Monthly Economic Briefing

Economic, Banking, and Industry Research - BCA Group



International Trade:

A lower, yet promising surplus

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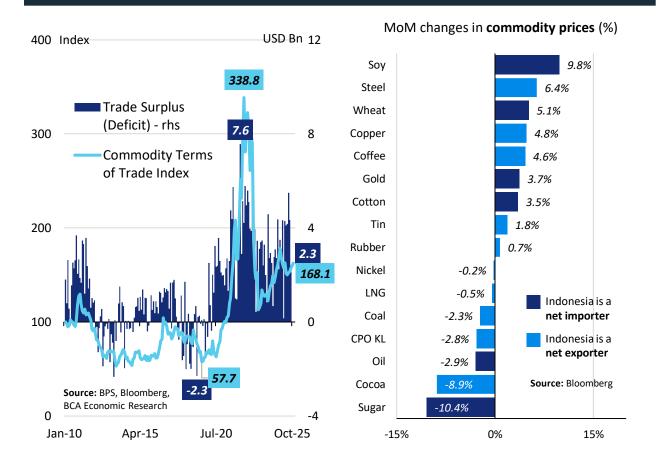




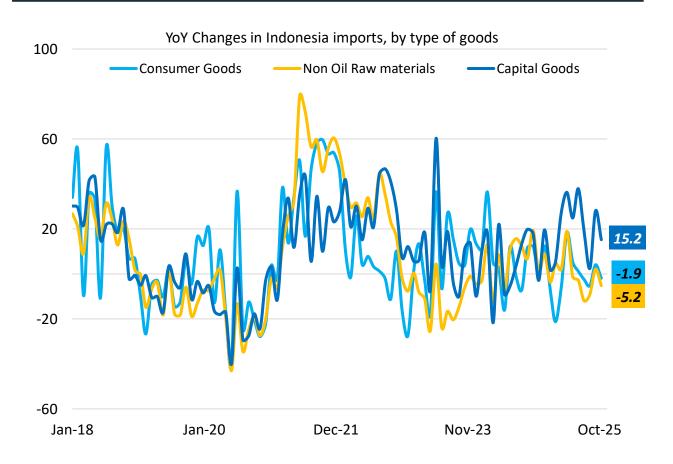
BCA Business Transaction Index*



- Indonesia's trade surplus narrowed to USD 2.39 Bn in October 2025 (see Chart 1), broadly in line with our USD 2.01 Bn projection. The smaller surplus reflects a 1.79% MoM decline in exports (-2.31% YoY), while imports accelerated by 7.42% MoM (-1.15% YoY).
- Challenging conditions in the export market explain Indonesian exporters' weaker performance, particularly in the Asian market. China's economic anaemia translated negatively to the demand for Indonesia's mainstay commodity exports, although Indonesia still booked higher CPO (HS 15) exports on the back of rising prices.
- Meanwhile, Indonesian exporters continue to benefit from stronger demand from US importers (4.43% MoM), despite concerns that front-loaded demand may have begun to taper off. Indeed, some manufacturers have been receiving more orders from their American customers, partly thanks to Indonesia's tariff advantages (see Chart 4).
- On the import front, demand still appears to be driven by investment needs (see Chart 2), both from the business sector and households, as reflected in the rise in capital goods and precious metals imports. Beyond this investment-driven motive, there are signs that import demand may rise in the coming periods. For instance, accelerated fiscal spending realisation has pushed household demand onto an uptrend, which will need to be fulfilled in part through higher imports.
- The resulting import pattern will be crucial. Rather than a spike in consumer goods imports, a rise in raw material imports would be the more favourable outcome, as such would signal strengthening domestic manufacturing activity. Encouragingly, the sharp increase in the manufacturing PMI in November 2025 points in this direction, with the expansion reportedly driven primarily by new domestic orders.
- The accelerating imports may portend a stronger domestic demand condition. Alas, the lower trade surplus will pose a problem. The resulting lower CA outlook reveals an underlying vulnerability for the Rupiah, intensifying the challenge for Bank Indonesia to fulfil its stability mandate. It comes as no surprise, then, that BI has recently stepped up its operations in the SRBI market, although the milder inflation and USD reading may still open the room for a BI rate cut at the end of the year.

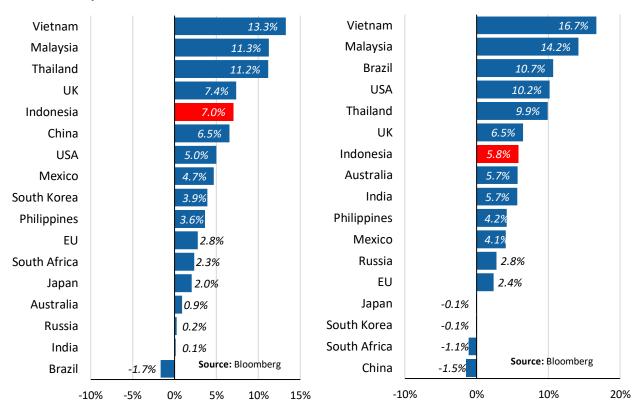


2 The demand for capital goods remain the biggest factor driving imports



Exports, C-to-C changes (%)

Imports, C-to-C changes (%)



Some Indonesian manufacturers benefit from lower US import tariffs

US import tariffs, as of Aug 2025								
	Effective tariff rate	Textiles & Footwear	Machinery & Electrical	Vehicle & spare parts	Other manufacture			
China	42.4%	46.5%	41.2%	63.8%	39.3%			
Mexico	26.6%	33.4%	31.0%	26.0%	26.9%			
Pakistan	21.7%	22.8%	10.5%	19.6%	14.1%			
Japan	20.4%	17.1%	16.7%	26.6%	13.5%			
South Korea	19.8%	13.1%	15.0%	22.6%	12.5%			
India	18.6%	21.6%	16.5%	20.7%	16.8%			
Indonesia	18.5%	27.3%	13.7%	17.4%	12.1%			
Vietnam	17.9%	26.7%	14.0%	19.3%	12.6%			
Thailand	17.4%	25.0%	15.5%	22.6%	14.8%			
Philippines	16.9%	27.7%	17.5%	17.4%	15.9%			
Malaysia	14.9%	24.5%	16.1%	19.5%	13.5%			
Source: USTIC, BCA Economic Research								

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Selected Macroeconomic Indicators

Key Policy Rates	Rate (%)	Last Change	Real Rate (%)	Trade & Commodities	28-Nov	-1 mth	Chg (%)
US	4.00	Oct-25	1.00	Baltic Dry Index	2,560.0	1,950.0	31.3
UK	4.00	Aug-25	0.40	S&P GSCI Index	555.2	550.7	0.8
EU	2.15	Jun-25	0.05	Oil (Brent, \$/brl)	63.2	64.4	-1.9
Japan	0.50	Jan-25	-2.50	-2.50 Coal (\$/MT)		112.4	-1.4
China (lending)	2.00	Sep-24	4.15	4.15 Gas (\$/MMBtu)		3.44	33.4
Korea	2.50	May-25	0.10	Gold (\$/oz.)	4,239.4	3,952.1	7.3
India	5.50	Jun-25	5.25	Copper (\$/MT)	11,233.7	11,019.0	1.9
Indonesia	4.75	Sep-25	2.03	Nickel (\$/MT)	14,632.2	15,088.9	-3.0
Manay Mkt Pates	28-Nov	-1 mth	Chg	CPO (\$/MT)	973.6	1,025.9	-5.1
Money Mkt Rates	26-140V	-1 111(11	(bps)	Rubber (\$/kg)	1.76	1.78	-1.1
SPN (1Y)	4.58	4.69	-11.1	External Sector	Sep	Aug	Chg (%)
SUN (10Y)	6.30	5.98	31.7	External Sector			
INDONIA (O/N, Rp)	4.16	3.99	16.3	Export (\$ bn)	24.68	24.96	-1.14
JIBOR 1M (Rp)	5.04	5.10	-6.0	Import (\$ bn)	20.34	19.48	4.42
Bank Rates (Rp)	Aug	Jul	Chg (bps)	Trade bal. (\$ bn)	4.34	5.49	-20.85
Lending (WC)	8.55	8.61	-6.00	Central bank reserves (\$ bn)*	148.7	150.7	-1.31
Deposit 1M	5.24	5.36	-12.00	(4 2)			
Savings	0.70	0.68	2.00	Prompt Indicators	Oct	Sep	Aug
Currency/USD	28-Nov	-1 mth	Chg (%)	Consumer confidence index (CCI)	121.2	115.0	117.2
UK Pound	0.756	0.753	-0.28	Car sales (%YoY)	-4.4	-15.1	-19.0
Euro	0.862	0.858	-0.45	, ,			
Japanese Yen	156.2	152.1	-2.61	Motorcycle sales	8.4	7.3	0.7
Chinese RMB	7.075	7.099	0.35	(%YoY)			
Indonesia Rupiah	16,660	16,605	-0.33			Oct	Chg (bps)
Capital Mkt	28-Nov	-1 mth	Chg (%)	Manufacturing PMI	Nov		
JCI	8,508.7	8,092.6	5.14	USA	51.9	52.5	-60
DJIA	47,716.4	47,706.4	0.02	Eurozone	49.7	50.0	-30
FTSE	9,720.5	9,696.7	0.25	Japan	48.7	48.2	50
Nikkei 225	50,253.9	50,219.2	0.07	China	49.9	50.6	-70
Hang Seng	25,858.9	26,346.1	-1.85	Korea	49.4	49.4	0
Foreign portfolio ownership (Rp Tn)	Oct	Sep	Chg (Rp Tn)	Indonesia	53.3	51.2	210
Stock	3,823.5	3,846.5	-23.05				
Govt. Bond	880.5	1,213.4	-332.89				
Corp. Bond	4.1	4.1	-0.02				

Source: Bloomberg, BI, BPS

Notes:

^{***}For PMI, >50 indicates economic expansion, <50 otherwise





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^{*}Data from earlier period

^{**}For changes in currency: ${\bf Black}$ indicates appreciation against USD, ${\bf Red}$ otherwise

Indonesia - Economic Indicators Projection

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025E
Real GDP growth (% YoY)	5.0	-2.1	3.7	5.3	5.0	5.0	5.0
Nominal GDP growth (% YoY)	6.7	-2.5	9.9	15.4	6.7	6.0	7.2
GDP per capita (USD)	4175	3912	4350	4784	4920	4960	5100
CPI inflation (% YoY)	2.7	1.7	1.9	5.5	2.6	1.6	2.8
BI Rate (%)	5.00	3.75	3.50	5.50	6.00	6.00	4.75
SBN 10Y yield (%)	7.04	5.86	6.36	6.92	6.45	6.97	6.32
USD/IDR exchange rate (average)	14,141	14,529	14,297	14,874	15,248	15,841	16,461
USD/IDR exchange rate (end of year)	13,866	14,050	14,262	15,568	15,397	16,102	16,625
Trade balance (USD Bn)	-3.2	21.7	35.3	54.5	37.0	31.0	26.0
Current account balance (% of GDP)	-2.7	-0.4	0.3	1.0	-0.1	-0.6	-0.75

Notes:

· USD/IDR exchange rate projections are for fundamental values; market values may diverge significantly at any moment in time

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