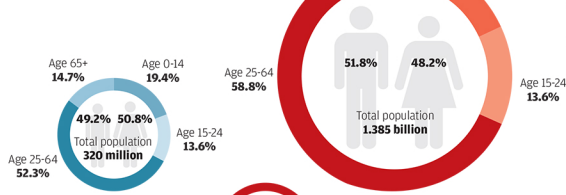


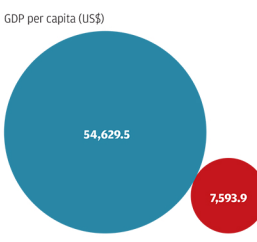
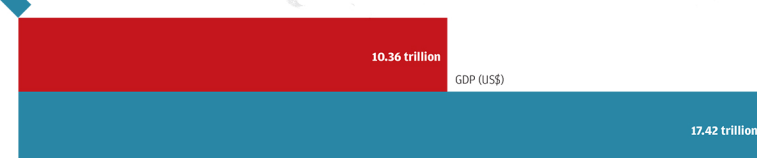
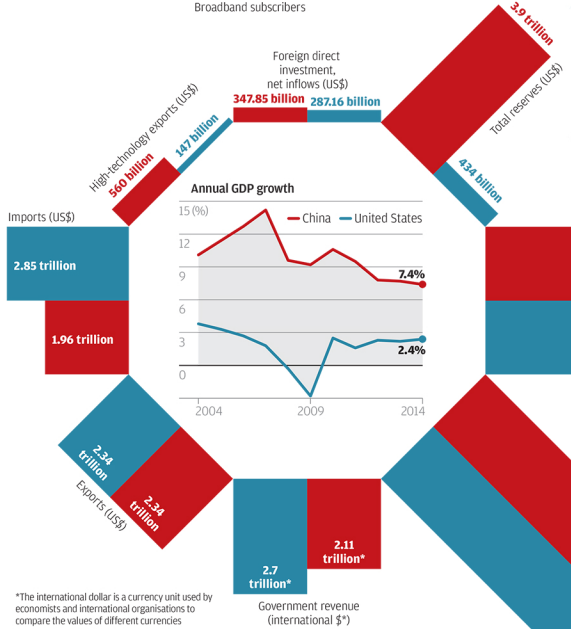
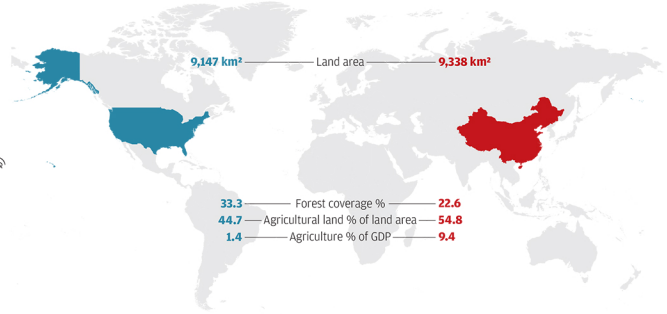
A tale of two economies

The United States has had the world's biggest economy for 140 years and accounts for roughly 22.44 per cent of the gross world product. It remains top in nominal GDP but, in terms of purchasing power parity (PPP), the International Monetary Fund now ranks China as the world's largest economy. This is because PPP enables you to compare how much you can buy for your money in different countries. As money goes further in China than in the US, the figure for China is adjusted upwards

Population



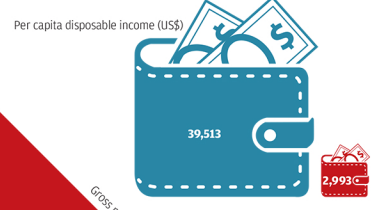
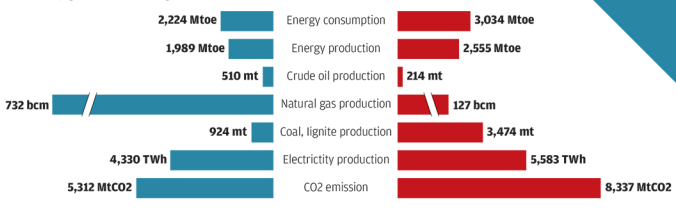
Internet



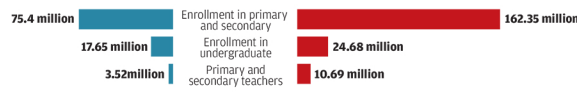
Economy
The Chinese economy is now worth \$17.92tn, slightly higher than the \$17.81tn the International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates for the US. This marks the first time the US has been knocked off its perch as the world's largest economy since it overtook Britain back in 1872

*The international dollar is a currency unit used by economists and international organisations to compare the values of different currencies

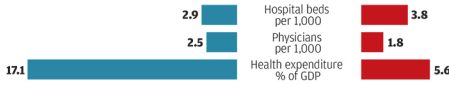
Energy
Last year China and the US announced new targets for greenhouse emissions as part of a deal to help global climate change



Education
Thirty per cent of US adults aged 25 and over had at least a bachelor's degree in 2011. The Chinese government has begun to finance education more heavily with about 4% of total GDP now invested in education. The number of enrolled college students was close to 24 million in 2012



Health care
Health care has long been an issue in the US. In 2010 the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, was enacted



International tourism



Bang for your buck
Salaries can vary widely in all countries according to sector and location. Below we compare the cost of living in Beijing and the US

US social security authorities put the national average wage for American workers in 2013 at US\$44,888

