

About Yunnan

Location and Area

Yunnan Province, an inland region at a low latitude, is located between 97°31'E~106°11'E and 21°8'N and 29°15'N with the Tropic of Cancer across its southern part. The maximum horizontal and longitudinal distance of the province is 864.9km and 990km, respectively. Yunnan, situated in the southwest China, borders on Guizhou Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in the east, Sichuan Province in the north, Tibet Autonomous Region in the northwest, Burma in the west and Laos and Vietnam in the south. Yunnan Province holds the longest borderline among all the provinces in China – 4,060km, including 1,997km with Burma, 710km with Laos and 1,353km with Vietnam. 25 counties in the province have a common boundary with Burma, Laos and Vietnam. Yunnan Province covers a land area of 394,100km², accounting for 4.1% of the national total and ranking No.8 in China.

Landform

Yunnan is mainly formed with mountains and plateaus, of which the area of mountains is 331,100km² (accounting for 84% of the total area of the province); that of the plateaus is 39,000km² (accounting for 10% of the total); and that of basin is 24,000km² (accounting for 6.0% of the total).

Climate

Air temperature. The average temperature in July stays at 19°C to 22°C and that in January ranges from 6°C to 8°C, showing an annual temperature difference of 10°C to 12°C. In a day, it is cold in the morning and night while hot at noon. Especially in winter and spring, the daily range of temperature reaches 12°C to 20°C.

Rainfall. The rainfall is extremely uneven in seasons and regions. The province has clear dry and wet seasons, of which the wet season starts from May to October with 85% rainfall of the year, and the dry season from September to April of the next year only holds 15% rainfall of the year.

The province has a long frost-free period. Specifically, the frost-free period in the south area, central area and southwest & northeast area is around 300-330 days, 250 days and 210-220 days, respectively.

Natural Resources

Water and hydropower resources

I. Water resources

(I) Rainfall

Yunnan Province is close to the tropical ocean and sited in the southeast of Tibetan Plateau. Under the influences of southwest and southeast warm air, it features sufficient moisture and abundant rainfall - annual average rainfall is 1,278.8mm, equivalent to a water yield of 490 billion cubic meters.

The rainfall in most of the province focuses on May to October, contributing to 85% water yield over the year. The rainfall was highly uneven in the whole province – lowest concentration in west and south area and highest concentration in Binchuan County.

(II) Surface water

The surface runoff of the province is mainly formed from the rainfall. In some places of the province, the water is supplied by the snow melt in early spring. The annual average surface water amount of the province is 221 billion cubic meters, accounting for about 1/13 of the total in China. The average runoff depth of accumulated year is 576.7mm, and the average water production of accumulated year is 577,000 cubic meters per square kilometers per year, approximately twice the average level of China.

(III) Entry/exit water amount

1. Amount of water entering/exiting China. The amount of water entering China refers to the runoff of rivers from neighbors into China, excluding the amount of water unilaterally flowing from a country into the boundary river of both countries. The water flowing into Yunnan from abroad comes from Burma and Laos with an annual amount of 2.463 billion cubic meters. The water flowing out of Yunnan mainly goes to Vietnam, Burma and Laos, with an average amount of accumulated year of 220.4 billion cubic meters.

2. Amount of water entering/exiting Yunnan. The water flowing into Yunnan mainly comes from Tibet, Sichuan, Guizhou and Guangxi, with the average amount of accumulated year of 162.5 billion cubic meters. The average amount of water flowing out of Yunnan of the accumulated year is 163 billion cubic meters.

(IV) Underground water

The annual average underground water resources quantity of Yunnan is 77.15 billion cubic meters, accounting for 9.54% of the total underground water resources in China; and the average amount of underground water production is 200,000 cubic meters per year per square kilometers.

II. Hydropower resources

82.5% of the hydropower resources of Yunnan comes from Jinsha River, Lancang River and Nu River, of which the Jinsha River boasts the highest amount, accounting for 38.9% of the total water resources in the whole province. The theoretical reserve of hydropower resources in Yunnan is 10,4370,000 KW, accounting for 15.3% of the national total, ranking the third following Tibet and Sichuan.

Energy resources

Energy resources. Yunnan is advantageous in energy resources, especially the water power, coal, geothermal energy, solar energy, wind power and bioenergy. Yunnan has a large quantity of rivers, which contribute to the amount of water resources of 225.6 billion cubic meters, ranking the third in China. The coal resources are mainly distributed in the northeast region. 24 billion tons of resources have been proven with reserve, ranking the ninth in China. In addition, the province is also abundant in solar energy, next to Tibet, Qinghai and Inner Mongolia. The annual sunshine duration of the province is 1,000 hours to 2,800 hours, and the annual solar radiation is 90 kilocalories to 150 kilocalories per square centimeter.

Mineral resources

Mineral resources. The mineral resources of Yunnan Province have the following features: 1. Wide variety. Anhui has found 143 types of minerals, including 86 with proven reserve. 2. Extensive distribution. Metal is extensively distributed in 108 counties (cities); coal is discovered in 116 counties (cities); and the non-metal minerals are also found in all counties. 3. Large number of paragenetic and associated minerals with high value in use. The paragenetic and associated minerals of the province account for 31% of the total amount of ore deposit. The available reserves of 61 minerals in Yunnan ranks among the top 10 in China, of which the content of 25 minerals including lead, zinc, tin, phosphorus, cooper and silver ranks among the top 3 in China.

Plant resources

Plant resources. Yunnan is hailed as the “kingdom of plants” for the broadest range of plants in China. Of the 30,000 higher plants in China, Yunnan holds over 60%.

National economy

In 2016, Yunnan's GDP reached RMB1,486.995 billion (up by 8.7% YoY and 2.0 ppts higher than national level), including: (i) RMB219.504 billion from primary industry (up by 5.6% YoY); (ii) RMB579.934 billion from secondary industry (up by 8.9% YoY); and (iii) RMB687.557 billion from tertiary industry (up by 9.5% YoY). The structure of the three industries changed from 15.1:39.8:45.1 to 14.8:39.0:46.2.

Industrial production

In 2016, the added value of all the industries in the province reached RMB400.03 billion, up by 6.5% YoY; the added value of industries above scale was RMB366.828 billion, up by 6.5% YoY.

Agricultural production

In 2016, the gross output of agriculture in the province reached RMB363.312 billion (up by 5.8% YoY), including RMB194.365 billion from farming (up by 6.1% YoY), RMB33.037 billion from forestry (up by 11.1% YoY), RMB114.182 billion from animal husbandry (up by 2.9% YoY), RMB9.424 billion from fishery (up by 11.1%), and RMB12.304 billion from the service of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry and fishery (up by 8.9% YoY).

Fixed assets

In 2016, the fixed-asset investment of the province (excluding peasant households) reached RMB1,566.249 billion (up by 19.8% YoY), including RMB62.908 billion for the primary industry (up by 25.8% YoY), RMB285.091 billion for the secondary industry (down by 9.4% YoY; of which RMB285.020 billion invested in the industry, down by 9.4% YoY), and RMB1218.25 billion for the tertiary industry (up by 29.3% YoY).

Foreign trade and foreign capital introduction

In 2016, the exports and imports of the province totaled USD19.999 billion (down by 18.4% YoY), including USD11.582 billion from the imports (down by 30.3% YoY) and USD8.417 billion from the exports (up by 6.7% YoY).

The province approved 134 projects with foreign capital, falling by 5.6% over 2015; actually used the direct foreign investment of USD867 million; and made a direct foreign investment of USD1.613 billion in the non-financial sectors, increasing by 19.9% over 2015.