

Country Profile SOUTH KOREA

Region: Asia-Pacific



2020 EPI Country Rank (out of 180)

28

2020 EPI Score [0=worst, 100=best]

66.5

GDP [PPP 2011\$ billions]

1,899.0

GDP *per capita* [\$]

36,777

Population [millions]

51.6

Urbanization [%]

81.41

Country Scorecard

Issue Categories

Rank [/180]

Environmental Health

Air Quality

Sanitation & Drinking Water

Heavy Metals

Waste Management

Ecosystem Vitality

Biodiversity & Habitat

Ecosystem Services

Fisheries

Climate Change

Pollution Emissions

Agriculture

Water Resources

27

28

23

16

13

39

84

100

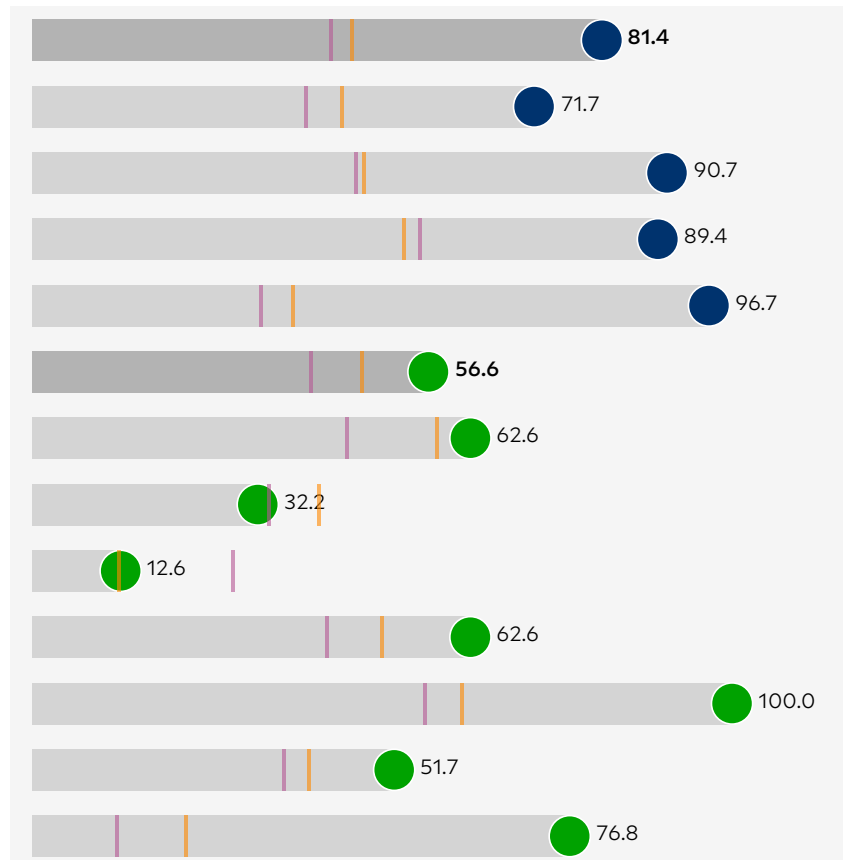
70

50

1

47

21



■ Regional Average ■ World Average

Region: Asia-Pacific

	Rank	EPI Score	10-Year Change	Regional Rank	Regional Average
Environmental Performance Index	28	66.5	+2.2	2	40.8
Environmental Health	27	81.4	+2.3	3	42.4
Air Quality	28	71.7	+1.9	3	39.0
Household solid fuels	1	100	+2.6	1	33.1
PM _{2.5} exposure	45	53.8	+2.0	4	42.0
Ozone exposure	91	41.7	-6.6	15	53.2
Sanitation & Drinking Water	23	90.7	+2.2	3	46.2
Unsafe sanitation	1	100	+2.9	1	51.1
Unsafe drinking water	26	84.4	+1.6	3	42.9
Heavy Metals / Lead exposure	16	89.4	+11.3	2	55.4
Waste Management / Controlled solid waste	13	96.7	-	2	32.7
Ecosystem Vitality	39	56.6	+2.1	2	39.7
Biodiversity & Habitat	84	62.6	+0.4	7	44.9
Terrestrial biomes (nat'l)	73	88.2	+2.2	9	58.3
Terrestrial biomes (global)	72	88.2	+2.2	10	56.9
Marine protected areas	52	17.2	+2.8	4	12.5
Protected Areas Representativeness Index	128	16	+2.4	13	15.7
Species Habitat Index	107	78.6	-12.9	6	62.6
Species Protection Index	52	90.1	+0.5	5	62.5
Biodiversity Habitat Index	84	54.2	-0.3	16	58.2
Ecosystem Services	100	32.2	-7.7	11	33.8
Tree cover loss	81	32.8	-7.6	10	32.6
Grassland loss	165	11.3	-20.2	16	51.2
Wetland loss	115	42.1	+3.9	5	45.1
Fisheries	70	12.6	+0.6	16	28.6
Fish Stock Status	13	23	+2.9	4	13.0
Marine Trophic Index	86	11.6	-	14	32.4
Fish caught by trawling	70	1.5	-1.3	22	37.8
Climate Change	50	62.6	+4.0	3	42.1
CO ₂ growth rate	75	45.5	+3.7	5	30.6
CH ₄ growth rate	1	100	+24.2	1	59.7
F-gas growth rate	1	100	+0.9	1	90.5
N ₂ O growth rate	30	81.5	-18.5	5	58.7
Black Carbon growth rate	1	100	-	1	56.2
CO ₂ from land cover	122	36.5	-	11	38.5
Greenhouse gas intensity growth rate	106	44.8	-12.2	12	43.1
Greenhouse gas emissions <i>per capita</i>	158	15.9	-4.4	22	52.6
Pollution Emissions	1	100	+19.6	1	56.1
SO ₂ growth rate	1	100	-	1	69.2
NO _x growth rate	1	100	+39.1	1	43.1
Agriculture / Sustainable Nitrogen Management Index	47	51.7	+1.4	8	35.9
Water Resources / Wastewater treatment	21	76.8	-	2	11.9

Note: three largest increases in green and three largest decreases in red. "-" indicates no change.

Country Profile

SOUTH KOREA

Peer Comparisons: EPI Scores for this country and peers based on similar characteristics

EPI Performance	
United States of America	69.3
Greece	69.1
Slovakia	68.3
Portugal	67.0
South Korea	66.5
Israel	65.8
Estonia	65.3
Cyprus	64.8
Romania	64.7
Hungary	63.7

GDP per capita	
France	80.0
Japan	75.1
Spain	74.3
New Zealand	71.3
Italy	71.0
Czech Republic	71.0
Malta	70.7
South Korea	66.5
Israel	65.8
Oman	38.5

Issue Performance	
Austria	79.6
Germany	77.2
Netherlands	75.3
Belgium	73.3
Ireland	72.8
Slovenia	72.0
Canada	71.0
Italy	71.0
Greece	69.1
South Korea	66.5

Regulatory Quality	
France	80.0
Spain	74.3
Belgium	73.3
South Korea	66.5
Israel	65.8
Cyprus	64.8
Lithuania	62.9
Latvia	61.6
Mauritius	45.1
Georgia	41.3

Voice & Accountability	
Greece	69.1
South Korea	66.5
Latvia	61.6
Poland	60.9
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	48.4
Mauritius	45.1
Dominica	44.6
Bahamas	43.5
Saint Lucia	43.1
Samoa	37.3

Political Stability	
Germany	77.2
United States of America	69.3
South Korea	66.5
Estonia	65.3
Cyprus	64.8
Poland	60.9
Costa Rica	52.5
Cuba	48.4
Jamaica	48.2
São Tomé and Príncipe	37.6

Asia-Pacific	
Japan	75.1
South Korea	66.5
Singapore	58.1
Taiwan	57.2
Brunei Darussalam	54.8
Malaysia	47.9
Thailand	45.4
Tonga	45.1
Philippines	38.4
Indonesia	37.8

G-20	
France	80.0
Germany	77.2
Japan	75.1
Australia	74.9
Canada	71.0
Italy	71.0
United States of America	69.3
South Korea	66.5
Mexico	52.6
Argentina	52.2

Ease of Doing Business Index	
Denmark	82.5
United Kingdom	81.3
Sweden	78.7
Norway	77.7
United States of America	69.3
South Korea	66.5
Singapore	58.1
United Arab Emirates	55.6
Malaysia	47.9
Georgia	41.3

Note: 'Issue Performance' based on *k*-nearest neighbors analysis of EPI issue categories.

Sources: GDP *per capita*, Worldwide Governance Indicators, and Ease of Doing Business Index from World Bank DataBank. Urbanization rate from UN, Dept. of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division.