

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Public Administration Country Profile

Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM)

Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

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China

[Click here](#) for detailed map



Source: [The World Factbook](#) – China

Government type
Communist State

China considers Taiwan its 23rd province.

Independence

221 BC (unification under the Qin or Ch'in Dynasty); 1 January 1912 (Manchu Dynasty replaced by a Republic); 1 October 1949 (People's Republic established)

For centuries China stood as a leading civilization, outpacing the rest of the world in the arts and sciences, but in the 19th and early 20th centuries, the country was beset by civil unrest, major famines and foreign occupation.

Constitution

Most recent promulgation 4 December 1982

After World War II, the Communists under MAO Zedong established an autocratic socialist system that, while ensuring China's sovereignty, imposed strict controls over everyday life and cost the lives of tens of millions of people. After 1978, his successor DENG Xiaoping and other leaders focused on market-oriented economic development and by 2000 output had quadrupled. For much of the population, living standards have improved dramatically and the room for personal choice has expanded.

Legal system

Based on English common law; judicial review of legislative acts in the Supreme Court at request of supreme head of the federation; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction

Administrative divisions

23 provinces, 5 autonomous regions, and 4 municipalities. In addition,

Source: [The World Factbook](#) – China

1. General Information

| 1.1 People | China | India | Vietnam | 1 |
|--|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|
| Population | | | | a |
| Total estimated population (,000), 2003 | 1,304,196 ⁱ | 1,065,462 | 81,377 | |
| Female estimated population (,000), 2003 | 634,419 ⁱ | 516,398 | 40,827 | |
| Male estimated population (,000), 2003 | 669,777 ⁱ | 549,064 | 40,550 | |
| Sex ratio (males per 100 females), 2003 | 106 ⁱ | 106 | 99 | |
| Average annual rate of change of pop. (%), 2000-2005 | 0.73 ⁱ | 1.51 | 1.35 | |
| Youth and Elderly Population | | | | b |
| Total population under age 15 (%), 2003 | 23 ⁱ | 33 | 31 | |
| Female population aged 60+ (%), 2003 | 11 ⁱ | 8 | 7 | |
| Male population aged 60+ (%), 2003 | 10 ⁱ | 7 | 8 | |
| Human Settlements | | | | c |
| Urban population (%), 2001 | 37 ⁱ | 28 | 25 | |
| Rural population (%), 2001 | 63 ⁱ | 72 | 75 | |
| Urban average annual rate of change in pop. (%), '00-'05 | 3.22 ⁱ | 2.29 | 3.06 | |
| Rural average annual rate of change in pop/ (%), '00-'05 | -0.83 ⁱ | 1.22 | 0.71 | |
| Education | | | | d |
| Total school life expectancy, 2000-2001 | .. | .. | 10.4 | 1 |
| Female school life expectancy, 2000-2001 | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Male school life expectancy, 2000-2001 | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Female estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 2000 | 22.1 ⁱ | 54.6 ⁱⁱ | 9.3 ⁱⁱⁱ | 2 |
| Male estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 2000 | 7.9 ⁱ | 31.6 ⁱⁱ | 5.5 ⁱⁱⁱ | 2 |
| Employment | | | | e |
| Unemployment rate (15+) (%), 2000 | 3.1 ^{iv} | .. | .. | 1 |
| Female adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 1990 | 73 ^v | 34 ^{vi} | 74 ^{vii} | 2 |
| Male adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 1990 | 85 ^v | 80 ^{vi} | 82 ^{vii} | 2 |

Notes: ⁱ For statistical purposes the data for China do not include Hong Kong and Macao Special Administrative Regions, ⁱⁱ Illiteracy rates estimated by UNESCO for 2000, ⁱⁱⁱ 1999, ^{iv} Official estimates, Month of December, Urban areas only, ^v Economically active relates only to employed persons,

^{vi} 1991 Excluding Jammu and Kashmir (the final status of which has not yet been determined), ^{vii} 1989.

| 1.2 Economy | China | India | Vietnam | 2 |
|---|-----------|-----------|---------|---|
| GDP | | | | a |
| GDP total (millions US\$), 2002 | 1,237,145 | 515,012 | 35,110 | |
| GDP per capita (US\$), 2002 | 966 | 491 | 436 | |
| PPP GDP total (millions int. US\$), 2002 | 5,732,000 | 2,694,989 | 180,344 | |
| PPP GDP per capita(int. US\$), 2002 | 4,475 | 2,571 | 2,240 | |
| Sectors | | | | b |
| Value added in agriculture (% of GDP), 2004 | 15.2 | 21.2 | 21.8 | |
| Value added in industry (% of GDP), 2004 | 52.9 | 27.0 | 40.1 | |
| Value added in services (% of GDP), 2004 | 31.9 | 51.8 | 38.2 | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | c |
| GDP implicit price deflator (annual % growth), 2004 | 6.5 | 4.9 | 7.9 | |
| Private consumption (% of GDP), 2004 | 43.1 | 8.0 | 65.3 | |
| Government consumption (% of GDP), 2004 | 12.0 | 3.9 | 6.4 | |

¹ United Nations Statistics Division:

^a Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat; ^b Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat; ^c Population Division of the UN Secretariat; ^{d1} UNESCO; ^{d2} UNESCO; ^{e1} ILO; ^{e2} ILO/OECD

² World Bank - Data and Statistics:

^a Quick Reference Tables; ^b Data Profile Tables; ^c Country at a Glance

¹International Comparison Programme benchmark estimates.

| 1.3 Public Spending | China | India | Vietnam | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------|---------|---|
| Public expenditures | | | | 3 |
| Education (% of GNP), 1985-1987 | 2.3 | 3.2 | .. | a |
| Education (% of GNP), 1995-1997 | 2.3 | 3.2 | .. | a |
| Health (% of GDP), 1990 | 2.2 | 0.9 | .. | |
| Health (% of GDP), 1998 | 2.1 ¹ | .. | .. | |
| Military (% of GDP), 1990 | 2.7 | 2.7 | .. | b |
| Military (% of GDP), 2000 | 2.1 | 2.4 | .. | b |
| Total debt service (% of GDP), 1990 | 2 | 2.6 | .. | |
| Total debt service (% of GDP), 2000 | 2 | 2.2 | .. | |

Notes: ¹ Data refer to 1999

| 1.4 Public Sector Employment and Wages | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|
| <i>Data from the latest year available</i> | | China 1991-1995 | China 1996-2000 | East Asia & Pacific ⁴ 1996-2000 | South average ⁴ 1996-2000 | low income group average ⁴ 1996-2000 |
| Employment | | | | | | |
| Civilian Central Government ⁵ | (,000) | 1,331 | | | | |
| | (% pop.) | 0.1 | | 0.63 | .. | 0.5 |
| Sub-national Government ⁵ | (,000) | 18,579 | | | | |
| | (% pop.) | 1.6 | | 0.63 | .. | 0.5 |
| Education employees | (,000) | 11,100 | 10,231 | | | |
| | (% pop.) | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.76 | 0.4 | 0.9 |
| Health employees | (,000) | 2,929 | .. | | | |
| | (% pop.) | 0.2 | .. | 0.16 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| Police | (,000) | .. | 1,000 | | | |
| | (% pop.) | .. | 0.08 | 0.26 | 0.62 | 0.30 |
| Armed forces | (,000) | 3,000 | 2,820 | | | |
| | (% pop.) | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.53 | 0.7 | 0.3 |
| SOE Employees | (,000) | 106,250 | .. | | | |
| | (% pop.) | 9.0 | .. | 1.18 | .. | 13.1 |
| Total Public Employment | (,000) | 143,189 | .. | | | |
| | (% pop.) | 12.12 | .. | .. | .. | 2.3 |
| Wages | | | | | | |
| Total Central gov't wage bill | (% of GDP) | 3.8 | .. | 9.4 | 2.1 | 5.4 |
| Total Central gov't wage bill | (% of exp) | .. | .. | 24.4 | 16.2 | 24.7 |
| Average gov't wage | (,000 LCU) | 5 | 8 | | | |
| Real ave. gov't wage ('97 price) | (,000 LCU) | 6 | 8 | | | |

³ UNDP - [Human Development Report 2002](#)

^a Data refer to total public expenditure on education, including current and capital expenditures.

^b As a result of a number of limitations in the data, comparisons of military expenditure data over time and across countries should be made with caution. For detailed notes on the data see SIPRI (2001).

⁴ Averages for regions and sub regions are only generated if data is available for at least 35% of the countries in that region or sub region.

⁵ Excluding education, health and police – if available (view [Country Sources](#) for further explanations).

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Average gov't wage to per capita GDP ratio | 1.2 | 1.2 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 4.4 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

Source: [World Bank](#) - [Public Sector Employment and Wages](#)

2. Legal Structure

China is a socialist country. The organs of the state power include the National People's Congress, President, the State Council, local people's congresses and local governments, autonomous organs in the nationality autonomous regions, the Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuratorate. The National People's Congress is the supreme organ of the state power and its permanent organization is the Standing Committee. The National People's Congress and its Standing Committee exercise legislative power. The local people's congresses at different levels are the state power organs at local level.

Source: UNESCAP- country reports on local Government System – China (2001)

2.1 Legislative Branch

Unicameral National People's Congress or Quanguo Renmin Daibiao Dahui (2,985 seats; members elected by municipal, regional, and provincial people's congresses to serve five-year terms)

women in parliament: 18 out of 70 seats in the senate and (26%) 20 out of 219 seats (9%) in the house of representatives.⁶

The National Peoples Congress (NPC) is the highest organ of state power and consists of deputies elected by all the provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities directly under the Central Government, special administrative regions and the armed forces. It exercises legislative power, revises the Constitution and supervises the implementation of the Constitution; examines and approves national economic and social development plans and reports on their implementation; examines and approves state budgets and reports on their implementation; and elects and decides on the choice of leading personnel of the highest state organs, i.e., elects the members of the Standing Committee of the NPC, the state president and vice-president, decides on the premier and other members of the State Council, and elects the chairman and other members of the Central Military Commission, the president of the Supreme People's Court, and the procurator-general of the Supreme People's Procuratorate.

The NPC is elected for a term of five years. It usually meets once a year. When the NPC is not in session its Standing Committee exercises state power. The NPC Standing Committee is composed of a chairman, several vice-chairmen, a secretary-general and additional members. Members of the NPC Standing Committee may not concurrently hold any position in any of the state administrative, judicial or procuratorial organs. Under normal circumstances, the NPC Standing Committee meets once every two months. Important day-to-day work is handled at executive meetings attended by the chairman, vice-chairmen and secretary-general.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (2000) (edited)

Fact box:

Elections: last held

December 2002-

February 2003 (next to

be held late 2007-

February 2008)

election results: percent

of vote - NA%; seats -

NA⁷

⁶ [Inter-Parliamentary Union - Women in National Parliaments](#)

⁷ Source of fact boxes if nothing else stated: [The World Factbook](#) - China

2.2 Executive Branch

cabinet: State Council appointed by the National People's Congress (NPC)

elections: president and vice president elected by the National People's Congress for five-year terms; elections last held 15-17 March 2003 (next to be held mid-March 2008); premier nominated by the president, confirmed by the National People's

election results: HU Jintao elected president by the Tenth National People's Congress with a total of 2,937 votes (four delegates voted against him, four abstained, and 38 did not vote); ZENG Qinghong elected vice president by the Tenth National People's Congress with a total of 2,578 votes (177 delegates voted against him, 190 abstained, and 38 did not vote); two seats were vacant

The president of the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) exercises his or her functions and powers as the head of state. The president, in pursuance of decisions of the NPC or its Standing Committee, promulgates laws, appoints and removes members of the State Council, issues orders, receives foreign diplomatic representatives on behalf of the PRC, dispatches and recalls plenipotentiary representatives abroad, and ratifies and abrogates treaties and important agreements reached with foreign states.

The State Council, the Central People's Government, is the highest state administrative body. The State Council carries out the laws enacted and decisions adopted by the National Peoples Congress (NPC) and its Standing Committee. The State Council is responsible to the NPC and its Standing Committee, and reports to them on its work. Among others, the State Council exercises the following functions and powers, formulates administrative measures, enacts administrative regulations, promulgates decisions and orders and exercises unified leadership over the work of the ministries and commissions and the work of other organizations under its jurisdiction. The State Council is composed of the premier, vice-premiers, state councillors, the heads of the various ministries and commissions, the auditor-general and the secretary-general.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (2000) (edited)

Fact box:

chief of state: President HU Jintao (since 15 March 2003) and Vice President ZENG Qinghong (since 15 March 2003)

head of government: Premier WEN Jiabao (since 16 March 2003); Vice Premiers HUANG Ju (since 17 March 2003), WU Yi (17 March 2003), ZENG Peiyan (since 17 March 2003), and HUI Liangyu (since 17 March 2003)

2.3 Judiciary Branch

Supreme People's Court (judges appointed by the National People's Congress); Local Peoples Courts (comprise higher, intermediate and local courts); Special Peoples Courts (primarily military, maritime, and railway transport courts)

The Supreme People's Court, the people's courts and the People's Procuratorate are the judicial organs. The Supreme People's Court, the highest state judicial organ, is responsible to the National People's Congress and its Standing Committee and supervises the judicial work of the local people's courts, military courts and other special courts. The Supreme People's Court is established at the state level, higher people's courts are established in provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government, and intermediate and basic people's courts at lower levels.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (2000)

The people's courts try all cases publicly, except those involving state secrets, individual privacy or minors. The people's courts are divided into the grass-roots level courts, middle people's courts and higher people's courts. The people's courts include, among others, railway transportation courts, water transportation courts, maritime courts, forest courts and other special courts.

Source: UNESCAP- country reports on local Government System – China (2001)

The people's procuratorates have the right to exercise over cases seriously endangering state and public security, and infringing upon citizens' personal and democratic rights, and other important criminal cases; examine the cases scheduled for investigation by public security organs, and decide on whether a suspect should be arrested or not, and whether a case should be prosecuted or exempt from prosecution; institute and support public prosecution in criminal cases; and oversee activities in public security organs, people's courts, prisons, lockups and reform-through-labor institutions.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (2000)

2.4 Local Government

The Constitution specifically empowers the state to establish special administrative regions when necessary. A special administrative region is a local administrative area directly under the Central Government. At present, China is divided into 23 provinces, 5 autonomous regions, 4 municipalities directly under the Central Government, and 2 special administrative regions (Hong Kong and Macau).

Local governments, according to the *Constitution* and the related laws, are divided into 3 main types: local governments at different levels, autonomous governments of nationality regions and governments of special administrative regions. The organizational system of local government is divided into four levels as follows: (a) *Provincial level*: This level includes provincial, autonomous regions and municipal governments, which are the highest levels of local government. China had 31 provincial-level administrative units, including 22 provinces, 5 autonomous regions and 4 municipalities (Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjing, and Chongqing); (b) *City level*: This category includes cities under the jurisdiction of the provinces, prefectures, autonomous prefectures and districts under the jurisdiction of the apex municipalities; (c) *County level*: This level includes counties, autonomous counties, county-level cities, special zones, forest districts, industrial and agricultural districts, districts of the city under the jurisdiction of province, etc.; (d) *Township level*: These include towns and villages, which are the lowest levels of local government.

Source: UNESCAP- country reports on local Government System – China (2001)

2.5 Special Administrative Region

Special Administrative Region can be set up as per the 1982 constitution that wrote that the State would set up special administrative regions whenever deemed necessary. On July 1, 1997, China resumed exercising sovereignty over Hong Kong and set up the Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong. In 1999 Macao returned to China and a new special administrative region was set up. The special administrative region is the product of the conception of "one country, two systems," which means that the Mainland of China carries out a socialist system and Hong

Kong, Macao and Taiwan a capitalist system. But in international affairs, the PRC is the only country representing China.

Source: UNESCAP- country reports on local Government System – China (2001)

3. The State and Civil Society

3.1 Ombudsperson

3.2 Civil Society

The past two decades have witnessed a rapid development in China's NGO sector, driven by the opening of China's market and its integration with the international community. The names for NGOs referred to as "social organizations," "non-profit organizations," "nongovernmental organizations," or "mass organizations." The emergences of NGOs should be placed in the context of the social and political transition of China. NGOs in China deliver services and conduct advocacy in a way that is more independent of the state.

Chinese laws and regulations have not fully endorsed NGOs or all activities conducted by NGOs, yet often, Chinese NGOs manage to bypass the government's restrictions in one way or another. Over the years, NGOs in China have been able to attract funding from various sources and build their own capacities, enabling them to conduct programs and work in a more independent manner.

Source: Zhang Ye of Brookings Institute - China Emerging Civil Society - (2003)

4. Civil Service

Since 1993, the Chinese Government has taken significant steps to reform the country's civil service system, which is still evolving. Service in the public sector carries with it considerable prestige in China and central ministries are staffed by many highly competent employees. More developed parts of the country are able to support a more efficient and effective public service. However, in lesser developed parts of the country, the quality of public service varies.

Source: OECD – Governance in China (2005)

4.1 Legal basis

As a significant outcome of the administrative reform, a civil service system was ushered in 1993. The State Council promulgated the Provisional Regulations on Civil Servants, which came into force in October 1993. The civil service system that China has promoted nationwide includes a series of specific sub-systems, such as the categorization of posts, recruiting through open exams, annual performance appraisals, exchange of posts and dismissal of incompetent officials.

Source: UN – Profile of National Administration (2000)

4.2 Recruitment

It is stipulated that governments at all levels recruit civil servants through open and fair competition rather than by appointment. Nearly all provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions have recruited civil servants through open examination and merit appraisal. More and higher posts have been opened to this approach in choosing candidates.

Source: UN – Profile of National Administration (2000)

4.3 Promotion

Promotion of state civil servants must adhere to the principle of both political integrity and ability, and appointment on merits, and lay stress on work accomplishments. State civil servants can be promoted one grade at a time in accordance with the order for promotion. Individual civil servants who display outstanding political integrity, ability and work performance may skip over one grade in promotion. But the decision must be reported to departments concerned for approval as stipulated.

Source: UNESCAP- country reports on local Government System – China (2001)

China has adopted a rigid and relatively narrowly defined position classification system that places all civil servants in one of 12 positions ranged on 15 grades. The positions, which mix rank-in-person and rank-in-position classifications, range from Premier (grade 1) at the top to clerk (grades 10 to 15) at the bottom (Provisional Regulations, Art. 10). University graduates are usually hired as section members (grades 9 to 14), the position just above clerk, which is usually reserved for middle-school graduates. The system does not identify clerical, technical, professional, or top administrative and policy making jobs as such. Rather it divides the positions into leadership and non-leadership categories. Leadership positions range from Premier at the top to section head (grades 9-12) at the bottom. There are no rules

that prevent section members from entering the leadership strata. If a structural vacancy exists, candidates from among the next lowest rank are selected based on seniority, ability, political integrity, and performance (See Provisional Regulations, Art. 11).

Source: Indiana University – Conference Civil service in comparative perspective paper – country case study of China (1997)

4.4 Remuneration

A post-grade salary system has been established across the whole state civil service. The salary of civil servants includes four parts: post pay, grade pay, basic pay and seniority pay. Civil servants are paid according to a scale that includes the following components: position pay, with from three to eight steps for each position based on level of responsibility; grade pay for up to 15 grades; basic pay, the same for each civil servant in the locality, but which varies by region depending on the level of economic development; and seniority pay.

Source: Indiana University – Conference Civil service in comparative perspective paper – country case study of China (1997)

In addition, civil servants enjoy a regional allowance and other allowances. All state civil servants who are deemed excellent or satisfactory in the annual evaluation may be granted salary increment and bonus in accordance with relevant regulations. State civil servants are also entitled to insurance and other benefits. Unless otherwise stipulated by laws, regulations or policies of the State, administrative organs of the State are prohibited to increase or reduce the salary of state civil servants in any way, or increase or reduce insurance and other benefits of state civil servants.

Source: UNESCAP- country reports on local Government System – China (2001)

An innovative element of the civil service system is the pay 'according to work' (*anlao fenpei*) as the 'guiding principle' of the civil service salary system (Art. 64). In addition, and with the change from central planning to market economy, authorities have identified additional remuneration. This includes, among others (i) civil service salaries that should be commensurate with salaries paid to state-owned enterprise managers of equivalent rank (Art. 66), a reflection of an emerging wage market in China. Other principles provide for locality pay (or a regional allowance), annual salary increments, and bonuses based on 'excellent' or 'satisfactory' ratings in annual performance appraisals.

4.5 Training

Training of state civil servants follow the principle of integrating theory with practice, linking study with application, teaching according to needs and emphasizing practical results. Training for state civil servants be divided into: new-recruits training, pre-post training for promotion to a leading post, specialized professional training in accordance with the requirements of a specific job and up-to-date training for in-service state civil servants. These training are mainly hold in National Administrative College, local administrative colleges or other training institutes.

Source: UNESCAP- country reports on local Government System – China (2001)

In addition, there has been great emphasis on offering timely special training for both public officials and corporate executives. Programmes tailored to senior managers from hundreds of leading state-owned enterprises were launched in January 2000. Attention is being drawn to the introduction of competitive mechanism that will affect the survival and development of most of the state-owned enterprises.

Source: UN – Profile of National Administration (2000)

4.6 Gender

The number of female cadres (i.e. managerial and professional staff, including technicians and teachers) in government departments, enterprises and institutions had climbed to 13,838 million, making up 34.3 per cent of the total number of cadres in China.

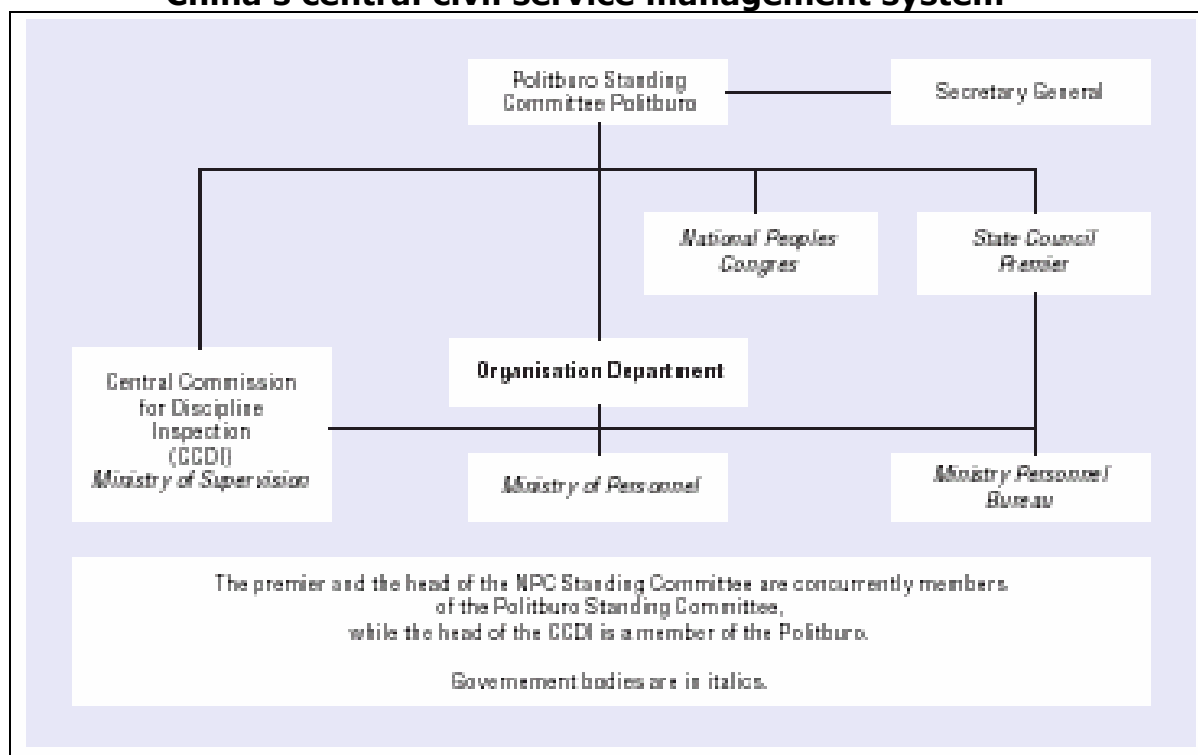
Source: UN – Profile of National Administration (2000)

4.7 Mobility

A mobility system has been established in the state civil service. A state civil servant may change posts within an administrative organ of the State, or to another organ, enterprise or institution. Mobility includes external transfer, internal transfer, rotation and secondment. Secondment refers to in-service state civil servants, being selected and assigned by the administrative organs of the State in a planned manner, to hold certain posts at administrative organs of the State or enterprises or institutions at the grass-root for certain period.

Source: UNESCAP- country reports on local Government System – China (2001)

China's central civil service management system



Source: OECD – Governance in China (2005)

5. Ethics and Civil Service

5.1 Corruption

2003 CPI Score relates to perceptions of the degree of corruption as seen by business people and country analysts and ranges between 10 (highly clean) and 0 (highly corrupt).

| Corruption Perceptions Index | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| | | 2003 CPI Score | Surveys Used | Standard Deviation | High-Low Range | Number Inst. | 90 percent confidence range |
| Rank | Country | | | | | | |
| 1 | Highly clean | 9.7 | 8 | 0.3 | 9.2 - 10.0 | 4 | 9.5 - 9.9 |
| 37 | Malaysia | 5.2 | 13 | 1.1 | 3.6 | 8.0 | 4.8 - 5.8 |
| 133 | Highly corrupt | 1.3 | 8 | 0.7 | 0.3 - 2.2 | 6 | 0.9 - 1.7 |

Source: [Transparency International - Corruption Perceptions Index 2003](#)

Surveys Used: Refers to the number of surveys that were used to assess a country's performance. 17 surveys were used and at least 3 surveys were required for a country to be included in the CPI.

Standard Deviation: Indicates differences in the values of the sources. Values below 0.5 indicate agreement, values between 0.5 and c. 0.9 indicate some agreement, while values equal or larger than 1 indicate disagreement.

High-Low Range: Provides the highest and lowest values of the sources.

Number Institutions: Refers to the number of independent institutions that assessed a country's performance. Since some institutions provided more than one survey.

90 percent confidence range: Provides a range of possible values of the CPI score. With 5 percent probability the score is above this range and with another 5 percent it is below.

The Chinese Government made a decision in 1993 to intensify its anti-corruption efforts. In this regard, both the State Council and the Central Committee of the Communist Party work in parallel to enhance efforts on ethics management. In May 1997, the National People's Congress adopted Administrative Supervision Act. In the same year, the Party issued the Provisional Codes of Conduct, which most of the civil servants (being Party members) are subject to. Breaches of the Act or the Codes can result in a reprimand or administrative or disciplinary sanctions. Serious illegal acts by public servants will be dealt with by the amended Criminal Law adopted by the National Peoples Congress (NPC) in 1997.

Source: UN – Profile of National Administration (2000)

5.2 Ethics

The accountability mechanism was set up in 1998 through the Rules on Implementing Accountability on Ethics and Conduct put in force by the State Council and the Party's Central Committee. Coordinating bodies at the top level are the *Central Disciplinary Committee of the Party* and the *Ministry of Supervision*, both of which share a control role. In 1999, 4,322 public servants were found to be guilty in the promoting ethics campaign, among whom there were 58 senior officials (ranking above departmental Director's level). The Central Disciplinary Committee has also initiated a programme focusing on assessing the behaviour of ministers and provincial governors.

Source: UN – Profile of National Administration (2000)

6. e-Government

e-Government Readiness Index:

The index refers to the generic capacity or aptitude of the public sector to use ICT for encapsulating in public services and deploying to the public, high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools that support human development.

The index is comprised of three sub-indices: Web Measure Index, Telecommunications Infrastructure Index and Human Capital Index.

Web Measure Index:

A scale based on progressively sophisticated web services present. Coverage and sophistication of state-provided e-service and e-product availability correspond to a numerical classification.

Telecommunications Infrastructure Index:

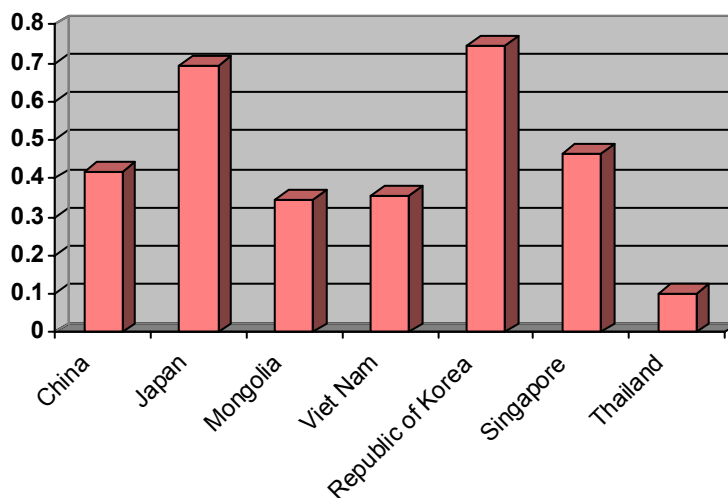
A composite, weighted average index of six primary indices, based on basic infrastructural indicators that define a country's ICT infrastructure capacity.

Primary indicators are: PC's, Internet users, online population and Mobile phones. Secondary indicators are TVs and telephone lines.

Human Capital Index:

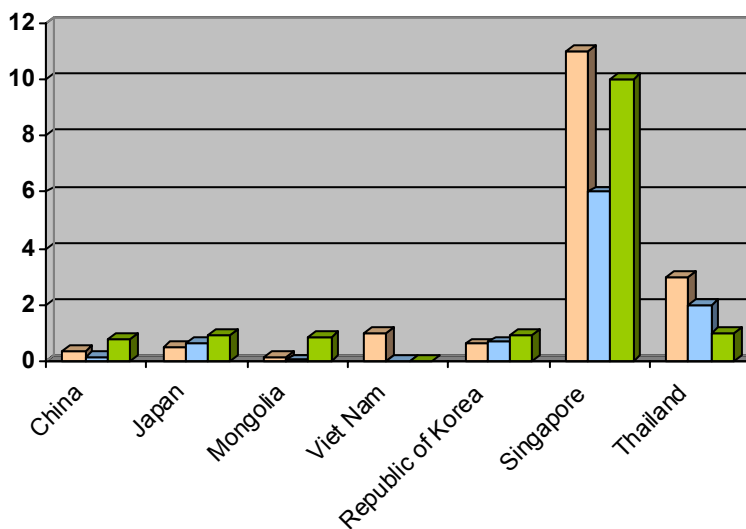
A composite of the adult literacy rate and the combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio, with two thirds of the weight given to adult literacy and one third to the gross enrolment ratio.

e-Government Readiness Index



Source: United Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003

Web Measure Index Telecom. Infrastructure Index Human Capital Index



Source: United Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003

e-Participation Index:

Refers to the willingness, on the part of the government, to use ICT to provide high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools for the specific purpose of empowering people for able participation in consultations and decision-making both in their capacity as consumers of public services and as citizens.

e-information:

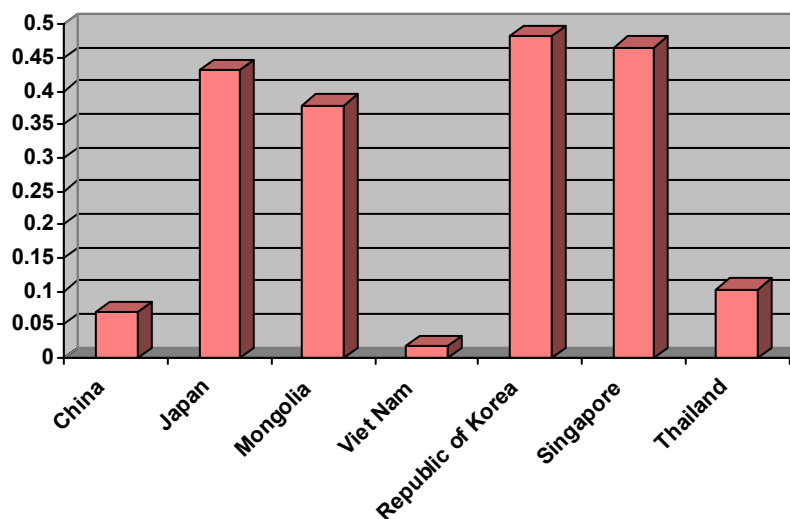
The government websites offer information on policies and programs, budgets, laws and regulations, and other briefs of key public interest. Tools for disseminating information exist for timely access and use of public information, including web forums, e-mail lists, newsgroups and chat rooms.

e-decision making:

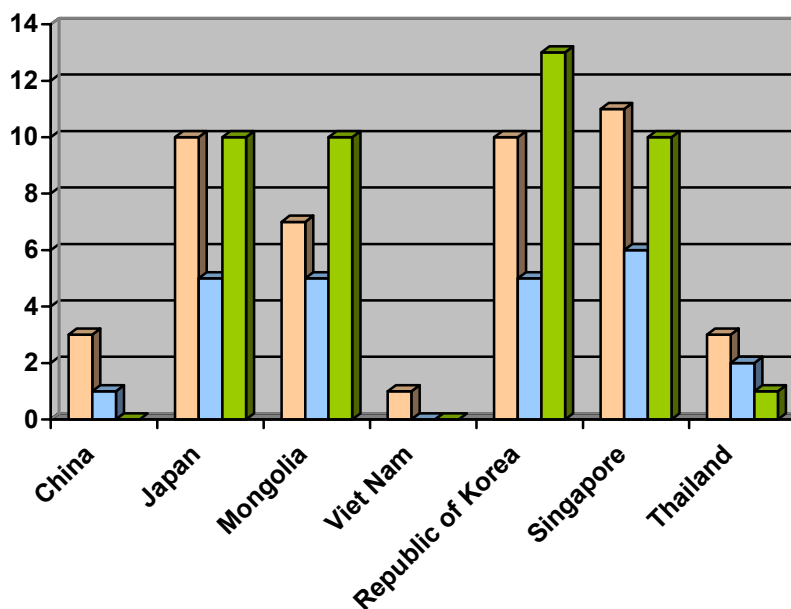
The government indicates that it will take citizens input into account in decision making and provides actual feedback on the outcome of specific issues.

e-consultation:

The government website explains e-consultation mechanisms and tools. It offers a choice of public policy topics online for discussion with real time and archived access to audios and videos of public meetings. The government encourages citizens to participate in discussions.

e-Participation Index

Source: United Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003

e-information e-decision making e-consultation

Source: United Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003

7. Links

| 7.1 National sites | |
|---|---|
| Authority | Topic |
| Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China | http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/ |
| Ministry of Civil Service of the Republic in China | http://www.mocs.gov.tw/english/ls.asp |
| Ministry of Commerce of the Peoples Republic of China | http://english.mofcom.gov.cn |
| Ministry of Science and Technology of the Peoples Republic of China | http://www.most.gov.ch/english |

| 7.2 Miscellaneous sites | |
|--|---|
| Institution | Topic |
| Asian Development Bank (ADB) | http://www.adb.org/china |
| United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific | http://www.unescap.org |
| Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) | http://www.oecd.org |
| United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in China | http://www.undp.org.cn/ |
| UNPAN | http://www.unpan.org/virtual_library-byregion.asp |
| World Bank (WB) | http://www.worldbank.org/china |