million with both French and Austrian investments concentrated fully within the Abu Dhabi region.
- The balance of Portfolio investments (including debt securities) in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi reached AED 131,354 million in 2016 and AED 87,895 million in 2015, with the majority of investments concentrated in Abu Dhabi.
- The total value of Other foreign investment in 2016 was AED 227,290 million. Abu Dhabi had the largest share of investment in 2016. Its share accounted for 99.4% of total foreign investment in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, with a value of AED 225,907 million. Al Dhafra had a share 0.6% of total other foreign investment at emirate level, with the value of investments amounting to AED 1,352 million, while the Al Ain region received AED 31.9 million.

# Foreign Direct Investment in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi by Region

At the end of 2016, the Abu Dhabi region accounted for 99.0% of total FDI investment in the emirate at AED 99,867 million. This was followed by Al Dhafra with investments totalling AED 652 million, and Al Ain at AED 368 million. Total FDI in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi reached AED 100,887 million in 2016.

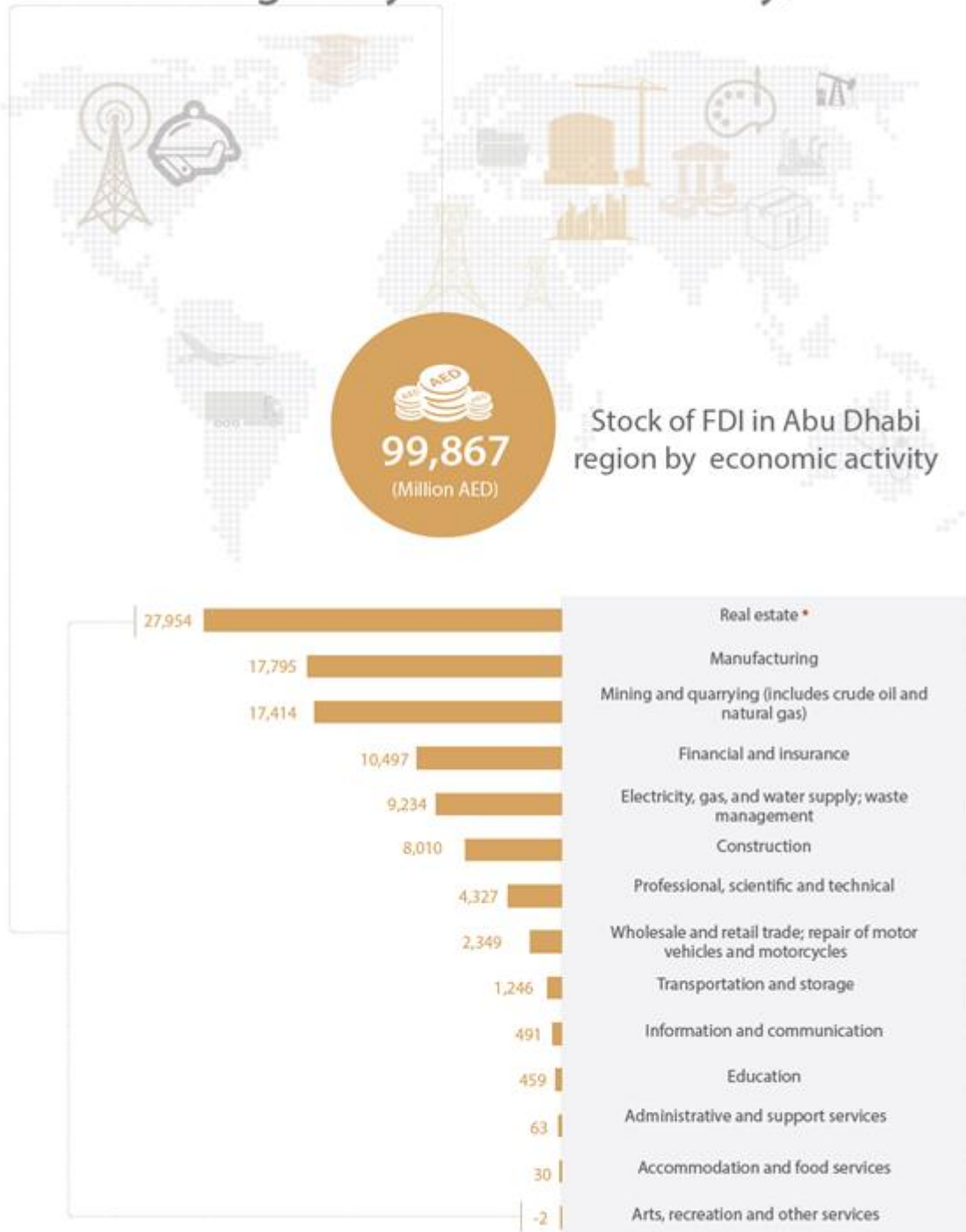
**Figure 1: Percentage distribution of Foreign Direct Investment by region, 2016**



Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

The value of FDI in the Abu Dhabi region for 'Real estate' activities increased from AED 23,793 million in 2015 to AED 27,954 million in 2016. The 2016 value of FDI for 'Manufacturing' activities as well as 'Mining and quarrying (includes crude oil and natural gas)' in the Abu Dhabi region amounted to AED 17,795 million and AED 17,414 million respectively, compared with AED 16,940 million and AED 8,354 million in 2015.

**Figure 2: Stock of FDI in Abu Dhabi region by economic activity, 2016**



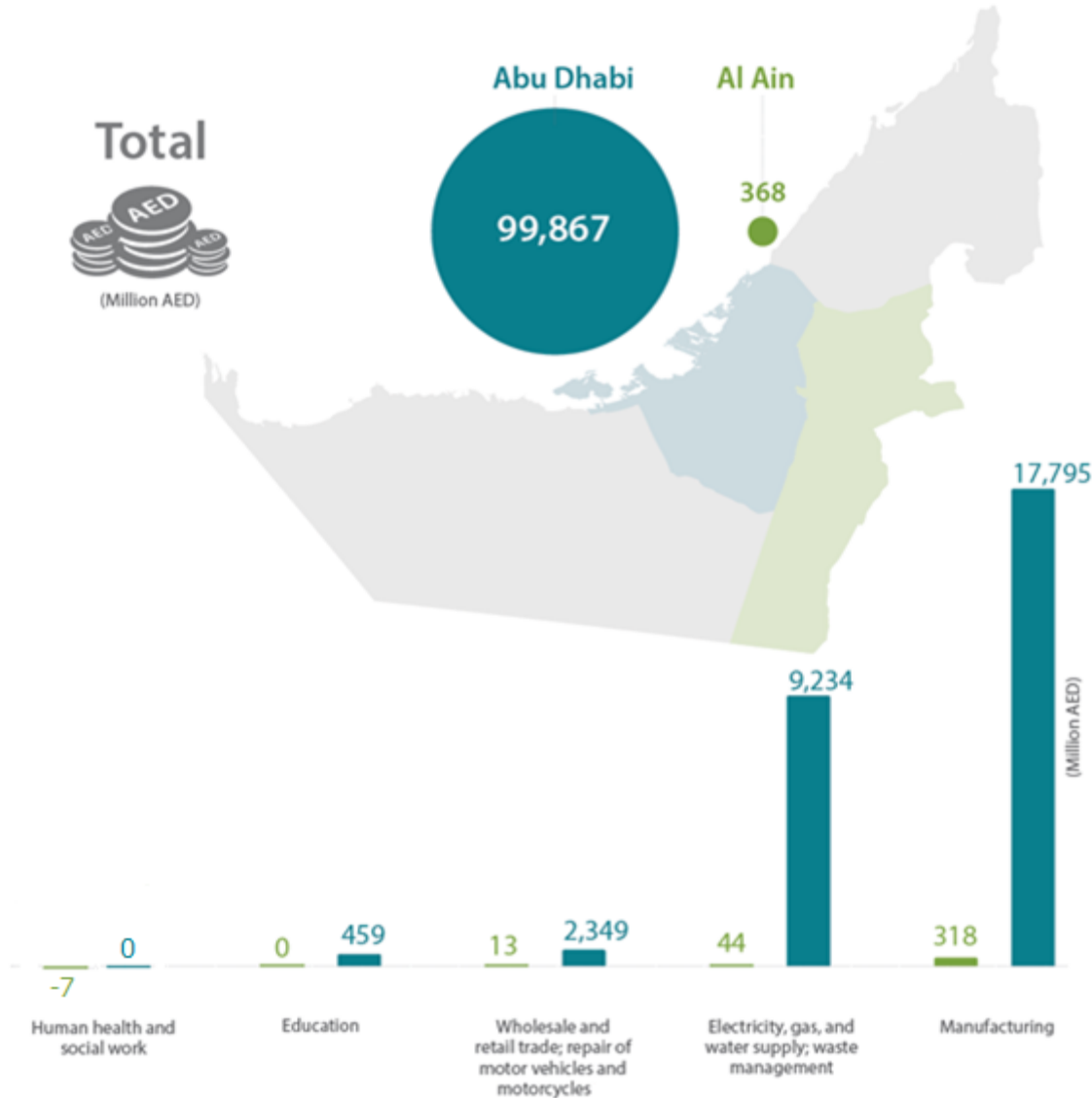
Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding

\* Includes real estate sales to non-residents

In the Al Ain region, FDI in 2016 was divided between the following activities: 'Manufacturing,' 'Electricity, gas and supply; waste management,' 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' and 'Human health and social work.' The 'Manufacturing' activity represented a total FDI share of 1.8% in Al Ain at a value of AED 318 million, while 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' represented 0.6% at AED 13 million. The FDI balance in Al Ain for 'Human health and social work' represented 100% of the FDI in this activity for the Abu Dhabi emirate.

**Figure 3: Stock of FDI in Abu Dhabi and Al Ain regions, 2016**

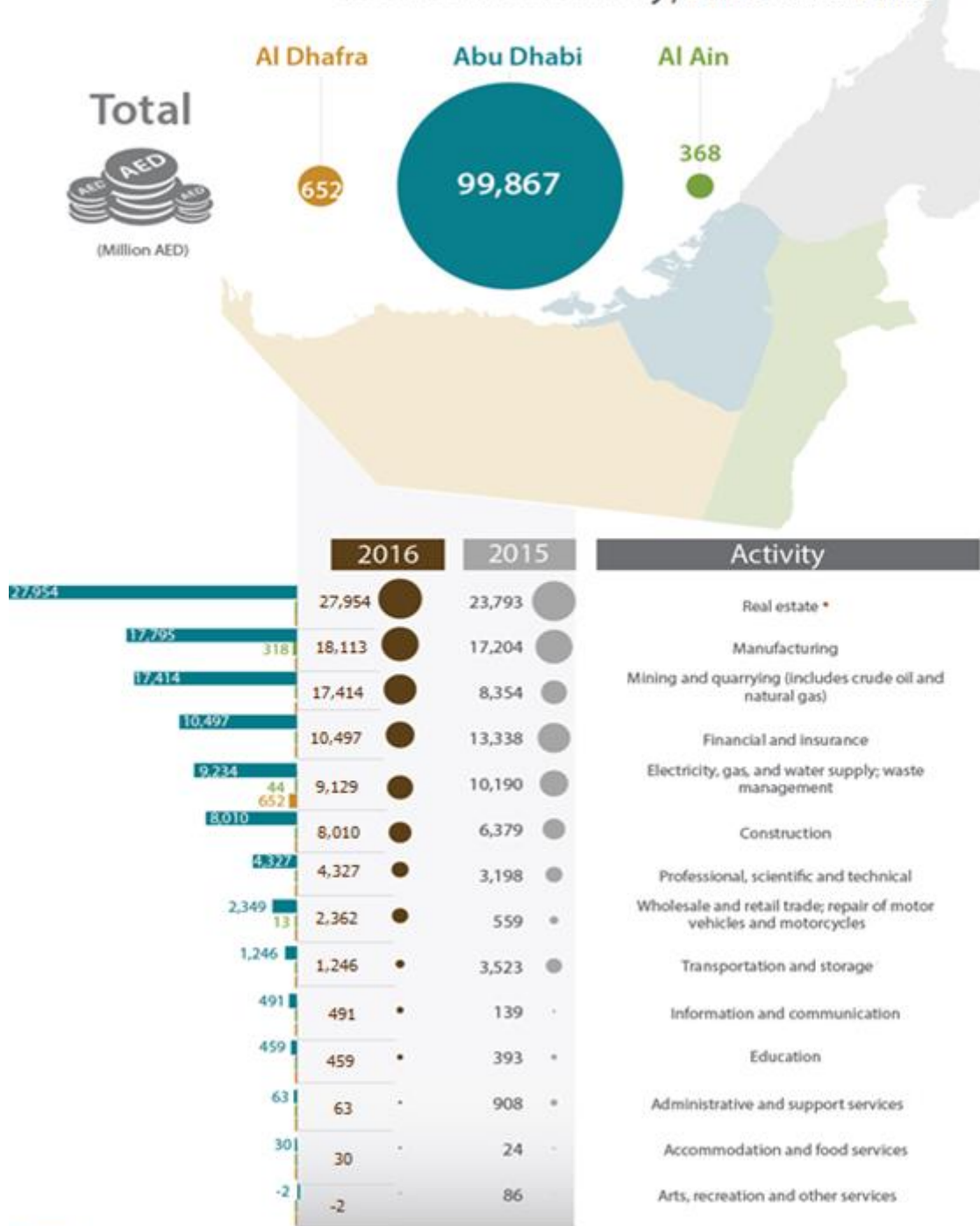


Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi  
 Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding



In Al Dhafra, the value of FDI of AED 652 million was concentrated entirely in the 'Electricity, water and gas; waste management' activity, which accounted for 6.6% of the total FDI for that activity at the emirate level. Meanwhile, the region of Abu Dhabi represented 93.0% of the total FDI in the emirate for the same activity with an investment value of AED 9,234 million, compared with AED 44 million in Al Ain.

**Figure 4: Stock of FDI in Abu Dhabi by region and economic activity, 2015 and 2016**



Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi  
 Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding  
 \* Includes real estate sales to non-residents

## Foreign Direct Investment in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi by Group of Countries

European countries had the highest contribution to total FDI stock in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in 2016, accounting for a 44% share of the Emirate's total foreign direct investment stock in the Abu Dhabi region and 0.6% in Al Dhafra, at AED 44,386 million and AED 652 million respectively. FDI investment from European countries into the Al Ain region amounted to AED 163 million with a share of 0.2%.

At the emirate level, Asian countries (excluding Arab countries) recorded the second highest share of total FDI with an investment of AED 12,582 million exclusively in the Abu Dhabi region representing 12.5% of total FDI in the emirate.

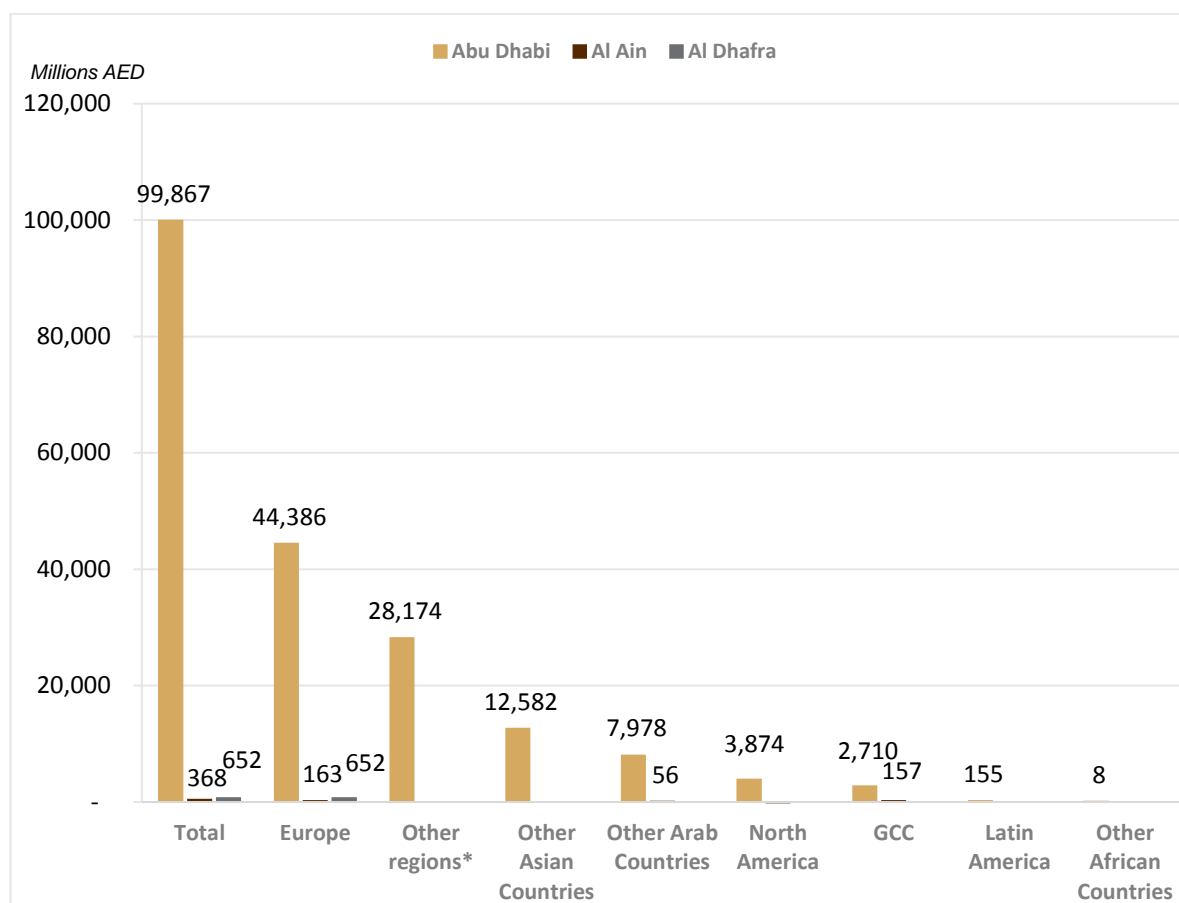
The contribution of GCC countries into the Emirate of Abu Dhabi contributed 2.8% of total FDI into the emirate at AED 2,866 million, with 0.2% of total FDI in the region of Al Ain totalling AED 157 million and 2.7% in the Abu Dhabi region at AED 2,710 million.

Other Arab countries (excluding the GCC states) had the highest share of FDI following Asian countries, with investments focused in the Abu Dhabi and Al Ain regions at AED 7,978 million and AED 56 million respectively.

Total FDI from Latin America amounted to AED 155 million, focused exclusively in the region of Abu Dhabi. North America's FDI investments were concentrated mostly in the Abu Dhabi region at AED 3,874 million with AED -7 million invested into Al Ain.

Investments from Other regions (including real estate sales to non-residents) amounted to AED 28,174 million exclusively in the Abu Dhabi region with 27.9% of FDI in the Emirate.

**Figure 5: Foreign Direct Investment in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi by Group of Countries, 2016**



Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi  
 \*Includes real estate sales to non-residents

## Foreign Direct Investment in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi by Source Country

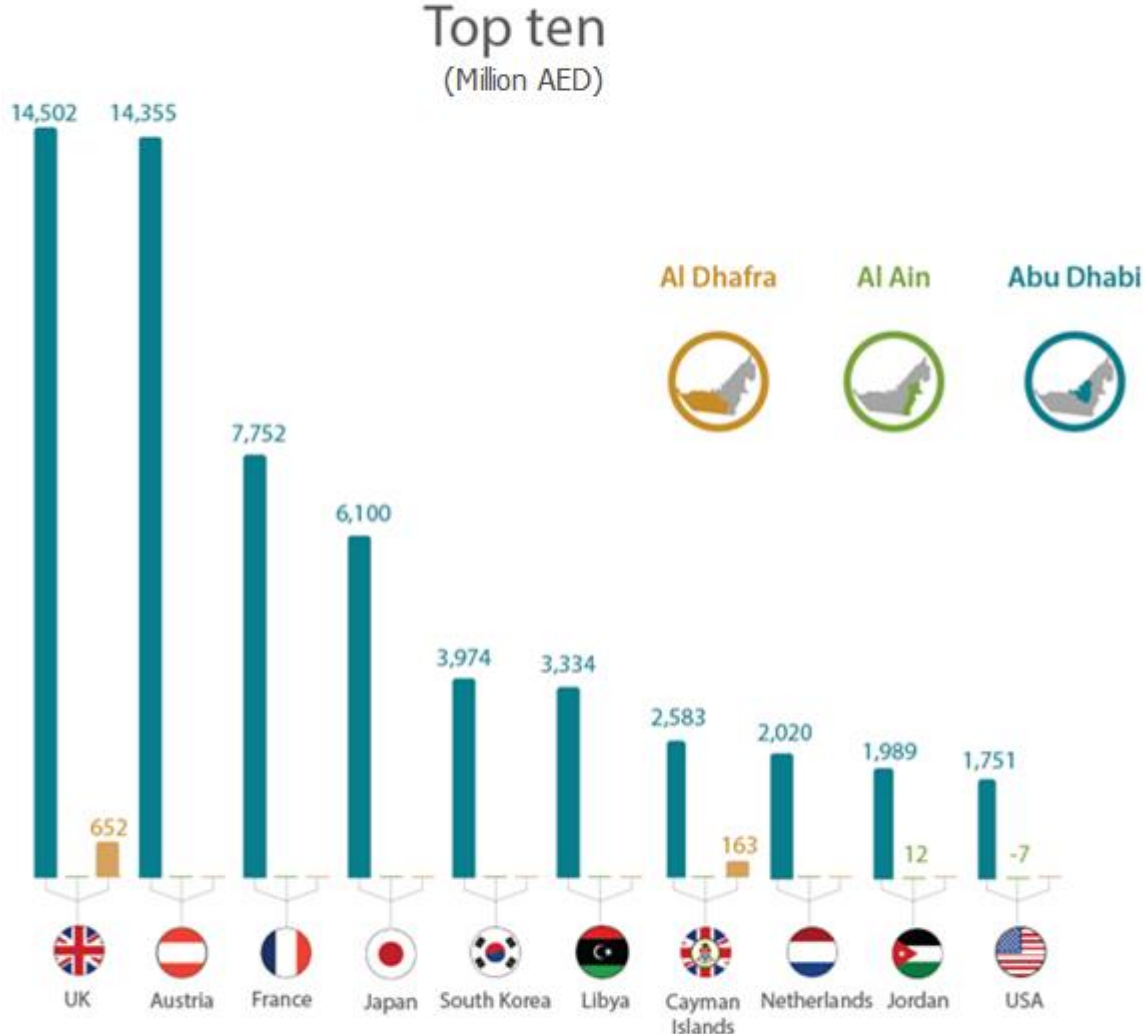
The United Kingdom had the highest FDI into the Emirate of Abu Dhabi with investments totalling AED 14,502 million in Abu Dhabi and AED 652 million in Al Dhafra. This was followed by Austria and France with FDI investments totalling AED 14,355 and AED 7,752 million respectively, focused exclusively in the Abu Dhabi region.

Japan and South Korea had the next highest contribution with investments totalling AED 6,100 million and AED 3,974 million respectively, focused entirely in the region of Abu Dhabi. This was followed by Libya with investments of AED 3,334 million focused entirely in the Abu Dhabi region.

The Cayman Islands had a total investment of AED 2,746 million, with AED 2,583 million invested in Abu Dhabi and AED 163 million in Al Ain. The Netherlands followed, with total FDI into the Emirate of Abu Dhabi totalling AED 2,020 million.

Jordan invested AED 1,989 million in Abu Dhabi and AED 12 million in Al Ain. Oman's investments into Abu Dhabi and Al Ain totalled AED 1,319 million and AED 156 million respectively. Lebanon invested AED 1,262 million in Abu Dhabi and AED 44 million in Al Ain, with total investment in the emirate at AED 1,305 million. Saudi Arabia invested AED 500 million in Abu Dhabi and AED 1 million in Al Ain.

**Figure 6:** Stock of FDI in Abu Dhabi by source country, 2016



Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

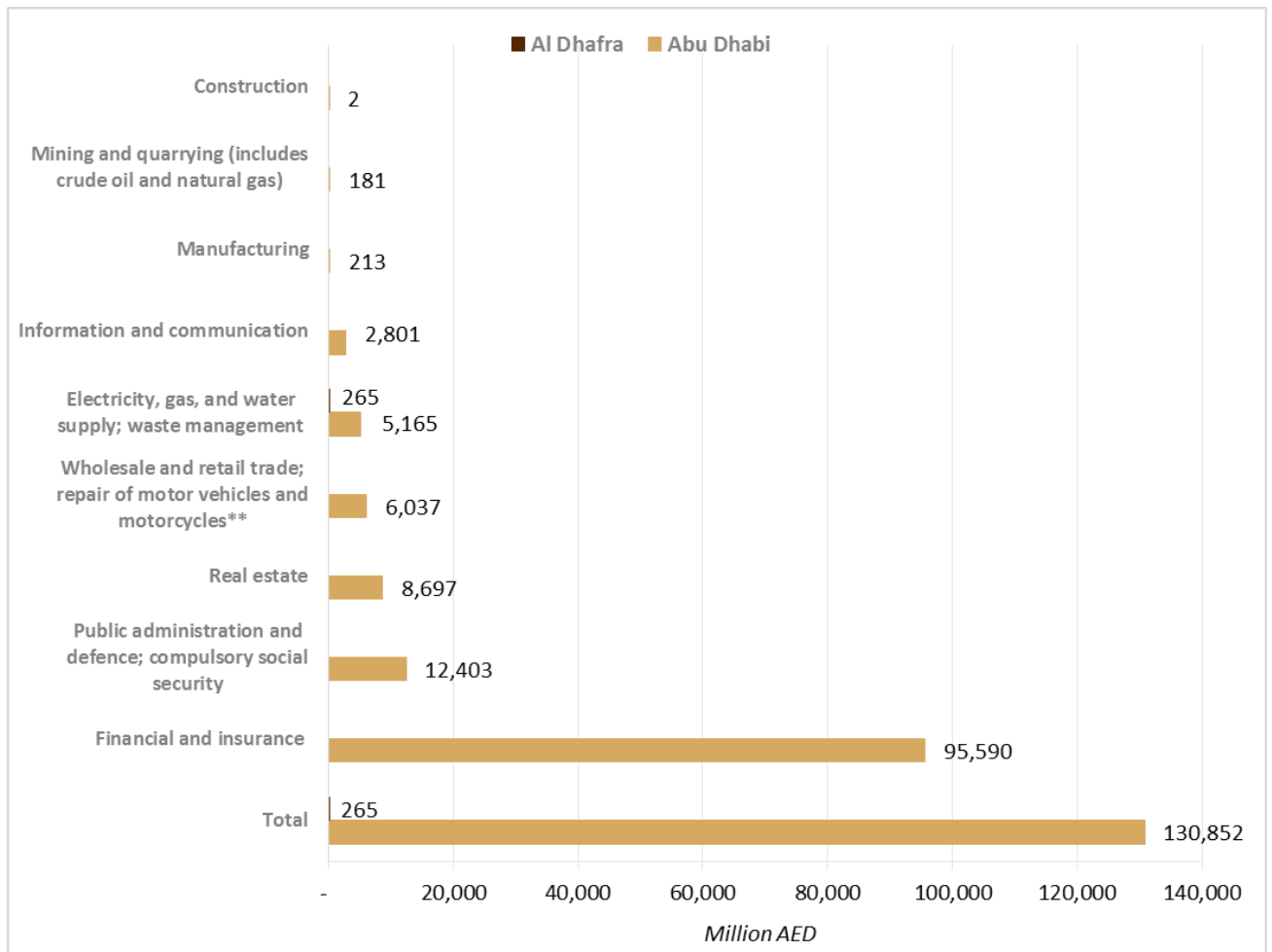
## Foreign Portfolio Investment in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi by Economic Activity

The stock of foreign Portfolio investment into the Emirate of Abu Dhabi (including debt and equity securities) totaled AED 131,354 million in 2016 compared ~~with~~ AED 87,895 million in 2015, with investments divided between Abu Dhabi and Al Dhafra. Portfolio Investment in Abu Dhabi totaled AED 131,089 million while in Al Dhafra it was entirely in the 'Electricity, gas and water; waste management' activity at AED 265 million.

The 'Financial and insurance' activity had the highest share in 2016 at 72.8% and AED 95,590 million compared ~~with~~ 95.2% or AED 83,702 million in 2015. 'Real estate' activities contributed 6.6% of the total stock of portfolio investment at the emirate level totalling AED 8,697 million in 2016, compared ~~to~~ with AED 3,831 million in 2015. 'Electricity, gas and water; waste management' represented a 3.9% share of total PI with AED 5,165 million in Abu Dhabi.

Two new activities appeared in Foreign Portfolio Investment in 2016. 'Public administration and defence; compulsory social security' had the second highest share at the emirate level at 9.4% with a value of AED 12,403 million. 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' totaled AED 6,037 million.

**Figure 7: Foreign Portfolio Investment by Economic Activity in the Abu Dhabi Region**



Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

\* Includes real estate sales to non-residents

### Other Foreign Investment by Economic Activity in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi

The balance of Other foreign investment in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi was AED 227,290 million in 2016, compared ~~to~~ with AED 177,111 million in 2015. The Abu Dhabi region received the majority of this investment at AED 225,907 million or a 99.4% contribution in 2016 compared ~~to~~ with AED 175,480 million in 2015 and a 99.1% contribution.

The contribution of Other foreign investment in Al Dhafra amounted to 0.6% of total Other foreign investment at the emirate level in 2016, compared ~~to~~ with 0.9% in 2015, while Al Ain had the lowest contribution totalling AED 32 million in 2016 invested entirely in 'Manufacturing' compared with AED 27 million in 2015.

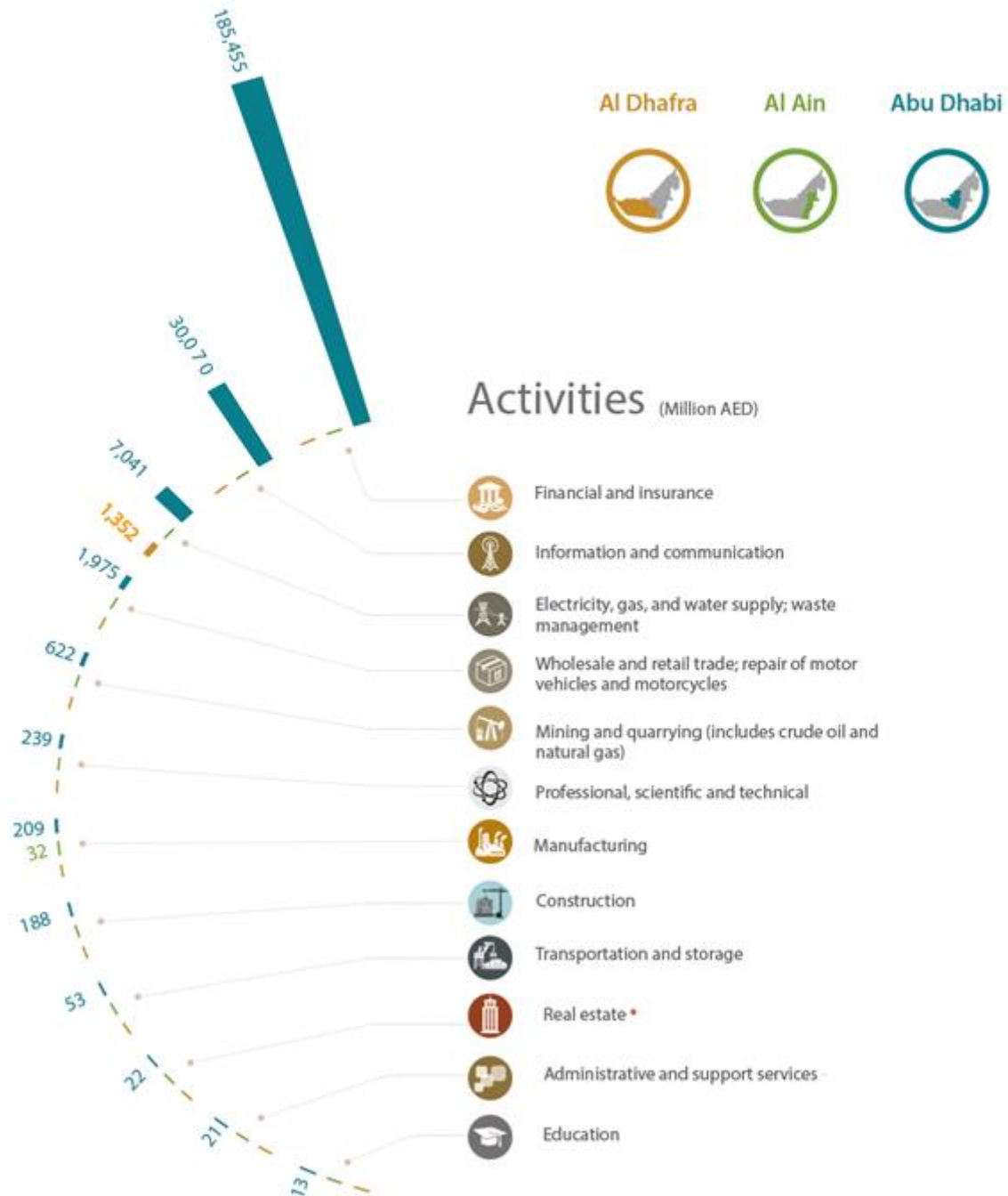
Other foreign investment for all other activities were concentrated in the region of Abu Dhabi, most prominently 'Financial and insurance activities' which amounted to AED 185,455 million or 82.1% of total other investment in the emirate.

Following this, 'Information and communication' was the second largest activity with investment amounting to AED 30,070 million or 13.2% of total Other foreign investment in the emirate.

The value of investment in the 'Electricity, gas and water; waste management' activity amounted to AED 7,041 million in the Abu Dhabi emirate with investment of AED 7,041 million in Abu Dhabi and AED 1,352 million in Al Ain.

'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' had a share of 0.9% with AED 1,975 million invested exclusively in Abu Dhabi.

**Figure 8:** Other investments into Abu Dhabi by region and economic activity, 2016



Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi  
 Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding  
 \* Includes real estate sales to non-residents



## Statistical Tables

**Table (1): Stock of FDI in Abu Dhabi by region and economic activity, 2016**

(Million AED)

Activity	Total	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Dhafra
<b>Total</b>	<b>100,887</b>	<b>99,867</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>652</b>
Mining and quarrying (includes crude oil and natural gas)	17,414	17,414		
Manufacturing	18,113	17,795	318	
Electricity, gas, and water supply; waste management	9,929	9,234	44	652
Construction	8,010	8,010		
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	2,362	2,349	13	
Transportation and storage	1,246	1,246		
Accommodation and food services	30	30		
Information and communication	491	491		
Financial and insurance	10,497	10,497		
Real estate *	27,954	27,954		
Professional, scientific and technical	4,327	4,327		
Administrative and support services	63	63		
Education	459	459		
Human health and social work	-7		-7	
Arts, recreation and other services	-2	-2		

Source: Statistics Center Abu Dhabi

1) Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding

\*Includes real estate sales to non-residents

**Table (2): FDI stock in Abu Dhabi by region as a percentage distribution of the economic activity total, 2016**

(%)

Activity	Total	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Dhafra
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Mining and quarrying (includes crude oil and natural gas)	100	100		
Manufacturing	100	98.2	1.8	
Electricity, gas, and water supply; waste management	100	93.0	0.4	6.6
Construction	100	100		
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	100	99.4	0.6	
Transportation and storage	100	100		
Accommodation and food services	100	100		
Information and communication	100	100		
Financial and insurance	100	100		
Real estate *	100	100		
Professional, scientific and technical	100	100		
Administrative and support services	100	100		
Education	100	100		
Human health and social work	100		100	
Arts, recreation and other services	100	100		

Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

1) Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding

\*Includes real estate sales to non-residents

**Table (3): Stock of FDI in Abu Dhabi by region and economic activity as a percentage distribution of total FDI, 2016**

(%)

Activity	Total	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Dhafra
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Mining and quarrying (includes crude oil and natural gas)	17.3	17.4		
Manufacturing	18.0	17.8	86.4	
Electricity, gas, and water supply; waste management	9.8	9.2	11.9	100
Construction	7.9	8.0		
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	2.3	2.4	3.5	
Transportation and storage	1.2	1.2		
Accommodation and food services				
Information and communication	0.5	0.5		
Financial and insurance	10.4	10.5		
Real estate *	27.7	28.0		
Professional, scientific and technical	4.3	4.3		
Administrative and support services	0.1	0.1		
Education	0.5	0.5	0.1	
Human health and social work			-1.9	
Arts, recreation and other services				

Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

1) Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding

\* Includes real estate sales to non-residents

**Table (4): Stock of FDI by Abu Dhabi and investor region, 2016***(Million AED)*

Countries	Total	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Dhafra
<b>Total</b>	<b>100,887</b>	<b>99,867</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>652</b>
GCC countries	2,866	2,710	157	
Other Arab countries	8,034	7,978	56	
Other Asian countries	12,582	12,582		
Other African countries	8	8		
European countries	45,201	44,386	163	652
Latin America	3,867	3,874	-7	
North America	155	155		
Other regions*	28,174	28,174		

Source: Statistics Center Abu Dhabi

1) Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding

\*Includes real estate sales to non-residents

**Table (5): Stock of FDI by Abu Dhabi and investor region, 2016***(%)*

Countries	Total	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Dhafra
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.6</b>
GCC countries	2.8	2.7	0.2	
Other Arab countries	8.0	7.9	0.1	
Other Asian countries	12.5	12.5		
Other African countries				
European countries	44.8	44.0	0.2	0.6
Latin America	3.8	3.8		
North America	0.2	0.2		
Other regions *	27.9	27.9		

Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

1) Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding

\* Includes real estate sales to non-residents

**Table (6): Stock of FDI in Abu Dhabi by source country, 2016***(Million AED)*

Countries	Total	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Dhafra
<b>Total</b>	<b>100,887</b>	<b>99,867</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>652</b>
Bahrain	144	144		
Kuwait	716	716		
Qatar	30	30		
Saudi Arabia	501	500	1	
Oman	1,475	1,319	156	
Jordan	2,001	1,989	12	
Palestine	66	66		
Algeria	1,270	1,270		
Syria	22	22		
Sudan	-120	-120		
Lebanon	1,305	1,262	44	
Libya	3,334	3,334		
Egypt	155	155		
Malaysia	950	950		
China - including Hong Kong and Macau	1,373	1,373		
Japan	6,100	6,100		
India	-832	-832		
Pakistan	537	537		
Singapore	354	354		
Turkey	15	15		
South Korea	3,974	3,974		
Bangladesh	112	112		
Germany	1,546	1,546		
United Kingdom	15,154	14,502		652
Spain	105	105		
Greece	546	546		
Austria	14,355	14,355		
France	7,752	7,752		
Cayman Islands	2,746	2,583	163	
Cyprus	125	125		
Liechtenstein	136	136		
Ireland	171	171		
Switzerland	209	209		
Italy	315	315		
Netherlands	2,020	2,020		
Slovenia	22	22		
Panama	1,350	1,350		
Brazil	52	52		
Canada	328	328		
British Virgin Islands	392	392		
United States	1,744	1,751	-7	
Bermuda	155	155		
Swaziland	8	8		
Netherlands	136	136		
Australia	144	144		
Other *	27,894	27,894		

Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

1) Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding

\* Includes real estate sales to non-residents

**Table (7): Portfolio Investments into Abu Dhabi by region and economic activity, 2016***(Million AED)*

Activities	Total	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Dhafra
<b>Total</b>	<b>131,354</b>	<b>131,089</b>		<b>265</b>
Mining and quarrying (includes crude oil and natural gas)	181	181		
Manufacturing	213	213		
Electricity, gas, and water supply; waste management	5,430	5,165		265
Construction	2	2		
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	6,037	6,037		
Information and communication	2,801	2,801		
Financial and insurance	95,590	95,590		
Real estate	8,697	8,697		
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	12,403	12,403		

Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

1) Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding

**Table 8: Portfolio Investment into Abu Dhabi by region and economic activity, 2016***(%)*

Activities	Total	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Dhafra
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>		<b>0.2</b>
Mining and quarrying (includes crude oil and natural gas)	0.1	0.1		
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2		
Electricity, gas, and water supply; waste management	4.1	3.9		0.2
Construction	0.0	0.0		
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	4.6	4.6		
Information and communication	2.1	2.1		
Financial and insurance	72.8	72.8		
Real estate	6.6	6.6		
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	9.4	9.4		

Source: Statistics Center Abu Dhabi

1) Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding

**Table (9): Other Investment into Abu Dhabi by region and economic activity, 2016***(Million AED)*

Activities	Total	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Dhafra
<b>Total</b>	<b>227,290</b>	<b>225,907</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1,352</b>
Mining and quarrying (includes crude oil and natural gas)	622	622		
Manufacturing	240	209	32	
Electricity, gas, and water supply; waste management	8,393	7,041		1,352
Construction	188	188		
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	1,975	1,975		
Transportation and storage	53	53		
Information and communication	30,070	30,070		
Financial and insurance	185,455	185,455		
Real estate	22	22		
Professional, scientific and technical	239	239		
Administrative and support services	21	21		
Education	13	13		

Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding

**Table 10: Other Investment Into Abu Dhabi by region and economic activity, 2016***(%)*

Activities	Total	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Dhafra
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>99.4</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Mining and quarrying (includes crude oil and natural gas)	0.3	0.3		
Manufacturing	0.1	0.1	0.01	
Electricity, gas, and water supply; waste management	3.7	3.1		0.6
Construction	0.1	0.1		
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	0.9	0.9		
Transportation and storage	0.0	0.0		
Information and communication	13.2	13.2		
Financial and insurance	81.6	81.6		
Real estate	0.0	0.0		
Professional, scientific and technical	0.1	0.1		
Administrative and support services	0.0	0.0		
Education	0.0	0.0		

Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

Note: Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding

## Technical Notes

### Classification

ISIC4 was used to classify foreign investment statistics by economic activity.

### Data sources

Data were collected through a field survey of all foreign investment establishments in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

### Framework

Foreign investment statistics have been prepared in accordance with the international framework and guidelines presented in the IMF's Balance of Payments Manual. The centre has produced the statistics in this publication based on the geographic region of the foreign investment entity in the Emirate and not the region of production.

### Next publication

The foreign investments statistics for the three regions of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi will be published upon completing the annual foreign investment survey and analyzing its results, twelve months after the end of the reference period.

### Revisions policy

Normal international practice in producing, and continuously improving, quality official statistics is to make revisions over time as significant new evidence becomes available to official statistical agencies. Changes may also result from the introduction of new methods, guidelines, techniques or the introduction of a new classification system can lead to revisions after the time series data have been finalised.

Annual estimates of Foreign Investment are released on the following schedule: "Preliminary" estimates of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) for the preceding year, based on source data that are incomplete or subject to further revision by the source agency, are released near the end of January. Final annual estimates of Foreign Investment liabilities for the preceding calendar year are released within 10 months after the end of the reference year as more detailed and more comprehensive data based on primary survey sources become available. Once primary data are incorporated into the statistics, it is considered final for that year and are not revised unless further primary data from new sources become available.

### Scope of coverage

All establishments in the Emirate with foreign contribution to capital.

### Scope of survey

The framework of this survey was obtained through the Economics Establishments Framework, which includes establishments with foreign investment liabilities.



## Glossary

### Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

FDI is a type of international investment that reflects the permanent interest of a resident entity of one economy in an entity resident in another economy. The foreign investing entity is referred to as a “direct investor” and the local entity the “direct investment enterprise.” This entails a permanent interest and long-lasting relationship between the two, with the direct investor having a significant degree of influence on the management of the enterprise.

### Other Foreign Investments

All financial transactions not covered by FDI or portfolio investments.

### Portfolio Investments

The principal components of portfolio investments, classified as either assets or liabilities, consist of equities and debt securities which are normally traded in a structured manner in the financial markets, and are divided into bonds, equity and financial derivatives.

### Real Estate Sales to Non-residents

The change in estimated FDI in the real estate activity from the end of the previous reference year to the end of the current reference year; this reflects real estate sales in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, from residents to non-residents throughout the reference year. In this publication, the estimated FDI in real estate at the end of each year exclude the change in real estate ownership from non-residents to residents in the Abu Dhabi Emirate, in addition to excluding price adjustments.

### Region

The name of the region in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in which the entity is located.

## Disclaimer

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