**Description of how previous intermediate data sets and programs were employed to create the final data set(s):**

The below datasets that we use to create the map (Fig A3) are either the raw SHP and DBF files that can be downloaded online, or files that are created by the do-file (2.paper\_dec2014.do) when making the map.

chinamap.dta Used when making map (Fig A3)  
CHN\_adm1.dbf Used when making map (Fig A3)  
CHN\_adm1.shp Used when making map (Fig A3)

coord.dta Used when making map (Fig A3)

The dataset corruption.dta contains information from Cole et al. (2008), cited in the paper.

The dataset division\_of\_provinces\_into\_regions.dta contains the division of provinces into economic regions that we illustrate in Figure A3.

The dataset promotiondata.dta contains information on the promotion outcomes of each provincial leader. For a subset of the years that we analyze, the data was obtained from Li and Zhou (2005) that we cite in the paper. Our RA has added years, as well as checked the data that was received.

The dataset ruralconsinc.dta contains data from the NBS Household survey, published in 2006 China Yearbook of Rural Household Survey (in Chinese), and tabulated in Keidel (2009), cited in the paper.

We create the main dataset used in the analysis, analysis.dta from chinadata.dta.

Both files are included in the data appendix. Sources of the data in chinadata.dta are described in the paper.