

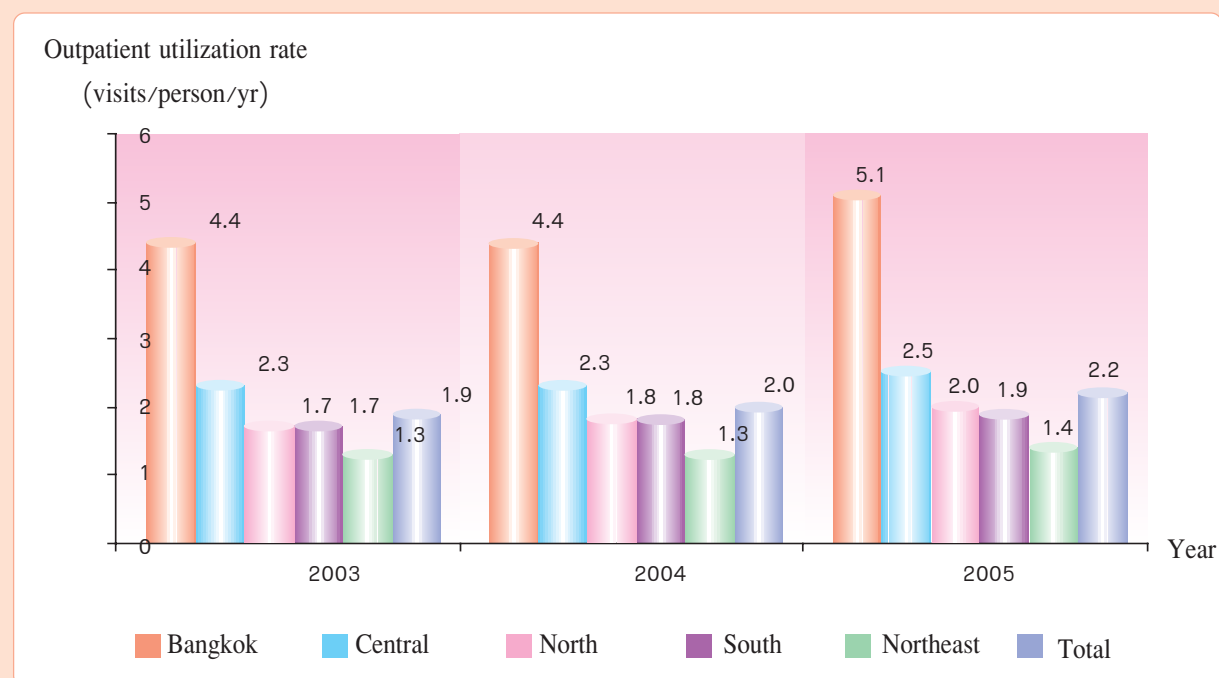
## 5.2 Rate of Health Service Utilization

The utilization of health services at health facilities with inpatient beds is on a rising trend. In 2005, the rate of outpatient service utilization at hospitals under all agencies was 2.2 visits per person per year, the rate being highest in Bangkok and lowest in the Northeast. That reflects the rate of access to outpatient services being highest in Bangkok (including for outpatients coming from other provinces) (Figure 6.74). Similarly, the rate of inpatient service utilization was highest in Bangkok and lowest in the Northeast (Figure 6.75).



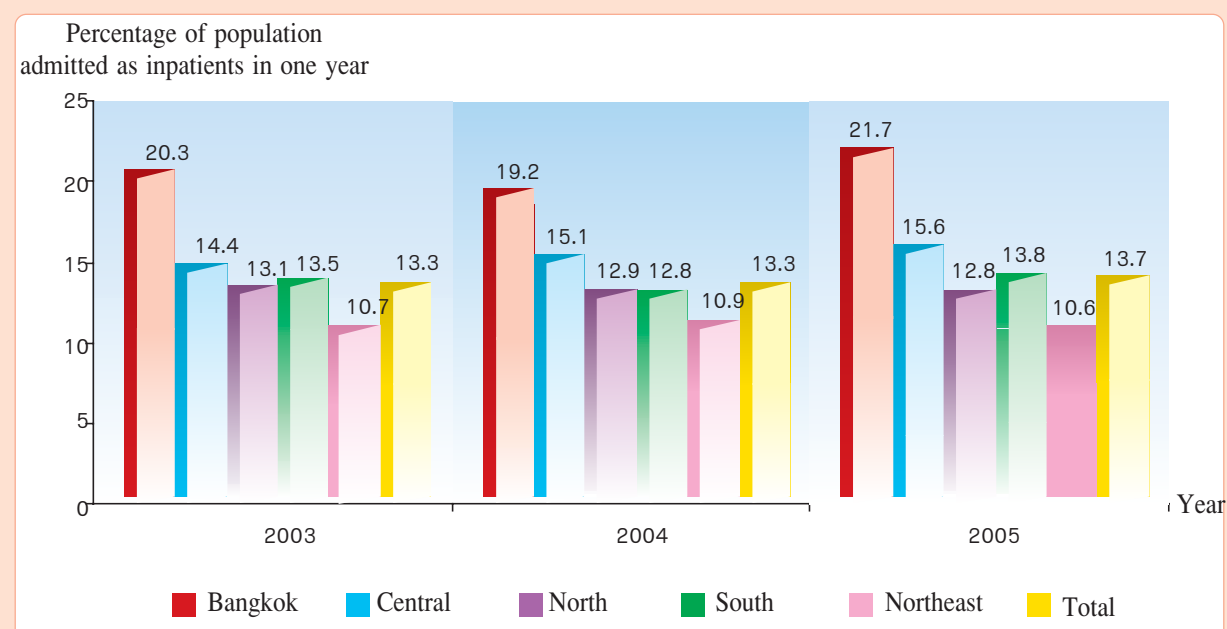
An analysis of the relationship between service utilization and the population/doctor ratios and between inpatient service utilization and the population/bed ratios (Figure 6.76 and Figure 6.77) reveals that the provinces with a lot of health resources (low population/doctor and population/bed ratios) will have higher utilization rates, confirming the influence of health resources on the chances of people's service utilization.

**Figure 6.74** Rate of outpatient service utilization, 2003-2005



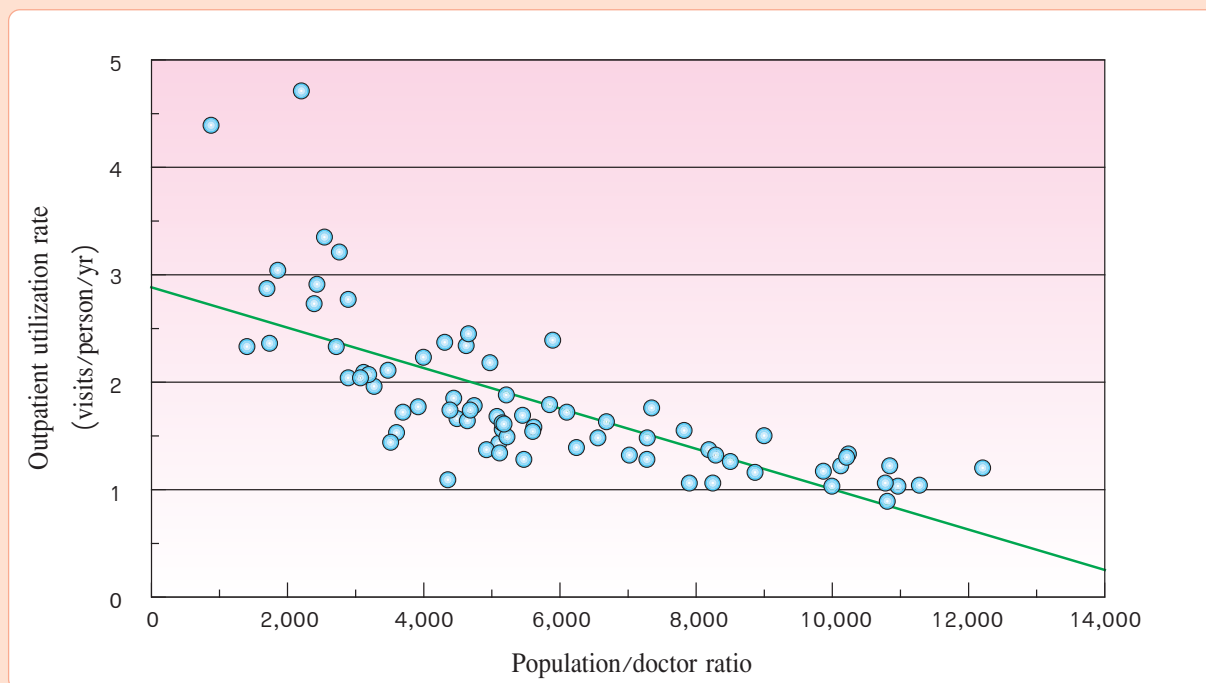
Source: Report on Health Resources Survey, Bureau of Policy and Strategy, MoPH.

**Figure 6.75** Rate of inpatient service utilization, 2003-2005



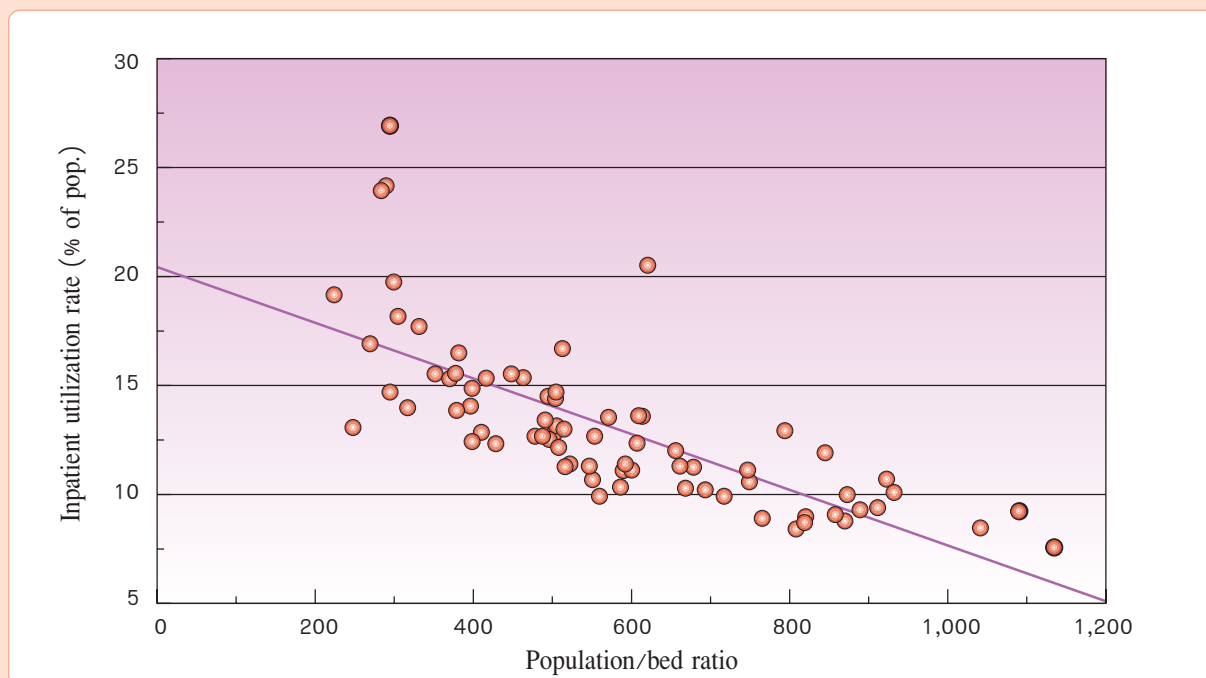
Source: Report on Health Resources Survey, Bureau of Policy and Strategy, MoPH.

**Figure 6.76** Relationship between the rate of outpatient service utilization and population/doctor ratios at provincial level, 2004



**Source:** Report on Health Resources Survey, Bureau of Policy and Strategy, MoPH.

**Figure 6.77** Relationship between the rate of inpatient service utilization and population/bed ratios at provincial level, 2004

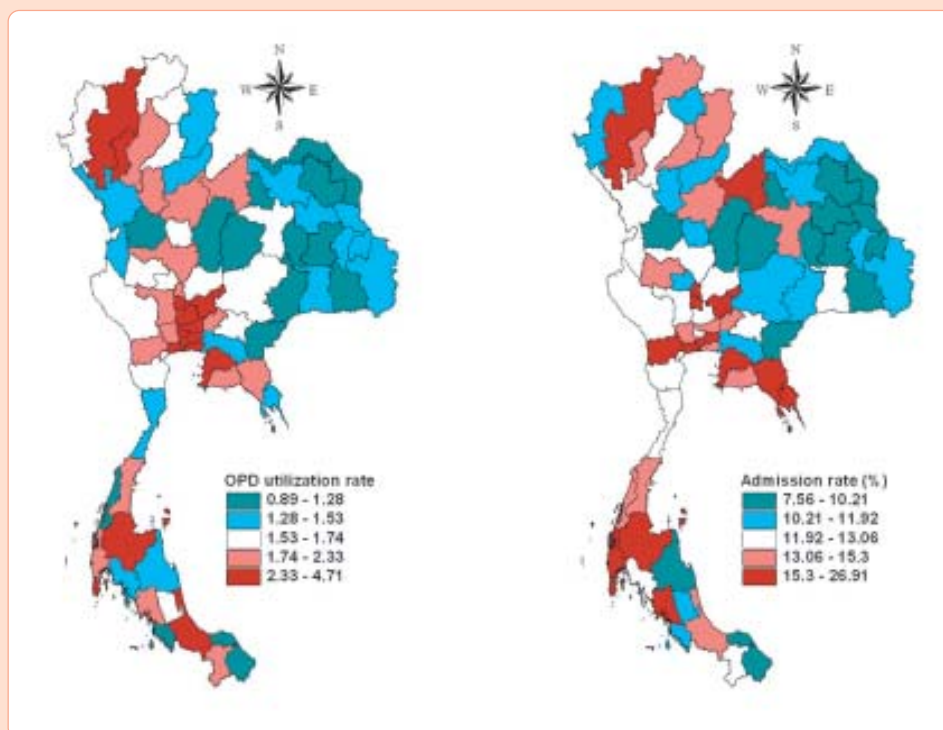


**Source:** Report on Health Resources Survey, Bureau of Policy and Strategy, MoPH.



A geographical distribution analysis of service utilization rates at provincial level reveals that the provinces that are the centres of the region and the provinces in the central region have a high utilization rate, while most provinces in the Northeast have a lower utilization rate than other provinces (Figure 6.78).

**Figure 6.78** Geographical distribution of inpatient service (OPD) utilization rates and inpatient service (admission) rates at provincial level, 2004



**Source:** Report on Health Resources Survey, Bureau of Policy and Strategy, MoPH.

