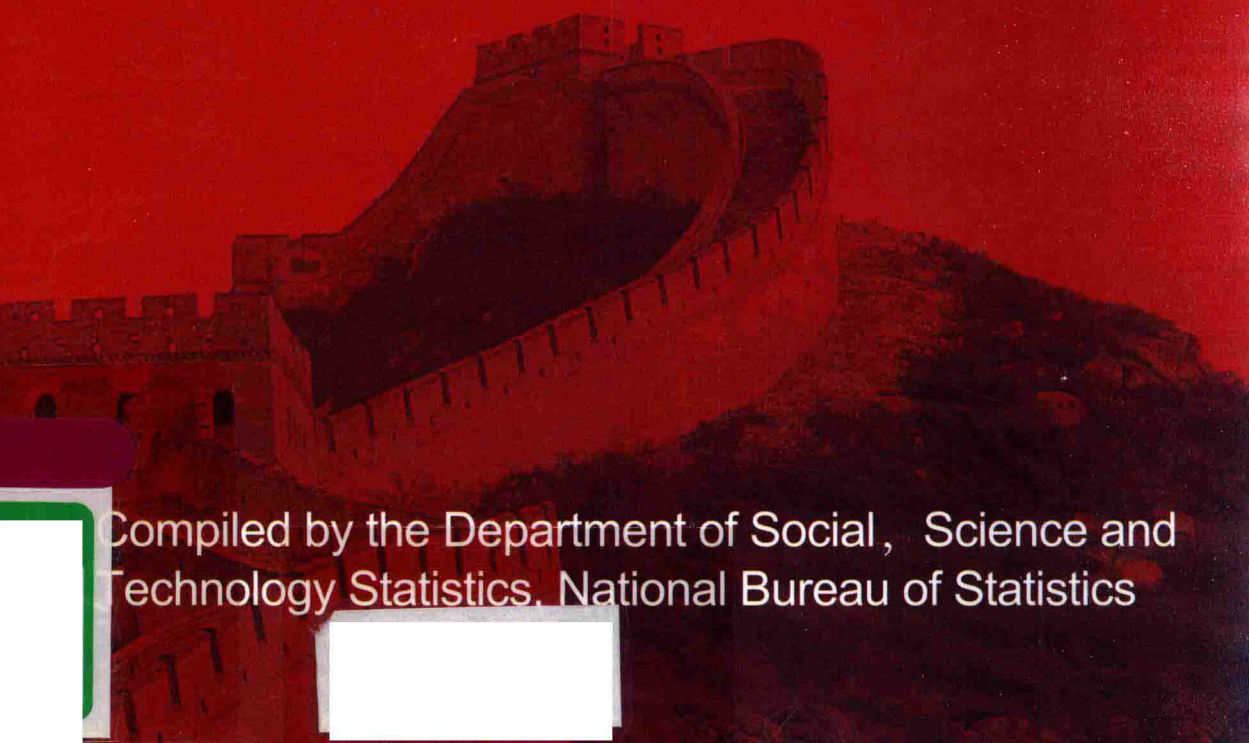


SOCIAL PROGRESS IN CHINA

—— Statistics Related to MDGs

2009



Compiled by the Department of Social, Science and
Technology Statistics, National Bureau of Statistics

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This book is published under the sponsorship and technical guidance of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), however, its contents do not whatsoever represent the viewpoints of the UN agencies.

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Editors' Notes

1. In September 2000, the United Nations convened the Millennium Summit in New York. Attended by leaders from 189 countries, the Summit made United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which 8 development goals and 18 targets were proposed.
2. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, on behalf of the Chinese government, has submitted three country reports in 2003, 2005 and 2008 to the United Nations to fulfill our commitments and to monitor and reflect the implementation of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in China.
3. This book presents statistical data of China's social progress in relation to the MDGs. Unlike the country reports, this book mainly contains data and figures and has fewer text descriptions. It covers the first seven MDG goals and the eighth goal of "Developing a global partnership for development" is not included since related data mainly come from international sources.
4. In line with data availability and the actual situation of China's social progress, the indicators selected in the book are slightly different from the global MDGs monitoring indicators. In some areas, the indicators selected are fairly broader than those in the MDGs. For example, since China has already achieved the goal of "universal primary education", it is replaced by "universal education" instead in the book.
5. The book is divided into eight parts: Eradicating Poverty, Achieving Universal Education, Promoting Gender Equality, Reducing Child mortality, Improving Maternal Health, Combating HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases, Ensuring Environmental Sustainability and Data by Regions.
6. The statistical data used in the book mainly come from statistical yearbooks published by National Bureau of Statistics of China (NBS), statistics from related line ministries banked at NBS, annual monitoring reports on the implementation of two NPAs (*The Program for the Development of Chinese Women 2001-2010* and *National Program of Action for Child Development in China 2001-2010*), a Joint Assessment of HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment and Care in China (2007), Country reports on China's Progress Towards the Millennium Development Goals, etc. The book does not contain data of Taiwan Province, Hong Kong SAR and Macao SAR.
7. The publication of the book is funded and technically supported by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in China, and is a product of the cooperation between the NBS and the two UN agencies. However, its contents do not whatsoever represent the viewpoints of the UN agencies.
8. Due to rounding, the sum of sub-totals may not add up to total. The blank space in the book means that no data is available and "#" means the number concerning a specific item among the total.

I look forward to the day when the poor people no longer suffer from hunger and are all able to lead a frugal but comfortable life through their own hard work. I look forward to the day when all children can go to school and everyone enjoys proper medical care. I look forward to the day when we all live in a democratic and free society in which everyone has the opportunity and right to pursue happiness. I look forward to the day when no one is discriminated against for his or her skin color, race or belief and the family of mankind lives in greater harmony.

I believe that this is not just a day that I look forward to, but a day that everyone present here today looks forward to. Let us work towards the goals of the Millennium Declaration, so that the day will come, and will come early.

---An excerpt from the speech delivered by Premier Wen Jiabao at the UN High-level Meeting on MDGs on September 25, 2008

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Part I

Eradicating Poverty



In the last 20 years, with the Government's committed efforts to the development road of reform and opening up, and attaining the objectives of shaking off poverty, solving the problem of basic food and clothing, improving people's standard of living and realizing well-off life in an all-round way, great changes have taken place in China's social and economic situations. The national economy has maintained sustained, steady and quick growth; people's living standard has been improved continuously; the income for urban and rural households has increased steadily; the number of poverty-stricken people has decreased significantly, contributing to remarkable achievements in both social and economic sectors. China has become the first developing country in the world to realize the Millennium Development Goal of "eradicating poverty".

China's per capita GDP has increased by folds. In 1990, per capita GDP was only 1,644 Yuan, while in 2008 it reached 22,698 Yuan, an increase by 12.8 times. China has transformed from a low-income underdeveloped country into a lower-middle-income country. At present, per capita GDP in 14 out of the 31 provinces (municipalities and autonomous regions) on China mainland has exceeded US\$3,000.

The number of employed population has increased greatly. With a large population, China has been facing huge employment pressure. To solve the problem of urban and rural employment, the Chinese government has implemented proactive employment policies and widened employment channels. As a result, the number of urban and rural employed population has increased largely. The number of urban and rural employed population was 647.49 million in 1990, and reached 774.80 million in 2008. That was an increase of 127.31 million, among which 80.63 million were workers in private enterprises and self-employed individuals in urban areas, and 95.29 million were workers in township and village enterprises, workers in private enterprises and self-employed individuals in rural areas. The steady advancement of urbanization and industrialization has absorbed the surplus rural labor force of more than 200 million people.

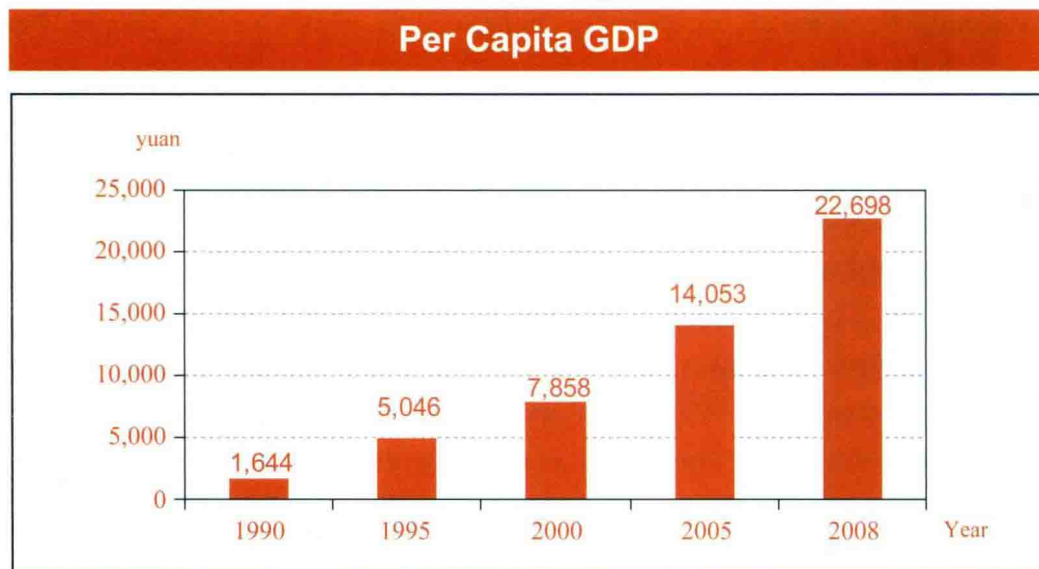
The income for urban and rural residents has increased steadily and the Engel's coefficient has decreased significantly. The disposable income per capita for urban residents was

only 1,510 Yuan in 1990 and reached 15,781 Yuan in 2008, which increased by 14,271 Yuan or 9.5 times; the net income per capita for rural households was 686 Yuan in 1990 and reached 4,761 Yuan in 2008, which increased by 4,075 Yuan or 5.9 times. Meanwhile, the consumption structure of urban and rural households has also undergone tremendous changes. The Engel's coefficient, which reflects the standard of living of households, had dropped from 54.2% in 1990 to 37.9% in 2008 for urban households, and that for rural households had dropped from 58.8% to 43.7%.

The number of poverty-stricken people in rural areas has decreased significantly. Through the implementation of *The 8-7 Priority Poverty Alleviation Program (1994-2000)* and *The Programme of Action for Poverty Alleviation and Development of China's Rural Areas (2001-2010)*, China has made great achievements in poverty alleviation in rural areas. Statistics indicate that the number of poverty-stricken people in rural areas was 85 million in 1990, and dropped to 14.79 million in 2007, a decrease of 70.21 million and poverty headcount ratio dropped from 9.6% in 1990 to 1.6% in 2007. In 2008, China adjusted the poverty line for rural areas and included low income groups in the coverage of poverty-stricken people as target of future support and assistance in the development of rural areas. People in financial difficulties have received social assistance. In 1999, the State Council issued *The Regulation on Minimum Subsistence Allowance for Urban Residents*, which marked the establishment of a minimum subsistence allowance system for urban residents. Afterwards, the minimum subsistence allowance system for rural residents had also been established gradually. The number of urban residents and rural residents to receive minimum subsistence allowance were 4.03 million and 3 million respectively in 2000, who increased to 23.35 million and 43.06 million respectively in 2008, an increase by 19.32 million and 40.06 million respectively.

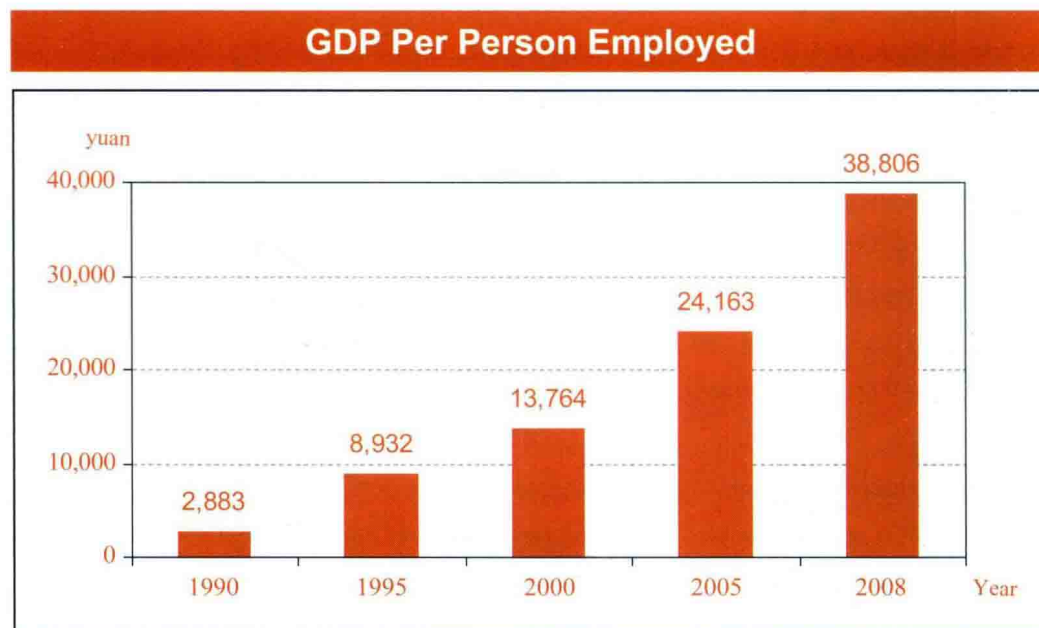
Though significant achievements have been recorded in poverty alleviation, there are still more than 100 million people who should be lifted off poverty if calculated using the international poverty line. Quite a significant number of people move in and out of poverty every year and China still faces huge challenges in poverty alleviation.

Chart1.1



Data source: National Bureau of Statistics, China Statistical Yearbook 2009.

Chart1.2



Data source: National Bureau of Statistics, China Population and Employment Statistics Yearbook 2009, calculated according to employed population and GDP.

Table 1.1

Per Capita Annual Income and Engel's Coefficient of Urban and Rural Households

Unit: yuan; %

Year	Per Capita Annual Disposable Income of Urban Households	Per Capita Annual Net Income of Rural Households	Engel's Coefficient of Urban Households	Engel's Coefficient of Rural Households
1990	1,510	686	54.2	58.8
1995	4,283	1,578	50.1	58.6
2000	6,280	2,253	39.4	49.1
2005	10,493	3,255	36.7	45.5
2006	11,760	3,587	35.8	43.0
2007	13,786	4,140	36.3	43.1
2008	15,781	4,761	37.9	43.7

Data source: National Bureau of Statistics, China Statistical Yearbook, 2009.

Table 1.2

Composition of Per Capita Annual Consumption Expenditure of Urban Households

Unit: %

Items	1990	1995	2000	2005	2008
Food	54.25	50.09	39.44	36.69	37.89
Clothing	13.36	13.55	10.01	10.08	10.37
Residence	6.98	8.02	11.31	5.62	10.19
Household Facilities, Articles and Services	10.14	7.44	7.49	7.56	6.15
Health Care and Medical Services	2.01	3.11	6.36	12.55	6.99
Transportation and Communications	1.20	5.18	8.54	13.82	12.60
Educational, Cultural and Recreational Services	11.12	9.36	13.40	10.18	12.08
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	0.94	3.25	3.44	3.50	3.72

Data source: National Bureau of Statistics, China Statistical Yearbook, 2009.

Table 1.3

Composition of Per Capita Annual Consumption Expenditure of Rural Households

Unit: %

Items	1990	1995	2000	2005	2008
Food	58.80	58.62	49.13	45.48	43.67
Clothing	7.77	6.85	5.75	5.81	5.79
Residence	17.34	13.91	15.47	14.49	18.54
Household Facilities, Articles and Services	5.29	5.23	4.52	4.36	4.75
Health Care and Medical Services	3.25	3.24	5.24	6.58	6.72
Transportation and Communications	1.44	2.58	5.58	9.59	9.84
Educational, Cultural and Recreational Services	5.37	7.81	11.18	11.56	8.59
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	0.74	1.76	3.14	2.13	2.09

Data source: National Bureau of Statistics, China Statistical Yearbook, 2009.

Table 1.4

Output of Major Grain Products

Unit: 10,000 tons

Year	Grain	Cereals			Beans	Tubers
		Rice	Wheat	Corn		
1990	44,624	18,933	9,823	9,682		2,743
1995	46,662	18,523	10,221	11,199	1,788	3,263
2000	46,218	18,791	9,964	10,600	2,010	3,685
2005	48,402	18,059	9,745	13,937	2,158	3,469
2006	49,804	18,172	10,847	15,160	2,004	2,701
2007	50,160	18,603	10,930	15,230	1,720	2,808
2008	52,871	19,190	11,246	16,591	2,043	2,980

Data source: National Bureau of Statistics, China Statistical Yearbook, 2009.