

Asia's Economic Crossroads: Market Shifts, Tech Dominance, and Growth Pu

Asian Economics · Answer Key · 16 Questions

1. According to the Asian Development Bank (ADB) April 2024 outlook, what was the projected average economic growth rate for developing economies in Asia and the Pacific for 2024?

- A) 4.9%**
- B) 5.0%
- C) 4.8%
- D) 5.2%

2. In 2024, Singapore's fintech sector saw a significant increase in investment in which specific area, reaching US\$267 million?

- A) RegTech solutions
- B) Blockchain and crypto investments**
- C) Digital payment systems
- D) InsurTech innovations

3. Which country is identified as a major growth engine for Asia and the Pacific in the ADB's April 2024 outlook, with projected expansions of 7.0% in 2024 and 7.2% in 2025?

- A) China
- B) Indonesia
- C) India**
- D) Vietnam

4. What was the primary driver behind South Korea's record-breaking chip export performance in 2024, with a 43.9% year-on-year surge?

- A) Increased demand for consumer electronics
- B) Growth in artificial intelligence and data center infrastructure**
- C) A rebound in automotive chip sales
- D) Government subsidies for export promotion

5. According to the World Bank's October 2024 report, what was the projected growth rate for East Asia and the Pacific in 2024, with a subsequent slowdown anticipated for 2025?

- A) 4.8% in 2024, slowing to 4.4% in 2025**
- B) 5.0% in 2024, slowing to 4.7% in 2025
- C) 4.6% in 2024, slowing to 4.3% in 2025
- D) 4.4% in 2024, slowing to 4.0% in 2025

6. Taiwan's semiconductor industry, a critical linchpin in global supply chains, produced what approximate percentage of the world's semiconductors in 2024?

- A) Over 90%
- B) Approximately 60%**
- C) Over 70%
- D) Around 50%

7. Kazakhstan is prioritizing economic diversification. In 2024, how many investment projects were launched with a focus on the manufacturing sector, totaling nearly 1.3 trillion tenge?

- A) 180
- B) 164**
- C) 760
- D) 130

8. Which of the following factors is identified as a key driver for the projected growth of ASEAN economies in 2024, according to the ASEAN Secretariat's economic analysis?

- A) A significant decline in commodity prices
- B) A resurgence in semiconductor and electronics demand**
- C) Reduced foreign direct investment
- D) Increased reliance on tourism from a single market

9. China's real estate sector, a significant contributor to its GDP, is facing a crisis. Which of the following developers is highlighted as a major player that faced a liquidity crunch with a staggering debt of \$205 billion?

- A) Vanke
- B) Evergrande
- C) Country Garden**
- D) Poly Developments

10. In 2024, Thailand's tourism industry saw a strong rebound. Which country regained its position as the top source of visitors for Thailand, contributing 6.7 million visitors?

- A) India
- B) Malaysia
- C) South Korea
- D) China**

11. The IMF's November 2024 Regional Economic Outlook for Asia and the Pacific projected a regional growth rate for 2024. What was this revised projection, up from the April forecast?

- A) 4.6 percent
- B) 4.5 percent
- C) 4.8 percent
- D) 4.4 percent

12. In 2024, South Korea's total semiconductor exports reached a significant value, making semiconductors the country's largest export item. What was this value?

- A) \$141.9 billion
- B) \$677.2 billion
- C) \$133 billion
- D) \$127.8 billion

13. According to the ADB's April 2024 report, what was the forecast for inflation in developing Asia and the Pacific for 2024, indicating a moderation after higher food prices?

- A) 3.2 percent
- B) 3.0 percent
- C) 2.9 percent
- D) 3.5 percent

14. Singapore's fintech ecosystem attracted US\$1.3 billion in investments in 2024. What broader global trend did this investment level reflect?

- A) A surge in venture capital funding
- B) The lowest level since 2020, mirroring a global fintech funding drop
- C) Record-breaking investment in AI-driven fintech
- D) Increased investment in blockchain-based solutions

15. What is the projected GDP growth rate for the People's Republic of China in 2024, according to the ADB's April 2024 outlook?

- A) 4.5%
- B) 5.2%
- C) 4.8%
- D) 4.9%

16. Taiwan's role in the global semiconductor supply chain is indispensable. By what approximate percentage did TSMC's global market share in dedicated contract chipmaking rise in 2024?

A) From 50% to 54%

B) From 60% to 64%

C) From 64% to 68%

D) From 55% to 60%