



CHINA



INTRODUCTION

China's civilization dates from at least 1200 B.C.. From the 3rd century B.C. and for the next two millennia, China alternated between periods of unity and disunity under a succession of imperial dynasties. After World War II, the Chinese Communist Party under MAO Zedong established an autocratic socialist system.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President XI Jinping

Head of Government

Premier LI Keqiang

Government Type

communist party-led state

Capital

Beijing

Legislature

unicameral National People's Congress or Quanguo Renmin Daibiao Dahui (maximum of 3,000 seats)

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, hydropower potential (world's largest), arable land

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

one of the world's top two economies; sustained growth due to export relations, its manufacturing sector, and low-wage workers; only major economy to avoid COVID-19 economic decline; recovery efforts slowing due to longstanding poverty imbalances and other institutional issues; state-sponsored economic controls

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$23.01 trillion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$16,400 (2020 est.)

Industries - telecommunications, iron/steel, other metals, coal, machinery, armaments, textiles/apparel, petroleum, cement, chemicals, fertilizer, consumer products, food processing

Agricultural products - maize, rice, vegetables, wheat, sugarcane, potatoes, cucumbers, tomatoes, watermelons, sweet potatoes

Exports \$2.732 trillion (2020 est.)

broadcasting equipment, computers, integrated circuits, office machinery and parts, telephones (2019)

partners: US 17%, Hong Kong 10%, Japan 6% (2019)

Imports \$2.363 trillion (2020 est.)

crude petroleum, integrated circuits, iron, natural gas, cars, gold (2019)

partners: South Korea 9%, Japan 8%, Australia 7%, Germany 7%, US 7%, Taiwan 6% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

1.4 billion (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

0.26% (2021 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) 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

folk religion 21.9%, Buddhist 18.3%, Christian 5.2%, Muslim 2%, Hindu < 0.1%, Jewish < 0.1%, other 0.7% (includes Daoist (Taoist), unaffiliated 51.8% (2020 est.)

