

POPULATION GROWTH TREND AND PROSPECTS OF THE AGING PROCESS IN CHINA

Zhang Zhe

Doctoral student, Mirzo Ulugbek National
University of Uzbekistan

Abstract: China is the world's most populous country, with a population of over 1.4 billion people as of 2021. The country has experienced significant population growth over the past century, but its population growth rate has been slowing down in recent years. This trend is largely due to the government's family planning policies, which were implemented in the late 1970s to curb population growth.

Keywords: population, growth of the population, illness, increasing, China.

According to the United Nations, the population of China was estimated to be around 1.4 billion people in 2020, making it the world's most populous country. The population of China has been steadily increasing over the past few decades, but the rate of growth has been slowing down in recent years. This trend is expected to continue, and the population is projected to peak at around 1.44 billion in 2028 before gradually declining.

One of the major demographic trends in China is the aging of its population. This is largely due to the country's one-child policy, which was in effect from 1979 to 2015. As a result of this policy, the proportion of elderly people in the population has been increasing, while the proportion of young people has been decreasing.

As a result of these policies, China's population is aging rapidly. The proportion of people aged 65 and over has been increasing steadily, and this trend is expected to continue in the coming decades. This demographic shift has significant

implications for the country's economy, social welfare system, and overall societal structure.

On the one hand, an aging population can lead to increased healthcare costs, a shrinking workforce, and a decline in economic growth. On the other hand, it can also create opportunities for new industries and services that cater to the needs of older people.

To address the challenges posed by an aging population, the Chinese government has implemented a range of policies and initiatives, including increasing the retirement age, developing a comprehensive social security system, and promoting technological innovation in healthcare and eldercare.

According to the National Bureau of Statistics of China, the proportion of people aged 60 and above in the population was 18.7% in 2020, up from 13.3% in 2010. This trend is expected to continue, and by 2050, it is projected that over a third of the population will be over 60 years old.

This aging trend has significant implications for China's economy and society. An aging population means a smaller workforce, which could put pressure on the country's economic growth. It also means increased demand for healthcare and social welfare services, which could strain the government's resources.

To address these challenges, the Chinese government has implemented policies to encourage couples to have more children, including allowing couples to have two children if either parent is an only child. However, it is unclear whether these policies will be enough to reverse the trend of population aging in the long term.

In addition to the policy changes, the Chinese government has also been promoting innovation and technological advancements to help address the

challenges of an aging population. For example, the government has invested in the development of assistive technologies to help elderly citizens live independently for longer, such as smart homes and wearable devices.

The aging trend in China also has implications for the country's healthcare system. With an increasing number of elderly citizens, there will be a higher demand for healthcare services, especially for chronic diseases that are more common among the elderly, such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. The Chinese government has recognized this challenge and has been investing in healthcare infrastructure and training more healthcare professionals to meet the growing demand for services.

Another issue associated with population aging is the potential for a shrinking workforce, which could put pressure on the economy. To address this, the Chinese government has been implementing policies to encourage labor force participation, including measures to encourage older workers to continue working and to integrate migrant workers into the labor market.

Overall, the trend of population aging in China is a complex issue that has significant implications for the country's economy, society, and healthcare system. While the Chinese government has implemented policies and initiatives to address these challenges, it remains to be seen whether they will be effective in the long term. The population growth trend and prospects of the aging process in China are complex issues that require careful consideration and proactive measures to ensure the country's long-term social and economic stability.

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