

# Research on Inclusiveness of Zhuhai's Community Culture Development

Longfang Chen<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Zhuhai College of Science and Technology, Zhuhai 519041, China

<sup>1</sup>Corresponding author. Email: longfang@zcst.edu.cn

## ABSTRACT

The modernization of urban community governance is the key to promoting the modernization of national governance capacity and governance system. Urban development and culture are inseparable, and the integration of community culture is conducive to the construction of urban community governance community and the social synergy of community cultural governance. The inclusive development of urban community culture is directly related to residents' community identity and sense of belonging. In this study, 8 indicators of cultural development were set up to measure the level of community cultural development in Zhuhai by questionnaire survey, and multiple regression analysis was used to investigate the influencing factors of inclusiveness of community cultural development in Zhuhai. The research results show that the development of community culture in Zhuhai is positive, but the inclusiveness of community culture development needs to be improved. The inclusive degree of community culture development in Zhuhai is mainly affected by the age of community residents, community residence time, political outlook, household registration type and occupation type. The inclusive level of community cultural development in Zhuhai can be improved by strengthening policy support and guidance, improving community cultural participation, promoting multi-cultural exchange and integration, and strengthening community cultural identity and inheritance.

**Keywords:** Community culture, Inclusiveness, Community identity.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The report of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China made it clear that it is necessary to improve the social governance system, build a social governance community in which everyone fulfills their responsibilities and shares in the benefits, and promote the modernization of the national governance system and governance capacity. The Communist Party of China's approach to governance is distinctly grassroots-oriented, underscoring that reinforcing the bedrock of grassroots governance hinges on effective community governance. Effectively advancing the modernization of urban community governance has become a major task of social governance in the new development stage. Zhao Fuxin and Kong Long (2023) argued that the logic of grassroots community governance and the innovative approach to China's modernization development exhibited a high degree of alignment in terms of field construction, value orientation, and

developmental objectives[1]. Urban development is inextricably linked with culture. The integration of community culture facilitates the construction of urban community governance entities and helps mobilize collective social forces through cultural governance at the community level.

Zhuhai, as a key member of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and the core city on the west bank of the Pearl River Estuary, enjoys a unique geographical advantage as the only mainland Chinese city connected to both Hong Kong and Macao by land bridges. The culture of Zhuhai, as an integral part of Xiangshan culture, shares the same origin as the cultures of Zhongshan and Macao. It is the product of dynamic interaction and organic integration among the heritage of Baiyue culture, the traditions of Central Plains culture, and the influence of overseas cultures, embodying a distinctive openness and inclusiveness. At the end of 2021, the registered population of Zhuhai was 1.478 million, the permanent

population was 2.467 million, and the number of immigration was 84,000. At the end of 2022, the registered population of Zhuhai was 1.549 million, the permanent population was 2.477 million, and the number of immigration was 68,000. At the end of 2023, the registered population of Zhuhai was 1.6137 million, the permanent population was 2.494 million, and the number of immigration was 62,000<sup>1</sup>. Zhuhai has attracted an increasing number of immigration with its beautiful natural environment, inclusive urban culture, and favorable business climate, contributing significantly to the city's socioeconomic development. As the most fundamental unit of residents' daily lives, the cultural inclusiveness of communities directly influences the social integration of migrant populations. Only when new immigration can actively participate in community cultural activities, gradually internalize the community's cultural values and behavioral norms, and achieve a transformation of cultural identity, can they truly complete the transition from "spatial residents" to "members of the community collective." Therefore, the inclusiveness of cultural development serves as a window for observing and analyzing the inclusive development of urban communities. So, what is the overall level of Zhuhai's community cultural development? How involved are residents in the community's cultural activities? The research on these issues will reveal the current state and existing problems regarding cultural inclusiveness in Zhuhai's communities, while providing targeted policy insights. Such research is essential for enhancing both the system and capacity of Zhuhai's community management, building a harmonious society, promoting high-quality development, establishing Zhuhai as a core city on the west bank of the Pearl River Estuary and an important pillar in the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. It also has strong theoretical significance and practical value.

Existing research on the inclusion of community culture development mainly focused on the following aspects:

### ***1.1 Community Cultural Development and Inclusive Development***

Lewis Mumford argued that the supreme function of the city is to "store culture, transmit

culture, and create culture" (Lewis Mumford, 2005)[2]. Lou Chengwu (2020) argued that contemporary development constitutes a multidimensional synergistic system integrating political, economic, social, and cultural dimensions, where the inclusiveness quotient of cultural development emerges as the pivotal metric for evaluating new development quality. Community culture had functions of social communication, psychological cohesion, value orientation, behavior norms, and cultural inheritance[3]. Cheng Kun(2023) pointed out that the improvement of community governance efficiency is essentially a cultural governance process with excellent traditional Chinese culture as the spiritual core[4]. Jin Qiao (2023) held that the integration of community culture is conducive to the construction of urban community governance community[5]. Wang Liesheng(2020) proposed that giving full play to the social synergy of community cultural governance is an important support for promoting community governance [6].

### ***1.2 Cultural Integration and Inclusive Community Development***

In the academic discourse system, such concepts as "cultural integration", "cultural adaptation" and "cultural identity" have similar meanings to cultural development. In recent years, domestic scholars' researches on the cultural integration, cultural adaptation and citizenization of migrant workers have provided many theoretical and practical references for the investigation and study of the inclusiveness of urban community culture development. Yuan Zhenlong (2022) found that the development of community culture in the urban-rural fringe of Beijing and Shenzhen is not sufficient, and community integration has not yet been realized in the true sense [7]. Tong Ying (2014) conceptualized cultural integration as a developmental process wherein sustained intergroup contact leads to modifications in the cultural attributes of either one or all participating groups. Acculturation is embodied in immigrants' adaptation to the prevailing language, cultural value and cultural atmosphere of the immigrant destination[8]. Zhou Hao (2012) proposed that acculturation in the index system of social integration is the adaptation of immigrants to the social culture of the place where they move [9]. Liang Hong and Ye Hua (2009) contend that the dual achievement of psychological identification and cultural adaptation signifies the completed state of migrants' urban integration. Only the realization

---

1. Statistics Bureau of Zhuhai. Zhuhai Statistical Yearbook 2024, [https://www.zhuhai.gov.cn/sj/tjsj/tjn/content/post\\_3751708.htm](https://www.zhuhai.gov.cn/sj/tjsj/tjn/content/post_3751708.htm), Last accessed: 3 April 2025.

of cultural integration, integration is the deepest level[10]. Yang Juhua (2015) pointed out that the key to immigrant integration research lies in the advanced stage of social integration, that is, cultural integration [11].

## 2. QUESTIONNAIRE DESIGN AND SURVEY INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Questionnaire Design

Drawing on the measurement indicators of cultural development established by scholars such as Yuan Zhenlong (2022) [7] and Li Zhengang (2017) [12], this study designed eight questions to

assess the level of community cultural development and inclusiveness in Zhuhai. These questions measured the residents' understanding of cultural activities, customs and history of the community, the closeness and breadth of contact with the cultural and sports organizations of the community, the degree of interest in the anecdotes of the community, the sense of identity and the proficiency of the local dialect. By assigning 1-4 points to the 8 measurement indicators of community cultural development, the highest score of community cultural development level is 32 points, and the lowest score is 8 points (see "Table 1").

Table 1. Measuring index and assigning value of community culture development

Indicator	Question	Score			
		4	3	2	1
Knowledge of the cultural activities of the residential community	Have you heard about the cultural activities in your community?	Hear it all the time	It's been said many times	Occasionally hear	Never heard
The degree of closeness with the cultural and sports organization of the residential community	Are you familiar with the cultural and sports organizations in your community?	Fully understand	Fairly familiar	Not familiar	very completely unaware
The breadth of contact with cultural and sports organizations in residential communities	Are you a member of a cultural and sports organization in your community?	Joined 2 or more	Joined 1	Not join	Don't know
Understanding of community customs and habits	Do you know the customs of the community you live in?	Fully understand	Fairly familiar	Not familiar	very completely unaware
Interest in community anecdotes	Do you care about in anecdotes and interesting stories in your local community?	Deeply concerned	Moderately concerned	Not particularly concerned	Completely indifferent
Level of knowledge about the history of your residential community	Do you know about the history of your local community?	Fully understand	Fairly familiar	Not familiar	very completely unaware
Sense of community belonging/attachment	Do you identify yourself as a member of your residential community?	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
Proficiency in the local dialect	Can you communicate with neighbors using the local dialect?	Fluent in local dialect communication	Basic conversational ability	Relies on Mandarin for communication	Only speaks native-place dialect

### 2.2 Survey Introduction

The survey adopted a mixed-mode methodology (combining online and offline channels) to distribute 400 questionnaires across three districts of Zhuhai City (Xiangzhou, Jinwan, and Doumen), collecting 388 valid responses with a 97% validity rate. Among these, Xiangzhou District accounted for 131 responses (33.76%), Jinwan District for 133 (34.28%), and Doumen District for 124 (31.96%).Regarding age distribution, the sample consisted of 7 participants under 18 (1.8%), 136 aged 18-44 (35.05%), 121 aged 45-59 (31.19%), and 124 aged 60 or above (31.96%).In terms of educational attainment, the distribution was as

follows: 211 respondents with secondary education/vocational training or below (54.38%), 130 with college/university education (33.51%), and 47 with postgraduate qualifications (12.11%).Regarding household registration distribution, the sample included 217 local Zhuhai residents (55.93%) and 171 non-local residents (44.07%).The survey sample demonstrated balanced distributions across key demographic variables, including community location, gender, age, educational attainment, and household registration status.

### 3. ANALYSIS OF THE PRESENT SITUATION OF INCLUSIVENESS OF ZHUHAI'S COMMUNITY CULTURE DEVELOPMENT

#### 3.1 *Present Situation of Zhuhai's Community Culture Development*

Based on the measurement indicators and assigned values for community cultural development, the aggregated questionnaire results show that Zhuhai scored 20.64 points in community cultural development, with a scoring rate of 64.51%, indicating an overall relatively low level of performance. It can be seen that community cultural development, as a more profound dimension of progress, exhibits relative compared to more overt developments like community economic growth. Among three districts, Xiangzhou achieved the highest community cultural development score (21.10 points, 67.13% attainment rate), followed by Doumen (20.92 points, 65.37%), while Jinwan recorded the lowest performance (19.56 points, 61.14%). Overall, the development of community culture in Zhuhai shows a positive trend. Community residents have a certain awareness of community cultural activities. But significant improvement potential remains in cultural event publicity, penetration of recreational organizations, cultural heritage preservation and promotion, enhancement of community identity, and linguistic integration.

#### 3.2 *Present Situation of Inclusiveness of Zhuhai's Community Culture Development*

Based on the measurement indicators and scoring criteria for community cultural development, the cultural development score for Zhuhai local residents with household registration was 21.90 points (68.45% attainment rate), while non-local residents scored 16.98 points (53.07% attainment rate). This 15.38 percentage point gap indicates significant room for improvement in the inclusiveness of Zhuhai's community cultural development. In Xiangzhou District, the cultural development score of local registered residence was 24.07 points, with a scoring rate of 75.21%, the score of non-local registered residents was 18.78 points, with a scoring rate of 58.69%. The score of local residents was 16.53 percentage points higher than non-local residents. In Jinwan District, the cultural development score of local registered residence was 21.44 points, with a scoring rate of 66.99%, the score of non-local registered residents was 17.15 points, with a scoring rate of 53.59%. The score of local residents was 13.40 percentage points higher than non-local residents. In Doumen District, the cultural development score of local registered residence was 22.36 points, with a scoring rate of 69.88%, the score of non-local registered residents was 17.15 points, with a scoring rate of 53.59%. The score of local residents was 16.29 percentage points higher than non-local residents (see "Table 2"). Local residents have a stronger sense of community belonging and identity than non-local residents in terms of the degree of connection with community cultural and sports organizations, understanding of the customs and history of the residential community, dialect communication ability and community identity.

Table 2. Comparison of cultural development level of different registered communities

District	Household register	Score	Scored	Difference
Zhuhai City	Local resident	21.90	68.45%	15.38%
	Non-local resident	16.98	53.07%	
Xiangzhou District	Local resident	24.07	75.21%	16.53%
	Non-local resident	18.78	58.69%	
Jinwan District	Local resident	21.44	66.99%	13.40%
	Non-local resident	17.15	53.59%	
Doumen District	Local resident	22.36	69.88%	16.29%
	Non-local resident	17.15	53.59%	

#### 4. ANALYSIS ON INFLUENCING FACTORS OF INCLUSIVENESS OF ZHUHAI'S COMMUNITY CULTURE DEVELOPMENT

##### 4.1 The Overall Influencing Factors of Zhuhai's Community Culture Development Level

Multiple linear regression analysis was performed in this study. Independent variables were gender, age, community residence time, human capital, political affiliation, census register types, household registration type, marital status, family structure and occupational category. The dependent variable was the score of community cultural development level. "Table 3" demonstrates that age, community residence time, political affiliation, household registration type and occupational category exert statistically significant effects on the dependent variable. Among them, the type of household registration has the greatest impact, followed by the length of residence. From the perspective of age, the score rates for cultural development among respondents under 18 years old, 18-44 years old, 45-59 years old, and over 60 years old were 58.04%, 64.75%, 61.85%, and 67.21%, respectively. Currently, participants in Zhuhai's community cultural activities are predominantly elderly residents. Although the community has already developed some distinctive cultural programs and events, their content and formats

often lack innovation, making it difficult to attract the participation of younger residents. From the perspective of length of residence, the longer residents have lived in the community, the higher their participation in community activities, the stronger their cultural identification with the community, and the higher their cultural development scores. The cultural development score rates for residents who had lived in the community for less than six months, 6 months to 1 year, 1 to 5 years, and 5 years or more were 51.18%, 56.07%, 64.20%, and 77.53%, respectively. From the perspective of political affiliation, distinct variations emerge among different groups regarding community cultural integration. The cultural integration score of the Communist Party of China members (70.13%) was 4.18 percentage points higher than that of ordinary citizens (65.95%). From the perspective of household registration status, the data had shown that locally-registered residents exhibited stronger cultural assimilation than their non-local counterparts. From the perspective of occupational factors, cultural integration levels exhibited a gradient differentiation across social strata. Knowledge-intensive occupational groups (including government/enterprise administrators and professional technicians) achieved a significantly higher cultural development score of 67.52%, markedly surpassing the 58.34% score of manual labor groups (comprising agricultural, forestry, animal husbandry, fishery workers, and industrial laborers).

Table 3. The Influencing factors of Zhuhai's community culture development level

	Unstandardized Coefficients	Standardized Coefficient	t	Significance	95.0% confidence interval for B		Collinearity statistics	
	B	Beta			Lower limit	Upper limit	Tolerance	VIF
Constant	26.067		11.591	0.000	21.645	30.489		
Gender	0.313	0.027	0.69	0.491	-0.579	1.206	0.992	1.008
Age	-0.892	-0.133	-3.281	0.001	-1.427	-0.358	0.933	1.072
Community residence time	-2.307	-0.435	-9.944	0.000	-2.763	-1.851	0.808	1.238
Educational attainment	-0.182	-0.022	-0.479	0.632	-0.93	0.566	0.723	1.383
Political affiliation	-1.213	-0.12	-2.838	0.005	-2.053	-0.372	0.857	1.167
Census Register Types	2.284	0.198	4.398	0.000	1.263	3.306	0.765	1.307
Household registration type	-1.053	-0.081	-1.846	0.066	-2.174	0.069	0.798	1.254
Marital status	0.365	0.052	1.181	0.238	-0.243	0.972	0.793	1.262
Family structure	0.057	0.011	0.261	0.794	-0.373	0.487	0.804	1.244
Occupational category	0.555	0.203	4.707	0.000	0.323	0.787	0.827	1.209

R <sup>2</sup>	0.418
F	27.096
P	0.000

#### 4.2 The Influencing Factors of Local Resident's Community Culture Development Level

“Table 4” shows that the P-values of age, community residence time, political status and

occupation are less than 0.05, indicating that they had significant impacts on the cultural development level of local residents. According to the unstandardized coefficient, community residence time had the greatest impact.

Table 4. The Influencing factors of local resident's community culture development level

	Unstandardized Coefficients	Standardized Coefficient	t	Significance	95.0% Confidence interval for B		Collinearity Statistics	
	B	Beta			Lower limit	Upper limit	Tolerance	VIF
Constant	26.142		10.053	0.000	21.015	31.269		
Gender	1.084	0.1	1.95	0.053	-0.012	2.18	0.995	1.005
Age	-1.489	-0.221	-4.128	0.000	-2.2	-0.778	0.915	1.093
Community residence time	-3.018	-0.547	-10.166	0.000	-3.604	-2.433	0.91	1.098
Educational attainment	0.586	0.078	1.307	0.193	-0.298	1.471	0.745	1.343
Political affiliation	-1.317	-0.147	-2.599	0.010	-2.315	-0.318	0.827	1.21
Household registration type	0.986	0.067	1.259	0.209	-0.558	2.529	0.926	1.08
Marital status	0.47	0.075	1.229	0.220	-0.284	1.224	0.714	1.401
Family structure	-0.076	-0.016	-0.263	0.793	-0.644	0.492	0.747	1.339
Occupational category	0.607	0.217	4.067	0.000	0.313	0.901	0.926	1.08
R <sup>2</sup>				0.455				
F				19.205				
P				0.000				

#### 4.3 The Influencing Factors of Non-local Resident's Community Culture Development Level

“Table 5” shows that the P-value of community residence time, educational attainment and household registration type is less than 0.05, indicating that they had a significant impact on the cultural development level of non-local residents. According to the unstandardized coefficient, household registration type had the greatest impact.

Table 5. The Influencing factors of non-local resident's community culture development level

	Unstandardized	Standardized	t	Significance	95.0% Confidence interval for B		Collinearity Statistics	
	Coefficients	Coefficient			Lower limit	Upper limit	Tolerance	VIF
	B	Beta						
Constant	31.346		10.111	0.000	25.224	37.468		
Gender	-0.766	-0.075	-1.122	0.263	-2.114	0.582	0.958	1.044
Age	-0.087	-0.016	-0.229	0.819	-0.841	0.666	0.909	1.1
Community residence time	-1.365	-0.278	-4.083	0.000	-2.025	-0.705	0.929	1.077
Educational Attainment	-1.548	-0.195	-2.555	0.012	-2.745	-0.352	0.74	1.35
Political affiliation	-0.502	-0.051	-0.73	0.466	-1.86	0.856	0.891	1.122
Household registration type	-2.564	-0.249	-3.313	0.001	-4.092	-1.036	0.767	1.305
Marital status	0.589	0.089	1.237	0.218	-0.351	1.529	0.832	1.203
Family structure	0.125	0.029	0.412	0.681	-0.472	0.721	0.89	1.124
Occupational category	0.293	0.126	1.684	0.094	-0.051	0.637	0.77	1.298
R <sup>2</sup>					0.306			
F					7.875			
P					0.000			

## 5. CONCLUSION

The evaluation results showed that Zhuhai's community cultural development attained a total score of 20.64 points, corresponding to a 64.51% achievement rate, which positioned it at a comparatively lower tier based on the assessment criteria. Despite the diverse cultural activities organized by the communities, resident participation remained lackluster, with many events experiencing sparse attendance or predominantly elderly participants. The research identified persistent challenges in linguistic assimilation and cross-cultural exchange, where differences in cultural backgrounds, daily practices, and particularly language barriers significantly constrained residents' engagement with community cultural initiatives. Furthermore, the survey revealed that certain community activities disproportionately emphasized specific formats or catered to particular demographic groups, inadvertently marginalizing other segments of the population through inadequate inclusivity measures. The empirical data revealed that Zhuhai's local residents consistently outperform their non-local residents across six key dimensions of community culture development, which include knowledge of community cultural activities, familiarity with community cultural organizations, knowledge of community customs and history, interest in community anecdotes, identification with community membership and the ability to communicate with neighbors in the local dialect. It demonstrated that the local registered residents had a higher degree of integration and a more pronounced sense of communal belonging than non-local residents. The performance of non-local

residents in Zhuhai was relatively weaker in these aspects, particularly showing significant gaps in their understanding of community cultural activities, identification with community membership, and ability to communicate in the local dialect, which indicated that the inclusiveness of community cultural development needed to be improved.

Going forward, Zhuhai could focus on four key aspects to improve the inclusiveness of community cultural development. The first measure is to enhance policy support and guidance. This includes increasing funding for community cultural development, implementing preferential policies, and encouraging broader societal participation in community cultural activities. The second measure is to boost community cultural engagement. Key steps include optimizing cultural services to meet diverse needs, enriching activity formats for better interaction, and introducing incentive mechanisms (e.g., point rewards, certificates) to motivate participation. The third measure focuses on fostering multicultural interaction. This involves creating exchange platforms, preserving Xiangshan culture's legacy, and utilizing maritime heritage to build unique cultural events (e.g., Maritime Culture Festival). The fourth measure is to reinforce cultural identity and continuity. Key actions include educating residents on local heritage through structured programs, preserving and revitalizing historical landmarks (e.g., Su Zhaozheng's Former Residence) and Intangible Cultural Heritage (e.g., Sanzao Crane Dance), cultivating cultural stewardship among residents for sustained legacy.



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Fund: 2023 Zhuhai Social Science Research Base Project results: Research on Inclusiveness of Zhuhai's Community Culture Development(ZSLT [2023] No. 39).

## REFERENCES

- [1] Zhao Fuxin, Kong Long. The coupling mechanism and construction path of grassroots community governance pattern: based on the perspective of Chinese modernization [J]. Leadership Science, 2023, (06): 97-102.DOI:10.19572/j.cnki.ldkx.2023.06.008.
- [2] Lewis Mumford. Urban development History: Origin, Evolution and Prospect [M]. Song Junling, Ni Wenyan. Beijing: China Architecture and Construction Press, 2005.
- [3] Lou Chengwu. Community Management [M]. Beijing Higher Education Press, 2020.
- [4] Cheng Kun. Xi Jinping's important discussion on community governance [J]. Daqing Social Sciences, 2023,(04): 5-9.
- [5] Jin Qiao. Return to "Xintai": Shifting to the Perspective of a Community for Urban Shequ Governance [J]. Journal of Shanghai University(Social Sciences Edition),2023,40(06):1-14.
- [6] Wang Liesheng. On the social synergy in community cultural governance [J]. Fujian Tribune, 2020, (10):64-76.
- [7] Yuan Zhenlong. An Empirical Study on the Inclusiveness of the Development of Community Culture in Megalo-politan Rural-Urban Continuum: A Case Study of Beijing and Shenzhen [J]. Journal of Beijing Administration Institute, 2022,(4):97-102. DOI:10.16365/j.cnki.11-4054/d.2022.04.014.
- [8] Tong Ying. Research on community cultural development in "village-to-residence" transition areas: An inclusive growth perspective. [J]. Journal of Inner Mongolia Agricultural University(Philosophy and Social Science Edition), 2014, 16 (06): 18-20.
- [9] Zhou Hao. Measurement and Theoretical Perspectives of Immigrant Assimilation in China[J], Population Research,2012(3):27-37.
- [10] Liang Hong, Ye Hua. Research on Situation and Mechanism of the Migrant Resident Population 's Social Integration [J]. Population and Development, 2009, 15 (01): 43-47.
- [11] Yang Juhua. Research on the Assimilation of Floating Population in China [J]. Social Sciences in China,2015(2):61-79.
- [12] Li Zhengang. An Empirical Study of the Influence of Cultural Capital on Social Integration of the New Generation Migrant Workers [J]. Journal of Social Development, 2017(4):85-104.