

THE TERRITORY OF KOREA



The Korean Peninsula spans a large range of latitudes and of altitudes, allowing for a rich diversity of environmental conditions, habitats, landscapes, and human activities. Altitudes range from sea level to over 2,740 m at the highest peak. The peninsula stretches between 33 and 44 degrees north latitude and between 124 and 132 degrees east longitude. This

latitudinal position, along with the proximity of the ocean, gives Korea warm, humid summers and cold, relatively dry winters. The peninsula is surrounded on three sides by water and bounded on the north by the nations of China and Russia. The four edges of the territory of Korea are marked by: Bidanseom Island at the westernmost point, Yuwonjin at the northernmost

point, Dokdo at the easternmost point, and Marado Island at the southernmost point. These four points encompass an area that ranges 1,145 km north-to-south and 730 km east-to-west.

The map at left depicts the broad patterns of physical features and the marks of human activities that give the peninsula its variable appearance.

The Four Corners of Korea: Home to Its Land, Water, and People



Seoul is a UNESCO City of Design, a modern and vibrant city



A Small Aquaculture Farm Docked in the Middle of the Bay



Both bride and groom bow to each other with respect at a re-creation of a traditional wedding ceremony.

The Land: The general pattern of the topography of Korea is shown in colors ranging from light green for the lower terrain, grading through to yellow green for the higher areas, to light brown/tan for the highest mountainous areas. The highest mountains are in the northeast and continue into China toward the north. These uplands also extend toward the southeast, in a direction parallel to the east coast of Korea. Because the highest elevations are in the north and east, most of the large rivers flow toward the southwest across the peninsula. This map also indicates the contrast between the western and southern, versus the eastern, sides of Korea. The western and southern coasts are characterized by broad coastal lowlands, an irregular shoreline, and many islands. The eastern lowland is much narrower, and the coast is characterized by a more regular shoreline with few islands.



Street Scene in Downtown Seoul



Koreans harvest food from the sea. Here, squid are being dried.



A lady in traditional dress sells several kinds of products in a street market.

The Water: The seas that surround Korea—the Yellow Sea, the East Sea, and the Korea Strait—are shown with their relative depths symbolized by varying shades of blue. The locations of major rivers, represented by blue lines, indicate general stream patterns and drainage network densities, although some stream segments on this map are obscured by roadways that follow stream valleys. This is an example of the difficulties sometimes encountered in cartography when displaying multiple types of data on a single map. Rivers have importance for many other aspects of the environment and for human activities. They are corridors for transportation, sources of drinking water and hydroelectric energy, and associated with fertile soils for agriculture. They also provide habitat for a diversity of plant and animal species.



A Typical Rural Landscape with Farms and Irrigation Canals Set in Valleys between Mountain Ranges



An Aquaculture Farm. It is located across the road from the sea and constantly operates pumps to recycle seawater.



A Paddy Rice Field. Rice is a main diet but with declining consumption among a younger generation.



An Aquaculture Farm Raising Seaweed and/or Oysters



School children have a guided visit to Korea's War Memorial.

The People: Given the high population density of Korea, it is to be expected human activities to dominate the landscape. While the built environment is a prominent aspect of modern Korea, it is difficult to symbolize its various components on a small-scale map without overwhelming the natural physical features represented. This map displays only the major metropolitan areas, cities, and provinces. Provinces (with the suffix '-do') have boundaries shown with a dashed line. The network of major roads are shown in pink. Another aspect of human activity illustrated on this map of Korea is the concentration of people in urban areas. While Korea has a significant portion of its population living outside major cities, the relative density of rural settlement patterns is not shown here. Major transportation routes are indicated with somewhat visually subdued symbols.



A Buddhist Nun Purchasing Baked Goods

The extent of the domain of coastal nations into the ocean can be a controversial point of international debate. On this map, a Straight Baseline and a Territorial Water Line are shown prominently. A Straight Baseline is drawn in coastal areas with irregular shorelines and/or with numerous small, scattered islands. Points are first

identified on land or on islands and then joined to form the baseline. Such a baseline can then be used to define or delineate territorial waters. Further seaward lies the Territorial Water Line, which sets the territorial limit of a nation's sovereignty. Sovereignty refers to the land, sea, and air space that belong to the nation; under international law,

these spaces cannot be violated or accessed without permission. Offshore islands that belong to a nation also have delineated territorial water lines to limit that nation's sovereignty. In the case of South Korea, the Territorial Water Lines are clearly marked for Ulleungdo and the Dokdo Islands on this map.

Changing Dimensions of Korea

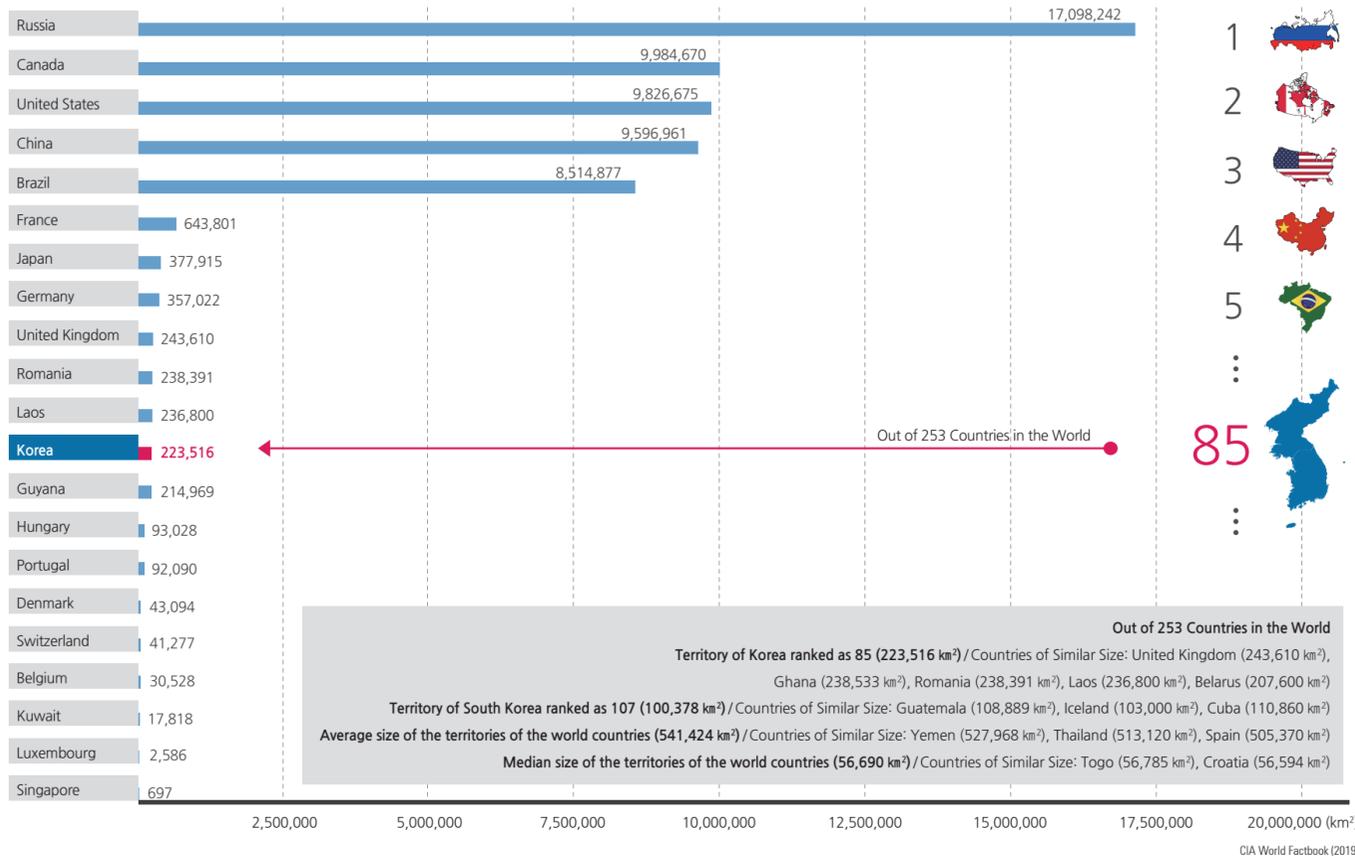


The territory of the Republic of Korea, including the Korean Peninsula and all of its annexed islands, has a total area of 223,617 km² as of the end of 2020. South Korea has an area of 100,413 km² and North Korea an area of 123,214 km². Thus, South Korea accounts for 44.9% of the territory of the Republic of Korea. The total length of Korea's coastline is 15,282 km as of 2020. The west and the south coasts, which have a complex shoreline curvature, account for 91% of the total length of the coastline, and the east coast accounts for 9%.

It is necessary to specify the year along with these statistics because the size of Korea is not stable. Korea is growing each year due to land reclamation projects, with formerly submerged areas along the coast being drained or filled to create

new land. Estuary banks and floodgates are built, breakwaters are erected to block the sea, and former tidelands are changed to create land for agriculture, industry, residences, and public facilities. Through extensive reclamation projects, the land area continues to increase gradually. Between 1980 and 2018, the territorial area of South Korea alone has increased from 98,011 km² to 100,378 km². In 2010, the area of the South exceeded 100,000 km² for the first time. Between 2014 and 2020, the length of Korea's coastline increased by 319 km. The natural coastline decreased by 55 km, while the artificial coastline increased by 374 km as a result of coastal development, land reclamation, breakwater structures, and coastal roads.

Land Area of Major Countries



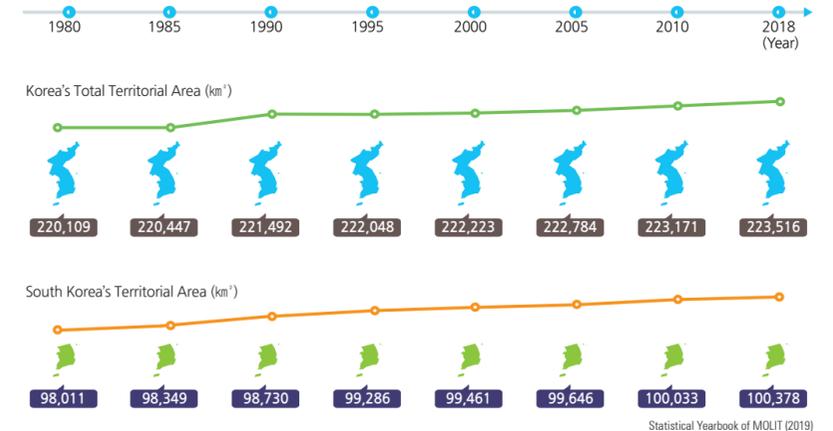
Reclamation Projects and Territorial Expansion



The total size of Korea's territory (North and South combined) places Korea 85th among the 253 countries around the world. In comparison to other countries, Korea's land area (North and South combined) is smaller than the global average but bigger than the global median. Korea is slightly larger than Cambodia (181,035 km²) and around two-thirds the size of the Philippines (300,000 km²), Vietnam (331,210 km²), and Japan (377,915 km²). The size of the Korean territory is similar to that of the United Kingdom (243,610 km²), Ghana (238,533 km²), Laos (236,800 km²), and Belarus (207,600 km²).

Large-scale reclamation projects began in earnest in the 1960s and 1970s. Along the western and southern coasts, the government led large-scale reclamation projects to secure more agricultural land. In the 1980s, the private sector also started initiating projects. Since the 1990s, the awareness of, and interest in, the value of reclaimed lands have grown. The needs of the environment, ecology, landscape, and education have been considered to ensure that the impacts from agricultural or industrial uses have been minimized on these reclaimed land projects.

Change in Land Area



Dokdo



Spring



Summer



Autumn



Winter

Four seasons at Dokdo.

Dokdo is a group of islands belonging to the Republic of Korea, located at the easternmost edge of Korea's national boundary in the East Sea. Dokdo has historically been referred to by various names such as Sambongdo, Gajido, Usando, Jasando, and Seokdo. According to Korean historical records, the administrative name of "Dokdo" was first used in 1906 by magistrate Sim Heung-taek of Ulleung. Dokdo was officially incorporated into Gyeongsangbuk-do in 1914.

While the general reference to Dokdo is that of an island, Dokdo is not a single island but consists of two large islands, Dongdo (East Island) and Seodo (West Island), as well as 89 smaller islands with an area of 187,554 m². The shortest distance between the two main islands is 151 m at low tide. Dokdo is 87.4 km east of Ulleungdo and 157.5 km northwest of Oki Island of the Shimane Prefecture in Japan.

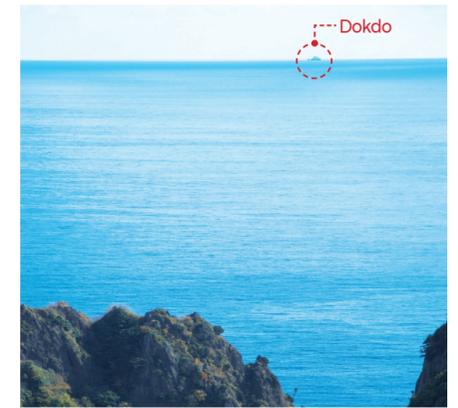
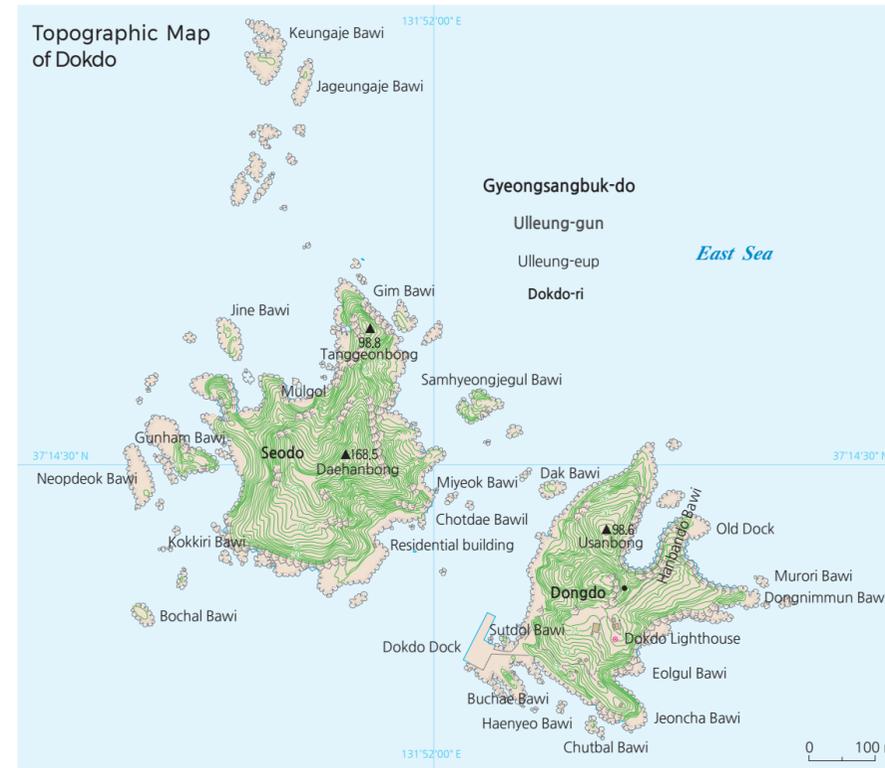
Dokdo has been recognized throughout history as part of Ulleungdo, which has always been an undisputed part of Korean territory. Both islands are in fact not far apart, and both are visible to one another on a clear day, an observation that was recorded as far back as the early 15th century. In the Sejong sillok jiriji (Geographical Records in the Annals of King Sejong, 1432), it is noted that the two islands of Usan (Dokdo) and Mureung (Ulleungdo) lay within visible distance of one another in the eastern sea of Korea.

The Korean government's historical archives confirm that Korea has long considered Dokdo as its territory. Most pointedly, those records provide ample documentation of Korea's control of the island. The Sejong sillok jiriji, Sinjeung dongguk yeoji seungnam (New and Expanded Complete Conspectus of the Territory of the Eastern Country, 1531), Dongguk munheon bigo (Reference Documents on the Eastern Country, 1770), Mangi yoram (Essentials of Governance, 1808), and Jeungbo munheon bigo (Comprehensive Study of Civilization, Revised and Expanded, 1908) all include Dokdo in discussions of Korea. In the Reference Documents on the Eastern Country it is recorded that "Ulleung and Usan are part of the State of

Usan, and Usan is referred to as Songdo by the Japanese," reaffirming that Dokdo is Korea's territory. In 1900, Emperor Gojong of the Korean Empire decreed in Ordinance No. 41 that the name of Ulleungdo be changed to Uldo. He then appointed a governor and assigned Dokdo to Uldo's administration.

Despite Korea's longstanding sovereignty over Dokdo, Japan has made repeated bids to claim the island as a part of its own territory. However, even Japanese historical documents recognize Dokdo as a Korean territory. In the late 17th century, the Joseon government and Edo Shogunate negotiated an agreement regarding illegal fishing activities. This was referred to as the "Ulleungdo Dispute." As a result, the Edo Shogunate officially acknowledged on December 25, 1695, that both Ulleungdo and Dokdo did not belong to the Tottorihan of Edo Shogunate, thereby officially confirming that Ulleungdo and Dokdo were not part of Japanese territory. At that point Korea placed a ban on Japanese fishing in the Ulleungdo area. Another prime example of the Japanese acknowledgement of Korea's sovereignty over Dokdo is the Dajokan Order of 1877. This order, given by the Dajokan, the highest administrative body of Japan at the time, confirmed that Ulleungdo and Dokdo were islands outside of Japan's territory. In 1905, the Shimane Prefecture Public Notice announced the incorporation of Dokdo into Japanese territory, but this incorporation of Dokdo is widely regarded as a part of the imperialist preamble to the Japanese colonization of the entire Korean Peninsula five years later.

Since the end of World War II, the peace process has continued to reveal evidence of Korea's sovereignty over Dokdo. The Cairo Declaration of December 1943 stipulated that "Japan shall be stripped of all islands she has seized or occupied by violence and greed." The General Headquarters of the Allied Powers issued the instruction code SCAPIN-677 and 1033 in 1946 to exclude Dokdo from Japan's governmental or administrative control. In addition, the Treaty of San Francisco in 1951 reaffirmed that Dokdo was under Korea's sovereignty.



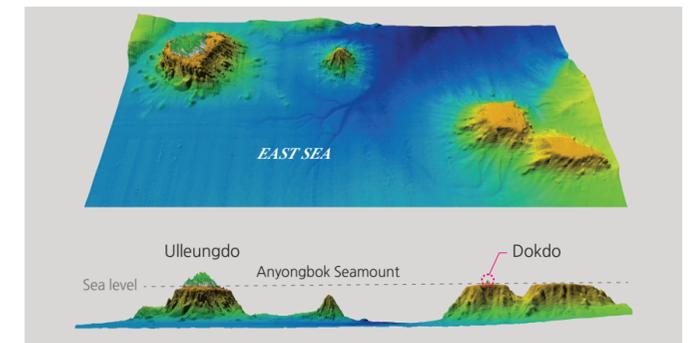
Dokdo Seen from Ulleungdo



This stone post indicates Dokdo as the easternmost point of Korea.



SCAPIN-677



3D Seabed Images of Dokdo



Dokdo and Taegeukgi

Geographic Information about Dokdo

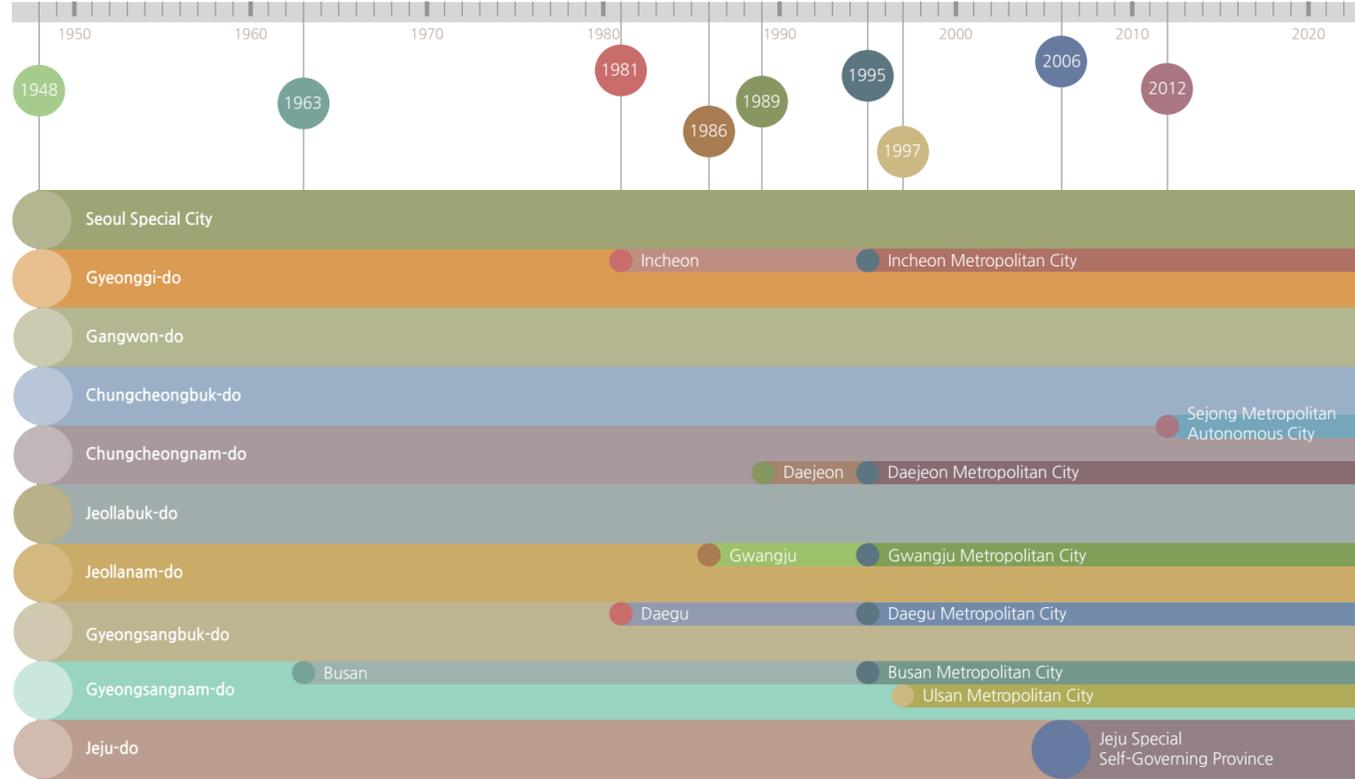
	Item	Content	Remarks
Distance	Dokdo to Ulleungdo	87.4 km (47.2 nautical miles)	
	Dokdo to Jukbyeon, Uljin-gun, Gyeongsangbuk-do	216.8 km (117.1 nautical miles)	The shortest distance between coasts
	Ulleungdo to Jukbyeon, Uljin-gun, Gyeongsangbuk-do	130.3 km (70.4 nautical miles)	
Surface Area	Dokdo	187,554 m ²	
	Dongdo	73,297 m ²	
	Seodo	88,740 m ²	
	Attached Islets	25,517 m ²	
Distance between Dongdo and Seodo		151 m	The nearest distance between coasts
Number of Attached Outcroppings		89, not including Dongdo and Seodo	
Coordinates	Dongdo	37°14'26.8" N 131°52'10.4" E	At peak of island
	Seodo	37°14'30.6" N 131°51'54.6" E	
Elevation	Dongdo	98.6 m	
	Seodo	168.5 m	
	Dokdo	5.4 km	
Circumference	Dongdo	2.8 km	
	Seodo	2.6 km	
Tidal Range		16 cm	

*1 Nautical Mile = 1,852 m

The National Geographic Information Institute (2013)

Administrative Regions

Changes in Metropolitan Administrative Areas



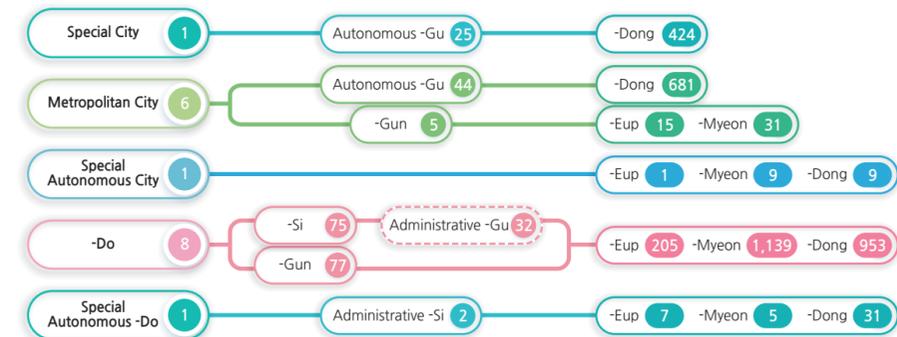
Administrative districts are governmental units for local administration, but at the same time, they define regional and local identity. Since the nation's founding, Korea has promoted administrative efficiency and aligned living spaces with administrative units through many administrative reorganizations. During these changes, the do-oriented (province-oriented) administrative district system used during the Joseon Dynasty became the basis for Korea's modern metropolitan administrative system. The administrative system consisted of one special city, 15 dos (provinces), 23 bus (cities), and 218 guns (counties) in 1945. The following year, Jeju Island was separated from Jeollanam-do, and in 1948, the term "bu" was replaced by "si."

In 1962, the Korean government carried out a comprehensive reform to harmonize the living spaces and administrative districts. For example, Geumsan-gun in Jeollabuk-do was transferred to Chungcheongnam-do, and Uljin-gun in Gangwon-do was merged into Gyeongsangbuk-do. Reforms after 1960 mainly took place due to urban expansion and the associated suburbanization. Small towns attained cityhood as population increased, and major cities were promoted to directly-controlled municipalities so that the central government could manage them directly. During the 1960s, as Busan was promoted to a directly-controlled city, Korea consisted of 1 special city (Seoul), 1 directly controlled city (Busan Directly-Controlled City), 9 dos (Gyeonggi-do, Gangwon-do, Chungcheongbuk-do, Chungcheongnam-do, Jeollabuk-do, Jeollanam-do, Gyeongsangbuk-do, Gyeongsangnam-do, and Jeju-do), 30 sis (cities), and 140 guns (counties). In the 1980s, large provincial

cities, like Incheon, Daegu, Gwangju, and Daejeon, became directly-controlled cities.

In 1995, an overall provincial administrative reform was carried out. This reshuffling integrated cities and counties, aimed to balance development between growing urban and declining rural areas, secured land for urban development, promoted administrative efficiency, and addressed inconsistencies between spaces of daily life and administrative districts. Since 1995, cities merged with neighboring counties and directly-controlled municipalities have been reorganized into metropolitan units, which include one teukbyeol-si (special city), six gwangyeok-sis (metropolitan cities: Gwangju, Daegu, Daejeon, Busan, Ulsan, and Incheon), one teukbyeol jachi-si (special autonomous city: Sejong), eight dos (provinces: Gangwon-do, Gyeonggi-do, Gyeongsangnam-do, Gyeongsangbuk-do, Jeollanam-do, Jeollabuk-do, Chungcheongnam-do, and Chungcheongbuk-do), and one teukbyeol jachi-do (special self-governing autonomous province: Jeju).

Administrative District System



MOSPA (2019)

metropolitan city status.

After 2000, a continuous merging of cities and counties took place, and Jeju Island was raised to the status of a special self-governing province in 2006. Sejong, a multifunctional administrative city, became the Sejong Metropolitan Autonomous City in 2012. Now, the Republic of Korea has 17 metropolitan units, which include one teukbyeol-si (special city), six gwangyeok-sis (metropolitan cities: Gwangju, Daegu, Daejeon, Busan, Ulsan, and Incheon), one teukbyeol jachi-si (special autonomous city: Sejong), eight dos (provinces: Gangwon-do, Gyeonggi-do, Gyeongsangnam-do, Gyeongsangbuk-do, Jeollanam-do, Jeollabuk-do, Chungcheongnam-do, and Chungcheongbuk-do), and one teukbyeol jachi-do (special self-governing autonomous province: Jeju).

1 Seoul
Population: 9,586,195
Area: 6,052 km²

2 Busan
Population: 3,349,016
Area: 770.1 km²

3 Daegu
Population: 2,410,700
Area: 883.5 km²

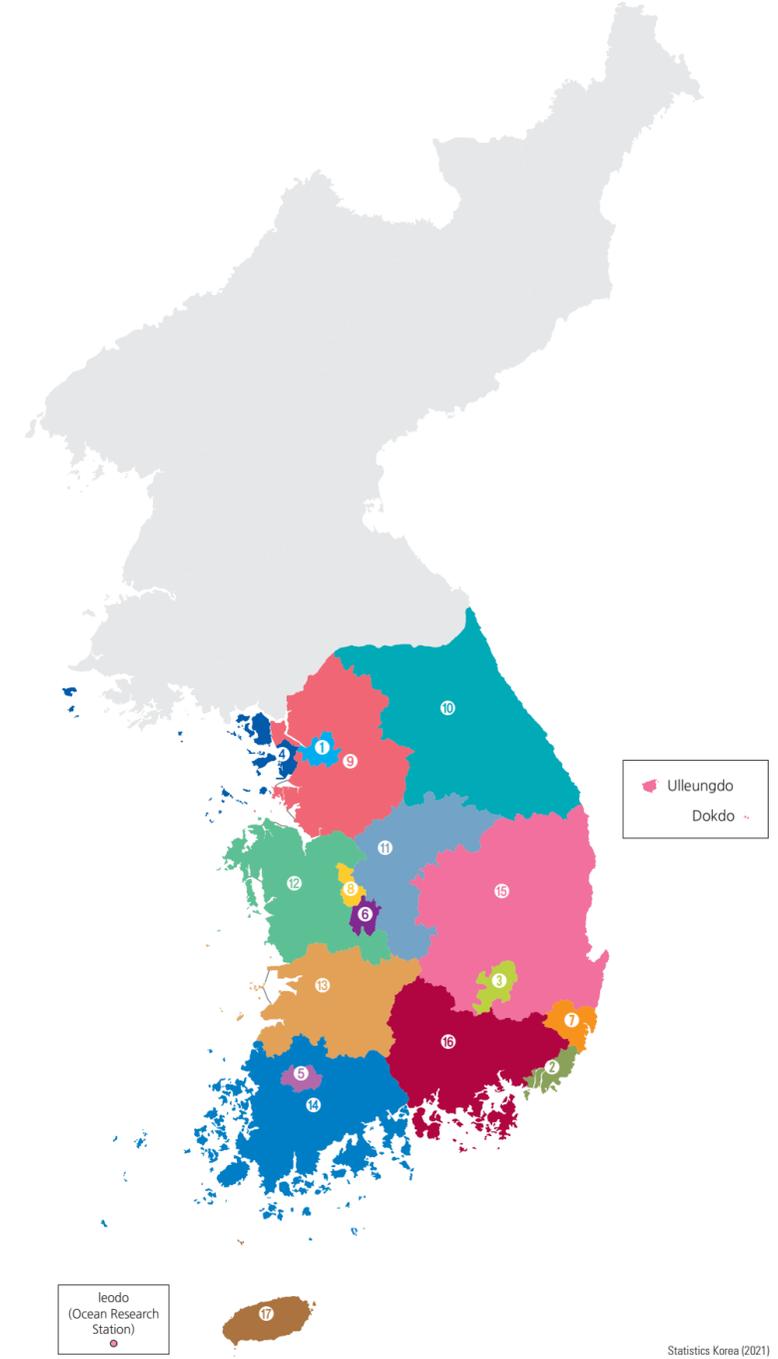
4 Incheon
Population: 2,945,454
Area: 1,065.2 km²

5 Gwangju
Population: 1,477,573
Area: 501.1 km²

6 Daejeon
Population: 1,488,435
Area: 539.7 km²

7 Ulsan
Population: 1,135,423
Area: 1,062.1 km²

Area	223,626 km ² (South Korea only 100,412 km ²) (* Area, as of December 30, 2020)
Population (South Korea only)	51,829,136 (* Population, as of December 30, 2020)
Administrative Areas of South Korea	One Special City, Six Metropolitan Cities, One Metropolitan Autonomous City, Eight Provinces (-do), and One Special Self-Governing Province



Statistics Korea (2021)

17 Jeju Special Self-Governing Province
Population: 670,858
Area: 1,850.2 km²

16 Gyeongsang nam-do
Population: 3,333,056
Area: 10,540.6 km²

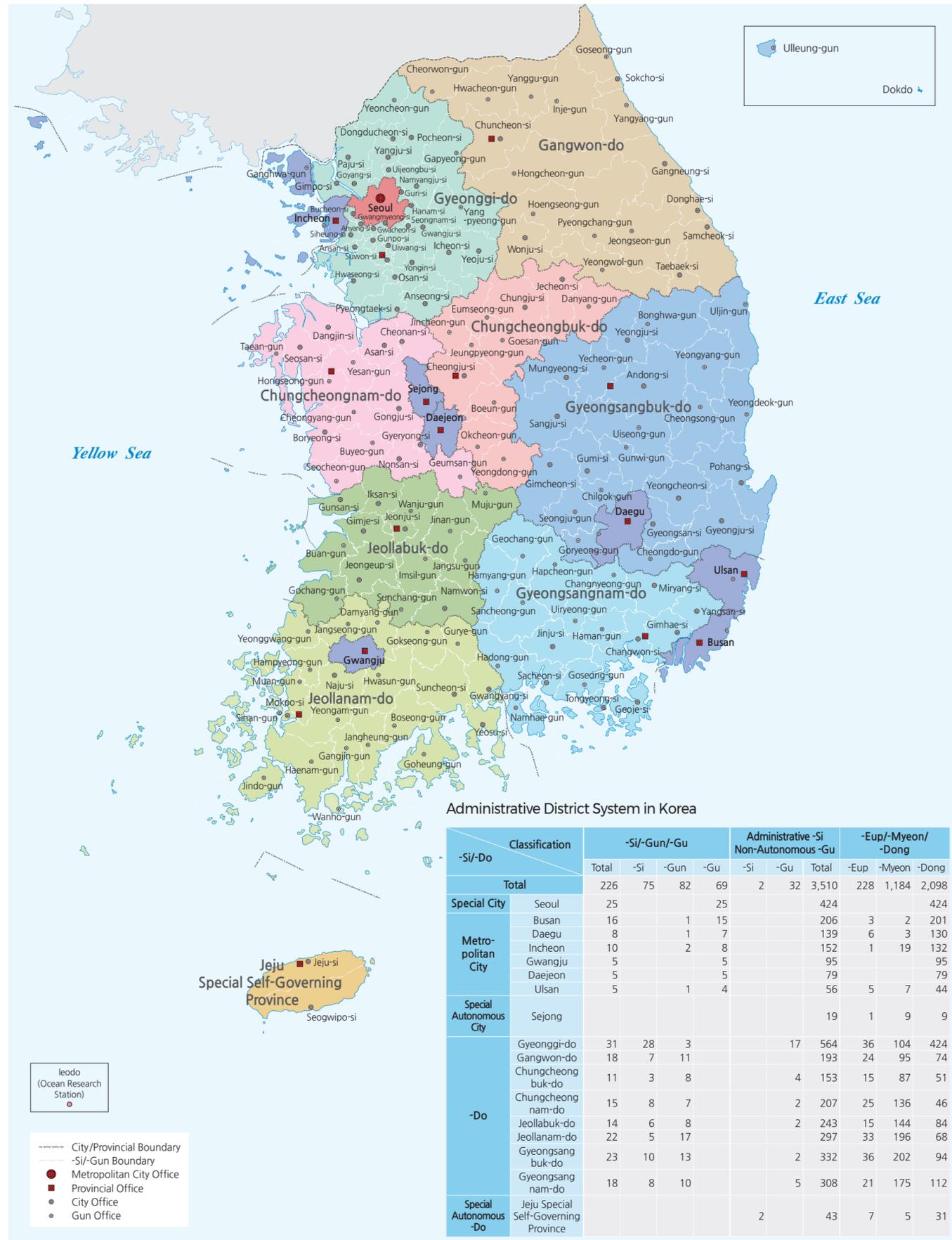
15 Gyeongsang buk-do
Population: 2,644,757
Area: 19,034.0 km²

14 Jeollanam-do
Population: 1,788,807
Area: 12,348.1 km²

13 Jeollabuk-do
Population: 1,802,766
Area: 8,069.8 km²

12 Chungcheong nam-do
Population: 2,176,636
Area: 8,246.2 km²

11 Chungcheong buk-do
Population: 1,632,088
Area: 7,407.0 km²

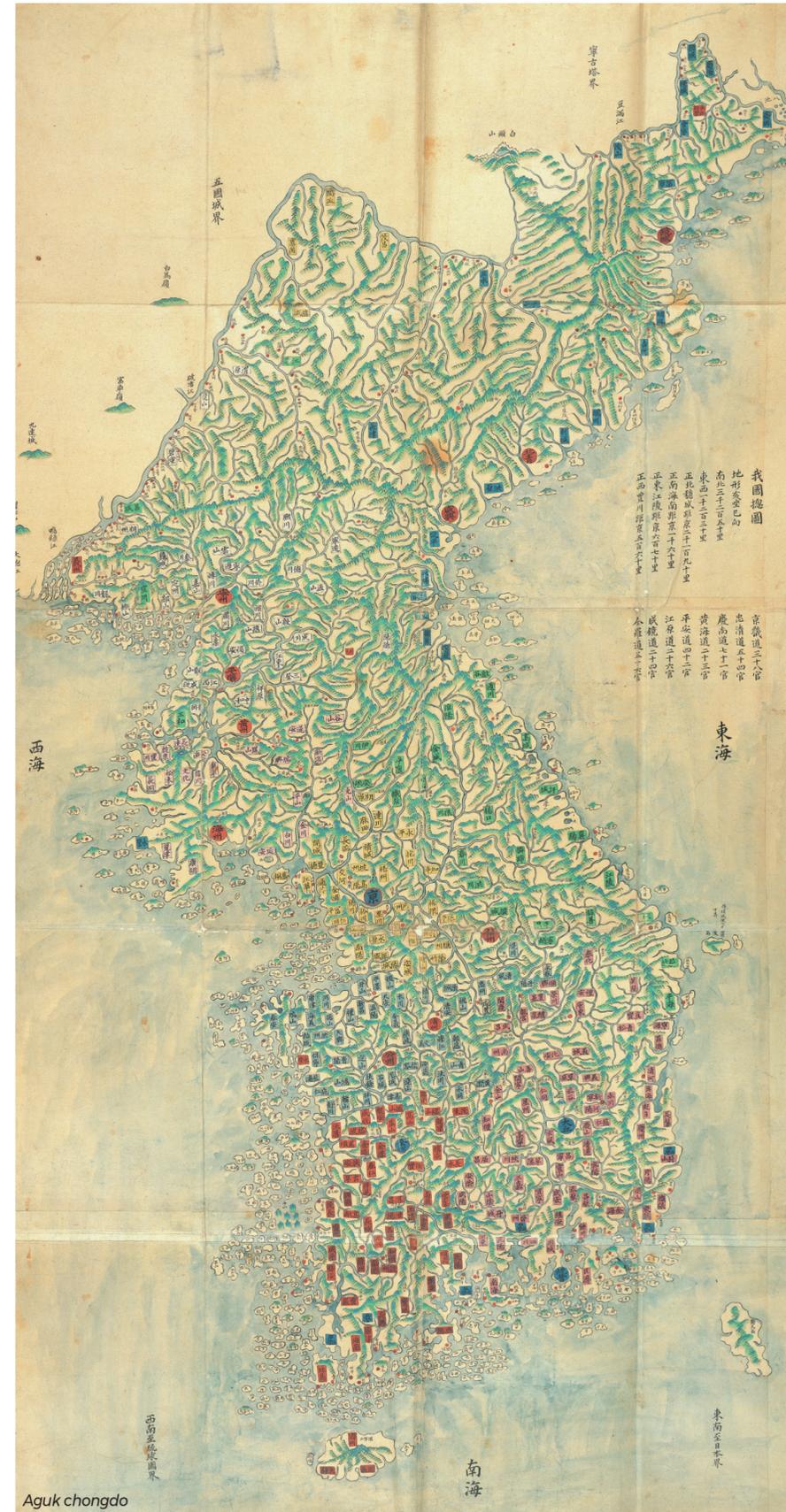


Administrative District System in Korea

-Si/-Do	Classification	-Si/-Gun/-Gu			Administrative -Si Non-Autonomous -Gu			-Eup/-Myeon/-Dong			
		Total	-Si	-Gun	-Gu	-Si	-Gu	Total	-Eup	-Myeon	-Dong
	Total	226	75	82	69	2	32	3,510	228	1,184	2,098
	Special City	Seoul	25		25			424			424
Metropolitan City	Busan	16		1	15			206	3	2	201
	Daegu	8		1	7			139	6	3	130
	Incheon	10		2	8			152	1	19	132
	Gwangju	5			5			95			95
	Daejeon	5			5			79			79
	Ulsan	5		1	4			56	5	7	44
	Special Autonomous City	Sejong						19	1	9	9
-Do	Gyeonggi-do	31	28	3		17	564	36	104	424	
	Gangwon-do	18	7	11			193	24	95	74	
	Chungcheongbuk-do	11	3	8		4	153	15	87	51	
	Chungcheongnam-do	15	8	7		2	207	25	136	46	
	Jeollabuk-do	14	6	8		2	243	15	144	84	
	Jeollanam-do	22	5	17			297	33	196	68	
	Gyeongsangbuk-do	23	10	13		2	332	36	202	94	
	Gyeongsangnam-do	18	8	10		5	308	21	175	112	
	Special Autonomous -Do	Jeju Special Self-Governing Province				2	43	7	5	31	

MOSPA (2019)

Territorial History of Korea



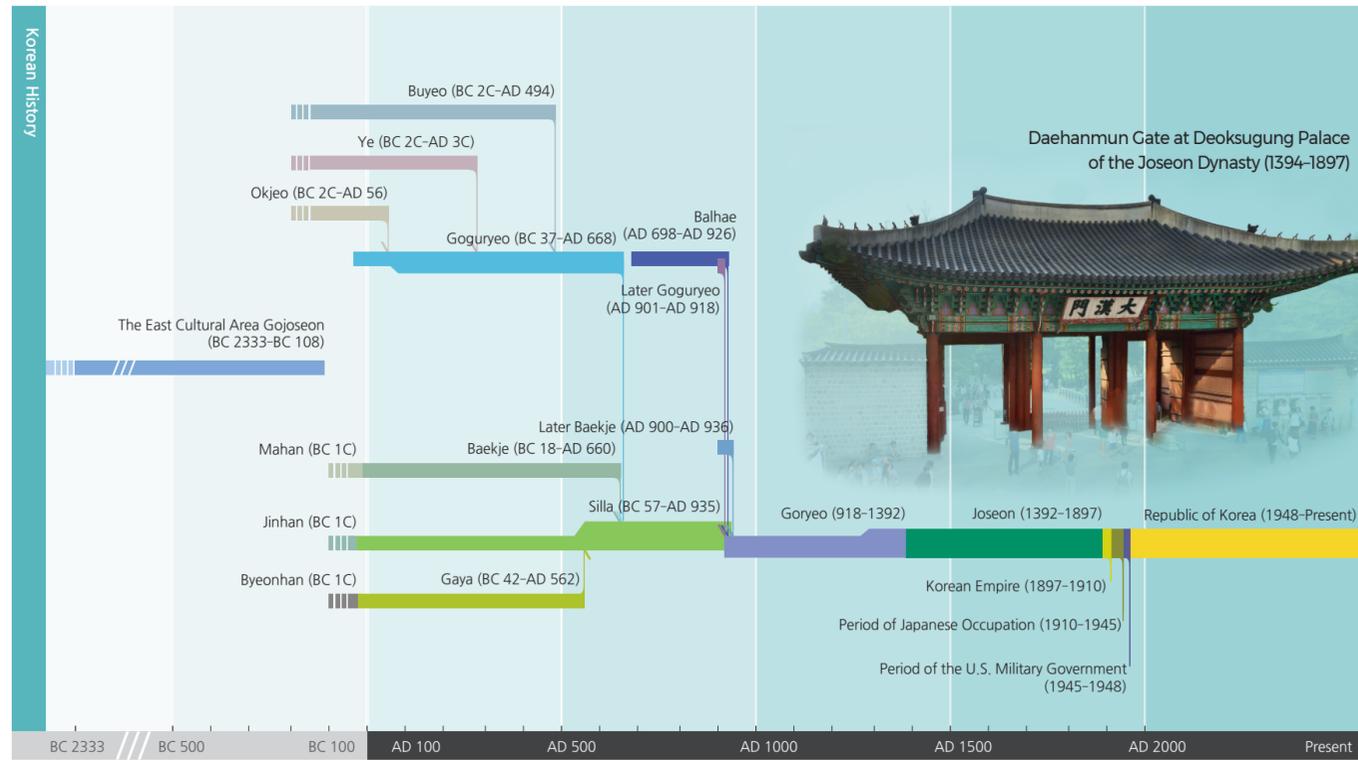
Resembling the style and design of the *Dongguk jido* made by Jeong Sang-ki, the *Aguk chongdo* presents the beauty of Korean territory in an exquisite manner. This map is notable for its use of vivid colors: green for mountain ranges, blue for rivers, and five distinctive colors for different counties and prefectures. Provincial offices and barracks in eight provinces were circled and marked with respective place names to make them distinguishable. Islands off the coasts of Joseon were drawn in detail, implying the growing national interest in the coastal and insular regions.

Dokdo in the East Sea is identified to the east of Ulleungdo under the name Udo, and Tsushima is also portrayed on the map. The marginal spaces were filled with the frontier territory, the respective lengths of east to west and south to north distances to Seoul from the endpoints in all four directions, and the number of counties and prefectures in each province.

The ancient history of Korea developed across Manchuria and the Korean Peninsula. The first Korean nation, Gojoseon, was founded in the year 2333 B.C. and lasted until the year 108 B.C. The tribal countries were founded afterward: Buyeo, Dongye, Okjeo, and Samhan. During this period, known as the original Three Han States Period, the entirety of Manchuria and the Korean Peninsula were under the domain of one of the tribal countries. Buyeo held power mainly over Manchuria; Dongye and Okjeo were formed in the northern and central areas of the Korean Peninsula; and the Three Han States of Mahan, Jinhan, and Byeonhan thrived in the central and southern part of the Peninsula.

From the 1st century B.C. to the 1st century A.D., Goguryeo, Baekje, Silla, and Gaya were founded from succeeding and merging tribal nations. This period is referred to as the Three Kingdoms Period. During this period, as in other times, Korea's territory stretched across Manchuria and the entire Korean Peninsula. Goguryeo occupied mainly Manchuria and the northern part of the Korean Peninsula, Silla thrived in the southern and eastern areas of the Peninsula, and Baekje dominated the southern and western regions. During the 7th century, Silla conquered both Goguryeo and Baekje, forming a unified nation in the inner region of the Peninsula that extended from the Daedonggang River to Wonsanman. In 698 A.D., Balhae was founded by Goguryeo refugees. This time period is referred to as the North-South States Period.

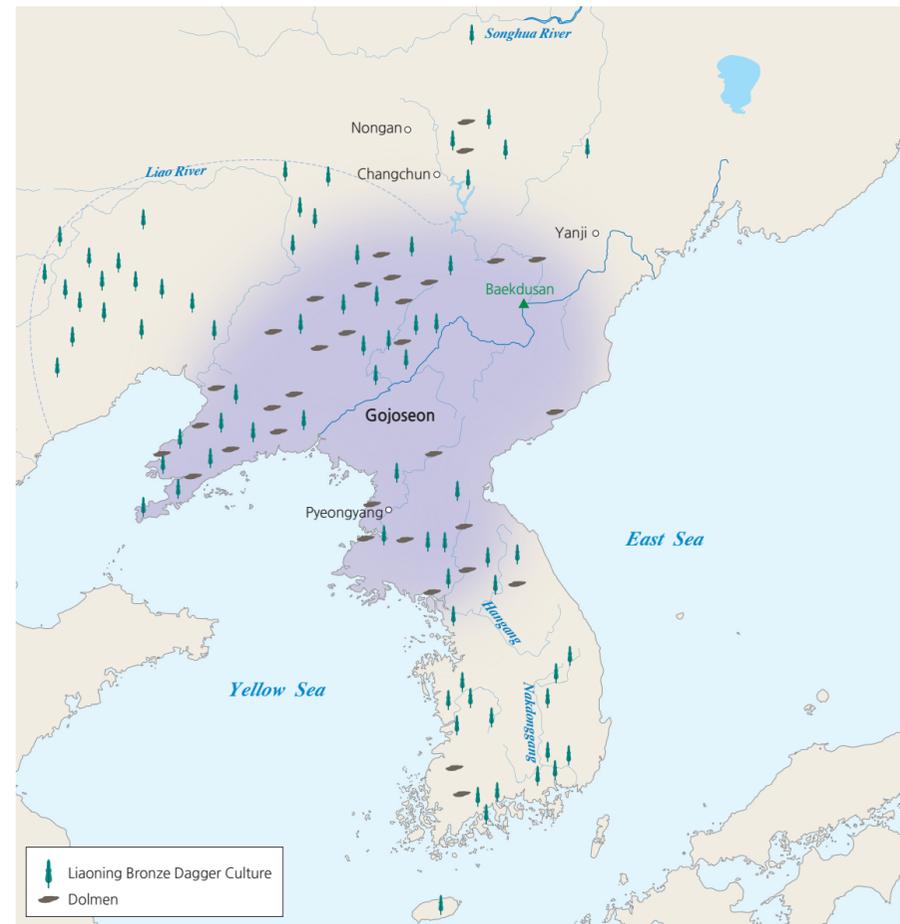
Chronological Table of Korean History



During the Goryeo Dynasty (918–1392) and the Joseon Dynasty (1392–1897), efforts to expand into the northern territories were made. By defending itself from the first invasion of Khitai in 933, Goryeo confirmed its occupation of six coastal provinces (Gangdong Yuk Ju). Goryeo started building the Great Wall (Cheolli Jangseong) in 1033 to defend its border with Khitai-Qidan. The erection of the wall, which stretched from Sinuiju to Hamheung, established Goryeo's northern border and continued its efforts to expand the northern territory until the late Goryeo Period. Such efforts lasted even into the Joseon Dynasty. In the 15th century, Joseon installed four forts in the Amnokgang Basin and six posts in the Dumangang Basin. These forts and posts established Korea's modern-day territory, which extends up to the Amnokgang and Dumangang Rivers. In the 18th century, the Joseon Dynasty built the Baekdusan National Boundary Monument, marking its border with China's Qing Dynasty.

The modern and contemporary history of Korea following the Joseon Dynasty can be summarized through a series of events: the establishment of the Korean Empire (1897–1910), Japanese colonial rule (1910–1945), liberation from Japan (1945), U.S. and Soviet military governments in Korea (1945–1948), and the Korean War (1950–1953). In 1897, Emperor Gojong officially declared the establishment of the Korean Empire to respond to growing international imperialism. He then carried out internal reforms, only to witness the temporary loss of Korean sovereignty over its territory as it succumbed to colonial rule by Japan, whose power was strengthening over East Asia. This time period is referred to as Japanese colonial rule, which lasted until 1945. The independence movements for recovering the sovereignty of Korea never ceased, and the Korean people hailed liberation from colonial rule as Japan was defeated in the Second World War.

Gojoseon



Ancient Korean Culture, Evidenced by Prehistoric Archaeological Sites, Spanned from the Korean Peninsula North into Manchuria

Goryeo Dynasty (The 11th Century)



Korean Empire (1897)



Territorial Changes, 11th Century to 1945.

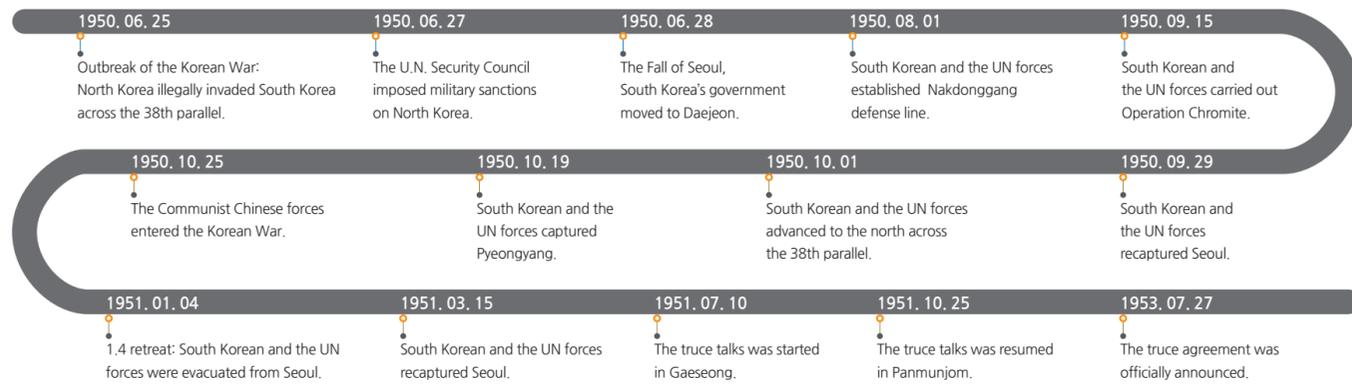
Joseon Dynasty (1861)



After Liberation



Korean War and the DMZ



After the Second World War, the national territory was unfortunately divided into North and South along the 38th parallel north, and the division became permanent after separate governments for the North and the South were established in 1948. Korea then suffered the tragic Korean War beginning on June 25th, 1950, and ending with an armistice on July 27th, 1953. The two Koreas have been in a state of truce for six decades, and those six decades have been defined largely by competition and antagonism. Despite these tensions, the two Koreas have also made sincere and meaningful efforts to build mutual trust to overcome the division, such as reunions for separated families, inter-Korean summits, and the economic cooperation at the Gaeseong Industrial Complex.

The Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) refers to a buffer zone between the South MDL (Military Demarcation Line) and the North MDL in which arms are prohibited in accordance with agreements and treaties. Military deployment, arms arrangement, and the installation of military facilities are prohibited in the DMZ. Korea's DMZ is the result of the

ceasefire that put an end to the Korean War. When the agreement was signed in 1953, the line of military contact became known as the Military Demarcation Line (MDL), and a 4 km band of land extending 2 km to the north and 2 km to the south of the MDL was designated as the DMZ.

The Civilian Control Zone (CCZ) is a stretch of land that lies between the DMZ and the Civilian Control Line (CCL). The CCL is a line designated to restrict public access in areas adjacent to the MDL where the legal protection of the military is required. The CCL was initially drawn in 1954. Since then, three adjustments made to resolve property right infringements have reduced the CCZ. The current CCL is designated within 10 km south of the MDL.

The DMZ and CCZ are the areas where human contact is restricted to a minimum, except for farming activities by a few villages along the CCL. These two zones both have diverse natural environments that are well-preserved and that are home to a vast diversity of species. These species include animals listed as Grade 1 endangered wildlife, such as musk deer, mountain

goats, otters, white-tailed sea eagles, and golden eagles, and Grade 2 species, such as martens, flying squirrels, goshawks, and the Siberian lily. Recently, tourism in these areas has become popular due to the well-preserved environment as well as historic sites related to the military activities of the tragic war. In 2018, the North-South Summit agreement and sideline agreements laid a foundation to make the DMZ a zone of peace, and the heads of the two Koreas agreed to make the DMZ a peace zone in the Panmunjeom Declaration, announced on April 27th, 2018. The Korean Government promotes the DMZ Peace Trail Project to bring peace to the DMZ and to promote development and prosperity in the border regions. The DMZ Peace Trail Project is provided at three locations (Paju, Cheorwon, and Goseong) where efforts to ease the tension between the two countries are being made through the demolition of the guard posts and joint recovery operations in accordance with the Comprehensive Military Agreement signed on September 19th, 2018.

Korean War

1950. 6. 25: Outbreak of the Korean War



1950. 8-9: Nakdonggang River Defense Line and Operation Chromite



1950. 10-12: Advance to the North of South Korean and UN forces



1953. 7. 27: The Truce

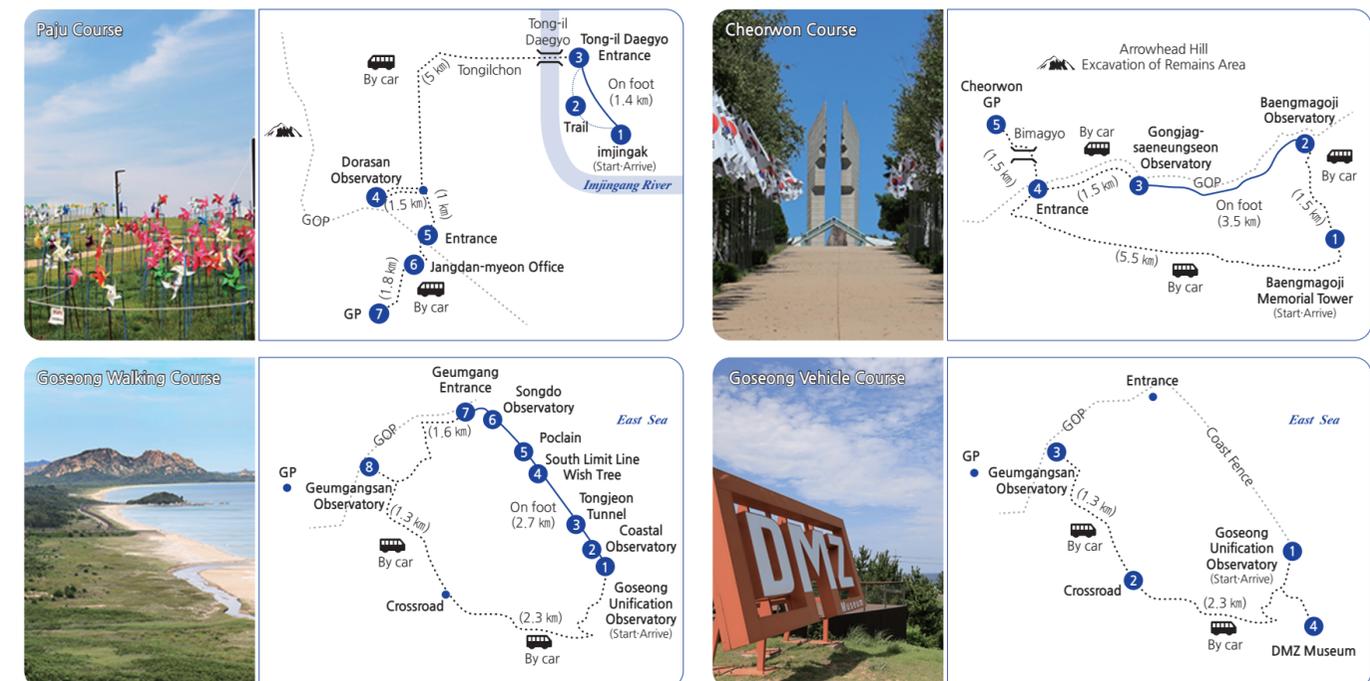


Institute for Military History, Ministry of National Defence (2013)

The Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)



DMZ Road to Peace



The blue buildings are United Nations Command Military Armistice Commission Conference Buildings. The horizontal line on the ground between the blue buildings is the actual military demarcation line of the DMZ.



The Bridge of No Return: no one has come back from crossing this bridge.



A military police (MP) officer and a South Korean soldier are constantly on patrol inside the UN Command Military Armistice Commission Conference Building.



Mines are still scattered in some parts of the DMZ.



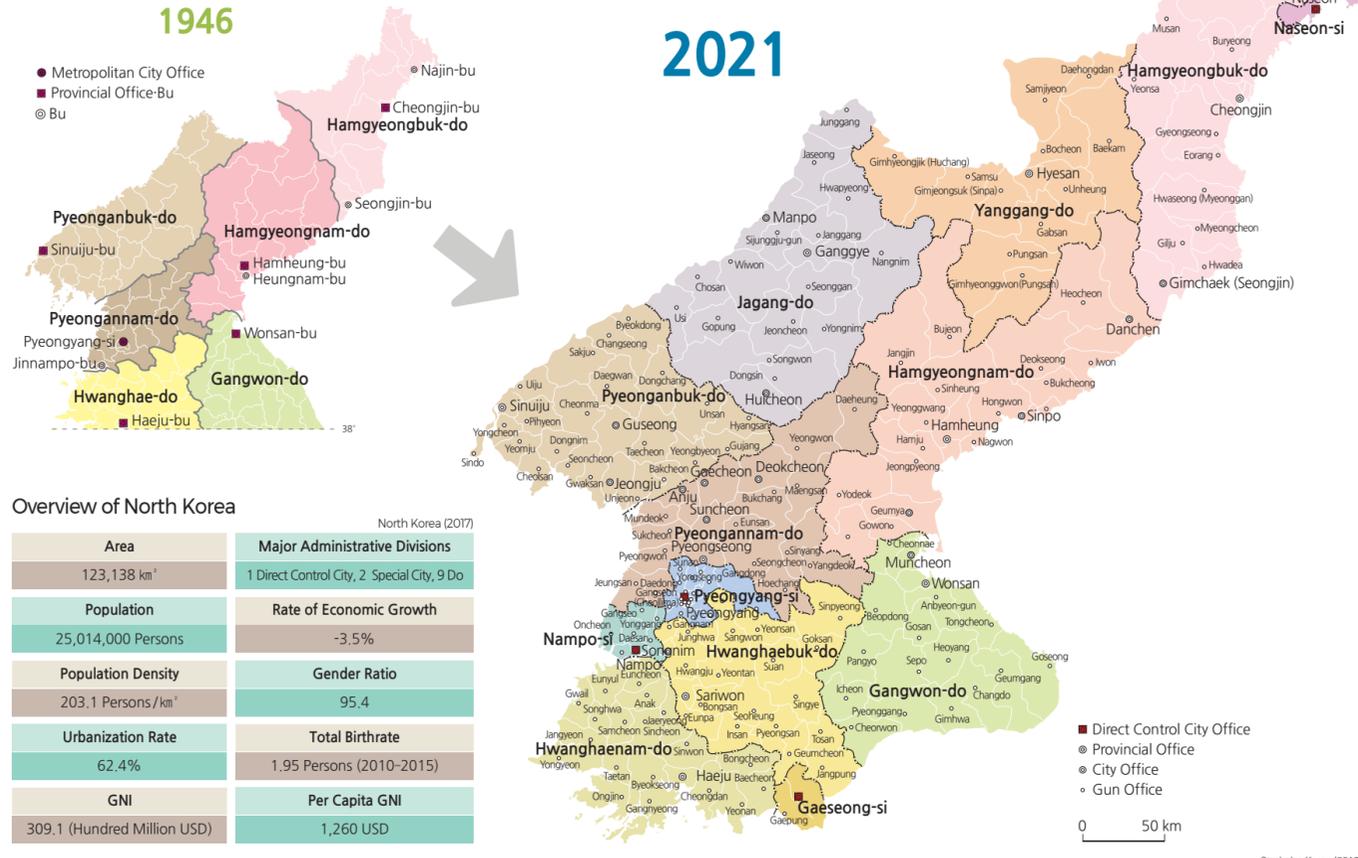
A marker for the Third Tunnel at the DMZ Pavilion is a popular tourist attraction today.



Many guard posts line the border.

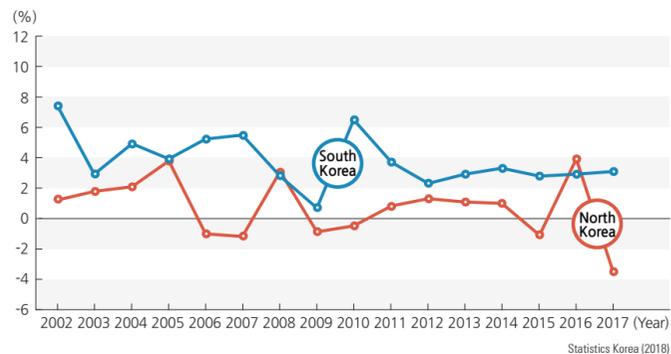
North Korea

Administrative Re-Organization of North Korea

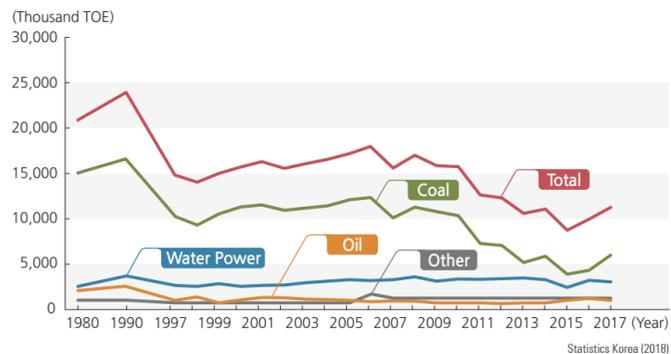


North Korea lies north of the demarcation line set by the Korean Armistice Agreement in July 1953. Its total area is 123,138 km², accounting for approximately 55% of the entire Korean Peninsula, which is 223,516 km². As of 2017, the population of North Korea was about 25,014,000, and its population density was 203.1 persons/km². This is close to 40% of that of South Korea, whose population density is 512.6 persons/km². North Korea faces the East Sea to the east and the Yellow Sea to the west; it shares a border with the northeastern part of China along the Amnokgang River (Yalu River) and Dumangang River (Tumen River) and with Russia's Siberia along the Dumangang River. The boundary with China is 1,353.2 km long and features bridges such as the Amnokgang Bridge, which enables road and railway traffic to flow between Sinuiju in North Korea and Dandong in China. North Korea shares a border with Russia that is 16.2 km long and is connected by a railroad bridge between North Korea's Dumangang Station in Naseon (Rason) and the Khasan Station just across the border in Russia. To the south, North Korea's border

Economic Growth Rate Trend



Supply of Primary Energy

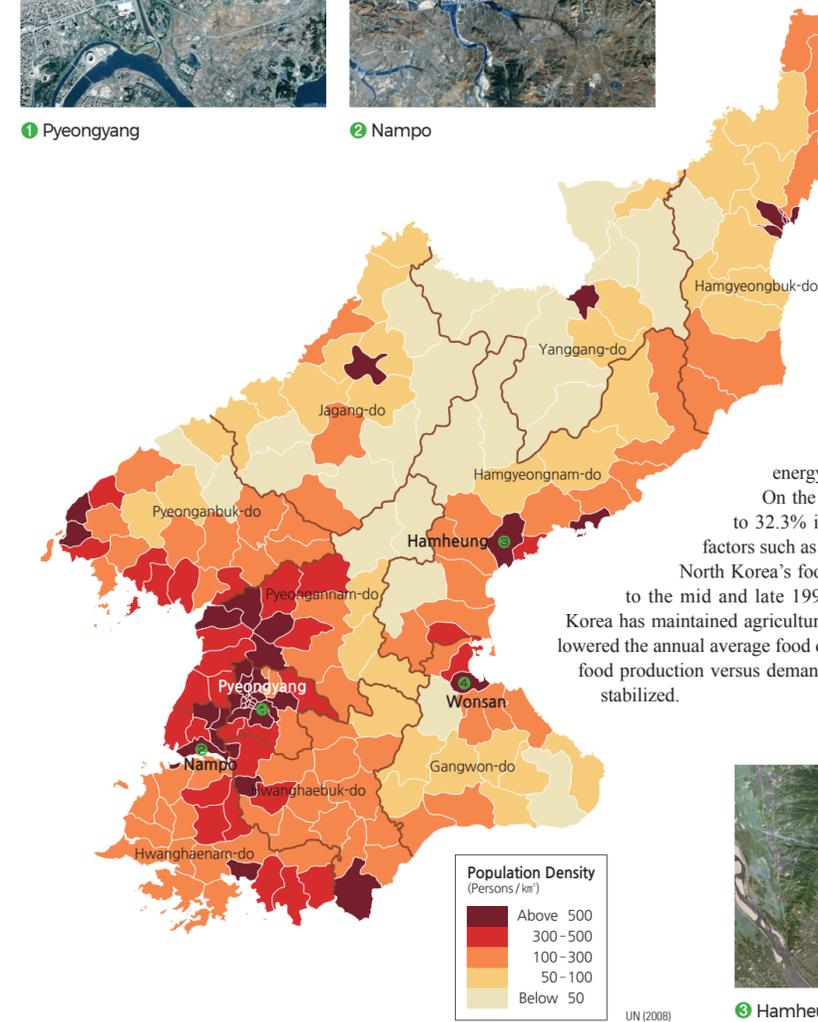


Population Density of North Korea

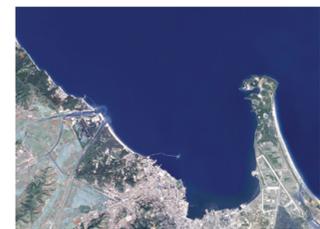


1 Pyongyang

2 Nampo



3 Hamheung



4 Wonsan

Most North Koreans live in the southern and western parts of the country in the plains and lowlands. Pyongyang and its neighboring Pyeongannam-do have the highest population density. The population density is generally low in the mountainous northern and eastern parts, with the exception of scattered cities and the eastern coastal area.

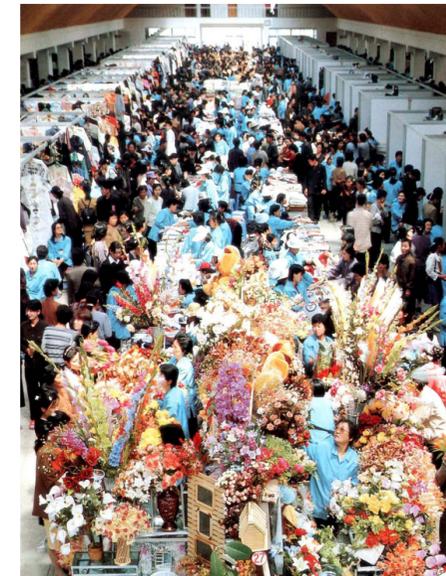
North Korea's economy is a centrally planned and unified system in which the State Planning Commission of the central government announces economic development plans and strictly controls smaller economic units, such as regional governments, factories, and companies. Along with a centrally planned system, another important feature of North Korea's economy relates to the country's plans to assign top priority to develop heavy industry with parallel developments in agriculture and light industry. Despite these plans, due to a lack of capital and resources, heavy industry was favored over light industry and agriculture. With the collapse of communist governments around the world during the 1990s, the problem of favoring heavy industry and ignoring agriculture and light industry became serious, and it led to financial difficulties and food shortages in the mid-1990s. The North's economy began to recover after 1999, but it has experienced an average annual negative growth rate since 2006. Although North Korea's energy supply still relies heavily on coal, energy supply from coal decreased from 70.2% in 2005 to 43.2% in 2016. On the other hand, hydroelectric power almost doubled from 17.6% in 2006 to 32.3% in 2016. Oil imports fluctuated from 4.4% to 11.8% due to external factors such as international sanctions and the Sino-DPRK relationship. In the case of North Korea's food supply and demand, its food shortage has decreased in comparison to the mid and late 1990s, when it suffered from a severe food crisis. Since 2013, North Korea has maintained agricultural production at an average of 4.8 million tons every year, which has lowered the annual average food deficit to 0.53 million tons. However, as the ratio of recent year-to-year food production versus demand rose from 80% to 90%, it is too early to tell if the food supply has stabilized.

The General Markets of North Korea



Do	Number of General Market
Pyeongannam-do	65
Pyeonganbuk-do	51
Hamgyeongbuk-do	46
Hamgyeongnam-do	48
Hwanghaenam-do	34
Hwanghaebuk-do	34
Pyeongyang	30
Gangwon-do	29
Jagang-do	24
Yanggang-do	18
Nampo Special City	21
Naseon Special City	4
Total	404

Korea Institute for National Unification (2016)



Tongil Street Market in Pyongyang

Inter-Korean Cooperation

History of Inter-Korean Trade and Economic Cooperation

1980	<p>1988.07.07. Special Declaration for Independence of the People, Prosperity and Reunification is announced.</p> <p>1988.11.14. First Approval of Imports from North Korea (Daewoo, 519 pieces of porcelain items)</p> <p>1990.08.01. Legislation of Act on North South Exchange and Cooperation and Act on North South Cooperation Fund</p> <p>1990.09.25. Legislation of Official Notice on the Procedures for Export and Import of Items in Inter-Korean Trade</p> <p>1992.10.05. First cooperation partner approved (Daewoo)</p> <p>1994.06.20. Legislation of 'Official Notice on the Approval Application of Inter-Korean Transportation Equipment Operations'</p> <p>1994.11.08. Announcement of 1st Measures to Promote Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation—Businessmen visit North Korea, technicians for commissioned processing trade are allowed to travel to North Korea</p> <p>1995.05.17. First cooperation project approved (Daewoo)</p> <p>1998.04.30. Announcement of 2nd Measures to Promote Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation—Limits to exporting production facilities are scrapped for commissioned processing trade, limits to investment in joint projects are scrapped.</p>	2000	<p>2003.08.28. 3rd North South Economic Cooperation Committee—Agreement on Procedures to Verify Country of Origin for Products traded between North and South Korea is signed (effective September 29)</p> <p>2004.03.05. 8th North South Economic Cooperation Committee—Agreement on the Prevention of Flooding of Imjin River is adopted</p> <p>2004.10.31. The Gyeongui line and the Donghae line roads are completed (open December 1).</p> <p>2005.06.13. Legislation of "Official Notice on the Approval Application and Standards of Inter-Korean Transportation Equipment Operations"—Integration of Existing Official Notices on Transportation Equipment Operations' and Shipping Operations</p> <p>2005.08.01. The Agreement on North South Marine Transport and The Appendix Agreement for the Implementation of the Agreement on North South Marine Transport took effect</p> <p>2005.08.11. Wired Network Connection between Inter-Korean Authorities on Maritime Affairs</p> <p>2005.08.18. 1st North South Agricultural Cooperation Committee</p> <p>2006.06.06. 12th North South Economic Cooperation Committee - Agreement on Inter-Korean Cooperation in Light Industries and Underground Resource Development is adopted.</p> <p>2007.05.17. Pilot Operation of Inter-Korean Railway (cargo train is open on December 11)</p> <p>2008.12.01. North Korea implements 'December 1st Measures' including restrictions on road traffic between the two Koreas (lifted on August 20, 2009).</p> <p>2009.10.14. North South working-level meeting for the prevention of flooding of Imjin River—Agreement is made on advance notice when river water is discharged.</p>	2010	<p>2013.11.13. South Korea and Russia sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to ensure that South Korean companies can participate in the Rajin-Hasan logistics project.</p> <p>2014.02.11.-13. First On-Site Inspection on Najin-Hasan Logistics Project (Naseon Area)</p> <p>2014.07.15.-22. Second On-Site Inspection on Najin-Hasan Logistics Project (Naseon Area)</p> <p>2014.11.21.-28. Test-Run Coal Shipment between Najin and Pohang as part of the Najin-Hasan Logistics Project</p> <p>2014.11.24.-28. First Test-Run Shipment as part of the Najin-Hasan Logistics Project</p> <p>2015.04.17.-23. Second Test-Run Shipment as part of the Najin-Hasan Logistics Project</p> <p>2015.08.05. A Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Restoration Work of the Southern Section of the Gyeongwon Line</p> <p>2015.11.18.-12.07. Third Test-Run Shipment as part of the Najin-Hasan Logistics Project</p> <p>2016.01.06. North Korea's Fourth Nuclear Test (03.03. Adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2270) 2016.02.07. North Korea's Firing of a Long-range Rocket</p> <p>2016.02.10. Compete Shutdown of Gaeseong Industrial Complex</p> <p>2018.08.13.-08.20. Two Korea's Joint Inspection of Pyongyang-Gaeseong roads on the Gyeongui Line</p> <p>2018.11.30.-12.17. Two Korea's Joint Inspection of Donghae Line railway from Mount Kumgang all the way to Tumen River and Gyeongui Line railway linking Gaeseong to Sinuiju</p> <p>2018.12.26. A Groundbreaking Ceremony to mark the Connection of the Gyeongui and Donghai Rail Lines and Roads between the two Koreas as well as Modernization of related Facilities in the North</p>
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Inter-Korean Social and Cultural Exchange

 <p>Jeong Ju-young, Honorary Hyundai Chairman, visited North Korea with a herd of 500 cows. (1998)</p>	 <p>The Two Korea's Joint Excavations of Manwoldae (2007)</p>	 <p>South and North Korea made a joint entrance at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang. (2018)</p>
 <p>Joint Art Performance of South and North Korean Artists (2018)</p>	 <p>Reunion Events of Separated Family Members (2018)</p>	 <p>South-North Korea Cultural Heritage Foundation and Policy Forum were established. (2019)</p>

From 1945, when North and South Korea were divided, to the 1960s, exchanges and cooperation between the two were virtually nonexistent. In the early 1970s, the North and South first discussed the possibility of an exchange of goods through their respective Red Cross Societies. On November 8, 1994, the Kim Young-sam administration announced the first round of measures to activate inter-Korean economic cooperation. As the successive Kim Dae-jung administration unveiled the second round of measures and held a summit meeting with the North, inter-Korean economic cooperation entered a new phase.

The progress in inter-Korean economic cooperation has had a positive impact on families separated by the division between North Korea and South Korea. Between 2003 and 2007, when inter-Korean economic exchanges were at their peak, families were able to search for their family members separated from them by the Demarcation Line, communicate with them through letters, and have reunions at governmental and non-governmental levels. As inter-Korean relations cooled in 2008, the separated families' chances of communicating with their family members significantly decreased.

Since the inter-Korean relationship began to improve in 2018, inter-Korean exchange and cooperation has been actively underway in various realms such as arts, cultures, sports, academic research, and cultural heritage. In February 2018, inter-Korean exchange performances were held at the Pyeongchang Winter Olympics. A joint archaeological excavation of Manwoldae, Gaeseong, was undertaken from October to December 2018. At the 2018 Asian Games, North Korean and South Korean teams marched together under a unified Korean flag and formed coalition teams to compete with other national teams.

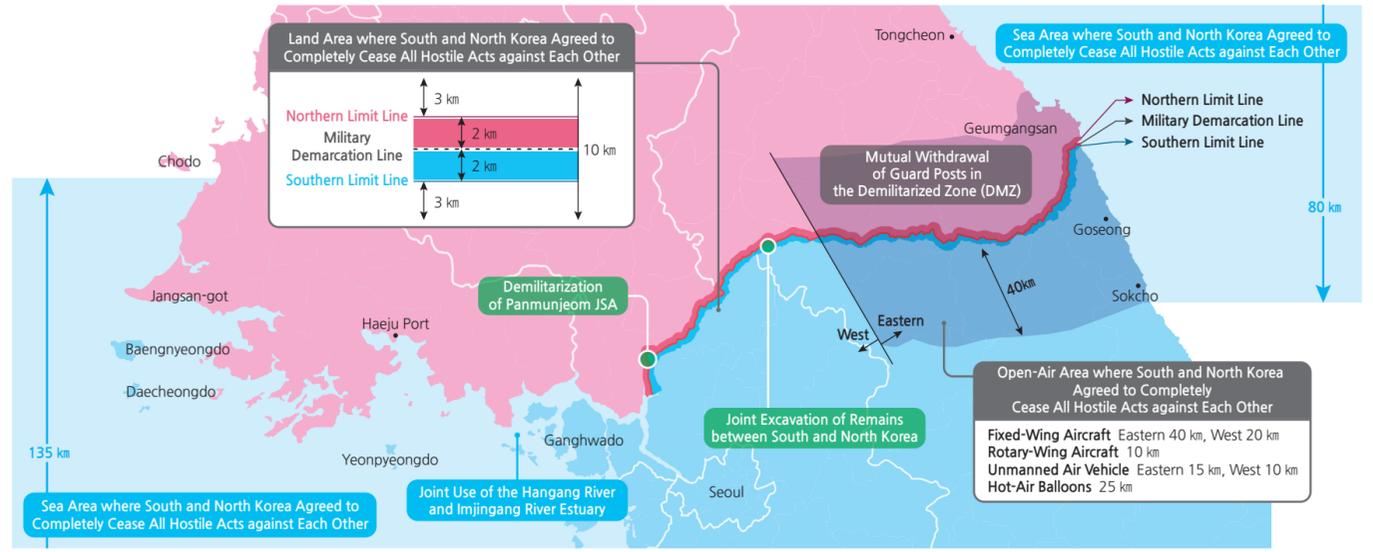
Major economic cooperation projects include Geumgangs Mountain tourism, the inter-Korean railway, road construction, and the Gaeseong Industrial Complex development. A Special Economic Zones policy has been aggressively promoted under the Kim Jong-un regime, and is now expanding across the country. With the enactment of the "Economic Development Zone Act," North Korea announced 13 economic development districts to attract foreign investment, with Sinuiju being designated as a new special economic zone. In 2014, North Korea designated six additional zones, including Unjong, a cutting-edge technological development zone. Subsequently, in 2015, it added the Mubong Special Zone for International Tourism, followed by the Kyongwon Economic Development Zone and the Kangnam Economic Development Zone. Economic zones specialize in industrial, agricultural, tourism, export processing, or high-technology realms. However, North Korea's economic policies have not been consistent due to international sanctions imposed as a consequence of nuclear and missile tests.



Landscape of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex

Geumgangs Mountain Tour

Inter-Korean Military Agreement at the September 2018 Summit



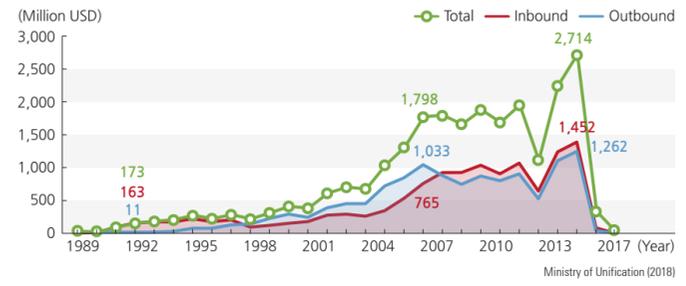
Humanitarian Aid to North Korea

(Hundred Million Korean Won)

Year	Government	Non Government	Food Loan	Total
1995	1,854	2	-	1,856
1996	24	12	-	36
1997	240	182	-	422
1998	154	275	-	429
1999	339	223	-	562
2000	978	386	1,057	2,421
2001	976	782	-	1,758
2002	1,140	578	1,510	3,228
2003	1,097	766	1,510	3,373
2004	1,313	1,558	1,359	4,230
2005	1,360	780	1,787	3,927
2006	2,272	709	-	2,981
2007	1,983	909	1,505	4,397
2008	438	726	-	1,164
2009	294	377	-	671
2010	204	201	-	405
2011	65	131	-	196
2012	23	118	-	141
2013	133	51	-	184
2014	141	54	-	195
2015	140	114	-	254
2016	2	28	-	30
2017	-	11	-	11
2018	12	65	-	77
2019	106	170	-	276

Ministry of Unification (2018)

Amount of Inter-Korean Trade by Year

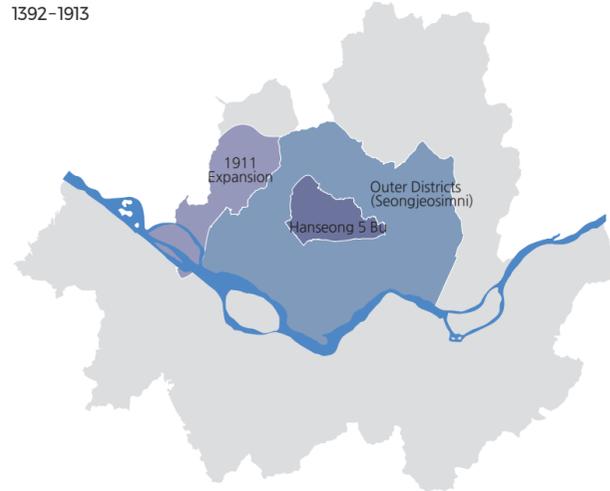


Ministry of Unification (2018)

Urban Expansion

Expansion of Seoul

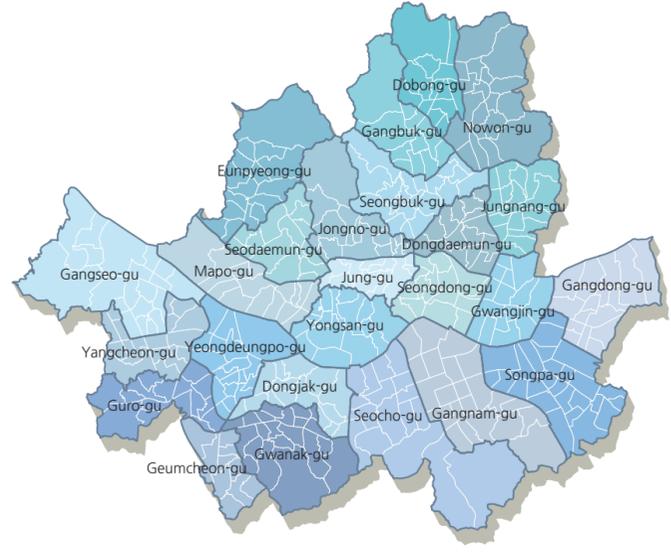
1392-1913



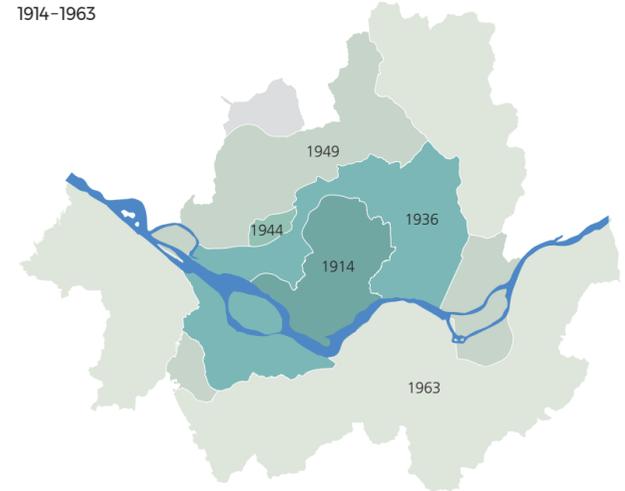
1973



Administrative Map of Seoul



1914-1963



2005

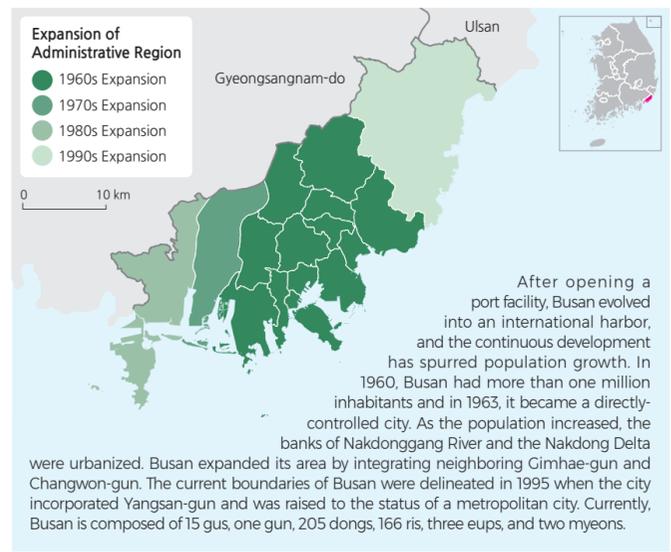


Seoul has experienced a rapid increase both in population and land area in modern times. During the Joseon Dynasty (1392-1897), Seoul was surrounded by a fortress wall and consisted of Hanseong and five -bus, which together formed the political and administrative center with its inner and outer districts (Seongjeosimni). The outer districts stretched about 4 km beyond the city wall. By the end of the 19th century, the city's population hovered above 200,000. From the end of the Joseon Dynasty through the period of Japanese colonial rule, the city's boundaries grew as railroads and streetcar routes were constructed. A massive residential area was built to house Japanese immigrants and farmers who migrated to the city during this period. Following its liberation from Japan, Seoul's population was close to 900,000 and grew to 1,700,000 before the Korean War as overseas Koreans returned home.

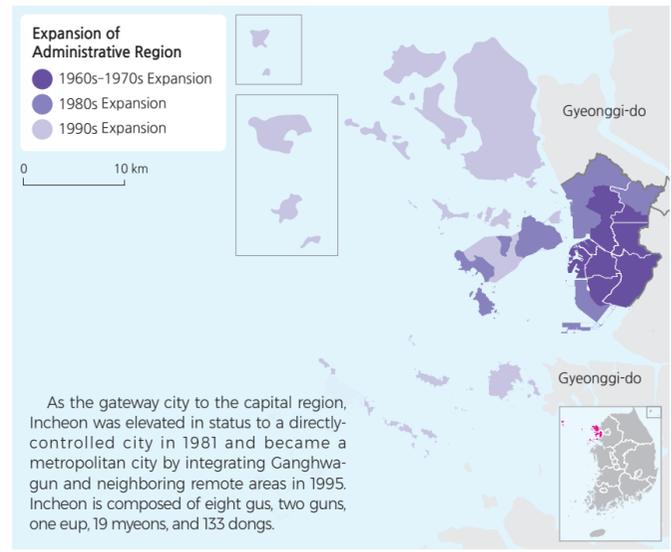
Seoul has modified its administrative areas eight times since the confirmation of the first urban plan in 1936, resulting in the expansion of urban districts. Starting with the organization of the seven -gus in 1943, Seoul's population increased sharply before industrialization, and the rise in population density accelerated as industrialization rapidly grew after the 1960s. The concentration of the population resulted in the development of the outskirts of the city, and the opening of subways further facilitated urban expansion. The land area of Seoul has been 605 km² since 1995. Seoul takes up 0.6% of the national territory and is composed of 25 autonomous -gus and 424 administrative -dongs as of 2019.

Like Seoul, six other metropolitan cities have had increases in population and expanded their administrative areas. In 1995, metropolitan cities, serving as hub cities in the local area, were reorganized by integrating surrounding areas and became directly-controlled municipalities.

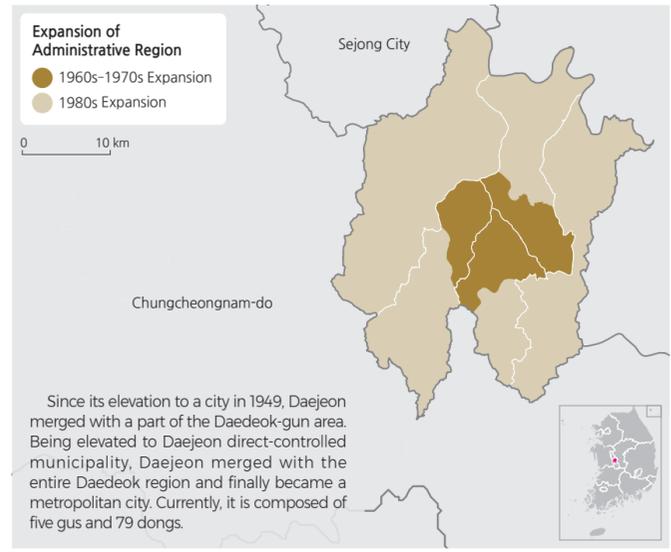
Expansion of Busan



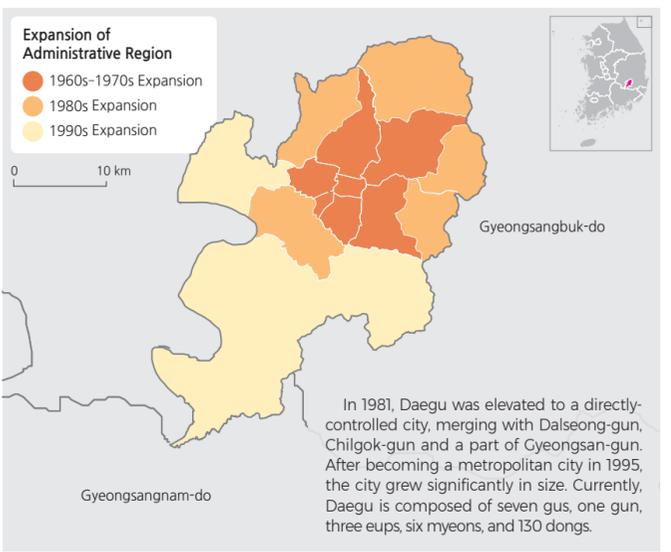
Expansion of Incheon



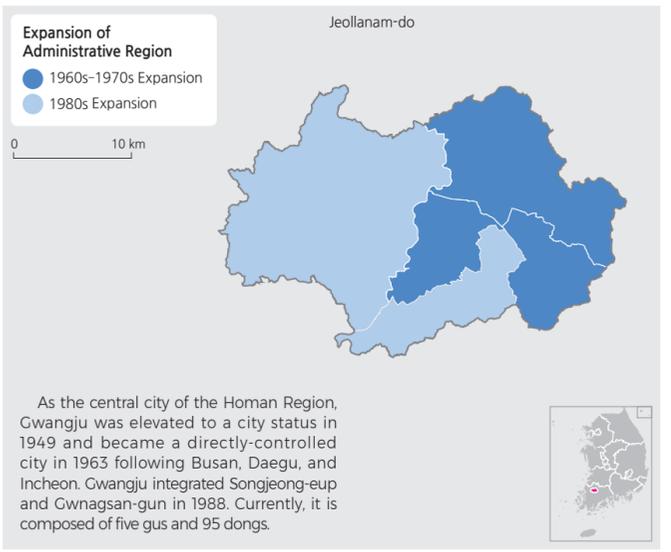
Expansion of Daejeon



Expansion of Daegu



Expansion of Gwangju



Expansion of Ulsan

