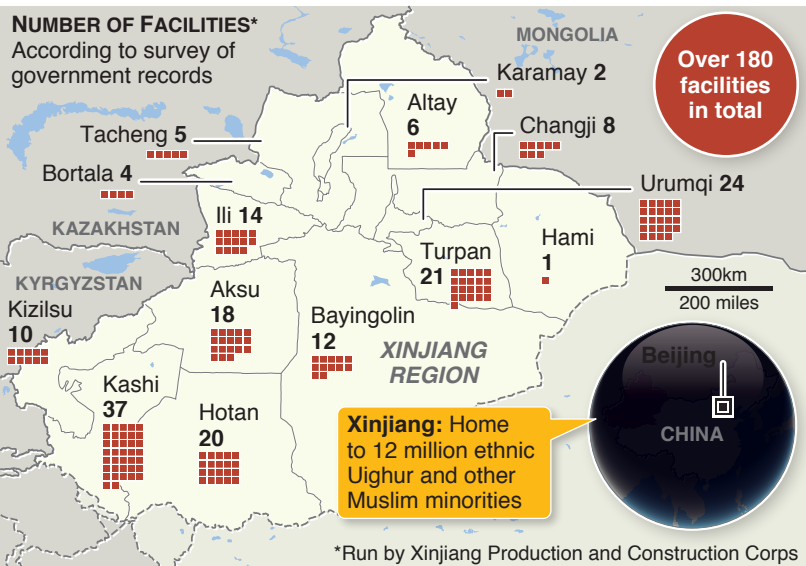


China's internment camps for Uighur Muslims

China has been accused of detaining up to a million ethnic Muslims in its western Xinjiang region. The government says the prison-like structures are “vocational schools” to educate people influenced by extremism

NUMBER OF FACILITIES*

According to survey of government records



■ **2014:** “Vocational education and training centres” first appear following wave of deadly violence in Xinjiang, linked to perceived government campaign of repression against Uighur community

■ **2017:** Surge in spending by justice bureaux throughout Xinjiang – driven largely by huge cost of building and running facilities – amounts to nearly three billion yuan (\$432m), or 577 percent more than planned

■ **Apr 2017:** Local governments begin posting wide variety of tenders related to facilities, including surveillance systems, razor wire, infrared monitoring devices, tear gas, stun guns and spiked clubs

■ **Early 2018:** Equipment purchases by one county in Hotan prefecture include such non-educational items as 2,768 police batons, 550 electric cattle prods, 1,367 pairs of handcuffs and 2,792 cans of pepper spray