

Marriage and Divorce Statistics in 2016

The number of marriages went down by 7.0 percent (21.2 thousand cases) to 281.6 thousand cases in 2016.

- The crude marriage rate (the number of marriages per 1,000 population) stood at 5.5 cases in 2016, which recorded the lowest figure after the statistical production in 1970.

[Table] Number of marriages and crude marriage rate (2006-2016)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of marriages (thousand cases)	330.6	343.6	327.7	309.8	326.1	329.1	327.1	322.8	305.5	302.8	281.6
Change (thousand cases)	16.3	12.9	-15.8	-18.0	16.3	3.0	-2.0	-4.3	-17.3	-2.7	-21.2
Percent change (%)	5.2	3.9	-4.6	-5.5	5.3	0.9	-0.6	-1.3	-5.4	-0.9	-7.0
Crude marriage rate*	6.8	7.0	6.6	6.2	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.0	5.9	5.5

* The number of marriages per 1,000 population

- Compared to 2015, the marriages of males aged 30 to 34 showed the highest decrease (11.8 thousand cases, -9.7%). The marriages of females aged 25 to 29 showed the highest decrease (9 thousand cases, -8.2%).
- As for the marriage rate by age group (the number of marriages per 1,000 population in a given age group), males aged 25 to 29 showed the highest decrease (10.7%, -4.4 cases) from the previous year. Females aged 25 to 29 showed the highest decrease (8.8%, -6.4 cases) from the previous year.
- The mean age at first marriage for males was 32.8 years in 2016, up 0.2 year from 2015. The mean age at first marriage for females was 30.1 years in 2016, up 0.1 year from 2015.

[Table] Mean age at first marriage and remarriage (2006-2016)

(Unit: year)

		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Change*	
													From 2015	From 2006
First marriage	Males	31.0	31.1	31.4	31.6	31.8	31.9	32.1	32.2	32.4	32.6	32.8	0.2	1.8
	Females	27.8	28.1	28.3	28.7	28.9	29.1	29.4	29.6	29.8	30.0	30.1	0.1	2.3
Remarriage	Males	44.4	44.8	45.0	45.7	46.1	46.3	46.6	46.8	47.1	47.6	48.2	0.6	3.8
	Females	39.7	40.1	40.3	41.1	41.6	41.9	42.3	42.5	43.0	43.5	44.0	0.5	4.3

* Rounded to 2 decimal places

- The couples of 'males at first marriage and females at first marriage' occupied 78.5 percent of the total marriages. The couples of 'males at remarriage and females at remarriage' occupied 11.4 percent of the total marriages.

[Table] Number of marriages by marriage type (2006-2016)

(Unit: thousand cases, %)

		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total*		330.6	343.6	327.7	309.8	326.1	329.1	327.1
Males	First marriage	273.7	285.4	270.2	255.8	273.0	277.4	275.9
	Remarriage	55.6	57.1	57.2	53.8	53.0	51.6	51.1
Females	First marriage	269.3	280.7	264.5	250.7	268.5	272.6	270.5
	Remarriage	59.7	61.9	62.8	58.8	57.5	56.4	56.5
Males (first marriage) + Females (first marriage)		255.2	265.5	249.4	236.7	254.6	258.6	257.0
Males (remarriage) + Females (first marriage)		14.0	14.9	15.0	13.9	13.9	13.9	13.5
Males (first marriage) + Females (remarriage)		18.2	19.6	20.6	19.0	18.3	18.7	18.9
Males (remarriage) + Females (remarriage)		41.3	41.9	42.1	39.8	39.1	37.7	37.6
		2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent	Year-on-year Change	Percent change
Total*		322.8	305.5	302.8	281.6	100.0	-21.2	-7.0
Males	First marriage	273.8	257.9	256.4	238.1	84.5	-18.3	-7.1
	Remarriage	48.9	47.5	46.4	43.3	15.4	-3.1	-6.7
Females	First marriage	268.4	251.5	250.0	232.4	82.5	-17.5	-7.0
	Remarriage	54.3	53.9	52.7	48.9	17.4	-3.8	-7.3
Males (first marriage) + Females (first marriage)		255.6	239.4	238.3	221.1	78.5	-17.1	-7.2
Males (remarriage) + Females (first marriage)		12.8	12.0	11.7	11.1	3.9	-0.6	-4.8
Males (first marriage) + Females (remarriage)		18.2	18.4	18.0	16.7	5.9	-1.3	-7.3
Males (remarriage) + Females (remarriage)		36.1	35.5	34.7	32.1	11.4	-2.6	-7.5

* Including 'unidentified'

- The number of marriages with foreign spouses declined by 3.2 percent (0.7 thousand cases) to 20.6 thousand cases in 2016.

[Table] Marriage with a foreign spouse (2006-2016)

(Unit: thousand cases, %)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of marriages	330.6	343.6	327.7	309.8	326.1	329.1	327.1
Marriage with a foreign spouse	38.8	37.6	36.2	33.3	34.2	29.8	28.3
Korean males and foreign females	29.7	28.6	28.2	25.1	26.3	22.3	20.6
Korean females and foreign males	9.1	9.0	8.0	8.2	8.0	7.5	7.7
	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent	Year-on-year percent change	
Number of marriages	322.8	305.5	302.8	281.6	100.0	-7.0	
Marriage with a foreign spouse	26.0	23.3	21.3	20.6	7.3	-3.2	
Korean males and foreign females	18.3	16.2	14.7	14.8	5.3	1.0	
Korean females and foreign males	7.7	7.2	6.6	5.8	2.0	-12.6	

- As for the crude marriage rate by province, Sejong recorded the highest figure of 7.1 cases, which was followed by Ulsan (6.0 cases), Jeju (5.9 cases) and Seoul (5.9 cases).

[Table] Number of marriages and crude marriage rate by province (2015-2016)

(Unit: case, %, per 1,000 population)

	Number of marriages						Crude marriage rate		
	2015	Percent	2016	Percent	Year-on-year		2015	2016	Year-on-year change
					Change	Percent change			
The nation*	302,828	100.0	281,635	100.0	-21,193	-7.0	5.9	5.5	-0.4
Seoul	64,193	21.2	57,643	20.5	-6,550	-10.2	6.5	5.9	-0.6
Busan	18,553	6.1	17,113	6.1	-1,440	-7.8	5.3	4.9	-0.4
Daegu	12,545	4.1	12,216	4.3	-329	-2.6	5.1	5.0	-0.1
Incheon	17,118	5.7	16,092	5.7	-1,026	-6.0	5.9	5.5	-0.4
Gwangju	7,945	2.6	7,468	2.7	-477	-6.0	5.4	5.1	-0.3
Daejeon	8,805	2.9	8,325	3.0	-480	-5.5	5.8	5.5	-0.3
Ulsan	7,483	2.5	7,006	2.5	-477	-6.4	6.4	6.0	-0.4
Sejong	1,498	0.5	1,612	0.6	114	7.6	8.2	7.1	-1.1
Gyeonggi	73,950	24.4	70,052	24.9	-3,898	-5.3	6.0	5.6	-0.4
Gangwon	7,876	2.6	7,468	2.7	-408	-5.2	5.1	4.9	-0.2
Chungbuk	8,872	2.9	8,334	3.0	-538	-6.1	5.6	5.3	-0.3
Chungnam	12,331	4.1	11,792	4.2	-539	-4.4	6.0	5.7	-0.3
Jeonbuk	9,060	3.0	8,216	2.9	-844	-9.3	4.9	4.4	-0.5
Jeonnam	9,275	3.1	8,554	3.0	-721	-7.8	4.9	4.5	-0.4
Gyeongbuk	14,273	4.7	13,363	4.7	-910	-6.4	5.3	5.0	-0.3
Gyeongnam	18,671	6.2	17,580	6.2	-1,091	-5.8	5.6	5.3	-0.3
Jeju	3,676	1.2	3,705	1.3	29	0.8	6.0	5.9	-0.1

* Including overseas marriages

The number of divorces went down by 1.7 percent (1.8 thousand cases) to 107.3 thousand cases in 2016.

- The crude divorce rate (the number of divorces per 1,000 population) stood at 2.1 cases in 2016, which marked the lowest figure after recording 2.0 cases in 1997.
- The divorce rate of married people (the number of divorces per 1,000 married population) stood at 4.3 cases in 2016, which dropped by 0.1 case from 2015.

[Table] Number of divorces, crude divorce rate and divorce rate of married people (2006-2016)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of divorces (thousand cases)	124.5	124.1	116.5	124.0	116.9	114.3	114.3	115.3	115.5	109.2	107.3
Change (thousand cases)	-3.5	-0.5	-7.5	7.5	-7.1	-2.6	0.0	1.0	0.2	-6.4	-1.8
Percent change (%)	-2.7	-0.4	-6.1	6.4	-5.8	-2.2	0.0	0.9	0.2	-5.5	-1.7
Crude divorce rate*	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.1
Divorce rate of married people**	5.3	5.2	4.9	5.2	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.4	4.3

* Per 1,000 population

** Per 1,000 married population aged 15 or more

- As for the divorce rate by age group (the number of divorces per 1,000 population in a given age group), males aged 35 to 39 showed the highest decrease (35.9%, -4.1 cases) compared to 10 years ago. Females aged 30 to 34 showed the highest decrease (35.3%, -4.2 cases) compared to 10 years ago.
- The duration of '20 years or more' of marriage before getting divorced occupied the highest share at 30.4 percent of the total divorces, which was followed by the duration of 'less than 5 years' (22.9 percent).
- The mean age at divorce for males was 47.2 years in 2016, up 0.3 from 2015. The mean age at divorce for females was 43.6 years in 2016, up 0.3 from 2015.

[Table] Mean age at divorce (2006-2016)

(Unit: year)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Change*	
												From 2015	From 2006
Males	42.6	43.2	44.3	44.5	45.0	45.4	45.9	46.2	46.5	46.9	47.2	0.3	4.6
Females	39.0	39.5	40.5	40.7	41.1	41.5	42.0	42.4	42.8	43.3	43.6	0.3	4.6
Gender gap*	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.6	-	-

* Rounded to 2 decimal places

- The number of divorces with foreign spouses fell by 6.9 percent (0.6 thousand cases) to 7.7 thousand cases in 2016.

[Table] Divorce with a foreign spouse (2006-2016)

(Unit: thousand cases, %)

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	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of divorces	124.5	124.1	116.5	124.0	116.9	114.3	114.3
Divorce with a foreign spouse	6.1	8.3	11.0	11.5	11.1	11.5	10.9
Korean males and foreign females	3.9	5.6	7.9	8.2	7.9	8.3	7.9
Korean females and foreign males	2.2	2.7	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.0
	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent		Year-on-year percent change
Number of divorces	115.3	115.5	109.2	107.3	100.0		-1.7
Divorce with a foreign spouse	10.5	9.8	8.2	7.7	7.1		-6.9
Korean males and foreign females	7.6	7.0	5.7	5.6	5.2		-2.3
Korean females and foreign males	2.9	2.8	2.5	2.1	1.9		-17.6

- As for the crude divorce rate by province, Jeju recorded the highest figure of 2.5 cases, which was followed by Incheon (2.4 cases), Gangwon (2.3 cases) and Chungnam (2.3 cases).

[Table] Number of divorces and crude divorce rate by province (2015-2016)

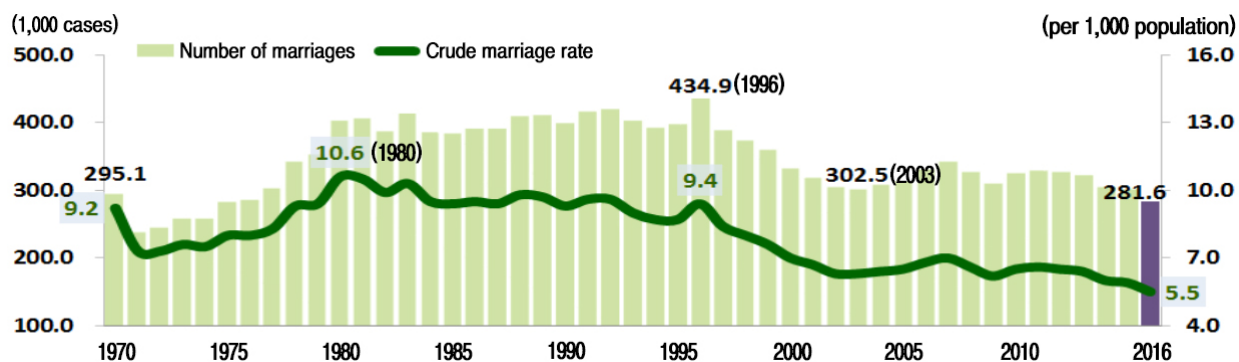
(Unit: case, %, per 1,000 population)

	Number of divorces						Crude divorce rate		
	2015	Percent	2016	Percent	Year-on-year		2015	2016	Year-on-year change
					Change	Percent change			
The nation*	109,153	100.0	107,328	100.0	-1,825	-1.7	2.1	2.1	0.0
Seoul	18,176	16.7	17,777	16.6	-399	-2.2	1.8	1.8	0.0
Busan	6,649	6.1	6,859	6.4	210	3.2	1.9	2.0	0.1
Daegu	4,497	4.1	4,383	4.1	-114	-2.5	1.8	1.8	0.0
Incheon	7,116	6.5	7,097	6.6	-19	-0.3	2.5	2.4	-0.1
Gwangju	2,842	2.6	2,817	2.6	-25	-0.9	1.9	1.9	0.0
Daejeon	2,999	2.7	2,890	2.7	-109	-3.6	2.0	1.9	-0.1
Ulsan	2,406	2.2	2,520	2.3	114	4.7	2.1	2.2	0.1
Sejong	324	0.3	343	0.3	19	5.9	1.8	1.5	-0.3
Gyeonggi	27,688	25.4	26,723	24.9	-965	-3.5	2.2	2.1	-0.1
Gangwon	3,484	3.2	3,482	3.2	-2	-0.1	2.3	2.3	0.0
Chungbuk	3,486	3.2	3,446	3.2	-40	-1.1	2.2	2.2	0.0
Chungnam	4,724	4.3	4,682	4.4	-42	-0.9	2.3	2.3	0.0
Jeonbuk	3,755	3.4	3,979	3.7	224	6.0	2.0	2.1	0.1
Jeonnam	4,033	3.7	3,965	3.7	-68	-1.7	2.1	2.1	0.0
Gyeongbuk	5,348	4.9	5,375	5.0	27	0.5	2.0	2.0	0.0
Gyeongnam	7,368	6.8	7,486	7.0	118	1.6	2.2	2.2	0.0
Jeju	1,447	1.3	1,552	1.4	105	7.3	2.4	2.5	0.1

* Including overseas divorces

[Marriage Statistics in 2016]

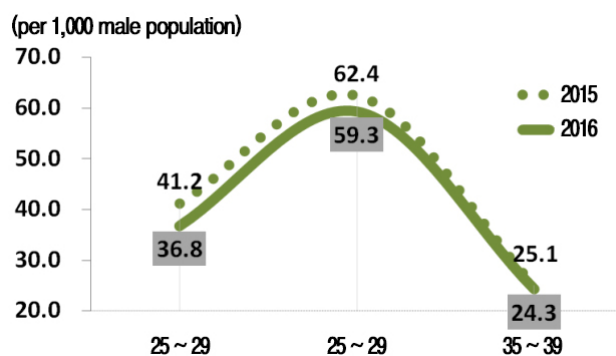
Number of marriages and crude marriage rate (1970-2016)

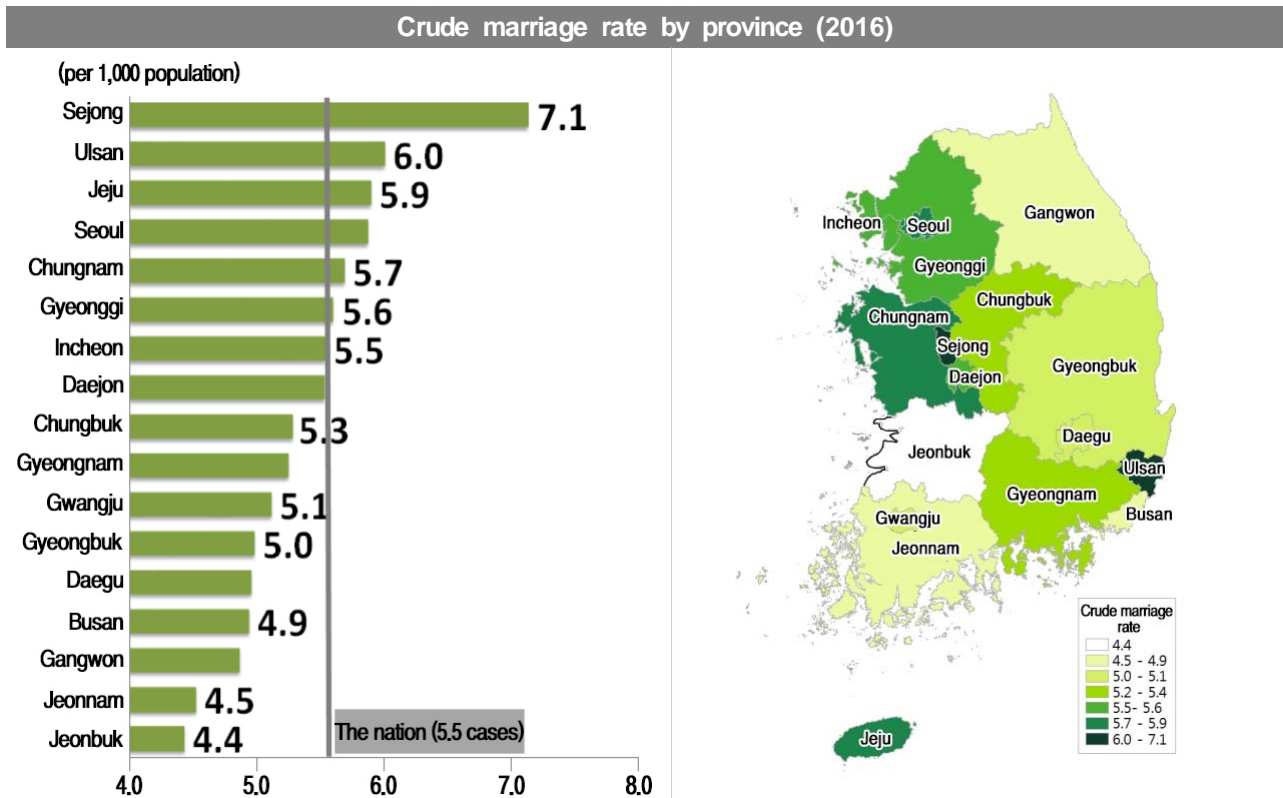
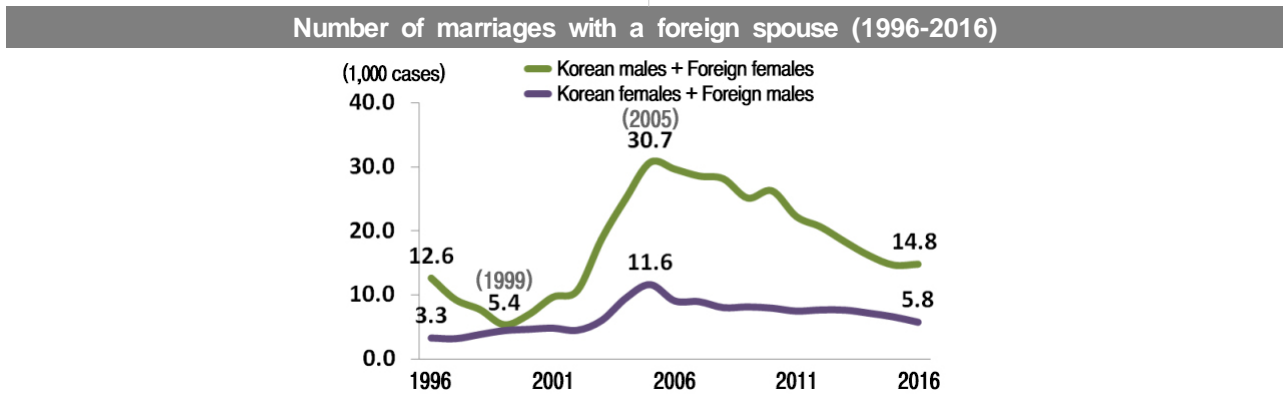
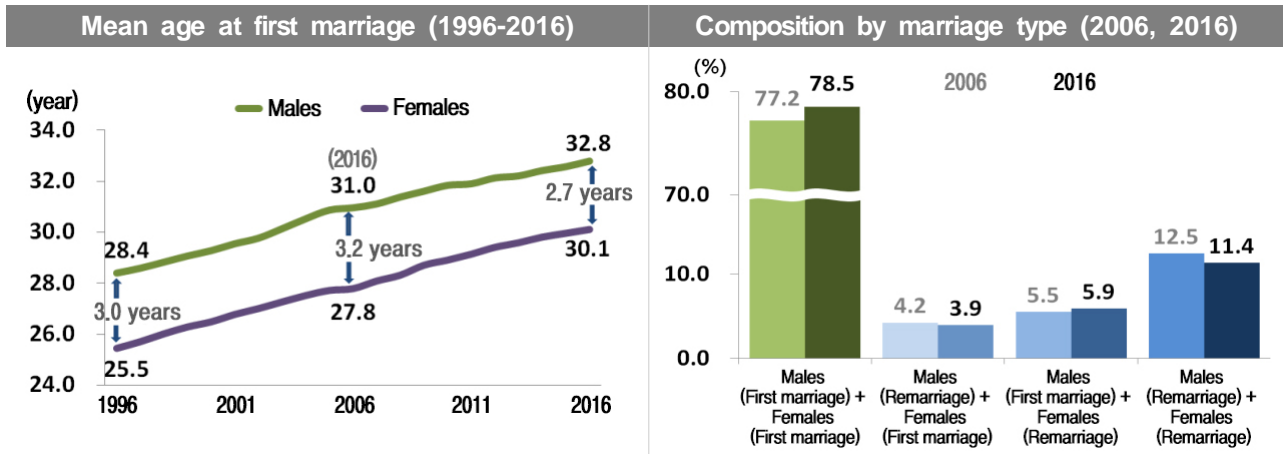


Change in the number of marriages by age group (2016)



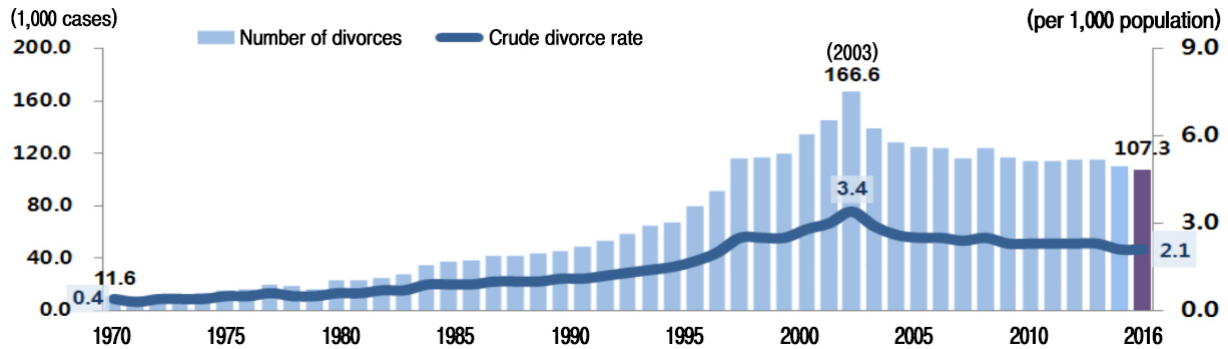
Marriage rate by age group of males (2016)



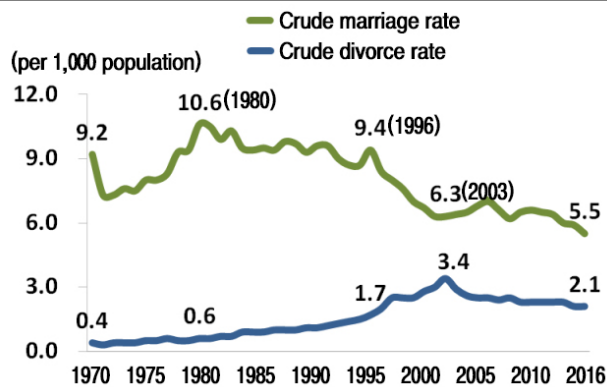


[Divorce Statistics in 2016]

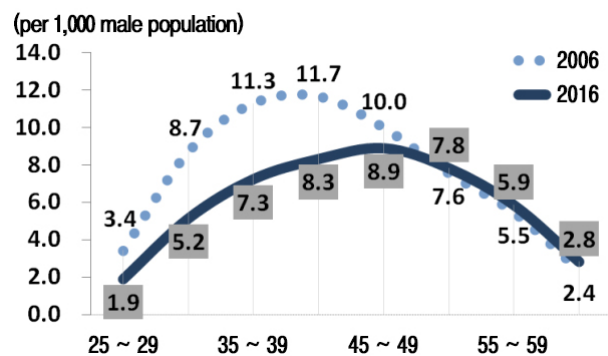
Number of divorces and crude divorce rate (1970-2016)



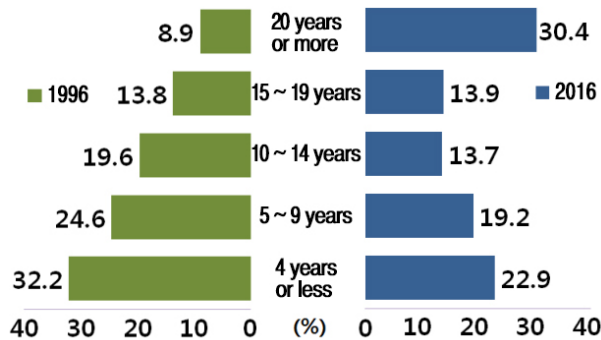
Crude marriage rate and crude divorce rate (1970-2016)



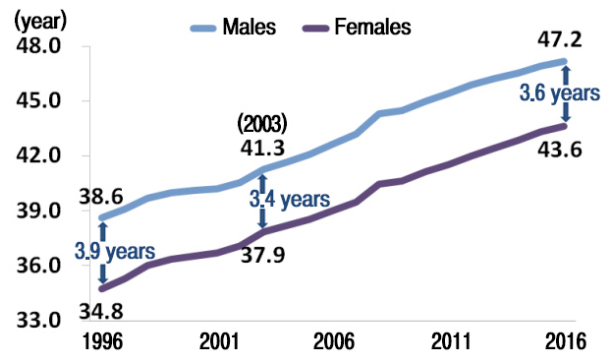
Divorce rate by age group of males (2006, 2016)



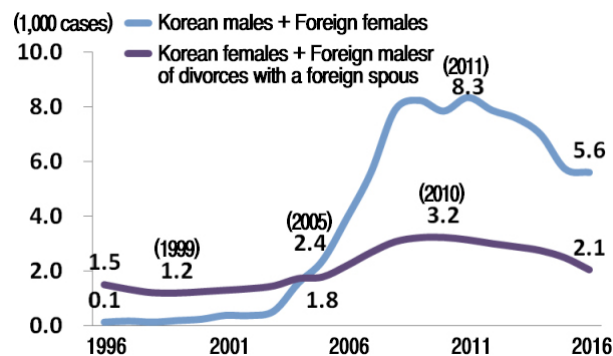
Composition of divorces by mean duration of marriage (1996, 2016)



Mean age at divorce (1996-2016)



Number of divorces with a foreign spouse (1996-2016)



Crude divorce rate by province (2016)

(per 1,000 population)

