

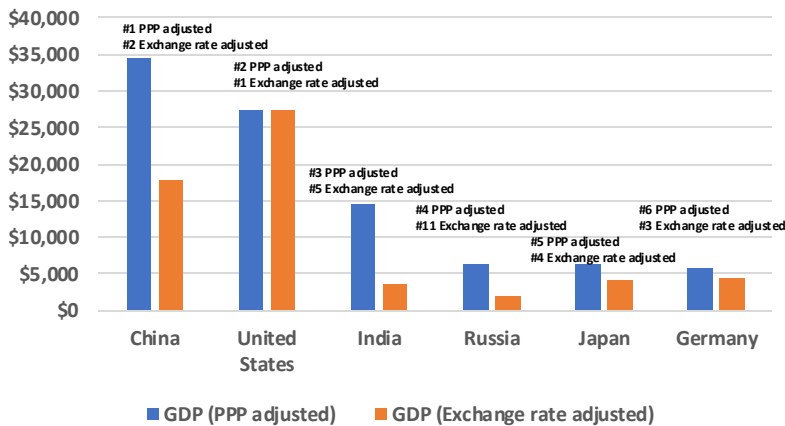
Economic & Market Watch Intelligence Brief

Briefing

- Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita is one measure of the average standard of living within a country. It measures, on a per-person basis, the total value of goods and services produced within a country in a year. Adjusting the numbers for purchasing power parity accounts for differences in costs of living across countries. By this measure, the richest country in the world is Monaco, where the GDP per capita is almost two and a half times that of the U.S. and more than eight times the average for the world (Figure 1).
- In the Western Hemisphere, per capita GDP ranges from a low of \$3,300 in Haiti to a high of \$80,000 in the U.S. (Figure 2). Guyana's GDP per capita is almost six times that of Venezuela, even though both economies are based largely on the same geographic area of petroleum reserves. Differences in their economic outputs are largely due to economic mismanagement and more widespread corruption in Venezuela.
- The Asia-Pacific region is home to some of the largest economies and also many of the poorest (Figure 3). North Korea's economy is the sixth poorest in the world (at \$1,500 per person). South Korea's per capita GDP is 36 times that of North Korea's, despite sharing the same language, culture, heritage and (until 1948) history with North Korea.

Chart of the Week

World's Largest Economies (Billions US\$)



Commentary

Comparing economies requires converting countries' GDPs to the same units. There are two conversions, and they yield different results. One uses the exchange rate. For example, Japan's 2023 GDP was around ¥590 trillion. In 2023, the exchange rate averaged ¥140 to one U.S. dollar. Using this conversion, Japan's GDP was \$4.2 trillion (measured in U.S. dollars).

But exchange rates don't capture differences in costs of living. Purchasing power parity accounts for this. For example, in 2023, one dollar spent in the U.S. purchased about the same as ¥94 spent in Japan. Using this conversion, Japan's GDP was \$6.3 trillion (measured in U.S. purchasing power). Using the exchange rate, the U.S. economy is more than 50% larger than China's. But using purchasing power parity, China's is 25% larger than the U.S. economy.

Finally, while GDP measures the total output of an economy, GDP per capita measures the output per person. For example, China's economy is one of the two largest in the world, but its per capita GDP is 95th. Conversely, Monaco has the highest per capita GDP in the world (almost \$200,000 measured in U.S. purchasing power), but Monaco's economy is around one-four thousandth the size of the U.S. economy.

Snapshots

Figure 1. GDP per Capita for Europe (PPP adjusted)

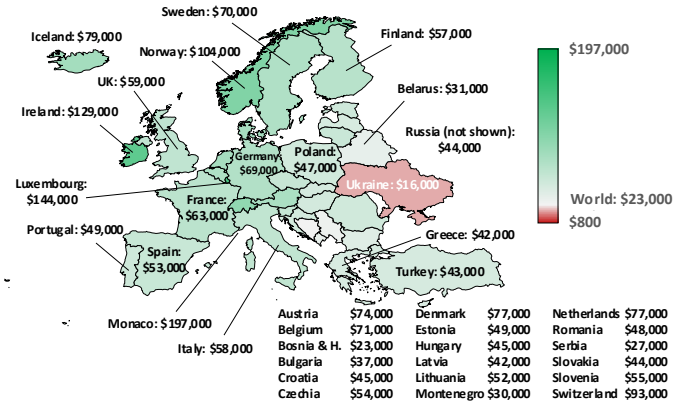


Figure 2. GDP per Capita for Americas (PPP adjusted)

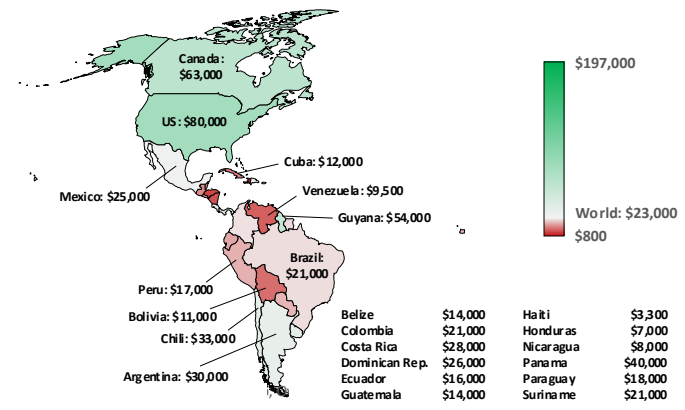
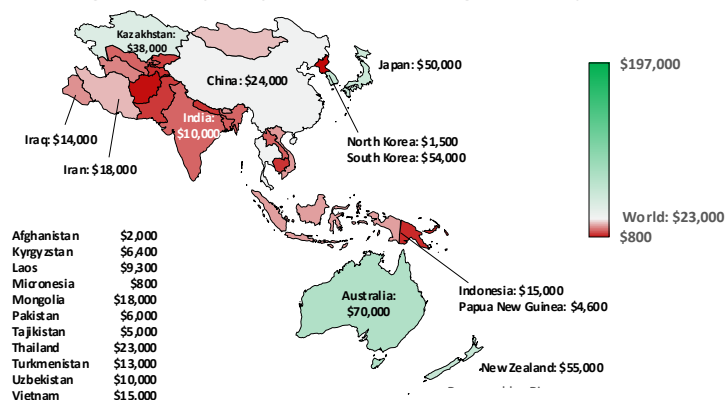


Figure 3. GDP per Capita for Asia-Pacific Region (PPP adjusted)



The Economic & Financial Research Team



John Suter, VP



Antony Davies, Director



Sam Kem, Sr. Analyst

Email: EconomicResearch@nruccf.coop

Economic & Market Watch Dashboard

Key Indicators

INTEREST RATES¹

		2025				2026
	Current	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Fed Funds Target ² (%)	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.25	4.25	4.00
SOFR (%)	4.34	4.20	4.00	3.85	3.75	3.60
2Y UST (%)	4.20	4.05	3.95	3.85	3.80	3.75
5Y UST (%)	4.34	4.15	4.05	4.00	4.00	4.05
10Y UST (%)	4.54	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.25
30Y UST (%)	4.79	4.55	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.45

ECONOMY

		2025				2026
	Current	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
PCE Inflation (%)	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5
CPI Inflation (%)	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.8
Real GDP (%)	3.1	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0
Unemployment (%)	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3
Consumer Spending (%)	3.5	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.9	2.0
Industrial Production (%)	(0.9)	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.5

Equities & Currency

	Current	Year ago
DJIA	44,294	38,333
Nasdaq	19,370	15,628
S&P 500	5,999	4,928
US Dollar Index	\$1,293	\$1,237

Commodities

	Current	Year ago
Crude Oil (Per Barrel)	\$74.30	\$76.80
Natural Gas (Per MMBtu)	\$3.73	\$2.08
Coal (Per Short Ton)	\$11.63	\$11.58
Gold (Per Ounce)	\$2,751	\$2,019
Corn (Per Bushel)	\$480.74	\$440.85
Soybean (Per Bushel)	\$1,048.50	\$1,190.50

Industry

	Current	Year ago
Natural Gas Storage (Billion Cubic Feet)	2,892	2,949
U.S. Daily Power Consumption (MWh)	11,892,112	10,758,841
World Container Index (Per 40ft)	\$3,445	\$3,072

¹ Unless otherwise indicated, forecasts are from the Blue Chip Professional Forecasters

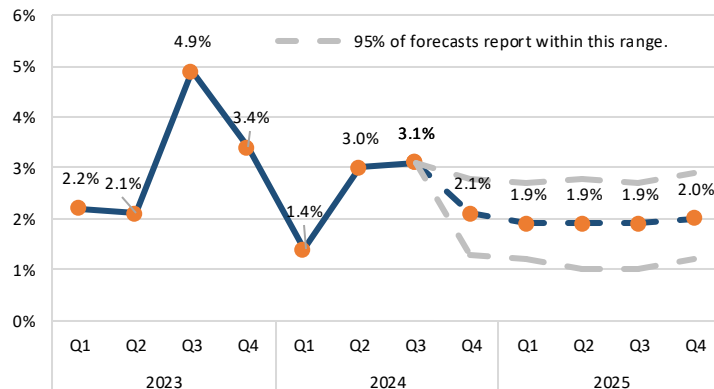
² Target rate forecast is based on futures market contracts

Source: Blue Chip Financial Forecasts, Trading Economics, Moody's Analytics, Statista, Trading Economics, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Energy Information Administration, U.S. Treasury Department, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, International Monetary Fund, World Bank, University of Michigan, The Conference Board.

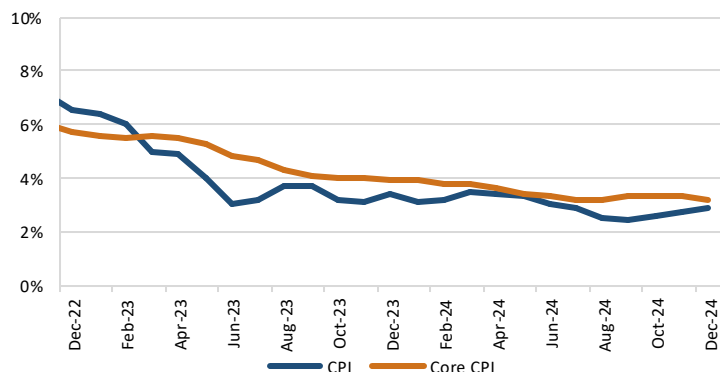
Disclaimer: These materials are being provided to you as a service to our members for informational purposes only, and are not advice or recommendations of any kind. By receiving these materials, you agree not to share the materials outside of you cooperative, that CFC is not providing any representation or warranty regarding the information in these materials, and that CFC is not responsible for the consequences of any decisions made or actions taken in reliance on these materials. SOFR and EFFR are subject to the Terms of Use posted at [newyorkfed.org](https://www.newyorkfed.org). The New York Fed is not responsible for publication of SOFR or EFFR by CFC, does not sanction or endorse any particular republication, and has no liability for your use.

Forecasts

Real GDP Growth Trend



Headline vs. Core Inflation



10-Year U.S. Treasury vs. Fed Funds Trend

