2017 Statistics on the Aged

Ⅰ. Population

🔷 (Population)

In 2017, the population aged 65 or more is projected to occupy 13.8 percent of the total population.

【 Population trends 】

(Unit: thousand persons, %)

	Projected population	65 or more	Share	Population size and share by age group					
				65 to 69	Share[1]	70 to 79	Share[1]	80 or more	Share[1]
1990	42,869	2,195	5.1	901	41.0	992	45.2	302	13.8
2000	47,008	3,395	7.2	1,381	40.7	1,530	45.1	483	14.2
2010	49,554	5,366	10.8	1,878	35.0	2,565	47.8	923	17.2
2017	**51,446**	**7,076**	**13.8**	**2,289**	**32.4**	**3,254**	**46.0**	**1,532**	**21.7**
2020	51,974	8,134	15.6	2,661	32.7	3,588	44.1	1,885	23.2
2030	52,941	12,955	24.5	4,081	31.5	5,881	45.4	2,992	23.1
2040	52,198	17,120	32.8	4,242	24.8	7,701	45.0	5,177	30.2
2050	49,433	18,813	38.1	3,770	20.0	7,580	40.3	7,463	39.7
2060	45,246	18,536	41.0	3,612	19.5	6,713	36.2	8,212	44.3

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Population Projections」 (Dec. 2016)
Note : 1) Percentage of the total aged population

▶ In 2017, 5.3 working age persons (aged 15 to 64) supported one aged person.

【 Aged dependency ratio and aging index 】

(Unit: per 100 population, person)

	Aged dependency ratio[1]	Change[4]	Aging index[2]	Change	Working age population per aged person[3]	Change
1990	7.4	1.3	20.0	8.8	13.5	-2.8
2000	10.1	2.7	34.3	14.3	9.9	-3.6
2010	14.8	4.7	67.2	32.9	6.7	-3.2
2017	**18.8**	**5.3**	**104.8**	**50.2**	**5.3**	**-2.1**
2020	21.8	7.0	123.7	56.5	4.6	-2.1
2030	38.2	16.4	212.1	88.4	2.6	-2.0
2040	58.2	20.0	303.2	91.1	1.7	-0.9
2050	72.6	14.4	399.0	95.8	1.4	-0.3
2060	82.6	10.0	434.6	35.6	1.2	-0.2

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Population Projections」 (Dec. 2016)
Note 1) Aged dependency ratio = (Population aged 65 or more / Population aged 15 to 64) × 100
2) Aging index = (Population aged 65 or more / Population aged 0 to 14) × 100
3) Working aged population per aged population = Population aged 15 to 64 / Population aged 65 or more
4) Change: Change from a decade ago

🔷 (Aged household)

In 2045, aged households whose head is 65 years old or more are projected to occupy 47.7 percent of the total households.

【 Aged households[1] 】

(Unit: thousand households, %)

	Total households	Aged households	Share	Aged households and share by household type[2]							
				Couple	Share	Couple + children	Share	Single parent + children	Share	One-person households	Share
2000	14,507	1,734	11.9	573	33.1	184	10.6	79	4.5	544	31.4
2005	16,039	2,350	14.7	796	33.9	243	10.3	116	4.9	746	31.7
2010	17,495	2,923	16.7	985	33.7	286	9.8	149	5.1	991	33.9
2017	**19,524**	**3,999**	**20.5**	**1,310**	**32.7**	**393**	**9.8**	**221**	**5.5**	**1,337**	**33.4**
2020	20,174	4,607	22.8	1,491	32.4	451	9.8	252	5.5	1,555	33.8
2025	21,014	5,944	28.3	1,897	31.9	596	10.0	325	5.5	1,990	33.5
2030	21,641	7,336	33.9	2,333	31.8	731	10.0	395	5.4	2,489	33.9
2035	22,067	8,656	39.2	2,705	31.3	837	9.7	448	5.2	3,003	34.7
2040	22,306	9,890	44.3	3,000	30.3	936	9.5	492	5.0	3,459	35.0
2045	22,318	10,653	47.7	3,103	29.1	980	9.2	510	4.8	3,719	34.9

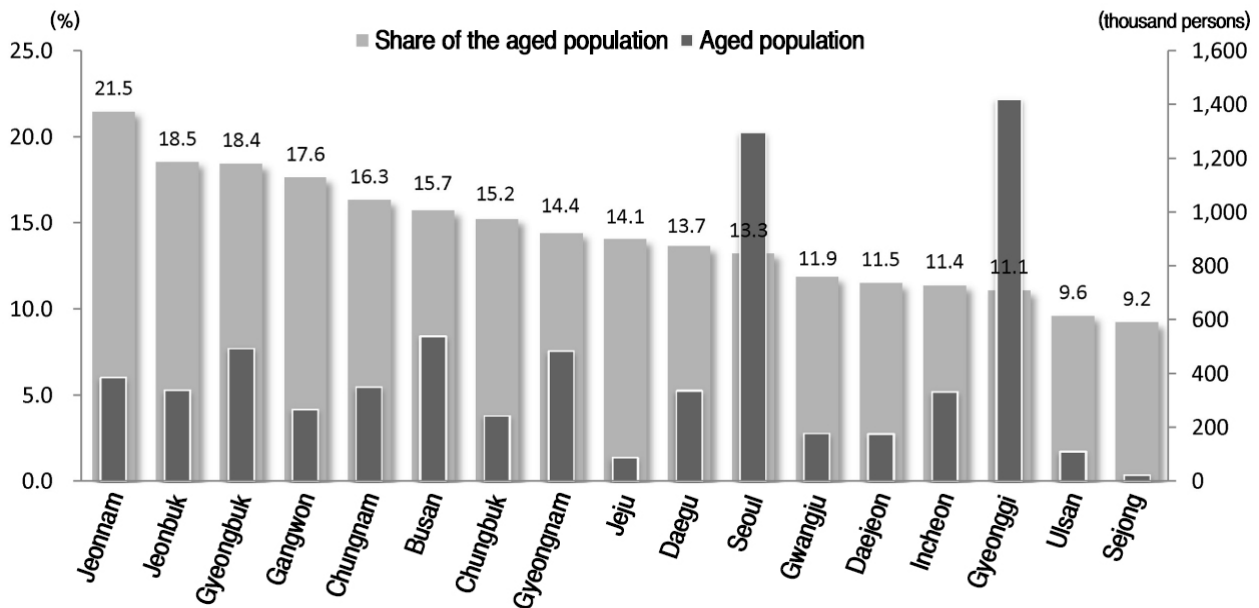Source: Statistics Korea, 「Household Projections」 (April 2017)

Note 1) Households whose head is 65 years old or more
　　 2) Percentage of the aged households by household type

■ (Aged population by region)

In 2017, Jeonnam showed the highest share of the aged population at 21.5 percent. In the meantime, Sejong showed the lowest share of the aged population at 9.2 percent.

< Aged population by region (2017) >

Source: Statistics Korea, Population Projections for Provinces

Ⅱ.　Health care

■ (Causes of death)

In 2016, the death rate of cancer for males aged 65 or more was two times higher than that for females aged 65 or more. As for death rates by kind of cancer, lung cancer showed the highest death rates for both males and females aged 65 or more.

【 Causes of death and death rate (population aged 65 or more) 】

(Unit: per 100,000 population)

	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
2000	Malignant neoplasms (cancer) (929.7)	Cerebrovascular diseases (785.3)	Heart diseases (358.9)	Diabetes mellitus (218.4)	Chronic lower respiratory diseases (209.1)
2005	Malignant neoplasms (cancer) (918.6)	Cerebrovascular diseases (585.8)	Heart diseases (328.1)	Diabetes mellitus (198.9)	Chronic lower respiratory diseases (160.8)
2010	Malignant neoplasms (cancer) (882.4)	Cerebrovascular diseases (409.4)	Heart diseases (344.0)	Diabetes mellitus (153.1)	Pneumonia (127.6)
2015	Malignant neoplasms (cancer) (803.0)	Heart diseases (351.0)	Cerebrovascular diseases (311.1)	Pneumonia (209.1)	Diabetes mellitus (133.2)
2016	**Malignant neoplasms (cancer) (796.2)**	**Heart diseases (357.7)**	**Cerebrovascular diseases (286.9)**	**Pneumonia (225.1)**	**Diabetes mellitus (119.5)**
Males	Malignant neoplasms (cancer) (1153.4)	Heart diseases (354.3)	Cerebrovascular diseases (300.5)	Pneumonia (268.0)	Chronic lower respiratory diseases (142.3)
Females	Malignant neoplasms (cancer) (535.9)	Heart diseases (360.3)	Cerebrovascular diseases (277.0)	Pneumonia (193.8)	Diabetes mellitus (115.2)

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Causes of Death Statistics」

(Life expectancy)

In 2015, the life expectancy of males and females aged 65 recorded 18.3 years and 22.4 years, respectively.

【 Life expectancy 】

(Unit: year)

	Population aged 0	Change[1]	Males	Females	Population aged 65	Change[1]	Males	Females
1975	64.2	-	60.3	68.2	13.2	-	10.4	15.2
1985	68.9	4.7	64.6	73.2	14.0	0.8	11.4	15.9
1995	73.8	4.9	69.7	77.9	15.7	1.7	13.4	17.5
2005	78.2	4.4	74.9	81.6	17.7	2.0	15.5	19.6
2015	**82.1**	**3.8**	**79.0**	**85.2**	**20.3**	**2.7**	**18.2**	**22.4**
Change[2]	17.8	-	18.7	17.0	7.1	-	7.8	7.1
	Population aged 70	Change[1]	Males	Females	Population aged 80	Change[1]	Males	Females
1975	10.5	-	8.2	11.9	6.1	-	4.7	6.6
1985	11.1	0.6	8.9	12.5	6.6	0.5	5.3	7.2
1995	12.4	1.3	10.5	13.7	7.2	0.6	6.1	7.8
2005	13.9	1.6	12.2	15.4	7.8	0.6	6.9	8.5
2015	**16.2**	**2.3**	**14.3**	**17.9**	**9.2**	**1.3**	**8.0**	**10.1**
Change[2]	5.7	-	6.1	6.0	3.1	-	3.3	3.4

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Life Tables for Korea」
Note 1) Change from 10 years ago
2) Change between 1975 and 2015

(Medical expenses)

In 2016, the per-capita medical expenses of the aged population marked 3.811 million won, which showed an ever-increasing trend.

Ⅲ. Family

(Divorce)

In 2016, the total number of divorces dropped by 1.7 percent compared to 2015. In the meantime, the number of divorces for the population aged 65 or more increased by 4.3 percent for males and 9.6 percent for females compared to 2015.

【 Divorce and remarriage 】

(Unit: case, %)

	Divorce			Remarriage							
				Males				Females			
	Total	65 or more		Total	65 or more	After bereavement	After divorce	Total	65 or more	After bereavement	After divorce
		Males	Females								
2000	119,455	1,321	423	43,370	971	607	364	48,132	202	109	93
2005	128,035	2,589	916	59,662	1,566	687	879	66,587	413	171	242
2010	116,858	4,346	1,734	53,043	2,099	624	1,475	57,451	702	186	516
2015	109,153	5,852	2,655	46,388	2,672	501	2,171	52,747	1,069	184	885
2016	**107,328**	**6,101**	**2,910**	**43,286**	**2,568**	**436**	**2,132**	**48,899**	**1,109**	**184**	**925**
Year-on-year	-1.7	4.3	9.6	-6.7	-3.9	-13.0	-1.8	-7.3	3.7	0.0	4.5

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Annual Report on Vital Statistics (Marriage and Divorce)」

(View on marriage and divorce)

Aged persons thought that it is better to tie the knot. In the meantime, they thought that it is better not to break up a marriage.

(Support obligation)

More and more persons thought parents should support themselves.

Ⅳ. Economic activities

(Employment-population ratio)

The employment-population ratio for people aged 65 or more rose by 0.1%p to 30.7 percent in 2016.

【 Employment-population ratio by age group 】

(Unit: %, %p)

	Total	20 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60 to 64	65 or more	Males	Females	Gap (Males - Females)
2000	58.5	60.1	72.5	76.4	66.5	53.0	29.4	40.3	22.7	17.6
2005	59.7	61.2	72.3	77.1	68.1	53.4	29.8	40.8	22.4	18.4
2010	58.7	58.2	72.0	77.8	70.9	53.7	28.7	39.5	21.2	18.3
2011	59.1	58.5	72.2	78.4	71.6	55.1	28.9	39.6	21.4	18.2
2012	59.4	58.1	72.7	78.3	72.2	56.1	30.1	40.7	22.6	18.1
2013	59.5	56.8	73.2	78.4	73.1	57.2	30.9	41.9	23.1	18.8
2014	60.2	57.4	73.9	79.1	74.2	58.3	31.3	42.1	23.5	18.6
2015	60.3	57.9	74.2	79.1	74.4	59.4	30.6	41.1	22.9	18.2
2016	**60.4**	**58.3**	**74.6**	**79.2**	**74.4**	**59.6**	**30.7**	**41.1**	**23.2**	**17.9**

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Economically Active Population Survey」

■ (Service period)

As for the longest-serving job of the population aged 55 to 64, the average service period recorded 15 years and 3.8 months in 2017.

【 Service period in the longest-serving job (population aged 55 to 64)[1] 】

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	**2017**
Total	17 years	17 years and 0.2 month	17 years	16 years and 4.7 months	16 years and 5.8 months	16 years and 3.9 months	15 years and 9.9 months	15 years and 4.0 months	14 years and 9.4 months	14 years and 11.1 months	**15 years and 3.8 months**
Males	20 years and 3.8 months	20 years and 3.1 months	20 years and 5.0 months	20 years and 0.6 month	20 years and 0.6 month	19 years and 10.7 months	19 years and 4.9 months	19 years and 0.3 month	18 years and 7.8 months	18 years and 10.0 months	**19 years and 3.7 months**
Females	13 years and 6.1 months	13 years and 7.7 months	13 years and 5.1 months	12 years and 7.1 months	12 years and 9.2 months	12 years and 7.3 months	12 years and 1.2 months	11 years and 6.6 months	10 years and 9.9 months	10 years and 11.0 months	**11 years and 2.5 months**

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Supplementary Results of the Economically Active Population Survey for the Young and Old Population」 (Every May)

■ (Intention to have a job)

In 2017, 62.4 percent of the population aged 55 to 79 wanted to have a job.

Ⅴ. Welfare

■ (National basic livelihood security)

In 2016, the number of the aged population receiving the national basic livelihood security was 421 thousand persons, which occupied 27.3 percent of the total beneficiaries.

【 National basic livelihood security beneficiaries

(Unit: person, %)

	Total	65 or more	Share[1]	Males	Females
2001	1,345,526	334,272	24.8	87,213	247,059
2005	1,425,684	367,658	25.8	93,995	273,663
2010	1,458,198	391,214	26.8	106,723	284,491
2011	1,379,865	378,411	27.4	104,901	273,510
2012	1,300,499	376,098	28.9	107,156	268,942
2013	1,258,582	376,112	29.9	110,189	265,923
2014	1,237,386	379,048	30.6	114,731	264,317
2015	1,554,484	419,452	27.0	133,292	286,160
2016	**1,539,539**	**420,731**	**27.3**	**137,078**	**283,653**

Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare, 「Status of National Basic Livelihood Security Beneficiaries」
Note 1) Share = (Beneficiaries aged 65 or more / Total beneficiaries) × 100

■ (Public pension)

In 2016, 44.6 percent of the population aged 65 or more was beneficiaries of public pension.

■ (Pensioners)

In 2017, the monthly average pension recorded 520 thousand won for the population aged 55 to 79.

【 Pensioners aged 55 to 79[1] 】

(Unit: thousand persons, %)

| | | 2016 | | | | 2017 | | | | | | |
		55 to 79	Share	Males	Females	55 to 79	Share	Males	Share	Females	Share
Population		12,397	100.0	5,846	6,551	12,916	100.0	6,111	100.0	6,805	100.0
Pensioners		5,469	44.1	2,826	2,643	5,847	45.3	3,034	49.6	2,814	41.3
Average pension (10 thousand won)		51		69	32	52		69		34	
Pension	Subtotal	5,469	100.0	2,826	2,643	5,847	100.0	3,034	100.0	2,814	100.0
	Less than 0.1 million won	51	0.9	16	35	39	0.7	11	0.4	28	1.0
	0.1 million ~ less than 0.25 million won	2,707	49.5	923	1,784	2,738	46.8	917	30.2	1,821	64.7
	0.25 million ~ less than 0.50 million won	1,357	24.8	802	555	1,532	26.2	903	29.8	629	22.4
	0.50 million ~ less than 1 million won	667	12.2	526	140	796	13.6	616	20.3	179	6.4
	1 million ~ less than 1.5 million won	214	3.9	169	45	232	4.0	179	5.9	53	1.9
	1.5 million won or more	473	8.6	390	84	511	8.7	408	13.5	103	3.7

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Supplementary Results of the Economically Active Population Survey for the Young and Old Population」 (Every May)

Note 1) Refer to the pension schemes of public pension, basic pension and private pension that government or individuals set up for the aged population

■ (Welfare facilities for the elderly)

'Community centers for the elderly' occupied the largest share of leisure or welfare facilities for the elderly.