
China

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Chaguan

Why more young Chinese want to be civil servants

They are looking for security in a volatile time

The News



The News

- The trends in China are changing. Five years ago, top graduates in China vied to join home-grown technology giants like Alibaba, Tencent or Huawei.
- But now, many Chinese prefer to securing an official position which they refer as “shang an”, or “landing ashore”, reflecting the security such jobs offer.

Chinese Civil services

- The national public service exam, or "Guokao" as it is known in Mandarin, is a hotly contested annual event, with this year's entrants having just a 1-in-60 chance of success.
- The jobs on offer are in 86 central government agencies and 23 institutions directly attached to them.
- All candidates are required to sit a written exam covering areas such as Chinese politics, international affairs, language and logic. Those applying for positions in the fields of finance, public security and foreign affairs also have to take a professional skills test.

Rise in Civil service aspirants

- In 2020, 1.6m people passed background checks to take national civil-service exams, which is 140,000 more than 2019.
- Almost a million candidates eventually sat the exam, chasing 25,700 jobs.

Just imagine the number for tests to become provincial and local officials...!!

Million Dollar Question

In recent times, Why the Chinese are seeking public sector jobs?

Civil servants for the central government on an average earn 6,000 yuan (around \$1000) a month.

Reason 1

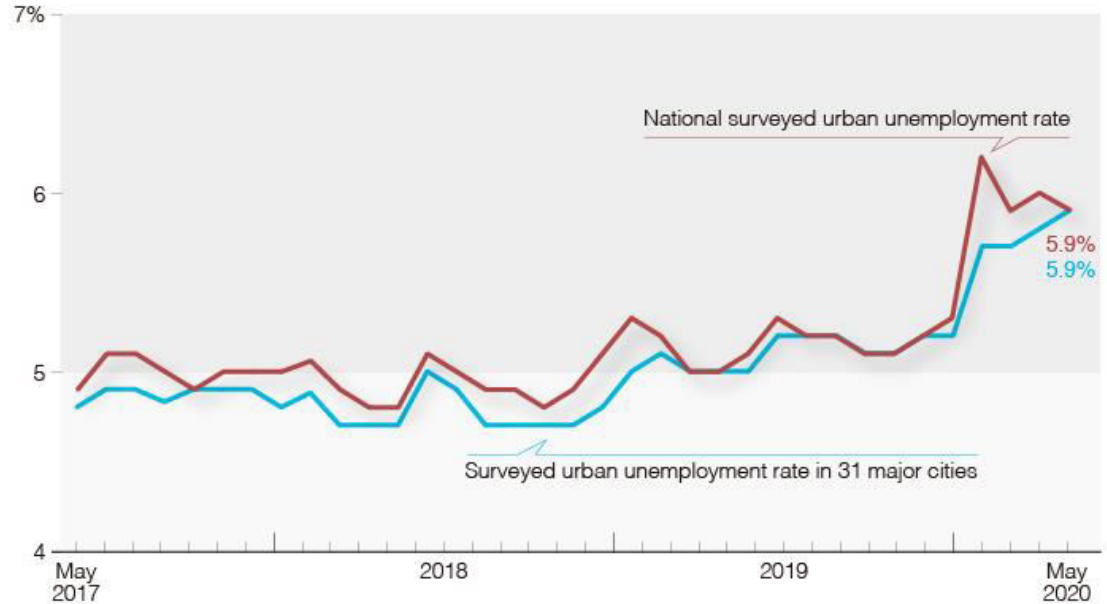
Stability and Job Security



Reason 2

Chinese urban
employment rate is
declining steadily.

Unemployment Remains High



Sources: National Bureau of Statistics, CEIC

Reason 3

Hectic job due to
"996" work schedules



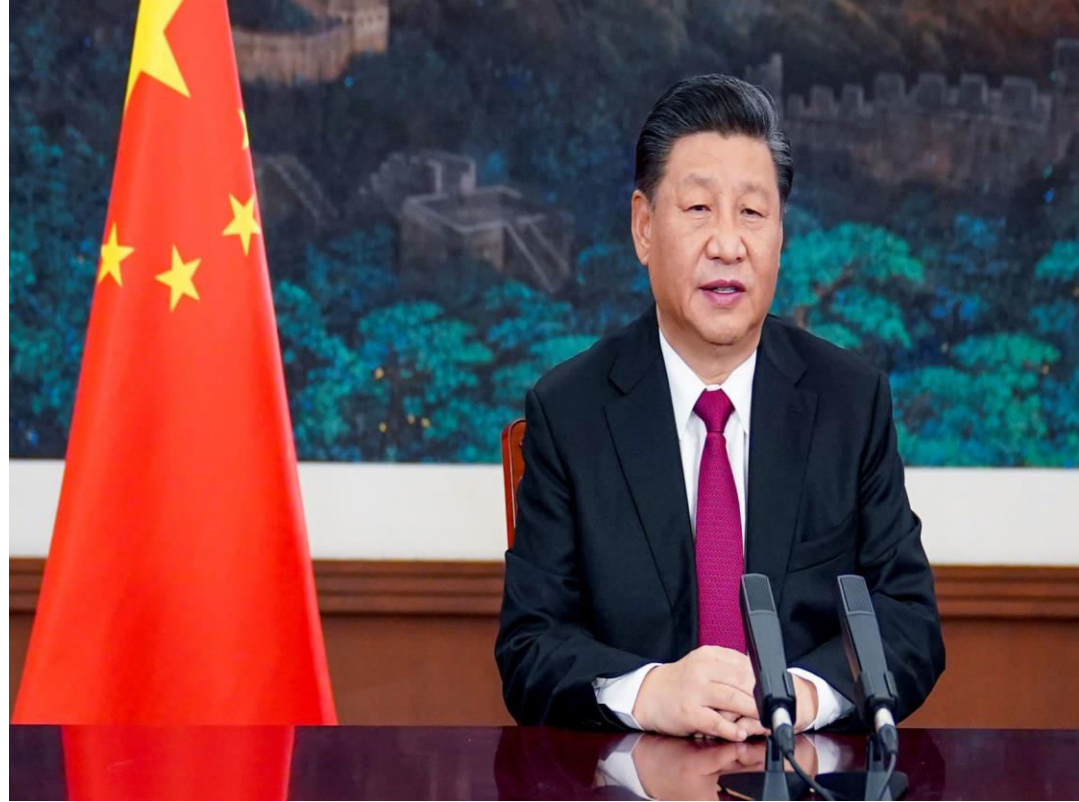
Reason 4

Geopolitical distrust



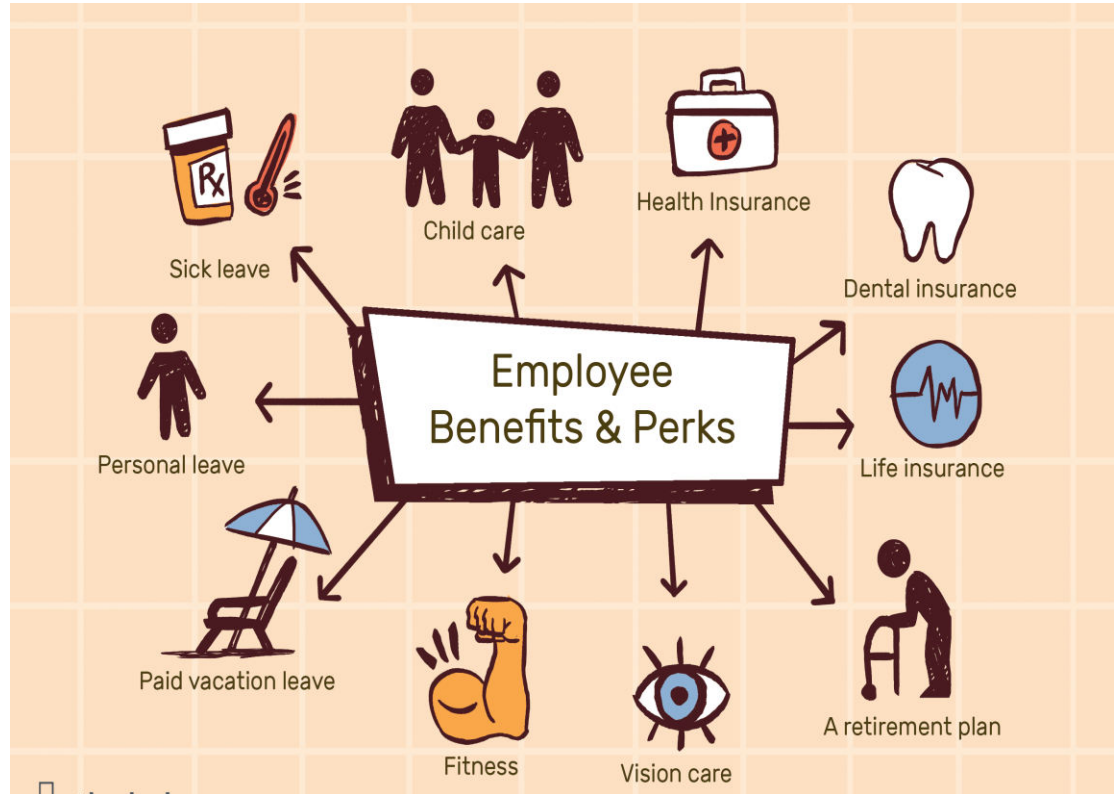
Reason 5

Awareness in public anger
about inequality



Reason 6

Civil servants in China accept low salaries because of the other perks like heavily subsidised housing, health insurance, pension etc





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