

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI): SOUTH AFRICA

What is SelectUSA?

SelectUSA is the U.S. government program to promote and facilitate business investment in the United States.

How do we help?

We work with companies and U.S. economic development organizations to provide information, facilitate direct connections, and resolve questions regarding federal regulations. We also provide a promotional platform for U.S. state and local governments.

\$6.3 Billion

Total 2023 stock of FDI from
South Africa
to the United States

(by UBO)

Contact Us

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Supporting U.S. Jobs
6,700

Number of U.S. workers employed by
U.S. affiliates of majority
South African-owned firms in 2022.



Investing in Innovative R&D
\$51.0 million

Value of research and development (R&D)
spending by U.S. affiliates of majority
African-owned firms
in 2022.*



Expanding U.S. Exports
\$1.1 billion

Value of U.S. goods exports by majority
South African-owned firms
operating in the United States in 2022.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (latest available as of February 12, 2025), fDi Markets (data from January 2015 - December 2024)

*Regional data is used when market-specific data has been suppressed or has not met a certain threshold.

South African FDI in the USA (in USD millions)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Position (UBO)	\$4,049	\$4,456	\$5,579	\$5,811	\$6,255
Flow	-\$171	\$529	\$639	-\$245	-\$405

U.S. FDI in South Africa (in USD millions)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Position	\$7,761	\$6,748	\$6,715	\$6,881	\$7,969
Flow	\$518	-\$267	\$220	\$678	\$1,172

TOP 6 INDUSTRY SECTORS

By # of announced South African FDI
projects in the USA

- #1 Software & IT Services
- #2 Financial Services
- #3 Food & Beverages
- #4 Paper & Packaging
- #5 Auto Components
- #6 Communications

TERMINOLOGY - UBO: Ultimate Beneficial Owner; the entity at the top of an affiliate's ownership chain.

Position/Stock: Snapshot of cumulative FDI taken at year end. Flow: FDI coming into a country over a period of time.

Last Updated February 2025