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Macro Roundup Article

Headline: When Will China's GDP Overtake America's?

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Tweet: Wall Street analysts and think tanks have reduced their estimates of future Chinese economic growth, pushing out the date when China will overtake the US. The Economist Intelligence Unit currently projects this will occur in 2039.

Summary: Postponements of China's date with economic destiny have cast some doubt on whether it will ever happen. The country's productivity growth has slowed, and its demographics have turned. China's workforce is already shrinking, a decline that will probably accelerate in future decades. The UN projects that China's population aged 15-64 will decline by more than 100m in the 2030s. If China's GDP does not overtake America's by the middle of that decade, it may never do so, according to Capital Economics, a research firm. The OECD, the Lowy Institute, and the Centre for Economics and Business Research, project that China's GDP will overtake America's at some point in the 2030s. The Economist Intelligence Unit thinks it will happen in 2039. That prediction is strikingly close to Goldman Sachs's original date [of 2041], set 20 years ago.

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