

Nvidia's AI Dominance, SEC Crypto Crackdown, and 'Barbenheimer' Economic Impact

US Finance · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. In 2024, Nvidia experienced a record-breaking year driven by AI chip demand. What percentage of the GPU market, essential for AI applications, did Nvidia hold during this period, signifying its dominance?

- A) Approximately 75%
- B) Approximately 90%**
- C) Approximately 60%
- D) Approximately 50%

2. The SEC significantly increased its penalties against crypto companies in 2024. Approximately how much in penalties did the SEC impose on crypto companies in fiscal year 2024, a figure that was larger than the cumulative fines of the previous 12 years?

- A) \$3.5 billion
- B) \$8.2 billion**
- C) \$5.1 billion
- D) \$10.3 billion

3. Taylor Swift's Eras Tour generated substantial economic activity. According to Bloomberg Economics, what was the estimated contribution of the Eras Tour to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the United States?

- A) Approximately \$2.1 billion
- B) Approximately \$4.3 billion**
- C) Approximately \$3.0 billion
- D) Approximately \$5.7 billion

4. The 'Barbenheimer' phenomenon, referring to the simultaneous release of 'Barbie' and 'Oppenheimer', had a notable economic impact. During the week ending July 22, 2023, what was the percentage increase in entertainment spending among Bank of America cardholders compared to the previous year?

- A) 13.2%**
- B) 10.5%
- C) 15.8%
- D) 9.1%

5. In fiscal year 2024, the SEC brought 431 stand-alone actions, a 14% decline from the prior year. Which two categories of cases saw significant increases in the number of actions?

- A) Insider Trading and Market Manipulation
- B) Cryptocurrency and AI-related Scams
- C) Investment Advisers/Companies and Public Finance Abuse**
- D) Securities Offering and Issuer Reporting

6. Nvidia's stock performance in 2024 was extraordinary. As of December 26, 2024, by what percentage had Nvidia's stock surged year-to-date, significantly outpacing the S&P 500's gain?

- A) Approximately 150%
- B) Approximately 182%**
- C) Approximately 205%
- D) Approximately 120%

7. The US experienced an increase in its national debt. As of September 30, 2024, the federal debt reached approximately what total amount?

- A) \$32.0 trillion
- B) \$35.5 trillion**
- C) \$33.8 trillion
- D) \$37.1 trillion

8. Regarding the impact of AI on the US job market, what percentage of current US jobs could be automated by 2030, according to projections?

- A) Approximately 15%
- B) Approximately 20%
- C) Approximately 30%**
- D) Approximately 35%

9. In fiscal year 2024, the SEC secured a landmark victory in its first-ever crypto-related trial, SEC v. Terraform Labs. Following a jury verdict, Terraform Labs and its founder agreed to pay what total amount in disgorgement, prejudgment interest, and civil penalties, the highest ever obtained by the SEC after a trial?

- A) \$200 million
- B) \$1.5 billion
- C) \$4.5 billion**
- D) \$6.1 billion

10. The Conference Board reported a significant drop in US consumer confidence in September 2024. What was the reading of the Consumer Confidence Index for that month?

A) 105.6

B) 98.7

C) 101.2

D) 95.5

11. The US tech IPO market saw a resurgence in 2024. Which of the following companies, known for its AI and cloud infrastructure, was among the most prominent tech IPOs in the first half of the year with an opening share price of \$36?

A) Reddit

B) Tempus AI

C) Astera Labs

D) ServiceTitan

12. In 2024, the SEC charged three companies and nine individuals for alleged market manipulation of crypto assets. What was the primary objective of these alleged schemes?

A) To increase liquidity and reduce volatility

B) To create a false appearance of active trading and induce investor purchases

C) To facilitate legitimate market making for institutional investors

D) To comply with new regulatory requirements for crypto asset exchanges