

Facts about China

Perhaps because famine was rampant for so long in China, food plays a very important part of Chinese culture. Some facts about food in China today:

China today yearly produces approximately:

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| Rice | 200 million tonnes |
| Wheat | 115 million tonnes |
| Soybeans | 18 million tonnes |
| Corn | 130 million tonnes |
| Sugarcane | 70 million tonnes |
| Pork, beef, mutton | 50 million tonnes |

The most popular food in restaurants in Beijing:

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| 1993 | Cantonese |
| 1994 | Mongolian hot pot |
| 1995 | Jiachang cai (simple, common, regular dishes) |
| 1996 | Braised mutton |

Foreign food concessions in China include:

Kentucky Fried Chicken (earliest chain since mid-1980s)
 McDonald's
 Pizza Hut
 Delifrance

From 1956 until the 1990s, the Chinese had to buy rationed grains in designated shops using monthly coupons. Each person was allotted 15 kilograms of flour, rice and corn each month. (Children received less.) At Spring Festival time, each family was given an extra 25 kilograms of refined flour. Such measures are no longer necessary.