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# Chapter 1

## 132

### 1.1 132.guide

Texified version of data for Korea- South.

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Korea- South

### 1.2 132.guide/Korea- South

Korea- South  
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Geography (Korea- South)  
People (Korea- South)  
Government (Korea- South)  
Government (Korea- South 2. usage)  
Economy (Korea- South)  
Economy (Korea- South 2. usage)  
Communications (Korea- South)  
Defense Forces (Korea- South)

### 1.3 132.guide/Geography (Korea- South)

Geography (Korea- South)  
=====

Location:

Northeast Asia, between North Korea and Japan

Map references:

Asia, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

98,480 km<sup>2</sup>

land area:

98,190 km<sup>2</sup>

comparative area:

slightly larger than Indiana

Land boundaries:

total 238 km, North Korea 238 km

Coastline:

2,413 km

Maritime claims:

continental shelf:

not specified

territorial sea:

12 nm; 3 nm in the Korea Strait

International disputes:

Demarcation Line with North Korea; Liancourt Rocks claimed by Japan

Climate:

temperate, with rainfall heavier in summer than winter

Terrain:

mostly hills and mountains; wide coastal plains in west and south

Natural resources:

coal, tungsten, graphite, molybdenum, lead, hydropower

Land use:

arable land:

21%

permanent crops:

1%

meadows and pastures:

1%

forest and woodland:

67%

other:  
 10%  
 Irrigated land:  
 13,530 km2 (1989)  
 Environment:  
 occasional typhoons bring high winds and floods; earthquakes in southwest;  
 air pollution in large cities

## 1.4 132.guide/People (Korea- South)

People (Korea- South)

=====

Population:  
 44,613,993 (July 1993 est.)  
 Population growth rate:  
 1.05% (1993 est.)  
 Birth rate:  
 15.72 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Death rate:  
 6.16 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Net migration rate:  
 0.91 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Infant mortality rate:  
 22.5 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)  
 Life expectancy at birth:  
 total population:  
 70.29 years  
 male:  
 67.1 years  
 female:  
 73.68 years (1993 est.)  
 Total fertility rate:  
 1.64 children born/woman (1993 est.)  
 Nationality:  
 noun:  
 Korean(s)  
 adjective:  
 Korean  
 Ethnic divisions:  
 homogeneous (except for about 20,000 Chinese)  
 Religions:  
 Christianity 48.6%, Buddhism 47.4%, Confucianism 3%, pervasive folk ←  
 religion  
 (Shamanism), Chondogyo (religion of the heavenly way) 0.2%  
 Languages:  
 Korean, English widely taught in high school  
 Literacy:  
 age 15 and over can read and write (1990)  
 total population:  
 96%  
 male:  
 99%

female:  
 94%  
 Labor force:  
 19 million  
 by occupation:  
 services and other 52%, mining and manufacturing 27%, agriculture, fishing,  
 forestry 21% (1991)

## 1.5 132.guide/Government (Korea- South)

Government (Korea- South)

=====

Names:  
 conventional long form:  
 Republic of Korea  
 conventional short form:  
 South Korea  
 local long form:  
 Taehan-min'guk  
 local short form:  
 none  
 Abbreviation:  
 ROK  
 Digraph:  
 KS  
 Type:  
 republic  
 Capital:  
 Seoul  
 Administrative divisions:  
 9 provinces (do, singular and plural) and 6 special cities\* (jikhalsi,, ←  
 singular and plural);  
 Cheju-do, Cholla-bukto, Cholla-namdo,  
 Ch'ungch'ong-bukto, Ch'ungch'ong-namdo, Inch'on-jikhalsi\*, Kangwon-do,, ←  
 Kwangju-jikhalsi\*,  
 Kyonggi-do, Kyongsang-bukto, Kyongsang-namdo,  
 Pusan-jikhalsi\*, Soul-t'ukpyolsi\*, Taegu-jikhalsi\*, Taejon-jikhalsi\*, ←  
 Independence:  
 15 August 1948  
 Constitution:  
 25 February 1988  
 Legal system:  
 combines elements of continental European civil law systems, Anglo-American  
 law, and Chinese classical thought  
 National holiday:  
 Independence Day, 15 August (1948)  
 Political parties and leaders:  
 majority party:  
 Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), KIM Young Sam, president  
 opposition:  
 Democratic Party (DP), LEE Ki Taek, executive chairman; United People's  
 Party (UPP), CHUNG Ju Yung, chairman; several smaller parties

note:  
 the DLP resulted from a merger of the Democratic Justice Party (DJP),  
 Reunification Democratic Party (RDP), and New Democratic Republican Party  
 (NDRP) on 9 February 1990

Other political or pressure groups:  
 Korean National Council of Churches; National Democratic Alliance of Korea;  
 National Federation of Student Associations; National Federation of Farmers ↔  
 ,  
 Associations; National Council of Labor Unions; Federation of Korean Trade  
 Unions; Korean Veterans' Association; Federation of Korean Industries;  
 Korean Traders Association

Suffrage:  
 20 years of age; universal

Elections:  
 President:  
 last held on 18 December 1992 (next to be held NA December 1997); results -  
 KIM Young Sam (DLP) 41.9%, KIM Dae Jung (DP) 33.8%, CHUNG Ju Yung (UPP)  
 16.3%, other 8%

## 1.6 132.guide/Government (Korea- South 2. usage)

Government (Korea- South 2. usage)

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National Assembly:  
 last held on 24 March 1992; results - DLP 38.5%, DP 29.2%, Unification  
 National Party (UNP) 17.3% (name later changed to UPP), other 15%; seats -  
 (299 total) DLP 149, DP 97, UNP 31, other 22; the distribution of seats as  
 of May 1993 was DLP 167, DP 95, UPP 14, other 23

note:  
 the change in the distribution of seats reflects the fluidity of the ↔  
 current  
 situation where party members are constantly switching from one party to  
 another

Executive branch:  
 president, prime minister, two deputy prime ministers, State Council  
 (cabinet)

Legislative branch:  
 unicameral National Assembly (Kuk Hoe)

Judicial branch:  
 Supreme Court

Leaders:  
 Chief of State:  
 President KIM Young Sam (since 25 February 1993)

Head of Government:  
 Prime Minister HWANG In Sung (since 25 February 1993); Deputy Prime ↔  
 Minister  
 LEE Kyung Shick (since 25 February 1993) and Deputy Prime Minister HAN Wan  
 Sang (since 25 February 1993)

Member of:  
 AfDB, APEC, AsDB, CCC, COCOM (cooperating country), CP, EBRD, ESCAP, FAO,  
 G-77, GATT, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC, ICFTU, IDA, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO,



INMARSAT, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, IOM, ISO, ITU, LORCS, OAS (observer), UN ↔  
 ,  
 UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO  
 Diplomatic representation in US:  
 chief of mission:  
 Ambassador HAN Seung Soo  
 chancery:  
 2370 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008  
 telephone:  
 (202) 939-5600  
 consulates general: Agana (Guam), Anchorage, Atlanta, Chicago, Honolulu, ↔  
 Houston, Los Angeles,  
 New York, San Francisco, and Seattle  
 US diplomatic representation:  
 chief of mission:  
 (vacant), Charge d'Affaires Raymond BURGHARDT  
 embassy:  
 82 Sejong-Ro, Chongro-ku, Seoul, AMEMB, Unit 15550  
 mailing address:  
 APO AP 96205-0001  
 telephone:  
 [82] (2) 732-2601 through 2618  
 FAX:  
 [82] (2) 738-8845  
 consulate:  
 Pusan  
 Flag:  
 white with a red (top) and blue yin-yang symbol in the center; there is a  
 different black trigram from the ancient I Ching (Book of Changes) in each  
 corner of the white field

## 1.7 132.guide/Economy (Korea- South)

### Economy (Korea- South)

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#### Overview:

The driving force behind the economy's dynamic growth has been the planned development of an export-oriented economy in a vigorously entrepreneurial society. Real GNP increased more than 10% annually between 1986 and 1991. This growth ultimately led to an overheated situation characterized by a tight labor market, strong inflationary pressures, and a rapidly rising current account deficit. As a result, in 1992, focusing attention on ↔  
 slowing  
 the growth rate of inflation and reducing the deficit is leading to a slow-down in growth. The economy remains the envy of the great majority of the world's peoples.

#### National product:

GNP - purchasing power equivalent - \$287 billion (1992 est.)

#### National product real growth rate:

5% (1992 est.)

#### National product per capita:

\$6,500 (1992 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

4.5% (1992 est.)

Unemployment rate:

2.4% (1992 est.)

Budget:

revenues \$48.4 billion; expenditures \$48.4 billion, including capital expenditures of \$NA (1993)

Exports:

\$76.8 billion (f.o.b., 1992)

commodities:

textiles, clothing, electronic and electrical equipment, footwear, machinery, steel, automobiles, ships, fish

partners:

US 24%, Japan 15% (1992)

Imports:

\$81.7 billion (c.i.f., 1992)

commodities:

machinery, electronics and electronic equipment, oil, steel, transport equipment, textiles, organic chemicals, grains

partners:

Japan 24%, US 22% (1992)

External debt:

\$42 billion (1992)

Industrial production:

growth rate 5.0% (1992 est.); accounts for about 45% of GNP

Electricity:

24,000,000 kW capacity; 105,000 million kWh produced, 2,380 kWh per capita (1992)

Industries:

textiles, clothing, footwear, food processing, chemicals, steel, electronics, automobile production, shipbuilding

Agriculture:

accounts for 8% of GNP and employs 21% of work force (including fishing and forestry); principal crops - rice, root crops, barley, vegetables, fruit; livestock and livestock products - cattle, hogs, chickens, milk, eggs; self-sufficient in food, except for wheat; fish catch of 2.9 million metric tons, seventh-largest in world

Economic aid:

US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-89), \$3.9 billion; non-US countries (1970-89), \$3.0 billion

Currency:

1 South Korean won (W) = 100 chon (theoretical)

## 1.8 132.guide/Economy (Korea- South 2. usage)

Economy (Korea- South 2. usage)

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Exchange rates:

South Korean won (W) per US\$1 - 791.99 (January 1993), 780.65 (1992), ↵  
733.35

(1991), 707.76 (1990), 671.46 (1989), 731.47 (1988)

Fiscal year:

calendar year

## 1.9 132.guide/Communications (Korea- South)

Communications (Korea- South)

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### Railroads:

3,091 km total (1991); 3,044 km 1.435 meter standard gauge, 47 km 0.610-meter narrow gauge, 847 km double track; 525 km electrified, government owned

### Highways:

63,201 km total (1991); 1,551 expressways, 12,190 km national highway, 49,460 km provincial and local roads

### Inland waterways:

1,609 km; use restricted to small native craft

### Pipelines:

petroleum products 455 km

### Ports:

Pusan, Inchon, Kunsan, Mokpo, Ulsan

### Merchant marine:

431 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 6,689,227 GRT/11,016,014 DWT; includes 2 short-sea passenger, 138 cargo, 61 container, 11 refrigerated cargo, 9 vehicle carrier, 45 oil tanker, 12 chemical tanker, 13 liquefied gas, 2 combination ore/oil, 135 bulk, 2 combination bulk, 1 multifunction large-load carrier

### Airports:

total:

103

usable:

93

with permanent-surface runways:

59

with runways over 3,659 m:

0

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

22

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

18

### Telecommunications:

excellent domestic and international services; 13,276,449 telephone subscribers; broadcast stations - 79 AM, 46 FM, 256 TV (57 of 1 kW or greater); satellite earth stations - 2 Pacific Ocean INTELSAT and 1 Indian Ocean INTELSAT

## 1.10 132.guide/Defense Forces (Korea- South)

Defense Forces (Korea- South)

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Branches:

Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 13,286,969; fit for military service 8,542,640; reach  
military age (18) annually 432,434 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$12.2 billion, 3.6% of GNP (1993 est.)