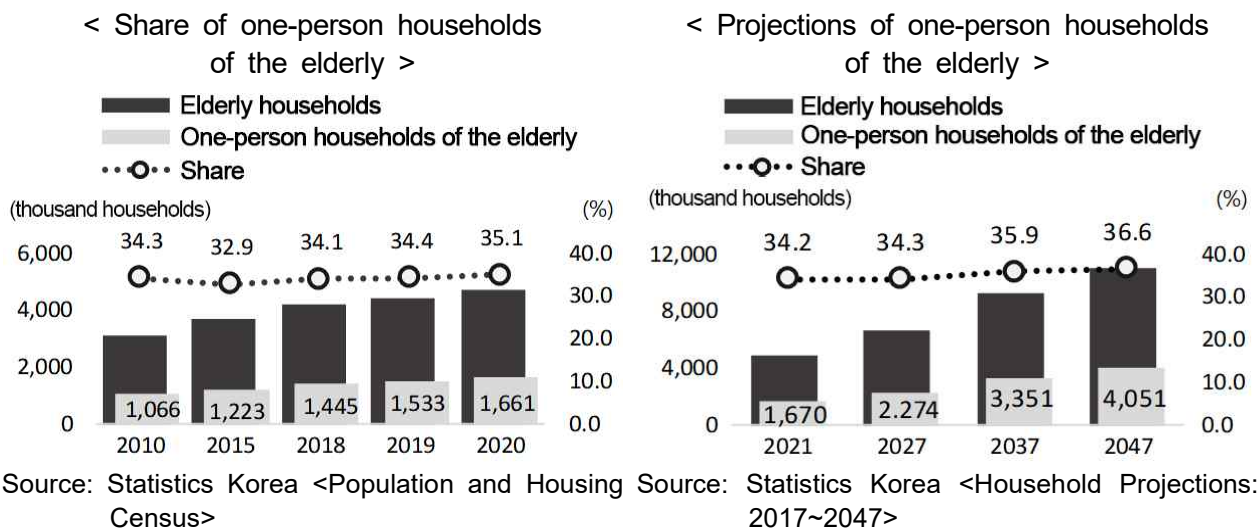




## 2021 Statistics on the Aged

**In 2020, one-person households of the elderly amounted to 1.661 million households, which accounted for 35.1% of the total elderly households.**

- In 2020, the elderly households whose head was 65 years old or more amounted to 4.732 million households. Among them, one-person households of the elderly accounted for 35.1% (1.661 million households).
- As for one-person households of the elderly by age group, households whose member was 70~79 years old occupied the highest share at 44.1%. As for one-person households of the elderly by gender, households of females accounted for 71.9%.
- The one-person households of the elderly showed an ever-increasing trend. Compared to 2021, the one-person households of the elderly are projected to increase by 2 times to 3.335 million households in 2037 and increase to 4.051 million households in 2047.



**Compared to the total elderly population, the elderly living alone showed a lower health care behavior rate. The elderly living alone tended to have a lower stress level.**

- In 2020, 17.1% of the elderly living alone thought that they were healthy. This share were lower compared to the total elderly population (24.3%).
- As for the health care behavior of the elderly living alone, in 2020, the highest share of them (86.7%) ate breakfast. This share was followed by regular medical checkups (79.3%) and sound sleep (74.2%). These figures were about 5%p lower compared to the total elderly population.
- In 2020, 38.5% of the elderly living alone felt stress in their overall daily life, which was 4%p lower compared to the total elderly population. 35.5% of the elderly living alone felt stress in their domestic life, which was 4%p lower compared to the total elderly population.

Among the elderly living alone, employed persons recorded 470 thousand persons. 44.6% of the elderly living alone paid their living expenses for themselves. 33.0% of the elderly living alone were preparing for their retirement.

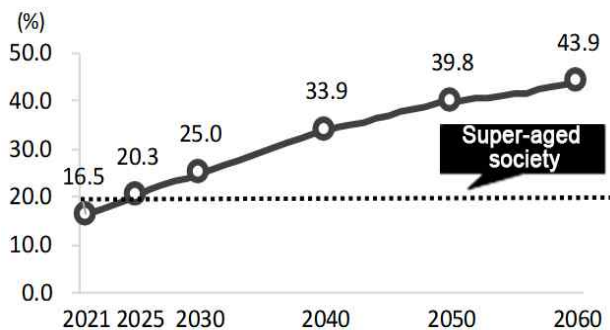
- Among the elderly living alone, in October 2020, employed persons amounted to 470.6 thousand persons, which increased by 43 thousand persons year-on-year. This figure showed a steadily increasing trend from 2015.
- In 2019, the largest share (44.6%) of the elderly living alone paid their living expenses for themselves. This share was followed by 'Support from government and social organizations' (31.1%) and 'Support from offsprings and relatives' (24.3%).
  - As for the living expenses of the elderly living alone, the share of 'Support from government and social organizations' was 2 times higher compared to the total elderly population.
- In 2019, 33.0% of the elderly living alone were preparing for their retirement. On the other hand, half of the total elderly population was preparing for retirement.

## I Population and household

In 2021, the elderly population is projected to occupy 16.5%. In 2025, Korea is projected to become a super-aged society.

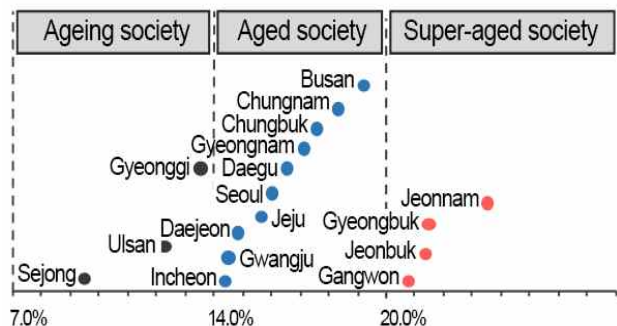
- In 2021, the elderly population aged 65 and over is projected to account for 16.5% of the total population. Korea is projected to become a super-aged society in 2025, when the elderly population occupies 20.3% of the total population.
- As for the super-aged society whose aged population accounts for 20% or more of the total population, four regions such as Jeonnam (23.8%), Gyeonbuk (21.5%), Jeonbuk (21.4%) and Gangwon (20.9%) were a super-aged society in 2021.
- In 2021, the households whose head was 65 years old or more occupied 23.7% of the total households. These elderly households are projected to account for 49.6% of the total households in 2047.

< Share of the elderly population aged 65 and over >



Source: Statistics Korea <Population Projections: 2017~2067>

< Share of the elderly population aged 65 and over by region (2021) >



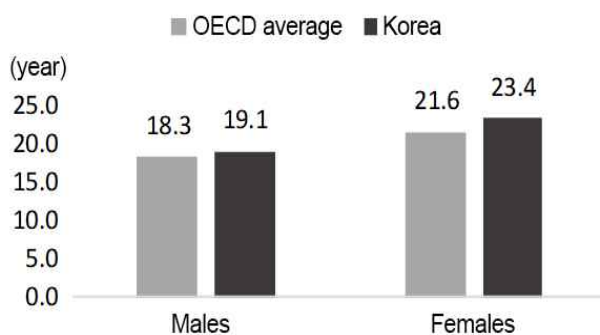
Source: Statistics Korea <Population Projections by Province: 2017~2047>

## II Health

In 2019, the life expectancy at age 65 stood at 21.3 years. The life expectancy at age 75 stood at 13.2 years.

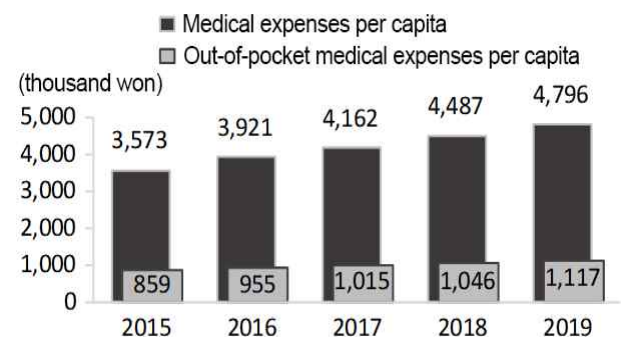
- In 2019, life expectancy at age 65 stood at 21.3 years (males: 19.1 years, females: 23.4 years). This figure was 0.8 year higher than the average of males and 1.8 years higher than the average of females at age 65 in OECD member countries.
- As for the causes of death of people aged 65 and over in 2020, cancer recorded the highest figure of 733.3 deaths per 100,000 population, which was followed by heart diseases (331.9 deaths), pneumonia (257.5 deaths), cerebrovascular diseases (225.3 deaths) and Alzheimer's diseases (91.4 deaths).
  - As for the rank of the causes of death, in 2020, Alzheimer's diseases took the fifth place for the first time.
- In 2019, medical expenses per capita of people aged 65 and over recorded 4.796 million won, which increased by 309 thousand won from 2018. Out-of-pocket medical expenses per capita of people aged 65 and over recorded 1.117 million won, which increased by 71 thousand won from 2018.

< Life expectancy at age 65 (2019) >



Source: OECD, Health Status (As of July 30, 2021)

< Medical expenses and out-of-pocket medical expenses of people aged 65 and over >



Source: National Health Insurance Service / Health Insurance Review and Assessment Service <Health Insurance Statistics>

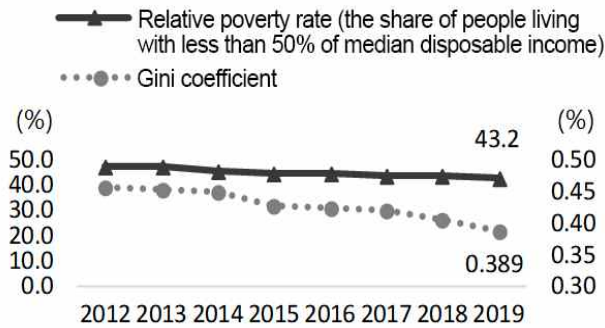
## III Income security

In 2020, the employment-to-population ratio of the elderly aged 65 and over stood at 34.1%. Their unemployment rate marked 3.6%.

- In 2020, the net worth of elderly households whose head was 65 years old and over marked 349.54 million won, rising by 13.83 million won from 2019.
- In 2019, the relative poverty rate of people aged 66 and over stood at 43.2%. Their Gini coefficient recorded 0.389 and the ratio of the average income of the highest income quintile to the lowest income quintile recorded 7.21 times. These income distribution indicators of people aged 66 and over have shown an improvement since 2016.

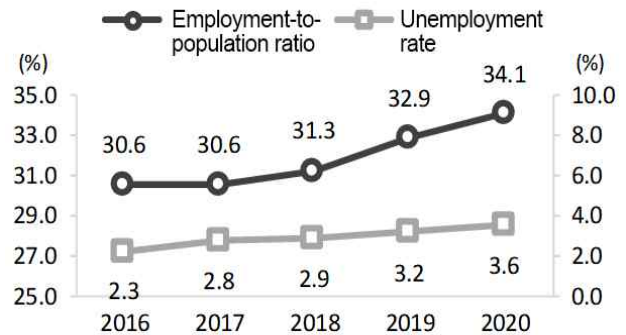
- In 2020, the employment-to-population ratio of the elderly aged 65 and over stood at 34.1%, up 1.2%p from 2019. Their unemployment rate stood at 3.6%, up 0.4%p from 2019.

< Poverty rate of the elderly aged 66 and over >



Source: Statistics Korea, Bank of Korea, Financial Supervisory Service <Survey of Household Finances and Living Conditions>

< Employment-to-population ratio and unemployment rate of the elderly aged 65 and over >



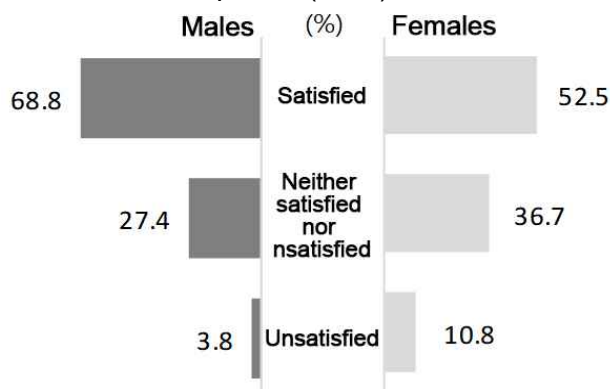
Source: Statistics Korea <Economically Active Population Survey>

## IV Social participation and relationship

In 2020, 61.9% of the elderly aged 65 and over were satisfied with the relationship with their spouse.

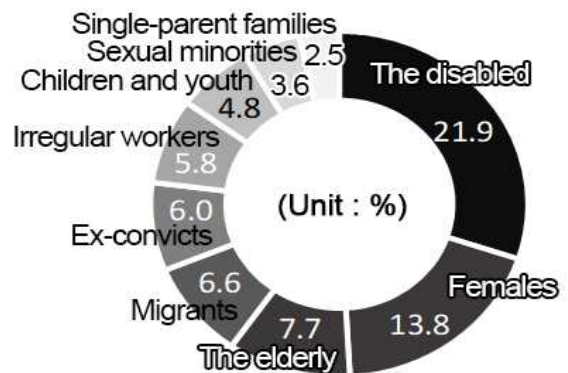
- In 2020, 61.9% of the elderly aged 65 and over were satisfied with the relationship with their spouse. The satisfaction level of husbands was 16.3%p higher than that of wives.
- In 2020, 7.7% of adults aged 19 and over thought that the elderly population was the most vulnerable to human rights violations and discrimination. In this regard, the elderly group took the third place, following the disabled and females.
- In 2020, 85.6% of the elderly aged 65 and over objected to getting meaningless life-sustaining medical treatment. In this regard, there was little gender gap.

< Satisfaction with the relationship with a spouse (2020) >



Source: Statistics Korea <Social Survey>

< Groups that were vulnerable to human rights violations and discrimination (2020) >



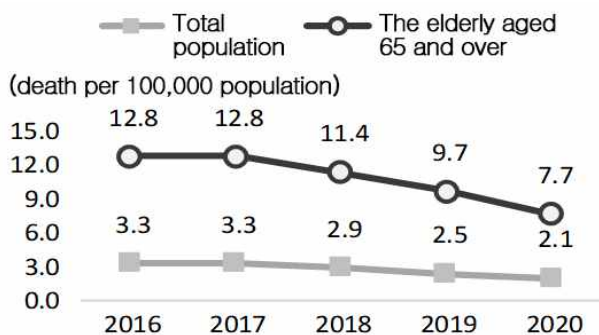
Source: National Human Rights Commission of Korea <National human rights survey>

## V Living environment

In 2020, the death rate of pedestrian traffic accidents of the elderly was 3.7 times higher than that of the total population. The injury rate of pedestrian traffic accidents of the elderly was 1.6 times higher than that of the total population.

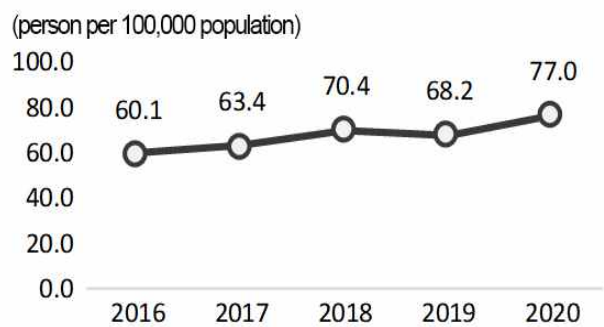
- In 2020, the death rate of pedestrian traffic accidents of the elderly aged 65 and over stood at 7.7 deaths per 100,000 population, which dropped by 2.0 deaths from 2019. In 2020, their injury rate of pedestrian traffic accidents stood at 113.6 injuries per 100,000 population, which fell by 38.0 injuries from 2019.
- The death rate of pedestrian traffic accidents of the elderly was 3.7 times higher than that of the total population. The injury rate of pedestrian traffic accidents of the elderly was 1.6 times higher than that of the total population. In short, the elderly population was vulnerable in terms of pedestrian safety.
- Among the households of the elderly aged 65 and over, the share of households under the minimum housing standard recorded a slight year-on-year drop to stand at 3.4% in 2020. This figure showed a decreasing trend from 2017.
- In 2019, 77 persons per 100,000 population aged 65 and over had abuse experience. The abuse experience rate of females marked 102.1 persons per 100,000 population, which was 2.3 times higher than that of males (44.1 persons per 100,000 population).
- In 2020, 21.9% of the elderly aged 65 and over drove a car. The average age of stopping driving was 65.8 years.

< Death rate of pedestrian traffic accidents >



Source: Korea National Police Agency <Traffic Accident Statistics>

< Abuse experience rate (people aged 65 and over) >



Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare <Elder Abuse Statistics>