

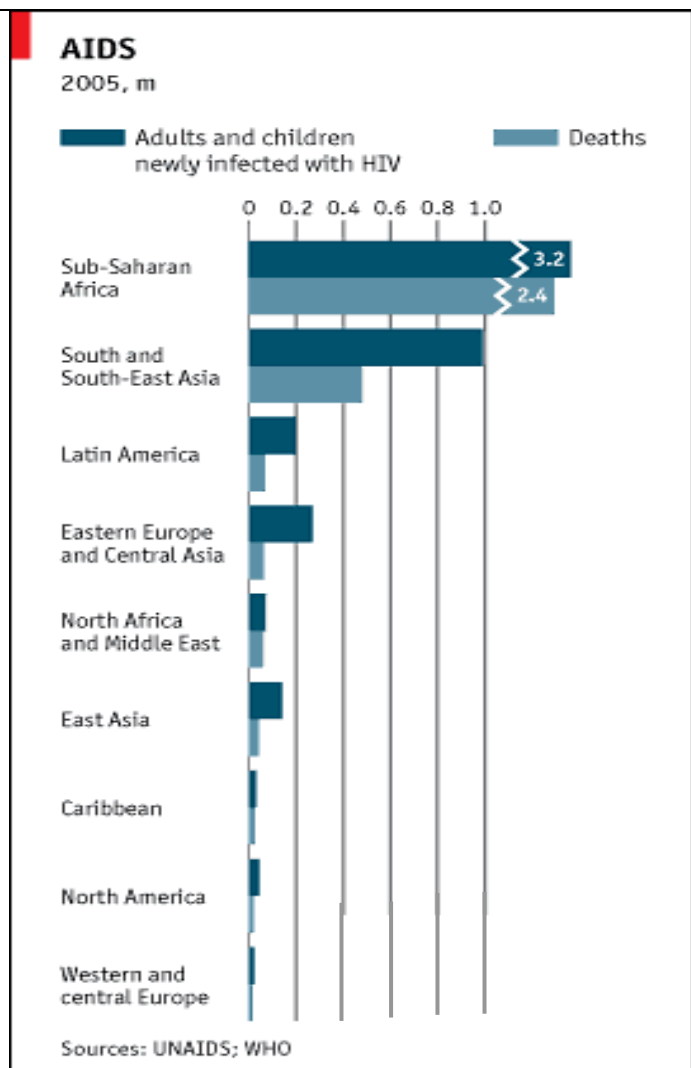
16. UNDERSTANDING AND INTERPRETING BAR GRAPHS

HOW DO I READ A BAR GRAPH?

- **Look at the title and information above the graph.** This graph is about the number of people throughout the world who have died of AIDS, or have been newly infected with HIV.
- **Identify what is being measured and in what units.**
 - The number of people (in millions) who have died of AIDS or have been newly infected with HIV are shown on the horizontal line, or *x-axis*.
 - The different regions of the world are listed on the vertical line, or *y-axis*.
- **Determine what the bars measure.**
 - The dark bars measure the number of adults and children who have just been infected with HIV.
 - The light bars measure the number of deaths from AIDS.
- **Examine and compare the bars for each region of the world.**
 - Sub-Saharan Africa had the most new infections (3.2 million) and deaths in the world (2.4 million).

WHAT TERMS CAN I USE TO EXPLAIN THIS GRAPH?

The number of new infections and deaths from AIDS is *much / markedly / dramatically higher* in Sub-Saharan African than in the rest of the world.

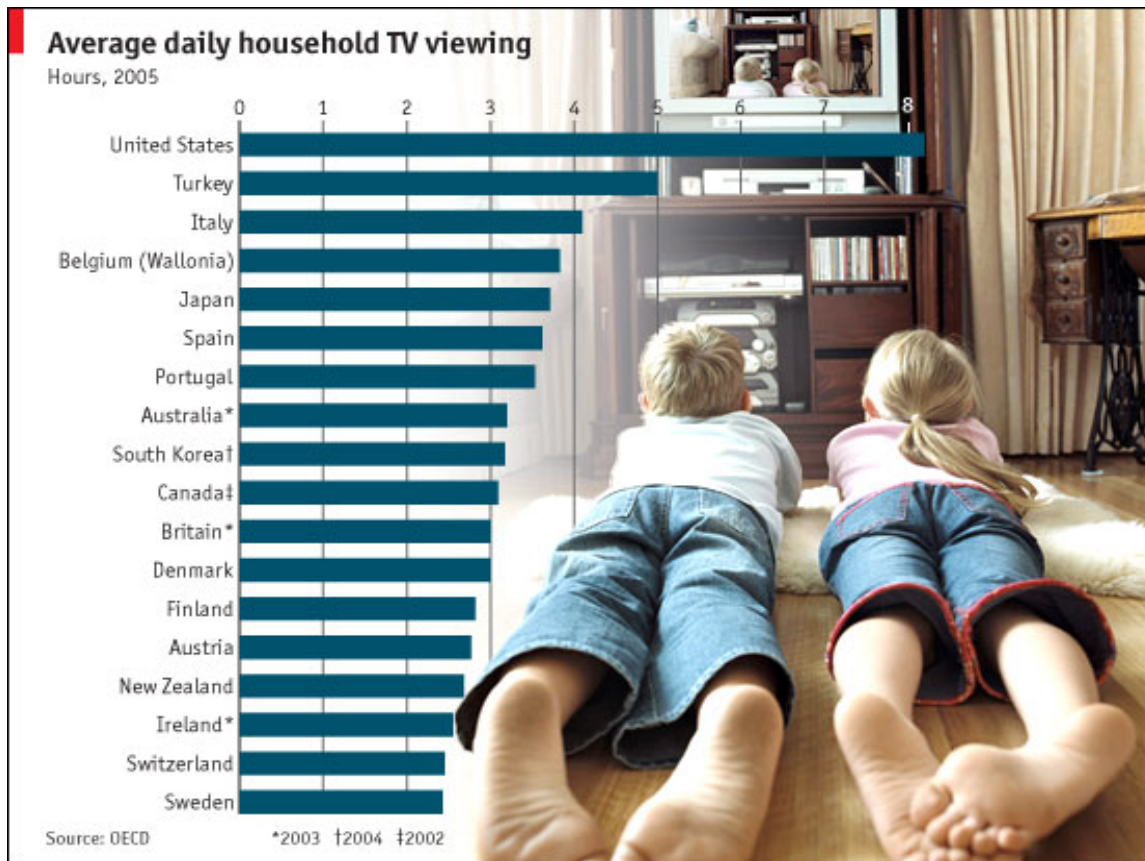


Graph adapted from: Economist.com, December 8, 2005

EXERCISE (Have a tutor help you with this exercise.)

Follow the directions from the previous page about "How to Read a Bar Graph."

Use the information from the bar graph below to answer the questions.



Graph from Economist.com, July 18, 2007

1. What is this graph about? What is being measured on the *x-axis* of this graph? On the *y-axis*?
2. What is the daily average of hours that an Australian household watches television?
3. Which country has the highest average of hours spent watching television? Which has the lowest?
4. How would you describe the difference between the average number of hours per day that an American household spends watching television and the average number of daily television-watching hours for a household in Ireland?