

## ATLS 3150: Demographic Assignment

Country	United States	South Korea
Internet Users	312,320,000	49,421,084
Percentage with Disabilities	12.7%	6.2%
Percentage with Vision Impairments	2.3%	NA
Percentage with Mobility Impairments	~8.5%	NA
Percentage with Hearing Impairments	3.6%	NA
Percentage with Learning Disabilities	5.2%	NA
Percentage of People 65 and Older	16.5%	16.4%
Percentage of Users of Mobile Devices	94%	100%
Total Population	332,129,757	51,305,186

I was born in South Korea, and it is a socially traditional country, so we don't typically acknowledge things like mental illness or disability. While I was researching and trying to find the percentage of the population that had a disability, it was hard to find any information at all. In fact, in the one paper that I did find, it didn't even state that people had a disability, but it stated it as "activity limitations" and many of the stated activity limitations had to do more with older people or people who needed constant care. They didn't really separate them out into categories like in the U.S. census, like those with vision impairments or hearing impairments. I'm not really that surprised about that aspect of the data.

I was surprised to find that 100% of people in South Korea use a mobile device of some sort. From my source that I used, it separated the percentages into the categories "owns a smartphone", "owns a mobile device besides a smartphone", and "doesn't own a mobile device". There is still a decent amount of older people in South Korea (it has around the same percentage of older people as the United States), but I guess since technology is such a big industry there, older people are able to use mobile devices that aren't smartphones.

I always see interesting products coming from South Korea and other Asian countries that are aimed at trying to make life easier, but if they don't even know the percentage of the population that has a disability, I don't think these products would help anyone except the able-bodied population. I think South Korea, in terms of social problems, it does have a lot of growing to do. I think you need to first acknowledge that there exist people who have disabilities before you can work towards designing things that are more accessible for them and being more inclusive to the population.

Sources:

Internet World Stats – United States

<https://www.internetworldstats.com/america.htm#us>

Internet World Stats – South Korea

<https://www.internetworldstats.com/asia.htm#kr>

United States Census

<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/profile?q=United%20States&g=0100000US>

Pew Research Center – Smartphone Ownership

<https://www.pewresearch.org/global/2019/02/05/smartphone-ownership-is-growing-rapidly-around-the-world-but-not-always-equally/>

Statistics Korea

<http://kostat.go.kr/portal/eng/pressReleases/8/7/index.board>