

# **SPE**

## **SOCIETY OF PLASTIC ENGINEERS**

**Una grande organizzazione  
al servizio dell'industria  
delle materie plastiche e della gomma  
per lo sviluppo professionale e scientifico  
degli associati nel mondo industriale**

**Padova, 21 novembre 2007**

# Natural Gas Costs around the World, 2005

(\$US per million BTUs)



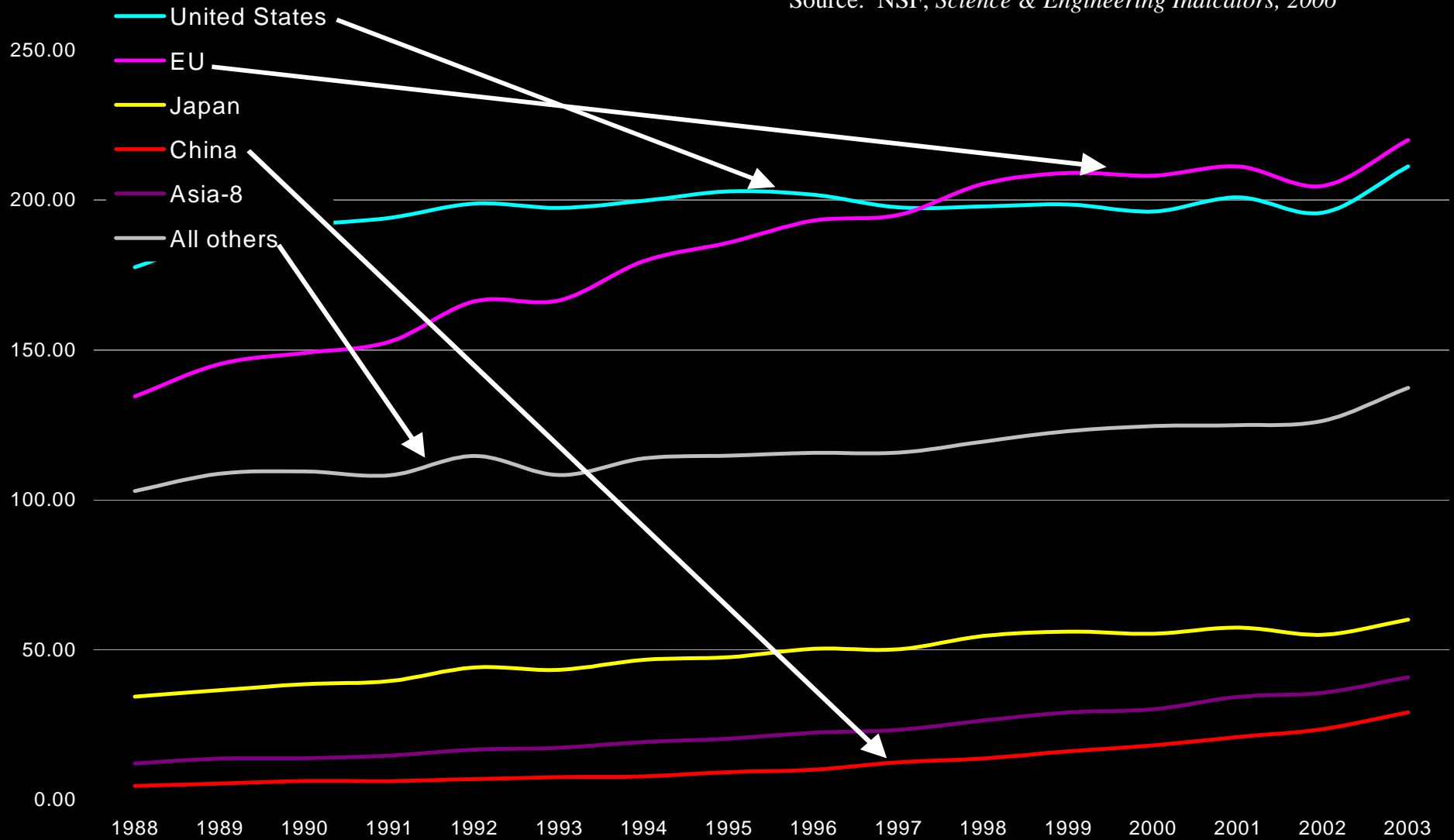
Note: Prices reflect averages for months in which data are available.



# R&D Indicators

Scientific & Technical Articles by Country/Region: 1988-2003

Source: NSF, *Science & Engineering Indicators*, 2006

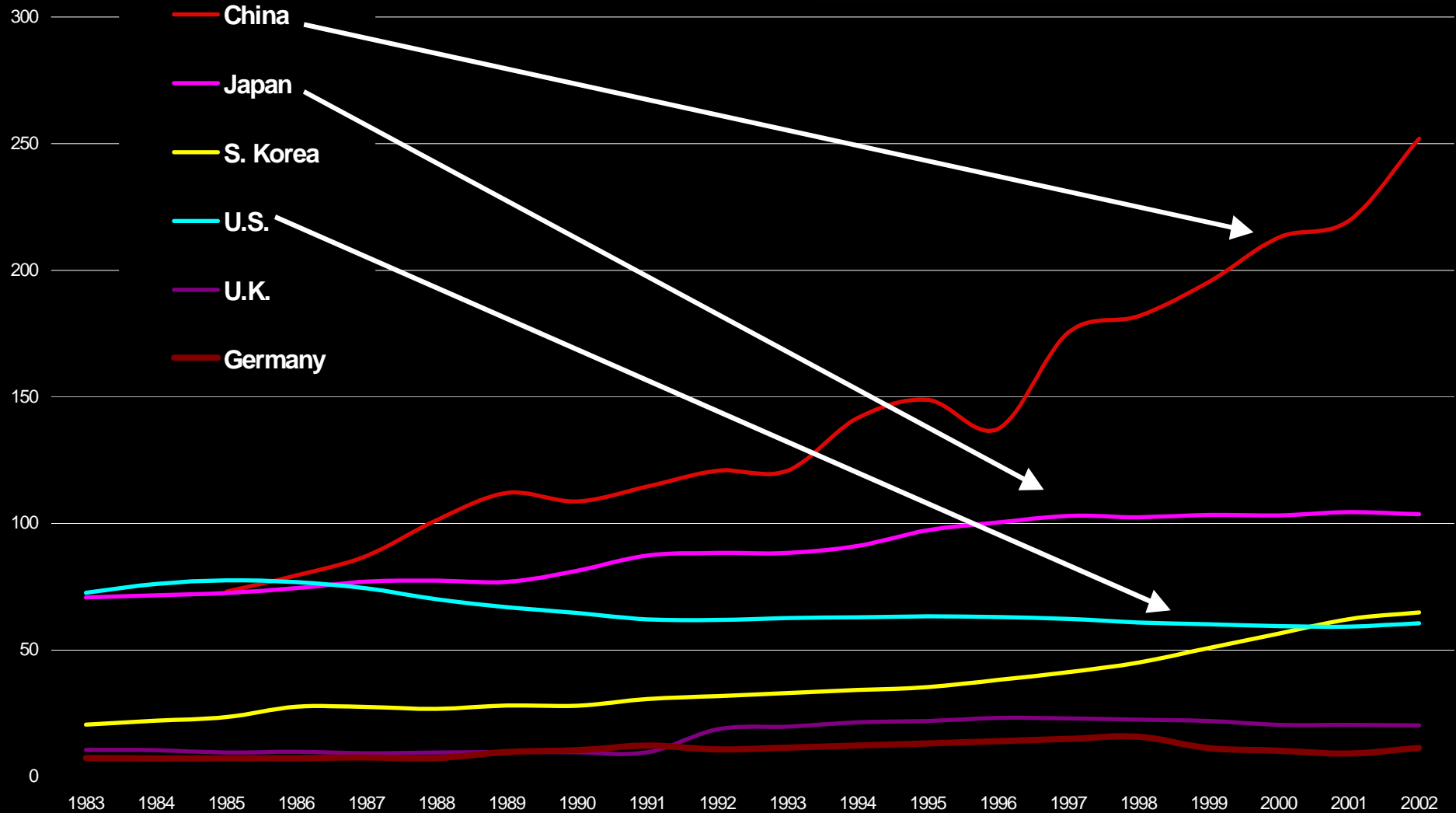




# Engineering Talent, Graduates

Thousands

Source: NSF, *Science & Engineering Indicators*, 2006

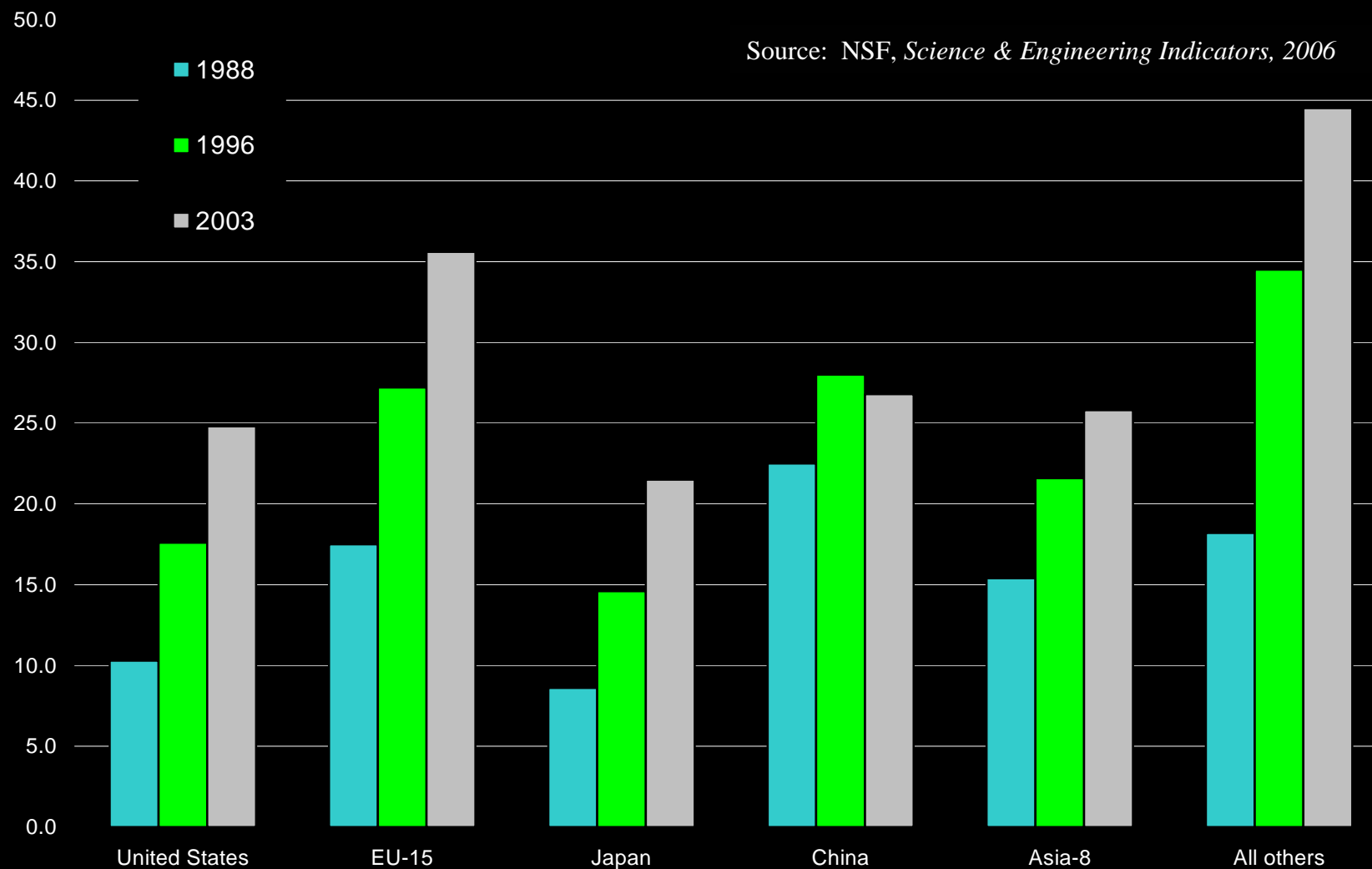




# R&D Indicators, Co-Authorship

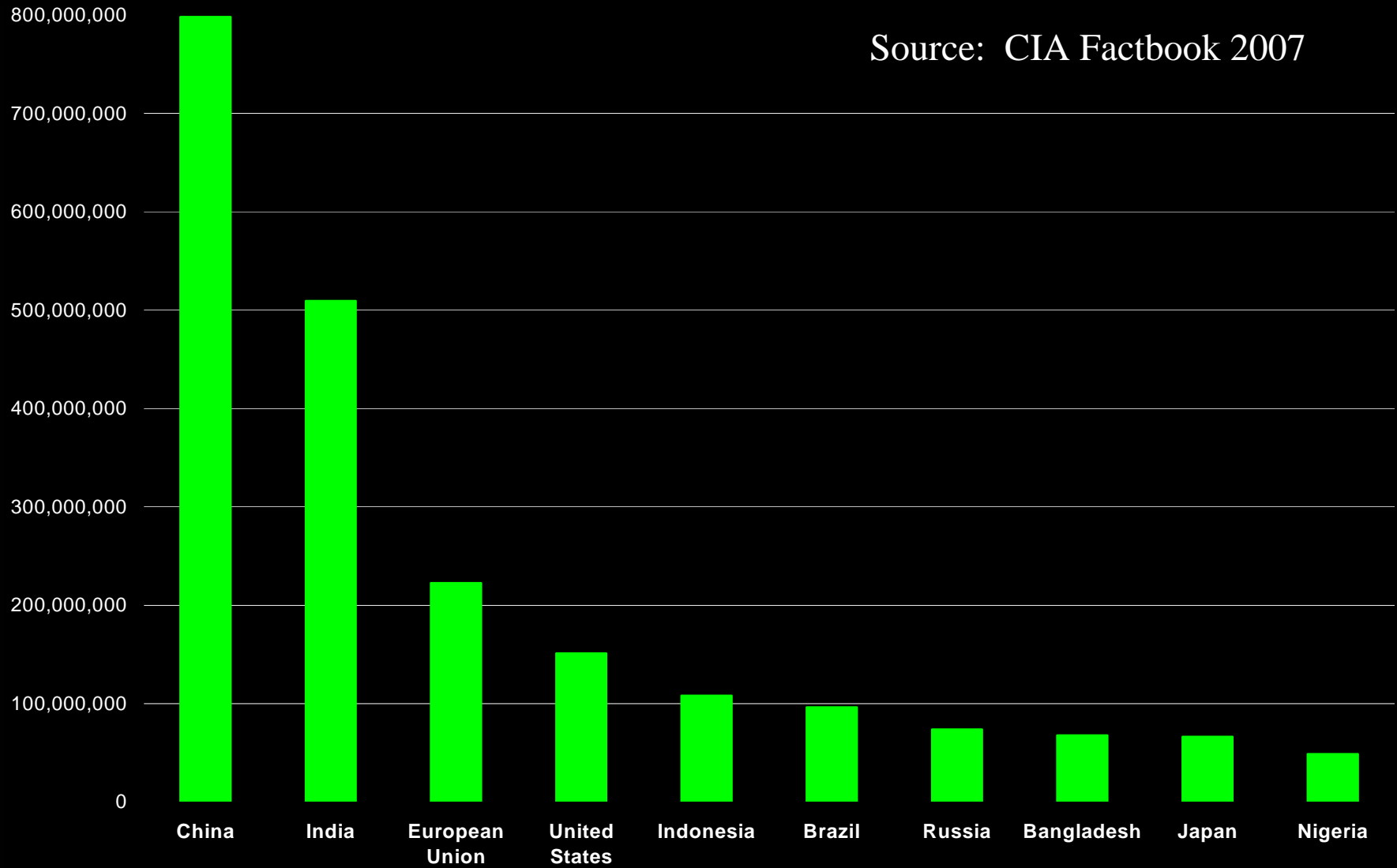
Share of scientific & technical articles with international coauthorship, by country/region: 1988, 1996, 2003

Source: NSF, *Science & Engineering Indicators*, 2006





# Labor Markets





# Markets & Growth

	GDP (millions)	Real GDP Growth 2005- 2006	GDP Per Capita	Industrial Production Growth Rate	Exports (millions)	Imports (millions)	Consumption (millions)
U.S.	\$ 12,980,000	3.4%	\$ 43,500	4.2%	\$ 1,024,000	\$ 1,869,000	\$ 13,825,000
European Union	\$ 12,820,000	2.8%	\$ 29,400	2.8%	\$ 1,330,000	\$ 1,466,000	\$ 12,956,000
China	\$ 10,000,000	10.5%	\$ 7,600	22.9%	\$ 974,000	\$ 777,900	\$ 9,803,900
Japan	\$ 4,220,000	2.8%	\$ 33,100	3.3%	\$ 590,000	\$ 524,000	\$ 4,154,000
India	\$ 4,042,000	8.5%	\$ 3,700	7.5%	\$ 112,000	\$ 187,900	\$ 4,117,900

Source: CIA Factbook 2007, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>



## Key Points

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- More global collaboration on technology
- Constrained growth but strong market in the US
- Constrained growth but strong market in the EU
- Aggressive growth in Asia – China, India, Middle East
- New innovations & technologies from China/Asia
- Greater need for technology transfer and exchange
- Increased need for global networking & sales