

# East Asia and Pacific

## East Asia & Pacific: regional data from the WDI database

	Population	GNI per capita		Life expectancy at birth	Primary completion rate	Access to improved water	Carbon dioxide emissions	Total debt service	Internet users
	millions	Atlas <sup>a</sup>	PPP <sup>b</sup>	years	% of relevant age	source	per capita metric tones	% of exports	per 100 people
	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007 <sup>c</sup>	2006	2005	2007	2007
<b>East Asia &amp; Pacific</b>	<b>1,912</b>	<b>2,182</b>	<b>4,969</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>14.6</b>
Europe & Central Asia	446	6,052	11,262	70	98	95	7.0	18.7	21.4
Latin America & Caribbean	561	5,801	9,678	73	100	91	2.5	16.0	26.9
Middle East & North Africa	313	2,820	7,402	70	90	89	3.7	5.8	17.1
South Asia	1,522	880	2,532	64	80	87	1.1	12.9	6.6
Sub-Saharan Africa	800	951	1,869	51	60	58	0.8	5.0	4.4
<b>Selected economies:</b>									
Cambodia	14	550	1,720	60	85	65	0.0	0.5	0.5
China	1,318	2,370	5,420	73	..	88	4.3	2.2	16.1
Indonesia	226	1,650	3,570	71	99	80	1.9	10.5	5.8
Lao PDR	6	630	2,080	64	77	60	0.3	18.9	1.7
Malaysia	27	6,420	13,230	74	98	99	9.3	4.6	55.7
Mongolia	3	1,290	3,170	67	110	72	3.4	2.1	12.3
Myanmar	49	..	d	62	..	80	0.2	1.7	0.1
Papua New Guinea	6	850	1,870	57	..	40	0.7	11.2	1.8
Philippines	88	1,620	3,710	72	94	93	0.9	13.7	6.0
Thailand	64	3,400	7,880	71	101	98	4.3	8.1	21.0
Vietnam	85	770	2,530	74	..	92	1.2	2.3	21.0

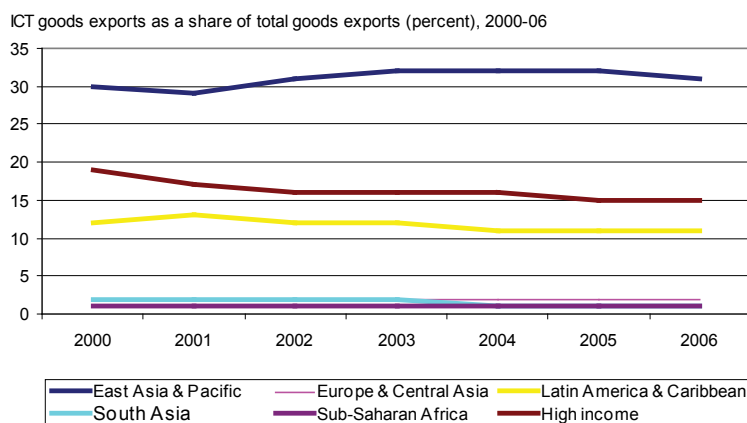
**Note:** Figures in italics are for years or periods other than those specified.

a. Atlas method; see WDI Statistical methods. b. Data are for the most recent year available. c. Provisional data. d. Estimated to be low income (\$935 or less). Source: 2009 World Development Indicators database, World Bank. April 20, 2009.

## East Asia & Pacific is becoming a leading exporter of ICT goods

### East Asia & Pacific leads in share of ICT goods exports

Although exports of information communication technology (ICT) do not necessarily reflect high rates of ICT use, they indicate the importance of a country's ICT sector and its international competitiveness. China, which exported \$299 billion in 2006, leads in dollar values of ICT goods exports. More than 30 percent of East Asia and Pacific exports were ICT goods. ICT goods made up about 15 percent of the exports of high-income economies and about 11 percent of those from Latin America and the Caribbean.



Source: World Development Indicators, Table 5.11

## **People**

**Progress toward the Millennium Development Goals—East Asia and Pacific** is on track to exceed the MDG target of reducing poverty to half its 1990 rate. The proportion of people living on less than \$1.25 a day was cut by 70 percent (from 55 to 17 percent) between 1990 and 2005. Much of this decline was in China, where poverty rates fell from 60 percent to 16 percent, leaving 475 million fewer people in poverty. The region has also made good progress toward achieving universal primary education (over 90 percent enrollment) and has improved the care provided women of childbearing age. Between 2002 and 2007, 78 percent of married women used contraception, 90 percent of pregnant women received prenatal care, and 87 percent of births were attended by skilled health staff.

## **Environment**

**Increasing demand, shrinking population in rural East Asia and Pacific**—Like South Asia, **East Asia and Pacific remains predominantly rural**, but the proportion of rural inhabitants fallen from 71 in 1990 to 57 percent in 2007. This has put more pressure on services in growing urban areas, and leaves a smaller rural population to support the agricultural needs of a growing urban population. Increasing demand for agricultural outputs has led to substantially higher use of fertilizers (highest in the world) and agricultural machinery over the same period, resulting in higher cereal yields (23 percent) and higher agricultural productivity (49 percent). East Asia and Pacific had the highest level of cereal yield among developing regions, at 4.7 tons per hectare in 2005-07 it was close to the 5.1 tons per hectare average of highly-mechanized, high-income economies.

**Doubling energy production and use...and CO2 emissions —East Asia and Pacific** now produces more energy than any other region. It doubled its energy use between 1990 and 2007 to 2.4 billion metric tons of oil equivalent or more than 20 percent of global production. Reliance on fossil fuel to generate energy has contributed to more than doubling the region's carbon dioxide emissions from 3.0 billion tons in 1990 to 6.8 billion in 2005. In 2006, 72 percent of electricity in the region was generated by coal.

## **Economy**

**Leading trader**—In 2007, **East Asia and the Pacific** accounted for 43 percent of developing country exports and 38 percent of developing country imports. China alone accounted for two-thirds of the region's merchandise trade (exports plus imports) in 2007. Merchandise trade grew by 20 percent in nominal terms between 2006 and 2007 and reached 75 percent of the regional output, a 16 percentage point increase since 2000. Nearly 75 percent of the region's merchandise exports in 2007 were directed to high-income economies. Due to the global financial crisis, developing country exports declined significantly in the last quarter of 2008 and the beginning of 2009. In February 2009 China's merchandise exports declined by 26 percent compared to the February 2008.

## **States and markets**

**East Asia & Pacific developing economies are becoming key exporters of high technology and ICT goods**—China, which exported \$299 billion in 2006, leads in dollar values of ICT goods exports. More than 30 percent of East Asia and Pacific exports were ICT goods. ICT goods made up about 15 percent of the exports of high-income economies and about 11 percent of those from Latin America and the Caribbean. High technology exports from developing countries were 18 percent of manufactured exports, led by **East Asia & Pacific** with 31 percent. Next was **Latin America and the Caribbean** (12 percent), followed by **Europe and Central Asia** (6 percent).

## **Global links**

**Foreign direct investment inflows increased in 2007**—**East Asia and the Pacific** received one third of all FDI inflows to developing regions, which increased from \$105 billion in 2006 to \$175 billion in 2007. However, 80 percent went to China alone. The increase in FDI inflows came while portfolio equity flows fell from \$56 billion in 2006 to \$35 billion in 2007, leaving it second to South Asia among developing regions.