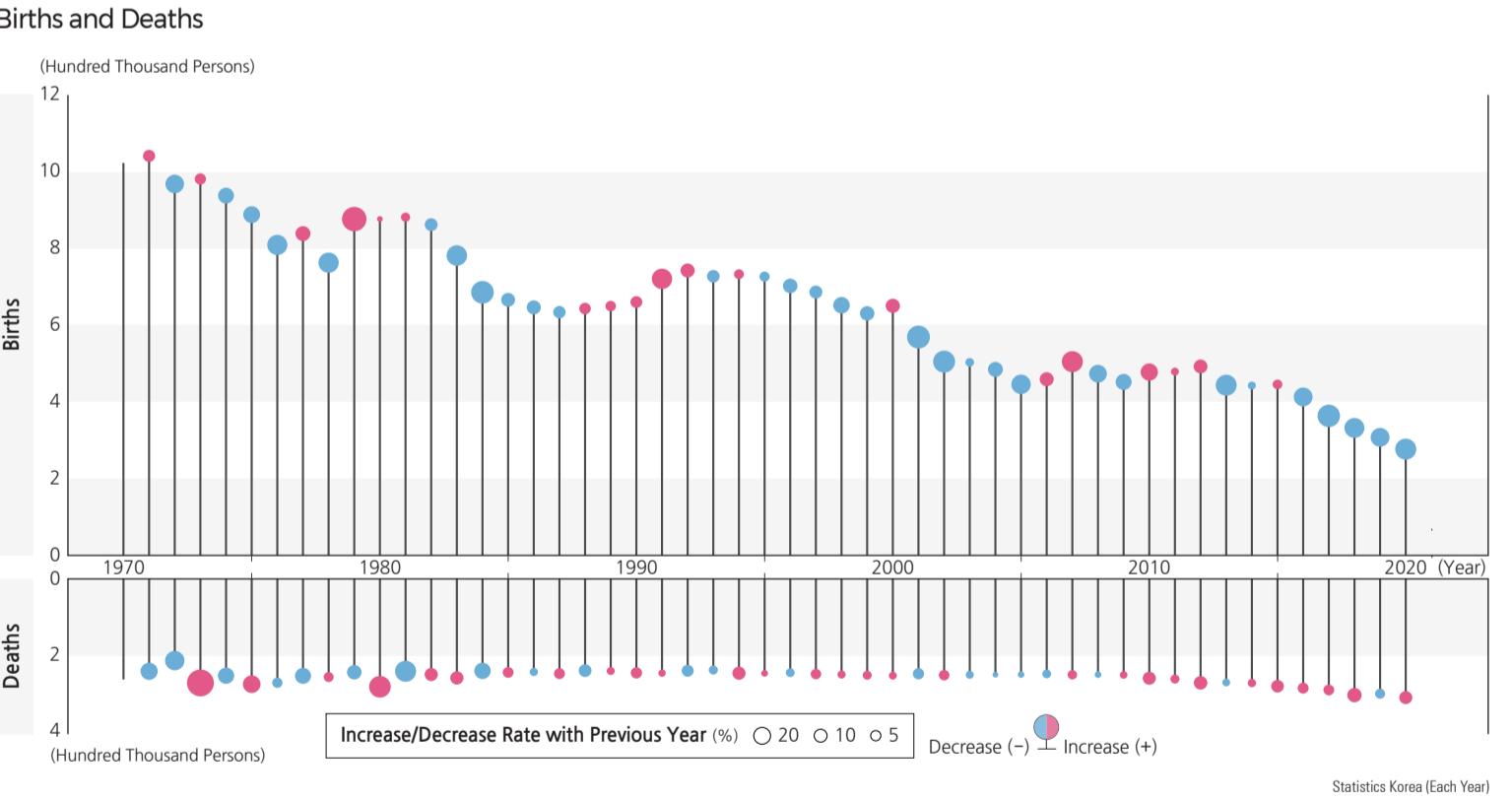


# POPULATION AND LIVING

## Demographic Cliff and Unbalanced Distribution of Population



Population refers to the number of people living in a region or a country. Its characteristics, such as size and structure, are used to establish national development plans and policies in various fields. Korea conducts population trend surveys on the size and structure of the population at a specific time and on factors that change the population, such as births, deaths, migrations, marriages, and divorces, that occur during a certain period of time.

There are three types of the population count. First, the resident registration population counts only Koreans as of the last day of each month. Second, the census population surveys Koreans and foreigners every five years. Finally, the projected population is calculated based on birth, death, migration, and others.

Korea's census population increased rapidly from 20.2 million in 1940 to 48.6 million in 2010, and it has continuously increased to 51.8 million by 2020. However, the population growth rate tends to decrease from 1960 to 2020, with more than 2 percent in the 1960s and the 1970s, less than 1 percent in the 1980s, and 0.3 percent in 2017. Moreover, there will be negative growth in Korea's population starting in 2030 due to a low birth rate, according to the 2017 median population estimate.

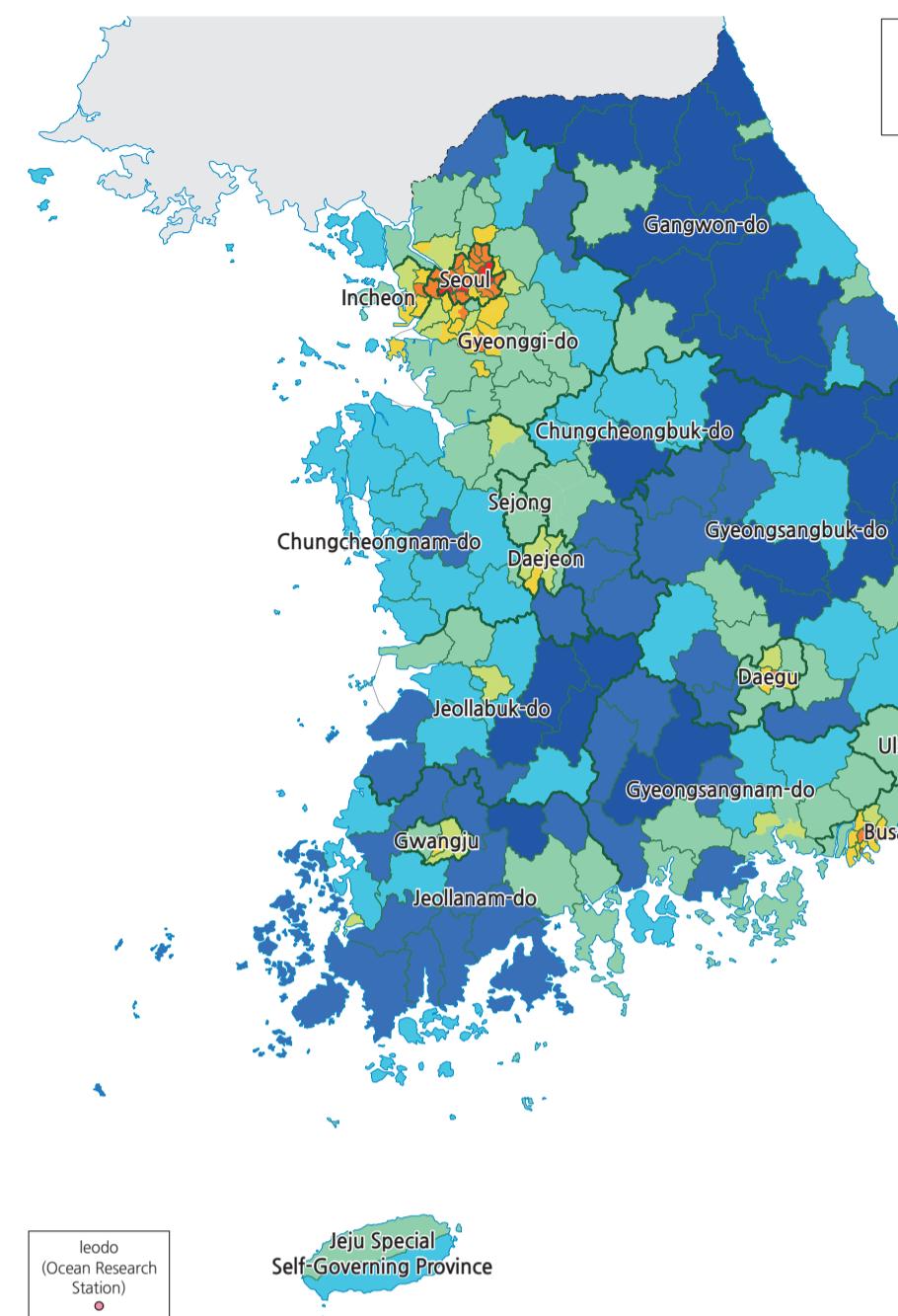
The number of births continued to fall. It took 30 years for the number of births to fall by half from 1970 (1 million) to 2002 (0.5 million), but it took 18 years for the number of births to fall by half again between 2002 and 2020. A relatively large decline in the number of births per year has been spotted since 2015. On the other hand, the number of deaths increased from 2010 to 2020 while it remained at a similar level from the mid-1980s to the 2000s. The death rate tends to increase, in contrast to the birth rate. As a result, natural population growth has continued to fall and began to decline in 2020 (approximately 272,000 births and 304,000).

Korea's population is concentrated in cities. The rural population was larger than the urban population until the 1970s. However, as the urbanization rate in -eup areas has expanded, more than 90 percent of Korea's population lives in cities as of 2020.

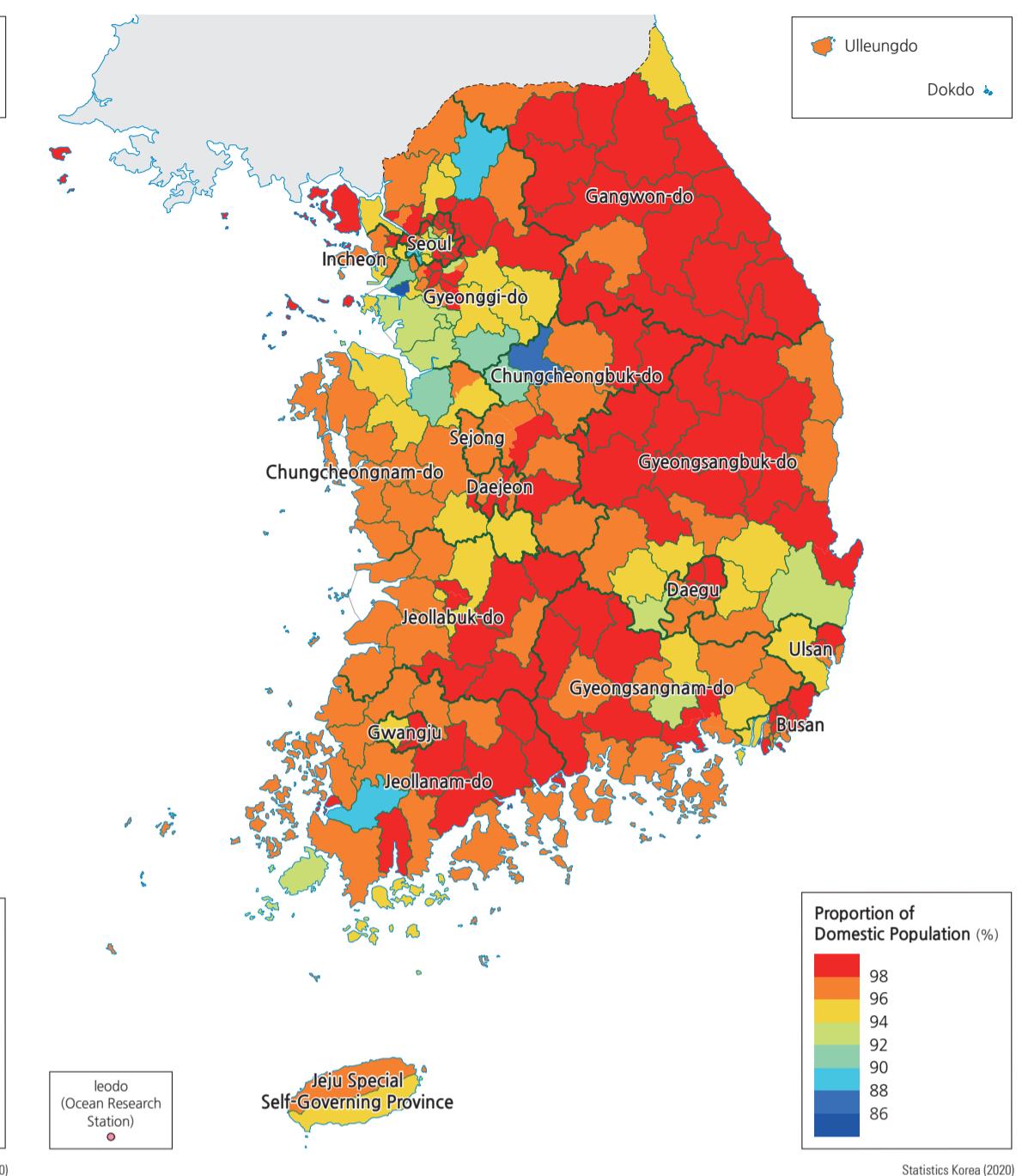


## Population Status

Population Density by -Si/-Gun/-Gu (2020)



Proportion of the Domestic Population (2020)

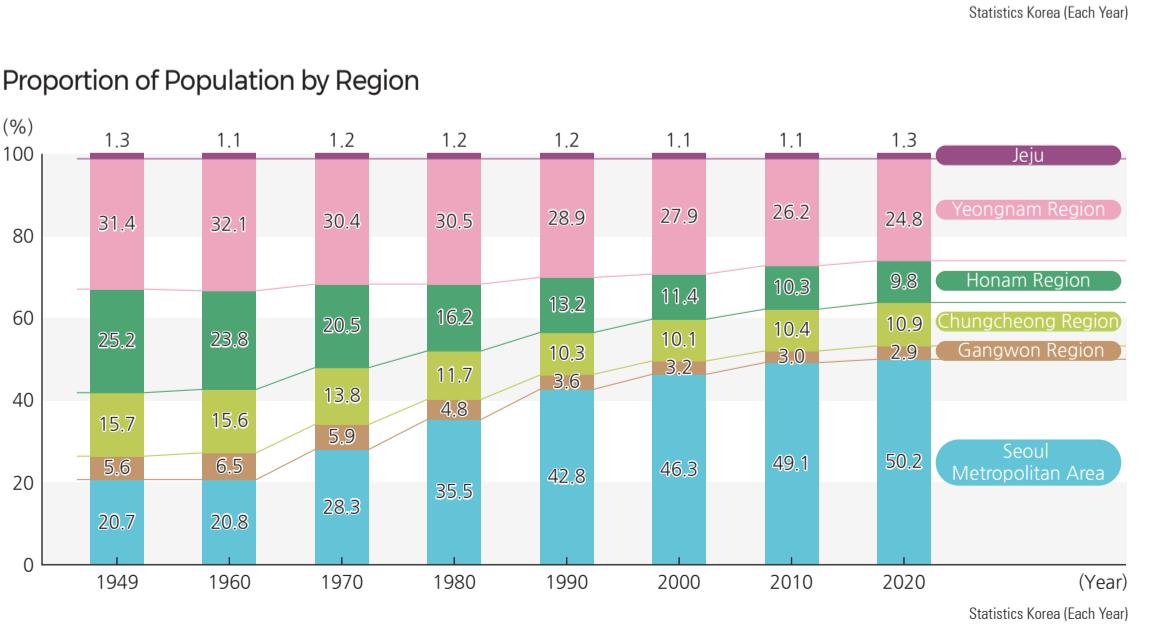


## Population by Region

	1949		1960		1970		1980		1990		2000		2010		2020	
	Population	Koreans														
National Total	20,188,641	20,166,756	24,989,241	24,954,290	30,882,386	30,851,984	37,436,315	37,406,815	43,410,899	43,390,374	46,136,101	45,985,289	48,580,293	47,990,761	51,829,136	50,133,493
Seoul Metropolitan Area	4,186,613	4,171,614	5,194,167	5,179,612	8,730,148	8,714,935	13,298,241	13,280,951	18,586,128	18,573,937	21,354,490	21,258,062	23,836,272	23,459,570	26,043,325	24,994,197
Seoul	1,446,019	1,437,670	2,445,402	2,436,630	5,433,198	5,422,735	8,364,379	8,350,616	10,612,577	10,603,250	9,895,217	9,853,972	9,794,304	9,631,482	9,586,195	9,219,741
Gyeonggi-do	2,740,594	2,733,944	2,748,765	2,742,982	3,296,950	3,292,200	4,933,862	4,930,335	6,155,632	6,154,359	8,984,134	8,937,752	11,379,459	11,196,053	13,511,676	12,928,214
Incheon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,817,919	1,816,328	2,475,139	2,466,338	2,662,509	2,632,035
Gangwon Region	1,138,785	1,138,435	1,636,767	1,635,743	1,837,015	1,835,947	1,790,954	1,790,226	1,580,430	1,579,859	1,487,011	1,484,536	1,471,513	1,463,650	1,521,763	1,497,109
Chungcheong Region	3,174,697	3,172,801	3,897,913	3,892,754	4,262,244	4,259,308	4,380,297	4,378,043	4,453,190	4,451,614	4,680,095	4,668,992	5,042,018	4,986,615	5,651,092	5,464,660
Chungcheongbuk-do	1,146,509	1,145,964	1,369,780	1,367,343	1,453,899	1,452,974	1,424,083	1,423,381	1,389,686	1,389,222	1,466,567	1,462,621	1,512,157	1,495,984	1,632,088	1,574,994
Chungcheongnam-do	2,028,188	2,026,837	2,528,133	2,525,411	2,808,345	2,806,334	2,956,214	2,954,662	2,013,270	2,013,270	1,845,321	1,840,410	2,028,002	2,000,473	2,176,636	2,077,470
Daejeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,049,578	1,049,122	1,368,207	1,365,961	1,501,859	1,490,158
Sejong	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	353,933	346,689
Honam Region	5,092,927	5,090,442	5,948,265	5,943,190	6,318,921	6,315,803	6,067,425	6,065,497	5,716,402	5,715,039	5,239,922	5,232,474	4,994,464	4,960,936	5,069,146	4,950,971
Jeollabuk-do	2,050,485	2,048,951	2,395,224	2,393,108	2,386,381	2,384,696	2,287,689	2,286,720	2,069,960	2,069,378	1,890,669	1,887,239	1,777,220	1,766,044	1,802,766	1,760,400
Jeollanam-do	3,042,442	3,041,491	3,553,041	3,550,082	3,932,540	3,931,107	3,779,736	3,778,777	2,507,439	2,506,944	1,996,456	1,994,287	1,741,499	1,728,749	1,788,807	1,743,571
Gwangju	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,139,003	1,138,717	1,352,797	1,350,948	1,475,745	1,466,143
Yeongnam Region	6,341,030	6,338,937	8,030,466	8,021,687	9,375,973	9,368,199	11,436,457	11,429,489	12,560,144	12,555,489	12,861,323	12,828,684	12,704,121	12,591,579	12,872,952	12,582,529
Gyeongsangbuk-do	3,206,201	3,205,240	3,848,424	3,845,128	4,476,067	4,472,841	4,954,559	4,952,012	2,860,595	2,860,109	2,724,931	2,716,218	2,600,032	2,575,370	2,644,757	2,570,210
Daegu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,229,040	2,227,979	2,480,578	2,473,990	2,446,418	2,431,774
Gyeongsangnam-do	3,134,829	3,133,697	4,182,042	4,176,559	5,057,647	5,056,612	3,322,132	3,320,546	3,672,396	3,671,509	2,978,502	2,970,929	3,160,154	3,119,571	3,333,056	3,236,387
Busan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,798,113	3,795,892	3,662,884	3,655,437	3,414,950	3,393,191
Ulsan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,014,428	1,012,110	
Jeju	254,589	254,527	281,663	281,304	358,085	357,792	462,941	462,609	514,436	513,260	512,541	531,905	528,411	670,858	644,027	Statistics Korea (Each Year)

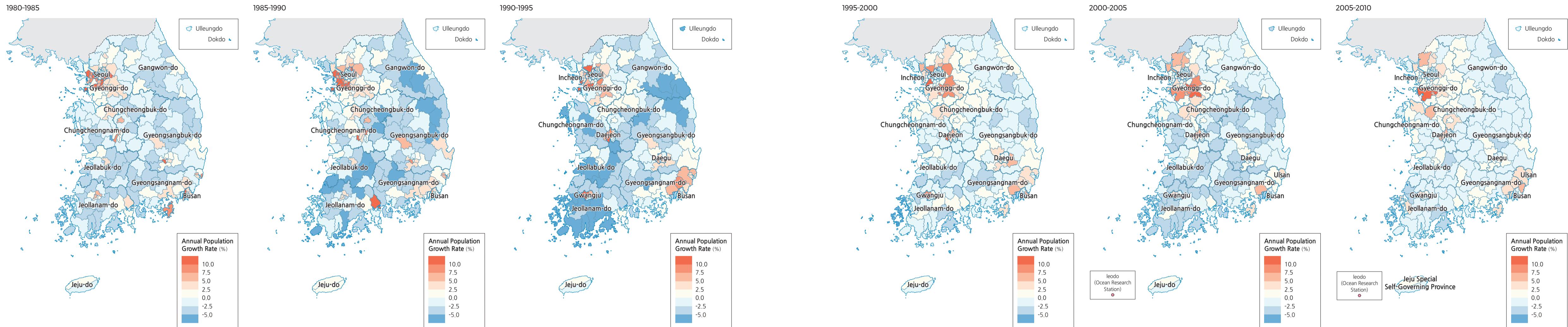
Korea's population with foreigners in 2020 is approximately 2.6 times higher than that in 1949. Considering population counts by region, Korea's population was evenly distributed among the Seoul Metropolitan Area, the Honam region, and the Yeongnam region by the 1970s. However, the population of the Seoul Metropolitan Area has been higher than that of the Honam and Yeongnam regions since the 1990s, and about 50 percent of Korea's population resides in the Seoul Metropolitan Area as of 2020. While the proportions of the population in the Chungcheong region and Jeju-do are generally maintained at the same level, those in the Honam region, the Yeongnam region, and Gangwon-do continue to fall. Compared to other regions, the Honam region experienced a sharp decrease in proportions from 25.2 percent in 1949 to 9.8 percent in 2020.

Meanwhile, from 1949 to 2000, the proportion of the domestic population was approximately 99.0 percent. However, it has gradually declined since 2000, with 98.9 percent in 2010 and 96.7 percent in 2020. The proportion of the domestic population also tends to decline in provinces. In 2020, the lowest proportion occurred in Jeju-do (96.0%) and the highest in Gangwon-do (98.4%).

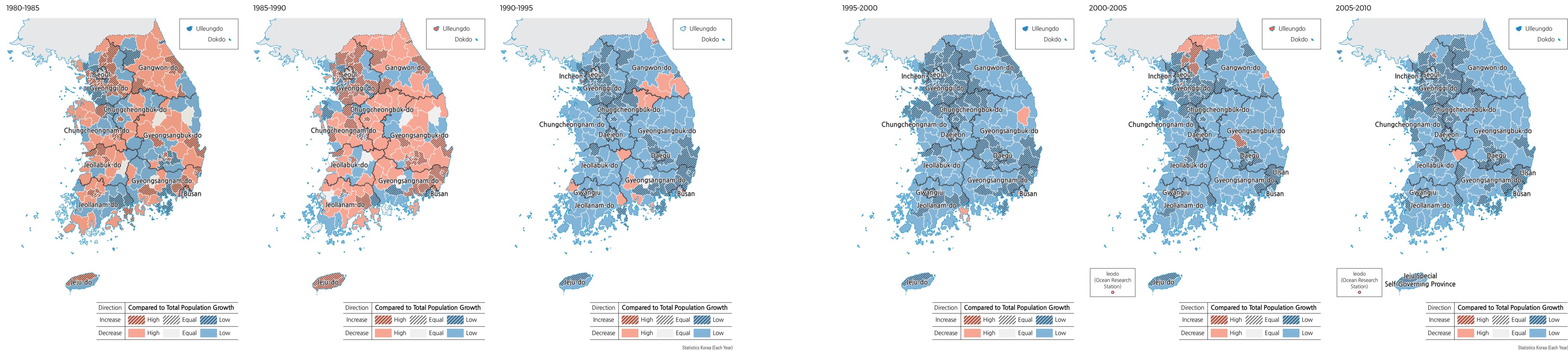


## Population Crisis

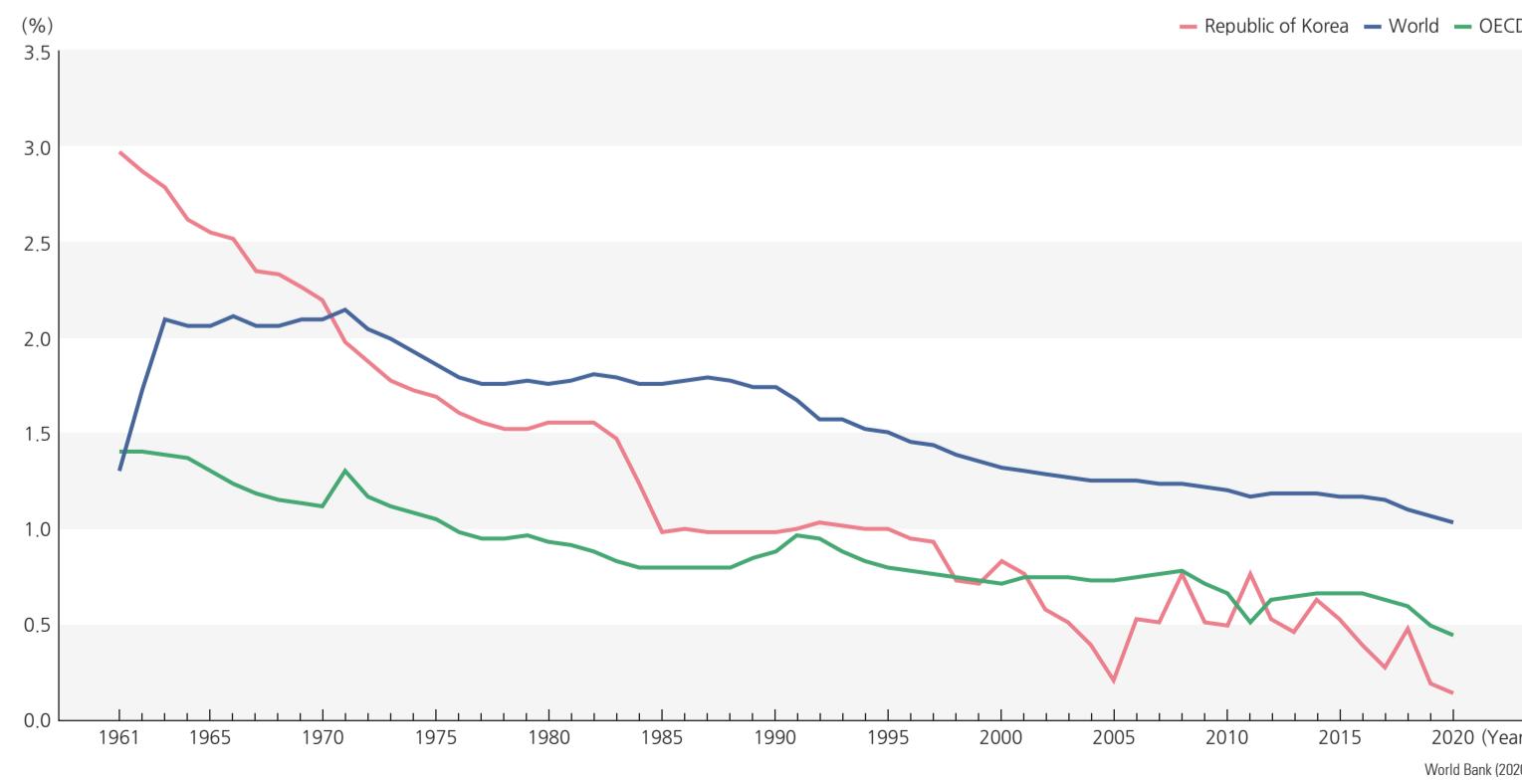
### Population Growth



### Domestic Population Growth



### Population Growth Rates of Korea, World, and OECD



The foreign population grew at a rate of 2–3 percent until the 1960s, which was higher than that of OECD and the world, but the growth rate declined sharply from 1970 to the mid-1980s. This downward tendency in population growth continued in 2020. As a result, the population grew 0.14 percent in 2020.

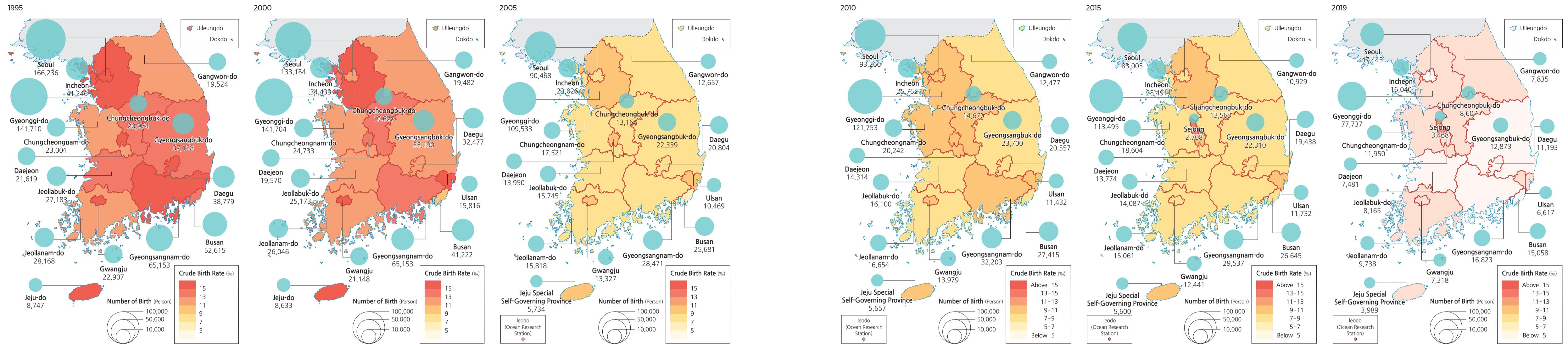
According to the five-year censuses (1980–1985 and 2005–2010), the annual population fell by about 1.0 percent during the two periods. While the Chungcheong region and Gangwon-do experienced an increase in population, negative growth occurred in other regions. The change rate of domestic population growth was higher than that of the total foreign population during 2005–2010, while they were similar in 1980–2005.

### Growth Rate of Total Population and Domestic Population by Region

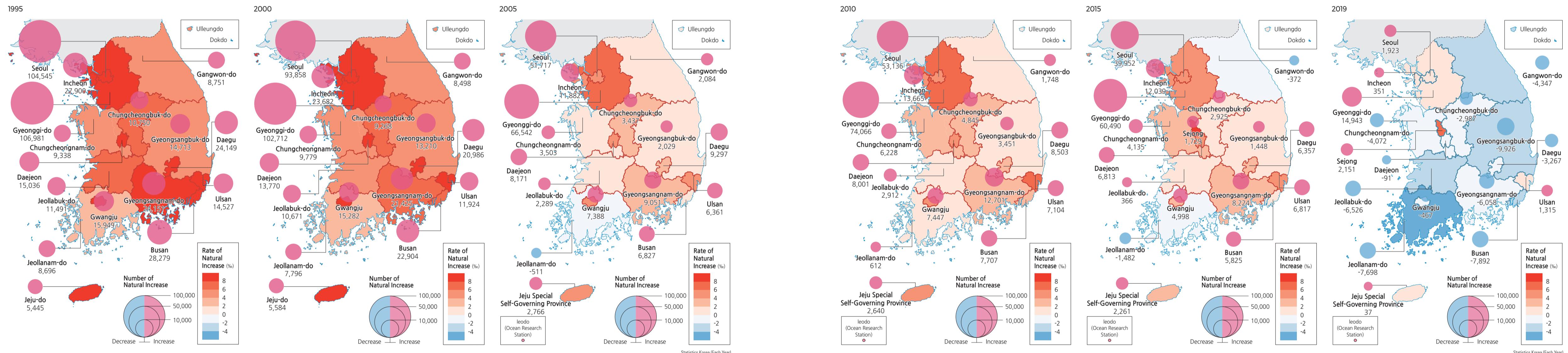
	1980-1985		1985-1990		1990-1995		1995-2000		2000-2005		2005-2010	
	Total Population	Domestic Population										
<b>National Total</b>	1.55	1.55	1.41	1.42	0.54	0.53	0.67	0.63	0.49	0.45	0.54	0.40
Seoul Metropolitan Area	3.47	3.48	3.22	3.23	1.65	1.64	1.12	1.06	1.28	1.24	0.92	0.73
Seoul	2.84	2.84	1.92	1.93	-0.73	-0.74	-0.67	-0.72	-0.15	-0.19	-0.05	-0.27
Gyeonggi-do	4.57	4.57	5.25	5.25	4.69	4.66	3.22	3.14	2.96	2.92	1.77	1.59
Incheon	4.32	4.33	4.61	4.62	3.66	3.64	1.40	1.36	0.45	0.41	1.01	0.89
<b>Gangwon Region</b>	-0.75	-0.75	-1.75	-1.75	-1.50	-1.51	0.28	0.26	-0.30	-0.32	0.09	0.04
Chungcheong Region	0.05	0.06	0.28	0.28	-0.08	-0.09	1.07	1.04	0.48	0.44	1.01	0.88
Chungcheongbuk-do	-0.47	-0.47	-0.02	-0.02	0.10	0.09	0.98	0.94	-0.08	-0.12	0.70	0.57
Chungcheongnam-do	-0.89	-0.89	-0.43	-0.43	-2.62	-2.63	0.87	0.84	0.47	0.42	1.41	1.25
Daejeon	3.19	3.20	2.14	2.14	3.85	3.84	1.46	1.44	1.06	1.04	0.80	0.70
<b>Honam Region</b>	-0.39	-0.39	-0.80	-0.80	-1.79	-1.80	0.05	0.03	-0.85	-0.88	-0.11	-0.19
Jeollabuk-do	-0.76	-0.76	-1.24	-1.24	-1.69	-1.70	-0.12	-0.14	-1.16	-1.18	-0.08	-0.14
Jeollanam-do	-1.54	-1.55	-1.52	-1.52	-3.86	-3.87	-0.69	-0.71	-1.85	-1.88	-0.88	-0.98
Gwangju	3.93	3.93	1.77	1.77	1.98	1.98	1.46	1.44	0.94	0.91	0.80	0.73
<b>Yeongnam Region</b>	1.08	1.08	0.79	0.80	0.36	0.34	0.12	0.09	-0.25	-0.28	0.00	-0.09
Gyeongsangbuk-do	-1.14	-1.13	-1.15	-1.15	-0.67	-0.69	0.36	0.32	-0.88	-0.92	-0.06	-0.15
Daegu	2.60	2.60	1.92	1.93	1.06	1.04	0.25	0.23	-0.13	-0.15	-0.15	-0.20
Gyeongsangnam-do	0.56	0.56	0.31	0.32	0.48	0.46	0.69	0.66	0.52	0.47	0.67	0.51
Busan	2.03	2.03	1.39	1.40	-0.21	-0.23	-0.81	-0.83	-0.78	-0.80	-0.63	-0.69
Ulsan	4.15	4.14	3.69	3.70	3.67	3.66	0.95	0.92	0.67	0.64	0.63	0.51
<b>Jeju</b>	1.08	1.08	1.04	1.04	-0.36	-0.37	0.31	0.29	0.71	0.70	0.00	-0.09

Statistics Korea (Each Year)

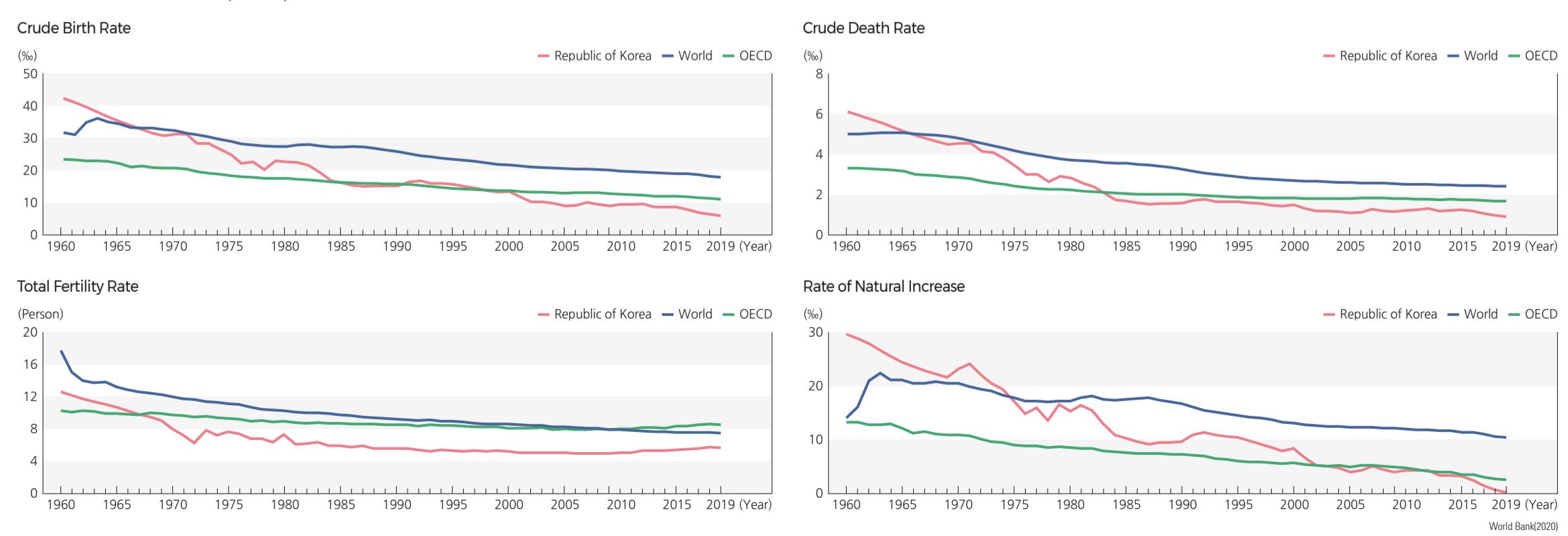
### Crude Birth Rates by -si/-do



### Rate of Natural Increase by -si/-do



### Births and Deaths of Korea, World, and OECD



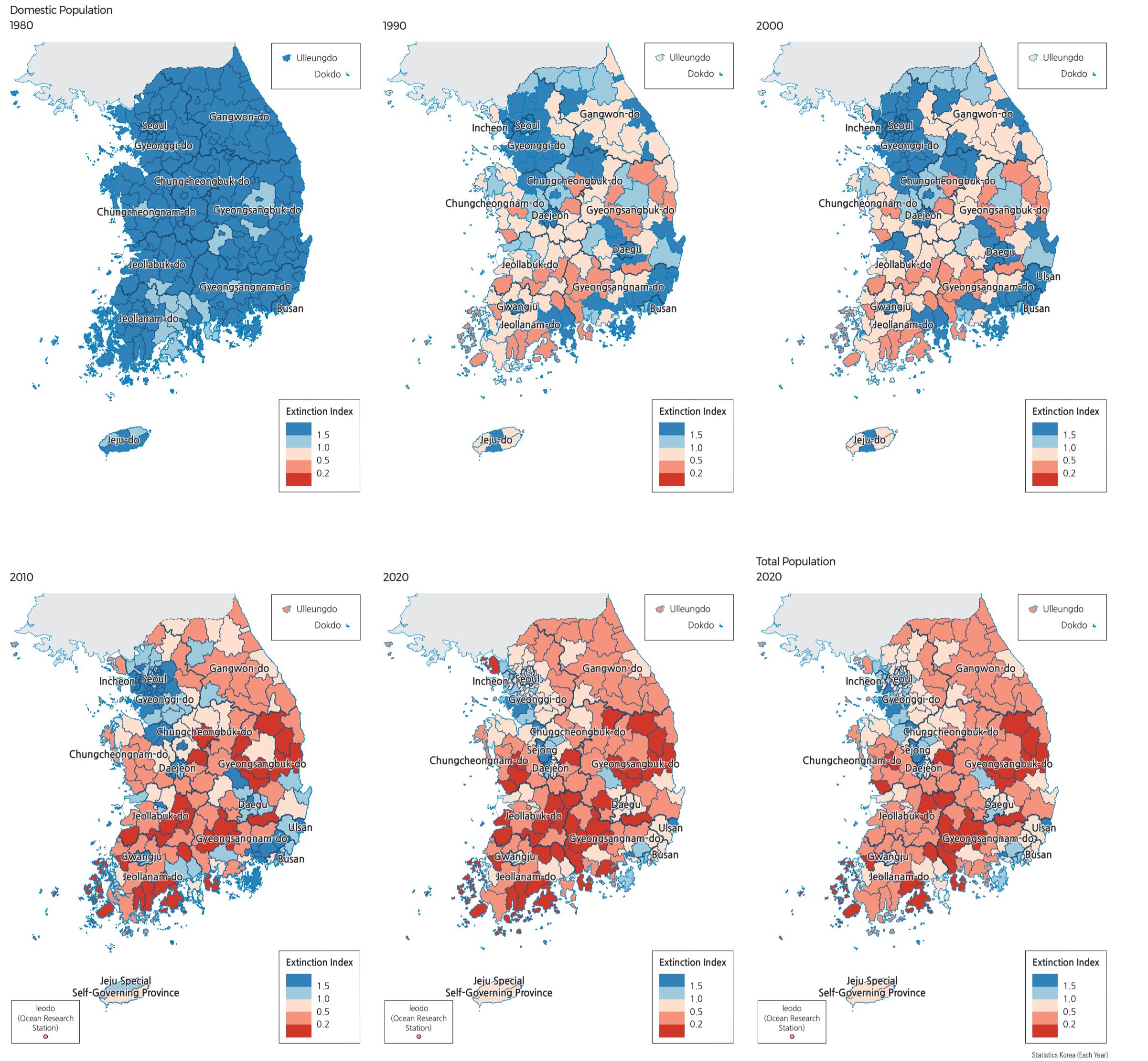
Since independence from Japanese occupation, Korea's population has continued to rise rapidly, with a fertility rate higher than that of the world average until the 1960s. In the 1960s, the fertility rate was 6. The fertility rate of Korea reached a level similar to the OECD average due to strong population suppression policies implemented in the 1960s and 1980s. However, the low fertility phenomenon has worsened since 1990. In 2019, Korea's total fertility rate fell below 1, and the crude birth rate also declined to 1/7 compared to that of 1960. The death toll decreased steeply from the 1960s to the 1970s, but it has remained unchanged since the 1980s. Due to such changes in births and deaths, Korea's natural growth in population has become lower than the averages of both the world and OECD countries, and the nation is now facing a demographic cliff. In 2019, all regions but the Seoul Metropolitan Area and Jeju-do were experiencing negative natural growth in their populations.

### Births, Deaths, and Natural Increase by Region

	1985			1990			1995			2000		
	Births	Deaths	Natural Increase									
National Total	655.5	240.4	415.1	649.7	241.6	408.1	715.0	242.8	472.2	640.1	248.7	Increase
Seoul Metropolitan Area	279.1	66.3	212.8	318.6	75.0	243.6	349.2	82.3	266.8	309.3	89.0	220.3
Gangwon Region	26.0	12.7	13.3	19.0	11.7	7.3	19.5	11.3	8.2	19.5	11.0	8.5
Chungcheong Region	64.6	32.3	32.3	54.4	31.5	23.0	65.6	31.1	34.5	63.9	31.1	32.8
Honam Region	86.6	51.1	35.4	68.1	46.6	21.5	78.3	41.0	37.2	72.4	38.6	33.7
Yeongnam Region	192.1	75.2	116.9	182.8	73.9	108.9	193.7	74.2	119.5	166.4	75.9	90.4
Jeju	7.1	2.7	4.4	6.7	2.9	3.8	8.7	2.8	6.0	8.6	3.0	5.6
<hr/>												
	2005			2010			2015			2019		
National Total	438.7	245.9	192.8	470.2	255.4	214.8	438.4	275.9	162.5	302.7	295.1	7.6
Seoul Metropolitan Area	223.0	92.9	130.1	240.8	99.9	140.9	222.0	109.5	112.5	155.4	119.5	35.9
Gangwon Region	12.7	10.6	2.1	12.5	10.7	1.7	10.9	11.3	-0.4	8.3	11.9	-3.6
Chungcheong Region	44.6	29.5	15.1	49.2	30.2	19.1	48.6	33.0	15.6	34.8	35.7	-0.9
Honam Region	44.9	35.7	9.2	46.7	35.8	11.0	41.6	37.7	3.9	28.2	38.9	-10.8
Yeongnam Region	107.8	74.2	33.6	115.3	75.8	39.5	109.7	81.0	28.7	71.5	85.1	-13.5
Jeju	5.7	3.0	2.8	5.7	3.0	2.6	5.6	3.3	2.3	4.5	4.0	0.5

Statistics Korea (Each Year)

### Population Extinction



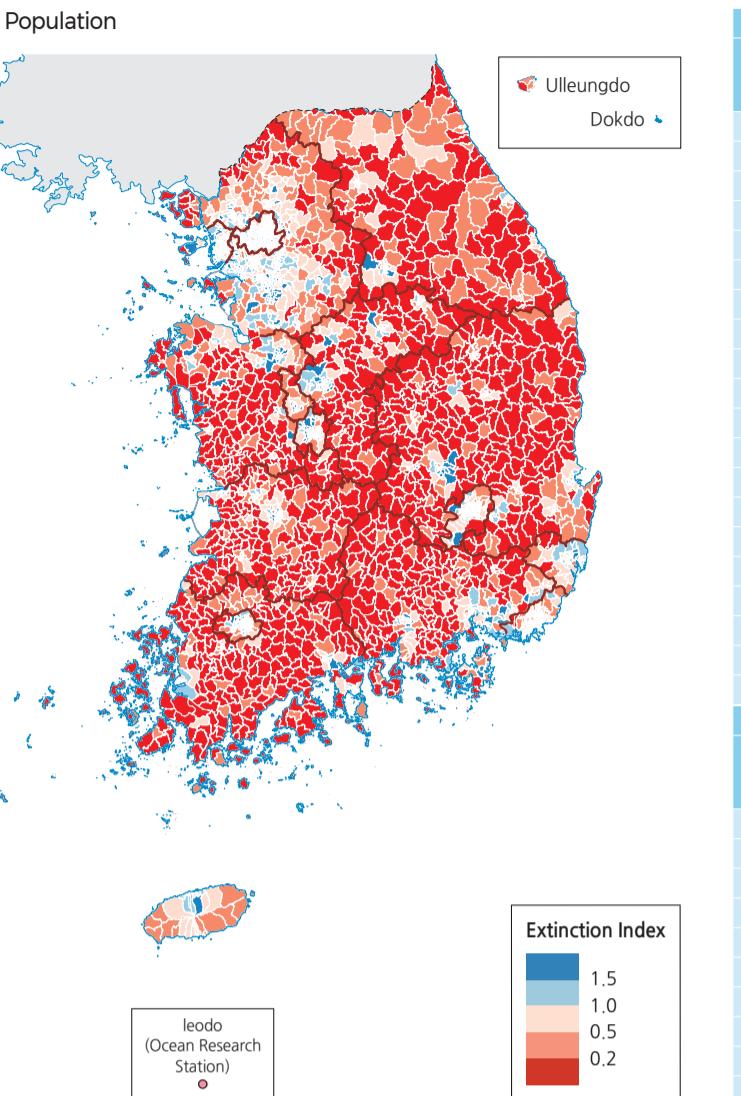
### Top -Si-/Gun-/Gu at High Risk of Population Extinction (2020)

Rank	Total Population		
	-Si-/Do	-Si-/Gun-/Gu	Index
1	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Uiseong-gun	0.128
2	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Gunwi-gun	0.128
3	Jeollanam-do	Goheung-gun	0.129
4	Gyeongsangnam-do	Hapcheon-gun	0.140
5	Jeollanam-do	Shinan-gun	0.141
6	Gyeongsangnam-do	Namhae-gun	0.146
7	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Bonghwa-gun	0.147
8	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Cheongsong-gun	0.149
9	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Yeongyang-gun	0.155
10	Jeollanam-do	Boseong-gun	0.156
11	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Yeongdeok-gun	0.158
12	Gyeongsangnam-do	Hadong-gun	0.164
13	Chungcheongnam-do	Seocheon-gu	0.166
14	Gyeongsangnam-do	Sancheong-gun	0.167
15	Jeollanam-do	Hampyeong-gun	0.177
16	Jeollanam-do	Gurye-gun	0.178
17	Chungcheongbuk-do	Boeun-gun	0.181
18	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Cheondo-gu	0.182
19	Gyeongsangnam-do	Hamyang-gun	0.186
20	Gyeongsangnam-do	Uireung-eup	0.188
21	Chungcheongnam-do	Cheongyang-gun	0.195
22	Jeollanam-do	Jindo-gun	0.195
23	Jeollabuk-do	Jinan-gun	0.195
24	Jeollabuk-do	Mujin-gun	0.198

**Domestic Population**

Rank	Domestic Population		
	-Si-/Do	-Si-/Gun-/Gu	Index
1	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Gunwi-gun	0.115
2	Jeollanam-do	Goheung-gun	0.117
3	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Uiseong-gun	0.118
4	Jeollanam-do	Shinan-gun	0.125
5	Gyeongsangnam-do	Hapcheon-gun	0.127
6	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Bonghwa-gun	0.130
7	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Yeongyang-gun	0.131
8	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Cheongsong-gun	0.135
9	Jeollanam-do	Boseong-gun	0.139
10	Gyeongsangnam-do	Namhae-gun	0.139
11	Gyeongsangnam-do	Sancheong-gun	0.140
12	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Cheondo-gu	0.143
13	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Yeongdeok-gun	0.144
14	Gyeongsangnam-do	Hadong-gun	0.147
15	Chungcheongnam-do	Seocheon-gu	0.148
16	Jeollanam-do	Hampyeong-gun	0.152
17	Gyeongsangnam-do	Uireung-eup	0.161
18	Chungcheongbuk-do	Boeun-gun	0.164
19	Jeollanam-do	Gurye-gun	0.165
20	Chungcheongnam-do	Cheongyang-gun	0.169
21	Jeollanam-do	Jindo-gun	0.174
22	Gyeongsangnam-do	Hamyang-gun	0.174
23	Jeollabuk-do	Jinan-gun	0.175
24	Jeollabuk-do	Jangsug-un	0.180
25	Jeollabuk-do	Mujin-gun	0.181
26	Jeollabuk-do	Gochang-gun	0.181
27	Chungcheongnam-do	Buyeon-gu	0.185
28	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Seongju-gu	0.187
29	Jeollanam-do	Gangjin-gu	0.188
30	Jeollanam-do	Wando-gu	0.189
31	Jeollabuk-do	Sunchang-gu	0.191
32	Jeollabuk-do	Imsil-gu	0.191
33	Chungcheongbuk-do	Danyang-gu	0.191
34	Jeollanam-do	Gokseong-gu	0.192
35	Jeollanam-do	Jangheung-gu	0.193
36	Incheon	Ganghwa-gun	0.195
37	Jeollabuk-do	Buan-gu	0.196
38	Gyeongsangnam-do	Goseong-gu	0.196

### Population Extinction Index (-Dong/Eup/Myeon) (2020)



### Top -Dong/Eup/Myeon at High Risk of Population Extinction

Rank	Total Population			Population Extinction Index
	-Si-/Do	-Si-/Gun-/Gu	-Dong/Eup/Myeon	
1	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Andong-si	Sanseong-myeon	0.032
2	Gangwon-do	Samcheok-si	Sinwon-myeon	0.034
3	Gangwon-do	Chuncheon-si	Buksan-myeon	0.041
4	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Yeocheon-si	Namhu-myeon	0.041
5	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Gunwi-gun	Gungnyu-myeon	0.041
6	Gyeongsangnam-do	Goseong-gu	Ssangbaek-myeon	0.055
7	Gyeongsangnam-do	Uireung-eup	Changsu-myeon	0.047
8	Gyeongsangnam-do	Yeongdeok-gu	Jibio-myeon	0.049
9	Gyeongsangnam-do	Geochang-gu	Gakbuk-myeon	0.053
10	Jeollanam-do	Shinan-gu	Sinyeong-myeon	0.048
11	Gyeongsangnam-do	Geochang-gu	Jukjang-myeon	0.053
12	Incheon	Ganghwa-gu	Pungyang-myeon	0.056
13	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Uiseong-gu	Palgeum-myeon	0.056
14	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Pohang-si	Deokgak-myeon	0.057

**Domestic Population**

Rank	Domestic Population			Population Extinction Index
	-Si-/Do	-Si-/Gun-/Gu	-Dong/Eup/Myeon	
1	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Gunwi-gun	Namhu-myeon	0.017
2	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Yeocheon-gu	Nogok-myeon	0.025
3	Gyeongsangnam-do	Geochang-gu	Buksan-myeon	0.029
4	Gangwon-do	Chuncheon-si	Gaepo-myeon	0.031
5	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Uireung-eup	Sanseong-myeon	0.032
6	Gyeongsangnam-do	Uireung-eup	Guman-myeon	0.032
7	Gangwon-do	Samcheok-si	Gungnyu-myeon	0.033
8	Gyeongsangnam-do	Goseong-gu	Changsu-myeon	0.037
9	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Yeongdeok-gu	Sinwon-myeon	0.039
10	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Uiseong-gu	Palgeum-myeon	0.040
11	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Yeocheon-gu	Gakbuk-myeon	0.043
12	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Pohang-si	Seoda-myeon	0.043
13	Gyeongsangnam-do	Geochang-gu	Jeomgok-myeon	0.044
14	Gyeongsangnam-do	Uireung-eup	Jibio-myeon	0.045
15	Chungcheongnam-do	Seocheon-gu	Nakseo-myeon	0.045
16	Gyeongsangnam-do	Hapcheon-gu	Ssangbaek-myeon	0.048
17	Chungcheongnam-do	Seocheon-gu	Yeongnam-myeon	0.048
18	Jeollanam-do	Sinan-gu	Jeomam-myeon	0.048
19	Jeollanam-do	Seocheon-gu	Jipum-myeon	0.048
20	Gyeongsangbuk-do	Yeongdeok-gu	Jipum-myeon	0.048

\*Calculated by local extinction risk index with the population of each year by Statistics Korea.

risk in 1980 and 1990. However, these areas have been rapidly increasing since 2000. The number of risk areas escalated from 29 in 2000 to 70 in 2020. The number of high-risk areas increased from 27 in 2010 to 38 in 2020. Meanwhile, the number of risk and high-risk areas with both domestic and foreign residents differed from that with only domestic residents: 9 more risk areas and 14 fewer high-risk areas.

Based on region-level population extinction with only Koreans, the number of at-risk and high-risk areas is generally higher in the Honam and Yeongnam regions than in other ones during the period of 2000–2010. In 2020, 32.8 percent of risk areas were found in the Yeongnam region, and 17.1 percent of them in the Honam and Chungcheong regions, respectively. Meanwhile, considering high-risk areas, 44.7 percent and 39.5 percent of the -si-/gun-/gu areas belong to the Honam region and Yeongnam region, respectively. The risk of population extinction in these two regions is very high compared to the others. When examining population extinction in provinces, high-risk areas were more in Jeollabuk-do, Jeollanam-do, Gyeongsangbuk-do, and Gyeongsangnam-do than in other provinces in 2020. Uiseong-gun and Gunwi-gun of Gyeongsangbuk-do and Goheung-gu of Jeollanam-do have a higher risk of extinction due to population decline than other areas.

As of 2020, there were no people in Jinseo-myeon (Paju-si, Gyeonggi-do), Geundong-myeon, Wondong-myeon, Wonnam-myeon, and Imnam-myeon (Cheorwon-gun, Gangwon-do), and Sudong-myeon (Goseong-gun, Gangwon-do). When considering only domestic people in -eup-/myeon-dong areas, risk and high-risk areas appear evenly in most areas except large cities. A large number of risk areas were found in the Honam and Yeongnam regions, and those of the Seoul Metropolitan Area were similar to those of the Honam region due to the inclusion of the Gyeonggi-do with the largest number of risk areas in the nation. The number of high-risk areas is also higher in the Honam and Yeongnam regions than that of other risk areas.

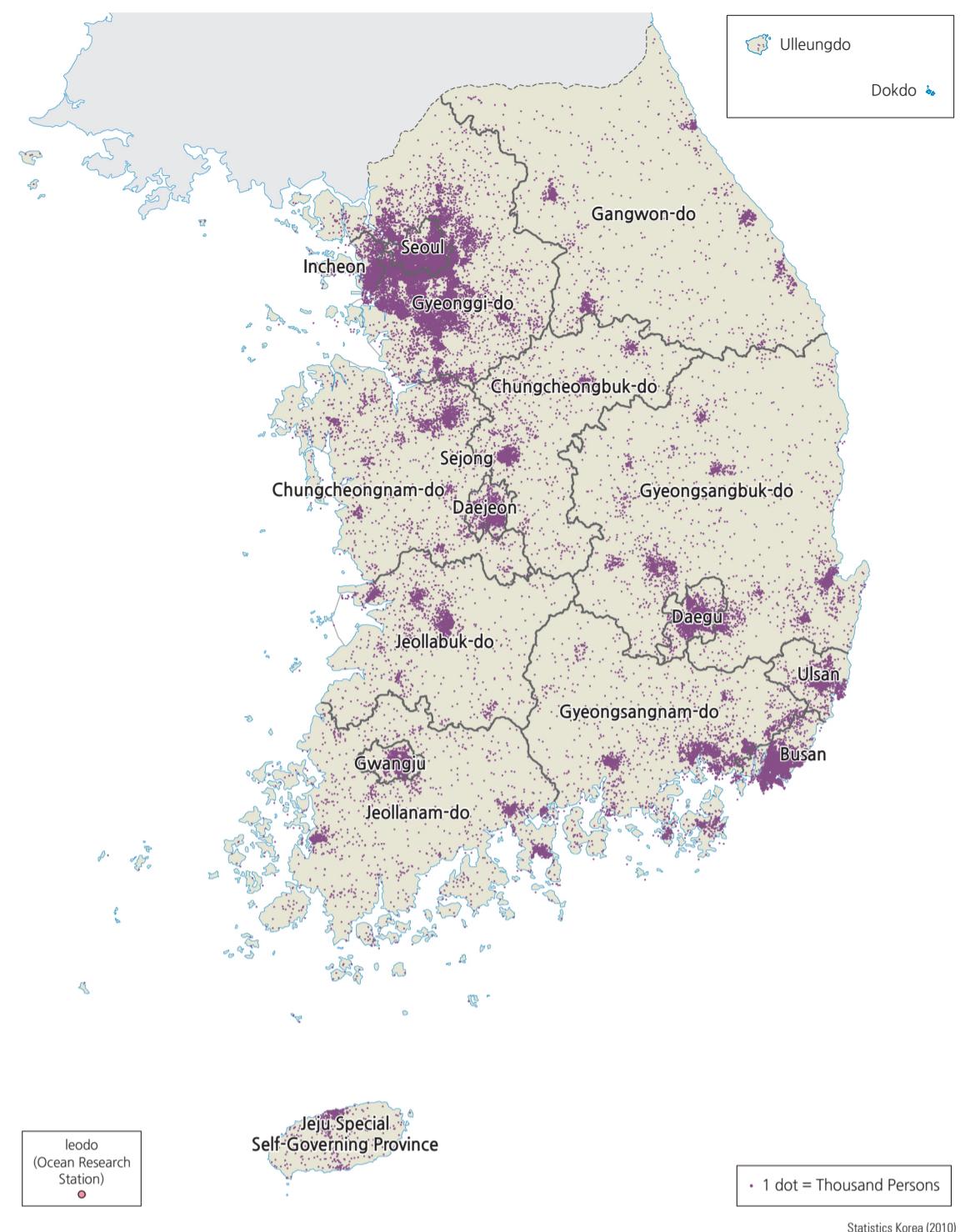
Considering the foreign population in regions and provinces, the number of risk and high-risk areas is similar to that of only domestic people, but the proportion of risk and high-risk areas is generally low. Overall, high-risk areas for population extinction largely appear in the -myeon areas. The highest risk is observed in Namhu-myeon (Gunwi-gu, Gyeongsangbuk-do) when considering only the domestic population. Sanseong-myeon (Andong-si, Gyeongsangbuk-do) is at high risk of extinction in the population with foreigners.

### Number and Proportion of -Si-/Gun-/Gu Population Extinction by Region

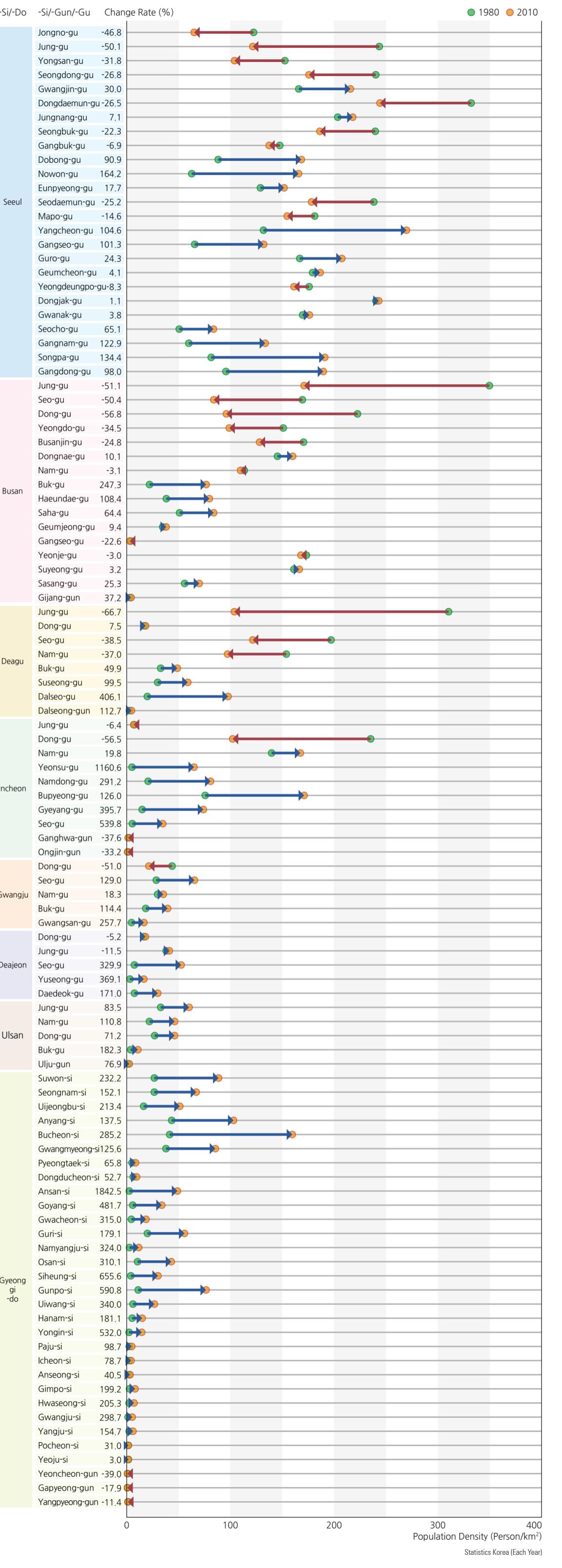
	2000			2005			2010			2015			2
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## Uneven Distribution of Population

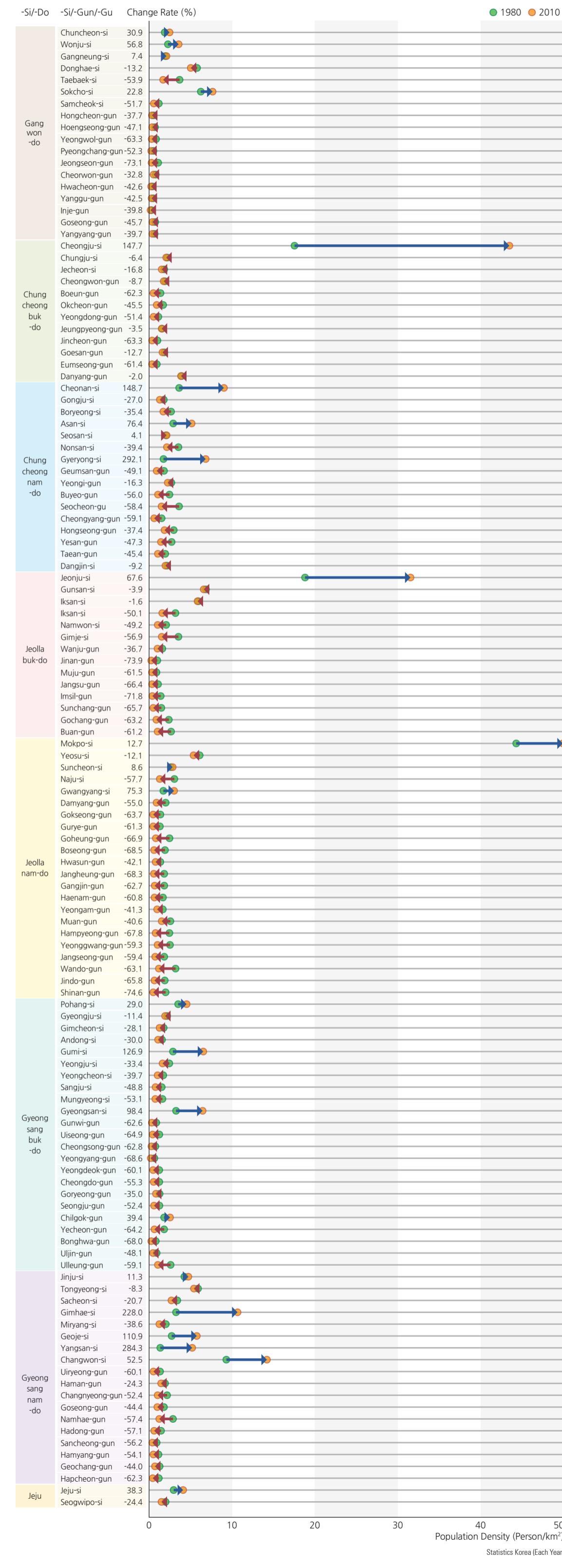
Population Distribution (2010)



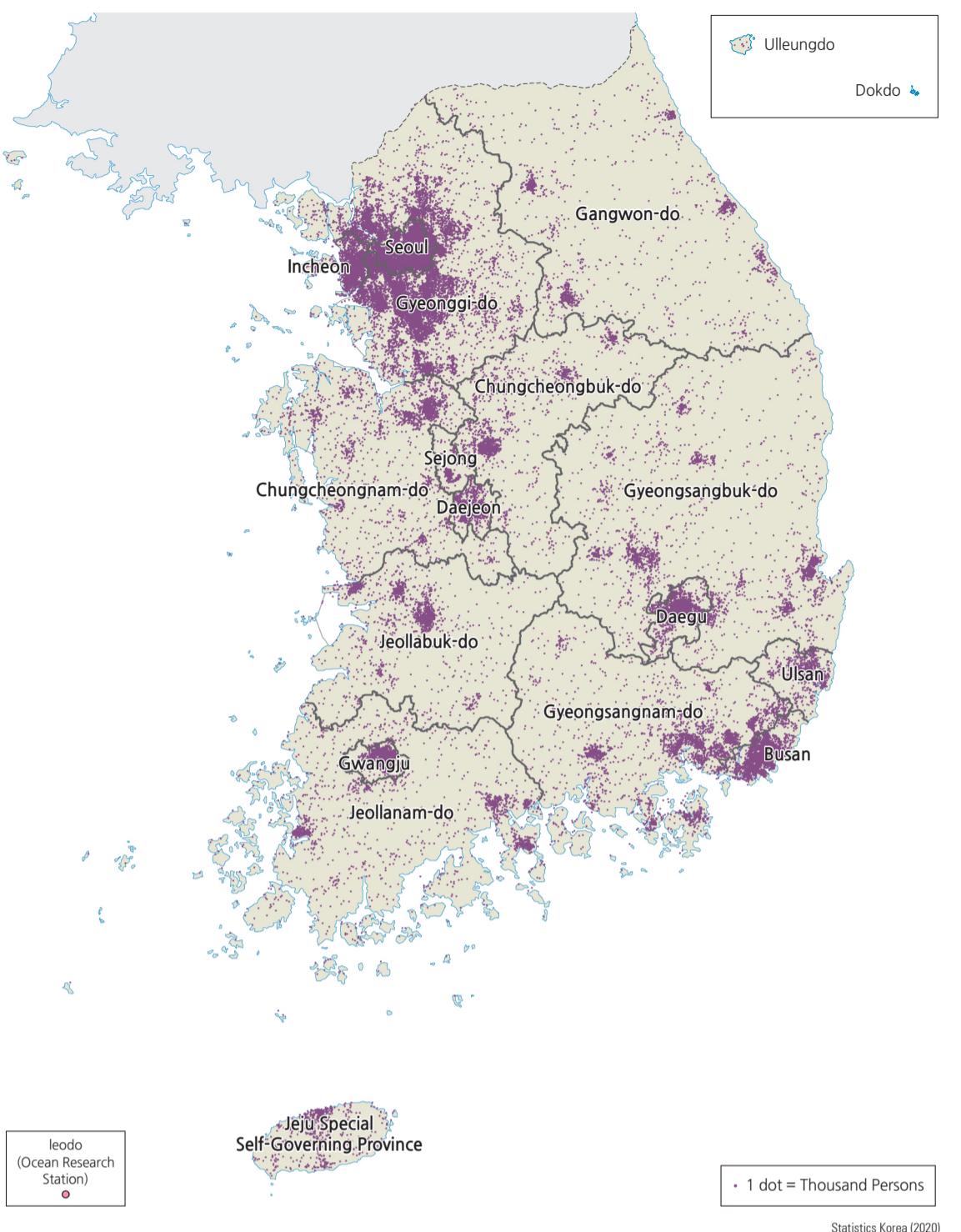
Population Density Change (-Si-/Gun-/Gu) (1980-2010)



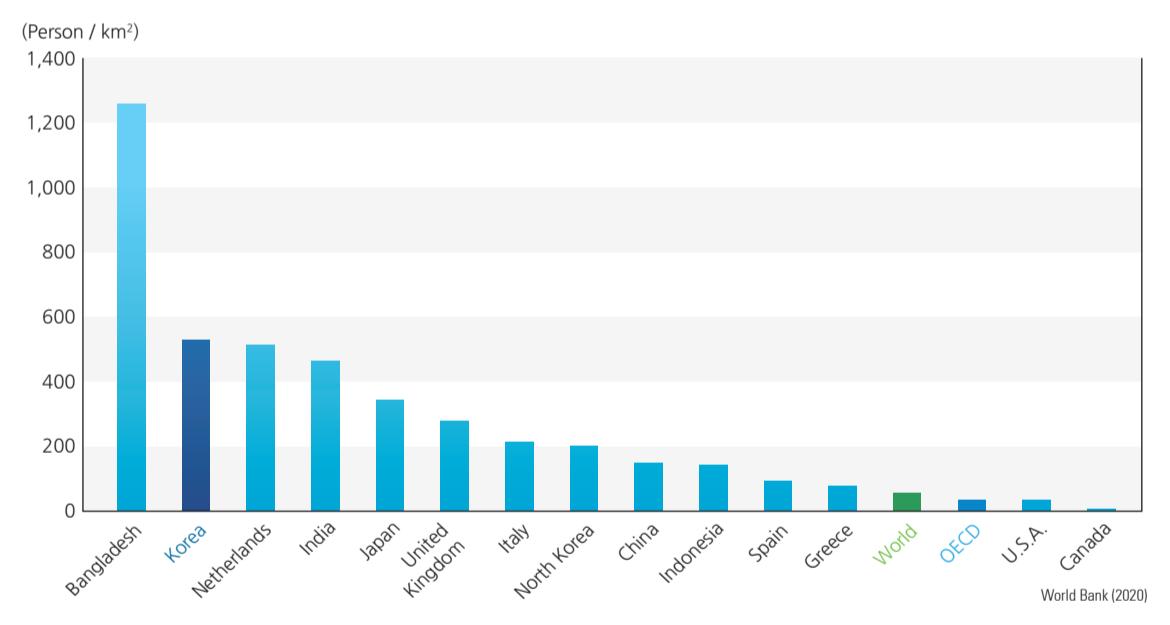
Population Density Change (-Si-/Gun-/Gu) (1980-2010)



Population Distribution (2020)



Population Density for Selected Countries

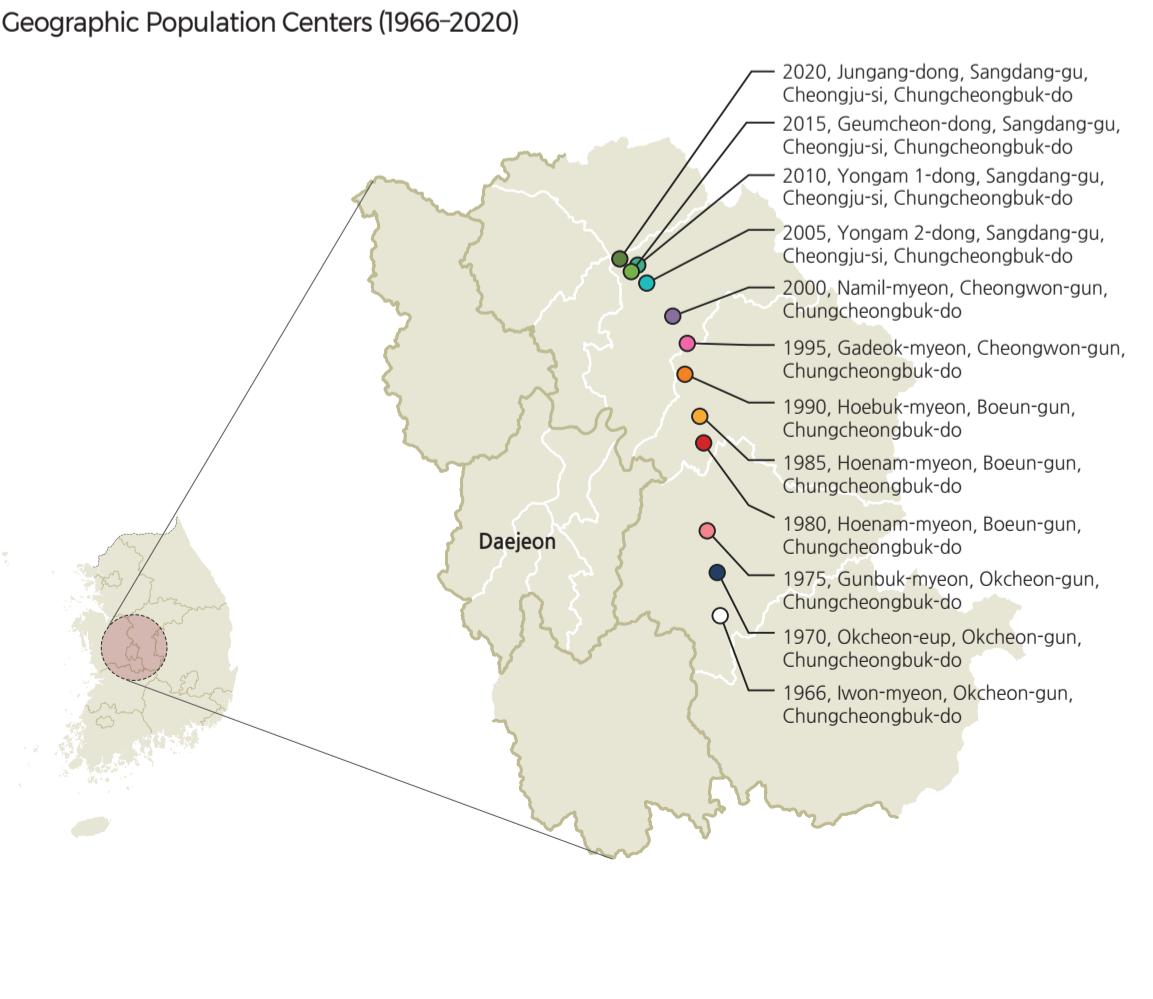


Population Density (-Si-/Do)

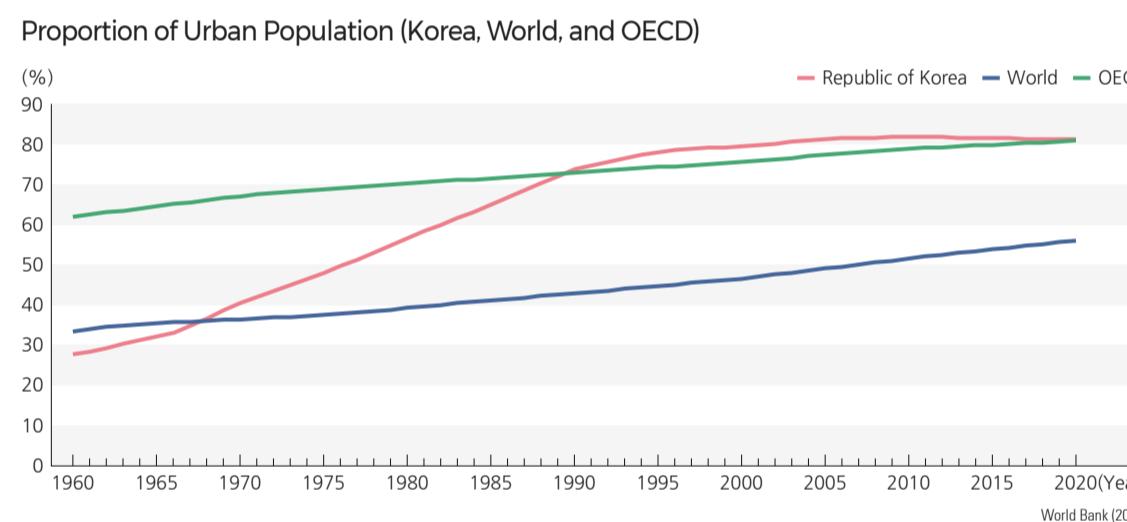
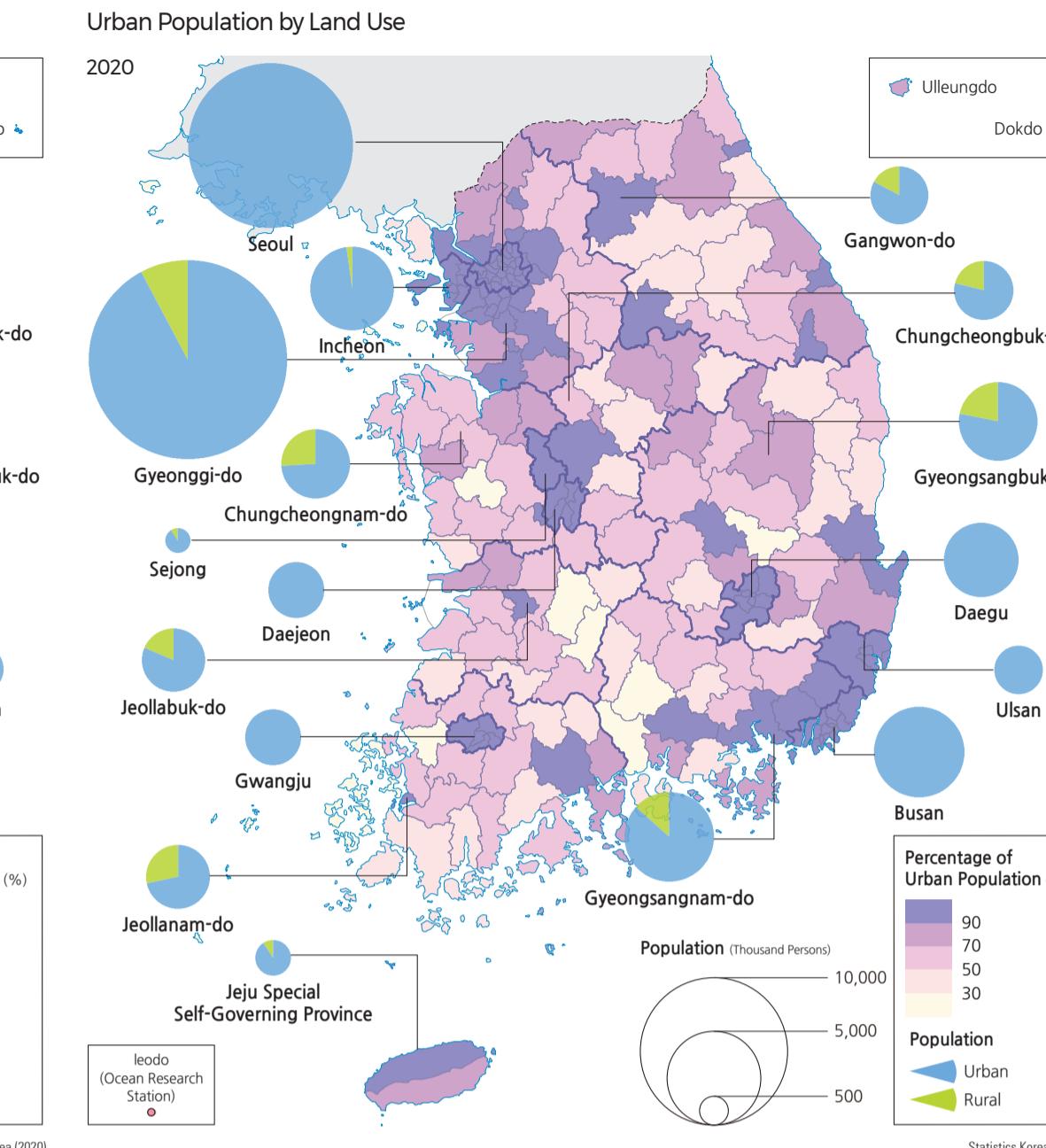
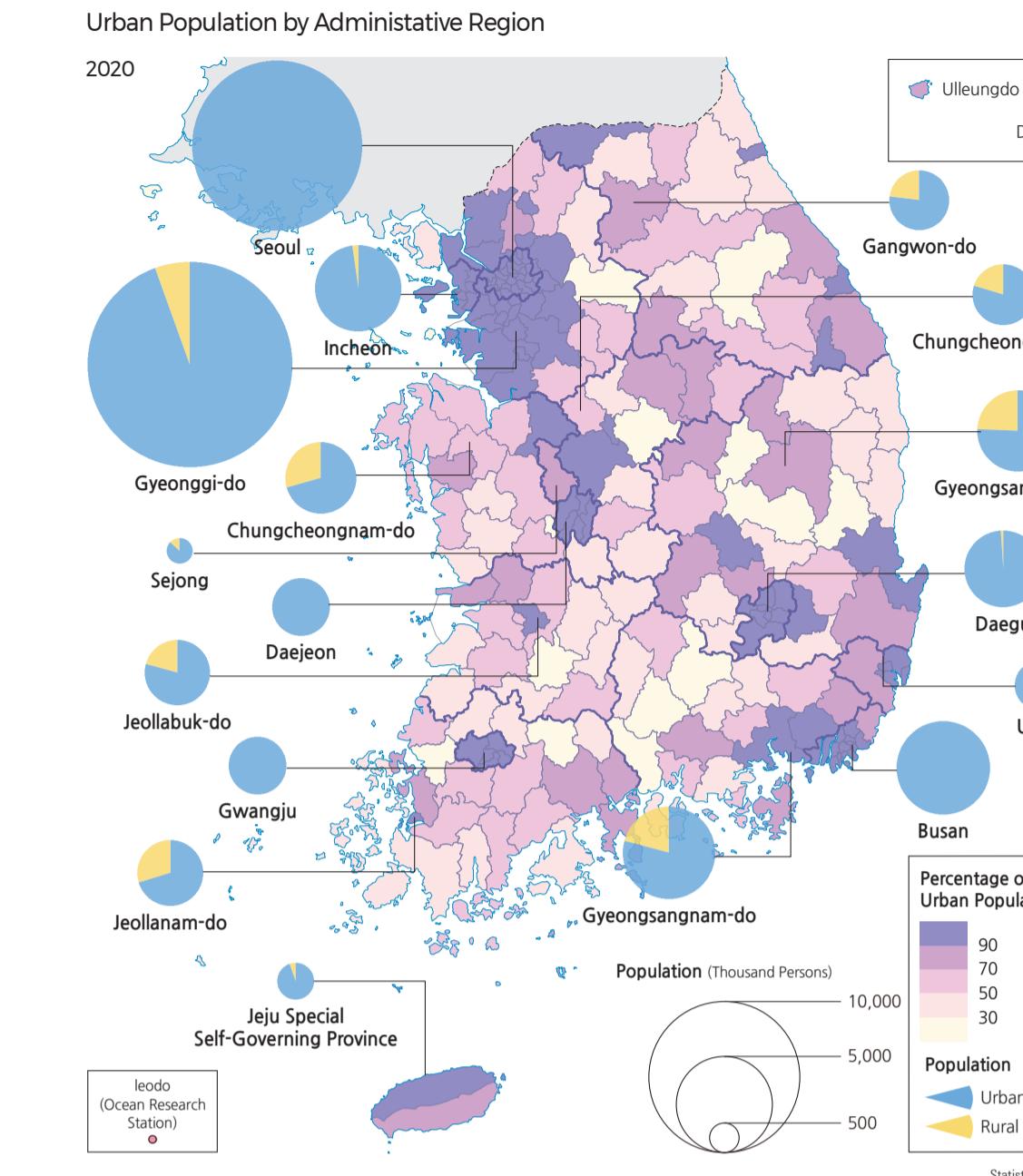
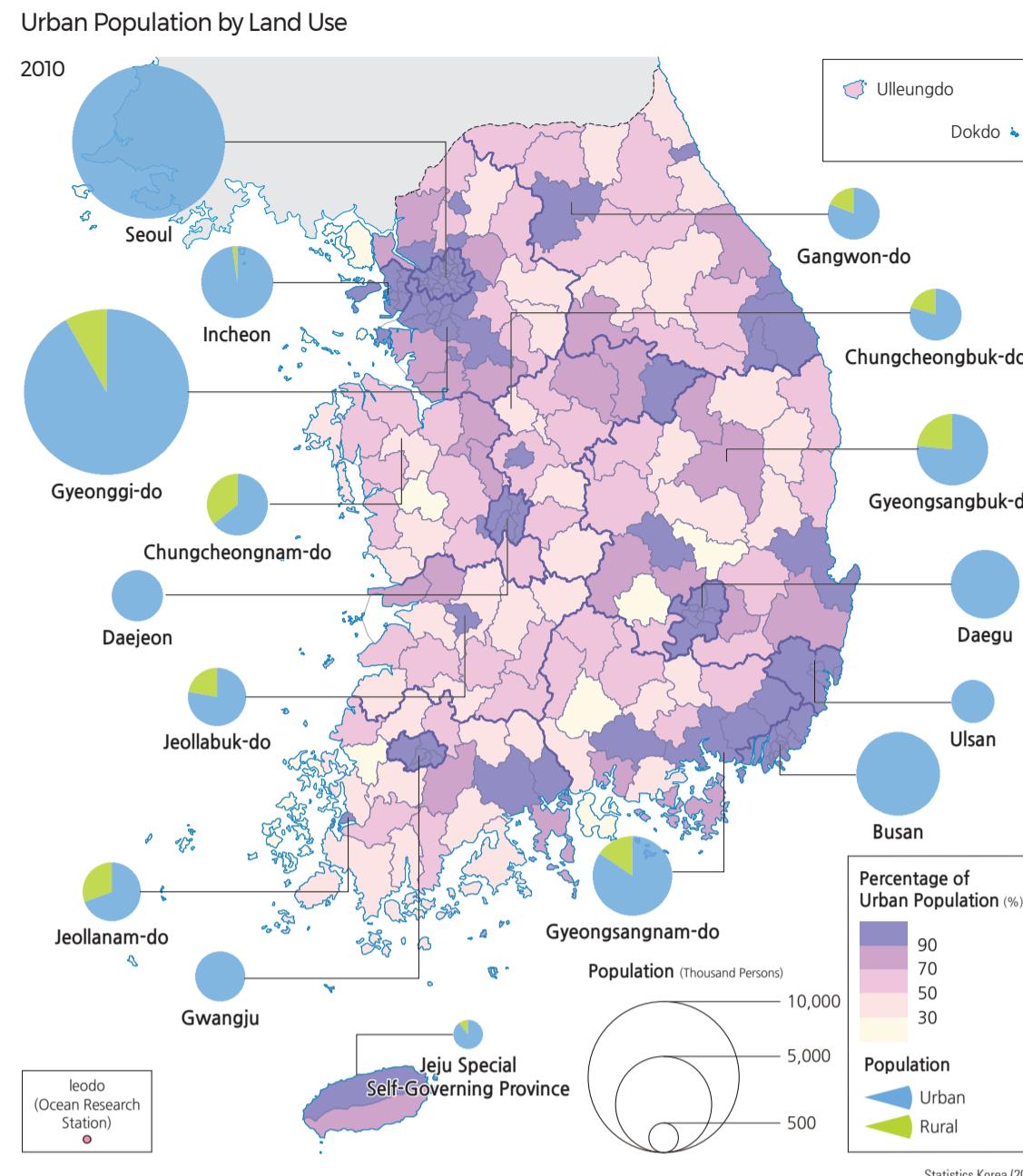
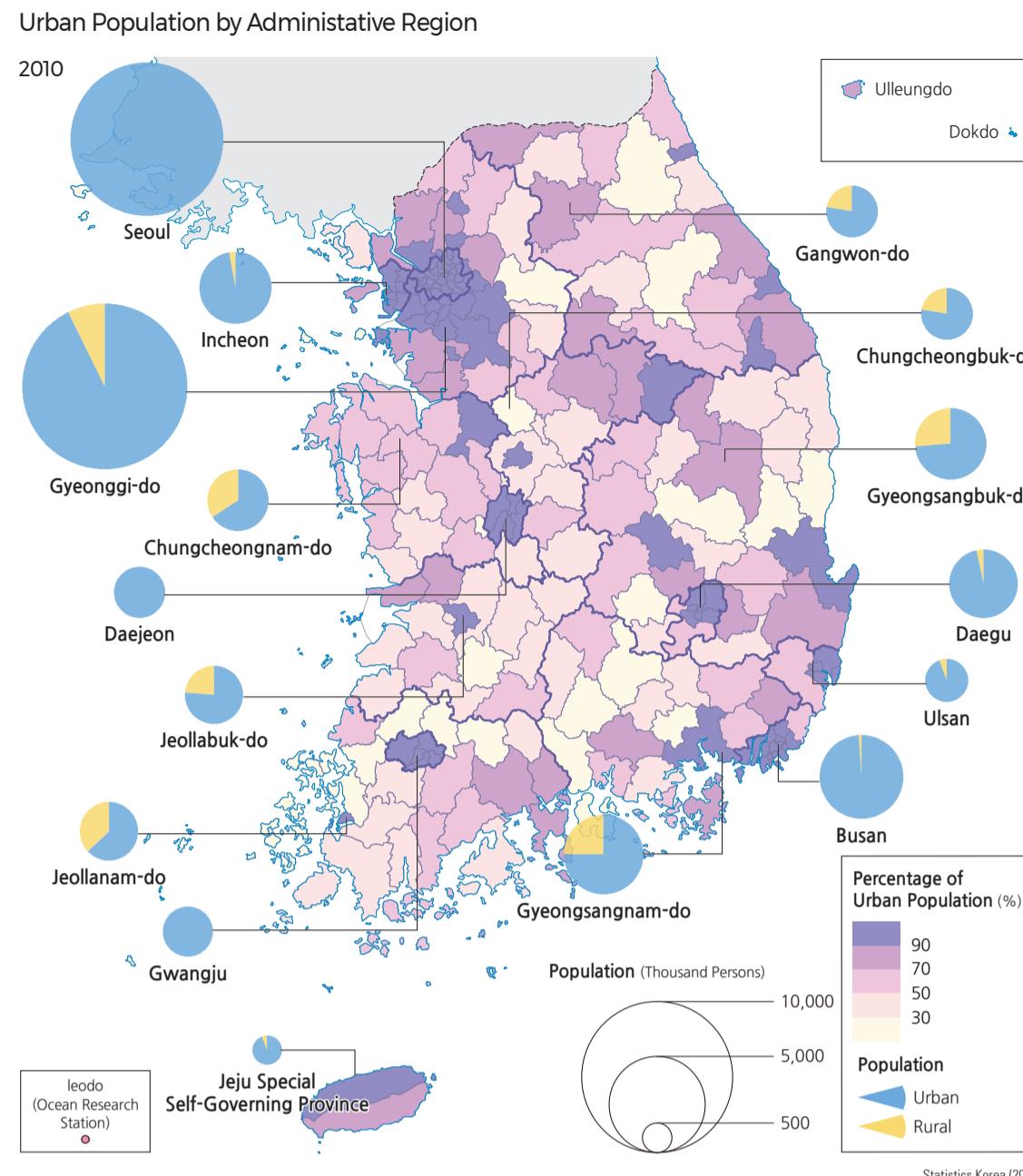
	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
National Total	320.4	351.1	378.8	408.8	437.7	449.4	463.9	474.5	485.6	509.2	516.2
Seoul	9,077.8	11,475.5	13,819.9	15,921.1	17,532.2	16,889.3	16,342.2	16,221.0	16,188.9	16,364.0	15,839.0
Busan	5,534.7	6,522.2	7,299.9	8,088.8	7,174.4	5,093.1	4,820.4	4,609.4	4,452.3	4,479.9	4,348.9
Daegu	-	-	-	4,460.6	4,891.1	2,766.1	2,801.0	2,786.5	2,767.4	2,791.0	2,728.6
Incheon	-	-	-	6,713.0	5,731.1	2,417.0	2,566.2	2,546.3	2,587.5	2,755.5	2,765.1
Gwangju	-	-	-	-	2,273.8	2,508.8	2,697.8	2,827.5	2,945.6	2,998.8	2,948.5
Daejeon	-	-	-	-	1,954.6	2,356.3	2,534.5	2,673.0	2,781.2	2,852.3	2,758.1
Ulsan	-	-	-	-	-	960.4	992.5	1,022.3	1,099.6	1,069.0	
Sejong	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	439.0	761.3	
Gyeonggi-do	-	364.8	445.5	441.1	571.1	756.3	886.4	1,028.1	1,119.3	1,226.4	1,325.3
Gangwon-do	111.7	110.0	106.6	102.2	93.3	88.7	89.7	88.2	88.2	90.2	90.4
Chungcheongbuk-do	200.7	204.4	191.1	187.7	186.6	187.9	197.3	196.5	203.4	214.6	220.3
Chungcheongnam-do	327.8	336.6	336.6	340.0	242.2	206.7	214.9	219.7	235.0	256.6	264.0
Jeollabuk-do	303.1	304.4	284.4	273.3	257.7	236.0	234.9	221.5	220.3	227.4	223.4
Jeollanam-do	331.8	329.9	310.0	306.6	212.2	173.5	166.6	150.7	142.2	146.1	144.9
Gyeongsangbuk-do	-	245.3	249.9	154.4	147.7	140.7	143.2	137.1	136.6	140.8	138.9
Gyeongsangnam-do	262.3	274.4	280.0	296.6	311.1	332.5	283.2	290.5	300.0	316.4	316.2
Jeju	200.8	226.6	253.3	267.7	282.2	273.9	278.0	287.8	287.7	327.5	362.6

Statistics Korea (2020)

Geographic Population Centers (1966-2020)



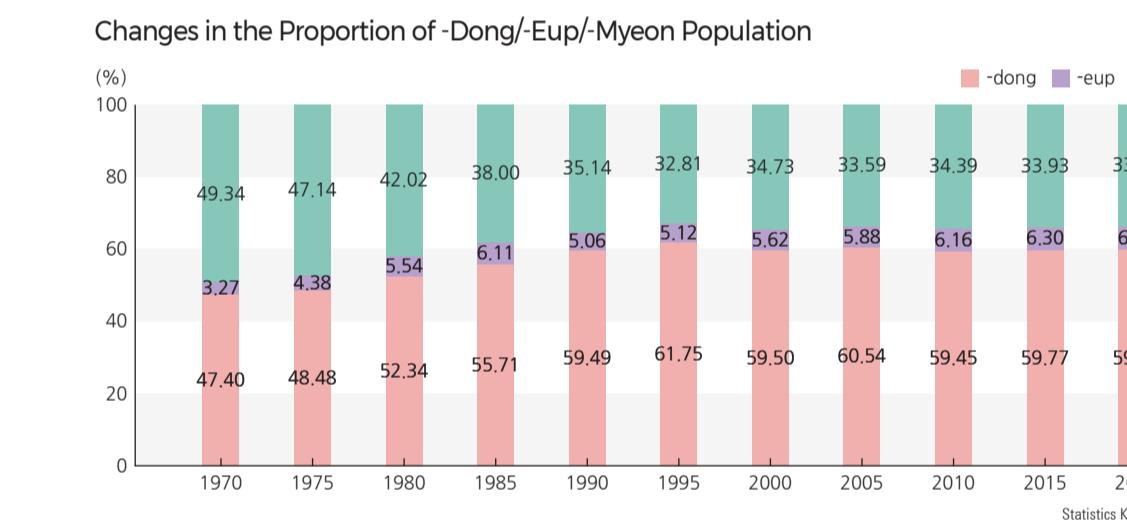
## Urban Population



Korea's urban population increased steeply until the 1990s, and it is higher than the world average and similar to that of OECD countries in 2020. In Korea, the urban population is the number of people living in either administrative level, such as -dong or -eup districts, or urban areas, classified by land use. However, there are no significant differences between the two methods of counting.

Generally, urban areas by land use are largely distributed over metropolitan cities, and the proportion of the urban population is high in these areas. The proportion of rural areas (-myeon districts) had continued to decline, while the proportion of urban areas (-dong/-eup districts) has risen. The proportion of -dong or -eup districts in metropolitan cities increased and reached 50 percent of all districts as of 2005, and it is still higher in the cities than in other regions.

Korea's population is concentrated in the Seoul Metropolitan Area, and most of the population in the area lives in urban areas. Such a tendency is also reflected in the 2010 and 2020 distribution maps of urban population and urban areas in provinces and -si/-gun/-gu areas. Meanwhile, the ratio of urban areas per capita is higher in areas with less population than in large cities.

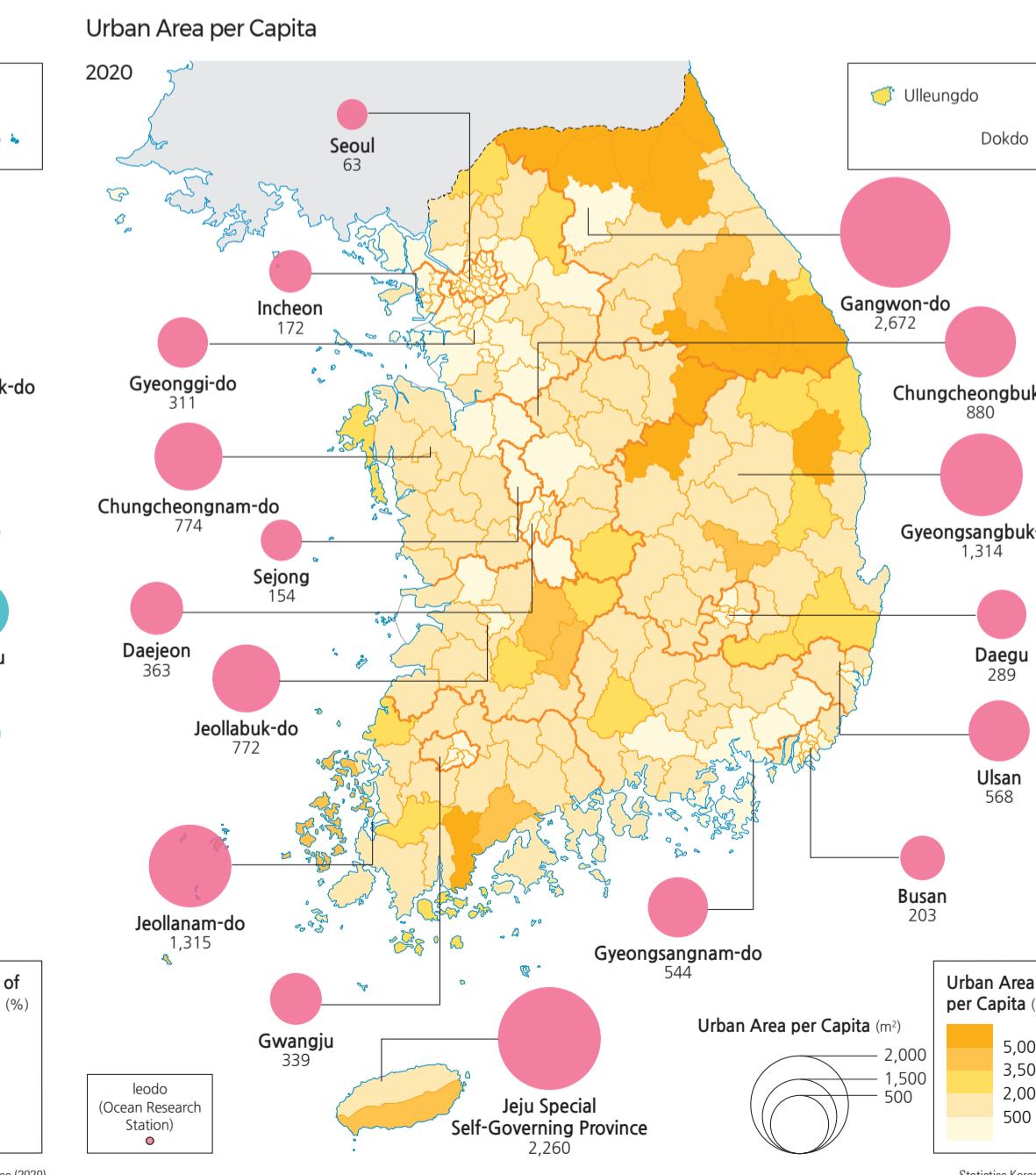
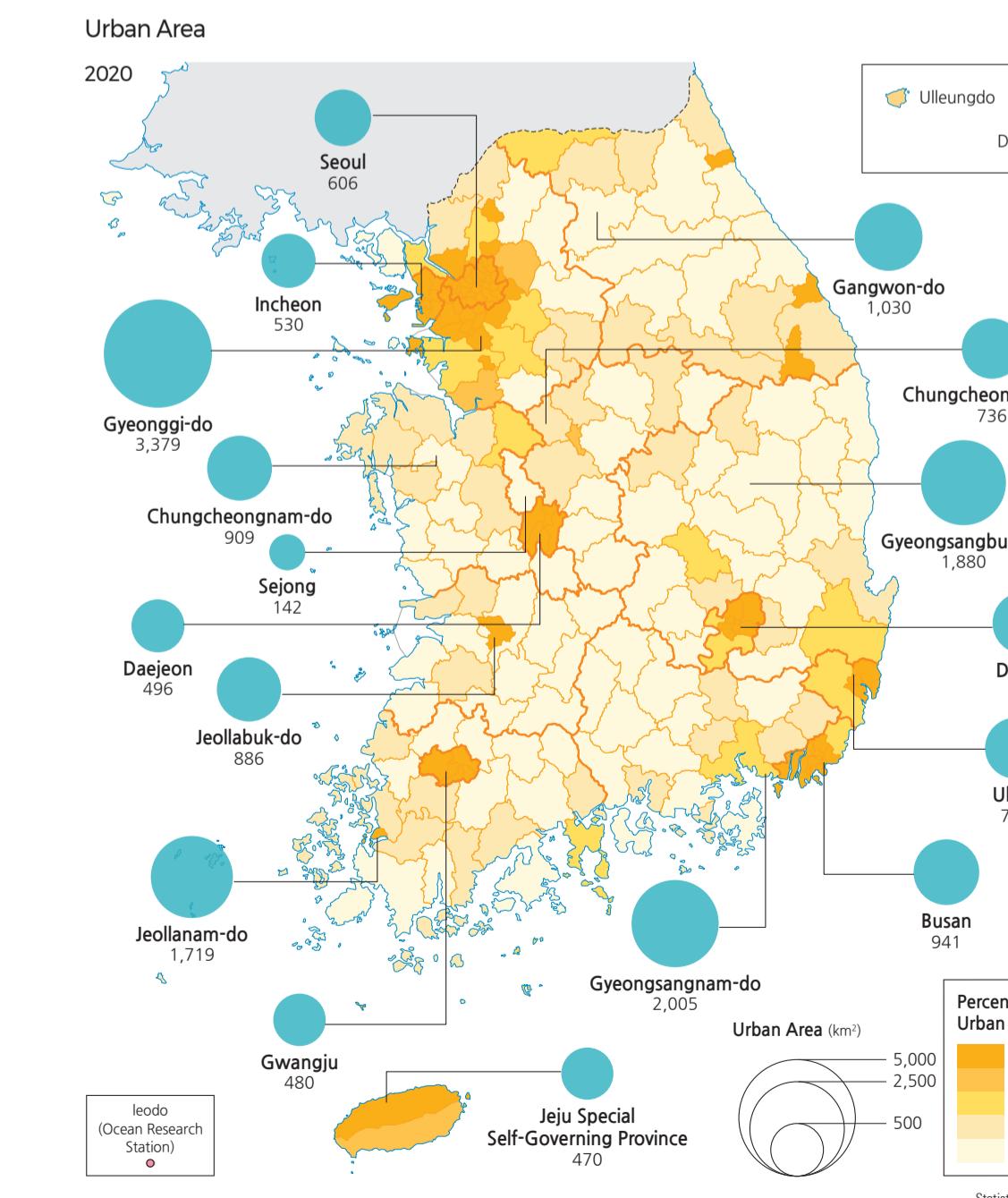
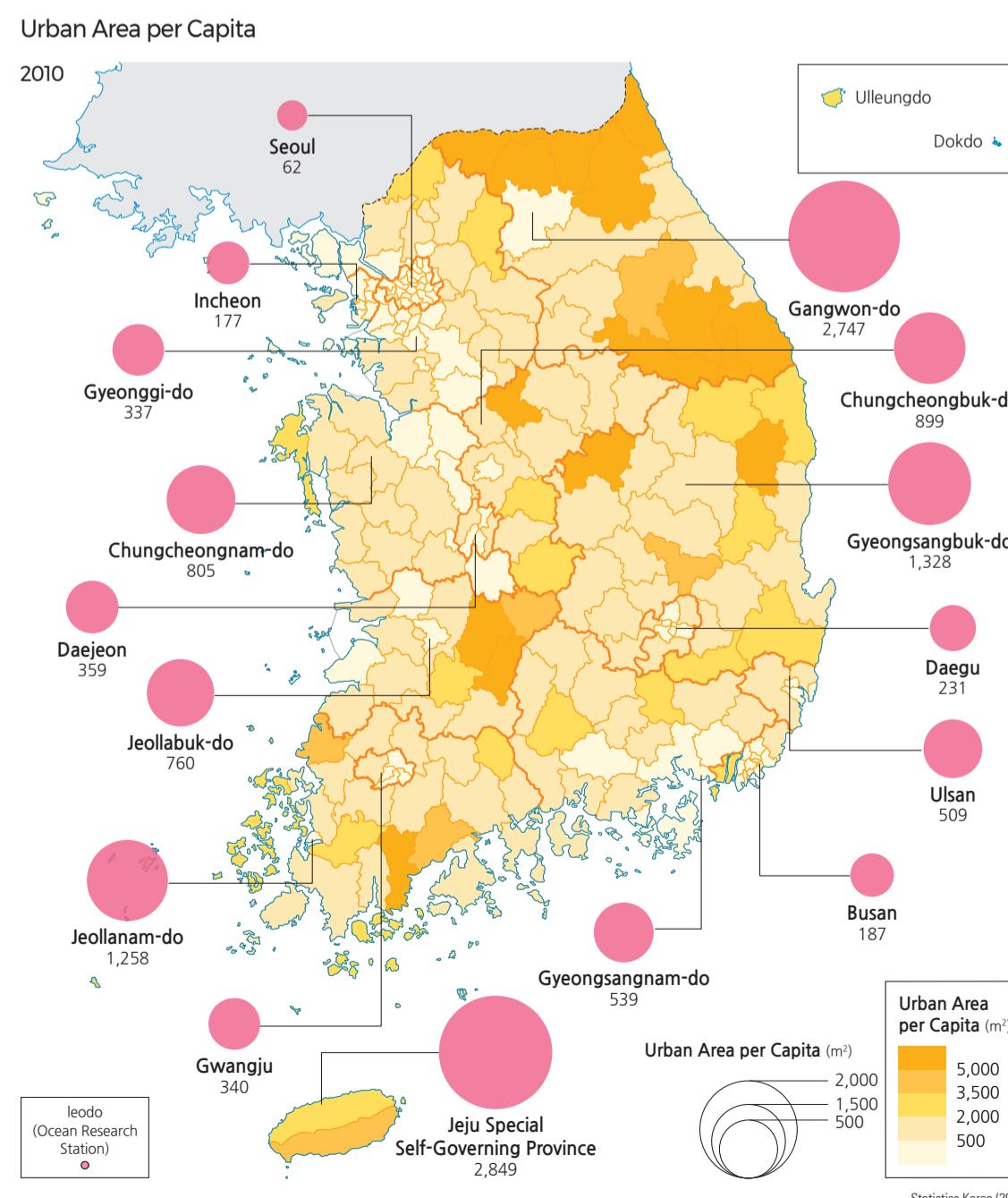
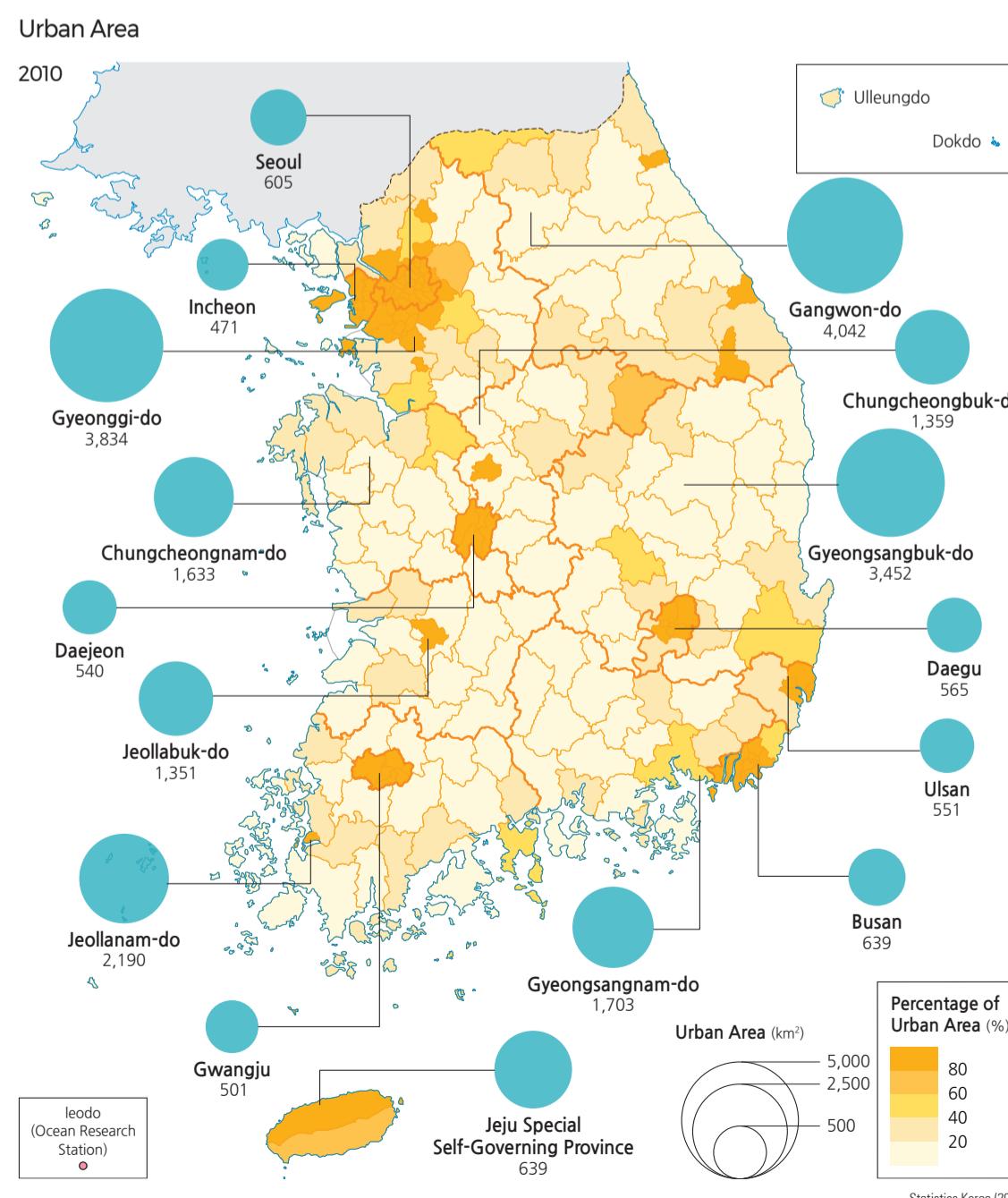


**Changes in the Proportion of -Dong/-Eup/-Myeon Population**

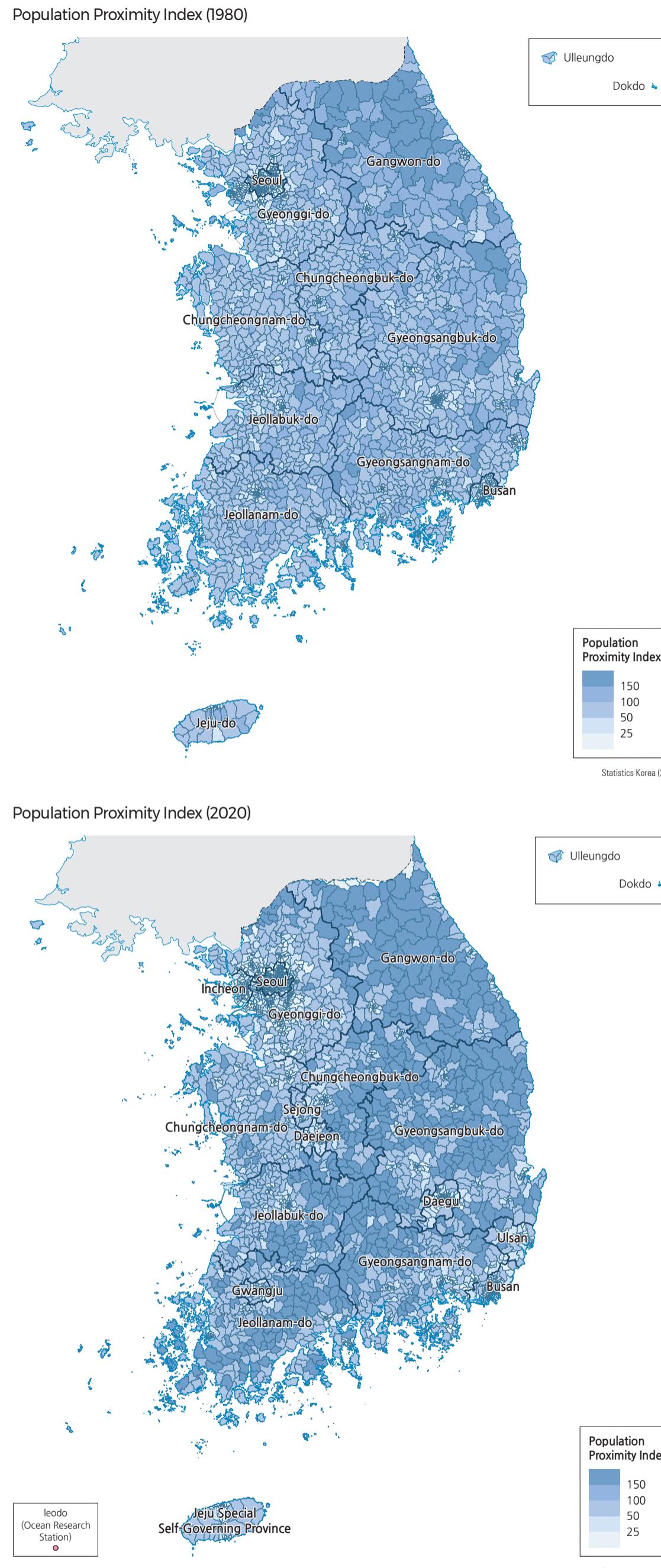
(Unit: %)

	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Seoul Metropolitan Area	29.8	33.7	34.4	34.8	37.2	39.4	43.7	44.5	42.9	43.5	43.4
Gangwon Region	5.3	5.8	6.1	6.2	5.7	5.5	4.3	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.2
Chungcheong Region	9.1	8.0	7.9	7.8	8.7	8.6	8.6	8.7	9.1	9.5	9.8
Honam Region	15.3	15.0	13.6	14.4	14.3	13.8	12.5	12.3	12.6	12.7	12.8
Yeongnam Region	39.2	36.4	36.9	34.9	32.5	31.2	29.3	28.8	29.4	28.4	28.1
Jeju	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6

Statistics Korea (Each Year)



## Population Proximity Index and Population Density



The degree of population concentration can be expressed in terms of population density or population proximity index. The population proximity index of an area is the average distance between people, calculated by the square root of the area in  $m^2$  divided by the population, assuming an evenly-distributed population in a unit area. Based on Korea's population with foreigners, the population proximity index has been shortened from 52 m in 1980 to 44 m in 2020, indicating the degree of concentration has partially risen due to increased population.

A comparison of the population proximity index in -dong/-eup/-myeon areas reveals its rapid change. The indices were high in most areas, except metropolitan cities in 1980. In particular, they were higher in some parts of Taebaeksanmaek and inland areas with low

population densities. In 2000, areas with a high population proximity index were expanded to some parts of west and south coasts, as well as inland areas. Most parts of Korea, except urban areas, had high population proximity in 2020. Overall, Korea's population is concentrated in urban areas such as the Seoul Metropolitan Area and metropolitan cities.

Such changes in population distribution can be reflected in the geographic population centers of individual regions. In the Seoul Metropolitan Area, the population center moved southwestward from 1970 to 2020, which can account for the recent increase in population for the south and west parts of Gyeonggi-do in recent years (low proximity and high density of population). The population center of Gangwon-do tends to move west toward the

Seoul Metropolitan Area. In the Chungcheong region, the population center moved southeast towards Daejeon from 1960 to 1990, and its direction has turned north towards the Seoul Metropolitan Area since 1995.

In the Yeongnam region, the population center tends to move southeast towards Busan and Ulsan. In the Honam region, the population center tends to move continuously north towards the Seoul Metropolitan Area. Since 1995, the population center of Jeju-do has moved to the urban center of Jeju-si, which is close to the coastal area. Meanwhile, the distance between the two geographic population centers has gotten closer in all provinces except Jeju Special Self-Governing Province.

## Geographic Population Centers by Region

