

China: Main Figures





◆ Area: 9.5 million km2

◆ Population : 1.212 billion

◆ GDP (1995): 695 billion US \$

◆ GDP per capita : 573 US \$ in 1995,

1,300 forecast in 2000

◆ GDP growth rate (1996): between 12 and 13%





◆ Exports (1995): 148.8 billion US \$

◆ Trade balance (1995): + 16.7 billion US \$

◆ Foreign Investment (1995): 37.7 billion US \$

◆ Inflation rate : 6.5% in 1996 (15% in 1995)

◆ Foreign exchange reserves : > US \$ 100 billion

(the highest in the world)

♦ Unemployment rate : 3%





◆ Structure of GDP:

- industry 50%

agriculture 29%

- trade **9%**

building7%

transport5%

◆ Structure of labour:

agriculture 66%

- industry 18%

- services 16%





- **◆** 31 provinces
- ◆ 32 cities > 1 million inhabitants
- ◆ 15 cities > 2 million inhabitants
- 9 cities > 3 million inhabitants

» Shanghai	9.2 million
» Beijing	6.9
» Tianjin	5.1
» Shenyang	4.2
» Chongqing	4.1
» Wuhan	4.1
» Guangzhou (Canton)	4.0
» Harbin	3.2
» Chengdu	3.0



◆ A fast growing middle class

The number of individuals with an income of more than 100 000 US \$ / year

is already larger in China than in any European country





♦ A "socialist market economy"

= market economy

+

decentralised public investment (provinces and cities)

+

socialist framework of society



◆ A firm and successful economic and financial policy

- Monetary policy :
 - » raise of interest rates
 - » banks have to raise their reserves to 15%
 - » RMB (yuan) / \$: free market (no official rate), a steady exchange rate in 1996
- Budget policy :
 - » continuous reduction of government current expenditures
- Price control abolished for more than 90% of the products



- Corporation tax :
 - » 33% normal
 - » 15% for foreign companies and joint-ventures in special export zones
- VAT: 17%
- Modernised legal framework for companies
- Lowering customs tariffs
- A pension scheme, a social security system



- China is the first beneficiary of the World Bank Loans :
 - Total debt in 1995 : US \$ 22 billion
 - Loans 1996 : US \$ 3 billion
- \bullet EU = 15.3% of imports
- \bullet EU = 12.5% of exports