Korea, Republic of

Statistical Country Profile

Edition 08/2024

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Contents

General information

Capital city	Official language	Currency
Seoul	**Korean**	**South Korean Won**

Land area in relation to Germany
km²

Korea, Republic of
97,600

Germany
349,390
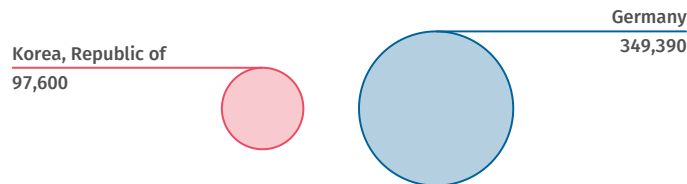
Source: WB-WDI

Economy and finance

Gross domestic product (GDP), total	GDP, real change	GDP per capita	GDP per capita
bn US$	% since 2000	US$	internat. US$
1,713	**+121**	**33,192**	**56,552**
(2023)	(2023)	(2023)	(2023)
Source: IMF-WEO	Source: IMF-WEO*	Source: IMF-WEO	Source: IMF-WEO

Gross domestic product, real change
% on previous year
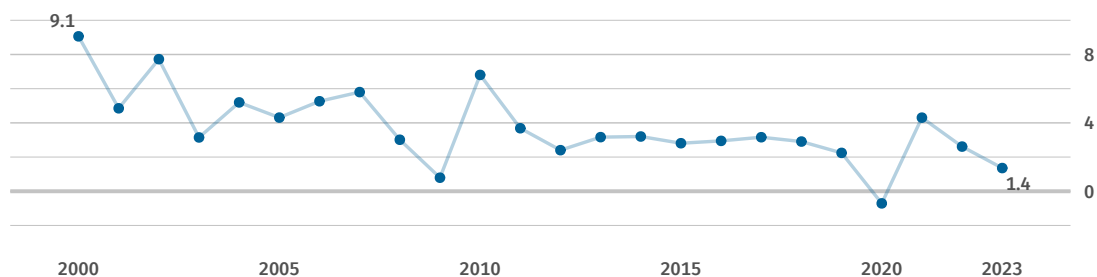
9.1

1.4

2000   2005   2010   2015   2020   2023

Source: IMF-WEO

Gross domestic product per capita
US$

12,263

33,192

2000   2005   2010   2015   2020   2023

Source: IMF-WEO

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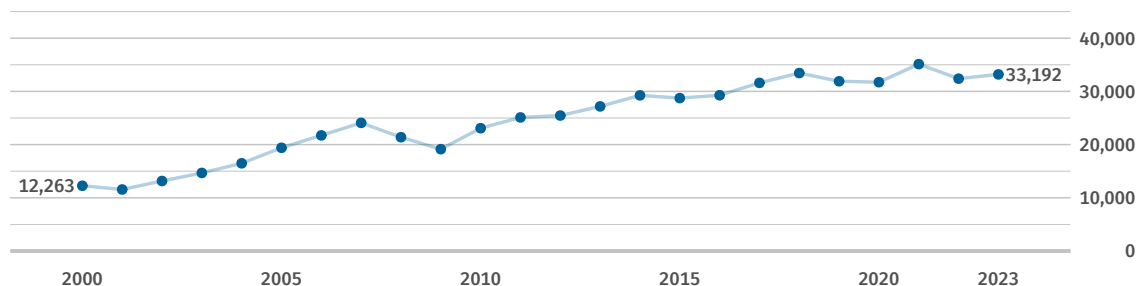
Gross domestic product per capita in relation to Germany, 2023
US$

Korea, Republic of
33,192

Germany
52,727
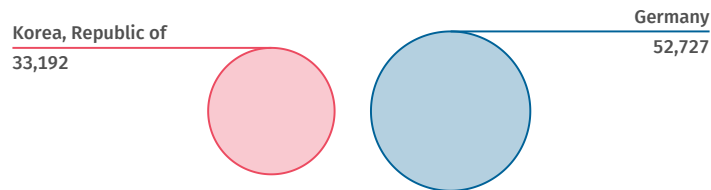
Source: IMF-WEO

Inflation rate (change of consumer price index)	General government gross debt	General government net lending / borrowing
% on previous year	% of GDP	% of GDP
+3.6	**55.2**	**-1.0**
(2023)	(2023)	(2023)
Source: IMF-IFS	Source: IMF-WEO	Source: IMF-WEO

General government revenue and expenditure
% of GDP

20.7

16.6

24.9

23.9

2000   2005   2010   2015   2020   2023

● revenue   ● expenditure
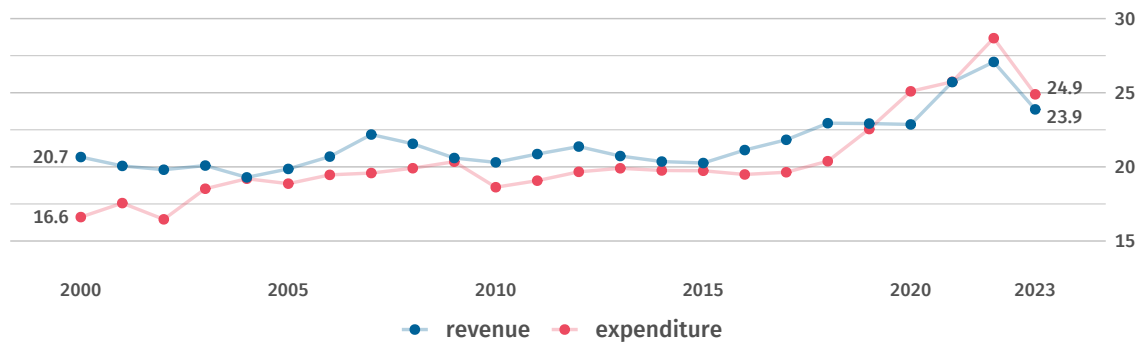
Source: IMF-WEO

General government net lending / borrowing
% of GDP

4.0

-1.0

2000   2005   2010   2015   2020   2023

● surplus   ● deficit
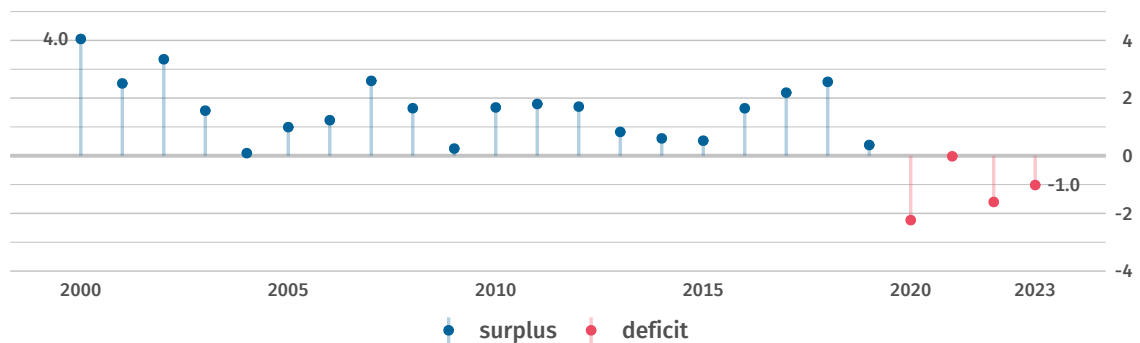
Source: IMF-WEO

Foreign direct investment (FDI): inward stocks	Foreign direct investment (FDI): outward stocks	Foreign direct investment (FDI): net flow, inward	Foreign direct investment (FDI): net flow, outward
bn US$	bn US$	bn US$	bn US$
272	**648**	**18**	**66**
(2022)	(2022)	(2022)	(2022)
Source: UNCTAD	Source: UNCTAD	Source: UNCTAD	Source: UNCTAD

Population

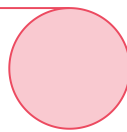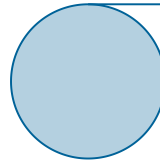| Population total	Population density	Life expectancy at birth (women)	Life expectancy at birth (men)
1,000	inhabitants per km²	years	years
51,713	**530**	**85.6**	**79.9**
(2023)	(2021)	(2022)	(2022)
Source: WB-WDI	Source: WB-WDI	Source: WB-WDI	Source: WB-WDI

Population in relation to Germany, 2023
1,000

Korea, Republic of
51,713

Germany
84,482

Source: WB-WDI

Population
1,000

Projection medium variant after 2023
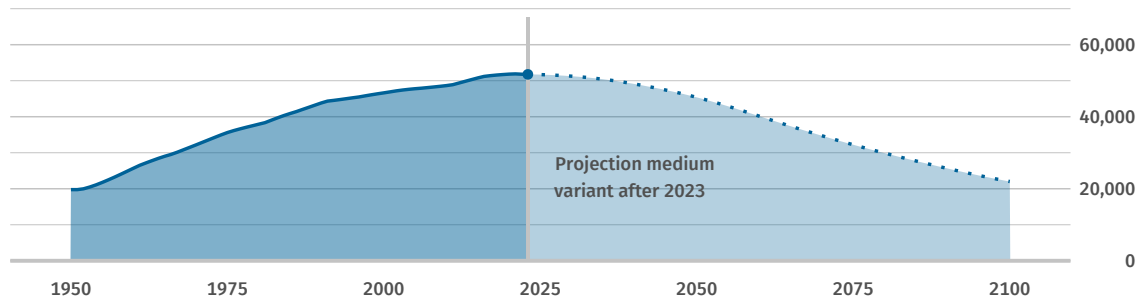
Source: UN-POP

Population by age group
proportion, %

Projection medium variant after 2023

■ under 15-year-olds   ■ 15- to 64-year-olds   ■ 65-year-olds and older
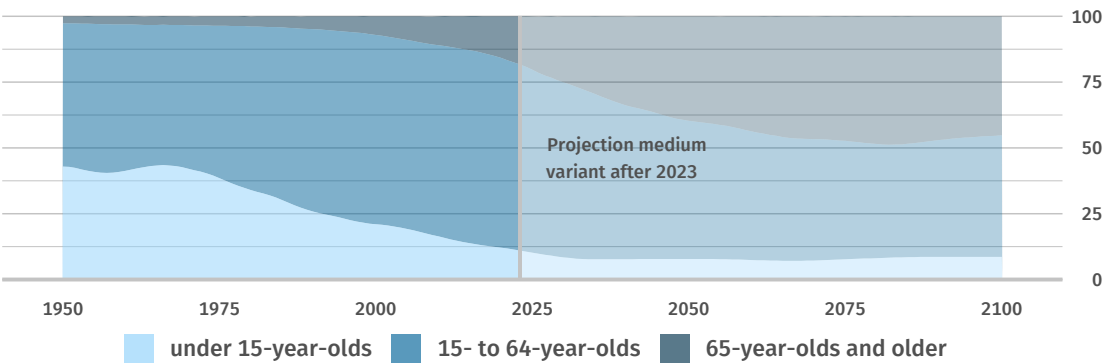
Source: UN-POP

Population pyramid, 2023
% of total population

men   age group   women

	100+	
	95–99	
	90–94	
	85–89	
	80–84	
	75–79	
	70–74	
	65–69	
	60–64	
	55–59	
	50–54	
	45–49	
	40–44	
	35–39	
	30–34	
	25–29	
	20–24	
	15–19	
	10–14	
	5–9	
	0–4	

Source: UN-POP

Health

Practising physicians	Hospital beds	Prevalence of raised blood pressure	Prevalence of obesity (BMI >= 30)
per 1,000 inhabitants	per 1,000 inhabitants	%	%
2.5	**12.8**	**12.7**	**7.3**
(2021)	(2021)	(2019)	(2022)
Source: WHO	Source: WHO	Source: WHO	Source: WHO

Education

Government expenditure on education	Pupil-teacher ratio (primary education)	Pupil-teacher ratio (secondary education)	Students (tertiary education)
% of GDP	number	number	per 100,000 inhabitants
4.7	**16.3**	**13.3**	**5,976**
(2019)	(2017)	(2017)	(2018)
Source: UNESCO	Source: UNESCO	Source: UNESCO	Source: UNESCO*

Labour force

Employment rate (persons aged 15+)	Labour force (persons aged 15+)	Labour force participation rate (persons aged 15+)	Self-employment (persons aged 15+)
%	1,000	%	%
62.8	**29,652**	**64.5**	**23.5**
(2023)	(2023)	(2023)	(2022)
Source: ILOSTAT	Source: ILOSTAT	Source: ILOSTAT	Source: ILOSTAT

Employment rate (persons aged 15+)
%
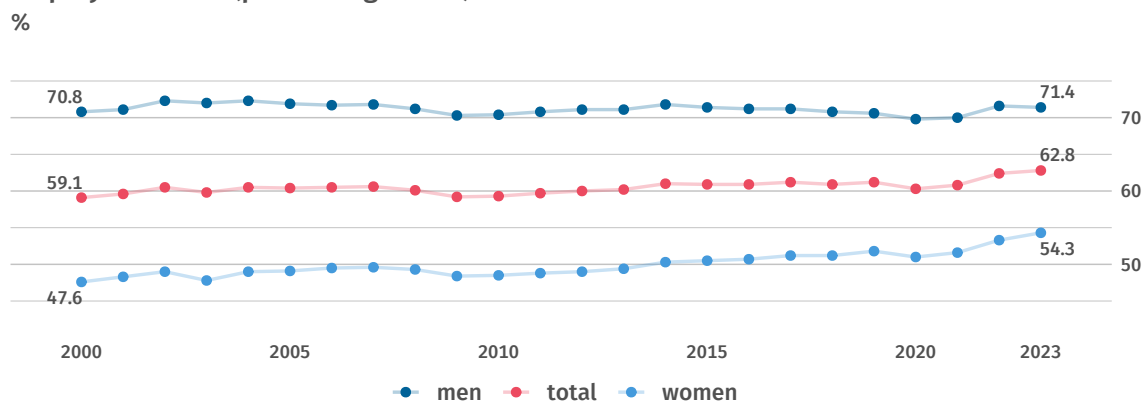
Source: ILOSTAT

Employment and gross value added by sector, 2021
%

Employment

agriculture, forestry, fisheries	industry	services	not specified
5.3	24.6	70.0	0.1

Gross value added

agriculture, forestry, fisheries	industry	services	not specified
2.0	35.6	62.5	0.0

■ agriculture, forestry, fisheries ■ industry ■ services ■ not specified

Source for employment: ILOSTAT
Source for gross value added: UNSD

Unemployment rate (persons aged 15+)	Unemployment rate (persons aged 15 to 24)	Long-term unemployment rate (persons aged 15+)
%	%	% of unemployed persons
2.7	**5.0**	**0.6**
(2023)	(2023)	(2022)
Source: ILOSTAT	Source: ILOSTAT	Source: ILOSTAT

Unemployment rate and youth unemployment rate
%

- youth unemployment rate (persons aged 15 to 24) - unemployment rate (persons aged 15+)

Source: ILOSTAT

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Living conditions

Human Development Index (HDI)	Human Development Index (HDI)	Income distribution: Gini coefficient
value (0 low to 1 high)	rank (of 193 countries)	value (0 to 100; 0=equal distribution)
0.929	**19**	**31.4**
(2022)	(2022)	(2016)
Source: UNDP	Source: UNDP	Source: WB-WDI

Manufacturing

Index of industrial production
2010=100

Source: IMF-IFS
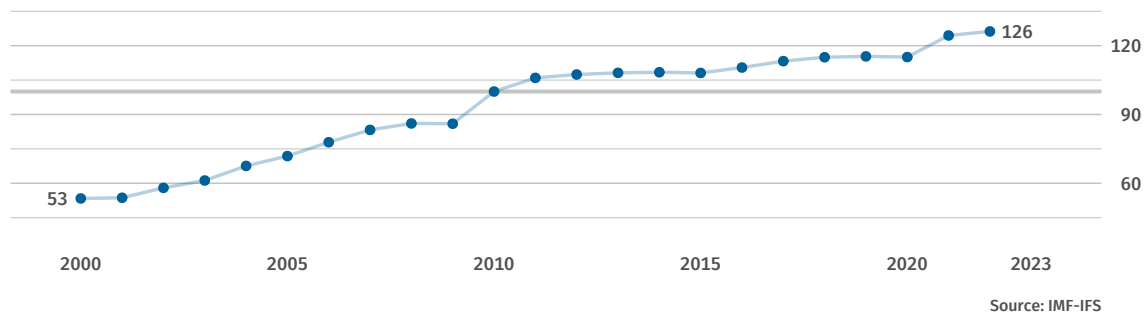
Agriculture and forestry

Change in agricultural production	Agricultural land	Forest area
% since 2000	% of land area	% of land area
+5	**16.4**	**64.3**
(2021)	(2021)	(2021)
Source: FAO*	Source: FAO*	Source: FAO*

Index of agricultural production
2014 to 2016 = 100

Source: FAO
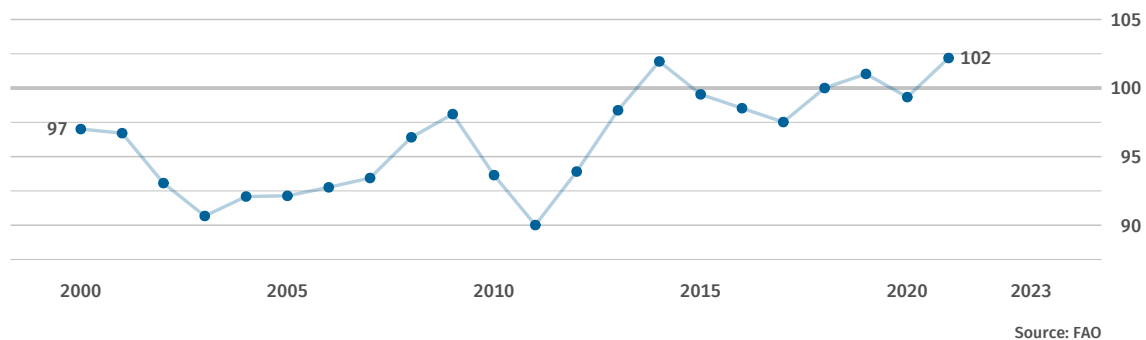
Foreign trade

Export of goods	Import of goods	Trade balance, goods
bn US$	bn US$	bn US$
684	**731**	**-48**
(2022)	(2022)	(2022)
Source: UN Comtrade	Source: UN Comtrade	Source: UN Comtrade*

Export and import of goods
bn US$

Source: UN Comtrade

Foreign trade balance
bn US$
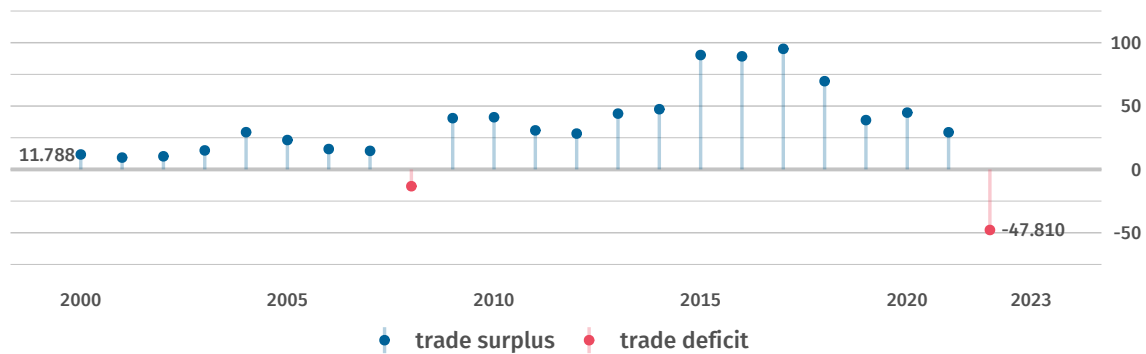
Source: UN Comtrade

Goods exported to Germany	Goods exported to Germany	Goods imported from Germany	Goods imported from Germany
mn US$	% of all goods exported	mn US$	% of all goods imported
10,043	**1.5**	**23,613**	**3.2**
(2022)	(2022)	(2022)	(2022)
Source: UN Comtrade	Source: UN Comtrade*	Source: UN Comtrade	Source: UN Comtrade*

Main trading partners, 2022

Exports of goods
%

China	25.9
United States	14.5
Viet Nam	9.5
China, Hong Kong	6.0
Japan	4.9

Imports of goods
%

China	23.3
United States	12.4
Japan	9.8
Germany	4.4
Viet Nam	4.4
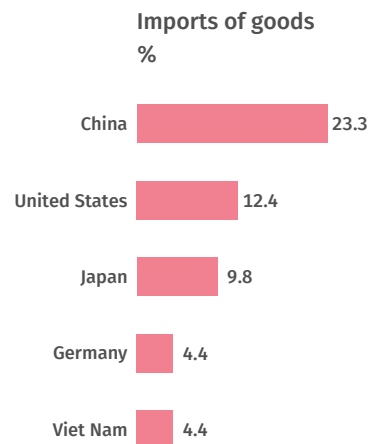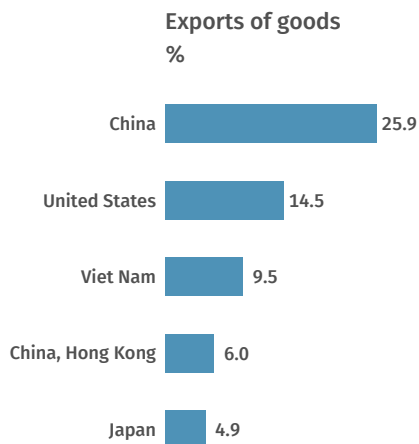
Main commodities traded, 2022

Exports of goods
%

Electrical goods, appliances	30.8
Vehicles (excl. rail) and parts	11.1
Machinery and mechanical appliances	10.7
Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products	9.5
Plastics and articles thereof	6.0

Imports of goods
%

Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products	29.9
Electrical goods, appliances	18.0
Machinery and mechanical appliances	9.4
Optical, photographic or medical instruments	3.1
Ores, slag and ash	3.0

Source: UN Comtrade*

Classification of commodities: Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding Systems (HS2).

Transport

Passenger cars	Total rail network	Air transport, passengers
per 1,000 inhabitants	km per 1 mn inhabitants	per 1,000 inhabitants
371	**83**	**657**
(2020)	(2021)	(2021)
Source: OICA*	Source: WB-WDI*	Source: WB-WDI*

Pump price for gasoline in relation to Germany
US$ per litre

Korea, Republic of: 1.303
Germany: 1.889
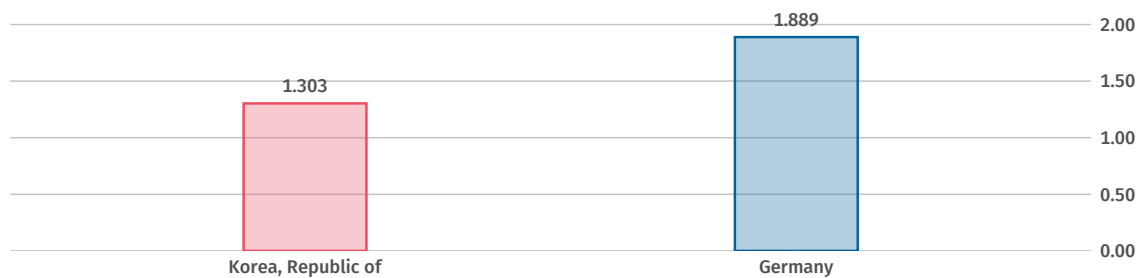
Source: GPP, 2024-07-29

Environment and energy

Carbon dioxide emissions	Total primary energy supply	Gross electricity consumption	Renewable energy
tonnes per capita	kg oil equivalent per capita	kWh per capita	% of total final energy consumption
12.3	**5,413**	**10,497**	**3.6**
(2022)	(2015)	(2014)	(2021)
Source: EDGAR	Source: WB-WDI	Source: WB-WDI	Source: WB-WDI

Carbon dioxide emissions in relation to Germany, 2022
tonnes per capita

Korea, Republic of
12.3

Germany
8.2
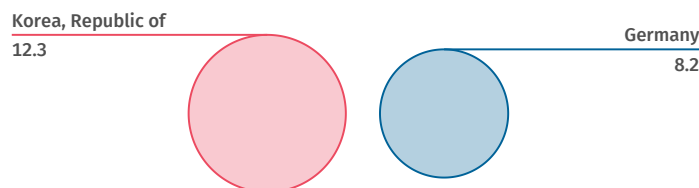
Source: EDGAR

Science, research and technology

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D	Researchers	Resident patent applications
% of GDP	per 1 mn inhabitants	per 1 mn inhabitants
4.5	**7,980**	**3,599**
(2018)	(2018)	(2021)
Source: UNESCO	Source: UNESCO	Source: WIPO

Dissemination of communication technology
per 100 inhabitants

- mobile cellular subscriptions
- internet users
- fixed broadband subscriptions
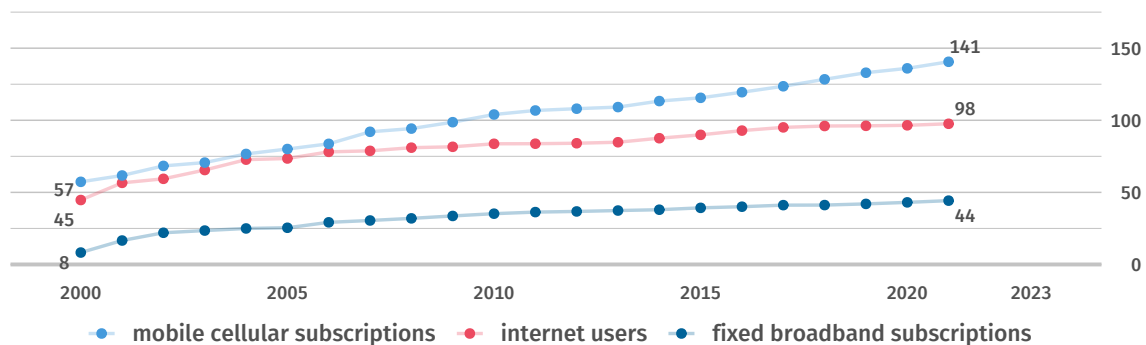
Source: ITU

Sources

EDGAR	Emissions Database for Global Atmospheric Research, European Commission
FAO	United Nations, Food and Agricultural Organization
GPP	GlobalPetrolPrices.com
ILOSTAT	International Labour Organization, ILOSTAT - Database
IMF-IFS	International Monetary Fund, International Financial Statistics
IMF-WEO	International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook
ITU	United Nations, International Telecommunication Union
OICA	International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers
UN Comtrade	United Nations, Comtrade Database
UNCTAD	United Nations, Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations, Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNPOP	United Nations, Population Division
UNSD	United Nations, Statistics Division
WB-WDI	World Bank, World Development Indicators
WHO	World Health Organization, Global Health Observatory
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization

* Own calculations based on the original data source.

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