

The Information Office, International  
Department of the CPC Central Committee

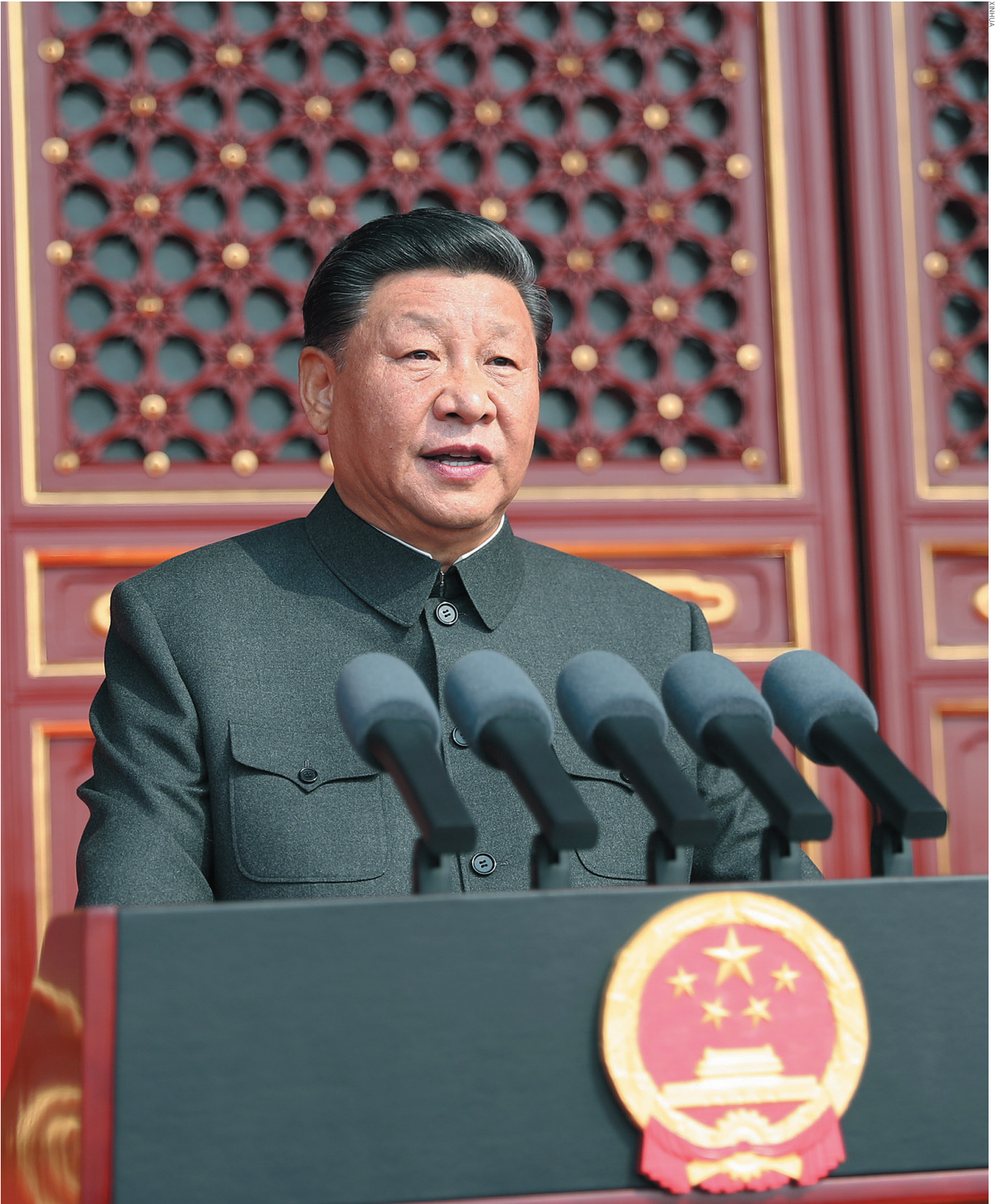
NOVEMBER 2019

# China nsight

Special Issue on the 70th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China







Chinese President Xi Jinping, also General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and Chairman of the Central Military Commission, delivers a speech at a grand rally to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China at the Tiananmen Square in Beijing, on October 1



# President Xi Jinping's Speech to Celebrate the 70th Anniversary Of the Founding of the People's Republic of China —Edited Excerpt

Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a speech at a grand rally at Tiananmen Square in Beijing to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on October 1. The following is an edited excerpt of his remarks:

Right at this moment, Chinese people of all ethnic groups and all the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation at home and abroad take pride in and give our best wishes to our great motherland with great joy.

Seventy years ago on this day, Comrade Mao Zedong solemnly declared here to the world that the PRC was founded and the Chinese people had stood up.

The founding of the PRC completely changed China's miserable fate of being poor and weak and bullied and humiliated for over 100 years since the advent of modern times.

The Chinese nation has since then embarked on the path of realizing national rejuvenation.

Over the past seven decades, Chinese people of all ethnic groups have made great achievements that have amazed the world through concerted

efforts and arduous struggle.

No force can ever shake the status of China, or stop the Chinese people and nation from marching forward.

On our journey forward, we must uphold the principles of peaceful reunification and "one country, two systems," maintain lasting prosperity and stability in Hong Kong and Macao special administrative regions, promote the peaceful development of cross-Straits relations, unite all Chinese sons and daughters, and continue to strive for the motherland's complete reunification.

On our journey forward, we will stay on the path of peaceful development and pursue a mutually beneficial strategy of opening up. We will continue to work with people from all countries to push for jointly building a community with a shared future for humanity.

The Chinese People's Liberation Army and the People's Armed Police

Force should always preserve their nature, purpose and character as the forces of the people, resolutely safeguard China's sovereignty, security and development interests, and firmly uphold world peace.

China's yesterday has been inscribed in human history, while China's present is being created by the hands of hundreds of millions of Chinese people. China will surely have an even brighter future.

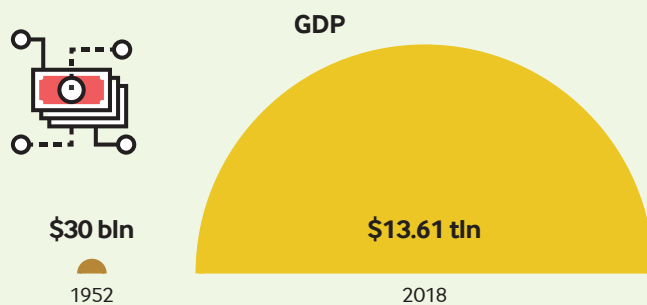
All Communist Party of China members, the armed forces and people of all ethnic groups should unite more closely together, stay true to the founding mission, build on existing achievements and continue to develop our people's republic. Continued efforts should be made to achieve the Two Centenary Goals and realize the Chinese dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. **■**



# Transformational Change

October 1 marked the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. During the past seven decades, tremendous changes have taken place in China's society, economy, standard of living and international status. To put its achievements into perspective, *Beijing Review* breaks down the numbers behind China's development across a wide sphere of sectors.

## Economic Takeoff



## Foreign Exchange Reserves

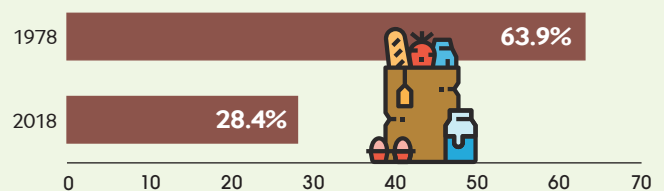


## China's Annual Average Contribution to Global Economic Growth

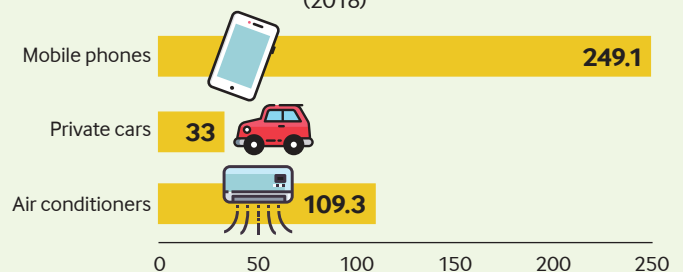


## Improved Lives

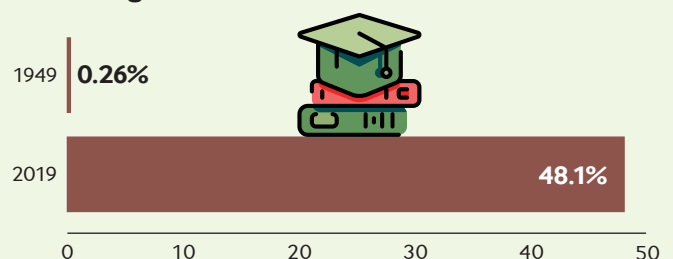
### Proportion of Residents' Income Spent on Food



### Number of Consumer Goods Per 100 Households (2018)



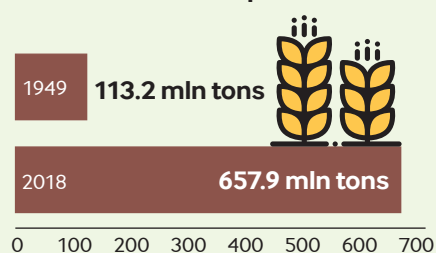
### Higher Education Gross Enrollment Rate



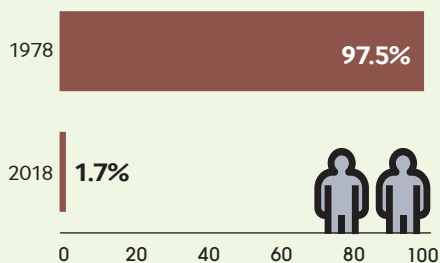


## Rural Transformation

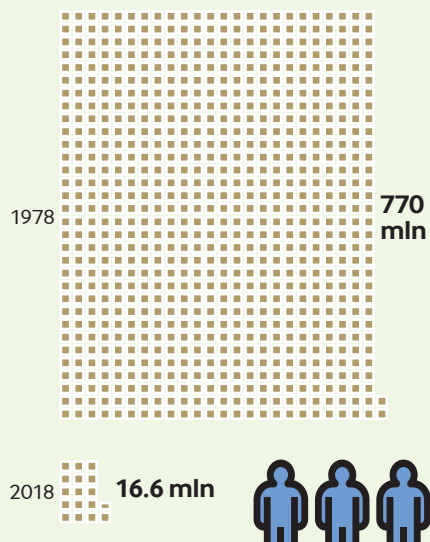
## Grain Output



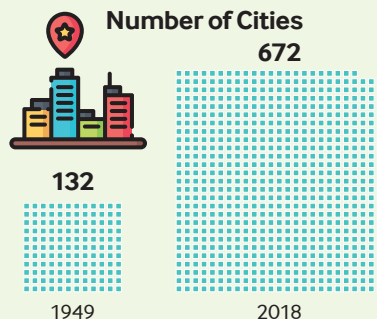
## Rural Poverty Rate



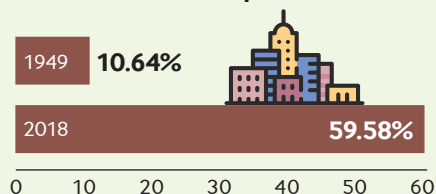
## Number of Rural People Living Below the Poverty Line



## Urbanization

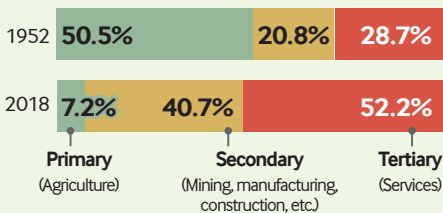


## Urbanization Rate for the Permanent Resident Population



## Industrial Upgrading

## Ratio of Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Industries

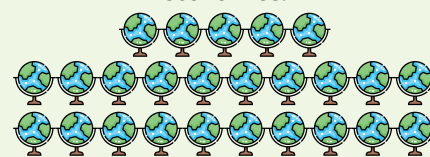


Note: Percentages may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

## International Cooperation

As of May 2019, China had signed

**17**  
free trade agreements  
with  
**25**  
economies.



In 2018, China's trade with other Belt and Road Initiative participating countries reached



## Trade in Goods



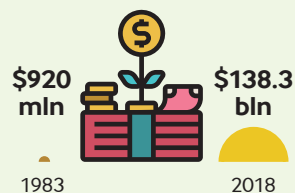
\$1.13 bln

1950

\$4.6 tln

2018

## Paid-in Foreign Direct Investment







Xi Jinping takes a public oath of allegiance to the Constitution at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on March 17, 2018, after he was reelected president and chairman of the Central Military Commission of the People's Republic of China at the First Session of the 13th National People's Congress, the national legislature

# Xi Jinping and China's New Era

**P**resident Xi Jinping took his place on Tiananmen Rostrum on October 1 at a grand celebration marking the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

It was there on October 1, 1949 that Mao Zedong announced the birth of New China. Over the seven decades, the socialist country has blazed an extraordinary trail, rising from a "poor and blank" state to a major country on the world stage.

Xi, the first top Chinese leader born after 1949, is at the helm in a new era, steering the country through wind and waves to a brighter future.

## Into new era

Xi was elected general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central

Committee on November 15, 2012.

The world at that time was transforming. The impact of the 2008 global financial crisis still lingered. Emerging economies were rising. China, after overtaking Japan as the second largest economy, had entered a critical period in its modernization.

Two weeks later, Xi proposed the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation.

Soon after assuming the Party's top post, Xi addressed senior cadres with a lecture spanning the history of world socialism over the past 500 years. He talked of how China had failed in its previous experiment with all other "-isms," and directed cadres to unreservedly follow socialism with Chinese characteristics.

The Party's authority was further emphasized in October 2017, with the estab-

lishment of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era.

Xi demanded full and strict governance over the 90-million-member CPC. To this end, he has introduced an eight-point decision on how to improve conduct, rolled out stricter Party rules and regulations, and over the seven years, launched four education campaigns to strengthen the Party.

"Every day, we brush our teeth, wash our faces, clean the house and do the laundry. For Party building, we must do the same," he said.

An unprecedented anti-corruption campaign has left no stone unturned. In the first five years of Xi's leadership, 440 centrally administrated officials—mostly ministerial-level or above—were punished.

"Xi and his colleagues preside over

the world's largest and most successful Marxist-Leninist organization, and they are determined to ensure that it remains so," *Foreign Affairs* magazine said in an article.

In late 2016, Xi's core status in the CPC Central Committee and the whole Party was established. He was reelected general secretary of the CPC Central Committee in October 2017 and Chinese president in March 2018.

During a visit to Italy this year, asked about how he felt about being Chinese president, Xi told President of the Italian Chamber of Deputies Roberto Fico that governing such a huge country requires a strong sense of responsibility and hard work.

"I am willing to be selfless and devote myself to China's development," Xi said. "I will not let the people down."

## Reform to the end

China aims to basically achieve socialist modernization by 2035 and build itself into a great modern socialist country by the middle of the century. Xi has said China today is closer than ever before to national rejuvenation, which is part of the Party's founding mission.

In 2018, the Chinese economy surpassed 90 trillion yuan (\$12.72 trillion), cementing its place as second in the world. Between 2013 and 2018, it grew by 7 percent on average every year compared to just 2.9 percent of the global economy.

China has the world's most complete production chains. The output of more than 220 industrial products ranks No.1 in the world. China has laid down the longest mileage of high-speed rail tracks and sent a lunar rover to the dark side of the moon.

For the first time, a total of 129 Chinese companies made the *Fortune* Global 500 list in 2019, more than any other country.

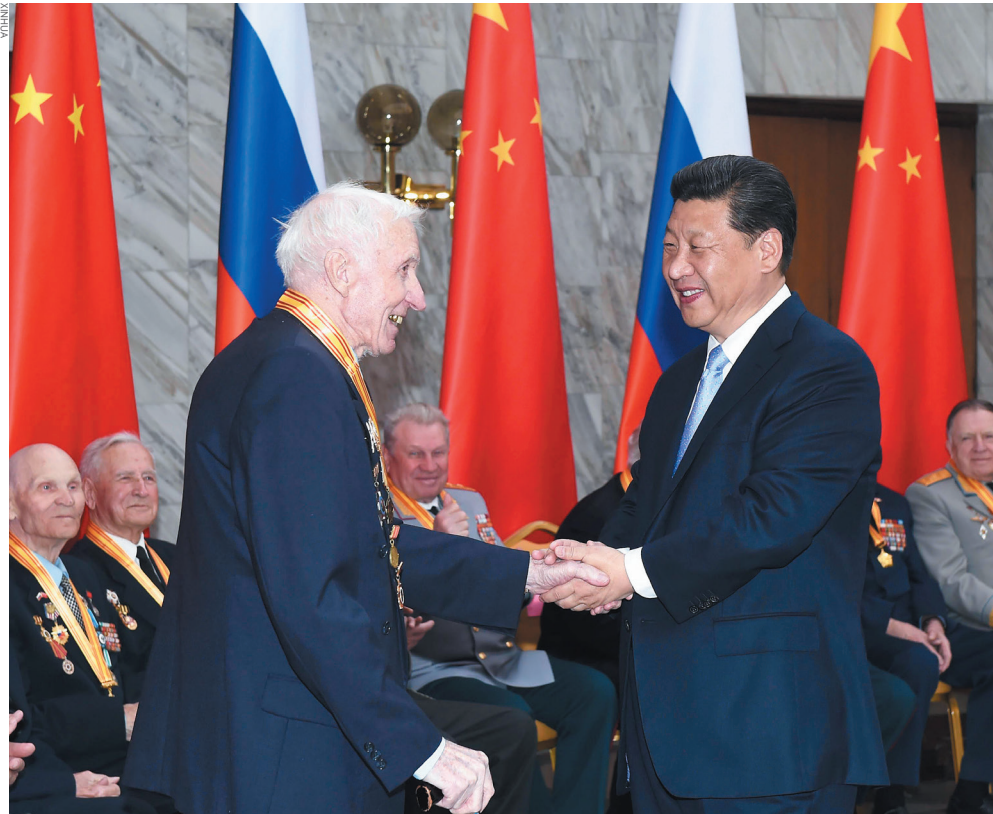
The achievements can be attributed to people's hard work and deepened reforms. Unsurprisingly, reform and opening up, introduced by Deng Xiaoping in 1978, is regarded as a "social revolution."

Xi is committed to seeing this through to the end. In 2012, for his first inspection as the Party's top leader, he headed to the reform testbed of Guangdong.

Reform and opening up is a "critical measure" concerning contemporary China's fate and there shall be no "pause" or "backpeddling," he said.

Reform under Xi is distinctive in its own right: It places more focus on quashing vested interests, emphasizes top-level design and underscores a systematic, holistic and coordinated approach. A far-reaching seven-year reform plan was adopted in late 2013.

Xi has presided over scores of leading group or central committee meetings on deepening overall reform. At the most recent, in September, 11 documents on re-



Xi Jinping meets with representatives of Russian veterans who fought on the battlefield in northeast China during the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and in Russia's Great Patriotic War in Moscow, Russia, on May 8, 2015

form plans and guidelines were adopted on topics ranging from private business support to plastic waste treatment.

Celebrated for his ability to connect with the people through language—Xi's often quoted maxims such as "do concrete work and take the lead," "a state thrives on practical work but wanes on empty talk" and "grab the iron bar hard enough to leave a mark" shed some light on how China can achieve so much in such a short period.

Xi drafted market-oriented reforms for state-owned enterprises and has supported the development of the private sector. In 2018, at an unprecedented private enterprise symposium, Xi said private companies and entrepreneurs are "our own people."

Innovation, too, has received support, with Xi once saying that vital, core technologies are something that China cannot obtain through "begging."

Party and state institutions are now more efficient and modernized. Red tape has been cut and governments at various levels have expanded online approval and one-stop services.

The country further opened up, from the expansion of the pilot free trade zones to fewer restrictions on foreign investment in

auto and banking sectors.

Last year, at the world's first import expo in Shanghai, Xi mentioned the word "opening up" 52 times in his 35-minute speech.

Thanks to reform and opening up, China's investment environment has continued to improve.

According to the World Bank Doing Business 2019 report, China advanced to a global ranking of 46th, up from 78th in just a year. Moreover, China's consumer market is edging closer to becoming the largest in the world.

Despite trade and economic frictions started by the United States, China saw more than 24,000 new foreign-invested enterprises established in the first seven months of 2019. Foreign direct investment inflows in actual use grew by 7.3 percent to reach 530 billion yuan (\$74.93 billion).

## Serve the people

Xi considers employment "pivotal" to people's wellbeing. He supports e-commerce and the new economy, which create jobs that never existed before.

Every day in China, about 16,500 new enterprises are established, and 40,000 people find new jobs in towns and cities.



In total, China has created more than 80 million new urban jobs over the past seven years, equal to the entire German population.

China now has the world's largest courier delivery service market, employing more than 3 million people, who send everything from meals to fridges around the country. Earlier this year, Xi paid a surprise visit to a tiny delivery station in Beijing and chatted with a group of deliverymen.

This closeness to the people is not a singular event. For the past seven years, Xi has spent time with regular people prior to every Chinese New Year: giving them festival gifts, observing festive traditions such as food preparation, and asking about their lives and welfare.

"CPC members must wholeheartedly serve the people," Xi often reminds Party cadres.

This connection with the people can be traced back to a time when Xi lived and worked in a remote village in Shaanxi Province as an adolescent and young adult for seven years.

He has said that he understands the

hardships of the people because he once lived in an impoverished corner of the country. He has been known to check the toilets and washrooms of ordinary homes, offer advice on garbage sorting, and show concern for students' poor eyesight.

In 2013, Xi put forward "targeted poverty alleviation" and set a goal to eliminate extreme rural poverty by 2020, a deadline that is 10 years earlier than the goal set by the United Nations.

Over the past seven years, more than 82 million Chinese people left poverty behind. Xi said extreme poverty "would be historically solved in the hands of our generation."

Kishore Mahbubani, a professor at the National University of Singapore, said the most outstanding achievement of China in the last 70 years had been the dramatic improvement in the living conditions of the people.

Reviewing China's long history, Mahbubani said even at previous peaks of glory, the bottom 50 percent of the population had to struggle to make ends meet. But today even low-income people have access to nutritious

food, education, healthcare, housing, employment and even the ability to travel.

"There is no doubt that, in terms of the living conditions of the people, the past 70 years have been the best years in China's history," he said.

## A shared future

China is increasingly connected to the world. In 2014, Chinese made over 100 million overseas trips. The country's outbound direct investment topped \$120 billion, achieving a near equilibrium with foreign direct investment for the first time. More Chinese live, study and work abroad.

The expression "China is moving closer to center stage" now appears often in news reports. The topic of how to handle China's interactions with the rest of the world has become a major subject for the Chinese leadership.

In his first overseas trip as the Chinese president in March 2013, Xi introduced the notions of "a shared future" and "a new type of international relations."



Xi Jinping visits an exhibition of treasured cultural relics and academic achievements at the Dunhuang Academy during his inspection tour of northwest China's Gansu Province on August 19

Two years later, Xi took the podium at the United Nations, expounding “a community with a shared future for humanity.” He later elaborated that the desired world would be one that is safe, prosperous, open, inclusive, tidy and beautiful.

The Belt and Road Initiative, proposed by Xi, connects continents and oceans through trade and investment like never before.

The goal, unlike what some people in the West claimed, is to help more countries and regions enjoy the fruits of economic globalization through mutually beneficial results.

This reflects the kind of international relations envisioned by Xi—mutual respect, fairness and justice, and win-win cooperation.

A total of 136 countries and 30 international organizations have signed cooperation agreements with China on the initiative. A study by the World Bank found that if implemented fully, the initiative could lift 32 million people out of moderate poverty and boost global trade by up to 6.2 percent.

China is becoming a hub for joint consultation on global governance and development. Xi hosted world leaders in a series of global summits: the APEC Beijing meeting in 2014, the G20 Hangzhou summit in 2016, the BRICS Xiamen summit in 2017, the SCO Qingdao summit in 2018 and etc.

On the world stage, more Chinese assumed top positions at international organizations, most recently the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The Chinese currency RMB has been included in the IMF Special Drawing Rights basket, and financial institutions such as the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the Silk Road Fund have been set up.

China has become an indispensable force in resolving global and regional issues, from climate change, terrorism, wealth disparities, fair trade to peace-keeping.

This year, China became the second largest contributor to the United Nations regular budget only after the United States. China is also the largest contributor of peacekeepers among the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. A \$1-billion China-UN Peace and Development Fund has been in operation since 2016.

“The CPC always regards making a greater contribution to humanity a mission,” Xi said.

## Fight for a great dream

Despite the achievements, the journey to national rejuvenation won't be plain sailing.

Earlier this month, Xi told up-and-coming Party cadres at the opening of a Party school training session that a “great struggle” is needed to make the “great dream” a reality. The word *douzhen* (struggle) appeared nearly 60 times in his speech.



Xi Jinping talks with deliverymen in a *hutong* in Qianmen area of central Beijing on February 1

Xi said the risks and challenges facing the Party would only grow bigger and sometimes “there would be tempestuous waves beyond our imagination.”

But Xi is a man who rises to challenges.

Facing the challenges of an economic downturn, Xi has proposed measures such as supply-side structural reform to shift the economy toward high-quality development.

Tough battles were also launched to forestall and defuse major risks, carry out targeted poverty alleviation, and prevent and control pollution.

Economic and trade frictions with the United States is another struggle. China has taken the position that “it doesn’t want a trade war but is not afraid and will fight one when necessary.” Over the past year, Xi has met U.S. President Donald Trump twice, first in Buenos Aires, Argentina, last December and then in Osaka, Japan, this June, taking important steps toward solving the issue.

On Hong Kong, Xi said making everything political or deliberately creating differences and provoking confrontation would not help. Instead, it would severely hinder Hong Kong’s economic and social development.

Xi told Ho Iat Seng, incoming Chief Executive of Macao Special Administrative Region, in Beijing this September that “one country, two systems” has proved to be a workable solution welcomed by the people.

On Taiwan, Xi said, “We do not renounce the use of force and reserve the option of

taking all necessary measures. This is to guard against external interference and a tiny number of separatists and their separatist activities for ‘Taiwan independence.’ It does in no way target our compatriots in Taiwan.”

Xi pushed a sweeping reform of the armed forces, setting “ability to fight” as the sole and fundamental criterion.

Chinese service personnel have taken up “protecting China’s overseas interests” as an important mission. When turmoil rocked Yemen and Libya, Xi instructed operations to bring back Chinese nationals. A film based on this story smashed China’s box office records.

Xi has warned that all sorts of struggles would last a long time. He and his team are aware of both the rapidly changing and increasingly complex environment abroad and the situations at home. China, he said, is still the world’s largest developing country.

In May, Xi chose east China’s Jiangxi Province, where the CPC-led Central Red Army began the Long March in the 1930s, to call for a new Long March.

Back then, the Red Army soldiers trekked about 12,500 km across China, battling the harsh environment, the enemy, and diversion within the Party. When they re-emerged victoriously in northwest China, they continued the fight and won the revolution.

To Chinese communists, sacrifice and hardships are worthwhile for a glorious goal. ■

This is an edited excerpt of an eponymous article originally published by Xinhua News Agency





1. A mass pageant in Tiananmen Square in Beijing on October 1
2. Chinese UN peacekeepers parade in Beijing on October 1, the first time since the founding of the People's Republic of China
3. People participate in a mass pageant to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China in Tiananmen Square in Beijing on October 1
4. Veterans participate in a mass pageant celebrating the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China in Beijing on October 1





Farmers harvest crops in a village in Zaoqiang County, north China's Hebei Province, on September 19

# Impactful Years

How China's growth and its relationship to the rest of the world will continue to be an international focus By Kerry Brown

**T**he 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) gives people inside and outside the country a chance to assess what the key achievements of the past decades have been, and where China is heading.

There is little argument about just how divided and impoverished the country was in 1949. It was emerging from over decades of wars, with the 1931-45 war against Japanese invasion leading to over 20 million deaths. The civil war from 1946 to 1949 compounded the situation, causing less epic but still significant destruction on what little infrastructure existed and delaying the urgent need to address human development issues.

It is a sobering fact that on the dawn of the foundation of the PRC, life expectancy was 35 years, with about 90 percent of the

people living in the countryside. The national rail network was smaller than it had been in the 1920s due to the wars and their impact. There was little proper industrial capacity. It was a country in need of emergency action.

## Fast growth

The 1950s saw at least the building blocks to that regeneration put in place. Basic issues like healthcare, literacy and social welfare started to be addressed. The period up to 1976 was a complex one, with a mixture of advances and setbacks, some of them derived from China's isolated international position for much of this time.

Despite this fact, by the end of the 1970s, life expectancy had risen to double that of the 1940s. If people survived beyond childhood in 1977, it was likely they would live into their 60s or longer, and their standard of living would be higher than it had been three decades before. There was also more infrastructure and industry, and an economy that had been growing for most of the time since the PRC's establishment.

The year 1978 reset the narrative where development occurred by focusing on things which had been restricted before.



The author is an op-ed contributor to *Beijing Review* and director of the Lau China Institute at King's College London



Entrepreneurship was allowed through the innovation of township and village enterprises. A market with Chinese characteristics was created, and hugely successful agricultural reforms showed dramatic increases in efficiency and productivity into the 1980s. A non-state sector started to emerge, and growth changed in speed and composition.

Through the 1980s into the 2000s, it was not unusual to see double-digit GDP increases year on year. The per-capita GDP in 1978 was less than \$300. By 2009, it had exceeded \$3,000. By 2010, when the national census was taken, China had become a place where as many people lived in cities as the countryside for the first time in its history.

China's accession into the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2001 unleashed a wave of productivity that accelerated trends that were already in place. Between 2002 and 2012, the country quadrupled in economic size. Chinese companies became more global in their orientation and more competitive through the competition from multinationals in the domestic market. China's WTO accession marked the dawn of the era of Global China, a period we are still living in. The impact of all of this on human development has been dramatic, seeing wealth levels, life expectancy and literacy sometimes equal, and in many places overtake, those of developed countries.

In 2019, we now see a country which has been modernized, according to a unique hybrid model. This is recognized in the label "with Chinese characteristics," which is often attached to ideas like socialism or marketization. According to the World Bank, China's efforts since 1978 have now helped lift more people out of absolute poverty than any other set of reforms in history. It has also given the country a rich set of experiences about how to create growth, address human development challenges and successfully industrialize.

The 1978 reforms championed by Deng Xiaoping and the top leaders at the time made clear that Chinese socialism was a viable notion and that it could work. Everything that has happened since has shown that this path has been hugely successful in creating high levels of growth, building extraordinary amounts of infrastructure and lifting China to become the world's second largest economy. Also, one that aims with its first centenary goal of completing building a moderately prosperous society in all respects.

## Global China

China's rejuvenation is irreversible, and it is not a remote aspiration, but imminent. It is a part not just of China's world, but the whole world. We are truly experiencing the period of Global China. When we remember how far the country has had to travel since 1949, this is a remarkable national achievement.

One of the unforeseen challenges of this progress has been that its speed has meant, in many ways, the country is now perhaps 10 or even more years ahead of where it thought it would be even in the 1990s. In the early reform era, the hope was that the country would be able to achieve per-capita GDP levels over \$10,000 as early as the middle part of the current century. In fact, China is 30 years ahead of that very early plan. The PRC now has the luxury of dealing with the challenges of success, rather than failure. Even so, they are still challenges.

Fast growth has meant that domestically the demands of a rising middle class are for soft, rather than hard infrastructure. People want high quality healthcare and public services, and good quality jobs—the sorts of things middle classes elsewhere in the world desire. They want good housing, a decent natural living environment, decent goods and the chance to travel abroad. The challenge for the government is to keep up with the demands of this immensely important group, while at least remaining realistic about what can be achieved.

Externally, China's success has surprised many, and has sometimes led to misunderstandings. For example, some in the U.S. and Europe see a country they do not fully comprehend and about which



Chinese tourists at the Jungfrau, a well-known mountain resort in Switzerland, on October 4, 2018

they know little, suddenly figuring in their lives in ways they never expected. They interpret China as a problem because it is different culturally and politically. Today, in the U.S. in particular, influential figures are endorsing a narrative that sees China's global reach and power in a negative way.

Because China's emergence has happened so quickly, it has proven difficult to create an explanatory narrative that at least allays some of these concerns and helps people understand better what China means to them, what Chinese people themselves want and what common ground there is between China and the rest of the world.

The one unassailable fact is that having a country which constitutes a fifth of humanity and a similar proportion of global GDP somehow compartmentalized or divided from everyone else is impossible. The world is part of China and China is part of the world. The urgent task is to create a sustainable framework by which the balance between China and the world, and, especially the U.S. right now, can be achieved. At the age of 70, the PRC has grown to become a core geopolitical, economic and cultural actor. The coming decades will see the country move into a more complex period where the outcomes will be less dramatic and visible than those which were achieved in the eras before. But the significance will perhaps be even greater.

In 1949, the PRC's chances of being a global player were remote. Most focused on addressing its stability and domestic challenges. In 2019, that situation has reversed. China's status as a global actor is assured. The creation of a successful, balanced and sustainable relationship with the outside world will be the key geopolitical issue for the region and the wider world over the coming decades. The implementation of a period of further reform as the country undergoes a transition to a new economic model will also be crucial. These will be the PRC's focuses as it continues its path to the 100th anniversary of its founding and its second centenary goal in 2049. ■



# Marking a Milestone



The grand finale to the celebrations for the 70th founding anniversary of the People's Republic of China (PRC) at Beijing's Tiananmen Square was a grand gala on the evening of October 1.

The 90-minute tribute started at 8 p.m. with the magnificent spectacle of 70 columns of synchronized fireworks exploding in night sky to mark the 70 years of the PRC. People of different ages and ethnicities and from all walks of life joined in, cheering.

The square showcased performances by both professional artists and public talents. An orchestra offered an acoustic feast, combined with visual delights on the mobile screens and the fireworks. 🇨🇳

(Photos by Xinhua News Agency)



1. The Chinese characters "Long live the people" flicker in the night sky

2. Performers during the evening gala

3. Large crowds participate in the evening gala

4. People take part in the gala in Tiananmen Square in Beijing to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1

5. Fireworks explode during the grand evening gala









2

1. Fireworks celebrate the 70th founding anniversary of the People's Republic of China

2. Children take part in the gala on October 1

3. Fireworks to celebrate the 70th founding anniversary of the People's Republic of China

4. Performers take part in the gala on October 1

5. Fireworks celebrate the 70th founding anniversary of the People's Republic of China









The 350-meter Lotus Tower, a landmark project under the Belt and Road Initiative in Colombo, Sri Lanka, is the highest TV tower in South Asia

# China and the World

White paper makes clear China's relationship with the rest of the world in the new era By An Gang

A common consensus in the world today is that China's development is linked to the change in the international structure and will have a profound and far-reaching influence on the world order. In many people's eyes, China has already be-

come a superpower, second only to the U.S., and is having growing impact on the world.

In this context, a white paper titled China and the World in the New Era, published by the State Council Information Office on September 27, ahead of the grand celebrations marking the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on October 1, elaborates on what role the country wants to play in the world and what it expects from the rest of the world.

Xu Lin, deputy head of the Publicity Department of the Communist Party of

China (CPC) Central Committee and Minister of the State Council Information Office, said the white paper systematically introduces China's development achievement, path and direction and details the relations between China and the rest of the world to help the international community better understand China's development.

## Responding to misunderstandings

Particularly in recent years, as China's national strength has grown rapidly and its way of dealing with international affairs has become more active, a sense of fear has grown in some countries, both big and small. Some are afraid that China may become a regional or even global dominant force, pressuring other countries to follow its model, rules and standards.

Over more than a year, the trade friction between China and the U.S. has spilled over



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to other sectors and the two countries' relations are becoming more complicated. The international community has growing worries that the trade and technology wars and the possible economic decoupling between the world's largest two economies will disrupt the global supply chain or even the whole global system.

China has continually responded to these fears by publicizing its policies on bilateral and multilateral occasions. There are also an increasing number of Chinese officials, experts and scholars who express China's stand through international media outlets. However, misunderstandings continue to grow and China still has a lot to do to increase mutual trust and clear doubts.

This is not the first time China has published a white paper on its relations with the world. China's Peaceful Development Road, published on December 22, 2005, stressed that peaceful development is the inevitable path to China's modernization and it will make more contributions to the lofty cause of peace and development of humanity.

On September 6, 2011, China's Peaceful Development was published, which pointed out that China has broken away from the traditional pattern where a rising power was bound to seek hegemony, demonstrating instead that peaceful development is China's new development path as the largest developing country in the world. The highlight of

the white paper was that it defined China's core interests as including state sovereignty, national security, territorial integrity and national reunification; China's political system established by its Constitution and overall social stability; and the basic safeguards for ensuring sustainable economic and social development.

The latest white paper explains an already strong China's promise to the world and its stance in a more confident and constructive manner. It reflects China's willingness to promote reform of the current global system and international order.

## A new reality

In the new era, the guideline for dealing with the relations between China and the rest of the world is Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy, which was developed from inheriting the excellent traditions of Chinese civilization, absorbing the experiences of China's diplomatic initiatives since the founding of the PRC, and studying the development trends of the contemporary world and the opportunities and challenges faced by China.

Based on the vision of a community with a shared future for humanity, Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy is underpinned by multiple concepts such as a new model of international relations, a new model of

economic globalization and a new type of partnership. It also highlights the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, and a new security concept featuring mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and coordination. It provides new-type international public goods such as the Belt and Road Initiative and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. Its aim is to safeguard the international system centered around the United Nations, improve global governance through reform rather than reinventing the wheels, and build a more fair and reasonable international order.

On the same day the white paper was published, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi spoke at the annual general debate of the UN General Assembly, where he said over the past 70 years since the founding of the PRC, China has constantly integrated with and made contributions to the world. Entering the new era, the Chinese people are more confident in and capable of realizing national renewal and are more prepared to make contributions to humanity than at any other time in history.

China will prove to the world through its engagement in peaceful development and global governance that it will not find its place in the world through power transfer, hegemony, competition or geopolitical expansion. **C**

## Highlights of the White Paper

### China Has Found a Development Path Suited to Its Actual Conditions

China has made tremendous achievements over the past 70 years since the founding of the People's Republic of China. Its successes have been achieved through the hard work of generations of Chinese people under the leadership of the Communist Party of China. Also, China is developing through interaction with the world.

### China's Development Is an Opportunity for the World

The causes of the "China threat" theory include cognitive misunderstanding, deep-rooted prejudice, a psychological imbalance brought about by the prospect of falling power, and deliberate distortions by vested interests. China's pursuit of peaceful development is not diplomatic rhetoric, an act of expediency or a strategic ambiguity. Rather, it showcases China's confidence in theory and readiness for practice, and represents China's unswerving strategic choice and solemn commitment. China will never pursue hegemony or expansion, nor will it seek to create spheres of influence no matter how the international situation changes or how China develops itself.

It is both unrealistic and harmful to regard China's economic development as a "threat" or a "challenge" and try to squeeze China out of the global industrial chain, supply chain and value chain so as to "detach" China from the world economy.

### A Prosperous and Beautiful World Is the Common Aspiration of All Peoples

The world is undergoing the greatest changes in a century and

one of the most notable changes is that the rise of China and other emerging markets and developing countries is fundamentally altering the international structures of power. China's proposal to build a global community with shared future pursues the goal of universal harmony and the principles of cooperation and mutual benefit, while opposing the law of the jungle, power politics and hegemonism. Meanwhile, it looks beyond zero-sum games to the idea of blazing a new path of development based on win-win cooperation, joint contribution and shared benefits, and offering a new option to the international community.

### China Contributes to a Better World

China will do well only when the world does well, and vice versa. The country will continue to forge ahead on its socialist path. Seeking a better life for the Chinese people has always been China's primary goal. China believes that the global trend toward multi-polarity and democratic international relations is irresistible and it hopes the world will uphold multilateralism and safeguard equity and fairness and turn the proposals for the transformation of the global governance system into consensus and concerted actions.

As for China-U.S. relations, cooperation is the only correct choice for the two countries. The U.S. should treat bilateral relations from a broad and rational perspective. China has no intention of challenging the U.S. or replacing it. The U.S. will be unable to force China's hand, and even less likely to halt China's development. China is ready to work with the U.S. to jointly advance China-U.S. relations focusing on coordination, cooperation and stability.





1. A Czech-made airplane is on show at the China-Central and Eastern European Countries Expo in Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang Province, on June 8-12
2. An exhibitor shows ham from Italy at the Food & Agricultural Products area during the second China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, east China, on November 8
3. Visitors stroll through the Nanjing Road commercial street in Shanghai on October 2







Visitors enjoy flowers in a park that used to be a landfill in Shizuishan, northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, on September 23

# Path to Rejuvenation

Why China's road to development remains different from the West's

By Jon Taylor

**V**olume II of *Xi Jinping: The Governance of China*, like Volume I, provides the reader with a wealth of information that is important for those interested in Chinese politics and government, as well as those interested in international relations.

Simply stated, Volume II offers supportive material that helps the reader understand why the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and the whole Party have noted the importance of General Secretary Xi's core status and why the

19th National Congress of the CPC in 2017 amended the Party Constitution to include Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era.

What stands out in Volume II is four-fold: Xi's view on China's role in promoting economic globalization, defining and detailing the mission and goals of the Belt and Road Initiative, an exposition on the concept of a community with a shared future, and an emphasis on dialectical thinking.

One underlying theme that Xi expresses throughout the work is a commitment to expanding China's reach into other parts of the world, while remaining true to China's pursuit of win-win cooperation. This is expressed by Xi in both a determined and respectful manner by observing that China's foreign partners have no need to remake themselves in China's image but rather, to operate

in whatever distinctive system of development and governing structure suiting them.

Because the book is a compilation of Xi's speeches, it provides the reader with an in-depth explanation of what China and Xi have accomplished in the past few years. However, for those interested in discerning where China will go in the coming years, the book provides a window into one of Xi's primary goals for the nation: restoring China to its position as a great country. To do this, Xi notes that China needs stability, unity and the strong leadership of the CPC.

Those who have read the book, particularly in tandem with Volume I, will note an underlying theme pursued by Xi: China's values are not Western values. China's road to development and attainment of a moderately prosperous society, or *xiaokang*, in all respects by 2021 will remain different



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from that of the West. And copying the political systems of other countries could “spell an end to the independent destiny of our country.” Xi also discusses a concern for public opinion as well as the future of the CPC, saying that the future of any political party and government depends on popular support.

Since this volume was published in 2017, the book underscores the reality that China has entered a “new normal” in which the nation’s economy can no longer rely on the unsustainable growth trajectories that propelled it forward for the last three decades and must begin searching for new drivers. This is important because as Xi notes, the nation must understand the importance and historical significance of technological innovation. Hence the reason behind the Belt and Road Initiative, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, and China’s strong support for both economic globalization and global governance.

As a scholar interested in the workings of China’s political structure and the CPC, an additional theme that stood out for me was dialectical thinking and Marxism. Xi’s comments and writings provide a window not only on Marxist thought, specifically at the level of his theory of history, he also provides an important insight into China’s contribution to Marxism as a scientific philosophy—one that describes both the arc and meaning of history. This contribution to historical materialism is accentuated by Xi’s discussions on how political systems cannot simply be borrowed from other countries because those systems evolve from unique cultures.

Why is this significant? Because Xi not only emphasizes the primacy of the CPC as a ruling party, he also provides thought-provoking observations on the Party’s ideological flexibility and willingness to engage in both political and economic experimentation.

One last section that should be of interest is China’s approach to foreign policy and its stated goals for cooperation via the concept of a community with a shared future. In particular, Xi discusses economic globalization while criticizing protectionism, opposing interventionism, and calling for “partnerships based on dialogue, non-confrontation, and non-alliance.” This is indicative of Xi’s shaping of current Chinese foreign policy, one that views U.S.-style alliances as outdated relics of the Cold War, overly antagonistic, and out of step with contemporary international conditions.

Given Xi’s position as the core of the CPC Central Committee and the whole Party, as well as his global leadership role, *Xi Jinping: The Governance of China* is a notable work, one that provides those interested in China with a thorough understanding of Xi’s views as well as China’s path to the future. **C**



Paper pulp imported from Finland is unloaded at the Qingdao Port in Shandong Province, on September 17



Residents enjoy a walk in Jiankou Village in southeast China’s Fujian Province on January 19, 2017. The village started to renovate its old houses in 2012

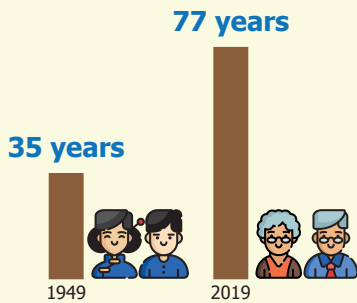


A production line at an auto parts company in Cangzhou, north China’s Hebei Province, on July 6

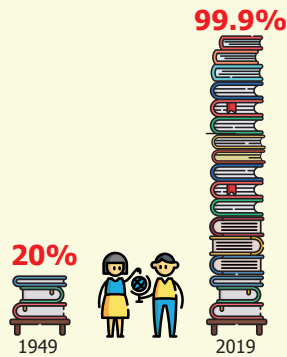


# China's Development Over the Past 70 Years

## Average Life Expectancy

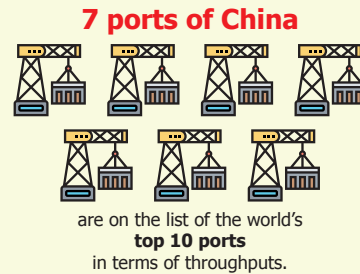


## School Enrollment Rate



## China's Ports

(By the end of 2018)



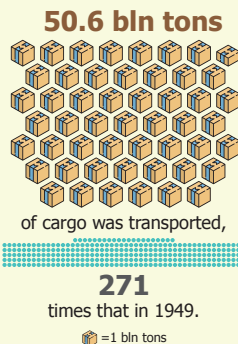
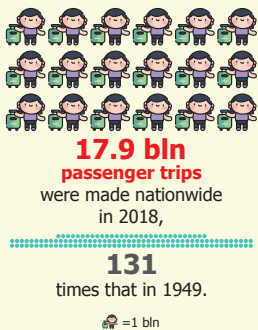
Among the 7 ports of China listed:

**Zhoushan Port**  
of Zhejiang

**Shanghai Port**

**Tangshan Port**  
of Hebei

## China's Passengers and Cargo

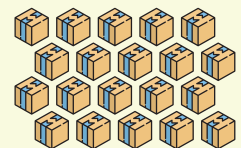


## China's Postal and Courier Services

The growth rate of China's postal industry is at the forefront of the world while the courier business ranks the first.

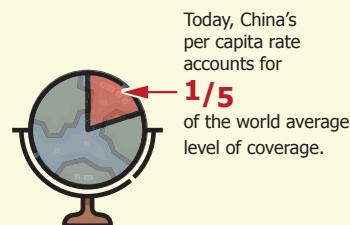
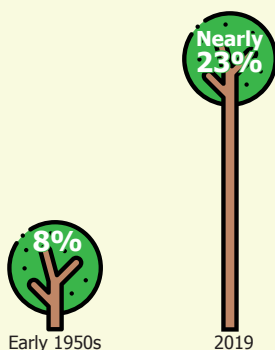


China's courier providers handle nearly 200 mln parcels per day.



1 box = 10 mln

## China's Forest Coverage Rate



## China's Airports

(2018)



8 of China's top 10 aviation hubs ranked among the top 50 global passenger airports.

Beijing International Capital Airport became the second airport in the world to handle more than



100 mln passengers per year after Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport in the United States.

1 box = 10 mln