Poverty Level and Population Density in China

Angel Liu, Lucas McLaughlin, Mia Paparatti, Katelyn Kim

**BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY — STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

Introduction

- China is one of the largest counties in the world and is the second most densely populated country in the world.
- Since Xi Jinping took office in 2012, the Chinese government claims over 100 million citizens have been taken out of poverty.
- In 2012, 10.2% of China's population lived below the country's official poverty line of less than $2.30 per day. In 2019, only 0.6% of China's population lived below that poverty line.
- However, China's official poverty line is only a little higher than the World Bank global poverty line: living off $1.90 per day.
- **How effective is China at tackling poverty rates?**
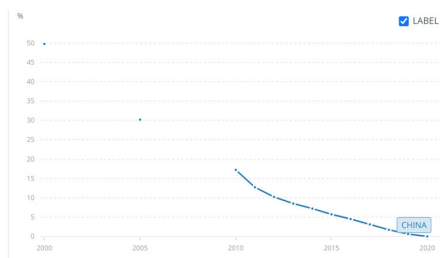

Demographics

- Population of around 1.4 billion
  - 17.72% of total world population
- Median age: 39 years old
- Life expectancy:
  - Females: 81.t years
  - Males: 76.2 years
- GDP growth rate in 2022: 2.99%
- GDP per capita in 2022: $11,449
- Urban population: 65%
- Population density: 152 people/km^2
- Total land area: 9.4 million km^2
- Largest cities:
  - Shanghai – population of 22.3 million
  - Beijing – population of 11.7 million
  - Tianjin – population of 11.1 million
  - Guangzhou – population of 11.1 million
  - Shenzhen – population of 10.4 million

China Urban vs. Rural Population from 1955 to 2020
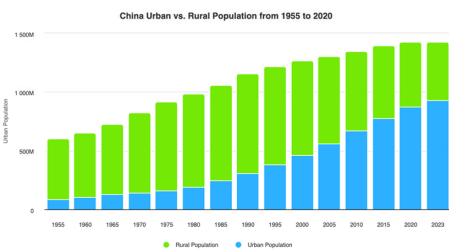
Poverty by Region

- This graph displays data from the National Bureau of Statistics of China. Each bar represents the average disposable income per capita of each region in China in 2022.
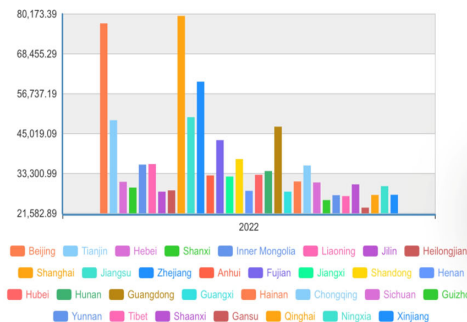

Population Density by the Numbers

- Despite China being home to over 1 billion people, about 90% of the population lives on a little less than 40% of the country.

Average population density in China in 2020, by province or region (in inhabitants per square kilometer)

Source
City Population
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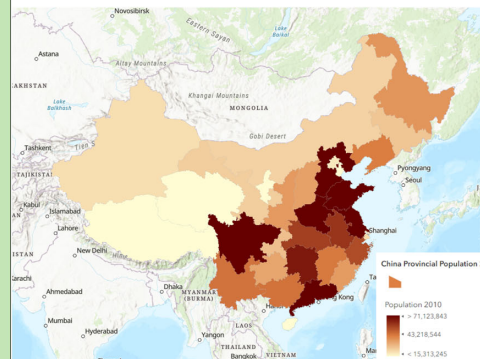
Additional Information:
China: 2020
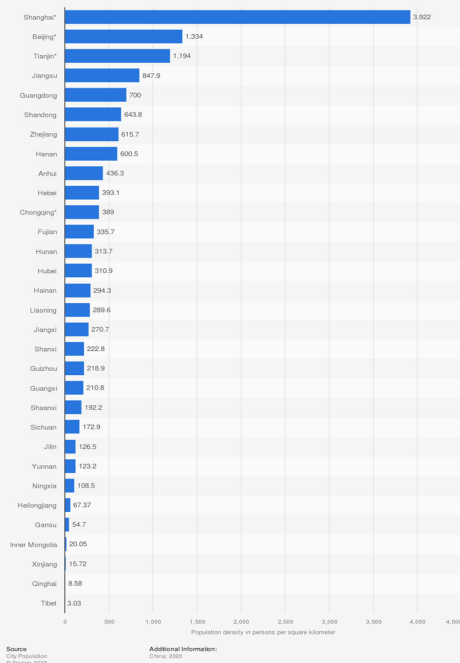
Visualizing the Data

- The map below (UNICEF) is a visual representation of the poverty rate in each region of China.
- Areas with disadvantaged geography lack opportunities that other households have.
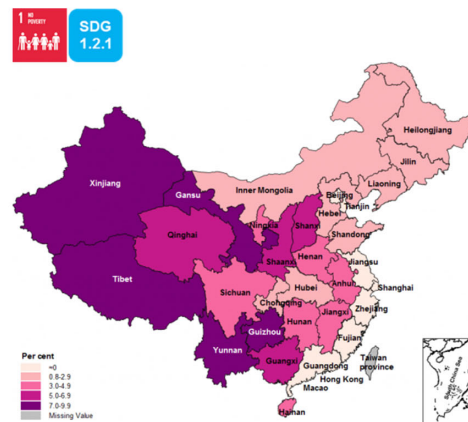
- The map below is a visual representation of population density throughout China

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Conclusion

- The less densely populated an area is, the greater the poverty rate in China.
- The Chinese government targeted poor families using the rural poverty line of one dollar a day.
- China transitioned from a lower-middle income economy to an upper-middle income economy in 2010.
- As of 2019, China has managed to reduce the amount of people who live below the national poverty line to about 0.6%.
- However, China has clearly prioritized developing urban areas, as those areas are more likely to house profitable industries such as manufacturing. Rural areas have largely been neglected

China says it has almost eradicated extreme rural poverty

Counties categorised as in extreme rural poverty

Source: State Council
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