

Advancing Free Trade for Asia-Pacific **Prosperity**



Policy Support Unit

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) was established in 1989. The 21 member economies are Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Korea; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Peru; the Philippines; Russia; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; the United States; and Viet Nam.

APEC Policy Support Unit (PSU) was set up in 2008 as the policy research and analysis arm for APEC. It supports APEC members and fora in improving the quality of their deliberations and decisions and promoting policies that support the achievement of APEC's goals by providing objective and high-quality research, analytical capacity, and policy support capability.

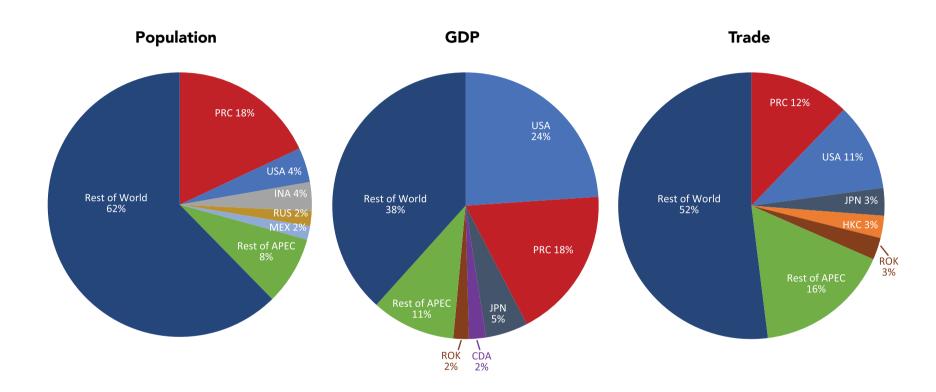
APEC in Charts was launched by the PSU in 2013 to provide a graphical overview of the APEC region's economic, trade, investment, and policy-related performance. If you have any feedback, please write to us at email: psugroup@apec.org.

Table of Contents

APEC in the Global Economy, 2021	2
APEC Macroeconomic Indicators	
1.1 GDP per Capita (constant 2015 USD), 2020–2021	3
1.2 Real GDP Growth (annual percent), 2020–2021	4
1.3 Real GDP per Capita Growth Rates (annual percent), 2010–2021	5
1.4 Consumer Price Inflation (percent), 2021–H1 2022	6
1.5 Unemployment Rate (percent), 2020–2021	7
APEC Trade and Investment	
2.1 Merchandise Trade Value in APEC (USD trillion) and Share of the World (percent), 2010–2021	8
2.2 Commercial Services Trade Value in APEC (USD trillion) and Share of the World (percent), 2010–2021	9
2.3 MFN Applied Tariff Rates above 10% and Duty-free (percent share), 2010–2021	10
2.4 Free Trade Agreements in APEC (cumulative number), pre-1990–July 2022	11
2.5 FDI Inflows and Outflows in APEC (USD billion) and Share of the World (percent), 2010–2021	12
APEC Innovation and Digitalisation	
3.1 Patent Applications in APEC (number of applications), 2010–2020	13
3.2 Trade in Information and Communication Technology Goods in APEC (value in USD billion, growth rates in percent), 2010–2020	14
3.3 Internet Users in APEC Economies (percent of total population), 2020	15
3.4 Internet Broadband Speed in APEC Economies (median megabits per second), May 2022	16
3.5 Cost of Broadband Access in APEC (in PPP international USD and as a	17

A	APEC Strong, Balanced, Secure, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth	
4.1	APEC Population with at Least Some Secondary Education (percent of population ages 25+), 1990–2021	18
4.2	Carbon Dioxide Emissions in APEC (gigatons and percent share of global emissions), 2010–2020	19
4.3	Stock-to-use Ratio of Staple Grains (Corn, Rice, Wheat) and Prevalence of Undernourishment (percent of population) in APEC, 2010–2022	20
4.4	Labour Force Participation Rate by Gender in APEC (percent of	
	population ages 15+), 1990–2021	21
4.5	Income Inequality in APEC Economies, 2021	
Ā	APEC 2022 Priorities	22
5.1	Share of Renewables in Electricity Production in APEC (percent of total electricity production), 2010–2021	23
5.2	APEC Residents Making or Receiving Digital Payments in the Past Year (percent of population ages 15+), 2014–2021	24
5.3	Number of Tourist Arrivals and Share of Tourism in Total Exports in APEC, 2010–2021	25
5.4	Daily Reported COVID-19 Cases and Deaths in APEC (log scale), 1 January 2020–15 October 2022	26
5.5	COVID-19 Vaccination Status in APEC, October 2022	27
[Data Notes	28

APEC in the Global Economy, 2021

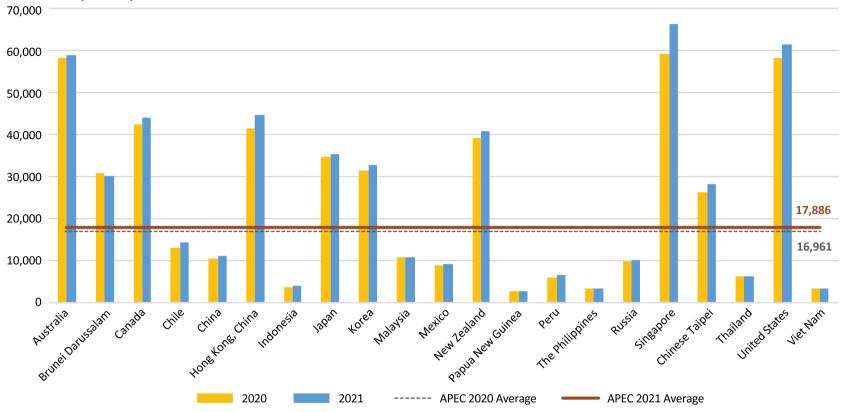


An estimated 2.95 billion people inhabited the APEC region in 2021, accounting for 38% of the global population. The five most populous APEC economies remained the same as in 2020. China continued to top the region with a global population share of 18%, followed by the United States and Indonesia.

The APEC region generated a nominal GDP of USD 59 trillion in 2021, accounting for 62% of the global nominal GDP. The top five economies in the region remained the same as in 2020. The combined economic output of China and the United States amounted to 69% of the region's GDP and 42% of the world's GDP.

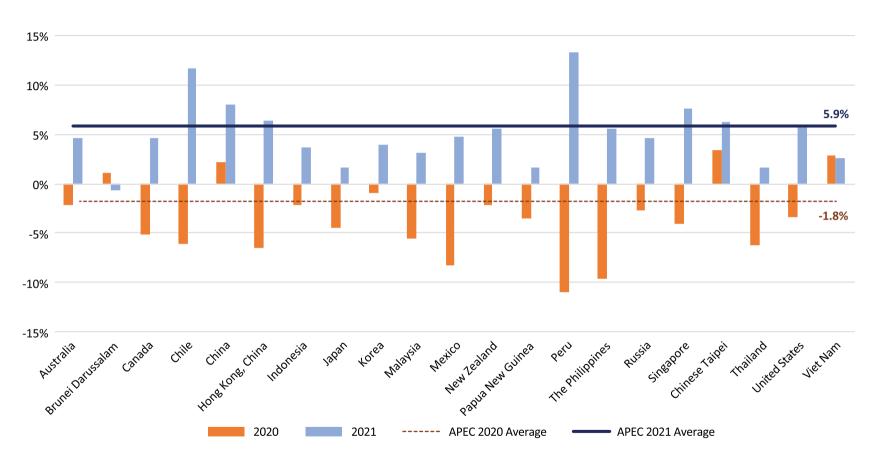
The APEC region accounted for 48% of global trade in goods and commercial services in 2021. China remained the largest trader among APEC economies, accounting for 12% of global trade. Together, China; Japan; and the United States accounted for slightly more than one quarter of global trade and 55% of APEC's trade.

1.1 GDP per Capita (constant 2015 USD), 2020–2021



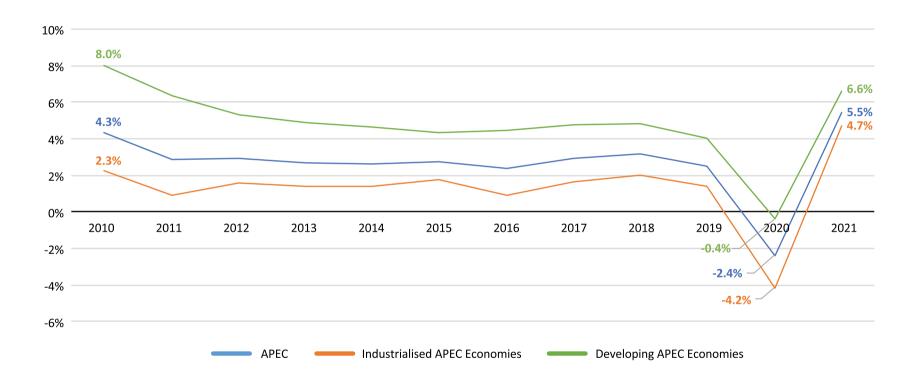
The real GDP per capita of APEC economies ranged widely between USD 2,655 and USD 66,176 in 2021. Australia; Singapore; and the United States had a real GDP per capita of more than USD 50,000 while Indonesia; Papua New Guinea; the Philippines; and Viet Nam had a real GDP per capita of less than USD 5,000. As economies recover from the negative impacts of COVID-19, most recorded an increase in their GDP per capita compared with 2020, and the average real GDP per capita in the APEC region increased 5.5%, from USD 16,961 to USD 17,886.

1.2 Real GDP Growth (annual percent), 2020–2021



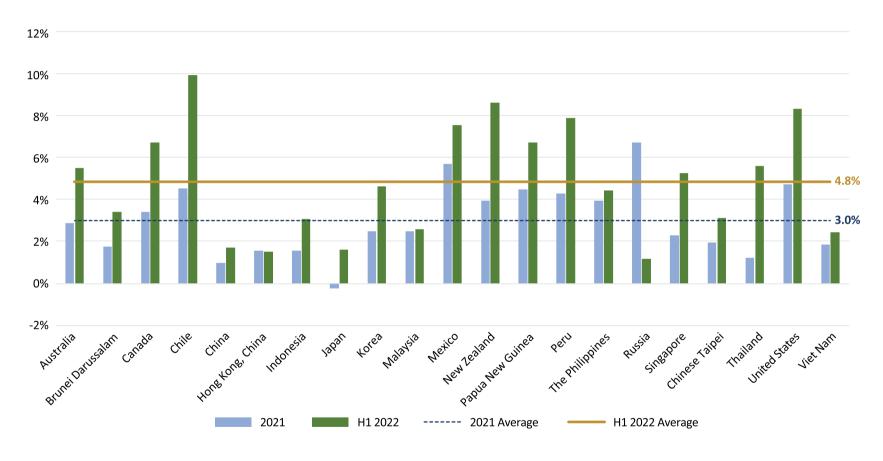
The APEC region recorded a real GDP growth of 5.9% in 2021. In contrast to 2020, most APEC economies recorded positive real GDP growth rates in 2021. The biggest recovery was reported by Peru (13.3%), followed by Chile (11.7%). China; Chinase Taipei; and Viet Nam achieved positive growth in both 2020 and 2021.

1.3 Real GDP per Capita Growth Rates (annual percent), 2010–2021



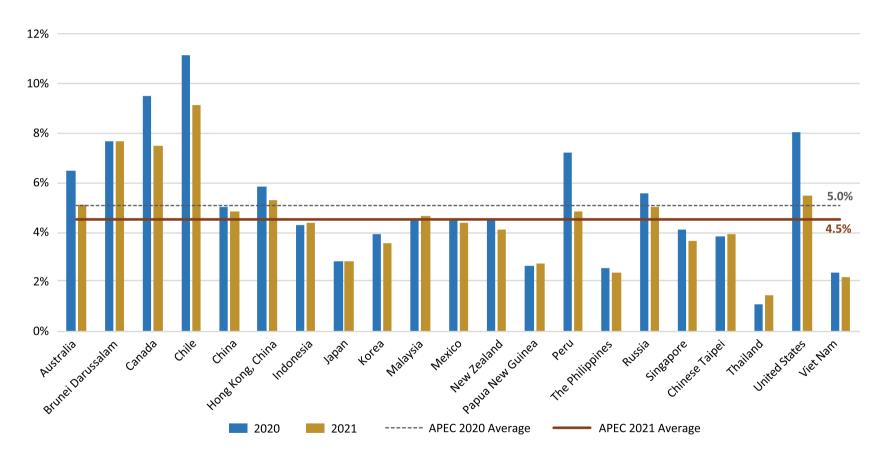
Real GDP per capita growth declined sharply across industrialised and developing APEC economies in 2020 but recovered in 2021 as the APEC region adapted to the post-pandemic new normal. Positive growth rates were recorded for both economy groups, with the increase being higher for developing APEC economies at 6.6% compared to 4.7% for industrialised APEC economies. Real GDP per capita growth for the region averaged at 5.5% in 2021, a significant jump from the negative growth rates in 2020.

1.4 Consumer Price Inflation (percent), 2021–H1 2022



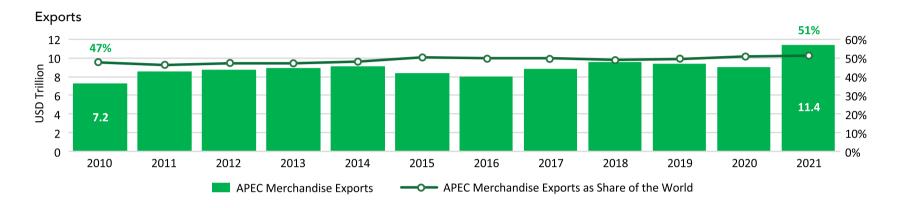
Year-on-year inflation rates in the first half of 2022 averaged at 4.8% in the APEC region, up from 3.0% in 2021. Inflation rates between 2021 and H1 2022 increased for 19 economies while they decreased for two economies. Japan, which experienced price deflation in 2021, now recorded inflation in the first half of 2022.

1.5 Unemployment Rate (percent), 2020–2021



As the global economy started to recover in 2021, most APEC economies reported lower unemployment rates compared to 2020. The APEC region registered an average unemployment rate of 4.5% in 2021, an improvement from the 2020 average rate of 5.0%. Unemployment rates in the region ranged between 1.4% to 9.1% in 2021.

2.1 Merchandise Trade Value in APEC (USD trillion) and Share of the World (percent), 2010–2021





In 2021, APEC recorded its highest merchandise trade value with USD 11.4 trillion in exports (26.7% higher than in 2020) and USD 11.5 trillion in imports (26.5% higher than in 2020). APEC has maintained a stable majority share of the world's merchandise exports and imports (both at 51% in 2021).

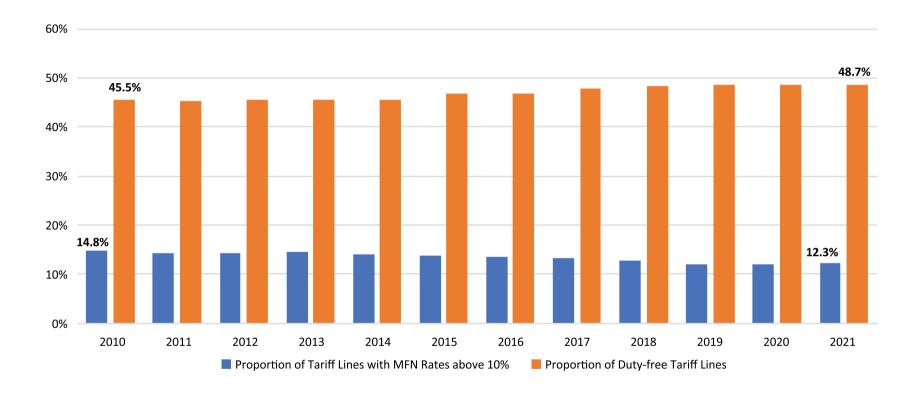
2.2 Commercial Services Trade Value in APEC (USD trillion) and Share of the World (percent), 2010–2021





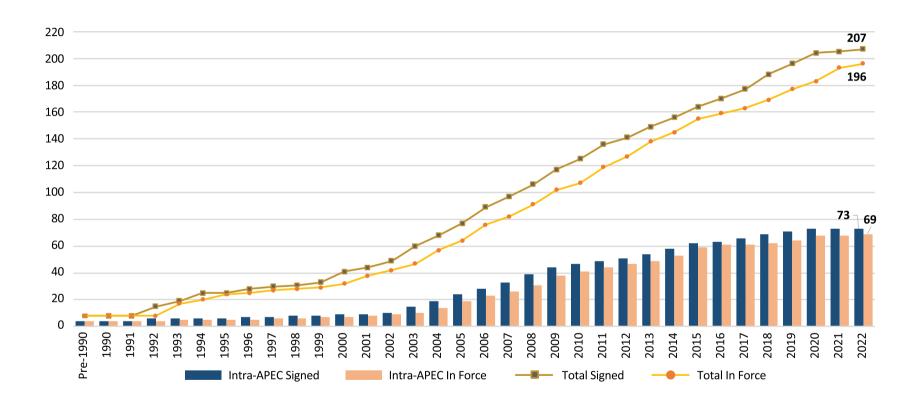
In 2021, commercial services exports in APEC amounted to USD 2.2 trillion (14.4% higher than in 2020), while imports into the region totaled USD 2.1 trillion (14.7% higher than in 2020). The APEC region accounted for more than a third of the world's commercial services exports (36%) and imports (38%) in 2021.

2.3 MFN Applied Tariff Rates above 10% and Duty-free (percent share), 2010–2021



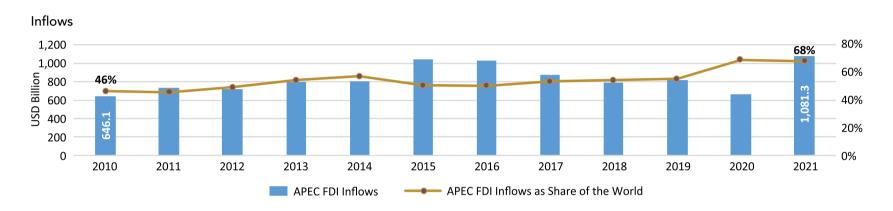
The proportion of tariff lines with MFN rates above 10% has decreased from 14.8% in 2010 to 12.3% in 2021. Meanwhile, the proportion of duty-free tariff lines has increased from 45.5% in 2010 to 48.7% in 2021.

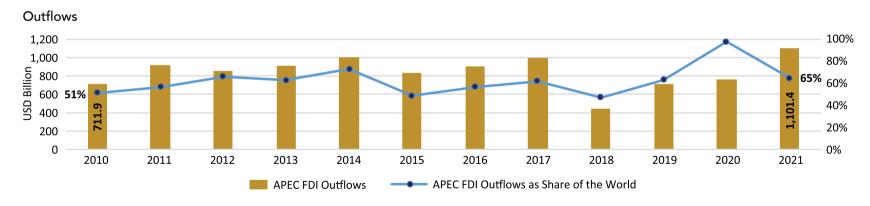
2.4 Free Trade Agreements in APEC (cumulative number), pre-1990–July 2022



As of July 2022, APEC economies have signed a total of 207 Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), of which 196 (94.7%) are in force. Around 35.3% of these 207 signed FTAs are intra-APEC (i.e., involves at least two APEC economies). The number of APEC's FTAs has increased significantly since 2000, with around 84.1% of all FTAs being signed since then.

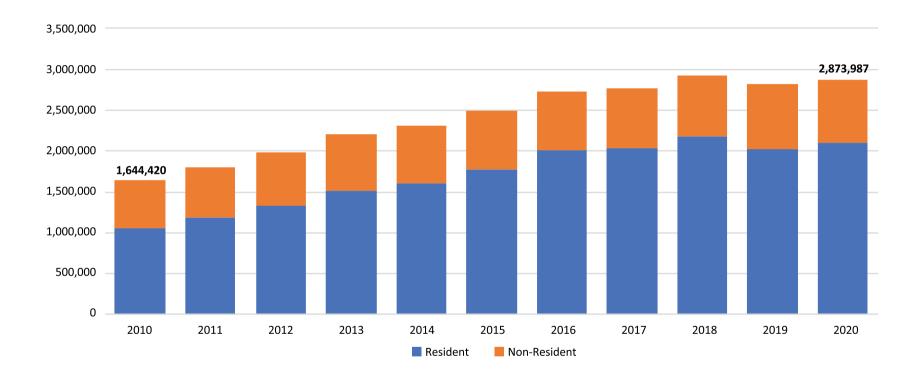
2.5 FDI Inflows and Outflows in APEC (USD billion) and Share of the World (percent), 2010–2021





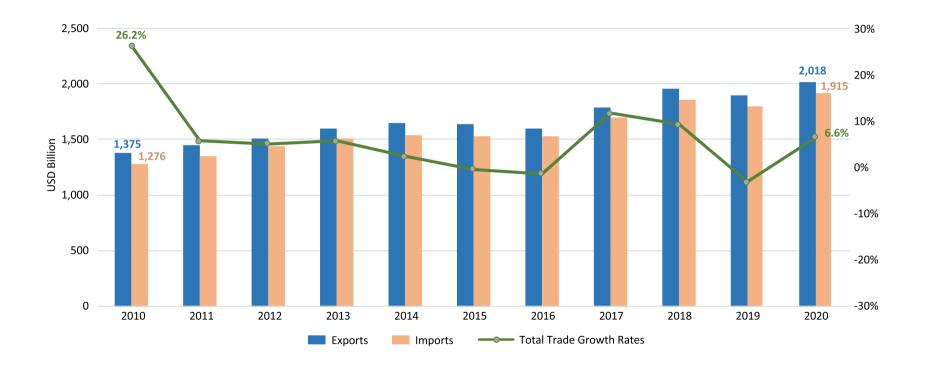
In 2021, APEC's foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows and outflows reached USD 1.08 trillion and USD 1.10 trillion, respectively. APEC's contributions to global FDI flows went down in 2021 but remained significant at 68% of FDI inflows and 65% of FDI outflows.

3.1 Patent Applications in APEC (number of applications), 2010–2020



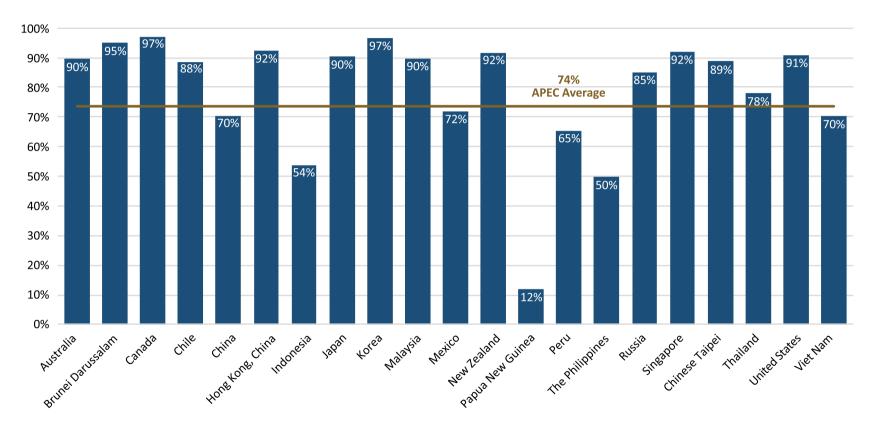
Total patent applications in APEC increased from 1.6 million in 2010 to 2.9 million in 2020, which represents an overall increase of 74.8%. The growth in patent applications was largely driven by residents, which comprised about three-fourths of total patent applications in 2020.

3.2 Trade in Information and Communication Technology Goods in APEC (value in USD billion, growth rates in percent), 2010–2020



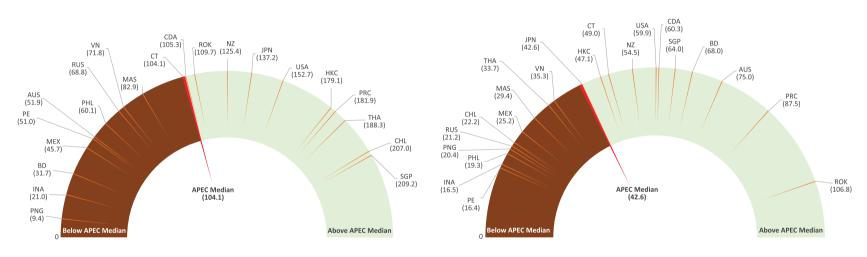
From 2010 to 2020, the value of information and communication technology (ICT) goods exports in APEC increased from USD 1.4 trillion (in 2010) to USD 2.0 trillion (in 2020), while imports increased from USD 1.3 trillion (in 2010) to USD 1.9 trillion (in 2020). Year-over-year growth rates for total trade had gone down during the same period, from 26.2% in 2010 to 6.6% in 2020.

3.3 Internet Users in APEC Economies (percent of total population), 2020



In 2020, more than 7 out of 10 people in the APEC region used the Internet at least once in the past three months. More than 80% of the populations in thirteen APEC economies were internet users.

3.4 Internet Broadband Speed in APEC Economies (median megabits per second), May 2022

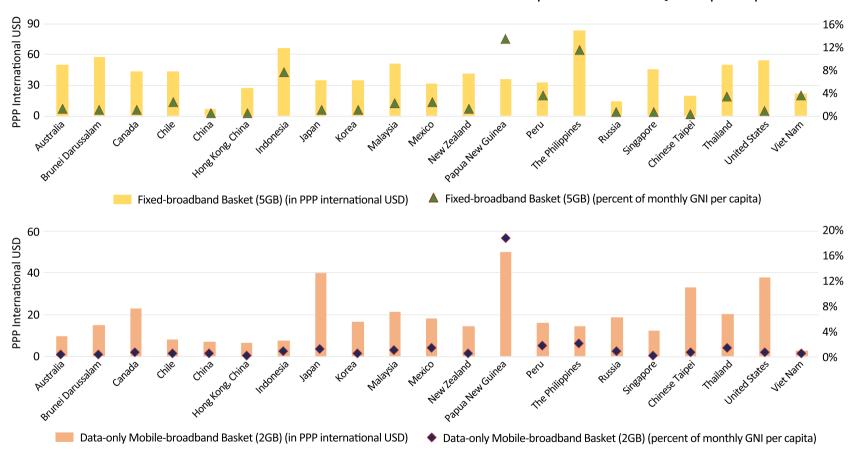


Fixed Broadband (Mbps)

Mobile Broadband (Mbps)

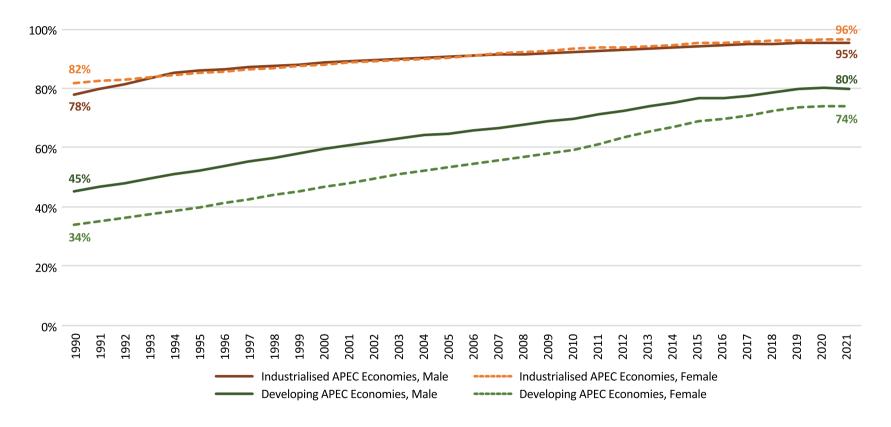
In May 2022, 11 APEC economies recorded median broadband speeds of more than 100 megabits per second in fixed broadband download speed tests. The median fixed broadband download speed in the APEC region was 104.1 megabits per second. Mobile broadband was generally slower than fixed broadband in APEC, with a median download speed of only 42.6 megabits per second.

3.5 Cost of Broadband Access in APEC (in PPP international USD and as a percent of monthly GNI per capita), 2021



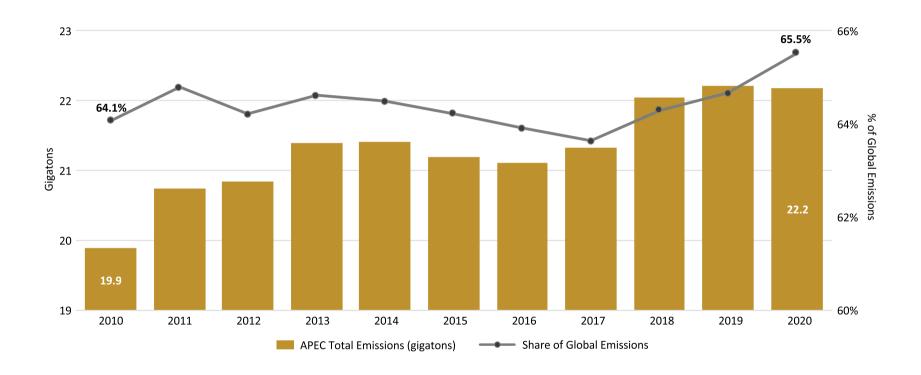
Costs of broadband access vary between APEC economies, ranging from USD 7.1 to USD 83.6 for fixed broadband, and from USD 3.1 to USD 49.8 for mobile broadband. Although access to broadband has been made affordable in the region, where connection costs are no more than 2% of monthly GNI per capita in most economies, the relatively high costs in some economies like Papua New Guinea (13% of monthly GNI per capita for fixed broadband, and 19% for mobile broadband); the Philippines (12% of monthly GNI per capita for fixed broadband) can impede access and exacerbate the digital divide.

4.1 APEC Population with at Least Some Secondary Education (percent of population ages 25+), 1990-2021



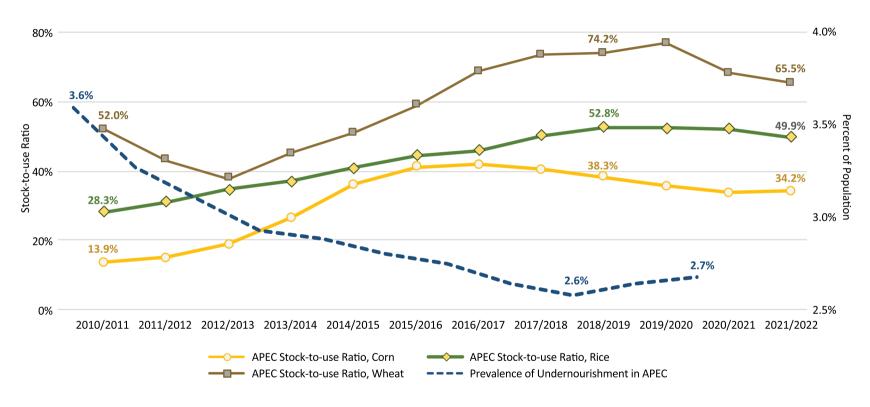
The share of adults aged 25 and older who have attained at least some secondary education in the APEC region has significantly increased over the last three decades. While industrialised APEC economies still report higher shares of their populations having at least some secondary education compared to developing APEC economies, the gap has dropped by 17 and 25 percentage points for males and females, respectively, since 1990. However, more needs to be done to equalise education opportunities in developing economies where the gender gap stands at 6 percentage points in 2021.

4.2 Carbon Dioxide Emissions in APEC (gigatons and percent share of global emissions), 2010–2020



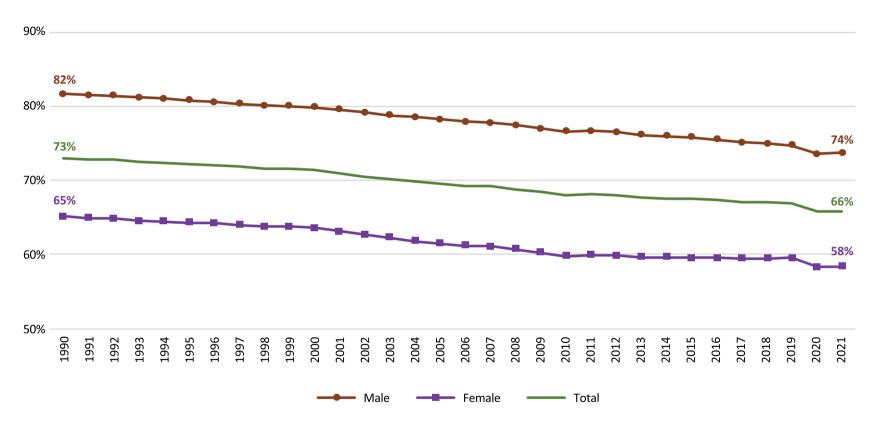
Carbon dioxide emissions in APEC increased from 19.9 gigatons in 2010 to 22.2 gigatons in 2020, which represents an overall increase of 11.5%. APEC's share of global emissions has also increased, from 64.1% in 2010 to 65.5% in 2020.

4.3 Stock-to-use Ratio of Staple Grains (Corn, Rice, Wheat) and Prevalence of Undernourishment (percent of population) in APEC, 2010–2022



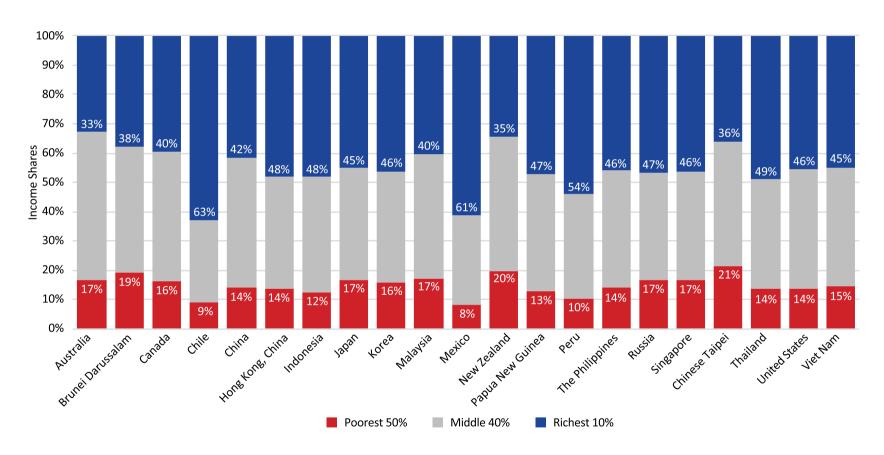
The stock-to-use ratio measures the ending stocks of a food staple as a percentage of the total domestic consumption of the same staple. Ratios for key staple grains, namely corn, rice, and wheat in APEC increased from 2010 to 2019, indicating higher supply relative to consumption and strengthened food security for these commodities. However, ratios for all three grains, especially wheat and corn, went down significantly following the COVID-19 pandemic and maintained their lower levels throughout 2021/2022. At the same time, while the prevalence of undernourishment in APEC decreased from 3.6% to 2.6% between 2010 and 2018, an increasing share of the APEC population has suffered undernourishment since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

4.4 Labour Force Participation Rate by Gender in APEC (percent of population ages 15+), 1990–2021



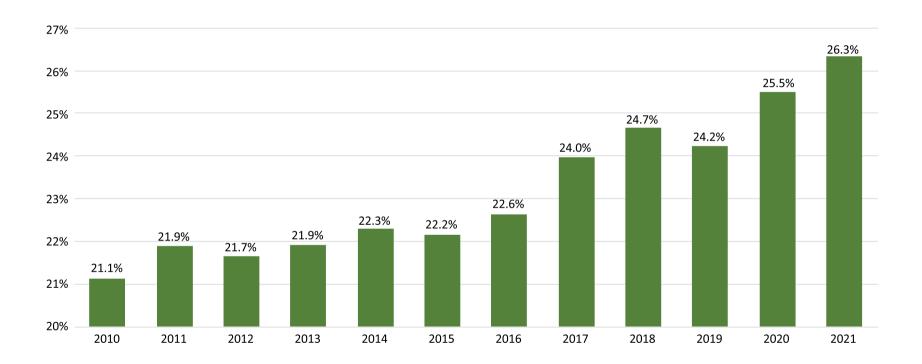
The labour force participation rate in APEC has been on a gradual decline over the past three decades, which could be attributed to increasing affluence, changing life choices, and changing demographics in the region. However, the sudden drop in 2020 reflects the negative impact of COVID-19 on labour market opportunities as well as workers' anxieties over the pandemic. Male participation fell from 82% in 1990 to 74% in 2021, whereas female participation decreased from 65% in 1990 to 58% in 2021. The gender gap has slightly narrowed from 16.5 percentage points in 1990 to 15.4 percentage points in 2021.

4.5 Income Inequality in APEC Economies, 2021



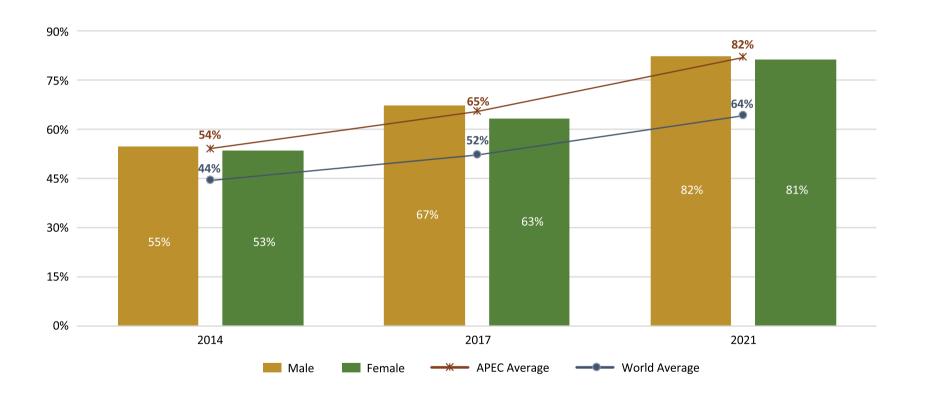
Income inequality varies widely among APEC economies. In three APEC economies, the richest 10% of the population obtained more than half of total income in 2021, while their poorest 50% earned about a tenth of total income or less. In all APEC economies, the poorest 50% of the population accrued less than a quarter of their economy's income.

5.1 Share of Renewables in Electricity Production in APEC (percent of total electricity production), 2010–2021



APEC's share of total electricity produced from renewable energy sources increased from 21.1% in 2010 to 26.3% in 2021, an overall increase of 5.2 percentage points over the past decade. Renewables share in APEC's energy mix has been increasing at an average of 2.0% per year during the period 2010–2021.

5.2 APEC Residents Making or Receiving Digital Payments in the Past Year (percent of population ages 15+), 2014–2021



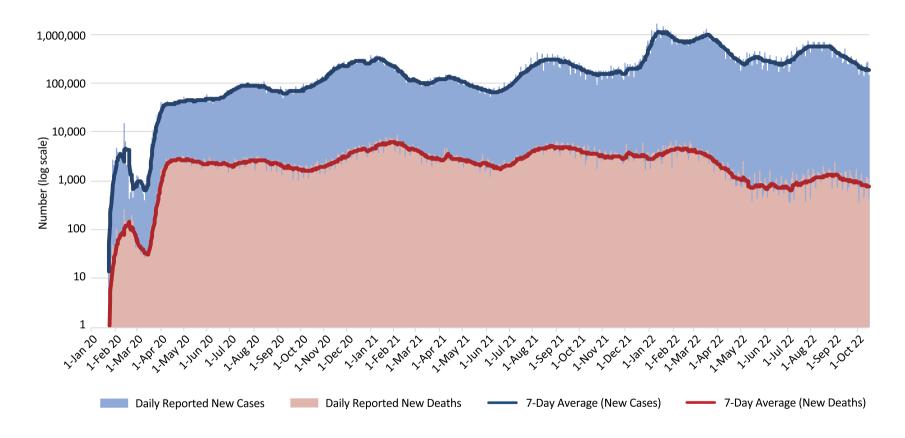
Digital financial transactions are on the rise in APEC. While only 54% of APEC population ages 15 and above made or received digital payments in 2014, the figure had increased to 65% in 2017, and further to 82% in 2021. In all three years, APEC maintained a higher share of adult population making or receiving digital payments than the world average. Proportionally more males than females make or receive digital payments, however the gap has narrowed to 1 percentage point in 2021.

5.3 Number of Tourist Arrivals and Share of Tourism in Total Exports in APEC, 2010–2021



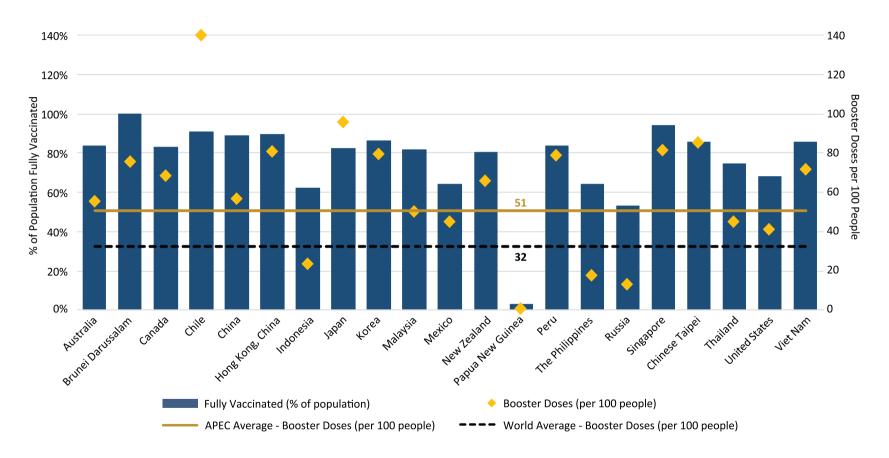
The APEC region attracted an increasing number of tourists during 2010–2019, with total tourist arrivals growing 1.3 times from 568 million in 2010 to 765 million in 2019. During the same period, the share of tourism in APEC total exports also expanded from 5.0% to 5.9%. As COVID-19 hit and economies implemented restrictive measures at the border, the number of tourists to APEC plummeted and hit a low of 62 million in 2021, while the share of tourism in total exports also shrank to 1.4%.

5.4 Daily Reported COVID-19 Cases and Deaths in APEC (log scale), 1 January 2020–15 October 2022



The number of daily new COVID-19 cases and deaths in APEC remained high in the past two years largely due to the emergence of highly transmissible variants. Meanwhile, daily reported deaths have decreased to about 1,000 in the third quarter of 2022 compared to more than 4,000 in the first quarter.

5.5 COVID-19 Vaccination Status in APEC, October 2022



COVID-19 vaccination rates vary across the region. While three economies—Brunei Darussalam; Chile; and Singapore—have 90% or more of their population fully vaccinated, less than 5% of Papua New Guinea's population has been fully vaccinated. The number of booster doses per 100 people varies as well, ranging from 140 booster doses per 100 people in Chile to 3 booster shots per 1,000 people in Papua New Guinea.

Data Notes

Industrialised and Developing APEC Economies

Industrialised APEC Economies: Australia; Canada; Japan; New Zealand; and the United States.

Developing APEC Economies: Brunei Darussalam; Chile; China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Korea; Malaysia; Mexico; Papua New Guinea; Peru; the Philippines; Russia; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; and Viet Nam.

Abbreviations for APEC Member Economies

Australia (AUS); Brunei Darussalam (BD); Canada (CDA); Chile (CHL); China (PRC); Hong Kong, China (HKC); Indonesia (INA); Japan (JPN); Korea (ROK); Malaysia (MAS); Mexico (MEX); New Zealand (NZ); Papua New Guinea (PNG); Peru (PE); the Philippines (PHL); Russia (RUS); Singapore (SGP); Chinese Taipei (CT); Thailand (THA); the United States (USA); and Viet Nam (VN).

APEC in the Global Economy, 2021

Sources: World Bank, World Development Indicators; Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (Chinese Taipei); International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook April 2022; and World Trade Organization, Time Series on International Trade

APEC Macroeconomic Indicators

1.1 GDP per Capita (constant 2015 USD), 2020–2021 Note: APEC average is a population-weighted average. Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators; and Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (Chinese Taipei).

- 1.2 Real GDP Growth (annual percent), 2020–2021 Note: APEC average is a GDP-weighted average. Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook April 2022; and Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (Chinese Taipei).
- 1.3 Real GDP per Capita Growth Rates (annual percent), 2010–2021 Note: APEC average is a population-weighted average. Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators; and Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (Chinese Taipei).
- 1.4 Consumer Price Inflation (percent), 2021–H1 2022 Note: APEC aggregate is a simple average. Source: International Monetary Fund, International Financial Statistics; and economy sources.
- 1.5 Unemployment Rate (percent), 2020–2021
 Note: The unemployment rate is the proportion of unemployed persons as a percentage of the total labour force. APEC average is a labour force-weighted average.
 Source: World Bank; International Labour Organization, ILOSTAT database; and Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (Chinese Taipei).

APEC Trade and Investment

- 2.1 Merchandise Trade Value in APEC (USD trillion) and Share of the World (percent), 2010–2021 Source: World Trade Organization, Time Series on International Trade.
- 2.2 Commercial Services Trade Value in APEC (USD trillion) and Share of the World (percent), 2010–2021 Source: World Trade Organization, Time Series on International Trade.

- 2.3 MFN Applied Tariff Rates above 10% and Duty-free (percent share), 2010–2021
 - Source: World Trade Organization, Time Series on International Trade.
- 2.4 Free Trade Agreements in APEC (cumulative number), pre-1990–July 2022 Source: Economy sources; World Trade Organization; and Asian Development Bank.
- 2.5 FDI Inflows and Outflows in APEC (USD billion) and Share of the World (percent), 2010–2021 Source: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, World Investment Report 2022.

APEC Innovation and Digitalisation

- Patent Applications in APEC (number of applications),
 2010–2020
 - Source: World Bank; World Intellectual Property Organization; and Intellectual Property Office (Chinese Taipei).
- 3.2 Trade in Information and Communication Technology Goods in APEC (value in USD billion, growth rates in percent), 2010–2020
 - Note: According to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's Guide on Measuring the Information Society 2011, the five ICT goods categories include: computers and peripheral equipment; communication equipment; consumer electronic equipment; electronic components; and miscellaneous. Data for Papua New Guinea is available only for 2011–2012. Source: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, UNCTADStat.

Data Notes

 Internet Users in APEC Economies (percent of total population), 2020

Note: According to the International Telecommunication Union, this indicator measures "the proportion of individuals who used the Internet from any location in the last three months. The Internet is a worldwide public computer network. It provides access to a number of communication services including the World Wide Web and carries e-mail, news, entertainment and data files, irrespective of the device used (not assumed to be only via a computer – it may also be by mobile telephone, tablet, PDA, games machine, digital TV, etc.). Access can be via a fixed or mobile network". APEC average is a population-weighted average.

Source: International Telecommunication Union; Data Reportal, Digital 2020: Papua New Guinea; World Bank, World Development Indicators; and Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (Chinese Taipei).

- 3.4 Internet Broadband Speed in APEC Economies (median megabits per second), May 2022
 - Source: Ookla, Speedtest Global Index.
- 3.5 Cost of Broadband Access in APEC (in PPP international USD and as a percent of monthly GNI per capita), 2021 Source: International Telecommunication Union; and Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (Chinese Taipei).

APEC Strong, Balanced, Secure, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth

4.1 APEC Population with at Least Some Secondary Education (percent of population ages 25+), 1990– 2021

Note: APEC average is a weighted average based on female population ages 25+, and male population ages 25+ data

- Source: United Nations Development Programme, Human Development Report 2021/2022.
- 4.2 Carbon Dioxide Emissions in APEC (gigatons and percent share of global emissions), 2010–2020 Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators; Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, StatsAPEC; and International Energy Agency.
- 4.3 Stock-to-use Ratio of Staple Grains (Corn, Rice, Wheat) and Prevalence of Undernourishment (percent of population) in APEC, 2010–2022 Note: The stock-to-use ratio measures the ending stocks

Note: The stock-to-use ratio measures the ending stocks of a food staple as a percentage of the total domestic consumption of the same staple. The prevalence of undernourishment in APEC is a population-weighted average.

- Source: United States Department of Agriculture, Production, Supply and Distribution Dataset; and Food and Agriculture Organization.
- 4.4 Labour Force Participation Rate by Gender in APEC (percent of population ages 15+), 1990–2021

Note: APEC aggregate is a weighted average based on labour force data by gender.

Source: International Labour Organization.

4.5 Income Inequality in APEC Economies, 2021

Note: Inequality data are based on macroeconomic data, survey data, fiscal data, and wealth rankings. The detailed methodology is available at https://wid.world/methodology/.

Source: World Inequality Database.

APEC 2022 Priorities

5.1 Share of Renewables in Electricity Production in APEC (percent of total electricity production), 2010–2021
Note: Renewables include electricity production from hydropower, solar, wind, biomass, and waste, geothermal, wave, and tidal sources. APEC aggregate is a simple average.

Source: Our World in Data.

5.2 APEC Residents Making or Receiving Digital Payments in the Past Year (percent of population ages 15+), 2014–2021

Note: Data for Brunei Darussalam and Papua New Guinea are unavailable in all reported years. Data for Mexico and Viet Nam are unavailable for 2021. APEC average is a weighted average based on adult population ages 15+, female population ages 15+, and male population ages 15+ data.

Source: World Bank, Global Findex Database 2021; and Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (Chinese Taipei).

Data Notes

5.3 Number of Tourist Arrivals and Share of Tourism in Total Exports in APEC, 2010–2021

Note: Tourist arrival data for China and Russia are unavailable for 2021. Share of tourism in total export data for Brunei Darussalam is unavailable for 2010, 2011, and 2021. APEC aggregate is a sum of total tourist arrivals (number of tourists to APEC) and a weighted average based on total exports of goods and services (share of travel & tourism in total exports of goods and services in APEC).

Source: World Tourism Organization, Tourism Statistics Database; and World Trade Organization.

- 5.4 Daily Reported COVID-19 Cases and Deaths in APEC (log scale), 1 January 2020–15 October 2022 Source: Hannah Ritchie, Edouard Mathieu, Lucas Rodés-Guirao, Cameron Appel, Charlie Giattino, Esteban Ortiz-Ospina, Joe Hasell, Bobbie Macdonald, Diana Beltekian and Max Roser (2020) "Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19)". Published online at OurWorldInData.org. Retrieved from: 'https://ourworldindata.org/coronavirus' [Online Resource]
- 5.5 COVID-19 Vaccination Status in APEC, October 2022 Note: APEC aggregate is a weighted average based on population.

Source: Hannah Ritchie, Edouard Mathieu, Lucas Rodés-Guirao, Cameron Appel, Charlie Giattino, Esteban Ortiz-Ospina, Joe Hasell, Bobbie Macdonald, Diana Beltekian and Max Roser (2020) – "Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19)". Published online at OurWorldInData.org. Retrieved from: 'https://ourworldindata.org/coronavirus' [Online Resource]

StatsAPEC is APEC's statistics portal with data dating back to APEC's inception in 1989. It consists of the Key Indicators Database and Bilateral Linkages Database. The Key Indicators Database includes over 120 GDP, trade, financial and socioeconomic indicators, allowing for an analysis of trends across a number of topics. The Bilateral Linkages Database facilitates detailed analysis of bilateral trade flows between APEC economies and within APEC. APEC aggregates are available for most indicators in StatsAPEC, making it easy to examine the region as a whole.



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