

Our Country's Ethnic Minorities and Their Geographical Distribution

1. Overview of the ethnicity of our country

- Our country has 56 officially recognised ethnic groups.
- Compared to the Han, the population of the 55 ethnic groups is smaller, so it is generally called “ethnic minorities”.
- Features of the distribution of different ethnic groups in our country are large-scale dispersion, small-scale clustering, and intermingled habitation.

2. Demographic profile

- The Han Chinese are the largest ethnic group in our country.
- Following the Han, the next largest ethnic minority groups are

Ethnic group	Population (2020)	Percentage of our country's total population
Zhuang	19,568,546	1.39%
Uygur	11,774,538	0.84%
Hui	11,377,914	0.81%
Miao	11,067,929	0.79%
Manchu	10,423,303	0.74%
Yi	9,830,327	0.70%
Tujia	9,587,732	0.68%
Tibetan	7,060,731	0.50%
Mongolian	6,290,204	0.45%
Bouyei	3,576,752	0.25%

- The ethnic minority groups in our country are not evenly distributed, and primarily concentrated in the **western and northern regions** of our country.
- Distribution of ethnic minority groups in our country

Region	Number of ethnic minority groups	Ethnic minority groups
Northeast and Nei Mongol	7	Manchu, Korean, Mongolian, Daur, Ewenki, Oroqen, Hezhe
Northwest	14	Hui, Uygur, Kazak, Dongxiang, Tu, Xibe, Kirgiz, Salar, Tajik, Ozbek, Russian, Yugur, Bonan, Tatar
Southwest	25	Miao, Yi, Tibetan, Bouyei, Dong, Bai, Hani, Dai, Lisu, Gelo, Lahu, Va, Shui, Naxi, Qiang, Jingpo, Blang, Pumi, Achang, Nu, Jino, De'ang, Drung, Moinba, Lhoba
Central-south and Southeast	9	Zhuang, Tujia, Yao, Li, She, Gaoshan, Mulam, Maonan, Jing

3. Cultural diversity

- Our country's ethnic minority groups possess diverse cultures, languages, customs, and traditions.
- This diversity is celebrated and preserved through various government policies and initiatives aimed at protecting the rights of these minority groups:
 - **Languages** – In our country, all ethnic groups shall have the freedom to use and develop their own spoken and written languages.
 - **Religions** – Protect the freedom of ethnic minority groups joining legitimate and normal religious activities.

4. Regional autonomy and policies

- To address the unique needs and concerns of ethnic minority groups, our government has implemented a system of regional autonomy.
- Our country's ethnic autonomous areas are classified into three categories: autonomous regions, autonomous prefectures, and autonomous counties (banners).

5. Ethnic group distribution across various autonomous regions

- **Xinjiang Uygur Zizhiqu:**
 - Uygur: 44.96%; Han: 42.24%; Kazak: 5.96%; Hui: 4.27%
- **Xizang Zizhiqu:**
 - Tibetan: 86.01%; Han: 12.15%; Hui: 0.70%; Moinba: 0.29%
- **Nei Mongol Zizhiqu:**
 - Han: 78.74%; Mongolian: 17.66%; Manchu: 1.95%; Hui: 0.89%
- **Ningxia Huizu Zizhiqu:**
 - Han: 64.05%; Hui: 35.04%; Manchu: 0.39%; Miao: 0.15%
- **Guangxi Zhuangzu Zizhiqu:**
 - Han: 62.48%; Zhuang: 31.36%; Yao: 3.36%; Miao: 1.15%

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