



Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the 2020 Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Census

Statistics Korea

Abstract:

In Korea, there was a report of the first outbreak of Covid-19 on January 20, 2020. Korea is relatively free from inflow of overseas Koreans and foreign workers into the country compared to other countries. As a result, the cumulative number of confirmed cases increased rapidly from 12 as of the end of January 2020 to 34,201 in November 2020 and 60,740 in December 2020. In 2020 is the year when two of the three major Census are conducted, and the only Census of agriculture, forestry and fisheries(5-year cycle) will be conducted as a full survey through on-site visits and interviews in December. In particular, the census of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, which is conducted by the enumerators visiting the responding households, has been difficult to hire professional enumerators due to the nationwide spread of Covid-19, and the number of people who give up on the survey has increased. Moreover, the outbreak of infectious diseases such as seasonal heavy snow and avian influenza (AI) played a major role as an obstacle to collecting accurate data. The pre-arranged contingency plan was a successful factor in investigating 4.67 million households in 290 thousand survey districts nationwide without safety accidents. This study aims to examine the factors influencing the Covid-19 Pandemic on the Census through the 2020 Census of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and to present implications.

Keywords:

Contingency Plan, Census of AFF, COVID-19, Pandemic, non-face-to-face survey