

*Regional Development Discrepancies and Public Policy: Evaluating China's Western Development Strategy*

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**Data Description:**

All data for this project was collected from the All China Data Center, a project of the University of Michigan, which keeps district-level data going back for many years. This dataset includes data from 1997 to 2008 for border counties in 14 provinces that are situated on the border between western and non-western provinces. The most complete data is available from year 2000 onwards, with slightly less complete data before that point. For this analysis, GDP will serve as the dependent variable as it is the best measure of a county's development and economic status available. The treatment variable, WDS, has been coded as a dummy variable that is coded as one on for western provinces in the year 2000 and after. Because of the existence of similar development policies in the control group, two more dummy variables have been encoded; for the Revitalization of Northeast China policy, RevitalNE switches on for northeastern provinces in 2004 and for the Rise of Central China policy, RiseCentral switches on for central provinces in 2003. The following variables are included:

variable name	storage type	display format	value label	variable label
district	str35	%35s		County Name
province	str12	%12s		Province Name
region	str7	%9s		Regional Classification
year	int	%8.0g		Year (1997-2008)
gdp	double	%9.0g		Gross Domestic Product
valaddprim	double	%9.0g		Value Added Primary Industry (100 mill yuan)
valaddsec	double	%9.0g		Value Added Secondary Industry (100 mill yuan)
indusadd	double	%10.0g		Industrial value Added (100 million yuan)
gdpindex	double	%10.0g		GDP Index (%)
numemploy	double	%10.0g		Number of Employed Persons at Year-end (10000 persons)
numrurlab	double	%8.0g		Number of Rural Labors (10000 persons)
farmforhusfish	double	%10.0g		Of rural Labors, which are Farming, Anim. Husb., Fishery (10000 persons)
numhyrend	long	%10.0g		Number of Households at Year-end
popyrend	double	%8.0g		Population at Year-end (10000 persons)
popyrendrur	double	%8.0g		Rural Population (10000 persons)
numtowns	byte	%8.0g		Number of towns
numvillcomm	int	%8.0g		Number of Villagers' Committees
area	double	%9.0g		Area of Admin Region (10000 sq km)
agmachine	double	%8.0g		Total Agricultural Machinery Power (10000 kw)
telesubscr	double	%10.0g		# of local telephone subscribers (10000 subscribers)
elecammrur	double	%10.0g		Electricity Amount used in Rural Area (100 million kwh)
govrev	double	%9.0g		Local Government Revenue (100 million yuan)
govexp	double	%9.0g		Local Government Expenditure (100 million yuan)
savingsdep	double	%9.0g		Outstanding Amount of Savings Deposits of Urban Households (100 mill yuan)
loanfininst	double	%9.0g		Outstanding Loan of Financial Institutes at Year-end (100 million yuan)
grainoutput10~s	double	%9.0g		Grain Output(10000 tons)
cotton	double	%9.0g		Cotton Output (10000 tons)
oilbearing	double	%9.0g		Oilbearing Output (10000 tons)
meat	double	%9.0g		Meat Output (10000 tons)
numindustrent	int	%10.0g		# of Industrial Enterprises above a designated size
outputindus	double	%10.0g		Output of Industrial Enterprises above a certain size (100 mill yuan)
capinvest	double	%10.0g		Completed Investment in Capital Construction (100 mill yuan)
secondary	double	%10.0g		Student Enrollment in Regular Secondary Schools (10000 persons)
primary	double	%10.0g		Student Enrollment in Primary Schools (10000 persons)
hospbeds	double	%9.0g		# of beds in Hospitals and Sanitation Agencies (10000 units)
nursingctrs	int	%10.0g		# of social welfare nursing centers
nursctrsbeds	int	%10.0g		# of beds in social welfare nursing centers
wds	float	%9.0g		Treatment Variable, Equal to 1 if treated
district_id	long	%33.0g	district_id	Unique County ID
region_id	long	%8.0g	region_id	Unique Regional ID
province_id	long	%12.0g	province_id	Unique provincial ID
gdppc	float	%9.0g		GDP per capita
grainavg	float	%9.0g		grain output per area
grainpc	float	%9.0g		grain output per capita
west	float	%9.0g		Dummy for Western Region
central	float	%9.0g		Dummy for Central Region
coast	float	%9.0g		Dummy for Coastal Region
NE	float	%9.0g		Dummy for Northeast Region
risecentral	float	%9.0g		Dummy for Rise of Central China Policy
revitalne	float	%9.0g		Dummy for Revitalization of NE China Policy
gdplag	float	%9.0g		GDP lagged by one year