



NORTH KOREA



GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

Supreme People's Assembly President CHOE Ryong Hae

Head of Government

State Affairs Commission Chairman KIM Jong Un (functions as chief executive))

Government Type

dictatorship, single-party state; official state ideology of "Juche" or "national self-reliance"

Capital

Pyongyang

Legislature

unicameral Supreme People's Assembly or Ch'oeo Inmin Hoeui (687 seats)

Judiciary

Supreme Court or Central Court (consists of one judge and 2 "People's Assessors" or, for some cases, 3 judges)

Ambassador to US

none; North Korea has a Permanent Mission to the UN in New York

US Ambassador

none; Swedish Embassy in Pyongyang represents the US as consular protecting power

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 120,538 sq km
Land: 120,408 sq km
Water: 130 sq km

Climate

temperate, with rainfall concentrated in summer; long, bitter winters

Natural Resources

coal, iron ore, limestone, magnesite, graphite, copper, zinc, lead, precious metals, hydropower

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

one of the world's most centrally directed and least open economies; faces stagnation, underinvestment, and chronic shortages, largely as a result of mismanagement, isolation, large-scale military spending, and international sanctions

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$40 billion (2015 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$1,700 (2015 est.)

Exports

\$222 million (2018 est.)
partners: China 86.3% (2017)

Imports

\$2.32 billion (2018 est.)
partners: China 91.9% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

25.6 million (July 2020 est.)

Population Growth

0.51% (2020 est.)

Ethnicity

racially homogeneous; there is a small Chinese community and a few ethnic Japanese

Language

Korean

Religion

traditionally Buddhist and Confucianist, some Christian and syncretic Chondogyo (Religion of the Heavenly Way)

Urbanization

urban population: 62.4% of total population (2020)
rate of urbanization: .82% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

Literacy

100% (2015)

