



Major economic indicators of selected places in Asia-Pacific

Numbers & Figures

Research Office
Legislative Council Secretariat

ISSF06/17-18

1. Introduction

1.1 For broad comparison purpose, this short note summarizes some of the major macroeconomic indicators in seven selected places in Asia-Pacific which are deemed to have either broadly similar pace of development or closer economic ties with Hong Kong. In alphabetical order, these seven places are Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, the Mainland, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan.

1.2 Statistics on a total of 22 selected macroeconomic indicators in these seven selected places in 2017 are detailed in **Appendices I-III**. Here is a summary table showing the top three positions amongst the selected places in terms of their relative performance in a few key indicators (**Table**).

Table – Top three places amongst selected places in Asia-Pacific in 2017*

Selected key indicators	First	Second	Third
1) Per capita gross domestic product ("GDP") (US\$)	Singapore (57,774)	Australia (55,318)	Hong Kong (46,218)
2) GDP growth in real terms	The Mainland (+6.9%)	Hong Kong (+3.8%)	Singapore (+3.6%)
3) Relative size of merchandise trade (i.e. ratio of total trade to GDP)	Hong Kong (309.2%)	Singapore (216.2%)	Taiwan (100.7%)
4) Relative size of foreign currency reserves (i.e. ratio of foreign currency reserves to GDP)	Hong Kong (126.2%)	Singapore (83.6%)	Taiwan (77.1%)
5) Relative size of the stock market (i.e. ratio of stock market capitalization to GDP)	Hong Kong (1266.3%)	Singapore (235.2%)	Taiwan (182.6%)
6) Fiscal health (i.e. ratio of fiscal surplus to GDP)	Hong Kong (5.6%)	South Korea (1.4%)	Singapore (0.3%)
7) Economically active population (i.e. labour force participation rate)	Singapore (67.7%)	Australia (65.2%)	South Korea (63.2%)
8) Intensity of labour resources utilization (i.e. unemployment rate*)	Japan (2.8%)	Hong Kong and Singapore (3.1%)	

Note: (*) The ranking is in descending order, except that for unemployment rate which is in ascending order.

Gross domestic product and trade aggregates of seven selected places in Asia-Pacific in 2017

	Australia	Hong Kong	Japan	The Mainland	Singapore	South Korea	Taiwan
Gross Domestic Product ("GDP")							
1) GDP at current market prices (US\$ billion)	1,348.7	341.6	4,873.7	12,259.3	324.2	1,531.9	586.0
2) Per capita GDP at current market prices (US\$)	55,318	46,218	38,453	8,843	57,774	29,777	24,878
3) GDP growth in real terms	+2.1%	+3.8%	+1.7%	+6.9%	+3.6%	+3.1%	+2.9%
4) Trend growth of GDP over the past five years	+2.5%	+2.8%	+1.3%	+7.1%	+3.4%	+3.0%	+2.3%
5) Sectoral distribution of GDP*							
- Agriculture	2.6%	0.1%	1.2%	8.6%	0.03%	2.1%	1.8%
- Industry	24.9%	7.7%	29.5%	39.9%	25.29%	38.7%	35.5%
- Services	72.5%	92.2%	69.3%	51.6%	74.68%	59.2%	62.7%
Merchandise trade (US\$ billion)							
1) Total trade (i.e. total exports + total imports)	452.8 (33.6%)	1,056.3 (309.2%)	1,370.3 (28.1%)	4,119.3 (33.6%)	701.1 (216.2%)	1,052.2 (68.7%)	590.1 (100.7%)
2) Total exports	231.7 (17.2%)	497.3 (145.6%)	698.1 (14.3%)	2,272.5 (18.5%)	373.3 (115.1%)	573.7 (37.4%)	324.7 (55.4%)
3) Total imports	221.1 (16.4%)	559.0 (163.6%)	672.2 (13.8%)	1,846.8 (15.1%)	327.7 (101.1%)	478.5 (31.2%)	265.4 (45.3%)
4) Trade balance (i.e. total exports – total imports)	+10.6 (+0.8%)	-61.7 (-18.1%)	+25.9 (+0.5%)	+425.7 (+3.5%)	+45.6 (+14.1%)	+95.2 (+6.2%)	+59.2 (+10.1%)

Notes: Figures in parentheses represent the ratio of respective indicators to the size of GDP.

(*) 2016 figures.

Selected indicators on finance and public finance of seven selected places in Asia-Pacific in 2017

	Australia	Hong Kong	Japan	The Mainland	Singapore	South Korea	Taiwan
Finance and stock exchange (at end-2017)							
1) Exchange rate of local currency (per US\$)	AUS\$1.31	HK\$7.815	¥112.93	RMB6.59	S\$1.35	1,085.42 won	NT\$29.27
2) Foreign currency reserves (US\$ billion)	75.3 (5.6%)	431.3 (126.2%)	1,202.1 (24.7%)	3,139.9 (25.6%)	271.1 (83.6%)	389.3 (25.4%)	451.5 (77.1%)
3) Stock market capitalization (US\$ billion)	1,482.5 (109.9%)	4,326.1 (1266.3%)	6,250.7 (128.3%)	8,405.2 ⁽¹⁾ (68.6%)	762.7 (235.2%)	1,676.3 (109.4%)	1,070.0 (182.6%)
4) Stock market total turnover* (US\$ billion)	827.5 (61.4%)	2,766.2 (809.7%)	6,622.3 (135.9%)	16,720.3 ⁽¹⁾ (136.4%)	212.8 (65.6%)	1,939.6 (126.6%)	805.8 (137.5%)
Public finances (FY2017-2018 figures)⁽²⁾							
1) Government revenue (US\$ billion)	341.0 (25.3%)	79.5 (23.3%)	514.5 (10.6%)	2,557.7 (20.9%)	54.5 (16.8%)	381.2 (24.9%)	64.6 (11.0%)
2) Government expenditure (US\$ billion)	356.2 (26.4%)	60.4 (17.7%)	883.7 (18.1%)	3,013.7 (24.6%)	53.6 (16.5%)	360.0 (23.5%)	64.9 (11.1%)
3) Fiscal surplus (+) / deficit (-) as a percentage of GDP	-1.1%	+5.6% ⁽³⁾	-7.6%	-3.7%	+0.3%	+1.4%	-0.1%

Notes: Figures in parentheses represent the ratio of respective indicators to the size of GDP.

(*) Referring to the whole year of 2017.

(1) Including both Shenzhen and Shanghai stock markets.

(2) Calendar year figures for the Mainland and South Korea, and fiscal year figures for other economies.

(3) Fiscal surplus after repayment of Bonds and Notes.

Statistics on labour market and consumer prices of seven selected places in Asia-Pacific in 2017

	Australia	Hong Kong	Japan	The Mainland	Singapore [#]	South Korea	Taiwan
Labour market							
1) Labour force (million)	13.0	3.9	67.2	-	2.3	27.7	11.8
2) Labour force participation rate	65.2%	61.1%	60.5%	-	67.7%	63.2%	58.8%
3) Unemployment rate	5.6%	3.1%	2.8%	3.9%*	3.1%	3.7%	3.8%
4) Underemployment rate	8.6%	1.2%	-	-	3.0%	-	-
Consumer prices							
1) Year-on-year change in overall Consumer Price Index	+1.9%	+1.5%	+0.5%	+1.6%	+0.6%	+1.9%	+0.6%
2) Average annual change over the past five years	+1.9%	+3.1%	+0.9%	+1.9%	+0.6%	+1.2%	+0.7%

Notes: (#) Statistics on labour market include residents only.

(-) Not available.

(*) Including urban areas only.

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29 June 2018
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