



Size and Share in the Asia and the Pacific Region

The *Summary Results for the Lao People's Democratic Republic* table (Annex 1) presents purchasing power parities (PPPs), price level indexes (PLIs), estimated gross domestic product (GDP) values, and other expenditure aggregates for the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) from the 2021 International Comparison Program (ICP). The results are based on a comparison of 21 regional economies¹ of Asian Development Bank that participated in the 2021 ICP for Asia and the Pacific, with Hong Kong, China as the reference economy and Hong Kong dollar (HK\$) as the reference currency for spatial comparisons. Any reference to rankings of the Lao PDR in this discussion is out of the 21 participating economies.

Among the 21 participating economies in the region, the Lao PDR's nominal GDP of HK\$148.3 billion (column 8) is the 16th largest, which is 0.07% of the region's total nominal GDP (column 9). However, the Lao PDR's real GDP is estimated higher at HK\$358.3 billion (column 3), equivalent to a larger share at 0.11% of the region's total real GDP (column 4) but maintaining its 16th place. A higher expenditure level and larger share of the region in real than in nominal terms imply that the general price level in the Lao PDR is lower than that of the reference economy (Hong Kong, China) and the region's average price level. The Lao PDR ranks 16th in both real individual consumption expenditure by households (ICEH) (HK\$170.4 billion) and nominal ICEH (HK\$69.7 billion) (columns 3 and 8) and ranks 15th in both real gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) (HK\$128.2 billion) and nominal GFCF (HK\$67.4 billion) (columns 3 and 8).

Per Capita Expenditures

Accounting for the Lao PDR's population size of 7.34 million (the 15th most populous economy, or 0.19% of the region's population), the economy ranks 16th in both per capita real GDP of HK\$48,828 (column 5) and per capita nominal GDP of HK\$20,208 (column 10). The economy's per capita real ICEH (HK\$23,218) (column 5) is only 54% of the regional level, ranking 20th. Similarly, its per capita real GFCF of HK\$17,469 (column 5) is 66% of the regional level, ranking it 13th. The economy registers the lowest per capita real expenditures for the following components: oils and fats (HK\$18), clothing and footwear (HK\$255), health (HK\$1,904), and transport services (HK\$42) among the regional economies.

Purchasing Power Parities, Exchange Rates, and Price Levels

With the local currency of the kip (KN), the Lao PDR's PPP at the GDP level of KN516.29 = HK\$1 is only 41% of the exchange rate of KN1,247.48 = HK\$1. This results in a PLI of 41 (Hong Kong, China = 100) (column 14), and a PLI of 64 (Asia and the Pacific = 100) (column 15), making it the 14th highest PLI in the region. The PLI for ICEH is 74 (ranking 14th), and for GFCF is 72 (ranking 11th). The Lao PDR registered the lowest PLI of 21 for the education category.²

¹ Twenty-one economies participated in the 2021 ICP in Asia and the Pacific: Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; the People's Republic of China; Fiji; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; the Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Maldives; Mongolia; Nepal; Pakistan; the Philippines; Singapore; Sri Lanka; Taipei, China; Thailand; and Viet Nam.

² A PLI rank of 1 implies most expensive, while a rank of 21 implies least expensive among the group of 21 participating economies for the expenditure component under consideration.

Annex 1: Summary Results for the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2021

Expenditure Category	Purchasing Power Parities (HK\$ = 1.00)	Real Expenditure		Per Capita Real Expenditure			Nominal Expenditure		Per Capita Nominal Expenditure			Nominal Expenditure Shares, (%)	Price Level Indexes		Expenditure (billion LCU)
		(HK\$ billion)	Economy Shares to AP, (%)	HK\$	Index (HKG = 100)	Index (AP = 100)	(HK\$ billion)	Economy Shares to AP, (%)	HK\$	Index (HKG = 100)	Index (AP = 100)		(HKG = 100)	(AP = 100)	
Gross Domestic Product	516.29	358.3	0.11	48,828	13	60	148.3	0.07	20,208	5	38	100.00	41	64	184,982.07
Actual Individual Consumption by Households ^a	474.32	191.5	0.10	26,096	10	55	72.8	0.07	9,922	4	37	49.10	38	68	90,825.71
Food and nonalcoholic beverages	651.04	62.3	0.15	8,491	35	82	32.5	0.15	4,431	18	80	21.93	52	97	40,564.03
Food	645.45	56.0	0.14	7,637	34	75	29.0	0.14	3,951	17	74	19.55	52	98	36,169.64
Bread and cereals	764.32	14.4	0.19	1,960	76	103	8.8	0.21	1,201	46	110	5.94	61	107	10,991.77
Meat	633.75	14.7	0.21	2,007	26	112	7.5	0.17	1,020	13	89	5.05	51	80	9,335.17
Fish and seafood	499.60	11.2	0.28	1,523	37	150	4.5	0.23	610	15	124	3.02	40	83	5,581.60
Milk, cheese and eggs	706.01	3.3	0.06	444	42	33	1.8	0.07	251	24	39	1.24	57	117	2,299.65
Oils and fats	774.89	0.1	0.01	18	8	5	0.1	0.01	11	5	5	0.06	62	90	102.13
Fruit	503.71	2.4	0.05	333	16	28	1.0	0.05	135	6	25	0.67	40	91	1,231.95
Vegetables	643.29	5.8	0.09	789	44	48	3.0	0.11	407	23	59	2.01	52	123	3,722.14
Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	577.92	1.5	0.12	210	30	65	0.7	0.10	97	14	55	0.48	46	84	892.38
Food products n.e.c.	701.34	2.9	0.11	391	18	58	1.6	0.12	220	10	65	1.09	56	112	2,012.85
Nonalcoholic beverages	745.73	5.9	0.48	803	53	252	3.5	0.41	480	31	215	2.38	60	85	4,394.38
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics	492.28	18.7	0.54	2,552	159	283	7.4	0.28	1,007	63	150	4.98	39	53	9,218.03
Alcoholic beverages	1,045.93	7.6	1.36	1,030	129	717	6.3	0.95	864	109	502	4.28	84	70	7,908.00
Tobacco and narcotics	204.16	6.4	0.16	874	108	83	1.1	0.05	143	18	29	0.71	16	35	1,310.03
Clothing and footwear	677.54	1.9	0.03	255	2	18	1.0	0.02	138	1	12	0.68	54	65	1,266.62
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels ^a	322.17	36.5	0.09	4,975	11	47	9.4	0.06	1,285	3	31	6.36	26	67	11,761.35
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	645.80	8.2	0.17	1,118	8	88	4.2	0.12	579	4	61	2.86	52	69	5,295.75
Health ^a	197.40	14.0	0.06	1,904	7	30	2.2	0.02	301	1	13	1.49	16	44	2,758.00
Transportation	816.78	7.1	0.04	966	9	22	4.6	0.05	632	6	25	3.13	65	113	5,787.82
Purchase of vehicles	1,049.71	2.7	0.06	363	14	30	2.2	0.08	305	12	40	1.51	84	132	2,793.86
Transport services	937.23	0.3	0.01	42	1	4	0.2	0.01	31	1	5	0.15	75	146	285.41
Communication	528.33	2.7	0.06	365	4	33	1.1	0.04	155	2	20	0.76	42	63	1,414.95
Recreation and culture ^a	659.65	2.8	0.07	388	2	39	1.5	0.05	205	1	27	1.02	53	67	1,878.42
Education ^a	131.01	34.9	0.16	4,757	25	87	3.7	0.03	500	3	18	2.47	11	21	4,573.03
Restaurants and hotels	646.08	7.6	0.10	1,032	6	54	3.9	0.07	535	3	40	2.65	52	74	4,894.03
Miscellaneous goods and services ^a	622.34	17.7	0.09	2,409	4	49	8.8	0.06	1,202	2	32	5.95	50	67	11,000.76
Net purchases abroad	1,247.48	-7.7	-8.30	-1,047	n.a.	-4,384	-7.7	-8.30	-1,047	n.a.	-4,384	-5.18	100	100	-9,587.08
Individual Consumption Expenditure by Government	207.37	18.7	0.10	2,549	13	53	3.1	0.03	424	2	14	2.10	17	26	3,878.44
Collective Consumption Expenditure by Government	328.81	63.8	0.26	8,696	29	137	16.8	0.09	2,292	8	50	11.34	26	37	20,980.09
Gross Capital Formation	664.43	126.6	0.12	17,257	27	63	67.4	0.09	9,191	14	45	45.48	53	72	84,136.35
Gross fixed capital formation	656.39	128.2	0.12	17,469	27	66	67.4	0.09	9,192	14	47	45.48	53	72	84,137.37
Machinery and equipment	1,246.01	19.1	0.12	2,597	18	61	19.0	0.10	2,594	18	54	12.83	100	88	23,742.32
Construction	403.81	92.3	0.10	12,574	30	54	29.9	0.06	4,070	10	33	20.14	32	62	37,258.57
Other products	1,244.62	18.6	0.22	2,533	29	117	18.5	0.19	2,528	29	100	12.51	100	85	23,136.48
Changes in inventories	779.48	-0.0	-0.00	-0	0	-0	-0.0	-0.00	-0	0	-0	-0.00	62	75	-1.02
Acquisitions less disposals of valuables	1,247.48	-	-	-	n.a.	-	-	-	-	n.a.	-	-	100	100	-
Balance of Exports and Imports	1,247.48	-8.8	-0.19	-1,197	-6	-100	-8.8	-0.19	-1,197	-6	-100	-5.92	100	100	-10,960.09
Individual Consumption Expenditure by Households ^b	510.34	170.4	0.10	23,218	9	54	69.7	0.08	9,499	4	40	47.00	41	74	86,947.27
Individual Consumption Expenditure by Households without Housing ^b	555.53	140.6	0.10	19,163	9	54	62.6	0.08	8,534	4	41	42.23	45	75	78,117.04
Government Final Consumption Expenditure	283.34	87.7	0.20	11,956	24	106	19.9	0.07	2,716	6	36	13.44	23	34	24,858.53
Domestic Absorption	506.62	386.8	0.12	52,709	14	64	157.1	0.08	21,406	6	41	105.92	41	65	195,942.16
Total Consumption	449.13	248.9	0.12	33,925	11	63	89.6	0.07	12,214	4	39	60.44	36	62	111,805.81
Reference Data															
Exchange rate (LCU / HK\$)	1,247.48														
Total Population (in million)	7.34														
Population Share to AP (%)	0.19														

0 = magnitude is less than half of the unit employed; - = magnitude equals zero.

AP = Asia and the Pacific; HK\$ = Hong Kong dollar; HKG = Hong Kong, China; LCU = local currency units; n.a. = not applicable; n.e.c. = not elsewhere classified.

^a Includes individual consumption expenditure by households, nonprofit institutions serving households, and government.

^b Includes expenditure by nonprofit institutions serving households.

Notes:

1. Each real aggregate value is derived by using a purchasing power parity that is specific to that aggregate, so real aggregates may not sum up to the total of their real components for an economy.

2. Expenditure aggregates presented in local currency units are the best possible estimates provided by the participating economies, using most recent available data sources, and some of these aggregates may be different from the published expenditure estimates by the economies.

3. Data for mid-year population estimates and exchange rates were supplied by the participating economies for the International Comparison Program.

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.