

The Barclays Wealth Insights notes that:

“Hong Kong is currently home to the world’s highest density of millionaire households... Among a population of just 7 million there are 597,000 households with net worth in excess of US\$1 million, and while the population is expected to remain fairly steady over the forecast period, the number of households with wealth above US\$1 million is forecast to increase to 980,000.”

Well what does Hong Kong have to do with Hua Hin one might ask without thinking of Hong Kong being part of a much larger Asia region. While property in Hong Kong is still on the up, the other regions around it should follow the same trail.

Russia is a market of growing importance for real estate businesses in Thailand. Since the break-up of the USSR and opening up of Russia’s economy, the ranks of HNWI’s has grown considerably. Russia was just outside the top ten in Barclays Wealth *Insights*, having moved eight places from 19th to 11th in their Household Wealth Index. This increase in wealth is being felt on the ground in Pattaya with a growing number of sales to Russian buyers, and to a lesser extent (though increasingly so) in Phuket.

The emerging markets of China and India are taking up more and more column inches in global newspapers. By sheer size of population, and economic weight, both countries hold huge potential for all manner of industries.

In 2007, according to Capgemini and Merrill Lynch’s *World Wealth Report*, India lead the world in HNWI population growth with 22.7%. Boosted by market capitalization growth of 118% and real GDP growth of 7.9%, HNWI sector gains reached all-time highs.