

## OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Promoting economic and social development in non-member countries has been a principal objective of the OECD since its foundation. The share of national income devoted to Official Development Assistance (ODA) is a test of a country's commitment to international development. A long-standing United Nations target is that developed countries should devote 0.7% of their Gross National Income (GNI) to ODA.

### Definition

ODA is defined as government aid designed to promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries. Loans and credits for military purposes are excluded. Aid may be provided bilaterally, from donor to recipient, or channelled through a multilateral development agency such as the United Nations or the World Bank. Aid includes grants, "soft" loans and the provision of technical assistance. Soft loans are those where the grant element is at least 25% of the total.

The OECD maintains a list of developing countries and territories; only aid to these countries counts as ODA. The list is periodically updated and currently contains over 150 countries or territories with per capita incomes below 12 276 USD in 2010. Data on ODA flows are provided by the 24 OECD members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC).

### Overview

From 1960 to 1990, official development assistance flows from DAC countries to developing countries rose steadily. By contrast, total ODA as a percentage of DAC countries' combined gross national income (GNI) fell between 1960 and 1970, and then oscillated between 0.27% and 0.36% for a little over twenty years. Between 1993 and 1997, ODA flows fell by 16% in real terms due to fiscal consolidation in donor countries after the recession of the early 1990s.

Aid then started to rise in real terms in 1998 and since then a series of high-profile international conferences have boosted ODA flows. In 2002, the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, set firm targets for each donor and marked an upturn of ODA after a decade of decline. In 2005, donors made further commitments to increase their aid at the Gleneagles G8 and UN Millennium + 5 summits.

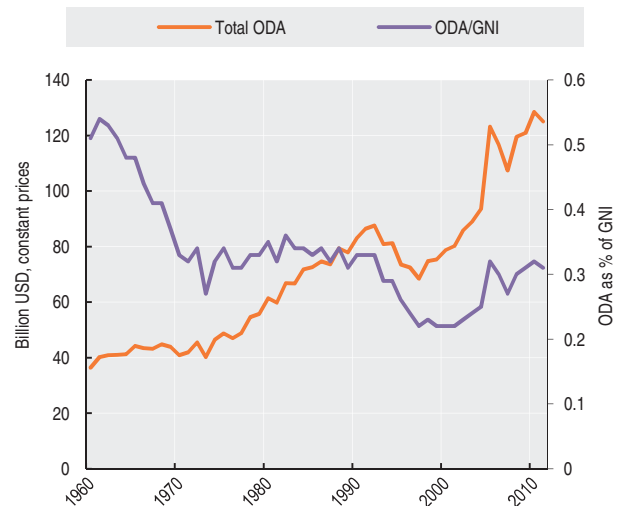
Net ODA rose by 63% between 2000 and 2010, the year it reached its peak. In 2011, total net ODA from DAC members dropped to USD 133.5 billion representing a decrease of 2.7% in real terms compared to 2010. The weighted average of total ODA as a percentage of donor's combined GNI, was 0.31% in 2011.


### Comparability

Statistics on ODA are compiled according to directives drawn up by the DAC. Each country's statistics are subject to regular peer reviews by other DAC members.

### Net official development assistance

1960-2011



StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932710270>

### Sources

- OECD (2011), *OECD International Development Statistics*, OECD Publishing.

### Further information

#### Analytical publications

- Keeley, B. (2012), *From Aid to Development, The Global Fight against Poverty*, OECD Insights, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2012), *Aid Effectiveness 2011, Progress in Implementing the Paris Declaration*, Better Aid, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2010), *OECD Journal on Development*, OECD Publishing.

#### Statistical publications

- OECD (2011), *Geographical Distribution of Financial Flows to Developing Countries*, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2010), *Creditor Reporting System*, OECD Publishing.
- OECD and World Trade Organization (2011), *Aid for Trade at a Glance*, OECD Publishing.

#### Online databases

- OECD International Development Statistics.

#### Websites

- Aid at a glance: by donor, recipient and region, [www.oecd.org/dac/stats/aidcharts](http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/aidcharts).
- OECD Aid Statistics, [www.oecd.org/dac/stats](http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats).



Net official development assistance

	As a percentage of gross national income						Millions of US dollars					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Australia	0.30	0.32	0.32	0.29	0.32	0.35	2 123	2 669	2 954	2 762	3 826	4 799
Austria	0.47	0.50	0.43	0.30	0.32	0.27	1 498	1 808	1 714	1 142	1 208	1 107
Belgium	0.50	0.43	0.48	0.55	0.64	0.53	1 977	1 951	2 386	2 610	3 004	2 800
Canada	0.29	0.29	0.33	0.30	0.34	0.31	3 683	4 080	4 795	4 000	5 209	5 291
Denmark	0.80	0.81	0.82	0.88	0.91	0.86	2 236	2 562	2 803	2 810	2 871	2 981
Finland	0.40	0.39	0.44	0.54	0.55	0.52	834	981	1 166	1 290	1 333	1 409
France	0.47	0.38	0.39	0.47	0.50	0.46	10 601	9 884	10 908	12 602	12 915	12 994
Germany	0.36	0.37	0.38	0.35	0.39	0.40	10 435	12 291	13 981	12 079	12 985	14 533
Greece	0.17	0.16	0.21	0.19	0.17	0.11	424	501	703	607	508	331
Ireland	0.54	0.55	0.59	0.54	0.52	0.52	1 022	1 192	1 328	1 006	895	904
Italy	0.20	0.19	0.22	0.16	0.15	0.19	3 641	3 971	4 861	3 297	2 996	4 241
Japan	0.25	0.17	0.19	0.18	0.20	0.18	11 136	7 697	9 601	9 457	11 021	10 604
Korea	0.05	0.07	0.09	0.10	0.12	0.12	455	696	802	816	1 174	1 321
Luxembourg	0.89	0.92	0.97	1.04	1.05	0.99	291	376	415	415	403	413
Netherlands	0.81	0.81	0.80	0.82	0.81	0.75	5 452	6 224	6 993	6 426	6 357	6 324
New Zealand	0.27	0.27	0.30	0.28	0.26	0.28	259	320	348	309	342	429
Norway	0.89	0.95	0.89	1.06	1.10	1.00	2 945	3 735	4 006	4 081	4 580	4 936
Portugal	0.21	0.22	0.27	0.23	0.29	0.29	396	471	620	513	649	669
Spain	0.32	0.37	0.45	0.46	0.43	0.29	3 814	5 140	6 867	6 584	5 949	4 264
Sweden	1.02	0.93	0.98	1.12	0.97	1.02	3 955	4 339	4 732	4 548	4 533	5 606
Switzerland	0.39	0.38	0.44	0.45	0.40	0.46	1 646	1 685	2 038	2 310	2 300	3 086
United Kingdom	0.51	0.36	0.43	0.51	0.57	0.56	12 459	9 849	11 500	11 283	13 053	13 739
United States	0.18	0.16	0.18	0.21	0.21	0.20	23 532	21 787	26 437	28 831	30 353	30 745

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Distribution of net ODA from all sources by income group and by region

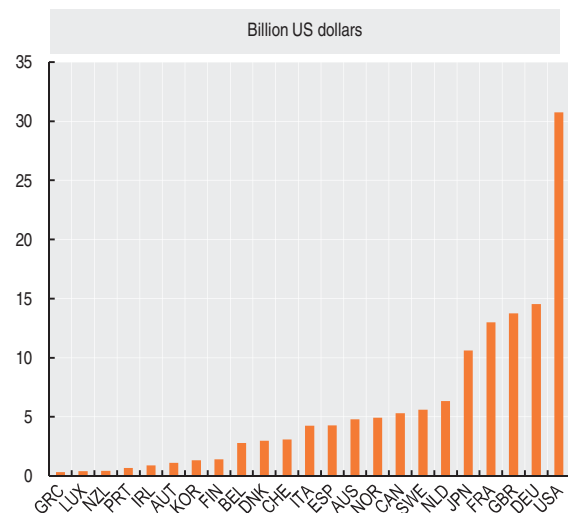
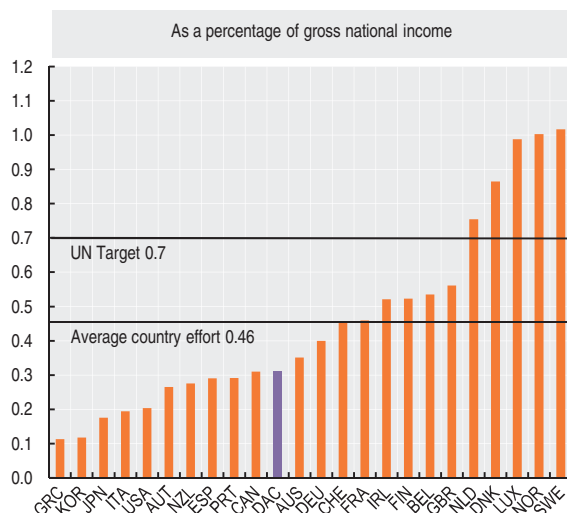
Million US dollars

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>By income group</b>					
Least Developed Countries	28 931	34 034	39 162	40 334	44 805
Other low-income countries	19 203	10 969	10 647	16 042	14 552
Lower middle-income countries	28 893	29 288	32 570	26 357	25 176
Upper middle-income countries	6 274	6 405	8 536	7 554	7 374
Unallocated	24 014	27 914	37 002	36 681	39 201
More advanced developing countries and territories	24	-116	..	..	..
<b>By region</b>					
Sub-Saharan Africa	40 869	34 727	39 627	42 465	43 805
South and Central Asia	11 430	14 091	15 981	18 464	18 636
Other Asia and Oceania	8 646	9 585	9 858	10 886	10 628
Middle East and North Africa	17 058	17 891	24 138	13 370	12 086
Latin America and Caribbean	7 340	6 987	9 288	9 022	10 718
Europe	5 082	4 337	5 377	5 731	5 856
Unspecified	16 913	20 876	23 647	27 028	29 378
Developing countries total	107 339	108 494	127 916	126 968	131 108

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Net official development assistance

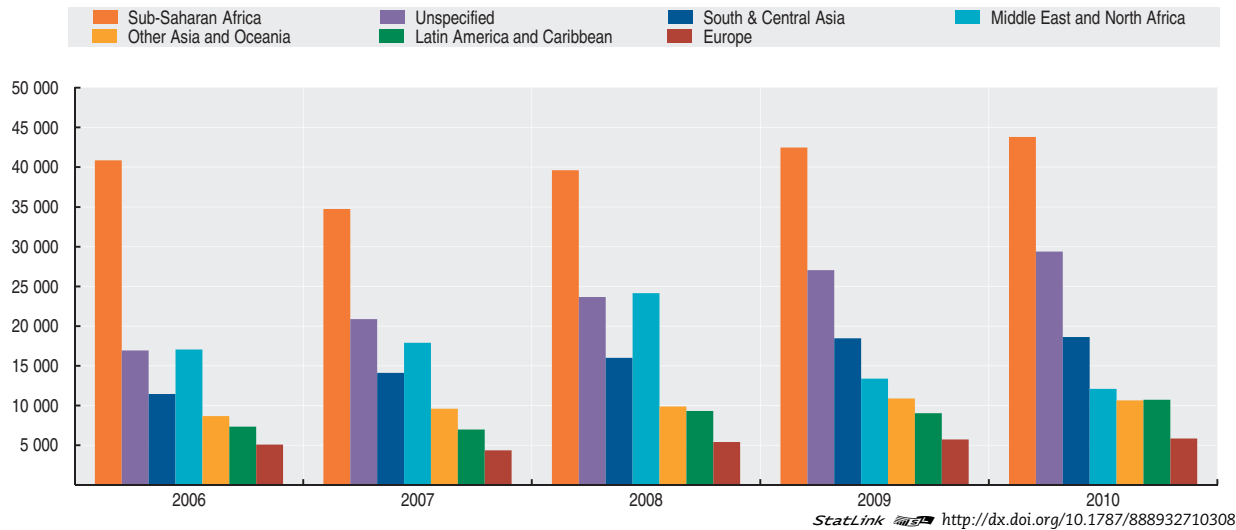
2011



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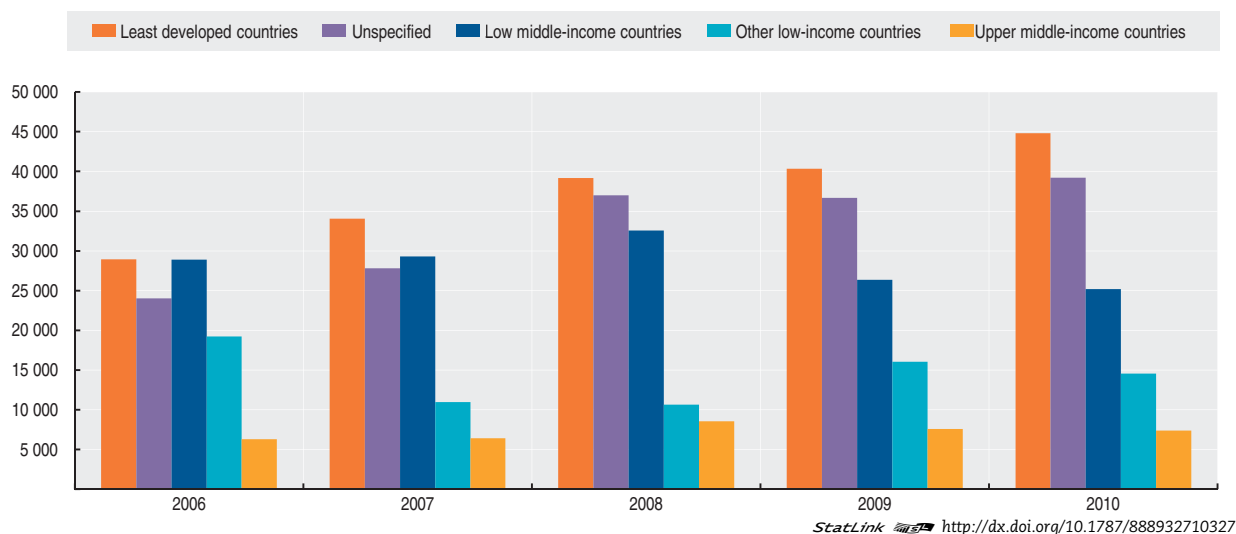
### Distribution of net ODA from all sources by region

Million US dollars



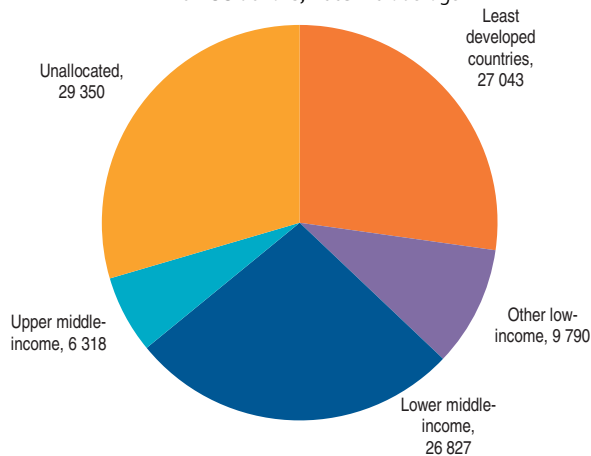
### Distribution of net ODA from all sources by income group

Million US dollars



### Distribution of gross bilateral ODA from DAC countries by income group

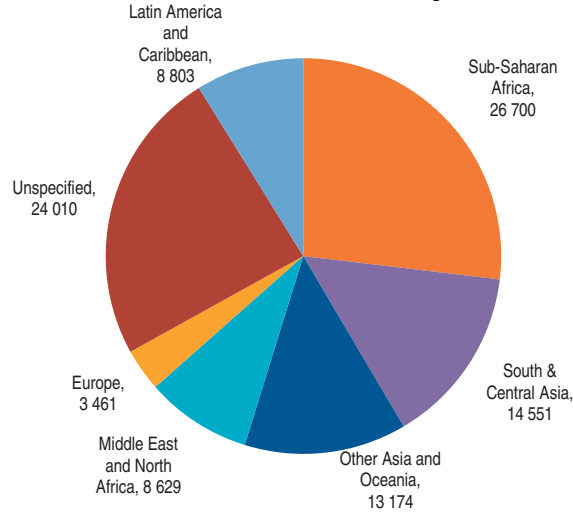
Million US dollars, 2009-10 average





**Distribution of gross bilateral ODA from DAC countries by region**

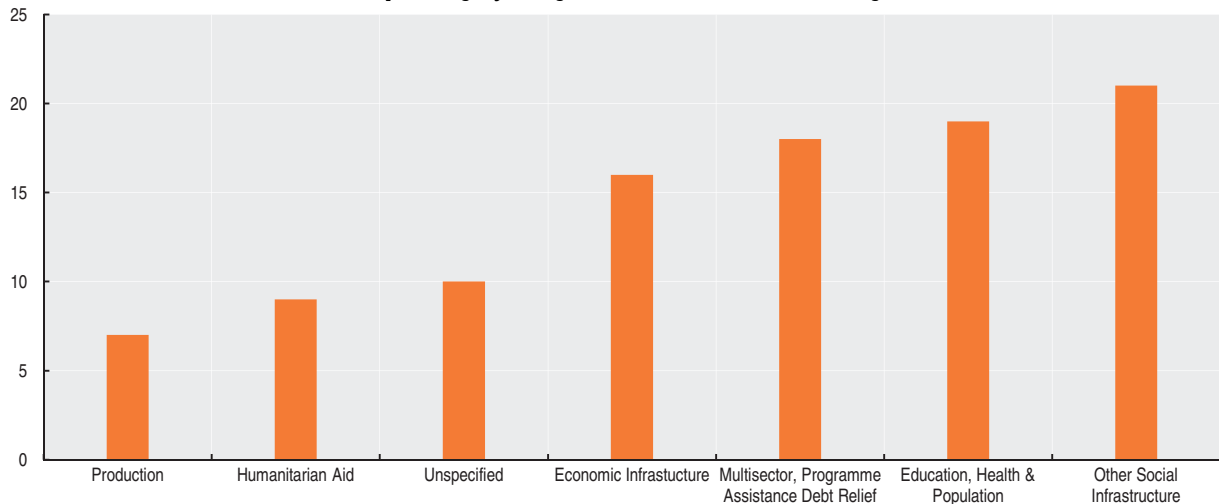
Million US dollars, 2009-10 average



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**Distribution of gross bilateral ODA from DAC countries by sector**

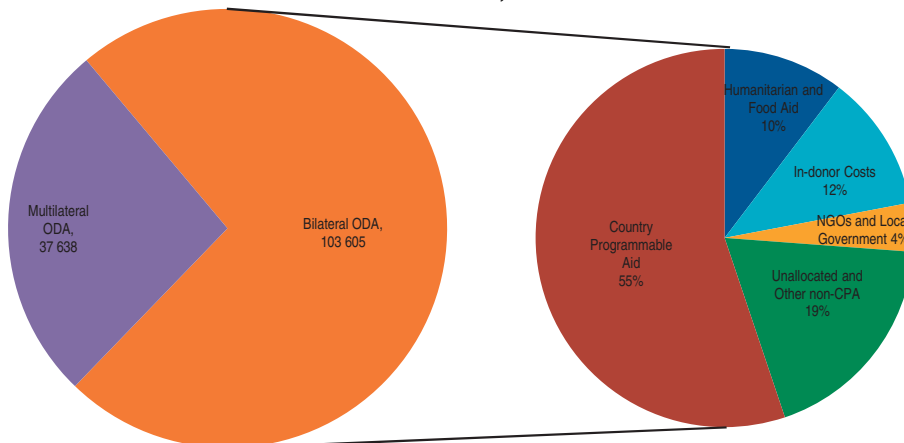
As a percentage of total gross bilateral ODA, 2009-10 average



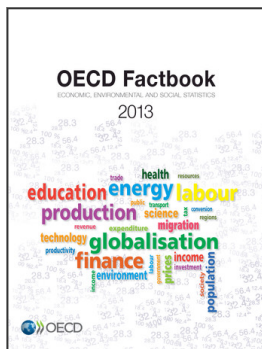
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**Composition of aid from DAC countries**

Million US dollars, 2010



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932710403>



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