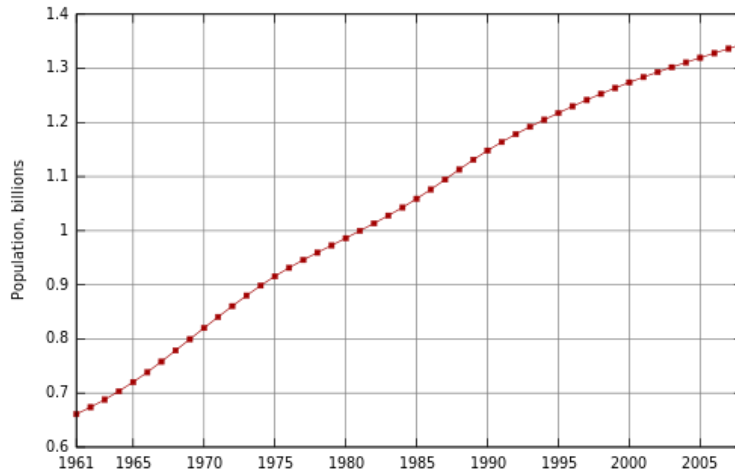


ONE-CHILD POLICY

Country: China	Continent: Asia	Date Started: Introduced 1978 and initially applied 1979
<p>Why Was The Policy Introduced? What Were Its Aims?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ China's government realised the country was heading towards famine in 1970 unless drastic changes were made quickly ◇ Changes to the industrial economy at the expense of farming has already contributed to the famine from 1959 – 1961 when 35 million people died. ◇ A 'baby-boom' followed and the population was growing too fast to be sustainable ◇ The government stepped in to avoid another crisis 	<p>How Were Couples Penalised For Going Against The Policy?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ A 10 per cent salary cut was enforced ◇ The fine imposed was so large it would bankrupt many households ◇ The family would have to pay for the education of both children and for healthcare for all the family ◇ Second children who were board abroad where not penalised, but they were not allowed to become Chinese citizens 	
<p>What Were The Benefits Of The Policy?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ The population growth slowed down sufficiently for people to have enough food and jobs ◇ Standard of living has improved through increased technology and exploitation of resources ◇ New industries have lifted millions out of poverty ◇ Pollution and overcrowding has decreased 	<p>What Were The Problems Of The Policy?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Women were forced to have abortions as late as nine months into the pregnancy ◇ Woman were placed under tremendous pressure from their families, workmates, the 'Granny Police' and their own conscience and feelings ◇ Local officials and central government had power over people's private lives ◇ Chinese society prefers sons over daughters. Some girls are placed in 	

	<p>orphanages or allowed to die in the hope of having a son the second time round</p> <p>◇ Chinese children have a reputation for being over-indulged because they are only children, hence the name 'Little Emperors'</p>
<p>How Has The Policy Changed Between 1990s and 2000s?</p> <p>◇ Young couples who are both only children are allowed two children, but government workers must set an example and only have one</p> <p>◇ Beginning in 2009, eligible couples in Shanghai were encouraged to have two children in part to address concerns about taking care of an aging population</p>	<p>Why Were These Changes Allowed?</p> <p>◇ People are richer now than back in the days it was first created meaning people can easily afford to pay the fines</p> <p>◇ China is not doing away with the one-child policy, which still largely applies to urban residents, but is allowing more exceptions to the rule. Shanghai, with 20 million residents one of China's biggest cities, is leading the effort</p> <p>◇ The response has been very disappointing. Few people have registered for the program and few additional babies have been born. Officials in Shanghai told the Washington Post they think that financial considerations are probably the main reason couples don't want more children</p>



The graph shows the population in China between 1961 and 2005.

Do you think China's One-Child Policy worked?

Don't forget to explain your answer to increase your level

Many people think Chinese government had no right in placing the One-Child Policy. Why might some think this? Remember the Chinese government and people may not see everything in the same way as outsiders

Remember to explain your reasons

Reason	Explanation

We cannot just be content with the current success. We must make population control a permanent policy
Adapted from the People's Daily (China's Communist Party newspaper), 2000

Beijing mother-of-one, Zhou Hui, who has a four-year-old daughter called Zhang Jin'ao, says she never wanted more than one child. 'One child is enough. I'm too busy at work to have any more,' says the 38-year old

Adapted from BBC News website news.bbc.co.uk, 20th September 2007