

2023 ESCAP population data sheet



ESCAP

Economic and Social Commission
for Asia and the Pacific



Population and development in Asia and the Pacific, 2023

Sources:

Indicators 1–5, 8–9, 11–12, 14–19: ESCAP calculations based on United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2022). World Population Prospects 2022, Online Edition.

Indicators 6, 7: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2022). Data Portal, custom data acquired via <https://population.un.org/DataPortal/>.

Indicator 10: WHO, Global Health Observatory (2022). <https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/gho-ghe-hale-healthy-life-expectancy-at-birth>.

Indicator 13: WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank Group and the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2023). Trends in maternal mortality 2000 to 2020: Estimates by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank Group and the United Nations Population Division. <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240068759>.

Indicator 20: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2018). World Urbanization Prospects: The 2018 Revision, Online Edition. <https://population.un.org/wup/Download/>.

Indicator 21: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2020). International Migrant Stock 2020. <https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/content/international-migrant-stock>.

Technical notes:

1: Based on the population as of 1 January of the respective years.

Healthy life expectancy at birth: Average number of years that a person can expect to live in "full health" by taking into account years lived in less than full health due to disease and/or injury.

Median age: Age that divides the population in two parts of equal size; that is, there are as many persons with ages above the median as there are with ages below the median.

Contraceptive prevalence: Percentage of women of reproductive age (15–49 years) who are currently using any method of contraception.

Unmet need for family planning of women of reproductive age (15–49 years): Percentage of women of reproductive age (15–49 years) who want to stop or delay childbearing but are not using a modern method of contraception.

International migrants: The midyear estimate of the number of people living in a country or area other than that in which they were born. Where the number of foreign-born was not available, the estimate refers to the number of people living in a country other than that of their citizenship.

.. indicates "not available."

0 indicates that the magnitude is not zero, but less than half of the unit employed.

Some values have been rounded compared to the values from the original data listed under sources.

General notes:

This publication does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

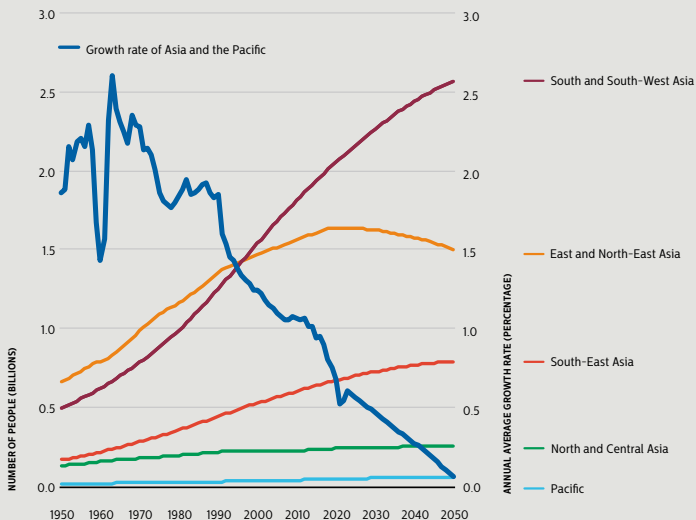
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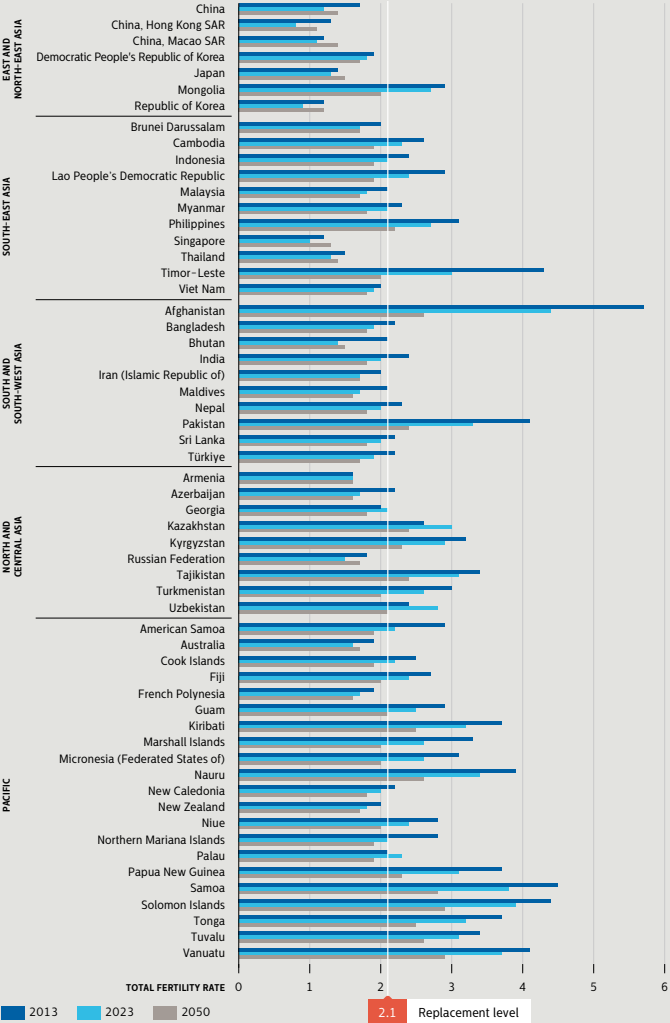
While the population in Asia and the Pacific continues to grow, the overall growth rate is declining significantly

Figure 1: Population size, by Asia-Pacific subregion, and annual growth rate for Asia and the Pacific, 1950–2050



Fertility rates are declining rapidly across Asia and the Pacific, with many countries' rates falling below replacement level

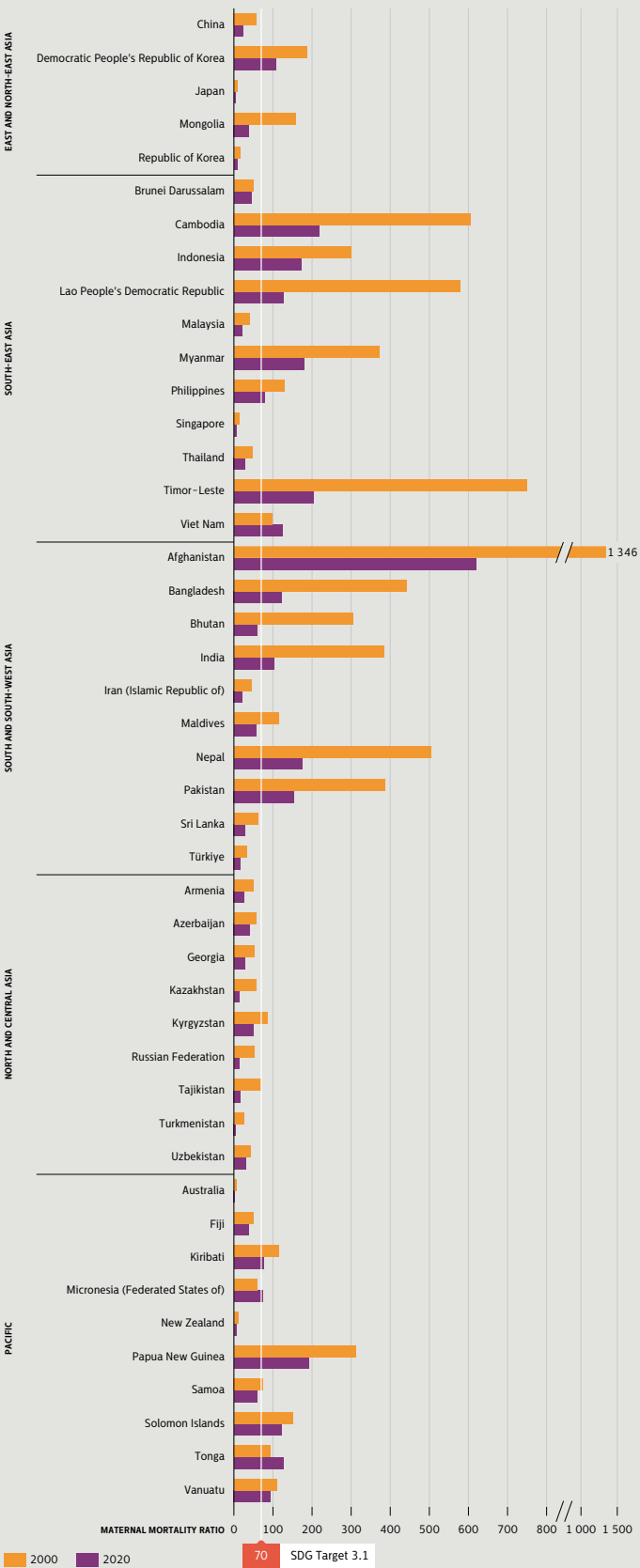
Figure 2: Total fertility rates, live births per woman aged 15–49, by Asia-Pacific country and subregion, 2013, 2023 and 2050



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2022). *World Population Prospects 2022*, Online Edition.

Although progress has been made in reducing maternal mortality across Asia and the Pacific, some countries are still far from reaching the SDG target

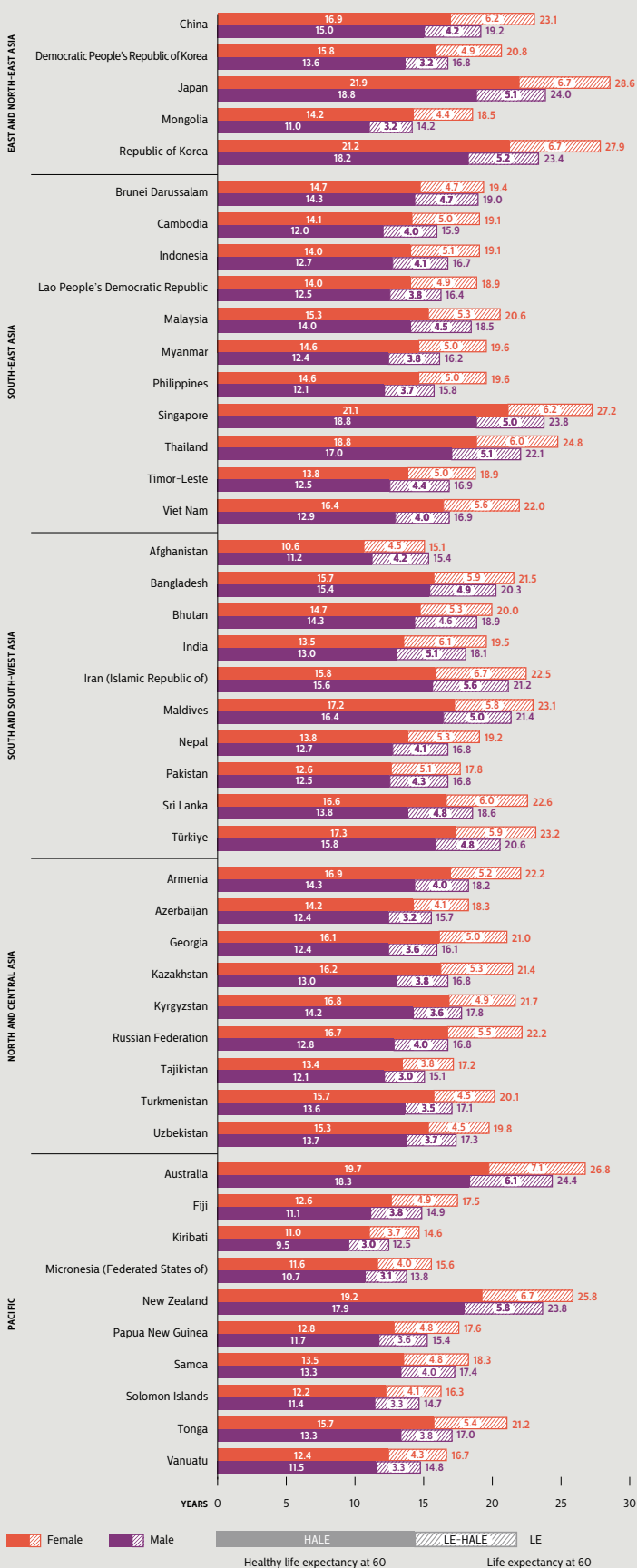
Figure 3: Maternal mortality ratio, deaths per 100,000 live births, by Asia-Pacific country and subregion, 2000 and 2020



Source: ESCAP Statistical Database, accessed on 6 May 2023; World Health Organization, *Trends in Maternal Mortality 2000 to 2020*.

While women outlive men, the quality of those additional years of life is compromised due to health issues

Figure 4: Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy at age 60 (years), by sex and by Asia-Pacific country and subregion, 2019

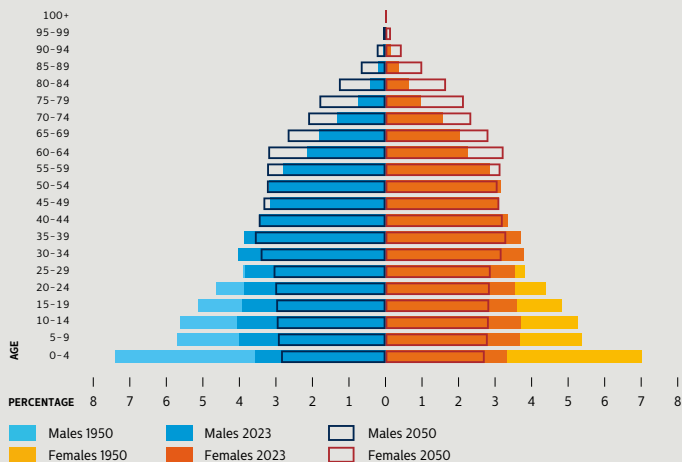


Source: ESCAP calculations based on World Health Organization, Global Health Observatory data repository, online, accessed on 1 September 2023. <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/?theme=main>.

Note: In rounding the above figures to one decimal place, certain small discrepancies exist between sums (HALE + LE-HALE) and total values (LE).

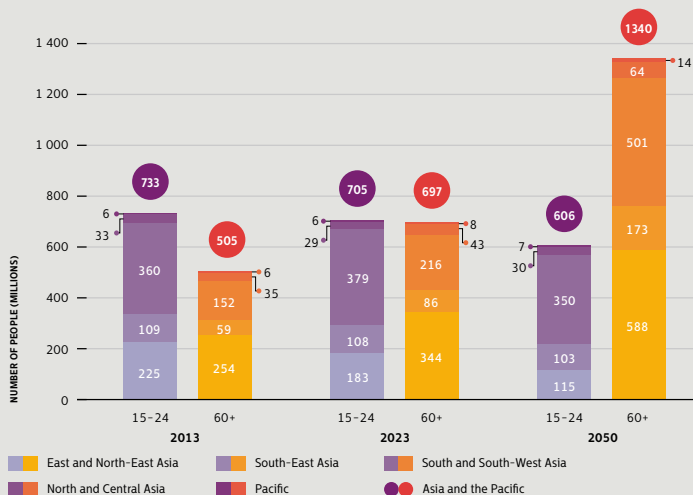
Fertility and mortality rates are declining, resulting in changing population age structures in Asia and the Pacific

Figure 5: Age and sex distribution of the total population in Asia and the Pacific, 1950, 2023 and 2050



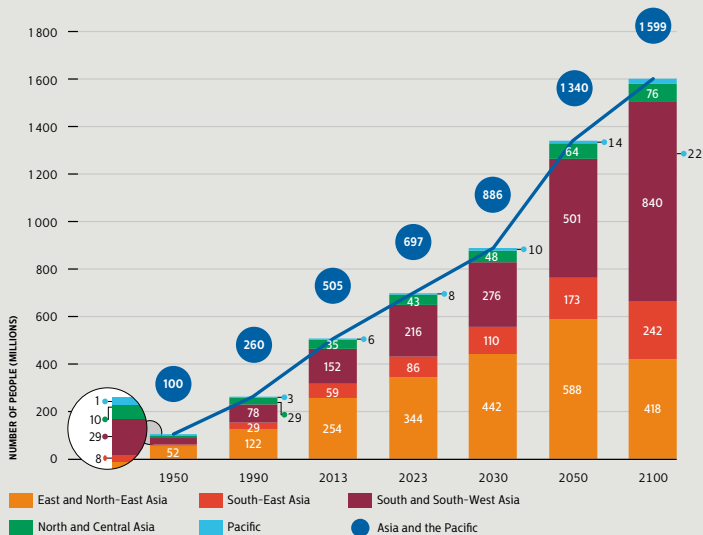
While the youth population aged 15–24 is shrinking, the population aged 60 or over is expanding rapidly

Figure 6: Youth population (15–24) and older adult population (60+), by Asia-Pacific subregion, 2013, 2023 and 2050



The number of older persons (60+) is growing in all subregions in Asia and the Pacific

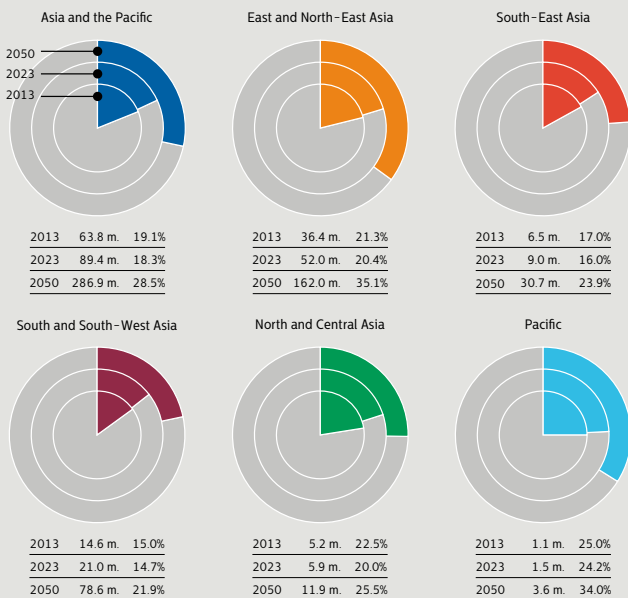
Figure 7: Number of people aged 60 years or over in Asia and the Pacific and by subregion, 1950–2100



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2022). *World Population Prospects 2022*, Online Edition.

The oldest-old population (80+) is growing at an accelerated pace, albeit with variations in growth rates across Asia-Pacific subregions

Figure 8: Oldest-old population (80+) in Asia and the Pacific, and by subregion, 2013, 2023 and 2050



The number of immigrants to and emigrants from Asia and the Pacific is on the rise

Figure 9a: Immigrants (migrant stock) in Asia and the Pacific, by subregion, 1990–2020

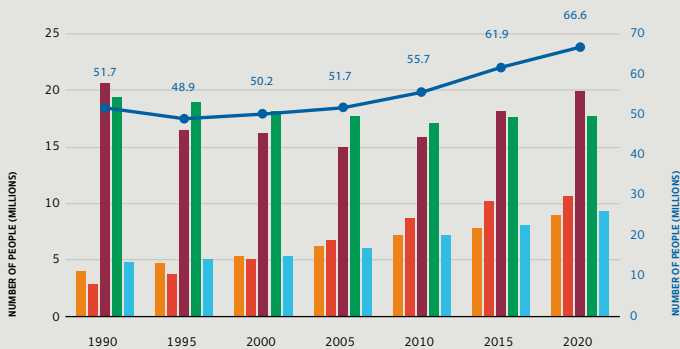


Figure 9b: Emigrants (migrant stock) from Asia and the Pacific, by subregion, 1990–2020

