

For Immediate Release

FORTUNE MAGAZINE RELEASES ITS ANNUAL FORTUNE GLOBAL 500 LIST

The 2012 FORTUNE Global 500 Sets Record for Profits and Revenue; Royal Dutch Shell Knocks Wal-Mart From #1 Spot

(New York, July 9, 2012)—Today, FORTUNE magazine releases the FORTUNE Global 500 list, its annual ranking of the world's largest corporations ranked by revenue. U.S. companies made up the majority of this year's list with 132, followed by 73 Chinese companies and 68 from Japan. China overtook Japan in terms of the number of companies on the list, with a net gain of 12 from last year. The number of European companies on the list this year is down by double digits—there are a total of 161, which is 11 less than last year, a 6.4% decrease. On the presence of U.S. companies among the Global 500, FORTUNE editors write: "Although the U.S. still hosts the lion's share of Global 500 corporations, no country has lost more companies during the last decade. There are 132 U.S.-headquartered businesses on this year's list, down from 197 a decade ago."

FORTUNE editors report: "Despite financial turmoil in Europe and disasters in Japan, the world's largest corporations had record profits and revenues in 2011." FORTUNE Global 500 companies posted record revenues of \$29.5 trillion, up 13.2% over 2010. Total profits rose 7%, to \$1.6 trillion, roughly equal to the gross domestic product of India.

FORTUNE editors also write, "Corporations around the world continue to be adept at wringing productivity out of their workers. Total employment at the Global 500 grew by just 4.9%, to 60.7 million, but revenue per worker grew at almost twice that rate, climbing to \$463,212, up from \$428,970 in 2010."

Royal Dutch Shell regains the #1 spot this year, displacing Wal-Mart out of the top position that it had for two years. Eight of the top 10 companies on the list are in the energy business, followed by commercial banks as the second largest industry on the Global 500 and the auto industry in third place. Apple moved up 56 spots from last year, coming in at #55. Wal-Mart, Exxon Mobil, General Motors and Mitsubishi are the only other companies to ever top the Global 500.

See the full Global 500 here: fortune.com/global500

THE FORTUNE GLOBAL 500 TOP 10 LIST

Royal Dutch Shell (Netherlands)
Exxon Mobil (U.S.)
Wal-Mart Stores (U.S.)
BP (Britain)
Sinopec Group (China)
China National Petroleum (China)
State Grid (China)
Chevron (U.S.)

ConocoPhillips (U.S.)
Toyota Motor (Japan)

Trends from the FORTUNE Global 500 list:

-China: "One of the more remarkable shifts has been in the number of Chinese companies on the list. In 2002 there were 11 Chinese firms on the Global 500. This year 73 Chinese companies made our list."

-Japan: "The number of Japanese companies fell from 88 on the 2002 list to 68 today. But Tokyo hosts 48 Global 500 company headquarters—more than any other city. Despite the Fukushima disaster and two decades of slow growth, it's way too soon to count Japan out."

-Europe: "In Europe a festering bank crisis inflicted pain on consumers across the continent, drove a number of European companies off the Global 500, and put the future of European integration in doubt."

-Natural Resources: "Three billion new people will join the global middle class in the next two decades. The resulting consumption boom will drive natural-resource prices higher, opening space for companies that learn to use resources more efficiently."

-Technology: "Just a few years ago no one would have imagined a Global 500 list without telecom equipment titan Alcatel-Lucent or Research in Motion. Yet they've fallen off, while rivals Huawei (No. 351, up from No. 397 on the list in 2010) and Apple (No. 55, up 56 spots this year) march up the ranks."

More on the Global 500:

Full List - <http://cnnmon.ie/NgIM7P>

Most Profitable - <http://cnnmon.ie/McsmxT>

Arrivals and Exits - <http://cnnmon.ie/Nio62F>

Women CEOs Gallery - <http://cnnmon.ie/NC5CbY>

Interactive: A new perspective on the corporate world - <http://cnnmon.ie/MgdvnD>

#Global500

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