



# AUSTRALIA NEEDS SKILLS FACT SHEET

## SHANGHAI EXPO, CHINA

The cultural capital of China, Shanghai was chosen as a location for an Australia Needs Skills expo because of its convenient location in a country able to provide resources and manufacturing industry workers to Australian employers.

China is one of the world's major mineral-producing countries. Coal is China's most abundant mineral, and it is mined throughout the country.

Tungsten, antimony, tin, magnesium, molybdenum, mercury, manganese, barite, and salt are China's leading export minerals. Ranked among the world's top producers of antimony, magnesium, tin, tungsten, zinc, salt, gold, lead ore and aluminium, China also has deposits of vanadium, magnetite, copper, fluorite, nickel, asbestos, phosphate rock, pyrite, and sulphur.

One of the world's great seaports, Shanghai is China's largest city and conveniently located for travellers. An Australia Needs Skills expo in Shanghai will attract skilled workers who are interested in living and working in Australia from not only the People's Republic of China, but southern China.

Shanghai is China's leading industrial city; with large steelworks, textile mills, shipbuilding yards, oil-refining and gas extracting plants, diamond-processing operations, and plants making light and heavy machinery, electrical, electronic, and computer equipment, machine tools, turbines, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, aircraft, tractors, motor vehicles, plastics, and consumer goods.

Second to Beijing, Shanghai is China's foremost educational centre and houses four universities, three medical colleges and numerous technological and scientific institutes. Shanghai has an astronomical observatory and many research institutes and learned societies.

Seminars held in China promoting skilled migration to Australia to date, have attracted considerable interest from engineers and other professionals with good English language skills. Skilled Chinese workers have also shown significant interest in manufacturing positions in Australia.

In 2004-05 skilled migration visas issued to citizens of China covered a range of occupations in demand. In addition to IT professionals, the top 10 occupations in demand filled by migrants from China were:

1. accountants
2. cooks
3. civil engineers
4. nurses
5. chefs
6. chemical engineers
7. hairdressers
8. pastrycooks
9. hairdressers
10. refrigeration and air-conditioning mechanics

## OTHER FACTS ABOUT CHINA

<b>Capital:</b>	Beijing, 9,376,200 (metro. area), 6,619,000 (city proper).
<b>Largest cities:</b>	Shanghai, 12,039,900 (metro. area), 9,005,600 (city proper); Tianjin (Tientsin), 4,333,900; Wuhan, 3,959,700; Shenyang (Mukden), 3,574,100; Guangzhou, 3,473,800; Haerbin, 2,904,900; Xian, 2,642,100; Chungking (Chongqing) 2,370,100; Chengdu, 2,011,000; Hong Kong (Xianggang), 1,361,200.
<b>Principal languages:</b>	Standard Chinese (Mandarin/Putonghua), Yue (Cantonese), Wu (Shanghaiese), Minbei (Fuzhou), Minnan (Hokkien-Taiwanese), Xiang, Gan, Hakka dialects, minority languages.
<b>Ethnicity/race:</b>	Han Chinese 91.9 per cent, Zhuang, Uygur, Hui, Yi, Tibetan, Miao, Manchu, Mongol, Buyi, Korean, and other nationalities 8.1 per cent.
<b>Religions:</b>	Officially atheist; Christian 3.4 per cent; Daoist (Taoist), Buddhist, Muslim 12 per cent. (2002 est.)
<b>Literacy rate:</b>	86 per cent (2003 est.)
<b>Economic summary:</b>	GDP/PPP (2004 est.): \$7.262 trillion; per capita \$5,600. Real growth rate: 9.1 per cent (official data). Inflation: 4.1 per cent. Unemployment: urban unemployment roughly 9.8 per cent; substantial unemployment and underemployment in rural areas. Arable land: 15 per cent. Agriculture: rice, wheat, potatoes, corn, peanuts, tea, millet, barley, apples, cotton, oilseed, pork, fish. Labour force: 760.8 million (2003); agriculture 49 per cent, industry 22 per cent, services 29 per cent (2003 est.).
<b>Industries:</b>	mining and ore processing, iron, steel, aluminium, and other metals; coal; machine building; armaments; textiles and apparel; petroleum; cement; chemicals; fertilizers; consumer products, including footwear, toys, and electronics; food processing; transportation equipment, including automobiles, rail cars and locomotives, ships, and aircraft; telecommunications equipment, commercial space launch vehicles and satellites.
<b>Natural resources:</b>	coal, iron ore, petroleum, natural gas, mercury, tin, tungsten, antimony, manganese, molybdenum, vanadium, magnetite, aluminium, lead, zinc, uranium, hydropower potential (world's largest).
<b>Exports:</b>	\$583.1 billion (f.o.b., 2004 est.): machinery and equipment, plastics, optical and medical equipment, iron and steel.
<b>Imports:</b>	\$552.4 billion (f.o.b., 2004 est.): machinery and equipment, oil and mineral fuels, plastics, optical and medical equipment, organic chemicals, iron and steel.
<b>Major trading partners:</b>	United States, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Germany, Taiwan (2003).