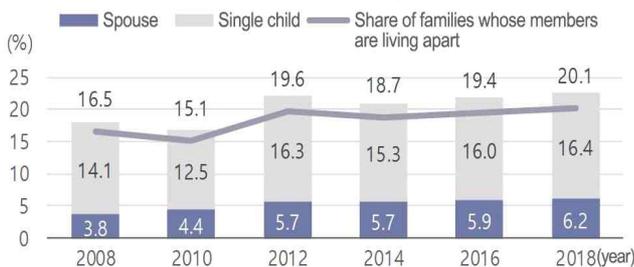# Social Indicators in 2018

◆ **Population and household**

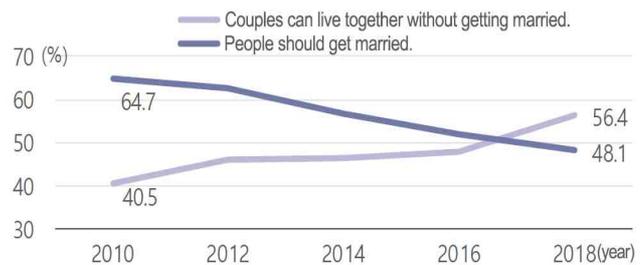> **In 2018, the total population recorded 51.635 million persons. The median age recorded 42.6 years.**

○ In 2018, the total population recorded 51.635 million persons. The median age marked 42.6 years.

　· Total population: 51.446 million persons (2017) → 51.635 million persons (2018)

　· Median age: 42.0 years (2017) → 42.6 years (2018)

○ In 2018, families whose members were living apart took up 20.1%, rising by 0.7%p from 19.4% in 2016.

○ In 2018, 48.1% of Koreans thought they should get married. In the meantime, 56.4% of Koreans thought couple could live together without getting married.

[Share of families whose members are living apart]

* Source: Report on the Social Survey <Statistics Korea>

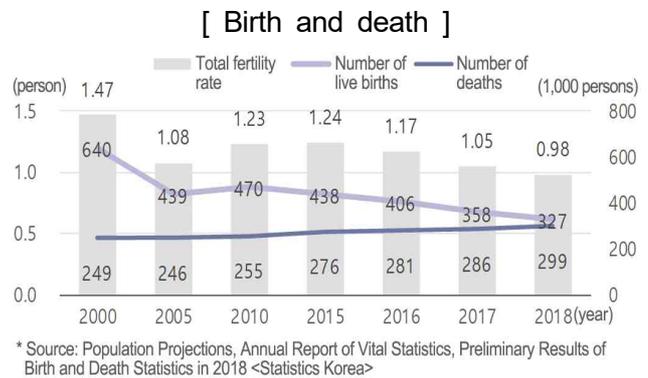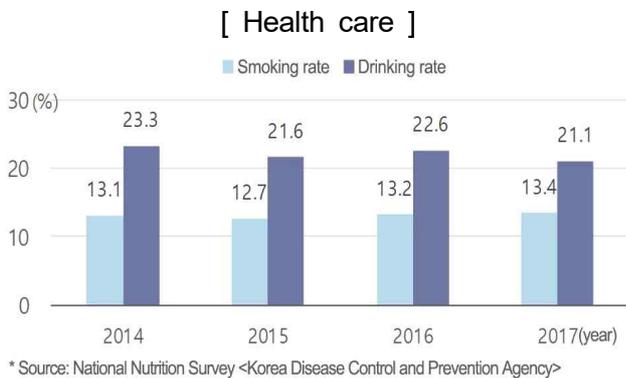[Opinion on marriage]

* Source: Report on the Social Survey <Statistics Korea>

◆ **Health**

> **Compared to 2016, the smoking rate recorded a drop, while the drinking rate recorded a rise.**

○ In 2017, the life expectancy at birth was 82.7 years, which rose by 0.3 year from 82.4 years in 2016. The life expectancy at birth recorded 79.7 years for males and 85.7 years for females.

　· Life expectancy in perceived good health: 66.1 years (2012) → 67.5 years (2014) → 68.5 years (2016)

○ Compared to 2016, the smoking rate dropped. The drinking rate of females recorded an increase, while that of males recorded a decrease.

	Life expectancy at birth (↑) (age)	Males	Females	Smoking rate (↓) (%)	Males	Females	Drinking rate (↑) (%)	Males	Females
2016	82.4	79.3	85.4	22.6	39.4	6.1	13.2	21.2	5.4
2017	**82.7**	**79.7**	**85.7**	**21.1**	**37.0**	**5.2**	**13.4**	**20.6**	**6.3**

○ In 2018, the total fertility rate was 0.98, which reached the lowest figure after the beginning of statistical production in 1970.

- In 2018, the number of deaths was 299 thousand, which recorded the highest figure after the beginning of statistical production in 1983.

· Total fertility rate (person): 1.05 (2017) → 0.98 (2018)

· Number of deaths: 285.5 thousand deaths (2017) → 298.9 thousand deaths (2018)
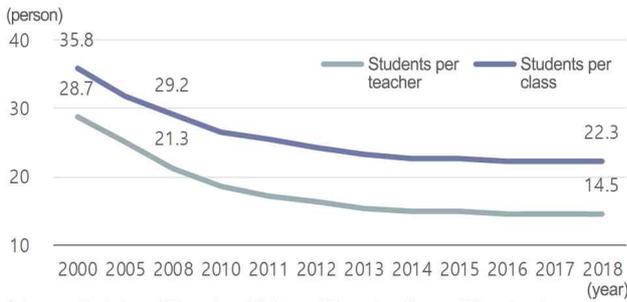
[Health care]

* Source: National Nutrition Survey <Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency>

[Birth and death]

* Source: Population Projections, Annual Report of Vital Statistics, Preliminary Results of Birth and Death Statistics in 2018 <Statistics Korea>

◆ **Education**

Compared to a decade ago, the number of elementary school students per teacher and per class dropped by 6.8 persons and 6.9 persons, respectively.

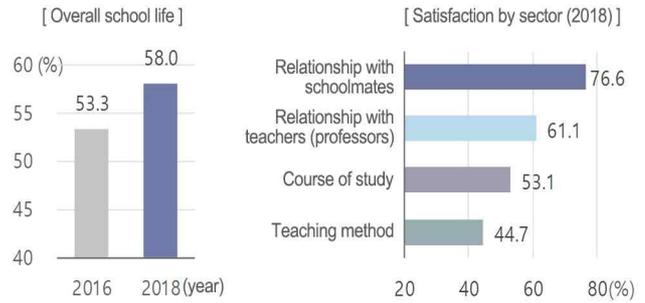○ Compared to a decade ago, the number of elementary school students per teacher and per class dropped by 6.8 persons and 6.9 persons, respectively.

· Number of students per teacher: 21.3 students (2008) → 14.5 students (2018)

· Number of students per class: 29.2 students (2008) → 22.3 students (2018)

○ The private education participation rate stood at 72.8% in 2018, up 1.7%p from 2017. The private education participation hour amounted to 6.2 hours in 2018, rising by 0.1 hour from 2017.

· Private education participation rate: 71.2% (2017) → 72.8% (2018)

· Private education participation hour: 6.1 hours (2017) → 6.2 hours (2018)

○ In 2018, 58.0% of middle and high school students were satisfied with their overall school life. This percentage rose by 4.7%p from 53.3% in 2016.

[Number of elementary school students]

(person)

40 ─ 35.8

28.7 ── 29.2

30

21.3

20 ── 22.3

14.5

10

2000 2005 2008 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 (year)

Students per teacher ── Students per class

* Source: Statistics of Education <Ministry of Education, Korean Educational Development Institute>

[Satisfaction with school life]

[Overall school life]

60 (%) ── 58.0

53.3

55

50

45

40

2016   2018 (year)

[Satisfaction by sector (2018)]

Relationship with schoolmates ── 76.6
Relationship with teachers (professors) ── 61.1
Course of study ── 53.1
Teaching method ── 44.7

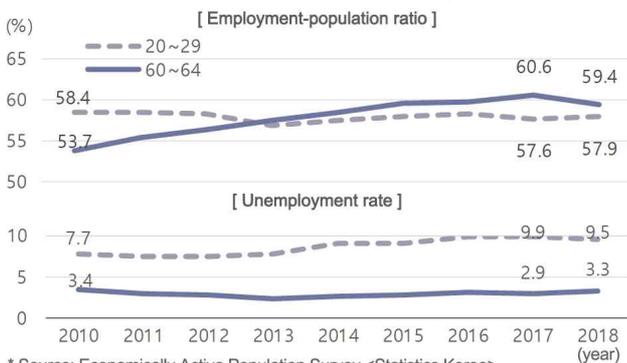20   40   60   80(%)

* Source: Report on the Social Survey <Statistics Korea>

◆ **Labor**

In 2017, the average monthly wages of workers increased by 100 thousand won from 2016. The average monthly working hours fell by 1 hour and 12 minutes from 2016.
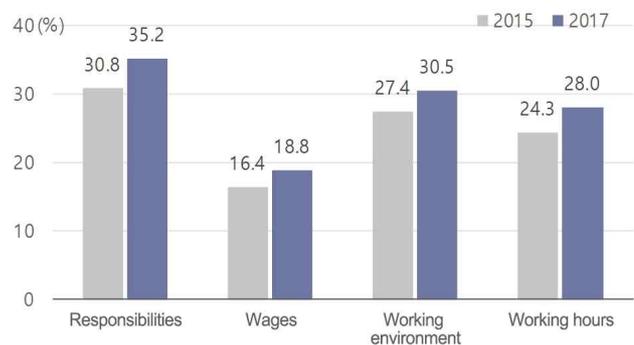
○ In 2018, the employment-population ratio stood at 60.7%, down 0.1%p from 2017. The unemployment rate stood at 3.8%, up 0.1%p from 2017.

○ In 2017, the average monthly wages of workers recorded 3.45 million won, showing a year-on-year increase. The average monthly working hours dropped by 1 hour and 12 minutes to 181 hours in 2017.

· Average monthly wages: 3.35 million won (2016) → 3.45 million won (2017)

· Average monthly working hours: 182.0 hours (2016) → 180.8 hours (2017)

○ In 2017, compared to high school graduates, the wages of college graduates stood at 152.4%, which narrowed the gap by 5.6%p from 2016.

· Wages of college graduates (high school graduates = 100%): 158.0% (2016) → 152.4% (2017)

○ In 2017, the percentage of workers satisfied with their responsibilities, wages, working environment or working hours showed an increase.

[Employment-population ratio and unemployment rate]

(%)

[Employment-population ratio]

── 20~29
── 60~64

65

60.6   59.4

60   58.4

55   53.7   57.6   57.9

50

[Unemployment rate]

10   7.7   9.9   9.5

5   3.4   2.9   3.3

0

2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 (year)

* Source: Economically Active Population Survey <Statistics Korea>

[Satisfaction with working conditions]

40 (%)   ☐ 2015 ☐ 2017

35.2

30.8   30.5

30   27.4   28.0

24.3

20   16.4   18.8

10

0

Responsibilities   Wages   Working environment   Working hours

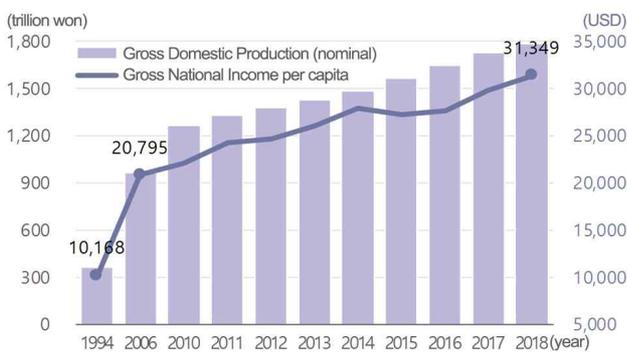* Source: Report on the Social Survey <Statistics Korea>
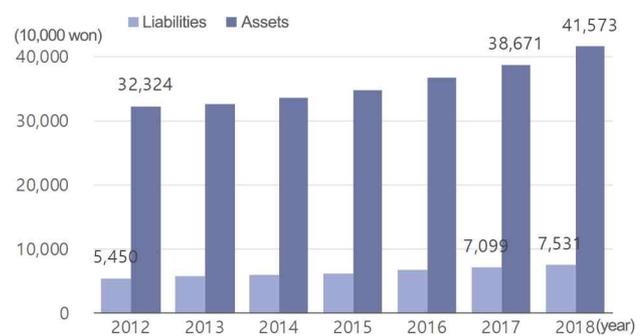
◆ Income and consumption

In 2018, Gross National Income per capita marked $31,349, which exceeded $30,000 for the first time.

○ In 2018, Gross National Income per capita recorded $31,349, which rose by 5.4% from 2017.

· Per-capita Gross National Income: $29,745 in 2017 → $31,349 in 2018

· Gross Domestic Product: 1,730 trillion won in 2017 → 1,782 trillion won in 2018

○ In 2018, the average household assets totaled 416 million won, which increased by 29 million won from 2017. The average household liabilities totaled 75 million won, which increased by 4 million won from 2017.

○ The Consumer Price Index increased by 1.5% from 102.9 in 2017 to 104.5 in 2018. The Consumer Price Index for living necessaries increased by 1.6% from 103.1 in 2017 to 104.8 in 2018.

[GDP and GNI per capita]

* Source: National Account <Bank of Korea>

[Household assets and liabilities]

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

◆ Housing and transportation

In 2018, the House Price Index rose by 1.09% from 2017. The Deposit-based Rent Price Index dropped by 1.77% from 2017.
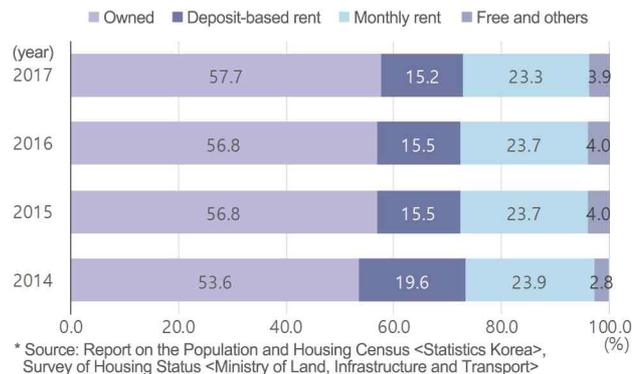
○ In 2018, the House Price Index and the Deposit-based Rent Price Index showed a year-on-year decrease.

· Percent change in the House Price Index: 1.48% (2017) → 1.09% (2018)

· Percent change in the Deposit-based Rent Price Index: 0.63% (2017) → -1.77% (2018)

○ In 2017, as for the share of households by housing occupancy type, 'Owned' recorded the highest figure at 57.7%, which was followed by 'Monthly rent' (23.3%) and 'Deposit-based rent' (15.2%).

○ In 2017, 86.2% of Koreans were satisfied with their living environment, up 2.3%p from 83.9% in 2016.

○ In 2018, the number of motor vehicles registered recorded 23.20 million units, rising by 3.0% from 22.53 million units in 2017.

[Percent change in the House Price Index]
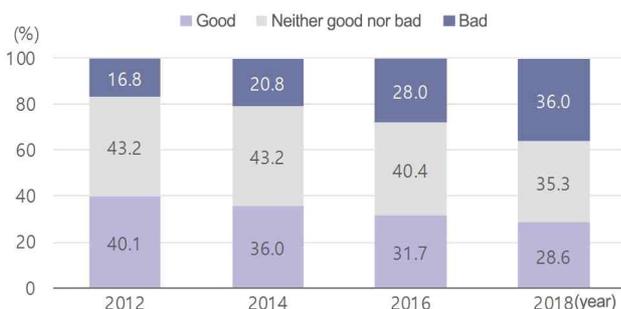

* Source: National Housing Price Survey <Korea Real Estate Board>

[Households by housing occupancy type]

* Source: Report on the Population and Housing Census <Statistics Korea>, Survey of Housing Status <Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport>
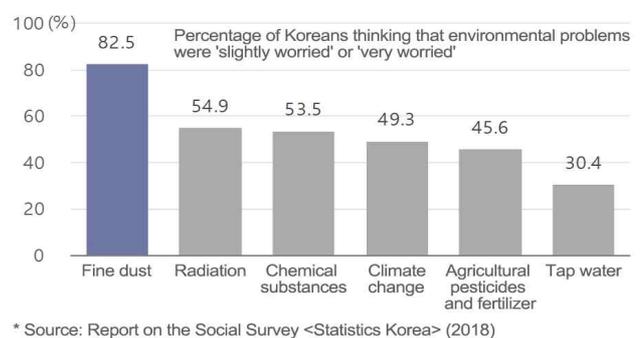

◆ Environment

Koreans thought that air quality got worse. More Koreans were worried about fine dust.

○ In 2018, the percentage of Koreans thinking that air quality was 'good' stood at 28.6%, down 3.1%p from 2016. Whereas, the percentage of Koreans thinking that air quality was 'bad' stood at 36.0%, up 8.0%p from 2016.

○ As for environmental problems, the largest share of Koreans (82.5%) were worried about 'fine dust'.

○ Since 2008, environment budget has shown a steadily increasing trend. The percentage of environment budget has remained around 2% since 2010.

· Environment budget: 3.657 trillion won (2008) → 6.023 trillion won (2017)

· Percentage of environment budget: 2.0% of the total government budget (2016) → 2.0% of the total government budget (2017)
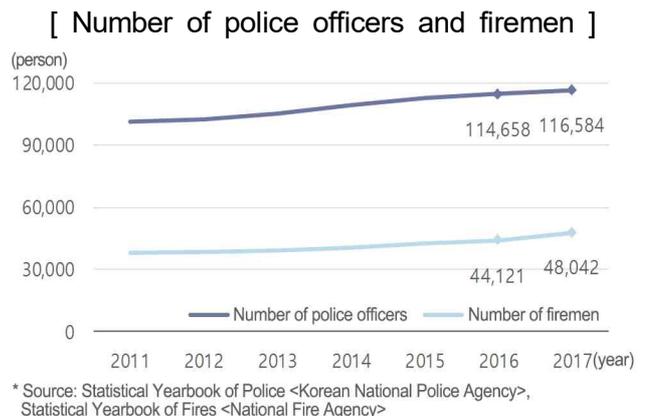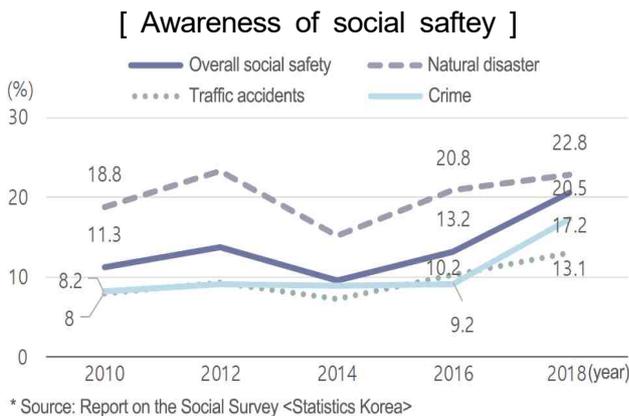
[Awareness of air quality]

* Source: Report on the Social Survey <Statistics Korea>

[Awareness of environmental problems]

* Source: Report on the Social Survey <Statistics Korea> (2018)

◆ Safety

In 2018, the percentage of Koreans thinking that Korean society was safe rose by 7.3%p from 2016.

○ In 2018, 20.5% of Koreans thought that Korean society was safe, up 7.3%p from 2016.

○ In 2018, the number of fires was 42 thousand cases, which dropped by 1,887 cases (4.3%) from 2017.

· Number of fires: 44,178 cases (2017) → 42,291 cases (2018)

· Damage per fire: 11.474 million won (2017) → 13.024 million won (2018)

○ In 2017, the number of traffic accidents was 216,335 cases, which showed a year-on-year decrease. In 2017, the deaths from traffic accidents recorded 4,185 deaths, which showed a year-on-year decrease.

· Number of traffic accidents: 220,917 cases (2016) → 216,335 cases (2017)

· Death from traffic accidents: 4,292 deaths (2016) → 4,185 deaths (2017)

○ In 2017, the number of crimes was 1.825 million cases, which fell by 9.1% from 2.008 million cases in 2016.

· Robber: 1,181 cases (2016) → 990 cases (2017)

· Homicide: 948 cases (2016) → 858 cases (2017)

· Theft: 204 thousand cases (2016) → 184 thousand cases (2017)

○ In 2017, the number of police officers was 116 thousand persons, rising by 1.7% from 2016. In 2017, the number of firemen was 48 thousand persons, rising by 8.9% from 2016.

[Awareness of social saftey]

* Source: Report on the Social Survey <Statistics Korea>

[Number of police officers and firemen]

* Source: Statistical Yearbook of Police <Korean National Police Agency>,
Statistical Yearbook of Fires <National Fire Agency>

◆ **Culture and leisure**

In 2018, the internet penetration rate stood at 91.5%, which showed a continuous increase. In particular, the internet penetration rate of the elderly aged 60 or more showed a great increase.
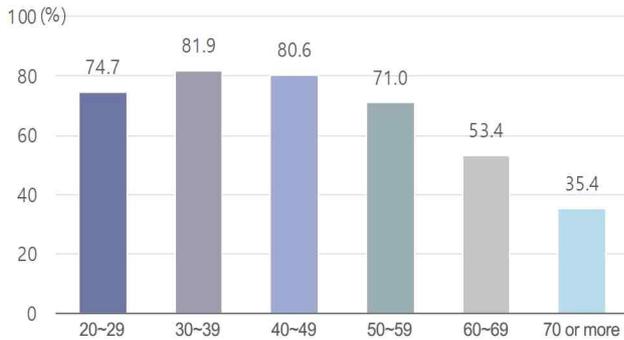
○ In 2018, the internet penetration rate stood at 91.5%, which showed a continuously increasing trend. In 2017, the smartphone overdependence rate stood at 18.6%, which showed a continuously increasing trend.

· Internet penetration rate: 77.8% (2010) → 78.4% (2012) → 83.6% (2014) → 88.3% (2016) → 91.5% (2018)

· Smartphone overdependence rate: 11.8% (2013) → 14.2% (2014) → 16.2% (2015) → 17.8% (2016) → 18.6% (2017)

○ In 2018, more and more Koreans experienced vacation. In particular, Koreans aged 30~39 showed the highest vacation usage rate at 81.9%.
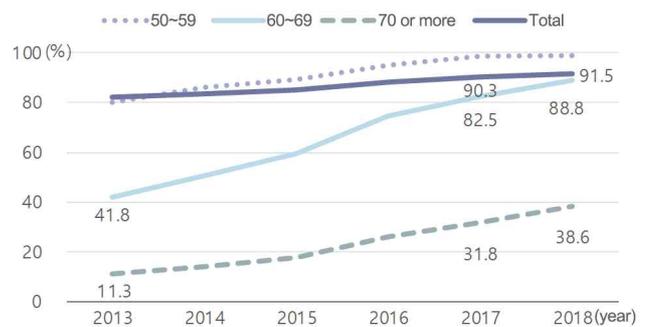
· Vacation usage rate: 55.1% (2010) → 62.5% (2012) → 62.3% (2014) → 64.2% (2016) → 68.1% (2018)

[Vacation usage rate by age group]

[Internet penetration rate]

* Source: Leisure Activity Research <Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism>

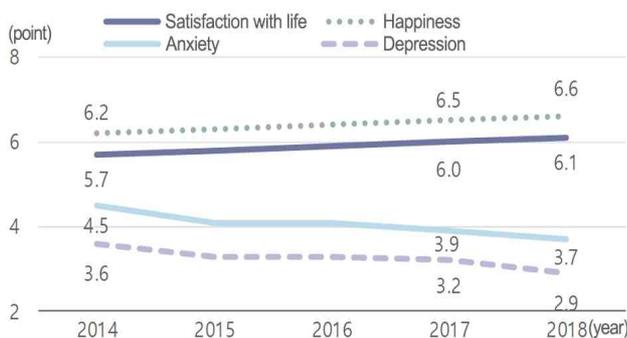* Source: Internet Usage Survey <Ministry of Science and ICT, Korea Internet and Security Agency>

◆ Social integration

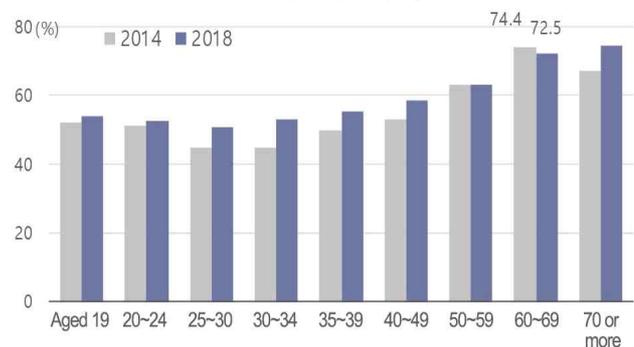**Koreans' awareness of subjective well-being showed a steady improvement.**

○ In 2018, the level of satisfaction with life (6.1 points) and happiness (6.6 points) showed a rising trend. Whereas, the level of anxiety (3.7 points) and depression (2.9 points) showed a falling trend.

○ In 2018, in the local council election, the voter turnout for Koreans aged '30~34', '25~29' and '35~39' rose by 7.9%p, 5.9%p and 5.5%p, respectively. Whereas, the voter turnout for Koreans aged '60~69' fell by 1.9%p from 2017.

○ In 2018, as the types of political participation, 'Talking with acquaintances' occupied the highest share at 72.0%, which was followed by 'Participation in signature collection campaign' (11.2%), 'Online opinion expression' (9.5%) and 'Participation in boycotts' (5.9%).

[Subjective well-being]

[Voter turnout of local council elections by age group]

* Source: Korea Social Integration Survey <Korea Institute of Public Administration>

* Source: Summary of Local Council Elections <National Election Commission>