Women in Korea are underrepresented in the legislative and executive branches of government

Despite some improvement since the early 2000s, women remain largely unrepresented in Parliament. With about 16.3% of women parliamentarians in 2015, Korea is below the OECD average of 28.4%. Similarly, the share of women ministers in Korea in 2015 (5.9%), is well under OECD averages (29.3%) and has decreased compared with 2012, despite electing a female President.

Korea is an OECD leader in Open Government Data

Opening up public data and fostering their reuse by citizens and businesses as well as inside the public administration is a key strategic priority of the “Government 3.0” initiative launched by the Korean government in 2013. Korea ranks first in this year’s Open, Useful, Resusable Government data Index (OURdata Index) which looks at the level of availability and accessibility of government data on the national portal and at the level of government support for the reuse of these data for creating public value.

Public officials have more obligations than in other OECD countries regarding asset declarations

Disclosure of private interest of public officials is one of the tools for managing conflict of interest in government. Disclosure requirements in Korea are above the OECD average for all branches of government. In the executive branch, top decision makers, political advisors and senior civil servants have the highest asset disclosure requirements. Requirements for regular civil servants are slightly lower, but still very high compared to OECD standards.

Citizen satisfaction with institutions and services varies significantly

In 2014, 70% of Korean citizens reported being satisfied with the availability of health care services in the area where they live which is similar to the OECD average. 53% of Korean citizens reported satisfaction with the education and school system. This is below the OECD average of 67%. Less than 3 Koreans out of 10, however, reported confidence in the judicial system, compared to 5 out of 10 across the OECD on average.
Government revenues (2013, 2014) % of GDP

- Korea 33.3% (2013)
- OECD average 37.7%

Source: OECD National Accounts

Government expenditures (2013, 2014) % of GDP

- Korea 32.0% (2013)
- OECD average 41.9%

Source: OECD National Accounts

Public investment (2013, 2014) % of total govt. expenditures

- Korea 15.9% (2013)
- OECD average 7.8%

Source: OECD National Accounts

Government gross debt * (2013) % of GDP

- Korea 34.7%
- OECD average 109.3%

Source: OECD National Accounts * SNA definition, see Notes

Fiscal balance * (2013, 2014) % of GDP

- Korea 2013: -4.2%
- OECD average 2013: 1.3%

Source: OECD National Accounts * See Notes

Public Sector employment as % of total employment (2013) *

- Korea 7.6%
- OECD average 21.3%

Source: International Labour Organization (database) * See Notes

Public sector employment filled by women (2013)

- Korea 58.0%
- OECD average 29.3%

Source: International Labour Organization (database)

Share of women ministers (2015)

- Korea 5.9%

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union Parline Database

How to read the figures:

- Korea Country value in blue (not represented if not available)
- Average of OECD countries in green
- Range of OECD country values in grey
- n.a. refers to data not available

Values have been rounded.

GOVERNMENT INPUTS: FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES

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Fiscal balance as reported in the System of National Accounts (SNA) framework, also referred to as net lending (+) or net borrowing (-) of government, is calculated as total government revenues minus total government expenditures.

Structural fiscal balance, or underlying balance, represents the fiscal balance adjusted for the state of the economic cycle (as measured by the output gap which resulted as the difference between actual and potential GDP) and one-off fiscal operations.

Government gross debt is reported according to the SNA definition, which differs from the definition applied under the Maastricht Treaty. It is defined as all liabilities that require payment or payments of interest or principal by the debtor to the creditor at a date or dates in the future. All debt instruments are liabilities, but some liabilities such as shares, equity and financial derivatives are not debt.

Public sector employment as % of total employment data for Korea were provided by national authorities.

Core Government Results and Service Delivery

Satisfaction and confidence across public services (2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Health care</th>
<th>National government</th>
<th>Education system</th>
<th>Judicial system</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>70% - 71%</td>
<td>34% - 42%</td>
<td>53% - 67%</td>
<td>27% - 54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Access to healthcare (2012)

Out of pocket expenditure as a % of final household consumption

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>1%</th>
<th>2%</th>
<th>3%</th>
<th>4%</th>
<th>5%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

Equity in learning outcomes (2012)

PISA mathematics score variance by socio economic background

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Socio Economic Background</th>
<th>Bottom 10%</th>
<th>Top 10%</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>[0.37-0.92]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Changes in household disposable income, by income group (2007-2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Group</th>
<th>Bottom 10%</th>
<th>Top 10%</th>
<th>Bottom 10%</th>
<th>Top 10%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>-10%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>-0.8%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Limited government powers (2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government</th>
<th>Limited government powers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>0.79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes

- Fiscal balance as reported in the System of National Accounts (SNA) framework, also referred to as net lending (+) or net borrowing (-) of government, is calculated as total government revenues minus total government expenditures.
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Government at a Glance 2015

With a focus on public administration, OECD Government at a Glance 2015 provides readers with a dashboard of key indicators assembled with the goal of contributing to the analysis and international comparison of public sector performance across OECD countries. Indicators on public finances and employment are provided alongside composite indexes summarising aspects of public management policies, and indicators on services to citizens in health care, education, and justice. Government at a Glance 2015 also includes indicators on key governance and public management issues, such as regulatory management, budgeting practices and procedures, public sector integrity, public procurement and cost results in terms of trust in institutions, income redistribution and efficiency and cost-effectiveness of governments.

The Excel spreadsheets used to create the tables and figures in Government at a Glance 2015 are available via the StatLinks provided throughout the publication:
http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/gov_glance-2015-en

For more information on the data (including full methodology and figure notes) and to consult all other Country Fact Sheets: www.oecd.org/gov/govataglance.htm