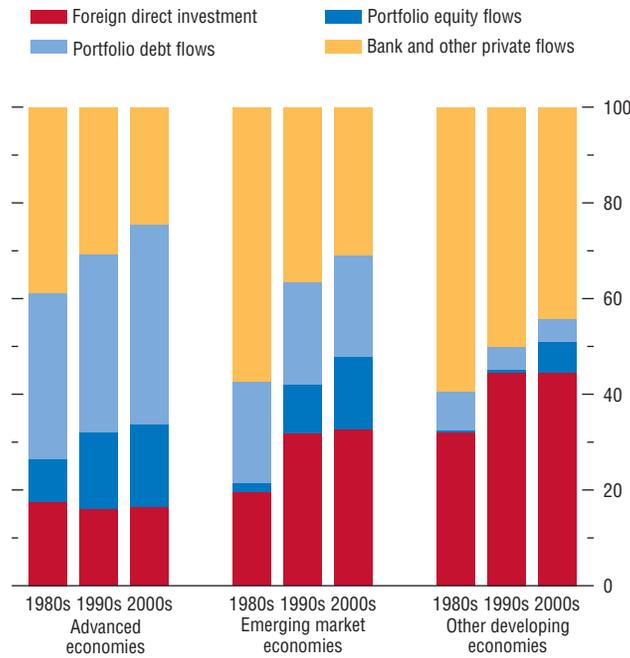


Figure 4.7. The Relative Importance of Various Types of Flow

(Percent of total)

The importance of bank and other private flows has declined over time and across advanced, emerging market, and other developing economies in favor of rising portfolio and foreign direct investment flows. Bank and other private flows, however, remain a substantial component of the net financial account.



Sources: IMF, *Balance of Payments Statistics*; national sources; and IMF staff calculations.

Note: The relative importance of a particular type of flow is calculated as the absolute value of the net flows of that type to the economies of the group divided by the sum of the absolute value of the net flows of all four types of instruments to the economies in the group. Ratios are calculated for each decade with annual data, computing both numerator and denominator over the years in each decade. Derivative flows, which comprise a very small share of the financial account, are excluded from the calculation. The group aggregates exclude offshore financial centers.