

CHINA

VOICELESS ANIMAL CRUELTY INDEX 2017

Overall Rank 20

Despite its poor animal protection laws, China is a marginally adequate performer under the Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index (VACI) 2017 (on par with the United Kingdom), due largely to its relatively low production and consumption of animal products.

Producing Cruelty

Rank 16

China slaughters around 9.6 land-based animals per person / year, which is comparable to the global average of 9.7. The country's dependency on farmed animals is relatively high, with around 4.9 farmed animals per person (compared with a global average of around 4). To meet consumption demands in a rapidly growing population, China is investing heavily in factory farming, particularly in poultry, pig and dairy production. China produces two thirds of all ducks eaten globally.

Consuming Cruelty

Rank 17

The Chinese diet contains a moderate proportion of animal products, with around 34% of the average Chinese diet being made up of land-based animal protein (compared with a global average of 35.2%). This equates to each person in China consuming around 30.5g of land-based animal protein per day (compared with a global average of 26.7g). For health reasons, in 2016, the Chinese government announced new dietary guidelines [<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jun/20/chinas-meat-consumption-climate-change>] designed to cut meat consumption by 50%. As at 2013, it was estimated [<https://www.pri.org/stories/2013-06-27/vegan-lunch-going-meatless-beijing>] that around 4-5% of the Chinese population identified as vegetarian.

Sanctioning Cruelty

Rank 36

China was given a "D" under the Animal Protection Index (API) 2014, and was also a poor performer under the Sanctioning Cruelty category. This is largely due to the significant gaps in its regulation and enforcement of animal welfare and animal cruelty throughout the country. Learn more about the quality of China's legislative protections on the API here [<http://api.worldanimalprotection.org/country/china>].



Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index

This country profile is from the 2017 Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index (VACI). The VACI tracks the animal welfare performance of 50 countries selected among the largest producers of farmed animal products in the world. The VACI was first published in 2017, and updated in 2020. Please read the VACI Terms of Use (<https://vaci.voiceless.org.au/terms-of-use/>) and Voiceless Website Terms of Use ([Website Terms and Conditions | Voiceless](#)) for further information. Voiceless does not guarantee the accuracy, reliability or currency of the information. Questions about the VACI can be directed to: info@voiceless.org.au

The 2020 VACI can be accessed here: <https://vaci.voiceless.org.au/>