

# The Rise of China

## China's government

China is ruled by a Communist government. This means there are no democratic elections and the government makes all decisions. Sometimes these decisions can be unpopular and dramatically affect people's lives.

One of these tough decisions was how to control their population.

## China's One Child Policy

China's One Child Policy was introduced in 1979 to try and solve the problem of overpopulation. The main purpose was to make sure that China could support its large population such as facilities, education, housing, employment and food.

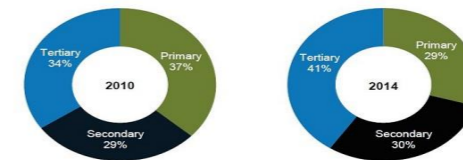
The main rules of the policy are:

- Each couple is only allowed to have one child if they live in the city. In the countryside, some couples are allowed more than 1.
- You must be ages 24 or over before you can marry.
- If families follow the rules, the child will be entitled to free education, healthcare and a 10% increase on their wages.

Punishments if they didn't follow the rules:

- Fines of up to 10% of their wages
- Being fired from their jobs
- 'Granny Police' reported people who had more than 1 in secret.
- Many children (especially girls) were put up for adoption as boys were deemed more valuable.

China Employment by Sector (%)



Source: National Bureau of Statistics of China

## China's employment structure

The charts show that large numbers of people are moving away from primary industry. As this happens, people can earn more money and China becomes more economically developed. This means it can eventually become an AC.

## Globalisation

The process by which places are becoming more connected in terms of business, trade, employment, communication and technology.

Global companies are often called Multinational Corporations or MNCs

## How did China get rich?

Have a look at your clothes at home, or your technology (games consoles, TVs etc).

How many of them say 'made in China'?

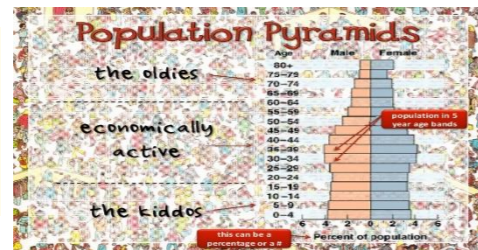
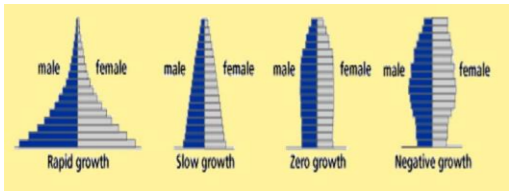


## China

One third of this country is made up of mountains. It has the third longest river in the world and a large underground army. Half of all pigs on earth live in this country and it has sent a person to space.

Facts about China:

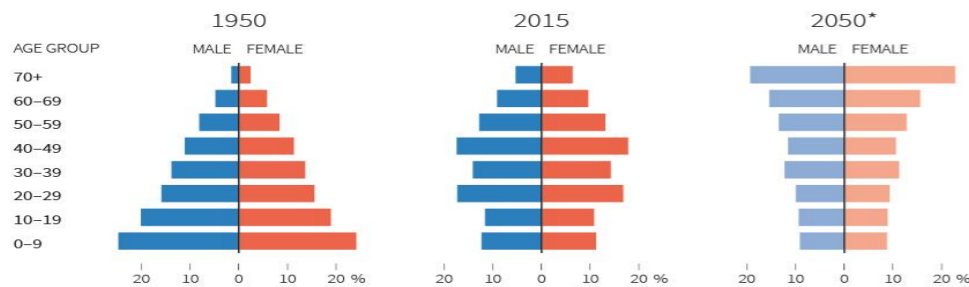
- The main food eaten in China is rice.
- The most popular form of transport is by bicycle or scooter.
- The landscape is varied. There are mountains (Himalayas), deserts (Gobi) and a coastline.
- China has the largest population in the world (1.4 billion).
- The currency is Yuan and the flag is red with 5 gold stars.



## China's changing population

In 1950, children aged 10 or younger accounted for the largest share of China's population. This population pyramid is estimated to change shape dramatically by 2050.

POPULATION PYRAMID — AGE GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



## China's changing population

**1950** – China has rapid growth with a large number of babies being born, and fewer elderly.

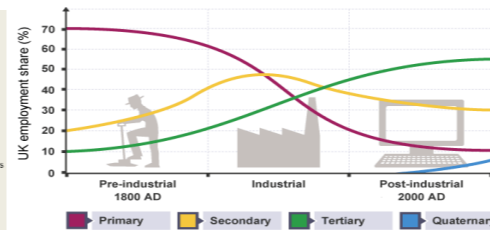
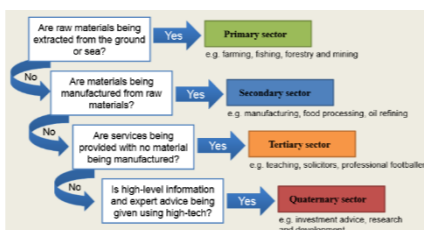
**2015** – The babies born in 1950 are now of working age (economically active) so there is a larger proportion of the population here. There are larger numbers of elderly people, but fewer babies.

**2050** – By this time it is likely that the high number of babies born in the 1950s are now elderly. This puts a huge strain on the economy as they need looking after.

## Comparing China and the UK

China is an EDC (emerging and developing country), whereas the UK is an AC (advanced country).

	China	UK
Unemployment:	4.1%	3.8%
Vehicles per 1000:	118	584
HDI:	0.75	0.922
Life expectancy:	76	81
Literacy rate:	95%	99%
Number of billionaires:	819	118



## Case Study - Advantages and disadvantages of working for Apple in China

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides jobs for people</li> <li>• Learning new skills</li> <li>• Housing and food provided for.</li> <li>• Part of the 'fair labour' initiative</li> <li>• Huge economic advances for China making large amounts of money.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long working hours</li> <li>• Low pay</li> <li>• Often have to move away from families to work</li> <li>• Poor living conditions</li> <li>• High suicide rate</li> </ul>



## The advantages of MNCs in LIDCs:

- Creation of jobs.
- Stable income and more reliable than farming.
- Improved education and skills.
- Investment in infrastructure, eg new roads - helps locals as well as the MNC.
- Help to exploit natural resources. Increases countries wealth.
- A better developed economic base for the country.

## The disadvantages of MNCs in LIDCs:

- Few workers employed, considering the scale of investment.
- Poorer working conditions compared to jobs in the countryside.
- Damage to the environment by companies ignoring local laws.
- Profits going to companies overseas rather than locals.
- Little reinvestment in the local area. jobs insecure. If labour costs increase, the
- Jobs insecure. Companies leave and move elsewhere.
- Natural resources being over-exploited.
- Workers have no rights.