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# Chapter 1

## 50

### 1.1 50.guide

Texified version of data for China.

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China

### 1.2 50.guide/China

China

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Header (China)  
 Geography (China)  
 Geography (China 2. usage)  
 People (China)  
 Government (China)  
 Government (China 2. usage)  
 Economy (China)  
 Economy (China 2. usage)  
 Communications (China)  
 Defense Forces (China)

### 1.3 50.guide/Header (China)

Header (China)  
 =====

Affiliation:  
 (also see separate Taiwan entry)

### 1.4 50.guide/Geography (China)

Geography (China)  
 =====

Location:  
 East Asia, between India and Mongolia  
 Map references:  
 Asia, Southeast Asia, Standard Time Zones of the World  
 Area:  
 total area:  
 9,596,960 km<sup>2</sup>  
 land area:  
 9,326,410 km<sup>2</sup>  
 comparative area:  
 slightly larger than the US  
 Land boundaries:  
 total 22,143.34 km, Afghanistan 76 km, Bhutan 470 km, Burma 2,185 km, Hong Kong 30 km, India 3,380 km, Kazakhstan 1,533 km, North Korea 1,416 km, Kyrgyzstan 858 km, Laos 423 km, Macau 0.34 km, Mongolia 4,673 km, Nepal 1,236 km, Pakistan 523 km, Russia (northeast) 3,605 km, Russia (northwest) 40 km, Tajikistan 414 km, Vietnam 1,281 km  
 Coastline:  
 14,500 km  
 Maritime claims:  
 continental shelf:  
 claim to shallow areas of East China Sea and Yellow Sea

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

boundary with India; bilateral negotiations are under way to resolve disputed sections of the boundary with Russia; boundary with Tajikistan under dispute; a short section of the boundary with North Korea is indefinite; involved in a complex dispute over the Spratly Islands with Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan, Vietnam, and possibly Brunei; maritime boundary dispute with Vietnam in the Gulf of Tonkin; Paracel Islands occupied by China, but claimed by Vietnam and Taiwan; claims Japanese-administered Senkaku-shoto, as does Taiwan, (Senkaku Islands/ ← Diaoyu Tai)

Climate:

extremely diverse; tropical in south to subarctic in north

Terrain:

mostly mountains, high plateaus, deserts in west; plains, deltas, and hills in east

Natural resources:

coal, iron ore, petroleum, mercury, tin, tungsten, antimony, manganese, molybdenum, vanadium, magnetite, aluminum, lead, zinc, uranium, world's largest hydropower potential

Land use:

arable land:

10%

permanent crops:

0%

meadows and pastures:

31%

forest and woodland:

14%

other:

45%

Irrigated land:

478,220 km<sup>2</sup> (1991 - Chinese statistic)

## 1.5 50.guide/Geography (China 2. usage)

Geography (China 2. usage)

=====

Environment:

frequent typhoons (about five times per year along southern and eastern coasts), damaging floods, tsunamis, earthquakes; deforestation; soil erosion; industrial pollution; water pollution; air pollution; desertification

Note:

world's third-largest country (after Russia and Canada)

## 1.6 50.guide/People (China)

People (China)

=====

Population:

1,177,584,537 (July 1993 est.)

Population growth rate:

1.1% (1993 est.)

Birth rate:

18.29 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)

Death rate:

7.34 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)

Net migration rate:

0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)

Infant mortality rate:

52.1 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:

total population:

67.74 years

male:

66.78 years

female:

68.8 years (1993 est.)

Total fertility rate:

1.85 children born/woman (1993 est.)

Nationality:

noun:

Chinese (singular and plural)

adjective:

Chinese

Ethnic divisions:

Han Chinese 91.9%, Zhuang, Uygur, Hui, Yi, Tibetan, Miao, Manchu, Mongol, Buyi, Korean, and other nationalities 8.1%

Religions:

Daoism (Taoism), Buddhism, Muslim 2-3%, Christian 1% (est.)

note:

officially atheist, but traditionally pragmatic and eclectic

Languages:

Standard Chinese (Putonghua) or Mandarin (based on the Beijing dialect), ←  
Yue

(Cantonese), Wu (Shanghainese), Minbei (Fuzhou), Minnan (Hokkien-Taiwanese) ←

,

Xiang, Gan, Hakka dialects, minority languages (see Ethnic divisions entry)

Literacy:

age 15 and over can read and write (1990)

total population:

73%

male:

84%

female:

62%

Labor force:

567.4 million

by occupation:

agriculture and forestry 60%, industry and commerce 25%, construction and mining 5%, social services 5%, other 5% (1990 est.)

## 1.7 50.guide/Government (China)

Government (China)

=====

### Names:

conventional long form:

People's Republic of China

conventional short form:

China

local long form:

Zhonghua Renmin Gongheguo

local short form:

Zhong Guo

### Abbreviation:

PRC

### Digraph:

CH

### Type:

Communist state

### Capital:

Beijing

### Administrative divisions:

23 provinces (sheng, singular and plural), 5 autonomous regions\* (zizhiqu,, ↔ singular and plural), and 3 municipalities\*\* (shi, singular and plural);, Anhui, Beijing ↔ Shi\*\*, Fujian, Gansu,, Guangdong, Guangxi\*, Guizhou, Hainan,, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Henan, Hubei, ↔ Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Jilin, Liaoning, Nei Mongol\*, Ningxia\*, Qinghai, Shaanxi, Shandong, Shanghai Shi\*\*, Shanxi,, ↔ Sichuan, Tianjin

Shi\*\*, Xinjiang\*, Xizang\* (Tibet), Yunnan, Zhejiang, note:

China considers Taiwan its 23rd province

Independence: 221 BC (unification under the Qin or Ch'in Dynasty 221 BC; ↔ Qing or Ch'ing

Dynasty replaced by the Republic on 12 February 1912; People's Republic established 1 October 1949)

### Constitution:

most recent promulgated 4 December 1982

### Legal system:

a complex amalgam of custom and statute, largely criminal law; rudimentary civil code in effect since 1 January 1987; new legal codes in effect since ↔ 1

January 1980; continuing efforts are being made to improve civil, administrative, criminal, and commercial law

### National holiday:

National Day, 1 October (1949)

### Political parties and leaders:



Chinese Communist Party (CCP), JIANG Zemin, general secretary of the Central  
Committee (since 24 June 1989); eight registered small parties controlled by  
CCP  
Other political or pressure groups:  
such meaningful opposition as exists consists of loose coalitions, usually  
within the party and government organization, that vary by issue  
Suffrage:  
18 years of age; universal  
Elections:  
National People's Congress:  
last held March 1993 (next to be held March 1998); results - CCP is the  
only  
party but there are also independents; seats - (2,977 total) (elected at  
county or xian level)  
President:  
last held 27 March 1993 (next to be held NA 1998); results - JIANG Zemin  
was  
nominally elected by the Eighth National People's Congress  
Executive branch:  
president, vice president, premier, four vice premiers, State Council

## 1.8 50.guide/Government (China 2. usage)

Government (China 2. usage)  
=====

Legislative branch:  
unicameral National People's Congress (Quanguo Renmin Daibiao Dahui)  
Judicial branch:  
Supreme People's Court  
Leaders:  
Chief of State:  
President JIANG Zemin (since 27 March 1993); Vice President RONG Yiren  
(since 27 March 1993)  
Chief of State and Head of Government (de facto):  
DENG Xiaoping (since NA 1977)  
Head of Government:  
Premier LI Peng (Acting Premier since 24 November 1987, Premier since 9  
April 1988) Vice Premier ZHU Rongji (since 8 April 1991); Vice Premier ZOU  
Jiahua (since 8 April 1991); Vice Premier QIAN Qichen (since 29 March 1993) ←  
;  
Vice Premier LI Lanqing (29 March 1993)  
Member of:  
AfDB, APEC, AsDB, CCC, ESCAP, FAO, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, IDA, IFAD, IFC, ILO,  
IMF, IMO, INMARSAT, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, ISO, ITU, LORCS, MINURSO, NAM  
(observer), PCA, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNIKOM, UN Security  
Council, UNTAC, UNTSO, UN Trusteeship Council, UPU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO  
Diplomatic representation in US:  
chief of mission:  
Ambassador LI Daoyu  
chancery:

2300 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008  
 telephone:  
 (202) 328-2500 through 2502  
 consulates general:  
 Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco  
 US diplomatic representation:  
 chief of mission:  
 Ambassador J. Stapleton ROY  
 embassy:  
 Xiu Shui Bei Jie 3, Beijing  
 mailing address:  
 100600, PSC 461, Box 50, Beijing or FPO AP 96521-0002  
 telephone:  
 [86] (1) 532-3831  
 FAX:  
 [86] (1) 532-3178  
 consulates general:  
 Chengdu, Guangzhou, Shanghai, Shenyang  
 Flag:  
 red with a large yellow five-pointed star and four smaller yellow  
 five-pointed stars (arranged in a vertical arc toward the middle of the  
 flag) in the upper hoist-side corner

## 1.9 50.guide/Economy (China)

Economy (China)

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### Overview:

Beginning in late 1978 the Chinese leadership has been trying to move the economy from the sluggish Soviet-style centrally planned economy to a more productive and flexible economy with market elements, but still within the framework of monolithic Communist control. To this end the authorities have switched to a system of household responsibility in agriculture in place of the old collectivization, increased the authority of local officials and plant managers in industry, permitted a wide variety of small-scale enterprise in services and light manufacturing, and opened the foreign economic sector to increased trade and joint ventures. The most gratifying result has been a strong spurt in production, particularly in agriculture ←  
 in  
 the early 1980s. Industry also has posted major gains, especially in ←  
 coastal  
 areas near Hong Kong and opposite Taiwan, where foreign investment and modern production methods have helped spur production of both domestic and export goods. Aggregate output has more than doubled since 1978. On the darker side, the leadership has often experienced in its hybrid system the worst results of socialism (bureaucracy, lassitude, corruption) and of capitalism (windfall gains and stepped-up inflation). Beijing thus has periodically backtracked, retightening central controls at intervals and thereby lessening the credibility of the reform process. In 1991, and again in 1992, output rose substantially, particularly in the favored coastal areas. Popular resistance, changes in central policy, and loss of authority by rural cadres have weakened China's population control program, which is

essential to the nation's long-term economic viability.

National product: GNP \$NA

National product real growth rate:  
12.8% (1992 est.)

National product per capita:  
\$NA

Inflation rate (consumer prices):  
5.4% (1992)

Unemployment rate:  
2.3% in urban areas (1992)

Budget:  
deficit \$16.3 billion (1992)

Exports:  
\$85.0 billion (f.o.b., 1992)  
commodities:  
textiles, garments, telecommunications and recording equipment, petroleum, minerals  
partners:  
Hong Kong and Macau, Japan, US, Germany, South Korea, Russia (1992)

Imports:  
\$80.6 billion (c.i.f., 1992)  
commodities:  
specialized industrial machinery, chemicals, manufactured goods, steel, textile yarn, fertilizer  
partners:  
Hong Kong and Macau, Japan, US, Taiwan, Germany, Russia (1992)

External debt:  
\$69.3 billion (1992)

Industrial production:  
growth rate 20.8% (1992)

Electricity:  
158,690,000 kW capacity; 740,000 million kWh produced, 630 kWh per capita (1992)

## 1.10 50.guide/Economy (China 2. usage)

Economy (China 2. usage)

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Industries:  
iron and steel, coal, machine building, armaments, textiles, petroleum, cement, chemical fertilizers, consumer durables, food processing

Agriculture:  
accounts for 26% of GNP; among the world's largest producers of rice, potatoes, sorghum, peanuts, tea, millet, barley, and pork; commercial crops include cotton, other fibers, and oilseeds; produces variety of livestock products; basically self-sufficient in food; fish catch of 13.35 million metric tons (including fresh water and pond raised) (1991)

Illicit drugs:  
illicit producer of opium in at least 18 provinces and administrative regions; bulk of production is in Yunnan Province; transshipment point for heroin produced in the Golden Triangle

Economic aid:

donor - to less developed countries (1970-89) \$7.0 billion; US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-87), \$220.7 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-87), \$13.5 billion

Currency:

1 yuan (Y) = 10 jiao

Exchange rates:

yuan (Y) per US\$1 - 5.7640 (January 1993), 5.5146 (1992), 5.3234 (1991), 4.7832 (1990), 3.7651 (1989), 3.7221 (1988)

Fiscal year:

calendar year

## 1.11 50.guide/Communications (China)

Communications (China)

=====

Railroads:

total about 64,000 km; 54,000 km of common carrier lines, of which 53,400 ←  
km

are 1.435-meter gauge (standard) and 600 km are 1.000-meter gauge (narrow); 11,200 km of standard gauge common carrier route are double tracked and 6,900 km are electrified (1990); an additional 10,000 km of varying gauges (0.762 to 1.067-meter) are dedicated industrial lines

Highways:

about 1,029,000 km (1990) total; 170,000 km (est.) paved roads, 648,000 km (est.) gravel/improved earth roads, 211,000 km (est.) unimproved earth ←  
roads  
and tracks

Inland waterways:

138,600 km; about 109,800 km navigable

Pipelines:

crude oil 9,700 km (1990); petroleum products 1,100 km; natural gas 6,200 ←  
km

Ports:

Dalian, Guangzhou, Huangpu, Qingdao, Qinhuangdao, Shanghai, Xingang, Zhanjiang, Ningbo, Xiamen, Tanggu, Shantou

Merchant marine:

1,478 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 14,029,320 GRT/21,120,522 DWT; includes 25 passenger, 42 short-sea passenger, 18 passenger-cargo, 6 cargo/training, 811 cargo, 11 refrigerated cargo, 81 container, 18 roll-on/roll-off cargo, 1 multifunction/barge carrier, 177 oil tanker, 11 chemical tanker, 263 bulk, 3 liquefied gas, 1 vehicle carrier, 9 ←  
combination

bulk, 1 barge carrier; note - China beneficially owns an additional 227 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling approximately 6,187,117 DWT that operate under Panamanian, British, Hong Kong, Maltese, Liberian, Vanuatu, Cypriot, Saint Vincent, Bahamian, and Romanian registry

Airports:

total:

330

usable:

330

with permanent-surface runways:

260  
with runways over 3,500 m:  
fewer than 10  
with runways 2,440-3,659 m:  
90  
with runways 1,220-2,439 m:  
200

Telecommunications:

domestic and international services are increasingly available for private use; unevenly distributed internal system serves principal cities, industrial centers, and most townships; 11,000,000 telephones (December 1989); broadcast stations - 274 AM, unknown FM, 202 (2,050 repeaters) TV; more than 215 million radio receivers; 75 million TVs; satellite earth stations - 4 Pacific Ocean INTELSAT, 1 Indian Ocean INTELSAT, 1 INMARSAT, and 55 domestic

## 1.12 50.guide/Defense Forces (China)

### Defense Forces (China)

=====

Branches:

People's Liberation Army (PLA), PLA Navy (including Marines), PLA Air Force

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 343,361,925; fit for military service 190,665,512; reach military age (18) annually 10,844,047 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$NA, NA% of GNP