

WHO and OECD (2014), Health at a Glance: Asia/Pacific 2014

Country note: China



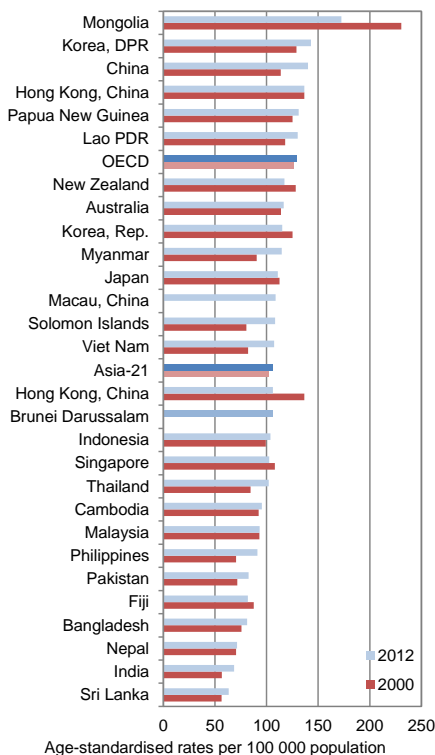
Important engagement in quality improvement initiatives

Many policy initiatives have been implemented in China, in recognition of the key role quality plays in strengthening health care systems. Accreditation programmes for hospitals and health care providers and the development of hospital infection control programmes seem to be the most relevant initiatives. There are also examples of programmes to develop guidelines, standards and indicators, as well as initiatives to measure patient experiences and improve patient safety.

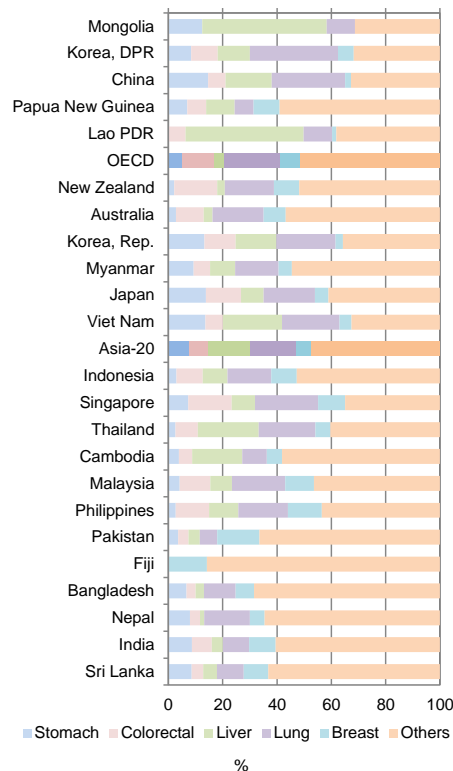
Nearly one third of cancer deaths are from lung cancer

In China's rapidly growing cities, where particulates in the air are often four times higher than in New York City, nearly 30 percent of cancer deaths are from lung cancer. Lung cancer is now the leading cause of death from malignant tumors in the country. Smoking remains the leading cause of lung cancer, but the number of smokers is falling while lung cancer rates are still rising.

1.6.1 All cancers, estimated mortality rates, 2000 and 2012

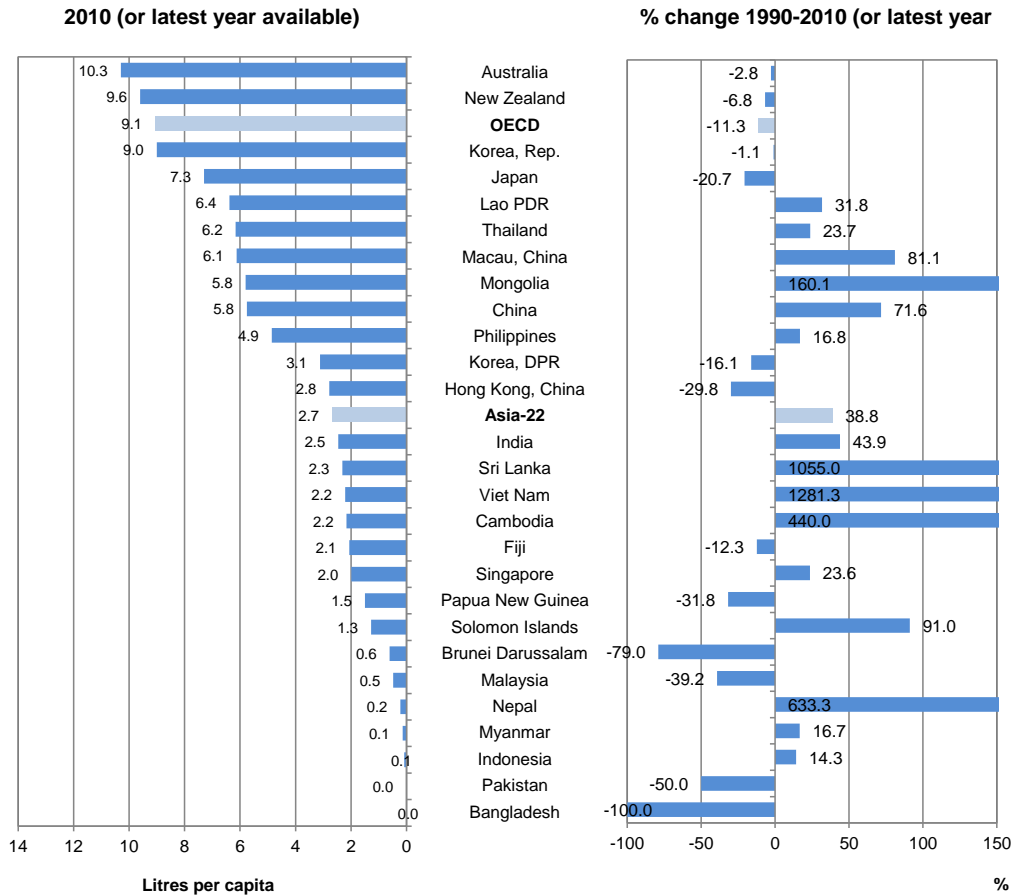


1.6.2 Proportions of cancer deaths, 2012



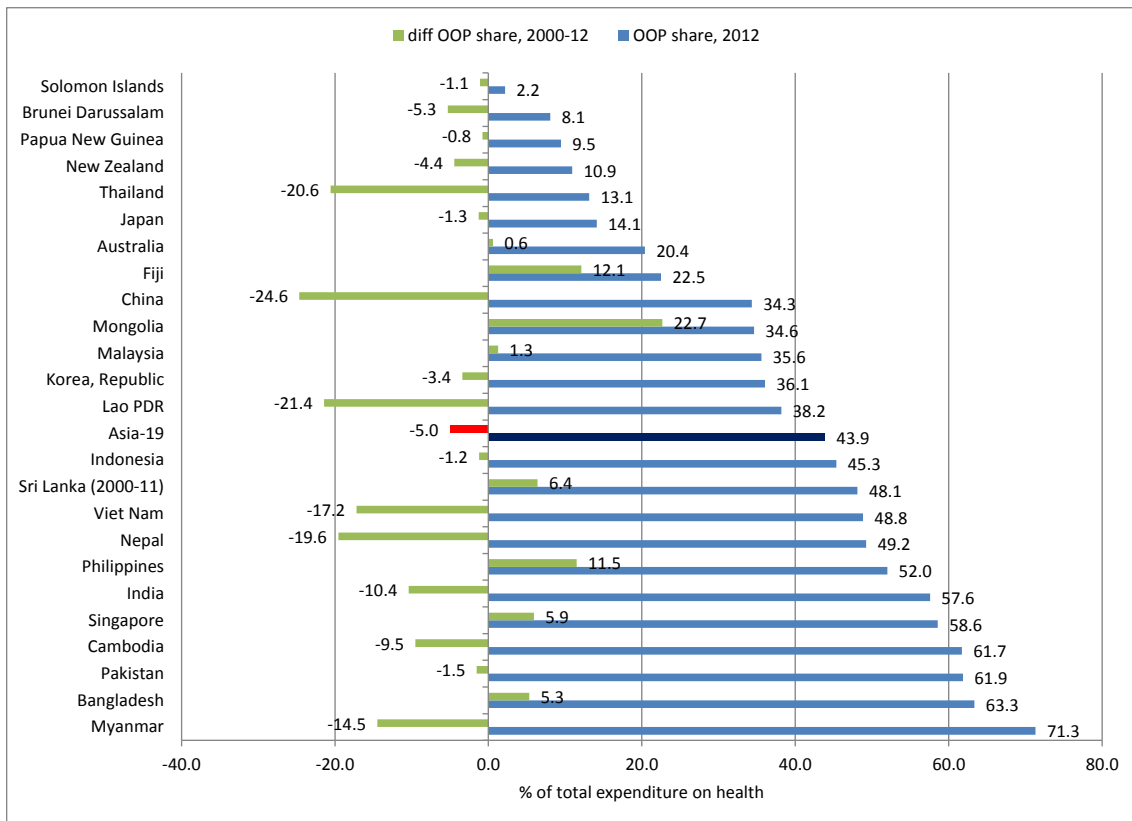
Alcohol consumption has increased steadily in the recent decades

Alcohol consumption increased from 3.4 litres per capita in 1990 to 5.8 in 2010, increasing faster than other parts of the world. These dramatic increases, noted after the 1980s, stem from China's fast economic development and the parallel rise in average income level.



Less financial burden on households

Out-of-pocket spending as a share of total expenditure on health declined importantly from 2000 to 2012, reaching one third of total spending. The rapid increase of public funding to subsidise health insurance mitigated the out-of-pocket payment for health care, in particular for the urban populations.



More information at

<http://www.oecd.org/health/health-at-a-glance-asia-pacific-23054964.htm>