

**The story of income and consumption poverty -  
the poverty line, number of poor individuals, in rural areas and cities**

year	rural areas										
	official: income (and consumption)						WB: income			WB: consumption	
	poor rural individuals			poor rural individuals			poor rural individuals			poor rural individuals	
	total million	%	poverty line - LG	total million	%	poverty line - NSB	total million	%	poverty line - WB	total million	%
1978	250	30.7	100								
1981	194	24.3				539	66		652	80	
1984	128	15.1	200			262	31		446	53	
1985	125	14.8	206								
1986	131	15.5	213								
1987	122	14.3	227			192	22		330	39	
1988	96	11.1	236								
1989	102	11.6	259								
1990	85	9.4	268								
1990	97	10.8	300			268	30		400	47	
1991	94	10.4	304								
1992	80	8.8	317								
1993	80	8.7	400			252	28		359	39	
1994	70	7.7	440								
1995	65.4	7.1	530								
1996	58.0	6.3	580								
1997	49.6	5.4	640								
1998	42.1	4.6	635	86.6	9.5	880					
1999	34.1	3.7	625	90.0	9.8	865					
2000	32.1	3.5	625	94.2	10.2	865					
2001	29.3	3.2	630	90.3	9.8	872	98	10.5	196	21.0	
2002	28.2	3.0	627	86.5	9.2	869			874		
2003	29.0	3.1	637	85.2	9.1	882	89	9.5	888	168	17.9
2004	26.1	2.8	668	75.9	8.1	924	77	8.2		135	14.3
2005	23.7	2.5	683	64.3	6.8	944				89	9.4
2006	21.5	2.3	693	57.0	6.1	958				63	6.7
2007	14.8	1.6	785	43.2	4.7	1067				50	5.4
2008				40.1		1196					



The official national poverty lines calculated by the Chinese government as well as the international standard poverty line of \$ 1 per capita a day calculated by the World Bank are based on the same statistical data, the annual NSB collected household surveys.

As to the cities the dibao line from the city "minimum living garanty system" is used as the poverty line.

Because of the low official absolute poverty line very few rural migrant workers are counted as poor among the rural poor.

In the 2004 common NBS-World Bank Special Purpose Village Level Survey the poverty among the migrant workers was covered too.

In 2003, according to income poverty 8,2 mio migrant workers or 6,5% of the total 125,8 mio migrant workers were found poor

And according to consumption poverty 9,8 mio or 15,8% of the total 125,8 mio migrant workers were found poor.

#### **Sources:**

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**Peasant per capita net income and the poverty line in rural areas**

year	average income		poverty line			average income		poverty line	
	yuan		yuan	% of income		yuan		yuan	% of income
1978	134		100	75		1995	1,578	530	34
1984	355		200	56		1996	1,926	580	30
1985	398		206	52		1997	2,090	640	31
1986	424		213	50		1998	2,162	635	29
1987	463		227	49		1999	2,210	625	28
1988	545		236	43		2000	2,253	625	28
1989	602		259	43		2001	2,366	630	27
1990	630		268	43		2002	2,476	627	25
1990	686		300	44		2003	2,622	637	24
1991	709		304	43		2004	2,936	668	23
1992	784		317	40		2005	3,255	683	21
1993	922		400	43		2006	3,587	693	19
1994	1,221		440	36		2007	4,140	785	19







