GOVERNMENT

Chief of State  
President XI Jinping (since 14 March 2013)

Head of Government  
Premier LI Keqiang (since 16 March 2013)

Government Type  
communist state

Legislature  
unicameral National People’s Congress or Quanguo Renmin Daibiao Dahui (2,987 seats)

Judiciary  
Supreme People’s Court (consists of over 340 judges)

Ambassador to US  
Ambassador CUI Tiankai (since 3 April 2013)

US Ambassador  
Ambassador Terry BRANSTAD (since 12 July 2017)

GEOGRAPHY

Area  
Total: 9,596,960 sq km  
Land: 9,326,410 sq km  
Water: 270,550 sq km

Climate  
extremely diverse; tropical in south to subarctic in north

Natural Resources  
coal, iron ore, petroleum, natural gas, mercury, tin, tungsten, antimony, manganese, molybdenum, vanadium, magnetite, aluminum, lead, zinc, rare earth elements, uranium, world’s greatest hydropower potential, arable land

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population  
1.38 billion (July 2017 est.)

Population Growth  
0.41% (2017 est.)

Ethnicity  
Han Chinese 91.6%, Zhuang 1.3%, other (includes Hui, Manchu, Uighur, Miao, Yi, Tujia, Tibetan, Mongol, Dong, Buyei, Yao, Bai, Korean, Hani, Li, Kazakh, Dai and other nationalities) 7.1% (2010 est.)

Language  
Standard Chinese or Mandarin (official; Putonghua, based on the Beijing dialect), Yue (Cantonese), Wu (Shanghainese), Minbei (Fuzhou), Minnan (Hokkien-Taiwanese), Xiang, Gan, Hakka dialects, minority languages

Religion  
Buddhist 18.2%, Christian 5.1%, Muslim 1.8%, folk religion 21.9%, Hindu < 0.1%, Jewish < 0.1%, other 0.7% (includes Daoist (Taoist)), unaffiliated 52.2% (2010 est.)

note: officially atheist

Urbanization  
urban population: 59.2% of total population (2018)  
rate of urbanization: 2.42% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

Literacy  
96.4% (2015 est.)

ECONOMY

Economy Overview  
largest economy and exporter in the world, but one that continues to pursue state-directed industrial, trade, and investment policies, including state-support of key sectors

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)  
$23.12 trillion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)  
$16,600 (2017 est.)

Exports  
$2.157 trillion (2017 est.)  
partners: US 19%, Hong Kong 12.4%, Japan 6%, South Korea 4.5% (2017)

Imports  
$1.731 trillion (2017 est.)  
partners: South Korea 9.7%, Japan 9.1%, US 8.5%, Germany 5.3%, Australia 5.1% (2017)