Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) was established in 1989. The 21 Member Economies are Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Korea; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Peru; the Philippines; Russia; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; the United States; and Viet Nam.

The APEC Policy Support Unit (PSU) was established in 2008 as the policy research and analysis arm for APEC. It supports APEC members and fora in improving the quality of their deliberations and decisions and promoting policies that support the achievement of APEC’s goals by providing objective and high quality research, analytical capacity and policy support capability.

APEC in Charts was launched by the PSU in 2013 to provide a graphical overview of the APEC region’s economic, trade, investment and policy-related performance. If you have any feedback, please write to us at email: psugroup@apec.org.
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## Data Notes
In 2017, the APEC region was inhabited by 2.9 billion people, accounting for 38% of the world’s population. China accounted for 18% of the global population, followed by the United States and Indonesia at an estimated 4% each.

The total nominal GDP of the APEC region stood at USD 48 trillion in 2017, accounting for 60% of the global GDP. The combined GDP of the United States and China amounted to 66% of the region’s GDP and 39% of the world’s GDP.

In 2017, the APEC region contributed 47% to the global trade of goods and services. The United States; China; and Japan accounted for approximately one-fourth of global trade and contributed to more than half of the APEC region’s trade.
The GDP per capita of APEC economies ranged between USD 2,343 and USD 59,532 in 2017, with a regional average of USD 16,604. The wide variation saw Australia; Singapore; and the United States having a GDP per capita of more than USD 50,000 while Indonesia; Papua New Guinea; the Philippines; and Viet Nam had a GDP per capita of less than USD 5,000.
The APEC region outperformed the rest of the world (ROW) with regard to real GDP growth, registering 4.1% growth in 2017 compared to 3.4% for the ROW. All APEC economies experienced a positive real GDP growth in 2017. Moreover, five APEC economies, China; Indonesia; Malaysia; the Philippines; and Viet Nam, recorded real GDP growth of more than 5%. 

The image shows a bar chart comparing real GDP growth between APEC and the ROW for 2017. The chart indicates that APEC economies had higher growth rates than the ROW, with China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Viet Nam recording growth above 5%. The chart highlights the significant performance of the APEC region compared to the ROW.
Per capita GDP growth increased in 2017 after six years of decline. For industrialised APEC economies, the per capita GDP growth doubled between 2016 and 2017 from 0.8% to 1.6%. Developing APEC economies recorded 5.0% per capita GDP growth in 2017, up from 4.7% in 2016.
Inflation rates in 14 APEC economies increased between 2016 and 2017, but decreased in 7 economies during the same period. Almost all APEC economies experienced positive inflation in 2017, with Brunei Darussalam being the only economy experiencing deflation.
In 2017, APEC recorded an unemployment rate of 4.2%. There was a wide variation in unemployment rates across the region, with Thailand registering a 1.1% unemployment rate and Brunei Darussalam at 7.1%.
In 2017, APEC’s merchandise exports amounted to USD 8.8 trillion while imports totaled USD 8.9 trillion. Intra-APEC trade accounted for 69.4% of total APEC trade.
In 2017, the value of APEC merchandise trade recorded its fastest growth rates of the past six years. The value of APEC exports grew 10.5% in 2017 compared to the previous year, while the value of imports grew 11.4%. Intra-regional exports growth outpaced that for the rest of the world, while the opposite is true for imports in 2017.
Most economies in the region experienced positive export and import trade volume growth in 2017. Moreover, APEC’s trade volume growth in exports (6.0%) and in imports (6.6%) outperformed the world’s trade volume growth.
In 2017, APEC’s commercial services exports and imports recovered from previous years and reached USD 2.0 trillion and USD 2.1 trillion, respectively. The region’s commercial services exports grew 5.5% in 2017 while imports grew 5.9%.
China; Japan; and the United States accounted for almost half of intra-regional exports (48.7%), while China; Hong Kong, China; and the United States accounted for 51.8% of intra-regional imports.
In 2017, APEC’s top 10 exports (based on the Harmonized System 4-digit headings) accounted for 32.6% of the total value of APEC’s exports. The region’s largest export product in terms of value was electronic integrated circuits and microassemblies, with export earnings of USD 576.9 billion accounting for 6.5% of total exports.
In 2017, APEC's top 10 imports (based on the Harmonized System 4-digit headings) accounted for 34.3% of the total imports. The region's largest import product in terms of value was electronic integrated circuits and microassemblies, with an import spending of USD 683.2 billion accounting for 7.6% of total imports.
The top 10 most traded products within the APEC region accounted for 33.9% of all intra-regional trade in 2017. Electronic integrated circuits and microassemblies remained as the most traded product within the region with its trade share growing from 6.8% in 2016 to 9.6% in 2017.
Between 2007 and 2017, the share of duty free products with MFN applied tariffs increased from 40.1% to 47.9%. On the other hand, the share of products subject to MFN tariffs above 10% steadily declined from 18.0% in 2007 to 13.1% in 2017.
Free trade agreements (FTA) within the APEC region have increased from 8 agreements signed before 1990 to 175 agreements signed as of 2017. Intra-APEC agreements have also increased and accounted for 66 of the 175 agreements signed by APEC economies.
3.3 Share of Trade with FTA Partners (percent), 1997 – 2017

As of 2017, 49.4% of APEC’s export trade flows and 46.0% of its import trade flows were with FTA partners. This share has steadily increased over the past 20 years and has more than doubled since 1997.
In 2017, USD 815.1 billion in Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) flowed into APEC economies, a sharp decrease from USD 1 trillion recorded in 2016. However, APEC’s share of global FDI inflows increased from 55.0% in 2016 to 57.0% in 2017. Meanwhile, APEC’s FDI outflows increased to USD 936.9 billion in 2017, accounting for 65.5% of global FDI outflows.
In 2017, the 5 APEC economies with the largest FDI inflows accounted for 76.6% of total APEC inflows, while the top 5 economies with the largest FDI outflows accounted for 84.0% of total APEC outflows. The United States led both categories accounting for 33.8% and 36.5% of total APEC FDI inflows and outflows, respectively.
Greenfield investments are a type of FDI where the investing firm begins operations in the host economy from the ground up, rather than by merging with, acquiring, or buying shares in an existing firm. In 2017, greenfield investments in APEC amounted to USD 323.2 billion, or 39.6% of total FDI inflows. Three APEC economies – China; Mexico; and the United States – hosted more than half of greenfield investments received by the region in 2017.
There were about 1.7 billion internet users in the region in 2016, of which almost 1.2 billion were residing in developing APEC economies. In ten years, the share of the population with internet access has expanded in developing APEC economies from 14.2% in 2006 to 52.8% in 2016. Meanwhile, about 8 in 10 people in industrialised APEC economies had access to the internet in 2016.
The percentage of individuals who borrowed from a financial institution or used a credit card in the past year ranged between 10% (males in the Philippines and females in Mexico) and 83% (males and females in Canada). In ten APEC economies, male respondents were more likely to borrow from financial institutions than females, while the opposite was true in seven economies. Males and females in two APEC economies (Australia and Canada) were equally likely to have borrowed from a formal financial institution.
Being able to make or receive digital payments is a key enabler of e-commerce and internationalisation of MSMEs. In rural areas, the percentage of individuals who made or received digital payments ranged from 18% in the Philippines to 98% in Canada. On the other hand, in urban areas this range was from 30% in Viet Nam to 98% in Canada. Large differences (i.e., spread of 10 percentage points or more) in urban-rural use of digital payments were reported in Mexico; the Philippines; and Viet Nam.
Digital technologies can promote financial inclusion by enabling financial institutions to offer services to more people at lower cost. On average, 74% of adults (15 years old or older) in APEC economies have an account with a financial institution, of which 35% have used a mobile phone or the internet to access their accounts. There are wide variations in access to accounts and use of digital financial services across APEC economies.
Industrialised and Developing APEC Economies

Industrialised APEC Economies: Australia; Canada; Japan; New Zealand; and the United States.
Developing APEC Economies: Brunei Darussalam; Chile; China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Korea; Malaysia; Mexico; Papua New Guinea; Peru; the Philippines; Russia; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; and Viet Nam.

Abbreviations for APEC Member Economies
Australia (AUS); Brunei Darussalam (BD); Canada (CDA); Chile (CHL); China (PRC); Hong Kong, China (HKC); Indonesia (INA); Japan (JPN); Korea (ROK); Malaysia (MAS); Mexico (MEX); New Zealand (NZ); Papua New Guinea (PNG); Peru (PE); the Philippines (PHL); Russia (RUS); Singapore (SGP); Chinese Taipei (CT); Thailand (THA); the United States (USA); and Viet Nam (VN).

APEC in the Global Economy, 2017
Sources: World Bank, World Development Indicators; World Trade Organization - Time Series on International Trade; and Directorate General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (Chinese Taipei).

APEC Macroeconomic Indicators
1.1 GDP Per Capita (current USD), 2017
Sources: World Bank, World Development Indicators; and Directorate General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (Chinese Taipei).

1.2 Real GDP Growth (annual percent), 2017
Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook 2018.

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Sources: World Bank, World Development Indicators; International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook 2018; and Directorate General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (Chinese Taipei).

1.4 Consumer Price Inflation (percent), 2016 – 2017
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1.5 Unemployment Rate (percent), 2017
Note: The unemployment rate is the proportion of the labour force that is not employed.
Source: International Labor Organization.

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2.1 Value of APEC Merchandise Trade (USD trillion), 2000 – 2017
Sources: International Monetary Fund, Direction of Trade Statistics; and Ministry of Finance, Trade Statistics Database (Chinese Taipei).

2.2 Nominal Merchandise Trade Growth in APEC (annual percent change), 2001 – 2017
Sources: International Monetary Fund, Direction of Trade Statistics; and Ministry of Finance, Trade Statistics Database (Chinese Taipei).

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Sources: International Monetary Fund, Direction of Trade Statistics; and Ministry of Finance, Trade Statistics Database (Chinese Taipei).

2.6 Top 10 APEC Exports to the World by Value (percent share), 2017
Source: International Trade Centre, Trade Map.

2.7 Top 10 APEC Imports from the World by Value (percent share), 2017
Source: International Trade Centre, Trade Map.

2.8 Top 10 Most Traded Products within APEC by Value (percent share), 2017
Source: International Trade Centre, Trade Map.

APEC Trade Liberalization Indicators

3.1 MFN Applied Tariff Rates above 10% and Duty-free (percent share), 2007 – 2017

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Sources: Economy Sources; and World Trade Organization.

3.3 Share of Trade with FTA Partners (percent), 1997 – 2017
Sources: International Monetary Fund, Direction of Trade Statistics; Ministry of Finance, Trade Statistics Database (Chinese Taipei).

APEC Investment Indicators

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5.1 Digital Inclusion: Internet Users (million and percent of population), 2006 – 2016
Sources: International Telecommunication Union, ICT Statistics; and World Bank, World Development Indicators.

5.2 Access to Credit: Borrowing from a Financial Institution by Gender (percent), 2017
Note: The percentage of respondents who report borrowing any money from a bank or another type of financial institution, or using a credit card, in the past 12 months. Data for Brunei Darussalam and Papua New Guinea was unavailable.

5.3 Digital Economy: Making Digital Payments in Rural and Urban Areas (percent), 2017
Note: The percentage of respondents who report using mobile money, a debit or credit card, or a mobile phone to make a payment from an account, or report using the internet to pay bills or to buy something online, in the past 12 months. It also includes respondents who report paying bills, sending or receiving remittances, receiving payments for agricultural products, receiving government transfers, receiving wages, or receiving a public sector pension directly from or into a financial institution account or through a mobile money account in the past 12 months. Data for Brunei Darussalam and Papua New Guinea was unavailable. There was no rural data for Singapore and Hong Kong, China since official sources have reported no rural population.
Sources: World Bank, The Global Findex Database 2017; World Bank, World Development Indicators; Department of Household Registration (Chinese Taipei); and Council of Agriculture (Chinese Taipei).

5.4 Financial Inclusion: Having an Account and Using a Mobile Phone or the Internet to Access Financial Services (percent), 2017
Note: Individuals having a financial institution account is the percentage of respondents who report having an account (by themselves or together with someone else) at a bank or another type of financial institution. Individuals using a mobile phone or internet to access a financial institution account is the percentage of respondents who report using a mobile phone or the internet to make a payment, to make a purchase, or to send or receive money through their financial institution account in the past 12 months. Data for Brunei Darussalam and Papua New Guinea was unavailable.
StatsAPEC is APEC’s statistics portal with data dating back to APEC’s inception in 1989. It consists of the Key Indicators Database and the Bilateral Linkages Database. The Key Indicators Database includes over 120 GDP, trade, financial and socio-economic indicators, allowing for an analysis of trends across a number of topics. The Bilateral Linkages Database facilitates detailed analysis of trade and investment flows between APEC economies and within APEC. APEC aggregates are available for most indicators in StatsAPEC, making it easy to examine the region as a whole.

StatsAPEC is available at statistics.apec.org and is optimized for use on mobile devices.