KEY FINDINGS: MALAYSIA

Diabetes: Malaysia, Singapore, and Hong Kong-China had the highest prevalence of diabetes (8% or more of the population aged 20-79) for 2006. In the same year the average prevalence of diabetes for 14 Asian economies was almost identical to the prevalence for 28 OECD countries (respectively 6.2% and 6.4%).

Migration: After Hong Kong-China and Singapore, the third largest share of the foreign-born population in the total population belongs to Malaysia (6.5% in 2005), close to the average for 14 Asian economies (7.2%), but much less than the average for 24 OECD countries (11.9%).


Employment: Between 2000 and 2007, employment rates largely decreased in Malaysia, Indonesia, and Hong Kong-China, whereas on average they have increased for 30 OECD countries during the same period. Malaysia is also one of three economies (with Mongolia and Chinese Taipei) to have the lowest employment rates for people aged 55 to 64 years old (46.1% in 2006), while the average for 30 OECD countries is 53.4% for the same year.

Education: In 2005 New Zealand and Malaysia invested the most in their education systems, with 6.2% and 5.9% of their respective GDPs, followed by Mongolia at 5.1% and Australia at 4.8%. The average for 30 OECD countries was 5.3% for the same year.

Prisoners: Out of the ten economies for which comparable data are available, Malaysia, Hong Kong-China, and Australia are the three economies with the largest shares of incarcerated foreign-born people, at respectively 46.5%, 34.3% and 19.4%, while the Philippines, Indonesia, and Viet Nam have the least.