



Version 2010

WOMEN AND MEN IN R.O.C.(TAIWAN) Facts and Figures

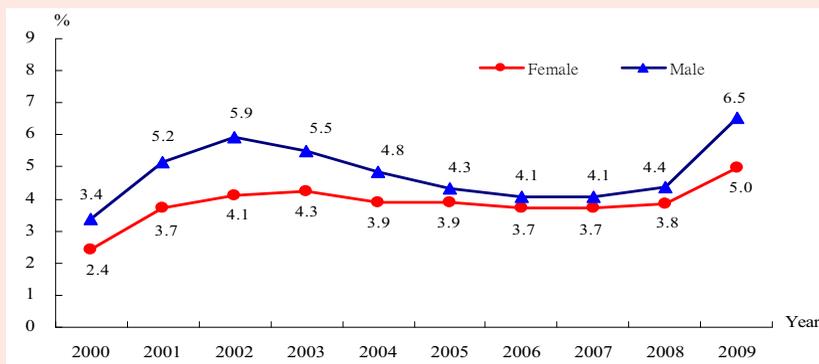


**DIRECTORATE-GENERAL OF BUDGET, ACCOUNTING AND STATISTICS,
EXECUTIVE YUAN, REPUBLIC OF CHINA
February 2010**

SPECIAL REPORT – IMPACT OF FINANCIAL CRISIS ON GENDERS EMPLOYMENT

From the second half of 2008, the international financial crisis has brought the world economy to its knees. The ripple effects have also been felt in Taiwan's industry. A large number of people were laid off due to business closure and contraction. The 2008 unemployment rate increased to 4.1%, in which 3.8% for females and 4.4% for males. In 2009, the numbers further increased to the record height of 5.0% and 6.5% for females and males, respectively. The gap between two genders in unemployment rate was widened to 1.6 percentage points.

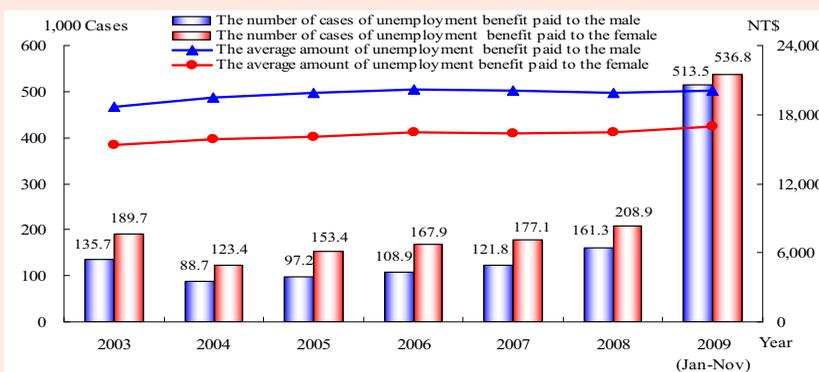
Unemployment rate



Source : DGBAS, Executive Yuan.

With spreading global financial crisis and rising unemployment rate in Taiwan, the Employment Insurance provided six-month unemployment benefit to those who involuntarily left their jobs. Starting from May 2009, the unemployment benefit for above 45 years old medium and high age and mentally and physically disabled labor has been extended to 9 months. The number of cases claiming unemployment benefit was 370 thousand in 2008, and the number drastically climbed to 1,050 thousand during the first eleven months of 2009, including 537 thousand female and 513 thousand male cases. The total unemployment benefit paid to individuals has reached NT\$ 19.5 billion dollars. The average amount of unemployment benefit paid to female is NT\$ 17 thousand per case and that paid to male is NT\$ 20 thousand.

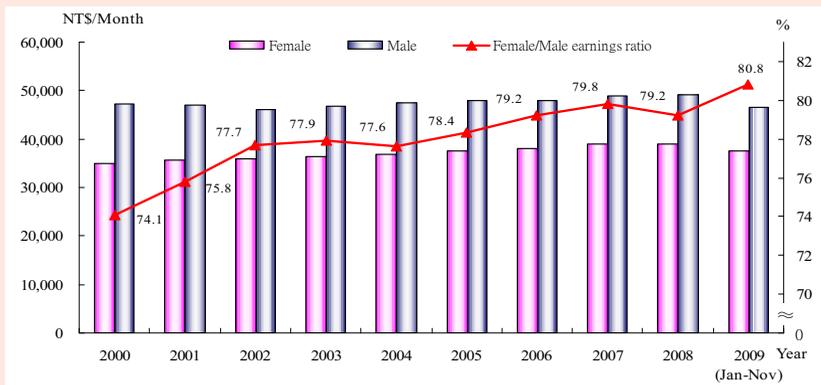
Number receiving unemployment benefit and mean benefit payment



Source : Bureau of Labor Insurance.

Gender gap in earnings has existed as a result of seniority, position, or the nature of jobs; the gap, however, has been closing. The average monthly earnings of female workers in non-agricultural sectors was NT\$ 39 thousand in 2008. The figure represents a 5.1 percentage points increase from the year 2000 and is 79.2% of that of their male counterparts, NT\$ 49 thousand. During the first eleven months of 2009, the global recession has cut back the earnings. Female employees have seen a decrease of 3.9% in earnings, less than 5.6% of the males' figure; therefore the earnings ratio of female/male increased to 80.8%.

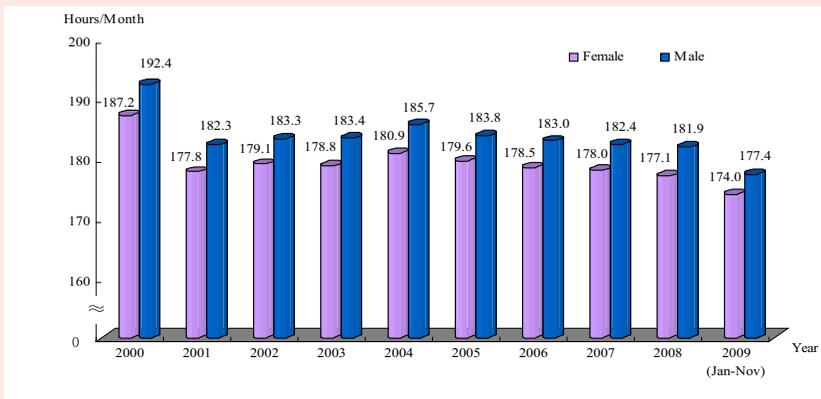
Mean monthly earnings of non-agricultural sector employees



Source : DGBAS, Executive Yuan.

The mean monthly working hour of non-agricultural sector female employees is generally lower than that of their male counterparts mainly because female over-time hour is lower. With the impact of the financial crisis, the industry had cut down working hours. In 2008, the average female working hour was 177.1 hours per month, lower than 181.9 hours of male workers. In the first 11 months of 2009, the female figure was down to 174.0 hours and that for male workers was 177.4; the gap was narrowed to 3.4 hours.

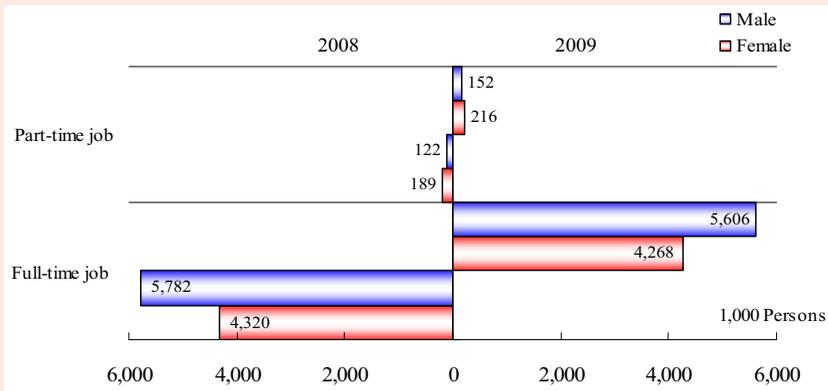
Mean monthly working hour of non-agricultural sector employees



Source : DGBAS, Executive Yuan.

The number of people took part-time jobs was 368 thousand in 2009, accounting for 3.6% of the employed population and representing a 0.6 percentage point increase from 2008. Since part-time employment can meet the need in balancing work and family, the number of females participating in part-time employment was 216 thousand (4.8% of total female workers), compared to 152 thousand for males. The percentage will increase to 7.7% if temporary and dispatched workers are included.

Employment situation

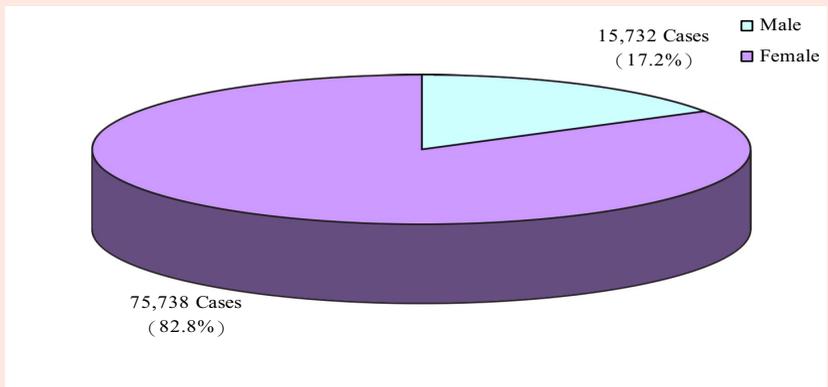


Source : DGBAS, Executive Yuan.

Note : Data obtained from survey in every May.

To cater to parents' need in taking care children under 3 while holding on their career, the Employment Insurance Act was amended in May 2009. From May to November 2009, the number of people receiving parental leave allowance was 91,470, in which female applicants were 75,738 (accounting for 82.8%) and male applicants were 15,732 (17.2%). The total benefit paid was NT\$ 1,430 million. Both female and male beneficiaries received almost the same amount of benefit, NT\$ 16 thousand for each case.

Number receiving parental leave allowance

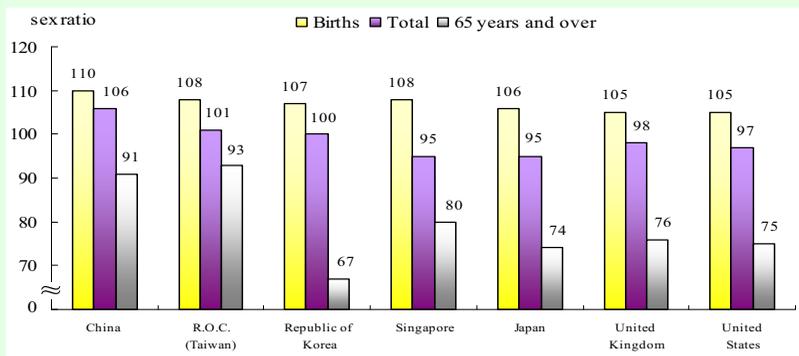


Source : Bureau of Labor Insurance.

1. Population

At the end of 2009, the total population of Taiwan was 23.1 million, of which 11.5 million were females; there were 101 males for every 100 females. Under the influence of traditional conception, the sex ratio of new born babies in the country reached 108, a figure significant higher than that of the U.S., the U.K., and Japan. For the senior population, since females have longer life expectancy, the senior female population was larger than the male counterpart. In Europe, America, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Singapore, the sex ratio for senior population ranges between 65 and 80. Since those migrated to Taiwan from mainland China in 1949 were mainly males and gradually entered their senior years, the sex ratio of senior population over 65 years old was 93.

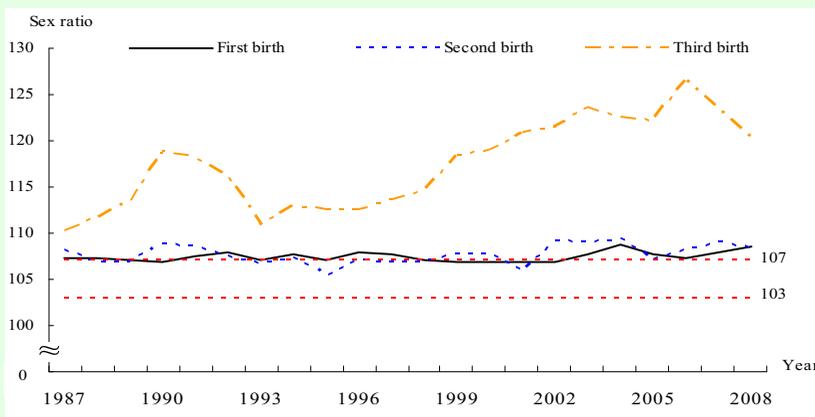
Sex ratio for major countries (territories) (female=100), 2009



Source : Ministry of the Interior and CIA (USA).

The sex ratio of new born babies in Europe and America is usually between 103 and 107. In Asia, the figure is generally higher except Japan. The number of babies born in 2008 was 199 thousand with a sex ratio of 110. In term of birth order, the ratio in the first birth was 109, the figure for the second birth was 108. That were sort of higher than the normal range, while for the third birth it even came to 120 (was 126 in 2006), indicating an unbalanced sex ratio of new born babies.

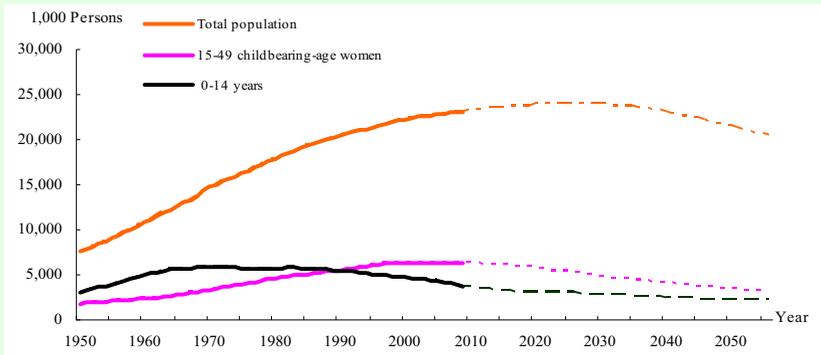
Birth order and sex ratio of babies



Source : Ministry of the Interior.

The decreasing fertility rate leads to the change of age structure of the population in Taiwan. The young age population (0-14 years old) has shown a decreasing trend since 1970 and the number of childbearing-age women has also reversed to decrease since 2001. At the present time, the total population growth rate has gradually dropped to below 4%. Once the young population enters their children bearing age, the population growth dynamics is set to be reversed. It is expected that the population of the country has peaked in 2026, after which a decreasing population has been seen.

Total population, childbearing-age women, and young children

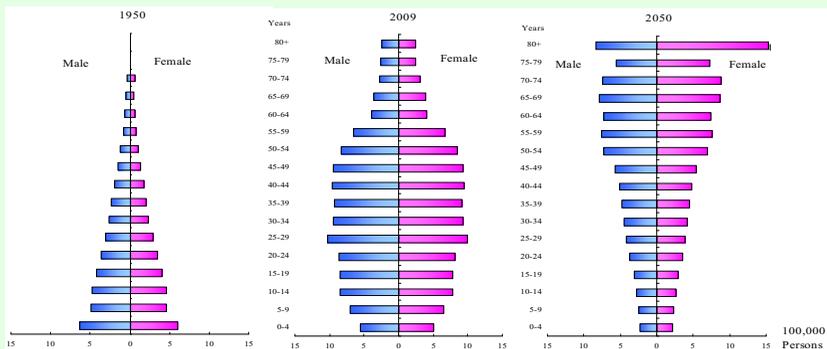


Source : Ministry of the Interior and Council for Economic Planning and Development.

Note : The data before 2009 are at the end of the year and the figures after 2010 are estimations provided by the Council for Economic Planning and Development (CEPD).

Population pyramid can reveal a snap shot of the population by age and sex at a specific period as well as the impacts of fertility rate, mortality rate, and other factors on the population structure. Since the high population growth rate seen in earlier years has dropped drastically, the original pyramid population distribution, which is dominated by young population, has given way to the current lantern-shape population distribution as a result of youth bulge. It is projected that, in the year 2050, a reversal of the pyramid population distribution dominated by senior population will emerge with a substantial drop of young age population. Also, senior female is expected to be more populous than its male counterpart.

Population pyramid

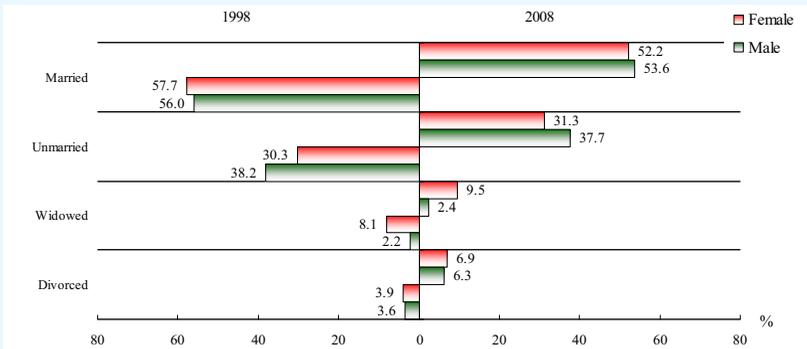


Source : Ministry of the Interior and Council for Economic Planning and Development.

2. Marriage and Family

In 2008, more than half (52.2%) of the women aged 15 and over were married, 5.5 percentage points lower than the figure in 1998. The extent of decrease was higher than those of men. The unmarried female population slightly increased to 31.3%; on the other hand, the figure for males dropped to 37.7%. Since females' average life expectancy was 6 years higher than that of males and females were married 3 years earlier than males in average, widowed females accounted for 9.5% of the female population, far higher than that of the male population (2.4%). Furthermore, with the ever increasing divorce rate, the ratio of divorced females and males was 6.9% and 6.3%, respectively.

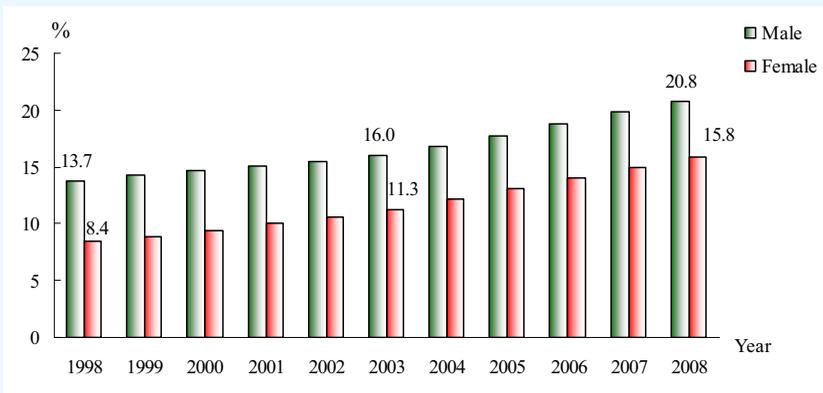
Marital status for population aged 15 and over



Source: Ministry of the Interior.

With changing marriage values, heightened labor force participation rate, and increasing economic independence, unmarried females aged between 35 and 44 increased to 15.8% in 2008, significantly higher than the figure in 1998 (8.4%). Also, women are usually married with men who have higher economic and social status and thus, the ratio of unmarried men was higher than that of women. Unmarried males aged between 35 and 44 reached 20.8% in 2008, 5 percentage points higher than their female counterparts.

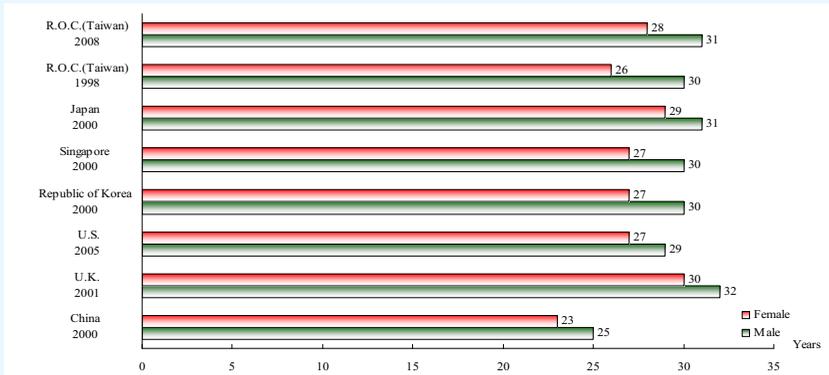
Unmarried ratio for population aged 35-44



Source: Ministry of the Interior.

With higher average education years and changing social values, the mean age of the first marriage for females and males in 1998 was 26 and 30, respectively, which has been delayed to 28 and 31, respectively in 2008. The age difference for the first marriage between females and males was 3 years. Compared with other major countries, the mean age of females' first marriage in Taiwan was lower than that in the U.K. (30) and Japan (29), slightly higher than that in Singapore, the Republic of Korea, and the U.S. (27), and significantly higher than that in China (23).

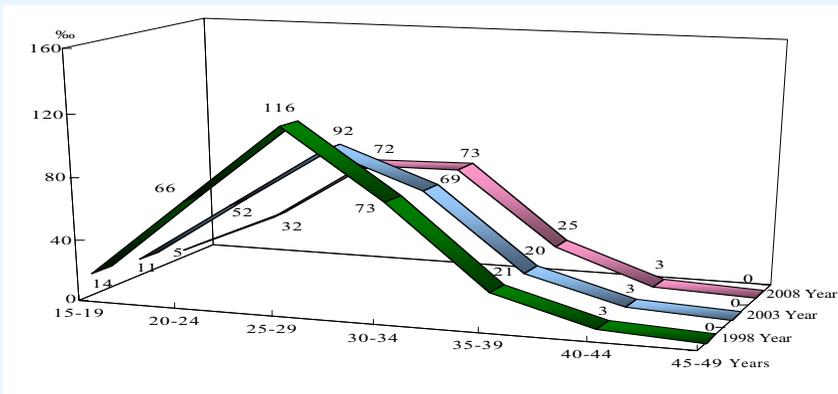
Mean age for the first marriage of major countries



Source: Ministry of the Interior and United Nations.

With the delay in marriage age, the general fertility rate of childbearing women was 31‰ in 2008, a decrease of 12 permillage points compared with the 1998 figure. The fertility rate before 29 years old has seen a decreasing trend; the fertility rate between the 25 and 29 was 72‰, a drop of 44 permillage points from the 1998 figure. It is the first time that the fertility rate of the 25-29 age group is lower than that of the 30-34 age group, 73‰. Under the current level of fertility rate, every childbearing woman will give birth to 1.1 children, a drop of 0.4 from the 1998 figure.

Age-specific fertility rate

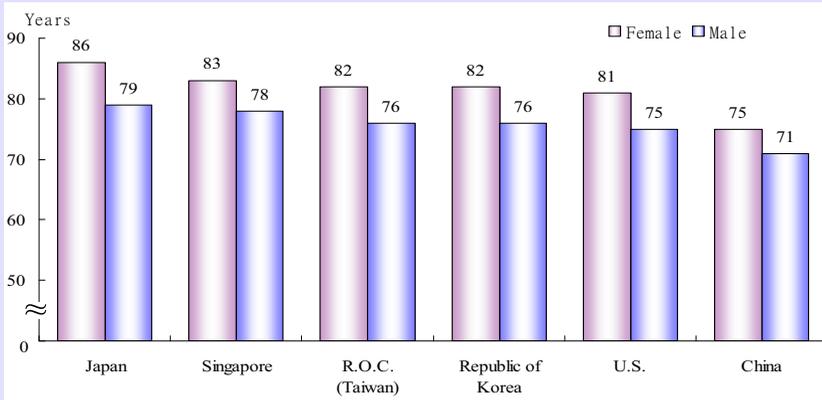


Source: Ministry of the Interior.

3. Health

In 2008, the life expectancy in Taiwan was 79 years, in which males was 76 years and females was 82 years, an increase of 2 and 3 years, respectively, from the figures ten years ago, and were lower than 79 years and 86 years of Japan and 78 years and 83 years of Singapore, comparable to 76 years and 82 years of the Republic of Korea, higher than 75 years and 81 years of the U.S., and far higher than 71 years and 75 years of China.

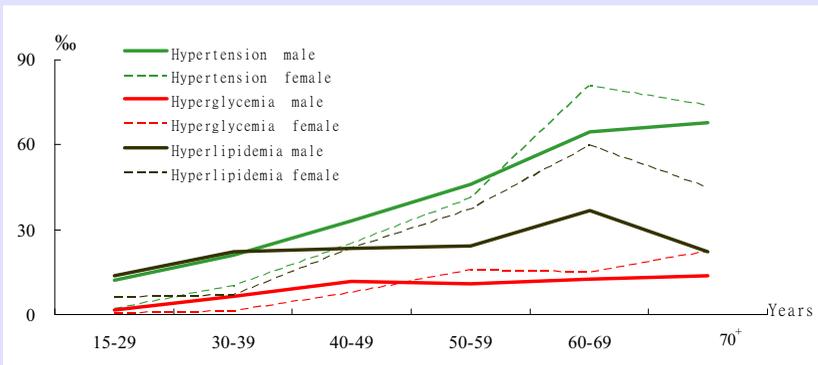
Life expectancy in selected countries in 2008



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

From 2002 to 2007, those aged 15 and over had a higher incidence of hypertension (27.5%) among the three-hypers, followed by hyperlipidemia (20.6%) and hyperglycemia (7.1%). Before the age of 45, the three-hypers incidence for male was higher than that for female. However, females overtook males after the age of 45. The three-hypers incidence increased with increasing age. The Bureau of Health Promotion encourages those aged 40 and over to make use of Free Adults Health Examination once every three years to discover three-hypers and to enable early intervention, thereby reducing the incidence of cardiovascular and kidney diseases.

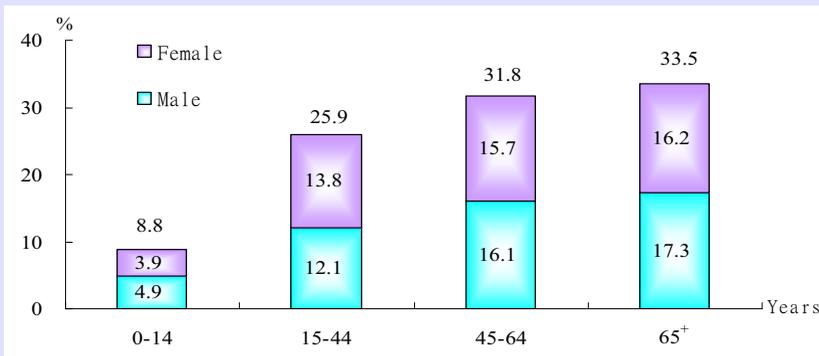
Three-hypers incidence for the people aged 15 and over during 2002-2007



Source: Bureau of Health Promotion, Department of Health.

With increasing aging population, advancing medical standards, and increasing need on medical attention, the medical expenses have been increasing year by year. At end of 2008, 22.9 million people registered in National Health Insurance, in which 11.4 million were male (49.9%) and 11.5 million were female (50.1%). For the insurance beneficiaries, the medical expenses for age 65 and over accounted for 33.5%; ages 45-64, 31.8%; ages 15-44, 25.9%; and ages 0-14, 8.8%. Females consumed less medical resources than males at different age groups, except for the age group 15-44, during which females are in their childbearing periods.

Medical expenses distribution of National Health Insurance in 2008

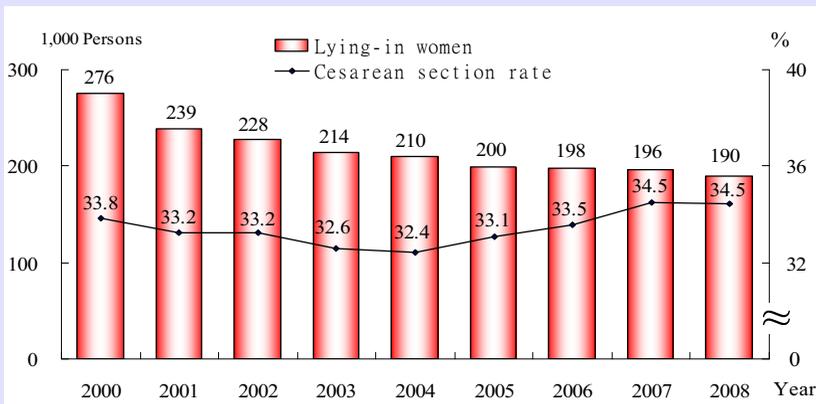


Source: Bureau of National Health Insurance.

Note: The conscription draftees, belong to the 4th category of beneficiaries, are not included.

In 2008, there were 190 thousand lying-in women, decreased 86 thousand persons compared to 2000. Fertility rate continue decreasing. About delivery modes of lying-in women, two thirds of them chose spontaneous delivery, one third cesarean section. In the past two years, the cesarean section rate has become even more than 34%, significantly higher than 10-15% recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO). With the cesarean section rate remaining high, it is worth attention whether the delivery is the result of over-medicalization.

Delivery modes of lying-in women

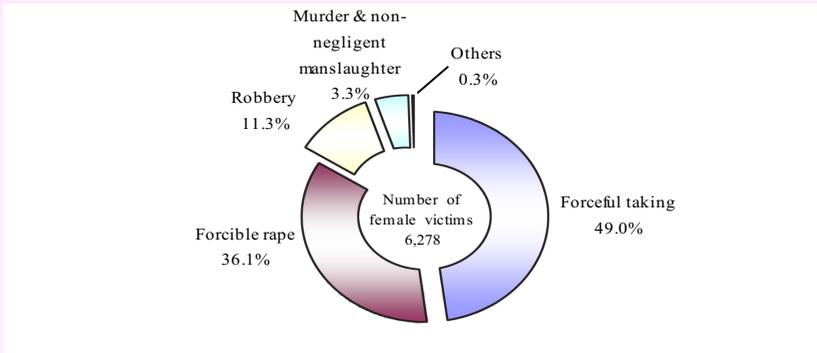


Source: Department of Health.

4. Personal Security

The number of female victims for 2008 violent crime was 6,278 (72.7% of all victims). In term of the types of crimes, forceful taking, 3,075 cases (49.0%) topped the list, followed by forcible rape, 2,267 cases (36.1%), robbery, 711 cases (11.3%). The above three cases in total accounted for 96.4 %. Compared with the 2004 figures, the number of victims was reduced by 37.3%, in which that of forceful taking was reduced by 52.7%; robbery, 37.6%; murder & non-negligent manslaughter, 13.1%; but the forcible rape victims was increased by 8.4%.

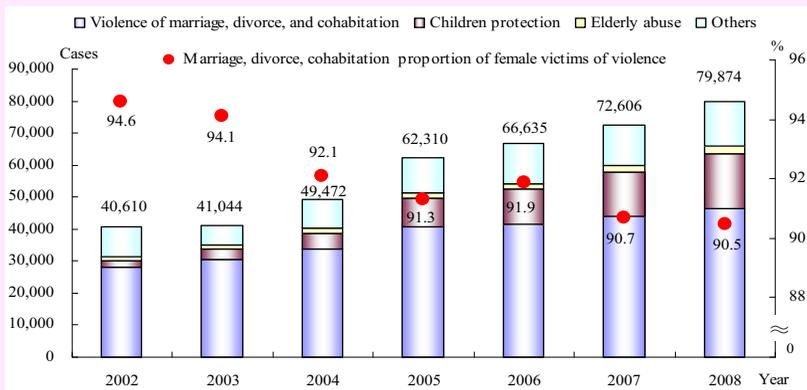
Female victims of violent crimes in 2008



Source : National Police Agency, Ministry of the Interior.

The government has strengthened reporting channels and supporting measures for domestic violence victims to encourage them to seek assistance, and thus the reporting cases has seen a constant increase. There were 79,874 cases of domestic violence reported in 2008, an increase of 96.7% from the figure in 2002. The reported cases of children protection, 17,086 cases (21.4%), has seen a 6.6 times increase from the 2002 figure, 2,238 cases (5.5%). According to the structural analysis, the domestic violence case in 2008 was dominated by violence of marriage, divorce, and cohabitation (58.3%). The victims were predominately women (90.5%).

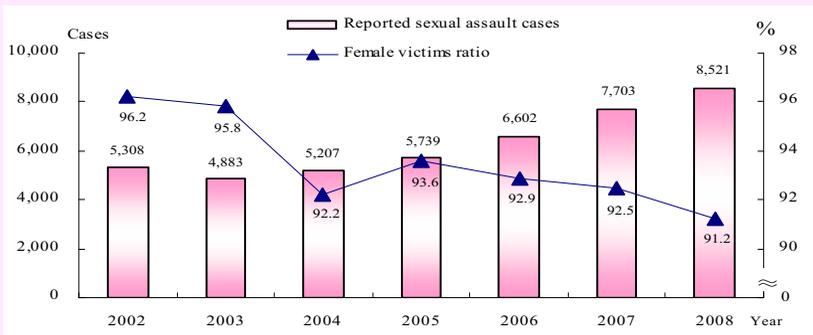
Analysis of reported cases of domestic violence



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

In the past, sexual assault victims were less likely to report to the police because they were afraid of revenge or felt shameful. With the strengthening of the reporting system, the reported cases have increased significantly. The number of reported cases of sexual assaults in 2008 was 8,521 an increase of 60.5% from 2002. Male accounted for 92.9% of the inflictors and the victims were largely female, accounting for 91.2%. In term of age groups, the number of inflictors under 18 was 751 (12.1%), an increase of 6.3 times from the 2002 figure, 103, indicating the decreasing ages of sexual assault inflictors, which is worth noting.

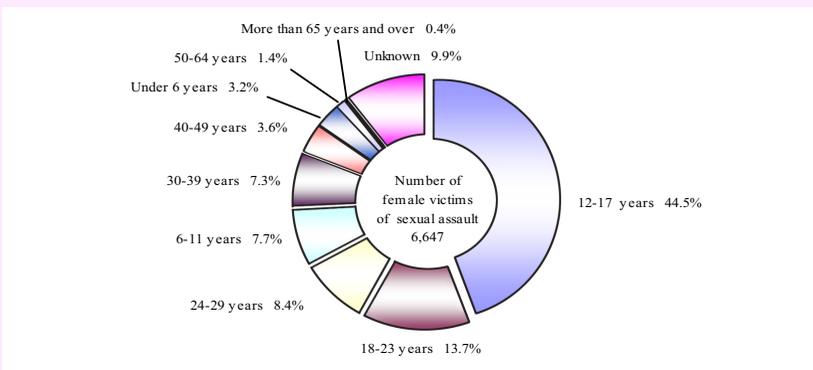
Reported sexual assault cases and female victims ratio



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

The number of sexual assault victims in 2008 was 7,285; 91.2% of females and 5.9% of males. Compared with the 2002 figures, the number of female victims was decreased by 4.9 percentage points and that of male victims was increased by 4.3 percentage points. The female victims was dominated by the age group between 12 and 17, 2,958 cases (44.5%), which, when combined with those female victims under 12, accounted for 55.4%. It is therefore clear that the sexual assault prevention for children and young people demand further strengthening.

Ages of female victims of sexual assault in 2008



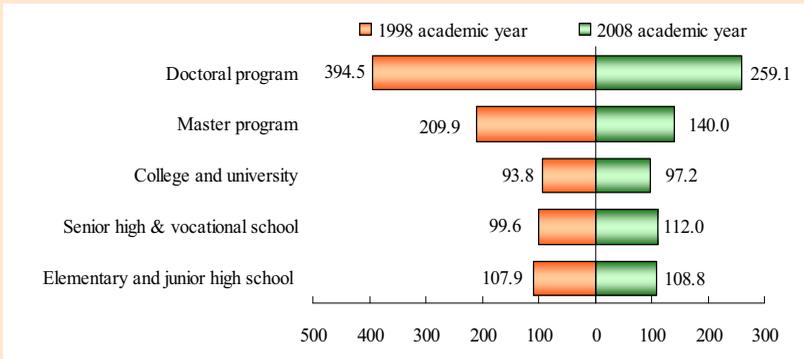
Source : Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Committee, Ministry of the Interior.

Note : Owing to some reported cases of sexual assault were registered sex unknown, the number of male victims and female victims may not add up to coincide with the total victims.

5. Education

The sex ratio in basic education has remained stable over the years, similar to the overall sex ratio of their age. For senior high and vocational schools, many nurse schools have been elevated to college status in recent years, and thus the female ratio at the senior high and vocational schools has seen a drop. At the college and university level (excluding doctor and master students), since nurse schools were dominated by female students, it is the only stage that the female percentage was higher than that of male. The sex ratio (female=100) of students at this level was 97.2 in 2008. At the master and doctor levels, the sex ratios were 140.0 and 259.1, which are considered rather high. However, the ratios have seen a decrease from 1998 academic year.

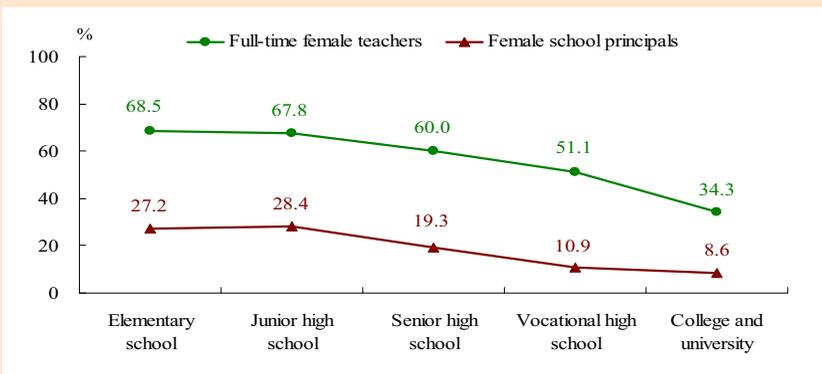
Sex ratio of educational attainment (female=100)



Source: Ministry of Education.

Female teacher dominated the schools below high school level. The ratio of full-time female teachers decreased with increasing education level. In 2008, female teachers accounted for 69% of all teachers at elementary schools; the ratio dropped to 34% at the college and university level. Female principals had a similar trend. Female principals accounted for 27% at elementary schools, and the figure dropped to 10%~20% at senior high and vocational schools. There were only 14 female principals in 162 universities, a mere 8.6%.

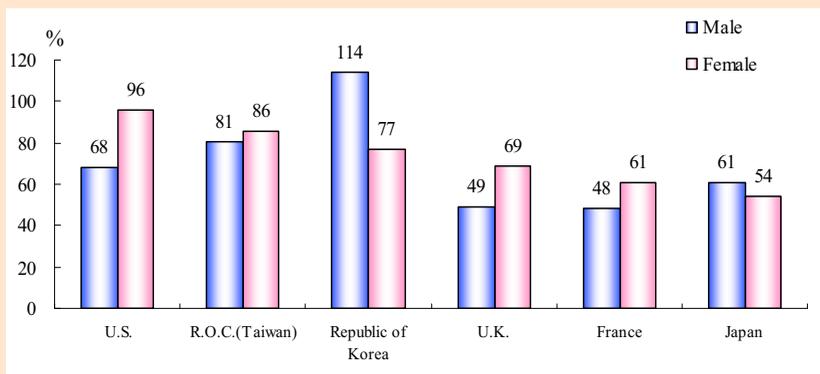
Percentage of full-time female teachers and female school principals in 2008



Source: Ministry of Education.

In 2008, the gross enrolment ratio for tertiary education (18-21 years old) was 83%. The ratio of female was 86% while male was 81%. Compared with other major countries, the gross enrolment ratio for females was lower than 96% of the U.S., but higher than that of the U.K., France, Japan, the Republic of Korea and others. The gender gap for the gross enrolment ratio of tertiary education was only 5 percentage points, lower than all other major countries, indicating that gender equality in education has been prevalent in Taiwan.

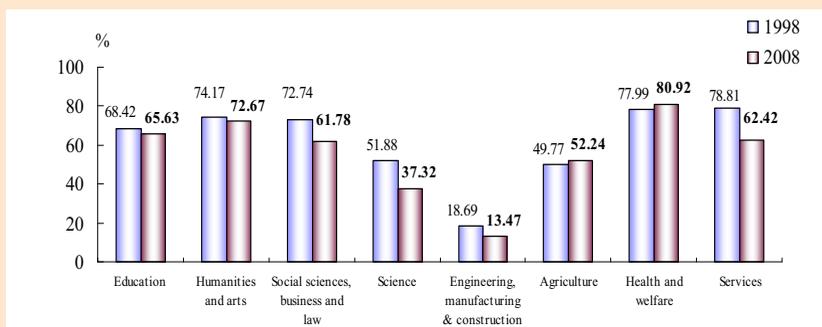
Gross enrollment ratios of tertiary education for major countries



Source: Ministry of Education and UNESCO.
 Note: The data for Taiwan were 2008, those for other countries were 2007.

The academic fields, from which students graduate from tertiary education, have shown a phenomenon of gender-dominated academic fields. Female graduates in engineering and science fields were significantly lower than their male counterparts. Both genders have a comparable number in agriculture study, and females dominated the rest of the academic fields. Compared with the figures from 2008 and 1998, the female graduates in tertiary education shows an increase of 2.47 percentage points in agriculture and 2.93 percentage points in health and welfare study; a decrease of 16.39 percentage points in services study and 14.56 percentage points in science.

Percentage of female graduate in separate academic field of tertiary education

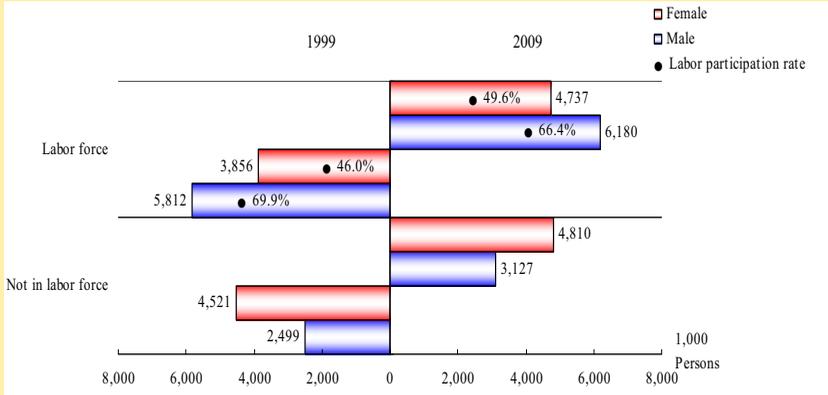


Source: Ministry of Education.
 Note: Services study includes personal services, transportation services, environmental protection and security services.

6. Employment

In 2009, the total population aged over 15 was 18.9 million, in which the labor force was 10.9 million (4.7 million females, 43.4%) and non-labor force was 7.9 million (4.8 million females, 60.6%). With the recent rise of service industry, females have accessed more employment opportunities, and therefore the females' labor participation rate has increased by the year. Although the 2009 financial crisis has seriously damaged the economy, the female labor participation rate still reached 49.6%, an increase of 3.6 percentage points from the figure in 1999. At the same period, the male labor participation rate was down to 66.4%.

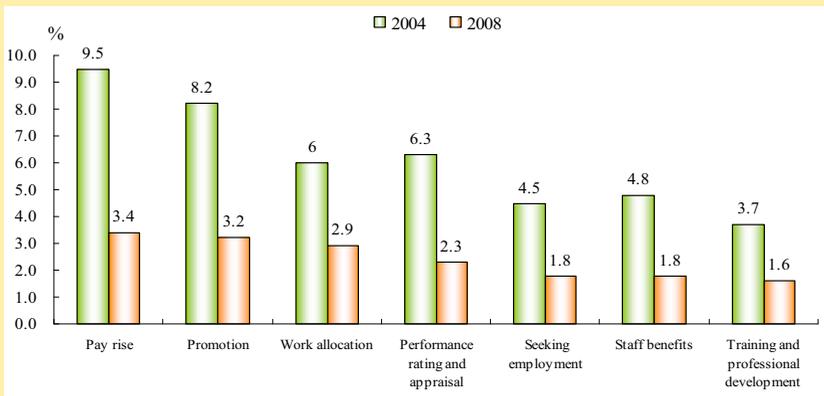
Labor participation for ages over 15



Source: DGBAS, Executive Yuan.

In 2008, the most prevalent unequal treatment that female employees facing in workplace was “pay rise” (3.4%), followed by “promotion” (3.2%) and “work allocation” (2.9%). Compared with the figures from 2004, the ratio of female employees encountering inequality has shown a decreasing trend; the decrease was most prominent in “pay rise” (6.1 percentage points), followed by “promotion” (5.0 percentage points), and “performance rating and appraisal” (4.0 percentage points), indicating an improving gender equality working environment.

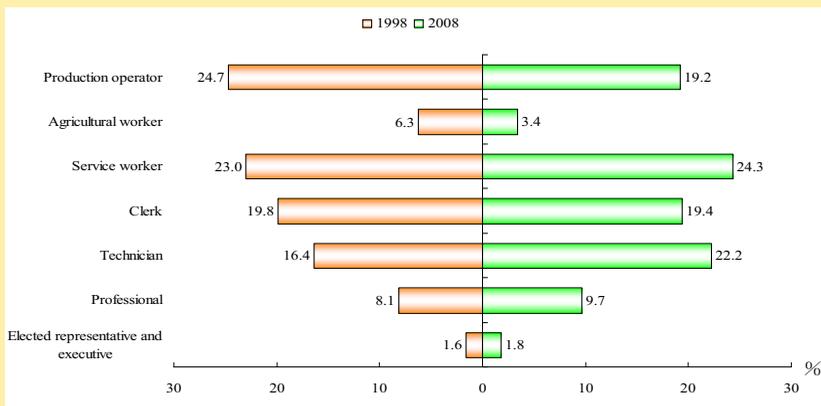
Female employees encountering gender-related inequality in workplace



Source: Council of Labor Affairs, Executive Yuan 「Females employment survey」.

With transformation occurring in Taiwan's industry and the educational attainment of females rising, the roles female taking in work places have also undergone changes. In the past, females mainly worked as production operators. This type of work has decreased from 24.7% in 1998 to 19.2% in 2008, a decrease of 5.5 percentage points. Females working as technical and professional workers have increased by 5.8 and 1.6 percentage points, respectively, indicating that females had a wider range of employment.

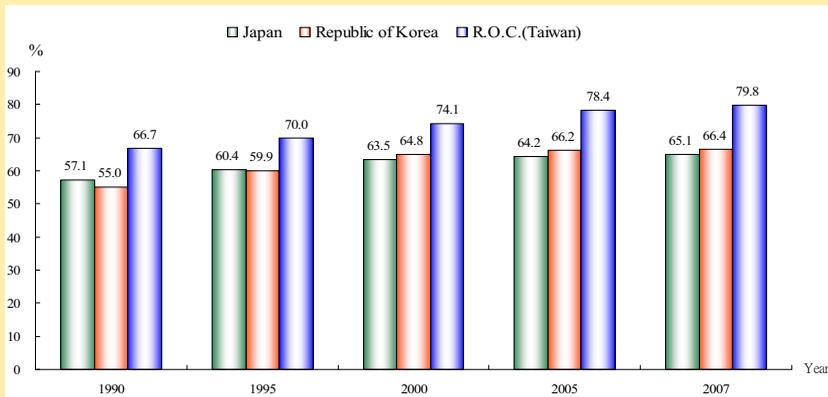
Types of female employment



Source : DGBAS, Executive Yuan.

The gender gap in earnings differs according to seniority, position, or the nature of jobs. The mean monthly earnings of female workers in non-agricultural sectors was NT\$ 39,032 in 2007, 79.8% of males' mean earnings (NT\$ 48,903). Compared with the figures from 1990(66.7%), the female/male earnings ratio has obviously increased 13.1 percentage points. The ratio was also favorably compared with the figures from the other Asian countries like Japan and the Republic of Korea.

Female/male earnings ratio in Asian countries

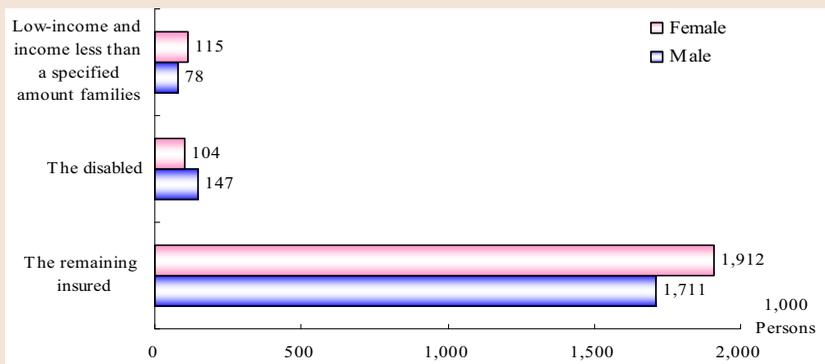


Source: DGBAS, Executive Yuan, Japan Statistical Yearbook, Korea Statistical Yearbook.

7. Economic Security and Welfare

At the end of Nov. 2009, the number of people insured in National Pension Insurance was 4.1 million, in which females were 2.1 million (52.4%), higher than males, 1.9 million (47.6%). The gap was resulted from that the majority of insured did not participate occupational insurances. In term of individual identities, 193 thousand were the economically deprived (accounted for 4.8%) and 3.6 million were the general public (89.1%). Both of the above categories were dominated by females. The number of the disabled insured was 251 thousand (6.2%), which was dominated by males.

Number of people insured in National Pension Insurance, end of Nov. 2009

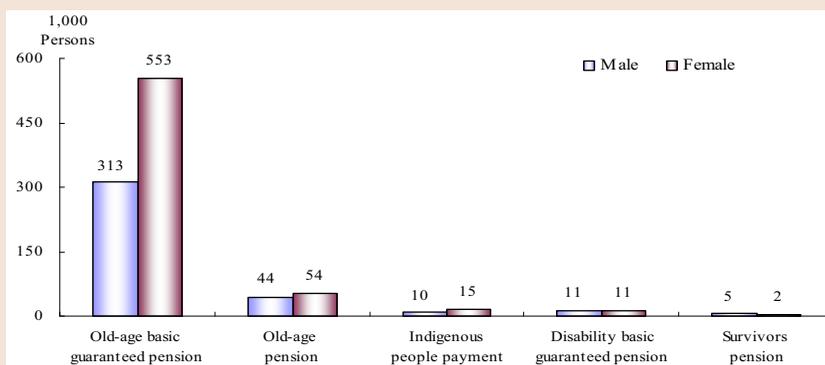


Source : Bureau of Labor Insurance.

Note : The government pays 40% of the insurance premium for the general public, 100% for low-income families, 55-70% for those having income less than a specified amount, and 55-100% for the disabled.

By the end of Nov. 2009, the number of people receiving payment from National Pension Insurance was 1.0 million in total, in which 636 thousand was females (62.3%) and 385 thousand was males (37.7%). The payment category was dominated by Old-age basic guaranteed pension (originally the Old-age citizens' welfare allowance) 866 thousand, in which 63.9% was females, followed by Old-age pension and Indigenous people payment (originally Old-age indigenes' welfare allowance), both of which were also dominated by females.

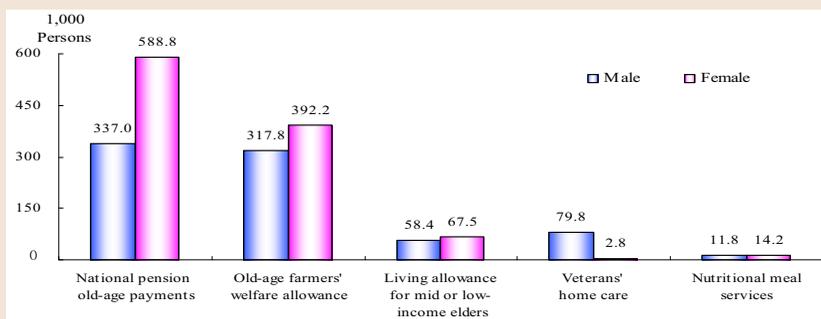
Number of people receiving payment from National Pension Insurance, end of Nov. 2009



Source: Bureau of Labor Insurance.

By the end of 2008, the number of people receiving certain kinds of National Pension old-age payment was 926 thousand, the number receiving Old-age farmers' welfare allowance was 710 thousand, Living allowance for mid or low-income elders 126 thousand, Veterans' home care 83 thousand. Apart from the Veterans' home care, females dominated the above old-age benefits because females have a larger percentage in the elderly population. If the people aged over 65 receiving the Living assistance for the disabled (380 thousand) and the retirement payments for civil servants, military personnel and teachers are included here, the goal of economic security protection for the whole elderly has been achieved.

Number of beneficiaries of elderly benefits, end of 2008

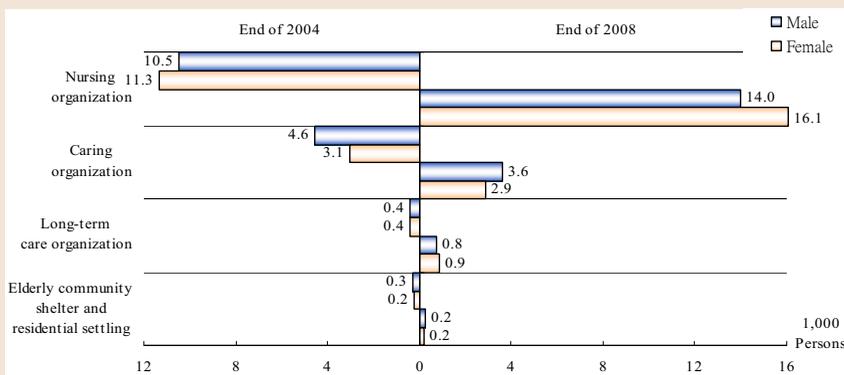


Source : Ministry of the Interior, Veterans Affairs Commission and Bureau of Labor Insurance.

Note : National Pension old-age payments include Old-age basic guaranteed pension, Old-age pension, and Indigenous people payment.

With the increase of life expectancy, the housing persons in the elderly long-term care and caring institutions were 39 thousand in 2008, increased 8 thousand from 2004. In 2004, the above figure was dominated by males, but in 2008 females have overtaken males by 20 thousand as females have longer life expectancy. In term of categories, nursing organization receiving the elderly without self-caring ability accounted the largest part (77.7%), followed by caring organization, long-term nursing organization, elderly community shelter and residential settling.

Housing persons of the elderly long-term care and caring institutions

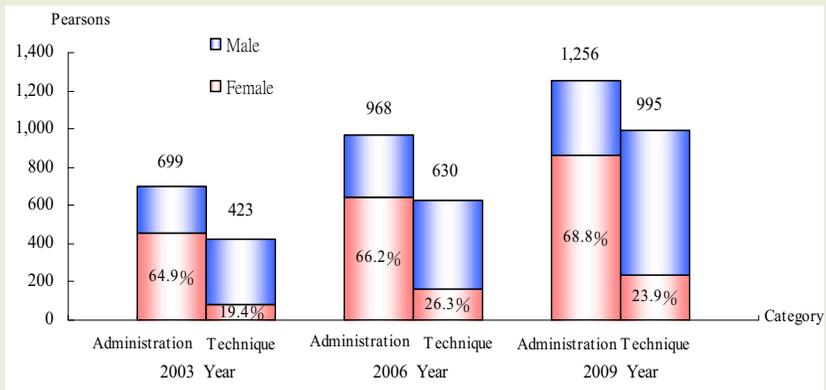


Source : Ministry of the Interior.

8. Social and Political Participation

In 2009, a total of 2,251 people have qualified or passed the first, second, and third levels of the Civil Service Senior Examinations (85 for the first and second levels; 2,166 for the third level), an increase of 100% from the 2003 figure (40 for the first and second levels; 1,082 for the third level). In the 2009 data, females accounted for 1,102 (49.0%) and males 1,149. Females dominated the administration category (over 60%) and the technical category was largely males (over 70%). However the percentages of females in the technical category increased by 4.5 percentage points from the 2003 figure.

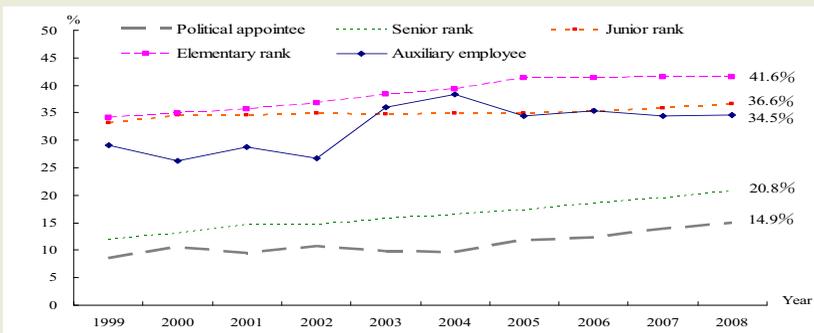
Percentage of females qualifying the Civil Service Senior Examinations



Source: Ministry of Examination.

At the end of 2008, there were 338 thousand civil servants, 37.7% of which were females, an increase of 5.2 percentage points from 1999. In terms of position grades, the largest percentage of females worked in elementary ranks (or equivalents), 41.6%, and the least females held the posts of political appointees, 14.9%. Except for auxiliary employees, the percentages that females have taken in various official positions have seen a steady increase over the last ten years, and in particular, the increases in senior ranks and political appointees have been substantial, from 11.9% and 8.5% in 1999 to 20.8% and 14.9% in 2008, respectively.

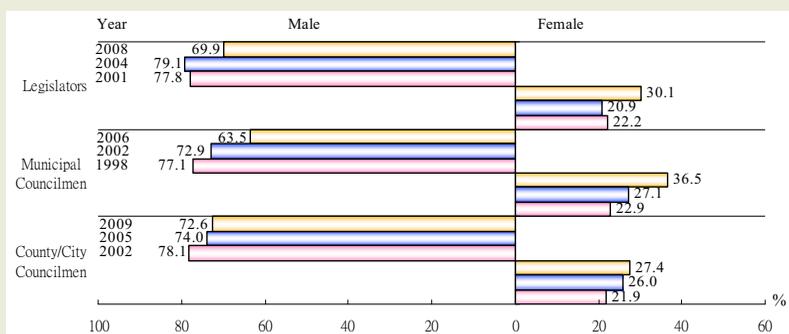
Percentage of female civil servants



Source: Ministry of Civil Service.

In the most recent Legislators Election (2008), Municipal Councilmen Election (2006), and County(City) Councilmen Election (2009), there were 113, 96, and 592 representatives being elected, respectively. The number of legislators was reduced by 112 (a result of cutting down half legislator posts in 2005 Constitution Amendment); the municipal councilmen did not change in number; and the County(City) Councilmen Election elected 309 fewer than last time (the election of quasi-special municipality yet being held). The percentages of females elected in the Legislators Election, Municipal Councilmen Election, and County(City) Councilmen Election have increased from previous two elections, respectively; in particular, females elected in the Municipal Councilmen Election reached 36.5%, an increase of 13.6 percentage points from the 1998 figure.

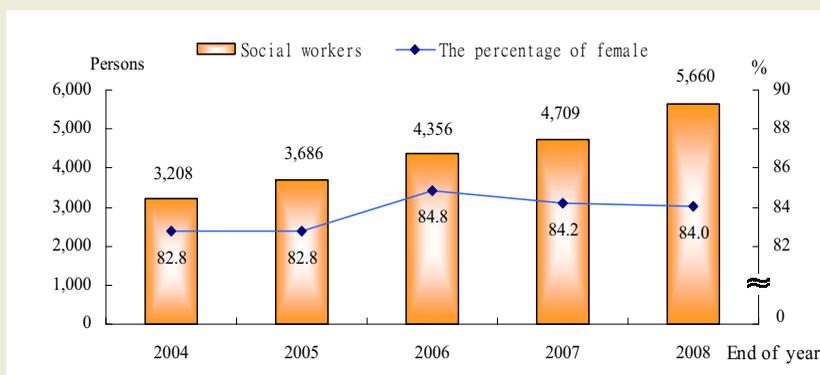
Gender structure for recent three representative elections



Source: Central Election Commission.

With more focusing and implementing on social welfare, more social workers are demanded. According to public/private sectors or gender structure, the number of full-time social workers has shown a continuous increasing trend. At the end of 2008, the total number was 5,660, an increase of 76.4% from the 2004 figure. The number of female social workers in 2008 was 4,756 (84.0%), an increase of 1.3 percentage points from the 2004 figure. The percentage of female social workers has been over 80% for the last five years, significantly higher than males.

Number of full-time social workers and its female percentage

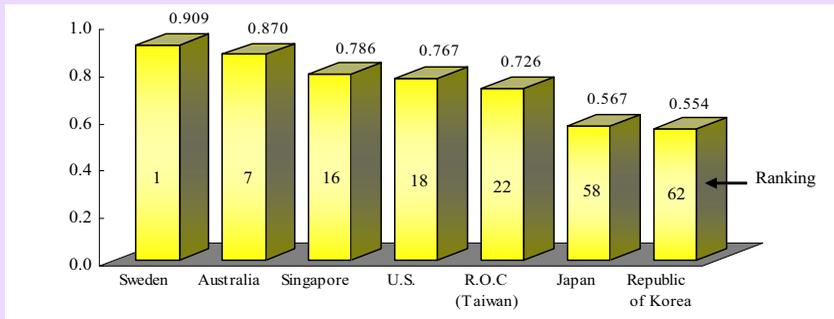


Source: Ministry of the Interior.

9. International Comparison

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has evaluated the Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) for 109 countries in the world in 2007. The top three were Sweden, Norway, and Finland. According to the GEM equation of United Nations, the GEM value of Taiwan would be 0.726 in 2007, ranked as the 22nd position. Taiwan was only next to Singapore (16th) in Asia, far ahead of Japan (58th) and the Republic of Korea (62nd). This result has shown the achievement of safeguarding females' political participation and strengthening their economic independence.

International comparison of Gender Empowerment Measure, 2007

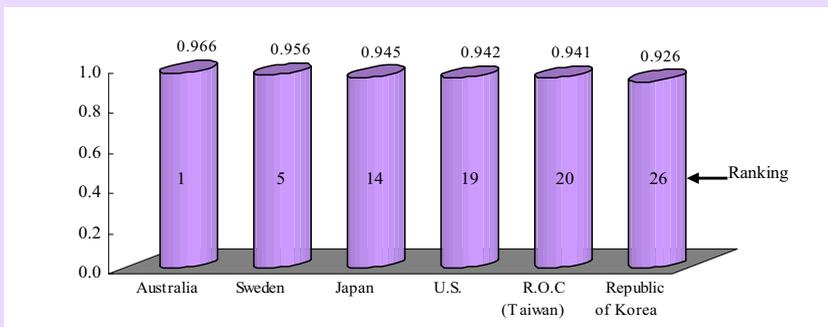


Source: DGBAS, Executive Yuan and UNDP.

Note : UNDP used "female share of parliamentary seats", "female share of positions as legislators, senior officials and managers", "female share of professional and technical positions", and "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. With the addition of Taiwan into the evaluation, the rankings of Japan and the Republic of Korea are one rank down the list.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has evaluated the Gender-related Development Index (GDI) for 155 countries in the world in 2007. Australia was ranked the top position. According to the GDI equation of United Nations, the GDI value of Taiwan would be 0.941 in 2007, ranked as the 20th position. Although behind European countries, America, and Japan, Taiwan was ahead of the Republic of Korea (GDI value of 0.926, ranked as 26th), indicating that Taiwan has managed to balance overall development with gender equality.

International comparison of Gender-related Development Index, 2007



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 (PPP)". With the addition of Taiwan into the evaluation, the ranking of the Republic of Korea is one rank down the list.



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