

Asia-Pacific Population Journal

Article **China: A Unique Urbanization Model**

Author ***G. Edward Ebanks and Chaoze Cheng***

Abstract This paper examines the growth of urbanization in China since 1950. The data are from censuses and Chinese demographic publications. Indices of urban primacy and Gini concentration ratios have been used. The rate of growth of the urban population has fluctuated up and down, but on average has been relatively low. The Government has controlled these urbanization processes through official explicit plans and programmes. To date, because of government control, China has avoided the run-away urbanization and accompanying urban problems associated with developing countries. However, because of the size of the overall Chinese population, the number of people living in urban centres is larger than the total population of any country except India, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America. Even a small percentage increase in the urban population of China results in a net addition of millions of people to the urban centres. China has no alternative but to attempt to control its population growth and the growth of its urban population.

[Print this abstract](#)

[more ...](#)

