Loted Institute for Health and Social Affoils



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The Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs (KIHASA) was built on the merger of its two constituent predecessors, the Korea Health Development Institute and the Korea Institute for Family Planning, which was founded in 1971, and has since grown to become a powerhouse of more than 200 well-rounded researchers and support staff, many of them economists and social scientists by training, who live and breathe some of the defining policy issues of these times, among them social security, population aging, health care, childcare and poverty.

The work we do here, which includes a large number of national surveys and statistical analyses, is the bedrock for those who shape and implement national policy to protect people's well-being from social risks as diverse as old age, disease, disability, unemployment, and other unforeseen calamities of various kinds. What we do here is thus closely bound up with people's life conditions.

In the current times where the demand for public health and social welfare is soaring as never before, the objective of our research is not only in meeting such needs, but in doing so in a fiscally sustainable and socially supportable manner and, if possible, in a way that adds to the country's national productivity. In that regard, we take as our overarching goal the pursuit of a health and welfare system that can help bring people closer to one another, make different social groups more cohesive, and reinforce the overall social fabric of the country.

We take great pride in the tradition we have of expertise, integrity and dynamism. It is this tradition—in tandem with our humility of knowing that as challenges to our people's wellbeing continue to arise from within and without the country, we must also grow on—that will keep lifting us to new heights.

Everything we do at KIHASA we open to your scrutiny, encouragement and criticism.

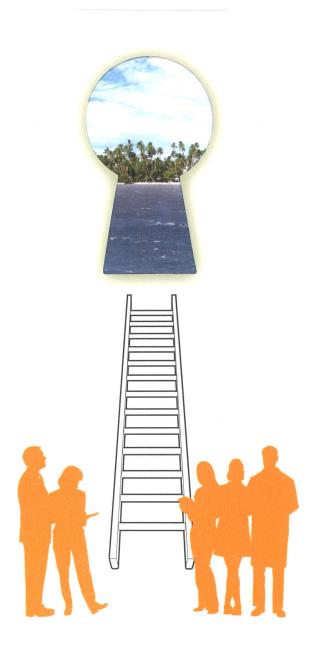
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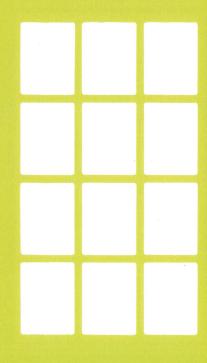
# Our Vision





# Our Mission

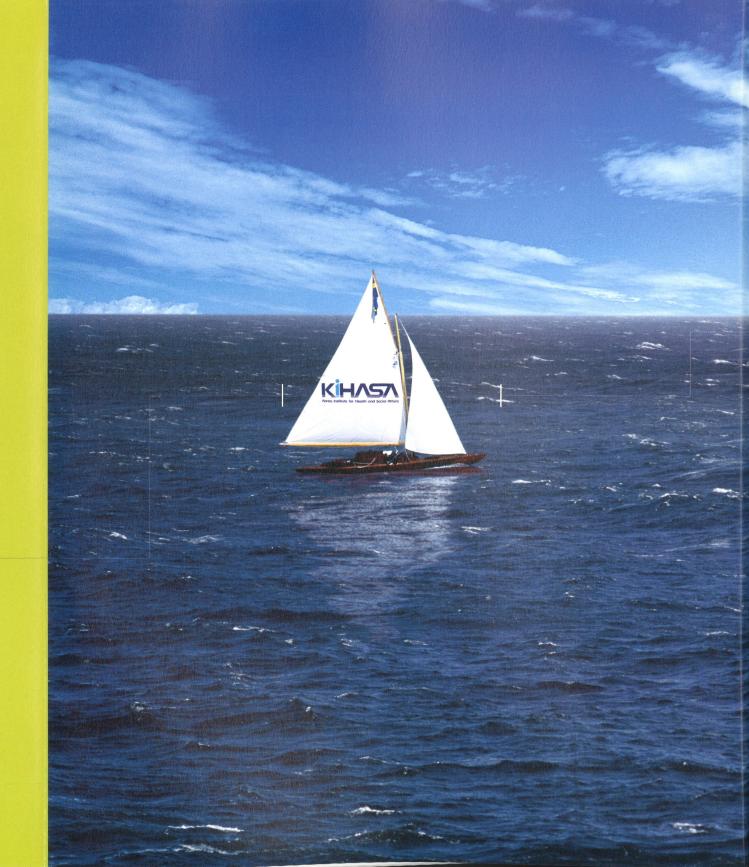


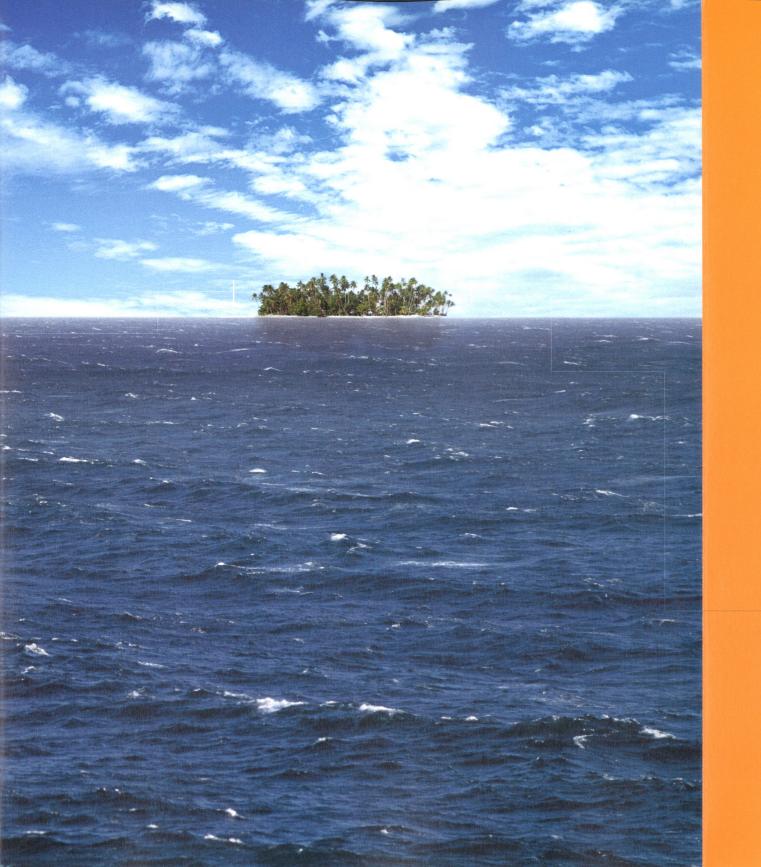




# Our Vision

We will continue to contribute our knowledge and professionalism to the making of good policy and, in so doing, assure our future place as a go-to hub for social policy research across the country and beyond.









## Our Mission

KIHASA is premised on the belief that robust research evidence will lead to better policy decisions and, ultimately, to improved living conditions for people. As such, KIHASA pursues the two-fold remit of providing empirical and analytical bases for short-and long-term policymaking in health and welfare and facilitating the public's understanding of policy issues that concern them.

### **Our Culture**



# The sense of quality runs deep in us.

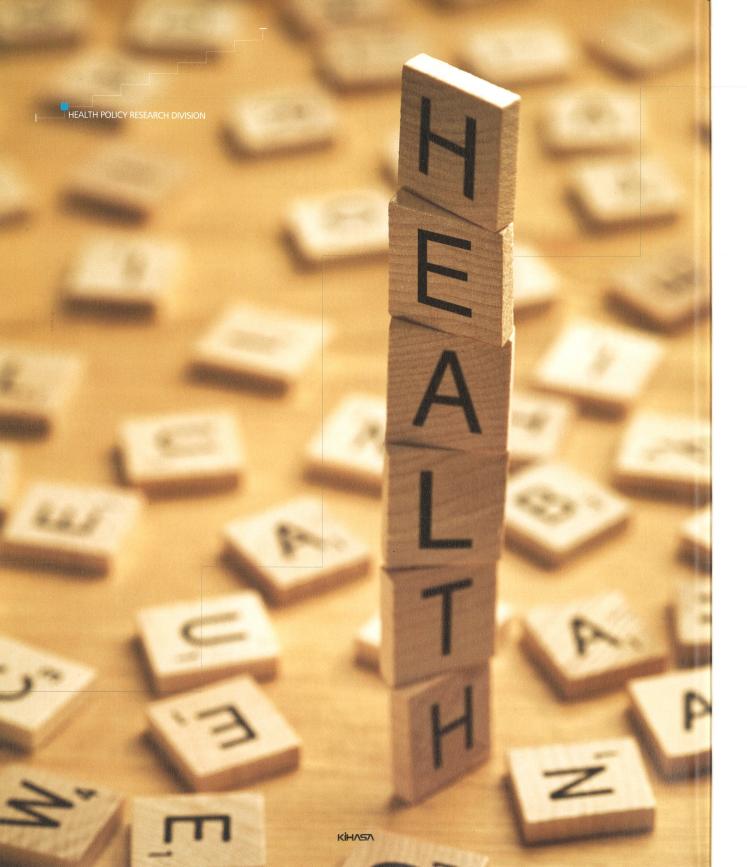
It is impossible to imagine otherwise, for our work, every bit of it, concerns the quality of life of people. KIHASA has in place an inclusive process for ensuring the quality of every project it undertakes. The process starts even before the birth of a project and lasts until it culminates in publication. Stepwise peer reviews that involve both inhouse and outside reviewers are a facet of KIHASA's quality-oriented culture where all its researchers consider objectivity and analytic rigor de rigueur for every research project.



In our teamwork, another common fiber that runs through KIHASA, fresh ideas bud, blend, and burgeon into rounded-out analyses.

KIHASA researchers come from a wide breadth of backgrounds, from economics to the humanities, each ready to fill the bill. Formed on a project basis and as needed, each team here is less a showcase for individual researchers to go through their paces than a venue for them to collaborate with one another toward an aggregate goal. In our cooperative teamwork, we listen to, learn from, and spur each other.











### Health Policy Research Division

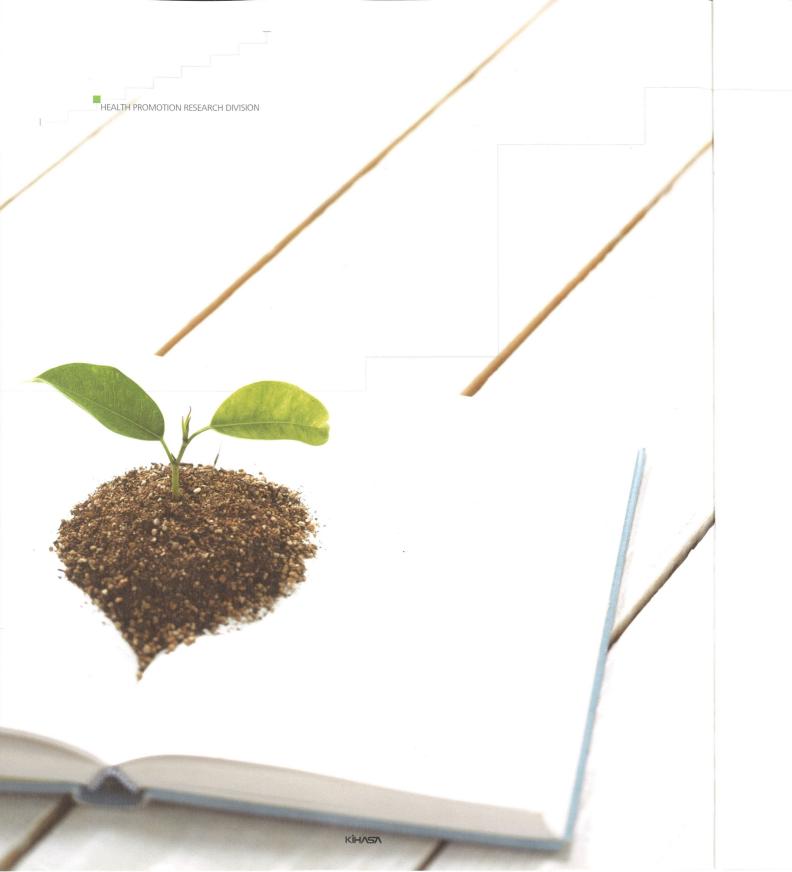
The primary aim of the division is to improve both the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the current health care system and facilitate integrated delivery of health care services. For this, researchers look into the characteristics of people with complex and chronic health care needs and ways to increase the efficiency in the allocation of workforce and resources for the enhancement of community health care. How to raise the financial sustainability of health care is also one of the thematic issues that the division delves into. Another focus is on improving access of socially vulnerable populations to health services and reducing health disparities. The division also works to improve pharmaceutical policy by closely examining the economic impact that the market entrance of new drugs has on people's health care use and national health expenditure.

# Recent research projects include:

- >>> Health Policy in Korea: Assessments and Tasks Head
- >>> Advancing Community Healthcare Information System
- >>> The KORUS FTA and Ways to Improve Drug Management System
- >>> Appropriate Allocation of Health Workforces to Local Communities
- >>> Building an Effective Cooperation Mechanism in Health Sector between the Two Koreas

Youngho Oh, Ph.D	Director	Health Policy and Management, Health Policy, Health Workforce Planning	ohyho@kihasa.re.kr
Jaegoog Jo, Ph.D	Senior Research Fellow	Health Industry, Health Policy	jgjo@kihasa.re.kr
Sylvia Park, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Pharmaceutical Policy, Pharmaceutical Industry	spark@kihasa.re.kr
Young-Ho Jung, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Health Economics, Health Industry	yhjung@kihasa.re.kr
Hosung Shin, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Long-Term Care, Medical Resources	shin_hs@kihasa.re.kr
Nam Soon Kim, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Health Policy, Health Care Quality	artemine@kihasa.re.kr
Jeong-Soo Choi, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Health Policy, Health Promotion	jsoo@kihasa.re.kr
Kang Jae Yun, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Health Policy	kjyun@kihasa.re.kr











### Health Promotion Research Division

The goal of the division is to increase people's health promotion practice and improve food and nutrition policy. The work here includes studying policy strategies to reduce and prevent health risk behaviors and to promote healthy behaviors in a multifaceted way. The division is responsible for evaluating policies, programs and interventions designed to encourage people's health behavior with respect in particular to smoking cessation and obesity prevention. Research and national surveys into food safety and nutrition issues are also part and parcel of its work.

# Recent research projects include:

- » Putting Health Promotion Policy into Practice
- >>> Strategies for Developing a National Nutrition System for an Aged Korea
- >>> Strategies for Activating Evidence-based Health Promotion
- >>> Smoking and Drinking Habits of Women and Policy Prescription
- >>> Current Status of Breastfeeding in Korea and Polarization of the Nutritional Status of Children

Sangyoung Lee, Ph.D	Director	Korean Traditional Medicine, Health Policy	yslee@kihasa.re.kr
Kee-Hey Chung, Ph.D	Senior Research Fellow	Food Policy, Nutrition Policy	khchung@kihasa.re.kr
Mee-Kyung Suh, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Health Education, Health Promotion	kyungsm@kihasa.re.kr
Nami Hwang, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Maternal and Child Health, Community Health Nursing	nami@kihasa.re.kr
Hye-Ryun Kim, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Health Promotion, Public Health Nutrition	hrkim@kihasa.re.kr
Eun Jin Choi, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Health Education, Health Policy for the Elderly	eunjin@kihasa.re.kr
Jeongseon Kim, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Food Policy, Food Safety Management	kjs0416@kihasa.re.kr
No-Seong Kwak, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Food Safety, Food Policy	forsome@kihasa.re.kr
Dong Jin Kim, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Health Promotion, Health Education	djkim@kihasa.re.kr











### Social Insurance Research Division

The division's quest is for a new social insurance architecture where the country's pension and health insurance schemes will be more sustainable and efficient than they are now. Here the work is about developing concrete proposals for the reform of social insurance programs in a way to arrive at cost-effective solutions to the multilayered problems created by our aging population and rapid socioeconomic changes. Every solution that the division proposes is drawn up in a way to fit the context of the national economy. The effect of social welfare spending on poverty reduction and economic growth is another research theme that interests the division.

# Recent research projects include:

- >> How to Arrive at Appropriate Health Insurance Coverage
- » A Model for Korea's Social Security Budgets: With Special Reference to an ILO Social Budget Model
- » Old-age Income Security for an Aged Korea
- >>> An Improvement Plan for the Operation and Management of the National Pension Fund
- » A Study on Financial and Political Sustainability of Public Pension
- >> Social Expenditures: Equity and Effect Analyses

Young-Suk Shin, Ph.D	Director	Social Insurance	ysshin@kihasa.re.kr
Byongho Tchoe, Ph.D	Senior Research Fellow	Social Insurance, National Pension	choice@kihasa.re.kr
Jongwook Won, Ph.D	Research Fellow	National Pension, Welfare Finance	wonjw@kihasa.re.kr
Kyeong Hoan Gho, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Social Finance	khgho@kihasa.re.kr
Sukmyung Yun, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Public Pension, Social Insurance	smy1985@kihasa.re.kr
Gun-Chun Ryu, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Social Economy, Welfare Finance Analysis	gchryu@kihasa.re.kr
Jin Soo Kim, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Health Insurance, Health Security	econ123@kihasa.re.kr
Seokpyo Hong, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Welfare Finance, Social Insurance	seokp@kihasa.re.kr
Sengeun Choi, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Social Welfare, Public Finance	sec0150@kihasa.re.kr
Hyun Woong Shin, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Social Insurance, Health Insurance	shinhw@kihasa.re.kr
Hwa Yeon Shin, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Pension Actuarial Analysis, Public Pension Policy	shinhy@kihasa.re.kr











### Basic Social Security Research Division

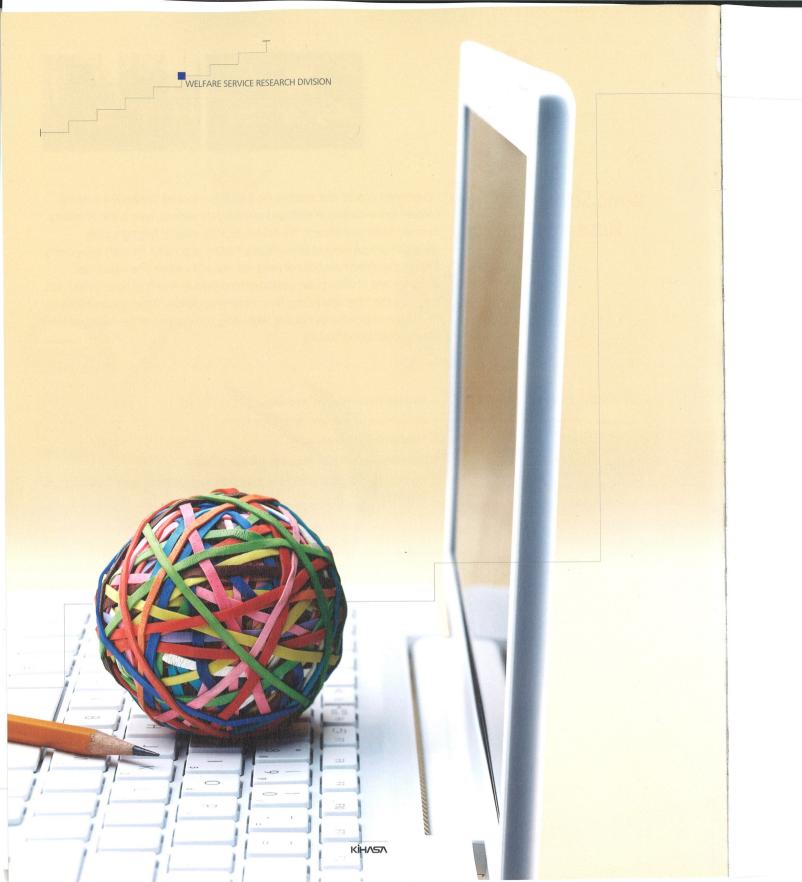
Government policies that improve the lives of low-income families are a central concern to the division. In addition to working on ways to make public assistance more equitable and efficient, the division explores ways of helping socially vulnerable groups become self-sufficient. Factors responsible for entry into poverty and exit therefrom have been of particular research interest. The role of cash assistance and of other public assistance modalities as means of poverty reduction is also a subject that researchers here are keen to explore. Other responsibilities of the division include the monitoring, evaluating and studying of the delivery of the National Basic Living Security.

# Recent research projects include:

- >>> Social Polarization and Policy Prescription
- >> A Cross-National Comparative Study of Near-Poverty
- >> Education Gaps and Poverty Trap
- >>> How to Improve the Subsidy Program for Low-Income Bracket
- >>> Supporting Social Excluded: with a Focus on the Dynamic and Multidimensional Characteristics of Social Exclusion

Taejin Lee, Ph.D	Director	Public Assistance Assessment, Housing Welfare	ginihome@kihasa.re.kr
MeeGon Kim, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Public Assistance, Poverty	kmegon@kihasa.re.kr
Sang-Ho Nam, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Economic Fluctuations, Income/Asset Distribution	johnnam@kihasa.re.kr
Shin-Wook Kang, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Poverty, Income Inequality	kangsw@kihasa.re.kr
Dae-myung No, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Basic Livelihood Security, Self-support	dmno@kihasa.re.kr
Eugene Yeo, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Poverty and Inequality, Public Assistance	eugene@kihasa.re.kr
Hyonjoo Lee, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Poverty, Social Welfare Finance	hjlee@kihasa.re.kr
Taewan Kim, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Poverty & Inequality, Public Assistance	taewan@kihasa.re.kr
Hyun-Soo Choi, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Social Welfare Policy (Tax-Benefit Policy), Poverty and Inequality	ppiji@kihasa.re.kr
Mun Gil Kim, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Poverty, Inequality	jcwood71@kihasa.re.kr











## Welfare Service Research Division

The division works on a wide range of policy issues. Here researchers conduct policy assessments, program evaluations, and research studies concerning the welfare needs of vulnerable children, families, and the disabled. Also, the division is at work to find policy options to relieve family caregivers' burden, safeguard children's rights and help underprivileged children break the cycle of poverty. The National Welfare Information Center, housed in the division, is aimed at increasing the public's knowledge about welfare issues and policies.

# Recent research projects include:

- » Social Services in Korea: Issues and Improvement Plans
- » Life Cycle Welfare Needs of Disabled People
- » Diversification of Welfare Needs and Development of Welfare Index for Disabled People
- » Ubiquitous-based e-Welfare: Status and Improvement Strategies
- » Child Poverty in Korea and What Should Be Done About It
- » Developing Welfare Policies for a Multicultural Society
- » Social Capital: Current Status and Policy Tasks for Improving Community Welfare

Hyekyu Kang, Ph.D	Director	Social Service Provision System, Community Social Welfare	hyekyu@kihasa.re.kr
Seung-Kwon Kim, Ph.D	Senior Research Fellow	Family Welfare, Population Policy	kimsk@kihasa.re.kr
Yong Chan Byun, Ph.D	Senior Research Fellow	Family Welfare, Welfare for the Disabled	byc@kihasa.re.kr
Meesook Kim, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Child Welfare, Family Welfare	mskim@kihasa.re.kr
Se-Kyung Park, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Social Service Policy, Child and Family Welfare	parks@kihasa.re.kr
Seong-Hee Kim, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Survey on Disabled Persons, Welfare for the Disabled	shkim@kihasa.re.kr
Yu-Kyung Kim, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Family and Women Welfare, Childcare and Child Welfare	kyk@kihasa.re.kr
Susie Park, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Social Service Policy, Workfare Policy	susie_park@kihasa.re.kr









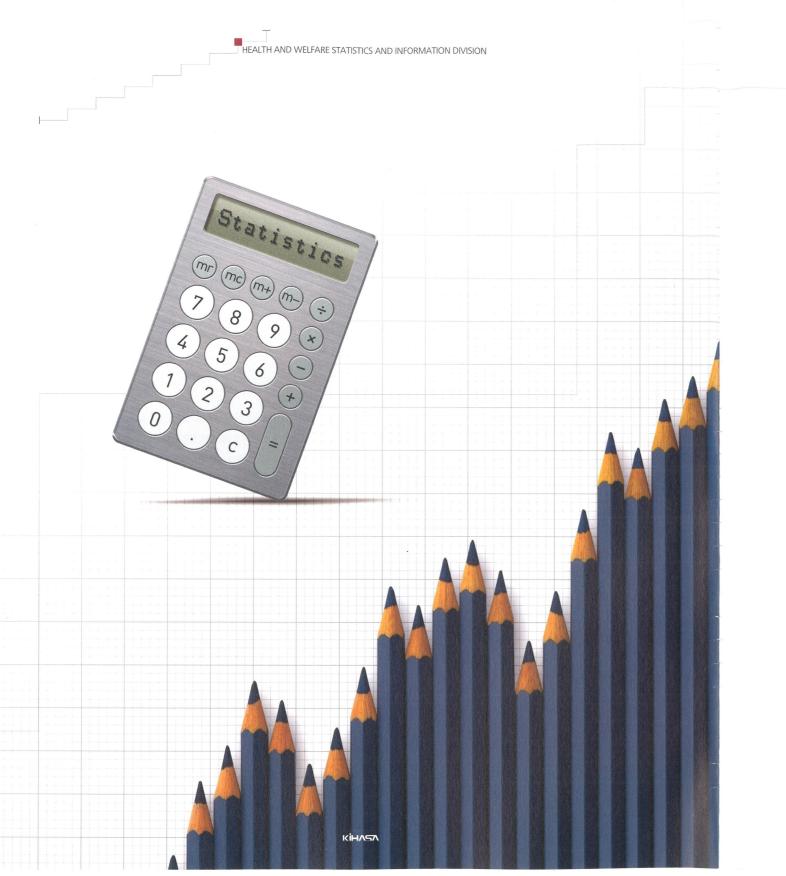
# Aging and Low-fertility Research Division

Proper policy responses to population aging require research efforts on a grand scale. Here, work includes demographic forecasting and exploring socioeconomic implications of low fertility and aging. This is a way to understand how an aging population affects work, family and social networks, and how the delivery of long-term care services and government support should be provided. The division also puts its utmost into finding ways to develop the socioeconomic structures that are conducive to taking advantage of the opportunities underlying an aging society.

# Recent research projects include:

- >>> Service Standardization for User-paid Long-Term Care Facilities
- >> A Model for Elderly-Friendly Community
- >>> Developing a Support Model for Local Governments: with a Focus on Low-Fertility Issues
- >>> Analysis of Recent Increase in Fertility Rates in Korea and Mid-Term Projection
- >>> Improvement Strategies for Funeral and Cemetery Culture in Korea
- >> Analysis of Socioeconomic Inequality in Old Age

Sam-Sik Lee Ph.D	Director	Population Analysis, Low Fertility and Aging Policy	lss@kihasa.re.kr
Kyunghee Chung, Ph.D	Senior Research Fellow	Welfare for the Elderly, Family Welfare	khlc@kihasa.re.kr
Duk Sunwoo, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Welfare for the Elderly, Long-Term Care	duksw@kihasa.re.kr
Soo-Bong Kim, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Income Security, Elderly Market Policy	kimsb@kihasa.re.kr
Yoon-Jeong Shin, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Family Economics, Consumer Economics	yjshin@kihasa.re.kr
Young-Hee Oh, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Elderly Health Care, Welfare for the Elderly	oyh@kihasa.re.kr
So-Chung Lee, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Welfare for the Elderly, Poverty	snowvill@kihasa.re.ki
Jong Seo Park, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Policy on Aging, Policy on Low Fertility	parkjs@kihasa.re.kr
Eun Jeong Kim, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Low Fertility, Family Economics	kim880@kihasa.re.kr
Yoon-Kyung Lee, Ph.D	Associate Research Fellow	Elderly Long-term Care, Elderly Welfare	yklee@kihasa.re.kr









# Health and Welfare Statistics and Information Division

Drawing on highly sophisticated survey methods, the division produces reliable statistics and indicators on national health and welfare status, and provides them to a wide variety of stakeholders including the government, decision-makers, the academia, international organizations, and the public. The division is also continuing to work with statistical institutions from home and abroad on ways to improve the management of health and welfare statistics. A prominent example in this regard is the effort it exerts to manage panel surveys and other surveys in an integrated manner, with a view to raising the quality of both surveys and research. To better the understanding of people on their health and welfare situations, the division is at work to establish a system of survey data delivery for the public. In addition, it actively supports, with its wide-ranging databases, not only in-house projects, but also those conducted by outside researchers and organizations.

# Recent research projects include:

- >> Advancing Health Care IT
- » A Study of the Quality of Life of Koreans
- » OECD Survey: Estimation of Social Expenditures and Survey on Voluntary Private Social Benefits
- >> 2008 OECD Health Statistics
- » Developing a Comprehensive Information and Counseling System for Resident Assistance Program

Young-Chul Chung, Ph.D	Director	Electronic Health, Ubiquitous Health	cyc@kihasa.re.kr
Young-sik Chang, Ph.D	Senior Research Fellow	Applied Statistics, Health Statistics	yschang@kihasa.re.kr
Taemin Song, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Information System Development, Health Information	tmsong@kihasa.re.kr
Seirok Doh, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Statistical Computing, Health and Welfare Statistics	srdoh@kihasa.re.kr
Chang-Kyoon Son, Ph.D	Research Fellow	Survey Sampling, Statistical Analysis	chkson@kihasa.re.kr

### **Research Centers**

Emerging social issues require research responses that are prompt and highly-focused. Created to meet such needs in an interdisciplinary way, KIHASA's research centers are as diverse as follows.

- » Center for Health Research in Response to Climate Change
- >> Center for Research on National Medical Expenditure
- >> Health and Medical Resources Monitoring Center
- >> Food and Drug Safety Research Center
- » Public Hygiene Research Center
- Center for Social Finance Research
- >> Center for International Social Security Research
- » Social Insurance Actuarial Research Center
- Center for Welfare Panel Studies
- » Basic Security Evaluation and Monitoring Center
- Social Service Center
- > Child Rights Monitoring Center
- » Research Center for the Welfare of the Disabled
- >> Family Policy Research Center
- » Support Center for Dream Start Project
- » Population Policy Development Center
- » Funeral Policy Research Center
- » Center for Long-term Care Policy Research
- » Telephone Survey Center



# Organization Research Division Health and Welfare Statistics and Information Division Health Promotion Research Division President Low Fertility and Management Support Division Aging Society Research Division Research Planning and Social Insurance Coordination Division Research Division Welfare Service Research Division Basic Social Security Research Division

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## Library

KIHASA's library holds a large collection of professional publications and academic journals on health care, social welfare, social security, population and family planning. It maintains nearly 50,000 volumes of monographs, research papers, dissertations, and conference proceedings, and a collection of over 750 periodicals in 25,000 volumes and 300 CD-ROM titles. The library also provides a database of more than 9,000 journals. The library is open to the public, 9am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, by appointment. Visitors may make reference use of the library holdings and have online access to articles in the database collection.

For appointment and help: Phone: 02-380-8229 E-mail: library@kihasa.re.kr

















### **Publications**

KIHASA produces over 200 publications yearly in a variety formats. They cover the gamut of social policy issues that require consideration and solutions.

- Research Reports serve as a contribution to the state of knowledge. Their forte is that they are theoretically-grounded and methodologically rigorous. Research Reports define problems and present the findings to academics, the research community, and policymakers, helping them see issues from multiple perspectives.
- Intended to contribute to informed decision making, *Policy Reports* explore current policy issues and provide analyses and solutions that are highly specific to the needs of policymakers and lawmakers.
- Slim in form and pithy in nature, Working Papers highlight the development, key findings of work in progress.

The list of publications is available upon individual request.

- » Periodicals
- Health and Social Welfare Review, an academic journal open to submissions written in English and Korean, is published twice a year.
- *Health and Welfare Forum* is a monthly designed to share with readers the latest findings from KIHASA's current research projects.
- Health and Welfare, Issue & Focus is a weekly bulletin that briefs readers on current issues in health and social welfare.

### KIHASA Websites



KIHASA's main website (http://www.kihasa.re.kr) provides access to the full text of many of its publications including periodicals. In addition, you can receive the Weekly KIHASA Webzine and the Monthly KIHASA e-Newsletter simply by signing up on the mailing list at the website.



# Management Center for Health Promotion (http://mchp.hp.go.kr):

Established with the aim of enhancing the efficiency of National Health Promotion Fund, the management center, composed of experts in public health and health promotion, provides support for health promotion policymaking and conducts the assessment of national health promotion projects.



#### Health Guide (http://www.hp.go.kr):

KIHASA

Health Guide provides a wealth of most updated health information. Topics on the Health Guide cover virtually every conceivable aspect of today's healthcare in Korea, including disease prevention strategies, drug information, and hospital administration. Also, this is an excellent storehouse of health statistics and education materials, newspaper and broadcast reports, professional views, research outcomes, webzines, self-diagnosis tools, and question-and-answer services.

#### Geumyeon Gillajabi (http://nosmokeguide.or.kr):

Korea's high rate of smokers put the health of many of its people in jeopardy, which called for an effort to implement a national smoking cessation program. An integral part of this effort was the establishment in 2001 of the portal site Geumyeon Gillajabi. A rich wellspring of smoking cessation information, Geumyeon Gillajabi features, to cite just a few among many others, virtual smoking cessation classes for different groups of smokers, e-counseling, professional columns, and no-smoking webzine.

#### Healthpark (http://www.healthpark.or.kr):

The Internet has made it easier and faster to find health information; but the flipside of such convenience is that much of Internet information is unreliable and misleading at best. Healthpark is a trusted website where users can find to-the-point and reliable health information without having to surf through one site after another.

National e-Welfare System (http://www.e-welfare.go.kr): Commissioned by the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Family Affairs and run by the National Welfare Information Center of KIHASA, the National e-Welfare System provides information on the availability of local welfare facilities and programs,







welfare information for different age groups, and latest news on social welfare.

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# Outreach and Collaboration in Research



We take the outreach of our research seriously. It is because our work is not only for our clients, but for the public as a whole, the ultimate "end-users." Making the work we do known to the public is integral in translating it into policy and practice. We want our reports to be occasions for increasing the public's knowledge base concerning issues that concern them. Going beyond merely publishing our work for an audience of clients and peers, we sponsor and hold policy forums and hearings on a regular basis to exchange ideas and facilitate a better public understanding of our work and government policies. Also, our researchers frequently contribute op-ed pieces to major newspapers and disseminate their research findings via media comments, lectures, and interviews.

Further, KIHASA has actively promoted and engaged in joint research projects with a broad range of research organizations and academic communities from around the world, sharing and exchanging ideas, experience and knowledge. Our recent research partners include: East-West Center (EWC), Hawaii; United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); International Social Security Association (ISSA); National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (NIPSSR), Japan; National Institute of Public Health (NIPH), Japan; Taiwan Provincial Institute of Family Planning (TPIFP); World Health Organization (WHO); World Bank (IBRD); OECD; Institute of Population and Labor Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China; Population Research Center, University of Texas at Austin; National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago; and UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.

KIHASA is strongly committed to forging research partnerships and collaborations that strengthen our prominence on the world stage. We go on helping policymaking and advancing knowledge.

### Directions • Kookm



#### Address

Jinhungro 268, Bulgwang-dong, Eunpyeong-gu, Seoul 122-705, Korea

#### Phone

+82-2-380-8000

#### Fax

+82-2-352-9129, 2181

#### Transportation

Take subway Line #3 to Bulgwang Station. Leave the station via Exit #2. Walk straight ahead for 400 m until you find KIHASA on your left.

