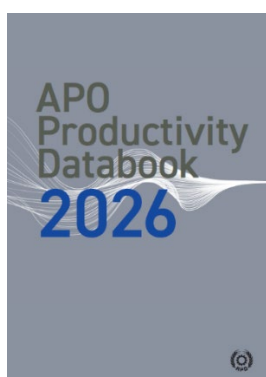


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APO Productivity Databook 2026 Highlights Asia's Continued Economic Expansion



TOKYO, Japan: The Asian Productivity Organization (APO) has released the 19th edition of the APO Productivity Databook, which provides harmonized comparisons of Asia's economic growth and productivity from 1970 through 2024, with projections through 2035. The 2026 edition presents economic growth and labor productivity indicators for 38 Asian economies: the 21 APO member economies (APO21) and 17 nonmember economies, collectively referred to as Asia38.

For APO member economies, the Databook reports that average annual growth in per-hour labor productivity moderated from 2.9% in 2015–2019 to 2.5% in 2019–2024, while average annual total factor productivity (TFP) growth remained at 1.0% in both periods. Beyond these aggregate measures, the Databook examines changes in productivity, industrial structure, and the composition of demand within and across APO member economies.

Built on the APO Productivity Database 2026, the Databook develops full productivity accounts for APO21 together with seven nonmember economies: Afghanistan, Bhutan, Brunei, the People's Republic of China, the Maldives, Myanmar, and Saudi Arabia. Together, these 28 economies are referred to as Asia28. Saudi Arabia is included in the full accounts for the first time, while Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan are newly covered in the broader labor productivity indicators.

The 2026 edition incorporates revisions to official national accounts and related statistics released up to May 2026. The APO Productivity Database 2026 incorporates quality-adjusted labor input estimates from the Asia Quality-adjusted Labor Input Database 2026 and stock estimates of land and mineral and energy resources from the Asia Natural Resources Database 2026. In addition to individual economy accounts, the database provides regional productivity accounts for ASEAN6, APO21, Asia28, CLMV (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam), East

Figure 5.12 Half-Century TFP Index by Country, 1970–2024

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2024
ROC	1.00	1.55	2.38	3.20	3.85	4.67
China	1.00	0.99	1.24	1.74	2.28	2.77
Hong Kong	1.00	1.38	1.79	1.81	2.21	2.51
India	1.00	0.96	1.11	1.32	1.71	2.20
Korea	1.00	1.15	1.42	1.68	1.85	2.09
Pakistan	1.00	1.04	1.29	1.58	1.63	1.81
Singapore	1.00	1.14	1.18	1.27	1.51	1.68
Malaysia	1.00	1.20	1.19	1.19	1.31	1.50
Mongolia	1.00	0.97	0.94	1.09	1.18	1.49
US	1.00	1.07	1.17	1.27	1.36	1.46
Lao PDR	1.00	1.04	1.14	1.13	1.30	1.40
Sri Lanka	1.00	1.08	1.13	1.41	1.73	1.40
Japan	1.00	1.13	1.32	1.33	1.35	1.39
Bhutan	1.00	1.18	1.36	1.37	1.41	1.28
Vietnam	1.00	0.91	0.87	1.08	1.03	1.18
Indonesia	1.00	1.19	1.32	1.12	1.18	1.16
Philippines	1.00	0.97	0.85	0.85	1.00	1.10
Thailand	1.00	1.04	1.10	0.88	1.01	1.04
Türkiye	1.00	0.88	0.99	0.96	0.87	0.96
Maldives	1.00	1.01	1.28	1.06	0.98	0.94
Iran	1.00	0.78	0.72	0.83	0.91	0.94
Bangladesh	1.00	0.83	0.83	0.81	0.88	0.88
Fiji	1.00	0.89	0.76	0.71	0.72	0.85
Nepal	1.00	0.86	0.81	0.75	0.77	0.84
Myanmar	1.00	0.99	0.77	0.91	0.97	0.82
Brunei	1.00	1.63	1.06	1.01	0.89	0.80
Cambodia	1.00	0.49	0.61	0.63	0.68	0.62
Saudi Arabia	1.00	0.85	0.51	0.52	0.51	0.54
Afghanistan	1.00	0.76	0.64	0.25	0.45	0.32

Unit: Index (1970=1.0). Source: APO Productivity Database 2026. Notes: The countries are sorted by their TFP index in 2024 (relative to 1970). The country ranking reflects divergent development paths rather than any fixed hierarchy.

Asia, and SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation), identifying the contributions of capital input, labor input, and TFP to each group's economic growth. Together, these sources strengthen the evidence available to policymakers, researchers, and practitioners developing productivity strategies.

Highlights of the *APO Productivity Databook 2026*

- **More than five decades of evidence and a forward look to 2035:** Provides comparisons from 1970 through 2024 and projections through 2035.
- **Labor productivity growth moderated in APO21:** Average annual growth in per-hour labor productivity moderated from 2.9% in 2015–2019 to 2.5% in 2019–2024, while average annual TFP growth remained at 1.0% in both periods.
- **Asia's economic weight continued to expand:** At current exchange rates, Asia38's GDP reached USD40.3 trillion in 2024, 37% larger than that of the US. Asia38's real GDP grew by an average of 3.8% per year in 2019–2024, with China and India contributing 1.8 and 0.8 percentage points, respectively.
- **Several Asia28 economies recorded strong recent productivity growth:** Per-hour labor productivity in Asia28 grew by 3.7% per year in 2019–2024. The highest country growth rates were recorded in China at 5.8%, Vietnam at 4.5%, India at 4.4%, and Bangladesh at 3.9%.
- **Capital was the main driver of Asia28 growth:** The Databook's growth-accounting results show that capital input accounted for 57% of Asia28's economic growth over 2000–2024, while TFP contributed 28%. Capital deepening accounted for about 45% of Asia28's labor productivity growth.
- **New energy and emissions estimates:** Provisional estimates indicate that Asia38 accounted for 50% of world final energy consumption and 60% of world CO₂ emissions from fuel combustion in 2024.
- **Regional coverage expanded:** Saudi Arabia is included in the full productivity accounts for the first time, bringing the number of economies covered to 28. Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan are newly included in the broader labor productivity indicators, bringing that coverage to 38 economies.
- **Stronger, comparable measurement:** The 2026 edition combines harmonized national accounts with quality-adjusted labor input, detailed capital services, and stock estimates of land and mineral and energy resources.

The *APO Productivity Databook 2026* is available in both digital and print formats and can be accessed and downloaded for free from the link below.

<http://doi.org/10.61145/JHLU9970>

The APO Productivity Database 2026 contains full productivity accounts for APO21 and seven nonmember economies and is available at <https://www.apo-tokyo.org/productivitydatabook/>.

About the APO

The APO is a regional intergovernmental organization dedicated to improving productivity in the Asia-Pacific region through mutual cooperation. Established in 1961, the APO supports its member economies through policy advisory services, capacity building, and knowledge sharing to promote sustainable socioeconomic development.

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