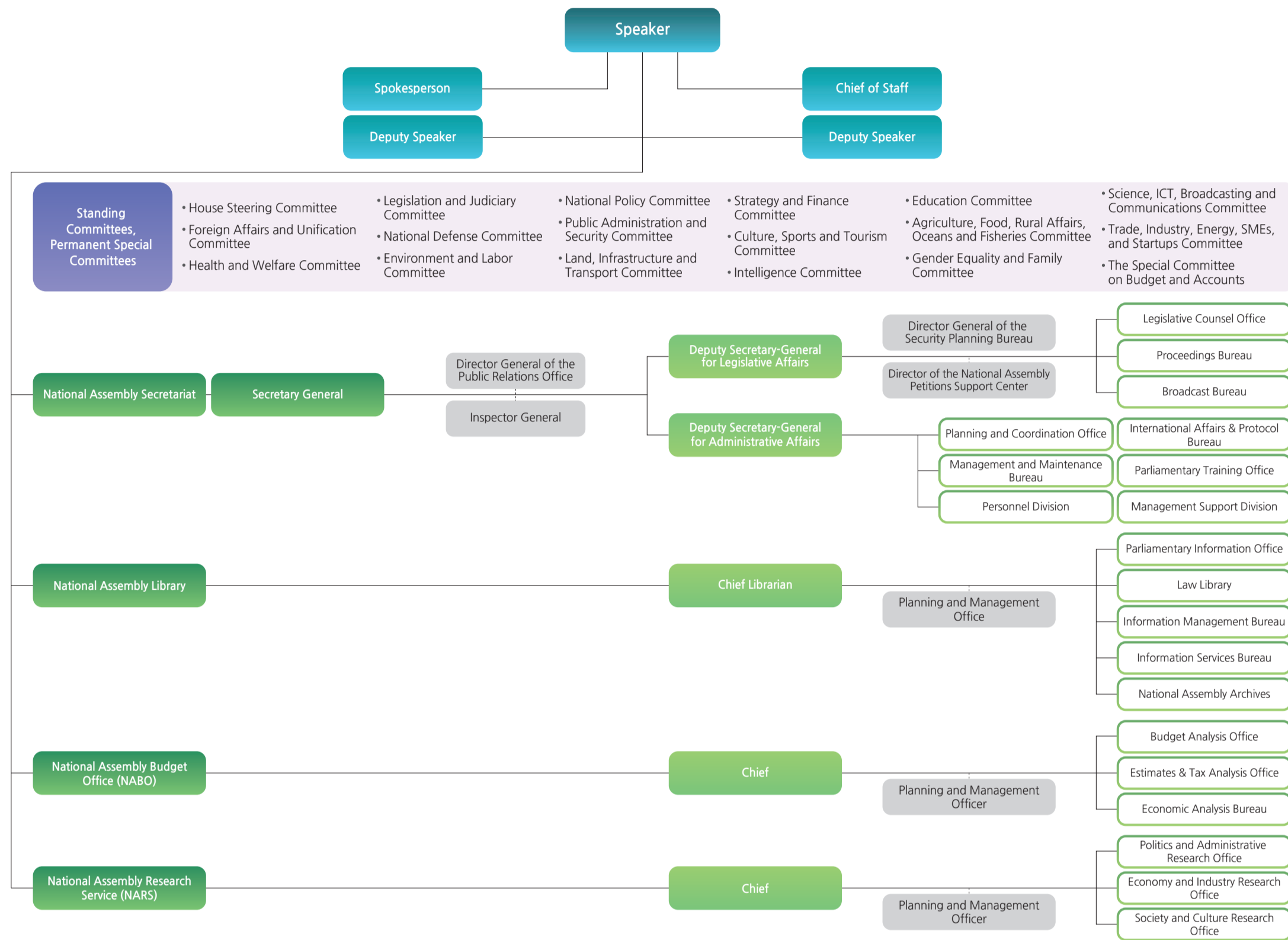


GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL AUTONOMY

National Assembly

Organizational Chart of the National Assembly



The National Assembly is the legislative body of the Republic of Korea and is composed of members who are elected by the people to whom sovereignty belongs. On their behalf, the National Assembly enacts laws which are the foundation of state operation, deliberates, finalizes the budget, and makes important policy decisions.

The National Assembly has the legislative power to propose and pass constitutional amendments and to enact and revise laws. It deliberates and decides upon budget proposals and settles governmental accounts, and controls state affairs by auditing the overall administration of the state and inspecting specific issues. Furthermore, it has the right to approve the President's appointment of key public officials, such as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, President of the Constitutional Court, Prime Minister, and Chairman of the Board of Audit and Inspection, and the right to ratify major international treaties on behalf of the people. Moreover, it also actively engages in parliamentary diplomacy, which helps elevate the nation's interests as well as its international profile.

There are 300 statutory members of the National Assembly. Two-hundred and fifty-three members are elected from single-member constituencies, and the remaining 47 gain office through a proportional representation system. With a term of four years, the cycle of the current 20th National Assembly runs from May 30, 2016, to May 29, 2020.

The National Assembly has one Speaker and two Deputy Speakers. They are elected at the plenary session through secret voting, and each serves a two-year term. As the leader of the legislative body, the Speaker represents the National Assembly, presides over the plenary session, and oversees the administration of the National Assembly. To maintain impartiality during the proceedings, the Speaker is not allowed to affiliate with any political party during his or her term of office. In case the Speaker is unable to carry out his

or her duties within their term, a Deputy Speaker reserves the right to act in his or her place.

The National Assembly holds regular and extraordinary sessions. The regular session convenes on the first day of September every year and may not exceed one hundred days. Extraordinary sessions convene on the first day of February, April, and June (even-numbered months with the exception of August, October, and December) every year and may not exceed thirty days.

There are seventeen standing committees and one permanent special committee (Budget and Accounts) that examine bills prior to deliberation at the plenary session. Additional special committees may also be installed to deliberate on particular items. All members of the Assembly, with the exception of the Speaker, shall become a member of a standing committee for a two-year term according to their respective fields of expertise and interest.

Negotiation groups expedite the proceedings of the National Assembly as organizations to facilitate modern party politics. Any party with twenty or more Assembly members can form a negotiation group. In addition, twenty or more members who do not belong to a negotiation group may join together to set up a separate negotiation group. The composition of committees, formation of inter-parliamentary councils, and the number of speakers as well as the length of speech in meetings are determined by the proportion of members in each negotiation group.

The National Assembly Secretariat, National Assembly Library, National Assembly Budget Office (NABO), National Assembly Research Service (NARS), and support staff for representatives are components of the legislative support organizations that professionally and effectively support the authority and function of the National Assembly.

The function of the Secretariat is to support the overall parliamentary activities of lawmakers and to take care of the administrative work

of the National Assembly. The Secretariat supports major legislative and parliamentary activities from supporting the smooth running of meetings, assisting the deliberation on legislative bills, and overseeing the budget and settlement of accounts and the inspection and investigation of state administration, to providing support for parliamentary diplomacy, handling civil complaints, and promoting National Assembly Broadcasting Station (NATV) services and the National Assembly as a whole.

The National Assembly Library was established to facilitate the legislative activities of lawmakers by collecting, managing, and providing necessary information regarding various pending issues and legislation. The general public also has access to the materials collected, even at night and on Sundays.

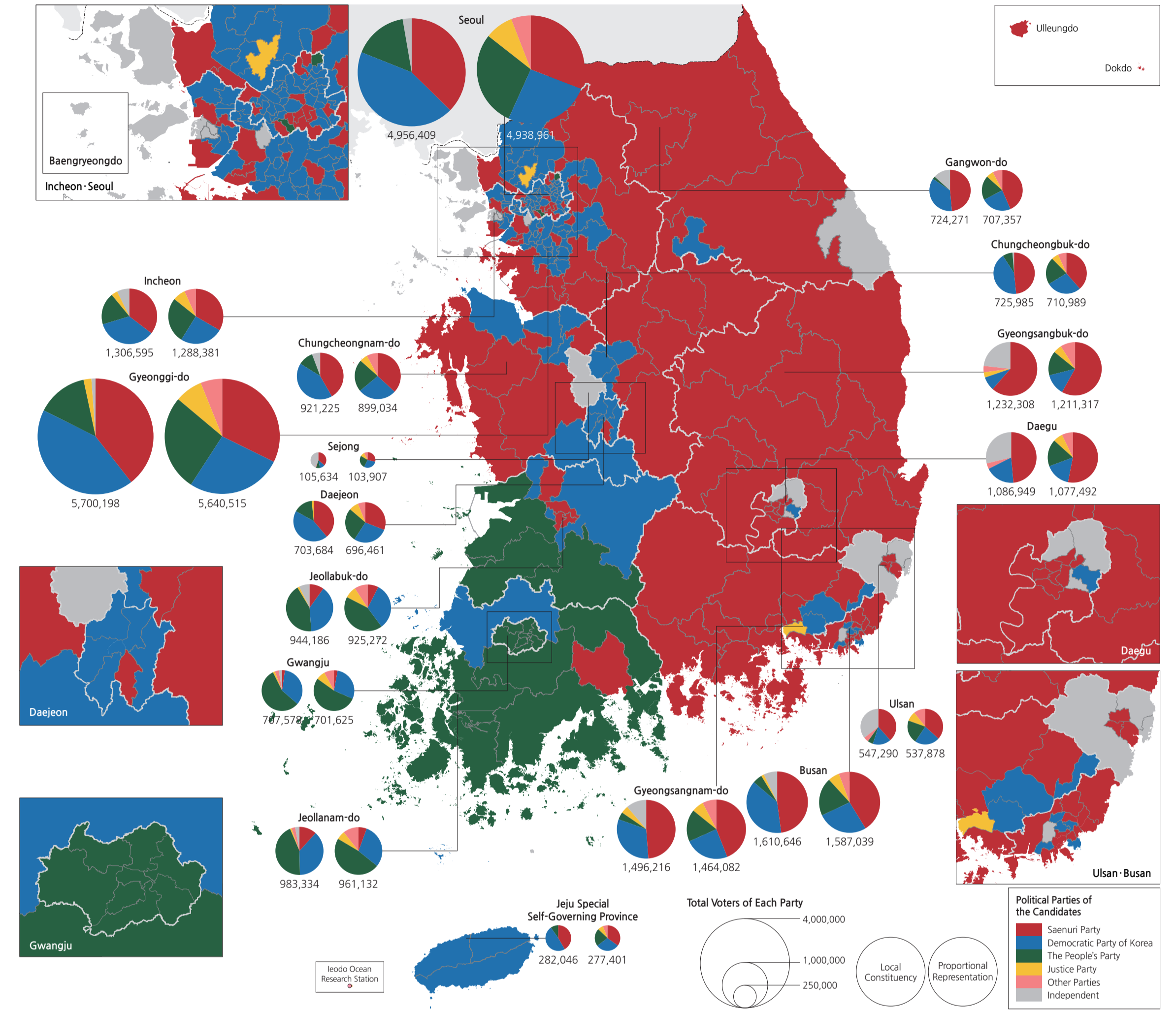
The National Assembly Budget Office (NABO) is a legislative support body specializing in financial matters that was established to promote parliamentary financial activities, including assistance in deliberating on the budget and settlement of accounts based on professional and impartial research and analyses.

The National Assembly Research Service (NARS) is an independent legislative and policy research institute established within the National Assembly to strengthen its capacity in legislation and policy development. It conducts studies, research, and analyses on legislative and policy issues in an impartial and professional manner. NARS also collects, manages, and distributes related materials, and undertakes studies and analyses on legislative trends and cases at home and abroad in the respective fields to hand them over to Assembly Members and Committees.

Each member of the Assembly is entitled to have eight advisors to facilitate their parliamentary activities. The scope of their work ranges from support for legislative activities in terms of policy formulation to political affairs concerning communication with voters.

National Assembly Election

Turnout of the 20th Election



The legislators who make up the legislative body are elected through electoral district elections that adopt a first-past-the-post electoral system, and proportional representative elections, in which divisions in an electorate are determined in proportion to the number of votes each political party earned. The 20th National Assembly election was held on April 13, 2016, and elected 300 members; 253 members were elected through the electoral district elections and 47 members were elected through the proportional representative elections.

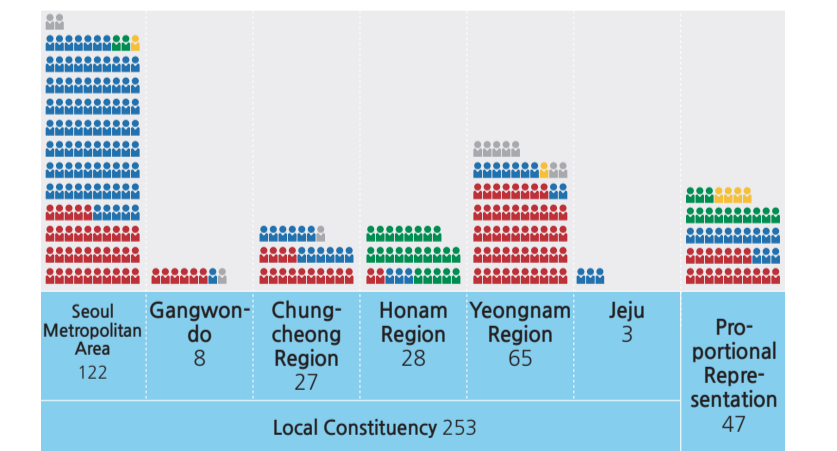
The voter turnout rate for the 20th National Assembly election was 58.0%, up 3.8% from the 54.2% for the 19th National Assembly election. Geographically, Jeollanam-do had the highest voter turnout rate at 63.7%, and Daegu had the lowest turnout at 54.8%. This election was the first National Assembly election in which early voting was introduced. The voter turnout rate for early voting in this election was 12.2%.

Results from the election showed that the ruling Saenuri Party won 122 seats (105 electoral district seats and 17 proportional representative seats). Of the opposition parties, the Democratic Party of Korea won 123 seats (110 electoral district seats and 13 proportional representative seats), the People's Party won 38 seats (25 electoral district seats and 13 proportional representative seats), the Justice Party won 6 seats (2 electoral district seats and 4 proportional representative seats), and the No Political Party Affiliation occupied 11 electoral district seats. As a result, the 20th National Assembly was launched with fewer ruling party seats than opposition seats for the first time in 16 years. The Saenuri Party

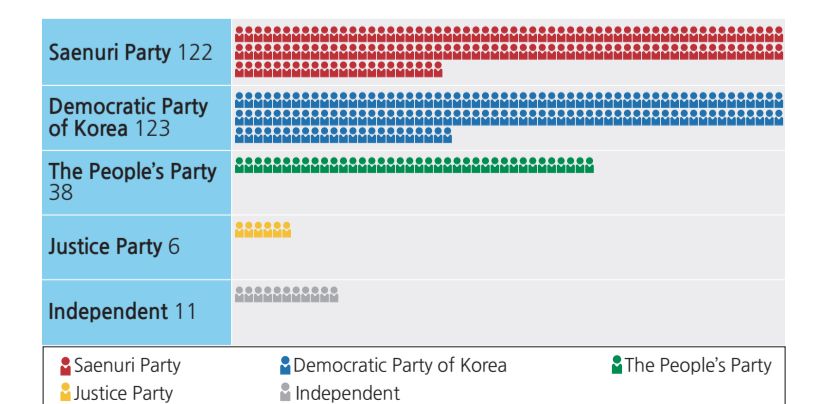
became the second party only after suffering a crushing defeat in the Seoul Metropolitan Area but also by being defeated in its traditional strongholds. It was the first time for the ruling first party to become the second party in the National Assembly Election. The Democratic Party of Korea became the first party by producing winners in the ruling party's strongholds and the Seoul Metropolitan Area. The People's Party became the third party by dominating the Honam region and by ranking second in the party-list proportional representation vote. For the first time in 20 years since the 15th National Assembly election in 1996, the third party became one of the negotiating groups (parties with no less than 20 seats). There were also changes in the regional structure of the election results, with nine opposition party candidates elected in the ruling party's strongholds in the Yeongnam region and two ruling party candidates elected in the opposition parties' strongholds in the Honam region.

Of the 300 elected candidates of the 20th National Assembly, there were 51 women elected, representing 17.0% of the total elected; women won 10.3% of electoral district seats (26 out of 253 seats) and 53.2% of proportional representative seats (25 out of 47 seats). Since proportional representatives are elected sequentially from the candidates in the prior ranking, more women can be elected if they are placed in an odd-numbered rank. Until the 20th National Assembly Election, each party has placed female candidates in odd-numbered ranks to promote women's entry into the National Assembly. Starting with the 21st National Assembly Election, this regulation has been in effect.

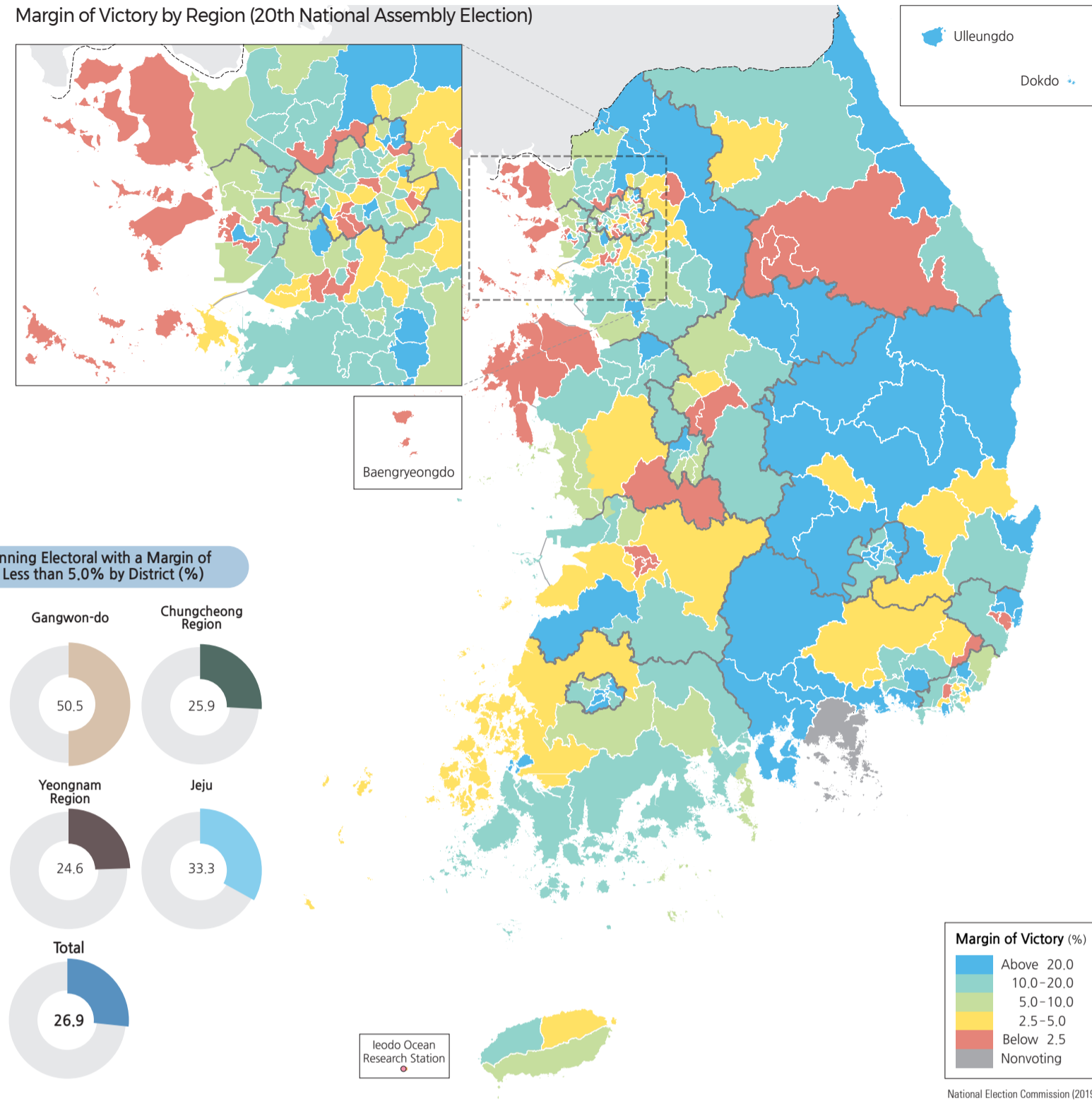
Members of the National Assembly by Local Constituency and Proportional Representation



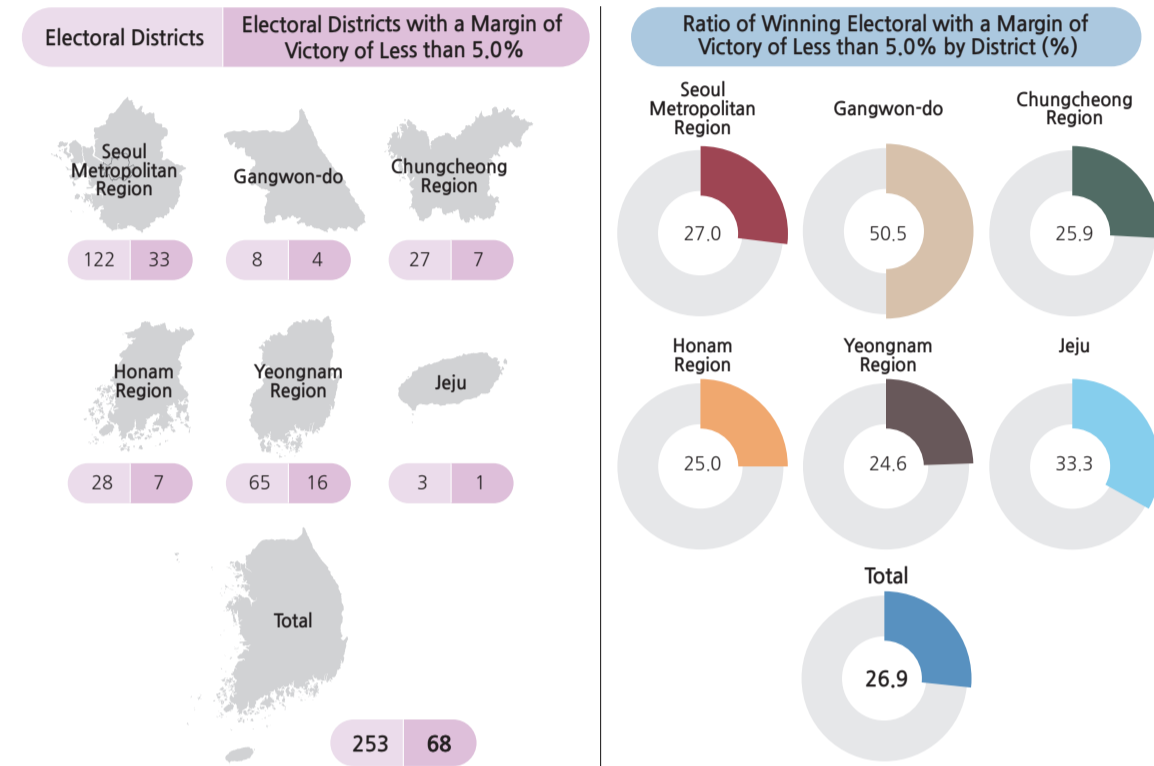
Members of the National Assembly by Party



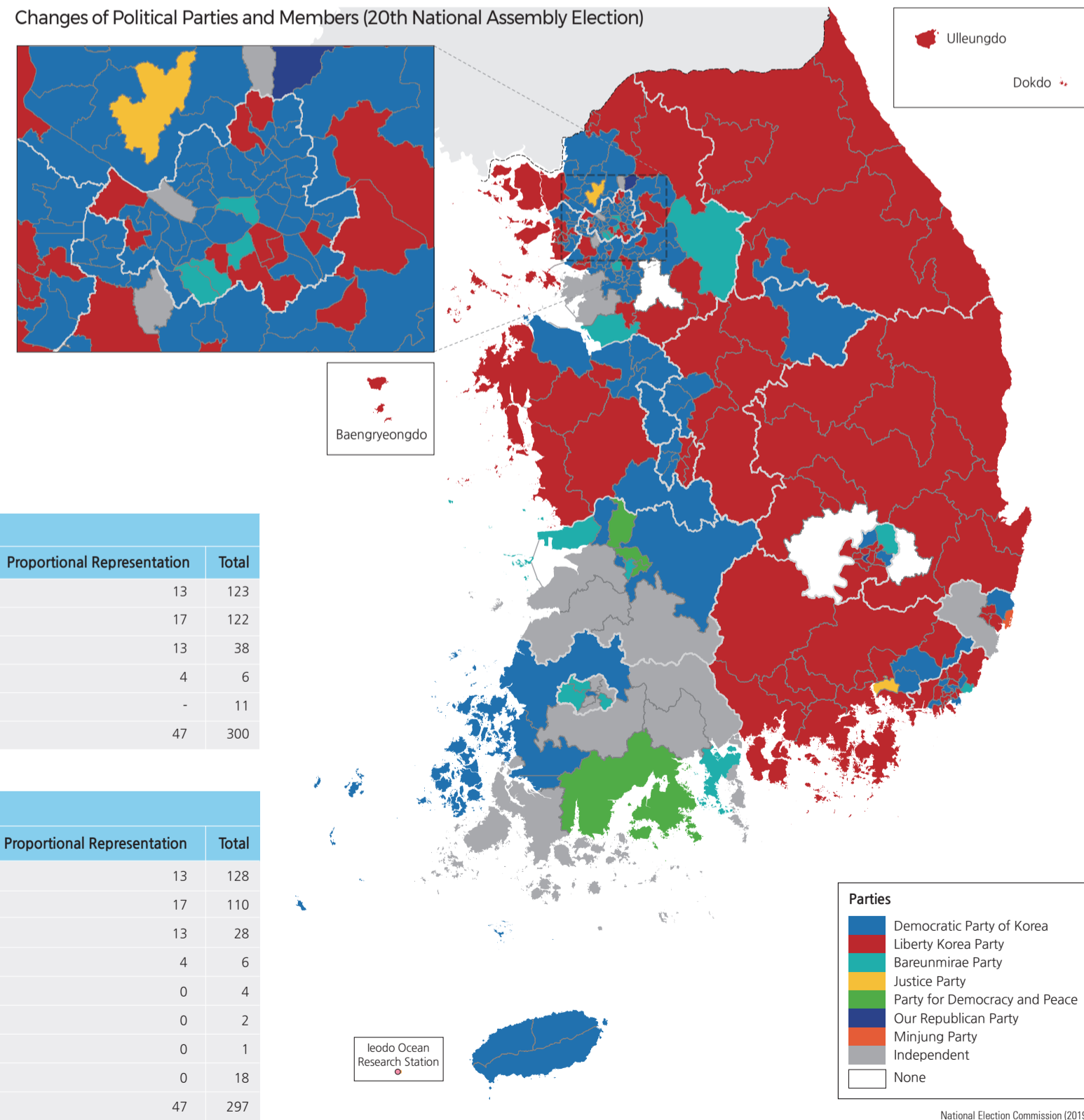
According to the election results of the 20th National Assembly, electoral districts whose winners had a narrow margin of victory over the second-place candidates appeared nationwide because progressive candidates were competitive in the Yeongnam region, the traditional stronghold of the conservative party. Two progressive parties, the Democratic Party of Korea and the People's Party, were compatible in the traditionally progressive strongholds in the Honam region, and the races were close for each party in the Seoul Metropolitan Area and Chungcheong region. Sixty-eight districts, about 27% of the total electoral districts showed less than a 5 percent difference between the percent of the vote earned by the first- and second-place candidates. In 31 electoral districts, the winning candidate's margin of victory was less than 2.5%. The smallest difference in the number of votes between the first- and second-place candidates was 26. In one electoral district, one candidate ran alone and was elected without a vote.



Electoral Districts with a Margin of Victory of Less than 5.0%



Since the 20th National Assembly Election, there has been a change in the names and number of political parties and their members. In January 2017, some members defecting from the Saenuri Party founded the Bareun Party. In February 2017, the Saenuri Party changed its name to the Liberty Korea Party. In February 2018, the Bareun Party and the People's Party merged to form the Bareunmirae Party and succeeded the proportional representative of the People's Party. In February 2018, members of the People's Party, who opposed the merger of the People's Party and the Bareun Party, created the Party for Democracy and Peace. The Our Republican Party and the Minjung Party were also founded in August 2017 and October 2017, respectively. Meanwhile, the number of non-partisan members increased significantly in August 2019 due to the departure of members of the Party for Democracy and Peace. Of the 253 members elected through electoral district elections, 18 lost their positions. As of October 2019, 15 electoral districts have elected new members of the National Assembly through re-elections and by-elections.



Changes of National Assembly Members by Party

	2016. 04. 13.			
	Parties	Local Constituency	Proportional Representation	Total
Negotiation Group	Democratic Party of Korea	110	13	123
	Saenuri Party	105	17	122
	The People's Party	25	13	38
Non-Negotiation Group	Justice Party	2	4	6
	Independent	11	-	11
Total		253	47	300

	2019. 08. 31.			
	Parties	Local Constituency	Proportional Representation	Total
Negotiation Group	Democratic Party of Korea	115	13	128
	Liberty Korea Party	93	17	110
	Bareunmirae Party	15	13	28
	Justice Party	2	4	6
Non-Negotiation Group	Party for Democracy and Peace	4	0	4
	Our Republican Party	2	0	2
	Minjung Party	1	0	1
	Independent	18	0	18
	Independent	1	0	1
Total		250	47	297

Turnout Rates and Number of Members of the National Assembly after 1987 Constitutional Amendment

	13th 1988.04.26.	14th 1992.03.24.	15th 1996.04.11.	16th 2000.04.13.	17th 2004.04.15.	18th 2008.04.09.	19th 2012.04.11.	20th 2016.04.13.	
Turnout Rate (%)	75.8	71.9	63.9	57.2	60.6	46.1	54.3	58.0	
Number of Members	Local Constituency	224	237	253	227	243	245	246	253
	Proportional Representation	75	62	46	46	56	54	54	47
	Total	299	299	299	273	299	299	300	300

Turnout Rates of National Assembly Election by Si·Do

Period	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th
Nationwide	75.8	71.9	63.9	57.2	60.6	54.5	54.2	58.0
Seoul	69.3	69.2	61.0	54.3	62.2	53.9	55.5	59.8
Busan	77.7	69.1	60.5	55.4	61.9	49.5	54.6	55.4
Daegu	76.8	66.6	60.9	53.5	59.3	45.9	52.3	54.8
Incheon	70.1	68.0	60.1	53.4	57.4	50.9	51.4	55.6
Gwangju	77.9	70.1	54.5	54.0	60.2	49.8	52.7	61.6
Daejeon		70.1	63.0	53.3	58.9	52.9	54.2	58.6
Ulsan				59.1	62.0	55.1	55.7	59.2
Sejong							59.2	63.5
Gyeonggi-do	71.3	69.6	61.5	54.9	59.7	51.8	52.6	57.5
Gangwon-do	82.0	78.0	69.3	62.9	59.7	62.3	55.7	57.7
Chungcheongbuk-do	83.1	76.0	68.3	60.8	58.2	58.8	54.6	57.3
Chungcheongnam-do	78.8	76.0	68.7	60.1	56.0	56.5	52.4	55.5
Jeollabuk-do	80.0	74.3	68.3	60.6	61.2	59.3	53.6	62.9
Jeollanam-do	80.3	75.4	69.8	66.8	63.4	64.3	56.7	63.7
Gyeongsangbuk-do	83.3	78.4	71.7	64.6	61.5	59.4	56.0	56.7
Gyeongsangnam-do	79.9	77.3	66.0	60.6	62.3	61.8	57.2	57.0
Jeju	82.6	78.6	71.1	67.2	61.1	65.1	54.7	57.2

*Note: Shading indicates turnout rates above the national average.

Article 41, paragraph 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of Korea stipulates that "The number of members of the National Assembly shall be determined by Act, but the number shall not be less than 200." As the spatial distribution of the population has changed, the spatial extent of the electoral district has been modified, and the numbers of electoral district seats and proportional representatives have also changed. The population gap between the most populated electoral district and the least populated electoral district is another important factor in determining an electoral district system. By the Constitutional Court's ruling, the population gap was adjusted to be within 4:1 in December 1995. The gap was set to 3:1 in October 2001, and the gap was further changed to 2:1 in October 2014.

On March 2, 2016, the National Assembly established the lower population limit of an electoral district at 140,000 and the upper population limit at 280,000, based on the number of residents at the end of October 2015, and passed the Amendment to the Public Official Election Act that increased the number of electoral seats from 247 to 253 by adding six more seats. As a result, two electoral districts, which consisted of five cities and counties, were newly formed in Gangwon-do: the Hongcheon-gun/Cheorwon-gun/Hwacheon-gun/Yanggu-gun/Inje-gun electoral district and the Taebaek-si/Hoengseong-gun/Yeongwol-gun/Pyeongchang-gun/Jeongseon-gun electoral district.

The type of elections, political issues, and the political party's campaigning often influence the voter turnout. Voter turnouts have gradually declined over time. By region, the turnouts in the provinces have traditionally been higher than those of the national average. However, with the introduction of an early voting system and an increase in the turnout among people in their 20s and 30s, the regional turnouts have changed since the 2000s. In the 20th National Assembly Election, the turnout of the provinces, except Jeollanam-do and Jeollabuk-do, was lower than that of the national average.

National Election by Overseas Residents

Early voting is an election system by which eligible voters cast their ballots prior to an election. Early voting kicked off at the sixth local election on June 4, 2014, two years after early voting was first introduced in 2012 and was implemented in two by-elections in 2013. Since the introduction of early voting, the proportion of early voting turnout compared to the overall turnout has gradually increased. The proportion was 20% at the introduction of early voting and now exceeds 30%.

Election by overseas residents is an election system that allows overseas Koreans to exercise their right to vote. In 2007, the Constitutional Court made a constitutional decision on the right to vote for overseas Koreans, and election by overseas residents was introduced in 2009. This system was first implemented in the 19th National Assembly Election on April 11, 2012. Currently, this system is implemented in Presidential Elections and National Assembly Elections, but not in local elections, re-elections, and by-elections. In the 20th National Assembly Election, 198 polling stations were installed in 169 Korean overseas facilities, including Embassies, Consulate Generals, Consulates, and Consular Offices. Of the estimated 1.98 million overseas voters, 152,217 voters registered. Among them, 63,797 voted, representing a 41.4% turnout.

Early Voting System

	6th Local Election 2014.06.04.	20th National Assembly Election 2016.04.13.	19th Presidential Election 2017.05.19.	7th Local Election 2018.06.13.
National Turnout	56.8	58.0	77.2	60.2
Early Voting Turnout	11.5	12.2	26.1	20.1
Pre-turnout Rate of Total Turnout	20.2	21.0	33.8	33.5

Scope of Overseas Koreans' Voter Rights



*Note: Permanent residents who reported domestic residence should file an Overseas Absentee Application if they intend to vote overseas.
 **Note: Overseas voting is not applicable to by-elections, local elections, and national and resident referendums.

20th Election by Overseas Residents

