

Women's Lives through Statistics in 2016

I. Population and Household

(Population)

In 2016, the female population occupied 50.0% of the total population. As for the population aged 60 or more, the female population was larger than the male population.

【 Population trend 】

(Unit: thousand persons, %, person)

	Total population	Increase rate ¹⁾	Females		Males		Sex ratio ²⁾
				Share		Share	
1990	42,869	1.0	21,301	49.7	21,568	50.3	101.3
2000	47,008	0.8	23,341	49.7	23,667	50.3	101.4
2010	49,410	0.5	24,653	49.9	24,758	50.1	100.4
2014	50,424	0.4	25,204	50.0	25,220	50.0	100.1
2015	50,617	0.4	25,315	50.0	25,303	50.0	100.0
2016	50,801	0.4	25,421	50.0	25,380	50.0	99.8
2020	51,435	0.3	25,790	50.1	25,645	49.9	99.4
2030	52,160	0.0	26,259	50.3	25,901	49.7	98.6

Source: Statistics Korea, "Population Projections" (Dec. 2011)

Note 1) Year-on-year increase rates

2) Number of males per 100 females

(Householder)

In 2015, female householders occupied 28.9% of the total householders.

【 Female householders 】

(Unit: thousand households, %)

	Household	Female							Male householders	
		householder	Share	Subtotal	Single	Married	Widowed	Divorced		
1990	11,244	1,764	15.7	100.0	20.4	17.8	56.3	5.5	9,480	
2000	14,507	2,683	18.5	100.0	21.4	16.2	51.1	11.2	11,824	
2010	17,359	4,457	25.7	100.0	22.4	23.4	38.1	16.0	12,903	
2016	18,948	5,478	28.9	100.0	22.3	25.1	34.0	18.6	13,470	
By age group	19 or less	77	41	0.8	100.0	98.8	1.1	0.0	0.1	36
	20~29	1,330	586	10.7	100.0	91.3	7.0	0.0	1.6	744
	30~39	3,016	717	13.1	100.0	47.5	38.5	0.9	13.0	2,298
	40~49	4,240	1,020	18.6	100.0	18.9	42.6	6.2	32.3	3,220
	50~59	4,567	1,119	20.4	100.0	6.9	35.5	22.5	35.1	3,447
	60~69	3,014	809	14.8	100.0	3.5	20.0	57.4	19.1	2,205
70 or more	2,705	1,186	21.6	100.0	0.7	5.2	90.9	3.2	1,519	

Source: Statistics Korea, "Household Projections" (Apr. 2012)

II. Family and Health

(Marriage)

The mean age of females at first marriage was 30.0 years in 2015, which showed a continuously increasing trend after marking 24.8 years in 1990.

【 Mean age at first marriage and number of marriages at first marriage 】

(Unit: year, thousand cases, %)

	Mean age at first marriage		Number of marriages ¹⁾	Older female couples	Share	The same age couples	Share	Older male couples	Share
	Wives	Husbands							
1990	24.8	27.8	356.6	31.2	8.8	32.3	9.0	293.2	82.2
1995	25.3	28.4	341.6	29.7	8.7	35.3	10.3	276.6	81.0
2000	26.5	29.3	271.8	29.1	10.7	34.8	12.8	207.9	76.5
2005	27.7	30.9	232.0	28.2	12.1	35.0	15.1	168.9	72.8
2010	28.9	31.8	254.6	37.9	14.9	40.8	16.0	175.9	69.1
2011	29.1	31.9	258.6	39.5	15.3	42.3	16.4	176.8	68.4
2012	29.4	32.1	257.0	40.0	15.6	41.7	16.2	175.3	68.2
2013	29.6	32.2	255.6	41.3	16.2	41.4	16.2	172.8	67.6
2014	29.8	32.4	239.4	38.9	16.2	38.5	16.1	162.1	67.7
2015	30.0	32.6	238.3	38.9	16.3	38.2	16.0	161.1	67.6

Source: Statistics Korea, 'Annual Report on the Marriages and Divorces Statistics'

Note 1) Number of marriages at first marriage

(Divorce)

In 2015, the share of divorces whose duration of marriage was 20 years or more stood at 29.9%, which showed an increasing trend.

【 Divorce by duration of marriage¹⁾ 】

(Unit: thousand cases, %)

	Number of divorces	Total ²⁾	Duration of marriage				
			4 years or less	5 ~ 9 years	10 ~ 14 years	15 ~ 19 years	20 years or more
1990	45.7	100.0	39.5	29.2	18.2	7.9	5.2
1995	68.3	100.0	32.6	25.2	20.6	13.1	8.2
2000	119.5	100.0	29.3	22.3	18.7	15.4	14.2
2005	128.0	100.0	25.9	22.3	18.4	14.8	18.6
2010	116.9	100.0	27.0	18.8	15.9	14.5	23.8
2011	114.3	100.0	26.9	19.0	15.2	14.2	24.8
2012	114.3	100.0	24.7	18.9	15.5	14.6	26.4
2013	115.3	100.0	23.7	18.7	14.6	14.9	28.1
2014	115.5	100.0	23.5	19.0	14.1	14.7	28.7
2015	109.2	100.0	22.6	19.1	13.6	14.8	29.9

Source: Statistics Korea, 'Annual Report on the Marriages and Divorces Statistics'

Note 1) Legal marital status is not considered in the duration of marriage.

2) Includes 'Unknown'

(Birth)

In 2015, the number of births showed a slight increase to 439 thousand persons. The total fertility rate recorded 1.24 persons.

【 Number of births and sex ratio at birth by birth order 】

(Unit: thousand persons, person)

	Number of births	Sex ratio at birth ¹⁾		First child	Second child	Third child or more	
		Females	Males				
1990	649.7	300.1	349.6	116.5	108.5	117.1	193.3
2000	634.5	301.9	332.6	110.2	106.3	107.4	144.2
2010	470.2	227.3	242.9	106.9	106.4	105.8	110.9
2011	471.3	229.1	242.1	105.7	105.0	105.3	109.5
2012	484.6	235.6	249.0	105.7	105.3	104.9	109.2
2013	436.5	212.6	223.9	105.3	105.3	104.5	108.1
2014	435.4	212.1	223.4	105.3	105.6	104.6	106.7
2015^P	438.7	213.6	225.1	105.3	105.9	104.5	105.5

Source: Statistics Korea, 'Annual Report on Live Births and Deaths Statistics', 'Preliminary Results of Birth and Death Statistics in 2015' (Feb. 2016)

Note 1) Number of males per 100 females at birth

■ (Opinions on marriage)

In 2014, the percentage of single males who thought 'they should get married' (51.8%) was higher than that of single females (39.7%).

■ (Life expectancy)

In 2014, the life expectancy at birth for females recorded 85.5 years, which was 6.5 years longer than that for males (79.0 years). The life expectancy without disease was 65.9 years for females, which was 1 year longer than that for males (64.9 years)

【 Life expectancy by health level (2014) 】

(Unit: year)

	Life expectancy by health level											
	Life expectancy			Life expectancy without disease						Life expectancy in perceived good health		
	Total	Females	Males	Total	Females	Males	Total	Females	Males			
0	82.4	85.5	79.0	65.4	65.9	64.9	67.8	67.7	67.9			
10	72.7	75.8	69.3	56.6	57.1	56.1	58.0	58.0	58.1			
20	62.8	65.9	59.5	47.0	47.5	46.5	48.3	48.2	48.5			
30	53.1	56.1	49.7	37.6	38.1	37.0	38.9	38.8	39.0			
40	43.4	46.3	40.2	28.3	28.8	27.8	29.8	29.6	30.0			
50	34.1	36.7	31.0	19.6	19.9	19.2	21.1	20.7	21.5			
60	25.1	27.4	22.4	12.0	12.1	11.9	13.4	12.9	13.9			
70	16.7	18.3	14.5	6.6	6.8	6.3	7.2	6.9	7.5			
80	9.7	10.5	8.2	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.5			
85 or more	7.1	7.5	5.9	2.9	3.0	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.3			

Source: Statistics Korea, 'Life Tables for Korea' (2014)

III. Economic Activities

■ (Employment and unemployment)

In 2015, the employment-population ratio of females stood at 49.9%, which showed a steadily increasing trend.

【 Employment-population ratio and unemployment rate 】

(Unit: %, %p)

	Employment-population ratio				Unemployment rate			
	Total	Females	Males	Gender gap	Total	Females	Males	Gender gap
2000	58.5	47.0	70.7	23.7	4.4	3.6	5.0	1.4
2005	59.7	48.4	71.6	23.2	3.7	3.4	4.0	0.6
2010	58.7	47.8	70.1	22.3	3.7	3.3	4.0	0.7
2011	59.1	48.1	70.5	22.4	3.4	3.1	3.6	0.5
2012	59.4	48.4	70.8	22.4	3.2	3.0	3.4	0.4
2013	59.5	48.8	70.8	22.0	3.1	2.9	3.3	0.4
2014	60.2	49.5	71.4	21.9	3.5	3.5	3.6	0.1
2015	60.3	49.9	71.1	21.2	3.6	3.6	3.7	0.1

Source: Statistics Korea, 'Annual Report of the Economically Active Population Survey'

■ (Employed persons)

As of March 2016, 40.3% of female wage and salary workers were non-regular workers. 47.7% of them were part-time workers.

【 Employed persons by employment type 】

(Unit: thousand persons, %, %p)

		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Year-on-year change
Females	Wage and salary workers	7,075	7,240	7,499	7,618	7,968	8,152	8,423	271
	Regular workers	4,132	4,218	4,379	4,534	4,791	4,894	5,028	134
	Non-regular workers	2,943	3,021	3,119	3,084	3,177	3,259	3,395	137
	Share	41.6	41.7	41.6	40.5	39.9	40.0	40.3	0.3
Males	Wage and salary workers	9,541	9,826	9,923	10,125	10,429	10,647	10,810	163
	Regular workers	6,987	7,076	7,233	7,478	7,695	7,894	8,049	156
	Non-regular workers	2,554	2,750	2,690	2,648	2,734	2,753	2,761	8
	Share	26.8	28.0	27.1	26.1	26.2	25.9	25.5	-0.3

Source: Statistics Korea, 'Supplementary Results of the Economically Active Population Survey by Employment Type'

■ (Wages)

Compared to 2015, the ratio of female to male monthly average wages showed a drop. In the meantime, the wages per hour showed a year-on-year increase.

■ (Social insurance subscription rate)

As of April 2015, the social insurance subscription rate of female wage and salary earners was lower than that of male counterparts.

< Social insurance subscription rate (2015) >

(Unit: %)

	Females		Males
· National pension :	62.3		73.7
· Health insurance :	64.6	<	77.6
· Employment insurance :	62.4		74.4

■ (Obstacle to female employment)

In 2015, the greatest obstacle to female employment was 'Child care burden'.

IV. Social Status

■ (College enrollment rate)

Female high school graduates going on to colleges or universities occupied 74.6% of the total female high school graduates. This share was 7.4%p higher than that of male high school graduates (67.3%).

【 College enrollment rate 】

(Unit: %, %p)

	College enrollment rate ¹⁾				2 or 3-year college ²⁾			University ²⁾³⁾		
	Total	Females	Males	Gender gap (Males - Females)	Total	Females	Males	Total	Females	Males
2000	68.0	65.4	70.4	5.0	22.2	21.5	22.9	45.3	43.5	47.0
2005	82.1	80.8	83.3	2.5	23.2	23.6	22.8	58.3	56.7	59.7
2009	81.9	82.4	81.6	-0.8	25.9	26.7	25.2	55.5	55.1	55.8
2010	79.0	80.5	77.6	-2.9	24.6	26.0	23.4	53.6	53.8	53.4
2011 ⁴⁾	72.5	75.0	70.2	-4.8	25.8	27.5	24.3	46.0	47.0	45.1
2012	71.3	74.3	68.6	-5.7	25.1	27.2	23.2	45.6	46.6	44.8
2013	70.7	74.5	67.4	-7.1	24.0	26.3	21.9	46.2	47.7	44.9
2014	70.9	74.6	67.6	-7.0	23.6	25.7	21.8	46.6	48.3	45.1
2015	70.8	74.6	67.3	-7.4	23.4	25.2	21.8	46.7	48.8	44.8

■ (Teachers)

In 2015, 76.9% of teachers were female in elementary schools. Still, female principals occupied just 28.7% in elementary schools.

■ (Medical sector)

In 2015, female doctors and pharmacists occupied 24.7% and 63.8%, respectively.

【 Licensed female doctors, dentists, Korean medicine doctors and pharmacists 】

(Unit: persons, %)

	Doctors		Dentists		Korean medicine doctors		Pharmacists	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
1980	22,564	13.6	3,620	10.9	3,015	2.4	24,366	50.4
1990	42,554	14.6	9,619	15.4	5,792	5.9	37,118	57.3
2000	72,503	17.6	18,039	20.7	12,108	11.1	50,623	61.3
2005	85,369	19.7	21,581	23.0	15,271	13.5	54,829	64.0
2010	101,443	22.6	25,390	25.3	19,132	16.9	60,956	64.1
2011	104,397	23.0	26,098	25.6	19,912	17.4	62,245	64.0
2012	107,295	23.3	26,804	25.8	20,668	18.1	63,647	64.0
2013	109,563	23.9	27,409	26.1	21,355	18.7	63,292	64.3
2014	112,407	24.4	28,123	26.4	22,007	19.5	63,150	64.3
2015	115,976	24.7	28,947	26.6	23,178	19.7	65,510	63.8

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare, 'Health and Welfare Yearbook'

■ (Female government employees)

In 2014, female government employees occupied 43.9% of the total government employees. This share showed a steady upward trend.

V. Culture and Leisure

■ (Cultural activities)

In 2015, 67.7% of females took part in cultural activities. Among them, watched 'Movies' occupied the largest share.

■ (Leisure activities)

In 2015, 71.7% of females 'watching TV' as their leisure activities. 'Burden of expense' was the greatest obstacle to leisure activities.