

Household and Household Members

A household is a living unit of one or more people who share a dwelling. A household may include members who are not related by blood. Depending on the characteristics of the members, households are categorized into general households, collective households, and foreign households. General households include biologically related households, non-biologically related households, and single-person households. The number of households in Korea increased from 15.99 million in 2005 to 17.57 million in 2010. This is an increase of 9.9% over the 5-year period. Between 1980 and 2010, the number of households increased by 120.3% while the population increased by 29.8%. This reflects that family size in Korea decreased rapidly.

Over a generation between 1980 and 2010, the share of biologically related households decreased from 93.7% to 74.9%, while the number of single-person households and non-biologically related households increased. More specifically, in 1980, the ratios of one-generational and two-generational households were 8.3% and 68.5%, respectively, and the ratio of single-person households was only 4.8%. In 2010, the ratios

of one-generational and two-generational households were 17.5% and 51.3%, respectively, and the ratio of single-person households jumped to 23.9%. This demonstrates that the main trend in household composition is the increase in one-generational and single-person households.

Korea's key demographic trends can be contextualized through the perspectives of multiculturalism, societal values, and an aging population. First, international marriages and workforce migrations are leading to an increase in the number of multicultural households. A multicultural household is defined as a household that has one or more members who are either foreign nationals or who have obtained Korean citizenship by means other than birth such as marriage immigration and naturalization. It also includes foreign households whose members are all foreign nationals.

Summarized below are statistics related to an increasingly multicultural population, reflected in the number of marriages, divorces, births, and deaths. The number of international marriages peaked in 2008 with 37,000, which is 11.2% of all marriages, and has decreased since then. In 2014, the number was 24,000 (8.0% of all mar-

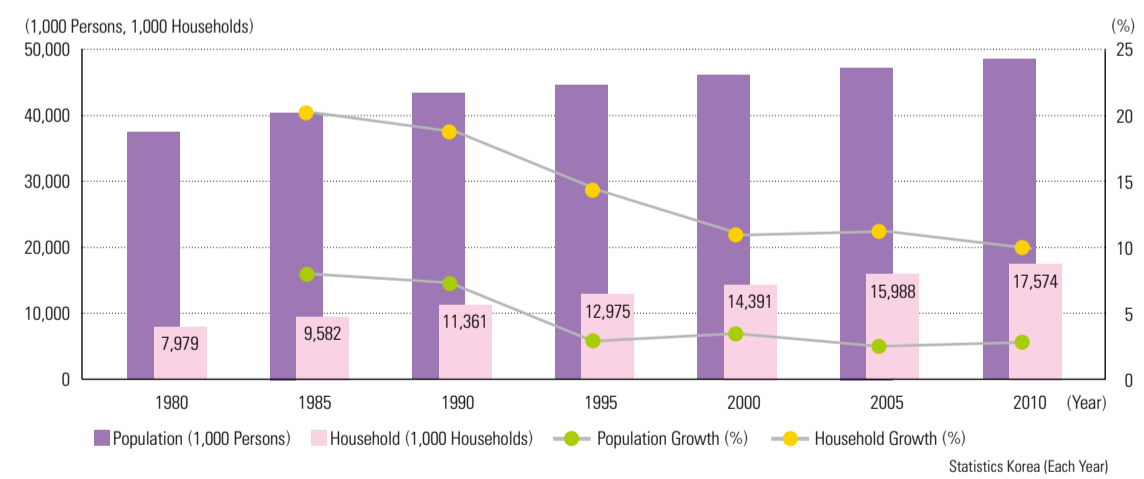
riages). In 2014, "Korean male & foreign female" marriages comprised 63.6%, while "foreign male & Korean female" comprised 24.1%, and the remaining 12.3% belonged to the "other" category. Compared to 2008, the ratio of "Korean male & foreign female" is decreasing. In 2014, the number of divorces in marriages with foreign spouses was approximately 13,000 (11.2% of all divorces). The ratio of births from multicultural households increased from approximately 13,000 (2.9% of all births) in 2008 to 21,000 (4.9% of all births) in 2014. In 2014, the ratio of births from a "Korean father and foreign mother" couple was 67.1% of the total, while it was 14.9% from "foreign father and Korean mother." The remaining 18.0% belonged to the "other" category.

As families are separated and the number of single-person households is increasing, social values have evolved. The key indicator that shows the changing household structure is the ratio of female heads of households. A female head of household may refer to a household without a male spouse (i.e., unmarried, widowed, divorced), or a household where a female is responsible for supporting the family. The ratio of female heads

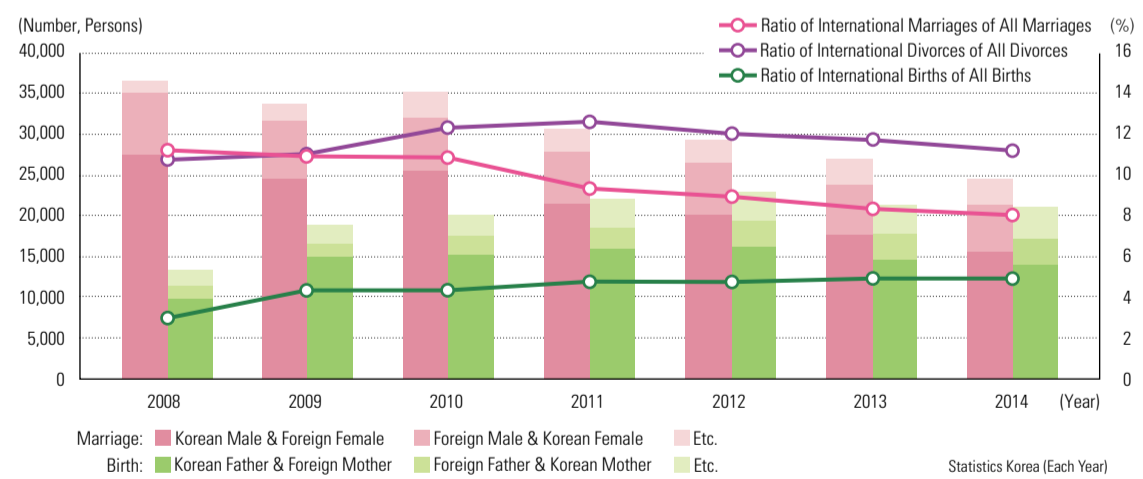
of households increased from 12.8% in 1975 to 25.9% in 2010, and continues to increase. The marital status of female heads of households is 37.7% "widowed," followed by "married," "unmarried," and "divorced." The main reasons for the increase of the number of female heads of households are the increase of elderly females with longer female life expectancy and the increase of divorced or unmarried females.

Korea's population is aging at the fastest pace in the world due to a plummeting birth rate and extended life expectancy. The key indicators of the aging population are the aging index and the elderly dependency ratio. The aging index is defined as the ratio of the population over 65 per 100 youths under age of 15, while the elderly dependency ratio is defined as "population aged 65 and over" divided by the working population aged 15 to 64. Korea's aging index increased from 6.9 in 1960 to 68.4 in 2010. The index is projected to reach 394 by the year 2060. The elderly dependency ratio increased from 5.3 in 1960 to 15.2 in 2010, and is projected to reach 80.6 by the year 2060.

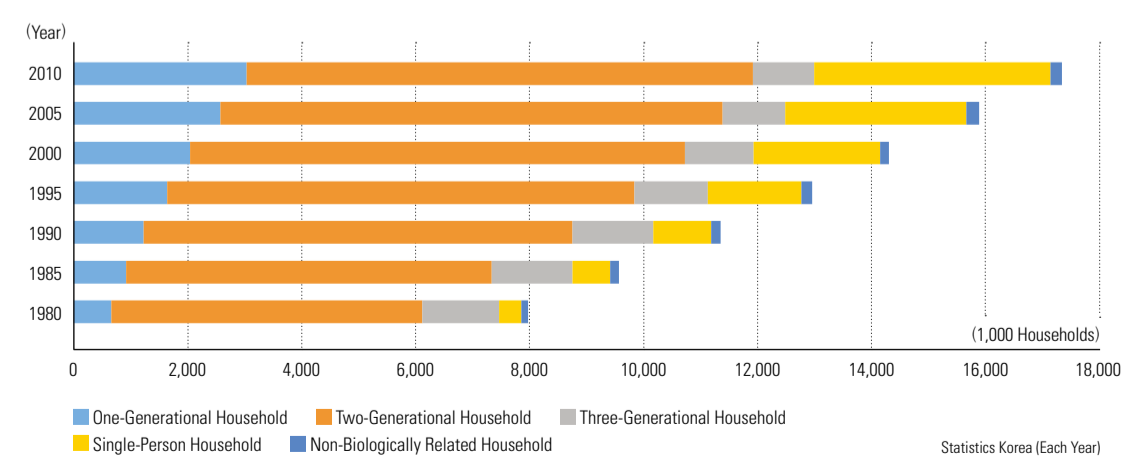
Change in Population and Household



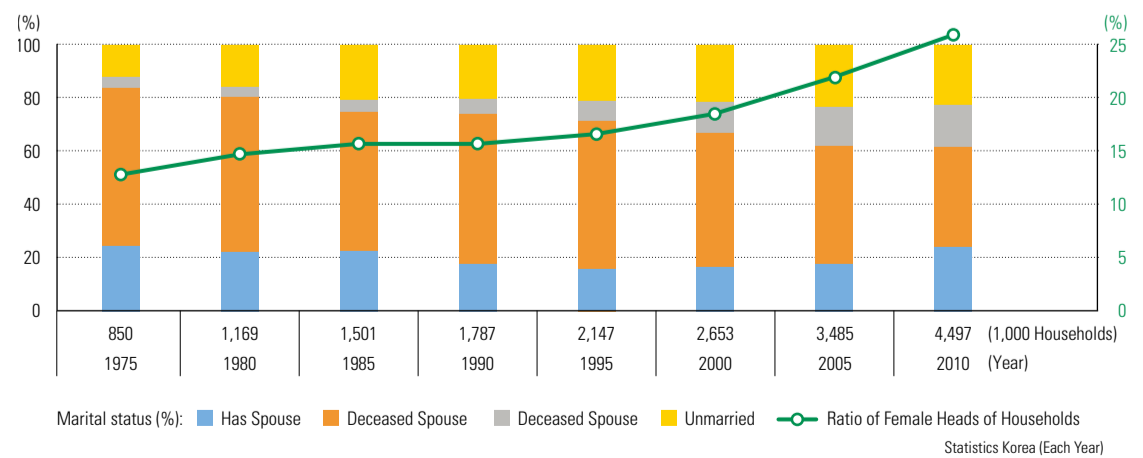
Change in Multicultural Population



Change in Generational Household

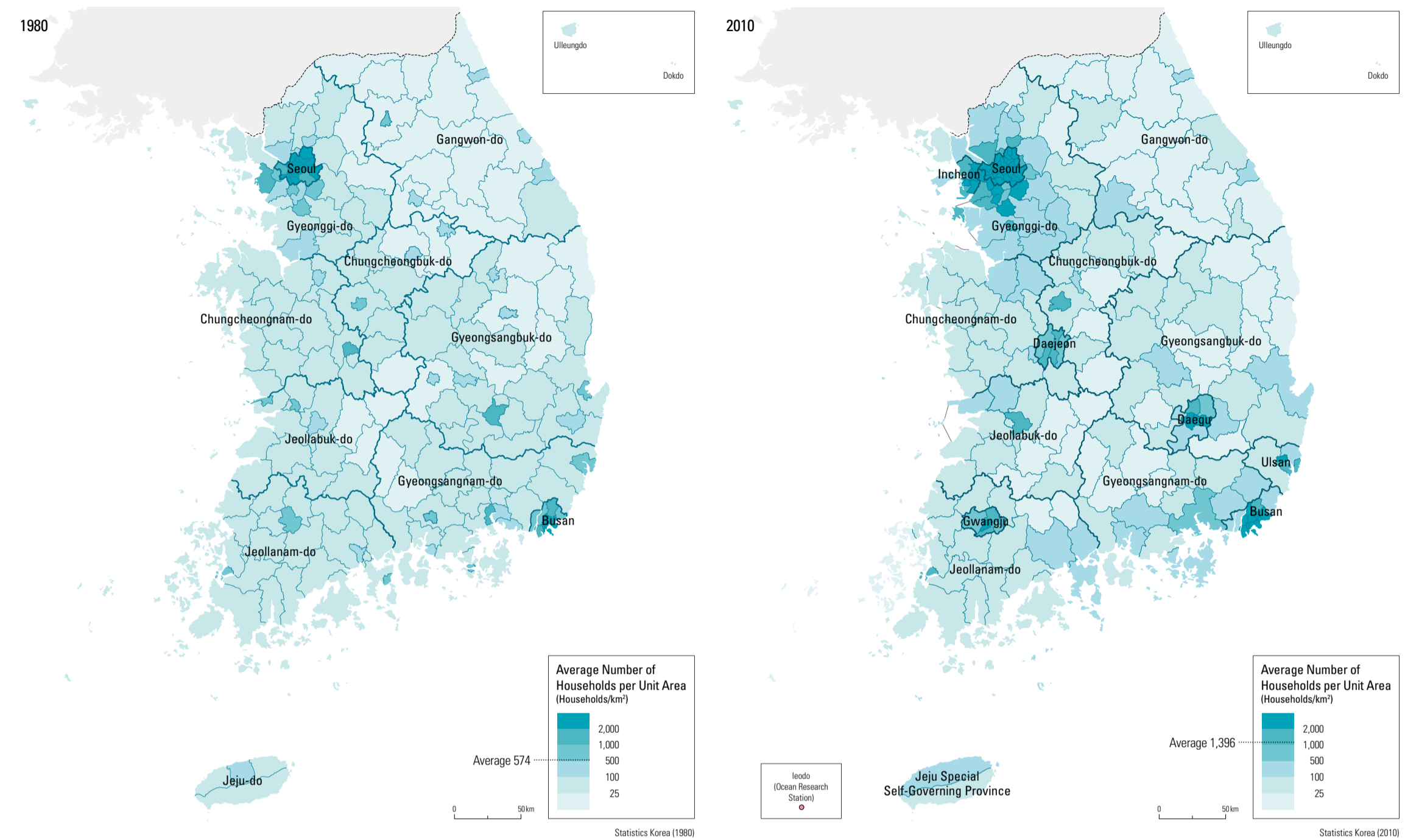


Change in Ratio of Female Heads of Households and Their Marital Status

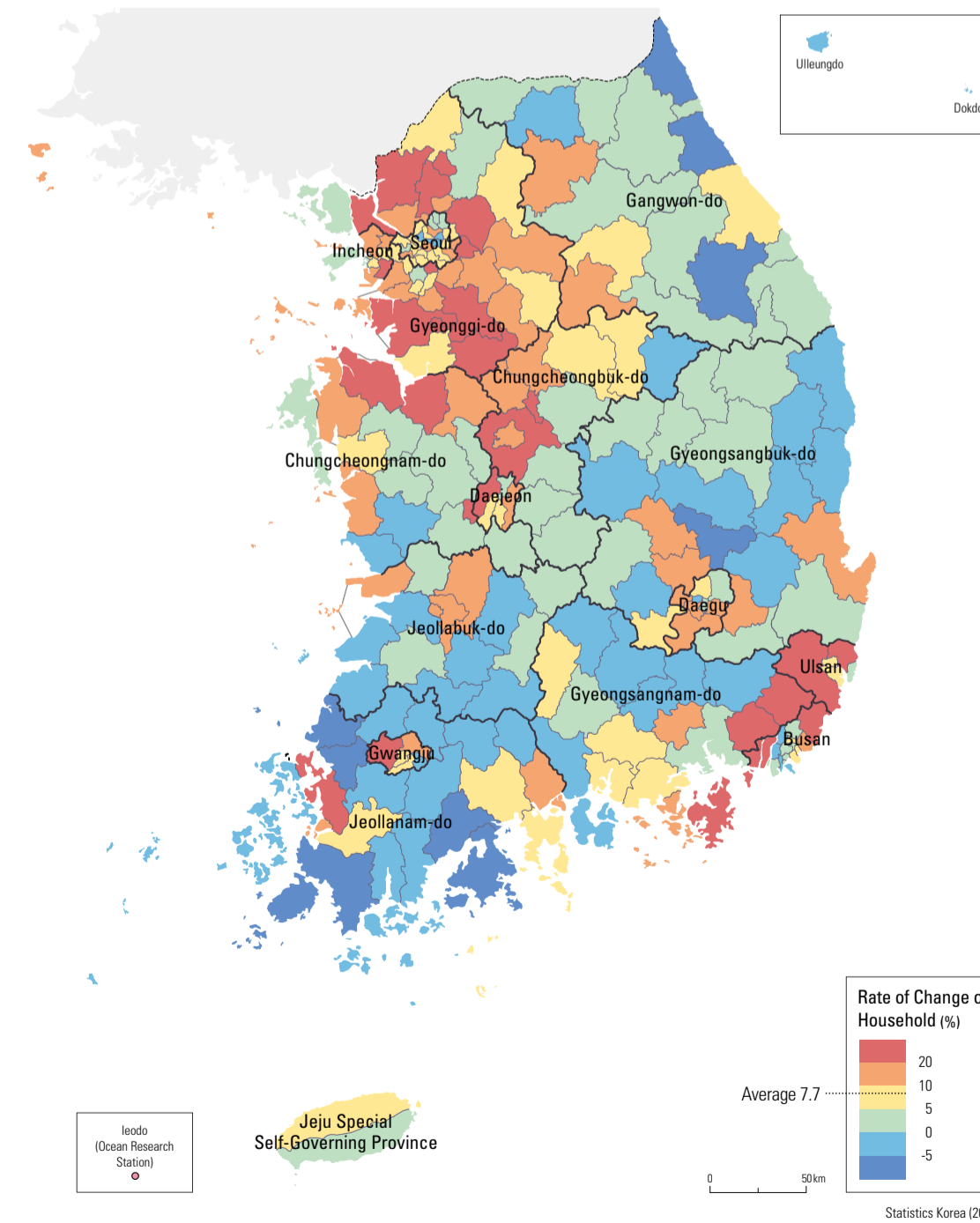


Household Structure

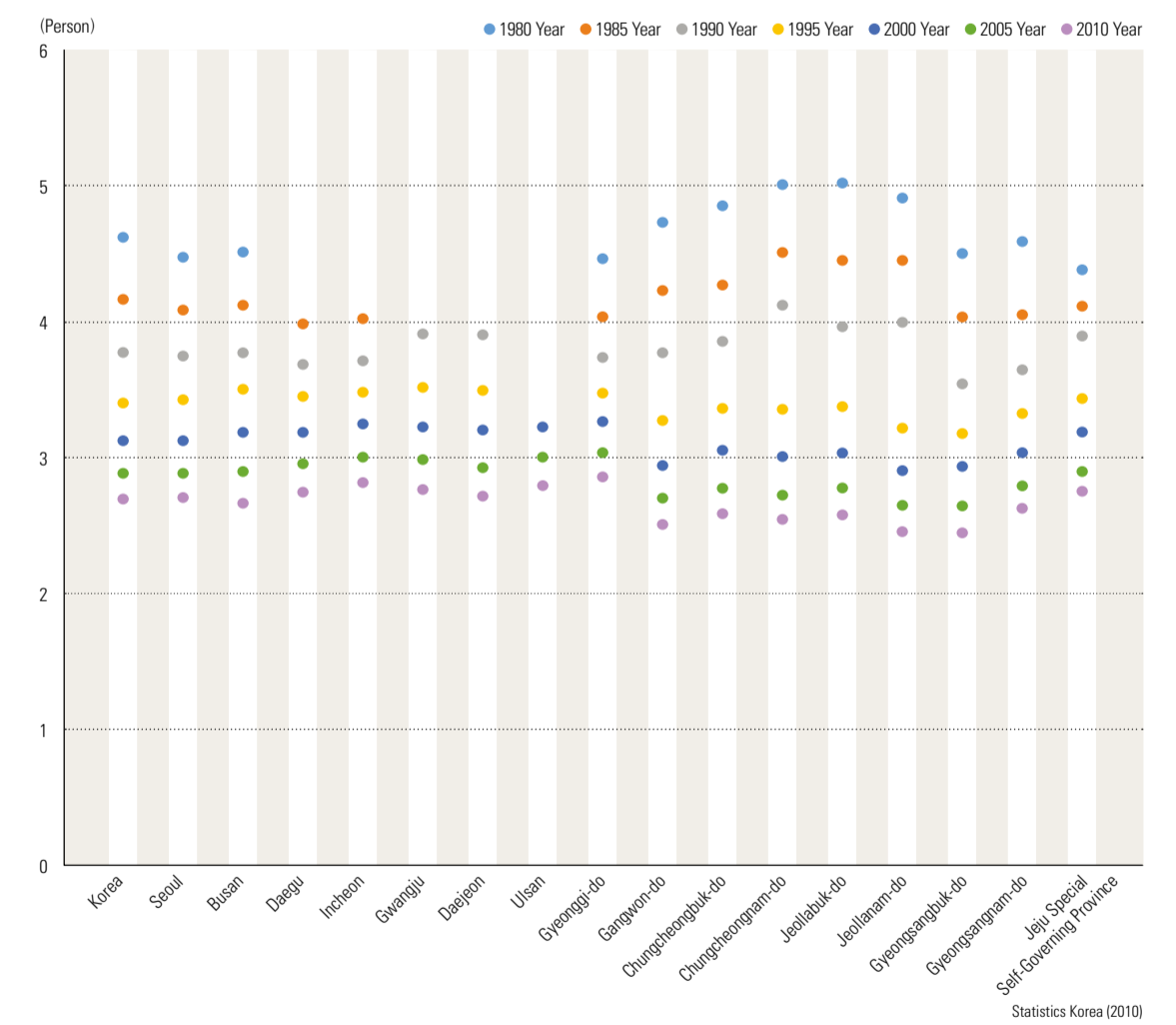
Average Number of Households per Unit Area



Household Change (2005 - 2010)

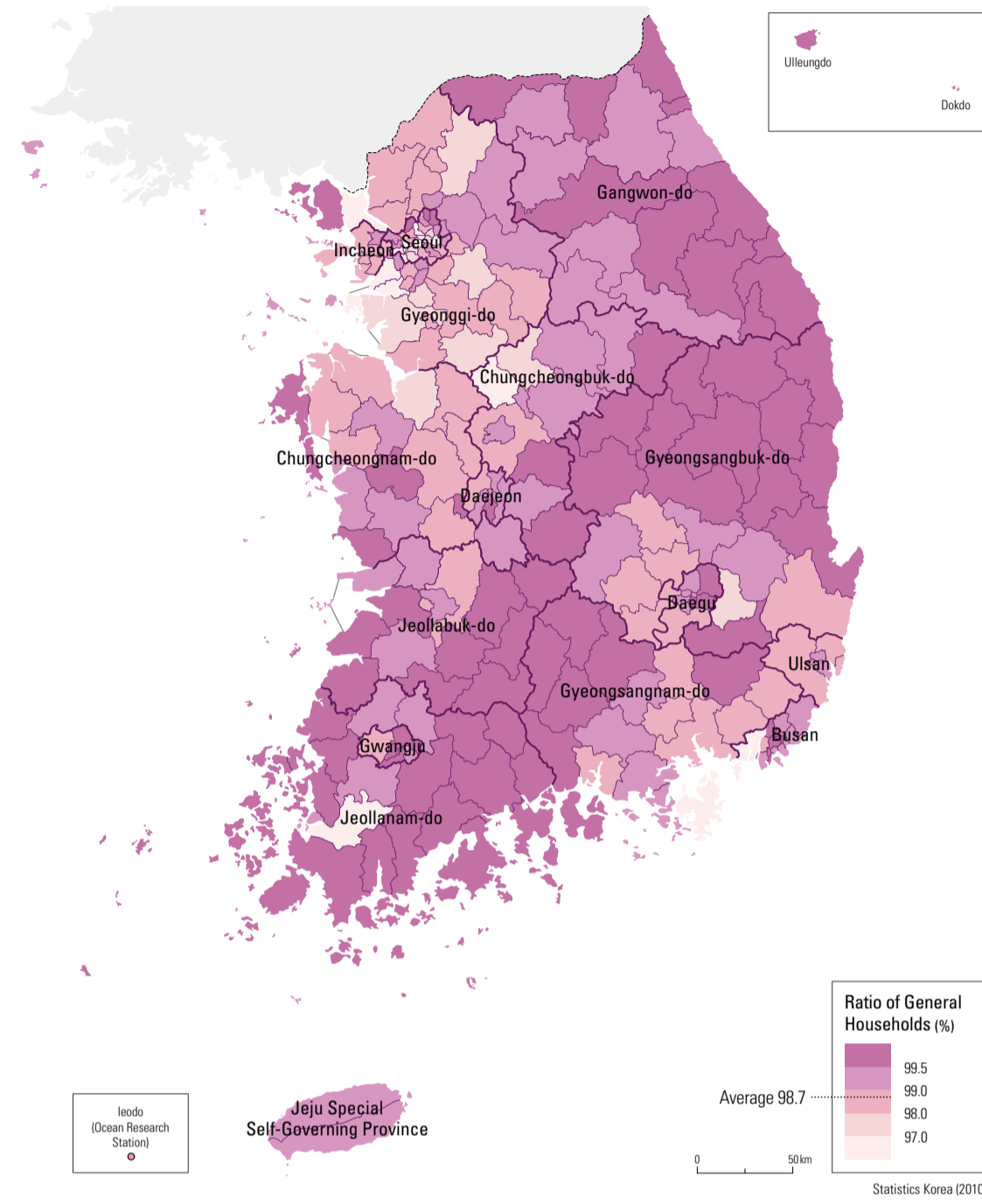


Change of Average Household Size



The household density (households/km²) increased from 574 in 1980 to 1,396 in 2010. Between 2005 and 2010, the number of households in rural areas such as Gunwi in Gyeongsangbuk-do and Yeonggwang and Hampyeong in Jeollanam-do decreased by 8%, while the number of households increased by more than 40% in the Greater Seoul Metropolitan area and other industrialized regions such as Hwaseong and Osan in Gyeonggi-do and Asan in Chungcheongnam-do. The average household size (persons/household) has decreased gradually, i.e., 4.62 in 1980, 3.77 in 1990, 3.12 in 2000, 2.88 in 2005, and 2.69 in 2010. In 2010, Gyeonggi-do had the largest size at 2.85, and Gyeongsangbuk-do had the smallest size at 2.44.

Ratio of General Households (2010)



Household by Region (2005, 2010)

| Region (-Si/-Do) | Household | | General Household | | Other Household | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------|
| | 2005 | 2010 | 2005 | 2010 | Collective Households | Foreign Household | 2005 |
| Korea | 3,341,352 | 3,577,497 | 3,309,890 | 3,504,297 | 28,147 | 70,364 | 3,315 |
| Seoul | 1,190,107 | 1,251,756 | 1,186,378 | 1,243,880 | 3,127 | 7,091 | 602 |
| Busan | 817,620 | 873,934 | 814,585 | 868,327 | 2,571 | 5,054 | 464 |
| Daegu | 828,012 | 929,489 | 823,023 | 918,850 | 4,620 | 9,667 | 369 |
| Incheon | 461,387 | 518,742 | 460,090 | 515,855 | 921 | 2,241 | 376 |
| Gwangju | 480,466 | 536,297 | 478,865 | 532,643 | 1,193 | 3,176 | 408 |
| Daejeon | 340,652 | 377,938 | 339,095 | 373,633 | 1,332 | 3,931 | 225 |
| Ulsan | 3,361,657 | 3,908,059 | 3,329,177 | 3,831,134 | 28,766 | 71,618 | 3,714 |
| Gyeonggi-do | 522,225 | 560,589 | 520,628 | 557,751 | 940 | 2,180 | 657 |
| Gangwon-do | 507,541 | 564,614 | 505,203 | 556,796 | 1,489 | 4,894 | 849 |
| Chungcheongbuk-do | 663,445 | 758,552 | 659,871 | 749,035 | 2,342 | 8,100 | 1,232 |
| Chungcheongnam-do | 621,735 | 663,695 | 619,958 | 659,946 | 1,058 | 2,934 | 719 |
| Daegu | 667,962 | 684,986 | 666,319 | 681,431 | 897 | 2,712 | 746 |
| Jeollabuk-do | 943,135 | 1,014,345 | 938,840 | 1,005,349 | 2,810 | 7,201 | 1,485 |
| Jeollanam-do | 1,061,259 | 1,165,209 | 1,056,007 | 1,151,172 | 4,028 | 11,956 | 1,224 |
| Gyeongsangbuk-do | 179,719 | 188,365 | 179,199 | 187,323 | 354 | 799 | 166 |
| Gyeongsangnam-do | 179,719 | 188,365 | 179,199 | 187,323 | 354 | 799 | 166 |
| Jeju Special Self-Governing Province | 179,719 | 188,365 | 179,199 | 187,323 | 354 | 799 | 166 |
| Total | 15,988,274 | 17,574,067 | 15,887,128 | 17,339,422 | 94,595 | 213,918 | 16,551 |

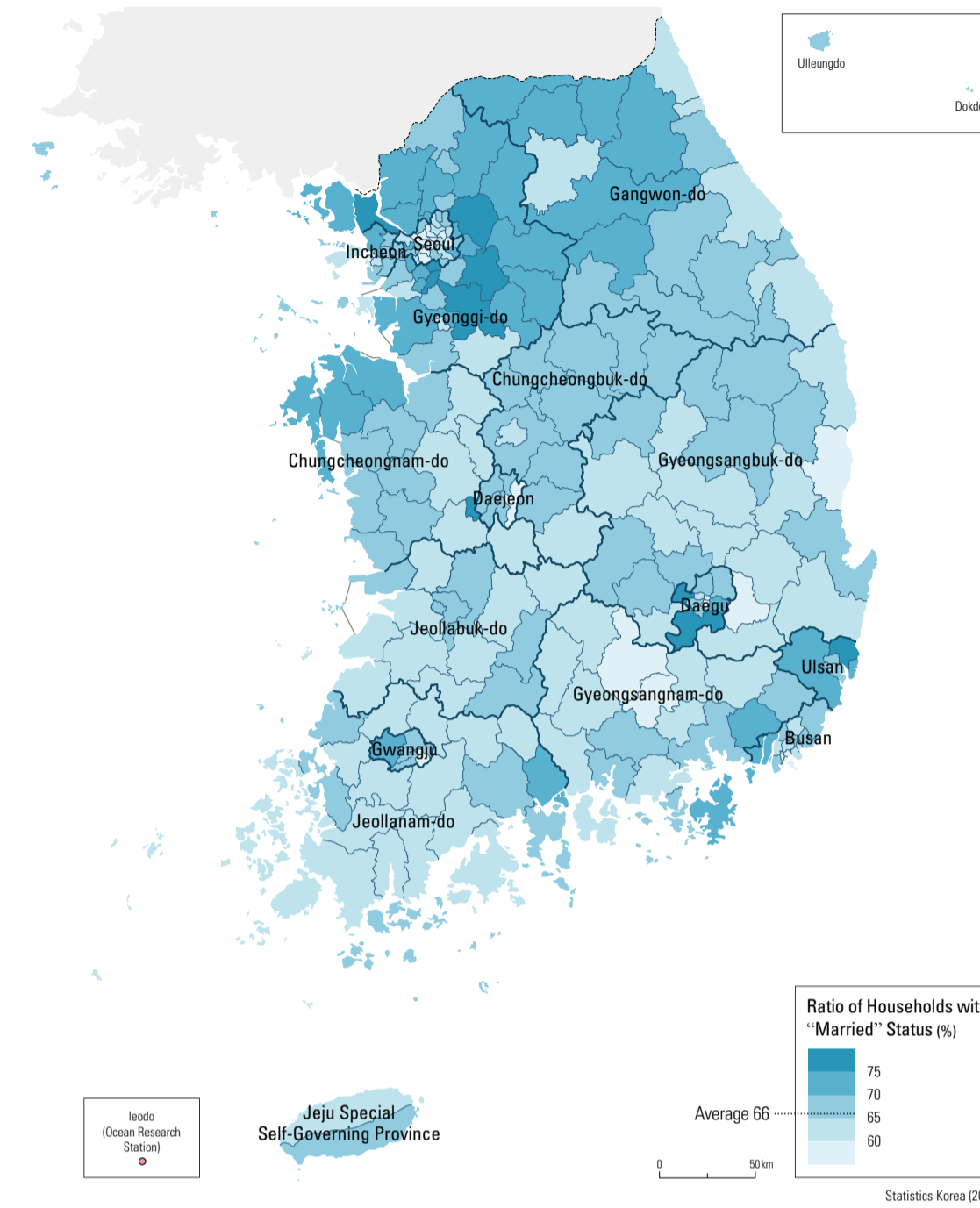
Statistics Korea (2010)

The ratio of general households decreased from 99.4% in 2005 to 98.7% in 2010. In other words, the ratio of other households increased from 0.6% in 2005 to 1.3%. The "other households" are further divided into *collective households* and *foreign households*. A collective household is composed of six or more members living together who are not related by blood. Examples are dormitory, orphanage, nursing home, and monastery. A foreign household refers to the

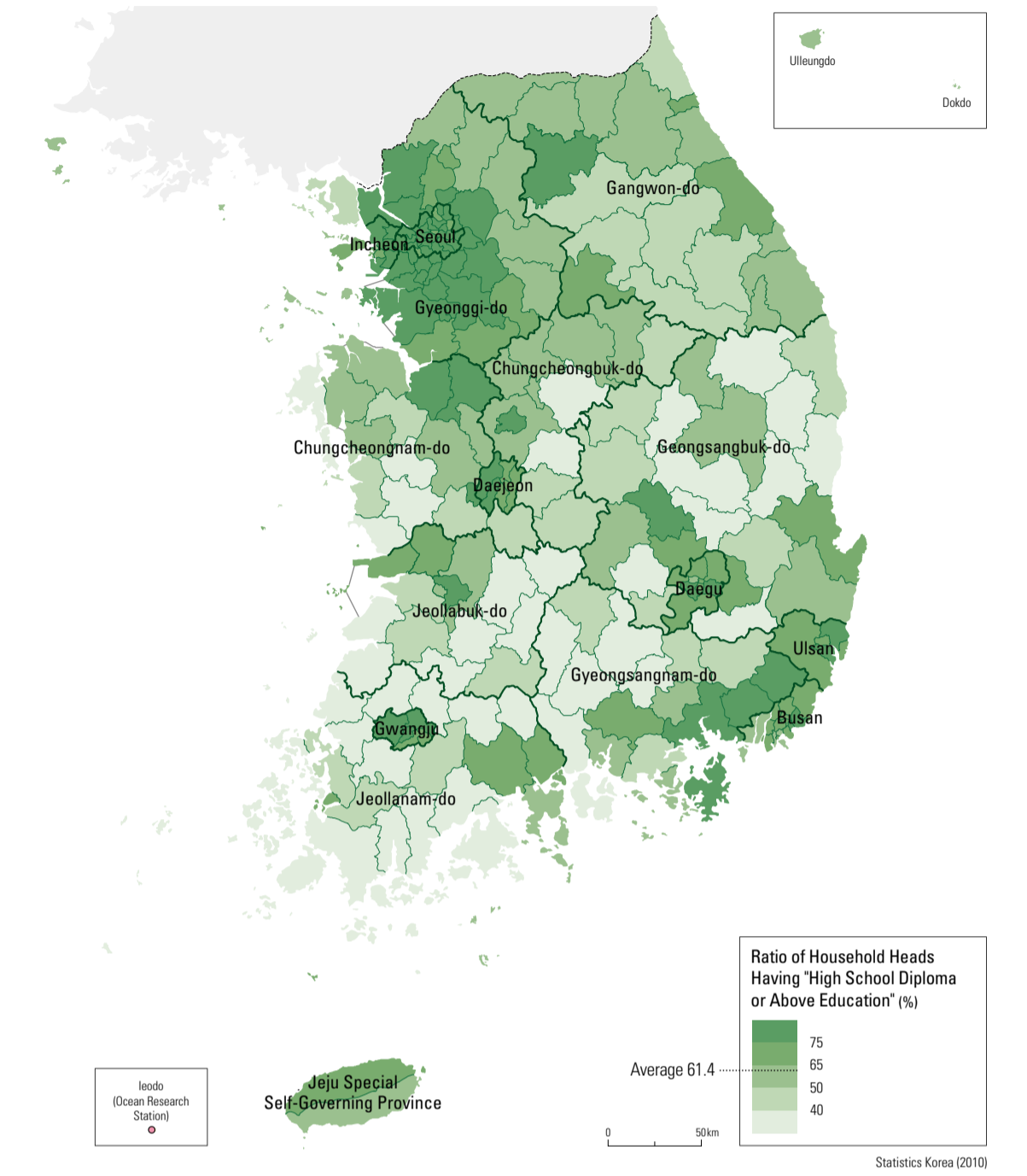
household whose members are all foreign nationals. If only some members are foreign nationals, the household is considered a general household. While the ratio of collective households remained unchanged at 0.1% in 2005 and 2010, the ratio of foreign households surged from 0.5% in 2005 to 1.2% in 2010. The ratio of other households was the highest in the areas having more foreign households such as Seoul (2.0%) and Gyeonggi-do (2.0%).

Characteristics of Household Members

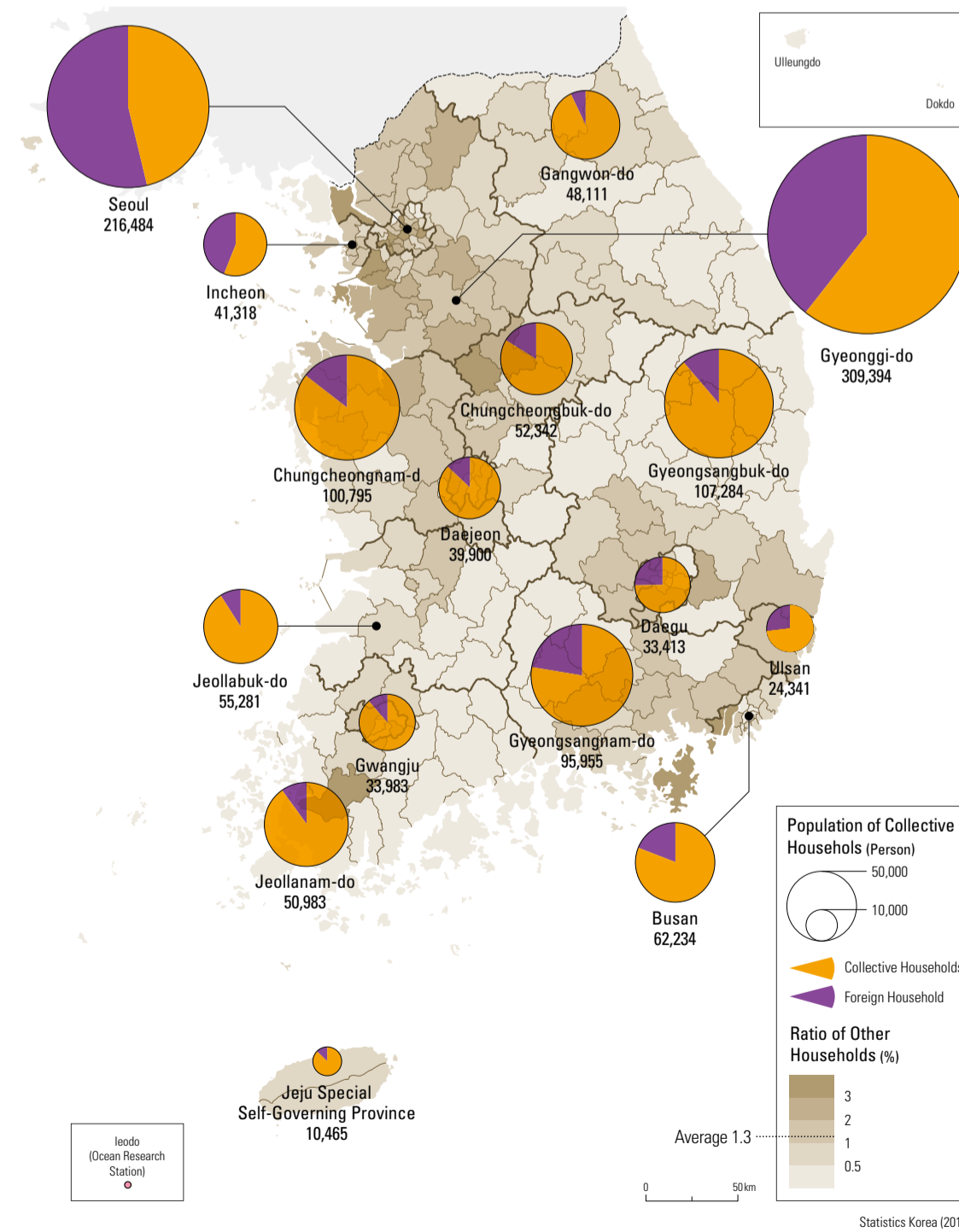
Ratio of Households with "Married" Status (2010)



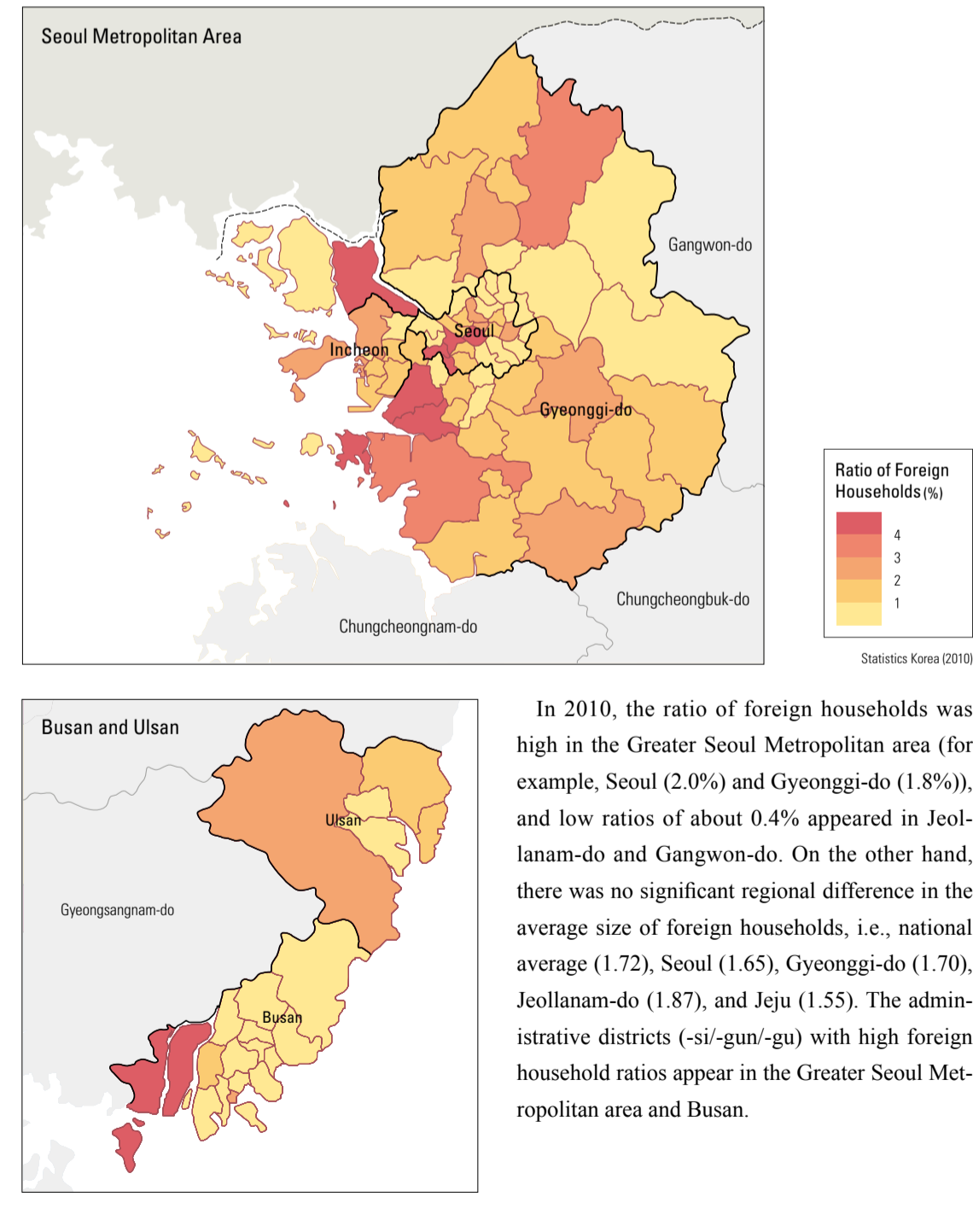
Ratio of Household Heads Having "High School Diploma or Above Education" (2010)



Ratio of Other Households and Population of Collective Households (2010)

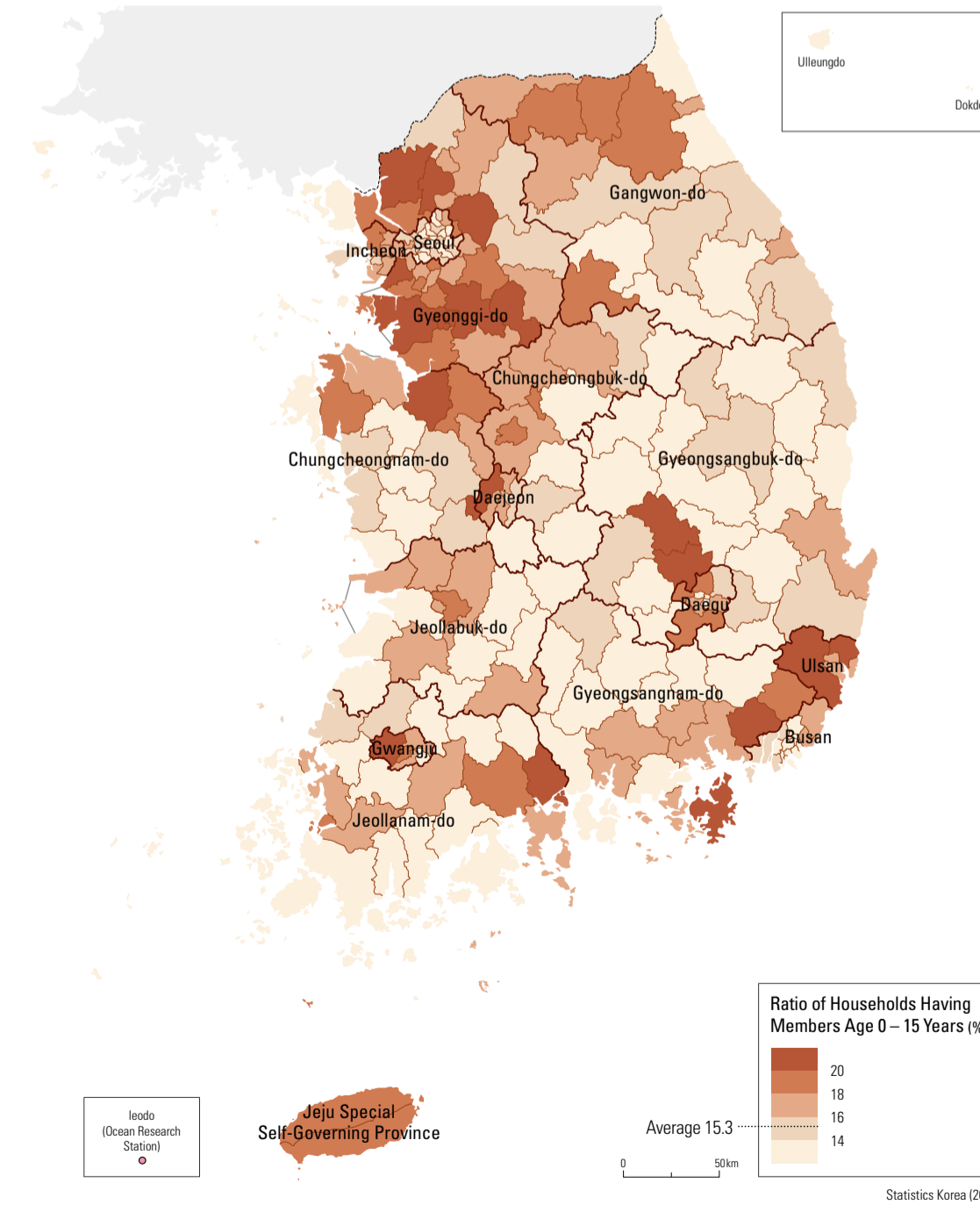


Ratio of Foreign Households (2010)

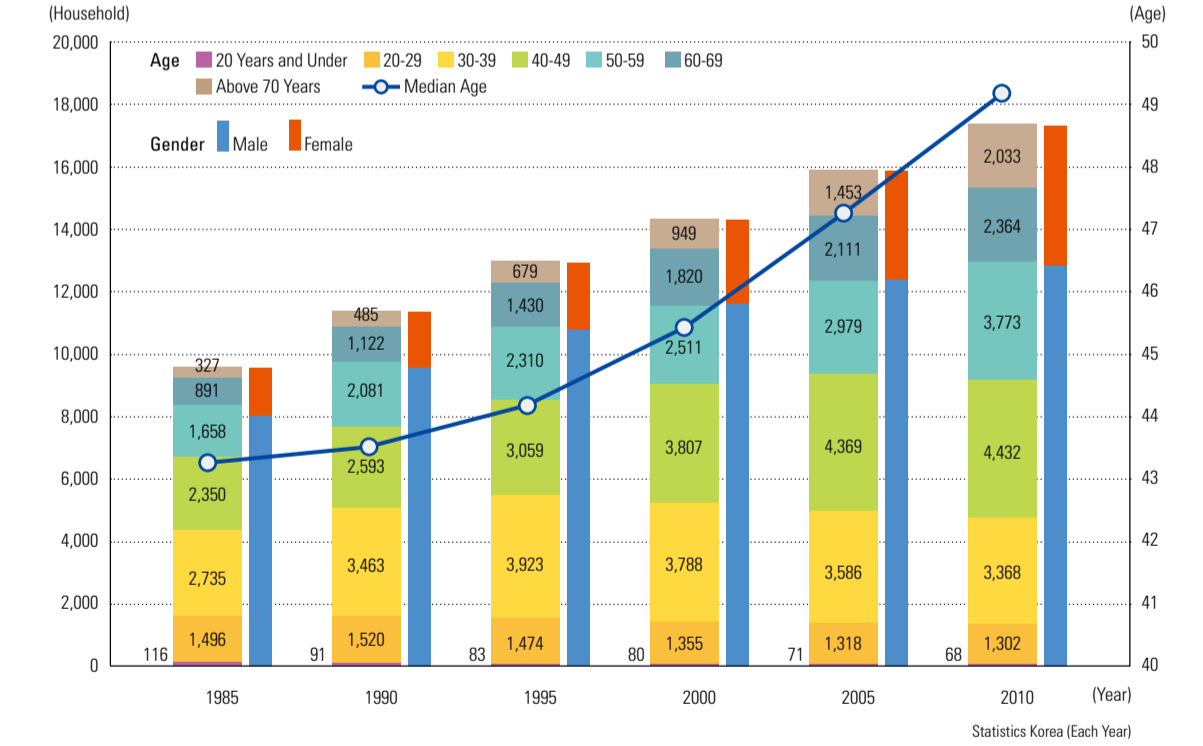


In 2010, the ratio of foreign households was high in the Greater Seoul Metropolitan area (for example, Seoul (2.0%) and Gyeonggi-do (1.8%)), and low ratios of about 0.4% appeared in Jeollanam-do and Gangwon-do. On the other hand, there was no significant regional difference in the average size of foreign households, i.e., national average (1.72), Seoul (1.65), Gyeonggi-do (1.70), Jeollanam-do (1.87), and Jeju (1.55). The administrative districts (-si/-gun/-gu) with high household ratios appear in the Greater Seoul Metropolitan area and Busan.

Ratio of Households Having Members Age 0 - 15 Years (2010)



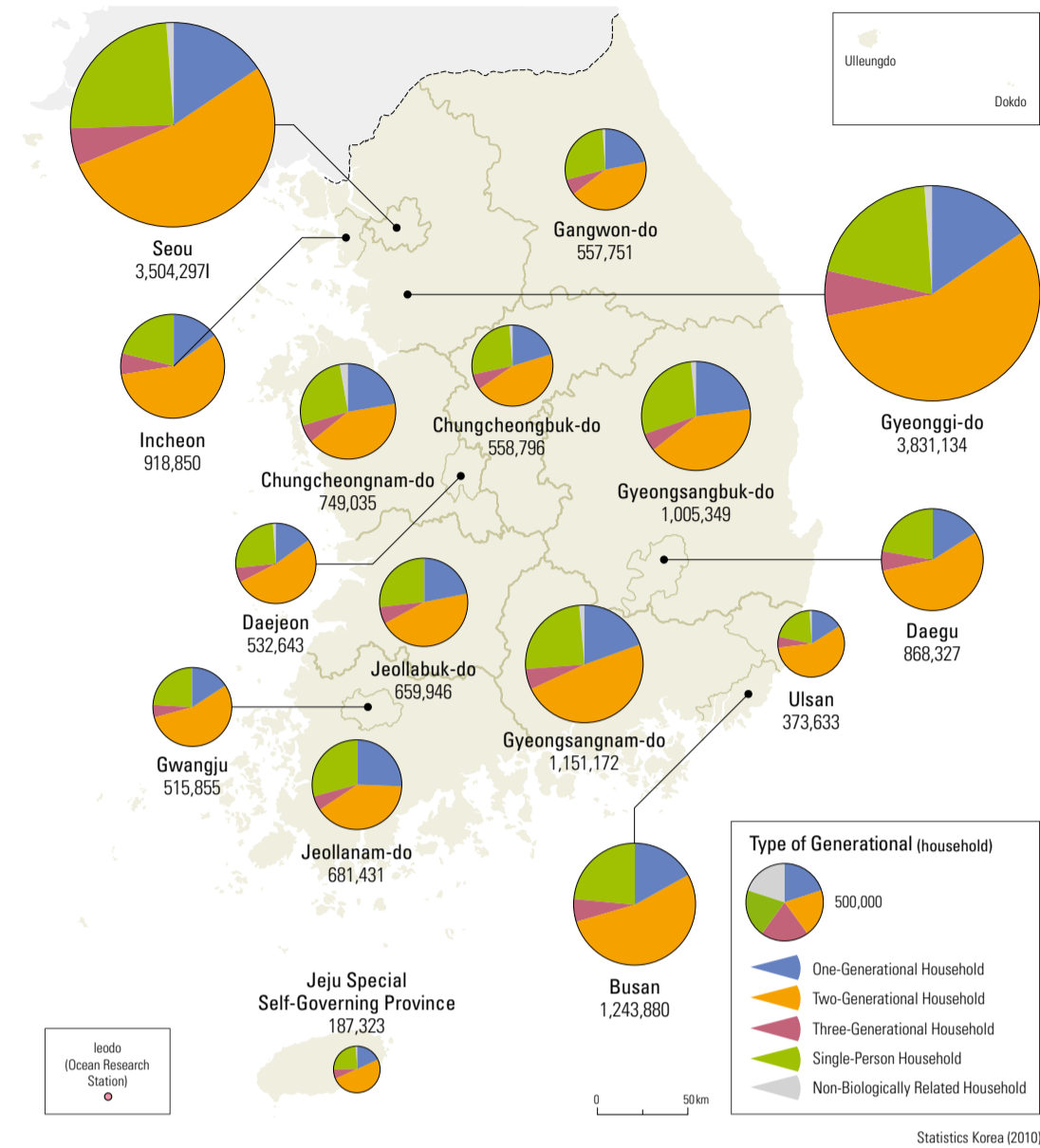
Age and Gender of Household Head



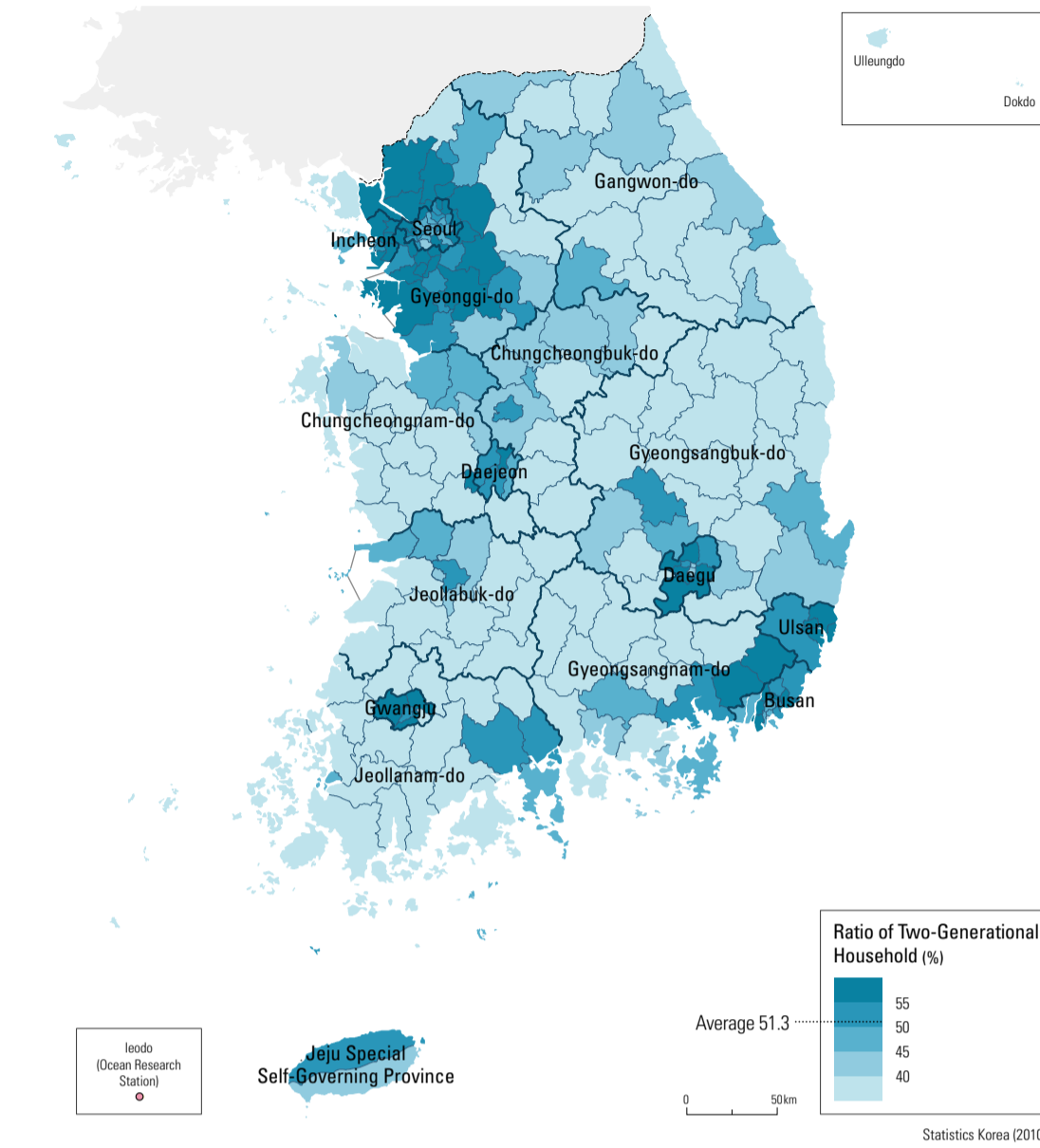
The marital status of the head of household is categorized into married, unmarried, widowed, and divorced. Overall, the ratio of household heads with "married" status is 66%, and is high in Gyeryong in Chungcheongnam-do (82%), Bukgu in Ulsan (79%), Yongin in Gyeonggi-do (78%), and Gwacheon in Gyeonggi-do (76%). In regard to education levels, about 61.4% of household heads have completed "high school and above." Educational degree attainment is high in the metropolitan areas. The average ratio of households having 0-15 year-old members is 15.3%.

The median age of heads of households in 2010 was 49.0, which is older compared to 41.9 in 1985, 43.0 in 1995, and 46.7 in 2005. In 1985, the household heads in their 30s and 40s made up the largest group. By 2010, the household heads in their 50s and 60s and older increased, while those in their 30s decreased. The percent of male heads of households continued to decrease during the 2000s. For example, it decreased from 84.3% (15.7% female head) in 1985 to 74.1% (25.9% female head) in 2010.

Type of Generational Household (2010)

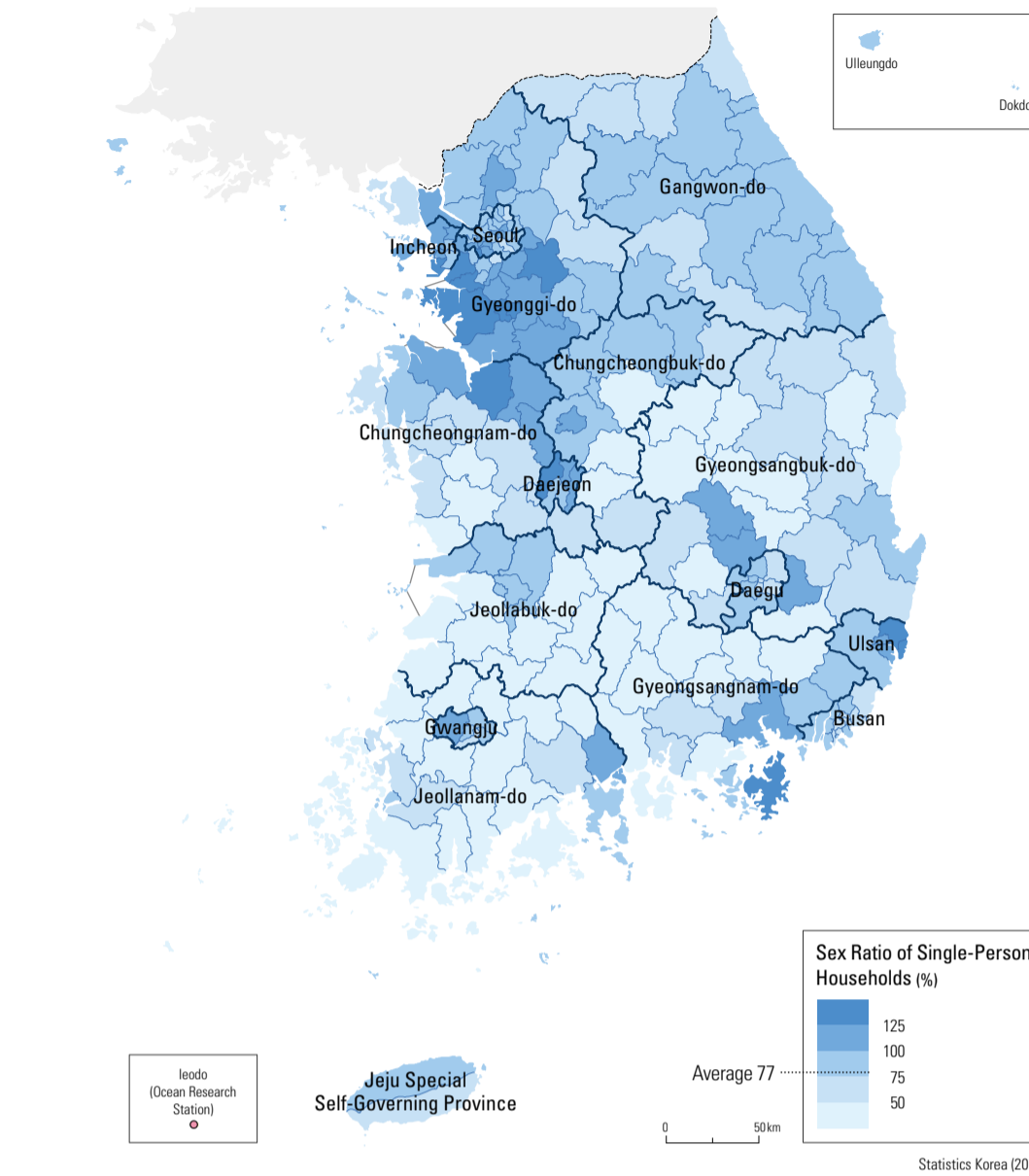


Ratio of Two-Generational Households (2010)

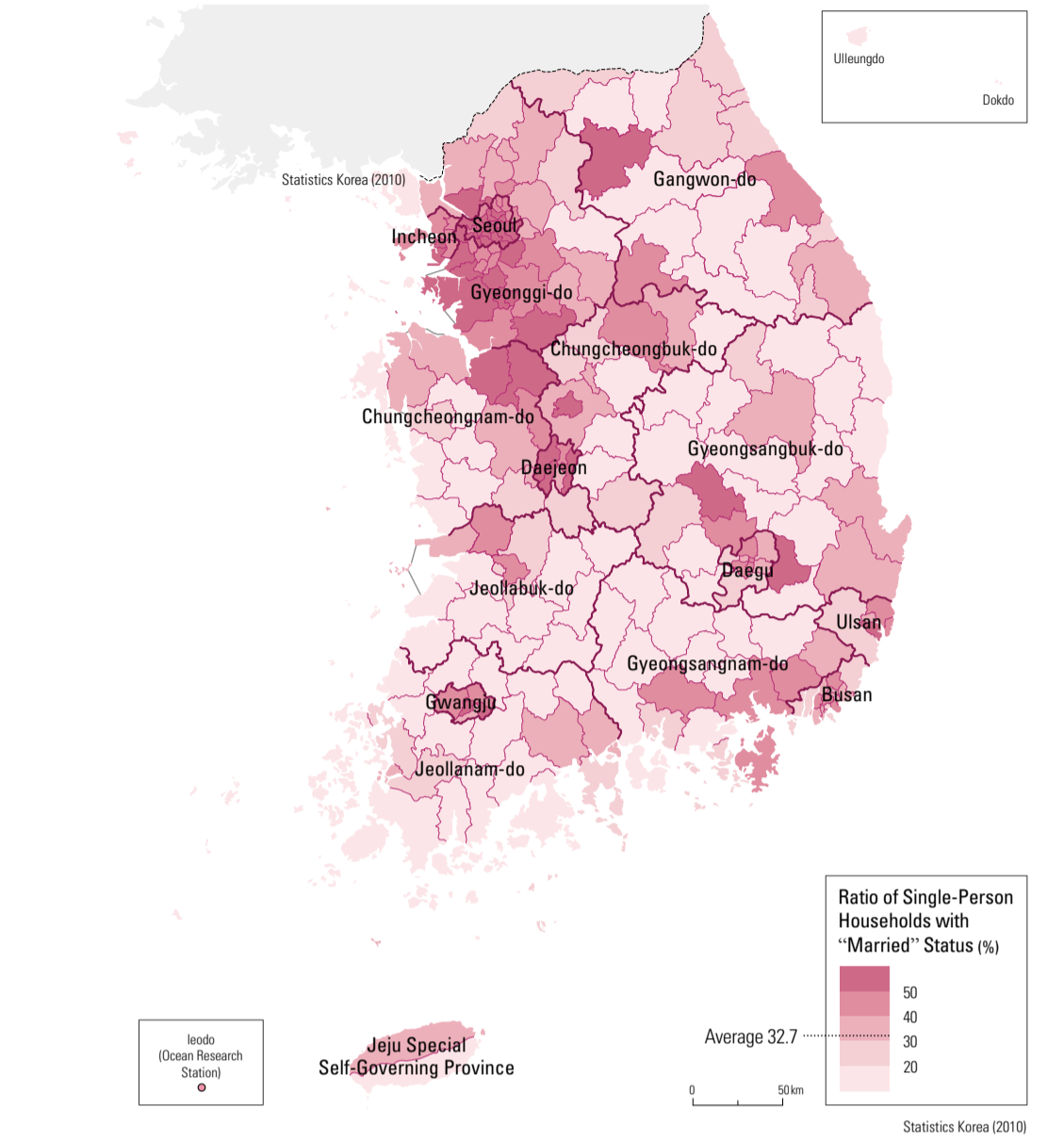


Single-Person Household

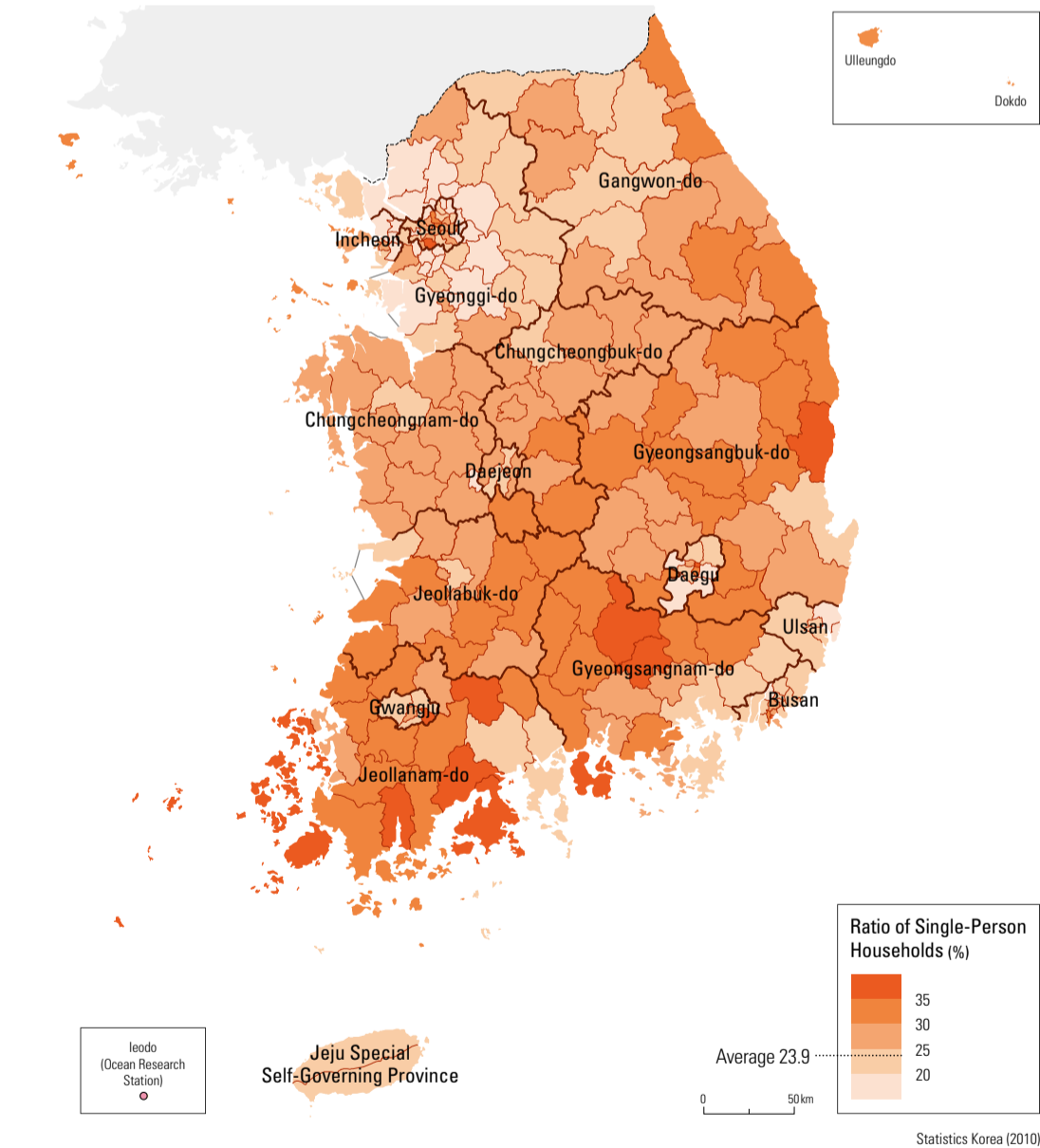
Sex Ratio of Single-Person Households (2010)



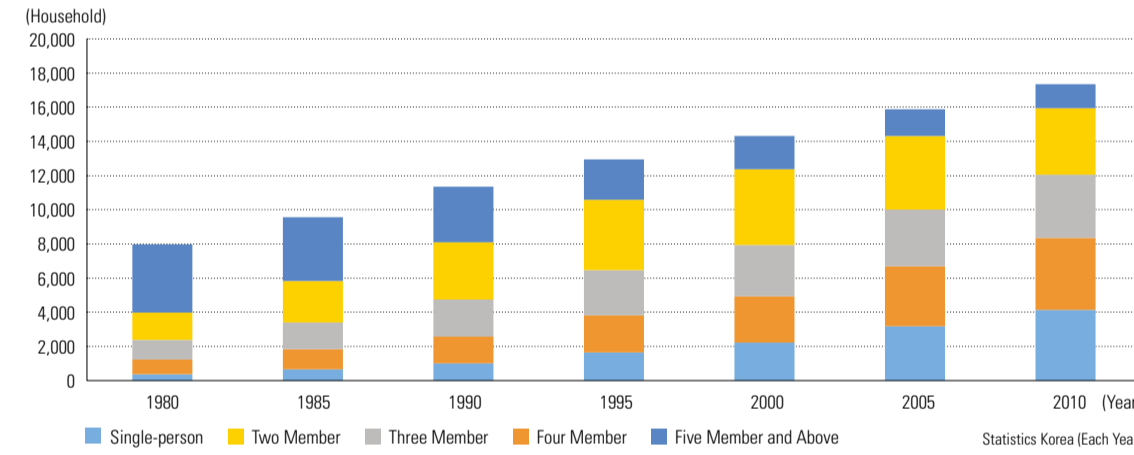
Ratio of Single-Person Households with "Married" Status (2010)



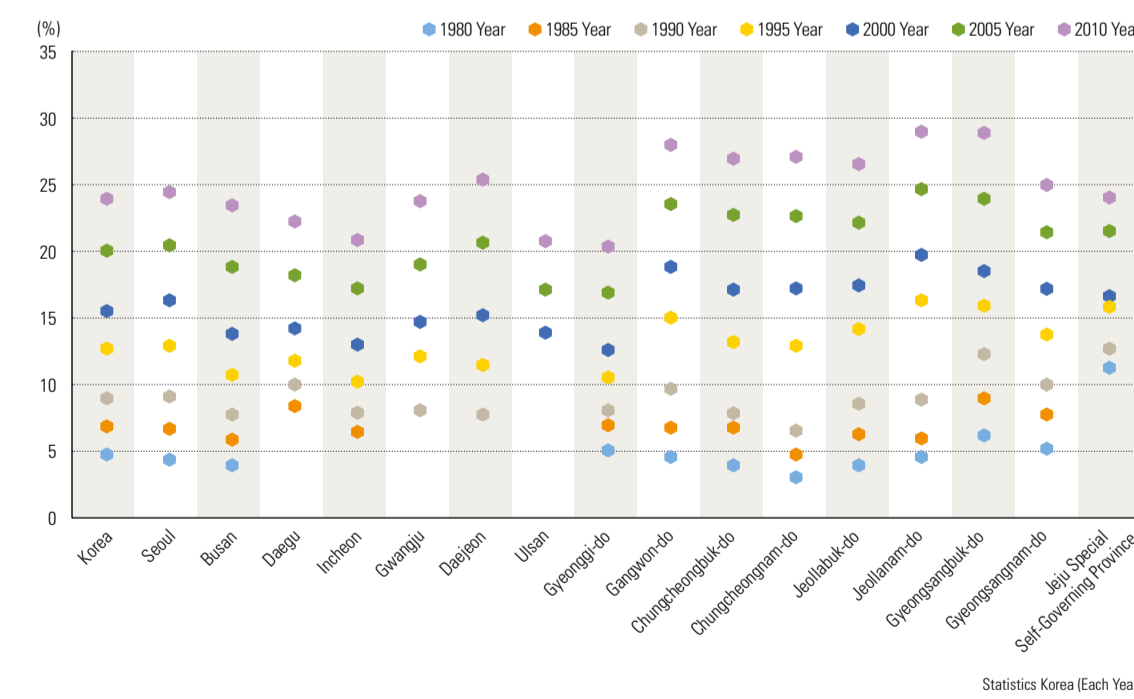
Ratio of Single-Person Households (2010)



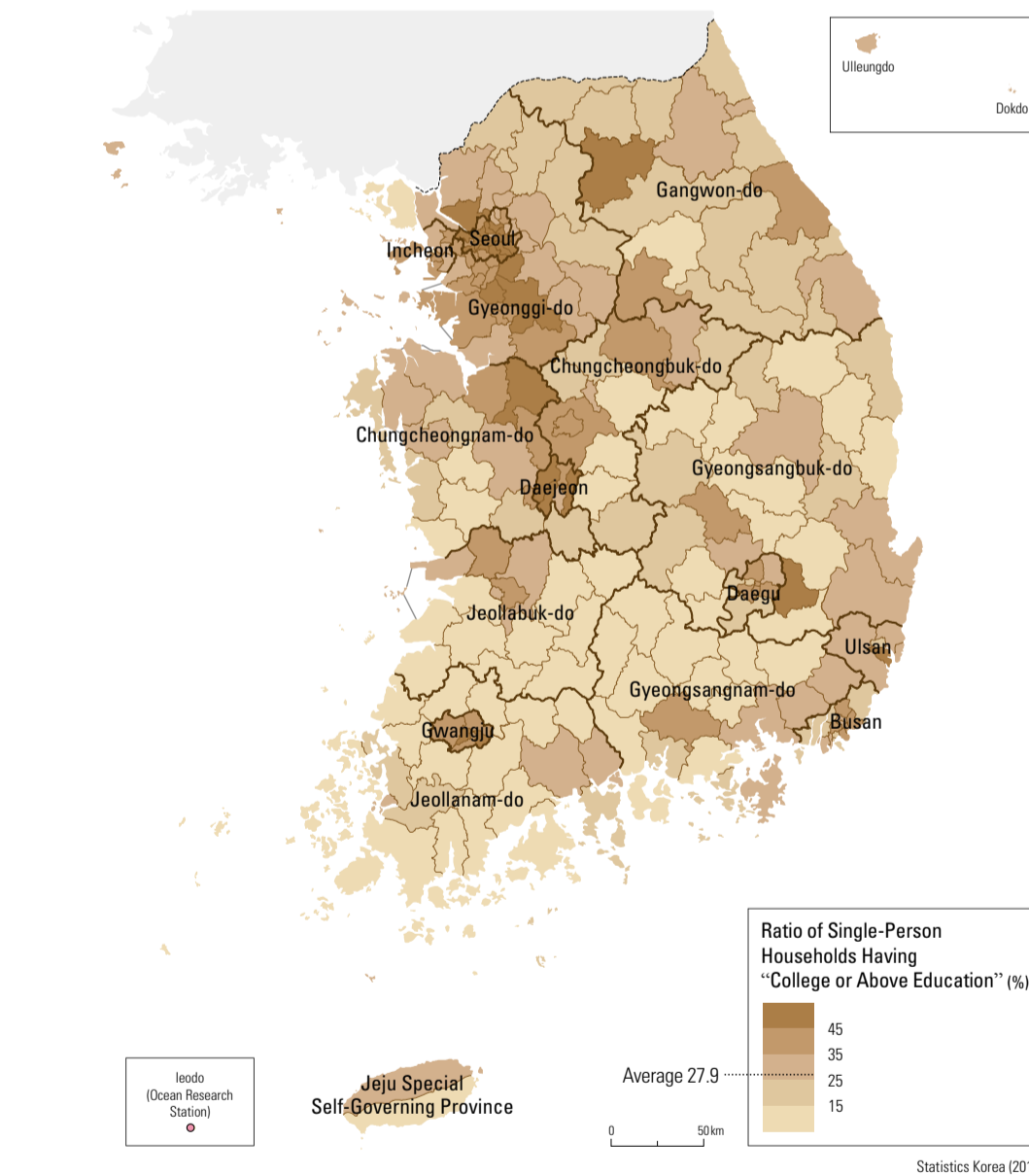
Change in Household Size



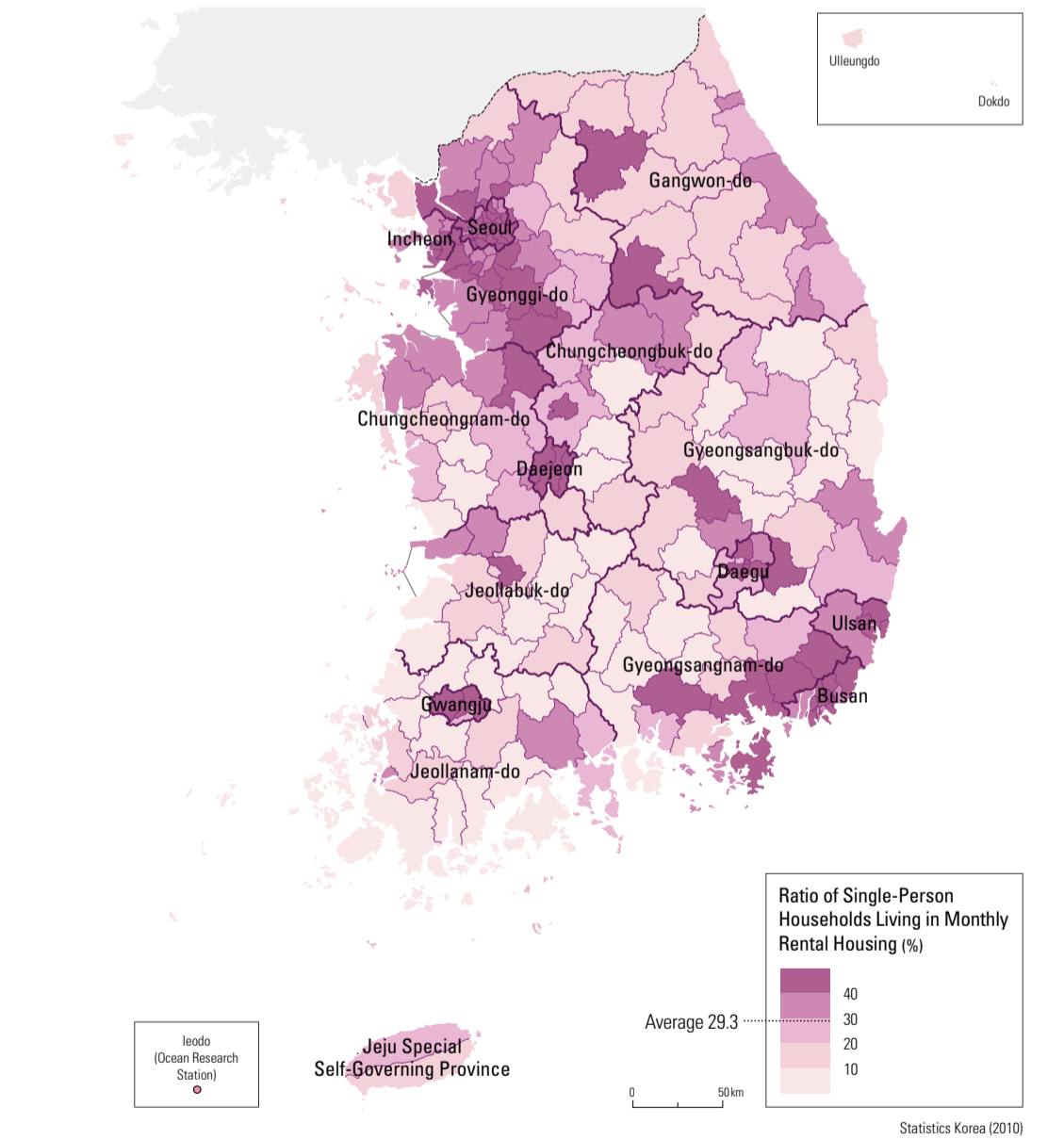
Regional Ratio of Single-Person Households



Ratio of Single-Person Households having "College or Above Education" (2010)



Ratio of Single-Person Households Living in Monthly Rental Housing (2010)



Depending on the relation between the head of the household and its members, a general household is categorized into a one-generational household (married couple or siblings), two-generational household (married couple and children or married couple and parents), three-generational household (married couple, children, and parents or grandchildren), single-person household, and

non-biologically related household. In Korea as of 2010, the two-generational household was most common (51.3%), followed by single-person household (23.9%). The average household size has changed significantly over the past years. In 1980, households with five or more members were the majority, comprising 50%, whereas only 4.8% were sin-

gle-person households. In 2010, two-member households became the majority, accounting for 24.3%. Single-person households were the next largest group, taking up 23.9%. Some reasons for the increase of single-person households include changing views on marriage, more women in the workplace choosing to remain unmarried or divorcing, and increases in the elderly population

living alone with longer life expectancy after the death of a spouse. The ratio of single-person households in Seoul increased from 4.5% in 1980 to 12.9% in 1995, and reached 24.4% in 2010, which is a level similar to the national average. The trend is the same in the metropolitan cities such as Busan and Daegu.

In 2010, the number of single-person households reached 4.14 million in Korea, or about 24% of all general households. The female single-person households outnumbered the male single-person households by a ratio of 2.22 million to 1.92 million. The sex ratio of single-person households is 77. The ratio is very low in rural areas. The ratio of single-person households in the "married" status category is 32.7%. National-

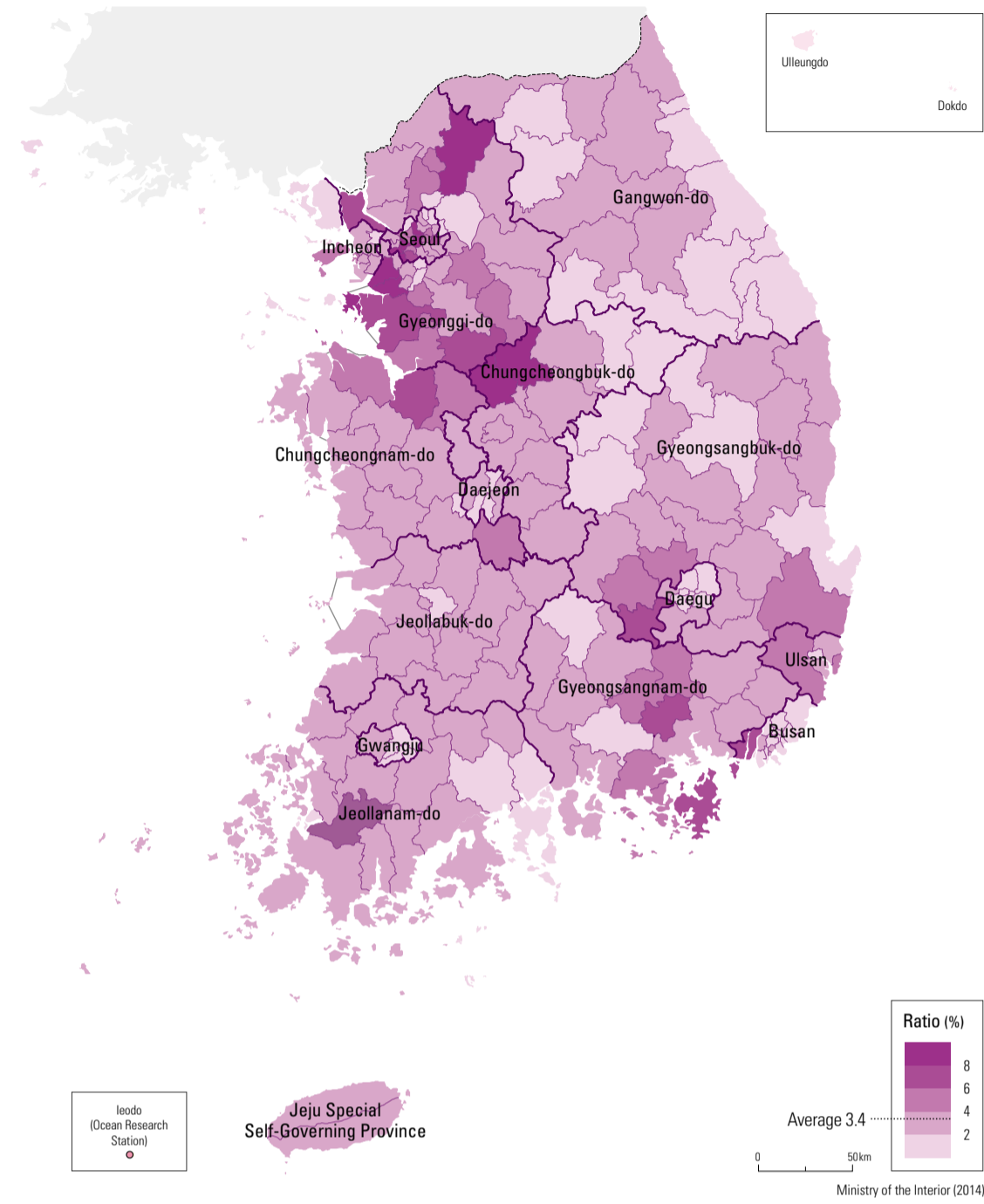
ly, about 27.9% of single-person households had "college or above education." Nationally, about 29.3% of single-person households live in monthly rental housing. The distribution of monthly rental households is similar to the distributions of single-person households in "unmarried" or "college or above education" categories. The ratio is low in rural areas, while high in the metropolitan and industrial areas.

Many factors affect the geographic distribution of single-person households such as marriage, school, and work. The probability of becoming a single-person household dramatically increases for both men and women after the age of 18 because of leaving home for school or work. The male single-person households decrease as many men get married in their late 20s. The number of female single-person households does not

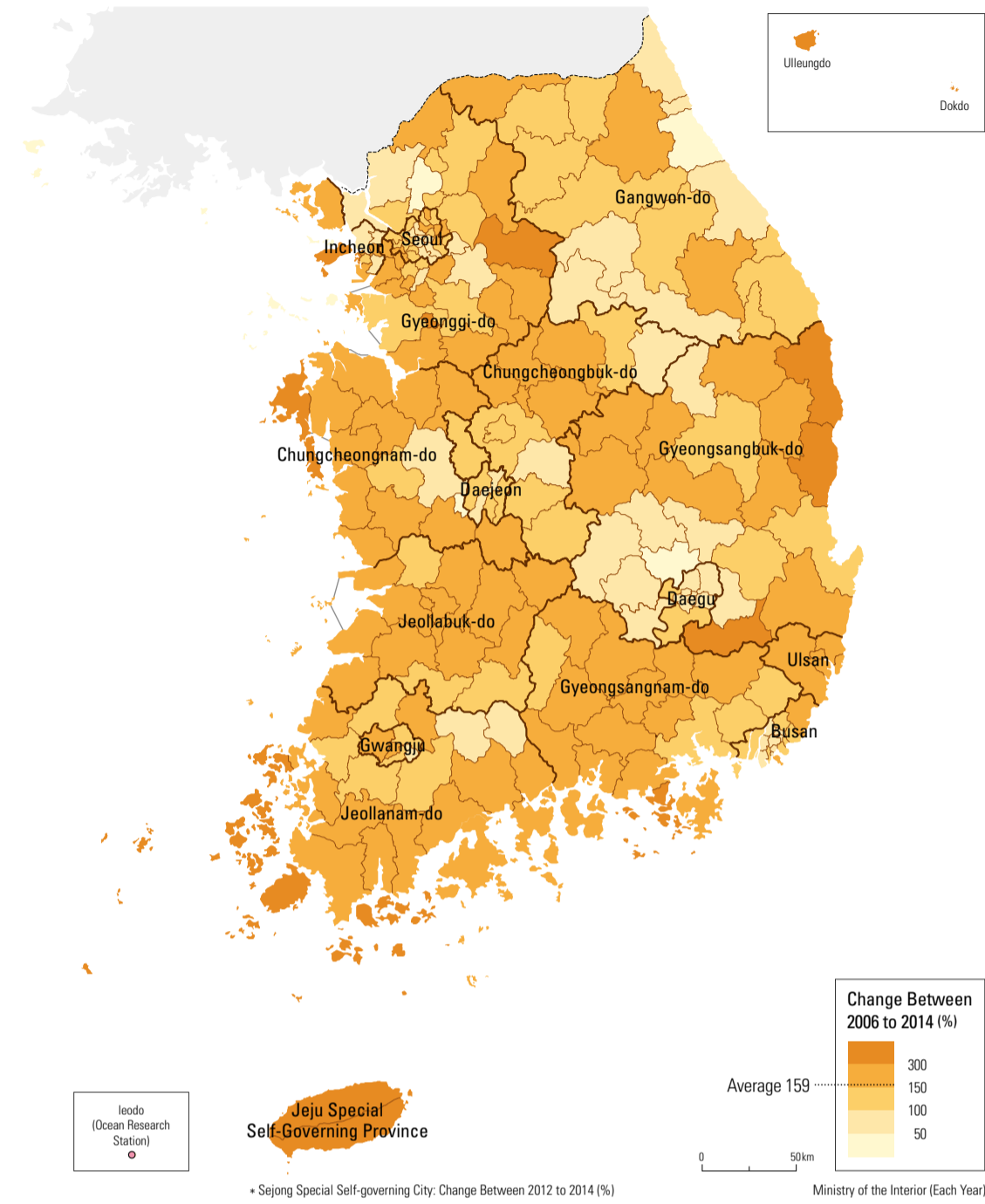
decrease like the male number due to various reasons such as choosing to remain unmarried, a male spouse passing away, or divorce. Regionally, the ratio of unmarried single-person households is high in metropolitan and industrial areas due to school or work opportunities, and it is also increasing in rural areas with increasing elderly populations.

Multicultural, Foreign-Born Residents

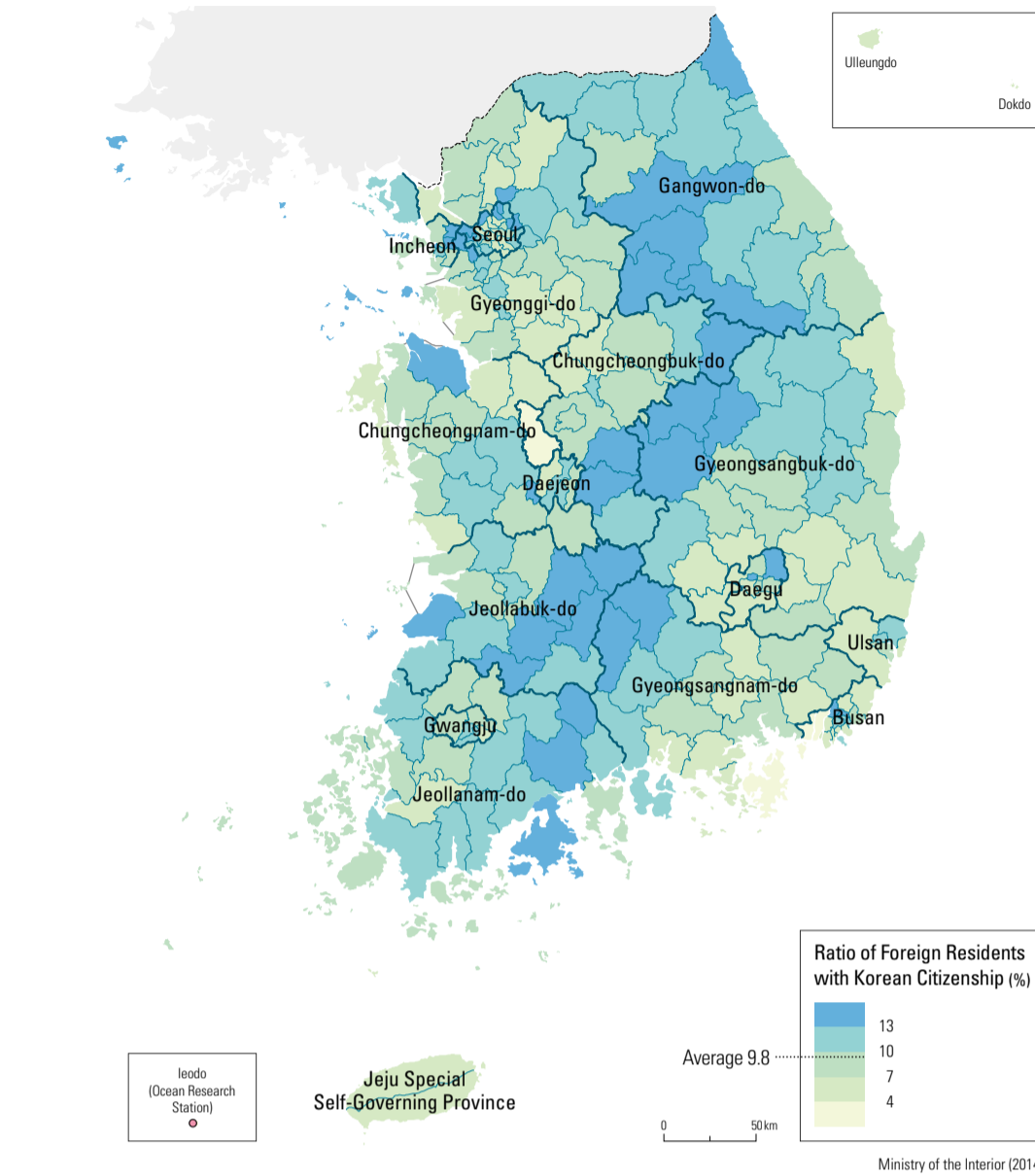
Ratio of Foreign Residents (2014)



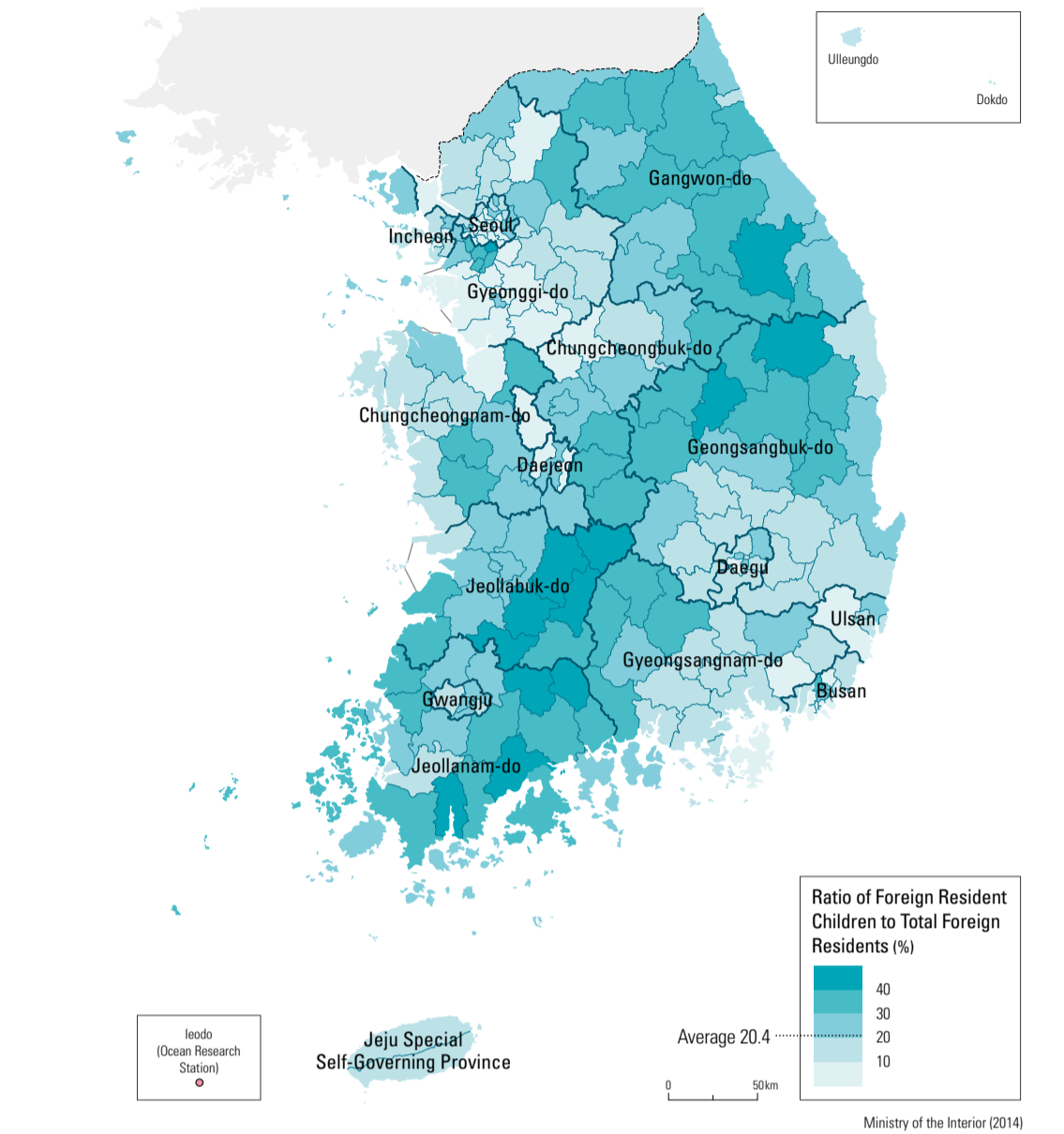
Change in Foreign Residents (2006 – 2014)



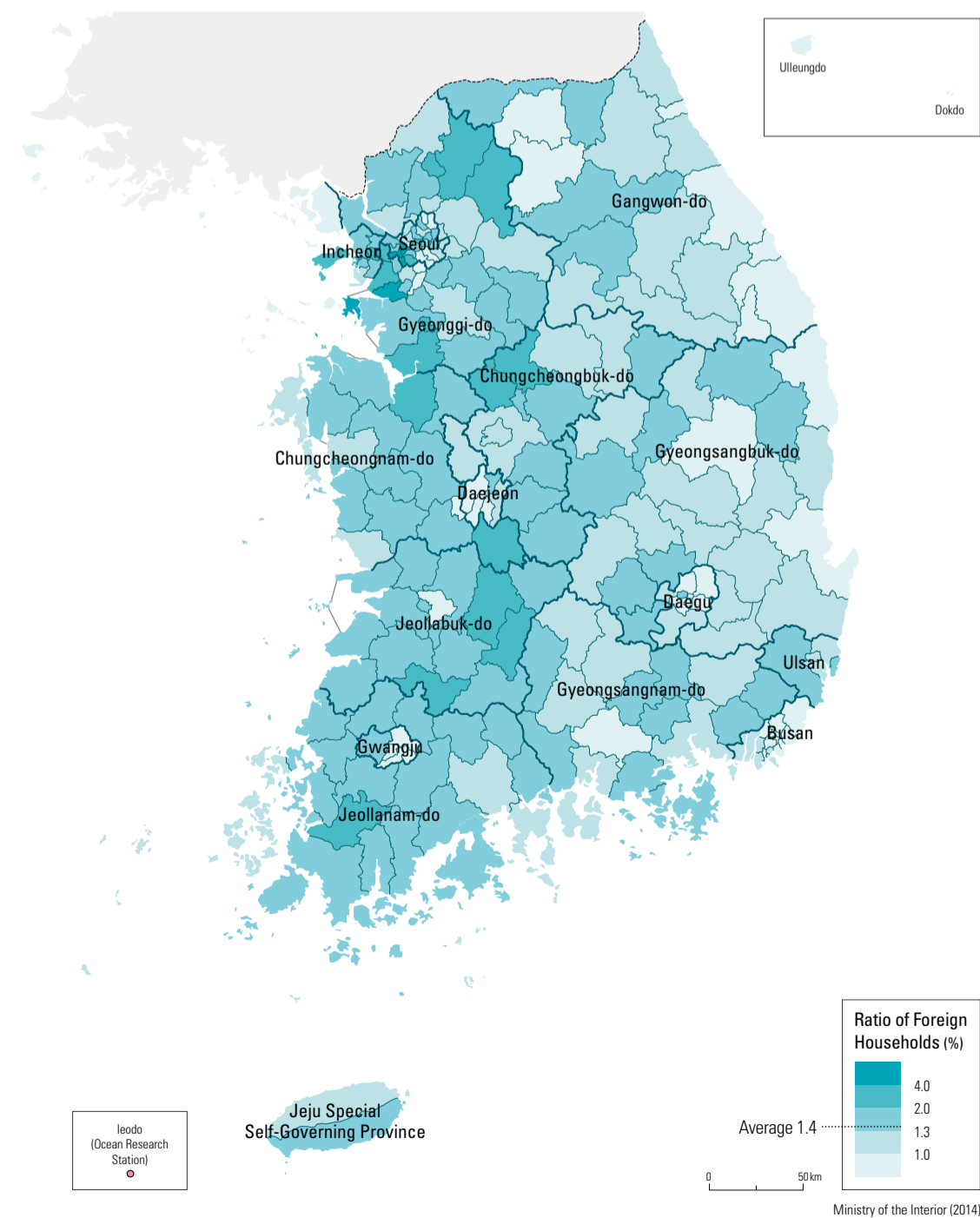
Ratio of Foreign Residents with Korean Citizenship (2014)



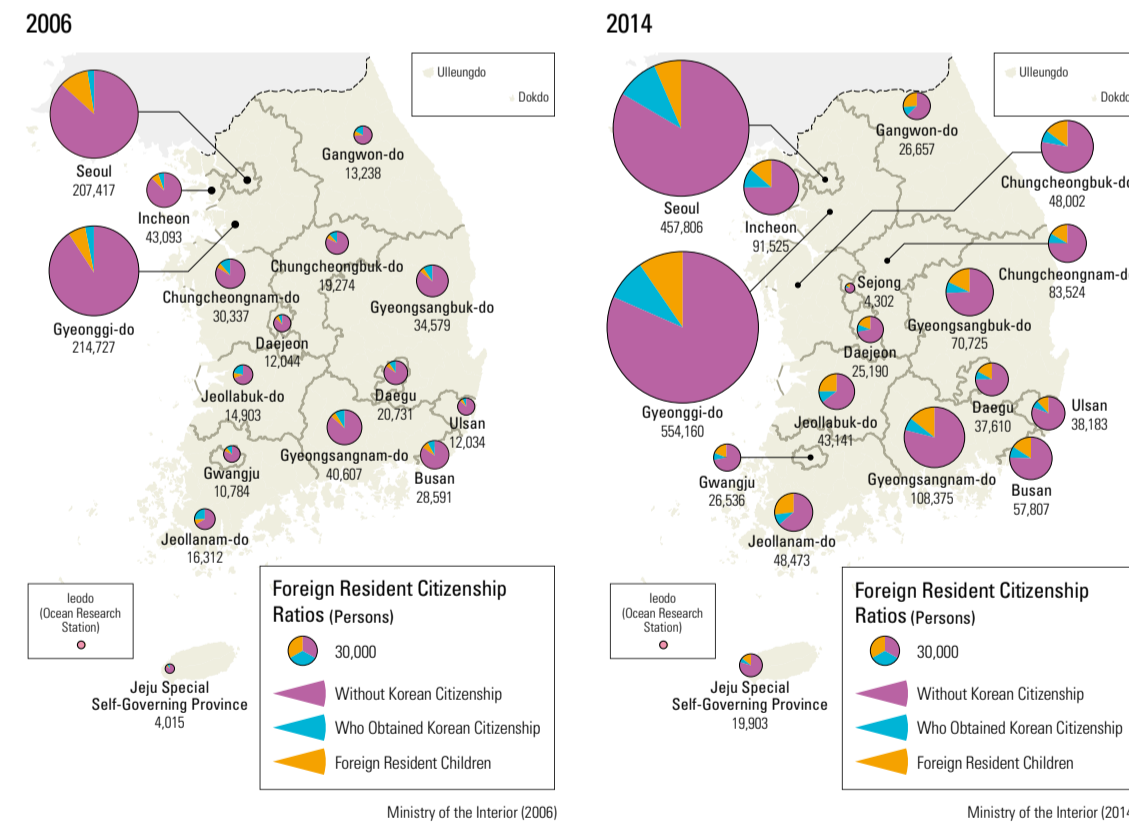
Ratio of Foreign Resident Children to Total Foreign Residents (2014)



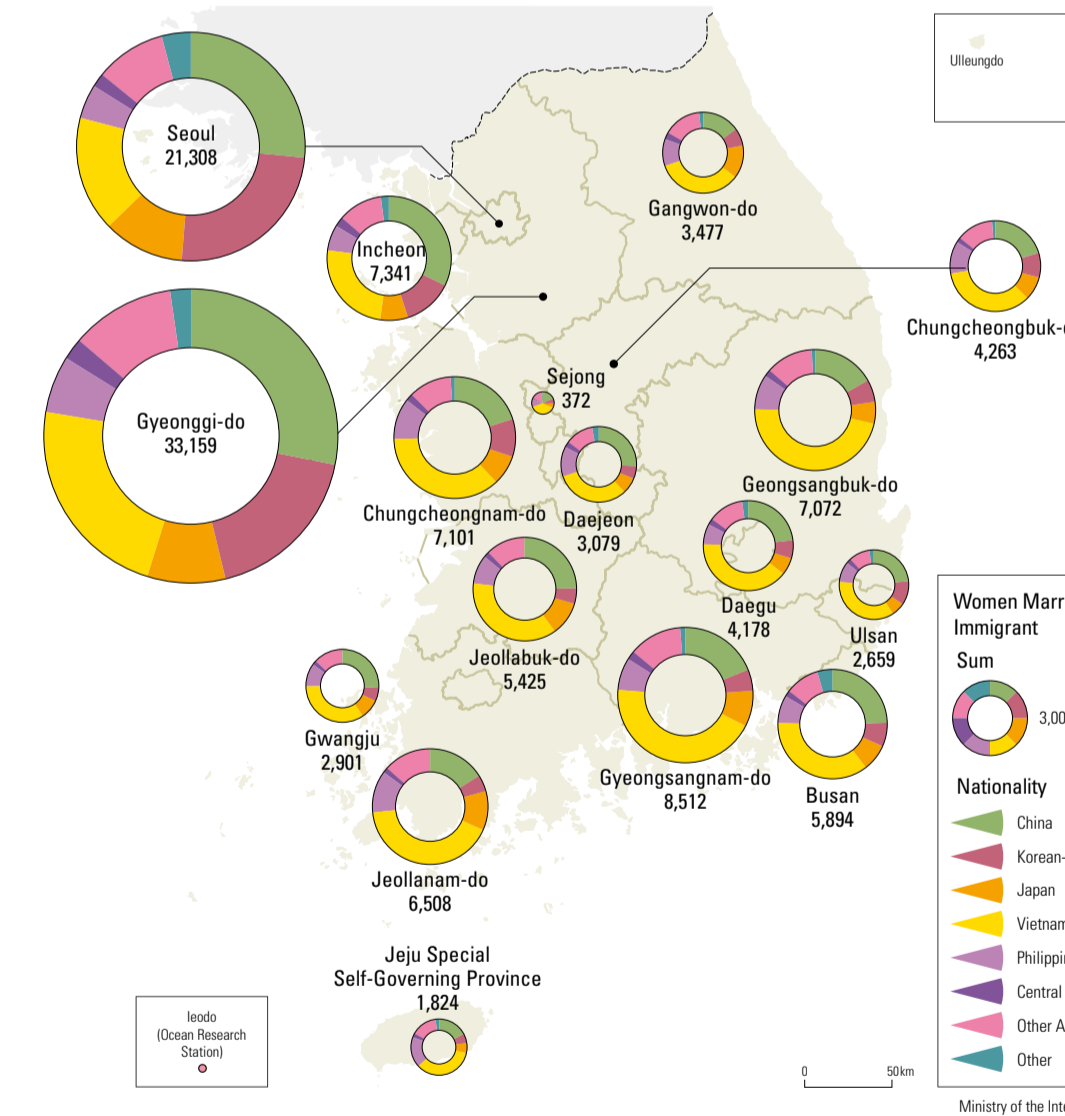
Ratio of Foreign Households (2014)



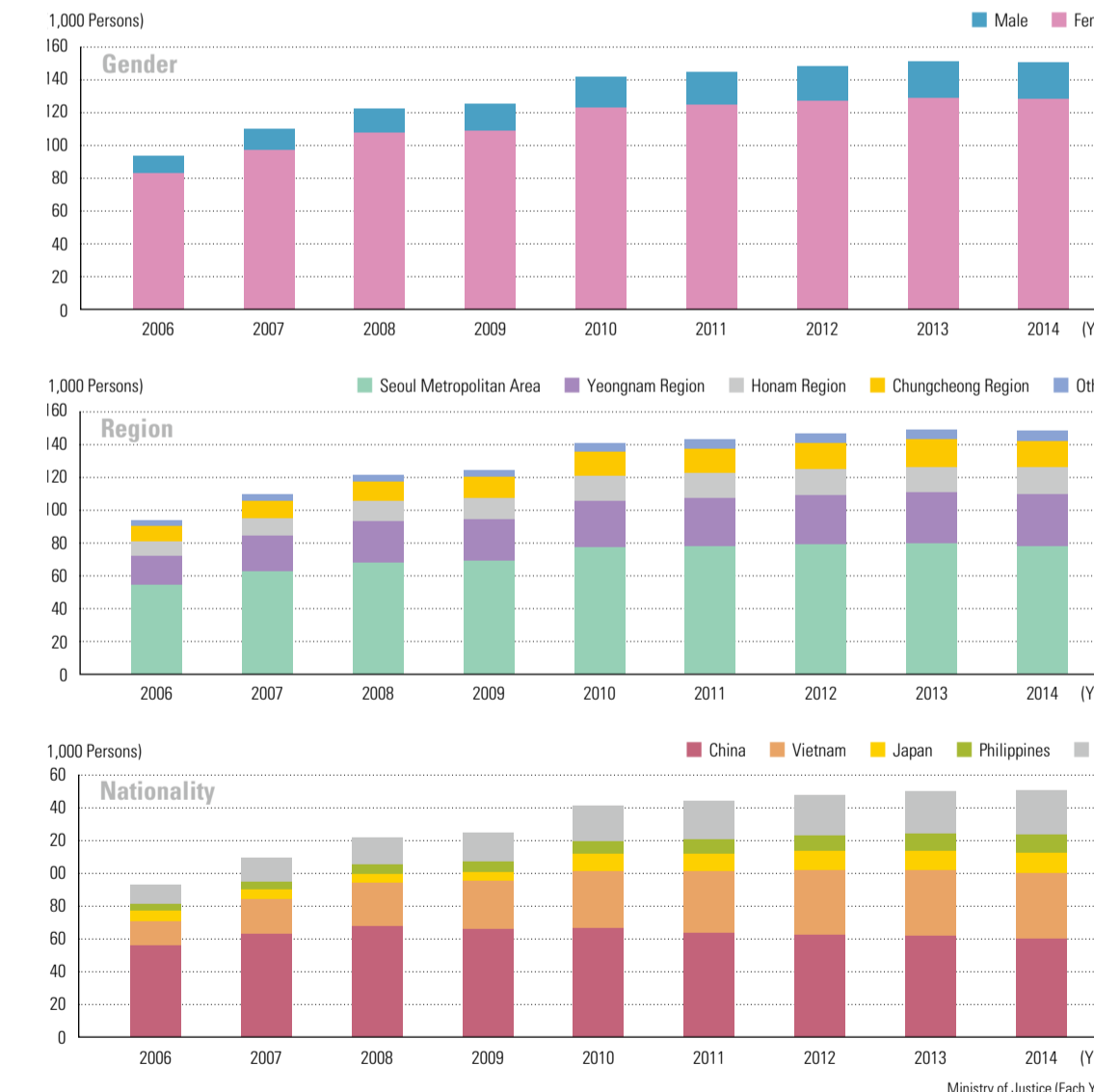
Citizenship of Foreign Residents



Nationality of Women Marriage Immigrant



Change in Marriage Immigrants by Gender, Region, and Nationality



The number of foreign residents registered at the Ministry of the Interior rapidly increased from 0.72 million in 2006 to 1.74 million in 2014 (0.90 million males and 0.84 million females, 3.4% of total population). Regionally, the Greater Seoul Metropolitan area, particularly Geumcheon-gu and Guro-gu in Seoul and Ansan in Gyeonggi-do, accommodates the majority of the foreign residents who are in Korea for employment, while the rural areas are home to marriage immigrants.

Regarding citizenship, about 79% of foreign residents (1.38 million) are “without Korean citizenship.” Those “who obtained Korean citizenship” account for about 9.1% (0.16 million), and the “foreign resident children” account for about 11.9% (0.21 million). Among the foreign residents “without Korean citizenship,” about 35% (0.61 million) were foreign workers, followed by marriage immigrants (9% or 0.15 million), and students studying in Korea (5% or 0.08 million). Geographically, about 63.3% of all foreign residents live in the Greater Seoul Metropolitan area, including Gyeonggi-do (0.55 million), Seoul (0.46 million), and Incheon (0.09 million).

Foreign residents who have been naturalized to obtain Korean citizenship are categorized as “marriage immigrants” and “others.” As of 2014, there were 92,000 marriage immigrants and 66,000 in the “other” category who obtained Korean citizenship. The ratio of foreign residents who obtained Korean citizenship to total foreign residents is 9.8%.

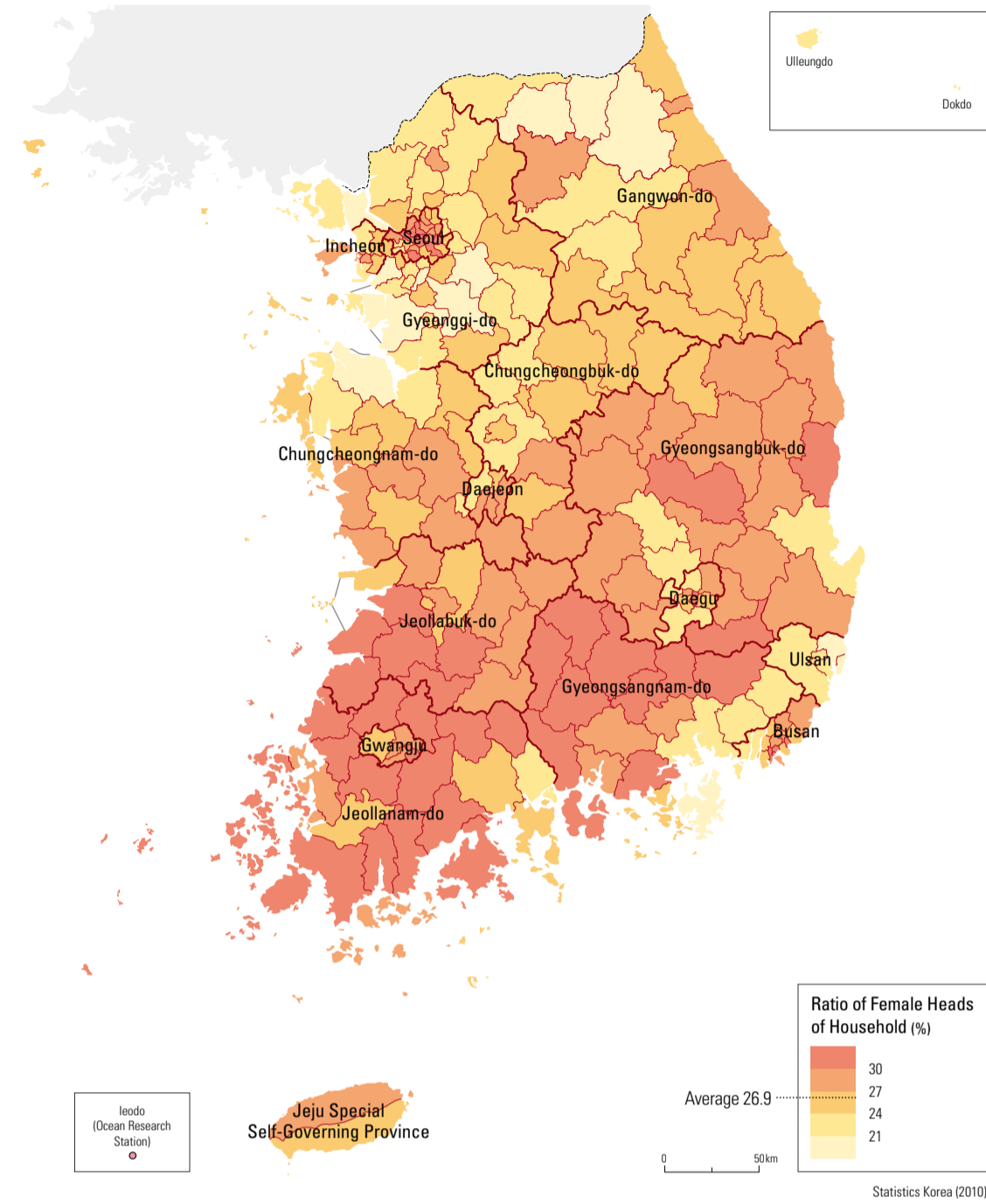
Foreign resident children are categorized into “foreign children born from foreign parents,” “children born from Korean and foreign spouse,” and “foreign children born from Korean parents.” As of 2014, there were 207,000 foreign resident children, including 14,000 “foreign children born from foreign parents,” 184,000 “children born from Korean and foreign spouse,” and approximately 10,000 “foreign children born from Korean parents.” The ratio of foreign resident children to total foreign residents is 20.4%. Regionally, the ratio is high in rural areas.

This is due to the concentration of marriage immigrants and multicultural households in rural areas. The number of marriage immigrants without Korean citizenship increased from 93,000 in 2006 to 151,000 in 2014, according to the Ministry of Justice. The majority (128,000 in 2014) were women. The marriage immigrants mostly live in the Greater Seoul Metropolitan area (Seoul, Gyeonggi-do, and Incheon; 52%) and Yeongnam

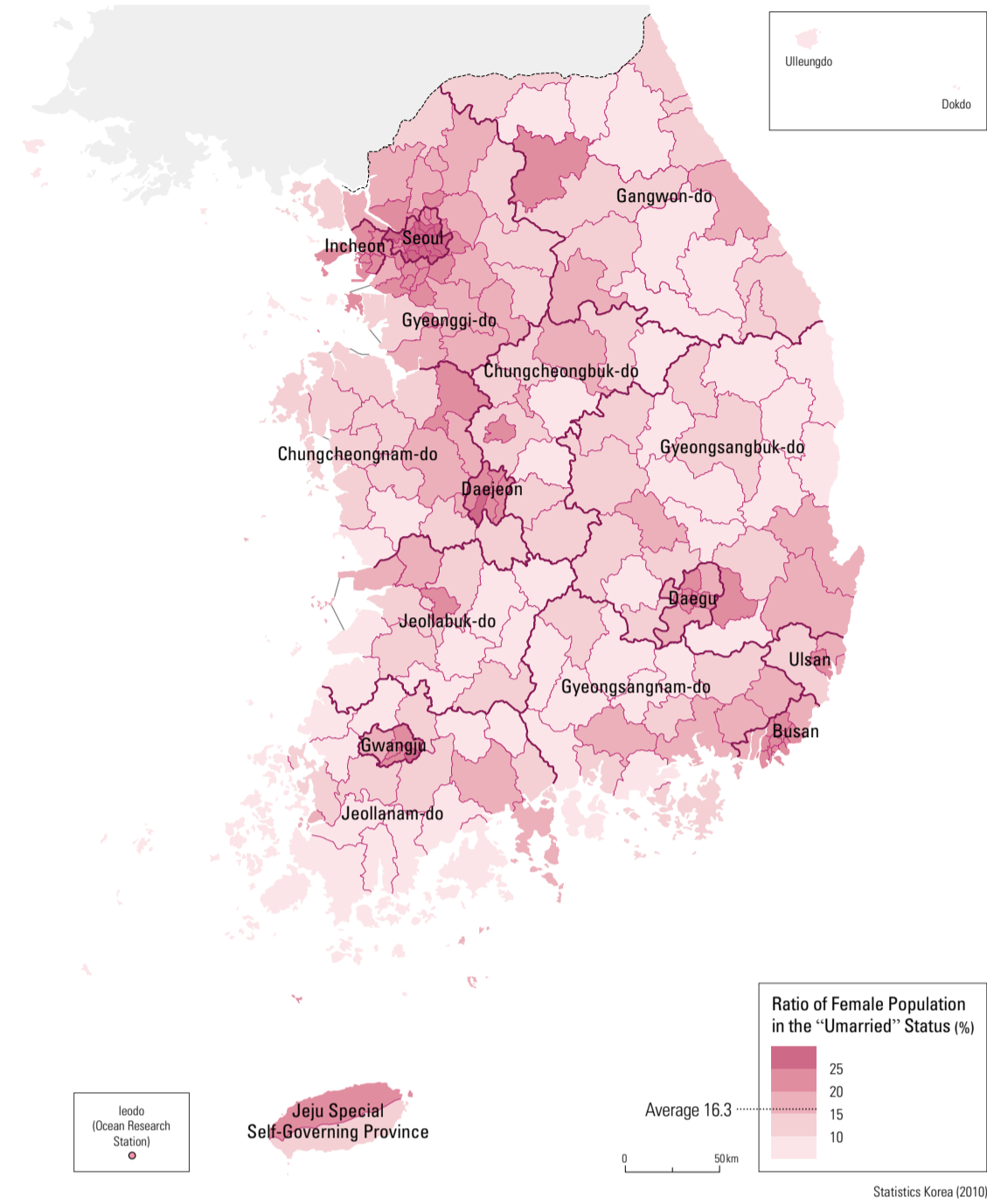
region (21%). The majority are from China, Vietnam, Japan, and the Philippines. Until the 1990s, marriage immigrants were mostly Japanese women who entered Korea via religious organizations. In the 2000s, the number of immigrants from China and the Philippines has increased. More recently, marriage immigrants originate from more diverse countries, including Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Mongolia, and Uzbekistan.

Societal Evolution and Aging Population: Gender Equality

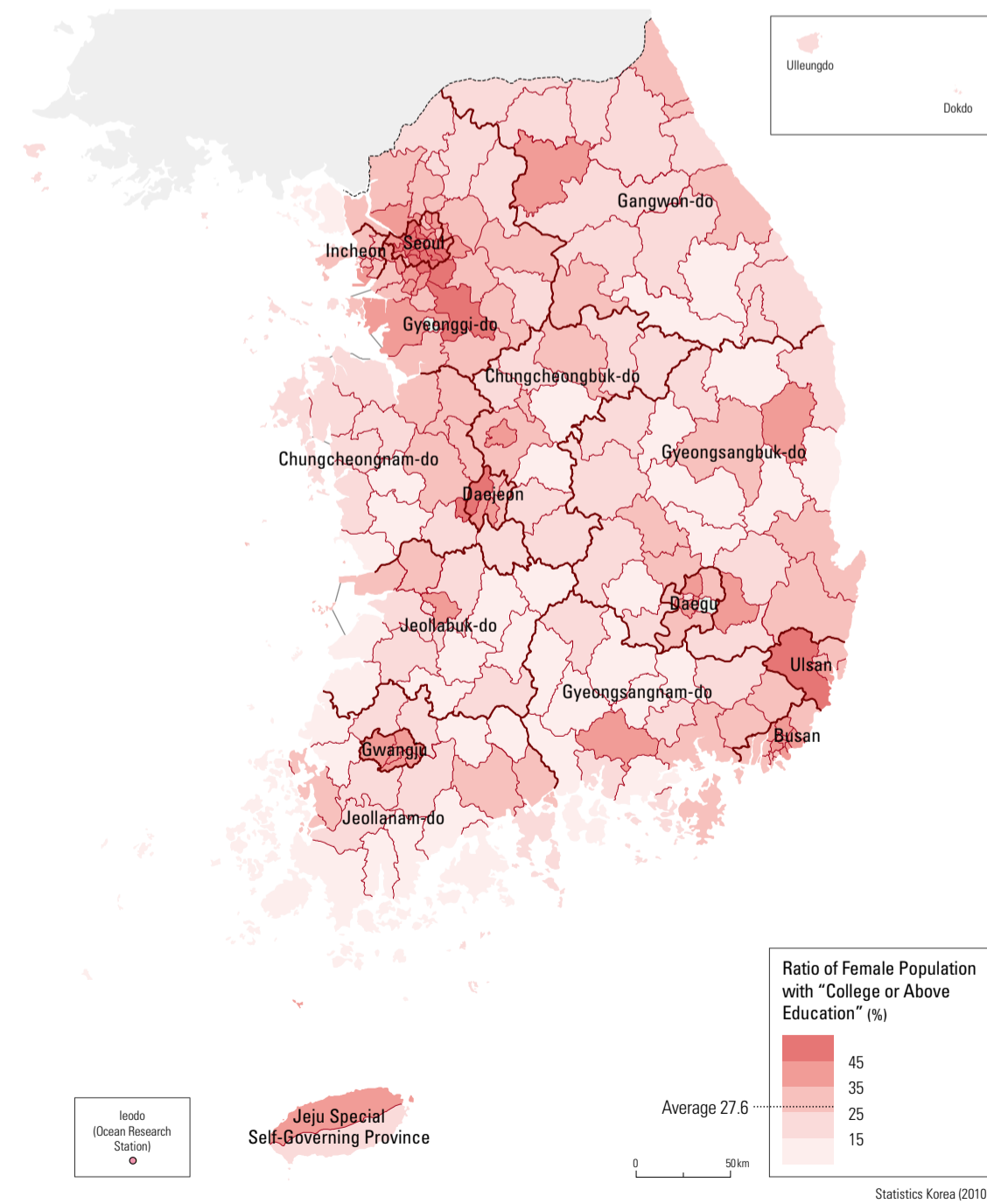
Ratio of Female Heads of Household (2010)



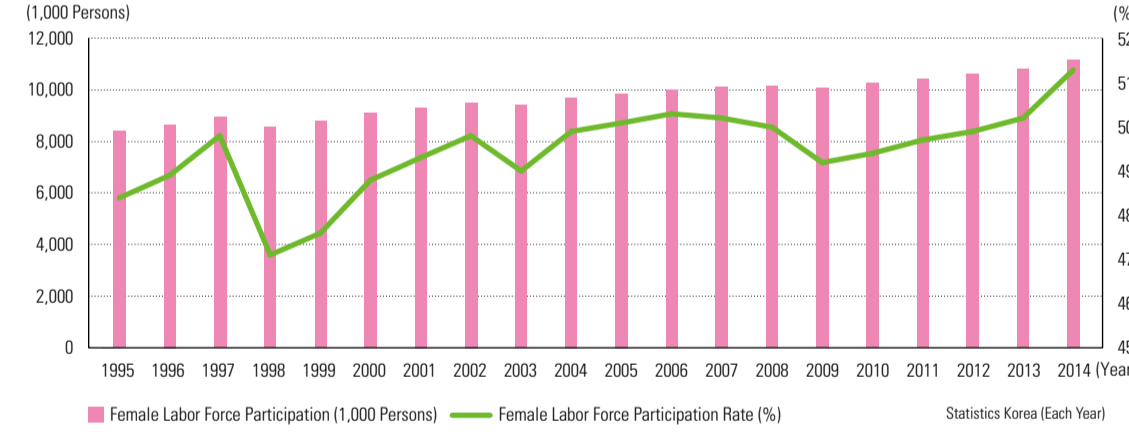
Marriage Status of Females (2010)



Ratio of Female Population with "College or Above Education" (2010)



Female Labor Force Participation Rate



Gender Inequality Index (GII)

| Division | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Ranking | 20 | 11 | 27 | 17 | 23 |
| Participating Countries | 138 | 146 | 148 | 152 | 155 |
| Index Score | 0.310 | 0.111 | 0.153 | 0.101 | 0.125 |

UNDP (2014)

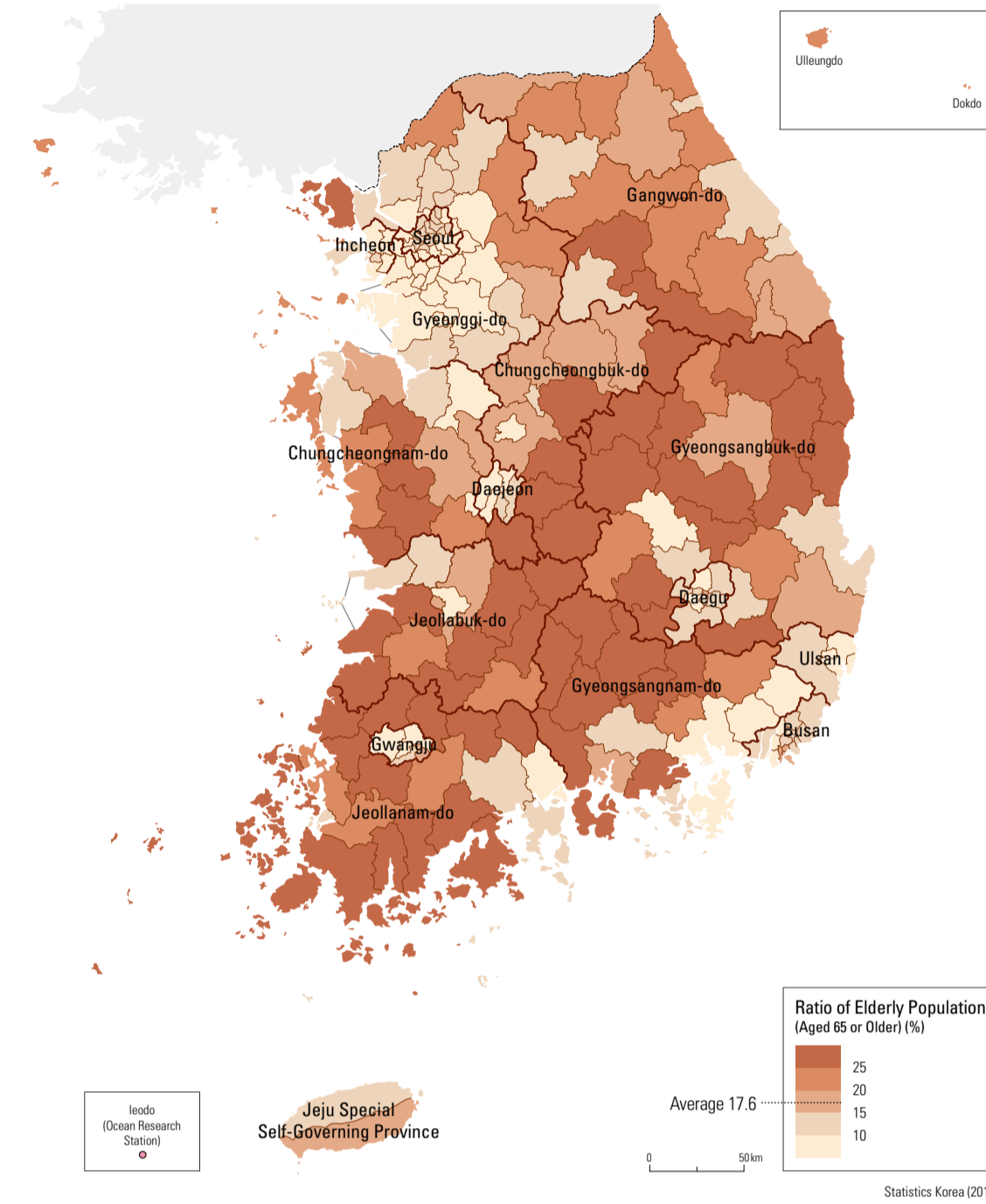
In 2010, the female population in Korea was 24.15 million, comprising 50.3% of the total population. The average ratio of female heads of households is 26.9%. The ratio is high in rural areas.

The marriage status of females is another indicator that pertains to the lives of women. On average, about 16.3% of the female population is unmarried. The educational level of women is important to their social status. Nationally, the ratio of the female population with university or higher education is 27.6%. The ratio is high in metropolitan areas.

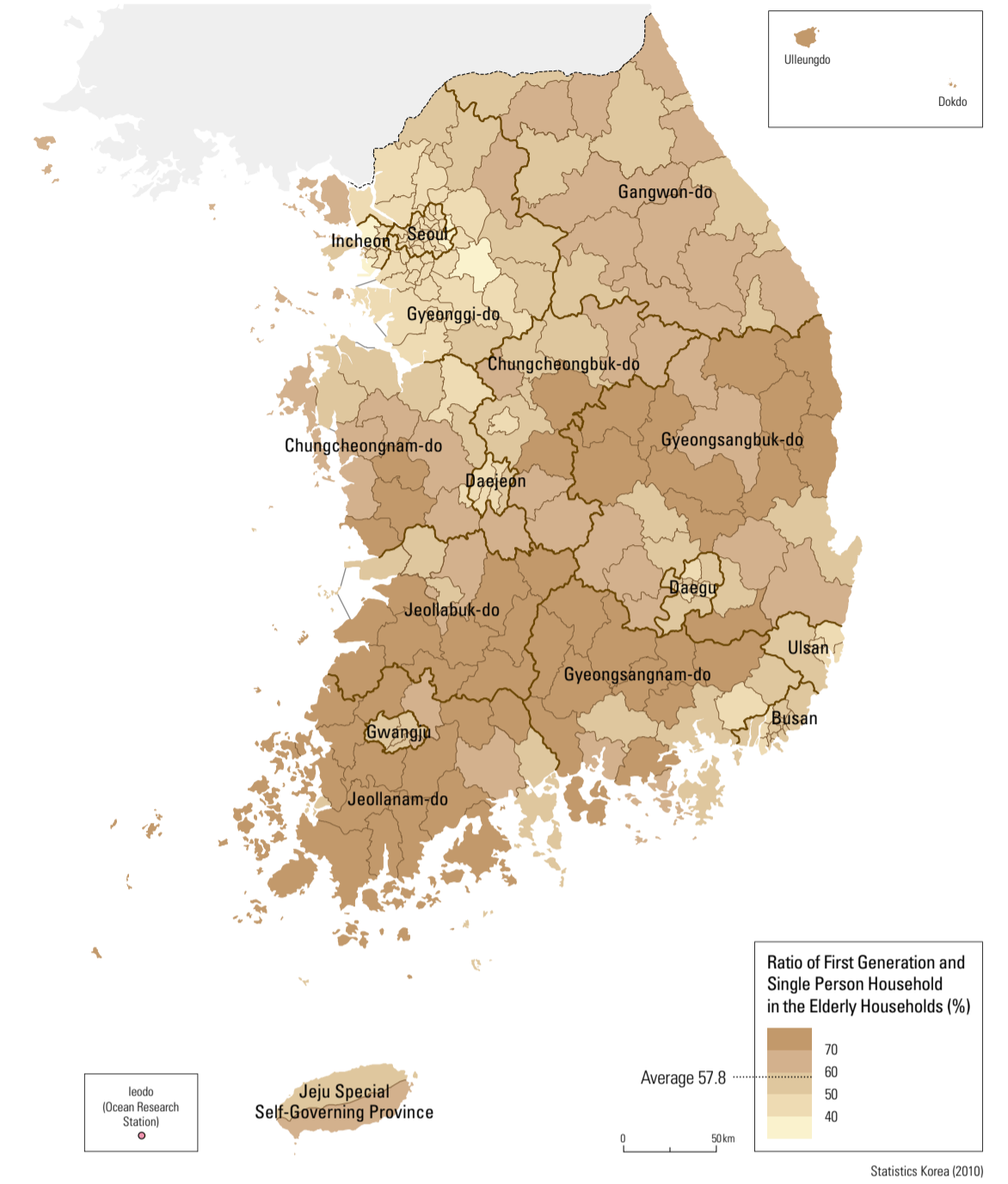
The female labor force participation rate is the percent of female population aged 15 and older that are economically active. The percent slightly increased from 48.4% in 1995 to 51.3% in 2014. The Gender Inequality Index (GII), adopted in 2010 by the UNDP (United Nations Development Programme), measures gender inequality in each country. An index closer to zero represents a more equal state. Korea's GII was 0.31 in 2010 and 0.125 in 2014, indicating that gender inequality is gradually being reduced.

Societal Evolution and Aging Population: The Elderly Population

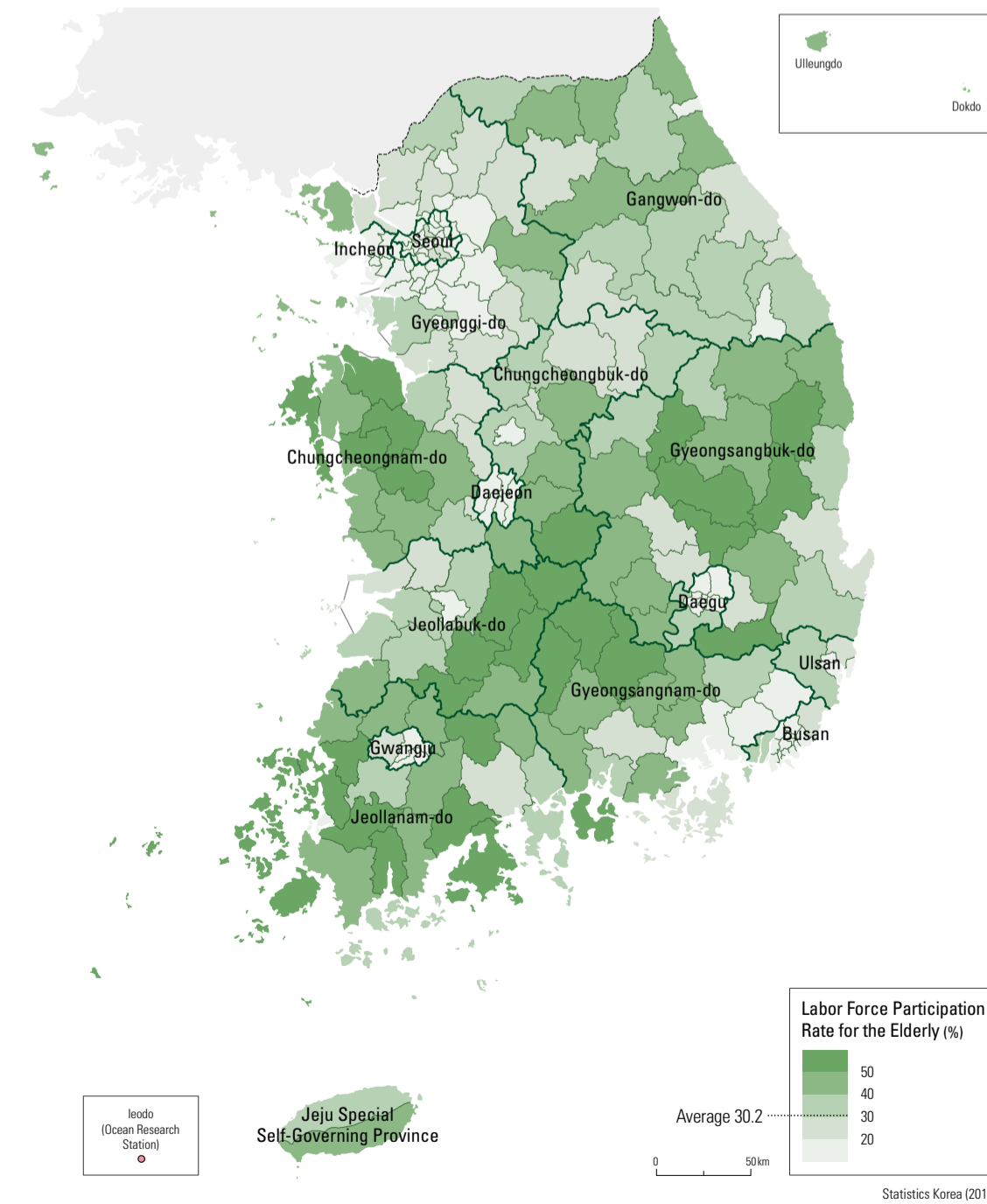
Ratio of Elderly Population (Aged 65 or Older, 2010)



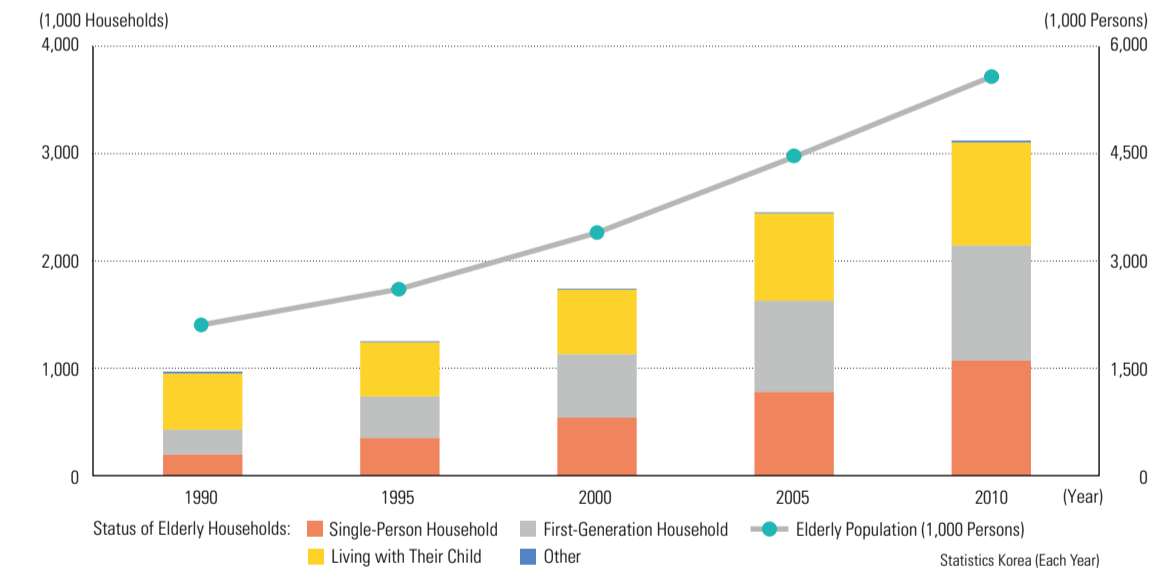
Ratio of First-Generation and Single-Person Household in the Elderly Households (2010)



Labor Force Participation Rate for the Elderly (2010)



Change in Status of Elderly Households



Due to a rapidly decreasing birth rate and extended life expectancy, Korea's population is aging very quickly. Korea's elderly population (aged 65 or older) increased from 2.16 million in 1990 to 5.42 million in 2010. An important element in the quality of life of the elderly is whether they live with their children. In 1990, about 54.2% of elderly households lived with a child or grandchild (two or more generations). However, this ratio dropped to 30.8% in 2010, indicating that fewer children are supporting their parents. The

proportions of single-person households (34.3%) and married couple households (34.5%), on the contrary, increased. This indicates the need for more consideration of the economic status and welfare of the elderly.

The average ratio of the elderly population is 17.6%. In the elderly households, the ratio of first-generation and single-person households refers to elderly married couples not living with a child. The ratio is 57.8%. The average labor force participation rate for the elderly is 30.2%.