

2. Climate

The northeast experiences hot and dry summers and bitterly cold harsh winters, with temperatures known to reach as low as -20°C . The north and central region has almost continual rainfall, temperate summers reaching 26°C and cool winters when temperatures reach 0°C

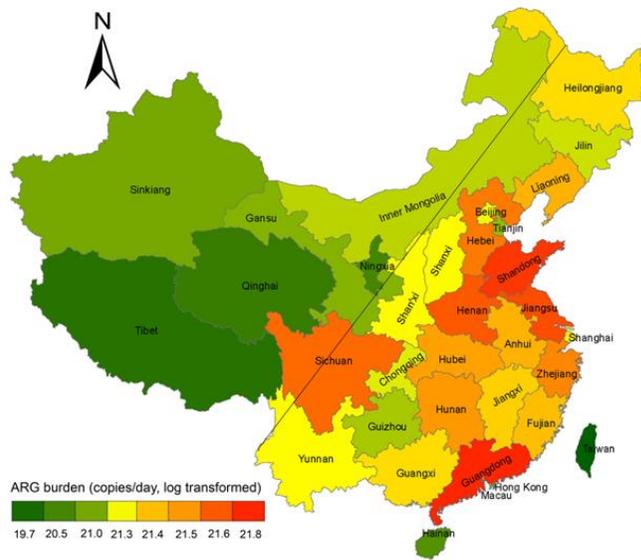
3. Physical Features

The vast land expanses of China include plateaus, plains, basins, foothills, and mountains. Defining rugged plateaus, foothills and mountains as mountainous, they occupy nearly two-thirds of the land, higher in the West and lower in the East like a three-step ladder



4. Population Density

China's current population is **1.368 billion people**, but the distribution is very unique, 94% of their population are located in the east coast alone while the other 6% are in the west. The overall trend of China's population distribution is very uneven



1. Location

Located in Southeast Asia along the coastline of the Pacific Ocean, **China** is the world's third largest country, after Russia and Canada. With an area of 9.6 million square kilometers and a coastline of 18,000 kilometers



Semester 1

Y8

The Rise & Rise of China

6. Urbanisation

In many areas of Asia there is *rural-to-urban migration*. China has seen *rapid urbanisation* as an increasing proportion of people live in urban areas. Over the last 20 years, the percentage of people who live in cities has increased from 20 per cent to nearly 50 per cent. The reasons for rural to urban migration are:

- people are moving into cities to find work
- farming systems in rural areas changed to allow people to leave the *group cooperative*
- newly industrialised areas needed workers
- there was the belief that the standard of living is better in cities
- In some areas, such as Shanghai, the birth rate is below *replacement level*. Therefore, the city's population would be shrinking. However, because of migration, the size of the city is increasing rapidly

5. Economic development



China is globally significant and is aiming to become a global leader. It is referred to as an 'emerging country'. China's growth is partly due to its move from **agricultural production to manufacturing**. China joined the *World Trade Organisation* in 2001. Many manufactured goods that we buy in the UK come from China. The growth of manufacturing in China is due to many reasons, including:

- China has created excellent opportunities for businesses to set up – making sure that the infrastructure is present.
- Incentives are offered by some agencies in China. There are Special Economic Zones (SEZ) that offer tax incentives to foreign businesses. One SEZ is Shenzhen.
- China has a good supply of highly-skilled labour.
- There are lower labour costs involved – there is no national minimum wage.
- China is able to offer economies of scale because it already has a large manufacturing base.
- China has a reputation of a strong work ethic, and workers are used to long working hours.
- Health and safety laws are sometimes not heavily enforced which means companies do not have to spend money on meeting health and safety standards.

7. Population Policy



In 1979, the One Child Rule was introduced in China. It is an *anti-natal* policy. It was brought in because of concerns about the size of China's population. In the 1960s the fertility rate was as high as 5.7 and the country could not support this rate of population growth. The new policy meant that any couple having a second child would get a heavy fine, around £3,000, which only the very affluent could afford. There were financial incentives to follow the policy.

A 90 per cent majority of China's population were affected by this policy. The remaining 10 per cent were exempt as they were not from the ethnic Han majority. In time, the policy has been adapted. Two babies were permitted if people met certain criteria e.g. the people lived in the rural areas both parents were a one-child household themselves