

Economy Profile  
Korea, Rep.

# Doing Business 2020

Comparing Business  
Regulation in  
**190** Economies



WORLD BANK GROUP

**Economy Profile of Korea, Rep.**

*Doing Business 2020 Indicators  
(in order of appearance in the document)*

<b>Starting a business</b>	Procedures, time, cost and paid-in minimum capital to start a limited liability company
<b>Dealing with construction permits</b>	Procedures, time and cost to complete all formalities to build a warehouse and the quality control and safety mechanisms in the construction permitting system
<b>Getting electricity</b>	Procedures, time and cost to get connected to the electrical grid, and the reliability of the electricity supply and the transparency of tariffs
<b>Registering property</b>	Procedures, time and cost to transfer a property and the quality of the land administration system
<b>Getting credit</b>	Movable collateral laws and credit information systems
<b>Protecting minority investors</b>	Minority shareholders' rights in related-party transactions and in corporate governance
<b>Paying taxes</b>	Payments, time, total tax and contribution rate for a firm to comply with all tax regulations as well as postfiling processes
<b>Trading across borders</b>	Time and cost to export the product of comparative advantage and import auto parts
<b>Enforcing contracts</b>	Time and cost to resolve a commercial dispute and the quality of judicial processes
<b>Resolving insolvency</b>	Time, cost, outcome and recovery rate for a commercial insolvency and the strength of the legal framework for insolvency
<b>Employing workers</b>	Flexibility in employment regulation and redundancy cost

## About Doing Business

The *Doing Business* project provides objective measures of business regulations and their enforcement across 190 economies and selected cities at the subnational and regional level.

The *Doing Business* project, launched in 2002, looks at domestic small and medium-size companies and measures the regulations applying to them through their life cycle.

*Doing Business* captures several important dimensions of the regulatory environment as it applies to local firms. It provides quantitative indicators on regulation for starting a business, dealing with construction permits, getting electricity, registering property, getting credit, protecting minority investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts and resolving insolvency. *Doing Business* also measures features of employing workers. Although *Doing Business* does not present rankings of economies on the employing workers indicators or include the topic in the aggregate ease of doing business score or ranking on the ease of doing business, it does present the data for these indicators.

By gathering and analyzing comprehensive quantitative data to compare business regulation environments across economies and over time, *Doing Business* encourages economies to compete towards more efficient regulation; offers measurable benchmarks for reform; and serves as a resource for academics, journalists, private sector researchers and others interested in the business climate of each economy.

In addition, *Doing Business* offers detailed [subnational studies](#), which exhaustively cover business regulation and reform in different cities and regions within a nation. These studies provide data on the ease of doing business, rank each location, and recommend reforms to improve performance in each of the indicator areas. Selected cities can compare their business regulations with other cities in the economy or region and with the 190 economies that *Doing Business* has ranked.

The first *Doing Business* study, published in 2003, covered 5 indicator sets and 133 economies. This year's study covers 11 indicator sets and 190 economies. Most indicator sets refer to a case scenario in the largest business city of each economy, except for 11 economies that have a population of more than 100 million as of 2013 (Bangladesh, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and the United States) where *Doing Business* also collected data for the second largest business city. The data for these 11 economies are a population-weighted average for the 2 largest business cities. The project has benefited from feedback from governments, academics, practitioners and reviewers. The initial goal remains: to provide an objective basis for understanding and improving the regulatory environment for business around the world.

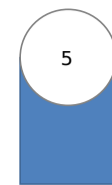
To learn more about *Doing Business* please visit [doingbusiness.org](http://doingbusiness.org)

Ease of Doing Business in Korea, Rep.

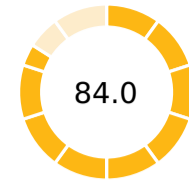


Region	OECD high income
Income Category	High income
Population	51,635,256
City Covered	Seoul

DB RANK



DB SCORE



Rankings on Doing Business topics - Korea, Rep.



Topic Scores



<b>Starting a Business</b> (rank)	33
Score of starting a business (0-100)	93.4
Procedures (number)	3
Time (days)	8
Cost (number)	14.6
Paid-in min. capital (% of income per capita)	0.0
<b>Dealing with Construction Permits</b> (rank)	12
Score of dealing with construction permits (0-100)	84.4
Procedures (number)	10
Time (days)	27.5
Cost (% of warehouse value)	4.4
Building quality control index (0-15)	12.0
<b>Getting Electricity</b> (rank)	2
Score of getting electricity (0-100)	99.9
Procedures (number)	3
Time (days)	13
Cost (% of income per capita)	34.3
Reliability of supply and transparency of tariff index (0-8)	8
<b>Registering Property</b> (rank)	40
Score of registering property (0-100)	76.3
Procedures (number)	7
Time (days)	5.5
Cost (% of property value)	5.1
Quality of the land administration index (0-30)	27.5

<b>Getting Credit</b> (rank)	67
Score of getting credit (0-100)	65.0
Strength of legal rights index (0-12)	5
Depth of credit information index (0-8)	8
Credit registry coverage (% of adults)	68.2
Credit bureau coverage (% of adults)	100.0
<b>Protecting Minority Investors</b> (rank)	25
Score of protecting minority investors (0-100)	74.0
Extent of disclosure index (0-10)	8.0
Extent of director liability index (0-10)	6.0
Ease of shareholder suits index (0-10)	8.0
Extent of shareholder rights index (0-6)	4.0
Extent of ownership and control index (0-7)	5.0
Extent of corporate transparency index (0-7)	6.0
<b>Paying Taxes</b> (rank)	21
Score of paying taxes (0-100)	87.4
Payments (number per year)	12
Time (hours per year)	174
Total tax and contribution rate (% of profit)	33.2
Postfiling index (0-100)	93.9

<b>Trading across Borders</b> (rank)	36
Score of trading across borders (0-100)	92.5
<i>Time to export</i>	
Documentary compliance (hours)	1
Border compliance (hours)	13
<i>Cost to export</i>	
Documentary compliance (USD)	11
Border compliance (USD)	185
<i>Time to export</i>	
Documentary compliance (hours)	1
Border compliance (hours)	6
<i>Cost to export</i>	
Documentary compliance (USD)	27
Border compliance (USD)	315
<b>Enforcing Contracts</b> (rank)	2
Score of enforcing contracts (0-100)	84.1
Time (days)	290
Cost (% of claim value)	12.7
Quality of judicial processes index (0-18)	14.5
<b>Resolving Insolvency</b> (rank)	11
Score of resolving insolvency (0-100)	82.9
Recovery rate (cents on the dollar)	84.3
Time (years)	1.5
Cost (% of estate)	3.5
Outcome (0 as piecemeal sale and 1 as going concern)	1
Strength of insolvency framework index (0-16)	12.0

## Starting a Business

This topic measures the number of procedures, time, cost and paid-in minimum capital requirement for a small- to medium-sized limited liability company to start up and formally operate in each economy's largest business city.

To make the data comparable across 190 economies, *Doing Business* uses a standardized business that is 100% domestically owned, has start-up capital equivalent to 10 times the income per capita, engages in general industrial or commercial activities and employs between 10 and 50 people one month after the commencement of operations, all of whom are domestic nationals. Starting a Business considers two types of local limited liability companies that are identical in all aspects, except that one company is owned by 5 married women and the other by 5 married men. The ranking of economies on the ease of starting a business is determined by sorting their scores for starting a business. These scores are the simple average of the scores for each of the component indicators.

The most recent round of data collection for the project was completed in May 2019. [See the methodology for more information.](#)

What the indicators measure	Case study assumptions
<p><b>Procedures to legally start and formally operate a company (number)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preregistration (for example, name verification or reservation, notarization)</li> <li>• Registration in the economy's largest business city</li> <li>• Postregistration (for example, social security registration, company seal)</li> <li>• Obtaining approval from spouse to start a business or to leave the home to register the company</li> <li>• Obtaining any gender specific document for company registration and operation or national identification card</li> </ul>	<p>To make the data comparable across economies, several assumptions about the business and the procedures are used. It is assumed that any required information is readily available and that the entrepreneur will pay no bribes.</p>
<p><b>Time required to complete each procedure (calendar days)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not include time spent gathering information</li> <li>• Each procedure starts on a separate day (2 procedures cannot start on the same day)</li> <li>• Procedures fully completed online are recorded as ½ day</li> <li>• Procedure is considered completed once final document is received</li> <li>• No prior contact with officials</li> </ul>	<p><b>The business:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Is a limited liability company (or its legal equivalent). If there is more than one type of limited liability company in the economy, the limited liability form most common among domestic firms is chosen. Information on the most common form is obtained from incorporation lawyers or the statistical office.</li> <li>-Operates in the economy's largest business city. For 11 economies the data are also collected for the second largest business city.</li> <li>-Performs general industrial or commercial activities such as the production or sale to the public of goods or services. The business does not perform foreign trade activities and does not handle products subject to a special tax regime, for example, liquor or tobacco. It is not using heavily polluting production processes.</li> <li>-Does not qualify for investment incentives or any special benefits.</li> <li>-Is 100% domestically owned.</li> <li>-Has five business owners, none of whom is a legal entity. One business owner holds 30% of the company shares, two owners have 20% of shares each, and two owners have 15% of shares each.</li> <li>-Is managed by one local director.</li> <li>-Has between 10 and 50 employees one month after the commencement of operations, all of them domestic nationals.</li> <li>-Has start-up capital of 10 times income per capita.</li> <li>-Has an estimated turnover of at least 100 times income per capita.</li> <li>-Leases the commercial plant or offices and is not a proprietor of real estate.</li> <li>-Has an annual lease for the office space equivalent to one income per capita.</li> <li>-Is in an office space of approximately 929 square meters (10,000 square feet).</li> <li>-Has a company deed that is 10 pages long.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cost required to complete each procedure (% of income per capita)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Official costs only, no bribes</li> <li>• No professional fees unless services required by law or commonly used in practice</li> </ul>	<p><b>The owners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Have reached the legal age of majority and are capable of making decisions as an adult. If there is no legal age of majority, they are assumed to be 30 years old.</li> <li>-Are in good health and have no criminal record.</li> <li>-Are married, the marriage is monogamous and registered with the authorities.</li> <li>-Where the answer differs according to the legal system applicable to the woman or man in question (as may be the case in economies where there is legal plurality), the answer used will be the one that applies to the majority of the population.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Paid-in minimum capital (% of income per capita)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funds deposited in a bank or with third party before registration or up to 3 months after incorporation</li> </ul>	

Starting a Business - Korea, Rep.

Standardized Company

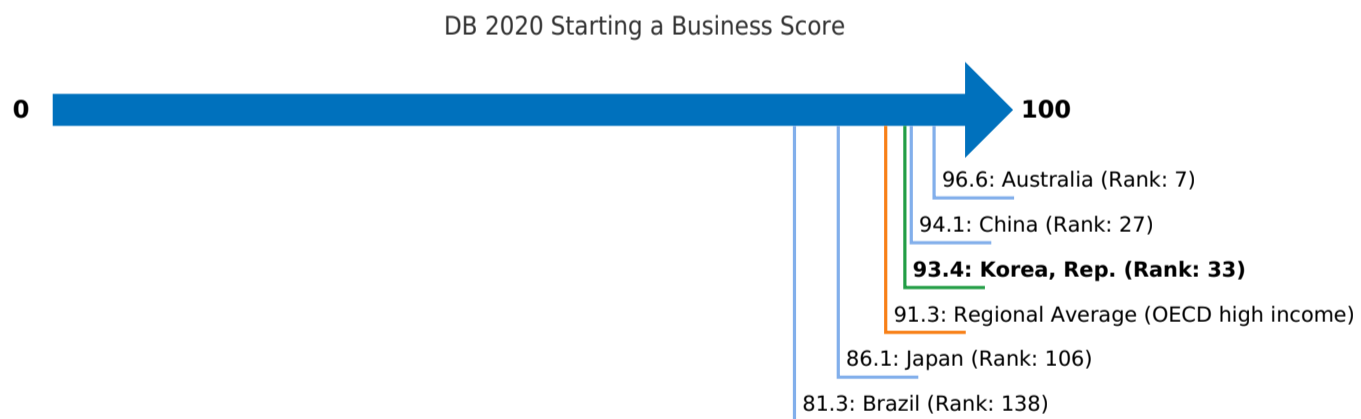
Legal form	Jusik Hoesa
Paid-in minimum capital requirement	No minimum
City Covered	Seoul

Indicator	Korea, Rep.	OECD high income	Best Regulatory Performance
Procedure - Men (number)	3	4.9	1 (2 Economies)
Time - Men (days)	8	9.2	0.5 (New Zealand)
Cost - Men (% of income per capita)	14.6	3.0	0.0 (2 Economies)
Procedure - Women (number)	3	4.9	1 (2 Economies)
Time - Women (days)	8	9.2	0.5 (New Zealand)
Cost - Women (% of income per capita)	14.6	3.0	0.0 (2 Economies)
Paid-in min. capital (% of income per capita)	0.0	7.6	0.0 (120 Economies)

Figure - Starting a Business in Korea, Rep. - Score

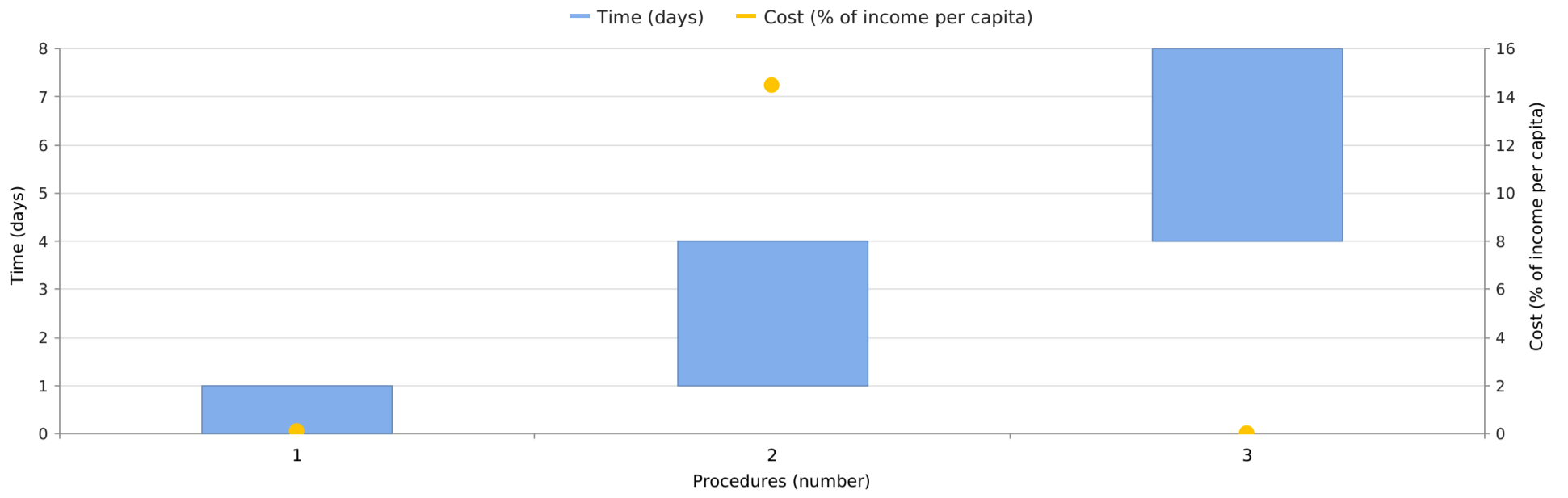


Figure - Starting a Business in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Ranking and Score



Note: The ranking of economies on the ease of starting a business is determined by sorting their scores for starting a business. These scores are the simple average of the scores for each of the component indicators.

Figure - Starting a Business in Korea, Rep. - Procedure, Time and Cost



\*This symbol is shown beside procedure numbers that take place simultaneously with the previous procedure.

Note: Online procedures account for 0.5 days in the total time calculation. For economies that have a different procedure list for men and women, the graph shows the time for women. For more information on methodology, see the *Doing Business* website (<http://doingbusiness.org/en/methodology>). For details on the procedures reflected here, see the summary below.

## Details - Starting a Business in Korea, Rep. - Procedure, Time and Cost

No.	Procedures	Time to Complete	Associated Costs
1	<p><b>Make company seal</b>  <i>Agency</i> : Seal maker            Company seal must be made upon registration of establishment of new company. Business founders can make a company seal at the seal maker for approximately KRW 30,000. A company seal can either be made online or at a seal maker's shop and is in most cases ordered at a shop.</p>	1 day	KRW 30,000
2	<p><b>Register the company with Start-Biz and pay incorporation fees</b>  <i>Agency</i> : Small and Medium Business Administration (SMBA)            Start Biz Online (<a href="http://www.startbiz.go.kr">www.startbiz.go.kr</a>), has combined the Internet Register Office, the Local Tax Payment System, the Electronic Notarization System, the National Tax Information System, the Financial Common Network, and the Social Insurance Information System which are independently run, for the purpose of incorporation. Start Biz Online allows its users to process the entire incorporation process online, including checking the availability of trade name and obtain a certificate of name availability, opening a bank statement from a bank, filing the application package for incorporation and obtaining a corporate registration tax bill, register the company and obtaining a certificate of seal impression of corporation, registering and getting a tax identification number (TIN), submitting the rules of employment, and registering electronically for the Public Health Insurance Program, the National Pension Fund, Employment Insurance, and Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance.</p> <p>Name verification is typically conducted prior to applying for registration. This can be done online, with no approval or verification by authorities. After checking the company name, uploading incorporation documents as well as filling company information, applicants can process to the payments for the corporate registration tax bill as well as the registration fee. Since applicant has already filled in the company information, there is no need to fill in separate forms for the payments. They will be automatically directed to the payment pages where they can make all payments, and re-directed to the Start-biz system once the payments are completed.</p> <p>In most of the cases, it takes 3 days to obtain the certificate of incorporation from the Start-Biz system. During this period, the court registry office reviews the documents and information provided by the applicants, and due diligence of company address is conducted by the tax office. After registration, company needs to physically visit the authority to pick up the hard copy of the incorporation documents.</p>	3 days	KRW 2,000 fee of e-registration+ 1.2% capital registration tax + education tax (20% of the registration tax) + KRW 20,000 (e-registration form)
3	<p><b>Register with the tax office</b>  <i>Agency</i> : National Tax Service            Following the completion of its court registration, a company is required to register with the appropriate tax office pursuant to the Corporation Tax Law (Article 111) and the Value Added Tax Law. The filing should be made no later than 20 days from the commencement of the business by the company. This can be done either by visiting the tax office or by submitting information online at <a href="http://www.hometax.go.kr">www.hometax.go.kr</a> . The following documents need to be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Registration application;</li> <li>- Article of Incorporation;</li> <li>- Certificate of the commercial registry;</li> <li>- Lease agreement for the office;</li> <li>- Certificate of the corporate seal;</li> <li>- Corporate seal;</li> <li>- Permit (in the case of a business that requires any);</li> <li>- PoA and ID card of the representative director;</li> <li>- proof of funds and its origin (e.g., copy of tax return or a loan agreement).</li> </ul> <p>Tax office personnel may visit the company to confirm physical existence of the premises or call the office and confirm it through an employee. However, such visits are not frequent.</p>	4 days	no charge

⇄ Takes place simultaneously with previous procedure.



## Dealing with Construction Permits

This topic tracks the procedures, time and cost to build a warehouse—including obtaining necessary the licenses and permits, submitting all required notifications, requesting and receiving all necessary inspections and obtaining utility connections. In addition, the Dealing with Construction Permits indicator measures the building quality control index, evaluating the quality of building regulations, the strength of quality control and safety mechanisms, liability and insurance regimes, and professional certification requirements. The most recent round of data collection was completed in May 2019. [See the methodology for more information](#)

### What the indicators measure

#### Procedures to legally build a warehouse (number)

- Submitting all relevant documents and obtaining all necessary clearances, licenses, permits and certificates
- Submitting all required notifications and receiving all necessary inspections
- Obtaining utility connections for water and sewerage
- Registering and selling the warehouse after its completion

#### Time required to complete each procedure (calendar days)

- Does not include time spent gathering information
- Each procedure starts on a separate day—though procedures that can be fully completed online are an exception to this rule
- Procedure is considered completed once final document is received
- No prior contact with officials

#### Cost required to complete each procedure (% of income per capita)

- Official costs only, no bribes

#### Building quality control index (0-15)

- Quality of building regulations (0-2)
- Quality control before construction (0-1)
- Quality control during construction (0-3)
- Quality control after construction (0-3)
- Liability and insurance regimes (0-2)
- Professional certifications (0-4)

### Case study assumptions

To make the data comparable across economies, several assumptions about the construction company, the warehouse project and the utility connections are used.

#### The construction company (BuildCo):

- Is a limited liability company (or its legal equivalent) and operates in the economy's largest business city. For 11 economies the data are also collected for the second largest business city.
- Is 100% domestically and privately owned; has five owners, none of whom is a legal entity. Has a licensed architect and a licensed engineer, both registered with the local association of architects or engineers. BuildCo is not assumed to have any other employees who are technical or licensed experts, such as geological or topographical experts.
- Owns the land on which the warehouse will be built and will sell the warehouse upon its completion.

#### The warehouse:

- Will be used for general storage activities, such as storage of books or stationery.
- Will have two stories, both above ground, with a total constructed area of approximately 1,300.6 square meters (14,000 square feet). Each floor will be 3 meters (9 feet, 10 inches) high and will be located on a land plot of approximately 929 square meters (10,000 square feet) that is 100% owned by BuildCo, and the warehouse is valued at 50 times income per capita.
- Will have complete architectural and technical plans prepared by a licensed architect. If preparation of the plans requires such steps as obtaining further documentation or getting prior approvals from external agencies, these are counted as procedures.
- Will take 30 weeks to construct (excluding all delays due to administrative and regulatory requirements).

#### The water and sewerage connections:

- Will be 150 meters (492 feet) from the existing water source and sewer tap. If there is no water delivery infrastructure in the economy, a borehole will be dug. If there is no sewerage infrastructure, a septic tank in the smallest size available will be installed or built.
- Will have an average water use of 662 liters (175 gallons) a day and an average wastewater flow of 568 liters (150 gallons) a day. Will have a peak water use of 1,325 liters (350 gallons) a day and a peak wastewater flow of 1,136 liters (300 gallons) a day.
- Will have a constant level of water demand and wastewater flow throughout the year; will be 1 inch in diameter for the water connection and 4 inches in diameter for the sewerage connection.

Dealing with Construction Permits - Korea, Rep.

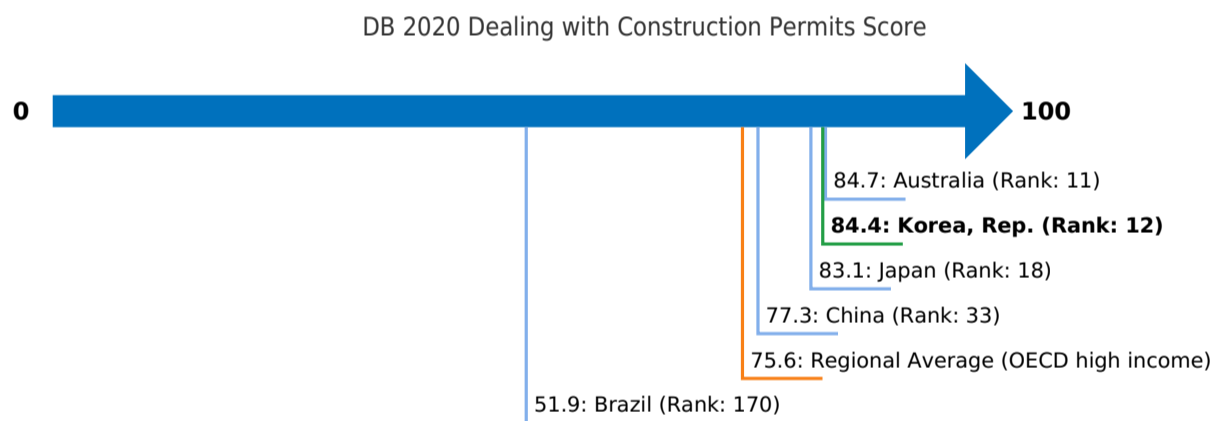
Standardized Warehouse

Estimated value of warehouse	KRW 1,724,607,858.40		
City Covered	Seoul		
Indicator	Korea, Rep.	OECD high income	Best Regulatory Performance
Procedures (number)	10	12.7	None in 2018/19
Time (days)	27.5	152.3	None in 2018/19
Cost (% of warehouse value)	4.4	1.5	None in 2018/19
Building quality control index (0-15)	12.0	11.6	15.0 (6 Economies)

Figure - Dealing with Construction Permits in Korea, Rep. - Score

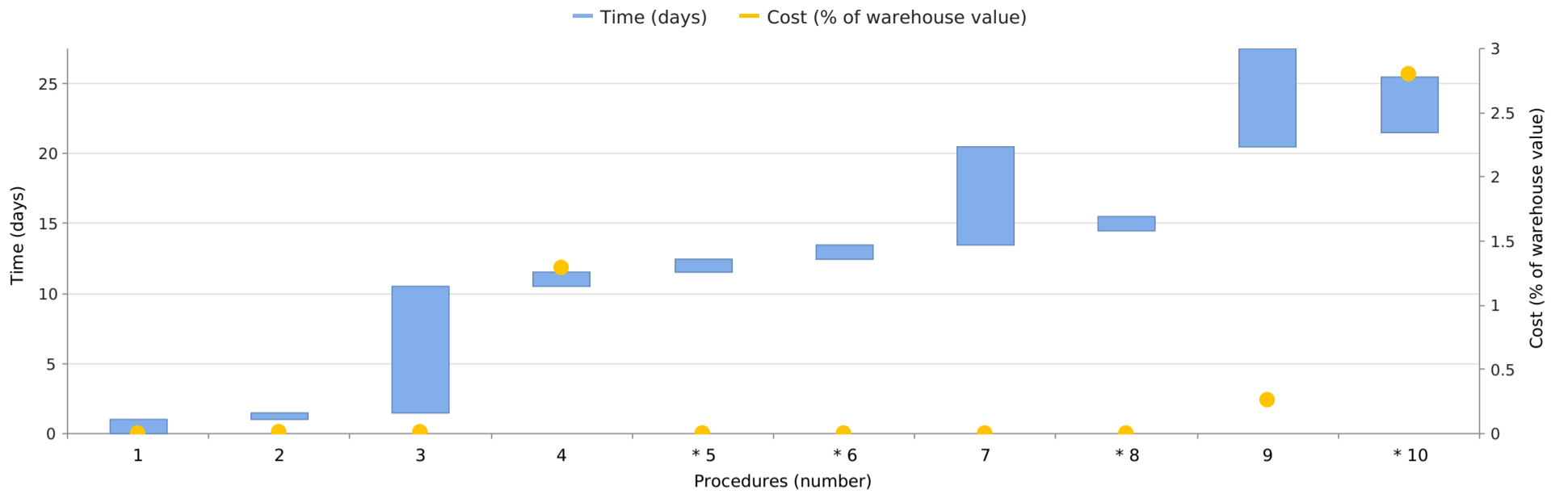


Figure - Dealing with Construction Permits in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Ranking and Score



Note: The ranking of economies on the ease of dealing with construction permits is determined by sorting their scores for dealing with construction permits. These scores are the simple average of the scores for each of the component indicators.

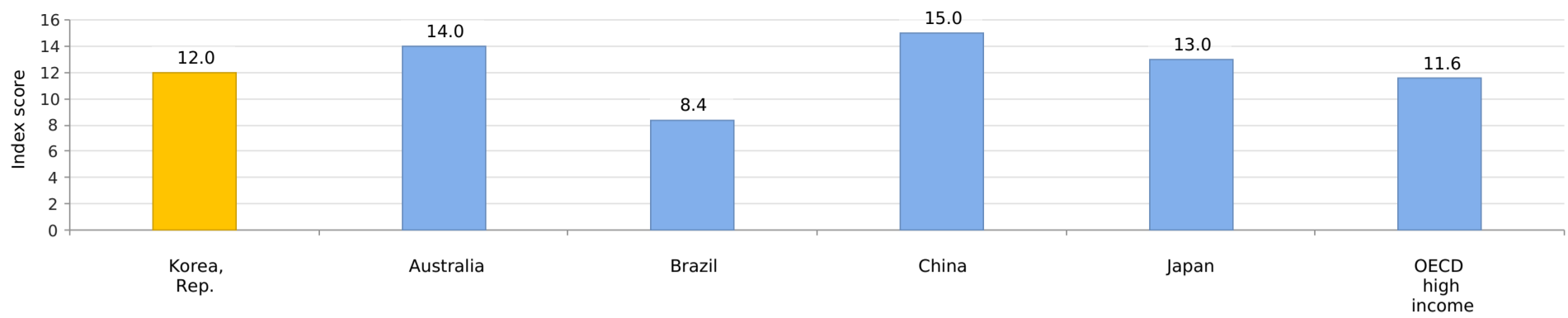
Figure - Dealing with Construction Permits in Korea, Rep. - Procedure, Time and Cost



\*This symbol is shown beside procedure numbers that take place simultaneously with the previous procedure.

Note: Online procedures account for 0.5 days in the total time calculation. For economies that have a different procedure list for men and women, the graph shows the time for women. For more information on methodology, see the *Doing Business* website (<http://doingbusiness.org/en/methodology>). For details on the procedures reflected here, see the summary below.

Figure - Dealing with Construction Permits in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Measure of Quality



## Details - Dealing with Construction Permits in Korea, Rep. - Procedure, Time and Cost

No.	Procedures	Time to Complete	Associated Costs
1	<p><b>Request and obtain proof of ownership of land</b>  <i>Agency</i> : Property Register            BuildCo must obtain proof of ownership from the Property Register to show that BuildCo has the right to construct a warehouse on the land. The issuance date stated in the Land Registry should be within 3 months prior to the date of submitting the application for a building permit. Once the application for a building permit and the relevant documents are filed with the licensing authority, the authority will forward the design drawing to the relevant regulatory agencies, the fire department and the sewage department. It is possible to obtain proof of ownership (from the Court Registry) immediately after applying over the Internet at <a href="http://www.iros.gov.kr">www.iros.gov.kr</a>. The fee for issuing certificate of registered items is KRW 1,000 for issuance via internet.</p>	1 day	KRW 1,000
2	<p><b>Purchase National Housing Bonds (NHB)</b>  <i>Agency</i> : Commercial bank            To qualify for a building permit, BuildCo must purchase National Housing Bonds (NHBs). The bonds can be purchased online through commercial bank websites.</p> <p>The NHB is calculated at a rate ranging from KRW 600.00 to KRW 1,300.00 per sq. m., depending upon the structure of the warehouse. If the warehouse is constructed in steel frame, the rate of KRW 1,300.00 per sq. m. is applied.</p> <p>BuildCo can either receive the money paid for the NHBs upon maturity or sell them at a discount (the discount rate is variable but has been around 10%). Upon purchase, the bank issues a receipt, which must then be presented to the Building Authorities. The cost is calculated as follows: <math>KRW\ 1,300.00 \times 1300.6\ sq.\ m. = KRW\ 1,690,780.00</math>. However, many sell the NHBs immediately, which, assuming a discount of 10%, brings the actual cost incurred by the company to KRW 169,078.00.</p>	0.5 days	KRW 169,078

3	<p><b>Request and obtain building permit</b>  <i>Agency</i> : County (Ku) Office of Construction          BuildCo must submit an application for a building permit to the County (Ku) Office of Construction. The application must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The size of construction lot;</li> <li>• Documentation showing BuildCo's ownership or the right to use the construction lot; and</li> <li>• Basic design drawings, which must specify the approximate location of the water pipes, sewage, septic tank, electrical facilities, and telephone lines.</li> </ul> <p>Once the application for the building permit with the relevant documents is filed with the licensing authority, this authority forwards the design drawings to the relevant regulatory agencies (such as the sewerage department and the fire department). Thus, it is not necessary for the company to obtain separate project clearances from these departments.</p> <p>Under the Article 10 of the new Building Code, anyone who intends to construct a building may opt for a fast-track procedure and apply for an "advance decision regarding building permit" before applying for a building permit. If an advance decision is obtained for the construction, the builder must separately apply for and obtain a building permit for the construction. However, when the advance decision is obtained, the relevant approval for the development or re-characterization of land (such approval is needed in certain zoning areas under several relevant laws) is deemed to be obtained. This effect of the advance decision is valid for 2 years from the date of issuance, before the builder applies for the building permit itself.</p> <p>In addition, it is possible to submit simultaneous applications for an advance decision and for the traffic and environment impact assessment procedures, and the like, if those procedures are necessary. Accordingly, if the builder obtains an advance decision before applying for the building permit, the time before the construction may be reduced more or less. However, this has not worked well in practice and many companies follow the traditional way.</p> <p>According to the Standard for Civil Petitions Treatment published by the Korean Government on December 30, 2005, the duration for obtaining a building permit for a two-story, 1,300-square-meter building is estimated to be 3 -- 14 days, subject to certain circumstances, including whether the work is performed by an agent (a certified architect). The duration can take a few days longer, as the case may be.</p> <p>Before construction work begins, the company informs the authority thereof. BuildCo must present a notification application, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A copy of all relevant contract(s) between the relevant parties (owner, construction company, architect, building inspector, etc.)</li> <li>• The design drawings, which must specify the location of the water pipes, sewage, septic tank, electrical facilities, and telephone lines.</li> </ul>	9 days	KRW 121,500
4	<p><b>Hire a certified inspector</b>  <i>Agency</i> : Private Company          A certified inspector conducts inspections throughout the period of construction. If the company does not hire a certified inspector during construction, there is a penalty of up to 2 years' imprisonment or a fine of up to KRW 10 million. The inspector is independent of the company. The frequency of inspections varies depending on the size and cost of construction. Generally, an inspection takes place if the inspector and the company deem it necessary. However, in some instances, the contract between the company and the inspector contains a clause specifying the frequency of inspection. There must be at least two inspections throughout the construction, during which the construction work does not stop.</p> <p>The fees for hiring a certified inspector is calculated by multiplying the value of the project by the relevant rate of 1.29%, in accordance with the Regulation for Scope of Architect Services and Fee Standard.</p>	1 day	KRW 22,247,441
⇒ 5	<p><b>Request water and sewage and occupancy permit inspections certificate</b>  <i>Agency</i> : Public Sewer Management Agency          When installing drainage facilities in a building, the type, size, and other features of the drainage facilities must be reported pursuant to the Sewage Act to the Public Sewer Management Agency. According to the Act's enforcement provision, the time to complete the inspection should be 14 days. There is no penalty for the authorities if the time line is missed, but they generally meet the deadline.</p>	1 day	no charge
⇒ 6	<p><b>Request and obtain fire inspection certificate</b>  <i>Agency</i> : Fire Department          When BuildCo applies for an occupancy permit, the fire control facility will ask the Fire Department to inspect the building. The Fire Department will issue an inspection certificate after inspection of the premises. The average waiting time is one week.</p>	1 day	no charge
7	<p><b>Obtain occupancy permit certificate</b>  <i>Agency</i> : County (Ku) Office of Construction          BuildCo must apply for an occupancy permit within 7 days of the completion of construction. The occupancy permit is issued after the fire inspection mentioned in the previous procedure.</p>	7 days	no charge
⇒ 8	<p><b>Receive final inspection from local government</b>  <i>Agency</i> : Local Government</p>	1 day	no charge

9	<b>Obtain connection to water and sewage services</b> <i>Agency</i> : Korea Water Company In order to obtain a connection to clean water, BuildCo must apply online through the Office of Waterworks of the Seoul Metropolitan Government's website. For sewerage, if the warehouse is built near a sewerage terminal disposal plant, BuildCo can connect to the public sewer system, although it must pay a fee as a Dirty Water Originator. The cost and time required depend on the distance between the building and the water and sewerage resources and on the installation method of the building's facilities.	7 days	KRW 4,443,000
⇒ 10	<b>Register the building with the Court Registry</b> <i>Agency</i> : Court Registry An acquisition and the e-revenue stamp tax must be paid within 30 days of receiving the occupancy permit. The acquisition tax is 2.8% of the value of the property without surcharge (3.16% with surcharge) and the stamp tax is KRW 15,000.00 per land parcel.  Once the tax is paid, BuildCo must register the warehouse within 60 days from the inspection completion date.	4 days	KRW 48,304,020

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⇒Takes place simultaneously with previous procedure.

## Details - Dealing with Construction Permits in Korea, Rep. - Measure of Quality

	Answer	Score
<b>Building quality control index (0-15)</b>		<b>12.0</b>
<b>Quality of building regulations index (0-2)</b>		<b>2.0</b>
How accessible are building laws and regulations in your economy? (0-1)	Available online; Free of charge.	1.0
Which requirements for obtaining a building permit are clearly specified in the building regulations or on any accessible website, brochure or pamphlet? (0-1)	List of required documents; Fees to be paid; Required preapprovals.	1.0
<b>Quality control before construction index (0-1)</b>		<b>0.0</b>
Which third-party entities are required by law to verify that the building plans are in compliance with existing building regulations? (0-1)	By law, there is no need to verify plans compliance; Civil servant reviews plans.	0.0
<b>Quality control during construction index (0-3)</b>		<b>2.0</b>
What types of inspections (if any) are required by law to be carried out during construction? (0-2)	Inspections by in-house engineer; Inspections by external engineer or firm; Inspections at various phases.	1.0
Do legally mandated inspections occur in practice during construction? (0-1)	Mandatory inspections are always done in practice.	1.0
<b>Quality control after construction index (0-3)</b>		<b>3.0</b>
Is there a final inspection required by law to verify that the building was built in accordance with the approved plans and regulations? (0-2)	Yes, final inspection is done by government agency; Yes, in-house engineer submits report for final inspection; Yes, external engineer submits report for final inspection.	2.0
Do legally mandated final inspections occur in practice? (0-1)	Final inspection always occurs in practice.	1.0
<b>Liability and insurance regimes index (0-2)</b>		<b>1.0</b>
Which parties (if any) are held liable by law for structural flaws or problems in the building once it is in use (Latent Defect Liability or Decennial Liability)? (0-1)	Architect or engineer; Professional in charge of the supervision; Construction company; Owner or investor.	1.0
Which parties (if any) are required by law to obtain an insurance policy to cover possible structural flaws or problems in the building once it is in use (Latent Defect Liability Insurance or Decennial Insurance)? (0-1)	No party is required by law to obtain insurance .	0.0
<b>Professional certifications index (0-4)</b>		<b>4.0</b>

What are the qualification requirements for the professional responsible for verifying that the architectural plans or drawings are in compliance with existing building regulations? (0-2)

Minimum number of years of experience; University degree in architecture or engineering; Being a registered architect or engineer; Passing a certification exam.

2.0

What are the qualification requirements for the professional who supervises the construction on the ground? (0-2)

Minimum number of years of experience; University degree in engineering, construction or construction management; Being a registered architect or engineer; Passing a certification exam.

2.0



## ⚡ Getting Electricity

This topic measures the procedures, time and cost required for a business to obtain a permanent electricity connection for a newly constructed warehouse. Additionally, the reliability of supply and transparency of tariffs index measures reliability of supply, transparency of tariffs and the price of electricity. The most recent round of data collection for the project was completed in May 2019. [See the methodology for more information.](#)

### What the indicators measure

#### Procedures to obtain an electricity connection (number)

- Submitting all relevant documents and obtaining all necessary clearances and permits
- Completing all required notifications and receiving all necessary inspections
- Obtaining external installation works and possibly purchasing material for these works
- Concluding any necessary supply contract and obtaining final supply

#### Time required to complete each procedure (calendar days)

- Is at least 1 calendar day
- Each procedure starts on a separate day
- Does not include time spent gathering information
- Reflects the time spent in practice, with little follow-up and no prior contact with officials

#### Cost required to complete each procedure (% of income per capita)

- Official costs only, no bribes
- Value added tax excluded

#### The reliability of supply and transparency of tariffs index (0-8)

- Duration and frequency of power outages (0-3)
- Tools to monitor power outages (0-1)
- Tools to restore power supply (0-1)
- Regulatory monitoring of utilities' performance (0-1)
- Financial deterrents limiting outages (0-1)
- Transparency and accessibility of tariffs (0-1)

#### Price of electricity (cents per kilowatt-hour)\*

- Price based on monthly bill for commercial warehouse in case study

\*Note: *Doing Business* measures the price of electricity, but it is not included in the ease of doing business score nor in the ranking on the ease of getting electricity.

### Case study assumptions

To make the data comparable across economies, several assumptions about the warehouse, the electricity connection and the monthly consumption are used.

#### The warehouse:

- Is owned by a local entrepreneur and is used for storage of goods.
- Is located in the economy's largest business city. For 11 economies the data are also collected for the second largest business city.
- Is located in an area where similar warehouses are typically located and is in an area with no physical constraints. For example, the property is not near a railway.
- Is a new construction and is being connected to electricity for the first time.
- Has two stories with a total surface area of approximately 1,300.6 square meters (14,000 square feet). The plot of land on which it is built is 929 square meters (10,000 square feet).

#### The electricity connection:

- Is a permanent one with a three-phase, four-wire Y connection with a subscribed capacity of 140-kilo-volt-ampere (kVA) with a power factor of 1, when 1 kVA = 1 kilowatt (kW).
- Has a length of 150 meters. The connection is to either the low- or medium-voltage distribution network and is either overhead or underground, whichever is more common in the area where the warehouse is located and requires works that involve the crossing of a 10-meter road (such as by excavation or overhead lines) but are all carried out on public land. There is no crossing of other owners' private property because the warehouse has access to a road.
- Does not require work to install the internal wiring of the warehouse. This has already been completed up to and including the customer's service panel or switchboard and the meter base.

#### The monthly consumption:

- It is assumed that the warehouse operates 30 days a month from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (8 hours a day), with equipment utilized at 80% of capacity on average and that there are no electricity cuts (assumed for simplicity reasons) and the monthly energy consumption is 26,880 kilowatt-hours (kWh); hourly consumption is 112 kWh.
- If multiple electricity suppliers exist, the warehouse is served by the cheapest supplier.
- Tariffs effective in January of the current year are used for calculation of the price of electricity for the warehouse. Although January has 31 days, for calculation purposes only 30 days are used.

Getting Electricity - Korea, Rep.

Standardized Connection

Name of utility	Korea Electric Power Corp (KEPCO)
Price of electricity (US cents per kWh)	11.4
City Covered	Seoul

Indicator	Korea, Rep.	OECD high income	Best Regulatory Performance
Procedures (number)	3	4.4	3 (28 Economies)
Time (days)	13	74.8	18 (3 Economies)
Cost (% of income per capita)	34.3	61.0	0.0 (3 Economies)
Reliability of supply and transparency of tariff index (0-8)	8	7.4	8 (26 Economies)

Figure - Getting Electricity in Korea, Rep. - Score

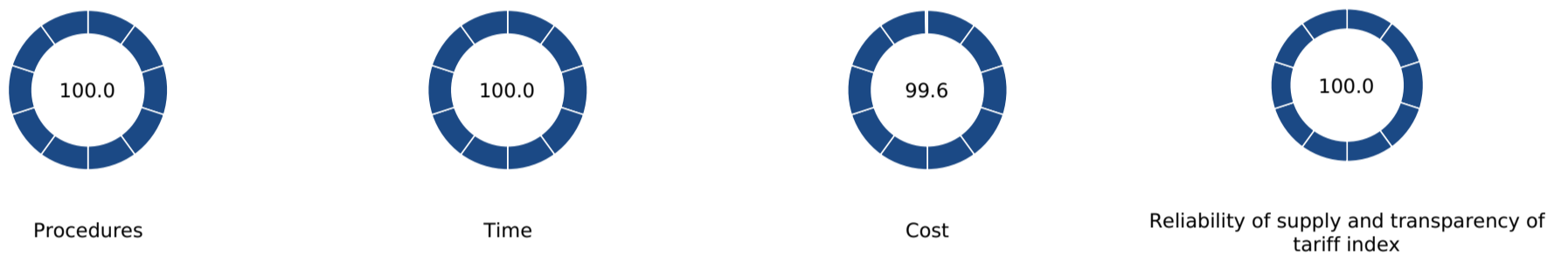
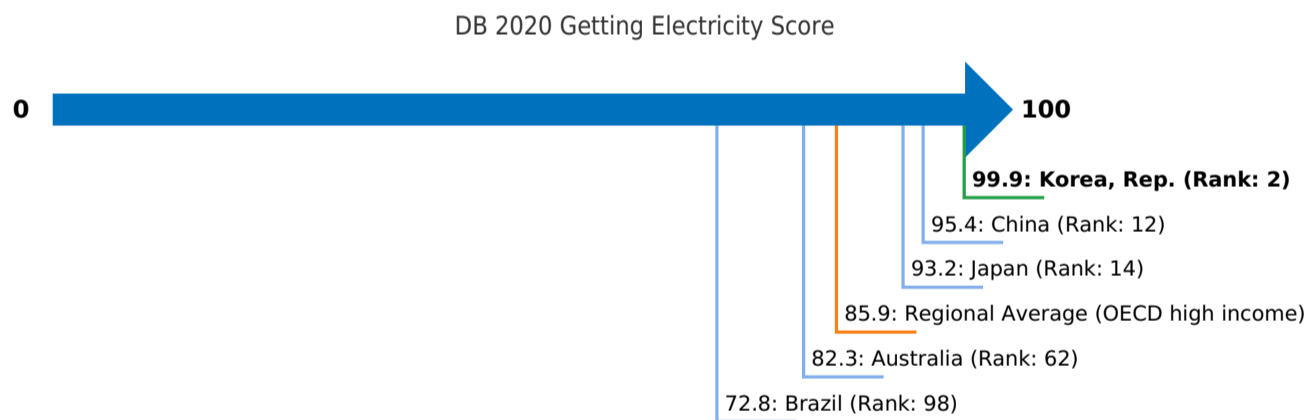
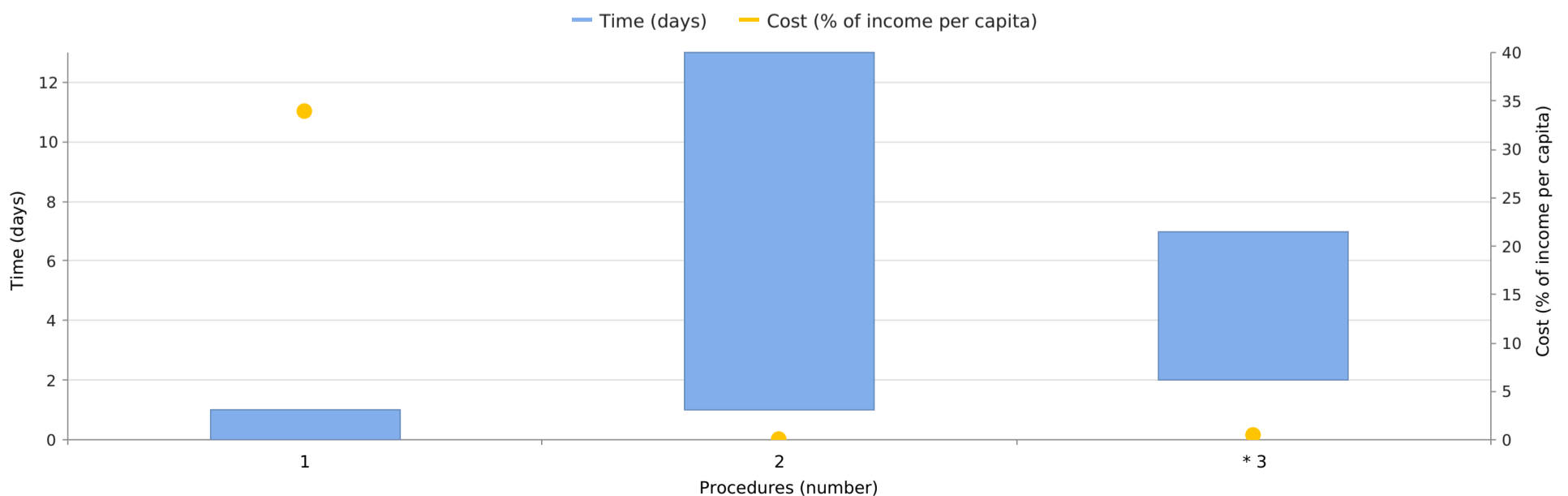


Figure - Getting Electricity in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Ranking and Score



Note: The ranking of economies on the ease of getting electricity is determined by sorting their scores for getting electricity. These scores are the simple average of the scores for all the component indicators except the price of electricity.

Figure - Getting Electricity in Korea, Rep. - Procedure, Time and Cost

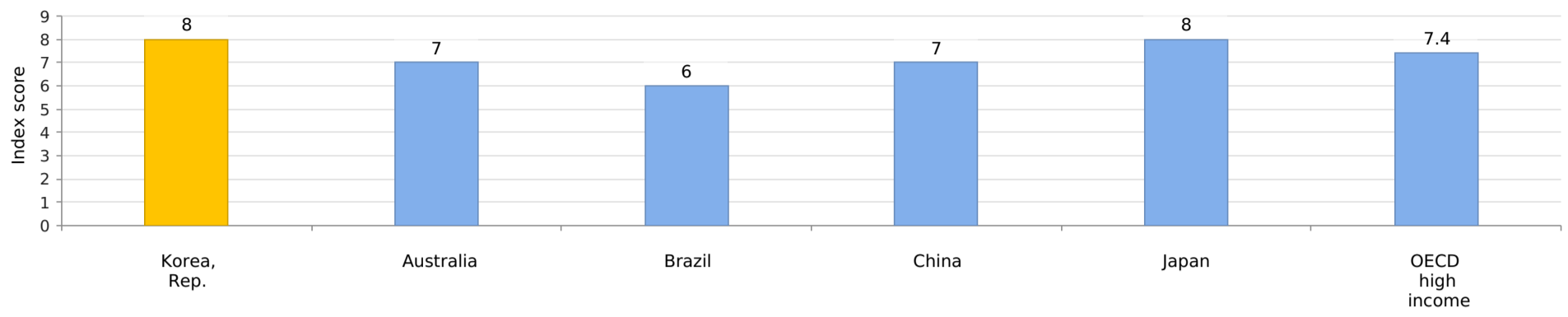


\*This symbol is shown beside procedure numbers that take place simultaneously with the previous procedure.

Note: Online procedures account for 0.5 days in the total time calculation. For economies that have a different procedure list for men and women, the graph shows the time for women. For more information on methodology, see the *Doing Business* website (<http://doingbusiness.org/en/methodology>). For details on the procedures

reflected here, see the summary below.

Figure - Getting Electricity in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Measure of Quality



## Details - Getting Electricity in Korea, Rep. - Procedure, Time and Cost

No.	Procedures	Time to Complete	Associated Costs
1	<p><b>Submit application to KEPCO and sign contract</b>  <i>Agency</i> : Korea Electric Power Corporation (KEPCO)            As soon as KEPCO receives the electricity application, it charges the customer for a standard connection fee, and the customer signs a contract with KEPCO.</p>	1 calendar day	KRW 11,684,877.39
2	<p><b>Receive external works, meter installation and electricity flow</b>  <i>Agency</i> : Korea Electric Power Corporation (KEPCO)            On signing the contract with the customer, KEPCO begins designing the external wiring works, securing materials, and making a contract with the electricity contractors.            Generally, warehouses are connected with overhead distribution lines in Seoul (90% of network is overhead).</p>	12 calendar days	KRW 0
⇒ 3	<p><b>Request and receive internal wiring inspection</b>  <i>Agency</i> : Korea Electrical Safety Corporation (KESCO)            The customer has to hire a licensed electrician or an electrical contractor to design and install the internal facilities. The customer should submit the application with the license number and the certification stamp of the hired electrician attached for the internal inspection to KESCO (Korea Electrical Safety Corporation). According to The Electricity Enterprises Act #62, #63 and The Enforcement Regulations of Electricity Enterprises Act #31, facilities over 75kVA shall be inspected by KESCO.</p>	5 calendar days	KRW 148,740

⇒ Takes place simultaneously with previous procedure.

## Details - Getting Electricity in Korea, Rep. - Measure of Quality

	Answer
<b>Reliability of supply and transparency of tariff index (0-8)</b>	8
<b>Total duration and frequency of outages per customer a year (0-3)</b>	3
System average interruption duration index (SAIDI)	0.0
System average interruption frequency index (SAIFI)	0.1
What is the minimum outage time (in minutes) that the utility considers for the calculation of SAIDI/SAIFI	5.0
<b>Mechanisms for monitoring outages (0-1)</b>	1
Does the distribution utility use automated tools to monitor outages?	Yes
<b>Mechanisms for restoring service (0-1)</b>	1
Does the distribution utility use automated tools to restore service?	Yes
<b>Regulatory monitoring (0-1)</b>	1
Does a regulator—that is, an entity separate from the utility—monitor the utility's performance on reliability of supply?	Yes
<b>Financial deterrents aimed at limiting outages (0-1)</b>	1
Does the utility either pay compensation to customers or face fines by the regulator (or both) if outages exceed a certain cap?	Yes
<b>Communication of tariffs and tariff changes (0-1)</b>	1
Are effective tariffs available online?	Yes
Link to the website, if available online	<a href="http://home.kepco.co.kr/kepco/EN/F/htmlView/ENFBHP003.do?menuCd=EN060203">http://home.kepco.co.kr/kepco/EN/F/htmlView/ENFBHP003.do?menuCd=EN060203</a>
Are customers notified of a change in tariff ahead of the billing cycle?	Yes

**Note:**

If the duration and frequency of outages is 100 or less, the economy is eligible to score on the Reliability of supply and transparency of tariff index.

If the duration and frequency of outages is not available, or is over 100, the economy is not eligible to score on the index.

If the minimum outage time considered for SAIDI/SAIFI is over 5 minutes, the economy is not eligible to score on the index.

## Registering Property

This topic examines the steps, time and cost involved in registering property, assuming a standardized case of an entrepreneur who wants to purchase land and a building that is already registered and free of title dispute. In addition, the topic also measures the quality of the land administration system in each economy. The quality of land administration index has five dimensions: reliability of infrastructure, transparency of information, geographic coverage, land dispute resolution, and equal access to property rights. The most recent round of data collection for the project was completed in May 2019. [See the methodology for more information.](#)

### What the indicators measure

#### Procedures to legally transfer title on immovable property (number)

- Preregistration procedures (for example, checking for liens, notarizing sales agreement, paying property transfer taxes)
- Registration procedures in the economy's largest business city.
- Postregistration procedures (for example, filling title with municipality)

#### Time required to complete each procedure (calendar days)

- Does not include time spent gathering information
- Each procedure starts on a separate day - though procedures that can be fully completed online are an exception to this rule
- Procedure is considered completed once final document is received
- No prior contact with officials

#### Cost required to complete each procedure (% of property value)

- Official costs only (such as administrative fees, duties and taxes).
- Value Added Tax, Capital Gains Tax and illicit payments are excluded

#### Quality of land administration index (0-30)

- Reliability of infrastructure index (0-8)
- Transparency of information index (0-6)
- Geographic coverage index (0-8)
- Land dispute resolution index (0-8)
- Equal access to property rights index (-2-0)

### Case study assumptions

To make the data comparable across economies, several assumptions about the parties to the transaction, the property and the procedures are used.

#### The parties (buyer and seller):

- Are limited liability companies (or the legal equivalent).
- Are located in the periurban (that is, on the outskirts of the city but still within its official limits) area of the economy's largest business city. For 11 economies the data are also collected for the second largest business city.
- Are 100% domestically and privately owned.
- Perform general commercial activities.

#### The property (fully owned by the seller):

- Has a value of 50 times income per capita, which equals the sale price.
- Is fully owned by the seller.
- Has no mortgages attached and has been under the same ownership for the past 10 years.
- Is registered in the land registry or cadastre, or both, and is free of title disputes.
- Is located in a periurban commercial zone (that is, on the outskirts of the city but still within its official limits), and no rezoning is required.
- Consists of land and a building. The land area is 557.4 square meters (6,000 square feet). A two-story warehouse of 929 square meters (10,000 square feet) is located on the land. The warehouse is 10 years old, is in good condition, has no heating system and complies with all safety standards, building codes and legal requirements. The property, consisting of land and building, will be transferred in its entirety.
- Will not be subject to renovations or additional construction following the purchase.
- Has no trees, natural water sources, natural reserves or historical monuments of any kind.
- Will not be used for special purposes, and no special permits, such as for residential use, industrial plants, waste storage or certain types of agricultural activities, are required.
- Has no occupants, and no other party holds a legal interest in it.

Registering Property - Korea, Rep.

Indicator	Korea, Rep.	OECD high income	Best Regulatory Performance
Procedures (number)	7	4.7	1 (5 Economies)
Time (days)	5.5	23.6	1 (2 Economies)
Cost (% of property value)	5.1	4.2	0.0 (Saudi Arabia)
Quality of the land administration index (0-30)	27.5	23.2	None in 2018/19

Figure - Registering Property in Korea, Rep. - Score

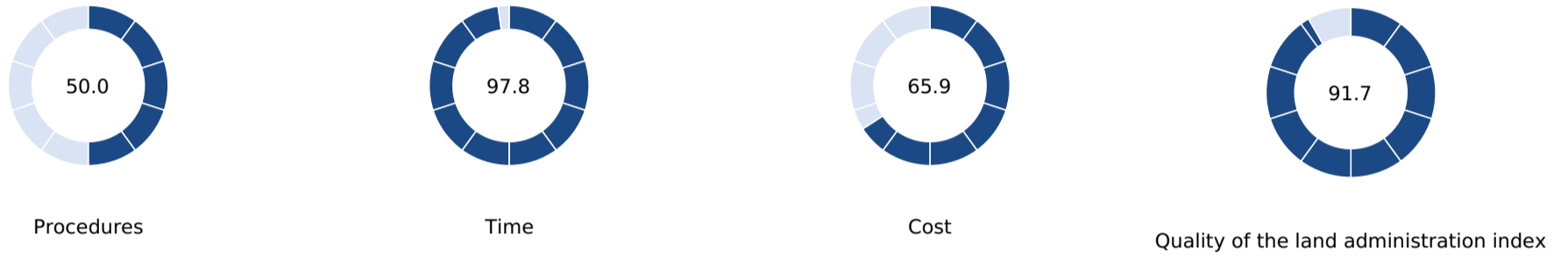
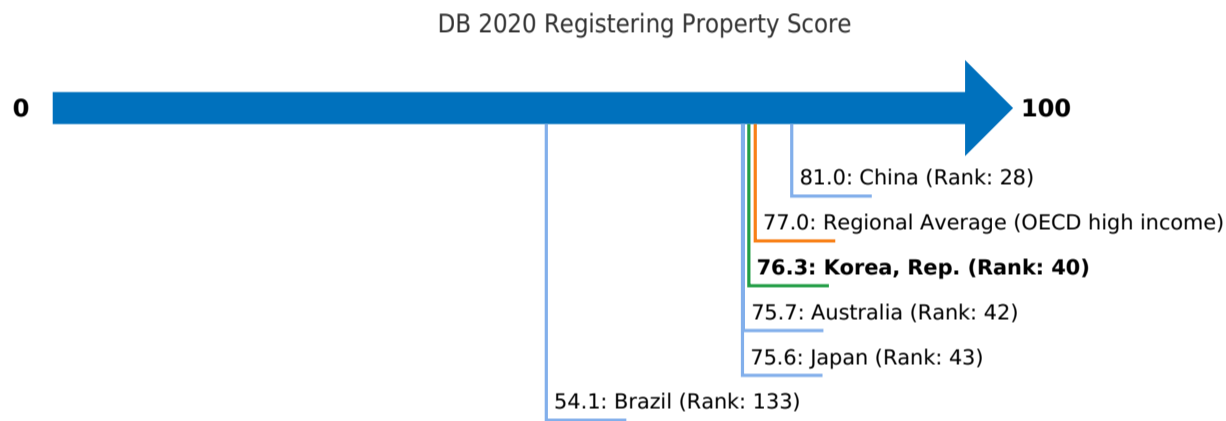
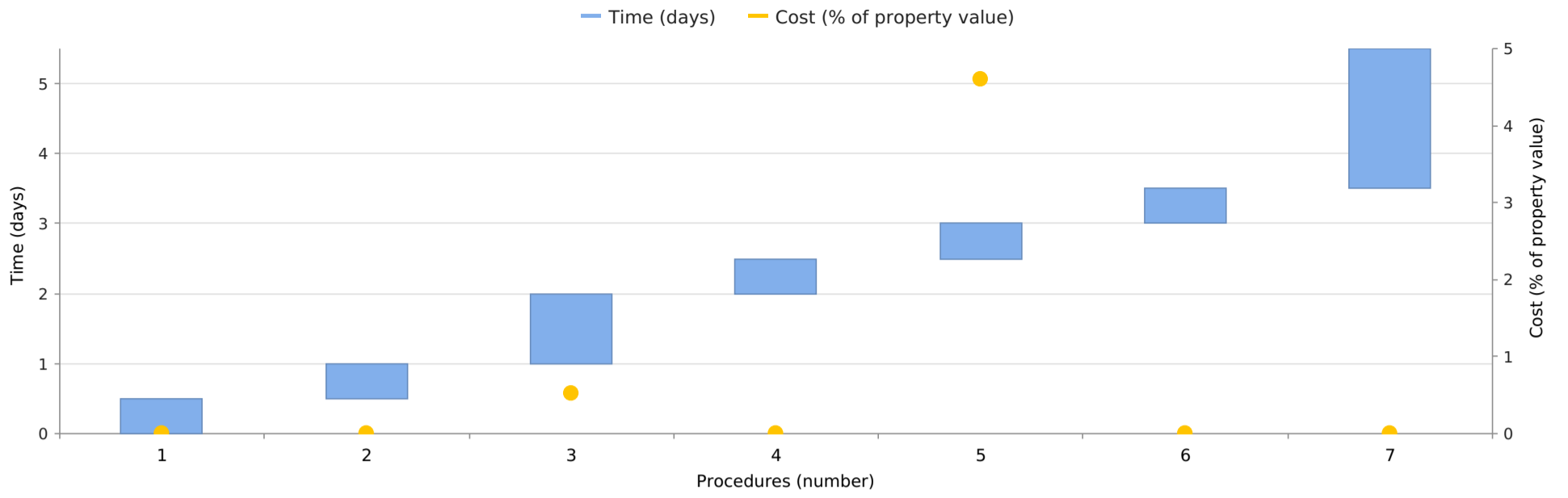


Figure - Registering Property in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Ranking and Score



Note: The ranking of economies on the ease of registering property is determined by sorting their scores for registering property. These scores are the simple average of the scores for each of the component indicators.

Figure - Registering Property in Korea, Rep. - Procedure, Time and Cost

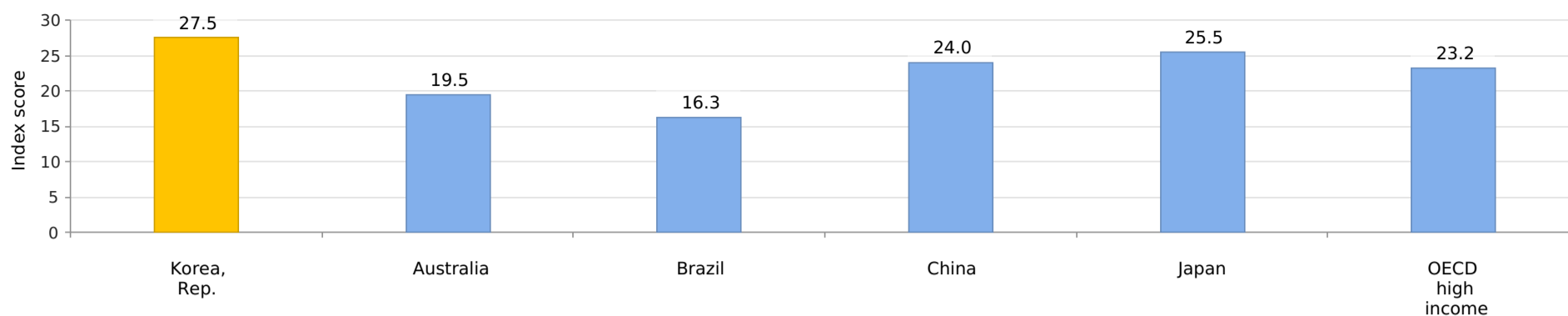


\*This symbol is shown beside procedure numbers that take place simultaneously with the previous procedure.

Note: Online procedures account for 0.5 days in the total time calculation. For economies that have a different procedure list for men and women, the graph shows the time for women. For more information on methodology, see the *Doing Business* website (<http://doingbusiness.org/en/methodology>). For details on the procedures reflected here, see the summary below.



Figure - Registering Property in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Measure of Quality



Details - Registering Property in Korea, Rep. - Procedure, Time and Cost

No.	Procedures	Time to Complete	Associated Costs
1	<p><b>Obtain certified copies of the corporate registration and the registered corporate seal, and the registry extract of the concerned land and building from the District Court Registration Office</b></p> <p><i>Agency:</i> District Court Registration Office</p> <p>I. Obtain commercial registry extracts and registry extracts of the concerned land and building</p> <p>The parties, as legal entities, must prepare corporate registry extracts, corporate seal card and registry extracts of the concerned land and building.</p> <p>There are three methods to obtain the purchasing corporation's registration certificates on the land and the building to collect the real estate information:</p> <p>(i) by visiting the District Court Registration Office in person and obtaining such documents from a registration officer (cost: KRW 1,200 each). The District Registration Officer issues copies of the corporate registration, real property registration, etc.;</p> <p>(ii) by using an unattended machine (cost: KRW 1,000 each); and</p> <p>(iii) by obtaining online via website(<a href="http://www.iros.go.kr">www.iros.go.kr</a>) (cost: KRW 1,000 each)</p> <p>II. Obtain the certificate of the registered corporate seal card</p> <p>(i) visiting the District Court Registration Office in person and getting the document from an officer (cost: KRW 1,200); and</p> <p>(ii) using an unattended machine (cost: KRW 1,000 each)</p> <p>All registry extracts and the certificate should be issued within three months before the registration of the titles will happen.</p>	Less than one day, online	<p>KRW 4,000; (KRW 1,000 for corporate registry extracts of the Party (online) + KRW 1,000 for registered corporate seal of the Party (unattended machine) + KRW 1,000 for registry extract of the concerned land + KRW 1,000 for registry extract of the concerned building)</p>
2	<p><b>Obtain copies of the Land Cadastre Certificate and the Building Management Certificate</b></p> <p><i>Agency:</i> The jurisdictional district office (e.g. City Hall, Gu-Office, Gun-Office)</p> <p>Governmental offices of various levels issue those copies (e.g. the City Hall, Gu-Office similar to "borough office" or Gun-Office similar to "district office") and there are three ways to obtain each copy of certificates above:</p> <p>(i) visiting the City Hall, Gu-Office or Gun-Office and getting through an officer (cost: KRW 500 each);</p> <p>(ii) using an unattended machine placed in a governmental district (cost: KRW 300 each); and</p> <p>(iii) obtaining via the website (<a href="https://www.gov.kr">https://www.gov.kr</a>) of the Korean government (free of charge).</p> <p>(Land and Building ledger: <a href="http://https://www.gov.kr">http://https://www.gov.kr</a> or <a href="http://www.minwon.go.kr">http://www.minwon.go.kr</a>)</p> <p>The Integrated Certificate can be issued online at <a href="https://seereal.lh.or.kr">https://seereal.lh.or.kr</a> (cost: certificate of all items KRW 1000, certificates of partial items KRW 800) or in person at the Jurisdictional District Office (cost: KRW 1500).</p>	Less than one day, online	<p>One copy of the Land Cadastre Certificate &amp; the Building Management Certificate could be requested online and has not cost. It is also possible to obtain the Land Cadastre &amp; the Building Management at the Jurisdictional District Office (cost: KRW 1000 and KRW 1500).</p> <p>From January 18, 2014, the Integrated Certificate of Real Estate that includes both certificates for the Land Cadastre and the Building Management is also available. The Integrated Certificate can be issued online at <a href="https://seereal.lh.or.kr">https://seereal.lh.or.kr</a> (cost: Certificate of all items KRW 1000, Certificates of partial items KRW 800) or in person at the Jurisdictional District Office (cost: KRW 1500).</p>

<p>3</p>	<p><b>Prepare the sale agreement and affix the stamp duty</b>  <i>Agency</i> : District government office, Korea Financial Telecommunications and Clearings Institute, post offices and commercial banks                      Preparing sale agreement: Although it is not mandatory to use a real estate agent, most people use agents or occasionally lawyers. Both parties that commissioned the brokerage pays a commission fee to the real estate agent. The brokerage client and the real estate agent decided the amount by agreement. The lawyers charge the commission fee hourly.                       Affixing Stamp duty: The purchasing corporation should purchase National Revenue Stamp. Due to the amendment of the Stamp Tax Act enforced as of January 1, 2015, only the electronic form of NRS is permissible. Parties can purchase the electronic form of NRS via the website (<a href="http://www.e-revenuestamp.or.kr">www.e-revenuestamp.or.kr</a>) or from banks and post offices, paying the same amount of price as aforementioned.</p>	<p>1 day</p>	<p>KRW 8,973,039.29; ("National Revenue Stamp (for stamp duty) + Real estate agent fee (the parties and the agent usually agree for same or less than 0.9% of the sale price)                       * Note: Stamp duty (in this case, KRW 350,000)                       Property value (KRW million) NRS (KRW)                      Over 10, less than or equal to 30 20,000                      Over 30, less than or equal to 50 40,000                      Over 50, less than or equal to 100 70,000                      Over 100, less than or equal to 1,000 150,000                      Over 1,000 350,000)</p>
<p>4</p>	<p><b>Report the real transaction price</b>  <i>Agency</i> : District government office                      There is a system of reporting 'real transaction price' in Korea. The parties that agree to the sale of the real property should report real transaction price to the Tax Department of jurisdictional district office (usually to Gu-Office, in case of there's no Gu: to City Hall, etc.) within 60 days after signing the sale agreement. This procedure is required to prevent tax evasion.                       Both seller and buyer or real estate agents are on duty of reporting the sale price, which can be performed via the website (<a href="http://rtms.molit.go.kr/">http://rtms.molit.go.kr/</a>) of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport.                       After reporting the price of the sale, the Office of the Tax Department issues "the real transaction price report."                      "The real transaction report" includes:                      (i) the identification of both parties;                      (ii) signing date, intermediate payment date, and remainder payment date;                      (iii) the location, parcel number and land category of an agreed real estate;                      (iv) the type of real estate and the area of an agreed real estate; and                      (v) the real price of a transaction.                       With this report, the District Tax Office will calculate the payment of taxes as below ('real transaction price' of the report can also be the 'purchase price').</p>	<p>Less than one day, online</p>	<p>no charge</p>
<p>5</p>	<p><b>Buyer pays taxes online</b>  <i>Agency</i> : Tax department of jurisdictional district office                      The buyer pays all required taxes (specified below) online at <a href="http://etax.seoul.co.kr">etax.seoul.co.kr</a>.                       The tax amount due for the property with a value of about KRW 1.68 billion located in Seoul is as follow:                       (1) Acquisition Tax: 4% of the purchase price                      (2) Education Tax: 0.4% of the purchase price                      (3) Agricultural and Fisheries Tax: 0.2% of the purchase price</p>	<p>Less than one day, online</p>	<p>KRW 79,331,961.49; ((1) Acquisition Tax: 4% of the purchase price                      (2) Education Tax: 0.4% of the purchase price                      (3) Agricultural and Fisheries Tax: 0.2% of the purchase price)</p>

6	<p><b>The buyer buys Housing Bonds</b>  <i>Agency</i> : Commercial banks</p> <p>The buyer should buy 'national housing bonds ("Bonds") at commercial banks in Korea, write the number of the Bonds at the application form for the registration, and submit it to the District Courts Registration Office at the moment of applying for the registration of the title. Five commercial banks handle national housing bonds, which are: Shinhan Bank, Woori Bank, Kookmin Bank, Industrial Bank of Korea, and Nonghyup.</p> <p>Value of Bonds that need to be purchased by the buyer, in case of real property located in Seoul, based on the "standard market price."</p> <p>- Land:  2.5% (from KRW 5M ~ less than KRW 50M)  4% (from KRW 50M ~ less than KRW 100M)  5% (from KRW 100M)</p> <p>- Real property other than land and house:  1% (from KRW 10M ~ less than KRW 130M)  1.6% (from KRW 130M ~ less than KRW 250M)  2% (from KRW 250M)</p> <p>The Bonds have a maturity of 5 years. After that, the redemption is with interests. The buyer, however, can sell the Bonds shortly after purchasing them at the update discounting rate published in the websites of commercial banks.</p> <p>In practice, however, buyer buys the Bonds at the bank and resells the Bonds immediately at a loss of above discount rate. The bank will issue the receipt with the Bonds number to the buyer after receiving the discount fees. The buyer needs the receipt with the Bonds number for applying for the registration of the titles.</p> <p>(Cost of Procedure 6 is not included in the calculation of total cost).</p>	Less than one day, online	<p>(1) If the location of the warehouse is in Seoul, Incheon, Daejeon, Gwangju, Busan, Ulsan or Daegu: 5% of the standard market price of the land + 2% of the standard market price of the building.</p> <p>(2) In case the location of the warehouse is other than the above seven cities mentioned: 4.5% of the standard market price of the land + 1.8% of the standard market price of the building.</p> <p>Both are not included in the calculation of total cost.</p>
7	<p><b>Buyer applies for the registration of the titles</b>  <i>Agency</i> : District Court Registration Office</p> <p>Parties file the application form for registration of the title at the District Court Registration Office within the jurisdiction. The District Court Registration Office is in charge of registering the title under the name of the new owner. Fee for the application is KRW 15,000 per each lot in case of submitting the application form (written by hands) with other necessary documents to the registration officer. In case of applying using the 'e-form' (online and printed) with other documents required to the registration officer, the fee is KRW 13,000. If the parties apply online (<a href="http://www.iros.go.kr">www.iros.go.kr</a>), the fee is KRW 10,000, but the authentication certificate for internet banking is necessary for using the online application.</p> <p>Documents to be submitted for the registration of the title transfer include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) In general, certificate copies of the corporate registration and the authentication certificate of a seal of a vendor corporation's representative are required;</li> <li>(ii) copies of the Land Cadastre Certificate &amp; the Building Management Certificate;</li> <li>(iii) a certificate of reporting real transaction price;</li> <li>(iv) original copy of the executed sale agreement on which NRS should be affixed;</li> <li>(v) property tax clearance;</li> <li>(vi) the receipt of purchase of Housing Bonds;</li> <li>(vii) a registration certificate which is in possession of the seller;</li> <li>(viii) a Power of Attorney</li> </ul>	2 days	KRW 15,000; (Cost per real property (land + building) for court registry stamp: In person: KW 15,000, Electronic standard form application: KW 13,000, Electronic application: KW 10,000)

⇒ Takes place simultaneously with previous procedure.

## Details - Registering Property in Korea, Rep. - Measure of Quality

	Answer	Score
<b>Quality of the land administration index (0-30)</b>		<b>27.5</b>
<b>Reliability of infrastructure index (0-8)</b>		<b>8.0</b>
Type of land registration system in the economy:	Title Registration System	
What is the institution in charge of immovable property registration?	District Court Registration Office	
In what format are past and newly issued land records kept at the immovable property registry of the largest business city of the economy—in a paper format or in a computerized format (scanned or fully digital)?	Computer/Fully digital	2.0
Is there a comprehensive and functional electronic database for checking for encumbrances (liens, mortgages, restrictions and the like)?	Yes	1.0
Institution in charge of the plans showing legal boundaries in the largest business city:	Gu-Offices in Seoul	
In what format are past and newly issued cadastral plans kept at the mapping agency of the largest business city of the economy—in a paper format or in a computerized format (scanned or fully digital)?	Computer/Fully digital	2.0
Is there an electronic database for recording boundaries, checking plans and providing cadastral information (geographic information system)?	Yes	1.0
Is the information recorded by the immovable property registration agency and the cadastral or mapping agency kept in a single database, in different but linked databases or in separate databases?	Different databases but linked	1.0
Do the immovable property registration agency and cadastral or mapping agency use the same identification number for properties?	Yes	1.0
<b>Transparency of information index (0-6)</b>		<b>4.5</b>
Who is able to obtain information on land ownership at the agency in charge of immovable property registration in the largest business city?	Anyone who pays the official fee	1.0
Is the list of documents that are required to complete any type of property transaction made publicly available—and if so, how?	Yes, online	0.5
Link for online access:	<a href="http://www.iros.go.kr">www.iros.go.kr</a>	
Is the applicable fee schedule for any type of property transaction at the agency in charge of immovable property registration in the largest business city made publicly available—and if so, how?	Yes, online	0.5
Link for online access:	<a href="http://www.iros.go.kr">www.iros.go.kr</a> <a href="http://www.minwon.go.kr">www.minwon.go.kr</a> <a href="http://www.gov.kr">http://www.gov.kr</a>	
Does the agency in charge of immovable property registration agency formally commit to deliver a legally binding document that proves property ownership within a specific timeframe—and if so, how does it communicate the service standard?	Yes, online	0.5
Link for online access:	<a href="http://www.iros.go.kr/pos1/html/eng/PEngServiceH.html">http://www.iros.go.kr/pos1/html/eng/PEngServiceH.html</a>	
Is there a specific and independent mechanism for filing complaints about a problem that occurred at the agency in charge of immovable property registration?	No	0.0
Contact information:		
Are there publicly available official statistics tracking the number of transactions at the immovable property registration agency?	Yes	0.5
Number of property transfers in the largest business city in 2018:	531,284 transaction of real estate in Seoul in 2018. (house: 171,050; lands: 360,234)	
Who is able to consult maps of land plots in the largest business city?	Freely accessible by anyone	0.5
Is the applicable fee schedule for accessing maps of land plots made publicly available—and if so, how?	Yes, online	0.5

Link for online access:	www.minwon.go.kr	
Does the cadastral/mapping agency formally specifies the timeframe to deliver an updated cadastral plan—and if so, how does it communicate the service standard?	Yes, online	0.5
Link for online access:	Building Ledger: http://www.minwon.go.kr/main?a=AA020InfoCappViewApp&HighCtgCD=A02002003&CappBizCD=15000000098 Land Cadastre: http://www.minwon.go.kr/main?a=AA020InfoCappViewApp&HighCtgCD=A02009006&CappBizCD=13100000026	
Is there a specific and independent mechanism for filing complaints about a problem that occurred at the cadastral or mapping agency?	No	0.0
Contact information:		
<b>Geographic coverage index (0-8)</b>		<b>8.0</b>
Are all privately held land plots in the largest business city formally registered at the immovable property registry?	Yes	2.0
Are all privately held land plots in the economy formally registered at the immovable property registry?	Yes	2.0
Are all privately held land plots in the largest business city mapped?	Yes	2.0
Are all privately held land plots in the economy mapped?	Yes	2.0
<b>Land dispute resolution index (0-8)</b>		<b>7.0</b>
Does the law require that all property sale transactions be registered at the immovable property registry to make them opposable to third parties?	Yes	1.5
Legal basis:	One may not oppose against the third person without making registration. If there is no other regulations prescribing the priority of rights registered on the same property, the priority comes on the first-come-first-serve basis. ○ Principle As prescribed in the Article 186 of the Civil Act, any change on acquisition and loss of a real right caused by a legal act on a particular property only came into effect when registered. ○Exception As prescribed in the Article 187 of the Civil Act, acquisition of a property grounded on inheritance, public expropriation, judgement, auction and any other provision of other Acts does not require registration. However, unless it is registered, it cannot be disposed.	
Is the system of immovable property registration subject to a state or private guarantee?	No	0.0

Type of guarantee:		
Legal basis:	There is no stipulated regulations regarding a guarantee. However, under applicable case law, the registered owner is presumed to be the owner.	
Is there a specific, out-of-court compensation mechanism to cover for losses incurred by parties who engaged in good faith in a property transaction based on erroneous information certified by the immovable property registry?	Yes	0.5
Legal basis:	Korean Civil Code, Article 750 and State Compensation Act. Also, the State Tort Liability Act provides that if a registration officer violates the Real Property Registration Act, either intentionally or due to his/her gross negligence, thereby causing damages to a third party, then such registration officer will be liable for the compensation of such damages.	
Does the legal system require a control of legality of the documents necessary for a property transaction (e.g., checking the compliance of contracts with requirements of the law)?	Yes	0.5
If yes, who is responsible for checking the legality of the documents?	Registrar; Notary; Lawyer;	
Does the legal system require verification of the identity of the parties to a property transaction?	Yes	0.5
If yes, who is responsible for verifying the identity of the parties?	Registrar; Notary; Lawyer;	
Is there a national database to verify the accuracy of government issued identity documents?	Yes	1.0
What is the Court of first instance in charge of a case involving a standard land dispute between two local businesses over tenure rights for a property worth 50 times gross national income (GNI) per capita and located in the largest business city?	Depending on the exact location of the land within Seoul, the court of first instance in charge may be: - Seoul Central District Court (Civil Collegiate Section), - Seoul Eastern District Court (Civil Collegiate Section), - Seoul Western District Court (Civil Collegiate Section), - Seoul Southern District Court (Civil Collegiate Section), - Seoul Northern District Court (Civil Collegiate Section).	
How long does it take on average to obtain a decision from the first-instance court for such a case (without appeal)?	Less than a year	3.0
Are there publicly available statistics on the number of land disputes at the economy level in the first instance court?	No	0.0
Number of land disputes in the economy in 2018:		
<b>Equal access to property rights index (-2-0)</b>		<b>0.0</b>
Do unmarried men and unmarried women have equal ownership rights to property?	Yes	

Do married men and married women have equal ownership rights to property?

Yes

0.0

## Getting Credit

This topic explores two sets of issues—the strength of credit reporting systems and the effectiveness of collateral and bankruptcy laws in facilitating lending. The most recent round of data collection for the project was completed in May 2019. [See the methodology for more information.](#)

### What the indicators measure

#### Strength of legal rights index (0-12)

- Rights of borrowers and lenders through collateral laws (0-10)
- Protection of secured creditors' rights through bankruptcy laws (0-2)

#### Depth of credit information index (0-8)

- Scope and accessibility of credit information distributed by credit bureaus and credit registries (0-8)

#### Credit bureau coverage (% of adults)

- Number of individuals and firms listed in largest credit bureau as a percentage of adult population

#### Credit registry coverage (% of adults)

- Number of individuals and firms listed in credit registry as a percentage of adult population

### Case study assumptions

*Doing Business* assesses the sharing of credit information and the legal rights of borrowers and lenders with respect to secured transactions through 2 sets of indicators. The depth of credit information index measures rules and practices affecting the coverage, scope and accessibility of credit information available through a credit registry or a credit bureau. The strength of legal rights index measures the degree to which collateral and bankruptcy laws protect the rights of borrowers and lenders and thus facilitate lending. For each economy it is first determined whether a unitary secured transactions system exists. Then two case scenarios, case A and case B, are used to determine how a nonpossessory security interest is created, publicized and enforced according to the law. Special emphasis is given to how the collateral registry operates (if registration of security interests is possible). The case scenarios involve a secured borrower, company ABC, and a secured lender, BizBank.

In some economies the legal framework for secured transactions will allow only case A or case B (not both) to apply. Both cases examine the same set of legal provisions relating to the use of movable collateral.

#### Several assumptions about the secured borrower (ABC) and lender (BizBank) are used:

- ABC is a domestic limited liability company (or its legal equivalent).
- ABC has up to 50 employees.
- ABC has its headquarters and only base of operations in the economy's largest business city. For 11 economies the data are also collected for the second largest business city.
- Both ABC and BizBank are 100% domestically owned.

The case scenarios also involve assumptions. In case A, as collateral for the loan, ABC grants BizBank a nonpossessory security interest in one category of movable assets, for example, its machinery or its inventory. ABC wants to keep both possession and ownership of the collateral. In economies where the law does not allow nonpossessory security interests in movable property, ABC and BizBank use a fiduciary transfer-of-title arrangement (or a similar substitute for nonpossessory security interests).

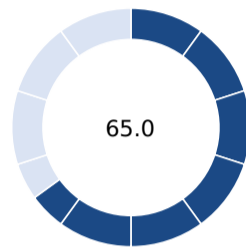
In case B, ABC grants BizBank a business charge, enterprise charge, floating charge or any charge that gives BizBank a security interest over ABC's combined movable assets (or as much of ABC's movable assets as possible). ABC keeps ownership and possession of the assets.



Getting Credit - Korea, Rep.

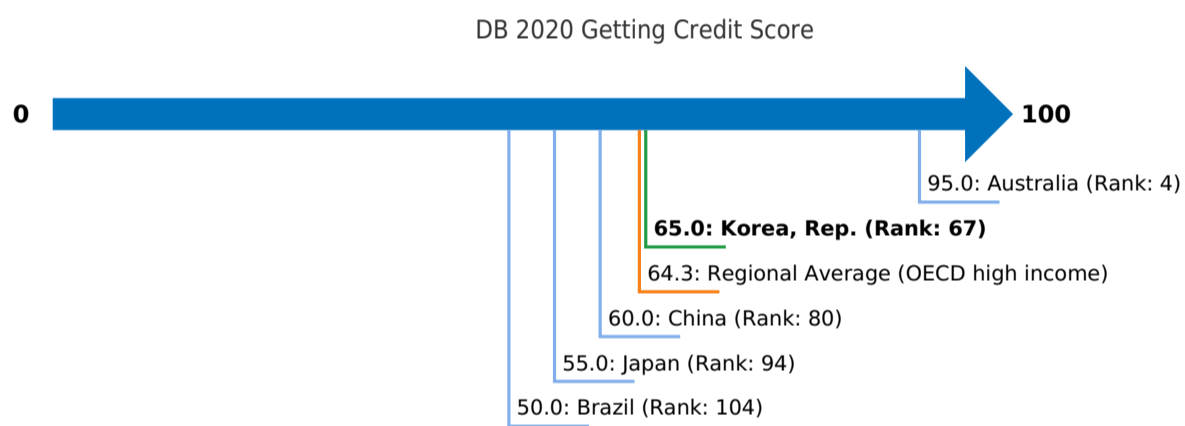
Indicator	Korea, Rep.	OECD high income	Best Regulatory Performance
Strength of legal rights index (0-12)	5	6.1	12 (5 Economies)
Depth of credit information index (0-8)	8	6.8	8 (53 Economies)
Credit registry coverage (% of adults)	68.2	24.4	100.0 (2 Economies)
Credit bureau coverage (% of adults)	100.0	66.7	100.0 (14 Economies)

Figure - Getting Credit in Korea, Rep. - Score



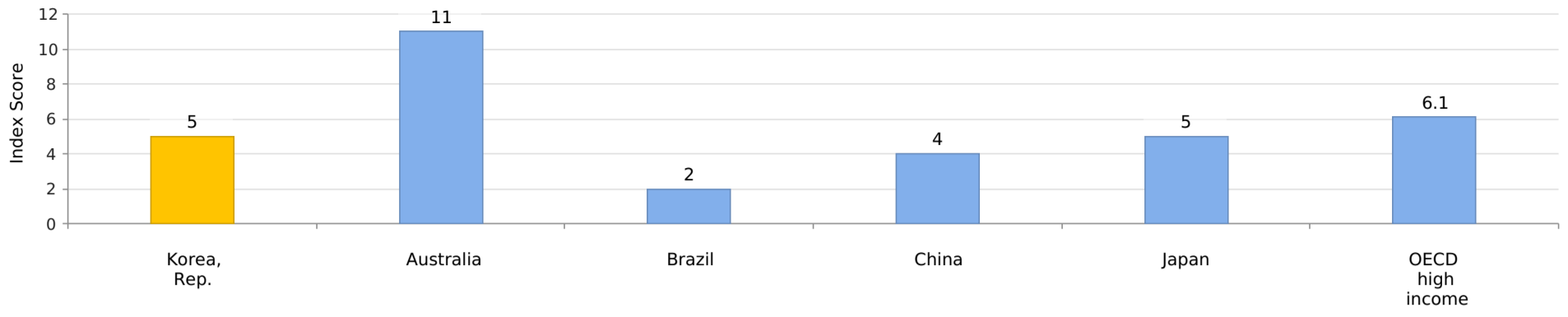
Score - Getting Credit

Figure - Getting Credit in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Ranking and Score



Note: The ranking of economies on the ease of getting credit is determined by sorting their scores for getting credit. These scores are the sum of the scores for the strength of legal rights index and the depth of credit information index.

Figure - Legal Rights in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies



Details - Legal Rights in Korea, Rep.

Strength of legal rights index (0-12)

5

Does an integrated or unified legal framework for secured transactions that extends to the creation, publicity and enforcement of functional equivalents to security interests in movable assets exist in the economy? No

Does the law allow businesses to grant a non possessory security right in a single category of movable assets, without requiring a specific description of collateral? No

Does the law allow businesses to grant a non possessory security right in substantially all of its assets, without requiring a specific description of collateral? No

May a security right extend to future or after-acquired assets, and does it extend automatically to the products, proceeds and replacements of the original assets? Yes

Is a general description of debts and obligations permitted in collateral agreements; can all types of debts and obligations be secured between parties; and can the collateral agreement include a maximum amount for which the assets are encumbered? Yes

Is a collateral registry in operation for both incorporated and non-incorporated entities, that is unified geographically and by asset type, with an electronic database indexed by debtor's name? Yes

Does a notice-based collateral registry exist in which all functional equivalents can be registered? No

Does a modern collateral registry exist in which registrations, amendments, cancellations and searches can be performed online by any interested third party? Yes

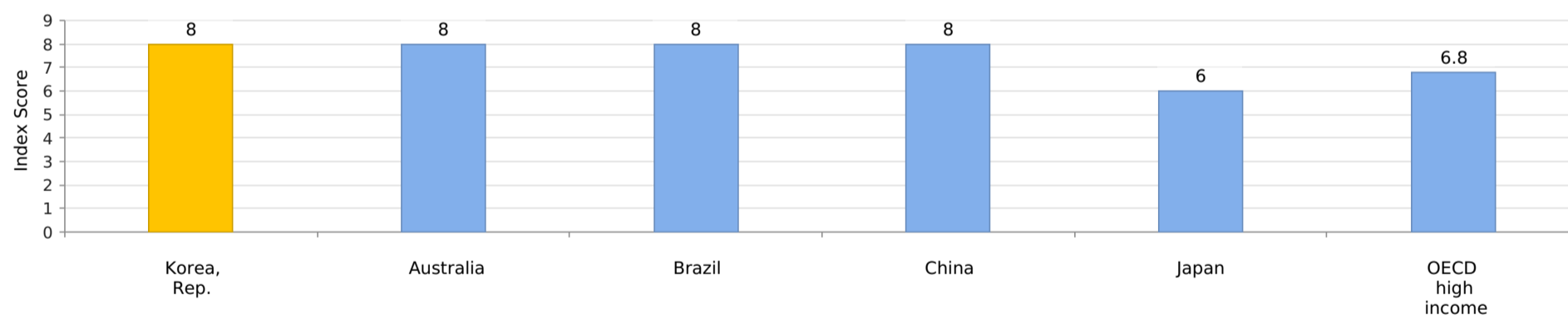
Are secured creditors paid first (i.e. before tax claims and employee claims) when a debtor defaults outside an insolvency procedure? No

Are secured creditors paid first (i.e. before tax claims and employee claims) when a business is liquidated? No

Are secured creditors subject to an automatic stay on enforcement when a debtor enters a court-supervised reorganization procedure? Does the law protect secured creditors' rights by providing clear grounds for relief from the stay and sets a time limit for it? No

Does the law allow parties to agree on out of court enforcement at the time a security interest is created? Does the law allow the secured creditor to sell the collateral through public auction or private tender, as well as, for the secured creditor to keep the asset in satisfaction of the debt? Yes

Figure - Credit Information in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies



## Details - Credit Information in Korea, Rep.

Depth of credit information index (0-8)	Credit bureau	Credit registry	Score
Are data on both firms and individuals distributed?	Yes	Yes	1
Are both positive and negative credit data distributed?	Yes	No	1
Are data from retailers or utility companies - in addition to data from banks and financial institutions - distributed?	Yes	No	1
Are at least 2 years of historical data distributed? (Credit bureaus and registries that distribute more than 10 years of negative data or erase data on defaults as soon as they are repaid obtain a score of 0 for this component.)	Yes	No	1
Are data on loan amounts below 1% of income per capita distributed?	Yes	Yes	1
By law, do borrowers have the right to access their data in the credit bureau or credit registry?	Yes	Yes	1
Can banks and financial institutions access borrowers' credit information online (for example, through an online platform, a system-to-system connection or both)?	Yes	Yes	1
Are bureau or registry credit scores offered as a value-added service to help banks and financial institutions assess the creditworthiness of borrowers?	Yes	No	1
<b>Total Score ("yes" to either public bureau or private registry)</b>			<b>8</b>

Note: An economy receives a score of 1 if there is a "yes" to either bureau or registry. If the credit bureau or registry is not operational or covers less than 5% of the adult population, the total score on the depth of credit information index is 0.

Coverage	Credit bureau	Credit registry
Number of individuals	48,155,173	19,330,000
Number of firms	2,942,727	6,107,972
Total	51,097,900	25,437,972
<b>Percentage of adult population</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>68.2</b>

## Protecting Minority Investors

This topic measures the strength of minority shareholder protections against misuse of corporate assets by directors for their personal gain as well as shareholder rights, governance safeguards and corporate transparency requirements that reduce the risk of abuse. The most recent round of data collection for the project was completed in May 2019. [See the methodology for more information.](#)

### What the indicators measure

- **Extent of disclosure index (0-10):** Disclosure, review, and approval requirements for related-party transactions
- **Extent of director liability index (0-10):** Ability of minority shareholders to sue and hold interested directors liable for prejudicial related-party transactions; Available legal remedies (damages, disgorgement of profits, disqualification from managerial position(s) for one year or more, rescission of the transaction)
- **Ease of shareholder suits index (0-10):** Access to internal corporate documents; Evidence obtainable during trial and allocation of legal expenses
- **Extent of conflict of interest regulation index (0-30):** Sum of the extent of disclosure, extent of director liability and ease of shareholder suits indices
- **Extent of shareholder rights index (0-6):** Shareholders' rights and role in major corporate decisions
- **Extent of ownership and control index (0-7):** Governance safeguards protecting shareholders from undue board control and entrenchment
- **Extent of corporate transparency index (0-7):** Corporate transparency on ownership stakes, compensation, audits and financial prospects
- **Extent of shareholder governance index (0-20):** Sum of the extent of shareholders rights, extent of ownership and control and extent of corporate transparency indices
- **Strength of minority investor protection index (0-50):** Sum of the extent of conflict of interest regulation and extent of shareholder governance indices

### Case study assumptions

To make the data comparable across economies, a case study uses several assumptions about the business and the transaction.

#### The business (Buyer):

- Is a publicly traded corporation listed on the economy's most important stock exchange.
- Has a board of directors and a chief executive officer (CEO) who may legally act on behalf of Buyer where permitted, even if this is not specifically required by law.
- Has a supervisory board in economies with a two-tier board system on which Mr. James appointed 60% of the shareholder-elected members.
- Has not adopted bylaws or articles of association that go beyond the minimum requirements. Does not follow codes, principles, recommendations or guidelines that are not mandatory.
- Is a manufacturing company with its own distribution network.

#### The transaction involves the following details:

- Mr. James owns 60% of Buyer, sits on Buyer's board of directors and elected two directors to Buyer's five-member board.
- Mr. James also owns 90% of Seller, a company that operates a chain of retail hardware stores. Seller recently closed a large number of its stores.
- Mr. James proposes that Buyer purchase Seller's unused fleet of trucks to expand Buyer's distribution of its food products, a proposal to which Buyer agrees. The price is equal to 10% of Buyer's assets and is higher than the market value.
- The proposed transaction is part of the company's principal activity and is not outside the authority of the company.
- Buyer enters into the transaction. All required approvals are obtained, and all required disclosures made—that is, the transaction was not entered into fraudulently.
- The transaction causes damages to Buyer. Shareholders sue Mr. James and the executives and directors that approved the transaction.

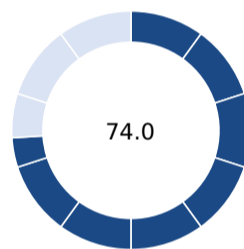
Protecting Minority Investors - Korea, Rep.

Stock exchange information

Stock exchange	Korea Exchange
Stock exchange URL	http://www.krx.co.kr
Listed firms with equity securities	1782
City Covered	Seoul

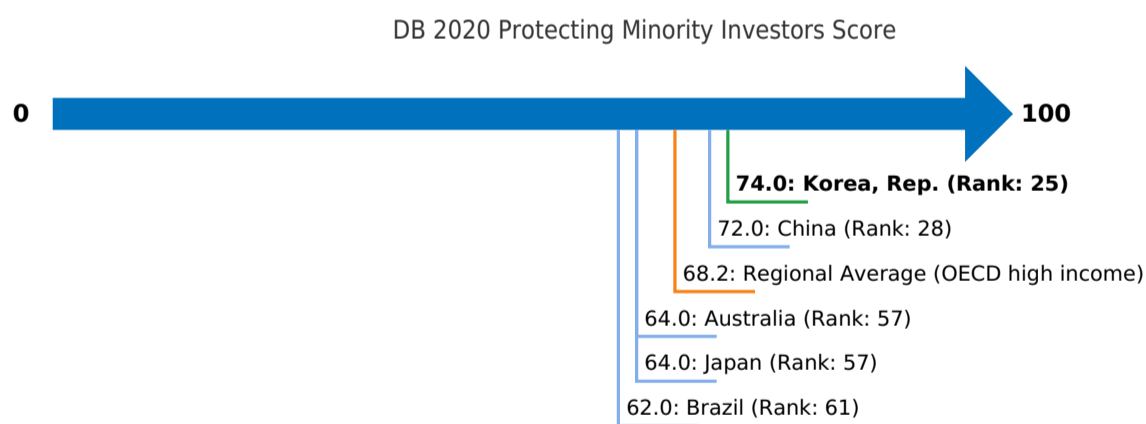
Indicator	Korea, Rep.	OECD high income	Best Regulatory Performance
Extent of disclosure index (0-10)	8.0	6.5	10 (13 Economies)
Extent of director liability index (0-10)	6.0	5.3	10 (3 Economies)
Ease of shareholder suits index (0-10)	8.0	7.3	10 (Djibouti)
Extent of shareholder rights index (0-6)	4.0	4.7	6 (19 Economies)
Extent of ownership and control index (0-7)	5.0	4.5	7 (9 Economies)
Extent of corporate transparency index (0-7)	6.0	5.7	7 (13 Economies)

Figure - Protecting Minority in Korea, Rep. - Score



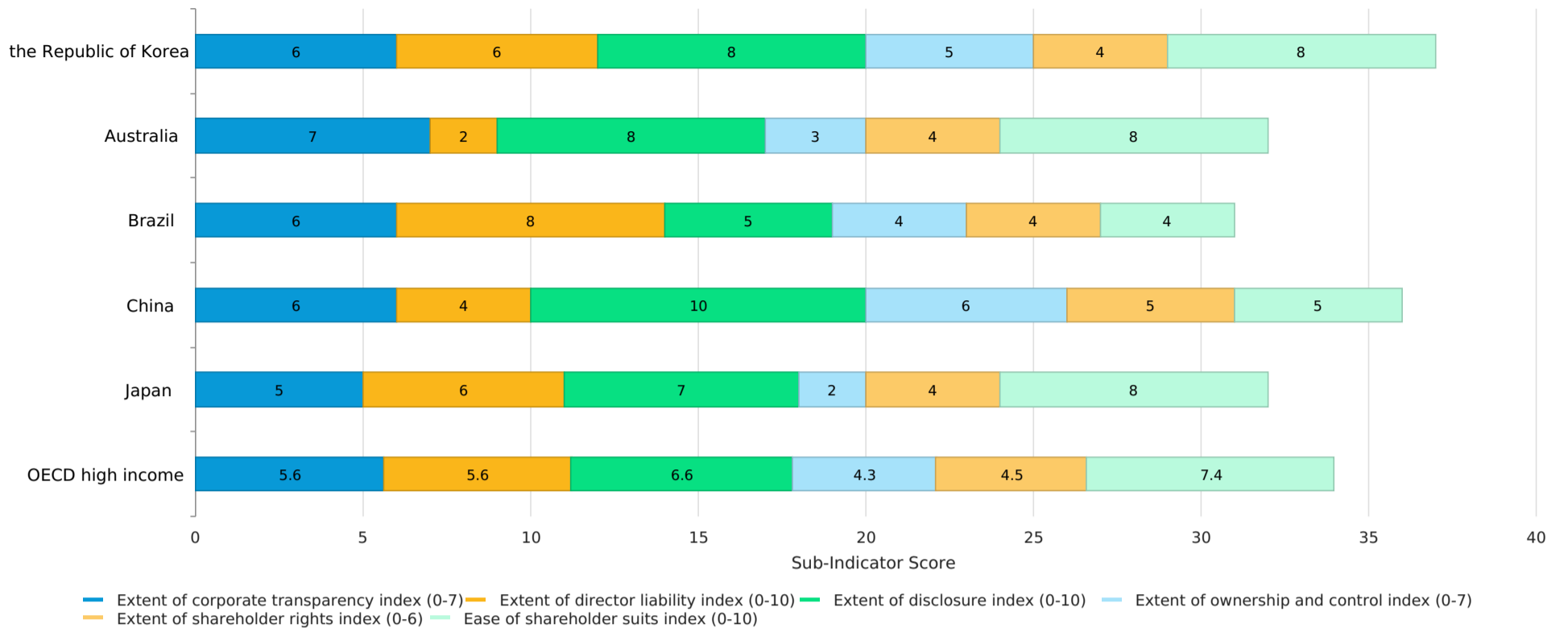
Score - Protecting Minority Investors

Figure - Protecting Minority Investors in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Ranking and Score



Note: The ranking of economies on the strength of minority investor protections is determined by sorting their scores for protecting minority investors. These scores are the simple average of the scores for the extent of conflict of interest regulation index and the extent of shareholder governance index.

Figure - Protecting Minority Investors in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Measure of Quality



## Details - Protecting Minority Investors in Korea, Rep. - Measure of Quality

	Answer	Score
<b>Extent of conflict of interest regulation index (0-30)</b>		
<b>Extent of disclosure index (0-10)</b>		<b>8.0</b>
Whose decision is sufficient to approve the Buyer-Seller transaction? (0-3)	Board of directors excluding interested members	2.0
Must an external body review the terms of the transaction before it takes place? (0-1)	Yes	1.0
Must Mr. James disclose his conflict of interest to the board of directors? (0-2)	Existence of a conflict without any specifics	1.0
Must Buyer disclose the transaction in periodic filings (e.g. annual reports)? (0-2)	Disclosure on the transaction and on the conflict of interest	2.0
Must Buyer immediately disclose the transaction to the public? (0-2)	Disclosure on the transaction and on the conflict of interest	2.0
<b>Extent of director liability index (0-10)</b>		<b>6.0</b>
Can shareholders representing 10% of Buyer's share capital sue for the damage the transaction caused to Buyer? (0-1)	Yes	1.0
Can shareholders hold Mr. James liable for the damage the transaction caused to Buyer? (0-2)	Liable if unfair or prejudicial	2.0
Can shareholders hold the other directors liable for the damage the transaction caused to Buyer? (0-2)	Liable if unfair or prejudicial	2.0
Must Mr. James pay damages for the harm caused to Buyer upon a successful claim by shareholders? (0-1)	Yes	1.0
Must Mr. James repay profits made from the transaction upon a successful claim by shareholders? (0-1)	No	0.0
Is Mr. James disqualified upon a successful claim by shareholders? (0-1)	No	0.0
Can a court void the transaction upon a successful claim by shareholders? (0-2)	Only in case of fraud or bad faith	0.0
<b>Ease of shareholder suits index (0-10)</b>		<b>8.0</b>
Before suing, can shareholders representing 10% of Buyer's share capital inspect the transaction documents? (0-1)	Yes	1.0
Can the plaintiff obtain any documents from the defendant and witnesses at trial? (0-3)	Any relevant document	3.0
Can the plaintiff request categories of documents from the defendant without identifying specific ones? (0-1)	Yes	1.0
Can the plaintiff directly question the defendant and witnesses at trial? (0-2)	Preapproved questions only	1.0
Is the level of proof required for civil suits lower than that of criminal cases? (0-1)	Yes	1.0
Can shareholder plaintiffs recover their legal expenses from the company? (0-2)	Yes if successful	1.0
<b>Extent of shareholder governance index (0-20)</b>		
<b>Extent of shareholder rights index (0-6)</b>		<b>4.0</b>
Does the sale of 51% of Buyer's assets require shareholder approval?	Yes	1.0
Can shareholders representing 10% of Buyer's share capital call for a meeting of shareholders?	Yes	1.0
Must Buyer obtain its shareholders' approval every time it issues new shares?	No	0.0
Do shareholders automatically receive preemption rights every time Buyer issues new shares?	Yes	1.0
Do shareholders elect and dismiss the external auditor?	No	0.0
Are changes to the rights of a class of shares only possible if the holders of the affected shares approve?	Yes	1.0



<b>Extent of ownership and control index (0-7)</b>		<b>5.0</b>
Is it forbidden to appoint the same individual as CEO and chairperson of the board of directors?	No	0.0
Must the board of directors include independent and nonexecutive board members?	Yes	1.0
Can shareholders remove members of the board of directors without cause before the end of their term?	Yes	1.0
Must the board of directors include a separate audit committee exclusively comprising board members?	No	0.0
Must a potential acquirer make a tender offer to all shareholders upon acquiring 50% of Buyer?	Yes	1.0
Must Buyer pay declared dividends within a maximum period set by law?	Yes	1.0
Is a subsidiary prohibited from acquiring shares issued by its parent company?	Yes	1.0
<b>Extent of corporate transparency index (0-7)</b>		<b>6.0</b>
Must Buyer disclose direct and indirect beneficial ownership stakes representing 5%?	Yes	1.0
Must Buyer disclose information about board members' primary employment and directorships in other companies?	Yes	1.0
Must Buyer disclose the compensation of individual managers?	Yes	1.0
Must a detailed notice of general meeting be sent 21 days before the meeting?	No	0.0
Can shareholders representing 5% of Buyer's share capital put items on the general meeting agenda?	Yes	1.0
Must Buyer's annual financial statements be audited by an external auditor?	Yes	1.0
Must Buyer disclose its audit reports to the public?	Yes	1.0

## Paying Taxes

This topic records the taxes and mandatory contributions that a medium-size company must pay or withhold in a given year, as well as the administrative burden of paying taxes and contributions and complying with postfiling procedures (VAT refund and tax audit). The most recent round of data collection for the project was completed in May 2019 covering for the Paying Taxes indicator calendar year 2018 (January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018). [See the methodology for more information.](#)

### What the indicators measure

#### Tax payments for a manufacturing company in 2018 (number per year adjusted for electronic and joint filing and payment)

- Total number of taxes and contributions paid or withheld, including consumption taxes (value added tax, sales tax or goods and service tax)
- Method and frequency of filing and payment

#### Time required to comply with 3 major taxes (hours per year)

- Collecting information, computing tax payable
- Preparing separate tax accounting books, if required
- Completing tax return, filing with agencies
- Arranging payment or withholding

#### Total tax and contribution rate (% of commercial profits)

- Profit or corporate income tax
- Social contributions, labor taxes paid by employer
- Property and property transfer taxes
- Dividend, capital gains, financial transactions taxes
- Waste collection, vehicle, road and other taxes

#### Postfiling Index

- Time to comply with VAT refund (hours)
- Time to obtain VAT refund (weeks)
- Time to comply with a corporate income tax correction (hours)
- Time to complete a corporate income tax correction (weeks)

### Case study assumptions

Using a case scenario, *Doing Business* records taxes and mandatory contributions a medium size company must pay in a year, and measures the administrative burden of paying taxes, contributions and dealing with postfiling processes. Information is also compiled on frequency of filing and payments, time taken to comply with tax laws, time taken to comply with the requirements of postfiling processes and time waiting.

To make data comparable across economies, several assumptions are used:

- TaxpayerCo is a medium-size business that started operations on January 1, 2017. It produces ceramic flowerpots and sells them at retail. All taxes and contributions recorded are paid in the second year of operation (calendar year 2018). Taxes and mandatory contributions are measured at all levels of government.

#### The VAT refund process:

- In June 2018, TaxpayerCo. makes a large capital purchase: the value of the machine is 65 times income per capita of the economy. Sales are equally spread per month (1,050 times income per capita divided by 12) and cost of goods sold are equally expensed per month (875 times income per capita divided by 12). The machinery seller is registered for VAT and excess input VAT incurred in June will be fully recovered after four consecutive months if the VAT rate is the same for inputs, sales and the machine and the tax reporting period is every month. Input VAT will exceed Output VAT in June 2018.

#### The corporate income tax audit process:

- An error in calculation of income tax liability (for example, use of incorrect tax depreciation rates, or incorrectly treating an expense as tax deductible) leads to an incorrect income tax return and a corporate income tax underpayment. TaxpayerCo. discovered the error and voluntarily notified the tax authority. The value of the underpaid income tax liability is 5% of the corporate income tax liability due. TaxpayerCo. submits corrected information after the deadline for submitting the annual tax return, but within the tax assessment period.

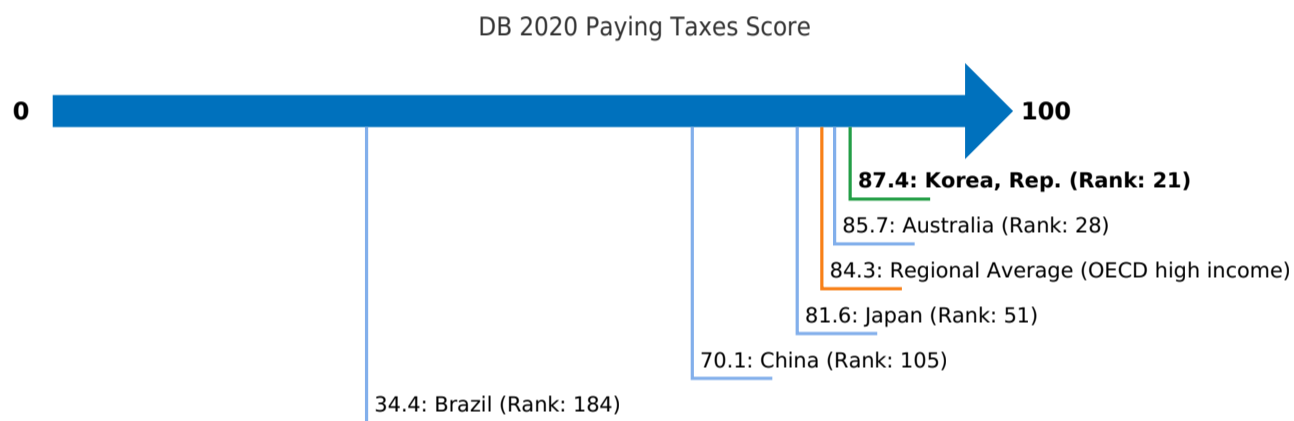
Paying Taxes - Korea, Rep.

Indicator	Korea, Rep.	OECD high income	Best Regulatory Performance
Payments (number per year)	12	10.3	3 (2 Economies)
Time (hours per year)	174	158.8	49 (3 Economies)
Total tax and contribution rate (% of profit)	33.2	39.9	26.1 (33 Economies)
Postfiling index (0-100)	93.9	86.7	None in 2018/19

Figure - Paying Taxes in Korea, Rep. - Score

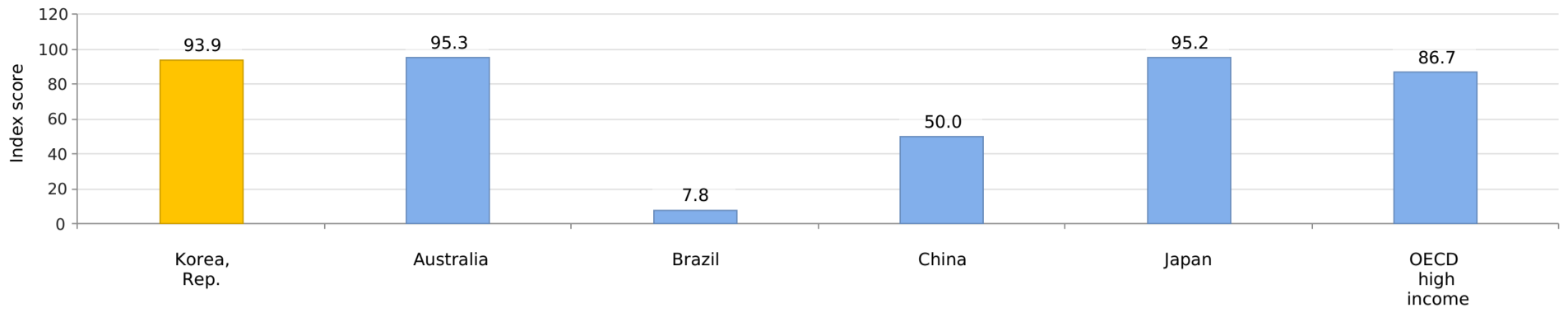


Figure - Paying Taxes in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Ranking and Score



Note: The ranking of economies on the ease of paying taxes is determined by sorting their scores for paying taxes. These scores are the simple average of the scores for each of the component indicators, with a threshold and a nonlinear transformation applied to one of the component indicators, the total tax and contribution rate. The threshold is defined as the total tax and contribution rate at the 15th percentile of the overall distribution for all years included in the analysis up to and including Doing Business 2015, which is 26.1%. All economies with a total tax and contribution rate below this threshold receive the same score as the economy at the threshold.

Figure - Paying Taxes in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Measure of Quality



## Details - Paying Taxes in Korea, Rep.

Tax or mandatory contribution	Payments (number)	Notes on Payments	Time (hours)	Statutory tax rate	Tax base	Total tax and contribution rate (% of profit)	Notes on TTCR
Corporate income tax	1.0	online	75.0	10% (up to KRW 200 million), 20% (KRW 200 million to 20 billion) and 22%(over KRW 20 billion)	taxable profit	16.52	
Employer paid National pension	1.0	online	80.0	4.5%	gross salaries	5.02	
Employer paid National health insurance	0.0	online and jointly		3.12%	gross salaries	3.52	
Employer paid Accident compensation insurance	0.0	online and jointly		2.9%	gross salaries	3.27	
Corporate Local Income Tax	1.0	online		1% (up to KRW 200 million), 2% (KRW 200 million to 20 billion) and 2.2%(over KRW 20 billion)	taxable profit	1.65	
Employer paid Unemployment insurance	0.0	online and jointly		0.9%	gross salaries	1.02	
Acquisition tax for building	1.0			2% base rate	price of acquisition	0.96	
local income tax in proportion to employee salaries	1.0	online		0.5%	gross salaries	0.56	
Property tax	1.0			0.3% (building), 0.24%4.8% (land), 0.14% (city planning)	statutory standard price	0.32	
Employer paid Long Term Care Insurance	0.0	online and jointly		7.38%	contribution to national health care insurance	0.26	
Community facility tax	1.0			0.04%0.12%	statutory standard price of building	0.06	
Per capita resident tax	1.0			KRW 62,500 per entity + KRW 250 per □ of business place	per entity	0.02	
Stamp duty	1.0			various rates	contract value	0.00	small amount
Fuel tax	1.0			various rates	included in the price of fuel	0.00	
Automobile tax	1.0			36,000 per truck	per vehicle	0.00	
Employee paid Employment Insurance	0.0	online and jointly		0.65%	gross salaries	0.00	withheld

Employee paid Individual income tax settlement	0.0	online and jointly		various rates	gross salaries	0.00	withheld
Employee paid National Health Insurance	0.0	online and jointly		3.00%	gross salaries	0.00	withheld
Employee paid National Pension	0.0	online and jointly		4.5%	gross salaries	0.00	withheld
Value added tax (VAT)	1.0	online	19.0	10%	net sales	0.00	not included
Totals	12		174			33.2	

## Details - Paying Taxes in Korea, Rep. - Tax by Type

Taxes by type	Answer
Profit tax (% of profit)	18.2
Labor tax and contributions (% of profit)	13.7
Other taxes (% of profit)	1.4

## Details - Paying Taxes in Korea, Rep. - Measure of Quality

	Answer	Score
<b>Postfiling index (0-100)</b>		<b>93.9</b>
<b>VAT refunds</b>		
Does VAT exist?	Yes	
Does a VAT refund process exist per the case study?	Yes	
Restrictions on VAT refund process	none	
Percentage of cases exposed to a VAT audit (%)	0% - 24%	
Is there a mandatory carry forward period?	No	
Time to comply with VAT refund (hours)	0.0	100
Time to obtain VAT refund (weeks)	9.0	89.5
<b>Corporate income tax audits</b>		
Does corporate income tax exist?	Yes	
Percentage of cases exposed to a corporate income tax audit (%)	0% - 24%	
Time to comply with a corporate income tax correction (hours)	9.0	86.2
Time to complete a corporate income tax correction (weeks)	No tax audit per case study scenario	100

**Notes:** Names of taxes have been standardized. For instance income tax, profit tax, tax on company's income are all named corporate income tax in this table.

The hours for VAT include all the VAT and sales taxes applicable.

The hours for Social Security include all the hours for labor taxes and mandatory contributions in general.

The postfiling index is the average of the scores on time to comply with VAT refund, time to obtain a VAT refund, time to comply with a corporate income tax correction and time to complete a corporate income tax correction.

N/A = Not applicable.



## Trading across Borders

*Doing Business* records the time and cost associated with the logistical process of exporting and importing goods. *Doing Business* measures the time and cost (excluding tariffs) associated with three sets of procedures—documentary compliance, border compliance and domestic transport—within the overall process of exporting or importing a shipment of goods. The most recent round of data collection for the project was completed in May 2019. [See the methodology for more information.](#)

### What the indicators measure

#### Documentary compliance

- Obtaining, preparing and submitting documents during transport, clearance, inspections and port or border handling in origin economy
- Obtaining, preparing and submitting documents required by destination economy and any transit economies
- Covers all documents required by law and in practice, including electronic submissions of information

#### Border compliance

- Customs clearance and inspections
- Inspections by other agencies (if applied to more than 20% of shipments)
- Handling and inspections that take place at the economy's port or border

#### Domestic transport

- Loading or unloading of the shipment at the warehouse or port/border
- Transport between warehouse and port/border
- Traffic delays and road police checks while shipment is en route

### Case study assumptions

To make the data comparable across economies, a few assumptions are made about the traded goods and the transactions:

**Time:** Time is measured in hours, and 1 day is 24 hours (for example, 22 days are recorded as  $22 \times 24 = 528$  hours). If customs clearance takes 7.5 hours, the data are recorded as is. Alternatively, suppose documents are submitted to a customs agency at 8:00a.m., are processed overnight and can be picked up at 8:00a.m. the next day. The time for customs clearance would be recorded as 24 hours because the actual procedure took 24 hours.

**Cost:** Insurance cost and informal payments for which no receipt is issued are excluded from the costs recorded. Costs are reported in U.S. dollars. Contributors are asked to convert local currency into U.S. dollars based on the exchange rate prevailing on the day they answer the questionnaire. Contributors are private sector experts in international trade logistics and are informed about exchange rates.

#### Assumptions of the case study:

- For all 190 economies covered by *Doing Business*, it is assumed a shipment is in a warehouse in the largest business city of the exporting economy and travels to a warehouse in the largest business city of the importing economy.
- It is assumed each economy imports 15 metric tons of containerized auto parts (HS 8708) from its natural import partner—the economy from which it imports the largest value (price times quantity) of auto parts. It is assumed each economy exports the product of its comparative advantage (defined by the largest export value) to its natural export partner—the economy that is the largest purchaser of this product. Shipment value is assumed to be \$50,000.
- The mode of transport is the one most widely used for the chosen export or import product and the trading partner, as is the seaport or land border crossing.
- All electronic information submissions requested by any government agency in connection with the shipment are considered to be documents obtained, prepared and submitted during the export or import process.
- A port or border is a place (seaport or land border crossing) where merchandise can enter or leave an economy.
- Relevant government agencies include customs, port authorities, road police, border guards, standardization agencies, ministries or departments of agriculture or industry, national security agencies and any other government authorities.

Trading across Borders - Korea, Rep.

Indicator	Korea, Rep.	OECD high income	Best Regulatory Performance
Time to export: Border compliance (hours)	13	12.7	1 (19 Economies)
Cost to export: Border compliance (USD)	185	136.8	0 (19 Economies)
Time to export: Documentary compliance (hours)	1	2.3	1 (26 Economies)
Cost to export: Documentary compliance (USD)	11	33.4	0 (20 Economies)
Time to import: Border compliance (hours)	6	8.5	1 (25 Economies)
Cost to import: Border compliance (USD)	315	98.1	0 (28 Economies)
Time to import: Documentary compliance (hours)	1	3.4	1 (30 Economies)
Cost to import: Documentary compliance (USD)	27	23.5	0 (30 Economies)

Figure - Trading across Borders in Korea, Rep. - Score

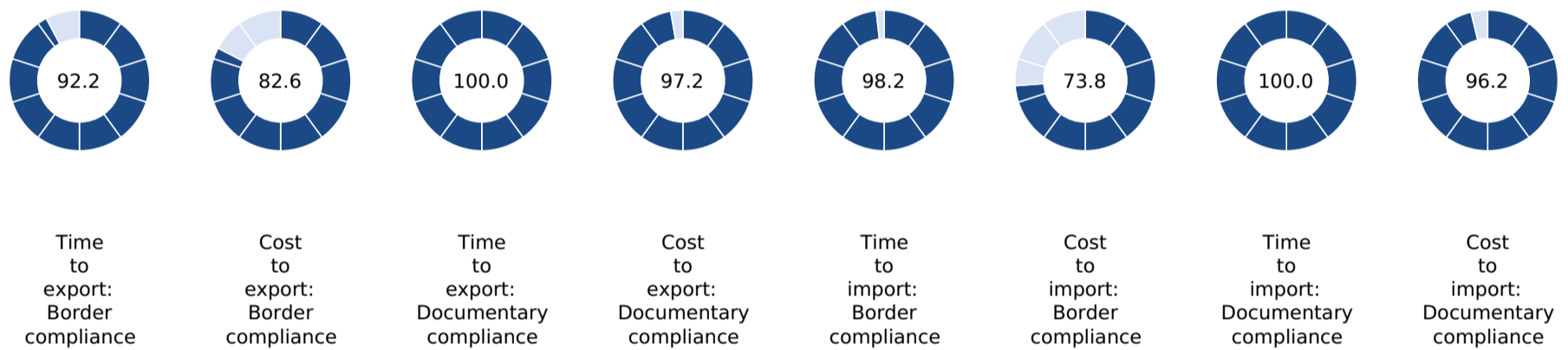
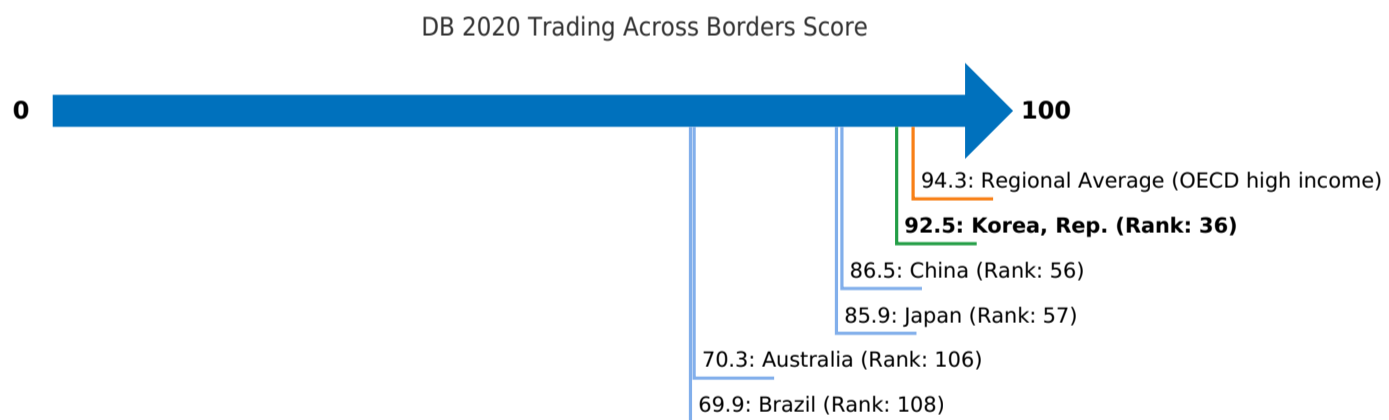
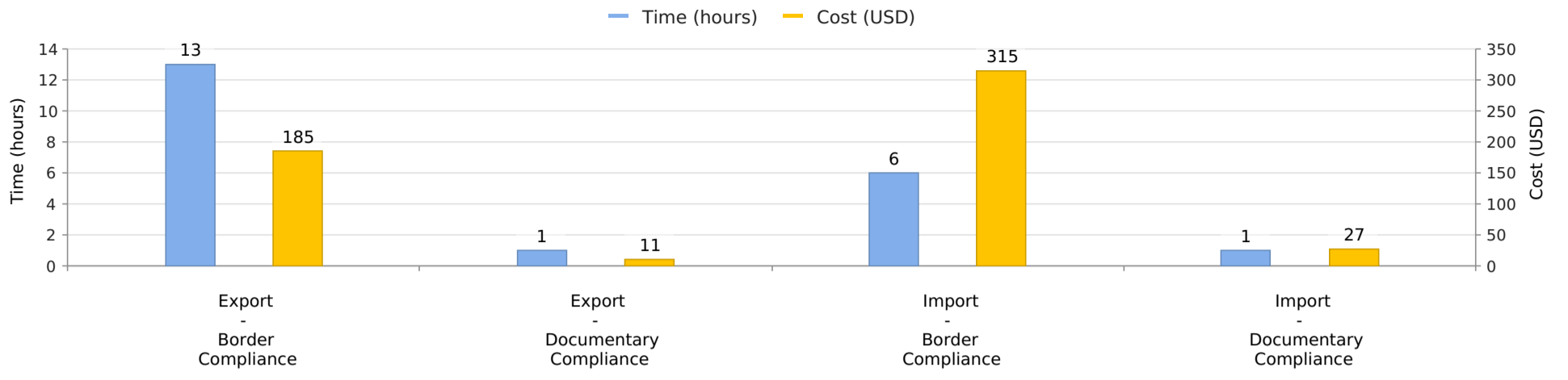


Figure - Trading across Borders in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Ranking and Score



Note: The ranking of economies on the ease of trading across borders is determined by sorting their scores for trading across borders. These scores are the simple average of the scores for the time and cost for documentary compliance and border compliance to export and import.

Figure - Trading across Borders in Korea, Rep. - Time and Cost



## Details - Trading across Borders in Korea, Rep.

Characteristics	Export	Import
Product	HS 85 : Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles	HS 8708: Parts and accessories of motor vehicles
Trade partner	China	Japan
Border	Incheon port	Busan port
Distance (km)	34	401
Domestic transport time (hours)	1	7
Domestic transport cost (USD)	216	568

## Details - Trading across Borders in Korea, Rep. - Components of Border Compliance

	Time to Complete (hours)	Associated Costs (USD)
Export: Clearance and inspections required by customs authorities	0.7	41.0
Export: Clearance and inspections required by agencies other than customs	0.0	0.0
Export: Port or border handling	13.4	143.8
Import: Clearance and inspections required by customs authorities	1.0	36.9
Import: Clearance and inspections required by agencies other than customs	0.0	0.0
Import: Port or border handling	6.0	277.8

## Details - Trading across Borders in Korea, Rep. - Trade Documents

**Export****Import**

Bill of lading

Bill of lading

Packing list

Delivery Order

Customs export declaration

Customs import declaration

SOLAS certificate

SOLAS certificate

## Enforcing Contracts

The enforcing contracts indicator measures the time and cost for resolving a commercial dispute through a local first-instance court, and the quality of judicial processes index, evaluating whether each economy has adopted a series of good practices that promote quality and efficiency in the court system. The most recent round of data collection was completed in May 2019. [See the methodology for more information.](#)

### What the indicators measure

#### Time required to enforce a contract through the courts (calendar days)

- Time to file and serve the case
- Time for trial and to obtain the judgment
- Time to enforce the judgment

#### Cost required to enforce a contract through the courts (% of claim value)

- Average attorney fees
- Court costs
- Enforcement costs

#### Quality of judicial processes index (0-18)

- Court structure and proceedings (-1-5)
- Case management (0-6)
- Court automation (0-4)
- Alternative dispute resolution (0-3)

### Case study assumptions

The dispute in the case study involves the breach of a sales contract between two domestic businesses. The case study assumes that the court hears an expert on the quality of the goods in dispute. This distinguishes the case from simple debt enforcement.

To make the data on the time and comparable across economies, several assumptions about the case are used:

- The dispute concerns a lawful transaction between two businesses (Seller and Buyer), both located in the economy's largest business city. For 11 economies the data are also collected for the second largest business city.
- The Buyer orders custom-made furniture, then fails to pay alleging that the goods are not of adequate quality.
- The value of the dispute is 200% of the income per capita or the equivalent in local currency of USD 5,000, whichever is greater.
- The Seller sues the Buyer before the court with jurisdiction over commercial cases worth 200% of income per capita or \$5,000 whichever is greater.
- The Seller requests the pretrial attachment of the defendant's movable assets to secure the claim.
- The claim is disputed on the merits because of Buyer's allegation that the quality of the goods was not adequate.
- The judge decides in favor of the seller; there is no appeal.
- The Seller enforces the judgment through a public sale of the Buyer's movable assets.

Enforcing Contracts - Korea, Rep.

Standardized Case

Claim value	KRW 67,251,997
Court name	Seoul Central District Court
City Covered	Seoul

Indicator	Korea, Rep.	OECD high income	Best Regulatory Performance
Time (days)	290	589.6	120 (Singapore)
Cost (% of claim value)	12.7	21.5	0.1 (Bhutan)
Quality of judicial processes index (0-18)	14.5	11.7	None in 2018/19

Figure - Enforcing Contracts in Korea, Rep. - Score

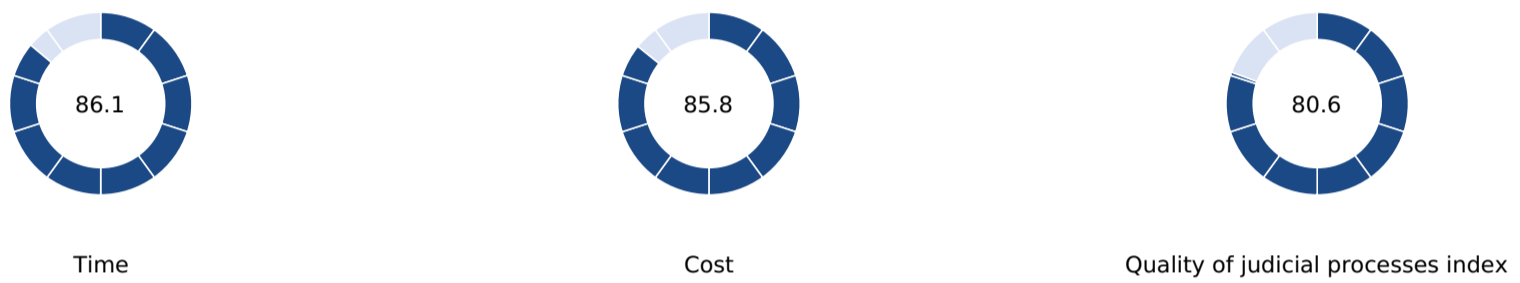
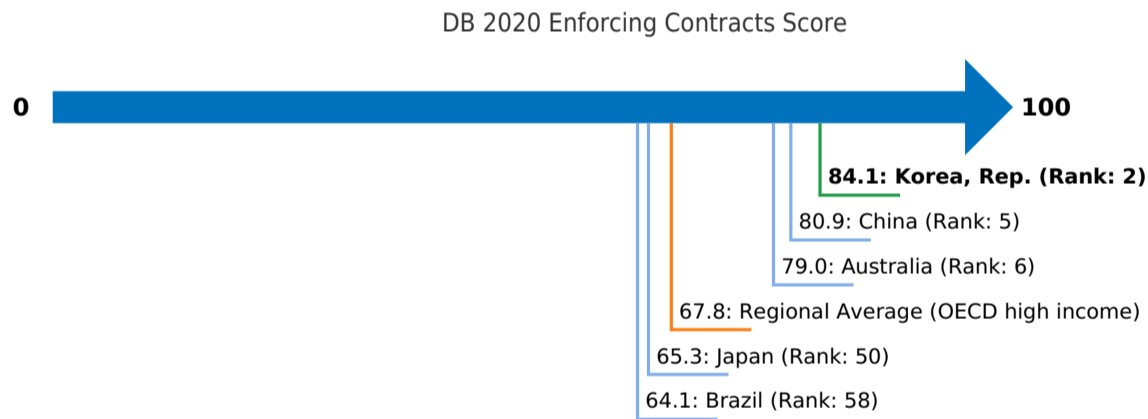


Figure - Enforcing Contracts in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Ranking and Score



Note: The ranking of economies on the ease of enforcing contracts is determined by sorting their scores for enforcing contracts. These scores are the simple average of the scores for each of the component indicators.

Figure - Enforcing Contracts in Korea, Rep. - Time and Cost

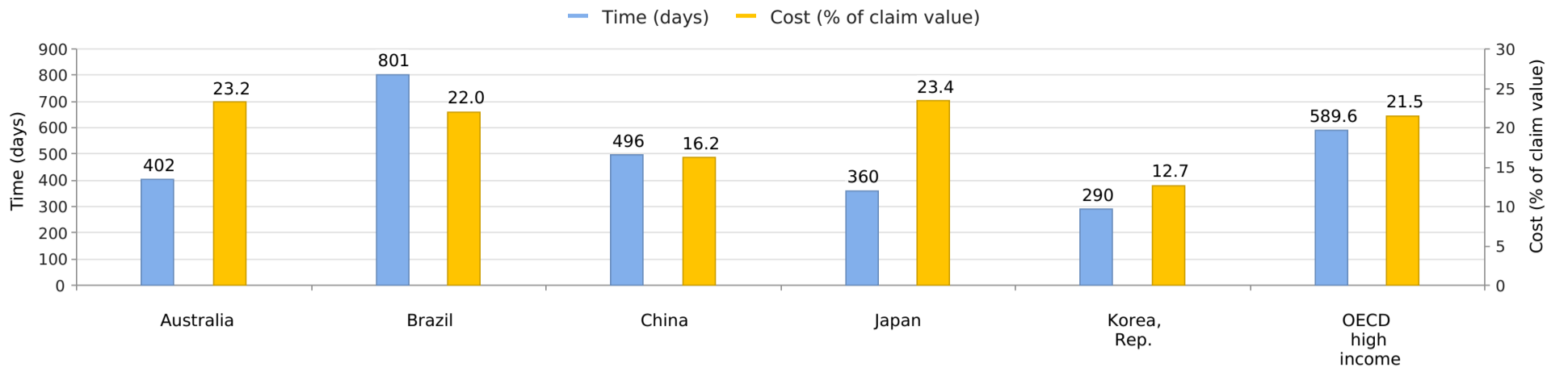
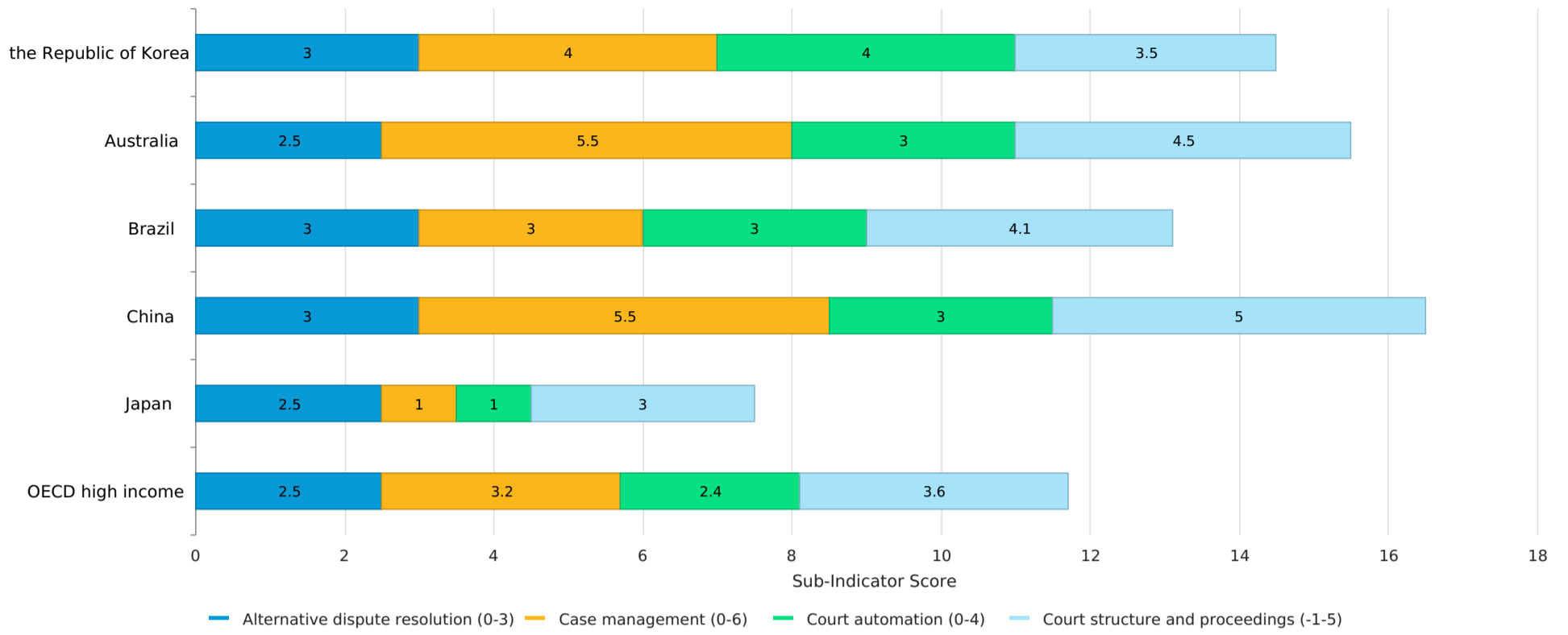




Figure - Enforcing Contracts in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Measure of Quality



Details - Enforcing Contracts in Korea, Rep.

	Indicator
<b>Time (days)</b>	<b>290</b>
Filing and service	20
Trial and judgment	150
Enforcement of judgment	120
<b>Cost (% of claim value)</b>	<b>12.7</b>
Attorney fees	9
Court fees	3
Enforcement fees	0.7
<b>Quality of judicial processes index (0-18)</b>	<b>14.5</b>
Court structure and proceedings (-1-5)	3.5
Case management (0-6)	4.0
Court automation (0-4)	4.0
Alternative dispute resolution (0-3)	3.0

## Details - Enforcing Contracts in Korea, Rep. - Measure of Quality

	Answer	Score
<b>Quality of judicial processes index (0-18)</b>		<b>14.5</b>
<b>Court structure and proceedings (-1-5)</b>		<b>3.5</b>
1. Is there a court or division of a court dedicated solely to hearing commercial cases?	No	0.0
2. Small claims court		1.5
2.a. Is there a small claims court or a fast-track procedure for small claims?	Yes	
2.b. If yes, is self-representation allowed?	Yes	
3. Is pretrial attachment available?	Yes	1.0
4. Are new cases assigned randomly to judges?	Yes, automatic	1.0
5. Does a woman's testimony carry the same evidentiary weight in court as a man's?	Yes	0.0
<b>Case management (0-6)</b>		<b>4.0</b>
1. Time standards		0.0
1.a. Are there laws setting overall time standards for key court events in a civil case?	Yes	
1.b. If yes, are the time standards set for at least three court events?	No	
1.c. Are these time standards respected in more than 50% of cases?	Yes	
2. Adjournments		0.0
2.a. Does the law regulate the maximum number of adjournments that can be granted?	No	
2.b. Are adjournments limited to unforeseen and exceptional circumstances?	No	
2.c. If rules on adjournments exist, are they respected in more than 50% of cases?	n.a.	
3. Can two of the following four reports be generated about the competent court: (i) time to disposition report; (ii) clearance rate report; (iii) age of pending cases report; and (iv) single case progress report?	Yes	1.0
4. Is a pretrial conference among the case management techniques used before the competent court?	Yes	1.0
5. Are there any electronic case management tools in place within the competent court for use by judges?	Yes	1.0
6. Are there any electronic case management tools in place within the competent court for use by lawyers?	Yes	1.0
<b>Court automation (0-4)</b>		<b>4.0</b>
1. Can the initial complaint be filed electronically through a dedicated platform within the competent court?	Yes	1.0
2. Is it possible to carry out service of process electronically for claims filed before the competent court?	Yes	1.0
3. Can court fees be paid electronically within the competent court?	Yes	1.0
4. Publication of judgments		1.0
4.a. Are judgments rendered in commercial cases at all levels made available to the general public through publication in official gazettes, in newspapers or on the internet or court website?	Yes	
4.b. Are judgments rendered in commercial cases at the appellate and supreme court level made available to the general public through publication in official gazettes, in newspapers or on the internet or court website?	Yes	
<b>Alternative dispute resolution (0-3)</b>		<b>3.0</b>
1. Arbitration		1.5
1.a. Is domestic commercial arbitration governed by a consolidated law or consolidated chapter or section of the applicable code of civil procedure encompassing substantially all its aspects?	Yes	
1.b. Are there any commercial disputes—aside from those that deal with public order or public policy—that cannot be submitted to arbitration?	No	
1.c. Are valid arbitration clauses or agreements usually enforced by the courts?	Yes	

2. Mediation/Conciliation	1.5
2.a. Is voluntary mediation or conciliation available?	Yes
2.b. Are mediation, conciliation or both governed by a consolidated law or consolidated chapter or section of the applicable code of civil procedure encompassing substantially all their aspects (for example, definition, aim and scope of application, design)?	Yes
2.c. Are there financial incentives for parties to attempt mediation or conciliation (i.e., if mediation or conciliation is successful, a refund of court filing fees, income tax credits or the like)?	Yes

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## Resolving Insolvency

*Doing Business* studies the time, cost and outcome of insolvency proceedings involving domestic legal entities. These variables are used to calculate the recovery rate, which is recorded as cents on the dollar recovered by secured creditors through reorganization, liquidation or debt enforcement (foreclosure or receivership) proceedings. To determine the present value of the amount recovered by creditors, *Doing Business* uses the lending rates from the International Monetary Fund, supplemented with data from central banks and the Economist Intelligence Unit. The most recent round of data collection was completed in May 2019. [See the methodology for more information.](#)

### What the indicators measure

#### Time required to recover debt (years)

- Measured in calendar years
- Appeals and requests for extension are included

#### Cost required to recover debt (% of debtor's estate)

- Measured as percentage of estate value
- Court fees
- Fees of insolvency administrators
- Lawyers' fees
- Assessors' and auctioneers' fees
- Other related fees

#### Outcome

- Whether business continues operating as a going concern or business assets are sold piecemeal

#### Recovery rate for creditors

- Measures the cents on the dollar recovered by secured creditors
- Outcome for the business (survival or not) determines the maximum value that can be recovered
- Official costs of the insolvency proceedings are deducted
- Depreciation of furniture is taken into account
- Present value of debt recovered

#### Strength of insolvency framework index (0- 16)

- Sum of the scores of four component indices:
- Commencement of proceedings index (0-3)
- Management of debtor's assets index (0-6)
- Reorganization proceedings index (0-3)
- Creditor participation index (0-4)

### Case study assumptions

To make the data on the time, cost and outcome comparable across economies, several assumptions about the business and the case are used:

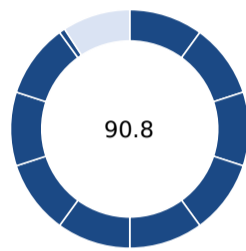
- A hotel located in the largest city (or cities) has 201 employees and 50 suppliers. The hotel experiences financial difficulties.
- The value of the hotel is 100% of the income per capita or the equivalent in local currency of USD 200,000, whichever is greater.
- The hotel has a loan from a domestic bank, secured by a mortgage over the hotel's real estate. The hotel cannot pay back the loan, but makes enough money to operate otherwise.

In addition, *Doing Business* evaluates the quality of legal framework applicable to judicial liquidation and reorganization proceedings and the extent to which best insolvency practices have been implemented in each economy covered.

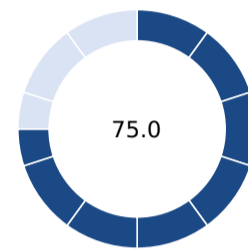
Resolving Insolvency - Korea, Rep.

Indicator	Korea, Rep.	OECD high income	Best Regulatory Performance
Recovery rate (cents on the dollar)	84.3	70.2	92.9 (Norway)
Time (years)	1.5	1.7	0.4 (Ireland)
Cost (% of estate)	3.5	9.3	1.0 (Norway)
Outcome (0 as piecemeal sale and 1 as going concern)	1	..	..
Strength of insolvency framework index (0-16)	12.0	11.9	None in 2018/19

Figure - Resolving Insolvency in Korea, Rep. - Score

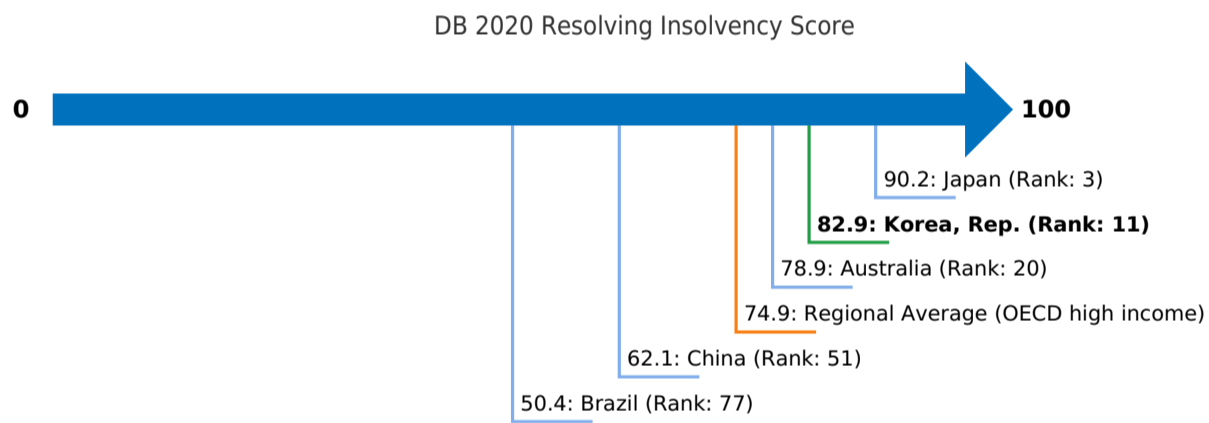


Recovery rate



Strength of insolvency framework index

Figure - Resolving Insolvency in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Ranking and Score



Note: The ranking of economies on the ease of resolving insolvency is determined by sorting their scores for resolving insolvency. These scores are the simple average of the scores for the recovery rate and the strength of insolvency framework index.

Figure - Resolving Insolvency in Korea, Rep. - Time and Cost

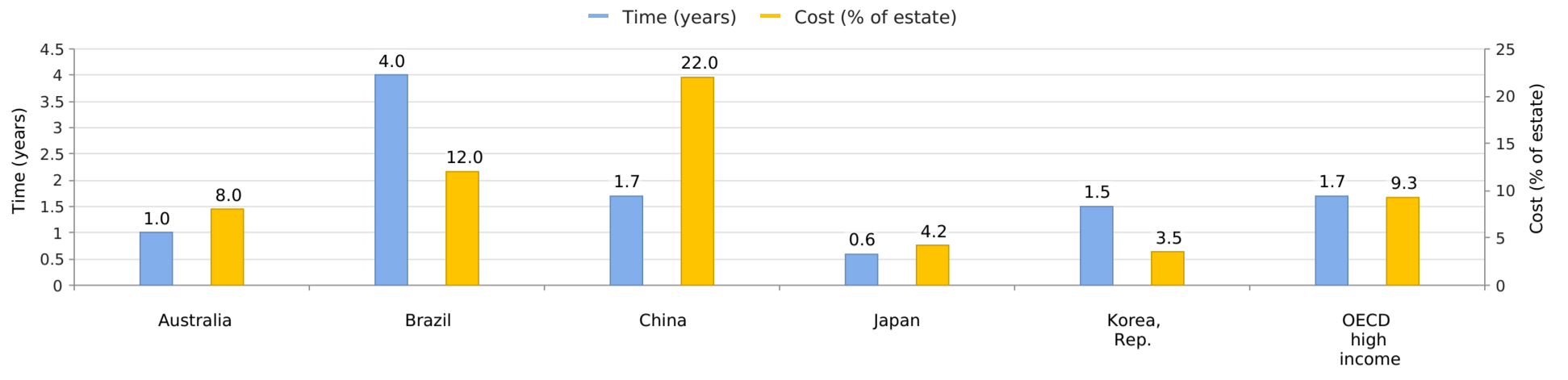
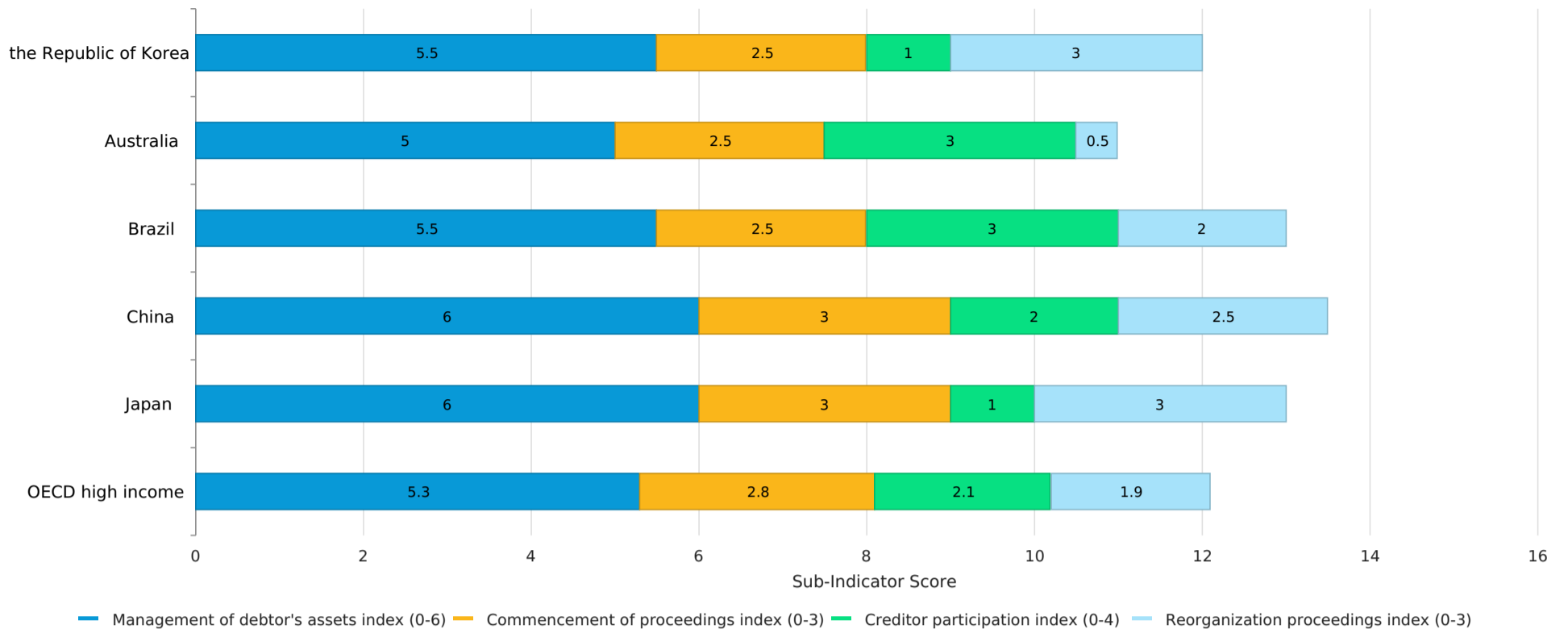
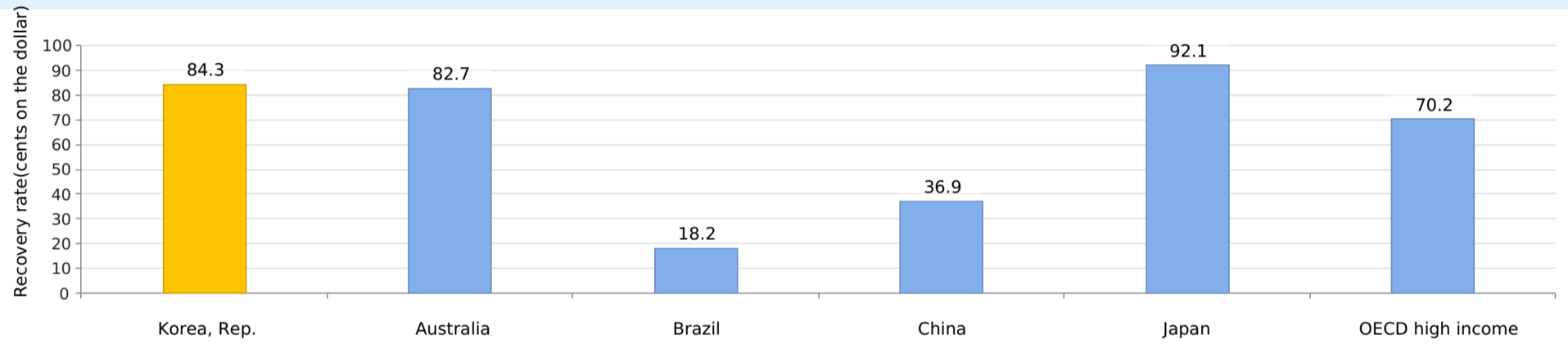


Figure - Resolving Insolvency in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Measure of Quality



Note: Even if the economy's legal framework includes provisions related to insolvency proceedings (liquidation or reorganization), the economy receives 0 points for the strength of insolvency framework index, if time, cost and outcome indicators are recorded as "no practice."

Figure - Resolving Insolvency in Korea, Rep. and comparator economies - Recovery Rate



## Details - Resolving Insolvency in Korea, Rep.

Indicator	Answer	Score
Proceeding	reorganization	Mirage would initiate reorganization (rehabilitation) as it is the best way to preserve the value of the hotel and keep the supplier/employee network. The Mirage management will file a petition to the Seoul Bankruptcy Court. As a result, Mirage will most likely continue operating as a going concern, retain most of its employees and maintain its business relationships.
Outcome	going concern	The reorganization plan will likely get approved by the creditors and the company will continue operating as a going concern.
Time (in years)	1.5	The main procedural steps required to complete the entire rehabilitation process includes (i) filing of the petition; (ii) court's order for commencement of the rehabilitation proceeding; (iii) submission and investigation of claims; (iv) submission of the rehabilitation plan; (v) approval of the rehabilitation plan (during meeting of interested parties, i.e., creditors and equity holders) and court's approval of same; and (vi) closing of the rehabilitation proceeding. The rehabilitation proceedings may commence as fast as on the same day the petition is filed and usually within 30 days from the date the petition is filed. The court sets the deadline for submission and investigation of claims, which is between 3 weeks and 3 months from the date of commencement for claims submission. The timeframe for claims investigation is between 1 week and 1 month thereafter. The rehabilitation plan is submitted thereafter, within the deadline set by the court, which must not exceed 4 months from the deadline for claims investigation. Confirmation of the rehabilitation plan by creditors must take place within 1 year from commencement of the proceedings, and the court usually approves the plan on the same day. The deadline for plan confirmation may be extend for up to 6 months. Therefore, the entire rehabilitation proceeding may take up to 18 months.
Cost (% of estate)	3.5	The cost associated with the case would amount to approximately 3.5% of the value of the debtor's estate. The cost incurred during the entire insolvency process mainly includes attorneys' fees (3%) and insolvency representative fees (0.5%). Other fees are insignificant.
Recovery rate (cents on the dollar)		84.3



## Details - Resolving Insolvency in Korea, Rep. - Measure of Quality

	Answer	Score
<b>Strength of insolvency framework index (0-16)</b>		<b>12.0</b>
<b>Commencement of proceedings index (0-3)</b>		<b>2.5</b>
What procedures are available to a DEBTOR when commencing insolvency proceedings?	(a) Debtor may file for both liquidation and reorganization	1.0
Does the insolvency framework allow a CREDITOR to file for insolvency of the debtor?	(b) Yes, but a creditor may file for liquidation only	0.5
What basis for commencement of the insolvency proceedings is allowed under the insolvency framework? (a) Debtor is generally unable to pay its debts as they mature (b) The value of debtor's liabilities exceeds the value of its assets	(c) Both (a) and (b) options are available, but only one of them needs to be complied with	1.0
<b>Management of debtor's assets index (0-6)</b>		<b>5.5</b>
Does the insolvency framework allow the continuation of contracts supplying essential goods and services to the debtor?	Yes	1.0
Does the insolvency framework allow the rejection by the debtor of overly burdensome contracts?	Yes	1.0
Does the insolvency framework allow avoidance of preferential transactions?	Yes	1.0
Does the insolvency framework allow avoidance of undervalued transactions?	Yes	1.0
Does the insolvency framework provide for the possibility of the debtor obtaining credit after commencement of insolvency proceedings?	Yes	1.0
Does the insolvency framework assign priority to post-commencement credit?	(a) Yes over all pre-commencement creditors, secured or unsecured	0.5
<b>Reorganization proceedings index (0-3)</b>		<b>3.0</b>
Which creditors vote on the proposed reorganization plan?	(b) Only creditors whose rights are affected by the proposed plan	1.0
Does the insolvency framework require that dissenting creditors in reorganization receive at least as much as what they would obtain in a liquidation?	Yes	1.0
Are the creditors divided into classes for the purposes of voting on the reorganization plan, does each class vote separately and are creditors in the same class treated equally?	Yes	1.0
<b>Creditor participation index (0-4)</b>		<b>1.0</b>
Does the insolvency framework require approval by the creditors for selection or appointment of the insolvency representative?	No	0.0
Does the insolvency framework require approval by the creditors for sale of substantial assets of the debtor?	No	0.0
Does the insolvency framework provide that a creditor has the right to request information from the insolvency representative?	No	0.0
Does the insolvency framework provide that a creditor has the right to object to decisions accepting or rejecting creditors' claims?	Yes	1.0

**Note:** Even if the economy's legal framework includes provisions related to insolvency proceedings (liquidation or reorganization), the economy receives 0 points for the strength of insolvency framework index, if time, cost and outcome indicators are recorded as "no practice."

## Employing Workers

*Doing Business* presents detailed data for the employing workers indicators on the *Doing Business* website (<http://www.doingbusiness.org>). The study does not present rankings of economies on these indicators or include the topic in the aggregate ease of doing business score or ranking on the ease of doing business.

The most recent round of data collection was completed in May 2019. [See the methodology for more information.](#)

### What the indicators measure

#### Hiring

(i) whether fixed-term contracts are prohibited for permanent tasks; (ii) maximum cumulative duration of fixed-term contracts; (iii) length of the maximum probationary period; (iv) minimum wage; (v) ratio of minimum wage to the average value added per worker.

#### Working hours

(i) maximum number of working days allowed per week; (ii) premiums for work: at night, on a weekly rest day and overtime; (iii) whether there are restrictions on work at night, work on a weekly rest day and for overtime work; (iv) length of paid annual leave.

#### Redundancy rules

(i) whether redundancy can be basis for terminating workers; (ii) whether employer needs to notify and/or get approval from third party to terminate 1 redundant worker and a group of 9 redundant workers; (iii) whether the law requires employer to reassign or retrain a worker before making worker redundant; (iv) whether priority rules apply for redundancies and reemployment.

#### Redundancy cost

(i) notice period for redundancy dismissal; (ii) severance payments, and (iii) penalties due when terminating a redundant worker. Data on the availability of unemployment protection for a worker with one year of employment is also collected.

### Case study assumptions

To make the data comparable across economies, several assumptions about the worker and the business are used.

#### The worker:

- Is a cashier in a supermarket or grocery store, age 19, with one year of work experience.
- Is a full-time employee.
- Is not a member of the labor union, unless membership is mandatory.

#### The business:

- Is a limited liability company (or the equivalent in the economy).
- Operates a supermarket or grocery store in the economy's largest business city. For 11 economies the data are also collected for the second largest business city.
- Has 60 employees.
- Is subject to collective bargaining agreements if such agreements cover more than 50% of the food retail sector and they apply even to firms that are not party to them.
- Abides by every law and regulation but does not grant workers more benefits than those mandated by law, regulation or (if applicable) collective bargaining agreements.

## Employing Workers - Korea, Rep.

## Details - Employing Workers in Korea, Rep.

	Answer
<b>Hiring</b>	
Fixed-term contracts prohibited for permanent tasks?	No
Maximum length of a single fixed-term contract (months)	24.0
Maximum length of fixed-term contracts, including renewals (months)	24.0
Minimum wage applicable to the worker assumed in the case study (US\$/month)	1284.0
Ratio of minimum wage to value added per worker	0.4
Maximum length of probationary period (months)	3.0
<b>Working hours</b>	
Standard workday	8.0
Maximum number of working days per week	6.0
Premium for night work (% of hourly pay)	50.0
Premium for work on weekly rest day (% of hourly pay)	50.0
Premium for overtime work (% of hourly pay)	50.0
Restrictions on night work?	No
Restrictions on weekly holiday?	No
Restrictions on overtime work?	No
Paid annual leave for a worker with 1 year of tenure (working days)	15.0
Paid annual leave for a worker with 5 years of tenure (working days)	17.0
Paid annual leave for a worker with 10 years of tenure (working days)	19.0
Paid annual leave (average for workers with 1, 5 and 10 years of tenure, in working days)	17.0
<b>Redundancy rules</b>	
Dismissal due to redundancy allowed by law?	Yes
Third-party notification if one worker is dismissed?	Yes
Third-party approval if one worker is dismissed?	No
Third-party notification if nine workers are dismissed?	Yes
Third-party approval if nine workers are dismissed?	No
Retraining or reassignment obligation before redundancy?	No
Priority rules for redundancies?	No
Priority rules for reemployment?	Yes
<b>Redundancy cost</b>	
Notice period for redundancy dismissal for a worker with 1 year of tenure (weeks of salary)	4.3
Notice period for redundancy dismissal for a worker with 5 years of tenure (weeks of salary)	4.3
Notice period for redundancy dismissal for a worker with 10 years of tenure (weeks of salary)	4.3
Notice period for redundancy dismissal (average for workers with 1, 5 and 10 years of tenure, in weeks of salary)	4.3
Severance pay for redundancy dismissal for a worker with 1 year of tenure (weeks of salary)	4.3
Severance pay for redundancy dismissal for a worker with 5 years of tenure (weeks of salary)	21.7

Severance pay for redundancy dismissal for a worker with 10 years of tenure (weeks of salary)	43.3
Severance pay for redundancy dismissal (average for workers with 1, 5 and 10 years of tenure, in weeks of salary)	23.1
Unemployment protection after one year of employment?	Yes

## Business Reforms in Korea, Rep.

From May 2, 2018 to May 1, 2019, 115 economies implemented 294 business regulatory reforms across the 10 areas measured by Doing Business. Reforms inspired by *Doing Business* have been implemented by economies in all regions. The following are reforms implemented since *Doing Business* 2008.

✓ = *Doing Business* reform making it easier to do business. ✗ = Change making it more difficult to do business.

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DB2020

✓ **Paying Taxes:** The Republic of Korea made paying taxes easier by introducing additional features to its online filing system for corporate income tax and value added tax.

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DB2017

✓ **Starting a Business:** The Republic of Korea made starting a business faster by eliminating post-registration procedures.

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DB2016

✗ **Paying Taxes:** The Republic of Korea made paying taxes more complicated and costly for companies by requiring separate filing and payment of the local income tax and by increasing the rates for unemployment insurance and national health insurance paid by employers.

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DB2015

✓ **Registering Property:** The Republic of Korea made transferring property easier by reducing the time needed to buy housing bonds and to register the property transfer.

✓ **Protecting Minority Investors:** The Republic of Korea strengthened minority investor protections by increasing the level of transparency expected from companies on managerial compensation.

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DB2014

✓ **Getting Credit:** Korea revised its secured transactions framework by creating new types of security rights that can be publicized through registration.

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DB2013

✓ **Getting Electricity:** Korea made getting electricity less costly by introducing a new connection fee schedule and an installment payment system.

✓ **Protecting Minority Investors:** Korea strengthened investor protections by making it easier to sue directors in cases of prejudicial related-party transactions.

✓ **Paying Taxes:** Korea made paying taxes less costly for companies by reducing the profit tax rate.

✓ **Resolving Insolvency:** Korea expedited the insolvency process by implementing a fast track for company rehabilitation.

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DB2012

✓ **Starting a Business:** Korea made starting a business easier by introducing a new online one-stop shop, Start-Biz.

✓ **Paying Taxes:** Korea eased the administrative burden of paying taxes for firms by merging several taxes, allowing 4 labor taxes and contributions to be paid jointly and continuing to increase the use of the online tax payment system.

✓ **Enforcing Contracts:** Korea made filing a commercial case easier by introducing an electronic case filing system.

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DB2011

✓ **Resolving Insolvency:** Korea made it easier to deal with insolvency by introducing postfiling financing, granting superpriority to the repayment of loans given to companies undergoing reorganization.

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DB2010

✓ **Starting a Business:** Korea made starting a business easier by reducing costs, allowing online payment of registration taxes, setting time limits for value added tax registration and eliminating the minimum capital requirement and notarization requirements.

✓ **Paying Taxes:** Korea accelerated its corporate income tax reduction program, shortening it from 5 years to 3.

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DB2009

✓ **Trading across Borders:** Korea made trading across borders easier by upgrading the electronic data interchange system.

**Employing Workers:** Korea increased the maximum duration of fixed-term contracts.

*Doing Business 2020* is the 17th in a series of annual studies investigating the regulations that enhance business activity and those that constrain it. It provides quantitative indicators covering 12 areas of the business environment in 190 economies. The goal of the *Doing Business* series is to provide objective data for use by governments in designing sound business regulatory policies and to encourage research on the important dimensions of the regulatory environment for firms.

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