

The Advertiser

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HD Value of buyout deals tops \$100bn
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THE value of buyout deals in Australia jumped last year, topping \$100 **billion**, according to new research.

It came despite a slide in the number of deals, research house Dealogic says. A report by the group found the value of merger and **acquisition** activity was \$US90.3 **billion** (\$A101 **billion**) in the year to December – up 16 per cent from 2012.

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The number of deals fell from 1583 to 1366.

According to Dealogic's research, "inbound deals" – where a foreign **company** buys a business or major asset in Australia – accounted for a far smaller proportion of the tally in 2013.

The value of inbound deals tumbled 31 per cent to \$US31.6 **billion**. In 2012, inbound deals accounted for more than half the overall tally.

Dealogic's report says the utility and **energy** sector was the most active, with 11 deals worth \$US9 **billion**.

Chinese acquirers led the charge in the sector, accounting for three of the deals with a value of \$US7.5 **billion**. Buyout deals clocked in above \$US120 **billion** in both 2010 and 2011.

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