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MEDIA STATEMENT

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MALAYSIA ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE FIRST QUARTER OF 2025

Malaysia recorded 4.4 per cent growth in first quarter, anchored by steady consumer demand and capital investment

PUTRAJAYA, MAY 16, 2025 *– Malaysia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the first quarter of 2025 grew by 4.4 per cent as compared to 4.9 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2024. In terms of quarter-on-quarter seasonally adjusted, GDP rebounded to 0.7 per cent (Q4 2024: -0.2%) in this quarter. The monthly economic performance grew by 3.5 per cent and 3.6 per cent in January and February, respectively, before accelerating to 6.0 per cent in March 2025. This is reported by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) in today's release of GDP for the First Quarter of 2025.*

According to the Chief Statistician of Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, "This quarter's economic expansion was supported by steady performance on the supply side, notably in the Services, Manufacturing and Construction sectors. This reflects a healthy pace of domestic production and a well diversified industrial base despite global challenges. On the demand side, consumer and business sentiment remained positive, with spending boosted by festive celebrations, travel activities and ongoing investments, particularly in construction-related projects.The salary increment for civil servant under Sistem Saraan Perkhidmatan Awam (SSPA) along with the rollout of the first phase of Sumbangan Tunai Rahmah (STR) further support the overall economic momentum."

In terms of sectoral performance, the ***Services*** *sector expanded by 5.0 per cent (Q4 2024: 5.5%) in the first quarter of 2025, driven by the Wholesale & retail trade sub-sector at 4.3 per cent. This growth was underpinned by increases in the wholesale (5.4%) and retail (5.2%) segments, while motor vehicles declined (-3.7%) in this quarter. Furthermore, Transportation & storage and Business services sub-sectors demonstrated strong growth of 9.5 per cent and 7.7 per cent, respectively, benefiting from continued demand in freight segments as well as professional and business*

support services. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally adjusted, the Services sector grew by 0.7 per cent (Q4 2024: 0.3%).

*The **Manufacturing** sector moderated to 4.1 per cent (Q4 2024: 4.2%) in this quarter, supported by sustained external demand for Electrical and electronic products, emphasizing the country's strategic role in global supply chains. Nonetheless, domestic-oriented industries softened, influenced by the Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair following lower production in motor vehicles & transport equipment. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally adjusted, the Manufacturing sector increased by 1.4 per cent (Q4 2024: -1.2%).*

*The **Construction** sector grew substantially by 14.2 per cent (Q4 2024: 20.7%), marking its fifth consecutive quarter of double-digit growth. The sector's robust performance was led by Non-residential buildings, which surged by 21.4 per cent, spurred by data center projects particularly in Johor and industrial facilities such as factories. This was followed by Specialised construction activities (17.2%), Residential buildings (16.6%) and Civil engineering (5.2%). On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally adjusted, this sector increased by 1.1 per cent (Q4 2024: -0.2%).*

*In addition, the **Agriculture** sector rebounded to 0.6 per cent (Q4 2024: -0.7%), attributed to strong performance in the Marine fishing sub-sector at 10.3 per cent. Furthermore, the Other agriculture sub-sector recorded a 2.2 per cent increase, supported by production of vegetables and fruits. Nonetheless, the Oil palm sub-sector declined by -3.1 per cent following lower yields of fresh fruit bunches. This sector rebounded to 1.1 per cent (Q4 2024: -2.8%) on a quarter-on-quarter seasonally adjusted.*

*The **Mining and quarrying** sector declined further in this quarter to -2.7 per cent (Q4 2024: -0.7%), influenced by contractions in the Natural gas and Crude oil & condensate sub-sectors at -2.2 per cent and -4.6 per cent, respectively. The downturns reflect subdued output across key upstream activities. In terms of quarter-on-quarter seasonally adjusted, this sector posted a decline of -1.9 per cent, reversing from 4.0 per cent growth recorded in the previous quarter.*

*Commenting further, the Chief Statistician of Malaysia stated, **"Private final consumption expenditure** grew by 5.0 per cent, easing slightly from 5.3 per cent in the preceding quarter. The growth was driven by spending in Transport (9.1%), Restaurants & hotels (13.2%) and Food & non-alcoholic beverages (4.3%), reflecting heightened activity related to travel, tourism and festive seasons. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally adjusted, Private final consumption expenditure rose by 1.5 per cent (Q4 2024: 0.9%)."*

Gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) *or investment in fixed assets, increased by 9.7 per cent from 11.8 per cent in the previous quarter, attributed to the continued strength in the Structure component, which grew by 13.4 per cent. The sustained performance reflects ongoing development activity in residential and non-residential construction projects across the country. Additionally, investments in Machinery & equipment and Other assets expanded by 5.4 per cent and 7.2 per cent, respectively. From a sectoral perspective, both the public and private sectors contributed to the strong investment growth this quarter. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally adjusted, GFCF recorded a marginal improvement of 0.8 per cent (Q4 2024: -0.03%).*

*He also mentioned that, "**Government final consumption expenditure** rose by 4.3 per cent (Q4 2024: 4.0%), influenced by spending on supplies and services. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally adjusted, Government final consumption expenditure rebounded by 0.1 per cent (Q4 2024: -0.6%). Externally, **Exports** performance continued to surpass **Imports**, rising by 4.1 per cent (Q4 2024: 8.7%) as compared to a 3.1 per cent (Q4 2024: 5.9%) growth in imports. Therefore, **Net exports** remained in positive territory for the second consecutive quarter, posting a 19.6 per cent expansion. While this marked a moderation from the exceptional 63.6 per cent growth in the previous quarter, it underscores the resilience of Malaysia's trade despite lingering global economic uncertainties."*

In addition to today's release, DOSM also published the annual GDP report for 2024 which includes updated GDP figures for the year 2022, 2023 and 2024 at 9.0 per cent, 3.5 per cent and 5.1 per cent, respectively. The revised data are also reflected across quarterly and monthly GDP time series based on latest information from company's annual reports, the Economic Census 2023 and secondary data from relevant agencies. These revisions comply with best statistical practices aligned with international standards to ensure the reliability, comparability and provide timely statistics.

ASEAN-Malaysia 2025 Chairmanship: The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) will chair the 15th ASEAN Community Statistical System Committee (ACSS15) which aims to strengthen the statistical cooperation towards sustainable regional development.

Malaysia has, for the first time, successfully recorded the top position globally in the biennial Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25 report released by Open Data Watch (ODW), surpassing 198 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.

The Government of Malaysia has declared October 20th as National Statistics Day (MyStats Day), with the theme 'Statistics is the Essence of Life.' Meanwhile, the Fourth World Statistics Day will be celebrated on 20th October 2025, with the theme 'Driving Change with Quality Statistics and Data for Everyone'.

OpenDOSM NextGen is a medium that provides data catalogue and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis and can be accessed through https://open.dosm.gov.my.

Released by:

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
16 MAY 2025

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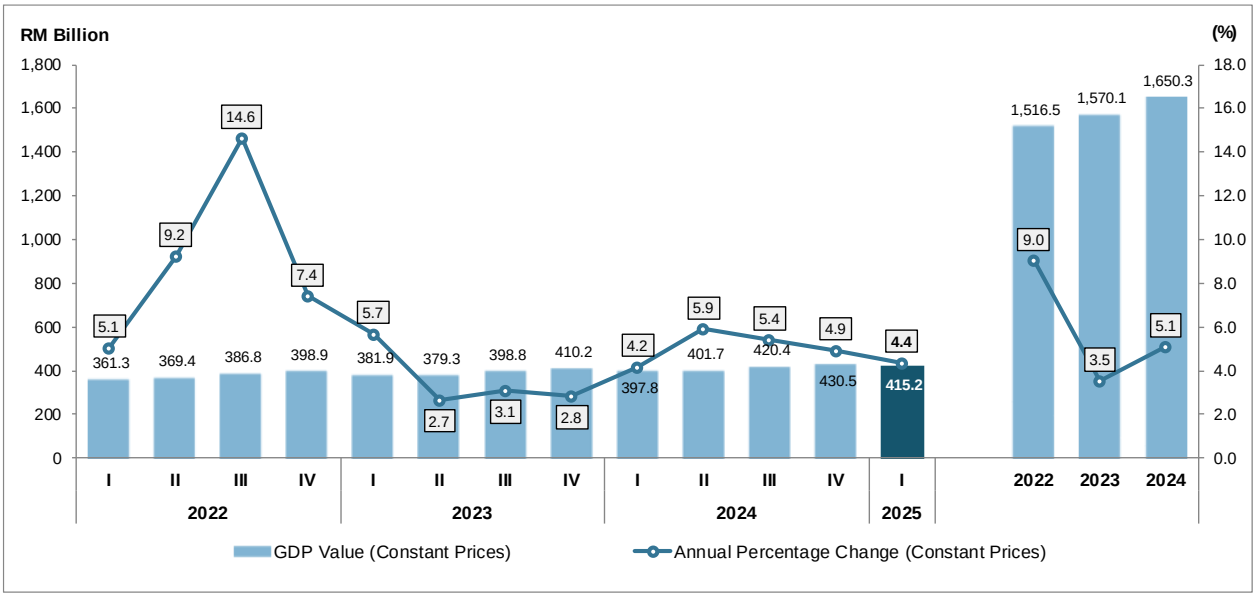
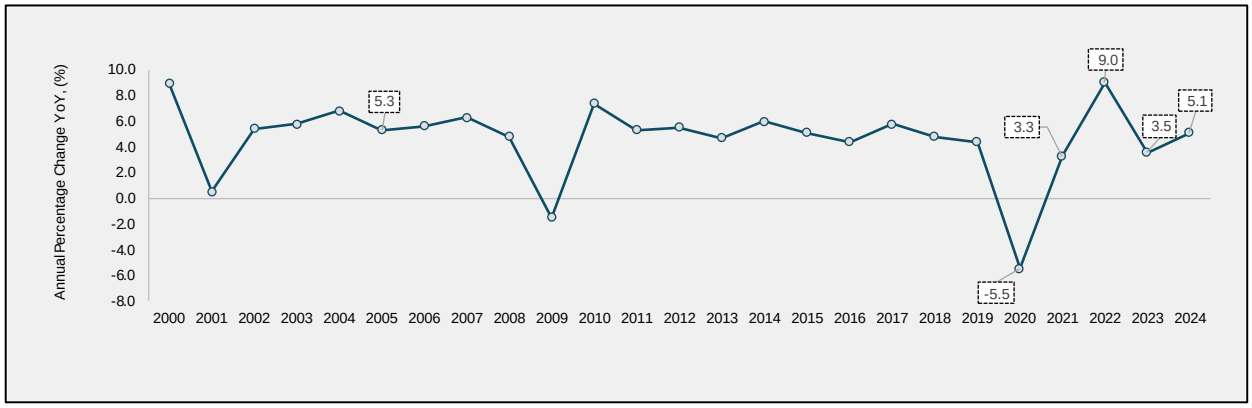
APPENDIX

Chart 1: Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Q1 2022 – Q1 2025 and 2022 –2024



Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia

Chart 2: Annual GDP Growth, 2000 – 2024



Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia

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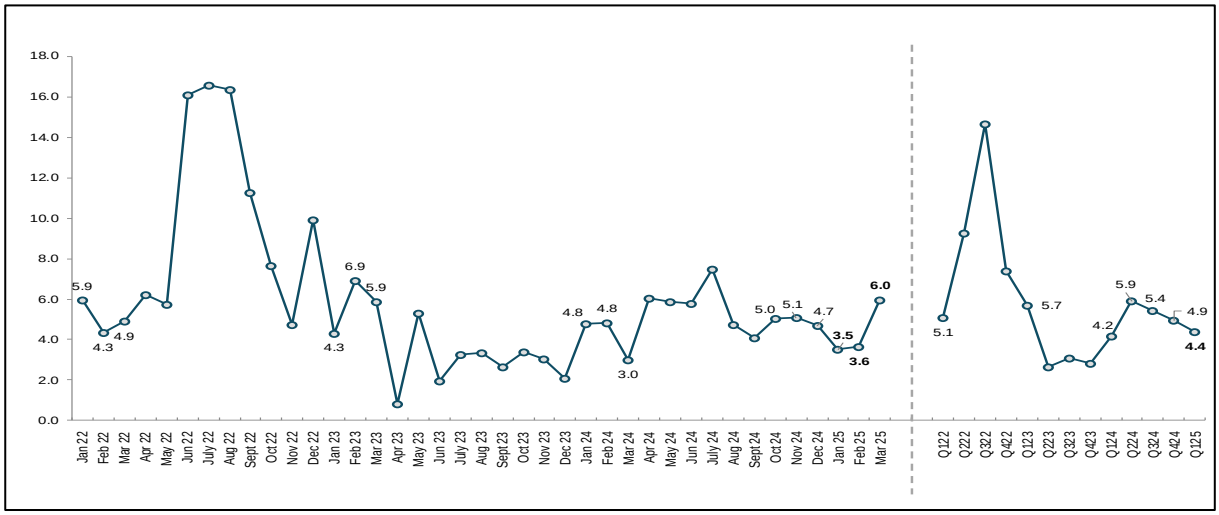
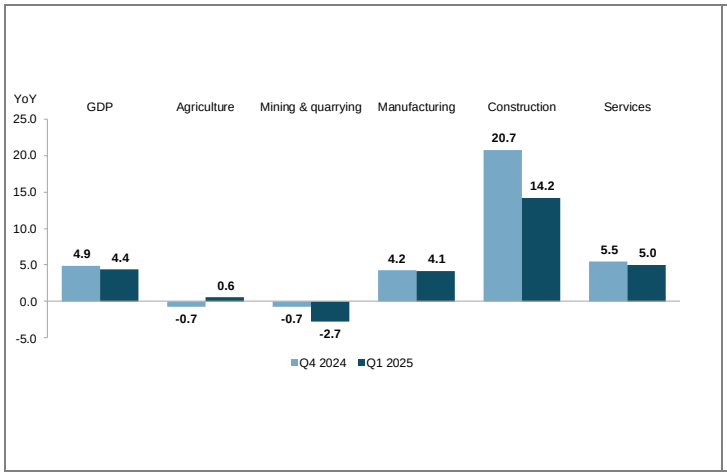
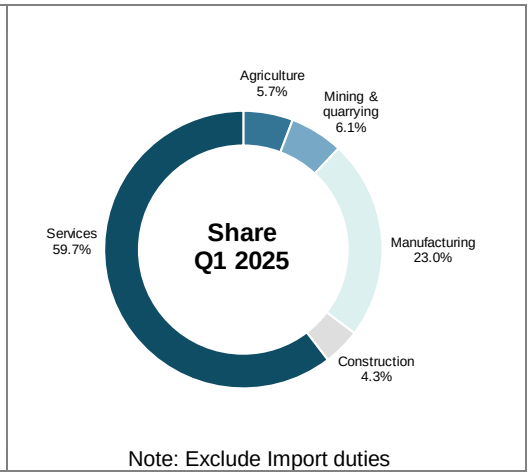
Chart 3: Monthly and Quarterly GDP Growth, 2022 – 2025



Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia

Chart 4: Quarterly GDP Growth by Kind of Economic Activity, Q4 2024 & Q1 2025

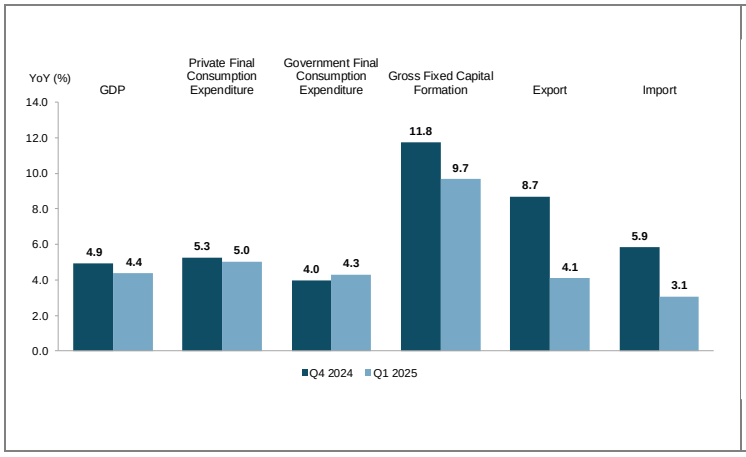


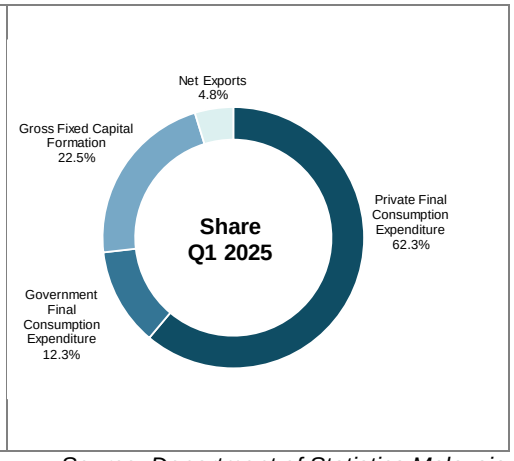


Note: Exclude Import duties

Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia

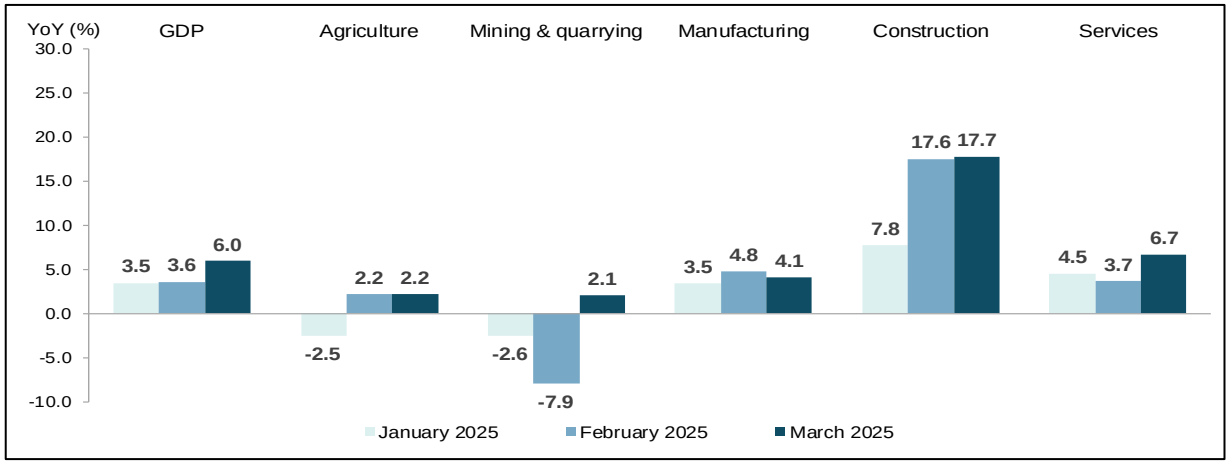
Chart 5: Quarterly GDP Growth by Type of Expenditure, Q4 2024 & Q1 2025





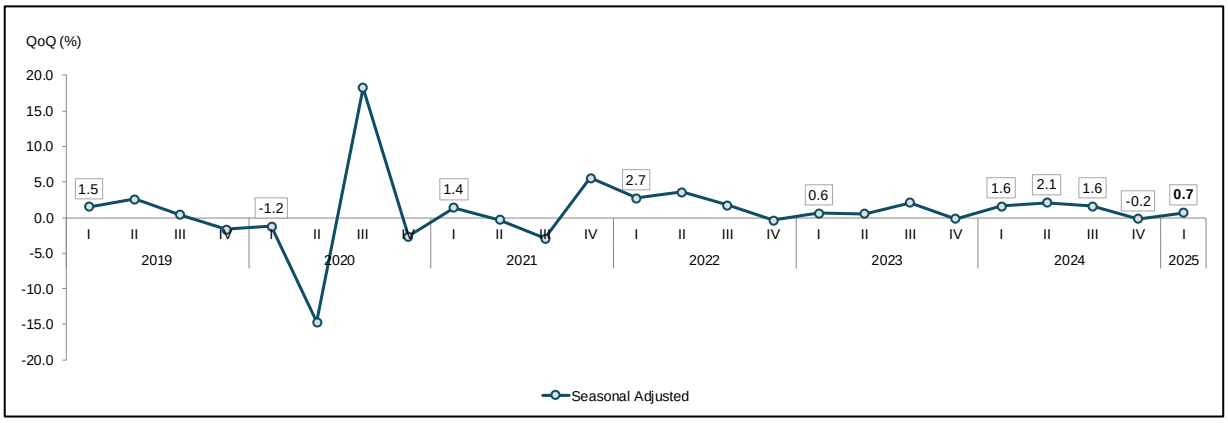
Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia

Chart 6: Monthly GDP Growth by Kind of Economic Activity, January – March 2025



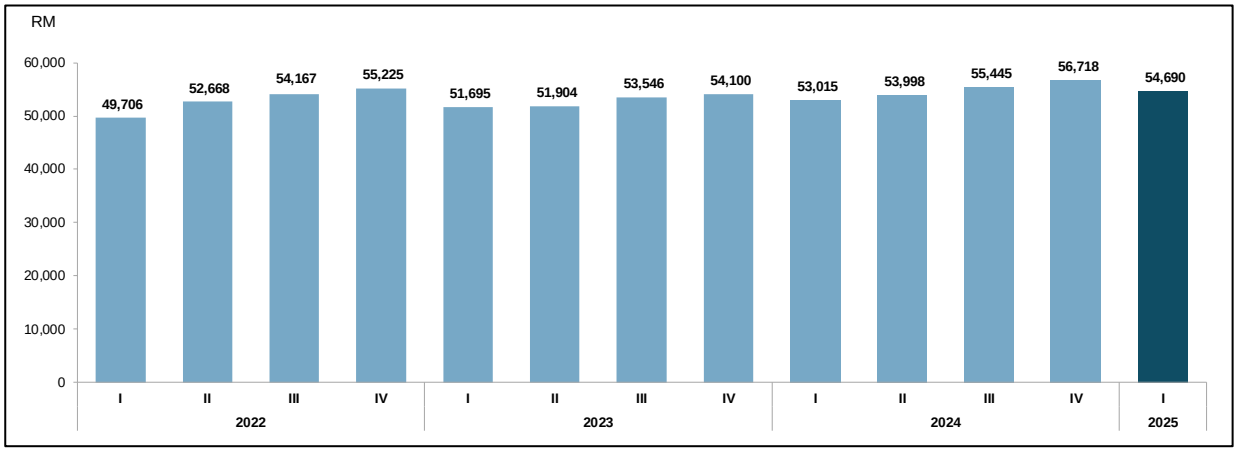
Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia

Chart 7: Seasonally Adjusted GDP (Percentage Change from Preceding Quarter), Q1 2019 – Q1 2025



Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia

Chart 8: Gross National Income (GNI) Per Capita, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia

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Table 1: GDP Performance for Selected Countries

Selected Countries	2023	2024	2023				2024				2025
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
ASEAN COUNTRIES											
Malaysia	3.5	**5.1**	5.7	2.7	3.1	2.8	4.2	5.9	5.4	4.9	**4.4**
Singapore	1.8	**4.4**	1.0	1.3	1.9	3.1	3.2	3.4	5.7	5.0	**3.8***
Brunei	1.1	**4.2**	0.8	-3.1	-0.4	6.8	6.8	6.0	6.0	-1.1	**n.a**
Thailand	2.0	**2.5**	2.7	1.9	1.6	1.8	1.7	2.3	3.0	3.2	**n.a**
Indonesia	5.1	**5.0**	5.0	5.2	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	**4.9**
Vietnam	5.1	**7.1**	3.4	4.3	5.5	6.7	6.0	7.3	7.4	7.6	**6.9**
Philippines	5.5	**5.7**	6.4	4.3	6.0	5.5	5.9	6.5	5.2	5.3	**5.4**
OTHER COUNTRIES											
United States of America	2.9	**2.8**	2.3	2.8	3.2	3.2	2.9	3.0	2.7	2.5	**2.0***
European Union	0.4	**1.0**	1.2	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.4*	**1.4***
Spain	2.7	**3.2**	3.9	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.7	3.3	3.3	3.3	**2.8**
Italy	0.7	**0.7**	2.1	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.5	**0.6**
France	0.9	**1.2**	1.0	1.3	0.9	1.2	1.4	1.0	1.3	0.8	**0.8**
United Kingdom	0.4	**1.1**	0.8	0.5	0.4	-0.2	0.7	1.1	1.2	1.5	**n.a**
People's Republic of China	5.2	**5.0**	4.7	6.5	5.0	5.3	5.3	4.7	4.6	5.4	**5.4**
Republic of Korea	1.4	**2.0**	1.1	1.0	1.4	2.1	3.3	2.3	1.5	1.2	**-0.1***

Source: Official website of Selected National Statistical Office

Note:

%	*year-on-year change*
***	*advance estimates*
n.a	*not available*