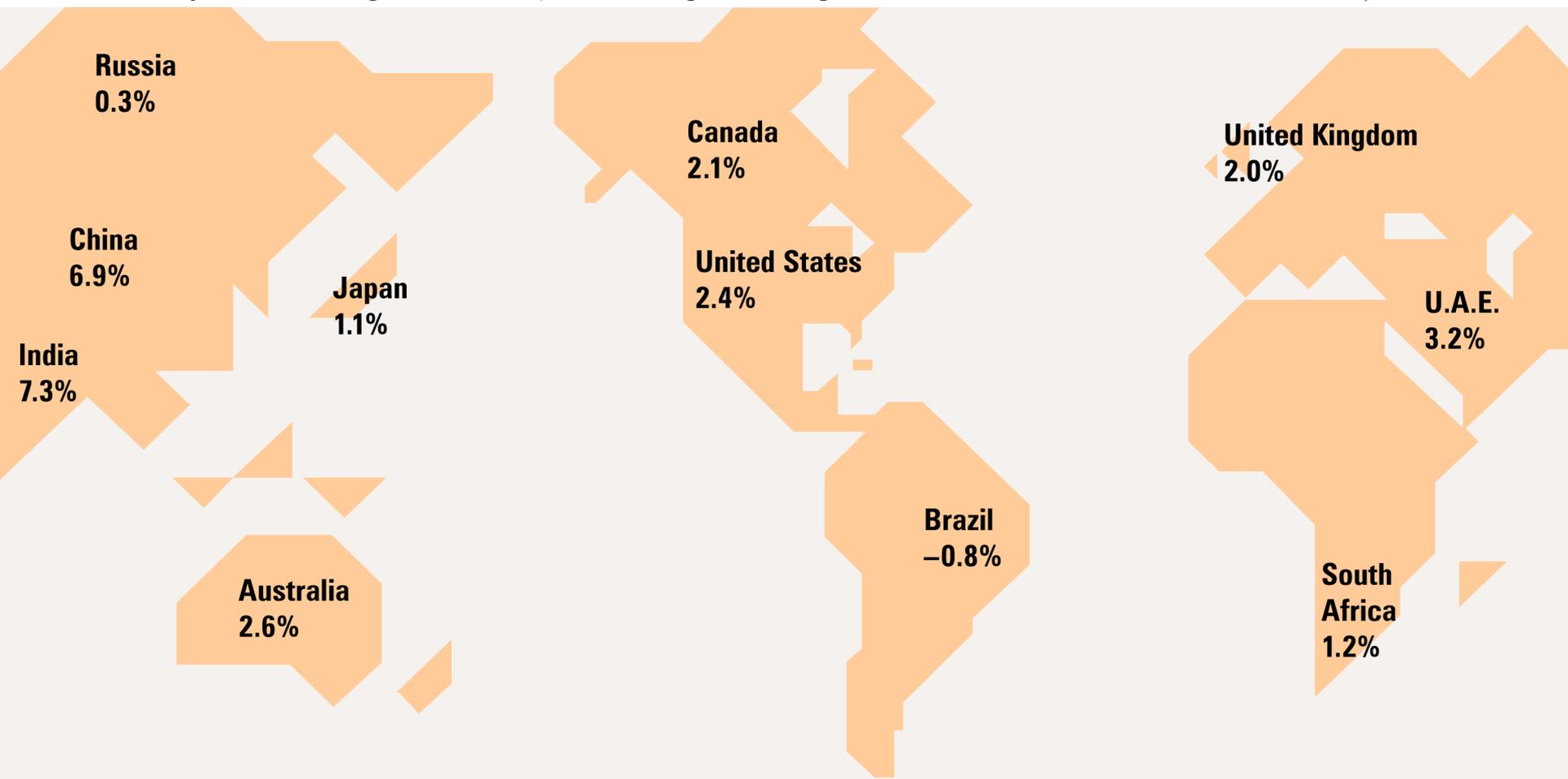


# GDP Growth by Region

Five-year average annual percentage change 2013–18



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### **GDP Growth by Region**

A number of important trends, both short- and long-term, have contributed to global growth over time. One clear sign of worldwide economic expansion is rising gross domestic product (GDP). This statistic measures the value of all final goods and services produced within a nation in a given year. Foreign direct investments and exports are often considered the two major drivers of economic growth. Recently, however, this growth has slowed down, as many countries have been hit by the 2007–2009 global recession. Data may still indicate that GDP is rising, but it is clearly doing so at a much slower pace than in the past.

This image highlights average 5-year GDP growth rates for different countries around the world. Of the selected countries, China and India posted the greatest GDP growth rates, at 6.9% and 7.1% respectively per year. In fact, India has been Asia's fastest growing economy over the past few years. As companies within these countries achieve strong results, they help fuel local stock markets and local economies.

Because GDP measures a nation's total output, it can provide a snapshot of a country's economic condition. So, what does this number mean for investors? This number can be a good indicator for potential investment opportunities in international regions. The growth of the GDP in the U.S. and other developed countries (Canada, the United Kingdom) has been alarmingly low, on average, for the past five years; other countries and regions have experienced much greater growth.

GDP numbers reflect the annual percentage change, averaged over the past five years. 2018 numbers are estimates.

Source: International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Economic Outlook Database, as of October 2018.

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