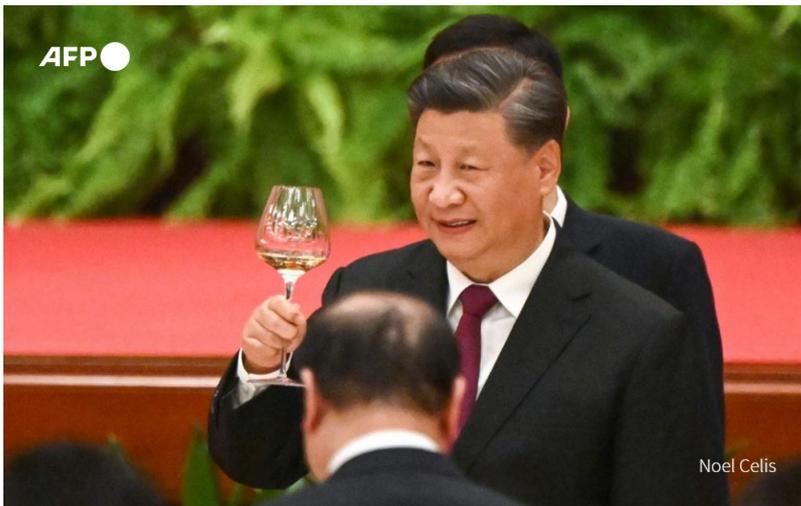




Jerome Taylor @JeromeTaylor Wed Oct 05 02:11:29 +0000 2022

All this week @AFP's team in China and beyond are publishing a series of stories looking at how Xi has transformed China during his first decade in power, and what the world can expect from his next presidential term, which he is set to secure later this month. <https://t.co/xCeMhJUKbW>



We start with this look by @matthewwalsh91 at a Beijing suburb that has done rather well under Xi Jinping's rule.

<https://news.yahoo.com/xis-chinese-dream-flickers-one-033935022.html>

Meanwhile @lauriechenwords explored how the nascent civil society that slowly blossomed under Jiang and Hu has been comprehensively crushed in the Xi Era, with little hopes of a resurgence given Xi's all but guaranteed third term.

<https://news.yahoo.com/chinas-civil-society-collapsed-under-034323537.html>

From our Sydney bureau @AndrewBeatty reports on how much of the Asia-Pacific region is responding to China's ramped up (and smarter) military spending -- as well as its increasingly more assertive behaviour on the world stage under Xi

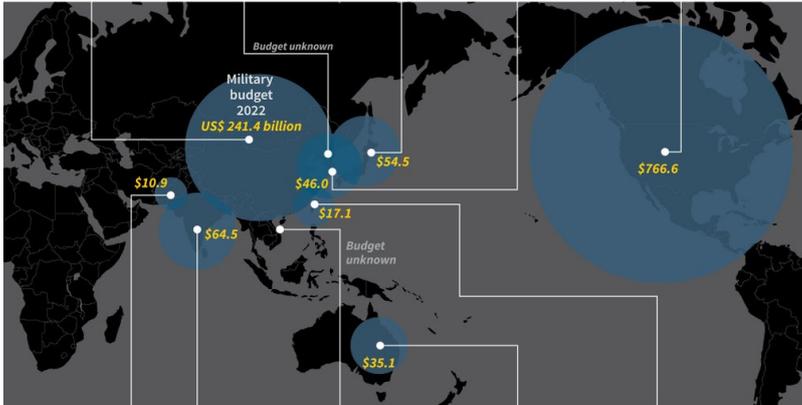
<https://news.yahoo.com/xi-decade-reshapes-chinas-military-044329345.html> <https://t.co/0Zhu2lm0Le>

China and the regional military balance

Selected countries, data collated by the International Institute for Strategic Studies



CHINA	NORTH KOREA	JAPAN	SOUTH KOREA	UNITED STATES
Active military: 2,035,000	Active military: 1,280,000	Active military: 247,150	Active military: 555,000	Active military: 1,395,350
Armoured fighting vehicles: 20,654	Armoured fighting vehicles: 6,592	Armoured fighting vehicles: 1,745	Armoured fighting vehicles: 5,426	Armoured fighting vehicles: 46,371
Artillery/anti-tank systems/launchers: 26,635	Artillery/anti-tank systems/launchers: 34,606	Artillery/anti-tank systems/launchers: 2,273	Artillery/anti-tank systems/launchers: 7,099	Artillery/anti-tank systems/launchers: 9,345
Submarines: 59	Submarines: 71	Submarines: 23	Submarines: 19	Submarines: 67
Warships: 1,478	Warships: 682	Warships: 514	Warships: 296	Warships: 1,001
Aircraft: 5,044	Aircraft: 1,236	Aircraft: 1,438	Aircraft: 1,540	Aircraft: 14,647



PAKISTAN	INDIA	VIETNAM	AUSTRALIA	TAIWAN
Active military: 651,800	Active military: 1,460,350	Active military: 482,000	Active military: 59,600	Active military: 169,000
Armoured fighting vehicles: 6,127	Armoured fighting vehicles: 7,138	Armoured fighting vehicles: 3,738	Armoured fighting vehicles: 2,671	Armoured fighting vehicles: 2,768
Artillery/anti-tank systems/launchers: 7,164	Artillery/anti-tank systems/launchers: 17,415	Artillery/anti-tank systems/launchers: 12,838	Artillery/anti-tank systems/launchers: 264	Artillery/anti-tank systems/launchers: 3,030
Submarines: 8	Submarines: 16	Submarines: 8	Submarines: 6	Submarines: 4
Warships: 74	Warships: 414	Warships: 212	Warships: 70	Warships: 308
Aircraft: 1,044	Aircraft: 2,379	Aircraft: 196	Aircraft: 421	Aircraft: 836

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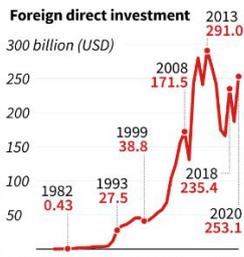
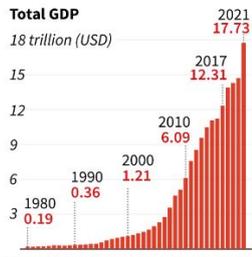
More pieces will be published later today and I'll post them here.

In the meantime some nice work from @AFPgraphics <https://t.co/QmcJM4SxJY>

China's economy



Currency: **Yuan**
 GDP per capita: **\$12,556** (2021)
 Unemployment rate: **4.8** (2021) (ILO* estimate)
 Inflation: **1%** (2021)
 Pop. growth rate: **0.1** (average annual %) (2020)



Share in world total exports in 2020: **14.7%**

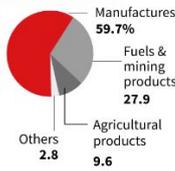
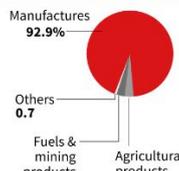
Exports

Imports

Share in world total imports in 2020: **11.5%**

\$2.59 trillion, 2020

\$2.06 trillion, 2020



2020 data, WTO

AFP

Source: World Bank/WTO*/International Labor Organization

China's 10 years under Xi

Xi Jinping
69 years old



■ Became leader in 2012 when he was named general secretary of the Communist Party
 ■ Officially named president in 2013
 ■ Abolished presidential term limits in 2018, paving the way to rule for life

Key advances

<p>Poverty alleviation</p> <p>Beijing in 2020 announced it had ended extreme poverty</p> <p>Between 2013 and 2021, the government said it had invested 1.6 trillion yuan (\$230 billion) against poverty – in particular by building roads, houses and infrastructure</p>	<p>Space programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Two Chinese lunar landers in 2013 and 2019 ▶ BeiDou satellite navigation system established ▶ Robot lander on Mars ▶ Space station due to be completed 2022
<p>Wealth surge</p> <p>Average disposable income per urban household surged 66% from 2013 to 2020</p> <p>Housing costs have quadrupled</p>	<p>Corruption clampdown</p> <p>11.3 million people given warnings for minor corruption cases between 2012 and 2022</p> <p>At least 1.5 million punished</p>
<p>Greening policies</p> <p>Signed the Paris climate agreement in 2016</p> <p>Pledges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ To reach peak carbon emissions by 2030 ▶ Carbon neutrality by 2060 	<p>Transport</p> <p>Length of high-speed rail network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 2012: 9,300 km ▶ 2021: 40,000 km <p>Air passenger traffic doubled between 2012 and 2019</p>

AFP

Filipino fisherman Mariel Villamonte had spent years plying the turquoise waters of Scarborough Shoal in the South China Sea for snapper and grouper -- until a Chinese coast guard vessel water cannoned his boat.

By [@allijackson28](#) in Cato, Philippines

<https://www.rfi.fr/en/international-news/20221005-filipinos-fishing-on-frontline-of-china-s-battle-for-disputed-sea>

Vietnamese fisherman Nguyen Van Loc has been attacked by Chinese coast guard vessels so many times, he has lost count.

By [@tranminhha](#) & [@AlicePhilipson1](#) in Ly Son, Vietnam

<https://www.news.com.au/breaking-news/beaten-and-robbed-vietnamese-fisherman-recounts-china-attacks/news-story>

For decades, residents of Japan's Okinawa have strongly opposed the US military bases that dot the region but a subtle shift is under way, driven by Chinese sabre-rattling and economic challenges.

Report by [@Mathias_Cena](#)

<https://www.rfi.fr/en/international-news/20221005-inevitable-views-on-us-bases-shift-in-japan-s-okinawa>