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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Contents; I. Introduction; II. Description of the Dataset; III. Trends in Foreign Banking; A. Aggregate Trends; B. Income Group and Regional Trends; C. Globalization and Regional Integration; IV. Importance of Foreign Banks, their Behavior and impact on Domestic Systems; A. Relative Importance of Foreign Banks; B. Differences in Balance Sheets and Performance between Foreign and Domestic Banks; C. Foreign Banks and Domestic Credit Creation; V. Foreign Banks and Financial Stability During the Global Financial Crisis; VI. The Future of Foreign Banking; VII. Conclusions; Table 1. Number of Banks by Host Country, Aggregates by Income Level and Region 2. Number of Foreign Banks by Home Country, Aggregates by Income Level and Region; 3. Number and Share of Foreign Banks from Home Regions; 4. Importance of Foreign Banks in Local Banking System (2007); 5. Differences in Balance Sheet between Foreign and Domestic Banks; 6. Private Credit and Foreign Banks; 7. The Global Financial Crisis and Credit Growth of Foreign and Domestic Banks; Figure; 1. Number and Share of Foreign Banks, 1995-2009; 2. Number of Entries and Exits of Foreign Banks 3. Relative Foreign Bank Presence across Host Countries, 1995-2009 4. Share of Foreign Banks in Investing in Own Regions, 1995-2009; 5. Relative Importance of Foreign Banks (2007); Appendix Table; 1. Percentage of Foreign Banks among Total Banks, by Country; 2. Percentage of Foreign Bank Assets among Total Bank Asset, by Country; References
Sommario/riassunto	This paper introduces a comprehensive database on bank ownership for 137 countries over 1995-2009, and reviews foreign bank behavior and impact. It documents substantial increases in foreign bank presence, with many more home and host countries. Current market shares of foreign banks average 20 percent in OECD countries and 50 percent elsewhere. Foreign banks have higher capital and more liquidity, but lower profitability than domestic banks do. Only in developing countries is foreign bank presence negatively related with domestic credit creation. During the global crisis foreign banks reduced credit more compared to domestic banks, except when they dominated the host banking systems.