

Introduction	France	Hungary	Romania	Bulgaria	Turkey	Iran	Pakistan	India	Burma	Thailand	Laos	Cambodia	Introduction	
	<b>Background:</b> Although ultimately a victor in World Wars I and II, France suffered extensive losses in its empire, wealth, manpower, and rank as a dominant nation-state. Nevertheless, France today is one of the most modern countries in the world and is a leader among European nations. Since 1968, it has constructed a presidential democracy resistant to the instabilities experienced in earlier parliamentary democracies. In recent years, its reconciliation and cooperation with Germany have proved central to the economic integration of Europe, including the introduction of a common exchange currency, the euro, in January 1999. At present, France is at the forefront of efforts to develop the EU's military capabilities to supplement progress toward an EU foreign policy.	Hungary was part of the polyglot Austro-Hungarian Empire, which collapsed during World War I. The country fell under Communist rule following World War II. In 1956, a revolt and announced withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact were met with a massive military intervention by Moscow. Under the leadership of János Kádár in 1968, Hungary began liberalizing its economy, introducing so-called "Goulash Communism." Hungary held its first multi-party elections in 1990 and initiated a free market economy, joined NATO in 1999 and the EU in 2004.	The principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia - for centuries under the suzerainty of the Turkish Ottoman Empire - secured their autonomy in 1856; they united in 1859 and a few years later under the new name of Romania. The country gained recognition of its independence in 1878. It joined the Allied Powers in World War I and acquired new territories - most notably Transylvania - following the conflict. In 1940, Romania allied with the Axis powers and participated in the 1941 German invasion of the USSR. Three years later, overrun by the Soviets, Romania signed an armistice. The post-war Soviet occupation led to the formation of a Communist "people's republic" in 1947 and the abdication of the king. The decade-long rule of dictator Nicolae Ceaușescu, who took power in 1965, and his Securitate police state became increasingly oppressive and draconian through the 1980s. Ceaușescu was overthrown and executed in late 1989. Former Communists dominated the government until 1996 when they were swept from power. Although Romania completed accession talks with the European Union in 2004, it was not accepted by the EU until 2007.	The Bulgarians, a Central Asian Turkic tribe, merged with the local Slavic inhabitants in the late 7th century to form the First Bulgarian state. In succeeding centuries, Bulgaria struggled with the Byzantine Empire to assert its place in the Balkans, but by the end of the 14th century the country was overrun by the Ottoman Turks. Northern Bulgaria attained autonomy in 1878 and all of Bulgaria became independent from the Ottoman Empire in 1908. Having fought on the losing side in both World Wars, Bulgaria fell within the Soviet sphere of influence and became a People's Republic in 1946. Bulgaria held its first multiparty election since World War II and began the contentious process of moving toward political democracy and a market economy while combating inflation, unemployment, corruption, and crime. Today, reforms and democratization keep Bulgaria on a path toward eventual integration into the EU. The country joined NATO in 2004.	Modern Turkey was founded in 1923 from the Anatolian remnants of the defeated Ottoman Empire by national hero Mustafa KEMAL, who was later honored with the title Atatürk, or "Father of the Turks." Under his authoritarian leadership, the country adopted wide-ranging social, legal, and political reforms. After a period of one-party rule, an experiment with multi-party politics led to the 1950 election victory of the opposition Democrats. Party and the peaceful transfer of power. Since then, Turkish political parties have multiplied, but democracy has been factually eroded. The post-war Soviet occupation led to the formation of a Communist "people's republic" in 1960, 1971, 1980), which in each case eventually resulted in a return of political power to civilians. In 1992, the secular state of Turkey and elsewhere in the world and remains dubbed a "post-modern coup", "of the then Islamic-oriented government. Turkey intervened in Cyprus in 1974 and in 1974 to prevent a Greek takeover of the island and has since acted as patron state for the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus," founded as conservative politicians prevented reform.	Iran became an Islamic republic in 1979 after the ruling monarchy was overthrown and the shah was forced into exile. Conservative clerical forces established a theocratic system of government with ultimate political authority normally vested in a learned religious scholar. Iranian Muslims have been strained since a group of Iranian students seized the US Embassy in Tehran on 4 November 1979 and held it until 20 January 1981. During 1980-88, Iran fought a bloody, indecisive war with Iraq that eventually expanded into the Persian Gulf and led to tensions between US Navy and Iranian military forces between 1987-1988. Iran has been designated a state sponsor of terrorism for its activities in Lebanon and elsewhere in the world and popularly dubbed a "post-modern coup", "of the then Islamic-oriented government. Turkey intervened in Cyprus in 1974 and in 1974 to prevent a Greek takeover of the island and has since acted as patron state for the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus," founded as conservative politicians prevented reform.	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Turkey intervened in Cyprus in 1974 and in 1974 to prevent a Greek takeover of the island and has since acted as patron state for the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus," founded as conservative politicians prevented reform.	The separation in 1947 of British India into the Muslim state of Pakistan (with two sections West and East) and largely Hindu India was never satisfactorily resolved, and India and Pakistan fought two wars - in 1947-48 and 1965 - over the disputed Kashmir territory. A third war between these countries in 1971 - in which India capitalized on Islamabad's marginalization of Bengalis in Pakistani politics - resulted in East Pakistan becoming the separate nation of Bangladesh. In response to Indian nuclear weapons testing, Pakistan conducted its own tests in 1998. The dispute over the state of Kashmir is ongoing, but discussions and confidence-building measures have led to decreased tensions since 2002.	The India Valley civilization, one of the oldest in the world, dates back at least 5,000 years. Aryan tribes from the northwest infiltrated into Indian lands about 1500 B.C.; their merger with the earlier Dravidian inhabitants created the classical Indian culture. Arab incursions starting in the 8th century and Turkic invasions beginning in the late 15th century, and by the 19th century, Britain had assumed political control of virtually all Indian lands. Indian armed forces in the British army played a vital role in both World Wars. Nonviolent resistance to British colonialism led by Mohandas GANDHI and Jawaharlal NEHRU brought independence in 1947. The subcontinent was divided into the secular state of India and the smaller Muslim state of Pakistan. A third war between the two countries in 1971 resulted in East Pakistan becoming the separate nation of Bangladesh. Despite impressive gains in economic development and output, India faces pressing problems such as the ongoing dispute with Pakistan over Kashmir, massive overpopulation, environmental degradation, and a rapidly rising and improved	Britain conquered Burma over a period of 62 years (1824-1886) and incorporated it into its Indian Empire. Burma was administered as a province of India until 1937 when it became a separate, self-governing colony, independence from the Commonwealth was attained in 1948. Gen. NE WIN dominated the government from 1962 to 1968; first as military ruler, then as self-appointed president, and later as political kingpin. Despite multiple negative elections in 1990 that resulted in the main opposition party - the National League for Democracy (NLD) - winning a landslide victory, the ruling junta refused to hand over power. NLD leader and Nobel Peace Prize recipient AUNG SAN SUU KYI, who was under house arrest from 1989 to 1995 and 2003 to 2002, was imprisoned in May 2003 and subsequently transferred to house arrest, where she remains virtually uncommunicated. In November 2005, the junta extended her detention by at least another six months. Her supporters, as well as all those who promote democracy and improved human rights, are routinely harassed or jailed.	A unified Thai kingdom was established in the mid-14th century. Known as Siam until 1939, Thailand is the only Southeast Asian country never to have been taken over by a European power. A bloodless revolution in 1932 led to a constitutional monarchy, in alliance with Japan during World War II. Thailand became a US ally following the conflict. Thailand is currently facing armed insurrection in its three Muslim-majority southern provinces.	Modern-day Laos has its roots in the ancient Lao kingdom of Lan Xang, established in the 14th century under King FA NGUM. For three hundred years Lan Xang included large parts of present-day Cambodia and Thailand, as well as all of what is now Laos. After centuries of gradual decline, Laos came under the control of Siam (Thailand) from the late 18th century until the late 19th century when it became part of French Indochina. In 1887, following Japanese occupation in World War II, Cambodia gained full independence from France in 1953. In April 1975, after a five-year struggle, Communist Khmer Rouge forces captured Phnom Penh and evacuated all cities and towns. At least 1.5 million Cambodians died from execution, forced starvation, or starvation during the Khmer Rouge regime under POUl POT. A December 1978 Vietnamese invasion drove the Khmer Rouge into the countryside, began a 10-year Vietnamese occupation, and touched off almost 13 years of civil war. The 1991 Paris Peace Accords mandated democratic elections and a ceasefire, which was not fully respected by the Khmer Rouge until a UN-sponsored settlement in 1993.	Most Cambodians consider themselves to be Khmers, descendants of the Angkor Empire that extended over much of Southeast Asia and reached its zenith between the 10th and 13th centuries. Attacks by the Thai and Cham (from present-day Vietnam) weakened the empire, warring in a long period of decline. The king placed the country under French protection in 1893. Cambodia became part of French Indochina in 1897. Following Japanese occupation in World War II, Cambodia gained full independence from France in 1953. In April 1975, after a five-year struggle, Communist Khmer Rouge forces captured Phnom Penh and evacuated all cities and towns. At least 1.5 million Cambodians died from execution, forced starvation, or starvation during the Khmer Rouge regime under POUl POT. 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Geography	France	Hungary	Romania	Bulgaria	Turkey	Iran	Pakistan	India	Burma	Thailand	Laos	Cambodia	Geography	
	<b>Area:</b> total: 547,530 sq km	<b>total:</b> 93,030 sq km	<b>total:</b> 237,500 sq km	<b>total:</b> 110,910 sq km	<b>total:</b> 780,580 sq km	<b>total:</b> 1,648 million sq km	<b>total:</b> 803,840 sq km	<b>total:</b> 3,287,590 sq km	<b>total:</b> 678,500 sq km	<b>total:</b> 514,000 sq km	<b>total:</b> 236,800 sq km	<b>total:</b> 181,040 sq km	<b>Area:</b>	
	<b>Land boundaries:</b> total: 2,889 km	<b>total:</b> 2,171 km	<b>total:</b> 2,508 km	<b>total:</b> 1,808 km	<b>total:</b> 2,848 km	<b>total:</b> 6,774 km	<b>total:</b> 6,774 km	<b>total:</b> 14,103 km	<b>total:</b> 5,876 km	<b>total:</b> 4,863 km	<b>total:</b> 5,083 km	<b>total:</b> 5,083 km	<b>Land boundaries:</b>	
	border countries: Andorra 366 km, Belgium 620 km, Germany 451 km, Italy 488 km, Luxembourg 673 km, Monaco 4.4 km, Spain 623 km, Switzerland 573 km	border countries: Austria 366 km, Croatia 329 km, Romania 443 km, Italy 488 km, Slovakia 673 km, Slovenia 102 km, Ukraine 103 km	border countries: Bulgaria 608 km, Hungary 443 km, Moldova 450 km, Serbia 476 km, Ukraine (north) 302 km, Ukraine (east) 169 km	border countries: Greece 494 km, Macedonia 148 km, Bulgaria 608 km, Serbia 476 km, Ukraine 200 km, Turkey 499 km, Iraq 352 km, Syria 822 km	border countries: Armenia 288 km, Azerbaijan 9 km, Bulgaria 240 km, Georgia 432 km, Greece 206 km, Iraq 499 km, Iraq 352 km, Syria 822 km	border countries: Armenia 288 km, Azerbaijan 9 km, Bulgaria 240 km, Georgia 432 km, Azerbaijan 9 km, Azerbaijan-proper 432 km, Azerbaijan Naevovan 2,446 km, Iraq 499 km, Iraq 352 km, Syria 822 km (740 km)	border countries: Afghanistan 2,430 km, China 523 km, Burma 1,463 km, China 3,380 km, Nepal 609 km, Pakistan 2,912 km, Turkey 499 km, Turkmenistan 862 km	border countries: Afghanistan 2,430 km, China 523 km, India 2,912 km, Iraq 900 km	border countries: Bangladesh 4,053 km, Bhutan 605 km, Burma 1,463 km, China 3,380 km, Thailand 1,800 km, Pakistan 2,912 km	border countries: Bangladesh 103 km, China 2 185 km, India 1,463 km, Laos 2,380 km, Thailand 1,800 km	border countries: Burma 1,800 km, Cambodia 803 km, China 422 km, Thailand 1,754 km, Vietnam 2,130 km	border countries: Burma 235 km, Cambodia 541 km, China 422 km, Thailand 1,754 km, Vietnam 2,130 km	border countries: Laos 541 km, Thailand 803 km, Vietnam 1,228 km	<b>Area:</b>
	<b>Coastline:</b> 3,427 km	0 km (landlocked)	225 km	354 km	7,200 km	7,200 km	1,044 km	7,000 km	1,930 km	3,210 km	0 km (landlocked)	443 km	<b>Land boundaries:</b>	
	<b>Climate:</b> generally cool winters and mild summers, but mild winters and hot summers along the Mediterranean; occasional strong, cold, dry, north-to-northwesterly wind known as mistral	temperate, cold, cloudy, humid winters; warm summers	temperate, cold, cloudy winters with frequent snow and fog; sunny summers with frequent showers and thunderstorms	temperate, cold, damp winters; hot, dry summers	temperate, hot, dry summers with mild, wet winters; harsher in interior	temperate, hot, dry desert; temperate in northwest, arctic in north	mostly hot, dry desert; temperate in northwest, arctic in north	varies from tropical monsoon in south to temperate in north	tropical, rainy, warm, cloudy southwest monsoon (mid-May to September); dry, cool northeast monsoon (November to mid-March); southern isthmus always hot and humid	tropical, rainy, warm, cloudy southwest monsoon (mid-May to September); dry, cool northeast monsoon (November to mid-March); southern isthmus always hot and humid	tropical monsoon; (rainy season (May to November); dry season (December to April))	mostly rugged mountains; some plains and plateaus elsewhere	mostly low, flat plains; mountains in southwest and north	<b>Climate:</b>
	<b>Terrain:</b> mostly flat plains or gently rolling hills in north and west; remainder h mountainous, especially Pyrenees in south, Alps in east	mostly flat to rolling plains; hills and low mountains on the Slovakian border	central Transylvanian Basin is separated from the Plain of Moldavia on the east by the Carpathian Mountains and separated from the Pannishian Plain on the south by the Transylvanian Alps	mostly mountains with lowlands in north and southeast	high central plateau (Anatolia); narrow coastal plain; several mountain ranges	high central plateau (Anatolia); narrow coastal plain; several mountain ranges	mostly flat plain in east; mountains in north and northwest; Baluchistan plateau in west	upland plain (Deccan Plateau) in south, flat to rolling plain along the Ganges, deserts in west, Himalayas in north	central lowlands ringed by steep, rugged highlands	central plain; Khorat Plateau in the east; mountains elsewhere	central plain; Khorat Plateau in the east; mountains elsewhere	mostly rugged mountains; some plains and plateaus elsewhere	mostly low, flat plains; mountains in southwest and north	<b>Terrain:</b>
	<b>Elevation extremes:</b> lowest point: Rhone River delta -2 m	lowest point: Taza River 78 m	lowest point: Black Sea 0 m	lowest point: Black Sea 0 m	lowest point: Mediterranean Sea 0 m	lowest point: Caspian Sea -28 m	lowest point: India Ocean 0 m	lowest point: Indachang O 0 m	lowest point: Andaman Sea 0 m	lowest point: Gulf of Thailand 0 m	lowest point: Mekong River 70 m	lowest point: Gulf of Thailand 0 m	<b>Elevation extremes:</b>	
	highest point: Mont Blanc 4,807 m	highest point: Kékes 1,014 m	highest point: Mădărau 2,544 m	highest point: Mual 2,925 m	highest point: Kulu-e Damavand 5,166 m	highest point: Kulu-e Damavand 5,671 m	highest point: K2 (Mt. Godwin-Austen) 8,611 m	highest point: Kanchenjunga 8,586 m	highest point: Hkakabo Razi 5,881 m	highest point: Doi Inthanon 2,576 m	highest point: Phou Bia 2,817 m	highest point: Phnum Aoral 2,576 m	<b>Area:</b>	
	<b>Natural resources:</b> coal, iron ore, bauxite, zinc, uranium, antimony, arsenic, potash, feldspar, fluorapatite, gypsum, timber, fish	bauxite, coal, natural gas, fertile soils, arable land	petroleum (reserves declining), timber, natural gas, coal, iron ore, salt, arable land, hydropower	bauxite, copper, lead, zinc, coal, timber, arable land	coal, iron ore, copper, chromium, antimony, mercury, gold, barite, borate, celestine (strontium), emery, feldspar, limestone, magnesite, marble, perlite, pumice, pyrites (sulfur), clay, arable land, hydropower	petroleum, natural gas, coal, chromium, copper, iron ore, lead, manganese, zinc, sulfur	petroleum, natural gas, coal, chromium, copper, iron ore, lead, manganese, zinc, sulfur	land, extensive natural gas reserves, limited petroleum, poor quality coal, iron ore, copper, salt, limestone	petroleum, timber, tin, antimony, zinc, copper, tungsten, lead, iron, some marble, limestone, precious stones, natural gas, hydropower	petroleum, timber, tin, antimony, zinc, copper, tungsten, lead, iron, some marble, limestone, precious stones, natural gas, hydropower	timber, hydropower, gypsum, tin, gold, gemstones	oil and gas, timber, gemstones, some iron ore, manganese, phosphates, hydropower potential	<b>Natural resources:</b>	
	<b>Land use:</b>	<b>arable land:</b> 33.46%	<b>arable land:</b> 39.58%	<b>arable land:</b> 39.49%	<b>arable land:</b> 29.94%	<b>arable land:</b> 28.76%	<b>arable land:</b> 28.44%	<b>arable land:</b> 18.92%	<b>arable land:</b> 27.54%	<b>arable land:</b> 27.54%	<b>arable land:</b> 20.01%	<b>arable land:</b> 20.44%	<b>Land use:</b>	
	permanent crops: 2.03%	permanent crops: 2.03%	permanent crops: 1.92%	permanent crops: 3.19%	permanent crops: 3.39%	permanent crops: 3.20%	permanent crops: 0.84%	permanent crops: 2.8%	permanent crops: 1.31%	permanent crops: 6.93%	permanent crops: 0.34%	permanent crops: 0.59%	<b>Natural resources:</b>	
	other: 64.51% (2005)	other: 64.51% (2005)	other: 58.59% (2005)	other: 66.16% (2005)	other: 66.8% (2005)	other: 68.93% (2005)	other: 74.72% (2005)	other: 48.37% (2005)	other: 63.77% (2005)	other: 65.53% (2005)	other: 95.65% (2005)	other: 78.97% (2005)	<b>Land use:</b>	
	<b>Irrigated land:</b> 86,000 sq km (2003)	2,700 sq km (2003)	30,770 sq km (2003)	5,880 sq km (2003)	52,150 sq km (2003)	76,500 sq km (2003)	182,300 sq km (2003)	558,000 sq km (2003)	18,700 sq km (2003)	48,800 sq km (2003)	1,750 sq k	1,750 sq k	<b>Irrigated land:</b>	
	<b>Natural hazards:</b> flooding; avalanches; midwinter windstorms; drought; forest fires in south near the Mediterranean	earthquakes, most severe in south and southwest; geologic structure and climate promote landslides	earthquakes, most severe in south and southwest; geologic structure and climate promote landslides	earthquakes, landslides	severe earthquakes, especially in northern Turkey, along an arc extending from the Sea of Marmara to Lake Van	severe earthquakes, especially in northern Turkey, along an arc extending from the Sea of Marmara to Lake Van	severe earthquakes, especially in northern Turkey, along an arc extending from the Sea of Marmara to Lake Van	frequent earthquakes, occasionally severe especially in north and west; flooding along the Indus after heavy rains (July and August)	droughts; flash floods, as well as widespread and destructive flooding from monsoonal rains; severe thunderstorms, earthquakes	destructive earthquakes and cyclones, flooding and landslides common during rainy season (June to September); periodic droughts	land subsidence in Bangkok area resulting from the depletion of the water table; droughts	floods, droughts	<b>Natural hazards:</b>	
	<b>Environment - current issues:</b> some forest damage from acid rain; air pollution from industrial and vehicle emissions; water pollution from urban wastes, agricultural runoff	the upgrading of Hungary's standards in waste management, energy efficiency, and air, soil, and water pollution to meet EU requirements will require large investments	soil erosion and degradation; water pollution; air pollution in south from industrial effluents; contamination of Danube delta wetlands	air pollution from industrial emissions; noise pollution from sea wear, heavy metals, detergents; deforestation; forest damage from air pollution and resulting acid rain; soil contamination from heavy metals from metallurgical plants and industrial wastes	water pollution from dumping of chemicals and detergents; air pollution; particulates in urban areas; deforestation; concern for oil spills from increasing Bosporus ship traffic	air pollution, especially in urban areas, from vehicle emissions, refinery operations, and industrial effluents; deforestation; overgrazing; desertification; oil pollution in the Persian Gulf; wetland losses from drought; soil degradation (salinization); inadequate supply of potable water; water pollution from raw sewage and industrial waste; urbanization	water pollution from raw sewage, industrial wastes, and agricultural runoff; limited natural fresh water resources; a majority of the population does not have access to potable water; deforestation; soil erosion; desertification	deforestation; soil erosion; overgrazing; desertification; air pollution from industrial effluents and vehicle emissions; water pollution from raw sewage and runoff of agricultural pesticides; water waste is not potable throughout the country; huge and growing population is oversteering natural resources	deforestation; soil erosion; overgrazing; desertification; air pollution from industrial effluents and vehicle emissions; water pollution from raw sewage and runoff of agricultural pesticides; water waste is not potable throughout the country; huge and growing population is oversteering natural resources	deforestation; industrial pollution of air, soil, and water; inadequate sanitation and water treatment contribute to disease	air pollution from vehicle emissions; water pollution from organic and factory wastes; deforestation; soil erosion; wildlife populations threatened by illegal hunting	unprotected resources; deforestation; soil erosion; most of the population does not have access to potable water	<b>Environment - current issues:</b>	
	<b>Geography - note:</b> largest West European nation	landlocked; strategic location aside main land routes between Western Europe and Balkan Peninsula as well as between Ukraine and Mediterranean basins; the north-south flowing Duna (Danube) and Tisza Rivers divide the country into three large regions	controls most easily traversable land route between the Balkans, Moldova, and Ukraine	strategic location near Turkish Straits; controls key land routes from Europe to Middle East and Asia	strategic location controlling the Turkish Straits (Bosporus, Sea of Marmara, Dardanelles) that link Black and Aegean Seas; Mount Ararat, the legendary landing place of Noah's Ark, is in the far eastern portion of the country	controls Khyber Pass and Bolan Pass, traditional invasion routes between Central Asia and the Indian Subcontinent	dominates South Asian subcontinent; near important Indian Ocean trade routes; Kanchenjunga, third tallest mountain in the world, lies on the border with Nepal	controls only land route from Asia to Malaysia and Singapore	landlocked; most of the country is mountainous and thickly forested; the Mekong River forms a large part of the western boundary with Thailand	landlocked; most of the country is mountainous and thickly forested; the Mekong River forms a large part of the western boundary with Thailand	landlocked; most of the country is mountainous and thickly forested; the Mekong River forms a large part of the western boundary with Thailand	landlocked; most of the country is mountainous and thickly forested; the Mekong River forms a large part of the western boundary with Thailand	<b>Environment - current issues:</b>	

People	France	Hungary	Romania	Bulgaria	Turkey	Iran	Pakistan	India	Burma	Thailand	Laos	Cambodia	People
	<b>Population:</b> 66,876,136 (July 2006 est.)	9,981,334 (July 2006 est.)	22,303,652 (July 2006 est.)	7,385,349 (July 2006 est.)	70,413,968 (July 2006 est.)	68,688,433 (July 2006 est.)	165,803,980 (July 2006 est.)	1,095,351,995 (July 2006 est.)	47,382,833	64,831,989	6,368,491 (July 2006 est.)	13,881,427	<b>Population:</b>
	<b>Age structure:</b>	<b>0-14 years:</b> 16.3%	<b>0-14 years:</b> 16.6%	<b>0-14 years:</b> 16.7%	<b>0-14 years:</b> 13.9%	<b>0-14 years:</b> 25.5%	<b>0-14 years:</b> 26.1%	<b>0-14 years:</b> 26.8%	<b>0-14 years:</b> 26.4%	<b>0-14 years:</b> 26.2%	<b>0-14 years:</b> 41.4%	<b>0-14 years:</b> 31.6%	<b>Age structure:</b>
	<b>15-64 years:</b> 65.3%	<b>15-64 years:</b> 65.3%	<b>15-64 years:</b> 69.2%	<b>15-64 years:</b> 69.7%	<b>15-64 years:</b> 67.7%	<b>15-64 years:</b> 69%	<b>15-64 years:</b> 69%	<b>15-64 years:</b> 64.3%	<b>15-64 years:</b> 64.3%	<b>15-64 years:</b> 64.3%	<b>15-64 years:</b> 70%	<b>15-64 years:</b> 70%	<b>Age structure:</b>
	<b>65 years and over:</b> 18.4%	<b>65 years and over:</b> 18.2%	<b>65 years and over:</b> 14.7%	<b>65 years and over:</b> 17.3%	<b>65 years and over:</b> 16.8%	<b>65 years and over:</b> 4.9%	<b>65 years and over:</b> 4.1%	<b>65 years and over:</b> 4.9%	<b>65 years and over:</b> 4.9%	<b>65 years and over:</b> 4.9%	<b>65 years and over:</b> 18.9%	<b>65 years and over:</b> 20.6%	<b>Median age:</b>
	<b>Median age:</b> 39.1 years	<b>total:</b> 38.7 years	<b>total:</b> 36.6 years	<b>total:</b> 40.8 years	<b>total:</b> 28.1 years	<b>total:</b> 24.8 years	<b>total:</b> 19.8 years	<b>total:</b> 24.9 years	<b>total:</b> 27 years	<b>total:</b> 31.9 years	<b>total:</b> 18.9 years	<b>total:</b> 20.6 years	<b>Median age:</b>
	male: 37.6 years	male: 36.3 years	male: 35.3 years	male: 37.9 years	male: 26.9 years	male: 24.6 years	male: 19.5 years	male: 24.9 years	male: 26.9 years	male: 31.1 years	male: 18.6 years	male: 19.4 years	<b>Population growth rate:</b>
	female: 40.7 years (2006 est.)	female: 41.4 years (2006 est.)	female: 37.9 years (2006 est.)	female: 42.9 years (2006 est.)	female: 28.9 years (2006 est.)	female: 25.9 years (2006 est.)	female: 20.9 years (2006 est.)	female: 20.9 years (2006 est.)	female: 27.6 years (2006 est.)	female: 32.8 years (2006 est.)	female: 19.2 years (2006 est.)	female: 21.4 years (2006 est.)	<b>Population growth rate:</b>
	<b>Population growth rate:</b> 0.35% (2006 est.)	-0.25% (2006 est.)	-0.12% (2006 est.)	-0.8% (2006 est.)	1.06% (2006 est.)	1.1% (2006 est.)	2.09% (2006 est.)	1.38% (2006 est.)	0.81% (2006 est.)	0.68% (2006 est.)	2.39% (2006 est.)	1.78% (2006 est.)	<b>Population growth rate:</b>
	<b>Net migration rate:</b> 9.96 migrants/1,000 population	-0.07 migrants/1,000 population	-0.13 migrants/1,000 population	-0.1 migrants/1,000 population	0 migrants/1,000 population	-0.48 migrants/1,000 population	-0.58 migrants/1,000 population	-0.58 migrants/1,000 population	total population: 0.97 male/female	total population: 0.98 male/female (2006 est.)	0 migrants/1,000 population (2006 est.)	total population: 0.95 male/female (2006 est.)	<b>Net migration rate:</b>
	<b>Infant mortality rate:</b> total: 4.21 deaths/1,000 live births	total: 8.39 deaths/1,000 live births	total: 25.5 deaths/1,000 live births	total: 19.85 deaths/1,000 live births	total: 39.69 deaths/1,000 live births	total: 40.3 deaths/1,000 live births	total: 70.45 deaths/1,000 live births	total: 54.63 deaths/1,000 live births	total: 61.85 deaths/1,000 live births	total: 19.49 deaths/1,000 live births	total: 83.31 deaths/1,000 live births	total: 68.78 deaths/1,000 live births	<b>Infant mortality rate:</b>
	male: 4.9 deaths/1,000 live births	male: 9.09 deaths/1,000 live births	male: 4.09 deaths/1,000 live births	male: 23.52 deaths/1,000 live births	male: 43.27 deaths/1,000 live births	male: 40.49 deaths/1,000 live births	male: 70.84 deaths/1,000 live births	male: 55.18 deaths/1,000 live births	male: 72.68 deaths/1,000 live births	male: 20.77 deaths/1,000 live births	male: 92.95 deaths/1,000 live births	male: 72.95 deaths/1,000 live births	<b>Life expectancy at birth:</b>
	female: 3.69 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)	female: 7.64 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)	female: 22.16 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)	female: 15.95 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)	female: 35.93 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)	female: 40.1 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)	female: 70.04 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)	female: 50.05 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)	female: 50.38 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)	female: 18.15 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)	female: 73.26 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)	female: 59.84 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)	<b>Life expectancy at birth:</b>
	<b>Life expectancy at birth:</b> 79.3 years	<b>total population:</b> 72.66 years	<b>total population:</b> 71.63 years	<b>total population:</b> 72.62 years	<b>total population:</b> 70.26 years	<b>total population:</b> 63.31 years	<b>total population:</b> 63.29 years	<b>total population:</b> 64.7 years	<b>total population:</b> 69.37 years	<b>total population:</b> 72.25 years	<b>total population:</b> 58.49 years		



Transnational Issues	France	Hungary	Romania	Bulgaria	Turkey	Iran	Pakistan	India	Burma	Thailand	Laos	Cambodia	Transnational Issues
<b>Disputes - International:</b> Madagascar claims the French territories of Bassas da India, Europa Island, Glorioso Islands, and Juan de Nova Island; Comoros claims Mayotte, Mauritius claims Tromelin Island; territorial dispute between Suriname and the French overseas department of French Guiana. France asserts a territorial claim in Antarctica (Adelie Land). France and Vanuatu claim Matthew and Hunter Islands, east of New Caledonia	In 2004, Hungary amended the status law extending special social and cultural benefits - and voted down a referendum to extend dual citizenship - to ethnic Hungarians living in neighboring states, which have objected to such measures; consultations continue between Slovakia and Hungary over Hungary's completion of its portion the Galiczkovo-Nagymaros hydroelectric dam project along the Danube; as a member state that forms part of the EU's external border, Hungary must implement the strict Schengen border rules	Romania and Ukraine have taken their dispute over Black Sea maritime boundary to the ICJ for adjudication; Romania also opposes Ukraine's reopening of a navigation canal from the Danube border through Ukraine to the Black Sea; Hungary amended the status law extending special social and cultural benefits to ethnic Hungarians in Romania, to which Romania had objected	none	complex maritime, air, and territorial disputes with Greece in the Aegean Sea; status of north Cyprus question remains; Syria and Iraq protest Turkish hydrological projects to control upper Euphrates waters; Turkey has expressed concern over the status of Kurds in Iraq; border with Armenia remains closed over Nagorno-Karabakh	Iran protests Afghanistan's limiting flow of dammed tributaries to the Helmand River in periods of drought; Iraq's lack of a maritime boundary with Iran prompts jurisdiction disputes beyond the mouth of the Shatt al Arab in the Persian Gulf; Iran and UAE dispute Turb Islands and Abu Musa Island, which are occupied by Iran; Iran stands alone among liberal states in insisting upon a division of the Caspian Sea into five equal sectors	since China and India launched a security and foreign policy dialogue in 2005, consolidated discussions related to the dispute over most of their rugged, militarized boundary; regional nuclear proliferation, Indian claims that China transferred missiles to Pakistan, and other matters continue; various talks and confidence-building measures have cautiously begun to defuse tensions over Kashmir, particularly since the October 2005 earthquake in the region; Kashmir nevertheless remains the site of the world's largest and most militarized territorial dispute with portions under the de facto administration of China (Aksai Chin), India (Jammu and Kashmir), and Pakistan (Azad Kashmir and Northern Areas); UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) has maintained a small group of peacekeepers since 1949; India does not recognize Pakistan's ceding historic Kashmir lands to China in 1964; in 2004, India and Pakistan instituted a cease-fire in the Kashmir; and in 2005 restored bus service across the highly militarized Line of Control; Pakistan has taken its dispute on the impact of India's building the Baghar Dam on the Chenab River in Jammu and Kashmir to the World Bank for arbitration and in general the two states still dispute Indus River water sharing; to defuse tensions and prepare discussions on a maritime boundary, in 2004, India and Pakistan instituted a cease-fire in Kashmir; and in 2005, restored bus service across the highly militarized Line of Control; Pakistan has taken its dispute on the impact and benefits of India's building the Baghar Dam on the Chenab River in Jammu and Kashmir to the World Bank for arbitration; UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) has	over half of Burma's population consists of diverse ethnic groups with substantial numbers of kin beyond its borders, despite continuing border committee talks, significant differences remain with Thailand over boundary alignment and the handling of ethnic rebels, refugees, and illegal cross-border activities; ethnic Karens flee into Thailand to escape fighting between Karen rebels and Burmese troops; in 2005 Thailand sheltered about 121,000 Burmese refugees; Karens also protest Thai support for a Burmese hydroelectric dam on the Salween River near the border; environmentalists in Burma and Thailand continue to voice concern over China's construction of hydroelectric dams upstream on the Nujang/Salween River in Yunnan Province; India seeks cooperation from Burma to keep Indian Nagaland separatists from hiding in remote Burmese uplands	separatist violence in Thailand's predominantly Muslim southern provinces prompt border closures and controls with Malaysia to stem terrorist activities; southeast Asian states have enhanced border surveillance to check the spread of avian flu; talks continue on completion of demarcation with Thailand but disputes remain over several areas along Mekong River and Thai squatters, despite continuing border committee talks; significant differences remain with Burma over boundary alignment and the handling of ethnic rebels, refugees, and illegal cross-border activities; Cambodia and Thailand dispute sections of boundary with missing boundary markers; Cambodia claims Thai encroachments into Cambodian territory and obstructing access to Preah Vihear temple ruins awarded to Cambodia by ICJ decision in 1962; in 2004, Cambodian-Lao and Lao-Vietnamese boundary commissions re-erected missing markers completing most of their demarcations	Southeast Asian states have enhanced border surveillance to check the spread of avian flu; talks continue on completion of demarcation with Thailand but disputes remain over several areas along Mekong River and Thai squatters, despite continuing border committee talks; significant differences remain with Burma over boundary alignment and the handling of ethnic rebels, refugees, and illegal cross-border activities; Cambodia and Thailand dispute sections of boundary with missing boundary markers; Cambodia claims Thai encroachments into Cambodian territory and obstructing access to Preah Vihear temple ruins awarded to Cambodia by ICJ decision in 1962; in 2004, Cambodian-Lao and Lao-Vietnamese boundary commissions re-erected missing markers completing most of their demarcations	<b>Disputes - International:</b> Southeast Asian states have enhanced border surveillance to check the spread of avian flu; Cambodia and Thailand dispute sections of boundary with missing boundary markers and Thai encroachments into Cambodian territory; maritime boundary with Vietnam is hampered by unresolved dispute over offshore islands; Cambodia accuses Thailand of obstructing access to Preah Vihear temple ruins awarded to Cambodia by ICJ decision in 1962; in 2004, Cambodian-Lao and Lao-Vietnamese boundary commissions re-erected missing markers completing most of their demarcations			
<b>Illicit drugs:</b> transshipment point for and consumer of South American cocaine, Southwest Asian heroin, and European synthetics	transshipment point for Southwest Asian heroin and cannabis and for South American cocaine destined for Western Europe; limited producer of precursor chemicals, particularly for amphetamine and	major transshipment point for Southwest Asian heroin transiting the Balkan route and small amounts of Latin American cocaine bound for Western Europe; although not a significant financial center, role as a	major transshipment point for Southwest Asian heroin and, to a lesser degree, South American cocaine for the European market; limited producer of precursor chemicals; some money laundering of drug-	major European transshipment point for Southwest Asian heroin and, to a lesser degree, South American cocaine for the European market; limited producer of precursor chemicals; some money laundering of drug-	IDPs: 350,000-1,000,000 (fighting from 1984-99 between Kurdish PKK and Turkish military; most IDPs in southeastern provinces) (2005)	refugees (country of origin): 952,802 (Afghanistan) 93,173 (Iraq) (2005)	refugees (country of origin): 960,041 (Afghanistan) 57,274 (Sri Lanka) 9,761 (Afghanistan)	refugees (country of origin): 92,394 (Tibet/China) 57,274 (Sri Lanka) 9,761 (Afghanistan)	IDPs: 550,000-1,000,000 (government offensives against ethnic insurgent groups near borders; most IDPs are ethnic Karens, Karens, Shan, Tavoyan, and Mon) (2005)	refugees (country of origin): 120,814 (Burma) IDPs: 6,000 (28 December 2004 tsunami) (2005)	estimated cultivation in 2004 - 10,000 hectares, a 45% decrease from 2003; estimated potential production in 2004 - 49 metric tons, a significant decrease from 200 metric tons in 2003 (2005)	narcotics-related corruption reportedly involving some in the government, military, and police; possible small-scale heroin and methamphetamine production; vulnerable to money laundering due to its cash-based	<b>Illicit drugs:</b>

Sources: World Fact Book 2006