

The amount of time allocated to doing housework and how ownership of electrical products altered over a 99-year period, between 1920 and 2019, are illustrated in the charts.

Overall, the number of hours spent per household weekly on housework, such as washing clothes, preparing meals and cleaning, experienced a dramatic fall during this period. It started at 50 hours in 1920 and dwindled significantly until 1960, with 20 hours per week. This was followed by a gradual decrease between 1960 and 2019, in which it declined from 20 hours to 10 hours in 2019.

Generally, during this period, people tended to use more electrical appliances. A steady increase took place in percentage of washing machine, surging by 34 percent to roughly 74 percent in 2019. Likewise, percentage of vacuum cleaner escalated between 1920 and 2000, and followed by a period of stability. Additionally, percentage of using refrigerator shot up from approximately 2 percent to 100 percent. This pattern included a plateau of 100 percent during 1980 and 2019.

It is conspicuous that the rate of growth for percentage of refrigerator was much more than that of the others.