

Summary of Assessing China's AI Workforce: Regional, Military, and Surveillance Geographic Job Clusters

The demand for talent is at the core of the technological competition between the United States and China. To better understand China's talent landscape, we explore demand signals in China's domestic AI workforce in two ways: the geographic distribution of 58,228 AI-related Chinese job postings at the regional and city level, to identify both current and emerging AI talent hubs. and AI job postings in the defense and surveillance sectors, as they are pertinent to U.S. national security interests.

We find that:

- **78 percent of job postings are concentrated in the Yangtze River Delta region, the Pearl River Delta, and the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei area.** Other provinces with relatively high demand for AI talent also include Hubei, Shandong and Hunan provinces.
- **71 percent of job postings are concentrated in only 10 cities.** The top three were Shanghai, Shenzhen, and Beijing.
- **9 defense-affiliated universities advertised 79 AI job openings across 10 provinces, with a mix of engineering and lecturer positions.** Additionally, the People's Liberation Army (PLA) directly advertised two positions. Fujian had the highest concentration of defense-affiliated AI job postings, with 24 jobs posted.
- **2,877 job postings were related to surveillance, with the top keywords identified as *facial recognition, feature extraction, speech recognition, sentiment analysis, and safe cities.*** Job postings were concentrated in Guangdong, Shanghai, Jiangsu, Beijing, and Zhejiang.

For more information:

- Download the report: <https://cset.georgetown.edu/publication/assessing-chinas-ai-workforce>
- Contact: Dahlia Peterson (dahlia.peterson@georgetown.edu)