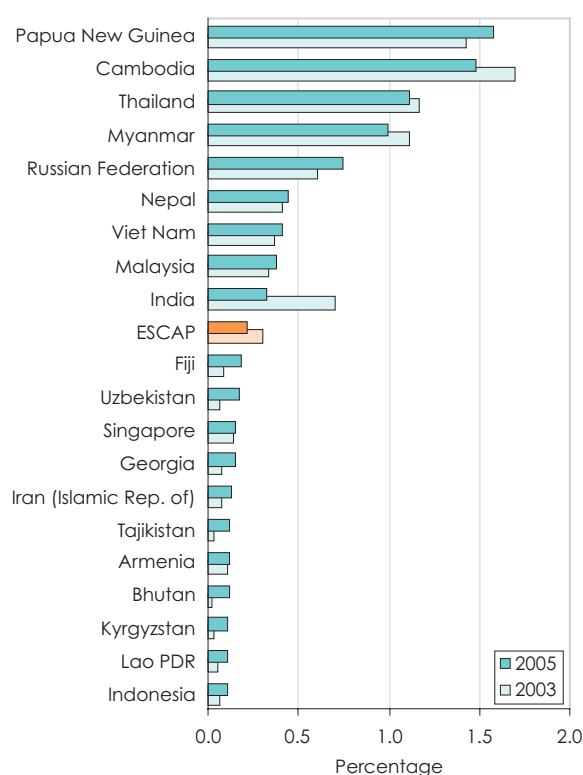


## 6. HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS prevalence in Asia and the Pacific, at 0.27 per cent, seems low compared with that of other regions, but it represents more than 6 million people living with HIV/AIDS.

HIV/AIDS prevalence in both Africa, at 5.05 per cent, and Latin America and the Caribbean, at 0.57 per cent, is higher than in Asia and the Pacific, although the total population living with HIV/AIDS in Latin America is less than a third that of the Asian and Pacific region.

Figure 6.1 Asian and Pacific countries/areas with highest proportion of adults 15 years and above living with HIV/AIDS, 2003 and 2005

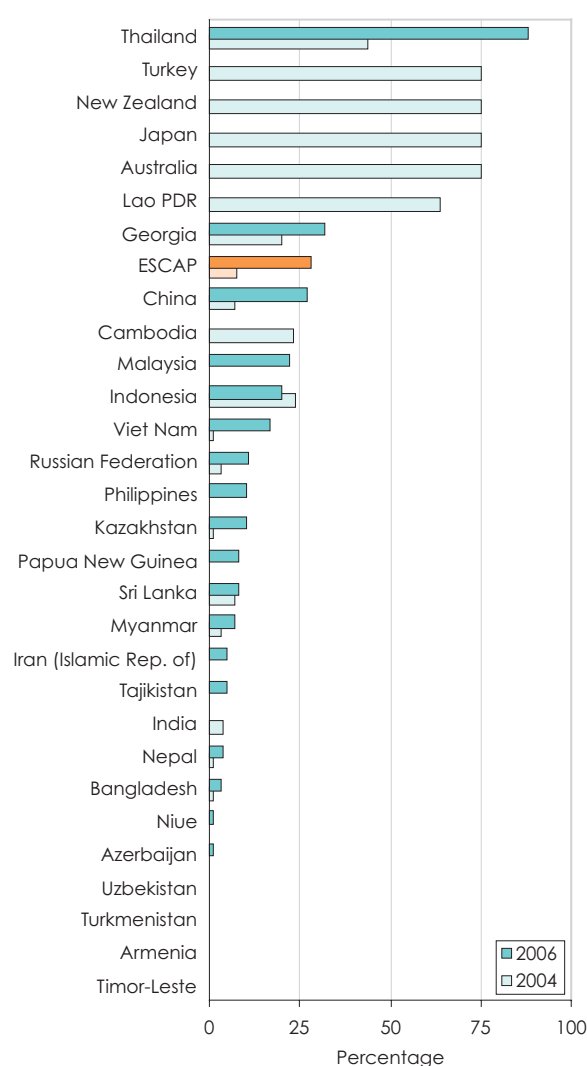


One in every four adults living with HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific resides in the ASEAN region, and the SAARC region is home to 44.2 per cent. Together, these two regions account for nearly 70 per cent of the adults living with HIV/AIDS in the Asian and Pacific region. Close to three in five adults with HIV/AIDS — 3.5 million people — live in low-income countries, while 2.5 million live in middle-income countries.

High-income countries, such as Japan, Australia and New Zealand, not only have the lowest prevalence but also have ensured that at least three fourths of their populations living with HIV have access to antiretroviral treatment. This is in contrast to most low- and middle-income countries

in the region, where relatively low proportions of people living with HIV have access to antiretroviral treatment. A notable exception in this regard is Thailand, where 88 per cent of those infected have such access.

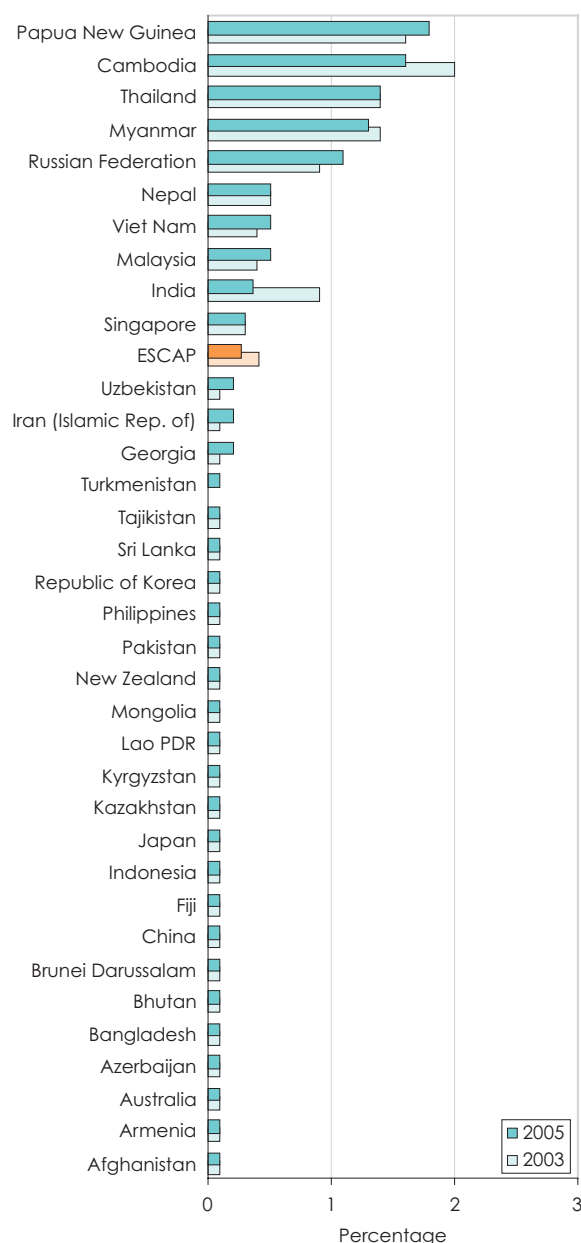
Figure 6.2 Access to antiretroviral drugs by population with advanced HIV in Asia and the Pacific, 2004 and 2006



The prevalence of adults living with HIV/AIDS is increasing in many North and Central Asian countries. This subregion is showing the fastest increase in the rates of infection, and almost a quarter of those infected are women. In the Russian Federation, the number of people estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS was 940,000 in 2005, and 22 per cent of these were women.

In Uzbekistan, an estimated 31,000 people were living with HIV/AIDS by 2005, and the number of reported HIV cases has almost tripled since 2003. People living with HIV/AIDS in Central Asia generally have low access to treatment,

Figure 6.3 HIV prevalence among people aged 15-49 in Asia and the Pacific, 2003 and 2005



but in Georgia, 32 per cent of the affected population had access to antiretroviral treatment in 2005, a sign that the country is doing comparatively well.

In South Asia, recent surveys indicate that, in 2005, approximately 2.5 million people in India were living with HIV/AIDS. Pakistan and Nepal are also among the countries with the highest numbers of people living with HIV/AIDS, at 84,000 and 74,000, respectively. Access to antiretroviral therapy in this subregion is among the lowest in the world.

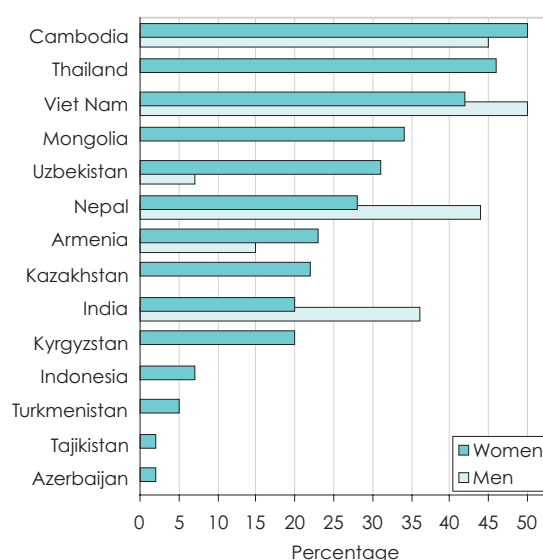
In South-East Asia, Thailand had an estimated 560,000 adults living with HIV/AIDS at the end of 2005. While the number of new HIV infections continued to drop, women still account for almost 40 per cent of all infections. In Cambodia, the

epidemic appears to be stabilizing, but in Viet Nam, the number of people living with HIV/AIDS shows an increasing trend, reaching an estimated 250,000 in 2005. In Indonesia, some 170,000 people were estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS.

Although in absolute terms the number of adults living with HIV/AIDS in small island developing States is not as large as in other country groupings, in terms of prevalence it is the highest in the whole of the Asian and Pacific region. Of those infected in the Pacific, 57 per cent are women. In Papua New Guinea, about 57,000 people are living with HIV/AIDS and the prevalence rose from 1.6 to 1.8 per cent between 2003 and 2005, an increase of 16 per cent over two years. HIV prevalence is also high in Thailand, at 1.4 per cent, and in Cambodia, at 1.6 per cent, although in the latter case the trend is decreasing.

In a number of other countries, including those in North and Central Asia, the most common way to acquire HIV is through drug use, i.e. by sharing needles or syringes with an infected person. In South and South-East Asia, on the other hand, people most often acquire HIV through unprotected sex. In India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal and Viet Nam, for example, HIV prevalence among injecting drug users averages only 20 per cent.

Figure 6.4 Proportion of women and men aged 15-24 with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV in Asia and the Pacific, latest year from 2000-2006



As prevalence rises through these modes of transmission, the epidemic is no longer confined to the higher-risk groups and, consequently, more women become infected. In fact, married women can be at high risk, as they acquire the virus from their husbands. In Papua New Guinea, women

account for half of all new infections. In Thailand, almost two in five new infections are within this group, while in Cambodia, 46 per cent of those newly infected are women (UNAIDS, 2006).

A condition for halting the epidemic is for people to understand how the virus spreads. Although many young people are aware of HIV/AIDS, their knowledge is not usually profound. According to data collected through surveys, the

proportion of men aged 15 to 24 who are sufficiently well informed varies widely across the region: from over 50 per cent in Viet Nam to 36 per cent in India and less than 7 per cent in Uzbekistan. In the case of women of the same age, the number varies significantly, from over 50 per cent in Cambodia, Thailand and Viet Nam to 5 per cent or less in Azerbaijan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

#### **Women aged 15 and above living with HIV/AIDS (number):**

The estimated number of women aged 15 and above who are infected or living with HIV/AIDS at a given point in time. *Aggregates:* Sum of individual country values. Missing data for AIDS prevalence among women aged 15 and above have been imputed. *Source:* Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, 2006 *Report on the global AIDS epidemic*, (online publication, accessed in August 2007).

#### **Adults aged 15 and above living with HIV/AIDS (number):**

The estimated number of adults aged 15 and above, women and men, who are infected or living with HIV/AIDS at a given point in time. *Aggregates:* Sum of individual country values. Missing data for AIDS prevalence among adults aged 15 and above have been imputed. *Source:* Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, 2006 *Report on the global AIDS epidemic*, (online publication, accessed in August 2007).

#### **HIV prevalence rate, population aged 15-49 (percentage):**

The proportion of the population aged 15-49 living with HIV/AIDS at a given point in time in the total population. *Aggregates:* Averages are calculated using population aged 15-49 as weight. *Source:* United Nations Millennium Development Goals Indicators, (online database, accessed in September 2007).

#### **Population with advanced HIV with access to ART (percentage):**

The proportion of people with an advanced HIV infection, adults and children, who are receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART) according to a nationally approved treatment protocol or the WHO/Joint UN Programme on HIV and AIDS standards. *Source:* World Health Organization, WHO Statistical Information System, (online database, accessed in September 2007).

#### **Women aged 15-24 with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS (percentage):**

The share of women

aged 15-24 who (i) correctly identify the two major ways of preventing sexual transmission of HIV, (using condoms and limiting sex to one faithful, uninfected partner), (ii) reject the two most common local misconceptions about HIV transmission and (iii) know that a healthy-looking person can transmit HIV. *Source:* United Nations Millennium Development Goals Indicators, (online database, accessed in September 2007).

#### **Men aged 15-24 with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS (percentage):**

The share of men aged 15-24 who (i) correctly identify the two major ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV (using condoms and limiting sex to one faithful, uninfected partner), (ii) reject the two most common local misconceptions about HIV transmission and (iii) know that a healthy-looking person can transmit HIV. *Source:* United Nations Millennium Development Goals Indicators, (online database, accessed in September 2007).

#### **AIDS deaths (number):**

The estimated number of adults and children that have died due to AIDS in a year, based on the modelling of HIV surveillance data. *Aggregates:* Sum of individual country values. *Source:* United Nations Millennium Development Goals Indicators, (online database, accessed in September 2007).

#### **AIDS deaths (per 100,000 population):**

The estimated number of adults and children that have died due to AIDS in a year, based on the modelling of HIV surveillance data (expressed per 100,000 population). *Aggregates:* Averages are calculated using total population as weight. Missing data for AIDS deaths have been imputed. *Source:* Calculated by ESCAP using data from United Nations Millennium Development Goals Indicators, (online database, accessed in September 2007).

## 6.1 HIV/AIDS prevalence, prevention and treatment

	Adults aged 15 and above living with HIV/AIDS				HIV prevalence rate, aged 15-49		Population with advanced HIV with access to ART	Population aged 15-24 with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS	
	Women	Number	Total	Percentage	Percentage	Women		Men	
	2003		2005						2003
East and North-East Asia									
China	130 000	180 000	530 000	650 000	0.10	0.10	27 (06)		
DPR Korea									
Hong Kong, China									
Macao, China									
Mongolia		100	500	500	0.10	0.10		34 (05)	
Republic of Korea	990	1 400	9 300	13 000	0.10	0.10			
South-East Asia									
Brunei Darussalam		100	100	100	0.10	0.10			
Cambodia	65 000	59 000	140 000	130 000	2.00	1.60	23 (04)	50 (05)	45 (05)
Indonesia	15 000	29 000	110 000	170 000	0.10	0.10	20 (06)	7 (00)	
Lao PDR	500	1 000	1 700	3 600	0.10	0.10	64 (04)		
Malaysia	14 000	17 000	56 000	67 000	0.40	0.50	22 (06)		
Myanmar	120 000	110 000	380 000	350 000	1.40	1.30	7 (06)		
Philippines	1 900	3 400	9 400	12 000	0.10	0.10	10 (06)		
Singapore	1 200	1 500	4 700	5 500	0.30	0.30			
Thailand	220 000	220 000	570 000	560 000	1.40	1.40	88 (06)	46 (05)	
Timor-Leste							0 (06)		
Viet Nam	64 000	84 000	210 000	250 000	0.40	0.50	17 (06)	42 (06)	50 (05)
South and South-West Asia									
Afghanistan	100	100	500	1 000	0.10	0.10			
Bangladesh	500	1 400	7 500	11 000	0.10	0.10	<3 (06)		
Bhutan		100	100	500	0.10	0.10			
India	1 500 000		5 200 000	2 500 000	0.90	0.36	4 (04)	20 (06)	36 (06)
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	4 800	11 000	37 000	66 000	0.10	0.20	5 (06)		
Maldives									
Nepal	13 000	16 000	64 000	74 000	0.50	0.50	4 (06)	28 (06)	44 (06)
Pakistan	7 300	14 000	55 000	84 000	0.10	0.10			
Sri Lanka	100	1 000	3 100	5 000	0.10	0.10	<8 (06)		
Turkey							75 (04)		
North and Central Asia									
Armenia	1 000	1 000	2 600	2 900	0.10	0.10	0 (04)	23 (05)	15 (05)
Azerbaijan	100	1 000	1 400	5 400	0.10	0.10	<1 (06)	2 (00)	
Georgia	500	1 000	2 800	5 600	0.10	0.20	32 (06)		
Kazakhstan	5 600	6 800	10 000	12 000	0.10	0.10	10 (06)	22 (06)	
Kyrgyzstan	500	1 000	1 100	4 000	0.10	0.10		20 (06)	
Russian Federation	160 000	210 000	760 000	940 000	0.90	1.10	11 (06)		
Tajikistan		500	1 300	4 900	0.10	0.10	<5 (06)	2 (05)	
Turkmenistan				500		0.10	0 (04)	5 (06)	
Uzbekistan	1 000	4 100	11 000	31 000	0.10	0.20	0 (04)	31 (06)	7 (02)
Pacific									
American Samoa									
Cook Islands									
Fiji	100	500	500	1 000	0.10	0.10			
French Polynesia									
Guam									
Kiribati									
Marshall Islands									
Micronesia (F.S.)									
Nauru									
New Caledonia									
Niue							<1 (06)		
Northern Mariana Is.									
Palau									
Papua New Guinea	29 000	34 000	49 000	57 000	1.60	1.80	8 (06)		
Samoa									
Solomon Islands									
Tonga									
Tuvalu									
Vanuatu									
ESCAP Developed Economies									
Australia	1 000	1 000	14 000	16 000	0.10	0.10	75 (04)		
Japan	9 600	9 900	17 000	17 000	0.10	0.10	75 (04)		
New Zealand			1 400	1 400	0.10	0.10	75 (04)		
ESCAP	2 367 123	1 742 054	8 261 000	6 051 900	0.41	0.27			
LLDC	22 033	31 700	94 200	140 300	0.18	0.20			
LDC	199 100	187 600	593 800	570 100	0.48	0.44			
SIDS	30 300	36 000	54 200	63 500	0.95	1.07			
ASEAN	501 700	525 000	1 481 900	1 548 200	0.47	0.47			
SAARC	1 521 000	753 754	5 330 200	2 675 500	0.71				
Central Asia	8 833	15 400	30 200	66 300	0.10	0.14			
Low-income	1 801 133	1 046 354	6 121 600	3 501 000	0.72				
Middle-income	553 100	681 800	2 092 900	2 497 900	0.20	0.22			
High-income	12 890	13 900	46 500	53 000	0.10	0.10			
Africa	12 248 300	12 886 500	21 197 800	21 628 400	5.13	5.05			
Latin America & Carib.	568 800	645 500	1 710 200	1 873 400	0.55	0.57			
North America	286 700	309 600	1 155 000	1 259 000	0.57	0.57			
Europe	387 400	429 700	1 084 400	1 173 700	0.39	0.37			
Other Asia-Pacific									
World									

## 6.2 AIDS deaths

	AIDS deaths					
	Number			Per 100,000 population		
	2001	2003	2005	2001	2003	2005
<b>East and North-East Asia</b>						
China	30 000	26 000	31 000	2	2	2
DPR Korea						
Hong Kong, China	200	200		3	3	
Macao, China						
Mongolia	200		100	8		4
Republic of Korea	200	500	500	0	1	1
<b>South-East Asia</b>						
Brunei Darussalam	200		100	59		27
Cambodia	13 000	17 000	16 000	100	126	115
Indonesia	600	2 300	5 500	0	1	2
Lao PDR	200	100	100	4	2	2
Malaysia	1 500	1 900	4 000	6	8	16
Myanmar	14 000	36 000	37 000	30	76	77
Philippines	200	500	1 000	0	1	1
Singapore	200	500	100	5	12	2
Thailand	58 000	40 000	21 000	95	64	33
Timor-Leste						
Viet Nam	5 000	8 900	13 000	6	11	15
<b>South and South-West Asia</b>						
Afghanistan		100	100		0	0
Bangladesh		500	500		0	0
Bhutan		100	100		16	16
India						
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	500	1 000	1 600	1	1	2
Maldives						
Nepal	2 000	4 000	5 100	8	15	19
Pakistan	3 900	1 500	3 000	3	1	2
Sri Lanka	200	100	500	1	1	3
Turkey						
<b>North and Central Asia</b>						
Armenia	200	100	500	7	3	17
Azerbaijan		100	100		1	1
Georgia	200	100	500	4	2	11
Kazakhstan	200	1 000	1 000	1	7	7
Kyrgyzstan	200	100	100	4	2	2
Russian Federation						
Tajikistan		100	100		2	2
Turkmenistan						
Uzbekistan	200	100	500	1	0	2
<b>Pacific</b>						
American Samoa						
Cook Islands						
Fiji	200	100	100	25	12	12
French Polynesia						
Guam						
Kiribati						
Marshall Islands						
Micronesia (F.S.)						
Nauru						
New Caledonia						
Niue						
Northern Mariana Is.						
Palau						
Papua New Guinea	500	2 100	3 300	9	36	54
Samoa						
Solomon Islands						
Tonga						
Tuvalu						
Vanuatu						
<b>ESCAP Developed Economies</b>						
Australia	200	500	500	1	3	2
Japan	500	1 300	1 400	0	1	1
New Zealand	200			5		
<b>ESCAP</b>						
LLDC		5 800	7 800		5	6
LDC		57 800	58 900		22	22
SIDS	900	2 700	3 500	9	25	31
ASEAN	92 900	107 200	97 800	18	20	18
SAARC						
Central Asia	1 000	1 600	2 800	2	2	4
Low-income						
Middle-income	91 800	73 300	66 900	5	4	4
High-income	1 700	3 000	2 600	1	2	1
Africa	1 927 650	1 904 700	1 948 300	233	231	226
Latin America & Carib.	78 900	81 200	88 100	15	15	16
North America	15 500	17 000	17 000	5	5	5
Europe	21 700	27 700	36 100	5	5	7
Other Asia-Pacific						
World						