

News Release

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HSBC Expat Survey: Malaysia offer expats chance to save more money and enjoy greater disposable income

Kuala Lumpur: Malaysia stands out for offering expats the chance to save more money and enjoy greater disposable income. 63% of expats say they enjoy more disposable income living in Malaysia and can save more than they did at home. This makes Malaysia one of the top destinations for improving personal finances. Vietnam tops the regional league table with 67% of expats in the country seeing an increase in their disposable income and 68% increasing the amount they save but the region performs strongly across the board.

	% of expats who say they have more disposable income since moving	% of expats who say they can save more since moving	% of expats able to own additional property as a result of moving
Vietnam	67	68	16
China	68	65	16
Hong Kong	67	61	19
Malaysia	63	63	20
Singapore	65	60	20
Australia	54	49	23
India	58	61	24
Indonesia	65	62	19
New Zealand	40	35	19
Philippines	65	58	23
Taiwan	61	60	12

Meanwhile, expats based in Asia Pacific are the world's highest paid expats with an average annual income of US\$126,537, according to HSBC's latest [Expat Explorer survey](#). The report reveals that AsiaPacific hosts the biggest proportion (18%) of expats with salaries of over USD200, 000 a year, followed by the Middle East(16%). The region's strong earning power is mainly driven by higher salaries received by expats in Hong Kong, Singapore and China.

The report also shows that Asia Pacific offers the easiest financial set up for high-earning expats, with 73% (of all income levels) saying that setting up financially in New Zealand is easy, followed by Singapore (63%) and Australia (56%).

Lim Eng Seong, Country Head of Retail Banking and Wealth Management, HSBC Malaysia says, "Asia offers some of the most financially rewarding opportunities, allowing expats to boost their standard of living and raise lifestyle aspirations. While British and Americans comprise the majority of expats in the region, our survey shows a significant proportion of Asians working in the region: Australians working in China and Vietnam; Indians in Malaysia and Indonesia; Filipinos in Malaysia and Malaysians and Indonesians in Singapore."

"Malaysia gives priority to a people centered approach in its vision to steer the ASEAN community close. This further reinforces Malaysia's efforts in encouraging free flow of skilled workers within ASEAN. We can only expect the intra-Asian expatriate wave to strengthen with further growth and economic integration in the region.

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As the ASEAN moves closer to economic cohesion, skilled labour will be needed to raise the region's competitiveness. With the ASEAN set to add 57 million new middle class households to world consumption by 2025, expats should continue to thrive in services such as telecommunications, technology, banking, education, hospitality, health, marketing and construction, as the survey points out. In addition, new trade and investment agreements that link economies closer will pave the way for more international postings between Asia and developed markets. It is truly a world of exciting prospects for a growing number of mobile professionals and skilled workers."

The ability to save more, enjoy greater disposable income or acquire real estate assets are all important considerations for expats moving to a new country. Offering expats a regional view of the financial benefits on offer, Expat Explorer reveals the best countries to increase one's standard of living.

The Expat Explorer survey is commissioned by HSBC Expat and conducted by YouGov. Now in its eighth year, it is the largest and one of the longest running global surveys of expats, with 21,950 respondents sharing their views on different aspects of life abroad, including personal earnings, careers, experience and family.

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Notes to editor

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The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

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About the Expat Explorer survey and league table

The Expat Explorer survey was completed by 21,950 expats from 198 countries through an online questionnaire in March, April and May 2015.

About HSBC Expat

HSBC Expat is a trading name of HSBC Bank International Limited. HSBC Expat is an award winning provider of offshore financial services, with its head office based in Jersey, Channel Islands. It also has representation in Dubai and Hong Kong. As part of HSBC Holdings plc, HSBC Expat has the experience to offer customers living and working abroad, tailored offshore financial solutions. For more information visit www.expats.hsb.com.

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