

CHINA

COUNTRY FACT SHEET 2020

PUBLISHER

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM) GERMANY

Charlottenstraße 68
10117 Berlin
Germany
T. +49 911 43 000
F. +49 911 43 00 260

iom-germany@iom.int
www.germany.iom.int

This project is funded by the German Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF).



The information contained in this Country Fact Sheet was researched with best intentions and care. However, IOM Germany assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions. Furthermore, IOM Germany cannot be held accountable for conclusions or decisions drawn from the information provided in this Country Fact Sheet.

For further information on voluntary return and reintegration, please visit the information portal www.ReturningfromGermany.de, or contact your local return and reintegration office.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. HEALTH CARE	_____
2. LABOUR MARKET	_____
3. HOUSING	_____
4. SOCIAL WELFARE	_____
5. EDUCATION	_____
6. CHILDREN	_____
7. CONTACTS	_____

1 HEALTH CARE

General information on health care

A relatively affordable publicly financed health insurance system is in place to reimburse partial medical costs (both in-patient and out-patient) spent in public hospitals for the enrolled population. Returnees should consult local social security offices for enrollment criteria and procedures, as it is subject to local administration. In general, three kinds of programs are available depending on the returnee's status:

- **Basic Medical Insurance for Urban Employees:** Covers all employees, including employees of enterprises, institutes, and NGOs etc. However, employees' non-employed family members are not covered under the scheme. Generally, employees are required to enroll through their employers, where the employer pays 8 per cent of the monthly salary and the employee pays 2 per cent to finance the scheme

and its benefits. The retired are not required to pay. The reimbursement rate under this scheme can be higher than 90 per cent.

- **Basic Medical Insurance for Urban Residents:** Covers all non-urban employees, students, children and the unemployed. Local governments make their own policies on the reasonable premium to contribute based on the local economy situation. The reimbursement rate is up to 75 per cent since 2013. For citizens over 70 years the rate is approximately 85 per cent.
- **New Rural Cooperative Medical Care:** Subsidized scheme by the central and local government that covers all residents in rural areas where Individuals only pay a very small amount, such as CNY 20, in some areas. The reimbursement rate is up to 75 per cent since 2013.



1 HEALTH CARE

The public medical insurance system intends to provide basic coverage and cannot reimburse all costs. It also has a minimum reimbursement line (only after paying for certain amount of medical costs, further spending is qualified for reimbursement) and a cap. Starting from 2016, China started pushing for combining the medical insurance programs for urban and rural residents in one to standardize the reimbursement policy and procedures. As this is still in progress, returnees are advised always to contact local social security offices for the most updated information on medical insurance policy that is applicable to them.

Availability of medical facilities and doctors

Hospitals are widely established from small towns to big cities and can provide treatment to most common diseases.

Admission to medical facilities

Returnees should go to the appointed hospital which is under the medical insurance system. To obtain the list, one can either go to local Social Security Office or call/check on the website. The medication market is relatively well developed in China. Normally, needed medicines are available in the country.

Access for returnees

Eligibility and requirements: All Chinese citizens are eligible to enroll in the basic medical insurance program. If the returnees are employed, they should first consult about enrollment with their employers (preferably prior to contract signing). If unemployed or self-employed, they should approach local social security offices or community committees for enrollment options.

Registration procedure: Returnees may be asked to submit a written application to the respective community or villagers' committee. The specifics are subject to guidance provided by the local responsible bodies.

Required documents: One may be asked to fill out the application form and provide supporting documentation such as ID cards, medical certificates etc.

General information on labour market

The employed workforce in China reached 0.78 billion people in 2018, and more than 13 million new employments were added throughout 2019. The national per capita disposable income was CNY 30,733 by 2019, showing a real increase of 5.8 per cent compared to 2018. The per capita disposable income in ten provinces exceeded CNY 30,000, including: Beijing at CNY 67,756; Shanghai at CNY 69,442.

Standard minimum wage in big cities is around CNY 2000 per month. In smaller cities it ranges from CNY 1200 to 1700. However, the per capita disposable income of the rural population was at CNY 13,066 in 2018. The urban unemployment rate was approximately 3.62 per cent at the end of 2019.

Finding employment

Recruitment is regularly organized on the local level. Employment agencies can also provide assistance but might charge for their services. They are divided into two types: non-profit and for-profit employment agencies. These agencies provide information on and policy consultation about

- the labour market to employers and employees;
- administration and maintaining the record of employment;
- unemployment registration, etc. entrusted by the administrative department of the labour and social security bureau;
- vocational trainings and guidance to the unemployed and the disabled.

Employment information in different cities can be easily obtained from the websites below:

- www.zhaopin.com
- www.dajie.com
- www.58.com
- www.ganji.com

There are also dozens of job-hunting apps available online, such as Lagouwang or Qianchengwuyou.

Unemployment assistance

There is only unemployment insurance available. For registration, it is necessary to go to the local Labour and Social Security bureau.

Required documents are:

- ID card
- certificate of termination and dissolution of employment relation issued by their work units

Generally, both workers and employers pay into the unemployment insurance fund, originally at rates of 1 per cent and 2 per cent respectively. However, many provincial and municipal governments have cut contribution rates. For example, in Beijing, the current unemployment insurance contribution of the employee amounts approximately to 0.2 per cent, while the employer's contribution is around 1 per cent. Unemployment benefits are usually equal to the minimum wage for that area.

Access for returnees

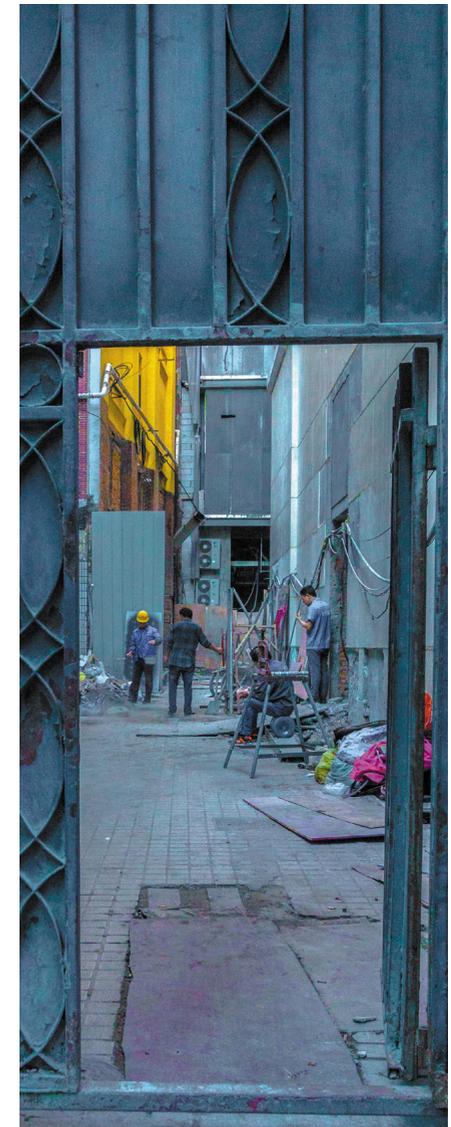
Eligibility and requirements: The unemployment insurance allows the workers to pay into the insurance while working to retrieve benefit in case of unemployment. The assistance is available for those who are unemployed involuntarily, register for their unemployed status and have paid in the insurance for more than one year together with their employer.

Registration procedure: Individuals shall consult with the local labour and social security bureau for registration procedures.

Required documents: Generally, the required documents are ID card, certificate of termination and dissolution of employment relation to complete their unemployment registration to retrieve the benefit.

Further education and training

Graduates from junior or high school seeking employment and training can undertake preparatory training. People who find it difficult to find employment and rural labourers entering the city to work (if approved) are then assessed to identify basic vocational skills. Local communities sometimes can provide opportunities of vocational training or some low-skill jobs. They also provide relevant employment information for the residents.



3 HOUSING

General information on housing

China's urban per capita housing space is approximately 36.6 square meters. Rents levels differ depending on location whether the housing is in certain provinces, cities or regions in China. In Beijing for example, the average rent per month is CNY 4,000 for a small, basically equipped apartment in the central area. It is relatively easy to rent a house in China. The rent in big cities is much higher than in a small city/town.

Finding accommodation

Real estate agencies are located everywhere and are very efficient in finding a temporary accommodation. People will need to pay the commission for the service (normally one month rent). The house information on the websites below is very comprehensive and helpful for finding accommodations. People can deal with the landlord directly over such platforms. But it is important to be aware that there are illegal agencies which may bring property damage:

- www.58.com
- www.ganji.com

Social grants for housing

Low-rent housing program: Under the low-rent housing scheme, the government may provide a house as a form of social security to families who find themselves in housing difficulties. The subsidy is funded by the central government. For the application the householder can submit a written application to the local residential community office or the people's government at the town

level of government administration. The application requires the following documents:

- proof of family income status
- explanation of family housing status
- ID cards and the residence documents of family members
- references requested by municipal and county authorities

Economically Affordable Housing System: This refers to the houses included in national plans wherein the government arranges the real estate enterprise or units to organize collecting funds for housebuilding. Then it sells the houses to urban low-income families at a low-profit price. The following documents are necessary:

- local and urban permanent residence permit or permission by the municipal or county authorities;
- domestic income in accordance with the income standards;
- household registration;
- income certificate;
- house and property titles.

3 HOUSING

Access for returnees

Eligibility and requirements: There are shelters supervised by Ministry of Civil Affairs which provide temporary assistance to beggars around the city. Once approved, the displaced people can stay in the shelter no more than 10 days. There is no certain assistance for returnees or VOTs. Below people cannot be assisted: Beggars who have family or relatives to rely on; Beggars refuse to explain his/her situation; Beggars diagnosed with critical illness or mental disease or infectious disease. Contact details of shelters can be found on official website of Ministry of Civil Affairs at www.mca.gov.cn Returnees can also go to the local police station and the local policeman will inform them of the address and contact details of the shelter or send them there if needed. Different kind of NGOs registered can be found on below website at <http://cishan.chinanpo.gov.cn/biz/ma/csmh/a/csmhaindex.html> Returnees may be eligible for the Low Rent Housing Program and Economically Affordable Housing System

Required documents: Please refer to the corresponding sections.



4 SOCIAL WELFARE

Social welfare system

Welfare objectives are aimed at:

- senior citizens over 60 years of age who are unable to work, have no source of income, no alimony or allowance or whose dependents have no capacity to support them;
- orphans whose parents are dead and who have no other relatives capable of raising them;
- abandoned babies and children whose biological parents cannot be found by the public security agencies and may come under the care of child welfare agencies.

Pension system

China's basic medical insurance scheme is composed of two Pension Plan (the Rural Pension Plan & the Basic Pension Plan) which can be supplemented by commercial insurance. Only some areas with financial capability have launched a Rural Pension Plan, which is shared by the local government, collective economy and individuals. The Basic Pension Plan covers all employees under the following criteria:

- self-employed and freelancers can directly approach the local social insurance agencies to approve their participation in the pension insurance scheme;
- they are required to pay the cost of pension insurance from their own personal financial resources.

Employers shall pay 20 per cent; whereas the employees shall contribute 80 per cent of the premium. Basically, they can get their pension every month once retired. (Specific amount varies

from place to place). To reach the national retirement conditions, including normal retirement, early retirement due to illness, retirement in advance due to special types of job, a continuing payment of 15 years is necessary. Individuals seeking to apply for or withdrawals of the pension scheme must present a national identity card and their personal account pension insurance book at their local social security institutions.

Access for returnees

Eligibility and requirements: Access for returnees

Registration procedure: Returnees need to consult with the local social security office on the exact registration procedure that varies from city to city. After the registration, the person has to pay into their account every month.

Required documents:

- ID copy
- One-inch color photo (x2)
- Residence booklet copy

Vulnerable groups

The Minimum Subsistence Allowance (dibao) is a program targeting households whose per capital income is below a defined minimum level due to family members inability to work resulted from disabilities or severe diseases. The qualified households are entitled to receive a minimum subsistence allowance to cover some basic living costs. In 2017, the national average eligibility threshold of dibao in urban areas was RMB 541 per person monthly, equivalent to 27 per cent of urban residents'

4 SOCIAL WELFARE

consumption expenditure; and the national average eligibility threshold in rural areas was RMB 358 per person in a month, which was 39 per cent of rural consumption expenditure. However, the threshold and allowance amount in different regions can vary significantly due to differences in local economic status and average income. For example, both rural and urban Dibao households in Beijing receive more than CNY 700 per person monthly since 2015, while

the rural households in some provinces only receive about CNY 200 per person monthly. By September 2018, approximately 46.2 million people were covered by the program country-wide. Local Dibao thresholds and enrollment procedures are subject to local administration and policies. Anyone who intends to enroll in the program should approach local social security offices for information.



5 EDUCATION

General information on education

In China there is a compulsory education period of nine years.

For the registration procedure, the following documents are needed:

- Residence booklet and copy
- Property ownership certificate and copy

Cost, loans, and stipends

Tuition fees for urban and rural areas during the 9-year compulsory education period are completely exempt nationwide. Access and requirements to stipends and/or loans for covering tuition National student loans are mainly for students to meet the cost of tuition fees and accommodation. Applicants have to submit a loan application in person; complete the student loan application forms (in triplicate) and the parents' employer or the district/countryside people's government have to sign. National student grants are awarded to support full-time college students if their family has financial problems.

Approval and verification of foreign diplomas

Overseas degree certificates that have been obtained by studying formal curricula in higher educational institutions in foreign countries are awarded by the Sino-foreign Cooperation institute. For information on the process of certifying the overseas certificates, visit: <http://zwfw.csce.edu.cn/>

Access for returnees

Registration procedure: The returnees shall consult with the schools for specific procedures.

Required documents: Generally, the beneficiary shall bring residence booklet and copies, as well as property ownership certificate and copies. Other documents are subject to individual school's requirements.

5 EDUCATION



General situation of children and infants

In 2015, China had the world's second-largest child population (aged 0–17 years), with an estimated 271 million children, including 147 million boys and 124 million girls. Child population accounts for 20 per cent of the country's total population or 13 percent of the world's children. The Government of China has been paying increasing attention to child poverty and is working hard to address the issue through relevant policy measures. In 2014, the Government endorsed the Child Development Plan in National Poverty Areas (2014–2020) to ensure services and interventions in health and education for children in 'poverty blocks', covering the period from birth to the compulsory education stage. From the perspective of monetary poverty, the incidence of rural poverty in China was 3.1 per cent in 2017, whereas the poverty rate among children aged 0–17 in the same year was 3.9 per cent. The incidence of child poverty being higher than that of adults indicates a greater impact of poverty on children. Through introducing relevant policies and measures and ensuring financial investment, it has increased the accessibility of public services, expanded coverage to include more vulnerable children. Besides the Minimum Subsistence Allowance as mentioned above, the basic public services cover many aspects including education, health and child protection. For example, since the autumn semester of 2011, China has been providing nutritional subsidies to students at the compulsory education stage in rural areas. China is also actively promoting 0–3 early childhood development

(ECD) through a series of policies and measures, such as the First 1,000 Days Campaign on nutrition and health, and Nutrition Improvement for Children in Poverty Areas, which provides free nutrition supplementation packages to children aged 6–23 months. One of the most prominent effort in child protection resides in immunization. China achieved universal childhood immunization in 1990, which means that all provinces and counties in the country reached 85 per cent coverage of Bacilli Calmette-Guérin vaccine (BCG), oral polio vaccine (OPV), diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus vaccine (DPT) and measles vaccine for 1-year-old children. In November 2012, WHO affirmed China's polio-free status. In 2012, WHO declared that maternal and newborn tetanus had been eliminated in China. A dramatic fall in hepatitis B infection rates among young children since the addition of the hepatitis B vaccine to the immunization programme in 2002. As a result of high immunization coverage, the incidence of and mortality from vaccine-preventable diseases has dropped.

(Non-) governmental actors dealing with children's well-being and rights

There is no governmental agency designated for processing child protection or welfare issues. It is deemed as a collective responsibility shared by governments, communities, schools and families. However, the State Council has stressed the importance of child protection, and particularly orphans. According to the directions issued by the State Council, local governments should make proper arrangements for

orphans to enjoy protection and corresponding benefits in all social aspects. These measures include but not limited to: civil affairs administrations should establish child welfare institutes to host orphans without close relatives or legal guardians; public security administrations should facilitate with orphans' residence documentation processing; healthcare administrations should provide guidance to the clinics and healthcare facilities in child welfare institutes; social security

departments should provide orphans with basic allowance; orphans should be given priority in allocating national funding for schooling. With the overall supervision on the state level, local implementations are highly subject to respective administrations. Therefore, information regarding specific programs on the ground shall be sought from community committees or local social security offices.



7 CONTACTS

International Organization for Migration (IOM China)
UN Organisation for Migration
N. 9-1-82 Tayuan Diplomatic Compound 1 Xindonglu, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100600
Tel.: +86 1059799695
Email: liaisonofficechina@iom.int

Ministry of Civil Affairs of P. R. China
Social services
147, Beiheya Dajie, Dongcheng District, 100721 Beijing
Tel: (010) 58123114
Website: www.mca.gov.cn

All China Women Federation
Empowering women's rights
Tel: +86 1085326020
Email: womenofchina@163.com
Internet: www.women.org.cn

Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security of the People's Republic of China
Social welfare
No.3, Hepingli Dongjie, Dongcheng District, 100716 Beijing
Internet: www.mohrss.gov.cn

AT A GLANCE

Measures to be undertaken before return

- **Documents:** Make sure you have the following documents before departure: valid passport; degree certificate(s) and diploma awarded abroad (certified originals); certificate of study abroad issued by the local Embassy; resident certificate.
- **Travel information:** Be informed. get information concerning the arrival at the airport and the onward journey
- **Vaccination:** Keep your vaccination record. Although no vaccinations are required to (re-)enter China. Vaccinations record obtained abroad should be brought back for the reference of the local doctor.

Measures to be undertaken immediately upon arrival

- **Travel documents:** Make sure your ID is still valid. Go to the local police station to get a new ID card, if the old one is expired or lost
- **Social welfare:** Enroll into national social insurance schemes. Visit local social security administrations to learn about your options and enroll into schemes including basic medical insurance and others.
- **Housing and labour:** Contact services assisting with the search for jobs and housing.
- **Education:** Apply for child care, schools, or other educational institutions
- **Support:** Contact the IOM Office in China for AVRR assistance (if applicable)

