Coordinates: 35°N 96°E



Qinghai

Qinghai (動 青海; formerly romanised as Tsinghai or Kokonur^[5]), is a province of the People's Republic of China located in the northwest of the country. As one of the largest province-level administrative divisions of China by area, the province is ranked fourth-largest in area, and has the third-smallest population

Located mostly on the <u>Tibetan Plateau</u>, the province has long been a melting pot for a number of ethnic groups including the <u>Han</u>, <u>Tibetans</u>, <u>Hui</u>, <u>Tu</u>, <u>Mongols</u>, and <u>Salars</u>. Qinghai borders <u>Gansu</u> on the northeast, <u>Xinjiang</u> on the northwest, <u>Sichuan</u> on the southeast, and the <u>Tibet Autonomous Region</u> on the southwest. Qinghai province was established in 1928 under the <u>Republic of China</u> period during which it was ruled by <u>Chinese Muslim</u> warlords known as the <u>Ma clique</u>. The <u>Chinese name</u>, "Qinghai" is named after <u>Qinghai Lake</u> (*cyan sea lake*), the largest lake in China. The province was known formerly as Kokonur in English, derived from th<u>Oirat</u> name for Qinghai Lake.

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History

Qinghai Province

青海省

Province

Name transcription(s)

• Chinese 青海省 (Qīnghǎi

Shěng)

• Abbreviation QH / 青 (pinyin: Qīng)



Map showing the location of Qinghai Province

Coordinates: 35°N 96°E

Named for	Derived from the name
	of Qinghai Lake
	("blue/green lake").

Capital Xining (and largest city)

Divisions 8 prefectures, 43 counties, 429

townships

Government

 Secretary 	Wang Jianjun
 Governor 	Liu Ning

Area^[1]

• **Total** 720,000 km²

(280,000 sq mi)

Area rank 4th

Population (2010)[2]

Highest elevation

• Total 5,626,722 • Rank 30th

• **Density** 7.8/km² (20/sq mi)

• Density rank 30th

Demographics

• Ethnic Han - 54% composition Tibetan - 2

Tibetan - 21% Hui - 16% Tu - 4%

6,860 m (22,510 ft)

During China's <u>Bronze Age</u>, Qinghai was home to the <u>Qiang people</u> who traditionally made a living in agriculture and husbandry, the <u>Kayue culture</u>. The eastern part of the area of Qinghai was under the control of the <u>Han dynasty</u> about 2000 years ago. It was a battleground during the <u>Tang</u> and subsequent Chinese dynasties when they fought against successive <u>Tibetan</u> tribes.^[6]

In the middle of 3rd century CE, nomadic people related to the Mongolic Xianbei migrated to pasture lands around the Qinghai Lake (Koko Nur) and established the Tuyuhun Kingdom. In the 7th century, Tuyuhun Kingdom was attacked by both the Tibetan Empire and Tang dynasty as both of them sought control over trade routes. Military conflicts severely weakened the kingdom and it was incorporated into the Tibetan Empire. After the disintegration of the Tibetan Empire, small local factions emerged, some under the titular authority of China. The Song dynasty defeated the Tibetan Kokonor Kingdom in the 1070s. During the Yuan dynasty's administrative rule of Tibet, the region comprising the headwaters of the Yellow and



The Khoshut Khanate (1642–1717) based in the Tibetan Plateau

Yangtze rivers - what
modern Tibetan nationalists call
"Amdo" - was apportioned to
different administrative divisions than
Tibet proper. [8]

Most of Qinghai was once also a short time under the control of early Ming dynasty, but later gradually lost to the Khoshut Khanate founded by the

Oirats. The Xunhua Salar Autonomous County is where most Salar people live in Qinghai. The Salars migrated to Qinghai from Samarkand in 1370.^[9] The chief of the four upper clans around this time was Han Pao-yuan and Ming granted him office of centurion, it was at this time the people of his four clans took Han as their surname.^[10] The other chief Han Shan-pa of the four lower Salar clans got the same office from Ming, and his clans were the ones who took Ma as their surname.^[11]

From 1640 to 1724, a big part of the area that is now Qinghai was under Khoshut Mongol control, but in that year it was conquered by the armies of the Qing dynasty. [12] It was during the 1720s when Xining Prefecture was established and its borders were roughly those of modern Qinghai province. Xining, the capital of modern Qinghai province was built in this period as the administrative center. During the rule of the Qing dynasty, the governor was a viceroy of the Qing Emperor, but the local ethnic groups enjoyed much autonomy. Many chiefs retained their traditional authority, participating in local administrations. [13] The Dungan revolt (1862–77) devastated the Hui Muslim population of Shaanxi, shifting the Hui center of population to Gansu and Qinghai. [14]:405 Another Dungan revolt broke out in Qinghai in 1895 when various Muslim ethnic groups in Qinghai and Gansu rebelled against the Qing. Following the overthrow of the Qing dynasty in 1911, the region came under Chinese Muslim warlord Ma Qi control until the Northern Expedition by the Republic of China consolidated central control in 1928.

In July–August 1912, General Ma Fuxiang was "Acting Chief Executive Officer of Kokonur" (de facto Governor of the region that later became Qinghai).^[15] In 1928, Qinghai province was created.Previously, it was part of Gansu, as the "Tibetan frontier

• Languages and dialects	Mongol - 1.8% Salar - 1.8% Zhongyuan Mandarin- Chinese, Amdo Tibetan, Monguor, Oirat Mongolian, Salar, and Western Yugur
ISO 3166 code	CN-QH
GDP (2017 ^[3])	CNY 264.28 billion USD 39.14 billion (30th)
• per capita	CNY 44,348 USD 6,568 (23rd)
HDI (2010)	0.638 ^[4] (medium) (27th)
Website	http://www.qh.gov.cn/ (Simplified Chinese)

Qinghai			
青海			
"Qinghai" in Ch	inese characters		
Chines	se name		
Chinese	青海		
Postal	Tsinghai		
Literal meaning	"Qinghai (Lake)"		
Transcriptions			
Standard	l Mandarin		
Hanyu Pinyin	Qīnghǎi		
Bopomofo	く一ム 厂 男~		
Gwoyeu Romatzyh	Chinghae		
Wade–Giles	Chʻing ¹ -hai ³		
IPA	[tɕʰíŋ.xài] (ᢏ) listen)		
V	Vu		
Romanization	Tshin [┯] -he ^上		
На	ıkka		
Romanization	Tshiâng-hói		
Yue: Ca	antonese		
Yale Romanization	Chīnghói		
IPA	[tsʰéŋ.hɔ̌ːy]		
Jyutping	Cing1hoi2		
South	ern Min		
Hokkien POJ	Chheng-hái		
Tâi-lô	Tsheng-hái		



Chiang Kai-shek leader of Nationalist China (right), meets with the Muslim Generals Ma Bufang (second from left), and Ma Buqing (first from left) in Xining, Qinghai in August 1942

district": [16][17] The Muslim warlord and General Ma Qi became military governor of Qinghai, followed by his brother Ma Lin (warlord) and then Ma Qi's son Ma Bufang. In 1932 Tibet invaded Qinghai, attempting to capture southern parts of Qinghai province, following contention in Yushu, Qinghai over a monastery in 1932. The army of Ma Bufang's defeated the Tibetan armies. Governor of Qinghai, Ma Bufang was described as a socialist by American journalist John Roderick and friendly compared to the other Ma Clique warlords.[18] Ma Bufang was reported to be good

	Tibeta	ın name	
Tibetan		ષાષ્ટ્ર. ક્રોંચ.	
Transcri	ptions		
Wylie	mtsho	sngon	
	Mongol	ian name	
Mongolia	n script	रंग्रेग्वर	
Transcri	ptions		
SASM/G	NC	Köke nayur	
	Manch	nu name	
Manchu s	script	र्भवाद्ग	
Romaniz	ation	Huhu Noor	
Oirat name			
Oirat		Kokonur	

humoured and jovial in contrast to the brutal reign of Ma Hongkui. [19] Most of eastern China was ravaged by the Second Sino-Japanese War and the Chinese Civil War, by contrast, Qinghai was relatively untouched.

Ma Bufang increased the prominence of the Hui and Salar people in Qinghai's politics by heavily recruiting to his army from the counties in which those ethnic groups predominated. General Ma started a state run and controlled industrialization project, directly creating educational, medical, agricultural, and sanitation projects, run or assisted by the state. The state provided money for food and uniforms in all schools, state run or private. Roads and a theater were constructed. The state controlled all the press, no freedom was allowed for independent journalists.

As the 1949 Chinese revolution approached Qinghai, Ma Bufang abandoned his post and flew to Hong Kong, traveling abroad but never returning to China. On January 1, 1950, the Qinghai Province People's Government was declared, owing its allegiance to the new People's Republic of China. Aside from some minor adjustments to suit the geography, the PRC maintained the province's territorial integrity. Resistance to Communist rule continued in the form of the Huis' Kuomintang Islamic insurgency (1950-58), spreading past traditionally Hui areas to the ethnic-Tibetan south. Although the Hui comprised 15.6% of Qinghai's population in 1949, making the province the second-largest concentration of Hui after Ningxia, the state denied the Hui ethnic autonomous townships and counties that their numbers warranted under Chinese law until the 1980 1.41.

Geography

Qinghai is located on the northeastern part of the <u>Tibetan Plateau</u>. The <u>Yellow River</u> originates in the southern part of the province, while the <u>Yangtze</u> and <u>Mekong</u> have their sources in the southwestern part. Qinghai is separated by the <u>Riyue Mountain</u> into pastoral and agricultural zones in the west and east.²³

The average elevation of Qinghai is over 3,000 metres (9,800 ft) above sea level. Mountain ranges include the <u>Tanggula Mountains</u> and <u>Kunlun Mountains</u> with the highest point being <u>Bukadaban Feng</u> at 6,860 metres (22,510 ft). Due to the high altitude, Qinghai has quite cold winters (harsh in the highest elevations), mild summers, and a large <u>diurnal temperature variation</u>. Its mean annual temperature is approximately –5 to 8 °C (23 to 46 °F), with January temperatures ranging from –18 to –7 °C (0 to 19 °F) and July temperatures ranging from 15 to 21 °C (59 to 70 °F). It is also prone to heavy winds as well as <u>sandstorms</u> from February to April. Significant rainfall occurs mainly in summer, while precipitation is very low in winter and spring, and is generally low enough to keep much of the provincesemi-arid or arid.

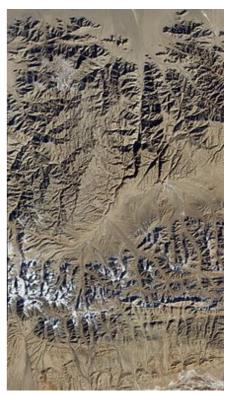
By area, Qinghai is the largest province in the People's Republic of China (excluding the <u>autonomous regions</u>). <u>Qinghai Lake</u> is the largest salt water lake in China, and the second largest in the world. The <u>Qaidam basin</u> lies in the northwest part of the province. About a third of this resource rich basin is desert. The basin has an altitude between 3000 and 3500 meters.

The <u>Sanjiangyuan National Nature Reserve</u>, is located in Qinghai and contains the headwaters of the <u>Yellow River</u>, <u>Yangtze River</u>, and <u>Mekong River</u>. The reserve was established to protect the headwaters of these three rivers and consists of 18 subareas, each containing three zones which are managed with differing degrees of strictness.

Politics

Secretaries of the CPC Qinghai Committee

Order	Name	Chinese Name	Governance period
1	Zhang Zhongliang	张仲良	1949–1954
2	Zhao Shoushan	赵寿山	1952
3	Gao Feng	高峰	1954–1961
4	Wang Zhao	王昭	1961–1962
5	Yang Zhilin	杨植霖	1962–1966
6	Liu Xianquan	刘贤权	1967–1977
7	Tan Qilong	谭启龙	1977–1979
8	Liang Buting	梁步庭	1979–1982
9	Zhao Haifeng	赵海峰	1982–1985
10	Yin Kesheng	尹克升	1985–1997
11	Tian Chengping	田成平	1997–1999
12	Bai Enpei	白恩培	1999–2001
13	Su Rong	苏荣	2001–2003
14	Zhao Leji	赵乐际	2003–2007
15	Qiang Wei	强卫	2007–2013
16	Luo Huining	骆惠宁	2013–2016
17	Wang Guosheng	王国生	2016–2018
18	Wang Jianjun	王建军	2018-incumbent



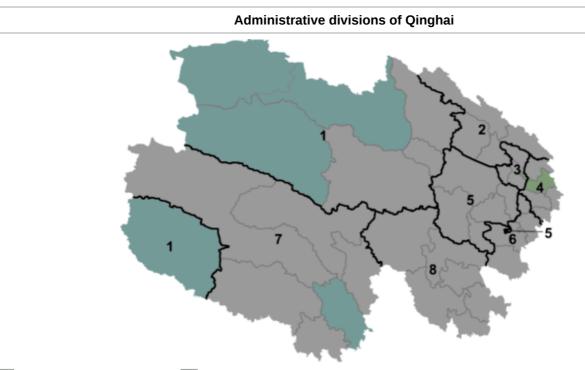
Satellite image of Qinghai

Governors of Qinghai

Order	Name	Chinese Name	Governance period
1	Zhao Shoushan	赵寿山	1950–1952
2	Zhang Zhongliang	张仲良	1952–1954
3	Sun Zuobin	孙作宾	1954–1958
4	Sun Junyi	孙君一	1958
5	Yuan Renyuan	袁任远	1958–1962
6	Wang Zhao	王昭	1962–1967
7	Liu Xianquan	刘贤权	1967–1977
8	Tan Qilong	谭启龙	1977–1979
9	Zhang Guosheng	张国声	1979–1982
10	Huang Jingbo	黄静波	1982–1985
11	Song Ruixiang	宋瑞祥	1985–1989
12	Jin Jipeng	金基鹏	1989–1992
13	Tian Chengping	田成平	1992–1997
14	Bai Enpei	白恩培	1997–1999
15	Zhao Leji	赵乐际	1999–2003
16	Yang Chuantang	杨传堂	2003–2004
17	Song Xiuyan	宋秀岩	2004–2010
18	Luo Huining	骆惠宁	2010–2013
19	Hao Peng	郝鹏	2013–2016
20	Wang Jianjun	王建军	2016–2018
21	Liu Ning	刘宁	2018-incumbent

Administrative divisions

Because the Han form Qinghai's ethnic majority^[23] and because none of its many ethnic minorities have clear dominance over the rest, the province is not administered as an autonomous region. Instead, the province has many ethnic autonomous areas at the district and county levels.^[20] Qinghai is administratively divided into eight prefecture-level divisions: two prefecture-level cities and six autonomous prefectures



Prefecture-level citydistrict areas County-level cities

	. Division	vision Area in	Area in	Population		Divisions ^[28]			
Nº	code ^[25]	Division	km ^{2[26]}	2010 ^[27]	Seat	Districts	Counties	Aut. counties	CL cities
	630000	Qinghai Province	720000.00	5,626,723	Xining city	6	27	7	4
3	630100	Xining city	7424.11	2,208,708	Chengzhong District	4	2	1	
4	630200	Haidong city	13043.99	1,396,845	Ledu District	2		4	
2	632200	Haibei Autonomous Prefecture	33349.99	273,304	Haiyan County		3	1	
6	632300	Huangnan Autonomous Prefecture	17908.89	256,716	Tongren County		3	1	
5	632500	Hainan Autonomous Prefecture	43377.11	441,691	Gonghe County		5		
8	632600	Golog Autonomous Prefecture	76442.38	181,682	Maqên County		6		
7	632700	Yushu Autonomous Prefecture	197953.70	378,439	Yushu city		5		1
1	632800	Haixi Autonomous Prefecture	300854.48	489,338	Delingha city		3		3

Administrative divisions in Chinese and varieties of romanizations				
English	Chinese	Pinyin		
Qinghai Province	青海省	Qīngh ă i Shěng		
Xining city	西宁市	Xīníng Shì		
Haidong city	海东市	Hǎidōng Shì		
Haibei Autonomous Prefecture	海北自治州	Hǎiběi Zìzhìzhōu		
Huangnan Autonomous Prefecture	黄南自治州	Huángnán Zìzhìzhōu		
Hainan Autonomous Prefecture	海南自治州	Hǎinán Zìzhìzhōu		
Golog Autonomous Prefecture	果洛自治州	Guŏluò Zìzhìzhōu		
Yushu Autonomous Prefecture	玉树自治州	Yùshù Zìzhìzhōu		
Haixi Autonomous Prefecture	海西自治州	Hǎixī Zìzhìzhōu		

The eight prefecture-level divisions of Qinghai are subdivided into 44 county-level divisions (6 districts, 4 county-level cities, 27 counties, and 7 autonomous counties).

Urban areas

	Population by urban areas of prefecture & county cities						
# City Urban area ^[29] District area ^[29] City proper ^[29] Census of							
1	Xining	1,153,417	1,198,304	2,208,708	2010-11-01		
2	Golmud	156,779	186,341	part of Haixi Prefecture	2010-11-01		
(3)	Haidong ^[a]	120,433	363,159	1,396,845	2010-11-01		
(4)	Yushu ^[b]	56,802	120,447	part of Yushu Prefecture	2010-11-01		
5	Delingha	54,844	78,184	part of <u>Haixi Prefecture</u>	2010-11-01		
(6)	Mangnai ^[c]	33,440	33,451	part of Haixi Prefecture	2010-11-01		

- a. Haidong Prefecture is currently known as Haidong PLC after census; Ledu County & Ping'an County is currently known as Ledu & Ping'an (core districts of Haidong) after census.
- b. Yushu County is currently known as Yushu CLC after census.
- c. Mangnai Administrative Zone & Lenghu Administrative Zone County is currently known as Mangnai CLC after census.

Population

Demographics

Ethnicity

There are over 37 recognized ethnic groups among Qinghai's population of 5.2 million, with <u>national minorities</u> making up 46.5% of the population. The demographic mix is similar to <u>Gansu</u> province, with <u>Han</u> (54.5%), <u>Tibetan</u> (20.7%), <u>Hui</u> (16%), <u>Tu</u> (Monguor) (4%), <u>Mongol</u>, and <u>Salar</u> being the most populous groups. <u>Han Chinese</u> predominate in the cities of <u>Xining</u>, <u>Haidong</u>, <u>Delingha</u> and <u>Golmud</u>, and elsewhere in the northeast. The Hui are concentrated in Xining, Haidong, <u>Minhe County</u>, <u>Hualong</u>

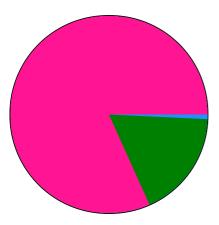
Historical population				
Year	Pop.	±%		
1912 ^[30]	368,000	_		
1928 ^[31]	619,000	+68.2%		
1936- 37 ^[32]	1,196,000	+93.2%		
1947 ^[33]	1,308,000	+9.4%		
1954 ^[34]	1,676,534	+28.2%		

County, and Datong County. The Tu people predominate in Huzhu County and the 1964^[35] 2,145,604 +28.0% Salars in Xunhua County, Tibetans and Mongols are sparsely distributed across the rural **1982**^[36] 3,895,706 +81.6% western part of the province^[20] **1990**^[37] 4,456,946 +14.4% **2000**^[38] 4,822,963 +8.2%

Of the Muslim ethnic groups in China, Qinghai has communities of Hui, Salar, Dongxiang, and Bao'an. [9] The Hui dominate the wholesale business in Qinghai. [40] Both the indigenous Han and Tibetan people in Qinghai differ from their co-ethnics

outside of the province; the Han in Qinghai are more devoutly Buddhist and influenced by Tibetan customs, while the Tibetans may not speak Tibetan and are more integrated into mainstream Chinese culture. [20][23] Qinghai Tibetans regard themselves as distinct from Tibetans in the Tibet Autonomous Region,^[23] and celebrate their region's unbroken independence from Lhasa's control since the fall of the Tubo Empire.^[20]

Religion



Religion in Qinghai (2000s)

Buddhism, Chinese folk religions (including Taoism), Bön, and non-religious population (81.73%)

Islam^[41] (17.51%)

Christianity^[42] (0.76%)

The predominant religions in Qinghai are Chinese folk religions (including Taoist traditions and Confucianism) and Chinese Buddhism among the Han-Chinese. The large Tibetan population practices Tibetan schools of Buddhism or traditional Tibetan Bön religion, while the Hui-Chinese practice Islam. Christianity is the religion of 0.76% of the province's population according to the Chinese General Social Survey of 2004.^[42]



5,626,722

+16.7%

The Dongguan Mosquein Qinghai

According to a survey of 2010, 17.51% of the population of Qinghai follow Island.

From September 1848, the city was the seat of a short-lived Latin Catholic Apostolic Vicariate (pre-diocesan missionary jurisdiction) of Kokonur (alias Khouhkou-noor, Kokonoor), but it was suppressed in 1861. No incumbent(s) recorde [43]

2010^[39]



Jiutian Xuannü on Mount Mountain, Fenghuang, in village, Duoba, Xining



A Taoist temple dedicated to A Buddhist temple on Rivue Huangyuan in Lunmalong County, Xining



Mosques and Chinese folk Rongwo Tibetan Buddhist Great Mosque of temples characterising the skyline of Huangyuan County



Monastery County



Tongren Duoba, Xining

Culture

Qinghai has been influenced by the interactions "between Mongol and Tibetan culture, north to south, and Han Chinese and Inner Asia Muslim culture, east to west". The languages of Qinghai have for centuries formed <u>Sprachbund</u>, with <u>Zhongyuan Mandarin</u> <u>Amdo Tibetan</u>, <u>Salar</u>, <u>Yugur</u>, and <u>Monguor</u> borrowing from and influencing one another. In mainstream <u>Chinese culture</u>, Qinghai is most associated with the <u>Tale of King Mu</u>, <u>Son of Heaven</u>. According to this legend, <u>King Mu of Zhou</u> (r. 976–922 BCE) pursued hostile Quanrong nomads to eastern Qinghai, where the goddesXi Wangmu threw the king a banquet in the Kunlun Mountains.

The main religions in Qinghai are <u>Tibetan Buddhism</u> and Islam. The <u>Dongguan Mosque</u> has been continuously operating since 1380.^{[14]:402} Measures of education in Qinghai are low, particularly among the Muslim ethnic groups such as the Hui and Salar, who sometimes prefer to send their children to<u>madrasahs</u> rather than secular schools.^[20] The <u>yak</u>, which is native to Qinghai, is widely used in the province for transportation and its meat.^[23] The Mongols of Qinghai celebrate the <u>Naadam</u> festival on the <u>Qaidam Basin</u> every year.^[47]

Economy



Oil well in Tsaidam (Qaidam), Oinghai

Qinghai's economy is amongst the smallest in all of China. Its nominal <u>GDP</u> for 2011 was just 163.4 billion RMB (US\$25.9 billion) and contributes to about 0.35% of the entire country's economy. Per capita GDP was 19,407 RMB (US\$2,841), the second lowest in China. [48]

Its heavy industry includes iron and steel production, located near its capital city of Xining. Oil and natural gas from the <u>Qaidam Basin</u> have also been an important contributor to the economy.^[48] Salt works operate at many of the province's numerous salt lakes.

Outside of the provincial capital, Xining, most of Qinghai remains underdeveloped. Qinghai ranks second lowest in China in terms of highway length, and will require a significant expansion of its infrastructure to capitalize on the economic potential of its

rich natural resources^[48]

Economic and technological development zone

Xining Economic & Technological Development Zone (XETDZ) was approved as state-level development zone in July 2000. It has a planned area of 4.4 square kilometres (1.7 sq mi). XETDZ lies in the east of Xining, 5 kilometres (3.1 mi) from downtown. In the east of the province, Xining stands at the upper reaches of the Huangshui River—one of the Yellow River's branches. The city is surrounded by the mountains with an average elevation of 2261 meters and the highest at 4393 meters. XETDZ is the first of its kind at the national level on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. It is established to fulfill the nation's strategy of developing the west.

XETDZ enjoys a convenient transportation system, connected by the Xining-Lanzhou expressway and running through by two main roads, the broadest in the city. It is 4 kilometers from the railway station, 15 kilometers from Xi'ning Airport — a grade 4D airport with 14 airlines to cities such as Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai, Chengdu and Xi'an. Xining is Qinghai province's passage to the outside world, a transportation center with more than ten highways, over 100 roads and two railways, Lanzhou-Qinghai and Qinghai-Tibet Railways in and out of the city

It focuses on the development of following industries: chemicals based on salt lake resources, nonferrous metals, and petroleum and natural gas processing; special medicine, foods and bio-chemicals using local plateau animals and plants; new products involving ecological and environmental protection, high technology, new materials as well as information technology; and services such as logistics, banking, real estate, tourism, hotel, catering, agency and international trade.^{9]}

Tourism

Many tourist attractions center on Xining, the provincial seat of Qinghai.

During the hot summer months, many tourists from the hot Southern and Eastern parts of China travel to Xining, as the climate of Xining in July and August is quite mild and comfortable, making the city an ideal summer retreat.

Qinghai Lake (青海湖, qīnghǎi hú) is another tourist attraction, albeit further from Xining than Kumbum Monastery (Ta'er Si). The lake is the largest saltwater lake in China, and is also located on the "Roof of the World", the Tibetan Plateau. The lake itself lies at 3,600m elevation. The surrounding area is made up of rolling grasslands and populated by ethnic Tibetans. Most pre-arranged tours stop at Bird Island (鸟岛, niǎo dǎo). An international bicycle race takes place annually from Xining to Qinghai Lake.



Qinghai Lake from space, November 1994

Transportation

The <u>Lanqing Railway</u>, running between <u>Lanzhou</u>, <u>Gansu</u> and <u>Xining</u>, the province's capital, was completed in 1959 and is the major transportation route in and out of the province. A continuation of the line, the <u>Qinghai-Tibet Railway</u> via <u>Golmud</u> and western Qinghai, has become one of the most ambitious projects in PRC history. It was completed in October 2005 and now links Tibet with the rest of China through Qinghai.

Construction on the Golmud–Dunhuang Railway in the province's northwestern part, started in 2012.

Six National Highwaysrun through the province.

Xining Caojiabu Airport provides service to Beijing, Lanzhou, Golmud and Delingha. Smaller regional airports, Delingha Airport, Golog Maqin Airport, Huatugou Airport, Qilian Airport and Yushu Batang Airport, serve some of the local centers of the far-flung province; plans exist for the construction of three more by 2026.

Telecommunications

Since the Ministry of Information Industry began its "Access to Telephones Project", Qinghai has invested 640 million yuan to provide telephone access to 3860 out its 4133 administrative villages. At the end of 2006, 299 towns had received Internet access. However, 6.6 percent of villages in the region still have no access to the telephone. These villages are mainly scattered in Qingnan Area, with 90 percent of them located in Yushu and Guoluo. The average altitude of these areas exceeds 3600 meters, and the poor natural conditions hamper the establishment oftelecommunication facilities in the region.

Satellite phones have been provided to 186 remote villages in Qinghai Province as of September 14, 2007. The areas benefited were Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture and Guoluo Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture. Qinghai has recently been provided with satellite telephone access. In June 2007, China Satcom carried out an in-depth survey in Yushu and Guoluo, and made a special satellite phones for these areas. Two phones were provided to each village for free, and calls were charged at the rate of 0.2 yuan per minute for both local and national calls, with the extra charges assumed by China Satcom. No monthly rent was charged on the satellite phone. International calls were also available.

Colleges and universities

- Qinghai University(青海大学)
- Qinghai Normal University(青海师范大学)
- Qinghai University for Nationalities(青海民族大学)

- Qinghai Medical College(青海医学院)
- Qinghai Radio & Television University (青海广播电视大学)

See also

- 2010 Yushu earthquake
- Major national historical and cultural sites in Qinghai
- Geladandong
- Haplogroup D-M15 (YDNA)
- Haplogroup O3 (YDNA)
- Tectonic summary of Qinghai
- Iris qinghainica (native plant of Qinghai)

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