
Income Group: Low income  Region: East Asia & Pacific

107 women die per 100,000 live births due to pregnancy-related causes in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The maternal mortality ratio in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has improved from 186 in 2000 to 107 in 2020. Maternal mortality in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is higher than its regional average. Maternal mortality ratio is the number of women who die from pregnancy-related causes while pregnant or within 42 days of pregnancy termination per 100,000 live births.

Maternal mortality ratio (deaths per 100,000 live births)


2 of every 1,000 girls ages 15-19 gave birth in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in 2020

In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the rate of adolescent fertility has remained roughly the same since 2010. The rate in 2020 was lower than the average rate in its income group.

Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 women ages 15-19)


Data is not available for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for Lower secondary completion rate, by sex (% of relevant age group)

Adult literacy in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is nearly the same among women and men (2018)

In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, both women and men have very high literacy rates. Adult literacy rate is the percentage of people ages 15 and above who can both read and write with understanding a short simple statement about their everyday life.

Adult literacy rate, by sex (% of people ages 15 and above)

In the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the labor force participation rate among females is 70% and among males is 80% for 2022.

The labor force participation rate is the proportion of the population ages 15 and older that is economically active. Since 1990, female labor force participation has increased. Compared with labor force participation in the low-income group, the gap between men and women is lower in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

Vulnerable employment among women has remained nearly the same since 1991.

Workers in vulnerable employment are the least likely to have formal work arrangements, social protection, and safety nets to guard against economic shocks; thus they are more likely to fall into poverty. Vulnerable employment among women is 89.8% and among men is 80.5% in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea for 2021. The rate of vulnerable employment is higher for men and women in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea compared to the average rate in East Asia & Pacific.
Data is not available for the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea for Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex (% of 24-hour day).

Source: National statistical offices or national database and publications compiled by United Nations Statistics Division. The data were downloaded on December 3 from the Global SDG Indicators Database.

Data is not available for the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea for Share of business owners, by sex (% of total business owners).


Data is not available for the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea for Account ownership at a financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider, by sex (% of population ages 15-). 

Source: Demirguc-Kunt et al., 2018, Global Financial Inclusion Database, World Bank.

Data is not available for the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea for House ownership status, by sex (% of population age 15-49).

Source: Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS)
17.6% of seats in national parliament were held by women in 2022 in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Women in parliaments are the percentage of parliamentary seats in a single or lower chamber held by women. The proportion of seats held by women in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has increased since 2010. The current rate is lower than the average rate in low-income countries.

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) (www.ipu.org). For the year of 1998, the data is as of August 10, 1998.