

Per capita housing area

For all countries, construction constitutes a large proportion of total energy consumption; for developing countries it makes up 20%-25% of total energy consumption and for developed countries it makes up 30%-40%. Unrelenting economic development in China has brought about substantial increases in living standards. In recent years, growth in average living space has been fast; in 2010, China's per capita housing area in urban areas was 31.6 m², a 10.9% increase on 2006's per capita housing area of 28.5 m². Principle factors affecting per capita housing area are; housing manufacturing costs, residents' quality requirements for housing and housing efficiency.

Trajectory 1

In this scenario, continued economic growth has prompted a considerable increase in

housing demand, and residents' quality requirements for housing are increasingly high. Housing area rapidly increases until in 2050 per capita housing area reaches 60 m², approaching the U.S.A's current average per capita housing area, growing by 90% over the next 40 years.

Trajectory 2

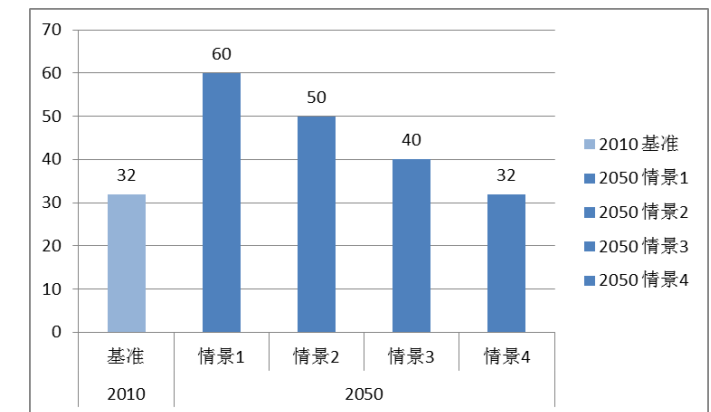
In this scenario, residents' housing requirements show a clear increase. By 2050, the per capita area of urban residents' housing reaches 50 m², reaching the same average level as the current level of developed European countries.

Trajectory 3

Through increasing its housing efficiency, China sees a growth in housing area and housing quality also meets residents' needs. By 2050, per capita housing area reaches 40 m².

Trajectory 4

Owing to continuous growth of urbanisation in China, urban house prices see relentless growth. Residents adopt other measures to improve housing quality, not just expanding housing area. In 2050, the average urban housing area remains at 32 m².



China's per capita housing area in 2050 (m²)