





Population: China

- <http://countrysimeters.info/en/China>

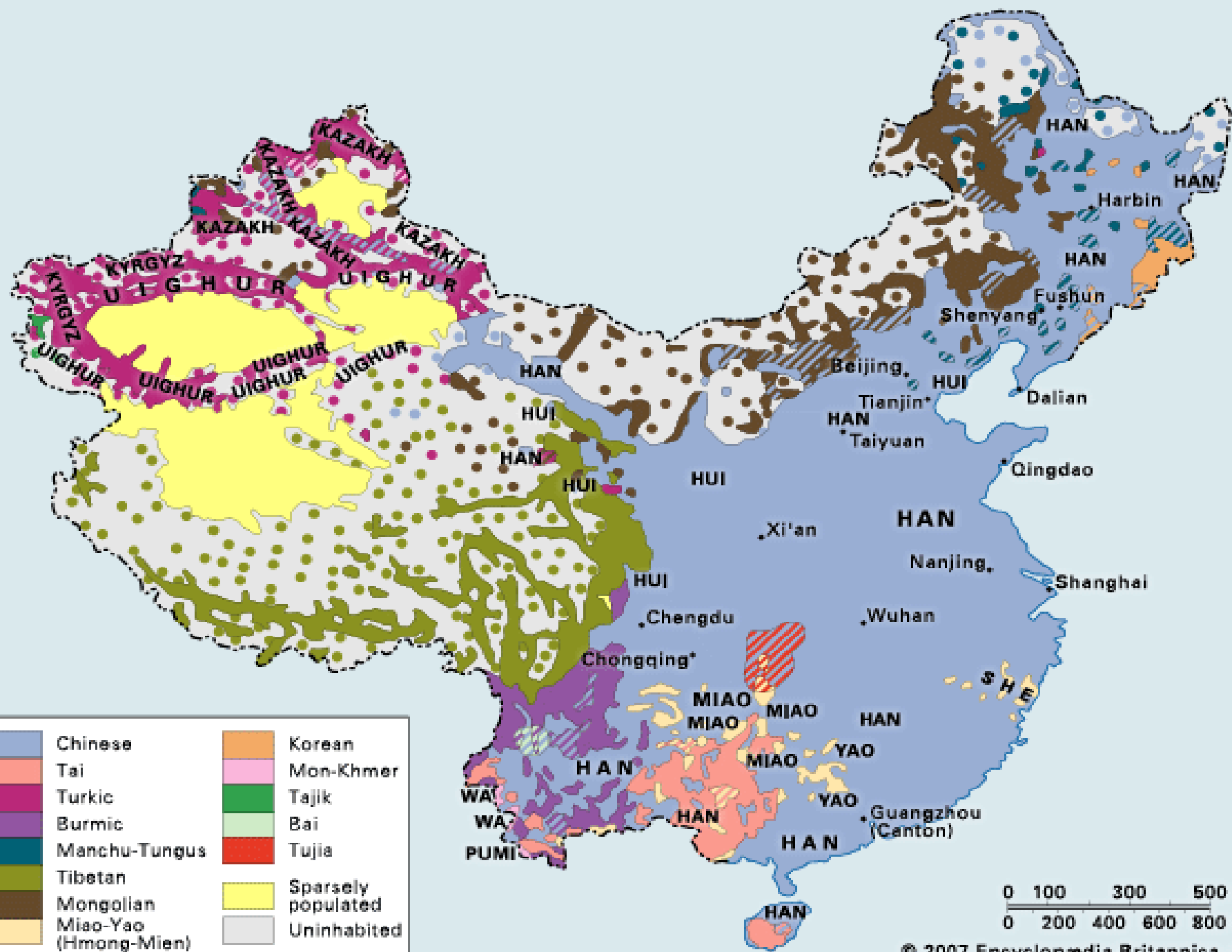
Population of China

Population	Yearly Change	Migrants (net)	Median Age	Urban Pop %	Urban Population	Country's Share of World Pop	World Population	Global Rank
1,393,783,836	8,217,299	-313,996	35.7	54%	756,300,115	19.24%	7,243,784,121	1

Equal to **all** of Europe (730m) all of Russia (140m) and all of N. America including Mexico (530m)

- **City _Urban Area Population**
- [Shanghai](#) 22,000,000 Built up area:28m
- [Beijing](#)19,430,000
- [Guangzhou](#)12,000,000 Built up area: 44m
- [Shenzhen](#)11,300,000
- [Tianjin](#) 11,000,000
- [Chongqing](#) 7,500,000 (31,442,300 admin area)
- [Nanjing](#)7,000,000 [Wuhan](#) 6,600,000
- [Dongguan](#)8,000,000 [Hangzhou](#) 6,300,000
- [Shenyang](#)5,060,000 [Harbin](#) 4,750,000 [Chengdu](#)
- 11,300,000 [Zhengzhou](#)4,360,000 [Jinan](#)4,000,000
- [Qingdao](#)3,800.000 [Xi'an](#)3,800,000 [Dalian](#)3,500,000
- [Shantou](#)3,200,000[Huizhou](#)2,900,000 [Zibo](#)3,000,000
- [Fuzhou](#)2,600,000

Source Wikipedia 2014

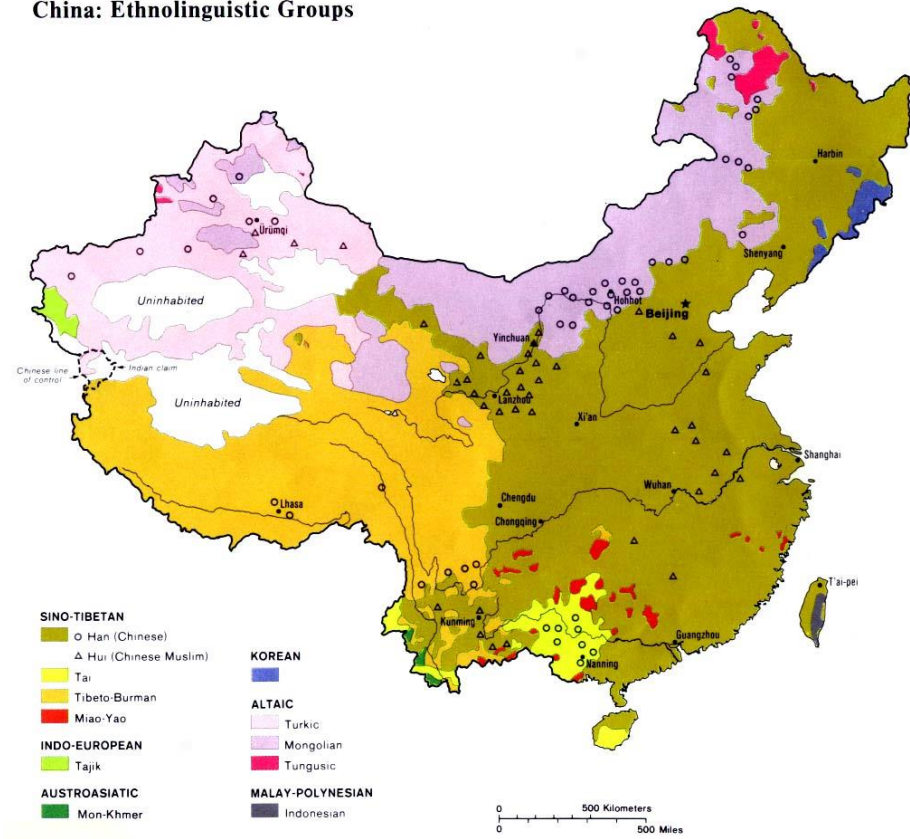




Many faces, yes, but one 'group' dominates: The Han Chinese



China: Ethnolinguistic Groups





China – One Child Policy

- The number of unmarried men – called bare branches – is predicted to be 30m by 2030.
- Abortions/ infanticide/fines/bribes/ sex trade/abductions...many terrible things, yes and some odd:
- ‘Little emperors’...
- to much pressure...



- ‘Good’ results:
- Since its introduction the OCP has reduced China’s population by 200-400m.
- Less pollution/resource use/waste + better education + much stronger and clearer rights for women + equality at home and work

One child policy (OCP)

- Family planning policies have become more relaxed (2013) in an effort to smooth out the population's aging.
- In rural areas, couples have been allowed to have a second child if the first was a girl and minority groups can now have up to three. In urban areas, if a couple is both from a one-child family, they are now allowed to have a second child, provided that it is at least 4/6 years later than the first child. Sixty three percent of Chinese couples are still limited to one child under existing policies. But many do not want more than one anyway...



Ageing

One of the key factors in China's population spurt, from slightly more than 500 million in 1949 to its present population of 1.39 billion is its rapidly falling mortality rate. This increase in lifespan and the ageing of China's population with over 23% of the population over the age of 65 in 2020

From 1990 to 2000 the average expected lifespan of the Chinese people had increased nearly three years, from 68.55 in 1990 to 71.4 in 2000 and 75.6 in 2011.

At the same time, the pregnancy and infant mortality rate decreased by 3.1 percent.

China's mortality rate is bi-modal. Urban Chinese residents have an expected lifespan of nearly 6 years greater than rural residents. This may be attributable to greater access to modern healthcare in urban areas, as well as a higher income and thus higher standard of living of urban dwellers.

- This will lead to a pension problem for the Chinese government and may reduce China's ability to compete in the future.
- China's demographic shift to an older society will have a profound impact on the Chinese economy and investment opportunities in China. .
- While diet and nutrition conditions have improved dramatically over the last twenty five years, new ailments have begun to emerge. Diabetes has risen from 4.6 percent to 6.4 percent. More than 155 million adults in China have increased total cholesterol levels, and another 117 million have high levels of bad cholesterol

Age group

100

80

60

40

20

0

-80

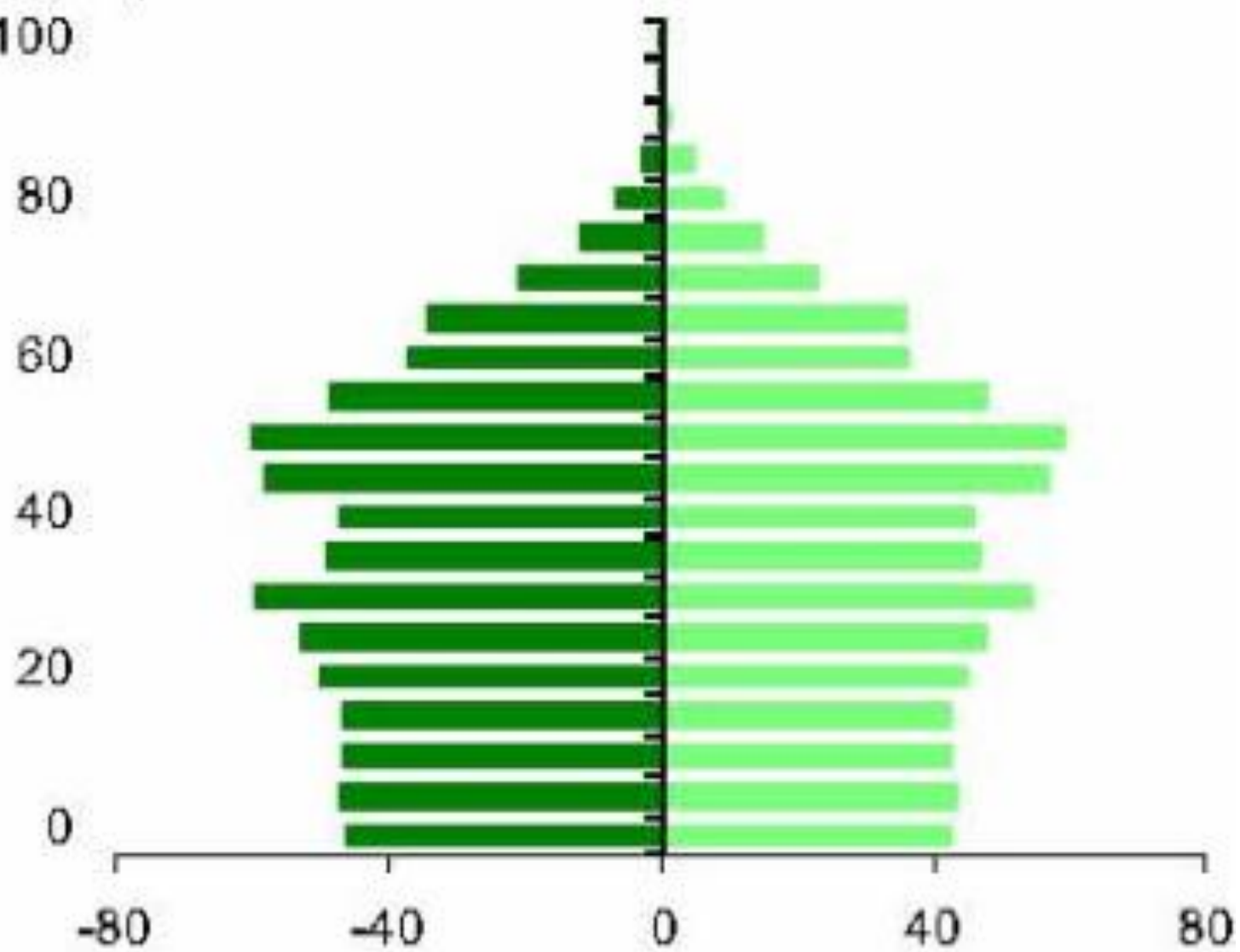
-40

0

40

80

Population (millions)



Retirement

- 3/10 families have grandparents living in the same household
- China currently has over 140 million senior citizens, roughly ten percent of its population. But that figure is growing at over three percent a year.
- Time was when those old folks' sunset years were supported unconditionally by family. However, individualism is taking root...
- In 2012 China had more than 120m aged 60+. This is set to rise to 400m by 2050.
- China has recently allowed retirees to take out bank loans against their homes to pay for their living expenses under a pilot programme in four cities: Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Wuhan from July 1, 2014. But 70 year home ownership...



- Pension coverage is (mostly) available only to those employed in the government sector and larger companies. Thus, children are responsible for the retirement of many parents.
- Financial dependence on offspring is still necessary for approximately 70 percent of elderly people. This problem is nicknamed the "4:2:1" phenomenon, highlighting the idea that meaning that an increasing numbers of couples are now responsible for the care of just one child, but four parents.
- By 2050, the UNPD forecasts that Chinese workers will have a 70 percent greater elderly dependency burden than today, combined with a significantly lower child dependency burden.
- In the UNPD's "medium" scenario, the median age of China's population in 2050 will be forty-five years old —about 10 years higher than today's median population age. This means that nearly a third of the citizens of that future China would be sixty or older.
- China's population half a century from now would be *more* elderly than the future populations of countries like Denmark, Finland, and Norway, despite the fact that those Scandinavian countries are already "grey" today.

Health

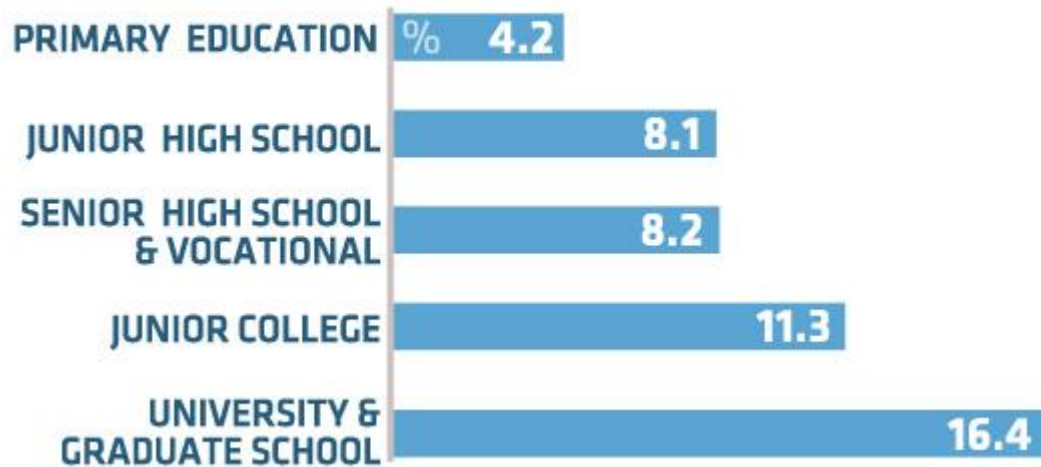
- Obesity greater than 20% in some cities and across China children are increasingly obese: 15% of 10-12 years overweight – 8% of these obese.
- It's a 'success problem': >prosperity = > more disposable income = > calorific intake
- The future health costs are likely to cripple economic activity:
- *one fifth of all one billion obese people in the world come from China.*
(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Obesity_in_China)
- Sounds alarmist but actually China reflects many developed nations in this respect but remember it does have one major difference that is likely to cause additional social and economic difficulties: ***The One-Child policy***



How is the Chinese Government Going to Pay For Its Aging Population?

- At present, China has a significant foreign exchange surplus and most families save for a rainy day. If China can invest its savings at a sufficiently high rate of return, this will help finance flow pension shortfalls thereafter.
- Compared to many countries, China has a relatively low amount of debt.
- Another source of income for the Chinese government is its assets. Unlike many other developing countries, the government owns the lion's share of the country's assets. These asset sales could be a potent source of funds for the Chinese government to cover increased social costs from an aging population.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE 21 AND 25 AGE GROUP BREAK DOWN BY EDUCATIONAL LEVEL



China's economic miracle has so far been driven by three sectors: export-driven manufacturing, construction and large energy and capital intensive heavy industries dominated by the state, all of which offer plenty of low-skilled, low-paid jobs but few white-collar jobs suitable for university graduates.

Additionally, the flourishing transportation and catering industries have mostly created jobs that require nothing more than primary and junior secondary education.

Highly skilled industries are going more hi-tech – robots...(Terence Tse. 2014)

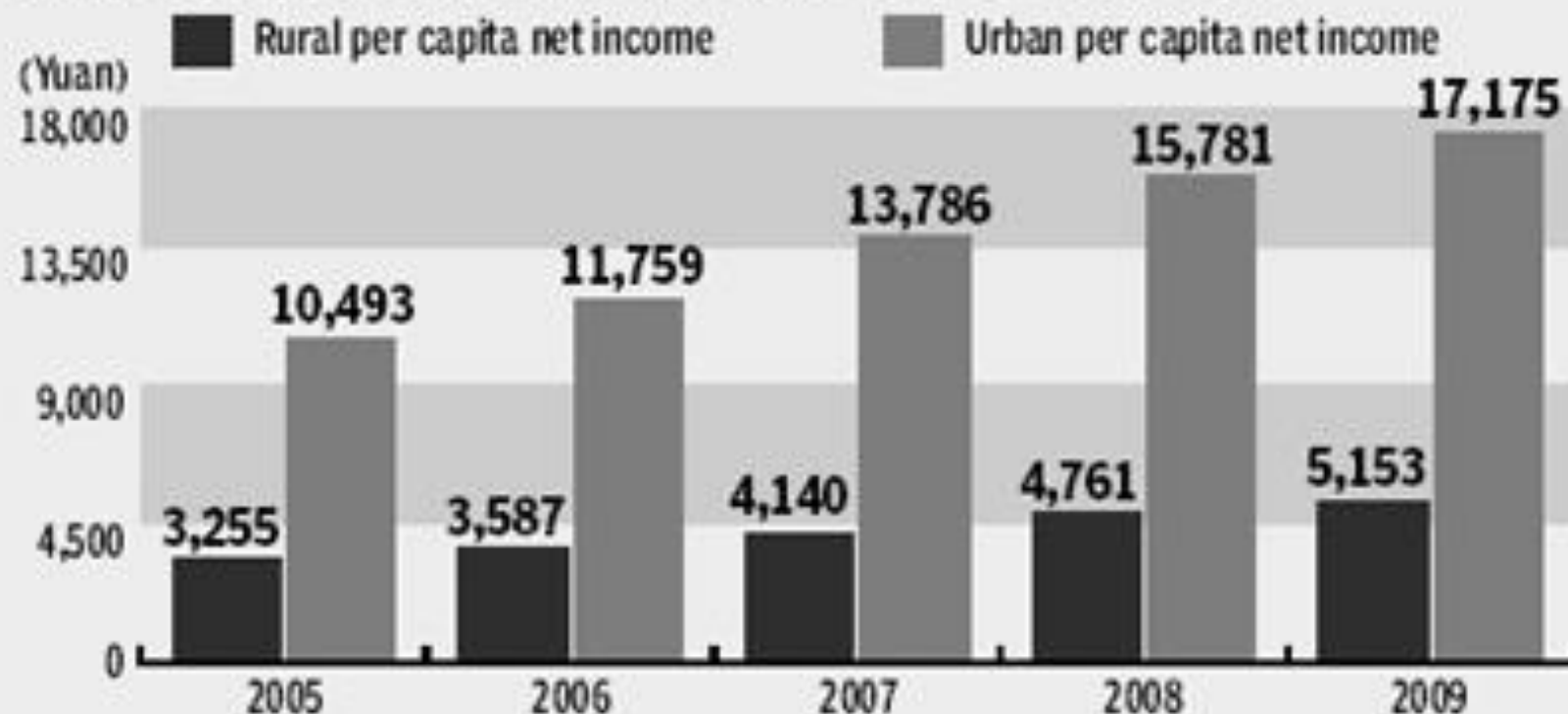


Internal Migration



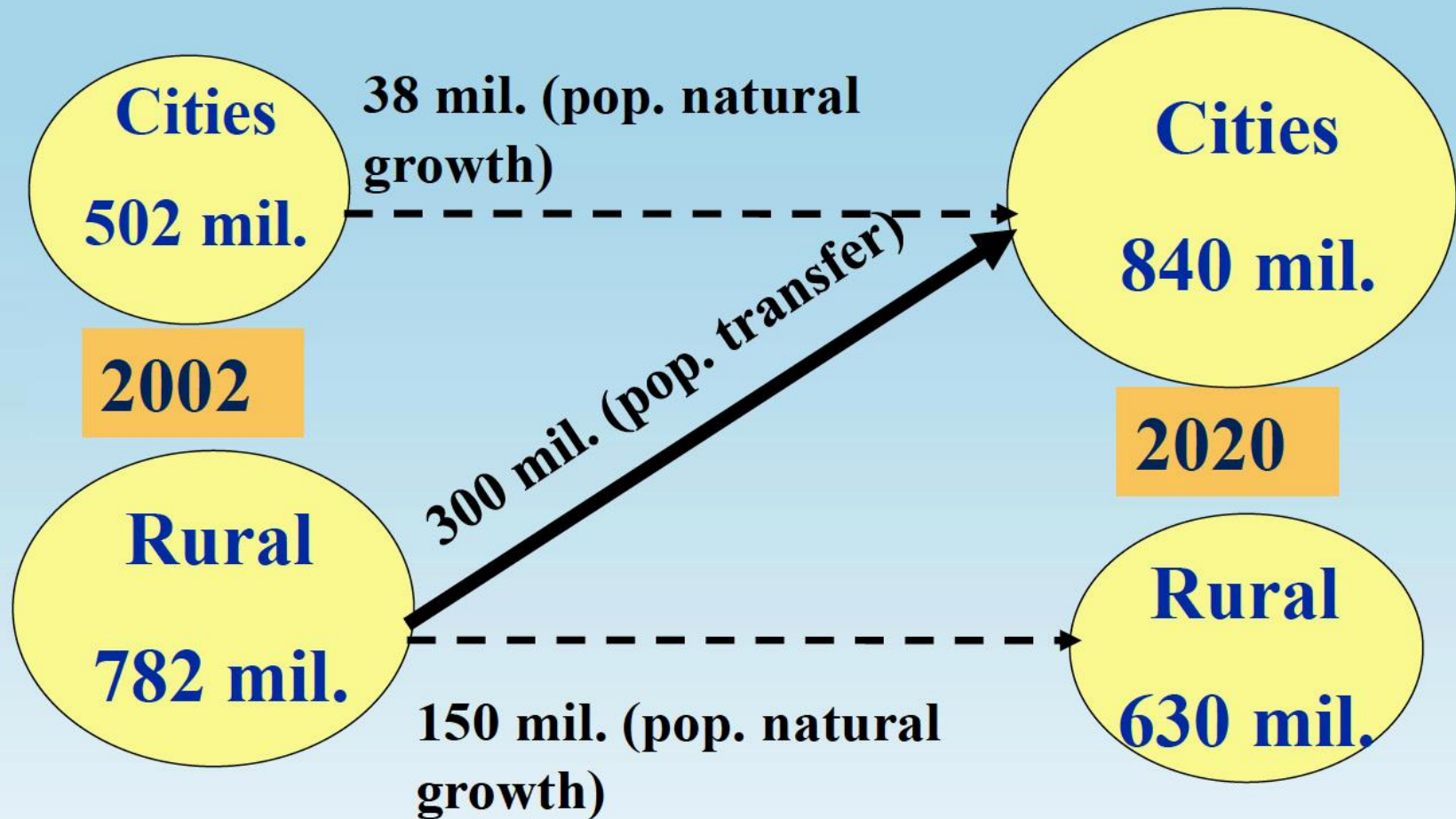
Rural-urban migrations and transition

WIDENING URBAN-RURAL INCOME GAP

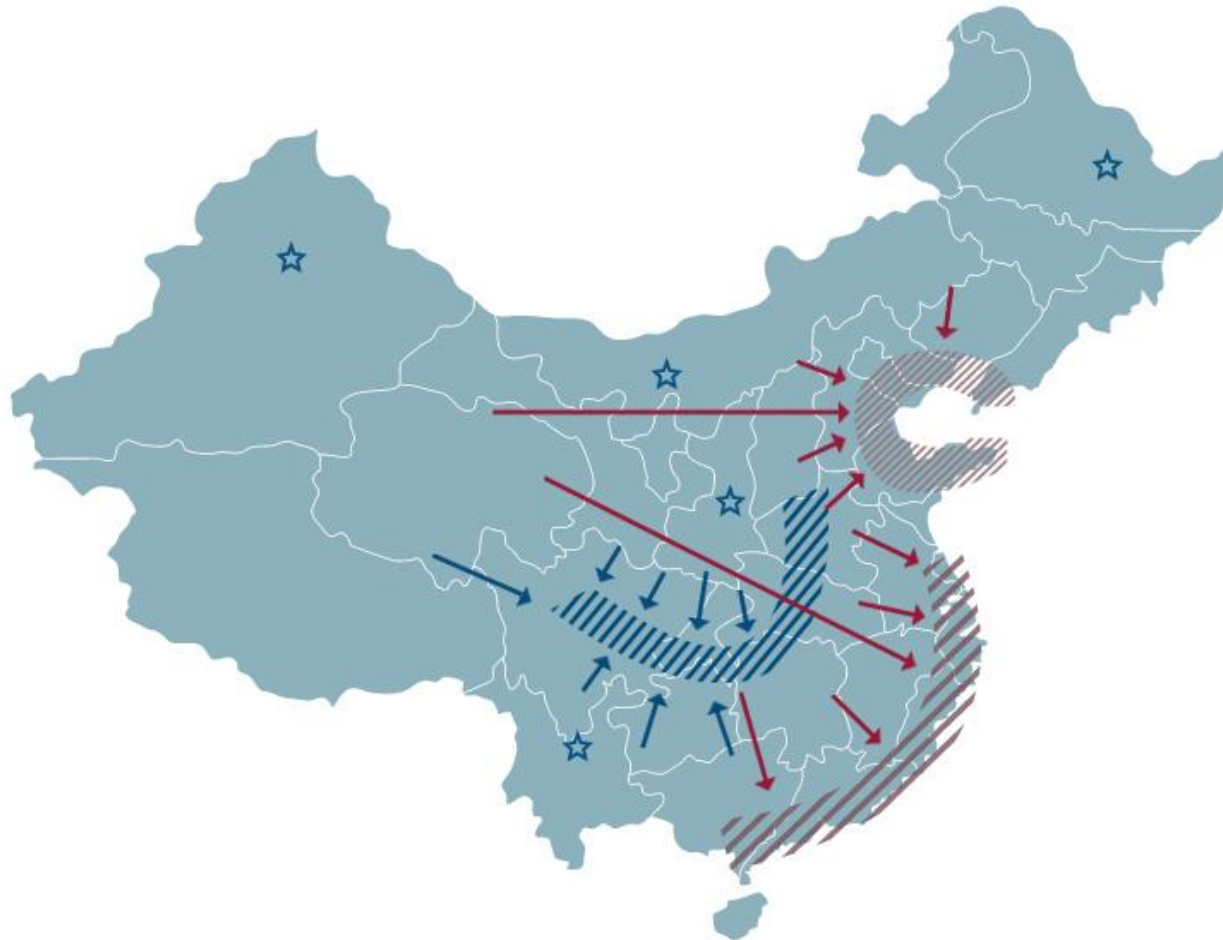


Source: National Bureau of Statistics of China

Prediction of Chinese Urbanization



■ Tripartite structure of the future internal migration in China



Source: Guojia (2010, p.6). Guojia renkou he jihua shengyu weiyuanhui lidong renkou fuwu guanli si [Department for Management and Services for Migrants at the National Population and Family Planning Commission] (ed./2010), Report on China's Migrant Population Development, Beijing.
Licence: Creative Commons by-nc-nd/3.0/de
The Federal Agency for Civic Education, 2012, www.bpb.de

- **How Will China Compete Once Its Population Ages?**
- Already there are localised labour shortages. Many migrant labourers from inland areas are returning home after working several years on the coast and building a nest egg to invest back home.
- Many rural families have a long-term lease on their own farm, thus migrant workers have a destination to which they can return. Because many migrant workers are the only child in their families, there is an extra strong family desire for them to return home to live near family.
- As China's workforce ages, young workers will be even less available and China's manufacturing and services sectors will be forced to keep existing workers for a longer tenure or find older workers.
- Either of these approaches will raise labour costs. Ultimately, it means that China will no longer be able to rely solely on inexpensive labour to fuel its growth. Instead, China may only be able to grow in line with the growth of its labour force. Chinese companies are responding by moving more into electronics and other medium/high-tech industries, however increased investment in China's labour force and management cadre is necessary before such a transformation can be successful.

Suggested links/reading/references

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-25035280> BBC article – Nov 2013 – very balanced
- Terence Tse. 2014. <http://www.cnbc.com/id/101994364>. *Takes you into CNBC and lots of links – remember, though, state owned..*
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKNSUPqtBT8>
32min Good balanced view Al Jazeera 2012