

# Recent Migration Trends in China: Geographic and Demographic Aspects and Development Implications.

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# Outline

- **Why study internal migration patterns in China?**
- **Definition and Data sources**
- **Changing Patterns of migration 2000-2010 (magnitude, interprovincial vs. intraprovincial, spatial patterns, reasons for migration, return migration)**
- **Development implications**

# Motivations to study migration in China

- **Large size of China's migrant population: major component of demographic process**
- **Related to China's development model and if that is sustainable**
- **The well-being of migrant population increasingly a major concern as inequality in Chinese society widens**
- **New patterns of migration and new paths of development**
- **The well-being of migrant children and left behind children in rural China**

# Definitions

- **First, we need to define China's household registration system (hukou system)**
- **Hukou started in 1958 that governs where a person lives and what benefits a person is entitled to. E.g. rural hukou vs. urban hukou**
- **Geographic unit: province, county**
- **Time dimension, a person needs to have stayed in destination for a minimum of 6 months to be counted a migrant**

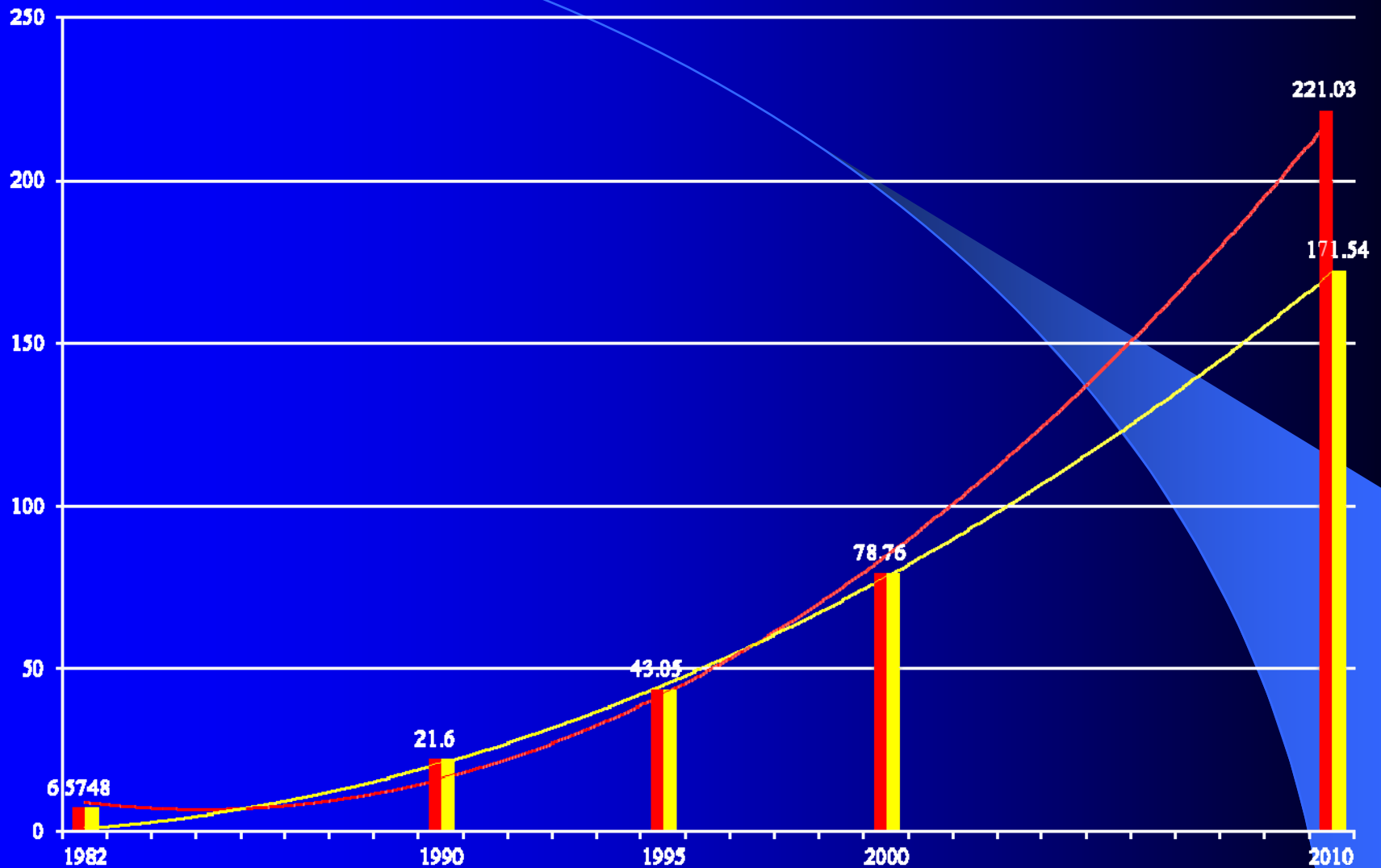
# Definitions (continued)

- **In this presentation:**  
**migrants=floating population**
- **E.g. interprovincial**  
**migrants=interprovincial floating population,**  
**refer to people who live in province A, but**  
**actually officially registered in province B,**  
**have stayed in destination province A for at**  
**least 6 months**
- **Intra-provincial cross-county migrants:**  
**people who are registered in county A, but**  
**have resided in county B for at least 6**  
**months**

# Data

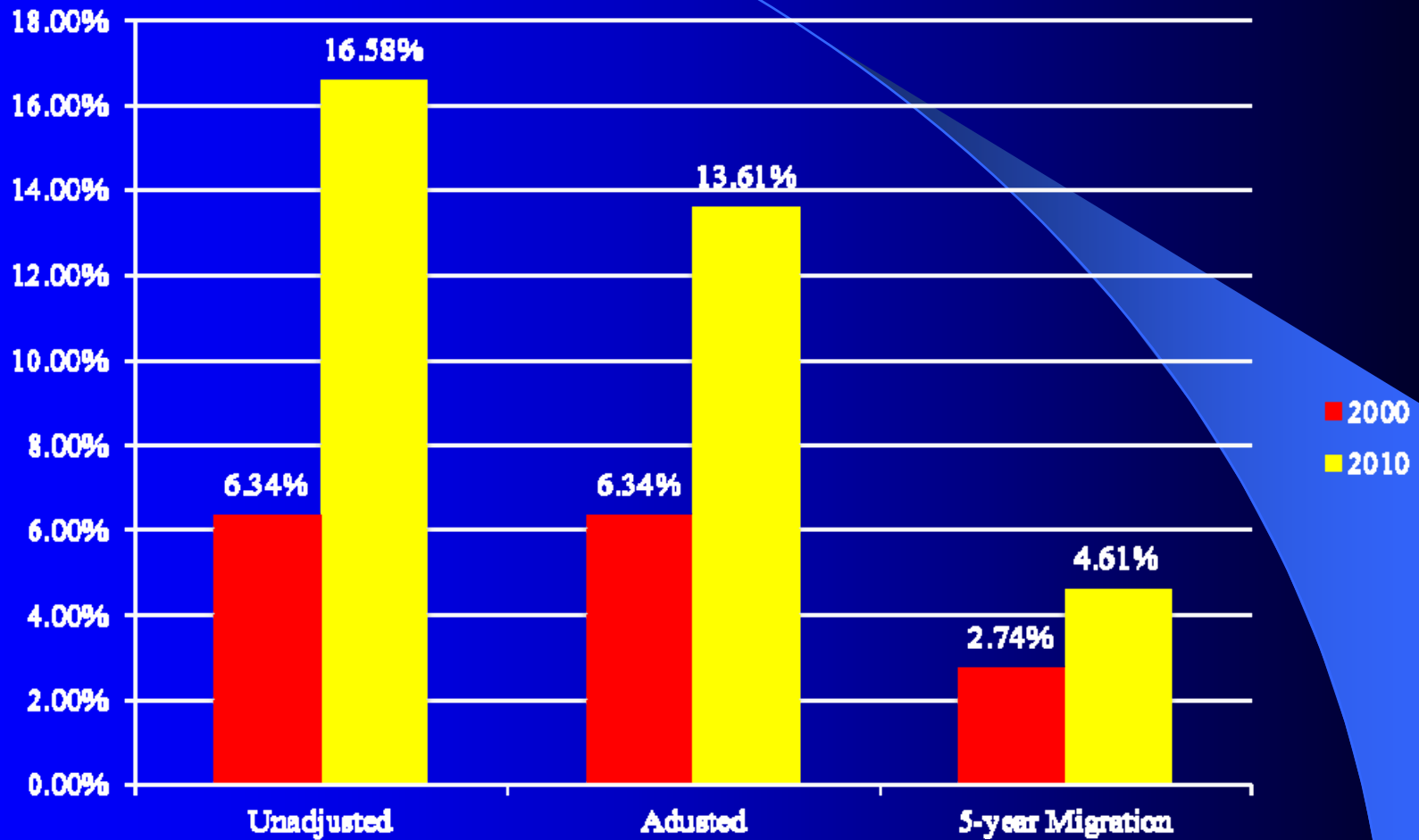
- **Tabulations from the 2000 Chinese population census (NBS, 2002)**
- **Tabulations from the 2010 Chinese Population Census (NBS, 2012)**
- **Tabulations from the 2005 China 1% Population Sample Survey (NBS, 2007)**

# Figure 1: Trend of Floating Population in China, 1982-2010



Sources: PCO 1985: Table 2, p. 559; PCO 1993: Table 1-2, p.6; PCO 2002: Table 1-4, p.15; PCO 2012: Table 7-1, p.458-459. The volume of the floating population counted from the place of origin in 1995 is obtained from the Division of Sociodemographics, National Bureau of Statistics.

**Figure 2: Floating Population as Share of Total Population, 2000 and 2010**



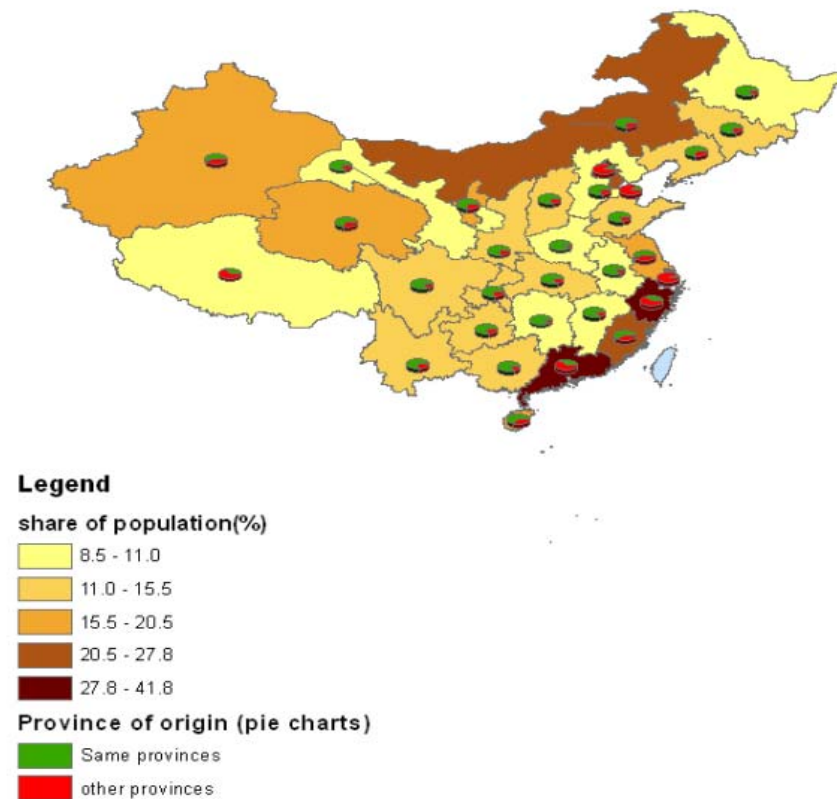
Sources: PCO 2002: Table 1-2 (p.10) and Table 7-1 (p.726) PCO 2012: Table 7-1, p458-459.



# Map 1: Map of China



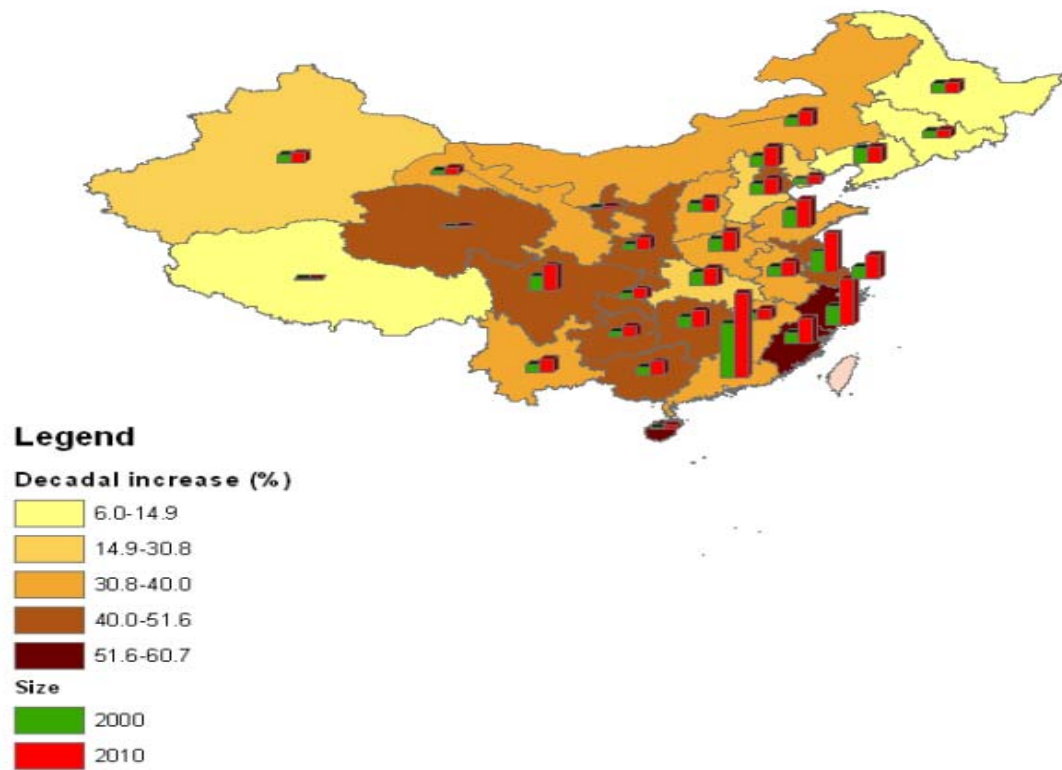
## Map 2: Proportion of Floating Population by Province, China, 2010



Note: floating population refers to temporary migrants (including 市区内人户分离 and intra-county floating population)

Sources: Data for 2010 are based on table 7-1, p458-459.

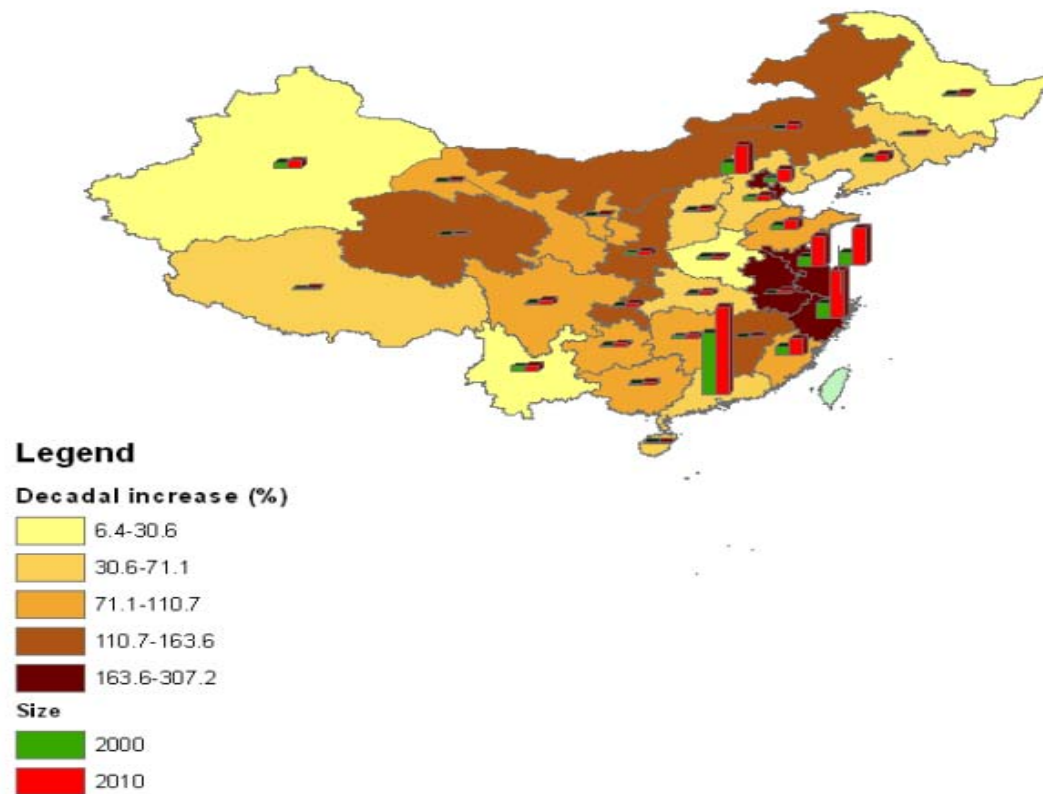
### Map 3: Changing Volume and the Growth Rate of the Floating Population by Province, China, 2000 and 2010



Note: floating population in 2000 and 2010 both refers to temporary migrants (including 市内人口分离 and intra-county floating population)

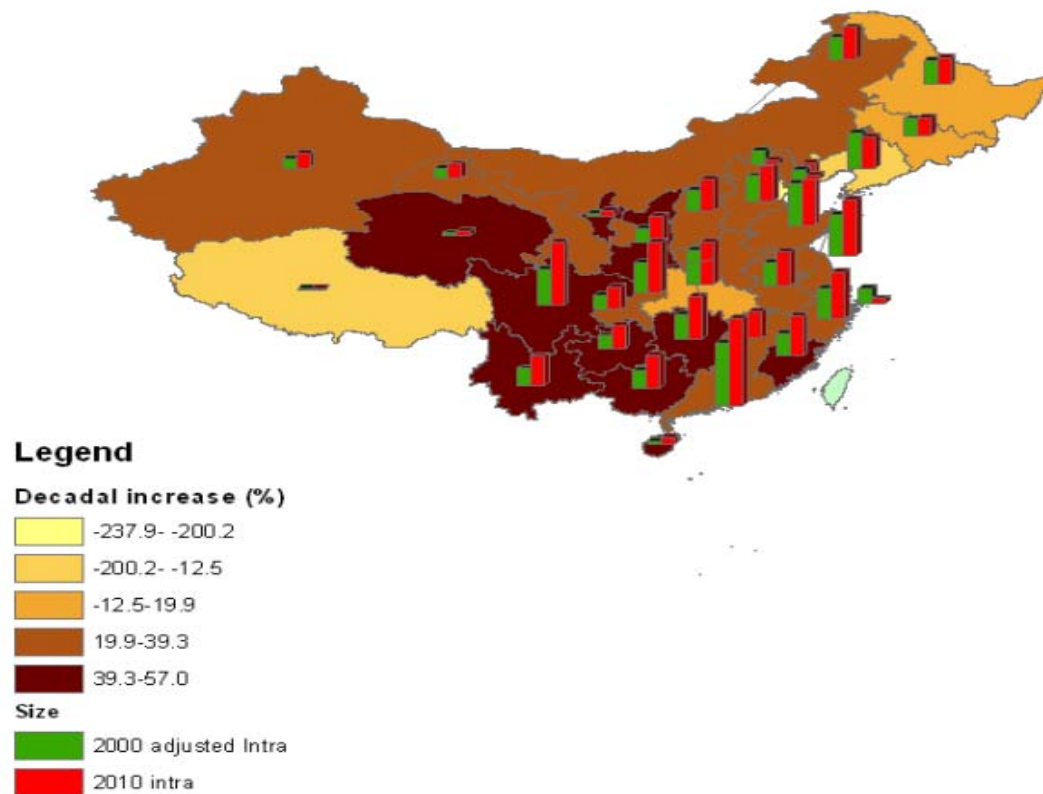
Sources: Data for 2000 are based on 1%0 micro data; Data for 2010 are based on table 7-1, p458-459.

Map 4: Changing Volume and the Growth Rate of the Inter-provincial Floating Population by Province, 2000 and 2010



Sources: Data for 2000 are based on 1% micro data; Data for 2010 are based on table 7-1, p458-459.

Map 5: Changing Volume and the Growth Rate of the Intra-provincial Floating Population by Province, 2000 and 2010



Note: intra-provincial floating population in 2000 and 2010 both includes 市区内人户分离 and intra-county floating population)

Sources: Data for 2000 are based on Table 7-1 (p.726), PCO (2002); Data for 2010 are based on table 7-1, p458-459.

**TABLE 1: Size and Share of the Intra-provincial and Inter-provincial migrants by province, China, 2000 and 2010**

Province	2000			2010		
	Total (1,000)	Percent intra-provincial	Percent inter-provincial	Total (1,000)	Percent intra-provincial	Percent inter-provincial
North						
Beijing	2,603	5.38	94.62	7,759	9.22	90.78
Tianjin	791	7.08	92.92	3,439	13.02	86.98
Hebei	2,131	56.36	43.64	6,675	78.96	21.04
Shanxi	1,459	54.28	45.72	5,520	83.12	16.88
Inner Mogolia	1,773	69.09	30.91	6,129	76.44	23.56
Northeast						
Liaoning	2,306	54.68	45.32	6,333	71.79	28.21
Jilin	945	67.30	32.70	3,150	85.51	14.49
Heilongjiang	1,794	78.43	21.57	4,215	87.99	12.01
East						
Shanghai	4,360	28.10	71.90	9,614	6.63	93.37
Jiangsu	5,007	49.33	50.67	15,666	52.89	47.10
Zhejiang	5,426	32.01	67.99	18,619	36.49	63.51
Anhui	1,184	80.57	19.43	5,671	87.35	12.65
Fujian	3,807	43.66	56.34	10,244	57.89	42.11
Jiangxi	1,008	74.90	25.10	4,470	86.58	13.42
Shandong	2,687	61.56	38.44	11,336	81.34	18.66
Central and south						
Henan	2,012	76.34	23.66	8,038	92.63	7.37
Hubei	2,239	72.76	27.24	7,326	86.16	13.84
Hunan	1,770	80.28	19.72	6,861	89.43	10.57
Guangdong	21,054	28.45	71.55	34,319	37.36	62.64
Guangxi	1,843	76.78	23.22	5,568	84.88	15.12
Hainan	654	41.59	58.41	1,664	64.63	35.37
Southwest						
Chongqing	884	54.41	45.59	4,243	77.72	22.28
Sichuan	2,748	80.49	19.51	10,387	89.14	10.86
Guizhou	1,254	67.38	32.62	4,147	81.59	18.41
Yunnan	2,512	53.66	46.34	5,560	77.76	22.24
Tibet	151	29.14	70.86	262	36.84	63.16
Northwest						
Shannxi	1,041	59.08	40.92	4,940	80.27	19.73
Gansu	717	68.20	31.80	2,599	83.34	16.66
Qinghai	308	59.74	40.26	993	67.93	32.07
Ningxia	367	47.68	52.32	1,293	71.49	28.51
Xinjiang	1,917	26.40	73.60	3,990	55.09	44.90
China	78,752	46.14	53.86	221,031	61.15	38.85
					2010 Adjusted Percentages	
					49.94	50.06

Sources: Data for 2000 are based on Table 7-1 (p.726), PCO (2002); Data for 2010 are based on table 7-1, p458-459.

**TABLE 2. Changing spatial distribution of floating population: 2000-2010**

	Year	The Pearl River Delta	The Yangtze River Delta
<b>Inter-Provincial Floating Population</b>	2000	<b>35.5%</b>	<b>22.1%</b>
	2010	<b>25.0%</b>	<b>32.8%</b>
<b>Intra-Provincial Floating Population</b>	2000	<b>16.5%</b>	<b>14.9%</b>
	2010	<b>9.5%</b>	<b>11.6%</b>
<b>Total Floating Population</b>	2000	<b>26.7%</b>	<b>18.8%</b>
	2010	<b>15.5%</b>	<b>19.9%</b>

Note: Intra-provincial floating population in 2000 does not contain intra-county floating population; Intra-provincial floating population in 2010 include intra-county floating population.

Sources: Data for 2000 are based on Table 7-1 (p.726), PCO (2002); Data for 2010 are based on table 7-1, p458-459.

### TABLE 3. Reasons of Migration

	Reason for Migration, 2000 (%) <sup>b</sup>									Number
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	(1,000)
<b>2000</b>										
<b>Total</b>	45.93	3.29	1.50	6.91	11.15	5.97	13.45	6.02	5.78	80,268
<b>Intra-Provincial Floating Pop</b>	29.20	4.25	2.23	9.83	17.01	7.79	15.94	6.75	7.01	51,228
<b>Inter-Provincial Floating Pop</b>	75.44	1.59	0.22	1.77	0.82	2.75	9.06	4.73	3.61	29,040
	Reason for Migration, 2010 (%) <sup>c</sup>									Number
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	(1,000)
<b>2010</b>										
<b>Total</b>	45.12	3.85	0.72	11.41	9.30	4.83	14.17	4.21	6.39	260,938
<b>Intra-Provincial Floating Pop</b>	30.62	4.53	1.00	14.86	13.44	5.94	16.56	4.68	8.37	175,062
<b>Inter-Provincial Floating Pop</b>	74.68	2.48	0.14	4.39	0.86	2.56	9.29	3.26	2.34	85,876

Note:

a. Reasons for Migration: 1= Manual labor or business; 2= Job transfer; 3= Job assignment(2000)/Jigua(2010); 4= Education or training; 5=Demolition of old residences or moving; 6= Marriage migration; 7= Dependents of migrants; 8= Joining relatives or friends; 9= Others.

b. Distribution of reasons for migration **between 1995 and 2000** among temporary migrants including市区内人户分离 and intra-county floating population) in the top panel is derived from 2000 1%<sub>0</sub> micro-level data.

c. Distribution of reasons for migration among temporary migrants (including市区内人户分离 and intra-county floating population) in the bottom panel is derived from the macro-level census data.



**TABLE 4: Size and Distribution of the Floating Population and the Intra-provincial Floating Population by Origin and Destination: China, 2010**

	Destination			
	City (1,000)	Town (1,000)	Rural(1,000)	Total (1,000)
<b>Origin</b>				
All Floating Population From				
City	5,450	488	344	6,282
Town	1,679	767	287	2,733
Rural	9,095	3,745	2,500	15,340
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,224</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>3,131</b>	<b>24,355</b>
<b>Origin</b>				
Intra-Provincial Floating Population From				
City	4,767	408	289	5,464
Town	1,205	656	229	2,090
Rural	4,811	2,713	1,343	8,867
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,783</b>	<b>3,777</b>	<b>1,861</b>	<b>16,421</b>
	Destination			
	City (%)	Town (%)	Rural (%)	Total (%)
<b>Percent by Origin</b>				
All Floating Population From				
City	33.59	9.76	10.99	25.79
Town	10.35	15.34	9.17	11.22
Rural	56.06	74.90	79.85	62.99
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Percent by Origin</b>				
Intra-provincial Floating Population From				
City	44.21	10.80	15.53	33.37
Town	11.17	17.37	12.31	12.73
Rural	44.62	71.83	72.17	53.99
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Note: Intra-provincial floating population include intra-county floating population and does not include 市区内人户分离.

Sources: PCO 2012 table 7-1 p.2117; table 7-1 p2120.

# Definition of return migration

- **Interprovincial return migrants in province A is defined as “individuals who lived in province A in 2005, moved to another province B during 2005-2010 and lived in province A at the time of the 2010 Chinese Census. This is a measure of interprovincial migration during five-year interval.”**

# Return migration and rural transformation: local context

- **County government officials visit migrants during Chinese New Year holiday and encourage return migration**
- **Local government promotes return migration by giving specific policies for return migrant workers who start businesses.**

# Return migration: the larger context

- **Take advantage of China's western development policy , big investment in infrastructure in western China**
- **The most important thing that western development policy is public infrastructure. Including building of highway.**
- **Global financial crisis since 2008, closing of some factories in coastal China**

**TABLE 3: Patterns of Interprovincial Return Migration Flow from Guangdong to Sichuan and Hunan, 2000-2010**

Sichuan				Hunan			
Province 5 Years Ago	2005	Province 5 Years Ago	2010	Province 5 Years Ago	2005	Province 5 Years Ago	2010
<b>Guangdong</b>	<b>276,400</b> (27.34%)	Chongqing	173,570 (16.45%)	<b>Guangdong</b>	<b>309,200</b> (46.57%)	<b>Guangdong</b>	<b>205,550</b> (29.8%)
Chongqing	119,600 (11.83%)	<b>Guangdong</b>	<b>147,270</b> (13.95%)	Hubei	69,600 (10.48%)	Hubei	81,040 (11.75%)
Yunnan	79,000 (7.81%)	Yunnan	75,490 (7.15%)	Zhejiang	31,300 (4.71%)	Jiangxi	37,420 (5.42%)
Zhejiang	66,500 (6.58%)	Zhejiang	61,090 (5.79%)	Guizhou	31,300 (4.25%)	Guizhou	36,580 (5.30%)
Fujian	38,400 (3.80%)	Hubei	50,290 (4.77%)	Guangxi	27,300 (4.11%)	Guangxi	33,610 (4.87%)
All Other Provinces	431,200 (42.65%)	All Other Provinces	547,640 (51.9%)	All Other Provinces	198,400 (29.88%)	All Other Provinces	295,530 (42.85%)

Note: data for the 2005 survey have been adjusted to reflect it was a 1% sample survey. Data for the 2010 census have been adjusted to reflect it was a 10% sample.

Sources: 2005 1% Survey, Table 12-8, p816-818; PCO 2012, Table 7-8, p 2188-2191, long form.

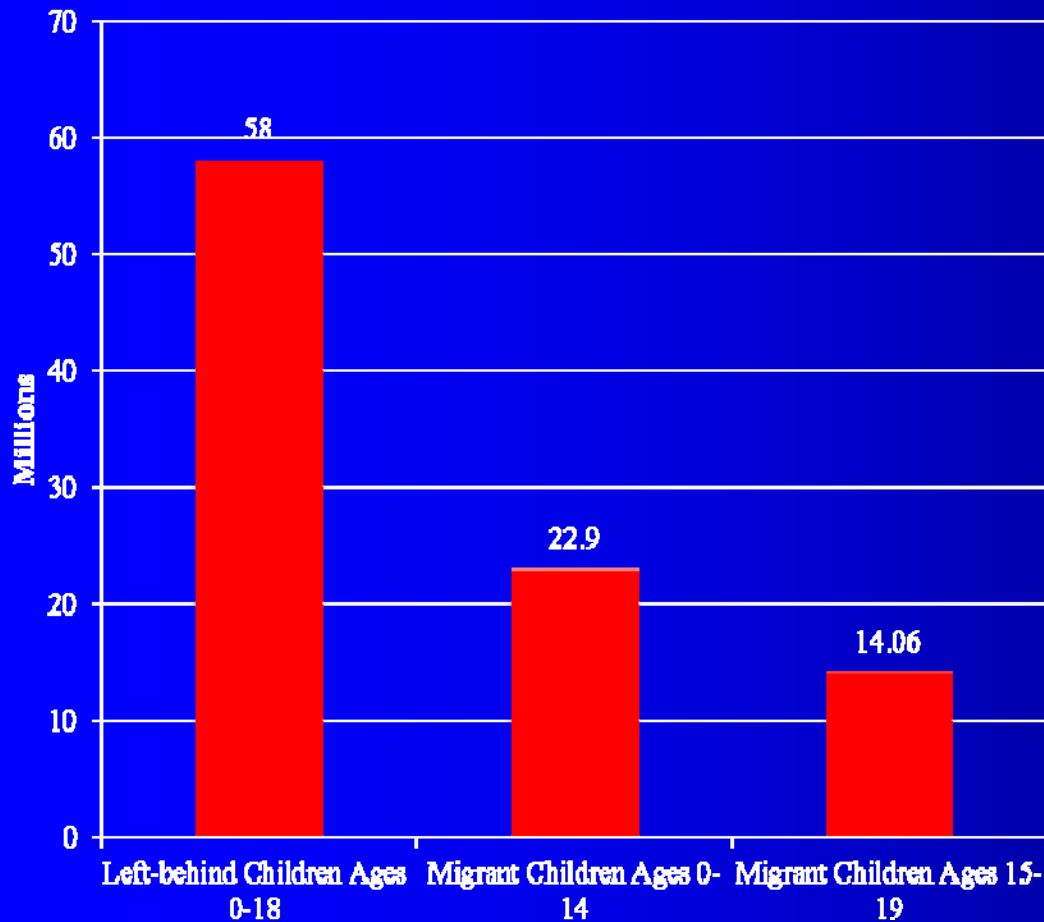
# Forgotten Story of China's Urbanization: migrant children

- **Migrant children who live in urban China: estimated to be around 37 million in 2010. Big challenge for them is education.**
- **They have three choices: local public schools (high costs), migrant sponsored schools, private schools.**
- **Another challenge: college entrance exam (between central government and local government, inequality of edu resources).**

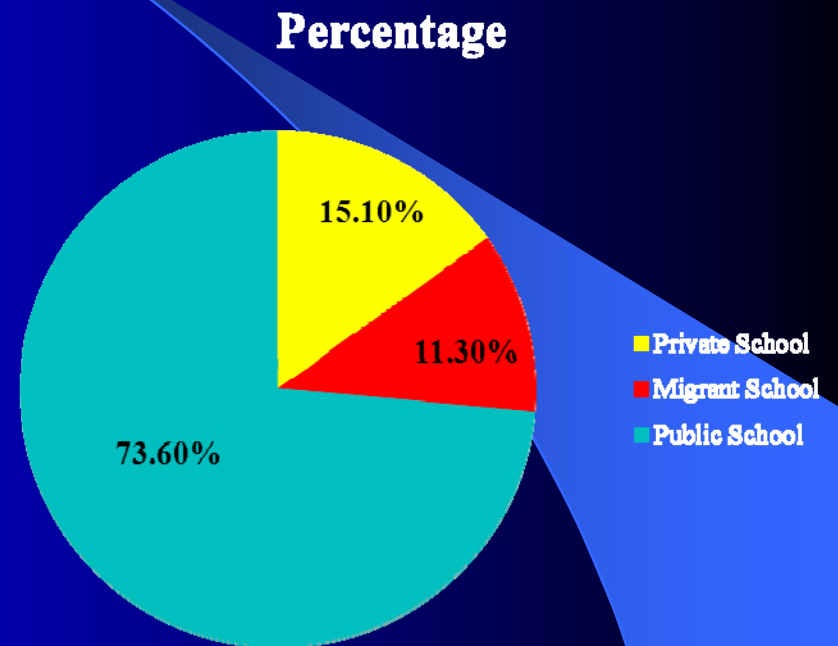
# Another Story of Neglect: children left behind

- **Recent New York Times report.**
- **Left behind children: children with at least one parent migrated to cities. Most of them stay with grand parents.**
- **Current estimate of 58-60 million of left behind children.**
- **Main issues: education (school enrollment, school performance), mental health issues, household chores, sometime farm work, and delinquent behavior.**

**FIGURE 4: Number of Children left behind and Migrant Children**



**FIGURE 5: Distribution of Migrant Children by School types**



Sources: The number of migrant children is derived from Table 7-2a, Pp472-473. The number of left-behind children is got from China Labor Bulletin.



# Summary

- **There has been a major shift in migration patterns in China during 2000-2010.**
- **Although we see an increase in both inter-provincial and intraprovincial migration, the increase in intraprovincial migration is much more dramatic.**
- **There is a tendency to move toward Yantze River delta than the Pearl River Delta region.**
- **City as important player in migration.**
- **There is a tendency to move toward Yantze River delta than the Pearl River Delta region.**

## Summary (continued)

- **Increase in return migration during the decade of 2000-2010. This is a silver lining of some sorts because it ultimately helps reunion with parents for many left behind children.**
- **Return migrant entrepreneurs provide job opportunities for return migrant workers and local residents and serve as catalysts for China's rural development.**
- **Return migration reduces labor supply to China coastal region, forcing employers to further raise wages.**