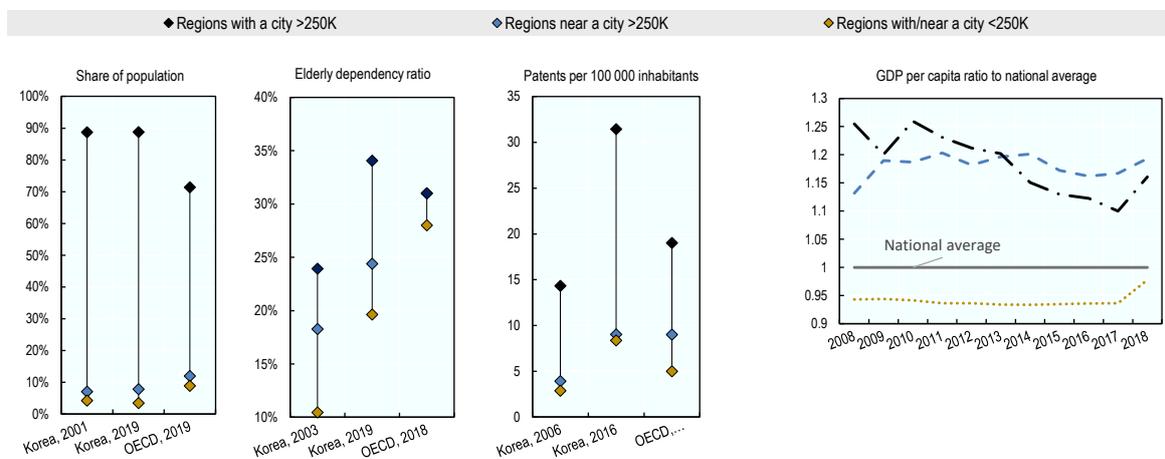


South Korea

Statistical profile

Figure 1. Statistical profile



	Population growth 2008-2019 (%)	Growth in employment 2008- 2017 (%)	GVA per worker (1 000 USD ppp)	GVA manufacturing share (%)	Hospital beds per 1 000 inhabitants
Regions with a city >250K	0.5 (0.7)	1.3 (0.9)	69 (92)	30 (18)	12.2 (8)
Regions near a city >250K	0.6 (0.3)	2.5 (0.5)	82 (79)	45 (26)	11.6 (8.1)
Regions with/near a city <250K	-0.1 (0.2)	0.7 (0.0)	74 (71)	42 (23)	21.7 (4.9)

Note: OECD average is presented in parenthesis. Data for hospital beds are from 2018 and data for GVA per worker, GVA by sector and unemployment rate are from 2017. GVA and GDP are measured in USD PPP (2015). The OECD average by order in the table has been made with 33, 25, 26, 25, 19 countries with available data. Employment growth measured as employment in the workplace.

Source: (OECD, 2020^[1]) OECD Regional Statistics (database), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/region-data-e>.

Policy framework and Institutional setting of rural development

Rural Definition

- ❖ In South Korea rural area means "region". Rural is not only general agricultural and fish villages but also some urban areas outside cities. In South Korea, region includes all the areas apart from Seoul metropolitan areas and Jeju island. These definition address the policy need to expand the concept of the rural to the region in order to solve the

concentration problem in the Seoul metropolitan areas. The definition of rural recognises the existence of mixed rural/urban areas.

National rural policy

- ❖ South Korea has a national rural policy defined by the Act on Regional Development and Support 2015. It defines the financial and administrative support for planning and implementation through comprehensive grants.

Lead ministry(ies) and other co-ordination bodies in charge

Table 1. Main institutions in charge of rural development policies at the national level

Ministries/Committees (most important first)	Role
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport	Planning for rural areas, Funding for rural areas, Implementation including financial and administrative support, Evaluation
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Planning for Rural Areas, Funding, Implementation, Evaluation
Ministry of government administration and home affairs	Financial support through local allocation fund
Presidential Committee for Balanced National Development	Collecting and Mediating different opinions of ministries related to regional policies for establishing self-sustaining growth base
Korea Research Institute for Human Settlement	Studying regional policies and Evaluation

Key objectives in rural policy and delivery mechanisms

- ❖ South Korea's rural development policy allocates a high degree of importance to economic areas (Table 2). Table 3 shows the main priorities of rural policy.
- ❖ The main delivery mechanisms of the rural development policy in South Korea are dedicated grants programmes.

Table 2. Relevance of sectors in rural development policy

Policy areas	Weight on rural policy	Average OECD
Economic	40%	40%
Social	30%	30%
Environment	30%	30%

Note: Self-reported responses from country delegate to the question: "Please grade from 1 to 10 the importance rural development policies in your country assigns to economic, social and environmental areas".

Source: OECD (2018), "Responses to the institutional survey on rural policy in OECD countries".

Table 3. Relevant objectives in rural development policy

Top objectives	Programmes	Main financial mechanisms to support the strategy
Accessibility (transport/ broadband)	Na	Na
Rural-urban linkages	Na	Na
Quality of life/ of rural residents	Na	Na
Capacity building (public sector and public-private engagement)	Na	Na

Note: Objectives presented are the objectives with higher scores in the survey responses. South Korea rated the above four objectives as extremely important.

Source: OECD (2018), "Responses to the institutional survey on rural policy in OECD countries".