

Summary Results of the 2021 International Comparison Program



Size and Share in the Asia and the Pacific Region

The *Summary Results for Malaysia* table (Annex 1) presents purchasing power parities (PPPs), price level indexes (PLIs), estimated gross domestic product (GDP) values, and other expenditure aggregates for Malaysia 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 Malaysia in this discussion is out of the 21 participating economies.

Home to 32.58 million people, Malaysia is the ninth most populous economy of the region, with a share of 0.84% of the region's total population. It also has the ninth-largest economy in the region, with a real gross domestic product (GDP) of HK\$6,004.3 billion (column 3), equivalent to 1.89% of the region's total real GDP (column 4). In nominal terms, Malaysia ranks a notch lower at 10th place, with a nominal GDP of HK\$2,906.2 billion (column 8), equivalent to a smaller share of 1.42% of the region's total nominal GDP (column 9). The lower GDP level and share of the region in nominal than in real terms imply that the general price level in Malaysia is lower than in Hong Kong, China and the region's average price level.

In terms of the structure of the economy, Malaysia's nominal share of individual consumption expenditure by households (ICEH)-to-GDP is 57.95% (column 13), ranking tenth highest in the region. Its nominal share of gross fixed capital formation (GFCF)-to-GDP is lower at 19.27%, the third lowest in the region behind Hong Kong, China and Pakistan. Malaysia's real ICEH of HK\$3,687.6 billion (column 3) ranks 10th in the region, contributing 2.21% of the total real ICEH (column 4). Additionally, it has the ninth largest share of real investment in the region, with a real GFCF of HK\$1,079.7 billion (column 3), which accounts for 1.05% of the regional total (column 4).

Per Capita Expenditures

Malaysia's per capita real GDP of HK\$184,316 (column 5)—125% higher than the regional level—ranks fifth in the region. The economy's per capita nominal GDP is HK\$89,211 (column 10), 69% higher than the regional level, and ranks sixth. Malaysia has the highest per capita real expenditures for the following components (with the corresponding per capita real index relative to the regional average of 100 in parentheses, as drawn from column 6): food and nonalcoholic beverages (275); food (269); oils and fats (332); sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery (559); and food products n.e.c. (460). Malaysia's per capita real ICEH of HK\$113,199 (column 5) is fourth in the region and is 163% higher than the regional level (column 7). On the other hand, it ranked sixth in per capita real GFCF of HK\$33,145 (column 5).

Purchasing Power Parities, Exchange Rates, and Price Levels

With the local currency of ringgit (RM), the economy's PPP at GDP level of RM0.26 = HK\$1 (column 2) being only 48% of the exchange rate of RM0.53 = HK\$1, implying that the overall price level in Malaysia is only 48% of (or 52% lower than) Hong Kong, China, and only 75% of (or 25% lower than) the region's average price level (columns 14 and 15). Though both PLIs of 48 (Hong Kong, China = 100) and 75 (Asia and the Pacific = 100) are lower than 100, these PLIs are the ninth highest in the region. The PLI for the ICEH of 83 ranks 10th, while the PLI for the GFCF of 71 (column 15) ranks 13th in the region. Malaysia's PLI of 47 for restaurants and hotels is the second lowest in the region, after Bhutan.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 Malaysia, 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	0.26	6,004.3	1.89	184,316	48	225	2,906.2	1.42	89,211	23	169	100.00	48	75	1,548.90
Actual Individual Consumption by Households ^a	0.24	4,179.7	2.27	128,303	47	270	1,889.6	1.83	58,004	21	217	65.02	45	81	1,007.08
Food and nonalcoholic beverages	0.26	929.6	2.31	28,535	118	275	454.3	2.10	13,946	58	250	15.63	49	91	242.14
Food	0.26	885.6	2.26	27,187	120	269	429.8	2.07	13,194	58	247	14.79	49	92	229.07
Bread and cereals	0.29	133.4	1.80	4,096	158	215	72.2	1.70	2,217	86	202	2.49	54	94	38.49
Meat	0.23	137.1	1.97	4,207	54	234	58.0	1.31	1,782	23	156	2.00	42	67	30.94
Fish and seafood	0.23	157.7	4.00	4,842	117	476	67.5	3.53	2,071	50	420	2.32	43	88	35.96
Milk, cheese and eggs	0.28	89.6	1.72	2,749	258	204	46.8	1.85	1,437	135	221	1.61	52	108	24.94
Oils and fats	0.34	37.5	2.79	1,151	544	332	23.9	2.57	735	347	306	0.82	64	92	12.76
Fruit	0.24	109.5	2.36	3,362	158	281	49.8	2.43	1,529	72	289	1.71	45	103	26.54
Vegetables	0.31	84.0	1.33	2,580	146	158	48.4	1.83	1,487	84	217	1.67	58	137	25.81
Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	0.20	58.7	4.70	1,803	261	559	22.0	3.20	675	98	380	0.76	37	68	11.72
Food products n.e.c.	0.22	100.9	3.87	3,097	139	460	41.1	3.14	1,262	57	373	1.41	41	81	21.90
Nonalcoholic beverages	0.29	45.1	3.66	1,385	91	435	24.5	2.83	753	49	336	0.84	54	77	13.07
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics	0.47	36.0	1.03	1,105	69	123	31.6	1.22	970	60	145	1.09	88	118	16.83
Alcoholic beverages	0.81	9.2	1.65	283	36	197	14.1	2.11	432	54	251	0.48	153	127	7.49
Tobacco and narcotics	0.29	32.2	0.79	989	122	94	17.5	0.91	538	66	108	0.60	54	115	9.34
Clothing and footwear	0.32	85.1	1.52	2,612	23	181	50.3	1.09	1,545	14	129	1.73	59	71	26.82
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels ^a	0.14	1,109.2	2.69	34,048	75	320	281.2	1.77	8,633	19	210	9.68	25	66	149.90
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	0.29	147.2	2.98	4,517	32	354	81.2	2.20	2,492	18	262	2.79	55	74	43.27
Health ^a	0.17	356.3	1.44	10,939	40	171	113.7	1.27	3,491	13	151	3.91	32	89	60.61
Transportation	0.26	341.7	2.02	10,488	92	241	168.3	1.72	5,165	46	205	5.79	49	85	89.68
Purchase of vehicles	0.37	56.1	1.20	1,722	65	143	38.9	1.31	1,195	45	156	1.34	69	109	20.75
Transport services	0.26	10.9	0.24	335	8	28	5.3	0.22	161	4	27	0.18	48	94	2.80
Communication	0.46	189.1	4.38	5,806	67	521	164.5	5.62	5,050	58	669	5.66	87	128	87.67
Recreation and culture ^a	0.36	80.8	2.12	2,482	11	252	55.3	1.85	1,699	7	220	1.90	68	87	29.50
Education ^a	0.26	294.5	1.39	9,040	48	165	143.3	1.34	4,398	23	159	4.93	49	96	76.36
Restaurants and hotels	0.18	396.6	5.32	12,176	68	633	130.4	2.49	4,004	22	296	4.49	33	47	69.52
Miscellaneous goods and services ^a	0.28	355.4	1.86	10,910	16	221	187.6	1.31	5,758	9	156	6.45	53	71	99.96
Net purchases abroad	0.53	27.8	30.05	854	n.a.	3,575	27.8	30.05	854	n.a.	3,575	0.96	100	100	14.83
Individual Consumption Expenditure by Government	0.22	500.0	2.68	15,348	79	319	205.5	1.76	6,307	32	209	7.07	41	66	109.51
Collective Consumption Expenditure by Government	0.25	344.2	1.39	10,565	36	166	164.0	0.92	5,036	17	110	5.64	48	66	87.43
Gross Capital Formation	0.28	1,218.5	1.14	37,404	58	136	642.5	0.82	19,722	30	97	22.11	53	71	342.41
Gross fixed capital formation	0.28	1,079.7	1.05	33,145	51	124	560.0	0.74	17,189	26	88	19.27	52	71	298.44
Machinery and equipment	0.53	174.6	1.06	5,359	36	126	175.0	0.93	5,371	37	111	6.02	100	88	93.26
Construction	0.17	930.6	1.02	28,567	68	122	292.2	0.62	8,970	21	74	10.05	31	60	155.74
Other products	0.54	92.0	1.10	2,824	33	130	92.8	0.94	2,847	33	112	3.19	101	86	49.44
Changes in inventories	0.34	127.1	4.36	3,902	-1,515	518	81.2	3.33	2,494	-968	396	2.80	64	76	43.30
Acquisitions less disposals of valuables	0.53	1.3	0.26	39	n.a.	32	1.3	0.26	39	n.a.	32	0.04	100	100	0.67
Balance of Exports and Imports	0.53	210.1	4.53	6,449	30	539	210.1	4.53	6,449	30	539	7.23	100	100	111.97
Individual Consumption Expenditure by Households ^b	0.24	3,687.6	2.21	113,199	45	263	1,684.1	1.84	51,697	21	218	57.95	46	83	897.57
Individual Consumption Expenditure by Households without Housing ^b	0.27	3,020.5	2.19	92,721	43	261	1,540.8	1.89	47,298	22	225	53.02	51	86	821.19
Government Final Consumption Expenditure	0.24	828.7	1.90	25,439	52	226	369.5	1.25	11,343	23	149	12.71	45	66	196.94
Domestic Absorption	0.25	5,741.1	1.80	176,235	48	214	2,696.1	1.35	82,762	23	160	92.77	47	75	1,436.92
Total Consumption	0.24	4,524.2	2.17	138,881	46	259	2,053.6	1.69	63,040	21	202	70.66	45	78	1,094.51
Reference Data															
Exchange rate (LCU / HK\$)	0.53														
Total Population (in million)	32.58														
Population Share to AP (%)	0.84														

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.