



# Women's Lives through Statistics in 2019

## I Population and Household

In 2019, the female population totaled 25.796 million persons, which occupied 49.9% of the total population.

- In 2019, the female population was 25.796 million persons, which accounted for 49.9% of the total population (51.709 million persons). The male population aged 59 or less was larger than the female one aged 59 or less. In the meantime, the female population aged 60 or more was larger than the male population aged 60 or more.
- As for the sex ratio by age group, the population aged 20 ~ 29 showed the highest figure at 113.8 males per 100 females, which was followed by the population aged 30 ~ 39 (109.2 males per 100 females)
  - Sex ratio at birth (males per 100 females at birth): 109.4 males in 1985 → 116.5 males in 1990 → 113.2 males in 1995

(Unit: person, thousand persons)

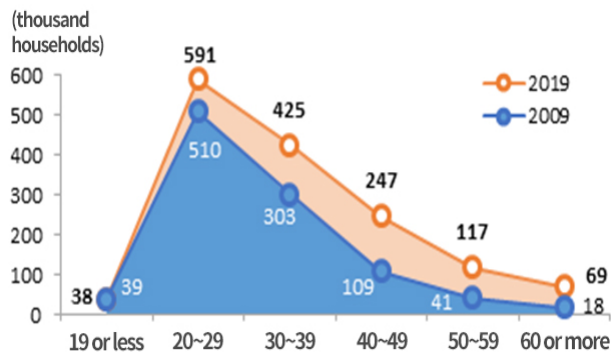
	Total	0~9	10~19	20~29	30~39	40~49	50~59	60~69	70~79	80 or more
Sex ratio <sup>1)</sup>	100.5	105.4	107.8	113.8	109.2	104.1	100.4	95.3	80.3	48.5
Gender gap (Males - Females)	117	111	184	451	323	169	17	-148	-379	-611

Source: Statistics Korea <Special Population Projections> (March 2019)

Note 1) Males per 100 females

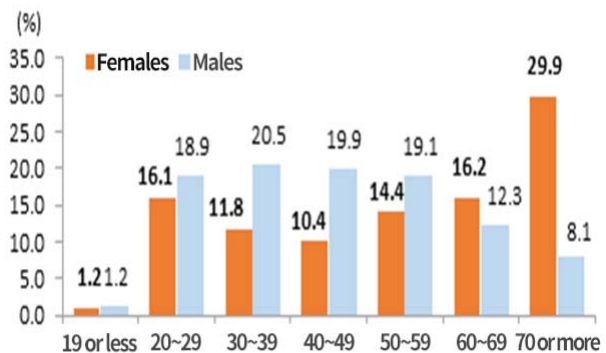
- In 2019, female household heads accounted for 31.2% of the total household heads, which rose by 12.7%p compared to 2000.
  - Share of female household heads: 18.5% in 2000 → 25.3% in 2009 → 31.2% in 2019
- In 2019, households with a single female household head totaled 1.487 million households, increasing by 2.6 times compared to 2000.
  - Households with a single female household head: 575 thousand households in 2000 → 1.019 million households in 2009 → 1.487 million households in 2019
- In 2019, one-person households with a female recorded 2.914 million households, increasing by 2.2 times compared to 2000.
  - One-person households with a female: 1.304 million households in 2000 → 2.218 million households in 2010 → 2.914 million households in 2019

[ Single female household heads by age group ]



Source: Statistics Korea <Household Projections>

[ Share of one-person households by age group (2019) ]



Source: Statistics Korea <Household Projections>

## II Family

The share of females who thought that they should get married stood at 43.5% in 2018.

- In 2018, 43.5% of females thought that they should get married, which was lower than male counterparts (52.8%). This percentage of females dropped by 4.1%p from 47.6% in 2016 and 18.1%p from 61.6% in 2008.
  - Percentage of females who thought they should get married: 67.9% in 1998 → 61.6% in 2008 → 43.5% in 2018
- In 2018, 28.6% of females thought that they should not get divorced, which was lower than male counterparts (37.9%). This percentage of females fell by 5.6%p from 34.2% in 2016 and 25.1%p from 53.7% in 2008.
  - Percentage of females who thought they should not get divorced: 57.0% in 1998 → 53.7% in 2008 → 28.6% in 2018
- As for the satisfaction with the relationship 'with parents' or 'with a spouse', females showed a lower percentage than males. Whereas, as for the satisfaction 'with a child' or 'with a sibling', females showed a higher percentage than males.

(Unit: %)

	Overall family relationship	Relationship with a spouse	Relationship with parents	Relationship with a child	Relationship with a sibling
Females	54.4	63.0	66.6	75.6	56.8
Males	59.0	75.9	67.2	75.5	54.6

Source: Statistics Korea <Social Survey> (2018), Data on the satisfaction with family relationship (Very satisfied + Slightly satisfied)

### III Health

In 2017, the life expectancy at birth of females was 6.0 years longer than that of males.

- In 2017, life expectancy at birth of females stood at 85.7 years, which was 6.0 years longer than that of males (79.7 years).
  - Compared to 2016, the gender gap in life expectancy at birth dropped by 0.1 year.

(Unit: year)

	Total	Females	Males	Gender gap (Females - Males)
2016	82.4	85.4	79.3	6.1
2017	82.7	85.7	79.7	6.0

Source: Statistics Korea <Life Tables for Korea> (2017)

- In 2018, the smoking rate of females stood at 3.5%. The drinking rate of females stood at 53.4%. These two figures showed an increase compared to 2016.

\* Drinking rate: Percentage of people who drank a glass of liquor or more for the past year

- Current smoking rate of females: 3.1% in 2016 → 3.5% in 2018  
Drinking rate of females: 52.3% in 2016 → 53.4% in 2018

- Females felt more stress in their overall life, domestic life and school life than males. Whereas, males felt more stress in their working life than females.
- As for Koreans who thought that they were healthy, females showed a lower percentage compared to males.

(Unit: %)

	Stress <sup>1)</sup>				Health <sup>2)</sup>
	Overall life	Domestic life	Working life	School life	
Females	55.6	46.6	69.7	56.1	45.6
Males	53.1	34.9	73.3	43.9	52.0

Source: Statistics Korea <Social Survey> (2018)

Note 1) Very stressed + Slightly stressed

2) Very healthy + Slightly healthy

### IV Economic activities

In 2018, the employment-population ratio of females stood at 50.9%, up 0.1%p from 2017.

- In 2018, the employment-population ratio of females stood at 50.9%. This figure went up by 0.1%p from 2017 and 2.0%p from 2008. The gender gap stood at 19.9%. This figure went down by 0.5%p from 2017 and 2.4%p from 2008.

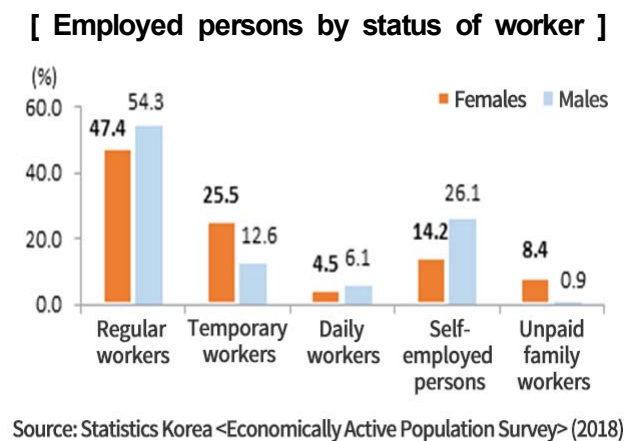
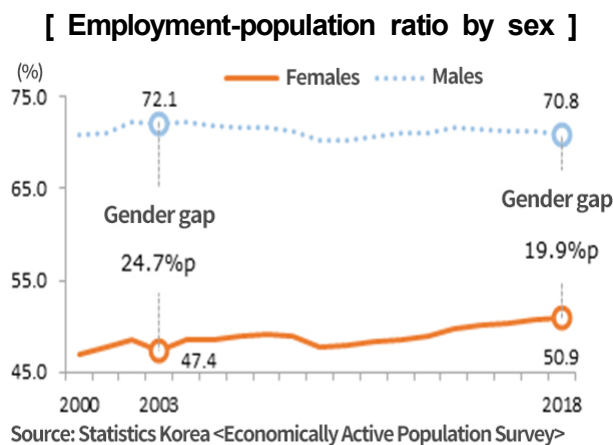
- Employment-population ratio of females: 47.0% in 2000 → 48.9% in 2008 → 50.8% in 2017 → 50.9% in 2018  
Employment-population ratio of males: 70.8% in 2000 → 71.2% in 2008 → 71.2% in 2017 → 70.8% in 2018

○ In 2018, among employed females, the share of female wage workers stood at 77.4%, which was 4.4%p higher than that of male wage workers (73.0%). Among employed people, the share of female regular workers stood at 47.4%, which was 6.9%p lower than that of male regular workers (54.3%).

○ In 2018, the monthly average wages of female workers recorded 2.449 million won. This figure increased by 6.6% from 2017 and 45.7% from 2008. The wages of females recorded 68.8% of the wages of males (3.562 million won).

- Monthly average wages of females: 804 thousand won in 1998 → 1.681 million won in 2008 → 2.298 million won in 2017 → 2.449 million won in 2018

- Wage level of females compared to males: 63.1% in 1998 → 66.5% in 2008 → 67.2% in 2017 → 68.8% in 2018



**V Social status**

**In 2018, the share of female managers stood at 20.6%, increasing by 8.1%p compared to a decade ago.**

○ In 2018, female high school graduates going on to a college or a university occupied 73.8% of the total female high school graduates. This share was 7.9%p higher than male high school graduates (65.9%).

○ As for female principals by school level, the share of female principals recorded 44.8% in elementary school, 26.9% in middle school and 10.9% in high school.

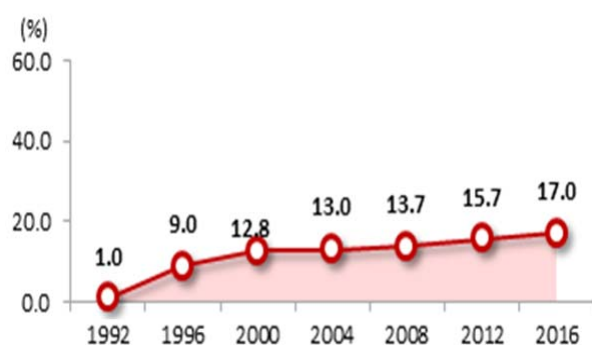
(Unit: %)

	Elementary school	Middle school	High school
2008	11.3	14.4	5.8
2018	44.8	26.9	10.9

Source: Ministry of Education, Korean Educational Development Institute <Statistical Yearbook of Education>  
Data on the share of female principals

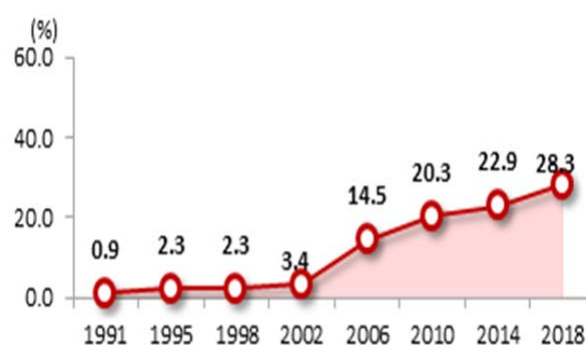
- In 2018, the share of female managers stood at 20.6% of the total managers, which increased by 8.1%p from 12.5% in 2008.
- In 2018, the share of female central government employees marked 50.6% of the total central government employees, which rose by 0.4%p from 50.2% in 2017. In 2018, female law professionals occupied 28.7% of the total law professionals, up 2.6%p from 26.1% in 2017.
- The share of female lawmakers and local council members showed an upward trend.

[ Share of female lawmakers ]



Source: National Election Commission <Lawmaker Election Summary>

[ Share of female local council members ]



Source: National Election Commission <Local Election Summary>

## VI Social participation

In the 7th Local Election, the turnout of females aged 59 or less was higher than that of male counterparts.

- In 2018, the 7th Local Election turnout of females (61.2%) was higher than that of males (59.9%). In the 7th Local Election, the turnout of females aged 59 or less was higher than that of male counterparts. Whereas, the turnout of males aged 60 or more was higher than that of female counterparts.

(Unit: %)

	19	20~24	25~29	30~34	35~39	40~49	50~59	60~69	70~79	80 or more
Females	56.0	54.0	56.6	56.5	58.6	60.0	63.5	71.4	70.5	43.6
Males	52.4	52.0	45.9	49.7	52.3	57.2	63.0	73.7	79.6	65.7

Source: National Election Commission <Local Election Summary> (2018)

- In 2018, as for mothers' participation in the management of schools, elementary school (58.6%) recorded the highest figure, which was followed by middle school (36.2%) and high school (23.7%).

- As for the participation in the management of schools, the percentage of mothers was more than 2 times higher than that of fathers.

(Unit: %)

	Elementary school	Middle school	High school
Mothers	58.6	36.2	23.7
Fathers	26.1	14.7	9.9

Source: Statistics Korea <Social Survey> (2018), Data on the participation in the management of school (Actively + Slightly)

○ As for the participation in social groups, females showed a higher percentage in 'Alumni reunions and groups of the same hometown' (30.1%), 'Religious organizations' (18.1%) and 'Groups sharing the same interest' (13.6%).

- As for the participation in social groups, males showed the highest percentage of 'Alumni reunions and groups of the same hometown' (41.8%), which was followed by 'Groups sharing the same interest' (21.4%) and 'Religious organizations' (10.8%)'.

(Unit: %)

	Alumni reunions and the same hometown groups	Religious organizations	Groups sharing the same interest
Females	30.1	18.1	13.6
Males	41.8	10.8	21.4
	Community groups	Voluntary work and donation groups	Civic groups
Females	6.2	6.3	1.1
Males	6.2	5.1	1.0

Source: Korea Institute of Public Administration <Social Integration Survey> (2018), Data on the percentage of Koreans participating in a group (Actively + Sometimes)

## VII Safety

### Females felt more anxiety about overall social safety than males.

○ In 2018, 35.4% of females felt anxiety about overall social safety.

- Females felt more anxiety about all survey items of social safety. In particular, the gender gap in anxiety about crimes showed the highest figure (12.5%p).

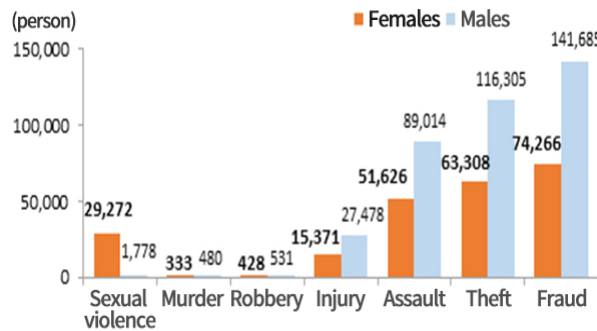
(Unit: %)

	Overall social safety	National defence	Natural disaster	Building and facilities	Traffic accident	
Females	35.4	35.1	41.6	36.0	49.8	
Males	27.0	31.5	33.5	29.5	45.4	
	Fire	Food	Food security	Information security	New kind of disease	Crime
Females	33.6	34.4	19.6	43.6	45.7	57.0
Males	28.5	27.7	17.3	41.3	39.8	44.5

Source: Statistics Korea <Social Survey> (2018), Data on the percentage of Koreans who felt anxiety about social safety

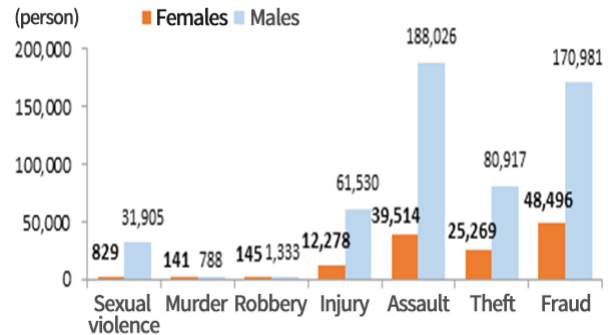
- In 2017, female victims of sexual violence amounted to 29,272 persons, which was about 16 times higher than males (1,778 persons). Whereas, as for other crimes, the number of male victims was more than that of female victims.
- In 2017, among female criminals, 'Fraud' recorded the highest figure (48,496 persons). Whereas, among male criminals, 'Assault' recorded the highest figure (188,026 persons).

[ Victims by sex (2017) ]



Source: Supreme Prosecutors' Office <Crime Analysis> (2017)

[ Criminals by sex (2017) ]



Source: Supreme Prosecutors' Office <Crime Analysis> (2017)

- In 2018, counseling services by using the 1366 Women's Call Centers amounted to 352,269 cases. Counseling on 'Domestic violence' recorded the highest figure (189,057 cases), which was followed by 'Sexual violence' (27,683 cases).
- Compared to 2017, counseling on 'Dating violence' and 'Sexual violence' increased by 60.3% and 28.9%, respectively.

(Unit: case, %)

	Total	Domestic violence	Sexual violence	Prostitution	Dating violence <sup>1)</sup>	Others <sup>1)2)</sup>
2017	289,032	180,326	21,470	3,405	8,291	75,540
2018	352,269	189,057	27,683	3,890	13,289	118,350
Percent change	21.9	4.8	28.9	14.2	60.3	56.7

Source: Ministry of Gender Equality and Family

Note 1) In 2018, 'Dating violence' was added to the classification. 'Others' include family problems, conflict between couples, divorces, addiction, sexual counseling and law.

2) Religious conflicts, health problems (dementia), dating, single mothers, vocational training, etc.