# SOUTH KOREA





GOVERNMENT Chief of State

Head of Government

presidential republic

**Government Type** 

Capital

Seoul

Judiciary

Legislature

(300 seats)

Ambassador to US

**US** Ambassador

**GEOGRAPHY** 

Total: 99,720 sq km

Land: 96,920 sq km

Water: 2,800 sg km

winter: cold winters

hydropower potential

Natural Resources

Area

Climate

Ambassador CHO Yoon-je

Ambassador Harry HARRIS

Prime Minister LEE Nak-yon

unicameral National Assembly or Kuk Hoe

Supreme Court of South Korea (consists of a

temperate, with rainfall heavier in summer than

coal, tungsten, graphite, molybdenum, lead,

chief justice and 13 justices); Constitutional Court (consists of a court head and 8 justices)





# **ECONOMY**

# **Economic Overview**

policies that favored saving and investment, and exports, over domestic consumption have lifted South Korea up from being one of the poorest countries in the world in the 1960s to one of the wealthiest today, creating one of the 20th century's most remarkable economic success stories

### **GDP** (Purchasing Power Parity)

### \$2.035 trillion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$39,500 (2017 est.)

# Exports

\$577.4 billion (2017 est.) partners: China 25.1%, US 12.2%, Vietnam 8.2%, Hong Kong 6.9%, Japan 4.7% (2017)

# Imports

\$457.5 billion (2017 est.) partners: China 20.5%, Japan 11.5%, US 10.5%, Germany 4.2%, Saudi Arabia 4.1% (2017)

# **PEOPLE & SOCIETY**

# Population

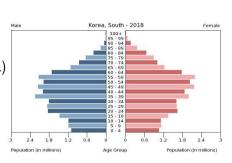
51.4 million (July 2018 est.)

**Population Growth** 

0.44% (2018 est.) Ethnicity

# homogenous

Language



Korean, English (widely taught in elementary, junior high, and high school)

# Religion

Protestant 19.7%, Buddhist 15.5%, Catholic 7.9%, none 56.9% (2015 est.)

note: many people also carry on at least some Confucian traditions and practices

# Urbanization

urban population: 81.4% of total population (2019) rate of urbanization: 0.3% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)





#### as of December 2019