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## Preface

For 16 years the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand has published the report entitled “Thailand Health Profile” (in Thai and English) regularly every two years since 1995. This is the sixth edition of such a report, which describes the health situations and trends as well as the health systems of the country, linking to environmental factors in an integrated manner. Previous editions of the report have been used widely as a reference by several local and international health agencies, institutions and organizations.

This edition of the report, Thailand Health Profile 2008–2010, deals with the topics related to those included in the previous edition, but several certain issues have been elaborated and three macro-level topics related to policy and strategy of the health systems have also been added. The first topic is “Support for Access to Essential Drugs and Compulsory Licensing of Drugs” with details on Thailand’s drug accessibility situation and the justification for the government use of patents on certain essential drugs as well as relevant international agreements and Thai laws, the notifications of the government use of patents, the procurement of the drugs under the government use of patents, and the amounts of such drugs procured and distributed. The second topic is “Economic Dynamics and Health”, dealing with the global financial crisis and its impact on the Thai economy, Thailand’s economic stimulus packages, and the economic impact on health and the health service system. The third topic is “Thailand and Global Health System”, describing the concepts of global health programmes, movements of global health activities, and the roles of Thailand in global health programmes or forums.

The Ministry of Public Health really hopes that this report would serve as a technical reference at the national and international levels, especially for the formulation of the national health development plan that will lead to the design of health policy and strategy as well as health systems development in accordance with changes in the globalized world.

**Ministry of Public Health**

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## Acronyms

AAAH	Asia-Pacific Action on Human Resource for Health
ACMECS	Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy
AEFT	Adverse event following Immunization
AEM	Asian Epidemic Model
AFRO	Africa Regional Office
AFTA	ASEAN Free Trade Area
AHB	Area Health Board
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AMRO	Americas Regional Office
ANC	Ante-Natal Care
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
APEIR	Asian Partnership on Emerging Infectious Disease Research
ARV	Antiretroviral Drugs
ASEM	Asia-Europe Meeting
BCG	Vaccine against Tuberculosis
BMA	Bangkok Metropolitan Administration
BMI	Body Mass Index
CABG	Coronary Artery Bypass Graft
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDL	Committee on Decentralization to Local Government Organizations
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CMR	Child Mortality Rate
COHRED	Council on Health Research for Development
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
CPI	Corruption Perceptions Index
CSMBS	Civil Servants Medical Benefits Scheme
CSWs	Commercial Sex Workers
CUP	Contracting Unit of Primary Care
DALYs	Disability Adjusted Life Years
DDC	Department of Disease Control
DFID	Department of State the department for International Development of the United Kingdom
DHF	Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever
DHSS	Department of Health Service Support
DLA	Department of Local Administration



DMFT	Decayed, Missing and Filled Teeth
DMH	Department of Mental Health
DMS	Department of Medical Services
DMSc	Department of Medical Sciences
DOA	Department of Agriculture
DOH	Department of Health
DPT	Vaccine against Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus
DRG	Diagnosis Related Group
DTAM	Department for Development of Thai Traditional & Alternative Medicine
EC	European Community
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
EMIT	Emergency Medical Institute of Thailand
EPI	Expanded Programme on Immunization
ESWL	Extracorporeal Short-Wave Lithotripter
EU	European Union
EURO	Europe Regional Office
FCTC	Framework Convention on Tobacco Control
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FETP	Field Epidemiology Training Programme
FY	Fiscal Year
GATS	Global Adult Tobacco Survey
GAVI	Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization
GDF	Gross Domestic Happiness
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIS	Geographical Information System
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practices
GPO	Government Pharmaceutical Organization
GSP	Generalized System of Preferences
HA	The Institute of Hospital Quality Improvement and Accreditation
HAI	Healthcare Accreditation Institute
HALE	Healthy Life Expectancy
HB	Hepatitis B
HC	Health Centre
HDI	Human Development Index
HEC	Office of the Higher Education Commission
HIA	Health Impact Assessment
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus



HPPF	Healthy Public Policy Foundation
HRDO	Human Resource for Health Development Office
HSPG	Health Service Practice Guidelines
HSRC	The National Health System Reform Commission
HSRI	Health Systems Research Institute
HSRO	The National Health System Reform Office
HWS	Health and Welfare Survey
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDD	Iodine Deficiency Disorders
IFCS	Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety
IGWG	Intergovernmental Working Group on Public Health Innovation and Intellectual Property
IHPP	International Health Policy Programme
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMD	International Institute for Management Development
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
IPSR	Institute for Population and Social Research
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KEI	Knowledge Ecology International
KKU	Khon Kaen University
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LGOs	Local Government Organizations
LIHC	Low-income Health Card
MAP	World Bank Multi-Country Aids Program
MBDS	Mekong Basin Disease Surveillance Network
MCH	Maternal and Child Health
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MDT	Multiple Drug Therapy (for leprosy)
MMR	Maternal Mortality Ratio
MOC	Ministry Operations Centre
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MPL	Maximum Permissible Level
MPR	Microfilaria Positivity Rate
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
MWA	Metropolitan Waterworks Authority
n.a.	Not Available
NAFTA	North America Free Trade Area



NCDs	Non-Communicable Diseases
NESAC	National Economic and Social Advisory Council
NESDB	National Economic and Social Development Board
NGO	Non Government Organization
NHA	National Health Assembly
NHAOC	National Health Assembly Organizing Committee
NHC	National Health Commission
NHCO	National Health Commission Office
NHRC	National Health Reform Commission
NHRO	National Health Reform Office
NHSB	National Health Security Board
NHSO	Nation Health Security Office
NLEM	National List of Essential Medicines
NPOs	Nonprofit Organizations
NSO	National Statistical Office
NSTDA	National Science and Technology Development Agency
NTI	Nuclear threat Initiative
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
ONEP	Office of the Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning
OPS	Office of the Permanent Secretary
OPV	Oral Polio Vaccine
ORT	Oral Rehydration Therapy
OTC	Organization for Trade Cooperation
PAO	Provincial Administrative Organizations
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
PCU	Primary Care Unit
PEPFAR	U.S. President's Emergency Plan AIDS Relief of the U.S.
PHS	Provincial Health Survey
PISA	Programme of International Students Assessment
PWA	Provincial Waterworks Authority
RDI	Recommended Daily Intake
RRT	Renal Replacement Therapy
SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
SEARO	South-East Asia Regional Office
SHS	Second-Hand Smoke
SIRNET	Social Inequity Reduction Network
SMR	Standardized Mortality Ratio



SPC	Survey of Population Changes
SRRT	Surveillance and Rapid Response Team
SSF	Social Security Fund
SSS	Social Security Scheme
STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections
TAO or SAO	Tambon or Subdistrict Administrative Organizations
ThaiHealth	Thai Health Promotion Foundation
THPHs	Tambon Health Promoting Hospitals
TIMSS	Trends in International Testing of Mathematics and Science Study
TRF	Thailand Research Fund
TRIPS	Trade-Related Aspect of Intellectual Property Rights
TT	Tetanus Toxoid
UC	Universal Coverage
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	United National Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCTAD	U.N. Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nation Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USTR	U.S. Trade Representative
VAVP	Motor Vehicle Accident Victims Protection
VHC	Voluntary Health Card
VHCs	Village Health Communicators
VHIP	Voluntary Health Insurance with Government Subsidies Project
VHVs	Village Health Volunteers
WHA	World Health Assembly
WHO	World Health Organization
WPRO	Western Pacific Regional Office
WTO	World Trade Organization