



Country Information Sheet for Return and Reintegration Counsellors



Mongolia





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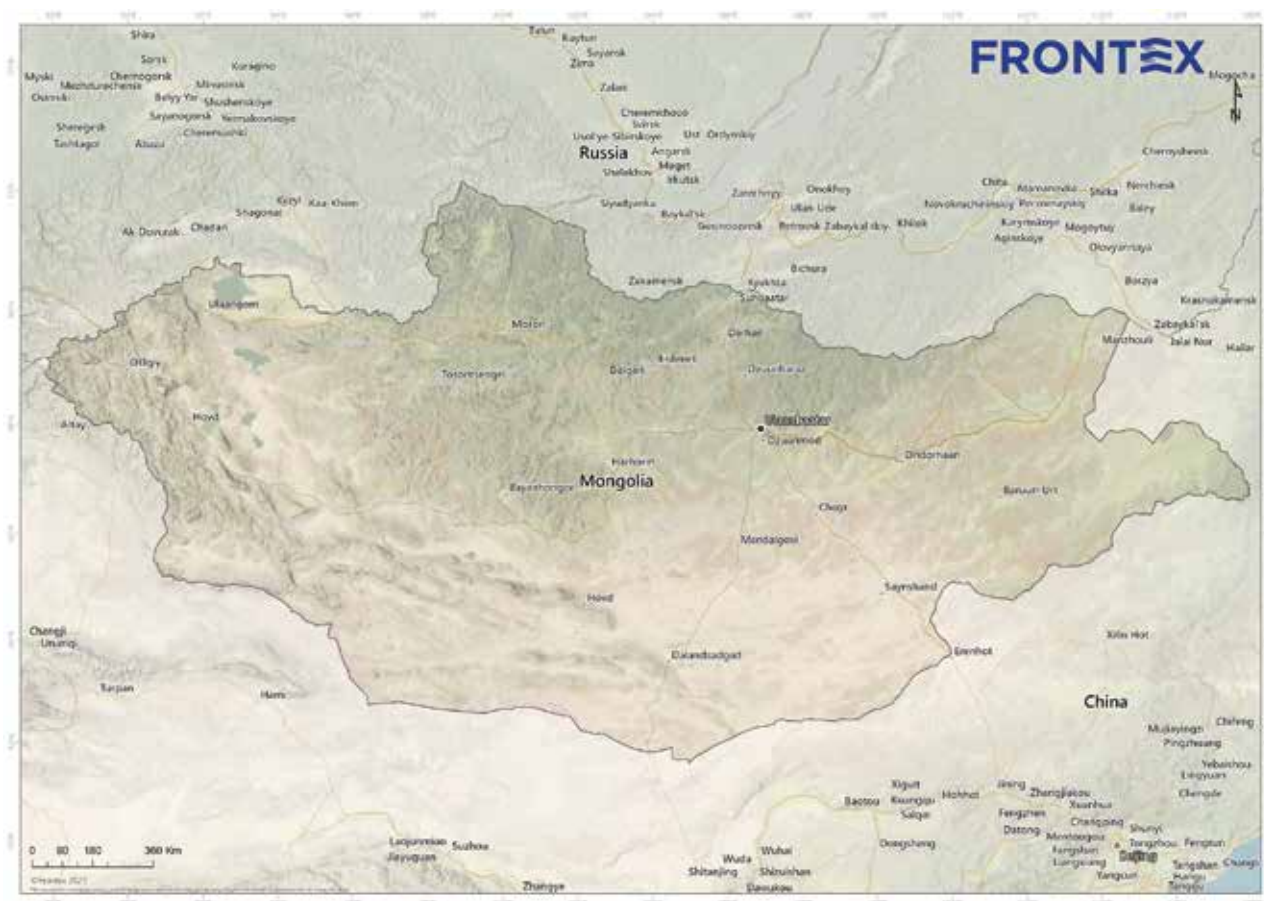
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1. General information



Population

total: 3,62 million

Ethnic groups

Khalkh 83,8%, Kazakh 3,8%, Durvud 2,6%, Bayad 2%, Buryat 1,4%, Zakhchin 1,2%, Dariganga 1,1%, other 4,1%

Languages

Mongolian 90% (official, Khalkha dialect is predominant), Turkic, Russian

Religions

Buddhist 51,7%, Muslim 3,2%, Shamanist 2,5%, Christian 1,3%, other 0,7%, none 40,6%

Population growth rate

0,78%

Government type

semi-presidential republic

Capital name

Ulaanbataar

Telephone code

976

2. Reintegration partner

Being registered as a local NGO, Caritas Mongolia started its activities by helping herders affected by an extreme cold winter in 2000. Through Caritas Mongolia projects, undertaken from 1999 to 2003, many herder families were assisted with food, medical and educational assistance

and livelihoods. Caritas Mongolia has been registered as NGO in Ulaanbaatar since 2010. Today, Caritas Mongolia is involved in different programs including family and gender issues, social reintegration, food security and agriculture, advocacy and emergency.



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Monday - Friday 8am-5pm
(local time)

3. Travel documents

3.1 Types, procedure and required documents

An emergency travel document is issued for citizens whose passport was lost, damaged or stolen and must return to Mongolia.

Required documents

- Mongolian ID or another available document proving identity (birth certificate for minors under 16)
- A police report in case of a stolen or lost passport
- Two recent passport-sized photos (3,5 x 4,5 cm)
- Completed application form provided by the embassy on-site

Biometric passport

For Mongolian citizens living abroad, diplomatic missions are the official authorities for the issuance of travel documents. Passport issuance abroad requires in-person verification to confirm identity and nationality. The

process involves biometric data collection and sending applications to Mongolia for printing (documents are produced by The General Authority for State Registration).

Verification and Production

The General Authority for State Registration receives the application and, after verifying the accuracy of the information, forwards the passport for production.

Passport application within the country

Mongolia issues three types of passports: ordinary, official, and diplomatic. The E-Mongolia system has digitized the service for renewing passports. National passport

reissuance service is available 24/7 from anywhere in the world through the E-Mongolia system.



Note: E-Mongolia primarily handles services like e-visas, foreigner registration, and domestic applications within Mongolia

When to Apply for a New Passport:

- If the passport is no longer usable or has been lost.
- If the passport has expired.
- If the passport pages are full.
- If there is a change in the citizen's personal information or appearance.



Note: If you are applying for a passport for the first time or for your child, you can visit the one-stop service centre in your district in person to place the order

Instructions for Reordering a Passport:

- Log in to the E-Mongolia website with your account.
- In the search section, select "Reorder Ordinary Passport" under the services.
- Upload the required documents and provide the necessary information in the description section. (Be sure to read the information in the notes section and upload a photo that meets the requirements.)
- Read the payment breakdown, make the payment, and your order will be confirmed.

Your passport will be issued within five working days in the capital city and within 15 working days in the provinces.¹

3.2 Fees

Consular fees for travel documents issued by Mongolian embassies/consulates vary by country and service. The emergency travel document typically costs around USD 50 (or the equivalent in euros), depending on the mission.

A biometric passport issued or renewed abroad, generally costs about EUR 50-55. Exact fees, payment methods, and processing times should always be confirmed directly with the specific Mongolian mission in Europe.

¹ [Гадаад паспорт дахин захиалахад илүү хялбар болсон - E-Mongolia Academy](#)

4. Transport

Airports

Chinggis Khaan International Airport (approx. 52 km south of Ulaanbaatar) is the country's only full-service international gateway.

Regional airports:

- Dalanzadgad Airport
- Murun Airport
- Khovd Airport
- Olgii Airport
- Aeroport de Choybalsan

Public transportation

Mongolia's transport network includes public buses, intercity trains, domestic flights, taxis, and ride-hailing services. Ulaanbaatar is the main hub for most transport modes. There is no metro, tram, or ferry system in Mongolia.

- **Public Transport:** Ulaanbaatar operates a city bus network with fixed routes and schedules. Buses accept prepaid U Money cards, available at kiosks.
- **Transport Apps:** Local ride-hailing apps such as *UBCab* and *Taxon* are widely used in Ulaanbaatar. International apps like Uber and Grab are not available.
- **Intercity Trains and Buses:** The Trans-Mongolian Railway links Ulaanbaatar with Sukhbaatar and Zambyn-Uud. Intercity buses operate from Dragon Bus Terminal, serving major cities and provinces.
- **Taxis and Ride-Hailing:** Metered taxis are available in Ulaanbaatar. Fares are typically paid in cash or via local apps. Unofficial taxis are common; always agree on the fare in advance.
- **Airport shuttle buses and taxis** are the main options from Chinggis Khaan International Airport to the city centre.
- **Accessibility:** Public transport accessibility for travellers with disabilities is limited; advance arrangements are recommended.
- **Unique Local Transport:** No tuk-tuks, rickshaws, or cable cars operate in Mongolia.
- **Safety and Payment:** Public transport is generally safe. Payment is mostly by cash or U Money card; credit cards are rarely accepted for transport.²

5. Emergency contacts

Ambulance: 103; Fire: 101; Police: 102.

² [Transportation in Mongolia: Public Transit, Taxis, Flights, and Travel Tips » Agoda: See The World For Less](#)



6. Health-care

6.1 Overview

The healthcare system of Mongolia is centrally administered. The prime minister and the Ministry of Health are responsible for developing healthcare policies and implementing strategies.

The government budget accounts for 62,1% of health sector financing, followed by health insurance (over 24,9%), user fees (3,2%), and other sources (9,8%).

The health sector employs about 30,000 people and has over 4,000 healthcare facilities across the country.

Public Healthcare

The Mongolian government provides public healthcare through 3 levels of service: primary, secondary, and tertiary.

- **Primary:** At the primary level, one can find family group practices, mainly in urban areas. At this level, the government provides a free and basic package of services for rural and urban residents.
- **Secondary:** Most facilities providing for the rural population fall in the secondary level, which consist

There are 91 public hospitals, over 240 inpatient private hospitals, and 1,226 outpatient clinics.

The Mongolian government has made it mandatory that all its citizens get free access to primary healthcare (PHC). The availability of PHC services within health facilities is low. Family health centres are primarily responsible for providing PHCs, but what prevents the latter from becoming fully functional is the lack of diagnostic equipment and essential medicines.³

mainly of district hospitals. While such health centres are enormous, they may not be able to carry out complex medical procedures due to a lack of equipment. The government covers 90% of the expenses involved here.

- **Tertiary:** All the major hospitals and specialized facilities, ranging from centres for cancer treatment, maternity care, psychiatric care, infectious diseases, etc., fall under the tertiary level. These facilities are mainly based in Ulaanbaatar.

6.2 Health insurance

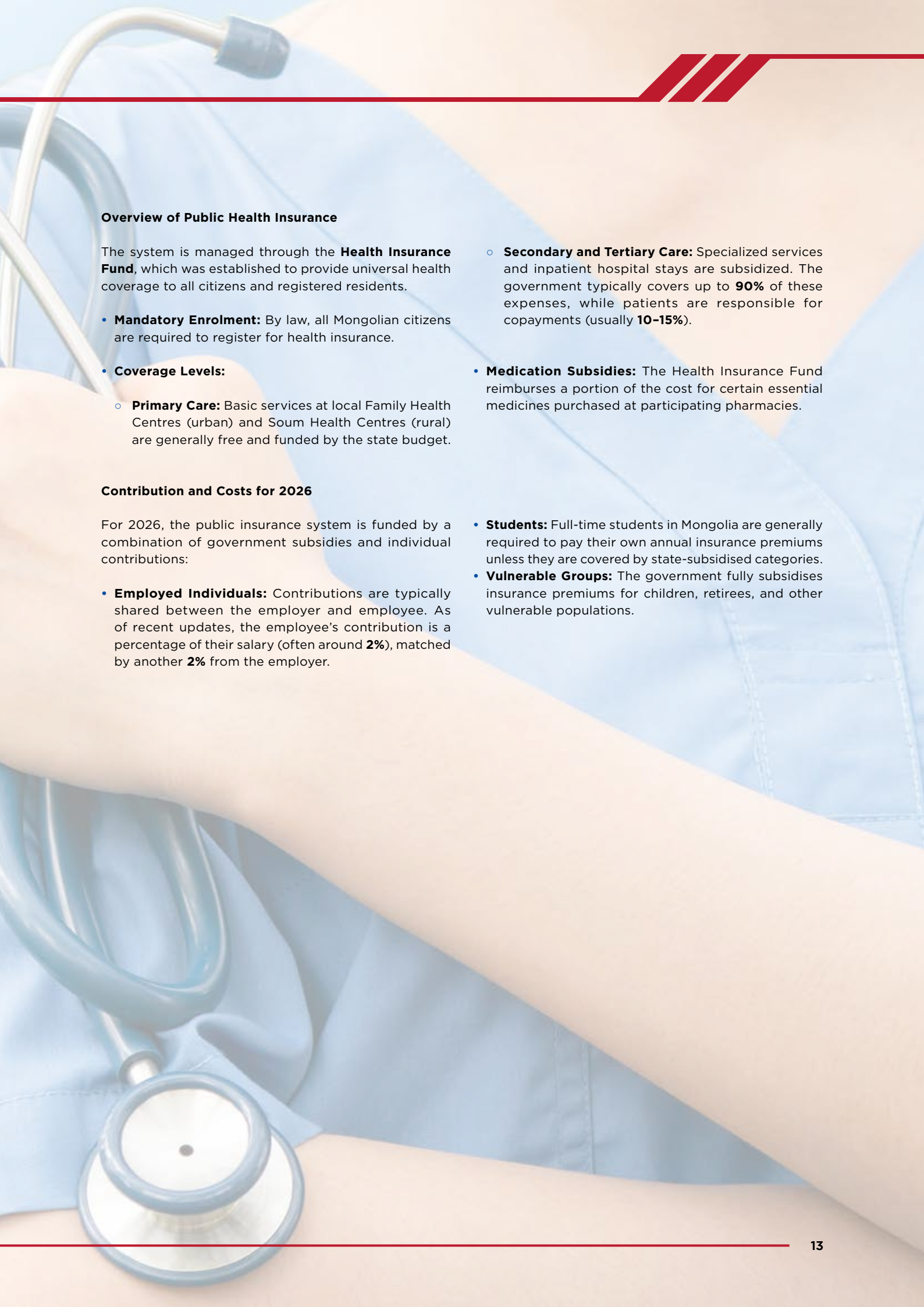
[Mongolia](#) has a mandatory public health insurance system known as the **Social Health Insurance (SHI)**.

In 1993, [Social Health Insurance \(SHI\) was introduced](#) as part of a larger social security reform. Mongolia has achieved high coverage of SHI, with nearly the entire population covered, regardless of their [socioeconomic status \(by 2014, coverage reached almost 100%\)](#).

Primary health-care services, which are vital to population health outcomes and a core component of sustainable health systems, are more easily accessible since they are available free of charge and funded through the state budget.

At present, the current health system is financed by a [combination of the tax-funded system, SHI, out-of-pocket \(OOP\) payments and a small amount of private health insurance](#).

³ <https://expatfinancial.com/healthcare-information-by-region/southeast-asia-healthcare-system-and-insurance-options-for-expats/mongolia-healthcare-system-insurance-options-for-expats/>



Overview of Public Health Insurance

The system is managed through the **Health Insurance Fund**, which was established to provide universal health coverage to all citizens and registered residents.

- **Mandatory Enrolment:** By law, all Mongolian citizens are required to register for health insurance.
- **Coverage Levels:**
 - **Primary Care:** Basic services at local Family Health Centres (urban) and Soum Health Centres (rural) are generally free and funded by the state budget.
 - **Secondary and Tertiary Care:** Specialized services and inpatient hospital stays are subsidized. The government typically covers up to **90%** of these expenses, while patients are responsible for copayments (usually **10-15%**).
- **Medication Subsidies:** The Health Insurance Fund reimburses a portion of the cost for certain essential medicines purchased at participating pharmacies.

Contribution and Costs for 2026

For 2026, the public insurance system is funded by a combination of government subsidies and individual contributions:

- **Employed Individuals:** Contributions are typically shared between the employer and employee. As of recent updates, the employee's contribution is a percentage of their salary (often around **2%**), matched by another **2%** from the employer.
- **Students:** Full-time students in Mongolia are generally required to pay their own annual insurance premiums unless they are covered by state-subsidised categories.
- **Vulnerable Groups:** The government fully subsidises insurance premiums for children, retirees, and other vulnerable populations.

7. Education

7.1 Overview

Education is compulsory at the elementary and lower secondary levels, grades 1 to 9. According to Article 6 of the Law on Education of Mongolia, the government provides free general secondary education (GSE) in Mongolian, which includes compulsory basic education

(primary and lower secondary) and upper secondary education.

Pre-school education for children aged 2-5 is not compulsory and is subject to parental preference.

7.2 Education system structure

- **Preschool education** (ages 3-5) is nearly universal, with 90% enrolment.
- **Primary** (grades 1-4, ages 6-10) and **lower secondary** (grades 5-9, ages 11-15) form 9 years of compulsory schooling.
- **Upper secondary** (grades 10-12, ages 16-18) offers general or vocational tracks, culminating in national exams for higher education entry.
- Students who graduate from lower secondary schools, but do not attend upper secondary schools have the option of attending technical and vocational education and training (hereinafter referred to as “TVET”) centres.
- These centres offer combined occupational and upper secondary education. Vocational education is also provided at technical secondary schools, which

offer students an opportunity to obtain both upper secondary and technical education with specialized secondary and vocational education diploma.

- **Higher Education:** At tertiary level, colleges and institutes provide four-year Bachelor’s degree programmes, while universities offer Bachelors, Masters and PhD programs.
- Non-formal education caters both to youth and adults with limited or no literacy; and literate youth and adults interested in taking courses on life-skills, vocational skills, and creative skills or in other thematic areas. In addition, NFE provides second chance education for children who have dropped out of school or never started school through “equivalency programme” (EP) training.⁴

7.3 Enrolment procedure for public education

Public school enrolment is strictly determined by the applicant’s residential address (catchment area). The children must be enrolled in the school assigned to the specific district or *soum*.

Online registration for the next school year typically occurs in **August**.

School Start Date: The academic year officially begins on **September 1**.

For primary and secondary public schools, the required documents typically include:

- **Proof of Identity:** A child’s birth certificate for citizens or a valid passport for foreign nationals.
- **Parents identity documents:** Valid ID card or passport of a parent or legal guardian.
- **Academic Records:** Transcripts or a certificate of completion from the previous grade/level.
- **Medical records:** immunisation history.
- **Recent Photographs:** Typically, 2-4 passport-sized photos (3.5 x 4.5 cm) taken within the last three months

⁴ [Mongolia.pdf](#)

Procedure:

1. Online Application: Many institutions now use the [E-Mongolia portal](#) or specific university systems for initial registration.
2. Submission of the original documents: Successful online applicants must often bring original documents in a sealed folder to the school's academic office for verification.
3. Entrance Exams: For upper secondary (high school) or university admission, students must take the General Entrance Exam (EEC).
4. Enrolment Contract: Once accepted, students or parents typically sign an official enrolment contract with the school.



For the most up-to-date specific institutional requirements, visit the [Ministry of Education of Mongolia](#).

8. Economy

Mongolia's economy demonstrated strong growth in 2024, driven by increased mining output and services, and continued in 2025. Mining will continue to drive growth in 2026, particularly as copper concentrate production at the Oyu Tolgoi mine ramps up further. The agriculture sector, meanwhile, is recovering following severe livestock losses in 2023 and 2024.

Economic growth has remained robust in 2025 despite weaknesses in the mining sector. On the supply side,

growth was supported by a strong rebound of the agricultural sector, which grew by 35,6% year on year following two years of severe “dzud” (adverse winter weather conditions), and by continued growth in the services sector. The mining sector was nearly stagnant, as coal production declined alongside falling prices, although this was partly offset by the surge in copper production, which was up 35,2% year on year in the first half of 2025.⁵

9. Labour market

9.1 Overview

Agriculture, mining, services, and construction are the main economic drivers in Mongolia. Mongolian construction companies have employed over 100,000 people, and they have indirectly created about 130,000 jobs as well.

More than 60% of the construction materials manufactured in the country are domestic. About 57% of Mongolia's population lives in cities, which requires a lot of housing and related facilities.

The mining sector in Mongolia contributes about 21% to the GDP largely comprises copper and gold mines. Coal

projects are also gaining significance in recent years of development.

The agriculture sector represents about 20% of GDP and 14% of foreign revenues. The service sector is emerging and is an indirect component of developing agriculture, mining, and construction services.

Engineers, physicians, designers, and developers are emerging daily to keep up with the modern technological industries and foreign companies.⁶

Common Occupations in Mongolia

- Most rural residents derive their income from farming and animal husbandry.
- Mines, primarily for the extraction of gold, copper, and coal.
- Construction as the country's economy and the number of cities expand.
- Mongolia is a renowned tourism destination due to its stunning landscapes and nomadic lifestyle.
- Services such as hotels and retailers are also becoming increasingly significant in large cities.
- Employment opportunities in the public sector, including government, education, healthcare, and other sectors.
- Production and the sale of goods.

⁵ [Transition-report-2025-26-CA-Mongolia.pdf](#)

⁶ [How to Hire Employees in Mongolia | 2025 Guide | Skuad](#)

Socio-economic indicators

- Labour Force Participation Rate: 62,7% in September 2025, up from 61,9% in the previous quarter (reported by National Statistics Office of Mongolia).
- Unemployment Rate: 5,5% in September 2025.
- Employed population: 1,393,669
- Youth unemployment rate: 14,7%
- Inflation rate: 7,5%
- Monthly Earnings: USD 765.4 in June 2025.
- As of April 1, 2025, the national minimum wage in Mongolia is MNT 792,000 per month (~ USD 233).⁷
- Currency: Mongolian Tugrik (MNT)

9.2 Unemployment safeguards

The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MLSP) oversees labour policies and social protection, including unemployment benefits.

Key Criteria for Unemployment Allowance:

- **Qualifying conditions:** Must have at least 24 months of contributions, including nine consecutive months of contributions before unemployment began. Must register with the Employment Office within 14 days of becoming unemployed
- **Amount:** The benefit amount varies depending on the insured's contribution history: 45% of the reference earnings is paid if the insured has less than five years of contributions; 50% is paid if the insured has between five and nine years of contributions; 60% is paid if the insured between 10 and 14 years of contributions; 70% if the insured has 15 or more years of contributions.
- **Minimum benefit:** 75% of the legal monthly minimum wage.
- **Reference earnings for benefit calculation:** The insured average monthly earnings in the three months before unemployment began. Moved down and bolded once or twice a month.
- **Benefit duration:** Up to 76 days, beginning the day after registration with the Employment Office. Benefits cease if the insured rejects two offers of suitable employment offered by the Employment Office; rejects an offer of temporary employment from the Employment Office without suitable justification; does not participate in professional training offered by the Employment Office; or is sentenced to prison by a court.⁸

9.3 Recruitment agencies:

- Zangia: Zangia.mn
- Unegui: www.unegui.mn
- Oyu Tolgoi: Current Vacancies
- Talent Partners Mongolia: Mongolia Talent Network
- Pro Staff LLC: Pro Staff - Hire Solutions

⁷ [Mongolia Labour Force Participation Rate, 2006 - 2025 | CEIC Data](#)

⁸ [Mongolia 2022 - ISSA country profile_0.pdf](#)

10. Housing

Housing remains a pressing issue in Mongolia, particularly in the capital city, home to more than half of the country's 3.6 million people.

Mongolia has experienced unprecedented urbanization over the past two decades, with both rapid multi-story housing development and expansion of traditional ger districts, which now house approximately 50% of the urban population. While these districts provide housing options for rural-to-urban migrants, they face significant challenges including high poverty rates, substandard

housing, and inadequate infrastructure, resulting in air and soil pollution, poor mobility, and reduced quality of life.⁹

Mongolia house prices grew 14,4% YoY in Sep 2025, following an increase of 14,5% YoY in the previous quarter.¹⁰

For **old apartments** in the capital city, the average price surged by 19% year on year to MNT 4.5 million (USD1,284) per square metre in February 2025.

By district:

- In **Bayanzurkh**, old apartment prices averaged MNT 4.13 million (USD1,178) per square metre over the same period, up by 18% (7,7% inflation-adjusted) from a year ago.
- In **Bayangol**, the average price of old apartments rose strongly by 21,9% y-o-y to MNT 3.89 million (USD1,110) per square metre. Real prices were up by 11,3%.
- In **Khan-Uul**, old apartment prices averaged MNT 4.8 million (USD1,369) per square metre in February 2025, up by 14,3% (4,3% inflation-adjusted) from the previous year.
- In **Songinokhairkhan**, old apartment prices were up by 12,8% y-o-y to reach an average of MNT 3 million (USD856) per square metre. When adjusted for inflation, prices rose by just a modest 2,9%.
- **Chingeltei** saw the biggest y-o-y growth in old apartment prices in Ulaanbaatar at a huge 33,5% (21,8% inflation-adjusted) to reach an average of MNT 5.46 million (USD1,557) per square metre in February 2025.
- In **Sukhbaatar**, the average price of old apartments also soared by 32,5% y-o-y to MNT 5.67 million (USD1,617) per square metre. Real prices were up by 20,9%.

Rental market:

The government launched the State Rental Housing Program in July 2015 to provide affordable housing to low- and middle-income citizens, typically offering rental rates below prevailing market prices to ensure accessibility.

Applicants are prioritized based on age, income, and other factors that determine their need for access to low-cost rental housing.

Originally, the program aimed to establish 16,000 rental apartments in Ulaanbaatar and an additional 4,000 units in provincial areas.

In late 2024, the government launched new rental housing projects to support vulnerable groups. A project in Uvs Province was announced in October for elderly and disabled citizens, while another in Dundgovi Province was launched in November under the Human Resources Development Sub-Program.

While rental prices may still be affordable compared to major international cities, they can be expensive for average Mongolian households.

⁹ [Reimagining Mongolia's Ger Districts: A Blueprint for Green, Resilient and Affordable Housing - Miyamoto International](#)

¹⁰ [Mongolia House Prices Growth | Economic Indicators | CEIC](#)

Average rental prices:

- **studio-type** apartments in Ulaanbaatar: rent for around MNT1.05 million (USD300) to MNT1.4 million (USD400) per month;
- **one-bedroom** properties are rented for MNT1.4 million (USD400) to MNT2.1 million (USD600) per month;
- **two-bedroom** properties for MNT1.75 million (USD500) to MNT3.51 million (USD1,000) per month;
- **three-bedroom** properties for MNT3.16 million (USD900) to MNT5.61 million (USD1,600) per month;
- **four-bedroom** or bigger properties are rented for about MNT6.31 million (USD1,800) to MNT7.72 million (USD2,200) per month.¹¹



Real-estate agencies/ websites:

Unegui: <https://www.unegui.mn/>

RE/MAX Mongolia: www.remax.mn

Mongolian Properties: <https://mongolia-properties.com/>

Rentberry: [Apartments for rent in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia - Rentberry](#)

11. Security situation

According to the 2025 Global Peace Index (GPI) published by the Institute for Economics and Peace, Mongolia is ranked 37th out of 163 countries globally. A country's rank reflects its overall peacefulness based on an assessment of 23 indicators across three domains: societal safety and security, ongoing conflict, and militarisation. A lower rank indicates a more peaceful country, with the ranking of "1" signifying the most peaceful nation, while a higher rank indicates less peacefulness.

Due to potential changes in the security situation, it is strongly recommended to regularly consult updated sources such as [USDOS advisories](#) and [UK FCDO travel advice](#). Additionally, it is advised to verify current information directly with other relevant Ministry of Foreign Affairs or embassy websites.

12. List of official representations in Europe



[List of Diplomatic Missions in Europe Countries](#)

¹¹ [Mongolia's Residential Real Estate Market Analysis 2025](#)

13. Operational details

Caritas uses its local partnerships to support returnees in the following aspects:

- state hospitals and private clinics – for urgent and planned medical tests or treatments;
- notaries – to validate rental agreements for housing;
- employment agencies – to promote job seekers;
- legal advisor – to seek assistance in more specific legal proceedings;
- kindergartens, schools and vocational training centres – to provide recommendation and fast enrolment into best-suited educational facilities, including those run by certain NGOs.

In case of reintegration plan in form of **housing** – property rental, it is crucial that the plan finalises the needed chain of validations (Frontex, Member States) in Key Moment 2 in the shortest possible time. The reason is that the search for a suitable property is time-consuming and the rental market in Mongolia (mostly Ulaanbaatar) is highly competitive – landlords are not keen to hold the reservation. Sometimes, if the reintegration plan is approved after a week, the chosen property is no longer available.

When it comes to organisation of **onward transport** from Ulaanbaatar to other provinces, Caritas can provide information on available options. The capital is connected by train with five provinces, and car transport service can be arranged in case of other destinations.

For the post-arrival assistance package, cash needs to be secured upfront but it does not create major issues. If the amounts are transmitted to a bank account, that

a deposit fee might be charged. Some migrants though do not possess a bank account. To proceed with any administrative steps, Caritas firstly assists the returnees with obtaining a new ID document.

Airport pick-up: Currently it is provided only in case of a need, which is checked upfront, and this type of assistance usually does not cover more than one or two days after the arrival.

A airport pick-ups have been subcontracted to a trusted transport company which makes such service available against 30% pre-payment. The driver would await the returnee at the airport, holding his/her name and having their phone number. After the service is completed, full amount is paid to the company.

Health insurance: Recently it has been made possible to re-enter the national system through one-time coverage of the gap in contribution (since payment of ca EUR 1,000 can cover five years of membership). The nationwide 'Healthy Mongolians' programme makes it possible for all insured adult citizens to receive full check-ups annually and is customised by age group. The pre-requisite is a possession of an ID document; therefore it is of primary importance to ensure its validity as soon as possible after the return to Mongolia. Children receive regular check-ups and basic vaccinations free of charge, and since recently they can be included in the national insurance coverage. However noticed that treatment of severe illnesses usually incurs additional charges. Access and availability to receive a doctor's appointment or medical check-up on the same day depends mostly on the area of residency but is usually possible with some queueing time.

14. Cultural tips



Always pass and receive items (money, food, gifts) with your right hand or both hands.



Never point directly at people or objects. Instead, gesture with your whole hand or palm facing up.



Avoid stepping over another person's legs or personal items, especially a snuff bottle or hat, as it is considered very rude.



Never touch anyone's head, including children, unless invited—it is considered a sacred part of the body.



Today, most Mongolians greet one another with a **handshake**, often accompanied by a slight nod or smile. Younger people are expected to greet elders first and use respectful language.



Roll down your sleeves before taking or giving something, or before being introduced to an older person.



Avoid excessive gestures; keep body language calm.



Don't touch heads/shoulders (takes luck).



Be mindful of feet: Don't point feet at people or place them on furniture.



Start with greetings: Use "Sain baina uu?" (Are you well?) sincerely, as it's a meaningful connection point.



Ask about family/health: Show care by inquiring about their family and health before diving into other topics.



Be patient & listen: Allow for pauses and don't rush.





FRONT_{EX}



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