

Version 2007

IMAGES OF WOMEN R.O.C. (TAIWAN)

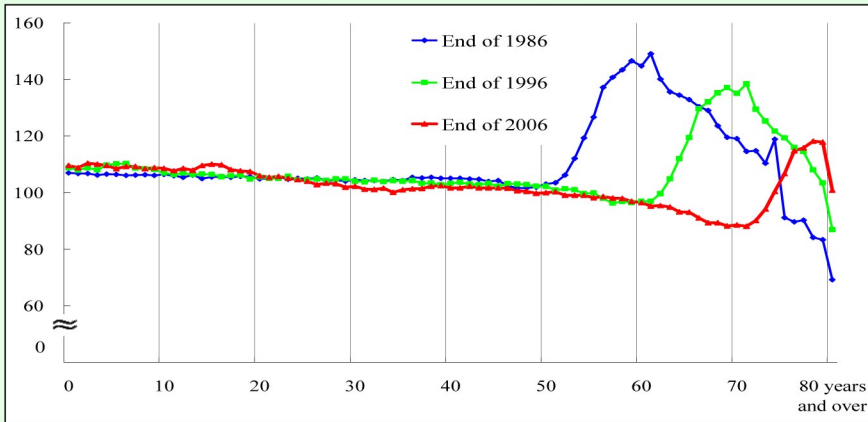


**DIRECTORATE-GENERAL OF BUDGET, ACCOUNTING AND
STATISTICS, EXECUTIVE YUAN, REPUBLIC OF CHINA**
Issued February 2007

1. Population

At the end of 2006, Taiwan's population reached 22.9 million, in which 11.3 million were female. The sex ratio was 103 (103 male for every 100 female), decreasing from 106 at the end of 1996. The reason for the decrease was mainly due to the gradual demise of the predominated male population exodus from China around 1949.

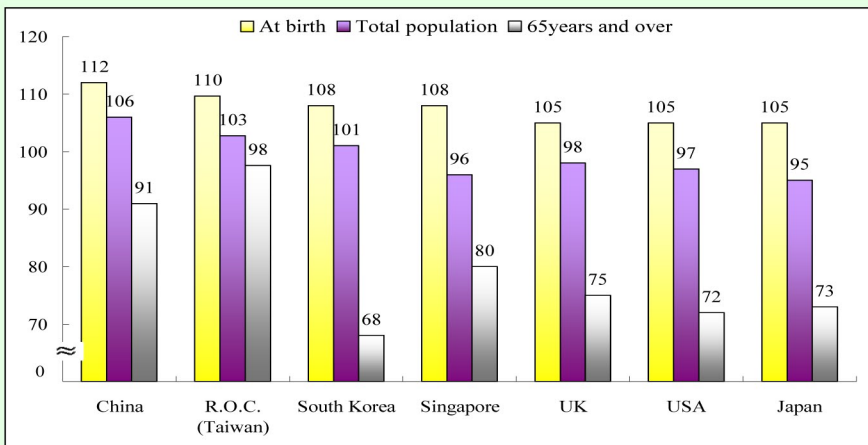
Total population by sex ratio (female=100)



Source: Ministry of the Interior.

The sex ratio at birth reached 110 in 2006, significantly higher than 105 of the USA, UK and Japan. The preference was a direct consequence of traditional thinking. This ratio in general has also been affected by the predominated male population coming from China around 1949 and thus the sex ratio of the total population and the 65 years and over were relatively higher when compared with other countries.

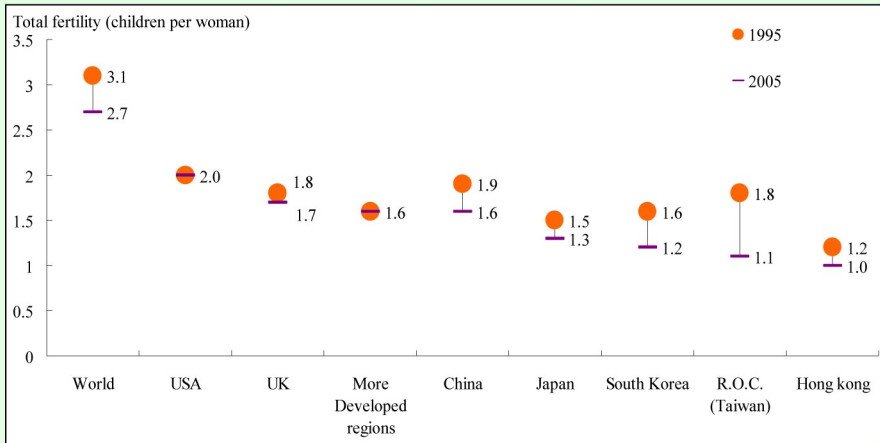
Sex ratio of selected countries in 2006 (female=100)



Source: Ministry of the Interior and CIA, USA.

With longer education period, higher employment rate, and shifting family concept for female population, the total fertility rate in Taiwan has experienced an uninterrupted decline. It has been below replacement level (2.1 children per woman) since 1985. It dropped to 1.8 in 1995 and further down to 1.1 in 2005, lower than 2.7 of the world and 1.6 of the more developed regions.

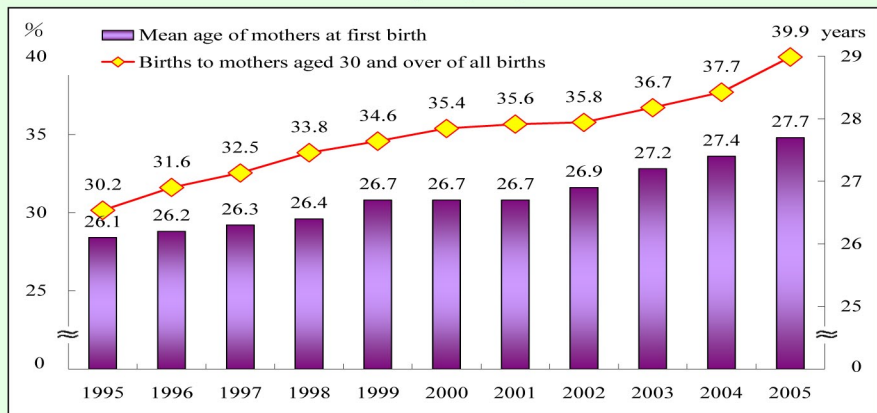
Total fertility rate of selected regions



Source: Population Reference Bureau, USA.

In 2005, there were 206 thousand new born babies, 36.8% fewer than in 1995. Birth to mothers aged over 30 has accounted for 39.9% of all births, an increase of 9.7 percentage points over the last ten years and the mean age of mothers at first birth was 27.7 years, 1.6 years older over the same period.

Mothers age of giving birth



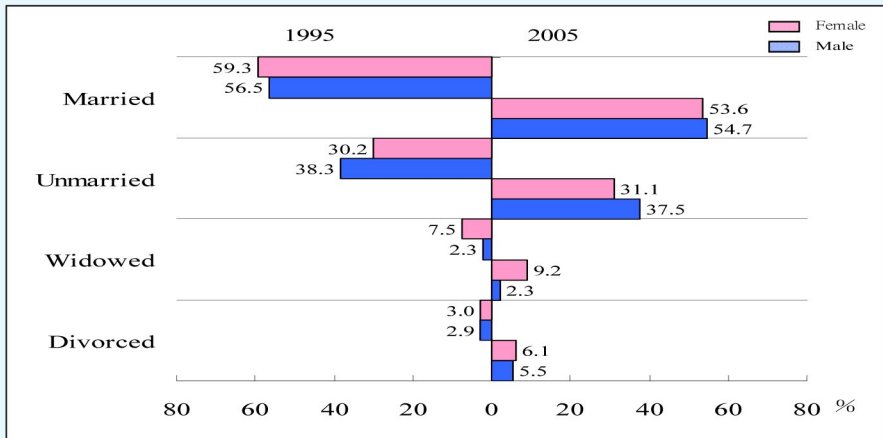
Source: Ministry of the Interior.

Note : Data based on date of occurrence.

2. Marriage and Family

In 2005, more than half (53.6%) of the women aged over 15 were married, followed by 31.1% unmarried; both figures were lower than those of men. Nearly ten percent of women (9.2%) lost their spouses, four times as high as men, because women had a longer life expectancy and their remarriage rate (12.0%) was significantly lower than men (31.2%). Also, the ratio of divorced women (6.1%) was slightly higher than that of males (5.5%).

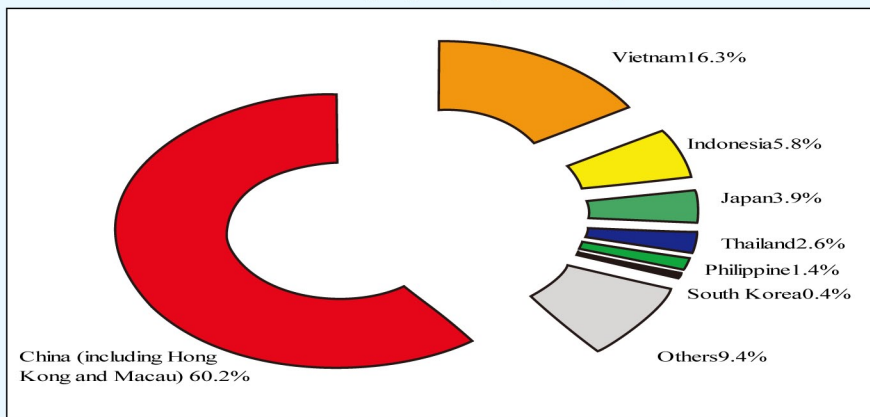
Marital status for the population aged over 15



Source: Ministry of the Interior.

There were 143 thousand couples (286 thousand persons) married in 2006, 24 thousand persons of which married to foreigners. Among these foreign spouses, those with China nationality (including Hong Kong and Macau) accounted for the biggest share (60.2%), followed by Vietnamese (16.3%); these two categories combined made up 77%.

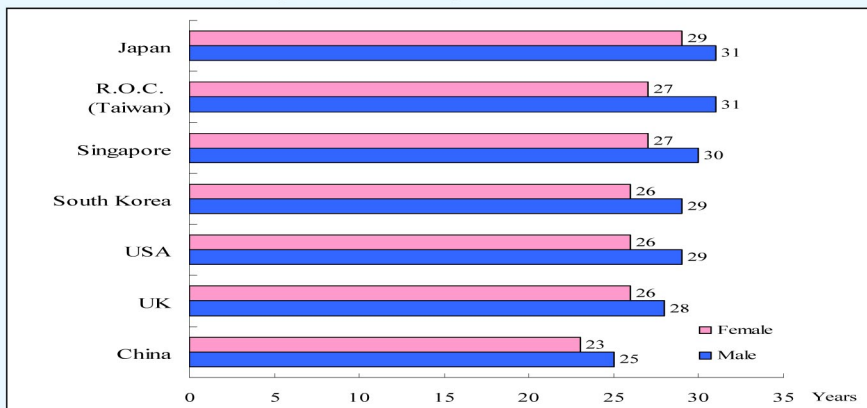
2006 Foreign spouses by nationality



Source: Ministry of the Interior.

The mean age of males at their first marriage maintained between 30 and 31 years old over the last ten years, whereas that of females dropped slightly by 0.8 year to between 26 and 28 due to the brides coming from Southeast Asian increased along with lower first marriage age (24.7 years). Taiwan, along with Japan and Singapore, is a late marriage country in Asia.

Mean age of first marriage in selected countries

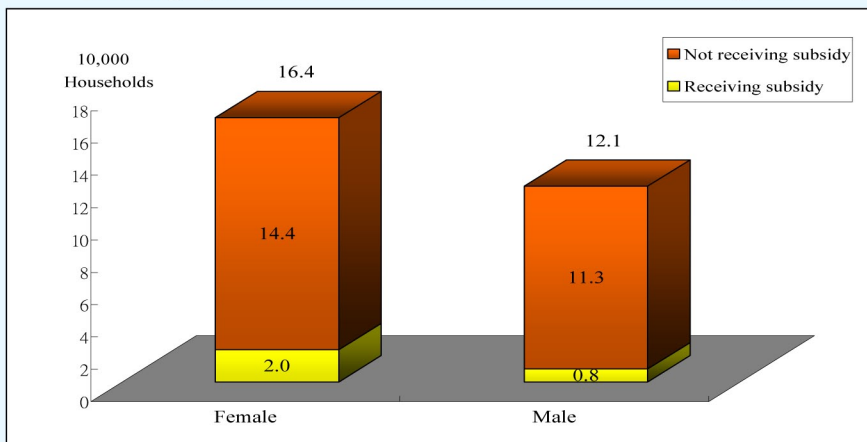


Source: Ministry of the Interior and United Nations.

Note : 2005 data for Taiwan and 1995-2002 for other countries.

At the end of 2001, there were 285 thousand single parent households with unmarried children under age 18. Among those single parent households, 164 thousand households with female as their heads (57.5%), 20 thousand of which received low income subsidy.

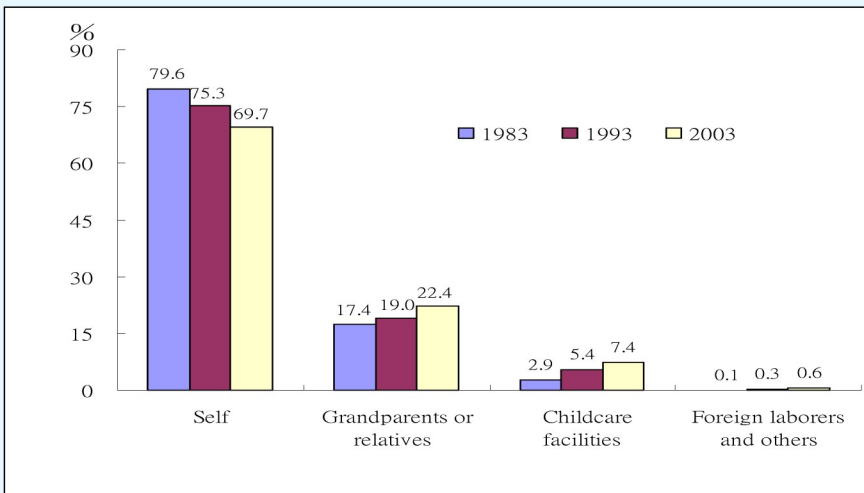
2001 Single parent households with unmarried children under aged 18



Source: Ministry of the Interior.

Children aged under 3 years in marriage were taken care in a variety of ways in 2003. The most common ways were by self (69.7%), 5.6 percentage points lower than that in 1993 ; followed by grandparents or other relatives(22.4%) and childcare facilities(7.4%), an increase of 3.4 and 2.0 percentage points respectively over the past ten years.

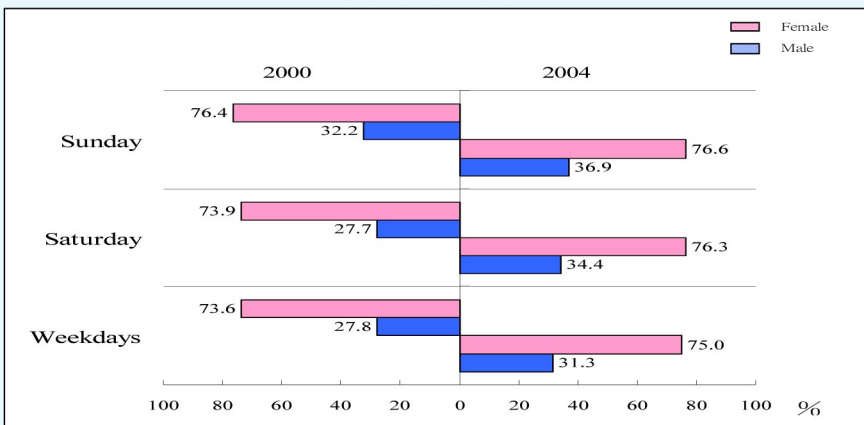
Care for children aged under 3 in marriage



Source: Directorate General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (DGBAS), Executive Yuan.

In 2004, the participation rate of domestic work for females aged over 15 was 75.0% on weekdays, including household work, caring family, and raising children, substantially higher than male. However, the increase in the participation rate for males was higher than that for females when compared with 2000.

Participation rates in household

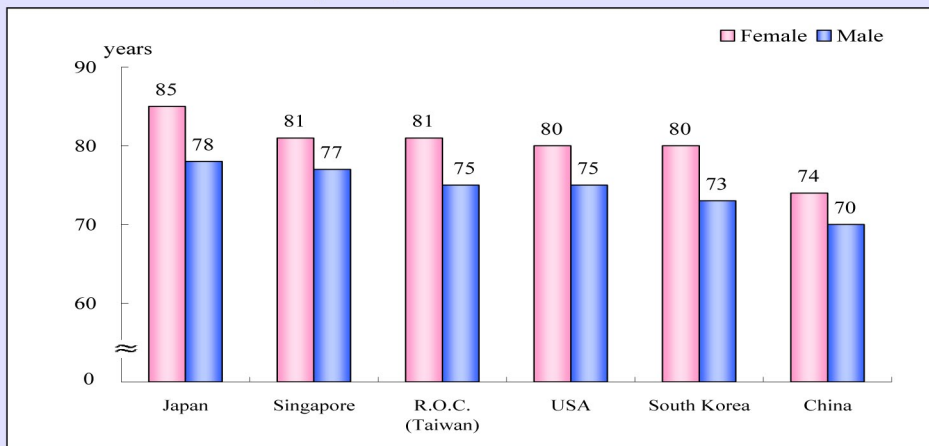


Source: DGBAS, Executive Yuan.

3. Health

In 2005, life expectancy for males and females was 75 years and 81 years, respectively, lower than 78 years and 85 years of Japan and 77 years and 81 years of Singapore, comparable to 75 years and 80 years of the USA, and higher than 73 years and 80 years of South Korea and 70 years and 74 years of China.

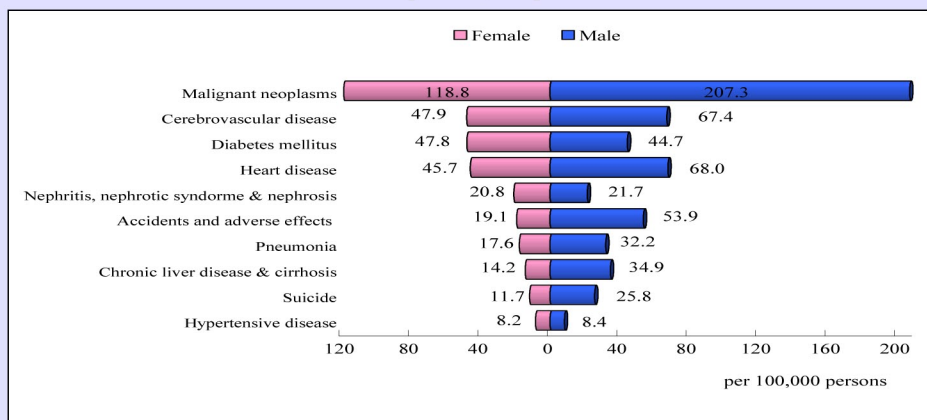
Life expectancy in selected countries in 2005



Source: Ministry of the Interior, Population Reference Bureau (USA).

In 2005, malignant neoplasms topped the ten leading causes of death for males and females. Among the leading causes, the male mortality rate was consistently higher than that of females, apart from diabetes mellitus. The three largest discrepancies in mortality rates between males and females were accidents and adverse effects, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis, and suicide, males being 2.8, 2.5, and 2.2 times of females, respectively.

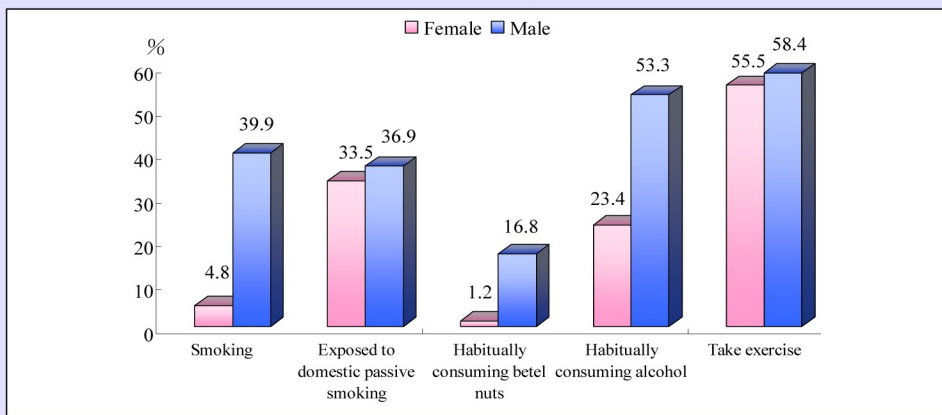
The death rate per 100,000 persons in 2005



Source: Department of Health.

In 2005, the females smoking rate was merely 4.8% and yet females exposure to domestic passive smoking was 33.5%, slightly lower than that of male 36.9. In 2002, only 1.2 % and 23.5% of females habitually chewed betel nuts and consumed alcohol, both lower than those of males did. Rate of taking exercise for males and females was 58.4% and 55.5%, respectively.

Health determinants

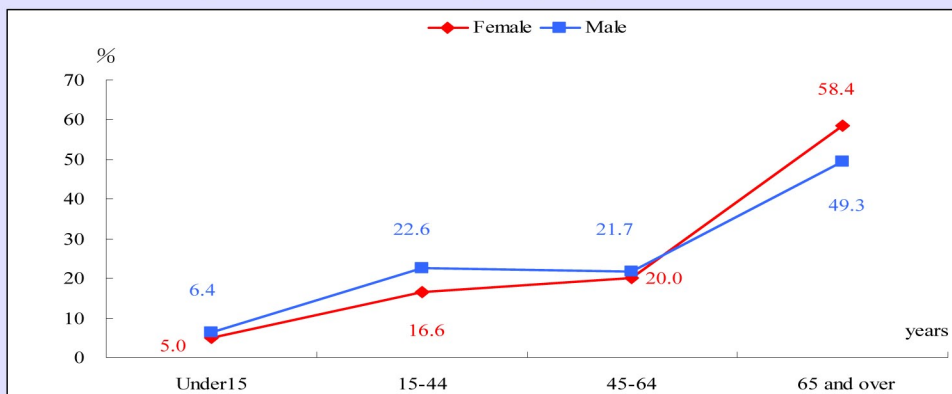


Source: Department of Health.

Note : Smoking rate and the rate of exposure to domestic passive smoking were 2005 data and others were 2002 data.

In 2000, there were 168 thousand males and 170 thousand females requiring long-term care, 83 and 99 thousand were over aged 65, accounting for 49.3% and 58.4%, respectively. Females had a longer life expectancy than males did and thus required more long-term care.

Age distribution of those requiring long-term care in 2000

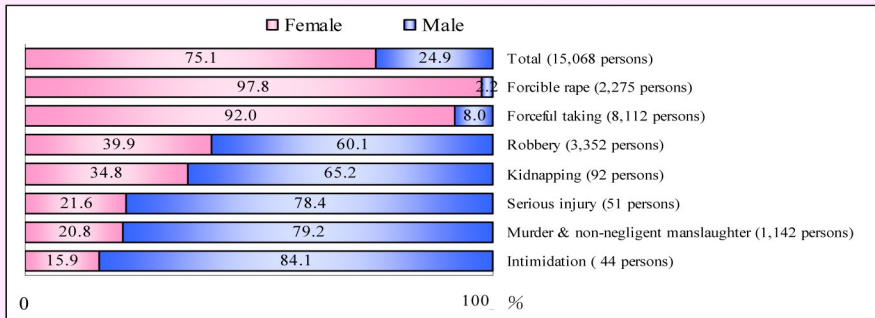


Source: DGBAS, Executive Yuan.

4. Personal Security

The leading violent crime was forceful taking in recent years, followed by robbery and forcible rape, the three categories combined accounted for 91.2% of all crimes committed. Females were more likely than males to be victimized by forcible rape and forceful taking; in 2005, females accounted for 97.8% and 92.0% of the victims of the two crimes, respectively. On the other hand, males were more likely than females to be the victims of intimidation, murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, and serious injury.

Sex ratio of violent crime victims in 2005

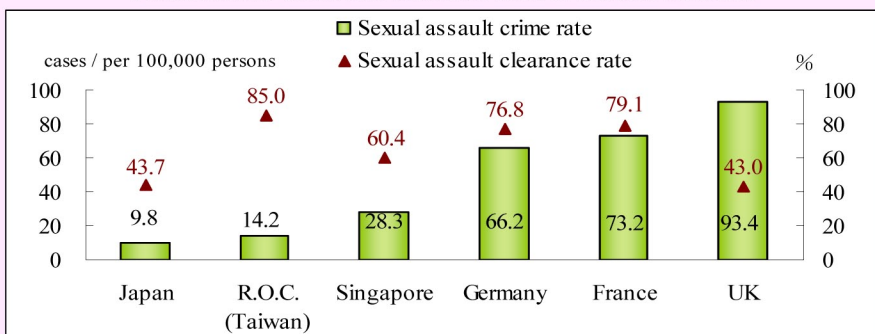


Source: National Police Agency, Ministry of the Interior.

Note : Intimidation means that conductors have undertaken shooting, poisoning, arson, or exploding as means to threat for victims' belongs.

In 2005, there were 3,296 victims of sexual assault, 97.8% of which were females. The largest age group of female victims was 12-17 years old (47.3%), followed by 18-23 years old (16.5%) and under 11 years old (11.4%). The crime rate was 14.2 cases per 100,000 persons, higher than 9.8 of Japan but lower than 28.3 of Singapore and 93.4 of UK. The clearance rate was 85.0%, higher than other countries.

Sexual assault crime and clearance rates in selected countries

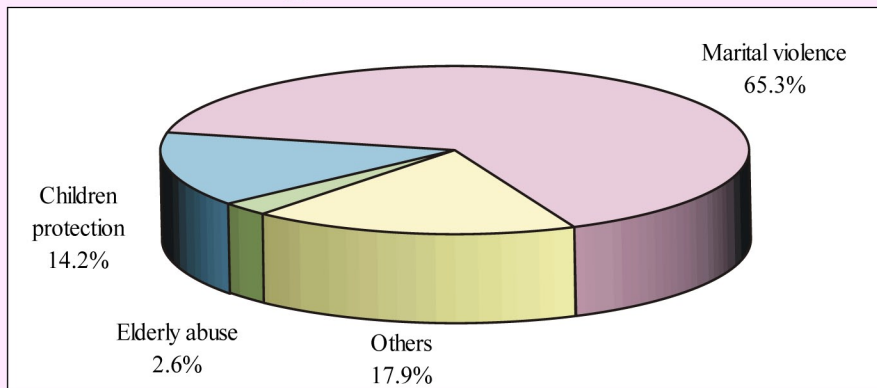


Source: National Police Agency, Ministry of the Interior.

Note : Taiwan's sexual assault case (sex offences) includes forcible rape (including joint forcible rape and child sexual intercourse) and indecent assault. Sex offences are defined by the laws of respective countries. 2005 data for Taiwan and 2002-2004 for other countries.

There were 62 thousand cases of domestic violence reported in 2005. Compared to 28 thousand cases in 2000 when the Domestic Violence Prevention Act was enacted, the case of domestic violence increased 17.2% per year since then. The reported cases of domestic violence included marital violence (65.3%, including divorce and cohabitation), children protection (14.2%), elderly abuse (2.6%), and others.

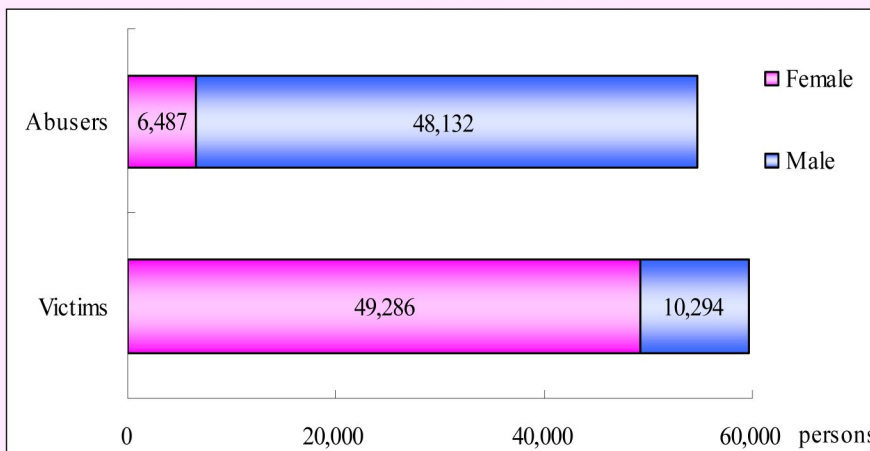
Types of domestic violence in 2005



Source: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Committee, Ministry of the Interior.

In 2005, females accounted for 80.8% of the victims of domestic violence and 86.0% of the abusers were males. In term of age group, the 30-40 age group made up the largest share of victims (26.2%), followed by the 40-50 age group (19.6%), and abusers were largely in both age groups of 30-40 (27.2%) and 40-50 (25.9%).

Number of domestic violence in 2005

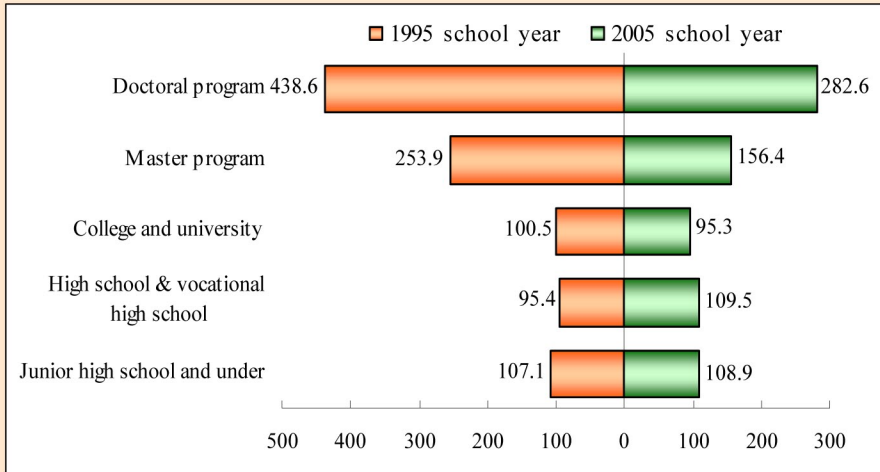


Source: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Committee, Ministry of the Interior.

5. Education

The sex ratio gap in schools was significant only in master and doctor levels, 156.4 and 282.6 (female=100) respectively. However, the gap decreased significantly since 1995. Female students have also experienced an increase in the college and university level; there were 95.3 males for every 100 females in 2005, compared with 100.5 males for every 100 females in 1995.

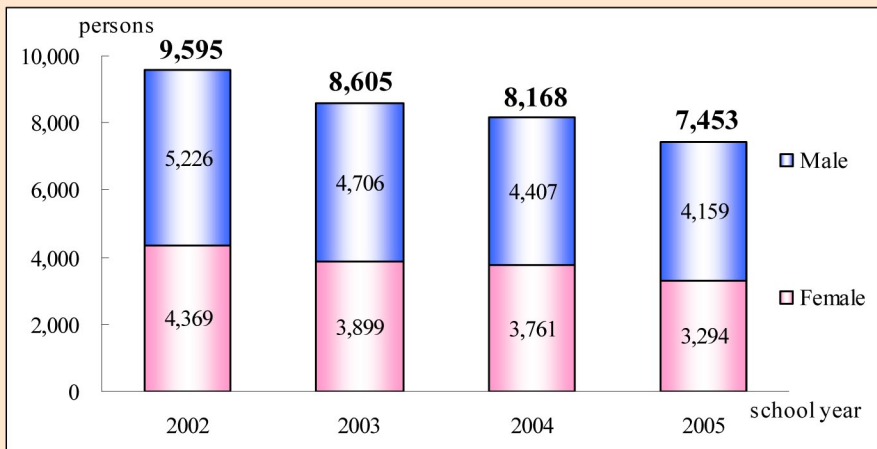
Sex ratio of educational attainment (female=100)



Source : Ministry of Education.

In 2005 school year, total drop-out students were 7,453 in junior and elementary schools, 8.8% lower than that in 2004 school year, of which 3,294 were female students, equivalent to 44.2%.

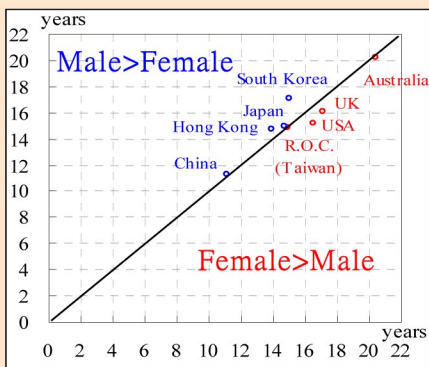
Number of drop-out students



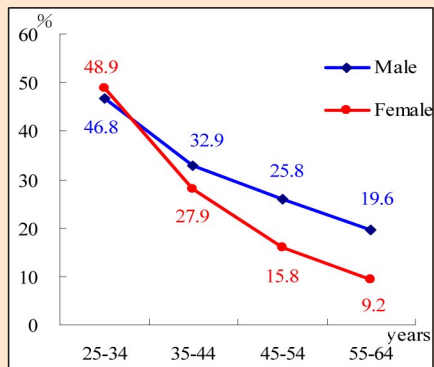
Source : Ministry of Education.

The female school life expectancy (the number of years expected to receive formal education) in 2005 was 14.9 years, slightly higher than 14.8 years of male. The situation also occurred in Australia, UK, and the USA. In the 25-34 age group, 48.9% of females received tertiary education, slightly higher than 46.8% of males. However, males had a higher percentage than females in other age groups, and difference increased with age.

School life expectancy in selected countries Population receiving tertiary education in 2005



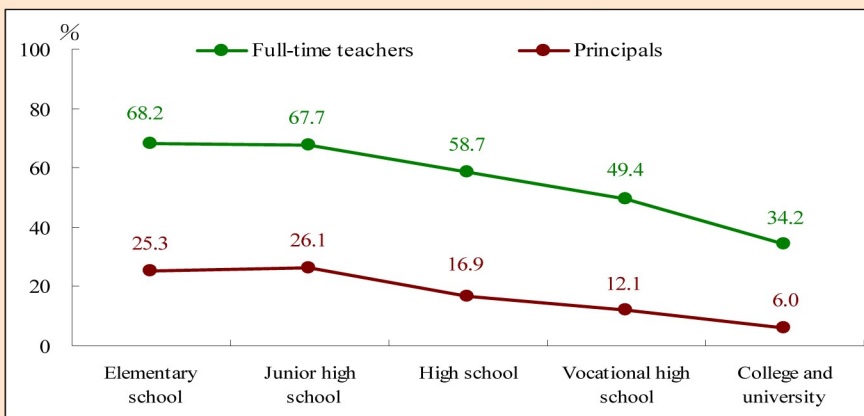
Source : Ministry of Education and UNESCO.
 Note : 2005 data for Taiwan and 2001-2004 for other countries.



Source : DGBAS, Executive Yuan.

In 2005, the percentage of females taking teaching positions has shown an increasing trend over the last ten years, whereas the rate decreased as the education level increased. Only 34.2% of teachers at colleges and universities were females in 2005. Less than 30% of principal in all levels of schools were females, and females only made up 6.0% of the university principals in Taiwan.

Full-time female teachers and school principals in 2005

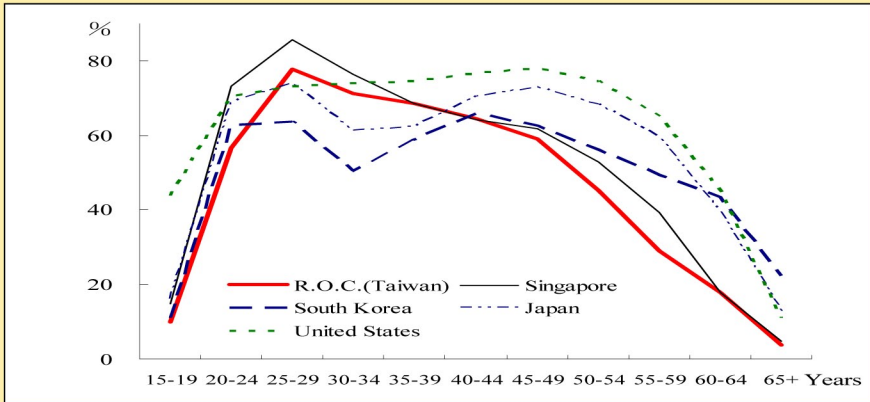


Source : Ministry of Education.

6. Employment

The female labor force participation rate was 48.1% in 2005, an increase of 2.8 percentage points from 1995, yet still lower than 67.6% of male. Taiwan's labor force participation rate was 9.9% for the 15-19 age group and peaked at 77.7% for the 25-29, followed by a steady decline with increasing age. The trend was similar to that of Singapore. In Japan and South Korea, the labor force participation rate for female recovered at the 35-44 age group and showed a M-shape trend as a result of females' re-entering employment market.

Female labor force participation rate by age group in selected countries

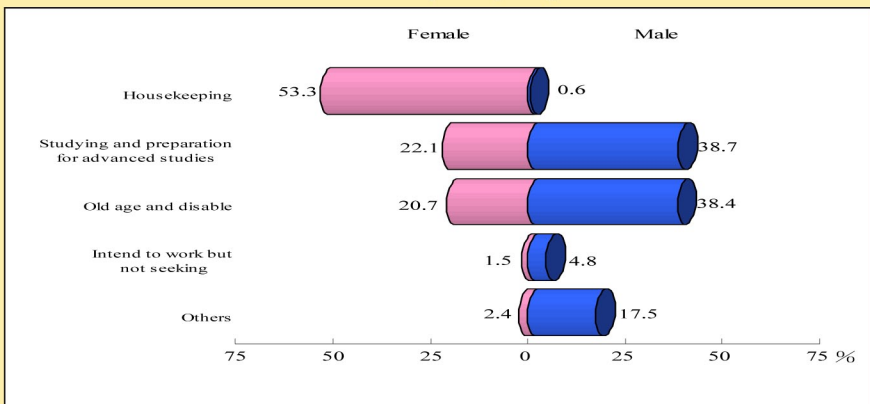


Source: DGBAS, Executive Yuan and International Labor Organization (ILO).

Note : 2005 data for Taiwan, 2004 for others.

There still exists a gender stereotype with males as breadwinners and females as homemakers. In 2005, the leading cause for females out of job market was to manage housework, accounting for a significant share 53.3%, though it was decreased by 7.8 percentage points over the last ten years.

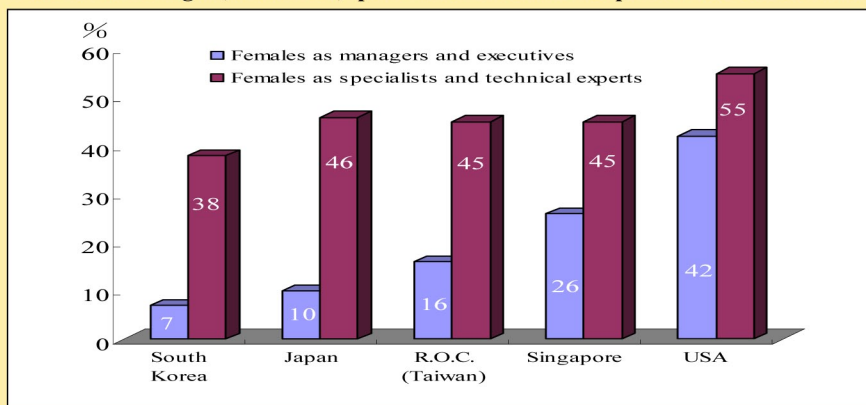
The causes for non-labor force not participating in labor market in 2005



Source: DGBAS, Executive Yuan.

With increasing education level of females, the females as managers and executives as well as specialists and technical experts showed an increasing trend over the last ten years. The females hold 16% of managers and executives in 2005, higher than Japan and South Korea, yet lower than those in Singapore and the USA. Also, the females accounted for 45% of the specialists and technical experts in Taiwan, higher than in South Korea and lower than in Japan and the USA. However, the discrepancy was less pronounced for the specialists and technical experts than managers and executives.

Females as managers, executives, specialists and technical experts in selected countries

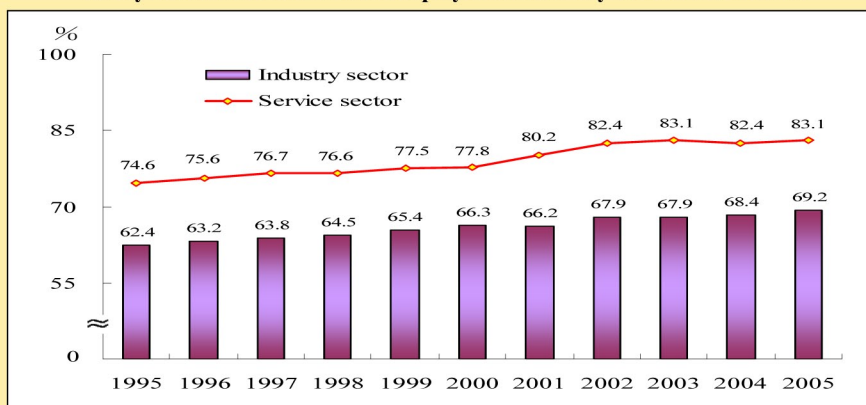


Source: DGBAS, Executive Yuan.

Note : 2005 data for Taiwan, 2004 for South Korea and the USA, and 2003 for Japan and Singapore.

Although the female labor force participation rate has seen a steady increase with average monthly salary increasing from NT\$ 28 thousands in 1995 to NT\$38 thousands in 2005, the gender gap in salary still existed. In the industry sector, the salary of females was only 69.2% of males; in the service sector, the figure was 83.1%.

Salary ratios of female to male employees in industry and service sectors

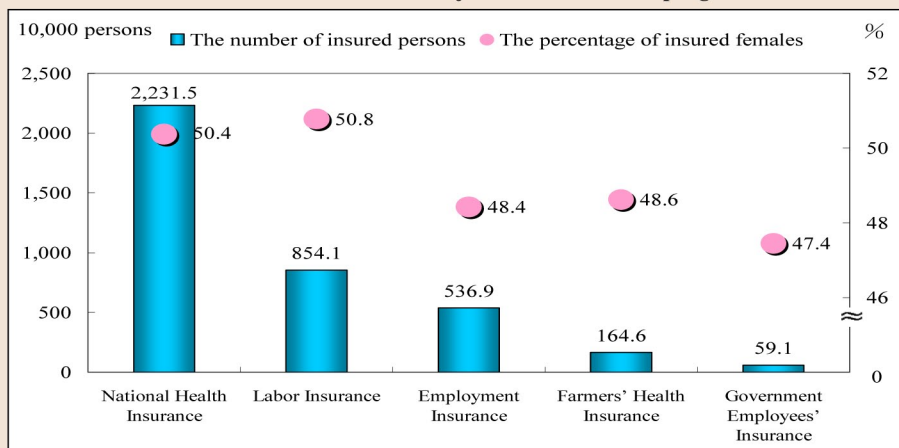


Source: DGBAS, Executive Yuan.

7. Economic Security and Welfare

In 2005, the National Health Insurance had the largest number of insured persons among all social insurance programs, 22.3 million, followed by 8.5 million of the Labor Insurance and 5.4 million of the Employment Insurance. Females took part in the Labor Insurance and National Health Insurance slightly more than males did, 50.8 and 50.4%, respectively.

The number of insured females in major social insurance programs in 2005



Source: Bureau of National Health Insurance, Bureau of Labor Insurance, Central Trust of China.

In 2005, the leading source of financial support for females aged 65 and over mainly from children and spouses accounted for 65.5% (compared with 34.5% for males), followed by self-support 17.3% (compared with 49.2% for males), indicating that the economic independence of female elderly was poorer than male.

Financial sources for the elderly over 65 years in 2005

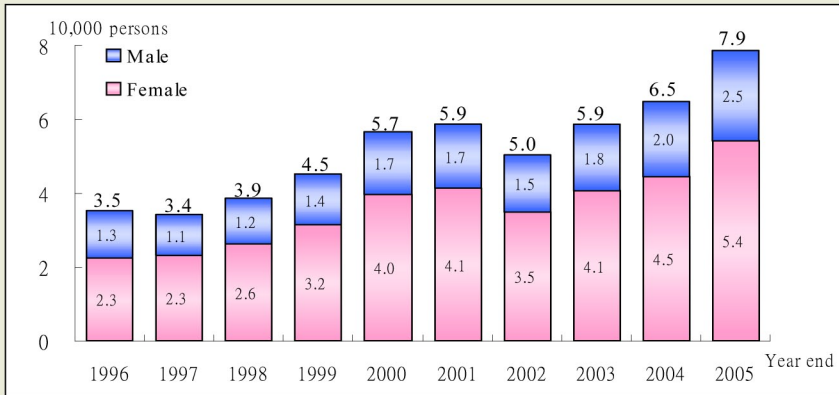


Source: Ministry of the Interior.

8.Social and Political Participation

In 2005, there were 79 thousand persons registered as volunteers, in which 54 thousand were females(68.7%) and 25 thousand were males(31.3%), increasing by 140% and 93.5% from 1996, respectively. The total number and the increase percentage were both higher for females than males. The share of females as volunteers were 64.0% in 1996 and increasing 4.7 percentage points to 2005, also significantly higher than that of males.

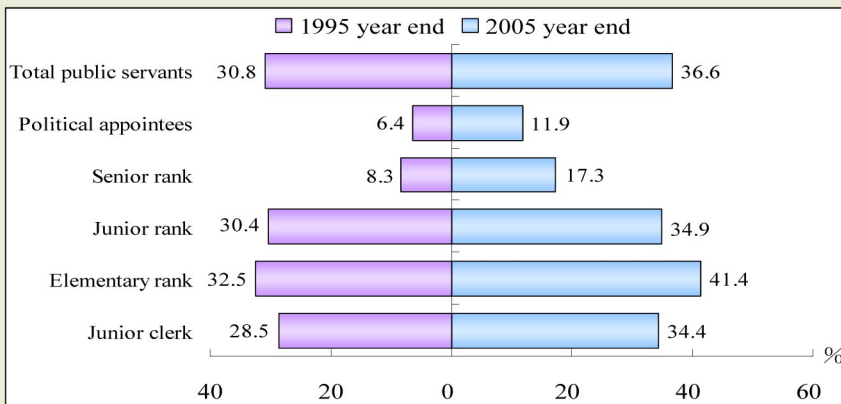
The number of volunteers



Source: Ministry of the Interior.

In 2005, there were 337 thousand public servants, 36.6% of which were females, an increase of 5.8 percentage points from 1995. However, most females worked in elementary ranks (41.4%) or equivalents, and least females held the posts of political appointees (11.9%). The percentages that females have taken in various ranks have seen a steady increase over the last ten years, in which the increase of 9 percentage points for senior ranks topped the list.

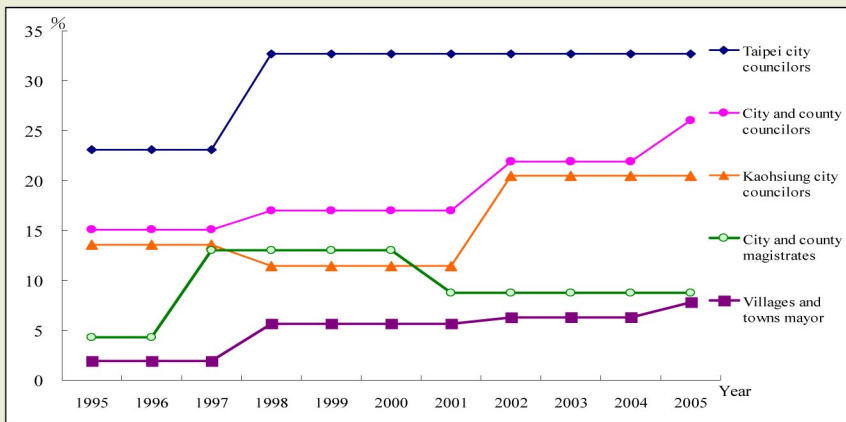
The percentage of female public servants



Source: Ministry of Civil Service.

An increasing number of females participated public election in the recent years. The percentage for females winning public official elections was highest in the Taipei city councilors election (32.7%), followed by the city and county councilors election (26.0%) and the Kaohsiung city councilors election (20.5%). That figure for winning the county magistrates election and the villages and towns mayor election were somewhat lower, 8.7% and 7.8%, respectively. Kaohsiung has elected a first female mayor in 2006. Female has been elected as neither president nor Taipei city mayor so far.

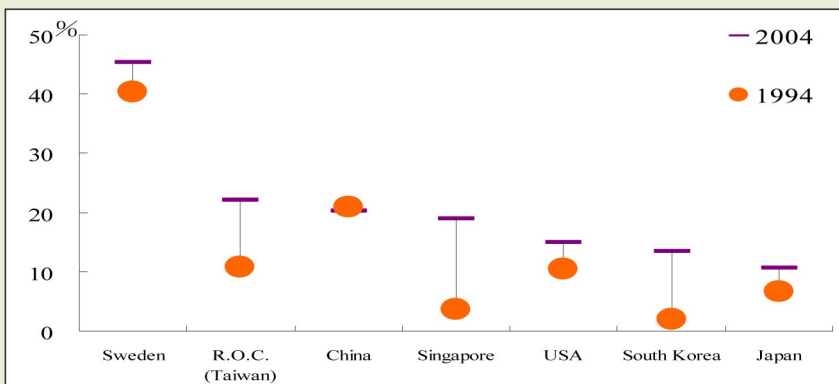
Female elected representatives



Source: Central Election Commission.

In 2004, females made up 22.1% of the whole members of parliament, an increase of 11.3 percentage points from 1994, lower than 45.3% of Sweden yet higher than 20.3% of China, 18.9% of Singapore, 15.0% of the USA, 13.4% of South Korea, and 10.7% of Japan.

Percentage of female members of parliament in selected countries

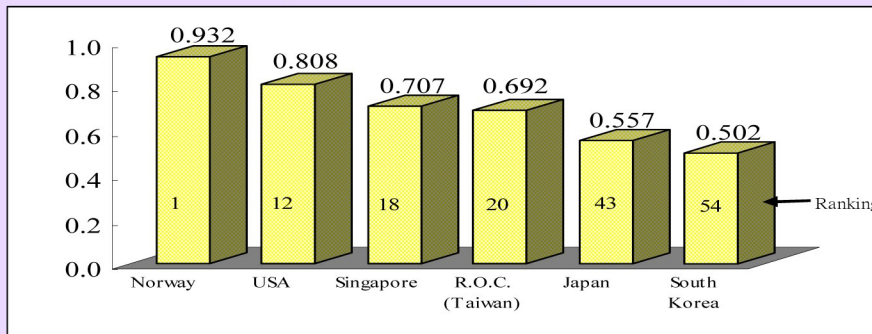


Source: The Legislative Yuan and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

9. International Comparison

The Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) of Taiwan in 2004 was 0.692, ranked the 20th among the total 75 countries, in Asia next only to Singapore (18th), yet ahead of Japan (43rd) and South Korea (54th). This result indicated that females in Taiwan were more advanced in terms of political participation and economic empowerment.

International comparison for Gender Empowerment Measure, 2004

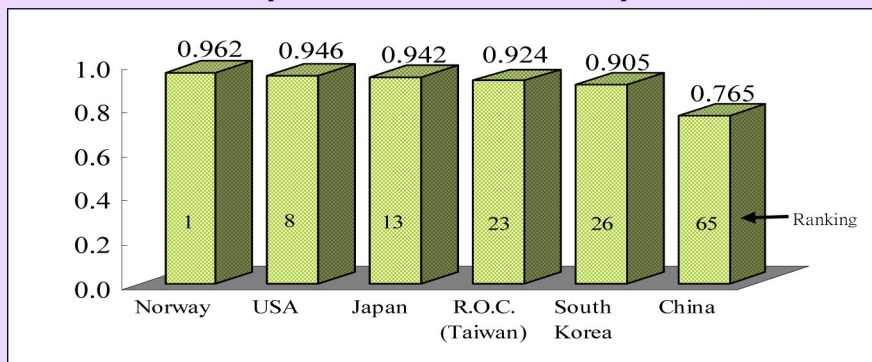


Source: DGBAS, Executive Yuan and UNDP.

Note : UNDP used the female share of parliamentary seats, the female share of positions as legislators, senior officials and managers, female share of professional and technical positions, and the ratio of estimated female to male earned income to compile the Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) and in turn to evaluate the females' social and political participation and their role in policy making. Index of Taiwan was obtained by inputting data into the UNDP's equation.

In 2004, the Gender-related Development Index (GDI) of Taiwan was 0.924, ranked the 23rd among the total 137 countries in the world, lower than the USA (8th) and Japan (13th), yet ahead of South Korea (26th) and China (65th). This result indicated that gender equality in Taiwan has been well maintained in the process of national development.

International comparison for Gender-related Development Index, 2004



Source: DGBAS, Executive Yuan and UNDP.

Note : GDI (Gender-related Development Index) is one of the indexes to evaluate the effects of gender discrepancies on human development. GDI was calculated by weighting and combining four factors: the life expectancy at birth, the adult literacy rate, combined gross enrollment ratio for primary, secondary and tertiary schools, and estimated earned income. The index of Taiwan was obtained by inputting data into the UNDP's equation.



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