

JSISA/ANTH 448A; Modern Korean Society
Professor Sorensen
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Handout #1

Basic Facts on Korea and Koreans 2022

(Economic data mostly World Bank except for North Korea CIA Factbook)

If Korea were United:

Size: 221.3 km²

-16th in Asia

-most similar in size to Laos

Population: 75 million

-8th in Asia

-most similar in size to Vietnam, equivalent to a medium-sized Chinese province

Gross Domestic Product: \$1.45 trillion (current prices)

-currently 4th in Asia (after Japan, China, and India but before Russia, and basically similar in size to Italy)

Democratic People's Republic of Korea (Chosŏn minjujuŭi inmin konghwaguk) 조선민주주의인민공화국 “朝鮮民主主義人民共和國”

Size: 122.8 thousand km² (55% of Korea)

-percent cultivated: 22.4%

Population: 25.4 million (33% of Korea)

-population density: 200/km²

-percent urban: 61%

GDP: \$40.0 billion (PPP estimate)

Per capita income: \$1,800 PPP (estimate had been \$1,123 in 1989, \$573 in 1998, \$1,900 in 2009)

Agriculture as percent of GDP: 22.4%

Manufacturing as percent of GDP: 47.6% (industry)

Life Expectancy: 70.1

Infant mortality: 23.7/1000

Total fertility rate 1.97

Urbanization: 61.9%

Head of State: Kim Chŏng-ŭn [Kim Jong Un] 33, has run the country since the death of his father Kim Jong Il in December 2011. His current titles include General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea (2021), President of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK (2016), and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces of the DPRK. He is often referred to in North Korea media as “Respected Comrade General Secretary”, or simply “Marshall.” His being President of the State Affairs Commission makes him head of state now. First Vice Chairman of the State Affairs Commission, Ch'oe Ryong-hae, is second-in-command, while the highest bureaucrat is the Prime Minister Kim Tok-hun (since August 2020) who is also on the Central Committee of the Korean

Workers Party. The Foreign Minister is Ch'oe Son-hui while Kim Kyegwan often deals with the US. 김정은 (金正恩)은 조선로동당 총비서, 국무 위원장 과 무력 총사령관 이시다. 최룡해는 최고인민회의 상임위원장 (常任 委員長) 과 조선 로동당 중앙위원회 정치국 상무위원 이다. 김덕훈은 당 중앙위원회 위원, 내각총리 內閣總理)다. 최선희 외무상 (外務相)이시다.

Republic of Korea (Taehan min'guk) 대한민국 “大韓民國”

Size: 98.5 thousand km² (45% of Korea)
-19% cultivated

Population: 50.4 million (67% of Korea)
-population density: 505/km²
-percent urban: 82.5

GNI: \$1.53 trillion (current dollars at official exchange rate, \$1.981 bil PPP)
per capita income \$40,096 (current dollars)—similar to Spain or New Zealand

Agriculture as percent of GDP: 2.6%

Manufacturing as percent of GDP: 39.2%

Life Expectancy: 80 years

Infant mortality: 3.86/1000

Total fertility rate 1.25

Urbanization: 81.5%

President: Yoon Suk-yeol 윤석열 대통령 尹錫悅 大統領,

People Power Party 국민의 힘 or United Future Party 미래통합당

-elected to single 5-year term beginning in May 2022 following the presidency of liberal

Moon Jae-in of the Together Democratic Party 더불어 민주당

Prime Minister (appointed by president with National Assembly Approval): Chung Se-kyun (since 2000) 한덕수 국무총리 韓憲洙 國務總理

Speaker of the National Assembly: Kim Jin-pyo 박병석 국회의장 國會議長

(Democratic Party since they won the 2020 National Assembly Elections with the next Next elections in 2024).

Foreign Minister: Park Jin 외교부 장관 外交部 長官 since May 2002.

Overseas Koreans (7.5 million estimate)

PRC (Chosŏnjok 朝鮮族)

- Yanbian Korean Autonomous Prefecture (PRC)
 - 2.3 million residents (32% Korean= about 750,000)
- Changbai Korean Autonomous County (PRC)
 - 85,000 of which 16% are Korean (about 14,000)
- Chaoxianzu in other parts of China (Shenyang, Beijing, Qingdao) about 1 million
- Ethnic Korean Chinese in South Korea about 500,000
- South Koreans in China (Beijing, Shenzhen) more than 100,000
- North Koreans in China estimate of about 50,000 illegal migrants

Japan (在日朝鮮人)

- Zainichi (515,000)—Korean residents of Japan from pre-1945 immigrants

- Koreans naturalized as Japanese (284,000)
- Students and others (100,000)

USA

- Korean Americans (1.7 million) in big cities (Los Angeles, New York, Washington DC)

Russia and Central Asia (Koryŏ saram 高麗人)

- Uzbekistan (198,000) Tashkent
- Russia (125,000)
- Kazakhstan (105,000)

(also Canada, Australia, Vietnam each more than 100,000, and Philippines, Brazil, Argentina each more than 25,000)