



## Country Profile: South Korea

The Republic of Korea (South Korea or ROK) is a highly developed, stable, democratic republic with powers shared between the president and the legislature. It has a modern economy, and tourist facilities are widely available. English is often not spoken outside the main tourist and business centers. Please read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on South Korea for additional information.

### COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	South Korea (the Republic of Korea)
Continent:	Asia
Capital City:	Seoul
Boundary Countries:	North Korea 238 km
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	Gyeongsang National University Hospital (Chinju), Chunchon Sacred Heart Hospital (Gangwon-Do), Wonju Christian Hospital (Gangwon-Do), Severance Mental Health Hospital (Gyeonggi-Do), Yongin Hospital (Gyeonggi-Do), Pusan National University Hospital, Hangang Sacred Heart Hospital (Seoul), Kangbuk Samsung Hospital (Seoul), Kangdong Sacred Heart Hospital (Seoul), Kangnam Sacred Heart Hospital (Seoul), Samsung Medical Center (Seoul), Seoul National University Hospital, Severance Hospital (Seoul), Yongdong Hospital (Seoul).
Main Cities:	Seoul, Mokp'o, Ulsan, Pusan, Yuseon, Kwangju, Masan, P'ohang, Taegu, Taejŏn, Wŏnju, Tonghhae, Inch'ŏn, Chŏnju, Kangnŭng, Yosu.
Country Size:	98,480 sq km
Population:	49,044,790

### COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Korean, English widely taught in junior high and high school.
Currency:	South Korean Won (KRW)
Predominant Religions:	Christian 26.3% (Protestant 19.7%, Roman Catholic 6.6%), Buddhist 23.2%, other or unknown 1.3%, none 49.3%.
National Holidays:	Liberation Day, 15 August (1945)
Economic Status:	Moderate inflation, low unemployment, an export surplus, and fairly equal distribution of income characterize this solid economy.
Security:	Army, Navy, Republic of Korea Air Force (Han-guk Kong Goon), Marine Corps, National Maritime Police (coast guard).
US Presence:	<a href="#">U.S. Embassy Seoul</a> 188 Sejong-daero, Jongno-gu, Seoul, Korea 03141 Phone: 82-2-397-4114
Major Airports:	Airports: 107, Airports w/paved runways: 69

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