**Country Fact Folder**

Name: Nina Liu Date: 2013.4.22

Official name: Republic of Korea (CIA)

Common name(s): South Korea (CIA)

Flag:



(CIA)

**Geography**

Location:

(i.e. in the Middle East, between X country and Y country, north of Z river)

Eastern Asia, southern half of the Korean Peninsula bordering the Sea of Japan and the Yellow Sea

(CIA)

Map:



(CIA)

Area:

1. Total: 99,720 sq km
2. Land: 96,920 sq km
3. Water: 2,800 sq km

(CIA)

Bordering nations:

North Korea

(CIA)

Natural resources, including well-known rivers, mountains, deserts, etc:

(i.e. Gobi Desert, Nile River)

coal, tungsten, graphite, molybdenum, lead, hydropower potential

(CIA)

**People**

Population:

1. Total: 48,955,203 (CIA)
2. Male: 24,215.51 (CIA)
3. Female: 24,372.82 (CIA)

Population growth rate (how quickly the population grows): 0.204% (CIA)

Birth rate (of X babies born, the % that survives): 1.19% (CIA)

Life expectancy (for how many years is the average person able to live): 79.3 years (CIA)

What are the biggest ethnic groups?

(i.e. Turks, Han Chinese)

homogeneous (except for about 20,000 Chinese)

(CIA)

What are the most common religions?

(i.e. Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism)

Christian 31.6% (Protestant 24%, Roman Catholic 7.6%), Buddhist 24.2%, other or unknown 0.9%, none 43.3% (CIA)

Most common language(s) spoken:

(i.e. Bahasa Malay, Norwegian)

Korean, English (CIA)

How to say “hello” in most common language(s):

안녕 하세요

Hello

Literacy (the % of people who can read and write):

1. Total: 97.9% (CIA)
2. Male: 99.2% (CIA)
3. Female: 96.6% (CIA)

**Government**

Government type:

(i.e. representative democracy, constitutional monarchy)

Republic (CIA)

Capital: Seoul (CIA)

Major cities:

Busan (Pusan), Daegu (Taegu), Daejon (Taejon), Gwangju (Kwangju), Incheon (Inch'on), Ulsan (CIA)

Independence (what year was the country established as a modern nation-state?):

15 August 1945 (CIA)

Key political leaders:

(i.e. President: Barack Obama)

President: Park Geun-hye

(“Park Geun-hye”. Baidu. 23 April 2013. <<http://baike.baidu.com/view/276606.htm>>)

Participation in *regional* organizations, conventions, treaties, and agreements:

(i.e. NATO, ASEAN, NAFTA)

ASEAN (CIA)

Participation in *international* organizations, conventions, treaties, and agreements:

(i.e. Kyoko Protocol, United Nations, Genocide Convention)

G-20, IAEA, IBRD, UN, UNAMID, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNIFIL, UNISFA, UNMIL, UNMISS, UNMOGIP, UNOCI, UNWTO, UPU, WCO, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO, ZC (CIA)

*Describe* the country’s position and influence in its region:

(i.e. for China, you can say that it is an economic and political leader in Asia)

It is an economic and traditional country in Aisa.

*Describe* the country’s position and influence internationally:

(i.e. you can say that India is one of the rising economies in the world but is not at a point where it can be called a world leader in terms of economic, military, or political influence )

Republic of Korea is one of the rising economies in the world but its birth rate is low in the world. Its military and political influence is still rising.

**Economy**

GDP: $1.611 trillion as of year 2012 (CIA)

GDP per capita: $32,400 as of year 2012 (CIA)

Agricultural products:

rice, root crops, barley, vegetables, fruit; cattle, pigs, chickens, milk, eggs; fish

(CIA)

Industries:

electronics, telecommunications, automobile production, chemicals, shipbuilding, steel

(CIA)

What does the country import and export?

Import: machinery, electronics and electronic equipment, oil, steel, transport equipment, organic chemicals, plastics (CIA)

Export: semiconductors, wireless telecommunications equipment, motor vehicles, computers, steel, ships, petrochemicals (CIA)

Which countries are your country’s biggest trade partners?

China

US

Japan (CIA)

Currency:

(i.e. USD, RMB)

USD, KRW

Exchange rate:

(i.e. RMB 6.1 = USD 1)

KRW 1121.16 = USD 100 (<http://www.123cha.com/hl/?q=100&from=USD&to=KRW&s=USDKRW#symbol=USDKRW=X;range=3m>)

**Military**

Military branches (the different parts of the military):

(i.e. Turkish Armed Forces, Turkish Land Forces)

Republic of Korea Army, Navy (includes Marine Corps), Air Force (CIA)

Manpower available for military service:

1. Total: 25,609,290
2. Males: 13,185,794 (CIA)
3. Females: 12,423,496 (CIA)

Military expenditures (% of GDP):

2.7% of GDP

**International Issues**

Military, political, and border disputes:

(i.e. my country is fighting with Y country over who the Z river belongs to)

My country is fighting with Japan over the Liancourt Island belongs to. (<http://www.china.com.cn/zhuanti2005/node\_5820129.htm>)

Economic disputes:

(A country wants to sell oil to B country with no tax, but B country will not agree)

Republic of Korea has technologies and trade competitions with Japan. (<http://viewpoint.inewsweek.cn/columns/columns-2284.html>)

Environmental problems:

(i.e. pollution, melting glaciers)

Air pollution, water pollution (<http://xk.cn.yahoo.com/articles/080128/1/8c75\_2.html>)

Illicit trade (drugs, weapons, people, etc):

(i.e. heroine, machine guns)

Tobacco Products (<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2013/fctc\_20130110/en/>)

Refugees and displaced persons:

(i.e. 2,000+ people with no citizenship)

Many North Korean refugees and displaced persons came to South Korea.

(<http://www.360doc.com/content/06/1225/18/7579\_306381.shtml>)

Other disputes and issues:

South Korea is urging Japan not go through with celebrations marking the incorporation of disputed islands, saying it will further inflame relations over a territory dispute that has already soured ties. Dubbed "Takeshima Day", South Korea has also raised concerns that senior Japanese government officials are scheduled to attend the celebratory event.

(<http://english.cntv.cn/program/newshour/20130222/104325.shtml>)

**Work Cited:**

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“South Korea” Central Intelligence Agency 24 April 2013 <https://www.cia.gov/library/index.html>  
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“Park Geun-hye”. Baidu. 23 April 2013. <http://baike.baidu.com/view/276606.htm>

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Nina, you’ve done a good job with the information, but the citations are not properly written. Please take a look at the citations guide and see me for help.

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