

Republic of Korea


51,172

Population (thousands)


—%

Population below international poverty line


— YEARS

Average life expectancy at birth


—

Under 5 mortality rate (per 1,000 births)


\$—

Gross national product (millions)


—%

Literacy rate for male youth (15-24)

—%

Literacy rate for female youth (15-24)

Behaviors and Conditions Generally Viewed as Child Maltreatment

Age an individual is legally considered an adult ^{Q9}

- 19

Forms of acceptable punishment ^{Q11}

- Hitting a child on the buttocks with an open hand
- Hitting a child anywhere else on the body with an open hand
- Making a child stand or kneel in one place for more than 5 minutes

Actions considered forms of child maltreatment:

Affecting children's safety, health, or development ^{Q12}

- Physical beating of a child by any adult
- Prostituting a child
- Infanticide
- Female circumcision/female genital mutilation
- Abuse by another child
- Child serving as soldier
- Child labor – under age 12
- Slavery
- Internet solicitation for sex
- Torture for political reasons
- Making a child responsible for an adult crime to lessen risk of prosecution

In the following places ^{Q13}

- Foster care, group home or orphanage

- Day care center
- School or educational training center
- Psychiatric institution
- Detention facility
- Religious institution
- Sporting organization
- Work place
- Law enforcement facility
- Refugee camp

Involving a parent or caregiver ^{Q14}

- Physical discipline with bruising
- Failure to provide adequate food, clothing, medical care, education, or shelter (neglect)
- Failure to seek medical care for any reason
- Sexual abuse (e.g., incest, sexual touching)
- Exposing child to pornography
- Commercial sexual exploitation
- Abandonment
- Emotional (psychological) abuse (e.g., repeated belittling or insulting of a child)
- Emotional (psychological) neglect (e.g., failure to provide emotional support/attention)
- Failure to seek medical care for child based on religious beliefs

Official Documentation on Child Maltreatment

Government agency maintains official record/count of all suspected CM reported to authorities ^{Q15}

Yes

Agencies that maintain these records ^{Q16}

- Social services

The level at which records are maintained ^{Q17}

- National

Multiple agencies have interconnected recordkeeping systems ^{Q18}

Yes

How long this counting system has been in place ^{Q19}

10+ years

Types of CM and intimate partner violence used to classify reports ^{Q20}

Physical abuse	Yes
Sexual abuse	Yes
Neglect	Yes
Emotional (psychological) maltreatment	Yes
Exposure to intimate partner violence (IPV)	No

Change in the past 4 years in the number of reports for the following types of CM ^{Q21}

Physical abuse	More cases
Sexual abuse	More cases
Neglect	More cases
Emotional (psychological) maltreatment	More cases
Exposure to intimate partner violence (IPV)	N/A
Subgroups of children are systematically excluded from the reporting system ^{Q22}	No
Subgroups of children are included in this reporting system ^{Q24}	Yes
Country or most states/provinces have a law mandating reporting of suspected CM ^{Q26}	Yes
Year law took effect ^{Q27}	2001-2005

Law applies to ^{Q28}

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect
- Emotional (psychological) maltreatment

National Statistics

The rate of reported CM nationwide per 1,000 children per year ^{Q29}	3.3
Percentage of reports of suspected CM that are responded to/investigated by social services ^{Q30}	76-90%
Percentage of all reports investigated that are substantiated or "proven" ^{Q31}	61-75%
The rate of proven CM per 1,000 children ^{Q32}	3
Year and period this rate applies to ^{Q33}	2018
Official count represents number of children or number of responses ^{Q34}	Child
One child or household can be counted more than once ^{Q35}	Yes
Percentage of responses/investigations for each of the following types of CM ^{Q36}	
Physical abuse	61-75%
Sexual abuse	0-15%
Neglect	16-30%
Emotional (psychological) maltreatment	61-75%
Street children	Don't know
Abandoned children	Don't know
Exposure to IPV	Don't know

Percent of substantiated reports that result in ^{Q37}

Result in the perpetrator being removed from the home	0-15%
Lead to prosecution of the alleged perpetrator	31-45%
Result in the child being removed from the home	0-15%

Number of children removed from home living in: ^{Q38}

Kinship care (with a family member)?	31-45%
Non-relative family foster care	0-15%
Residential care/orphanages	31-45%

Child Fatalities**An autopsy is required by law when a child's death** ^{Q39}

Is unexpected	No
Has an unclear cause	No

My country has child death/fatality review teams ^{Q42}

Yes	Yes
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An official annual count of deaths due to child abuse or neglect is maintained by a government agency ^{Q46}

Less than 1 in 100,000	2018
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The annual rate of child deaths attributed to CM ^{Q47}**Time period that this annual rate applies to** ^{Q48}**Percentage of child deaths that involves** ^{Q49}

Physical abuse	61-75%
Neglect	31-45%
Sexual Abuse	Don't know
Emotional Abuse	0-15%
Intimate Partner Violence	Increased

In the past 10 years, the number of reported deaths due to CM ^{Q50}**Responses to Child Maltreatment**

My country has an identified government agency (or agencies) at the national, state, or local levels that is mandated to respond to reports of CM ^{Q51}	Yes
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Primary investigations are conducted by ^{Q52}

- Social services
- Law enforcement

Laws and Policies Responding to Child Maltreatment

My country has national laws or policies implemented at the state/provincial/territorial level regarding CM ^{Q53}	Yes	Requirement that all perpetrators receive some form of service or intervention	No
These laws were established ^{Q54}	After 2000	Requires the development of specific prevention services	No
The following elements are specified in laws or policies ^{Q55}		Requires that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	No
Mandated periodic training for professionals who may encounter maltreated children	No	Penalties for professionals who fail to report CM	Yes
Mandated reporting of suspected CM for specific groups of professionals or individuals	Yes	Provision of immunity from liability when reports are made in good faith	No
Mandated reporting of suspected CM for all adults	No	Provide a specific budget for preventing CM	No
Provisions that allow for voluntary reporting of suspected CM by any professional or individual	Yes	Clear definition of child neglect	No
Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	Yes	Clear definition of child physical abuse	No
Requirement that the investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	Yes	Clear definition of child sexual abuse	Yes
Requirement that the child(ren)'s and family's needs be assessed	No	Clear definition of child emotional/psychological abuse	No
Provisions for removing child from his or her parents/caretakers to ensure the child's safety	Yes	Clear definition of exposure to IPV	No
Provisions for removing the alleged perpetrator from the home	Yes	The sectors that are required to be included in the response ^{Q56}	
Requirement that background checks be conducted for employees who work with children (e.g., teachers, day care workers, etc.)	Yes	• Child protection	
Specific criminal penalties for maltreating a child	Yes	• Law enforcement (police)	
Requirement that all victims receive some form of service or intervention	No	The extent to which these laws or policies are being enforced ^{Q57}	
		Mandated periodic training for professionals who may encounter maltreated children	N/A
		Mandated reporting of suspected CM for specific groups of professionals or individuals	Inconsistently
		Mandated reporting of suspected CM for all adults	Inconsistently
		Provisions that allow for voluntary reporting of suspected CM by any professional or individual	Inconsistently

Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	Widely	Provision of a specific budget for preventing CM	N/A
Requirement that the investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	Widely	The adequacy of government resources for implementing these laws or policies ^{Q58}	
Requirement that the child(ren)'s and family's needs be assessed	N/A	Mandated periodic training for professionals who may encounter	Very inadequate
Provisions for removing child from his or her parents/caretakers to ensure the child's safety	Inconsistently	Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	Adequate
Provisions for removing the alleged perpetrator from the home	Inconsistently	Requirement that an investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	Adequate
Requirement that background checks be conducted for employees who work with children (e.g., teachers, daycare workers, etc.)	Widely	Requirement that the child(ren)'s and family's needs be assessed	Very inadequate
Requirement that all victims receive some form of service or intervention	N/A	Provisions for removing child from his or her parents/caretakers to ensure the child's safety	Very inadequate
Requirement that all perpetrators receive some form of service or intervention	N/A	Provisions for removing the alleged perpetrator from the home	Very inadequate
Requirement that the development of specific prevention services	N/A	Requirement that all victims receive some form of service or intervention	Very inadequate
Requirement that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	N/A	Requirement that all perpetrators receive some form of service or intervention	Very inadequate
Penalties for professionals who fail to report CM	Almost never	Requirement that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	Very inadequate
Provision of immunity from liability when reports are made in good faith	N/A	Provision of a specific budget for preventing CM	Very inadequate

Services

Child abuse and neglect services available and to what extent ^{Q59}

Therapy for those who neglect a child	Occasionally
Therapy for neglected children	Occasionally
Therapy for those who physically abuse a child	Occasionally
Therapy for physically abused children	Occasionally
Therapy for those who sexually abuse a child	Moderately
Therapy for sexually abused children	Moderately
Case management support services to meet a family's basic needs	Occasionally
Home-based services to support parents and family	Occasionally
Foster care with official foster parents	Occasionally
Group homes for maltreated children	Occasionally
Public shelters for maltreated children	Moderately

Public shelters for victims of domestic violence and their children	Occasionally
Institutional care for maltreated children	Usually
Financial and other material support	Moderately
Hospitalization for mental illness for adults	Occasionally
Hospitalization for mental illness for children	Occasionally
Substance abuse treatment for parents	Occasionally
Substance abuse treatment for children	Occasionally
Centers for parents to share experiences/concerns	None
Universal home visits for all new parents	None
Targeted home visits for new parents at-risk	None
Free/highly subsidized child care	Usually
Universal health screening for children	Usually
Universal, mostly free medical care for children	Usually
Universal, mostly free medical care for all citizens	Occasionally

Prevention

The involvement of the following sectors in providing CM prevention services before CM has occurred ^{Q60}

Hospitals/medical centers	Minimal
Mental health agencies	Minimal
Businesses/factories	None
Schools	Minimal
Public social service agencies	Moderate
Community-based NGOs	Minimal
Religious institutions	Minimal
Voluntary civic organizations	Minimal
Courts/law enforcement	Minimal
Universities	None

The level of involvement for the following sectors in providing CM treatment services after CM has occurred ^{Q61}

Hospitals/medical centers	Minimal
Mental health agencies	Minimal
Businesses/factories	None

Schools	None
Public social service agencies	Moderate
Community-based NGOs	Very
Religious institutions	Minimal
Voluntary civic organizations	Minimal
Courts/law enforcement	Minimal
Universities	None

The extent to which government and non-governmental agencies fund CM prevention services ^{Q62}

Government	Minimal
Non-government	Moderate

The extent to which government and non-governmental agencies fund CM treatment services ^{Q63}

Government	Minimal
Non-government	Moderate

The effectiveness of these strategies in preventing CM ^{Q64}

Nurse Family Partnership	None
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Home-based services and support for parents at risk	None	Limited resources for improving the government's response to CM	Very
Media campaigns to raise public awareness	Not effective	Lack of specific laws related to CM	None
Risk assessment methods	Not effective	Lack of system to investigate reports of CM	None
Increasing individual responsibility for child protection	Not effective	Lack of trained professionals	Somewhat
Prosecution of child abuse offenders	Seems effective	Public resistance to supporting prevention efforts	Somewhat
Universal home visitation for new parents	None	Extreme poverty	None
Improving/increasing local services	Not effective	Decline in family life and informal support systems for parents	Somewhat
A system of universal health care and access to preventive medical care	Not effective	Country's dependency on foreign investment to sustain its local economy	None
Professional training	None	Strong sense of family privacy and parental rights to raise children as they choose	Very
University programs for students	None	General support for the use of corporal punishment/physical discipline of children	Quite
Advocacy for children's rights	Seems effective	Lack of commitment or support for children's rights	Quite
Improving the basic living conditions of families (e.g., housing, access to clean water).	Not effective	Overwhelming number of children living on their own	None
Mental health services	Not effective	Generally inadequate and poorly developed systems of basic health care or social services	None
Substance abuse services	Not effective	Political or religious conflict and instability	None
Services for victims of domestic violence	Not effective	Lack of access to mental health services	Somewhat
Child death review teams	Not effective	Lack of substance abuse treatment	Somewhat
Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	None	Lack of laws allowing sharing of information among professionals	Quite
Multi-Systemic Therapy	None		
Triple P Positive Parenting Program	None		
Safe Care parenting program	None		

The importance of the following barriers in limiting efforts to prevent CM ^{Q65}

Child Sexual Exploitation

The following questions pertain to child sex exploitation (CSE), defined as: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, trafficking, provision, or obtaining of a person under 18 for the purpose of a commercial sex act -- by force, fraud, or coercion.

The extent to which my country has laws concerning CSE ^{Q66}	Somewhat	The extent to which my country prosecutes citizens who engage in CSE abroad ^{Q75}	Sometimes
The extent to which my country has programs to combat CSE ^{Q67}	Not really	The extent to which my country prosecutes foreigners who engage in CSE within my country ^{Q76}	Most of the time
The extent to which agencies collaborate to stop CSE ^{Q68}	Not really	The extent to which my country arrests children who are exploited sexually ^{Q77}	Sometimes
The extent to which clear policies exist for reporting CSE to a public agency or NGO ^{Q69}	Not really	There have been arrests in my country in the past year of persons who sexually exploit children ^{Q78}	No
My country keeps official records on CSE ^{Q70}	No	There have been arrests in my country in the past year of persons for the possession or production of child pornography ^{Q79}	Yes
Commercial sex work is legal in my country ^{Q71}	No		
The extent to which CSE victims receive mental health care ^{Q73}	Sometimes		
The extent to which my country prosecutes citizens who engage in CSE ^{Q74}	Most of the time		

Resources

The extent to which the UNCRC has helped improve CM policies and programs ^{Q80}	Somewhat
Reputable agencies or organizations in my country able to provide reliable information, with contact information, especially websites. ^{Q84}	
National Child Protection Agency	
Address: 781-46 Yeoksam 2-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul, South Korea 06228	
Email: ncpc@gni.kr	
Website: korea1391.go.kr/new/page/eng/welcoming.php	