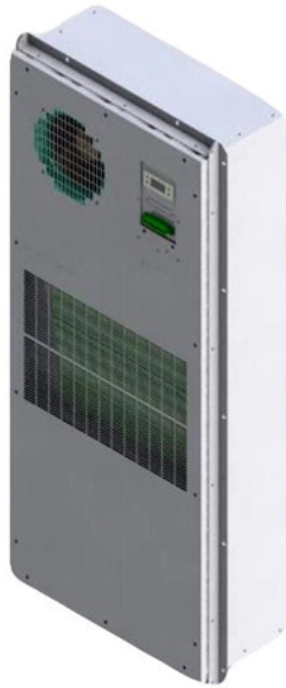


# Foreign-invested Internet Data Centers





## Overview

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In four pilot areas including Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen and Hainan, foreign investors can now wholly own internet data centers (IDC). A UN Trade and Development report shows data centres captured more than one fifth of global greenfield investment in 2025. Data centres emerged as a major force shaping global investment in 2025, according to preliminary data published in a report on 20 January by UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Data centre investment is increasingly being directed outside traditional markets, as soaring demand for the power-hungry digital infrastructure leads developers to build capacity in alternative locations with access to plentiful affordable electricity. Ever since China's DeepSeek artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot made headlines in January, the country's cloud computing and internet industries have been racing to develop AI for consumers and businesses, according to Goldman Sachs Research. Within product segments, turnkey hyperscale is preferred by 42%, followed by powered shell by 28%.



## Foreign-invested Internet Data Centers

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# Global Data Centres Report

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The global data centre industry stands at a pivotal crossroads - marked by both extraordinary momentum and mounting complexity. From my vantage point within this dynamic sector, it is clear

## Who's funding the AI data center boom? , McKinsey & Company

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Who's funding the AI data center boom? September 21, 2025 Millions of servers run 24/7 to power the AI boom in data centers across the globe, and demand isn't slowing down. McKinsey



## **Data centre boom: US, UK, China, EU, Australia,**

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The US, the birthplace of internet and apps, currently dominates this game (with 5,383 data centres), ahead of all other nations combined.

## **Data Centers: A Global Investment Opportunity**

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Discover the latest insights on data center investment opportunities with CBREIM. Learn about the evolving sector, risks, and strategies for success.

## **Global Data Center Trends 2023**

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A worldwide shortage of available power is inhibiting growth of the global data center market. Sourcing enough power is a top priority of data center



## **Breaking barriers: China's new IDC open-up**

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The demand for data centers is skyrocketing in the era of digital transformation, driven by the growth of cloud computing and AI technologies.

## **China's AI providers expected to invest \$70 billion in**

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Our analysts expect the top internet firms to invest more than \$70 billion next year. We spoke with Keung and Zhao about power demand from

## **fDi Intelligence - Your source for foreign direct**

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Data centre investment is increasingly being directed outside traditional markets, as soaring demand for the power-hungry digital infrastructure

## **Foreign Investment in U.S. Data Centers , Datacenters**

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Learn how foreign investors are reshaping U.S. data centers in 2025. Explore why global funds target mega campuses, land pipelines, and wholesale colocation

## **Investing in the rising data center economy**

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Investing in the rising data center economy Private investors have snapped up data centers in recent years, but plenty of other potential investment opportunities in the sector's value chain may be going



## Data centres are reshaping the global investment

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Data centres accounted for more than one fifth of global greenfield project values, making them among the largest recipients of new, from-scratch

## Trends in the Growth of Investment in US Data Centers

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However, foreign entities like the Dubai-based DAMAC Properties, which has invested \$20 billion in U.S. data centers, provide significant resources

## 2024: A Turning Point for Foreign Investment in China's Data Centre

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For years, a stringent regulatory environment had made foreign investment in China's data centre market rather challenging. However, in wake of a slew of new policies aimed

## Data Centers: The Hubs of Digital Infrastructure

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These centers tend to cluster in specific areas, which have limited supplies of power and space. However, as AI develops and other technologies rise to the fore, such as the internet of things,

## This is the state of play in the global data centre gold rush

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At the same time, data centre investment could be slowed by layers of bureaucracy - from burdensome licensing and permitting delays to stringent



## **Breaking barriers: China's new IDC open-up**

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In this alert, we summarize the Pilot Program for foreign investment in internet data centers and provide practical guidance for foreign investors to apply

## **Global Data Centres Report**

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thing we've seen before. Whether in the innovation hubs of North America, the connectivity hubs of Europe, or the fast-scaling digital economies of Asia-Pacific and the Middle East, data centres are

## **Advancing Cloud and Data Infrastructure Markets:**

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This chapter discusses the role and types of data centers and provides insights on market trends and the key enabling factors that affect data center investment



## **fDi Intelligence - Your source for foreign direct investment**

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More than a quarter of foreign data centre investments over the past two decades have been made by just five companies, including US tech giants Amazon, Alphabet and Microsoft,

## **2025 Global Data Center Investor Intentions Survey**

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Investor demand for data centers is surging, fueled by AI growth, rising capital allocations, and a shift toward high-risk, hyperscale strategies.

## **\$22bn invested in data centres so far in 2024 with the**

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In the first five months of 2024, \$22bn was invested globally in data centres. This follows a noteworthy year of activity, 2023 witnessed a significant \$36bn in global investment in data centres,

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