Economic growth and social transformation: the challenges for Korea

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Growth in GDP per capita, South Korea, 1960 to 2017

SOURCE: TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | WORLD BANK
The Great Transformation

Houses along the Han River, Seoul, 1961

Han River bridge, Seoul, 2006
Life expectancy at birth, Australia and Korea, 1960 to 2011
Fertility rates have fallen rapidly in Korea
How long did it take for fertility to fall from more than 6 children per woman to fewer than 3 children per woman?

- United Kingdom (1815-1910) 95 years
- Poland (1870-1960) 90 years
- USA (1844-1926) 82 years
- Greece (1850-1920) 70 years
- Malaysia (1962-1999) 37 years
- South Africa (1963-1997) 34 years
- Turkey (1964-1991) 27 years
- Costa Rica (1966-1993) 27 years
- Brazil (1963-1989) 26 years
- Colombia (1968-1993) 25 years
- Botswana (1982-2006) 24 years
- Morocco (1976-1998) 22 years
- Tunisia (1973-1994) 21 years
- Bangladesh (1982-2002) 20 years
- South Korea (1960-1978) 18 years
- China (1967-1978)* 11 years
- Iran (1986-1996) 10 years

* The one-child-policy in China was introduced after the decline of the total fertility rate below 3. It was introduced between 1978 and 1980.

Data source: The data on the total fertility rate is taken from the Gapminder fertility dataset (version 6) and the World Bank World Development Indicators. The interactive data visualization is available at OurWorldinData.org. There you find the raw data and more visualizations on this topic. Licensed under CC-BY-SA by the author Max Roser.
Divorce, Australia and Korea, 1960 to 2011
Trends in female employment, Australia and Korea, 1980 to 2012
Gender gap in median earnings of full-time employees, 2009
Trends in spending on cash benefits, selected Asian countries and Australia

Spending on cash benefits, 2000 to 2014

% of GDP

Source: OECD, [https://data.oecd.org/socialexp/social-benefits-to-households.htm#indicator-chart](https://data.oecd.org/socialexp/social-benefits-to-households.htm#indicator-chart)