

Doing Business in China

Doing Business in China 2008 analyzes the ways in which regulations facilitate or constrain business activity in 30 major cities across China. Using the global Doing Business methodology the study captures variations in the ease of doing business by measuring four areas that are central elements of the local business environment: starting a business, registering property, getting credit (creating and registering collateral) and enforcing contracts. While these indicators are not a full reflection of the local investment climate, they provide a useful way to compare performance and give the surveyed cities a benchmark on which to build and demonstrate future reforms.

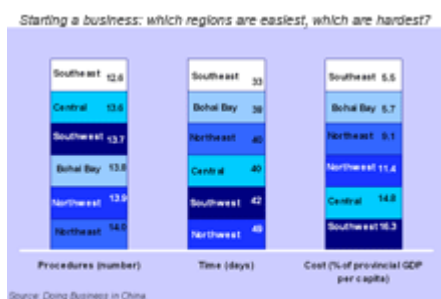


Main findings:

- **Reforms are happening throughout China:** Some 53 reforms were introduced at the municipal or provincial level to improve business regulations from 2006 to early 2007. It can be expected that in the next report, there will be even a larger number.
- **Best results in ease of doing business are correlated with reform:** Coastal regions have the greatest number of reforms and also scored highest overall on ease of doing business. But other cities, which are reforming outside of these areas, are notable. Chongqing, for example, had the greatest number of reforms and is in the top 10.
- **Innovation within China, as well as outside, shows the way for cities seeking to reform:** There are a number of cities with very good practices within China. If all these best practices were gathered together in a single city, then China's overall ranking would improve from 87 to 63 globally.

Improving the ease of doing business gives local policy-makers, particularly in poorer regions, a powerful tool to build their private sector. Cities where doing business is easier attract higher levels of investment.

More information on the ease of doing business in each of the 30 cities measured is available at www.doingbusiness.org/china.



http://www.doingbusiness.org/images/db_subnational_China_chart.gif

http://www.doingbusiness.org/images/db_subnational_China_chart2.gif