

Southeast Asia's Economic Flux: FDI Surges, EVs Accelerate, and Digital Dom

Southeast Asia Economics · Answer Key · 16 Questions

1. In 2024, what was the approximate total inflow of foreign direct investment (FDI) into ASEAN countries, and how did this compare to global FDI trends?

- A) FDI inflows were \$215 billion, showing a slight global increase.
- B) FDI inflows were \$226 billion, an 8% increase despite an 11% global decline.**
- C) FDI inflows were \$230 billion, matching the global average growth.
- D) FDI inflows were \$200 billion, a 5% decrease globally and regionally.

2. Which Southeast Asian nation is projected to have the largest digital economy by 2025, and what is its estimated value?

- A) Vietnam, estimated at \$75 billion.
- B) Indonesia, estimated at nearly \$100 billion.**
- C) Malaysia, estimated at \$80 billion.
- D) Singapore, estimated at \$95 billion.

3. In Malaysia's electric vehicle (EV) market in 2024, what was the approximate year-on-year surge in unit sales, and which brands emerged as the top three?

- A) A 60% surge, led by Tesla, BMW, and BYD.
- B) A 79% surge, led by BYD, Tesla, and BMW.**
- C) A 50% surge, led by Perodua, Proton, and Tesla.
- D) A 90% surge, led by BMW, BYD, and Mercedes-Benz.

4. As of 2024, the Philippines' semiconductor industry accounted for what percentage of its total exports, making it the sector's largest export driver?

- A) Approximately 40%
- B) Approximately 50%
- C) Approximately 70%**
- D) Approximately 30%

5. In 2024, Thailand's tourism sector saw a significant rebound with approximately how many foreign arrivals, and what percentage of pre-pandemic levels did this represent?

- A) 25 million arrivals, representing 60% of pre-pandemic levels.
- B) 30 million arrivals, representing 75% of pre-pandemic levels.
- C) 35.5 million arrivals, representing 90% of pre-pandemic levels.**
- D) 32 million arrivals, representing 80% of pre-pandemic levels.

6. According to the SEA e-Conomy 2025 report, by 2025, what is the projected Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) for Indonesia's e-commerce sector?

- A) US\$65 billion
- B) US\$71 billion**
- C) US\$59 billion
- D) US\$75 billion

7. Which of the following regulatory developments occurred in Singapore's fintech sector around April 2024, as announced by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS)?

- A) Introduction of a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) for retail use.
- B) Expansion of the scope of payment services regulated under the Payment Services Act (PSA).**
- C) Relaxation of Anti-Money Laundering (AML) regulations for cryptocurrency exchanges.
- D) Establishment of a new regulatory sandbox for Artificial Intelligence (AI) in finance.

8. In 2024, Vietnam's electronics and electrical equipment sector contributed what percentage to its total exports, and what was its approximate value?

- A) Over 25%, equivalent to US\$60 billion.
- B) Over 30%, equivalent to US\$72.6 billion.**
- C) Over 35%, equivalent to US\$80 billion.
- D) Over 20%, equivalent to US\$55 billion.

9. Regarding supply chain resilience, which Southeast Asian countries are mentioned as leading manufacturing and trade flow shifts away from China, according to a McKinsey report?

- A) Singapore and Malaysia
- B) Thailand and Vietnam
- C) Indonesia and Vietnam**
- D) Malaysia and Indonesia

10. What was the projected GDP growth rate for Southeast Asia in 2025, according to the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office?

- A) 4.5 percent
- B) 4.2 percent**
- C) 3.9 percent
- D) 5.1 percent

11. In Singapore's fintech landscape as of October 2024, what initiative did the MAS announce to further strengthen its position as a global FinTech hub?

- A) The launch of a new cryptocurrency exchange regulation framework.
- B) The establishment of the Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN).**
- C) The introduction of mandatory AI-driven cybersecurity for all financial institutions.
- D) The rollout of a nationwide digital identity system for financial transactions.

12. Which of the following countries experienced the highest inflation rate in Southeast Asia in 2024, according to TheGlobalEconomy.com?

- A) Indonesia (8.5%)
- B) Laos (23.1%)**
- C) Philippines (5.2%)
- D) Myanmar (15.8%)

13. By the end of 2025, Malaysia's EV adoption rate was approximately what percentage of the total industry volume, and how did it compare to regional peers like Indonesia and Thailand?

- A) 15%, lagging behind Indonesia (5%) and Thailand (20%).
- B) 5%, lagging behind Indonesia (15%) and Thailand (20%).**
- C) 10%, ahead of Indonesia (8%) and Thailand (18%).
- D) 8%, comparable to Indonesia (9%) and Thailand (15%).

14. In 2024, semiconductor exports from the Philippines accounted for what proportion of its total electronic product exports?

- A) Approximately 50%
- B) Approximately 67%
- C) Approximately 75%**
- D) Approximately 60%

15. According to the Asian Development Bank's September 2024 Outlook, what was the projected GDP growth rate for Southeast Asia in 2024?

- A) 4.7 percent
- B) 4.5 percent**
- C) 5.0 percent
- D) 3.9 percent

16. Which of the following is a primary driver for the projected growth in Indonesia's digital economy, as highlighted by reports in 2025?

- A) Decreasing internet penetration and smartphone usage.
- B) A decline in e-commerce transactions due to high VAT.
- C) The accelerating integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI).**
- D) Reduced adoption of digital financial services.