

# Thai Economy

Photo credit: Thai PBS World



# Thailand in Brief

**"Thailand in Brief "** has been prepared by the Thailand Foundation to support students, scholars, and the general public who wish to give presentations about Thailand to their audiences—for example, exchange program students and international participants.

The work presents some basic information about Thailand in 11 areas: 1) *Geography*, 2) *History*, 3) *Politics and Government*, 4) *Economics*, 5) *Demographics*, 6) *Culture*, 7) *Values*, 8) *Thai People and Other Popularity That You May Know*,

9) *Misconceptions about Thailand*, 10) *Thailand's Role on the Global Stage*, and 11) *Rankings Related to Thailand*.

**"Thailand in Brief"** is produced in both **PDF file (.pdf)** and **Powerpoint Presentation (.pptx)** formats, consisting of 399 slides. Users may download and select the topics they wish to present, and may rearrange the sequence of the slides as appropriate. However, the content of this document cannot be edited. Reproduction or use for commercial purposes without permission from the Thailand Foundation is not allowed.

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# Thailand in Brief

**"Thailand in Brief"** จัดทำขึ้นโดยมูลนิธิไทย (Thailand Foundation) เพื่ออำนวยความสะดวกแก่ นักเรียน นักศึกษา และผู้สนใจทั่วไป นำไปใช้ประโยชน์ อาทิ ในการบรรยาย หรือให้ความรู้เกี่ยวกับประเทศไทยในด้านต่าง ๆ แก่ชาวต่างประเทศ เช่น กรณีนักศึกษาแลกเปลี่ยนที่ไปเรียนในต่างประเทศที่ต้องนำเสนอเรื่องราวเกี่ยวกับประเทศไทยในสถาบันที่ไปศึกษาอยู่ เป็นต้น

งานชิ้นนี้เสนอข้อมูลเกี่ยวกับประเทศไทยโดยสังเขป 11 ด้าน ได้แก่ **1) ภูมิศาสตร์ (Geography) 2) ประวัติศาสตร์ (History) 3) การเมืองการปกครอง (Politics and Government) 4) เศรษฐกิจ (Economics) 5) ประชากร (Demographics) 6) วัฒนธรรม (Culture) 7) ค่านิยม (Values) 8) คนไทยและสื่อที่คุณอาจรู้จัก (Thai people and other popularity that you may know) 9) ความเข้าใจผิดเกี่ยวกับประเทศไทย (Misconceptions) 10) บทบาทของไทยในเวทีโลก (Thailand's role on the Global Stage) และ 11) การจัดอันดับที่เกี่ยวกับประเทศไทย (Rankings related to Thailand)**

**"Thailand in Brief"** นี้จัดทำเป็นสไลด์ จำนวน 399 สไลด์ ในรูปแบบ .pdf และ .pptx สามารถดาวน์โหลดและเลือกใช้หัวข้อที่นำเสนอ และสลับลำดับการนำเสนอได้ตามความเหมาะสม อย่างไรก็ดี ผู้ใช้งานไม่สามารถดัดแปลงเนื้อหาในเอกสารได้ และห้ามผลิตซ้ำ หรือนำไปใช้เพื่อผลประโยชน์เชิงพาณิชย์โดยไม่ได้รับอนุญาตจากมูลนิธิไทย

**"Thailand in Brief"** จะได้รับการปรับปรุงให้ทันสมัยในทุกไตรมาสที่ 3 ของปี หากมีข้อสงสัยและข้อเสนอแนะเพิ่มเติม กรุณาติดต่อมูลนิธิไทย  
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กรกฎาคม 2569

# Overview of Thai Economy

- Thailand is a development success story, having **transformed rapidly** from an economy dominated by agriculture to one that is **modern, industrialized, and export-led.**

Sources: [World Bank](#)

Photo credit: King Power Mahanakhon





# THAILAND ECONOMY

## Q1 2026 GDP UPDATE

### GDP GROWTH



**+2.8%**

From **+2.5%** in Q4 2025

### EXPORTS



**+12.6%**

### TOTAL INVESTMENT



**+9.9%**

**HIGHEST IN 44 QUARTERS**



### 2026 GDP FORECAST

**1.5% – 2.5%**

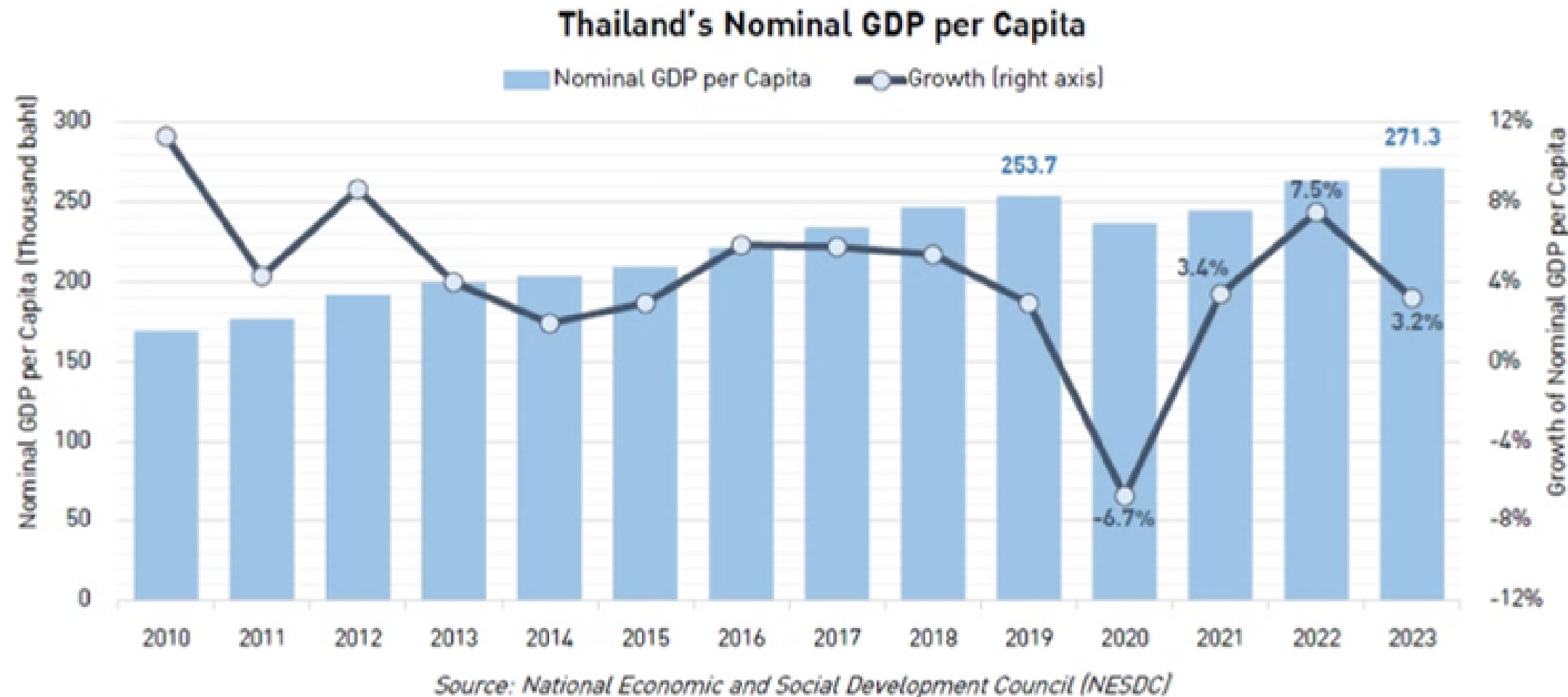
**(MIDPOINT: 2%)**



# **Thailand's Economic Performance**

# Thailand is the 2nd largest economy in Southeast Asia

Thailand is the second largest economy in Southeast Asia after Indonesia, in terms of nominal GDP (gross domestic product) value. However, its nominal per capita is higher than that of Indonesia.



Source: National Economic and Social Development Council, Thailand Development Research Institute, [Proprogress](#)

# Thailand's Key Economic Indicators (2025)

Thailand maintains steady economic growth despite global challenges.

**Nominal GDP**

**577 billion US dollars**

**GDP per Capita**

**8,200.9 US dollars**

Source: The National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC)

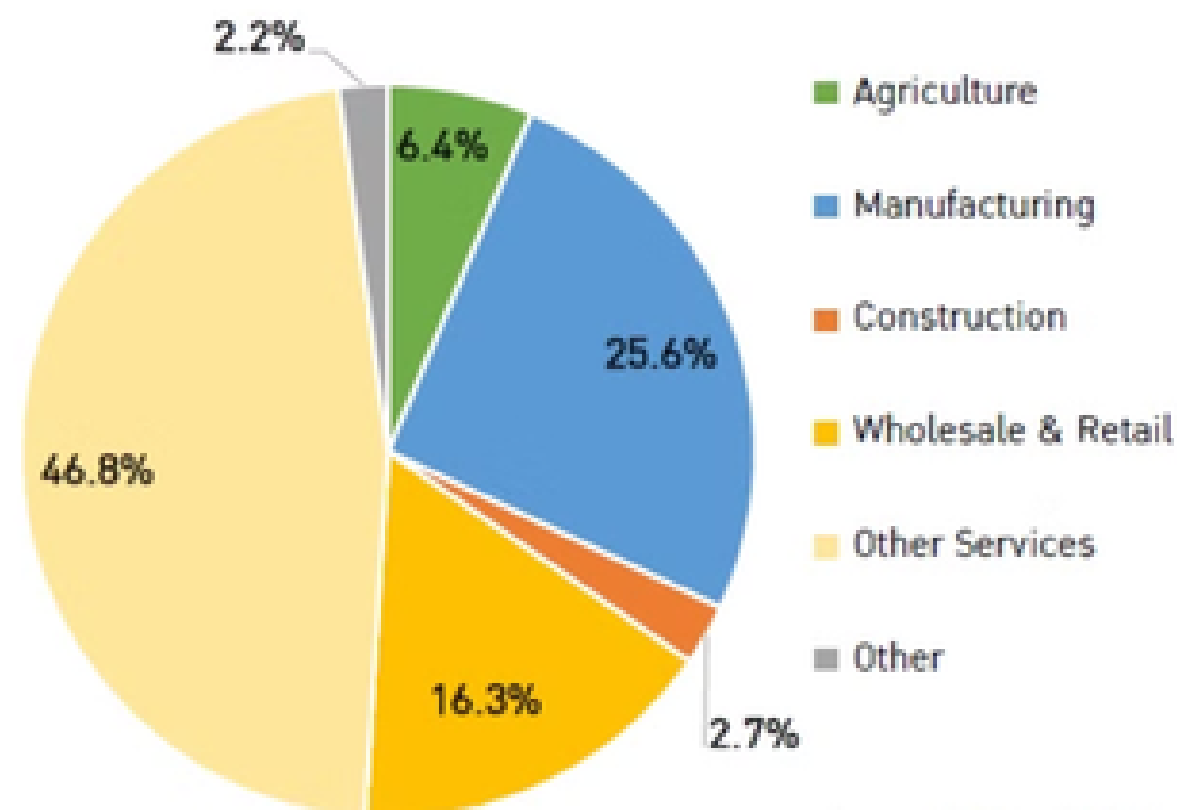
Photo credit: The Nation



# THAI ECONOMY: PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT

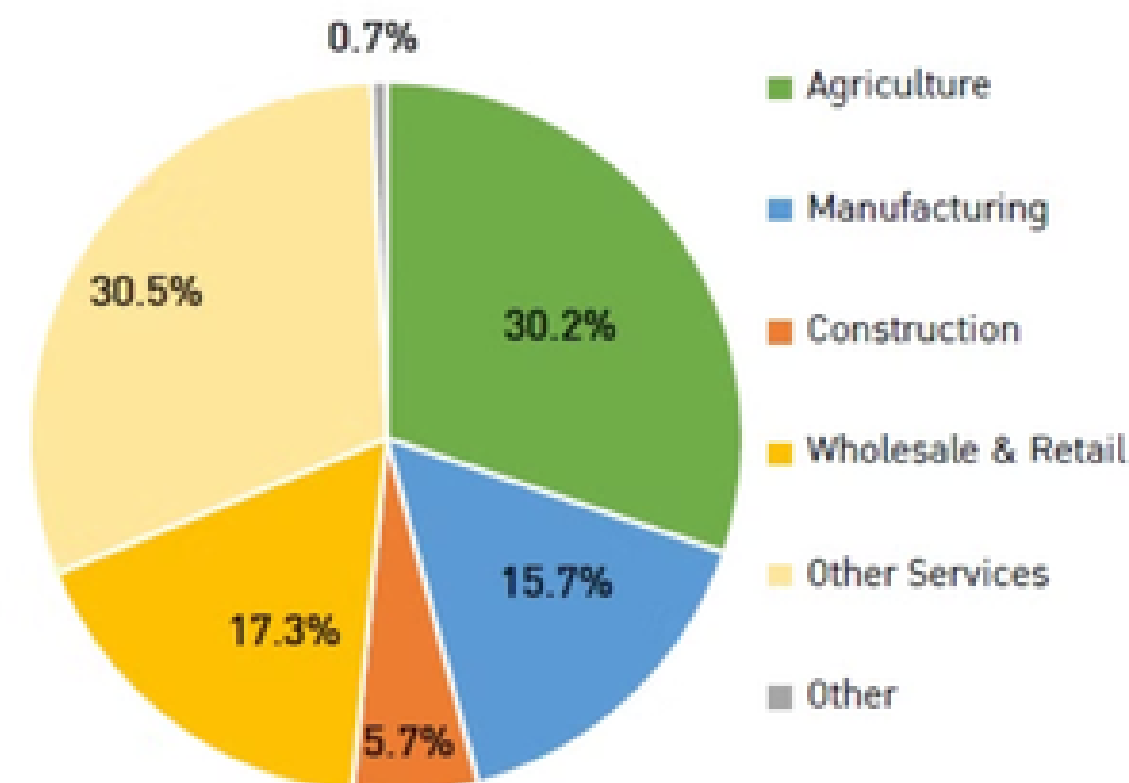
GDP = Agriculture + Manufacturing + Services + Other

Share of Thailand's Real GDP by sector, 2023 (%)



Source: NESSC with TDRI calculation

Share of employment by sector, 2023 (%)



Source: Bank of Thailand

Note: Nominal GDP in 2023 = 17.9 Trillion baht; Thailand's labor force in 2023 = 40 million

Source: National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC) and Thailand Labor Force Survey



## Top 5 Export Destinations (2025)

1. USA 21.31%
2. China 11.70%
3. Japan 6.94%
4. India 4.67%
5. Singapore 3.54%

## Top 5 Export Products (2025)

1. Automatic data processing machines 11.78%
2. Motor cars, parts and accessories 9.27%
3. Precious stones and jewellery 7.93%
4. Rubber products 4.60%
5. Machinery and parts thereof 3.51%

Source: [Trade Policy and Strategy Office, Ministry of Commerce](#)

Photo credit: Freepik



## Top 5 Import Origins (2025)

1. China 31.17%
2. Japan 8.60%
3. Taiwan 7.38%
4. USA 6.13%
5. UAE 4.97%

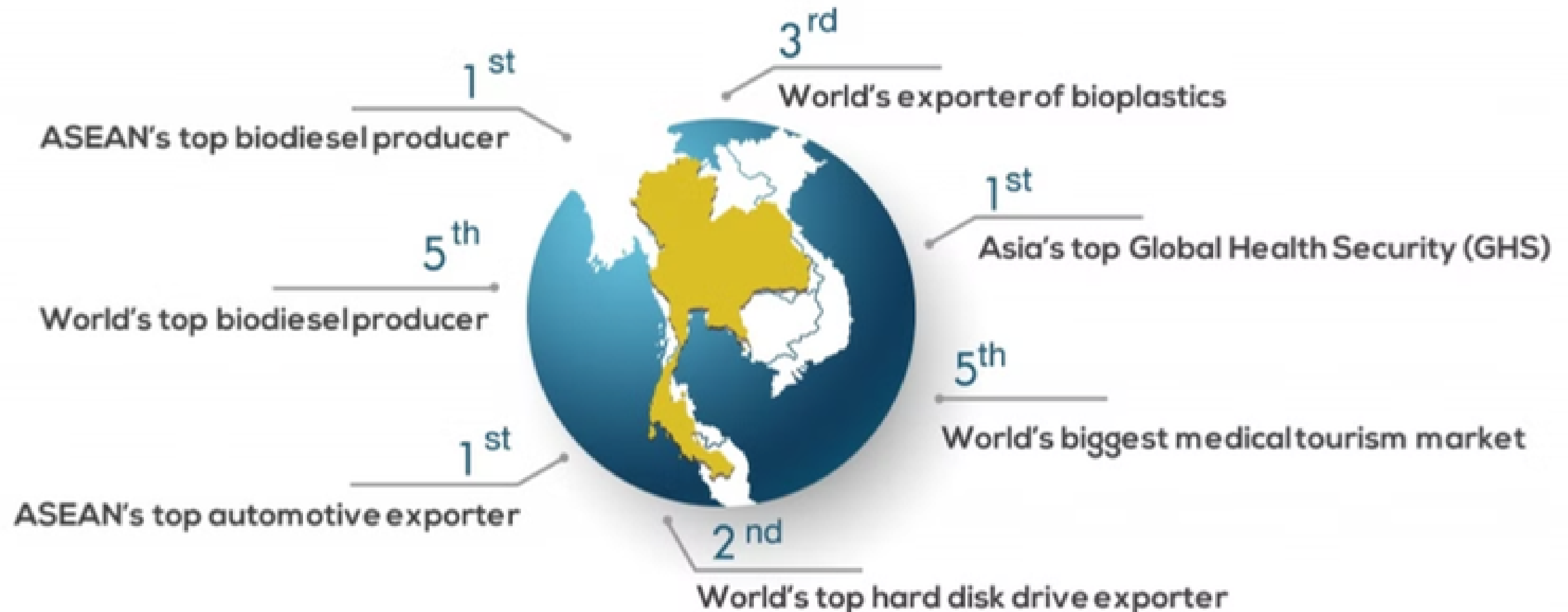
## Top 5 Import Products (2025)

1. Electronic integrated circuits 9.97%
2. Electrical machinery and parts 9.24%
3. Crude oil 7.97%
4. Jewellery including silver bars and gold 7.42%
5. Machinery and parts 7.41%

Source: [Trade Policy and Strategy Office, Ministry of Commerce](#)

Photo Credit: Freepik

## THAILAND IN THE WORLD'S RANKING



Sources: NESDC, BOT, MOC, Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, Pocket World in Figures 2022

Source: Board of Investment

# Thailand ranked Top 25 of the World in the 2026 FDI Index

**The 2026 Foreign Direct Investment (FDICI) index survey by Kearney**

indicates that Thailand has returned to the top 25 in the world.

It reflects a recovery in confidence among senior executives worldwide amidst structural changes in global supply chains.

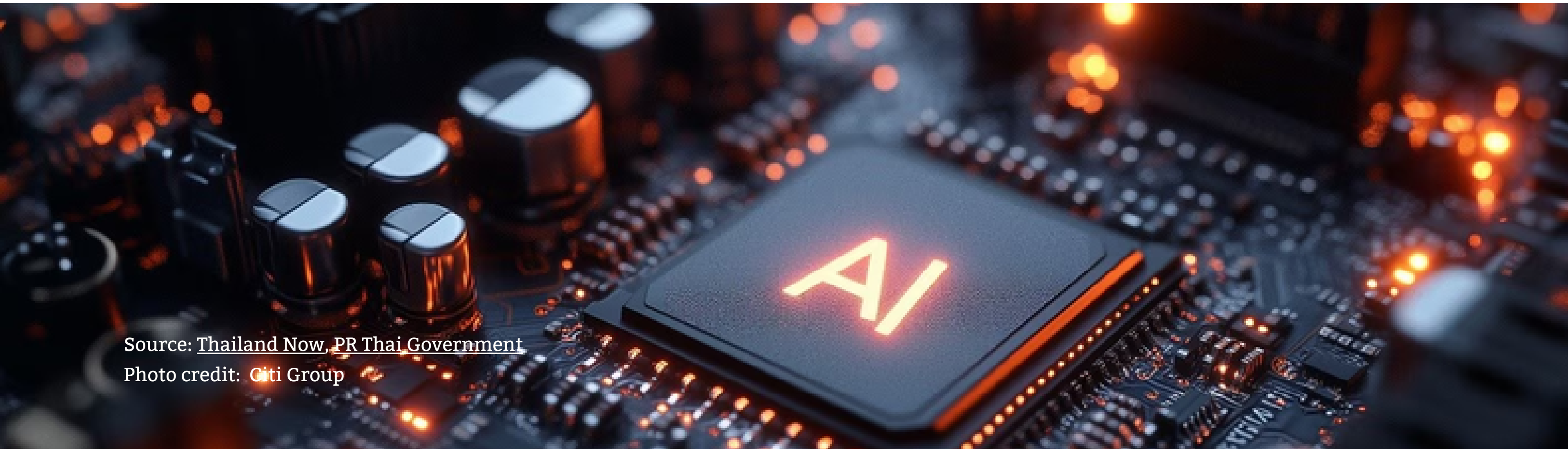
Source: [Kearney, Money & Banking Online](#)

Photo credit: We are CP



# Thailand ranks among the World's Four Largest Exporters of AI-related hardware

Thailand has been ranked among **the world's four largest exporters of AI-related hardware** by **the International Monetary Fund (IMF)**, underscoring the Kingdom's growing role in global technology supply chains, as it pushes to transform itself into a regional hub for AI and semiconductor manufacturing.



Source: [Thailand Now](#), PR Thai Government

Photo credit: Citi Group

# Examples of the Leading Thai Companies with Global Presence



## **CP ALL**

established by  
the Charoen Pokphan Group to  
operate the convenience store  
business in Thailand under “7-  
Eleven” trademark



## **Petroleum Authority of Thailand**

a Thai state-owned  
SET-listed petroleum and  
natural gas company



## **Siam Cement Group**

Thailand’s largest and oldest  
cement and building materials  
company

# Examples of the Leading Thai Companies with Global Presence



## Thai Beverage

leading beverage producer and distributor in South-East Asia and among the largest in Thailand.



## Kasikorn Bank

Thailand's leading financial institutions

**CENTRAL**RETAIL

## Central Retail

the leading multi-format and multi-category retailing platform in Thailand

# Examples of the Leading Thai Companies with Global Presence



## Thai Union

Seafood producer and  
canned seafood products



## Ban Pu

A energy provider company



## Indorama Ventures PCL

Sustainable chemical company  
and PET and fibers

Source: [The Stock Exchange of Thailand \(SET\)](#), [TNN Wealth](#), [Line Today](#)

# Examples of the Leading Thai Companies with Global Presence



## **Electricity Generating PCL**

Power producer in Thailand



## **AAPICO Hitech PCL**

Manufacture of OEM parts  
and Car Retailing



## **Delta Electronics**

Manufacturers and  
distributors of power  
supplies and electronic  
equipment and parts



## **AMATA**

Developer and operator  
of industrial parks

# Bangkok Tops the List of the World's Most Visited Cities in 2025

| Top 10 Cities in International Arrivals 2025 |                              |                  |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| City                                         | International trips, million | Growth 2024-2025 |
| Bangkok                                      | 30.3                         | -7%              |
| Hong Kong                                    | 23.2                         | 6%               |
| London                                       | 22.7                         | 4%               |
| Macau                                        | 20.4                         | 14%              |
| Istanbul                                     | 19.7                         | 6%               |
| Dubai                                        | 19.5                         | 7%               |
| Mecca                                        | 18.7                         | 7%               |
| Antalya                                      | 18.6                         | 8%               |
| Paris                                        | 18.3                         | 4%               |
| Kuala Lumpur                                 | 17.3                         | 5%               |

Source: Euromonitor International



Source: [Euromonitor](#), [Tourism Authority of Thailand](#)



# International Tourist Arrivals to Thailand (2025)

## 32.97 Millions

| Rank | Country     | Numbers of visitors |
|------|-------------|---------------------|
| 1    | Malaysia    | 4,520,856           |
| 2    | China       | 4,473,992           |
| 3    | India       | 2,487,319           |
| 4    | Russia      | 1,898,837           |
| 5    | South Korea | 1,555,227           |

Source: The National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC), Ministry of Tourism and Sports (MOTS)

Photo credit: Le Cordon Bleu

# International Tourist Arrivals to Thailand (2025)

## 32.97 Millions

| Rank | Country                      | Numbers of visitors |
|------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 6    | Japan                        | 1,091,227           |
| 7    | The United Kingdom           | 1,083,162           |
| 8    | The United States of America | 1,081,929           |
| 9    | Taiwan                       | 987,633             |
| 10   | Singapore                    | 967,341             |

Source: The National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC), Ministry of Tourism and Sports (MOTS).

Photo credit: Le Cordon Bleu

# International Tourist Arrivals to Thailand (Jan-May 2026)

| Rank | Country     | Numbers of visitors |
|------|-------------|---------------------|
| 1    | China       | 2,318,312           |
| 2    | Malaysia    | 1,737,938           |
| 3    | India       | 1,056,729           |
| 4    | Russia      | 946,732             |
| 5    | South Korea | 539,848             |

Source: The National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC), Ministry of Tourism and Sports (MOTS).

Photo credit: Le Cordon Bleu

# International Tourist Arrivals to Thailand<sup>+</sup> (Jan-May 2026)

| Rank | Country                      | Numbers of visitors |
|------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 6    | The United Kingdom           | 497,589             |
| 7    | The United States of America | 471,254             |
| 8    | Germany                      | 449,076             |
| 9    | Taiwan                       | 443,997             |
| 10   | Japan                        | 434,980             |

Source: The National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC), Ministry of Tourism and Sports (MOTS).

Photo credit: Le Cordon Bleu